

# Monte Carlo generator tuning for cosmic-ray induced air shower simulations



## CORSIKA 8 Workshop 2023

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# The need for MC generator tuning

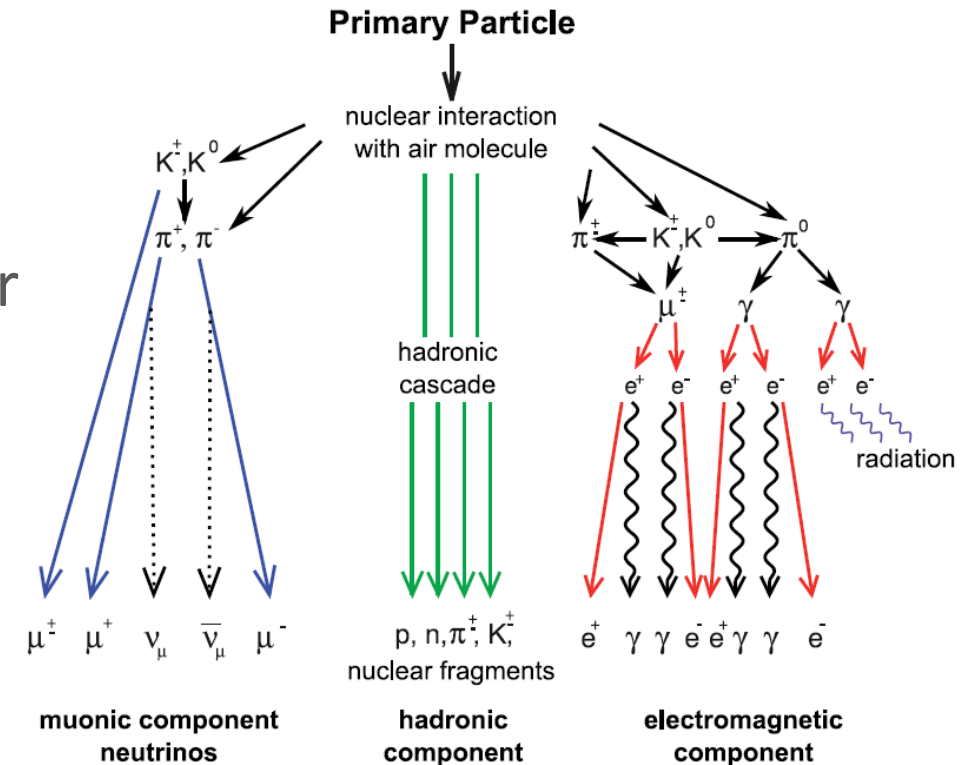
Hadronization of process cannot be calculated from first principle

→ Need for hadronic models (MC generators)

Hadronization process has large impact on air shower features

Tuning essential to achieve high-quality simulations

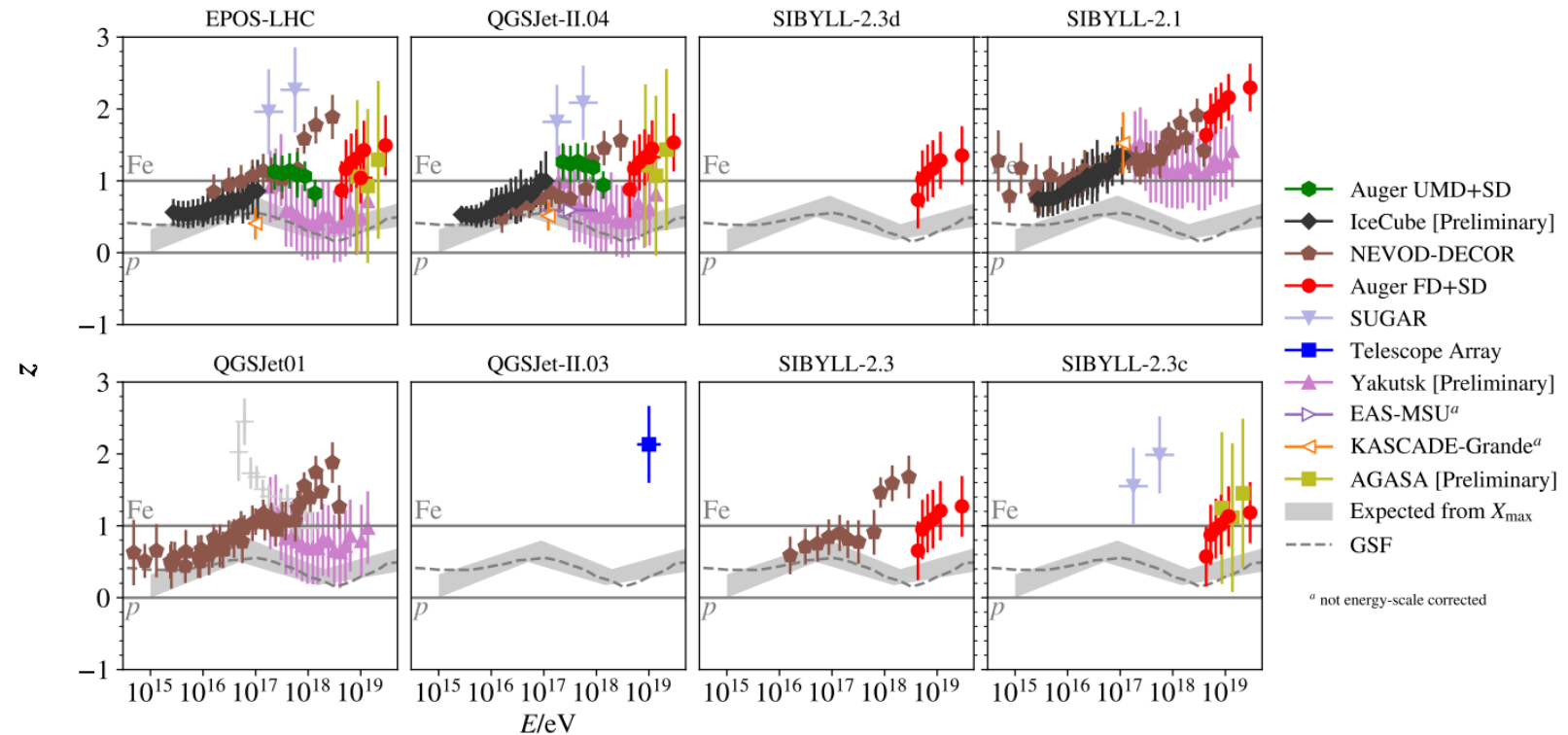
→ Muon Puzzle



# Muon Puzzle

High energies: Muon excess in observations compared to simulations

$$Z = \frac{\ln(N_{\mu}^{\text{det}}) - \ln(N_{\mu,p\text{-sim}}^{\text{det}})}{\ln(N_{\mu,\text{Fe-sim}}^{\text{det}}) - \ln(N_{\mu,p\text{-sim}}^{\text{det}})}$$



J. Albrecht et al., *The Muon Puzzle in cosmic-ray induced air showers and its connection to the Large Hadron Collider*, *Astrophys.Space Sci.* 367 (2022) 3, 27

# Tuning of Free Parameters

Adjust free parameters in order to achieve a good description of the data

Manual or brute-force tuning difficult due to high computing cost

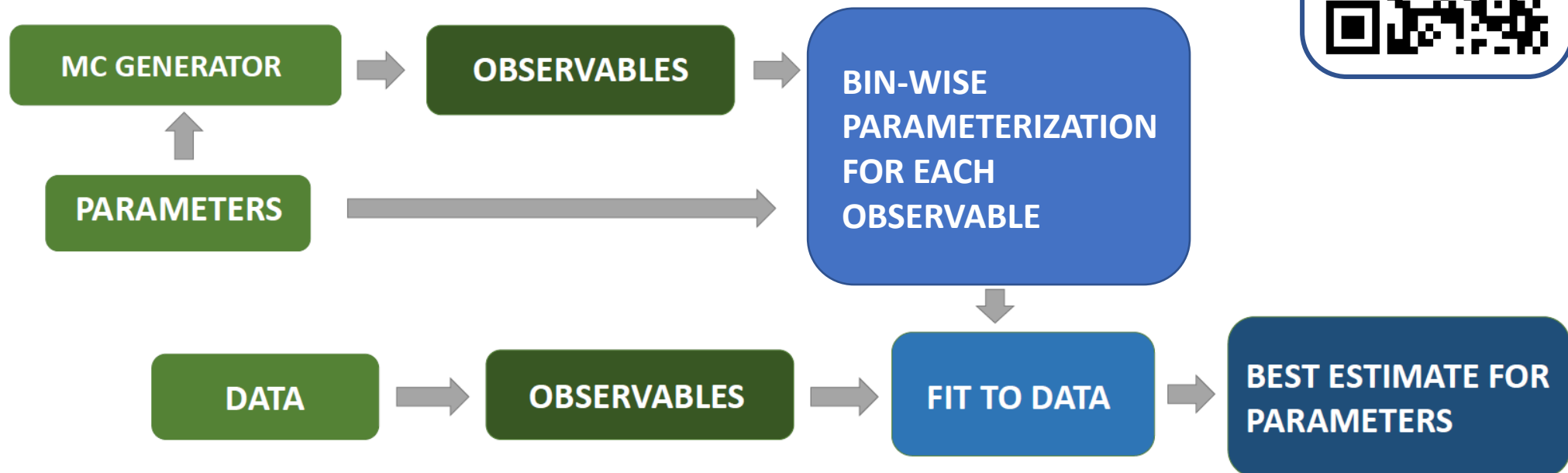
Systematic event generator tuning workflow: Professor tuning system

[arXiv:0907.2973](https://arxiv.org/abs/0907.2973)

# Parameter based generator tuning

Optimize free parameters of MC generator using experimental data and Bayesian Methods

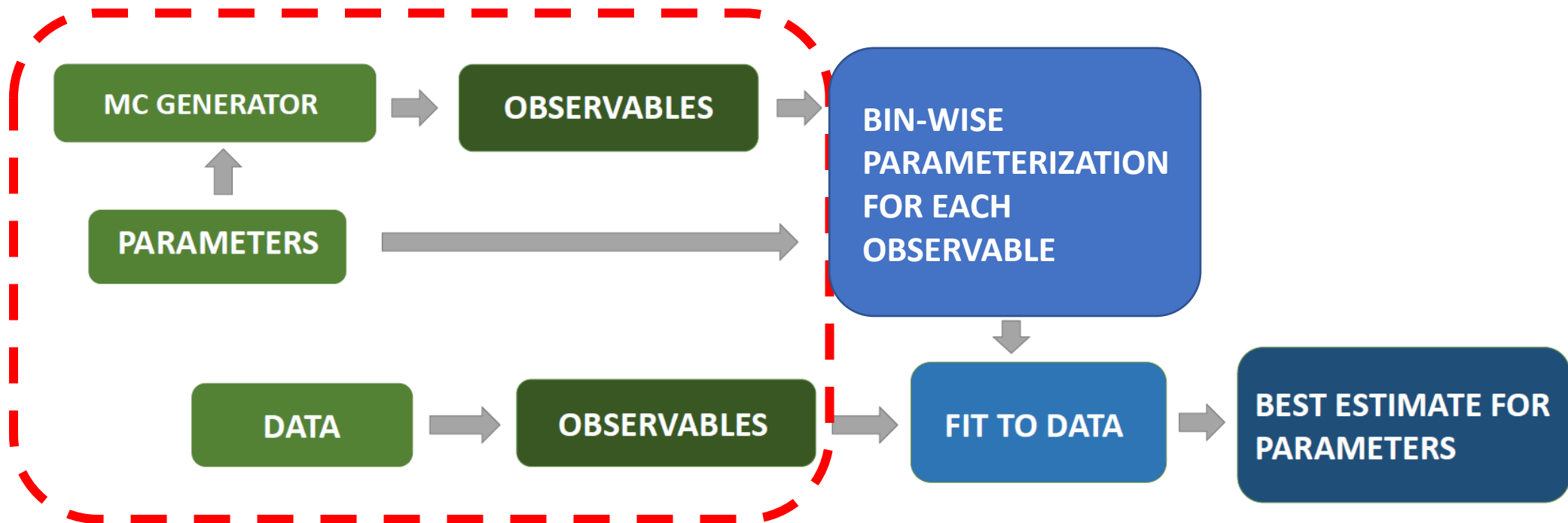
La Cagnina et al.; arXiv:2302.01139



# Parameter based generator tuning

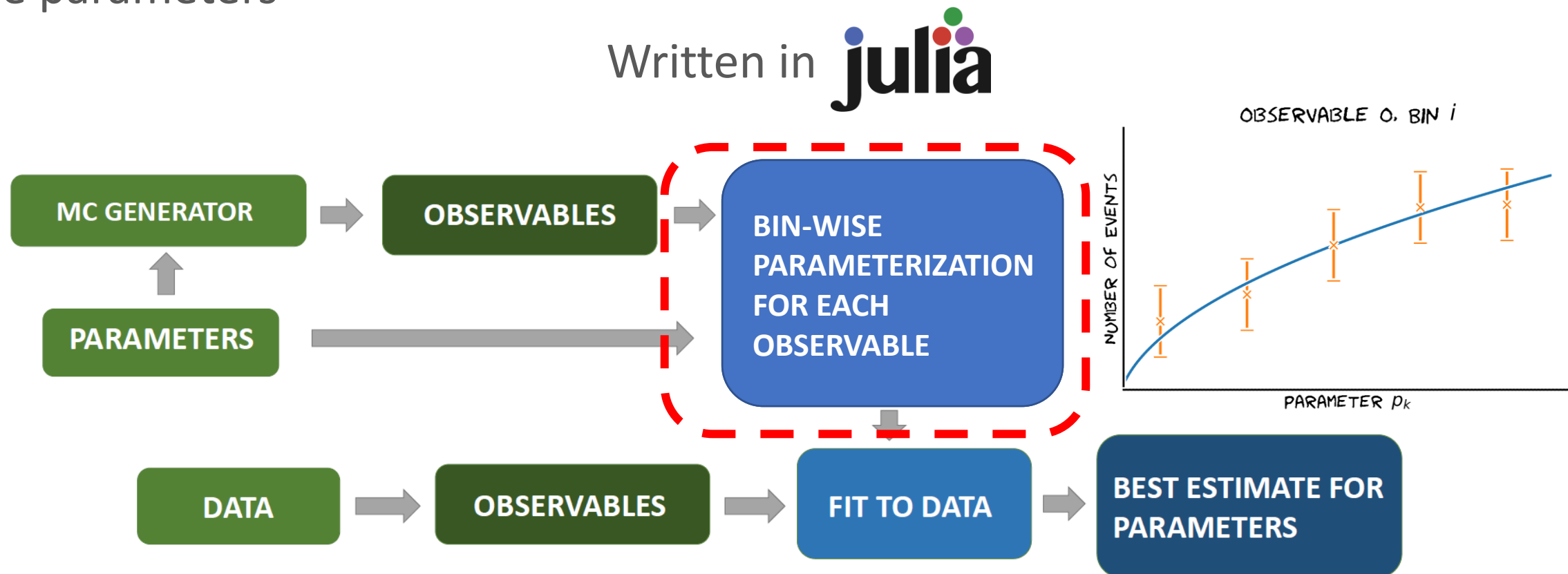
Generate MC samples for different sets of parameter configurations

Reconstruct observables



# Parameter based generator tuning

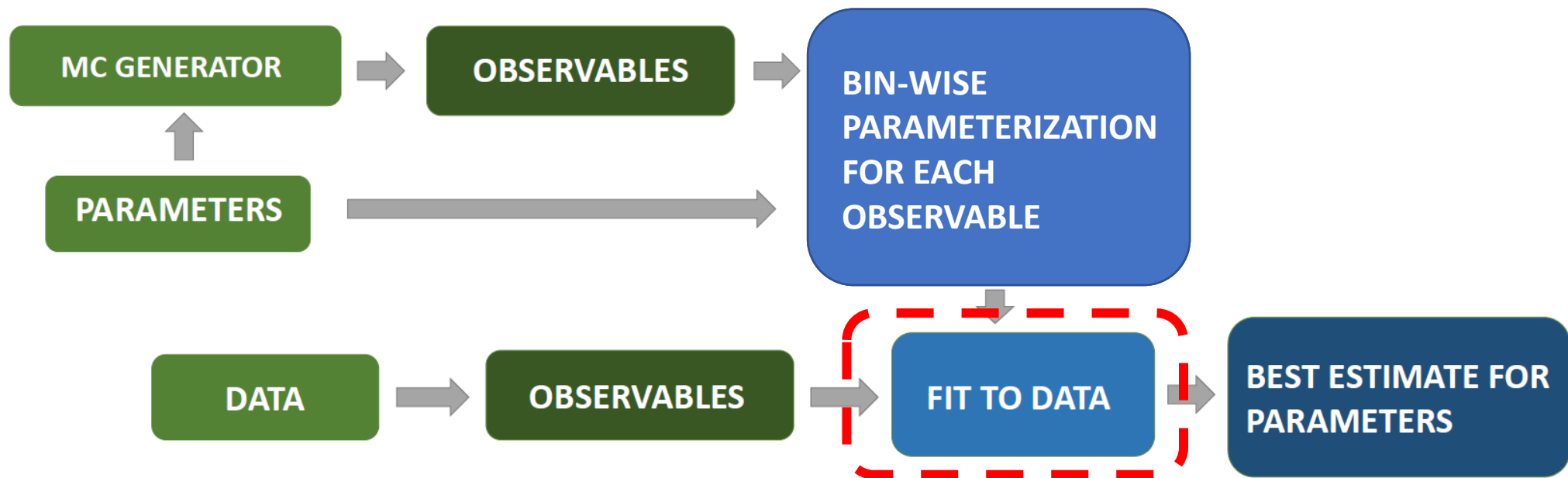
Create bin-wise parameterization of the observables as a function of the free parameters



# Parameter based generator tuning

Using the EFTfitter.jl tool a likelihood model is built from the parameterization and experimental data

N. Castro et al., *EFTfitter-A tool for interpreting measurements in the context of effective field theories*, Eur. Phys. J. C 76 (2016) 8, 432





# Parameter estimation via maximum likelihood

Using  
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EFTfitter.jl:

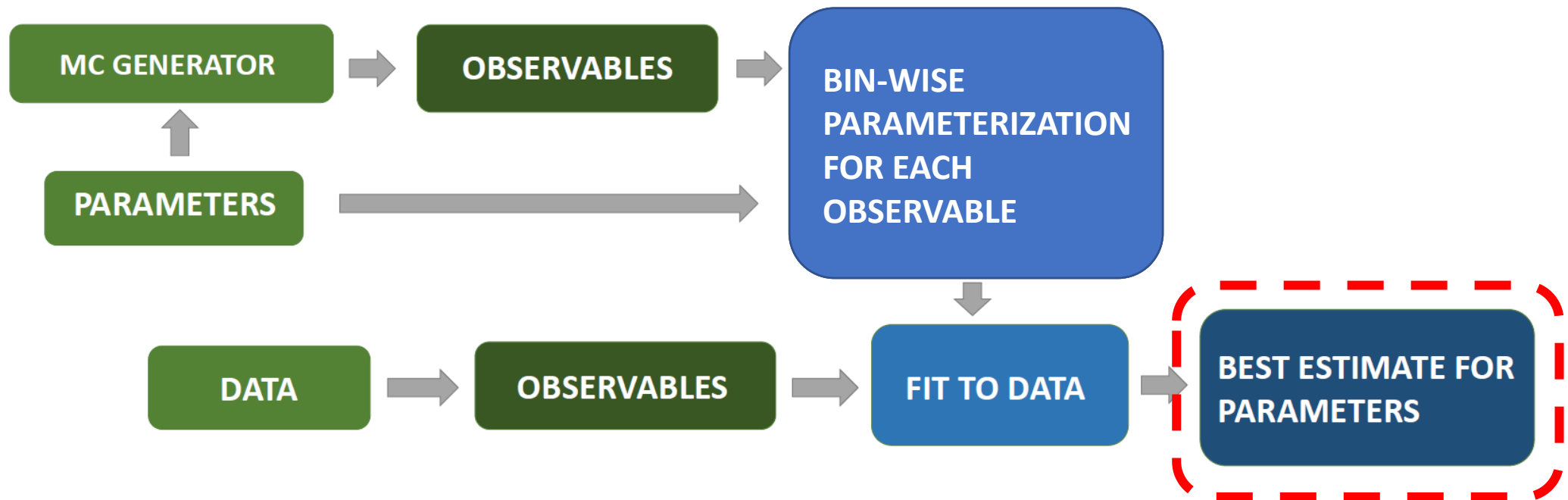
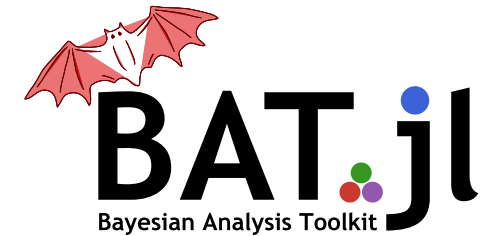
$$\ln L(\vec{D}|\vec{\lambda}) = -\frac{1}{2}[\vec{D} - \vec{f}(\vec{\lambda})]^T \cdot M^{-1} \cdot [\vec{D} - \vec{f}(\vec{\lambda})]$$

*Parameters* →  $\vec{\lambda}$   
*Data* →  $\vec{D}$   
*Likelihood* →  $\ln L(\vec{D}|\vec{\lambda})$   
*Parameterization* →  $\vec{f}(\vec{\lambda})$   
*Covariance Matrix* →  $M^{-1}$

# Parameter based generator tuning

Using the BAT.jl framework the posterior space of the free parameters is sampled to achieve a tuned parameter setting

O. Schulz et al., *BAT.jl: A Julia-Based Tool for Bayesian Inference*, SNCS (2021)



# Sampling Posterior Space

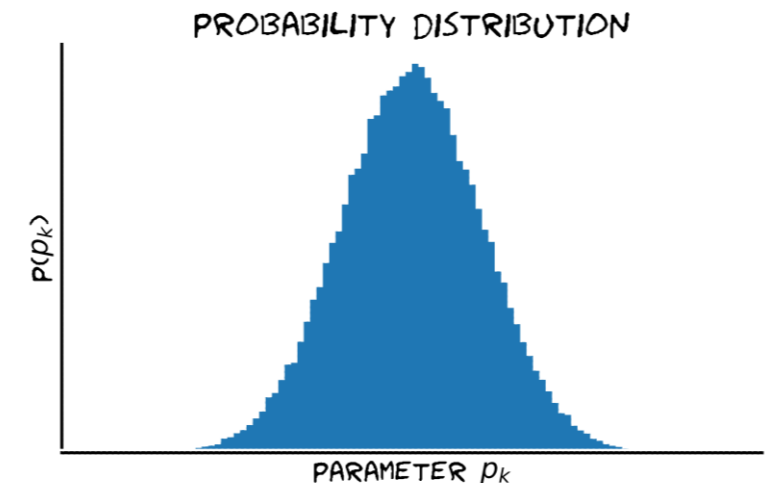
Bayes' Theorem :

$$p(\vec{\lambda} | \vec{D}) \propto L(\vec{D} | \vec{\lambda}) \cdot p(\vec{\lambda})$$

*Posterior* points to  $p(\vec{\lambda} | \vec{D})$ , *Likelihood* points to  $L(\vec{D} | \vec{\lambda})$ , and *Prior* points to  $p(\vec{\lambda})$ .

Markov Chain Monte Carlo

→ Metropolis-Hastings Algorithm (as default)



# Verify Tuning Algorithm

Simple toy study to test and demonstrate potential usefulness of tuning algorithm

Toy study based on PYTHIA example *main183*

→ Example includes simple study on air shower evolution in the atmosphere


T. Sjöstrand, M. Uthm, Hadron interactions for arbitrary energies and species, with applications to cosmic rays. Eur. Phys. J. C 82, 21 (2022)

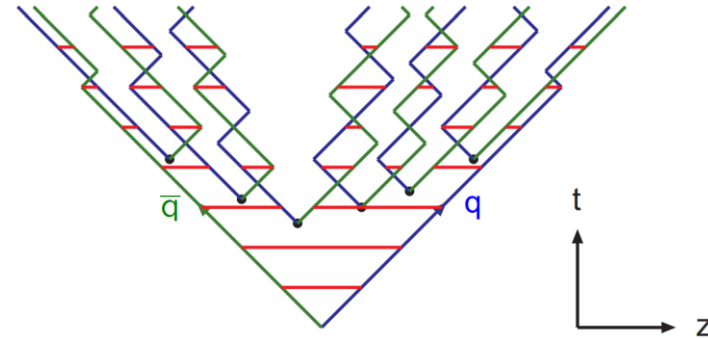
→ Provides quick and convenient generation of air shower observables for testing of tuning algorithm

# Toy Study

Study and test tuning method

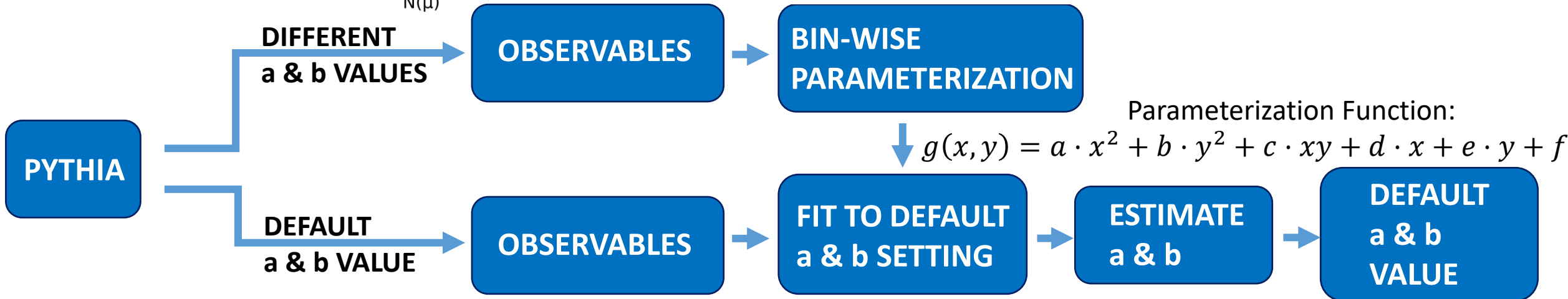
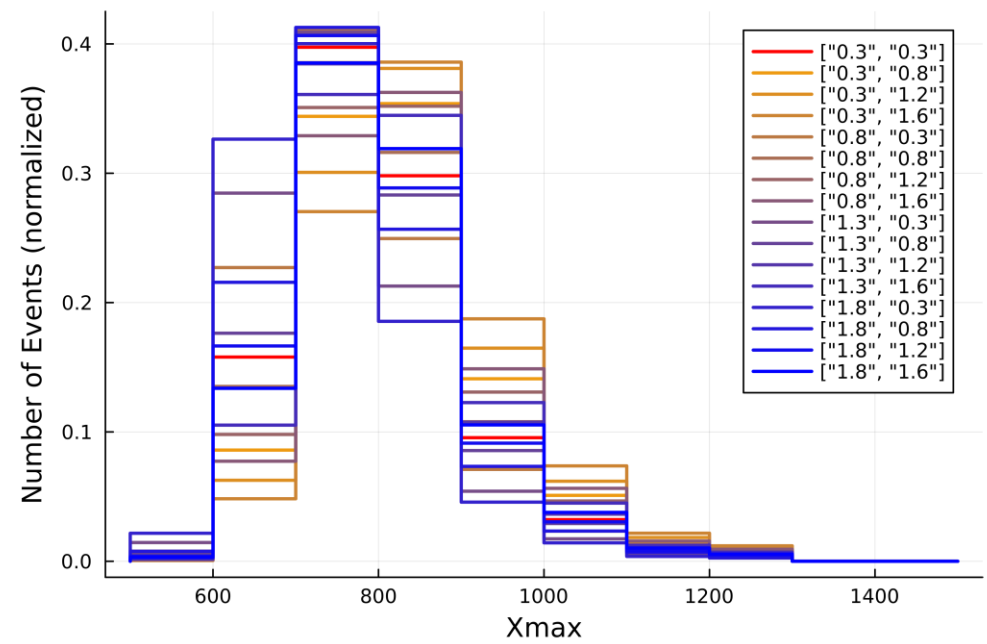
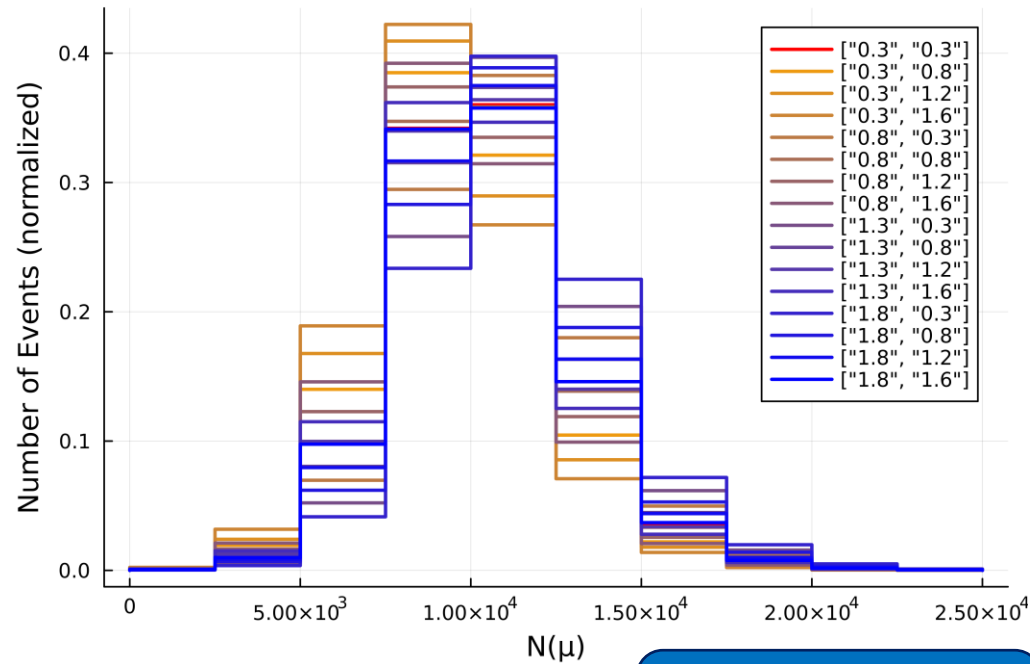
→ Generate muon number and shower maximum observable for different aLund and bLund parameter settings

$$f(z) \propto z^{-1} (1-z)^a \exp\left(\frac{-bm_{\perp}^2}{z}\right)$$




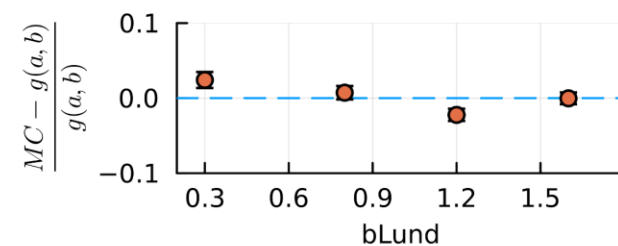
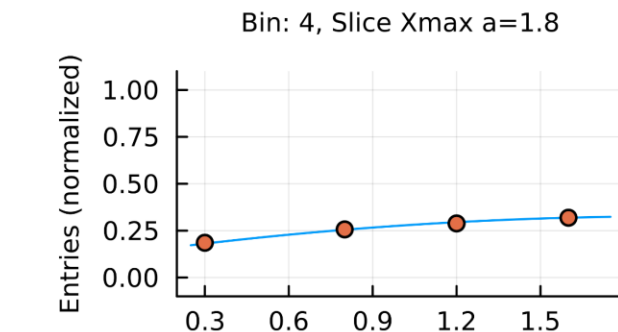
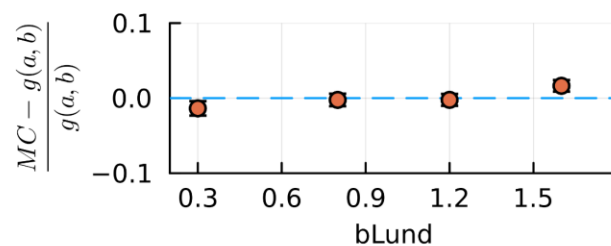
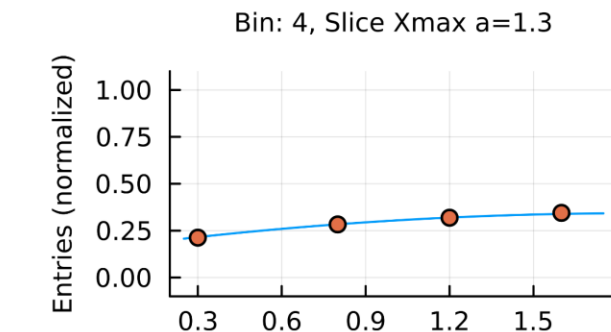
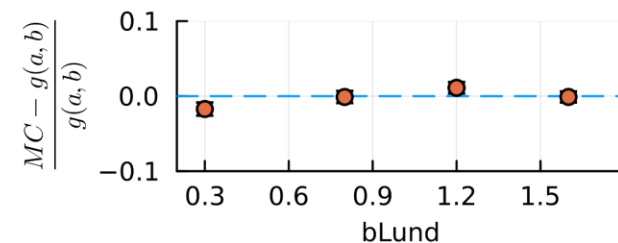
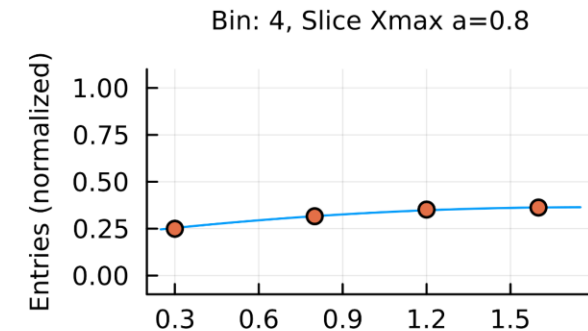
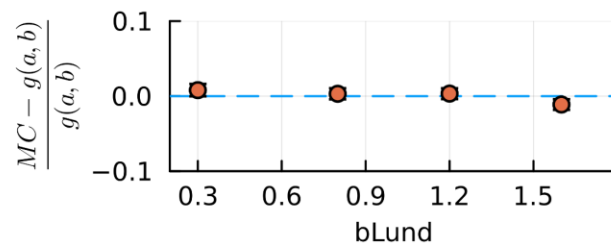
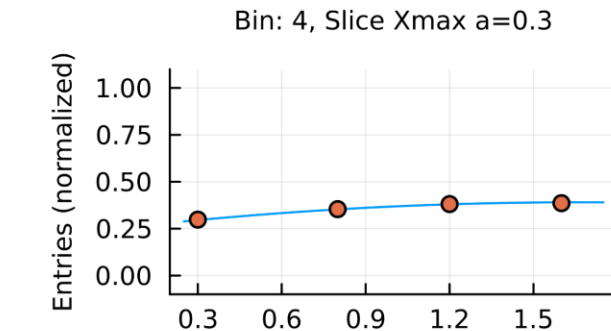
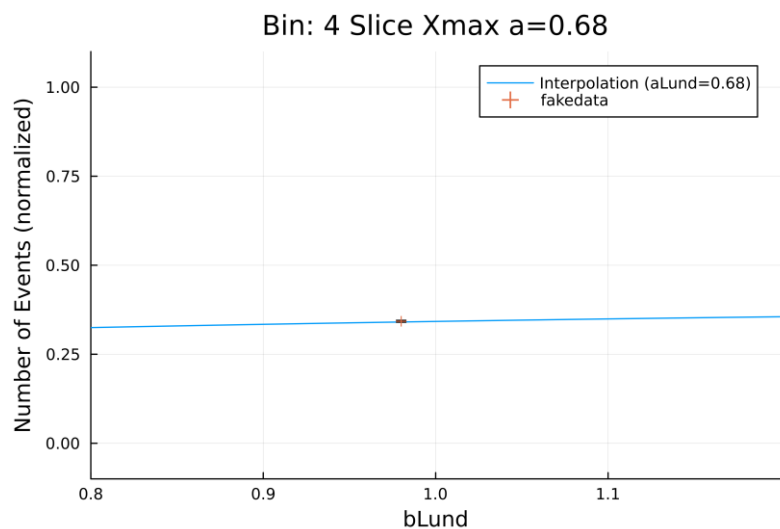
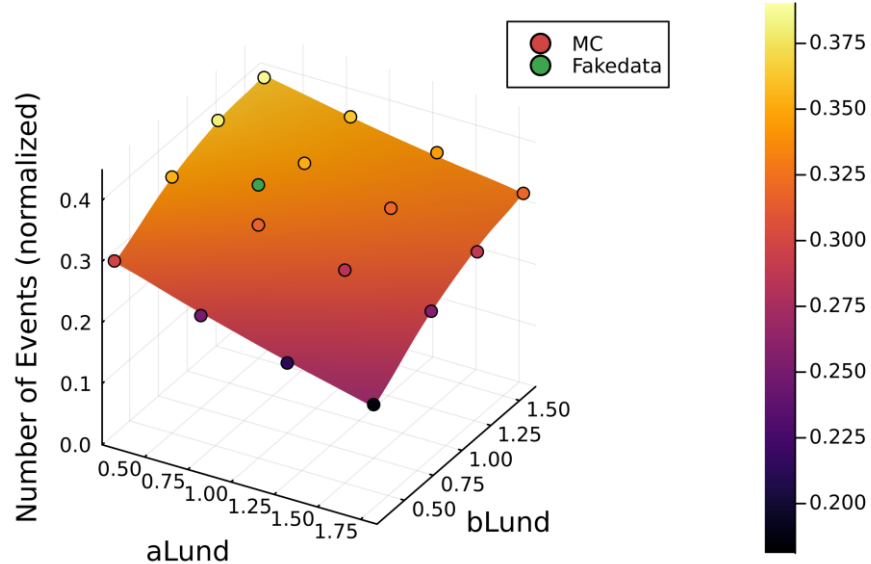
→ Use PYTHIA's default value for a- and bLund as *fake data* to tune against

# Generate air shower simulations

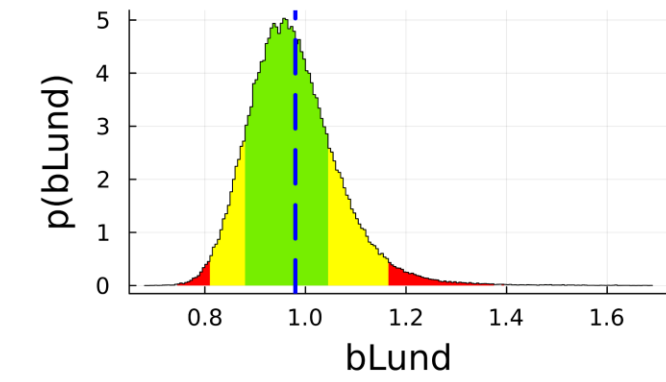
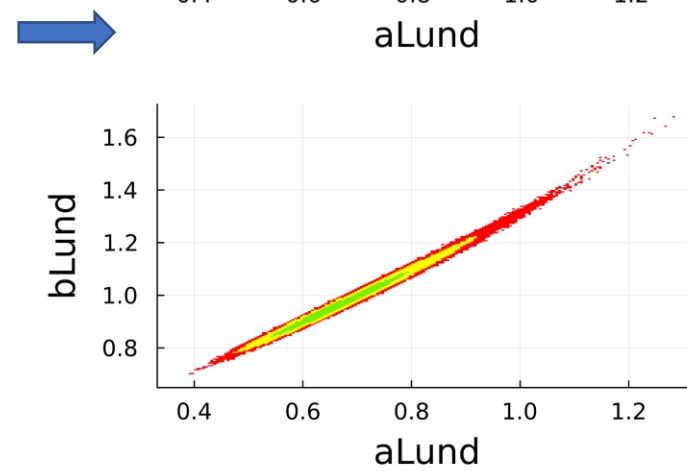
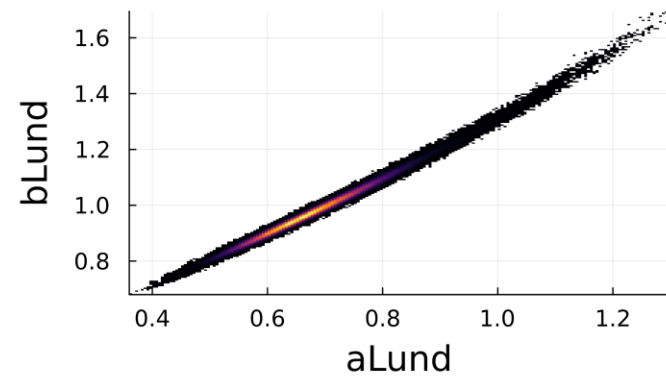
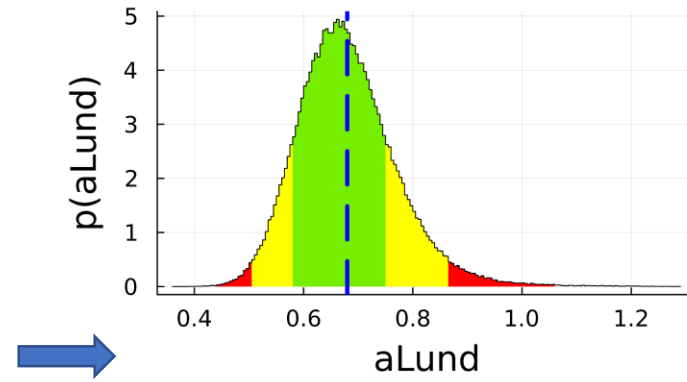
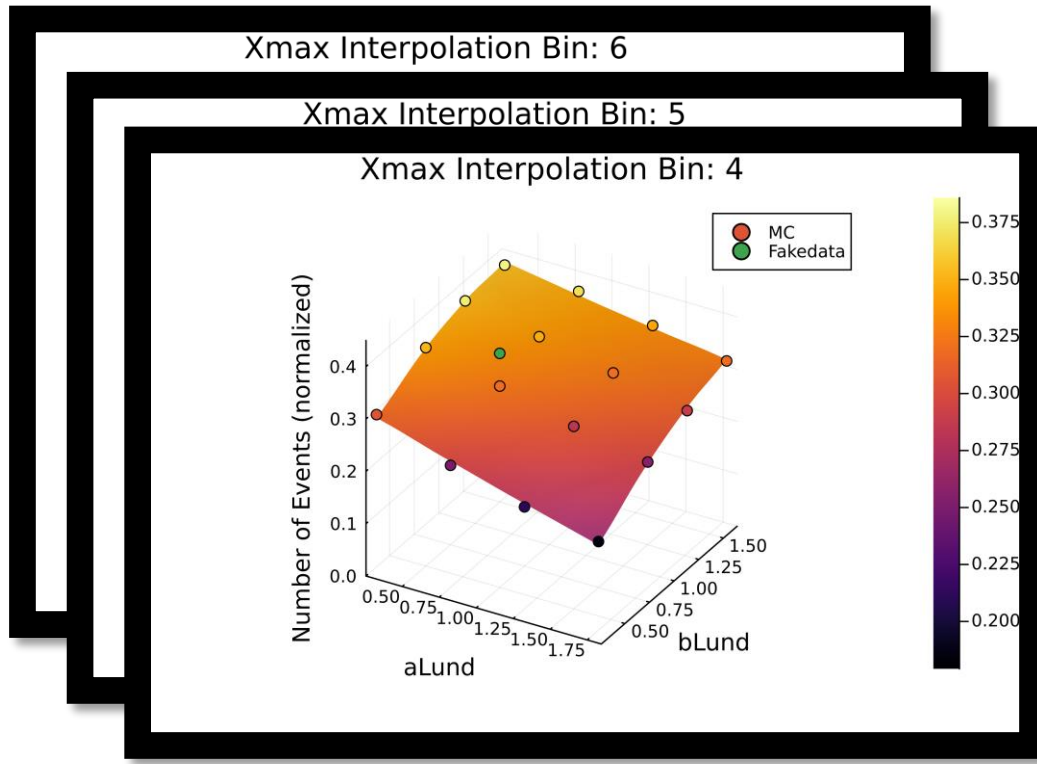


# Parameterization

Xmax Interpolation Bin: 4



# Sampling the posterior space





# Air Shower Simulation and MC Generator

Choice of MC generator for tuning

→ PYTHIA: Collider background and convenient access to tuning

C. Bierlich et al., *A comprehensive guide to the physics and usage of PYTHIA 8.3*. (2022). arXiv:2203.11601

Use of air shower simulations

→ CORSIKA8

→ PYTHIA as event generator

# Conclusion

Monte Carlo tuning using a Bayesian approach is possible

Tested on collider data for particle physics and in toy studies

# Outlook

Investigate CORSIKA8 regarding the tuning workflow with PYTHIA

Use of air shower data and CORSIKA8 for MC generator tuning

Combine collider and air shower data for simultaneous tune

