Faster Simulations in CORSIKA

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Limitations in Air Shower Simulations

Analysis based on air shower simulations affected by 2 main problems :

limited statistic due to :



same problem for high statistic OR high energy

uncertainties due to hadronic interactions

another topic !

Current Solutions in CORSIKA

Most commonly used : thinning

- number of particles reduced by introducing weight
- after each interaction only one particle kept
 - weight to conserve energy (not particle number)
- introduce artificial fluctuations
 - particles with large weight
- limited effect using maximum weight
- Alternative solutions for high energy showers
 - parallelization
 - use of numerical solution of cascade equations (CE)

Parallelization of CORSIKA with MPI



Low energy secondaries down to observation level

Parallelization of CORSIKA

- Each shower is simulated on a large number of CPU
 - Simulation time reduction limited by the number of machines
 - Disk space problem solved by saving particles in detectors only
- solution tested for high energy showers only

electromagnetic shower not really parallelized ...



Parallel version tested on HP XC3000 (2.53 GHz CPUs, InfiniBand 4X QDR)

Air Shower Simulations



e

Can be CE as flexible than MC ?
 electron cascade equations

$$\frac{d \phi_e(E)}{dX} = -\sigma_e \phi_e(E) + \int_E^{E_0} \sigma_e \phi_e(\tilde{E}) P_{e \to e}(\tilde{E}, E) d \tilde{E} + \int_E^{E_0} \sigma_\gamma \phi_\gamma(\tilde{E}) P_{\gamma \to e}(\tilde{E}, E) d \tilde{E} - \alpha \frac{\partial \phi_e(E)}{\partial E}$$

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interaction term





• Can be CE as flexible than MC ?

electron cascade equations: analytical solution for each X step

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analytical solution needs simplified distributions

no analytical function for hadronic production

numerical solution more flexible

$$\frac{dl_a^i(X)}{dX} = \sum_d \sum_{j=i}^{i_{\max}} \overline{W}_{d \to a}^{ji} \ l_d^j(X) + S_{ai}^{\mathrm{e/m}}(X)$$

Hadronic Particle Spectra (W)

- Simulations of all type of possible interactions :
 - → p+Air→π[±],p,K[±],K_L,K_s,n,γ,e,μ
 - → π^{\pm} +Air→ π ,p,K[±],K_L,K_s,n,γ,e,µ
 - → K[±]+Air→π,p,K[±],K_L,K_s,n,γ,e,μ
 - → K⁰+Air→π,p,K[±],K_L,K_s,n,γ,e,μ
 - → n+Air→π,p,K,K_L,K_s,n,γ,e,µ
- Results stored in tables copied to W

Hadronic Particle Spectra (W)



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electron cascade equations: analytical solution for each X step

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- no analytical function for hadronic production
- numerical solution more flexible



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Consistent Hybrid Calculation



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T. Pierog, KIT - 17/25

Hybrid vs MC : fluctuations

 \mathbf{X}_{\max} fluctuations

both mean and RMS reproduced



Flat distribution of proton and iron showers from 10¹⁷ to 10²⁰ eV

Hybrid Codes

- L.G. Dedenko et al., pioneering work in 1968 (3D, transport equations, Monte Carlo)
- ➡ A.A. Lagutin et al. (1+1D, transport equations)
- Bartol code, J. Alvarez-Muniz et al. (1D, presimulated shower libraries, muons)
- SENECA, H.J. Drescher & G. Farrar (3D, 1D transport eqs. for hadrons, 1D em. shower matrix formalism based on EGS)
- CONEX, T. Bergmann, V. Chernatckin, R. Engel, D. Heck, N. Kalmykov, S. Ostapchenko, T. Pierog, K. Werner (1D Transport equations for hadrons and em with realistic cross section and particle distributions)

Cascade Equations in CORSIKA

- CE done in CONEX model
- CE replace part of CORSIKA Monte-Carlo (MC)
 - First interactions in CONEX independent from threshold E_{low}
 - Event-by-event simulations using first 1D only and then 3D with exactly the same shower
- CE replace part of the thinning in CORSIKA
 - No thinned high energy secondary gammas (stay in CE)
 - No muons from EM particles with very large weight
 - Very narrow weight distributions : less artificial fluctuations
 - No thinning for very inclined shower
 - Only muons and corresponding EM sub-showers in MC
- Mean showers can be simulated directly (no high energy MC)
- CE slower than MC at low energy
 - not efficient for low energy showers

CORSIKA with **CONEX**





Hybrid 3D : Cascade equation only at intermediate energy

- High energy particle tracks until bin boundaries
- Low energy particle tracks from bin boundaries

Purple : CONEX hadrons Dark blue : CONEX muons Dark : CORSIKA hadrons Blue : CORSIKA muons

CONEX vs CORSIKA : time



) 1D

- ◆ CORSIKA : CPU time ∝ Energy
- ◆ CE : CPU time ∝ Log(Energy)
 - <1mn / shower</p>
 - and no artificial fluctuations due to thinning
-) 3D
 - replace thinning
 - 5-10 times faster than thinning for the same maximum weight
 - better weight distribution

Weight distribution R > 100 m

Very narrow weight distribution from sampling less artificial fluctuations



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Possible new Approaches

- More optimal thinning approach
- Cascade Equations part of the new development
 better integration and no redundant code as now with CONEX/CORSIKA
- MPI type parallelization taken into account from the beginning
- Modularity allows parallelization of sub-processes
 - GPU based Cherenkov photon calculation
 - GPU based radio
 - **->** ...
- Deep learning based modules for particular processes ? ... for the full shower ?



- MC 3D : no cascade equation
 - CONEX MC at high energy
 - CORSIKA at low energy
 - Track connection at bin boundary

Purple : CONEX hadrons Dark blue : CONEX muons Dark : CORSIKA hadrons Blue : CORSIKA muons



- Hybrid 1D : Cascade equation only at low energy
 - Particle track only until bin boundaries
 - Interaction off leading particles

Purple : CONEX hadrons Dark blue : CONEX muons



- 3D muons : Cascade equation only for hadrons
 - Muon tracks start from bin boundaries
 - Muons generated with realistic angular distribution

Blue : CORSIKA muons

CORSIKA vs CONEX : particles



Threshold Effect



- Xmax fluctuations :
 - Probability distribution of Xmax, using SIBYLL model at 10¹⁸ eV (60°)
 - almost all fluctuations from the first interaction

Example



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Example : 1 shower with different thresholds



Same profile within 3%

Example : 1 shower with different thresholds

Proton @ 0.1 EeV EGS4 off QGSJET + GHEISHA



Reasonable results for CE but hadronic MC needed for precise results