



Geant4 physics

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Mandatory (and optional) user classes

At initialization

G4VUserDetectorConstruction

G4VUserPhysicsList

G4VUserActionInitialization

main()
function

At execution

G4VUserPrimaryGeneratorAction

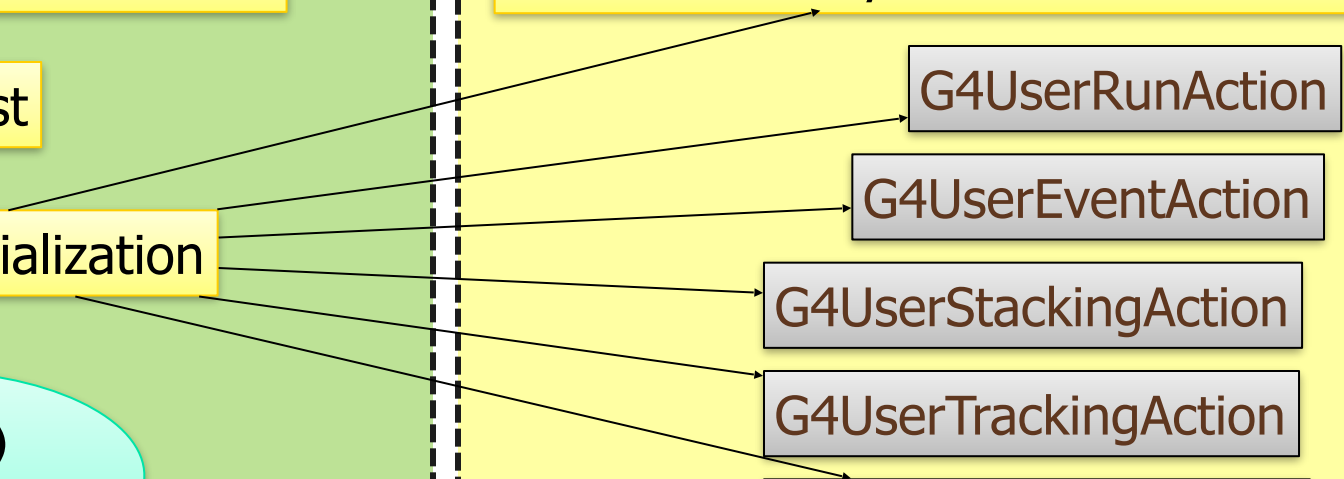
G4UserRunAction

G4UserEventAction

G4UserStackingAction

G4UserTrackingAction

G4UserSteppingAction



Mandatory (and optional) user classes

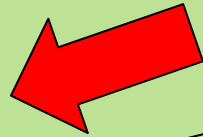
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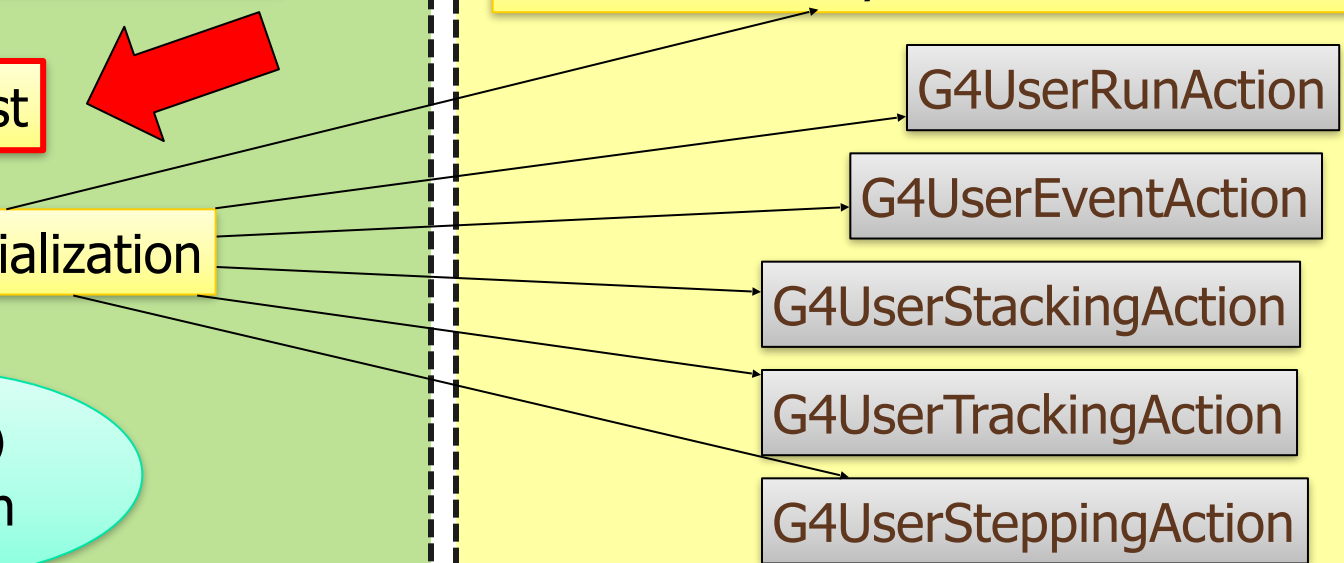
G4UserRunAction

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G4UserTrackingAction

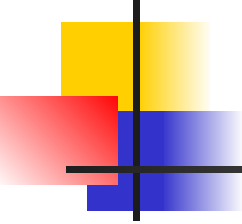
G4UserSteppingAction





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)



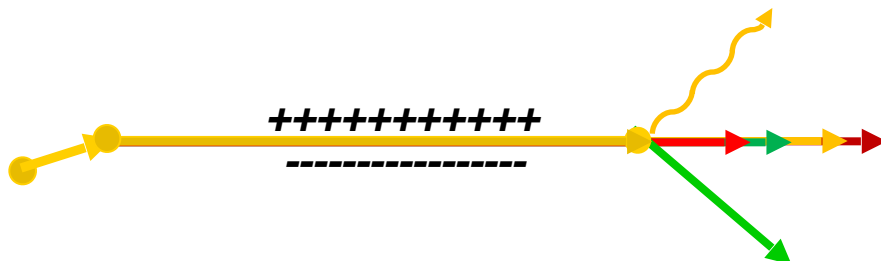
Processes

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

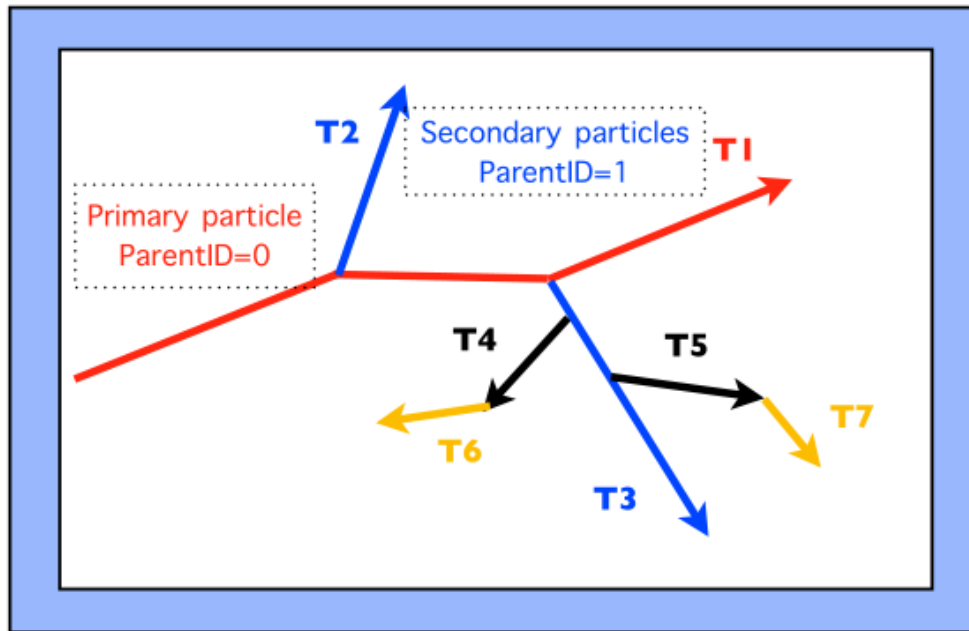
1. a particle is shot and "transported"
2. all processes associated to the particle **propose** a **geometrical step length**
3. the process proposing the **shortest step** "wins" and the particle is moved to destination (if shorter than "Safety")
4. **all** processes **along the step** are executed (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									

```
*****
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



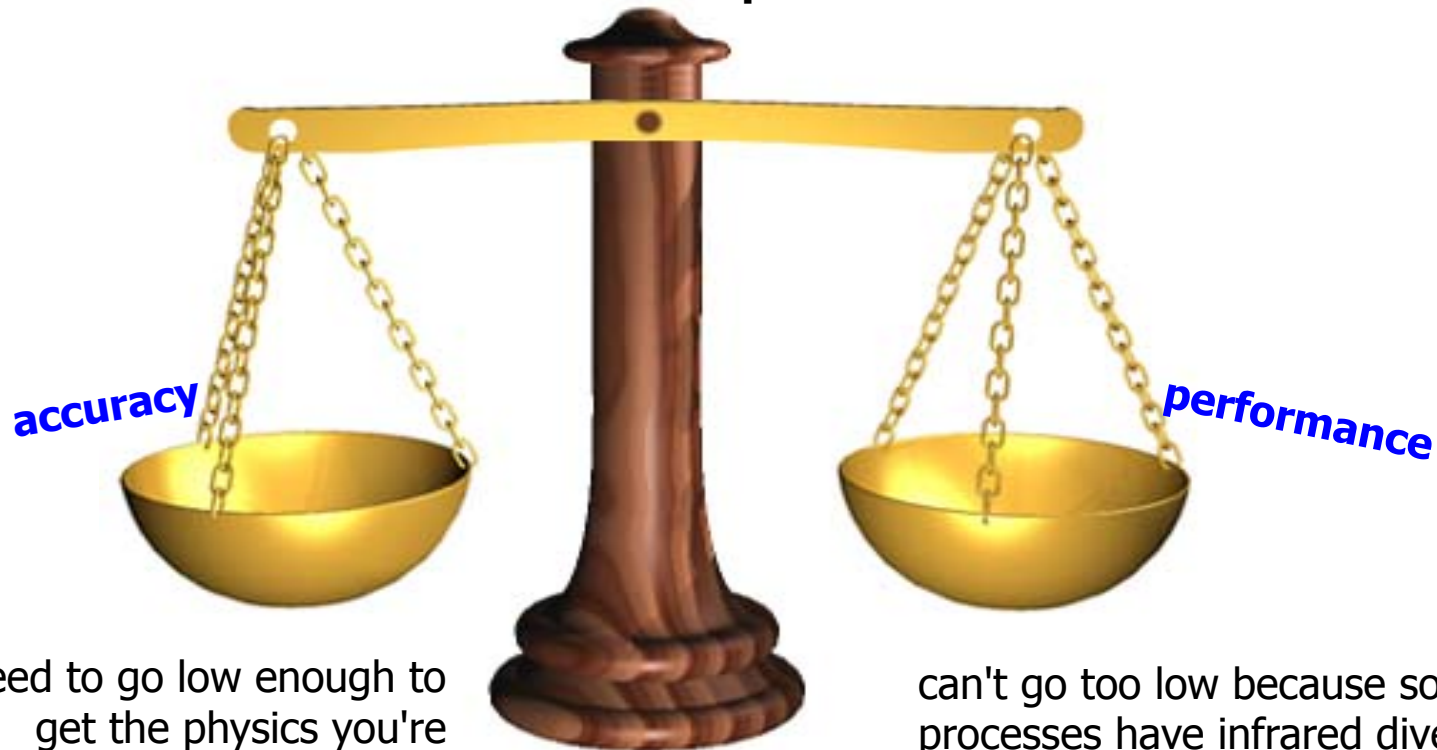
Geant4 production cuts

- 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

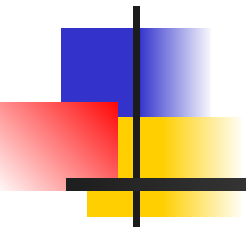
```
# Universal cut (whole world, all particles)
/run/setCut 10 mm

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

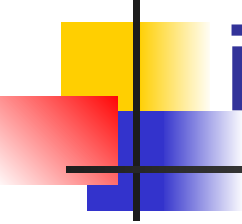
# Set cut for a specific particle (whole world)
/run/setCutForAGivenParticle gamma 0.1 mm

# 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());  
    // 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	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	



[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?

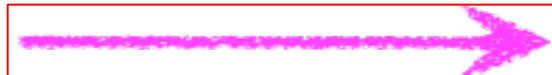


<https://geant4.web.cern.ch/support>

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](#)

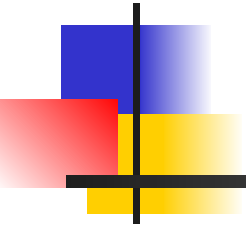




Summary – three kinds of physics lists for Geant4

- 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

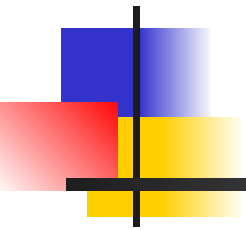




Philosophy

- 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
G4PEEFlyuoModel	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**



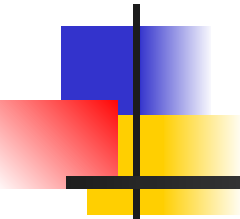
EM Physics Constructors for Geant4 10.4 - ready-for-the-use

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)



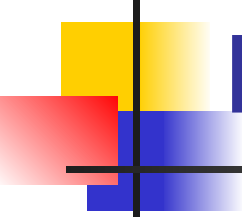
Hadronic Physics

- 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

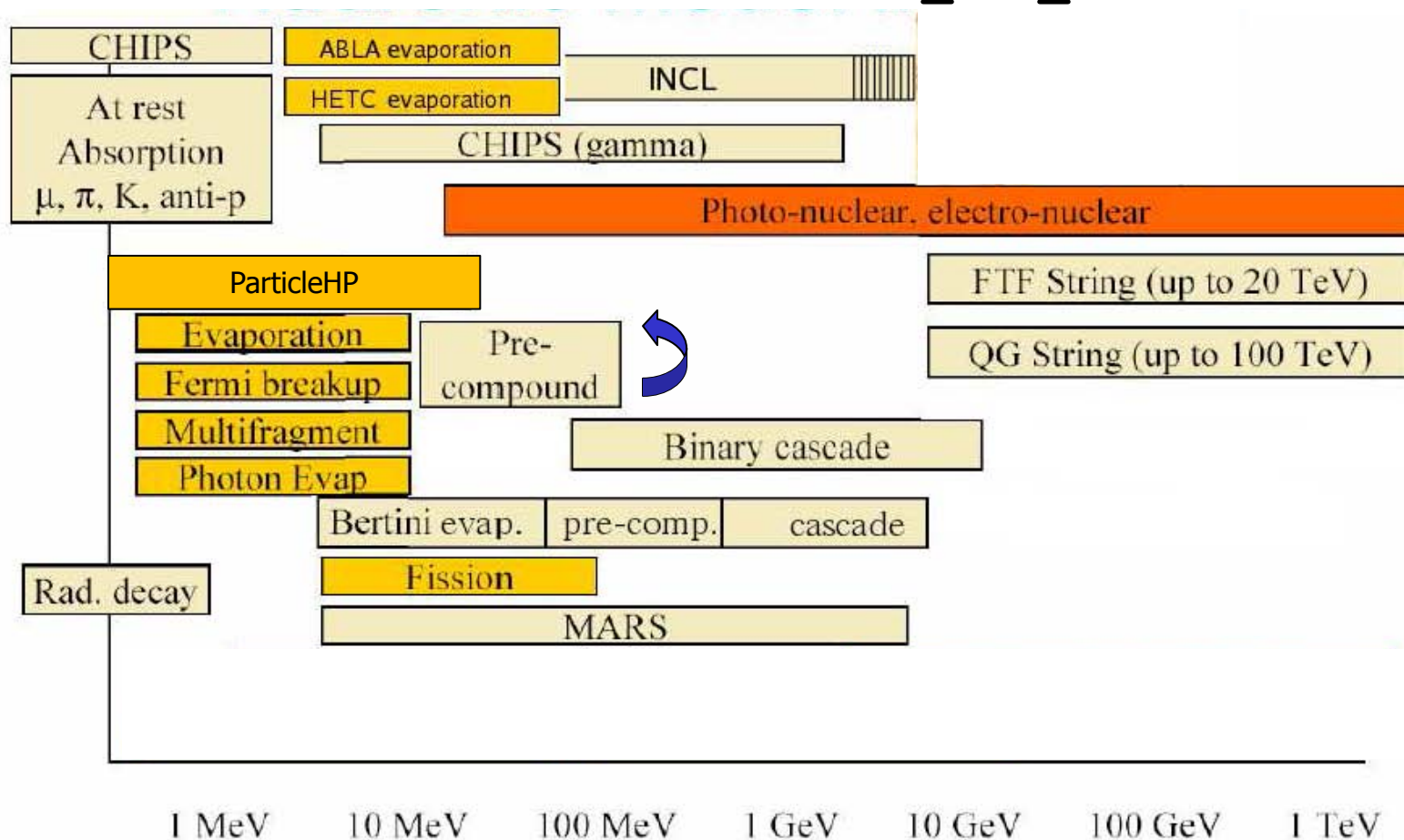


Reference physics lists for Hadronic interactions

- **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

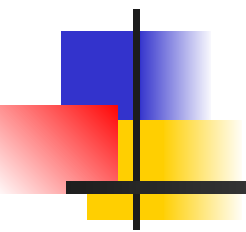
http://geant4.cern.ch/support/proc_mod_catalog/models





Hands-on session

- Task3
 - Task3a: Particles and processes
 - Task3b: Physics lists
 - Task3c: Production cuts
- [`http://geant4.lns.infn.it/alghero2022/task3`](http://geant4.lns.infn.it/alghero2022/task3)



Backup

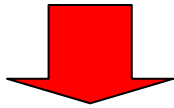


1) ConstructParticle()

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

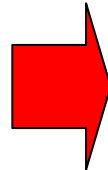


```
void MyPhysicsList::ConstructParticle()  
{  
    G4Electron::ElectronDefinition();  
    G4Proton::ProtonDefinition();  
    G4Neutron::NeutronDefinition();  
    G4Gamma::GammaDefinition();  
    ....  
}
```



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

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



```
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);
```

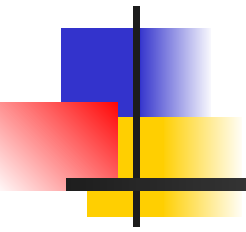
3. Don't forget **transportation**.

```
AddTransportation();
```



3) SetCuts()

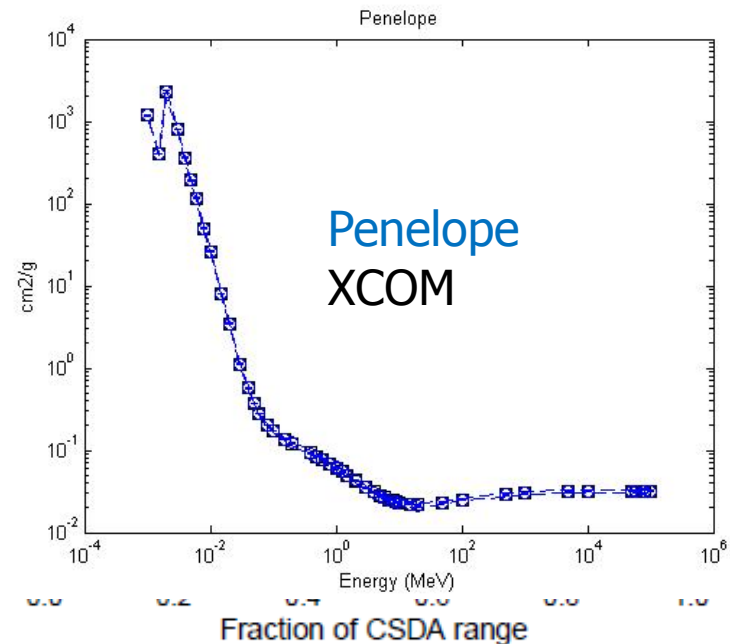
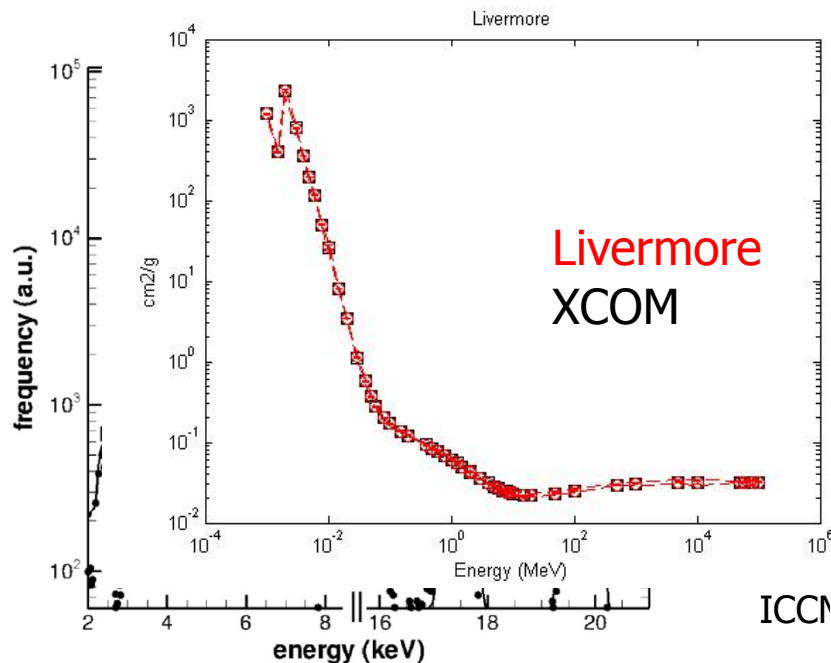
- Define all **production** cuts for **gamma**, **electrons** and **positrons**
 - Recently also for **protons**
- Notice: this is a **production cut**, not a tracking cut



Quick overview of validation

EM validation - 1

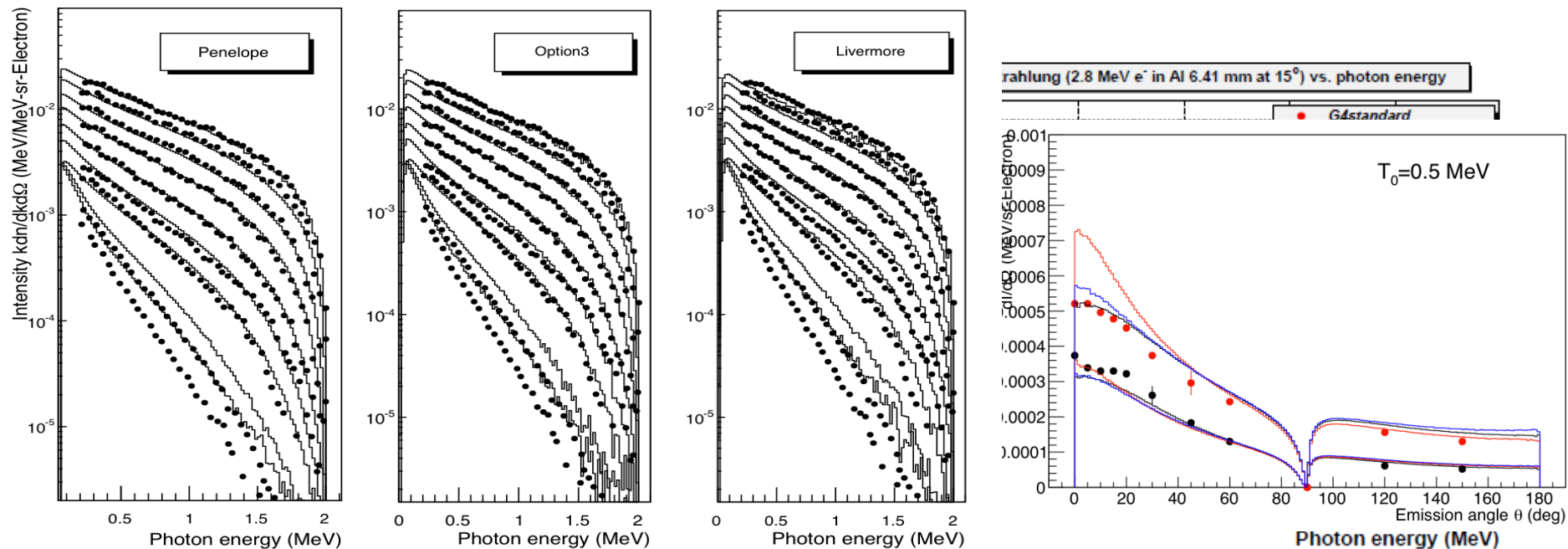
- Tens of papers and studies available
 - Geant4 Collaboration + User Community
- Results can depend on the specific observable/reference
 - Data selection and assessment critical



EM validation – 2

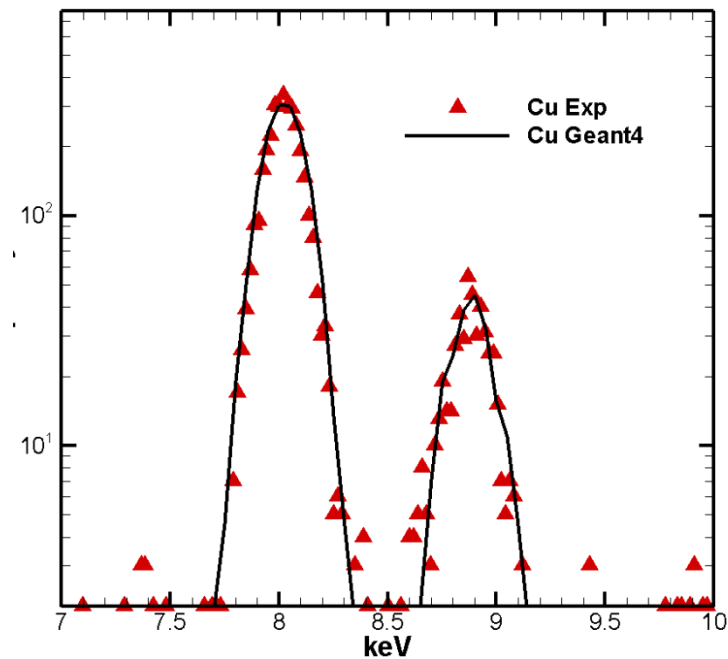
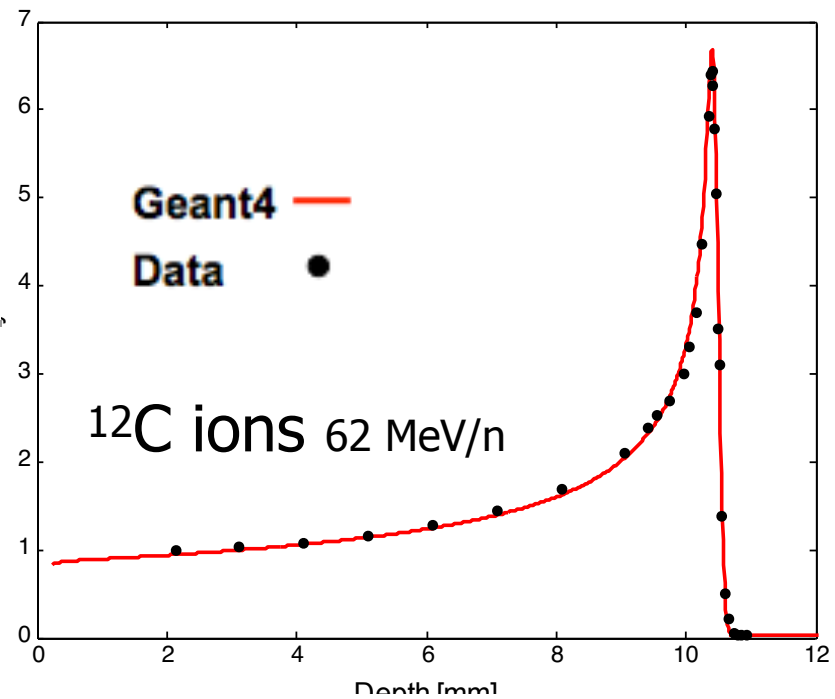
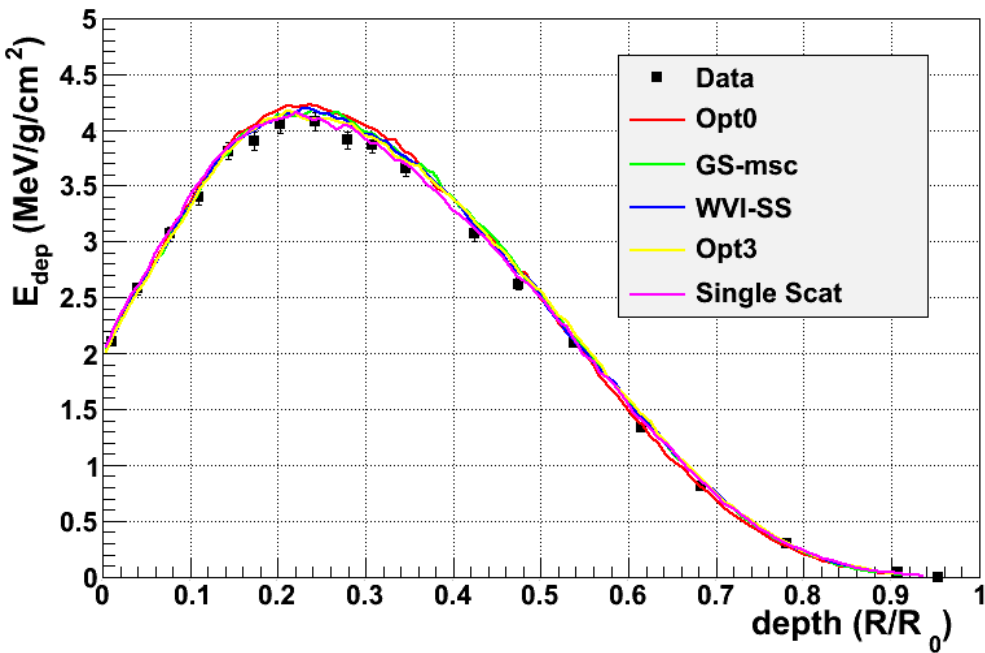
- In general **satisfactory agreement**
- Validation/verification **repository** available on **web**

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



EM validation - 3

e- showers, longitudinal profiles





Hadronic validation

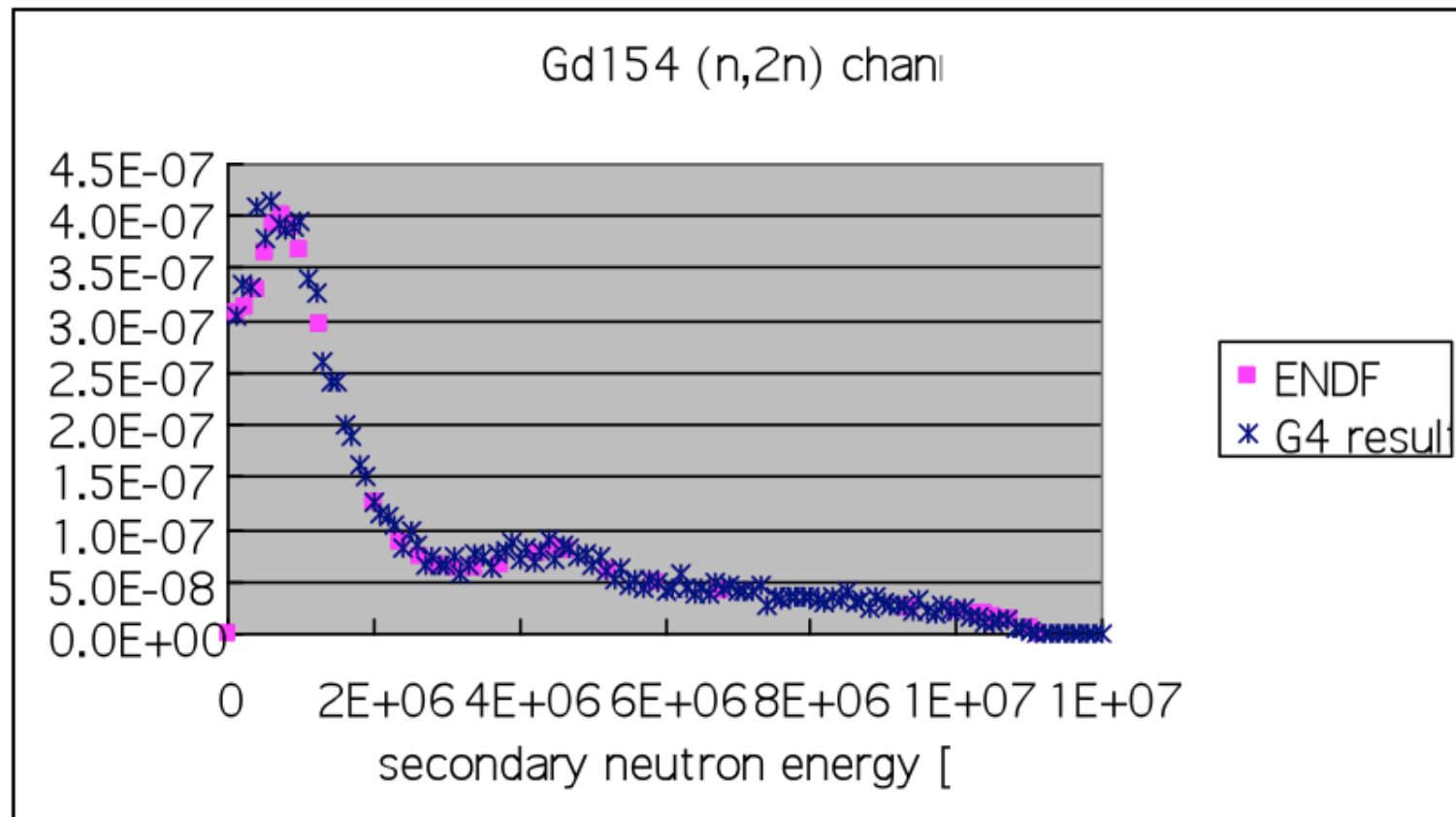
- A **website** is available to collect relevant **information** for validation of **Geant4 hadronic models** (plots, tables, references to data and to models, etc.)

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

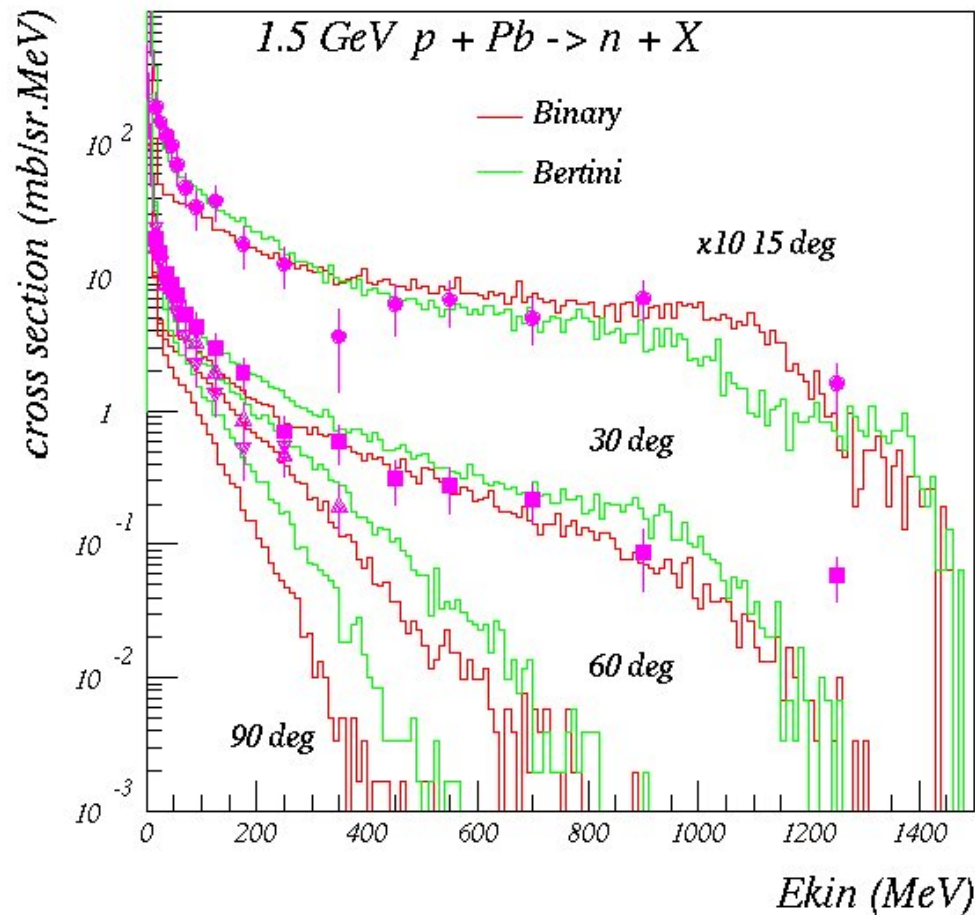
`http://g4validation.fnal.gov:8080/G4ValidationWebApp/`

- 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

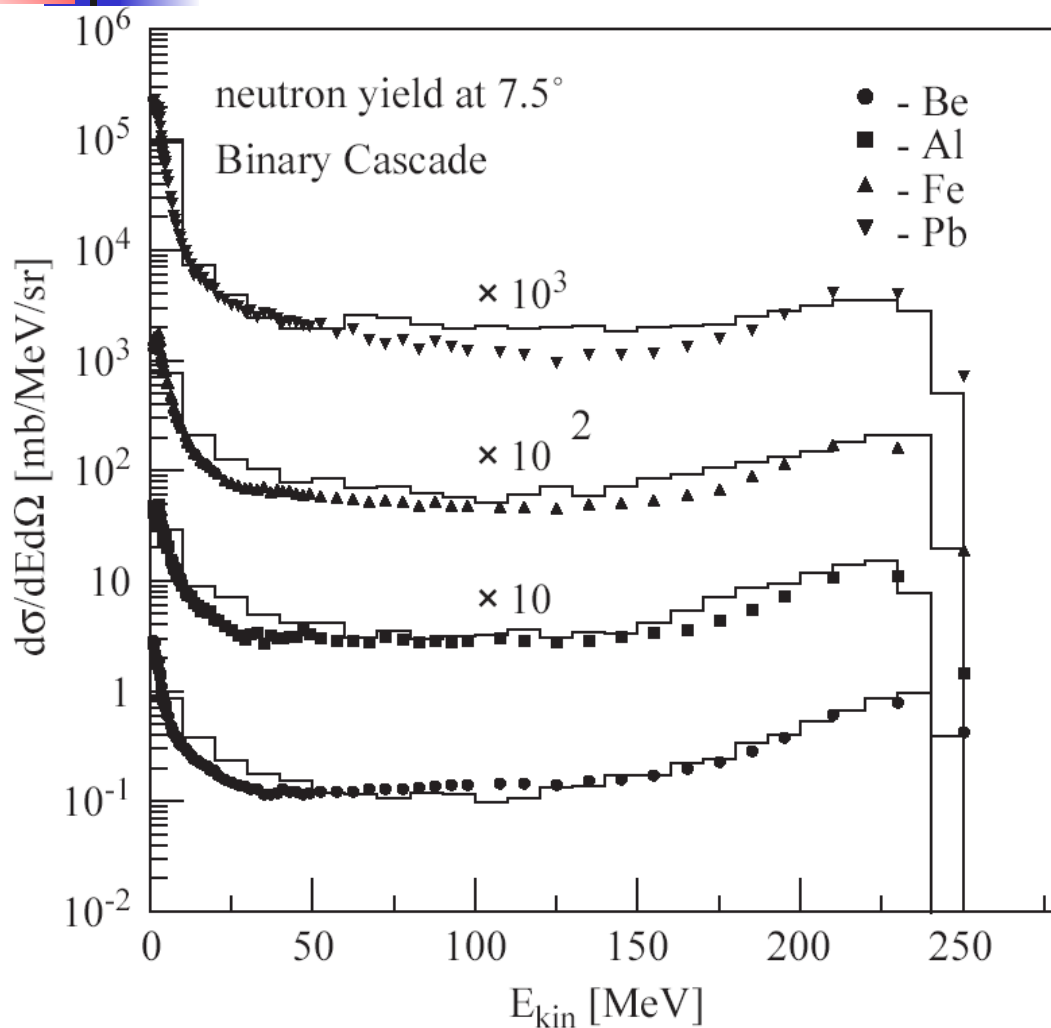


Nuclear fragmentation



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);  
neutronElasticProcess->
```

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

```
  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
```

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

gets the **FTF
model** from 4
GeV

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**



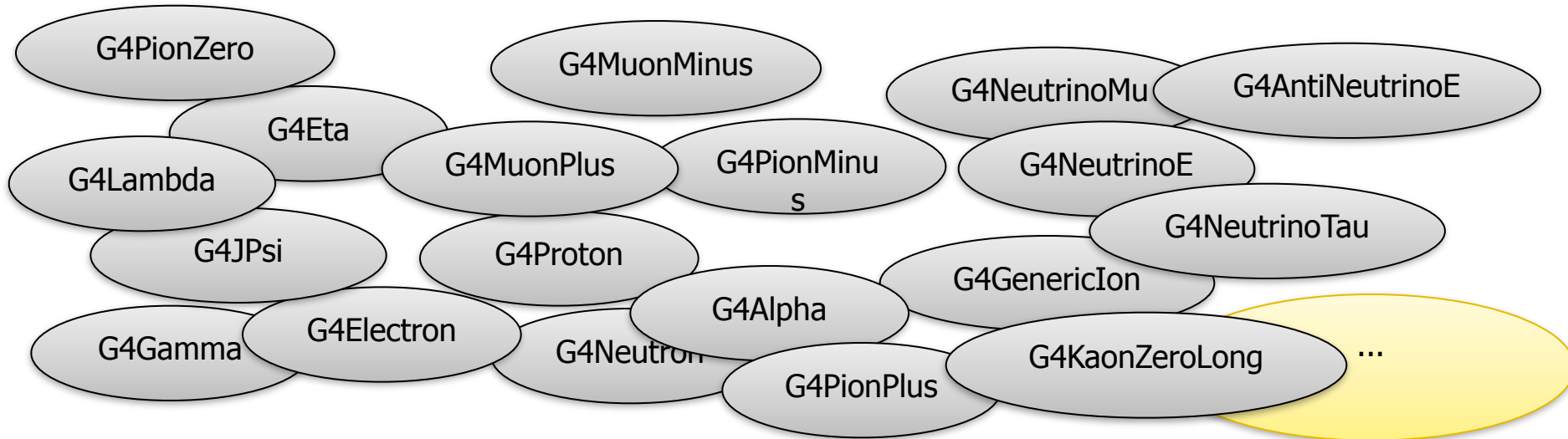
Alternative cross sections

- 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

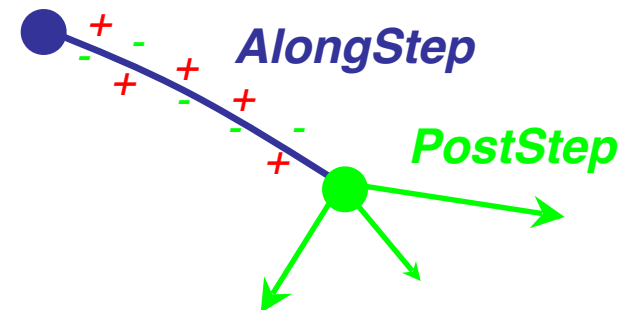
Process_3

handled by
kernel

Configured by the User
In the "physics list"

The G4VProcess

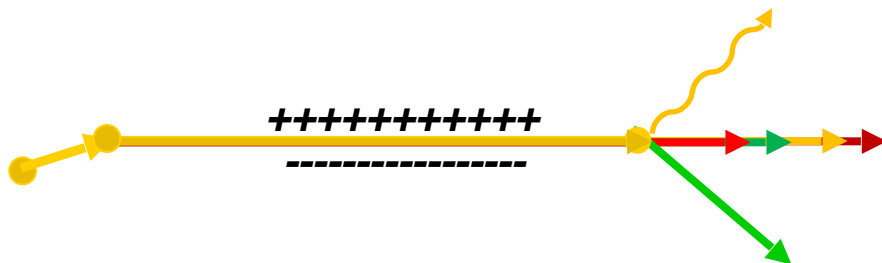
- Physics processes are derived from the **G4VProcess** base class
- Abstract class defining the **common interface** of all processes in Geant4, used by **all physics processes**
- Three kinds of "actions":
 - **AtRest** actions
 - Decays, e^+ annihilation
 - **AlongStep** actions
 - To describe continuous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

