

# Pyg4ometry

load, manipulate, visualize, convert  
GDML, Fluka, CAD geometry

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G4 technical forum, September 2022



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<https://bitbucket.org/jairhul/pyg4ometry/src/develop/>  
<http://www.pp.rhul.ac.uk/bdsim/pyg4ometry/>



Geometry tools in python for Geant4/Fluka/MCNP etc

- Develop a (rapid) workflow inspired from parametric CAD to modify geometry in a reproducible way
- Key technical development : python API for loading/manipulating geometry
- **Have users**
  - Of course, my group at Royal Holloway ;-)
  - Accelerator community (PSI, ULB, CERN, DESY, Johannes-Universität Mainz, Warwick)
  - Laser/plasma (QUB)
  - HEP (LHCb, Legend, MESA, LUXE, nuStorm)
- **Paper published**
- **New features discussed here** (since <https://indico.cern.ch/event/872309>)

**Paper :** <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cpc.2021.108228>

**Manual :** <http://www.pp.rhul.ac.uk/bdsim/pyg4ometry/>

# Features (see 2019 Technical forum talk)



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## Parametric creation

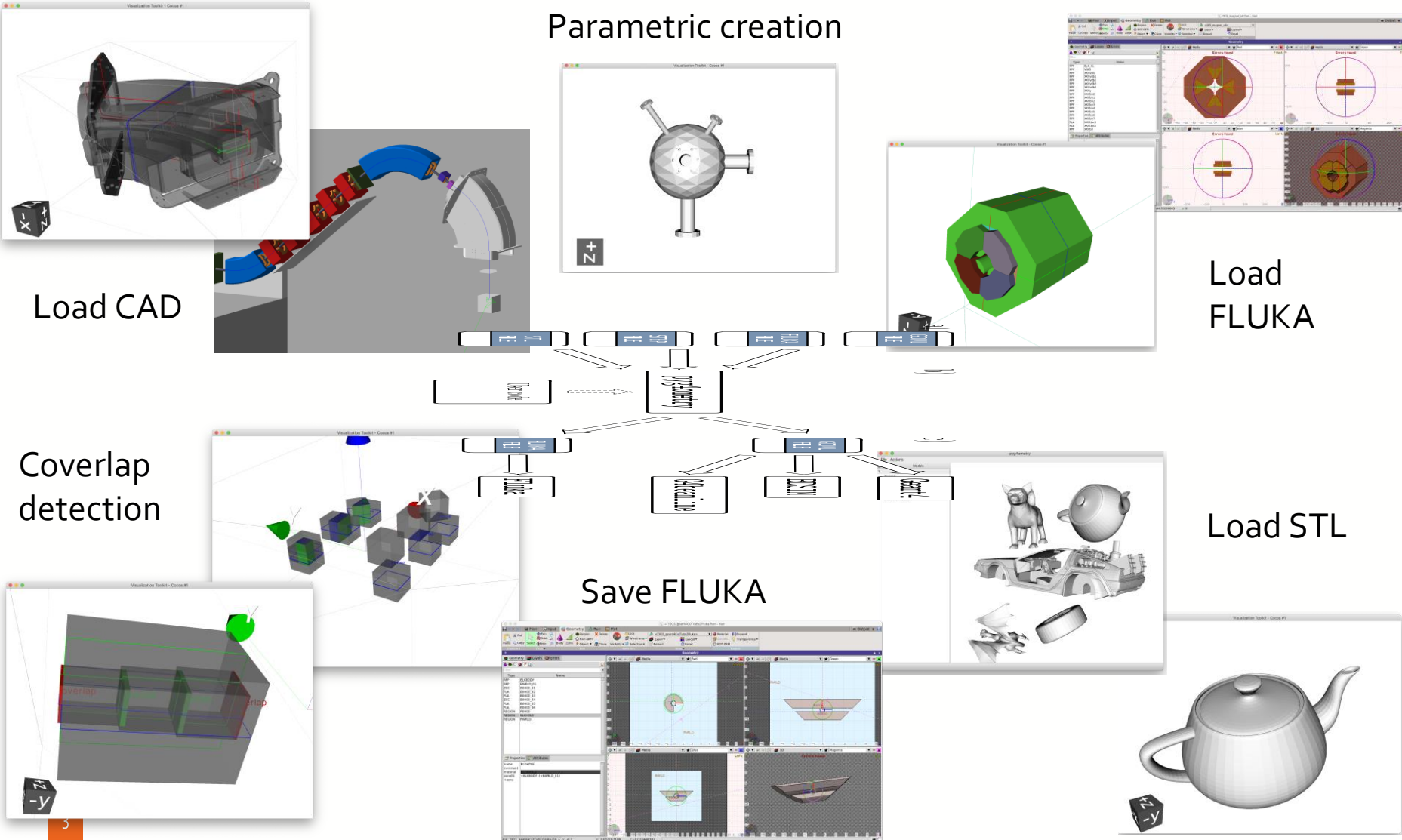
Load CAD

Load  
FLUKA

Coverlap  
detection

Save FLUKA

Load STL

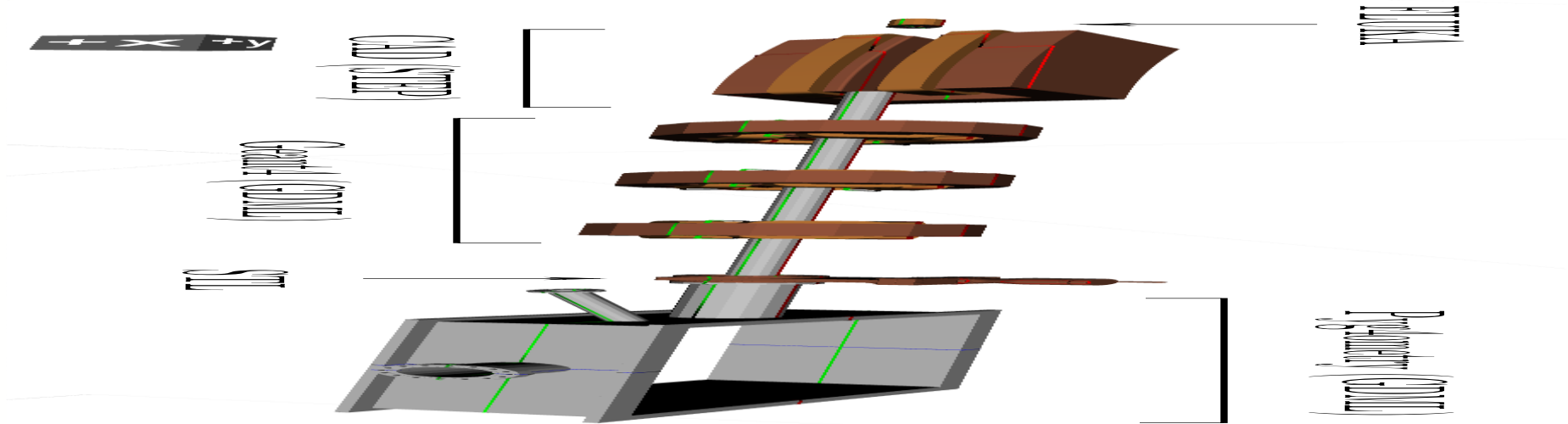


# Compositor system



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Create a complete system with different geometry sources



# Technology tools and dependencies



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All dependencies are all open source  
and well maintained



Python



ANTLR

ANTLR



Visualisation  
Tool kit



Open Cascade

*pybind11*

CGAL

Computational  
Geometry  
Algorithms  
Library



SymPy

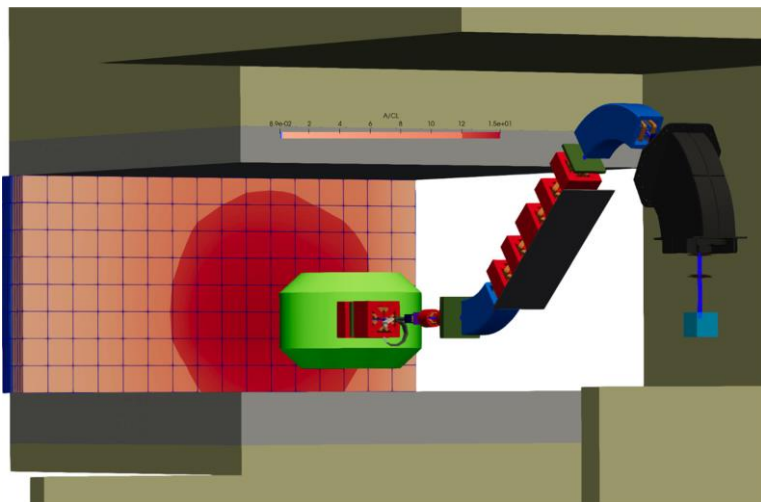
Symbolic  
Python

# Users' applications



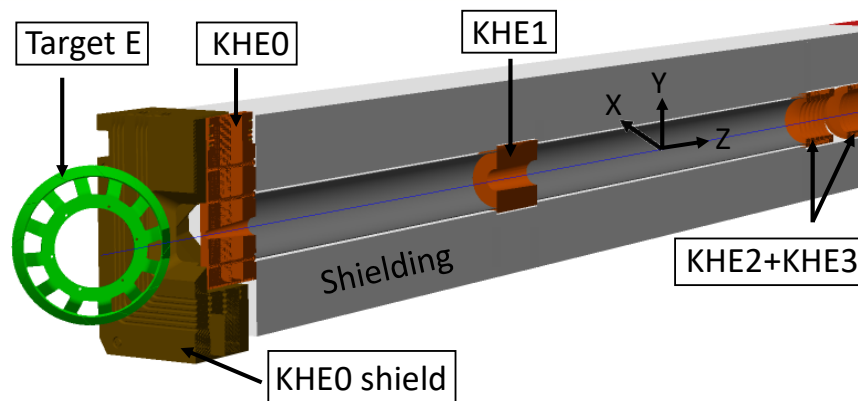
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- IBA Protus One proton therapy system (ULB/IBA/RHUL)
- Viewed in Paraview



<https://doi.org/10.1140/epjp/s13360-022-02960-9>

- HIPA PSI transfer line
- Transfer line from high power cyclotron

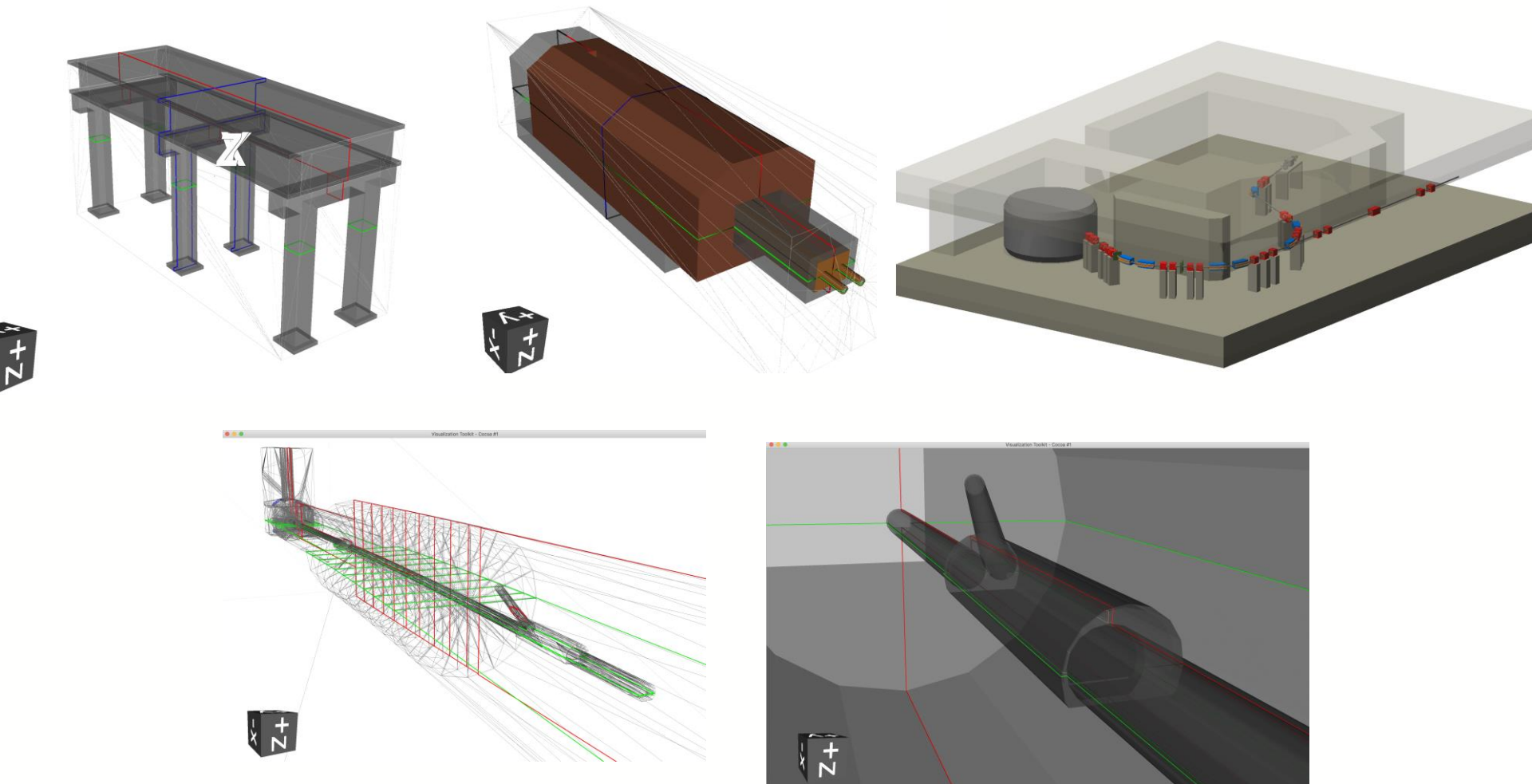


[arXiv:2205.12536](https://arxiv.org/abs/2205.12536)

# In house examples



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# Geometry comparison



- When converting between geometry formats it is useful to compare geometries
  - irrespective of if the conversion was done with pyg4ometry or not
- "Comparison" could mean strict equality, but also equivalence
  - could construct geometry from different primitives but want to check the resultant volume
  - we may know the geometry is different but want to compare within a tolerance
- General strategy:
  - **Tests** class - Boolean flags of which things to test, e.g. solids, materials, volume, surface area
  - **TestResult** class - pass / fail, details on what was compared, nice message if failed
  - **functions** for each comparison, e.g. logicalVolumes, solids, materials, assemblies
  - **higher level functions**, e.g. geometr(treeA, treeB), gdmlFiles(fileA, fileB)
- We choose the tests we want to run and apply them to a geometry tree producing a set of results that can be printed out or summarised
- Used by LHCb to compare their new MC geometry (GDML, ROOT, custom)

## Test Name

names

namesIgnorePointers

nDaughters

solidExact

shapeExtent

shapeVolume

shapeArea

placement

scale

copyNumber

materials

materialClassType

materialCompositionType

testDaughtersByName

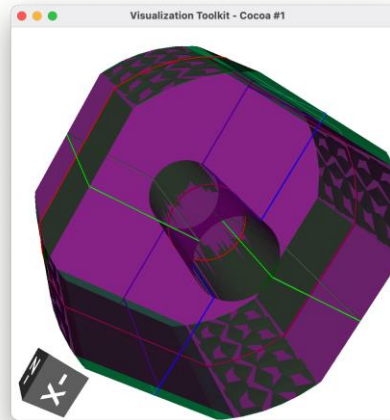
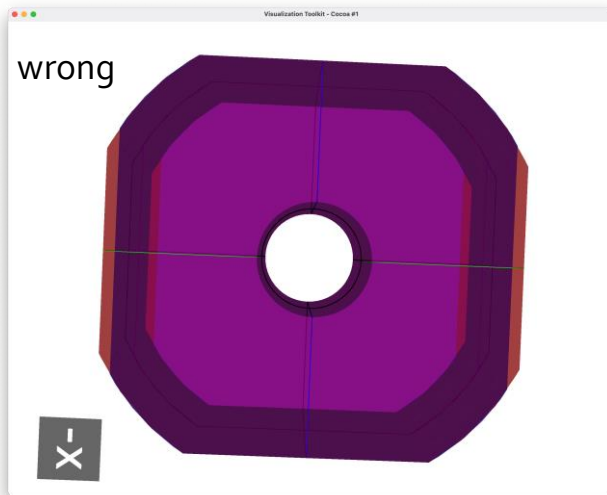


# Geometry comparison



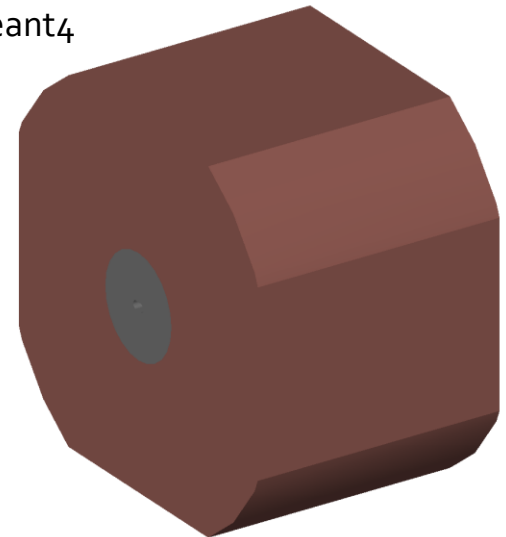
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- Tolerance also for pointers in object names
- A small example is a collimator for a CERN North Area beamline
- CAD-converted tessellated (original) solid vs. (new) geometry from primitives (for improved simulation speed)
- Compare by volume and surface area - exploit visualisation meshes in pyg4ometry!
- Visualise two geometries on top of each other as well as the difference to see the problem



corrected

in Geant4

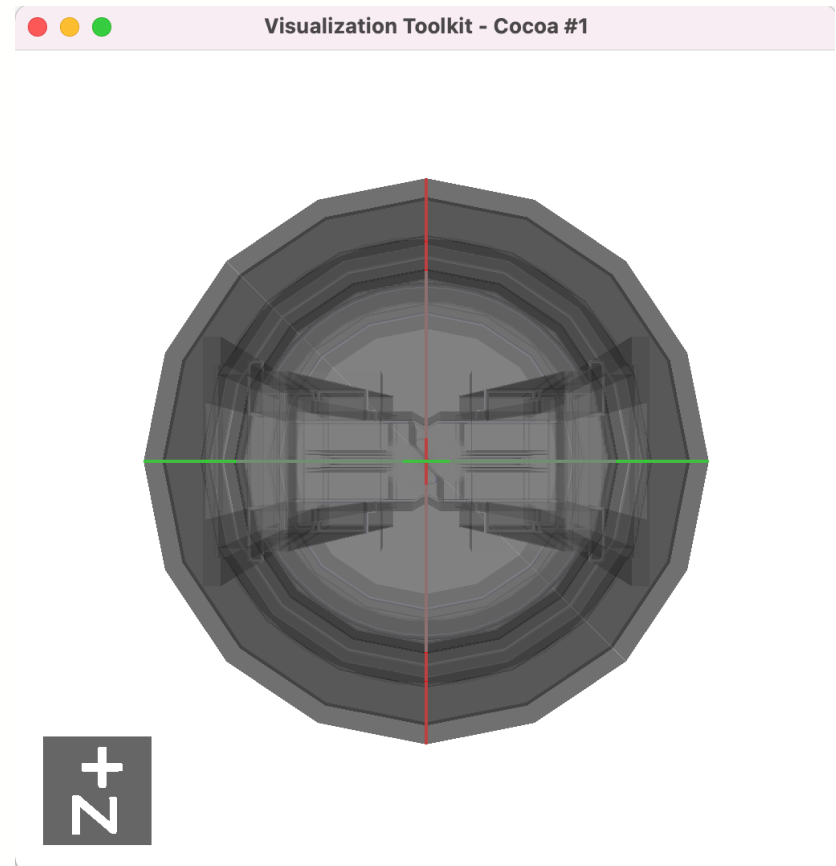


# ROOT file loading



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- ROOT has excellent python bindings.
- ROOT's TGeo is also excellent
- Format is being used (DD4Hep etc.)
- Load root file via standard bindings and transfer to pyg4ometry internal memory format
- Detector developers can check their geometry etc.

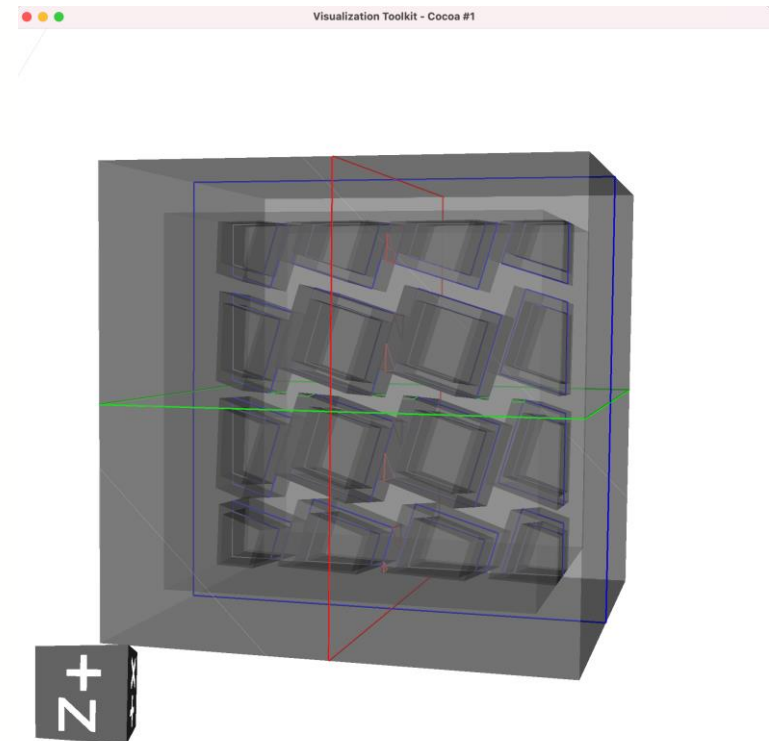


LHCb Velo : T. Latham

# Clipping geometry for reuse



- What if people provide geometry and it is just too much? (Happens a lot in accelerator community e.g., FCC-ee IR region)
- Need a good mechanism to safely trim the geometry safely
- Replace mother volume and recursively cut down the daughter volume solids using Boolean intersections
- Still needs developing for replica, parametric solids etc.
- Would avoid this as would cause an explosion of Boolean solids if not careful



# Geant4 to FLUKA conversion



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- Follow CERN FLUKA
- Added materials
- Tested on relatively large experiment (LUXE)
- Planning on adding features beyond geometry (other non-geo CARDS)

Still problems with

- General tessellated solids
- Twisted solids
- Solution implemented using convex decomposition is very unstable and very time consuming, rarely works
- Might base new solution on tessellation or voxelization

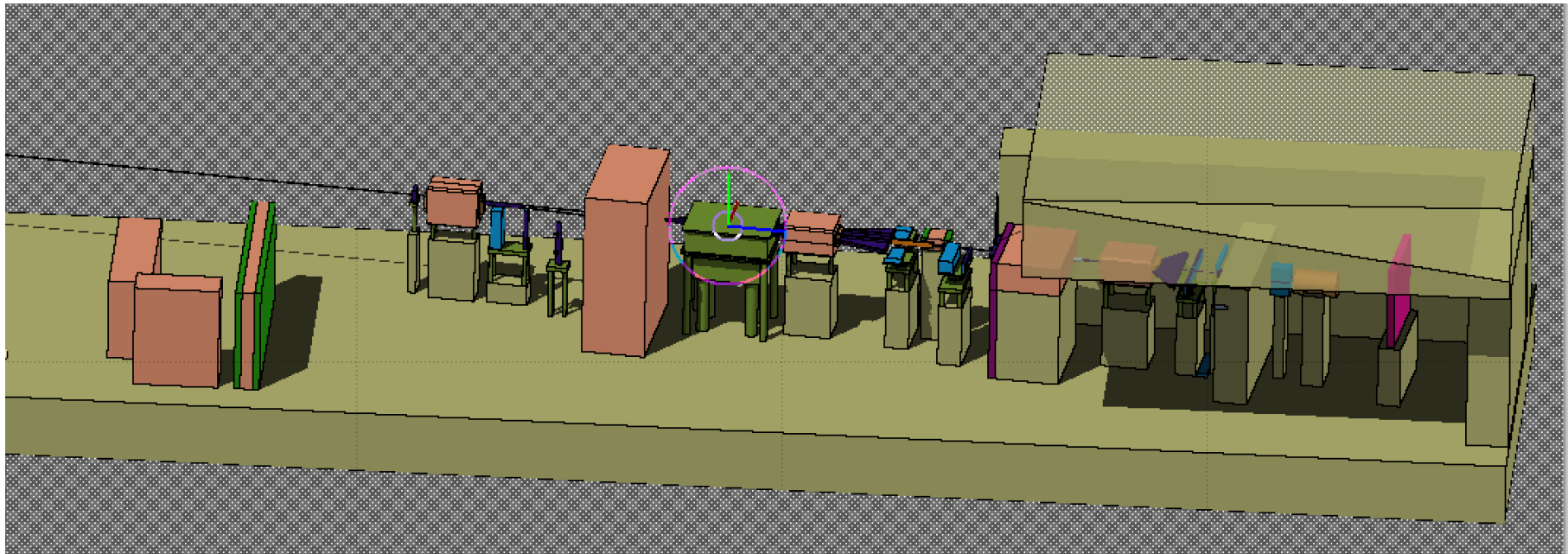
# LUXE experiment



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Non-linear QED experiment, planned for the EU.XFEL at DESY

- Measure Compton (BW) between laser and XFEL beam (Bremsstrahlung)
- Need FLUKA simulations for dump studies and radioprotection



# FLUKA workflow for LUXE



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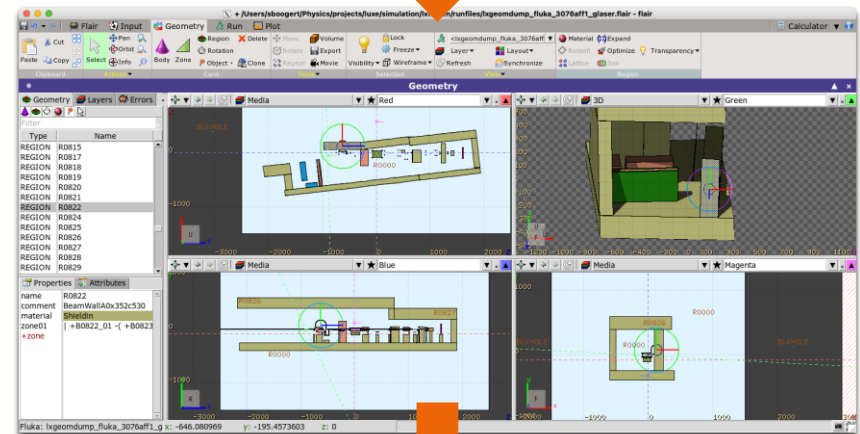
1. Run lxsim and generate GDML geometry
2. Convert lxsim GDML geometry to FLUKA
3. Augment with control cards (BEAM, BEAMPOS...etc)
4. Run FLUKA jobs
5. Merge output from all jobs (utilities provided by Fluka)
6. Plotting in matplotlib and/or VTK (pyvista)

Original conversion done by 1<sup>st</sup> year PhD student in hours

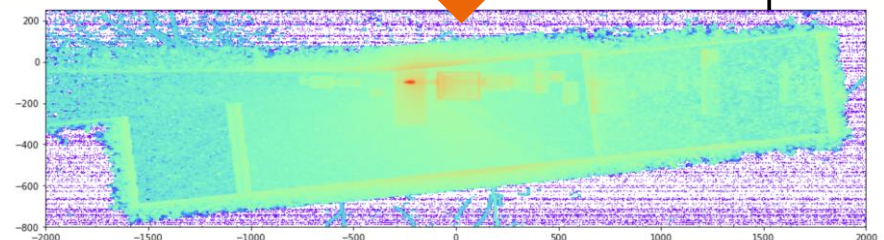
GMDL/pyg4ometry



Flair



Fluka output



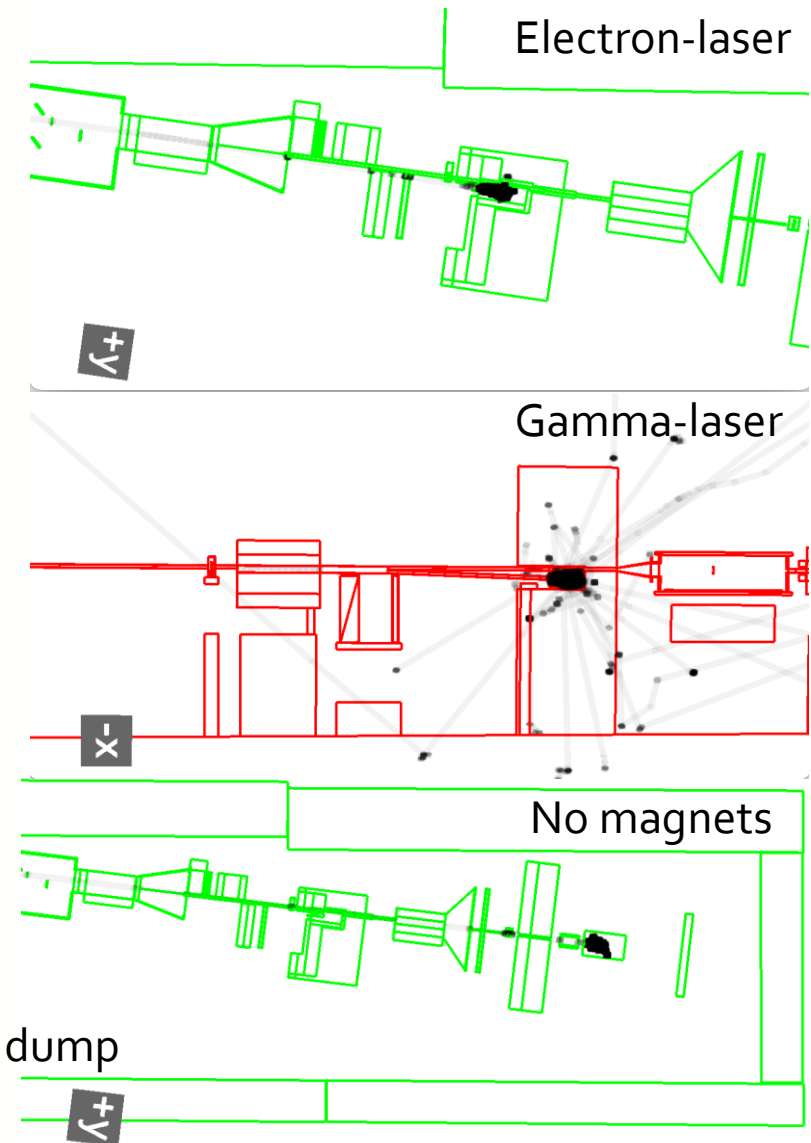
# Model verification



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- Geometry
- Very advanced conversion (written by me for another project)
- Flair (GUI for FLUKA) would indicate geometry errors (overlaps)
- Materials
- Converted from Geant4 down to isotopic composition
- Hard to independently check (could with simplified models i.e a block of material in G4/Fluka)
- Magnetic fields (3 important)
- Track test particles and dump all trajectories (see right)

2D sections created by pyg4ometry, data : fluka dump





# Improved use of CGAL



- CGAL is one of the most templated libraries I have ever encountered.
- Previous sol<sup>n</sup>: Push problem into monolithic C++ lib with very small API
- Loose power and utility of CGAL
- Split and bind sensible fraction of the CGAL API to python. Keeping as close to the CGAL API as possible
- Users can write their own algorithms!
- **Implemented tetrahedralization and mesh repair in hours**

```
@classmethod
def nefPolyhedron_to_convexPolyhedra(cls, np):

    CGAL.convex_decomposition_3(np)
    vi = np.volume_begin()
    ve = np.volume_end()
    pList = []
    while vi != ve:
        si = vi.shells_begin()
        se = vi.shells_end()
        if vi.mark():
            while si != se:
                p = Polyhedron_3.Polyhedron_3_EPECK()
                np.convert_inner_shell_to_polyhedron(si,p)
                pList.append(p)
                si.next()
            vi.next()

    return pList
```

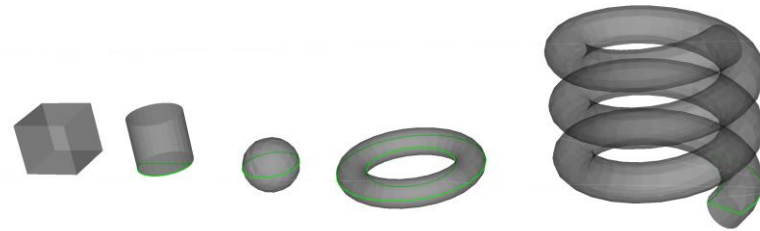
# Improved CAD file handing



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- Previously used FreeCAD
- Exceptionally large dependency (but had python)
- Move towards OpenCascade (C++ library FreeCAD is based on)
- Complete replication of CAD model with
  - Assemblies (LV/AV)
  - Parts (Solids/PVs)
- Allows the tessellation of CAD models in an efficient manner without creating too many tessellations etc.
- Allows for the later replacement of tessellated objects with minimal effort

```
def commonCode(fileName, mats={}, skip=[], mesh={}):  
    fileName = _os.path.join(_os.path.dirname(__file__), fileName)  
    r = _pyg4.pyoce.Reader(fileName)  
    #r.shapeTool.Dump()  
    ls = r.freeShapes()  
    worldName = _pyg4.pyoce.pythonHelpers.get_TDataStd_Name_From_Label(ls.Value(1))  
    reg = _pyg4.convert.occ2Geant4(r.shapeTool, worldName, mats, skip, mesh)  
    wa = reg.logicalVolumeDict[worldName]  
    wl = wa.makeWorldVolume()
```



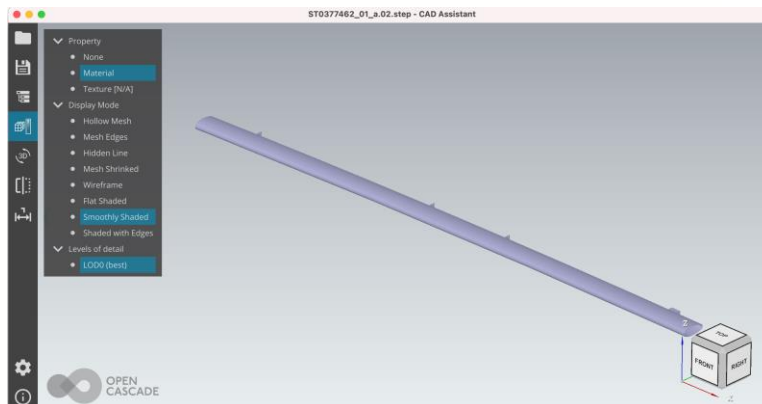
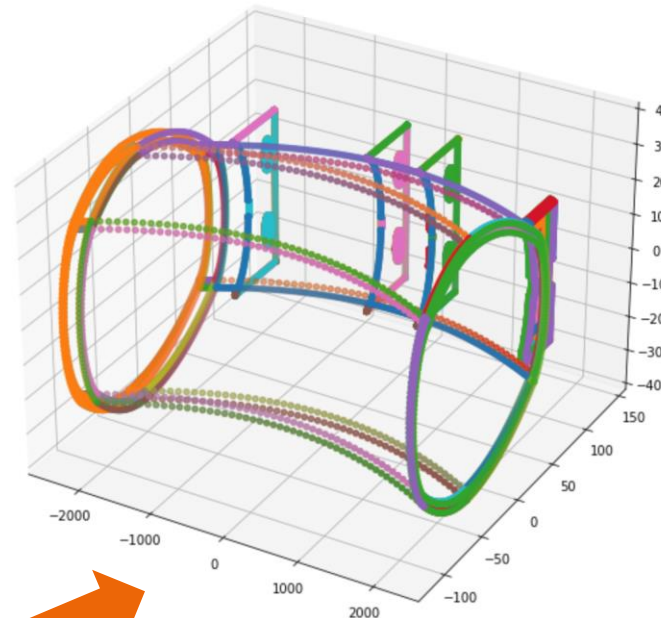
Note bene : excellent user control over mesh quality

# CAD feature extraction



- CERN PS beam pipes in Geant4
- Slightly curved and need to place them accurately as define the accelerator aperture
- CAD directly to STL is ok for simulation but how to place the object accurately?
- **Extract data directly from CAD file and user can determine features that conversion can be based on**

```
[3]: r = _pyg4.pyoce.Reader("./ST0377462_01_a.02.step")
l = _pyg4.pyoce.pythonHelpers.findOCCShapeByName(r.shapeTool, "ST0377462_01")
s = r.shapeTool.GetShape(l)
pnts = beamPipeCADFeature1(s)
fig = _plt.figure()
ax = _plt.axes(projection='3d')
for i in range(0, len(pnts)) :
    ax.scatter3D(_np.array(pnts[i])[:,0], _np.array(pnts[i])[:,1], _np.array(pnts[i])[:,2])
```



# Packaging still a pain in Python with extensions



Really hindered adoption

- Skbuild (CMake)
- Part of scikit-hep
- Meson (+pep517)
- Setuptools (+sprinkle of CMake)

**Systemic python problem.**

- **Plan to make package part of scikit-hep**
- **Contribution from L. Pertoldi**
- Build fix based on skbuild and Cmake
- Not quite ready yet





## Soon

- Tetrahedralization of meshes (for tracking and Multiphysics)
- USD export for high quality rendering and VR/AR
- Improved VTK visualization (significant speed improvements)
- Mesh hashing for geometry comparison (check final solid mesh geometry and not details of CSG tree)
- Command line interface for simple operations

## Longer term

- Conversion of CAD to G<sub>4</sub> primitives
- Lots of progress in this area in the graphics community
- Direct STEP/IGES output
- More use of CGAL
- Alpha wrap for meshes
- New coplanar algorithms (detect geometry close of geometry safety limits)
- Paraview module to directly load geometry (some discussions with Kitware)

# Summary and conclusions



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- **Pyg4ometry** has reached a high level of maturity
- Agnostic system : not for any community (medical, space, HEP etc)
- Pyg4ometry is routinely used in multiple experiments
- Found a home in accelerator applications of Geant4
- Developments are now incremental, but packaging is still a major problem
- Improved material properties (M. Hubert)
- Being used in the wild by various experiments
- Packaging will change this significantly
- Better packaging and building on the way (L. Pertoldi)
- Pypi packages for most platforms coming soon
- Also docker images are available (but need updating)
- **Health warning : Not for massive geometry. Need lots of optimization**

# Acknowledgements



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## **Pull requests merged from**

Thomas Latham

Luigi Pertoldi

Manuel Hubert

## **Former group members**

Stuart Walker (DESY)

Andrey Abramov (CERN)

## **Users with feedback, changes and PRs**

Cedric Hernalsteens

Elliot Ramoisiaux

Robin Tesse

Eustache Gnacadja