





VecGeom integration in Geant4 and ROOT



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for the VecGeom developers



Introduction

- Goal is to allow current Geant4 and ROOT geometry users to transparently migrate their applications to use VecGeom shapes as soon as possible, with no changes in their application code
 - \rightarrow a short-term milestone on the path to full GeantV deployment
- Advantages for the user: some potentially significant performance improvement
- Bonus: existing Geant4 and ROOT debugging tools can be used to help find and fix bugs, for visualization and for validation and stress testing of VecGeom shapes.

USolids to VecGeom



- USolids (Unified Solids) library started as AIDA project
 - Goal: a new library of geometrical primitives to unify algorithms existing in Geant4 and ROOT
- VecGeom: started as feasibility study of vectorization for geometry
- Geometry primitives code development as long-term evolution of USolids
 - Developed back-to-back with USolids as independent library
 - VecGeom now incorporating USolids implementation and sharing same interfaces
 - Will replace USolids in the medium/long term
 - Part of AIDA-2020/WP3

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Bridging shapes to Geant4

- Bridge pattern design to USolids/VecGeom
- Choice of activation of individual wrappers at installation of Geant4



Building Geant4 to use VecGeom

- a. Install VecGeom package
 - Specifying "Scalar" backend: -DBACKEND=Scalar
 - Configuring to use VecGeom implementation: -DUSOLIDS_VECGEOM=ON
- b. Install Geant4
 - Specifying to use USolids/VecGeom installation:
 - -DGEANT4_USE_USOLIDS="all"
 - or specifying individual shapes:

-DGEANT4 USE USOLIDS="box;tubs"

Using VecGeom from Geant4

- VecGeom solids can be used as normal G4 shapes/types since Geant4 10.2, as an external library
 - Part of nightly Geant4 build testing
 - VecGeom shapes from Git master, updates are automatically propagated into the nightly tests
 - All Geant4 features supported
 - Included multi-threading (MT)
 - Ability to select shapes to replace at installation, since 10.2.p02
 - Being tested on realistic geometry setups with full physics
 - CMS, LHCb full geometries
 - Currently facing correctness and robustness issues from Polycone shape



(*) Full interactive Geant4 application with parallel geometries, parameterisations and scoring

Future plan: provide specialized navigation interface class to VecGeom navigation

Expected features in Geant4 10.3

- Release 10.3 of Geant4 planned for December 2016
 - Beta preview (10.3-beta) released end of June
- Ability to exercise a limited set of shapes from VecGeom
 - Box, Tube, Cone, Orb, Sphere, Trap, GenericTrap, Trd, Torus, Polycone, Polyhedron
 - Aiming to approach "production quality" in terms of correctness and robustness for those shapes
 - Expecting few % CPU speedup from most complex VecGeom shapes in realistic detector geometries
 - Coming with improved geometry optimisation (*smart-voxels* structure)
- Geant4 CMake build system extended to enable use of VecGeom shapes individually (already available in 10.2.p02 and 10.3-beta)
- Ability to scale shapes along Cartesian axes
 - Extended GDML schema (new version 3.1.4)

VecGeom solids bridge in ROOT geometry



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Implementation of adapter/converter

- On-demand compilation and usage
 - Library loaded using ROOT plugin manager
 - Use on demand: *TVirtualGeoConverter::Instance()::ConvertGeometry()*
- Adapter class deriving from TGeoShape
 - Providing only distance/contains functions:
 - *Contains, DistanceToIn/Out, SafetyToIn/Out, Normal*
 - Original ROOT shape pointer kept for other functionality (e.g. visualization, alignment)
- Converter parsing all volumes in TGeo geometry
 - Replacing shapes with the adapted ones from VecGeom



Ray-traced image of ALICE ITS-SPD detector using navigation over converted VecGeom shapes

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Conversion performance



Conclusion

- VecGeom shapes ready to be used from either Geant4 and ROOT
- VecGeom expected to become the default geometry library for use in Geant4 and ROOT
- Production quality expected by end of this year for a large set of primitives
- Promotes adiabatic adoption of GeantV from the experiments

Future plans

- Progress in the implementation of the missing shapes from the standard set (tessellated solid, extruded solid, generic polycone, etc...)
 - Also part of the AIDA-2020 program of work
- Extend testing coverage for all shapes and their possible topologies
- Extend testing on realistic geometry setups by including new snapshots from LHC detectors
- Interface VecGeom navigation algorithms in Geant4 and ROOT

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Backup slides

Building Geant4/ROOT to use VecGeom

a. Install VecGeom package

• Configure to either use VecGeom implementation:

cmake -DBACKEND=Scalar -DGEANT4=OFF -DUSOLIDS=ON -DUSOLIDS_VECGEOM=ON \
 [...other optional VecGeom switches as needed...] \
 -DCMAKE_INSTALL_PREFIX=\${VecGeomINSTALLDIR} \${VecGeomSOURCE}
make install

b. Install Geant4

- export USolids DIR=\${VecGeomINSTALLDIR}/lib/Cmake/Usolids
- Add -DGEANT4_USE_USOLIDS="ALL" when configuring Geant4 with Cmake

c. Install ROOT

-DCMAKE_PREFIX_PATH=<path_to_vc>;<path_to_vecgeom> -Dvc=ON -Dvecgeom=ON