



Contribution ID: 94

Type: poster

Domain Specific Visual Query Language for HEP analysis or How far can we go with user friendliness?

Thursday 30 September 2004 10:00 (1 minute)

There is a permanent quest for user friendliness in HEP Analysis. This growing need is directly proportional to the analysis frameworks' interface complexity. In fact, the user is provided with an analysis framework that makes use of a General Purpose Language to program the query algorithms. Usually the user finds this overwhelming, since he or she is presented with the complexity of the intricacies of the systems. This way the final user of HEP experiments becomes a forced programmer or an application developer.

In our opinion this inflicts directly or indirectly in the query system performances. For this reason we have decided to invest in a line of research to find a solution that balances the complexity and variability of the analysis queries with the need for simpler query systems interfaces. The ultimate goal is to save time on query algorithms production and to have a way to increase efficiency.

In this communication we are going to present how we explored the hypothesis of generating a visual query language specific for the HEP high level analysis domain. The prototyped framework developed so far, PHEASANT, is supporting our arguments in the feasibility of this approach. Therefore, like in any young Human Centric development project, this raises the need of a broad discussion in order to validate it. We believe to be opening an new fruitful research topic among the community and we expect to motivate both computer science and physics experts into the same discussion.

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Session Classification: Poster Session 3

Track Classification: Track 3 - Core Software