



# Interaction with kernel - part 1

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(A lot of material by L. Pandola)

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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

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



# Part I: The main ingredients

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# Geant4 terminology: an overview

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- 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)

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- 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)

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- 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)

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- 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



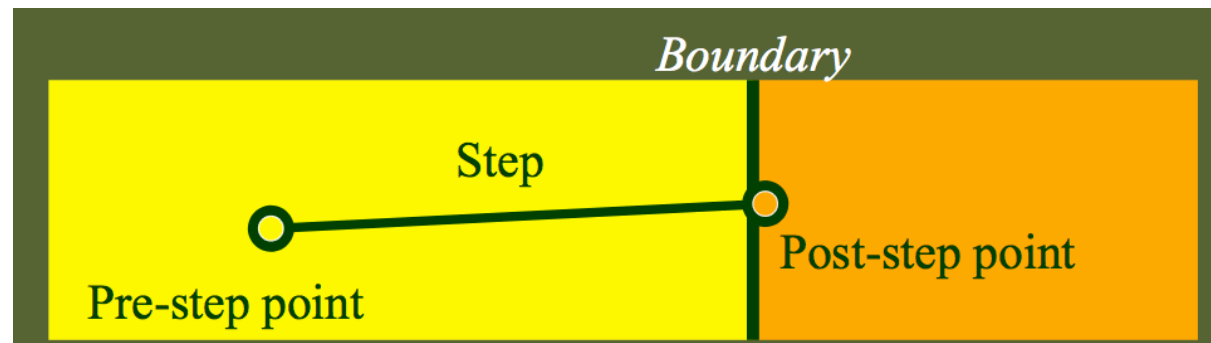
# The Step (G4Step)

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- **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



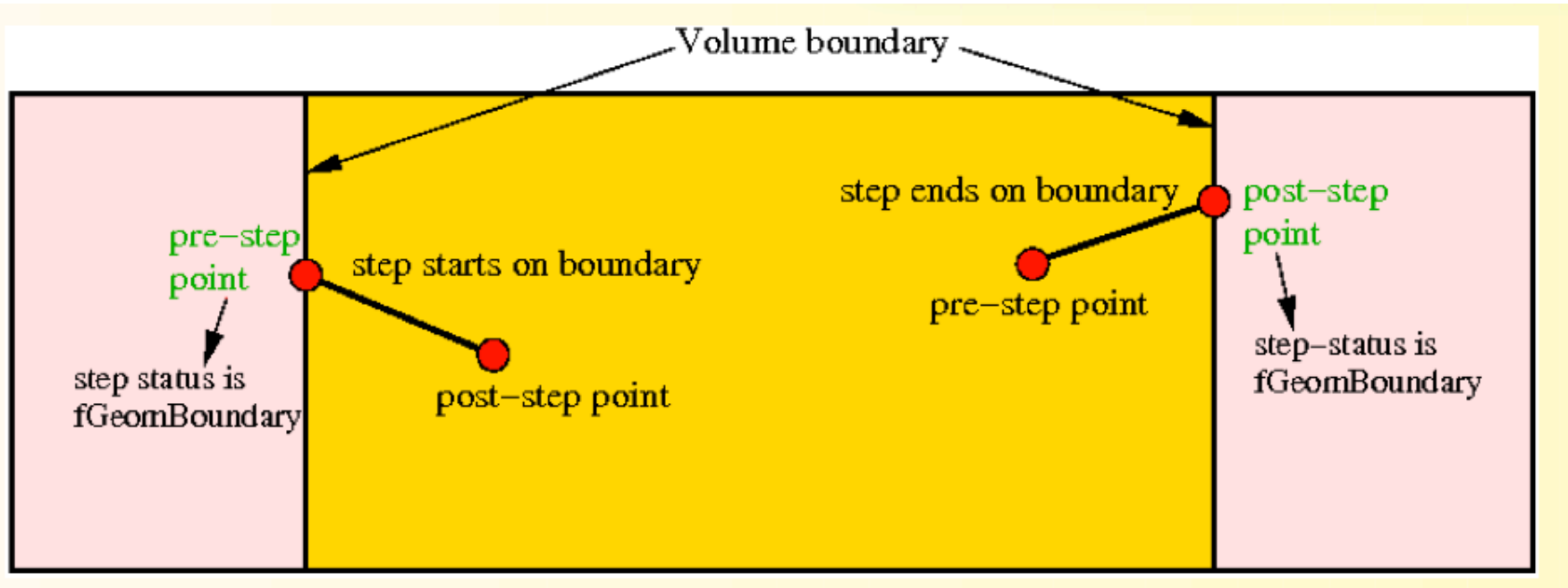
# The G4Step object

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- 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

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```
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();

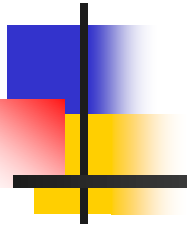
// The dynamic particle class contains e.g. the kinetic energy after the step:
G4double kinEnergy = dynParticle -> GetKineticEnergy();

// 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





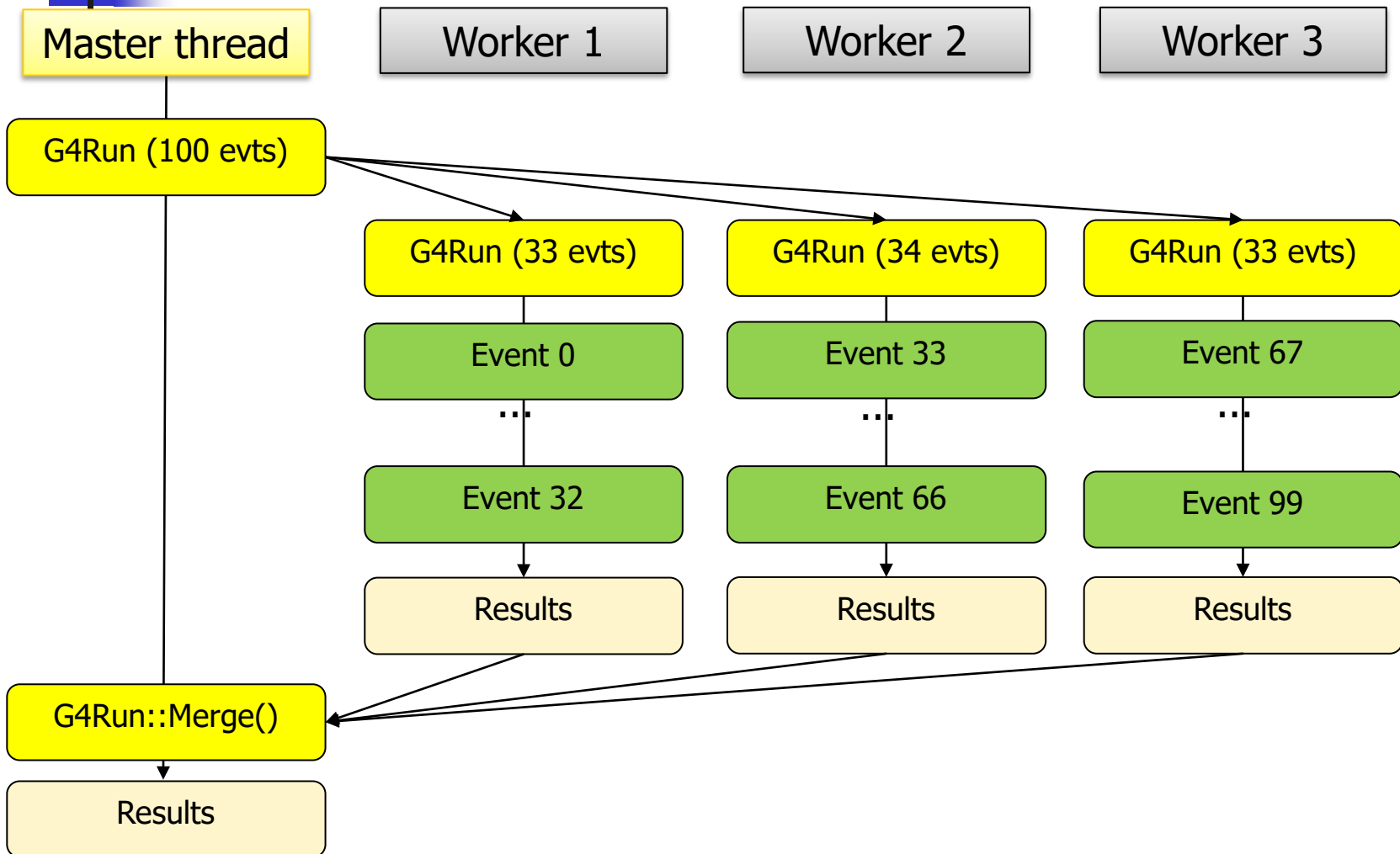
# Optional user classes

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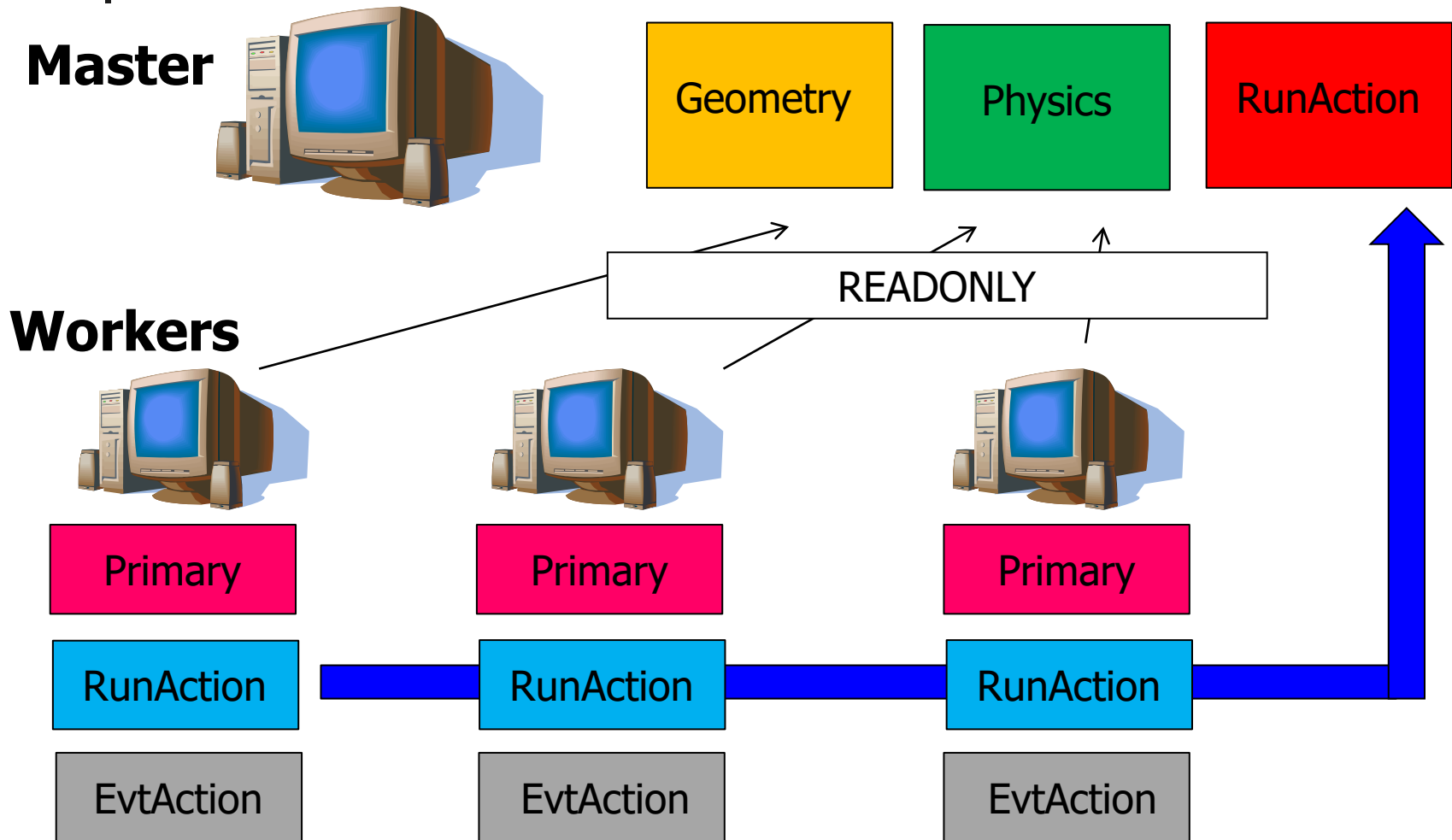
- Five **base classes** with **virtual methods** the user may override to step during the execution of the application ("user hooks")
  - G4User**Run**Action
  - G4User**Event**Action 
  - G4User**Tracking**Action
  - G4User**Stacking**Action
  - G4User**Stepping**Action

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

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- 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



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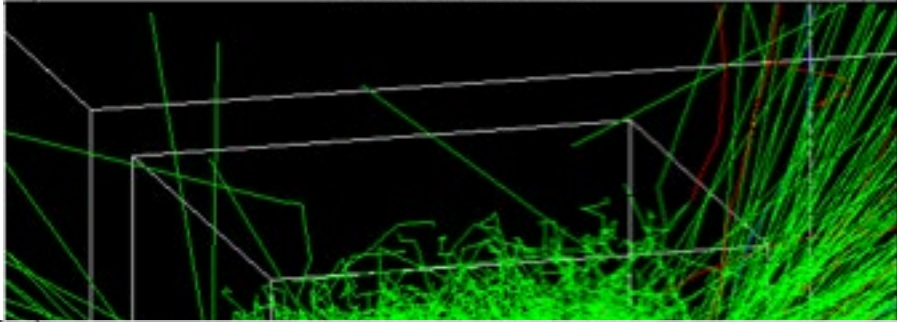
# Command-based scoring

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

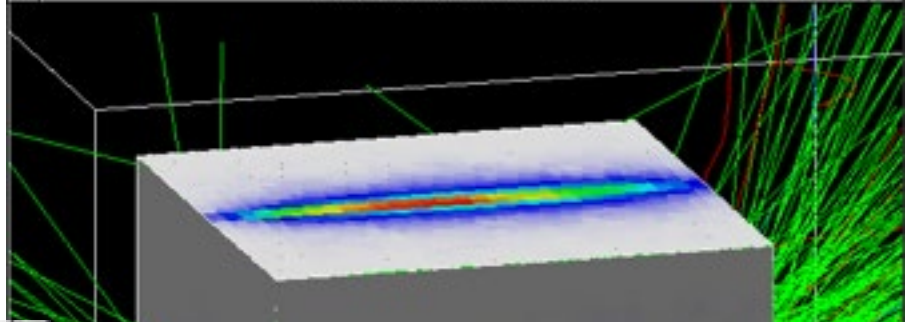
```
int main() {  
    ...  
    G4ScoringManager::GetScoringManager();  
    ...  
}
```

- 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`

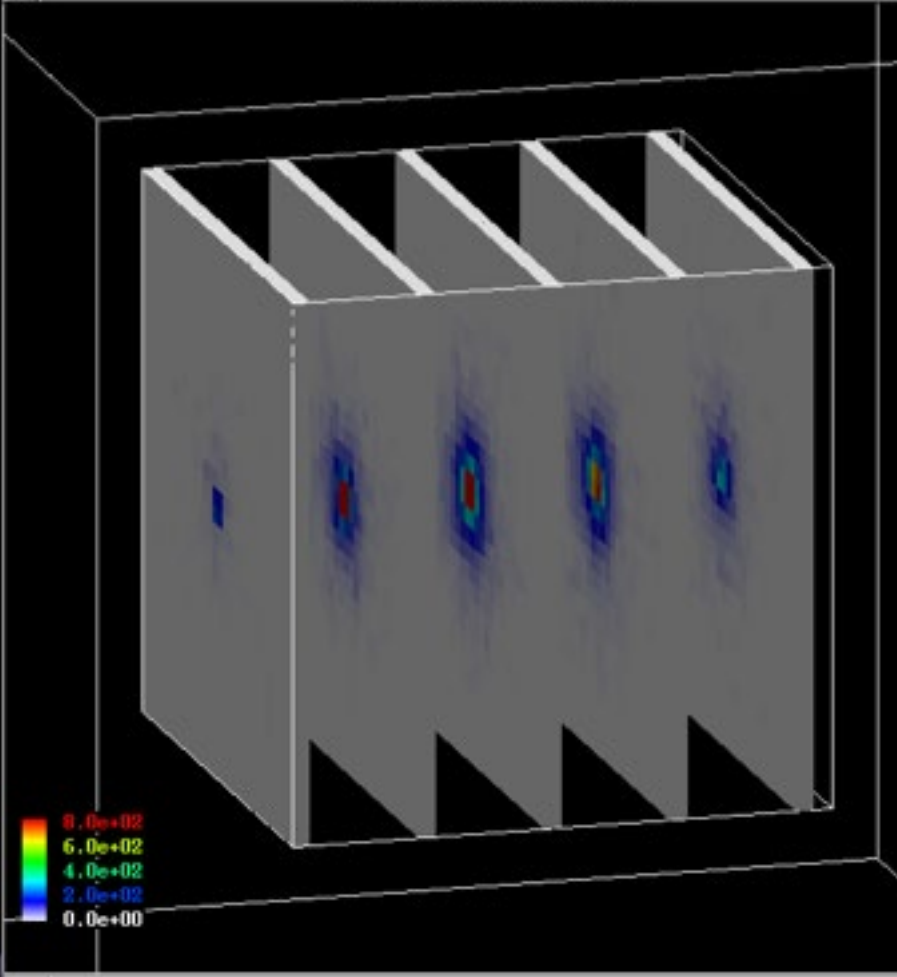
viewer-0 (OpenGLImmediateX)



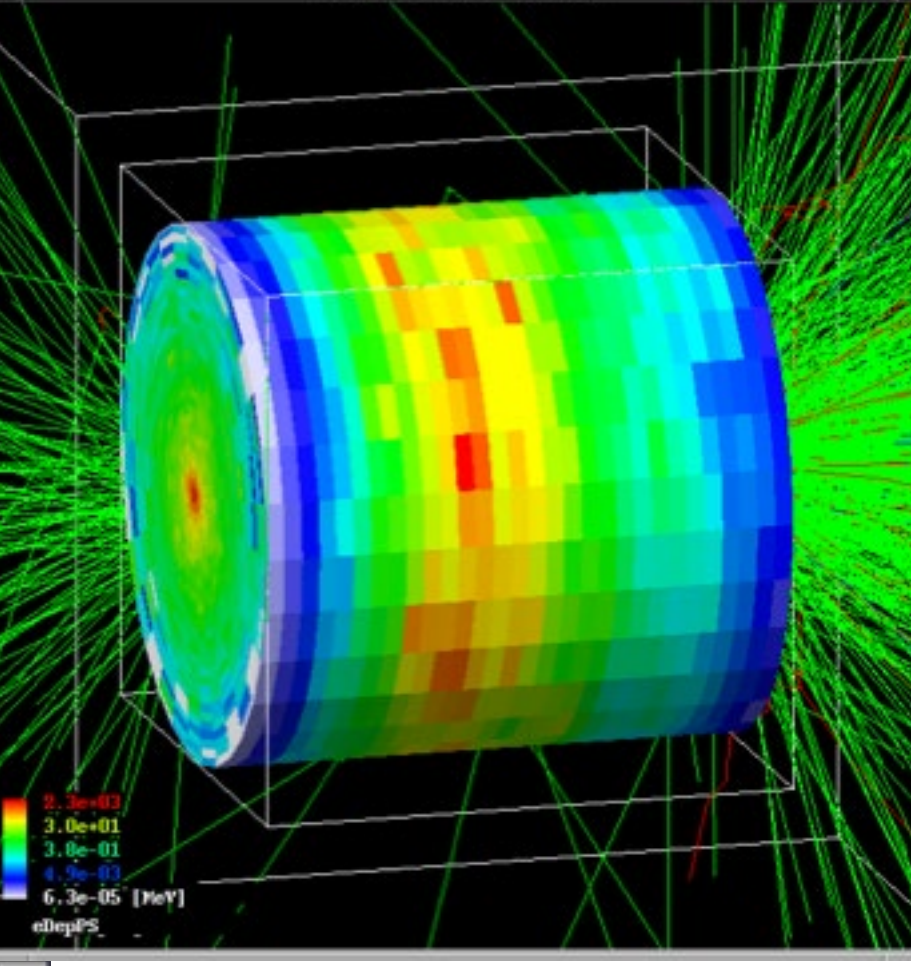
viewer-0 (OpenGLImmediateX)



viewer-0 (OpenGLImmediateX)



viewer-0 (OpenGLImmediateX)





# G4analysis tools

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(detached session)



# Geant4 analysis classes

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- 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

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

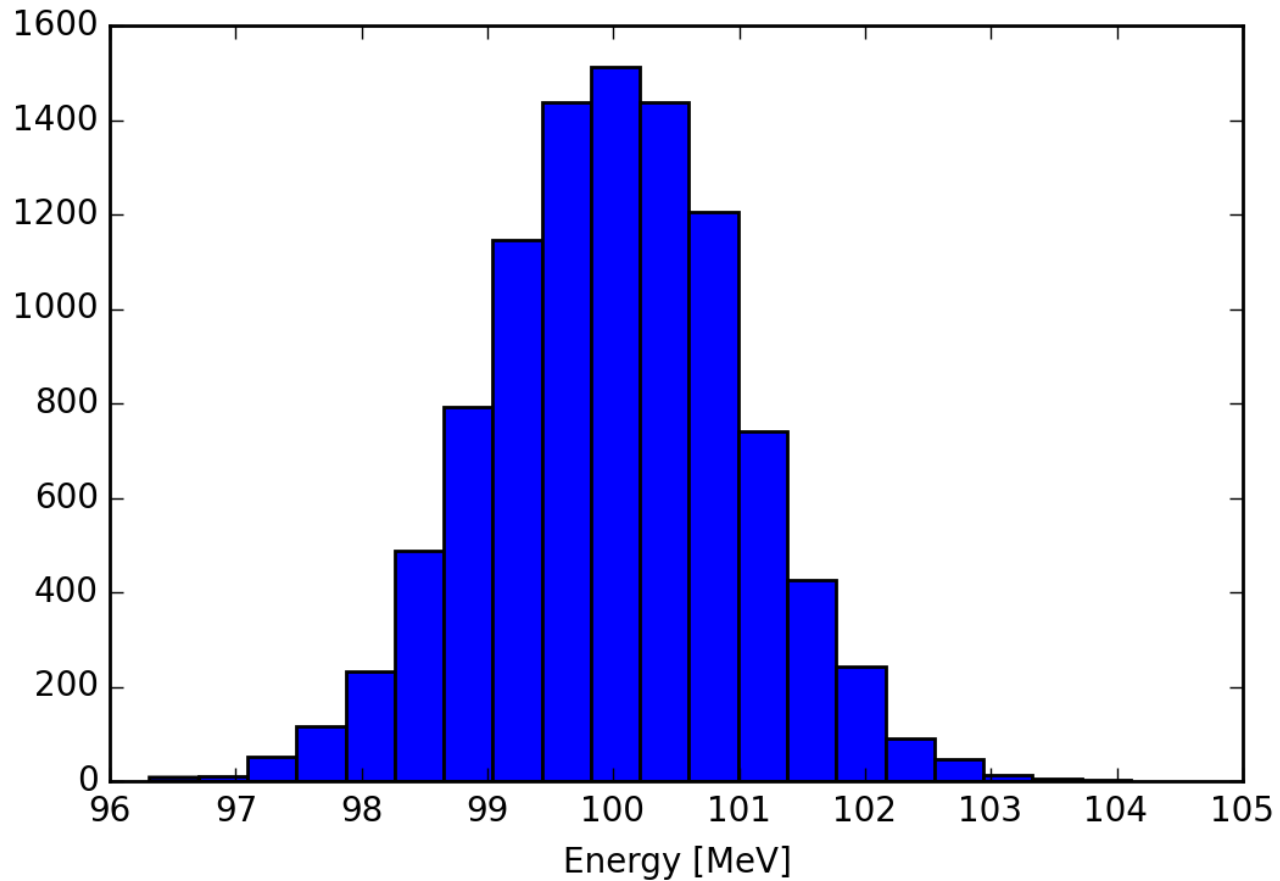
```
#ifndef MyAnalysis_h
#define MyAnalysis_h 1
#include <G4RootAnalysisManager.hh>
#include <G4CsvAnalysisManager.hh>

// Use ROOT as output format for Geant4 analysis tools
using G4AnalysisManager = G4RootAnalysisManager;
// using G4AnalysisManager = G4CsvAnalysisManager;
#endif
```



# Histograms

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# 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

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- g4tool supports **ntuples**
  - Any number of ntuple
  - 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...

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# Output stream (`G4cout`)

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- `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

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