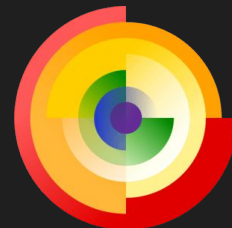




```
1 G4Course *MyNewCourse::Construct() {
2
3     G4Course *course = new G4Course();
4     course→title("Geant4 for Beginners. A crash course");
5     course→author("Hernán Asorey");
6     course→email("asoreyh@gmail.com");
7     course→description("a hands-on Geant4 crash course");
8     course→school("La Conga Physics");
9     course→site("github.com/asoreyh/geant4-course");
10    course→year(2023);
11    course→duration(4*h);
12    course→license("CC0 1.0 Universal");
13    return course;
14 }
```





[G4Help\(\);](#)

# Disclaimers

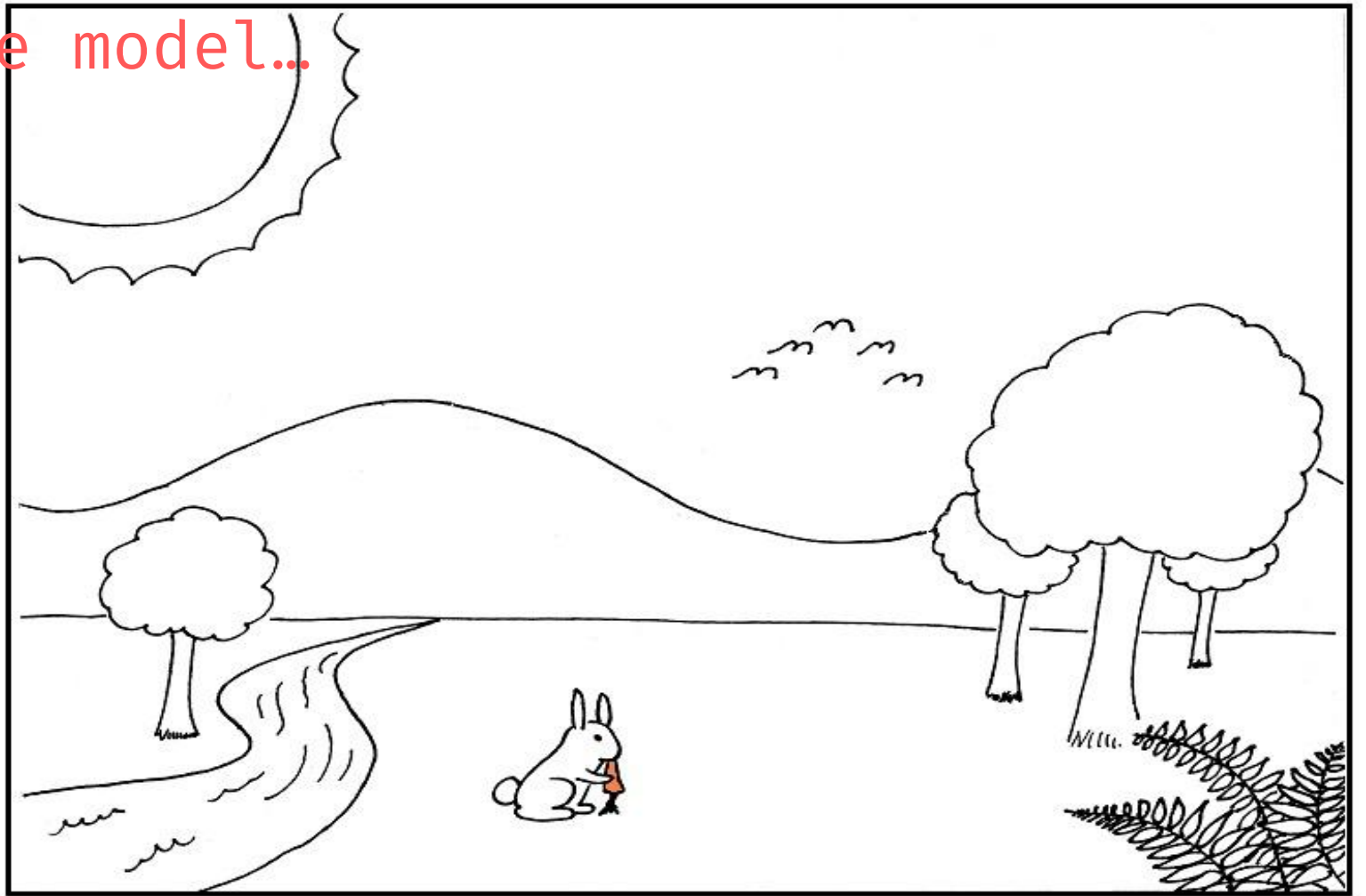
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14

The reality...

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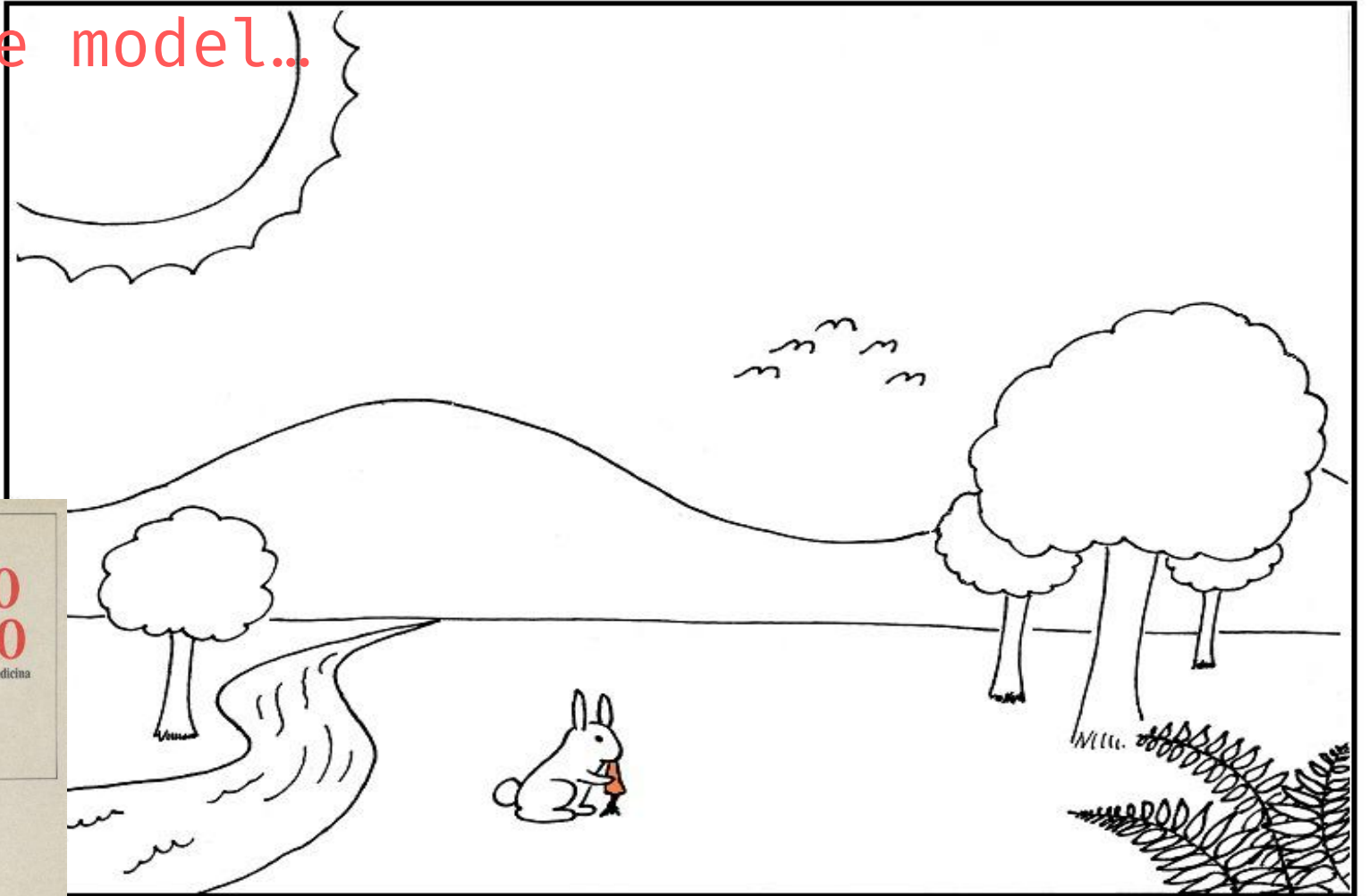
The model...



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14

# The model...

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8



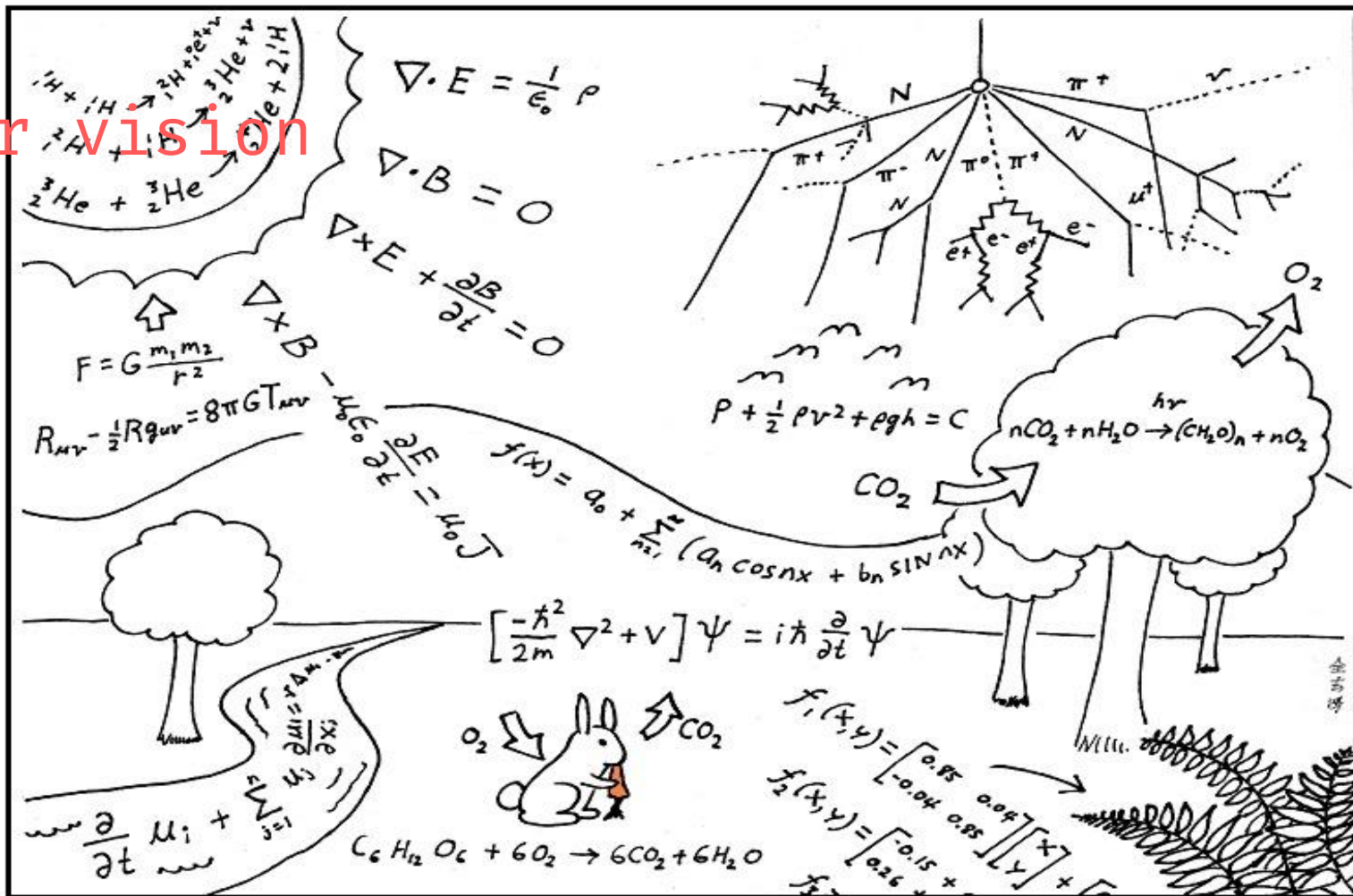
## EL CABALLO ESFÉRICO

Temas de Física en Biología y Medicina

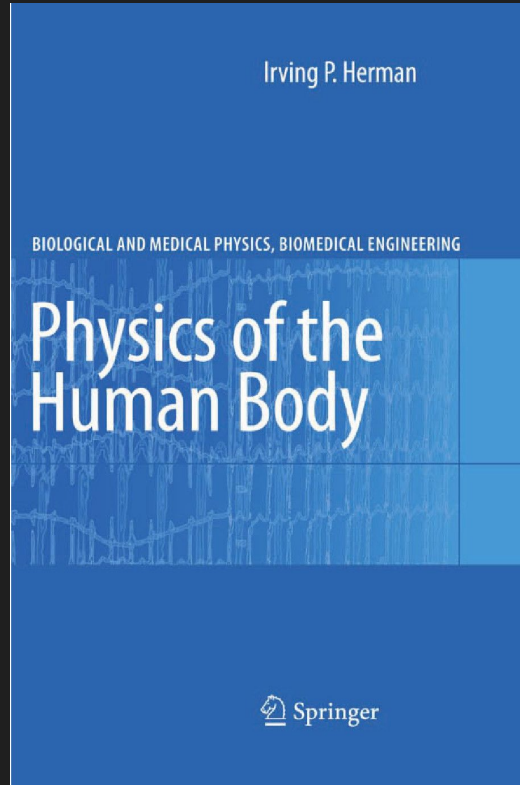
Verónica  
Grünfeld



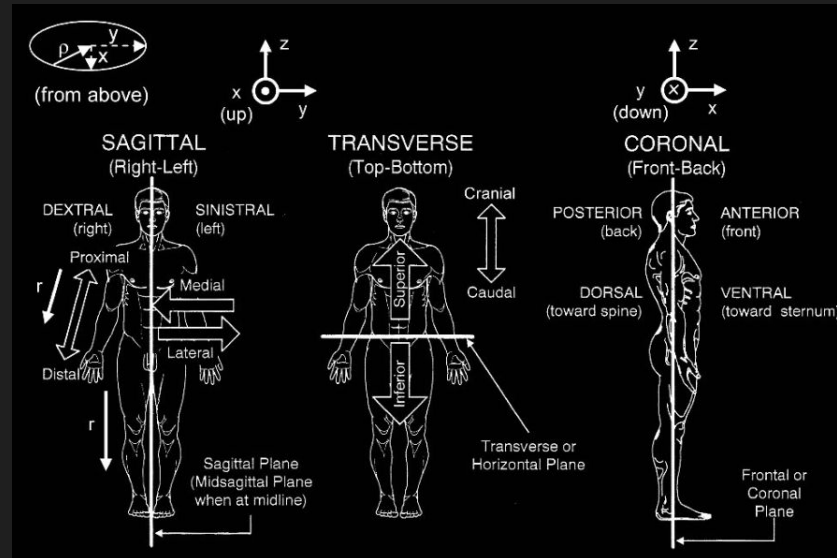
Our vision



# The jargon



*"Much of the problem we have in comprehending specialists in any field is in understanding their jargon, and not in understanding their ideas. This is particularly true for medicine"*



# The conventions for this course

1  
2 This is not a theoretical course. This is a **hands-on**  
3 course. So we will work on the natural environments of  
4 Geant4: an editor (or **IDE**) and the (Linux) **terminal**  
5 (Windows users→some IDEs included their own terminal)  
6

7 Geant4 is enterelly written in **C++** (mandatory), and  
8 some **bash** knowledge is always recommended. So, within  
9 this course, slides are written in english and  
10 following the highlight conventions for **C++** or **bash**  
11 within these slides.  
12

13 There are some python approaches to Geant4 but they  
14 are out of the scope of this crash course.



# Conventions for this course

- Bash conventions:

# This is a comment in bash

\$ make # this means run at the command in your CLI as user

# make # this means to run the command in your CLI as root (sudo)

- C++ conventions:

/\* This is a C++ long comment \*/

// This is a C++ short comment, and below there is a typical IDE view

```
class MyDetectorConstruction : public G4VUserDetectorConstruction {
```

```
// your class goes here
```

```
};
```

# The conventions for this course

OS: I personally recommend any updated ( $\geq 22.04$ ), ubuntu flavor (ubuntu, mint, xubuntu, kubuntu, ...).



However, of course you should use whatever OS you feel comfortable, even Windows or iOS. You can also use virtualization environments for running G4 (later on this course).

# IDEs: Integrated development environments



- I strongly recommend using **VI**m or an **IDE** for programming
- There are so many possible classes, not all of them following an standard naming convention, that it could be helpful to take the advantages of an IDE.
- You should explore the several available IDEs. At the end, all of them will have the functionalities you expected.
- I always used VI



My personal  
list of VScode  
extensions



# geant4

```
1 // A toolkit for the simulation of the  
2  
3  
4 // passage of particles through matter.
```

```
5  
6 // Its areas of application include high energy, nuclear and  
7 // accelerator physics, as well as studies in medical and space  
8 // science
```

```
9 G4Download("geant4.web.cern.ch/\"");  
10 G4Docs("geant4.web.cern.ch/docs/\"");  
11 G4AppDocs("geant4-userdoc.web.cern.ch/UsersGuides/ForApplicationDe  
12 veloper/BackupVersions/V10.7/html/index.html\"");  
13 G4Examples("Check the ${geant4_examples}/ dir for extra fun");
```

```
14 // IMPORTANT NOTICE
```

```
// I will not spend time showing how to install G4 (and root) →
```

# G4 Scope {



```
1  /*
```

```
2  
3  It is integrally programmed in C/C++ and allow to build applications  
4  including all the aspects of a Monte Carlo simulation process:
```

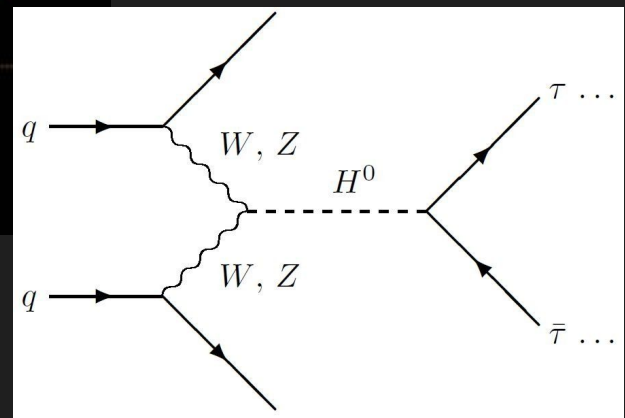
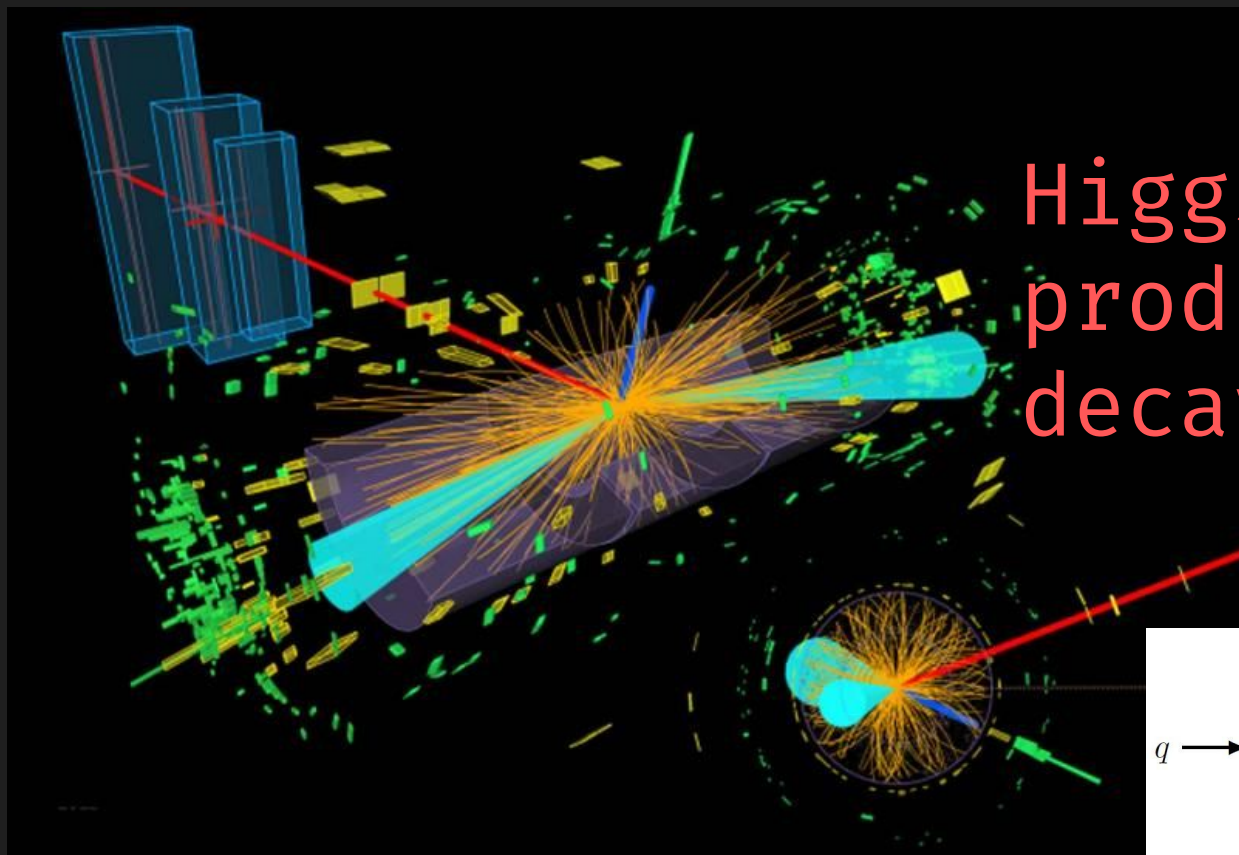
- ```
5      * the geometry and building materials of the system;  
6      * the fundamental particles involved and all the physics process  
7        governing particle interactions;  
8      * the tracking of particles in matter and EM fields;  
9      * the medium/detector response to the passage of these particles  
10       and their by-products;  
11     * the visualization of the detector and particle trajectories; and  
12     * the capture and analysis of simulation data at different levels  
13       of detail and refinement.
```

```
14  */
```

```
  }
```



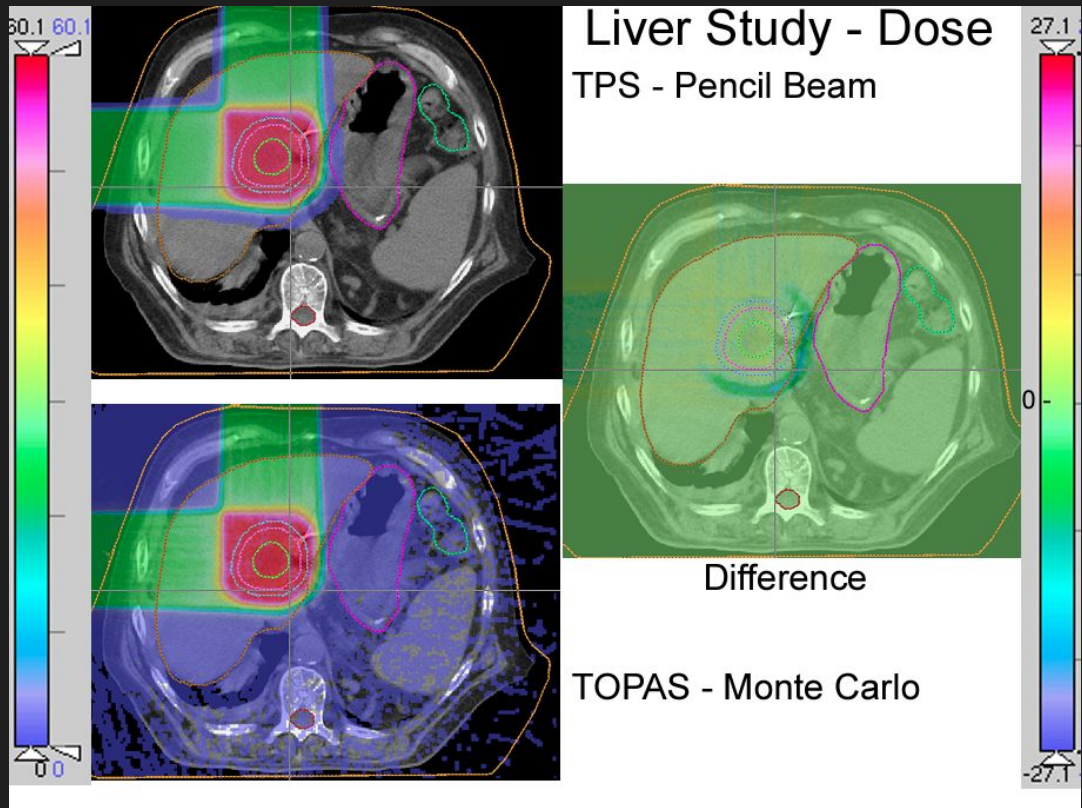
# Higgs production and decay at ATLAS



$$qq \rightarrow H^0 \rightarrow \tau\tau$$

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13  
14



Allow absorbed dose  
( $E_D \rightarrow [E_D] = \text{Gy} = \text{J kg}^{-1}$ )  
calculations



Allow time-evolving geometries



# geant4

```
1
2
3
4
5 // A comment about versions.
6 /*
7     By the end of 2022 a new major release, G4 11
8     was released (current 11.01p01)
9
10    In this course we will use the latest G4 10
11    version (10.07p04)
12
13 */
14
```



# G4 install (by @asoreyh)

# While Geant4 have multiple dependencies, some of them are required and some others are needed for optional features.

# Check the official installation guide at <https://geant4-userdoc.web.cern.ch/UsersGuides/InstallationGuide/html>

# I prepared a bash script for installing the required dependencies, root and geant4 at \${HOME}/work. (Ubuntu 23.04)

# Warning 1: it will change your .bashrc file.

# Warning 2: it will take time (up to several hours).

```
$ curl -Lo install-root-geant4.sh
```

```
https://www.dropbox.com/s/ej67f1hc88u7w1a/install-root-geant4.sh?dl=1
```

```
$ chmod 744 install-root-geant4.sh
```

```
$ ./install-root-geant4.sh
```



# G4 docker

(by @asoreyh)



# Docker is a platform designed to help devs build, share, and run modern apps. We handle the tedious setup, so you can focus on the code.

# I prepared two Dockerfiles for this course. Follow the instructions and download them from (look for them at the utils directory):

```
$ git clone https://github.com/asoreyh/geant4-course.git
```

# Otherwise, you can pull the docker image from my docker hub:

```
$ docker pull asoreyh/root:latest # root version 6.28.04 (2023)
```

```
$ docker pull asoreyh/geant4:latest # G4 version 10.07.04 (2022)
```

# Blank installation. Check the docs!

# There is also a virtual machine built by the Geant4 collaboration





# G4 docker

(by @asoreyh)



**# Important note:** You will need to follow these steps and provide privileged access to this docker to be able to run the QT Geant4 visualization from docker.

# open a terminal and enable local access to xhost:

```
$ xhost +local:root
```

# and run the docker (if you don't download the docker images it will download them):

```
$ docker run --privileged -it -e DISPLAY=$DISPLAY -v /tmp/.X11-unix:/tmp/.X11-unix asoreyh/geant4:10.07.04
```



# About this course

- This is a **hands-on course**. During this 4 hours we will code from the scratch two Geant4-based applications for:
  - calculate the **deposited dose** in an organ
  - simulate an EM **shielding**
- Hopefully:
  - you will reuse these codes for **building your own G4 apps**
  - this will give you a **global view** on building G4 apps
- The final version of codes are available at [GitHub](#), but:
  - we will write them from scratch here. Use GitHub codes only as a reference in case of troubles
  - try different geometries, materials, particle beams, ...
  - analyze the differences with your own codes (python, ... )

# About this course

## Introduction

A first contact  
with G4 and its  
examples

## The basics

- Sensitivity and efficiency volumes
- Visualization and outputs
- Deposited energy



## Building blocks

- Structure and common practices
- Detector construction
- Physics lists
- Generating particles

## Apps

- Calculating the absorbed dose in a tissue
- Simulating the effect of shielding

# Geant4 philosophy → Toolkit

No main code, tools for  
building your own app



Toolkit

Actions



Components (interfaces)  
of your app

The building blocks of  
your app

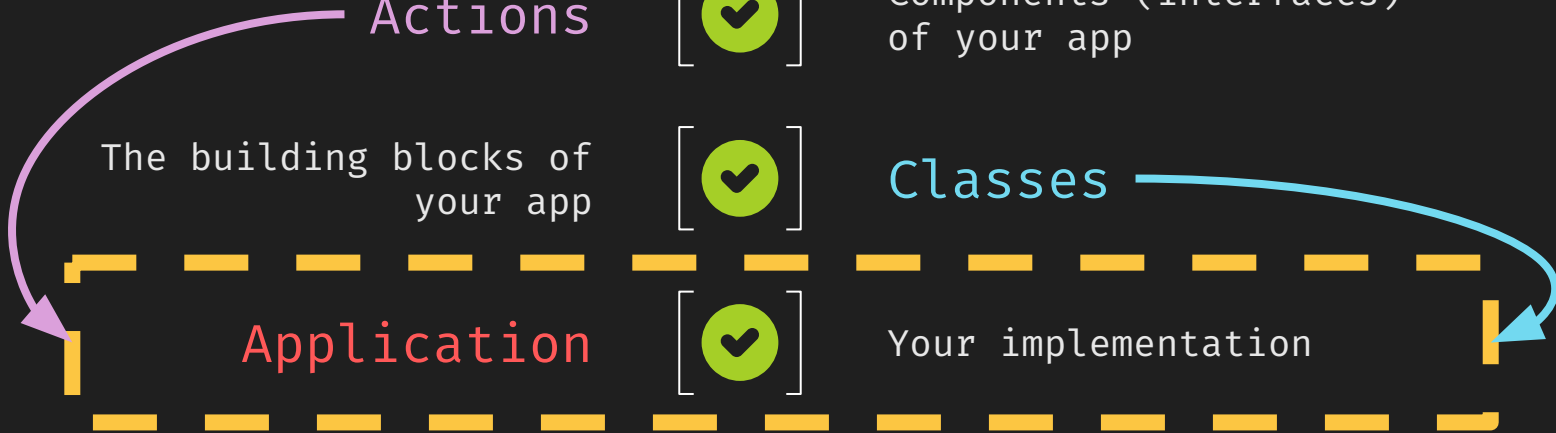


Classes

Application



Your implementation





[G4Help\(\);](#)

# Declarations (.hh)

```
1
2
3
4 // In complex codes, it is probable you will include the
5 same file at different declaration files.
6 // In some cases, this could introduce issues due
7 multiple definitions.
8 // To avoid that, it is a common and highly recommended
9 practice to start any declaration as:
10
11 # ifndef FILE_HH // (replace FILE by the declaration)
12 # define FILE_HH
13
14 /* Continue with your declarations here */
15
16 # endif
```





# CMake {

```
1  # Configuring geant4 apps is performed by using
2
3  $ cmake && make && make install
4
5  # (or cmake)
6  # Read the docs for the details, but...
7  # CMake is an open-source, cross-platform family of tools designed to
8  # build, test and package software.
9  # CMake is used to control the software compilation process using
10 # simple platform and compiler independent configuration files, and
11 # generate native makefiles and workspaces that can be used in the
12 # compiler environment of your choice.
13 # CMake improves the usual (and deprecated)
14
15 $ ./configure && make && make install
16
17 # method, by providing an easy way to write Makefiles for compiling
18 # and installing applications
```

}

# A geant4 application ...



1  
2  
3 # ... is actually a cmake project. First we need to create a  
4 folder

5  
6 \$ mkdir geant4

7  
8 # and open this folder in VS Code (or your favorite IDE or  
9 editor). Then, create a new file called:

10  
11 \$ vim CMakeList.txt

12  
13 # We will use it for configuring our project.  
14

}



# Our CMakeLists.txt



```
1  # Minimum version of cmake required for compiling our project (I recommended at least cmake v 2.8.12, better v 3)
2  cmake_minimum_required (VERSION 2.8.12 FATAL_ERROR)
3
4  # The name of the project, we will use "Dose" for the G4 dose calculation applications
5  project (G4Dose)
6
7  # Let's tell cmake what packages we required or need (not the same!)
8  # No UI or VIS, uncomment this and comment the other one
9  # find_package(Geant4 REQUIRED)
10 find_package (Geant4 REQUIRED ui_all vis_all)
11
12 # Include G4 libraries. ${string} are environmental variables
13 include (${Geant4_USE_FILE} )
14
15 # Locate sources and headers
16 # ${PROJECT_SOURCE_DIR} is the directory where CMakeLists.txt is located (${PWD})
17
18 include_directories (${PROJECT_SOURCE_DIR} /inc
19                      ${Geant4_INCLUDE_DIR} )
20 file (GLOB headers ${PROJECT_SOURCE_DIR} /inc/*.hh)
21 file (GLOB sources ${PROJECT_SOURCE_DIR} /src/*.cc)
22
23 # The name of the executable we will use, and the files that will be linked to it
24 # dose is the executable, dose.cc the main source, etc
25 add_executable (dose dose.cc ${sources} ${headers} )
26
27 # The Geant4 libraries that will be linked to our executable...
28 target_link_libraries (dose ${Geant4_LIBRARIES} )
29
30 # Linking the executable with our project
31 add_custom_target (G4Dose DEPENDS dose)
```

# G4RunManager()

```
1  /*
```

```
2  
3      This object is the “heart” of any G4 application. It is always mandatory and  
4      should be defined in your main app.cc code (dose.cc in our example)
```

```
5      It controls the “flow” of the run
```

```
6      All the interfaces (G4 toolkit) are defined and provided here:
```

```
7          * G4VUserDetectorConstruction          ← geometry construction
```

```
8          * G4VUserPhysicsList                  ← all your physics is here
```

```
9          * G4VUserActionInitialization          ← actions
```

```
10         * G4VUserPrimaryGeneratorAction        ← primary particles production
```

```
11         * G4UserRunAction                        ← optionals...
```

```
12         * G4UserSteppingAction, ...
```

```
13         * UIManager, VisManager, ...
```

```
14  */
```

# G4RunManager()

1 /\*

2  
3 This object is the “**heart**” of any G4 application. It is always **mandatory** and  
4 should be created in the main program.

5 It

6 A

Now we will start to create our Geant4 app  
code

**Create your G4RunManager**

(your main code app → dose.cc)

action

\* G4UserRunAction ← optionals...

\* G4UserSteppingAction, ...

\* UIManager, VisManager, ...

\*/







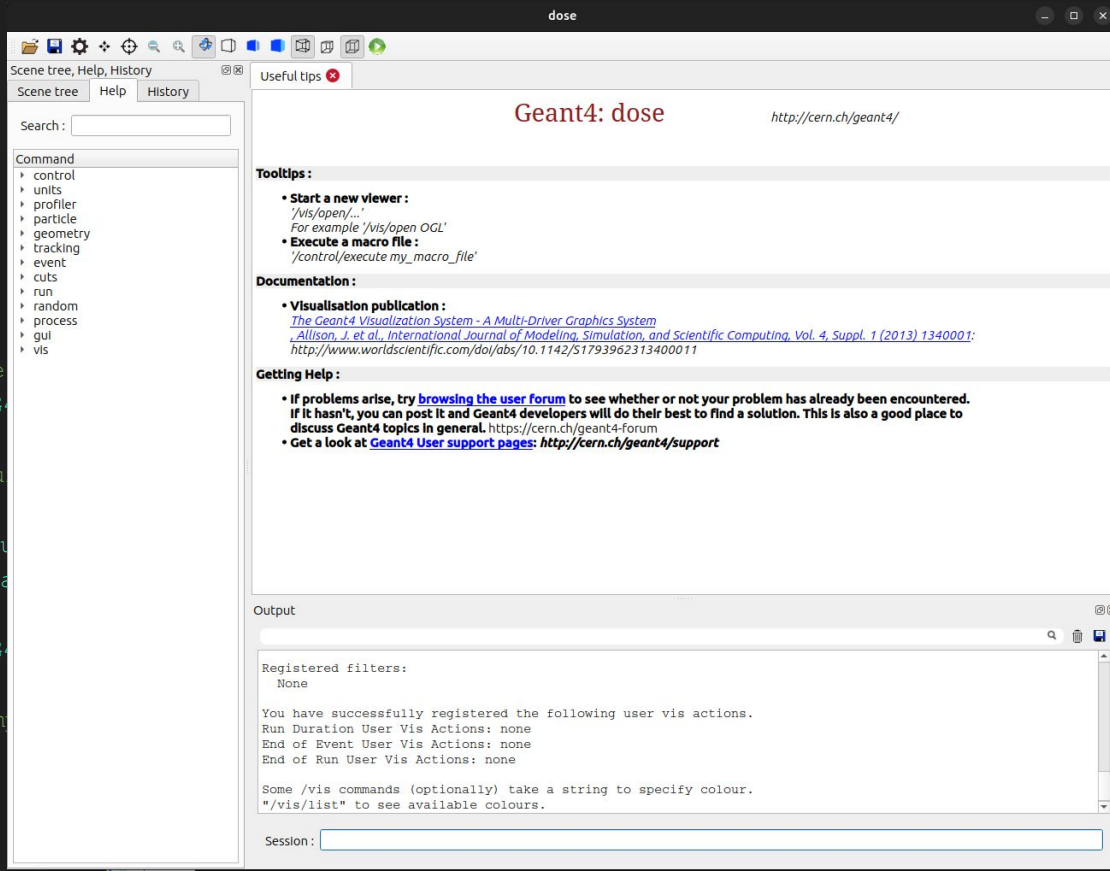
# First step: the main code (dose.cc)

```
1 // 0. I/O operations
2 #include <iostream>
3 // 1. G4RunManager class
4 #include "G4RunManager.hh"
5 // 2. User interface
6 #include "G4UIManager.hh"
7 #include "G4UIExecutive.hh"
8 // 3. Visualization
9 #include "G4VisManager.hh"
10 #include "G4VisExecutive.hh"
11
12 int main(G4int argc, char** argv) {
13     //1. create the G4RunManager object
14     G4RunManager *runManager = new G4RunManager ();
15     //5. Initialize the runManager
16     // runManager->Initialize(); // uncomment to see what happens
17     //2. create the user interfase
18     G4UIExecutive *ui = new G4UIExecutive (argc, argv);
19     G4UIManager *UIManager = G4UIManager::GetUIpointer ();
20     //3. visualization manager
21     G4VisManager *visManager = new G4VisExecutive ();
22     visManager->Initialize ();
23     // 4. start the session - and compile to see what happens
24     ui->SessionStart ();
25     return 0;
26 }
```



# First step: the main code (dose.cc)

```
1 // 0. I/O operations
2 #include <iostream>
3 // 1. G4RunManager class
4 #include "G4RunManager.hh"
5 // 2. User interface
6 #include "G4UIManager.hh"
7 #include "G4UIExecutive.hh"
8 // 3. Visualization
9 #include "G4VisManager.hh"
10 #include "G4VisExecutive.hh"
11
12 int main(G4int argc, char** argv) {
13     //1. create the G4RunManager object
14     G4RunManager *runManager = new G4RunManager;
15     //5. Initialize the runManager
16     runManager->Initialize(); // u
17     //2. create the user interface
18     G4UIExecutive *ui = new G4UIExecutive(argc, argv);
19     G4UIManager *UIManager = G4UIManager::GetInstance();
20     //3. visualization manager
21     G4VisManager *visManager = new G4VisManager;
22     visManager->Initialize();
23     // 4. start the session - and command
24     ui->SessionStart();
25     return 0;
26 }
```





# First step: the main code (dose.cc)

```
1 // 0. I/O operations
2 #include <iostream>
3 // 1. G4RunManager class
4 #include "G4RunManager.hh"
5 // 2. User interface
6 #include "G4UIManager.hh"
7 #include "G4UIExecutive.hh"
8 // 3. Visualization
9 #include "G4VisManager.hh"
10 #include "G4VisExecutive.hh"
11
12 int main(G4int argc, char** argv) {
13     //1. create the G4RunManager object
14     G4RunManager *runManager = new G4RunManager
15     //5. Initialize the runManager
16     runManager->Initialize(); // uncomment
17     //2. create the user interface
18     G4UIExecutive *ui = new G4UIExecutive(argc, argv)
19     G4UIManager *UIManager = G4UIManager::GetInstance()
20     //3. visualization manager
21     G4VisManager *visManager = new G4VisExecutive();
22     visManager->Initialize();
23     // 4. start the session - and compile to see what happens
24     ui->SessionStart();
25     return 0;
26 }
```

```
[100%] Built target dose
asoreyh@caronte:~/Dropbox/projects/geant4/geant4-course/codes/src/build$ ./dose
```

```
*****
Geant4 version Name: geant4-10-07-patch-04 (9-September-2022)
Copyright : Geant4 Collaboration
References : NIM A 506 (2003), 250-303
            : IEEE-TNS 53 (2006), 270-278
            : NIM A 835 (2016), 186-225
WWW : http://geant4.org/
*****
```

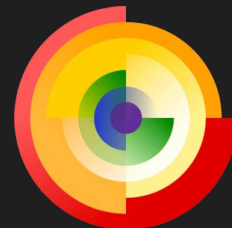
```
----- EEEE ----- G4Exception-START ----- EEEE -----
*** G4Exception : Run0033
    issued by : G4RunManager::InitializeGeometry
G4VUserDetectorConstruction is not defined!
*** Fatal Exception *** core dump ***
**** Track information is not available at this moment
**** Step information is not available at this moment
```

```
----- EEEE ----- G4Exception-END ----- EEEE -----
*** G4Exception: Aborting execution ***
Aborted (core dumped)
```

// Clearly we are still not ready for **initialize()** the **runManager** as we need to continue defining our **basics building blocks**



```
1  G4Course *MyNewCourse::Construct() {
2
3      G4Course *course = new G4Course();
4      course→title("Geant4 for Beginners. A crash course");
5      course→author("Hernán Asorey");
6      course→email("asoreyh@gmail.com");
7      course→description("a hands-on Geant4 crash course");
8      course→school("La Conga Physics");
9      course→site("github.com/asoreyh/geant4-course");
10     course→year(2023);
11     course→duration(4*h);
12     course→license("CC0 1.0 Universal");
13     return course;
14 }
```





# First step: the main code (dose.cc)

```
1 // 0. I/O operations
2 #include <iostream>
3 // 1. G4RunManager class
4 #include "G4RunManager.hh"
5 // 2. User interface
6 #include "G4UIExecutive.hh"
7 // 3. Visualization manager
8 #include "G4VisExecutive.hh"
9 #include "G4VUserDetectorConstruction.hh"
10
11 int main()
12 {
13     // 0. I/O operations
14     G4RunManager *runManager = new G4RunManager();
15     // 1. G4RunManager class
16     G4UIExecutive *ui = new G4UIExecutive(1);
17     // 2. User interface
18     G4VUserDetectorConstruction *detectorConstruction = new G4VUserDetectorConstruction();
19     runManager->SetUserInitialization(detectorConstruction);
20     // 3. Visualization manager
21     G4VisManager *visManager = new G4VisExecutive();
22     visManager->Initialize();
23     // 4. start the session - and compile to see what happens
24     ui->SessionStart();
25     return 0;
26 }
```

Before to continue we need to define our  
“volumes”, i.e., where your app detectors and  
volumes will exist and what are they made of?  
(always 3 volumes, see next)

**Create your G4VUserDetectorConstruction**  
(and register it at your runManager)

// Clearly we are still not  
ready for **initialize()** the  
**runManager** as we need to  
continue defining our **building blocks**





## // Materials

```
G4NistManager *nist = G4NistManager::Instance();
```

```
// Materials are made of elements, elements are made of isotopes
```

```
G4MaterialsDocs("https://geant4-userdoc.web.cern.ch/UsersGuides/ForApplicationDeveloper/BackupVersions/V10.7/html/GettingStarted/materialDef.html");
```

- G4Isotope ← name & index. Properties atoms ( $Z$ ,  $N$ (ucleons), molar mass)
- G4Element ← name, index & symbol. Properties elements ( $Z_{\text{eff}}$ ,  $N_{\text{eff}}$ ,  $A_{\text{eff}}$ )
- G4Material ← name & index, macroscopic properties ( $\rho$ ,  $T$ ,  $p$ , state)





## // Materials

```
1 // Materials are made of elements, elements are made of isotopes
2 G4MaterialsDocs("https://geant4-userdoc.web.cern.ch/UsersGuides/ForApplicationDe
3 veloper/BackupVersions/V10.7/html/GettingStarted/materialDef.html");
```

- G4Isotope ← name & index. Properties atoms ( $Z$ ,  $N$ (ucleons), molar mass)
- G4Element ← name, index & symbol. Properties elements ( $Z_{\text{eff}}$ ,  $N_{\text{eff}}$ ,  $A_{\text{eff}}$ )
- G4Material ← name & index, macroscopic properties ( $\rho$ ,  $T$ ,  $p$ , state)

```
7 // let's create a molecule of H2
8 // create the natural isotopes of H
9 G4Isotope *H = new G4Isotope("H", 1, 1, 1.*g/mole);
10 G4Isotope *D = new G4Isotope("D", 1, 2, 2.*g/mole);
11 // create the element as a mix of isotopes
12 G4Element *elH = new G4Element("Hydrogen", "H", 2);
13 elH->AddIsotope(H, 99.985*perCent);
14 elH->AddIsotope(D, 0.015*perCent);
// create the molecule as a material
G4Material *matH2 = new G4Material("H2", 0.08375 * kg/m3, 1);
matH2->AddElement(elH, 2);
```

Need to be created inside a  
function





## // Materials

```
G4NistManager *nist = G4NistManager::Instance();

1 // NIST database → >3000 isotopes, 108 elements, >~300 materials
2 // G4_Al, G4_C, G4_U, G4_Si, ... ← elements
3 // G4_AIR, G4_WATER, G4_CALCIUMCARBONATE, ... ← compounds
4 // G4_DNA_ADENINE, G4_CYTOSINE, ... ← biochemical compounds
5 // G4_KEVLAR, G4_DACRON, ... ← industrial materials
6 G4NistMaterialsRef("https://geant4-userdoc.web.cern.ch/UsersGuides/ForApplicationDeveloper/BackupVersions/V10.7/html/Appendix/materialNames.html?highlight=nist%20materials");
7
8 // HowTo
9 // instantiate the NIST manager
10 G4NistManager *nist = G4NistManager::Instance();
11 G4Material *matWater = nist->FindOrBuildMaterial("G4_WATER");
12 G4Material *matConcrete = nist->FindOrBuildMaterial("G4_CONCRETE");
13 G4Material *matCaCo3 = nist->FindOrBuildMaterial("G4_CALCIUMCARBONATE");
14 // List NIST materials:
nist->ListMaterials("all");//simple, compound, hep, space, bio, all
```





## // 3 types of volumes: solid, logical, physical



```
1 G4GeometryDocs("https://geant4-userdoc.web.cern.ch/UsersGuides/ForApplicationDev  
2 eloper/BackupVersions/V10.7/html/Detector/Geometry/geometry.html");  
3
```

- Solid ← what is the shape and geometry (half and half!) of your volume?

```
4  
5 G4Box *solidWorld = new G4Box("solidWorld", 0.5*m, 0.5*m, 0.5*m);  
6
```

- Logical ← what is made of?

```
7  
8  
9 G4Material *air = nist->FindOrBuildMaterial("G4_AIR");  
10 G4LogicalVolume *logicWorld = new G4LogicalVolume(solidWorld, air, "logicWorld");  
11
```

- Physical ← where the magic (interactions, ... ) occurs

```
12  
13 G4VPhysicalVolume *physWorld = new G4PVPlacement(  
14     0, G4ThreeVector(0.,0.,0.), logicWorld, "physWorld", 0, false, 0, true  
    );
```



# construction.hh/.cc: materials, volumes



```
1 #ifndef CONSTRUCTION_HH
2 #define CONSTRUCTION_HH
3 // 1. System of Units and Physical Constants (not mandatory, but...
4 always!)
5 #include "G4SystemOfUnits.hh"
6 #include "G4PhysicalConstants.hh"
7 // 2. NIST class, needed for standard materials (idem)
8 #include "G4NistManager.hh"
9 // 3. detector construction class
10 #include "G4VUserDetectorConstruction.hh"
11 // 6. Volumes: physical, logicals and placements
12 #include "G4VPhysicalVolume.hh"
13 #include "G4LogicalVolume.hh"
14 #include "G4PVPlacement.hh"
// some standard shapes
#include "G4Box.hh"
// #include "G4Sphere.hh"
// 4. choose the name of your class
class MyDetectorConstruction: public G4VUserDetectorConstruction{
// 5. The class constructor and destructor, they are public
public:
    MyDetectorConstruction();
    ~MyDetectorConstruction();
// 6. the constructor of the physical volume
// it will construct the physical volume of your system
    G4VPhysicalVolume*Construct();
};
#endif
```

```
#include "construction.hh"
// as always, first the constructor and destructor
MyDetectorConstruction::MyDetectorConstruction() {}
MyDetectorConstruction::~MyDetectorConstruction() {}
// now the construction function
G4VPhysicalVolume*MyDetectorConstruction::Construct() {
    // 1. your system is build using materials... using NIST:
    G4NistManager*nist = G4NistManager::Instance();
    // usually (but not always, world is made by Air, ie, G4_AIR)
    G4Material*worldMat = nist->FindOrBuildMaterial("G4_AIR");
    // 2. your world should have a shape. Let's do a box.
    // It always you have three volumes:
    // solid (the shapes), logical (the materials), physicals (the magic)
    // 2.1 solid: name, x/2, y/2, z/2, use the units!!!
    G4Box*solidWorld= new G4Box("solidWorld", 0.5*m, 0.5*m, 0.5*m);
    // 2.2 logical: assing the material: solid, material, name
    G4LogicalVolume*logicWorld= new G4LogicalVolume(
        solidWorld, worldMat, "logicWorld"
    );
    // 2.3 physical: where the magic occurs: rotation, position(x,y,z),
    // associated logical volume, name, motherVolume?, bools (negate
    // volumes!), numberOfCopies, check for overlaps(always)
    G4VPhysicalVolume*physWorld= new G4PVPlacement(
        0, G4ThreeVector(0.,0.,0.), logicWorld, "physWorld", 0, false, 0,
        true
    );
    return physWorld;
}
```



# And the new dose.cc

```
1 // 0. I/O operations
2 #include <iostream>
3 // 1. G4RunManager class
4 #include "G4RunManager.hh"
5 // 2. User interface
6 #include "G4UImanager.hh"
7 #include "G4UIExecutive.hh"
8 // 3. Visualization
9 #include "G4VisManager.hh"
10 #include "G4VisExecutive.hh"
11 // once the detector construction is ready, include it
12 #include "construction.hh"
13 int main(G4int argc, char** argv) {
14     //1. create the G4RunManager object
15     G4RunManager *runManager = new G4RunManager();
16     // once detector is created, then define it
17     // but we are still not ready for init
18     runManager->SetUserInitialization(new MyDetectorConstruction());
19     //5. Initialize the runManager
20     // runManager->Initialize(); //
21     //2. create the user interface
22     G4UIExecutive *ui = new G4UIExecutive(argc, argv);
23     G4UImanager *UIManager = G4UImanager::GetUIpointer();
24     //3. visualization manager
25     G4VisManager *visManager = new G4VisExecutive();
26     visManager->Initialize();
27     // 4. start the session - and compile to see what happens
28     ui->SessionStart();
29     return 0;
30 }
```

It compiles! :)

```
asoreyh@caronte:~/Dropbox/projects/geant4/geant4-course/codes/src/build$ make
[ 33%] Building CXX object CMakeFiles/dose.dir/dose.cc.o
/home/asoreyh/Dropbox/projects/geant4/geant4-course/codes/src/dose.cc: In function
'int main(G4int, char**)':
/home/asoreyh/Dropbox/projects/geant4/geant4-course/codes/src/dose.cc:26:18:
warning: unused variable 'UIManager' [-Wunused-variable]
    26 |         G4UImanager *UIManager = G4UImanager::GetUIpointer();
        |                                ^~~~~~
[ 66%] Building CXX object CMakeFiles/dose.dir/construction.cc.o
[100%] Linking CXX executable dose
[100%] Built target dose
```

But will not work... :/



# And the new dose.cc

```
1 // 0. I/O operations
2 #include <iostream>
3 // 1. G4RunManager class
4 #include "G4RunManager.hh"
5 // 2. User interface
6 #include "G4UIManager.hh"
7 #include "G4UIExecutive.hh"
8 // 3. Visualization
9 #include "G4VisManager"
10 #include "G4VisExecutive"
11 // once the detector is
12 #include "construction"
13 int main(G4int argc, char** argv)
14 {
15     //1. create the G4RunManager
16     G4RunManager *runManager = new G4RunManager();
17     // once detector is
18     // but we are still
19     runManager->SetUserInitialization(new G4VUserPhysicsList());
20     //5. Initialize the
21     // runManager->Initialize();
22     //2. create the user interface
23     G4UIExecutive *ui = new G4UIExecutive(argc, argv);
24     G4UIManager *UIManager = G4UIManager::GetUIpointer();
25     //3. visualization manager
26     G4VisManager *visManager = new G4VisExecutive();
27     visManager->Initialize();
28     // 4. start the session - and compile to see what happens
29     ui->SessionStart();
30     return 0;
31 }
```

It compiles! :)

Before to continue we need to define our “physics”, i.e., what kind of physics our app will implement?

**Create your G4VUserPhysicsList**  
(and register it at your runManager)

```
...t4-course/codes/src/build$ make
...dose.cc.o
...course/codes/src/dose.cc: In function
...course/codes/src/dose.cc:26:18:
...variable]
...r::GetUIpointer();
...construction.cc.o
```

ork... :/

# Physics, this is why we are here...



```
1 // Physics process
```

```
2  
3 Physics processes describe how particles interact with materials.
```

- 4 • electromagnetic
- 5 • hadronic
- 6 • transportation
- 7 • decay
- 8 • optical
- 9 • photolepton\_hadron
- 10 • Parameterisation

```
11  
12 G4PhysicsListDocs("https://geant4-userdoc.web.cern.ch/UsersGuides/ForApplicationDeveloper/BackupVersions/V10.7/html/TrackingAndPhysics/physicsProcess.html");
```



# PhysicsList, make it simple...

```
1 // A physics list
```

- 2 • Specify and describe all the particles that will be allowed in the app
- 3 • Specify all the physics process assigned to them
- 4 • Provides a flexible way to setup the physics of your app

```
5 // Yes, but
```

- 6 • You need to know which process are relevant for the energy scales of your application
- 7 • Your physics model accuracy will depend on the physics lists you include, but...
- 8 • ... include only what you need
- 9 • Many physics lists overlap each other

```
10 G4PhysicsListDocs(https://geant4-userdoc.web.cern.ch/UsersGuides/ForApplicationDeveloper/BackupVersions/V10.7/html/UserActions/mandatoryActions.html?highlight=physicslist#physics-lists);
```

... but no so simple... So → Modular PL



- There are several ready-to-use modular physics lists
- They were constructed by experts, but they are given as it is...
- Many physics lists overlap each other
- Some current lists, all includes HAD, EM, Decays, neutrons
  - FTFP\_BERT ← Current G4 default (collider physics)
  - FTFP\_BERT\_HP ← Idem FTFP\_BERT but n with  $E_n < 20$  MeV are treated separately by the HP neutron models. Requires G4NDL and RadiativeDecay
  - Shielding ← Simulation of deep shielding (includes HP)
  - QGSP\_BERT ← former G4 default. Similar but replaced by FTFP\_BERT
  - QGSP\_BERT\_HP ← Idem
  - G4OpticalPhysics ← Cherenkov and Scintillation (→photon process)
  - G4EmStandardPhysics ← EM constructors, see the docs

```
G4PhysicsListGuide("https://geant4-userdoc.web.cern.ch/UsersGuides/PhysicsListGuide/BackupVersions/V10.7/html/index.html");
```



# So, Physics → 3 alternative ways



- Start from scratch → outside the scope of this course (see the docs)

- Use Physics constructors → let's see for a simple cases

- Create a class (suggest to create physics.hh and physics.cc)

```
class MyPhysicsList : public G4VModularPhysicsList
```

- Construct the list

```
MyPhysicsList::MyPhysicsList () {
```

```
    RegisterPhysics (new G4EmStandardPhysics ()); // EM constructor
```

```
    RegisterPhysics (new G4OpticalPhysics ()); // for optical processes
```

```
}
```

- Register the list in the RunManager (dose.cc)

```
runManager->SetUserInitialization (new MyPhysicsList ());
```

- Or, use Physics List factory → **highly recommended, directly at the main app**

```
#include "G4PhysListFactory.hh" // uncomment if you are using PL factory
```

```
const G4String physicsListName = "FTFP_BERT_HP";
```

```
// [...]
```

```
G4PhysListFactory physicsListFactory;
```

```
physicsListFactory.SetVerbose (1);
```

```
G4VModularPhysicsList *physicsList = physicsListFactory.GetReferencePhysList (physicsListName);
```

```
runManager->SetUserInitialization (physicsList);
```





# There we go... physics.hh/.cc



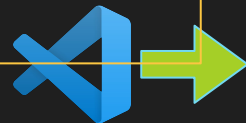
```
1 #ifndef CONSTRUCTION_HH
2 #define CONSTRUCTION_HH
3 // 1. System of Units (not mandatory, but... always!)
4 #include "G4SystemOfUnits.hh"
5 // 2. NIST class, needed for standard materials (idem)
6 #include "G4NistManager.hh"
7 // 3. detector construction class
8 #include "G4VUserDetectorConstruction.hh"
9 // 6. Volumes: physical, logicals and placements
10 #include "G4VPhysicalVolume.hh"
11 #include "G4LogicalVolume.hh"
12 #include "G4PVPlacement.hh"
13 // some standard shapes
14 #include "G4Box.hh"
15 // #include "G4Sphere.hh"
16 // 4. choose the name of your class
17 class MyDetectorConstruction : public G4VUserDetectorConstruction {
18 // 5. The class constructor and destructor, they are public
19 public:
20     MyDetectorConstruction();
21     ~MyDetectorConstruction();
22 // 6. the constructor of the physical volume
23 //     it will construct the physical volume of your system
24     G4VPhysicalVolume *Construct();
25 };
26 #endif
```

```
#include "physics.hh"

// 1. Create the constructor
MyPhysicsList::MyPhysicsList() {
    RegisterPhysics (new G4EmStandardPhysics()); //
    only use what you need
    RegisterPhysics (new G4OpticalPhysics());
}

// 2. Create the destructor
MyPhysicsList::~~MyPhysicsList() {
}

// 3. Register in the main app file ->
```



# And the new lines at dose.cc

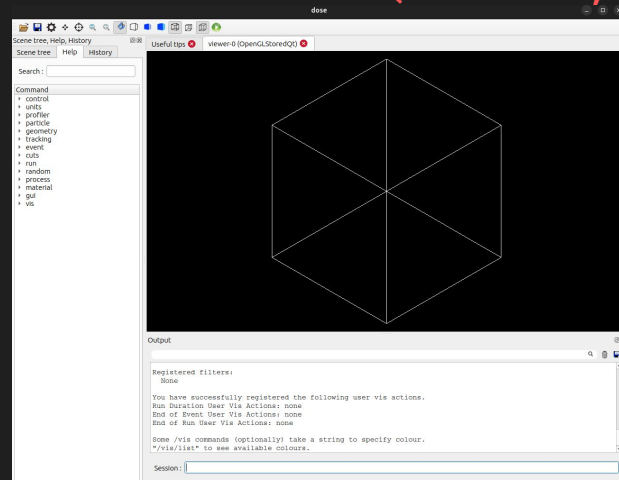


It compiles! :)

```
1 // [...]
2 // once the physics list is ready, include it
3 #include "physics.hh"
4
5 int main(G4int argc, char** argv) {
6
7 // [...]
8 // once the physics is created, register it
9 runManager->SetUserInitialization(new MyPhysicsList());
10
11 // [...]
12 // after the physics, draw the OGL and set the viewpoint...
13 UIManager->ApplyCommand("/vis/open OGL");
14 UIManager->ApplyCommand("/vis/viewer/set/viewpointVector 1 1 1");
15 // ... draw the volumes
16 UIManager->ApplyCommand("/vis/drawVolume");
17
18 // [...]
19 }
```

```
asoreyh@caronte:~/Dropbox/projects/geant4/geant4-course/codes/src/build$ make
[ 33%] Building CXX object CMakeFiles/dose.dir/dose.cc.o
/home/asoreyh/Dropbox/projects/geant4/geant4-course/codes/src/dose.cc: In function
'int main(G4int, char**)':
/home/asoreyh/Dropbox/projects/geant4/geant4-course/codes/src/dose.cc:26:18:
warning: unused variable 'UIManager' [-Wunused-variable]
   26 |         G4UIManager *UIManager = G4UIManager::GetUIpointer();
      |         ^~~~~~
[ 66%] Building CXX object CMakeFiles/dose.dir/construction.cc.o
[100%] Linking CXX executable dose
[100%] Built target dose
asoreyh@caronte:~/Dropbox/projects/geant4/geant4-course/codes/src/build$ ./dose
```

And works! (I know, I know)





# And the new lines at dose.cc

It compiles! :)

```
// [...]  
// once the physics list is ready, include it  
#include "physics.hh"
```

```
int main(G4int argc, char** argv) {
```

```
// [...]
```

```
// once the physics list is ready, include it  
runManager->SetPhysicsListFactory(new PhysicsListFactory);
```

```
// [...]  
// after the physics list is ready, create the user actions  
UIManager->AddUserAction(new G4VUserActionInitialization);
```

```
UIManager->AddUserAction(new G4VUserPrimaryGeneratorAction);
```

```
// ... draw the geometry  
UIManager->AddUserAction(new G4VUserEventAction);
```

```
// [...]  
}
```

Ok, we have volumes, materials and physics...  
We are almost ready → we need actions!

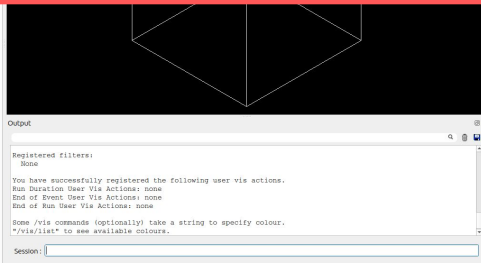
**Create your G4VUserActionInitialization  
and G4VUserPrimaryGeneratorAction**  
(and register them at your runManager)

```
asoreyh@caronte:~/Dropbox/projects/geant4/geant4-course/codes/src/build$ make  
[ 33%] Building CXX object CMakeFiles/dose.dir/dose.cc.o  
/home/asoreyh/Dropbox/projects/geant4/geant4-course/codes/src/dose.cc: In function
```

```
void dose.cc:26:18:
```

```
build$ ./dose
```

(now)



# Actions, let's the things evolve



```
// We need two interfaces
```

- **G4VUserActionInitialization** is an interface to create and register the **G4VUserPrimaryGeneratorAction** (mandatory) and other user actions
  - Build() ← function
- **G4VUserPrimaryGeneratorAction** is an interface (action!) to describe how the primary particles (injection) should be produced
  - GenerateParticles() ← function
  - Typically, but not always → **G4ParticleGun**
  -



# There we go... action.hh/.cc



```
1 #ifndef ACTION_HH
2 #define ACTION_HH
3
4 #include "G4VUserActionInitialization.hh"
5
6 #include "G4VUserPrimaryGeneratorAction.hh"
7 #include "G4ParticleGun.hh"
8 #include "G4ParticleTable.hh"
9 #include "G4SystemOfUnits.hh"
10
11 class MyActionInitialization: public G4VUserActionInitialization{
12 public:
13   MyActionInitialization();
14   ~MyActionInitialization();
15   virtual void Build() const; // our main function
16 };
17
18 class MyPrimaryGenerator: public G4VUserPrimaryGeneratorAction{
19 public:
20   MyPrimaryGenerator();
21   ~MyPrimaryGenerator();
22   virtual void GeneratePrimaries(G4Event*);
23
24 private:
25   G4ParticleGun *fParticleGun;
26 };
27 #endif
```

```
#include "action.hh"
MyActionInitialization:MyActionInitialization() {}
MyActionInitialization::~MyActionInitialization() {}
void MyActionInitialization:Build() const {
  MyPrimaryGenerator*generator = new MyPrimaryGenerator();
  SetUserAction(generator);
}
MyPrimaryGenerator:MyPrimaryGenerator() {
  fParticleGun = new G4ParticleGun(1);
}
MyPrimaryGenerator::~MyPrimaryGenerator() {
  delete fParticleGun;
}
void MyPrimaryGenerator:GeneratePrimaries(G4Event *anEvent) {
  G4ParticleTable *particleTable = G4ParticleTable::GetParticleTable();
  G4String particleName = "proton";
  G4ParticleDefinition*particle = particleTable->FindParticle(particleName);
  G4ThreeVector pos(0., 0., 0.);
  G4ThreeVector momdir(0., 0., 1.);
  G4double particleKEnergy= 100. * MeV;
  fParticleGun->SetParticlePosition(pos);
  fParticleGun->SetParticleMomentumDirection(momdir);
  fParticleGun->SetParticleEnergy(particleKEnergy);
  fParticleGun->SetParticleDefinition(particle);
  fParticleGun->GeneratePrimaryVertex(anEvent);
}
// and finally inform our application to draw the trajectory -> dose.cc
```

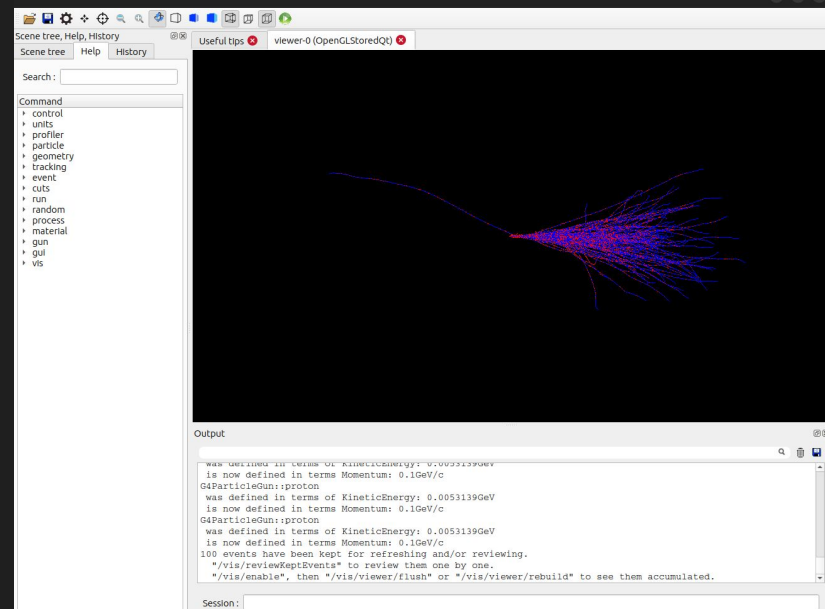
# And the new lines at dose.cc



It compiles! :)

```
1 // [...]
2 // once the action is ready, include it
3 #include "action.hh"
4
5 int main(G4int argc, char** argv) {
6
7     // [...]
8
9     // once the physics is created, register it
10    runManager->SetUserInitialization(new MyPhysicsList());
11
12    // [...]
13    // after actions ... draw the particle trajectory
14    UIManager->ApplyCommand("/vis/viewer/set/autorefresh true");
15    UIManager->ApplyCommand("/vis/scene/add/trajectories smooth");
16    // for viewing many trajectories together, comment if no needed
17    UIManager->ApplyCommand("/vis/scene/endOfEventAction accumulate");
18
19    // [...]
20 }
```

```
asoreyh@inferno:~/Dropbox/projects/geant4/geant4-course/codes/src/build$ make
[ 20%] Building CXX object CMakeFiles/dose.dir/dose.cc.o
[ 40%] Building CXX object CMakeFiles/dose.dir/action.cc.o
[ 60%] Building CXX object CMakeFiles/dose.dir/construction.cc.o
[ 80%] Building CXX object CMakeFiles/dose.dir/physics.cc.o
[100%] Linking CXX executable dose
[100%] Built target dose
asoreyh@caronte:~/Dropbox/projects/geant4/geant4-course/codes/src/build$ ./dose
```



And it works! :)



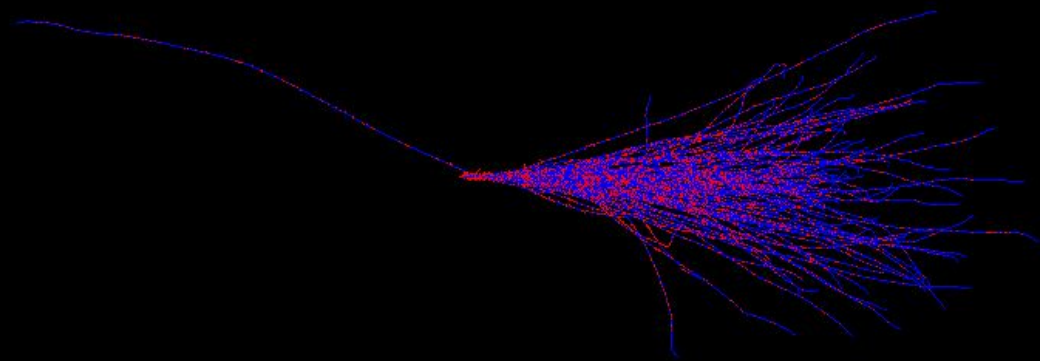
# And the new lines at dose.cc

```
1 // Some useful uiManager commands
2
3 UIManager->ApplyCommand("/vis/open OGL");    // open the visualization
4 UIManager->ApplyCommand("/vis/viewer/set/viewpointVector 1 1 1"); // set view point
5
6 UIManager->ApplyCommand("/vis/ogl/set/displayListLimit 50000"); // vertex to be visualized
7
8 UIManager->ApplyCommand("/vis/drawVolume"); // draw the volumes
9
10 UIManager->ApplyCommand("/vis/viewer/set/autorefresh true"); // draw particle trajectories
11
12 UIManager->ApplyCommand("/vis/scene/add/trajectories smooth"); // use smooth traj (magnetic field!)
13
14 UIManager->ApplyCommand("/vis/scene/endOfEventAction accumulate 300"); // accumulate events display
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```

# Computational physics is beautiful



```
1 // [.
2 // on
3 #incl
4
5 int m
6
7 // [.
8 // af
9 UIMan
10 UIMan
11 // fo
12 UIMan
13
14 // [.
15 }
```

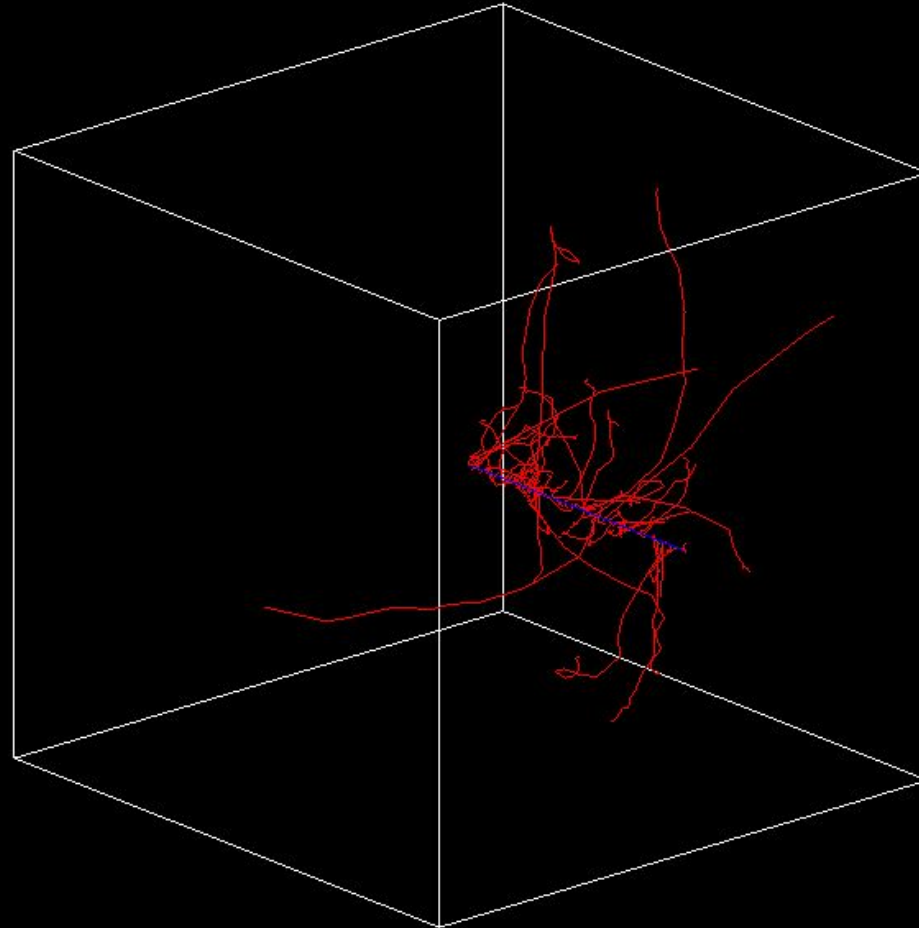


ld\$ make

ld\$ ./dose



# More energy means more fun (10 GeV)

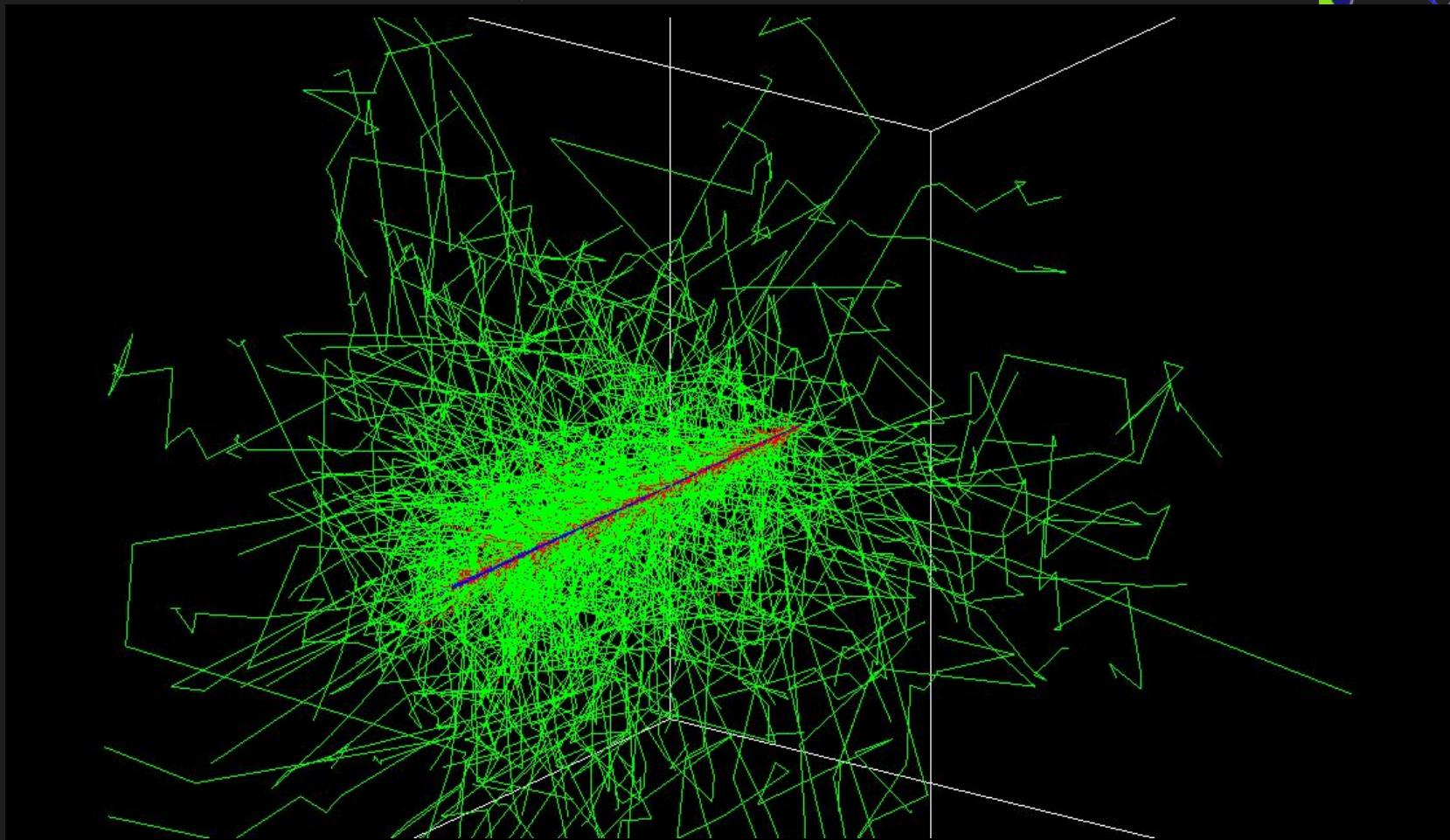


1  
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increase density, increase fun (water)



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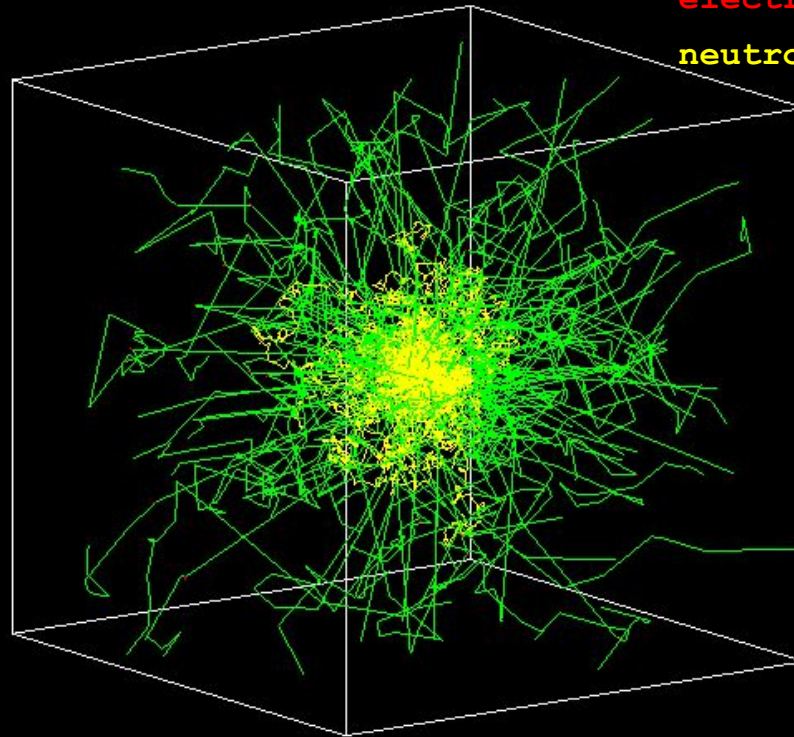
# FTFP\_BERT\_HP, n, 1 MeV in water



:)

```
geant4/geant4-course/codes/src/build$ make  
:s/dose.dir/dose.cc.o  
:s/dose.dir/action.cc.o  
:s/dose.dir/construction.cc.o  
:s/dose.dir/physics.cc.o
```

```
geant4/geant4-course/codes/src/build$ ./dose
```



```
1 // [...]  
2 // once the action is r  
3 #include "action.hh"  
4  
5 int main(G4int argc, cha  
6  
7 // [...]  
8 // once the physics is  
9 runManager->SetUserInit  
10  
11 // [...]  
12 // after actions ... dr  
13 UIManager->ApplyCommand  
14 UIManager->ApplyCommand  
15 // for viewing many tra  
16 UIManager->ApplyCommand  
17  
18 // [...]  
19 }
```



Wait! Up to now:

**We have the basis of an app for simulate many physics applications**

- Your main app base code (dose.cc) including:
  - The visManager
  - The uiManager
  - The runManager
    - MyDetectorConstruction
    - MyPhysicsList
    - MyPrimaryGeneratorAction
    - MyActionInitialization



# Wait! Before changing all your codes



- Git is a wonderful tool. If you don't know how to use it please please please learn the basis (see e.g. this official tutorial):

G4GitTutorial(["https://docs.github.com/en/get-started/quickstart/hello-world"](https://docs.github.com/en/get-started/quickstart/hello-world));

- I recommend you to create a new branch and work directly on it. So, in your repository, checkout the master branch:

```
$ git checkout -b testing
```

- Here, 'testing' is the name I selected for the branch. You can use whatever you prefer. Let's check if we are in the correct branch

```
$ git branch
```

```
master
```

```
* testing
```

- For going back to the master branch, just:

```
$ git checkout master
```



Now we are safe, let's code:



- **Before to continue... you MUST play a lot with the different options. You should try, at least:**
  - Different materials (build your own and/or use the NIST DB)
  - Different particles (check the docs)
  - Different energies (see what happens)
  - Different shapes (check the docs)
  - Different physics lists

# Now we are safe, let's code:



- Perhaps you introduce a lots of changes in your 'testing' branch
- You can merge them into the master branch or continue developing in your testing branch
- Now we let's start working in the 'final' app. Somethings needs to be done.

- Copy the 'base' directory to the new 'final' directory

```
$ cd /path/to/apps/
```

```
$ cp -r base final
```

- Simple but wrong way to avoid building issues: change the CMakeList name in the base app.

```
$ cd base
```

```
$ mv CMakeLists.txt CMakeLists.off # use the name you want.
```



# Let's define some bio materials and e<sup>-</sup>



- We want to construct a new volume (box?) of skeletal muscle

```
G4Material *muscle = nist->FindOrBuildMaterial("G4_MUSCLE_SKELETAL_ICRP");
```

- And add the corresponding solid, logic and physical volume:

- The 'solid' volume, shapes

```
G4Box *solidMuscle = new G4Box("solidMuscle", 0.025*m, 0.025*m, 0.025*m);
```

- The 'logic' volume, materials

```
G4LogicalVolume *logicMuscle = new G4LogicalVolume(solidMuscle, muscle, "logicMuscle");
```

- The 'physics' volume, placement and mother volumes

```
G4VPhysicalVolume *physMuscle = new G4PVPlacement(  
    0, G4ThreeVector(0., 0., 0.10*m), logicMuscle, "physMuscle", logicWorld, false, 0, true);
```

This is the 'mother' volume

- Let's use a beam of 10 MeV e<sup>-</sup> (action.cc)

```
G4String particleName = "e-";    // me = 0.511 MeV  
G4double particleKEnergy = 10. * MeV;    // ~20 me
```

$$\begin{cases} E^2 = p^2 + m^2 \\ E = \gamma m \\ K = (\gamma - 1)m \end{cases}$$







# A comment about doses

- **Absorbed dose** → Physical magnitude, the energy deposited in matter by ionizing radiation per unit mass

$$D = \frac{E_d}{m}$$

unit: gray (Gy) → [D] = Gy = J kg<sup>-1</sup> (1 rad = 10<sup>2</sup> erg/g = 10<sup>-2</sup> Gy)

- **Equivalent dose** → stochastic health effects by ionizing radiation R (biological effectiveness, depends on type and E) in a tissue T,

Total equivalent dose in the tissue T

$$H_T = \sum_R w_R D_{R,T}$$

Sum over all the radiation types and energies involved

Radiation weighting factor (regulations)

Absorbed dose by the tissue T due to exposure

- Unit: sievert (Sv) → [H] = Sv = J kg<sup>-1</sup> (1 rem = 10<sup>-2</sup> Sv)

# A comment about doses

- **Effective dose** → stochastic health risk to the whole body due to radiation exposure. It takes the nature and biological response of each tissue

$$E = \sum_T w_T H_T$$

Effective dose →  $E$  (Sum over all tissues)  $\sum_T$  (Tissue weighting factor (regulations))  $w_T$  (Equivalent dose absorbed by tissue T)  $H_T$

$$E = \sum_T w_T \sum_R w_R \bar{D}_{R,T}$$

$\bar{D}_{R,T}$  (Mass-averaged absorbed dose)

- Unit: sievert (Sv) →  $[H] = \text{Sv} = \text{J kg}^{-1}$  (1 rem =  $10^{-2}$  Sv)





# Weighting factors $w_R$ and $w_T$

Wrixon (2008),

[doi:10.1088/0952-4746/28/2/R02](https://doi.org/10.1088/0952-4746/28/2/R02)

Harrison (2021),

[doi:10.1088/1361-6498/abe548](https://doi.org/10.1088/1361-6498/abe548)

**Table 2.** Recommended radiation weighting factors.

| Radiation type                                 | Radiation weighting factor, $w_R$       |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Photons                                        | 1                                       |
| Electrons and muons                            | 1                                       |
| Protons and charged pions                      | 2                                       |
| Alpha particles, fission fragments, heavy ions | 20                                      |
| Neutrons                                       | A continuous function of neutron energy |

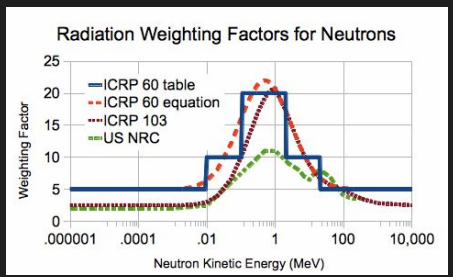
**Table 1.** Summary of ICRP publication 103 nominal cancer risks and detriment for uniform whole-body exposure to gamma rays for the whole population, 0–84 years of age (from table A.4.1, publication 103, Annex A).

| Tissue             | Nominal risk<br>coefficient<br>(cases per 10 000<br>persons per Gy) | Detriment | Relative<br>detriment <sup>+</sup> | Tissue weighting<br>factor, $w_T$ |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|                    |                                                                     |           |                                    |                                   |
| Oesophagus         | 15                                                                  | 13.1      | 0.023                              | 0.04                              |
| Stomach            | 79                                                                  | 67.7      | 0.118                              | 0.12                              |
| Colon              | 65                                                                  | 47.9      | 0.083                              | 0.12                              |
| Liver              | 30                                                                  | 26.6      | 0.046                              | 0.04                              |
| Lung               | 114                                                                 | 90.3      | 0.157                              | 0.12                              |
| Bone surface       | 7                                                                   | 5.1       | 0.009                              | 0.01                              |
| Skin               | 1000                                                                | 4.0       | 0.007                              | 0.01                              |
| Breast             | 112                                                                 | 79.8      | 0.139                              | 0.12                              |
| Ovary              | 11                                                                  | 9.9       | 0.017                              | — <sup>a</sup>                    |
| Bladder            | 43                                                                  | 16.7      | 0.029                              | 0.04                              |
| Thyroid            | 33                                                                  | 12.7      | 0.022                              | 0.04                              |
| Bone marrow        | 42                                                                  | 61.5      | 0.107                              | 0.12                              |
| Other solid        | 144                                                                 | 113.5     | 0.198                              | 0.12                              |
| Gonads (Heritable) | 20                                                                  | 25.4      | 0.044                              | 0.08                              |
| Total              | 1715                                                                | 574       | 1.000                              | 1.00 <sup>b</sup>                 |

<sup>a</sup> Included in  $w_T$  for Gonads.

<sup>b</sup> Brain and Salivary glands also each assigned  $w_T = 0.01$ .

$$w_n = \begin{cases} 2.5 + 18.2 \exp\left[-\frac{1}{6} \ln(E_n)^2\right] & E_n < 1 \text{ MeV} \\ 5.0 + 17.0 \exp\left[-\frac{1}{6} \ln(2E_n)^2\right] & 1 \leq E_n \leq 50 \text{ MeV} \\ 2.5 + 3.25 \exp\left[-\frac{1}{6} \ln(0.04E_n)^2\right] & E_n > 50 \text{ MeV} \end{cases}$$



$w_n$  is still controversial, see, e.g., [this presentation](#)





# Weighting factors $w_R$ and $w_T$

Wrixon (2008),

[doi:10.1088/0952-4746/28/2/R02](https://doi.org/10.1088/0952-4746/28/2/R02)

Harrison (2021),

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Table 2. Recommended

Radiation type

Photons

Electrons and

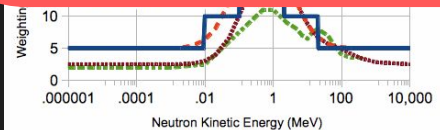
Protons and c

Alpha particle

Neutrons

Let's Think on how the total deposited energy can be obtained. What do we need to do?

$$w_n = \begin{cases} 2 \\ 5 \\ 2 \end{cases}$$



$w_n$  is still controversial, see, e.g., [this presentation](#)

Effects and detriment for uni-  
on, 0–84 years of age

Effective Tissue weighting  
factor,  $w_T$

0.04

0.12

0.12

0.04

0.12

0.01

0.01

0.12

—<sup>a</sup>

0.04

0.04

0.07

0.12

0.198

0.12

Gonads (Heritable)

20

25.4

0.044

0.08

Total

1715

574

1.000

1.00<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Included in  $w_T$  for Gonads.

<sup>b</sup> Brain and Salivary glands also each assigned  $w_T = 0.01$ .





# Weighting factors $w_R$ and $w_T$

Wrixon (2008),

[doi:10.1088/0952-4746/28/2/R02](https://doi.org/10.1088/0952-4746/28/2/R02)

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Table 2. Recommended

Radiation type

Photons

Electrons and

Protons and

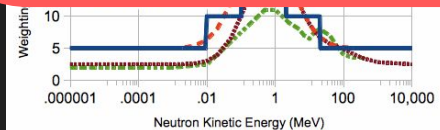
Alpha particles

Neutrons

Let's Think on how the total deposited energy can be obtained. What do we need to do?

To do that, we need to include methods that allow us to perform “user” actions when:

- **G4UserRunAction:** the **run** starts/end
- **G4UserEventAction:** the **event** starts/end
- **G4UserStepAction:** the **step** starts/end



$w_n$  is still controversial, see, e.g., [this presentation](#)

risks and detriment for uniform exposure, 0–84 years of age

Tissue weighting factor,  $w_T$

0.04

0.12

0.12

0.04

0.12

0.01

0.01

0.12

—<sup>a</sup>

0.04

0.04

0.07

0.198

0.12

Gonads (Heritable)

20

25.4

0.044

0.08

Total

1715

574

1.000

1.00<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Included in  $w_T$  for Gonads.

<sup>b</sup> Brain and Salivary glands also each assigned  $w_T = 0.01$ .



# G4UserRunAction (and Event and Step)



- Allow tp get control before/after a run. Provides a run-object (G4Run)
  - It is needed when you want to take actions before/after the run starts/ends (before first event processing/after last event processed)
- Imagine you want to store all the hits in a certain volume (e.g. detector)
- In our case, for the sake of completitude, let's use a root file instead of an ASCII (text) file
- We shall use the g4root standalone libraries for not depending on root installation

```
#include "g4root.hh"
```



- Done. Now, all your root knowledge can be included in your app
- **G4UserEventAction** and **G4UserRunAction** are similar but acting for **events** and **steps**

# There we go... run.hh/.cc



```
1 #ifndef RUN_HH
2 #define RUN_HH
3
4 #include "G4UserRunAction.hh"
5 #include "g4root.hh" //always! root geant4 standalone
6 libraries
7
8 class MyRunAction : public G4UserRunAction {
9 public:
10     MyRunAction();
11     ~MyRunAction();
12
13     virtual void BeginOfRunAction(const G4Run*);
14     virtual void EndOfRunAction(const G4Run*);
15 };
16
17 #endif
```

```
#include "run.hh"
MyRunAction::MyRunAction() {}
MyRunAction::~MyRunAction() {}

void MyRunAction::BeginOfRunAction(const G4Run*) {
    G4AnalysisManager *root = G4AnalysisManager::Instance();
    root->OpenFile("doses.root");
    // create the NTuple
    root->CreateNtuple("doses", "doses");
    // information to be stored in columns
    // root->CreateNtupleIColumn("fEvent");
    root->CreateNtupleDColumn("fEDep");
    // root->CreateNtupleDColumn("fmass");
    // root->CreateNtupleDColumn("fAbsDose");
    root->FinishNtuple(0); // close the NTuple
}

void MyRunAction::EndOfRunAction(const G4Run*) {
    G4AnalysisManager *root = G4AnalysisManager::Instance();
    root->Write(); // always write before to close
    root->CloseFile();
}
```



# G4UserEventAction (new files: event.hh/.cc)



```
1 #ifndef EVENT_HH
2 #define EVENT_HH
3
4 #include "G4UserEventAction.hh"
5 #include "G4Event.hh"
6 #include "g4root.hh"
7 #include "run.hh"
8
9 class MyEventAction : public G4UserEventAction {
10 public:
11     MyEventAction(MyRunAction*);
12     ~MyEventAction();
13
14     virtual void BeginOfEventAction(const G4Event*);
15     virtual void EndOfEventAction(const G4Event*);
16
17     void AddEDep(G4double EDep);
18
19 private:
20     G4double fEDep;
21 };
22
23 #endif
```

```
#include "event.hh"
MyEventAction::MyEventAction(MyRunAction*) {
    fEDep = 0.;
}

MyEventAction::~MyEventAction() {}

void MyEventAction::BeginOfEventAction(const G4Event*) {
    // we want to get the deposited energy for each event, then
    // we need to put it to 0. each time the event starts.
    // Otherwise, we will get the total accumulated Ed (later)
    // comment if you want the total accumulated energy
    // first test in an event basis
    fEDep = 0.;
}

void MyEventAction::EndOfEventAction(const G4Event*) {
    G4cout << "Energy deposition: " << fEDep << G4endl;
    G4AnalysisManager *root = G4AnalysisManager::Instance();
    root->FillNtupleDColumn(0, fEDep);
    root->AddNtupleRow(0);
}

void MyEventAction::AddEDep(G4double EDep) {
    fEDep += EDep;
}
```

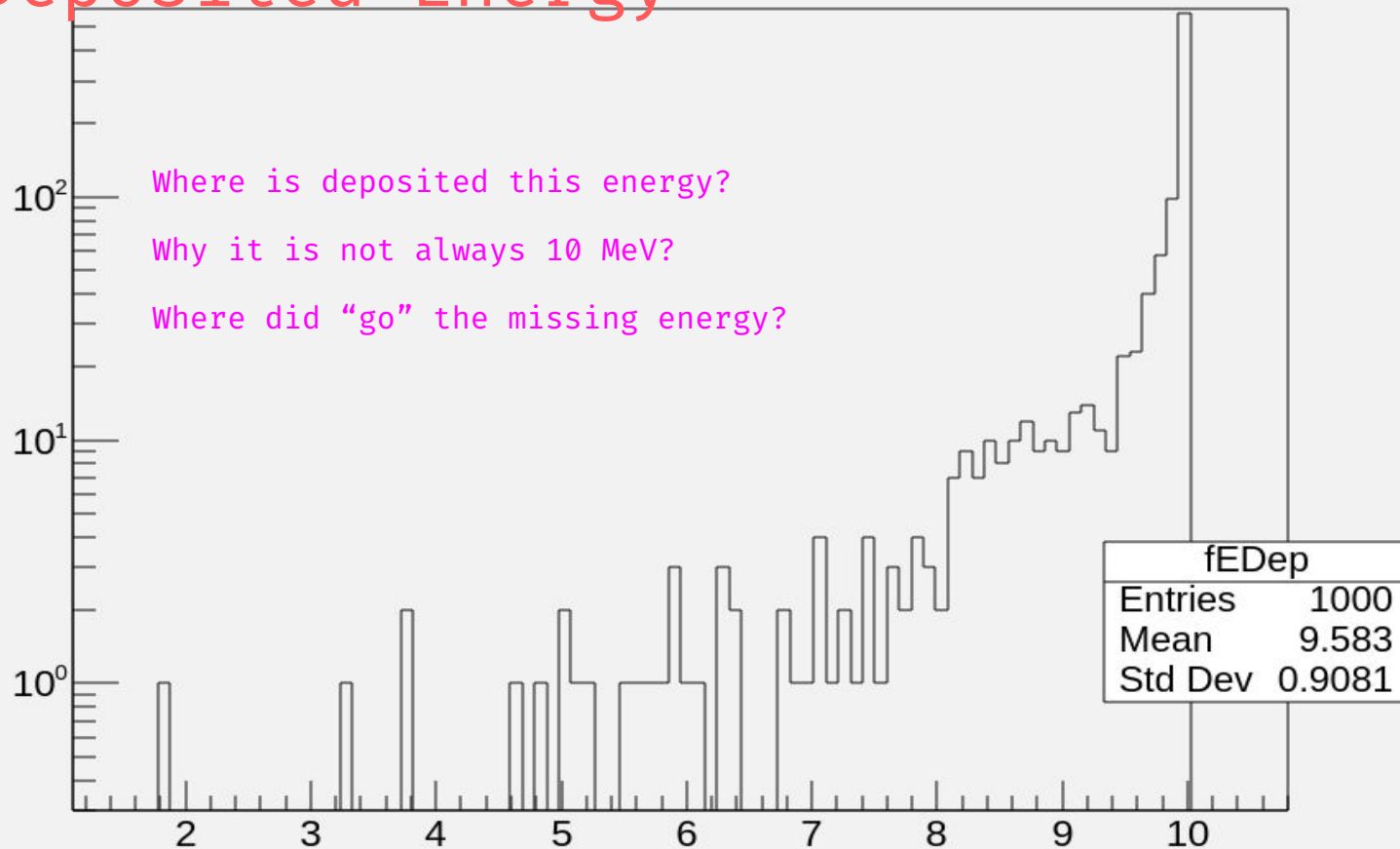
# G4UserSteppingAction (new files: stepping.hh/.cc)



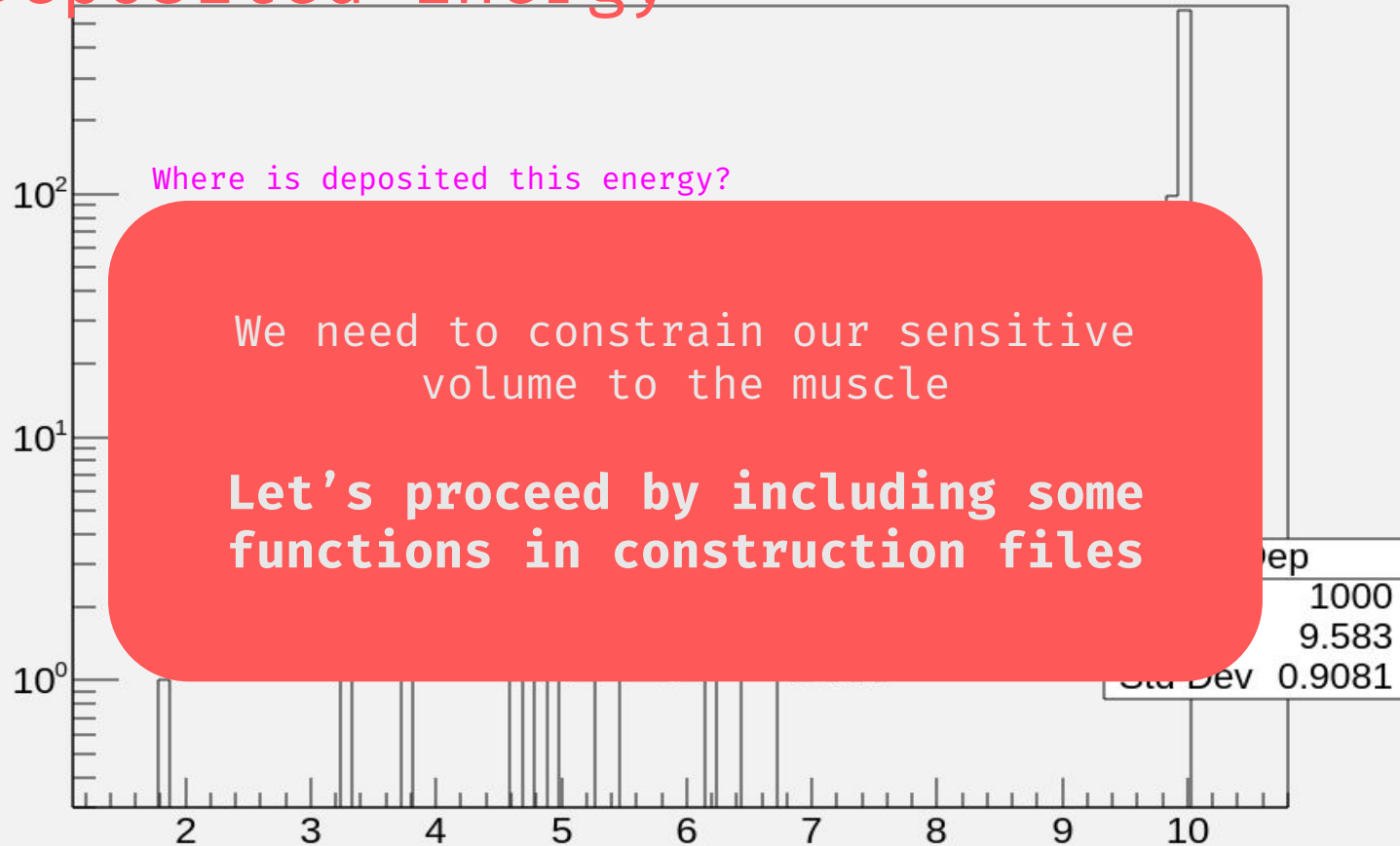
```
1 #ifndef STEPPING_HH
2 #define STEPPING_HH
3
4 #include "G4UserSteppingAction.hh"
5 #include "G4Step.hh"
6
7 #include "construction.hh"
8 #include "event.hh"
9
10 class MySteppingAction : public G4UserSteppingAction {
11 public:
12     MySteppingAction(MyEventAction *eventAction);
13     ~MySteppingAction();
14
15     virtual void UserSteppingAction(const G4Step*);
16
17 private:
18     MyEventAction *fEventAction;
19 };
20 #endif
```

```
#include "stepping.hh"
MySteppingAction::MySteppingAction(MyEventAction *eventAction) {
    fEventAction = eventAction;
}
MySteppingAction::~MySteppingAction() {}
void MySteppingAction::UserSteppingAction(const G4Step *step) {
    // deposited energy is stored at each step
    G4double stepEDep = step->GetTotalEnergyDeposit(); // this is
    for all volumes
    fEventAction->AddEDep(stepEDep);
}
```

# Deposited Energy



# Deposited Energy



# We need to know if the particle is in the sensitive vol



- At 'construction' we need to define our sensitive volume, and we need to build a function to export this logical volume

```
// in the class definition
```

```
private:
```

```
    G4LogicalVolume *fSensitiveVolume;
```

```
// in the constructor definition
```

```
G4LogicalVolume *GetSensitiveVolume() const { return fSensitiveVolume;}
```

```
// define the logical volume in the construction.cc
```

```
fSensitiveVolume = logicMuscle;
```

- Now, all the information about the current position of the particle is in stepping

```
// *volume is the LogicalVolume where the particle is located
```

```
G4LogicalVolume *volume =
```

```
    step->GetPreStepPoint()->GetTouchableHandle()->GetVolume()->GetLogicalVolume();
```

```
// we need to get an object including the volumes we constructed
```

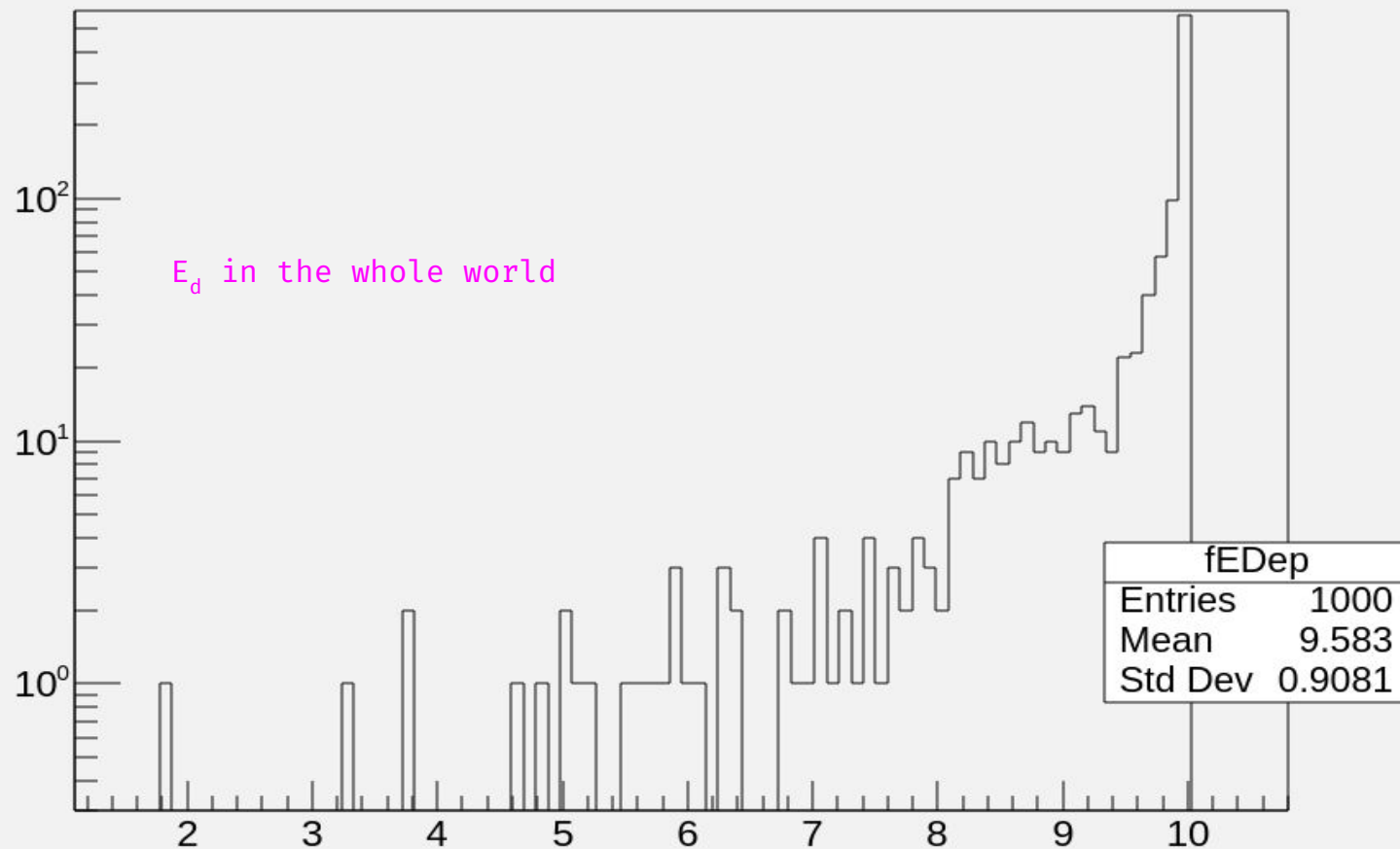
```
const MyDetectorConstruction *detectorConstruction = static_cast<const
```

```
    MyDetectorConstruction*>(G4RunManager::GetRunManager()->GetUserDetectorConstruction());
```

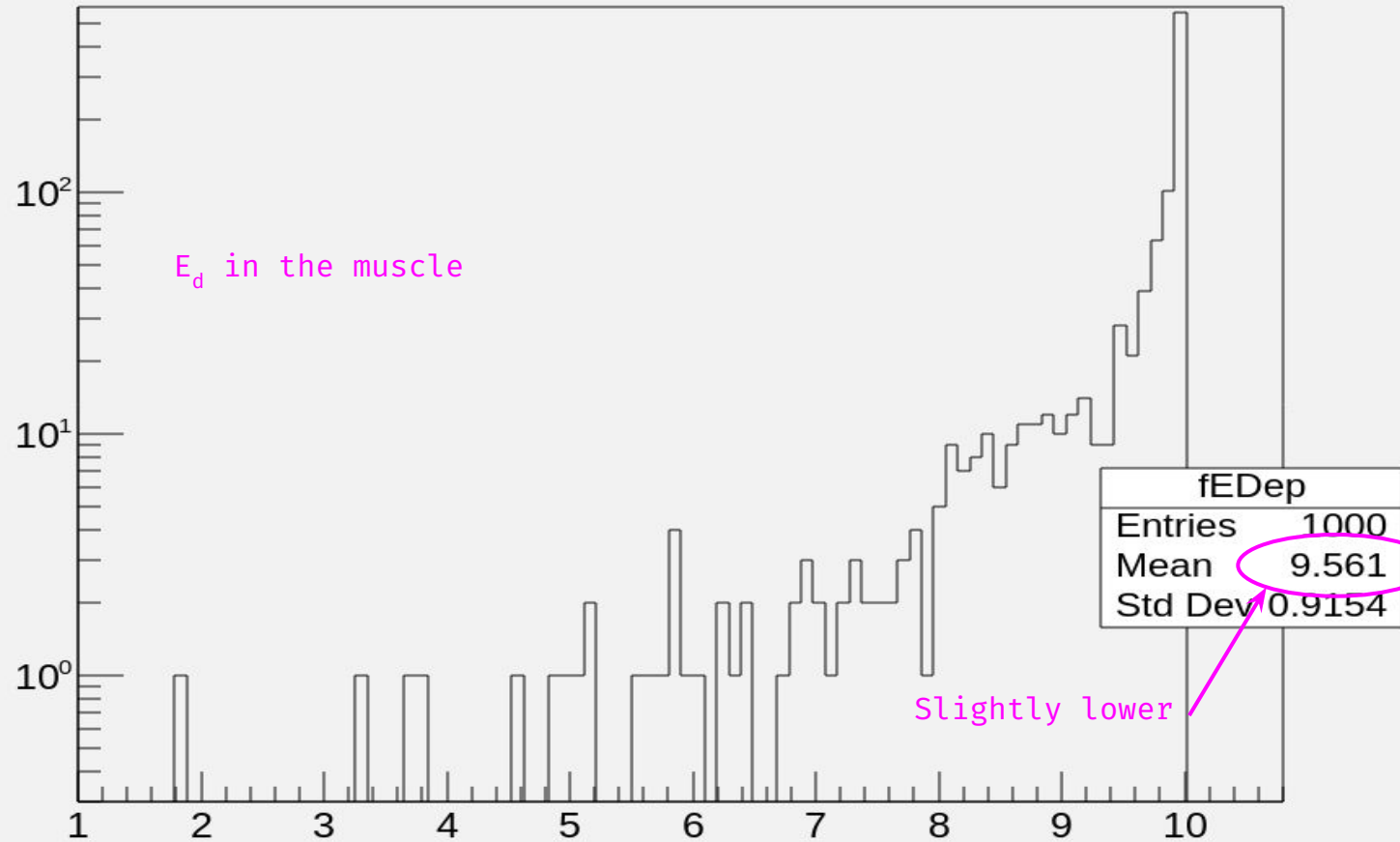
```
// and *fSensitiveVolume is our selected sensitive volume
```

```
G4LogicalVolume *fSensitiveVolume = detectorConstruction->GetSensitiveVolume();
```

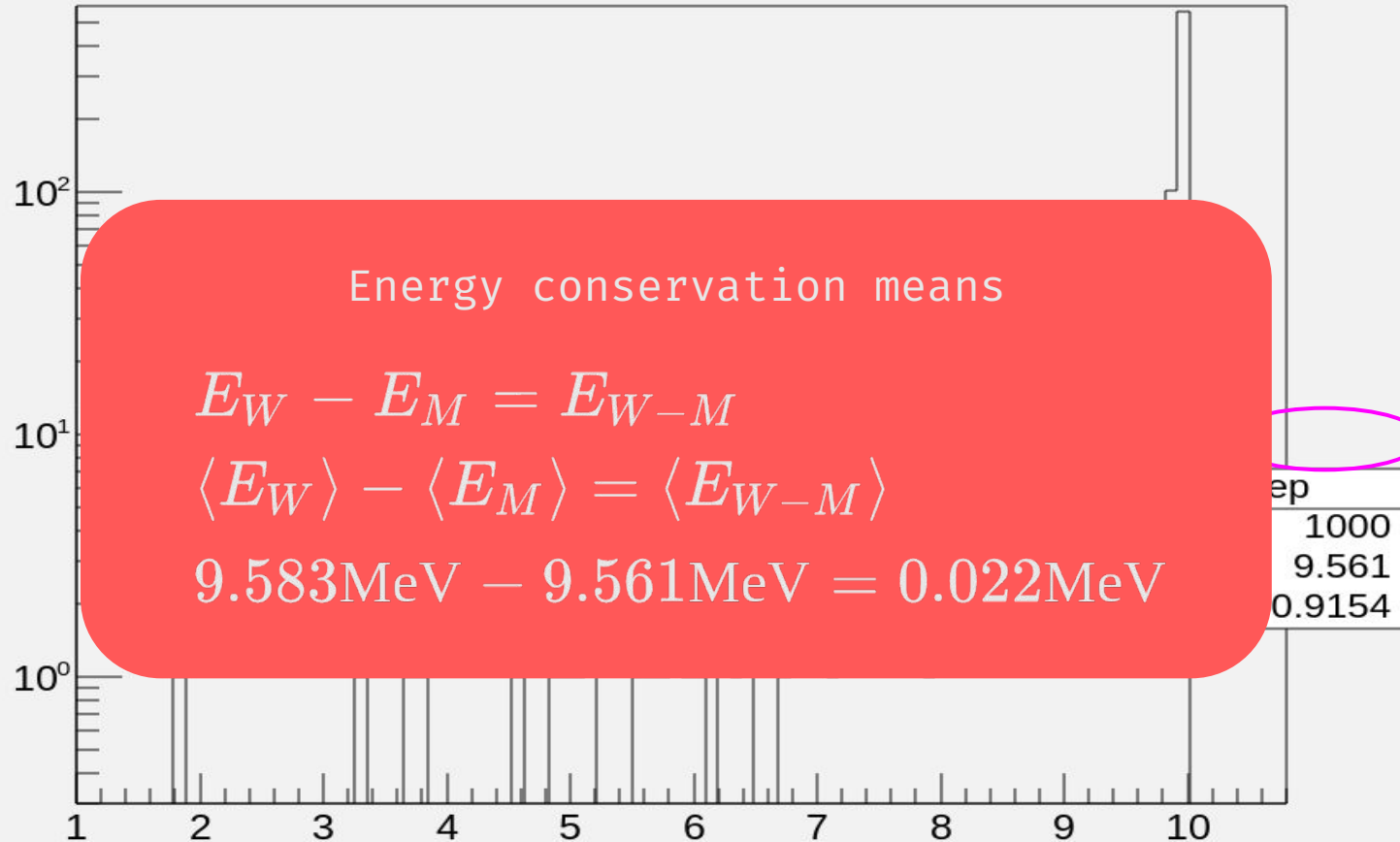
# fEDep



# fEDep



# fEDep

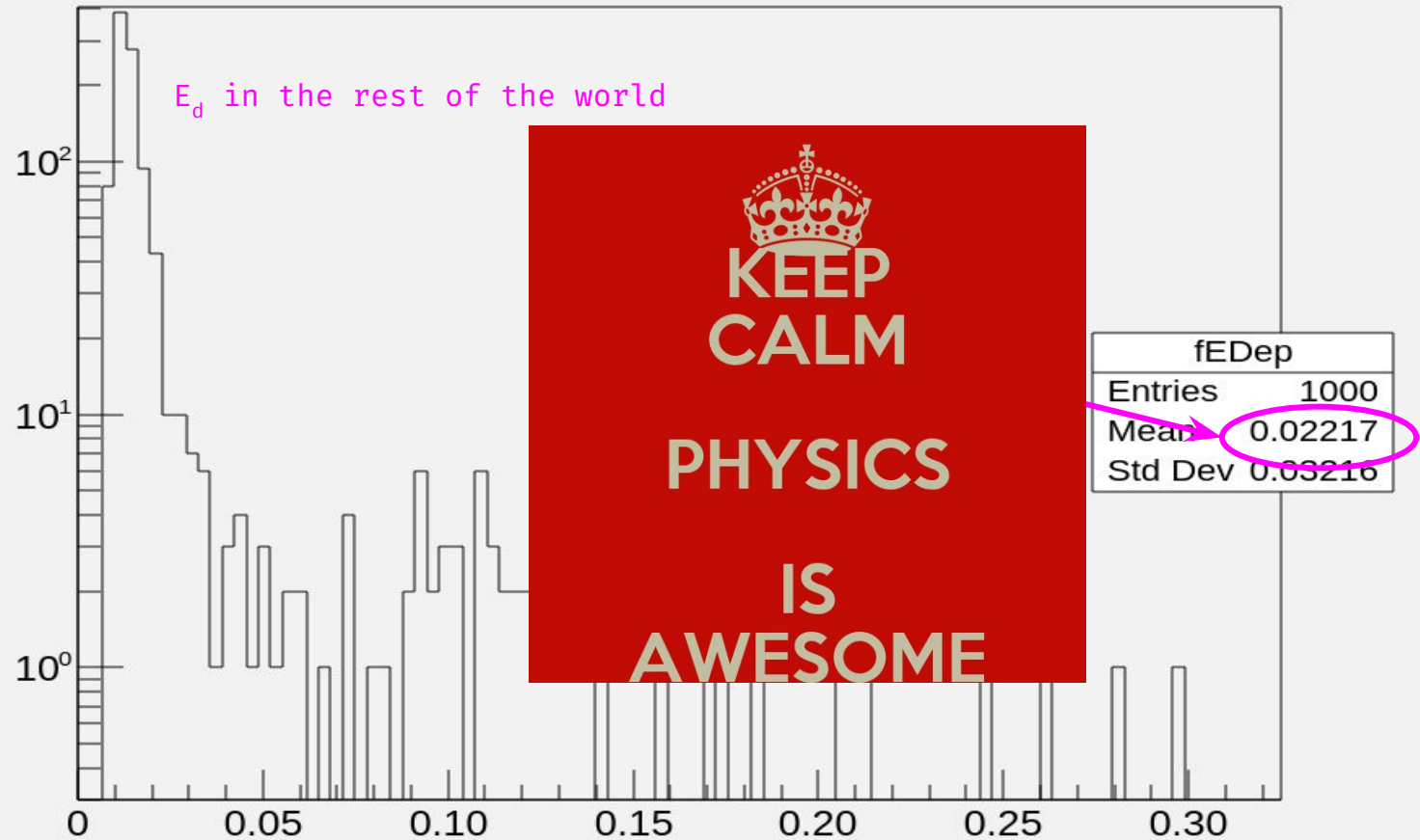




# fEDep



# fEDep



# Success! Now, $D=fEDep/sensitiveVolumeMass$



- There are several ways to do this. As this is a very beginner course, let's use a practical but not so efficient method
- For other ways, check the 'B1example' included in the Geant4 source directory

- First we need to introduce a new method and attribute at MyEventAction class

```
void GetMass(G4double mass);
```

```
G4double fMass;
```

- Then we need to report the mass to the user eventAction (in stepping.cc)

```
fEventAction->GetMass(fMass);
```

- Finally, get the mass at every step (in stepping.cc) (very inefficient!)

```
G4double fMass = fSensitiveVolume->GetMass() / kg; // This is the correct way to deal with units
```

- And just calculate and accumulate the dose at the end of every event (event.cc)

```
G4double fAbsDose = 0.;
```

```
if (fMass > 0)
```

```
    fAbsDose = (fEDep / joule) / fMass; // This is the correct way to deal with units
```



# We are done my friends

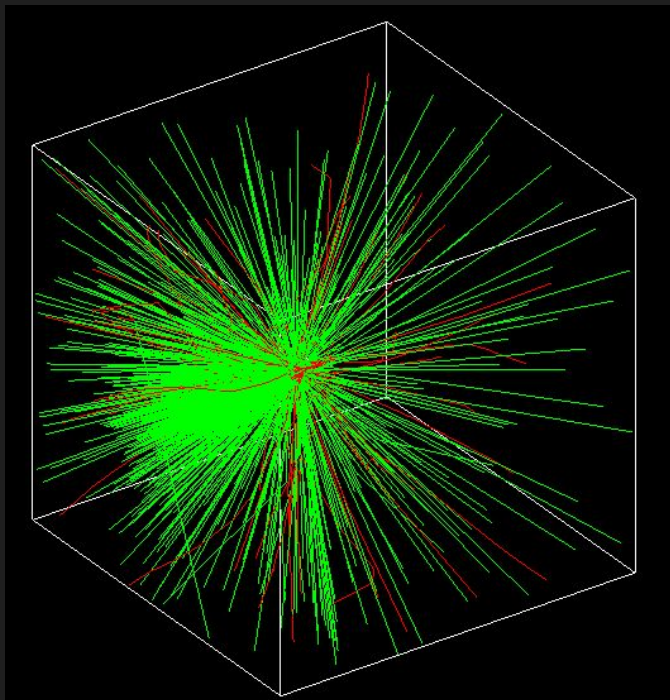


1000  $e^-$  10 MeV

Energy deposition: 9560.96 MeV.

Mass: 0.13125 kg.

Dose:  $1.16711e-08$  Gy.  $\rightarrow$  11.7 nGy

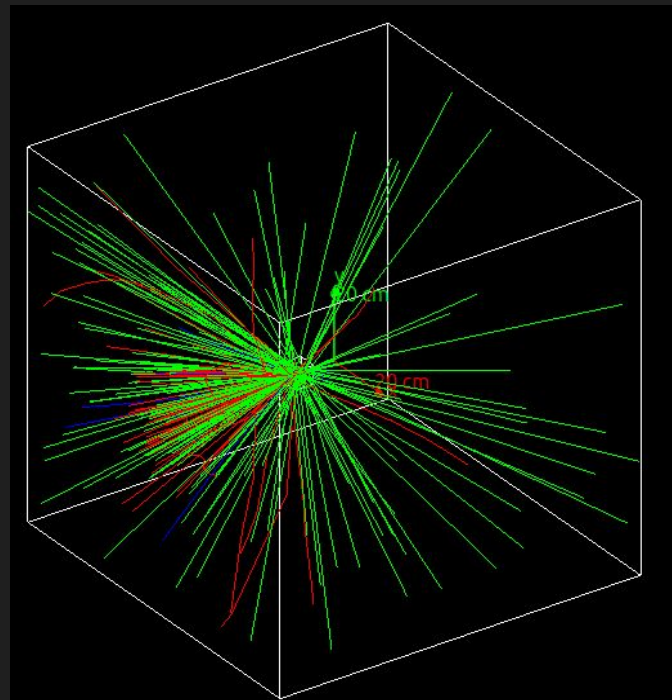


1000 photons 10 MeV

Energy deposition: 535.392 MeV

Mass: 0.13125 kg

Dose:  $6.90615e-10$  Gy  $\rightarrow$  0.690 nGy



# Wait! Before you go, remember the shielding?



- How can we evaluate the shielding effect?
- Let's try



# Wait! Before you go, remember the shielding?



- How can we evaluate the shielding effect?

- Let's give it a try

```
G4Material *lead = nist->FindOrBuildMaterial("G4_Pb");

G4Box *solidShield = new G4Box ("solidShield", 0.30*m, 0.30*m, 0.015*m);
G4LogicalVolume *logicShield = new G4LogicalVolume(solidShield, lead, "logicShield");
G4VPhysicalVolume *physShield = new G4PVPlacement(0, G4ThreeVector(0.*m, 0.*m, 0.0375*m),
logicShield, "physShield", logicWorld, false, 0, true);
```



# remember the shielding, electrons



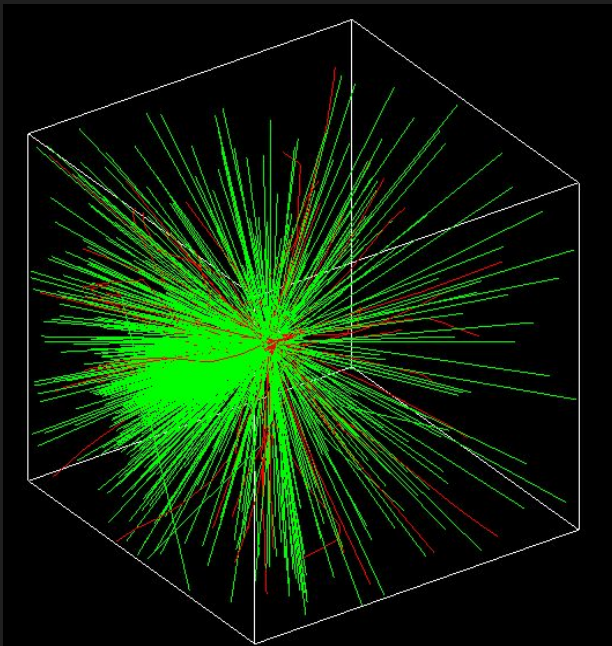
1000  $e^-$  10 MeV

no shielding

Energy deposition: 9560.96 MeV

Mass: 0.13125 kg.

Dose:  $1.16711e-08$  Gy.  $\rightarrow$  11.7 nGy



1000  $e^-$  10 MeV

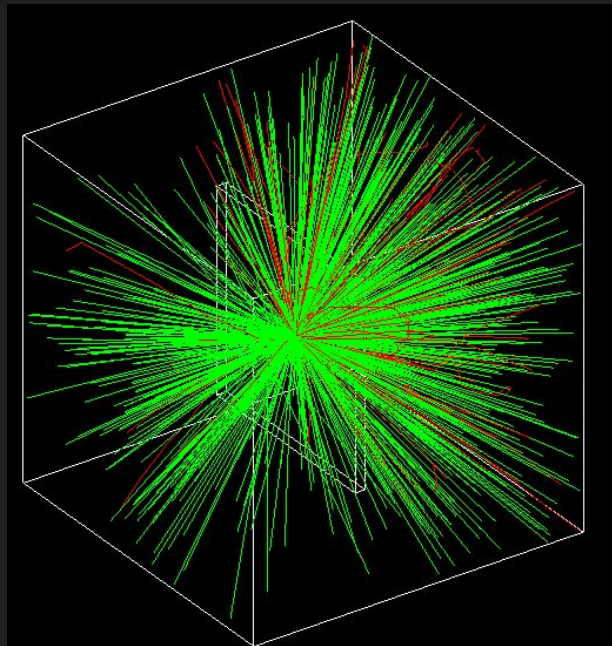
lead, 3cm

Energy deposition: 28.70 MeV

Mass: 0.13125 kg.

Dose:  $3.05302e-11$  Gy.  $\rightarrow$  30.5 pGy

**Shield effect:  $\sim 1/400$**



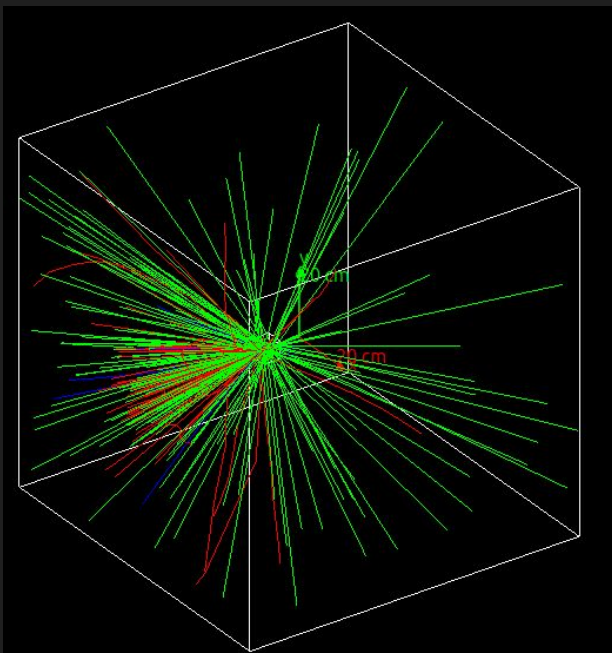
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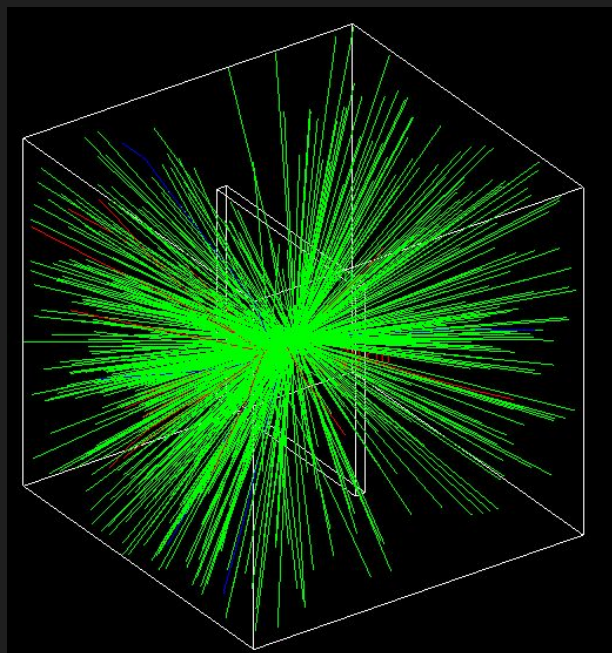
# remember the shielding, photons



1000 photons 10 MeV  
no shielding  
Energy deposition: 535.392 MeV  
Mass: 0.13125 kg  
Dose:  $6.90615 \times 10^{-10}$  Gy  $\rightarrow$  690 pGy



1000 photons 10 MeV  
Lead, 3cm  
Energy deposition: 168.04 MeV  
Mass: 0.13125 kg  
Dose:  $2.0513 \times 10^{-10}$  Gy  $\rightarrow$  205 pGy  
**Shield effect: 1/3.4**





# Wait! Before you go, remember the shielding?



Original dose (no shielding): 690 pGy

1000 photons 10 MeV

Lead, 3 cm

Energy deposition: 168.042 MeV

Mass: 0.13125 kg

Dose:  $2.0513 \times 10^{-10}$  Gy  $\rightarrow$  205 pGy

1000 photons 10 MeV

Lead, 5cm

Energy deposition: 62.77 MeV

Mass: 0.13125 kg

Dose:  $7.66311 \times 10^{-11}$  Gy  $\rightarrow$  76.6 pGy

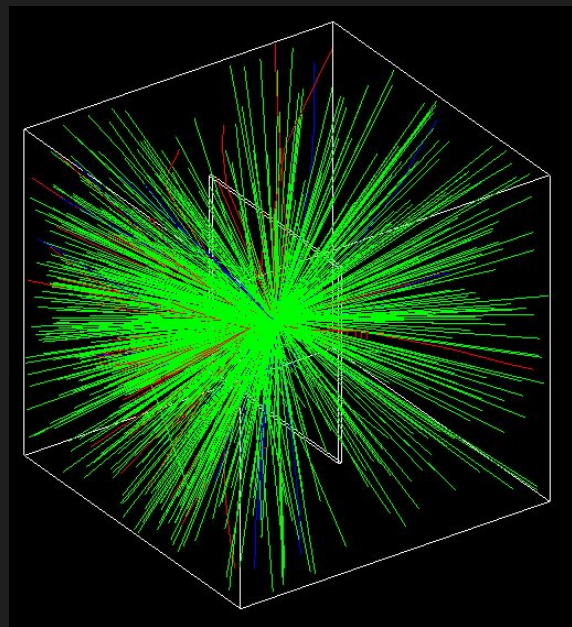
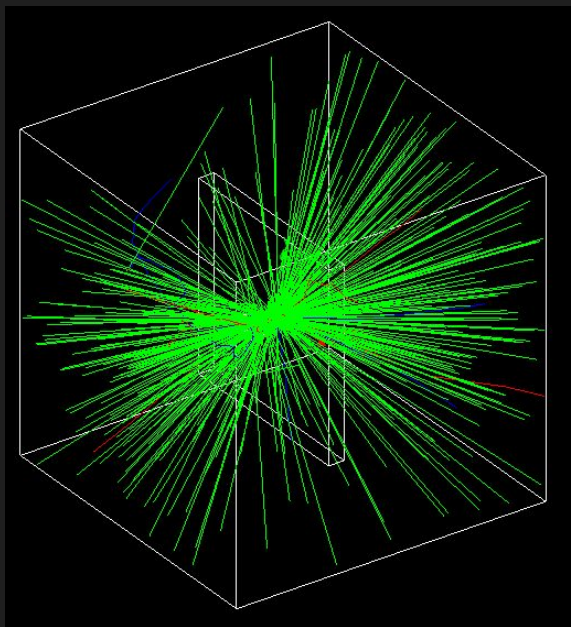
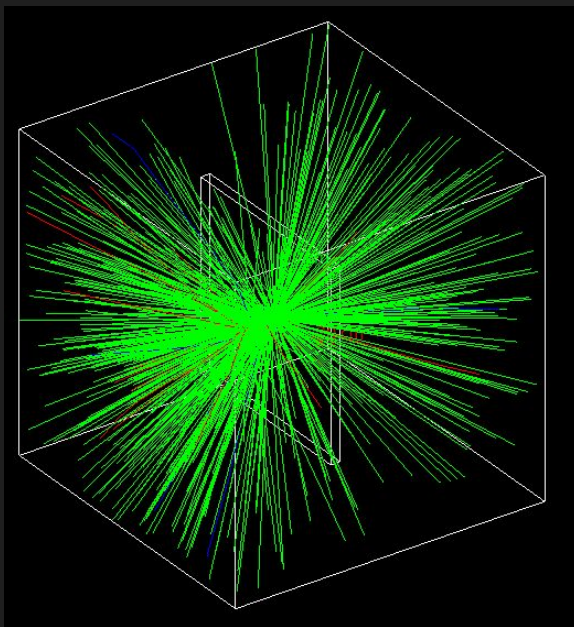
1000 photons 10 MeV

Lead, 1cm

Energy deposition: 382.918 MeV

Mass: 0.13125 kg

Dose:  $4.6743 \times 10^{-10}$  Gy  $\rightarrow$  467 pGy



# Conclusive remarks, 1



- Together we have developed:
  - a simple, not so efficient, but **complete Geant4 application**
  - it is a powerful tool for performing Geant4 simulations
  - it is a nice **template for building your own applications**



## Conclusive remarks, 2

- This course is based on several Geant4 courses available online.
- My recommendation is to read the all the docs and check at least:
  - <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLLybgCU6QCGWgzNYOV0SKen9vqg4KXeVL> ← YouTube
  - <https://github.com/mnovak42/Geant4-Beginner-Course/tree/master> ← GitHub
  - <https://geant4-userdoc.web.cern.ch/UsersGuides/ForApplicationDeveloper/BackupVersions/V10.7/html/index.html> ← Official guide for G4 apps developers

I acknowledge Mustafa Schmidt ([@physics\\_matters](#)) and Mihaly Novak for their wonderful resources and courses



## Conclusive remarks, 3

1 I am hoping to continue developing my Geant4 course and surely I will  
2 introduce changes in the future.  
3

4 I will tag this version of the course at GitHub for your future reference  
5 (Think in a repository as a movie. A **tag** is picture taken at a certain  
6 moment of the development)  
7  
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# Homework, sorry, you also have to work ;-)



## ● Important homework

- Play a lot with these codes. Try different geometries, materials, particle beams, energies, and physics lists.
- Compare the changes and take note of your observations
- Analyze the effect of different shielding materials, thickness and positions.
- Try to build composite shieldings (thin layers stacked of different materials)
- Reproduce the findings on the theoretical courses here: stopping power, particle ranges, mass absorption, ...

## ● Official homework

- Calculate the energy deposited and the absorbed dose in a 3 cm cube of adipose tissue (G4\_ADIPOSE\_TISSUE\_ICRP) when irradiated with a 5,000 gamma beam with  $E=7$  MeV.
- Calculate the effect on the energy deposited and the absorbed dose in the same tissue when using a 2cm thick lead shield (G4\_Pb).



# Take home messages

- Geant4 is a wonderful toolsuite for simulate the interaction of radiation with matter.
- IMHO, G4 analysis tools are not so good, so it I recommend to produce root/csv outputs, and analyze them in root/python correspondingly
- IMHO, developing a new expertise require:

1. A simple but functional example
2. Understand the jargon

**this course**

3. Google (or Bard/ChatGPT)

**freely available**

4. **Eager to learn**

**it depends on you**

It was nice to share this course with you.



That's all Folks!

```
// "Geant4 for Beginners: a  
crash course" ended here, so  
delete course;
```

**Thanks for participate!  
Hope to see you soon!**

[@asoreyh](#)



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