

GEANT4 Parallelism & Grid

J. Knobloch IT/API GEANT4 Workshop Genova 2 July 2001

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Topics



- Why parallel processing?
- What kind of parallel processing?
- Issues to be addressed
- To be worked out in the parallel session

Why parallel processing?



- Single job submission on a multi-processor fabric
- Fast response for interactive development
 - Interesting for rapid histogramming of simple events with "particle-guns"
 - Otherwise it usually requires sub-event parallelism
 few real-world use cases

GEANT4 URD:



UR 19-10. GEANT4 shall be able to process events in parallel.

Need Useful.
Priority Not been made part of the LHCC milestones 1994-1998.
Stability Evolving.
Source RD44.
Clarity Clear.
Verifiability Not applicable.

• Assume for now: Event level is sufficient!

Sub-requirements



- Repeatability reproducibility
- Result independence of number of processors
- Exception handling to be dealt with at the processor level and at the control level
- Availability of status information

Issues



- Initialisation Geometry & Physics
 - done once and then distributed?
 - > Balance between dataflow and processing time
- Random number distribution
 - seeds per event central distribution
 - The only way to guarantee reproducibility!
- Data distribution & collection
 - Generator files
 - Event output
 - Summaries, histograms, statistics
 - Database solves many but not all items

DataGrid



- Work Package 8: High Energy Physics Applications
- Presentation by F. Carminati at FOCUS
- Partners: CNRS, INFN, NIKHEF, PPARC, and CERN
- Task: coordinate the exploitation of the prototype system by the HEP experiments and identify common components to be integrated in a HEP upper middleware layer

WP8 – Experiments activities



- ALICE: distributed analysis model using AliRoot DataGRID Services
- ATLAS: Requirements; Tests with GEANT3; Tests with Objectivity planned for this autumn
- CMS: Definition of requirements; Planning first tests; European and US labs involved
- LHCb: Distributed MC production at CERN, RAL, Liverpool and Lyon; Current Testbed-0 tests using CERN and RAL (Globus problems encountered)

ALICE distributed analysis model



LHCb Short term Use Case for GRID



Summary



- Event level parallelism is required for GEANT4
- A number of issues have to be addressed
- Some of them will be solved in the context of GRID middleware
- Third-party components (persistency and analysis tools) need to be "Grid-enabled", too.
- The effort required to implement and test this in GEANT4 must be provided – by GRID resources?
- ... see Parallelism in Parallel Sessions ...