

Geant 4

Detector Description: Basics

<http://cern.ch/geant4>

PART II

Describing a detector - I

- *Detector geometry modeling*
- *The basic concepts: solids & volumes*

Describe your detector

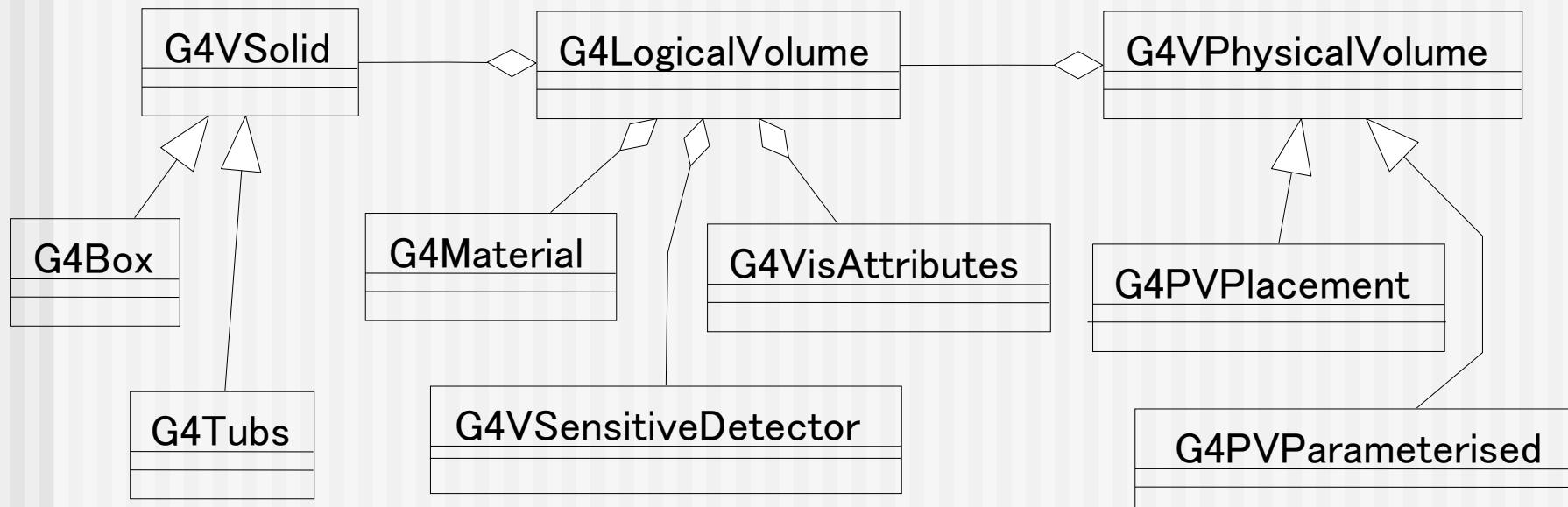
- Derive your own concrete class from `G4VUserDetectorConstruction` abstract base class.
- Implementing the method `construct()`:
 - Modularize it according to each detector component or sub-detector:
 - Construct all necessary materials
 - Define shapes/solids required to describe the geometry
 - Construct and place volumes of your detector geometry
 - Define sensitive detectors and identify detector volumes which to associate them
 - Associate magnetic field to detector regions
 - Define visualization attributes for the detector elements

Creating a Detector Volume

- Start with its Shape & Size
 - Box 3x5x7 cm, sphere R=8m
 - Add properties:
 - material, B/E field,
 - make it sensitive
 - Place it in another volume
 - in one place
 - repeatedly using a function
- *Solid*
 - *Logical-Volume*
 - *Physical-Volume*

Define detector geometry

- Three conceptual layers
 - **G4VSolid** -- *shape, size*
 - **G4LogicalVolume** -- *daughter physical volumes, material, sensitivity, user limits, etc.*
 - **G4VPhysicalVolume** -- *position, rotation*

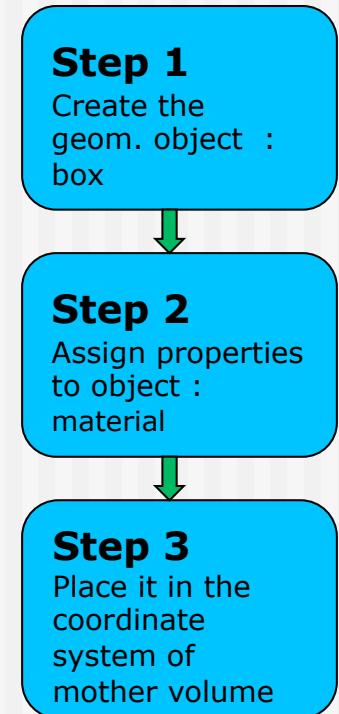


Define detector geometry

- Basic strategy

```
G4VSolid* pBoxSolid =
    new G4Box("aBoxSolid", 1.*m, 2.*m, 3.*m);
G4LogicalVolume* pBoxLog =
    new G4LogicalVolume( pBoxSolid, pBoxMaterial,
                        "aBoxLog", 0, 0, 0);
G4VPhysicalVolume* aBoxPhys =
    new G4PVPlacement( pRotation,
                      G4ThreeVector(posX, posY, posZ),
                      pBoxLog, "aBoxPhys", pMotherLog,
                      0, copyNo);
```

- A unique physical volume which represents the experimental area must exist and fully contains all other components
 - The world volume



PART II

Describing a detector - II

- *Logical and Physical Volumes*

G4LogicalVolume

```
G4LogicalVolume(G4VSolid* pSolid, G4Material* pMaterial,  
                 const G4String& name, G4FieldManager* pFieldMgr=0,  
                 G4VSensitiveDetector* pSDetector=0,  
                 G4UserLimits* pULimits=0,  
                 G4bool optimise=true);
```

- Contains all information of volume except position:
 - Shape and dimension (G4VSolid)
 - Material, sensitivity, visualization attributes
 - Position of daughter volumes
 - Magnetic field, User limits
 - Shower parameterisation
- Physical volumes of same type can share a logical volume.
- The pointers to solid and material must be NOT null
- Once created it is automatically entered in the LV store
- It is not meant to act as a base class

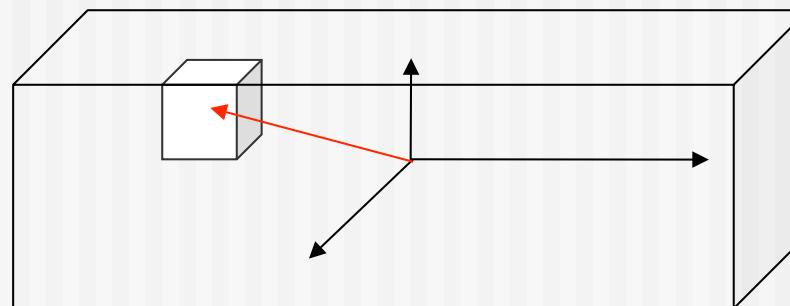
Geometrical hierarchy

■ Mother and daughter volumes

■ A volume is placed in its mother volume

- Position and rotation of the daughter volume is described with respect to the local coordinate system of the mother volume
- The origin of the mother's local coordinate system is at the center of the mother volume
- Daughter volumes cannot protrude from the mother volume
- Daughter volumes cannot overlap

■ One or more volumes can be placed in a mother volume



Geometrical hierarchy

■ Mother and daughter volumes (cont.)

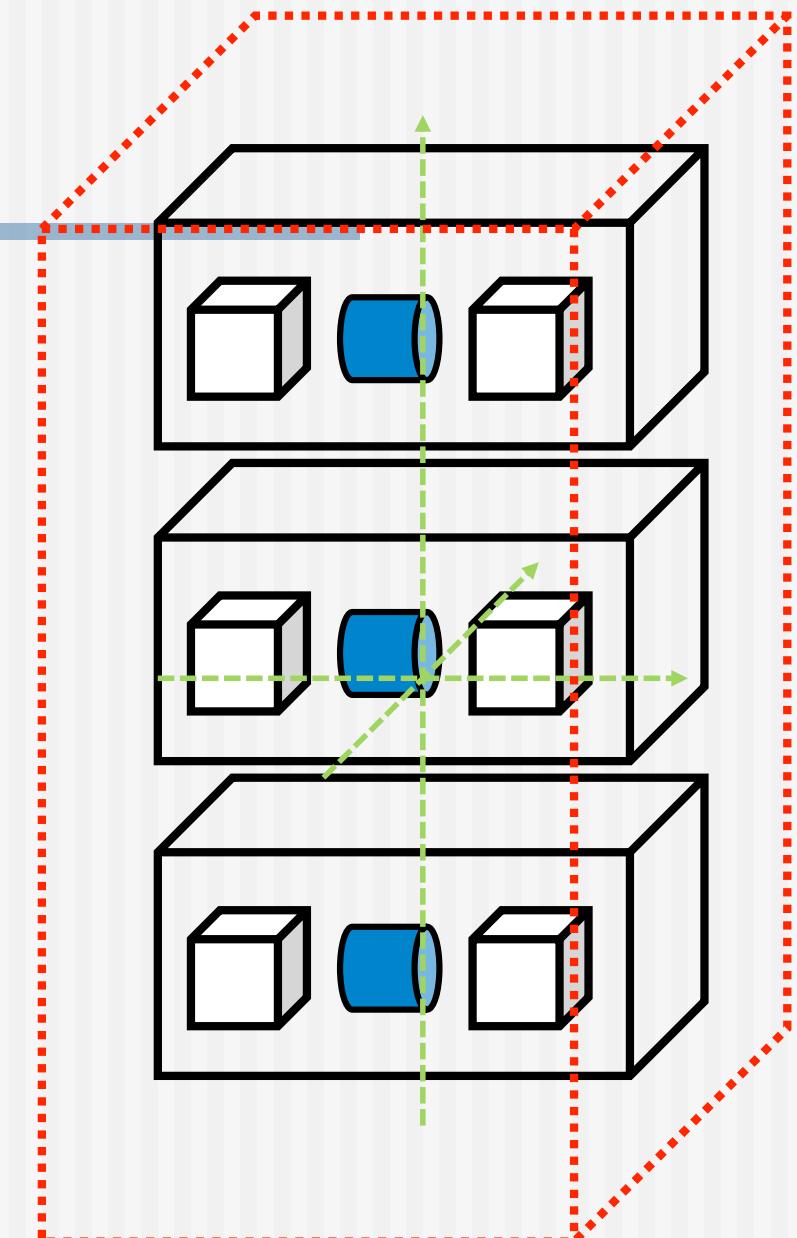
- The logical volume of mother knows the daughter volumes it contains
 - It is uniquely defined to be their mother volume
 - If the logical volume of the mother is placed more than once, all daughters appear by definition in all these physical instances of the mother

■ World volume is the root volume of the hierarchy

- The world volume must be a unique physical volume which **fully contains with some margin** all other volumes
 - The world defines the global coordinate system
 - The origin of the global coordinate system is at the center of the world volume
 - Should not share any surface with contained geometry

Geometrical hierarchy

- One logical volume can be placed more than once. One or more volumes can be placed in a mother volume
- Note that the mother-daughter relationship is an information of **G4LogicalVolume**
 - If the mother volume is placed more than once, all daughters by definition appear in each placed physical volume
- The **world volume** must be a unique physical volume which fully contains with some margin all the other volumes
 - The world volume defines the **global coordinate system**. The origin of the global coordinate system is at the center of the world volume
 - Position of a track is given with respect to the global coordinate system

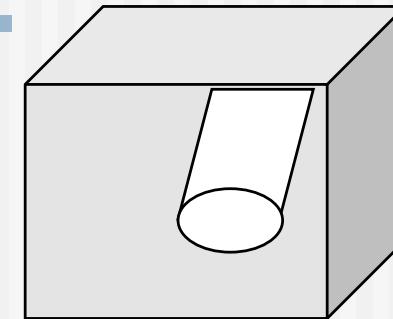


G4VPhysicalVolume

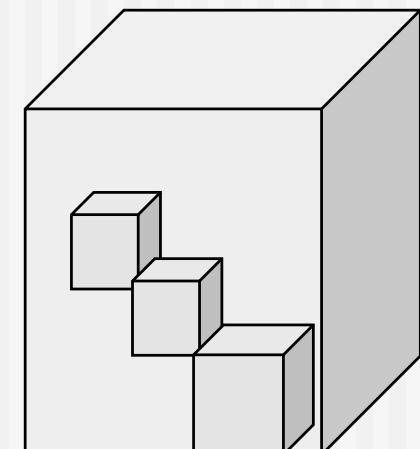
- G4PVPlacement 1 Placement = One Volume
 - A volume instance positioned once in a mother volume
- G4PVParameterised 1 Parameterised = Many Volumes
 - Parameterised by the copy number
 - Shape, size, material, position and rotation can be parameterised, by implementing a concrete class of **G4VPVParameterisation**.
 - Reduction of memory consumption
 - Currently: parameterisation can be used only for volumes that either a) have no further daughters or b) are identical in size & shape.
- G4PVRlica 1 Replica = Many Volumes
 - Slicing a volume into smaller pieces (if it has a symmetry)

Physical Volumes

- **Placement:** it is one positioned volume
- **Repeated:** a volume placed many times
 - can represent any number of volumes
 - reduces use of memory.
 - Replica
 - simple repetition, similar to G3 divisions
 - Parameterised
- A **mother** volume can contain **either**
 - **many placement** volumes **OR**
 - **one repeated** volume



placement



repeated

G4PVPlacement

```
G4PVPlacement(G4RotationMatrix* pRot,      // rotation of mother frame
               const G4ThreeVector& tlate, // position in rotated frame
               G4LogicalVolume* pCurrentLogical,
               const G4String& pName,
               G4LogicalVolume* pMotherLogical,
               G4bool pMany,             // not used. Set it to false...
               G4int pCopyNo,            // unique arbitrary index
               G4bool pSurfChk=false); // optional overlap check
```

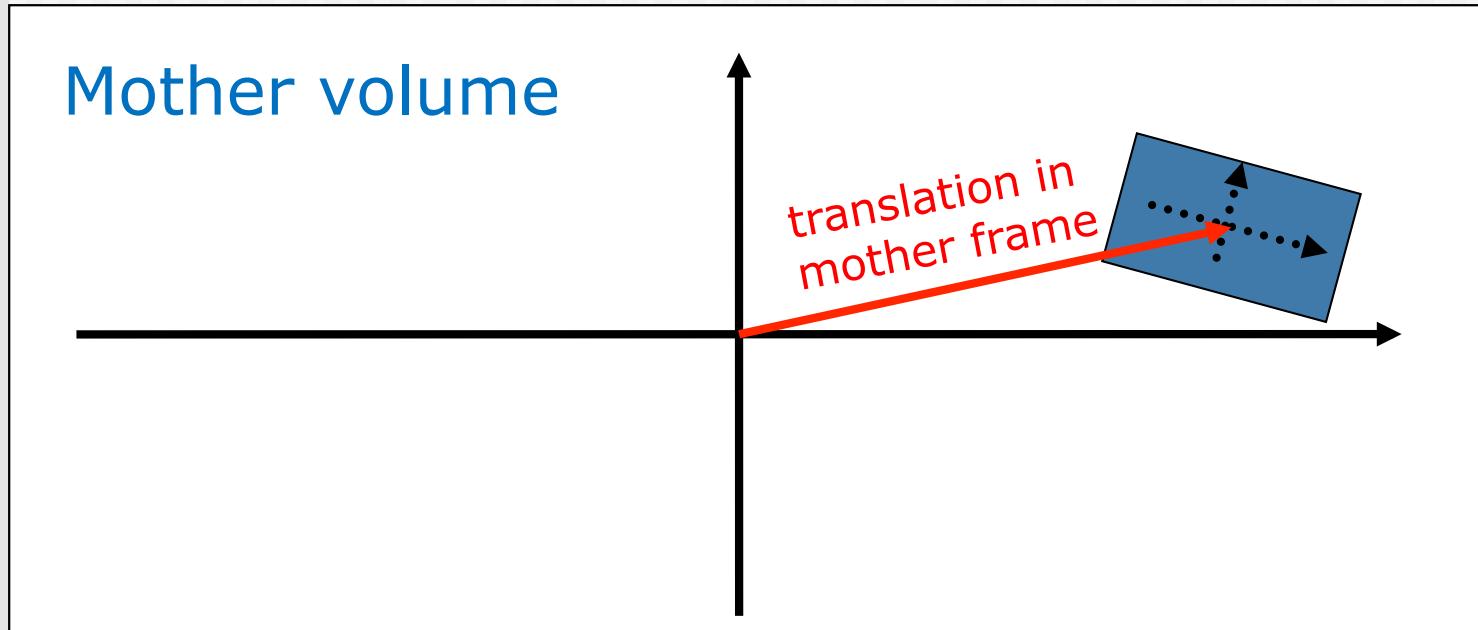
- Single volume positioned relatively to the mother volume
 - In a frame rotated and translated relative to the coordinate system of the mother volume
- Three additional constructors:
 - A simple variation: specifying the mother volume as a pointer to its physical volume instead of its logical volume.
 - Using `G4Transform3D` to represent the direct rotation and translation of the solid instead of the frame (*alternative ctor*)
 - The combination of the two variants above

G4PVPlacement

Rotation of mother frame ...

```
G4PVPlacement(G4RotationMatrix* pRot,      // rotation of mother frame
               const G4ThreeVector& tlate, // position in mother frame
               G4LogicalVolume* pCurrentLogical,
               const G4String& pName,
               G4LogicalVolume* pMotherLogical,
               G4bool pMany,             // not used. Set it to false...
               G4int pCopyNo,            // unique arbitrary index
               G4bool pSurfChk=false ); // optional overlap check
```

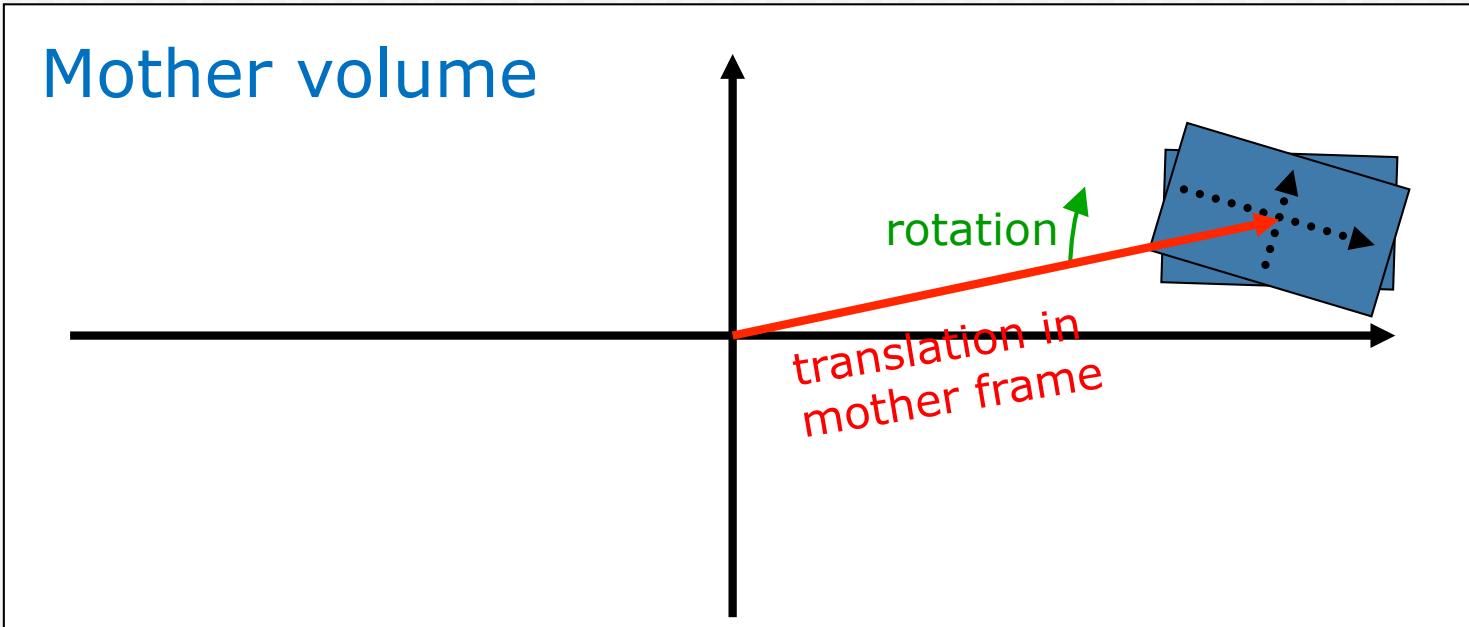
- Single volume positioned relatively to the mother volume



G4PVPlacement

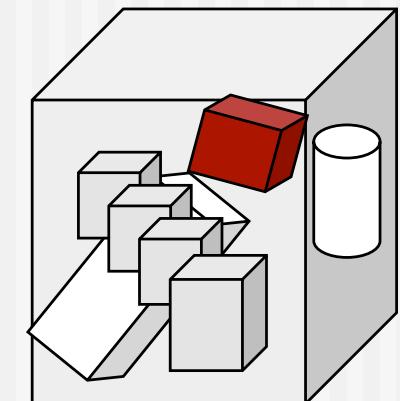
Rotation in mother frame ...

```
G4PVPlacement( G4Transform3D( G4RotationMatrix &pRot,           // rotation of daughter frame
                           const G4ThreeVector &tlate), // position in mother frame
               G4LogicalVolume *pDaughterLogical,
               const G4String &pName,
               G4LogicalVolume *pMotherLogical,
               G4bool pMany,                  // not used, set it to false...
               G4int pCopyNo,                // unique arbitrary integer
               G4bool pSurfChk=false ); // optional overlap check
```



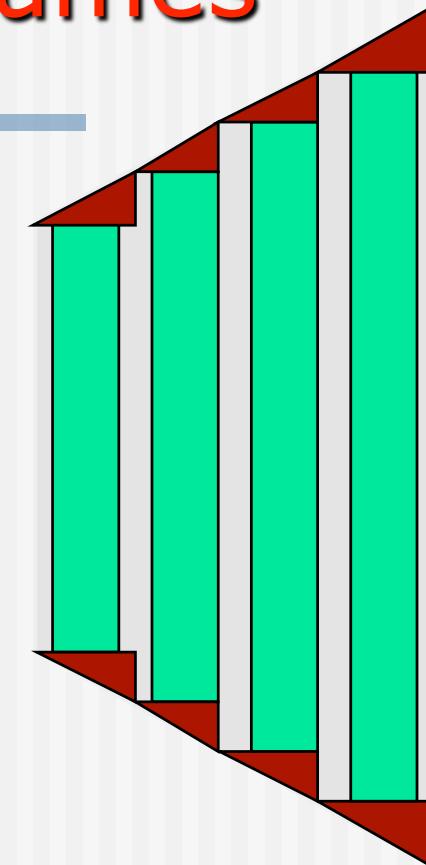
Parameterised Physical Volumes

- User written functions define:
 - the size of the solid (dimensions)
 - Function `ComputeDimensions(...)`
 - where it is positioned (transformation)
 - Function `ComputeTransformations(...)`
- Optional:
 - the type of the solid
 - Function `ComputeSolid(...)`
 - the material
 - Function `ComputeMaterial(...)`
- Limitations:
 - Applies to a limited set of solids
 - Daughter volumes allowed only for special cases
- Very powerful
 - Consider parameterised volumes as “leaf” volumes



Uses of Parameterised Volumes

- Complex detectors
 - with large repetition of volumes
 - regular or irregular
- Medical applications
 - the material in animal tissue is measured
 - cubes with varying material

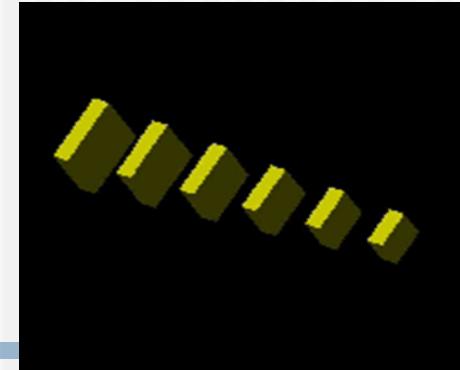


G4PVParameterised

```
G4PVParameterised(const G4String& pName,
                   G4LogicalVolume* pCurrentLogical,
                   G4LogicalVolume* pMotherLogical,
                   const EAxis pAxis,
                   const G4int nReplicas,
                   G4VVPParameterisation* pParam,
                   G4bool pSurfChk=false);
```

- Replicates the volume `nReplicas` times using the parameterisation `pParam`, within the mother volume
- The positioning of the replicas is dominant along the specified Cartesian axis
 - If `kUndefined` is specified as axis, 3D voxelisation for optimisation of the geometry is adopted
- Represents many touchable detector elements differing in their positioning and dimensions. Both are calculated by means of a `G4VVPParameterisation` object
- Alternative constructor using pointer to physical volume for the mother

Parameterisation example - 1



```
G4VSolid* solidChamber = new G4Box("chamber", 100*cm, 100*cm, 10*cm);  
  
G4LogicalVolume* logicChamber =  
    new G4LogicalVolume(solidChamber, ChamberMater, "Chamber", 0, 0, 0);  
  
G4double firstPosition = -trackerSize + 0.5*ChamberWidth;  
  
G4double firstLength = fTrackerLength/10;  
  
G4double lastLength = fTrackerLength;  
  
G4VPVParameterisation* chamberParam =  
    new ChamberParameterisation( NbOfChambers, firstPosition,  
                                ChamberSpacing, ChamberWidth,  
                                firstLength, lastLength);  
  
G4VPhysicalVolume* physChamber =  
    new G4PVParameterised( "Chamber", logicChamber, logicTracker,  
                           kZAxis, NbOfChambers, chamberParam);
```

Use **kUndefined** for activating 3D voxelisation for optimisation

Parameterisation example - 2

```
class ChamberParameterisation : public G4VPVParameterisation
{
public:
    ChamberParameterisation( G4int NoChambers, G4double startZ,
                            G4double spacing, G4double widthChamber,
                            G4double lenInitial, G4double lenFinal );
    ~ChamberParameterisation();
    void ComputeTransformation (const G4int copyNo,
                               G4VPhysicalVolume* physVol) const;
    void ComputeDimensions (G4Box& trackerLayer, const G4int copyNo,
                           const G4VPhysicalVolume* physVol) const;
}
```

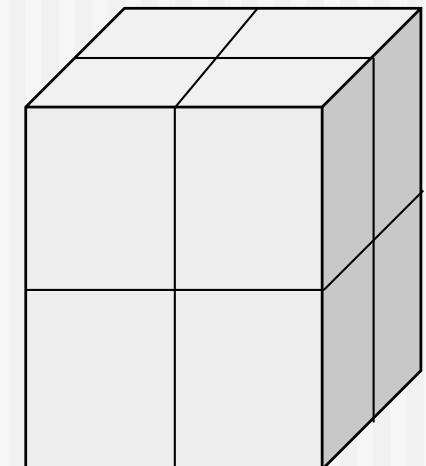
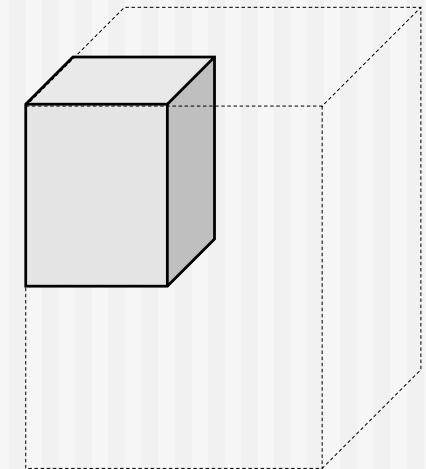
Parameterisation example - 3

```
void ChamberParameterisation::ComputeTransformation
(const G4int copyNo, G4VPhysicalVolume* physVol) const
{
    G4double Zposition= fStartZ + (copyNo+1) * fSpacing;
    G4ThreeVector origin(0, 0, Zposition);
    physVol->SetTranslation(origin);
    physVol->SetRotation(0);
}

void ChamberParameterisation::ComputeDimensions
(G4Box& trackerChamber, const G4int copyNo,
 const G4VPhysicalVolume* physVol) const
{
    G4double halfLength= fHalfLengthFirst + copyNo * fHalfLengthIncr;
    trackerChamber.SetXHalfLength(halfLength);
    trackerChamber.SetYHalfLength(halfLength);
    trackerChamber.SetZHalfLength(fHalfWidth);
}
```

Replicated Physical Volumes

- The mother volume is sliced into replicas, all of the same size and dimensions.
- Represents many touchable detector elements differing only in their positioning.
- Replication may occur along:
 - Cartesian axes (X, Y, Z) – slices are considered perpendicular to the axis of replication
 - Coordinate system at the center of each replica
 - Radial axis (Rho) – cons/tubs sections centered on the origin and un-rotated
 - Coordinate system same as the mother
 - Phi axis (Phi) – phi sections or wedges, of cons/tubs form
 - Coordinate system rotated such as that the X axis bisects the angle made by each wedge



repeated

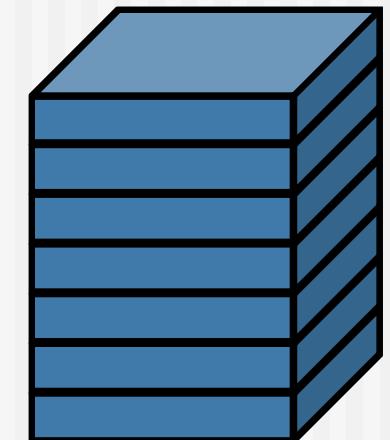
G4PVReplica

```
G4PVReplica(const G4String& pName,  
             G4LogicalVolume* pCurrentLogical,  
             G4LogicalVolume* pMotherLogical,  
             const EAxis pAxis,  
             const G4int nReplicas,  
             const G4double width,  
             const G4double offset=0);
```

- Alternative constructor:
 - Using pointer to physical volume for the mother
- An **offset** can be associated
 - Only to a mother offset along the axis of replication
- Features and restrictions:
 - Replicas can be placed inside other replicas
 - Normal placement volumes can be placed inside replicas, assuming no intersection/overlaps with the mother volume or with other replicas
 - No volume can be placed inside a *radial* replication
 - Parameterised volumes cannot be placed inside a replica



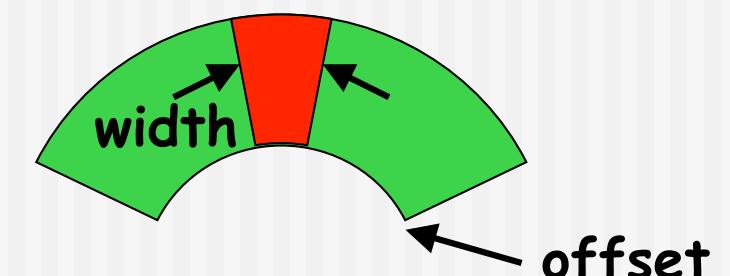
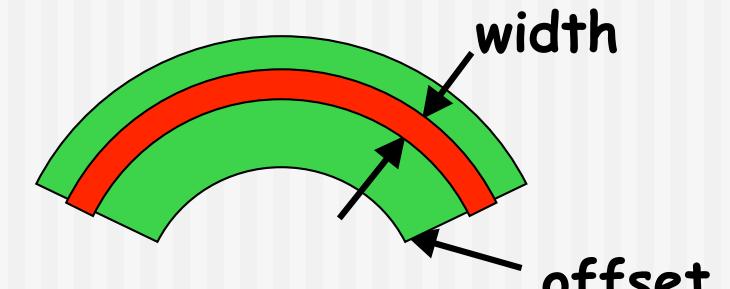
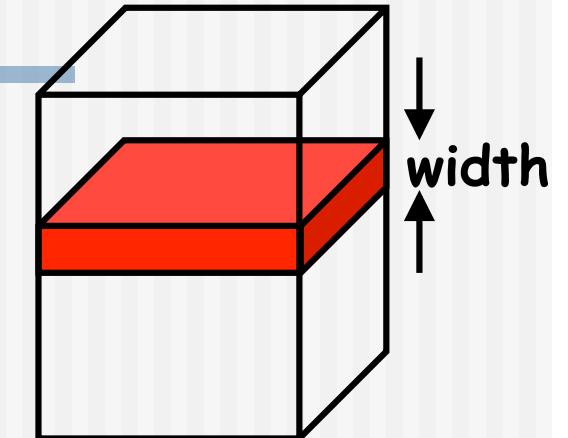
*a daughter
logical volume to
be replicated*



mother volume

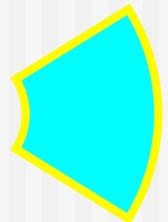
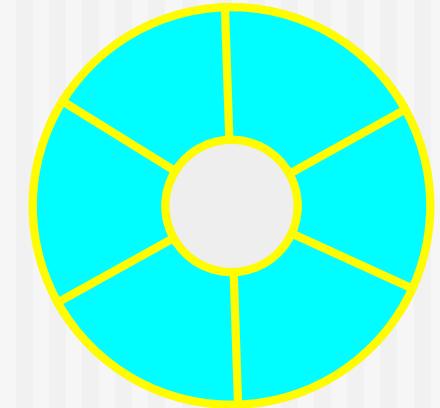
Replica - axis, width, offset

- Cartesian axes - **kXaxis**, **kYaxis**, **kZaxis**
 - offset shall not be used
 - Center of n-th daughter is given as
$$-width * (nReplicas-1) * 0.5 + n * width$$
- Radial axis - **kRaxis**
 - Center of n-th daughter is given as
$$width * (n+0.5) + offset$$
- Phi axis - **kPhi**
 - Center of n-th daughter is given as
$$width * (n+0.5) + offset$$



Replication example

```
G4double tube_dPhi = 2.* M_PI * rad;
G4VSolid* tube =
    new G4Tubs("tube",20*cm,50*cm,30*cm,0.,tube_dPhi);
G4LogicalVolume * tube_log =
    new G4LogicalVolume(tube, Air, "tubeL", 0, 0, 0);
G4VPhysicalVolume* tube_phys =
    new G4PVPlacement(0,G4ThreeVector(-200.*cm,0.,0.),
                      "tubeP", tube_log, world_phys, false, 0);
G4double divided_tube_dPhi = tube_dPhi/6.;
G4VSolid* div_tube =
    new G4Tubs("div_tube", 20*cm, 50*cm, 30*cm,
               -divided_tube_dPhi/2., divided_tube_dPhi);
G4LogicalVolume* div_tube_log =
    new G4LogicalVolume(div_tube,Pb,"div_tubeL",0,0,0);
G4VPhysicalVolume* div_tube_phys =
    new G4PVReplica("div_tube_phys", div_tube_log,
                    tube_log, kPhi, 6, divided_tube_dPhi);
```

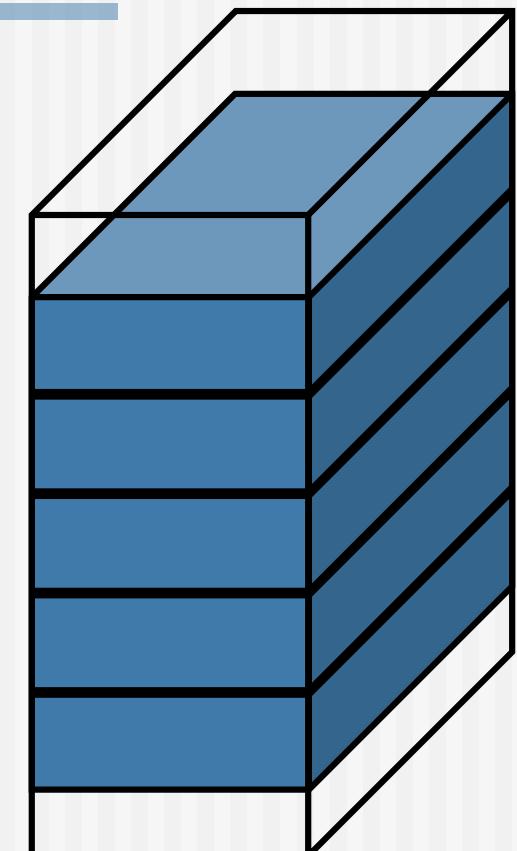


Divided Physical Volumes

- Implemented as “special” kind of parameterised volumes
 - Applies to CSG-like solids only (box, tubs, cons, para, trd, polycone, polyhedra)
 - Divides a volume in identical copies along one of its axis (copies are not strictly identical)
 - e.g. - a tube divided along its radial axis
 - Offsets can be specified
- The possible axes of division vary according to the supported solid type
- Represents many touchable detector elements differing only in their positioning
- **G4PVDivision** is the class defining the division
 - The parameterisation is calculated automatically using the values provided in input

Divided Volumes - 2

- **G4PVDivision** is a special kind of parameterised volume
 - The parameterisation is **automatically generated** according to the parameters given in **G4PVDivision**.
- Divided volumes are similar to replicas but ...
 - **Allowing for gaps in between** mother and daughter volumes
 - *Planning to allow also gaps between daughters and gaps on side walls*
- Shape of all daughter volumes must be **same shape as the mother volume**
 - Solid (to be assigned to the daughter logical volume) must be the same type, but different object.
- Replication must be aligned along one axis
- If no gaps in the geometry, **G4PVReplica** is recommended
 - For identical geometry, navigation in pure replicas is faster

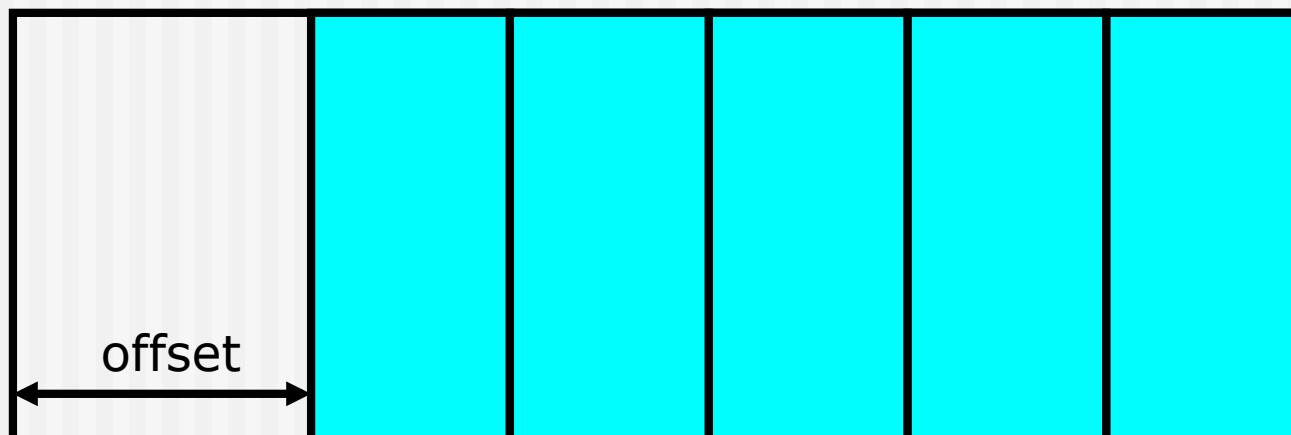


mother
volume

Divided Volumes - 3

```
G4PVDivision(const G4String& pName,  
             G4LogicalVolume* pDaughterLogical,  
             G4LogicalVolume* pMotherLogical,  
             const EAxis pAxis,  
             const G4int nDivisions,    // number of division is given  
             const G4double offset);
```

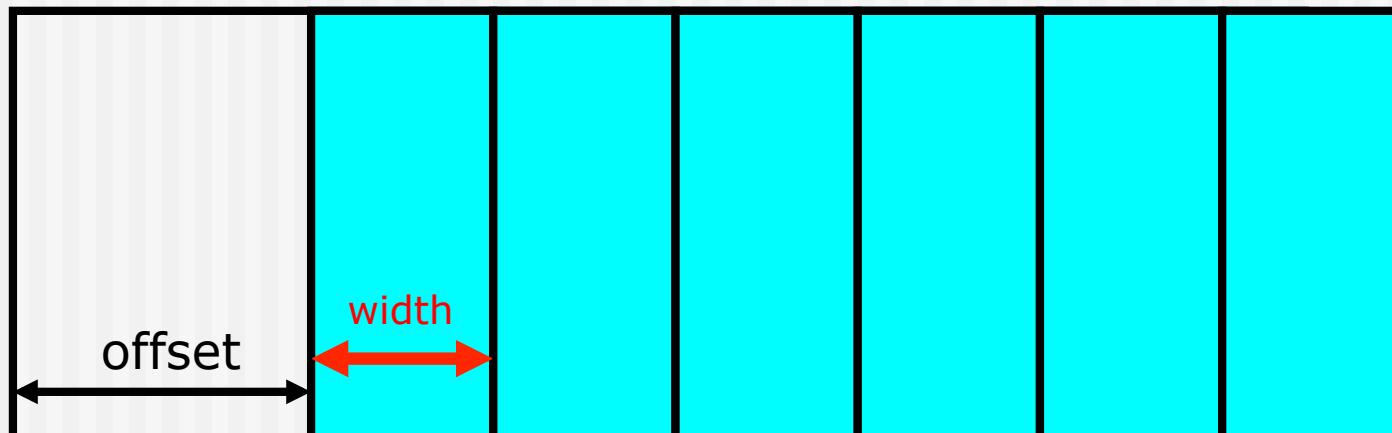
- The size (width) of the daughter volume is calculated as
$$(\text{size of mother} - \text{offset}) / \text{nDivisions}$$



Divided Volumes - 4

```
G4PVDivision(const G4String& pName,  
              G4LogicalVolume* pDaughterLogical,  
              G4LogicalVolume* pMotherLogical,  
              const EAxis pAxis,  
              const G4double width, // width of daughter volume is given  
              const G4double offset);
```

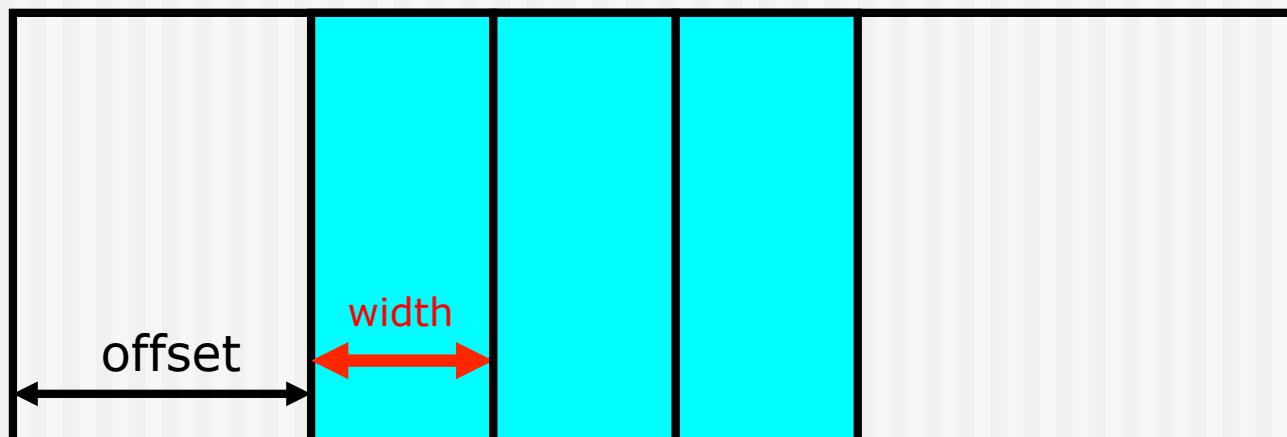
- The number of daughter volumes is calculated as
 $\text{int}((\text{size of mother}) - \text{offset}) / \text{width})$
- As many daughters as width and offset allow



Divided Volumes - 5

```
G4PVDivision(const G4String& pName,  
              G4LogicalVolume* pDaughterLogical,  
              G4LogicalVolume* pMotherLogical,  
              const EAxis pAxis,  
              const G4int nDivisions, // both number of divisions  
              const G4double width, // and width are given  
              const G4double offset);
```

- $nDivisions$ daughters of $width$ thickness



Divided Volumes - 6

- Divisions are allowed for the following shapes / axes:
 - **G4Box** : **kXAxis**, **kYAxis**, **kZAxis**
 - **G4Tubs** : **kRho**, **kPhi**, **kZAxis**
 - **G4Cons** : **kRho**, **kPhi**, **kZAxis**
 - **G4Trd** : **kXAxis**, **kYAxis**, **kZAxis**
 - **G4Para** : **kXAxis**, **kYAxis**, **kZAxis**
 - **G4Polycone** : **kRho**, **kPhi**, **kZAxis**
 - **G4Polyhedra** : **kRho**, **kPhi**, **kZAxis**
 - **kPhi** - the number of divisions has to be the same as solid sides, (i.e. **numSides**), the width will **not** be taken into account
- In the case of division along **kRho** of **G4Cons**, **G4Polycone**, **G4Polyhedra**, if width is provided, it is taken as the width at the **-z** radius; the width at other radii will be scaled to this one

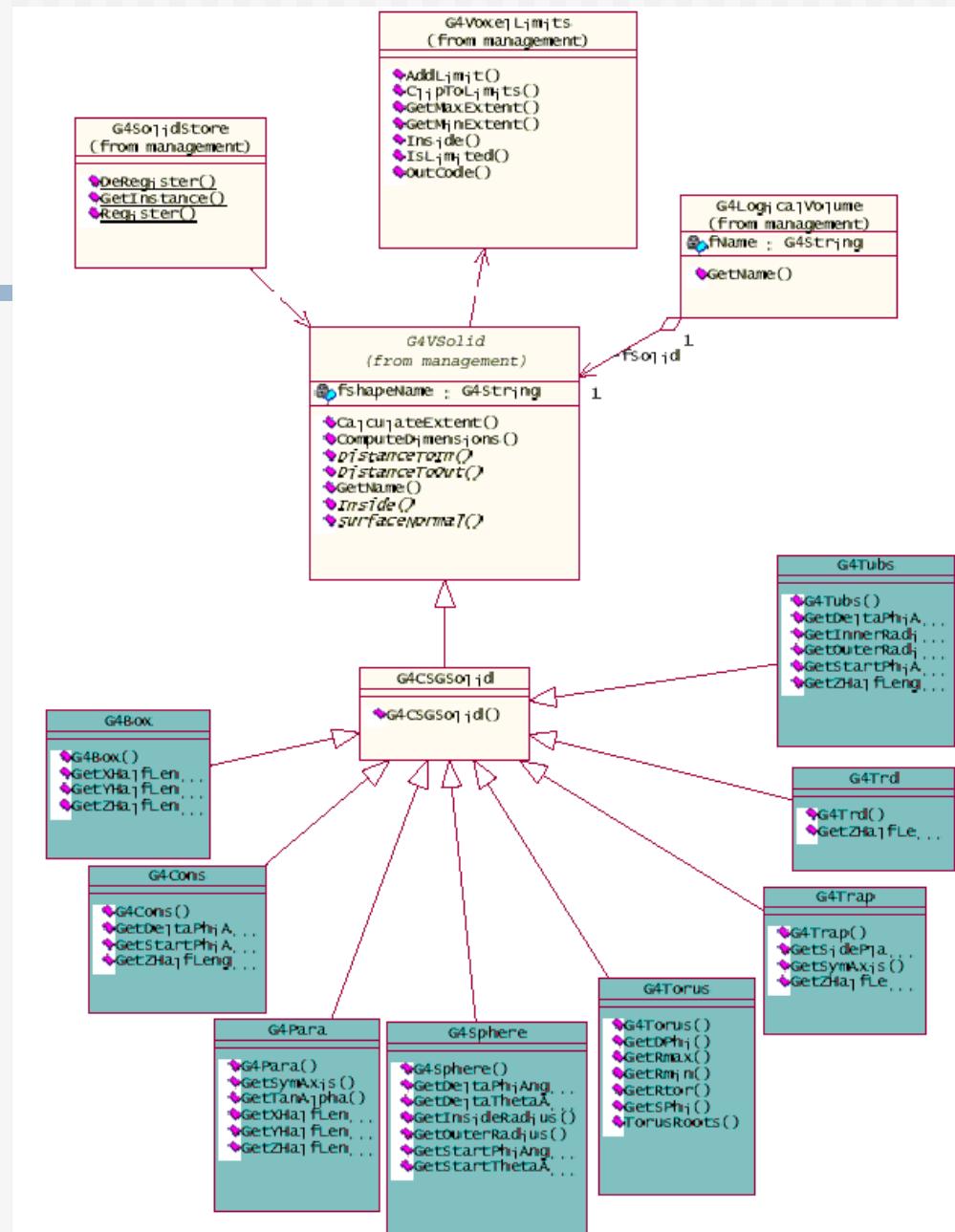
PART II

Describing a detector - III

- *Solids & Touchables*

G4VSolid

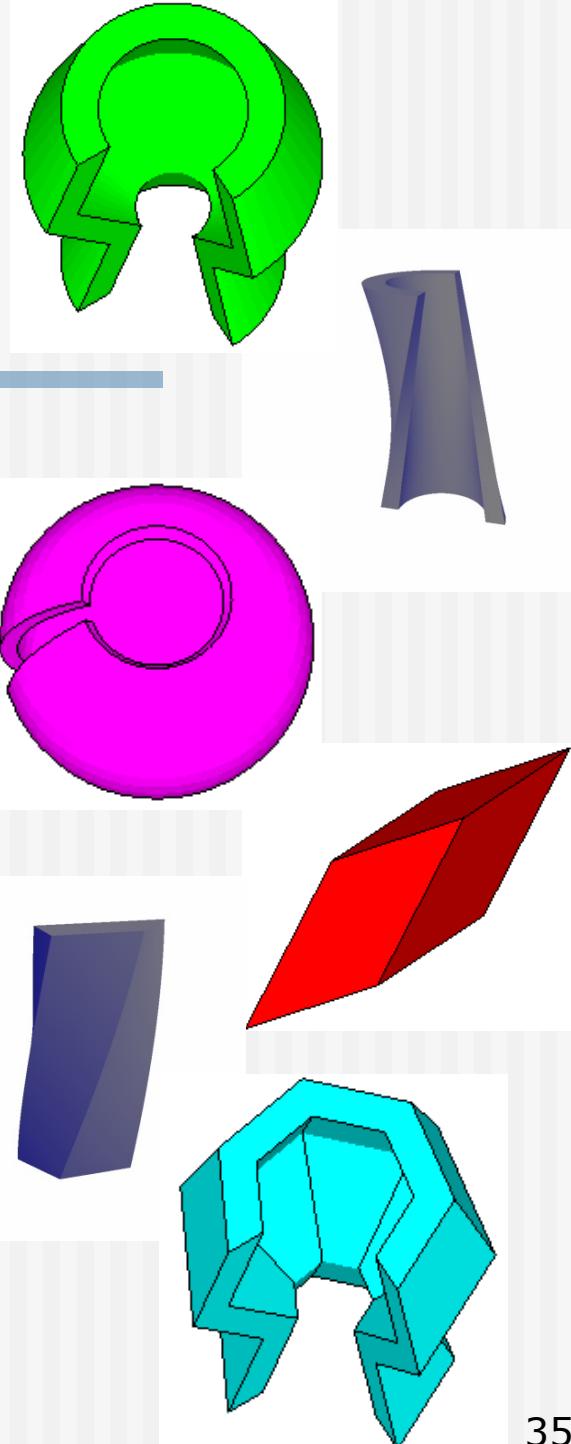
- Abstract class. All solids in Geant4 derive from it
 - Defines but does not implement all functions required to:
 - compute distances to/from the shape
 - check whether a point is inside the shape
 - compute the extent of the shape
 - compute the surface normal to the shape at a given point
- Once constructed, each solid is automatically registered in a specific solid store



Solids

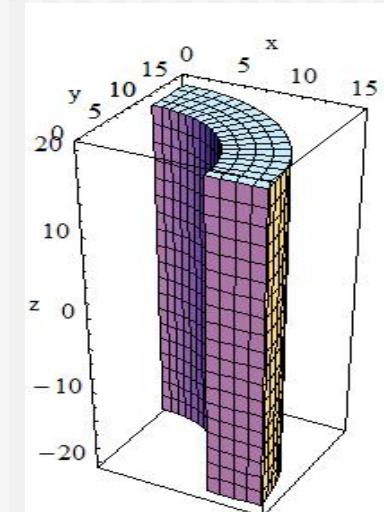
■ Solids defined in Geant4:

- CSG (Constructed Solid Geometry) solids
 - G4Box, G4Tubs, G4Cons, G4Trd, ...
 - Analogous to simple GEANT3 CSG solids
- Specific solids (CSG like)
 - G4Polycone, G4Polyhedra, G4Hype, ...
 - G4TwistedTubs, G4TwistedTrap, ...
- BREP (Boundary REPresented) solids
 - G4BREPSolidPolycone, G4BSplineSurface, ...
 - Any order surface
- Boolean solids
 - G4UnionSolid, G4SubtractionSolid, ...

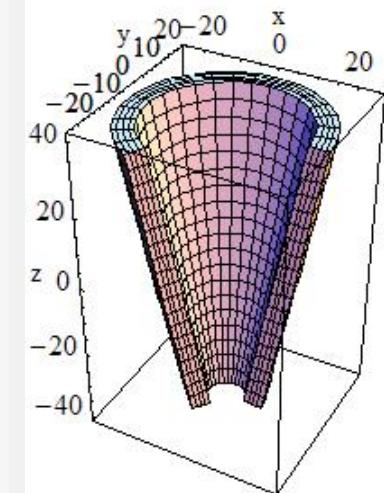


CSG: G4Tubs, G4Cons

```
G4Tubs(const G4String& pname, // name  
        G4double pRmin, // inner radius  
        G4double pRmax, // outer radius  
        G4double pDz, // z half length  
        G4double pSphi, // starting Phi  
        G4double pDphi); // segment angle
```

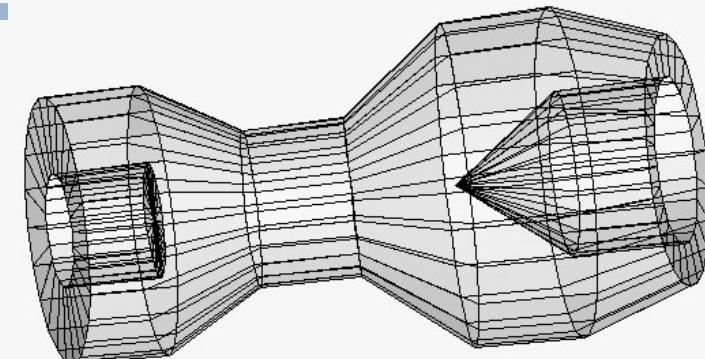


```
G4Cons(const G4String& pname, // name  
        G4double pRmin1, // inner radius -pDz  
        G4double pRmax1, // outer radius -pDz  
        G4double pRmin2, // inner radius +pDz  
        G4double pRmax2, // outer radius +pDz  
        G4double pDz, // z half length  
        G4double pSphi, // starting Phi  
        G4double pDphi); // segment angle
```

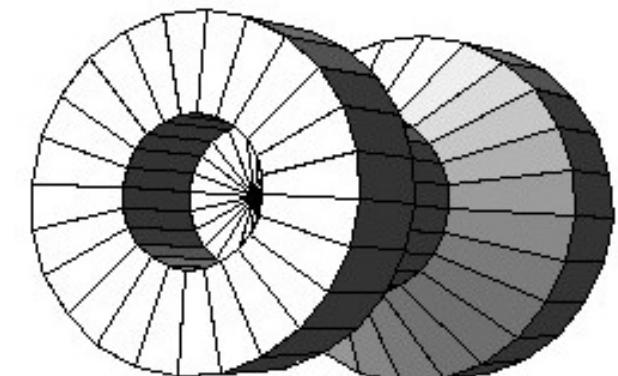


Specific CSG Solids: G4Polycone

```
G4Polycone(const G4String& pName,  
           G4double phiStart,  
           G4double phiTotal,  
           G4int numRZ,  
           const G4double r[],  
           const G4double z[]);
```

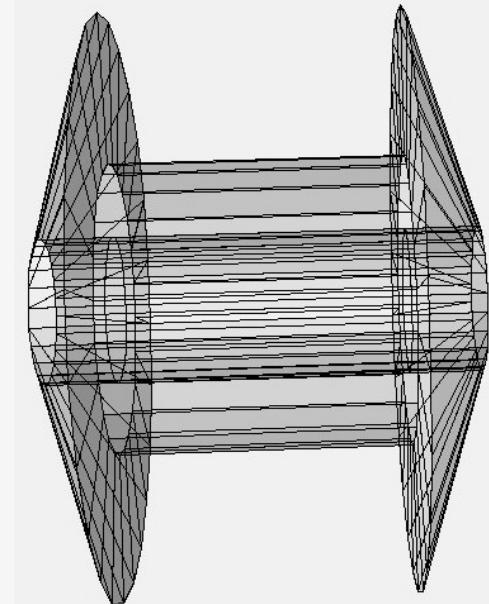
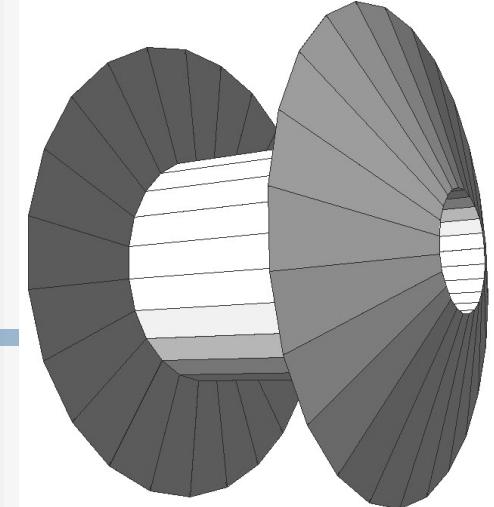


- `numRZ` - numbers of corners in the `r, z` space
- `r, z` - coordinates of corners
- Additional constructor using planes



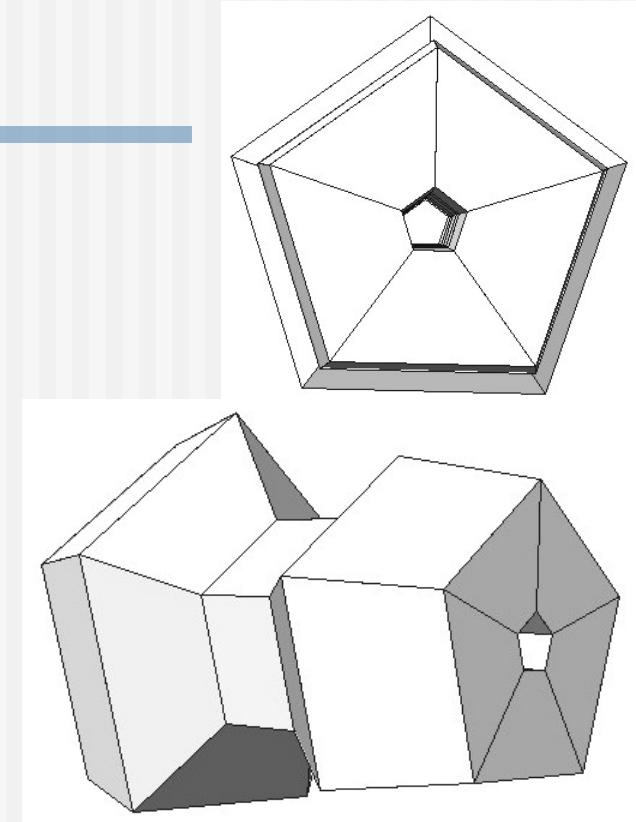
BREP Solids

- *BREP = Boundary REPresented Solid*
- Listing all its surfaces specifies a solid
 - e.g. 6 squares for a cube
- Surfaces can be
 - planar, 2nd or higher order
 - elementary BREPS
 - Splines, B-Splines,
NURBS (Non-Uniform B-Splines)
 - advanced BREPS
- Few elementary BREPS pre-defined
 - box, cons, tubs, sphere, torus, polycone, polyhedra
- Advanced BREPS built through CAD systems



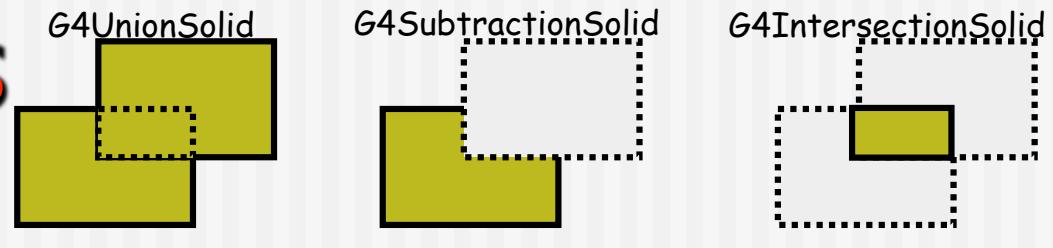
BREPS example: G4BREPSolidPolyhedra

```
G4BREPSolidPolyhedra(const G4String& pName,  
                      G4double phiStart,  
                      G4double phiTotal,  
                      G4int sides,  
                      G4int nZplanes,  
                      G4double zStart,  
                      const G4double zval[],  
                      const G4double rmin[],  
                      const G4double rmax[]);
```



- **sides** - numbers of sides of each polygon in the **x-y** plane
- **nZplanes** - numbers of planes perpendicular to the **z** axis
- **zval[]** - **z** coordinates of each plane
- **rmin[]**, **rmax[]** - Radii of inner and outer polygon at each plane

Boolean Solids



- Solids can be combined using boolean operations:
 - **G4UnionSolid**, **G4SubtractionSolid**, **G4IntersectionSolid**
 - Requires: 2 solids, 1 boolean operation, and an (optional) transformation for the 2nd solid
 - 2nd solid is positioned relative to the coordinate system of the 1st solid
 - Component solids must not be disjoint and must well intersect

```
G4Box box("Box", 20, 30, 40);
G4Tubs cylinder("Cylinder", 0, 50, 50, 0, 2*M_PI); // r:      0 -> 50
                                                       // z:     -50 -> 50
                                                       // phi:   0 -> 2 pi

G4UnionSolid union("Box+Cylinder", &box, &cylinder);
G4IntersectionSolid intersect("Box Intersect Cylinder", &box, &cylinder);
G4SubtractionSolid subtract("Box-Cylinder", &box, &cylinder);
```

- Solids can be either CSG or other Boolean solids
- Note: tracking cost for the navigation in a complex Boolean solid is proportional to the number of constituent solids

Areas, volumes and masses

- Surface area and geometrical volume of a generic solid or Boolean composition can be computed from the **solid**:

```
G4double GetSurfaceArea();
```

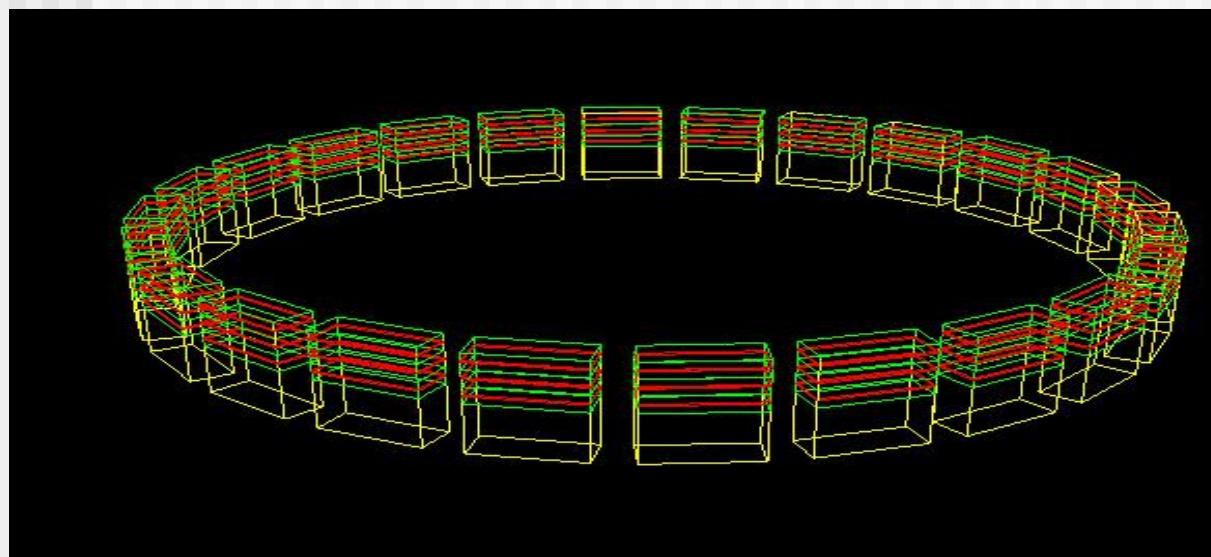
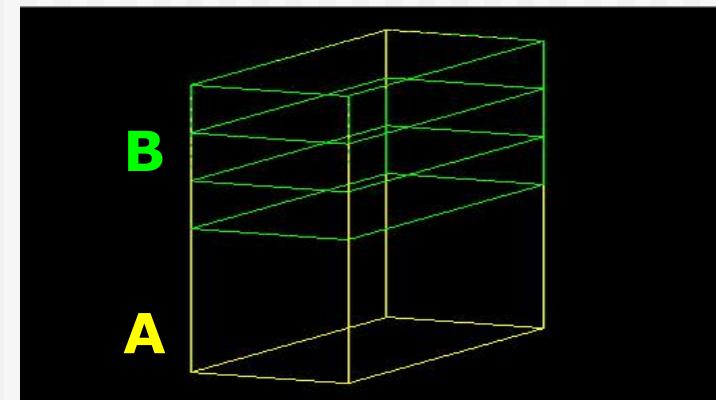
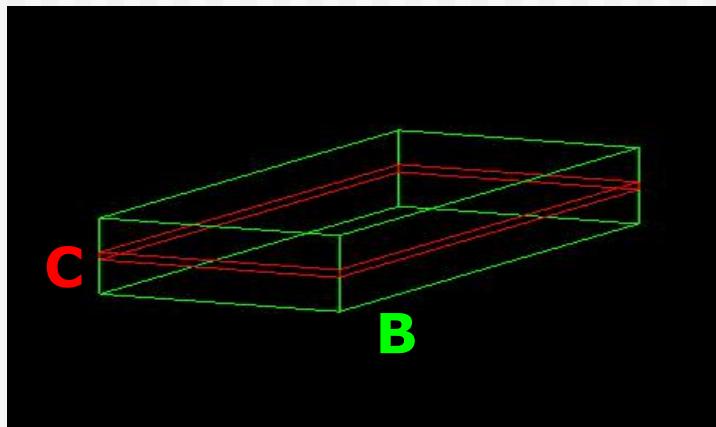
```
G4double GetCubicVolume();
```

- Overall mass of a geometry setup (sub-detector) can be computed from the **logical volume**:

```
G4double GetMass(G4Bool forced=false,  
                  G4Material* parameterisedMaterial=0);
```

How to identify a volume uniquely?

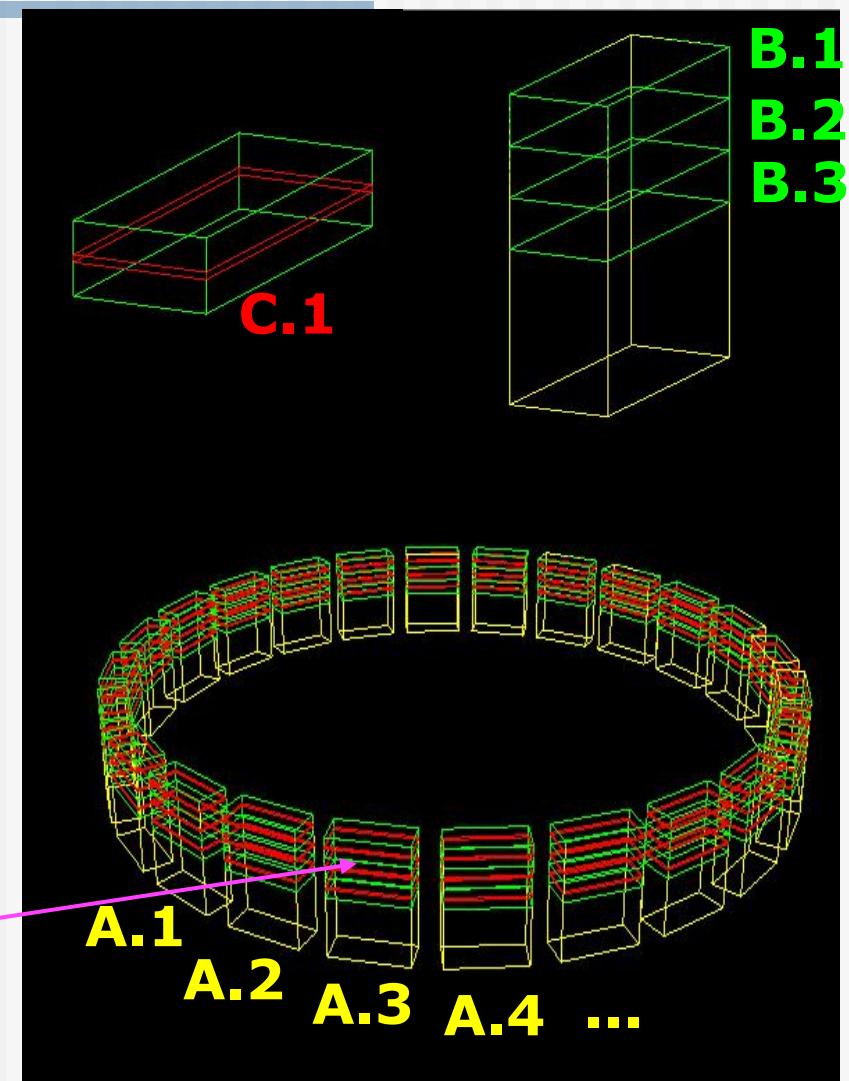
- Suppose a geometry is made of sensitive layers C which are placed in a volume B
- Volume B is a daughter volume of a divided volume A



- Volume A has 24 positions in the world
- While in the 'logical' geometry tree volume C is represented by just one physical volume, in the real world there are many C 'volumes'
- *How can we then identify these volumes C ?*

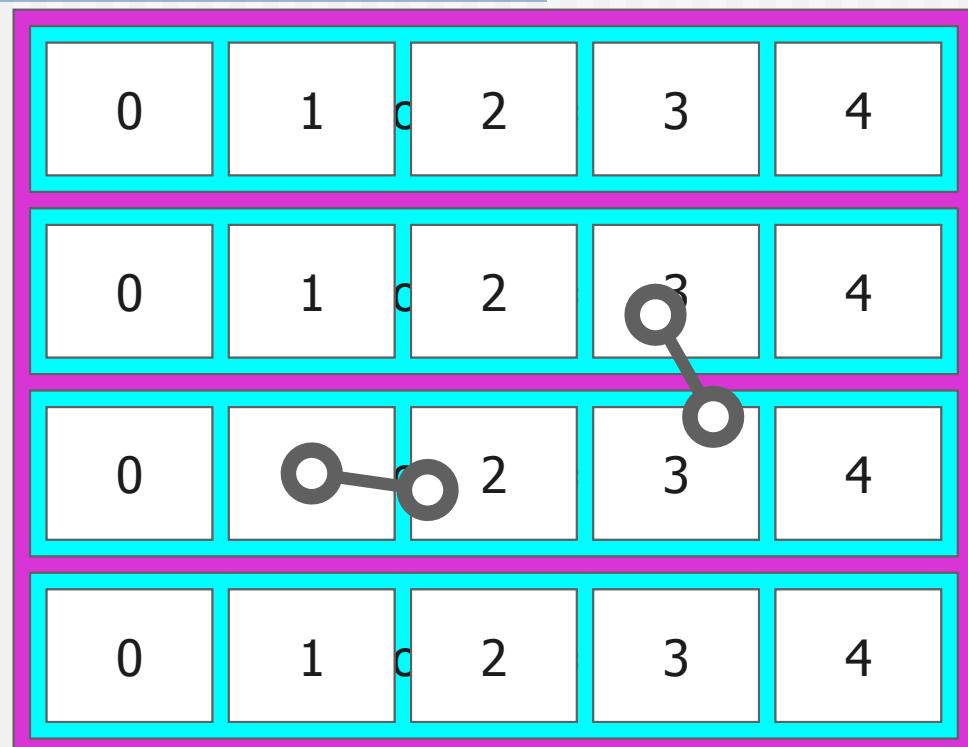
Basics of Touchables

- A **touchable** for a volume serves the purpose of providing a unique identification for a detector element
- It is a geometrical entity (volume or solid) which has a unique placement in a detector description
 - It can be uniquely identified by providing the copy numbers for all daughters in the geometry hierarchy
 - In our case these are
 - CopyNo of C in B: **1**
 - CopyNo of B in A: **1,2,3**
 - CopyNo of A in the world: **1, .., 24**
 - Example of touchable identification:
 - **A.3/B.2/C.1**



Copy numbers

- Suppose a calorimeter is made of 4x5 cells
 - and is implemented by two levels of replica
- In reality, there is **only one physical volume object** for each level. Its position is parameterized by its copy number
- How to get the copy number of each level, when a step belongs to two cells ?
 - *Remember:* geometrical information in **G4Track** is identical to "PostStepPoint". You cannot get the correct copy number for "**PreStepPoint**" if you directly access to the physical volume
 - Use touchable to get the proper copy number, transformation matrix,...

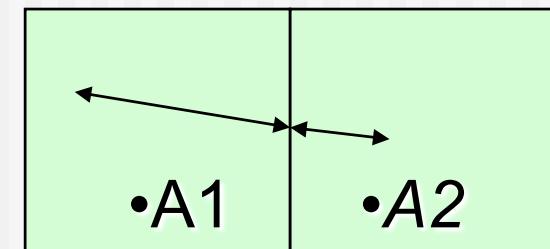


What a touchable provides ?

- **G4VTouchable** - a base class for all touchable implementations – defines the following 'requests' (methods) which all touchable have to respond, where **depth** means always the number of levels up in the tree to be considered:
 - depth = 0 : the bottom level (volume C in B)
 - depth = 1 : the level of its mother volume (volume B in A)
 - depth = 2 : the grandmother volume (volume A in world)
- **GetCopyNumber(G4int depth =0)**
 - **returns the copy number of the given level**
- **GetTranslation(G4int depth = 0); GetRotation(G4int depth=0)**↑
 - **return the components of the volume's transformation**
- **GetSolid(G4int depth =0)**↑
 - **returns the solid**
- **GetVolume(G4int depth =0)**↑
 - **returns the physical volume**

Benefits of Touchables in track

- Full geometrical information available
 - to processes, to sensitive detectors, to hits
- All the **geometrical information** of the particular step should be taken from “**PreStepPoint**”
 - Available in **G4TouchableHistory** object
 - Copy-number, transformations
 - Accessible via **Handles** (or *smart-pointers*) to touchables
 - Note: the geometrical information associated with **G4Track** is basically the same as “**PostStepPoint**”



Touchable & Steps

- **G4Step** has two **G4StepPoint** objects as its starting and ending points. All the geometrical information of the particular step should be got from “**PreStepPoint**”
 - Geometrical information associated with **G4Track** is basically same as “**PostStepPoint**”
- Each **G4StepPoint** object provides:
 - position in world coordinate system
 - global and local time
 - Material
 - Associated **G4TouchableHistory**
 - Touchable to be used for geometrical information
 - Copy-number, transformations
- *Handles (or smart-pointers)* to touchables are intrinsically used. Touchables are reference counted

How to use Touchables ...

- **G4TouchableHistory** has information of the geometrical hierarchy at the point

```
G4Step* aStep = ...;  
G4StepPoint* preStepPoint = aStep->GetPreStepPoint();  
G4TouchableHandle theTouchable =  
    preStepPoint->GetTouchableHandle();  
G4int copyNo = theTouchable->GetReplicaNumber();  
G4int motherCopyNo = theTouchable->GetReplicaNumber(1);  
G4ThreeVector worldPos = preStepPoint->GetPosition();  
G4ThreeVector localPos = theTouchable->GetHistory()->  
    GetTopTransform().TransformPoint(worldPos);
```

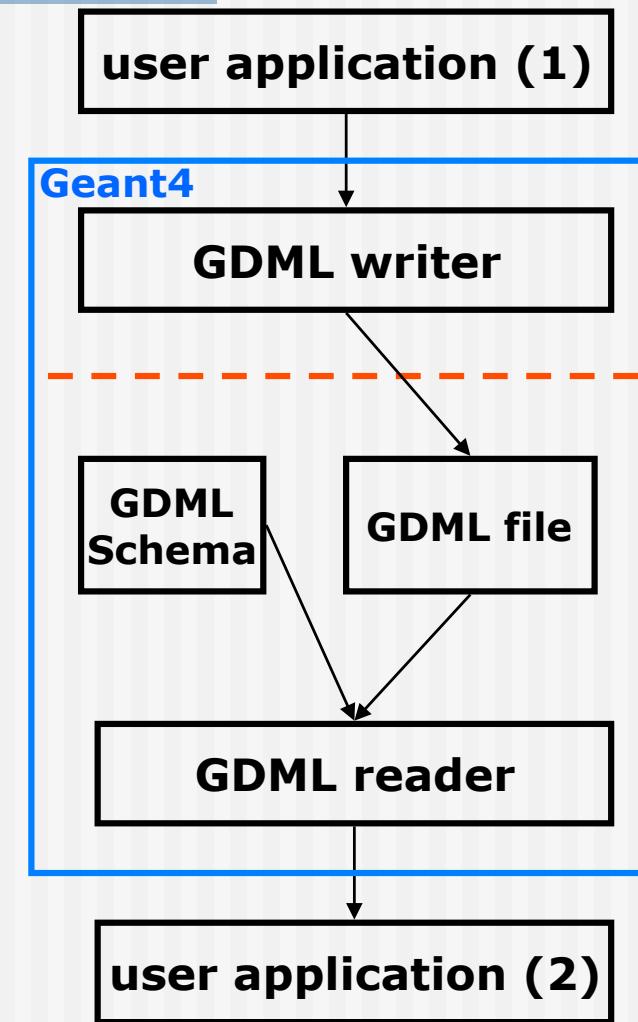
PART II

GDML

- *Importing and exporting detector descriptions*

GDML components

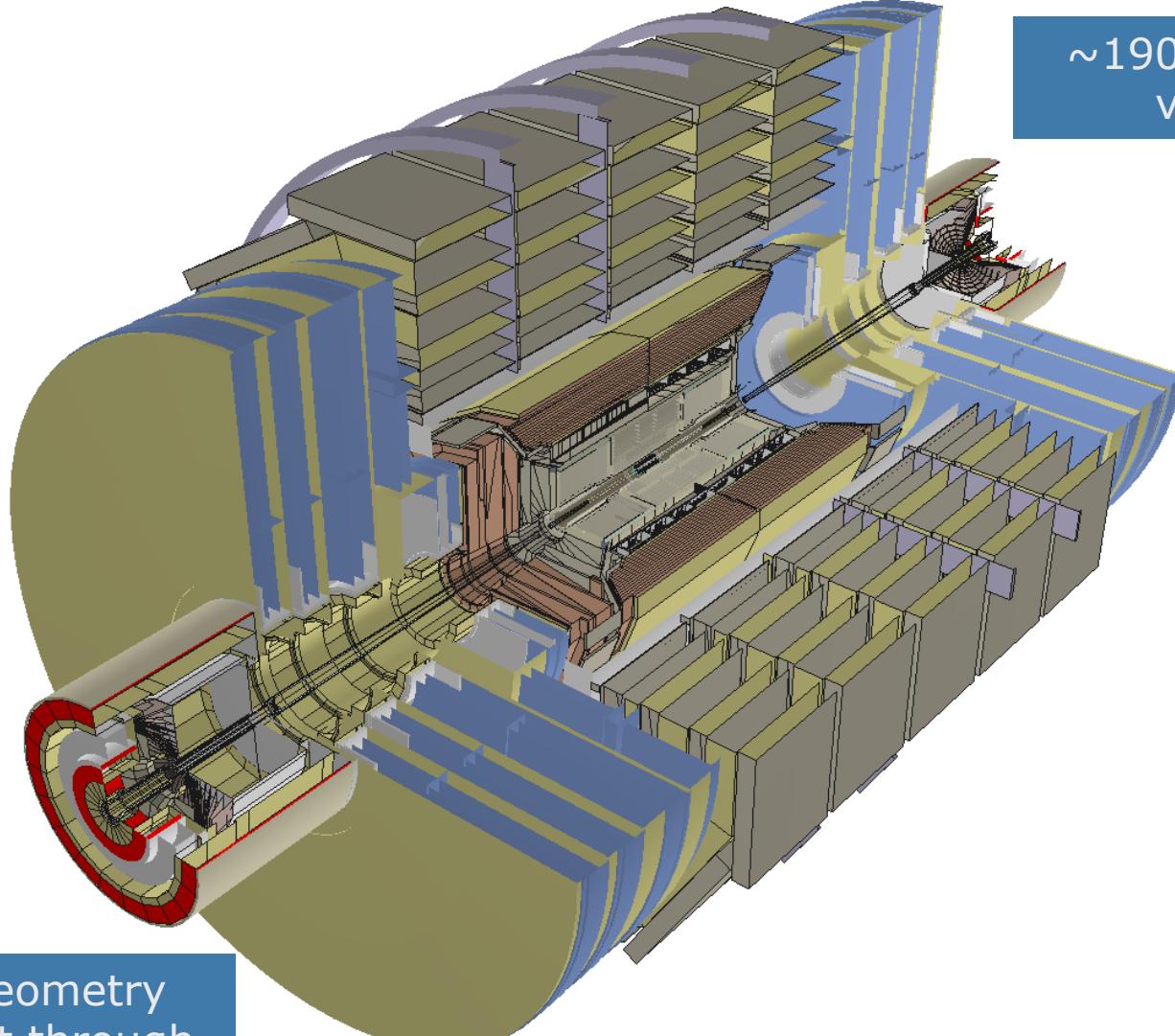
- GDML (Geometry Description Markup Language) is defined through XML Schema (XSD)
 - XSD = XML based alternative to Document Type Definition (DTD)
 - defines document structure and the list of legal elements
 - XSD are in XML -> they are extensible
- GDML can be written by hand or generated automatically in Geant4
 - 'GDML writer' allows exporting a GDML file
- GDML needs a "reader", integrated in Geant4
 - 'GDML reader' imports and creates 'in-memory' the representation of the geometry description



GDML – Geant4 binding

- XML schema available from <http://cern.ch/gdml>
 - Also available within Geant4 distribution
 - See in `geant4/source/persistency/gdml/schema/`
 - Latest schema release GDML_3_0_0 (as from 9.2 release)
- Requires XercesC++ XML parser
 - Available from: <http://xerces.apache.org/xerces-c>
 - Tested with versions 2.8.0 and 3.0.1
- Optional package to be linked against during build
 - `G4LIB_BUILD_GDML` and `XERCESROOT` variables
 - Examples available: `geant4/examples/extended/persistency/gdml`

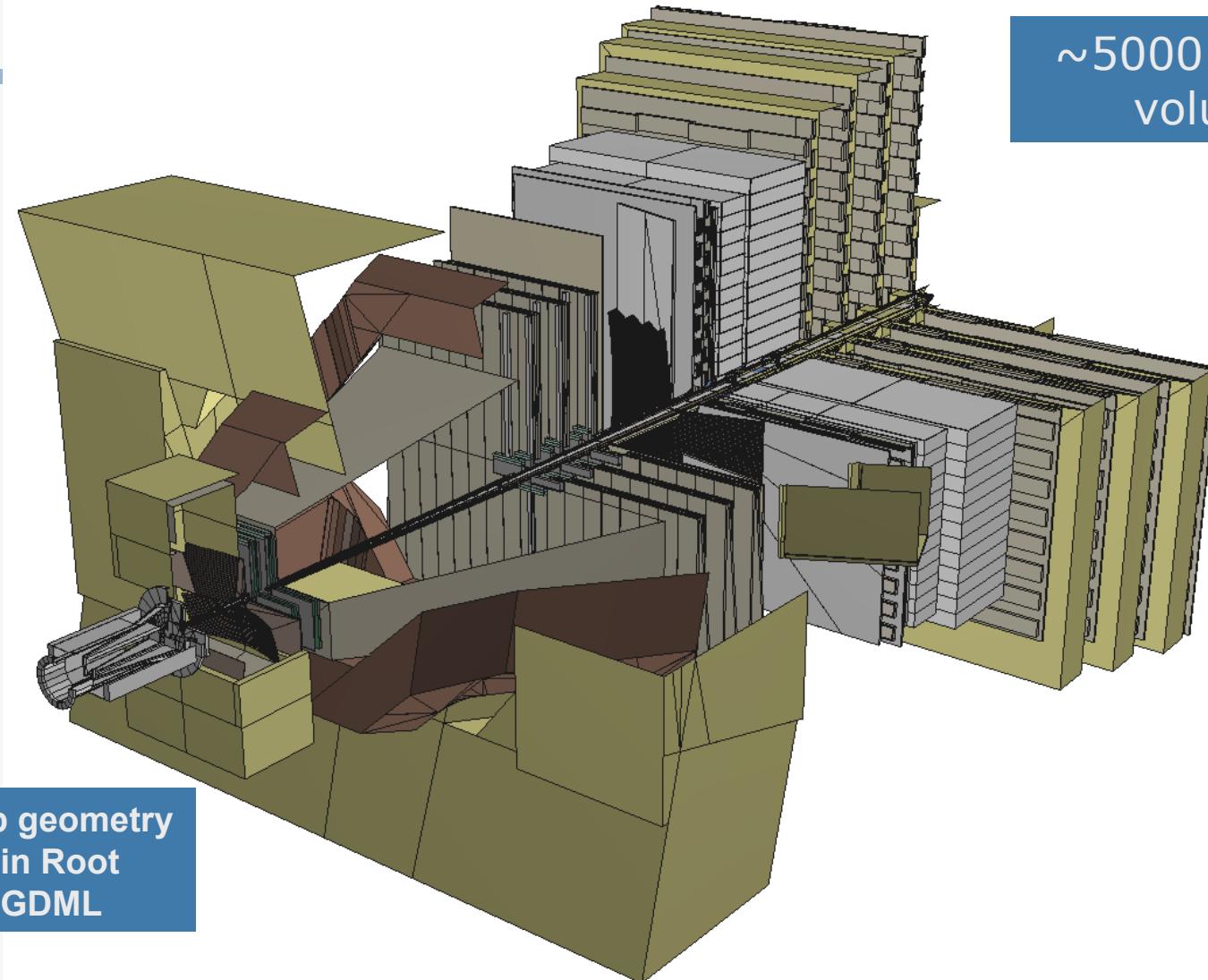
CMS detector through GDML



Geant4 CMS geometry
imported in Root through
GDML

Detector Description: Basics - Geant4
Course

LHCb detector through GDML



Geant4 LHCb geometry
imported in Root
through GDML

~5000 physical
volumes

Using GDML in Geant4

to write:

```
#include "G4GDMLParser.hh"  
G4GDMLParser parser;  
parser.Write("g4test.gdml", pWorld, true, "path_to_schema/gdml.xsd");  
  
to read:  
parser.Read( "g4test.gdml", true );  
  
pWorld = GDMProcessor::GetInstance()->GetWorldVolume();
```

The diagram illustrates the usage of GDML in Geant4 with annotations:

- An arrow points from the text "instantiate GDML parser" to the line `#include "G4GDMLParser.hh"`.
- An arrow points from the text "Concatenate or not pointers to entity names" to the line `parser.Write("g4test.gdml", pWorld, true, "path_to_schema/gdml.xsd");`.
- An arrow points from the text "pass the 'top' volume to the writer Activate or de-activativate schema validation" to the line `parser.Read("g4test.gdml", true);`.
- An arrow points from the text "get pointer to 'top' world volume" to the line `pWorld = GDMProcessor::GetInstance()->GetWorldVolume();`.

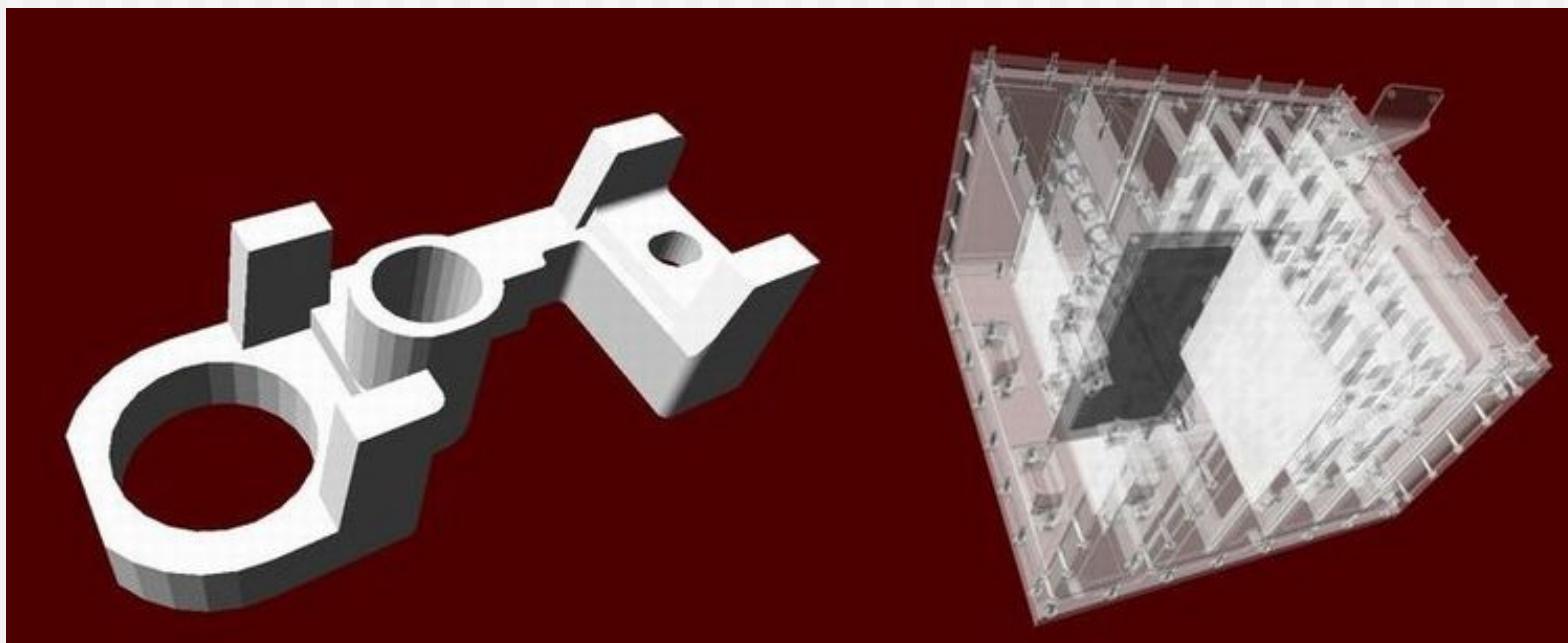
→ GDM examples in: [geant4/examples/extended/persistency/gdml](#)

Using GDML in Geant4 - 2

- Any geometry tree can be dumped to file
 - ... just provide its physical volume pointer (`pVol`):
`parser.Write("g4test.gdml", pVol);`
- A geometry setup can be split in modules
 - ... starting from a geometry tree specified by a physical volume:
`parser.AddModule(pVol);`
 - ... indicating the depth from which starting to modularize:
`parser.AddModule(depth);`
- Provides facility for importing CAD geometries generated through STEP-Tools
- Allows for easy extensions of the GDML schema and treatment of auxiliary information associated to volumes
- Full coverage of materials, solids, volumes and simple language constructs (variables, loops, etc...)

Importing CAD geometries with GDML

- CAD geometries generated through STEP-Tools (**stFile.geom**, **stFile.tree** files) can be imported through the GDML reader:
 - `parser.ParseST("stFile", WorldMaterial, GeomMaterial);`



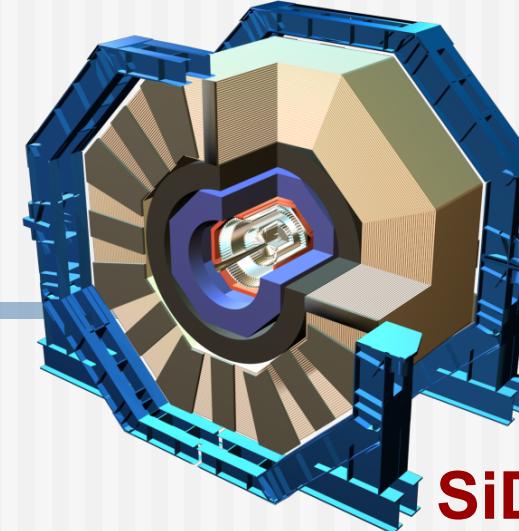
- Tool like FastRad allow for importing CAD STEP files and directly convert to GDML

GDML processing performance

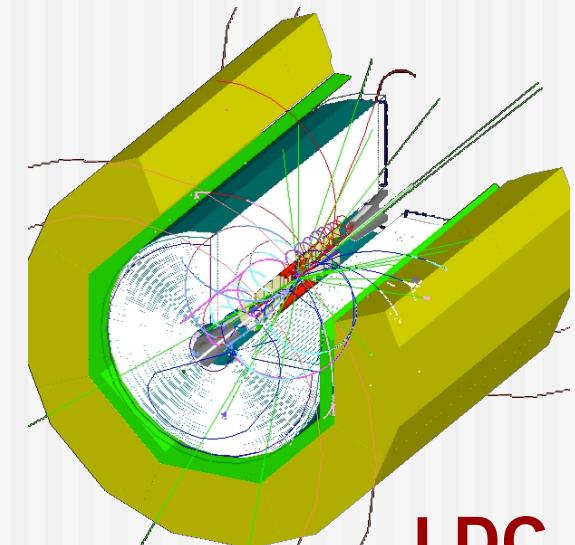
- GDML reader/writer tested on
 - complete LHCb and CMS geometries
 - parts of ATLAS geometry
 - full ATLAS geometry includes custom solids
- for LHCb geometry (~5000 logical volumes)
 - writing out ~10 seconds (on P4 2.4GHz)
 - reading in ~ 5 seconds
 - file size ~2.7 Mb (~40k lines)
- for CMS geometry (~19000 logical volumes)
 - writing out ~30 seconds
 - reading in ~15 seconds
 - file size ~7.9 Mb (~120k lines)

GDML as primary geometry source

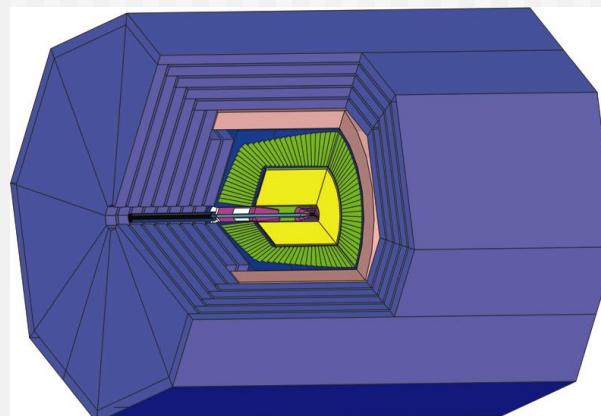
- Linear Collider
 - Linear Collider Detector Description (LCDD) extends GDML with Geant4-specific information (sensitive detectors, physics cuts, etc)
 - GDML/LCDD is generic and flexible
 - several different full detector design concepts, including SiD, GLD, and LDC, where simulated using the same application



SiD



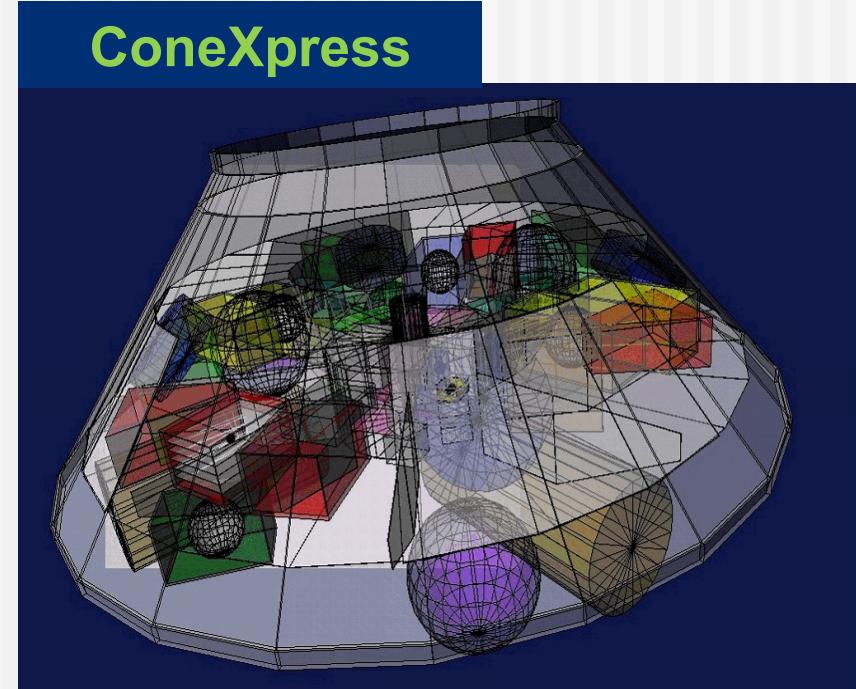
LDC



GLD

GDML as primary geometry source

- Space Research @ ESA
 - Geant4 geometry models
 - component degradation studies (JWST, ConeXpress,...)
 - GRAS (Geant4 Radiation Analysis for Space)
 - enables flexible geometry configuration and changes
 - main candidate for CAD to Geant4 exchange format



GDML as primary geometry source

- Anthropomorphic Phantom
 - Modeling of the human body and anatomy for radioprotection studies
 - no hard-coded geometry, flexible configuration

