


# Geant4 Physics Based Event Biasing



Jane Tinslay, SLAC

Stanford  
Linear  
Accelerator  
Center

# Outline



- Introduction
- Variance reduction
- Built in biasing options
- G4WrapperProcess
- Primary particle biasing
- Radioactive decay biasing
- Leading particle biasing
- Cross section biasing
- Bremsstrahlung splitting example
- Summary & future plans

# Introduction

- Event biasing (variance reduction) techniques are important for many applications
- Geant4 is a toolkit
  - ➔ Users are free to implement their own biasing techniques
- Geant4 provides the following features to support event biasing
  - ➔ Some built in biasing techniques of general use with related examples
  - ➔ A utility class, `G4WrapperProcess`, to support user defined biasing

# Variance Reduction

- Variance reduction techniques are used to reduce computing time taken to calculate a result with a given variance
  - Want to increase efficiency of the Monte Carlo
  - Measure of efficiency given by

$$\varepsilon = \frac{1}{s^2 T}$$

- ✓  $s$  = variance on calculated quantity
- ✓  $T$  = computing time

- When using a variance reduction technique, generally want to apply our own probability distribution,  $p'(x)$  in place of the natural one,  $p(x)$ 
  - $p'(x)$  enhances the production of whatever it is that were interested in
- Basically bypassing the full, slow, analogue simulation
- To get meaningful results, must apply a weight correction to correct for the fact that we're not using the natural distribution:

$$w = \frac{p(x)}{p'(x)}$$

→ Preserves natural energy, angular distributions etc

- In general, all  $x$  values in the  $p(x)$  distribution should be possible in the  $p'(x)$  distribution

# Built in Biasing Options

- Primary particle biasing ✓ Since v3.0
- Radioactive decay biasing ✓ Since v3.0
- Leading particle biasing - Hadronic
  - ➔ Partial MARS migration n, p,  $\pi$ , K (<5 GeV) ✓ Since v4.0
  - ➔ General lead particle biasing ✓ Since v4.3
- Cross section biasing - Hadronic ✓ Since v4.3
- Geometry based biasing (see talk by Alex Howard)
  - ➔ Importance sampling ✓ Since v5.0
  - ➔ Weight cutoff and weight window ✓ Since v5.2

# G4WrapperProcess

- G4WrapperProcess can be used to implement user defined event biasing
  - Is a process itself, i.e inherits from G4VProcess
  - Wraps an existing process - by default, function calls are forwarded to existing process
  - Non-invasive way to modify behaviour of an existing process
- To use:
  - Subclass G4WrapperProcess and override appropriate methods, eg PostStepDoit
  - Register subclass with process manager in place of existing process
  - Register existing process with G4WrapperProcess

- G4WrapperProcess structure

```
class G4WrapperProcess : public G4VProcess {  
  
    G4VProcess* pRegProcess;  
  
    ...  
    inline  
    void G4WrapperProcess::RegisterProcess(G4VProcess* process)  
    {  
        pRegProcess=process;  
    ...  
    }  
    ...  
    inline G4VParticleChange*  
    G4WrapperProcess::PostStepDoIt(const G4Track& track,  
                                   const G4Step& stepData)  
    {  
        return pRegProcess->PostStepDoIt(track, stepData);  
    }  
}
```



- Example:

```
class MyWrapperProcess : public G4WrapperProcess {  
...  
    G4VParticleChange* PostStepDoIt(const G4Track& track,  
                                    const G4Step& step) {  
        // Do something interesting  
    }  
}
```

```
void MyPhysicsList::ConstructProcess() {  
...  
    G4LowEnergyBremsstrahlung* bremProcess =  
        new G4LowEnergyBremsstrahlung();  
  
    MyWrapperProcess* wrapper = new MyWrapperProcess();  
    wrapper->RegisterProcess(bremProcess);  
  
    processManager->AddProcess(wrapper, -1, -1, 3);  
}
```

# Primary Particle Biasing

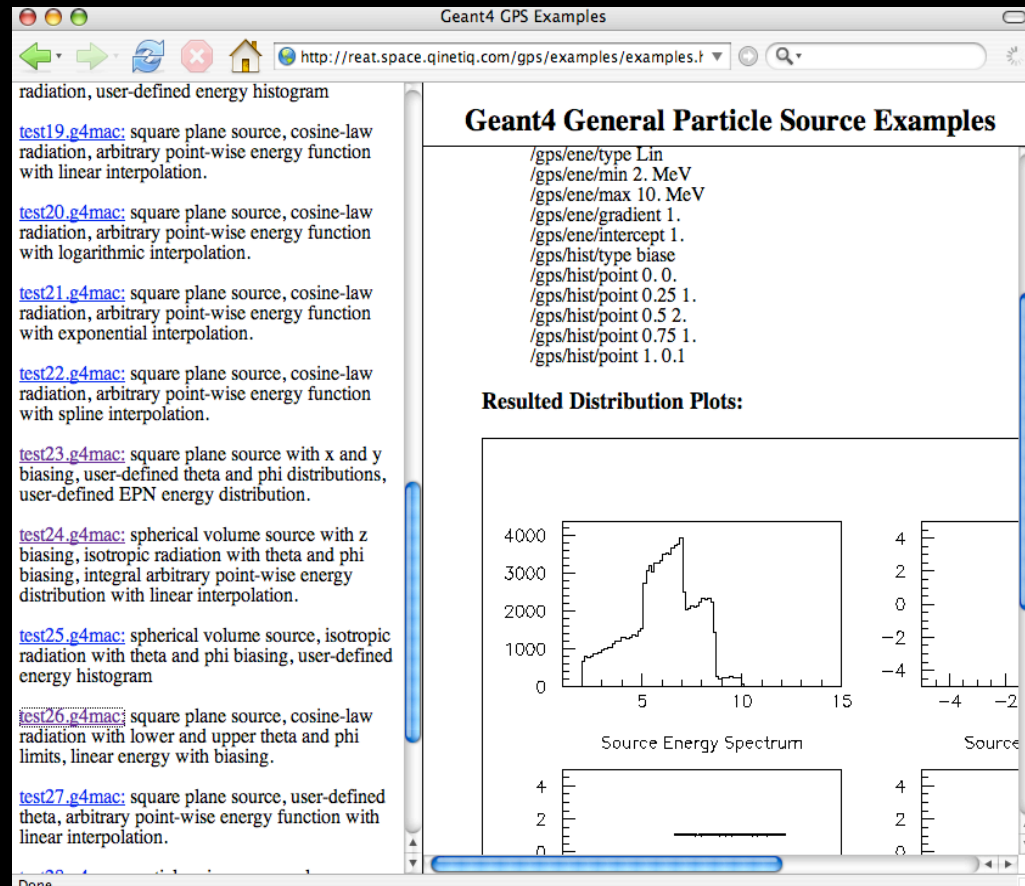
- Increase number of primary particles generated in a particular phase space region of interest
  - Weight of primary particle is appropriately modified
- Use case:
  - Increase number of high energy particles in cosmic ray spectrum
- General implementation provided by G4GeneralParticleSource class
  - Bias position, angular and energy distributions

- G4GeneralParticleSource is a concrete implementation of G4VPrimaryGenerator
  - ➔ Instantiate G4GeneralParticleSource in your G4VUserPrimaryGeneratorAction class
  - ➔ Configure biasing to be applied to sampling distributions through interactive commands

```
MyPrimaryGeneratorAction::MyPrimaryGeneratorAction() {  
    generator = new G4GeneralParticleSource;  
}  
void  
MyPrimaryGeneratorAction::GeneratePrimaries(G4Event*anEvent) {  
    generator->GeneratePrimaryVertex(anEvent);  
}
```

- Extensive documentation at  
➔ <http://reat.space.qinetiq.com/gps/>

- Online manual
- Detailed examples online



- Examples also distributed with Geant4  
➔ <examples/extended/eventgenerator/exgps>

# Radioactive Decay Biasing

- G4RadioactiveDecay simulates decay of radioactive nuclei
- Implements the following biasing methods
  - Increase sampling rate of radionuclides within observation times
    - ✓ User defined probability distribution function
  - Nuclear splitting
    - ✓ Parent nuclide is split into user defined number of nuclides
  - Branching ratio biasing
    - ✓ For a particular decay mode, sample branching ratios with equal probability

- G4RadioactiveDecay is a process
  - ➔ Register with process manager
  - ➔ Biasing can be controlled in compiled code or through interactive commands

```
void MyPhysicsList::ConstructProcess()
{
    ...
    G4RadioactiveDecay* theRadioactiveDecay =
        new G4RadioactiveDecay();

    G4ProcessManager* pmanager = ...
    pmanager ->AddProcess(theRadioactiveDecay);
    ...
}
```

- Extensive documentation at

- ➔ <http://reat.space.qinetiq.com/septimess/exrdm/>

- ➔ <http://www.space.qinetiq.com/geant4/rdm.html>

- Example at

- [examples/extended/  
radioactivedecay/exrdm](http://examples/extended/radioactivedecay/exrdm)

GEANT4 Extended Example for Radioactive Decays

QinetiQ eesa

HOME UP

## EXRDM: A Geant4 Extended Example For Simulation of Radioactive Decays.

The EXRDM is a Geant4 extended example to demonstrate how to perform simulations of the decays of radioactive isotopes using the G4RadioactiveDecay process. The radioisotopes can be created as the primaries of an event or as a product from nuclear interactions.

The example shows how to instantiate the G4RadioactiveDecay process in a physicslist; the control of the simulation process through its messenger; the usage of biased and analytic Monte Carlo simulation modes, etc. In the example the user is able to:

- configured the simple geometry consists of a target and monitoring detector. i.e. their dimensions and materials can be set by the user before a run.
- simulation induced radioactive decays following accelerator beam exposures as well as in orbit exposures to cosmic ray radiation and trapped radiation, according to user defined exposure profiles.
- accept user supplied list of radioactive isotopes and simulate their decays in the target volume.
- obtain the emitted particle spectrum as well as energy deposition spectra of the target and detector.
- calculate the radioactivity in the target at any time within the observing time window.
- monitoring the radioactivity of a specified isotope as a function of time.

In addition to the G4RadioactiveDecay process, electromagnetic and hadronic physics processes are activated. The user can select the most appropriate physicslist to suit the particle type and the energy range of the primary particles.

This example is developed by QinetiQ, under the SEPTIMESS project. The source code is included in the Geant4 public release in the directory `examples/extended/exrdm`. Further information on EXRDM, as well as the source code, can be found in the documents and tar-zipped files on the right.

**News:**

24-Sept-2004: Web page creation and beta version released.

Documents

- User Requirements
- Software Design and Specification
- Validation and Verification
- [Software User's Manual](#)

Source Code

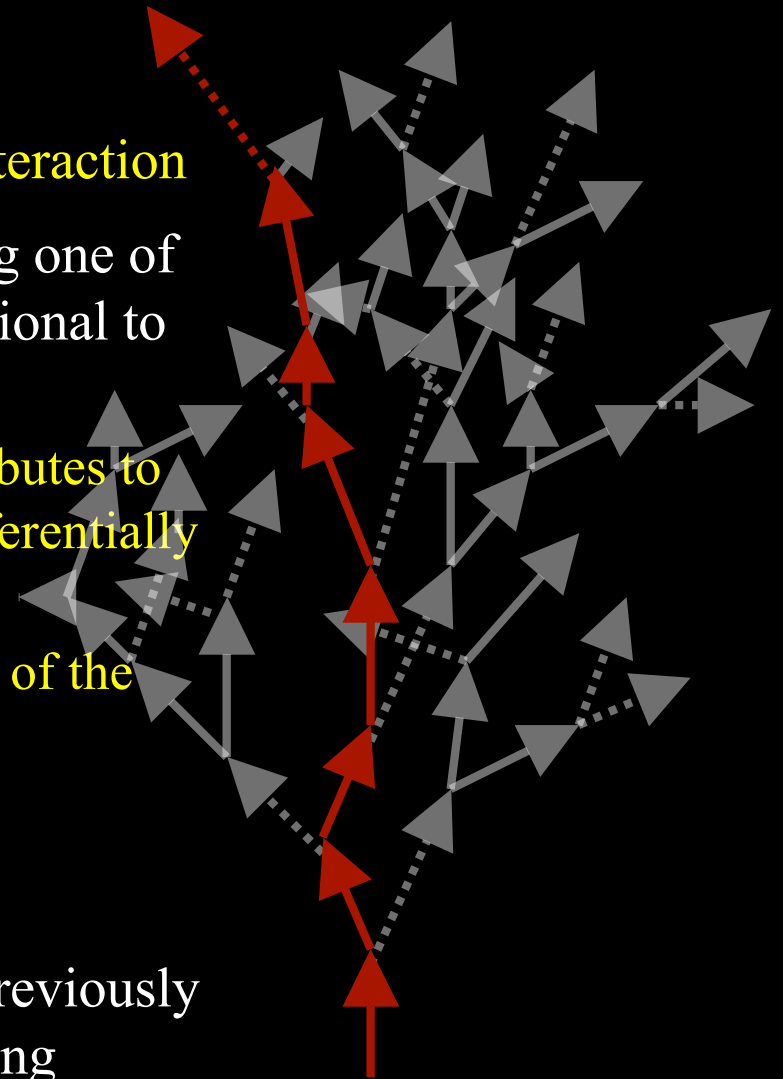
- Official version of the source code is released as part of the Geant toolkit, in directory `examples/extended/exrdm`. Here we make the latest beta version available for evaluations.
- Prototype version, works with Geant4 6.2 ref-1 (tar-zipped file).

# Leading Particle Biasing - EM

- In analogue approach to electromagnetic shower simulation, each shower followed to completion
- Applications where high energy particles initiate electromagnetic showers may spend a significant amount of time in shower simulation
  - Computing time increases linearly with energy
- Leading particle biasing may significantly reduce computing time for suitable applications. Useful for:
  - Estimating shower punch through
  - Reducing time taken to simulate showers resulting from  $\pi^0$ s in hadronic cascades for example



- Most important processes contributing to EM shower development at high energies are bremsstrahlung and pair production
  - ➔ Two secondaries produced in each interaction
- Leading particle biasing involves selecting one of the secondaries with a probability proportional to secondary energy
  - ➔ Highest energy secondary which contributes to most to the total energy deposition preferentially selected
  - ➔ Lower energy secondary selected some of the time
  - ➔ Remaining secondary killed
  - ➔ Weight surviving secondary
- Use G4WrapperProcess class described previously useful for to implement user defined leading particle biasing



# Leading Particle biasing - Hadronic

- Useful for punch through studies
- G4Mars5Gev
  - Inclusive event generator for hadron(photon) interactions with nuclei
  - Translated from Mars13(98) version of MARS code system
    - MARS is a particle simulation Monte Carlo
    - More details on MARS at <http://www-ap.fnal.gov/MARS>
  - Generates fixed number of particles at each vertex with appropriate weights assigned
  - Valid with energies  $E < 5$  GeV with the following particle types
    - $\pi^+$ ,  $\pi^-$ ,  $K^+$ ,  $K^-$ ,  $K^0_L$ ,  $K^0_S$ , proton, neutron, anti-proton, gamma

- To use, create a G4Mars5GeV object and register with an appropriate inelastic process:

```
void MyPhysicsList::ConstructProcess() {  
    ...  
    G4Mars5Gev* leadModel = new G4Mars5GeV();  
  
    G4ProtonInelasticProcess* inelProcess =  
        new G4ProtonInelasticProcess();  
    inelProcess->RegisterMe(leadModel);  
  
    processManager->AdddiscreteProcess(inelProcess);  
}
```

- More examples provided in the LHEP\_LEAD, LHEP\_LEAD\_HP, QGSC\_LEAD, QGSC\_LEAD\_HP physics lists
- Documentation:
  - ➔ [http://geant4.web.cern.ch/geant4/support/proc\\_mod\\_catalog/models/hadronic/LeadParticleBias.html](http://geant4.web.cern.ch/geant4/support/proc_mod_catalog/models/hadronic/LeadParticleBias.html)

- G4HadLeadBias
  - Built in utility for hadronic processes
    - ✓ disabled by default
  - Keep only the most important part of the event and representative tracks of given particle type
    - ✓ Keep track with highest energy, I.e, the leading particle
    - ✓ Of the remaining tracks, select one from each of the following types if they exist: Baryons,  $\pi^0$ 's, mesons, leptons
    - ✓ Apply appropriate weight
  - Set SwitchLeadBiasOn environmental variable to activate

# Cross Section Biasing

- Artificially enhance/reduce cross section of a process
- Useful for studying
  - ➔ Thin layer interactions
  - ➔ Thick layer shielding
- Built in cross section biasing in hadronics for PhotoInelastic, ElectronNuclear and PositronNuclear processes
- User can implement cross section biasing for other processes through G4WrapperProcess
  - ➔ Documentation at <http://www.triumf.ca/geant4-03/talks/03-Wednesday-AM-1/05-F.Lei/>

- Built in hadronic cross section biasing controlled through BiasCrossSectionByFactor method in G4HadronicProcess

```
void MyPhysicsList::ConstructProcess() {  
    ...  
    G4ElectroNuclearReaction * theElectroReaction =  
        new G4ElectroNuclearReaction;  
  
    G4ElectronNuclearProcess theElectronNuclearProcess;  
    theElectronNuclearProcess.RegisterMe(theElectroReaction);  
  
    theElectronNuclearProcess.BiasCrossSectionByFactor(100);  
    pManager->AddDiscreteProcess(&theElectronNuclearProcess);  
    ...  
}
```

- More details at  
→ <http://www.triumf.ca/geant4-03/talks/03-Wednesday-AM-1/03-J.Wellisch/biasing.hadronics.pdf>

# Uniform Bremsstrahlung Splitting

- Example of biasing through enhancing production of secondaries
- Aim to increase Monte Carlo efficiency by reducing computing time spent tracking electrons
  - In this case only interested in scoring photons
- Enhance photon production by applying splitting when a bremsstrahlung interaction occurs
  - Instead of sampling photon energy & angular distributions just once, sample them  $N$  times
  - Creates  $N$  unique secondaries
  - Different splitting method compared to importance sampling where  $N$  identical copies are created

- Electron energy is reduced by energy of just one photon
  - Energy is not conserved per event, although is conserved on average
- As usual, remove bias introduced by generating multiple secondaries by assigning a statistical weight to each secondary

$$weight = \frac{Parent\ weight}{N}$$

- N = number of secondary photons
- Preserves correct photon energy and angular distributions
- No default bremsstrahlung splitting in Geant4 toolkit
- User can implement bremsstrahlung splitting through G4WrapperProcess



# Example Implementation

- Create BremSplittingProcess class
  - ➔ Inherit from G4WrapperProcess
  - ➔ Override PostStepDoIt method of G4WrapperProcess
  - ➔ Introduce splitting configuration parameters

```
class BremSplittingProcess : public G4WrapperProcess {
    // Override PostStepDoIt method
    G4VParticleChange*
    PostStepDoIt(const G4Track& track, const G4Step& step);

    static void SetNSplit(G4int);
    static void SetIsActive(G4bool);

    ...
    // Data members
    static G4int fNSplit;
    static G4bool fActive;
};
```

```

G4VParticleChange*
BremSplittingProcess::PostStepDoIt(const G4Track& track, const G4Step& step)
{
...
  G4double weight = track.GetWeight()/fNSplit;
  std::vector<G4Track*> secondaries; // Secondary store

  // Loop over PostStepDoIt method to generate multiple secondaries.
  for (i=0; i<fNSplit; i++) {
    particleChange = pRegProcess->PostStepDoIt(track, step);
    assert (0 != particleChange);
    G4int j(0);

    for (j=0; j<particleChange->GetNumberOfSecondaries(); j++) {
      secondaries.push_back(new G4Track(*(particleChange->GetSecondary(j))));
    }
  }
  particleChange->SetNumberOfSecondaries(secondaries.size());
  particleChange->SetSecondaryWeightByProcess(true);

  std::vector<G4Track*>::iterator iter = secondaries.begin(); // Add all secondaries
  while (iter != secondaries.end()) {
    G4Track* myTrack = *iter;
    myTrack->SetWeight(weight);
    particleChange->AddSecondary(myTrack);
    iter++;
  }
...
  return particleChange;
}

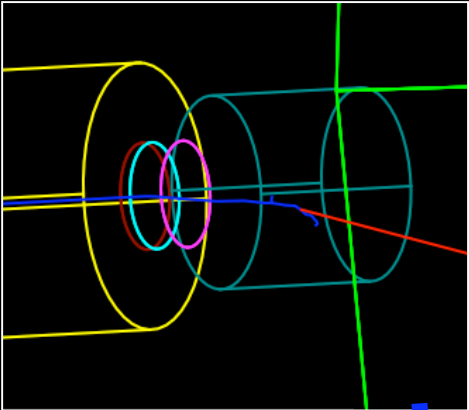
```

- Finally, register BremSplittingProcess with electron process manager

```
void MyPhysicsList::ConstructProcess() {  
    ...  
    G4LowEnergyBremsstrahlung* bremProcess =  
        new G4LowEnergyBremsstrahlung();  
  
    BremSplittingProcess* bremSplitting =  
        new BremSplittingProcess();  
  
    bremSplitting->RegisterProcess(bremProcess);  
  
    pmanager->AddProcess(bremSplitting,-1,-1, 3);  
    ...  
}
```

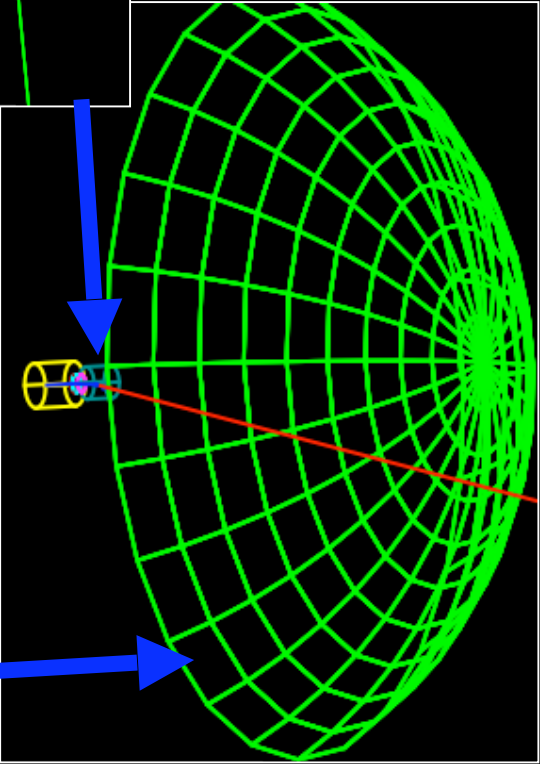
- Use same procedure to implement Russian Roulette + bremsstrahlung splitting

# Example demonstrating uniform bremsstrahlung splitting

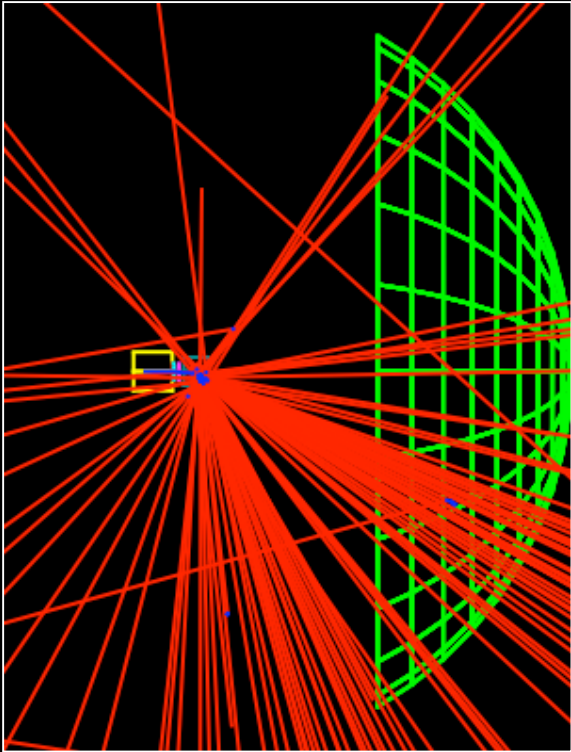


No splitting

Splitting factor = 100



Scoring Geometry



# Summary & Future Plans

- Presented a number of physics based event biasing techniques
  - Some biasing options are implemented in Geant4 for general use
  - Others need to be implemented by user
- Develop examples to demonstrate use
- See Alex Howard's talk for information on geometrical based biasing