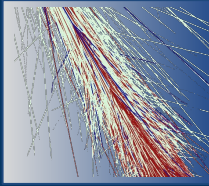


Overview and status of the CORSIKA 8 project

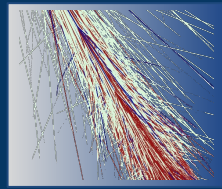
Ralf Ulrich

Scientific aim



A new framework for
“particle transport with stochastic and continuous processes”,
as a stable and solid working horse for astroparticle physics for the next decades,
making most efficient use of expensive and limited scientific and computational
resources in astroparticle physics,
supporting experimental work, as well as physics advances.

Tasks for CORSIKA 8

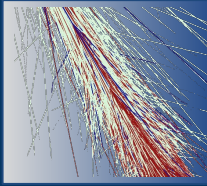


New framework as laboratory to investigate astroparticle physics problems related to secondary particle cascades

- Support **future astroparticle physics experiments** with solid foundation for simulations and research
- Further **improve** quality of simulations, and hadronic **event generators**, reduce and assess modeling uncertainties
- Research of air shower physics, i.e. **muon production** in air showers, etc.
 - Not enough muons in simulations
 - Spectrum of muons too soft in simulations
 - Closely linked to hadronic shower core



License: GPLv3

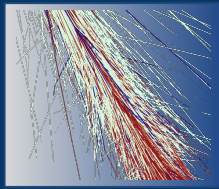


This is open source and all users are required to provide back their own fixes and improvements into the main development.

Thus, the main project and the complete community can benefit from all progress for a globally best result.

KIT is able and ready to defend license if needed.

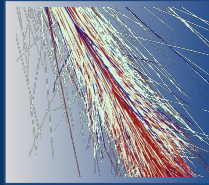
Overview of CORSIKA 8 developments



- First general workshop, layout of general plans, goal to involve the related physics community in development and research, setup of infrastructure: **25./26. June 2018**
- Start definition and formation of project as body of collaborating scientists, corsika-devel@lists.kit.edu
- Release of basic software framework definition on gitlab.ikp.kit.edu: **7. October 2018**
- 1st CORSIKA 8 Focus Week: **10. - 14. December 2019**
- Publication of white paper: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41781-018-0013-0> **18. December 2018**
- Release of first demonstration of shower simulation: **29. December 2018**
- 2nd CORSIKA 8 Focus Week: **18. - 22. February 2019**
- CORSIKA Air shower simulation workshop Karlsruhe: **17. - 20. June 2019**



CORSIKA 8 Project, current status



People:

Luisa Arrabito (1)
Dominik Baack (2)
Johan Bregeon (1)
Hans Dembinski (3)
Ralph Engel (4)
Dieter Heck (4)
Tim Huege (4,5)
Lukas Nellen (6)
Tanguy Pierog (4)
Maximilian Reininghaus (4)
Felix Riehn (7)
Ralf Ulrich (4)
Darko Veberic (4)

see file: [SCIENTIFIC_AUTHORS](#)

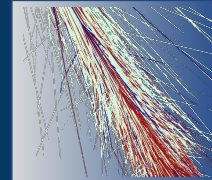
Affiliations:

(1) University of Montpellier, France
(2) TU Dortmund University, Germany
(3) Max Planck Institute for Nuclear Physics, Heidelberg
(4) Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), Germany
(5) Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium
(6) National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM)
(7) Laboratory of Instrumentation and Experimental
Particles (LIP), Portugal

Several more colleagues have started to contribute

→ list will continue to increase. Don't hesitate to get in contact.

Initial outline of the project



Towards the next generation of CORSIKA: A framework for the simulation of particle cascades in astroparticle physics

Ralph Engel, Dieter Heck, Tim Huege, Tanguy Pierog, Maximilian Reininghaus,
Ralf Ulrich, Michael Unger, and Darko Veberič

Institute for Nuclear Physics, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany

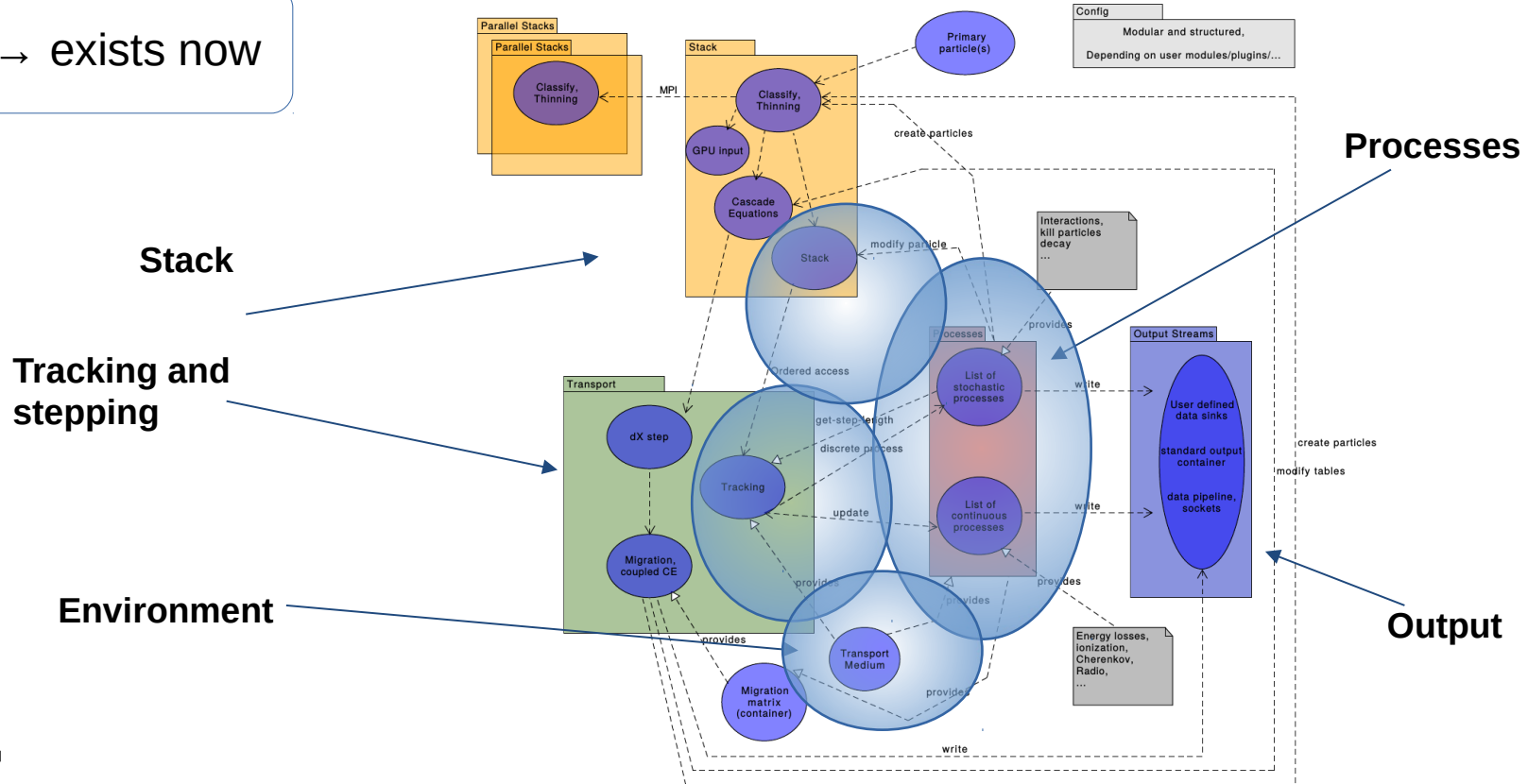
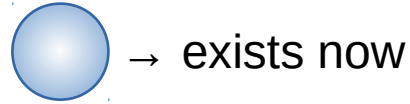
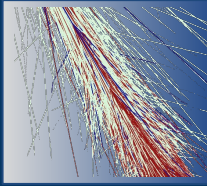
June 2018

Abstract

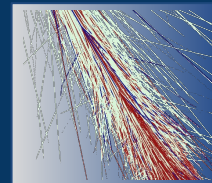
A large scientific community depends on precise modelling of complex particle-cascading processes in various types of matter. The most obviously related fields are cosmic-ray physics, astrophysical-neutrino physics, and gamma-ray astronomy. In this white paper we summarize the steps needed to ensure the evolution and availability of optimal simulation tools in the future. The purpose of this document is not to act as a strict outline of the software, but merely to provide guidance for the vital aspects of its design. The main topics considered here are driven by physics and scientific applications, furthermore, the main consequences on implementation and performance are given an outline. We highlight the computational performance as an important aspect guiding the design since future science applications will heavily depend on an efficient use of computational resources.

Comput. Softw. Big Sci. 3 (2019) 1

Proposed program flow



Some notes on the stack



The stack is where particle data is stored.

We need no particle object class, just a reference on the stack.

Stack can be anything internally (fortran, std::vector, std::map, file, combination of everything), only the interface must be well defined.

For physicist and users this must look like:

Plan 2018

```
for (auto particle : stack) {  
    particle.GetEnergy(showerFrame);  
    ...  
}
```

Actual Code 06/2019

15:50

Hands-On: Simulate your first CORSIKA 8 air shower

Tutorial part (DIY) and introduction, overview, results

Speaker: Ralf Ulrich (KIT)

See also, Thursday

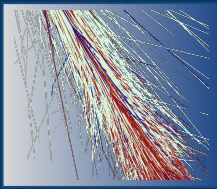
10:50

DynStack / Memory management - implementation and features

Overview of different features and possibilities of an extensive Stack/Memory management implementation.

Speaker: Dominik Baack (TU Dortmund)

The main program loop



Task: empty the stack → then finished

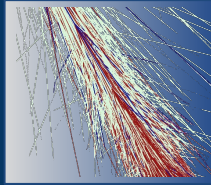
Plan 2018

```
stack.add(primaryParticle);  
while (!stack.Empty()) {  
    while (!stack.Empty()) {  
        auto particle = stack.Get();  
        Step(particle);  
    }  
    cascadeEquations.Solve();  
}
```

Actual Code 06/2019

```
/**  
 * The Run function is the main simulation loop, which processes  
 * particles from the Stack until the Stack is empty.  
 */  
void Run() {  
    SetNodes();  
  
    while (!fStack.IsEmpty()) {  
        while (!fStack.IsEmpty()) {  
            auto pNext = fStack.GetNextParticle();  
            Step(pNext);  
            fProcessSequence.DoStack(fStack);  
        }  
        // do cascade equations, which can put new particles on Stack,  
        // thus, the double loop  
        // DoCascadeEquations();  
    }  
}
```

Tracking through medium, and processes

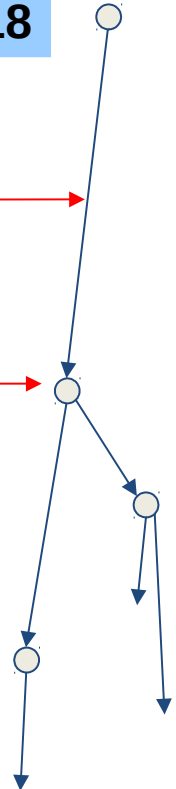


- Continuous processes occur on a scale much below the transport step-length, e.g. ionization, multiple scattering, radio emission, Cherenkov production, and thus an effective treatment can be used.
- Discrete processes typically lead to the disappearance of a particle and to production of new particles (typically for, but not limited to, collisions or decays).

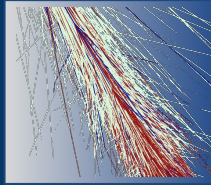
Plan 2018

Actual Code 06/2019

- DiscreteProcess → DecayProcess, InteractionProcess
- ContinuousProcess
- SecondariesProcess
- StackProcess



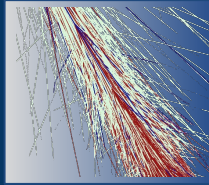
One simulation step



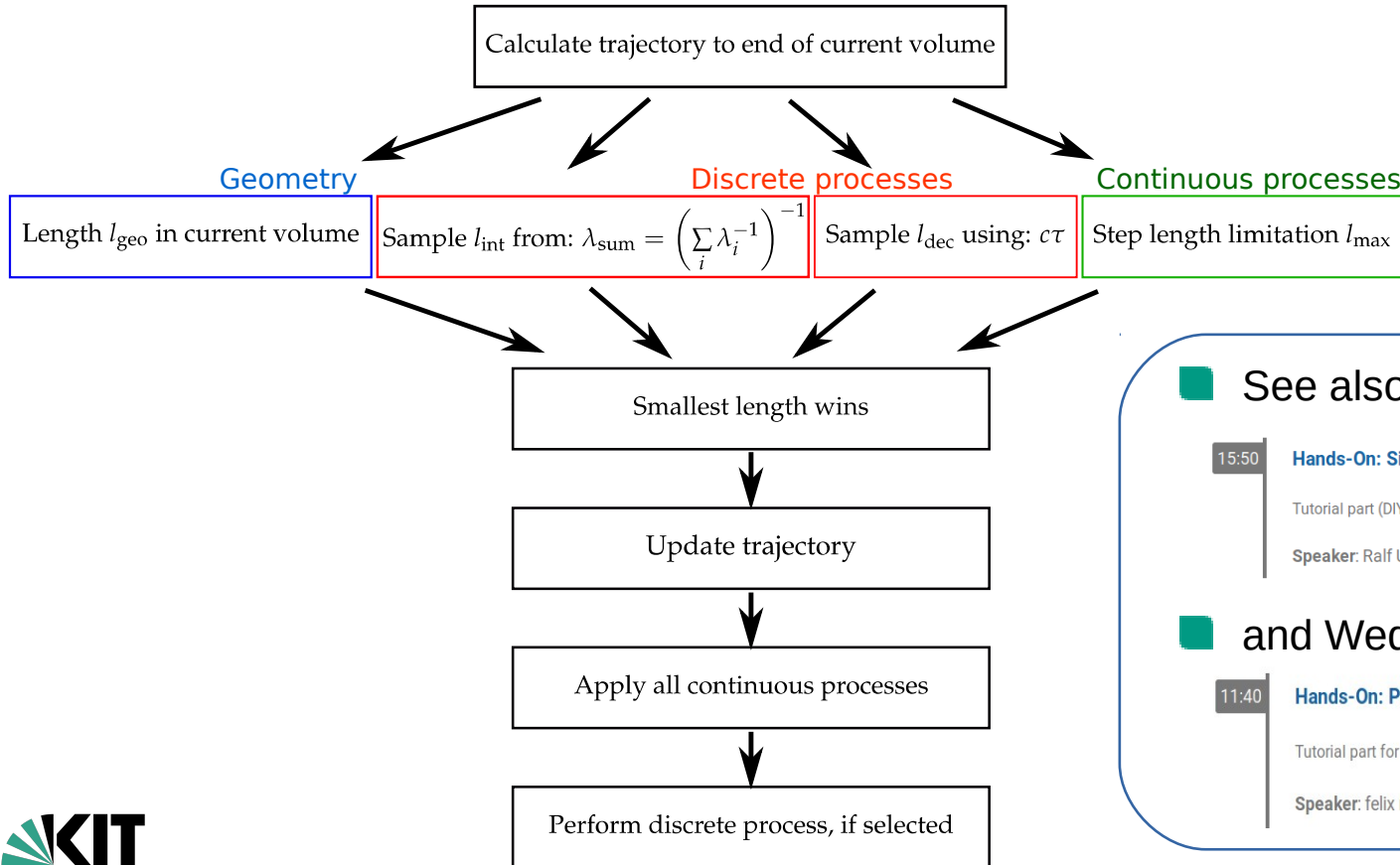
Plan 2018

1. Determine step length
 2. Do transport
 3. Apply all continuous processes
 4. Apply one discrete process
- ```
Step(auto particle) {
 auto stepLength = MinimalStepLength(tracking,
 continuousProcesses,
 stochasticProcesses);
 auto trajectory = tracking.Propagate(particle, stepLength)
 for (auto cp : continuousProcesses) {
 cp.Propagate(particle, trajectory, stepLength);
 }
 // randomly select ONE or NONE stochastic process
 if (discreteProcess dp = SelectStochasticProcess(stepLength)) {
 dp.Interact(particle);
 }
}
```

# The simulation step



Version 06/2019



## See also later today:

15:50

**Hands-On: Simulate your first CORSIKA 8 air shower**

Tutorial part (DIY) and introduction, overview, results

**Speaker:** Ralf Ulrich (KIT)

## and Wednesday:

11:40

**Hands-On: Physics processes**

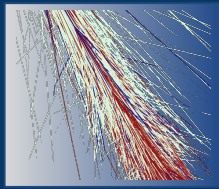
Tutorial part for DIY, introduction and concepts

**Speaker:** felix riehn (LIP, Lisbon)

50m



# Atmosphere → Environment



We need to supply a lot more information on the environment compared to before. The environment must be a plug-and-play object, where functionality can be provided for whatever is needed for the scientific application. The interface could include that, but this is not exclusive:

## Plan 2018

- Environment::GetVolumeld(point)
- Environment::GetVolumeBoundary(trajjectory)
- Environment::GetTargetParticle(point)
- Environment::GetDensity(point)
- Environment::GetIntegratedDensity(trajjectory)
- Environment::GetRefractiveIndex(point)
- Environment::GetTemperature(point)
- Environment::GetHumidity(point)
- Environment::GetMagneticField(point)
- Environment::GetElectricField(point)

## Status today, see Thursday:

The current state-of-the-art in air shower simulations, with a focus on the status and progress of CORSIKA 8.

09:40

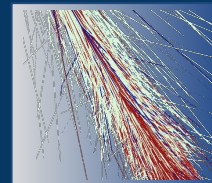
**Hands-On: Geometry and environment setup**

Speaker: Maximilian Reininghaus (KIT / IKP)

⌚ 40m



# Programming considerations



Physicists should never be forced to know in what values of parameters in a specific “reference frame”, they work with variables explicitly in the correct frame:

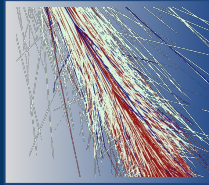
- Coordinate systems
- Lorentz transformation
- Particle IDs
- Physical units

**Plan 2018**

## **Actual Code 06/2019**

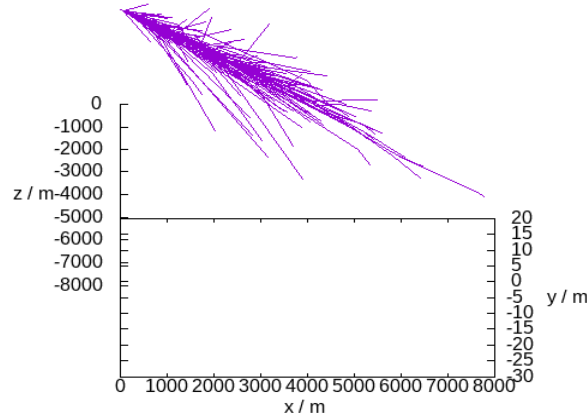
Some considerations are not yet final, but the general ideas are at work and do exactly what they were designed for.

# First impressions, January 2019



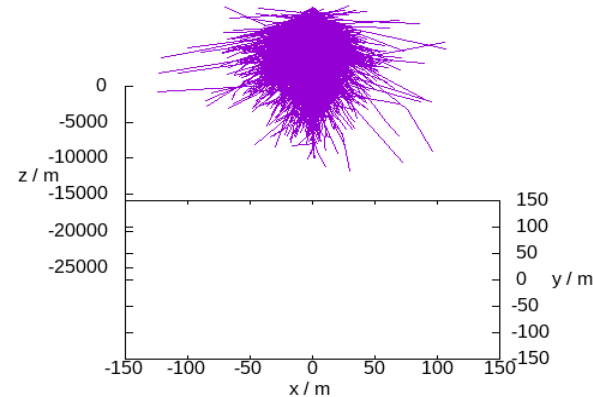
Proton primary, 100TeV, 45deg

CORSIKA 8 preliminary



Iron primary, 1PeV, 0deg

CORSIKA 8 preliminary

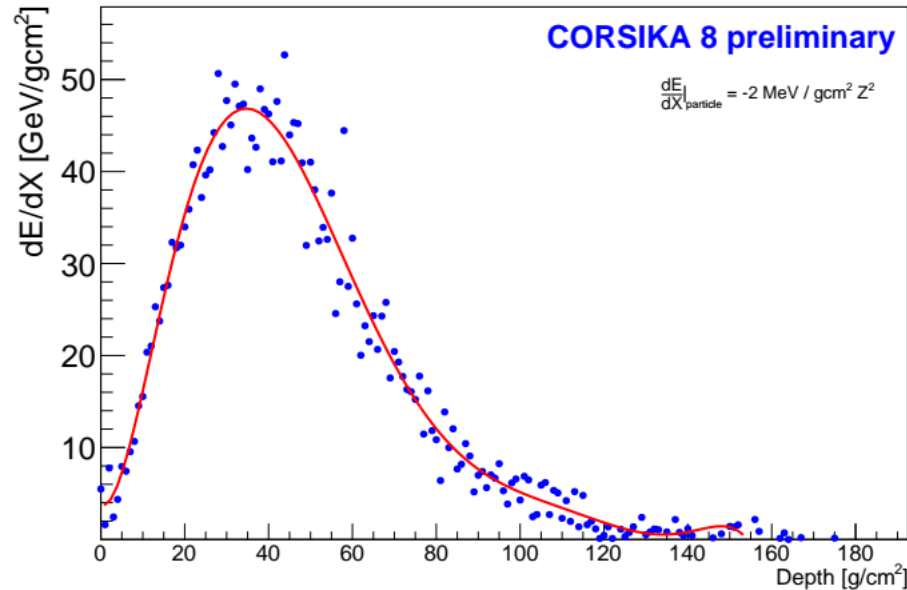
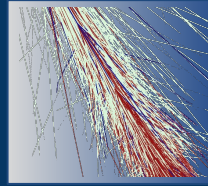


...

```
auto sequence = sibyll << sibyllNuc << decay << cut << trackWriter;
cascade::Cascade EAS(environment, tracking, sequence, stack);
EAS.Init();
EAS.Run();
```



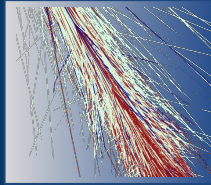
# First ~longitudinal profile, February 2019



...

```
auto sequence = sibyll << sibyllNuc << decay << EnergyLoss(2_MeV/1_g*square(1_cm)) << cut;
cascade::Cascade EAS(env, tracking, sequence, stack);
EAS.Init();
EAS.Run();
```

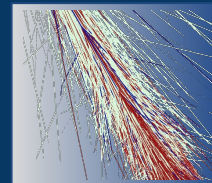
# Main challenges ahead



- Continue to build a worldwide collaboration around CORSIKA 8
  - Plan next technical journal articles, think about first physics articles
- Run-time configuration infrastructure
- Particle data output interface and definition
- Logging, also for parallel runs etc.
- Full physics implementation: hadrons plus nu/mu/e/gamma etc.
- Physics validation
- Seamless integration of cascade equations
- Profiling, optimization, vectorization and multi-threading solutions where useful
- Radio, Cherenkov
- Documentation

.... and many more

# Electron gamma cascades



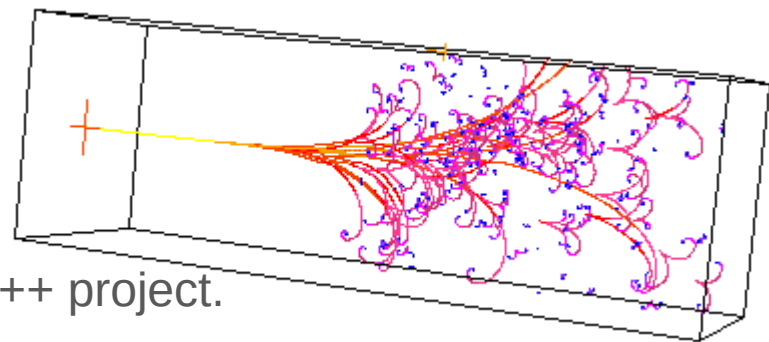
The electron gamma cascade is a very important part of the shower

- We assume we can model it accurately
- It needs most of the computation resources
- It is directly responsible for most: Cherenkov, Radio emission

Currently:

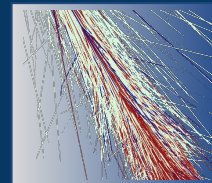
customized EGS4 code, there is special physics in CORSIKA that is missing in essentially all other similar projects, e.g. LPM effect.

However, basically impossible to port into a new C++ project.



→ We need new C++ version of modern EG cascades

# Stay tuned



## Monday

12:05

### The lepton propagator PROPOSAL and the air shower simulation code CORSIKA

🕒 20m



This talk describes the lepton propagator PROPOSAL, its current capabilities and its possible use in future versions of CORSIKA, and necessary extensions to function as a replacement for the EGS4 electromagnetic shower simulation code.

**Speaker:** Alexander Sandrock (Technische Universität Dortmund)

11:00

### Particle propagation for CORSIKA in PROPOSAL

🕒 20m



This talk intends to give technical insights into the propagation process of PROPOSAL, a tool to propagate leptons through media. Furthermore, we are going to discuss the requirements and challenges regarding possible use cases for PROPOSAL in CORSIKA in the future.

**Speaker:** Jean-Marco Alameddine

11:20

### EmCa - Electromagnetic Cascades Simulation Package

🕒 20m



Emca is a new python simulation package, based on MCEq, for the calculation of electromagnetic particle fluxes in various materials. The calculations are based on a cascade equation approach, allowing for an iterative calculation of showers. This allows for fast and efficient calculations of cascades, allowing easier testing and prototyping compared to a Monte Carlo approach. The methodology of EmCa and comparisons between it and CONEX will be shown.

**Speaker:** Stephan Meighen-Berger

## Wednesday

11:55

### Speedup of extensive air shower simulations with neural networks

🕒 20m

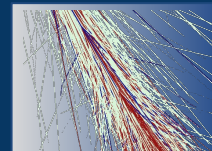


The time complexity of extensive air shower simulations rises approximately linearly with the incident particle energy for the CORSIKA 7 framework. The range of cosmic ray energies observed on earth covers several orders of magnitude. In order to simulate the highest energies in the cosmic ray spectrum, one has to introduce some sort of heuristic (e.g. thinning) which reduces runtime and preserves the shower properties to leading order. The physical content on higher order effects, like shower-to-shower fluctuations, is usually reduced. In this talk I am going to present my ideas on how to supplement current heuristics by training neural networks on CORSIKA simulations.

**Speaker:** Marcel Köpke (Karlsruhe Institute of Technology)

## Thursday

# Milestones



First full release: CORSIKA 8.0.0

14 Issues · 0 Merge Requests 14% complete

Project Milestone

Full physics demonstrator

16 Issues · 0 Merge Requests 0% complete

Project Milestone

ICRC2019

starts on Jun 15, 2019

37 Issues · 18 Merge Requests 56% complete

Project Milestone

Interface and framework definition

started on Sep 30, 2018

Closed

18 Issues · 5 Merge Requests 100% complete

Project Milestone

First working version of Stack and demonstration of shower simulation.

expired on Dec 15, 2018

Closed

35 Issues · 26 Merge Requests 100% complete

Project Milestone

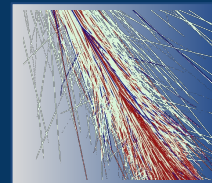
Physics demonstrator (hadron core)

expired on Feb 28, 2019

Expired

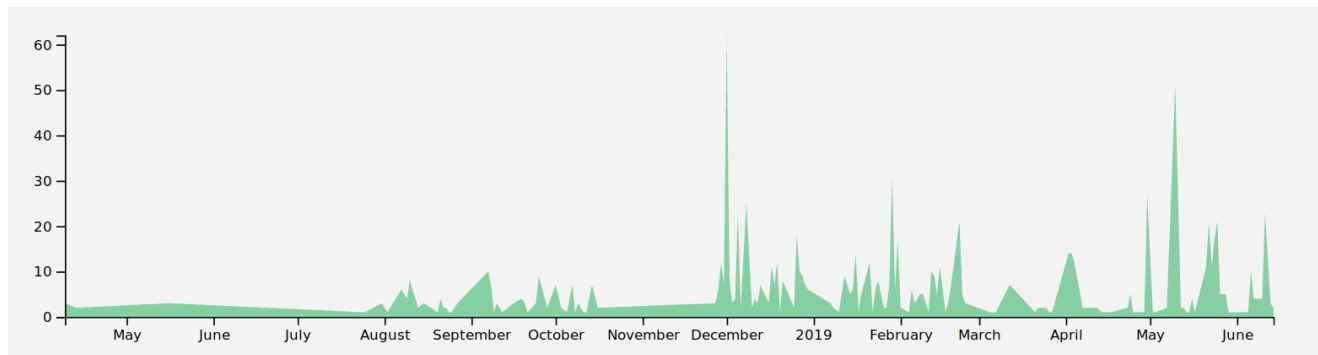
36 Issues · 43 Merge Requests 100% complete

Project Milestone



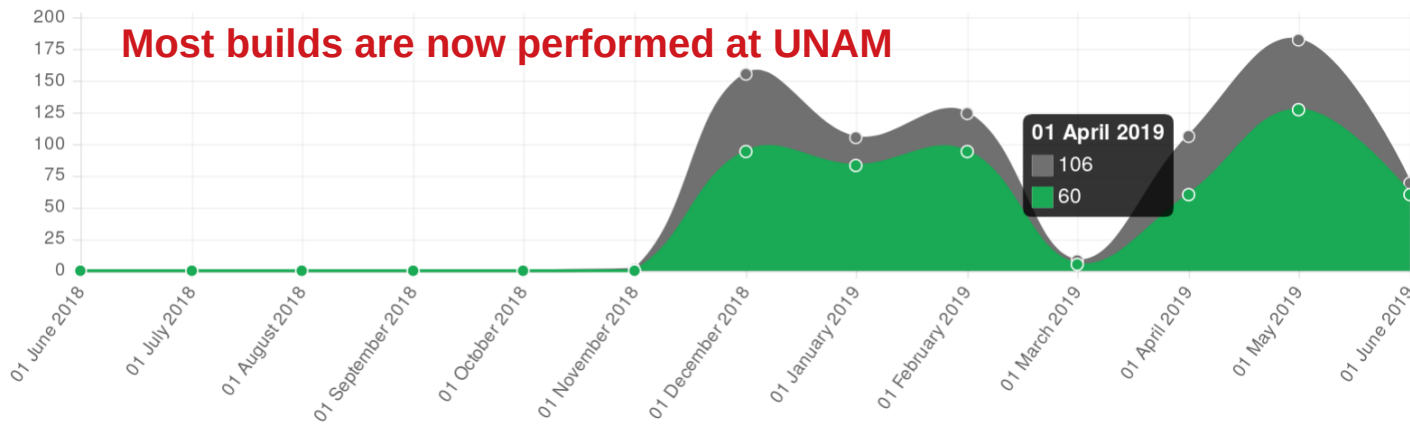
# Development activity

Commits to master, excluding merge commits. Limited to 6,000 commits.

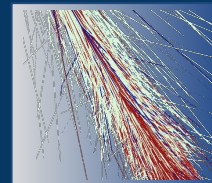


No. of contributions  
on gitlab.ikp.kit.edu

Automatic builds  
triggered by  
changes on gitlab



# Summary



CORSIKA 8 has started as a new and major collaborative project

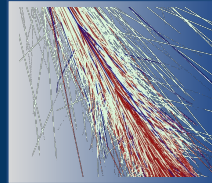
- So far well on track with original planning and ideas
- Basic software framework, and development infrastructure in place
- First hadron/muon physics implemented

There are still many very critical developments and obstacles in the future.

CORSIKA 8 still has to present itself to become the improved replacement of CORSIKA 7 within the next ~12 months

At this workshop a complete picture of the current CORSIKA 8 is presented, the status should be critically reviewed and steered into the optimal direction.

# Final remark



**CORSIKA –**

**COsmic Ray Simulations for Kascade**

will become

**CORSICA**

**COsmic Ray Simualtions of Cascades**