

Interaction with the Geant4 kernel – part 1

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

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... User classes (cont'ed)

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



Outlook

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



Part I: The main ingredients



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** thread (for MT)



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 in Geant4
- At the beginning of processing, **primary tracks** are **generated** and they are pushed into a stack
- A track is 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)
- **G4EventManager** class manages the event
- **G4UserEventAction** is the optional User hook



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

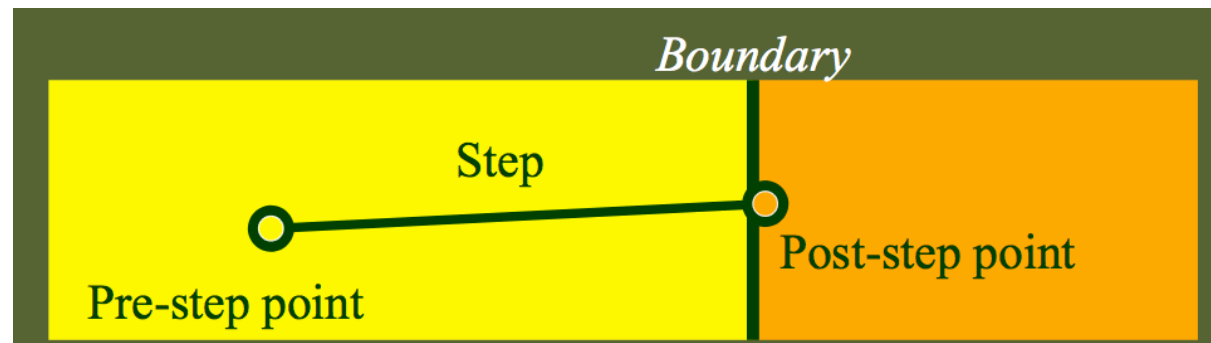


The Step (G4Step)

- **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 (*see later*)
 - **UserSteppingAction ()** of your step action class file (*see 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**



- **G4UserSteppingAction** is the optional User hook

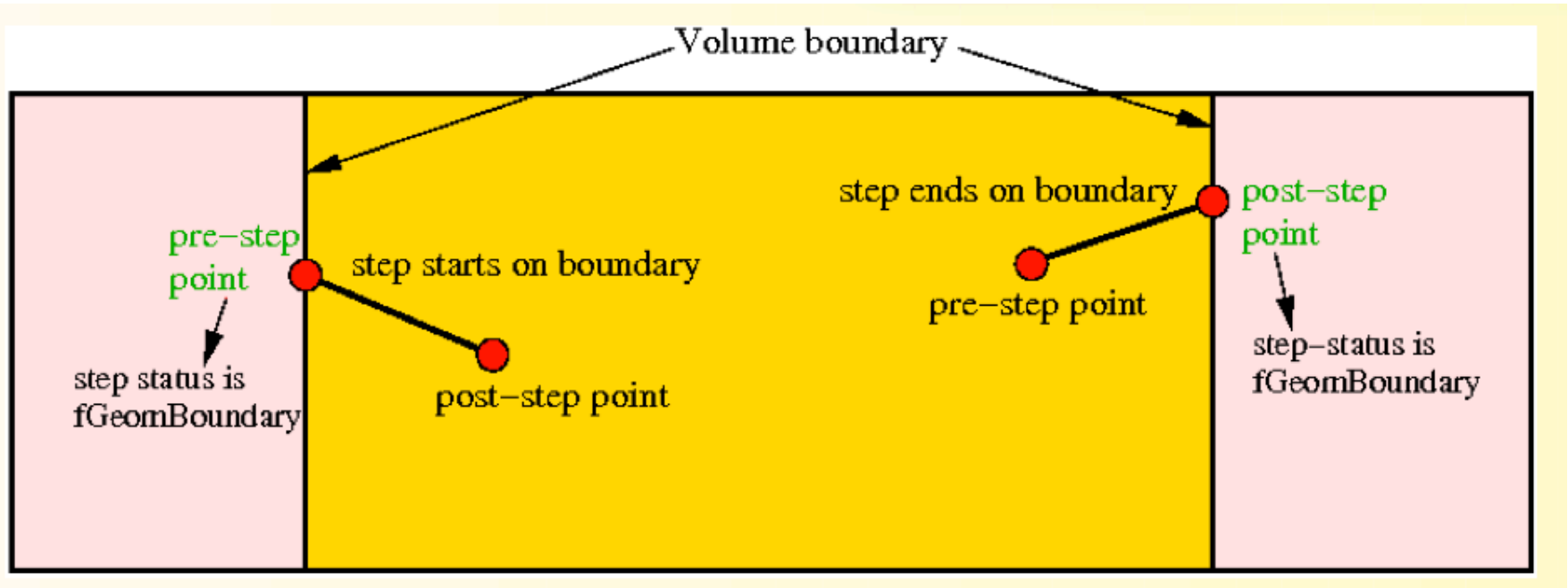


The G4Step object

- 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 information or object instances
 - `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



Example: parent track and process

```
if (track->GetTrackID() != 1)
{
    G4cout << "Particle is a secondary" << G4endl;

    if (track->GetParentID() == 1)
    {
        G4cout << "But parent was a primary" << G4endl;
    }

    // Get process information
    G4VProcess* creatorProcess = track->GetCreatorProcess();
    G4String processName = creatorProcess->GetProcessName();
    G4cout << "Particle was created by " << processName << G4endl;
}
}
```



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();
```



Example: particle info

```
// Retrieve from the current step the track (after PostStepDolt of
// step is completed):
G4Track* track = step -> GetTrack();

// From the track you can obtain the pointer to the dynamic particle:
const G4DynamicParticle* dynParticle = track -> GetDynamicParticle();

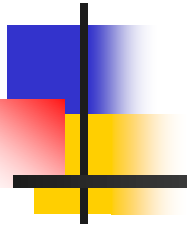
// From the dynamic particle, retrieve the particle definition:
G4ParticleDefinition* particle = dynParticle -> GetDefinition();

// The dynamic particle class contains e.g. the kinetic energy after the step:
G4double kinEnergy = dynParticle -> GetKineticEnergy();

// From the particle definition class you can retrieve static
// information like the particle name:
G4String particleName = particle -> GetParticleName();


G4cout << particleName << ": kinetic energy of "
        << (kinEnergy / MeV) << " MeV" << G4endl;
```


Part II: Optional User Action classes



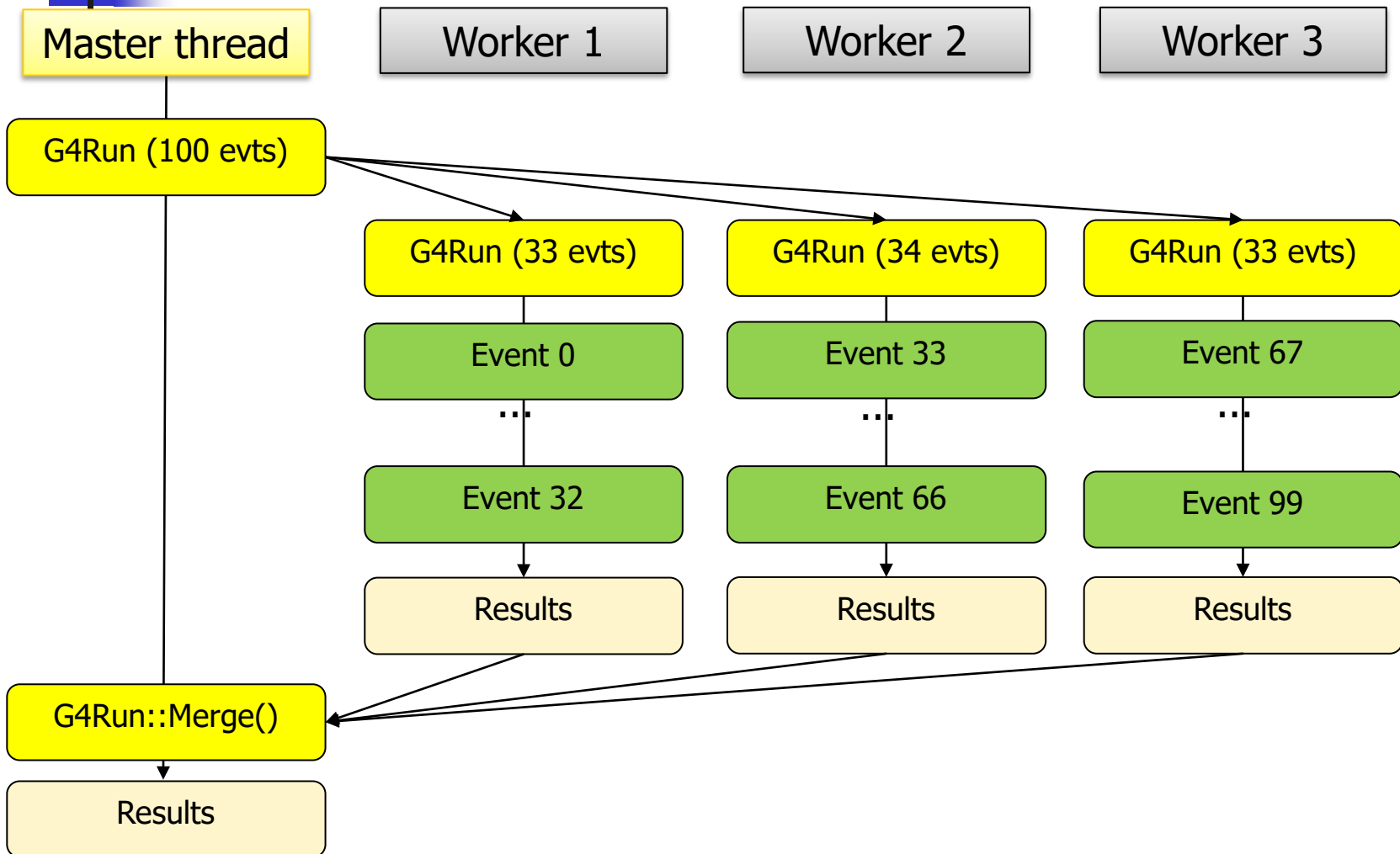


Optional user classes

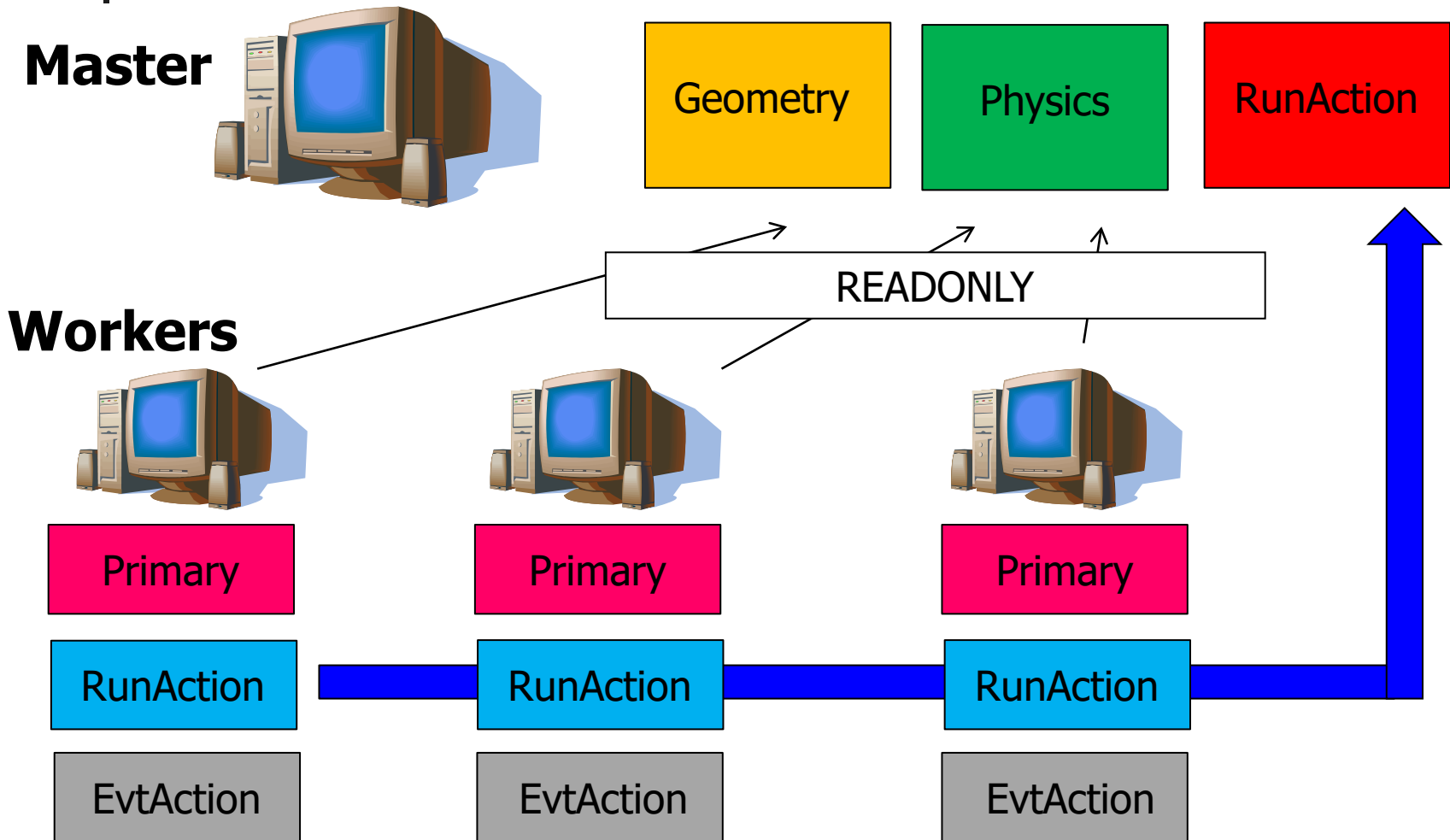
- Five **base classes** with **virtual methods** the user may override to step during the execution of the application ("user hooks")
 - G4User**Run**Action
 - G4User**Event**Action 
 - G4User**Tracking**Action
 - G4User**Stacking**Action
 - G4User**Stepping**Action

e.g. actions to be done at the **beginning** and **end** of each event
- Default implementation (**not** purely virtual): **do nothing**
- Therefore, **override** only the methods you need.

Multi-threaded processing of events



User actions in MT mode





G4UserRunAction

```
void BeginOfRunAction (const G4Run*)  
void EndOfRunAction (const G4Run*)  
G4Run* GenerateRun ()
```

Uses:

- Book/output histograms and other analysis tools
- Custom G4Run with additional information
- Define parameters





G4UserEventAction

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

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

Uses:

- Hit collection and event analysis
- Event selection
- Logging (e.g. output event number)



G4UserStackingAction

G4ClassificationOfNewTrack

ClassifyNewTrack (const **G4Track***)

void **NewStage** ()

void **PrepareNewEvent** ()

Uses:

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



G4UserTrackingAction

```
void PreUserTrackingAction (const  
    G4Track*)
```

```
void PostUserTrackingAction (const  
    G4Track*)
```

Uses:

- Track pre-selection
- Store trajectories



G4UserSteppingAction

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

Uses:

- Get information about particles
- Kill tracks under specific circumstances



Registration of user actions

- In multi-threading mode (and sequential), objects of user action classes must be **registered** to the **G4 (MT) RunManager** via a **user-defined action initialization** class

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

- In sequential mode, the actions can *also* be registered to the run manager directly (**not recommended**)

```
runManager->SetUserAction(new MyRunAction);
```

MyActionInitialization

- Register **thread-local** user actions

```
void MyActionInitialization::Build() const
{
    //Set mandatory classes
    SetUserAction(new MyPrimaryGeneratorAction());
    // Set optional user action classes
    SetUserAction(new MyEventAction());
    SetUserAction(new MyRunAction());
}
```

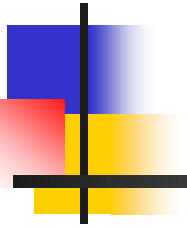
Also the primary generator

- Register RunAction for the **master** (optional)

```
void MyActionInitialization::BuildForMaster() const
{
    // Set optional user action classes
    SetUserAction(new MyMasterRunAction());
}
```

MT

Part III: Command-based scoring





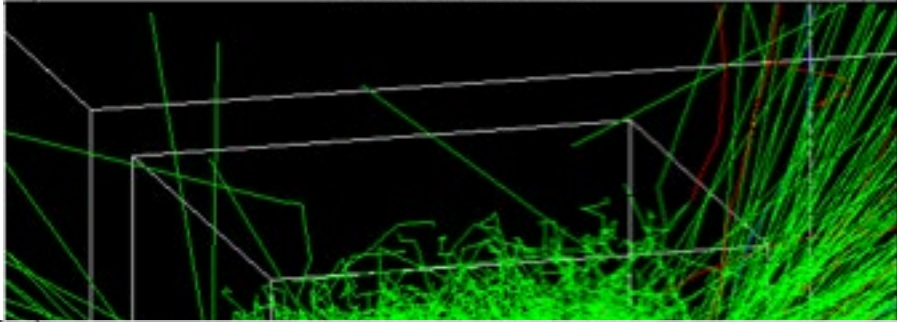
Command-based scoring

UI **commands** for scoring
→ **no C++ required**,
apart from instantiating
G4ScoringManager in
`main()`

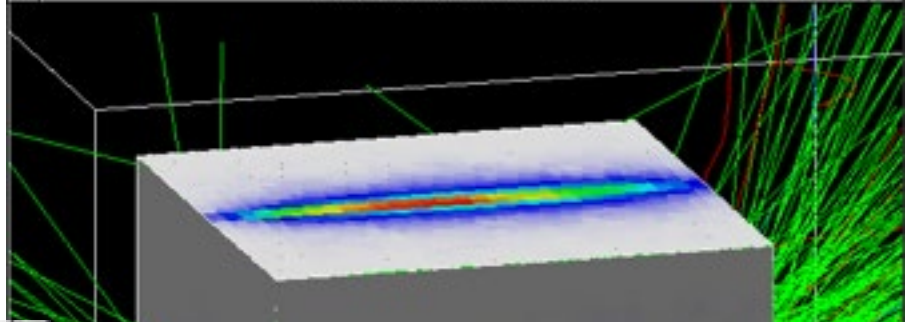
```
int main() {  
    ...  
    G4ScoringManager::GetScoringManager();  
    ...  
}
```

- 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`

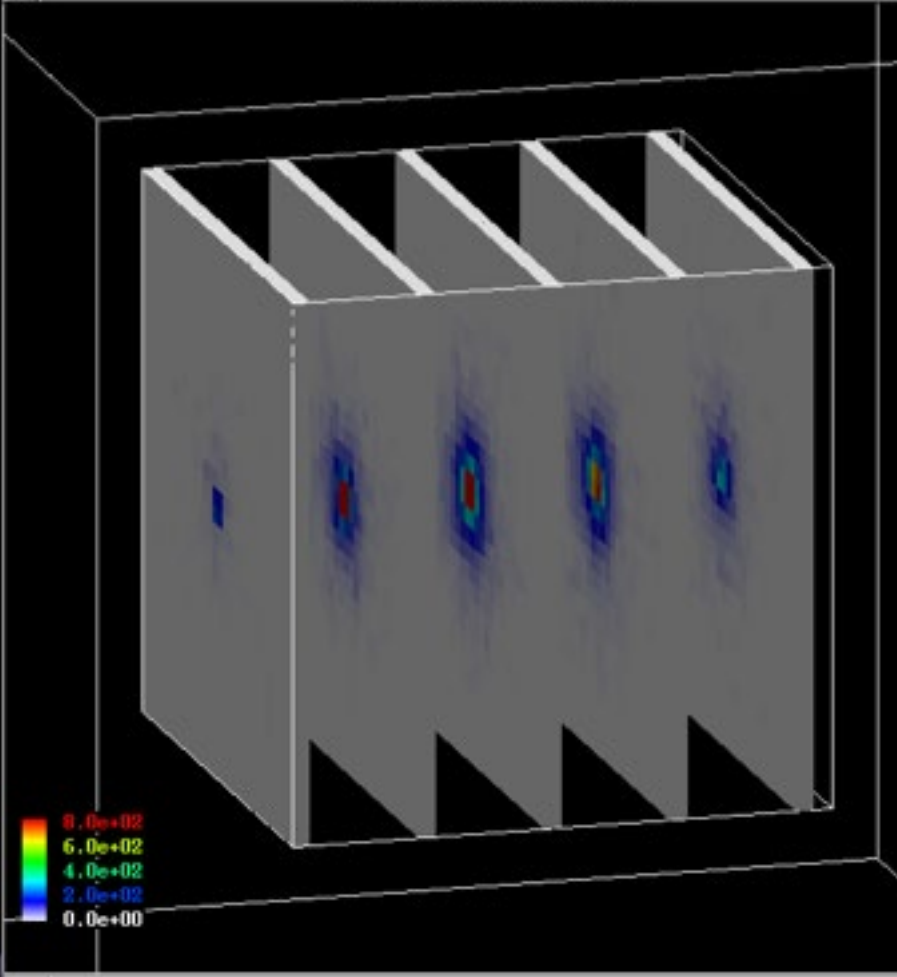
viewer-0 (OpenGLImmediateX)



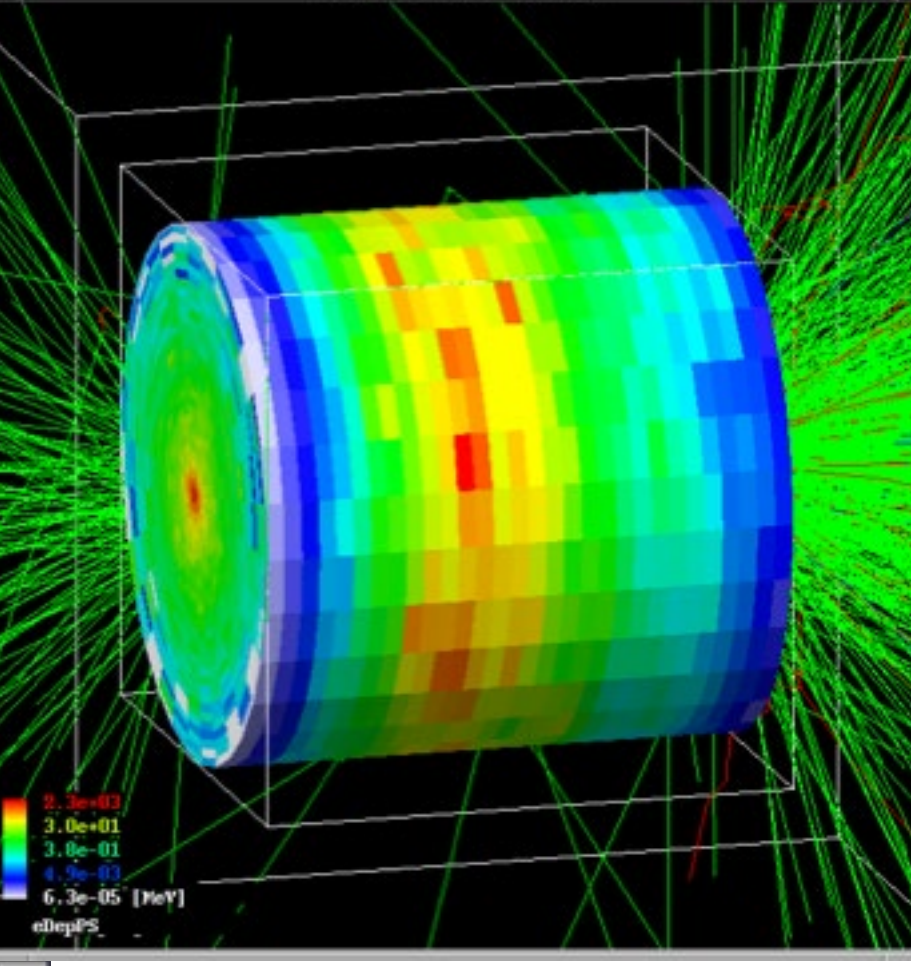
viewer-0 (OpenGLImmediateX)



viewer-0 (OpenGLImmediateX)



viewer-0 (OpenGLImmediateX)





G4analysis tools

(detached session)



Geant4 analysis classes

- A **basic analysis interface** is available in Geant4 for **histograms** (1D and 2D) and **ntuples**
 - Make life easier because they are **thread-safe**
 - **ROOT is not! Manual text output usually not!**
 - No need to worry about the interference of threads
- **Unique interface** to support different output formats
 - ROOT, AIDA XML, CSV and HBOOK
 - **Code** is the same, just change one line to switch from one to an other
- Everything done via **G4AnalysisManager**
 - **Singleton** class → use Instance()
 - **UI commands** available



g4analysis

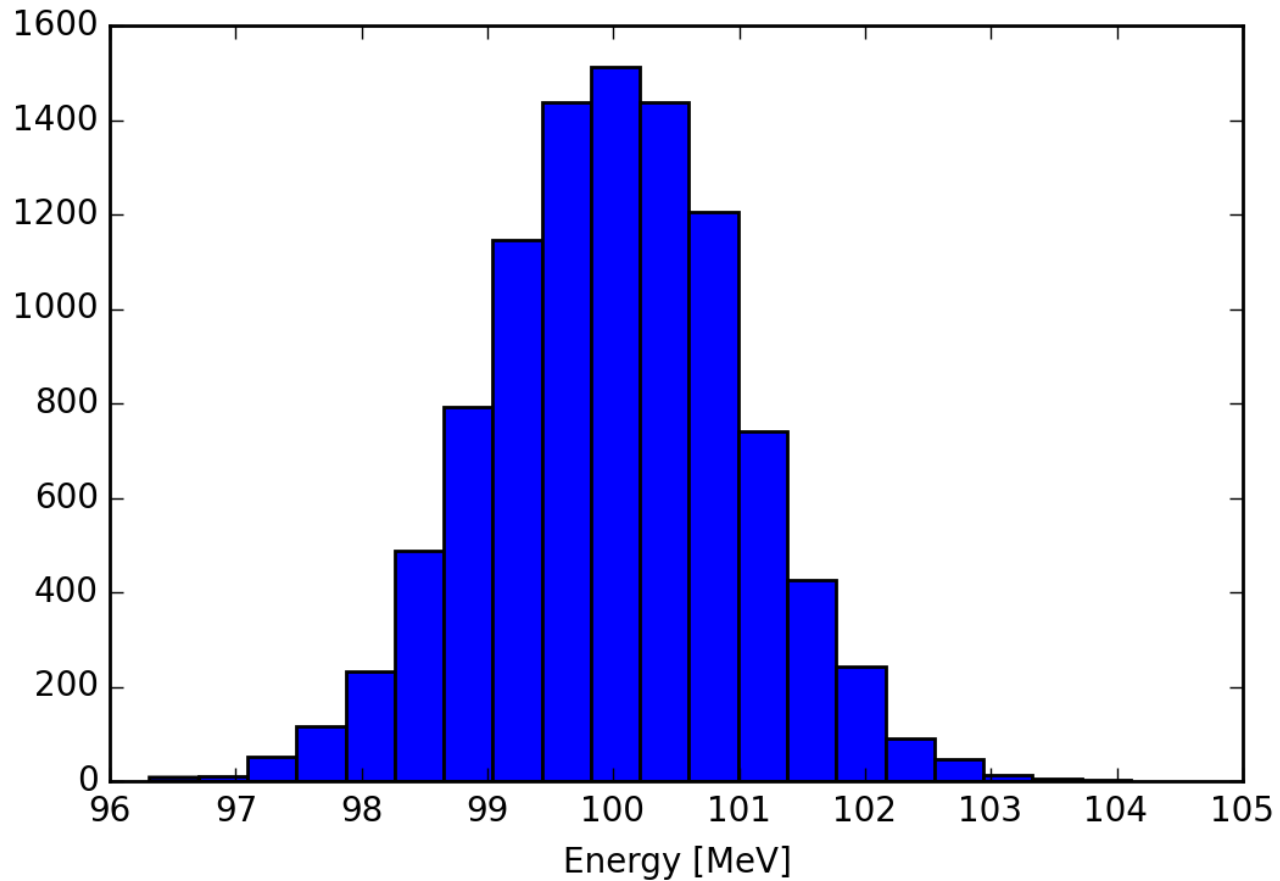
- Selection of output format is performed by including a proper **header file**
- **All** the rest of the code **unchanged**
 - Unique interface

```
#ifndef MyAnalysis_h
#define MyAnalysis_h 1
#include <G4RootAnalysisManager.hh>
#include <G4CsvAnalysisManager.hh>

// Use ROOT as output format for Geant4 analysis tools
using G4AnalysisManager = G4RootAnalysisManager;
// using G4AnalysisManager = G4CsvAnalysisManager;
#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); } ID=1
    man->CreateH1("hh","Title",100,0.,10); } ID=2

    // Open an output file
    man->OpenFile("myoutput"); } Open output file
}
```

Fill histograms and write on file

```
#include "MyAnalysis.hh"
void MyEventAction::EndOfEventAction(const G4Run* aRun)
{
    auto man = G4AnalysisManager::Instance();
    man->FillH1(1, fEnergyAbs/MeV); } ID=1
    man->FillH1(2, fEnergyGap/MeV); } ID=2
}

void MyRunAction::EndOfRunAction(const G4Run* aRun)
{
    G4AnalysisManager::Instance()->Write();
}

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



Ntuples

| EventID | 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

- g4tool supports **ntuples**
 - Any number of ntuples
 - Any number of columns per ntuple
 - Supported types are **int/float/double**
- For more complex tasks (e.g. full functionality of ROOT TTrees) have to link ROOT directly
 - And take care of **thread-safety**



Book ntuples

```
#include "MyAnalysis.hh"
void MyRunAction::BeginOfRunAction(const G4Run* run)
{
    // Get analysis manager
    auto man = G4AnalysisManager::Instance();
    man->SetFirstNtupleId(1); } Start numbering of
                               } ntuples from ID=1

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

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



Fill ntuples

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

```
#include "MyAnalysis.hh"
void MyEventAction::EndOfEventAction(const G4Run* aRun)
{
    auto 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

}
```




More slides...



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
- MT-handling: will display also the `threadID`
`WT1> I am here`
`WT5> I am here`
- Output strings may be displayed in another window (Qt GUI) or `redirected` to a file



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
```

Example: output to an ASCII 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;
}
```



Hands-on session

- Task4
 - Task4a: User Actions
 - Task4b: Command-based scoring
- `http://geant4.lns.infn.it/alghero2023/task4`