

# **XV Seminar on Software for Nuclear, Subnuclear and Applied Physics**

Hotel Porto Conte, Alghero  
27 May - 1 June 2018

## **Interaction with the Geant4 kernel I**

---

Giada Petringa  
(LNS-INFN)

# ...User classes (continued)

## At initialization

G4VUserDetectorConstruction

G4VUserPhysicsList

G4VUserActionInitialization

Global: **only one instance** exists in memory, shared by all threads.

## At execution

G4VUserPrimaryGeneratorAction

*G4UserRunAction\**

*G4UserEventAction*

*G4UserStackingAction*

*G4UserTrackingAction*

*G4UserSteppingAction*

Local: an **instance** of each action class exists for each thread.  
(\*) Two RunAction's allowed: one for master and one for threads

# Contents

- Run, Event, Track, ...
  - a word about multi-threading
- Optional user action classes
- Command-based scoring
- Analysis tools

# **Part I: Run, Track, Event, ...**

# Geant4 terminology: an overview

- The following **keywords** are often used in Geant4
  - **Run, Event, Track, Step**
  - **Processes**: At Rest, Along Step, Post Step
  - **Cut** (or production threshold)
  - **Worker / Master threads**

# Run, Event and Tracks

## 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

# The Event (G4Event)

- 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)

# The Run (G4Run)

- As an analogy with a real experiment, a run of Geant4 starts with '**Beam On**'
- 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
- At the beginning of a run, geometry is optimised for navigation and cross section tables are (re)calculated
- The `G4(MT)RunManager` class manages the processing of each run, represented by:
  - `G4Run` class
  - `G4UserRunAction` for an optional user hook



# The Track (G4Track)

- 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

# G4Track status

- After each step the track can change its state
- The status can be (red can only be set by the User)

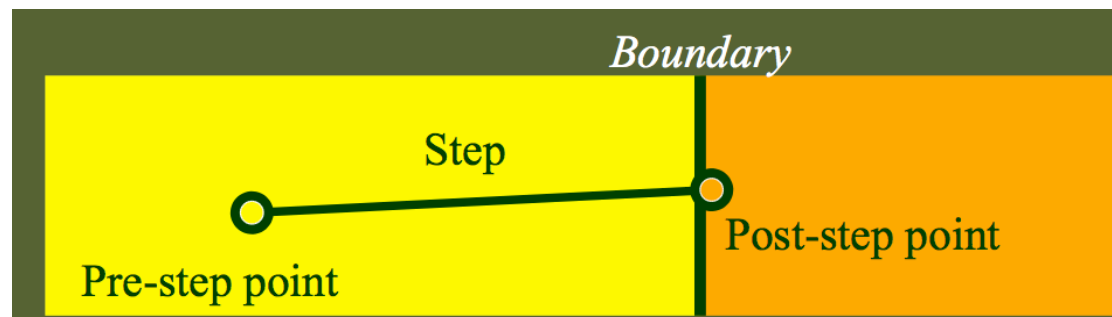
Track Status	Description
fAlive	The particle is continued to be tracked
fStopButAlive	Kin. Energy = 0, but AtRest process will occur
fStopAndKill	Track has lost identity (has reached world boundary, decayed, ...), Secondaries will be tracked
fKillTrackAndSecondaries	Track and its secondary tracks are 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 Step (G4Step)

- **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  
*(later)*
  - in **UserSteppingAction()** of your step action class  
*(later)*

# The Step in Geant4

- 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**



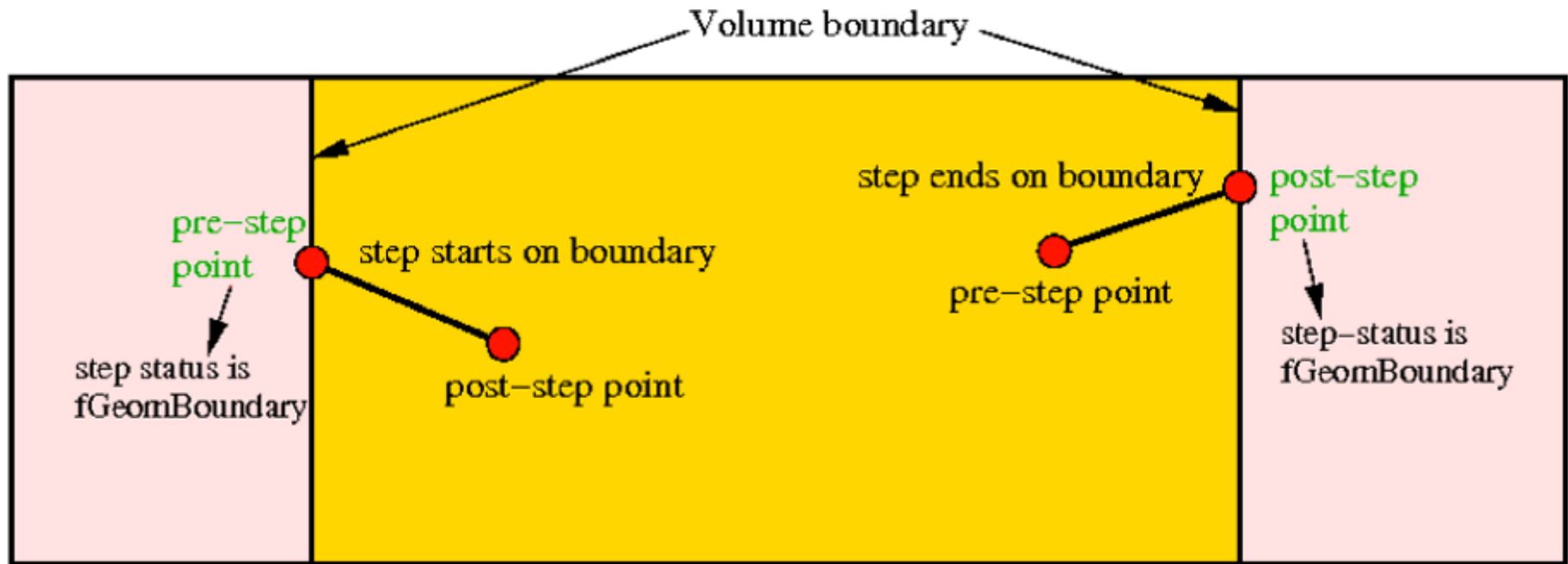
# G4Step object

- 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 **Get...** methods to access these information or objects
  - **G4StepPoint\*** **GetPreStepPoint()**, .....

# The geometry boundary

- 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 word 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



# Example: boundaries

```
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();
```

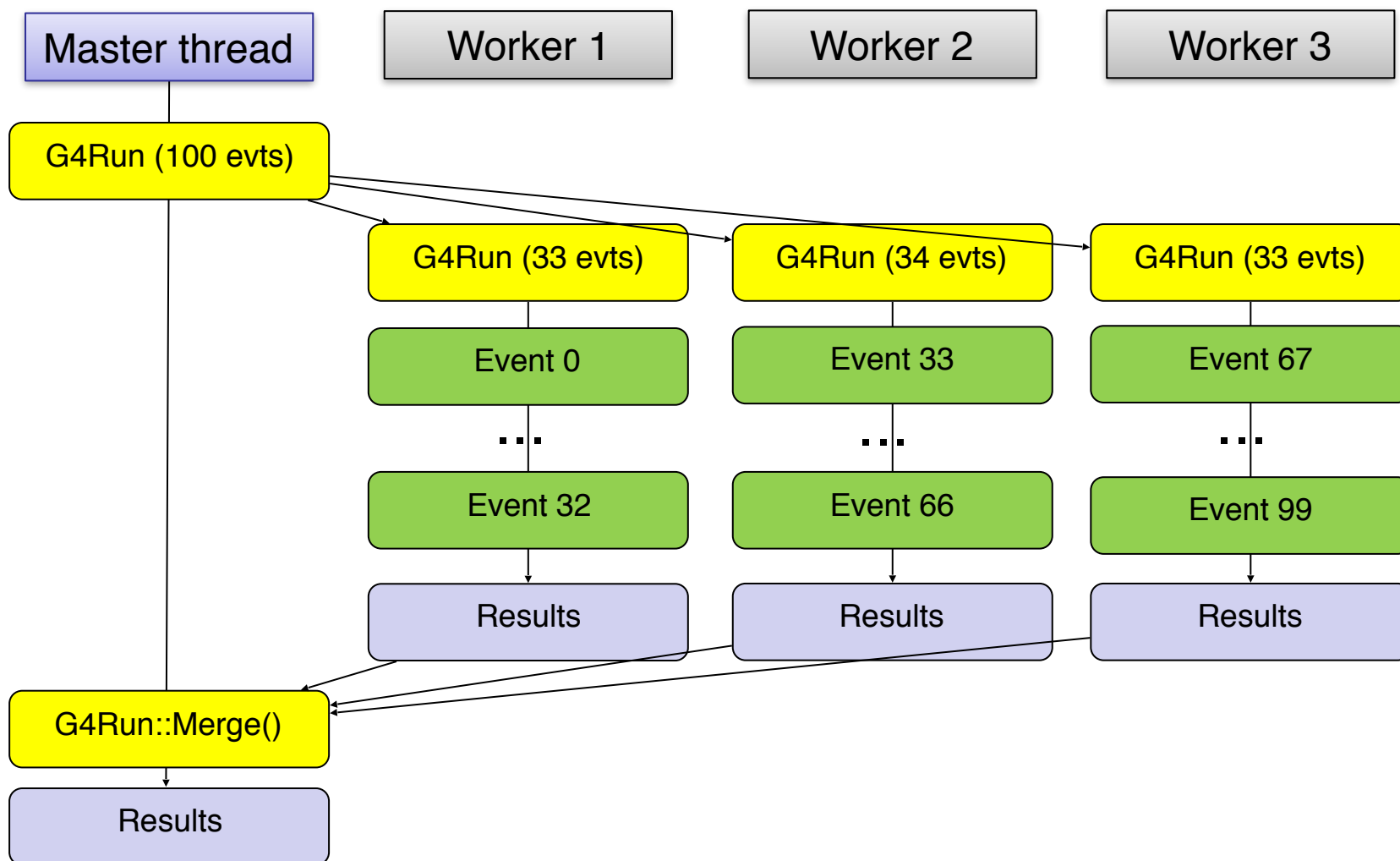


# **Part II: Optional user action classes**

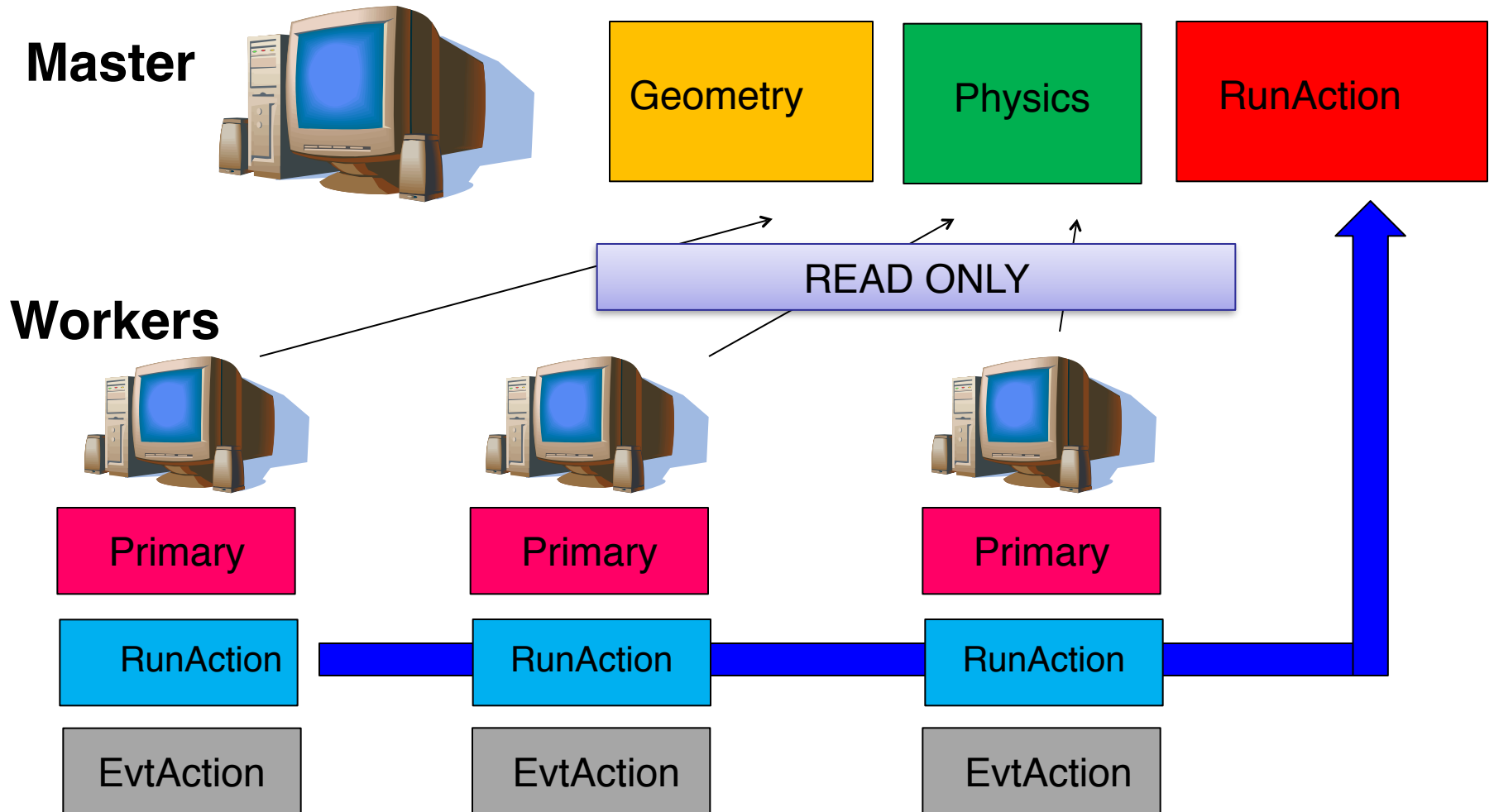
# Optional user action classes

- 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**  

- Therefore, **override** only the methods you need.

# Multi-threaded processing of events



# User actions in multi-threaded run



# G4UserRunAction

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

## **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

## **BeginOfRunAction()**

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

## **EndOfRunAction()**

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

# G4UserRunAction

`G4Run* GenerateRun()`

This method should be used to instantiate a user-specific run class object

`void BeginOfRunAction(const G4Run*)`

Likely uses of this method include: setting a run identification number – histograms –run conditions

`void EndOfRunAction(const G4Run*)`

# G4UserEventAction

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

## **beginOfEventAction()**

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.

## **endOfEventAction()**

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

# G4UserEventAction

```
void BeginOfEventAction(const G4Event*)
```

This method is invoked before converting the primary particles to G4Track objects.

```
void EndOfEventAction(const G4Event*)
```



# G4UserStackingAction

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

**ClassifyNewTrack()** is invoked by `G4StackManager` whenever a new `G4Track` object is "pushed" onto a stack by `G4EventManager`.

This value should be determined by the user.

`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

`parent_ID = 0` indicates a primary particle

`parent_ID > 0` indicates a secondary particle

`parent_ID < 0` indicates postponed particle from previous event.

# G4UserEventAction

**NewStage()** is invoked when the *urgent* stack is empty and the *waiting* stack contains at least one G4Track object.

**PrepareNewEvent()** is 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.

# G4UserStackingAction

```
G4ClassificationOfNewTrack ClassifyNewTrack(const  
G4Track*)
```

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

```
void NewStage()  
void PrepareNewEvent()
```

## Uses:

- Pre-selection of tracks (~manual cuts)
- Optimization of the order of track execution

# G4UserSteppingAction

```
void UserSteppingAction(const G4Step*)
```

## Uses:

- Get information about particles
- Kill tracks under specific circumstances

# **Part III: Command-based scoring**

# Command-based scoring

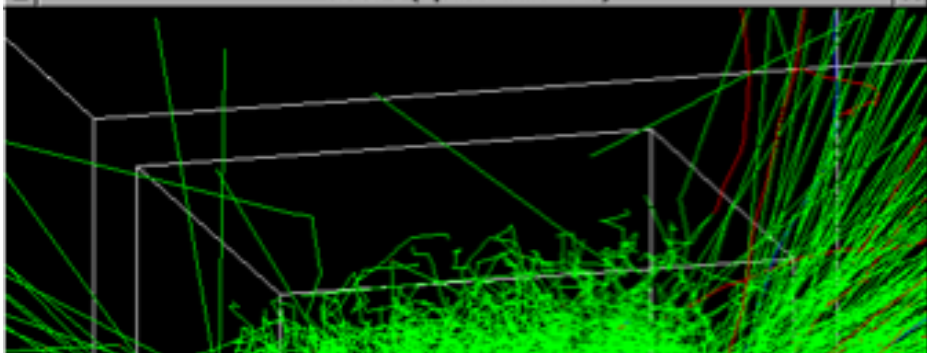
UI **commands** for scoring → no C++ required, apart from  
accessing G4ScoringManager

```
int main() {  
    ...  
    G4ScoringManager::GetScoringManager();  
    ...  
}
```

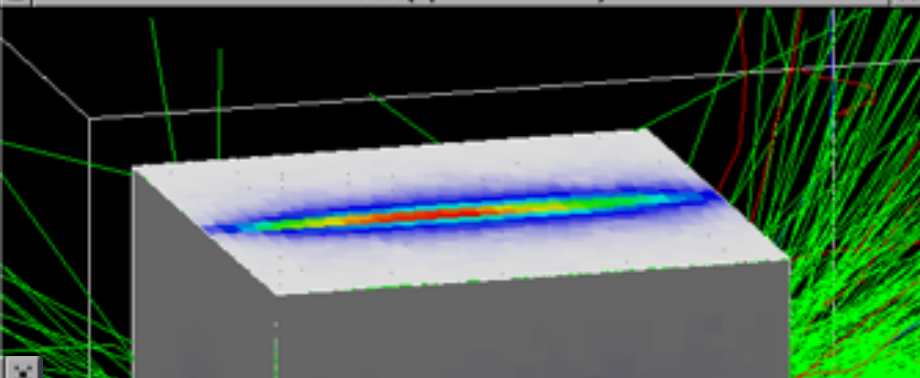
- Define a scoring mesh  
    /score/create/boxMesh <mesh\_name>  
    /score/open, /score/close
- Define mesh parameters  
    /score/mesh/boxsize <dx> <dy> <dz>  
    /score/mesh/nbin <nx> <ny> <nz>  
    /score/mesh/translate,
- Define primitive scorers  
    /score/quantity/eDep <scorer\_name>  
    /score/quantity/cellFlux <scorer\_name>  
    currently **20 scorers** are available

- Define filters  
    /score/filter/particle <filter\_name> <particle\_list>  
    /score/filter/kinE <filter\_name> <Emin> <Emax>  
    <unit>  
    currently **5 filters** are available
- Output  
    /score/draw <mesh\_name> <scorer\_name>  
    /score/dump, /score/list

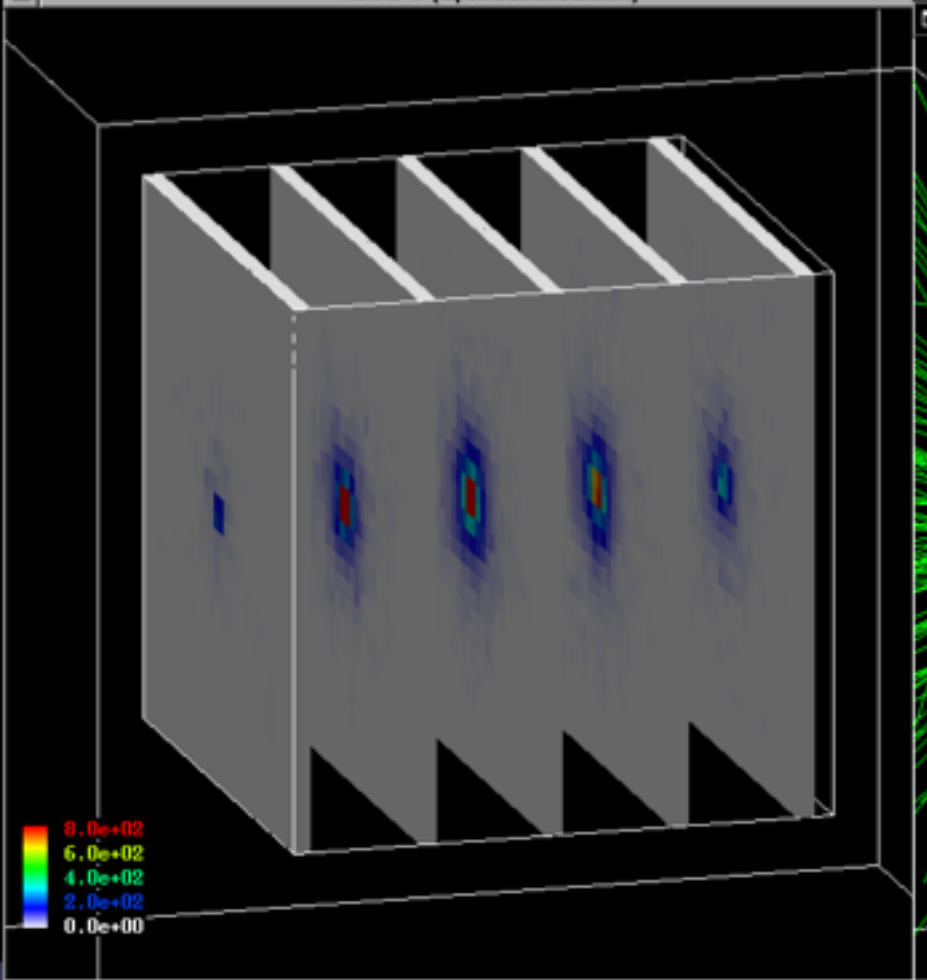
viewer-0 (OpenGLImmediateX)



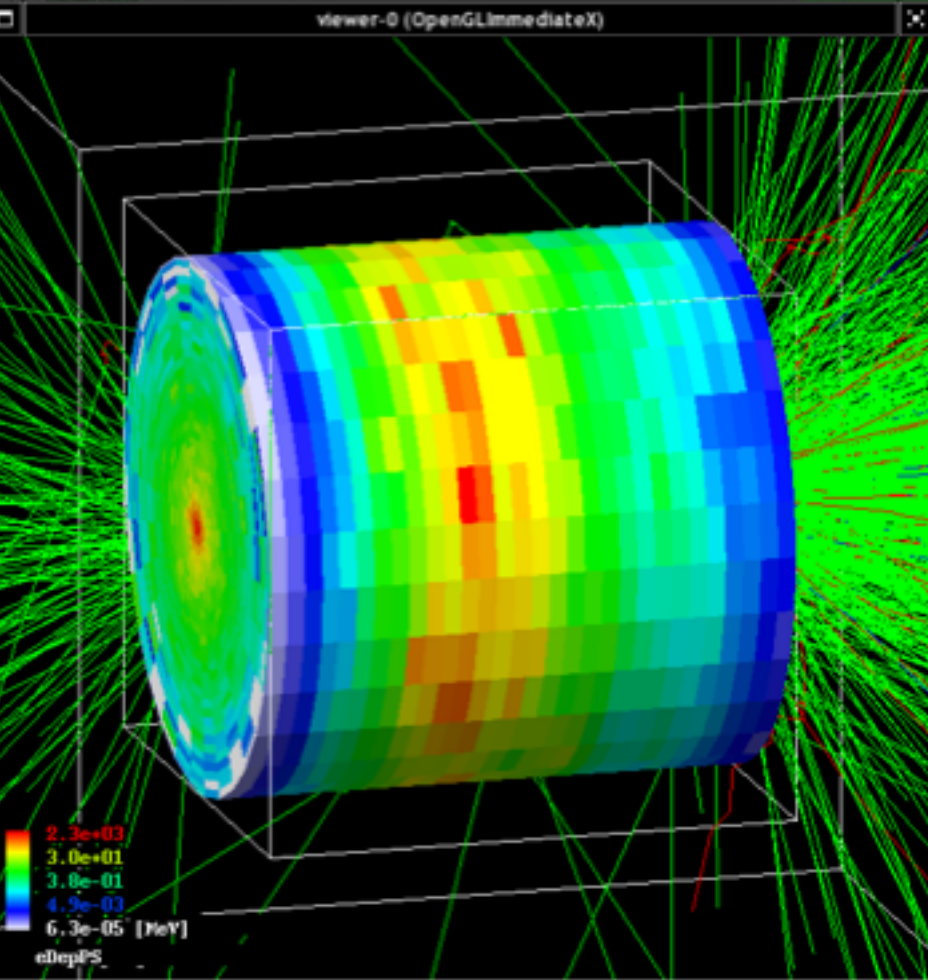
viewer-0 (OpenGLImmediateX)



viewer-0 (OpenGLImmediateX)



viewer-0 (OpenGLImmediateX)



# **Detached session: g4analysis tools**



# Geant4 analysis classes

- 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 another
- Everything is done using **G4AnalysisManager**
  - **UI commands** available

# g4analysis

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

```
#ifndef MyAnalysis_h
#define MyAnalysis_h 1

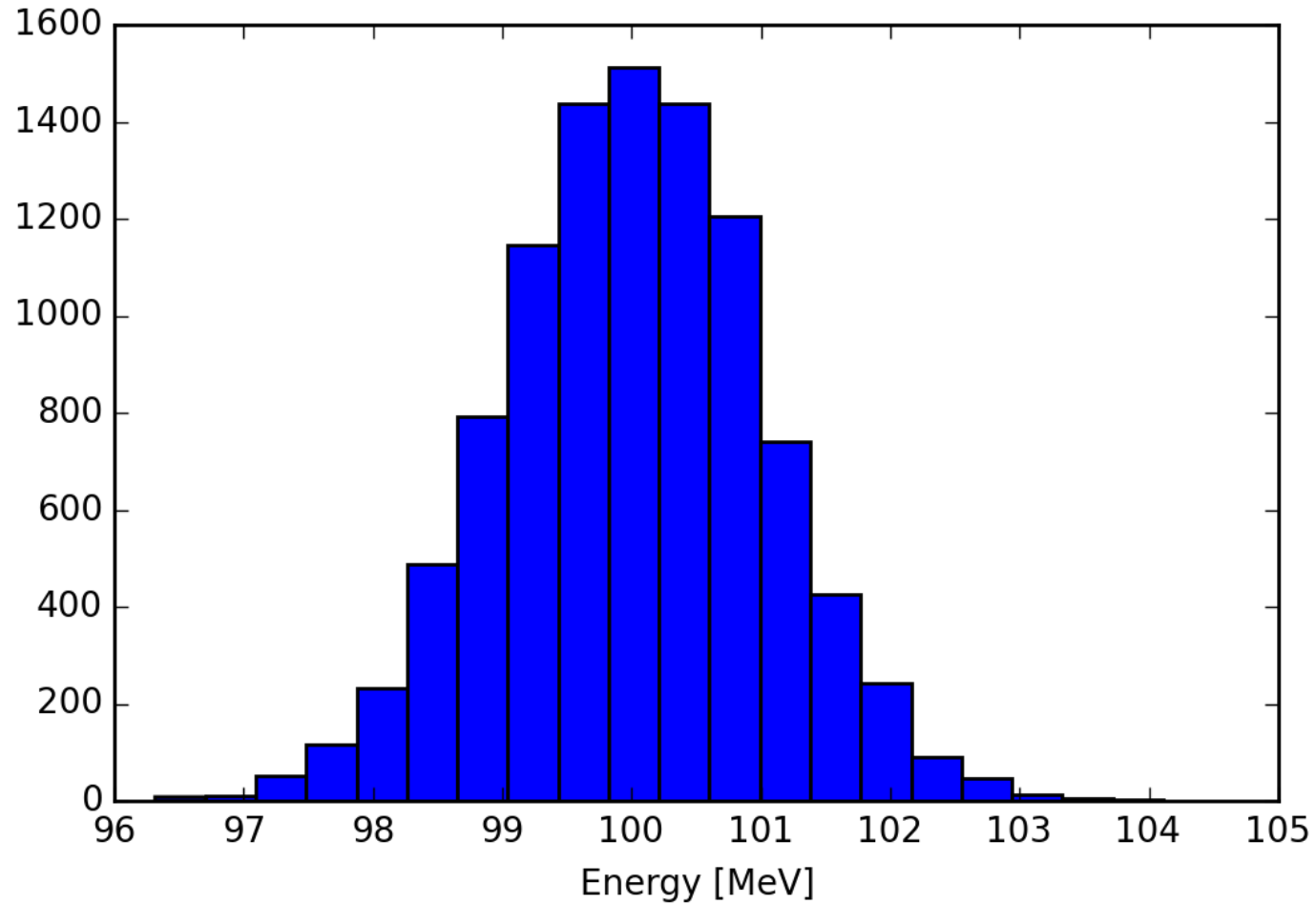
#include "g4root.hh"
// #include "g4xml.hh"
// #include "g4csv.hh" // can be used only with ntuples

#endif
```



**Advanced topic:** It is possible to use more formats at the same time. See documentation.

# 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);
```

ID=1

```
    man->CreateH1("hh", "Title", 100, 0., 10*MeV);
```

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

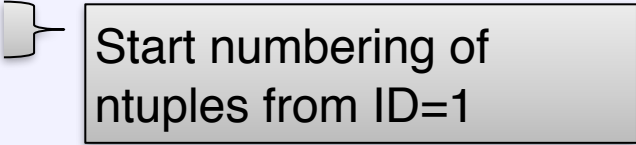
ParticleID	Energy	x	y
0	99.5161753	-0.739157031	-0.014213165
1	98.0020355	1.852812521	1.128640204
2	100.0734469	0.863203688	-0.277949199
3	99.3508677	-2.063452685	-0.898594988
4	101.2505954	1.030581054	0.736468229
5	98.9849841	-1.464509417	-1.065372115
6	101.1547644	1.121931704	-0.203319254
7	100.8876748	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

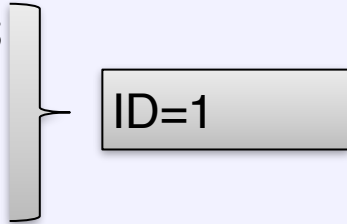
# Ntuples support

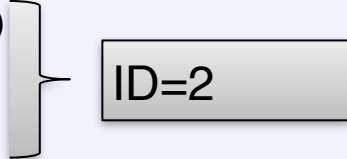
- **g4tools** support ntuples
  - **any** number of ntuples
  - **any** number of columns
  - supported types: **int/float/double**
- For more complex tasks (other functionality of ROOT TTrees) have to link **ROOT** directly

# Book ntuples

```
#include "MyAnalysis.hh"

void MyRunAction::BeginOfRunAction(const G4Run* run)
{
    // Get analysis manager
    G4AnalysisManager* man = G4AnalysisManager::Instance();
    man->SetFirstNtupleId(1); 

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

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


```



# Fill ntuples

- File handling and general clean-up as shown for histograms

```
#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);
```

ID=1,  
columns 0, 1

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

```
    man->AddNtupleRow(2);
```

ID=2,  
column 0

```
}
```

# Conclusion

- Concepts of run, event, step, track, particle
- User action classes
- Data output – g4tools

**Okay  
that's all.**



**More slides (back-up)...**

# Example: custom messengers

```
#include <G4UImessenger.hh>
#include <G4UIcmdWithoutParameter.hh>
#include <G4UIDirectory.hh>

class HiMessenger : public G4UImessenger
{
public:
    HiMessenger() {
        _directory = new G4UIDirectory("/hi/");
        _command = new G4UIcmdWithoutParameter("/hi/sayIt", this);
    }

    void SetNewValue(G4UIcommand* command, G4String newValue) {
        if (command == _command) {
            G4cout << "Hi there :-)" << G4endl;
        }
    }

private:
    G4UIDirectory* _directory;
    G4UIcmdWithoutParameter* _command;
};
```

# Example: output to a text file

MT



```
#include <fstream>

class SteppingAction
{
    // ...
    std::ofstream fout;
};

SteppingAction::SteppingAction() : fout("outfile.txt") { } // ...

void SteppingAction::UserSteppingAction(const G4Step* aStep)
{
    G4Track* theTrack = aStep->GetTrack();
    G4double edep = aStep->GetTotalEnergyDeposit();
    G4double kineticEnergy = theTrack->GetKineticEnergy();

    // The output
    fout
        << "Energy deposited--->" << " " << edep << " "
        << "Kinetic Energy --->" << " " << kineticEnergy << " " << G4endl;
}
```

**And even more slides...**

# Histograms API (1)

- Support **linear** and **log** scales and **irregular** bins
- **CreateH2()** for 2D histograms

```
G4int CreateH1(const G4String& name, const G4String& title,  
              G4int nbins, G4double xmin, G4double xmax,  
              const G4String& unitName = "none",  
              const G4String& fcnName = "none",  
              const G4String& binSchemeName = "linear");
```

```
G4int CreateH1(const G4String& name, const G4String& title,  
              const std::vector<G4double>& edges,  
              const G4String& unitName = "none",  
              const G4String& fcnName = "none");
```



# Histograms API (2)

- You can **change parameters** of an existing histogram
- You can **fill** with a **weight**
- Methods to **scale**, retrieve, get rms and mean

```
G4bool SetH1Title(G4int id, const G4String& title);  
G4bool SetH1XAxisTitle(G4int id, const G4String& title);  
G4bool SetH1YAxisTitle(G4int id, const G4String& title);  
  
G4bool FillH1(G4int id, G4double value, G4double weight = 1.0);  
  
G4bool ScaleH1(G4int id, G4double factor);  
  
G4int GetH1Id(const G4String& name, G4bool warn = true) const;
```

# Introduction: data analysis with Geant4

- For a long time, Geant4 did not attempt to provide/support **any data analysis** tools
  - The **focus** was given (and is given) to the **central mission** as a **Monte Carlo simulation** toolkit
  - As a general rule, the **user** is **expected** to provide her/his own **code** to **output results** to an appropriate analysis format
- **Basic classes** for **data analysis** have recently been implemented in Geant4 (g4analysis)
  - Support for **histograms** and **ntuples**
  - Output in **ROOT**, **XML**, **HBOOK** and **CSV** (ASCII)
  - Appropriate only for **easy/quick analysis**: for advanced tasks, the users must write their own code and to use an external analysis tool

# Introduction: how to write simulation results

- Formatted (= human-readable) **ASCII files**
  - **Simplest** possible approach is **comma-separated values** (.csv) files
  - The resulting files can be opened and analyzed by tools such as: Matlab, Python, Excel, ROOT, Gnuplot, OpenOffice, Origin, PAW, ...
- **Binary files** with complex analysis objects (Ntuples)
  - Allows to **control** what plot you want **with modular choice of conditions** and variables
    - Ex: energy of electrons knowing that (= cuts): (1) position/location, (2) angular window, (3) primary/secondary ...
  - Tools: Root , PAW, AIDA-compliant (PI, JAS3 and OpenScientist)

# Output stream (G4cout)

- **G4cout** is a **iostream** object defined by Geant4.
  - Used in the same way as standard **std::cout**
  - Output streams handled by **G4UImanager**
  - **G4endl** is the equivalent of **std::endl** to end a line
- Output strings may be displayed in another window (Qt GUI) or redirected to a file
- You can also use the file stream (**std::ofstream**) provided by the **C++ libraries**



# Example: Output on screen

```
void SteppingAction::UserSteppingAction(const G4Step* aStep)
{
    // Collect data
    G4Track* theTrack = aStep->GetTrack();
    G4DynamicParticle* particle = theTrack->GetDynamicParticle();
    G4ParticleDefinition* parDef = particle->GetDefinition();

    G4double edep = aStep->GetTotalEnergyDeposit();
    G4double particleCharge = particle->GetCharge();
    G4double kineticEnergy = theTrack->GetKineticEnergy();

    // The output
    G4cout
        << "Energy deposited--->" << " " << edep << "
        << "Charge--->" << " " << particleCharge << " "
        << "Kinetic Energy --->" << " " << kineticEnergy << " " << G4endl;
}
```

# Output on screen – an example

Begin of Event: 0

Energy deposited---	9.85941e-22	Charge---	6	Kinetic energy---	160
Energy deposited---	8.36876	Charge---	6	Kinetic energy---	151.631
Energy deposited---	8.63368	Charge---	6	Kinetic energy---	142.998
Energy deposited---	5.98509	Charge---	6	Kinetic energy---	137.012
Energy deposited---	4.73055	Charge---	6	Kinetic energy---	132.282
Energy deposited---	0.0225575	Charge---	6	Kinetic energy---	132.254
Energy deposited---	1.47468	Charge---	6	Kinetic energy---	130.785
Energy deposited---	0.0218983	Charge---	6	Kinetic energy---	130.76
Energy deposited---	5.22223	Charge---	6	Kinetic energy---	125.541
Energy deposited---	7.10685	Charge---	6	Kinetic energy---	118.434
Energy deposited---	6.62999	Charge---	6	Kinetic energy---	111.804
Energy deposited---	6.50997	Charge---	6	Kinetic energy---	105.294
Energy deposited---	6.28403	Charge---	6	Kinetic energy---	99.0097
Energy deposited---	5.77231	Charge---	6	Kinetic energy---	93.2374
Energy deposited---	5.2333	Charge---	6	Kinetic energy---	88.0041
Energy deposited---	3.9153	Charge---	6	Kinetic energy---	84.0888
Energy deposited---	14.3767	Charge---	6	Kinetic energy---	69.7121
Energy deposited---	14.3352	Charge---	6	Kinetic energy---	55.3769