High-energy atmospheric neutrinos

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μ



For <u>high precision</u> calculations all phenomena need accurate modeling

> Not so well known "ingredients":

- Cosmic ray spectrum and composition
- Hadronic interactions
- Atmosphere (dynamic, depends on use case)
- (Rare) decays (solved)
- Energy range MeV EeV!



conventional $p, A + air \rightarrow \pi^{\pm}, \pi^{0}, K^{\pm}, K^{0}_{S,L}$

muons and muon neutrinos $\pi^{\pm}, K^{\pm} \to \mu^{\pm} \nu_{\mu}(\bar{\nu}_{\mu})$

electron neutrinos

 $K^{\pm}, K_L^0 \to [\pi^{\pm}, \pi^0] e^{\pm} \nu_e(\bar{\nu}_e)$

prompt

$$p, A + \operatorname{air} \to D, \Lambda_{\mathrm{C}} \to \nu_{\mu}, \nu_{\mathrm{e}}, \mu$$

Subset of dominant decay channels	
decay channel	branching ratio (BR)
$\mu^- \to e^- \bar{\nu}_e \nu_\mu$	100 %
$\pi^+ o \mu^+ \nu_\mu$	99.9877 %
$K^0_{e3}: K^0_L \to \pi^\pm e^\mp \nu_e$	40.55 %
$K^0_{\mu 3}: K^0_L \to \pi^{\pm} \mu^{\mp} \nu_{\mu}$	27.04 %
$K^+ \to \mu^+ \nu_\mu$	63.55 %
$K_{e3}^+: K^+ \to \pi^0 e^+ \nu_e$	5.07 %
$K^+_{\mu 3}: K^+ \to \pi^0 \mu^+ \nu_\mu$	3.353 %
$D^+ \to \overline{K}^0 \mu^+ \nu_\mu$	9.2 %
$D^0 \to K^- \mu^+ \nu_\mu$	3.3 %
+ charge conjugates	http://pdg.lbl.gov



General shape of high energy lepton spectra





Zenith angle changes competition between decay and (re-)interaction



Transport equations (hadronic cascade equations)

System of non-linear PDE for each particle species *h* (~62 x #E-bins) :





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Inclusive secondary particle distributions (as in fixed-target experiment)



SIBYLL 2.3c: Riehn et al. PoS(ICRC2017)301

MCEq: open-source Python code



- Simultaneous solution of up to 8000 kinetic equations
- Energy range 1 (30) GeV 10¹¹ GeV
- > All models included
- High optimization: multi-core, GPU, ... (BLAS, MKL, CUDA) (~milli-seconds!)
- MIT licensed @ <u>https://github.com/afedynitch/MCEq</u>

CORSIKA: A. Fedynitch, J. Becker Tjus and P. Desiati, PRD 2012 MCEq: A. Fedynitch, R. Engel, T. K. Gaisser, F. Riehn and S. Todor. PoS ICRC 2015, 1129



Relevant hadrons for neutrino production



Relevant particles for muon production



Relation between lepton and cosmic ray energy



Energy range covered by particle accelerators.



If energy is not a problem...

Kinematic variables

$$heta = \arctan rac{p_T}{p_z}$$

 $\eta = -\ln \left(\tan rac{ heta}{2}
ight)$
 $x_{
m lab} = rac{E_{
m secondary}}{E_{
m primary}} pprox rac{p_{z,
m secondary}}{E_{
m primary}}$

For atmospheric leptons

 $p_z \sim \text{TeV} - \text{PeV}$ $p_T \sim \text{few GeV}$ $\theta \sim \mu \text{rad}$

$$x_{
m lab} > 0.1, \quad \eta \to \infty$$





Secondary hadron (pion/kaon/charm) energy fractions

x_{lab} regions contributing to inclusive muon neutrino flux



- Atmospheric leptons are sensitive mostly to x_{lab} ~ 0.2 and above
- Reason: steepness of primary CR spectrum



Role of secondary interactions in cascade

Inclusive leptons

100 PeV p air shower



Comic ray spectrum at the top of the atmosphere



None of the shown models is a real fit (with errors and covariance matrix)

SST-X and HXa are quite extreme assumptions for UHECR

> No error estimates!

HXa: T. K. Gaisser, Astropart. Phys. 35 (2012) 801–806 GH: T. K. Gaisser and M. Honda, Ann. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci. 52 (2002) 153–199 GST-X: T. K. Gaisser, T. Stanev, and S. Tilav, Front. Phys.(Beijing) 8 (2013) 748–758 Update of GH (not shown):

J. Evans, D. Porzio et al., 1612.03219





- Novel global fit to entire CR spectrum: Dembinski et al., PoS(ICRC2017) 533
- Wavy feature at lower energies are due to the hardening of proton and He spectra
- Increase of error around 10 TeV because of the gap between direct and indirect exp.
- > Higher flux at the knee and harder spectral index between knee and ankle
- Latter effect comes from the lighter composition at the knee as in other models
- Mainly driven by KASKADE Gr. and latest data from IceTop and TUNKA



Hadronic uncertainties: current state of the art

- "Uncertainties in atmospheric neutrino fluxes", G. D. Barr, S. Robbins, T. K. Gaisser, and T. Stanev, Phys. Rev. D 74, 094009 (2006)
- Cut phase-space in regions/slices in E_{lab} and x_{lab} and assign uncertainty to each slice (uncorrelated)
- Draw-back 1: Uncertainty assigned by hand and judged only from availability of experimental data (not how well TARGET described it)
- Draw-back 2: The "central value" is assumed to be TARGET. Scheme doesn't tell anything about "best estimate".

Up to 10 TeV neutrino energy, no muons.





Implementation of the "Barr scheme" in MCEq

The regions





- > Compute partial derivatives wrt. phase-space regions, i.e. $\frac{\partial \Phi_{\nu}}{\partial W}$
- No correlations between phase-space regions (as in Barr et al.) or add. correlations

Elements of Jacobian (numerical)

$$J_{E_ij} = \frac{\partial \Phi_{\nu}(E_i)}{\partial p} = \frac{\Phi_{\nu}(\delta p_j +) - \Phi_{\nu}(\delta p_j -)}{2\delta p_j}$$

Error propagation

$$\operatorname{cov}[\Phi_{\nu}(E_i), \Phi_{\nu}(E_j)] = \sum_{mn} J_{E_i m} J_{E_j n} \operatorname{cov}[p_m, p_l]$$



Uncertainties of lepton fluxes





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Uncertainties of lepton ratios





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Hadronic uncertainties for high energy leptons





Prompt neutrinos from decays of charmed mesons



- > SIBYLL 2.3c is the only full MC model
- Compatible with LHC data and IceCube limit
- > New CR flux model (GSF) changes situation a bit
- Uncertainties from QCD very large and calculations are compatible
- Uncertainties from pQCD calculations are presumably overestimated, since LHC measurements of charm are not taken into account

IceCube: Astrophys.J. 833 (2016) GMS: Garzelli et al., JHEP 1510 (2015) 115 BERSS: Bhattacharya et al. JHEP 2015: 110



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- Relevant cosmic ray energies, contributing particles and their phase-space understood in detail.
- > Progress transparent to the community through an open source code, support, etc.
- Cosmic ray uncertainties are quantified to our best knowledge. The numerical model including the covariance matrix will be open source, as well.
- Uncertainties, at the level of Barr et al. can be reproduced with MCEq and corresponding tools will be published, asap.
- High-quality atmospheric muon and neutrino data (incl. systematics, error correlation matrix, etc.) would definitely help



Hadronic uncertainties below 200 GeV





Hadronic uncertainties computed with different interaction models



Leading particles

Model-dependent distributions of momentum given to partons



Fluctuations: Generation of sea quark antiquark pair and leading/excited hadron Leading particle effect





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Main changes in SIBYLL 2.3c are related to scaling and leading Kaons



- Problems in SIBYLL 2.3 related to remnant excitation model
- > No changes to charm in 2.3c
- Small changes for air-shower physics



Contribution of the leading particle effect

compared to other models





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"non-perturbative/leading" charm

"pQCD/minijet" charm







Charm in SIBYLL



Large uncertainties among models





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A few words on 3D calculations



A subset of 3D calculations

[1] G. Barr, P. Lipari, S. Robbins, and T. Stanev, International Cosmic Ray Conference 3, 1411 (2003).

[2] M. Honda, T. Kajita, K. Kasahara, and S. Midorikawa, Phys. Rev. D 83, (2011).

[3] M. Honda, T. Kajita, K. Kasahara, S. Midorikawa, and T. Sanuki, Phys. Rev. D 75, (2007).

[4] [1] G. Battistoni, A. Ferrari, P. Lipari, T. Montaruli, P. R. Sala, and T. Rancati, Astroparticle Physics **12**, 315 (1999).

[5] J. Wentz, I. M. Brancus, A. Bercuci, D. Heck, J.
 Oehlschläger, H. Rebel, and B. Vulpescu, Phys. Rev. D
 67, 073020 (2003).





Classical solutions



MCEq: Matrix Cascade Equations



DESY

A. Fedynitch, R. Engel, T. K. Gaisser, F. Riehn and S. Todor PoS ICRC 2015, 1129 (2015), EPJ Web Conf. 99, 08001 (2015) and EPJ Web Conf. 116, 11010 (2016). Main paper in prep.

Competition between decay and interactions

- Above critical energy, probability for interaction is higher than decay probability
- > Flux from one particular hadron species gets attenuated

particle	$E_{crit} \; [\text{GeV}]$
μ^{\pm}	1.0
π^{\pm}	115
K_L^0	205
K^{\pm}	850
K_S^0	1.2E+05
D^{\pm}	4.3E+07

Hadrons in MCEq

Leptons

$$\mu^+, \ \mu^-, \ \tau^+, \ \tau^-, \ \nu_e, \ \nu_\mu, \ \nu_\tau, \ \bar{\nu}_e, \ \bar{\nu}_\mu, \ \bar{\nu}_\tau$$

Mesons

$$K^{+}, K^{-}, K_{L}^{0}, K_{S}^{0}, \pi^{+}, \pi^{-}, D^{+}, D^{-}, D^{0}, \bar{D}^{0}, D_{s}^{+}, D_{s}^{-}, K^{*+}, K^{*-}, K^{*0}, \bar{K}^{*0}, D^{*+}, D^{*-}, D^{*0}, \bar{D}^{*0}, \eta, \eta^{*}, \eta_{C}, J/\Psi, \omega, \phi, \pi^{0}, \rho^{+}, \rho^{-}, \rho^{0}$$

Baryons

 $p, \ \bar{p}, \ n, \ \bar{n}, \ \Delta^+, \ \Delta^{++}, \ \bar{\Delta}^{++}, \ \bar{\Delta}^+, \ \Delta^-, \ \bar{\Delta}^+, \ \Delta^0, \ \bar{\Delta}^0, \ \Lambda^0, \ \bar{\Lambda}^0, \ \Omega^-, \ \bar{\Omega}^+, \\ \Sigma^{*+}, \ \bar{\Sigma}^{*-}, \ \Sigma^{*-}, \ \bar{\Sigma}^{*+}, \ \Sigma^{*0}, \ \bar{\Sigma}^{*0}, \ \Sigma^+, \ \bar{\Sigma}^-, \ \Sigma^0, \ \bar{\Sigma}^0, \ \Lambda^+_C, \ \bar{\Lambda}^-_C, \ \Omega^0_C, \ \bar{\Omega}^0_C, \ \Sigma^-, \\ \bar{\Sigma}^+, \ \Xi^-, \ \bar{\Xi}^+, \ \Xi^0, \ \bar{\Xi}^0, \ \Xi^+_C, \ \Xi^0_C, \ \bar{\Xi}^0_C, \ \Sigma^{*+}_C, \ \Sigma^{*++}_C, \ \bar{\Sigma}^{*--}_C, \ \bar{\Sigma}^{*-}_C, \ \Sigma^{*0}_C, \ \bar{\Sigma}^{*0}_C, \ \bar{\Sigma}^{*0}_C$

Stiffness is tricky

A new take on CR flux uncertainties

- Combine datasets from direct and indirect observations
- Use only "golden" datasets with systematic errors (incl. energy scale)
- Fit whole energy range 10 10¹¹ GeV
- > Fit composition:
 - Direct: elements
 - Indirect: mass groups

PoS(ICRC2017)533: <u>Hans Dembinski</u>, AF, Ralph Engel, Tom K. Gaisser, Felix Riehn, Todor Stanev

Idea: propagate uncertainties into fluxes fluxes using partial derivatives from MCEq

How to create mass groups (indirect) from element fluxes (direct)

Reproduction of data from air shower based detectors

GSF: Global Spline Fit

- Data-driven representation of the cosmic ray flux
- Full covariance matrix for all parameters
- Serves as input for flux calculations and error propagation

