



Version 11.2

# Geometry

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Geant4 Advanced Course



## Contents – Part 1

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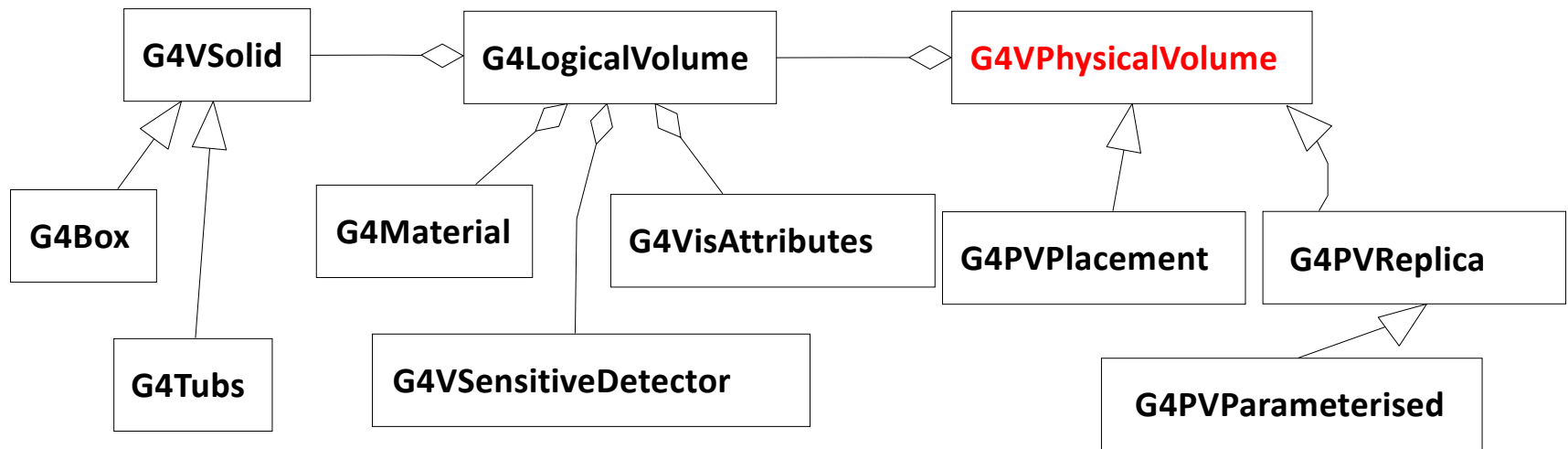


- Placements, Replicated and Parameterised volumes - Introduction
- Touchables and Nested parameterisations
- Divided volumes
- Geometrical regions
- Assembly volumes
- Reflected volumes
- Geometry optimisation
- Parallel geometries
- Moving geometries
- CAD interface



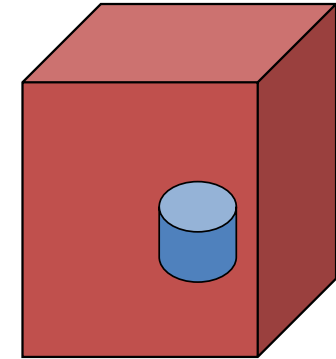
# Detector geometry

- Three conceptual layers
  - **G4VSolid** -- *shape, size*
  - **G4LogicalVolume** -- *daughter physical volumes, material, sensitivity, user limits, etc.*
  - **G4VPhysicalVolume** -- *position, rotation*

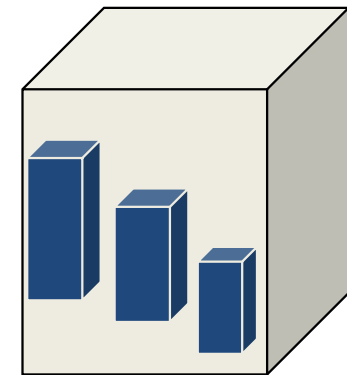


# Physical Volumes – placements/repeated

- Placement volume - it is one positioned volume
  - One physical volume object represents one “real” volume
- Repeated volume - a volume placed many times
  - One physical volume object represents any number of “real” volumes
  - reduces use of memory
- Why have ‘repeated’ volumes – what is the reason and impact ?
  - In many setups thousands (or millions) of volumes share (nearly) all characteristics (shape/solid, material, .. ) except their location
  - Simple repeated volumes allow us to have one represent many, by just ‘shifting’ its location
  - For each repeated volume that represents 100,000 copies, you will
    - save on the order of 100 MB
    - avoid accesses to that memory, reusing one object of ~1 KB size



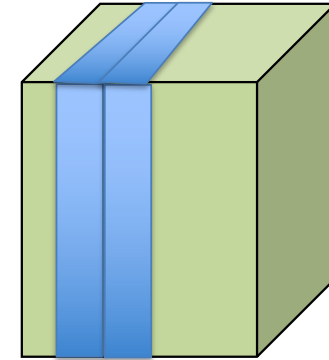
*placement*



*repeated*

# Types of Repeated Physical Volumes

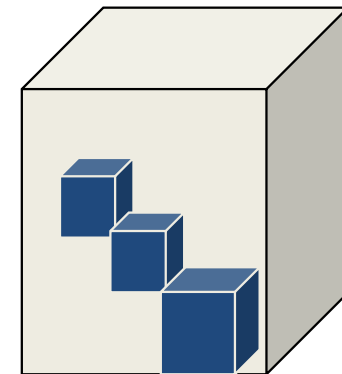
- Repeated volume - a volume placed many times can be
  - *Replica or Division*
    - simple repetition along one axis
  - *Parameterised*
    - The shape, size, material, sensitivity, vis attributes, position and rotation can be parameterised by the **copy number**



*Replica/division*

IMPORTANT note:

- A mother volume can contain **either**
  - Any number of placement volumes, **or**,
  - One repeated volume



*parameterised*

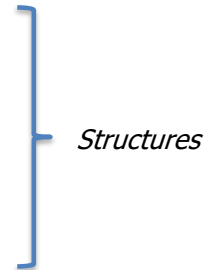
# Physical Volumes

- **G4PVReplica**                      1 Replica = Many **Repeated Volumes**
  - Daughters of same shape are aligned along one axis
  - Daughters fill the mother completely without gap in between
- **G4PVDivision**                      1 Division = Many **Repeated Volumes**
  - Daughters of same shape are aligned along one axis and fill the mother
  - There can be gaps between mother wall and outmost daughters
  - No gap in between daughters



# Physical Volumes

- **G4PVReplica**            1 Replica = Many **Repeated Volumes**
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  - There can be gaps between mother wall and outmost daughters
  - No gap in between daughters
- **G4ReflectionFactory**    1 Placement = a **pair** of **Placement volumes**
  - generating placements of a volume and its reflected volume
  - Useful typically for end-cap calorimeter
- **G4AssemblyVolume**    1 Placement = a set of **Placement volumes**
  - Position a group of volumes (leave an imprint one or many times)

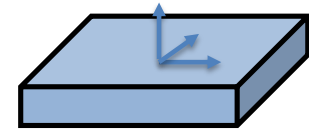


## *Physical Volumes: Replicas*

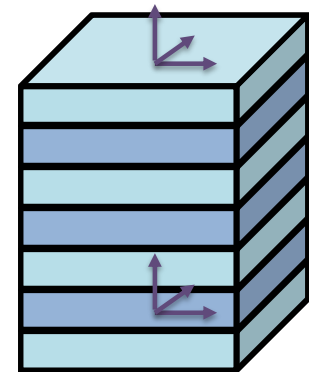


# Replicated Volumes

- The replica daughter volumes must **completely fill** their mother volume.
- All replicas are the **same size (width)** and **shape**
- Replication may occur along:
  - Cartesian axes (X, Y, Z) – slices are perpendicular to this axis
    - Daughter's **origin** of coordinate system is the **center** of a replica
  - Radial axis (Rho) – cons/tubs sections centered on the origin and unrotated
    - Origin of its coordinate system is the **same** as the mother
  - Phi axis (Phi) – phi sections or wedges, of cons/tubs form
    - Coordinate system rotated such as that the X axis bisects the angle made by each wedge



a daughter  
logical volume to  
be replicated



mother volume

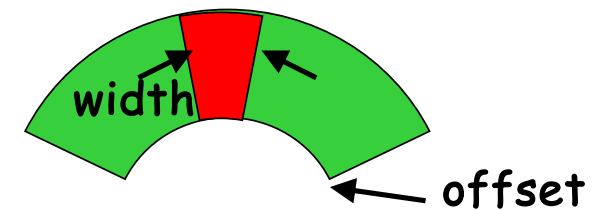
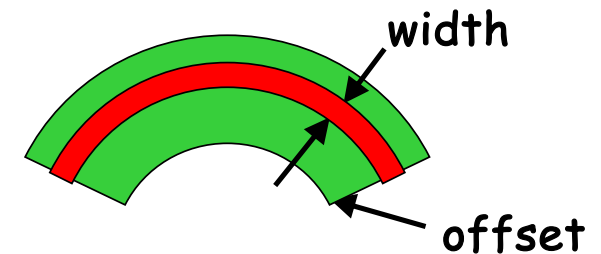
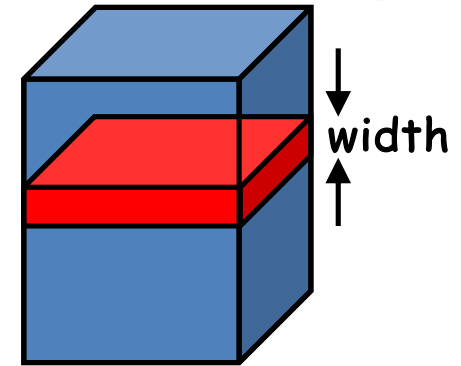
## G4PVReplica

```
G4PVReplica(const G4String& pName,  
            G4LogicalVolume* pLogical,  
            G4LogicalVolume* pMother,  
            const EAxis pAxis,  
            const G4int nReplicas,  
            const G4double width,  
            const G4double offset=0.);
```

- `offset` may be used only for tube/cone segment
- Features and restrictions:
  - Replicas can be placed inside other replicas
  - Normal placement volumes can be placed inside replicas, assuming no intersection/overlaps with the mother volume or with other replicas
  - No volume can be placed inside a **radial** replication
  - Simple parameterised volumes **cannot** be placed inside a replica

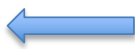
## Replica - axis, width, offset

- Cartesian axes - **kXAxis**, **kYAxis**, **kZAxis**
  - Center of n-th daughter is given as  
$$-\text{width} * (\text{nReplicas} - 1) * 0.5 + \text{n} * \text{width}$$
  - Offset shall not be used
- Radial axis - **kRho**
  - Center of n-th daughter is given as  
$$\text{width} * (\text{n} + 0.5) + \text{offset}$$
  - Offset must be the inner radius of the mother
- Phi axis - **kPhi**
  - Center of n-th daughter is given as  
$$\text{width} * (\text{n} + 0.5) + \text{offset}$$
  - Offset must be the starting angle of the mother



## ***Physical Volumes: Parameterisations***

# Physical Volumes

- **G4PVPlacement**      1 Placement = One **Placement Volume**
  - A volume instance positioned once in its mother volume
- **G4PVParameterised**      1 Parameterized = Many **Repeated Volumes** 
  - Generalising the concept of repeated volume, it 'parameterizes' the properties
  - The values of chosen attributes must be calculated by the user, using as input the **copy number**.
  - One or more attributes can be parameterized from
    - Size, shape(type of solid), material, sensitivity, vis attributes, position and rotation
  - How? The user (you) must implement a concrete class of **G4VPVParameterisation**
  - Reduction of memory consumption

# Parameterised Physical Volumes

- **G4PVParameterised** 1 Parameterized = Many **Repeated Volumes**
  - One or more attributes can be parameterized from
    - Size, shape(type of solid), material, sensitivity, vis attributes, position and rotation

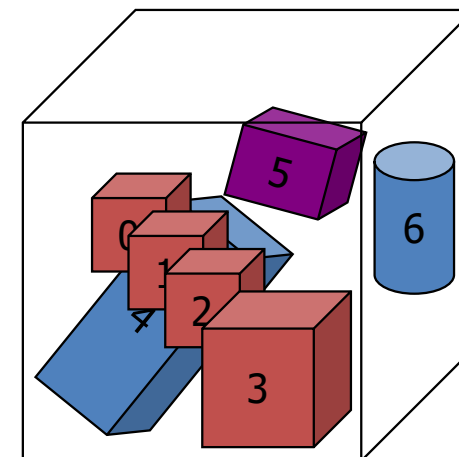


## Restrictions:

- A parameterised volume can only have daughter volumes only if each of its instance (the volumes it creates) is identical in size & shape to the rest
  - This allows the grand-daughter volumes a chance to safely fit inside that identical daughter volumes – as required.
- Parameterisations of composed solids like Boolean, Reflected or Displaced solids are not recommended/supported
- A special sub-type called **G4PVNestedParameterisation** (of **G4VPVParameterisation**), also has access to the copy numbers of the ancestor volumes (grand-mother etc), which you can use to change (parameterize) the material, sensitivity and vis attributes.

# Parameterised Physical Volumes: how to create one?

- You implement a class derived from **G4VPVParameterisation** abstract base class and define the following **as a function of copy number**:
  - where that one is positioned (translation, rotation)
  - [optionally] the size of the solid (dimensions)
  - [optionally] the type of the solid, material, sensitivity, vis attributes
- All daughters must be fully **contained** in the mother
- Daughters must **not overlap** to each other
- Limitations/suggestions:
  - Applies to a limited set of solids only
    - Box, Tube, Trd, Simple Trapezoid, Cone, Sphere, Orb, Ellipsoid, Torus, Parallelepiped, Polycone, Polyhedron, Tetrahedron, Hyperboloid
  - Consider parameterised volumes as “leaf” volumes – don’t put another volume inside !
- Typical use-cases
  - Complex detectors with large repetition of volumes, regular or irregular
  - Medical applications: the material in tissue as cubes with varying material as measured in a scan



# G4PVParameterised

```
G4PVParameterised(const G4String& pName,  
                  G4LogicalVolume* pLogical,  
                  G4LogicalVolume* pMother,  
                  const EAxis pAxis,  
                  const G4int nReplicas,  
                  G4VPVParameterisation* pParam  
                  G4bool pSurfChk=false);
```

- Replicates the volume **nReplicas** times using the parameterisation **pParam**, within the mother volume **pMother**
- **pAxis** is a “suggestion” to the navigator along which Cartesian axis replication of parameterized volumes dominates
  - **kXAxis**, **kYAxis**, **kZAxis** : one-dimensional optimization
  - **kUndefined** : three-dimensional optimization



## ***Touchable & Nested Parameterisations***

## Step Point & Touchable

- A track in Geant4 is composed of steps; `G4Step` has two `G4StepPoint` objects as its starting and ending points. All the geometrical information of the *current* step should be taken from the “`PreStepPoint`”
  - The geometrical information associated with `G4Track` is identical to the “`PostStepPoint`”
- Each `G4StepPoint` object provides:
  - Position in world coordinate system
  - Global and local time
  - Material
  - `G4TouchableHistory` for geometrical information
- The `G4TouchableHistory` object is a vector of information for each geometrical hierarchy, including:
  - copy number
  - transformation / rotation to its mother
- *Handles (or smart-pointers)* to touchables are used intrinsically in Geant4
  - Touchables are reference counted objects

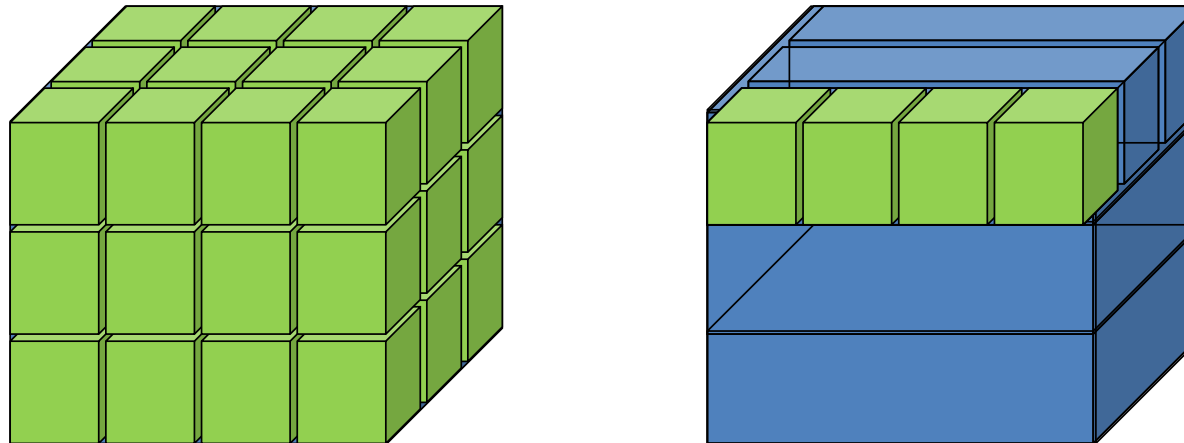
## How to get information from a touchable?

`G4TouchableHistory` has information on the geometrical hierarchy of the point

```
G4Step* aStep;
G4StepPoint* preStepPoint = aStep->GetPreStepPoint();
G4TouchableHistory* theTouchable =
    (G4TouchableHistory*) (preStepPoint->GetTouchable());
G4int copyNo = theTouchable->GetVolume()->GetCopyNo();
G4int motherCopyNo
    = theTouchable->GetVolume(1)->GetCopyNo();
G4int grandMotherCopyNo
    = theTouchable->GetVolume(2)->GetCopyNo();
G4ThreeVector worldPos = preStepPoint->GetPosition();
G4ThreeVector localPos = theTouchable->GetHistory()
    ->GetTopTransform().TransformPoint(worldPos);
```

# Nested Parameterisation

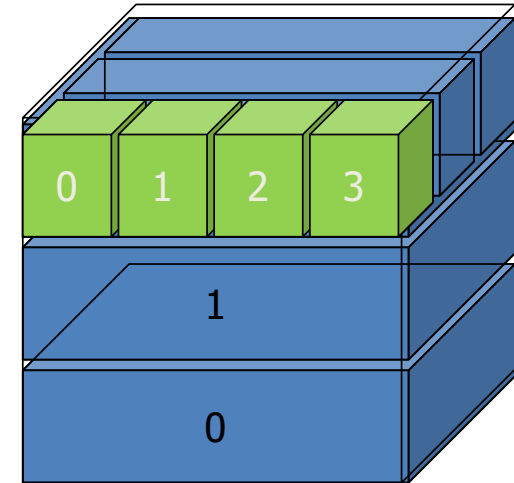
- ▶ Suppose a geometry with three-dimensional regular repetition of the same shape and size of volumes without gap between volumes. Material of such volumes are changing according to the position
  - ▶ E.g. voxels made by CT Scan data (DICOM)
- ▶ Instead of a full three-dimensional parameterised volume:
  - ▶ Use replicas for the first and second axes sequentially, and then use one-dimensional parameterisation along the third axis



*Much less memory required for geometry optimization and much faster navigation for ultra-large number of voxels*

# Nested Parameterisation

- ▶ Given a geometry defined as two sequential replicas and then one-dimensional parameterisation,
  - ▶ Material of a single voxel must be parameterised not only by the copy number of the voxel, but also by the copy numbers of the ancestors
  - ▶ Material is indexed by three indices
- ▶ **G4VNestedParameterisation** is a special parameterisation class derived from the base class G4VPVParameterisation
  - ▶ **ComputeMaterial()** method of **G4VNestedParameterisation** has a touchable object of the **parent** physical volume, in addition to the copy number of the voxel
    - ▶ Index of first axis = `theTouchable->GetCopyNumber(1);`
    - ▶ Index of second axis = `theTouchable->GetCopyNumber(0);`
    - ▶ Index of third axis = copy number



# G4VNestedParameterisation

- G4VNestedParameterisation is a class derived from G4VPVParameterisation
- G4VNestedParameterisation class has three **pure virtual** methods to be implemented by the user in addition to **ComputeTransformation()**, which is a mandatory method for all G4VPVParameterisation classes:

```
virtual G4Material* ComputeMaterial(G4VPhysicalVolume* currentVol,  
                                     const G4int repNo,  
                                     const G4VTouchable* parentTouch) = 0;
```

- Returns a material pointer using copy numbers of itself and its ancestors (from the parent touchable)

```
virtual G4int GetNumberOfMaterials() const = 0;
```

- Returns total number of materials that appear as a return value of **ComputeMaterial()** method

```
virtual G4Material* GetMaterial(G4int idx) const = 0;
```

- Return **idx**-th material
- **idx** is not a copy number: **idx=[0, nMaterial-1]**

- *These last two methods are needed to inform Geant4 quickly about all materials that show up!*

## *G4VNestedParameterisation - notes*



- As a sub-type of the G4VPVParameterisation class:
  - G4VNestedParameterisation can be used as an argument of G4PVPParameterised
  - All other arguments of G4PVPParameterised are unaffected
- Nested parameterisations of a placement volume are **not** supported
  - All levels (of the touchable) used as an index to calculate material must be a repeated volume
  - Also a level of placement volume cannot exist in between

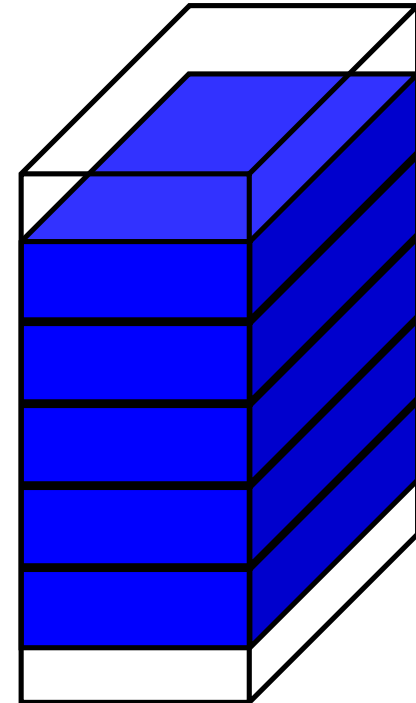


## *Divided Volumes*



# G4PVDivision

- G4PVDivision is similar to G4PVReplica except
  - It **allows gaps** in between the mother and daughter volumes
- **The geometrical shape of all daughter volumes must be the same as for the mother volume.**
  - G4VSolid (to be assigned to the daughter logical volume) must be a different object but of the same type
- **Replication must be aligned along one axis**
- For setups with no gaps, should use **G4PVReplica** instead
  - For identical geometry, navigation in G4PVReplica is faster
- *Note: A "division" in Geant4 is implemented as a specialized kind of parameterised volume*
  - G4VPVParameterisation is **automatically generated** according to the parameters given in G4PVDivision

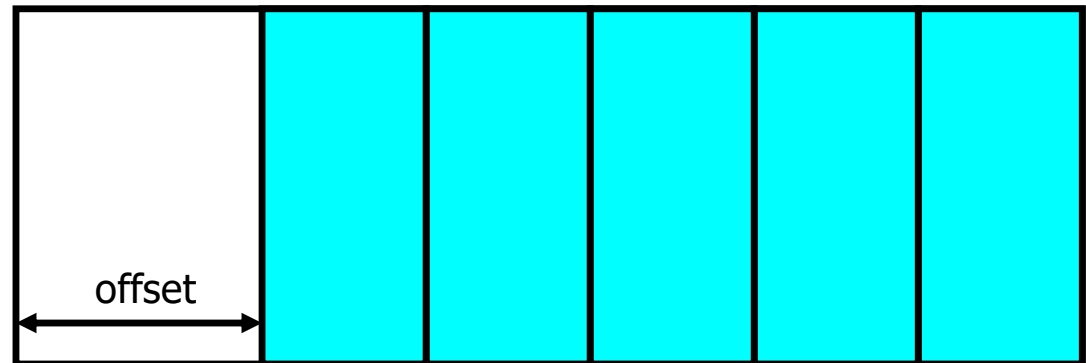


mother volume

## G4PVDivision - # of divisions provided

```
G4PVDivision(const G4String& pName,  
            G4LogicalVolume* pDaughterLogical,  
            G4LogicalVolume* pMotherLogical,  
            const EAxis pAxis,  
            const G4int nDivisions,  
            const G4double offset);
```

- The size (width) of the daughter volume is calculated as  
 $(\text{size of mother} - \text{offset}) / \text{nDivisions}$



## G4PVDivision – width of daughter slice provided

```
G4PVDivision(const G4String& pName,  
            G4LogicalVolume* pDaughterLogical,  
            G4LogicalVolume* pMotherLogical,  
            const EAxis pAxis,  
            const G4double width,  
            const G4double offset);
```

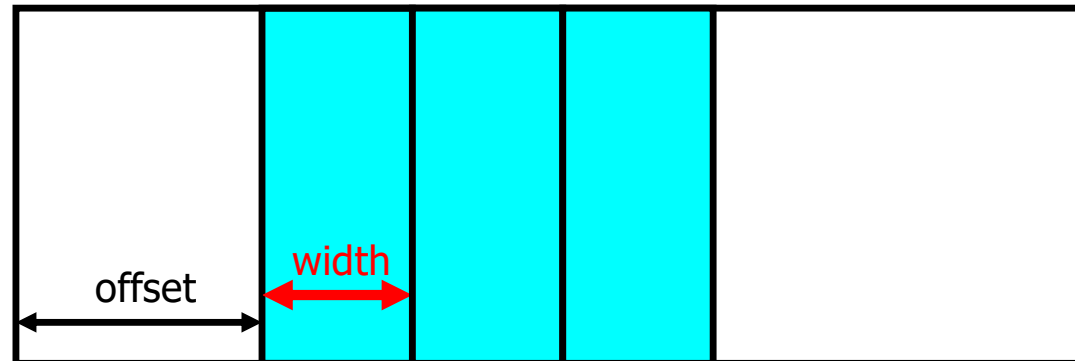
- The number of daughter volumes is calculated as  
 $\text{int}((\text{size of mother}) - \text{offset}) / \text{width}$   
As many daughters as width and offset allow



## G4PVDivision – both # of divisions and width of slice provided

```
G4PVDivision(const G4String& pName,  
            G4LogicalVolume* pDaughterLogical,  
            G4LogicalVolume* pMotherLogical,  
            const EAxis pAxis,  
            const G4int nDivisions,  
            const G4double width,  
            const G4double offset);
```

- *nDivisions* daughters of *width* thickness



# G4PVDivision – Supported cases

G4PVDivision currently supports following shapes / axes:

- G4Box :  $kXAxis$ ,  $kYAxis$ ,  $kZAxis$
- G4Tubs :  $kRho$ ,  $kPhi$ ,  $kZAxis$
- G4Cons :  $kRho$ ,  $kPhi$ ,  $kZAxis$
- G4Trd :  $kXAxis$ ,  $kYAxis$ ,  $kZAxis$
- G4Para :  $kXAxis$ ,  $kYAxis$ ,  $kZAxis$
- G4Polycone :  $kRho$ ,  $kPhi$ ,  $kZAxis$ 
  - $kZAxis$  - the number of divisions must be the same as solid sections (i.e.  $numZPlanes-1$ ), the width will **not** be taken into account
- G4Polyhedra :  $kRho$ ,  $kPhi$ ,  $kZAxis$ 
  - $kPhi$  - the number of divisions must be the same as solid sides (i.e.  $numSides$ ), the width will **not** be taken into account
  - $kZAxis$  - the number of divisions must be the same as solid sections (i.e.  $numZPlanes-1$ ), the width will **not** be taken into account

# G4ReplicatedSlice

- Extension of G4PVDivision allowing gaps in between divided volumes:

```
G4ReplicatedSlice(const G4String& pName, G4LogicalVolume* pDaughterLogical,
                  G4LogicalVolume* pMotherLogical,
                  const EAxis pAxis, const G4int nDivisions,
                  const G4double half_gap, const G4double offset);

G4ReplicatedSlice(const G4String& pName, G4LogicalVolume* pDaughterLogical,
                  G4LogicalVolume* pMotherLogical,
                  const EAxis pAxis, const G4double width,
                  const G4double half_gap, const G4double offset);

G4ReplicatedSlice(const G4String& pName, G4LogicalVolume* pDaughterLogical,
                  G4LogicalVolume* pMotherLogical,
                  const EAxis pAxis, const G4int nDivisions, const G4double width,
                  const G4double half_gap, const G4double offset);
```

