

Geant4 physics

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A lot of material by G.A.P. Cirrone and J. Pipek

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Mandatory (and optional) user classes

At initialization

At execution

G4VUserDetectorConstruction

G4VUserPhysicsList

G4VUserActionInitialization

main()
function

G4VUserPrimaryGeneratorAction

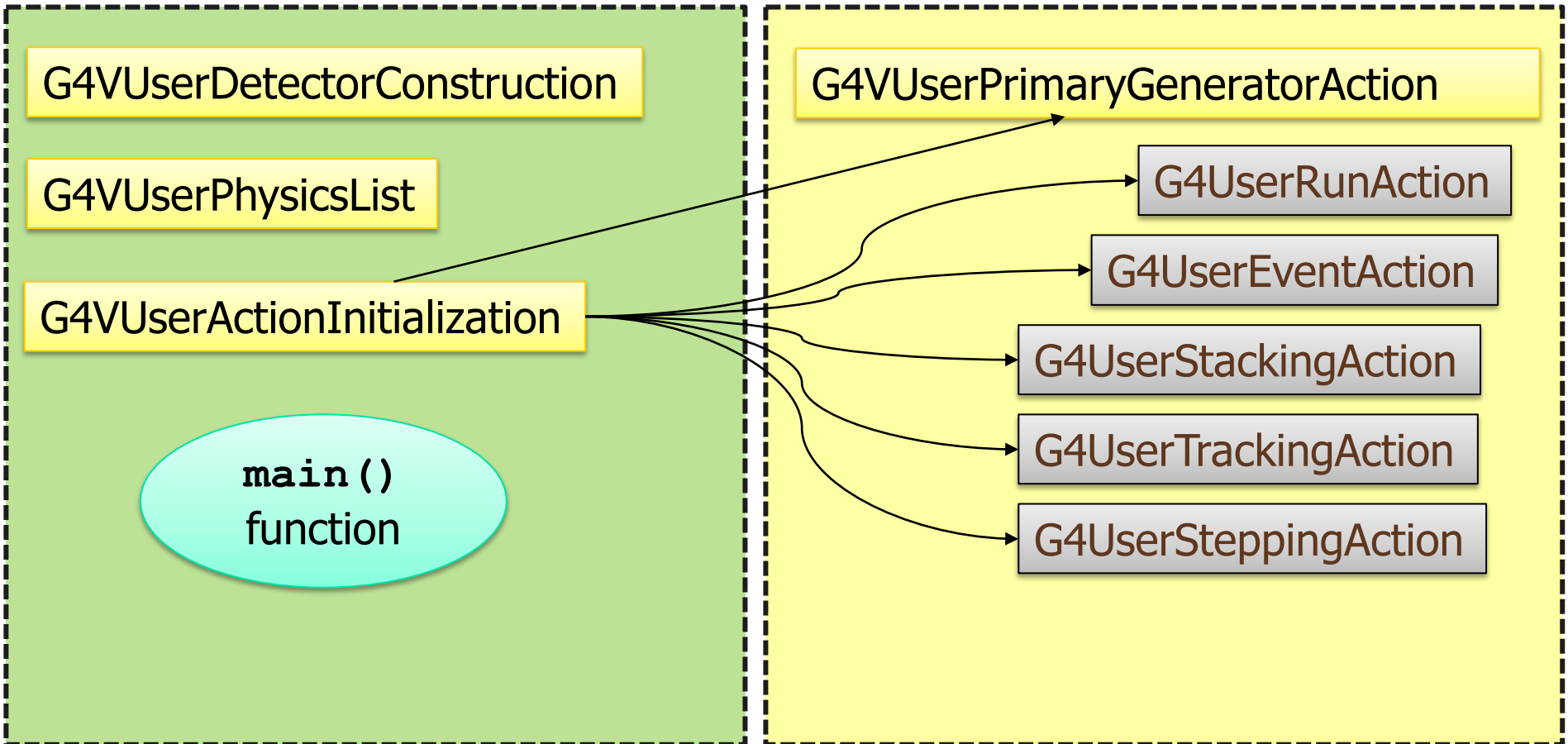
G4UserRunAction

G4UserEventAction

G4UserStackingAction

G4UserTrackingAction

G4UserSteppingAction



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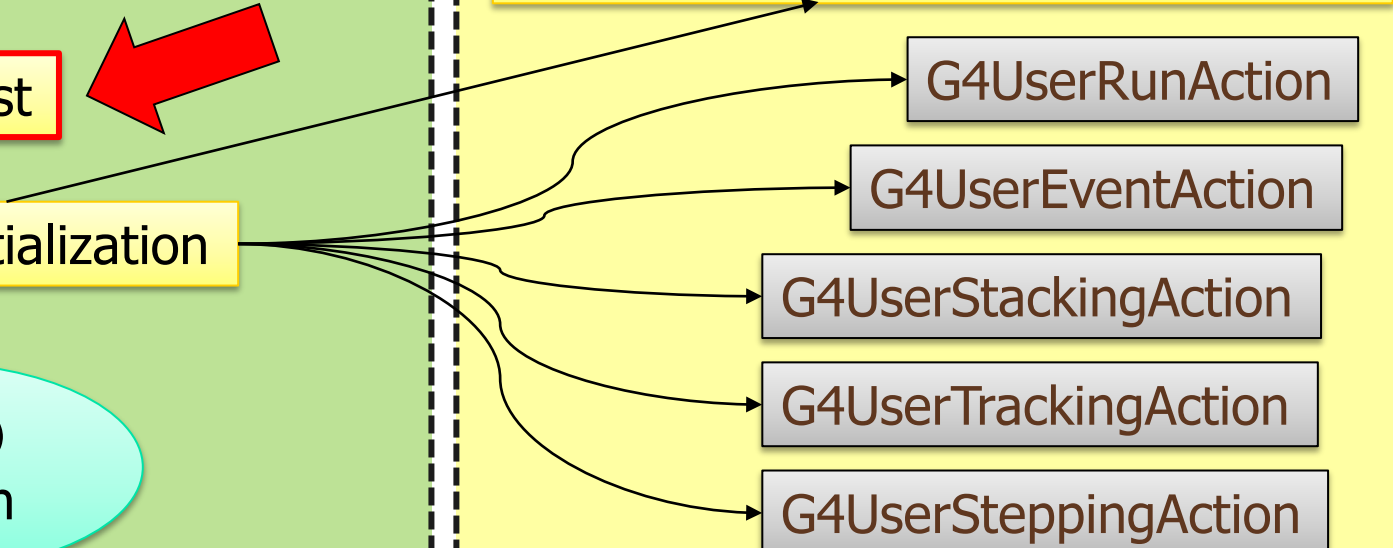
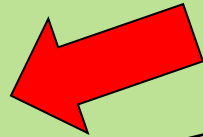
G4UserRunAction

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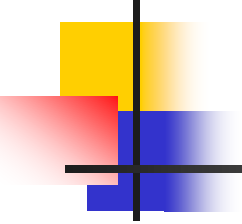
G4UserSteppingAction





Outlook

- Physics in Geant4 – motivation
- Particles & processes
- Physics lists
- Production cuts
- Electromagnetic/hadronic physics



“Shouldn't there be just one universal and complete physics description?”

No.



Physics – the challenge

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

Solution: Atomistic approach with modular **physics lists**



Part I: Particles and Processes



Particles: basic concepts

- There are three levels of class to describe particles in Geant4:
- **G4ParticleDefinition**
 - Particle **static properties**: name, mass, spin, PDG number, etc.
- **G4DynamicParticle**
 - Particle **dynamic state**: energy, momentum, polarization, etc.
- **G4Track**
 - Information for tracking **in a detector simulation**: position, step, current volume, track ID, parent ID, etc.



Particles in Geant4

- Particle Data Group (PDG) particles
- Optical photons (different from gammas!)
- Special particles: geantino and charged geantino
 - Only transported in the geometry (no interactions)
 - Charged geantino also feels the EM fields
- Short-lived particles ($\tau < 10^{-14}$ s) are not transported by Geant4 (*decay applied*)
- Light ions (as deuterons, tritons, alphas)
- Heavier ions represented by a single class: G4Ions

| 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) |



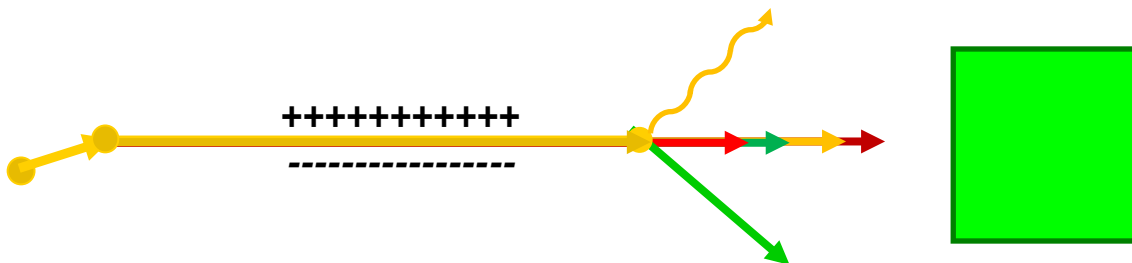
Processes

How do particles interact with materials?

- Responsibilities:
 - decide **when** and **where** an **interaction** occurs
 - GetPhysicalInteractionLength...() → **limit the step**
 - this requires a **cross section**
 - for the transportation process, the **distance** to the **nearest object**
 - **generate** the **final state** of the interaction
 - changes **momentum**, generates **secondaries**, etc.
 - method: DoIt...()
 - this requires **a model of the physics**

Geant4 transportation in one slide

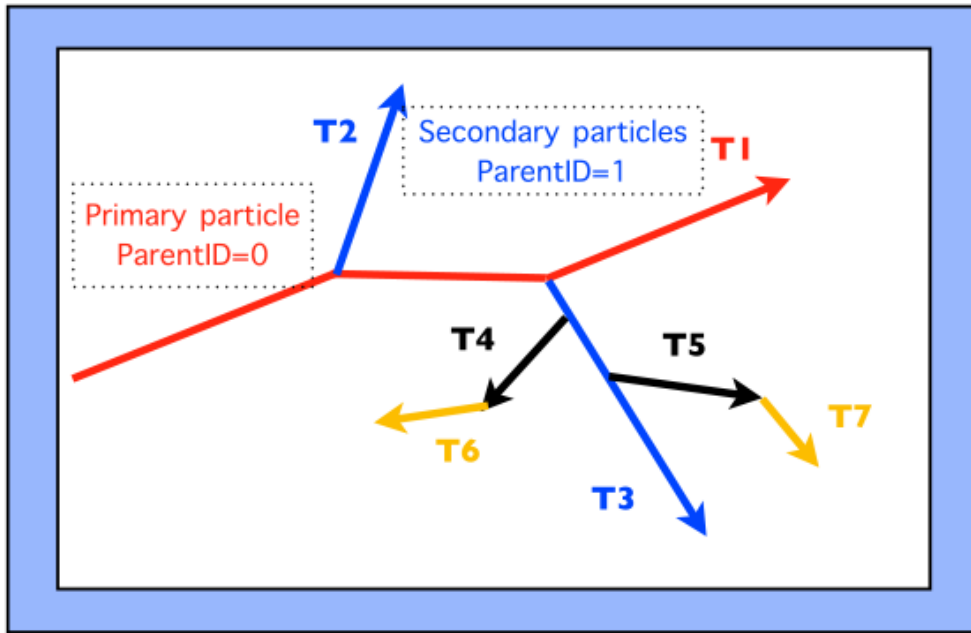
1. a particle is shot and "transported"
2. all processes associated to the particle propose a geometrical step length ←
3. the process proposing the shortest step "wins" and the particle is moved to destination (if shorter than "Safety")
4. **all** processes along the step are executed (e.g. ionization)
5. post step phase of the process that limited the step is executed
 - New tracks are "pushed" to the stack
 - Dynamic properties are updated
6. if $E_{\text{kin}}=0$ all at rest processes are executed; if particle is stable the track is **killed**
- Else
7. new step starts and sequence repeats...





Part II: Tracking and cuts

Geant4 way of tracking



- **Force step** at geometry boundaries
- All **AlongStep** processes **co-work**, the **PostStep** **complete** (= 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:
T1 → T3 → T5 → T7 → T4 → T6 → T2

Tracking verbosity

UI command: `/tracking/verbose 1`

Primary γ

```
*****  
* G4Track Information: Particle = gamma, Track ID = 1, Parent ID = 0  
*****
```

| Step# | X (mm) | Y (mm) | Z (mm) | KinE (MeV) | dE (MeV) | StepLeng | TrackLeng | NextVolume | ProcName |
|----------------|--------|--------|--------|------------|----------|----------|-----------|------------|----------|
| 0 | 47.4 | -53 | -150 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Envelope | initStep |
| 1 | 47.4 | -53 | -58 | 0.844 | 0 | 92 | 92 | Envelope | compt |
| 2 | -46 | 15.9 | 5.55 | 0.47 | 0 | 132 | 224 | Envelope | compt |
| 3 | -100 | 6.37 | -3.62 | 0.47 | 0 | 55.6 | 280 | World | |
| Transportation | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | -120 | 2.84 | -7.02 | 0.47 | 0 | 20.6 | 301 | OutOfWorld | |
| Transportation | | | | | | | | | |

Compton e^-

```
*****  
* G4Track Information: Particle = e-, Track ID = 3, Parent ID = 1  
*****
```

| Step# | X (mm) | Y (mm) | Z (mm) | KinE (MeV) | dE (MeV) | StepLeng | TrackLeng | NextVolume | ProcName |
|-------|--------|--------|--------|------------|----------|----------|-----------|------------|----------|
| 0 | -46 | 15.9 | 5.55 | 0.375 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Envelope | initStep |
| 1 | -46.1 | 16.4 | 5.98 | 0.0482 | 0.327 | 1.16 | 1.16 | Envelope | eIoni |
| 2 | -46.1 | 16.3 | 5.98 | 0 | 0.0482 | 0.0408 | 1.2 | Envelope | eIoni |



Geant4 production cuts

- 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** → "**range production threshold**"
 - i.e. cuts deciding whether a **secondary** particle to be **produced** or not
 - AlongStep vs. PostStep
 - Applies **only** to: γ from **bremsstrahlung**, e^- from **ionization** and low-energy **protons** from **hadronic elastic scattering**
 - This threshold is a **distance**, not an energy
 - Particles unable to travel at least the range cut value are **not produced**
- **One production threshold** is uniformly set
 - Sets the "**spatial accuracy**" of the simulation
- Production threshold is **internally converted** to the **energy threshold**, depending on *particle* type and *material*

Production cut

- Key ingredient of the mixed MC: **threshold**

the best compromise



*need to go low enough to
get the physics you're
interested in*

*can't go too low because some
processes have infrared divergence
causing huge CPU time*



Cuts – UI commands

```
# Universal cut (whole world, all particles)
/run/setCut 10 mm

# Override low-energy limit
/cuts/setLowEdge 100 eV

# Set cut for a specific particle (whole world)
/run/setCutForAGivenParticle gamma 0.1 mm

# Set cut for a region (all particles)
/run/setCutForARegion myRegion 0.01 mm

# Print a summary of particles/regions/cuts
/run/dumpCouples
```



Part III: Physics lists & Co.

A physics list: what it is, what it does



- One instance per application
 - registered to run manager in `main()`
 - inheriting from `G4VUserPhysicsList`
- Responsibilities
 - all particle types (electron, proton, gamma, ...)
 - all processes (photoeffect, bremsstrahlung, ...)
 - all process parameters (...)
 - production cuts (e.g. 1 mm for electrons, ...)



G4VUserPhysicsList

- All **physics lists** **must** derive from this class
 - And then be **registered** to the G4(MT)RunManager
 - **Mandatory** class in Geant4

```
class MyPhysicsList: public G4VUserPhysicsList {
public:
MyPhysicsList();
~MyPhysicsList();
void ConstructParticle();
void ConstructProcess();
void SetCuts();
}
```

- User **must implement** the following (purely virtual) **methods**:
 - `ConstructParticle()`, `ConstructProcess()`
- **Optional Virtual method**:
 - `SetCuts()` (used to be purely virtual up to 10.2)

Three ways to get a physics list



- **Manual:** Write your own class, to specify all particles & processes that may occur in the simulation (**very flexible, but difficult**)
- **Physics constructors:** Combine your physics from pre-defined sets of particles and processes. Still you **define your own class** – modular physics list (**easier**)
- **Reference physics lists:** Take one of the pre-defined physics lists. You **don't create any class** (**easy**)

Derived class from 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

G4VUserPhysicsList: implementation



- **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

G4VModularPhysicsList

- Similar structure as **G4VUserPhysicsList** (same methods to override – though not necessary):

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

Differences to “manual” way:

- Particles and processes typically handled by **physics constructors** (still customizable)
- **Transportation** automatically included



Physics constructors (1)

- **"Building blocks"** of a modular physics list
- Inherit from **G4VPhysicsConstructor**
- Defines **ConstructParticle()** and **ConstructProcess()**
 - to be fully imported **in modular list** (behaving in the same way)
- **GetPhysicsType()**
 - enables **switching physics** of the same type, if possible (see next slide)



Physics constructors (2)

- 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** (*of course*) by **inheriting** from the **G4VPhysicsConstructor** class

Code: `$G4INSTALL/source/physics_lists/constructors`

How to use physics constructors

Add **physics constructor** in the class **constructor**:

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

This **already works** and no further method overriding is necessary 😊



Replace physics constructors

You can **add** or **remove** the physics constructors after the list instance is created:

- e.g. in response to **UI command**
- only **before initialization**
- physics of the same type can be **replaced**

```
void MyModularList::SelectAlternativePhysics() {  
    AddPhysics(new G4OpticalPhysics);  
    RemovePhysics(fDecayPhysics);  
    ReplacePhysics(new G4EmLivermorePhysics);  
}
```



Reference physics lists

- Pre-defined ("plug-and-play") physics lists
 - already containing a **complete set** of particles & processes (that work together)
 - **targeted** at specific area of interest (HEP, medical physics, ...)
 - constructed as **modular physics lists**, built on top of **physics constructors**
 - **customizable** (by calling appropriate methods before initialization)



Using a reference physics list

- Super-easy: in the `main()` function, just register an instance of the physics list to the **G4 (MT) RunManager**:

```
#include "QGSP_BERT.hh"

int main() {
    // Run manager
    auto* runManager = G4RunManagerFactory::CreateRunManager();
    // ...
    G4VUserPhysicsList* physics = new QGSP_BERT();
    // Here, you can customize the "physics" object
    runManager->SetUserInitialization(physics);
    // ...
}
```

The complete lists of Reference Physics List

`$G4INSTALL/source/physics_lists/lists`

`FTF_BIC.hh`

`FTFP_BERT.hh`

`FTFP_BERT_HP.hh`

`FTFP_BERT_TRV.hh`

`FTFP_INCLXX.hh`

`FTFP_INCLXX_HP.hh`

`G4GenericPhysicsList.hh`

`G4PhysListFactoryAlt.hh`

`G4PhysListFactory.hh`

`G4PhysListRegistry.hh`

`G4PhysListStamper.hh`

`INCLXXPhysicsListHelper.hh`

`LBE.hh`

`NuBeam.hh`

`QBBC.hh`

`QGS_BIC.hh`

`QGSP_BERT.hh`

`QGSP_BERT_HP.hh`

`QGSP_BIC_AllHP.hh`

`QGSP_BIC.hh`

`QGSP_BIC_HP.hh`

`QGSP_FTFP_BERT.hh`

`QGSP_INCLXX.hh`

`QGSP_INCLXX_HP.hh`

`Shielding.hh`



[Docs](#) » Reference Physics Lists

Reference Physics Lists

A detailed description of key reference physics lists which are included within the source tree of the GEANT4 toolkit. A an incomplete selection of diverse lists is described here in terms of the components within the list and possible use cases and application domains.

Contents:

- [FTFP_BERT Physics List](#)
 - [Hadronic Component](#)

Where to find information?

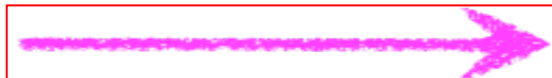
<https://geant4.web.cern.ch/support>



User Support

Submitted by Anonymous (not verified) on Wed, 06/28/2017 - 11:23

1. [Getting started](#)
2. [Training courses and materials](#)
3. [Source code](#)
 - a. [Download page](#)
 - b. [LXR code browser](#)
 - c. [doxygen documentation](#)
 - d. [GitHub](#)
 - e. [GitLab @ CERN](#)
4. [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#)
5. [Bug reports and fixes](#)
6. [User requirements tracker](#)
7. [User Forum](#)
8. [Documentation](#)
 - a. [Introduction to Geant4 \[pdf \]](#)
 - b. [Installation Guide: \[pdf \]](#)
 - c. [Application Developers \[pdf \]](#)
 - d. [Toolkit Developers Guide \[pdf \]](#)
 - e. [Physics Reference Manual \[pdf \]](#)
 - f. [Physics List Guide \[pdf \]](#)
9. [Examples](#)

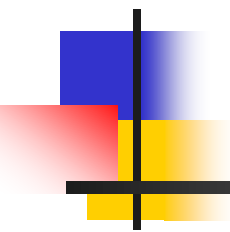




Summary – three kinds of physics lists for Geant4

- Old-style **flat physics list**
 - You code **what you want**, particle by particle and process by process
 - Very much flexible, but **not really encouraged**
- **User-custom modular physics list**
 - **Blocks** (constructors) **provided** by Geant4
 - Can register **user-custom** constructors
 - Usually the *optimal compromise* between flexibility and user-friendliness
- **Ready-for-the-use Geant4 physics list**
 - **Plug and play** (directly registered in the main!)
 - Can still register **extra constructors**

Part IV: Physics processes and models





Philosophy

- Provide a **general model framework** that allows the **implementation** of **complementary/alternative models** to **describe the same process** (e.g. Compton scattering)
 - A given **model** could work better in a certain **energy range**
- **Decouple** modeling of **cross sections** and of **final state generation**
- Provide **processes** containing
 - Many possible models and cross sections
 - Default cross sections for each model

Models under continuous development



Electromagnetic physics

Inventory (and specs) of the models for γ -rays

1 MeV γ in Al

- Many models available for each process
 - Plus one full set of polarized models
- Differ for energy range, precision and CPU speed
 - Final state generators
- Different mixtures available the Geant4 EM constructors

| Model | E_{\min} | E_{\max} | CPU |
|---------------------------------|------------|------------|-----|
| G4LivermoreRayleighModel | 100 eV | 10 PeV | 1.2 |
| G4PenelopeRayleighModel | 100 eV | 10 GeV | 0.9 |
| G4KleinNishinaCompton | 100 eV | 10 TeV | 1.4 |
| G4KleinNishinaModel | 100 eV | 10 TeV | 1.9 |
| G4LivermoreComptonModel | 100 eV | 10 TeV | 2.8 |
| G4PenelopeComptonModel | 10 keV | 10 GeV | 3.6 |
| G4LowEPComptonModel | 100 eV | 20 MeV | 3.9 |
| G4BetheHeitlerModel | 1.02 MeV | 100 GeV | 2.0 |
| G4PairProductionRelModel | 10 MeV | 10 PeV | 1.9 |
| G4LivermoreGammaConversionModel | 1.02 MeV | 100 GeV | 2.1 |
| G4PenelopeGammaConversionModel | 1.02 MeV | 10 GeV | 2.2 |
| G4PEEF fluoModel | 1 keV | 10 PeV | 1 |
| G4LivermorePhotoElectricModel | 10 eV | 10 PeV | 1.1 |
| G4PenelopePhotoElectricModel | 10 eV | 10 GeV | 2.9 |

Similar situation for e^{\pm}



EM concept

- The **same physics processes** (e.g. Compton scattering) can be described by **different models**, that can be **alternative** or **complementary** in a given energy range
- For instance: **Compton scattering** can be described by
 - `G4KleinNishinaCompton`
 - `G4LivermoreComptonModel` (specialized low-energy, based on the Livermore database)
 - `G4PenelopeComptonModel` (specialized low-energy, based on the Penelope analytical model)
 - `G4LivermorePolarizedComptonModel` (specialized low-energy, Livermore database with polarization)
 - `G4PolarizedComptonModel` (Klein-Nishina with polarization)
 - `G4LowEPComptonModel` (full relativistic 3D simulation)
- Different models can be **combined**, so that the appropriate one is used in each given energy range (→ performance optimization)

When/why to use Low Energy Models



- **Use** Low-Energy models (Livermore or Penelope), as an *alternative* to Standard models, when you:
 - need **precise treatment** of EM showers and interactions at **low-energy** (keV scale)
 - are interested in **atomic effects**, as fluorescence x-rays, Doppler broadening, etc.
 - can afford a more **CPU-intensive** simulation
 - want to **cross-check** an other simulation (e.g. with a different model)
- **Do not use** when you are interested in EM physics **> MeV**
 - same results as Standard EM models, **performance penalty**

EM Physics Constructors for Geant4 10.4 - ready-for-the-use

- G4EmStandardPhysics – default
- G4EmStandardPhysics_option1 – HEP fast but not precise
- G4EmStandardPhysics_option2 – Experimental
- G4EmStandardPhysics_option3 – medical, space
- G4EmStandardPhysics_option4 – optimal mixture for precision
- G4EmLivermorePhysics
- G4EmLivermorePolarizedPhysics
- G4EmPenelopePhysics
- G4EmLowEPPhysics
- G4EmDNAPhysics_option...

Combined Physics
Standard > 1 GeV
LowEnergy < 1 GeV

...

- Advantage of using of these classes – they are tested on regular basis and are used for regular validation



Hadronic physics

(a very quick overview)




Hadronic Physics

- Data-driven models
- Parametrised models
- Theory-driven models



Hadronic physics challenge

- Three energy regimes
 - < 100 MeV
 - resonance and cascade region (100 MeV - 10 GeV)
 - > 20 GeV (QCD strings)
- Within each regime there are several models
- Many of these are phenomenological

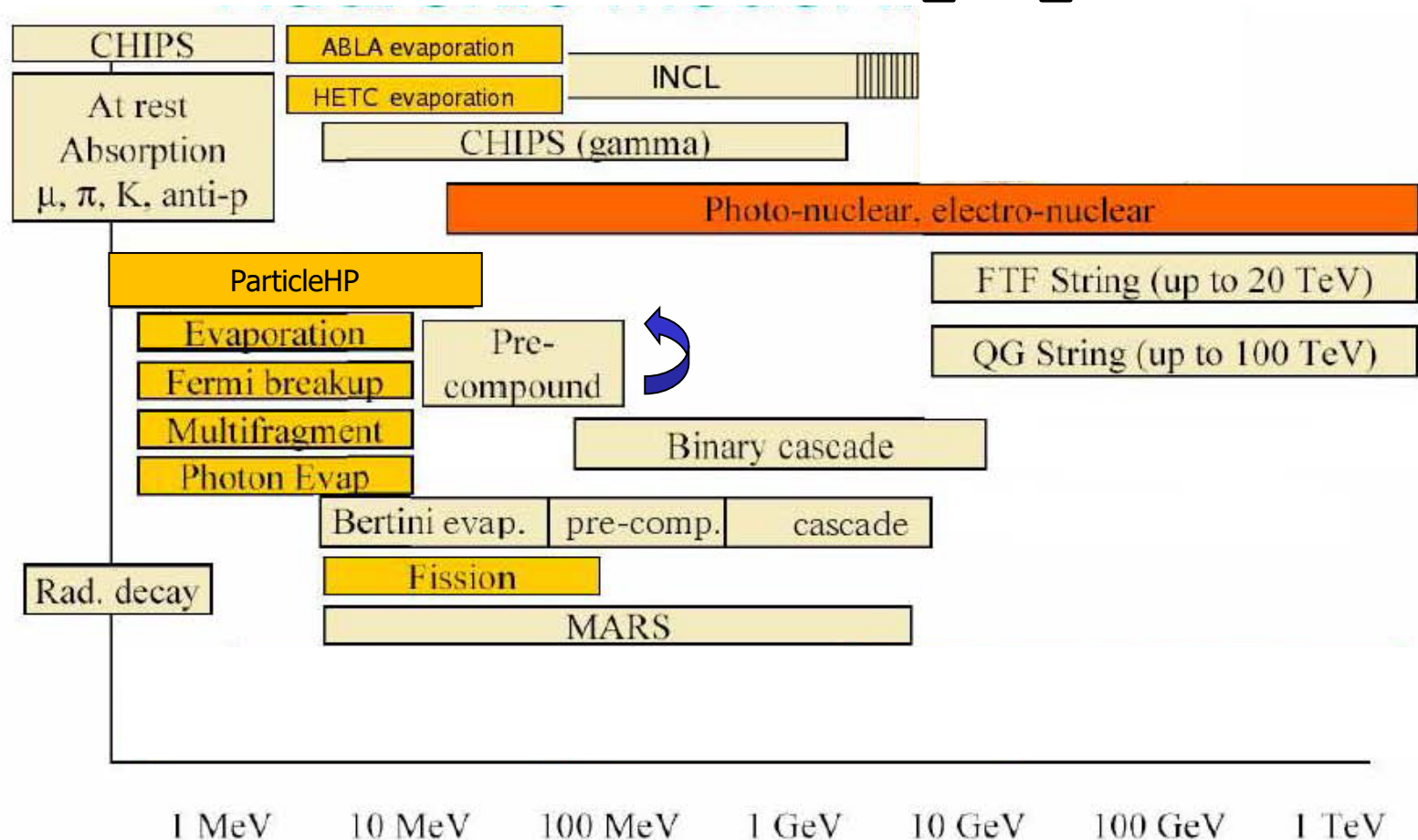


Reference physics lists for Hadronic interactions

- **Two families** of builders for the high-energy part (p, n, π and K)
 - **QGS**, or list based on a model that use **the Quark Gluon String model** for high energy hadronic interactions
 - **FTF**, based on the FTF (FRITIOF like string model)
- **Three families** for the **cascade** energy range
 - **BIC**, binary cascade
 - **BERT**, Bertini cascade
 - **INCLXX**, Liege Intranuclear cascade model
- "High precision" (**HP**) option, below 20 MeV
 - Database tracking for **n, p, d, t, ^3He and α**
 - Data from ENDFVII.r1 or TENDL-2014
 - CPU-thirsty

Hadronic model inventory

http://geant4.cern.ch/support/proc_mod_catalog/models





Hands-on session

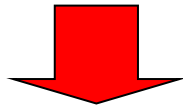
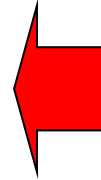
- Task3
 - Task3a: Particles and processes
 - Task3b: Physics lists
 - Task3c: Production cuts
- <http://geant4.lns.infn.it/alghero2022/task3>



Backup

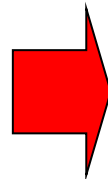
1) ConstructParticle()

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();  
}
```



2) 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);
```

3. Don't forget **transportation**.

```
AddTransportation();
```



3) SetCuts()

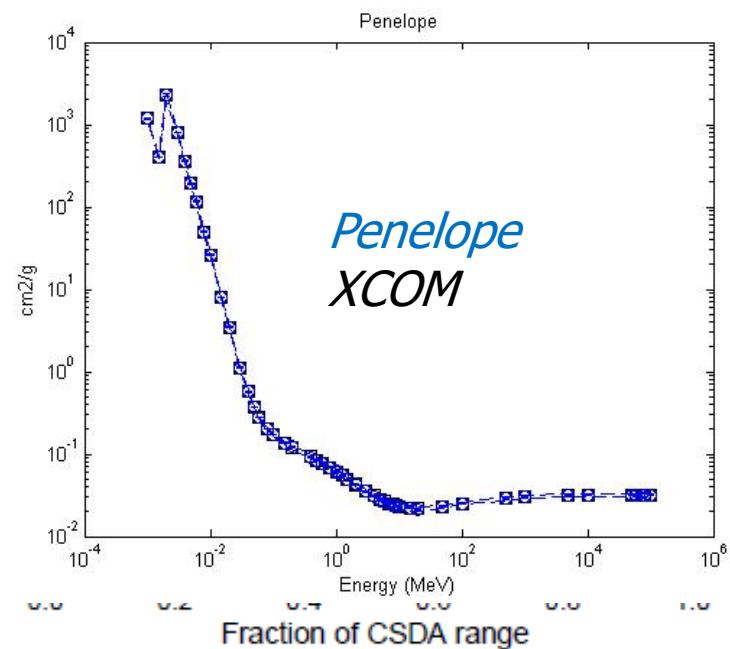
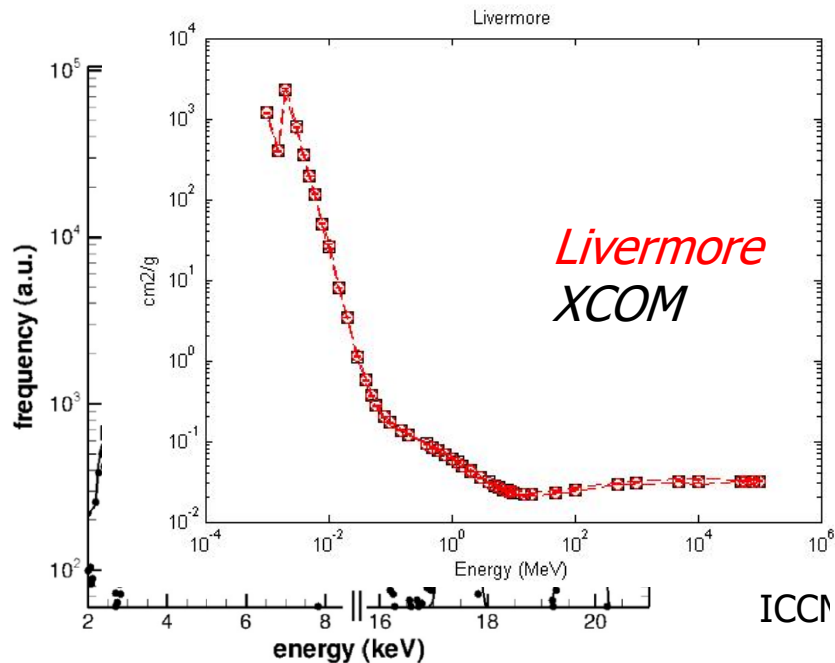
- Define all **production** cuts for **gamma**, **electrons** and **positrons**
 - Recently also for **protons**
- Notice: this is a **production cut**, not a tracking cut



Quick overview of validation

EM validation - 1

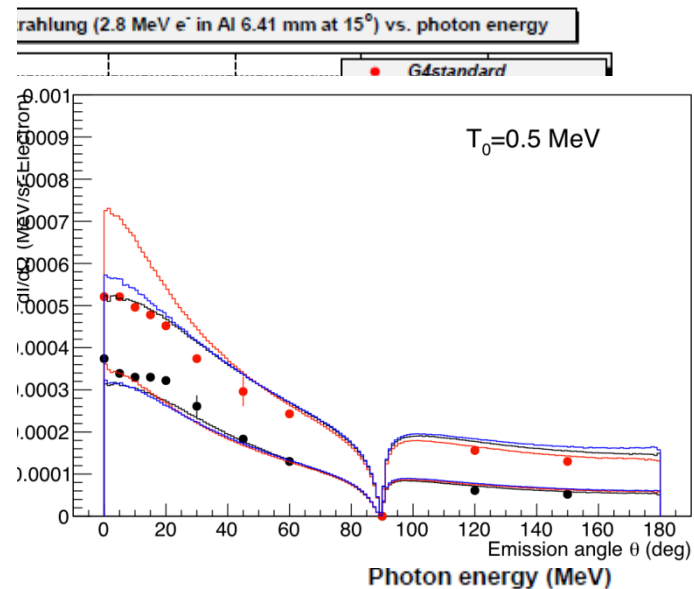
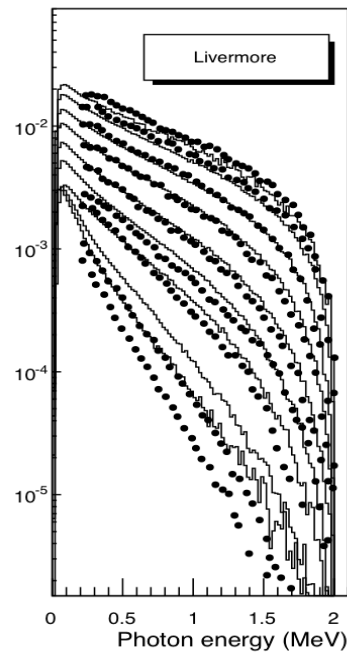
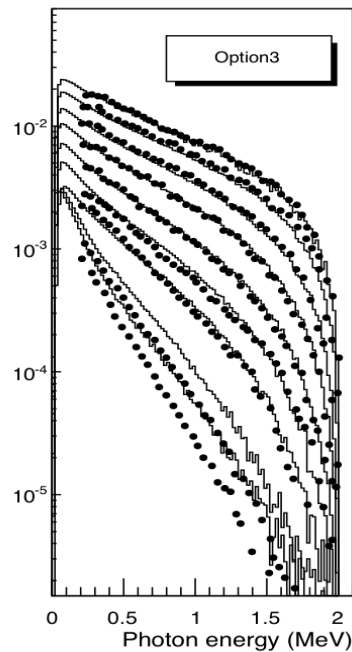
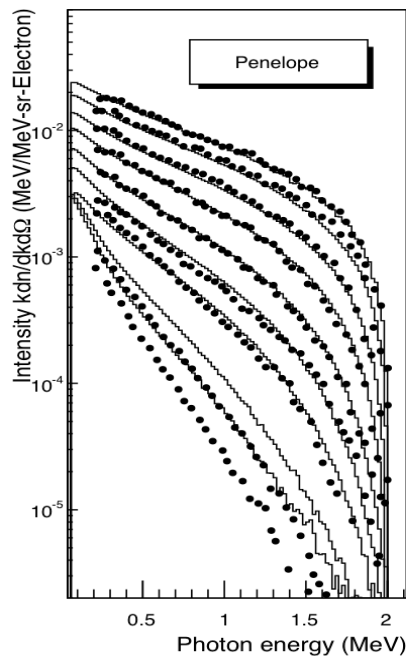
- Tens of papers and studies available
 - Geant4 Collaboration + User Community
- Results can depend on the specific observable/reference
 - Data selection and assessment critical



EM validation – 2

- In general **satisfactory agreement**
- Validation/verification **repository** available on **web**

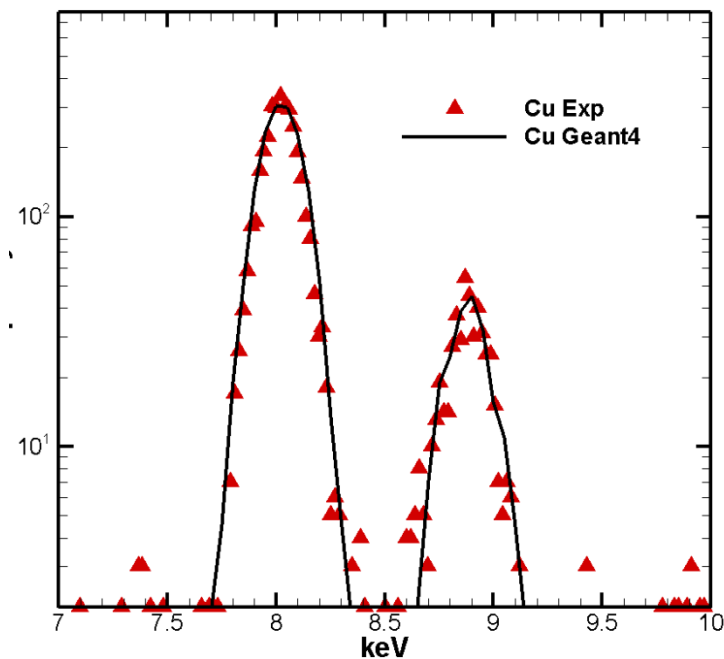
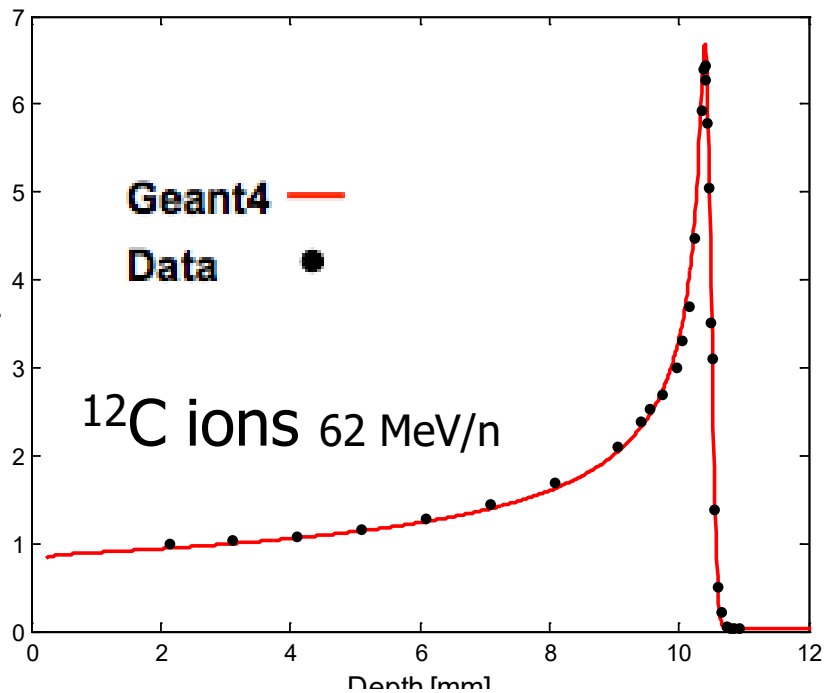
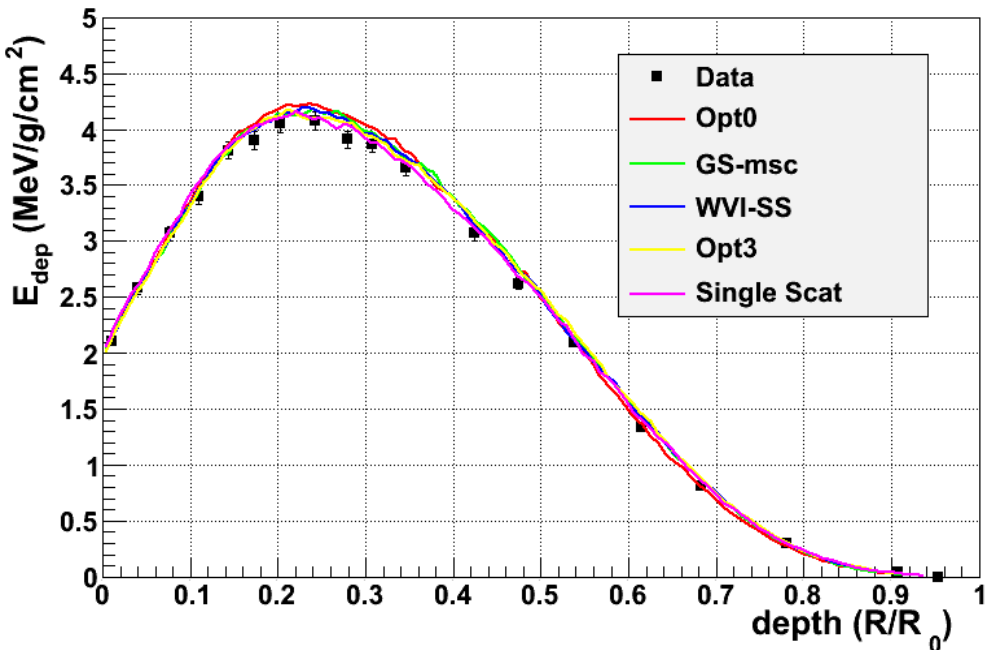
<http://cern.ch/vnivanich/verification/verification/electromagnetic/>



EM validation -

3

e- showers, longitudinal profiles





Hadronic validation

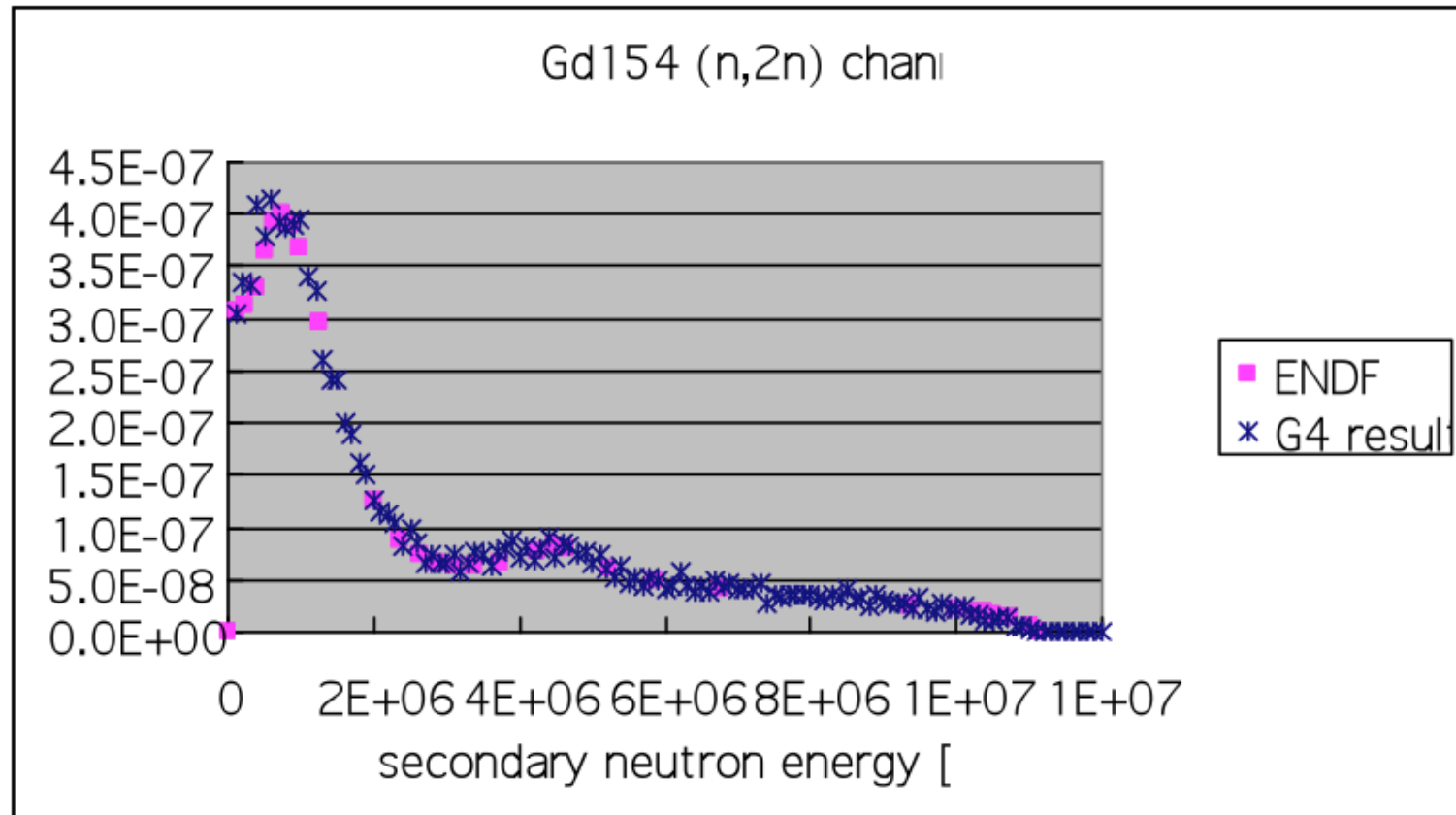
- A **website** is available to collect relevant **information** for validation of **Geant4 hadronic models** (plots, tables, references to data and to models, etc.)

`http://geant4.cern.ch/results/validation_plots.htm`

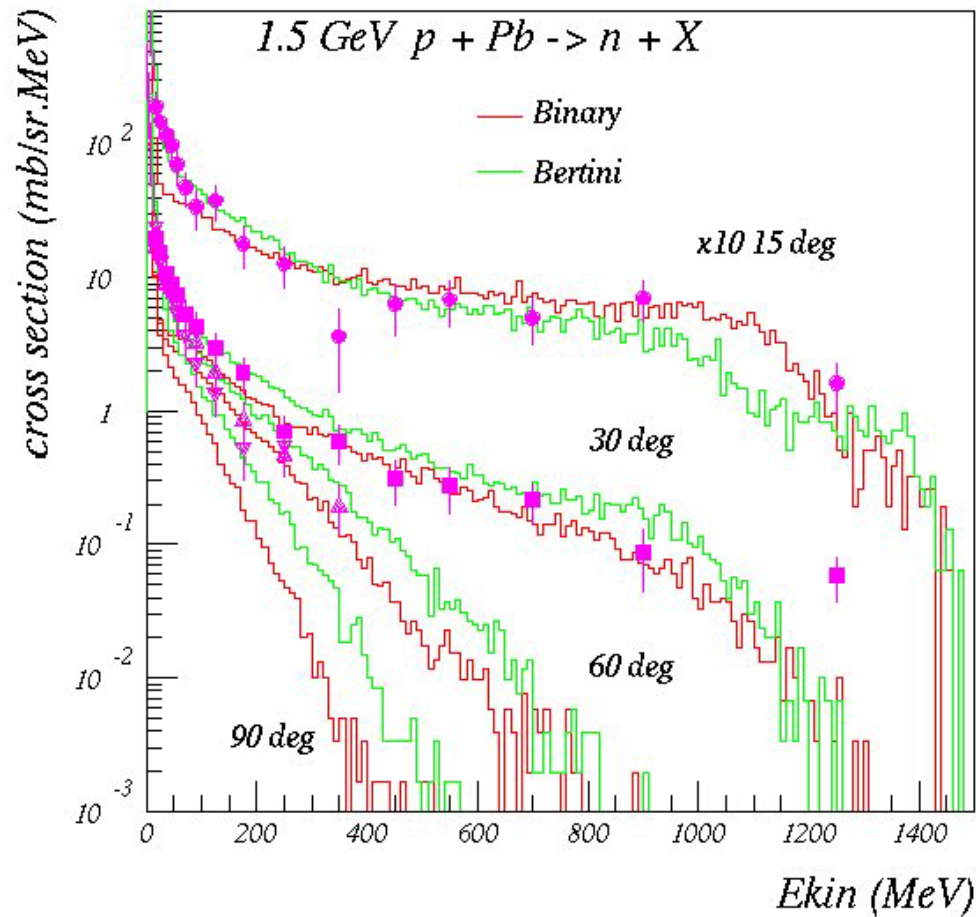
`http://g4validation.fnal.gov:8080/G4ValidationWebApp/`

- Several **physics lists** and several **use-cases** have been considered (e.g. thick target, stopped particles, low-energy)
- Includes **final states** and **cross sections**

Some verification: secondary energy spectrum

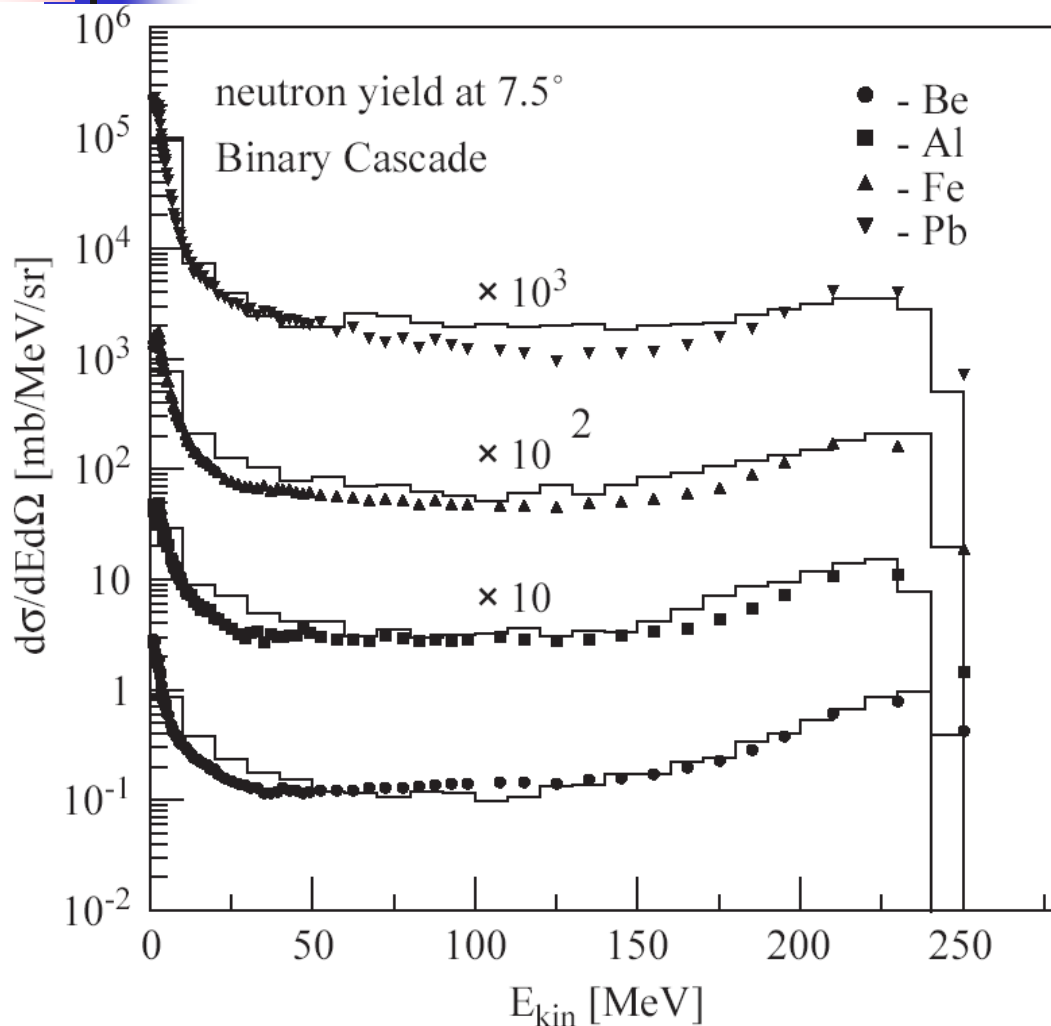


Nuclear fragmentation



Bertini and **Binary**
cascade models:
neutron production vs.
angle from 1.5 GeV
protons on Lead

Neutron production by protons



Binary cascade model:
double differential
cross-section for
neutrons produced
by 256 MeV protons
impinging on different
targets

Customizing a G4ModularPhysicsList

- You can override the `CreateParticle()`, `CreateProcess()`, and `SetCuts()` methods:

```
void MyModularList::ConstructProcess() {  
    // Call the default implementation, otherwise you break the behaviour  
    G4VModularPhysicsList::ConstructProcess();  
  
    // Add your customization  
    G4ProcessManager *elManager = G4Electron::Definition()->GetProcessManager();  
    elManager->AddDiscreteProcess(new MyElectronProcess);  
}
```



Don't
forget!

Alternative: Reference by name

- If you want to get reference physics lists by **name** (e.g. from environment variable), you can use the **G4PhysListFactory** class:

```
#include "G4PhysListFactory.hh"
int main() {
    // Run manager
    G4RunManager* runManager = new G4RunManager();
    // E.g. get the list name from environment variable
    G4String listName{ getenv("PHYSICS_LIST") };
    auto factory = new G4PhysListFactory();
    auto physics = factory->GetReferencePhysList(listName);
    runManager->SetUserInitialization(physics);
    // ...
}
```



Hands-on session

- Task3c
- `http://geant4.lngs.infn.it/munich2018/task3`



EM concept - 2

- A physical interaction or process is described by a process class
 - Naming scheme : « G4ProcessName »
 - Eg. : « G4Compton » for photon Compton scattering
- A physical process can be simulated according to several models, each model being described by a model class
 - The usual naming scheme is: « G4ModelNameProcessNameModel »
 - Eg. : « G4LivermoreComptonModel » for the Livermore Compton model
 - Models can be alternative and/or complementary on certain energy ranges
 - Refer to the Geant4 manual for the full list of available models



Cross sections

- **Default cross section sets** are provided for each type of hadronic process:
 - Fission, capture, elastic, inelastic
- Can be **overridden** or **completely replaced**
- **Different types** of cross section sets:
 - Some contain only a few numbers to **parameterize** cross section
 - Some represent large **databases** (data driven models)
- Cross section management
 - `GetCrossSection()` → sees last set loaded for energy range



Cuts per region: C++ code

```
void MyPhysicsList::SetCuts() {  
  
    // default production thresholds for the world volume  
    SetCutsWithDefault();  
  
    // Same cuts for all particle types  
    G4Region* region = G4RegionStore::GetInstance()->GetRegion("myRegion1");  
    G4ProductionCuts* cuts = new G4ProductionCuts;  
    cuts->SetProductionCut(0.01*mm); // same cuts for gamma, e-  
    region->SetProductionCuts(cuts);  
  
    // individual production thresholds for different particles  
    region = G4RegionStore::GetInstance()->GetRegion("myRegion2");  
    cuts = new G4ProductionCuts;  
    cuts->SetProductionCut(1 * mm, "gamma");  
    cuts->SetProductionCut(0.1 * mm, "e-");  
    region->SetProductionCuts(cuts);  
    // ... or (simpler)  
    SetCuts(0.01 * mm, "gamma", "absorber");  
}
```

Code Example (1/2)

```
G4ParticleDefinition* neutron=  
    G4Neutron::NeutronDefinition();  
G4ProcessManager* protonProcessManager =  
    proton->GetProcessManager();
```

} retrieve the
process
manager for
neutron

```
// Elastic scattering
```

```
G4HadronElasticProcess* neutronElasticProcess =  
    new G4HadronElasticProcess();
```

} create the
process for
elastic scattering

```
G4NeutronHPElastic* neutronElasticModel =  
    new G4NeutronHlastic();  
neutronElasticModel->SetMaxEnergy(20.*MeV);
```

} get the **HP model** for
elastic scattering

```
neutronElasticProcess->  
RegisterMe(neutronElasticModel);
```

} **register** the model to the
process

```
neutronProcessManager->  
AddDiscreteProcess(protonElasticProcess);
```

} attach the process to
neutron

Code example (2/2)

```
// Inelastic scattering
G4ProtonInelasticProcess* protonInelasticProcess
    = new G4ProtonInelasticProcess();
```

creates the
process for
inelastic
scattering

```
G4BinaryCascade* protonInelasticModel1
    = new G4BinaryCascade();
protonInelasticModel1->SetMaxEnergy(4*GeV);
protonInelasticProcess->
    RegisterMe(protonInelasticModel1);
```

gets the **Binary model** up to 4 GeV

registers model to the process

```
G4TheoFSGenerator* protonInelasticModel2 =
    new G4TheoFSGenerator("FTFB");
protonInelasticModel2->SetHighEnergyGenerator(
    new G4FTFModel);
protonInelasticModel2->SetMinEnergy(4.0*GeV);
protonInelasticProcess
```

gets the **FTF model** from 4 GeV

```
->RegisterMe(protonInelasticModel2);
```

registers model to the process

Model 1

Model 2

Example: PhysicsList, γ -rays

```
G4ProcessManager* pmanager =
    G4Gamma::GetProcessManager();
pmanager->AddDiscreteProcess(new G4PhotoElectricEffect);
pmanager->AddDiscreteProcess(new G4ComptonScattering);
pmanager->AddDiscreteProcess(new G4GammaConversion);
pmanager->AddDiscreteProcess(new G4RayleighScattering);
```

Only PostStep



- Use **AddDiscreteProcess** because γ -rays processes have **only PostStep** actions
- For each process, the **default model** is used among all the available ones (e.g. **G4KleinNishinaCompton** for **G4ComptonScattering**)



How to extract Physics ?

- Possible to **retrieve physics quantities** via **G4EmCalculator** or directly from the **physics models**
 - Physics List should be initialized
- Example for retrieving the **total cross section** (cm^{-1}) of a process with name *procName*: for particle *partName* and material *matName*

```
G4EmCalculator emCalculator;  
G4Material* material =  
    G4NistManager::Instance()->FindOrBuildMaterial("matName");  
G4double massSigma = emCalculator.ComputeCrossSectionPerVolume  
    (energy,particle,procName,material);  
G4cout << G4BestUnit(massSigma, "Surface/Volume") << G4endl;
```

A good example:

```
$G4INSTALL/examples/extended/electromagnetic/  
TestEm14
```



Alternative cross sections

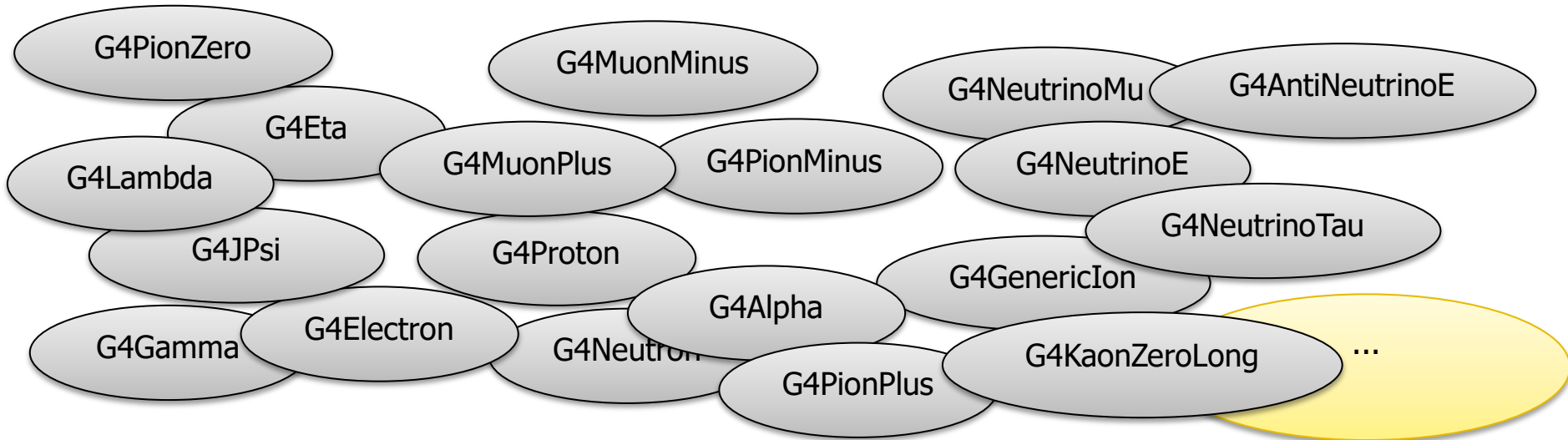
- To be used for specific applications, or for a **given particle** in a **given energy range**, for instance:
- Low energy neutrons
 - **elastic, inelastic, fission** and **capture** (< 20 MeV)
- Neutron and proton inelastic cross sections
 - $20 \text{ MeV} < E < 20 \text{ GeV}$
- Ion-nucleus reaction cross sections (several models)
 - Good for $E/A < 1 \text{ GeV}$
- Isotope production data
 - $E < 100 \text{ MeV}$
- Photo-nuclear cross sections

Information on the available cross sections at

http://geant4.cern.ch/support/proc_mod_catalog/cross_sections/

Definition of a particle

Geant4 provides **G4ParticleDefinition** daughter classes 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 particles** which are 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 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 | G4GenericIon | ion | 100ZZZAAAI* |

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

From particles to processes

G4Track

- Propagated by the tracking
- Snapshot of the particle state

G4DynamicParticle

Momentum, pre-assigned decay...

G4ParticleDefinition

The particle type: **G4Electron**, ...

G4ProcessManager

Container for all...

Process_1

...relevant processes

Process_2

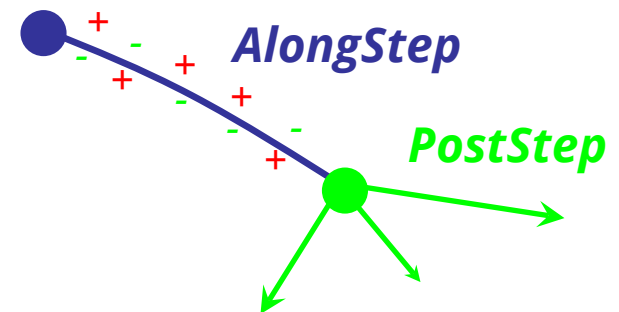
Process_3

handled by
kernel

Configured by the User
In the "physics list"

The G4VProcess

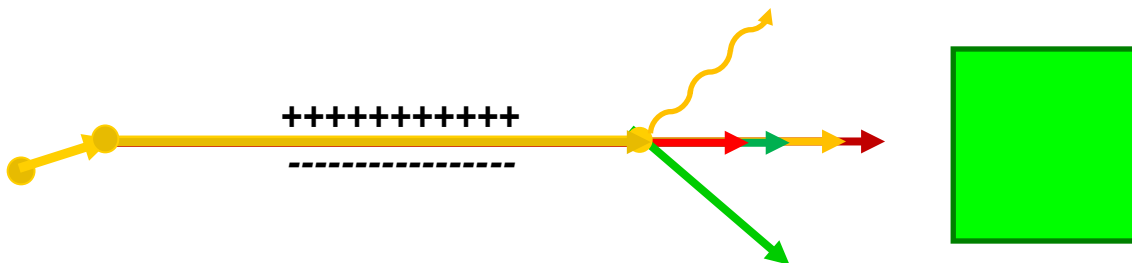
- Physics processes are derived from the **G4VProcess** base class
- Abstract class defining the **common interface** of all processes in Geant4, used by **all physics processes**
- Three kinds of "actions":
 - **AtRest** actions
 - Decays, e^+ annihilation
 - **AlongStep** actions
 - To describe continuous (inter)actions, 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**



A process can implement a combination of them (decay = AtRest + PostStep)

Geant4 transportation in one slide

1. a particle is shot and "transported"
2. all processes associated to the particle propose a geometrical step length ←
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
 - Dynamic properties are updated
6. if $E_{\text{kin}}=0$ all at rest processes are executed; if particle is stable the track is **killed**
- Else
7. new step starts and sequence repeats...



Geant4 transportation in one slide – P.S.

- Processes return a “true path length”. The multiple scattering “virtually *folds up*” this true path length into a shorter “geometrical” path length
- Transportation process can limit the step to geometrical boundaries

