



# *Cascade Equations ~~and accelerated methods~~ and recent developments in MCEq*

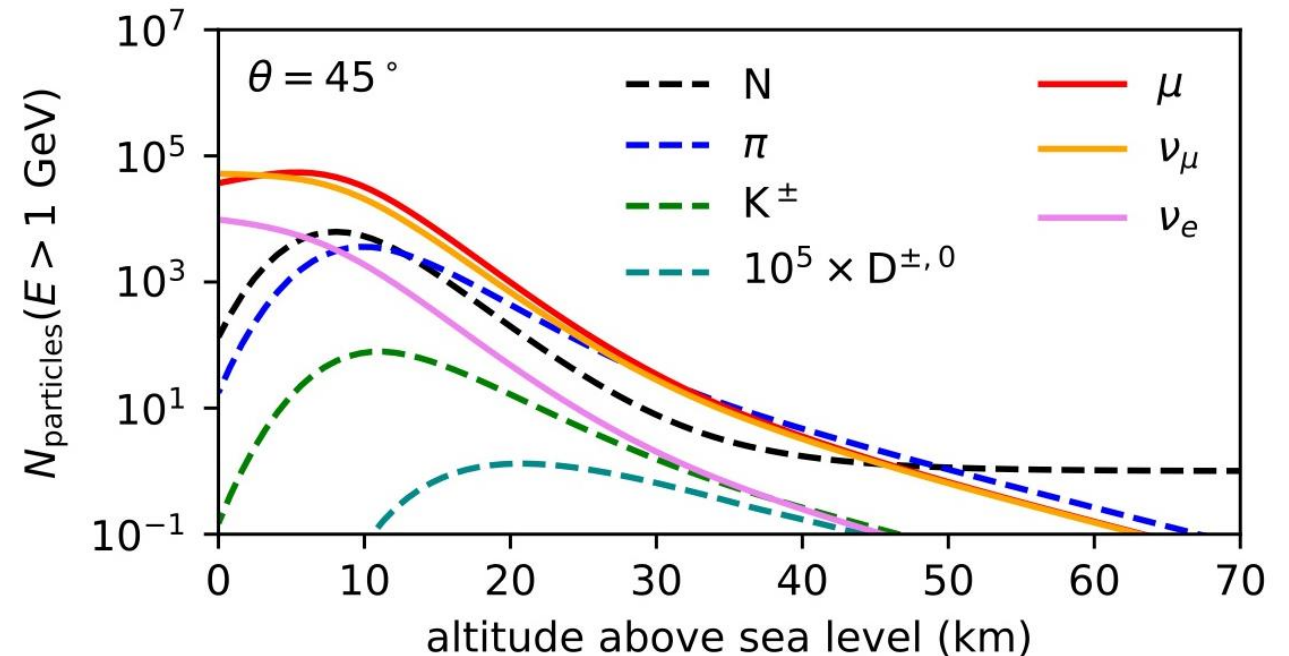
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ICRR, University of Tokyo, Japan

**CORSIKA 8 virtual workshop**  
June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020



# What is MCEq?

1. Open source numerical iterative cascade equation solver
2. Cascade equations = транспорт equations solved by CORSIKA with Monte Carlo method
3. Mainly used in atmospheric lepton and neutrino telescope community
4. Potentially interesting for
  - Cascade eqn. solver in CORSIKA8
  - Air shower & cosmic ray “theory”
  - Beyond standard model/Pheno
  - Astrophysics



# Transport equations (hadronic cascade equations) in 1D

System of coupled non-linear PDE for each particle species  $h$  :

$$\frac{d\Phi_h(E, X)}{dX} = - \left[ \frac{\Phi_h(E, X)}{\lambda_{\text{int},h}(E)} + \frac{\Phi_h(E, X)}{\lambda_{\text{dec},h}(E, X)} \right] - \frac{\partial}{\partial E} (\mu(E) \Phi_h(E, X)) + \sum_k \int_E^\infty dE_k \frac{dN_{k(E_k) \rightarrow h(E)}}{dE} \frac{\Phi_k(E_k, X)}{\lambda_{\text{int},k}(E_k)} + \sum_k \int_E^\infty dE_k \frac{dN_{k(E_k) \rightarrow h(E)}^{\text{dec}}}{dE} \frac{\Phi_k(E_k, X)}{\lambda_{\text{dec},k}(E_k, X)}$$

**cosmic ray physics** (red box)

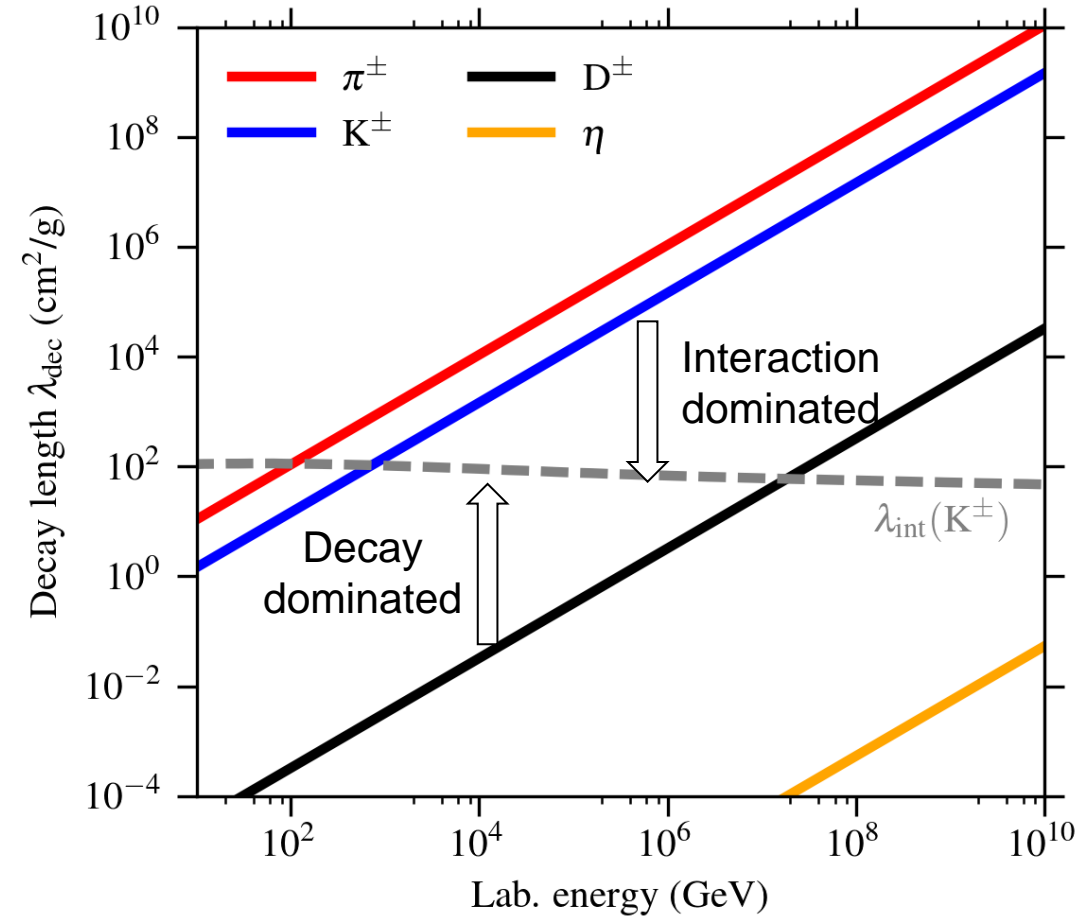
Interactions with air

Decays

**atmospheric physics** (blue box)

Continuous losses

**particle physics** (green box)



$$X(h_0) = \int_0^{h_0} d\ell \rho_{\text{air}}(\ell)$$

# MCEq: Matrix Cascade Equations

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\Phi_h(E, X)}{dX} = & - \frac{\Phi_h(E, X)}{\lambda_{\text{int},h}(E)} \\ & - \frac{\Phi_h(E, X)}{\lambda_{\text{dec},h}(E, X)} \\ & - \frac{\partial}{\partial E}(\mu(E)\Phi_h(E, X)) \\ & + \sum_{\ell} \int_E^{\infty} dE_{\ell} \frac{dN_{\ell(E_{\ell}) \rightarrow h(E)}}{dE} \frac{\Phi_{\ell}(E_{\ell}, X)}{\lambda_{\text{int},\ell}(E_{\ell})} \\ & + \sum_{\ell} \int_E^{\infty} dE_{\ell} \frac{dN_{\ell(E_{\ell}) \rightarrow h(E)}^{\text{dec}}}{dE} \frac{\Phi_{\ell}(E_{\ell}, X)}{\lambda_{\text{dec},\ell}(E_{\ell}, X)} \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\Phi_{E_i}^h}{dX} = & - \frac{\Phi_{E_i}^h}{\lambda_{\text{int},E_i}^h} \\ & - \frac{\Phi_{E_i}^h}{\lambda_{\text{dec},E_i}^h(X)} \\ & - \vec{\nabla}_i(\mu_{E_i}^h \Phi_{E_i}^h) \\ & + \sum_{E_k \geq E_i}^{E_N} \sum_{\ell} \frac{C_{\ell(E_k) \rightarrow h(E_i)}}{\lambda_{\text{int},E_k}^{\ell}} \Phi_{E_k}^{\ell} \\ & + \sum_{E_k \geq E_i}^{E_N} \sum_{\ell} \frac{d_{\ell(E_k) \rightarrow h(E_i)}}{\lambda_{\text{dec},E_k}^{\ell}(X)} \Phi_{E_k}^{\ell} \end{aligned}$$

**State (or flux) vector**

$$\vec{\Phi} = \left( \vec{\Phi}^{\text{p}} \quad \vec{\Phi}^{\text{n}} \quad \vec{\Phi}^{\pi^+} \quad \dots \quad \vec{\Phi}^{\bar{\nu}_{\mu}} \quad \dots \right)^T$$

$$\vec{\Phi}^{\text{p}} = \left( \Phi_{E_0}^{\text{p}} \quad \Phi_{E_1}^{\text{p}} \quad \dots \quad \Phi_{E_N}^{\text{p}} \right)^T$$

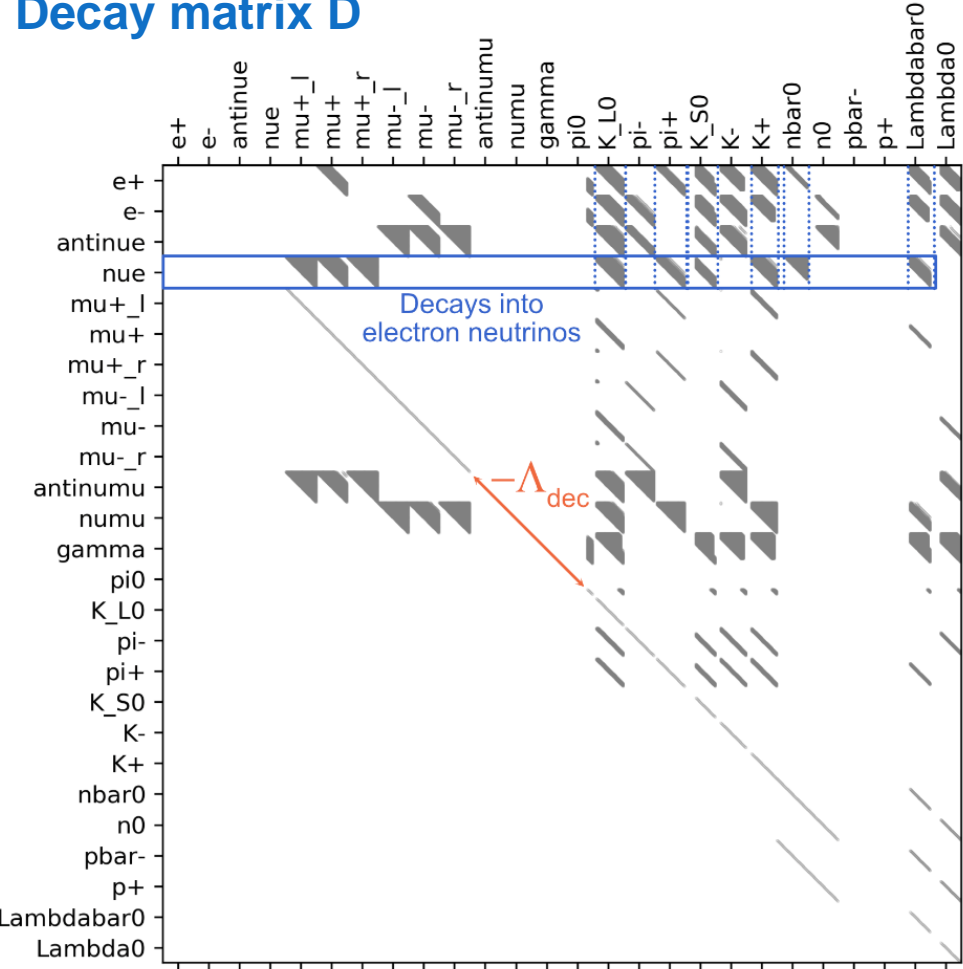
**“Matrix form”**

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dX} \vec{\Phi} = & - \vec{\nabla}_E (\text{diag}(\vec{\mu}) \vec{\Phi}) + (-\mathbf{1} + \mathbf{C}) \mathbf{\Lambda}_{\text{int}} \vec{\Phi} \\ & + \frac{1}{\rho(X)} (-\mathbf{1} + \mathbf{D}) \mathbf{\Lambda}_{\text{dec}} \vec{\Phi} \end{aligned}$$

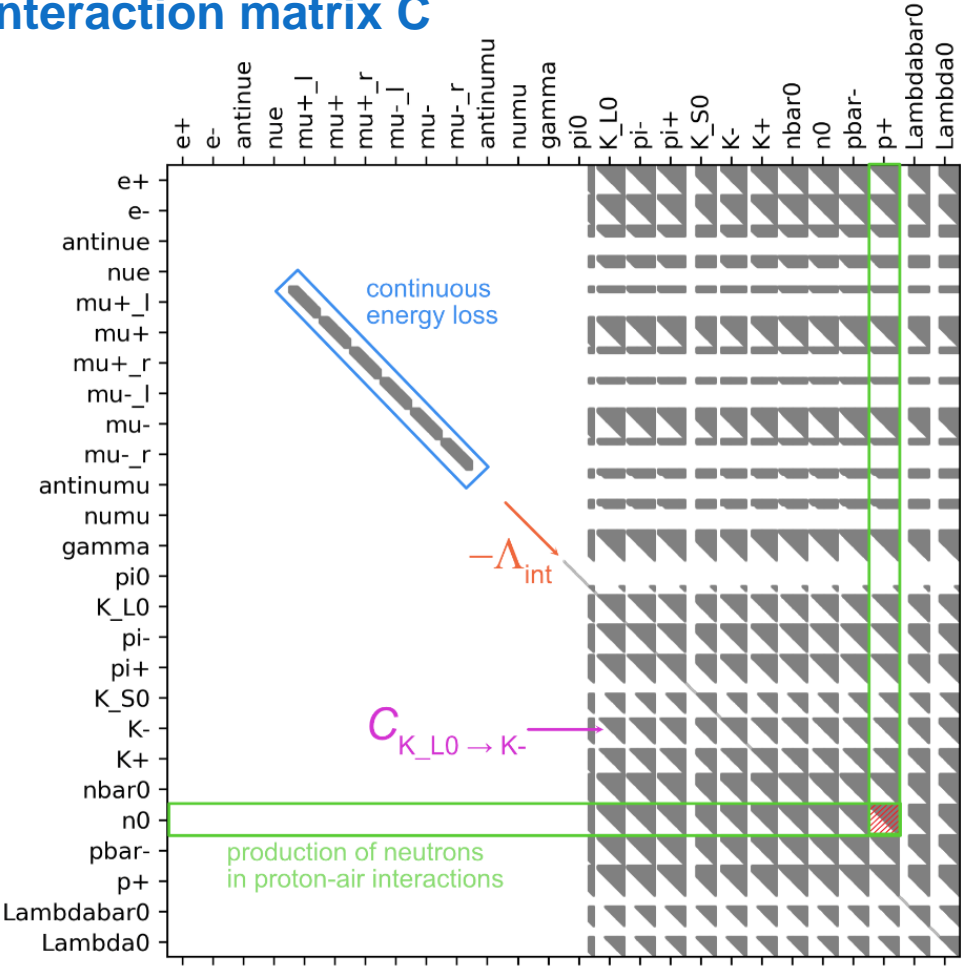


# Sparse matrix structure

Decay matrix D



Interaction matrix C



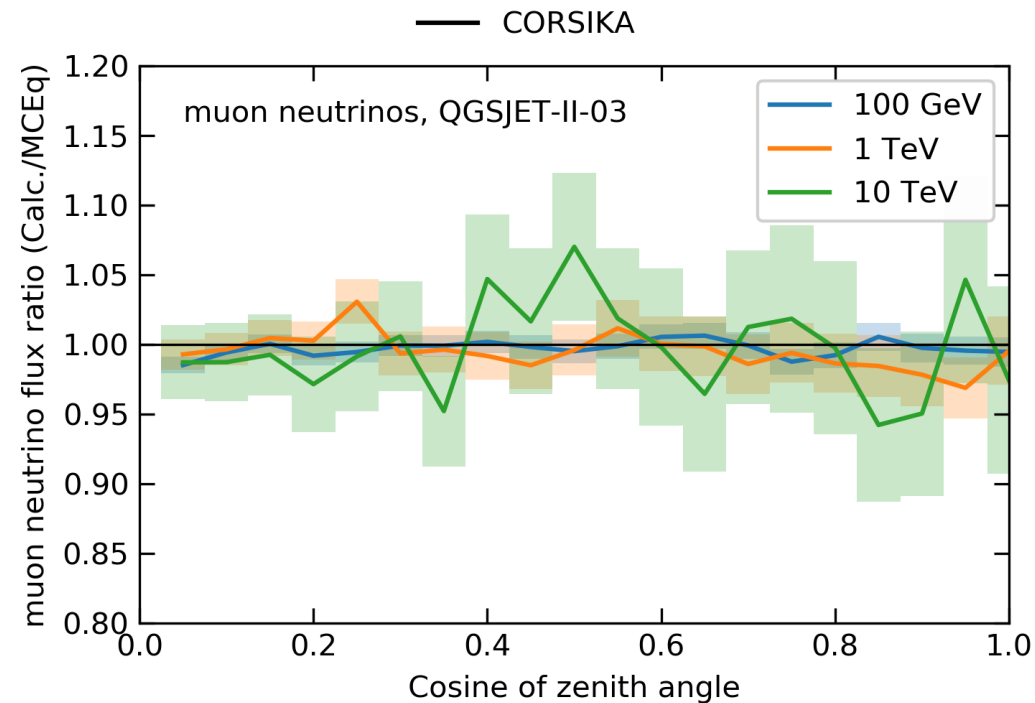
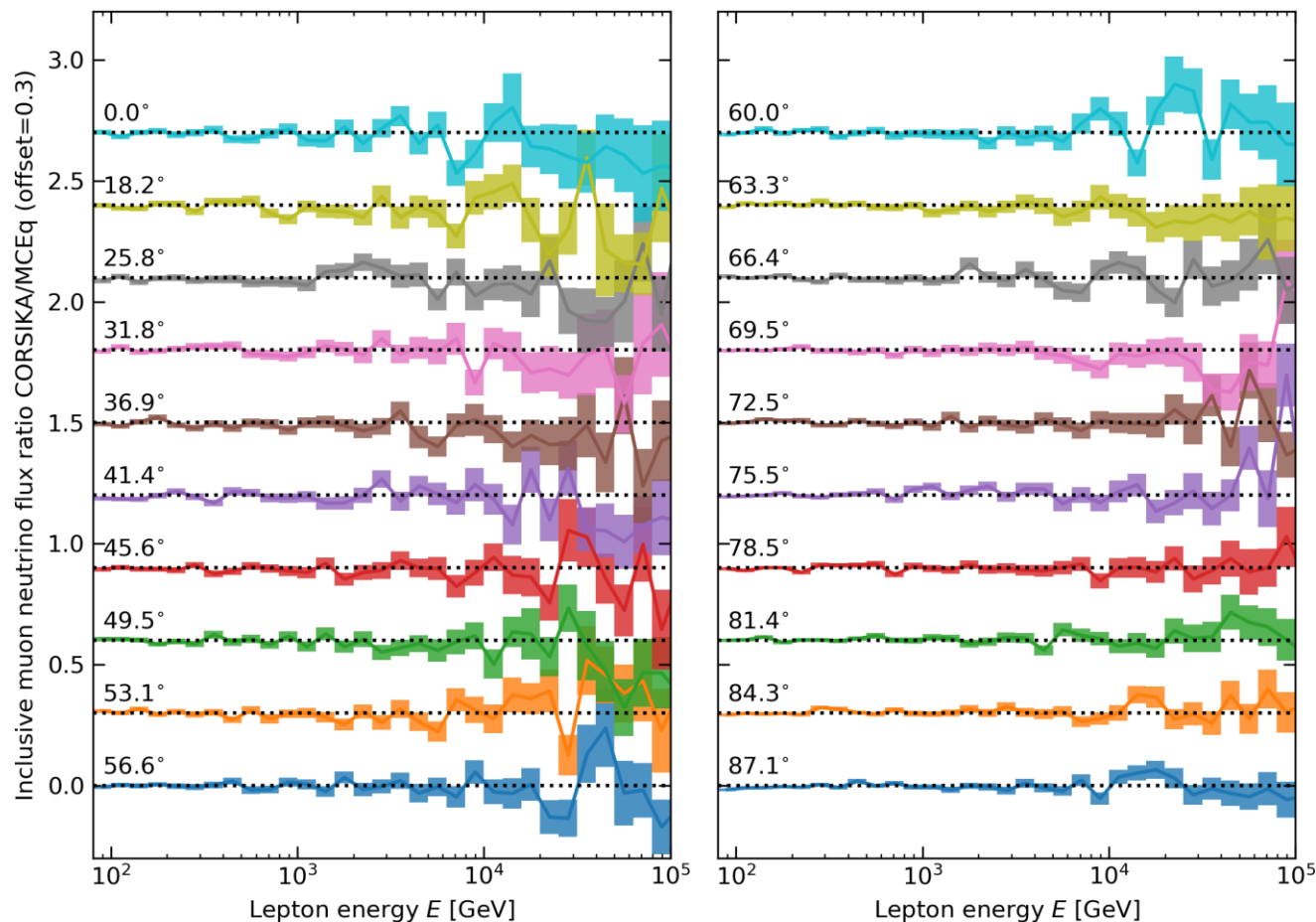
matrices are  
sparse



high  
performance

# MCEq vs (thinned) CORSIKA calculation in 1D

Inclusive muon neutrino flux ratio CORSIKA/MCEQ. QGSJET-II-03 + H3a.



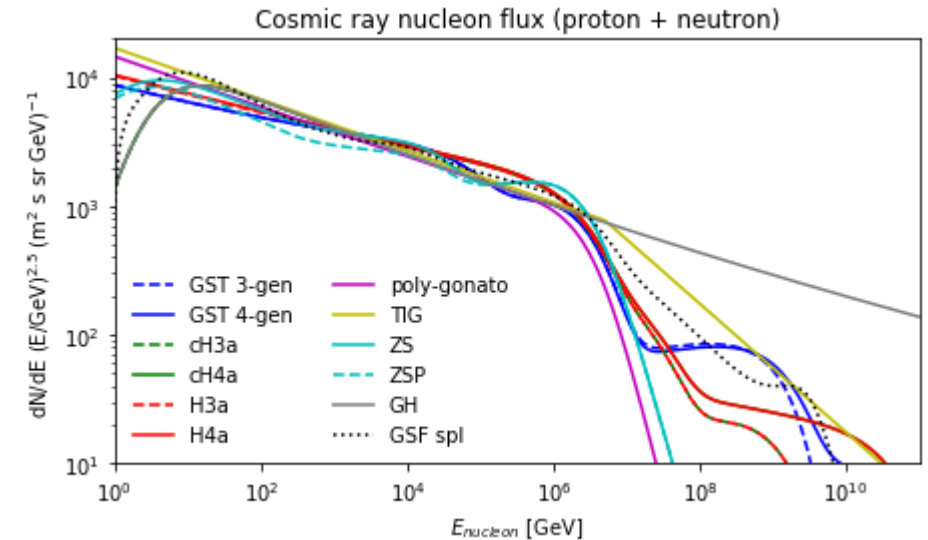
➤ BSD licensed @ <https://github.com/afedynitch/MCEq>

# Available models

**Hadronic interaction models** are:

- SIBYLL-2.3c (=d: will be fixed in next release)
- SIBYLL-2.3c01
- SIBYLL-2.3
- SIBYLL-2.1
- EPOS-LHC
- QGSJet-II-04
- QGSJet-II-03
- QGSJet-01c
- DPMJET-III-3.0.6
- DPMJET-III-19.1
- SIBYLL-2.3c\_pp (for proton-proton collisions)

**Cosmic ray flux** models are in [the independent crflux module](#).



**Atmosphere** models from

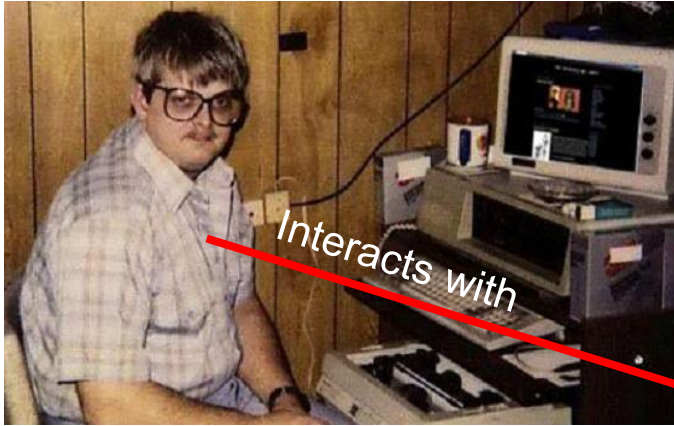
- CORSIKA7 (multiple locations)
- NRLMSISE-00 (global, “static”)
- Some special cases and interface to tabulated atm.

# Live demo

(you can run it yourself using the `CKA8_WS_demo.ipynb` on indico)

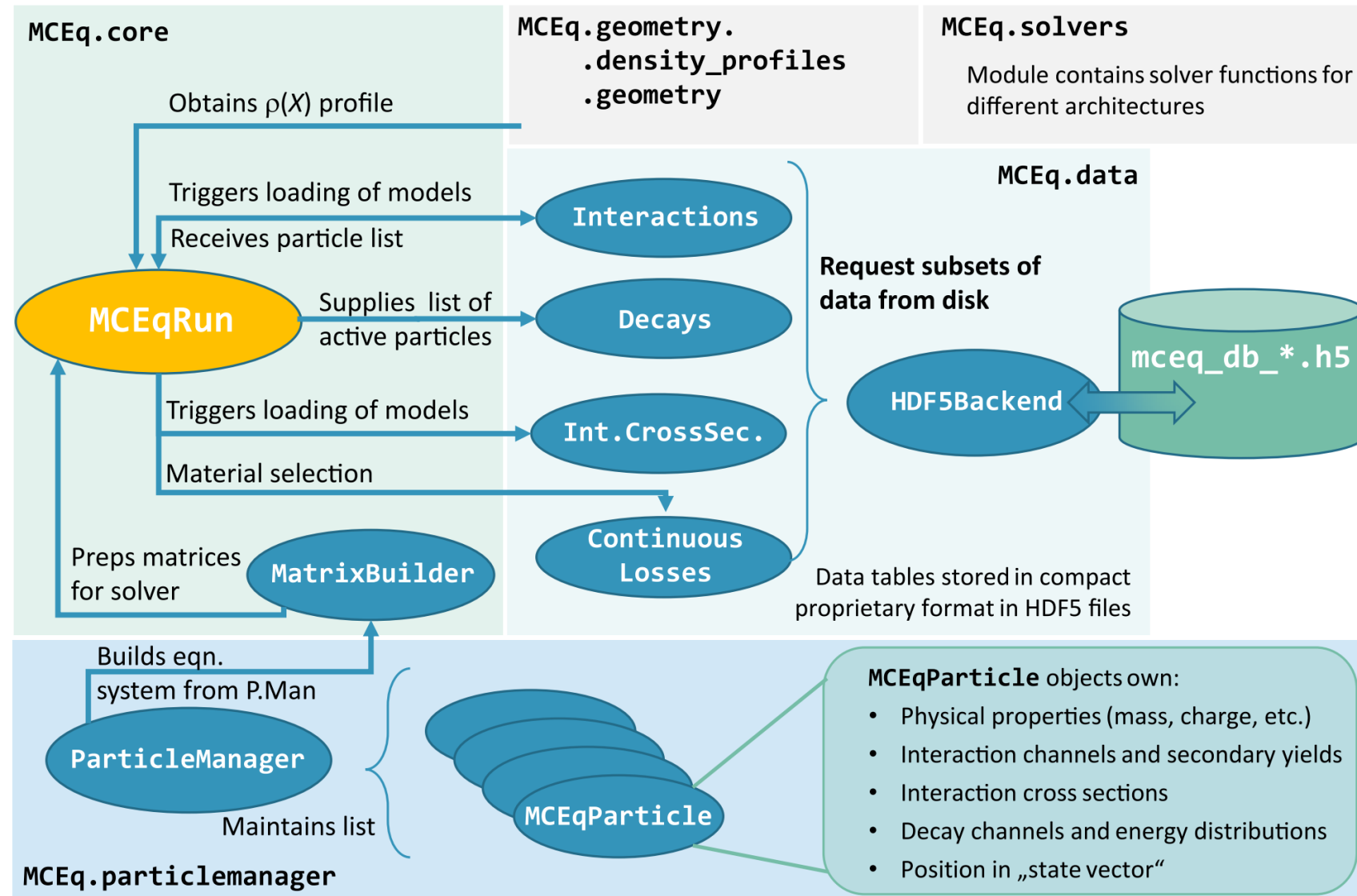


# Code architecture



## Key points:

- ☺ mostly python
- ☺ heavy on numpy
- ☺ some scipy
- ☺ some ctypes modules
- ☺ likes Intel MKL and/or Nvidia cuSparse (via cupy)
- ☺ File(s) are HDF5
- ☺ Builds on Azure as binary wheel
- ☺ Deployed to PyPi
- ☺ Supports Linux, Windows and Mac, Python 2.7 - 3.8



# Runtime: CUDA vs MKL in MCEq

Timer unit: 0.001 s

Total time: 0.714455 s

File: c:\users\afedy\devel\git\mceq\MCEq\solvers.py

Function: solve\_step at line 111

CUDA (cuSparse)

Line #	Hits	Time	Per Hit	% Time	Line Contents
=====					
111					def solve_step(self, rho_inv, dX):
112					"""Makes one solver step on GPU using cuSparse (BLAS)"""
113					
114	11530	8.6	0.0	1.2	self.cp.cusparse.csrmmv(a=self.cu_int_m,
115	11530	5.8	0.0	0.8	x=self.cu_curr_phi,
116	11530	5.6	0.0	0.8	y=self.cu_delta_phi,
117	11530	5.2	0.0	0.7	alpha=1.,
118	11530	300.7	0.0	42.1	beta=0.)
119	11530	8.8	0.0	1.2	self.cp.cusparse.csrmmv(a=self.cu_dec_m,
120	11530	5.5	0.0	0.8	x=self.cu_curr_phi,
121	11530	5.4	0.0	0.8	y=self.cu_delta_phi,
122	11530	5.1	0.0	0.7	alpha=rho_inv,
123	11530	296.4	0.0	41.5	beta=1.)
124	11530	11.4	0.0	1.6	self.cub1.saxpy(self.cub1_handle, self.cu_delta_phi.shape[0], dX,
125	11530	7.0	0.0	1.0	self.cu_delta_phi.data.ptr, 1,
126	11530	48.9	0.0	6.8	self.cu_curr_phi.data.ptr, 1)

Intel MKL

239	11540	13.1	0.0	0.1	for step in range(nsteps):
240					# delta_phi = int_m.dot(phi)
241	11530	14.6	0.0	0.2	gemv(trans, m, m, cdone,
242	11530	11.2	0.0	0.1	matdsc, int_m_data, int_m_ci, int_m_pb, int_m_pe, phi,
243	11530	7198.0	0.6	77.3	cdzero, delta_phi)
244					# delta_phi = rho_inv * dec_m.dot(phi) + delta_phi
245	11530	41.3	0.0	0.4	gemv(trans, m, m, byref(fl_pr(rho_inv[step])),
246	11530	12.1	0.0	0.1	matdsc, dec_m_data, dec_m_ci, dec_m_pb, dec_m_pe, phi,
247	11530	1869.8	0.2	20.1	cdone, delta_phi)
248					# phi = delta_phi * dX + phi
249	11530	132.9	0.0	1.4	axpy(m, fl_pr(dX[step]), delta_phi, cione, phi, cione)

- Most of the time spent in HPC libs
- No python overhead = no performance gain from C++
- For CKA8 it is straight forward to write a small core in C++ using local density & geometry
- Matrices can be generated with MCEq as is or stored/cached in HDF5 or so
- Requires a sparse matrix BLAS lib. Any recommendation?
- Several additional ways to boost performance:
  - Multiple “RHS”
  - Segmented atmosphere
  - Newton iterations
  - At the cost of higher mem. consumption or longer initialization
  - No meaning to do it now

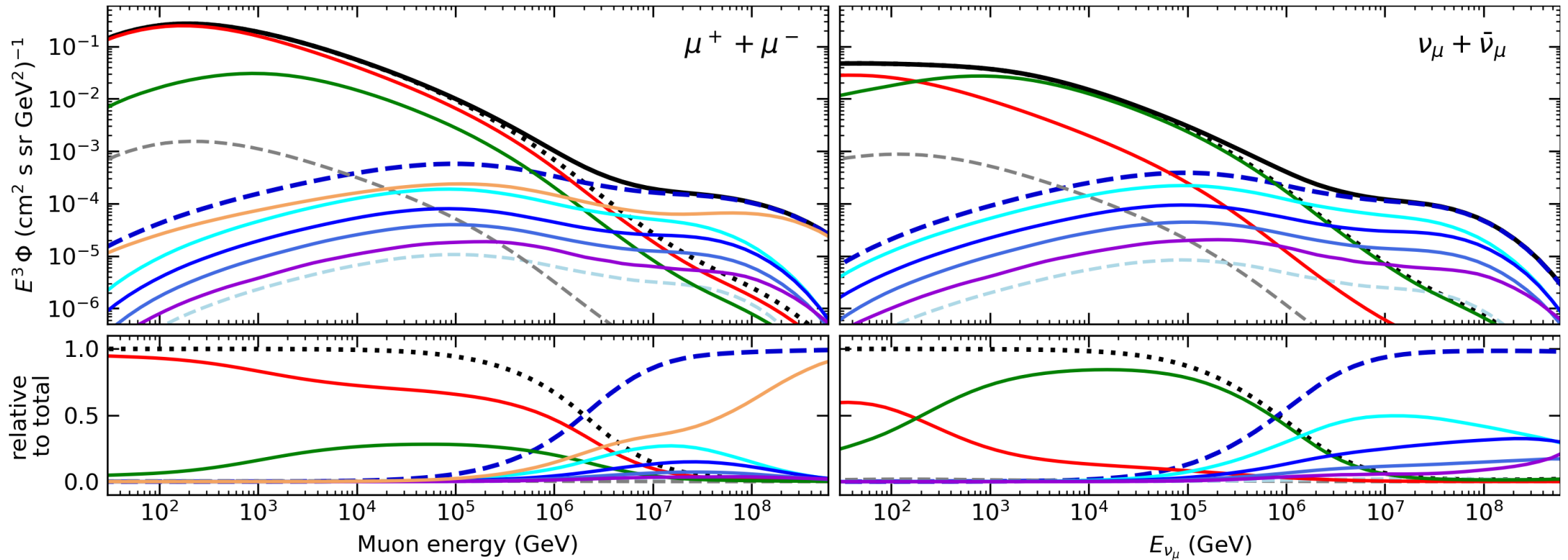
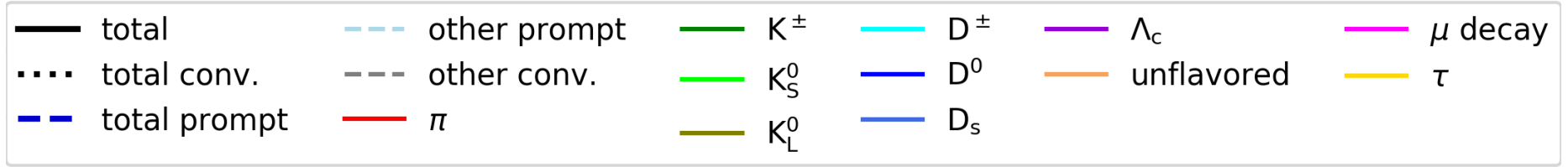
# Summary/conclusion/discussion

- CORSIKA and MCEq are based on the same equations. MCEq gives the average “air shower”
- Code is mature and in development since 2013, and recently cross checked with CKA8 (see Max’ talk from Monday)
- Can be further accelerated when needed, many possibilities
- Hybrid shower generation MC + CE + “de-thinning” not well documented and sometimes obscure
- Proposal: implementation in CKA8 as a small solver module that uses matrices generated by official MCEq code, either in runtime or cached
- Potential developments:
  - Solve for the moments (get fluctuations)
  - 3D cascade eqn. solvers/meshed geometries
- Do hybrid techniques need revising, which communities are interested in this?

# MCEq news

1. Since last year: MCEq distributed via PyPi and fluxes published:
  - a) The recommended installation method is **“pip install MCEq”**
  - b) The differences in fluxes between models are discussed Section VI of the [AF et al. PRD100 paper](#) (sorry, arxiv version no yet up-to-date)
2. Version 1.1.x is stable and physics-wise identical to 1.0.X versions
3. Typically version bumps mean
  - a) X.X.○: bugfix, or small features without changing interfaces or physics
  - b) X.○.X: significant feature update, that may involve change in the interface or physics
  - c) Current stable version is 1.2.1
4. Version 1.2.1 has some physics changes because a bug found in decay matrices and because of some adjustments in sync with CKA8
  - a) Fluxes change by ~+10% change below 10-30 GeV
  - b) Air-showers/bundles: particle yields (single\_primary\_particle) increase by several percent at ~GeV energies
  - c) For fluxes > 40 GeV no visible change.
5. Follow the [CHANGELOG](#) on github to stay informed what's new in each version
6. When using MCEq for physics, use official releases (from PyPi or git tags), then you can go easily back even with pip.
7. For questions about MCEq use the issues on github. Errors and discussions will be indexed by google and easier to find.

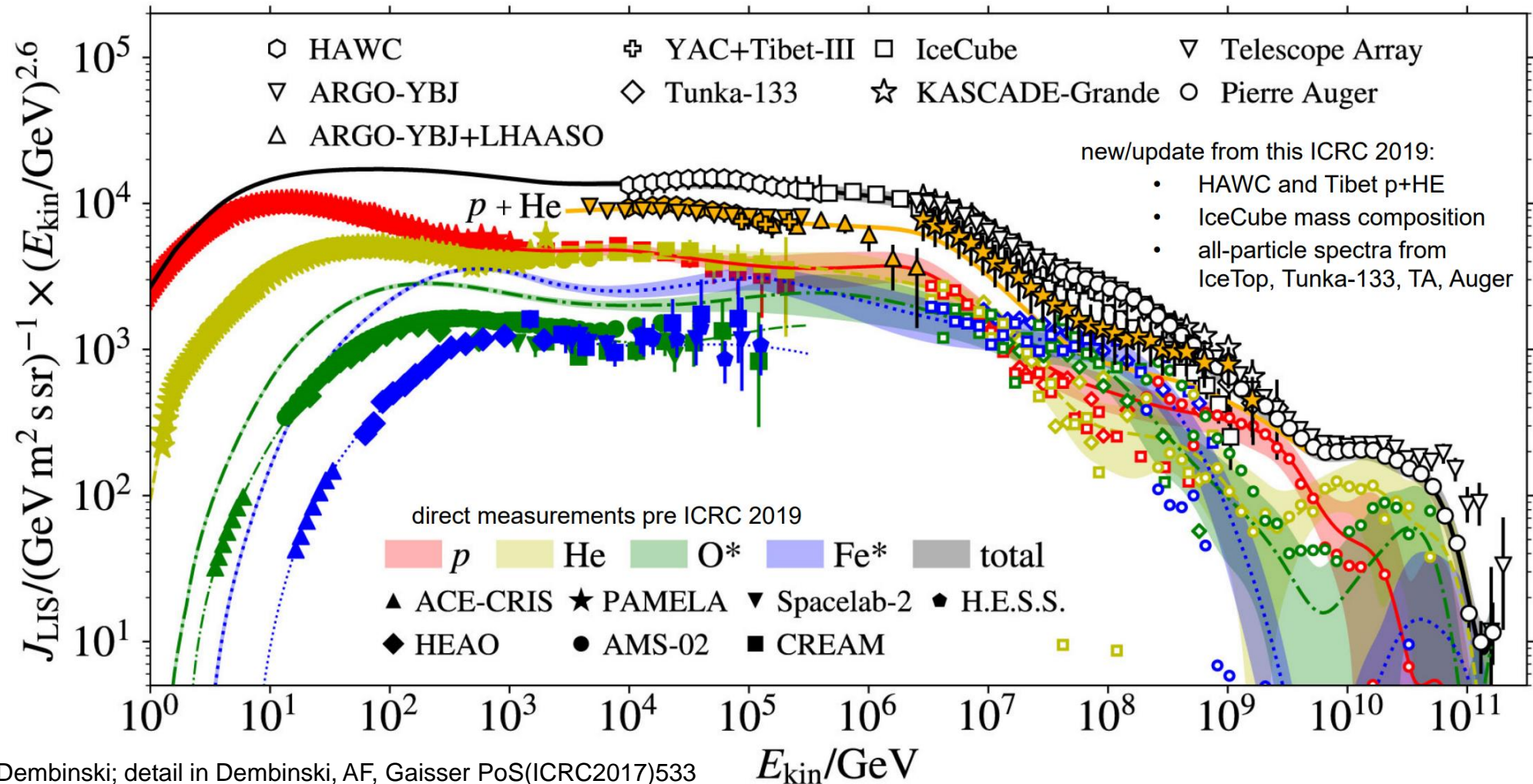
# Hadrons contributing to muonic leptons





# CR flux: GSF - Global Spline Fit (one problem “almost solved”)

F. Schröder, ICRC 2019 rapporteur talk



Plot by H. Dembinski; detail in Dembinski, AF, Gaisser PoS(ICRC2017)533

Very good precision achieved!  
Error band smaller than markers/curves

Remaining composition and energy scale  
uncertainties between experiments