

Geant4

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What is the use of Monte Carlo techniques?

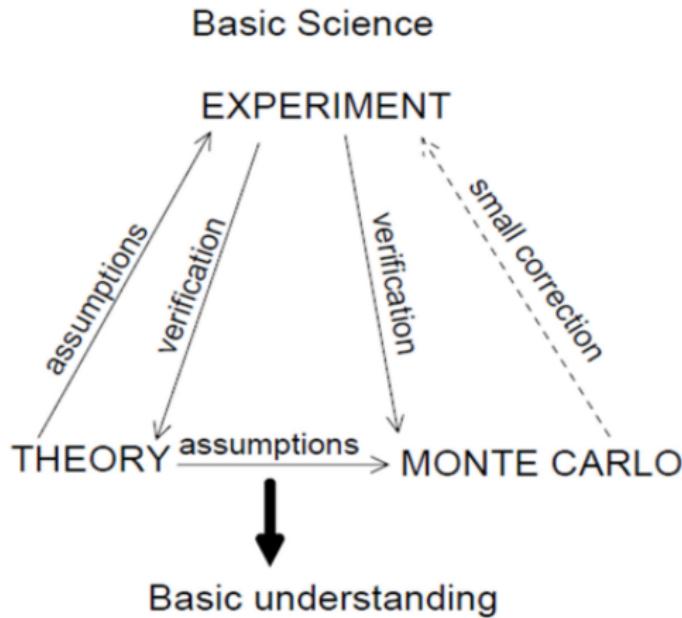
- Numerical solution of a (complex) macroscopic problem, by simulating smaller interactions.
- It's not only constrained to physics, it can be used for many other types of research such as: finances, traffic or even social studies.
 - It can apply for numeric problems as well (e.g. Integrals) not necessarily probabilistic problems.
- Generate configurations or arrangements.
 - People like to have a good view hence they will chose seats with the best view.
 - People prefer to sit in the aisle seat so they can access the bathroom easier.
 - Only one person can occupy any given seat.
- The analytic solution can be impossible or extremely difficult to solve, i.e. MC is more effective.

What is the use of Monte Carlo techniques?

- In MC you don't consider laws to be laws, rather they are considered working assumptions.
- Here we use reverse engineering if you will. By generating random distributions according to our assumptions, rules and so on, we can find "laws" or patterns that better explain these behaviors.
 - Use MC to build a theory of a complex system by comparing it with real experiments.

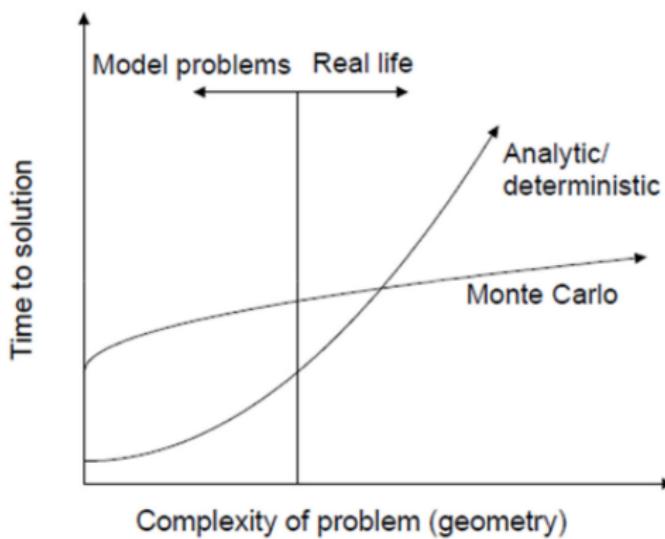
- In physics, elementary laws are known (usually), MC is therefore used to predict the outcome of larger experiments.
- It can be used to prove or disprove a theory, and/or to provide small corrections to the theory.

In this course we will use Monte Carlo for particle tracking.



Monte Carlo vs Analytic Solutions

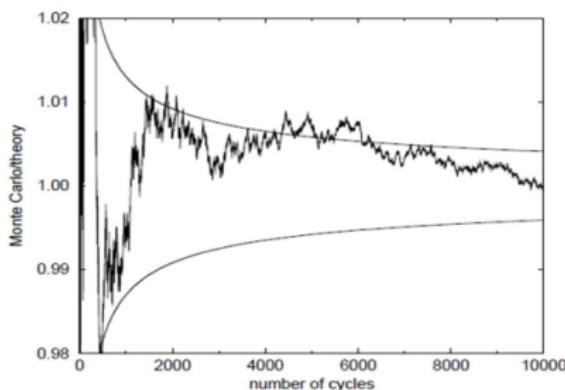
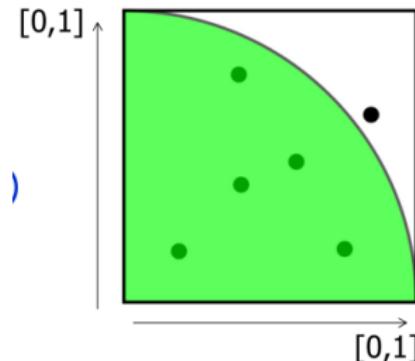
Simple. If you value your life and wish to find a solution before dying, then use Monte Carlo.



Simple MC application: Task 0

To calculate π you do the following:

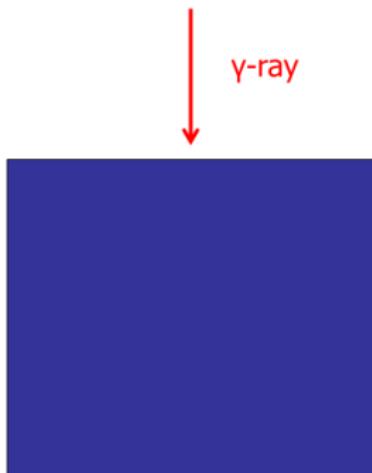
- (N) Shoot N points in a fourth of a circle of radius 1.
- (n) Count how many of the points satisfy $x^2 + y^2 \leq 1$.
- $n/N = \pi/4$



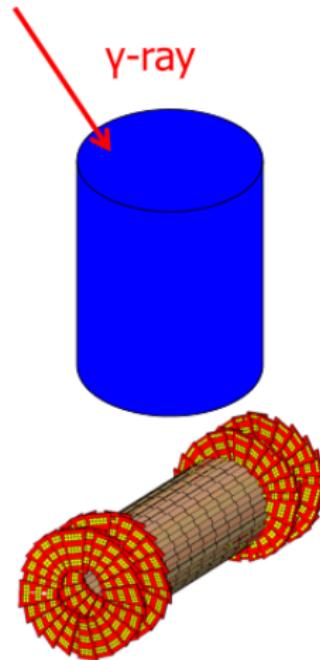
- Convergence as $\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$

Common applications in physics

- Track a γ -ray in a semi-infinite detector and determine the energy spectrum deposited.
- All the physics we need are in textbooks (Compton scattering, photoelectric, etc..)
- Yet, the analytic solution is a nightmare.



- Track a γ -ray in a finite detector (e.g. a NaI).
- Analytic computation is nearly impossible.
 - Monte Carlo for the win.
- Now being realistic, modern detectors are much more complex than a simple cylinder, and have various components.



Particle Tracking

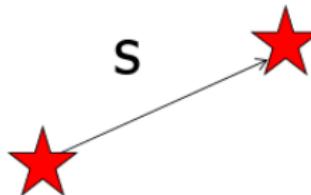
- The distance between two subsequent interactions (s) have the following distribution:

$$p(s) = \mu e^{-\mu s}$$

Where μ is the property of the medium (supposed to homogeneous) and of the physics considered.

- If a medium is not homogeneous then:

$$p(s) = \mu(s) e^{-\int_0^s \mu(s') ds'}$$



- Transition between two homogeneous materials goes as:

$$\mu(z) = \theta(b-z)\mu_1 + \theta(z-b)\mu_2$$

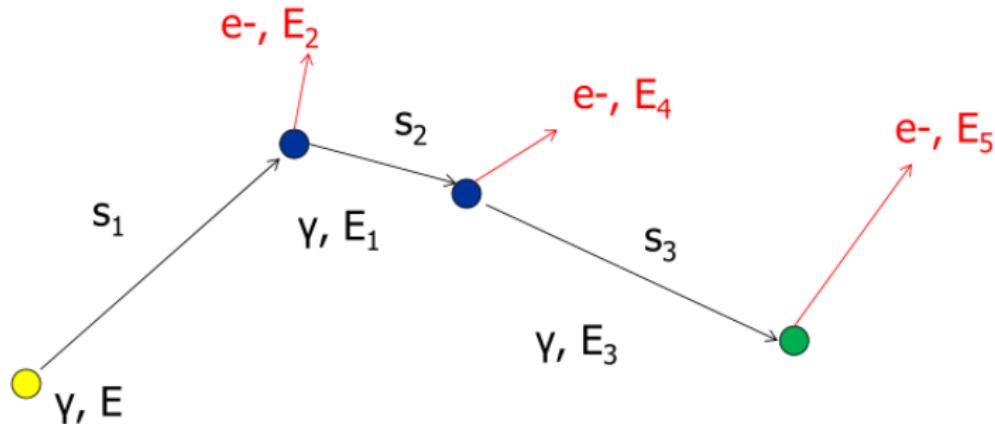
- μ is proportional to the total cross section and depends on the density of the material:

$$\mu = N\sigma = N \sum_i \sigma_i = \sum_i \mu_i$$

- All competing processes contribute with their own μ_i
- Each process takes place with probability μ_i/μ i.e. proportional to the total cross section.

Particle Tracking: Basic Recipe

- Divide the trajectory of the particle in "steps".
 - Straight free-flight tracks between consecutive interactions.
 - Steps can also be limited by geometric boundaries.
- Decide the step length s , by sampling according to $p(s) = \mu e^{-\mu s}$ (Non uniform random numbers, ask the professor so he can wow you of how this works), with the proper μ (Remember, this depends on the material and the physics involved).
- Decide which interaction takes place at the end of the step, according to μ_i/μ .
- Produce the final state according to the physics of the interaction.
 - Update direction of the primary particle.
 - Store somewhere the possible secondary particles, to be tracked later on.



- Follow all secondaries, until they are absorbed or leave the volume.
- Notice: μ depends on energy (cross sections do!)

- This basic recipe works fine for γ -rays and other neutral particles.
- This doesn't work so well for e^\pm : the cross section (ionization & bremsstrahlung) is very high, so the steps between two consecutive interactions are very small.
 - CPU intensive: viable for low energies and this material.
- Even worse: in each interaction only a small fraction of energy is lost, and the angular displacement is small.
 - A lot of time is spent to simulate interactions having small effect.
 - The interactions of γ are "catastrophic": large change in energy and direction.

- Simulate explicitly (i.e. force step) interactions only if energy is lost (or change of direction) is above a threshold W_0
 - Detailed simulation
 - "hard" interaction (like γ interactions)
- The effect of all sub-threshold interactions is described statistically.
 - Condensed simulation
 - "soft" interactions
- Hard interactions occur much less than soft interactions.
 - you recover the fully detailed simulation when $W_0 = 0$

- Has some technical tricks:
 - Since energy is lost along the step due to soft interactions, the sampled step s cannot be too long ($s < s_{max}$).
- Parameter μ_h between hard collisions

$$\mu_h = N \int_{W_0}^E \frac{d\sigma}{dW}(E) dW$$

- Has $\mu_h \ll \mu$ because the differential cross section is strongly peaked at low W (= soft secondaries)
- "soft" interactions
- Much longer step length

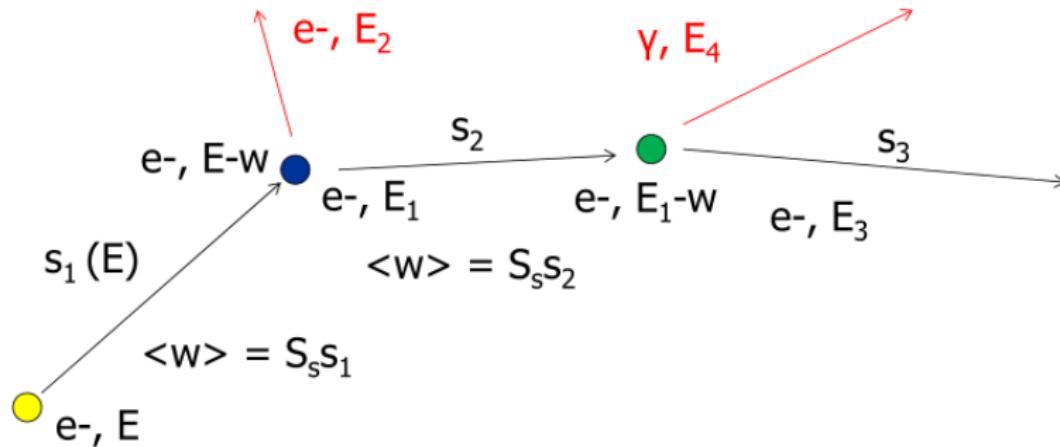
- Stopping power due to soft collisions (dE/dx)

$$S_s = N \int_0^{W_0} W \frac{d\sigma}{dW}(E) dW$$

- Average energy lost along the step: $\langle w \rangle = sS_s$
 - Must be $\langle w \rangle \ll E$
- Fluctuations around the average value $\langle w \rangle$ have to be taken into account.
 - Appropriate random sampling of w with mean value $\langle w \rangle$ and variance (straggling).

- Decide the step length s , by sampling according to $p(s) = \mu_h e^{-\mu_h s}$
- Calculate the cumulative effect of the soft interactions along the step: sample the energy loss w , with $\langle w \rangle = sS_s$, and the displacement.
- Update energy and directions of the primary particle at the end of the step $E_{i+1} = E - w$.
- Decide which interaction takes place at the end of the step, according to $\mu_{i,h}/\mu_h$
- Produce the final state according to the physics of the interaction ($\frac{d^2\sigma}{d\Omega dE}$).

Extended Recipe



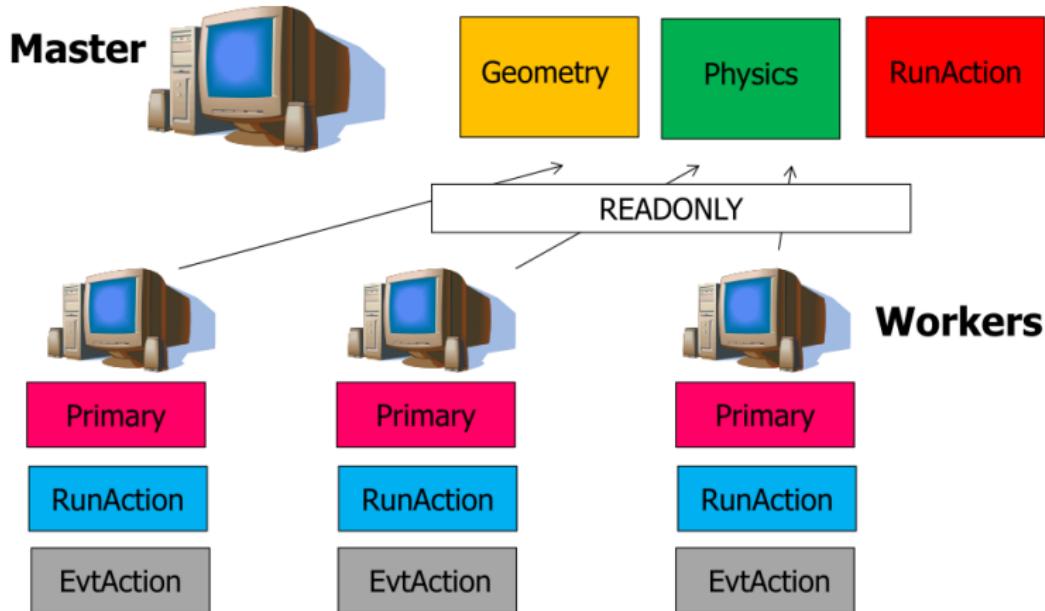
- Follow all secondaries, until they are absorbed or leave the volume.

- It's a toolkit!
 - You can't run it as you would any other application.
 - You have to make use of the tools in order for it to run.
- Consequences:
 - There is no such thing as "Geant4 defaults".
 - You must provide the necessary information to configure your simulation.
 - You must deliberately choose which Geant4 tools to use.

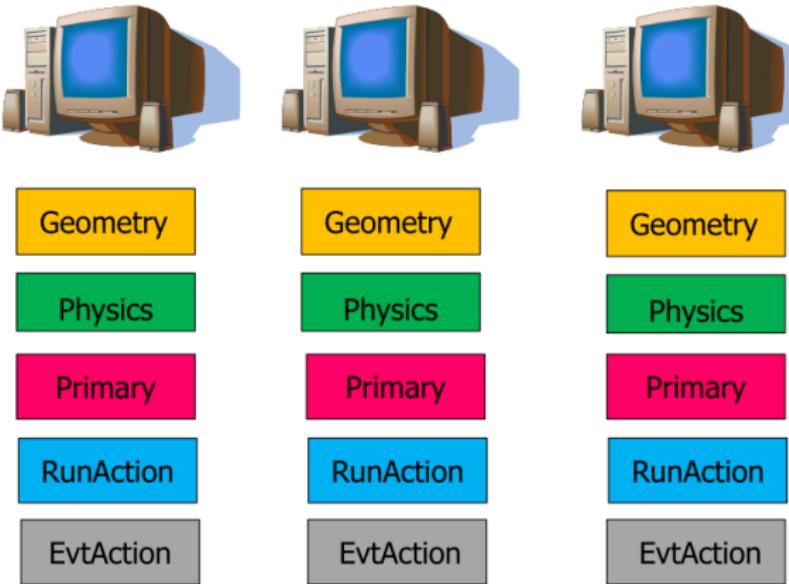
- What you must do:
 - Describe your experimental set-up.
 - Provide the primary particles input to your simulation.
 - Decide which particles and physics models you want to use out of those available in Geant4 and the precision of your simulation (cuts to produce and track secondary particles).
- You may also want:
 - To interact with Geant4 kernel to control your simulation.
 - To visualize your simulation configuration or results.
 - To produce histograms, tuples, etc.. to be further analyzed.

- Transportation of a particle 'step-by-step' taking into account all possible interactions with materials and fields.
- The transport ends if the particle
 - is slowed down to zero kinetic energy (and doesn't have any interaction at rest)
 - disappears in some interaction (annihilated)
 - reaches the end of the simulation volume.
- Geant4 allows the user to access the transportation process and retrieve the results (User Actions):
 - at the beginning and end of the transport (event).
 - at the end of each step in transportation.
 - if the particle reaches a sensitive detector.
 - Others...

- Geant4 10.0 (released Dec, 2013) supports multi-thread approach for multi-core machines.
 - Simulation is automatically split on an event-by-event basis.
 - different events are processed by different cores
 - Can fully profit of all cores available on modern machines.
This means we obtain a substantial boost in our simulations.
 - Unique copy (master) of geometry and physics.
 - All cores have them with read-only access.
- Backwards compatible with the sequential mode.
 - Multi-thread programming requires thread-safe operations.



Parallelism



In order to use Geant4, you proceed as you would with any external library. In other words, you simply have to create an empty project using cmake and link the Geant4 library with your code.

Steps:

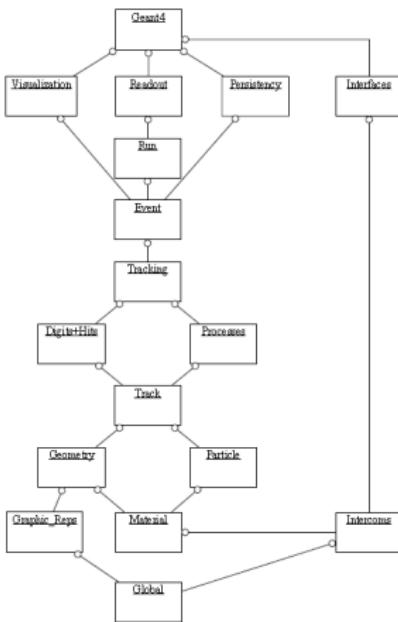
- Create an empty C++ project.
- Initialize Geant4 in main().
- Describe the geometry, primary particles, physics and other functionality.
- Compile the code
- Run Forest!! Run!



Geant4 consists of many modules:

- Run: management of the runs.
- Event: management of the events.
- Tracking: particle tracks in the geometry.
- Processes: physics attached to particles.
- Particle: elementary and other particles.
- Geometry: description of the detector.
- Material: all material properties.
- Interfaces: communication with the user.
- Visualization: graphical representation of the geometry and tracks.
- ... and much more.

Modular Architecture



Source Structure

Official basic/B1 example:

```
2,4K 4 Dic 14:48 CMakeLists.txt  
475B 4 Dic 14:48 GNUmakefile  
2,8K 4 Dic 14:48 History  
7,5K 4 Dic 14:48 README  
4,0K 4 Dic 14:48 exampleB1.cc  
226B 4 Dic 14:48 exampleB1.in  
35K 4 Dic 14:48 exampleB1.out  
272B 4 Dic 14:49 include  
338B 4 Dic 14:48 init_vis.mac  
553B 4 Dic 14:48 run1.mac  
448B 4 Dic 14:48 run2.mac  
272B 4 Dic 14:49 src  
3,8K 4 Dic 14:48 vis.mac
```

Macro file containing the commands

The text file CMakeLists.txt is the CMake script containing commands which describe how to build the exampleB1 application

contains main() for the application

Header files

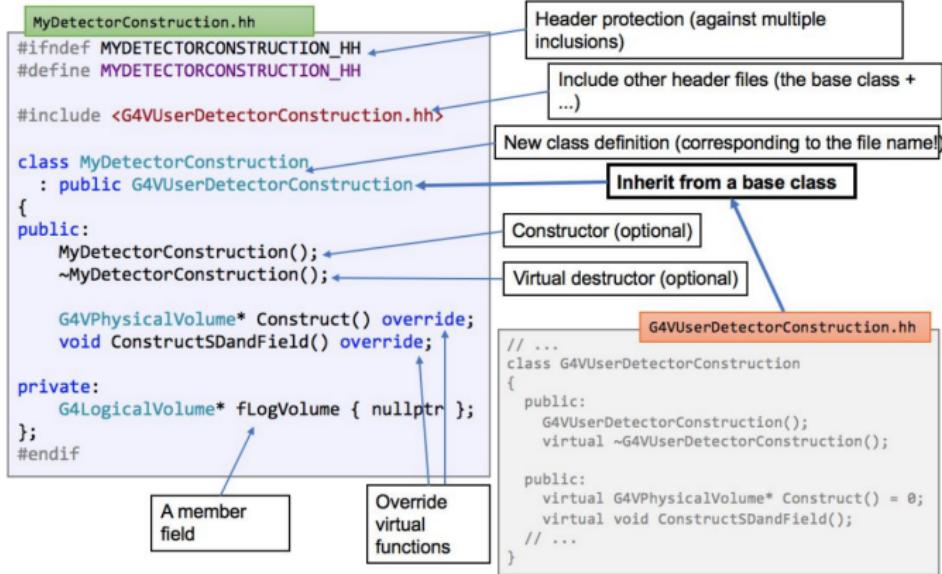
```
2,2K 4 Dic 14:48 B1ActionInitialization.hh  
2,4K 4 Dic 14:48 B1DetectorConstruction.hh  
2,4K 4 Dic 14:48 B1EventAction.hh  
2,7K 4 Dic 14:48 B1PrimaryGeneratorAction.hh  
2,5K 4 Dic 14:48 B1RunAction.hh  
2,4K 4 Dic 14:48 B1SteppingAction.hh
```

Source files

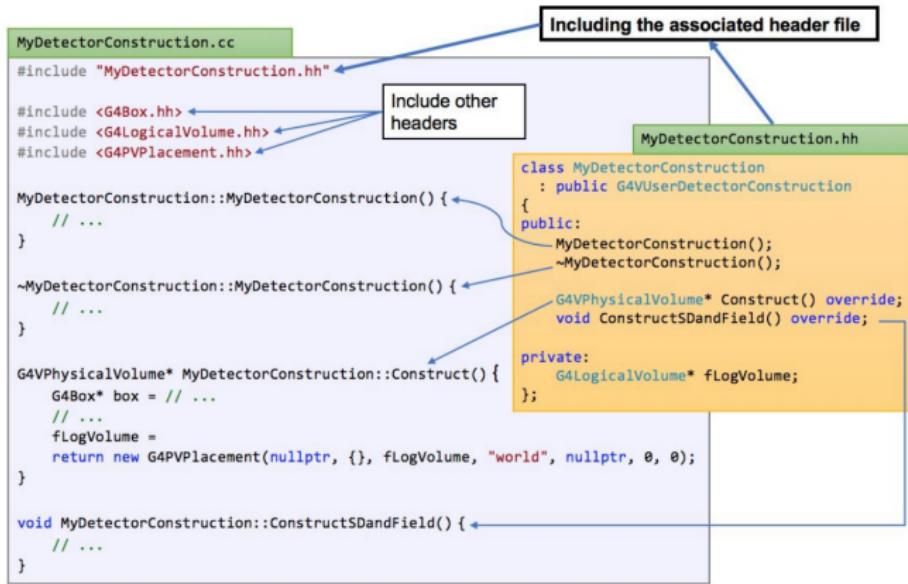
```
2,9K 4 Dic 14:48 B1ActionInitialization.cc  
7,7K 4 Dic 14:48 B1DetectorConstruction.cc  
2,6K 4 Dic 14:48 B1EventAction.cc  
4,3K 4 Dic 14:48 B1PrimaryGeneratorAction.cc  
5,8K 4 Dic 14:48 B1RunAction.cc  
3,2K 4 Dic 14:48 B1SteppingAction.cc
```

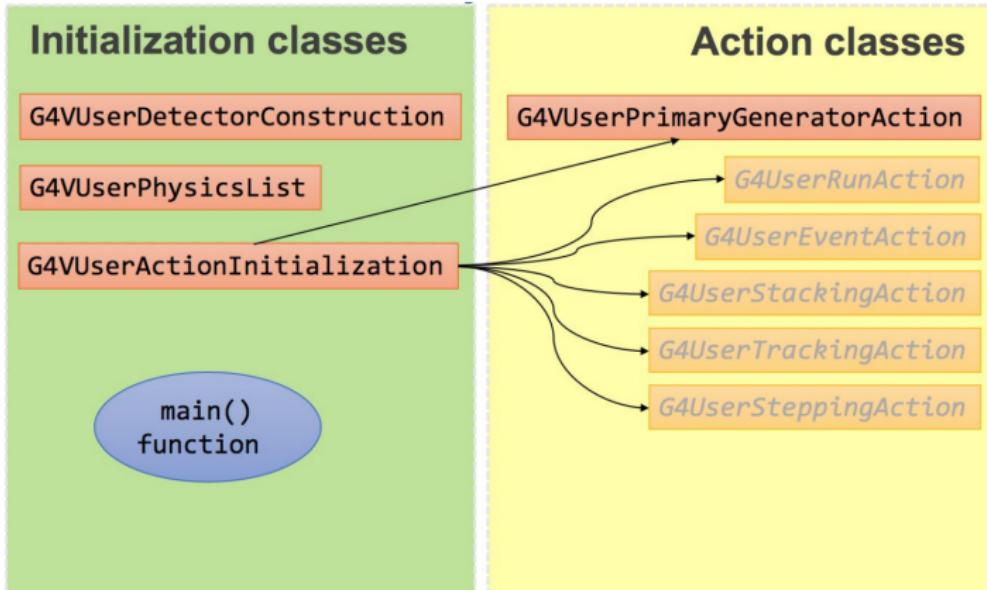
- ① Select a class to inherit from (if there is one).
- ② Find a good name for your class (Don't be the guy that calls it "MyAwesomeClass", really - don't be that guy.).
- ③ Create a header file inside the include folder (include/)
 - name it using the class name with a .hh extension.
 - define the class (inheriting from the base classes, if any).
 - declare methods to override and other methods.
- ④ Create a source file inside the src folder (src/)
 - name it using the class name with a .cc extension.
 - include the header file (#include).
 - define the class methods.

Typical header file



Typical source file





* Gray are optional.

Primary generator action

G4VUserPrimaryGeneratorAction.hh

```
// ...
class G4VUserPrimaryGeneratorAction
{
public:
    G4VUserPrimaryGeneratorAction();
    virtual ~G4VUserPrimaryGeneratorAction();
public:
    virtual void GenerateParticles(G4Event* anEvent) = 0;
    // ...
}
```

Defines the source of simulated particles.

- particle type.
- kinematic properties.
- additional information.

Physics list

G4VUserPhysicsList.hh

```
// ...
class G4VUserPhysicsList
{
public:
    G4VUserPhysicsList();
    virtual ~G4VUserPhysicsList();
public:
    virtual void ConstructParticle() = 0;
    virtual void ConstructProcess() = 0;
    virtual void SetCuts();
// ...
}
```

- Define all necessary particles.
- Define all necessary processes and assign them to proper particles.
- Define particles production threshold.



Detector construction

```
// ...
class G4VUserDetectorConstruction
{
public:
    G4VUserDetectorConstruction();
    virtual ~G4VUserDetectorConstruction();

public:
    virtual G4VPhysicalVolume* Construct() = 0;
    virtual void ConstructSDandField();
    // ...
}
```

- Define the geometry of your model.
 - All materials
 - All volumes & placements
- Optionally define fields.
- Optionally define sensitive detectors.

Communicate with your application at three levels:

- Hard-Coded: application with no interaction.
- Batch mode: controlled by a macro.
- Interactive mode: with real-time user response.

```
// ...
class G4VUserActionInitialization
{
public:
    G4VUserActionInitialization ();
    virtual ~G4VUserActionInitialization ();
public:
    virtual void Build() const = 0;
    virtual void BuildForMaster() const;
// ...
}
```

Optional actions as hooks:

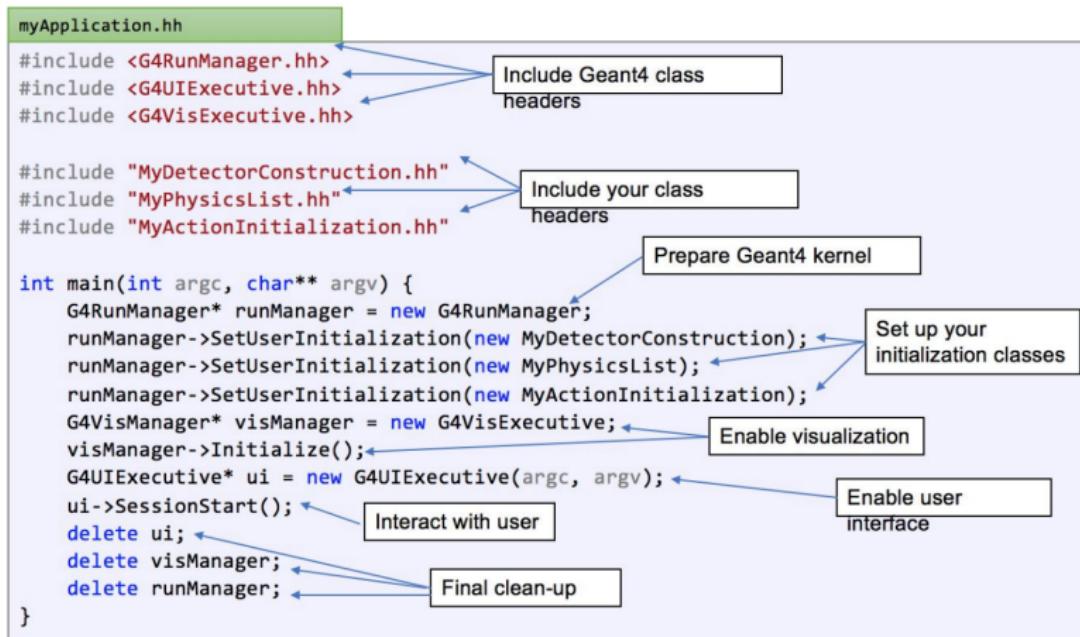
- G4UserRunAction.
- G4UserEventAction.
- G4UserStackingAction.
- G4UserTrackingAction.
- G4UserSteppingAction.

- View and debug your geometry.
- View and study the tracks.
- Product publication-ready graphics.
- Export events and geometry to text files.

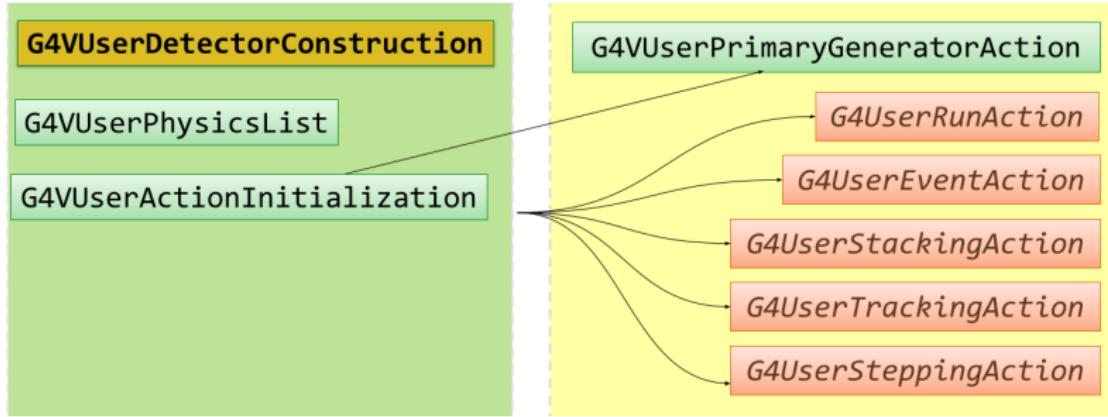
Geant4 does not provide a main function for you. Remember this is just a toolkit. All C++ programs need one, hence we define one.

- Create a source .cc file in the root directory of the application.
- Define a main function.
- Inside the main function:
 - Initialize the run manager.
 - Initialize all your initialization classes.
 - Initialize user interface and/or visualization.

main()



User classes



- Always specify the units (mm, cm, m, etc..). These units can be found in the CLHEP library (included in Geant4).
- You can also define your own units, however this will not be shown here.
- In order to output data in terms of a specific unit. You must divide the value by the unit you're interested in using e.g:
G4cout « dE / MeV « " (MeV) " « G4endl

All units defined in Geant4 come from the basic ones.

Basic units:

nanosecond (ns)

unit charge (eplus)

megaelectronvolt (MeV)

radian

kelvin

millimetre (mm)

candela

steradian

Different levels of material description:

- Isotopes: G4Isotope
- Elements: G4Element
- Molecules, compounds and mixtures: G4Material

Attributes associated: temperature, pressure, state, density.

G4Isotope and G4Element: describes properties of atoms.

G4Material: describes the macroscopic properties of matter.

Creating Elements

Isotopes can be assembled into elements.

```
G4Isotope (const G4String& name,  
           G4int      z,      // atomic number  
           G4int      n,      // number of nucleons  
           G4double   a ); // mass of mole
```

Not number of neutrons!

Do not forget unit
(g/mole)

Elements:

```
G4Element (const G4String& name,  
            const G4String& symbol, // element symbol  
            G4int      nIso ); // n. of isotopes  
  
G4Element::AddIsotope (G4Isotope* iso, // isotope  
                        G4double relAbund); // fraction of atom per volume
```

Creating Elements

Elements can also be specified with a natural isotopic abundance.

```
G4Element (const G4String& name,  
           const G4String& symbol,  
           G4int      z,      // atomic number  
           G4double   a ); // mass of mole
```

Do not forget unit
(g/mole)



Single-element material

```
G4double z, a, density;  
density = 1.390*g/cm3;  
a = 39.95*g/mole;  
G4Material* lAr = new G4Material("liquidAr", z=18, a, density);
```

Molecule material (composition by number of atoms)

```
a = 1.01*g/mole;  
G4Element* elH = new G4Element("Hydrogen", symbol="H", z=1., a);  
  
a = 16.00*g/mole;  
G4Element* elO = new G4Element("Oxygen", symbol="O", z=8., a);  
  
density = 1.000*g/cm3;  
G4Material* H2O = new G4Material("Water", density, ncomponents=2);  
H2O->AddElement(elH, natoms=2);  
H2O->AddElement(elO, natoms=1);
```

By fraction of mass

```
a = 14.01*g/mole;
G4Element* elN = new G4Element(name="Nitrogen",symbol="N", z= 7., a);
a = 16.00*g/mole;
G4Element* elo = new G4Element(name="Oxygen",symbol="O", z= 8., a);
density = 1.290*mg/cm3;
G4Material* Air = new G4Material(name="Air", density, ncomponents=2);
Air->AddElement(elN, 70.0*perCent);
Air->AddElement(elo, 30.0*perCent);
```

Mixing various elements and materials

```
G4Element* elC = ...; // define "carbon" element
G4Material* SiO2 = ...; // define "quartz" material
G4Material* H2O = ...; // define "water" material
density = 0.200*g/cm3;

G4Material* aerogel = new G4Material("Aerogel",
                                      density, ncomponents=3);
aerogel->AddMaterial(SiO2,fractionmass=62.5*perCent);
aerogel->AddMaterial(H2O, fractionmass=37.4*perCent);
aerogel->AddElement (elC, fractionmass= 0.1*perCent);
```

Example: Gas

It's necessary to specify the temperature and pressure since this affects the energy variation along a distance this is known as thermal scattering.

```
G4double density = 27. * mg/cm3;
G4double temperature = 325. * kelvin;
G4double pressure = 50. * atmosphere;

G4Material* CO2 = new G4Material("CO2Gas", density,
    ncomponents=2, kStateGas, temperature, pressure);
CO2->AddElement(C, natoms = 1);
CO2->AddElement(O, natoms = 2);
```

Absolute vacuum doesn't exist (gas at very low density). Geant4 disallows creating materials with density equal to 0

```
G4double rho = 1.e-25*g/cm3;
G4double pr = 3.e-18*pascal;
G4Material* Vacuum = new G4Material("interGalactic", Z, A, rho,
    kStateGas, temperature, pr);
```

- It's easy to retrieve predefined elements or materials:

```
G4NistManager* manager = G4NistManager::Instance();
G4Material* H2O =    manager->FindOrBuildMaterial("G4_WATER");
G4Material* air =    manager->FindOrBuildMaterial("G4_AIR");
G4Material* vacuum = manager->FindOrBuildMaterial("G4_Galactic");
G4Element* Si = manager->FindOrBuildElement("Si");
```

- UI commands:

```
/material/nist/printElement ← print defined elements
```

```
/material/nist/listMaterials ← print defined materials
```

- NIST database for materials is imported inside Geant4
- UI commands specific for handling materials
- Precise values for the most relevant parameters:
 - Density
 - Mean excitation potential
 - Chemical bonds
 - Element composition
 - Isotope composition
 - Various corrections

Z	A	m	error	(%)	A _{eff}
14	Si	22	22.03453	(22)	28.0855(3)
23		23.02552	(21)		
24		24.011546	(21)		
25		25.004107	(11)		
26		25.992330	(3)		
27		26.98670476	(17)		
28		27.9769265327	(20)	92.2297 (7)	
29		28.97649472	(3)	4.6832 (5)	
30		29.97377022	(5)	3.0872 (5)	
31		30.97536327	(7)		
32		31.9741481	(23)		
33		32.978001	(17)		
34		33.978576	(15)		
35		34.984580	(40)		
36		35.98669	(11)		
37		36.99300	(13)		
38		37.99598	(29)		
39		39.00230	(43)		
40		40.00580	(54)		
41		41.01270	(64)		
42		42.01610	(75)		

- Natural isotope composition
- More than 3000 isotope masses

NIST material database

=====			
#### Elementary Materials from the NIST Data			
Z	Name	ChFormula	density(g/cm^3) I(eV)
1	G4_H	H_2	8.3748e-05 19.2
2	G4_He		0.000166322 41.8
3	G4_Li		0.534 40
4	G4_Be		1.848 63.7
5	G4_B		2.37 76
6	G4_C		2 81
7	G4_N	N_2	0.0011652 82
8	G4_O	O_2	0.00133151 95
9	G4_F		0.00158029 115
10	G4_Ne		0.000838505 137
11	G4_Na		0.971 149

===== ### Compound Materials from the NIST Data Base =====

N	Name	ChFormula	density(g/cm^3)	I(eV)
13	G4_Adipose_Tissue		0.92	63.2
1		0.119477		
6		0.63724		
7		0.00797		
8		0.232333		
11		0.0005		
12		2e-05		
15		0.00016		
16		0.00073		
17		0.00119		
19		0.00032		
20		2e-05		
26		2e-05		
30		2e-05		
4	G4_Air		0.00120479	85.7
6		0.000124		
7		0.755268		
8		0.231781		
18		0.012827		
2	G4_Csl		4.51	553.1
53		0.47692		
55		0.52308		

- A detector geometry is made of many volumes.
- The largest volume is called World volume; this volume contains all other volumes.
- You must derive your detector construction from the G4VUserDetectorConstruction abstract class.
- Implementing the pure virtual method Construct()
 - Define shapes/solids required to describe the geometry
 - Construct all necessary materials
 - Construct and place volumes of you detector geometry
 - (Optional) Define "sensitivity" properties associated to volumes
 - (Optional) Associate magnetic field to detector regions
 - (Optional) Define visualization attributes for the detector elements

- Implement a class inheriting from the abstract base class G4VUserDetectorConstruction.

```
class MyDetector : public G4VUserDetectorConstruction {  
public:  
    virtual G4VPhysicalVolume* Construct(); // required  
    virtual void ConstructSDAndField(); // optional  
    // ...  
};
```

- Create an instance of your implementation in the main program and add it to the run manager.

```
MyDetector* detector = new MyDetector();  
runManager->SetUserInitialization(detector);
```

- Don't try to build all your geometry in just one class. This is OK if your geometry is simple, but if it's complex consider defining it in many classes.
- Don't delete your detector instance because the run manager does this automatically.

Construct()

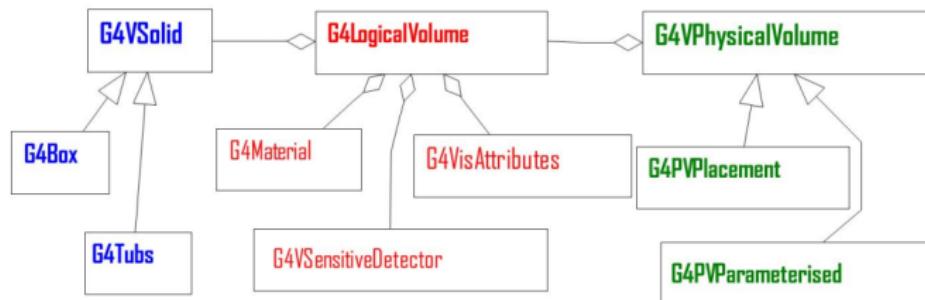
- Define materials
- Define solids and volumes of the geometry
- Build the tree hierarchy of volumes
- Define visualization attributes
- (The most important) MUST return the world physical volume

ConstructSDAndField()

- Assign magnetic field to volumes / regions
- Define sensitive detectors and assign them to volumes

Three conceptual layers

- G4VSolid: Shape and size
- G4LogicalVolume: Hierarchy of volumes, material, sensitivity and magnetic field
- G4VPhysicalVolume: Position, rotation. The same logical volume can be placed many times (Repeated modules)

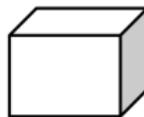


Detector geometry

- Basic strategy

```
G4VSolid* pBoxSolid =  
new G4Box("aBoxSolid",  
1.*m, 2.*m, 3.*m);
```

Solid: shape and size.



Step 1
Create the
geom. object:
box

Detector geometry

- Basic strategy

Logical volume : + material, sensitivity, etc.

```
G4VSolid* pBoxSolid =  
  
new G4Box("aBoxSolid",  
  
1.*m, 2.*m, 3.*m);
```

```
G4LogicalVolume* pBoxLog =  
  
new G4LogicalVolume( pBoxSolid,  
  
pBoxMaterial, "aBoxLog", 0, 0, 0);
```



Step 1
Create the
geom. object:
box

Step 2
Assign properties
to object : material

- 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);
```

Physical volume : + rotation and position



Step 1
Create the
geom. object:
box

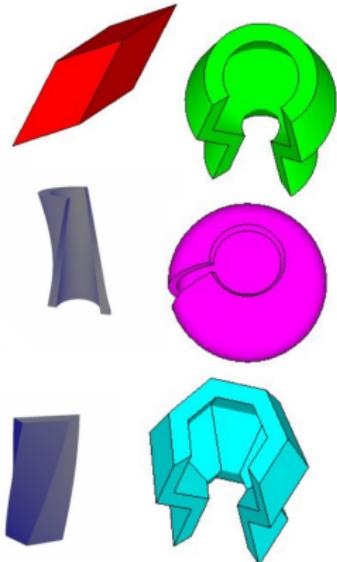


Step 2
Assign properties
to object : material



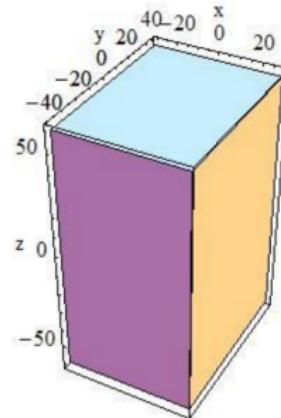
Step 3
Place it in the coordinate system
of mother volume

- CSG (Constructed Solid Geometry) solids:
G4Box, G4Tubs, G4Cons, G4Trd, ...
- Specific solids (CSG like): G4Polycone,
G4Polyhedra, G4Hype, ...
- BREP (Boundary REPresented) solids:
G4BREPSolidPolycone, G4BSplineSurface, ...
- Boolean solids: G4UnionSolid,
G4SubtractionSolid, ...



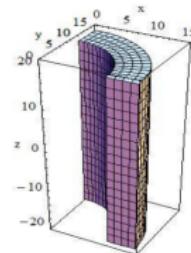
```
G4Box(const G4String& pname, // name  
       G4double pX, // half-length in X  
       G4double pY, // half-length in Y  
       G4double pZ, // half-length in Z);
```

Note the half-length!

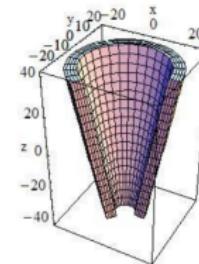


G4Tubs & G4Cons

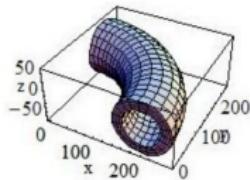
```
G4Tubs(const G4String& pname, // name
        G4double pRmin, // inner radius (0)
        G4double pRmax, // outer radius
        G4double pDz,   // Z half! length
        G4double pSphi, // starting Phi (0)
        G4double pDphi); // segment angle (twopi)
```



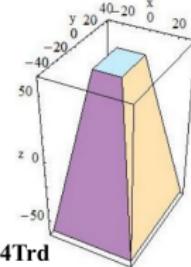
```
G4Cons(const G4String& pname, // name
        G4double pRmin1, // inner radius -pDz
        G4double pRmax1, // outer radius -pDz
        G4double pRmin2, // inner radius +pDz
        G4double pRmax2, // outer radius +pDz
        G4double pDz,   // Z half length
        G4double pSphi, // starting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



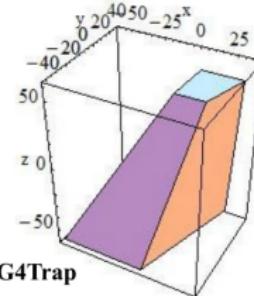
More CSG Solids



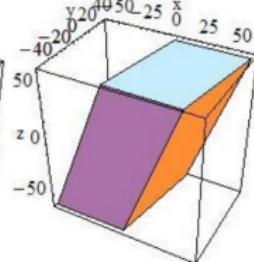
G4Torus



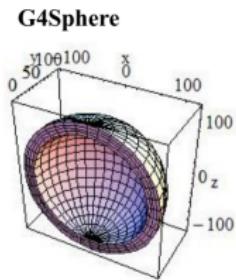
G4Trd



G4Trap

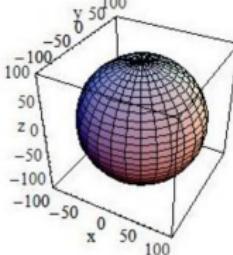


G4Para
(parallelepiped)



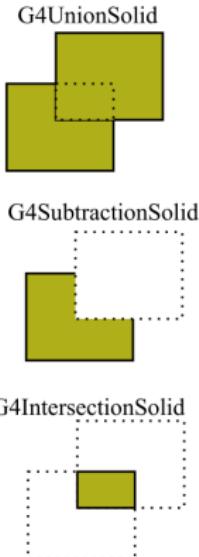
G4Sphere

G4Orb
(full solid
sphere)



Check [Section 4.1.2](#) of Geant4 Application Developers Guide for all available shapes

- 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.
 - Result of boolean operations becomes a solid, this solid is reusable with another boolean operation.
- Solids to be combined can be either CSG or other Boolean solids.



Boolean Solids - Example

```
G4VSolid* box = new G4Box("Box",50*cm,60*cm,40*cm);
G4VSolid* cylinder =
    new G4Tubs("Cylinder",0.,50.*cm,50.*cm,0.,twopi);

G4VSolid* union =
    new G4UnionSolid("Box+Cylinder", box, cylinder);

G4VSolid* subtract =
    new G4SubtractionSolid("Box-Cylinder", box, cylinder,
    0, G4ThreeVector(30.*cm,0.,0.));

G4RotationMatrix* rm = new G4RotationMatrix();
rm->RotateX(30.*deg);
G4VSolid* intersect =
    new G4IntersectionSolid("Box&&Cylinder",
    box, cylinder, rm, G4ThreeVector(0.,0.,0.));
```

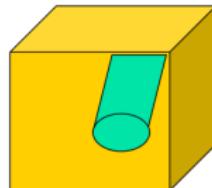
- Contains all information of volume except position:
 - Shape and dimension (G4VSolid)
 - Material, sensitivity, visualization attributes
 - Position of daughter volumes
 - Magnetic field, User limits
- Physical volumes of same type can share a logical volume.

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

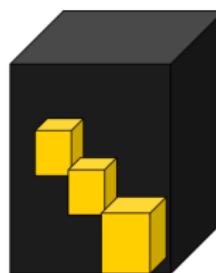
optional

Physical Volumes

- A physical volume is a positioned instance of a logical volume inside another logical volume (the containing logical volume is called the mother volume)
- Placement (G4PVPlacement)
- Repeated: a volume placed many times
 - can represent many volumes
 - reduces memory
 - G4PVReplica (= simple repetition)
 - G4PVParameterised (= more complex pattern)
 - G4PVDivision

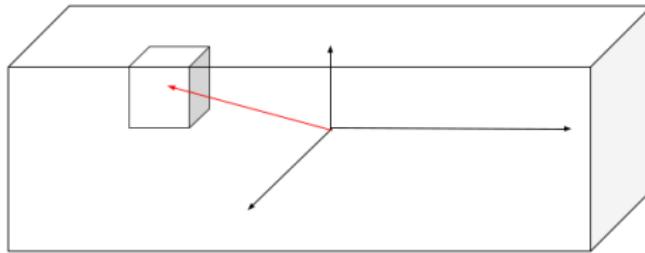


placement



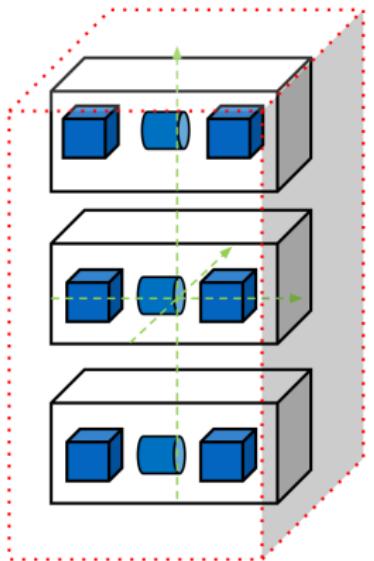
repeated

- 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
- The logical volume of mother knows the daughter volumes it contains
 - It is uniquely defined to be their mother volume.



Geometry Hierarchy

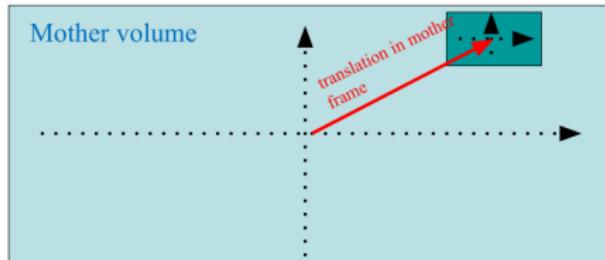
- One logical volume can be placed more than once
- The mother daughter relationship is contained in the G4LogicalVolume
- The world volume must be a unique physical volume which fully contains all other volumes (root volume of the hierarchy).
 - The world volume defines the global coordinate system. 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



- Single volume positioned relatively to the mother volume
 - In a frame rotated and translated relative to the coordinate system of the mother volume
- A few variants
 - Using G4Transform3D to represent the direct rotation and translation of the solid instead of the frame.
 - Specifying the mother volume as a pointer to its physical volume instead of its logical volume.

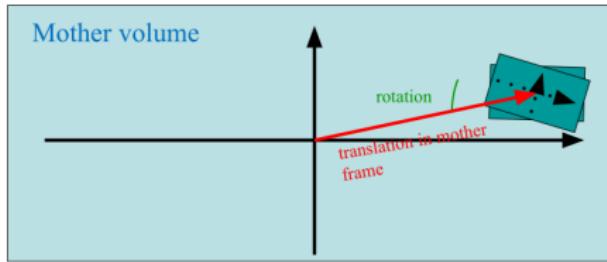
G4PVPlacement: Rotation of the mother frame

```
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
```



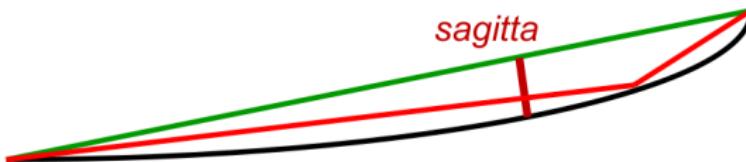
G4PVPlacement: Rotation in the mother frame

```
G4PVPlacement(G4Transform3D(
    G4RotationMatrix &pRot,           // rotation in 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
```



- Divide the trajectory of the particle in "steps"
 - Straight free-flight tracks between consecutive physics interactions
- In presence of EM fields, the free-flight part between interactions is not straight
 - Change of direction (B-field) or energy (E-field)
 - Effect of fields must be incorporated into the tracking algorithm which is very CPU-demanding
- Notice: most codes handle only weak fields
 - An e^- at rest will not accelerate, no synchrotron radiation, no avalanche

- In order to propagate a particle inside a field the equation of motion of the particle in the field is integrated numerically
- In general this is best done using a Runge-Kutta (RK) method for the integration of ordinary differential equations
- Once the curved path is calculated, Geant4 breaks it up into linear chord segments



- The chord segments are determined to closely approximate the curved path
 - In some cases, one step could be split in several helix-turns

Example: how to create a magnetic field: uniform

- Uniform field in the entire world volume: easy recipe

```
G4ThreeVector field(0,1.*tesla,0);  
G4GlobalMagFieldMessenger* fMagFieldMessenger =  
    new G4GlobalMagFieldMessenger(field)
```

- In general, one can customize the precision of the stepper and method used for the numerical integration of the equations

```
G4UniformMagField* magField = new G4UniformMagField(field);  
G4FieldManager* fieldMgr =  
G4TransportationManager::GetTransportationManager()  
    ->GetFieldManager();  
fieldMgr->SetDetectorField(magField);  
fieldMgr->CreateChordFinder(magField);
```



- Non-uniform field in the world volume
 - Create a class, derived from G4MagneticField implementing $f(\vec{x}, t)$

```
void MyField::GetFieldValue(const double  
    Point[4], double *field) const
```

```
MyField* myField = new MyField();  
G4FieldManager* fieldMgr =  
G4TransportationManager::GetTransportationManager()  
->GetFieldManager();  
fieldMgr->SetDetectorField(myField);  
fieldMgr->CreateChordFinder(myField);
```

Example: how to create a local magnetic field

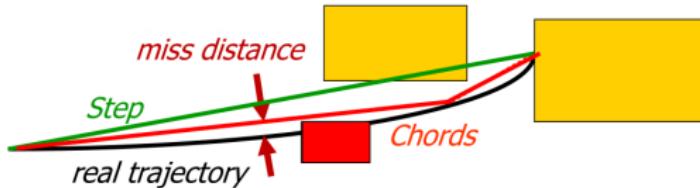
- It is possible to define a field inside a logical volume (and its daughters)
 - This can be done creating a local G4FieldManager and attaching it to a logical volume

```
MyField* myField = new MyField();
G4FieldManager* localFieldMgr =
    new G4FieldManager(myField);
G4bool allLocal = true;
logicVolWithField
->SetFieldManager(localFieldMgr, allLocal);
```

If **true**, field assigned to **all daughters**

If **false**, field assigned only to daughters w/o their own field manager

- A few parameters to customize the precision of the tracking in EM fields. Most critical: "miss distance"
 - Upper bound for the value of the sagitta (default: 3 mm)
 - May be highly CPU consuming



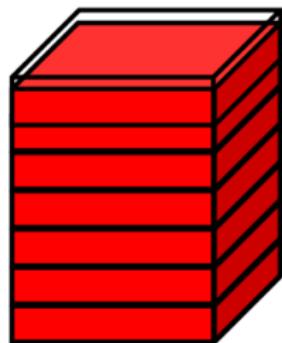
- Integration calculated by 4th-order Runge-Kutta (G4ClassicalRK4), robust and general purpose
 - If the field is not smooth (e.g. field map), lower-order (and faster) integrators can be appropriate
 - 3rd order G4SimpleHeum, 2nd order G4ImplicitEuler, 1st order G4ExplicitEuler

- Placement volume (G4PVPlacement): one positioned volume
 - One physical volume represents one "real" volume
- Repeated volume: a volume placed many times
 - One physical volume represents any number of "real" volumes
- Parametrized (repetitions w.r.t. copy number)
- Replicas and Divisions
- Notice: a repeated volume is not equivalent to a loop of placements

- The mother volume is completely filled with replicas, all having same size and shape
 - If you need gaps, use G4PVDivision instead (less CPU-efficient)
- Replication may occur along:
 - Cartesian axes (kXAxis, kYAxis, kZAxis)
 - Radial axis (cylindrical polar) (kRho) - onion rings
 - Phi axis (cylindrical polar) (kPhi) – cheese wedges

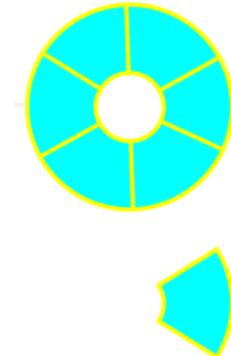


*a daughter
logical volume to
be replicated*



mother volume

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



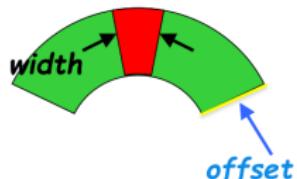
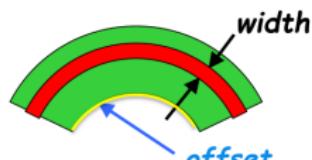
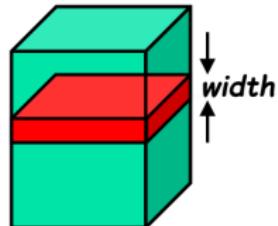
Features and restrictions:

- CSG solids only
- G4PVReplica must be the only daughter
- Replicas may be placed inside other replicas
- Normal placement volumes may be placed inside replicas
- No volume can be placed inside a radial replication
- Parameterised volumes cannot be placed inside a replica

Replica: axes, width and offset

Center of nth daughter is given as:

- Cartesian axes - kXaxis, kYaxis, kZaxis
 $-width * (nReplicas-1) * 0.5 + n * width$
Offset shall **not** be used
- Radial axis – kRho
 $width * (n+0.5) + offset$
Offset must be the **inner radius of the mother**
- Phi axis – kPhi
 $width * (n+0.5) + offset$
Offset must be the **starting angle of the mother**



- The G4PVDivision is similar to the G4PVReplica but
 - Allows for gaps between mother and daughter volumes
 - Less CPU-effective than replica
- Shape of all daughter volumes must be the same as of the mother volume
- A number of shapes / axes patterns are supported, e.g.
 - G4Box : kXAxis, kYAxis, kZAxis
 - G4Tubs : kRho, kPhi, kZAxis
 - G4Cons : kRho, kPhi, kZAxis
 - ...



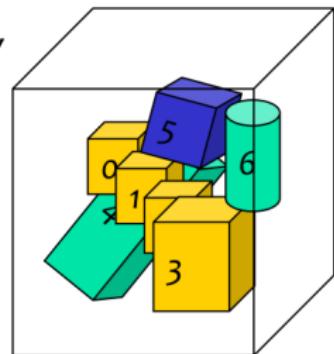
Repeated volumes can differ by size, shape, material and transformation matrix, that can all be parameterised by the user as a function of the copy number

User is asked to derive her/his own parameterisation class from the G4VPVParameterisation class implementing the methods:

```
void ComputeTransformation(const G4int copyNo,  
                           G4VPhysicalVolume  
                           *physVol) const;  
  
void ComputeDimensions(G4Tubs& trackerLayer,  
                       const G4int copyNo, const  
                       G4VPhysicalVolume *physVol) const;
```

Optional methods:

```
ComputeMaterial(...)  
ComputeSolid(...)
```

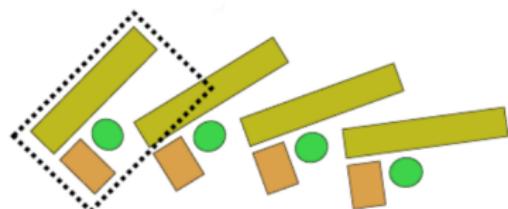
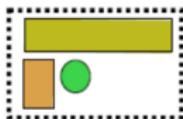
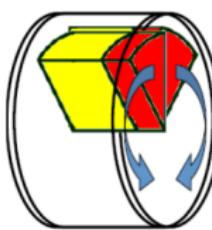


- All daughters must be fully contained in the mother
 - Daughters should not overlap to each other
- Limitations:
 - Applies to simple CSG solids only
 - Grand-daughter volumes allowed only for special cases
- Typical use-cases:
 - Complex detectors with large repetition of volumes, regular or irregular
 - Medical applications: the material in tissue is modeled as parametrized voxels with variable density
 - Limited memory footprint

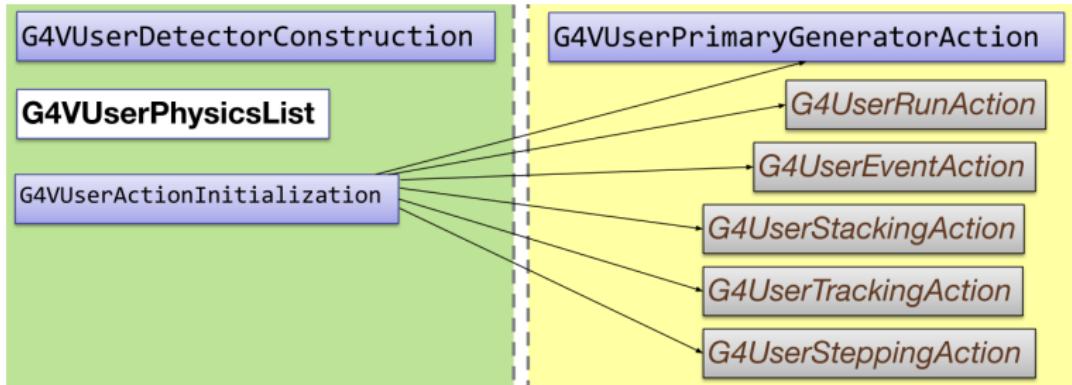
```
G4PVParameterised(const G4String& pName,  
                   G4LogicalVolume* pLogical,  
                   G4LogicalVolume* pMother,  
                   const EAxis pAxis,  
                   const G4int nReplicas,  
                   G4VPVParameterisation *pParam  
                   G4bool pSurfChk=false);
```

- Replicates the volume nReplicas times using the parameterization pParam, within the mother volume pMother
- pAxis specifies the tracking optimisation algorithm to apply:
 - kXAxis, kYAxis, kzAxis - 1D voxelisation algorithm
 - kUndefined - 3-D voxelisation algorithm
- Each replicated volume is a touchable detector element

- Possible to represent a regular pattern of positioned volumes, composing a more or less complex structure
 - structures which are hard to describe with simple replicas or parameterised volumes
- Assembly volume (G4AssemblyVolume)
 - acts as an envelope for its daughter volumes



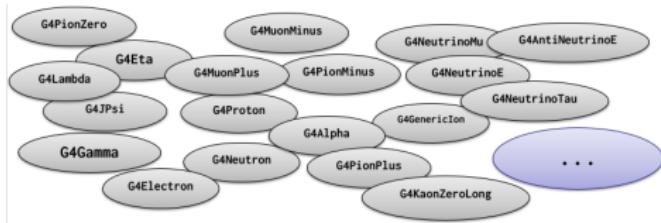
- G4ReflectedSolid (derived from G4VSolid)
 - Utility class representing a solid shifted from its original reference frame to a new mirror symmetric one



- Huge amount of different processes for various purposes (only a handful are relevant)
- Competing descriptions of the same physics phenomena (necessary to choose)
 - fundamentally different approaches
 - balance between speed and precision
 - different parameterizations
- Hypothetical processes and exotic physics

Definition of a Particle

Geant4 provides G4ParticleDefinition daughter class to represent a large number of elementary particles and nuclei, organized in six major categories: leptons, mesons, baryons, bosons, short-lived and ions.



User must define all particle types which might be used in the application: not only primary particles but also all other particles which may appear as secondaries generated by the used physics processes

- Particle Data Group (PDG) particle
- Optical photons (different from gammas)
- Special particles: geantino and charged geantino
 - Only transported without interactions
 - Charged geantino also feels the EM field
- Short-lived particles ($\tau > 10^{-14}s$) are not transported by Geant4 (decay is applied)
- Light ions (as deuterons, tritons, alphas)
- Heavier ions are simply represented by G4Ions

Leptons and Bosons

Particle name	Class name	Name (in GPS...)	PDG
electron	G4Electron	e-	11
positron	G4Positron	e+	-11
muon +/-	G4MuonPlus G4MuonMinus	mu+ mu-	-13 13
tauon +/-	G4TauPlus G4TauMinus	tau+ tau-	-15 15
electron (anti)neutrino	G4NeutrinoE G4AntiNeutrinoE	nu_e anti_nu_e	12 -12
muon (anti)neutrino	G4NeutrinoMu G4AntiNeutrinoMu	nu_mu anti_nu_mu	14 -14
tau (anti)neutrino	G4NeutrinoTau G4AntiNeutrinoTau	nu_tau anti_nu_tau	16 -16
photon (γ , X)	G4Gamma	gamma	22
photon (optical)	G4OpticalPhoton	opticalphoton	(0)
geantino	G4Geantino	geantino	(0)
charged geantino	G4ChargedGeantino	chargedgeantino	(0)

Common Hadrons and Ions

Particle name	Class name	Name (in GPS...)	PDG
(anti)proton	G4Proton G4AntiProton	proton anti_proton	2212 -2212
(anti)neutron	G4Neutron G4AntiNeutron	neutron anti_neutron	2112 -2112
(anti)lambda	G4Lambda G4AntiLambda	lambda anti_lambda	3122 -3122
pion	G4PionMinus G4PionPlus G4PionZero	pi- pi+ pi0	-211 211 111
kaon	G4KaonMinus G4KaonPlus G4KaonZero G4KaonZeroLong G4KaonZeroShort	kaon- kaon+ kaon0 kaon0L kaon0S	-321 321 311 130 310
(anti)alpha	G4Alpha G4AntiAlpha	alpha anti_alpha	1000020040 -1000020040
(anti)deuteron	G4Deteuron G4AntiDeuteron	deuteron anti_deuteron	1000010020 -1000010020
Heavier ions	G4Ions	ion	100ZZZAAAI*

*ZZZ=proton number, AAA=nucleon number, I=excitation level

These define how particles interact with materials.

Responsibilities:

- decide when and where an interaction occurs
 - GetPhysicalInteractionLength...()
 - this requires a cross section
 - for the transportation processes, the distance to the nearest object
- generate the final state of the interaction
 - changes in momentum, generates secondaries, etc..
 - method: Dolt...()
 - this requires a model of the physics

- Abstract class as a base for all processes in Geant4
 - Used by all physics processes (also by the transportation, etc...)
 - Defined in source/processes/management
- Define three kinds of actions:

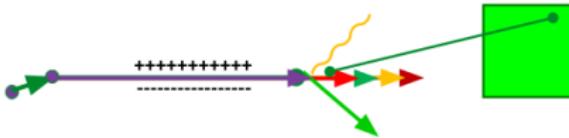


- AtRest actions
 - Decay, e^+ annihilation ...
- AlongStep actions
 - To describe continuous (inter)actions, occurring along the path of the particle, like ionization
- PostStep actions
 - For describing point-like (inter)actions, like decay in flight, hadronic interactions ...

- Discrete process: Compton Scattering, hadronic inelastic, ...
 - step determined by cross section, interaction at end of step
- Continuous process: Čerenkov effect
 - photons created along step, roughly proportional to step length
- At rest process: muon capture at rest
 - interaction at rest
- Rest + discrete: positron annihilation, decay, ...
 - both in flight and at rest
- Continuous + discrete: ionization
 - energy loss is continuous
 - knock-on electrons (δ -ray) are discrete

Handling Multiple Processes

- ① all particle is shot and “transported”
- ② all processes associated to the particle propose a geometrical step length (depends on process cross-section)
- ③ The process proposing the shortest step “wins” and the particle is moved to destination (if shorter than “Safety”)
- ④ All processes along the step are executed (e.g. ionization)
- ⑤ post step phase of the process that limited the step is executed. New tracks are “pushed” to the stack
- ⑥ If $E_{kin} = 0$ all at rest processes are executed; if particle is stable the track is killed. Else:
- ⑦ New step starts and sequence repeats...



- One instance per application
 - registered in the run manager in main()
 - inheriting from G4VUserPhysicsList
- Responsibilities
 - all particle types (electron, proton, gamma, ...)
 - all processes (photoeffect, bremsstrahlung, ...)
 - all process parameters (...)
 - production cuts

- ① (Hard) Manual: Specify all particles and processes that may occur in the simulation.
- ② (Easier) Physics Constructors: Combine your physics from pre-defined sets of particles and processes. Still you define your own class – modular physics list
- ③ (Easy) Reference physics lists: Take one of the pre-defined physics lists. You don't create any class

Method 1: G4VUserPhysicsList

Implement 3 methods:

```
class MyPhysicsList : public G4VUserPhysicsList {  
public:  
    // ...  
    void ConstructParticle(); // pure virtual  
    void ConstructProcess(); // pure virtual  
    void SetCuts();  
    // ...  
}
```

Advantage: most flexible Disadvantages:

- most verbose
- most difficult to get right

- `ConstructParticle()`
 - choose the particles you need in your simulation, define all of them here
- `ConstructProcess()`
 - for each particle, assign all the physics processes relevant to your simulation
- `SetCuts()`
 - set the range cuts for secondary production for processes with infrared divergence

ConstructParticle()

Due to the large number of particles can be necessary to instantiate, this method sometimes can be not so comfortable



It is possible to define **all** the particles belonging to a **Geant4 category**:

- **G4LeptonConstructor**
- **G4MesonConstructor**
- **G4BaryonConstructor**
- **G4BosonConstructor**
- **G4ShortlivedConstructor**
- **G4IonConstructor**



```
void MyPhysicsList::ConstructParticle() {  
    G4Electron::ElectronDefinition();  
    G4Proton::ProtonDefinition();  
    G4Neutron::NeutronDefinition();  
    G4Gamma::GammaDefinition();  
    ....  
}
```

```
void MyPhysicsList::ConstructParticle() {  
    // Construct all baryons  
    G4BaryonConstructor bConstructor;  
    bConstructor.ConstructParticle();  
    // Construct all leptons  
    G4LeptonConstructor lConstructor;  
    lConstructor.ConstructParticle();  
    // ...  
}
```

ConstructProcess()

1. For each particle, get its process manager.

```
G4ProcessManager *elManager = G4Electron::ElectronDefinition()->GetProcessManager();
```

2. Construct all processes and register them.

```
elManager->AddProcess(new G4eMultipleScattering, -1, 1, 1);
elManager->AddProcess(new G4eIonisation, -1, 2, 2);
elManager->AddProcess(new G4eBremsstrahlung, -1, -1, 3);
elManager->AddDiscreteProcess(new G4StepLimiter);
```

```
AddTransportation();
```

- Define all production cuts for gamma, electrons and positrons
 - Recently also for protons
- Notice: this is a production cut, not a tracking cut

Example

```
void StandardPhysics::ConstructParticle()
{
    // We are interested in gamma, electrons and possibly positrons
    G4Electron::ElectronDefinition();
    G4Positron::PositronDefinition();
    G4Gamma::GammaDefinition();
}

void StandardPhysics::ConstructProcess()
{
    // Transportation is necessary
    AddTransportation();

    // Electrons
    G4ProcessManager *elManager = G4Electron::ElectronDefinition()->GetProcessManager();
    elManager->AddProcess(new G4eMultipleScattering, -1, 1, 1);
    elManager->AddProcess(new G4eIonisation, -1, 2, 2);
    elManager->AddProcess(new G4eBremsstrahlung, -1, -1, 3);
    elManager->AddDiscreteProcess(new G4StepLimiter);

    // Positrons
    G4ProcessManager *posManager = G4Positron::PositronDefinition()->GetProcessManager();
    posManager->AddProcess(new G4eMultipleScattering, -1, 1, 1);
    posManager->AddProcess(new G4eIonisation, -1, 2, 2);
    posManager->AddProcess(new G4eBremsstrahlung, -1, -1, 3);
    posManager->AddProcess(new G4eplusAnnihilation, 0, -1, 4);
    posManager->AddDiscreteProcess(new G4StepLimiter);

    // Gamma
    G4ProcessManager *phManager = G4Gamma::GammaDefinition()->GetProcessManager();
    phManager->AddDiscreteProcess(new G4ComptonScattering);
    phManager->AddDiscreteProcess(new G4PhotoElectricEffect);
    phManager->AddDiscreteProcess(new G4GammaConversion);

    // TODO: Introduce Rayleigh scattering. It has large cross-section than pair production
}

void StandardPhysics::SetCuts()
{
    // TODO: Create a messenger for this
    defaultCutValue = 0.03 * mm;
    SetCutsWithDefault();
}
```

Method 2: G4VModularPhysicsList

Similar structure as G4VUserPhysicsList:

```
class MyPhysicsList : public G4VModularPhysicsList {  
public:  
    MyPhysicsList();           // define physics constructors  
    void ConstructParticle(); // optional  
    void ConstructProcess(); // optional  
    void SetCuts();          // optional  
}
```

Differences to "manual":

- Particles and processes typically handled by physics constructors
- Transportation automatically included

A physics constructor is a module that is used to construct a modular physics list.

- Inherits from G4VPhysicsConstructor
- Defines ConstructorParticle() and ConstructProcess()
- GetPhysicsType()
 - enables switching physics of the same type, if possible.

- Huge set of pre-defined ones
 - EM: Standard, Livermore, Penelope
 - Hadronic inelastic: QGSP_BIC, FTFP_Bert, ...
 - Hadronic elastic: G4HadronElasticPhysics, ...
 - ... (decay, optical physics, EM extras, ...)
- You can implement your own by inheriting from the G4VPhysicsConstructor class

Add physics constructor in the constructor:

```
MyModularList::MyModularList() {
    // Hadronic physics
    RegisterPhysics(new G4HadronElasticPhysics());
    RegisterPhysics(new G4HadronPhysicsFTFP_BERT_TRV());
    // EM physics
    RegisterPhysics(new G4EmStandardPhysics());
}
```

Pre-defined physics lists

- already containing a complete set of particles and processes
- targeted at specific area of interest (HEP, medical physics, ...)
- constructed as modular physics list, built on top of physics constructors
- customizable (by calling appropriate methods before initialization)

Source code: [\\$G4INSTALL/source/physics_lists/lists](#)

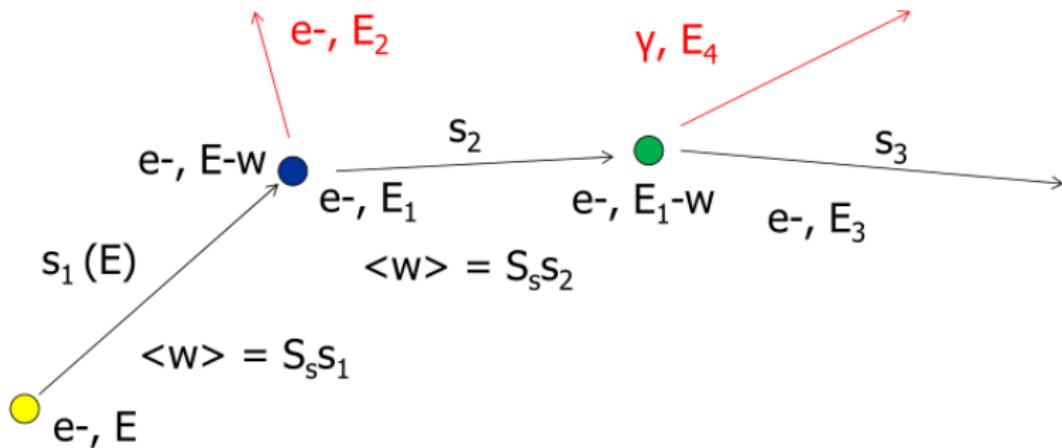
FTF_BIC.hh	G4PhysListRegistry.hh	QGSP_BIC_AllHP.hh
FTFP_BERT.hh	G4PhysListStamper.hh	QGSP_BIC.hh
FTFP_BERT_HP.hh	INCLXXPhysicsListHelper.hh	QGSP_BIC_HP.hh
FTFP_BERT_TRV.hh	LBE.hh	QGSP_FTFP_BERT.hh
FTFP_INCLXX.hh	NuBeam.hh	QGSP_INCLXX.hh
FTFP_INCLXX_HP.hh	QBBC.hh	QGSP_INCLXX_HP.hh
G4GenericPhysicsList.hh	QGS_BIC.hh	Shielding.hh
G4PhysListFactoryAlt.hh	QGSP_BERT.hh	
G4PhysListFactory.hh	QGSP_BERT_HP.hh	

- Simulate explicitly (i.e. force step) interactions only if energy loss (or change of direction) is above threshold W_0
 - Detailed simulation
 - "hard" interactions (destructive or big changes in energy)
- The effect of all sub-threshold interactions is described statistically
 - Condensed simulation
 - "soft" interactions
- When W_0 is 0, Geant4 will treat all interactions as hard interactions (CPU intensive).

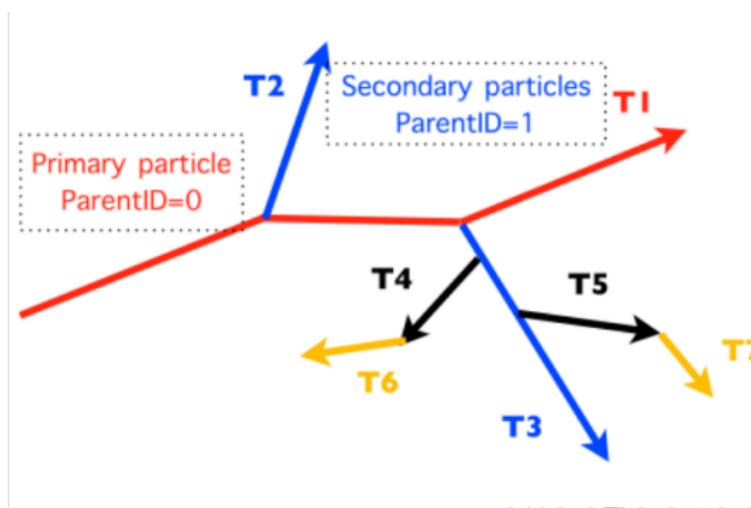
The G4VProcess (Reminder)

- Physics processes are derived from the G4VProcess base class
- Abstract class defining the common interface of all processes in Geant4, used by all physics processes
 - Detailed simulation
 - "hard" interactions (destructive or big changes in energy)
 - Three kinds of "actions":
 - AtRest actions: Decays, e^+ annihilation
 - AlongStep actions: To describe continuous interactions, occurring along the path of the particle, i.e. "soft" interactions
 - PostStep actions: To describe the point-like (inter)actions, like decay in flight, hadronic interactions, i.e. "hard" interactions

Particle tracking: mixed recipe (Reminder)



- Force step at geometry boundaries
- All AlongStep processes co-work, the PostStep compete (= only one selected)
- Call AtRest actions for particles at rest
- Secondaries saved at the top of the stack: tracking order follows 'last in first out' rule: $T_1 \rightarrow T_3 \rightarrow T_5 \rightarrow T_7 \rightarrow T_4 \rightarrow T_6 \rightarrow T_2$

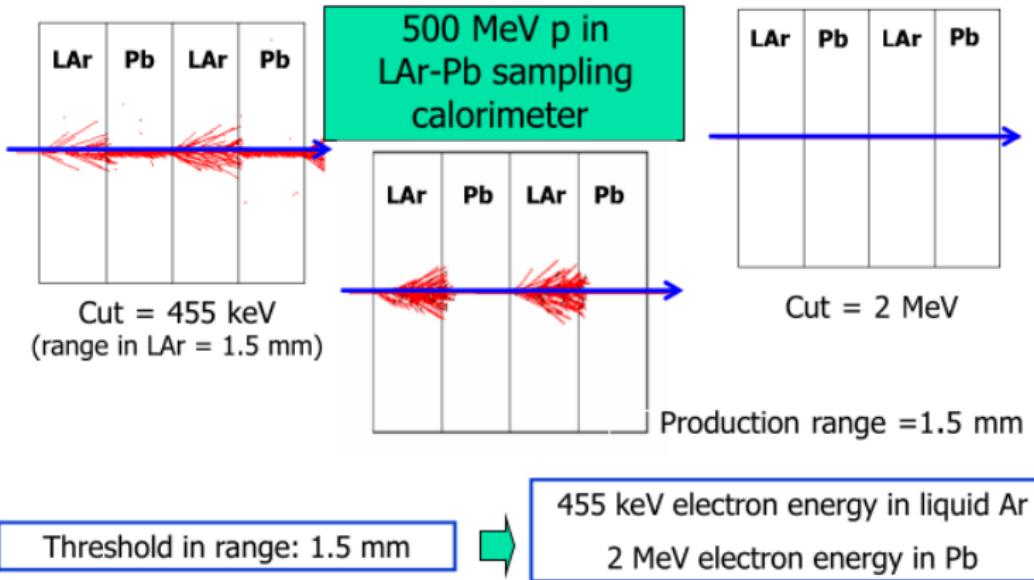


- The traditional Monte Carlo solution is to set a tracking cut-off in energy:
 - Particles are stopped when this energy is reached and the residual energy is deposited at that point
 - May yield cause imprecise stopping location and deposition of energy
- Geant4 does not have tracking cuts
 - All tracks are followed down to zero energy or until they leave the world volume or are destroyed in interactions
 - Could be implemented manually by the user
- Geant4 uses only a production cut (W_0)
 - Cuts deciding whether a secondary particle will be produced or not

Geant4 way of cuts: cut-in-range

- Geant4 solution: set a “range” production threshold
 - Particles unable to travel at least the range cut value are not produced
 - They contribute to the AlongStep
 - default = 1 mm
- One production threshold is uniformly set
 - Sets the “spatial accuracy” of the simulation
- Production threshold is internally converted to the energy threshold W_0 , depending on particle type and material

Cut-in-range



SetCuts() Example

- Define all production cuts for gamma and electrons
 - Lowest W_0 is 990 eV (but can be changed)

```
void MyPhysicsList::SetCuts()  
{
```

```
    //G4VUserPhysicsList::SetCuts();  
    defaultCutValue = 0.5 * mm;  
    SetCutsWithDefault();
```

```
    SetCutValue(0.1 * mm, "gamma");  
    SetCutValue(0.01 * mm, "e+");
```

```
    G4ProductionCutsTable::GetProductionCutsTable()  
        ->SetEnergyRange(100*eV, 100.*GeV);
```

```
}
```

In **G4VUserPhysicsList** class



Lower the possible
 W_0 from 990 eV to
100 eV

- Alternative to define the level of tracking detail
- Why?
 - you want to see the exact track of the particle
 - you don't trust the chord finder for your magnetic field
- How?
 - Include G4StepLimiter process in your physics list
 - Formally seen as a physics process, competing with all others:
always proposing the same step length
 - Can be done by using the Geant4 constructor
`G4StepLimiterPhysics` in a modular physics list
 - Set "user limits" for the logical volumes of interest:
`SetUserLimits()`

- Complex detector may contain many different sub-detectors involving:
 - finely segmented volumes
 - position-sensitive materials (e.g. Si trackers)
 - large, undivided volumes (e.g. calorimeters)
 - inert materials
- The same cut may not be appropriate for all of these
- User can define regions (independent of geometry hierarchy tree) and assign different cuts for each region
 - A region can contain a subset of the logical volumes

Run

Event 0

track 1

track 2

track 3

track 4

Event 1

track 1

track 2

track 3

Event 2

track 1

Event 3

track 1

track 2

track 3

track 4

- An Event is the basic unit of simulation
- At the beginning of event, primary tracks are generated and they are pushed into a stack
- Tracks are popped up from the stack one-by-one and 'tracked'
 - Secondary tracks are also pushed into the stack
 - When the stack gets empty, the processing of the event is completed
- G4Event class represents an event. At the end of a successful event it has:
 - List of primary vertices and particles (as input)
 - Hits and Trajectory collections (as outputs)

- As an analogy with a real experiment, a run of Geant4 starts with 'Beam On' (LHC)
- Within a run, the user cannot change
 - The detector setup
 - The physics setting (processes, models)
- A run is a collection of events with the same detector and physics conditions
- The G4(MT)RunManager class manages the processing of each run, represented by:
 - G4Run class
 - G4UserRunAction for an optional user hook

- The Track is a snapshot of a particle and it is represented by the G4Track class
 - It keeps 'current' information of the particle (i.e. energy, momentum, position, polarization, ..)
 - It is updated after every step
- The track object is deleted when:
 - It goes outside the world volume
 - It disappears in an interaction (decay, inelastic scattering)
 - It is slowed down to zero kinetic energy and there are no 'AtRest' processes
 - It is manually killed by the user
- No track object persists at the end of the event
- G4TrackingManager class manages the tracking
- G4UserTrackingAction is the optional User hook

- After each step the track can change its state
- The status can be:

Track Status	Description
fAlive	The particle is continued to be tracked
fStopButAlive	Kin. Energy = 0, but AtRest process will occur
fStopAndKill	Track has lost identity (has reached world boundary, decayed, ...), Secondaries will be tracked
fKillTrackAndSecondaries	Track and its secondary tracks are killed
fSuspend	Track and its secondary tracks are suspended (pushed to stack)
fPostponeToNextEvent	Track but NOT secondary tracks are postponed to the next event (secondaries are tracked in current event)

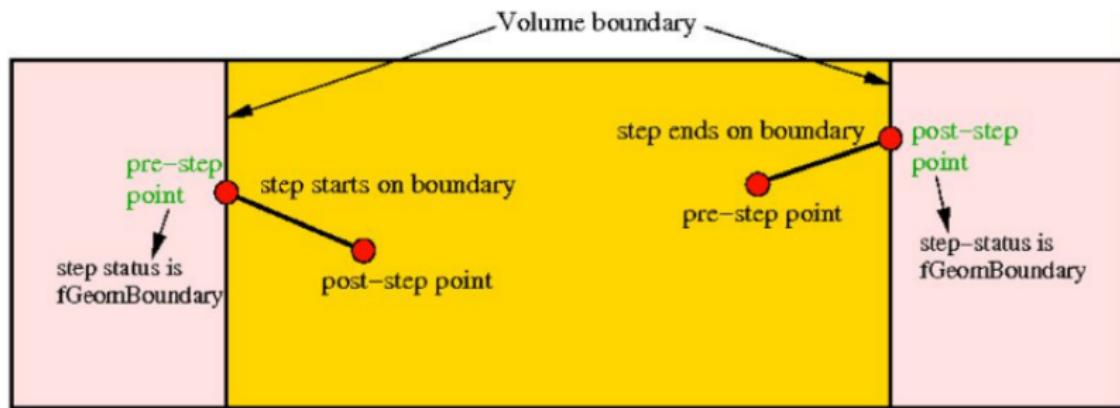
* The ones in red can only be set by the User

- G4Step represents a step in the particle propagation
- A G4Step object stores transient information of the step
 - In the tracking algorithm, G4Step is updated each time a process is invoked (e.g. multiple scattering)
- You can extract information from a step after the step is completed, e.g.
 - in ProcessHits() method of your sensitive detector
 - in UserSteppingAction() of your step action class
- The G4Step has the information about the two points (pre-step and post-step) and the 'delta' information of a particle (energy loss on the step,)
- Each point knows the volume (and the material)
 - In case a step is limited by a volume boundary, the end point physically stands on the boundary and it logically belongs to the next volume

- A G4Step object contains
 - The two endpoints (pre and post step) so one has access to the volumes containing these endpoints
 - Changes in particle properties between the points
 - Difference of particle energy, momentum,
 - Energy deposition on step, step length, time-of-flight, ...
 - A pointer to the associated G4Track object
 - Volume hierarchy information
- G4Step provides many Getter... methods to access this information or objects
 - G4StepPoint* GetPreStepPoint(),

- To check, if a step ends on a boundary, one may compare if the physical volume of pre and post-step points are equal
- One can also use the step status
 - Step Status provides information about the process that restricted the step length
 - It is attached to the step points: the pre has the status of the previous step, the post of the current step
 - If the status of POST is fGeometryBoundary, the step ends on a volume boundary (does not apply to world volume)
 - To check if a step starts on a volume boundary you can also use the step status of the PRE-step point

Step Concept and Boundaries



Boundaries Example

```
G4StepPoint* preStepPoint = step -> GetPreStepPoint();
G4StepPoint* postStepPoint = step -> GetPostStepPoint();

// Use the GetStepStatus() method of G4StepPoint to get the status of the
// current step (contained in post-step point) or the previous step
// (contained in pre-step point):
if(preStepPoint -> GetStepStatus() == fGeomBoundary) {
    G4cout << "Step starts on geometry boundary" << G4endl;
}
if(postStepPoint -> GetStepStatus() == fGeomBoundary) {
    G4cout << "Step ends on geometry boundary" << G4endl;
}

// You can retrieve the material of the next volume through the
// post-step point:
G4Material* nextMaterial = step->GetPostStepPoint()->GetMaterial();
```

- Five base classes with virtual methods the user may override to step during the execution of the application
 - G4UserRunAction
 - G4UserEventAction
 - G4UserTrackingAction
 - G4UserStackingAction
 - G4UserSteppingAction
- Default implementation (not purely virtual): Do nothing

This class has three virtual methods which are invoked by G4RunManager for each run:

- **G4Run* GenerateRun()**

This method is invoked at the beginning of BeamOn. Because the user can inherit the class G4Run and create his/her own concrete class to store some information about the run, the GenerateRun() method is the place to instantiate such an object

- **void BeginOfRunAction(const G4Run*)**

This method is invoked before entering the event loop. This method is invoked after the calculation of the physics tables.

- **void EndOfRunAction(const G4Run*)**

This method is invoked at the very end of the run processing. It is typically used for a simple analysis of the processed run.

This class has two virtual methods which are invoked by G4EventManager for each event:

- void BeginOfEventAction(const G4Event*)

This method is invoked before converting the primary particles to G4Track objects. A typical use of this method would be to initialize and/or book histograms for a particular event.

- void EndOfEventAction(const G4Event*)

This method is invoked at the very end of event processing. It is typically used for a simple analysis of the processed event.

This class has three virtual methods, ClassifyNewTrack, NewStage and PrepareNewEvent which the user may override in order to control the various track stacking mechanisms.

- G4ClassificationOfNewTrack ClassifyNewTrack(const G4Track*)

It's invoked by G4StackManager whenever a new G4Track object is "pushed" onto a stack by G4EventManager.

G4ClassificationOfNewTrack has four possible values:

- fUrgent - track is placed in the urgent stack
- fWaiting - track is placed in the waiting stack, and will not be simulated until the urgent stack is empty
- fPostpone - track is postponed to the next event
- fKill - the track is deleted immediately and not stored in any stack

These assignments may
be made based on the origin of the track which is obtained as follows:

```
G4int parent_ID = aTrack->get_parentID();
```

where:

- $\text{parent_ID} = 0$ indicates a primary particle
- $\text{parent_ID} > 0$ indicates a secondary particle
- $\text{parent_ID} < 0$ indicates postponed particle from previous event.

- void NewStage()

It's invoked when the urgent stack is empty and the waiting stack contains at least one G4Track object.

- void PrepareNewEvent()

It's invoked at the beginning of each event. At this point no primary particles have been converted to tracks, so the urgent and waiting stacks are empty.

- void UserSteppingAction(const g4Step*)
Get information about particles; kills tracks under specific circumstances

- A basic analysis interface is available in Geant4 for histograms (1D and 2D) and ntuples
- Unified interface to support different output formats
 - ROOT, CSV, AIDA XML, and HBOOK
 - Code is the same, just change one line to switch from one to an other
- Everything is done using G4AnalysisManager

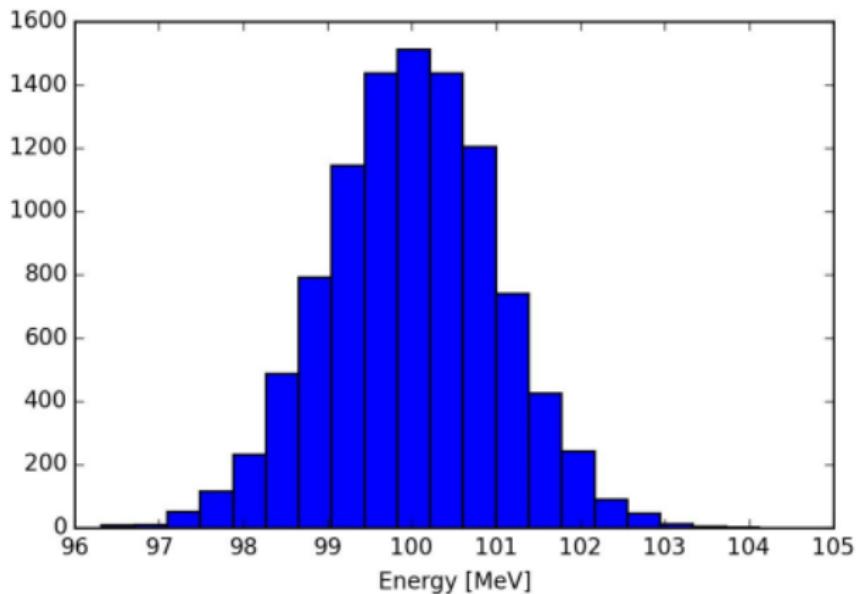
Selection of output format is performed by including a proper header file:

```
#ifndef MyAnalysis_h
#define MyAnalysis_h 1

#include "g4root.hh"
//#include "g4xml.hh"
//#include "g4csv.hh" // can be used only with ntuples

#endif
```

Histograms



Open file and book histograms

```
#include "MyAnalysis.hh"

void MyRunAction::BeginOfRunAction(const G4Run* run)
{
    // Get analysis manager
    G4AnalysisManager* man = G4AnalysisManager::Instance();
    man->SetVerboseLevel(1);
    man->SetFirstHistoId(1); Start numbering of histograms from ID=1
    // Creating histograms
    man->CreateH1("h", "Title", 100, 0., 800*MeV);
    man->CreateH1("hh", "Title", 100, 0., 10*MeV); ID=1 ID=2
    // Open an output file
    man->OpenFile("myoutput"); Open output file
}
```

Fill histograms and write the file

```
#include "MyAnalysis.hh"

void MyEventAction::EndOfEventAction(const G4Run* aRun)
{
    auto man = G4AnalysisManager::Instance();
    man->FillH1(1, fEnergyAbs); 
    man->FillH1(2, fEnergyGap);
}

MyRunAction::~MyRunAction()
{
    auto man = G4AnalysisManager::Instance();
    man->Write();
}

int main()
{
    ...
    auto man = G4AnalysisManager::Instance();
    man->CloseFile();
}
```



Ntuples

ParticleID	Energy	x	y
0	99.5161753	-0.739157031	-0.014213165
1	98.0020355	1.852812521	1.128640204
2	100.0734469	0.863203688	-0.277949199
3	99.3508677	-2.063452685	-0.898594988
4	101.2505954	1.030581054	0.736468229
5	98.9849841	-1.464509417	-1.065372115
6	101.1547644	1.121931704	-0.203319254
7	100.8876748	0.012068917	-1.283410959
8	100.3013861	1.852532119	-0.520615895
9	100.6295882	1.084122362	0.556967258
10	100.4887681	-1.021971662	1.317380892
11	101.6716567	0.614222096	-0.483530242
12	99.1083093	-0.776034456	0.203524549
13	97.3595776	0.814378204	-0.690615126
14	100.7264612	-0.408732803	-1.278746667

- g4tools support ntuples
 - any number of ntuples
 - any number of columns
 - supported types: int/float/double
- For more complex tasks (other functionality of ROOT TTrees) have to link ROOT directly

```
#include "MyAnalysis.hh"

void MyRunAction::BeginOfRunAction(const G4Run* run)
{
    // Get analysis manager
    G4AnalysisManager* man = G4AnalysisManager::Instance();
    man-> SetFirstNtupleId(1); } Start numbering of ntuples from ID=1

    // Creating ntuples
    man->CreateNtuple("name", "Title");
    man->CreateNtupleDColumn("Eabs");
    man->CreateNtupleDColumn("Egap");
    man->FinishNtuple(); } ID=1

    man->CreateNtuple("name2", "title2");
    man->CreateNtupleIColumn("ID");
    man->FinishNtuple(); } ID=2
}
```

Fill Ntuples

```
#include "MyAnalysis.hh"

void MyEventAction::EndOfEventAction(const G4Run* aRun)
{
    G4AnalysisManager* man = G4AnalysisManager::Instance();
    man->FillNtupleDColumn(1, 0, fEnergyAbs);
    man->FillNtupleDColumn(1, 1, fEnergyGap);
    man->AddNtupleRow(1);

    man->FillNtupleIColumn(2, 0, fID);
    man->AddNtupleRow(2);
}
```

ID=1,
columns 0, 1

ID=2,
column 0

- A logical volume becomes sensitive if it has a pointer to a sensitive detector (`G4VSensitiveDetector`)
 - A sensitive detector can be instantiated several times, where the instances are assigned to different logical volumes
- Two possibilities to make use of the SD functionality:
 - Create your own sensitive detector (using class inheritance)
 - Use Geant4 built-in tools: Primitive scorers

Adding sensitivity to a logical volume

- Create an instance of a sensitive detector and register it to the SensitiveDetector Manager
- Assign the pointer of your SD to the logical volume of your detector geometry
- Must be done in ConstructSDandField() of the user geometry class

```
G4VSensitiveDetector* mySensitive  
= new MySensitiveDetector(SDname="/MyDetector"); }  
} create instance
```



```
G4SDManager* sdMan = G4SDManager::GetSDMpointer(); }  
sdMan->AddNewDetector(mySensitive); }  
} Register to the SD manager
```



```
SetSensitiveDetector("LVname",mySensitive); } assign to logical volume
```

→
Name of the logical volume

- Geant4 provides a number of primitive scorers, each one accumulating one physics quantity (e.g. total dose) for an event
- This is alternative to the customized sensitive detectors, which can be used with full flexibility to gain complete control
- It is convenient to use primitive scorers instead of user-defined sensitive detectors when:
 - you are not interested in recording each individual step, but accumulating physical quantities for an event or a run
 - you have not too many scorers

- G4MultiFunctionalDetector is a concrete class derived from G4VSensitiveDetector
- It should be assigned to a logical volume as a kind of (ready-for-the-use) sensitive detector
- It takes an arbitrary number of G4VPrimitiveScorer classes, to define the scoring quantities that you need
 - Each G4VPrimitiveScorer accumulates one physics quantity for each physical volume
 - E.g. G4PSDoseScorer (a concrete class of G4VPrimitiveScorer provided by Geant4) accumulates dose for each cell
- By using this approach, there is no need to implement sensitive detectors and hit classes!

- Primitive scorers (classes derived from G4VPrimitiveScorer) have to be registered to the G4MultiFunctionalDetector
 - RegisterPrimitive()
 - RemovePrimitive()
- They are designed to score one kind of quantity (surface flux, total dose) and to generate one hit collection per event
 - automatically named as $\langle\text{MultiFunctionalDetectorName}\rangle/\langle\text{PrimitiveScorerName}\rangle$
 - hit collections can be retrieved in the EventAction or RunAction (as those generated by sensitive detectors)
 - do not share the same primitive scorer object among multiple G4MultiFunctionalDetector objects (results may mix up!)

For example

```
MyDetectorConstruction::ConstructSDandField()
{
    G4MultiFunctionalDetector* myScorer = new
        G4MultiFunctionalDetector("myCellScorer"); } instantiate multi-
functional detector

    myCellLog->SetSensitiveDetector(myScorer); } attach to volume

    G4VPrimitiveScorer* totalSurfFlux = new
        G4PSFlatSurfaceFlux("TotalSurfFlux");
    myScorer->RegisterPrimitive(totalSurfFlux); } create a primitive
scorer (surface
flux) and register
it

    G4VPrimitiveScorer* totalDose = new
        G4PSDoseDeposit("TotalDose");
    myScorer->RegisterPrimitive(totalDose); } create a primitive
scorer (total dose)
and register it
}
```

Some primitive scorers that you may find useful

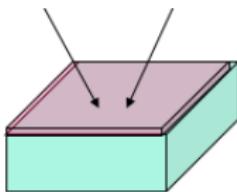
Primitive Scorers:

- Track length
 - G4PSTrackLength, G4PSPassageTrackLength
- Deposited energy
 - G4PSEnergyDeposit, G4PSDoseDeposit
- Current/Flux
 - G4PSFlatSurfaceCurrent,
 - G4PSSphereSurfaceCurrent, G4PSPassageCurrent,
 - G4PSFlatSurfaceFlux, G4PSCellFlux, G4PSPassageCellFlux
- Others
 - G4PSMinKinEAtGeneration, G4PSNofSecondary,
 - G4PSNofStep,
 - G4PSCellCharge

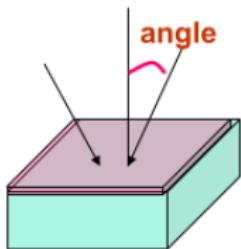
A closer look at some scorers

SurfaceCurrent :

Count number of
injecting particles
at defined surface.



angle

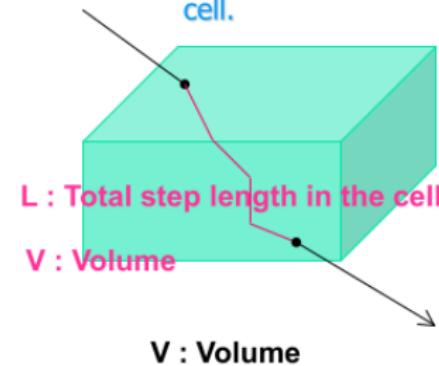


SurfaceFlux :

Sum up
 $1/\cos(\text{angle})$ of
injecting particles
at defined surface

CellFlux :

Sum of L / V of
injecting particles
in the geometrical
cell.



- A G4VSDFilter can be attached to G4VPrimitiveScorer to define which kind of tracks have to be scored (e.g. one wants to know surface flux of protons only)
 - G4SDChargeFilter (accepts only charged particles)
 - G4SDNeutralFilter (accepts only neutral particles)
 - G4SDKineticEnergyFilter (accepts tracks in a defined range of kinetic energy)
 - G4SDParticleFilter (accepts tracks of a given particle type)
 - G4VSDFilter (base class to create user-customized filters)

Example

```
MyDetectorConstruction::ConstructSDandField()
{
    G4VPrimitiveScorer* protonSurfFlux
    = new G4PSFlatSurfaceFlux("pSurfFlux");
    G4VSDFilter* protonFilter = new
        G4SDParticleFilter("protonFilter");
    protonFilter->Add("proton");
    protonSurfFlux->SetFilter(protonFilter);
    myScorer->RegisterPrimitive(protonSurfFlux);
}
```

} { create a primitive scorer (surface flux), as before } { create a particle filter and add protons to it } { register the filter to the primitive scorer } { register the scorer to the multifunc detector (as shown before) }

Each scorer creates a hit collection, which is attached to the G4Event object

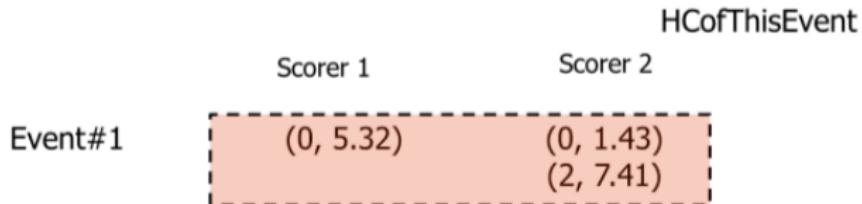
- Can be retrieved and read at the end of the event, using an integer ID
- Hits collections mapped as `G4THitsMap<G4double>*` so can loop on the individual entries
- Operator `+=` provided which automatically sums up all hits (no need to loop manually)

How to retrieve information

	Scorer 1	Scorer 2	HCoFThisEvent
copyNb (key)	Quantity to be scored by the scorer (e.g. energy)		
Event#1	(0, 5.32) (2, 7.41)	(0, 1.43)	
Event#2	(1, 1.12)	(0, 1.11)	
Event#3	<i>empty</i>	<i>empty</i>	
...	
Event#N	(0,7.12) (1,1.15)	(0, 2.0)	

How to retrieve information

```
//needed only once  
G4int collID = G4SDManager::GetSDMpointer()  
    ->GetCollectionID("myCellScorer/TotalSurfFlux"); } Get ID for the  
collection (given  
the name)  
  
G4HCofThisEvent* HCE = event->GetHCofThisEvent(); } Get all HC  
available in this  
event
```



How to retrieve information

```
//needed only once  
G4int collID = G4SDManager::GetSDMpointer()  
    ->GetCollectionID("myCellScorer/TotalSurfFlux"); } Get ID for the  
collection (given  
the name)  
  
G4HCofThisEvent* HCE = event->GetHCofThisEvent(); } Get all HC  
available in this  
event  
  
G4THitsMap<G4double>* evtMap =  
    static_cast<G4THitsMap<G4double>*>  
        (HCE->GetHC(collID)); } Get the HC with the  
given ID (need a cast)
```

		HCofThisEvent	
		Scorer 1	Scorer 2
Event#1	(0, 5.32)		
		(0, 1.43) (2, 7.41)	

How to retrieve information

```
//needed only once
G4int collID = G4SDManager::GetSDMpointer()
->GetCollectionID("myCellScorer/TotalSurfFlux"); } Get ID for the
collection (given
the name)

G4HCofThisEvent* HCE = event->GetHCofThisEvent(); } Get all HC
available in this
event

G4THitsMap<G4double>* evtMap =
    static_cast<G4THitsMap<G4double>*>
    (HCE->GetHC(collID)); } Get the HC with the
given ID (need a cast)

for (auto pair : *(evtMap->GetMap())) { } Loop over the
individual entries of
the HC: the key of the
map is the copyNb,
the other field is the
real content

    G4double flux = *(pair.second);
    G4int copyNb = *(pair.first);
}
```

How to retrieve information

Event#1

(0, 5.32)

(0, 1.43)
(2, 7.41)

* (pair.**first**)

* (pair.**second**)

```
for (auto pair : *(evtMap->GetMap())) {  
    G4double flux = *(pair.second);  
    G4int copyNb = *(pair.first);  
}
```

Loop1: copyNb = 0, value = 1.43

Loop2: copyNb = 2, value = 7.41

- A powerful and flexible way of extracting information from the physics simulation is to define your own SD
- Derive your own concrete classes from the base classes and customize them according to your needs

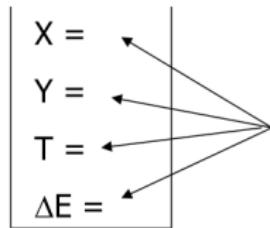
Hit: G4VHit

Hits Collection: G4THitsCollection

Sensitive Detector: G4VSensitiveDetector

- Hit is a user-defined class which derives from the base class G4VHit. Two virtual methods
 - Draw()
 - Print()
- You can store various types of information by implementing your own concrete Hit class
- Typically, one may want to record information like
 - Position, time and ΔE of a step
 - Momentum, energy, position, volume, particle type of a given track
 - etc.

A “Hit” is like a “container”, an empty box which will store the information retrieved step by step



The Hit **concrete class** (derived by **G4VHit**) must be written by the user: the user must decide **which variables** and/or **information** the hit should **store** and **when store them**

The Hit objects are created and filled by the SensitiveDetector class (invoked at each step in detectors defined as sensitive). Stored in the “HitCollection”, attached to the G4Event: can be retrieved at the end of the event

```
// header file: MyHit.hh  
#include "G4VHit.hh"  
  
class MyHit : public G4VHit {
```

```
public:  
    MyHit();  
    virtual ~MyHit();  
    ...
```

Example

public methods to handle data member

```
    inline void SetEnergyDeposit(G4double energy) { energyDeposit = energy; }  
    inline G4double GetEnergyDeposit() { return energyDeposit; }
```

... // more get and set methods

```
private:  
    G4double energyDeposit;  
    ... // more data members  
};
```



data member (private)

Since in the simulation one may have different sensitive detectors in the same setup (e.g. a calorimeter and a Si detector), it is possible to define many Hit classes (all derived by G4VHit) storing different information

X =
Y =
T =
 ΔE =

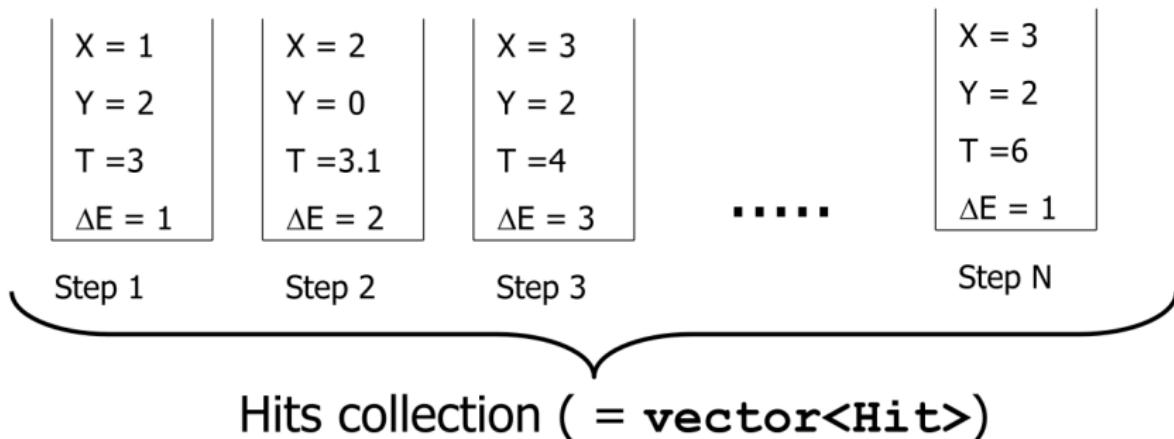
Class Hit1 :
public G4VHit

Z =
Pos =
Dir =

Class Hit2 :
public G4VHit

More general than the simple (copyNb, quantity) structure used by the Geant4 native scorers

At each step in a detector defined as sensitive, the method `ProcessHit()` of the user `SensitiveDetector` class is invoked: it must create, fill and store the Hit objects



- Once created in the sensitive detectors, objects of the concrete hit class must be stored in a dedicated collection
 - Template class G4THitsCollection<MyHit>, which is actually a vector of MyHit*
- The hits collections can be accessed in different phases of tracking
 - At the end of each event, through the G4Event (a-posteriori event analysis)
 - During event processing, through the Sensitive Detector Manager G4SDManager (event filtering)

Remember that you may have many kinds of Hits (and Hits Collections)

X = 1
Y = 2
T = 3
 ΔE = 1

X = 2
Y = 0
T = 3.1
 ΔE = 2

X = 3
Y = 2
T = 4
 ΔE = 3

.....

X = 3
Y = 2
T = 6
 ΔE = 1

Z = 5
Pos =
(0,1,1)
Dir
=(0,1,0)

Z = 5.2
Pos =
(0,0,1)
Dir
=(1,1,0)

.....

Z = 5.4
Pos =
(0,1,2)
Dir
=(0,1,1)

HCoFThisEvent

Attached to
G4Event*

- A G4Event object has a G4HCofThisEvent object at the end of the event processing (if it was successful)
 - The pointer to the G4HCofThisEvent object can be retrieved using the G4Event::GetHCofThisEvent() method
- The G4HCofThisEvent stores all hits collections created within the event
 - Hit collections are accessible and can be processes e.g. in the EndOfEventAction() method of the User Event Action class
 - Transient: information cleaned up at each new event

- Using information from particle steps, a sensitive detector either
 - constructs, fills and stores one (or more) hit object
 - accumulates values to existing hits
- Hits objects can be filled with information in the ProcessHits() method of the SD concrete user class
 - This method has pointers to the current G4Step and to the G4TouchableHistory of the Parallel World (if defined)

- A specific feature to Geant4 is that a user can provide his/her own implementation of the detector and its response
- To create a sensitive detector, derive your own concrete class from the G4VSensitiveDetector abstract base class
 - The principal purpose of the sensitive detector is to create hit objects
 - Overload the following methods:
 - Initialize()
 - ProcessHits() (Invoked for each step if step starts in logical volume having the SD attached)
 - EndOfEvent()

```
// header file: MySensitiveDetector.hh
#include "G4VSensitiveDetector.hh"
class G4VSensitiveDetector {
public:
    ...
    virtual void Initialize(G4HCofThisEvent*);  

    virtual void EndOfEvent(G4HCofThisEvent*);  

protected:  

    virtual G4bool ProcessHits(G4Step*,  

        G4TouchableHistory*) = 0;  

...
};

class MySensitiveDetector : public G4VSensitiveDetector {
public:  

    MySensitiveDetector(G4String name);  

    virtual ~MySensitiveDetector();  

    virtual void Initialize(G4HCofThisEvent*HCE);  

    virtual G4bool ProcessHits(G4Step* step,  

        G4TouchableHistory* ROhist);  

    virtual void EndOfEvent(G4HCofThisEvent*HCE);  

private:  

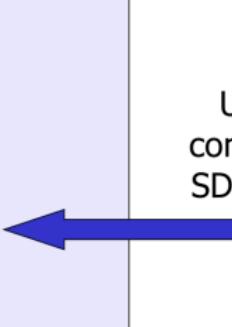
    MyHitsCollection * hitsCollection;  

    G4int collectionID;
};
```

abstract base class

pure virtual method

User
concrete
SD class



- Specify a hits collection (by its unique name) for each type of hits considered in the sensitive detector:
 - Insert the name(s) in the collectionName vector

```
MySensitiveDetector::MySensitiveDetector(G4String detectorUniqueName)
: G4VSensitiveDetector(detectorUniquename),
collectionID(-1) {
    collectionName.insert("collection_name");
}
```

Base class



```
class G4VSensitiveDetector {
    ...
protected:
    G4CollectionNameVector collectionName;
    // This protected name vector must be filled in
    // the constructor of the concrete class for
    // registering names of hits collections
    ...
};
```

SD implementation: Initialize()

- The Initialize() method is invoked at the beginning of each event
- Construct all hits collections and insert them in the G4HCofThisEvent object, which is passed as argument to Initialize()
 - The AddHitsCollection() method of G4HCofThisEvent requires the collection ID
- The unique collection ID can be obtained with GetCollectionID()
 - GetCollectionID() cannot be invoked in the constructor of this SD
 - Hence, we defined a private data member (collectionID), which is set at the first call of the Initialize() function

```
void MySensitiveDetector::Initialize(G4HCofThisEvent* HCE) {  
    if(collectionID < 0)  
        collectionID = GetCollectionID(0); // Argument: order of collect.  
                                         // as stored in the collectionName  
    hitsCollection = new MyHitsCollection  
        (SensitiveDetectorName, collectionName[0]);  
    HCE -> AddHitsCollection(collectionID, hitsCollection);  
}
```

SD implementation: ProcessHits()

- This ProcessHits() method is invoked for every step in the volume(s) which hold a pointer to this SD (= each volume defined as “sensitive”)
- The main mandate of this method is to generate hit(s) or to accumulate data to existing hit objects, by using information from the current step

```
G4bool MySensitiveDetector::ProcessHits(G4Step* step,  
                                      G4TouchableHistory* ROhist) {  
    MyHit* hit = new MyHit(); // 1) create hit  
    ...  
    // some set methods, e.g. for a tracking detector:  
    G4double energyDeposit = step -> GetTotalEnergyDeposit(); // 2) fill hit  
    hit -> SetEnergyDeposit(energyDeposit); // See implement. of our Hit class  
    ...  
    hitsCollection -> insert(aHit); // 3) insert in the collection  
    return true;  
}
```

- Retrieve the pointer of a hits collection with the GetHC() method of G4HCofThisEvent collection using the collection index (a G4int number)
- Index numbers of a hit collection are unique and don't change for a run. The number can be obtained by G4SDManager::GetCollectionID("name");
- Notes:
 - if the collection(s) are not created, the pointers of the collection(s) are NULL: check before trying to access it
 - Need an explicit cast from G4VHitsCollection (see code)

Process hit: example

```
void MyEventAction::EndOfEventAction(const G4Event* event) {
```

// index is a data member, representing the hits collection index of the
// considered collection. It was initialized to -1 in the class constructor

```
if(index < 0) index =  
    G4SDManager::GetSDMpointer() -> GetCollectionID("myDet/myColl"); } retrieve  
index
```

```
G4HCofThisEvent* HCE = event-> GetHCofThisEvent(); } retrieve all hits  
collections
```

```
MyHitsCollection* hitsColl = 0;  
if(HCE) hitsColl = (MyHitsCollection*)(HCE->GetHC(index)); } retrieve hits  
collection by index
```



Be sure that this is
non-NULL

- Loop through the entries of a hits collection to access individual hits
 - Since the HitsCollection is a vector, you can use the [] operator to get the hit object corresponding to a given index
- Retrieve the information contained in this hit (e.g. using the Get/Set methods of the concrete user Hit class) and process it
- Store the output in analysis objects

Process hit: example

```
void MyEventAction::EndOfEventAction(const G4Event* event) {  
  
    // index is a data member, representing the hits collection index of the  
    // considered collection. It was initialized to -1 in the class constructor  
    if(index < 0) index =  
        G4SDManager::GetSDMpointer() -> GetCollectionID("myDet/myColl");  
  
    G4HCofThisEvent* HCE = event->GetHCofThisEvent();  
  
    MyHitsCollection* hitsColl = 0;  
    if(HCE) hitsColl = (MyHitsCollection*)(HCE->GetHC(index));  
    if(hitsColl) {  
        int numberHits = hitsColl->entries();  
        for(int i1= 0; i1 < numberHits ; i1++) {  
            MyHit* hit = (*hitsColl)[i1];  
            // Retrieve information from hit object, e.g.  
            G4double energy = hit ->GetEnergyDeposit;  
            ... // Further process and store information  
        }  
    }  
}
```

Be sure that this is non-NULL

cast

loop over individual hits, retrieve the data

The HCofThisEvent

Remember that you may have many kinds of Hits (and Hits Collections)

X = 1 Y = 2 T = 3 ΔE = 1	X = 2 Y = 0 T = 3.1 ΔE = 2	X = 3 Y = 2 T = 4 ΔE = 3	X = 6 Y = 1 T = 5 ΔE = 2	ID = 0
Z = 5 Pos = (0,1,1) Dir =(0,1,0)	Z = 5.2 Pos = (0,0,1) Dir =(1,1,0)	Z = 5.4 Pos = (0,1,2) Dir =(0,1,1)	ID = 1

HCofThisEvent