



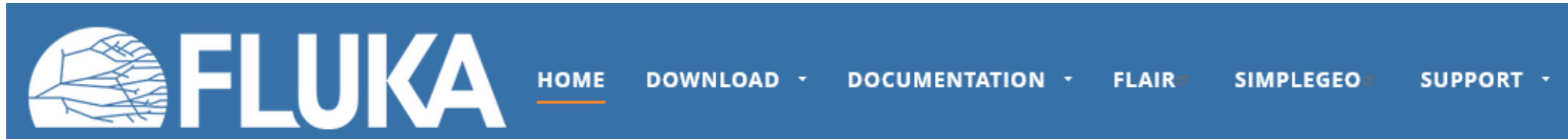
Introduction to FLUKA

Where we come from

- FLUKA was born in the 60's at **CERN** with [Johannes Ranft](#)
- It was further developed in the 70s and 80s in a collaboration between **Leipzig University**, **CERN** and **Helsinki University of Technology** for applications, e.g., at CERN's high energy accelerators, and in the 90s with **INFN**, among others for the design of SSC and LHC
- From 2003 until August 2019 maintained and developed under a **CERN & INFN** agreement
- From December 2019, new **CERN** distribution aiming to ensure FLUKA's long-term sustainability and capability to meet the evolving requirements of its user community, [welcoming contributions by both established FLUKA contributors as well as new partners within an international collaboration](#).
- Presently a joint development & management team based in the **CERN Accelerators and Technology Sector and Radiation Protection Group and at ELI-Beamlines (Prague)**, with contributors from the CERN Research and Computing Sector, JRC-Geel, ANL, BNL, and STFC, is in place.

FLUKA.CERN distribution

<https://fluka.cern>



FLUKA.CERN Beginner Course
(December 2 - 6, 2024)
2024-08-10 - [Event](#)

1st FLUKA Topical course -
Radiation protection (November
25-27, 2024)
2024-07-26 - [Event](#)

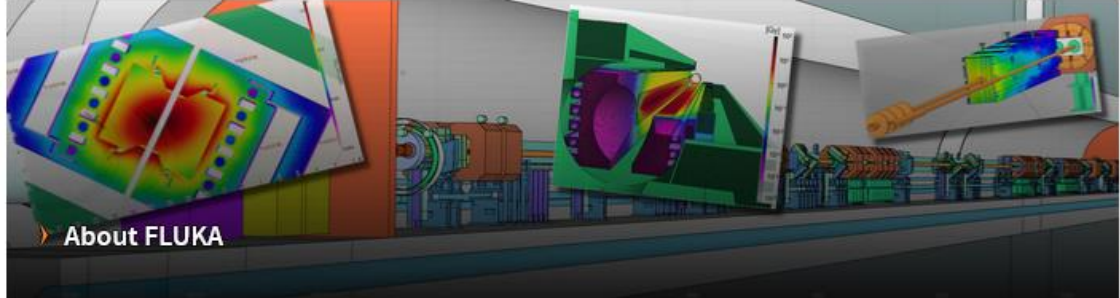
Release of FLUKA 4-4.1
2024-07-05 - [Release](#)

Release of FLUKA 4-4.0
2024-02-14 - [Release](#)

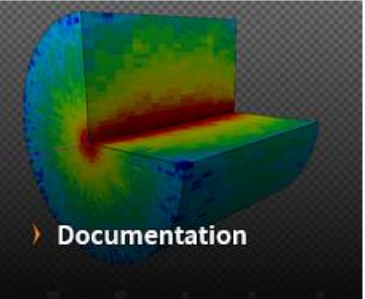
[more](#)

FLUKA 4-4.1 2024-07-05

Flair



- Installing, Running and Runtime Errors**
Category for questions related to installing and running FLUKA and Flair
- Flair**
Category for questions related to the graphical user interface Flair
- Source Definition**
Category for questions concerning built-in source options, like particle beams, hadron-hadron collisions or isotopic sources
- Geometry and Materials**
Category for material and geometry related questions including topics like transformations and lattices
- Scoring and Biasing**
Category for questions related to built-in scoring and biasing options
- Physics, Transport and Magnetic Fields**
Category for physics-related questions, as well as questions on transport and magnetic field settings
- Advanced Features and User Routines**
Category for questions on user routines and other advanced features
- Applications**
Category for application-related questions, including topics like medical physics, radiation protection and space
- [User Forum](#)



Licensing Scheme

Registration options

FLUKA Single User License Agreement

Affiliates of institutes with a FLUKA Institutional License Agreement

CERN Staff members and Fellows

Affiliates of institutes which signed the FLUKA Memorandum of Understanding

Companies which purchased a FLUKA Commercial License Agreement

Includes access to:

source code

development version

- **Licenses are free** except for commercial use
- They are granted for **non-military use** only
- For **central FLUKA installations on computing clusters** of universities/institutes it is not necessary to obtain an Institutional FLUKA Licence. However, it is mandatory that all FLUKA users register on this website and accept the Single User Licence Agreement.

Recent developments of FLUKA.CERN

Coherent transport effects for charged particles in **bent crystals**; electric field in vacuum; electronuclear reactions; direct (p,n) reactions.

Compound nucleus spin and parity accounted for in evaporation and Fermi break-up; **new generation source routine** for users.

Low-energy **deuteron interaction** model; proton reaction cross section refinement; ICRP116 and ICRU95 dose equivalent conversion coefficients; simplified out-of-the-box usage of multiple magnetic fields





















Point-wise treatment for **low-energy neutron** interactions; **synchrotron radiation** emission during charged particle tracking

Proton nuclear elastic scattering improvement at low energies; gamma cascade improvement for thermal neutron capture; (d,2n) improvement on heavy targets

<i>FLUKA 2011-3</i>	<i>December 2019</i>
FLUKA 4-0	June 2020
<i>FLUKA 4-0.1</i>	<i>August 2020</i>
FLUKA 4-1	November 2020
<i>FLUKA 4-1.1</i>	<i>February 2021</i>
FLUKA 4-2	October 2021
<i>FLUKA 4-2.1</i>	<i>December 2021</i>
<i>FLUKA 4-2.2</i>	<i>March 2022</i>
FLUKA 4-3	September 2022
<i>FLUKA 4-3.1</i>	<i>December 2022</i>
<i>FLUKA 4-3.2</i>	<i>March 2023</i>
<i>FLUKA 4-3.3</i>	<i>May 2023</i>
<i>FLUKA 4-3.4</i>	<i>September 2023</i>
FLUKA 4-4	February 2024
FLUKA 4-4.1	July 2024
FLUKA 4-5	January 2025

The most recent reference

New Capabilities of the FLUKA Multi-Purpose Code

 C. Ahdida¹,  D. Bozzato^{1,2},  D. Calzolari¹,  F. Cerutti^{1*},  N. Charitonidis¹,  A. Cimmino³,  A. Coronetti^{1,4},  G. L. D'Alessandro¹,  A. Donadon Servelle^{1,5},  L. S. Esposito¹,  R. Froeschl¹, R. García Alía¹, A. Gerbershagen¹, S. Gilardoni¹, D. Horváth³, G. Hugo¹, A. Infantino¹, V. Kouskoura¹, A. Lechner¹, B. Lefebvre³, G. Lerner¹, M. Magistris¹,  A. Manousos^{1,6},  G. Moryc¹,  F. Ogallar Ruiz^{1,7},  F. Pozzi¹,  D. Prelicpean^{1,8},  S. Roesler¹,  R. Rossi¹,  M. Sabaté Gilarte¹,  F. Salvat Pujol¹, P. Schoofs¹, V. Stránský³, C. Theis¹, A. Tsinganis⁹, R. Versaci³, V. Vlachoudis¹, A. Waets⁴ and M. Witorski¹

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ORIGINAL RESEARCH article

Front. Phys., 27 January 2022 | <https://doi.org/10.3389/fphy.2021.788253>

- Please always check the FLUKA.CERN website for the updated [list of references](https://fluka.cern/documentation/references) that should be cited in publications: <https://fluka.cern/documentation/references>

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3 Flair, the FLUKA User Interface

4 Radiation to Electronics

5 Code Testing and Benchmarking

6 Outlook

Data Availability Statement

Author Contributions

Conflict of Interest

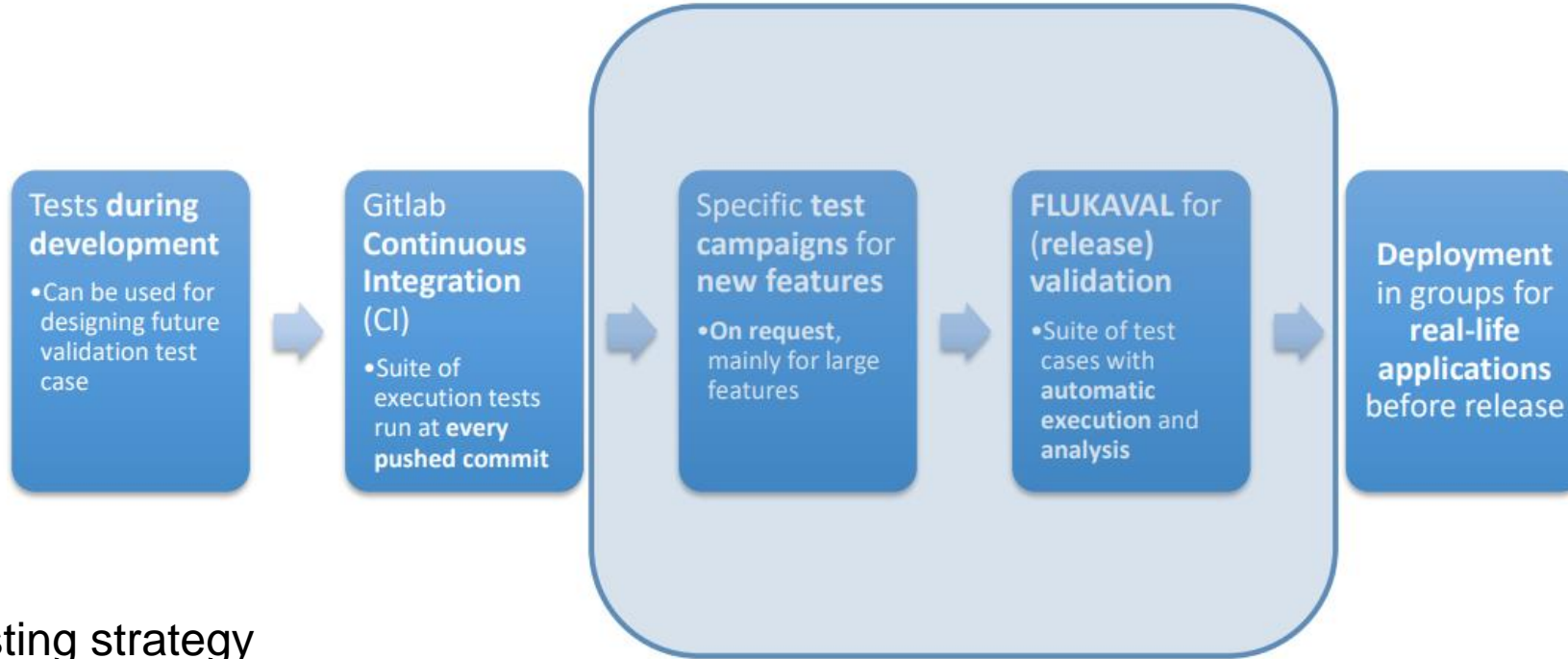
Publisher's Note

Acknowledgments

Footnotes

References

Quality assurance



- Multi-layered testing strategy
- Dedicated validation suite, called **FLUKAVAL**, with several hundreds test cases and detailed reports prior to public release
- *Regression checks among releases*, benchmarks against experimental data, MC results inter-comparisons
- Generic infrastructure: FLUKA v4 and v5 support

User Support

FLUKA User Forum

<https://cern.ch/fluka-forum>







Note: an independent one-time registration is required to be able to participate

FLUKA Training

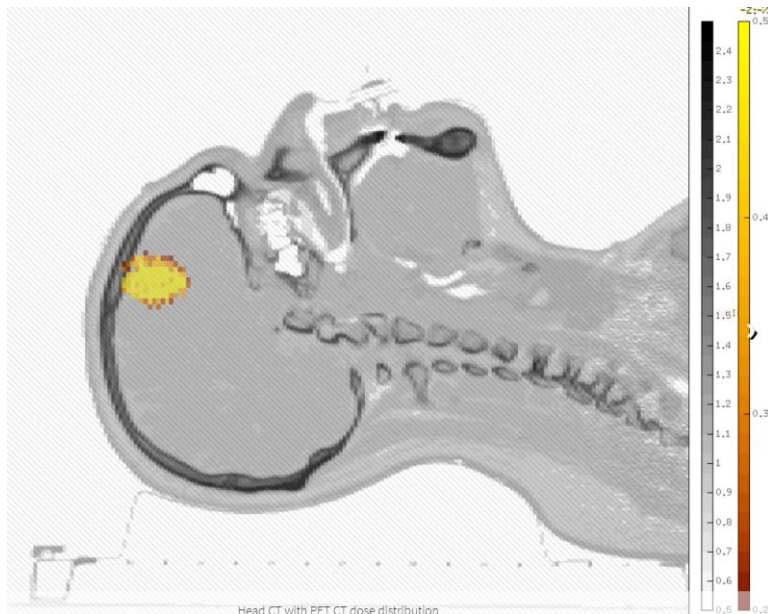
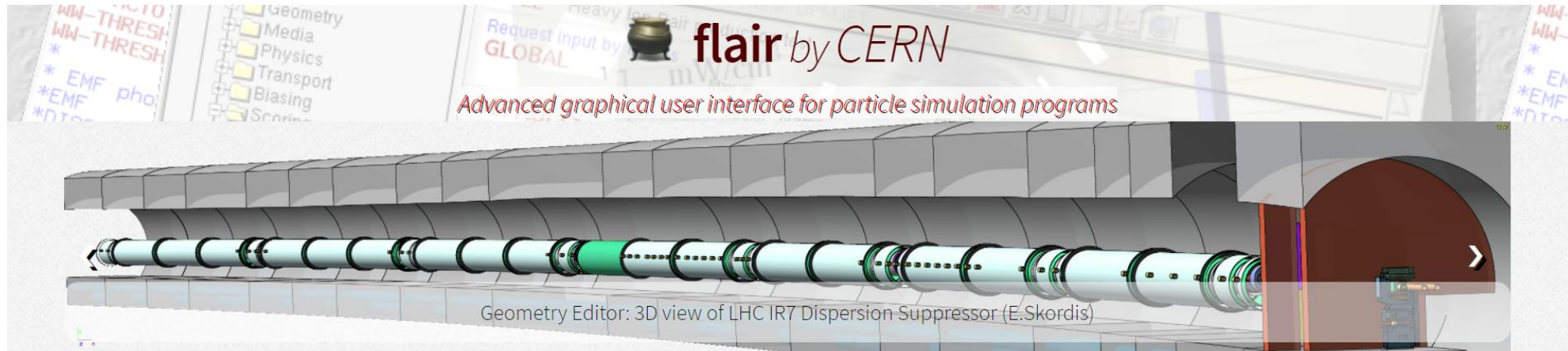
<https://indico.cern.ch/category/9178>

- Beginner and advanced courses are held on a regular basis across the world
- The first topical course (on Radiation Protection) was held last week

Announcements	1 / week
As of December 2019, this discussion list represents the official forum for users of the FLUKA Monte Carlo code and its graphical user interface Flair, distributed by the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN).	
Installation	1 / week
Category for questions related to the installation of FLUKA and Flair.	
Flair	1 / week
Category for questions related to the graphical user interface Flair.	
Running and Runtime Errors	4 / week
Category for questions related to running FLUKA and Flair.	
Source Definition	220
Category for questions concerning built-in source options, like particle beams, hadron-hadron collisions or isotropic sources.	
Geometry and Materials	3 / week
Category for material and geometry-related questions including topics like transformations and lattices.	
Scoring	2 / week
Category for questions related to built-in scoring options.	
Physics, Transport and Magnetic Fields	271
Category for physics-related questions, as well as questions on transport and magnetic field settings.	
Advanced Features and User Routines	2 / week
Category for questions on biasing, user routines, and other advanced features.	
FLUKA - Geant4 Interface	2
Questions on the FLUKA-Geant4 interface, which gives access to the FLUKA hadron inelastic interaction treatment from any Geant4 application.	
FLUKA papers	1 / week
This category offers the FLUKA.CERN users the possibility to share their published papers and	

F	🔔 Release of FLUKA 4-4.1	1
	■ Announcements	5 Jul
	🔒 📌 IMPORTANT: Registration and package download FAQ	2
	■ Installation	Nov 2022
T	☐ Water HVL with iodine131	1
	■ Physics, Transport and Magnetic Fields	6h
	☐ How to read Fluka Output file	1
	■ Running and Runtime Errors	6h
	☑ Fluka can implement a 'for loop' ? like C++	1
	■ Running and Runtime Errors	6h
	☐ How to understand the tab.lis file of the USRBDX output?	9
	■ Scoring	7h
C	☑ Error with DISCARD card	4
	■ Running and Runtime Errors	8h
K	☑ **** No/unknown default specified, run stopped ****	2
	■ Running and Runtime Errors	9h
K	☐ Getting a floating point error when running the example	4
	■ Installation	9h
	☑ Particle age sampling- difference between the sampling source and the output	1
	■ Advanced Features and User Routines	1d
	☑ Using mgdraw.f for photon source	1
	■ Advanced Features and User Routines	2d
T	☑ Error: in position *** is now causing trouble, requesting a step of *** cm	1
	■ Geometry and Materials	2d

<https://flair.cern>



Authors

authors: Vasilis Vlachoudis (*lead author*)
Christian Theis
Wioletta Kozłowska

Current Version

- Latest version: **3.3-1**
- Released on: **Tue 05-Mar-2024**
- Powered by python3, tkinter, gnuplot, pydicom

Features

- modern and intuitive design
- Input editor for error free inputs
- Interactive geometry editor, photorealistic ray tracer and debugger
- run and monitor the simulation
- back-end for post-processing of results
- I/O of other simulation formats (MCNPX,GDML,...)
- Medical file importing, DICOM, RT-PLAN,DOSE,...
- extended material library

Microscopic process modeling for macroscopic quantity assessment

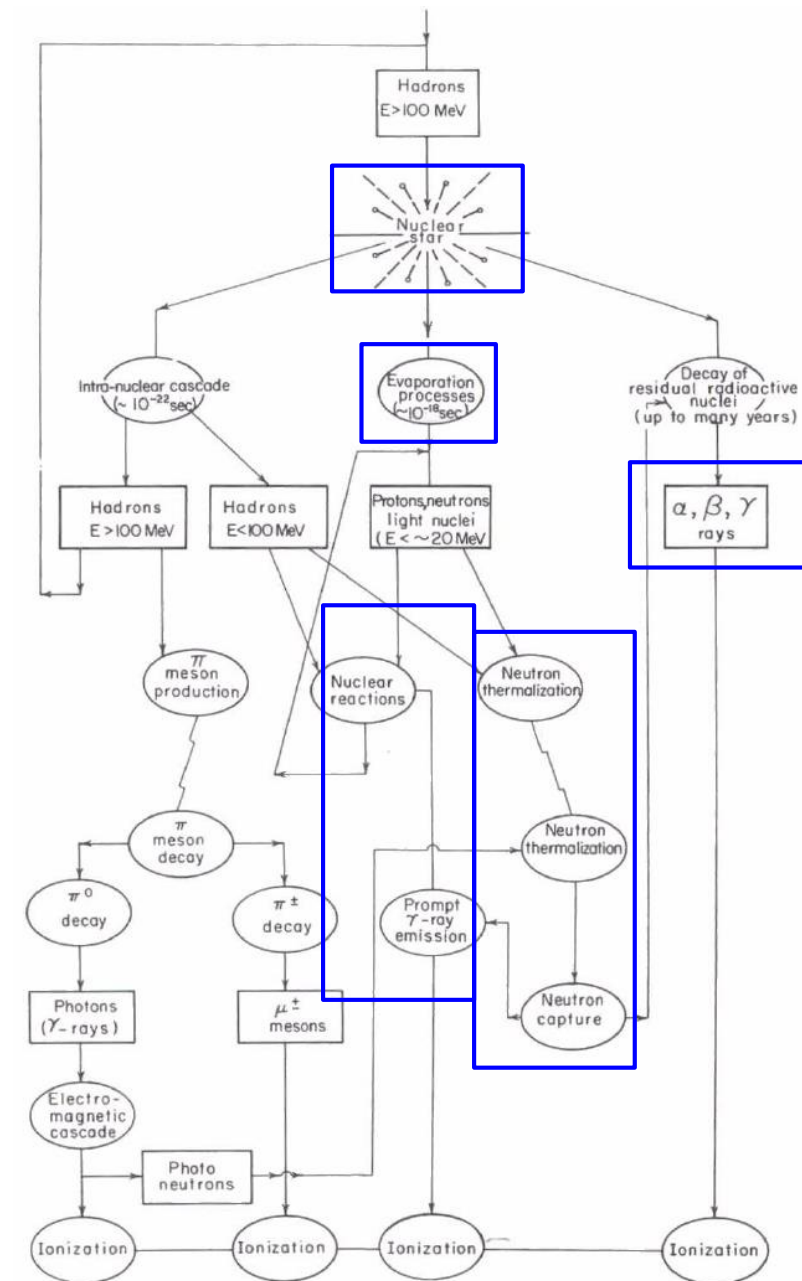
A (hadronic) shower implies a lot of different physics processes, touching a very broad energy [time-space] scale

Its description relies on the organic integration of diverse **theories and models**, and requires as essential pieces of **information**:

- reaction cross sections
- exclusive fragment production
- nuclide structure and decay data
- evaluated quantities of neutron induced reactions

Monte Carlo simulation is an effective way to calculate **macroscopic quantities** (such as energy deposition, dpa, particle fluence, activation and residual dose rate) with an accuracy reflecting the quality of the implementation of critical processes

Multipurpose codes are widely available: FLUKA, GEANT4, MCNP, PHITS, MARS...



FLUKA capabilities

- hadron-hadron and hadron-nucleus interactions
- nucleus-nucleus interactions (including deuterons!)
- photon interactions (>100 eV)
- electron interactions (> 1 keV; including electronuclear)
- muon interactions (including photonuclear)
- neutrino interactions
- low energy (<20 MeV) neutron interactions and transport
- particle decay
- ionization and multiple (single) scattering (including all ions down to 1 keV/u)
- coherent effects in crystals (channelling)
- magnetic field, and electric field in vacuum
- combinatorial geometry and lattice capabilities
- voxel geometry and DICOM importing
- analogue or biased treatment
- on-line buildup and evolution of induced radioactivity and dose
- built-in scoring of several quantities (including DPA and dose equivalent)

In support of a
wide range of applications

- ✓ Accelerator design
- ✓ Particle physics
- ✓ Cosmic ray physics
- ✓ Neutrino physics
- ✓ Medical applications

- ✓ Radiation protection (shielding design, activation)
- ✓ Dosimetry
- ✓ Radiation damage
- ✓ Radiation to electronics effects
- ✓ ADS systems, waste transmutation
- ✓ Neutronics

Next release (early 2025): Unstructured mesh geometries [I]

Unstructured mesh is a tessellation of the Euclidean space by simple solids, such as tetrahedra, in an irregular pattern (different sizes and shapes).

Supported solids are *tetra-, penta-, hexahedra of 1st order*.

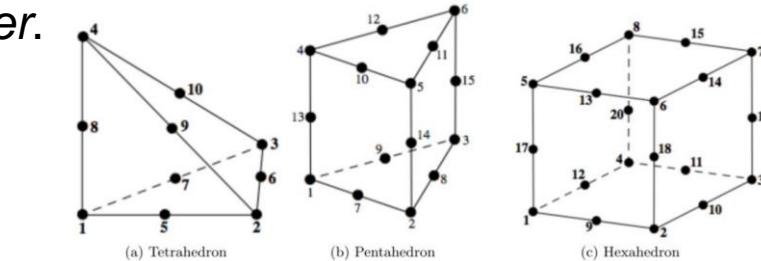
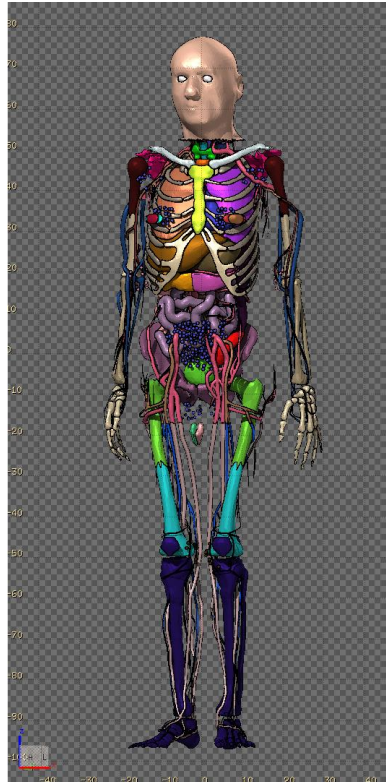
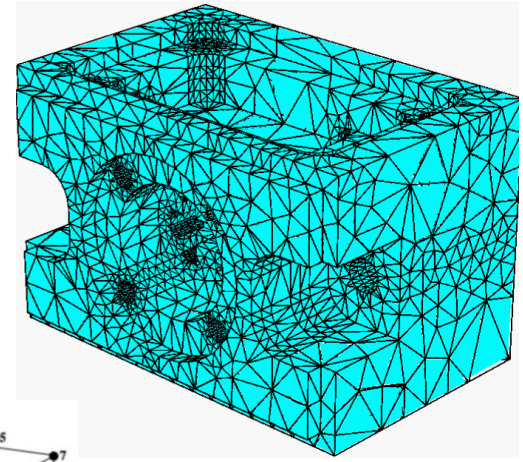
Supported input formats:

TetGen (used by PHITS)

Abaqus (used by MCNP6)

ANSYS (used by ANSYS FEM)

Or a combination of them!



ICRP P145 phantom
(initialization < 10 s)

Next release (early 2025): Unstructured mesh geometries [II]

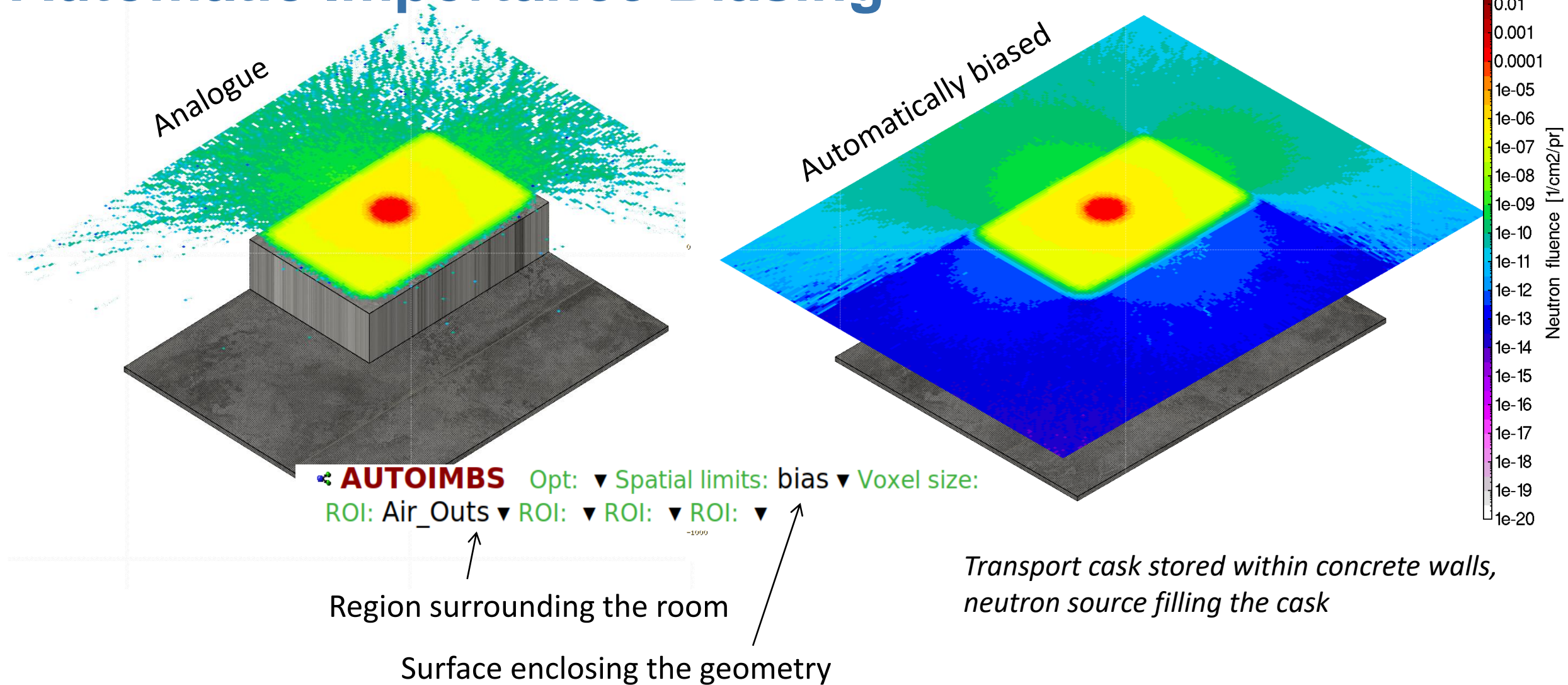
For **CAD models** until now: support via fluDAG interface only (CAD models → Cubit → DAGMC → FluDAG);
from now on: also supported via unstructured meshes!

Note that a CAD → unstructured mesh conversion must be performed beforehand using external tools
(gmesh, TetGen, ANSYS, Cubit, Attila4MC, ...).

Performance: *~20% overhead* versus
simplified CGs in the tested studies.



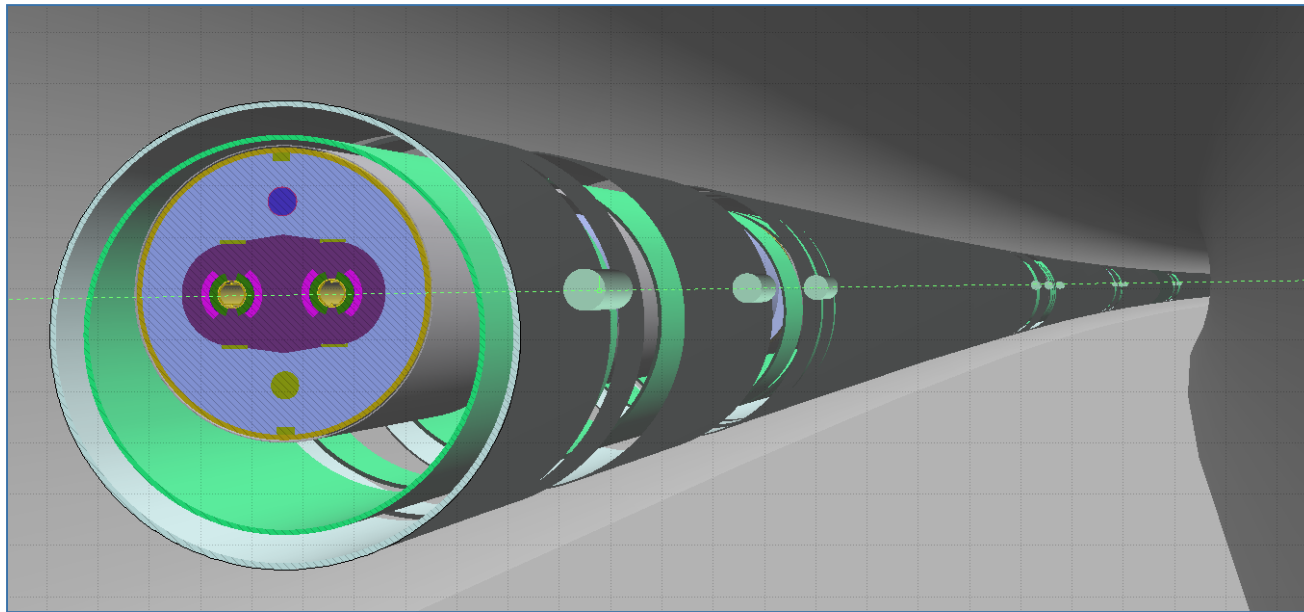
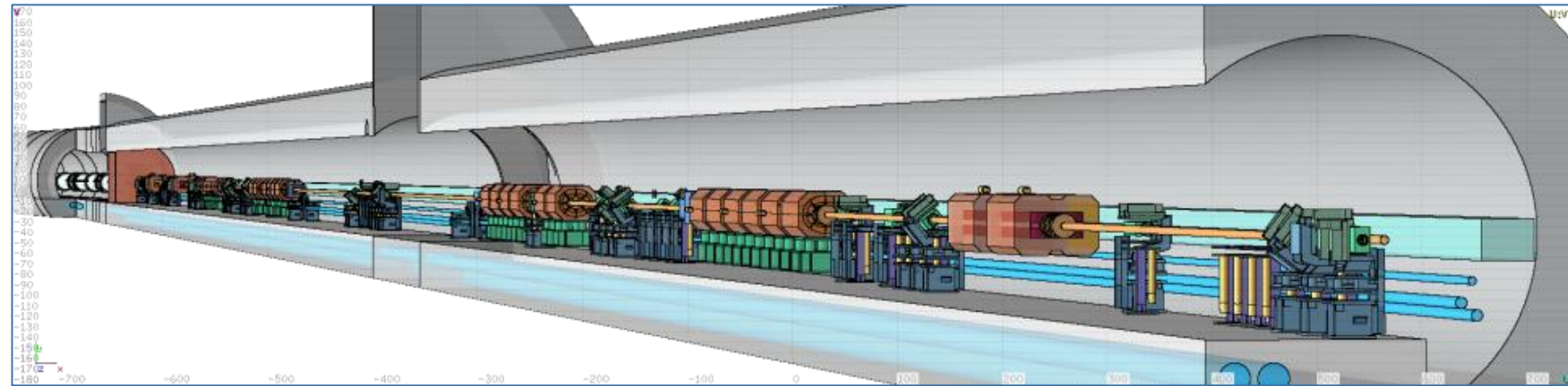
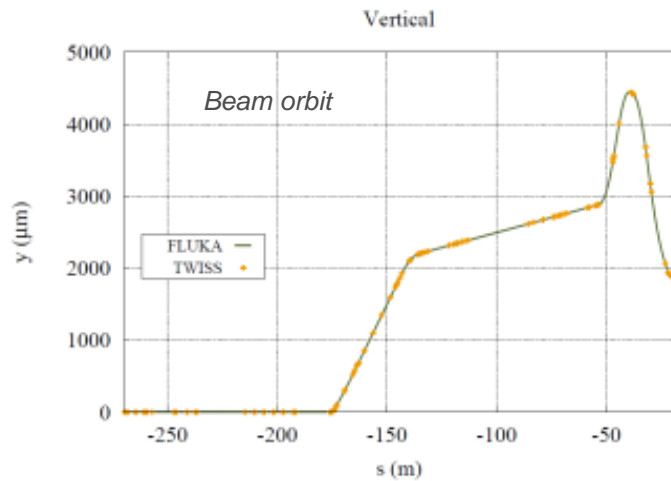
Next release (early 2025): Automatic Importance Biasing



Some examples

Accelerator geometries

LHC IR7 long straight section



From **detailed models of accelerator components with associated scoring** and the **element sequence and respective magnetic strengths**, as given in the **machine optics (twiss) files**...

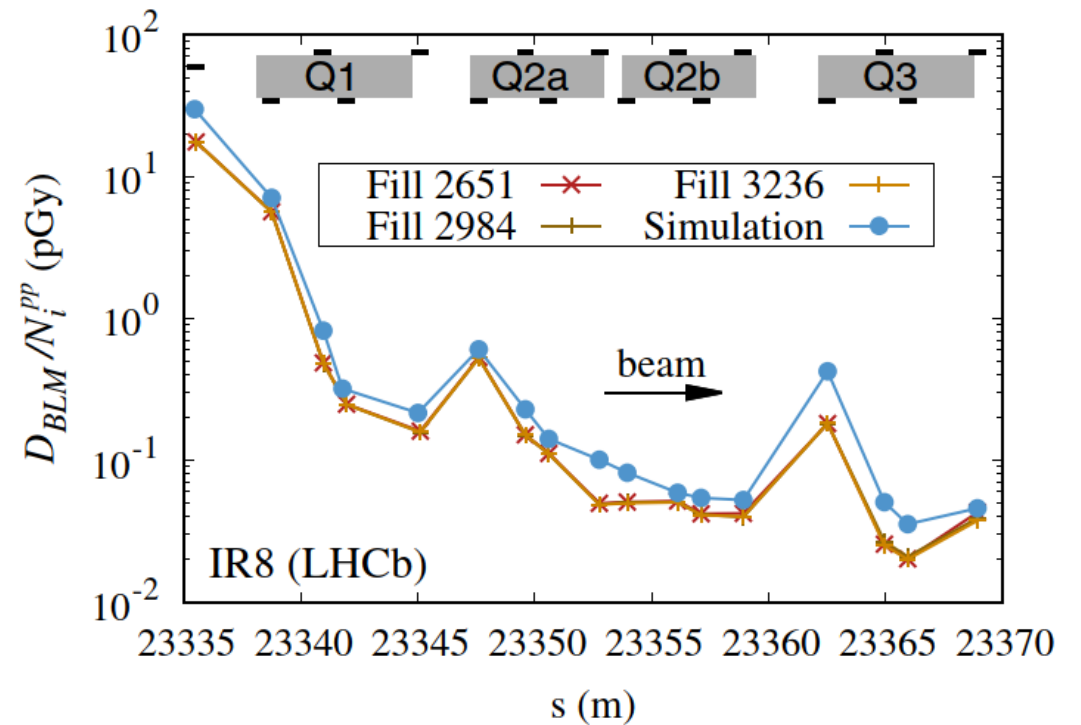
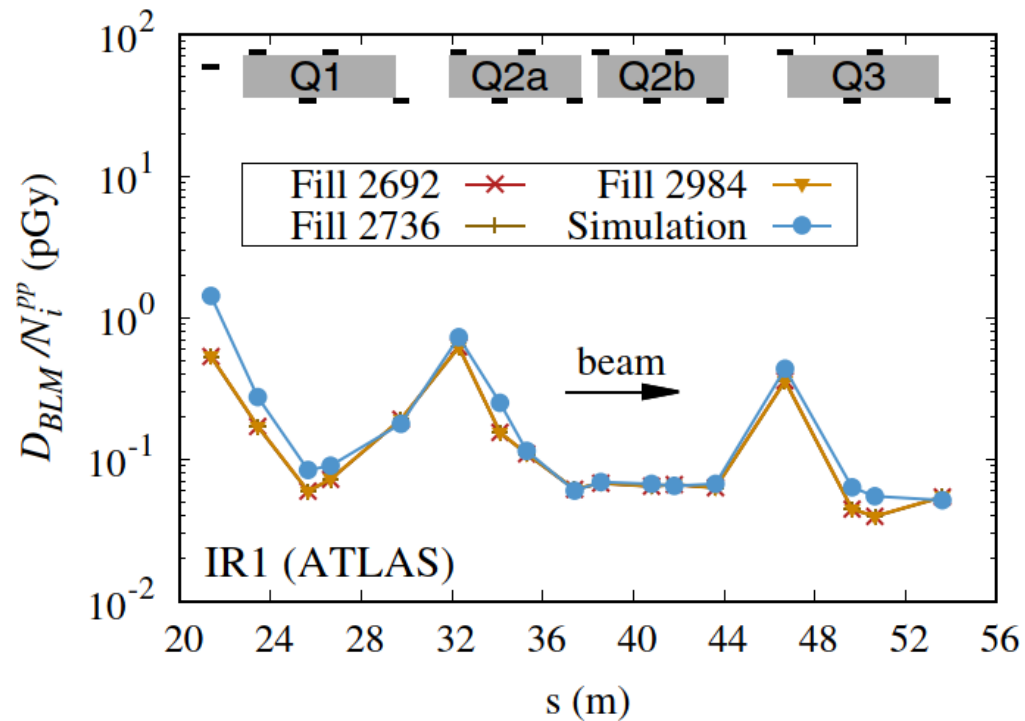
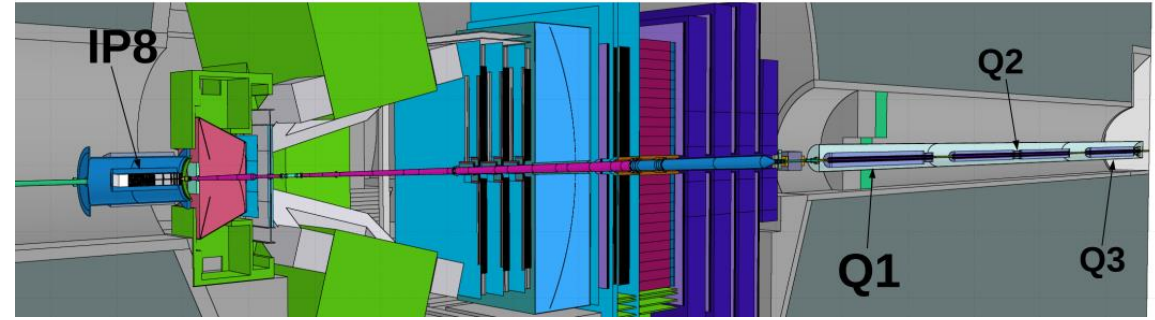
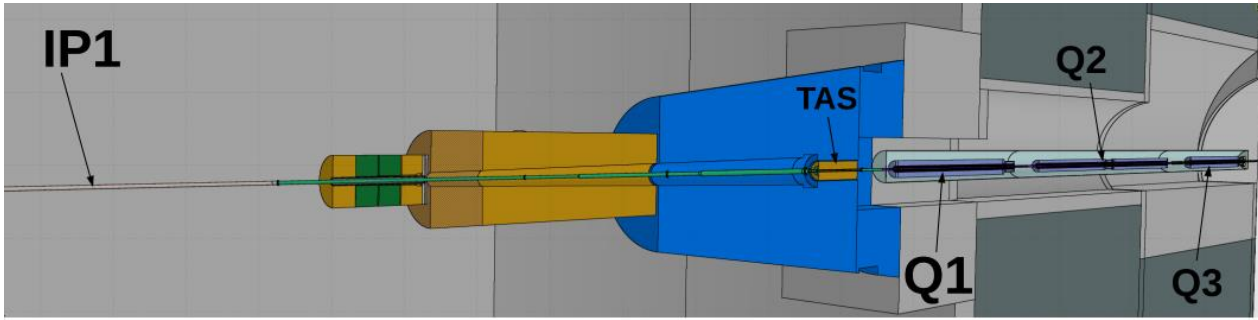
...the **automatic construction of complex beam lines**, including collimator settings and element displacement (BLMs), is achievable, profiting from roto-translation directives and replication (lattice) capabilities.

LINE BUILDER

[A. Mereghetti et al., IPAC2012, WEPPD071, 2687]
cds.cern.ch/record/1481554

Beam loss description at the LHC

[A. Lechner et al.,
Phys. Rev. AB 22 (2019) 071003]



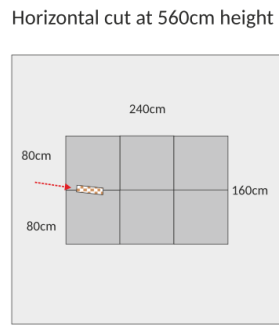
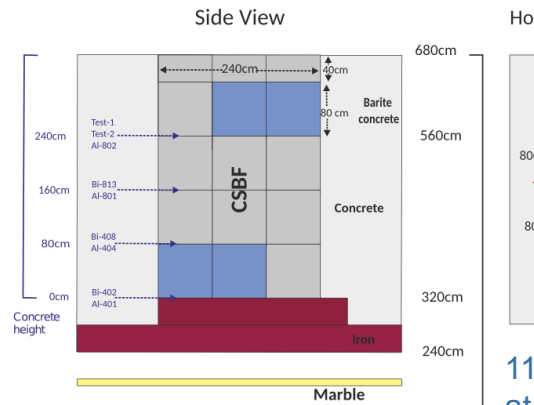
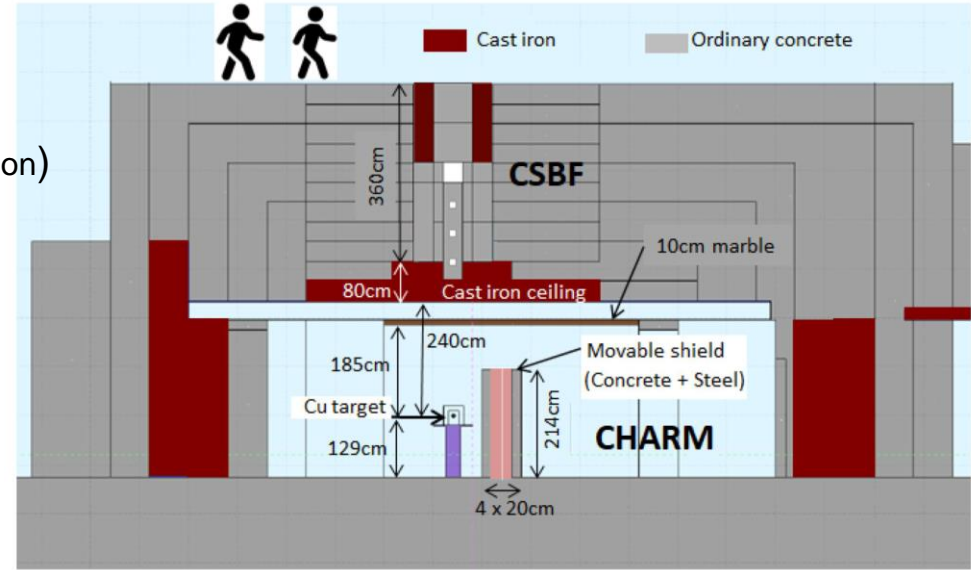
Activation benchmarking

<https://doi.org/10.1080/00223131.2023.2239243>

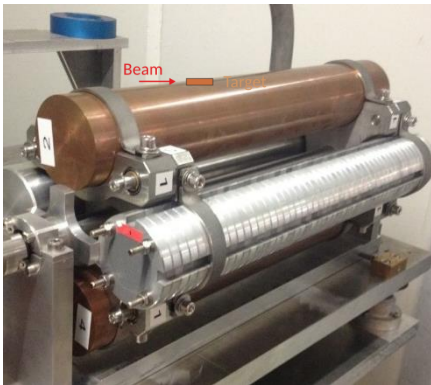
@ CERN SHIELDING BENCHMARK FACILITY (24 GeV/c p)

Situated laterally above the CHARM target
for deep shielding penetration studies (Detector calibration, Detector inter-comparison, Activation)

360cm of concrete and barite concrete
plus 80cm of cast iron



11 Bismuth and Aluminum samples
at different heights in CSBF and also
inside CHARM (@ -80cm)

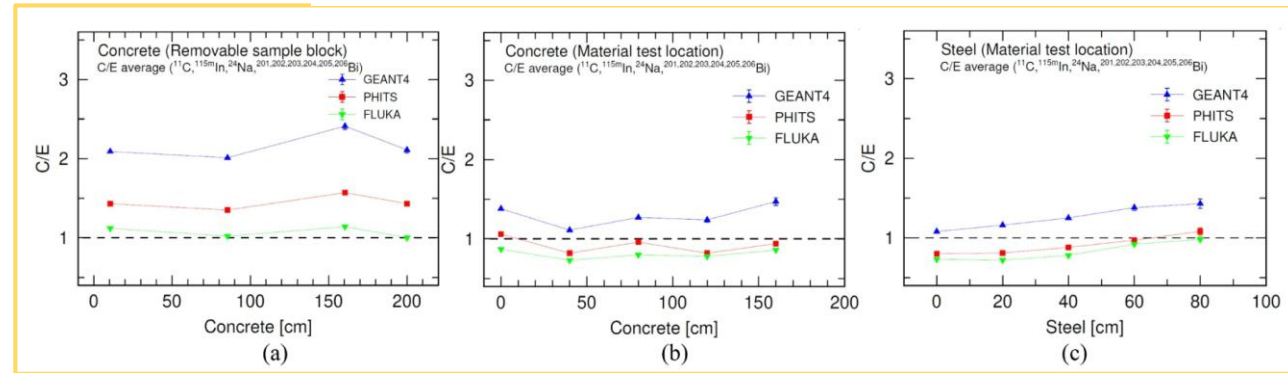


@ CHARM (CERN High energy AcceleRator Mixed field facility,

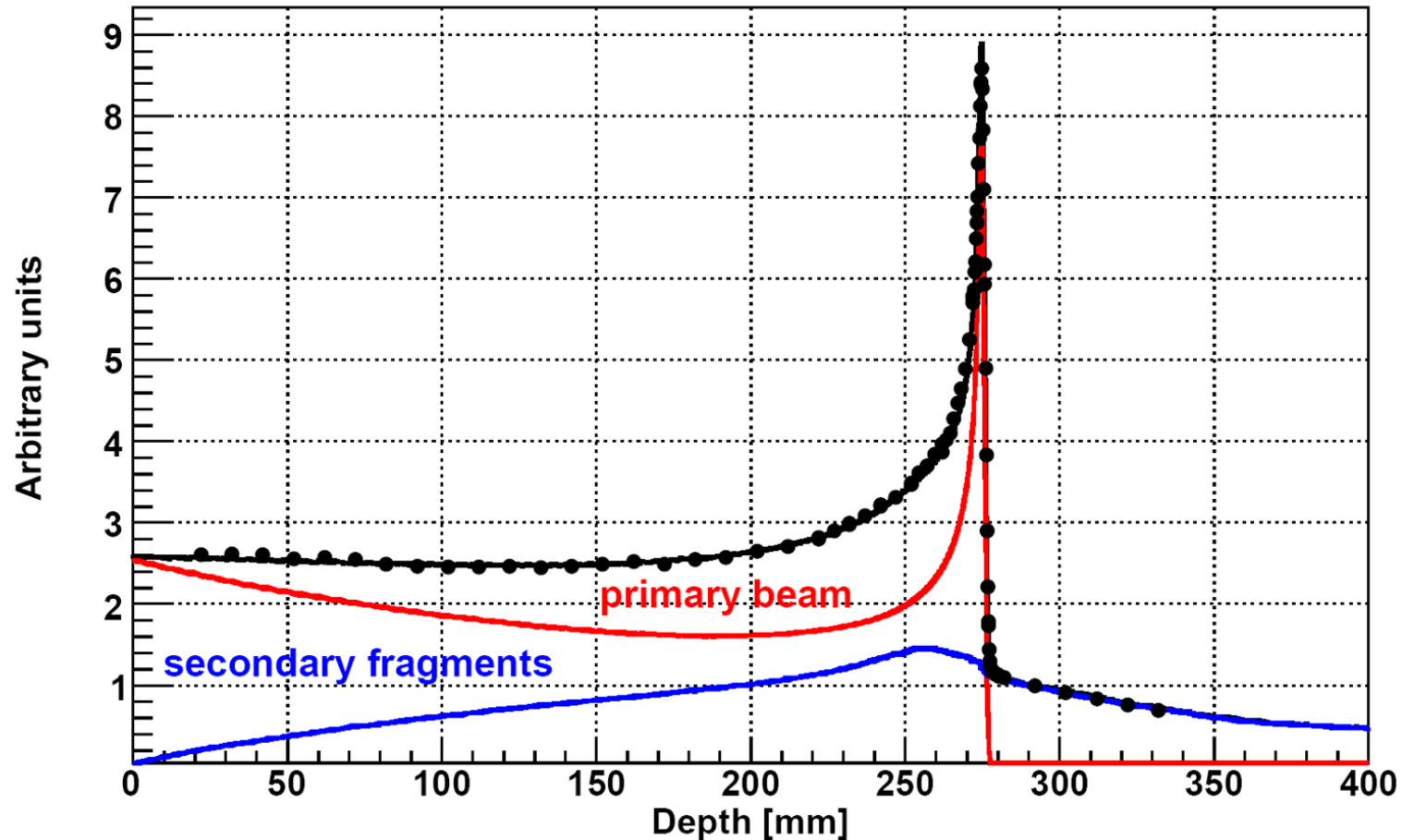
to study radiation effects on electronic components)

5×10^{11} protons/pulse, 350ms pulse length, max. average beam intensity 6.6×10^{10} p/s

three 50cm long 8cm diameter targets: Copper, Aluminum, Aluminum with holes



Medical physics: radiotherapy



Bragg peak in a water phantom
400 MeV/A C beam:
The importance of fragmentation

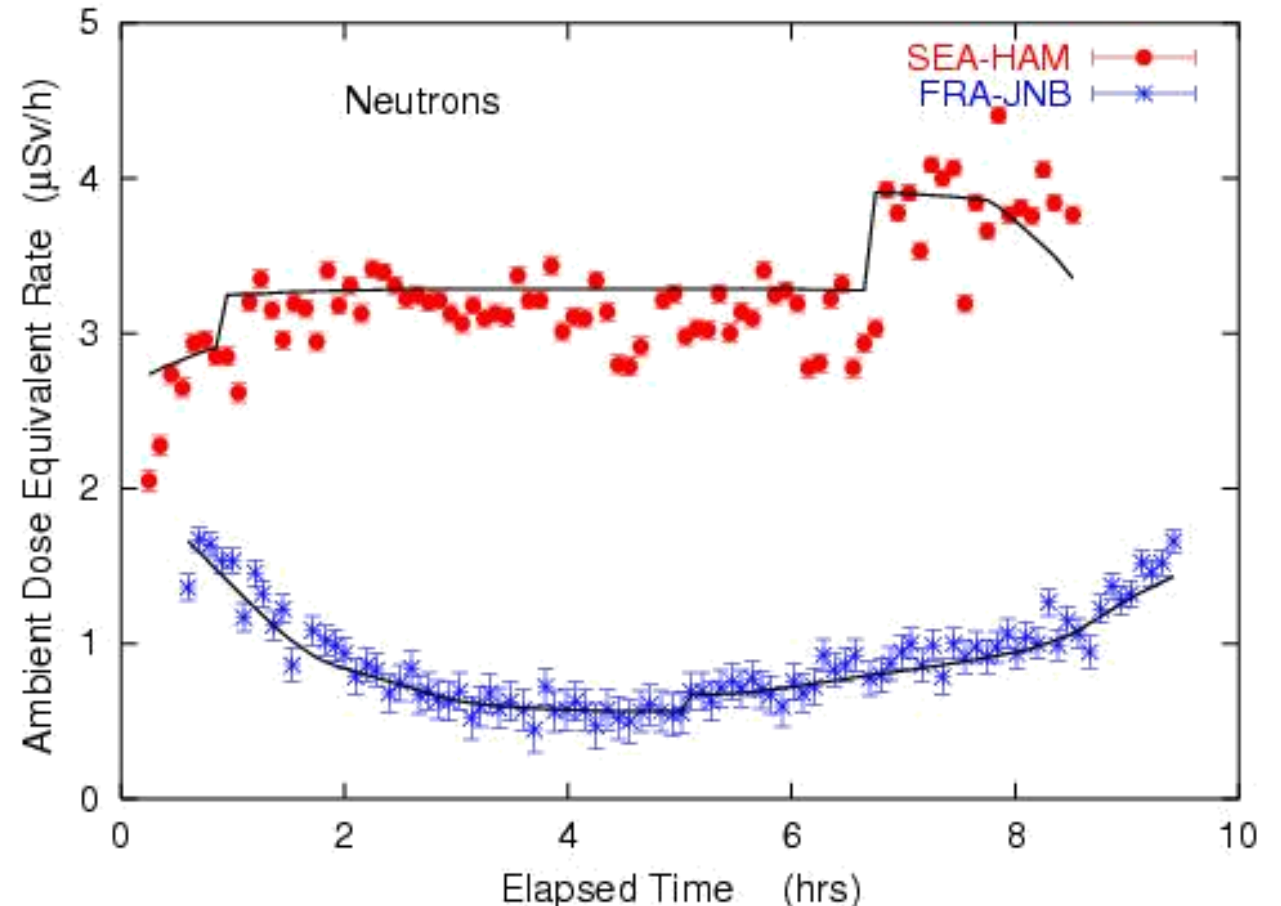
[Exp. Data (points) from Haettner et al, Rad. Prot. Dos. 122 (1-4) (2006) pp 485-487

Simulation: A. Mairani PhD Thesis (2007) and G. Battistoni et al., Nuovo Cimento C 31 (2008) pp 69-75]

Dosimetry and cosmic rays

- Complete simulation of **cosmic ray** interactions in the atmosphere, by means of a **dedicated CR package available to users**
- Model of airplane geometry
- Response of dosimeters

Ambient dose equivalent from neutrons at solar maximum on commercial flights from Seattle to Hamburg and from Frankfurt to Johannesburg



[Data: V. Mares, et al., NIM A 476 (2002), pp 341–346

Solid lines: FLUKA simulation

S. Roesler et al., Rad. Prot. Dosim. 98 (2002) pp 367-388]

Course programme

Course programme

- A very **hands-on** course
- Almost all lectures come with an attached **exercise** session
- The course is **Flair-based**
- Plenty of opportunities to practice the workflow
- The entire teacher team is available to offer assistance during the exercise sessions
- All exercise solutions are explained and provided

Schedule of the week

	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18			
Monday	Registration	Introduction to FLUKA	T+P Introduction	Monte Carlo Basics	Coffee	Basic Input / Introduction to Flair		Lunch	Geometry I	Geometry I	Coffee	Materials	Materials	
Tuesday	Scoring I : Intro & USRBIN		Scoring I : Intro & USRBIN		Coffee	Geometry Editor	Geometry Editor	Lunch	Simple Sources	Simple Sources	Coffee	EM fields	EM fields	
Wednesday	EM & Thresholds	EM & Thresholds		Coffee	Biasing	Biasing		Lunch	Scoring II: Diff. Spec.	Scoring II: Diff. Spec.		Coffee	Standard Output and Errors	Standard Output and Errors
Thursday	Neutronics		Neutronics		Coffee	Hadron Physics	Geometry II	Lunch	Geometry II		Source Routine	Coffee	Source Routine	
Friday	Radioprotection and Activation		Radioprotection and Activation		Coffee	Wrap Up Exercise			Lunch	Course Evaluation	Advanced Topics	Coffee	Visit of CERN facilities	

In conclusion

- While a beginner course, by the end of the week you will be able to tackle even not-so-simple problems
- Let us know of any technical/installation problems ASAP
- Do not hesitate to ask questions and to ask for help! 😊

