

# Geant4 silver anniversary

## 25 years enabling scientific production

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Paul V. Dressendorfer<sup>2</sup>, Maria Grazia Pia<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>*IEEE, Piscataway, NJ, USA*

<sup>3</sup>*Univ. of Genova, Italy*

<sup>4</sup>*INFN Genova, Italy*

*Collaboration in progress: Berkay Kaynak and Onur Potok (Istanbul Univ., Turkey), Elisabetta Ronchieri (INFN CNAF, Bologna, Italy)*

Siena, 25-29 September 2023

25 years in 12 17 minutes...

Due to limited time allocation, there is room only to highlight a few results



# MC 93

International Conference on  
Monte Carlo Simulation in  
High Energy and Nuclear Physics

Editors  
Peter Dragovitsch  
Stephen L. Linn  
Miodi Burback

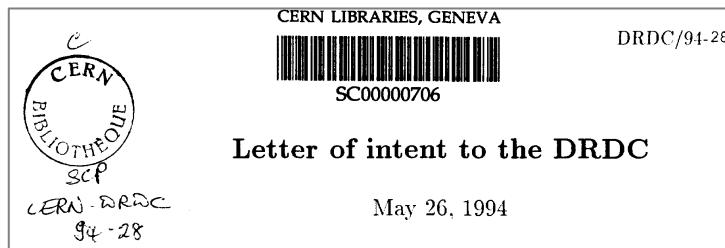
World Scientific

# 1993

## TOWARDS OBJECT-ORIENTED GEANT -- Prodig PROJECT --

Yoshinobu TAKAIWA,  
Katsuya AMAKO, Jun-ichi KANZAKI, and Takashi SASAKI  
KEK (National Laboratory for High Energy Physics)  
1-1 Oho, Tsukuba, Ibaraki 305, Japan

## MC 93, Int. Conf. on Monte Carlo Simulation in High Energy and Nuclear Physics



# 1993

Izakko Wasowski  
27.08.1993

## S. Giani, Investigation of a class hierarchy for GEANT

### MINI-WORKSHOP ON OBJECT ORIENTED GEANT

Held 24-27 August 1993 at CERN/CN/AS

EUROPEAN ORGANIZATION FOR NUCLEAR RESEARCH

## P58 Proposal to CERN Detector R&D Committee

CERN/DRDC/94-29  
DRDC / P58  
11 August 1994

## GEANT 4 : an Object-Oriented toolkit for simulation in HEP

## RD44 (GEANT4)

### GEANT 4: an Object-Oriented toolkit for simulation in HEP

ABSTRACT &  
FIGURES

HOME PAGE

NOTES &  
PUBLICATIONS

**SPOKESPERSON:** Simone GIANI  
**Experiment secretariat e-mail:** [Grey.Book@cern.ch](mailto:Grey.Book@cern.ch)

|           |            |
|-----------|------------|
| Beam:     |            |
| Approved: | 24-11-1994 |
|           | 07-12-1995 |
|           | 01-07-1997 |
|           | 21-10-1997 |
| Completed | 14-12-1998 |
| Finished  | 14-12-2008 |
| Status:   | Finished   |

April 1997: First alpha release

July 1998: First beta release

15 December **1998**  
**Geant4 0.0 is born**

**25<sup>th</sup>**  
ANNIVERSARY

# What has Geant4 been doing for 25 years?

1994

## RD44 mandate:

creating a detector simulation toolkit necessary for the next generation of HEP experiments

“A variety of requirements also come from heavy ions physics, CP violation physics, cosmic rays physics, medical applications and space science applications. In order to meet such requirements, a large degree of functionality and flexibility has to be provided.”

*RD44 Status Report, 1995*

1998

“Geant4 has a **multi-disciplinary** nature, providing functionality in a set of different scientific fields.

The Geant4 Object-Oriented design allows the user to **understand, extend, or customise** the toolkit in all the domains.”

*RD44 Status Report, 1998*

## Enabling scientific production

## GEANT4—a simulation toolkit

S. Agostinelli<sup>a,e</sup>, J. Allison<sup>a,s,\*</sup>, K. Amako<sup>e</sup>, J. Apostolakis<sup>a</sup>, H. Araujo<sup>aj</sup>, P. Arce<sup>l,m,x,a</sup>, M. Asai<sup>g,ai</sup>, D. Axen<sup>i,t</sup>, S. Banerjee<sup>bi,l</sup>, G. Barrand<sup>an</sup>, F. Behner<sup>l</sup>, L. Bellagamba<sup>c</sup>, J. Boudreau<sup>bd</sup>, L. Broglia<sup>ar</sup>, A. Brunengo<sup>c</sup>, H. Burkhardt<sup>a</sup>, S. Chauvie<sup>bj,bl</sup>, J. Chuma<sup>h</sup>, R. Chytracek<sup>a</sup>, G. Cooperman<sup>az</sup>, G. Cosmo<sup>a</sup>, P. Degtyarenko<sup>d</sup>, A. Dell'Acqua<sup>a,i</sup>, G. Depaola<sup>y</sup>, D. Dietrich<sup>af</sup>, R. Enami<sup>ab</sup>, A. Feliciello<sup>bj</sup>, C. Ferguson<sup>bh</sup>, H. Fesefeldt<sup>l,o</sup>, G. Folger<sup>a</sup>, F. Foppiano<sup>ac</sup>, A. Forti<sup>as</sup>, S. Garelli<sup>ac</sup>, S. Giani<sup>a</sup>, R. Giannitrapani<sup>bo</sup>, D. Gibin<sup>m,bc</sup>, J.J. Gómez Cadena<sup>m,bp</sup>, I. González<sup>d</sup>, G. Gracia Abril<sup>n</sup>, G. Greeniaus<sup>p,h,ag</sup>, W. Greiner<sup>af</sup>, V. Grichine<sup>f</sup>, A. Grossheim<sup>m,z</sup>, S. Guatelli<sup>ad</sup>, P. Gumplinger<sup>h</sup>, R. Hamatsu<sup>bk</sup>, K. Hashimoto<sup>ab</sup>, H. Hasui<sup>ab</sup>, A. Heikkinen<sup>ah</sup>, A. Howard<sup>aj</sup>, V. Ivanchenko<sup>a,ba</sup>, A. Johnson<sup>g</sup>, F.W. Jones<sup>h</sup>, J. Kallenbach<sup>aa</sup>, N. Kanaya<sup>i,h</sup>, M. Kawabata<sup>ab</sup>, Y. Kawabata<sup>ab</sup>, M. Kawaguti<sup>ab</sup>, S. Kelner<sup>at</sup>, P. Kent<sup>r</sup>, A. Kimura<sup>ay,bb</sup>, T. Kodama<sup>aw</sup>, R. Kokoulin<sup>at</sup>, M. Kossov<sup>d</sup>, H. Kurashige<sup>am</sup>, E. Lamanna<sup>w</sup>, T. Lampén<sup>ah</sup>, V. Lara<sup>a,l,bq</sup>, V. Lefebure<sup>l</sup>, F. Lei<sup>bh,be</sup>, M. Liendl<sup>l,a,br</sup>, W. Lockman<sup>l,bn</sup>, F. Longo<sup>bm</sup>, S. Magni<sup>k,au</sup>, M. Maire<sup>ao</sup>, E. Medernach<sup>a</sup>, K. Minamimoto<sup>aw,al</sup>, P. Mora de Freitas<sup>ap</sup>, Y. Morita<sup>e</sup>, K. Murakami<sup>e</sup>, M. Nagamatu<sup>aw</sup>, R. Nartallo<sup>b</sup>, P. Nieminen<sup>b</sup>, T. Nishimura<sup>ab</sup>, K. Ohtsubo<sup>ab</sup>, M. Okamura<sup>ab</sup>, S. O'Neale<sup>s</sup>, Y. Oohata<sup>bk</sup>, K. Paech<sup>af</sup>, J. Perl<sup>g</sup>, A. Pfeiffer<sup>a</sup>, M.G. Pia<sup>ad</sup>, F. Ranjard<sup>n</sup>, A. Rybin<sup>ak</sup>, S. Sadilov<sup>a,ak</sup>, E. Di Salvo<sup>c</sup>, G. Santin<sup>bm</sup>, T. Sasaki<sup>e</sup>, N. Savvas<sup>as</sup>, Y. Sawada<sup>ab</sup>, S. Scherer<sup>af</sup>, S. Sei<sup>aw</sup>, V. Sirotenko<sup>i,al</sup>, D. Smith<sup>g</sup>, N. Starkov<sup>f</sup>, H. Stoecker<sup>af</sup>, J. Sulkimo<sup>ah</sup>, M. Takahata<sup>ay</sup>, S. Tanaka<sup>bg</sup>, E. Tcherniaev<sup>a</sup>, E. Safai Tehrani<sup>g</sup>, M. Tropeano<sup>ae</sup>, P. Truscott<sup>be</sup>, H. Uno<sup>aw</sup>, L. Urban<sup>v</sup>, P. Urban<sup>aq</sup>, M. Verderi<sup>ap</sup>, A. Walkden<sup>as</sup>, W. Wander<sup>av</sup>, H. Weber<sup>af</sup>, J.P. Wellisch<sup>a,l</sup>, T. Wenaus<sup>u</sup>, D.C. Williams<sup>j,bf</sup>, D. Wright<sup>g,h</sup>, T. Yamada<sup>aw</sup>, H. Yoshida<sup>aw</sup>, D. Zschiesche<sup>af</sup>

<sup>a</sup> European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN), Switzerland<sup>b</sup> European Space Agency (ESA), ESTEC, The Netherlands<sup>c</sup> Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare (INFN), Italy<sup>d</sup> Jefferson Lab, USA<sup>e</sup> KEK, Japan

\*Corresponding author. Tel.: +44-161-275-4179; fax: +44-161-273-5867.

E-mail address: john.allison@man.ac.uk (J. Allison).

# 16023 citations

## Most cited paper in

- **Particles & Fields Physics**  
*436176 papers*
- **Nuclear Physics**  
*335328 papers*
- **Nuclear Science & Technology**  
*380632 papers*
- **Instruments & Instrumentation**  
*696376 papers*

## Most cited articles in

### Astronomy & Astrophysics:

14099 citations

### Radiology, Nuclear Medicine & Medical Imaging:

11906 citations

## Web of Science, Clarivate Analytics

14 September 2023

INFN subscription coverage: 1990 →

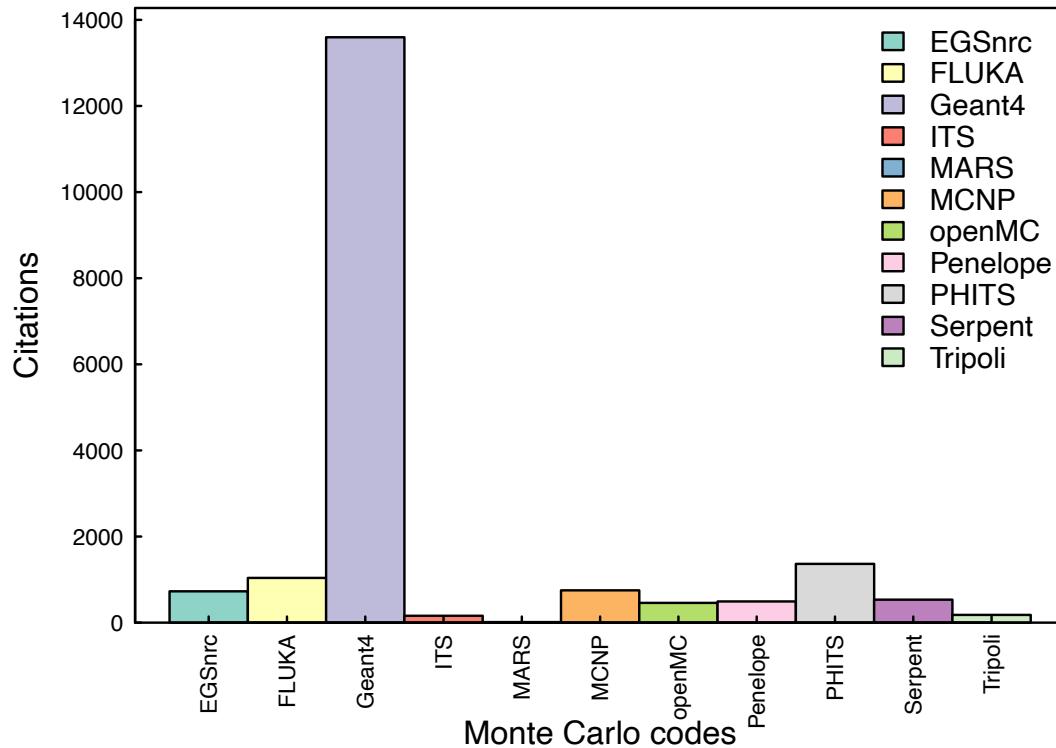


The 5 most cited papers in **Instruments & Instrumentation** are **software** papers

# Monte Carlo transport codes

Usage  
characteristics

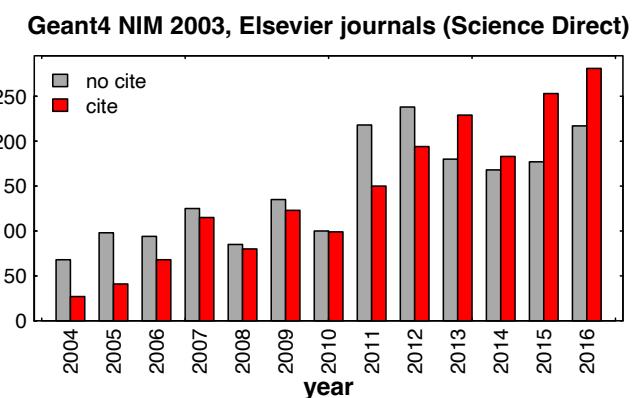
Citations of Monte Carlo codes



Variable publication dates of the  
respective reference papers  
For some codes, large fraction of  
citations from the code's authors

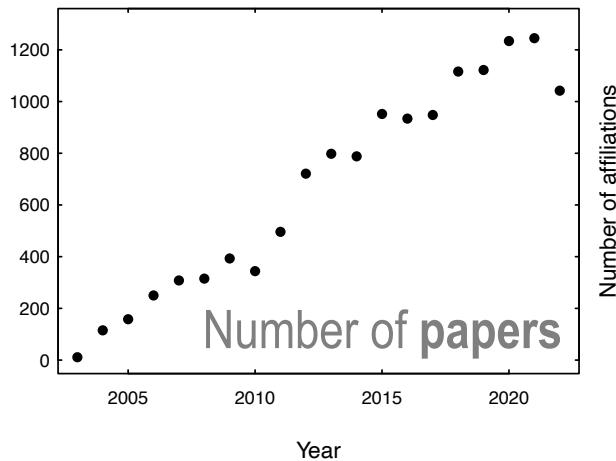
## Missing citations

Many publications **do not cite scientific software**  
systems mentioned in the text and used to  
**produce the results**

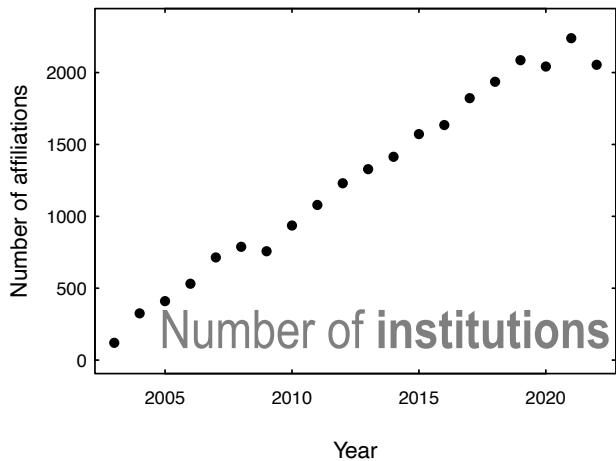


# Time profile of the citations

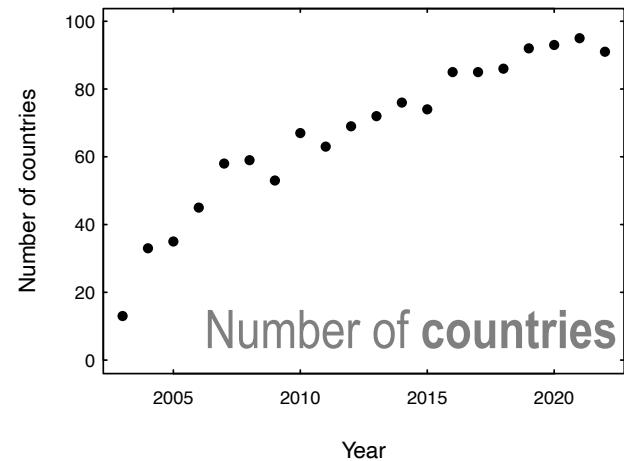
Geant4



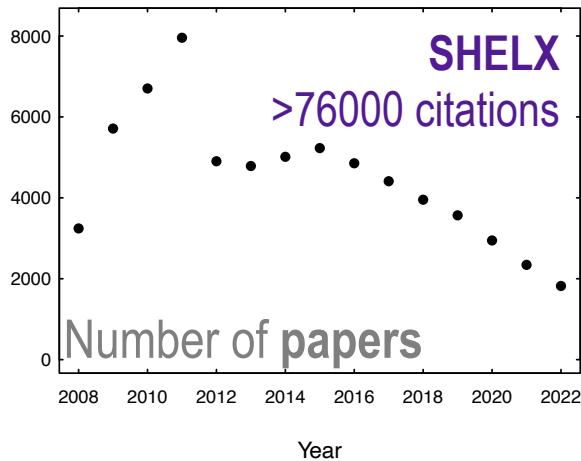
Geant4



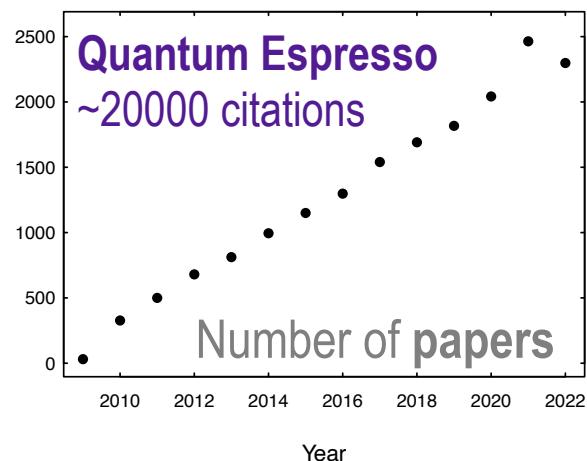
Geant4



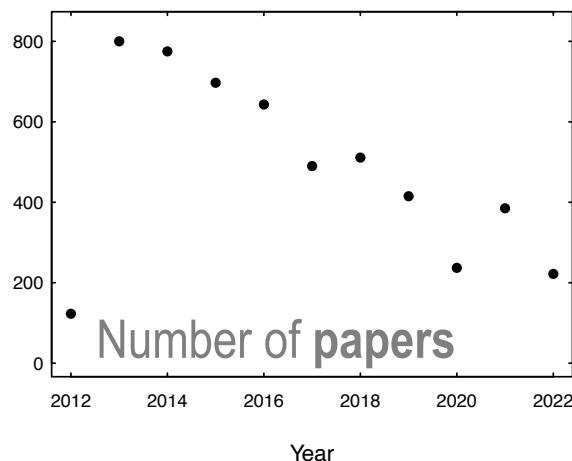
SHELX

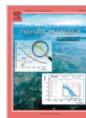


Quantum Espresso



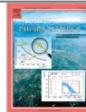
Higgs boson discovery





6121 citations

Observation of a new particle in the search for the Standard Model Higgs boson with the ATLAS detector at the LHC



Observation of a new boson at a mass of 125 GeV with the CMS experiment at the LHC

Eur. Phys. J. C (2011) 71: 1534  
DOI 10.1140/epjc/s10052-010-1534-9

Review

1244 citations

**Heavy quarkonium: progress, puzzles, and opportunities**

Search for Majorana Neutrinos Near the Inverted Mass Hierarchy Region with KamLAND-Zen

714 citations

A. Gando *et al.* (KamLAND-Zen Collaboration)Phys. Rev. Lett. **117**, 082503 – Published 16 August 2016; Erratum Phys. Rev. Lett. **117**, 109903 (2016)

Indication of Reactor  $\bar{\nu}_e$  Disappearance in the Double Chooz Experiment

967 citations

Y. Abe *et al.* (Double Chooz Collaboration)Phys. Rev. Lett. **108**, 131801 – Published 28 March 2012

Dark Matter Results from 54-Ton-Day Exposure of PandaX-II Experiment

726 citations

Xiangyi Cui *et al.* (PandaX-II Collaboration)Phys. Rev. Lett. **119**, 181302 – Published 30 October 2017

INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS PUBLISHING

Phys. Med. Biol. **49** (2004) 4543–4561

1617 citations

**GATE: a simulation toolkit for PET and SPECT**

Cited by relevant papers

and more...

First Result from the Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer on the International Space Station: Precision Measurement of the Positron Fraction in Primary Cosmic Rays of 0.5–350 GeV

M. Aguilar *et al.* (AMS Collaboration)  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **110**, 141102 – Published 3 April 2013

797 citations

Measurement of the Cosmic Ray  $e^+ + e^-$  Spectrum from 20 GeV to 1 TeV with the Fermi Large Area Telescope

A. A. Abdo *et al.* (Fermi LAT Collaboration)  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **102**, 181101 – Published 4 May 2009

797 citations

REVIEW ARTICLE | AUGUST 11 2008

**Gas-assisted focused electron beam and ion beam processing and fabrication**

Ivo Utke; Patrik Hoffmann; John Melngailis

J. Vac. Sci. Technol. B **26**, 1197–1276 (2008)<https://doi.org/10.1116/1.2955728>

816 citations



PUBLISHED FOR SISSA BY SPRINGER

RECEIVED: November 29, 2016

REVISED: March 24, 2017

ACCEPTED: April 6, 2017

PUBLISHED: April 28, 2017

594 citations

**Evidence for the two-body charmless baryonic decay**  
 $B^+ \rightarrow p\bar{\Lambda}$

Dark Matter Search Results from a One Ton-Year Exposure of XENON1T

E. Aprile *et al.* (XENON Collaboration)  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **121**, 111302 – Published 12 September 2018

IOP PUBLISHING

Phys. Med. Biol. **57** (2012) R99–R117

PHYSICS IN MEDICINE AND BIOLOGY

[doi:10.1088/0031-9155/57/11/R99](https://doi.org/10.1088/0031-9155/57/11/R99)

TOPICAL REVIEW

838 citations

**Range uncertainties in proton therapy and the role of Monte Carlo simulations**



Optical dating in archaeology: thirty years in retrospect and grand challenges for the future



Review

<https://www.mdpi.com/journal/minerals>

**A Review of Sensor-Based Sorting in Mineral Processing: The Potential Benefits of Sensor Fusion**

## Discovery of a big void in Khufu's Pyramid by observation of cosmic-ray muons

ADVANCING  
EARTH AND  
SPACE SCIENCE**Geophysical Research Letters**

RESEARCH LETTER

10.1029/2018GL077784

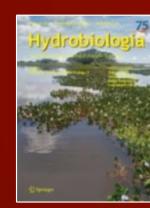
Termination of Electron Acceleration in Thundercloud  
by Intracloud/Intercloud Discharge

Geant4 is used in many different fields...

[Home](#) > [Hydrobiologia](#) > Article

### *Adineta vaga* under fire: simulating the impact of radiation

ROTIFERA XVI | Open Access | Published: 16 August 2023 | (2023)



Nonlin. Processes Geophys., 27, 75–119, 2020  
<https://doi.org/10.5194/npg-27-75-2020>  
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Nonlinear Processes  
in Geophysics  
Open Access



Improving phytosanitary irradiation treatment of mangoes using Monte Carlo simulation

The physics of space weather/solar-terrestrial physics (STP): what we know now and what the current and future challenges are

Geosci. Instrum. Method. Data Syst., 2, 55–60, 2013  
[www.geosci-instrum-method-data-syst.net/2/55/2013/](http://www.geosci-instrum-method-data-syst.net/2/55/2013/)  
 doi:10.5194/gi-2-55-2013  
 © Author(s) 2013. CC Attribution 3.0 License.

Geoscientific  
Instrumentation  
Methods and  
Data Systems  
Open Access



### Towards a muon radiography of the Puy de Dôme

Advances in Computational Mathematics (2023) 49:62  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10444-023-10065-9>

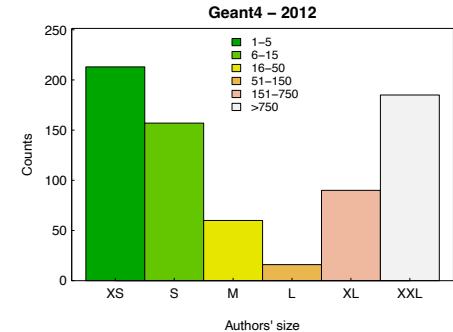
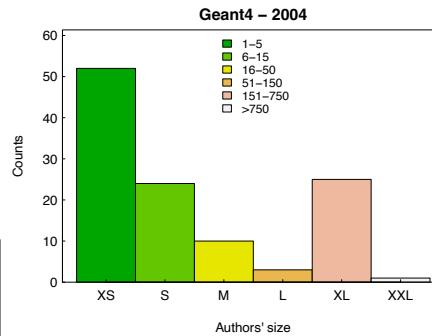
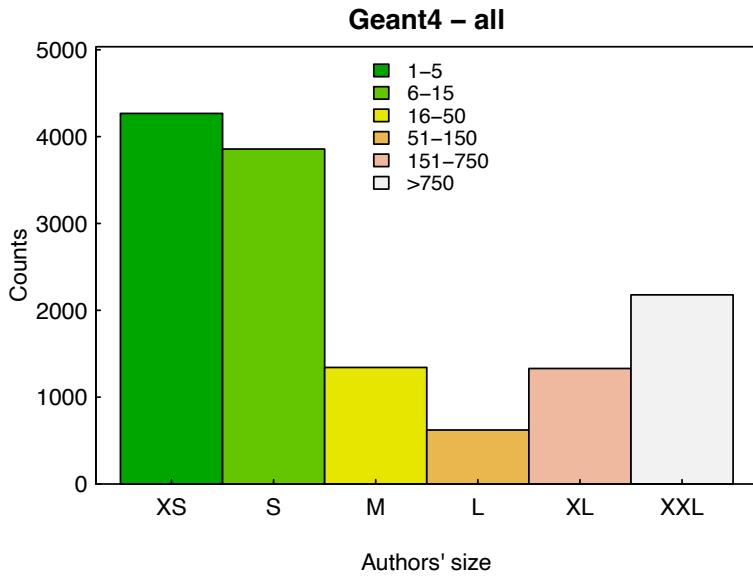


Short communication

Predicted ionisation in mitochondria and observed acute changes in the mitochondrial transcriptome after gamma irradiation: A Monte Carlo simulation and quantitative PCR study

Finite basis physics-informed neural networks (FBPINNs): a scalable domain decomposition approach for solving differential equations

# Small and big

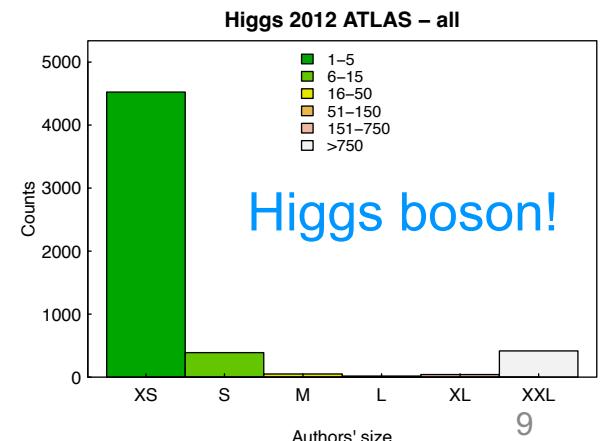
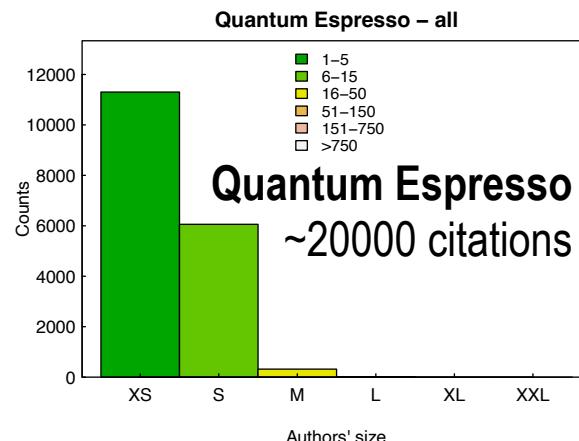
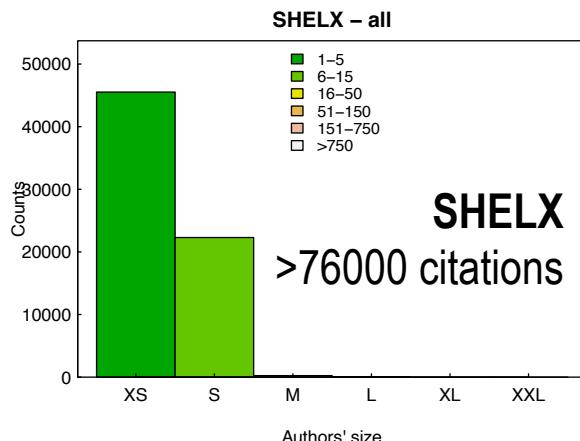


Research groups' size:  
from XS to XXL

# Geant4

Research groups of widely varied sizes use Geant4

## Other highly cited software systems



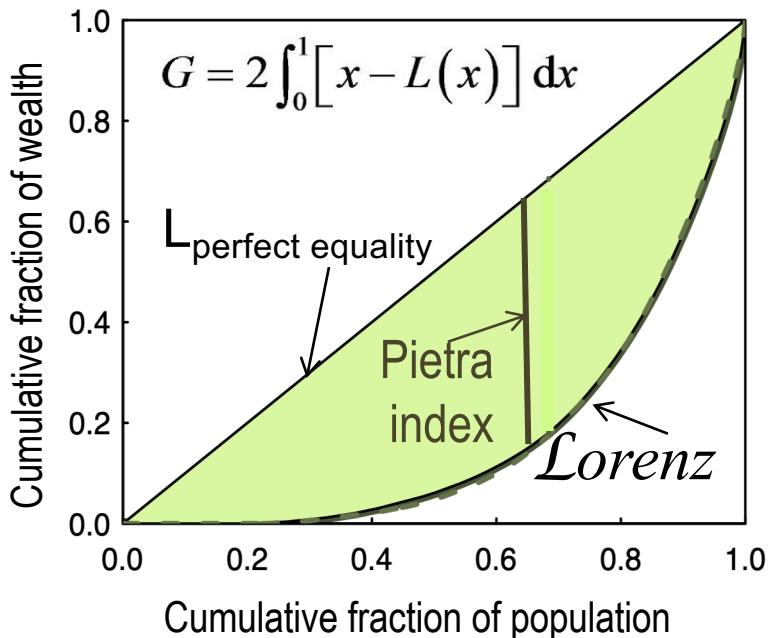
# Fairness

In econometrics, measured by **inequality** indices

## Gini index

Most common measure of inequality

*"The N richest people in the world are worth more than the poorest X%"*



$$0 \xrightarrow{\text{more unequal society}} 1$$

## Pietra index

(AKA Ricci-Schutz index, Hoover index, Robin Hood index)

$$P = \max(L_{pe}(x) - L(x))$$

Used in derivative markets as a benchmark measure of statistical heterogeneity

## Atkinson index

Used to calculate the proportion of total income that would be required to achieve an equal level of social welfare as at present, if incomes were perfectly distributed

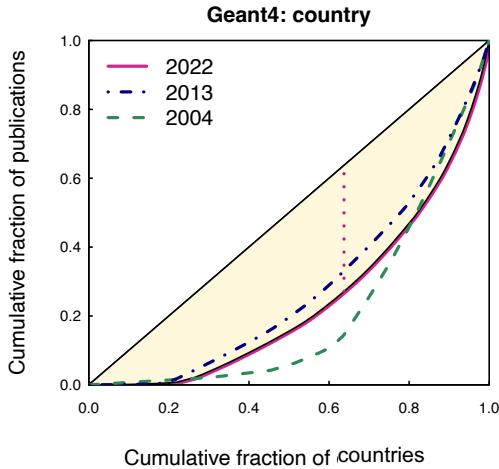
**Theil index** (*the same as redundancy in information theory*),

**Kolm** index, coefficient of variability, generalized entropy etc.

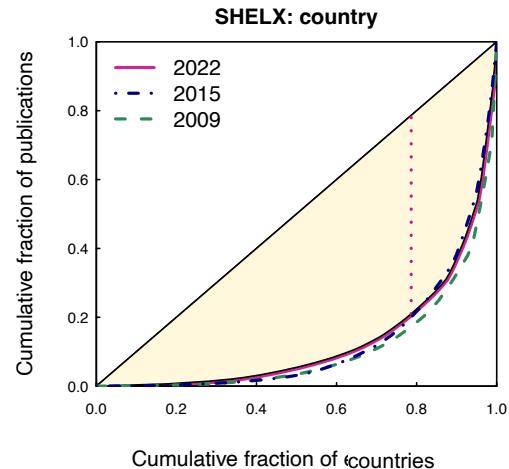
# Geo-inequality

Geographical distribution evaluated by means of econometric methods

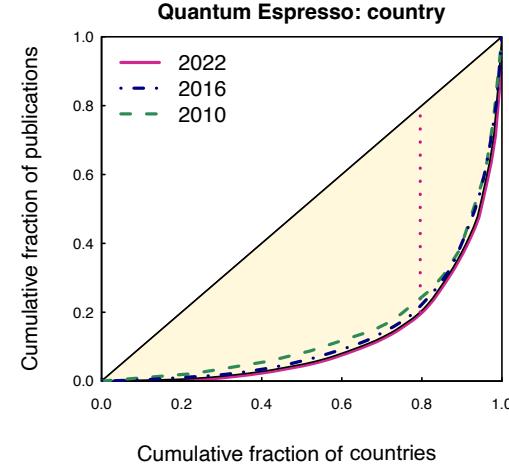
The use of Geant4 is more fairly distributed among countries



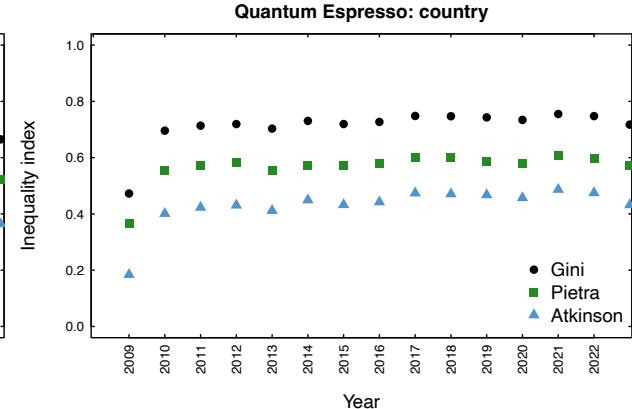
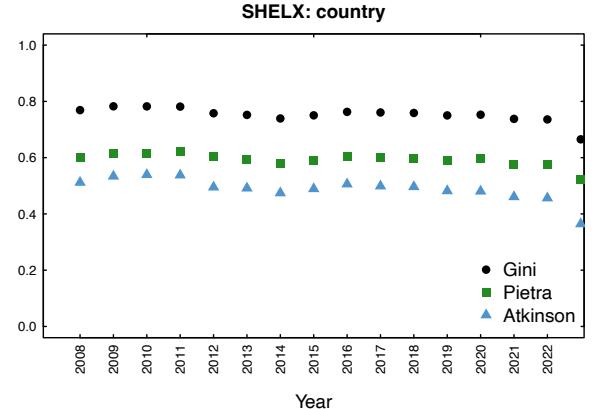
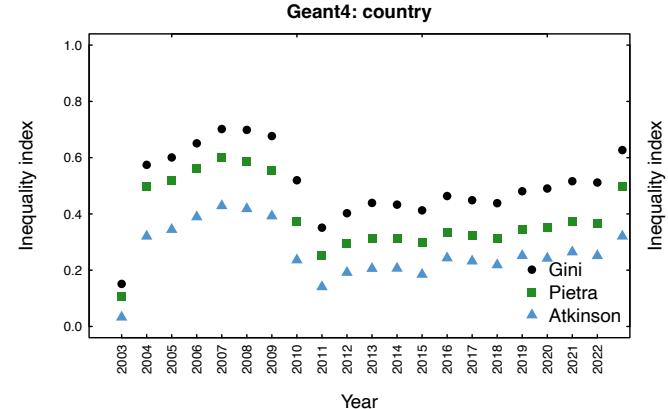
**Geant4** 38 countries present  
in > 10% of the papers



**SHELX** only 3 countries present  
in > 10% of the papers



**QuantumEspresso**



# Diversity

Concept drawn from **ecology**:  
**number of species** and their **abundance**

- **Diversity** measures the **richness** and the **complexity** of a community
- Related to the concept of **entropy** in information theory
- Measured by several indices, with different **sensitivity to rare species**

**Margalef index**

$$D_{Mg} = (S - 1) / \log N$$

**Simpson index**

$$\lambda = \sum_{i=1}^R p_i^2$$

**Shannon index**

$$H = -\sum_{i=1}^S p_i \log p_i$$

**Renyi diversity**

$${}^q H_{Renyi} = \frac{1}{1-q} \log \left( \sum_{i=1}^S p_i^q \right)$$

**Tsallis diversity**

$${}^q H_{Tsallis} = \frac{1}{1-q} \left( \sum_{i=1}^S p_i^q - 1 \right)$$

Recent consensus on **Hill indices** to measure diversity:  
mathematical functions that combine **richness** and **evenness**

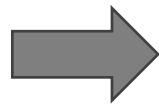
**Hill indices**

$${}^q D = \left( \sum_{i=1}^S p_i^q \right)^{1/(1-q)}$$

**S** = # of different species  
**p** = proportion of species  
**q** = order of Hill index

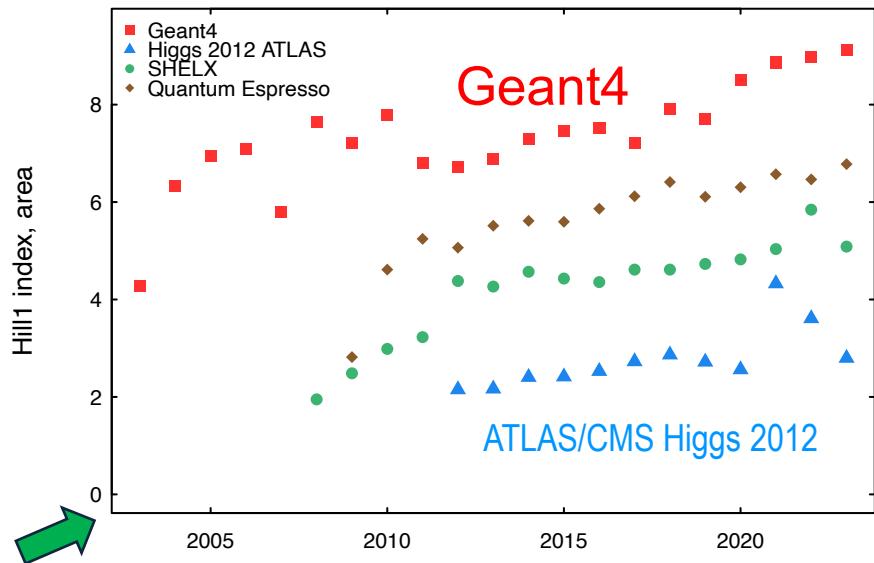
|          |   |
|----------|---|
| <b>0</b> | number of species   |
| <b>1</b> | $\lim_{q \rightarrow 1} {}^q D \equiv {}^1 D = \exp \left( - \sum_{i=1}^S p_i \log p_i \right)$ |
| <b>2</b> | ${}^2 D = 1 / \sum_{i=1}^S p_i^2$   |

Hill indices can be interpreted as effective number of species



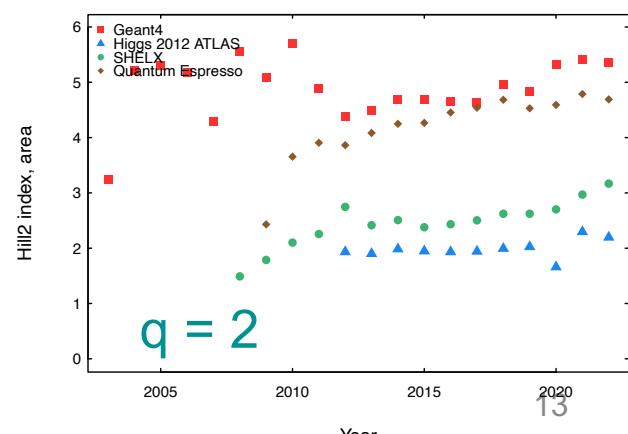
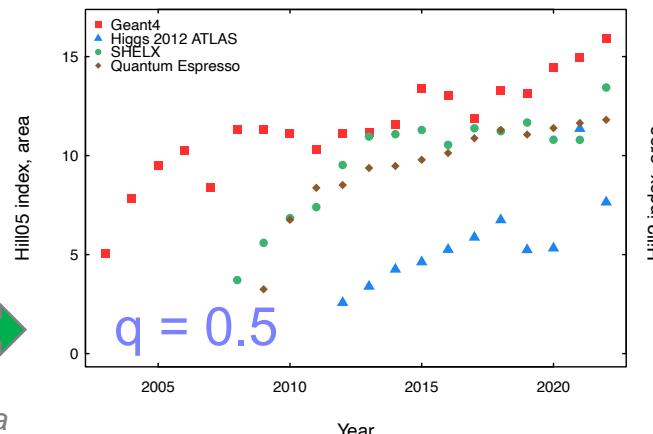
compare the diversity of communities

## Diversity of the research areas of citing papers



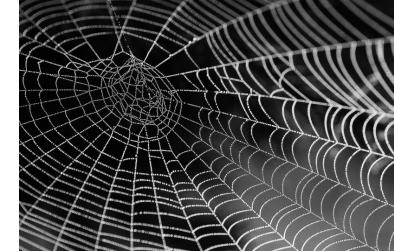
Geant4 citations:  
largest diversity, growing

Largest diversity also when the  
emphasis is on rare species or  
on more common ones



# A step forward: the Web of Science as a web

# What interacts with what? Who with whom?

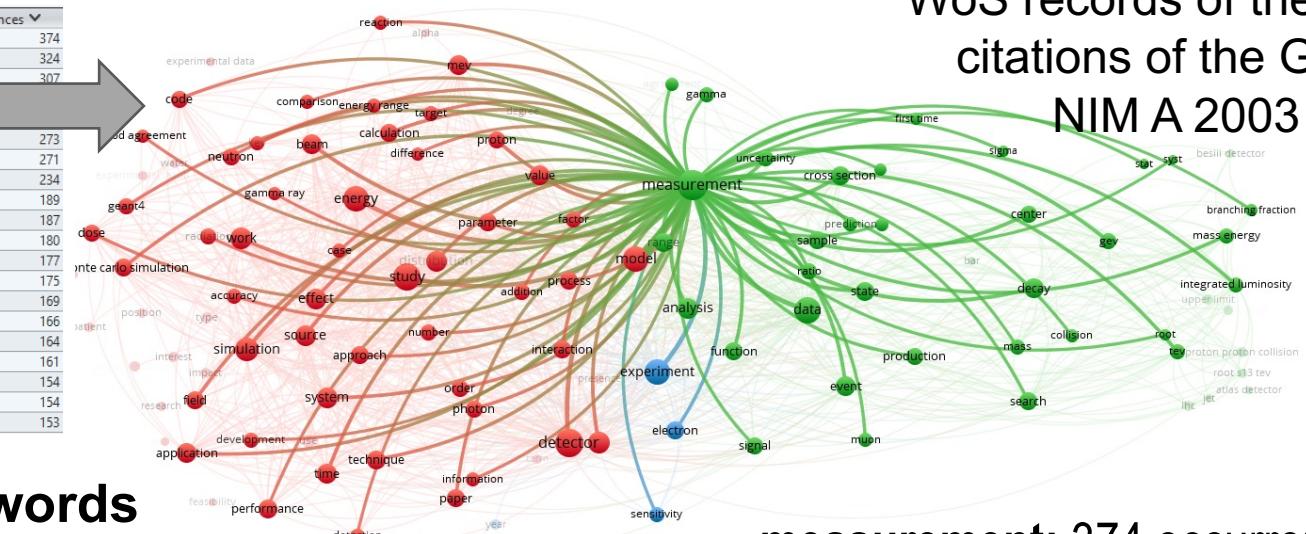
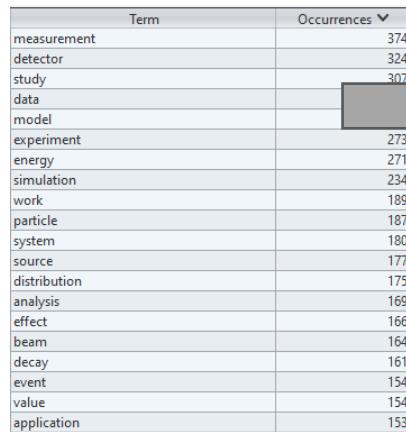


**Network analysis** over words (*in titles and abstracts*), authors, institutes etc.

# Moving from flat tables to graphs

## Example

# WoS records of the 2022 citations of the Geant4 NIM A 2003 paper



**115 relevant words**  
out of 21699 words occurring  
in titles + abstracts of 1060 citing papers  
*(relevant: appearing in at least  $N_{threshold} = 30$  papers)*

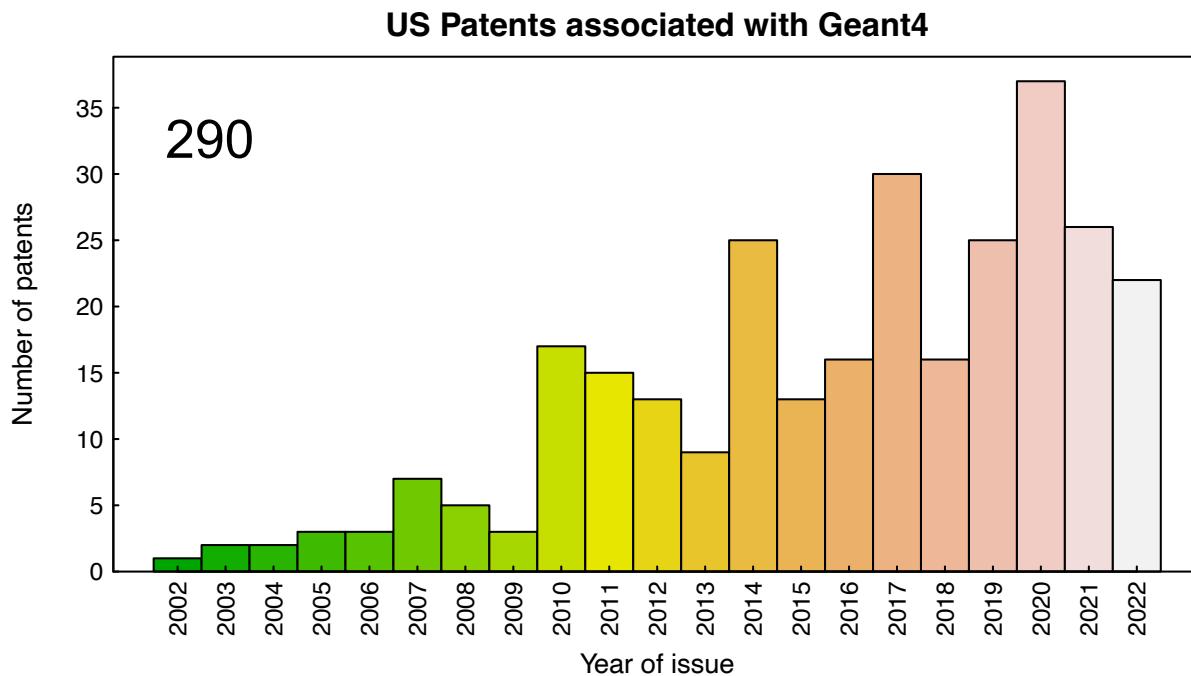
**measurement:** 374 occurrences

What is "measurement" related to  
in Geant4 citations?

The analysis **clusters the connections** in the Web of Science data

# Patents

*Analysis in progress*



Mann-Kendall  
and  
Cox-Stuart  
**trend tests**

$H_0$ : no trend  
 $H_1$ : ↗ trend  
 $p < 0.01$

US patents retrieved from the  
**United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)**

# Conclusions

>16000 citations

**Most cited** paper in Particle and Fields Physics, Nuclear Physics, Nuclear Science and Technology, Instruments and Instrumentation

**Most cited** paper authored by **CERN, ESA, INFN...**

Enables small research groups and large collaborations to produce scientific results

Diverse research areas and fair geographical spread

**Design**

"Geant4 has a **multi-disciplinary** nature, providing functionality in a set of different scientific fields.

The Geant4 Object-Oriented design allows the user to **understand, extend, or customise** the toolkit in all the domains."

**Many new and original ideas**

**RD44**

**Depth of thought**

**Paradigm shift**

**Courage**

