
PIConGPU Documentation

Release 0.4.0

The PIconGPU Community

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Particle-in-Cell Simulations for the Exascale Era

PConGPU is a fully relativistic, manycore, 3D3V particle-in-cell (PIC) code. The PIC algorithm is a central tool in plasma physics. It describes the dynamics of a plasma by computing the motion of electrons and ions in the plasma based on Maxwell's equations.

Generally, **follow the manual pages in-order** to get started. Individual chapters are based on the information of the chapters before. In case you are already fluent in compiling C++ projects and HPC, running PIC simulations or scientific data analysis feel free to jump the respective sections.

Note: We are migrating our [wiki](#) to this manual, but some pages might still be missing. We also have an [official homepage](#) .

Note: Are you looking for our latest Doxygen docs for the API?

See <http://computationalradiationphysics.github.io/picongpu>

1.1 Introduction

Section author: Axel Huebl

Installing PConGPU means *installing C++ libraries* that PConGPU depends on and *setting environment variables* to find those dependencies. The first part is usually the job of a system administrator while the second part needs to be configured on the user-side.

Depending on your experience, role, computing environment and expectations for optimal hardware utilization, you have several ways to install and select PConGPU's dependencies. Choose your favorite *install and environment management method* below, young padawan, and follow the corresponding sections of the next chapters.

1.1.1 Ways to Install

Choose *one* of the install methods below to get started:

Load Modules

On HPC systems and clusters, software is usually provided by system administrators via a module system (e.g. *[modules]*, *[Lmod]*). In case our *software dependencies* are available, we usually create a file in our \$HOME named *<queueName>_picongpu.profile*. It loads according modules and sets *helper environment variables*.

Important: For many HPC systems we already prepared and maintain an environment for you which will run out-of-the-box. See if yours is *in the list* so you can skip the installation completely!

Spack

[Spack] is a flexible package manager that can build and organize software dependencies for you. It can be configured once for your hardware architecture to create optimally tuned binaries and provides modulefile support (e.g. *[modules]*, *[Lmod]*). Those auto-build modules manage your environment variables and allow easy switching between versions, configurations and compilers.

Build from Source

You choose a supported C++ compiler and configure, compile and install all missing dependencies from source. You are responsible to manage the right versions and configurations. Performance will be ideal if architecture is chosen correctly (and/or if build directly on your hardware). You then set environment variables to find those installs.

Conda

We currently do not have an official conda install (yet). Due to pre-build binaries, performance will be sub-ideal and HPC cluster support (e.g. MPI) might be very limited. Useful for small desktop or single-node runs.

Nvidia-Docker

Not yet officially supported but we already provide a `Dockerfile` to get started. Performance might be sub-ideal if the image is not build for the specific local hardware again. Useful for small desktop or single-node runs. We are also working on [Singularity](#) images.

1.1.2 References

1.2 Instructions

Section author: Axel Huebl

As explained in the previous section, select and **follow exactly one** of the following install options.

See also:

You will need to understand how to use [the terminal](#).

Warning: Our spack package is still in beta state and is continuously improved. Please feel free to report any issues that you might encounter.

1.2.1 Spack

Section author: Axel Huebl

Preparation

First [install spack](#) itself via:

```
# get spack
git clone https://github.com/spack/spack.git $HOME/src/spack

# activate the spack environment
source $HOME/src/spack/share/spack/setup-env.sh

# build spack's dependencies via spack :)
spack bootstrap

# install a supported compiler
spack compiler list | grep gcc@7.3.0 | spack install gcc@7.3.0 && spack load gcc@7.
↪3.0 && spack compiler add
```

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```
# add the PICongGPU repository
git clone https://github.com/ComputationalRadiationPhysics/spack-repo.git $HOME/
↪src/spack-repo
spack repo add $HOME/src/spack-repo
```

Note: When you next time open a terminal or log back into the machine, make sure to activate the spack environment again via:

```
source $HOME/src/spack/share/spack/setup-env.sh
```

Install

The installation of the latest version of PICongGPU is now as easy as:

```
spack install picongpu %gcc@7.3.0
```

Use PICongGPU

PICongGPU can now be loaded with

```
spack load picongpu
```

For more information on *variants* of the picongpu package in spack run `spack info picongpu` and refer to the [official spack documentation](#).

Note: PICongGPU can also run *without a GPU*! For example for our OpenMP backend, just specify the backend with `backend=omp2b` for the two commands above:

```
spack install picongpu backend=omp2b
spack load picongpu backend=omp2b
```

Note: If the install fails or you want to compile for CUDA 8.0, try using GCC 5.3.0:

```
spack compiler list | grep gcc@5.3.0 | spack install gcc@5.3.0 && spack load gcc@5.
↪3.0 && spack compiler add
spack install picongpu %gcc@5.3.0
spack load picongpu %gcc@5.3.0
```

If the install fails or you want to compile for CUDA 9.0/9.1, try using GCC 5.5.0:

```
spack compiler list | grep gcc@5.5.0 | spack install gcc@5.5.0 && spack load gcc@5.
↪5.0 && spack compiler add
spack install picongpu %gcc@5.5.0
spack load picongpu %gcc@5.5.0
```

See also:

You will need to understand how to use [the terminal](#).

Warning: Docker images are experimental and not yet fully automated or integrated.

1.2.2 Docker

Section author: Axel Huebl

Preparation

First install `nvidia-docker` for your distribution. Use version 2 or newer.

Install

The download of a pre-configured image with the latest version of PICongPU is now as easy as:

```
docker pull ax3l/picongpu
```

Use PICongPU

Start a pre-configured LWFA live-simulation with

```
docker run --runtime=nvidia -p 2459:2459 -t ax3l/picongpu /bin/bash -lc start_lwfa
# open firefox and isaac client
```

or just open the container and run your own:

```
docker run --runtime=nvidia -it ax3l/picongpu
```

Note: PICongPU can also run *without a GPU*! We will provide more image variants in the future.

See also:

You will need to understand how to use [the terminal](#).

Note: This section is a short introduction in case you are missing a few software packages, want to try out a cutting edge development version of a software or have no system administrator or software package manager to build and install software for you.

1.2.3 From Source

Section author: Axel Huebl

Don't be afraid young physicist, self-compiling C/C++ projects is easy, fun and profitable!

Compiling a project from source essentially requires three steps:

1. configure the project and find its dependencies
2. build the project
3. install the project

All of the above steps can be performed without administrative rights ("root" or "superuser") as long as the install is not targeted at a system directory (such as `/usr`) but inside a user-writable directory (such as `$HOME` or a project directory).

Preparation

In order to compile projects from source, we assume you have individual directories created to store *source code*, *build temporary files* and *install* the projects to:

```
# source code
mkdir $HOME/src
# temporary build directory
mkdir $HOME/build
# install target for dependencies
mkdir $HOME/lib
```

Note that on some supercomputing systems, you might need to install the final software outside of your home to make dependencies available during run-time (when the simulation runs). Use a different path for the last directory then.

Step-by-Step

Compiling can differ in two principle ways: building *inside* the source directory (“in-source”) and in a *temporary directory* (“out-of-source”). Modern projects prefer the latter and use a build system such as [\[CMake\]](#). An example could look like this

```
# go to an empty, temporary build directory
cd $HOME/build
rm -rf ../build/*

# configurate, build and install into $HOME/lib/project
cmake -DCMAKE_INSTALL_PREFIX=$HOME/lib/project $HOME/src/project_to_compile
make
make install
```

Often, you want to pass further options to CMake with `-DOPTION=VALUE` or modify them interactively with `ccmake .` after running the initial `cmake` command. The second step which compiles the project can in many cases be parallelized by `make -j`. In the final install step, you might need to prefix it with `sudo` in case `CMAKE_INSTALL_PREFIX` is pointing to a system directory.

Some older projects still build *in-source* and use a build system called *autotools*. The syntax is still very similar:

```
# go to the source directory of the project
cd $HOME/src/project_to_compile

# configurate, build and install into $HOME/lib/project
configure --prefix=$HOME/lib/project
make
make install
```

That’s all! Continue with the following section to build our dependencies.

References

If anything goes wrong, an overview of the full list of PICongPU dependencies is provided in [section Dependencies](#).

After installing, the last step is the setup of a [profile](#).

See also:

You will need to understand how to use [the terminal](#), what are [environment variables](#) and please read our [compiling introduction](#).

Note: If you are a scientific user at a supercomputing facility we might have already prepared a software setup for you. See the [following chapter](#) if you can skip this step fully or in part by loading existing modules on those systems.

1.3 Dependencies

Section author: Axel Huebl

1.3.1 Overview

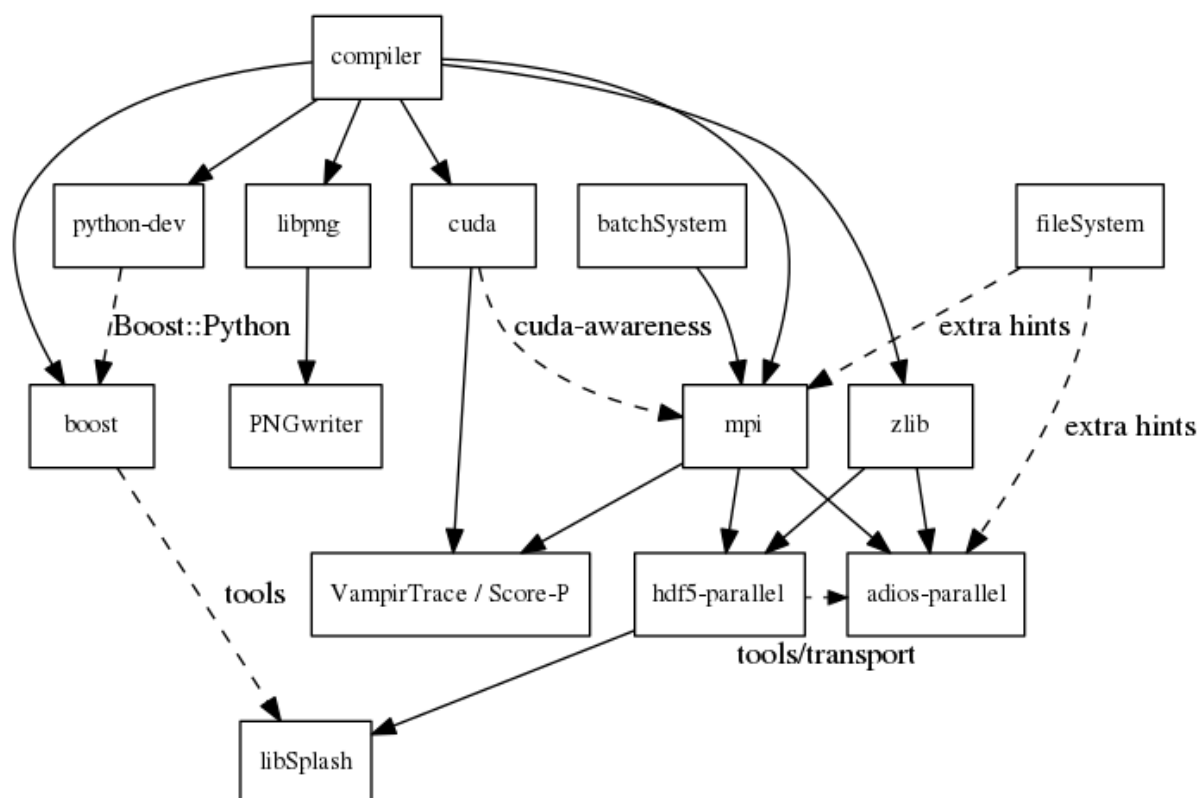


Fig. 1: Overview of inter-library dependencies for parallel execution of PICongPU on a typical HPC system. Due to common binary incompatibilities between compilers, MPI and boost versions, we recommend to organize software with a version-aware package manager such as [spack](#) and to deploy a hierarchical module system such as [lmod](#). A Lmod example setup can be found [here](#).

1.3.2 Requirements

Mandatory

gcc

- 4.9 - 7 (if you want to build for Nvidia GPUs, supported compilers depend on your current [CUDA version](#))
 - CUDA 8.0: Use gcc 4.9 - 5.3
 - CUDA 9.0 - 9.1: Use gcc 4.9 - 5.5

- CUDA 9.2 - 10.0: Use gcc 4.9 - 7
- *note:* be sure to build all libraries/dependencies with the *same* gcc version
- *Debian/Ubuntu:*
 - `sudo apt-get install gcc-4.9 g++-4.9 build-essential`
 - `sudo update-alternatives --install /usr/bin/gcc gcc /usr/bin/gcc-4.9 60 --slave /usr/bin/g++ g++ /usr/bin/g++-4.9`
- *Arch Linux:*
 - `sudo pacman --sync base-devel`
 - if the installed version of **gcc** is too new, [compile an older gcc](#)
- *Spack:*
 - `spack install gcc@4.9.4`
 - make it the default in your [packages.yaml](#) or [suffix all following](#) `spack install` commands with a *space* and `%gcc@4.9.4`

CMake

- 3.10.0 or higher
- *Debian/Ubuntu:* `sudo apt-get install cmake file cmake-curses-gui`
- *Arch Linux:* `sudo pacman --sync cmake`
- *Spack:* `spack install cmake`

MPI 2.3+

- **OpenMPI 1.7+ / MVAPICH2 1.8+** or similar
- for running on Nvidia GPUs, perform a [GPU aware MPI install](#) *after* installing CUDA
- *Debian/Ubuntu:* `sudo apt-get install libopenmpi-dev`
- *Arch Linux:* `sudo pacman --sync openmpi`
- *Spack:*
 - *GPU support:* `spack install openmpi+cuda`
 - *CPU only:* `spack install openmpi`
- *environment:*
 - `export MPI_ROOT=<MPI_INSTALL>`
 - as long as CUDA awareness (openmpi+cuda) is missing: `export OMPI_MCA_mpi_leave_pinned=0`

zlib

- *Debian/Ubuntu:* `sudo apt-get install zlib1g-dev`
- *Arch Linux:* `sudo pacman --sync zlib`
- *Spack:* `spack install zlib`
- *from source:*
 - `./configure --prefix=$HOME/lib/zlib`

- make && make install
- *environment:* (assumes install from source in \$HOME/lib/zlib)
 - export ZLIB_ROOT=\$HOME/lib/zlib
 - export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=\$ZLIB_ROOT/lib:\$LD_LIBRARY_PATH
 - export CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH=\$ZLIB_ROOT:\$CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH

boost

- 1.62.0 - 1.68.0 (program_options, regex, filesystem, system, math, serialization and header-only libs, optional: fiber with context, thread, chrono, atomic, date_time)
- *note:* for CUDA 9+ support, use boost 1.65.1 or newer
- *Debian/Ubuntu:*

```
sudo apt-get install libboost-program-options-dev
libboost-regex-dev libboost-filesystem-dev libboost-system-dev
libboost-thread-dev libboost-chrono-dev libboost-atomic-dev
libboost-date-time-dev libboost-math-dev libboost-serialization-dev
libboost-fiber-dev libboost-context-dev
```
- *Arch Linux:*

```
sudo pacman --sync boost
```
- *Spack:*

```
spack install boost
```
- *from source:*
 - ```
curl -Lo boost_1_65_1.tar.gz https://dl.bintray.com/boostorg/
release/1.65.1/source/boost_1_65_1.tar.gz
```
  - ```
tar -xzf boost_1_65_1.tar.gz
```
 - ```
cd boost_1_65_1
```
  - ```
./bootstrap.sh --with-libraries=atomic,chrono,context,date_time,
fiber,filesystem,math,program_options,regex,serialization,system,
thread --prefix=$HOME/lib/boost
```
 - ```
./b2 cxxflags="-std=c++11" -j4 && ./b2 install
```
- *environment:* (assumes install from source in \$HOME/lib/boost)
  - export BOOST\_ROOT=\$HOME/lib/boost
  - export LD\_LIBRARY\_PATH=\$BOOST\_ROOT/lib:\$LD\_LIBRARY\_PATH

## git

- 1.7.9.5 or higher
- *Debian/Ubuntu:*

```
sudo apt-get install git
```
- *Arch Linux:*

```
sudo pacman --sync git
```
- *Spack:*

```
spack install git
```

## rsync

- *Debian/Ubuntu:*

```
sudo apt-get install rsync
```
- *Arch Linux:*

```
sudo pacman --sync rsync
```
- *Spack:*

```
spack install rsync
```



## alpaka 0.3.4

- [alpaka](#) is included in the PConGPU source code

## cupla 0.1.0

- [cupla](#) is included in the PConGPU source code

## mallocMC 2.3.0crp

- only required for CUDA backend
- [mallocMC](#) is included in the PConGPU source code

## PConGPU Source Code

- `git clone https://github.com/ComputationalRadiationPhysics/picongpu.git`  
`$HOME/src/picongpu`
  - *optional:* update the source code with `cd $HOME/src/picongpu && git fetch && git pull`
  - *optional:* change to a different branch with `git branch (show)` and `git checkout <BranchName> (switch)`
- *environment:*
  - `export PICSRC=$PICHOME/src/picongpu`
  - `export PIC_EXAMPLES=$PICSRC/share/picongpu/examples`
  - `export PATH=$PICSRC:$PATH`
  - `export PATH=$PICSRC/bin:$PATH`
  - `export PATH=$PICSRC/src/tools/bin:$PATH`
  - `export PYTHONPATH=$PICSRC/lib/python:$PYTHONPATH`

## Optional Libraries

### CUDA

- [8.0 - 10.0](#)
- required if you want to run on Nvidia GPUs
- *Debian/Ubuntu:* `sudo apt-get install nvidia-cuda-toolkit`
- *Arch Linux:* `sudo pacman --sync cuda`
- *Spack:* `spack install cuda`
- at least one **CUDA** capable GPU
- *compute capability:* `sm_20` or higher (for CUDA 9+: `sm_30` or higher)
- [full list](#) of CUDA GPUs and their *compute capability*
- [More](#) is always [better](#). Especially, if we are talking GPUs :-)
- *environment:*
  - `export CUDA_ROOT=<CUDA_INSTALL>`

If you do not install the following libraries, you will not have the full amount of PICongPU plugins. We recommend to install at least **pngwriter** and either **libSplash** (+ **HDF5**) or **ADIOS**.

### pngwriter

- 0.7.0+
- *Spack*: `spack install pngwriter`
- *from source*:
  - download from [github.com/pngwriter/pngwriter](https://github.com/pngwriter/pngwriter)
  - Requires **libpng**
    - \* *Debian/Ubuntu*: `sudo apt-get install libpng-dev`
    - \* *Arch Linux*: `sudo pacman --sync libpng`
  - example:
    - \* `mkdir -p ~/src ~/build ~/lib`
    - \* `git clone https://github.com/pngwriter/pngwriter.git ~/src/pngwriter/`
    - \* `cd ~/build`
    - \* `cmake -DCMAKE_INSTALL_PREFIX=$HOME/lib/pngwriter ~/src/pngwriter`
    - \* `make install`
  - *environment*: (assumes install from source in `$HOME/lib/pngwriter`)
    - \* `export CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH=$HOME/lib/pngwriter:$CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH`
    - \* `export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$HOME/lib/pngwriter/lib:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH`

### libSplash

- 1.7.0+ (requires *HDF5*, *boost program-options*)
- *Debian/Ubuntu dependencies*: `sudo apt-get install libhdf5-openmpi-dev libboost-program-options-dev`
- *Arch Linux dependencies*: `sudo pacman --sync hdf5-openmpi boost`
- *Spack*: `spack install libsplash ^hdf5~fortran`
- *from source*:
  - `mkdir -p ~/src ~/build ~/lib`
  - `git clone https://github.com/ComputationalRadiationPhysics/libSplash.git ~/src/splash/`
  - `cd ~/build`
  - `cmake -DCMAKE_INSTALL_PREFIX=$HOME/lib/splash -DSplash_USE_MPI=ON -DSplash_USE_PARALLEL=ON ~/src/splash`
  - `make install`
- *environment*: (assumes install from source in `$HOME/lib/splash`)
  - `export CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH=$HOME/lib/splash:$CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH`
  - `export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$HOME/lib/splash/lib:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH`

## HDF5

- 1.8.6+
- standard shared version (no c++, enable parallel)
- *Debian/Ubuntu*: `sudo apt-get install libhdf5-openmpi-dev`
- *Arch Linux*: `sudo pacman --sync hdf5-openmpi`
- *Spack*: `spack install hdf5~fortran`
- *from source*:
  - `mkdir -p ~/src ~/build ~/lib`
  - `cd ~/src`
  - download hdf5 source code from [release list of the HDF5 group](#), for example:
  - `curl -Lo hdf5-1.8.20.tar.gz https://support.hdfgroup.org/ftp/HDF5/releases/hdf5-1.8/hdf5-1.8.20/src/hdf5-1.8.20.tar.gz`
  - `tar -xzf hdf5-1.8.20.tar.gz`
  - `cd hdf5-1.8.20`
  - `./configure --enable-parallel --enable-shared --prefix $HOME/lib/hdf5/`
  - `make`
  - *optional*: `make test`
  - `make install`
  - If you encounter errors related to linking MPI during `./configure`, you might try setting the compiler manually via `./configure --enable-parallel --enable-shared --prefix $HOME/lib/hdf5/ CC=mpicc CXX=mpic++`.
- *environment*: (assumes install from source in `$HOME/lib/hdf5`)
  - `export HDF5_ROOT=$HOME/lib/hdf5`
  - `export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$HDF5_ROOT/lib:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH`

## splash2txt

- requires *libSplash* and *boost* `program_options`, `regex`
- converts slices in dumped hdf5 files to plain txt matrices
- assume you [downloaded](#requirements) PICongPU to `PICSRC=$HOME/src/picongpu`
- `mkdir -p ~/build && cd ~/build`
- `cmake -DCMAKE_INSTALL_PREFIX=$PICSRC/src/tools/bin $PICSRC/src/tools/splash2txt`
- `make`
- `make install`
- *environment*:
  - `export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/src/splash2txt/build`
- *options*:
  - `splash2txt --help`
  - list all available datasets: `splash2txt --list <FILE_PREFIX>`

## png2gas

- requires *libSplash*, *pngwriter* and *boost* `program_options`)
- converts png files to hdf5 files that can be used as an input for a species initial density profiles
- compile and install exactly as *splash2txt* above

## ADIOS

- 1.13.1+ (requires *MPI* and *zlib*)
- *Debian/Ubuntu*: `sudo apt-get install libadios-dev libadios-bin`
- *Arch Linux* using an [AUR helper](#): `pacaur --sync libadios`
- *Arch Linux* using the [AUR](#) manually:
  - `sudo pacman --sync --needed base-devel`
  - `git clone https://aur.archlinux.org/libadios.git`
  - `cd libadios`
  - `makepkg -sri`
- *Spack*: `spack install adios`
- *from source*:
  - `mkdir -p ~/src ~/build ~/lib`
  - `cd ~/src`
  - `curl -Lo adios-1.13.1.tar.gz http://users.nccs.gov/~pnorbert/adios-1.13.1.tar.gz`
  - `tar -xzf adios-1.13.1.tar.gz`
  - `cd adios-1.13.1`
  - `CFLAGS="-fPIC" ./configure --enable-static --enable-shared --prefix=$HOME/lib/adios --with-mpi=$MPI_ROOT --with-zlib=/usr`
  - `make`
  - `make install`
- *environment*: (assumes install from source in `$HOME/lib/adios`)
  - `export ADIOS_ROOT=$HOME/lib/adios`
  - `export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$ADIOS_ROOT/lib:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH`

## ISAAC

- 1.4.0+
- requires *boost* (header only), *IceT*, *Jansson*, *libjpeg* (preferably *libjpeg-turbo*), *libwebsockets* (only for the ISAAC server, but not the plugin itself)
- enables live in situ visualization, see more here [Plugin description](#)
- *Spack*: `spack install isaac`
- *from source*: build the *in situ library* and its dependencies as described in [ISAAC's INSTALL.md](#)
- *environment*: set environment variable `CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH` for each dependency and the ISAAC in situ library

## VampirTrace

- for developers: performance tracing support
- download 5.14.4 or higher, e.g. from [www.tu-dresden.de](http://www.tu-dresden.de)
- *from source:*
  - `mkdir -p ~/src ~/build ~/lib`
  - `cd ~/src`
  - `curl -Lo VampirTrace-5.14.4.tar.gz "http://wwwpub.zih.tu-dresden.de/~mlieber/dcount/dcount.php?package=vampirtrace&get=VampirTrace-5.14.4.tar.gz"`
  - `tar -xzf VampirTrace-5.14.4.tar.gz`
  - `cd VampirTrace-5.14.4`
  - `./configure --prefix=$HOME/lib/vampirtrace --with-cuda-dir=<CUDA_ROOT>`
  - `make all -j`
  - `make install`
- *environment:* (assumes install from source in `$HOME/lib/vampirtrace`)
  - `export VT_ROOT=$HOME/lib/vampirtrace`
  - `export PATH=$VT_ROOT/bin:$PATH`

See also:

You need to have all *dependencies installed* to complete this chapter.

## 1.4 picongpu.profile

Section author: Axel Huebl

Use a `picongpu.profile` file to set up your software environment without colliding with other software. Ideally, store that file directly in your `$HOME/` and source it after connecting to the machine:

```
source $HOME/picongpu.profile
```

We listed some example `picongpu.profile` files below which can be used to set up PICongGPU's dependencies on various HPC systems.

### 1.4.1 Hemera (HZDR)

For this profile to work, you need to download the *PICongGPU source code* manually.

**Queue: defq (2x Intel Xeon Gold 6148, 20 Cores + 20 HyperThreads/CPU)**

```
Name and Path of this Script ##### (DO NOT change!)
export PIC_PROFILE=$(cd $(dirname $BASH_SOURCE) && pwd) "/"$(basename $BASH_SOURCE)

User Information ##### (edit those lines)
- automatically add your name and contact to output file meta data
- send me a mail on batch system jobs: NONE, BEGIN, END, FAIL, REQUEUE, ALL,
TIME_LIMIT, TIME_LIMIT_90, TIME_LIMIT_80 and/or TIME_LIMIT_50
export MY_MAILNOTIFY="NONE"
```

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```
export MY_MAIL="someone@example.com"
export MY_NAME="$(whoami) <$MY_MAIL>"

Text Editor for Tools ##### (edit this line)
- examples: "nano", "vim", "emacs -nw", "vi" or without terminal: "gedit"
#export EDITOR="nano"

General modules
#
module purge
module load gcc/7.3.0
module load cmake/3.11.3
module load openmpi/2.1.2
module load boost/1.68.0

Other Software
#
module load zlib/1.2.11
module load c-blosc/1.14.4

module load adios/1.13.1
module load hdf5-parallel/1.8.20
module load libsplash/1.7.0

module load libpng/1.6.35
module load pngwriter/0.7.0

Environment
#
#export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$LD_LIBRARY_PATH:$BOOST_LIB

export PICSRC=$HOME/src/picongpu
export PIC_EXAMPLES=$PICSRC/share/picongpu/examples
export PIC_BACKEND="omp2b:skylake-avx512"

export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/bin
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/src/tools/bin

export PYTHONPATH=$PICSRC/lib/python:$PYTHONPATH

"tbq" default options
- SLURM (sbatch)
- "defq" queue
export TBG_SUBMIT="sbatch"
export TBG_TPLFILE="etc/picongpu/hemera-hzdr/defq.tpl"

allocate an interactive shell for one hour
getNode 2 # allocates to interactive nodes (default: 1)
function getNode() {
 if [-z "$1"] ; then
 numNodes=1
 else
 numNodes=$1
 fi
 srun --time=1:00:00 --nodes=$numNodes --ntasks-per-node=2 --cpus-per-task=20 -
 ↪-mem=360000 -p defq --pty bash
}

allocate an interactive shell for one hour
getDevice 2 # allocates to interactive devices (default: 1)
```

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```
function getDevice() {
 if [-z "$1"] ; then
 numDevices=1
 else
 if ["$1" -gt 2] ; then
 echo "The maximal number of devices per node is 2." 1>&2
 return 1
 else
 numDevices=$1
 fi
 fi
 srun --time=1:00:00 --ntasks-per-node=$((numDevices)) --cpus-per-task=$((20 *
↪ numDevices)) --mem=$((1800000 * numDevices)) -p defq --pty bash
}
```

### Queue: gpu (4x NVIDIA P100 16GB)

```
Name and Path of this Script ##### (DO NOT change!)
export PIC_PROFILE=$(cd $(dirname $BASH_SOURCE) && pwd)"/$(basename $BASH_SOURCE)

User Information ##### (edit those lines)
- automatically add your name and contact to output file meta data
- send me a mail on batch system jobs: NONE, BEGIN, END, FAIL, REQUEUE, ALL,
TIME_LIMIT, TIME_LIMIT_90, TIME_LIMIT_80 and/or TIME_LIMIT_50
export MY_MAILNOTIFY="NONE"
export MY_MAIL="someone@example.com"
export MY_NAME="$ (whoami) <$MY_MAIL>"

Text Editor for Tools ##### (edit this line)
- examples: "nano", "vim", "emacs -nw", "vi" or without terminal: "gedit"
#export EDITOR="nano"

General modules
#
module purge
module load gcc/7.3.0
module load cmake/3.11.3
module load cuda/9.2
module load openmpi/2.1.2-cuda92
module load boost/1.68.0

Other Software
#
module load zlib/1.2.11
module load c-blosc/1.14.4

module load adios/1.13.1-cuda92
module load hdf5-parallel/1.8.20-cuda92
module load libsplash/1.7.0-cuda92

module load libpng/1.6.35
module load pngwriter/0.7.0

Environment
#
#export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$LD_LIBRARY_PATH:$BOOST_LIB

export PICSRC=$HOME/src/picongpu
export PIC_EXAMPLES=$PICSRC/share/picongpu/examples
```

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```
export PIC_BACKEND="cuda:60"

export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/bin
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/src/tools/bin

export PYTHONPATH=$PICSRC/lib/python:$PYTHONPATH

"tbg" default options
- SLURM (sbatch)
- "gpu" queue
export TBG_SUBMIT="sbatch"
export TBG_TPLFILE="etc/picongpu/hemera-hzdr/gpu.tpl"

allocate an interactive shell for one hour
getNode 2 # allocates to interactive nodes (default: 1)
function getNode() {
 if [-z "$1"] ; then
 numNodes=1
 else
 numNodes=$1
 fi
 srun --time=1:00:00 --nodes=$numNodes --ntasks-per-node=4 --cpus-per-task=6 --
 ↪gres=gpu:4 --mem=360000 -p gpu --pty bash
}

allocate an interactive shell for one hour
getDevice 2 # allocates to interactive devices (default: 1)
function getDevice() {
 if [-z "$1"] ; then
 numGPUs=1
 else
 if ["$1" -gt 4] ; then
 echo "The maximal number of devices per node is 4." 1>&2
 return 1
 else
 numGPUs=$1
 fi
 fi
 srun --time=1:00:00 --ntasks-per-node=$(($numGPUs)) --cpus-per-task=$((6 *
 ↪$numGPUs)) --gres=gpu:$numGPUs --mem=$((90000 * numGPUs)) -p gpu --pty bash
}
```

## 1.4.2 Hypnos (HZDR)

For these profiles to work, you need to download the *PIConGPU source code* manually.

### Queue: laser (AMD Opteron 6276 CPUs)

```
Name and Path of this Script ##### (DO NOT change!)
export PIC_PROFILE=$(cd $(dirname $BASH_SOURCE) && pwd) "/"$(basename $BASH_SOURCE)

User Information ##### (edit those lines)
- automatically add your name and contact to output file meta data
- send me mails on batch system job (b)egin, (e)nd, (a)bortion or (n)o mail
export MY_MAILNOTIFY="n"
export MY_MAIL="someone@example.com"
export MY_NAME="$(whoami) <$MY_MAIL>"
```

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```
Text Editor for Tools ##### (edit this line)
- examples: "nano", "vim", "emacs -nw", "vi" or without terminal: "gedit"
#export EDITOR="nano"

Modules
#
if [-f /etc/profile.modules]
then
 . /etc/profile.modules
 module purge
export MODULES_NO_OUTPUT=1

 # Core Dependencies
 module load gcc/5.3.0
 module load cmake/3.10.1
 module load boost/1.62.0
 module load openmpi/1.8.6
 module load numactl

 # Plugins (optional)
 module load zlib/1.2.8
 module load pngwriter/0.7.0
 module load hdf5-parallel/1.8.15 libsplash/1.7.0

 # either use libSplash or ADIOS for file I/O
 #module load adios/1.13.1

 # Debug Tools
 #module load gdb
 #module load valgrind/3.8.1

unset MODULES_NO_OUTPUT
fi

Environment
#
alias getNode='qsub -I -q laser -lwalltime=00:30:00 -lnodes=1:ppn=64'

export PICSRC=/home/$(whoami)/src/picongpu
export PIC_EXAMPLES=$PICSRC/share/picongpu/examples
export PIC_BACKEND="omp2b:bdver1"

export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/bin
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/src/splash2txt/build
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/src/tools/bin

export PYTHONPATH=$PICSRC/lib/python:$PYTHONPATH

"tbg" default options
- PBS/Torque (qsub)
- "laser" queue
export TBG_SUBMIT="qsub"
export TBG_TPLFILE="etc/picongpu/hypnos-hzdr/laser.tpl"
```

## Queue: k20 (Nvidia K20 GPUs)

```
Name and Path of this Script ##### (DO NOT change!)
```

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```

export PIC_PROFILE=$(cd $(dirname $BASH_SOURCE) && pwd) "/"$(basename $BASH_SOURCE)

User Information ##### (edit those lines)
- automatically add your name and contact to output file meta data
- send me mails on batch system job (b)egin, (e)nd, (a)bortion or (n)o mail
export MY_MAILNOTIFY="n"
export MY_MAIL="someone@example.com"
export MY_NAME="$(whoami) <$MY_MAIL>"

Text Editor for Tools ##### (edit this line)
- examples: "nano", "vim", "emacs -nw", "vi" or without terminal: "gedit"
#export EDITOR="nano"

Modules
#
if [-f /etc/profile.modules]
then
 . /etc/profile.modules
 module purge
 export MODULES_NO_OUTPUT=1

 # Core Dependencies
 module load gcc/4.9.2
 module load cmake/3.10.1
 module load boost/1.62.0
 module load cuda/8.0
 module load openmpi/2.1.2.cuda80

 # Plugins (optional)
 module load zlib/1.2.8
 module load pngwriter/0.7.0
 module load hdf5-parallel/1.8.20 libsplash/1.7.0

 # either use libSplash or ADIOS for file I/O
 #module load adios/1.13.1

 # Debug Tools
 #module load gdb
 #module load valgrind/3.8.1

unset MODULES_NO_OUTPUT
fi

Environment
#
alias getNode='qsub -I -q k20 -lwalltime=00:30:00 -lnodes=1:ppn=8'
alias getlaser='qsub -I -q laser -lwalltime=00:30:00 -lnodes=1:ppn=16'

export PICSRC=/home/$(whoami)/src/picongpu
export PIC_EXAMPLES=$PICSRC/share/picongpu/examples
export PIC_BACKEND="cuda:35"

export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/bin
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/src/splash2txt/build
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/src/tools/bin

export PYTHONPATH=$PICSRC/lib/python:$PYTHONPATH

"tbg" default options
- PBS/Torque (qsub)

```

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```
- "k20" queue
export TBG_SUBMIT="qsub"
export TBG_TPLFILE="etc/picongpu/hypos-hzdr/k20.tpl"
```

## Queue: k80 (Nvidia K80 GPUs)

```
Name and Path of this Script ##### (DO NOT change!)
export PIC_PROFILE=$(cd $(dirname $BASH_SOURCE) && pwd)"/$(basename $BASH_SOURCE)

User Information ##### (edit those lines)
- automatically add your name and contact to output file meta data
- send me mails on batch system job (b)egin, (e)nd, (a)bortion or (n)o mail
export MY_MAILNOTIFY="n"
export MY_MAIL="someone@example.com"
export MY_NAME="$ (whoami) <$MY_MAIL>"

Text Editor for Tools ##### (edit this line)
- examples: "nano", "vim", "emacs -nw", "vi" or without terminal: "gedit"
#export EDITOR="nano"

Modules
#
if [-f /etc/profile.modules]
then
 . /etc/profile.modules
 module purge
 export MODULES_NO_OUTPUT=1

 # Core Dependencies
 module load gcc/4.9.2
 module load cmake/3.10.1
 module load boost/1.62.0
 module load cuda/8.0
 module load openmpi/2.1.2.cuda80

 # Plugins (optional)
 module load zlib/1.2.8
 module load pngwriter/0.7.0
 module load hdf5-parallel/1.8.20 libsplash/1.7.0

 # either use libSplash or ADIOS for file I/O
 #module load adios/1.13.1

 # Debug Tools
 #module load gdb
 #module load valgrind/3.8.1

 unset MODULES_NO_OUTPUT
fi

Environment
#
alias getNode='qsub -I -q k80 -lwalltime=00:30:00 -lnodes=1:ppn=16'
alias getlaser='qsub -I -q laser -lwalltime=00:30:00 -lnodes=1:ppn=16'

export PICSRC=/home/$(whoami)/src/picongpu
export PIC_EXAMPLES=$PICSRC/share/picongpu/examples
export PIC_BACKEND="cuda:37"
```

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```
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/bin
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/src/splash2txt/build
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/src/tools/bin

export PYTHONPATH=$PICSRC/lib/python:$PYTHONPATH

"tbg" default options
- PBS/Torque (qsub)
- "k80" queue
export TBG_SUBMIT="qsub"
export TBG_TPLFILE="etc/picongpu/hypnos-hzdr/k80.tpl"
```

### 1.4.3 Hydra (HZDR)

For this profile to work, you need to download the *PICongPU source code* manually.

```
Name and Path of this Script ##### (DO NOT change!)
export PIC_PROFILE=$(cd $(dirname $BASH_SOURCE) && pwd) "/"$(basename $BASH_SOURCE)

User Information ##### (edit those lines)
- automatically add your name and contact to output file meta data
- send me mails on batch system job (b)egin, (e)nd, (a)bortion or (n)o mail
export MY_MAILNOTIFY="n"
export MY_MAIL="someone@example.com"
export MY_NAME="$$(whoami) <$MY_MAIL>"

Text Editor for Tools ##### (edit this line)
- examples: "nano", "vim", "emacs -nw", "vi" or without terminal: "gedit"
#export EDITOR="nano"

Modules
#
if [-f /etc/profile.modules]
then
 . /etc/profile.modules
 module purge
 export MODULES_NO_OUTPUT=1

 # Core Dependencies
 module load gcc/5.3.0
 module load cmake/3.10.1
 module load boost/1.62.0
 module load openmpi/1.8.6
 module load numactl

 # Plugins (optional)
 module load pngwriter/0.7.0
 module load hdf5-parallel/1.8.15 libsplash/1.7.0

 # either use libSplash or ADIOS for file I/O
 #module load adios/1.13.1

 # Debug Tools
 #module load gdb
 #module load valgrind/3.8.1

 unset MODULES_NO_OUTPUT
fi
```

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```
Environment
#
alias getNode='qsub -I -q default -lwalltime=00:30:00 -lnodes=1:ppn=32'

export PICSRC=/home/$(whoami)/src/picongpu
export PIC_EXAMPLES=$PICSRC/share/picongpu/examples
export PIC_BACKEND="omp2b:ivybridge"

export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/bin
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/src/splash2txt/build
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/src/tools/bin

export PYTHONPATH=$PICSRC/src/tools/lib/python:$PYTHONPATH

"tbg" default options
- PBS/Torque (qsub)
- "default" queue
export TBG_SUBMIT="qsub"
export TBG_TPLFILE="etc/picongpu/hydra-hzdr/default.tpl"
```

## 1.4.4 Titan (ORNL)

For this profile to work, you need to download the *PICongPU* source code and install *libSplash*, *libpng* and *PNGwriter* manually.

### K20x GPUs (recommended)

```
Name and Path of this Script ##### (DO NOT change!)
export PIC_PROFILE=$(cd $(dirname $BASH_SOURCE) && pwd)"/$(basename $BASH_SOURCE)

User Information ##### (edit those lines)
- automatically add your name and contact to output file meta data
- send me a mail on job (b)egin, (e)nd, (a)bortion or (n)o mail
export MY_MAILNOTIFY="n"
export MY_MAIL="someone@example.com"
export MY_NAME="$(whoami) <$MY_MAIL>"

Project Information ##### (edit this line)
- project account for computing time
export proj=<yourProject>

Text Editor for Tools ##### (edit this line)
- examples: "nano", "vim", "emacs -nw", "vi" or without terminal: "gedit"
#export EDITOR="nano"

basic environment
source /opt/modules/3.2.6.7/init/bash
module load craype-accel-nvidia35
module swap PrgEnv-pgi PrgEnv-gnu
module swap gcc gcc/5.3.0

Compile for CLE nodes
(CMake likes to unwrap the Cray wrappers)
export CC=$(which cc)
export CXX=$(which CC)
export FC=$(which ftn)
```

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```

#export LD="/sw/xk6/altd/bin/ld"

symbol bug work around (should not be required)
#MY_CRAY_LIBS=/opt/gcc/5.3.0/snos/lib64
#export LD_PRELOAD=$MY_CRAY_LIBS/libstdc++.so.6:$LD_PRELOAD
#export LD_PRELOAD=$MY_CRAY_LIBS/libgomp.so.1:$LD_PRELOAD
#export LD_PRELOAD=$MY_CRAY_LIBS/libgfortran.so.3:$LD_PRELOAD

required tools and libs
module load git
module load cmake3/3.11.3
module load cudatoolkit # 9.1.85
might fail to link with missing symbols:
C++11 module rebuild pending [CCS #389072]
module load boost/1.67.0
export BOOST_ROOT=$BOOST_DIR
export MPI_ROOT=$MPICH_DIR

vampirtrace (optional)
pic-configure with -c "-DVAMPIR_ENABLE=ON"
e.g.:
pic-configure -c "-DVAMPIR_ENABLE=ON" ~/picInputs/case001
#module load vampir/9.5.0
#export VT_ROOT=$VAMPIRTRACE_DIR

scorep (optional)
pic-configure with -c "-DCMAKE_CXX_COMPILER=$(which scorep-CC) \
-DCUDA_NVCC_EXECUTABLE=$(which scorep-nvcc)"
e.g.:
SCOREP_WRAPPER=OFF pic-configure -b "cuda:35" \
-c "-DCMAKE_CXX_COMPILER=$(which scorep-CC) \
-DCUDA_NVCC_EXECUTABLE=$(which scorep-nvcc)" \
~/picInputs/case001
export SCOREP_WRAPPER_INSTRUMENTER_FLAGS="--cuda --mpp=mpi"
make -j
make install
#module load scorep

plugins (optional)
module load cray-hdf5-parallel/1.10.2.0
module load adios/1.13.1
export HDF5_ROOT=$HDF5_DIR
#export ADIOS_ROOT=$ADIOS_DIR
#export DATASPACE_ROOT=$DATASPACE_DIR

download libSplash and compile it yourself from
https://github.com/ComputationalRadiationPhysics/libSplash/
export SPLASH_ROOT=$PROJWORK/$proj/lib/splash
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$LD_LIBRARY_PATH:$SPLASH_ROOT/lib

#export T3PIO_ROOT=$PROJWORK/$proj/lib/t3pio
#export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$LD_LIBRARY_PATH:$T3PIO_ROOT/lib

download libpng.h and compile yourself with
http://www.libpng.org/pub/png/libpng.html
tar -xvf libpng-1.6.9.tar.gz
./configure --host=x86 --prefix=$PROJWORK/$proj/lib/libpng
afterwards install pngwriter yourself:
https://github.com/pngwriter/pngwriter#installation
export LIBPNG_ROOT=$PROJWORK/$proj/lib/libpng
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$LD_LIBRARY_PATH:$LIBPNG_ROOT/lib

```

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```
export PNGWRITER_ROOT=$PROJWORK/$proj/lib/pngwriter
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$LD_LIBRARY_PATH:$PNGWRITER_ROOT/lib

helper variables and tools
export PICSRC=$HOME/src/picongpu
export PIC_EXAMPLES=$PICSRC/share/picongpu/examples
export PIC_BACKEND="cuda:35"

export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/bin
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/src/tools/bin

export PYTHONPATH=$PICSRC/lib/python:$PYTHONPATH

alias getNode="qsub -I -A $proj -q debug -l nodes=1,walltime=30:00"

"tbg" default options
export TBG_SUBMIT="qsub"
export TBG_TPLFILE="etc/picongpu/titan-ornl/gpu_batch.tpl"
```

## AMD Opteron 6274 (Interlagos) CPUs (for experiments)

```
Name and Path of this Script ##### (DO NOT change!)
export PIC_PROFILE=$(cd $(dirname $BASH_SOURCE) && pwd)"/$(basename $BASH_SOURCE)

User Information ##### (edit those lines)
- automatically add your name and contact to output file meta data
- send me a mail on job (b)egin, (e)nd, (a)bortion or (n)o mail
export MY_MAILNOTIFY="n"
export MY_MAIL="someone@example.com"
export MY_NAME="$(whoami) <$MY_MAIL>"

Project Information ##### (edit this line)
- project account for computing time
export proj=<yourProject>

Text Editor for Tools ##### (edit this line)
- examples: "nano", "vim", "emacs -nw", "vi" or without terminal: "gedit"
#export EDITOR="nano"

basic environment
source /opt/modules/3.2.6.7/init/bash
module swap PrgEnv-pgi PrgEnv-gnu
module swap gcc gcc/7.3.0

Compile for CLE nodes
(CMake likes to unwrap the Cray wrappers)
export CC=$(which cc)
export CXX=$(which CC)
export FC=$(which ftn)
#export LD="/sw/xk6/altd/bin/ld"

symbol bug work around (should not be required)
#MY_CRAY_LIBS=/opt/gcc/7.3.0/snos/lib64
#export LD_PRELOAD=$MY_CRAY_LIBS/libstdc++.so.6:$LD_PRELOAD
#export LD_PRELOAD=$MY_CRAY_LIBS/libgomp.so.1:$LD_PRELOAD
#export LD_PRELOAD=$MY_CRAY_LIBS/libgfortran.so.3:$LD_PRELOAD

required tools and libs
```

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```

module load git
module load cmake3/3.11.3
might fail to link with missing symbols:
C++11 module rebuild pending [CCS #389072]
module load boost/1.67.0
export BOOST_ROOT=$BOOST_DIR
export MPI_ROOT=$MPICH_DIR

vampirtrace (optional)
pic-configure with -c "-DVAMPIR_ENABLE=ON"
e.g.:
pic-configure -c "-DVAMPIR_ENABLE=ON" ~/picInputs/case001
#module load vampir/9.5.0
#export VT_ROOT=$VAMPIRTRACE_DIR

scorep (optional)
pic-configure with -c "-DCMAKE_CXX_COMPILER=$(which scorep-CC) \
-DCUDA_NVCC_EXECUTABLE=$(which scorep-nvcc) "
e.g.:
SCOREP_WRAPPER=OFF pic-configure -b "omp2b:bdver1" \
-c "-DCMAKE_CXX_COMPILER=$(which scorep-CC) \
-DCUDA_NVCC_EXECUTABLE=$(which scorep-nvcc) " \
~/picInputs/case001
export SCOREP_WRAPPER_INSTRUMENTER_FLAGS="--cuda --mpp=mpi"
make -j
make install
#module load scorep

plugins (optional)
module load cray-hdf5-parallel/1.10.2.0
module load adios/1.13.1
export HDF5_ROOT=$HDF5_DIR
#export ADIOS_ROOT=$ADIOS_DIR
#export DATASPACE_ROOT=$DATASPACE_DIR

download libSplash and compile it yourself from
https://github.com/ComputationalRadiationPhysics/libSplash/
export SPLASH_ROOT=$PROJWORK/$proj/lib/splash
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$LD_LIBRARY_PATH:$SPLASH_ROOT/lib

#export T3PIO_ROOT=$PROJWORK/$proj/lib/t3pio
#export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$LD_LIBRARY_PATH:$T3PIO_ROOT/lib

download libpng.h and compile yourself with
http://www.libpng.org/pub/png/libpng.html
tar -xvf libpng-1.6.9.tar.gz
./configure --host=x86 --prefix=$PROJWORK/$proj/lib/libpng
afterwards install pngwriter yourself:
https://github.com/pngwriter/pngwriter#installation
export LIBPNG_ROOT=$PROJWORK/$proj/lib/libpng
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$LD_LIBRARY_PATH:$LIBPNG_ROOT/lib
export PNGWRITER_ROOT=$PROJWORK/$proj/lib/pngwriter
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$LD_LIBRARY_PATH:$PNGWRITER_ROOT/lib

helper variables and tools
export PICSRC=$HOME/src/picongpu
export PIC_EXAMPLES=$PICSRC/share/picongpu/examples
export PIC_BACKEND="omp2b:bdver1"

export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/bin

```

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```
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/src/tools/bin

export PYTHONPATH=$PICSRC/lib/python:$PYTHONPATH

alias getNode="qsub -I -A $proj -q debug -l nodes=1,walltime=30:00"

"tbq" default options
export TBG_SUBMIT="qsub"
export TBG_TPLFILE="etc/picongpu/titan-ornl/cpu_batch.tpl"
```

## 1.4.5 Piz Daint (CSCS)

For this profile to work, you need to download the *PICongPU source code* and install *boost*, *zlib*, *libpng*, *c-blosc*, *PNGwriter*, *libSplash* and *ADIOS* manually.

**Note:** The MPI libraries are lacking Fortran bindings (which we do not need anyway). During the install of ADIOS, make sure to add to configure the `--disable-fortran` flag.

**Note:** Please find a Piz Daint quick start from August 2018 [here](#).

```
Name and Path of this Script ##### (DO NOT change!)
export PIC_PROFILE=$(cd $(dirname $BASH_SOURCE) && pwd) "/"$(basename $BASH_SOURCE)

User Information ##### (edit those lines)
- automatically add your name and contact to output file meta data
- send me a mail on batch system jobs: NONE, BEGIN, END, FAIL, REQUEUE, ALL,
TIME_LIMIT, TIME_LIMIT_90, TIME_LIMIT_80 and/or TIME_LIMIT_50
export MY_MAILNOTIFY="NONE"
export MY_MAIL="someone@example.com"
export MY_NAME="$(whoami) <$MY_MAIL>"

Text Editor for Tools ##### (edit those lines)
- examples: "nano", "vim", "emacs -nw", "vi" or without terminal: "gedit"
module load nano
#export EDITOR="nano"

Programming Environment
#
if the wrong environment is loaded we switch to the gnu environment
note: this loads gcc/5.3.0 (6.0.4 is the version of the programming env!)
CRAYENV_FOUND=$(module li 2>&1 | grep "PrgEnv-cray" > /dev/null && { echo 0; } ||
↪ { echo 1; })
if [$CRAYENV_FOUND -eq 0]; then
 module swap PrgEnv-cray PrgEnv-gnu/6.0.4
else
 module load PrgEnv-gnu/6.0.4
fi

module load daint-gpu
currently loads CUDA 8.0
module load craype-accel-nvidia60

Compile for cluster nodes
(CMake likes to unwrap the Cray wrappers)
export CC=$(which cc)
export CXX=$(which CC)
```

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```

define cray compiler target architecture
if not defined the linker crashed because wrong from */lib instead
of */lib64 are used
export CRAY_CPU_TARGET=x86-64

Libraries
module load CMake/3.10.1

module load cray-mpich/7.6.0
module load cray-hdf5-parallel/1.10.0.3

Self-Build Software
#
needs to be compiled by the user
export PIC_LIBS="$HOME/lib"
export BOOST_ROOT=$PIC_LIBS/boost-1.62.0
export ZLIB_ROOT=$PIC_LIBS/zlib-1.2.11
export PNG_ROOT=$PIC_LIBS/libpng-1.6.34
export BLOSC_ROOT=$PIC_LIBS/blosc-1.12.1
export PNGwriter_DIR=$PIC_LIBS/pngwriter-0.7.0
export ADIOS_ROOT=$PIC_LIBS/adios-1.13.1
export Splash_DIR=$PIC_LIBS/splash-1.7.0

export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$BOOST_ROOT/lib:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$ZLIB_ROOT/lib:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$PNG_ROOT/lib:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$BLOSC_ROOT/lib:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$PNGwriter_DIR/lib:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$ADIOS_ROOT/lib:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$Splash_DIR/lib:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH

export PATH=$PNG_ROOT/bin:$PATH
export PATH=$ADIOS_ROOT/bin:$PATH

export CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH=$ZLIB_ROOT:$CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH
export CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH=$PNG_ROOT:$CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH

export MPI_ROOT=$MPICH_DIR
export HDF5_ROOT=$HDF5_DIR

Environment
#
export PICSRC=$HOME/src/picongpu
export PIC_EXAMPLES=$PICSRC/share/picongpu/examples
export PIC_BACKEND="cuda:60"

export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/bin
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/src/tools/bin

export PYTHONPATH=$PICSRC/lib/python:$PYTHONPATH

"tbg" default options
- SLURM (sbatch)
- "normal" queue
export TBG_SUBMIT="sbatch"
export TBG_TPLFILE="etc/picongpu/pizdaint-cscs/normal.tpl"

helper tools

```

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```
allocate an interactive shell for one hour
getNode 2 # allocates to interactive nodes (default: 1)
getNode() {
 if [-z "$1"] ; then
 numNodes=1
 else
 numNodes=$1
 fi
 # --ntasks-per-core=2 # activates intel hyper threading
 salloc --time=1:00:00 --nodes="$numNodes" --ntasks-per-node=12 --ntasks-per-
 core=2 --partition normal --gres=gpu:1 --constraint=gpu
}
```

## 1.4.6 Taurus (TU Dresden)

For these profiles to work, you need to download the *PICongPU source code* and install *PNGwriter* and *libSplash* manually.

### Queue: gpu1 (Nvidia K20x GPUs)

```
Name and Path of this Script ##### (DO NOT change!)
export PIC_PROFILE=$(cd $(dirname $BASH_SOURCE) && pwd)"/$(basename $BASH_SOURCE)

User Information ##### (edit those lines)
- automatically add your name and contact to output file meta data
- send me a mail on batch system jobs: NONE, BEGIN, END, FAIL, REQUEUE, ALL,
TIME_LIMIT, TIME_LIMIT_90, TIME_LIMIT_80 and/or TIME_LIMIT_50
export MY_MAILNOTIFY="NONE"
export MY_MAIL="someone@example.com"
export MY_NAME="$(whoami) <$MY_MAIL>"

Text Editor for Tools ##### (edit this line)
- examples: "nano", "vim", "emacs -nw", "vi" or without terminal: "gedit"
#export EDITOR="nano"

Modules
#
module load modenv/scs5
module load foss/2018a
module load GCC/6.4.0-2.28
module load CMake/3.10.2-GCCcore-6.4.0
module load CUDA/9.2.88 # gcc <= 7, intel 15-17
module load OpenMPI/2.1.2-GCC-6.4.0-2.28

module load git/2.18.0-GCCcore-6.4.0
module load gnuplot/5.2.4-foss-2018a

module load Boost/1.66.0-foss-2018a
currently not linking correctly:
#module load HDF5/1.10.1-foss-2018a
module load zlib/1.2.11-GCCcore-6.4.0

module system does not export cmake prefix path:
export CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH=$EBROOTLIBPNG:$CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH
export CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH=$EBROOTZLIB:$CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH

Environment
#
```

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```
path to own libraries:
export ownLibs=$HOME
workaround HDF5:
export HDF5_ROOT=$ownLibs/lib/hdf5
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$HDF5_ROOT/lib:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH
export CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH=$HDF5_ROOT:$CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH

pngwriter needs to be built by the user:
export PNGwriter_DIR=$ownLibs/lib/pngwriter
export CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH=$PNGwriter_DIR:$CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$LD_LIBRARY_PATH:$PNGwriter_DIR/lib/

splash needs to be built by the user:
export Splash_DIR=$ownLibs/lib/splashModule2
export CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH=$Splash_DIR:$CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$LD_LIBRARY_PATH:$Splash_DIR/lib/

export PICSRC=$HOME/src/picongpu
export PIC_EXAMPLES=$PICSRC/share/picongpu/examples
export PIC_BACKEND="cuda:35"

export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/bin
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/src/tools/bin

export PYTHONPATH=$PICSRC/lib/python:$PYTHONPATH

"tbg" default options
- SLURM (sbatch)
- "gpu1" queue
export TBG_SUBMIT="sbatch"
export TBG_TPLFILE="etc/picongpu/taurus-tud/k20x.tpl"
```

## Queue: gpu2 (Nvidia K80 GPUs)

```
Name and Path of this Script ##### (DO NOT change!)
export PIC_PROFILE=$(cd $(dirname $BASH_SOURCE) && pwd)"/$(basename $BASH_SOURCE)

User Information ##### (edit those lines)
- automatically add your name and contact to output file meta data
- send me a mail on batch system jobs: NONE, BEGIN, END, FAIL, REQUEUE, ALL,
TIME_LIMIT, TIME_LIMIT_90, TIME_LIMIT_80 and/or TIME_LIMIT_50
export MY_MAILNOTIFY="NONE"
export MY_MAIL="someone@example.com"
export MY_NAME="$$(whoami) <$MY_MAIL>"

Text Editor for Tools ##### (edit this line)
- examples: "nano", "vim", "emacs -nw", "vi" or without terminal: "gedit"
#export EDITOR="nano"

Modules
#
module load modenv/scs5
module load foss/2018a
module load GCC/6.4.0-2.28
module load CMake/3.10.2-GCCcore-6.4.0
module load CUDA/9.2.88 # gcc <= 7, intel 15-17
```

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```
module load OpenMPI/2.1.2-GCC-6.4.0-2.28

module load git/2.18.0-GCCcore-6.4.0
module load gnuplot/5.2.4-foss-2018a

module load Boost/1.66.0-foss-2018a
currently not linking correctly:
#module load HDF5/1.10.1-foss-2018a
module load zlib/1.2.11-GCCcore-6.4.0

module system does not export cmake prefix path:
export CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH=$EBROOTLIBPNG:$CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH
export CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH=$EBROOTZLIB:$CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH

Environment
#

path to own libraries:
export ownLibs=$HOME

workaround HDF5:
export HDF5_ROOT=$ownLibs/lib/hdf5
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$HDF5_ROOT/lib:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH
export CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH=$HDF5_ROOT:$CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH

pngwriter needs to be built by the user:
export PNGwriter_DIR=$ownLibs/lib/pngwriter
export CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH=$PNGwriter_DIR:$CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$LD_LIBRARY_PATH:$PNGwriter_DIR/lib/

splash needs to be built by the user:
export Splash_DIR=$ownLibs/lib/splashModule2
export CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH=$Splash_DIR:$CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$LD_LIBRARY_PATH:$Splash_DIR/lib/

export PICSRC=$HOME/src/picongpu
export PIC_EXAMPLES=$PICSRC/share/picongpu/examples
export PIC_BACKEND="cuda:37"

export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/bin
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/src/tools/bin

export PYTHONPATH=$PICSRC/lib/python:$PYTHONPATH

"tbg" default options
- SLURM (sbatch)
- "gpu2" queue
export TBG_SUBMIT="sbatch"
export TBG_TPLFILE="etc/picongpu/taurus-tud/k80.tpl"
```

## Queue: knl (Intel Intel Xeon Phi - Knights Landing)

For this profile, you additionally need to install your own *boost*.

```
Name and Path of this Script ##### (DO NOT change!)
export PIC_PROFILE=$(cd $(dirname $BASH_SOURCE) && pwd) "/"$(basename $BASH_SOURCE)

User Information ##### (edit those lines)
```

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```
- automatically add your name and contact to output file meta data
- send me a mail on batch system jobs: NONE, BEGIN, END, FAIL, REQUEUE, ALL,
TIME_LIMIT, TIME_LIMIT_90, TIME_LIMIT_80 and/or TIME_LIMIT_50
export MY_MAILNOTIFY="NONE"
export MY_MAIL="someone@example.com"
export MY_NAME="$(whoami) <$MY_MAIL>"

Text Editor for Tools ##### (edit this line)
- examples: "nano", "vim", "emacs -nw", "vi" or without terminal: "gedit"
#export EDITOR="nano"

Modules
#
module load modenv/scs5
module load iimpi/2018a
module load git/2.18.0-GCCcore-6.4.0
module load CMake/3.11.4-GCCcore-7.3.0
module load Boost/1.66.0-intel-2018a
module load HDF5/1.10.1-intel-2018a
module load libpng/1.6.34-GCCcore-7.3.0

module system does not export cmake prefix path:
export CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH=$EBROOTLIBPNG:$CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH
export CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH=$EBROOTZLIB:$CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH

Environment
#

compilers are not set correctly by the module system:
export CC=`which icc`
export CXX=$CC

path to own libraries:
export ownLibs=$HOME

export PNGwriter_DIR=$ownLibs/lib/pngwriter
export CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH=$PNGwriter_DIR:$CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$LD_LIBRARY_PATH:$PNGwriter_DIR/lib/

export Splash_DIR=$ownLibs/lib/splash
export CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH=$Splash_DIR:$CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$LD_LIBRARY_PATH:$Splash_DIR/lib/

export PICSRC=$HOME/src/picongpu
export PIC_EXAMPLES=$PICSRC/share/picongpu/examples
export PIC_BACKEND="omp2b:MIC-AVX512"

export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/bin
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/src/tools/bin

export PYTHONPATH=$PICSRC/lib/python:$PYTHONPATH

"tbg" default options
- SLURM (sbatch)
- "knl" queue
export TBG_SUBMIT="sbatch"
export TBG_TPLFILE="etc/picongpu/taurus-tud/knl.tpl"

alias getNode='srun -p knl -N 1 -c 64 --mem=90000 --constraint="Quadrant&Cache" --
↳pty bash'
```

## 1.4.7 Lawrenceium (LBNL)

For this profile to work, you need to download the *PIconGPU* source code and install *boost*, *PNGwriter* and *libSplash* manually. Additionally, you need to make the `rsync` command available as written below.

```
Name and Path of this Script ##### (DO NOT change!)
export PIC_PROFILE=$(cd $(dirname $BASH_SOURCE) && pwd) "/"$(basename $BASH_SOURCE)

User Information ##### (edit those lines)
- automatically add your name and contact to output file meta data
- send me a mail on batch system jobs: NONE, BEGIN, END, FAIL, REQUEUE, ALL,
TIME_LIMIT, TIME_LIMIT_90, TIME_LIMIT_80 and/or TIME_LIMIT_50
export MY_MAILNOTIFY="NONE"
export MY_MAIL="someone@example.com"
export MY_NAME="$(whoami) <$MY_MAIL>"

Text Editor for Tools ##### (edit this line)
- examples: "nano", "vim", "emacs -nw", "vi" or without terminal: "gedit"
#export EDITOR="nano"

Modules
#
if [-f /etc/profile.d/modules.sh]
then
 . /etc/profile.d/modules.sh
 module purge

 # Core Dependencies
 module load gcc
 module load cuda
 echo "WARNING: Boost version is too old! (Need: 1.62.0+)" >&2
 # module load boost/1.62.0-gcc
 module load openmpi/1.6.5-gcc

 # Core tools
 module load git
 module load cmake
 module load python/2.6.6
 module load ipython/0.12 matplotlib/1.1.0 numpy/1.6.1 scipy/0.10.0

 # Plugins (optional)
 module load hdf5/1.8.11-gcc-p
 export CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH=$HOME/lib/pngwriter:$CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH
 export CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH=$HOME/lib/libSplash:$CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH
 export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$HOME/lib/pngwriter/lib:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH
 export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$HOME/lib/libSplash/lib:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH

 # Debug Tools
 #module load valgrind/3.10.1
 #module load totalview/8.10.0-0

fi

Environment
#
alias allocK20='salloc --time=0:30:00 --nodes=1 --ntasks-per-node=1 --cpus-per-
↳task=8 --partition lr_manycore'
alias allocFermi='salloc --time=0:30:00 --nodes=1 --ntasks-per-node=2 --cpus-per-
↳task=6 --partition mako_manycore'

export PICSRC=$HOME/src/picongpu
export PIC_EXAMPLES=$PICSRC/share/picongpu/examples
```

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```
export PIC_BACKEND="cuda:20"

fix pic-create: re-enable rsync
ssh lrc-xfer.scs00
-> cp /usr/bin/rsync $HOME/bin/
export PATH=$HOME/bin:$PATH

export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/bin
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/src/splash2txt/build
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/src/tools/bin

export PYTHONPATH=$PICSRC/lib/python:$PYTHONPATH

"tbg" default options
- SLURM (sbatch)
- fermi queue (also available: 2 K20 via k20.tpl)
export TBG_SUBMIT="sbatch"
export TBG_TPLFILE="etc/picongpu/lawrencium-lbnl/fermi.tpl"
```

## 1.4.8 Draco (MPCDF)

For this profile to work, you need to download the *PICongPU source code* and install *libpng*, *PNGwriter* and *libSplash* manually.

```
Name and Path of this Script ##### (DO NOT change!)
export PIC_PROFILE=$(cd $(dirname $BASH_SOURCE) && pwd)"/$(basename $BASH_SOURCE)

User Information ##### (edit those lines)
- automatically add your name and contact to output file meta data
- send me a mail on batch system jobs: NONE, BEGIN, END, FAIL, REQUEUE, ALL,
TIME_LIMIT, TIME_LIMIT_90, TIME_LIMIT_80 and/or TIME_LIMIT_50
export MY_MAILNOTIFY="NONE"
export MY_MAIL="someone@example.com"
export MY_NAME="$$(whoami) <$MY_MAIL>"

Text Editor for Tools ##### (edit this line)
- examples: "nano", "vim", "emacs -nw", "vi" or without terminal: "gedit"
#export EDITOR="nano"

General Modules
#
module purge

module load git/2.14
module load gcc/6.3
module load cmake/3.10.1
module load boost/gcc/1.64
module load impi/2017.3
module load hdf5-mpi/gcc/1.8.18

Other Software
#
needs to be compiled by the user
export PNGWRITER_ROOT=$HOME/lib/pngwriter-0.7.0
export SPLASH_ROOT=$HOME/lib/splash-1.7.0

export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$PNGWRITER_ROOT/lib:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$SPLASH_ROOT/lib:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH
```

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```

export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$BOOST_HOME/lib:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$HDF5_HOME/lib:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$I_MPI_ROOT/lib64:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH

export HDF5_ROOT=$HDF5_HOME

export CXX=$(which g++)
export CC=$(which gcc)

PICongPU Helper Variables
#
export PICSRC=$HOME/src/picongpu
export PIC_EXAMPLES=$PICSRC/share/picongpu/examples
export PIC_BACKEND="omp2b:haswell"

export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/bin
export PATH=$PATH:$PICSRC/src/tools/bin

export PYTHONPATH=$PICSRC/lib/python:$PYTHONPATH

"tbg" default options
- SLURM (sbatch)
- "normal" queue
export TBG_SUBMIT="sbatch"
export TBG_TPLFILE="etc/picongpu/draco-mpcdf/general.tpl"

helper tools

allocate an interactive shell for one hour
alias getNode='salloc --time=1:00:00 --nodes=1 --exclusive --ntasks-per-node=2 --
↳cpus-per-task=32 --partition general'
```

## 1.5 Changelog

### 1.5.1 0.4.0

**Date:** 2018-10-19

CPU Support, Particle Filter, Probes & Merging

This release adds CPU support, making PICongGPU a many-core, single-source, performance portable PIC code for all kinds of supercomputers. We added particle filters to initialization routines and plugins, allowing fine-grained in situ control of physical observables. All particle plugins now support those filters and can be called multiple times with different settings.

Particle probes and more particle initialization manipulators have been added. A particle merging plugin has been added. The Thomas-Fermi model has been improved, allowing to set empirical cut-offs. PICongGPU input and output (plugins) received initial Python bindings for efficient control and analysis.

User input files have been dramatically simplified. For example, creating the PICongGPU binary from input files for GPU or CPU is now as easy as `pic-build -b cuda` or `pic-build -b omp2b` respectively.

Thanks to Axel Huebl, René Widera, Benjamin Worpitz, Sebastian Starke, Marco Garten, Richard Pausch, Alexander Matthes, Sergei Bastrakov, Heiko Burau, Alexander Debus, Ilja Göthel, Sophie Rudat, Jeffrey Kelling, Klaus Steiniger, and Sebastian Hahn for contributing to this release!

## Changes to “0.3.0”

### User Input Changes:

- (re)move directory `simulation_defines/` #2331
- add new param file `particleFilters.param` #2385
- `components.param`: remove define `ENABLE_CURRENT` #2678
- `laser.param`: refactor Laser Profiles to Functors #2587 #2652
- `visualization.param`: renamed to `png.param` #2530
- `speciesAttributes.param`: format #2087
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- Vector: add method `remove<...>()` #2602
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  - \* add particle filter #2569
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  - \* Energy Histogram Reader #2209 #2658
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  - \* shorter python imports for postprocessing tools #2727
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  - wrong border with current background field #2326
  - remove usage of pure float with float\_x #2606
  - fix stencil conditions #2613
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- PMacc:
  - event system:
    - \* fix illegal memory access #2151
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  - cuSTL:
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- plugins:
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- ADIOS:
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  - XDMF Scripts: Fix Replacements & Offset #2309
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- Fixed excess 5p shell entry in gold effective Z #2558
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- adjust LWFA setup for 8 GPUs #2480
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  - remove unused loaders #2247
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    - \* Yee solver lockstep refactoring #2027
    - \* lockstep refactoring of `KernelComputeCurrent` #2025
    - \* `FieldJ` bash/insert lockstep refactoring #2054
    - \* lockstep refactoring of `KernelFillGridWithParticles` #2059
    - \* lockstep refactoring `KernelLaserE` #2056
    - \* lockstep refactoring of `KernelBinEnergyParticles` #2067
    - \* remove empty `init()` methods #2082
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    - \* remove `init` method in `FieldE` and `FieldB` #2088
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    - \* refactor particle manipulators #2125
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- \* Replace usage of M\_PI in picongpu with Pi #2492
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  - \* refactor ThreadCollective #2021
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  - \* lock step kernel KernelShiftParticles #2014
  - \* lockstep refactoring of KernelCountParticles #2061
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  - \* change `notifyFrequency(s)` to `notifyPeriod` #2039
  - \* lockstep refactoring `KernelEnergyParticles` #2164
  - \* remove `LiveViewPlugin` #2237
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- \* PluginController: Eligible Species #2368
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- \* EnergyHistogram: Remove Detector Filter #2465
- \* ISAAC: unify the usage of period #2455
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- Examples: C++11 Using for Typedef #2314
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- Particle Init Methods: Unify API & Docs #2442
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- move conversion units to `unit.param` #2457
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- CMake: Project Vars & Fix Memtest #2538
- Refactor `.cfg` files: devices #2543
- Free Density: Fix `float_X` #2555
- Boost: Format String Version #2566
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- Params: `float_X` Constants to Literals #2625
- documentation:
  - new subtitle #2734
  - Lockstep Programming Model #2026 #2064
  - `IdxConfig` append documentation #2022
  - `multiMask`: Refactor Documentation #2119
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  - Plugins:
    - \* HDF5: fix links, lists & MPI hints #2313 #2711
    - \* typo in libSplash install #2735
    - \* External dependencies #2175
    - \* Multi & CPU #2423
    - \* Update PS & Energy Histo #2427
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  - CPU Compile #2185
  - `pic-configure help` #2191
  - Python yt 3.4 #2273
  - Namespace `ComputeGridValuePerFrame` #2567
  - Document ionization param files for issue #1982 #1983
  - Remove `ToDo` from `ionizationEnergies.param` #1989
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- \* Document Laser Cutoff #2000
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- \* Changelog in Manual #2527
- PBS usage example #2006
- add missing linestyle to ionization plot for documentation #2032
- fix unit ionization rate plot #2033
- fix mathmode issue in ionization plot #2036
- fix spelling of guard #2644
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- Link New Coding Style #2074
- Install: Rsync Missing #2079
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- Fix typo in ADK documentation #2096
- Profile Preparations #2095
- SuperConfig: Header Fix #2108
- Extended \$SCRATCH Info #2093
- Doxygen: Fix Headers #2118
- Doxygen: How to Build HTML #2134
- Badge: Docs #2144
- CMake 3.7.0 #2181
- Boost (1.62.0-) 1.65.1 - 1.68.0 #2182 #2707 #2713
- Bash Subshells: `cmd` to `$(cmd)` #2187
- Boost Transient Deps: `date_time`, `chrono`, `atomic` #2195
- Install Docs: CUDA is optional #2199
- Fix broken links #2200
- PICongPU Logo: More Platforms #2190
- Repo Structure #2218
- Document KNL GCC -march #2252
- Streamline Install #2256
- Added doxygen documentation for `isaac.param` file #2260
- License Docs: Update #2282
- Heiko to Former Members #2294
- Added an example profile and `tpl` file for taurus' KNL #2270
- Profile: Draco (MPCDF) #2308
- \$PIC\_EXAMPLES #2327
- Profiles for Titan & Taurus #2201
- Taurus:

- \* CUDA 8.0.61 #2337
- \* Link KNL Profile #2339
- \* SCS5 Update #2667
- Move ParaView Profile #2353
- Spack: Own GitHub Org #2358
- LWFA Example: Improve Ranges #2360
- fix spelling mistake in checkpoint #2372
- Spack Install: Clarify #2373 #2720
- Probe Pusher #2379
- CI/Deps: CUDA 8.0 #2420
- Piz Daint (CSCS):
  - \* Update Profiles #2306 #2655
  - \* ADIOS Build #2343
  - \* ADIOS 1.13.0 #2416
  - \* Update CMake #2436
  - \* Module Update #2536
  - \* avoid pmi\_alps warnings #2581
- Hypnos (HZDR): New Modules #2521 #2661
- Hypnos: PNGwriter 0.6.0 #2166
- Hypnos & Taurus: Profile Examples Per Queue #2249
- Hemera: tbg templates #2723
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- Docker: Nvidia-Docker 2.0 #2462 #2557
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- Param Docs: Title Only #2466
- New Developers #2487
- Fix Docs: FreeTotalCellOffset Filter #2493
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- Fix HDF5 Release Link #2544
- Minor Formatting #2553
- PIC Model #2560
- Doxygen: Publish As Well #2575
- Limit Filters to Eligible Species #2574
- Doxygen: Less XML #2641
- NVCC 8.0 GCC <= 5.3 && 9.0/9.1: GCC <= 5.5 #2639
- typo: element-wise #2638
- fieldSolver.param doxygen #2632
- memory.param: GUARD\_SIZE docs #2591

- changelog script updated to python3 #2646
- not yet supported on CPU (Alpaka): #2180
  - core:
    - \* Bremsstrahlung
  - plugins:
    - \* PositionsParticles
    - \* ChargeConservation
    - \* ParticleMerging
    - \* count per supercell (macro particles)
    - \* field intensity

### 1.5.2 0.3.2

**Date:** 2018-02-16

Phase Space Momentum, ADIOS One-Particle Dumps & Field Names

This release fixes a bug in the phase space plugin which derived a too-low momentum bin for particles below the typical weighting (and too-high for above it). ADIOS dumps crashed on one-particle dumps and in the name of on-the-fly particle-derived fields species name and field name were in the wrong order. The plugins libSplash (1.6.0) and PNGwriter (0.6.0) need exact versions, later releases will require a newer version of PICongPU.

#### Changes to “0.3.1”

##### Bug Fixes:

- PICongPU:
  - wrong border with current background field #2326
- libPMacc:
  - cuSTL: missing include in ForEach #2406
  - warning concerning forward declarations of `pmacc::detail::Environment` #2489
  - `pmacc::math::Size_t<0>::create()` in Visual Studio #2513
- plugins:
  - phase space plugin: weighted particles’ momentum #2428
  - calorimeter: validate `minEnergy` #2512
  - ADIOS:
    - \* one-particle dumps #2437
    - \* `FieldTmp`: derived field name #2461
  - exact versions of libSplash 1.6.0 & PNGwriter 0.6.0
- tools:
  - tbg: wrong quoting of ' ' #2419
  - CMake: false-positive on in-source build check #2407
  - pic-configure: `cmakeFlags` return code #2323

##### Misc:

- Hypnos (HZDR): new modules #2521 #2524

Thanks to Axel Huebl, René Widera, Sergei Bastrakov and Sebastian Hahn for contributing to this release!

### 1.5.3 0.3.1

**Date:** 2017-10-20

Field Energy Plugin, Gaussian Density Profile and Restarts

This release fixes the energy field plugin diagnostics and the “downramp” parameter of the pre-defined Gaussian density profile. Restarts with enabled background fields were fixed. Numerous improvements to our build system were added to deal more gracefully with co-existing system-wide default libraries. A stability issue due to an illegal memory access in the PMacc event system was fixed.

#### Changes to “0.3.0”

##### .param file changes:

- `density.param`: in Gaussian profile, the parameter `gasSigmaRight` was not properly honored but `gasCenterRight` was taken instead #2214
- `fieldBackground.param`: remove micro meters usage in default file #2138

##### Bug Fixes:

- PICongPU:
  - `gasSigmaRight` of Gaussian density profile was broken since 0.2.0 release #2214
  - restart with enabled background fields #2113 #2139
  - KHI example: missing `constexpr` in input #2309
- libPMacc:
  - event system: illegal memory access #2151
- plugins:
  - energy field reduce #2112
- tools:
  - CMake:
    - \* Boost dependency:
      - same minimal version for tools #2293
      - transient dependencies: `date_time`, `chrono`, `atomic` #2195
    - \* use targets of boost & zlib #2193 #2292
    - \* possible linker error #2107
  - XDMF script: `positionOffset` for openPMD #2309
  - `cmakeFlags`: escape lists #2183
  - `tbg`:
    - \* `--help` exit with 0 return code #2213
    - \* env variables: proper handling of \ and & #2262

##### Misc:

- PICongPU: `--help` to stdout #2148
- tools: all to C++11 #2194
- documentation:



- Hypnos .tpl files: remove passing LD\_LIBRARY\_PATH to avoid warning #2149
- fix plasma frequency and remove German comment #2110
- remove micro meters usage in default background field #2138
- README: update links of docs badge #2144

Thanks to Axel Huebl, Richard Pausch and René Widera for contributions to this release!

## 1.5.4 0.3.0

**Date:** 2017-06-16

C++11: Bremsstrahlung, EmZ, Thomas-Fermi, Improved Lasers

This is the first release of PICongPU requiring C++11. We added a newly developed current solver (EmZ), support for the generation of Bremsstrahlung, Thomas-Fermi Ionization, Laguerre-modes in the Gaussian-Beam laser, in-simulation plane for laser initialization, new plugins for in situ visualization (ISAAC), a generalized particle calorimeter and a GPU resource monitor. Initial support for clang (host and device) has been added and our documentation has been streamlined to use Sphinx from now on.

### Changes to “0.2.0”

#### .param & .unitless file changes:

- use C++11 constexpr where possible and update arrays #1799 #1909
- use C++11 using instead of typedef
- removed Config suffix in file names #1965
- gasConfig is now density
- speciesDefinition:
  - simplified Particles<> interface #1711 #1942
  - ionizer< ... > became a sequence of ionizers< ... > #1999
- radiation: replace #defines with clean C++ #1877 #1930 #1931 #1937

#### Basic Usage:

We renamed the default tools to create, setup and build a simulation. Please make sure to update your picongpu .profile with the latest syntax (e.g. new entries in PATH) and use from now on:

- \$PICSRC/createParameterSet -> pic-create
- \$PICSRC/configure -> pic-configure
- \$PICSRC/compile -> pic-compile

See the *Installation* and *Usage* chapters in our new documentation on <https://picongpu.readthedocs.io> for detailed instructions.

#### New Features:

- PICongGPU:
  - laser:
    - \* allow to define the initialization plane #1796
    - \* add transverse Laguerre-modes to standard Gaussian Beam #1580
  - ionization:
    - \* Thomas-Fermi impact ionization model #1754 #2003 #2007 #2037 #2046
    - \* Z\_eff, energies, isotope: Ag, He, C, O, Al, Cu #1804 #1860

- \* BSI models restructured #2013
  - \* multiple ionization algorithms can be applied per species, e.g. cut-off barrier suppression ionization (BSI), probabilistic field ionization (ADK) and collisional ionization #1999
- Add EmZ current deposition solver #1582
- FieldTmp:
  - \* Multiple slots #1703
  - \* Gather support to fill GUARD #2009
- Particle StartPosition: OnePosition #1753
- Add Bremsstrahlung #1504
- Add kinetic energy algorithm #1744
- Added species manipulators:
  - \* CopyAttribute #1861
  - \* FreeRngImpl #1866
- Clang compatible static assert usage #1911
- Use PMACC\_ASSERT and PMACC\_VERIFY #1662
- PMacc:
  - Improve PMacc testsystem #1589
  - Add test for IdProvider #1590
  - Specialize HasFlag and GetFlagType for Particle #1604
  - Add generic atomicAdd #1606
  - Add tests for all RNG generators #1494
  - Extent function twistVectorFieldAxes<>() #1568
  - Expression validation/assertion #1578
  - Use PMacc assert and verify #1661
  - GetNComponents: improve error message #1670
  - Define MakeSeq\_t #1708
  - Add Array<> with static size #1725
  - Add shared memory allocator #1726
  - Explicit cast blockIdx and threadIdx to dim3 #1742
  - CMake: allow definition of multiple architectures #1729
  - Add trait FilterByIdentifier #1859
  - Add CompileTime Accessor: Type #1998
- plugins:
  - HDF5/ADIOS:
    - \* MacroParticleCounter #1788
    - \* Restart: Allow disabling of moving window #1668
    - \* FieldTmp: MidCurrentDensityComponent #1561
  - Radiation:
    - \* Add pow compile time using c++11 #1653

- \* Add radiation form factor for spherical Gaussian charge distribution #1641
- Calorimeter: generalize (charged & uncharged) #1746
- PNG: help message if dependency is not compiled #1702
- Added:
  - \* In situ: ISAAC Plugin #1474 #1630
  - \* Resource log plugin #1457
- tools:
  - Add a tpl file for k80 hypnos that automatically restarts #1567
  - Python3 compatibility for plotNumericalHeating #1747
  - Tpl: Variable Profile #1975
  - Plot heating & charge conservation: file export #1637
- Support for clang as host && device compiler #1933

#### Bug Fixes:

- PICongPU:
  - 3D3V: missing absorber in z #2042
  - Add missing minus sign wavepacket laser transversal #1722
  - RatioWeighting (DensityWeighting) manipulator #1759
  - MovingWindow: slide\_point now can be set to zero. #1783
  - boundElectrons: non-weighted attribute #1808
  - Verify number of ionization energy levels == proton number #1809
  - Ionization:
    - \* charge of ionized ions #1844
    - \* ADK: fix effective principal quantum number  $n_{\text{Eff}}$  #2011
  - Particle manipulators: position offset #1852
- PMacc:
  - Avoid CUDA local memory usage of Particle<> #1579
  - Event system deadlock on MPI\_Barrier #1659
  - ICC: AllCombinations #1646
  - Device selection: guard valid range #1665
  - MapTuple: broken compile with icc #1648
  - Missing ‘%%’ to use ptx special register #1737
  - ConstVector: check arguments init full length #1803
  - CudaEvent: cyclic include #1836
  - Add missing HDINLINE #1825
  - Remove BOOST\_BIND\_NO\_PLACEHOLDERS #1849
  - Remove CUDA native static shared memory #1929
- plugins:
  - Write openPMD meta data without species #1718
  - openPMD: iterationFormat only Basename #1751

- ADIOS trait for `bool` #1756
- Adjust `radAmplitude` python module after openPMD changes #1885
- HDF5/ADIOS: ill-placed helper `#include` #1846
- `#include`: never inside namespace #1835
- work-around for bug in boost 1.64.0 (odeint) + CUDA NVCC 7.5 & 8.0 #2053 #2076

**Misc:**

- refactoring:
  - PICongPU:
    - \* Switch to C++11 only #1649
    - \* Begin kernel names with upper case letter #1691
    - \* Maxwell solver, use curl instance #1714
    - \* Lehe solver: optimize performance #1715
    - \* Simplify species definition #1711
    - \* Add missing `math::` namespace to `tan()` #1740
    - \* Remove usage of `pmacc` and `boost auto` #1743
    - \* Add missing `typename`s #1741
    - \* Change ternary if operator to `if` condition #1748
    - \* Remove usage of `BOOST_AUTO` and `PMACC_AUTO` #1749
    - \* `mallocMC`: organize setting #1779
    - \* `ParticlesBase` allocate member memory #1791
    - \* `Particle` constructor interface #1792
    - \* Species can omit a current solver #1794
    - \* Use `constexpr` for arrays in `gridConfig.param` #1799
    - \* Update `mallocMC` #1798
    - \* `DataConnector`: `#includes` #1800
    - \* Improve Esirkepov speed #1797
    - \* Ionization Methods: Const-Ness #1824
    - \* Missing/wrong includes #1858
    - \* Move functor `Manipulate` to separate file #1863
    - \* `ManipulatorFreeImpl` #1815
    - \* Ionization: clean up params #1855
    - \* `MySimulation`: remove `particleStorage` #1881
    - \* New `DataConnector` for fields (& species) #1887 #2045
    - \* Radiation filter functor: remove macros #1877
    - \* Topic use remove shared keyword #1727
    - \* Remove define `ENABLE_RADIATION` #1931
    - \* Optimize `AssignedTrilinearInterpolation` #1936
    - \* `Particles<>` interface #1942
    - \* `Param/Unitless` files: remove “config” suffix #1965

- \* Kernels: Refactor Functions to Functors #1669
- \* Gamma calculation #1857
- \* Include order in default loader #1864
- \* Remove `ENABLE_ELECTRONS/IONS` #1935
- \* Add `Line<>` default constructor #1588
- PMacc:
  - \* Particles exchange: avoid message spamming #1581
  - \* Change minimum CMake version #1591
  - \* CMake: handle PMacc as separate library #1692
  - \* ForEach: remove boost preprocessor #1719
  - \* Refactor `InheritLinearly` #1647
  - \* Add missing `HDINLINE` prefix #1739
  - \* Refactor `.h` files to `.hpp` files #1785
  - \* Log: make events own level #1812
  - \* float to int cast warnings #1819
  - \* `DataSpaceOperations`: Simplify Formula #1805
  - \* `DataConnector`: Shared Pointer Storage #1801
  - \* Refactor `MPIReduce` #1888
  - \* Environment refactoring #1890
  - \* Refactor `MallocMCBuffer` share #1964
  - \* Rename typedefs inside `ParticleBuffer` #1577
  - \* Add typedefs for `Host/DeviceBuffer` #1595
  - \* `DeviceBufferIntern`: fix shadowed member variable #2051
- plugins:
  - \* Source files: remove non-ASCII chars #1684
  - \* replace old analyzer naming #1924
  - \* Radiation:
    - Remove Nyquist limit switch #1930
    - Remove precompiler flag for form factor #1937
  - \* compile-time warning in 2D live plugin #2063
- tools:
  - \* Automatically restart from ADIOS output #1882
  - \* Workflow: rename tools to set up a sim #1971
  - \* Check if binary `cuda_memtest` exists #1897
- C++11 constexpr: remove boost macros #1655
- Cleanup: remove EOL white spaces #1682
- `.cfg` files: remove EOL white spaces #1690
- Style: more EOL #1695
- Test: remove more EOL white spaces #1685

- Style: replace all tabs with spaces #1698
- Pre-compiler spaces #1693
- Param: Type List Syntax #1709
- Refactor Density Profiles #1762
- Bunch Example: Add Single e- Setup #1755
- Use Travis TRAVIS\_PULL\_REQUEST\_SLUG #1773
- ManipulateDeriveSpecies: Refactor Functors & Tests #1761
- Source Files: Move to Headers #1781
- Single Particle Tests: Use Standard MySimulation #1716
- Replace NULL with C++11 nullptr #1790
- documentation:
  - Wrong comment random->quiet #1633
  - Remove sm\_20 Comments #1664
  - Empty Example & TBG\_macros.cfg #1724
  - License Header: Update 2017 #1733
  - speciesInitialization: remove extra typename in doc #2044
  - INSTALL.md:
    - \* List Spack Packages #1764
    - \* Update Hypnos Example #1807
    - \* grammar error #1941
  - TBG: Outdated Header #1806
  - Wrong sign of delta\_angle in radiation observer direction #1811
  - Hypnos: Use CMake 3.7 #1823
  - Piz Daint: Update example environment #2030
  - Doxygen:
    - \* Warnings Radiation #1840
    - \* Warnings Ionization #1839
    - \* Warnings PMacc #1838
    - \* Warnings Core #1837
    - \* Floating Docstrings #1856
    - \* Update struct.hpp #1879
    - \* Update FieldTmp Operations #1789
    - \* File Comments in Ionization #1842
    - \* Copyright Header is no Doxygen #1841
  - Sphinx:
    - \* Introduce Sphinx + Breathe + Doxygen #1843
    - \* PDF, Link rst/md, png #1944 #1948
    - \* Examples #1851 #1870 #1878
    - \* Models, PostProcessing #1921 #1923

- \* PMacc Kernel Start #1920
- \* Local Build Instructions #1922
- \* Python Tutorials #1872
- \* Core Param Files #1869
- \* Important Classes #1871
- \* .md files, tbg, profiles #1883
- \* ForEach & Identifier #1889
- \* References & Citation #1895
- \* Slurm #1896 #1952
- \* Restructure Install Instructions #1943
- \* Start a User Workflows Section #1955
- ReadTheDocs:
  - \* Build PDF & EPUB #1947
  - \* remove linenumbers #1974
- Changelog & Version 0.2.3 (master) #1847
- Comments and definition of `radiationObserver` default setup #1829
- Typos plot radiation tool #1853
- doc/ -> docs/ #1862
- Particles Init & Manipulators #1880
- INSTALL: Remove gimli #1884
- BibTex: Change ShortHand #1902
- Rename `slide_point` to `movePoint` #1917
- Shared memory allocator documentation #1928
- Add documentation on slurm job control #1945
- Typos, modules #1949
- Mention current solver `EmZ` and compile tests #1966
- Remove `assert.hpp` in radiation plugin #1667
- Checker script for `__global__` keyword #1672
- Compile suite: GCC 4.9.4 chain #1689
- Add TSC and PCS rad form factor shapes #1671
- Add amend option for tee in k80 autorestart tpl #1681
- Test: EOL and suggest solution #1696
- Test: check & remove pre-compiler spaces #1694
- Test: check & remove tabs #1697
- Travis: check PR destination #1732
- Travis: simple style checks #1675
- PositionFilter: remove (virtual) Destructor #1778
- Remove namespace workaround #1640
- Add Bremsstrahlung example #1818

- WarmCopper example: FLYlite benchmark #1821
- Add compile tests for radiation methods #1932
- Add visual studio code files to gitignore #1946
- Remove old QT in situ volume visualization #1735

Thanks to Axel Huebl, René Widera, Alexander Matthes, Richard Pausch, Alexander Grund, Heiko Burau, Marco Garten, Alexander Debus, Erik Zenker, Bifeng Lei and Klaus Steiniger for contributions to this release!

### 1.5.5 0.2.5

**Date:** 2017-05-27

Absorber in z in 3D3V, effective charge in ADK ionization

The absorbing boundary conditions for fields in 3D3V simulations were not enabled in z direction. This caused unintended reflections of electro-magnetic fields in z since the 0.1.0 (beta) release. ADK ionization was fixed to the correct charge state (principal quantum number) which caused wrong ionization rates for all elements but Hydrogen.

#### Changes to “0.2.5”

##### Bug Fixes:

- ADK ionization: effective principal quantum number nEff #2011
- 3D3V: missing absorber in z #2042

##### Misc:

- compile-time warning in 2D live plugin #2063
- DeviceBufferIntern: fix shadowed member variable #2051
- speciesInitialization: remove extra typename in doc #2044

Thanks to Marco Garten, Richard Pausch, René Widera and Axel Huebl for spotting the issues and providing fixes!

### 1.5.6 0.2.4

**Date:** 2017-03-06

Charge of Bound Electrons, openPMD Axis Range, Manipulate by Position

This release fixes a severe bug overestimating the charge of ions when used with the `boundElectrons` attribute for field ionization. For HDF5 & ADIOS output, the openPMD axis annotation for fields in simulations with non-cubic cells or moving window was interchanged. Assigning particle manipulators within a position selection was rounded to the closest supercell (`IfRelativeGlobalPositionImpl`).

#### Changes to “0.2.3”

##### Bug Fixes:

- ionization: charge of ions with `boundElectrons` attribute #1844
- particle manipulators: position offset, e.g. in `IfRelativeGlobalPositionImpl` rounded to supercell #1852 #1910
- PMacc:
  - remove `BOOST_BIND_NO_PLACEHOLDERS` #1849



- add missing HDINLINE #1825
- CudaEvent: cyclic include #1836
- plugins:
  - std includes: never inside namespaces #1835
  - HDF5/ADIOS openPMD:
    - \* GridSpacing, GlobalOffset #1900
    - \* ill-places helper includes #1846

Thanks to Axel Huebl, René Widera, Thomas Kluge, Richard Pausch and Rémi Lehe for spotting the issues and providing fixes!

## 1.5.7 0.2.3

**Date:** 2017-02-14

Energy Density, Ionization NaNs and openPMD

This release fixes energy density output, minor openPMD issues, corrects a broken species manipulator to derive density weighted particle distributions, fixes a rounding issue in ionization routines that can cause simulation corruption for very small particle weightings and allows the moving window to start immediately with timestep zero. For ionization input, we now verify that the number of arguments in the input table matches the ion species' proton number.

### Changes to “0.2.2”

#### Bug Fixes:

- openPMD:
  - iterationFormat only basename #1751
  - ADIOS trait for bool #1756
  - boundElectrons: non-weighted attribute #1808
- RatioWeighting (DensityWeighting) manipulator #1759
- MovingWindow: slide\_point now can be set to zero #1783
- energy density #1750 #1744 (partial)
- possible NAN momenta in ionization #1817
- tbg bash templates were outdated/broken #1831

#### Misc:

- ConstVector:
  - check arguments init full length #1803
  - float to int cast warnings #1819
- verify number of ionization energy levels == proton number #1809

Thanks to Axel Huebl, René Widera, Richard Pausch, Alexander Debus, Marco Garten, Heiko Burau and Thomas Kluge for spotting the issues and providing fixes!

## 1.5.8 0.2.2

**Date:** 2017-01-04

Laser wavepacket, vacuum openPMD & icc

This release fixes a broken laser profile (wavepacket), allows to use icc as the host compiler, fixes a bug when writing openPMD files in simulations without particle species (“vacuum”) and a problem with GPU device selection on shared node usage via `CUDA_VISIBLE_DEVICES`.

### Changes to “0.2.1”

#### Bug Fixes:

- add missing minus sign wavepacket laser transversal #1722
- write openPMD meta data without species #1718
- device selection: guard valid range #1665
- PMacc icc compatibility:
  - MapTuple #1648
  - AllCombinations #1646

#### Misc:

- refactor `InheritLinearly` #1647

Thanks to René Widera and Richard Pausch for spotting the issues and providing fixes!

## 1.5.9 0.2.1

**Date:** 2016-11-29

QED synchrotron photon & fix potential deadlock in checkpoints

This releases fixes a potential deadlock encountered during checkpoints and initialization. Furthermore, we forgot to highlight that the 0.2.0 release also included a QED synchrotron emission scheme (based on the review in A. Gonoskov et al., PRE 92, 2015).

### Changes to “0.2.0”

#### Bug Fixes:

- potential event system deadlock init/checkpoints #1659

Thank you to René Widera for spotting & fixing and Heiko Burau for the QED synchrotron photon emission implementation!

## 1.5.10 0.2.0 “Beta”

**Date:** 2016-11-24

Beta release: full multiple species support & openPMD

This release of PIconGPU, providing “beta” status for users, implements full multi-species support for an arbitrary number of particle species and refactors our main I/O to be formatted as openPMD (see <http://openPMD.org>). Several major features have been implemented and stabilized, highlights include refactored ADIOS support (including checkpoints), a classical radiation reaction pusher (based on the work of M. Vranic/IST), parallel particle-IDs, generalized on-the-fly particle creation, advanced field ionization schemes and unification of plugin and file names.

This is our last C++98 compatible release (for CUDA 5.5-7.0). Upcoming releases will be C++11 only (CUDA 7.5+), which is already supported in this release, too.

Thank you to Axel Huebl, René Widera, Alexander Grund, Richard Pausch, Heiko Burau, Alexander Debus, Marco Garten, Benjamin Worpitz, Erik Zenker, Frank Winkler, Carlchristian Eckert, Stefan Tietze, Benjamin Schneider, Maximilian Knespel and Michael Bussmann for contributions to this release!

## Changes to “0.1.0”

Input file changes: the generalized versions of input files are as always in `src/picongpu/include/simulation_defines/`.

### .param file changes:

- all `const` parameters are now `BOOST_CONSTEXPR_OR_CONST`
- add pusher with radiation reaction (Reduced Landau Lifshitz) #1216
- add manipulator for setting `boundElectrons<>` attribute #768
- add `PMACC_CONST_VECTOR` for ionization energies #768 #1022
- `ionizationEnergies.param` #865
- `speciesAttributes.param`: add ionization model ADK (Ammosov-Delone-Krainov) for lin. pol. and circ. pol cases #922 #1541
- `speciesAttributes.param`: rename BSI to BSIHydrogenLike, add BSISTarkShifted and BSIEffectiveZ #1423
- `laserConfig.param`: documentation fixed and clarified #1043 #1232 #1312 #1477
- `speciesAttributes.param`: new required traits for each attribute #1483
- `species*.param`: refactor species mass/charge definition (relative to base mass/charge) #948
- `seed.param`: added for random number generator seeds #951
- remove use of native `double` and `float` #984 #991
- `speciesConstants.param`: move magic gamma cutoff value from radition plugin here #713
- remove invalid `typename` #926 #944

### .unitless file changes:

- add pusher with radiation reaction (Reduced Landau Lifshitz) #1216
- pusher traits simplified #1515
- fieldSolver: `numericalCellType` is now a namespace not a class #1319
- remove usage of native `double` and `float` #983 #991
- remove invalid `typename` #926
- add new param file: `synchrotronPhotons.param` #1354
- improve the CFL condition depending on dimension in KHI example #774
- add `laserPolynom` as option to `componentsConfig.param` #772

### tbg: template syntax

Please be aware that templates (`.tpl`) used by tbg for job submission changed slightly. Simply use the new system-wise templates from `src/picongpu/submit/`. #695 #1609 #1618

Due to unifications in our command line options (plugins) and multi-species support, please update your `.cfg` files with the new namings. Please visit `doc/TBG_macros.cfg` and our wiki for examples.

### New Features:

- description of 2D3V simulations is now scaled to a user-defined “dZ” depth looking like a one-z-cell 3D simulation #249 #1569 #1601
- current interpolation/smoothing added #888
- add synchrotron radiation of photons from QED- and classical spectrum #1354 #1299 #1398
- species attributes:
  - particle ids for tracking #1410
  - self-describing units and dimensionality #1261
  - add trait `GetDensityRatio`, add attribute `densityRatio`
  - current solver is now a optional for a species #1228
  - interpolation is now a optional attribute for a species #1229
  - particle pusher is now a optional attribute for a species #1226
  - add species shape piecewise biquadratic spline P4S #781
- species initialization:
  - add general particle creation module #1353
  - new manipulators to clone electrons from ions #1018
  - add manipulator to change the in cell position after gas creation #947 #959
  - documentation #961
- species pushers:
  - enable the way for substepping particle pushers as RLL
    - \* add pusher with radiation reaction (Reduced Landau Lifshitz) #1216
    - \* enable substepping in pushers #1201 #1215 #1339 #1210 #1202 #1221
    - \* add Runge Kutta solver #1177
    - \* enable use of macro-particle weighting in pushers #1213
  - support 2D for all pushers #1126
- refactor gas profile definitions #730 #980 #1265
- extend `FieldToParticleInterpolation` to 1D- and 2D-valued fields #1452
- command line options:
  - parameter validation #863
  - support for `--softRestarts <n>` to loop simulations #1305
  - a simulation `--author` can be specified (I/O, etc.) #1296 #1297
  - calling `./picongpu` without arguments triggers `--help` #1294
- `FieldTmp`:
  - scalar fields renamed #1259 #1387 #1523
  - momentum over component #1481
- new traits:
  - `GetStringProperties` for all solvers and species flags #1514 #1519
  - `MacroWeighted` and `WeightingPower` #1445
- speedup current deposition solver `ZigZag` #927
- speedup particle operations with collective atomics #1016

- refactor particle update call #1377
- enable 2D for single particle test #1203
- laser implementations:
  - add phase to all laser implementations #708
  - add in-plane polarization to TWTS laser #852
  - refactor specific float use in laser polynom #782
  - refactored TWTS laser #704
- checkpoints: now self-test if any errors occurred before them #897
- plugins:
  - add 2D support for SliceFieldPrinter plugin #845
  - notify plugins on particles leaving simulation #1394
  - png: threaded, less memory hungry in 2D3V, with author information #995 #1076 #1086 #1251 #1281 #1292 #1298 #1311 #1464 #1465
  - openPMD support in I/O
    - \* HDF5 and ADIOS plugin refactored #1427 #1428 #1430 #1478 #1517 #1520 #1522 #1529
    - \* more helpers added #1321 #1323 #1518
    - \* both write now in a sub-directory in simOutput: h5/ and bp/ #1530
    - \* getUnit and getUnitDimension in all fields & attributes #1429
  - ADIOS:
    - \* prepare particles on host side before dumping #907
    - \* speedup with OpenMP #908
    - \* options to control striping & meta file creation #1062
    - \* update to 1.10.0+ #1063 #1557
    - \* checkpoints & restarts implemented #679 #828 #900
  - speedup radiation #996
  - add charge conservation plugin #790
  - add calorimeter plugin #1376
  - radiation:
    - \* ease restart on command line #866
    - \* output is now openPMD compatible #737 #1053
    - \* enable compression for hdf5 output #803
    - \* refactor specific float use #778
    - \* refactor radiation window function for 2D/3D #799
- tools:
  - add error when trying to compile picongpu with CUDA 7.5 w/o C++11 #1384
  - add tool to load hdf5 radiation data into python #1332
  - add uncrustify tool (format the code) #767
  - live visualisation client: set fps panel always visible #1240
  - tbg:

- \* simplify usage of `-p|--project` #1267
- \* transfers UNIX-permissions from `*.tpl` to `submit.start` #1140
- new charge conservation tools #1102, #1118, #1132, #1178
- improve heating tool to support unfinished and single simulations #729
- support for python3 #1134
- improve graphics of numerical heating tool #742
- speed up `sliceFieldReader.py` #1399
- ionization models:
  - add possibility for starting simulation with neutral atoms #768
  - generalize BSI: rename BSI to BSIHydrogenLike, add BSIS StarkShifted and BSIEffectiveZ #1423
  - add ADK (Ammosov-Delone-Krainov) for lin. pol. and circ. pol cases #922 #1490 #1541 #1542
  - add Keldysh #1543
  - make use of faster RNG for Monte-Carlo with ionization #1542 #1543
- support radiation + ionization in LWFA example #868
- PMacc:
  - running with synchronized (blocking) kernels now adds more useful output #725
  - add RNGProvider for persistent PRNG states #1236, #1493
  - add MRG32k3a RNG generator #1487
  - move `readCheckpointMasterFile` to PMacc #1498
  - unify cuda error printing #1484
  - add particle ID provider #1409 #1373
  - split off `HostDeviceBuffer` from `GridBuffer` #1370
  - add a policy to `GetKeyFromAlias` #1252
  - Add border mapping #1133, #1169 #1224
  - make cuSTL gather accept `CartBuffers` and handle pitches #1196
  - add reference accessors to complex type #1198
  - add more rounding functions #1099
  - add conversion operator from `uint3` to `Dataspace` #1145
  - add more specializations to `GetMPI_StructAsArray` #1088
  - implement `cartBuffer` conversion for `HostBuffer` #1092
  - add a policy for async communication #1079
  - add policies for handling particles in guard cells #1077
  - support more types in `atomicAddInc` and `warpBroadcast` #1078
  - calculate better seeds #1040 #1046
  - move `MallocMCBuffer` to PMacc #1034
  - move `TypeToPointerPair` to PMacc #1033
  - add 1D, 2D and 3D linear interpolation cursor #1217 #1448
  - add method `‘getPluginFromType()’` to `PluginConnector` #1393
  - math:

- \* add abs, asin, acos, atan, log10, fmod, modf, floor to algorithms::math #837 #1218 #1334 #1362 #1363 #1374 #1473
- \* precisionCast<> for PMacc::math::Vector<> #746
- \* support for boost::mpl::integral\_c<> in math::CT::Vector<> #802
- \* add complex support #664
- add cuSTL/MapTo1DNavigator #940
- add 2D support for cuSTL::algorithm::mpi::Gather #844
- names for exchanges #1511
- rename EnvMemoryInfo to MemoryInfo #1301
- mallocMC (*Memory Allocator for Many Core Architectures*) #640 #747 #903 #977 #1171 #1148
  - \* remove HeapDataBox, RingDataBox, HeapBuffer, RingBuffer #640
  - \* out of heap memory detection #756
  - \* support to read mallocMC heap on host side #905
- add multi species support for plugins #794
- add traits:
  - \* GetDataBoxType #728
  - \* FilterByFlag #1219
  - \* GetUniqueTypeId #957 #962
  - \* GetDefaultConstructibleType #1045
  - \* GetInitializedInstance #1447
  - \* ResolveAliasFromSpecies #1451
  - \* GetStringProperties #1507
- add pointer class for particles FramePointer #1055
- independent sizes on device for GridBuffer<>::addExchange
- Communicator: query periodic directions #1510
- add host side support for kernel index mapper #902
- optimize size of particle frame for border frames #949
- add pre-processor macro for struct generation #972
- add warp collective atomic function #1013
- speedup particle operations with collective atomics #1014
- add support to deselect unknown attributes in a particle #1524
- add boost.test #1245
  - \* test for HostBufferIntern #1258
  - \* test for setValue() #1268
- add resource monitor #1456
- add MSVC compatibility #816 #821 #931
- const box'es return const pointer #945
- refactor host/device identifier #946

#### Bug Fixes:

- laser implementations:
  - make math calls more robust & portable #1160
  - amplitude of Gaussian beam in 2D3V simulations #1052 #1090
  - avoid non zero E-field integral in plane wave #851
  - fix length setup of plane wave laser #881
  - few-cycle wavepacket #875
  - fix documentaion of `a_0` conversation #1043
- FieldTmp Lamor power calculation #1287
- field solver:
  - stricter condition checks #880
  - 2D3V `NoSolver` did not compile #1073
  - more experimental methods for DS #894
  - experimental: possible out of memory access in directional splitting #890
- moving window moved not exactly with c #1273 #1337 #1549
- 2D3V: possible race conditions for very small, non-default super-cells in current deposition (`StrideMapping`) #1405
- experimental: 2D3V zigzag current deposition fix for `v_z != 0` #823
- vacuum: division by zero in `Quiet` particle start #1527
- remove variable length arrays #932
- gas (density) profiles:
  - `gasFreeFormula` #988 #899
  - `gaussianCloud` #807 #1136 #1265
- C++ should catch by const reference #1295
- fix possible underflow on low memory situations #1188
- C++11 compatibility: use `BOOST_STATIC_CONSTEXPR` where possible #1165
- avoid CUDA 6.5 `int(bool)` cast bug #680
- PMacc detection in CMake #808
- PMacc:
  - `EventPool` could run out of free events, potential deadlock #1631
  - `Particle<>`: avoid using `CUDA lmem` #1579
  - possible deadlock in event system could freeze simulation #1326
  - `HostBuffer` includes & constructor #1255 #1596
  - const references in `Foreach` #1593
  - initialize pointers with `NULL` before `cudaMalloc` #1180
  - report device properties of correct GPU #1115
  - rename `types.h` to `pmacc_types.hpp` #1367
  - add missing const for getter in `GridLayout` #1492
  - Cuda event fix to avoid deadlock #1485
  - use `Host DataBox` in `Hostbuffer` #1467



- allow 1D in CommunicatorMPI #1412
- use better type for params in vector #1223
- use correct sqrt function for abs(Vector) #1461
- fix CMAKE\_PREFIX\_PATHs #1391, #1390
- remove unnecessary floating point ops from reduce #1212
- set pointers to NULL before calling cudaMalloc #1180
- do not allocate memory if not gather root #1181
- load plugins in registered order #1174
- C++11 compatibility: use BOOST\_STATIC\_CONSTEXPR where possible #1176 #1175
- fix usage of boost::result\_of #1151
- use correct device number #1115
- fix vector shrink function #1113
- split EventSystem.hpp into.hpp and.hpp #1068
- fix move operators of CartBuffer #1091
- missing includes in MapTuple #627
- GoL example: fix offset #1023
- remove deprecated throw declarations #1000
- cuSTL:
  - \* cudaPitchedPtr.xsize used wrong #1234
  - \* gather for supporting static load balancing #1244
  - \* reduce #936
  - \* throw exception on cuda error #1235
  - \* DeviceBuffer assign operator #1375, #1308, #1463, #1435, #1401, #1220, #1197
  - \* Host/DeviceBuffers: Constructors (Pointers) #1094
  - \* let kernel/runtime/Foreach compute best BlockDim #1309
- compile with CUDA 7.0 #748
- device selection with process exclusive enabled #757
- math::Vector<> assignment #806
- math::Vector<> copy constructor #872
- operator[] in ConstVector #981
- empty AllCombinations<...> #1230
- racecondition in kernelShiftParticles #1049
- warning in FieldManipulator #1254
- memory pitch bug in MultiBox and PitchedBox #1096
- math::abs() for the type double #1470
- invalid kernel call in kernelSetValue<> #1407
- data alignment for kernel parameter #1566
- rsqrt usage on host #967
- invalid namespace qualifier #968

- missing namespace prefix #971
- plugins:
  - radiation:
    - \* enable multi species for radiation plugin #1454
    - \* compile issues with math in radiation #1552
    - \* documentation of radiation observer setup #1422
    - \* gamma filter in radiation plugin #1421
    - \* improve vector type name encapsuling #998
    - \* safeguard restart #716
  - CUDA 7.0+ warning in `PhaseSpace` #750
  - racecondition in `ConcatListOfFrames` #1278
  - illegal memory acces in `Visualisation` #1526
  - HDF5 restart: particle offset overflow fixed #721
- tools:
  - `mpiInfo`: add missing include #786
  - actually exit when pression no in `compilesuite` #1411
  - fix incorrect mangling of params #1385
  - remove deprecated throw declarations #1003
  - make tool python3 compatible #1416
  - trace generating tool #1264
  - `png2gas` memory leak fixed #1222
  - `tbG`:
    - \* quoting interpretation #801
    - \* variable assignments stay in `.start` files #695 #1609
    - \* multiple variable use in one line possible #699 #1610
    - \* failing assignments at template evaluation time keep vars undefined #1611
  - heating tool supports multi species #729
  - fix numerical heating tool normalization #825
  - fix logic behind fill color of numerical heating tool #779
- `libSplash` minimum version check #1284

**Misc:**

- 2D3V simulations are now honoring the cell “depth” in z to make density interpretations easier #1569
- update documentation for dependencies and installation #1556, 1557, #1559, #1127
- refactor usage of several math functions #1462, #1468
- `FieldJ` interface `clear()` replaced with an explicit `assign(x)` #1335
- templates for known systems updated:
  - renaming directories into “cluster-insitution”
  - `tbG` copies `cmakeFlags` now #1101
  - `tbG` aborts if `mkdir` fails #797

- `*tpl & *.profile.example` files updated
- system updates: #937 #1266 #1297 #1329 #1364 #1426 #1512 #1443 #1493
  - \* Lawrenceium (LBNL)
  - \* Titan/Rhea (ORNL)
  - \* Piz Daint (CSCS)
  - \* Taurus (TUD) #1081 #1130 #1114 #1116 #1111 #1137
- replace deprecated CUDA calls #758
- remove support for CUDA devices with `sm_10`, `sm_11`, `sm_12` and `sm_13` #813
- remove unused/unsupported/broken plugins #773 843
  - IntensityPlugin, LiveViewPlugin(2D), SumCurrents, divJ #843
- refactor `value_identifier` #964
- remove native type `double` and `float` #985 #990
- remove `__startAtomicTransaction()` #1233
- remove `__syncthreads()` after shared memory allocation #1082
- refactor `ParticleBox` interface #1243
- rotating root in `GatherSlice` (reduce load of master node) #992
- reduce `GatherSlice` memory footprint #1282
- remove `None` type of `ionize`, `pusher` #1238 #1227
- remove math function implementations from `Vector.hpp`
- remove unused defines #921
- remove deprecated `thow` declaration #918
- remove invalid `typename` #917 #933
- rename particle algorithms from `...clone...` to `...derive...` #1525
- remove math functions from `Vector.hpp` #1472
- radiation plugin remove `uint` with `uint32_t` #1007
- GoL example: CMake modernized #1138
- `INSTALL.md`
  - moved from `/doc/` to `/`
  - now in root of the repo #1521
  - add environment variable `$PICHOME` #1162
  - more portable #1164
  - arch linux instructions #1065
- refactor ionization towards independence from `Particle` class #874
- update submit templates for `hypnos` #860 #861 #862
- doxygen config and code modernized #1371 #1388
- cleanup of `stdlib` includes #1342 #1346 #1347 #1348 #1368 #1389
- boost 1.60.0 only builds in C++11 mode #1315 #1324 #1325
- update minimal CMake version to 3.1.0 #1289
- simplify `HostMemAssigner` #1320

- add asserts to cuSTL containers #1248
- rename TwistVectorAxes -> TwistComponents (cuSTL) #893
- add more robust namespace qualifiers #839 #969 #847 #974
- cleanup code #885 #814 #815 #915 #920 #1027 #1011 #1009
- correct spelling #934 #938 #941
- add compile test for ALL pushers #1205
- tools:
  - adjust executable rights and shebang #1110 #1107 #1104 #1085 #1143
  - live visualization client added #681 #835 #1408
- CMake
  - modernized #1139
  - only allow out-of-source builds #1119
  - cleanup score-p section #1413
  - add OpenMP support #904
- shipped third party updates:
  - restructured #717
  - cuda\_memtest #770 #1159
  - CMake modules #1087 #1310 #1533
- removed several -Wshadow warnings #1039 #1061 #1070 #1071

### 1.5.11 0.1.0

**Date:** 2015-05-21

This is version 0.1.0 of PICongGPU, a *pre-beta* version.

Initial field ionization support was added, including the first model for BSI. The code-base was substantially hardened, fixing several minor and major issues. Especially, several restart related issues, an issue with 2D3V zigzag current calculation and a memory issue with Jetson TK1 boards were fixed. A work-around for a critical CUDA 6.5 compiler bug was applied to all affected parts of the code.

#### Changes to “Open Beta RC6”

**.param file changes:** See full syntax for each file at <https://github.com/ComputationalRadiationPhysics/picongpu/tree/0.1.0/src/picongpu>

- componentsConfig.param & gasConfig.param fix typo gasHomogeneous #577
- physicalConstants.param: new variable GAMMA\_THRESH #669
- speciesAttributes.param: new identifier boundElectrons and new aliases ionizer, atomicNumbers
- ionizationEnergies.param, ionizerConfig.param: added

**.unitless file changes:** See full syntax for each file at <https://github.com/ComputationalRadiationPhysics/picongpu/tree/0.1.0/src/picongpu>

- gasConfig.unitless: typo in gasHomogeneous #577
- speciesAttributes.unitless: new unit for boundElectrons identifier
- speciesDefinition.unitless: new traits GetCharge, GetMass, GetChargeState and added ionizers

- `ionizerConfig.unitless`: added

### New Features:

- initial support for field ionization:
  - basic framework and BSI #595
  - attribute (constant flag) for proton and neutron number #687 #731
  - attribute `boundElectrons` #706
- tools:
  - python scripts:
    - \* new reader for `SliceFieldPrinter` plugin #578
    - \* new analyzer tool for numerical heating #672 #692
  - `cuda_memtest`:
    - \* 32bit host system support (Jetson TK1) #583
    - \* works without `nvidia-smi`, `grep` or `gawk` - optional with NVML for GPU serial number detection (Jetson TK1) #626
  - `splash2txt`:
    - \* removed build option `S2T_RELEASE` and uses `CMAKE_BUILD_TYPE` #591
  - `tbg`:
    - \* allows for defaults for `-s`, `-t`, `-c` via env vars #613 #622
  - 3D live visualization: server tool that collects `clients` and simulations was published #641
- new/updated particle traits and attributes:
  - `getCharge`, `getMass` #596
  - attributes are now automatically initialized to their generic defaults #607 #615
- PMacc:
  - machine-dependent `UInt` vector class is now split in explicit `UInt32` and `UInt64` classes #665
  - nvidia random number generators (RNG) refactored #711
- plugins:
  - background fields do now affect plugins/outputs #600
  - Radiation uses/requires HDF5 output #419 #610 #628 #646 #716
  - `SliceFieldPrinter` supports `FieldJ`, output in one file, updated command-line syntax #548
  - `CountParticles`, `EnergyFields`, `EnergyParticles` support restarts without overwriting their previous output #636 #703

### Bug Fixes:

- CUDA 6.5: `int(bool)` casts were broken (affects plugins `BinEnergyParticles`, `PhaseSpace` and might had an effect on methods of the basic PIC cycle) #570 #651 #656 #657 #678 #680
- the ZigZag current solver was broken for 2D3V if non-zero momentum-components in z direction were used (e.g. warm plasmas or purely transversal KHI) #823
- host-device-shared memory (SoC) support was broken (Jetson TK1) #633
- boost 1.56.0+ support via `Resolve<T>` trait #588 #593 #594
- potential race condition in field update and pusher #604
- using `--gridDist` could cause a segfault when adding additional arguments, e.g., in 2D3V setups #638

- `MessageHeader` (used in png and 2D live visualization) leaked memory #683
- restarts with HDF5:
  - static load-balancing via `--gridDist` in y-direction was broken #639
  - parallel setups with particle-empty GPUs hung with HDF5 #609 #611 #642
  - 2D3V field reads were broken (each field's z-component was not initialized with the checkpointed values again, e.g., `B_z`) #688 #689
  - loading more than 4 billion global particles was potentially broken #721
- plugins:
  - Visualization (png & 2D live sim) memory bug in double precision runs #621
  - ADIOS
    - \* storing more than 4 billion particles was broken #666
    - \* default of `adios.aggregators` was broken (now = `MPI_Size`) #662
    - \* parallel setups with particle-empty GPUs did hang #661
  - HDF5/ADIOS output of grid-mapped particle energy for non-relativistic particles was zero #669
- PMacc:
  - CMake: path detection could fail #796 #808
  - `DeviceBuffer<*, DIM3>::getPointer()` was broken (does not affect PICongPU) #647
  - empty super-cell memory foot print reduced #648
  - `float2int` return type should be `int` #623
  - CUDA 7:
    - \* `cuSTL` prefixed templates with `_` are not allowed; usage of static `dim` member #630
    - \* explicit call to `template-ed operator()` to avoid warning #750
    - \* `EnvironmentController` caused a warning about extendend friend syntax #644
  - multi-GPU nodes might fail to start up when not using default compute mode with CUDA 7 drivers #643

**Misc:**

- HDF5 support requires libSplash 1.2.4+ #642 #715
- various code clean-up for MSVC #563 #564 #566 #624 #625
- plugins:
  - removed `LineSliceFields` #590
  - png plugin write speedup 2.3x by increasing file size about 12% #698
- updated contribution guidelines, install, cfg examples #601 #598 #617 #620 #673 #700 #714
- updated module examples and cfg files for:
  - lawrencium (LBL) #612
  - titan (ORNL) #618
  - hypnos (HZDR) #670
- an `Empty` example was added, which defaults to the setup given by all `.param` files in default mode (a standard PIC cycle without lasers nor particles), see `src/picongpu/include/simulation_defines/` #634
- some source files had wrong file permissions #668

### 1.5.12 Open Beta RC6

**Date:** 2014-11-25

This is the 6th release candidate, a *pre-beta* version.

Initial “multiple species” support was added for flexible particles, but is yet still limited to two species. The checkpoint system was refactored and unified, also incorporating extreme high file I/O bandwidth with ADIOS 1.7+ support. The JetsonTK1 development kit (32bit ARM host side) is now experimentally supported by PMacc/PICongPU. The *ZigZag* current deposition scheme was implemented providing 40% to 50% speedup over our optimized Esirkepov implementation.

#### Changes to “Open Beta RC5”

##### .param file changes:

- Restructured file output control (HDF5/ADIOS), new `fileOutput.param` #495
- `componentsConfig.param`: particle pushers and current solvers moved to new files:
  - `species.param`: general definitions to change all species at once (pusher, current solver)
  - `pusherConfig.param`: special tweaks for individual particle pushers, forward declarations re-structured
  - `particleConfig.param`: shapes moved to `species.param`, still defines initial momentum/temperature
  - `speciesAttributes.param`: defines *unique* attributes that can be used across all particle species
  - `speciesDefinition.param`: finally, assign common attributes from `speciesAttributes.param` and methods from `species.param` to define individual species, also defines a general compile time “list” of all available species
- `currentConfig.param`: removed (contained only forward declarations)
- `particleDefinition.param`: removed, now in `speciesAttributes.param`
- `laserConfig.param`: new polarization/focus sections for plane wave and wave-packet: `git diff --ignore-space-change beta-rc5..beta-rc6 src/picongpu/include/simulation_defines/param/laserConfig.param`
- `memory.param`: remove `TILE_` globals and define general `SuperCellSize` and `MappingDesc` instead #435

##### .unitless file changes:

- `fileOutput.unitless`: restructured and moved to `fileOutput.param`
- `checkpoint.unitless`: removed some includes
- `currentConfig.unitless`: removed
- `gasConfig.unitless`: calculate 3D gas density (per volume) and 2D surface charge density (per area) #445
- `gridConfig.unitless`: include changed
- `laserConfig.unitless`: added ellipsoid for wave packet
- `physicalConstants.unitless`: `GAS_DENSITY_NORMED` fixed for 2D #445
- `pusherConfig.unitless`: restructured, according to `pusherConfig.param`
- `memory.unitless`: removed #435
- `particleDefinition.unitless`: removed
- `speciesAttributes.unitless`: added, contains traits to access species attributes (e.g., position)

- `speciesDefinition.unitless`: added, contains traits to access quasi-fixed attributes (e.g., charge/mass)

**New Features:**

- ZigZag current deposition scheme #436 #476
- initial multi/generic particle species support #457 #474 #516
- plugins
  - BinEnergy supports clean restarts without losing old files #540
  - phase space now works in 2D3V, with arbitrary super cells and with multiple species #463 #470 #480
  - radiation: 2D support #527 #530
- tools
  - splash2txt now supports ADIOS files #531 #545
- plane wave & wave packet lasers support user-defined polarization #534 #535
- wave packet lasers can be ellipses #434 #446
- central restart file to store available checkpoints #455
- PMacc
  - added `math::erf` #525
  - experimental 32bit host-side support (JetsonTK1 dev kits) #571
  - `CT::Vector` refactored and new methods added #473
  - cuSTL: better 2D container support #461

**Bug Fixes:**

- esirkepov + CIC current deposition could cause a deadlock in some situations #475
- initialization for `kernelSetDrift` was broken (traversal of frame lists, CUDA 5.5+) #538 #539
- the particleToField deposition (e.g. in FieldTmp solvers for analysis) forgot a small fraction of the particle #559
- PMacc
  - no `static` keyword for non-storage class functions/members (CUDA 6.5+) #483 #484
  - fix a game-of-life compile error #550
  - ParticleBox `setAsLastFrame/setAsFirstFrame` race condition (PICongPU was not affected) #514
- tools
  - tbg caused errors on empty variables, tabs, ampersands, comments #485 #488 #528 #529
- dt/CFL ratio in stdout corrected #512
- 2D live view: fix out-of-mem access #439 #452

**Misc:**

- updated module examples and cfg files for:
  - hypnos (HZDR) #573 #575
  - taurus (ZIH/TUDD) #558
  - titan (ORNL) #489 #490 #492
- Esirkepov register usage (stack frames) reduced #533
- plugins



- EnergyFields output refactored and clarified #447 #502
- warnings fixed #479
- ADIOS
  - \* upgraded to 1.7+ support #450 #494
  - \* meta attributes synchronized with HDF5 output #499
- tools
  - splash2txt updates
    - \* requires libSplash 1.2.3+ #565
    - \* handle exceptions more transparently #556
    - \* fix listing of data sets #549 #555
    - \* fix warnings #553
  - BinEnergyPlot: refactored #542
  - memtest: warnings fixed #521
  - pic2xdmf: refactor XDMF output format #503 #504 #505 #506 #507 #508 #509
  - paraview config updated for hypnos #493
- compile suite
  - reduce verbosity #467
  - remove virtual machine and add access-control list #456 #465
- upgraded to ADIOS 1.7+ support #450 #494
- boost 1.55.0 / nvcc <6.5 work around only applied for affected versions #560
- `boost::mkdir` is now used where necessary to increase portability #460
- PMacc
  - ForEach refactored #427
  - plugins: `notify()` is now called *before* `checkpoint()` and a getter method was added to retrieve the last call's time step #541
  - DomainInfo and SubGrid refactored and redefined #416 #537
  - event system overhead reduced by 3-5% #536
  - warnings fixed #487 #515
  - `cudaSetDeviceFlags`: uses `cudaDeviceScheduleSpin` now #481 #482
  - `__delete` makro used more consequently #443
  - static asserts refactored and messages added #437
- coding style / white space cleanups #520 #522 #519
- git / GitHub / documentation
  - pyc (compiled python files) are now ignored #526
  - pull requests: description is mandatory #524
- mallocMC cmake `find_package` module added #468

### 1.5.13 Open Beta RC5

**Date:** 2014-06-04

This is the 5th release candidate, a *pre-beta* version.

We rebuild our complete plugin and restart scheme, most of these changes are not backwards compatible and you will have to upgrade to libSplash 1.2+ for HDF5 output (this just means: you can not restart from a beta-rc4 checkpoint with this release).

HDF5 output with libSplash does not contain *ghost/guard* data any more. These information are just necessary for checkpoints (which are now separated from the regular output).

#### Changes to “Open Beta RC4”

##### .param file changes:

- Added selection of optional window functions in `radiationConfig.param` #286
- Added more window functions in `radiationConfig.param` #320
- removed `double #define __COHERENTINCOHERENTWEIGHTING__ 1` in some examples `radiationConfig.param` #323
- new file: `seed.param` allows to vary the starting conditions of “identical” runs #353
- Updated a huge amount of `.param` files to remove outdated comments #384
- Update `gasConfig.param/gasConfig.unitless` and doc string in `componentsConfig.param` with new `gasFromHdf5` profile #280

##### .unitless file changes:

- update `fileOutput.unitless` and add new file checkpoints `unitless` #387
- update `fieldSolver.unitless` #314
- Update `radiationConfig.unitless`: adjust to new supercell size naming #394
- Corrected CFL criteria (to be less conservative) in `gridConfig.unitless` #371

##### New Features:

- Radiation plugin: add optional window functions to reduce ringing effects caused by sharp boundaries #286 #323 #320
- load gas profiles from png #280
- restart mechanism rebuild #326 #375 #358 #387 #376 #417
- new unified naming scheme for domain and window sizes/offsets #128 #334 #396 #403 #413 #421
- base seed for binary identical simulations now exposed in `seed.param` #351 #353
- particle kernels without “early returns” #359 #360
- lowered memory foot print during `shiftParticles` #367
- `ShiftCoordinateSystem` refactored #414
- tools:
  - `tbh` warns about broken line continuations in `tpl` files #259
  - new CMake modules for: ADIOS, libSplash, PNGwriter #271 #304 #307 #308 #406
  - `pic2xdmf`
    - \* supports information tags #290 #294
    - \* one xdmf for grids and one for particles #318 #345

- Vampir and Score-P support updated/added #293 #291 #399 #422
- ParaView remote server description for Hypnos (HZDR) added #355 #397
- plugins
  - former name: “modules” #283
  - completely refactored #287 #336 #342 #344
  - restart capabilities added (partially) #315 #326 #425
  - new 2D phase space analysis added (for 3D sims and one species at a time) #347 #364 #391 #407
  - libSplash 1.2+ upgrade (incompatible output to previous versions) #388 #402
- PMacc
  - new Environment class provides all singletons #254 #276 #404 #405
  - new particle traits, methods and flags #279 #306 #311 #314 #312
  - cuSTL ForEach on 1-3D data sets #335
  - cuSTL twistVectorAxes refactored #370
  - NumberOfExchanges replaced numberOfNeighbors implementation #362
  - new math functions: tan, float2int\_rd (host) #374 #410
  - CT::Vector now supports ::shrink #392

#### Bug fixes:

- CUDA 5.5 and 6.0 support was broken #401
- command line argument parser messages were broken #281 #270 #309
- avoid deadlock in computeCurrent, remove early returns #359
- particles that move in the absorbing GUARD are now cleaned up #363
- CFL criteria fixed (the old one was too conservative) #165 #371 #379
- non-GPU-aware (old-stable) MPI versions could malformed host-side pinned/page-locked buffers for subsequent cudaMalloc/cudaFree calls (core routines not affected) #438
- ADIOS
  - particle output was broken #296
  - CMake build was broken #260 #268
- libSplash
  - output performance drastically improved #297
- PMacc
  - GameOfLife example was broken #295
  - log compile broken for high log level #372
  - global reduce did not work for references/const #448
  - cuSTL assign was broken for big data sets #431
  - cuSTL reduce minor memory leak fixed #433
- compile suite updated and messages escaped #301 #385
- plugins
  - BinEnergyParticles header corrected #317 #319
  - PNG undefined buffer values fixed #339

- PNG in 2D did not ignore invalid slides #432
- examples
  - Kelvin-Helmholtz example box size corrected #352
  - Bunch/SingleParticleRadiationWithLaser observation angle fixed #424

**Misc:**

- more generic 2 vs 3D algorithms #255
- experimental PGI support removed #257
- gcc 4.3 support dropped #264
- various gcc warnings fixed #266 #284
- CMake 3.8.12-2 warnings fixed #366
- picongpu.profile example added for
  - Titan (ORNL) #263
  - Hypnos (HZDR) #415
- documentation updated #275 #337 #338 #357 #409
- wiki started: plugins, developer hints, simulation control, examples #288 #321 #328
- particle interfaces cleaned up #278
- ParticleToGrid kernels refactored #329
- slide log is now part of the SIMULATION\_STATE level #354
- additional NGP current implementation removed #429
- PMacc
  - GameOfLife example documented #305
  - compile time vector refactored #349
  - shortened compile time template error messages #277
  - cuSTL inline documentation added #365
  - compile time operators and ForEach refactored #380
  - TVec removed in preference of CT::Vector #394
- new developers added #331 #373
- Attribution text updated and BibTex added #428

## 1.5.14 Open Beta RC4

**Date:** 2014-03-07

This is the 4th release candidate, a *pre-beta* version.

### Changes to “Open Beta RC3”

**.param file changes:**

- Removed unnesseary includes #234 from: `observer.hpp`, `physicalConstants.param`, `visColorScales.param`, `visualization.param`, `particleConfig.param`, `gasConfig.param`, `fieldBackground.param`, `particleDefinition.param` see the lines that should be removed in #234

- Renamed `observer.hpp` -> `radiationObserver.param` #237 #241 Changed variable name `N_theta` to `N_observer` <https://github.com/ComputationalRadiationPhysics/picongpu/commit/9e487ec30ade10ece44fc19>
- Added background FieldJ (current) capability #245 Add the following lines to your `fieldBackground.param`: <https://github.com/ComputationalRadiationPhysics/picongpu/commit/7b22f37c6a58250d6623cfbc821c4f996145aac1>

#### New Features:

- 2D support for basic PIC cycle #212
- hdf5 output xdmf meta description added: ParaView/VisIt support #219
- background current (FieldJ) can be added now #245

#### Bug fixes:

- beta-rc3 was broken for some clusters due to an init bug #239
- examples/WeibelTransverse 4 GPU example was broken #221
- smooth script was broken for 1D fields #223
- configure non-existing path did not throw an error #229
- compile time vector “max” was broken #224
- cuda\_memtest did throw false negatives on hypnos #231 #236
- plugin “png” did not compile for missing freetype #248

#### Misc:

- documentation updates
  - radiation post processing scripts #222
  - more meta data in hdf5 output #216
  - tbg help extended and warnings to errors #226
  - doc/PARTICIPATE.md is now GitHub’s CONTRIBUTING.md #247 #252
  - slurm interactive queue one-liner added #250
  - developers updated #251
- clean up / refactoring
  - `cell_size` -> `cellSize` #227
  - `typeCast` -> `precisionCast` #228
  - param file includes (see above for details) #234
  - DataConnector interface redesign #218 #232
  - Esirkepov implementation “paper-like” #238

### 1.5.15 Open Beta RC3

**Date:** 2014-02-14

This is the third release candidate, a *pre-beta* version.

## Changes to “Open Beta RC2”

### .param and .cfg file changes:

- `componentsConfig.param`:
  - remove `simDim` defines #134 #137 (example how to update your existing `componentsConfig.param`, see <https://github.com/ComputationalRadiationPhysics/picongpu/commit/af1f20790ad2aa15e6fc2c9a51d8c870>)
- `dimension.param`: new file with `simDim` setting #134
  - only add this file to your example/test/config if you want to change it from the default value (3D)
- `fieldConfig.param`: renamed to `fieldSolver.param` #131
- `fieldBackground.param`: new file to add external background fields #131
- `cfg` files cleaned up #153 #193

### New Features:

- background fields for E and B #131
- write parallel hdf5 with libSplash 1.1 #141 #151 #156 #191 #196
- new plugins
  - ADIOS output support #179 #196
  - `makroParticleCounter/PerSuperCell` #163
- `cuda_memtest` can check mapped memory now #173
- `EnergyDensity` works for 2-3D now #175
- new type `floatD_X` shall be used for position types (2-3D) #184
- `PMacc`
  - new functors for multiplications and subtractions #135
  - opened more interfaces to old functors #197
  - `MappedMemoryBuffer` added #169 #182
  - unary transformations can be performed on `DataBox`’es now, allowing for non-commutative operations in reduces #204

### Bug fixes:

- `PMacc`
  - `GridBuffer` could deadlock if called uninitialized #149
  - `TaskSetValue` was broken for all arrays with x-size  $\neq n \cdot 256$  #174
  - CUDA 6.0 runs crashed during `cudaSetDeviceFlags` #200
  - extern shared mem could not be used with templated types #199
- `tbg`
  - clarify error message if the `tpl` file does not exist #130
- `HDF5Writer` did not write ions any more #188
- return type of failing Slurm runs fixed #198 #205
- particles in-cell position fixed with cleaner algorithm #209

### Misc:

- documentation improved for
  - `cuSTL` #116

- gasConfig.param describe slopes better (no syntax changes) #126
- agreed on coding guide lines #155 #161 #140
- example documentation started #160 #162 #176
- taurus (slurm based HPC cluster) updates #206
- IDE: ignore Code::Blocks files #125
- Esirkepov performance improvement by 30% #139
- MySimulation asserts refactored for nD #187
- Fields.def with field forward declarations added, refactored to provide common ValueType #178
- icc warnings in cuda\_memcheck fixed #210
- PMacc
  - refactored math::vector to play with DataSpace #138 #147
  - addLicense script updated #167
  - MPI\_CHECK writes to stderr now #168
  - TVec from/to CT::Int conversion #185
  - PositionFilter works for 2-3D now #189 #207
  - DeviceBuffer cudaPitchedPtr handling clean up #186
  - DataBoxDim1Access refactored #202

## 1.5.16 Open Beta RC2

**Date:** 2013-11-27

This is the second release candidate, a *pre-beta* version.

### Changes to “Open Beta RC1”

#### **.param file changes:**

- gasConfig.param:
  - add gasFreeFormula #96 (example how to update your existing gasConfig.param, see <https://github.com/ComputationalRadiationPhysics/picongpu/pull/96/files#diff-1>)
  - add inner radius to gasSphereFlanks #66 (example how to update your existing gasConfig.param, see <https://github.com/ComputationalRadiationPhysics/picongpu/pull/66/files#diff-0>)

#### **New Features:**

- A change log was introduced for master releases #93
- new gas profile “gasFreeFormula” for user defined profiles #96
- CMake (config) #79
  - checks for minimal required versions of dependent libraries #92
  - checks for libSplash version #85
  - update to v2.8.5+ #52
  - implicit plugin selection: enabled if found #52
  - throw more warnings #37
  - experimental support for icc 12.1 and PGI 13.6 #37

- PMacc
  - full rewrite of the way we build particle frames # 86
  - cuSTL: ForEach works on host 1D and 2D data now #44
  - math::pow added #54
  - compile time ForEach added #50
- libSplash
  - dependency upgraded to beta (v1.0) release #80
  - type traits for types PICongPU - libSplash #69
  - splash2txt update to beta interfaces #83
- new particle to grid routines calculating the Larmor energy #68
- dumping multiple FieldTmp to hdf5 now possible #50
- new config for SLURM batch system (taurus) #39

**Bug fixes:**

- PMacc
  - cuSTL
    - \* assign was broken for deviceBuffers #103
    - \* lambda expressions were broken #42 #46 #100
    - \* icc support was broken #100 #101
    - \* views were broken #62
  - InheritGenerator and deselect: icc fix #101
  - VampirTrace (CUPTI) support: cudaDeviceReset added #90
  - GameOfLife example fixed #53 #55
  - warnings in \_\_cudaKernel fixed #51
- picongpu
  - removed all non-ascii chars from job scripts #95 #98
  - CMake
    - \* keep ptx code was broken #82
    - \* PGI: string compare broken #75
    - \* MPI: some libs require to load the C++ dependencies, too #64
    - \* removed deprecated variables #52
    - \* Threads: find package was missing #34
  - various libSplash bugs #78 #80 #84
  - current calculation speedup was broken #72
  - Cell2Particle functor missed to provide static methods #49
- tools
  - compile: script uses -q now implicit for parallel (-j N) tests
  - plotDensity: update to new binary format #47
- libraries
  - boost 1.55 work around, see trac #9392 (nvcc #391854)



#### Misc:

- new reference: SC13 paper, Gordon Bell Finals #106
- new flavoured logo for alpha
- Compile Suite: GitHub integration #33 #35
- dropped CUDA sm\_13 support (now sm\_20+ is required) #42

### 1.5.17 Open Beta RC1

**Date:** 2013-09-05 07:47:03 -0700

This is the first release candidate, a *pre-beta* version. We tagged this state since we started to support sm\_20+ only.

#### Changes to “Open Alpha”

n/a

### 1.5.18 Open Alpha

**Date:** 2013-08-14 02:25:36 -0700

That’s our our open alpha release. The [alpha](#) release is **developer** and **power user** release only! **Users** should wait for our [beta](#) release!



## 2.1 Reference

*Section author: Axel Huebl*

PICongGPU is a year-long, scientific project with many people contributing to it. In order to credit the work of others, we expect you to cite our latest paper describing PICongGPU when publishing and/or presenting scientific results.

In addition to that and out of good scientific practice, you should document the version of PICongGPU that was used and any modifications you applied. A list of releases alongside a DOI to reference it can be found here:

<https://github.com/ComputationalRadiationPhysics/picongpu/releases>

### 2.1.1 Citation

BibTeX code:

```
@inproceedings{PICongGPU2013,
 author = {Bussmann, M. and Burau, H. and Cowan, T. E. and Debus, A. and Huebl, A.
↪and Juckeland, G. and Kluge, T. and Nagel, W. E. and Pausch, R. and Schmitt, F.
↪and Schramm, U. and Schuchart, J. and Widera, R.},
 title = {Radiative Signatures of the Relativistic Kelvin-Helmholtz Instability},
 booktitle = {Proceedings of the International Conference on High Performance
↪Computing, Networking, Storage and Analysis},
 series = {SC '13},
 year = {2013},
 isbn = {978-1-4503-2378-9},
 location = {Denver, Colorado},
 pages = {5:1--5:12},
 articleno = {5},
 numpages = {12},
 url = {http://doi.acm.org/10.1145/2503210.2504564},
 doi = {10.1145/2503210.2504564},
 acmid = {2504564},
 publisher = {ACM},
 address = {New York, NY, USA},
}
```

## 2.1.2 Acknowledgements

In many cases you receive support and code base maintainance from us or the PICongPU community without directly justifying a full co-authorship. Additional to the citation, please consider adding an acknowledgement of the following form to reflect that:

We acknowledge all contributors to the open-source code PICongPU for enabling our simulations.

or:

We acknowledge [list of specific persons that helped you] and all further contributors to the open-source code PICongPU for enabling our simulations.

## 2.1.3 Community Map

PICongPU comes without a registration-wall, with open and re-distributable licenses and without any strings attached. We therefore *rely on you* to show our community, diversity and usefulness, e.g. to funding agencies.

Please consider adding yourself to our [community map](#)!

Thank you and enjoy PICongPU and our community!

**See also:**

You need to have an *environment loaded* (source \$HOME/picongpu.profile) that provides all *PICongGPU dependencies* to complete this chapter.

## 2.2 Basics

*Section author: Axel Huebl*

### 2.2.1 Preparation

First, decide where to store input files, a good place might be \$HOME (~) because it is usually backed up. Second, decide where to store your output of simulations which needs to be placed on a high-bandwidth, large-storage file system which we will refer to as \$SCRATCH.

For a first test you can also use your home directory:

```
export SCRATCH=$HOME
```

We need a few directories to structure our workflow:

```
PICongGPU input files
mkdir $HOME/picInputs

PICongGPU simulation output
mkdir $SCRATCH/runs
```

### 2.2.2 Step-by-Step

#### 1. Create an Input (Parameter) Set

```
clone the LWFA example to $HOME/picInputs/myLWFA
pic-create $PIC_EXAMPLES/LaserWakefield $HOME/picInputs/myLWFA

switch to your input directory
cd $HOME/picInputs/myLWFA
```

PICongGPU is controlled via two kinds of textual input sets: compile-time options and runtime options.

Compile-time *.param files* reside in `include/piconggpu/param/` and define the physics case and deployed numerics. After creation and whenever options are changed, PICongGPU *requires a re-compile*. Feel free to take a look now, but we will later come back on how to *edit those files*.

*Runtime (command line) arguments* are set in `etc/piconggpu/*.cfg` files. These options do *not* require a re-compile when changed (e.g. simulation size, number of devices, plugins, ...).

## 2. Compile Simulation

In our input, `.param` files are build directly into the PICongGPU binary for *performance reasons*. A compile is required after changing or initially adding those files.

In this step you can optimize the simulation for the specific hardware you want to run on. By default, we compile for Nvidia GPUs with the CUDA backend, targeting the oldest compatible *architecture*.

```
pic-build
```

This step will take a few minutes. Time for a coffee or a *sword fight*!

We explain in the *details section* below how to set further options, e.g. CPU targets or tuning for newer GPU architectures.

## 3. Run Simulation

While you are still in `$HOME/picInputs/myLWFA`, start your simulation on one CUDA capable GPU:

```
example run for an interactive simulation on the same machine
tbg -s bash -c etc/piconggpu/1.cfg -t etc/piconggpu/bash/mpirexec.tpl $SCRATCH/runs/
↳ lwfa_001
```

This will create the directory `$SCRATCH/runs/lwfa_001` where all simulation output will be written to. `tbg` will further create a subfolder `input/` in the directory of the run with the same structure as `myLWFA` to archive your input files.

### 2.2.3 Details on the Commands Above

#### tbg

The `tbg` tool is explained in detail *in its own section*. Its primary purpose is to abstract the options in runtime `.cfg` files from the technical details on how to run on various supercomputers.

For example, if you want to run on the HPC System “Hypnos” at HZDR, your `tbg` submit command would just change to:

```
request 1 GPU from the PBS batch system and run on the queue "k20"
tbg -s qsub -c etc/piconggpu/1.cfg -t etc/piconggpu/hypnos-hzdr/k20.tpl $SCRATCH/
↳ runs/lwfa_002

run again, this time on 16 GPUs
tbg -s qsub -c etc/piconggpu/16.cfg -t etc/piconggpu/hypnos-hzdr/k20.tpl $SCRATCH/
↳ runs/lwfa_003
```

Note that we can use the same `1.cfg` file, your input set is *portable*.

## pic-create

This tool is just a short-hand to create a new set of input files. It copies from an already existing set of input files (e.g. our examples or a previous simulation) and adds additional helper files.

See `pic-create --help` for more options during input set creation:

```
pic-create create a new parameter set for simulation input
merge default picongpu parameters and a given example's input

usage: pic-create [OPTION] [src_dir] dest_dir
If no src_dir is set picongpu a default case is cloned

-f | --force - merge data if destination already exists
-h | --help - show this help message

Dependencies: rsync
```

A run simulation can also be reused to create derived input sets via `pic-create`:

```
pic-create $SCRATCH/runs/lwfa_001/input $HOME/picInputs/mySecondLWFA
```

## pic-build

This tool is actually a short-hand for an *out-of-source build with CMake*.

In detail, it does:

```
go to an empty build directory
mkdir -p .build
cd .build

configure with CMake
pic-configure $OPTIONS ..

compile PICongGPU with the current input set (e.g. myLWFA)
- "make -j install" runs implicitly "make -j" and then "make install"
- make install copies resulting binaries to input set
make -j install
```

`pic-build` accepts the same command line flags as *pic-configure*. For example, if you want to build for running on CPUs instead of a GPUs, call:

```
example for running efficiently on the CPU you are currently compiling on
pic-build -b "omp2b"
```

Its full documentation from `pic-build --help` reads:

```
Build new binaries for a PICongGPU input set

Creates or updates the binaries in an input set. This step needs to
be performed every time a .param file is changed.

This tools creates a temporary build directory, configures and
compiles current input set in it and installs the resulting
binaries.
This is just a short-hand tool for switching to a temporary build
directory and running 'pic-configure ..' and 'make install'
manually.

You must run this command inside an input directory.
```

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```
usage: pic-build [OPTIONS]

-b | --backend - set compute backend and optionally the architecture
 syntax: backend[:architecture]
 supported backends: cuda, omp2b, serial, tbb, threads
 (e.g.: "cuda:20;35;37;52;60" or "omp2b:native" or "omp2b")
 default: "cuda" if not set via environment variable PIC_
↳BACKEND
 note: architecture names are compiler dependent
-c | --cmake - overwrite options for cmake
 (e.g.: "-DPIC_VERBOSE=21 -DCMAKE_BUILD_TYPE=Debug")
-t <presetNumber> - configure this preset from cmakeFlags
-h | --help - show this help message
```

## pic-configure

This tool is just a convenient wrapper for a call to **CMake**. It is executed from an *empty build directory*.

You will likely not use this tool directly. Instead, *pic-build* from above calls *pic-configure* for you, forwarding its arguments.

We *strongly recommend* to set the appropriate target compute backend via *-b* for optimal performance. For Nvidia CUDA GPUs, set the *compute capability* of your GPU:

```
example for running efficiently on a K80 GPU with compute capability 3.7
pic-configure -b "cuda:37" $HOME/picInputs/myLWFA
```

For running on a CPU instead of a GPU, set this:

```
example for running efficiently on the CPU you are currently compiling on
pic-configure -b "omp2b:native" $HOME/picInputs/myLWFA
```

**Note:** If you are compiling on a cluster, the CPU architecture of the head/login nodes versus the actual compute architecture does likely vary! Compiling a backend for the wrong architecture does in the best case dramatically reduce your performance and in the worst case will not run at all!

During configure, the backend's architecture is forwarded to the compiler's *-mtune* and *-march* flags. For example, if you are *compiling with GCC* for running on *AMD Opteron 6276 CPUs* set *-b omp2b:bdver1* or for *Intel Xeon Phi Knight's Landing CPUs* set *-b omp2b:kn1*.

See *pic-configure --help* for more options during input set configuration:

```
Configure PICongPU with CMake

Generates a call to CMake and provides short-hand access to selected
PICongPU CMake options.
Advanced users can always run 'ccmake .' after this call for further
compilation options.

usage: pic-configure [OPTIONS] <inputDirectory>

-i | --install - path where picongpu shall be installed
 (default is <inputDirectory>)
-b | --backend - set compute backend and optionally the architecture
 syntax: backend[:architecture]
 supported backends: cuda, omp2b, serial, tbb, threads
 (e.g.: "cuda:20;35;37;52;60" or "omp2b:native" or "omp2b")
```

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|                   |                                                                                      |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                   | default: "cuda" if not set via environment variable PIC_                             |
| ↪BACKEND          |                                                                                      |
|                   | note: architecture names are compiler dependent                                      |
| -c   --cmake      | - overwrite options for cmake<br>(e.g.: "-DPIC_VERBOSE=21 -DCMAKE_BUILD_TYPE=Debug") |
| -t <presetNumber> | - configure this preset from cmakeFlags                                              |
| -h   --help       | - show this help message                                                             |

After running configure you can run `ccmake .` to set additional compile options (optimizations, debug levels, hardware version, etc.). This will influence your build done via `make install`.

You can pass further options to configure PICongPU directly instead of using `ccmake .`, by passing `-c "-DOPTION1=VALUE1 -DOPTION2=VALUE2"`.

## 2.3 .param Files

*Section author: Axel Huebl*

Parameter files, `*.param` placed in `include/picongpu/param/` are used to set all **compile-time options** for a PICongPU simulation. This includes most fundamental options such as numerical solvers, floating precision, memory usage due to attributes and super-cell based algorithms, density profiles, initial conditions etc.

### 2.3.1 Editing

For convenience, we provide a tool `pic-edit` to edit the compile-time input by its name. For example, if you want to edit the *grid* and time step resolution, *file output* and add a *laser* to the simulation, open the according files via:

```
first switch to your input directory
cd $HOME/picInputs/myLWFA

pic-edit grid fileOutput laser
```

See `pic-edit --help` for all available files:

```
Edit compile-time options for a PICongPU input set

Opens .param files in an input set with the default "EDITOR".
If a .param file is not yet part of the input set but exists in the
defaults, it will be transparently added to the input set.

You must run this command inside an input directory.

The currently selected editor is: /usr/bin/vim.basic
You can change it via the "EDITOR" environment variable.

usage: pic-edit <input>

Available <input>s:
bremsstrahlung components density dimension fieldBackground fieldSolver fileOutput_
↪flylite grid ionizationEnergies ionizer isaac laser mallocMC memory particle_
↪particleCalorimeter particleFilters particleMerger physicalConstants png_
↪pngColorScales precision pusher radiation radiationObserver random species_
↪speciesAttributes speciesConstants speciesDefinition speciesInitialization_
↪starter synchrotronPhotons unit
```



### 2.3.2 Rationale

High-performance hardware comes with a lot of restrictions on how to use it, mainly memory, control flow and register limits. In order to create an efficient simulation, PICongGPU compiles to **exactly** the numerical solvers (kernels) and physical attributes (fields, species) for the setup you need to run, which will furthermore be specialized for a specific hardware.

This comes at a small cost: when **even one of those settings is changed, you need to recompile**. Nevertheless, wasting about 5 minutes compiling on a single node is nothing compared to the time you save *at scale*!

All options that are less or non-critical for runtime performance, such as specific ranges observables in *plugins* or how many nodes shall be used, can be set in *run time configuration files (\*.cfg)* and do not need a recompile when changed.

### 2.3.3 Files and Their Usage

If you use our `pic-configure script wrappers`, you do not need to set *all* available parameter files since we will add the missing ones with *sane defaults*. Those defaults are:

- a standard, single-precision, well normalized PIC cycle suitable for relativistic plasmas
- no external forces (no laser, no initial density profile, no background fields, etc.)

### 2.3.4 All Files

When setting up a simulation, it is recommended to adjust `.param` files in the following order:

#### PIC Core

##### `dimension.param`

The spatial dimensionality of the simulation.

#### Defines

##### `SIMDIM`

Possible values: DIM3 for 3D3V and DIM2 for 2D3V.

##### `namespace picongpu`

#### Variables

```
constexpr uint32_t picongpusimDim = SIMDIM
```

##### `grid.param`

Definition of cell sizes and time step.

Our cells are defining a regular, cartesian grid. Our explicit FDTD field solvers define an upper bound for the time step value in relation to the cell size for convergence. Make sure to resolve important wavelengths of your simulation, e.g. shortest plasma wavelength and central laser wavelength both spatially and temporally.

#### Units in reduced dimensions

In 2D3V simulations, the `CELL_DEPTH_SI (Z)` cell length is still used for normalization of densities, etc..

A 2D3V simulation in a cartesian PIC simulation such as ours only changes the degrees of freedom in motion for (macro) particles and all (field) information in z travels instantaneous, making the 2D3V simulation behave like the interaction of infinite “wire particles” in fields with perfect symmetry in Z.

**namespace picongpu**

### Variables

{ 32, 32 }, { 32, 32 }, { 32, 32 } } ] Defines the size of the absorbing zone (in cells) unit: none  
 { 1.0e-3, 1.0e-3 }, { 1.0e-3, 1.0e-3 }, { 1.0e-3, 1.0e-3 } } ] Define the strength of the absorber for any direction. unit: none

**constexpr float\_64 picongpumovePoint = 0.9**

When to start moving the co-moving window.

Slide point model: A virtual photon starts at t=0 at the lower end of the global simulation box in y-direction of the simulation. When it reaches movePoint % of the global simulation box, the co-moving window starts to move with the speed of light.

**Note** global simulation area: there is one additional “hidden” row of gpus at the y-front, when you use the co-moving window. 1.0 would correspond to: start moving exactly when the above described “virtual photon” from the lower end of the box’ Y-axis reaches the beginning of this “hidden” row of GPUs.

**namespace picongpuSI**

### Variables

**constexpr float\_64 picongpu::SIDELTA\_T\_SI = 0.8e-16**

Duration of one timestep unit: seconds.

**constexpr float\_64 picongpu::SICELL\_WIDTH\_SI = 0.1772e-6**

equals X unit: meter

**constexpr float\_64 picongpu::SICELL\_HEIGHT\_SI = 0.4430e-7**

equals Y - the laser & moving window propagation direction unit: meter

**constexpr float\_64 picongpu::SICELL\_DEPTH\_SI = CELL\_WIDTH\_SI**

equals Z unit: meter

## components.param

Select a user-defined simulation class here, e.g.

with strongly modified initialization and/or PIC loop beyond the parametrization given in other .param files.

**namespace simulation\_starter**

Simulation Starter Selection: This value does usually not need to be changed.

Change only if you want to implement your own `SimulationHelper` (e.g. `MySimulation`) class.

- defaultPICongPU : default PICongPU configuration

## fieldSolver.param

Configure the field solver.

Select the numerical Maxwell solver (e.g. Yee’s method).

Also allows to configure ad hoc mitigations for high frequency noise in some setups via current smoothing.

**namespace picongpu**

**namespace *picongpu*fields**

## Typedefs

**using picongpu::fields::CurrentInterpolation = typedef currentInterpolation::None**  
Current Interpolation.

CurrentInterpolation is used to set a method performing the interpolate/assign operation from the generated currents of particle species to the electro-magnetic fields.

Allowed values are:

- None:
  - default for staggered grids/Yee-scheme
  - updates E
- Binomial: 2nd order Binomial filter
  - smooths the current before assignment in staggered grid
  - updates E & breaks local charge conservation slightly
- NoneDS:
  - experimental assignment for all-centered/directional splitting
  - updates E & B at the same time

**using picongpu::fields::Solver = typedef maxwellSolver::Yee< CurrentInterpolation>**  
FieldSolver.

Field Solver Selection:

- Yee< CurrentInterpolation > : standard Yee solver
- Lehe< CurrentInterpolation >: Num. Cherenkov free field solver in a chosen direction
- DirSplitting< CurrentInterpolation >: Sentoku's Directional Splitting Method
- None< CurrentInterpolation >: disable the vacuum update of E and B

## laser.param

Configure laser profiles.

All laser propagate in y direction.

Available profiles:

- None : no laser init
- GaussianBeam : Gaussian beam (focusing)
- PulseFrontTilt : Gaussian beam with a tilted pulse envelope in 'x' direction
- PlaneWave : a plane wave (Gaussian in time)
- Wavepacket : wavepacket (Gaussian in time and space, not focusing)
- Polynom : a polynomial laser envelope
- ExpRampWithPrepulse : wavepacket with exponential upramps and prepulse

In the end, this file needs to define a `Selected` class in namespace `picongpu::fields::laserProfiles`. A typical profile consists of a laser profile class and its parameters. For example:

```
using Selected = GaussianBeam< GaussianBeamParam >;
```

**namespace picongpu**

`namespace picongpu::fields`

`namespace picongpu::fields::laserProfiles`

## Typedefs

`using picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::Selected = typedef None<>`  
currently selected laser profile

`struct picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::ExpRampWithPrepulseParam`  
Based on a wavepacket with Gaussian spatial envelope.

and the following temporal shape: A Gaussian peak (optionally lengthened by a plateau) is preceded by two pieces of exponential preramps, defined by 3 (time, intensity)-points. The first two points get connected by an exponential, the 2nd and 3rd point are connected by another exponential, which is then extrapolated to the peak. The Gaussian is added everywhere, but typically contributes significantly only near the peak. It is advisable to set the third point far enough from the plateau (approx 3\*FWHM), then the contribution from the Gaussian is negligible there, and the intensity can be set as measured from the laser profile. Optionally a Gaussian prepulse can be added, given by the parameters of the relative intensity and time point. The time of the prepulse and the three preramp points are given in SI, the intensities are given as multiples of the peak intensity.

## Public Types

`enum picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PolarisationType`  
Available polarisation types.

Values:

`picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::LINEAR_X = 1u`

`picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::LINEAR_Z = 2u`

`picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::CIRCULAR = 4u`

## Public Static Attributes

`constexpr float_X picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::ExpRampWithPrepulseParam::INT_RATIO_PREPULSE`

`constexpr float_X picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::ExpRampWithPrepulseParam::INT_RATIO_POINT_1`

`constexpr float_X picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::ExpRampWithPrepulseParam::INT_RATIO_POINT_2`

`constexpr float_X picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::ExpRampWithPrepulseParam::INT_RATIO_POINT_3`

`constexpr float_64 picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::ExpRampWithPrepulseParam::TIME_PREPULSE_SI`

`constexpr float_64 picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::ExpRampWithPrepulseParam::TIME_PEAKPULSE_SI`

`constexpr float_64 picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::ExpRampWithPrepulseParam::TIME_POINT_1_SI`

`constexpr float_64 picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::ExpRampWithPrepulseParam::TIME_POINT_2_SI`

`constexpr float_64 picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::ExpRampWithPrepulseParam::TIME_POINT_3_SI`

`constexpr float_64 picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::ExpRampWithPrepulseParam::WAVE_LENGTH_SI = 0.8`  
unit: meter

`constexpr float_64 picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::ExpRampWithPrepulseParam::UNITCONV_A0_to_Amp`  
UNITCONV.

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::ExpRampWithPrepulseParam***\_A0** = 20.  
unit: W / m<sup>2</sup>

unit: none

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::ExpRampWithPrepulseParam***AMPLITUDE\_SI** = \_A0 \*  
unit: Volt / meter

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::ExpRampWithPrepulseParam***LASER\_NOFOCUS\_CONS**  
unit: Volt / meter

The profile of the test Lasers 0 and 2 can be stretched by a constant area between the up  
and downramp unit: seconds

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::ExpRampWithPrepulseParam***PULSE\_LENGTH\_SI** = 3.  
Pulse length: sigma of std.

gauss for intensity (E<sup>2</sup>) PULSE\_LENGTH\_SI = FWHM\_of\_Intensity / [ 2\*sqrt{ 2\* ln(2)  
} ] [ 2.354820045 ] Info: FWHM\_of\_Intensity = FWHM\_Illumination = what a experi-  
mentalists calls “pulse duration” unit: seconds (1 sigma)

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::ExpRampWithPrepulseParam***W0\_X\_SI** = 2.5 \* WAVE\_  
beam waist: distance from the axis where the pulse intensity (E<sup>2</sup>) decreases to its 1/e<sup>2</sup>-  
th part, W0\_X\_SI is this distance in x-direction W0\_Z\_SI is this distance in z-direction if  
both values are equal, the laser has a circular shape in x-z W0\_SI = FWHM\_of\_Intensity /  
sqrt{ 2\* ln(2) } [ 1.17741 ] unit: meter

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::ExpRampWithPrepulseParam***W0\_Z\_SI** = W0\_X\_SI

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::ExpRampWithPrepulseParam***RAMP\_INIT** = 16.0  
The laser pulse will be initialized half of PULSE\_INIT times of the PULSE\_LENGTH  
before plateau and half at the end of the plateau unit: none.

**constexpr** uint32\_t *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::ExpRampWithPrepulseParam***initPlaneY** = 0  
cell from top where the laser is initialized

if initPlaneY == 0 than the absorber are disabled. if initPlaneY >  
absorbercells negative Y the negative absorber in y direction is enabled

valid ranges:

- initPlaneY == 0
- absorber cells negative Y < initPlaneY < cells in y direction of the top gpu

**constexpr** float\_X *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::ExpRampWithPrepulseParam***LASER\_PHASE** = 0.0  
laser phase shift (no shift: 0.0)

sin(omega\*time + laser\_phase): starts with phase=0 at center > E-field=0 at center

unit: rad, periodic in 2\*pi

**constexpr** *PolarisationType* *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::ExpRampWithPrepulseParam***Polarisation**  
Polarization selection.

**struct** *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***GaussianBeamParam**

## Public Types

**enum** *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***PolarisationType**  
Available polarisation types.

Values:

*picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***LINEAR\_X** = 1u

*picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***LINEAR\_Z** = 2u

*picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***CIRCULAR** = 4u

```
using picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::GaussianBeamParamLAGUERREMODES_t = gaussianBeam::LAGUERREM
```

## Public Static Attributes

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::GaussianBeamParam***WAVE\_LENGTH\_SI** = 0.8e-6  
unit: meter

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::GaussianBeamParam***UNITCONV\_A0\_to\_Amplitude**  
Convert the normalized laser strength parameter a0 to Volt per meter.

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::GaussianBeamParam***AMPLITUDE\_SI** = 1.738e13  
unit: W / m^2

unit: none unit: Volt / meter unit: Volt / meter

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::GaussianBeamParam***PULSE\_LENGTH\_SI** = 10.615e-12  
Pulse length: sigma of std.

gauss for intensity (E^2)  $PULSE\_LENGTH\_SI = FWHM\_of\_Intensity / [2 * \sqrt{2 * \ln(2)}]$   
} ] [ 2.354820045 ] Info:  $FWHM\_of\_Intensity = FWHM\_Illumination =$  what a experimentalist calls “pulse duration”

unit: seconds (1 sigma)

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::GaussianBeamParam***W0\_SI** = 5.0e-6 / 1.17741  
beam waist: distance from the axis where the pulse intensity (E^2) decreases to its 1/e^2-th part, at the focus position of the laser  $W0\_SI = FWHM\_of\_Intensity / \sqrt{2 * \ln(2)}$  ] [ 1.17741 ]

unit: meter

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::GaussianBeamParam***FOCUS\_POS\_SI** = 4.62e-5  
the distance to the laser focus in y-direction unit: meter

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::GaussianBeamParam***PULSE\_INIT** = 20.0  
The laser pulse will be initialized PULSE\_INIT times of the PULSE\_LENGTH.

unit: none

**constexpr** uint32\_t *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::GaussianBeamParam***initPlaneY** = 0  
cell from top where the laser is initialized

if `initPlaneY == 0` than the absorber are disabled. if `initPlaneY > absorbercells` negative Y the negative absorber in y direction is enabled

valid ranges:

- `initPlaneY == 0`
- `absorber cells negative Y < initPlaneY < cells in y direction of the top gpu`

**constexpr** float\_X *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::GaussianBeamParam***LASER\_PHASE** = 0.0  
laser phase shift (no shift: 0.0)

$\sin(\omega * \text{time} + \text{laser\_phase})$ : starts with phase=0 at center > E-field=0 at center

unit: rad, periodic in  $2 * \pi$

**constexpr** uint32\_t *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::GaussianBeamParam***MODENUMBER** = gaussianBeam::MODENUMBER

**constexpr** *PolarisationType* *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::GaussianBeamParam***Polarisation** = CIRCULAR  
Polarization selection.

**struct** *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***PlaneWaveParam**

## Public Types

**enum** *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***PolarisationType**

Available polarization types.

Values:

*picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***LINEAR\_X** = 1u

*picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***LINEAR\_Z** = 2u

*picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***CIRCULAR** = 4u

## Public Static Attributes

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PlaneWaveParam***WAVE\_LENGTH\_SI** = 0.8e-6  
unit: meter

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PlaneWaveParam***UNITCONV\_A0\_to\_Amplitude\_SI**  
Convert the normalized laser strength parameter a0 to Volt per meter.

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PlaneWaveParam***A0** = 1.5  
unit: W / m^2  
unit: none

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PlaneWaveParam***AMPLITUDE\_SI** = \_A0 \* UNITCONV  
unit: Volt / meter

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PlaneWaveParam***LASER\_NOFOCUS\_CONSTANT\_SI**  
unit: Volt / meter

The profile of the test Lasers 0 and 2 can be stretched by a constant area between the up and downramp unit: seconds

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PlaneWaveParam***PULSE\_LENGTH\_SI** = 10.615e-15 /  
Pulse length: sigma of std.

gauss for intensity (E^2)  $PULSE\_LENGTH\_SI = FWHM\_of\_Intensity / [2 * \sqrt{2 * \ln(2)}]$   
[ 2.354820045 ] Info: FWHM\_of\_Intensity = FWHM\_Illumination = what a experimentalist calls “pulse duration” unit: seconds (1 sigma)

**constexpr** uint32\_t *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PlaneWaveParam***initPlaneY** = 0  
cell from top where the laser is initialized

if `initPlaneY == 0` than the absorber are disabled. if `initPlaneY > absorbercells` negative Y the negative absorber in y direction is enabled

valid ranges:

- `initPlaneY == 0`
- `absorber cells negative Y < initPlaneY < cells` in y direction of the top gpu

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PlaneWaveParam***RAMP\_INIT** = 20.6146  
The laser pulse will be initialized half of PULSE\_INIT times of the PULSE\_LENGTH before and after the plateau unit: none.

**constexpr** float\_X *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PlaneWaveParam***LASER\_PHASE** = 0.0  
laser phase shift (no shift: 0.0)

$\sin(\omega * \text{time} + \text{laser\_phase})$ : starts with phase=0 at center > E-field=0 at center

unit: rad, periodic in  $2 * \pi$

**constexpr** *PolarisationType* *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PlaneWaveParam***Polarisation** = LINEAR  
Polarization selection.

**struct** *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***PolynomParam**  
 Based on a wavepacket with Gaussian spatial envelope.  
*Wavepacket* with a polynomial temporal intensity shape.

## Public Types

**enum** *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***PolarisationType**  
 Available polarization types.

*Values:*

*picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***LINEAR\_X** = 1u

*picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***LINEAR\_Z** = 2u

*picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***CIRCULAR** = 4u

## Public Static Attributes

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PolynomParam***WAVE\_LENGTH\_SI** = 0.8e-6  
 unit: meter

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PolynomParam***UNITCONV\_A0\_to\_Amplitude\_SI**  
 Convert the normalized laser strength parameter a0 to Volt per meter.

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PolynomParam***AMPLITUDE\_SI** = 1.738e13  
 unit: W / m^2

unit: none unit: Volt / meter unit: Volt / meter

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PolynomParam***LASER\_NOFOCUS\_CONSTANT\_SI** = 1  
 The profile of the test Lasers 0 and 2 can be stretched by a constant area between the up  
 and downramp unit: seconds.

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PolynomParam***PULSE\_LENGTH\_SI** = 10.615e-15 / 4.0  
 Pulse length: sigma of std.

gauss for intensity ( $E^2$ )  $PULSE\_LENGTH\_SI = FWHM\_of\_Intensity / [2 * \sqrt{2 * \ln(2)}]$   
 } ] [ 2.354820045 ] Info:  $FWHM\_of\_Intensity = FWHM\_Illumination =$  what a experi-  
 mentalist calls “pulse duration” unit: seconds (1 sigma)

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PolynomParam***W0\_X\_SI** = 4.246e-6  
 beam waist: distance from the axis where the pulse intensity ( $E^2$ ) decreases to its  $1/e^2$ -th  
 part, at the focus position of the laser unit: meter

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PolynomParam***W0\_Z\_SI** = W0\_X\_SI

**constexpr** uint32\_t *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PolynomParam***initPlaneY** = 0  
 cell from top where the laser is initialized

if `initPlaneY == 0` than the absorber are disabled. if `initPlaneY >`  
`absorbercells` negative Y the negative absorber in y direction is enabled

valid ranges:

- `initPlaneY == 0`
- `absorber cells negative Y < initPlaneY < cells in y direction of the top gpu`

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PolynomParam***PULSE\_INIT** = 20.0  
 The laser pulse will be initialized `PULSE_INIT` times of the `PULSE_LENGTH`.

unit: none

**constexpr** float\_X *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PolynomParam***LASER\_PHASE** = 0.0  
 laser phase shift (no shift: 0.0)



$\sin(\omega \cdot \text{time} + \text{laser\_phase})$ : starts with phase=0 at center > E-field=0 at center

unit: rad, periodic in  $2\pi$

**constexpr** *PolarisationType* *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PolynomParam***Polarisation** = LINEAR\_X  
Polarization selection.

**struct** *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***PulseFrontTiltParam**

## Public Types

**enum** *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***PolarisationType**  
Available polarisation types.

Values:

*picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***LINEAR\_X** = 1u

*picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***LINEAR\_Z** = 2u

*picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***CIRCULAR** = 4u

## Public Static Attributes

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PulseFrontTiltParam***WAVE\_LENGTH\_SI** = 0.8e-6  
unit: meter

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PulseFrontTiltParam***UNITCONV\_A0\_to\_Amplitude**  
Convert the normalized laser strength parameter a0 to Volt per meter.

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PulseFrontTiltParam***AMPLITUDE\_SI** = 1.738e13  
unit: W / m<sup>2</sup>

unit: none unit: Volt / meter unit: Volt / meter

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PulseFrontTiltParam***PULSE\_LENGTH\_SI** = 10.615e-1  
Pulse length: sigma of std.

gauss for intensity (E<sup>2</sup>) **PULSE\_LENGTH\_SI** = FWHM\_of\_Intensity / [  $2 \cdot \sqrt{2 \cdot \ln(2)}$  ] [ 2.354820045 ] Info: FWHM\_of\_Intensity = FWHM\_Illumination = what a experimentalist calls “pulse duration”

unit: seconds (1 sigma)

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PulseFrontTiltParam***W0\_SI** = 5.0e-6 / 1.17741  
beam waist: distance from the axis where the pulse intensity (E<sup>2</sup>) decreases to its 1/e<sup>2</sup>-th part, at the focus position of the laser **W0\_SI** = FWHM\_of\_Intensity /  $\sqrt{2 \cdot \ln(2)}$  [ 1.17741 ]

unit: meter

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PulseFrontTiltParam***FOCUS\_POS\_SI** = 4.62e-5  
the distance to the laser focus in y-direction unit: meter

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PulseFrontTiltParam***TILT\_X\_SI** = 0.0  
the tilt angle between laser propagation in y-direction and laser axis in x-direction (0 degree == no tilt) unit: degree

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PulseFrontTiltParam***PULSE\_INIT** = 20.0  
The laser pulse will be initialized **PULSE\_INIT** times of the **PULSE\_LENGTH**.

unit: none

**constexpr** uint32\_t *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PulseFrontTiltParam***initPlaneY** = 0  
cell from top where the laser is initialized

if `initPlaneY == 0` than the absorber are disabled. if `initPlaneY > absorbercells` negative Y the negative absorber in y direction is enabled

valid ranges:

- `initPlaneY == 0`
- absorber cells negative  $Y < \text{initPlaneY} < \text{cells}$  in y direction of the top gpu

**constexpr** float\_X *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PulseFrontTiltParam***LASER\_PHASE** = 0.0  
laser phase shift (no shift: 0.0)

$\sin(\omega \cdot \text{time} + \text{laser\_phase})$ : starts with phase=0 at center > E-field=0 at center

unit: rad, periodic in  $2\pi$

**constexpr** *PolarisationType* *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::PulseFrontTiltParam***Polarisation** = CIRC  
Polarization selection.

**struct** *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***WavepacketParam**

## Public Types

**enum** *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***PolarisationType**  
Available polarisation types.

Values:

*picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***LINEAR\_X** = 1u

*picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***LINEAR\_Z** = 2u

*picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***CIRCULAR** = 4u

## Public Static Attributes

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::WavepacketParam***WAVE\_LENGTH\_SI** = 0.8e-6  
unit: meter

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::WavepacketParam***UNITCONV\_A0\_to\_Amplitude** = 1  
Convert the normalized laser strength parameter `a0` to Volt per meter.

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::WavepacketParam***AMPLITUDE\_SI** = 1.738e13  
unit: W / m<sup>2</sup>

unit: none unit: Volt / meter unit: Volt / meter

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::WavepacketParam***LASER\_NOFOCUS\_CONSTANT\_SI**  
The profile of the test Lasers 0 and 2 can be stretched by a constant area between the up and downramp unit: seconds.

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::WavepacketParam***PULSE\_LENGTH\_SI** = 10.615e-15 /  
Pulse length: sigma of std.

gauss for intensity ( $E^2$ )  $\text{PULSE\_LENGTH\_SI} = \text{FWHM\_of\_Intensity} / [2 \cdot \sqrt{2 \cdot \ln(2)}]$   
[ 2.354820045 ] Info:  $\text{FWHM\_of\_Intensity} = \text{FWHM\_Illumination} = \text{what a experimentalist calls "pulse duration"}$

unit: seconds (1 sigma)

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::WavepacketParam***W0\_X\_SI** = 4.246e-6  
beam waist: distance from the axis where the pulse intensity ( $E^2$ ) decreases to its  $1/e^2$ -th part, at the focus position of the laser  $\text{W0\_SI} = \text{FWHM\_of\_Intensity} / \sqrt{2 \cdot \ln(2)}$  [ 1.17741 ]

unit: meter

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::WavepacketParam***W0\_Z\_SI** =  $\text{W0\_X\_SI}$

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::WavepacketParam***PULSE\_INIT** = 20.0

The laser pulse will be initialized PULSE\_INIT times of the PULSE\_LENGTH.

unit: none

**constexpr** uint32\_t *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::WavepacketParam***initPlaneY** = 0

cell from top where the laser is initialized

if initPlaneY == 0 then the absorber are disabled. if initPlaneY > absorbercells negative Y the negative absorber in y direction is enabled

valid ranges:

- initPlaneY == 0
- absorber cells negative Y < initPlaneY < cells in y direction of the top gpu

**constexpr** float\_X *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::WavepacketParam***LASER\_PHASE** = 0.0

laser phase shift (no shift: 0.0)

$\sin(\omega \cdot \text{time} + \text{laser\_phase})$ : starts with phase=0 at center > E-field=0 at center

unit: rad, periodic in  $2\pi$

**constexpr** *PolarisationType* *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::WavepacketParam***Polarisation** = LINEAR

Polarization selection.

**namespace** *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***gaussianBeam**

## Functions

*picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::gaussianBeam::PMACC\_CONST\_VECTOR*(float\_X,

## Variables

**constexpr** uint32\_t *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::gaussianBeam***MODENUMBER** = 0

Use only the 0th Laguerremode for a standard Gaussian.

*List of available laser profiles.*

## Laser Profiles

### Gaussian Beam

**template** <typename T\_Params>

**struct** *picongpu::fields::laserProfilesGaussianBeam* : **public** *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::gaussianBeam::Unitless*<T\_Params>

Gaussian Beam laser profile with finite pulse length.

#### Template Parameters

- T\_Params: class parameter to configure the Gaussian Beam profile, see members of gaussian-Beam::default::GaussianBeamParam for required members

```

//! Use only the 0th Laguerremode for a standard Gaussian
static constexpr uint32_t MODENUMBER = 0;
PMACC_CONST_VECTOR(float_X, MODENUMBER + 1, LAGUERREMODOES, 1.0);
// This is just an example for a more complicated set of Laguerre modes
//constexpr uint32_t MODENUMBER = 12;
//PMACC_CONST_VECTOR(float_X, MODENUMBER + 1, LAGUERREMODOES, -1.0, 0.0300519,
↪0.319461, -0.23783, 0.0954839, 0.0318653, -0.144547, 0.0249208, -0.111989, 0.
↪0.434385, -0.030038, -0.00896321, -0.0160788);

```

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```

struct GaussianBeamParam
{
 /** unit: meter */
 static constexpr float_64 WAVE_LENGTH_SI = 0.8e-6;

 /** Convert the normalized laser strength parameter a0 to Volt per meter */
 static constexpr float_64 UNITCONV_A0_to_Amplitude_SI = -2.0 * PI / WAVE_
↪LENGTH_SI * ::picongpu::SI::ELECTRON_MASS_SI * ::picongpu::SI::SPEED_OF_LIGHT_SI_
↪* ::picongpu::SI::SPEED_OF_LIGHT_SI / ::picongpu::SI::ELECTRON_CHARGE_SI;

 /** unit: W / m^2 */
 // calculate: _A0 = 8.549297e-6 * sqrt(Intensity[W/m^2]) * wavelength[m]_
↪(linearly polarized)

 /** unit: none */
 //static constexpr float_64 _A0 = 1.5;

 /** unit: Volt / meter */
 //static constexpr float_64 AMPLITUDE_SI = _A0 * UNITCONV_A0_to_Amplitude_
↪SI;

 /** unit: Volt / meter */
 static constexpr float_64 AMPLITUDE_SI = 1.738e13;

 /** Pulse length: sigma of std. gauss for intensity (E^2)
 * PULSE_LENGTH_SI = FWHM_of_Intensity / [2*sqrt{ 2* ln(2) }]
 * [2.354820045]
 * Info: FWHM_of_Intensity = FWHM_Illumination
 * = what a experimentalist calls "pulse duration"
 *
 * unit: seconds (1 sigma) */
 static constexpr float_64 PULSE_LENGTH_SI = 10.615e-15 / 4.0;

 /** beam waist: distance from the axis where the pulse intensity (E^2)
 * decreases to its 1/e^2-th part,
 * at the focus position of the laser
 * W0_SI = FWHM_of_Intensity / sqrt{ 2* ln(2) }
 * [1.17741]
 *
 * unit: meter */
 static constexpr float_64 W0_SI = 5.0e-6 / 1.17741;
 /** the distance to the laser focus in y-direction
 * unit: meter */
 static constexpr float_64 FOCUS_POS_SI = 4.62e-5;

 /** The laser pulse will be initialized PULSE_INIT times of the PULSE_
↪LENGTH
 *
 * unit: none */
 static constexpr float_64 PULSE_INIT = 20.0;

 /** cell from top where the laser is initialized
 *
 * if `initPlaneY == 0` than the absorber are disabled.
 * if `initPlaneY > absorbercells negative Y` the negative absorber in y
 * direction is enabled
 *
 * valid ranges:
 * - initPlaneY == 0
 * - absorber cells negative Y < initPlaneY < cells in y direction of_
↪the top gpu

```

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```

 */
 static constexpr uint32_t initPlaneY = 0;

 /** laser phase shift (no shift: 0.0)
 *
 * sin(omega*time + laser_phase): starts with phase=0 at center --> E-
 ↪field=0 at center
 *
 * unit: rad, periodic in 2*pi
 */
 static constexpr float_X LASER_PHASE = 0.0;

 using LAGUERREMODES_t = defaults::LAGUERREMODES_t;
 static constexpr uint32_t MODENUMBER = defaults::MODENUMBER;

 /** Available polarisation types
 */
 enum PolarisationType
 {
 LINEAR_X = 1u,
 LINEAR_Z = 2u,
 CIRCULAR = 4u,
 };
 /** Polarization selection
 */
 static constexpr PolarisationType Polarisation = CIRCULAR;
};

```

## Gaussian Beam with Pulse Front Tilt

**template** <typename T\_Params>

**struct** *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***PulseFrontTilt** : **public** *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::pulseFrontTilt::Unitless*<T\_Params>  
 Gaussian Beam laser profile with titled pulse front.

### Template Parameters

- T\_Params: class parameter to configure the Gaussian Beam with pulse front tilt, see members of *pulseFrontTilt::defaults::PulseFrontTiltParam* for required members

```

struct PulseFrontTiltParam
{
 /** unit: meter */
 static constexpr float_64 WAVE_LENGTH_SI = 0.8e-6;

 /** Convert the normalized laser strength parameter a0 to Volt per meter */
 static constexpr float_64 UNITCONV_A0_to_Amplitude_SI = -2.0 * PI / WAVE_
 ↪LENGTH_SI * ::picongpu::SI::ELECTRON_MASS_SI * ::picongpu::SI::SPEED_OF_LIGHT_SI_
 ↪* ::picongpu::SI::SPEED_OF_LIGHT_SI / ::picongpu::SI::ELECTRON_CHARGE_SI;

 /** unit: W / m^2 */
 // calculate: _A0 = 8.549297e-6 * sqrt(Intensity[W/m^2]) * wavelength[m]_
 ↪(linearly polarized)

 /** unit: none */
 //static constexpr float_64 _A0 = 1.5;

 /** unit: Volt / meter */
 //static constexpr float_64 AMPLITUDE_SI = _A0 * UNITCONV_A0_to_Amplitude_
 ↪SI;
}

```

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```

/** unit: Volt / meter */
static constexpr float_64 AMPLITUDE_SI = 1.738e13;

/** Pulse length: sigma of std. gauss for intensity (E^2)
 * PULSE_LENGTH_SI = FWHM_of_Intensity / [2*sqrt{ 2* ln(2) }]
 * [2.354820045]
 * Info: FWHM_of_Intensity = FWHM_Illumination
 * = what a experimentalist calls "pulse duration"
 *
 * unit: seconds (1 sigma) */
static constexpr float_64 PULSE_LENGTH_SI = 10.615e-15 / 4.0;

/** beam waist: distance from the axis where the pulse intensity (E^2)
 * decreases to its 1/e^2-th part,
 * at the focus position of the laser
 * W0_SI = FWHM_of_Intensity / sqrt{ 2* ln(2) }
 * [1.17741]
 *
 * unit: meter */
static constexpr float_64 W0_SI = 5.0e-6 / 1.17741;

/** the distance to the laser focus in y-direction
 * unit: meter */
static constexpr float_64 FOCUS_POS_SI = 4.62e-5;

/** the tilt angle between laser propagation in y-direction and laser axis_
↪in
 * x-direction (0 degree == no tilt)
 * unit: degree */
static constexpr float_64 TILT_X_SI = 0.0;

/** The laser pulse will be initialized PULSE_INIT times of the PULSE_
↪LENGTH
 *
 * unit: none */
static constexpr float_64 PULSE_INIT = 20.0;

/** cell from top where the laser is initialized
 *
 * if `initPlaneY == 0` than the absorber are disabled.
 * if `initPlaneY > absorbercells negative Y` the negative absorber in y
 * direction is enabled
 *
 * valid ranges:
 * - initPlaneY == 0
 * - absorber cells negative Y < initPlaneY < cells in y direction of_
↪the top gpu
 */
static constexpr uint32_t initPlaneY = 0;

/** laser phase shift (no shift: 0.0)
 *
 * sin(omega*time + laser_phase): starts with phase=0 at center --> E-
↪field=0 at center
 *
 * unit: rad, periodic in 2*pi
 */
static constexpr float_X LASER_PHASE = 0.0;

//! Available polarisation types

```

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```
enum PolarisationType
{
 LINEAR_X = 1u,
 LINEAR_Z = 2u,
 CIRCULAR = 4u,
};

/** Polarization selection
 */
static constexpr PolarisationType Polarisation = LINEAR_X;
};
```

## Wavepacket

**template <typename T\_Params>**

**struct** *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::Wavepacket* : **public** *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::wavepacket::Unitless<T\_Params>*  
*Wavepacket* with Gaussian spatial and temporal envelope.

### Template Parameters

- T\_Params: class parameter to configure the *Wavepacket* profile, see members of *wavepacket::defaults::WavepacketParam* for required members

```
struct WavepacketParam
{
 /** unit: meter */
 static constexpr float_64 WAVE_LENGTH_SI = 0.8e-6;

 /** Convert the normalized laser strength parameter a0 to Volt per meter */
 static constexpr float_64 UNITCONV_A0_to_Amplitude_SI = -2.0 * PI / WAVE_
 ↪LENGTH_SI * ::picongpu::SI::ELECTRON_MASS_SI * ::picongpu::SI::SPEED_OF_LIGHT_SI_
 ↪* ::picongpu::SI::SPEED_OF_LIGHT_SI / ::picongpu::SI::ELECTRON_CHARGE_SI;

 /** unit: W / m^2 */
 // calculate: _A0 = 8.549297e-6 * sqrt(Intensity[W/m^2]) * wavelength[m]_
 ↪(linearly polarized)

 /** unit: none */
 //static constexpr float_64 _A0 = 1.5;

 /** unit: Volt / meter */
 //static constexpr float_64 AMPLITUDE_SI = _A0 * UNITCONV_A0_to_Amplitude_
 ↪SI;

 /** unit: Volt / meter */
 static constexpr float_64 AMPLITUDE_SI = 1.738e13;

 /** Stretch temporal profile by a constant plateau between the up and_
 ↪downramp
 * unit: seconds */
 static constexpr float_64 LASER_NOFOCUS_CONSTANT_SI = 7.0 * WAVE_LENGTH_SI_
 ↪/ ::picongpu::SI::SPEED_OF_LIGHT_SI;

 /** Pulse length: sigma of std. gauss for intensity (E^2)
 * PULSE_LENGTH_SI = FWHM_of_Intensity / [2*sqrt{ 2* ln(2) }]
 * [2.354820045]
 * Info: FWHM_of_Intensity = FWHM_Illumination
 * = what a experimentalist calls "pulse duration"
 *
```

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```

 * unit: seconds (1 sigma) */
static constexpr float_64 PULSE_LENGTH_SI = 10.615e-15 / 4.0;

/** beam waist: distance from the axis where the pulse intensity (E^2)
 * decreases to its 1/e^2-th part,
 * at the focus position of the laser
 * W0_SI = FWHM_of_Intensity / sqrt{ 2* ln(2) }
 * [1.17741]
 *
 * unit: meter */
static constexpr float_64 W0_X_SI = 4.246e-6;
static constexpr float_64 W0_Z_SI = W0_X_SI;

/** The laser pulse will be initialized PULSE_INIT times of the PULSE_
 ↪LENGTH
 *
 * unit: none */
static constexpr float_64 PULSE_INIT = 20.0;

/** cell from top where the laser is initialized
 *
 * if `initPlaneY == 0` than the absorber are disabled.
 * if `initPlaneY > absorbercells negative Y` the negative absorber in y
 * direction is enabled
 *
 * valid ranges:
 * - initPlaneY == 0
 * - absorber cells negative Y < initPlaneY < cells in y direction of ↪
 ↪the top gpu
 */
static constexpr uint32_t initPlaneY = 0;

/** laser phase shift (no shift: 0.0)
 *
 * sin(omega*time + laser_phase): starts with phase=0 at center --> E-
 ↪field=0 at center
 *
 * unit: rad, periodic in 2*pi
 */
static constexpr float_X LASER_PHASE = 0.0;

/** Available polarisation types
 */
enum PolarisationType
{
 LINEAR_X = 1u,
 LINEAR_Z = 2u,
 CIRCULAR = 4u,
};
/** Polarization selection
 */
static constexpr PolarisationType Polarisation = LINEAR_X;
};
} // namespace defaults

```

## Wavepacket with Exponential Ramp and Prepulse

**template** <typename T\_Params>

**struct** *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::ExpRampWithPrepulse* : **public** *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::expRampWithPrep*  
*Wavepacket* with spatial Gaussian envelope and adjustable temporal shape.



Allows defining a prepulse and two regions of exponential preramp with independent slopes. The definition works by specifying three (t, intensity)- points, where time is counted from the very beginning in SI and the intensity (yes, intensity, not amplitude) is given in multiples of the main peak.

Be careful - problematic for few cycle pulses. Thought the rest is cloned from laserWavepacket, the correctionFactor is not included (this made a correction to the laser phase, which is necessary for very short pulses, since otherwise a test particle is, after the laser pulse has passed, not returned to immobility, as it should). Since the analytical solution is only implemented for the Gaussian regime, and we have mostly exponential regimes here, it was not retained here.

A Gaussian peak (optionally lengthened by a plateau) is preceded by two pieces of exponential preramps, defined by 3 (time, intensity)- points.

The first two points get connected by an exponential, the 2nd and 3rd point are connected by another exponential, which is then extrapolated to the peak. The Gaussian is added everywhere, but typically contributes significantly only near the peak. It is advisable to set the third point far enough from the plateau (approx  $3 \times \text{FWHM}$ ), then the contribution from the Gaussian is negligible there, and the intensity can be set as measured from the laser profile.

Optionally a Gaussian prepulse can be added, given by the parameters of the relative intensity and time point. The time of the prepulse and the three preramp points are given in SI, the intensities are given as multiples of the peak intensity.

### Template Parameters

- T\_Params: class parameter to configure the Gaussian Beam profile, see members of expRampWithPrepulse::defaults::ExpRampWithPrepulseParam for required members

```
struct ExpRampWithPrepulseParam
{
 // Intensities of prepulse and exponential preramp
 static constexpr float_X INT_RATIO_PREPULSE = 0.;
 static constexpr float_X INT_RATIO_POINT_1 = 1.e-8;
 static constexpr float_X INT_RATIO_POINT_2 = 1.e-4;
 static constexpr float_X INT_RATIO_POINT_3 = 1.e-4;

 // time-positions of prepulse and preramps points
 static constexpr float_64 TIME_PREPULSE_SI = -950.0e-15;
 static constexpr float_64 TIME_PEAKPULSE_SI = 0.0e-15;
 static constexpr float_64 TIME_POINT_1_SI = -1000.0e-15;
 static constexpr float_64 TIME_POINT_2_SI = -300.0e-15;
 static constexpr float_64 TIME_POINT_3_SI = -100.0e-15;

 /** unit: meter */
 static constexpr float_64 WAVE_LENGTH_SI = 0.8e-6;

 /** UNITCONV */
 static constexpr float_64 UNITCONV_A0_to_Amplitude_SI = -2.0 * PI / WAVE_
 ↳LENGTH_SI * ::picongpu::SI::ELECTRON_MASS_SI * ::picongpu::SI::SPEED_OF_LIGHT_SI
 ↳* ::picongpu::SI::SPEED_OF_LIGHT_SI / ::picongpu::SI::ELECTRON_CHARGE_SI;

 /** unit: W / m^2 */
 // calculate: _A0 = 8.549297e-6 * sqrt(Intensity[W/m^2]) * wavelength[m]
 ↳(linearly polarized)

 /** unit: none */
 static constexpr float_64 _A0 = 20.;

 /** unit: Volt /meter */
 static constexpr float_64 AMPLITUDE_SI = _A0 * UNITCONV_A0_to_Amplitude_SI;

 /** unit: Volt /meter */

```

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```
//constexpr float_64 AMPLITUDE_SI = 1.738e13;

/** Stretch temporal profile by a constant plateau between the up and
↳downramp
 * unit: seconds */
static constexpr float_64 LASER_NOFOCUS_CONSTANT_SI = 0.0 * WAVE_LENGTH_SI_
↳/ ::picongpu::SI::SPEED_OF_LIGHT_SI;

/** Pulse length: sigma of std. gauss for intensity (E^2)
 * PULSE_LENGTH_SI = FWHM_of_Intensity / [2*sqrt{ 2* ln(2) }]
 * [2.354820045]
 * Info: FWHM_of_Intensity = FWHM_Illumination
 * = what a experimentalist calls "pulse duration"
 * unit: seconds (1 sigma) */
static constexpr float_64 PULSE_LENGTH_SI = 3.0e-14 / 2.35482; // half of
↳the time in which E falls to half its initial value (then I falls to half its
↳value in 15fs, approx 6 wavelengths). Those are 4.8 wavelengths.

/** beam waist: distance from the axis where the pulse intensity (E^2)
 * decreases to its 1/e^2-th part,
 * W0_X_SI is this distance in x-direction
 * W0_Z_SI is this distance in z-direction
 * if both values are equal, the laser has a circular shape
↳in x-z
 * W0_SI = FWHM_of_Intensity / sqrt{ 2* ln(2) }
 * [1.17741]
 * unit: meter */
static constexpr float_64 W0_X_SI = 2.5 * WAVE_LENGTH_SI;
static constexpr float_64 W0_Z_SI = W0_X_SI;

/** The laser pulse will be initialized half of PULSE_INIT times of the
↳PULSE_LENGTH before plateau
 * and half at the end of the plateau
 * unit: none */
static constexpr float_64 RAMP_INIT = 16.0;

/** cell from top where the laser is initialized
 *
 * if `initPlaneY == 0` than the absorber are disabled.
 * if `initPlaneY > absorbercells negative Y` the negative absorber in y
 * direction is enabled
 *
 * valid ranges:
 * - initPlaneY == 0
 * - absorber cells negative Y < initPlaneY < cells in y direction of
↳the top gpu
 */
static constexpr uint32_t initPlaneY = 0;

/** laser phase shift (no shift: 0.0)
 *
 * sin(omega*time + laser_phase): starts with phase=0 at center --> E-
↳field=0 at center
 *
 * unit: rad, periodic in 2*pi
 */
static constexpr float_X LASER_PHASE = 0.0;

/** Available polarisation types
 */
enum PolarisationType
```

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```

{
 LINEAR_X = 1u,
 LINEAR_Z = 2u,
 CIRCULAR = 4u,
};

/** Polarization selection
 */
static constexpr PolarisationType Polarisation = LINEAR_X;
};
} // namespace defaults

```

## Wavepacket with Polynomial Profile

**template <typename T\_Params>**

**struct** *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::Polynom* : **public** *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::polynom::Unitless*<T\_Params>  
*Wavepacket* with a polynomial temporal intensity shape.

Based on a wavepacket with Gaussian spatial envelope.

### Template Parameters

- T\_Params: class parameter to configure the polynomial laser profile, see members of *polynom::defaults::PolynomParam* for required members

```

struct PolynomParam
{
 /** unit: meter */
 static constexpr float_64 WAVE_LENGTH_SI = 0.8e-6;

 /** Convert the normalized laser strength parameter a0 to Volt per meter */
 static constexpr float_64 UNITCONV_A0_to_Amplitude_SI = -2.0 * PI / WAVE_
 ↪LENGTH_SI * ::picongpu::SI::ELECTRON_MASS_SI * ::picongpu::SI::SPEED_OF_LIGHT_SI_
 ↪* ::picongpu::SI::SPEED_OF_LIGHT_SI / ::picongpu::SI::ELECTRON_CHARGE_SI;

 /** unit: W / m^2 */
 // calculate: _A0 = 8.549297e-6 * sqrt(Intensity[W/m^2]) * wavelength[m]_
 ↪(linearly polarized)

 /** unit: none */
 //static constexpr float_64 _A0 = 1.5;

 /** unit: Volt / meter */
 //static constexpr float_64 AMPLITUDE_SI = _A0 * UNITCONV_A0_to_Amplitude_
 ↪SI;

 /** unit: Volt / meter */
 static constexpr float_64 AMPLITUDE_SI = 1.738e13;

 /** Pulse length: sigma of std. gauss for intensity (E^2)
 * PULSE_LENGTH_SI = FWHM_of_Intensity / [2*sqrt{ 2* ln(2) }]
 * [2.354820045]
 * Info: FWHM_of_Intensity = FWHM_Illumination
 * = what a experimentalist calls "pulse duration"
 * unit: seconds (1 sigma) */
 static constexpr float_64 PULSE_LENGTH_SI = 4.0e-15;

 /** beam waist: distance from the axis where the pulse intensity (E^2)
 * decreases to its 1/e^2-th part,

```

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```

 * at the focus position of the laser
 * unit: meter
 */
static constexpr float_64 W0_X_SI = 4.246e-6; // waist in x-direction
static constexpr float_64 W0_Z_SI = W0_X_SI; // waist in z-direction

/** cell from top where the laser is initialized
 *
 * if `initPlaneY == 0` than the absorber are disabled.
 * if `initPlaneY > absorbercells negative Y` the negative absorber in y
 * direction is enabled
 *
 * valid ranges:
 * - initPlaneY == 0
 * - absorber cells negative Y < initPlaneY < cells in y direction of_
→the top gpu
 */
static constexpr uint32_t initPlaneY = 0;

/** laser phase shift (no shift: 0.0)
 *
 * sin(omega*time + laser_phase): starts with phase=0 at center --> E-
→field=0 at center
 *
 * unit: rad, periodic in 2*pi
 */
static constexpr float_X LASER_PHASE = 0.0;

/** Available polarization types
 */
enum PolarisationType
{
 LINEAR_X = 1u,
 LINEAR_Z = 2u,
 CIRCULAR = 4u,
};
/** Polarization selection
 */
static constexpr PolarisationType Polarisation = LINEAR_X;
};
} // namespace defaults
} // namespace gaussianBeam

/** Wavepacket with a polynomial temporal intensity shape.
 *
 * Based on a wavepacket with Gaussian spatial envelope.
 *
 * @tparam T_Params class parameter to configure the polynomial laser profile,
 * see members of polynom::defaults::PolynomParam for
 * required members

```

## Plane Wave

**template** <typename T\_Params>

**struct** *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***PlaneWave** : **public** *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::planeWave::Unitless*<T\_Params>  
Plane wave laser profile.

Defines a plane wave with temporally Gaussian envelope.

### Template Parameters

- T\_Params: class parameter to configure the plane wave profile, see members of planeWave::defaults::PlaneWaveParam for required members

```

struct PlaneWaveParam
{
 /** unit: meter */
 static constexpr float_64 WAVE_LENGTH_SI = 0.8e-6;

 /** Convert the normalized laser strength parameter a0 to Volt per meter */
 static constexpr float_64 UNITCONV_A0_to_Amplitude_SI = -2.0 * PI / WAVE_
 ↪LENGTH_SI * ::picongpu::SI::ELECTRON_MASS_SI * ::picongpu::SI::SPEED_OF_LIGHT_SI_
 ↪* ::picongpu::SI::SPEED_OF_LIGHT_SI / ::picongpu::SI::ELECTRON_CHARGE_SI;

 /** unit: W / m^2 */
 // calculate: _A0 = 8.549297e-6 * sqrt(Intensity[W/m^2]) * wavelength[m]_
 ↪(linearly polarized)

 /** unit: none */
 static constexpr float_64 _A0 = 1.5;

 /** unit: Volt / meter */
 static constexpr float_64 AMPLITUDE_SI = _A0 * UNITCONV_A0_to_Amplitude_SI;

 /** unit: Volt / meter */
 //static constexpr float_64 AMPLITUDE_SI = 1.738e13;

 /** Stretch temporal profile by a constant plateau between the up and_
 ↪downramp
 * unit: seconds */
 static constexpr float_64 LASER_NOFOCUS_CONSTANT_SI = 13.34e-15;

 /** Pulse length: sigma of std. gauss for intensity (E^2)
 * PULSE_LENGTH_SI = FWHM_of_Intensity / [2*sqrt{ 2* ln(2) }]
 * [2.354820045]
 * Info: FWHM_of_Intensity = FWHM_Illumination
 * = what a experimentalist calls "pulse duration"
 * unit: seconds (1 sigma) */
 static constexpr float_64 PULSE_LENGTH_SI = 10.615e-15 / 4.0;

 /** cell from top where the laser is initialized
 *
 * if `initPlaneY == 0` than the absorber are disabled.
 * if `initPlaneY > absorbercells negative Y` the negative absorber in y
 * direction is enabled
 *
 * valid ranges:
 * - initPlaneY == 0
 * - absorber cells negative Y < initPlaneY < cells in y direction of_
 ↪the top gpu
 */
 static constexpr uint32_t initPlaneY = 0;

 /** The laser pulse will be initialized half of PULSE_INIT times of the_
 ↪PULSE_LENGTH before and after the plateau
 * unit: none */
 static constexpr float_64 RAMP_INIT = 20.6146;

 /** laser phase shift (no shift: 0.0)
 *
 * sin(omega*time + laser_phase): starts with phase=0 at center --> E-
 ↪field=0 at center
 *

```

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```

 * unit: rad, periodic in 2*pi
 */
 static constexpr float_X LASER_PHASE = 0.0;

 /** Available polarization types
 */
 enum PolarisationType
 {
 LINEAR_X = 1u,
 LINEAR_Z = 2u,
 CIRCULAR = 4u,
 };
 /** Polarization selection
 */
 static constexpr PolarisationType Polarisation = LINEAR_X;
};
} // namespace defaults

```

## None

**template** <typename T\_Params>

**struct** *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles***None** : **public** *picongpu::fields::laserProfiles::none::Unitless*<T\_Params>  
Empty laser profile.

Does not define a laser profile but provides some hard-coded constants that are accessed directly in some places.

### Template Parameters

- T\_Params: class parameter to configure the “no laser” profile, see members of *none::defaults::NoneParam* for required members

## pusher.param

Configure particle pushers.

Those pushers can then be selected by a particle species in *species.param* and *speciesDefinition.param*

**namespace** *picongpu*

**namespace** *picongpu::particlePusherAxel*

### Enums

**enum** *picongpu::particlePusherAxel***TrajectoryInterpolationType**

Values:

*picongpu::particlePusherAxel***LINEAR** = 1u

*picongpu::particlePusherAxel***NONLINEAR** = 2u

### Variables

**constexpr** *TrajectoryInterpolationType* *picongpu::particlePusherAxel***TrajectoryInterpolation** = LINEAR

**namespace** *picongpu::particlePusherProbe*

## Typedefs

```
using picongpu::particlePusherProbe::ActualPusher = typedef void
```

Also push the probe particles?

In many cases, probe particles are static throughout the simulation. This option allows to set an “actual” pusher that shall be used to also change the probe particle positions.

Examples:

- particles::pusher::Boris
- particles::pusher::[all others from above]
- void (no push)

## density.param

Configure existing or define new normalized density profiles here.

During particle species creation in speciesInitialization.param, those profiles can be translated to spatial particle distributions.

```
namespace picongpu
```

```
namespace picongpudensityProfiles
```

## Typedefs

```
using picongpu::densityProfiles::Gaussian = typedef GaussianImpl< GaussianParam
```

```
using picongpu::densityProfiles::Homogenous = typedef HomogenousImpl
```

```
using picongpu::densityProfiles::LinearExponential = typedef LinearExponentialImpl
```

```
using picongpu::densityProfiles::GaussianCloud = typedef GaussianCloudImpl< Gaus
```

```
using picongpu::densityProfiles::SphereFlanks = typedef SphereFlanksImpl<SphereF
```

```
using picongpu::densityProfiles::FromHDF5 = typedef FromHDF5Impl< FromHDF5Param
```

```
using picongpu::densityProfiles::FreeFormula = typedef FreeFormulaImpl< FreeForm
```

## Functions

```
picongpu::densityProfiles::PMACC_STRUCT(GaussianParam, (PMACC_C_VALUE (float_X,
```

```
Profile Formula: const float_X exponent = abs((y - gasCenter_SI)
/ gasSigma_SI); const float_X density = exp(gasFactor *
pow(exponent, gasPower));
```

```
takes gasCenterLeft_SI for y < gasCenterLeft_SI, gasCenterRight_SI
for y > gasCenterRight_SI, and exponent = 0.0 for gasCenterLeft_SI
< y < gasCenterRight_SI
```

```
picongpu::densityProfiles::PMACC_STRUCT(LinearExponentialParam, (PMACC_C_VALUE
parameter for LinearExponential profile
```

```
* Density Profile: /\
* / -,-
* linear / -,- exponential
* slope / | -,- slope
* MAX
*
```

```
picongpu::densityProfiles::PMACC_STRUCT(GaussianCloudParam, (PMACC_C_VALUE (flo
```

```
picongpu::densityProfiles::PMACC_STRUCT(SphereFlanksParam, (PMACC_C_VALUE (uint
```

The profile consists out of the composition of 3 1D profiles with the scheme: exponential increasing flank, constant sphere, exponential decreasing flank.

```
*
* 1D: __, ./ ____ \., _ rho(r)
*
* 2D: __, x, __ density: . low
* ., xxx, . , middle
* __, x, __ x high (constant)
*
```

```
picongpu::densityProfiles::PMACC_STRUCT(FromHDF5Param, (PMACC_C_STRING (filenam
```

```
struct picongpu::densityProfilesFreeFormulaFunctor
```

## Public Functions

```
HDINLINE float_X picongpu::densityProfiles::FreeFormulaFunctor::operator() (co
```

This formula uses SI quantities only.

The profile will be multiplied by `BASE_DENSITY_SI`.

**Return** float\_X density [normalized to 1.0]

**Parameters**

- `position_SI`: total offset including all slides [meter]
- `cellSize_SI`: cell sizes [meter]

```
namespace picongpuSI
```

## Variables

```
constexpr float_64 picongpu::SIBASE_DENSITY_SI = 1.e25
```

Base density in particles per m<sup>3</sup> in the density profiles.

This is often taken as reference maximum density in normalized profiles. Individual particle species can define a `densityRatio` flag relative to this value.

unit: ELEMENTS/m<sup>3</sup>

## speciesAttributes.param

This file defines available attributes that can be stored with each particle of a particle species.

Each attribute defined here needs to implement furthermore the traits

- Unit
- UnitDimension
- WeightingPower
- MacroWeighted in `speciesAttributes.unitless` for further information about these traits see therein.

```
namespace picongpu
```



## Functions

*picongpu***alias** (position)

relative (to cell origin) in-cell position of a particle

With this definition we do not define any type like `float3_X`, `float3_64`, ... This is only a name without a specialization.

*picongpu***value\_identifier** (uint64\_t, particleId, IdProvider<simDim>::getNewId)

unique identifier for a particle

*picongpu*::**value\_identifier**(floatD\_X, position\_pic, floatD\_X::create (0.))

specialization for the relative in-cell position

*picongpu*::**value\_identifier**(float3\_X, momentum, float3\_X::create (0.))

momentum at timestep t

*picongpu*::**value\_identifier**(float3\_X, momentumPrev1, float3\_X::create (0.\_X))

momentum at (previous) timestep t-1

*picongpu*::**value\_identifier**(float\_X, weighting, 0.\_X)

weighting of the macro particle

*picongpu*::**value\_identifier**(int16\_t, voronoiCellId, - 1)

Voronoi cell of the macro particle.

*picongpu*::**value\_identifier**(float3\_X, probeE, float3\_X::create (0.))

interpolated electric field with respect to particle shape

*picongpu*::**value\_identifier**(float3\_X, probeB, float3\_X::create (0.))

interpolated electric field with respect to particle shape

*picongpu*::**value\_identifier**(bool, radiationMask, false)

masking a particle for radiation

The mask is used by the user defined filter `RadiationParticleFilter` in `radiation.param` to (de)select particles for the radiation calculation.

*picongpu*::**value\_identifier**(float\_X, boundElectrons, 0.\_X)

number of electrons bound to the atom / ion

value type is `float_X` to avoid casts during the runtime

- `float_X` instead of integer types are reasonable because effective charge numbers are possible
- required for ion species if ionization is enabled

*picongpu*::**value\_identifier**(flylite::Superconfig, superconfig, flylite::Superconfig)

atomic superconfiguration

atomic configuration of an ion for collisional-radiative modeling, see also `flylite.param`

*picongpu***value\_identifier** (DataSpace<simDim>, totalCellIdx, DataSpace<simDim>)

Total cell index of a particle.

The total cell index is a N-dimensional `DataSpace` given by a GPU's `globalDomain.offset + localDomain.offset` added to the N-dimensional cell index the particle belongs to on that GPU.

*picongpu***alias** (shape)

alias for particle shape, see also `species.param`

*picongpu***alias** (particlePusher)

alias for particle pusher, see also `species.param`

*picongpu***alias** (ionizers)

alias for particle ionizers, see also `ionizer.param`

*picongpu***alias** (ionizationEnergies)

alias for ionization energy container, see also `ionizationEnergies.param`

*picongpu***alias** (synchrotronPhotons)

alias for synchrotronPhotons, see also speciesDefinition.param

alias for ion species used for bremsstrahlung

*picongpu***alias** (bremsstrahlungPhotons)

alias for photon species used for bremsstrahlung

*picongpu***alias** (interpolation)

alias for particle to field interpolation, see also species.param

*picongpu***alias** (current)

alias for particle current solver, see also species.param

*picongpu***alias** (atomicNumbers)

alias for particle flag: atomic numbers, see also ionizer.param

- only reasonable for atoms / ions / nuclei

*picongpu***alias** (effectiveNuclearCharge)

alias for particle flag: effective nuclear charge,

- see also ionizer.param
- only reasonable for atoms / ions / nuclei

*picongpu***alias** (populationKinetics)

alias for particle population kinetics model (e.g.

FLYlite)

see also flylite.param

*picongpu***alias** (massRatio)

alias for particle mass ratio

mass ratio between base particle, see also speciesConstants.param SI : :BASE\_MASS\_SI and a user defined species

default value: 1.0 if unset

*picongpu***alias** (chargeRatio)

alias for particle charge ratio

charge ratio between base particle, see also speciesConstants.param SI : :BASE\_CHARGE\_SI and a user defined species

default value: 1.0 if unset

*picongpu***alias** (densityRatio)

alias for particle density ratio

density ratio between default density, see also density.param SI : :BASE\_DENSITY\_SI and a user defined species

default value: 1.0 if unset

*picongpu***alias** (exchangeMemCfg)

alias to reserved bytes for each communication direction

This is an optional flag and overwrites the default species configuration in memory.param.

A memory config must be of the following form:

```
struct ExampleExchangeMemCfg
{
 static constexpr uint32_t BYTES_EXCHANGE_X = 5 * 1024 * 1024;
 static constexpr uint32_t BYTES_EXCHANGE_Y = 5 * 1024 * 1024;
```

(continues on next page)

(continued from previous page)

```
static constexpr uint32_t BYTES_EXCHANGE_Z = 5 * 1024 * 1024;
static constexpr uint32_t BYTES_CORNER = 16 * 1024;
static constexpr uint32_t BYTES_EDGES = 16 * 1024;
};
```

***picongpu*alias** (boundaryCondition)

alias to specify the boundary condition for particles

The default behavior if this alias is not given to a species is that the particles which leave the global simulation box where deleted. This also notifies all plugins that can handle leaving particles.

Note: alias boundaryCondition will be ignored if the runtime parameter `--periodic` is set.

The following species attributes are defined by pmacc and always stored with a particle:

**namespace pmacc**

## Functions

**pmacc::value\_identifier(lcellId\_t, localCellIdx, 0)**

cell of a particle inside a supercell

Value is a linear cell index inside the supercell

**pmacc::value\_identifier(uint8\_t, multiMask, 0)**

state of a particle

Particle might be valid or invalid in a particle frame. Valid particles can further be marked as candidates to leave a supercell. Possible multiMask values are:

- 0 (zero): no particle (invalid)
- 1: particle (valid)
- 2 to 27: (valid) particle that is about to leave its supercell but is still stored in the current particle frame. Directions to leave the supercell are defined as follows. An ExchangeType = value - 1 (e.g. 27 - 1 = 26) means particle leaves supercell in the direction of FRONT(value=18) && TOP(value=6) && LEFT(value=2) which defines a diagonal movement over a supercell corner (18+6+2=26).

## speciesConstants.param

Constants and thresholds for particle species.

Defines the reference mass and reference charge to express species with (default: electrons with negative charge).

**namespace picongpu**

## Variables

**constexpr float\_X picongpuGAMMA\_THRESH = 1.005\_X**

Threshold between relativistic and non-relativistic regime.

Threshold used for calculations that want to separate between high-precision formulas for relativistic and non-relativistic use-cases, e.g. energy-binning algorithms.

**constexpr float\_X picongpuGAMMA\_INV\_SQUARE\_RAD\_THRESH = 0.18\_X**

Threshold in radiation plugin between relativistic and non-relativistic regime.

This limit is used to decide between a pure  $1-\sqrt{1-x}$  calculation and a 5th order Taylor approximation of  $1-\sqrt{1-x}$  to avoid halving of significant digits due to the `sqrt()` evaluation at  $x = 1/\gamma^2$  near

0.0. With 0.18 the relative error between Taylor approximation and real value will be below  $0.001\% = 1e-5$  \* for  $x=1/\gamma^2 < 0.18$

**namespace** *picongpuSI*

## Variables

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::SI***BASE\_MASS\_SI** = ELECTRON\_MASS\_SI  
 base particle mass  
 reference for massRatio in speciesDefinition.param  
 unit: kg

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::SI***BASE\_CHARGE\_SI** = ELECTRON\_CHARGE\_SI  
 base particle charge  
 reference for chargeRatio in speciesDefinition.param  
 unit: C

## species.param

Forward declarations for speciesDefinition.param in case one wants to use the same particle shape, interpolation, current solver and particle pusher for all particle species.

**namespace** *picongpu*

## Typedefs

**using** *picongpu::UsedParticleShape* = **typedef** particles::shapes::TSC  
 Particle Shape definitions.

- particles::shapes::CIC : 1st order
- particles::shapes::TSC : 2nd order
- particles::shapes::PCS : 3rd order
- particles::shapes::P4S : 4th order

example: using CICShape = particles::shapes::CIC;

**using** *picongpu::UsedField2Particle* = **typedef** FieldToParticleInterpolation< UsedPart  
 define which interpolation method is used to interpolate fields to particles

**using** *picongpu::UsedParticleCurrentSolver* = **typedef** currentSolver::Esirkepov< UsedPa  
 select current solver method

- currentSolver::Esirkepov< SHAPE > : particle shapes - CIC, TSC, PCS, P4S (1st to 4th order)
- currentSolver::VillaBune<> : particle shapes - CIC (1st order) only
- currentSolver::EmZ< SHAPE > : particle shapes - CIC, TSC, PCS, P4S (1st to 4th order)

For development purposes:

- currentSolver::currentSolver::EsirkepovNative< SHAPE > : generic version of currentSolverEsirkepov without optimization (~4x slower and needs more shared memory)
- currentSolver::ZigZag< SHAPE > : particle shapes - CIC, TSC, PCS, P4S (1st to 4th order)

```
using picongpu::UsedParticlePusher = typedef particles::pusher::Boris
particle pusher configuration
```

Define a pusher is optional for particles

- particles::pusher::Vay : better suited relativistic boris pusher
- particles::pusher::Boris : standard boris pusher
- particles::pusher::ReducedLandauLifshitz : 4th order RungeKutta pusher with classical radiation reaction

For diagnostics & modeling: \_\_\_\_\_

- particles::pusher::Free : free propagation, ignore fields (= free stream model)
- particles::pusher::Photon : propagate with c in direction of normalized mom.
- particles::pusher::Probe : Probe particles that interpolate E & B For development purposes:  
\_\_\_\_\_
- particles::pusher::Axel : a pusher developed at HZDR during 2011 (testing)

## speciesDefinition.param

Define particle species.

This file collects all previous declarations of base (reference) quantities and configured solvers for species and defines particle species. This includes “attributes” (lvalues to store with each species) and “flags” (rvalues & aliases for solvers to perform with the species for each timestep and ratios to base quantities). With those information, a `Particles` class is defined for each species and then collected in the list `VectorAllSpecies`.

```
namespace picongpu
```

### Typedefs

```
using picongpu::DefaultParticleAttributes = typedef MakeSeq_t< position< position_p
describe attributes of a particle

using picongpu::ParticleFlagsPhotons = typedef bml::vector< particlePusher< partic
using picongpu::PIC_Photons = typedef Particles< PMACC_CSTRING("ph"), ParticleFla
using picongpu::ParticleFlagsElectrons = typedef bml::vector< particlePusher< UsedD
using picongpu::PIC_Electrons = typedef Particles< PMACC_CSTRING("e"), ParticleFla
using picongpu::ParticleFlagsIons = typedef bml::vector< particlePusher< UsedPartic
using picongpu::PIC_Ions = typedef Particles< PMACC_CSTRING("i"), ParticleFlagsIon
using picongpu::VectorAllSpecies = typedef MakeSeq_t< PIC_Electrons, PIC_Ions >
All known particle species of the simulation.
```

List all defined particle species from above in this list to make them available to the PIC algorithm.

### Functions

```
picongpu::value_identifier(float_X, MassRatioPhotons, 0. 0)
picongpu::value_identifier(float_X, ChargeRatioPhotons, 0. 0)
picongpu::value_identifier(float_X, MassRatioElectrons, 1. 0)
picongpu::value_identifier(float_X, ChargeRatioElectrons, 1. 0)
```

```

picongpu::value_identifier(float_X, MassRatioIons, 1836. 152672)
picongpu::value_identifier(float_X, ChargeRatioIons, -1. 0)
picongpu::value_identifier(float_X, DensityRatioIons, 1. 0)

```

## particle.param

Configurations for particle manipulators.

Set up and declare functors that can be used in `speciesInitialization.param` for particle species initialization and manipulation, such as temperature distributions, drifts, pre-ionization and in-cell position.

**namespace picongpu**

**namespace *picongpu*particles**

### Variables

**constexpr float\_X *picongpu::particles*MIN\_WEIGHTING** = 10.0  
a particle with a weighting below MIN\_WEIGHTING will not be created / will be deleted  
unit: none

**constexpr uint32\_t *picongpu::particles*TYPICAL\_PARTICLES\_PER\_CELL** = 2u  
Number of maximum particles per cell during density profile evaluation.  
Determines the weighting of a macro particle and with it, the number of particles “sampling”  
dynamics in phase space.

**namespace *picongpu::particles*manipulators**

### Typedefs

**using *picongpu::particles::manipulators::AssignXDrift*** = **typedef unary::Drift<**  
definition of manipulator that assigns a drift in X

**using *picongpu::particles::manipulators::AddTemperature*** = **typedef unary::Temp**

**using *picongpu::particles::manipulators::DoubleWeighting*** = **typedef generic::F**  
definition of a free particle manipulator: double weighting

**using *picongpu::particles::manipulators::RandomEnabledRadiation*** = **typedef gen**

**using *picongpu::particles::manipulators::RandomPosition*** = **typedef unary::Ran**  
changes the in-cell position of each particle of a species

### Functions

**picongpu::particles::manipulators::CONST\_VECTOR(float\_X, 3, DriftParam\_direct**  
Parameter for DriftParam.

**struct *picongpu::particles::manipulators*DoubleWeightingFunctor**  
Unary particle manipulator: double each weighting.

## Public Functions

```
template <typename T_Particle>
 DINLINE void picongpu::particles::manipulators::DoubleWeightingFunctor::op

struct picongpu::particles::manipulatorsDriftParam
 Parameter for a particle drift assignment.
```

## Public Members

```
const DriftParam_direction_t picongpu::particles::manipulators::DriftParamdirection
```

## Public Static Attributes

```
constexpr float_64 picongpu::particles::manipulators::DriftParamgamma = 1.0
struct picongpu::particles::manipulatorsRandomEnabledRadiationFunctor
```

## Public Functions

```
template <typename T_Rng, typename T_Particle>
 DINLINE void picongpu::particles::manipulators::RandomEnabledRadiationFunc

struct picongpu::particles::manipulatorsTemperatureParam
 Parameter for a temperature assignment.
```

## Public Static Attributes

```
constexpr float_64 picongpu::particles::manipulators::TemperatureParamtemperature = 0.0
namespace picongpu::particlesstartPosition
```

## Typedefs

```
using picongpu::particles::startPosition::Random = typedef RandomImpl< Random
 definition of random particle start
using picongpu::particles::startPosition::Quiet = typedef QuietImpl< QuietPar
 definition of quiet particle start
using picongpu::particles::startPosition::OnePosition = typedef OnePositionIm
 definition of one specific position for particle start
```

## Functions

```
picongpu::particles::startPosition::CONST_VECTOR(float_X, 3, InCellOffset, 0.
 sit directly in lower corner of the cell
struct picongpu::particles::startPositionOnePositionParameter
```

## Public Members

```
const InCellOffset_t picongpu::particles::startPosition::OnePositionParameterinCellOffset
```

## Public Static Attributes

**constexpr** uint32\_t *picongpu::particles::startPosition::OnePositionParameter*numParticlesPerCell =  
 Count of particles per cell at initial state.

unit: none

**struct** *picongpu::particles::startPosition*QuietParam

## Public Types

**using** *picongpu::particles::startPosition::QuietParam*numParticlesPerDimension = mCT::shrinkTo  
 Count of particles per cell per direction at initial state.

unit: none

**struct** *picongpu::particles::startPosition*RandomParameter

## Public Static Attributes

**constexpr** uint32\_t *picongpu::particles::startPosition::RandomParameter*numParticlesPerCell = TY  
 Count of particles per cell at initial state.

unit: none

## unit.param

In this file we define typical scales for normalization of physical quantities aka “units”.

Usually, a user would not change this file but might use the defined constants in other input files.

**namespace** *picongpu*

## Variables

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu*UNIT\_TIME = SI::DELTA\_T\_SI  
 Unit of time.

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu*UNIT\_LENGTH = UNIT\_TIME\*UNIT\_SPEED  
 Unit of length.

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu*UNIT\_MASS = SI::BASE\_MASS\_SI \* double(particles::TYPICAL\_NUM\_PARTICLES\_PE  
 Unit of mass.

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu*UNIT\_CHARGE = -1.0 \* SI::BASE\_CHARGE\_SI \* double(particles::TYPICAL\_NUM\_PA  
 Unit of charge.

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu*UNIT\_ENERGY = (UNIT\_MASS \* UNIT\_LENGTH \* UNIT\_LENGTH / (UNIT\_TIME \* U  
 Unit of energy.

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu*UNIT\_EFIELD = 1.0 / (UNIT\_TIME \* UNIT\_TIME / UNIT\_MASS / UNIT\_LENGTH \* U  
 Unit of EField: V/m.

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu*UNIT\_BFIELD = (UNIT\_MASS / (UNIT\_TIME \* UNIT\_CHARGE))

**namespace** *picongpu*particles



## Variables

`float_64( SI::BASE_DENSITY_SI * SI::CELL_WIDTH_SI * SI::CELL_HEIGHT_SI * SI::CELL_DEPTH_SI ) / float_64( particles::TYPICAL_PARTICLES_PER_CELL )` ]Number of particles per makro particle (= macro particle weighting) unit: none.

## particleFilters.param

A common task in both modeling and in situ processing (output) is the selection of particles of a particle species by attributes.

Users can define such selections as particle filters in this file.

Particle filters are simple mappings assigning each particle of a species either `true` or `false` (ignore / filter out).

All active filters need to be listed in `AllParticleFilters`. They are then combined with `VectorAllSpecies` at compile-time, e.g. for plugins.

**namespace picongpu**

**namespace picongpu****particles**

**namespace picongpu::particles****filter**

## Typedefs

**using picongpu::particles::filter::AllParticleFilters = typedef MakeSeq\_t< AllParticleFilters>**

Plugins: collection of all available particle filters.

Create a list of all filters here that you want to use in plugins.

Note: filter [All](#) is defined in `picongpu/particles/filter/filter.def`

## speciesInitialization.param

Initialize particles inside particle species.

This is the final step in setting up particles (defined in `speciesDefinition.param`) via density profiles (defined in `density.param`). One can then further derive particles from one species to an other and manipulate attributes with “manipulators” and “filters” (defined in `particle.param` and `particleFilters.param`).

For a full list of options, see the user manual section “Usage” - “Particles”.

**namespace picongpu**

**namespace picongpu****particles**

## Typedefs

**using picongpu::particles::InitPipeline = typedef mpl::vector<>**

InitPipeline defines in which order species are initialized.

the functors are called in order (from first to last functor)

## Memory

### memory.param

Define low-level memory settings for compute devices.

Settings for memory layout for supercells and particle frame-lists, data exchanges in multi-device domain-decomposition and reserved fields for temporarily derived quantities are defined here.

**namespace picongpu**

### Typedefs

```
using picongpu::SuperCellSize = typedef typename mCT::shrinkTo< mCT::Int< 8, 8, 4 >,
 size of a superCell
 volume of a superCell must be <= 1024

using picongpu::MappingDesc = typedef MappingDescription< simDim, SuperCellSize >
 define mapper which is used for kernel call mappings

using picongpu::GuardSize = typedef typename mCT::shrinkTo< mCT::Int< 1, 1, 1 >, simDim >
 define the size of the core, border and guard area
```

PICongPU uses spatial domain-decomposition for parallelization over multiple devices with non-shared memory architecture. The global spatial domain is organized per device in three sections: the GUARD area contains copies of neighboring devices (also known as “halo”/“ghost”). The BORDER area is the outermost layer of cells of a device, equally to what neighboring devices see as GUARD area. The CORE area is the innermost area of a device. In union with the BORDER area it defines the “active” spatial domain on a device.

GuardSize is defined in units of SuperCellSize per dimension.

### Variables

```
constexpr size_t picongpurereservedGpuMemorySize = 350 * 1024 * 1024

constexpr uint32_t picongpuFieldTmpNumSlots = 1
 number of scalar fields that are reserved as temporary fields

constexpr bool picongpuFieldTmpSupportGatherCommunication = true
 can FieldTmp gather neighbor information
```

If `true` it is possible to call the method `asyncCommunicationGather()` to copy data from the border of neighboring GPU into the local guard. This is also known as building up a “ghost” or “halo” region in domain decomposition and only necessary for specific algorithms that extend the basic PIC cycle, e.g. with dependence on derived density or energy fields.

```
struct picongpuDefaultExchangeMemCfg
 bytes reserved for species exchange buffer
```

This is the default configuration for species exchanges buffer sizes. The default exchange buffer sizes can be changed per species by adding the alias `exchangeMemCfg` with similar members like in `DefaultExchangeMemCfg` to its flag list.

### Public Static Attributes

```
constexpr uint32_t picongpu::DefaultExchangeMemCfgBYTES_EXCHANGE_X = 1 * 1024 * 1024
constexpr uint32_t picongpu::DefaultExchangeMemCfgBYTES_EXCHANGE_Y = 3 * 1024 * 1024
constexpr uint32_t picongpu::DefaultExchangeMemCfgBYTES_EXCHANGE_Z = 1 * 1024 * 1024
```

```
constexpr uint32_t picongpu::DefaultExchangeMemCfgBYTES_EDGES = 32 * 1024
constexpr uint32_t picongpu::DefaultExchangeMemCfgBYTES_CORNER = 8 * 1024
```

### precision.param

Define the precision of typically used floating point types in the simulation.

PICongPU normalizes input automatically, allowing to use single-precision by default for the core algorithms. Note that implementations of various algorithms (usually plugins or non-core components) might still decide to hard-code a different (mixed) precision for some critical operations.

### mallocMC.param

Fine-tuning of the particle heap for GPUs: When running on GPUs, we use a high-performance parallel “new” allocator (mallocMC) which can be parametrized here.

```
namespace picongpu
```

#### Typedefs

```
using picongpu::DeviceHeap = typedef mallocMC::Allocator< mallocMC::CreationPolicies
 Define a new allocator.
```

This is an allocator resembling the behaviour of the ScatterAlloc algorithm.

```
struct picongpuDeviceHeapConfig
 configure the CreationPolicy “Scatter”
```

#### Public Types

```
using picongpu::DeviceHeapConfigpagesize = boost::mpl::int_<2 * 1024 * 1024>
 2MiB page can hold around 256 particle frames

using picongpu::DeviceHeapConfigaccessblocks = boost::mpl::int_<4>
 accessblocks, regionsize and wastefactor are not conclusively investigated and might be performance sensitive for multiple particle species with heavily varying attributes (frame sizes)

using picongpu::DeviceHeapConfigregionsize = boost::mpl::int_<8>

using picongpu::DeviceHeapConfigwastefactor = boost::mpl::int_<2>

using picongpu::DeviceHeapConfigresetfreedpages = boost::mpl::bool_<true>
 resetfreedpages is used to minimize memory fragmentation with varying frame sizes
```

### PIC Extensions

#### fieldBackground.param

Load external background fields.

```
namespace picongpu
```

```
class picongpuFieldBackgroundB
```

## Public Functions

*picongpu::FieldBackgroundB***PMACC\_ALIGN** (m\_unitField, **const** float3\_64)

HDINLINE *picongpu::FieldBackgroundB***FieldBackgroundB** (**const** float3\_64 *unitField*)

HDINLINE float3\_X *picongpu::FieldBackgroundB::operator()* (**const** DataSpace < simD  
Specify your background field B(r,t) here.

### Parameters

- *cellIdx*: The total cell id counted from the start at t=0
- *currentStep*: The current time step

## Public Static Attributes

**constexpr** bool *picongpu::FieldBackgroundB***InfluenceParticlePusher** = false

**class** *picongpu***FieldBackgroundE**

## Public Functions

*picongpu::FieldBackgroundE***PMACC\_ALIGN** (m\_unitField, **const** float3\_64)

HDINLINE *picongpu::FieldBackgroundE***FieldBackgroundE** (**const** float3\_64 *unitField*)

HDINLINE float3\_X *picongpu::FieldBackgroundE::operator()* (**const** DataSpace < simD  
Specify your background field E(r,t) here.

### Parameters

- *cellIdx*: The total cell id counted from the start at t = 0
- *currentStep*: The current time step

## Public Static Attributes

**constexpr** bool *picongpu::FieldBackgroundE***InfluenceParticlePusher** = false

**class** *picongpu***FieldBackgroundJ**

## Public Functions

*picongpu::FieldBackgroundJ***PMACC\_ALIGN** (m\_unitField, **const** float3\_64)

HDINLINE *picongpu::FieldBackgroundJ***FieldBackgroundJ** (**const** float3\_64 *unitField*)

HDINLINE float3\_X *picongpu::FieldBackgroundJ::operator()* (**const** DataSpace < simD  
Specify your background field J(r,t) here.

### Parameters

- *cellIdx*: The total cell id counted from the start at t=0
- *currentStep*: The current time step

## Public Static Attributes

**constexpr** bool *picongpu::FieldBackgroundJ***activated** = false

## bremsstrahlung.param

namespace `picongpu`

namespace `picongpu::particles`

namespace `picongpu::particles::bremsstrahlung`

namespace `picongpu::particles::bremsstrahlung::electron`

params related to the energy loss and deflection of the incident electron

### Variables

**constexpr** `float_64 picongpu::particles::bremsstrahlung::electron::MIN_ENERGY_MeV` = 0.5  
Minimal kinetic electron energy in MeV for the lookup table.

For electrons below this value Bremsstrahlung is not taken into account.

**constexpr** `float_64 picongpu::particles::bremsstrahlung::electron::MAX_ENERGY_MeV` = 200.0  
Maximal kinetic electron energy in MeV for the lookup table.

Electrons above this value cause a out-of-bounds access at the lookup table. Bounds checking is enabled for “CRITICAL” log level.

**constexpr** `float_64 picongpu::particles::bremsstrahlung::electron::MIN_THETA` = 0.01  
Minimal polar deflection angle due to screening.

See Jackson 13.5 for a rule of thumb to this value.

**constexpr** `uint32_t picongpu::particles::bremsstrahlung::electron::NUM_SAMPLES_KAPPA` = 32  
number of lookup table divisions for the kappa axis.

Kappa is the energy loss normalized to the initial kinetic energy. The axis is scaled linearly.

**constexpr** `uint32_t picongpu::particles::bremsstrahlung::electron::NUM_SAMPLES_EKIN` = 32  
number of lookup table divisions for the initial kinetic energy axis.

The axis is scaled logarithmically.

**constexpr** `float_64 picongpu::particles::bremsstrahlung::electron::MIN_KAPPA` = 1.0e-10  
Kappa is the energy loss normalized to the initial kinetic energy.

This minimal value is needed by the numerics to avoid a division by zero.

namespace `picongpu::particles::bremsstrahlung::photon`

params related to the creation and the emission angle of the photon

### Variables

**constexpr** `float_64 picongpu::particles::bremsstrahlung::photon::SOFT_PHOTONS_CUTOFF_keV` = 5000.  
Low-energy threshold in keV of the incident electron for the creation of photons.

Below this value photon emission is neglected.

**constexpr** `uint32_t picongpu::particles::bremsstrahlung::photon::NUM_SAMPLES_DELTA` = 256  
number of lookup table divisions for the delta axis.

Delta is the angular emission probability (normalized to one) integrated from zero to theta, where theta is the angle between the photon momentum and the final electron momentum.

The axis is scaled linearly.

**constexpr** uint32\_t *picongpu::particles::bremsstrahlung::photon***NUM\_SAMPLES\_GAMMA** = 64  
 number of lookup table divisions for the gamma axis.

Gamma is the relativistic factor of the incident electron.

The axis is scaled logarithmically.

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::particles::bremsstrahlung::photon***MAX\_DELTA** = 0.95  
 Maximal value of delta for the lookup table.

Delta is the angular emission probability (normalized to one) integrated from zero to theta, where theta is the angle between the photon momentum and the final electron momentum.

A value close to one is reasonable. Though exactly one was actually correct, because it would map to theta = pi (maximum polar angle), the sampling then would be bad in the ultrarelativistic case. In this regime the emission primarily takes place at small thetas. So a maximum delta close to one maps to a reasonable maximum theta.

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::particles::bremsstrahlung::photon***MIN\_GAMMA** = 1.0  
 minimal gamma for the lookup table.

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::particles::bremsstrahlung::photon***MAX\_GAMMA** = 250  
 maximal gamma for the lookup table.

Bounds checking is enabled for “CRITICAL” log level.

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::particles::bremsstrahlung::photon***SINGLE\_EMISSION\_PROB\_LIMIT** = 0  
 if the emission probability per timestep is higher than this value and the log level is set to “CRITICAL” a warning will be raised.

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::particles::bremsstrahlung::photon***WEIGHTING\_RATIO** = 10

## synchrotronPhotons.param

### Defines

**ENABLE\_SYNCHROTRON\_PHOTONS**  
 enable synchrotron photon emission

**namespace picongpu**

**namespace picongpu***particles*

**namespace picongpu::particles***synchrotronPhotons*

### Variables

**constexpr** bool *picongpu::particles::synchrotronPhotons***enableQEDTerm** = false  
 enable (disable) QED (classical) photon emission spectrum

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::particles::synchrotronPhotons***SYNC\_FUNCS\_CUTOFF** = 5.0  
 Above this value (to the power of three, see comments on mapping) the synchrotron functions are nearly zero.

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::particles::synchrotronPhotons***SYNC\_FUNCS\_BESSEL\_INTEGRAL\_STEPWID**  
 stepwidth for the numerical integration of the besSEL function for the first synchrotron function

**constexpr** uint32\_t *picongpu::particles::synchrotronPhotons***SYNC\_FUNCS\_NUM\_SAMPLES** = 8192  
 Number of sampling points of the lookup table.

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::particles::synchrotronPhotons***SOFT\_PHOTONS\_CUTOFF\_RATIO** = 1.0  
Photons of oscillation periods greater than a timestep are not created since the grid already accounts for them.

This cutoff ratio is defined as: photon-oscillation-period / timestep

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::particles::synchrotronPhotons***SINGLE\_EMISSION\_PROB\_LIMIT** = 0.4  
if the emission probability per timestep is higher than this value and the log level is set to “CRITICAL” a warning will be raised.

## ionizer.param

This file contains the proton and neutron numbers of commonly used elements of the periodic table.

The elements here should have a matching list of ionization energies in Furthermore there are parameters for specific ionization models to be found here. That includes lists of screened nuclear charges as seen by bound electrons for the aforementioned elements as well as fitting parameters of the Thomas-Fermi ionization model.

See *ionizationEnergies.param*. Moreover this file contains a description of how to configure an ionization model for a species. Currently each species can only be assigned exactly one ionization model.

**namespace picongpu**

**namespace *picongpu*ionization**

Ionization Model Configuration.

- None : no particle is ionized
  - BSI : simple barrier suppression ionization
  - BSIEffectiveZ : BSI taking electron shielding into account via an effective atomic number  $Z_{\text{eff}}$
  - ADKLinPol : Ammosov-Delone-Krainov tunneling ionization (H-like) -> linearly polarized lasers
  - ADKCircPol : Ammosov-Delone-Krainov tunneling ionization (H-like) -> circularly polarized lasers
  - Keldysh : Keldysh ionization model
  - ThomasFermi : statistical impact ionization based on Thomas-Fermi atomic model Attention: requires 2 *FieldTmp* slots Research and development:
- See *memory.param*
- BSISTarkShifted : BSI for hydrogen-like atoms and ions considering the Stark upshift of ionization potentials

Usage: Add flags to the list of particle flags that has the following structure

```
ionizers< MakeSeq_t< particles::ionization::IonizationModel<
↪Species2BCreated > > >,
atomicNumbers< ionization::atomicNumbers::Element_t >,
effectiveNuclearCharge< ionization::effectiveNuclearCharge::Element_t >,
ionizationEnergies< ionization::energies::AU::Element_t >
```

**namespace *picongpu::ionization*atomicNumbers**

Specify (chemical) element

Proton and neutron numbers define the chemical element that the ion species is based on. This value can be non-integer for physical models taking charge shielding effects into account. It is wrapped into a struct because of C++ restricting floats from being template arguments.

See [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Effective\\_nuclear\\_charge](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Effective_nuclear_charge)

Do not forget to set the correct mass and charge via *massRatio*<> and *chargeRatio*<>!

```
struct picongpu::ionization::atomicNumbersAluminium_t
 Al-27 ~100% NA.
```

#### Public Static Attributes

```
constexpr float_X picongpu::ionization::atomicNumbers::Aluminium_tnumberOfProtons = 13.0
constexpr float_X picongpu::ionization::atomicNumbers::Aluminium_tnumberOfNeutrons = 14.0
struct picongpu::ionization::atomicNumbersCarbon_t
 C-12 98.9% NA.
```

#### Public Static Attributes

```
constexpr float_X picongpu::ionization::atomicNumbers::Carbon_tnumberOfProtons = 6.0
constexpr float_X picongpu::ionization::atomicNumbers::Carbon_tnumberOfNeutrons = 6.0
struct picongpu::ionization::atomicNumbersCopper_t
 Cu-63 69.15% NA.
```

#### Public Static Attributes

```
constexpr float_X picongpu::ionization::atomicNumbers::Copper_tnumberOfProtons = 29.0
constexpr float_X picongpu::ionization::atomicNumbers::Copper_tnumberOfNeutrons = 34.0
struct picongpu::ionization::atomicNumbersDeuterium_t
 H-2 0.02% NA.
```

#### Public Static Attributes

```
constexpr float_X picongpu::ionization::atomicNumbers::Deuterium_tnumberOfProtons = 1.0
constexpr float_X picongpu::ionization::atomicNumbers::Deuterium_tnumberOfNeutrons = 1.0
struct picongpu::ionization::atomicNumbersGold_t
 Au-197 ~100% NA.
```

#### Public Static Attributes

```
constexpr float_X picongpu::ionization::atomicNumbers::Gold_tnumberOfProtons = 79.0
constexpr float_X picongpu::ionization::atomicNumbers::Gold_tnumberOfNeutrons = 118.0
struct picongpu::ionization::atomicNumbersHelium_t
 He-4 ~100% NA.
```

#### Public Static Attributes

```
constexpr float_X picongpu::ionization::atomicNumbers::Helium_tnumberOfProtons = 2.0
constexpr float_X picongpu::ionization::atomicNumbers::Helium_tnumberOfNeutrons = 2.0
struct picongpu::ionization::atomicNumbersHydrogen_t
 H-1 99.98% NA.
```



## Public Static Attributes

```
constexpr float_X picongpu::ionization::atomicNumbers::Hydrogen_tnumberOfProtons = 1.0
constexpr float_X picongpu::ionization::atomicNumbers::Hydrogen_tnumberOfNeutrons = 0.0
struct picongpu::ionization::atomicNumbersNitrogen_t
 N-14 99.6% NA.
```

## Public Static Attributes

```
constexpr float_X picongpu::ionization::atomicNumbers::Nitrogen_tnumberOfProtons = 7.0
constexpr float_X picongpu::ionization::atomicNumbers::Nitrogen_tnumberOfNeutrons = 7.0
struct picongpu::ionization::atomicNumbersOxygen_t
 O-16 99.76% NA.
```

## Public Static Attributes

```
constexpr float_X picongpu::ionization::atomicNumbers::Oxygen_tnumberOfProtons = 8.0
constexpr float_X picongpu::ionization::atomicNumbers::Oxygen_tnumberOfNeutrons = 8.0
namespace picongpu::ionizationeffectiveNuclearCharge
 Effective Nuclear Charge.
```

Due to the shielding effect of inner electron shells in an atom / ion which makes the core charge seem smaller to valence electrons new, effective, atomic core charge numbers can be defined to make the crude barrier suppression ionization (BSI) model less inaccurate.

References: Clementi, E.; Raimondi, D. L. (1963) "Atomic Screening Constants from SCF Functions" J. Chem. Phys. 38 (11): 2686–2689. doi:10.1063/1.1733573 Clementi, E.; Raimondi, D. L.; Reinhardt, W. P. (1967) "Atomic Screening Constants from SCF Functions. II. Atoms with 37 to 86 Electrons" Journal of Chemical Physics. 47: 1300–1307. doi:10.1063/1.1712084

See [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Effective\\_nuclear\\_charge](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Effective_nuclear_charge) or refer directly to the calculations by Slater or Clementi and Raimondi

IMPORTANT NOTE: You have to insert the values in REVERSE order since the lowest shell corresponds to the last ionization process!

## Functions

```
picongpu::ionization::effectiveNuclearCharge::PMACC_CONST_VECTOR(float_X, 1,
picongpu::ionization::effectiveNuclearCharge::PMACC_CONST_VECTOR(float_X, 1,
picongpu::ionization::effectiveNuclearCharge::PMACC_CONST_VECTOR(float_X, 2,
picongpu::ionization::effectiveNuclearCharge::PMACC_CONST_VECTOR(float_X, 6,
picongpu::ionization::effectiveNuclearCharge::PMACC_CONST_VECTOR(float_X, 7,
picongpu::ionization::effectiveNuclearCharge::PMACC_CONST_VECTOR(float_X, 8,
picongpu::ionization::effectiveNuclearCharge::PMACC_CONST_VECTOR(float_X, 13,
picongpu::ionization::effectiveNuclearCharge::PMACC_CONST_VECTOR(float_X, 29,
picongpu::ionization::effectiveNuclearCharge::PMACC_CONST_VECTOR(float_X, 79,
namespace picongpuparticles
```

`namespace picongpu::particlesionization`

`namespace picongpu::particles::ionizationthomasFermi`

## Variables

**constexpr** float\_X `picongpu::particles::ionization::thomasFermiTFAlpha` = 14.3139

Fitting parameters to average ionization degree  $Z^* = 4/3 \pi R_0^3 \cdot n(R_0)$  as an extension towards arbitrary atoms and temperatures.

See table IV of <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0065219908601451>  
doi:10.1016/S0065-2199(08)60145-1

**constexpr** float\_X `picongpu::particles::ionization::thomasFermiTFBeta` = 0.6624

**constexpr** float\_X `picongpu::particles::ionization::thomasFermiTFA1` = 3.323e-3

**constexpr** float\_X `picongpu::particles::ionization::thomasFermiTFA2` = 9.718e-1

**constexpr** float\_X `picongpu::particles::ionization::thomasFermiTFA3` = 9.26148e-5

**constexpr** float\_X `picongpu::particles::ionization::thomasFermiTFA4` = 3.10165

**constexpr** float\_X `picongpu::particles::ionization::thomasFermiTFB0` = -1.7630

**constexpr** float\_X `picongpu::particles::ionization::thomasFermiTFB1` = 1.43175

**constexpr** float\_X `picongpu::particles::ionization::thomasFermiTFB2` = 0.31546

**constexpr** float\_X `picongpu::particles::ionization::thomasFermiTFC1` = -0.366667

**constexpr** float\_X `picongpu::particles::ionization::thomasFermiTFC2` = 0.983333

**constexpr** float\_X `picongpu::particles::ionization::thomasFermiCUTOFF_MAX_ENERGY_KEV` = 50.0  
cutoff energy for electron “temperature” calculation

In laser produced plasmas we can have different, well-separable groups of electrons. For the Thomas-Fermi ionization model we only want the thermalized “bulk” electrons. Including the high-energy “prompt” electrons is physically questionable since they do not have a large cross section for collisional ionization.

unit: keV

**constexpr** float\_X `picongpu::particles::ionization::thomasFermiCUTOFF_MAX_ENERGY` = CUTOFF\_MAX\_ENERGY\_KEV  
cutoff energy for electron “temperature” calculation in SI units

**constexpr** float\_X `picongpu::particles::ionization::thomasFermiCUTOFF_LOW_DENSITY` = 1.7422e27  
lower ion density cutoff

The Thomas-Fermi model yields unphysical artifacts for low ion densities. Low ion densities imply lower collision frequency and thus less collisional ionization. The Thomas-Fermi model yields an increasing charge state for decreasing densities and electron temperatures of 10eV and above. This cutoff will be used to set the lower application threshold for charge state calculation.

unit: 1 / m<sup>3</sup>

**Note** This cutoff value should be set in accordance to FLYCHK calculations, for instance!

It is not a universal value and requires some preliminary approximations!  
example: 1.7422e27 as a hydrogen ion number density equal to the corresponding critical electron number density for an 800nm laser

The choice of the default is motivated by the following: In laser-driven plasmas all dynamics in density regions below the critical electron density will be laser-dominated. Once ions of that density are ionized once the laser will not penetrate fully anymore and the as electrons are heated the dynamics will be collision-dominated.

```
constexpr float_X picongpu::particles::ionization::thomasFermiCUTOFF_LOW_TEMPERATURE_EV = 1.0
lower electron temperature cutoff
```

The Thomas-Fermi model predicts initial ionization for many materials of solid density even when the electron temperature is 0.

## ionizationEnergies.param

This file contains the ionization energies of commonly used elements of the periodic table.

Each atomic species in PICongGPU can represent exactly one element. The ionization energies of that element are stored in a vector which contains the *name* and *proton number* as well as a list of *energy values*. The number of ionization levels must be equal to the proton number of the element.

**namespace** *picongpu*

**namespace** *picongpu::ionization*  
Ionization Model Configuration.

- None : no particle is ionized
- BSI : simple barrier suppression ionization
- BSIEffectiveZ : BSI taking electron shielding into account via an effective atomic number  $Z_{\text{eff}}$
- ADKLinPol : Ammosov-Delone-Krainov tunneling ionization (H-like) -> linearly polarized lasers
- ADKCircPol : Ammosov-Delone-Krainov tunneling ionization (H-like) -> circularly polarized lasers
- Keldysh : Keldysh ionization model
- ThomasFermi : statistical impact ionization based on Thomas-Fermi atomic model Attention: requires 2 *FieldTmp* slots Research and development:  
**See** *memory.param*
- BSIS StarkShifted : BSI for hydrogen-like atoms and ions considering the Stark upshift of ionization potentials

Usage: Add flags to the list of particle flags that has the following structure

```
ionizers< MakeSeq_t< particles::ionization::IonizationModel<
↳Species2BCreated > > >,
atomicNumbers< ionization::atomicNumbers::Element_t >,
effectiveNuclearCharge< ionization::effectiveNuclearCharge::Element_t >,
ionizationEnergies< ionization::energies::AU::Element_t >
```

**namespace** *picongpu::ionizationenergies*  
Ionization potentials.

Please follow these rules for defining ionization energies of atomic species, unless your chosen ionization model requires a different unit system than AU :

- input of values in either atomic units or converting eV or Joule to them -> use either UNIT\_CONV\_eV\_to\_AU or SI::ATOMIC\_UNIT\_ENERGY for that purpose
- use *float\_X* as the preferred data type

example: ionization energy for ground state hydrogen: 13.6 eV 1 Joule = 1 kg \* m<sup>2</sup> / s<sup>2</sup> 1 eV = 1.602e-19 J

1 AU (energy) = 27.2 eV = 1 Hartree = 4.36e-18 J = 2 Rydberg = 2 x Hydrogen ground state binding energy

Atomic units are useful for ionization models because they simplify the formulae greatly and provide intuitively understandable relations to a well-known system, i.e. the Hydrogen atom.

for PMACC\_CONST\_VECTOR usage, Reference: Kramida, A., Ralchenko, Yu., Reader, J., and NIST ASD Team (2014) NIST Atomic Spectra Database (ver. 5.2), [Online] Available: <http://physics.nist.gov/asd> [2017, February 8] National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD

See `include/pmacc/math/ConstVector.hpp` for finding ionization energies, <http://physics.nist.gov/PhysRefData/ASD/ionEnergy.html>

**namespace** `picongpu::ionization::energiesAU`

## Functions

```
picongpu::ionization::energies::AU::PMACC_CONST_VECTOR(float_X, 1, Hydroge
picongpu::ionization::energies::AU::PMACC_CONST_VECTOR(float_X, 1, Deuteri
picongpu::ionization::energies::AU::PMACC_CONST_VECTOR(float_X, 2, Helium,
picongpu::ionization::energies::AU::PMACC_CONST_VECTOR(float_X, 6, Carbon,
picongpu::ionization::energies::AU::PMACC_CONST_VECTOR(float_X, 7, Nitroge
picongpu::ionization::energies::AU::PMACC_CONST_VECTOR(float_X, 8, Oxygen,
picongpu::ionization::energies::AU::PMACC_CONST_VECTOR(float_X, 13, Alumin
picongpu::ionization::energies::AU::PMACC_CONST_VECTOR(float_X, 29, Copper
picongpu::ionization::energies::AU::PMACC_CONST_VECTOR(float_X, 79, Gold,
```

## flylite.param

This is the configuration file for the atomic particle population kinetics model FLYlite.

Its main purpose is non-LTE collisional-radiative modeling for transient plasmas at high densities and/or interaction with (X-Ray) photon fields.

In simpler words, one can also use this module to simulate collisional ionization processes without the assumption of a local thermal equilibrium (LTE), contrary to popular collisional ionization models such as the Thomas-Fermi ionization model.

This file configures the number of modeled populations for ions, spatial and spectral binning of non-LTE density and energy histograms.

**namespace** `picongpu`

**namespace** `picongpuflylite`

## Typedefs

```
using picongpu::flylite::Superconfig = typedef types::Superconfig< float_64, pop
using picongpu::flylite::spatialAverageBox = typedef SuperCellSize
 you better not change this line, the woorld depends on it!
```

no seriously, per-supercell is the quickest way to average particle quantities such as density, energy histogram, etc. and I won't implement another size until needed

## Variables

**constexpr** uint8\_t *picongpu::flylite***populations** = 3u  
 number of populations (numpop)  
 this number defines how many configurations make up a superconfiguration  
 range: [0, 255]

**constexpr** uint8\_t *picongpu::flylite***ionizationStates** = 29u  
 ionization states of the atom (iz)  
 range: [0, 255]

**constexpr** uint16\_t *picongpu::flylite***energies** = 512u  
 number of energy bins  
 energy steps used for local energy histograms  
**Note** : no overflow- or underflow-bins are used, particles with energies outside the range (see below) are ignored

**constexpr** float\_X *picongpu::flylite***electronMinEnergy** = 0.0  
 energy range for electron and photon histograms  
 electron and photon histograms  $f(e)$   $f(ph)$  are currently calculated in a linearly binned histogram while particles with energies outside the ranges below are ignored  
 unit: eV

**constexpr** float\_X *picongpu::flylite***electronMaxEnergy** = 100.e3

**constexpr** float\_X *picongpu::flylite***photonMinEnergy** = 0.0

**constexpr** float\_X *picongpu::flylite***photonMaxEnergy** = 100.e3

## Plugins

### fileOutput.param

namespace picongpu

## Typedefs

**using** picongpu::ChargeDensity\_Seq = typedef deriveField::CreateEligible\_t< VectorAL  
*FieldTmp* output (calculated at runtime) \*\*\*\*\*

Those operations derive scalar field quantities from particle species at runtime. Each value is mapped per cell. Some operations are identical up to a constant, so avoid writing those twice to save storage.

you can choose any of these particle to grid projections:

- Density: particle position + shape on the grid
- BoundElectronDensity: density of bound electrons note: only makes sense for partially ionized ions
- ChargeDensity: density \* charge note: for species that do not change their charge state, this is the same as the density times a constant for the charge
- Energy: sum of kinetic particle energy per cell with respect to shape
- EnergyDensity: average kinetic particle energy per cell times the particle density note: this is the same as the sum of kinetic particle energy divided by a constant for the cell volume
- MomentumComponent: ratio between a selected momentum component and the absolute momentum with respect to shape

- LarmorPower: radiated Larmor power (species must contain the attribute `momentumPrev1`)

for debugging:

- MidCurrentDensityComponent:  $\text{density} * \text{charge} * \text{velocity\_component}$
- Counter: counts point like particles per cell
- MacroCounter: counts point like macro particles per cell

```
using picongpu::EnergyDensity_Seq = typedef deriveField::CreateEligible_t< VectorAllSpecies, EnergyDensity_Seq >
using picongpu::MomentumComponent_Seq = typedef deriveField::CreateEligible_t< VectorAllSpecies, MomentumComponent_Seq >
using picongpu::FieldTmpSolvers = typedef MakeSeq_t< ChargeDensity_Seq, EnergyDensity_Seq, MomentumComponent_Seq >
FieldTmpSolvers groups all solvers that create data for FieldTmp *****.
```

FieldTmpSolvers is used in

See *FieldTmp* to calculate the exchange size

```
using picongpu::NativeFileOutputFields = typedef MakeSeq_t< FieldE, FieldB >
FileOutputFields: Groups all Fields that shall be dumped.
```

Possible native fields: *FieldE*, *FieldB*, *FieldJ*

```
using picongpu::FileOutputFields = typedef MakeSeq_t< NativeFileOutputFields, FieldJ >
using picongpu::FileOutputParticles = typedef VectorAllSpecies
FileOutputParticles: Groups all Species that shall be dumped *****.
```

hint: to disable particle output set to using FileOutputParticles = `bmpl::vector0<>`;

## isaac.param

Definition which native fields and density fields of particles will be visualizable with ISAAC.

ISAAC is an in-situ visualization library with which the PIC simulation can be observed while it is running avoiding the time consuming writing and reading of simulation data for the classical post processing of data.

ISAAC can directly visualize natives fields like the E or B field, but density fields of particles need to be calculated from PICongPU on the fly which slightly increases the runtime and the memory consumption. Every particle density field will reduce the amount of memory left for PICongPU's particles and fields.

To get best performance, ISAAC defines an exponential amount of different visualization kernels for every combination of (at runtime) activated fields. So furthermore a lot of fields will increase the compilation time.

**namespace picongpu**

```
namespace picongpu{isaacP
```

### Typedefs

```
using picongpu::isaacP::Native_Seq = typedef MakeSeq_t< FieldE, FieldB, FieldJ >
Intermediate list of native fields of PICongPU which shall be visualized.
```

```
using picongpu::isaacP::Density_Seq = typedef deriveField::CreateEligible_t< VectorAllSpecies, Density_Seq >
Intermediate list of particle species, from which density fields shall be created at runtime to visualize them.
```

```
using picongpu::isaacP::Fields_Seq = typedef MakeSeq_t< Native_Seq, Density_Seq >
Compile time sequence of all fields which shall be visualized.
```

Basically the join of Native\_Seq and Density\_Seq.

## particleCalorimeter.param

namespace picongpu

namespace *picongpu*particleCalorimeter

### Functions

**HDINLINE float2\_X picongpu::particleCalorimeter::mapYawPitchToNormedRange (const**  
Map yaw and pitch into [0,1] respectively.

These ranges correspond to the normalized histogram range of the calorimeter (0: first bin, 1: last bin). Out-of-range values are mapped to the first or the last bin.

Useful for fine tuning the spatial calorimeter resolution.

**Return** Two values within [-1,1]

**Parameters**

- yaw: -maxYaw...maxYaw
- pitch: -maxPitch...maxPitch
- maxYaw: maximum value of angle yaw
- maxPitch: maximum value of angle pitch

## particleMerger.param

namespace picongpu

namespace *picongpu*plugins

namespace *picongpu::plugins*particleMerging

### Variables

**constexpr size\_t picongpu::plugins::particleMergingMAX\_VORONOI\_CELLS = 128**  
maximum number of active Voronoi cells per supercell.

If the number of active Voronoi cells reaches this limit merging events are dropped.

## radiation.param

Definition of frequency space, number of observers, filters, form factors and window functions of the radiation plugin.

All values set here determine what the radiation plugin will compute. The observation direction is defined in a separate file `radiationObserver.param`. On the comand line the plugin still needs to be called for each species the radiation should be computed for.

### Defines

**PIC\_VERBOSE\_RADIATION**

radiation verbose level: 0=nothing, 1=physics, 2=simulation\_state, 4=memory, 8=critical

namespace picongpu

**namespace** *picongpu***parameters**

### Variables

**constexpr** unsigned int *picongpu::parameters***N\_observer** = 256  
number of observation directions

**namespace** *picongpu***rad\_frequencies\_from\_list**

### Variables

**constexpr** char *picongpu::rad\_frequencies\_from\_list***listLocation**[] = "/path/to/frequency\_list"  
path to text file with frequencies

**constexpr** unsigned int *picongpu::rad\_frequencies\_from\_list***N\_omega** = 2048  
number of frequency values to compute if frequencies are given in a file [unitless]

**namespace** *picongpu***rad\_linear\_frequencies**

### Variables

**constexpr** unsigned int *picongpu::rad\_linear\_frequencies***N\_omega** = 2048  
number of frequency values to compute in the linear frequency [unitless]

**namespace** *picongpu::rad\_linear\_frequencies***SI**

### Variables

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::rad\_linear\_frequencies::SI***omega\_min** = 0.0  
minimum frequency of the linear frequency scale in units of [1/s]

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::rad\_linear\_frequencies::SI***omega\_max** = 1.06e16  
maximum frequency of the linear frequency scale in units of [1/s]

**namespace** *picongpu***rad\_log\_frequencies**

### Variables

**constexpr** unsigned int *picongpu::rad\_log\_frequencies***N\_omega** = 2048  
number of frequency values to compute in the logarithmic frequency [unitless]

**namespace** *picongpu::rad\_log\_frequencies***SI**

### Variables

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::rad\_log\_frequencies::SI***omega\_min** = 1.0e14  
minimum frequency of the logarithmic frequency scale in units of [1/s]

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::rad\_log\_frequencies::SI***omega\_max** = 1.0e17  
maximum frequency of the logarithmic frequency scale in units of [1/s]

**namespace** *picongpu***radFormFactor\_CIC\_3D**

correct treatment of coherent and incoherent radiation from macro particles

Choose different form factors in order to consider different particle shapes for radiation

- **radFormFactor\_CIC\_3D** ... CIC charge distribution



- `radFormFactor_TSC_3D` ... TSC charge distribution
- `radFormFactor_PCS_3D` ... PCS charge distribution
- `radFormFactor_CIC_1Dy` ... only CIC charge distribution in y
- `radFormFactor_Gauss_spherical` ... symmetric Gauss charge distribution
- `radFormFactor_Gauss_cell` ... Gauss charge distribution according to cell size
- `radFormFactor_incoherent` ... only incoherent radiation
- `radFormFactor_coherent` ... only coherent radiation

**namespace** *picongpu***radiation**

## Typedefs

**using** `picongpu::radiation::RadiationParticleFilter` = **typedef** `picongpu::particles`  
filter to (de)select particles for the radiation calculation

to activate the filter:

- goto file `speciesDefinition.param`
- add the attribute `radiationMask` to the particle species

**struct** `picongpu::radiationGammaFilterFunctor`  
select particles for radiation example of a filter for the relativistic Lorentz factor gamma

## Public Functions

**template** <typename T\_Particle>  
**HDINLINE void** `picongpu::radiation::GammaFilterFunctor::operator()` (T\_Particle

## Public Static Attributes

**constexpr float\_X** `picongpu::radiation::GammaFilterFunctorradiationGamma` = 5.0  
Gamma value above which the radiation is calculated.

**namespace** *picongpu***radiationNyquist**  
selected mode of frequency scaling:

options:

- `rad_linear_frequencies`
- `rad_log_frequencies`
- `rad_frequencies_from_list`

## Variables

**constexpr float\_32** `picongpu::radiationNyquistNyquistFactor` = 0.5  
Nyquist factor: fraction of the local Nyquist frequency above which the spectra is set to zero should be in (0, 1).

**namespace** *picongpu***radWindowFunctionTriangle**

add a window function weighting to the radiation in order to avoid ringing effects from sharpe boundaries default: no window function via `radWindowFunctionNone`

Choose different window function in order to get better ringing reduction `radWindowFunctionTriangle` `radWindowFunctionHamming` `radWindowFunctionTriplett` `radWindowFunctionGauss` `radWindowFunctionNone`

## radiationObserver.param

This file defines a function describing the observation directions.

It takes an integer index from [ 0, picongpu::parameters::N\_observer ) and maps it to a 3D unit vector in  $R^3$  (norm=1) space that describes the observation direction in the PICongGPU cartesian coordinate system.

**namespace** picongpu

**namespace** *picongpu*radiation\_observer

### Functions

**HDINLINE** vector\_64 picongpu::radiation\_observer::observation\_direction(const int  
Compute observation angles.

This function is used in the Radiation plug-in kernel to compute the observation directions given as a unit vector pointing towards a ‘virtual’ detector

This default setup is an example of a 2D detector array. It computes observation directions for 2D virtual detector field with its center pointing toward the +y direction (for  $\theta=0$ ,  $\phi=0$ ) with observation angles ranging from  $\theta = [\text{angle\_theta\_start} : \text{angle\_theta\_end}]$   $\phi = [\text{angle\_phi\_start} : \text{angle\_phi\_end}]$  Every observation\_id\_extern index moves the  $\phi$  angle from its start value toward its end value until the observation\_id\_extern reaches N\_split. After that the  $\theta$  angle moves further from its start value towards its end value while  $\phi$  is reset to its start value.

The unit vector pointing towards the observing virtual detector can be described using  $\theta$  and  $\phi$  by:  $x\_value = \sin(\theta) * \cos(\phi)$   $y\_value = \cos(\theta)$   $z\_value = \sin(\theta) * \sin(\phi)$  These are the standard spherical coordinates.

The example setup describes an detector array of 16x16 detectors ranging from  $-\pi/8 = -22.5$  degrees to  $+\pi/8 = +22.5$  degrees for both angles with the center pointing toward the y-axis (laser propagation direction).

**Return** unit vector pointing in observation direction type: vector\_64

#### Parameters

- observation\_id\_extern: int index that identifies each block on the GPU to compute the observation direction

## png.param

### Defines

**EM\_FIELD\_SCALE\_CHANNEL1**

**EM\_FIELD\_SCALE\_CHANNEL2**

**EM\_FIELD\_SCALE\_CHANNEL3**

**namespace** picongpu

### Variables

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpuscale\_image* = 1.0

**constexpr** bool *picongpuscale\_to\_cellsize* = true

**constexpr** bool *picongpuwhite\_box\_per\_GPU* = false

**namespace** *picongpu*visPreview

## Functions

```
DINLINE float_X picongpu::visPreview::preChannel1(const float3_X & field_B, co
DINLINE float_X picongpu::visPreview::preChannel2(const float3_X & field_B, co
DINLINE float_X picongpu::visPreview::preChannel3(const float3_X & field_B, co
```

## Variables

```
constexpr float_X picongpu::visPreview::preParticleDens_opacity = 0.25_X
constexpr float_X picongpu::visPreview::preChannel1_opacity = 1.0_X
constexpr float_X picongpu::visPreview::preChannel2_opacity = 1.0_X
constexpr float_X picongpu::visPreview::preChannel3_opacity = 1.0_X
```

## pngColorScales.param

```
namespace picongpu
```

```
namespace picongpucolorScales
```

```
namespace picongpu::colorScalesblue
```

## Functions

```
HDINLINE void picongpu::colorScales::blue::addRGB(float3_X & img, const floa
namespace picongpu::colorScalesgray
```

## Functions

```
HDINLINE void picongpu::colorScales::gray::addRGB(float3_X & img, const floa
namespace picongpu::colorScalesgrayInv
```

## Functions

```
HDINLINE void picongpu::colorScales::grayInv::addRGB(float3_X & img, const f
namespace picongpu::colorScalesgreen
```

## Functions

```
HDINLINE void picongpu::colorScales::green::addRGB(float3_X & img, const flo
namespace picongpu::colorScalesnone
```

## Functions

```
HDINLINE void picongpu::colorScales::none::addRGB(const float3_X &, const f
namespace picongpu::colorScalesred
```

## Functions

```
HDINLINE void picongpu::colorScales::red::addRGB(float3_X & img, const float
```

## Misc

### starter.param

### random.param

Configure the pseudorandom number generator (PRNG).

Allows to select method and global seeds in order to vary the initial state of the parallel PRNG.

```
namespace picongpu
```

```
 namespace picongpurandom
```

## Typedefs

```
using picongpu::random::Generator = typedef pmacc::random::methods::XorMin< >
 Random number generation methods.
```

It is not allowed to change the method and restart an already existing checkpoint.

- pmacc::random::methods::XorMin
- pmacc::random::methods::MRG32k3aMin
- pmacc::random::methods::AlpakaRand

```
using picongpu::random::SeedGenerator = typedef seed::Value< 42 >
 random number start seed
```

Generator to create a seed for the random number generator. Depending of the generator the seed is reproducible or or changed with each program execution.

- seed::Value< 42 >
- seed::FromTime
- seed::FromEnvironment

### physicalConstants.param

```
namespace picongpu
```

## Variables

```
constexpr float_64 picongpuPI = 3.141592653589793238462643383279502884197169399
```

```
constexpr float_64 picongpuUNIT_SPEED = SI::SPEED_OF_LIGHT_SI
 Unit of speed.
```

```
constexpr float_X picongpuSPEED_OF_LIGHT = float_X(SI::SPEED_OF_LIGHT_SI / UNIT_SPEED)
```

```
constexpr float_64 picongpuUNITCONV_keV_to_Joule = 1.60217646e-16
```

```
constexpr float_64 picongpuUNITCONV_Joule_to_keV = (1.0 / UNITCONV_keV_to_Joule)
```

```
constexpr float_64 picongpuUNITCONV_AU_to_eV = 27.21139
```

```
constexpr float_64 picongpuUNITCONV_eV_to_AU = (1.0 / UNITCONV_AU_to_eV)
```

namespace *picongpu*SI

## Variables

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::SISPEED\_OF\_LIGHT\_SI* = 2.99792458e8  
unit: m / s

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::SIMUE0\_SI* = PI \* 4.e-7  
unit: N / A^2  
/ SPEED\_OF\_LIGHT\_SI unit: C / (V m)

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::SIHBAR\_SI* = 1.054571800e-34  
reduced Planck constant unit: J \* s

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::SIELECTRON\_MASS\_SI* = 9.109382e-31  
unit: kg

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::SIELECTRON\_CHARGE\_SI* = -1.602176e-19  
unit: C

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::SIATOMIC\_UNIT\_ENERGY* = 4.36e-18

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::SIATOMIC\_UNIT\_EFIELD* = 5.14e11

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::SIATOMIC\_UNIT\_TIME* = 2.4189e-17

**constexpr** float\_64 *picongpu::SIN\_AVOGADRO* = 6.02214076e23  
Avogadro number unit: mol^-1.

Y. Azuma et al. Improved measurement results for the Avogadro constant using a 28-Si-enriched crystal, Metrologie 52, 2015, 360-375 doi:10.1088/0026-1394/52/2/360

## 2.4 Particles

Particles are defined in modular steps. First, species need to be generally defined in *speciesDefinition.param*. Second, species are initialized with particles in *speciesInitialization.param*.

The following operations can be applied in the `picongpu::particles::InitPipeline` of the latter:

### 2.4.1 Initialization

#### CreateDensity

**template** <typename T\_DensityFunctor, typename T\_PositionFunctor, typename T\_SpeciesType = bmpl::\_1>  
**struct** *picongpu::particles***CreateDensity**

Create particle distribution from a normalized density profile.

Create particles inside a species. The created particles are macroscopically distributed according to a given normalized density profile (T\_DensityFunctor). Their microscopic position inside individual cells is determined by the T\_PositionFunctor.

**Note** *FillAllGaps* is automatically called after creation.

#### Template Parameters

- T\_DensityFunctor: unary lambda functor with profile description, see density.param, example: `picongpu::particles::densityProfiles::Homogenous`
- T\_PositionFunctor: unary lambda functor with position description, see particle.param, examples: `picongpu::particles::startPosition::Quiet`, `picongpu::particles::startPosition::Random`

- `T_SpeciesType`: type or name as `boost::mpl::string` of the used species, see `speciesDefinition.param`

## Derive

```
template <typename T_SrcSpeciesType, typename T_DestSpeciesType = bmpl::_1, typename T_Filter = filter::All>
struct picongpu::particlesDerive : public picongpu::particles::ManipulateDerive<manipulators::generic::None, T_SrcSpe
```

Generate particles in a species by deriving from another species' particles.

Create particles in `T_DestSpeciesType` by deriving (copying) all particles and their matching attributes (except `particleId`) from `T_SrcSpeciesType`.

**Note** *FillAllGaps* is called on `T_DestSpeciesType` after the derivation is finished.

### Template Parameters

- `T_SrcSpeciesType`: type or name as `boost::mpl::string` of the source species
- `T_DestSpeciesType`: type or name as `boost::mpl::string` of the destination species
- `T_Filter`: `picongpu::particles::filter`, particle filter type to select source particles to derive

## Manipulate

```
template <typename T_Manipulator, typename T_SpeciesType = bmpl::_1, typename T_Filter = filter::All>
struct picongpu::particlesManipulate
```

Run a user defined manipulation for each particle of a species.

Allows to manipulate attributes of existing particles in a species with arbitrary unary functors ("manipulators").

**Warning** Does NOT call *FillAllGaps* after manipulation! If the manipulation deactivates particles or creates "gaps" in any other way, *FillAllGaps* needs to be called for the `T_SpeciesType` manually in the next step!

See `picongpu::particles::manipulators`

### Template Parameters

- `T_Manipulator`: unary lambda functor accepting one particle species,

### Template Parameters

- `T_SpeciesType`: type or name as `boost::mpl::string` of the used species
- `T_Filter`: `picongpu::particles::filter`, particle filter type to select particles in `T_SpeciesType` to manipulate via `T_DestSpeciesType`

## ManipulateDerive

```
template <typename T_Manipulator, typename T_SrcSpeciesType, typename T_DestSpeciesType = bmpl::_1, typename T_SrcF
struct picongpu::particlesManipulateDerive
```

Generate particles in a species by deriving and manipulating from another species' particles.

Create particles in `T_DestSpeciesType` by deriving (copying) all particles and their matching attributes (except `particleId`) from `T_SrcSpeciesType`. During the derivation, the particle attributes in can be manipulated with `T_ManipulateFunctor`.

**Note** *FillAllGaps* is called on `T_DestSpeciesType` after the derivation is finished. If the derivation also manipulates the `T_SrcSpeciesType`, e.g. in order to deactivate some particles for a move, *FillAllGaps* needs to be called for the `T_SrcSpeciesType` manually in the next step!

See `picongpu::particles::manipulators`

### Template Parameters

- `T_Manipulator`: a pseudo-binary functor accepting two particle species: destination and source,

### Template Parameters

- `T_SrcSpeciesType`: type or name as `boost::mpl::string` of the source species
- `T_DestSpeciesType`: type or name as `boost::mpl::string` of the destination species
- `T_SrcFilter`: `picongpu::particles::filter`, particle filter type to select particles in `T_SrcSpeciesType` to derive into `T_DestSpeciesType`

## FillAllGaps

```
template <typename T_SpeciesType = bmpl::_1>
```

```
struct picongpu::particlesFillAllGaps
```

Generate a valid, contiguous list of particle frames.

Some operations, such as deactivating or adding particles to a particle species can generate “gaps” in our internal particle storage, a list of frames.

This operation copies all particles from the end of the frame list to “gaps” in the beginning of the frame list. After execution, the requirement that all particle frames must be filled contiguously with valid particles and that all frames but the last are full is fulfilled.

### Template Parameters

- `T_SpeciesType`: type or name as `boost::mpl::string` of the particle species to fill gaps in memory

## 2.4.2 Manipulation Functors

Some of the particle operations above can take the following functors as arguments to manipulate attributes of particle species. A particle filter (see following section) is used to only manipulated selected particles of a species with a functor.

### Free

```
template <typename T_Functor>
```

```
struct picongpu::particles::manipulators::genericFree : protected picongpu::particles::functor::User<T_Functor>
```

call simple free user defined manipulators

example for `particle.param`: set in cell position to zero

```
struct FunctorInCellPositionZero
{
 template< typename T_Particle >
 HDINLINE void operator()(T_Particle & particle)
 {
 particle[position_] = floatD_X::create(0.0);
 }
 static constexpr char const * name = "inCellPositionZero";
};

using InCellPositionZero = generic::Free<
 FunctorInCellPositionZero
>;
```

### Template Parameters

- **T\_Functor**: user defined manipulators **optional**: can implement **one** host side constructor `T_Functor()` or `T_Functor(uint32_t currentTimeStep)`

## FreeRng

**template** <typename T\_Functor, typename T\_Distribution>

**struct** *picongpu::particles::manipulators::genericFreeRng* : **protected** *picongpu::particles::functor::User*<T\_Functor>, *picongpu::particles::distribution::User*<T\_Distribution>

call simple free user defined functor and provide a random number generator

example for `particle.param`: add

```
#include <pmacc/nvidia/rng/distributions/Uniform_float.hpp>

struct FunctorRandomX
{
 template< typename T_Rng, typename T_Particle >
 HDINLINE void operator()(T_Rng& rng, T_Particle& particle)
 {
 particle[position_].x() = rng();
 }
 static constexpr char const * name = "randomXPos";
};

using RandomXPos = generic::FreeRng<
 FunctorRandomX,
 pmacc::random::distributions::Uniform< float_X >
>;
```

## Template Parameters

- **T\_Functor**: user defined unary functor
- **T\_Distribution**: `pmacc::random::distributions`, random number distribution

and to `InitPipeline` in `speciesInitialization.param`:

```
Manipulate< manipulators::RandomXPos, SPECIES_NAME >
```

## FreeTotalCellOffset

**template** <typename T\_Functor>

**struct** *picongpu::particles::manipulators::unaryFreeTotalCellOffset* : **protected** *picongpu::particles::functor::User*<T\_Functor>

call simple free user defined manipulators and provide the cell information

The functor passes the cell offset of the particle relative to the total domain origin into the functor.

example for `particle.param`: set a user-defined species attribute `y0` (type: `uint32_t`) to the current total y-cell index

```
struct FunctorSaveYcell
{
 template< typename T_Particle >
 HDINLINE void operator()(
 DataSpace< simDim > const & particleOffsetToTotalOrigin,
 T_Particle & particle
)
 {
 particle[y0_] = particleOffsetToTotalOrigin.y();
 }
 static constexpr char const * name = "saveYcell";
};
```

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```
};

using SaveYcell = unary::FreeTotalCellOffset<
 FunctorSaveYcell
>;
```

### Template Parameters

- `T_Functor`: user defined unary functor

## CopyAttribute

```
using picongpu::particles::manipulators::unary::CopyAttribute = typedef generic::Free< a
 copy a particle source attribute to a destination attribute
```

This is an unary functor and operates on one particle.

### Template Parameters

- `T_DestAttribute`: type of the destination attribute e.g. `momentumPrev1`
- `T_SrcAttribute`: type of the source attribute e.g. `momentum`

## Drift

```
using picongpu::particles::manipulators::unary::Drift = typedef generic::Free< acc::Dri
 change particle's momentum based on speed
```

allow to manipulate a speed to a particle

### Template Parameters

- `T_ParamClass`: `param::DriftCfg`, configuration parameter
- `T_ValueFunctor`: `pmacc::nvidia::functors::*`, binary functor type to manipulate the momentum attribute

## RandomPosition

```
using picongpu::particles::manipulators::unary::RandomPosition = typedef generic::FreeR
 Change the in cell position.
```

This functor changes the in-cell position of a particle. The new in-cell position is uniformly distributed position between [0.0;1.0).

example: add

```
particles::Manipulate<RandomPosition,SPECIES_NAME>
```

to `InitPipeline` in `speciesInitialization.param`

## Temperature

```
using picongpu::particles::manipulators::unary::Temperature = typedef generic::FreeRng<
 change particle's momentum based on a temperature
```

allow to change the temperature (randomly normal distributed) of a particle.

### Template Parameters

- `T_ParamClass`: `param::TemperatureCfg`, configuration parameter
- `T_ValueFunctor`: `pmacc::nvidia::functors::*`, binary functor type to manipulate the momentum attribute

## Assign

```
using picongpu::particles::manipulators::binary::Assign = typedef generic::Free< acc::As
assign attributes of one particle to another
```

Can be used as binary and higher order operator but only the first two particles are used for the assign operation.

Assign all matching attributes of a source particle to the destination particle. Attributes that only exist in the destination species are initialized with the default value. Attributes that only exists in the source particle will be ignored.

## DensityWeighting

```
using picongpu::particles::manipulators::binary::DensityWeighting = typedef generic::Fre
Re-scale the weighting of a cloned species by densityRatio.
```

When deriving species from each other, the new species “inherits” the macro-particle weighting of the first one. This functor can be used to manipulate the weighting of the new species’ macro particles to satisfy the input densityRatio of it.

note: needs the densityRatio flag on both species, used by the GetDensityRatio trait.

## ProtonTimesWeighting

```
using picongpu::particles::manipulators::binary::ProtonTimesWeighting = typedef generic:
Re-scale the weighting of a cloned species by numberOfProtons.
```

When deriving species from each other, the new species “inherits” the macro-particle weighting of the first one. This functor can be used to manipulate the weighting of the new species’ macro particles to be a multiplied by the number of protons of the initial species.

As an example, this is useful when initializing a quasi-neutral, pre-ionized plasma of ions and electrons. Electrons can be created from ions via deriving and increasing their weight to avoid simulating multiple macro electrons per macro ion (with  $Z > 1$ ).

note: needs the atomicNumbers flag on the initial species, used by the GetAtomicNumbers trait.

## 2.4.3 Manipulation Filters

Most of the particle functors shall operate on all valid particles, where `filter::All` is the default assumption. One can limit the domain or subset of particles with filters such as the ones below (or define new ones).

### All

```
struct picongpu::particles::filterAll
```

### RelativeGlobalDomainPosition

```
template <typename T_Params>
```

**struct** *picongpu::particles::filter***RelativeGlobalDomainPosition**

filter particle dependent on the global position

Check if a particle is within a relative area in one direction of the global domain.

#### Template Parameters

- **T\_Params:** *picongpu::particles::filter::param::RelativeGlobalDomainPosition*, parameter to configure the functor

### Free

**template** <typename *T\_Functor*>

**struct** *picongpu::particles::filter::generic***Free** : **protected** *picongpu::particles::functor::User*<*T\_Functor*>  
call simple free user defined filter

example for *particleFilters.param*: each particle with in-cell position greater than 0.5

```
struct FunctorEachParticleAboveMiddleOfTheCell
{
 template< typename T_Particle >
 HDINLINE bool operator() (T_Particle const & particle)
 {
 bool result = false;
 if(particle[position_] >= float_X(0.5))
 result = true;
 return result;
 }
};

using EachParticleAboveMiddleOfTheCell = generic::Free<
 FunctorEachParticleAboveMiddleOfTheCell
>;
```

#### Template Parameters

- **T\_Functor:** user defined filter **optional:** can implement **one** host side constructor *T\_Functor()* or *T\_Functor(uint32\_t currentTimeStep)*

### FreeRng

**template** <typename *T\_Functor*, typename *T\_Distribution*>

**struct** *picongpu::particles::filter::generic***FreeRng** : **protected** *picongpu::particles::functor::User*<*T\_Functor*>, *picongpu::*  
call simple free user defined functor and provide a random number generator

example for *particleFilters.param*: get every second particle (random sample of 50%)

```
struct FunctorEachSecondParticle
{
 template< typename T_Rng, typename T_Particle >
 HDINLINE bool operator() (
 T_Rng & rng,
 T_Particle const & particle
)
 {
 bool result = false;
 if(rng >= float_X(0.5))
 result = true;
 return result;
 }
};
```

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```
using EachSecondParticle = generic::FreeRng<
 FunctorEachSecondParticle,
 pmacc::random::distributions::Uniform< float_X >
>;
```

### Template Parameters

- `T_Functor`: user defined unary functor
- `T_Distribution`: `pmacc::random::distributions`, random number distribution

## FreeTotalCellOffset

**template** <typename `T_Functor`>

**struct** *picongpu::particles::filter::generic***FreeTotalCellOffset** : **protected** *picongpu::particles::functor::User*<`T_Functor`>  
call simple free user defined functor and provide the cell information

The functor passes the cell offset of the particle relative to the total domain origin into the functor.

example for `particleFilters.param`: each particle with a cell offset of 5 in X direction

```
struct FunctorEachParticleInXCell5
{
 template< typename T_Particle >
 HDINLINE bool operator() (
 DataSpace< simDim > const & particleOffsetToTotalOrigin,
 T_Particle const & particle
)
 {
 bool result = false;
 if(particleOffsetToTotalOrigin.x() == 5)
 result = true;
 return result;
 }
};

using EachParticleInXCell5 = generic::FreeTotalCellOffset<
 FunctorEachParticleInXCell5
>;
```

### Template Parameters

- `T_Functor`: user defined unary functor

## 2.5 Plugins

| Plugin name                                | short description                                                      |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>ADIOS</i> <sup>27</sup>                 | stores simulation data as openPMD flavoured ADIOS files                |
| <i>energy histogram</i> <sup>7</sup>       | energy histograms for electrons and ions                               |
| <i>charge conservation</i> <sup>6</sup>    | maximum difference between electron charge density and div E           |
| <i>checkpoint</i> <sup>2</sup>             | stores the primary data of the simulation for restarts.                |
| <i>count particles</i> <sup>6</sup>        | count total number of macro particles                                  |
| <i>count per supercell</i> <sup>3</sup>    | count macro particles <i>per supercell</i>                             |
| <i>energy fields</i>                       | electromagnetic field energy per time step                             |
| <i>energy particles</i> <sup>7</sup>       | kinetic and total energies summed over all electrons and/or ions       |
| <i>HDF5</i> <sup>27</sup>                  | stores simulation data as openPMD flavoured HDF5 files                 |
| <i>ISAAC</i>                               | interactive 3D live visualization                                      |
| <i>intensity</i> <sup>156</sup>            | maximum and integrated electric field along the y-direction            |
| <i>particle calorimeter</i> <sup>347</sup> | spatially resolved, particle energy detector in infinite distance      |
| <i>particle merger</i> <sup>6</sup>        | macro particle merging                                                 |
| <i>phase space</i> <sup>367</sup>          | calculate 2D phase space                                               |
| <i>PNG</i> <sup>7</sup>                    | pictures of 2D slices                                                  |
| <i>positions particles</i> <sup>156</sup>  | save trajectory, momentum, ... of a <i>single</i> particle             |
| <i>radiation</i> <sup>3</sup>              | compute emitted electromagnetic spectra                                |
| <i>resource log</i>                        | monitor used hardware resources & memory                               |
| <i>slice field printer</i> <sup>5</sup>    | print out a slice of the electric and/or magnetic and/or current field |
| <i>sum currents</i>                        | compute the total current summed over all cells                        |

### 2.5.1 ADIOS

Stores simulation data such as fields and particles as [ADIOS](#) files or ADIOS staging methods.

#### External Dependencies

The plugin is available as soon as the [ADIOS library](#) is compiled in.

#### .param file

The corresponding .param file is [fileOutput.param](#).

One can e.g. disable the output of particles by setting:

```
/* output all species */
using FileOutputParticles = VectorAllSpecies;
/* disable */
using FileOutputParticles = bmpl::vector0< >;
```

<sup>2</sup> Either *ADIOS* or *HDF5* is required for simulation restarts. If both are available, writing checkpoints with ADIOS is automatically preferred by the simulation.

<sup>7</sup> Multi-Plugin: Can be configured to run multiple times with varying parameters.

<sup>6</sup> Only runs on the *CUDA* backend (GPU).

<sup>3</sup> Requires *HDF5* for output.

<sup>1</sup> On restart, plugins with that footnote overwrite their output of previous runs. Manually *save* the created files of these plugins before restarting in the same directory.

<sup>5</sup> Deprecated

<sup>4</sup> Can remember particles that left the box at a certain time step.

## .cfg file

You can use `--adios.period` and `--adios.file` to specify the output period and path and name of the created fileset. For example, `--adios.period 128 --adios.file simData --adios.source 'species_all'` will write only the particle species data to files of the form `simData_0.bp`, `simData_128.bp` in the default simulation output directory every 128 steps. Note that this plugin will only be available if ADIOS is found during compile configuration.

| PICongPU command line option              | description                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <code>--adios.period</code>               | Period after which simulation data should be stored on disk.                                                                                                                |
| <code>--adios.file</code>                 | Relative or absolute fileset prefix for simulation data. If relative, files are stored under <code>simOutput</code> .                                                       |
| <code>--adios.compression</code>          | Set data transform compression method. See <code>adios_config -m</code> for which compression methods are available. This flag also influences compression for checkpoints. |
| <code>--adios.aggregators</code>          | Set number of I/O aggregator nodes for ADIOS <code>MPI_AGGREGATE</code> transport method.                                                                                   |
| <code>--adios.ost</code>                  | Set number of I/O OSTs for ADIOS <code>MPI_AGGREGATE</code> transport method.                                                                                               |
| <code>--adios.transport-parameters</code> | Further options for transports, see ADIOS manual chapter 6.1.5. Lustre example: <code>random_offset=1;stripe_count=4</code> (FS chooses OST; user chooses striping factor). |
| <code>--adios.disable-meta</code>         | Disable on-the-fly creation of the adios journal file. Allowed values: 0 means write a journal file, 1 skips its generation.                                                |
| <code>--adios.source</code>               | Select data sources to dump. Default is <code>species_all</code> , <code>fields_all</code> , which dumps all fields and particle species.                                   |

**Note:** This plugin is a multi plugin. Command line parameter can be used multiple times to create e.g. dumps with different dumping period. In the case where a optional parameter with a default value is explicitly defined the parameter will be always passed to the instance of the multi plugin where the parameter is not set. e.g.

```
--adios.period 128 --adios.file simData1 --adios.source 'species_all'
--adios.period 1000 --adios.file simData2 --adios.source 'fields_all' --adios.
↳disable-meta 1
```

creates two plugins:

1. dump all species data each 128th time step, **do not create** the adios journal meta file.
2. dump all field data each 1000th time step but **create** the adios journal meta file.

## Compression

ADIOS supports various on-the-fly compression methods. Typical options:

```
single-threaded, slow zlib
--adios.compression zlib

6x multi-threaded, fast zstd via blosc, bitshuffle pre-conditioner and
↳compression threshold of 2kB
--adios.compression blosc:threshold=2048,shuffle=bit,lvl=1,threads=6,
↳compressor=zstd
```

See the [ADIOS manual](#), chapter 8.2 for full details.

See `adios_config -m` for available compression methods and recompile ADIOS with further dependencies if needed. Typically, ADIOS adds compressors during the `configure` step with options such as `--with-zlib=<ZLIB_DIR>` and `--with-blosc=<BLOSC_DIR>`.

## Meta Files

Disabling on-the-fly meta (journal) file creation can improve output performance for large scale runs. After your simulation finished, make sure to run `bpmeta <theoretical-meta-fileName>` on created ADIOS output.

You also need to create the meta file if you skipped on-the-fly creation in checkpointing and want to *restart from such a checkpoint* (with ADIOS as IO backend).

Example:

```
ls simOutput/
bp checkpoints [...]

ls simOutput/{bp,checkpoints}
simOutput/bp:
simData_0.bp.dir simData_100.bp.dir [...]
simOutput/checkpoints:
checkpoint_0.bp.dir checkpoint_2000.bp.dir

cd simOutput/bp
bpmeta simData_0.bp
bpmeta simData_100.bp
[...]
cd ../checkpoints
bpmeta checkpoint_0.bp
bpmeta checkpoint_2000.bp

ls simOutput/{bp,checkpoints}
simOutput/bp:
simData_0.bp simData_0.bp.dir
simData_100.bp simData_100.bp.dir [...]
simOutput/checkpoints:
checkpoint_0.bp checkpoint_0.bp.dir
checkpoint_2000.bp checkpoint_2000.bp.dir
```

## Memory Complexity

### Accelerator

no extra allocations.

### Host

as soon as ADIOS is compiled in, one extra `mallocMC` heap for the particle buffer is permanently reserved. During I/O, particle attributes are allocated one after another.

## Additional Tools

See our *openPMD* chapter.

## 2.5.2 Charge Conservation

First the charge density of all species with respect to their shape function is computed. Then this charge density is compared to the charge density computed from the divergence of the electric field  $\nabla \vec{E}$ . The maximum deviation value multiplied by the cell's volume is printed.

**Attention:** This plugin assumes a Yee-like divergence E stencil! Do not use it together with other field solvers like *directional splitting* (for the *Lehe* solver it is still correct).

### .cfg file

PIConGPU command line argument (for .cfg files):

```
--chargeConservation.period <periodOfSteps>
```

### Memory Complexity

#### Accelerator

no extra allocations (needs at least one FieldTmp slot).

#### Host

negligible.

### Output and Analysis Tools

A new file named `chargeConservation.dat` is generated:

```
#timestep max-charge-deviation unit[As]
0 7.59718e-06 5.23234e-17
100 8.99187e-05 5.23234e-17
200 0.000113926 5.23234e-17
300 0.00014836 5.23234e-17
400 0.000154502 5.23234e-17
500 0.000164952 5.23234e-17
```

The charge is normalized to `UNIT_CHARGE` (third column) which is the typical charge of *one* macro-particle.

There is a up 5% difference to a native hdf5 post-processing based implementation of the charge conversation check due to a different order of subtraction. And the zero-th time step (only numerical differences) might differ more then 5% relative due to the close to zero result.

## 2.5.3 Checkpoint

Stores the primary data of the simulation for restarts. Primary data includes:

- electro-magnetic fields
- particle attributes
- state of random number generators and particle ID generator
- ...



**Note:** Some plugins have their own internal state. They will be notified on checkpoints to store their state themselves.

## What is the format of the created files?

We write our fields and particles in an open markup called *openPMD*.

For further details, see the according sections in *HDF5* and *ADIOS*.

## External Dependencies

The plugin is available as soon as the *libSplash (HDF5) or ADIOS libraries* are compiled in.

### .cfg file

You can use `--checkpoint.period` to specify the output period of the created checkpoints. Note that this plugin will only be available if libSplash (HDF5) or ADIOS is found during compile configuration.

| PIconGPU command line option                                 | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <code>--checkpoint.period &lt;N&gt;</code>                   | Create checkpoints every N steps.                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <code>--checkpoint.backend &lt;IO-backend&gt;</code>         | IO-backend used to create the checkpoint.                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <code>--checkpoint.file &lt;string&gt;</code>                | Relative or absolute fileset prefix for writing checkpoints. If relative, checkpoint files are stored under <code>simOutput/&lt;checkpoint-directory&gt;</code> . Default depends on the selected IO-backend.   |
| <code>--checkpoint.restart</code>                            | Restart a simulation from the latest checkpoint.                                                                                                                                                                |
| <code>--checkpoint.restart.step &lt;N&gt;</code>             | Select a specific restart checkpoint.                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <code>--checkpoint.restart.backend &lt;IO-backend&gt;</code> | IO-backend used to load a existent checkpoint.                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <code>--checkpoint.restart.file &lt;string&gt;</code>        | Relative or absolute fileset prefix for reading checkpoints. If relative, checkpoint files are searched under <code>simOutput/&lt;checkpoint-directory&gt;</code> . Default depends on the selected IO-backend. |
| <code>--checkpoint.restart.chunkSize &lt;N&gt;</code>        | Number of particles processed in one kernel call during restart to prevent frame count blowup.                                                                                                                  |
| <code>--checkpoint.&lt;IO-backend&gt;.*</code>               | Additional options to control the IO-backend                                                                                                                                                                    |

Depending on the available external dependencies (see above), the options for the `<IO-backend>` are:

- *hdf5*
- *adios* (keep in mind the *note on meta-files* for restarts)

## Interacting Manually with Checkpoint Data

---

**Note:** Interacting with the *raw data of checkpoints* for manual manipulation is considered an advanced feature for experienced users.

---

Contrary to regular output, checkpoints contain additional data which might be confusing on the first glance. For example, some comments might be missing, all data from our concept of [slides for moving window simulations](#) will be visible, additional data for internal states of helper classes is stored as well and index tables such as openPMD particle patches are essential for parallel restarts.

## 2.5.4 Count Particles

This plugin counts the total number of *macro particles associated with a species* and writes them to a file for specified time steps. It is used mainly for debugging purposes. Only in case of constant particle density, where each macro particle describes the same number of real particles (weighting), conclusions on the plasma density can be drawn.

### .cfg file

The *CountParticles* plugin is always compiled for all species. By specifying the periodicity of the output using the command line argument `--e_macroParticlesCount.period` (here for an electron species called `e`) with `picongpu`, the plugin is enabled. Setting `--e_macroParticlesCount.period 100` adds the number of all electron like macro particles to the file *ElectronsCount.dat* for every 100th time step of the simulation.

### Memory Complexity

#### Accelerator

no extra allocations.

#### Host

negligible.

### Output

In the output file `e_macroParticlesCount.dat`, there are three columns. The first is the integer number of the time step. The second is the number of macro particles as integer - useful for exact counts. And the third is the number of macro particles in scientific floating point notation - provides better human readability.

### Known Issues

Currently, the file `e_macroParticlesCount.dat` is overwritten when restarting the simulation. Therefore, all previously stored counts are lost.

## 2.5.5 Count per Supercell

This plugin counts the total number of *macro particles of a species* for each super cell and stores the result in an hdf5 file. Only in case of constant particle density, where each macro particle describes the same number of real particles (weighting), conclusions on the plasma density can be drawn.

## External Dependencies

The plugin is available as soon as the *libSplash and HDF5 libraries* are compiled in.

### .cfg files

By specifying the periodicity of the output using the comand line argument `--e_macroParticlesPerSuperCell.period` (here for an electron species `e`) with `picongpu`, the plugin is enabled. Setting `--e_macroParticlesPerSuperCell.period 100` adds the number of all electron like macro particles to the file `e_macroParticlesCount.dat` for every 100th time step of the simulation.

### Accelerator

an extra permanent allocation of `size_t` for each local supercell.

### Host

negligible.

### Output

The output is stored as `hdf5` file in a separate directory.

## 2.5.6 Energy Fields

This plugin computes the total energy contained in the electric and magnetic field of the entire volume simulated. The energy is computed for user specified time steps.

### .cfg file

By setting the PConGPU command line flag `--fields_energy.period` to a non-zero value the plugin computes the total field energy. The default value is 0, meaning that the total field energy is not stored. By setting e.g. `--fields_energy.period 100` the total field energy is computed for time steps *0, 100, 200, ...*.

## Memory Complexity

### Accelerator

negligible.

### Host

negligible.

## Output

The data is stored in `fields_energy.dat`. There are two columns. The first gives the time step. The second is the total field energy in **Joule**. The first row is a comment describing the columns:

| #step | total[Joule] | Bx[Joule] | By[Joule] | Bz[Joule] | Ex[Joule] | Ey[Joule] | Ez[Joule] |
|-------|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 0     | 2.5e+18      | 0         | 0         | 0         | 2.5e+18   | 0         | 0         |
| 100   | 2.5e+18      | 2.45e-22  | 2.26e-08  | 2.24e-08  | 2.5e+18   | 2.29e-08  | 2.30e-08  |

**Attention:** The output of this plugin computes a *sum over all cells* in a very naive implementation. This can lead to significant errors due to the finite precision in floating-point numbers. Do not expect the output to be precise to more than a few percent. Do not expect the output to be deterministic due to the statistical nature of the implemented reduce operation.

Please see [this issue](#) for a longer discussion and possible future implementations.

## Example Visualization

Python example snippet:

```
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

simDir = "path/to/simOutput/"

Ekin in Joules (see EnergyParticles)
e_sum_ene = np.loadtxt(simDir + "e_energy_all.dat")[:, 0:2]
p_sum_ene = np.loadtxt(simDir + "p_energy_all.dat")[:, 0:2]
C_sum_ene = np.loadtxt(simDir + "C_energy_all.dat")[:, 0:2]
N_sum_ene = np.loadtxt(simDir + "N_energy_all.dat")[:, 0:2]
Etot in Joules
fields_sum_ene = np.loadtxt(simDir + "fields_energy.dat")[:, 0:2]

plt.figure()
plt.plot(e_sum_ene[:,0], e_sum_ene[:,1], label="e")
plt.plot(p_sum_ene[:,0], p_sum_ene[:,1], label="p")
plt.plot(C_sum_ene[:,0], C_sum_ene[:,1], label="C")
plt.plot(N_sum_ene[:,0], N_sum_ene[:,1], label="N")
plt.plot(fields_sum_ene[:,0], fields_sum_ene[:,1], label="fields")
plt.plot(
 e_sum_ene[:,0],
 e_sum_ene[:,1] + p_sum_ene[:,1] + C_sum_ene[:,1] + N_sum_ene[:,1] + fields_sum_
 ene[:,1],
 label="sum"
)
plt.legend()
plt.show()
```

## 2.5.7 Energy Histogram

This plugin computes the energy histogram (spectrum) of a selected particle species and stores it to plain text files. The acceptance of particles for counting in the energy histogram can be adjusted, e.g. to model the limited acceptance of a realistic spectrometer.

## .param file

The *particleFilters.param* file allows to define accepted particles for the energy histogram. A typical *filter* could select particles within a specified *opening angle in forward direction*.

## .cfg files

There are several command line parameters that can be used to set up this plugin. Replace the prefix *e* for electrons with any other species you have defined, we keep using *e* in the examples below for simplicity. Currently, the plugin can be set *once for each species*.

| PICongPU<br>command<br>line option | description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| --e_energyHistogram.<br>period     | Set the output periodicity of the <b>electron</b> histogram. A value of 100 would mean aoutput at simulation time step 0, 100, 200, .... If set to a non-zero value, the energy histogram of all <b>electrons</b> is computed. By default, the value is 0 and no histogram for the electrons is computed. |
| --e_energy.<br>filter              | Use filtered particles. Available filters are set up in <i>particleFilters.param</i> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| --e_energyHistogram.<br>binCount   | Specifies the number of bins used for the <b>electron</b> histogram. Default is 1024.                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| --e_energyHistogram.<br>minEnergy  | Set the minimum energy for the <b>electron</b> histogram in <i>keV</i> . Default is 0, meaning 0 <i>keV</i> .                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| --e_energyHistogram.<br>maxEnergy  | Set the maximum energy for the <b>electron</b> histogram in <i>keV</i> . There is <b>no default value</b> . This has to be set by the user if --e_energyHistogram.period 1 is set.                                                                                                                        |

**Note:** This plugin is a multi plugin. Command line parameter can be used multiple times to create e.g. dumps with different dumping period. In the case where an optional parameter with a default value is explicitly defined the parameter will be always passed to the instance of the multi plugin where the parameter is not set. For example,

```
--e_energyHistogram.period 128 --e_energyHistogram.filter all --e_energyHistogram.
↪maxEnergy 10
--e_energyHistogram.period 100 --e_energyHistogram.filter all --e_energyHistogram.
↪maxEnergy 20 --e_energyHistogram.binCount 512
```

creates two plugins:

1. create an electron histogram **with 512 bins** each 128th time step.
2. create an electron histogram **with 1024 bins** (this is the default) each 100th time step.

## Memory Complexity

### Accelerator

an extra array with the number of bins.

### Host

negligible.

## Output

The histograms are stored in ASCII files in the `simOutput/` directory.

The file for the electron histogram is named `e_energyHistogram.dat` and for all other species `<species>_energyHistogram.dat` likewise. The first line of these files does not contain histogram data and is commented-out using `#`. It describes the energy binning that needed to interpret the following data. It can be seen as the head of the following data table. The first column is an integer value describing the simulation time step. The second column counts the number of real particles below the minimum energy value used for the histogram. The following columns give the real electron count of the particles in the specific bin described by the first line/header. The second last column gives the number of real particles that have a higher energy than the maximum energy used for the histogram. The last column gives the total number of particles. In total there are 4 columns more than the number of bins specified with command line arguments. Each row describes another simulation time step.

## Analysis Tools

### Data Reader

You can quickly load and interact with the data in Python with:

```
from picongpu.plugins.data import EnergyHistogramData

load data
eh_data = EnergyHistogramData('/home/axel/runs/lwfa_001')
counts, bins_keV = eh_data.get('e', species_filter='all', iteration=2000)
```

### Matplotlib Visualizer

You can quickly plot the data in Python with:

```
from picongpu.plugins.plot_mpl import EnergyHistogramMPL
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

create a figure and axes
fig, ax = plt.subplots(1, 1)

create the visualizer
eh_vis = EnergyHistogramMPL('path/to/run_dir', ax)

eh_vis.visualize(iteration=200, species='e')

plt.show()
```

The visualizer can also be used from the command line by writing

```
python energy_histogram_visualizer.py
```

with the following command line options

| Options                          | Value                                                  |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| -p                               | Path to the run directory of a simulation.             |
| -i                               | An iteration number                                    |
| -s (optional, defaults to 'e')   | Particle species abbreviation (e.g. 'e' for electrons) |
| -f (optional, defaults to 'all') | Species filter string                                  |

Alternatively, PICongGPU comes with a command line analysis tool for the energy histograms. It is based on *gnuplot* and requires that *gnuplot* is available via command line. The tool can be found in `src/tools/bin/` and is called `BinEnergyPlot.sh`. It accesses the *gnuplot* script `BinEnergyPlot.gnuplot` in `src/tools/share/gnuplot/`. `BinEnergyPlot.sh` requires exactly three command line arguments:

| Argument | Value                                                               |
|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1st      | Path and filename to <code>e_energyHistogram.dat</code> file.       |
| 2nd      | Simulation time step (needs to exist)                               |
| 3rd      | Label for particle count used in the graph that this tool produces. |

## 2.5.8 Energy Particles

This plugin computes the **kinetic and total energy summed over all particles** of a species for time steps specified.

### .cfg file

Only the time steps at which the total kinetic energy of all particles should be specified needs to be set via command line argument.

| PICongGPU command line option            | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <code>--e_energy_period 100</code>       | Sets the time step period at which the energy of all <b>electrons</b> in the simulation should be simulated. If set to e.g. 100, the energy is computed for time steps 0, 100, 200, .... The default value is 0, meaning that the plugin does not compute the particle energy. |
| <code>--&lt;species&gt;_period 42</code> | Same as above, for any other species available.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <code>--&lt;species&gt;_filter</code>    | Use filtered particles. All available filters will be shown with <code>picongpu --help</code>                                                                                                                                                                                  |

## Memory Complexity

### Accelerator

negligible.

### Host

negligible.

## Output

The plugin creates files prefixed with the species' name and the filter name as postfix, e.g. `e_energy_<filterName>.dat` for the electron energies and `p_energy_<filterName>.dat` for proton energies. The file contains a header describing the columns.

```
#step Ekin_Joule E_Joule
0.0 0.0 0.0
```

Following the header, each line is the output of one time step. The time step is given as first value. The second value is the kinetic energy of all particles at that time step. And the last value is the total energy (kinetic + rest energy) of all particles at that time step.

**Attention:** The output of this plugin computes a *sum over all particles* in a very naive implementation. This can lead to significant errors due to the finite precision in floating-point numbers. Do not expect the output to be precise to more than a few percent. Do not expect the output to be deterministic due to the statistical nature of the implemented reduce operation.

Please see [this issue](#) for a longer discussion and possible future implementations.

## Example Visualization

Python snippet:

```
import numpy as np

simDir = "path/to/simOutput/"

Ekin in Joules (see EnergyParticles)
e_sum_ene = np.loadtxt(simDir + "e_energy_all.dat")[:, 0:2]
p_sum_ene = np.loadtxt(simDir + "p_energy_all.dat")[:, 0:2]
C_sum_ene = np.loadtxt(simDir + "C_energy_all.dat")[:, 0:2]
N_sum_ene = np.loadtxt(simDir + "N_energy_all.dat")[:, 0:2]
Etotal in Joules
fields_sum_ene = np.loadtxt(simDir + "fields_energy.dat")[:, 0:2]

plt.figure()
plt.plot(e_sum_ene[:,0], e_sum_ene[:,1], label="e")
plt.plot(p_sum_ene[:,0], p_sum_ene[:,1], label="p")
plt.plot(C_sum_ene[:,0], C_sum_ene[:,1], label="C")
plt.plot(N_sum_ene[:,0], N_sum_ene[:,1], label="N")
plt.plot(fields_sum_ene[:,0], fields_sum_ene[:,1], label="fields")
plt.plot(
 e_sum_ene[:,0],
 e_sum_ene[:,1] + p_sum_ene[:,1] + C_sum_ene[:,1] + N_sum_ene[:,1] + fields_sum_
 ene[:,1],
 label="sum"
)
plt.legend()
```

## 2.5.9 HDF5

Stores simulation data such as fields and particles along with domain information, conversion units etc. as [HDF5](#) files. It uses [libSplash](#) for writing HDF5 data. It is used for post-simulation analysis and for **restarts** of the simulation after a crash or an intended stop.

### What is the format of the created HDF5 files?

We write our fields and particles in an open markup called **openPMD**. You can investigate your files via a large collection of [tools and frameworks](#) or you use the native HDF5 bindings of your [favourite programming language](#).

#### Resources for a quick-start:

- [online tutorial](#)
- [example files](#)
- [written standard](#) of the openPMD standard
- [list of projects](#) supporting openPMD files



## External Dependencies

The plugin is available as soon as the *libSplash and HDF5 libraries* are compiled in.

### .param file

The corresponding .param file is *fileOutput.param*.

One can e.g. disable the output of particles by setting:

```
/* output all species */
using FileOutputParticles = VectorAllSpecies;
/* disable */
using FileOutputParticles = bml::vector0< >;
```

### .cfg file

You can use `--hdf5.period` and `--hdf5.file` to specify the output period and path and name of the created fileset. For example, `--hdf5.period 128 --hdf5.file simData --hdf5.source 'species_all'` will write only the particle species data to files of the form `simData_0.h5`, `simData_128.h5` in the default simulation output directory every 128 steps. Note that this plugin will only be available if libSplash and HDF5 is found during compile configuration.

| PConGPU command line option | Description                                                                                                                               |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <code>--hdf5.period</code>  | Period after which simulation data should be stored on disk.                                                                              |
| <code>--hdf5.file</code>    | Relative or absolute fileset prefix for simulation data. If relative, files are stored under <code>simOutput/</code> .                    |
| <code>--hdf5.source</code>  | Select data sources to dump. Default is <code>species_all</code> , <code>fields_all</code> , which dumps all fields and particle species. |

**Note:** This plugin is a multi plugin. Command line parameter can be used multiple times to create e.g. dumps with different dumping period. In the case where a optional parameter with a default value is explicitly defined the parameter will be always passed to the instance of the multi plugin where the parameter is not set. e.g.

```
--hdf5.period 128 --hdf5.file simData1
--hdf5.period 1000 --hdf5.file simData2 --hdf5.source 'species_all'
```

creates two plugins:

1. dump **all species data** each 128th time step.
2. dump **all fields and species data** (this is the default) data each 1000th time step.

## Memory Complexity

### Accelerator

no extra allocations.

### Host

During I/O, each complete particle species is allocated one after an other.

## Additional Tools

See our *openPMD* chapter.

### 2.5.10 Intensity

The maximum amplitude of the electric field for each cell in y-cell-position in **V/m** and the integrated amplitude of the electric field (integrated over the entire x- and z-extent of the simulated volume and given for each y-cell-position).

**Attention:** There might be an error in the units of the integrated output.

---

**Note:** A renaming of this plugin would be very useful in order to understand its purpose more intuitively.

---

#### .cfg file

By setting the PIconGPU command line flag `--intensity.period` to a non-zero value the plugin computes the maximum electric field and the integrated electric field for each cell-wide slice in y-direction. The default value is 0, meaning that nothing is computed. By setting e.g. `--intensity.period 100` the electric field analysis is computed for time steps 0, 100, 200, ...

#### Memory Complexity

##### Accelerator

negligible.

##### Host

negligible.

#### Output

The output of the maximum electric field for each y-slice is stored in `Intensity_max.dat`. The output of the integrated electric field for each y-slice is stored in `Intensity_integrated.dat`.

Both files have two header rows describing the data. .. code:

```
#step position_in_laser_propagation_direction
#step amplitude_data[*]
```

The following odd rows give the time step and then describe the y-position of the slice at which the maximum electric field or integrated electric field is computed. The even rows give the time step again and then the data (maximum electric field or integrated electric field) at the positions given in the previews row.

#### Know Issues

Currently, the output file is overwritten after restart. Additionally, this plugin does not work with non-regular domains, see [here](#) . This will be fixed in a future version.

There might be an error in the units of the integrated output.

For a full list, see [#327](#).

## 2.5.11 ISAAC

This is a plugin for the in-situ library ISAAC for a live rendering and steering of PICongPU simulations.

### External Dependencies

The plugin is available as soon as the *ISAAC library* is compiled in.

#### .cfg file

| Command line option                  | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <code>--isaac.period N</code>        | Sets up, that every $N$ th timestep an image will be rendered. This parameter can be changed later with the controlling client.                                                                             |
| <code>--isaac.name NAME</code>       | Sets the <i>NAME</i> of the simulation, which is shown at the client.                                                                                                                                       |
| <code>--isaac.url URL</code>         | <i>URL</i> of the required and running isaac server. Host names and IPs are supported.                                                                                                                      |
| <code>--isaac.port PORT</code>       | <i>PORT</i> of the isaac server. The default value is 2458 (for the in-situ plugins), but may be needed to be changed for tunneling reasons or if more than one server shall run on the very same hardware. |
| <code>--isaac.width WIDTH</code>     | Setups the <i>WIDTH</i> and <i>HEIGHT</i> of the created image(s).                                                                                                                                          |
| <code>--isaac.height HEIGHT</code>   | Default is 1024x768.                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <code>--isaac.direct_pause</code>    | If activated ISAAC will pause directly after the simulation started. Useful for presentations or if you don't want to miss the beginning of the simulation.                                                 |
| <code>--isaac.quality QUALITY</code> | Sets the <i>QUALITY</i> of the images, which are compressed right after creation. Values between 1 and 100 are possible. The default is 90, but 70 does also still produce decent results.                  |

The most important settings for ISAAC are `--isaac.period`, `--isaac.name` and `--isaac.url`. A possible addition for your submission `tbj` file could be `--isaac.period 1 --isaac.name !TBG_jobName --isaac.url YOUR_SERVER`, where the `tbj` variables `!TBG_jobName` is used as name and `YOUR_SERVER` needs to be set up by yourself.

#### .param file

The ISAAC Plugin has an *isaac.param*, which specifies which fields and particles are rendered. This can be edited (in your local `paramSet`), but at runtime also an arbitrary amount of fields (in ISAAC called *sources*) can be deactivated. At default every field and every known species are rendered.

### Running and steering a simulation

First of all you need to build and run the *isaac server* somewhere. On HPC systems, simply start the server on the login or head node since it can be reached by all compute nodes (on which the PICongPU clients will be running).

## Functor Chains

One of the most important features of ISAAC are the **Functor Chains**. As most sources (including fields and species) may not be suited for a direct rendering or even full negative (like the electron density field), the functor chains enable you to change the domain of your field source-wise. A date will be read from the field, the functor chain applied and then **only the x-component** used for the classification and later rendering of the scene. Multiply functors can be applied successive with the Pipe symbol `|`. The possible functors are at default:

- **mul** for a multiplication with a constant value. For vector fields you can choose different value per component, e.g. `mul(1, 2, 0)`, which will multiply the x-component with 1, the y-component with 2 and the z-component with 0. If less parameters are given than components exists, the last parameter will be used for all components without an own parameter.
- **add** for adding a constant value, which works the same as `mul(...)`.
- **sum** for summarizing all available components. Unlike `mul(...)` and `add(...)` this decreases the dimension of the data to 1, which is a scalar field. You can exploit this functor to use a different component than the x-component for the classification, e.g. with `mul(0, 1, 0) | sum`. This will first multiply the x- and z-component with 0, but keep the y-component and then merge this to the x-component.
- **length** for calculating the length of a vector field. Like `sum` this functor reduces the dimension to a scalar field, too. However `mul(0, 1, 0) | sum` and `mul(0, 1, 0) | length` do not do the same. As `length` does not know, that the x- and z-component are 0 an expensive square root operation is performed, which is slower than just adding the components up.
- **idem** does nothing, it just returns the input data. This is the default functor chain.

Beside the functor chains the client allows to setup the weights per source (values greater than 6 are more useful for PIConGPU than the default weights of 1), the classification via transfer functions, clipping, camera steering and to switch the render mode to iso surface rendering. Furthermore interpolation can be activated. However this is quite slow and most of the time not needed for non-iso-surface rendering.

## Memory Complexity

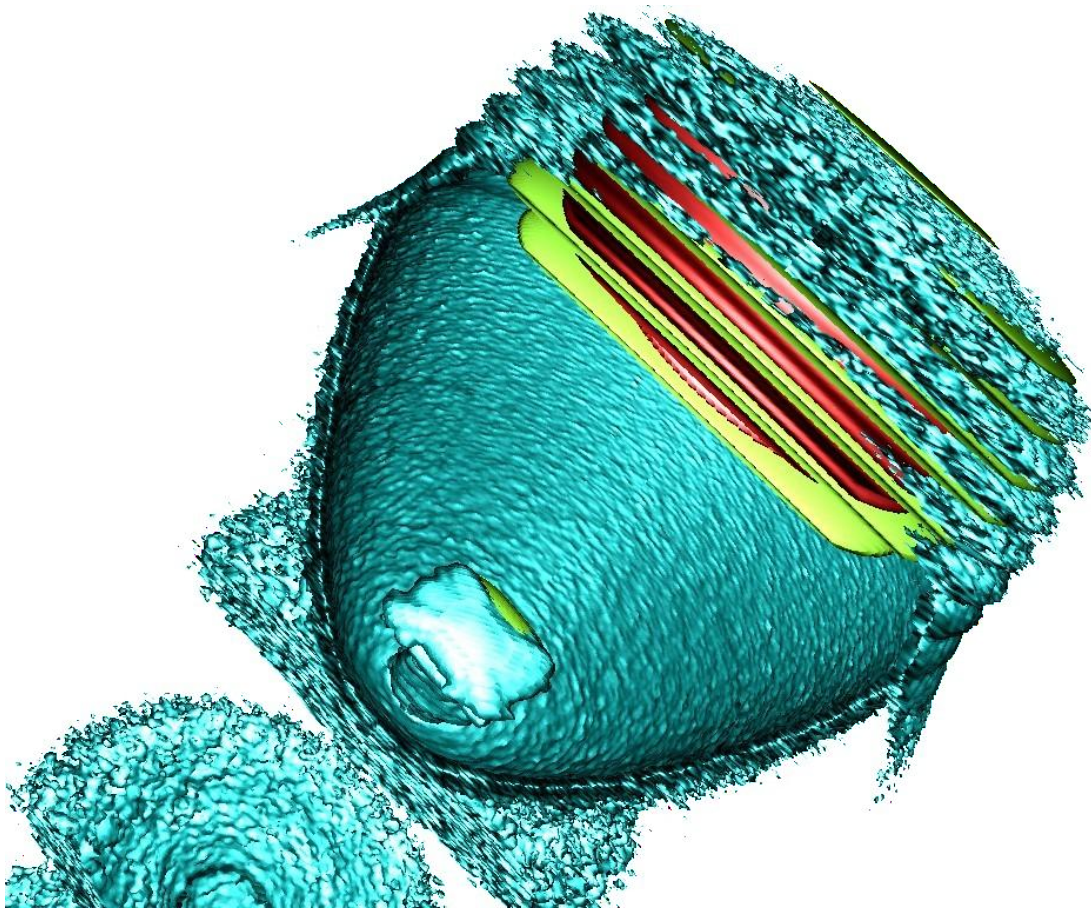
### Accelerator

locally, a framebuffer with full resolution and 4 byte per pixel is allocated. For each `FieldTmp` derived field and `FieldJ` a copy is allocated, depending on the input in the *isaac.param* file.

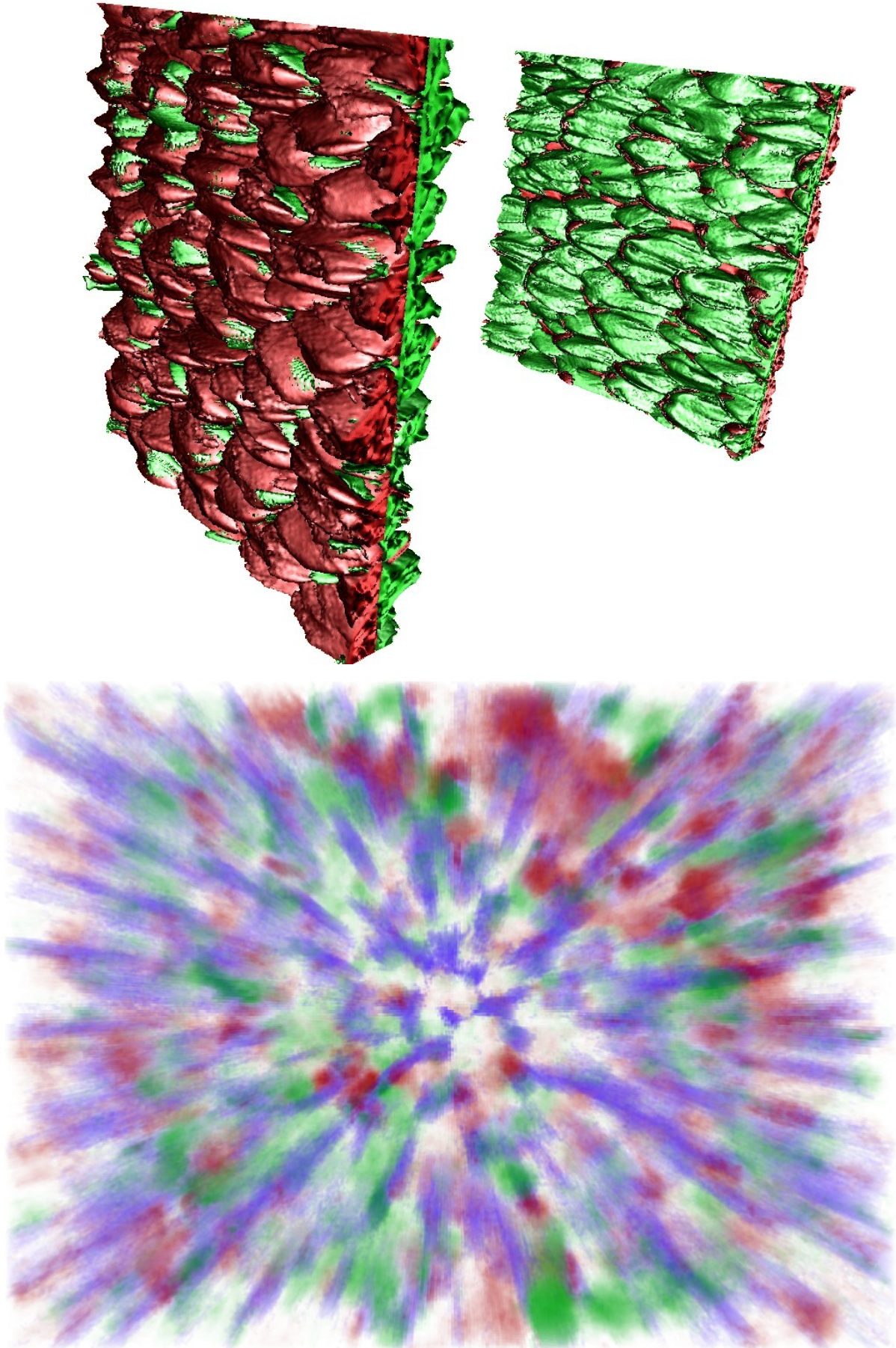
### Host

negligible.

## Example renderings







## 2.5.12 Particle Calorimeter

A binned calorimeter of the amount of kinetic energy per solid angle and energy-per-particle.

The solid angle bin is solely determined by the particle's momentum vector and not by its position, so we are emulating a calorimeter at infinite distance.

The calorimeter takes into account all existing particles as well as optionally all particles which have already left the global simulation volume.

### External Dependencies

The plugin is available as soon as the *libSplash and HDF5 libraries* are compiled in.

### .param file

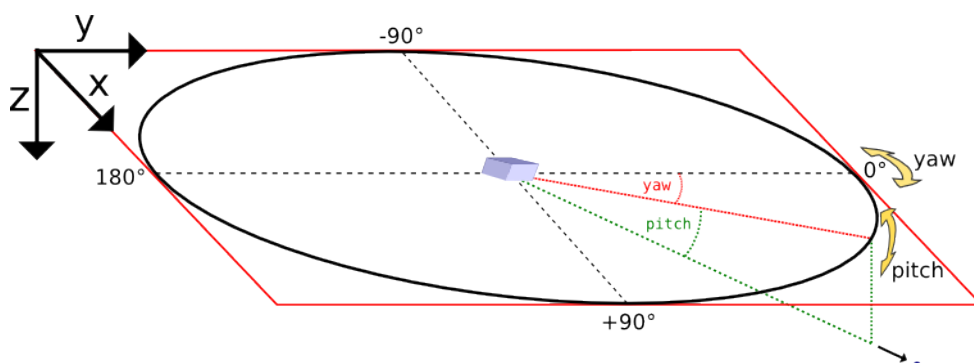
The spatial calorimeter resolution can be customized and in *speciesDefinition.param*. Therein, a species can be also be marked for detecting particles leaving the simulation box.

### .cfg file

All options are denoted for the photon (ph) particle species here.

| PIconGPU command line option   | Description                                                                                                               |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| --ph_calorimeter.period        | The output periodicity of the plugin. A value of 100 would mean an output at simulation time step 0, 100, 200, ...        |
| --ph_calorimeter.file          | Output file prefix. Files will be stored in the folder ph_calorimeter                                                     |
| --ph_calorimeter.filter        | Use filtered particles. All available filters will be shown with picongpu --help                                          |
| --ph_calorimeter.numBinsYaw    | Specifies the number of bins used for the yaw axis of the calorimeter. Defaults to 64.                                    |
| --ph_calorimeter.numBinsPitch  | Specifies the number of bins used for the pitch axis of the calorimeter. Defaults to 64.                                  |
| --ph_calorimeter.numBinsEnergy | Specifies the number of bins used for the energy axis of the calorimeter. Defaults to 1, i.e. there is no energy binning. |
| --ph_calorimeter.minEnergy     | Minimum detectable energy in keV. Ignored if numBinsEnergy is 1. Defaults to 0.                                           |
| --ph_calorimeter.maxEnergy     | Maximum detectable energy in keV. Ignored if numBinsEnergy is 1. Defaults to 1000.                                        |
| --ph_calorimeter.logScale      | En-/Disable logarithmic energy binning. Allowed values: 0 for disable, 1 enable.                                          |
| --ph_calorimeter.openingYaw    | opening angle yaw of the calorimeter in degrees. Defaults to the maximum value: 360.                                      |
| --ph_calorimeter.openingPitch  | opening angle pitch of the calorimeter in degrees. Defaults to the maximum value: 180.                                    |
| --ph_calorimeter.posYaw        | yaw coordinate of the calorimeter position in degrees. Defaults to the +y direction: 0.                                   |
| --ph_calorimeter.posPitch      | pitch coordinate of the calorimeter position in degrees. Defaults to the +y direction: 0.                                 |

## Coordinate System



Yaw and pitch are **Euler angles** defining a point on a sphere's surface, where  $(0, 0)$  points to the  $+y$  direction here. In the vicinity of  $(0, 0)$ , yaw points to  $+x$  and pitch to  $+z$ .

**Orientation detail:** Since the calorimeters's three-dimensional orientation is given by just two parameters (`posYaw` and `posPitch`) there is one degree of freedom left which has to be fixed. Here, this is achieved by eliminating the Euler angle roll. However, when `posPitch` is exactly  $+90$  or  $-90$  degrees, the choice of roll is ambiguous, depending on the yaw angle one approaches the singularity. Here we assume an approach from `yaw = 0`.

## Tuning the spatial resolution

By default, the spatial bin size is chosen by dividing the opening angle by the number of bins for yaw and pitch respectively. The bin size can be tuned by customizing the mapping function in `particleCalorimeter.param`.

## Memory Complexity

### Accelerator

each energy bin times each coordinate bin allocates two counter (`float_X`) permanently and on each accelerator for active and outgoing particles.

### Host

as on accelerator.

## Output

The calorimeters are stored in hdf5-files in the `simOutput/<species>_calorimeter/<filter>/` directory. The dataset within the hdf5-file is located at `/data/<timestep>/calorimeter`. Depending on whether energy binning is enabled the dataset is two or three dimensional. The dataset has the following attributes:

| Attribute                   | Description                                                        |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <code>unitSI</code>         | conversion factor from calorimeter value to Joule.                 |
| <code>maxYaw[deg]</code>    | half of the opening angle yaw.                                     |
| <code>maxPitch[deg]</code>  | half of the opening angle pitch.                                   |
| <code>posYaw[deg]</code>    | yaw coordinate of the calorimeter.                                 |
| <code>posPitch[deg]</code>  | pitch coordinate of the calorimeter. If energy binning is enabled: |
| <code>minEnergy[keV]</code> | minimal detectable energy.                                         |
| <code>maxEnergy[keV]</code> | maximal detectable energy.                                         |
| <code>logScale</code>       | boolean indicating logarithmic scale.                              |



**Note:** This plugin is a multi plugin. Command line parameters can be used multiple times to create e.g. dumps with different dumping period. In the case where an optional parameter with a default value is explicitly defined the parameter will be always passed to the instance of the multi plugin where the parameter is not set. e.g.

```
--ph_calorimeter.period 128 --ph_calorimeter.file calo1 --ph_calorimeter.filter all
--ph_calorimeter.period 1000 --ph_calorimeter.file calo2 --ph_calorimeter.filter_
↪all --ph_calorimeter.logScale 1 --ph_calorimeter.minEnergy 1
```

creates two plugins:

1. calorimeter for species ph each 128th time step **with** logarithmic energy binning.
2. calorimeter for species ph each 1000th time step **without** (this is the default) logarithmic energy binning.

## Analysis Tools

The first bin of the energy axis of the calorimeter contains all particle energy less than the minimal detectable energy whereas the last bin contains all particle energy greater than the maximal detectable energy. The inner bins map to the actual energy range of the calorimeter.

Sample script for plotting the spatial distribution and the energy distribution:

```
f = h5.File("<path-to-hdf5-file>")
calorimeter = np.array(f["/data/<timestep>/calorimeter"])

spatial energy distribution
sum up the energy spectrum
plt.imshow(np.sum(calorimeter, axis=0))
plt.show()

energy spectrum
sum up all solid angles
plt.plot(np.sum(calorimeter, axis=(1,2)))
plt.show()
```

## 2.5.13 Particle Merger

Merges macro particles that are close in phase space to reduce computational load.

### .param file

In *particleMerging.param* is currently one compile-time parameter:

| Compile-Time Option | Description                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MAX_VORONOI_CELLS   | Maximum number of active Voronoi cells per supercell. If the number of active Voronoi cells reaches this limit merging events are dropped. |

## .cfg file

| PIConGPU command line option             | Description                                                                                                                                  |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| --<species>_merger.period                | The output periodicity of the plugin. A value of 100 would mean an output at simulation time step 0, 100, 200, ...                           |
| --<species>_merger.minParticlesToMerge   | minimal number of macroparticles needed to merge the macroparticle collection into a single macroparticle.                                   |
| --<species>_merger.posSpreadThreshold    | Below this threshold of spread in position macroparticles can be merged [unit: cell edge length].                                            |
| --<species>_merger.absMomSpreadThreshold | Below this absolute threshold of spread in momentum macroparticles can be merged [unit: $m_{e-} \cdot c$ ]. Disabled for -1 (default).       |
| --<species>_merger.relMomSpreadThreshold | Below this relative (to mean momentum) threshold of spread in momentum macroparticles can be merged [unit: none]. Disabled for -1 (default). |
| --<species>_merger.minMeanEnergy         | minimal mean kinetic energy needed to merge the macroparticle collection into a single macroparticle [unit: keV].                            |

## Notes

- absMomSpreadThreshold and relMomSpreadThreshold are mutually exclusive
- absMomSpreadThreshold is always given in [electron mass \* speed of light]!

## Memory Complexity

### Accelerator

no extra allocations, but requires an extra particle attribute per species, voronoiCellId.

### Host

no extra allocations.

## Reference

The particle merger implements a macro particle merging algorithm based on:

Luu, P. T., Tueckmantel, T., & Pukhov, A. (2016). Voronoi particle merging algorithm for PIC codes. Computer Physics Communications, 202, 165-174.

## 2.5.14 Phase Space

This plugin creates a 2D phase space image for a user-given spatial and momentum coordinate.

## External Dependencies

The plugin is available as soon as the *libSplash and HDF5 libraries* are compiled in.

## .cfg file

Example for  $y$ - $p_z$  phase space for the *electron* species (`.cfg` file macro):

```
Calculate a 2D phase space
- momentum range in $m_e c$
TGB_ePSyz="--e_phaseSpace.period 10 --e_phaseSpace.filter all --e_phaseSpace.
↳space y --e_phaseSpace.momentum pz --e_phaseSpace.min -1.0 --e_phaseSpace.max 1.0
↳"
```

The distinct options are (assuming a species  $e$  for electrons):

| Option                                                | Usage Unit                                                                             |                        |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| <code>--e_phaseSpace.period &lt;N&gt;</code>          | calculate each N steps                                                                 | <i>none</i>            |
| <code>--e_phaseSpace.filter</code>                    | Use filtered particles. Available filters are set up in <i>particleFilters.param</i> . | <i>none</i>            |
| <code>--e_phaseSpace.space &lt;x/y/z&gt;</code>       | spatial coordinate of the 2D phase space                                               | <i>none</i>            |
| <code>--e_phaseSpace.momentum &lt;px/py/pz&gt;</code> | momentum coordinate of the 2D phase space                                              | <i>none</i>            |
| <code>--e_phaseSpace.min &lt;ValL&gt;</code>          | minimum of the momentum range                                                          | $m_{\text{species}} c$ |
| <code>--e_phaseSpace.max &lt;ValR&gt;</code>          | maximum of the momentum range                                                          | $m_{\text{species}} c$ |

## Memory Complexity

### Accelerator

locally, a counter matrix of the size local-cells of space direction times 1024 (for momentum bins) is permanently allocated.

### Host

negligible.

## Output

The 2D histograms are stored in `.hdf5` files in the `simOutput/phaseSpace/` directory. A file is created per species, phasespace selection and time step.

Values are given as *charge density* per phase space bin. In order to scale to a simpler *charge of particles* per  $dr_i$  and  $dp_i$  -bin multiply by the cell volume  $dV$ .

## Analysis Tools

### Data Reader

You can quickly load and interact with the data in Python with:

```
from picongpu.plugins.data import PhaseSpaceData
import numpy as np

load data
ps_data = PhaseSpaceData('/home/axel/runs/lwfa_001')
ps, meta = ps_data.get(species='e', species_filter='all', ps='ypy', iteration=2000)
```

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```
unit conversion from SI
mu = 1.e6 # meters to microns
e_mc_r = 1. / (9.109e-31 * 2.9979e8) # electrons: kg * m / s to beta * gamma

Q_dr_dp = np.abs(e_ps) * e_ps_meta.dV # C s kg^-1 m^-2
extent = e_ps_meta.extent * [mu, mu, e_mc_r, e_mc_r] # spatial: microns,
↪momentum: beta*gamma
```

Note that the spatial extent of the output over time might change when running a moving window simulation.

## Matplotlib Visualizer

You can quickly plot the data in Python with:

```
from picongpu.plugins.plot_mpl import PhaseSpaceMPL
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

create a figure and axes
fig, ax = plt.subplots(1, 1)

create the visualizer
ps_vis = PhaseSpaceMPL('path/to/run_dir', ax)

plot
ps_vis.visualize(iteration=200, species='e')

plt.show()
```

The visualizer can also be used from the command line by writing

```
python phase_space_visualizer.py
```

with the following command line options

| Options                          | Value                                                   |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| -p                               | Path and filename to the run directory of a simulation. |
| -i                               | An iteration number                                     |
| -s (optional, defaults to 'e')   | Particle species abbreviation (e.g. 'e' for electrons)  |
| -f (optional, defaults to 'all') | Species filter string                                   |
| -m (optional, defaults to 'ypy') | Momentum string to specify the phase space              |

## Out-of-Range Behavior

Particles that are *not* in the range of <ValL>/<ValR> get automatically mapped to the lowest/highest bin respectively. Take care about that when setting your range and during analysis of the results.

## Known Limitations

- only one range per selected space-momentum-pair possible right now (naming collisions)
- charge deposition uses the counter shape for now (would need one more write to neighbours to get it correct to the shape)
- the user has to define the momentum range in advance

- the resolution is fixed to 1024 bins in momentum and the number of cells in the selected spatial dimension
- this plugin does not yet use *openPMD markup*.

## References

The internal algorithm is explained in [pull request #347](#) and in [\[Huebl2014\]](#).

### 2.5.15 PNG

This plugin generates **images in the png format** for slices through the simulated volume. It allows to draw a **species density** together with electric, magnetic and/or current field values. The exact field values, their coloring and their normalization can be set using `*.param` files. It is a very rudimentary and useful tool to get a first impression on what happens in the simulation and to verify that the parameter set chosen leads to the desired physics.

---

**Note:** In the near future, this plugin might be replaced by the ISAAC interactive 3D visualization.

---

## External Dependencies

The plugin is available as soon as the *PNGwriter library* is compiled in.

### .cfg file

For **electrons** (e) the following table describes the command line arguments used for the visualization.

| Command line option             | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <code>--e_png.period</code>     | This flag requires an integer value that specifies at what periodicity the png pictures should be created. E.g. setting <code>--e_png.period 100</code> generates images for the <i>0th, 100th, 200th, ...</i> time step. There is no default. If flags are not set, no pngs are created. |
| <code>--e_png.axis</code>       | Set 2D slice through 3D volume that will be drawn. Combine two of the three dimensions x, y and z, to define a slice. E.g. setting <code>--e_png.axis yz</code> draws both the y and z dimension and performs a slice in x-direction.                                                     |
| <code>--e_png.slicePoint</code> | Specifies at what ratio of the total depth of the remaining dimension, the slice should be performed. The value given should lie between 0.0 and 1.0.                                                                                                                                     |
| <code>--e_png.folder</code>     | Name of the folder, where all pngs for the above setup should be stored.                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

These flags use `boost::program_options::multitoken()`. Therefore, **several setups** can be specified e.g. to draw different slices. The order of the flags is important in this case. E.g. in the following example, two different slices are visualized and stored in different directories:

```

picongpu [more args]
first
--e_png.period 100
--e_png.axis xy
--e_png.slicePoint 0.5
--e_png.folder pngElectronsXY
second
--e_png.period 100

```

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```
--e_png.axis xz
--e_png.slicePoint 0.5
--e_png.folder pngElectronsXZ
```

## .param files

The two param files *png.param* and *pngColorScales.param* are used to specify the desired output.

### Specifying the field values using png.param

Depending on the used prefix in the command line flags, electron and/or ion density is drawn. Additionally to that, three field values can be visualized together with the particle density. In order to set up the visualized field values, the *png.param* needs to be changed. In this file, a variety of other parameters used for the PngModule can be specified.

The ratio of the image can be set.

```
/* scale image before write to file, only scale if value is not 1.0 */
const double scale_image = 1.0;

/* if true image is scaled if cellsize is not quadratic, else no scale */
const bool scale_to_cellsize = true;
```

In order to scale the image, *scale\_to\_cellsize* needs to be set to true and *scale\_image* needs to specify the reduction ratio of the image.

---

**Note:** For a 2D simulation, even a 2D image can be a quite heavy output. Make sure to reduce the preview size!

---

It is possible to draw the borders between the GPUs used as white lines. This can be done by setting the parameter *white\_box\_per\_GPU* in *png.param* to true

```
const bool white_box_per_GPU = true;
```

There are three field values that can be drawn: CHANNEL1, CHANNEL2 and CHANNEL3.

Since an adequate color scaling is essential, there several option the user can choose from.

```
// normalize EM fields to typical laser or plasma quantities
// -1: Auto: enable adaptive scaling for each output
// 1: Laser: typical fields calculated out of the laser amplitude
// 2: Drift: typical fields caused by a drifting plasma
// 3: PlWave: typical fields calculated out of the plasma freq.,
// assuming the wave moves approx. with c
// 4: Thermal: typical fields calculated out of the electron temperature
// 5: BlowOut: typical fields, assuming that a LWFA in the blowout
// regime causes a bubble with radius of approx. the laser's
// beam waist (use for bubble fields)
#define EM_FIELD_SCALE_CHANNEL1 -1
#define EM_FIELD_SCALE_CHANNEL2 -1
#define EM_FIELD_SCALE_CHANNEL3 -1
```

In the above example, all channels are set to **auto scale**. **Be careful**, when using other normalizations than auto scale, because depending on your set up, the normalization might fail due to parameters not set by PICongPU. *Use the other normalization options only in case of the specified scenarios or if you know, how the scaling is computed.*

You can also add opacity to the particle density and the three field values:

```
// multiply highest undisturbed particle density with factor
float_X const preParticleDens_opacity = 0.25;
float_X const preChannel1_opacity = 1.0;
float_X const preChannel2_opacity = 1.0;
float_X const preChannel3_opacity = 1.0;
```

and add different coloring:

```
// specify color scales for each channel
namespace preParticleDensCol = colorScales::red; /* draw density in red */
namespace preChannel1Col = colorScales::blue; /* draw channel 1 in blue */
namespace preChannel2Col = colorScales::green; /* draw channel 2 in green */
namespace preChannel3Col = colorScales::none; /* do not draw channel 3 */
```

The colors available are defined in `pngColorScales.param` and their usage is described below. If `colorScales::none` is used, the channel is not drawn.

In order to specify what the three channels represent, three functions can be defined in `png.param`. The define the values computed for the png visualization. The data structures used are those available in PIConGPU.

```
/* png preview settings for each channel */
DINLINE float_X preChannel1(float3_X const & field_B, float3_X const & field_E, ↪
↪float3_X const & field_J)
{
 /* Channel1
 * computes the absolute value squared of the electric current */
 return math::abs2(field_J);
}

DINLINE float_X preChannel2(float3_X const & field_B, float3_X const & field_E, ↪
↪float3_X const & field_J)
{
 /* Channel2
 * computes the square of the x-component of the electric field */
 return field_E.x() * field_E.x();
}

DINLINE float_X preChannel3(float3_X const & field_B, float3_X const & field_E, ↪
↪float3_X const & field_J)
{
 /* Channel3
 * computes the negative values of the y-component of the electric field
 * positive field_E.y() return as negative values and are NOT drawn */
 return -float_X(1.0) * field_E.y();
}
```

Only positive values are drawn. Negative values are clipped to zero. In the above example, this feature is used for `preChannel3`.

### Defining coloring schemes in `pngColorScales.param`

There are several predefined color schemes available:

- none (do not draw anything)
- gray
- grayInv
- red
- green
- blue

But the user can also specify his or her own color scheme by defining a namespace with the color name that provides an addRGB function:

```
namespace NameOfColor /* name needs to be unique */
{
 HDINLINE void addRGB(float3_X& img, /* the already existing image */
 const float_X value, /* the value to draw */
 const float_X opacity) /* the opacity specified */
 {
 /* myChannel specifies the color in RGB values (RedGreenBlue) with
 * each value ranging from 0.0 to 1.0 .
 * In this example, the color yellow (RGB=1,1,0) is used. */
 const float3_X myChannel(1.0, 1.0, 0.0);

 /* here, the previously calculated image (in case, other channels have_
 ↪already
 * contributed to the png) is changed.
 * First of all, the total image intensity is reduced by the opacity of_
 ↪this
 * channel, but only in the color channels specified by this color
 ↪"NameOfColor".
 * Then, the actual values are added with the correct color (myChannel)_
 ↪and opacity. */
 img = img
 - opacity * float3_X(myChannel.x() * img.x(),
 myChannel.y() * img.y(),
 myChannel.z() * img.z())
 + myChannel * value * opacity;
 }
}
```

For most cases, using the predefined colors should be enough.

## Memory Complexity

### Accelerator

locally, memory for the local 2D slice is allocated with 3 channels in float\_X.

### Host

as on accelerator. Additionally, the master rank has to allocate three channels for the full-resolution image. This is the original size **before** reduction via scale\_image.

## Output

The output of this plugin are pngs stored in the directories specified by --e\_png.folder or --i\_png.folder. There can be as many of these folders as the user wants. The pngs follow a naming convention:

```
<species>_png_yx_0.5_002000.png
```

First, either <species> names the particle type. Following the 2nd underscore, the drawn dimensions are given. Then the slice ratio, specified by --e\_png.slicePoint or --i\_png.slicePoint, is stated in the file name. The last part of the file name is a 6 digit number, specifying the simulation time step, at which the picture was created. This naming convention allows to put all pngs in one directory and still be able to identify them correctly if necessary.



## Analysis Tools

### Data Reader

You can quickly load and interact with the data in Python with:

```
from picongpu.plugins.data import PNGData

png_data = PNGData('path/to/run_dir')

get the available iterations for which output exists
iters = png_data.get_iterations(species="e", axis="yx")

pngs as numpy arrays
pngs = png_data.get(species="e", axis="yx", iteration=iters[:3])

pngs[iters[0]].shape
```

### Matplotlib Visualizer

If you are only interested in visualizing the generated png files it is even easier since you don't have to load the data manually.

```
from picongpu.plugins.plot_mpl import PNGMPL
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

create a figure and axes
fig, ax = plt.subplots(1, 1)

create the visualizer
png_vis = PNGMPL('path/to/run_dir', ax)

plot
png_vis.visualize(iteration=200, species='e', axis='yx')

plt.show()
```

The visualizer can also be used from the command line by writing

```
python png_visualizer.py
```

with the following command line options

| Options                           | Value                                                              |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| -p                                | Path and to the run directory of a simulation.                     |
| -i                                | An iteration number                                                |
| -s                                | Particle species abbreviation (e.g. 'e' for electrons)             |
| -f (optional, defaults to 'e')    | Species filter string                                              |
| -a (optional, defaults to 'yx')   | Axis string (e.g. 'yx' or 'xy')                                    |
| -o (optional, defaults to 'None') | A float between 0 and 1 for slice offset along the third dimension |

## 2.5.16 Positions Particles

This plugin prints out the *position, momentum, mass, macro particle weighting, electric charge and relativistic gamma factor* of a particle to stdout (usually inside the `simOutput/output` file). **It only works with test simulations that have only one particle.**

## .cfg file

By setting the command line flag `--<species>_position.period` to a non-zero number, the analyzer is used. In order to get the particle trajectory for each time step the period needs to be set to 1, meaning e.g. `--e_position.period 1` for electrons. If less output is needed, e.g. only every 10th time step, the period can be set to different values, e.g. `--e_position.period 10`.

## Memory Complexity

### Accelerator

negligible.

### Host

negligible.

## Output

The electron trajectory is written directly to the *standard output*. Therefore, it goes both to `simOutput/output` as well as to the output file specified by the machine used (usually the `stdout` file in the main directory of the simulation). The output is ASCII-text only. It has the following format:

```
[ANALYSIS] [MPI_Rank] [COUNTER] [<species>_position] [currentTimeStep] currentTime
↔{position.x position.y position.z} {momentum.x momentum.y momentum.z} mass_
↔weighting charge gamma
```

| Value                                            | Description                                                       | Unit        |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| MPI_Rank                                         | MPI rank at which prints the particle position                    | <i>none</i> |
| COUNTER                                          | name of the plugin   always <code>&lt;species&gt;_position</code> |             |
| currentTimeStep                                  | simulation time step = number of PIC cycles                       | <i>none</i> |
| currentTime                                      | simulation time in SI units                                       | seconds     |
| position.x            _position.y<br>_position.z | location of the particle in space                                 | meters      |
| momentum.x            _momentum.y<br>_momentum.z | momentum of particle                                              | kg m/s      |
| mass                                             | mass of macro particle                                            | kg          |
| weighting                                        | number of electrons represented by the macro particle             | <i>none</i> |
| charge                                           | charge of macro particle                                          | Coulomb     |
| gamma                                            | relativistic gamma factor of particle                             | <i>none</i> |

```
an example output line:
[ANALYSIS] [2] [COUNTER] [e_position] [878] 1.46440742e-14 {1.032e-05 4.
↔570851689815522e-05 5.2e-06} {0 -1.
337873603181226e-21 0} 9.109382e-31 1 -1.602176e-19 4.999998569488525
```

In order to extract only the trajectory information from the total output stored in `stdout`, the following command on a bash command line could be used:

```
grep "e_position" stdout > trajectory.dat
```

The particle data is then stored in `trajectory.dat`.

In order to extract e.g. the position from this line the following can be used:

```
cat trajectory.dat | awk '{print $7}' | sed -e "s/{//g" | sed -e 's/}//g' | sed -e
↪ 's/,/\t/g' > position.dat
```

## Known Issues

**Attention:** This plugin only works correctly if a single particle is simulated. If more than one particle is simulated, the output becomes random, because only the information of one particle is printed. This plugin might be upgraded to work with multiple particles, but better use our HDF5 or ADIOS plugin instead and assign `particleId`'s to individual particles.

**Attention:** Currently, both `simOutput/output` and `stdout` are overwritten at restart. All data from the plugin is lost, if these file are not backedup manually.

## 2.5.17 Radiation

The spectrally resolved far field radiation of charged macro particles.

Our simulation computes the [Lienard Wiechert potentials](#) to calculate the emitted electromagnetic spectra for different observation directions using the far field approximation.

$$\frac{d^2 I}{d\Omega d\omega}(\omega, \vec{n}) = \left| \sum_{k=1}^N \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{\vec{n} \times \left[ \left( \vec{n} - \vec{\beta}_k(t) \right) \times \dot{\vec{\beta}}_k(t) \right]}{\left( 1 - \vec{\beta}_k(t) \cdot \vec{n} \right)^2} \cdot e^{i\omega(t - \vec{n} \cdot \vec{r}_k(t)/c)} dt \right|^2$$

| Variable                 | Meaning                                                                                              |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| $\vec{r}_k(t)$           | The position of particle $k$ at time $t$ .                                                           |
| $\vec{\beta}_k(t)$       | The normalized speed of particle $k$ at time $t$ . (Speed divided by the speed of light)             |
| $\dot{\vec{\beta}}_k(t)$ | The normalized acceleration of particle $k$ at time $t$ . (Time derivative of the normalized speed.) |
| $t$                      | Time                                                                                                 |
| $\vec{n}$                | Unit vector pointing in the direction where the far field radiation is observed.                     |
| $\omega$                 | The circular frequency of the radiation that is observed.                                            |
| $N$                      | Number of all (macro) particles that are used for computing the radiation.                           |
| $k$                      | Running index of the particles.                                                                      |

Currently this allows to predict the emitted radiation from plasmas if it can be described by classical means. Not considered are emissions from ionization, Compton scattering or any bremsstrahlung that originate from scattering on scales smaller than the PIC cell size.

## External Dependencies

The plugin is available as soon as the [libSplash](#) and [HDF5 libraries](#) are compiled in.

### .param files

In order to setup the radiation analyzer plugin, both the [radiation.param](#) and the [radiationObserver.param](#) have to be configured **and** the radiating particles need to have the attribute `momentumPrev1` which can be added in [speciesDefinition.param](#).

In [radiationConfig.param](#), the number of frequencies `N_omega` and observation directions `N_theta` is defined.

## Frequency range

The frequency range is set up by choosing a specific namespace that defines the frequency setup

```
/* choose linear frequency range */
namespace radiation_frequencies = rad_linear_frequencies;
```

Currently you can choose from the following setups for the frequency range:

| namespace                 | Description                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| rad_linear_frequencies    | linear frequency range from <code>SI::omega_min</code> to <code>SI::omega_max</code> with <code>N_omega</code> steps      |
| rad_log_frequencies       | logarithmic frequency range from <code>SI::omega_min</code> to <code>SI::omega_max</code> with <code>N_omega</code> steps |
| rad_frequencies_from_list | <code>N_omega</code> frequencies taken from a text file with location <code>listLocation[]</code>                         |

## Observation directions

The number of observation directions  $N_{\theta}$  is defined in [radiation.param](#), but the distribution of observation directions is given in [radiationObserver.param.param](#)) There, the function `observation_direction` defines the observation directions.

This function returns the x,y and z component of a **unit vector** pointing in the observation direction.

```
DINLINE vector_64
observation_direction(int const observation_id_extern)
{
 /* use the scalar index const int observation_id_extern to compute an
 * observation direction (x,y,z) */
 return vector_64(x , y , z);
}
```

**Note:** The `radiationObserver.param` set up will be subject to **further changes**. These might be *namespaces* that describe several preconfigured layouts or a functor if C++ 11 is included in the *nvcc*.

## Nyquist limit

A major limitation of discrete Fourier transform is the limited frequency resolution due to the discrete time steps of the temporal signal. (see [Nyquist-Shannon sampling theorem](#)) Due to the consideration of relativistic delays, the sampling of the emitted radiation is not equidistantly sampled. The plugin has the option to ignore any frequency contributions that lies above the frequency resolution given by the Nyquist-Shannon sampling theorem. Because performing this check costs computation time, it can be switched off. This is done via a precompiler pragma:

```
// Nyquist low pass allows only amplitudes for frequencies below Nyquist frequency
// 1 = on (slower and more memory, no Fourier reflections)
// 0 = off (faster but with Fourier reflections)
#define __NYQUISTCHECK__ 0
```

Additionally, the maximally resolvable frequency compared to the Nyquist frequency can be set.

```
namespace radiationNyquist
{
 /* only use frequencies below 1/2*Omega_Nyquist */
 const float NyquistFactor = 0.5;
}
```

This allows to make a save margin to the hard limit of the Nyquist frequency. By using `NyquistFactor = 0.5` for periodic boundary conditions, particles that jump from one border to another and back can still be considered.

## Form factor

The *form factor* is still an experimental method trying to consider the shape of the macro particles when computing the radiation. By default, it should be switched off by setting `__COHERENTINCOHERENTWEIGHTING__` to zero.

```
// corect treatment of coherent and incoherent radiation from macroparticles
// 1 = on (slower and more memory, but correct quantitative treatment)
// 0 = off (faster but macroparticles are treated as highly charged, point-like_
particle)
#define __COHERENTINCOHERENTWEIGHTING__ 0
```

If switched on, one can select between different macro particle shapes. Currently three shapes are implemented. A shape can be selected by choosing one of the available namespaces:

```
/* choosing the 3D CIC-like macro particle shape */
namespace radFormFactor_selected = radFormFactor_CIC_3D;
```

| Namespace                             | Description                                                                                                        |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <code>radFormFactor_CIC_3D</code>     | 3D Cloud-In-Cell shape                                                                                             |
| <code>radFormFactor_CIC_1D</code>     | Cloud-In-Cell shape in y-direction, dot like in the other directions                                               |
| <code>radFormFactor_incoherent</code> | forces a completely incoherent emission by scaling the macro particle charge with the square root of the weighting |

## Reducing the particle sample

In order to save computation time, only a random subset of all macro particles can be used to compute the emitted radiation. In order to do that, the radiating particle species needs the attribute `radiationMask` (which is initialized as `false`) which further needs to be manipulated, to set to true for specific (random) particles.

**Note:** The reduction of the total intensity is not considered in the output. The intensity will be (in the incoherent case) by the fraction of marked marticles smaller than in the case of selecting all particles.

**Note:** The radiation mask is only added to particles, if not all particles should be considered for radiation calculation. Adding the radiation flag costs memory.

**Note:** In future updates, the radiation will only be computed using an extra particle species. Therefore, this setup will be subject to further changes.

## Gamma filter

In order to consider the radiation only of particles with a gamma higher than a specific threshold, the radiating particle species needs the attribute `radiationMask` (which is initialized as `false`). Using a filter functor as:

```
using RadiationParticleFilter = picongpu::particles::manipulators::FreeImpl<
 GammaFilterFunctor
>;
```

(see Bunch or Kelvin Helmholtz example for details) sets the flag to true if a particle fulfills the gamma condition.

---

**Note:** More sophisticated filters might come in the near future. Therefore, this part of the code might be subject to changes.

---

## Window function filter

A window function can be added to the simulation area to reduce ringing artifacts due to sharp transition from radiating regions to non-radiating regions at the boundaries of the simulation box. This should be applied to simulation setups where the entire volume simulated is radiating (e.g. Kelvin-Helmholtz Instability).

In `radiationConfig.param` the precompiler variable `PIC_RADWINDOWFUNCTION` defines if the window function filter should be used or not.

```
// add a window function weighting to the radiation in order
// to avoid ringing effects from sharp boundaries
// 1 = on (slower but with noise/ringing reduction)
// 0 = off (faster but might contain ringing)
#define PIC_RADWINDOWFUNCTION 0
```

If set to 1, the window function filter is used.

There are several different window function available:

```
/* Choose different window function in order to get better ringing reduction
 * radWindowFunctionRectangle
 * radWindowFunctionTriangle
 * radWindowFunctionHamming
 * radWindowFunctionTriplet
 * radWindowFunctionGauss
 */
namespace radWindowFunctionRectangle { }
namespace radWindowFunctionTriangle { }
namespace radWindowFunctionHamming { }
namespace radWindowFunctionTriplet { }
namespace radWindowFunctionGauss { }

namespace radWindowFunction = radWindowFunctionTriangle;
```

By setting `radWindowFunction` a specific window function is selected.

## .cfg file

For a specific (charged) species `<species>` e.g. `e`, the radiation can be computed by the following commands.

| Command line option                | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| --radiation_<space>period          | Gives the number of time steps between which the radiation should be calculated. Default is 0, which means that the radiation is never calculated and therefore off. Using 1 calculates the radiation constantly. Any value $\geq 2$ is currently producing nonsense. |
| --radiation_<space>dump            | Periods after which the calculated radiation data should be dumped to the file system. Default is 0, therefore never. In order to store the radiation data, a value $\geq 1$ should be used.                                                                          |
| --radiation_<space>lastRadiation   | If set, the radiation spectra summed between the last and the current dump-time-step are stored. Used for a better evaluation of the temporal evolution of the emitted radiation.                                                                                     |
| --radiation_<space>folderLastRad   | Name of the folder, in which the summed spectra for the simulation time between the last dump and the current dump are stored. Default is lastRad.                                                                                                                    |
| --radiation_<space>totalRadiation  | If set, the spectra summed from simulation start till current time step are stored.                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| --radiation_<space>folderTotalRad  | Folder name in which the total radiation spectra, integrated from the beginning of the simulation, are stored. Default totalRad.                                                                                                                                      |
| --radiation_<space>start           | Time step, at which PICongPU starts calculating the radiation. Default is 2 in order to get enough history of the particles.                                                                                                                                          |
| --radiation_<space>end             | Time step, at which the radiation calculation should end. Default: '0' (stops at end of simulation).                                                                                                                                                                  |
| --radiation_<space>omegaList       | In case the frequencies for the spectrum are coming from a list stored in a file, this gives the path to this list. Default: <code>_noPath_</code> throws an error. <i>This does not switch on the frequency calculation via list.</i>                                |
| --radiation_<space>radPerGPU       | If set, each GPU additionally stores its own spectra without summing over the entire simulation area. This allows for a localization of specific spectral features.                                                                                                   |
| --radiation_<space>folderRadPerGPU | Name of the folder, where the GPU specific spectra are stored. Default: radPerGPU                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| --radiation_<space>compression     | If set, the hdf5 output is compressed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

## Memory Complexity

### Accelerator

each energy bin times each coordinate bin allocates one counter (`float_X`) permanently and on each accelerator.

### Host

as on accelerator.

### Output

Depending on the command line options used, there are different output files.

| Command line flag                       | Output description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <code>--radiation totalRadiation</code> | Contains ASCII files that have the total spectral intensity until the timestep specified by the filename. Each row gives data for one observation direction (same order as specified in the <code>observer.py</code> ). The values for each frequency are separated by <i>tabs</i> and have the same order as specified in <code>radiationConfig.param</code> . The spectral intensity is stored in the units [J s]. |
| <code>--radiation lastRadiation</code>  | has the same format as the output of <i>totalRadiation</i> . The spectral intensity is only summed over the last radiation <i>dump</i> period.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <code>--radiation radPerGPU</code>      | Same output as <i>totalRadiation</i> but only summed over each GPU. ecause each GPU specifies a spatial region, the origin of radiation signatures can be distinguished.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <i>radiation-HDF5</i>                   | In the folder <code>radiationHDF5</code> , hdf5 files for each radiation dump and species are stored. These are complex amplitudes in units used by <i>PICongPU</i> . These are for restart purposes and for more complex data analysis.                                                                                                                                                                             |

## Analysing tools

In `picongp/src/tools/bin`, there are tools to analyze the radiation data after the simulation.

| Tool                                    | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <code>plotRadiation</code>              | Reads ASCII radiation data and plots spectra over angles as color plots. This is a python script that has its own help. Run <code>plotRadiation --help</code> for more information.                                                                           |
| <code>radiationSyntheticDetector</code> | Reads ASCII radiation data and statistically analysis the spectra for a user specified region of observation angles and frequencies. This is a python script that has its own help. Run <code>radiationSyntheticDetector --help</code> for more informations. |
| <i>smooth.py</i>                        | Python module needed by <i>plotRadiation</i> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

## Known Issues

Currently, the radiation plugin does not support 2D simulations. This should be fixed with [issue #289](#) . The plugin supports multiple radiation species but spectra (frequencies and observation directions) are the same for all species.

## References

- [Electromagnetic Radiation from Relativistic Electrons as Characteristic Signature of their Dynamics](#), Diploma thesis on the radiation plugin
- [How to test and verify radiation diagnostics simulations within particle-in-cell frameworks](#), Some tests that have been performed to validate the code

## 2.5.18 Resource Log

Writes resource information such as rank, position, current simulation step, particle count, and cell count as json or xml formatted string to output streams (file, stdout, stderr).

### .cfg file

Run the plugin for each nth time step: `--resourceLog.period n`

The following table will describes the settings for the plugin:



| Command line option                   | Description                                                                         |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <code>--resourceLog.properties</code> | Selects properties to write [rank, position, currentStep, particleCount, cellCount] |
| <code>--resourceLog.format</code>     | Selects output format [json, jsonpp, xml, xmlpp]                                    |
| <code>--resourceLog.stream</code>     | Selects output stream [file, stdout, stderr]                                        |
| <code>--resourceLog.prefix</code>     | Selects the prefix for the file stream name                                         |

## Memory Complexity

### Accelerator

no extra allocation.

### Host

negligible.

## Output / Example

Using the options

```
--resourceLog.period 1 \
--resourceLog.stream stdout \
--resourceLog.properties rank position currentStep particleCount cellCount \
--resourceLog.format jsonpp
```

will write resource objects to stdout such as:

```
[1,1]<stdout>: "resourceLog": {
[1,1]<stdout>: "rank": "1",
[1,1]<stdout>: "position": {
[1,1]<stdout>: "x": "0",
[1,1]<stdout>: "y": "1",
[1,1]<stdout>: "z": "0"
[1,1]<stdout>: },
[1,1]<stdout>: "currentStep": "357",
[1,1]<stdout>: "cellCount": "1048576",
[1,1]<stdout>: "particleCount": "2180978"
[1,1]<stdout>: }
[1,1]<stdout>: }
```

For each format there exists always a non pretty print version to simplify further processing:

```
[1,3]<stdout>:{ "resourceLog":{ "rank":"3", "position":{"x":"1", "y":"1", "z":"0"},
↪ "currentStep": "415", "cellCount": "1048576", "particleCount": "2322324" } }
```

### 2.5.19 Slice Field Printer

Outputs a 2D slice of the **electric, magnetic and/or current field** in SI units. The slice position and the field can be specified by the user.

## .cfg file

The plugin works on **electric**, **magnetic**, and **current** fields. For the electric field, the prefix `--E_slice.` for all command line arguments is used. For the magnetic field, the prefix `--B_slice.` is used. For the current field, the prefix `--J_slice.` is used.

The following table will describe the setup for the electric field. The same applied to the magnetic field. Only the prefix has to be adjusted.

| Com-<br>mand<br>line<br>option    | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <code>--E_slice.period</code>     | The periodicity of the slice print out. If set to a non-zero value, e.g. to <code>--E_slice.period 100</code> , the slices are generated for every 100th simulation time step.                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <code>--E_slice.fileName</code>   | Name of the output file. Setting <code>--E_slice.fileName myName</code> will result in output files like <code>myName_100.dat</code> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <code>--E_slice.plane</code>      | Defines the plane that the slice will be parallel to. The plane is defined by its orthogonal axis. By using 0 for the x-axis, 1 for the y-axis and 2 for the z-axis, all standard planes can be selected. E.g. choosing the x-y-plane is done by setting the orthogonal axis to the z-axis by giving the command line argument <code>--E_slice.plane 2</code> . |
| <code>--E_slice.slicePoint</code> | Defines the position of the slice on the orthogonal axis. E.g. when the x-y-plane was selected, the slice position in z-direction has to be set. This is done using a value between 0.0 and 1.0. E.g. by setting <code>--E_slice.slicePoint 0.5</code> , the slice is centered.                                                                                 |

This plugin **supports using multiple slices**. By setting the command line arguments multiple times, multiple slices are printed to file. As an example, the following command line will create two slices:

```
picongpu # [...]
--E_slice.period 100 --E_slice.fileName slice1 --E_slice.plane 2 --E_slice.
↪slicePoint 0.5
--E_slice.period 50 --E_slice.fileName slice2 --E_slice.plane 0 --E_slice.
↪slicePoint 0.25
```

The first slice is a cut along the x-y axis. It is printed every 100th step. It cuts through the middle of the z-axis and the data is stored in files like `slice1_100.dat`. The second slice is a cut along the y-z axis. It is printed every 50th step. It cuts through the first quarter of the x-axis and the data is stored in files like `slice2_100.dat`.

## 2D fields

In the case of 2D fields, the plugin outputs a 1D slice. Be aware that `--E_slice.plane` still refers to the orthogonal axis, i.e. `--E_slice.plane 1` outputs a line along the **x-axis** and `--E_slice.plane 0` along the **y-axis**.

## Memory Complexity

### Accelerator

the local slice is permanently allocated in the type of the field (`float3_X`).

### Host

as on accelerator.

## Output

The output is stored in an ASCII file for every time step selected by `.period` (see *How to set it up?*). The 2D slice is stored as lines and rows of the ASCII file. Spaces separate rows and newlines separate lines. Each entry is of the format `{1.1e-1, 2.2e-2, 3.3e.3}` giving each value of the vector field separately e.g. `{E_x, E_y, E_z}`.

In order to read this data format, there is a python module in `lib/python/picongpu/plugins/sliceFieldReader.py`. The function `readFieldSlices` needs a data file (file or filename) with data from the plugin and returns the data as numpy-array of size `(N_y, N_x, 3)`

## Known Issues

See [issue #348](#).

Should be solved with [pull request #548](#).

## 2.5.20 Sum Currents

This plugin computes the total current integrated/added over the entire volume simulated.

### .cfg file

The plugin can be activated by setting a non-zero value with the command line flag `--sumcurr.period`. The value set with `--sumcurr.period` is the periodicity, at which the total current is computed. E.g. `--sumcurr.period 100` computes and prints the total current for time step `0, 100, 200, ...`

## Memory Complexity

### Accelerator

negligible.

### Host

negligible.

## Output

The result is printed to *standard output*. Therefore, it goes both to `./simOutput/output` as well as to the output file specified by the machine used (usually the `stdout` file in the main directory of the simulation). The output is ASCII-text only. It has the following format:

```
[ANALYSIS] [_rank] [COUNTER] [SumCurrents] [_currentTimeStep] {_current.x _current.
↪y _current.z} Abs:_absCurrent
```

| Value                                                                      | Description                                    | Unit              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <code>_rank</code>                                                         | MPI rank at which prints the particle position | <i>none</i>       |
| <code>_currentTimeStep</code>                                              | simulation time step = number of PIC cycles    | <i>none</i>       |
| <code>_current.x</code> <code>_current.y</code><br><code>_current.z</code> | electric current                               | Ampere per second |
| <code>_absCurrent</code>                                                   | magnitude of current                           | Ampere per second |

In order to extract only the total current information from the output stored in `stdout`, the following command on a bash command line could be used:

```
grep SumCurrents stdout > totalCurrent.dat
```

The plugin data is then stored in `totalCurrent.dat`.

### Known Issues

Currently, both `output` and `stdout` are overwritten at restart. All data from the plugin is lost, if these file are not backedup manually.

## 2.6 Period Syntax

Most plugins allow to define a period on how often a plugin shall be executed (notified). Its simple syntax is: `<period>` with a simple number.

Additionally, the following syntax allows to define intervals for periods:

`<start>:<end>[:<period>]`

- `<start>`: begin of the interval; default: 0
- `<end>`: end of the interval, including the upper bound; default: end of the simulation
- `<period>`: notify period within the interval; default: 1

Multiple intervals can be combined via a comma separated list.

### 2.6.1 Examples

- 42 every 42th time step
- `:` equal to just writing 1, every time step from start (0) to the end of the simulation
- 11:11 only once at time step 11
- 10:100:2 every second time step between steps 10 and 100 (included)
- 42,30:50:10: at steps 30 40 42 50 84 126 168 ...
- 5,10: at steps 0 5 10 15 20 25 ... (only executed once per step in overlapping intervals)

## 2.7 Python Postprocessing

In order to further work with the data produced by a plugin during a simulation run, PICongGPU provides python tools that can be used for reading data and visualization. They can be found under `lib/python/picongpu/plugins`.

It is our goal to provide at least two modules for each plugin to make postprocessing as convenient as possible: 1. a data reader (inside the `data` subdirectory) 2. a matplotlib visualizer (inside the `plot_mpl` subdirectory)

Further information on how to use these tools can be found at each plugin page.

If you would like to help in developing those classes for a plugin of your choice, please read [python postprocessing](#).

## 2.8 TBG

*Section author: Axel Huebl*

*Module author: René Widera*

Our tool *template batch generator* (`tbg`) abstracts program runtime options from technical details of supercomputers. On a desktop PC, one can just execute a command interactively and instantaneously. Contrarily on a supercomputer, resources need to be shared between different users efficiently via *job scheduling*. Scheduling on today's supercomputers is usually done via *batch systems* that define various queues of resources.

An unfortunate aspect about batch systems from a user's perspective is, that their usage varies a lot. And naturally, different systems have different resources in queues that need to be described.

PIconGPU runtime options are described in *configuration files* (`.cfg`). We abstract the description of queues, resource acquisition and job submission via *template files* (`.tpl`). For example, a `.cfg` file defines how many *devices* shall be used for computation, but a `.tpl` file calculates how many *physical nodes* will be requested. Also, `.tpl` files takes care of how to spawn a process when scheduled, e.g. with `mpiexec` and which flags for networking details need to be passed. After combining the *machine independent* (portable) `.cfg` file from user input with the *machine dependent* `.tpl` file, `tbg` can submit the requested job to the batch system.

Last but not least, one usually wants to store the input of a simulation with its output. `tbg` conveniently automates this task before submission.

In summary, PIconGPU runtime options in `.cfg` files are portable to any machine. When accessing a machine for the first time, one needs to write template `.tpl` files, abstractly describing how to run PIconGPU on the specific queue(s) of the batch system. We ship such template files already for a set of supercomputers, interactive execution and many common batch systems. See `$PICSRC/etc/picongpu/` and [our list of systems with .profile files](#) for details.

### 2.8.1 Usage

```

TBG (template batch generator)
create a new folder for a batch job and copy in all important files

usage: tbg -c [cfgFile] [-s [submitsystem]] [-t [templateFile]]
 [-o "VARNAME1=10 VARNAME2=5"] [-f] [-h]
 [projectPath] destinationPath

-c | --cfg [file] - Configuration file to set up batch file.
 Default: [cfgFile] via export TBG_CFGFILE
-s | --submit [command] - Submit command (qsub, "qsub -h", sbatch, ...)
 Default: [submitsystem] via export TBG_SUBMIT
-t | --tpl [file] - Template to create a batch file from.
 tbg will use stdin, if no file is specified.
 Default: [templateFile] via export TBG_TPLFILE
-o - Overwrite any template variable:
 spaces within the right side of assign are not
↪allowed
 e.g. -o "VARNAME1=10 VARNAME2=5"
 Overwriting is done after cfg file was executed
-f | --force - Override if 'destinationPath' exists.
-h | --help - Shows help (this output).

[projectPath] - Project directory containing source code and
 binaries
 Default: current directory
destinationPath - Directory for simulation output.

```

TBG exports the following variables, which can be used in `cfg` and `tpl` files at

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|                  |                                                              |
|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| any time:        |                                                              |
| TBG_jobName      | - name of the job                                            |
| TBG_jobNameShort | - short name of the job, without blanks                      |
| TBG_cfgPath      | - absolute path to cfg file                                  |
| TBG_cfgFile      | - full absolute path and name of cfg file                    |
| TBG_projectPath  | - absolute project path (see optional parameter projectPath) |
| TBG_dstPath      | - absolute path to destination directory                     |

## 2.8.2 .cfg File Macros

Feel free to copy & paste sections of the files below into your .cfg, e.g. to configure complex plugins:

```
Copyright 2014-2018 Felix Schmitt, Axel Huebl, Richard Pausch, Heiko Burau
#
This file is part of PICongPU.
#
PICongPU is free software: you can redistribute it and/or modify
it under the terms of the GNU General Public License as published by
the Free Software Foundation, either version 3 of the License, or
(at your option) any later version.
#
PICongPU is distributed in the hope that it will be useful,
but WITHOUT ANY WARRANTY; without even the implied warranty of
MERCHANTABILITY or FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. See the
GNU General Public License for more details.
#
You should have received a copy of the GNU General Public License
along with PICongPU.
If not, see <http://www.gnu.org/licenses/>.
#####
This file describes sections and variables for PICongPU's
TBG batch file generator.
These variables basically wrap PICongPU command line flags.
To see all flags available for your PICongPU binary, run
picongpu --help. The available flags depend on your configuration flags.
##
Flags that target a specific species e.g. electrons (--e_png) or ions
(--i_png) must only be used if the respective species is activated (configure_
↪ flags).
##
If not stated otherwise, variables/flags must not be used more than once!
#####

#####
Section: Required Variables
Variables in this section are necessary for PICongPU to work properly and should_
↪ not
be removed. However, you are free to adjust them to your needs, e.g. setting
the number of GPUs in each dimension.
#####

Batch system walltime
TBG_wallTime="1:00:00"

Number of devices in each dimension (x,y,z) to use for the simulation
TBG_devices_x=1
TBG_devices_y=2
```

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```
TBG_devices_z=1

Size of the simulation grid in cells as "X Y Z"
note: the number of cells needs to be an exact multiple of a supercell
and has to be at least 3 supercells per device,
the size of a supercell (in cells) is defined in `memory.param`
TBG_gridSize="128 256 128"

Number of simulation steps/iterations as "N"
TBG_steps="100"

#####
Section: Optional Variables
You are free to add and remove variables here as you like.
The only exception is TBG_plugins which is used to forward your variables
to the TBG program. This variable can be modified but should not be removed!
##
Please add all variables you define in this section to TBG_plugins.
#####

Variables which are created by TBG (should be self-descriptive)
TBG_jobName
TBG_jobNameShort
TBG_cfgPath
TBG_cfgFile
TBG_projectPath
TBG_dstPath

version information on startup
TBG_version="--versionOnce"

Regex to describe the static distribution of the cells for each device
default: equal distribution over all devices
example for -d 2 4 1 -g 128 192 12
TBG_gridDist="--gridDist '64{2}' '64,32{2},64'"

Specifies whether the grid is periodic (1) or not (0) in each dimension (X,Y,Z).
Default: no periodic dimensions
TBG_periodic="--periodic 1 0 1"

Enables moving window (sliding) in your simulation
TBG_movingWindow="-m"

#####
Placeholder for multi data plugins:
##
placeholders must be substituted with the real data name
##
<species> = species name e.g. e (electrons), i (ions)
<field> = field names e.g. FieldE, FieldB, FieldJ
#####

The following flags are available for the radiation plugin.
For a full description, see the plugins section in the online wiki.
#--<species>_radiation.period Radiation is calculated every .period steps.
↪Currently 0 or 1
```

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```

#--<species>_radiation.dump Period, after which the calculated radiation data
↳should be dumped to the file system
#--<species>_radiation.lastRadiation If flag is set, the spectra summed
↳between the last and the current dump-time-step are stored
#--<species>_radiation.folderLastRad Folder in which the summed spectra are
↳stored
#--<species>_radiation.totalRadiation If flag is set, store spectra summed
↳from simulation start till current time step
#--<species>_radiation.folderTotalRad Folder in which total radiation spectra
↳are stored
#--<species>_radiation.start Time step to start calculating the radiation
#--<species>_radiation.end Time step to stop calculating the radiation
#--<species>_radiation.omegaList If spectrum frequencies are taken from a file,
↳this gives the path to this list
#--<species>_radiation.radPerGPU If flag is set, each GPU stores its own
↳spectra without summing the entire simulation area
#--<species>_radiation.folderRadPerGPU Folder where the GPU specific spectras
↳are stored
#--e_<species>_radiation.compression If flag is set, the hdf5 output will be
↳compressed.
TBG_radiation="--<species>_radiation.period 1 --<species>_radiation.dump 2 --
↳<species>_radiation.totalRadiation \
 --<species>_radiation.lastRadiation --<species>_radiation.start
↳2800 --<species>_radiation.end 3000"

Create 2D images in PNG format every .period steps.
The slice plane is defined using .axis [yx,yz] and .slicePoint (offset from
↳origin
as a float within [0.0,1.0].
The output folder can be set with .folder.
Can be used more than once to print different images, e.g. for YZ and YX planes.
TBG_<species>_pngYZ="--<species>_png.period 10 --<species>_png.axis yz --<species>_
↳png.slicePoint 0.5 --<species>_png.folder pngElectronsYZ"
TBG_<species>_pngYX="--<species>_png.period 10 --<species>_png.axis yx --<species>_
↳png.slicePoint 0.5 --<species>_png.folder pngElectronsYX"

Enable macro particle merging
TBG_<species>_merger="--<species>_merger.period 100 --<species>_merger.
↳minParticlesToMerge 8 --<species>_merger.posSpreadThreshold 0.2 --<species>_
↳merger.absMomSpreadThreshold 0.01"

Notification period of position plugin (single-particle debugging)
TBG_<species>_pos_dbg="--<species>_position.period 1"

Create a particle-energy histogram [in keV] per species for every .period steps
TBG_<species>_histogram="--<species>_energyHistogram.period 500 --<species>_
↳energyHistogram.binCount 1024 \
 --<species>_energyHistogram.minEnergy 0 --<species>_
↳energyHistogram.maxEnergy 500000 \
 --<species>_energyHistogram.filter all"

Calculate a 2D phase space
- requires parallel libSplash for HDF5 output
- momentum range in m_<species> c
TBG_<species>_PSxpx="--<species>_phaseSpace.period 10 --<species>_phaseSpace.
↳filter all --<species>_phaseSpace.space x --<species>_phaseSpace.momentum px --
↳<species>_phaseSpace.min -1.0 --<species>_phaseSpace.max 1.0"

```

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```
TBG_<species>_PSxpz="--<species>_phaseSpace.period 10 --<species>_phaseSpace.
↪filter all --<species>_phaseSpace.space x --<species>_phaseSpace.momentum pz --
↪<species>_phaseSpace.min -1.0 --<species>_phaseSpace.max 1.0"
TBG_<species>_PSypx="--<species>_phaseSpace.period 10 --<species>_phaseSpace.
↪filter all --<species>_phaseSpace.space y --<species>_phaseSpace.momentum px --
↪<species>_phaseSpace.min -1.0 --<species>_phaseSpace.max 1.0"
TBG_<species>_PSypy="--<species>_phaseSpace.period 10 --<species>_phaseSpace.
↪filter all --<species>_phaseSpace.space y --<species>_phaseSpace.momentum py --
↪<species>_phaseSpace.min -1.0 --<species>_phaseSpace.max 1.0"
TBG_<species>_PSypz="--<species>_phaseSpace.period 10 --<species>_phaseSpace.
↪filter all --<species>_phaseSpace.space y --<species>_phaseSpace.momentum pz --
↪<species>_phaseSpace.min -1.0 --<species>_phaseSpace.max 1.0"

Write out slices of field data for every .period step
TBG_EField_slice="--E_slice.period 100 --E_slice.fileName sliceE --E_slice.plane 2,
↪--E_slice.slicePoint 0.5"
TBG_BField_slice="--B_slice.period 100 --B_slice.fileName sliceB --B_slice.plane 2,
↪--B_slice.slicePoint 0.5"
TBG_JField_slice="--J_slice.period 100 --J_slice.fileName sliceJ --J_slice.plane 2,
↪--J_slice.slicePoint 0.5"

Sum up total energy every .period steps for
- species (--<species>_energy)
- fields (--fields_energy)
TBG_sumEnergy="--fields_energy.period 10 --<species>_energy.period 10 --<species>_
↪energy.filter all"

Count the number of macro particles per species for every .period steps
TBG_macroCount="--<species>_macroParticlesCount.period 100"

Count makro particles of a species per super cell
TBG_countPerSuper="--<species>_macroParticlesPerSuperCell.period 100 --<species>_
↪macroParticlesPerSuperCell.period 100"

Dump simulation data (fields and particles) to HDF5 files using libSplash.
Data selected in .source is dumped every .period steps to the filesset .file.
TBG_hdf5="--hdf5.period 100 --hdf5.file simData --hdf5.source 'species_all,fields_
↪all'"

Dump simulation data (fields and particles) to ADIOS files.
Data is dumped every .period steps to the filesset .file.
TBG_adios="--adios.period 100 --adios.file simData --adios.source 'species_all,
↪fields_all'"
see 'adios_config -m', e.g., for on-the-fly zlib compression
(compile ADIOS with --with-zlib=<ZLIB_ROOT>)
--adios.compression zlib
or
--adios.compression blosc:threshold=2048,shuffle=bit,lvl=1,threads=6,
↪compressor=zstd
for parallel large-scale parallel file-systems:
--adios.aggregators <N * 3> --adios.ost <N>
avoid writing meta file on massively parallel runs
--adios.disable-meta
B = 0 is equal to false, B = 1 is true
specify further options for the transports, see ADIOS manual
chapter 6.1.5, e.g., 'random_offset=1;stripe_count=4'
(FS chooses OST;user chooses striping factor)
--adios.transport-params "semicolon_separated_list"
select data sources for the dump
```

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```
--adios.source <comma_separated_list_of_data_sources>

Create a checkpoint that is restartable every --checkpoint.period steps
http://git.io/PToFYg
TBG_checkpoint="--checkpoint.period 1000"
Select the backend for the checkpoint, available are hdf5 and adios
--checkpoint.backend adios
hdf5
Available backend options are exactly as in --adios.* and --hdf5.* and can be set
via:
--checkpoint.<IO-backend>.* <value>
e.g.:
--checkpoint.adios.compression zlib
--checkpoint.adios.disable-meta 1
Note: if you disable ADIOS meta files in checkpoints, make sure to run
`bpmeta` on your checkpoints before restarting from them!

Restart the simulation from checkpoint created using TBG_checkpoint
TBG_restart="--checkpoint.restart"
Select the backend for the restart (must fit the created checkpoint)
--checkpoint.restart.backend adios
hdf5
By default, the last checkpoint is restarted if not specified via
--checkpoint.restart.step 1000
To restart in a new run directory point to the old run where to start from
--checkpoint.restart.directory /path/to/simOutput/checkpoints

Presentation mode: loop a simulation via restarts
does either start from 0 again or from the checkpoint specified with
--checkpoint.restart.step as soon as the simulation reached the last time step;
in the example below, the simulation is run 5000 times before it shuts down
Note: does currently not work with `Radiation` plugin
TBG_restartLoop="--checkpoint.restart.loop 5000"

Live in situ visualization using ISAAC
Initial period in which a image shall be rendered
--isaac.period PERIOD
Name of the simulation run as seen for the connected clients
--isaac.name NAME
URL of the server
--isaac.url URL
Number from 1 to 100 describing the quality of the transceived jpeg image.
Smaller values are faster sent, but of lower quality
--isaac.quality QUALITY
Resolution of the rendered image. Default is 1024x768
--isaac.width WIDTH
--isaac.height HEIGHT
Pausing directly after the start of the simulation
--isaac.directPause
By default the ISAAC Plugin tries to reconnect if the sever is not available
at start or the servers crashes. This can be deactivated with this option
--isaac.reconnect false
TBG_isaac="--isaac.period 1 --isaac.name !TBG_jobName --isaac.url <server_url>"
TBG_isaac_quality="--isaac.quality 90"
TBG_isaac_resolution="--isaac.width 1024 --isaac.height 768"
TBG_isaac_pause="--isaac.directPause"
TBG_isaac_reconnect="--isaac.reconnect false"

Print the maximum charge deviation between particles and div E to textfile
↪ 'chargeConservation.dat':
TBG_chargeConservation="--chargeConservation.period 100"
```

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```
Particle calorimeter: (virtually) propagates and collects particles to infinite_
↪distance
TBG_<species>_calorimeter="--<species>_calorimeter.period 100 --<species>_
↪calorimeter.openingYaw 90 --<species>_calorimeter.openingPitch 30
 --<species>_calorimeter.numBinsEnergy 32 --<species>_
↪calorimeter.minEnergy 10 --<species>_calorimeter.maxEnergy 1000
 --<species>_calorimeter.logScale 1 --<species>_calorimeter.
↪file filePrefix --<species>_calorimeter.filter all"

Resource log: log resource information to streams or files
set the resources to log by --resourceLog.properties [rank, position,
↪currentStep, particleCount, cellCount]
set the output stream by --resourceLog.stream [stdout, stderr, file]
set the prefix of filestream --resourceLog.prefix [prefix]
set the output format by (pp == pretty print) --resourceLog.format jsonpp [json,
↪jsonpp, xml, xmlpp]
The example below logs all resources for each time step to stdout in the pretty_
↪print json format
TBG_resourceLog="--resourceLog.period 1 --resourceLog.stream stdout
 --resourceLog.properties rank position currentStep particleCount_
↪cellCount
 --resourceLog.format jsonpp"

#####
Section: Program Parameters
This section contains TBG internal variables, often composed from required
variables. These should not be modified except when you know what you are doing!
#####

Number of compute devices in each dimension as "X Y Z"
TBG_deviceDist="!TBG_devices_x !TBG_devices_y !TBG_devices_z"

Combines all declared variables. These are passed to PICongPU as command line_
↪flags.
The program output (stdout) is stored in a file called output.stdout.
TBG_programParams="-d !TBG_deviceDist \
 -g !TBG_gridSize \
 -s !TBG_steps \
 !TBG_plugins"

Total number of devices
TBG_tasks="$((TBG_devices_x * TBG_devices_y * TBG_devices_z))"
```

## 2.8.3 Batch System Examples

*Section author: Axel Huebl, Richard Pausch*

### Slurm

Slurm is a modern batch system, e.g. installed on the Taurus cluster at TU Dresden.

### Job Submission

PICongPU job submission on the *Taurus* cluster at *TU Dresden*:

- `tbg -s sbatch -c etc/picongpu/0008gpus.cfg -t etc/picongpu/taurus-tud/k80.tpl $SCRATCH/runs/test-001`

## Job Control

- interactive job:
  - `salloc --time=1:00:00 --nodes=1 --ntasks-per-node=2 --cpus-per-task=8 --partition gpu-interactive`
  - e.g. `srun "hostname"`
  - GPU allocation on taurus requires an additional flag, e.g. for two GPUs `--gres=gpu:2`
- details for my jobs:
  - `scontrol -d show job 12345` all details for job with <job id> 12345
  - `squeue -u $(whoami) -l` all jobs under my user name
- details for queues:
  - `squeue -p queueName -l` list full queue
  - `squeue -p queueName --start` (show start times for pending jobs)
  - `squeue -p queueName -l -t R` (only show running jobs in queue)
  - `sinfo -p queueName` (show online/offline nodes in queue)
  - `svview` (alternative on taurus: `module load llview` and `llview`)
  - `scontrol show partition queueName`
- communicate with job:
  - `scancel <job id> abort job`
  - `scancel -s <signal number> <job id>` send signal or signal name to job
  - `scontrol update timelimit=4:00:00 jobid=12345` change the walltime of a job
  - `scontrol update jobid=12345 dependency=afterany:54321` only start job 12345 after job with id 54321 has finished
  - `scontrol hold <job id>` prevent the job from starting
  - `scontrol release <job id>` release the job to be eligible for run (after it was set on hold)

## PBS

PBS (for *Portable Batch System*) is a widely distributed batch system that comes in several implementations (open, professional, etc.). It is used, e.g. on Hypnos at HZDR.

## Job Submission

PICongGPU job submission on the *Hypnos* cluster at HZDR:

- `tbg -s qsub -c etc/picongpu/0008gpus.cfg -t etc/picongpu/hypnos-hzdr/k20.tpl /bigdata/hplsims/<...>/test-001`

Where <...> is one of:

- `external/$(whoami)`
- internal:
  - `scratch/$(whoami)`

- development/\$(whoami)
- production/<project name>

## Job Control

- interactive job:
  - qsub -I -q k20 -lwalltime=12:00:00 -lnodes=1:ppn=8
- details for my jobs:
  - qstat -f 12345 all details for job with <job id> 12345
  - qstat -u \$(whoami) all jobs under my user name
- details for queues:
  - qstat -a queueName show all jobs in a queue
  - pbs\_free -l compact view on free and busy nodes
  - pbsnodes list all nodes and their detailed state (free, busy/job-exclusive, offline)
- communicate with job:
  - qdel <job id> abort job
  - qsig -s <signal number> <job id> send signal or signal name to job
  - qalter -lwalltime=12:00:00 <job id> change the walltime of a job
  - qalter -Wdepend=afterany:54321 12345 only start job 12345 after job with id 54321 has finished
  - qhold <job id> prevent the job from starting
  - qrls <job id> release the job to be eligible for run (after it was set on hold)

## 2.9 Example Setups

### 2.9.1 Bremsstrahlung: Emission of Bremsstrahlung from Laser-Foil Interaction

*Section author: Heiko Burau <h.burau (at) hzdr.de>*

*Module author: Heiko Burau <h.burau (at) hzdr.de>*

This is a simulation of a flat solid density target hit head-on by a high-intensity laser pulse. At the front surface free electrons are accelerated up to ultra relativistic energies and start travelling through the bulk then. Meanwhile, due to ion interaction, the hot electrons lose a small fraction of their kinetic energy in favor of emission of Bremsstrahlung-photons. Passing over the back surface hot electrons are eventually reflected and re-enter the foil in opposite direction. Because of the ultra-relativistic energy Bremsstrahlung (BS) is continuously emitted mainly along the direction of motion of the electron. The BS-module models the electron-ion scattering as three single processes, including electron deflection, electron deceleration and photon creation with respect to the emission angle. Details of the implementation and the numerical model can be found in [\[BurauDipl\]](#). Details of the theoretical description can be found in [\[Jackson\]](#) and [\[Salvat\]](#).

This 2D test simulates a laser pulse of  $a_0=40$ ,  $\lambda=0.8\mu\text{m}$ ,  $w_0=1.5\mu\text{m}$  in head-on collision with a fully pre-ionized gold foil of  $2\mu\text{m}$  thickness.

## Checks

- check appearance of photons moving along (forward) and against (backward) the incident laser pulse direction.
- check photon energy spectrum in both directions for the forward moving photons having a higher energy.

## References

### 2.9.2 Bunch: Thomson scattering from laser electron-bunch interaction

*Section author: Richard Pausch <r.pausch (at) hzdr.de>*

*Module author: Richard Pausch <r.pausch (at) hzdr.de>, Rene Widera <r.widera (at) hzdr.de>*

This is a simulation of an electron bunch that collides head-on with a laser pulse. Depending on the number of electrons in the bunch, their momentum and their distribution and depending on the laser wavelength and intensity, the emitted radiation differs. A general description of this simulation can be found in [\[PauschDipl\]](#). A detailed analysis of this bunch simulation can be found in [\[Pausch13\]](#). A theoretical study of the emitted radiation in head-on laser electron collisions can be found in [\[Esarey93\]](#).

This test simulates an electron bunch with a relativistic gamma factor of  $\gamma=5.0$  and with a laser with  $a_0=1.0$ . The resulting radiation should scale with the number of real electrons (incoherent radiation).

## References

### 2.9.3 Empty: Default PIC Algorithm

*Section author: Axel Huebl <a.huebl (at) hzdr.de>*

This is an “empty” example, initializing a default particle-in-cell cycle with default algorithms [\[BirdsallLangdon\]](#) [\[HockneyEastwood\]](#) but without a specific test case. When run, it iterates a particle-in-cell algorithm on a vacuum without particles or electro-magnetic fields initialized, which are the default .param files in `include/picongpu/param/`.

This is a case to demonstrate and test these defaults are still (syntactically) working. In order to set up your own simulation, there is no need to overwrite all .param files but only the ones that are different from the defaults. As an example, just overwrite the default laser (none) and initialize a species with a density distribution.

## References

### 2.9.4 FoilLCT: Ion Acceleration from a Liquid-Crystal Target

*Section author: Axel Huebl*

*Module author: Axel Huebl, T. Kluge*

The following example models a laser-ion accelerator in the [\[TNSA\]](#) regime. An optically over-dense target ( $n_{\max} = 192n_c$ ) consisting of a liquid-crystal material 8CB (4-octyl-4'-cyanobiphenyl)  $C_{21}H_{25}N$  is used.

Irradiated with a high-power laser pulse with  $a_0 = 5$  the target is assumed to be partly pre-ionized due to realistic laser contrast and pre-pulses to  $C^{2+}$ ,  $H^+$  and  $N^{2+}$  while being slightly expanded on its surfaces (modeled as exponential density slope). The overall target is assumed to be initially quasi-neutral and the 8CB ion components are not demixed in the surface regions. Surface contamination with, e.g. water vapor is neglected.

The laser is assumed to be in focus and approximated as a plane wave with temporally Gaussian intensity envelope of  $\tau_I^{\text{FWHM}} = 25$  fs.

This example is used to demonstrate:

- an ion acceleration setup with

- *composite, multi ion-species target material*
- *quasi-neutral initial conditions*
- ionization models for *field ionization* and *collisional ionization*

with PICongPU.

## References

### 2.9.5 KelvinHelmholtz: Kelvin-Helmholtz Instability

*Section author:* Axel Huebl <a.huebl (at) hzdr.de>

*Module author:* Axel Huebl <a.huebl (at) hzdr.de>, E. Paulo Alves, Thomas Grismayer

This example simulates a shear-flow instability known as the Kelvin-Helmholtz Instability in a near-relativistic setup as studied in [Alves12], [Grismayer13], [Busmann13]. The default setup uses a pre-ionized quasi-neutral hydrogen plasma. Modifying the ion species' mass to resample positrons instead is a test we perform regularly to control numerical heating and charge conservation.

## References

### 2.9.6 LaserWakefield: Laser Electron Acceleration

*Section author:* Axel Huebl <a.huebl (at) hzdr.de>

*Module author:* Axel Huebl <a.huebl (at) hzdr.de>, René Widera, Heiko Burau, Richard Pausch, Marco Garten

Setup for a laser-driven electron accelerator [TajimaDawson] in the blowout regime of an underdense plasma [Modena] [PukhovMeyerterVehn]. A short (fs) laser beam with ultra-high intensity ( $a_0 \gg 1$ ), modeled as a finite Gaussian beam is focussed in a hydrogen gas target. The target is assumed to be pre-ionized with negligible temperature. The relevant area of interaction is followed by a co-moving window, in whose time span the movement of ions is considered irrelevant which allows us to exclude those from our setup.

This is a demonstration setup to get a visible result quickly and test available methods and I/O. The plasma gradients are unphysically high, the resolution of the laser wavelength is seriously bad, the laser parameters (e.g. pulse length, focusing) are challenging to achieve technically and interaction region is too close to the boundaries of the simulation box. Nevertheless, this setup will run on a single GPU in full 3D in a few minutes, so just enjoy running it and interact with our plugins!

## References

### 2.9.7 WarmCopper: Average Charge State Evolution of Copper Irradiated by a Laser

*Section author:* Axel Huebl <a.huebl (at) hzdr.de>

*Module author:* Axel Huebl <a.huebl (at) hzdr.de>, Hyun-Kyung Chung

This setup initializes a homogenous, non-moving, copper block irradiated by a laser with  $10^{18}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup> as a benchmark for [SCFLY]<sup>1</sup> atomic population dynamics. We follow the setup from [FLYCHK] page 10, figure 4 assuming a quasi 0D setup with homogenous density of a 1+ ionized copper target. The laser (not modeled) already generated a thermal electron density at 10, 100 or 1000 eV and a delta-distribution like “hot” electron distribution with 200 keV (directed stream). The observable of interest is  $\langle Z \rangle$  over time of the copper ions. For low thermal energies, collisional excitation, de-excitation and recombinations should be sufficient to reach the LTE state after about 0.1-1 ps. For higher initial temperatures, radiative rates get more relevant and the Non-LTE steady-state solution can only be reached correctly when also adding radiative rates.

<sup>1</sup> In PICongPU, we generally refer to the implemented subset of SCFLY (solving Non-LTE population kinetics) as FLYlite.

---

**Note:** FLYlite is still in development!

---

## References

## 2.10 Workflows

This section contains typical user workflows and best practices.

### 2.10.1 Setting the Number of Cells

*Section author: Axel Huebl*

Together with the grid resolution in *grid.param*, the number of cells in our *.cfg files* determine the overall size of a simulation (box). The following rules need to be applied when setting the number of cells:

Each GPU needs to:

1. contain an integer *multiple* of supercells
2. at least *three* supercells

Supercell sizes in terms of number of cells are set in *memory.param* and are by default  $8 \times 8 \times 4$  for 3D3V simulations on GPUs. For 2D3V simulations,  $16 \times 16$  is usually a good supercell size, however the default is simply cropped to  $8 \times 8$ , so make sure to change it to get more performance.

### 2.10.2 Changing the Resolution with a Fixed Target

*Section author: Axel Huebl*

One often wants to refine an already existing resolution in order to model a setup more precisely or to be able to model a higher density.

1. change cell sizes and time step in *grid.param*
2. change number of GPUs in *.cfg file*
3. change number of *number of cells and distribution over GPUs* in *.cfg file*
4. adjust (transveral) positioning of targets in *density.param*
5. *recompile*

### 2.10.3 Setting the Laser Initialization Cut-Off

*Section author: Axel Huebl*

Laser profiles for simulation are modeled with a temporal envelope. A common model assumes a Gaussian intensity distribution over time which by definition never sets to zero, so it needs to be cut-off to a reasonable range.

In *laser.param* each profile implements the cut-off to start (and end) initializing the laser profile via a parameter `PULSE_INIT`  $t_{\text{init}}$  (sometimes also called `RAMP_INIT`).  $t_{\text{init}}$  is given in units of the `PULSE_LENGTH`  $\tau$  which is implemented *laser-profile dependent* (but usually as  $\sigma_I$  of the standard Gaussian of intensity  $I = E^2$ ).

For a fixed target in distance  $d$  to the lower  $y = 0$  boundary of the simulation box, the maximum intensity arrives at time:

$$t_{\text{laserPeakOnTarget}} = \frac{t_{\text{init}} \cdot \tau}{2} + \frac{d}{c_0}$$



or in terms of discrete time steps  $\Delta t$ :

$$\text{step}_{\text{laserPeakOnTarget}} = \frac{t_{\text{laserPeakOnTarget}}}{\Delta t}.$$

**Note:** Moving the spatial plane of initialization of the laser pulse via `initPlaneY` does not change the formula above. The implementation covers this spatial offset during initialization.

## 2.10.4 Definition of Composite Materials

*Section author: Axel Huebl*

The easiest way to define a composite material in PICongPU is starting relative to an idealized full-ionized electron density. As an example, lets use  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{25}\text{N}$  (“8CB”) with a plasma density of  $n_{\text{e,max}} = 192 n_c$  contributed by the individual ions relatively as:

- Carbon:  $21 \cdot 6 / N_{\Sigma e}$ .
- Hydrogen:  $25 \cdot 1 / N_{\Sigma e}$ .
- Nitrogen:  $1 \cdot 7 / N_{\Sigma e}$ .

and  $N_{\Sigma e} = 21_C \cdot 6_{C^{6+}} + 25_H \cdot 1_{H^+} + 1_N \cdot 7_{N^{7+}} = 158$ .

Set the idealized electron density in *density.param* as a reference and each species’ relative densityRatio from the list above accordingly in *speciesDefinition.param* (see the input files in the *FoillCT example* for details).

In order to initialize the electro-magnetic fields self-consistently, read *quasi-neutral initialization*.

## 2.10.5 Quasi-Neutral Initialization

*Section author: Axel Huebl*

In order to initialize the electro-magnetic fields self-consistently, one needs to fulfill Gauss’s law  $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0}$  (and  $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} = 0$ ). The trivial solution to this equation is to start *field neutral* by microscopically placing a charge-compensating amount of free electrons on the same position as according ions.

### Fully Ionized Ions

For fully ionized ions, just use `ManipulateDeriveSpecies` in *speciesInitialization.param* and derive macro-electrons 1 : 1 from macro-ions but increase their weighting by 1 :  $Z$  of the ion.

```
using InitPipeline = mpl::vector<
 /* density profile from density.param and
 * start position from particle.param */
 CreateDensity<
 densityProfiles::YourSelectedProfile,
 startPosition::YourStartPosition,
 Carbon
 >,
 /* create a macro electron for each macro carbon but increase its
 * weighting by the ion's proton number so it represents all its
 * electrons after an instantaneous ionization */
 ManipulateDeriveSpecies<
 manipulators::ProtonTimesWeighting,
 Carbon,
 Electrons
 >
>;
```

If the Carbon species in this example has an attribute `boundElectrons` (optional, see *speciesAttributes.param* and *speciesDefinition.param*) and its value is not manipulated the default value is used (zero bound electrons, fully ionized). If the attribute `boundElectrons` is not added to the Carbon species the charge state is considered constant and taken from the `chargeRatio< ... >` particle flag.

## Partly Ionized Ions

For partial pre-ionization, the *FoillCT example* shows a detailed setup. First, define a functor that manipulates the number of bound electrons in *particle.param*, e.g. to *twice pre-ionized*.

```
#include "picongpu/particles/traits/GetAtomicNumbers.hpp"
// ...

namespace manipulators
{
 ///! ionize ions twice
 struct TwiceIonizedImpl
 {
 template< typename T_Particle >
 DINLINE void operator() (
 T_Particle& particle
)
 {
 constexpr float_X protonNumber =
 GetAtomicNumbers< T_Particle >::type::numberOfProtons;
 particle[boundElectrons_] = protonNumber - float_X(2.);
 }
 };

 ///! definition of TwiceIonizedImpl manipulator
 using TwiceIonized = generic::Free< TwiceIonizedImpl >;
} // namespace manipulators
```

Then again in *speciesInitialization.param* set your initialization routines to:

```
using InitPipeline = mpl::vector<
 /* density profile from density.param and
 * start position from particle.param */
 CreateDensity<
 densityProfiles::YourSelectedProfile,
 startPosition::YourStartPosition,
 Carbon
 >,
 /* partially pre-ionize the carbons by manipulating the carbon's
 * `boundElectrons` attribute,
 * functor defined in particle.param: set to C2+ */
 Manipulate<
 manipulators::TwiceIonized,
 Carbon
 >,
 /* does also manipulate the weighting x2 while deriving the electrons
 * ("twice pre-ionized") since we set carbon as C2+ */
 ManipulateDeriveSpecies<
 manipulators::binary::UnboundElectronsTimesWeighting,
 Carbon,
 Electrons
 >
>;
```

## 2.10.6 Probe Particles

Section author: Axel Huebl

Probe particles (“probes”) can be used to record field quantities at selected positions over time.

As a geometric data-reduction technique, analyzing the discrete, regular field of a particle-in-cell simulation only at selected points over time can greatly reduce the need for I/O. Such particles are often arranged at isolated points, regularly as along lines, in planes or in any other user-defined manner.

Probe particles are usually neutral, non-interacting test particles that are statically placed in the simulation or co-moving with along pre-defined path. Self-consistently interacting particles are usually called *tracer particles*.

### Workflow

- `speciesDefinition.param`: create a species specifically for probes and add `fieldE` and `fieldB` attributes to it for storing interpolated fields

```
using ParticleFlagsProbes = bml::vector<
 particlePusher< particles::pusher::Probe >,
 shape< UsedParticleShape >,
 interpolation< UsedField2Particle >
>;

using Probes = Particles<
 PMACC_CSTRING("probe"),
 ParticleFlagsProbes,
 MakeSeq_t<
 position< position_pic >,
 probeB,
 probeE
 >
>;
```

and add it to `VectorAllSpecies`:

```
using VectorAllSpecies = MakeSeq_t<
 Probes,
 // ...
>;
```

- `density.param`: select in which cell a probe particle shall be placed, e.g. in each 4th cell per direction:

```
// put probe particles every 4th cell in X, Y(, Z)
using ProbeEveryFourthCell = EveryNthCellImpl<
 mCT::UInt32<
 4,
 4,
 4
 >
>;
```

- `particle.param`: initialize the individual probe particles in-cell, e.g. always in the left-lower corner and only one per selected cell

```
CONST_VECTOR(
 float_X,
 3,
 InCellOffset,
 /* each x, y, z in-cell position component
 * in range [0.0, 1.0) */
 0.0,
```

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```

 0.0,
 0.0
);
struct OnePositionParameter
{
 static constexpr uint32_t numParticlesPerCell = 1u;
 const InCellOffset_t inCellOffset;
};

using OnePosition = OnePositionImpl< OnePositionParameter >;

```

- `speciesInitialization.param`: initialize particles for the probe just as with regular particles

```

using InitPipeline = mpl::vector<
 // ... ,
 CreateDensity<
 densityProfiles::ProbeEveryFourthCell,
 startPosition::OnePosition,
 Probes
 >
>;

```

- `fileOutput.param`: make sure the the tracer particles are part of `FileOutputParticles`

```

// either all via VectorAllSpecies or just select
using FileOutputParticles = MakeSeq_t< Probes >;

```

## Known Limitations

---

**Note:** currently, only the electric field  $\vec{E}$  and the magnetic field  $\vec{B}$  can be recorded

---



---

**Note:** we currently do not support time averaging

---

**Warning:** If the probe particles are dumped in the file output, the instantaneous fields they recorded will be one time step behind the last field update (since our `runOneStep` pushed the particles first and then calls the field solver).

## 2.10.7 Tracer Particles

*Section author: Axel Huebl*

Tracer particles are like *probe particles*, but interact self-consistently with the simulation. They are usually used to visualize *representative* particle trajectories of a larger distribution.

### Workflow

- `speciesDefinition.param`: create a species specifically for tracer particles
  - add the particle attribute `particleId` to your species' `Particles< ... >` class (third argument, `T_Attributes`)
  - optional: add `fieldE` and `fieldB` attributes to the species to store fields as in *probes*

- create tracer particles by either
  - `speciesInitialization.param`: initializing a low percentage of your initial density inside this species or
  - `speciesInitialization.param`: assigning the target (electron) species of an ion's ionization routine to the tracer species or
  - `speciesInitialization.param`: moving some particles of an already initialized species to the tracer species (upcoming)
- `fileOutput.param`: output the tracer particles

## Known Limitations

- currently, only the electric field  $\vec{E}$  and the magnetic field  $\vec{B}$  can be recorded
- we currently do not support time averaging

## 2.10.8 Particle Filters

*Section author: Axel Huebl*

A common task in both modeling, initializing and in situ processing (output) is the selection of particles of a particle species by attributes. PIconGPU implements such selections as *particle filters*.

Particle filters are simple mappings assigning each particle of a species either `true` or `false` (ignore / filter out). These filters can be defined in *particleFilters.param*.

## Example

Let us select particles with momentum vector within a cone with an opening angle of five degrees (pinhole):

```
namespace picongpu
{
namespace particles
{
namespace filter
{
 struct FunctorParticlesForwardPinhole
 {
 static constexpr char const * name = "forwardPinhole";

 template< typename T_Particle >
 HDINLINE bool operator()(
 T_Particle const & particle
)
 {
 bool result = false;
 float3_X const mom = particle[momentum_];
 float_X const absMom = math::abs(mom);

 if(absMom > float_X(0.))
 {
 /* place detector in y direction, "infinite distance" to target,
 * and five degree opening angle
 */
 constexpr float_X openingAngle = 5.0 * PI / 180.;
 float_X const dotP = mom.y() / absMom;
 float_X const degForw = math::acos(dotP);
 }
 }
 };
}
```

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```

 if(math::abs(degForw) <= openingAngle * float_X(0.5))
 result = true;
 }
 return result;
 }
};
using ParticlesForwardPinhole = generic::Free<
 FunctorParticlesForwardPinhole
>;

```

and add `ParticlesForwardPinhole` to the `AllParticleFilters` list:

```

using AllParticleFilters = MakeSeq_t<
 All,
 ParticlesForwardPinhole
>;

} // namespace filter
} // namespace particles
} // namespace picongpu

```

## Limiting Filters to Eligible Species

Besides *the list of pre-defined filters* with parametrization, users can also define generic, “free” implementations as shown above. All filters are added to `AllParticleFilters` and then *combined with all available species* from `VectorAllSpecies` (see *speciesDefinition.param*).

In the case of user-defined free filters we can now check if each species in `VectorAllSpecies` fulfills the requirements of the filter. That means: if one accesses specific *attributes* or *flags* of a species in a filter, they must exist or will lead to a compile error.

As an example, *probe particles* usually do not need a momentum attribute which would be used for an energy filter. So they should be ignored from compilation when combining filters with particle species.

In order to exclude all species that have no momentum attribute from the `ParticlesForwardPinhole` filter, specialize the C++ trait `SpeciesEligibleForSolver`. This trait is implemented to be checked during compile time when combining filters with species:

```

// ...

} // namespace filter

namespace traits
{
 template<
 typename T_Species
 >
 struct SpeciesEligibleForSolver<
 T_Species,
 filter::ParticlesForwardPinhole
 >
 {
 using type = typename pmacc::traits::HasIdentifiers<
 typename T_Species::FrameType,
 MakeSeq_t< momentum >
 >::type;
 };
} // namespace traits
} // namespace particles
} // namespace picongpu

```

### 3.1 The Particle-in-Cell Algorithm

*Section author: Axel Huebl*

For now, please refer to the textbooks [\[BirdsallLangdon\]](#), [\[HockneyEastwood\]](#), our *latest paper on PConGPU* and [\[Huebl2014\]](#) (chapters 2.3, 3.1 and 3.4).

#### 3.1.1 System of Equations

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} &= \frac{1}{\varepsilon_0} \sum_s \rho_s \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} &= 0 \\ \nabla \times \mathbf{E} &= -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} \\ \nabla \times \mathbf{B} &= \mu_0 \left( \sum_s \mathbf{J}_s + \varepsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} \right)\end{aligned}$$

for multiple particle species  $s$ .  $\mathbf{E}(t)$  represents the electric,  $\mathbf{B}(t)$  the magnetic,  $\rho_s$  the charge density and  $\mathbf{J}_s(t)$  the current density field.

Except for normalization of constants, PConGPU implements the governing equations in SI units.

#### 3.1.2 Relativistic Plasma Physics

The 3D3V particle-in-cell method is used to describe many-body systems such as a plasmas. It approximates the Vlasov–Maxwell–Equation

$$\partial_t f_s(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}, t) + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} f_s(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}, t) + \frac{q_s}{m_s} [\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{x}, t) + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{x}, t)] \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{v}} f_s(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}, t) = 0 \quad (3.1)$$

with  $f_s$  as the distribution function of a particle species  $s$ ,  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}, t$  as position, velocity and time and  $\frac{q_s}{m_s}$  the charge to mass-ratio of a species. The momentum is related to the velocity by  $\mathbf{p} = \gamma m_s \mathbf{v}$ .

The equations of motion are given by the Lorentz force as

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dt}\mathbf{V}_s(t) &= \frac{q_s}{m_s} [\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{X}_s(t), t) + \mathbf{V}_s(t) \times \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{X}_s(t), t)] \\ \frac{d}{dt}\mathbf{X}_s(t) &= \mathbf{V}_s(t).\end{aligned}$$

**Attention:** TODO: write proper relativistic form

$\mathbf{X}_s = (\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots)_s$  and  $\mathbf{V}_s = (\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots)_s$  are vectors of *marker* positions and velocities, respectively, which describe the ensemble of particles belonging to species  $s$ .

---

**Note:** Particles in a particle species can have different charge states in PICongPU. In the general case,  $\frac{q_s}{m_s}$  is not required to be constant per particle species.

---

### 3.1.3 Electro-Magnetic PIC Method

**Fields** such as  $\mathbf{E}(t)$ ,  $\mathbf{B}(t)$  and  $\mathbf{J}(t)$  are discretized on a regular mesh in Eulerian frame of reference (see [\[EulerLagrangeFrameOfReference\]](#)).

The distribution of **Particles** is described by the distribution function  $f_s(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}, t)$ . This distribution function is sampled by *markers* (commonly referred to as *macro-particles*). The temporal evolution of the distribution function is simulated by advancing the markers over time according to the Vlasov–Maxwell–Equation in Lagrangian frame (see eq. (3.1) and [\[EulerLagrangeFrameOfReference\]](#)).

Markers carry a spatial shape of order  $n$  and a delta-distribution in momentum space. In most cases, these shapes are implemented as B-splines and are pre-integrated to *assignment functions*  $S$  of the form:

$$\begin{aligned}S^0(x) &= \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases} \\ S^n(x) &= (S^{n-1} * S^0)(x) = \int_{x-1}^x S^{n-1}(\xi) d\xi\end{aligned}$$

PICongPU implements these up to order  $n = 4$ . The three dimensional marker shape is a multiplicative union of B-splines  $S^n(x, y, z) = S^n(x)S^n(y)S^n(z)$ .

### 3.1.4 References

## 3.2 Landau-Lifschitz Radiation Reaction

*Module author: Richard Pausch, Marija Vranic*

To do

### 3.2.1 References

## 3.3 Field Ionization

*Section author: Marco Garten*

*Module author: Marco Garten*

Get started here <https://github.com/ComputationalRadiationPhysics/picongpu/wiki/Ionization-in-PICongPU>

PICongGPU features an adaptable ionization framework for arbitrary and combinable ionization models.



**Note:** Most of the calculations and formulae in this section of the docs are done in the **Atomic Units (AU)** system.

$$\hbar = e = m_e = 1$$

Table 1: **Atomic Unit System**

| AU               | SI                                                                              |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| length           | $5.292 \cdot 10^{-11} \text{ m}$                                                |
| time             | $2.419 \cdot 10^{-17} \text{ s}$                                                |
| energy           | $4.360 \cdot 10^{-18} \text{ J} \quad (= 27.21 \text{ eV} = 1 \text{ Rydberg})$ |
| electrical field | $5.142 \cdot 10^{11} \frac{\text{V}}{\text{m}}$                                 |

### 3.3.1 Overview: Implemented Models

| ionization regime   | implemented model                                                                                                       | reference                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Multiphoton         | None, yet                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Tunneling           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keldysh</li> <li>• ADKLinPol</li> <li>• ADKCircPol</li> </ul>                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">[BauerMulser1999]</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">[DeloneKrainov]</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">[DeloneKrainov]</a></li> </ul>                                                            |
| Barrier Suppression | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BSI</li> <li>• BSIEffectiveZ</li> <li>• BSIS StarkShifted (R&amp;D)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">[MulserBauer2010]</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">[ClementiRaimondi1963]</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">[ClementiRaimondi1967]</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">[BauerMulser1999]</a></li> </ul> |

**Attention:** Models marked with “(R&D)” are under *research and development* and should be used with care.

### 3.3.2 Usage

Input for ionization models is defined in *speciesDefinition.param*, *ionizer.param* and *ionizationEnergies.param*.

### 3.3.3 Barrier Suppression Ionization

The so-called barrier-suppression ionization regime is reached for strong fields where the potential barrier binding an electron is completely suppressed.

### 3.3.4 Tunneling Ionization

Tunneling ionization describes the process during which an initially bound electron quantum-mechanically tunnels through a potential barrier of finite height.

## Keldysh

$$\Gamma_K = \frac{(6\pi)^{1/2}}{2^{5/4}} E_{ip} \left( \frac{F}{(2E_{ip})^{3/2}} \right)^{1/2} \exp \left( -\frac{2(2E_{ip})^{3/2}}{3F} \right)$$

The Keldysh ionization rate has been implemented according to the equation (9) in [BauerMulser1999]. See also [Keldysh] for the original work.

**Note:** Assumptions:

- low field - perturbation theory
- $\omega_{\text{laser}} \ll E_{ip}$
- $F \ll F_{BSI}$
- tunneling is instantaneous

## Ammosov-Delone-Krainov (ADK)

$$\Gamma_{ADK} = \underbrace{\sqrt{\frac{3n^*3F}{\pi Z^3}}}_{\text{lin. pol.}} \frac{FD^2}{8\pi Z} \exp \left( -\frac{2Z}{3n^*3F} \right) \quad (3.2)$$

$$D \equiv \left( \frac{4eZ^3}{Fn^{*4}} \right)^{n^*} \quad n^* \equiv \frac{Z}{\sqrt{2E_{ip}}} \quad (3.3)$$

We implemented equation (7) from [DeloneKrainov] which is a *simplified result assuming s-states* (since we have no atomic structure implemented, yet). Leaving out the pre-factor distinguishes ADKircPol from ADKlinPol. ADKlinPol results from replacing an instantaneous field strength  $F$  by  $F \cos(\omega t)$  and averaging over one laser period.

**Attention:** Be aware that  $Z$  denotes the **residual ion charge** and not the proton number of the nucleus!

In the following comparison one can see the ADKlinPol ionization rates for the transition from Carbon II to III (meaning 1+ to 2+). For a reference the rates for Hydrogen as well as the barrier suppression field strengths  $F_{BSI}$  have been plotted. They mark the transition from the tunneling to the barrier suppression regime.

When we account for orbital structure in shielding of the ion charge  $Z$  according to [ClementiRaimondi1963] in BSIEffectiveZ the barrier suppression field strengths of Hydrogen and Carbon-II are very close to one another. One would expect much earlier ionization of Hydrogen due to lower ionization energy. The following image shows how this can be explained by the shape of the ion potential that is assumed in this model.

## 3.3.5 References

## 3.4 Collisional Ionization

### 3.4.1 LTE Models

Module author: Marco Garten

Implemented LTE Model: Thomas-Fermi Ionization according to [More1985]

Get started here <https://github.com/ComputationalRadiationPhysics/picongpu/wiki/Ionization-in-PICongPU>

The implementation of the Thomas-Fermi model takes the following input quantities.

- ion proton number  $Z$
- ion species mass density  $\rho$
- electron “temperature”  $T$

Due to the nature of our simulated setups it is also used in non-equilibrium situations. We therefore implemented additional conditions to mediate unphysical behavior but introduce arbitrariness.

Here is an example of hydrogen (in blue) and carbon (in orange) that we would use in a compound plastic target, for instance. The typical plastic density region is marked in green. Two of the artifacts can be seen in this plot:

1. Carbon is predicted to have an initial charge state  $\langle Z \rangle > 0$  even at  $T = 0$  eV.
2. Carbon is predicted to have a charge state of  $\langle Z \rangle \approx 2$  at solid plastic density and electron temperature of  $T = 10$  eV which increases even as the density decreases. The average electron kinetic energy at such a temperature is 6.67 eV which is less than the 24.4 eV of binding energy for that state. The increase in charge state with decreasing density would lead to very high charge states in the pre-plasmas that we model.

#### 1. Super-thermal electron cutoff

We calculate the temperature according to  $T_e = \frac{2}{3} E_{\text{kin,e}}$  in units of electron volts. We thereby assume an *ideal electron gas*. Via the variable `CUTOFF_MAX_ENERGY_KEV` in `ionizer.param` the user can exclude electrons with kinetic energy above this value from average energy calculation. That is motivated by a lower interaction cross section of particles with high relative velocities.

#### 2. Lower ion-density cutoff

The Thomas-Fermi model displays unphysical behaviour for low ion densities in that it predicts an increasing charge state for decreasing ion densities. This occurs already for electron temperatures of 10 eV and the effect increases as the temperature increases. For instance in pre-plasmas of solid density targets the charge state would be overestimated where

- on average electron energies are not large enough for collisional ionization of a respective charge state
- ion density is not large enough for potential depression
- electron-ion interaction cross sections are small due to small ion density

It is strongly suggested to do approximations for **every** setup or material first. To that end, a parameter scan with `[FLYCHK]` can help in choosing a reasonable value.

#### 3. Lower electron-temperature cutoff

Depending on the material the Thomas-Fermi prediction for the average charge state can be unphysically high. For some materials it predicts non-zero charge states at 0 temperature. That can be a reasonable approximation for metals and their electrons in the conduction band. Yet this cannot be generalized for all materials and therefore a cutoff should be explicitly defined.

- define via `CUTOFF_LOW_TEMPERATURE_EV` in `ionizer.param`

### 3.4.2 NLTE Models

*Module author: Axel Huebl*

in development

## 3.5 Photons

*Section author: Axel Huebl*

*Module author: Heiko Burau*

Radiation reaction and (hard) photons: why and when are they needed. Models we implemented and verified:

- *Landau-Lifschitz Model (semi-classical)*
- QED Models (Synchrotron & Bremsstrahlung)

Would be great to add your Diploma Thesis talk with pictures and comments here.

Please add notes and warnings on the models' assumptions for an easy guiding on their usage :)

---

**Note:** Assumptions in Furry-picture and Volkov-States: classical em wave part and QED “perturbation”. EM fields on grid (Synchrotron) and density modulations (Bremsstrahlung) need to be locally constant compared to radiated coherence interval (“constant-crossed-field approximation”).

---

**Attention:** Bremsstrahlung: The individual electron direction and gamma emission are not correlated. (momentum is microscopically / per e- not conserved, only collectively.)

**Attention:** “Soft” photons from low energy electrons will get underestimated in intensity below a threshold of ... . Their energy is still always conserved until cutoff (defined in ...).

---

**Note:** An electron can only emit a photon with identical weighting. Otherwise, the statistical variation of their energy loss would be weighting dependent (note that the average energy loss is unaffected by that).

---

### 3.5.1 References

### 4.1 Python

*Section author: Axel Huebl*

If you are new to python, get your hands on the tutorials of the following important libraries to get started.

- <https://www.python.org/about/gettingstarted/>
- <https://docs.python.org/3/tutorial/index.html>

#### 4.1.1 Numpy

Numpy is the universal swiss army knife for working on ND arrays in python.

<https://docs.scipy.org/doc/numpy-dev/user/quickstart.html>

#### 4.1.2 Matplotlib

One common way to visualize plots:

- [http://matplotlib.org/faq/usage\\_faq.html#usage](http://matplotlib.org/faq/usage_faq.html#usage)
- <https://gist.github.com/ax3l/fc123cb94f59d440f952>

#### 4.1.3 Jupyter

Access, share, modify, run and interact with your python scripts from your browser:

<https://jupyter.readthedocs.io>

#### 4.1.4 openPMD-viewer

An exploratory framework that visualizes and analyzes data in our HDF5 files thanks to their *openPMD markup*. Automatically converts units to SI, interprets iteration steps as time series, annotates axes and provides some domain specific analysis, e.g. for LWFA. Also provides an interactive GUI for fast exploration via Jupyter notebooks.

- [Project Homepage](#)
- [Tutorial](#)

### 4.1.5 openPMD-api

A data library that reads (and writes) data in our openPMD files (HDF5 and ADIOS) to and from Numpy data structures. Provides an API to correctly convert units to SI, interprets iteration steps correctly, etc.

- [Manual](#)
- [Examples](#)

### 4.1.6 yt-project

With yt 3.4 or newer, our HDF5 output, which uses the *openPMD markup*, can be read, processed and visualized with yt.

- [Project Homepage](#)
- [Data Loading](#)
- [Data Tutorial](#)

### 4.1.7 pyDive (experimental)

pyDive provides numpy-style array and file processing on distributed memory systems (“numpy on MPI” for data sets that are much larger than your local RAM). pyDive is currently not ready to interpret *openPMD* directly, but can work on generated raw ADIOS and HDF5 files.

<https://github.com/ComputationalRadiationPhysics/pyDive>

## 4.2 openPMD

*Section author: Axel Huebl*

*Module author: Axel Huebl*

Our *HDF5* and *ADIOS* use a specific internal markup to structure physical quantities called **openPMD**. If you hear of it for the first time you can find a quick [online tutorial](#) on it here.

As a user of PICongPU, you will be mainly interested in our *python tools* and readers, that can read openPMD, e.g. into:

- read & write data: [openPMD-api \(manual\)](#)
- visualization and analysis, including an exploratory Jupyter notebook GUI: [openPMD-viewer \(tutorial\)](#)
- [yt-project \(tutorial\)](#)
- [ParaView](#)
- [VisIt](#)
- converter tools: [openPMD-converter](#)
- full list of [projects using openPMD](#)

If you intend to write your own post-processing routines, make sure to check out our [example files](#), the [formal, open standard](#) on openPMD and a [list of projects](#) that already support openPMD.

## 4.3 ParaView

*Section author: Axel Huebl*

*Module author: Axel Huebl*

Please see <https://github.com/ComputationalRadiationPhysics/picongpu/wiki/ParaView> for now.





## 5.1 How to Participate as a Developer

### 5.1.1 Contents

- 1. *Code - Version Control*
    - *Install git*
    - *git*
    - *git for svn users*
  - 1. *GitHub Workflow*
    - *In a Nutshell*
    - *How to Fork From Us*
    - *Keep Track of Updates*
    - *Pull Requests or Being Social*
    - *Maintainer Notes*
  - 1. *Commit Rules*
  - 2. *Test Suite Examples*
- 

### 5.1.2 Code - Version Control

If you are familiar with git, feel free to jump to our *github workflow* section.

#### install git

##### Debian/Ubuntu:

- `sudo apt-get install git`
-

- make sure `git --version` is at least at version [1.7.10](#)

Optional *one* of these. There are nice GUI tools available to get an overview on your repository.

- `gitk` `git-gui` `qgit` `gitg`

**Mac:**

- see [here](#)

**Windows:**

- see [here](#)
- just kidding, it's [this link](#)
- please use ASCII for your files and take care of [line endings](#)

**Configure** your global git settings:

- `git config --global user.name NAME`
- `git config --global user.email EMAIL@EXAMPLE.com`
- `git config --global color.ui "auto"` (if you like colors)
- `git config --global pack.threads "0"` (improved performance for multi cores)

You may even improve your level of awesomeness by:

- `git config --global alias.pr "pull --rebase"` (see how to [avoid merge commits](#))
- `git config --global alias.pm "pull --rebase mainline"` (to sync with the mainline by `git pm dev`)
- `git config --global alias.st "status -sb"` (short status version)
- `git config --global alias.l "log --oneline --graph --decorate --first-parent"` (single branch history)
- `git config --global alias.la "log --oneline --graph --decorate --all"` (full branch history)
- `git config --global rerere.enable 1` (see [git rerere](#))
- More alias tricks:
  - `git config --get-regexp alias` (show all aliases)
  - `git config --global --unset alias.<Name>` (unset alias <Name>)

## git

Git is a *distributed* **version control system**. It helps you to keep your software development work organized, because it keeps track of *changes* in your project. It also helps to come along in **teams**, crunching on the *same project*. Examples:

- Arrr, dare you other guys! Why did you change my precious *main.cpp*, too!?
- Who introduced that awesome block of code? I would like to pay for a beer as a reward.
- Everything is wrong now, why did this happen and when?
- What parts of the code changed since I went on vacation (to a conference, phd seminar, [mate](#) fridge, ...)?

If *version control* is totally **new** to you (that's good, because you are not [spoiled](#)) - please refer to a beginners guide first.

- [git - the simple guide](#)
- 15 minutes guide at [try.github.io](#)

Since *git* is *distributed*, no one really needs a server or services like [github.com](https://github.com) to *use git*. Actually, there are even very good reasons why one should use *git* even for **local** data, e.g. a master thesis (or your collection of ascii art dwarf hamster pictures).

Btw, **fun fact warning**: [Linus Torvalds](#), yes the nice guy with the penguin stuff and all that, developed *git* to maintain the **Linux kernel**. So that's cool, by definition.

A nice overview about the *humongous* number of tutorials can be found at [stackoverflow.com](https://stackoverflow.com) ... but we may like to start with a *git* **cheat sheet** (is there anyone out there who knows more than 1% of all *git* commands available?)

- [git-tower.com](https://git-tower.com) (print the 1st page)
- [github.com](https://github.com) - “*cheat git*” *gem* (a cheat sheet for the console)
- [kernel.org](https://kernel.org) *Everyday GIT with 20 commands or so*
- [an other interactive, huge cheat sheet](#) (nice overview about *stash* - *workspace* - *index* - *local/remote repositories*)

Please spend a minute to learn how to write **useful *git* commit messages** (caption-style, maximum characters per line, use blank lines, present tense). Read our [commit rules](#) and use [keywords](#).

If you like, you can **credit** someone else for your **next commit** with:

- `git commit --author "John Doe <johns-github-mail@example.com>"`

## git for svn users

If you already used version control systems before, you may enjoy the [git for svn users crash course](#).

Anyway, please keep in mind to use *git* *not* like a centralized version control system (e.g. *not* like *svn*). Imagine *git* as your *own private* *svn* server waiting for your commits. For example *Github.com* is only **one out of many sources for updates**. (But of course, we agree to share our *finished*, new features there.)

## 5.1.3 GitHub Workflow

Welcome to *github*! We will try to explain our coordination strategy (I am out of here!) and our development workflow in this section.

### In a Nutshell

Create a *GitHub* account and prepare your *basic git config*.

Prepare your *forked* copy of our repository:

- fork [picongpu](#) on *GitHub*
- `git clone git@github.com:<YourUserName>/picongpu.git` (create local copy)
- `git remote add mainline git@github.com:ComputationalRadiationPhysics/picongpu.git` (add our main repository for updates)
- `git checkout dev` (switch to our, its now *your*, *dev* branch to start from)

Start a *topic/feature branch*:

- `git checkout -b <newFeatureName>` (start a new branch from *dev* and check it out)
- *hack hack*
- `git add <yourChangedFiles>` (add changed and new files to index)
- `git commit` (commit your changes to your *local* repository)
- `git pull --rebase mainline dev` (update with our *remote dev* updates and avoid a [merge commit](#))

Optional, *clean up* your feature branch. That can be *dangerous*:

- `git pull` (if you pushed your branch already to your public repository)
- `git pull --rebase mainline dev` (apply the mainline updates to your feature branch)
- `git log ..mainline/dev`, `git log --oneline --graph --decorate --all` (check for related commits and ugly merge commits)
- `git rebase mainline/dev` (re-apply your changes after a fresh update to the mainline/dev, see [here](#))
- `git rebase -i mainline/dev` ([squash](#) related commits to reduce the complexity of the features history during a [pull request](#))

Publish your feature and start a *pull request*:

- `git push -u origin <newFeatureName>` (push your local branch to your github profile)
- Go to your *GitHub* page and open a *pull request*, e.g. by clicking on *compare & review*
- Select `ComputationalRadiationPhysics:dev` instead of the default `master` branch
- Add additional updates (if requested to do so) by push-ing to your branch again. This will update the *pull request*.

### How to fork from us

To keep our development fast and conflict free, we recommend you to [fork](#) our repository and start your work from our **dev** (development) branch in your private repository. Simply click the *Fork* button above to do so.

Afterwards, `git clone` **your** repository to your [local machine](#). But that is not it! To keep track of the original **dev** repository, add it as another [remote](#).

- `git remote add mainline https://github.com/ComputationalRadiationPhysics/picongpu.git`
- `git checkout dev` (go to branch **dev**)

Well done so far! Just start developing. Just like this? No! As always in git, start a *new branch* with `git checkout -b topic-<yourFeatureName>` and apply your changes there.

### Keep track of updates

We consider it a **best practice** *not to modify* neither your **master** nor your **dev** branch at all. Instead you can use it to `pull --ff-only` new updates from the original repository. Take care to **switch to dev** by `git checkout dev` to start **new feature branches** from **dev**.

So, if you like to do so, you can even [keep track](#) of the *original dev* branch that way. Just start your new branch with `git branch --track <yourFeatureName> mainline/dev` instead. This allows you to immediately pull or fetch from **our dev** and avoids typing (during `git pull --rebase`). Nevertheless, if you like to push to *your forked* (`== origin`) repository, you have to say e.g. `git push origin <branchName>` explicitly.

You should **add updates** from the original repository on a **regular basis** or *at least* when you *finished your feature*.

- commit your local changes in your *feature branch*: `git commit`

Now you *could* do a normal *merge* of the latest `mainline/dev` changes into your feature branch. That is indeed possible, but will create an ugly [merge commit](#). Instead try to first update *the point where you branched from* and apply your changes *again*. That is called a **rebase** and is indeed less harmful as reading the sentence before:

- `git checkout <yourFeatureName>`
- `git pull --rebase mainline dev` (in case of an emergency, hit `git rebase --abort`)

Now solve your conflicts, if there are any, and you got it! Well done!

## Pull requests or *being social*

How to propose that **your awesome feature** (we know it will be awesome!) should be included in the **mainline PICongPU** version?

Due to the so called **pull requests** in *GitHub*, this is quite easy (yeah, sure). We start again with a *forked repository* of our own. You already created a **new feature branch** starting from our **dev** branch and committed your changes. Finally, you publish your local branch via a *push* to your *GitHub* repository: `git push -u origin <yourLocalBranchName>`

Now let's start a *review*. Open the *GitHub* homepage, go to your repository and switch to your *pushed feature branch*. Select the green **compare & review** button. Now compare the changes between **your feature branch** and **our dev**.

Everything looks good? Submit it as a **pull request** (link in the header). Please take the time to write an **extensive description**.

- What did you implement and why?
- Is there an open issue that you try to address (please link it)?
- Do not be afraid to add images!

The description of the pull request is essential and will be referred to in the change log of the next release.

Please consider to change only **one aspect per pull request** (do not be afraid of follow-up pull requests!). For example, submit a pull request with a bug fix, another one with new math implementations and the last one with a new awesome implementation that needs both of them. You will see, that speeds up *review time* a lot!

Speaking of those, a fruitful ( *wuhu, we love you - don't be scared* ) *discussion* about your **submitted change set** will start at this point. If we find some things you could *improve* ( *That looks awesome, all right!* ), simply change your *local feature branch* and *push the changes back* to your *GitHub* repository, to **update the pull request**. (You can now rebase follow-up branches, too.)

One of our **maintainers** will pick up the pull request to coordinate the review. Other regular developers that are competent in the topic might assist.

Sharing is caring! Thank you for participating, **you are great!**

## **maintainer notes**

- do not *push* to the main repository on a regular basis, use **pull request** for your features like everyone else
- **never** do a *rebase* on the mainline repositories (this causes heavy problems for everyone who pulls them)
- on the other hand try to use `pull --rebase` to **avoid merge commits** (in your *local/topic branches* **only**)
- do not vote on your *own pull requests*, wait for the other maintainers
- we try to follow the strategy of [a-successful-git-branching-model](#)

Last but not least, [help.github.com](https://help.github.com) has a very nice FAQ section.

More [best practices](#).

---

## 5.1.4 Commit Rules

See our [commit rules](#) page

---

### 5.1.5 Test Suite Examples

You know a useful setting to validate our provided methods? Tell us about it or add it to our test sets in the `examples/` folder!

## 5.2 Repository Structure

*Section author: Axel Huebl*

### 5.2.1 Branches

- `master`: the latest stable release, always tagged with a version
- `dev`: the development branch where all features start from and are merged to
- `release-X.Y.Z`: release candidate for version `X.Y.Z` with an upcoming release, receives updates for bug fixes and documentation such as change logs but usually no new features

### 5.2.2 Directory Structure

- `include/`
  - C++ header *and* source files
  - `set -I` here
  - prefixed with project name
- `lib/`
  - pre-compiled libraries
  - `python/`
    - \* modules, e.g. for RT interfaces, pre\* & post-processing
    - \* `set PYTHONPATH` here
- `etc/`
  - (runtime) configuration files
  - `picongpu/`
    - \* `tbg` templates (as long as PICongGPU specific, later on to `share/tbg/`)
    - \* network configurations (e.g. infiniband)
    - \* `score-p` and `vampir-trace` filters
- `share/`
  - examples, documentation
  - `picongpu/`
    - \* `completions/`: bash completions
    - \* `examples/`: each with same structure as `/`
- `bin/`
  - core tools for the “PICongGPU framework”
  - `set PATH` here
- `docs/`

- currently for the documentation files
- might move, e.g. to `lib/picongpu/docs/` and its build artifacts to `share/{doc,man}/`,

## 5.3 Coding Guide Lines

*Section author: Axel Huebl*

### See also:

Our coding guide lines are documented in [this repository](#).

### 5.3.1 Source Style

For contributions, *an ideal patch blends in the existing coding style around it* without being noticed as an addition when applied. Nevertheless, please make sure *new files* follow the styles linked above as strict as possible from the beginning.

Unfortunately, we currently do not have tools available to auto-format all aspects of our style guidelines. Since we want to focus on the content of your contribution, we try to cover as much as possible by automated tests which you always have to pass. Nevertheless, we will not enforce the still uncovered, *non-semantic aspects* of style in a *pedantic* way until we find a way to automate it fully.

(That also means that we do not encourage manual style-only changes of our existing code base, since both you and us have better things to do than adding newlines and spaces manually. Doxygen and documentation additions are always welcome!)

### 5.3.2 License Header

Please **add the according license header** snippet to your *new files*:

- for PICongGPU (GPLv3+): `src/tools/bin/addLicense <FileName>`
- for libraries (LGPLv3+ & GPLv3+): `export PROJECT_NAME=PMacc && src/tools/bin/addLicense <FileName>`
- delete other headers: `src/tools/bin/deleteHeadComment <FileName>`
- add license to all `.hpp` files within a directory (recursive): `export PROJECT_NAME=PICongGPU && src/tools/bin/findAndDo <PATH> "*.hpp" src/tools/bin/addLicense`
- the default project name is `PICongGPU` (case sensitive!) and add the GPLv3+ only

Files in the directory `thirdParty/` are only imported from remote repositories. If you want to improve them, submit your pull requests there and open an issue for our **maintainers** to update to a new version of the according software.

## 5.4 Sphinx

*Section author: Axel Huebl*

In the following section we explain how to contribute to this documentation.

If you are reading the HTML version on <http://picongpu.readthedocs.io> and want to improve or correct existing pages, check the “Edit on GitHub” link on the right upper corner of each document.

Alternatively, go to `docs/source` in our source code and follow the directory structure of [reStructuredText](#) (`.rst`) files there. For intrusive changes, like structural changes to chapters, please open an issue to discuss them beforehand.

### 5.4.1 Build Locally

This document is build based on free open-source software, namely [Sphinx](#), [Doxygen](#) (C++ APIs as XML) and [Breathe](#) (to include doxygen XML in Sphinx). A web-version is hosted on [ReadTheDocs](#).

The following requirements need to be installed (once) to build our documentation successfully:

```
cd docs/

doxygen is not shipped via pip, install it externally,
from the homepage, your package manager, conda, etc.
example:
sudo apt-get install doxygen

python tools & style theme
pip install -r requirements.txt # --user
```

With all documentation-related software successfully installed, just run the following commands to build your docs locally. Please check your documentation build is successful and renders as you expected before opening a pull request!

```
skip this if you are still in docs/
cd docs/

parse the C++ API documentation,
enjoy the doxygen warnings!
doxygen
render the `.rst` files and replace their macros within
enjoy the breathe errors on things it does not understand from doxygen :)
make html

open it, e.g. with firefox :)
firefox build/html/index.html

now again for the pdf :)
make latexpdf

open it, e.g. with okular
build/latex/PIConGPU.pdf
```

### 5.4.2 Useful Links

- [A primer on writing restFUL files for sphinx](#)
- [Why You Shouldn't Use "Markdown" for Documentation](#)
- [Markdown Limitations in Sphinx](#)

## 5.5 Doxygen

*Section author: Axel Huebl*

An online version of our Doxygen build can be found at

<http://computationalradiationphysics.github.io/picongpu>

We regularly update it via

```
git checkout gh-pages
```

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```
optional argument: branch or tag name
./update.sh

git commit -a
git push
```

This section explains what is done when this script is run to build it manually.

## 5.5.1 Requirements

First, install Doxygen and its dependencies for graph generation.

```
install requirements (Debian/Ubuntu)
sudo apt-get install doxygen graphviz

enable HTML output in our Doxyfile
sed -i 's/GENERATE_HTML.*=.*/NO/GENERATE_HTML = YES/' docs/Doxyfile
```

## 5.5.2 Build

Now run the following commands to build the Doxygen HTML documentation locally.

```
cd docs/

build the doxygen HTML documentation
doxygen

open the generated HTML pages, e.g. with firefox
firefox html/index.html
```

## 5.6 Clang Tools

*Section author: Axel Huebl*

We are currently integrating support for Clang Tools [\[ClangTools\]](#) such as `clang-tidy` and `clang-format`. Clang Tools are fantastic for static source code analysis, e.g. to find defects, automate style formatting or modernize code.

### 5.6.1 Install

At least LLVM/Clang 3.9 or newer is required. On Debian/Ubuntu, install them via:

```
sudo apt-get install clang-tidy-3.9
```

### 5.6.2 Usage

Currently, those tools work only with CPU backends of PICongPU. For example, enable the *OpenMP* backend via:

```
in an example
mkdir .build
cd build
```

(continues on next page)

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```
pic-configure -c"-DALPAKA_ACC_CPU_B_OMP2_T_SEQ_ENABLE=ON" ..
```

We try to auto-detect clang-tidy. If that fails, you can set a manual hint to an adequate version via -DCLANG\_TIDY\_BIN in CMake:

```
pic-configure -c"-DALPAKA_ACC_CPU_B_OMP2_T_SEQ_ENABLE=ON -DCLANG_TIDY_BIN=$(which_
↪clang-tidy-3.9)" ..
```

If a proper version of clang-tidy is found, we add a new clang-tidy build target:

```
enable verbose output to see all warnings and errors
make VERBOSE=true clang-tidy
```

## 5.7 Important PIconGPU Classes

This is very, very small selection of classes of interest to get you started.

### 5.7.1 MySimulation

**class** *picongpu::MySimulation* : **public** *pmacc::SimulationHelper<simDim>*  
Global simulation controller class.

Initialises simulation data and defines the simulation steps for each iteration.

#### Template Parameters

- DIM: the dimension (2-3) for the simulation

#### Public Functions

*picongpu::MySimulation***MySimulation** ()  
Constructor.

**virtual** void *picongpu::MySimulation***pluginRegisterHelp** (po::options\_description &desc)  
Register command line parameters for this plugin.  
Parameters are parsed and set prior to plugin load.

#### Parameters

- desc: boost::program\_options description

std::string *picongpu::MySimulation***pluginGetName** () **const**  
Return the name of this plugin for status messages.

**Return** plugin name

**virtual** void *picongpu::MySimulation***pluginLoad** ()

**virtual** void *picongpu::MySimulation***pluginUnload** ()

void *picongpu::MySimulation***notify** (uint32\_t currentStep)  
Notification callback.

For example Plugins can set their requested notification frequency at the PluginConnector

### Parameters

- `currentStep`: current simulation iteration step

**virtual** void *picongpu::MySimulation***init** ()

Initialize simulation.

Does hardware selections/reservations, memory allocations and initializes data structures as empty.

**virtual** uint32\_t *picongpu::MySimulation***fillSimulation** ()

Fills simulation with initial data after *init()*

**Return** returns the first step of the simulation (can be >0 for, e.g., restarts from checkpoints)

**virtual** void *picongpu::MySimulation***runOneStep** (uint32\_t *currentStep*)

Run one simulation step.

### Parameters

- `currentStep`: iteration number of the current step

**virtual** void *picongpu::MySimulation***movingWindowCheck** (uint32\_t *currentStep*)

Check if moving window work must do.

If no moving window is needed the implementation of this function can be empty

### Parameters

- `currentStep`: simulation step

**virtual** void *picongpu::MySimulation***resetAll** (uint32\_t *currentStep*)

Reset the simulation to a state such as it was after *init()* but for a specific time step.

Can be used to call *fillSimulation()* again.

void *picongpu::MySimulation***slide** (uint32\_t *currentStep*)

**virtual** void *picongpu::MySimulation***setInitController** (IInitPlugin \**initController*)

MappingDesc \**picongpu::MySimulation***getMappingDescription** ()

## 5.7.2 FieldE

**class** *picongpuFieldE* : **public** *pmacc::SimulationFieldHelper*<MappingDesc>, **public** *pmacc::ISimulationData*

## 5.7.3 FieldB

**class** *picongpuFieldB* : **public** *pmacc::SimulationFieldHelper*<MappingDesc>, **public** *pmacc::ISimulationData*

## 5.7.4 FieldJ

**class** *picongpuFieldJ* : **public** *pmacc::SimulationFieldHelper*<MappingDesc>, **public** *pmacc::ISimulationData*

## 5.7.5 FieldTmp

**class** *picongpuFieldTmp* : **public** *pmacc::SimulationFieldHelper*<MappingDesc>, **public** *pmacc::ISimulationData*

Tmp (at the moment: scalar) field for plugins and tmp data like “gridded” particle data (charge density, energy density, ...)

## 5.7.6 Particles

```
template <typename T_Name, typename T_Flags, typename T_Attributes>
class picongpuParticles : public pmacc::ParticlesBase<ParticleDescription<T_Name, SuperCellSize, T_Attributes, T_Flags>
 particle species
```

### Template Parameters

- T\_Name: name of the species [type boost::mpl::string]
- T\_Attributes: sequence with attributes [type boost::mpl forward sequence]
- T\_Flags: sequence with flags e.g. solver [type boost::mpl forward sequence]

### Public Types

```
typedef pmacc::ParticleDescription<T_Name, SuperCellSize, T_Attributes, T_Flags, typename bmpl::if_<bmpl::contains<T_Attributes, SpeciesParticleDescription>::value_type>::value_type> ParticleDescription
typedef ParticlesBase<SpeciesParticleDescription, picongpu::MappingDesc, DeviceHeap> picongpu::Particles
typedef ParticlesBaseType::FrameType picongpu::ParticlesFrameType
typedef ParticlesBaseType::FrameTypeBorder picongpu::ParticlesFrameTypeBorder
typedef ParticlesBaseType::ParticlesBoxType picongpu::ParticlesParticlesBoxType
```

### Public Functions

```
picongpu::ParticlesParticles (const std::shared_ptr<DeviceHeap> &heap, picongpu::MappingDesc cellDescription, SimulationDataId datasetID)

void picongpu::ParticlescreateParticleBuffer ()

void picongpu::Particlesupdate (uint32_t const currentStep)

template <typename T_DensityFunctor, typename T_PositionFunctor>
void picongpu::ParticlesinitDensityProfile (T_DensityFunctor &densityFunctor, T_PositionFunctor &positionFunctor, const uint32_t currentStep)

template <typename T_SrcName, typename T_SrcAttributes, typename T_SrcFlags, typename T_ManipulateFunctor>
void picongpu::ParticlesdeviceDeriveFrom (Particles<T_SrcName, T_SrcAttributes, T_SrcFlags> &src, T_ManipulateFunctor &manipulateFunctor, T_SrcFilterFunctor &srcFilterFunctor)

template <typename T_Functor>
void picongpu::ParticlesmanipulateAllParticles (uint32_t currentStep, T_Functor &functor)

SimulationDataId picongpu::ParticlesgetUniqueId ()
 Return the globally unique identifier for this simulation data.

 Return globally unique identifier

void picongpu::Particlssynchronize ()
 Synchronizes simulation data, meaning accessing (host side) data will return up-to-date values.

void picongpu::ParticlssyncToDevice ()
 Synchronize data from host to device.
```

## Public Static Functions

```
static pmacc::traits::StringProperty picongpu::ParticlesGetStringProperties ()
```

## 5.7.7 ComputeGridValuePerFrame

```
template <class T_ParticleShape, class T_DerivedAttribute>
class picongpu::particles::particleToGridComputeGridValuePerFrame
```

### Public Types

```
template<>
using picongpu::particles::particleToGrid::ComputeGridValuePerFrame<T_ParticleShape, T_DerivedAttribute>AssignmentFunction;
typedef pmacc::math::CT::make_Int<simDim, lowerMargin>::type picongpu::particles::particleToGrid::ComputeGridValuePerFrame::lowerMargin;
typedef pmacc::math::CT::make_Int<simDim, upperMargin>::type picongpu::particles::particleToGrid::ComputeGridValuePerFrame::upperMargin;
```

### Public Functions

```
HINLINE picongpu::particles::particleToGrid::ComputeGridValuePerFrameComputeGridValuePerFrame ()
HINLINE float1_64 picongpu::particles::particleToGrid::ComputeGridValuePerFrame::getUnit ()
 return unit for this solver

 Return solver unit

HINLINE std::vector< float_64 > picongpu::particles::particleToGrid::ComputeGridValuePerFrame::getPowers ()
 return powers of the 7 base measures for this solver

 characterizing the unit of the result of the solver in SI (length L, mass M, time T, electric current I,
 thermodynamic temperature theta, amount of substance N, luminous intensity J)

template <typename FrameType, typename TVecSuperCell, typename BoxTmp, typename T_Acc>
DINLINE void picongpu::particles::particleToGrid::ComputeGridValuePerFrame::operator= (const FrameType &frame)
```

### Public Static Functions

```
HINLINE std::string picongpu::particles::particleToGrid::ComputeGridValuePerFrame::getName ()
 return name of the this solver

 Return name of solver
```

### Public Static Attributes

```
constexpr int picongpu::particles::particleToGrid::ComputeGridValuePerFrame::supp = AssignmentFunction::support
constexpr int picongpu::particles::particleToGrid::ComputeGridValuePerFrame::lowerMargin = supp / 2
constexpr int picongpu::particles::particleToGrid::ComputeGridValuePerFrame::upperMargin = (supp + 1) / 2
```

## 5.8 Important pmacc Classes

This is very, very small selection of classes of interest to get you started.

---

**Note:** Please help adding more Doxygen doc strings to the classes described below. As an example, here is a listing of possible extensive docs that new developers find are missing: <https://github.com/ComputationalRadiationPhysics/picongpu/issues/776>

---

### 5.8.1 Environment

```
template <uint32_t T_dim>
class pmaccEnvironment : public pmacc::detail::Environment
 Global Environment singleton for PMacc.
```

#### Public Functions

```
pmacc::GridController<T_dim> &pmacc::EnvironmentGridController()
 get the singleton GridController
```

**Return** instance of GridController

```
pmacc::SubGrid<T_dim> &pmacc::EnvironmentSubGrid()
 get the singleton SubGrid
```

**Return** instance of SubGrid

```
pmacc::Filesystem<T_dim> &pmacc::EnvironmentFilesystem()
 get the singleton Filesystem
```

**Return** instance of Filesystem

```
void pmacc::EnvironmentInitDevices(DataSpace<T_dim> devices, DataSpace<T_dim> periodic)
 create and initialize the environment of PMacc
```

Usage of MPI or device(accelerator) function calls before this method are not allowed.

#### Parameters

- `devices`: number of devices per simulation dimension
- `periodic`: periodicity each simulation dimension (0 == not periodic, 1 == periodic)

```
void pmacc::EnvironmentInitGrids(DataSpace<T_dim> globalDomainSize, DataSpace<T_dim> localDomainSize, DataSpace<T_dim> localDomainOffset)
 initialize the computing domain information of PMacc
```

#### Parameters

- `globalDomainSize`: size of the global simulation domain [cells]
- `localDomainSize`: size of the local simulation domain [cells]
- `localDomainOffset`: local domain offset [cells]

```
pmacc::Environment Environment (const Environment&)
Environment &pmacc::Environmentoperator= (const Environment&)
```

## Public Static Functions

```
static Environment<T_dim> &pmacc::Environmentget ()
 get the singleton Environment< DIM >

Return instance of Environment<DIM >
```

## 5.8.2 DataConnector

**class pmaccDataConnector**

Singleton class which collects and shares simulation data.

All members are kept as shared pointers, which allows their factories to be destroyed after sharing ownership with our *DataConnector*.

## Public Functions

```
bool pmacc::DataConnectorhasId (SimulationDataId id)
 Returns if data with identifier id is shared.
```

**Return** if dataset with id is registered

### Parameters

- id: id of the Dataset to query

```
void pmacc::DataConnectorinitialise (AbstractInitialiser &initialiser, uint32_t currentStep)
 Initialises all Datasets using initialiser.
```

After initialising, the Datasets will be invalid.

### Parameters

- initialiser: class used for initialising Datasets
- currentStep: current simulation step

```
void pmacc::DataConnectorshare (const std::shared_ptr<ISimulationData> &data)
 Registers a new Dataset with data and identifier id.
```

If a Dataset with identifier id already exists, a runtime\_error is thrown. (Check with *DataConnector::hasId* when necessary.)

### Parameters

- data: simulation data to share ownership

```
void pmacc::DataConnectorunshare (SimulationDataId id)
 End sharing a dataset with identifier id.
```

### Parameters

- id: id of the dataset to remove

void *pmacc::DataConnector***clean** ()

Unshare all associated datasets.

**template** <class TYPE>

std::shared\_ptr<TYPE> *pmacc::DataConnector***get** (SimulationDataId *id*, bool *noSync* = false)

Returns shared pointer to managed data.

Reference to data in Dataset with identifier *id* and type TYPE is returned. If the Dataset status is invalid, it is automatically synchronized. Increments the reference counter to the dataset specified by *id*. This reference has to be released after all read/write operations before the next `synchronize()/getData()` on this data are done using *releaseData()*.

**Return** returns a reference to the data of type TYPE

#### Template Parameters

- TYPE: if of the data to load

#### Parameters

- *id*: id of the Dataset to load from
- *noSync*: indicates that no synchronization should be performed, regardless of dataset status

void *pmacc::DataConnector***releaseData** (SimulationDataId)

Indicate a data set gotten temporarily via.

**See** `getData` is not used anymore

#### Parameters

- *id*: id for the dataset previously acquired using `getData()`

#### Friends

**friend** *pmacc::DataConnector::detail::Environment*

### 5.8.3 DataSpace

**template** <unsigned DIM>

**class** *pmaccDataSpace* : **public** *pmacc::math::Vector*<int, DIM>

A DIM-dimensional data space.

*DataSpace* describes a DIM-dimensional data space with a specific size for each dimension. It only describes the space and does not hold any actual data.

#### Template Parameters

- DIM: dimension (1-3) of the dataspace

#### Public Types

**typedef** *math::Vector*<int, DIM> *pmacc::DataSpace***BaseType**



## Public Functions

**HDINLINE pmacc::DataSpaceDataSpace ()**  
 default constructor.

Sets size of all dimensions to 0.

**HDINLINE pmacc::DataSpaceDataSpace (dim3 value)**  
 constructor.

Sets size of all dimensions from cuda dim3.

**HDINLINE pmacc::DataSpaceDataSpace (uint3 value)**  
 constructor.

Sets size of all dimensions from cuda uint3 (e.g. threadIdx/blockIdx)

**HDINLINE pmacc::DataSpaceDataSpace (const DataSpace<DIM> &value)**

**HDINLINE pmacc::DataSpaceDataSpace (int x)**  
 Constructor for DIM1-dimensional *DataSpace*.

### Parameters

- x: size of first dimension

**HDINLINE pmacc::DataSpaceDataSpace (int x, int y)**  
 Constructor for DIM2-dimensional *DataSpace*.

### Parameters

- x: size of first dimension
- y: size of second dimension

**HDINLINE pmacc::DataSpaceDataSpace (int x, int y, int z)**  
 Constructor for DIM3-dimensional *DataSpace*.

### Parameters

- x: size of first dimension
- y: size of second dimension
- z: size of third dimension

**HDINLINE pmacc::DataSpaceDataSpace (const BaseType &vec)**

**HDINLINE pmacc::DataSpaceDataSpace (const math::Size\_t<DIM> &vec)**

**HDINLINE int pmacc::DataSpace::getDim() const**  
 Returns number of dimensions (DIM) of this *DataSpace*.

**Return** number of dimensions

**HINLINE bool pmacc::DataSpace::isOneDimensionGreaterThan(const DataSpace < DIM > &other)**  
 Evaluates if one dimension is greater than the respective dimension of other.

**Return** true if one dimension is greater, false otherwise

### Parameters

- other: *DataSpace* to compare with

```
HDINLINE pmacc::DataSpace operator math::Size_t<DIM> () const
```

```
HDINLINE pmacc::DataSpace operator dim3 () const
```

## Public Static Functions

```
static HDINLINE DataSpace<DIM> pmacc::DataSpace::create(int value = 1)
```

Give *DataSpace* where all dimensions set to init value.

**Return** the new *DataSpace*

### Parameters

- value: value which is set for all dimensions

## Public Static Attributes

```
constexpr int pmacc::DataSpaceDim = DIM
```

## 5.8.4 Vector

**Warning:** doxygen class: Cannot find class “pmacc::Vector” in doxygen xml output for project “PIConGPU” from directory: ../xml

## 5.8.5 SuperCell

```
template <class TYPE>
class pmaccSuperCell
```

## Public Functions

```
HDINLINE pmacc::SuperCell SuperCell ()
```

```
HDINLINE TYPE* pmacc::SuperCell::FirstFramePtr ()
```

```
HDINLINE TYPE* pmacc::SuperCell::LastFramePtr ()
```

```
HDINLINE const TYPE* pmacc::SuperCell::FirstFramePtr () const
```

```
HDINLINE const TYPE* pmacc::SuperCell::LastFramePtr () const
```

```
HDINLINE bool pmacc::SuperCell::mustShift ()
```

```
HDINLINE void pmacc::SuperCell::setMustShift (bool value)
```

```
HDINLINE lcellId_t pmacc::SuperCell::getSizeLastFrame ()
```

```
HDINLINE void pmacc::SuperCell::setSizeLastFrame (lcellId_t size)
```

```
pmacc::SuperCell PMACC_ALIGN (firstFramePtr, TYPE *)
```

```
pmacc::SuperCell PMACC_ALIGN (lastFramePtr, TYPE *)
```

### 5.8.6 GridBuffer

```
template <class TYPE, unsigned DIM, class BORDERTYPE = TYPE>
class pmaccGridBuffer: public pmacc::HostDeviceBuffer<TYPE, DIM>
```

*GridBuffer* represents a DIM-dimensional buffer which exists on the host as well as on the device.

*GridBuffer* combines a *HostBuffer* and a *DeviceBuffer* with equal sizes. Additionally, it allows sending data from and receiving data to these buffers. Buffers consist of core data which may be surrounded by border data.

#### Template Parameters

- TYPE: datatype for internal Host- and DeviceBuffer
- DIM: dimension of the buffers
- BORDERTYPE: optional type for border data in the buffers. TYPE is used by default.

#### Public Types

```
typedef Parent::DataBoxType pmacc::GridBufferDataBoxType
```

#### Public Functions

```
pmacc::GridBufferGridBuffer (const GridLayout<DIM> &gridLayout, bool sizeOnDevice =
 false)
```

Constructor.

#### Parameters

- gridLayout: layout of the buffers, including border-cells
- sizeOnDevice: if true, size information exists on device, too.

```
pmacc::GridBufferGridBuffer (const DataSpace<DIM> &dataSpace, bool sizeOnDevice =
 false)
```

Constructor.

#### Parameters

- dataSpace: *DataSpace* representing buffer size without border-cells
- sizeOnDevice: if true, internal buffers must store their size additionally on the device (as we keep this information coherent with the host, it influences performance on host-device copies, but some algorithms on the device might need to know the size of the buffer)

```
pmacc::GridBufferGridBuffer (DeviceBuffer<TYPE, DIM> &otherDeviceBuffer, const Grid-
 Layout<DIM> &gridLayout, bool sizeOnDevice = false)
```

Constructor.

#### Parameters

- otherDeviceBuffer: DeviceBuffer which should be used instead of creating own DeviceBuffer
- gridLayout: layout of the buffers, including border-cells
- sizeOnDevice: if true, internal buffers must store their size additionally on the device (as we keep this information coherent with the host, it influences performance on host-device copies, but some algorithms on the device might need to know the size of the buffer)

```
pmacc::GridBufferGridBuffer (HostBuffer<TYPE, DIM> &otherHostBuffer, const DataSpace<DIM> &offsetHost, DeviceBuffer<TYPE, DIM> &otherDeviceBuffer, const DataSpace<DIM> &offsetDevice, const GridLayout<DIM> &gridLayout, bool sizeOnDevice = false)
```

```
virtual pmacc::GridBuffer~GridBuffer ()
 Destructor.
```

```
void pmacc::GridBufferaddExchange (uint32_t dataPlace, const Mask &receive, DataSpace<DIM> guardingCells, uint32_t communicationTag,
 bool sizeOnDeviceSend, bool sizeOnDeviceReceive)
```

Add Exchange in *GridBuffer* memory space.

An Exchange is added to this *GridBuffer*. The exchange buffers use the same memory as this *GridBuffer*.

#### Parameters

- *dataPlace*: place where received data is stored [GUARD | BORDER] if *dataPlace*=GUARD than copy other BORDER to my GUARD if *dataPlace*=BORDER than copy other GUARD to my BORDER
- *receive*: a Mask which describes the directions for the exchange
- *guardingCells*: number of guarding cells in each dimension
- *communicationTag*: unique tag/id for communication
- *sizeOnDeviceSend*: if true, internal send buffers must store their size additionally on the device (as we keep this information coherent with the host, it influences performance on host-device copies, but some algorithms on the device might need to know the size of the buffer)
- *sizeOnDeviceReceive*: if true, internal receive buffers must store their size additionally on the device

```
void pmacc::GridBufferaddExchange (uint32_t dataPlace, const Mask &receive, DataSpace<DIM> guardingCells, uint32_t communicationTag,
 bool sizeOnDevice = false)
```

Add Exchange in *GridBuffer* memory space.

An Exchange is added to this *GridBuffer*. The exchange buffers use the same memory as this *GridBuffer*.

#### Parameters

- *dataPlace*: place where received data is stored [GUARD | BORDER] if *dataPlace*=GUARD than copy other BORDER to my GUARD if *dataPlace*=BORDER than copy other GUARD to my BORDER
- *receive*: a Mask which describes the directions for the exchange
- *guardingCells*: number of guarding cells in each dimension
- *communicationTag*: unique tag/id for communication
- *sizeOnDevice*: if true, internal buffers must store their size additionally on the device (as we keep this information coherent with the host, it influences performance on host-device copies, but some algorithms on the device might need to know the size of the buffer)

```
void pmacc::GridBufferaddExchangeBuffer (const Mask &receive, const DataSpace<DIM> &dataSpace, uint32_t communicationTag,
 bool sizeOnDeviceSend, bool sizeOnDeviceReceive)
```

Add Exchange in dedicated memory space.

An Exchange is added to this *GridBuffer*. The exchange buffers use their own memory instead of using the *GridBuffer*'s memory space.

#### Parameters

- `receive`: a Mask which describes the directions for the exchange
- `dataSpace`: size of the newly created exchange buffer in each dimension
- `communicationTag`: unique tag/id for communication
- `sizeOnDeviceSend`: if true, internal send buffers must store their size additionally on the device (as we keep this information coherent with the host, it influences performance on host-device copies, but some algorithms on the device might need to know the size of the buffer)
- `sizeOnDeviceReceive`: if true, internal receive buffers must store their size additionally on the device

```
void pmacc::GridBuffer::addExchangeBuffer(const Mask &receive, const DataSpace<DIM> &dataSpace, uint32_t communicationTag, bool sizeOnDevice = false)
```

Add Exchange in dedicated memory space.

An Exchange is added to this *GridBuffer*. The exchange buffers use their own memory instead of using the *GridBuffer*'s memory space.

#### Parameters

- `receive`: a Mask which describes the directions for the exchange
- `dataSpace`: size of the newly created exchange buffer in each dimension
- `communicationTag`: unique tag/id for communication
- `sizeOnDevice`: if true, internal buffers must store their size additionally on the device (as we keep this information coherent with the host, it influences performance on host-device copies, but some algorithms on the device might need to know the size of the buffer)

```
bool pmacc::GridBuffer::hasSendExchange(uint32_t ex) const
```

Returns whether this *GridBuffer* has an Exchange for sending in `ex` direction.

**Return** true if send exchanges with `ex` direction exist, otherwise false

#### Parameters

- `ex`: exchange direction to query

```
bool pmacc::GridBuffer::hasReceiveExchange(uint32_t ex) const
```

Returns whether this *GridBuffer* has an Exchange for receiving from `ex` direction.

**Return** true if receive exchanges with `ex` direction exist, otherwise false

#### Parameters

- `ex`: exchange direction to query

```
Exchange<BORDERTYPE, DIM> &pmacc::GridBuffer::getSendExchange(uint32_t ex) const
```

Returns the Exchange for sending data in `ex` direction.

Returns an Exchange which for sending data from this *GridBuffer* in the direction described by `ex`.

**Return** the Exchange for sending data

#### Parameters

- `ex`: the direction to query

Exchange<BORDERTYPE, DIM> &pmacc::GridBuffergetReceiveExchange (uint32\_t `ex`)  
**const**

Returns the Exchange for receiving data from `ex` direction.

Returns an Exchange which for receiving data to this *GridBuffer* from the direction described by `ex`.

**Return** the Exchange for receiving data

#### Parameters

- `ex`: the direction to query

Mask pmacc::GridBuffergetSendMask () **const**

Returns the Mask describing send exchanges.

**Return** Mask for send exchanges

Mask pmacc::GridBuffergetReceiveMask () **const**

Returns the Mask describing receive exchanges.

**Return** Mask for receive exchanges

EventTask pmacc::GridBuffercommunication ()

Starts sync data from own device buffer to neighbor device buffer.

Asynchronously starts synchronization data from internal DeviceBuffer using added Exchange buffers.  
 This operation runs sequential to other code but intern asynchronous

EventTask pmacc::GridBufferasyncCommunication (EventTask serialEvent)

Starts sync data from own device buffer to neighbor device buffer.

Asynchronously starts synchronization data from internal DeviceBuffer using added Exchange buffers.

EventTask pmacc::GridBufferasyncSend (EventTask serialEvent, uint32\_t sendEx)

EventTask pmacc::GridBufferasyncReceive (EventTask serialEvent, uint32\_t recvEx)

GridLayout<DIM> pmacc::GridBuffergetGridLayout ()

Returns the GridLayout describing this *GridBuffer*.

**Return** the layout of this buffer

## Protected Attributes

bool pmacc::GridBufferhasOneExchange

uint32\_t pmacc::GridBufferlastUsedCommunicationTag

GridLayout<DIM> pmacc::GridBuffergridLayout

Mask pmacc::GridBuffersendMask

Mask pmacc::GridBufferreceiveMask

template<>

ExchangeIntern<BORDERTYPE, DIM> \*pmacc::GridBuffer<TYPE, DIM, BORDERTYPE>sendExchanges[27]

template<>

ExchangeIntern<BORDERTYPE, DIM> \*pmacc::GridBuffer<TYPE, DIM, BORDERTYPE>receiveExchanges[27]

template<>

EventTask pmacc::GridBuffer<TYPE, DIM, BORDERTYPE>receiveEvents[27]

```
template<>
EventTask pmacc::GridBuffer<TYPE, DIM, BORDERTYPE>sendEvents[27]

uint32_t pmacc::GridBuffermaxExchange
```

### 5.8.7 SimulationFieldHelper

```
template <class CellDescription>
class pmaccSimulationFieldHelper
```

#### Public Types

```
typedef CellDescription pmacc::SimulationFieldHelperMappingDesc
```

#### Public Functions

```
pmacc::SimulationFieldHelperSimulationFieldHelper (CellDescription description)
```

```
virtual pmacc::SimulationFieldHelper~SimulationFieldHelper ()
```

```
virtual void pmacc::SimulationFieldHelperreset (uint32_t currentStep) = 0
 Reset is as well used for init.
```

```
virtual void pmacc::SimulationFieldHelpersyncToDevice () = 0
 Synchronize data from host to device.
```

#### Protected Attributes

```
CellDescription pmacc::SimulationFieldHelpercellDescription
```

### 5.8.8 ParticlesBase

```
template <typename T_ParticleDescription, class T_MappingDesc, typename T_DeviceHeap>
class pmaccParticlesBase: public pmacc::SimulationFieldHelper<T_MappingDesc>
```

#### Public Types

```
enum [anonymous]::ParticlesBase__anonymous27
```

Values:

```
pmacc::ParticlesBaseDim = MappingDesc::Dim
```

```
pmacc::ParticlesBaseExchanges = traits::NumberOfExchanges<Dim>::value
```

```
pmacc::ParticlesBaseTileSize = math::CT::volume<typename MappingDesc::SuperCellSize>::type::value
```

```
typedef ParticlesBuffer<ParticleDescription, typename MappingDesc::SuperCellSize, T_DeviceHeap, MappingDesc::L
```

```
typedef BufferType::FrameType pmacc::ParticlesBaseFrameType
```

```
typedef BufferType::FrameTypeBorder pmacc::ParticlesBaseFrameTypeBorder
```

```
typedef BufferType::ParticlesBoxType pmacc::ParticlesBaseParticlesBoxType
```

```
typedef ParticleDescription::HandleGuardRegion pmacc::ParticlesBaseHandleGuardRegion
```

```
typedef ParticlesTag pmacc::ParticlesBaseSimulationDataTag
```

## Public Functions

```
void pmacc::ParticlesBasefillAllGaps ()

void pmacc::ParticlesBasefillBorderGaps ()

void pmacc::ParticlesBasedeleteGuardParticles (uint32_t exchangeType)

template <uint32_t T_area>
void pmacc::ParticlesBasedeleteParticlesInArea ()

void pmacc::ParticlesBasecopyGuardToExchange (uint32_t exchangeType)
 copy guard particles to intermediate exchange buffer
 Copy all particles from the guard of a direction to the device exchange buffer.

void pmacc::ParticlesBaseinsertParticles (uint32_t exchangeType)

ParticlesBoxType pmacc::ParticlesBasegetDeviceParticlesBox ()

ParticlesBoxType pmacc::ParticlesBasegetHostParticlesBox (const int64_t memoryOffset)

BufferType &pmacc::ParticlesBasegetParticlesBuffer ()

void pmacc::ParticlesBasereset (uint32_t currentStep)
 Reset is as well used for init.
```

## Protected Functions

```
pmacc::ParticlesBaseParticlesBase (const std::shared_ptr<T_DeviceHeap> &deviceHeap,
 MappingDesc description)

virtual pmacc::ParticlesBase~ParticlesBase ()

template <uint32_t AREA>
void pmacc::ParticlesBaseshiftParticles ()

template <uint32_t AREA>
void pmacc::ParticlesBasefillGaps ()
```

## Protected Attributes

```
BufferType *pmacc::ParticlesBaseparticlesBuffer
```

### 5.8.9 ParticleDescription

**Warning:** doxygenclass: Cannot find class “pmacc::ParticleDescription” in doxygen xml output for project “PIConGPU” from directory: ../xml

### 5.8.10 ParticleBox

**Warning:** doxygenclass: Cannot find class “pmacc::ParticleBox” in doxygen xml output for project “PIConGPU” from directory: ../xml



### 5.8.11 Frame

**Warning:** doxygenclass: Cannot find class “pmacc::Frame” in doxygen xml output for project “PConGPU” from directory: ../xml

### 5.8.12 IPlugin

**class** *pmacc***IPlugin**: **public** *pmacc::INotify*  
 Subclassed by *picongpu::ISimulationPlugin*, *picongpu::ISimulationStarter*, *pmacc::SimulationHelper< DIM >*, *pmacc::SimulationHelper< simDim >*

#### Public Functions

*pmacc::IPlugin***IPlugin**()

**virtual** *pmacc::IPlugin*~**IPlugin**()

**virtual** void *pmacc::IPlugin***load**()

**virtual** void *pmacc::IPlugin***unload**()

bool *pmacc::IPlugin***isLoaded**()

**virtual** void *pmacc::IPlugin***checkpoint** (uint32\_t *currentStep*, **const** std::string *checkpointDirectory*) = 0

Notifies plugins that a (restartable) checkpoint should be created for this timestep.

#### Parameters

- *currentStep*: cuurent simulation iteration step
- *checkpointDirectory*: common directory for checkpoints

**virtual** void *pmacc::IPlugin***restart** (uint32\_t *restartStep*, **const** std::string *restartDirectory*) = 0

Restart notification callback.

#### Parameters

- *restartStep*: simulation iteration step to restart from
- *restartDirectory*: common restart directory (contains checkpoints)

**virtual** void *pmacc::IPlugin***pluginRegisterHelp** (po::options\_description &*desc*) = 0

Register command line parameters for this plugin.

Parameters are parsed and set prior to plugin load.

#### Parameters

- *desc*: boost::program\_options description

**virtual** std::string *pmacc::IPlugin***pluginGetName**() **const** = 0

Return the name of this plugin for status messages.

**Return** plugin name

**virtual** void *pmacc::IPlugin***onParticleLeave** (const std::string&, const int32\_t)

Called each timestep if particles are leaving the global simulation volume.

This method is only called for species which are marked with the GuardHandlerCallPlugins policy in their description.

The order in which the plugins are called is undefined, so this means read-only access to the particles.

#### Parameters

- *speciesName*: name of the particle species
- *direction*: the direction the particles are leaving the simulation

uint32\_t *pmacc::IPlugin***getLastCheckpoint** () const

When was the plugin checkpointed last?

**Return** last checkpoint's time step

void *pmacc::IPlugin***setLastCheckpoint** (uint32\_t *currentStep*)

Remember last checkpoint call.

#### Parameters

- *currentStep*: current simulation iteration step

### Protected Functions

**virtual** void *pmacc::IPlugin***pluginLoad** ()

**virtual** void *pmacc::IPlugin***pluginUnload** ()

### Protected Attributes

bool *pmacc::IPlugin***loaded**

uint32\_t *pmacc::IPlugin***lastCheckpoint**

## 5.8.13 PluginConnector

**class** *pmacc***PluginConnector**

Plugin registration and management class.

### Public Functions

void *pmacc::PluginConnector***registerPlugin** (*IPlugin* \**plugin*)

Register a plugin for loading/unloading and notifications.

Plugins are loaded in the order they are registered and unloaded in reverse order. To trigger plugin notifications, call

**See** *setNotificationPeriod* after registration.

#### Parameters

- *plugin*: plugin to register

void *pmacc::PluginConnector***loadPlugins** ()

Calls load on all registered, not loaded plugins.

void *pmacc::PluginConnector***unloadPlugins** ()

Unloads all registered, loaded plugins.

std::list<po::options\_description> *pmacc::PluginConnector***registerHelp** ()

Publishes command line parameters for registered plugins.

**Return** list of boost program\_options command line parameters

void *pmacc::PluginConnector***setNotificationPeriod** (INotify \**notifiedObj*, std::string  
const &*period*)

Set the notification period.

#### Parameters

- *notifiedObj*: the object to notify, e.g. an *IPlugin* instance
- *period*: notification period

void *pmacc::PluginConnector***notifyPlugins** (uint32\_t *currentStep*)

Notifies plugins that data should be dumped.

#### Parameters

- *currentStep*: current simulation iteration step

void *pmacc::PluginConnector***checkpointPlugins** (uint32\_t *currentStep*, const std::string  
*checkpointDirectory*)

Notifies plugins that a restartable checkpoint should be dumped.

#### Parameters

- *currentStep*: current simulation iteration step
- *checkpointDirectory*: common directory for checkpoints

void *pmacc::PluginConnector***restartPlugins** (uint32\_t *restartStep*, const std::string *restart-*  
*Directory*)

Notifies plugins that a restart is required.

#### Parameters

- *restartStep*: simulation iteration to restart from
- *restartDirectory*: common restart directory (contains checkpoints)

template <typename Plugin>

std::vector<Plugin\*> *pmacc::PluginConnector***getPluginsFromType** ()

Get a vector of pointers of all registered plugin instances of a given type.

**Return** vector of plugin pointers

#### Template Parameters

- *Plugin*: type of plugin

std::list<*IPlugin*\*> *pmacc::PluginConnector***getAllPlugins** () const

Return a copied list of pointers to all registered plugins.

#### Friends

friend *pmacc::PluginConnector::detail::Environment*

## 5.8.14 SimulationHelper

```
template <unsigned DIM>
class pmacc::SimulationHelper : public pmacc::IPlugin
```

Abstract base class for simulations.

Use this helper class to write your own concrete simulations by binding pure virtual methods.

### Template Parameters

- DIM: base dimension for the simulation (2-3)

### Public Types

```
template<>
using pmacc::SimulationHelper<DIM>SeqOfTimeSlices = std::vector<pluginSystem::TimeSlice>
```

### Public Functions

```
pmacc::SimulationHelperSimulationHelper ()
```

Constructor.

```
virtual pmacc::SimulationHelper~SimulationHelper ()
```

```
virtual void pmacc::SimulationHelperrunOneStep (uint32_t currentStep) = 0
```

Must describe one iteration (step).

This function is called automatically.

```
virtual void pmacc::SimulationHelperinit () = 0
```

Initialize simulation.

Does hardware selections/reservations, memory allocations and initializes data structures as empty.

```
virtual uint32_t pmacc::SimulationHelperfillSimulation () = 0
```

Fills simulation with initial data after *init()*

**Return** returns the first step of the simulation (can be >0 for, e.g., restarts from checkpoints)

```
virtual void pmacc::SimulationHelperresetAll (uint32_t currentStep) = 0
```

Reset the simulation to a state such as it was after *init()* but for a specific time step.

Can be used to call *fillSimulation()* again.

```
virtual void pmacc::SimulationHelpermovingWindowCheck (uint32_t currentStep) = 0
```

Check if moving window work must do.

If no moving window is needed the implementation of this function can be empty

### Parameters

- currentStep: simulation step

```
virtual void pmacc::SimulationHelperdumpOneStep (uint32_t currentStep)
```

Notifies registered output classes.

This function is called automatically.

### Parameters

- currentStep: simulation step

```
GridController<DIM> &pmacc::SimulationHelpergetGridController ()

void pmacc::SimulationHelperdumpTimes (TimeIntervall &tSimCalculation, TimeIntervall&, double &roundAvg, uint32_t currentStep)

void pmacc::SimulationHelperstartSimulation ()
 Begin the simulation.

virtual void pmacc::SimulationHelperpluginRegisterHelp (po::options_description &desc)
 Register command line parameters for this plugin.
 Parameters are parsed and set prior to plugin load.

Parameters
 • desc: boost::program_options description

std::string pmacc::SimulationHelperpluginGetName () const
 Return the name of this plugin for status messages.

Return plugin name

void pmacc::SimulationHelperpluginLoad ()

void pmacc::SimulationHelperpluginUnload ()

void pmacc::SimulationHelperrestart (uint32_t restartStep, const std::string restartDirectory)
 Restart notification callback.
```

#### Parameters

- restartStep: simulation iteration step to restart from
- restartDirectory: common restart directory (contains checkpoints)

```
void pmacc::SimulationHelpercheckpoint (uint32_t currentStep, const std::string checkpointDirectory)
 Notifies plugins that a (restartable) checkpoint should be created for this timestep.
```

#### Parameters

- currentStep: current simulation iteration step
- checkpointDirectory: common directory for checkpoints

### Protected Functions

```
std::vector<uint32_t> pmacc::SimulationHelperreadCheckpointMasterFile ()
 Reads the checkpoint master file if any and returns all found checkpoint steps.
```

**Return** vector of found checkpoints steps in order they appear in the file

### Protected Attributes

```
uint32_t pmacc::SimulationHelperrunSteps
```

```
uint32_t pmacc::SimulationHelpersoftRestarts
```

Presentations: loop the whole simulation softRestarts times from initial step to runSteps.

```
std::string pmacc::SimulationHelpercheckpointPeriod
```

```
SeqOfTimeSlices pmacc::SimulationHelperseqCheckpointPeriod
std::string pmacc::SimulationHelpercheckpointDirectory
uint32_t pmacc::SimulationHelpernumCheckpoints
int32_t pmacc::SimulationHelperrestartStep
std::string pmacc::SimulationHelperrestartDirectory
bool pmacc::SimulationHelperrestartRequested
const std::string pmacc::SimulationHelperCHECKPOINT_MASTER_FILE
std::string pmacc::SimulationHelperauthor
```

## 5.8.15 ForEach

**template** <typename *T\_MPLSeq*, typename *T\_Functor*, typename *T\_Accessor* = compileTime::accessors::Identity<>>  
**struct** pmacc::algorithms::forEach**ForEach**

Compile-Time for each for Boost::MPL Type Lists.

Example: MPLSeq = boost::mpl::vector<int,float> Functor = any unary lambda functor Accessor = lambda operation identity

### Template Parameters

- *T\_MPLSeq*: A mpl sequence that can be accessed by mpl::begin, mpl::end, mpl::next
- *T\_Functor*: An unary lambda functor with a HDINLINE void operator()(...) method *\_l* is substituted by Accessor's result using boost::mpl::apply with elements from *T\_MPLSeq*. The maximum number of parameters for the operator() is limited by PMACC\_MAX\_FUNCTOR\_OPERATOR\_PARAMS
- *T\_Accessor*: An unary lambda operation

definition: F(X) means boost::apply<F,X>

call: ForEach<MPLSeq, Functor, Accessor>()(42); unrolled code: Functor(Accessor(int))(42); Functor(Accessor(float))(42);

### Public Types

```
typedef bmpl::transform<T_MPLSeq, ReplacePlaceholder<bmpl::_1>>::type pmacc::algorithms::forEach::ForEachSolvedFunctors
typedef boost::mpl::begin<SolvedFunctors>::type pmacc::algorithms::forEach::ForEachbegin
typedef boost::mpl::end<SolvedFunctors>::type pmacc::algorithms::forEach::ForEachend
typedef detail::CallFunctorOfIterator<begin, end> pmacc::algorithms::forEach::ForEachNextCall
typedef detail::CallFunctorOfIterator<end, end> pmacc::algorithms::forEach::ForEachFunctor
```

### Public Functions

```
template <typename... T_Types>
PMACC_NO_NVCC_HDWARNING HDINLINE void pmacc::algorithms::forEach::ForEach::operator
template <typename... T_Types>
PMACC_NO_NVCC_HDWARNING HDINLINE void pmacc::algorithms::forEach::ForEach::operator
```

### 5.8.16 Kernel Start

```
template <typename T_KernelFunctor>
struct pmacc::execKernel
 wrapper for the user kernel functor
 contains debug information like filename and line of the kernel call
```

#### Public Types

```
template<>
using pmacc::exec::Kernel<T_KernelFunctor>KernelType = T_KernelFunctor
```

#### Public Functions

```
HINLINE pmacc::exec::KernelKernel (T_KernelFunctor const &kernelFunctor, std::string
 const &file = std::string(), size_t const line = 0)
```

##### Return

##### Parameters

- gridExtent: grid extent configuration for the kernel
- blockExtent: block extent configuration for the kernel
- sharedMemByte: dynamic shared memory used by the kernel (in byte )

```
template <typename T_VectorGrid, typename T_VectorBlock>
HINLINE auto pmacc::exec::Kernel::operator() (T_VectorGrid const & gridExtent, T_Vect
 configured kernel object
 this objects contains the functor and the starting parameter
```

##### Template Parameters

- T\_VectorGrid: type which defines the grid extents (type must be castable to CUDA dim3)
- T\_VectorBlock: type which defines the block extents (type must be castable to CUDA dim3)

##### Parameters

- gridExtent: grid extent configuration for the kernel
- blockExtent: block extent configuration for the kernel
- sharedMemByte: dynamic shared memory used by the kernel (in byte)

#### Public Members

```
T_KernelFunctor const pmacc::exec::Kernel::m_kernelFunctor
 functor
```

```
std::string const pmacc::exec::Kernel::m_file
 file name from where the kernel is called
```

```
size_t const pmacc::exec::Kernel::m_line
 line number in the file
```

```
PMACC_KERNEL (...)
 create a kernel object out of a functor instance
 this macro add the current filename and line number to the kernel object
```

## Parameters

- ...: instance of kernel functor

## 5.8.17 Struct Factory

Syntax to generate structs with all members inline. Allows to conveniently switch between variable and constant defined members without the need to declare or initialize them externally. See for example PICongPU's [density.param](#) for usage.

**PMACC\_STRUCT** (name, ...)

generate a struct with static and dynamic members

```
PMACC_STRUCT(StructAlice,
 // constant member variable
 (PMACC_C_VALUE(float, varFoo, -1.0))
 // lvalue member variable
 (PMACC_VALUE(float, varFoo, -1.0))
 // constant vector member variable
 (PMACC_C_VECTOR_DIM(double, 3, vectorBarC, 1.134e-5, 1.134e-5, 1.134e-5))
 // lvalue vector member variable
 (PMACC_VECTOR_DIM(double, 3, vectorBarC, 1.134e-5, 1.134e-5, 1.134e-5))
 // constant string member variable
 (PMACC_C_STRING(someString, "anythingYouWant: even spaces!"))
 // plain C++ member
 PMACC_EXTENT(
 using float_64 = double;
 static constexpr int varBar = 42;
);
);
```

**Note** do not forget the surrounding parenthesize for each element of a sequence

## Parameters

- name: name of the struct
- ...: preprocessor sequence with TypeMemberPair's e.g. (*PMACC\_C\_VALUE(int,a,2)*)

**PMACC\_C\_VECTOR\_DIM** (type, dim, name, ...)

create static const member vector that needs no memory inside of the struct

```
PMACC_C_VECTOR_DIM(float_64, simDim, center_SI, 1.134e-5, 1.134e-5, 1.134e-5);
// is syntactically equivalent to
static const Vector<float_64,simDim> center_SI = Vector<float_64,simDim>(1.
→134e-5, 1.134e-5, 1.134e-5);
```

## Parameters

- type: type of an element
- dim: number of vector components
- name: member variable name
- ...: enumeration of init values (number of components must be greater or equal than dim)

**PMACC\_C\_VALUE** (type, name, value)

create static constexpr member

```
PMACC_C_VALUE(float_64, power_SI, 2.0);
// is syntactically equivalent to
static constexpr float_64 power_SI = float_64(2.0);
```



### Parameters

- type: type of the member
- name: member variable name
- value: init value

**PMACC\_VALUE** (type, name, initValue)  
create changeable member

```
PMACC_VALUE(float_64, power_SI, 2.0);
// is the equivalent of
float_64 power_SI(2.0);
```

### Parameters

- type: type of the member
- name: member variable name
- value: init value

**PMACC\_VECTOR** (type, name, ...)  
create changeable member vector

```
PMACC_VECTOR(float2_64, center_SI, 1.134e-5, 1.134e-5);
// is the equivalent of
float2_64 center_SI(1.134e-5, 1.134e-5);
```

### Parameters

- type: type of an element
- name: member variable name
- ...: enumeration of init values

**PMACC\_VECTOR\_DIM** (type, dim, name, ...)  
create changeable member vector

```
PMACC_VECTOR_DIM(float_64, simDim, center_SI, 1.134e-5, 1.134e-5, 1.134e-5);
// is the equivalent of
Vector<float_64,3> center_SI(1.134e-5, 1.134e-5, 1.134e-5);
```

### Parameters

- type: type of an element
- dim: number of vector components
- name: member variable name
- ...: enumeration of init values (number of components must be equal to dim)

**PMACC\_C\_STRING** (name, initValue)  
create static const character string

```
PMACC_C_STRING(filename, "fooFile.txt");
// is syntactically equivalent to
static const char* filename = (char*)"fooFile.txt";
```

### Parameters

- name: member variable name

- `char_string`: character string

#### **PMACC\_EXTENT (...)**

create any code extension

```
PMACC_EXTENT (typedef float FooFloat;)
// is the equivalent of
typedef float FooFloat;
```

#### **Parameters**

- `...:` any code

## 5.8.18 Identifier

Construct unique types, e.g. to name, access and assign default values to particle species' attributes. See for example PICongGPU's `speciesAttributes.param` for usage.

#### **value\_identifier (in\_type, name, in\_default)**

define a unique identifier with name, type and a default value

The created identifier has the following options: `getValue()` - return the user defined value `getName()` - return the name of the identifier `::type` - get type of the value

#### **Parameters**

- `in_type`: type of the value
- `name`: name of identifier
- `in_value`: user defined value of `in_type` (can be a constructor of a class)

e.g. `value_identifier(float,length,0.0f) typedef length::type value_type; // is float value_type x = length::getValue(); //set x to 0.f printf("Identifier name: %s",length::getName()); //print Identifier name: length`

to create an instance of this `value_identifier` you can use: `length()` or `length_`

#### **alias (name)**

create an alias

an alias is a unspecialized type of an identifier or a `value_identifier`

example: `alias(aliasName); //create type varname`

#### **Parameters**

- `name`: name of alias

to specialize an alias do: `aliasName<valueIdentifierName>` to create an instance of this alias you can use: `aliasName();` or `aliasName_`

get type which is represented by the alias `typedef typename traits::Resolve<name>::type resolved_type;`

## 5.9 Python Postprocessing Tool Structure

Each plugin should implement at least the following Python classes.

1. A data reader class responsible for loading the data from the simulation directory
2. A visualizer class that outputs a matplotlib plot

The repository directory for PICongGPU Python modules for plugins is `lib/python/picongpu/plugins/`.

### 5.9.1 Data Reader

The data readers should reside in the `lib/python/picongpu/plugins/data` directory. There is a base class in `base_reader.py` defining the interface of a reader. Each reader class should derive from this class and needs to implement the following interface functions:

```
class picongpu.plugins.data.base_reader.DataReader (run_directory)
 Base class that all data readers should inherit from.

 __init__ (run_directory)

 Parameters run_directory (string) – path to the run directory of PICongGPU (the
 path before simOutput/)

get (**kwargs)

 Returns

 • The data for the requested parameters in a plugin

 • dependent format and type.

get_data_path (**kwargs)

 Returns

 Return type A string with the path to the underlying data file.

get_iterations (**kwargs)

 Returns

 • An array with unsigned integers of iterations for which

 • data is available.
```

To shorten the import statements for the readers, please also add an entry in the `__init__.py` file of the data directory.

### 5.9.2 Visualizer

The visualizers should reside in the `lib/python/picongpu/plugins/plot_mpl/` directory. The module names should end on `_visualizer.py` and the class name should only be `Visualizer`.

To shorten the import statements for the visualizers, please also add an entry in the `__init__.py` file of the `plot_mpl` directory.

There is a base class for visualization found in `base_visualizer.py` which already handles the plotting logic. It uses the data reader classes for accessing the data. After getting the data, it ensures that (for performance reasons) a matplotlib artist is created only for the first plot and later only gets updated with fresh data.

```
class picongpu.plugins.plot_mpl.base_visualizer.Visualizer (run_directory,
 ax=None)
 Abstract base class for matplotlib visualizers that implements the visualization logic. Classes that derive
 from this class need to write their own implementations for the following functions in order to work:

 _create_data_reader(self, run_directory) _create_plt_obj(self, ax) _update_plt_obj(self)

 Note: When using classes derived from this within jupyter notebooks, use %matplotlib notebook mode.

 __init__ (run_directory, ax=None)
 Initialize the reader and data as member parameters.

 Parameters

 • run_directory (string) – path to the run directory of PICongGPU (the path
 before simOutput/)

 • ax (matplotlib.axes) –
```

**`_create_data_reader (run_directory)`**

Needs to return an instance of a picongpu data reader (as defined in the `../plugin` directory) which implements a `'get()'` method.

**`_create_plt_obj ()`**

Sets `'self.plt_obj'` to an instance of a `matplotlib.artist.Artist` object (or derived classes) created by using `'self.ax'` which can later be updated by feeding new data into it. Only called on the first call for visualization.

**`_update_plt_obj ()`**

Take the `'self.data'` member, interpret it and feed it into the `'self.plt_obj'`.

**`visualize (**kwargs)`**

1. Creates the `'plt_obj'` if it does not exist
2. Fills the `'data'` parameter by using the reader
3. Updates the `'plt_obj'` with the new data.

The complete implementation logic of the `visualize` function is pretty simple.

```
def visualize(self, **kwargs):
 self.data = self.data_reader.get(**kwargs)
 if self.plt_obj is None:
 self._create_plt_obj()
 else:
 self._update_plt_obj()
```

All new plugins should derive from this class.

When implementing a new visualizer you have to perform the following steps:

1. Let your visualizer class inherit from the `Visualizer` class in `base_visualizer.py`.
2. Implement the `_create_data_reader(self, run_directory)` function. This function should return a data reader object (see above) for this plugin's data.
3. Implement the `_create_plt_obj(self)` function. This function needs to access the plotting data from the `self.data` member (this is the data structure as returned by the data readers `.get(...)` function, create some kind of matplotlib artist by storing it in the `self.plt_obj` member variable and set up other plotting details (e.g. a colorbar).
4. Implement the `_update_plt_obj(self)` function. This is called only after a valid `self.plt_obj` was created. It updates the matplotlib artist with new data. Therefore it again needs to access the plotting data from the `self.data` member and call the data update API for the matplotlib artist (normally via `.set_data(...)`).

## 5.10 Index of Doxygen Documentation

This command is currently taking up to 2 GB of RAM, so we can't run it on read-the-docs:

**`doxygenindex::`**

**`project`** PICongGPU

**`path`** `'../xml'`

**`outline`**

**`no-link`**

**See also:**

In order to follow this section, you need to understand the [CUDA programming model](#).

## 6.1 Lockstep Programming Model

*Section author: René Widera, Axel Huebl*

The *lockstep programming model* structures code that is evaluated collectively and independently by workers (physical threads). Actual processing is described by one-dimensional index domains of *virtual workers* which can even be changed within a kernel. Mathematically, index domains are none-injective, total functions on physical workers.

An index domain is **independent** from data but **can** be mapped to a data domain, e.g. one to one or with more complex mappings.

Code which is implemented by the *lockstep programming model* is free of any dependencies between the number of worker and processed data elements. To simplify the implementation, each index within a domain can be seen as a *virtual worker* which is processing one data element (like the common workflow to programming CUDA). Each worker  $i$  can be executed as  $N_i$  virtual workers ( $1 : N_i$ ).

### 6.1.1 pmacc helpers

```
template <uint32_t T_domainSize, uint32_t T_workerSize, uint32_t T_simdSize = 1u>
struct pmacc::mappings::threadsIdxConfig
 describe a constant index domain

 describe the size of the index domain and the number of workers to operate on the domain
```

#### Template Parameters

- T\_domainSize: number of indices in the domain
- T\_workerSize: number of worker working on T\_domainSize
- T\_simdSize: SIMD width

```
template <typename T_Type, typename T_IdxCfg>
```

```
struct pmacc::memoryCtxArray : public pmacc::memory::Array<T_Type, T_IdxCfg::numCollIter * T_IdxCfg::sim>
 Static sized array for a local variable.
```

The array is designed to hold context variables in lock step programming. A context variable is just a local variable of a virtual worker. Allocating and using a context array allows to propagate virtual worker states over subsequent lock steps. A context array for a set of virtual workers is owned by their (physical) worker.

The number of elements depends on the index domain size and the number of workers to process the indices.

```
template <typename T_IdxCfg>
struct pmacc::mappings::threadsForEachIdx : public T_IdxCfg
 execute a functor for each index
```

Distribute the indices even over all worker and execute a user defined functor. There is no guarantee in which order the indices will be processed.

### Template Parameters

- T\_IdxCfg: index domain description

## 6.1.2 Common Patterns

### Collective Loop

- each worker needs to pass a loop N times
- in this example, there are more dates than workers that process them

```
// `frame` is a list which must be traversed collectively
while(frame.isValid())
{
 uint32_t const workerIdx = threadIdx.x;
 using ParticleDomCfg = IdxCfg<
 frameSize,
 numWorker
 >;
 ForEachIdx< ParticleDomCfg > forEachParticle(workerIdx);
 forEachParticle(
 [&](uint32_t const linearIdx, uint32_t const idx)
 {
 // independent work
 }
);
}
```

### Non-Collective Loop

- each *virtual worker* increments a private variable

```
uint32_t const workerIdx = threadIdx.x;
using ParticleDomCfg = IdxCfg<
 frameSize,
 numWorkers
>;
ForEachIdx< ParticleDomCfg > forEachParticle(workerIdx);
memory::CtxArray< int, ParticleDomCfg > vWorkerIdx(0);
forEachParticle(
 [&](uint32_t const linearIdx, uint32_t const idx)
 {
 vWorkerIdx[idx] = linearIdx;
 for(int i = 0; i < 100; i++)
```

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```

 vWorkerIdx[idx]++;
 }
};

```

## Create a Context Variable

- ... and initialize with the index of the virtual worker

```

uint32_t const workerIdx = threadIdx.x;
using ParticleDomCfg = IdxConfig<
 frameSize,
 numWorkers
>;
memory::CtxArray< int, ParticleDomCfg > vIdx(
 workerIdx,
 [&](uint32_t const linearIdx, uint32_t const) -> int32_t
 {
 return linearIdx;
 }
);

// is equal to

memory::CtxArray< int, ParticleDomCfg > vIdx;
ForEachIdx< ParticleDomCfg > forEachParticle{ workerIdx }(
 [&](uint32_t const linearIdx, uint32_t const idx)
 {
 vIdx[idx] = linearIdx;
 }
);

```

## Using a Master Worker

- only one *virtual worker* (called *master*) of all available `numWorkers` manipulates a shared data structure for all others

```

// example: allocate shared memory (uninitialized)
PMACC_SMEM(
 finished,
 bool
);

uint32_t const workerIdx = threadIdx.x;
ForEachIdx<
 IdxConfig<
 1,
 numWorkers
 >
> onlyMaster{ workerIdx };

// manipulate shared memory
onlyMaster(
 [&](
 uint32_t const,
 uint32_t const
)
 {
 finished = true;
 }
);

```

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```
 }
);

/* important: synchronize now, in case upcoming operations (with
 * other workers) access that manipulated shared memory section
 */
__syncthreads();
```



---

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