



**GEANT4**  
A SIMULATION TOOLKIT



# Scoring - 1

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Geant4 ED PHENIICS Tutorial,  
13 - 17 May 2019, Orsay

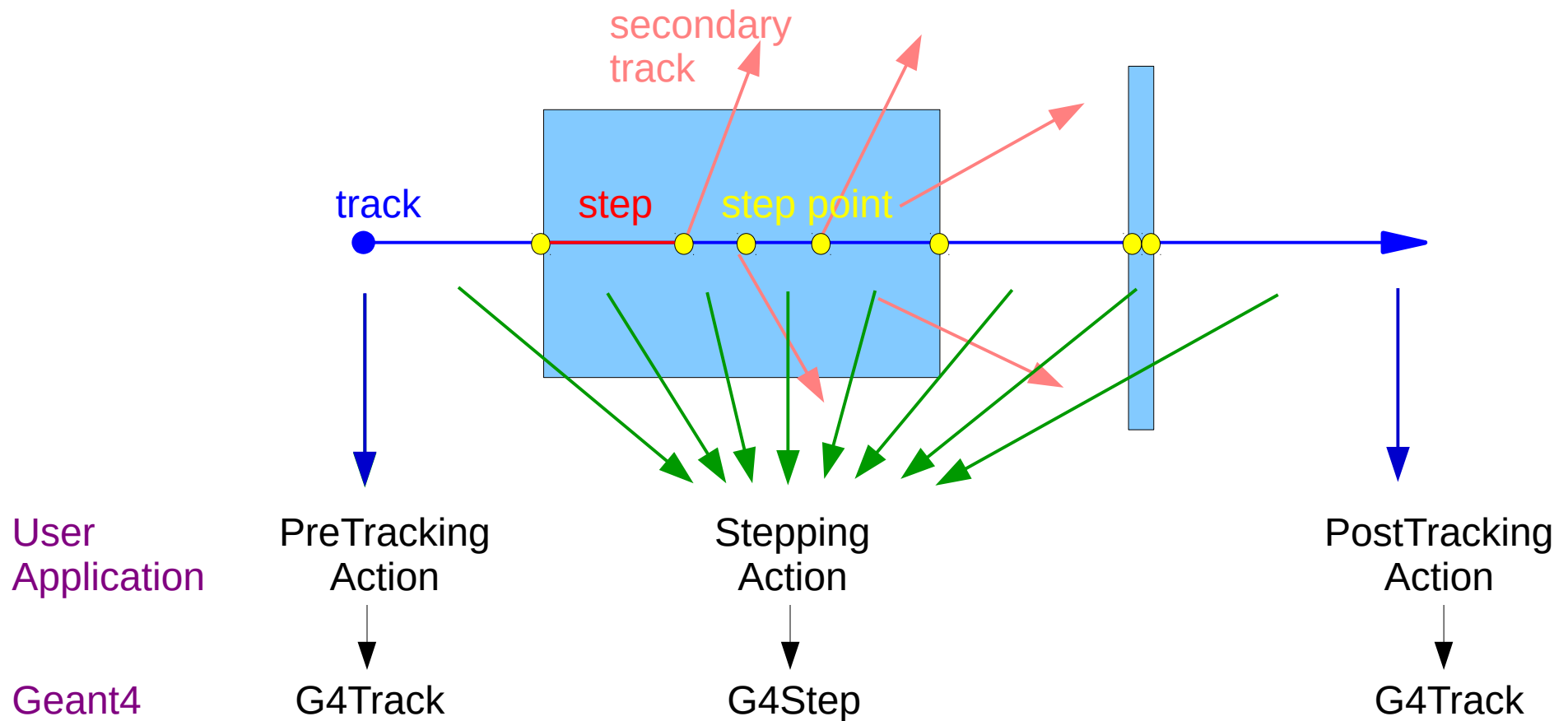
# Outline

- Extracting useful information
- Sensitive detectors, hits and hits collections

# Geant4 and User Application

## Event Processing

*User classes are called during event processing and can collect the information about tracked particles from Geant4 objects*



# Extracting Useful Information

- Given geometry, physics and primary track generation, Geant4 does proper physics simulation "silently".
  - You have to add a bit of code to extract information useful to you.
- The user action classes, if provided, are called by Geant4 kernel during all phases of tracking and have access to “theirs” Geant4 objects:
  - G4Run, G4Event, G4Track, G4Step

# Example 1

- Using **G4Event** information in Event action to print event number at the beginning of event

MyEventAction.cc

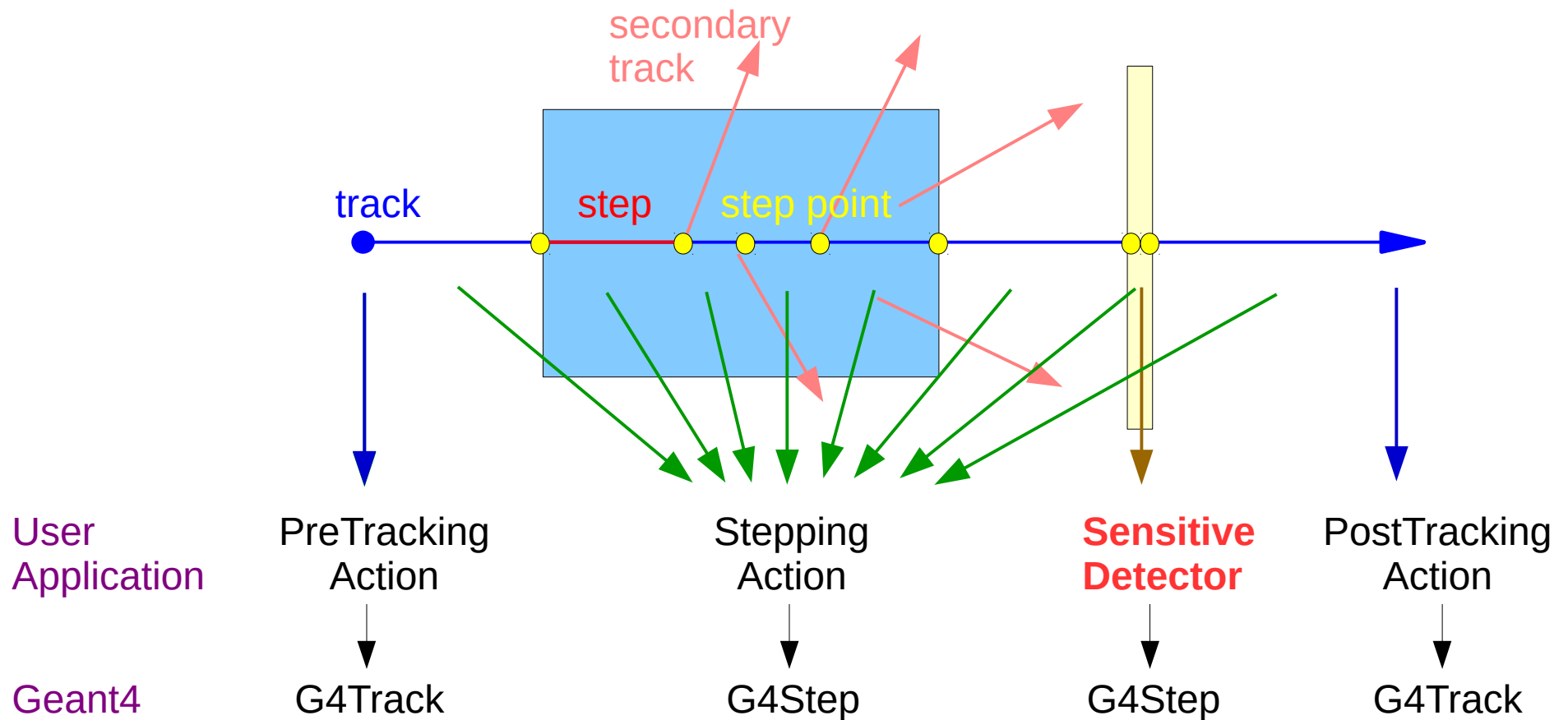
```
#include "MyEventAction.hh"
#include "G4Event.hh"

MyEventAction::BeginOfEventAction(const G4Event* event)
{
    // Get current event number
    G4int eventID = event->GetEventID();

    // Print this info on the screen
    G4cout << "Starting event: " << eventID << G4endl;
}
```

# Geant4 and User Application Event Processing (2)

*A special user class, **sensitive detector**, can be attached to (a) selected volume(s) and then called during event processing*



# Extracting Useful Information (2)

- During stepping, two user classes can be called
  - User stepping action – called in each step
  - User sensitive detector – called only when track passes a “sensitive” volume
  - Both have access to **G4Step**
    - Example of code where we use **G4Step** to access the track position

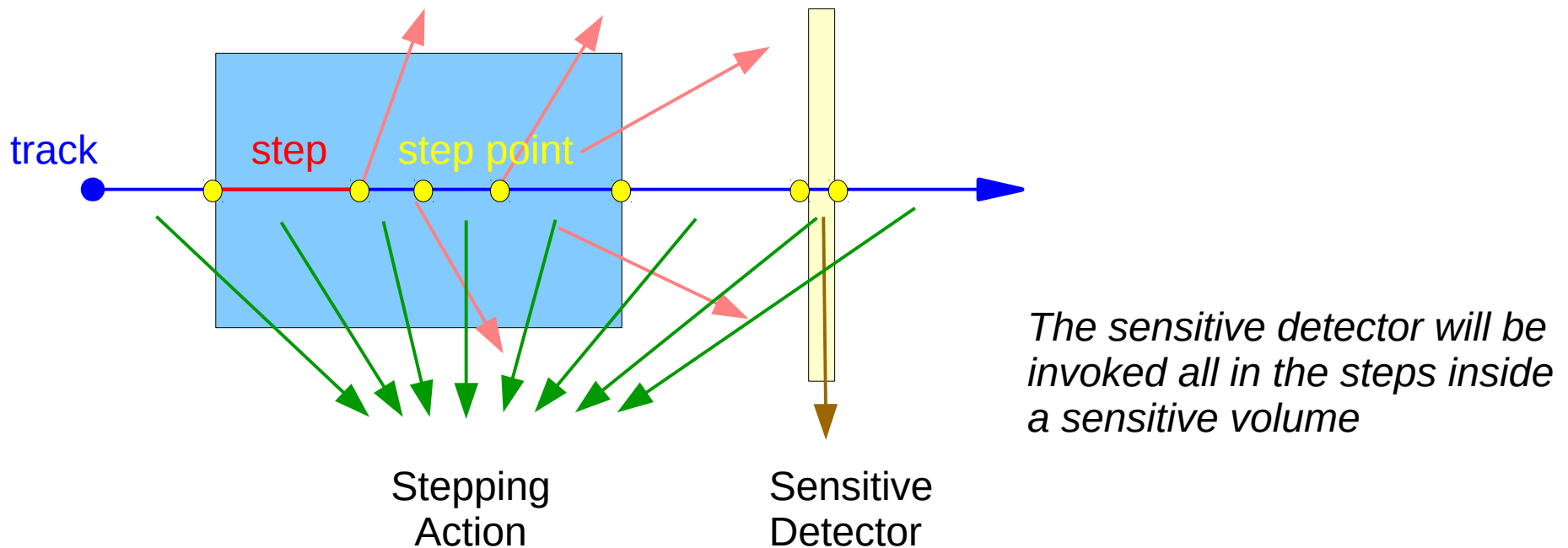
```
// Get G4Step object  
G4Step* step = ...  
  
// Get the position of the step start (pre-step point)  
G4StepPoint* preStepPoint = step->GetPreStepPoint();  
G4ThreeVector position = preStepPoint->GetPosition();  
  
// Print this info on the screen  
G4cout << "This step position: " << position << G4endl;
```

# Sensitive Detectors



# Sensitive Detector

- A sensitive detector is assigned to a logical volume
- The sensitive detectors are invoked when a step takes place in the logical volume that they are assigned to



# Defining a Sensitive Detector

- Sensitive detector objects are created and assigned to logical volumes in a user detector construction class in `ConstructSDandField()` function
- Creating SD object: MyDetectorConstruction.cc

```
G4VSensitiveDetector* mySD  
= new MySD("MySD", "MyHitsCollection");
```

- Each sensitive detector object must have a unique name.
  - More than one sensitive detector instances (objects) of the same type (class) can be defined with different detector name
- The created SD object must be registered to G4SDManager

```
// get SDManager instance  
G4SDManager* sdManager = G4SDManager::GetSDMpointer();  
  
// register this sensitive detector in SDManager  
sdManager->AddNewDetector(mySD);
```

# Assigning a Sensitive Detector to a Logical Volume

- Via the volume name

[MyDetectorConstruction.cc](#)

```
// defined previously  
G4VSensitiveDetector* mySD = ...  
SetSensitiveDetector("MyLVName", mySD);
```

- The SetSensitiveDetector function is defined in [G4VUserDetectorConstruction](#) base class (only since Geant4 10.x)
- Explicit setting to G4LogicalVolume
  - May be needed in more complex geometries

```
// defined previously  
G4LogicalVolume* myLogicalVolume = ...;  
G4VSensitiveDetector* mySD = ...;  
  
// assign this sensitive detector to a logical volume  
myLogicalVolume->SetSensitiveDetector(mySD);
```

# Sensitive Detector Class

- A sensitive detector is defined in a user class, **MySD**, derived from **G4VSensitiveDetector** base class
  - It defines the following user functions which are invoked by Geant4 kernel during event processing:
    - At **begin of event**: **Initialize()**
    - In **a step** (if in the associated volume): **ProcessHits(..)**
    - At **end of event**: **EndOfEvent(..)**
- Note that User stepping action defines only a function invoked when processing a step

# Sensitive Detector Class (2)

MySD.hh

```
#include "G4VSensitiveDetector.hh"
...
class MySD : public G4VSensitiveDetector {
public:
    MySD(const G4String& name
          const G4String& hitsCollectionName);
    virtual ~MySD();

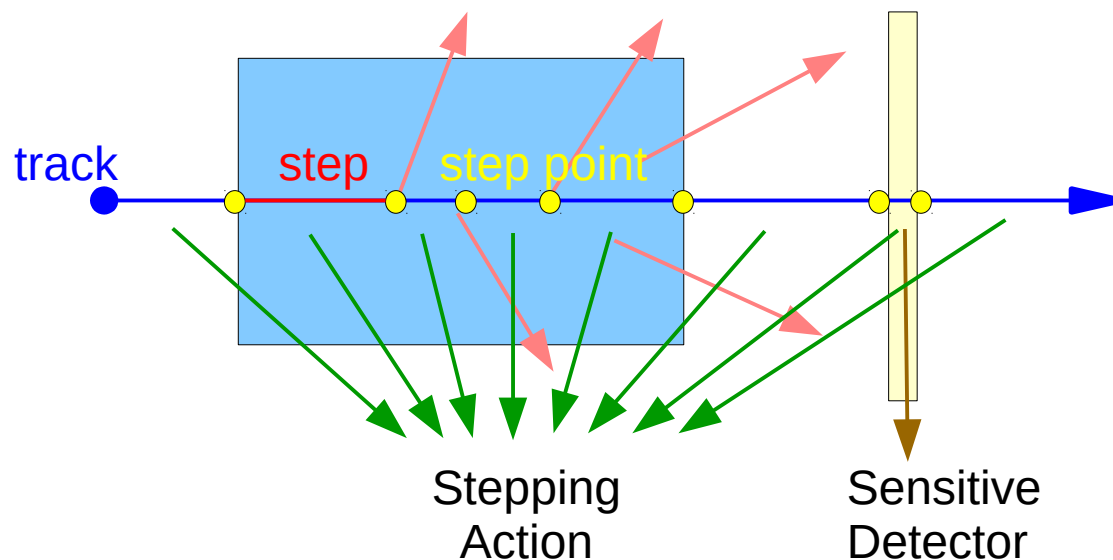
    virtual void Initialize(G4HCofThisEvent* hce);
    virtual G4bool ProcessHits(G4Step* step,
                                G4TouchableHistory* R0history);
    virtual void EndOfEvent(G4HCofThisEvent* hce);
};
```

*The user functions  
called by Geant4 kernel*

# Hits and Hits Collections

# A Hit

- Hit is a snapshot of the physical interaction of a track or an accumulation of interactions of tracks in the sensitive region of your detector
- Depending on your application you may be interested in various types information:
  - position and time of the step, momentum and energy of the track, energy deposition of the step, geometrical information, ...



# User Hit Class

MyHit.hh

- You can store various types information by implementing your own concrete Hit class.
  - In this example we store the energy deposition of the step
- Typically for each information to be stored in a hit we add:

```
class MyHit
{
public:
    MyHit();
    // set/get methods; eg.
    void      SetEdep (G4double edep);
    G4double GetEdep() const;
private:
    // some data members; eg.
    G4double fEdep; // energy deposit
};
```

Data member	G4type fData;	G4double fEdep;
Set function	void SetData(G4type data);	void SetEdep(G4double edep):
Get function	G4type GetData() const;	G4double GetEdep() const;



# Create a Hit

- A hit can be created when a step takes place in a sensitive logical volume, in a user sensitive detector function `ProcessHits(..)`

MySD.cc

```
G4bool MySD::ProcessHits(G4Step* step,
                          G4TouchableHistory* /*history*/)
{
    MyHit* newHit = new MyHit();
    // Get some properties from G4Step and set them to the hit
    // newHit->SetXYZ();
    G4double edep = step->GetTotalEnergyDeposit();
    newHit->SetEdep(edep);
    // ...
    return true;
}
```

- Currently, returning boolean value is not used.
- The “history” will be given only if a Readout geometry is defined to this sensitive detector (the readout geometry is not presented in this course)

# Hits Collections

- Many hits can be created during one event
- Hit objects must be stored in a dedicated collection
- Geant4 provides a dedicated class, `G4THitsCollection`, which allows to associate the hits collections with `G4Event` object and can be then accessed
  - through `G4Event` at the end of event, to be used for analyzing an event
  - through `G4SDManager` during processing an event, to be used for event filtering.
- When using Geant4 hits collections, the user hit class must derive from `G4VHit` base class
- Users may also define their own hits collections, eg.
  - Using STL library: `std::vector<MyHit>`
  - Using their application framework, eg. in the context of ROOT, it can be a ROOT collection (`TObjArray`, `TClonesArray`)

# User Geant4 Hit Class

- Hits collection of a concrete hit class is defined as a specialization of the `G4THitsCollection` template class
  - Note the analogy of `G4THitsCollection<MyHit>` with `std::vector<MyHit>`
  - To avoid long names we define a name shortcut using **typedef**

MyHit.hh

```
#include "G4VHit.hh"
class MyHit : public G4VHit
{
    // the class definition as before
    // utility functions (called by Geant4)
    virtual void Draw();
    virtual void Print();
};
```

*When using Geant4 hits collections, the user hit class must derive from `G4VHit`*

```
#include "G4THitsCollection.hh"
typedef G4THitsCollection<MyHit> MyHitsCollection;
```

# G4Allocator

- Creation / deletion of an object is a heavy operation.
  - It may cause a performance concern, in particular for objects that are frequently instantiated / deleted like hits.
- Geant4 provides **G4Allocator** class which provides functions for efficient memory allocation and de-allocation
  - It allocates a chunk of memory space for objects of a certain class.
- The same pattern can be used in all user classes, its is sufficient just to put the relevant user class name

# G4Allocator (2)

MyHit.hh

```
#include "G4Allocator.hh"
class MyHit : public G4VHit {
    // ...
    inline void* operator new(size_t);
    inline void operator delete(void* hit);
    // ...
};
extern G4Allocator<MyHit>* MyHitAllocator;
inline void* MyHit::operator new(size_t) {
    return (void*)MyHitAllocator->MallocSingle();
}
inline void MyHit::operator delete(void* hit) {
    MyHitAllocator->FreeSingle((MyHit*)hit);
}
```

- The pattern (in green) can be cut & pasted in your hit (and other) classes
- Then you need just to replace **MyHit** with your class name

MyHit.cc

```
// ...
G4Allocator<MyHit>* MyHitAllocator;
// ..
```

# Define Hits Collection (1)

MySD.cc

```
void MySD::MySD(const G4String& name,  
                const G4String& hitsCollectionName)  
: G4VSensitiveDetector(name),  
  fHitsCollection(0)  
{  
  collectionName.insert(hitsCollectionName);  
}
```

- **The name(s) of the hits collection(s)** which is (are) handled by this sensitive detector is defined **in the constructor**
  - It is saved in the **collectionName** data member of the G4VSensitiveDetector base class
- In case your sensitive detector generates more than one kinds of hits (e.g. anode and cathode hits separately), define all collection names.

# Define Hits Collection (2)

MySD.cc

```
void MySD::Initialize(G4HCofThisEvent* hce)
{
    fHitsCollection
        = new MyHitsCollection (SensitiveDetectorName, collectionName[0]);
    G4int hcID
        = G4SDManager::GetSDMpointer()->GetCollectionID(collectionName[0]);
    hce->AddHitsCollection(hcID, hitsCollection);
}
```

- **The hits collection object** (fHitsCollection) is created in **Initialize()**
  - This method is invoked at the beginning of each event
- The collectionID, hcID, is available after this sensitive detector object is constructed and registered to **G4SDManager**.
  - Thus, GetCollectionID() method cannot be invoked in the constructor of this detector class.
- It can be then attached to **G4HCofThisEvent** object given in the argument.
  - This object is then available via **G4Event** object

# Filling A Hits Collection

- The hits are usually inserted in the hits collection when they are created

MySD.cc

```
void MySD::SomeFunction(...)
{
    // Create a hit
    MyHit* newHit = new MyHit();
    // Set some properties to the hit
    // newHit->SetXYZ();
    // Add the hit in the SD hits collection
    fHitsCollection->insert(newHit);
}
```

- Depending on the detector type `SomeFunction()` can be either `Initialize()` or `ProcessHits()`



# Filling A Hits Collection (2)

- The way how the hits collections are filled depends on a detector type
- *A tracker detector* typically generates a hit for every single step of every single (charged) track
  - Hits are created in `MySD::ProcessHits()`
  - They typically contain
    - Position and time, energy deposition of the step, track ID
- *A calorimeter detector* typically generates a hit for every cell, and accumulates energy deposition in each cell for all steps of all tracks
  - Hits are created in `MySD::Initialize()`
  - They typically contain:
    - Sum of deposited energy, Cell ID

# Iterate over A Hits Collection

MySD.cc

```
void MySD::EndOfEvent(G4HCofThisEvent* /*hce*/)
{
    G4int nofHits = fHitsCollection->entries();
    G4cout << "Hits Collection: in this event there are "
            << nofHits << " hits " << G4endl;
    for ( G4int i=0; i<nofHits; ++i ) (*fHitsCollection)[i]->Print();
}
```

- The `MySD::EndOfEvent()` method is invoked at the end of processing an event.
  - It is invoked even if the event is aborted
  - It is invoked before `UserEventAction::EndOfEventAction`

# Summary

- The Geant4 toolkit provides dedicated classes/tools for user scoring:

- Sensitive detectors

and the following which will be discussed in the next lecture

- Geant4 scorers
  - Command-based scoring