



兰州大学  
LANZHOU UNIVERSITY

# Installing and Running

23rd FLUKA Beginner's Course  
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# Installing and Running

## How to download and install FLUKA



Download the FLUKA software from either the:

- FLUKA website <http://www.fluka.org>

It is mandatory to be registered as FLUKA user.

Follow the link:

<http://www.fluka.org/download.html>

After registration, using your **FLUKA user-id (fuid)** and **password**, you can proceed to download the latest official release version. FLUKA releases have a numbering scheme like:

Fluka<major revision>.<minor revision><patch level>(.respin)



The currently available distribution files are:

## ■ Linux

fluka2024.1-linux-gfor64bit-9.4-glibc2.17-AA.tar.gz  
fluka2024.1-linux-gfor64bit-10.3-glibc2.32-AA.tar.gz  
fluka2024.1-linux-gfor64bit-10.5-glibc2.17-AA.tar.gz  
fluka2024.1-linux-gfor64bit-11.4-glibc2.35-AA.tar.gz  
fluka2024.1-linux-gfor64bit-12.2-glibc2.35-AA.tar.gz  
fluka2024.1-linux-gfor64bit-13.2-glibc2.38-AA.tar.gz  
fluka2024.1-0.x86\_64.rpm  
fluka2024.1-0.i686.rpm  
fluka2024.1-linuxAA.tar.gz

64 bit, gfortran 9.4, glibc-2.17  
64 bit, gfortran 10.3, glibc-2.32  
64 bit, gfortran 10.5, glibc-2.17  
64 bits, gfortran 11.4, glibc 2.35  
64 bit, gfortran 12.2, glibc 2.35  
64 bit, gfortran 13.2, glibc-2.38  
rpm 64 bit, gfortran-13.2  
rpm 32/64 bit G77  
32/64bit G77

## ■ MAC Apple Silicon (M1/2/3)

fluka2024.1-macm123-gfor64bit-12.3-AA.tar.gz

64 bit, gfortran 12.3

## ■ MAC intel

fluka2024.1-mac-gfor64bit-12.2-AA.tar.gz  
fluka2024.1-mac-gfor64bit-13.2-AA.tar.gz

64 bit, gfortran 12.2  
64 bit, gfortran 13.2

# Installing and Running

## How to download and install FLUKA from the tar file



Choose the file compatible with your operating system/compiler version and download it.

### Important!

Data files for Fluka2024.1.0 – **fluka2024.1-data.tar.gz** need to be downloaded as well, except if you are installing via \*rpm.

# Installing and Running

## How to download and install FLUKA – g77/gfortran



The installation for g77 and gfortran versions follow the same procedure.

**Attention!** For gfortran, you must ensure that you have the right gfortran and glibc versions:

```
ldd --version # check version of glibc
gfortran --version # check version of gcc-gfortran
```

Also, it is important to tell the system that we are using gfortran, either by setting another environment variable **FLUFOR** with

```
export FLUFOR=gfortran # sets FLUFOR in bash shell or similar
or setenv FLUFOR gfortran # sets FLUFOR in tcsh shell or similar
```

**or**, by choosing a name for the installation directory containing “gfor”, as in this course.



In the following instructions we assume you are using gfortran, having gfortran version  $\gamma\gamma.\gamma$  and glibc version  $\eta\eta.\eta$ , thus the tar file will be

`fluka2024.1-linux-gfor64bit- $\gamma\gamma.\gamma$ -glibc $\eta\eta.\eta$ .tar.gz`:

From a terminal/console window, create a directory `fluprogfor` under your home directory and install FLUKA.

```
cd # changes directory to your home
mkdir fluprogfor # creates a directory called fluprogfor
cd fluprogfor # changes to the fluprogfor directory
tar zxvf path-to-download/fluka2024.1-linux-gfor64bit- $\gamma\gamma.\gamma$ -glibc $\eta\eta.\eta$ .tar.gz #
expands the FLUKA package
tar zxvf path-to-download/fluka2024.1-linux-gfor64bit- $\gamma\gamma.\gamma$ -glibc $\eta\eta.\eta$ .tar.gz #
expands the data package
```

set the `FLUPRO` environment variable

```
export FLUPRO=$HOME/fluprogfor # sets FLUPRO in bash shell or similar
or setenv FLUPRO $HOME/fluprogfor # sets FLUPRO in tcsh shell or similar
make # builds a FLUKA executable and auxiliary programs
```

# Installing and Running

## How to download and install FLUKA from rpm



On systems supporting rpms you can install FLUKA via the rpm distribution file, depending on your architecture choose either `fluka2024.1-0.x86_64.rpm` (gfortran) or `fluka2024.1-0.i686.rpm` (g77)

**Note:** The gfortran rpm needs the **most recent** versions of compiler and glibc

Some Linux distributions offer graphical rpm installers; alternatively, you can install the rpm directly from the command line, for instance using:

```
rpm -ivh path-to/fluka2024.1-0.x86_64.rpm  
or  
dnf install path-to/fluka2024.1-0.x86_64.rpm
```

**Note:** In this way FLUKA will be installed in the system directory tree (`/usr/local`) and hence one needs **root privileges** (or according permissions via `sudo`) for the installation.

# Installing and Running \$FLUPRO!



**FLUPRO** must be set each time you compile or run FLUKA

To make environment variable settings persistent on your computer, you can add the following lines in your shell configuration file:

## ■ bash

```
cd emacs .bashrc #feel free to use other text editor and add
export FLUPRO=$HOME/fluprogfor
export FLUFOR=gfortran # if gfortran is required
export PATH=$PATH:$FLUPRO:$FLUPRO/flutil
```

## ■ tcsh

```
cd emacs .tcshrc #feel free to use other text editor and add
setenv FLUPRO $HOME/fluprogfor
setenv FLUFOR gfortran # if gfortran is required
setenv PATH $PATH:$FLUPRO:$FLUPRO/flutil
```

The changes will be activated on the next login or if you type the command

```
source $HOME/.bashrc
source $HOME/.tcshrc
```



# Installing and Running

## FLUKA release: main directory \$FLUPRO



### Main library

`libflukahp.a` (object collection)

### Physics data files:

<code>sigmapl.bin</code>	<code>jendl40.fyi</code>
<code>elasct.bin</code>	<code>xnloan.dat</code>
<code>neuxsc-ind_260.bin</code>	<code>nunstab.data</code>
<code>nuclear.bin</code>	<code>sid*.dat</code>
<code>fluodt.dat</code>	<code>grv*.grid</code>
<code>brems_fin.bin</code>	<code>CT14LL.pds</code>
<code>gxsect.bin</code>	<code>dpmjpar.dat</code>
<code>cohff.bin</code>	<code>cx*.bin</code>
<code>endf8r0.fyi</code>	<code>pwxs/*.pwx</code>
<code>incohff.bin</code>	<code>Fad/*</code>
<code>jef33.fyi</code>	<code>DDS/*</code>

### Basic Scripts (in \$FLUPRO/flutil):

`rfluka`  
`lfluka`  
`ldpmqmd`  
`fff`

### Random Number seed

`random.dat`

### Important Directories

`flukapro/` *all FLUKA commons*  
`usermvax/` *user routines*  
`flutil/` *general utilities*



## Working directory

- Reserve the \$FLUPRO directory for the FLUKA installation only.
- Simulations shall be run within separate working directories.
- The FLUKA code and scripts take care of retrieving all information, provided the environmental variable \$FLUPRO is set!
- you can check with:  
`env | grep FLUPRO`



## Available documentation in the installation folder

- **fluka2024.manual** ASCII version of the manual
- **FM.pdf** current version of the FLUKA manual
- CERN-2005-10.pdf historic FLUKA reference (not up to date)

You can always navigate the [manuals available online](#) at [www.fluka.org](http://www.fluka.org) or, when using **Flair**, press F1 to get an interactive manual.

It is important to keep in mind that the [fluka-discussion list archive](#) contains extensive information which can be relevant for new users; regarding new features you can always consult the [Release Notes](#) included in the FLUKA installation folder.



- FLUKA is driven by the user almost completely by means of an input file (\*.inp) which contains directives issued in the form of **data cards**
- The standard release provides a simple case - **example.inp** - to test the installation, in three different formats (free, fixed and mixed)
- Different examples are used along this course, which will be varied in different ways for didactic reasons, generally increasing in complexity as we progress throughout the course.
- A solution of each exercise is also included so you can compare the results at the end.

# Installing and Running

## Prepare the working space



- For convenience of access, place the exercise materials (i.e., [Exercises](#)) in a folder of your choice and create a directory for each exercise e.g., [new\\_running](#) where all the necessary input and output file will be stored.

### Remember

We don't want to run inside the \$FLUPRO directory, so you can always use your home folder:

```
cd # changes directory to your home
mkdir new_running # same pattern for other exercises
cd new_running
cp path-to-download/Exercises/example_running/example_running.inp .
mv example_running.inp your_running.inp
```

## Units and Coordinates

- FLUKA units:

- Length [cm]
- Mass [g]
- Energy [GeV]
- Time [s]

- FLUKA coordinate system:

- Right-handed Cartesian system
- By default, the primary beam is directed along the z axis, positive direction
  - *Obviously this can be changed by the user.*

# Installing and Running

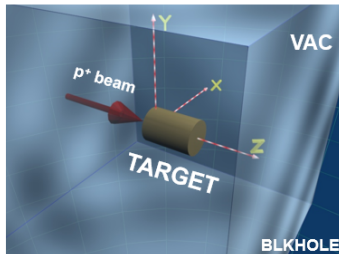
## A simple example



```

TITLE
FLUKA Course Exercise
*.....1.....2.....3.....4.....5.....6.....7.....*
DEFAULTS
                                NEW-DEFA
BEAM          -3.5      -0.8      -1.7      0.0      0.0      1.0PROTON
BEAMPOS       0.0       0.0      -0.1      0.0      0.0      0.0
*.....1.....2.....3.....4.....5.....6.....7.....*
GEOBEGIN
    0  0                      Cylindrical Target
SPH BLK 0.0  0.0  0.0  10000.
* vacuum box
RPP VOI -1000. 1000. -1000. 1000. -1000. 1000.
* Lead target
RCC TARG 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 10. 5.
END
* Regions
* Black Hole
BLKHOLE 5  +BLK -VOI
* Void around
VAC      5  +VOI -TARG
* Target
TARGET  5  +TARG
END
GEOEND
*.....1.....2.....3.....4.....5.....6.....7.....*
ASSIGNMA      BLKHOLE      BLKHOLE
ASSIGNMA      VACUUM       VAC
ASSIGNMA      LEAD         TARGET
*.....1.....2.....3.....4.....5.....6.....7.....*
RANDOMIZ       1.0
START         10.0      0.0
STOP
    
```

Geometry



After creating your standard FLUKA input we can run the first example:

*Script that runs FLUKA*

*# of last cycle (default 5)*

*# of previous cycle (default 0)*

```
$FLUPRO/flutil/rfluka -e $FLUPRO/flukahp -N0 -M1 your_running
```

*Specifies the executable name, if it is flukahp in \$FLUPRO (default) then it can be omitted*

*Name of the input file, must be a file named \*.inp and omitting the .inp as above*



# Installing and Running

## What rfluka does 1/2



- It creates a temporary subdirectory: `$PWD/fluka_nnnn` – **\$PWD** stands for the current directory and **nnnn** is the system process-id assigned to FLUKA – There all necessary logical links are established and output files are written.

<code>elasct.bin</code>	→ <code>\$FLUPRO/elasct.bin</code>
<code>fluodt.dat</code>	→ <code>\$FLUPRO/fluodt.dat</code>
<code>fort.1</code>	→ <code>../ranexample_running001</code>
<code>fort.11</code>	→ <code>example_running001.out</code>
<code>fort.15</code>	→ <code>example_running001.err</code>
<code>fort.16</code>	→ <code>"geometry scratch"</code>
<code>fort.2</code>	→ <code>ranexample_running002</code>
<code>neuxsc.bin</code>	→ <code>\$FLUPRO/neuxsc-ind_260.bin</code>
<code>nuclear.bin</code>	→ <code>\$FLUPRO/nuclear.bin</code>
<code>sigmapl.bin</code>	→ <code>\$FLUPRO/sigmapl.bin</code>
<code>xnloan.dat</code>	→ <code>\$FLUPRO/xnloan.dat</code>

### For non-experts in Fortran

`fort.xx` is the default file name for writing/reading in Fortran, `xx` being a logical unit number. Can be substituted of course with a real name.



- As described in the introduction to Monte Carlo:
  - FLUKA uses **pseudo-random** numbers to simulate physics processes
  - Many “**histories**”, or “**primary particles**” are needed to achieve statistical convergence
  - Statistical errors can be derived as RMS from “batches” of primaries
- rfluka takes care of running several “batches” or cycles
  - numbering them for convenience and further use and giving appropriate names to the output files: i.e., `your_running002.out` is the output from input `your_running.inp`'s 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle.
  - How many cycles? Defined by the `-M` and `-N` parameters, from cycle `N+1` to cycle `M`
    - The collection of these cycles is called a “run”
  - The pseudo-random sequence is preserved by FLUKA + rfluka:
    - 1 Initial random copied from `$FLUPRO` or generated (see lecture) as `ranyourinp001`
    - 2 At the end of the  $N^{\text{th}}$  cycle, random written to `ranyourinp###` , `###=N+1`
    - 3 To be used as starting point for the next cycle



Assuming everything went O.K. the temporary directory disappears and the relevant results are copied in the start directory after:

- Removing links
- Removing temporary files
- Saving output and random number seed\*
- Saving additional files from scoring requested by the user (see scoring lecture):

```
Moving fort.33 to /home/username/new_running/your_running001_fort.33
Moving fort.47 to /home/username/new_running/your_running001_fort.47
Moving fort.48 to /home/username/new_running/your_running001_fort.48
Moving fort.49 to /home/username/new_running/your_running001_fort.49
Moving fort.50 to /home/username/new_running/your_running001_fort.50
```

- End of FLUKA run

\*by default you have `your_running00n.log`, `your_running00n.out`, `your_running00n.err` (`n=cycle`) and `ranyour_running00m` (seed for cycle `m = n+1`)

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## Checking FLUKA during the run



Look in the temporary directory:

- a Initialization phase ends when the \*.err file is created.
- b Inside the \*.err file (and at the end of \*.out file) the progress in the number of events is listed immediately after the line with "NEXT SEEDS":

```
NEXT SEEDS: C8888D    0    0    0    0    0 33B49B1    0    0    0
              1        9        9        0.0000000E+00    1.0000000E+30
0
NEXT SEEDS: C88894    0    0    0    0    0 33B49B1    0    0    0
              2        8        5.0010681E-03    1.0000000E+30
0
NEXT SEEDS: C8889A    0    0    0    0    0 33B49B1    0    0    0
              3        7        3.3340454E-03    1.0000000E+30
0
.....
```

**EVENTS ALREADY  
COMPLETED**

**EVENTS TO BE  
COMPLETED**

**AVERAGE CPU TIME  
CONSUMED PER EVENT**

## Always open the output file

- The standard `inp###.out` file contains plenty of information
- If FLUKA crashes, it gives hints on the reason
- It tells you how FLUKA interpreted your input cards → spot subtle errors
- It lists the physics data used by FLUKA
- It provides a summary of the cycle: energy deposited, CPU time, particles produced...
- When setting up a simulation, it is a good practice to **always run a short test and check the output file**
- If something in the results puzzles you, **always check in the output file** that the settings are what you meant to have.
- We will show you examples all along the course

# Installing and Running

## Output-Timing of the run- number of primaries



Use it to choose the number of primaries/cycle

**Q: how many primaries?**

**A: as many as needed to reach a good statistical convergence**

**Q: what is a “reasonable” CPU time for a long cycle ?**

**A: less than one day, to be on the safe side for crashes**

**Q: in this example, how many primaries can be run in a 10h cycle?**

**A:  $3600/6.8 \cdot 10^{-3} \approx 5 \cdot 10^5$**

**Q: how many cycles?**

**A: minimum 5 to be able to calculate statistics**

```
Total number of primaries run:          1000 for a weight of: 1.000000E+03
!!! Please remember that all results are normalized per unit weight !!!
The main stack maximum occupancy was    81 out of    40000 available

Total number of inelastic interactions (stars):          1722
Total weight of the inelastic interactions (stars): 1.722000E+03

Total number of elastic interactions:          1582
Total weight of the elastic interactions: 1.582000E+03

Total number of low energy neutron interactions:          20821
Total weight of the low energy neutron interactions: 2.082621E+04

Total CPU time used to follow all primary particles:  6.843E+00 seconds of:
Average CPU time used to follow a primary particle:  6.843E-03 seconds of:
Maximum CPU time used to follow a primary particle:  4.699E-02 seconds of:
Residual CPU time left:                               1.000E+30 seconds of:
```

**CPU time is not real  
time!**



## Complete the run

- add statistics by running more cycles:
- `$FLUPRO/flutil/rfluka -N1 -M5 your_running`
- While it runs, have a look

## Output: Energy Balance

3.5000E+00 (100.%) GeV available per beam particle divided into			
Prompt radiation		Radioactive decays	
2.9309E-01 ( 8.4%)	0.0000E+00 ( 0.0%)	GeV hadron and muon dE/dx	
1.1665E-01 ( 3.3%)	0.0000E+00 ( 0.0%)	GeV electro-magnetic showers	
8.8952E-03 ( 0.3%)	0.0000E+00 ( 0.0%)	GeV nuclear recoils and heavy fragments	
0.0000E+00 ( 0.0%)	0.0000E+00 ( 0.0%)	GeV particles below threshold	
0.0000E+00 ( 0.0%)	0.0000E+00 ( 0.0%)	GeV residual excitation energy	
1.1821E-03 ( 0.0%)	0.0000E+00 ( 0.0%)	GeV low energy neutrons	
2.9282E+00 (83.7%)	0.0000E+00 ( 0.0%)	GeV particles escaping the system	
1.6105E-02 ( 0.5%)	0.0000E+00 ( 0.0%)	GeV particles discarded	
0.0000E+00 ( 0.0%)	0.0000E+00 ( 0.0%)	GeV particles out of time limit	
1.3589E-01 ( 3.9%)		GeV missing	

Escaping the system: out of the geometry and going to other blackholes (see lecture on geometry). If you find 100%... maybe something is wrong...

Discarded particles (i.e., neutrinos).

Missing Energy, calculated by difference:

- pure EM problems it should be 0 within the rounding accuracy;
- in hadronic problems it is the energy spent in endothermic nuclear reactions ( $\approx 8$  MeV/n), or gained in exothermic (i.e., mostly neutron capture): it is  $-\text{total } Q$ .





### How to make a “clean” stop of FLUKA run

- Here “clean” means closing all files, writing scoring output and removing the temporary directory and files.
- In the temporary run directory:

```
touch fluka.stop # to stop the present cycle, or  
kill -SIGTERM <process_id> # the same id as in the fluka_xxxx, or  
touch rfluka.stop # to stop all remaining cycles
```
- The clean stop will occur at the next CPU-time check, i.e., at the same time when printing the random number calls: see **START** card instructions (5<sup>th</sup> parameter) for the frequency of these checks!
- If the check is never performed it means that the program has entered an infinite loop (probably a fault in user code)

## Mac users

- A Mac version is available
  - Apple Silicon (M1/2/3)
  - Apple Intel
- Users shall have **gfortran** installed.
- For the installation of the flair graphical interface, instructions will be provided briefly in the webpage.

## MS Windows users

- A VM distribution based on Docker is available:  
<https://flukadocker.github.io/F4D/>
  - The instructions provided allow you to install Docker, generate your personal Docker image with FLUKA and create your first FLUKA container
  - There is also a list of known issues and instructions to update the FLUKA Docker image
- Scripts to install FLUKA on Windows 10/11 using WSL:  
[https://github.com/flukadocker/fluka\\_wsl](https://github.com/flukadocker/fluka_wsl)
  - These scripts will set up and install FLUKA on Windows 10/11 using the Windows Subsystem for Linux (WSL).
  - It lets users run GNU/Linux environment - including most command-line tools, utilities, and applications - directly on Windows, unmodified, without the overhead of a virtual machine.

[www.fluka.org](http://www.fluka.org)