

The new GeoModel suite

A lightweight detector
description and visualization
toolkit for HEP

Marilena BANDIERAMONTE (Pittsburgh)

Riccardo Maria BIANCHI (Pittsburgh)

Joseph BOUDREAU (Pittsburgh)

Andrea DELL'ACQUA (CERN)

Vakhtang TSULAIA (LBNL)



ATLAS
EXPERIMENT

ACAT 2021

Track 1: Computing Technology for Physics Research

1 Dec 2021

Detector Description in HEP

- Detector Description is a **key component** of the High Energy Physics (HEP) workflow:

- Geometry information is used when reconstructing raw measurements

Reconstruction

- When simulating the **detector response**, geometry shapes and materials are used in the calculations for the particle transport

Simulation

- The position of the geometry volumes needs to be **corrected on-the-fly** to assess for misalignments during data taking

Alignment

- When **analyzing data**, events are inspected visually to check the right objects have been selected, and correctly reconstructed

Performance & Analysis

- A nicely rendered detector geometry is the foundation of **engaging images** for events and publications

Outreach & Education

Why GeoModel?

- The new GeoModel toolkit is **our answer** to detector description developers looking for:
 - a **lightweight toolkit**, with minimal external dependencies and free from large and cumbersome all-in-one frameworks
 - a **modular architecture**, to let developers use only the modules and tools they need
 - a **choice of input formats**, to better integrate the detector description to their workflow
 - **quick development cycle**, with quick feedback upon changes to the detector description
 - a suite of **standalone tools**, for interactive visualization and to perform checks
 - a **standalone simulation** application, for particle transport, clash detection, mass calculation, and material & radiation length maps

Modular architecture

- You only **build/install what you really need**
- No need to install large, all-in-one frameworks, or to depend on external libraries if you won't use them



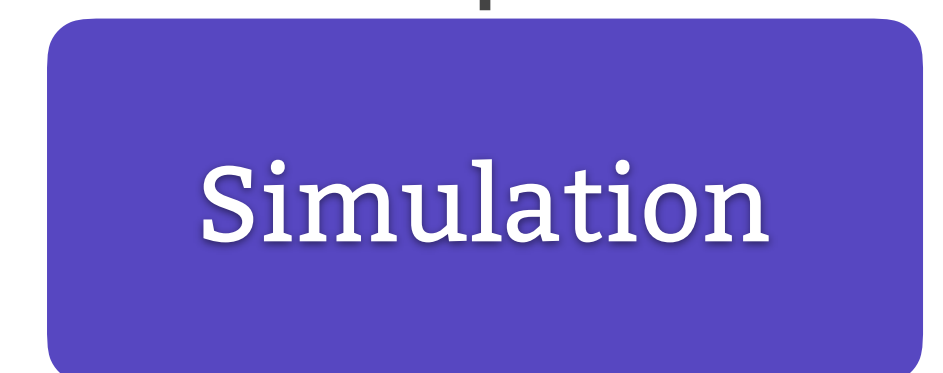
*Only need for the **base classes** (shapes, materials, containers, ...)?
Install the "Core" module, only!*



*Do you need **persistence** and **I/O**?
Install the "I/O" module, too*



*Do you need **visualization** but not XML support and other tools?
Then, install the "Visualization" module, only*



*Do you need **simulation** but not visualization?
Just install the "Simulation" module and skip the "Visualization" one!*

Minimal dependencies

- GeoModel was designed to have a **minimal** set of external **dependencies**
- That **ease** the developers' day-by-day **work**: GeoModel can be installed and used on any Unix-like platform (macOS, Linux, ...)
- That also **helps the integration** of GeoModel in existing workflows, being **free** of large HEP frameworks

Core

Eigen3 (maths)

I/O

SQLite (persistence)

Tools / XML

*XercesC (XML)
nlohman-json (JSON)*

Visualization

*Coin & SoQt (3D)
Qt5 (GUI)*

Simulation

Geant4

Multiple possible ways to use GeoModel

- Developers can **choose** to implement their detector description in any of these **three ways**:
 - native GeoModel code in **bare C++ classes / applications**
 - use the **GeoModel C++ plugin mechanism**, to embed/pack native GeoModel code in precompiled libraries (.so/.dylib) and read/store/load it at **runtime**
 - **XML files**, then parsed at runtime to automatically create the GeoModel tree
- Developers can freely use **any combination** of the options above, to stick to their needs and **optimize their workflow**
 - *E.g., one part of the geometry can be described through native code, while another part through XML files*

Fast Development Cycle & Easy Installation

- We designed the new GeoModel suite to let developers experience a **fast development cycle**:
 - Developers can **modify** the geometry and then visualize it in a matter of seconds
 - Standalone command-line tools provide **prompt checks** of the geometry
 - **Visualization** is optimized for geometry, offering a set of tools to easily inspect it
 - Standalone **simulation tools** give quick feedback on the geometry correctness
 - The **persistent representation** in SQLite files is **easy to integrate** in any workflow, and **quick to inspect and query** with standard tools
- Developers can **install** the latest stable version from their preferred **package managers***:
 - E.g., for macOS:

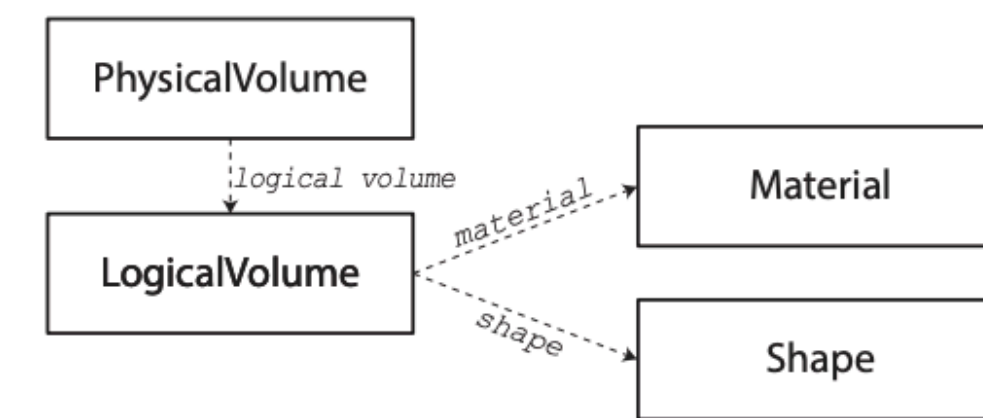
```
brew tap atlas/geomodel https://gitlab.cern.ch/GeoModelDev/packaging/homebrew-geomodel.git  
brew install geomodel-visualization
```
- GeoModel can be built* on all Unix-like platforms: e.g., macOS, Ubuntu, Fedora, Centos7

* complete instructions at: <https://geomodel.web.cern.ch>

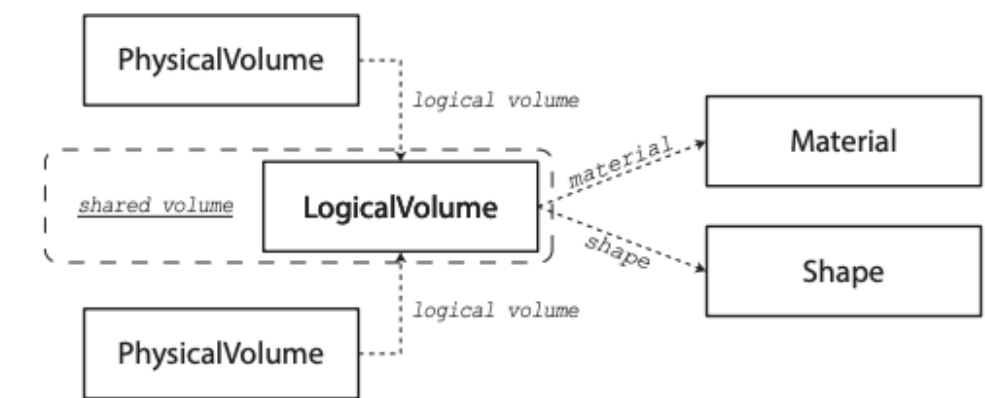
Core

Geometry as a tree of nodes

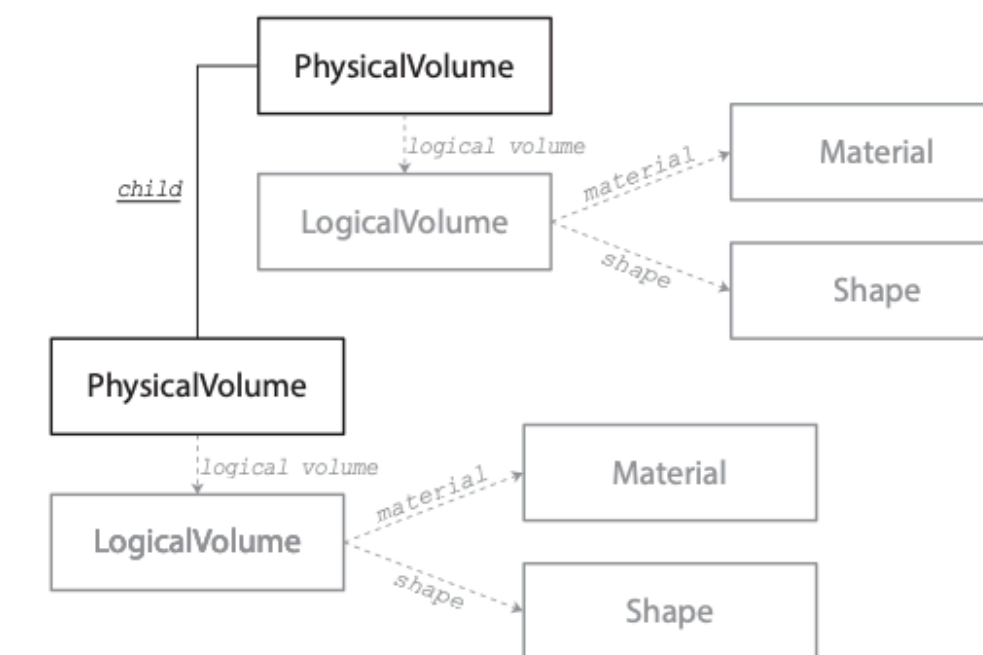
- GeoModelKernel provides the **base geometry classes**
- Geometry entities are **nodes**, each node representing a shape, a material, a volume, a transformation, etc...
 - a. Some nodes **reference others**
(E.g., a logical volume node references a material and a shape node)
 - b. Nodes are **shared**, to lower the geometry memory footprint
E.g., material used by multiple nodes is only created once, then shared
 - c. Some nodes acts as **containers** of child nodes
(E.g., a calorimeter mother volume containing the absorber slices as children)
 - d. Some nodes acts as **operators**
E.g., a boolean shape operates over two shape nodes



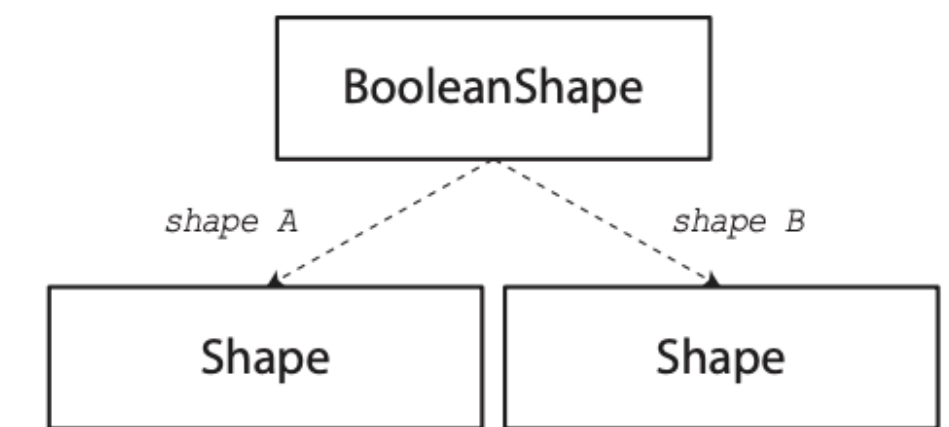
(a)



(b)



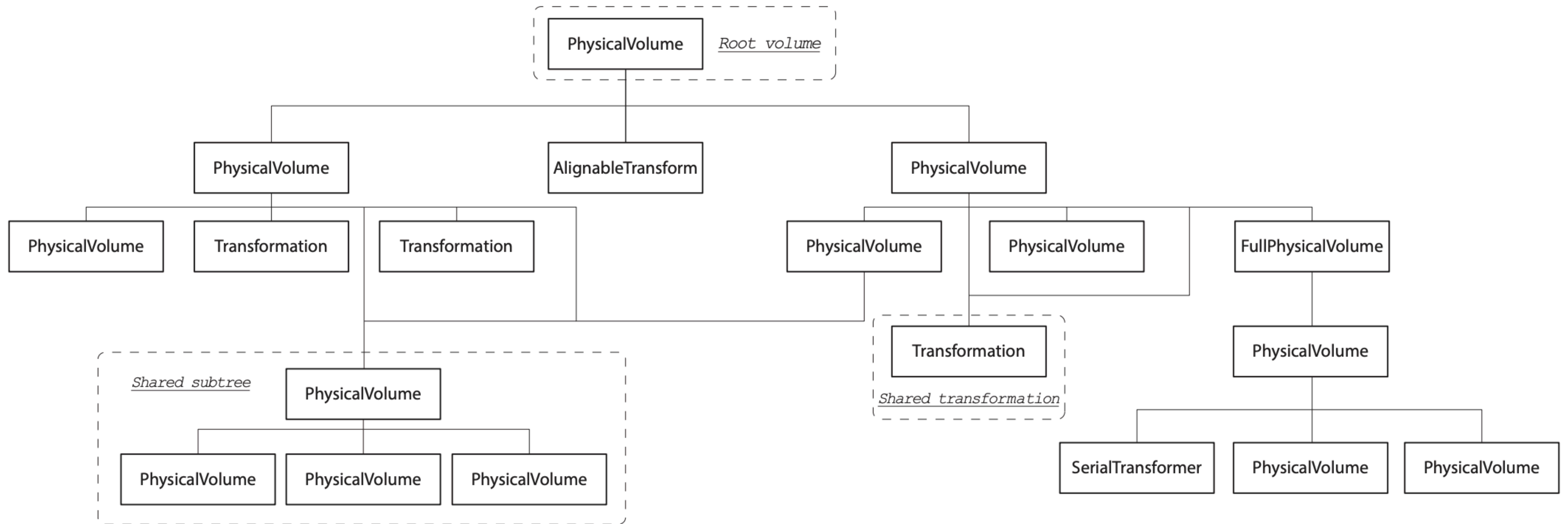
(c)



(d)

Geometry as a tree of nodes

- The whole detector **geometry** is organized as a **tree of nodes**



Persistency & I/O

Persistification & I/O

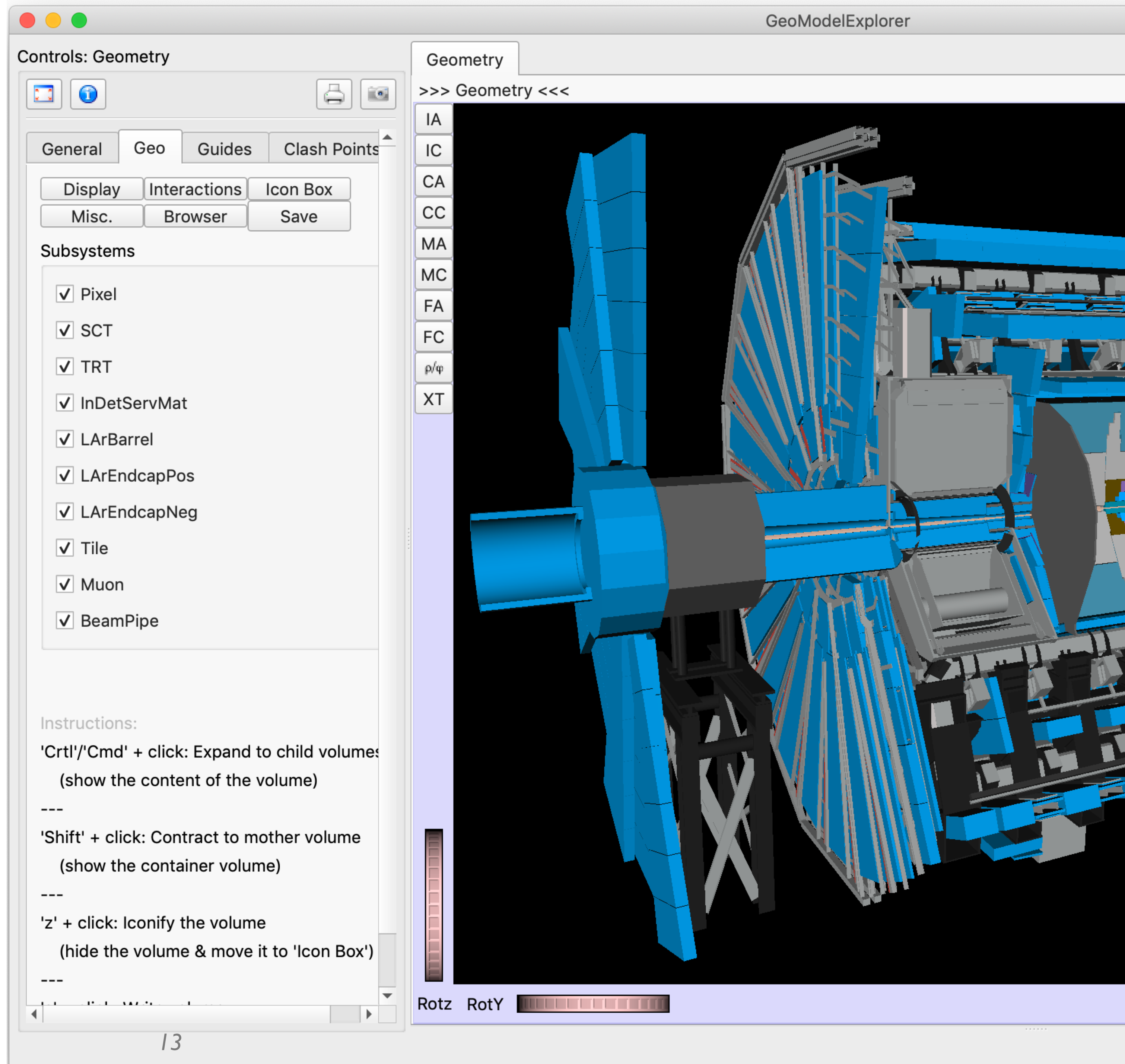
- The **full geometry** can be **persistified** into a **SQLite file**
 - SQLite files can be inspected/modified with standard DB tools
 - SQLite is ubiquitous (no need to install it) and lightweight (no need for large frameworks)
- We **optimized the data model** to optimize the file size and disk footprint
 - Only IDs of the nodes are stored in tables
 - Shared nodes are stored once only, and *copy numbers* are stored to ensure reproducibility
- The "Read" operation of GeoModel SQLite files is fully parallelized, for a fast loading time

*As an example, the **full geometry** of the **ATLAS** experiment (composed of **~530'000 nodes**) is **stored** in a **~48 Mb SQLite file**, and it is **loaded** and restored in memory in **~7 seconds on a laptop***

- Geometry **can be** also **exported to GDML**, through the use of our GM—>GDML **converter***

** see [slide on "Simulation tools"](#) for details*


Visualization



Visualizing & Inspecting geometry

- The new GeoModel suite offers a **complete 3D visualization package** optimized for the interactive **inspection** and **debugging** of **detector geometry**: GeoModelExplorer
- The visualization tool **can handle a very large number of volumes on screen**, letting users visualize very **complex geometries, responsively**
- Users can pick **volumes** to display information, can hide them, can expand them to show their child volumes
- A **browser** lets users **inspect the hierarchy** of the loaded GeoModel tree
- GeoModelExplorer (*gmex*) can export the 3D view to the SVG graphic format, letting users open it in external applications (like Adobe Illustrator)

See the
Extra Material slides
at the end, for
additional information!



** an upgrade to Qt6 is foreseen*

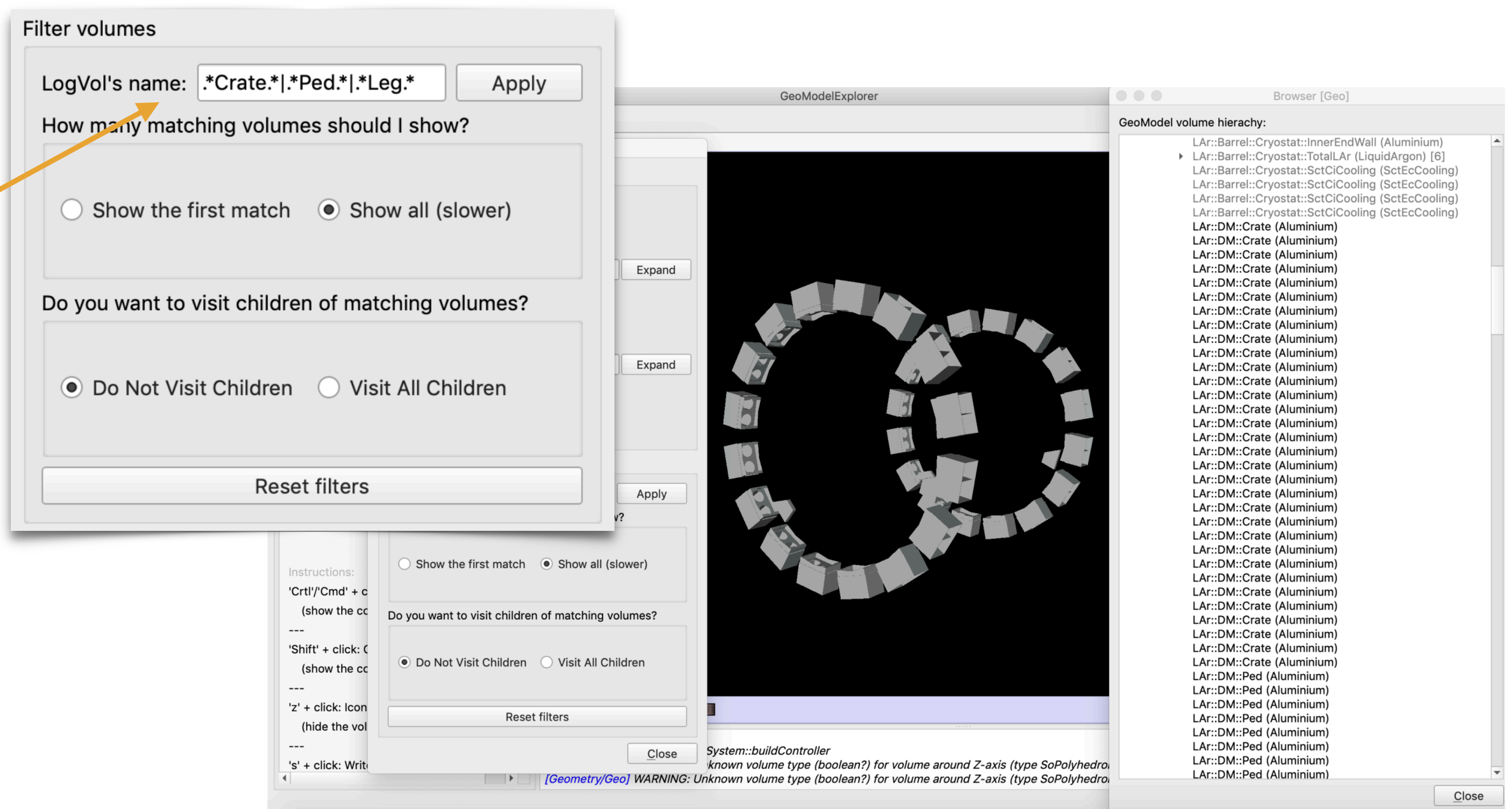
New feature: Search patterns

- The **latest addition** to the visualization tool is the “Volume Filter”. Developers can now **visualize** volumes based on **search patterns**

- No need to dig down a complex geometry by hand

- You can use **regular expressions** to create smart search patterns

- Search patterns can be combined with **boolean operators** to only show the relevant volumes




Command-line Tools & XML support

GeoPhysVol	35301	insta
GeoLogVol	35301	insta
GeoIdentifierTag	21283	insta
GeoTrd	19003	insta
GeoShapeShift	15887	insta
GeoShapeSubtraction	15624	insta
GeoNameTag	15570	insta
GeoPhysVol[32]	14745	insta
GeoGenfun::ConstTimesFunction	1992	insta
GeoGenfun::ConstPlusFunction	1328	insta
GeoXF::Pow	664	insta
GeoSerialTransformer	664	insta
GeoGenfun::Variable	664	insta
GeoSerialIdentifier	664	insta
GeoMaterial	572	insta
GeoMaterial[56]	567	insta
GeoMaterial[120]	551	insta
GeoBox	509	insta
GeoTrap	508	insta
GeoShapeUnion	263	insta
GeoMaterial[72]	206	insta
GeoPhysVol[48]	161	insta
GeoMaterial[64]	143	insta
GeoMaterial[128]	110	insta
GeoPhysVol[40]	97	insta
GeoElement	97	insta
GeoMaterial[136]	79	insta
GeoTubs	39	insta
GeoMaterial[32]	9	insta
GeoPcon[32]	3	insta
GeoPcon[48]	3	insta
GeoPcon	3	insta
GeoPcon[72]	3	insta
GeoTrd[56]	3	insta

Other command line tools

- The GeoModelTools package offers a set of **command-line tools** to handling detector descriptions and perform test:
 - **NEW! gmstatistics:** it prints out the memory footprint (*see next slide*)
 - **NEW FEATURES! XML Parser:** it lets users describe their detectors in XML files (*see next slides*)
 - **gmcat:** it lets users concatenate SQLite files (.db) and/or plugins (.so/.dylib) (*see backup slides*)
 - **gdml2gm:** it converts input GDML* geometry into GeoModel (*see backup slides*)

See the
"Extra Material" slides
at the end, for
additional information!



gmstatistics - Memory footprint

- The **new tool** GMSTATISTICS (*gmstatistics*) lets user **print out the detailed memory footprint** of a **given geometry**
- A technical note: the tool behaves differently on macOS and on linux:
 - **macOS** traces the memory as it is allocated
 - **Linux** traces memory as it is deallocated
 - Also, **macOS "heap" gives a lot of details:** which objects are allocated, how many, and how much memory they occupy

```
GeoTransform          38732 instances  5577408 bytes
GeoPhysVol            35301 instances  4518528 bytes
GeoLogVol             35301 instances  2259264 bytes
GeoIdentifierTag      21283 instances   340528 bytes
GeoTrd                19003 instances  1216192 bytes
GeoShapeShift        15887 instances  2541920 bytes
GeoShapeSubtraction  15624 instances   499968 bytes
GeoNameTag           15570 instances   747360 bytes
GeoPhysVol[32]       14745 instances  1167072 bytes
GeoGenfun::ConstTimesFunction  1992 instances   63744 bytes
GeoGenfun::ConstPlusFunction  1328 instances   42496 bytes
GeoXF::Pow            664 instances  106240 bytes
GeoSerialTransformer  664 instances   21248 bytes
GeoGenfun::Variable   664 instances   10624 bytes
GeoSerialIdentifier   664 instances   10624 bytes
GeoMaterial           572 instances   82368 bytes
GeoMaterial[56]       567 instances   33024 bytes
GeoMaterial[120]     551 instances   32720 bytes
GeoBox                509 instances   24432 bytes
GeoTrap              508 instances   56896 bytes
GeoShapeUnion        263 instances    8416 bytes
GeoMaterial[72]      206 instances    6000 bytes
GeoPhysVol[48]       161 instances   24048 bytes
GeoMaterial[64]      143 instances    3584 bytes
GeoMaterial[128]     110 instances    2304 bytes
GeoPhysVol[40]       97 instances   18816 bytes
GeoElement            97 instances    7760 bytes
GeoMaterial[136]     79 instances    1392 bytes
GeoTubs               39 instances    2496 bytes
GeoMaterial[32]       9 instances     288 bytes
GeoPcon[32]           3 instances     384 bytes
GeoPcon[48]           3 instances     384 bytes
GeoPcon               3 instances     336 bytes
GeoPcon[72]           3 instances     304 bytes
GeoTrd[56]            3 instances     48 bytes
GeoPhysVol[120]      2 instances     80 bytes
GeoPcon[80]           1 instances    128 bytes
GeoLogVol[56]        1 instances     16 bytes
Total GeoModel object allocation: 19.4294MB
```

XML Parser

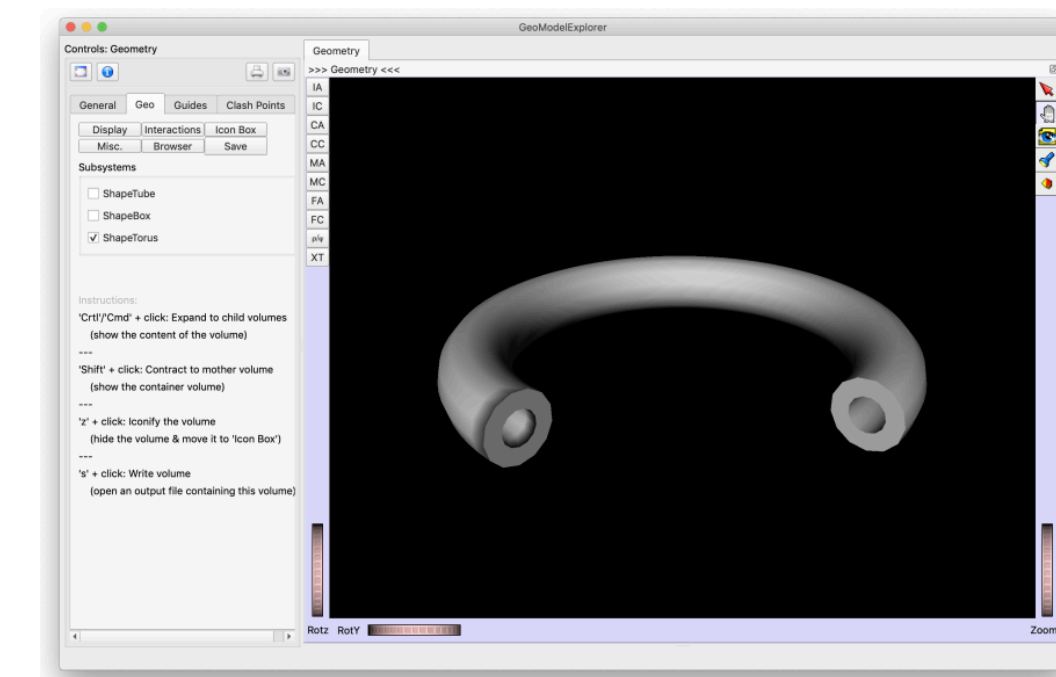
- The GeoModelXML package is part of GeoModelTools and lets users describe their geometry with **XML instructions** and get translated in **GeoModel nodes**
- The new GeoModelXML package is a standalone and **updated version** of the original package earlier developed for an ATLAS experiment sub-detector*
- The use of XML files allow for:
 - **fast updates** to the geometries ==> No need to recompile when modifying
 - **versioning** & storage on Git** ==> XML can be tagged to created versions/revisions
- GeoModelXML now offers **new** convenient **positioners**, XML entities to place volumes in the 3D space
- **New shapes** are being added

```
<shapes>
  <torus name="Torus" rmin="TubeInnerRadius"
           rmax="TubeOuterRadius"
           rtor="TorusRadius"
           sph="0"
           dphi="0.5" />
</shapes>
```

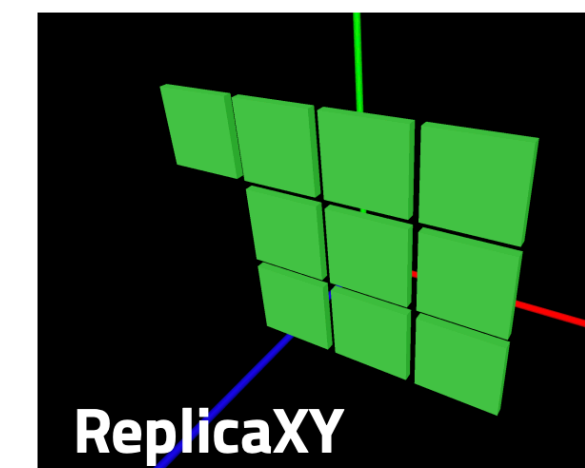
XML code



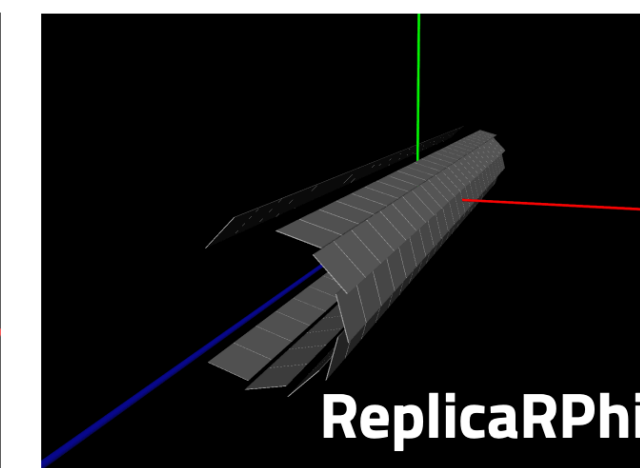
GeoModel conversion



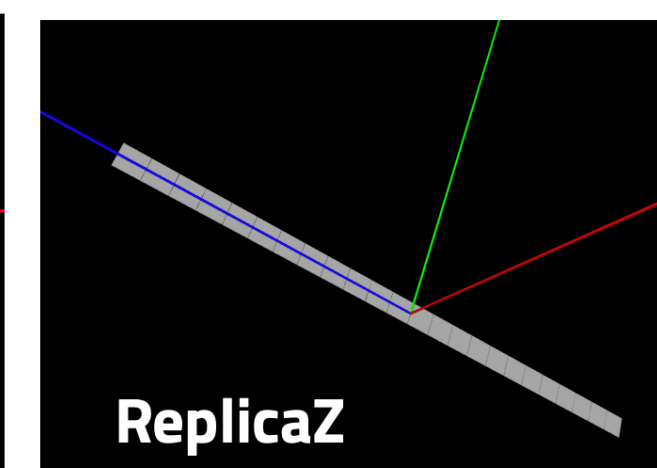
Visualization



ReplicaXY



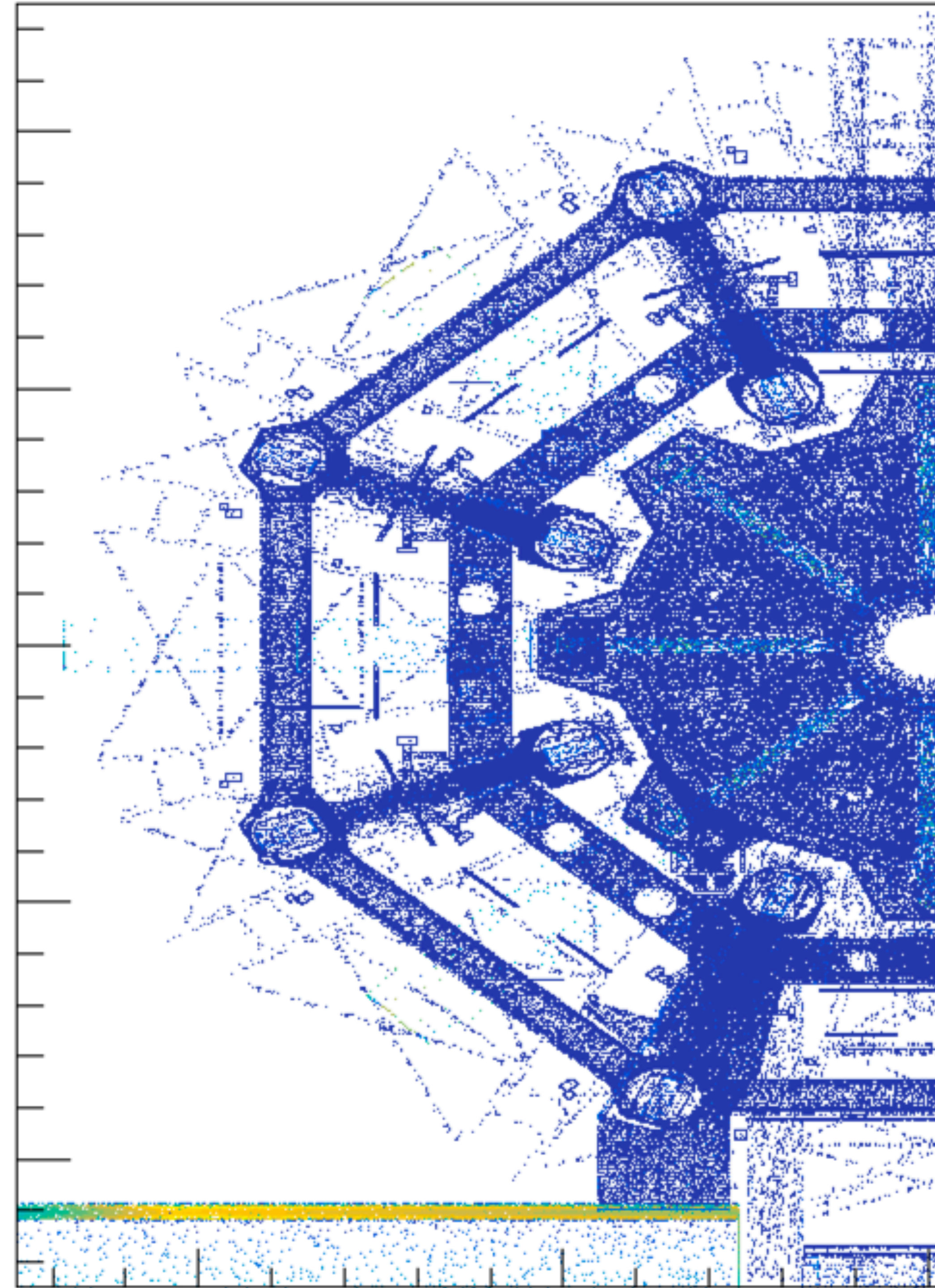
ReplicaRPhi



ReplicaZ

* see backup slides for refs
** or any other SCM/VCS, of course

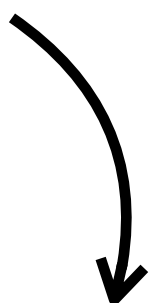
Standalone Simulation Tools



Standalone Geant4 simulation tools

- The FullSimLight sub-package implements a **Geant4-based application** to run a **standalone simulation on any GeoModel geometry**
- Users can **choose what to simulate**: a whole detector, a part of it, or a single volume only
- Supported **geometry input**: SQLite (.db), GDML (.gdml) and GeoModel plugins (.dylib/.so)
- FullSimLight consists of **different tools**:
 - **NEW! gmssc**: it calculates the inclusive and exclusive mass of a geometry (*see next slide*)
 - **fullSimLight**: a light particle transport simulation (geometry, transport in magnetic field and basic physics scoring) (*see backup slides*)
 - **gmgeantino**: a tool to generate geantino maps from your input geometry (*see backup slides*)
 - **gm2gdml**: a tool to convert GeoModel-based geometries into the GDML format (*see backup*)
 - **gmclash**: it runs clash detection on your input geometry, producing a JSON file report (*see backup slides*)

See the
"Extra Material" slides
at the end, for
additional information!



New: gmmasscalc - Mass calculation

- The **new** GeoModelMassCalculator (*gmmasscalc*) is a command-line tool that **calculates** the inclusive and exclusive **mass of a given geometry**:
 - **exclusiveMass** is the mass of the considered volume only (from which the volumes occupied by the daughters volumes have been subtracted)
 - **inclusiveMass** is the mass of the considered volume, comprehensive of the masses of the respective daughters (propagated in an iterative way to their daughter volumes).
- The mass report is given in an **output JSON file**
- By default (if the optional flag are not used) *gmmasscalc*, takes the main *World Volume*, and calculates the inclusive and exclusive masses of the respective daughters

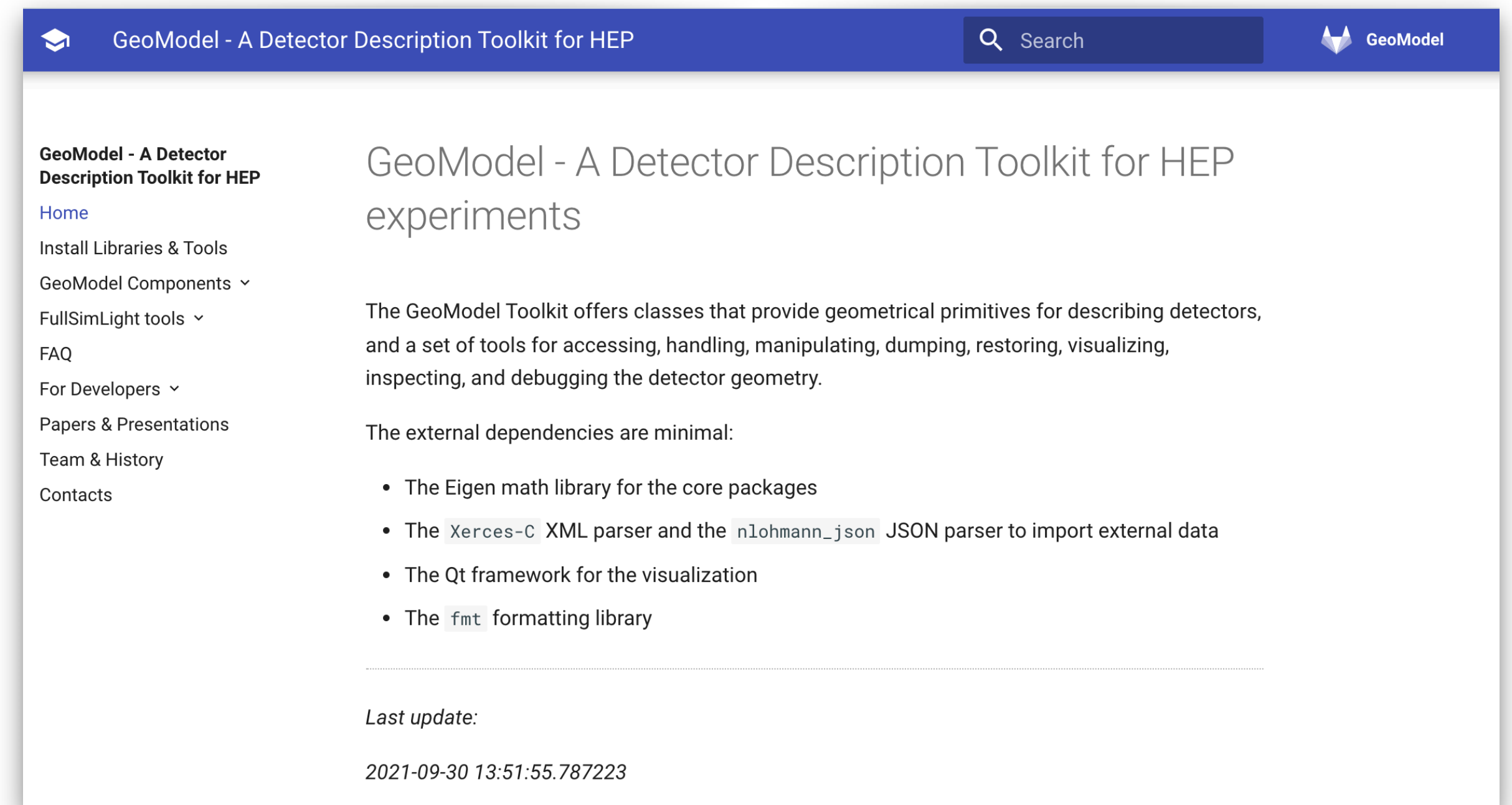
```
{  
  "exclusiveMass[kg]": 1.3358800280858636,  
  "inclusiveMass[kg]": 133.81273262584054,  
  "logicalVolumeName": "SCT_ForwardC",  
  "material": "Air",  
  "physicalVolumeName": "SCT",  
  "volumeCopyNo": 16969,  
  "volumeEntityType": "G4Tubs"  
}
```

```
./gmmasscalc -g caloBarrel.db -o mass_caloBarrel.json
```

Documentation, Source code, License, History

Documentation

- Users can find **documentation** on GeoModel modules and tools at:
 - <https://geomodel.web.cern.ch/home/>
- Documentation is written in **Markdown** with **MKDocs**, to **let users contribute** to it through Git Merge Requests
- It is **built and published automatically** (with CI jobs) on new additions and changes



Source code & License

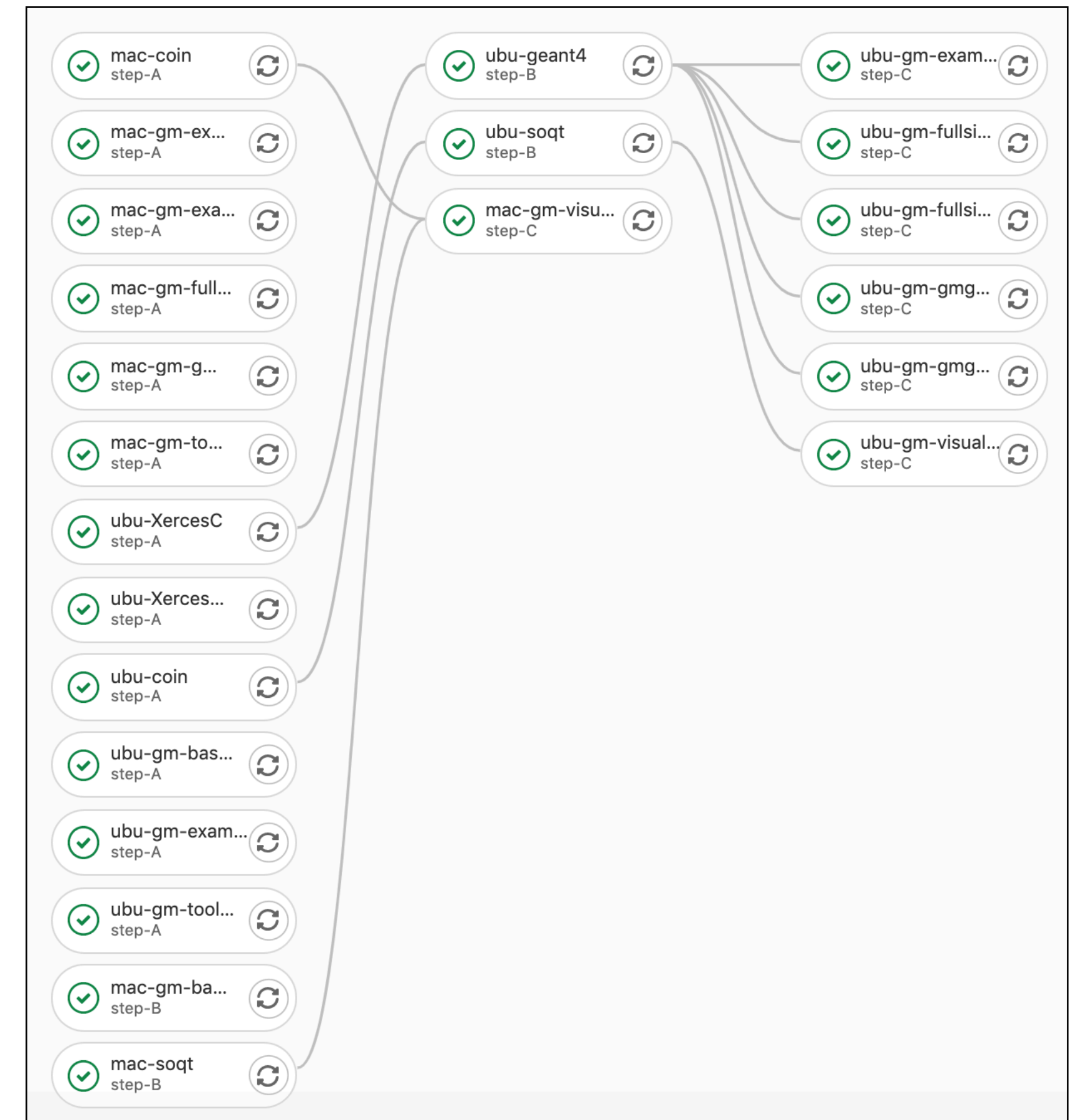
- The source code is **fully public**, and it is hosted on the CERN **GitLab** servers:

- <https://gitlab.cern.ch/GeoModelDev/GeoModel>

- The code is tested with **continuous integration (CI)** jobs, covering the **major platforms** used by our users:

- macOS
- Ubuntu Linux

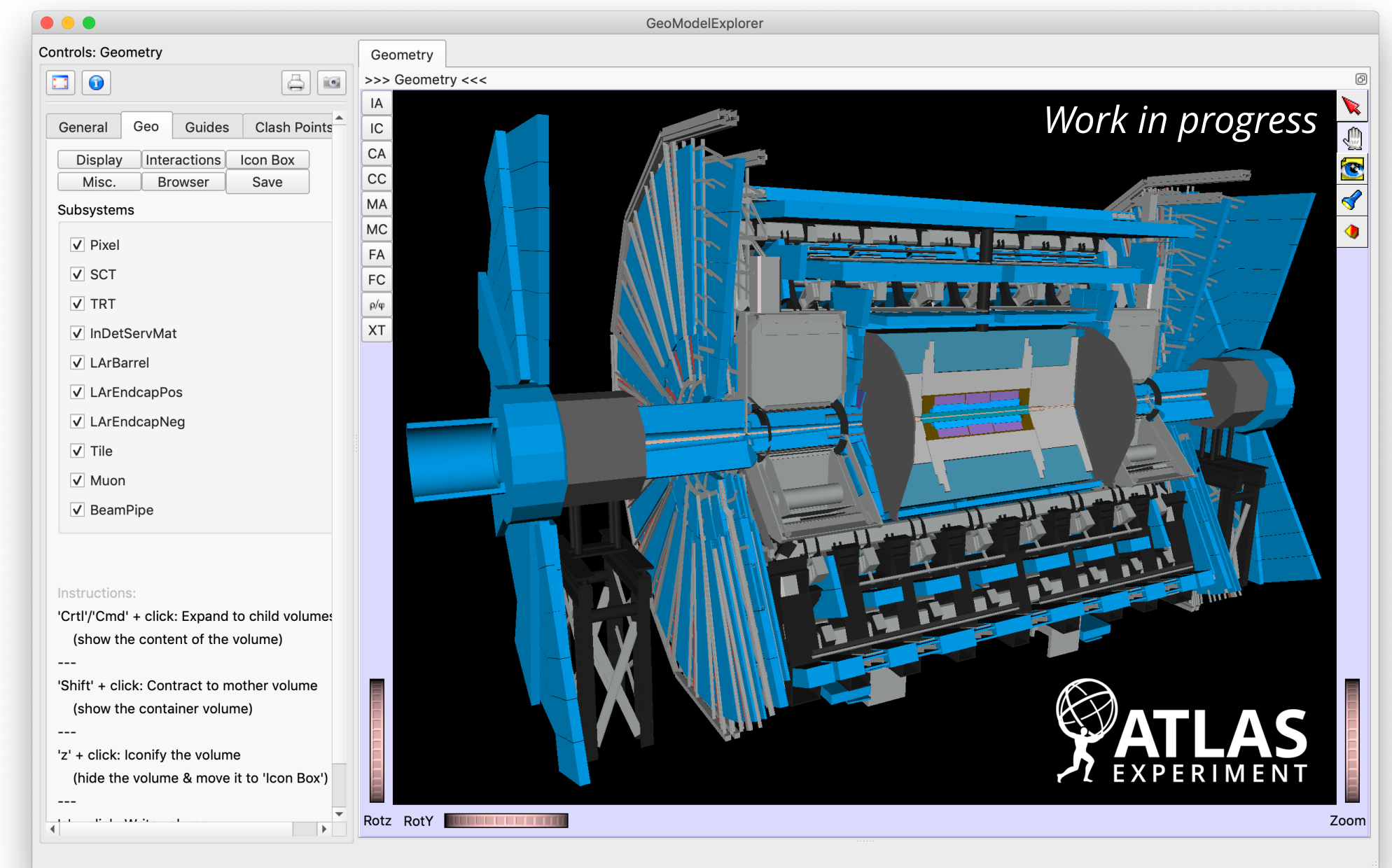
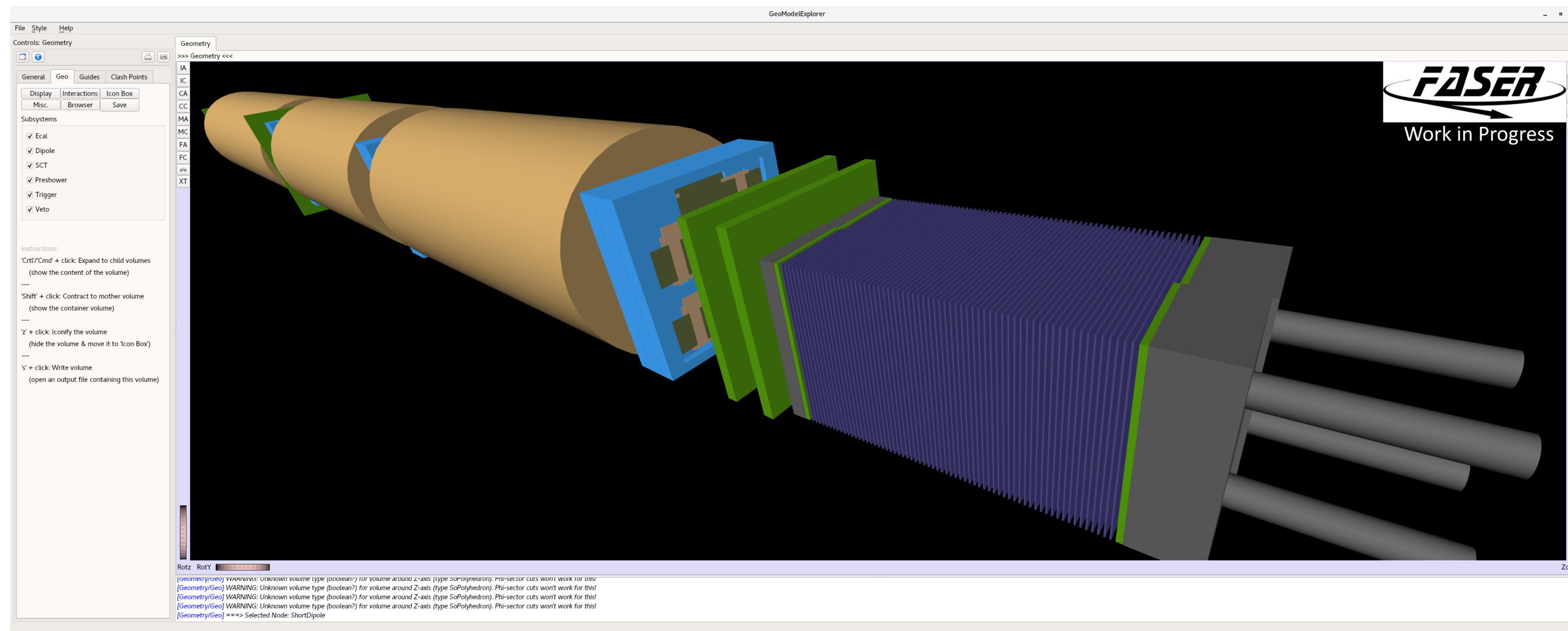
- The whole GeoModel code is **released** under the **permissive Apache 2.0 license***



* this is the license suggested by the HSF Licensing Group and today used by many HEP experiments for their code

GeoModel in HEP

- The **ATLAS experiment adopted** the new GeoModel suite as the foundation of the whole **new** Detector Description **architecture** for the **LHC Run4** data taking period
- The **FASER experiment adopted** GeoModel for **its** new Detector Description **architecture**



*The **FASER** and **ATLAS** detectors described with GeoModel and visualized in GeoModelExplorer*

GeoModel: 20 years experience

- The **GeoModelKernel** package —containing the core classes— has been part of the ATLAS framework and the foundation of the ATLAS Detector Description for 20 years
- The **new toolkit** made the core classes **standalone and experiment-independent**, and added a whole set of **new functionalities** and tools.
Its **development is backed and supported by the ATLAS experiment**
- During the last few years, the new GeoModel tool suite **has steadily grown into a full-featured, yet lightweight, tool-suite**, and we have **presented** the new tools and packages at the major HEP conferences. *See backup slides for links to the past presentations*

GeoModel

a lightweight & powerful
detector description toolkit
made for every experiment
based on 20 years experience
backed by ATLAS.

Questions?

Riccardo Maria Bianchi / riccardo.maria.bianchi@cern.ch / [@SubatomicHunter](https://twitter.com/SubatomicHunter)

See the Extra
Material slides for
additional features!

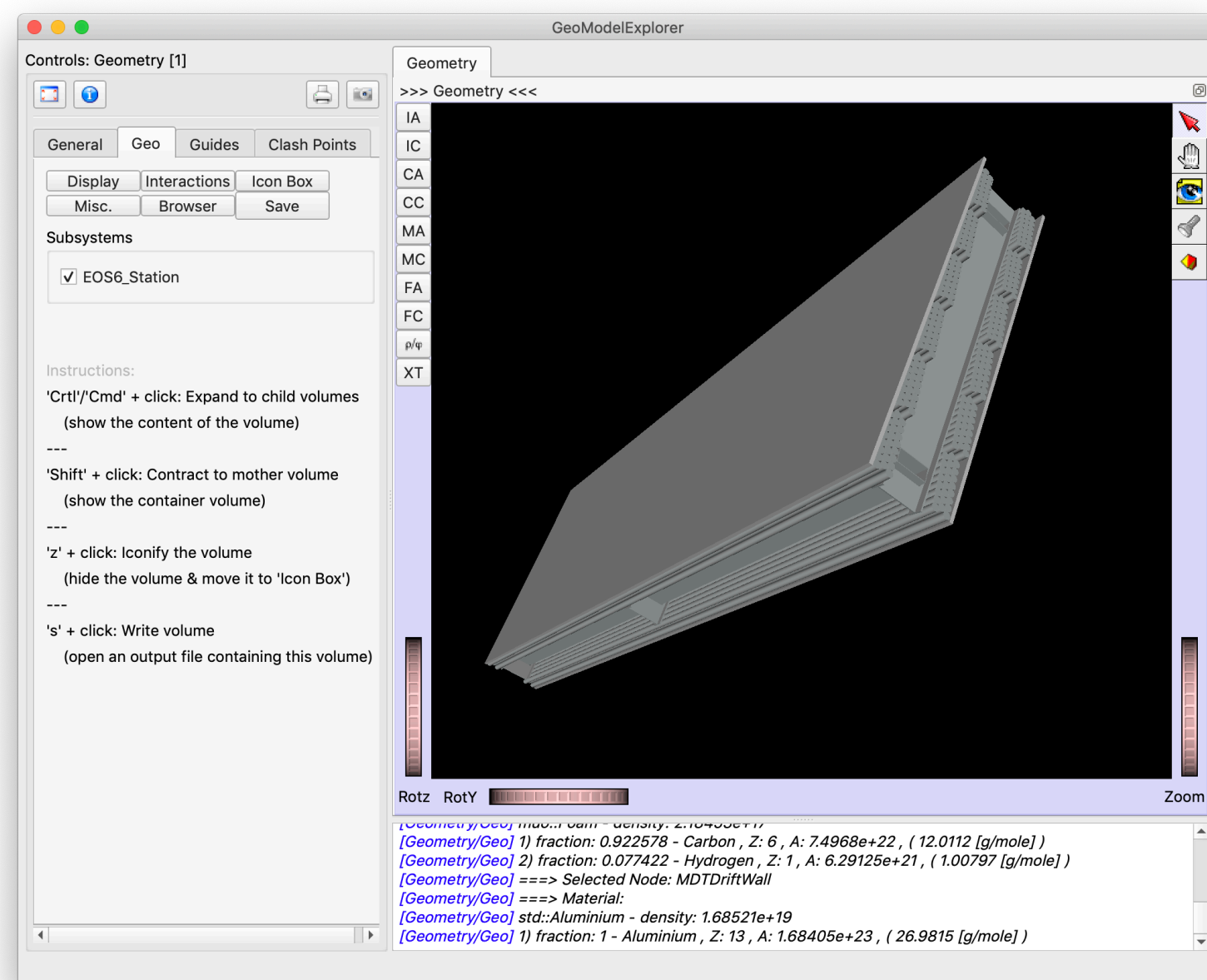


EXTRA MATERIAL

EXTRA - Visualization

Visualization - Customizable visualization parameters in JSON

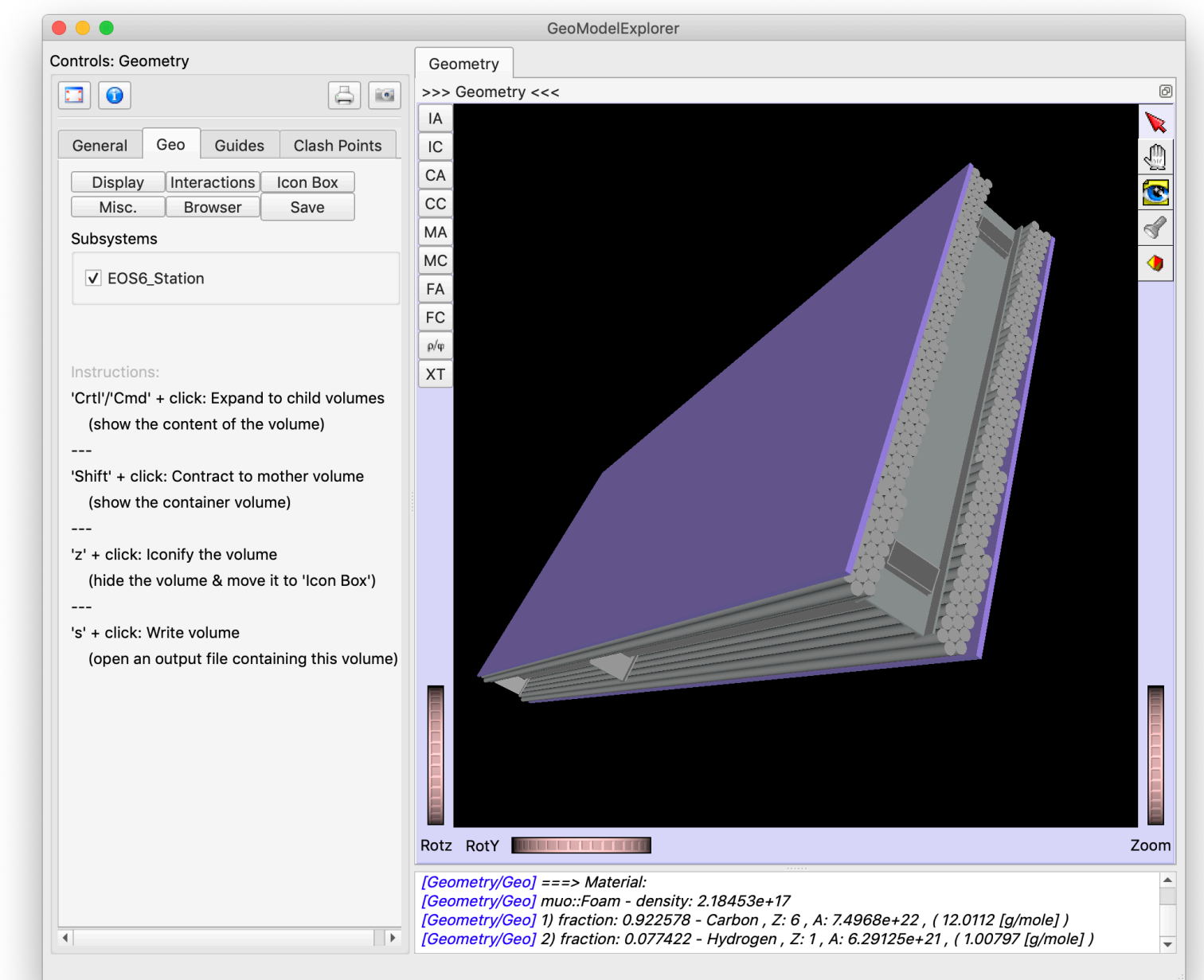
- GeoModelExplorer visually represents materials and volumes in the geometry, based on visualization parameters defined by the user and stored in **JSON files**
- That means that the **appearance** of materials and volumes **can be modified on-the-fly**, with **no need to recompile GeoModel**



A detector, with the default colors

```
{  
  "diffuse": {  
    "B": 1.0,  
    "G": 0.5249999761581421,  
    "R": 0.6000000238418579  
  },  
  "name": [  
    "muo::Foam"  
  ],  
  "shininess": 0.800000011920929,  
  "specular": {  
    "B": 0.27000001072883606,  
    "G": 0.27000001072883606,  
    "R": 0.27000001072883606  
  },  
  "transparency": 0.0  
}
```

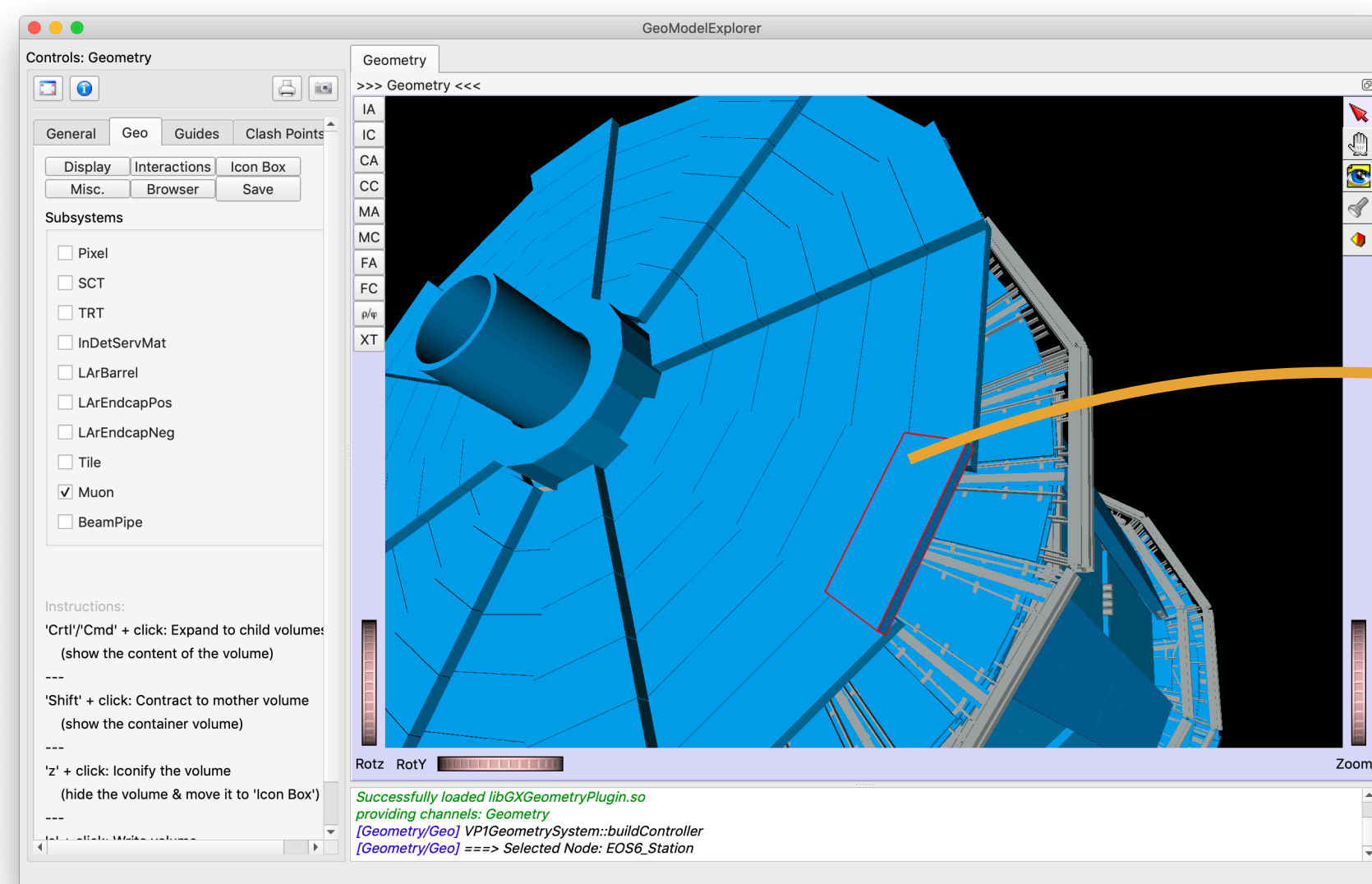
New user-defined colors



Same detector, with the new colors

Visualization - Saving parts to sub-trees

- Users can select a **specific detector volume** on screen and **save it and** all its **child** sub-volumes into a separated GeoModel file
- The selected piece of detector can be re-opened in an **isolated environment** for additional **inspection**, checked with test tools, **separately simulated**, or **be used as a sub-tree** into another tree
- Users can also save into a GeoModel SQLite file the **entire 3D scene**, to get a persistent copy of the geometry tree visualized on the screen



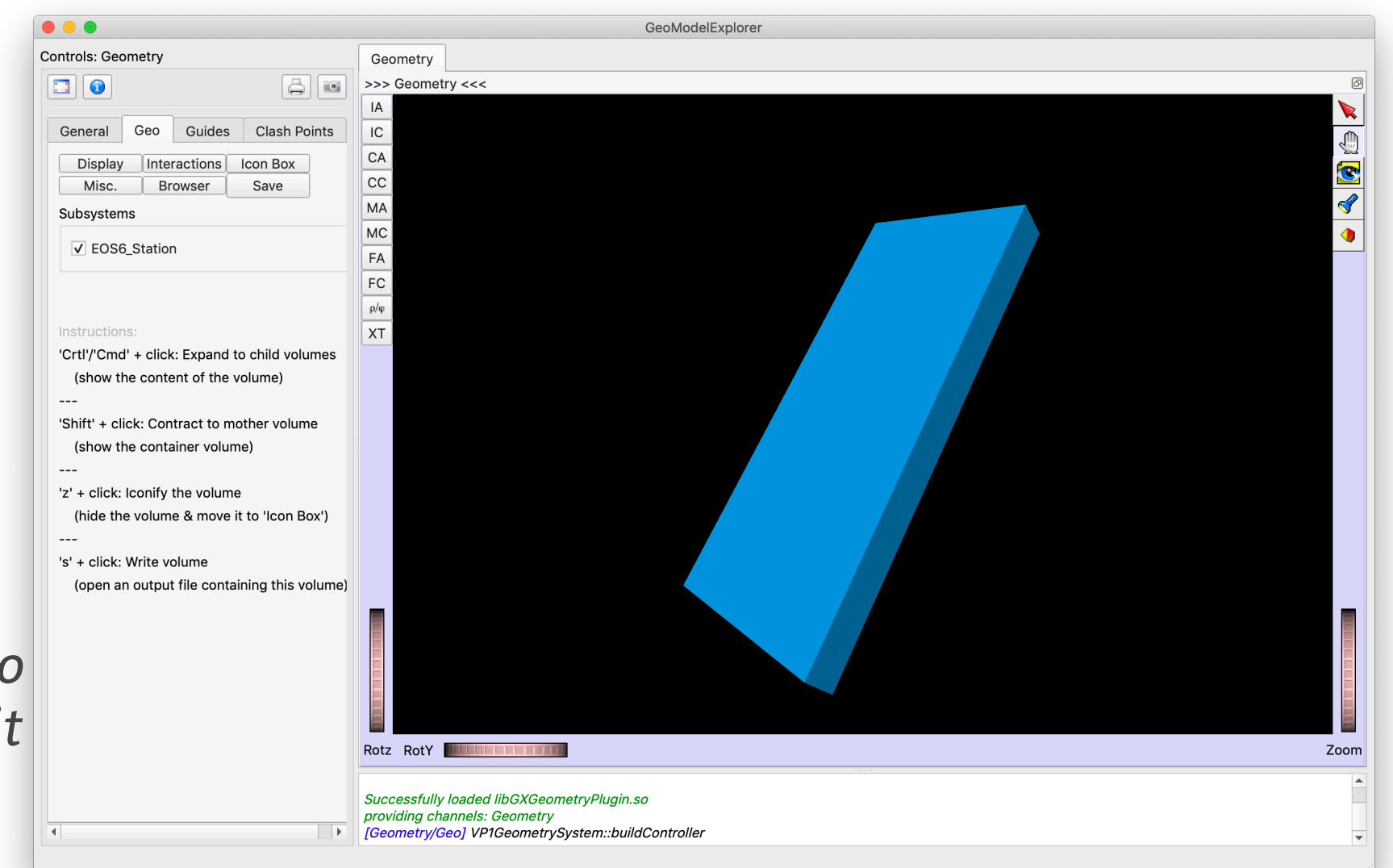
SAVE

SQLite
file

LOAD

Here, we dump
the geometry of
a single muon
chamber into a
file...

...then we load it, to
inspect/visualize it
in an isolated
environment



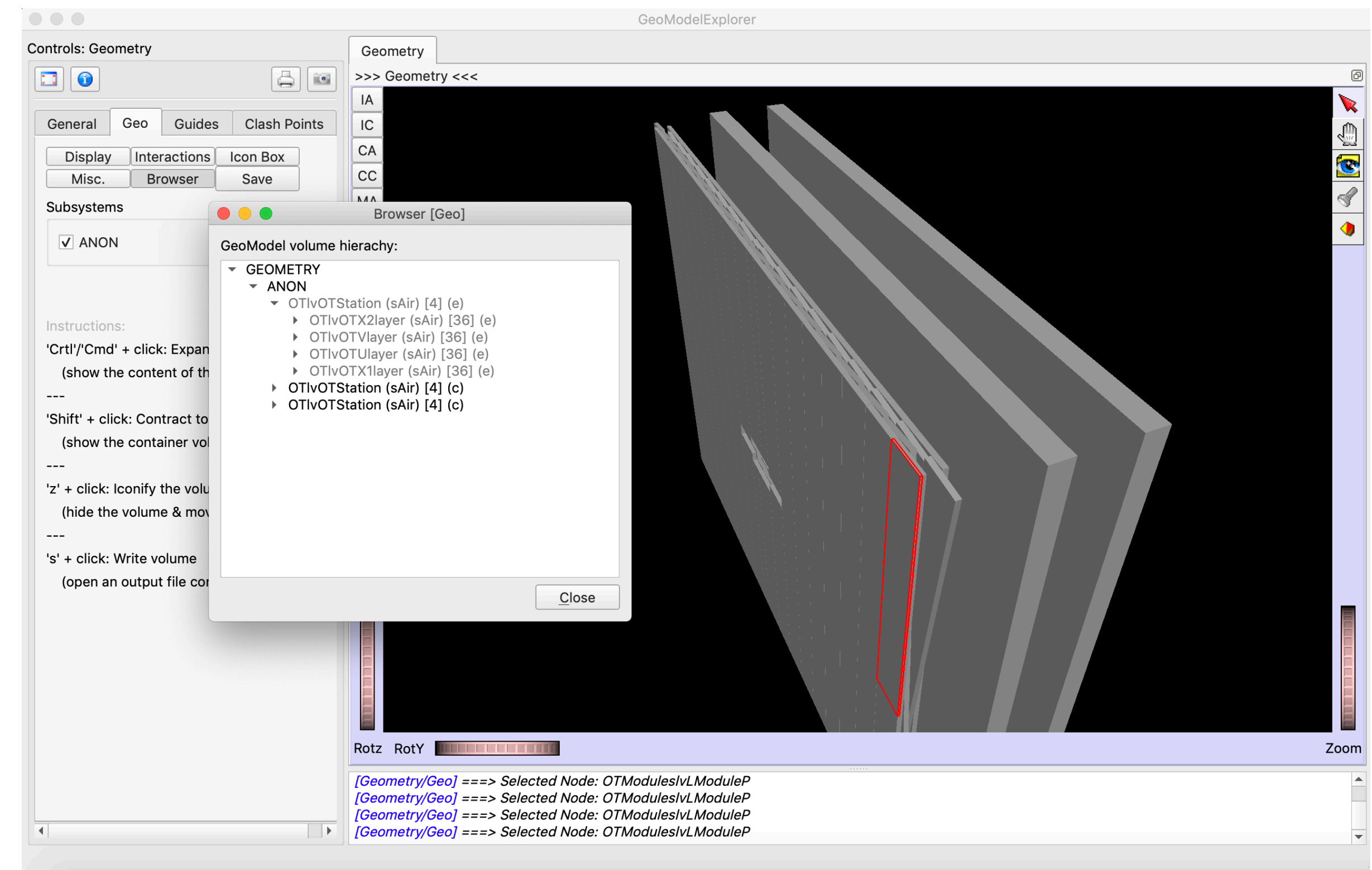
Visualization - The graphics SW stack

- The GeoModelExplorer visualization tool uses a few software external libraries:
 - [Coin3D](#) + [OpenGL](#) —> for the 3D graphics
 - [Qt5](#) —> for the graphical user interface (GUI)
 - [SoQt](#) —> as a glue package between the 3D graphics layer and the GUI
- An upgrade to Qt 6 is foreseen for the near future
- An R&D sub-project is also ongoing about the replacement of Coin/SoQt with Qt3D

EXTRA - Command-line Tools

Tools - *gdml2gm* - Convert GDML to GeoModel

- The GDML2GM package offers the *gdml2gm* command-line tool to **convert** input **GDML** detector descriptions **into GeoModel**
- That lets **users use the feature-rich & standalone GeoModelExplorer to inspect** existing geometries implemented in **GDML**
- In the figure, the Geant4 GDML test file (*test.gdml*) is visualized in GeoModelExplorer
- The GDML-GeoModel converters are work -in-progress, not all GDML entities are supported yet; but more entities are being added as they are needed by users



EXTRA - Standalone Simulation Tools

Simulation - *fullSimLight* - Standalone particle transport simulation

- FullSimLight (*fullSimLight*) is a **Geant4-based** lightweight application that offers **particle transport** simulation **through a given piece of geometry**
- It can use both sequential and multithreaded Geant4 builds
- it uses the **Geant4 particle gun** as default primary generator, but **also supports *Pythia***
- A constant **magnetic field** can be set through a macro command
- It supports, as **input formats**, GeoModel SQLite files, GeoModel plugins and GDML files

```
./fullSimLight -m ../share/FullSimLight/macro.g4 -g myGeometry.db
```

on a GeoModel SQLite file

```
./fullSimLight -m ../share/FullSimLight/macro.g4 -g libMyGeoPlugin.dylib
```

on a GeoModel plugin

```
./fullSimLight -m ../share/FullSimLight/macro.g4 -g myGeometry.gdml
```

on a GDML file

Simulation - *gmclash* - clash detection

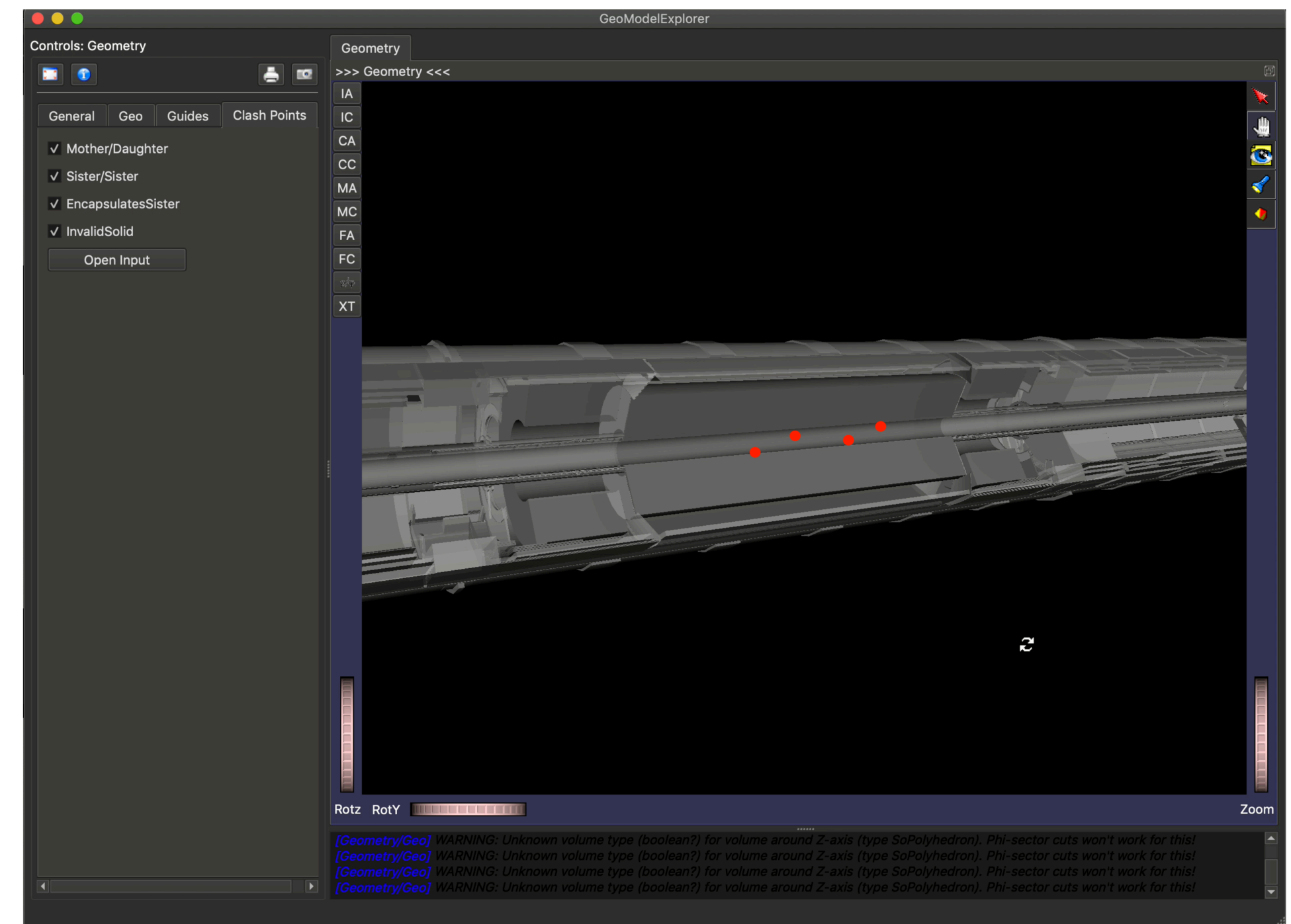
- GeoModelClash (*gmclash*) runs Geant4-based geometry overlap checks on a given geometry

```
./gmclash -g LArBarrel.db -o cr_LArBarrel.json
```

- The **clash report** is given in an output **JSON file**

```
"distance [mm]": 51.21328179620343,  
"typeOfClash": 1,  
"volume1CopyNo": 16969,  
"volume1EntityType": "G4Tubs",  
"volume1Name": "LAr::Barrel::Cryostat::Cylinder::#13Phys",  
"volume2CopyNo": 16969,  
"volume2EntityType": "G4UnionSolid",  
"volume2Name": "LAr::DM::SectorEnvelopes2r",  
"x": -1.736718203796568,  
"y": -1263.348806272393,  
"z": -166.75403155804725
```

- The clash **report** can also be **loaded** in GeoModelExplorer, **to visualize the points of clash**



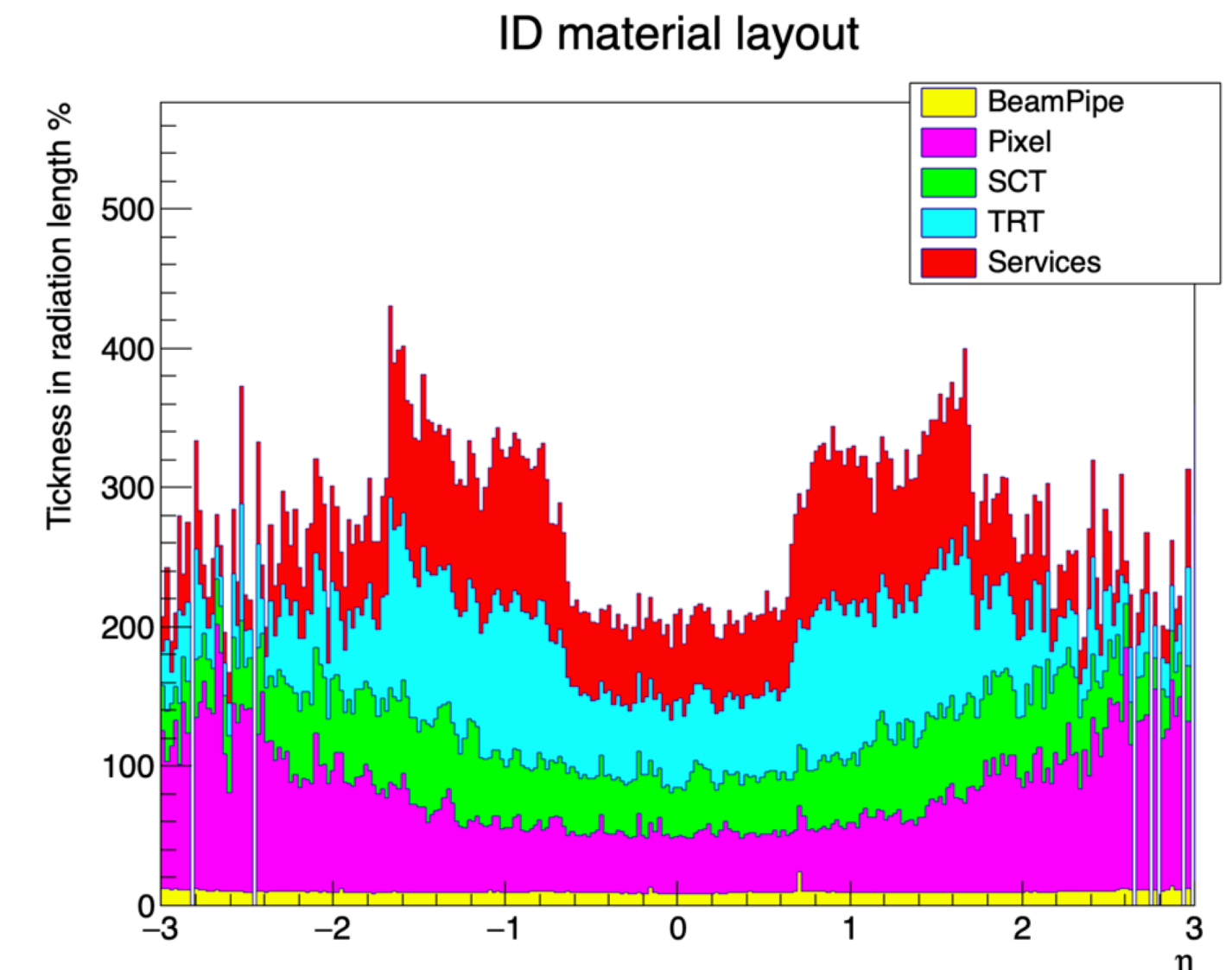
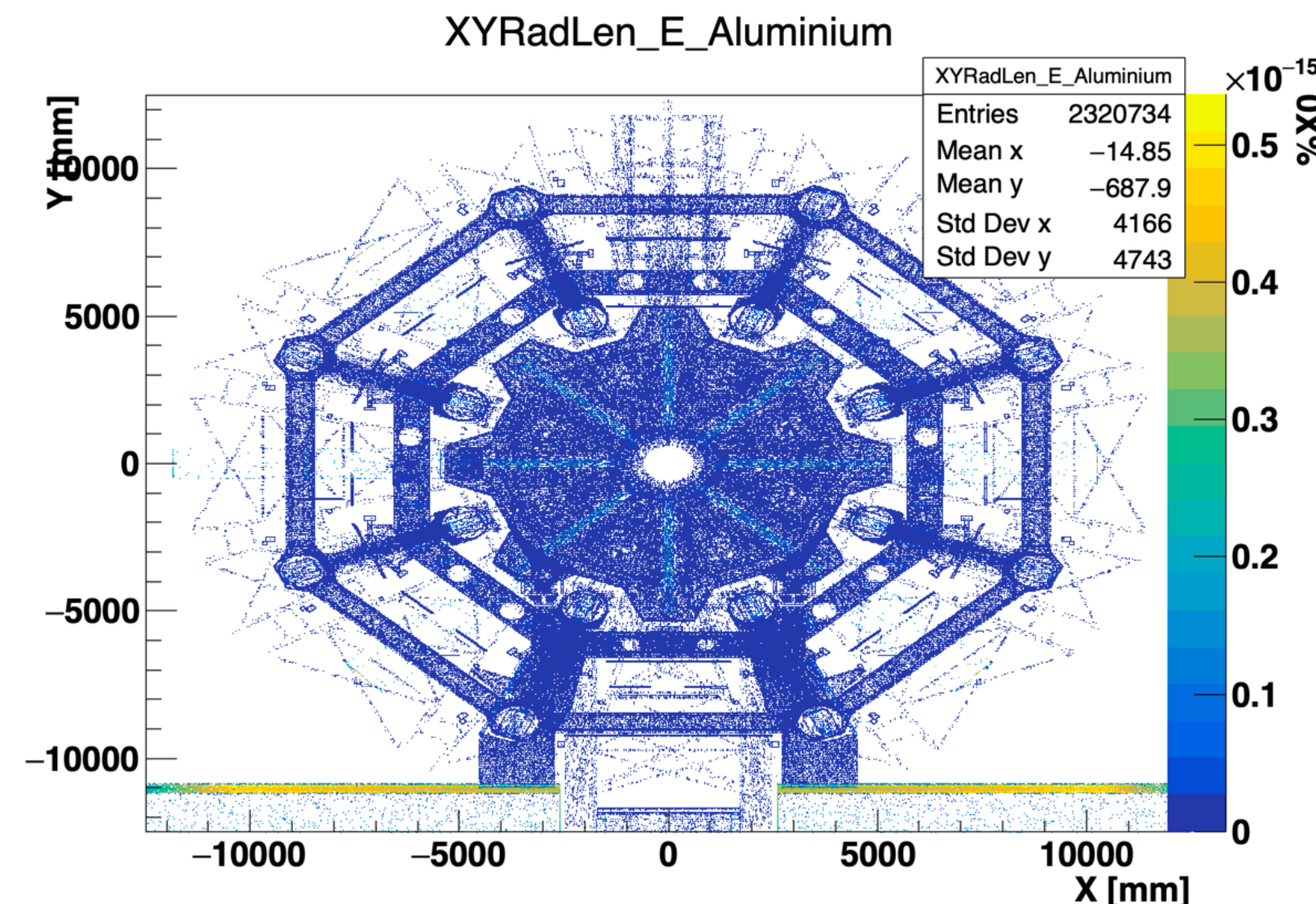
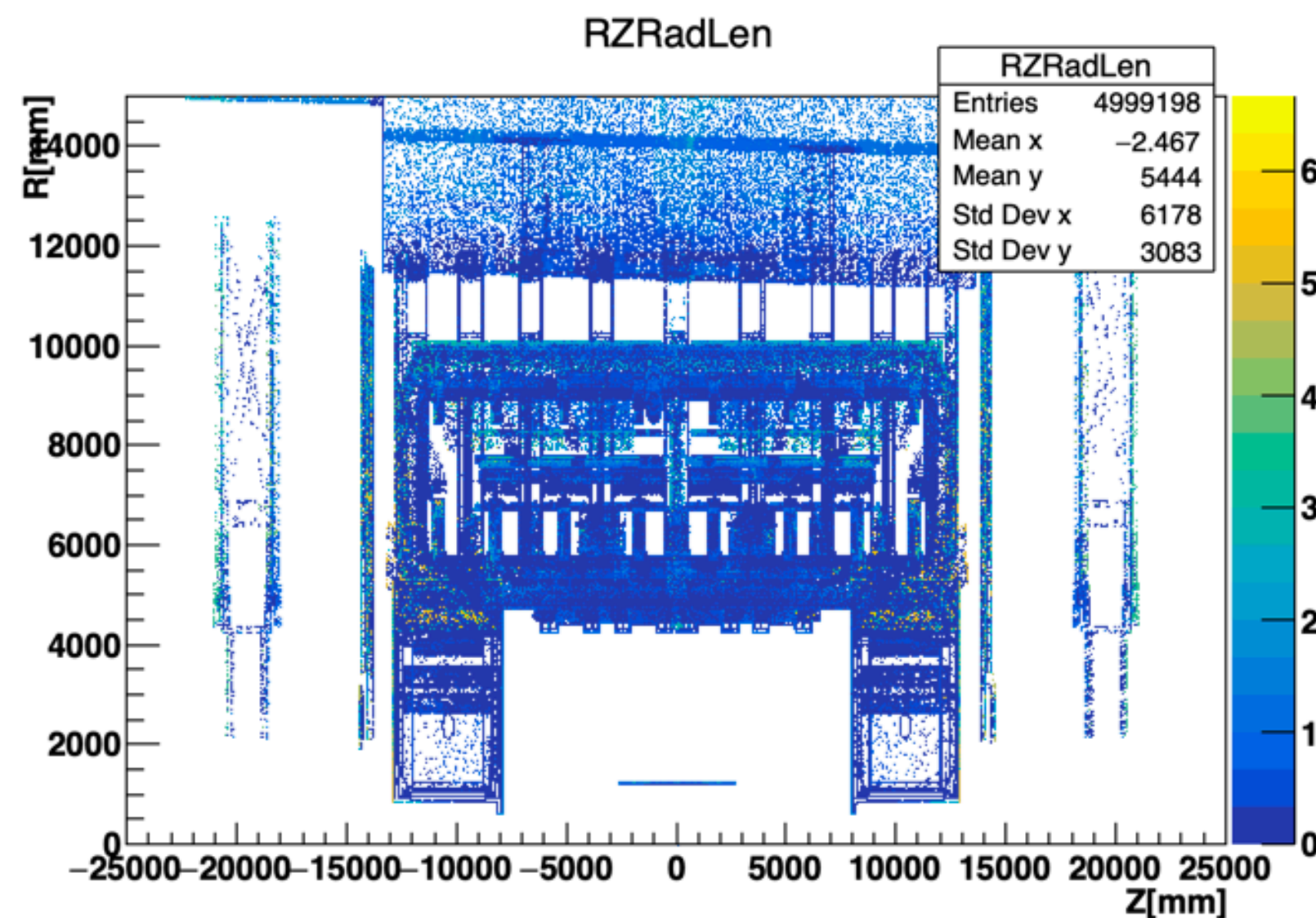
clash points highlighted in red in GeoModelExplorer

Simulation - *gmgeantino* - Standalone geantino scans

- GeoModelGeantino (*gmgeantino*) is a Geant4-based application that **produces geantino maps for a given geometry**. It supports .db/.gdml/.dylib/.so geometry formats

```
./gmgeantino -m ../share/FullSimLight/geantino.g4 -g LArBarrel.db -e -d
```

- it writes out the **geantino maps** in a ROOT file. However, **it does not depend on ROOT**, because it uses the *G4AnalysisManager* to create/fill/write 1D and 2D Profiles



Past GeoModel presentations

- Past GeoModel presentations at major HEP computing&software conferences:
 - **vCHEP 2021:** <https://doi.org/10.1051/epjconf/202125103007>
 - **CHEP 2019:** <https://doi.org/10.1051/epjconf/202024502029>
 - **CHEP 2018:** <https://doi.org/10.1051/epjconf/201921402035>
 - **ACAT 2017:** <https://doi.org/10.1088/1742-6596/1085/3/032035>
 - **CHEP 2016:** <https://inspirehep.net/literature/1638122>

References

- The **original GeoModelXml** package had developed as part of the software framework of the ATLAS experiment, on top of which the **new, standalone, updated GeoModelXML** is built. See, for example:
 - N.Hessey, *"User Manual and Guide to developing geometries with the GeoModelXml Package"*, ATLAS Public Note, <https://twiki.atlas-canada.ca/pub/AtlasCanada/ITk/gmx2geo.pdf>