

# *Geant4 Electromagnetic Physics*

## *Introduction*

*V.Ivanchenko, M.Maire, M.Verderi*

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- ★ Process interface
- ★ Physics categories
- ★ Electromagnetic physics
- ★ PhysicsList and Cuts



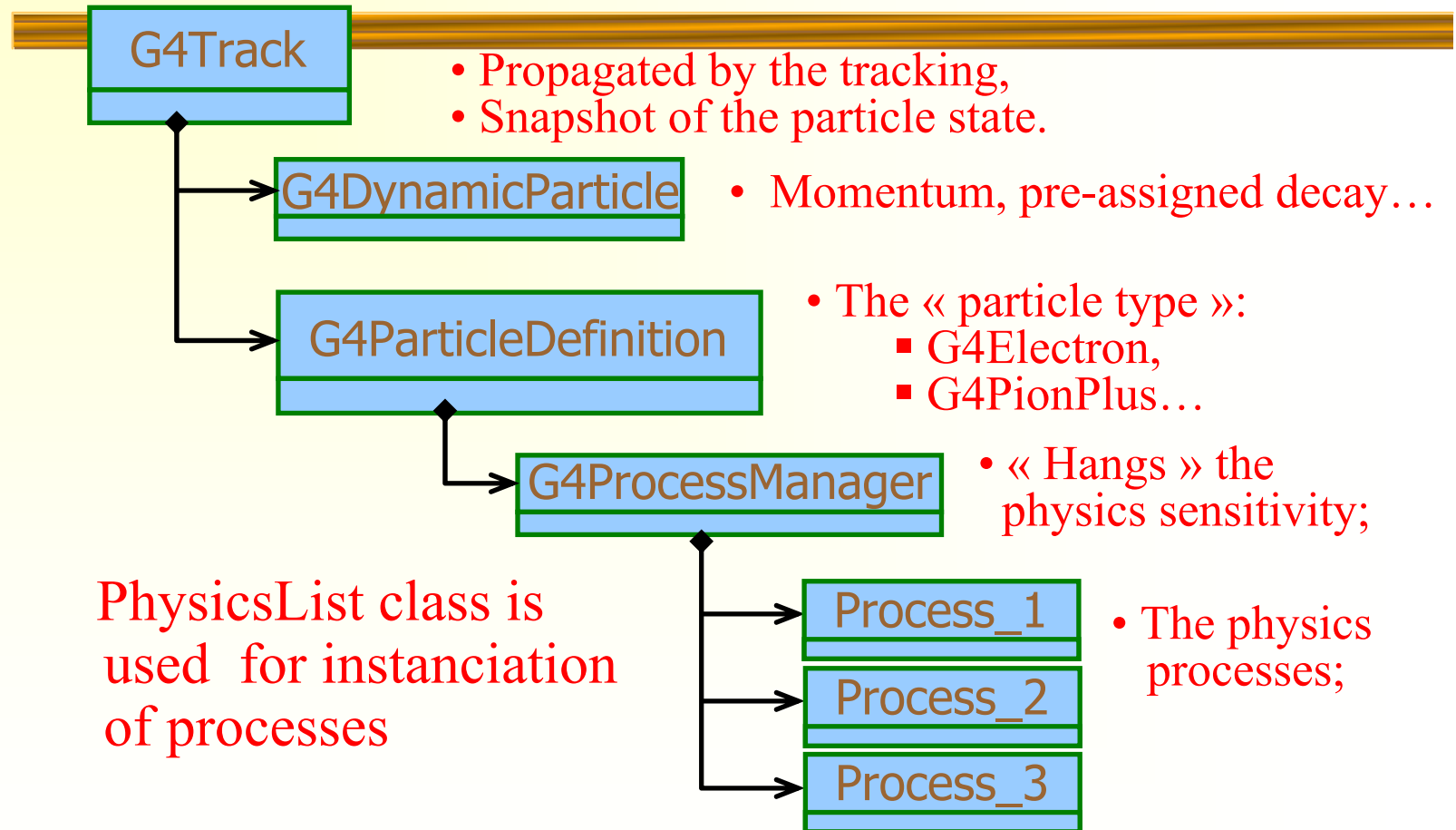
# *Geant4 physics processes*

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- ✿ Physics is described via abstract interface called ***process*** associated with ***particles***
- ✿ ***Process*** provides *Interaction Lengths*, *StepLimits*, and *DoIt* methods
- ✿ ***Process*** active *AlongStep*, *PostStep*, *AtRest*
- ✿ Distinction between process and model – one process may includes many models
- ✿ Generation of final state is independent from the access and use of cross sections and from tracking



# *What is tracked in Geant4 ?*





# *G4VProcess interface*

★ G4VProcess defines 6 pure virtual methods:

- AtRestGetPhysicalInteractionLength(...)
- AtRestDoIt(...)
- AlongStepGetPhysicalInteractionLength(...)
- AlongStepDoIt(...)
- PostStepGetPhysicalInteractionLength(...)
- PostStepDoIt(...)

★ There are also other virtual methods:

- IsApplicable( const G4ParticleDefinition&)
- BuildPhysicsTable( const G4ParticleDefinition&)
- ....

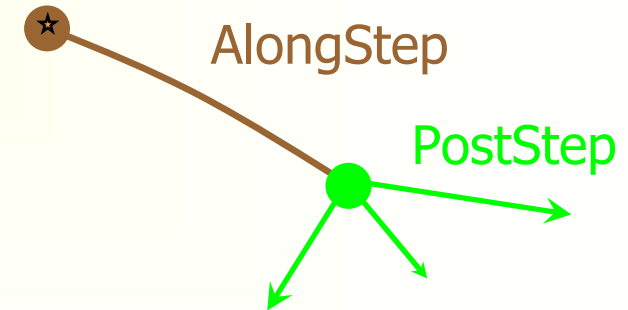
★ G4VProcess defined in [source/processes/management](#)



# *G4VProcess actions*

- ★ Abstract class defining the common interface of **all processes** in GEANT4
- ★ **AtRest**
  - decay at rest, annihilation at rest, ...
- ★ **AlongStep**
  - continuous energy losses, multiple scattering, ...
- ★ **PostStep**
  - decay in flight, hardron elastic and inelastic, ...

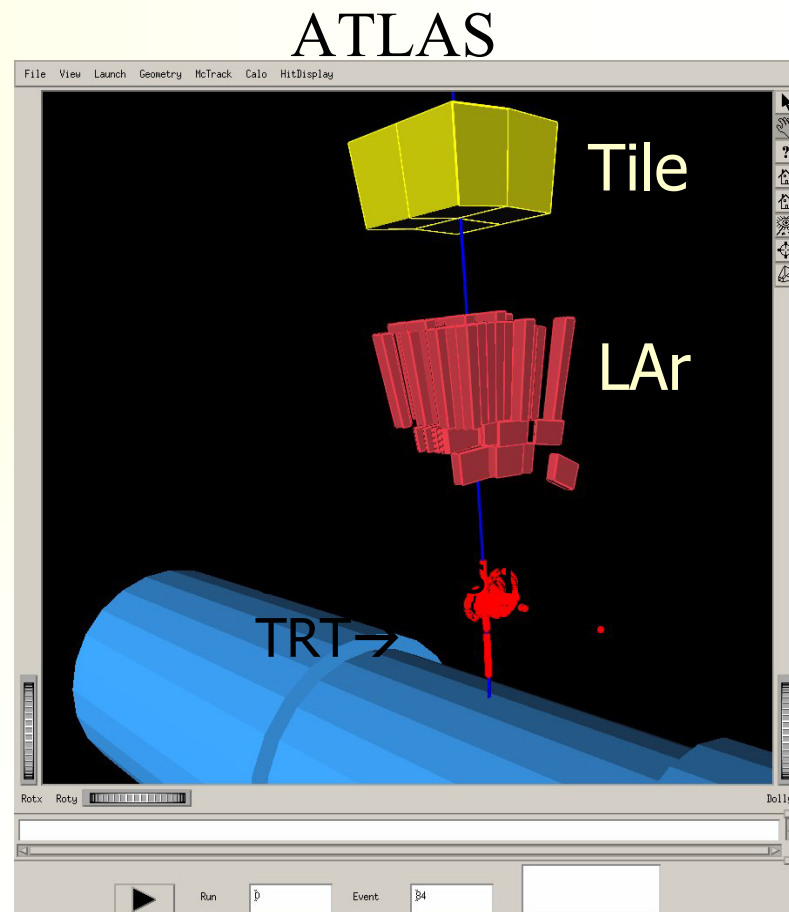
AtRest





# *Geant4 physics categories*

- There are following categories:
  - ☀ Decay
  - ☀ Electromagnetic
  - ☀ Hadronic
  - ☀ Optical
  - ☀ Transportation
  - ☀ Parameterisations





# *Electromagnetic Physics*

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- ★ Processes of gamma, electron, and positron interactions with media was traditionally called ***“Electromagnetic Processes” (EM)***
- ★ Hadron interaction with atomic electrons are also EM
- ★ Hadron photo- and electro- production are simulated in framework of G4 hadronic physics



# *EM packages*

- ★ ***Standard*** – basic set of processes for HEP
- ★ ***Muons*** – basic set of muon processes for HEP
- ★ ***Xrays*** – xray and optical proton production
- ★ ***Lowenergy*** – alternative set of processes with low energy extension of gamma, electron, and hadron EM physics
- ★ ***Highenergy*** – EM processes important above 100 GeV
- ★ ***Optical*** – Optical photon interaction
- ★ ***Utils*** – *common classes for other EM packages:*
  - *Interfaces*
  - *Energy loss and range table builders*
  - *Useful utilities*





# *Standard EM Physics*

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- ★ The projectile is assumed to have the energy  $E_{\text{kin}} > 1\text{keV}$
- ★ The atomic electrons are quasi-free – their binding energies neglected (except some corrections at low energies)
- ★ The atomic nucleus are fixed – no recoil
- ★ The matter is described as homogeneous, isotropic, amorphous



# *Standard EM Processes*

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## ★ Gamma

- Photo-electric effect
- Compton scattering
- $e^+e^-$  pair production
- $\mu^+\mu^-$  pair production

## ★ Electron and positron

- Ionization
- Bremsstrahlung
- Positron annihilation

## ★ Muons

- Ionization
- Bremsstrahlung
- $e^+e^-$  pair production

## ★ Hadrons

- Ionization

## ★ Ions

- Ionization

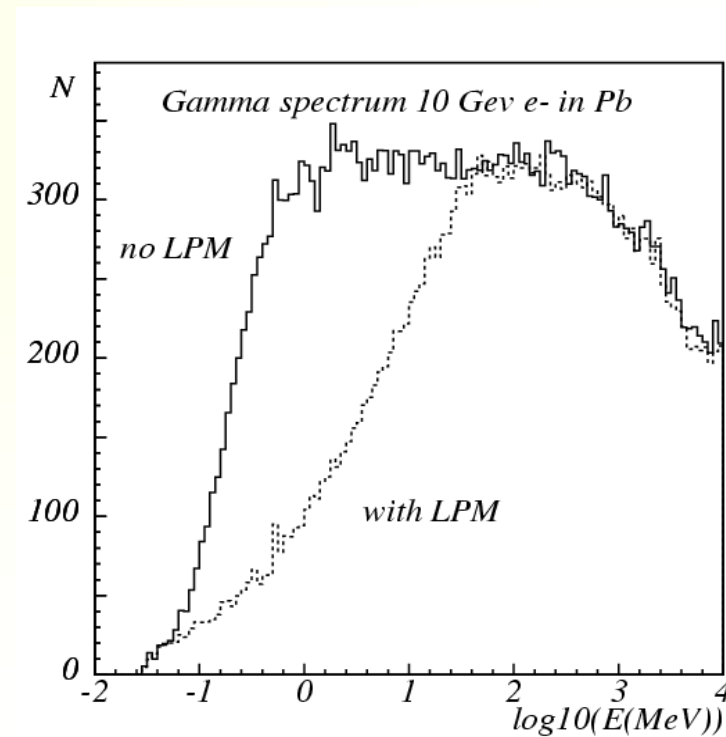
## ★ Multiple scattering



# Standard EM Physics

- ★ Standard G4 physics was based on G3 knowledge/experience
- ★ Review of G3 models have been done
- ★ More precise theories were used if possible/necessary
- ★ Extension to highest energies in progress

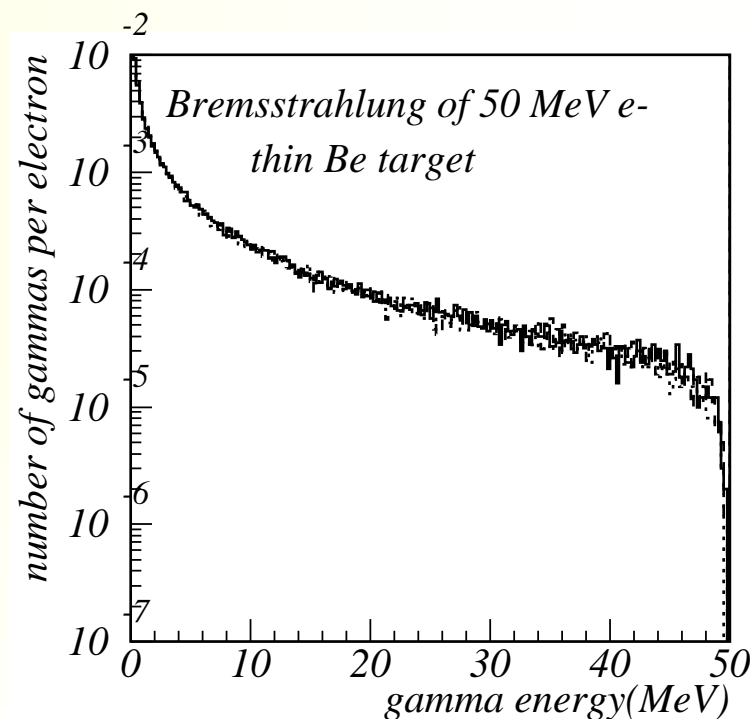
## Landau-Pomeranchuk-Migdal Effect for bremsstrahlung





# Energy Cuts for EM Physics

- ★ Energy spectrum of  $\delta$ -electrons  $\sim 1/T^2$
- ★ Energy spectrum of Bremsstrahlung  $\sim 1/\omega$
- ★ Huge number of low energy e- and gammas cannot be tracked efficiently by any Monte Carlo
- ★ Cuts should be used





## Geant4 cuts

- For a typical process G4Ionisation production threshold  $T_c$  subdivides continuous and discrete part of energy loss:
- Energy loss
- $\delta$ -electron production
- By default energy is deposited at the step
- Energy loss can be used optionally for generation of  $\delta$ -electrons under the threshold (subcutoff) and for fluorescence and Auger-electrons emission

$$\frac{dE}{dx} = n \int_0^{T_c} t \frac{d\sigma(t)}{dt} dt$$

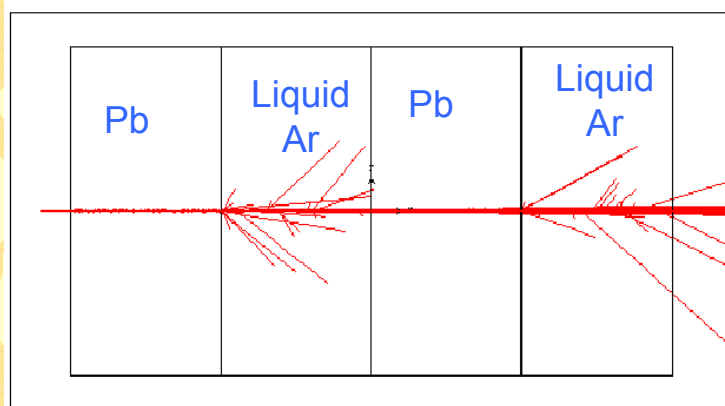
$$\sigma = \int_{T_c}^{T_{\max}} \frac{d\sigma}{dt} dt$$



# *Effect of production thresholds*

## **Geant 4**

500 MeV incident proton



Range threshold: 1.5 mm

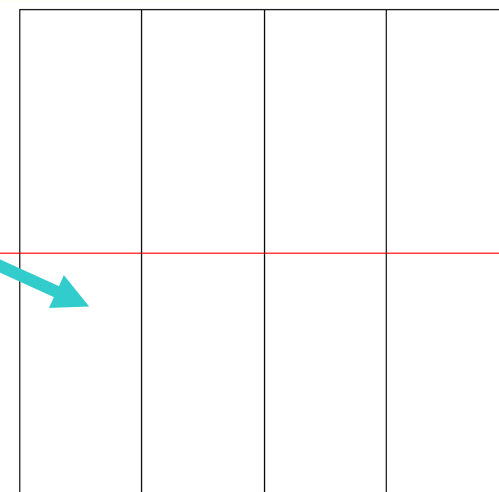
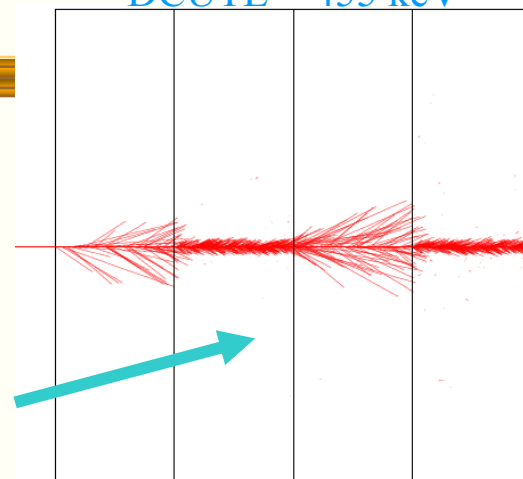
455 keV electron energy in liquid Ar  
2 MeV electron energy in Pb

one must set the cut for delta-rays (DCUTE) either to the Liquid Argon value, thus producing many small unnecessary  $\delta$ -rays in Pb,

or to the Pb value, thus killing the  $\delta$ -rays production everywhere

In **Geant3**

DCUTE = 455 keV



DCUTE = 2 MeV



## *Remarks about Geant4 cuts*

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- ★ The use of production threshold is mandatory only for Standard ionization and bremsstrahlung
- ★ Other processes can use or ignore G4 cuts
- ★ Alternative mechanism is UserLimits, which can be defined in a given G4LogicalVolume:
  - Maximum step size
  - Maximum track length
  - Maximum track time
  - Minimum kinetic energy
  - Minimum range



# *PhysicsList*

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- ★ It is one of the « mandatory user classes »;
  - Defined in `source/run`
- ★ Defines the **three pure virtual methods**:
  - `ConstructParticle()`
  - `ConstructProcesse()`
  - `SetCuts()`
- ★ Concrete `PhysicsList` needs to **inherit** from `G4VUserPhysicsList` or `G4VModularPhysicsList`
- ★ For interactivity `G4UserPhysicsListMessenger` can be used to handle `PhysicsList` parameters





## *Example: Gamma processes*

- ★ Discrete processes - only **PostStep** actions;
  - Use function **AddDiscreteProcess**;
  - **pmanager** is the **G4ProcessManager** of the gamma;
  - Assume the transportation has been set by **AddTransportation**;

- ★ Code sample:

// Construct processes for gamma:

```
pmanager->AddDiscreteProcess(new G4GammaConversion());  
pmanager->AddDiscreteProcess(new G4ComptonScattering());  
pmanager->AddDiscreteProcess(new G4PhotoElectricEffect());
```



## *Some Remarks*

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- ★ Standard package of EM interactions was created for HEP applications
- ★ It is well adequate for instrumental studies, space and medical applications
- ★ Examples of different usage of the Standard package:
  - \$G4INSTALL/examples/novice
  - \$G4INSTALL/examples/extended/electromagnetic