Simulation And Many Cores

Workshop on concurrency in the many-cores era November 21st, 2011 Philippe Canal

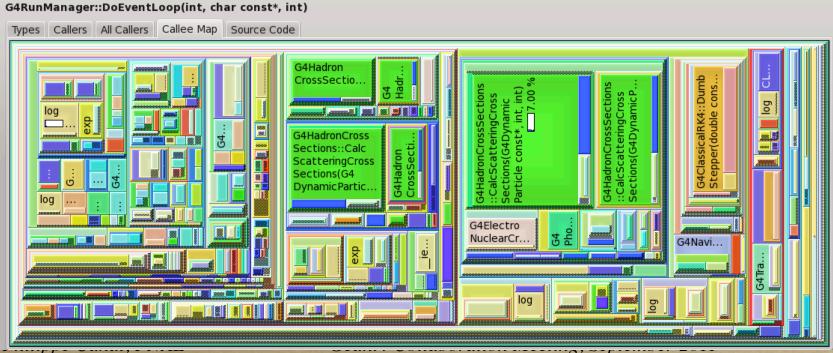
One Performance Study

- Using simplifiedCalo a Geant4 example from Andrea Dotti:
 - Test of Shower shapes using selected simplified calorimeter setups
 - Using neutron particle gun at 7GeV

A Few Observations

- Largest fraction of the time spent in log and exp during initialization.
- G4HadronCrossSection::CalcScatteringCrossSection next largest contributor (18% of DoEventLoop)
- Time spent is spread amongst large number of functions.

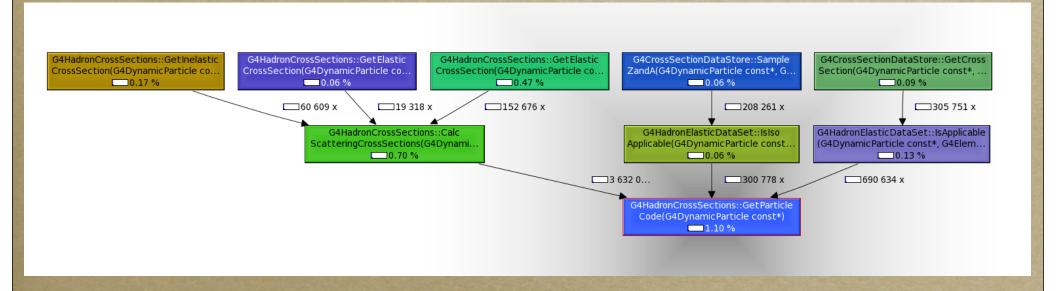




o 1% of time spent in 'IsApplicable' routines

Incl. :	Self :	Calle	d i F	Function	Location
				■ G4HadronElasticDataSet::IsApplicable(G4DynamicP	libG4processes.so
				■ G4CHIPSElasticXS::IsApplicable(G4DynamicParticle	libG4processes.so
				■ G4CrossSectionPairGG::IsApplicable(G4DynamicPart	libG4processes.so
				■ G4HadronCaptureDataSet::IsApplicable(G4Dynamic	libG4processes.so
				■ G4HadronInelasticDataSet::IsApplicable(G4Dynamic	
				■ G4HadronFissionDataSet::IsApplicable(G4DynamicP	libG4processes.so
				■ G4ElectroNuclearCrossSection::IsApplicable(G4Dyn	libG4processes.so
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0.00	0.00			G4VProcess::IsApplicable(G4ParticleDefinition const&)	
0.00	0.00		348 I	G4BGGPionElasticXS::IsApplicable(G4DynamicParticl	libG4processes.so

 1% of time spent in: G4HadronCrossSection::GetParticleCode



• G4hPairProductionModel::

Compute DMicroscopic Cross Section

- Takes 55% of the cpu time during G4RunManager::RunInitialization.
- Called 211688 times but with 'only' 112871 distinct inputs.
- Consecutive calls have most often 2 arguments that are the same and the 3rd one incrementing slowly.

- G4HadronCrossSections::CalcScatteringCrossSections
 - Takes 18% of the event processing CPU time (during G4RunManager::DoEventLoop)
 - called 376,200,793 times with only 34,588,580 (9%)
 distinct input and output values.
 - Series of calls where 2 of the three main inputs are the same for 5 or 6 consecutive calls while the 3rd argument varies slowly and the results are numerically very close.
 - Same exact series of calls (with the same results) are done many times in close proximity.

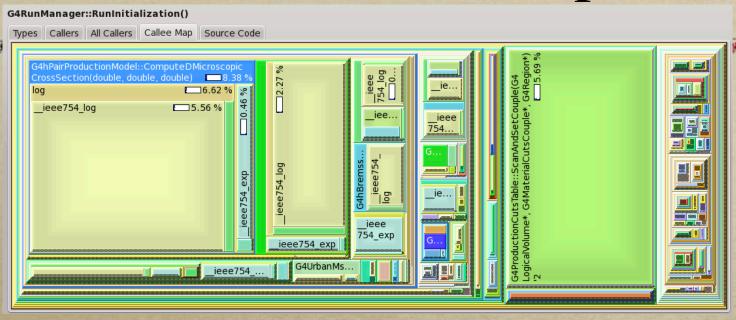
CPU Efficiency

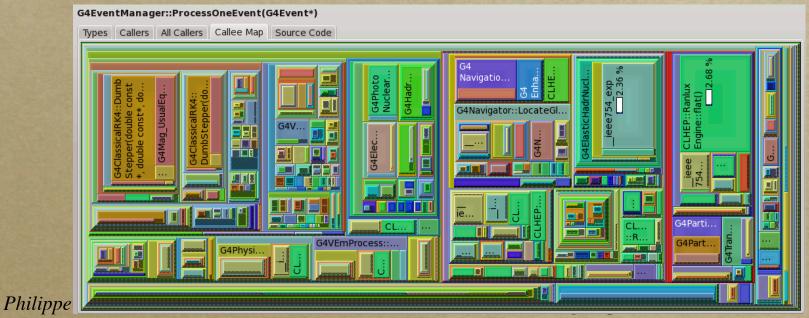
AMD's CodeAnalyst performance Analyzer can calculate the number of instructions per CPU clock cycles in each libraries.

This tables shows the result for the novice example NO2

Library	Inst. Per Cycle	
libm	0.8	
G4Geometry	0.71	
CLHEP	0.72	
G4Processes	0.56	
G4Tracking	0.55	
G4Track	0.52	
G4Globals	0.65	

ParFullCMS Example





Lessons Learned

- Retrofitting thread safety is expensive
 - In development time
 - In run-time CPU
 - In user development time
 - Any user callback needs to also be made thread safe
- Most memory savings can also be achieved via fork-and-copy-on-write technique

Structural Opportunities

- Geant4 code often tests repetitively for applicability
 - Many calls to IsApplicable, GetParticleCode.
- Several cases of repeated calls with slow varying inputs and outputs
 - G4hPairProductionModel::ComputeDMicroscopicCrossSection
 - G4HadronCrossSections::CalcScatteringCrossSections

Structural Opportunities

- Particles/tracks propagated through the same volumes
- Many decisions can be precomputed, at least partially:
 - which physics processes apply to which set of particles
 - for which set of particles should the magnetic field be used
 - physics process dependent on the particles' energy or other variable properties

Goals and Constraints

- Increase CPU efficiency
- Enable use of many cores and GPU
- Use the need for potentially significant user changes as an opportunity for larger structural changes

Design Directions

- Replace the looping mechanism from handling one single element at a time to handling multiple elements (vectors)
 - Reduce the number of decisions and thus the number of incorrect branch predictions
 - Reduce the number of overall functions calls
 - Reduce the number of calculations
 - For example if several tracks are in the same volume, lookup/calculate/use parametrization only once
 - Improve memory locality for example by having collections of light weight objects

Advantages

 Lightweight objects and vectorization is more in line with GPU and other small cache CPU

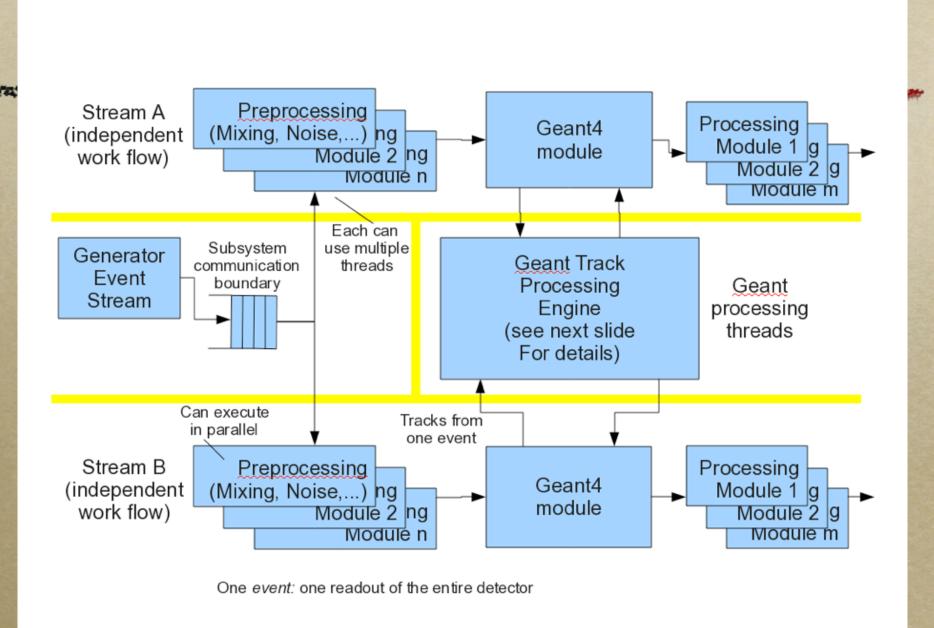
 Necessary rewrite will be an opportunity to be efficiently thread-aware

High Level Architecture

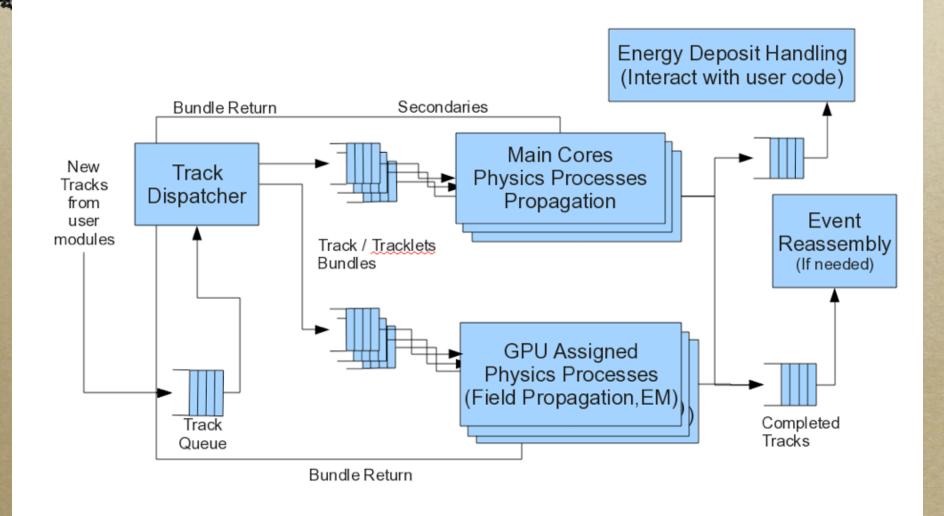
- (Some of the) Future frameworks will be thread capable
 - FNAL supplies the **art** framework to several Intensity Frontier experiments
 - art is being updated to be able to process multiple events in parallel



Requires coordination between the framework and Geant to not over compete for computing resources



Track Processing



Track/Tracklets Bundles

- Gather tracks/particles together to minimize run-time decisions
- Explore which set of dimensions is best
 - Particle type, Energy range, Location, etc.
- Explore when to move the bundles from core to core and when to bring external data to the bundles
 - For example a set of volumes might be pegged to a core/GPU
- Split objects in subsets of datum that are used together
 - Increase data locality, minimize data transfer (GPU)
 - One possible example: the 'location' of all the track in a bundle could be in a vector<location>

Track/Tracklets Bundles

- Each track/tracklet will need to know
 - o to which event it belongs
 - which module instance contains the context for digitizing
 - Geant callbacks must be associated with the right module
- o The reader of the output queue of tracks will need to
 - Assemble tracks back into events
 - Know when all tracks are complete for an event
 - o The event then needs to be given back to the right module instance
- Need both event and sub-event level parallelism
 - See Rene Brun's conclusions.

Conclusion

- Leap in performance requires infrastructure changes:
 - Vectorization
 - Light-weight (array of) objects
 - Sub-event and across events parallelism