Happy 30th Anniversary

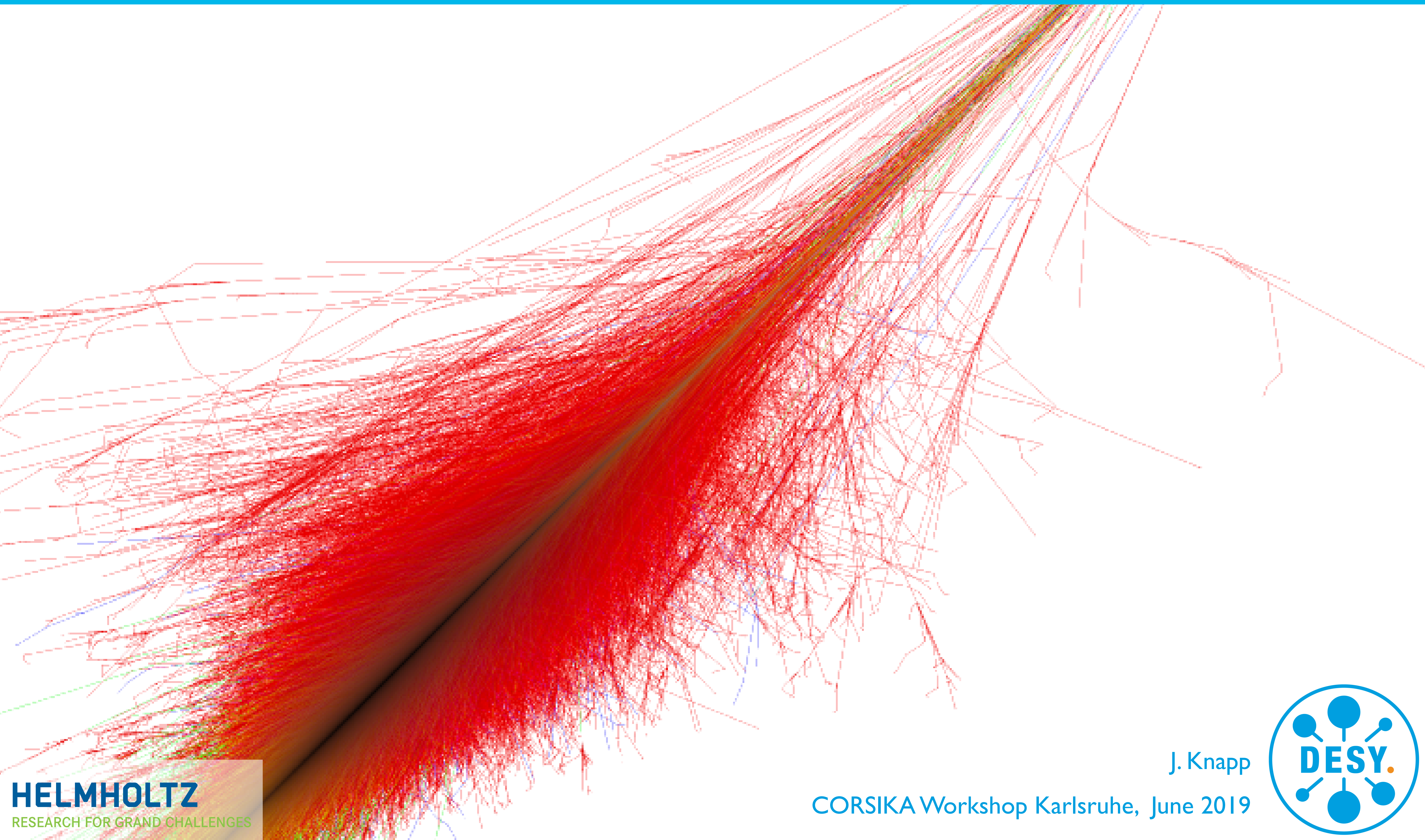
1989-2019

CORSIKA

Cosmic Ray Simulation for KASCADE

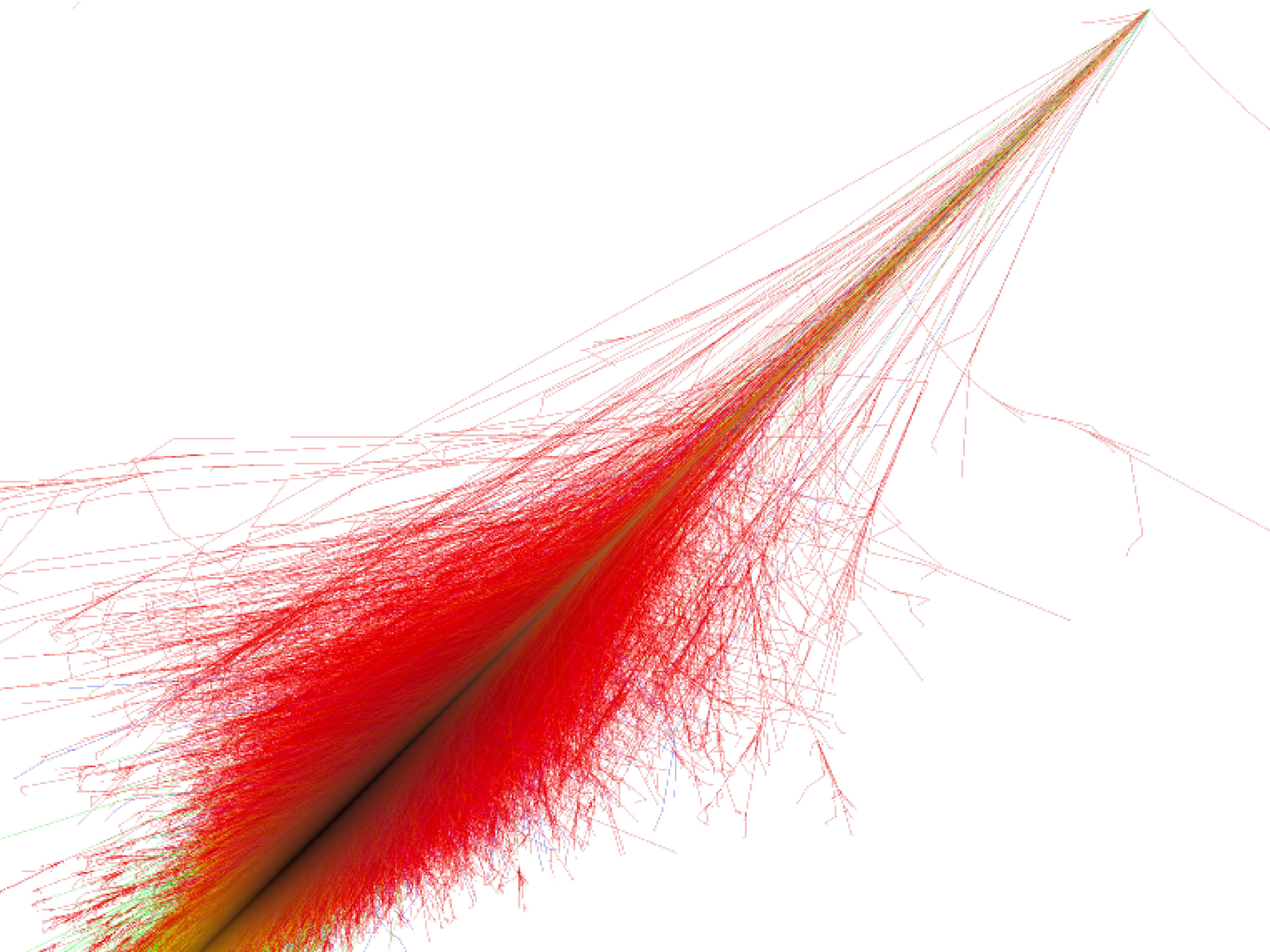

Happy 30th Anniversary
1989-2019
CORSIKA
Cosmic Ray Simulation for KASCADE

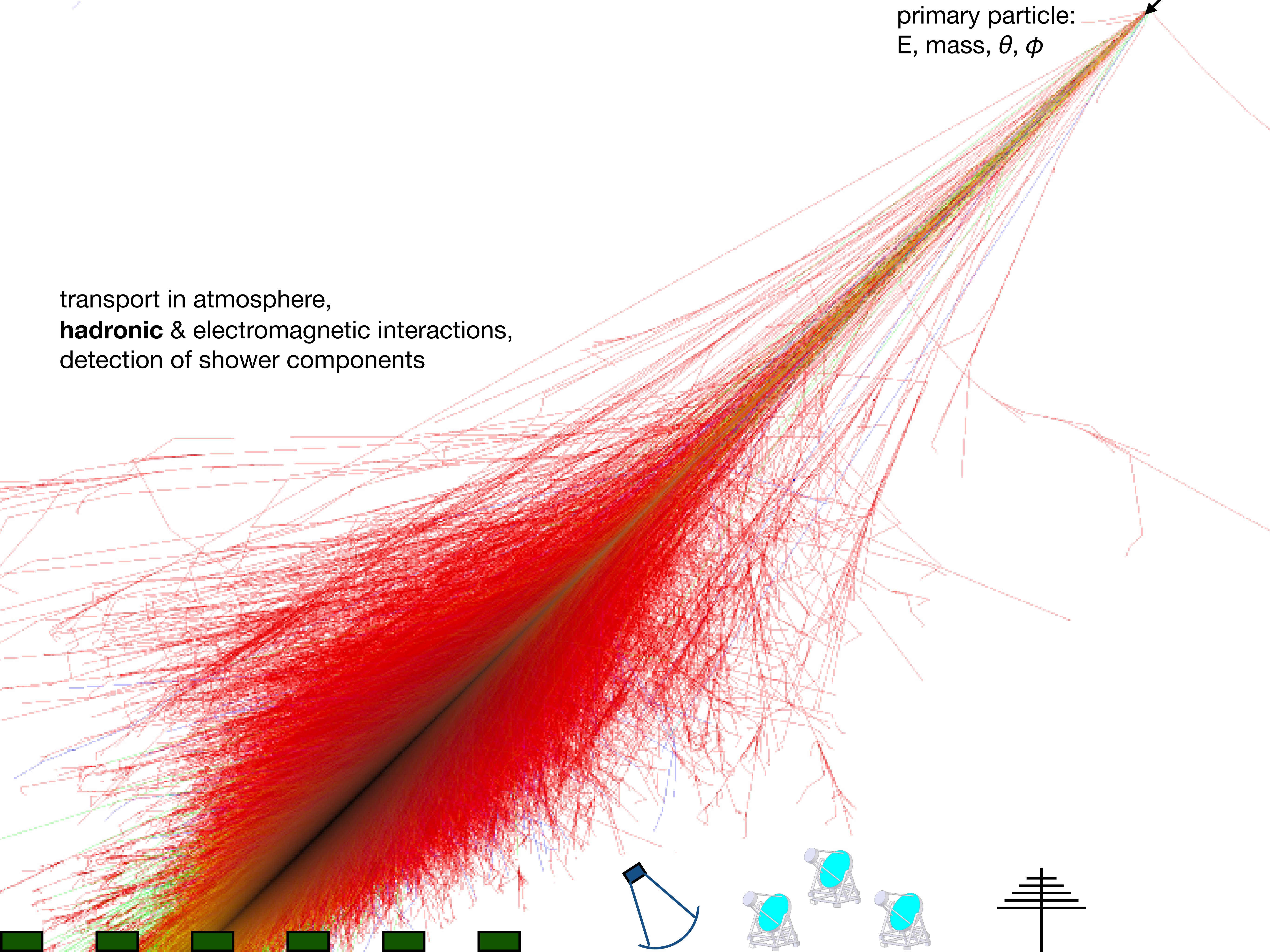
CORSIKA & Particle Physics



J. Knapp

CORSIKA Workshop Karlsruhe, June 2019




primary particle:
E, mass, θ, ϕ
transport in atmosphere,
hadronic & electromagnetic interactions,
detection of shower components

Astro-Particles

energetic (elementary) **particles**
from space (Sun, Milky Way, distant galaxies)
bombard Earth continuously.

Energies from MeV … PeV … $>10^{20}$ eV

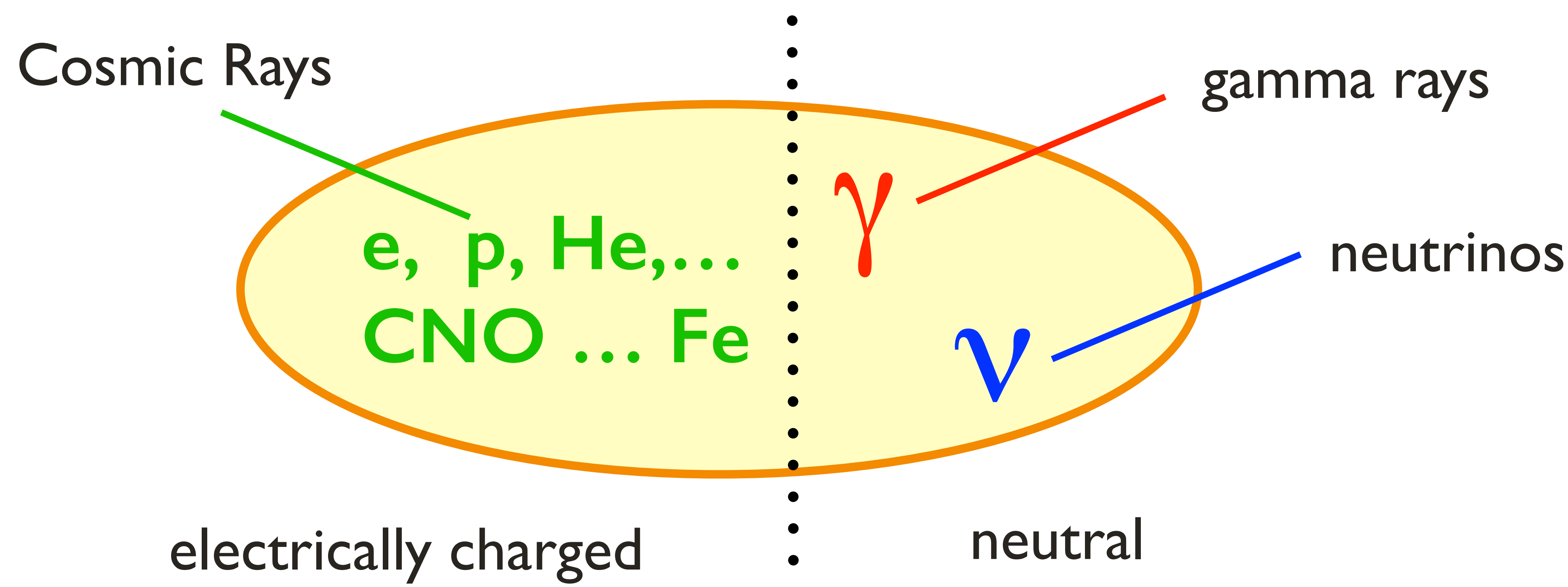
0.1–10
KASCADE range

Astrophysics: with high-energy photons and particles.

Particle physics: with probes of astrophysical origin.

What are these cosmic particles?

must be stable (to survive travel to us)

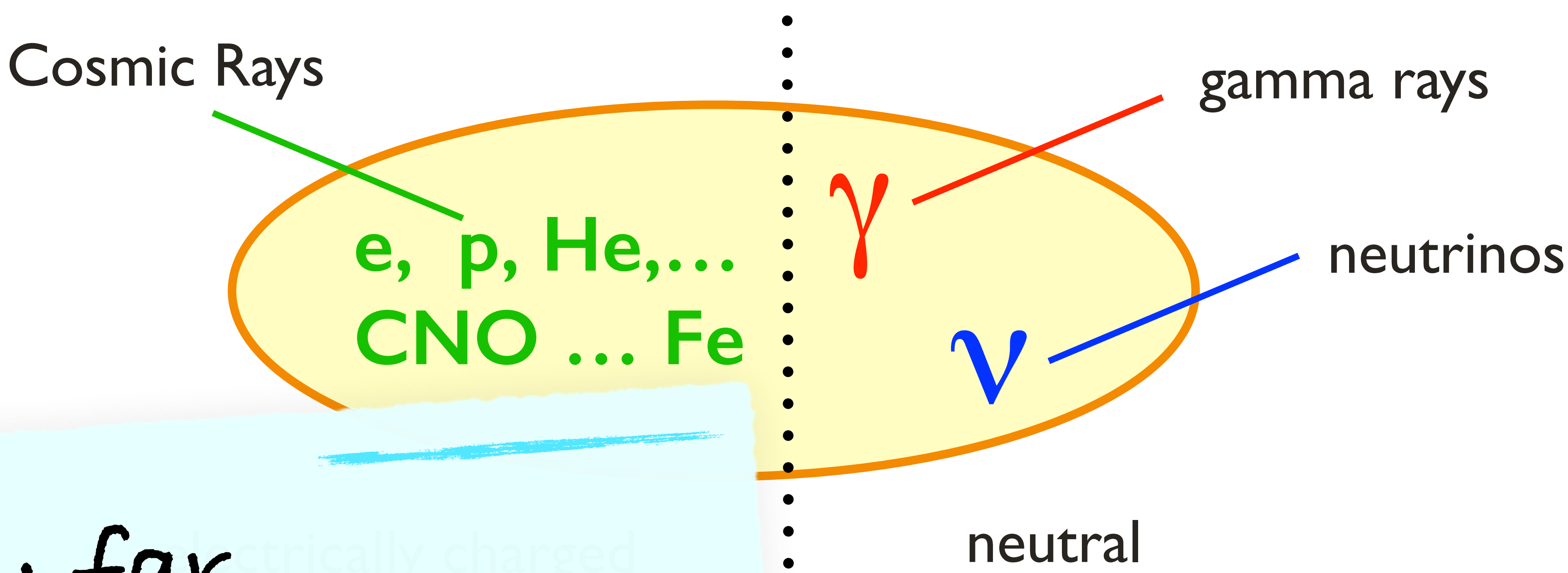


+ can be accelerated in el.mag. fields
– are deflected in magnetic fields

+ **move in straight lines**
(good for astronomy)
– secondaries

What are these cosmic particles?

must be stable (to survive travel to us)



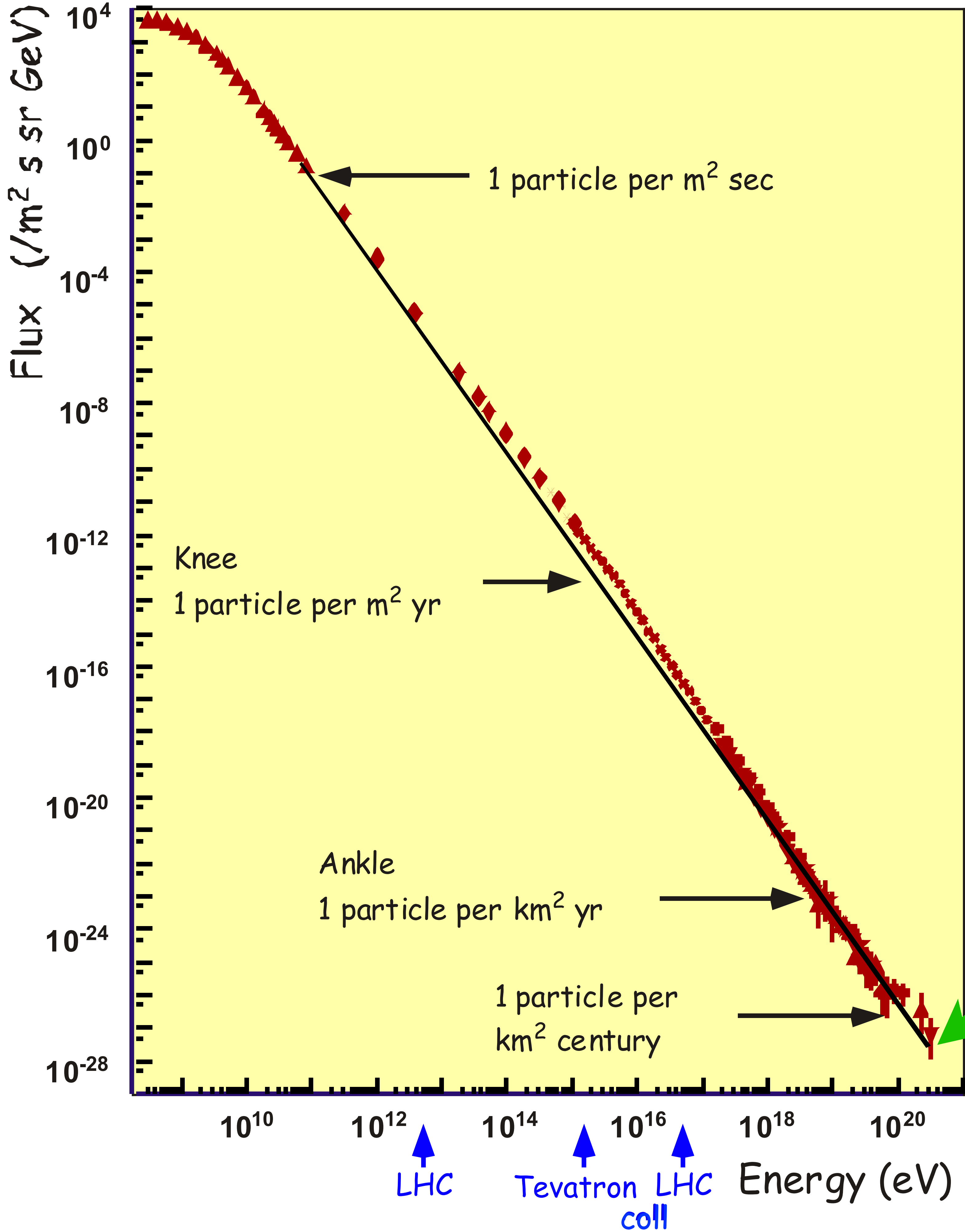
by far,
the dominant
component

\+ **move in straight lines**

(good for astronomy)

– secondaries

Cosmic charged particle spectrum



11 orders of mag. in energy,
32 in flux !!!!

extremely small fluxes:

1 particle per (km^2 100 yrs)

....

1 particle per (km^2 1000 yrs)

in general: for all particle types

the higher the energy,
the lower the flux

the lower the flux,
the larger the required detectors

$$N_{evts} = \text{flux} \times \text{area} \times \text{time}$$

N_{evts}: > 100 (10% stat error)

flux: small, given by nature

area: ≈ 1 m^2 for satellite expts.

time: ≈ 3 yrs (for a PhD)

Detector size limits the smallest measurable fluxes.

Large, natural volumes become part of the detectors:

atmosphere,

...

instrument (sparsely)
to record secondaries
produced by
particle interactions

understand / monitor
the "target"

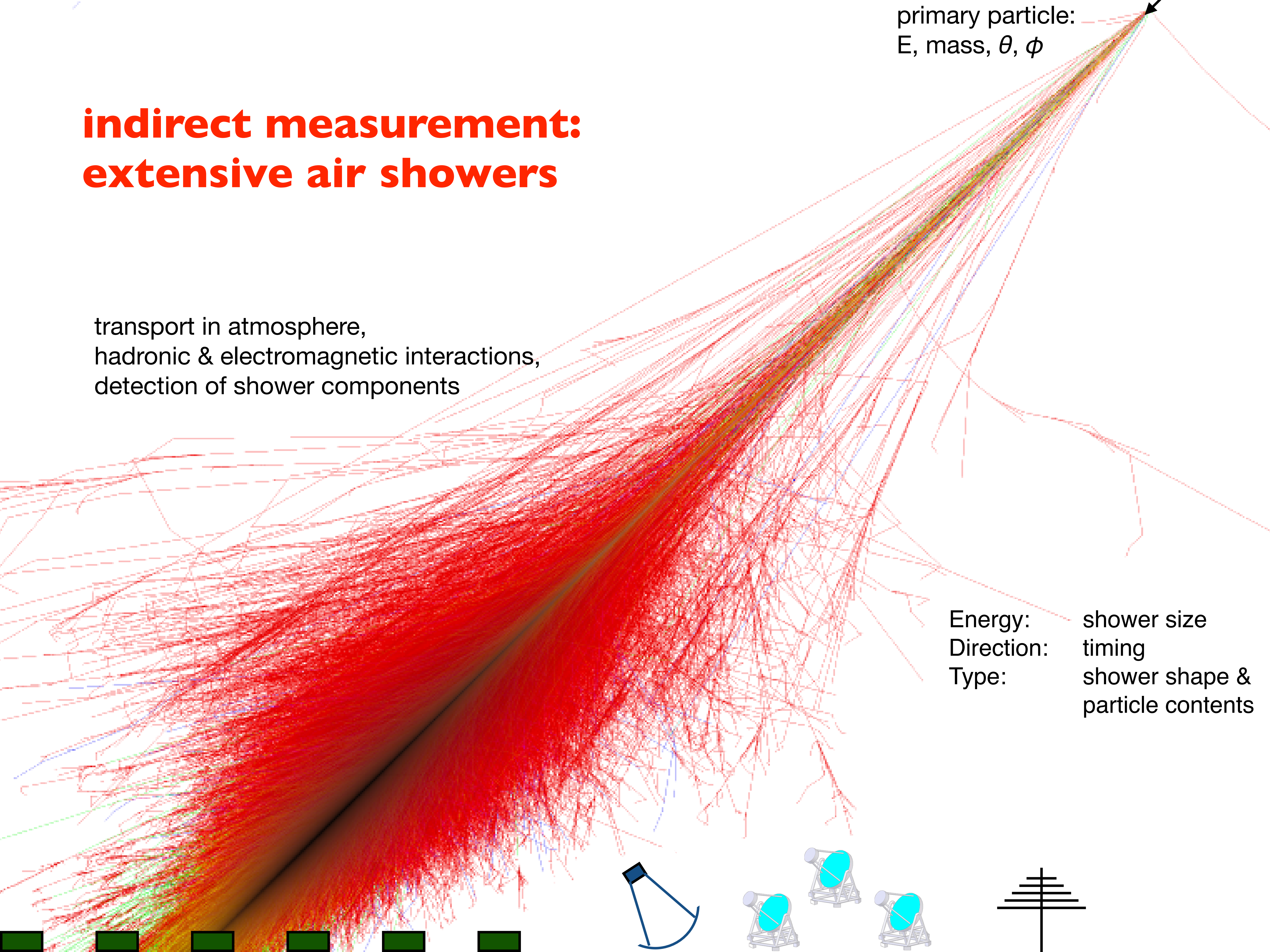
Karlsruhe Shower Core and Array Detector (KASCADE)

to measure cosmic ray spectrum and composition

1987 – first ideas
1997 – first results
2003 – KASCADE-Grande
2009 – End of data taking

KASCADE	10^{14}-10^{16} eV
KASCADE-Grande	10^{14}-10^{17} eV

indirect measurement: extensive air showers

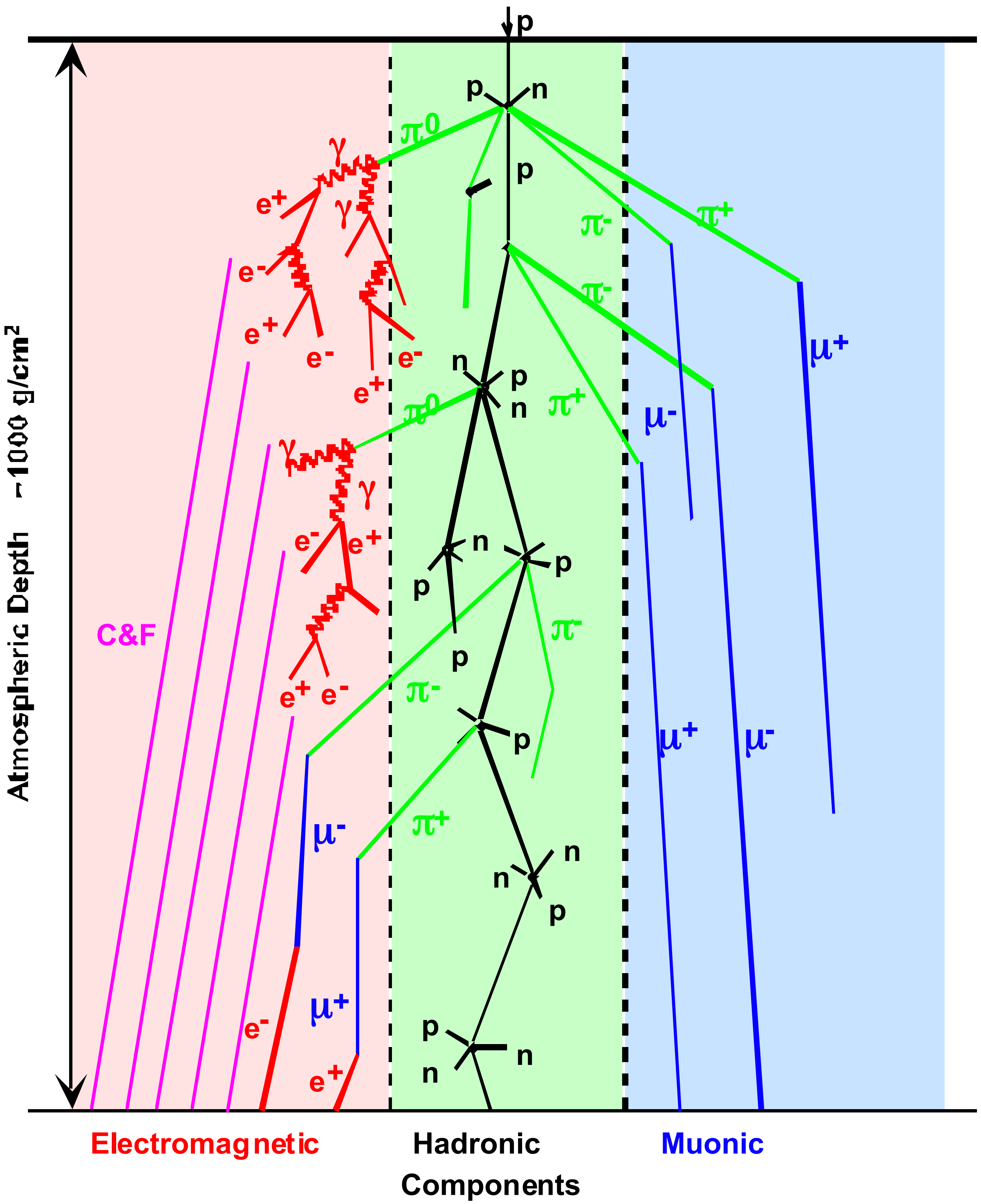


transport in atmosphere,
hadronic & electromagnetic interactions,
detection of shower components

Energy:	shower size
Direction:	timing
Type:	shower shape & particle contents

Schematic Shower Development

energy, particle type, direction ?



p, n, π : near shower axis
μ, e, γ : more widely spread

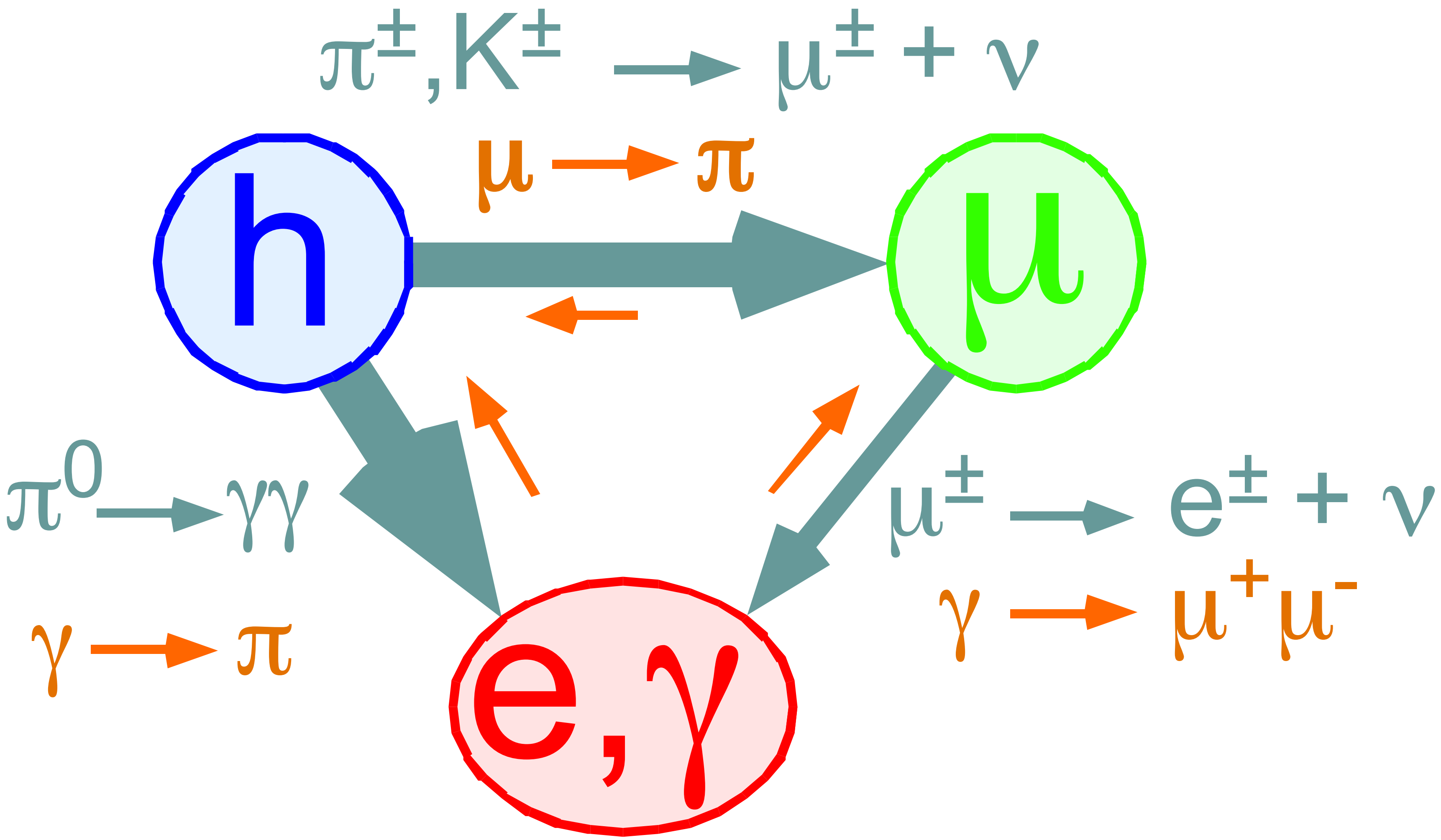
e, γ : **from el.mag.** cascades ≈ 10 MeV
μ : **from** $\pi^{\pm}$, K, **decays** ≈ **1 GeV**

Ne,γ : Nμ ≈ 10 - 100 varying with
core distance, energy, mass, Θ, ...

Details depend on:
hadronic and el.mag. particle production,
cross-sections, decays, transport, ...
at energies from ≈ 10^6 ... >10^{20} eV
atmosphere, Earth magnetic field, ...
....

Complex interplay with many correlations

Energy Flow in EAS



Hadrons provide energy for muonic and electromagnetic components.
One Way Street for energy transfer into electromagnetic particles.
Details of energy transfer reactions **do** matter.

Unknown at high energies :

- astroparticle composition
- energy spectrum
- HE nuclear & hadronic interactions

an *impossible* problem??

i.e. CORSIKA

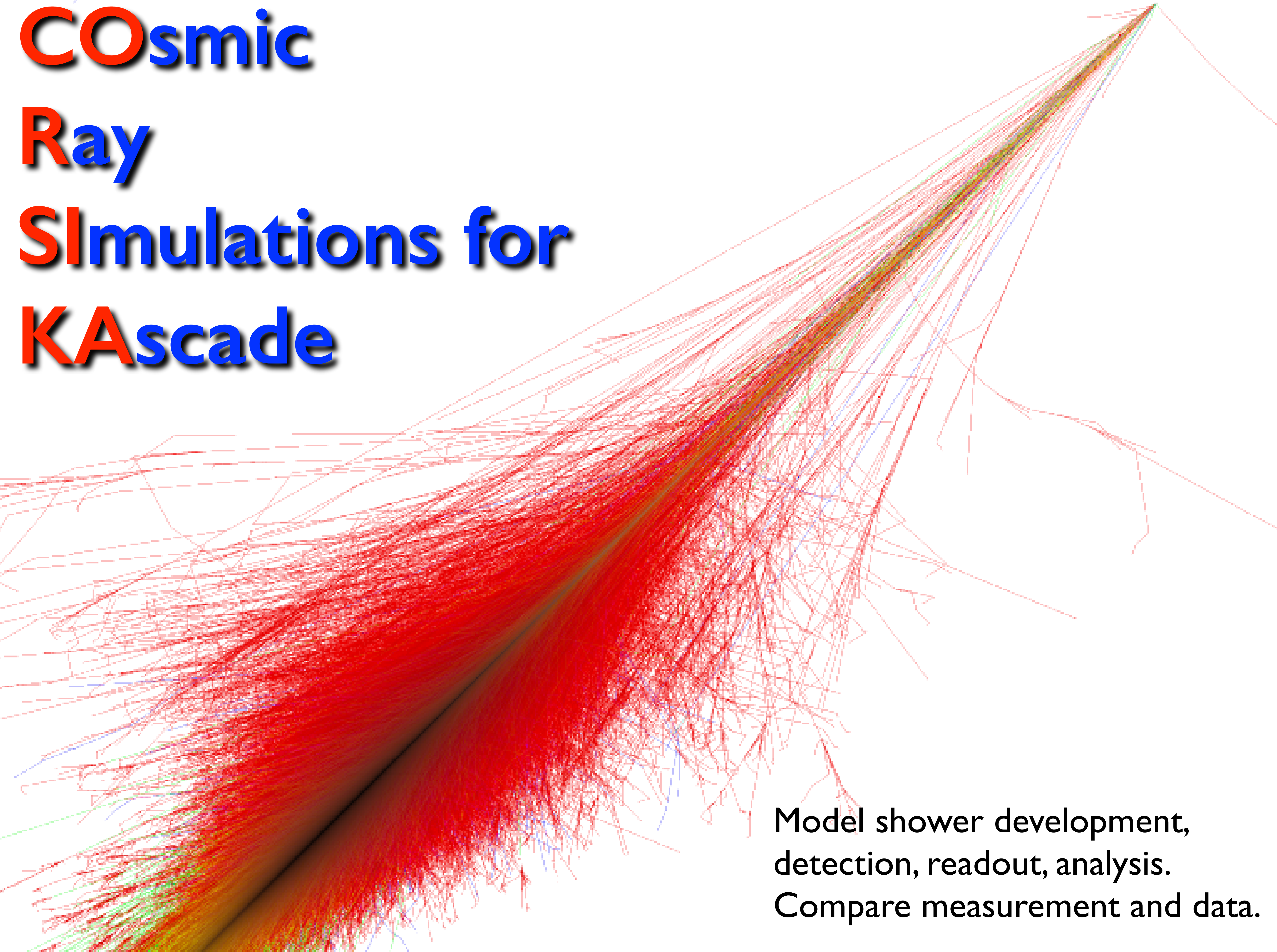
Construct a model based on
reliable data & theories
at lower energies.

Theory that allows extrapolation to
cosmic ray energies.

Find consistent description of all issues together.

(Requires some iteration ...)

COsmic Ray SImulations for KAscade



Model shower development, detection, readout, analysis. Compare measurement and data.

The early beginnings ….

A new area for the institute after the demise of Nuclear Physics.

1987 ICRC Moscow: Gerd Schatz gets infected with the Cosmic Ray virus …
1988 preparatory work for an air shower array in Karlsruhe to measure **cosmic ray composition**
and for simulation efforts begin…
1989 first publications …

```
History :
```
as noted down in the Changelog file of the CORSIKA distribution (no date, pre CORSIKA)

```
a first version of the simulation program consisted of
a program of P.K.F. Grieder for hadronic interactions at energies below 10 GeV,
a dual parton model based routine (according J.N. Capdevielle) to simulate
high energy hadronic interactions and
the NKG formulas for treating gammas from pi 0 decays.
The structure of the atmosphere was used in a parametrisation from J. Linsley.
To allow for nucleus-nucleus and nucleon-nucleus collisions a simple
model was applied based on nuclear densities.

This program (CTG58) was used to simulate a first set of data.
```

First official mention:

Computer Physics Communications 56 (1989) 105–113
North-Holland

105

A MULTI-TRANSPUTER SYSTEM FOR PARALLEL MONTE CARLO SIMULATIONS OF EXTENSIVE AIR SHOWERS

H.J. GILS, D. HECK, J. OEHLSCHLÄGER, G. SCHATZ and T. THOUW

Kernforschungszentrum Karlsruhe GmbH, Institut für Kernphysik, P.O. Box 3640, D-7500 Karlsruhe, Fed. Rep. Germany

and

A. MERKEL

Proteus GmbH, Haid-und-Neu-Strasse 7–9, D-7500 Karlsruhe, Fed. Rep. Germany

Received 13 July 1989

extended version of EGS4. The program CORSIKA (COsmic Ray SImulations for KASCADE) simulates hadronic showers and has two options differing in their treatment of the electromagnetic subshowers and hence in their requirements of CPU time. It will be described elsewhere [12]. Examples of the computation time

[12] J.M. Capdevielle et al., KfK Report, to be published.

History of CORSIKA

pre 1989

SH2C-60-K-OSL-E-SPEC (Grieder):
main structure,
isobar model for hadronic interactions

HDPM & NKG (Capdevielle):
high-energy hadronic interactions,
analytic treatment of el.mag.-subshowers

EGS4 (Nelson et al.):
electron gamma showers

the frame
hadronic
el.mag.

CORSIKA Vers. 1.0 Oct 1989

CORSIKA Version 1

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C======================================================================
C
C       000       000       0000        0000     00    0        0       0
C      0    0    0    0    0     0    0     0    00    0     0         0 0
C     0          0     0    0      0    0         00    0  0          0   0
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C       000       000       0      0    0000    00    0         0   0      0
C
C     COSMIC RAY SIMULATION AT KARLSRUHE
C
C
C  A PROGRAM TO SIMULATE EXTENSIVE AIR SHOWERS IN ATMOSPHERE
C
C  BASED ON A PROGRAM OF P.K.F. GRIEDER, UNIVERSITY BERN
C  DUAL PARTON MODEL ACCORDING TO J.N. CAPDEVIELLE, UNIVERSITY BORDEAUX
C  EGS4 AND NKG FORMULAS FOR SIMULATION OF ELECTROMAGNETIC PARTICLES
C
C  INSTITUT FUER KERNPHYSIK
C  KERNFORSCHUNGSZENTRUM AND UNIVERSITY OF KARLSRUHE
C
C  VERSION  :  1.0
C  DATE     :  26.  OCTOBER 1989
C
C======================================================================
```

22^{th} ICRC, Adelaide, Jan 1990

HE 7.3–3

AIR SHOWER SIMULATIONS FOR KASCADE

J.N.Capdevielle[1], P.Gabriel, H.J.Gils, P.K.F.Grieder[2], D.Heck, N.Heide, J.Knapp, H.J.Mayer, J.Oehlschläger, H.Rebel, G.Schatz, and T.Thouw

Kernforschungszentrum und Universität Karlsruhe,
D-7500 Karlsruhe, Federal Republic of Germany
[1]Laboratoire de Physique Théorique, Université de Bordeaux,
F-33170 Gradignan, France
[2]Physikalisches Institut der Universität Bern,
CH-3012 Bern, Switzerland

Abstract

A detailed simulation program for extensive air showers and first results are presented. The mass composition of cosmic rays with $E_0 \geqq 10^{15}$eV can be determined by measuring electrons, muons and hadrons simultaneously with the KASCADE detector.


KfK 4998
November 1992
The Karlsruhe Extensive Air Shower Simulation Code CORSIKA
J. N. Capdevielle, P. Gabriel, H. J. Gils, P. Grieder,
D. Heck, J. Knapp, H. J. Mayer, J. Oehlschläger,
H. Rebel, G. Schatz, T. Thouw
Institut für Kernphysik
Kernforschungszentrum Karlsruhe
Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe
Technik und Umwelt
Wissenschaftliche Berichte
FZKA 6019
CORSIKA: A Monte Carlo Code to Simulate Extensive Air Showers
D. Heck, J. Knapp, J. N. Capdevielle,
G. Schatz, T. Thouw
Institut für Kernphysik
Februar 1998

User’s Manual
(continuously updated)


KARLSRUHER INSTITUT FÜR TECHNOLOGIE (KIT)

Extensive Air Shower Simulation with CORSIKA: A User’s Guide (Version 7.6400 from April 20, 2018)

D. Heck and T. Pierog

Institut für Kernphysik

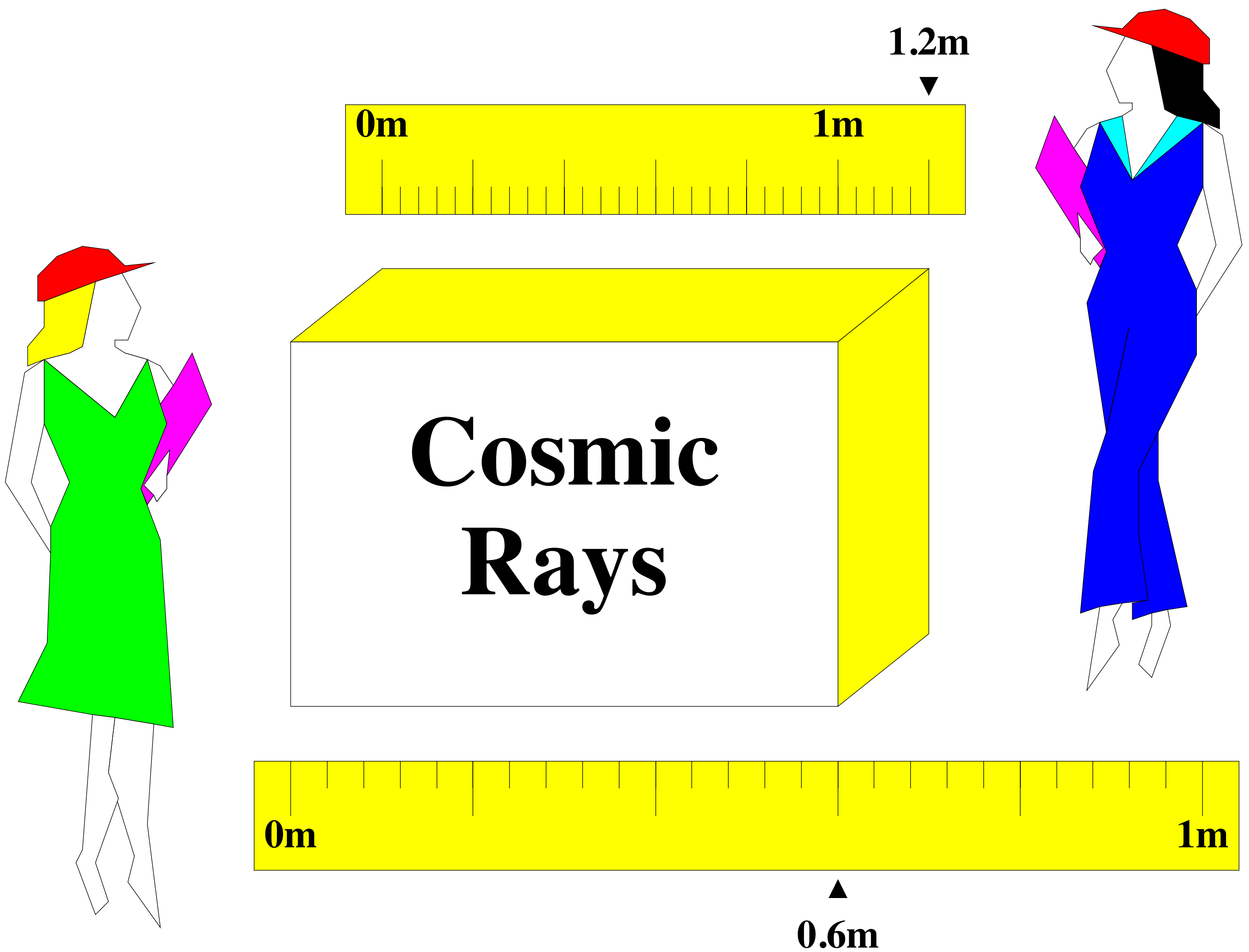
KIT - Universität des Landes Baden-Württemberg und nationales Forschungszentrum in der Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft

Preface to KfK 4998 (1992)

Analysing experimental data on Extensive Air Showers (EAS) or planning corresponding experiments requires a detailed theoretical modelling of the cascade which develops when a high energy primary particle enters the atmosphere. This can only be achieved by detailed Monte Carlo calculations taking into account all knowledge of high energy strong and electromagnetic interactions. Therefore, a number of computer programs has been written to simulate the development of EAS in the atmosphere and a considerable number of publications exists discussing the results of such calculations. A common feature of all these publications is that it is difficult, if not impossible, to ascertain in detail which assumptions have been made in the programs for the interaction models, which approximations have been employed to reduce computer time, how experimental data have been converted into the unmeasured quantities required in the calculations (such as nucleus-nucleus cross sections, e.g.) etc.
This is the more embarrassing, since our knowledge of high energy interactions - though much better today than ten years ago - is still incomplete in important features. This makes results from different groups difficult to compare, to say the least. In addition, the relevant programs are of a considerable size which - as experience shows - makes programming errors almost unavoidable, in spite of all undoubted efforts of the authors. We therefore feel that further progress in the field of EAS simulation will only be achieved, if the groups engaged in this work make their programs available to (and, hence, checkable by) other colleagues. This procedure has been adopted in high energy physics and has proved to be very successful. It is in the spirit of these remarks that we describe in this report the physics underlying the CORSIKA program developed during the last years by a combined Bern-Bordeaux-Karlsruhe effort.
We also plan to publish a listing of the program as soon as some more checks of computational and programming details have been performed. We invite all colleagues interested in EAS simulation to propose improvements, point out errors or bring forward reservations concerning assumptions or approximations which we have made. We feel that this is a necessary next step to improve our understanding of EAS.

open source, a community effort

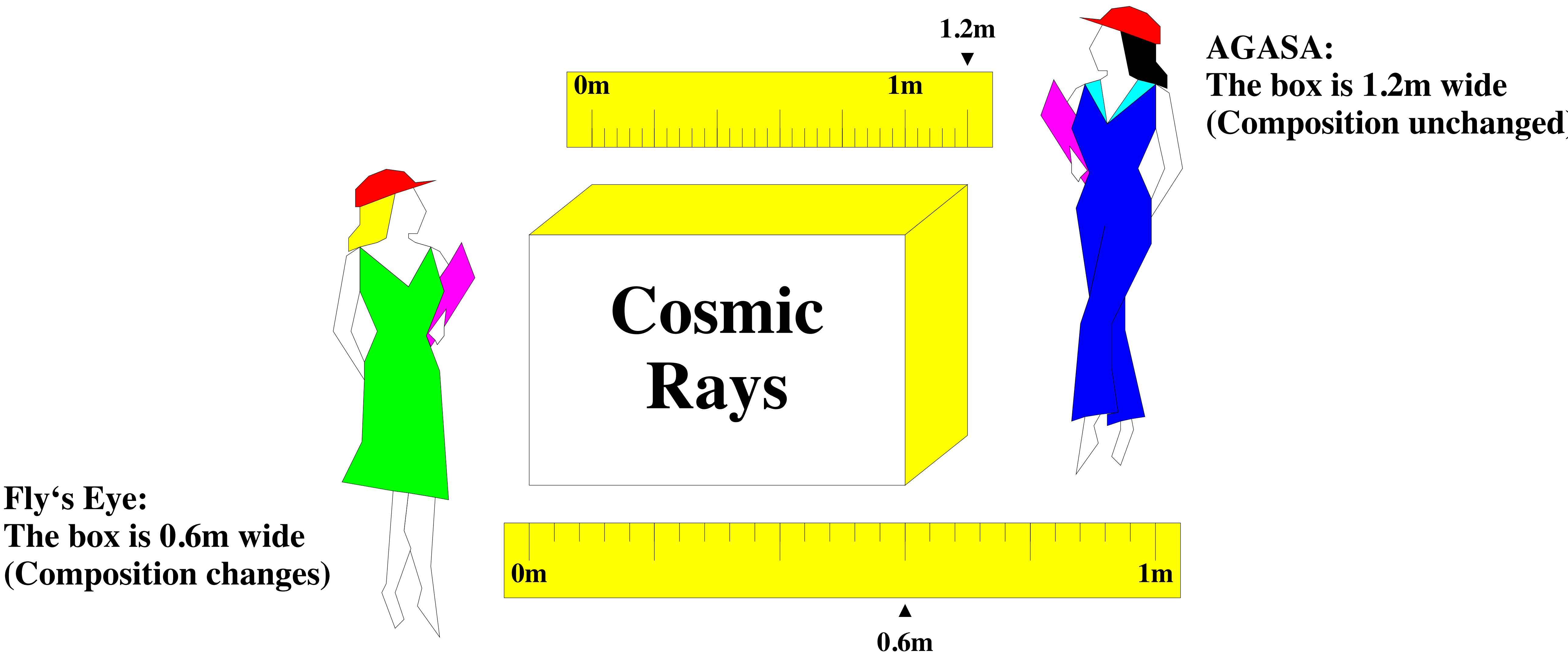
1997



AGASA:
The box is 1.2m wide
(Composition unchanged)

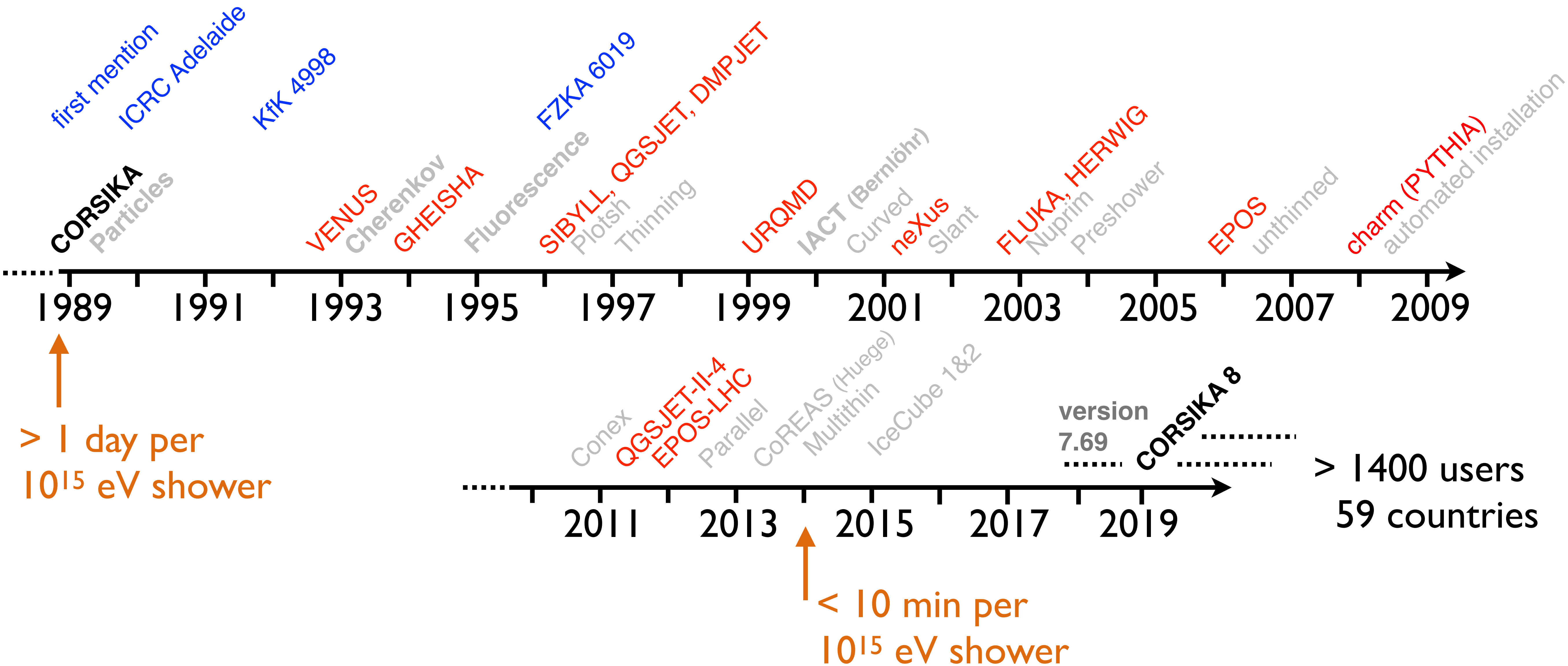
Fly‘s Eye:
The box is 0.6m wide
(Composition changes)

1997



Use the same yardstick (i.e. Monte Carlo program)
to get consistent results in different experiments.
Use a well-calibrated, reliable yardstick
to get correct results.

The Timeline



KfK 4998 + FZKA 6019 >2200 citations Google Scholar

by far the most cited work of its authors

(and more citations than all KASCADE papers together)

from Google Scholar:

CORSIKA: a Monte Carlo code to simulate extensive air showers

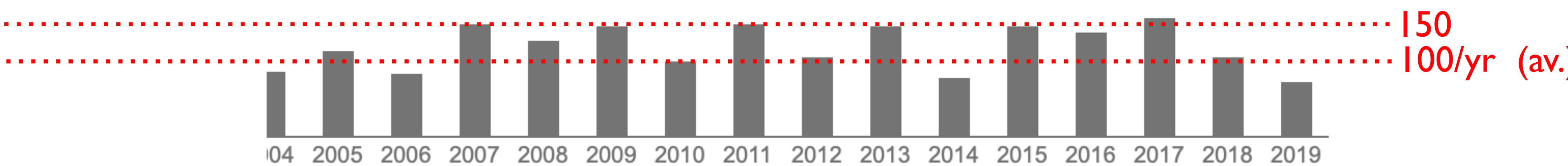
Authors: Dieter Heck, G Schatz, J Knapp, T Thouw, JN Capdevielle

Publication date: 1998

Issue: FZKA-6019

Description: CORSIKA is a program for detailed simulation of extensive air showers initiated by high energy cosmic ray particles. Protons, light nuclei up to iron, photons, and many other particles may be treated as primaries. The particles are tracked through the atmosphere until they undergo reactions with the air nuclei or-in the case of instable secondaries-decay. The hadronic interactions at high energies may be described by ve reaction models alternatively: The VENUS, QGSJET, and DPMJET models are based on the Gribov-Regge theory, while SIBYLL is a minijet model. HDPM is a phenomenological generator and adjusted to experimental data wherever possible. Hadronic interactions at lower energies are described either by the more sophisticated GHEISHA interaction routines or the rather simple ISOBAR model. In particle decays all decay branches down to the 1% level are taken into account. For electromagneti the …

Total citations: Cited by 2229



Scholar articles:

CORSIKA: a Monte Carlo code to simulate extensive air showers
D Heck, G Schatz, J Knapp, T Thouw, JN Capdevielle - 1998
Cited by 1367 Related articles All 11 versions

Upgrade of the Monte Carlo Code CORSIKA to Simulate Extensive Air Showers with Energie [more Than] 1020 EV *
D Heck, J Knapp - 1998
Cited by 523 Related articles

Report FZKA 6019 (1998) *
D Heck, J Knapp, JN Capdevielle, G Schatz, T Thouw - Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe, 1997
Cited by 230 Related articles

FZKA-report 6019 *
D Heck, J Knapp, JN Capdevielle, G Schatz, T Thouw - Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe,

CORSIKA:

"as good as possible",
fully 4-dim.

tracking, decays, atmospheres, ...

* recommended
* based on Gribov-Regge theory
* source of systematic uncertainty

el.mag.	EGS4 *
low-E.had.*	FLUKA *
	UrQMD *
	GHEISHA
high-E.had. **	QGSJET II-4 **
	EPOS-LHC **
	DPMJET *
	SIBYLL 2.3

Tuned at collider energies, extrapolated to > 10^{20} eV

+ many extensions & simplifications

Sizes and runtimes vary by factors 2 - 40.

Total: >> 10^5 lines of code

many person-years of development.

https://www.ikp.kit.edu/corsika/

What was known then?

Hadron accelerators / colliders:

			beam	cm energy	
Intersecting storage ring (ISR)	Cern	1971-1984	31 GeV	62 GeV	colliding beams
Super proton synchrotron (SPS)	Cern	1976-	300…400 GeV	600-800 GeV	fixed target
Super proton-antiproton Synchrotron (SppS)	Cern	1981-1991	100 - 450 GeV	200-900 GeV	colliding beams
Tevatron (proton-antiproton)	Fermilab	1987-2011	900 GeV	1.8 TeV	colliding beams
Large hadron collider (LHC), pp	Cern	2009-	8 TeV	16 TeV	colliding beams

… cross sections, multiplicities (n_{ch}), p_T-distributions, pseudo-rapidities, …

Cosmic Ray Projects in Karlsruhe:

KASCADE	1988-2009	10^{14}-10^{16} eV	450 GeV - 4.5 TeV
KASCADE Grande	2003-2009	10^{14}-10^{17} eV	450 GeV - 14 TeV
Pierre Auger Observatory	1996-	10^{18}-10^{20} eV	45 TeV - 450 TeV

moderate – big extrapolation in energy and to small angles needed.

How to build an air shower model?

In General

1. The detector medium:
   atmospheric composition, density as function of height

2. The beam: p, He, …Fe, e, γ, ν, exotics ???
   \+ all known particles (secondaries)

crucial

3. Particle Interactions:
   cross sections and **particle production**
   for electromagnetic, weak and **nuclear & hadronic interactions**

4. Particle tracking in magnetic fields, ionisation, energy loss,
   Cherenkov light, multiple scattering, decays, absorption, …

	In air showers	At accelerators
Projectiles:	p, He, …Fe, e, γ, ν + all known particles (secondaries)	p, p, $e^{\pm}$, … A, γ, ν $e^{\pm}$, $K^{\pm,0}$
Targets:	O, N, Ar in air	p, e, A
Energies:	MeV … ZeV (all important)	$\leq$ 8 TeV (coll. ~10^{17} eV) $\leq$ 500 GeV for nuclei and mesons $\approx$ TeV for A–A collisions at LHC
Emission angle:	very forward, small angels to beam “soft interactions”	high p_T, large angles to beam “hard interactions” (QCD)

How to build an air shower model?

Hadronic interactions

1. invent a model for p-p collisions
2. tune to reproduce experimental results
3. extrapolate to higher energies

add

4. diffractive processes
5. hard processes
6. p-N, π-N and N_1-N_2
7. nuclear physics
8. string fragmentation into hadrons

Problems arise mostly with 4.-8.

Agreement with p-N, π-N and N_1-N_2 data is usually worse than with p-p data.

Difficulties for had. models for CRs

CR and HEP cover virtually exclusive kinematic regions.

CR models need predictive power for extrapolation to
high energies, small angles and small Q^2
pure parametrisation likely fail when extrapolated.

Consistent calculation of
cross-sections and particle production in had. interactions

Consistent treatment of
soft, hard, diffractive interactions (no artificial boundaries)
all sorts of hadrons and nuclei with nucleons and nuclei
over the whole CR energy range from MeV to ZeV

1989:

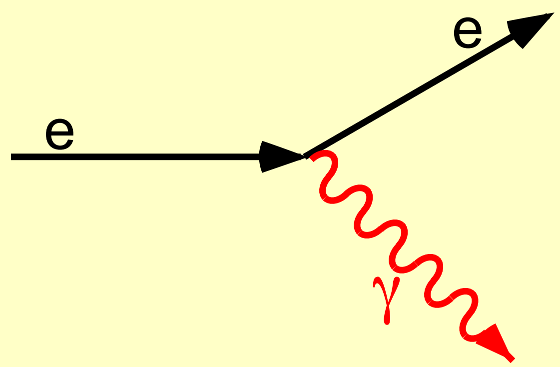
hadronic models were:

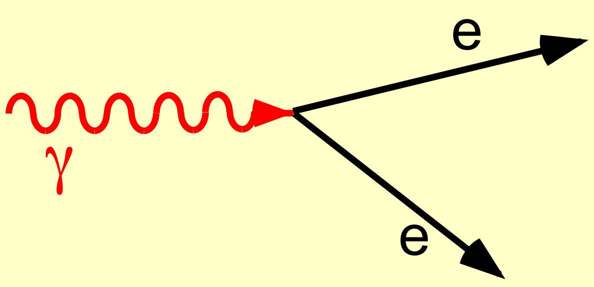
rudimentary,
qualitative,
phenomenological

…. a few examples …

Electromagnetic Showers: from Toy Model to EGS4

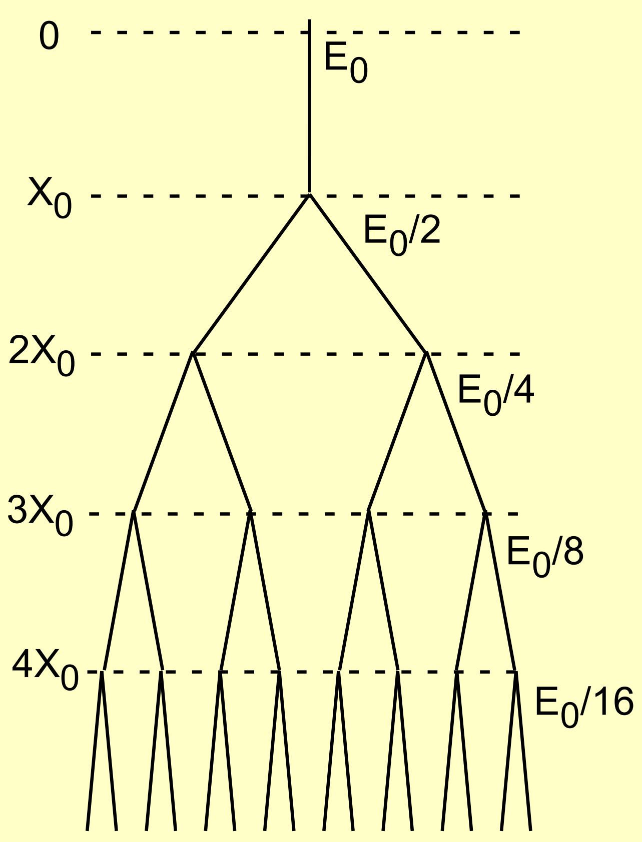
basic reactions: photons: pair production
electrons: bremsstrahlung





Both reactions have the same scale length (X_0) and have two outgoing particles per incoming particle.

Toy Model (one-dimensional, very simplified, yet qualitatively correct):



particle multiplication (x2) in each step (X_0) until $E < E_{crit}$,
then particle losses due to ionisation dominant.

$t = k\,X_0$, $k = 1,2, \ldots$

$N = 2^k$ $E = E_0/N$

k_{max}: $E_0 / 2^{k_{max}} = E_{crit}$ $k_{max} = \ln(E_0/E_{crit}) / \ln(2)$

grows only logarithmically with E_0

$t_{max} = k_{max} \cdot X_0$

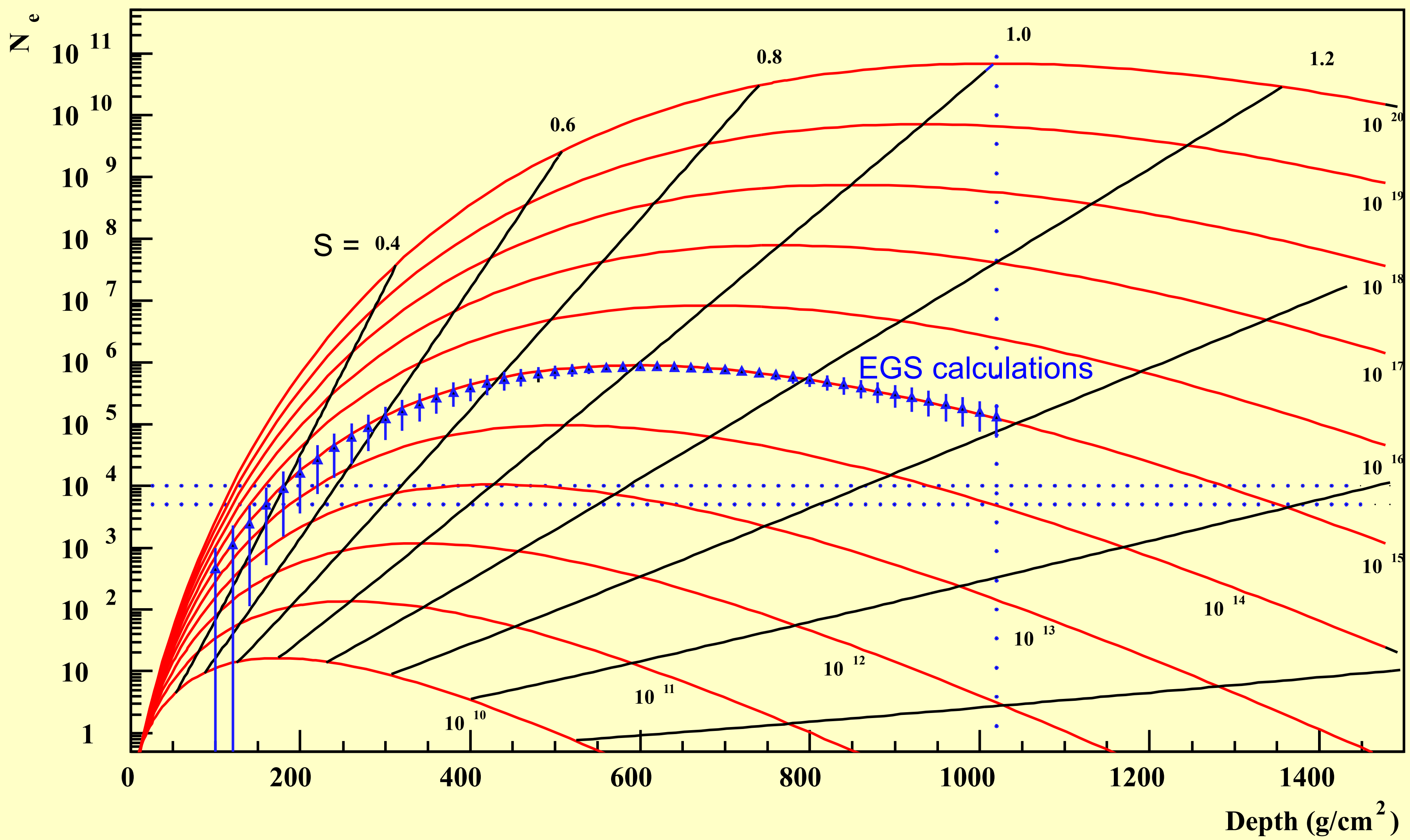
$N_{max} = E_0/E_{crit}$

Measure t_{max} or N_{max} and estimate E_0.

Nishimura Kamata Greisen (NKG): Longitudinal Shower Development

analytic description of purely electromagnetic showers:

$$N_e = \frac{0.31 \ \exp(\, t\,(1-1.5 \ln s))}{\sqrt{\ln(E_0/E_{crit})}} \qquad s = \frac{3\,t}{t + 2\ln(E_0/E_{crit})}$$



N_e :

number of electrons down to energy 0 ?

(unphysical)

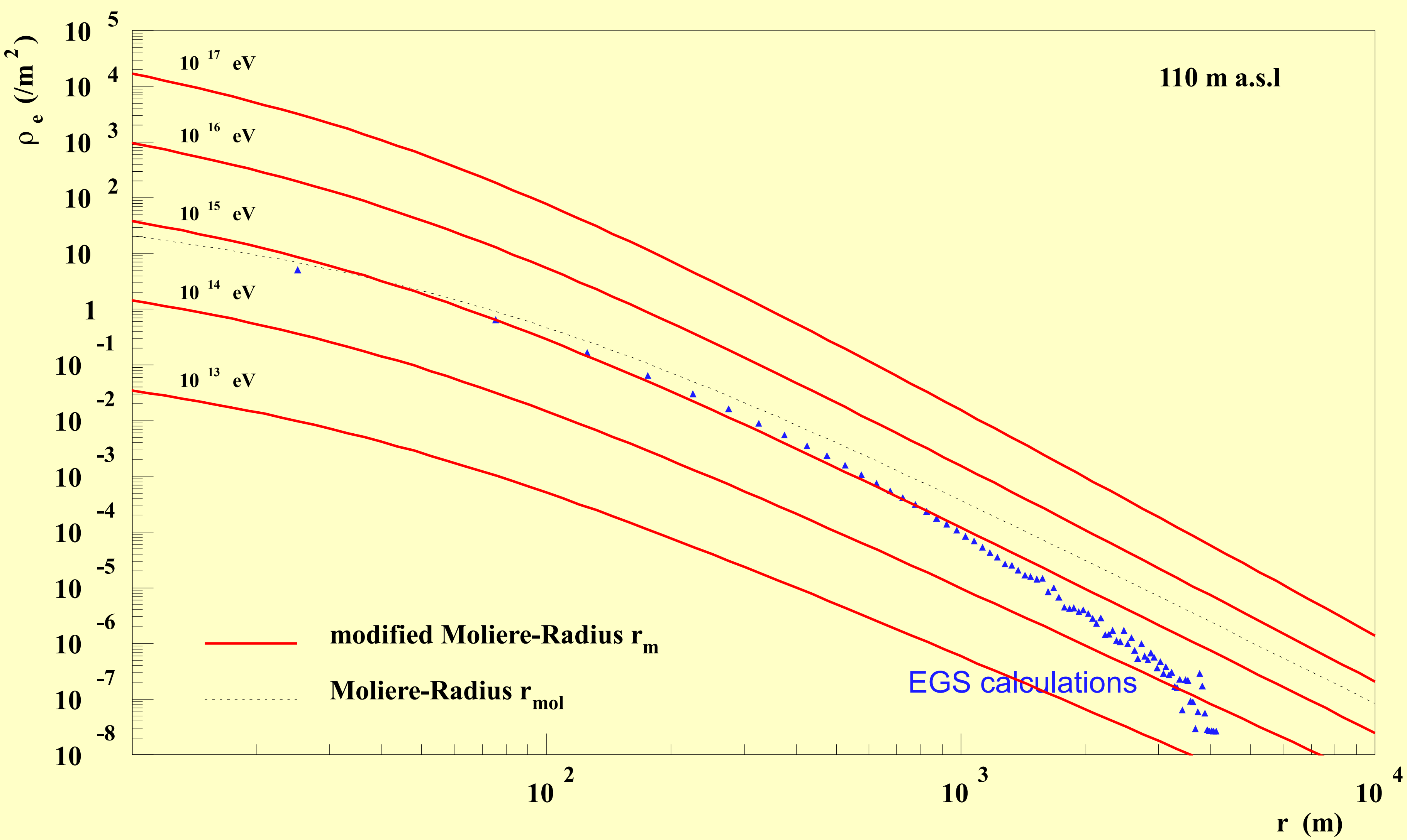
Just average,
no fluctuations.

Nishimura Kamata Greisen: lateral shower development

purely electromagnetic showers:

$$\rho_e = \frac{Ne}{2\pi r_m^2} \frac{\Gamma(4.5-s)}{\Gamma(s)\,\Gamma(4.5-2s)} \left(\frac{r}{r_m}\right)^{s-2} \left(1 + \frac{r}{r_m}\right)^{s-4.5}$$

$$r_m = (0.78 - 0.21\, s)\, r_{mol}$$



$r_{mol} = X_0\, E_s/E_{crit}$

$\sim$ 9.6 g/cm^2

$\sim$ 78 m at sea level

$E_s = m_e c^2\, (4\pi/\alpha)^{1/2} \sim 21$ MeV

A cylinder around the shower axis with radius r_{mol} contains 90% of the shower energy.

NKG formalism allows a *fast*, semi-analytical simulation of electromagnetic sub-showers.

.... but again no fluctuations

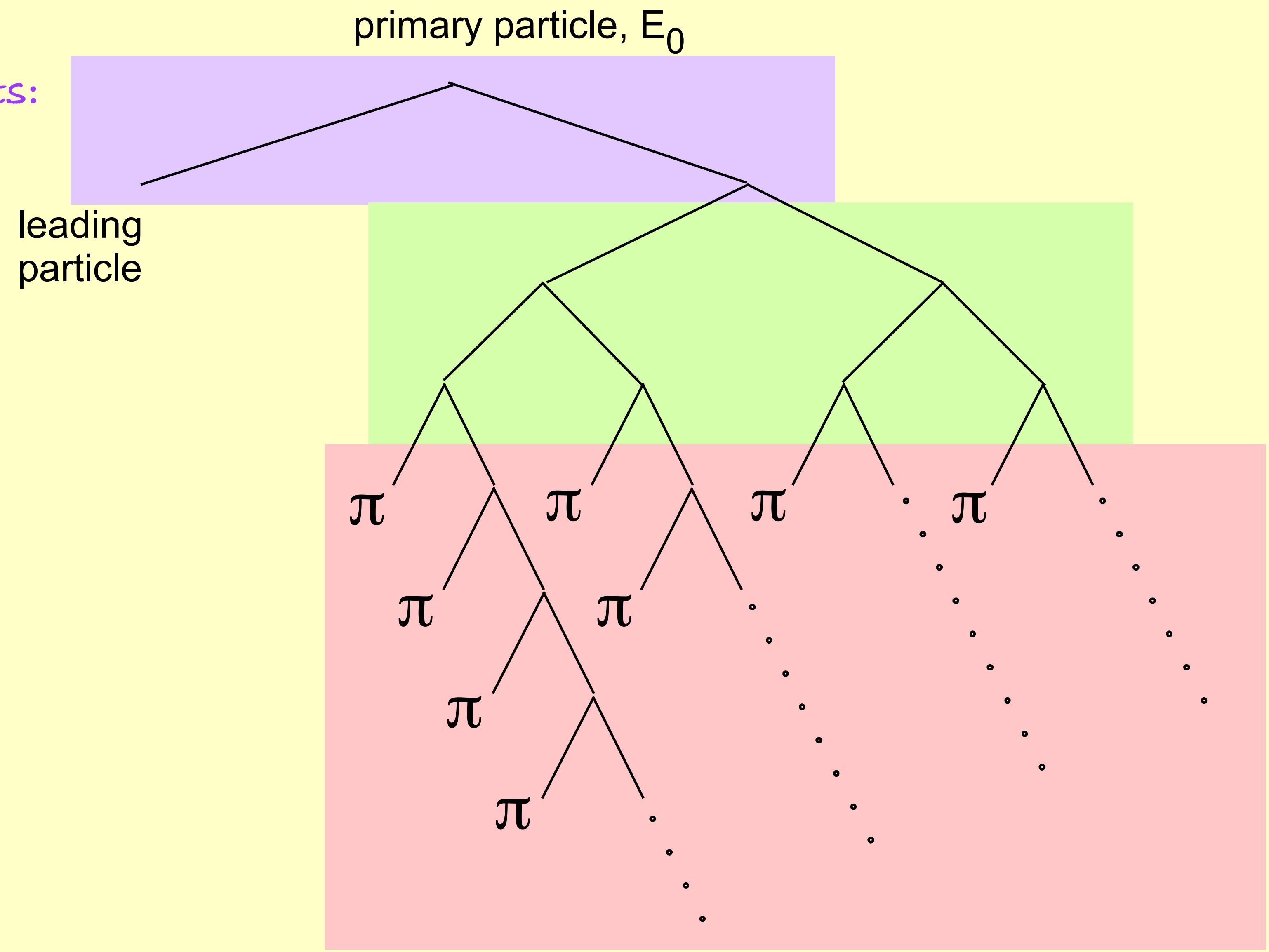
A simple hadronic interaction model: the Hillas Splitting Algorithm

1. split primary energy at random in 2 parts:
   $x E_0$, $(1-x) E_0$
   leading particle: $x E_0$

2. split rest, in N steps, randomly into 2 portions each. Total: 2^N portions

3. split each portion at random in 2 parts:
   $x' E$, $(1-x') E$
   pion: $x' E$

continue until a threshold energy ($> m_p$) is reached.



Originally used in MOCCA: (produces only pions as secondaries)
x, x' uniformly distributed between 0 1
$N = 2$

Very simple, very fast, but gives only a qualitative description of hadronic shower.

A simple example : HDPM
… based on the dual parton mode

Collision with colour exchange forms two colour strings which fragment into jets of observable hadrons.

Hadrons from each string form a Gaussian in rapidity space. Parametrize position y_j and width σ as function of E to reproduce $p\text{-}\bar{p}$ non-diffractive results.

(+ extrapolate s_{tot}

put in p_T, π:K:N, charged/neutral, ….

add 3rd Gaussian for nucleus in p-A,

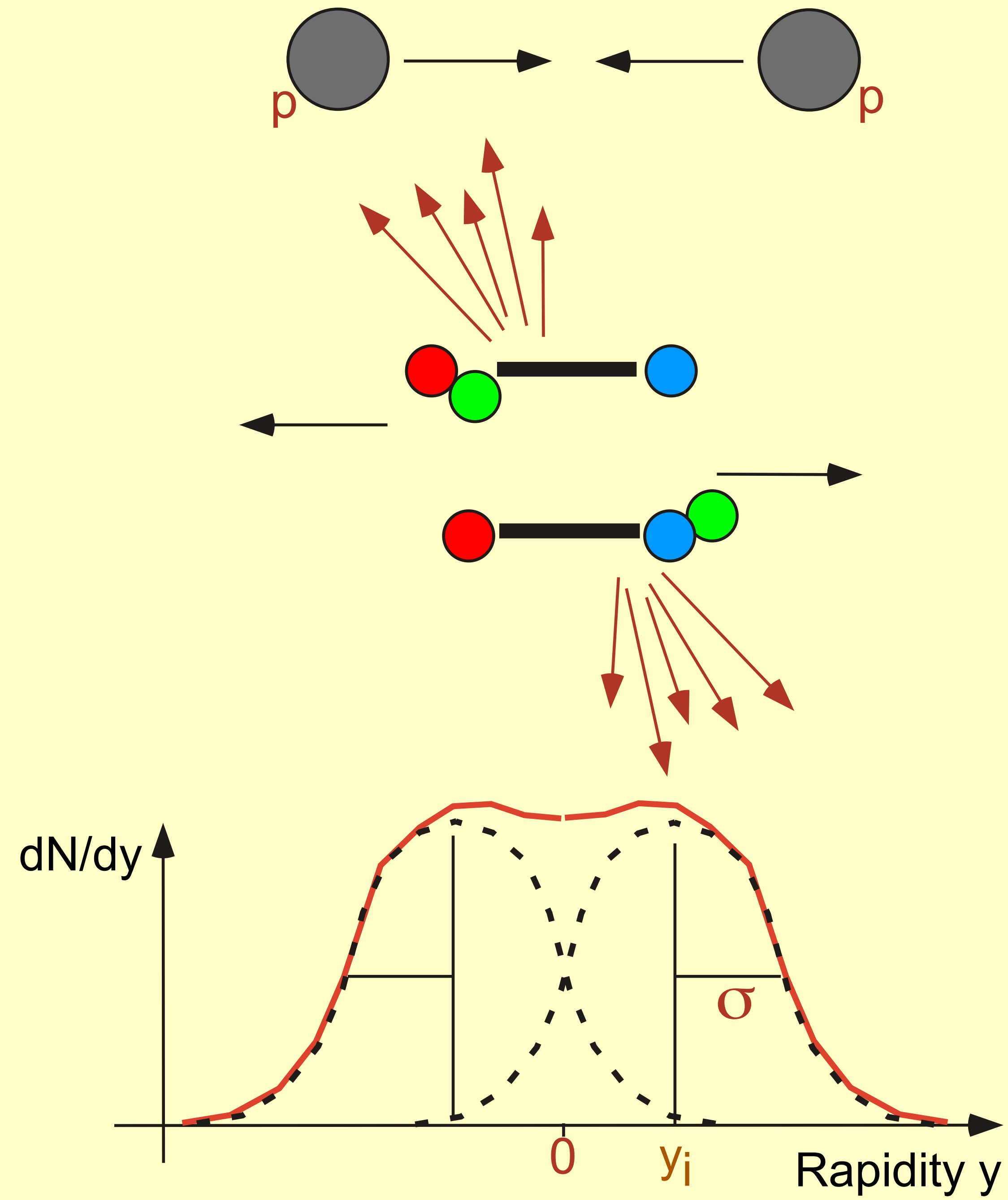
A-A : superposition of independent p-A collisions,

add diffraction …)

ad hoc,

lots of free parameters,

no predictive power



Rapidity:

$$y = \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{E+p_L}{E-p_L}$$

Pseudorapidity:

$$\eta = \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{p+p_L}{p-p_L}$$

$$\eta = -\ln(\tan(\theta/2))$$

$\eta \sim y$
for high energies
(or zero mass)

(Pseudo)rapidity
is additive in Lorentz
transformation.

Theoretical guidelines for soft interactions ?

Yes: Gribov-Regge Theory (GRT) of multi-Pomeron exchange

(a relativistic quantum field theory)

successful for elastic scattering
total cross-sections

extension to particle production:
some uncertainties,
relatively few free parameters.
seems to work fine up to highest energies.

GRT is the **best theoretical model** we have at the moment for soft hadronic interactions important in air showers.

Fully 4-dim simulation with EGS

of electromagnetic showers in air

Electron Gamma Shower Code
Nelson et al. ~1970

ALL processes of electrons and gammas are included.

e: **bremsstrahlung**,
ionisation, ∂-electrons,
Bhabha & Møller scattering,
multiple scattering, annihilation, ...

γ: **e^+e^- pair production**,
Compton effect, photo effect,
Rayleigh scattering, ...

based on QED calculations and is very well checked and verified.
EGS gives precise predictions of all sorts of electromagnetic interactions in materials.
Important for nuclear radiation calculations, nuclear medicine.

CORSIKA: **EGS 4 (1995)**

Extended by LPM effect (> TeV in dense materials; > 10^{18} eV in atmosphere)

EGS 5 2005 maintained by SLAC / KEK collab.
http://rcwww.kek.jp/research/egs/egs5.html

Resulting in ...

- Considerable convergence of models since 1990
- Simulations with hadronic interaction models
  - based on Gribov-Regge Theory (very few free parameters)
  - more / better accelerator data
  - more coherent treatment of different interaction types,

!!

- produce showers that look very much like real ones,
  i.e. CORSIKA is not (yet) perfect, but also not far off the truth
- Convergence also with models for
  soft interactions in particle physics.

Current situation:

Three main had. interaction models are still maintained:

EPOS LHC
QGSJET II 04 (CORSIKA v 7.69)
Sibyll 2.3

Reasonably good description of inclusive shower observables.

New accelerator data started major new activities in hadronic interaction modelling.

Some shortfalls in reproducing correlations (rel. for CR composition studies)
Still mysterious:

Muon production
X_{max} behaviour not really understood.

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High energy interactions of cosmic rays

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Abstract

A discussion of a number of important topics related to modeling of high energy cosmic ray interactions is presented. Special attention is devoted to novel theoretical approaches employed in event generators of hadronic interactions and to the impact of experimental data from the Large Hadron Collider (LHC). In relation to studies of ultra-high energy cosmic rays (UHECRs), differences between various predictions for basic characteristics of UHECR-induced extensive air showers in the atmosphere are analyzed and traced down to differences in the respective treatments of hadronic interactions. Possibilities to discriminate between the alternative approaches, based on LHC and UHECR data, are demonstrated and the relation to UHECR primary composition is outlined. Finally, in relation to direct studies of charged cosmic rays, potential improvements of the treatment of cosmic ray interactions at low and intermediate energies are discussed.

suggests how to reach a coherent picture of UHECR composition:

muon excess,

X_{max} vs $\sigma(X_{max})$ mismatch

Summary :

- Shower simulations are indispensable in high-energy astroparticle physics
- CORSIKA & had. models are approximately correct (and still improving)
- Accelerator data are valuable input
- Tremendous progress in the last 30 years

2019: hadronic models are now:
relatively complete,
quantitative,
theory-based

- **CORSIKA 7.5 is a good starting point for further progress & improvements**

Good luck and a long breath for the CORSIKA 8 effort.