

GEANT4 SIMULATIONS OF MUON SCATTERING TOMOGRAPHY

Konstantin Borozdin

SANDIA
RESEARCH
CENTER



The poster features an aerial view of Budapest, Hungary, with the Danube River and the Chain Bridge. The title "MUOGRAPHERS 2026" is prominently displayed in large, bold, red letters. Below the title, there is a paragraph of text describing the conference's purpose. At the bottom, the location and dates "BUDAPEST, 1-5 JUNE" are written in large white letters. Logos for "HUN REN" and "WIGNER" are also visible.

**MUOGRAPHERS
2026**

This international conference serves as a platform for presenting new discoveries and innovations, and for discussing future directions in muography.

BUDAPEST, 1-5 JUNE

HUN REN WIGNER

Photo by Bence Balla-Schottner on Unsplash



MUON TOMOGRAPHY SIMULATIONS – WHY?

System design and optimization

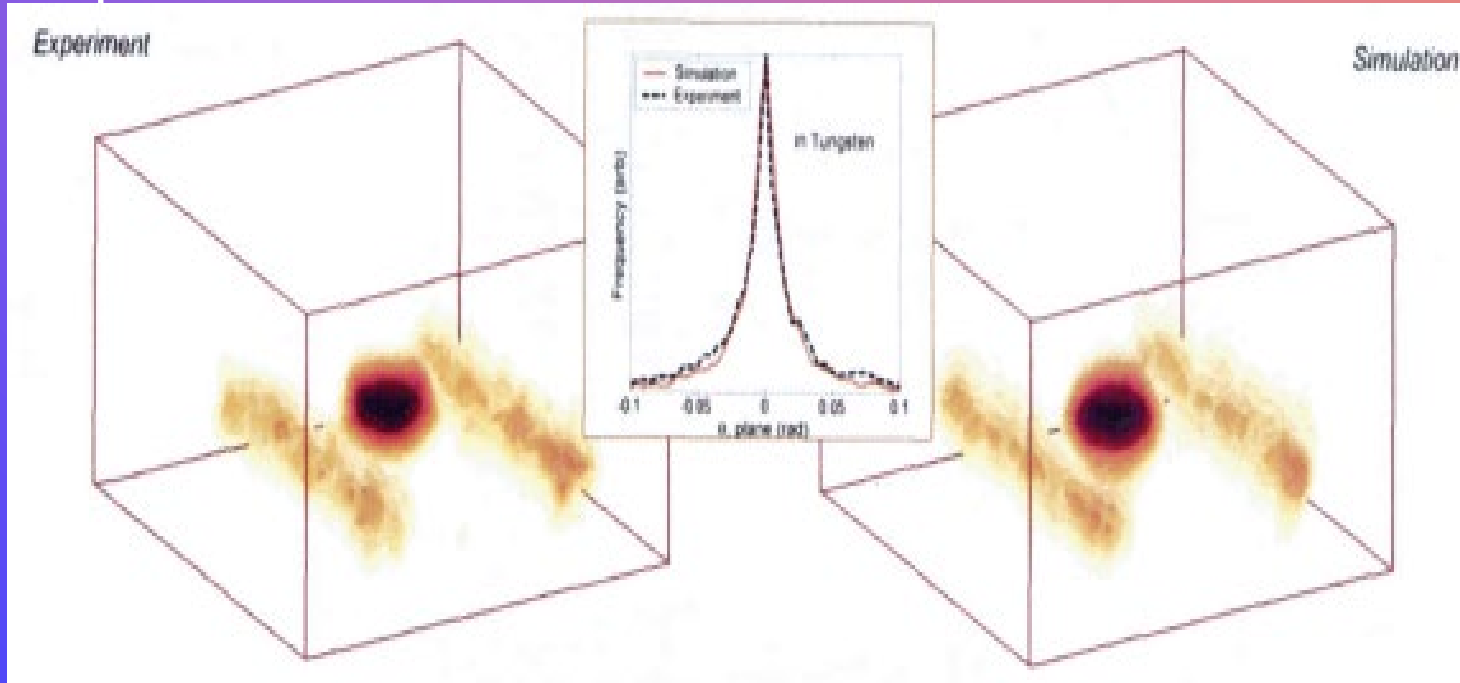
Application-specific feasibility studies

Image reconstruction development

Validation and benchmarking

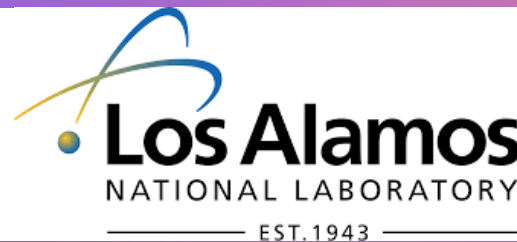
Machine Learning datasets

FIRST IMAGE



Feasibility proof
Image reconstruction
Validation and
benchmarking

Radiographic imaging with cosmic-ray muons
Konstantin N. Borozdin, Gary E. Hogan, Christopher Morris,
William C. Priedhorsky, Alexander Saunders, Larry J. Schultz
& Margaret E. Teasdale
Nature 422, 277 (2003)



Radiography without radiation

GEANT4

70s and 80s: GEANT3 FORTRAN-based simulation kit developed at CERN

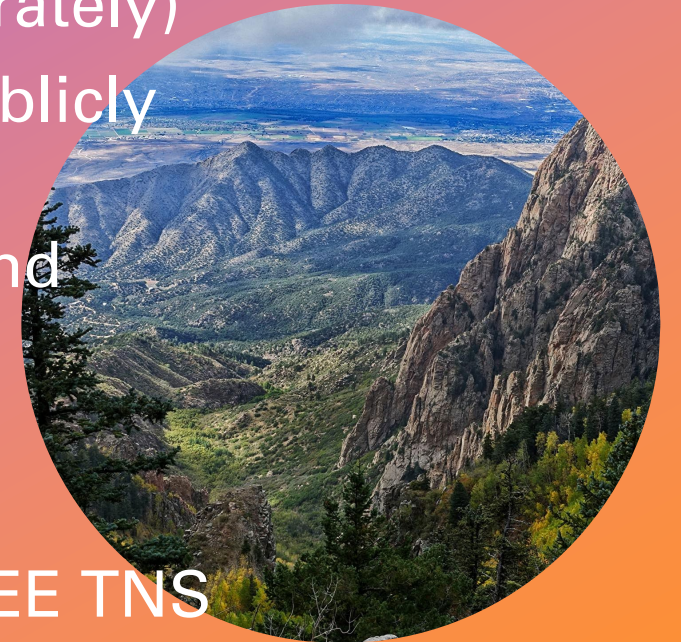
1993-1998: RD44 Project: C++ over FORTRAN, International collaboration, decomposition (physics, geometry, tracking, visualization developed separately)

December 1998: GEANT4 version 1.0 released publicly with open source code available at no charge

Standard simulation toolkit across high-energy and nuclear physics, medical physics, space science, homeland security, astrophysics

Dec 2025: v. 11.4

Agostinelli et al. 2003, NIM; Allison et al. 2006, IEEE TNS





MONTE CARLO

Class of computational algorithms that use repeated random sampling to obtain numerical results (originated by Stanislaw Ulam and Nicholas Metropolis during the Manhattan Project)

Particle transport through matter involves a cascade of stochastic processes, each interaction is fundamentally probabilistic

Simulate one particle at a time, sample each interaction from the appropriate probability distribution, repeat for millions of primary particles

GEANT4 implements MC in the stepping loop (step is the unit of transport, with one particle and one process)

For Multiple Coulomb Scattering all small-angle elastic collisions over a step are condensed into a single net deflection





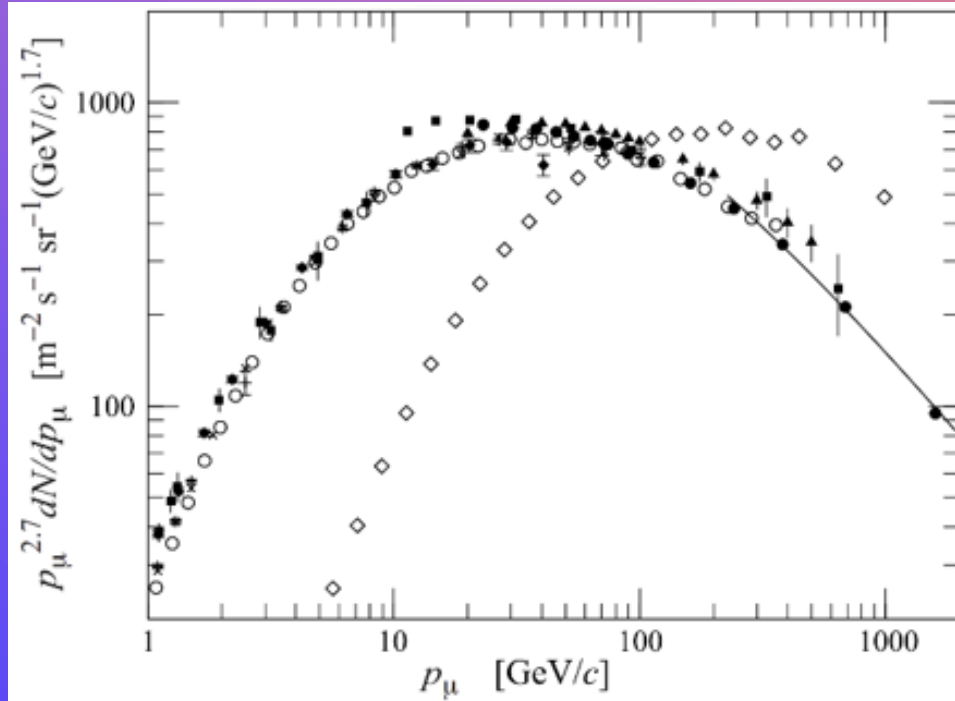
+

•

GEANT4 EXECUTION FLOW

```
main()
└─ RunManager initialized
   └─ DetectorConstruction → geometry & materials built
   └─ PhysicsList           → processes registered
   └─ PrimaryGeneratorAction registered
      └─ /run/beamOn N
         └─ [N times] Event loop
            └─ PrimaryGeneratorAction → generate muon
            └─ Tracking loop → transport through geometry
               └─ SteppingAction called at each step
            └─ SensitiveDetector → record hits
            └─ EventAction → fill output
```

MUON SOURCE

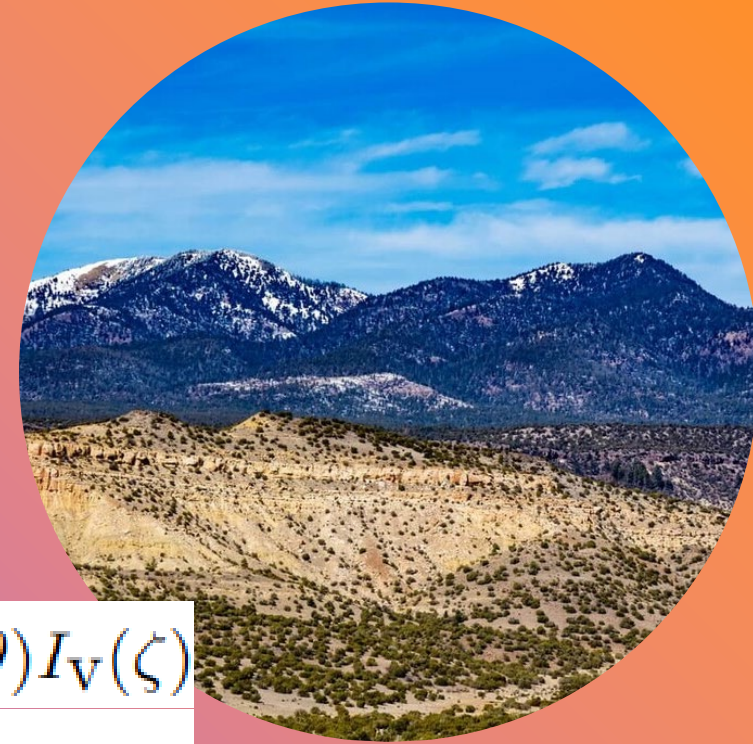


[K. Hagiwara et al.](#) (Particle Data Group),
Phys. Rev. D **66**, 010001 (2002)

$$I(p_\mu, \theta) = \cos^3(\theta) I_V(\zeta)$$

[D. Reyna](#)
arXiv:hep-ph/0604145 (2006)

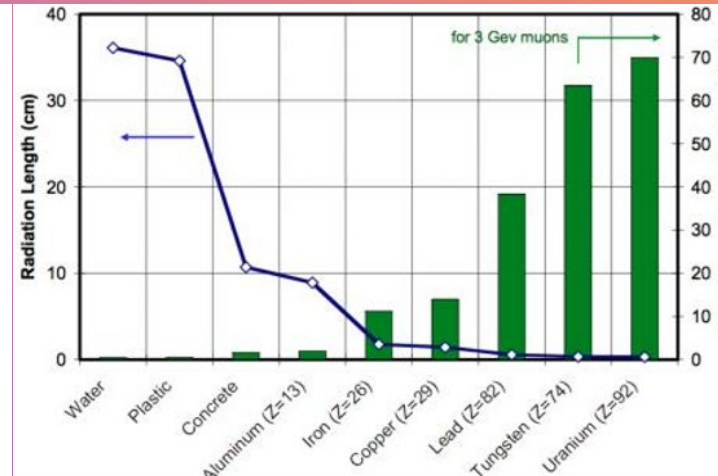
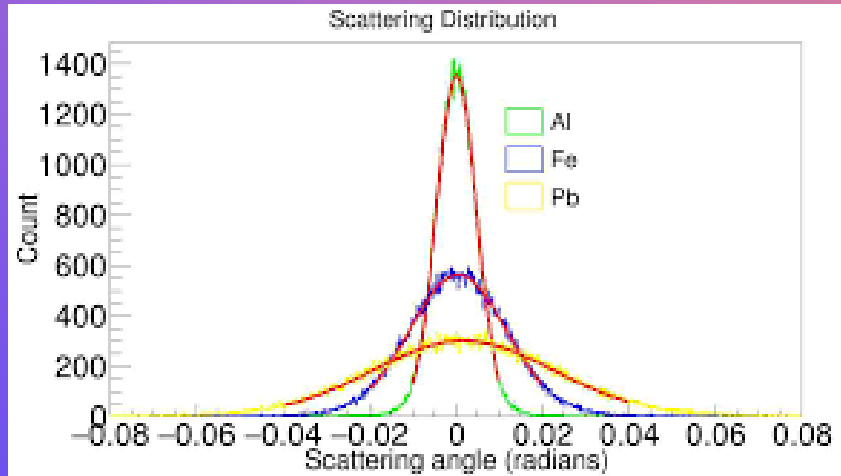
[H. Jokisch et al.](#)
Phys. Rev. D **19**, 1368 (1979)



Implemented as MuonElectronGenerator for GEANT4
<https://github.com/kbor-commits/MuonElectronGenerator>



MUON PHYSICS



H. Bethe, *Phys.Rev.* 89, 1256 (1953)

$$\sigma_{\theta} = \frac{13.6 \text{ MeV}}{\beta c p} \sqrt{x/X_0} [1 + 0.038 \ln (x/X_0)]$$

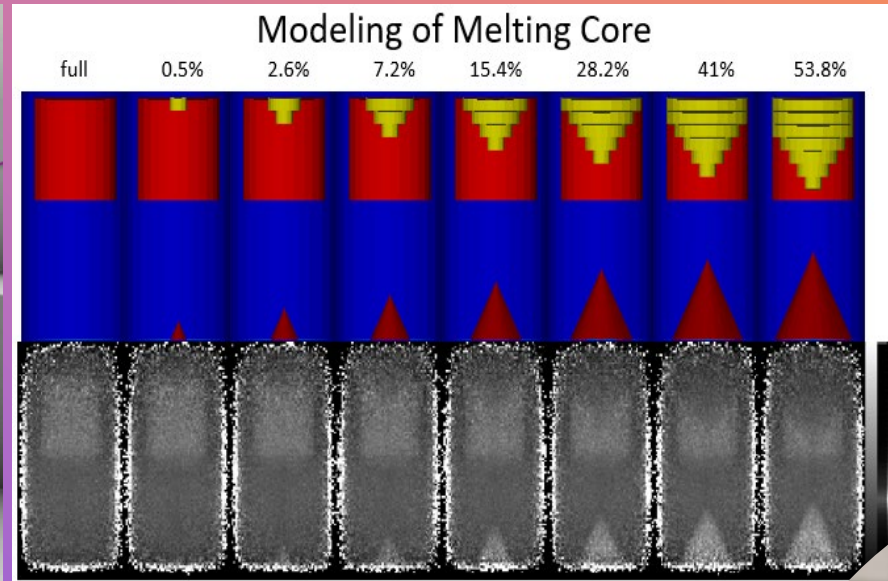
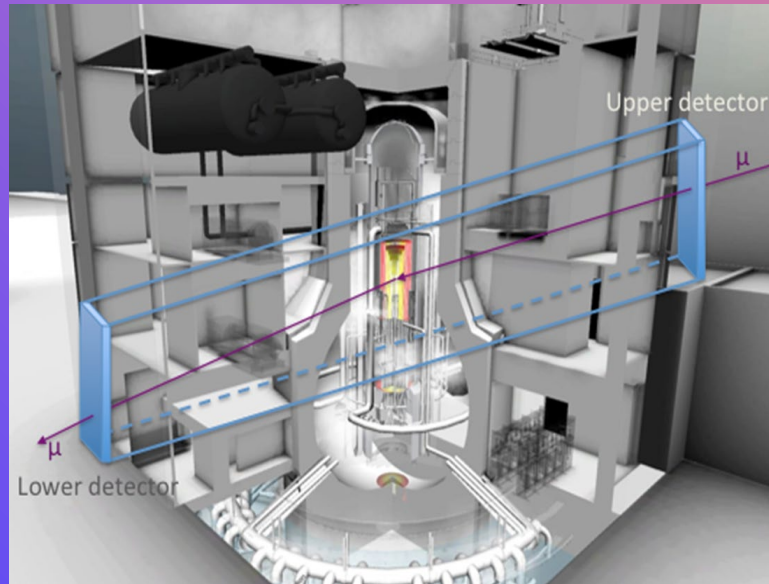
V. Highland *NIM* 129, 497 (1975)

G. Lynch and O.Dahl *NIM B58*, 6 (1991)

Multiple Coulomb Scattering



FUKUSHIMA



K.Borozdin et al. *Cosmic Ray Radiography of the Damaged Cores of the Fukushima Reactors*, Phys.Rev.Lett. 109, 152501 (2012)

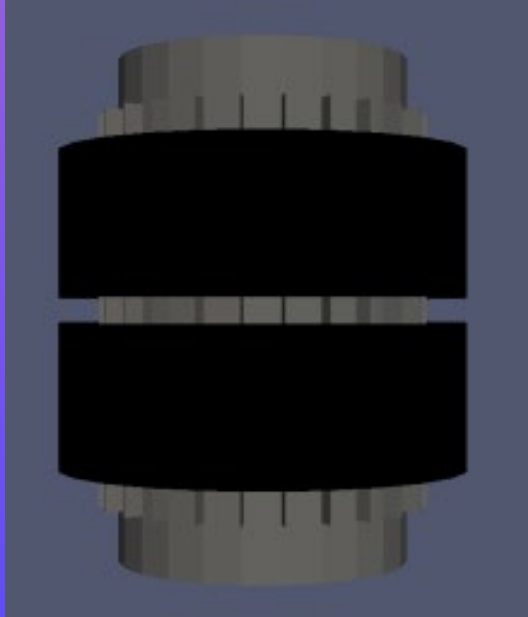
C.Morris et al. *Imaging Fukushima Daiichi Reactors with Muons*, AIP Advances 3, 052133 (2013)

Feasibility of specific application
Detailed simulations of the object
Runs on supercomputer

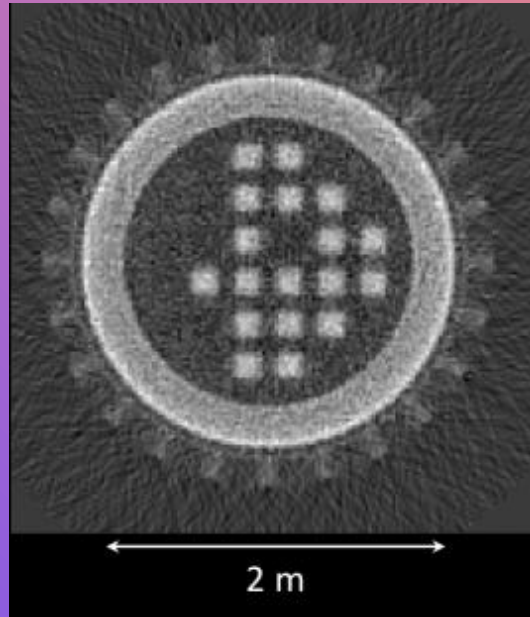


SPENT FUEL

GEANT4 SIMULATION



RECONSTRUCTED IMAGE



Poulson et al NIM A 842 (2017)

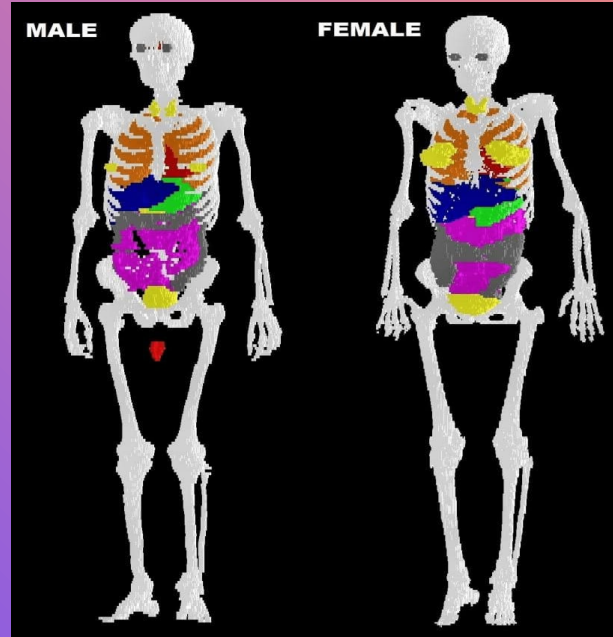
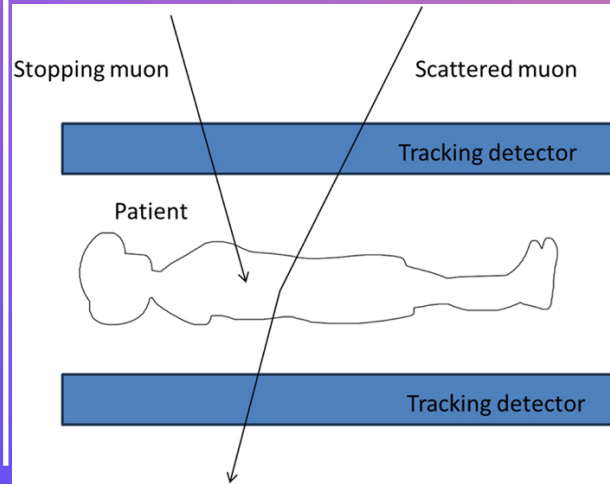


Development of new image reconstruction techniques

GDML integration

Related work presented in the talks today by Reshma Ughade and Adam Hecht, as well as several talks tomorrow

MEDICAL IMAGING .



C.Morris et al. J. Appl. Phys.
137, 124503 (2025)

Feasibility studies

Talk by Noemi Zabari today





NBA Finals start tomorrow

THANK YOU!

kbor@sandiacenter.com

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/konstantin-borozdin-313019a/>