Geant4 Threading



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Status and Work Plan

Geant4 Threading → Migration to Tasking

- Geant4 internally does not have complex tasking requirements
 - Current G4MT ~= event-level tasking constrained to an enumeration
 - Migrating to track-level tasks internally would be overkill
- Event-level tasking \rightarrow straight-forward
 - No API changes of any significance
 - Basically invisible to downstream apps
- Sub-event level parallelism will require a bit more work for reproducibility
 - e.g. TLS random number generators seeded at beginning of event
 - Issues with TLS expecting correlation b/t event and thread will likely arise:

static thread local int lastEvent = -1;

if(anEvent->GetEventID() != lastEvent) { ... reset something ... }





Tasking Work Plan

- Built-in tasking library for large majority of users
 - C++11 threads, packaged_task, future, promise
- Generic user API for submitting tasks to queue
- Internally, API will submit tasks to generic, lightweight "task_group" template object
 - Designed to be the interception point for executing the task via another parallelism framework
 - TBB is already supported
 - HPX, Kokkos, etc. can be supported
 - New frameworks → provide a specialization for their library that gets integrated into Geant4 source code



