Field propagation in Geant4

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representing the effort of the Field sub-category of the Geometry & Transportation WG of Geant4

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Magnetic field: overview

- In order to propagate a particle inside a field (e.g. magnetic, electric or both), we solve the equation of motion of the particle in the field.
- We use a Runge-Kutta method for the integration of the ordinary differential equations of motion.
  - Several Runge-Kutta ‘steppers’ are available.
- In specific cases other solvers can also be used:
  - In a uniform field, using the analytical solution.
  - In a nearly uniform field (BgsTransportation/future)
  - In a smooth but varying field, with new RK+helix.
Magnetic field: overview (cont)

• Using the method to calculate the track's motion in a field, Geant4 breaks up this curved path into linear chord segments.

• We determine the chord segments so that they closely approximate the curved path.

• We use the chords to interrogate the Navigator, to see whether the track has crossed a volume boundary.
Stepping and accuracy

• You can set the accuracy of the volume intersection,
  – by setting a parameter called the “miss distance”
    • it is a measure of the error in whether the approximate track
      intersects a volume.
    • Default “miss distance” is 3 mm.

• One physics/tracking step can create several chords.
  – In some cases, one step consists of several helix turns.
Magnetic field: a first example

Create your Magnetic field class

– Uniform field :
  • Use an object of the G4UniformMagField class

```cpp
#include "G4UniformMagField.hh"
#include "G4FieldManager.hh"
#include "G4TransportationManager.hh"

G4MagneticField* magField= new G4UniformMagField( G4ThreeVector(1.0*Tesla, 0.0, 0.0 );
```

– Non-uniform field :
  • Create your own concrete class derived from G4MagneticField
Magnetic field: a first example

Tell Geant4 to use your field

• Find the global Field Manager

  G4FieldManager* globalFieldMgr =
  G4TransportationManager::
    GetTransportationManager()
    ->GetFieldManager();

• Set the field for this FieldManager,

  globalFieldMgr->SetDetectorField(magField);

• and create a Chord Finder.

  globalFieldMgr->CreateChordFinder(magField);
In practice: exampleN04

From geant4/examples/novice/N04/src/ExN04DetectorConstruction.cc

```cpp
G4VPhysicalVolume* ExN04DetectorConstruction::Construct()
{
    // Magnetic field
    static G4bool fieldIsInitialized = false;
    if(!fieldIsInitialized)
    {
        ExN04Field* myField = new ExN04Field;
        G4FieldManager* fieldMgr = G4TransportationManager::GetTransportationManager()->GetFieldManager();
        fieldMgr->SetDetectorField(myField);
        fieldMgr->CreateChordFinder(myField);
        fieldIsInitialized = true;
    }
    ExN04FieldManager* fieldMgr = G4TransportationManager::GetTransportationManager()->GetFieldManager();
    fieldMgr->SetDetectorField(myField);
    fieldMgr->CreateChordFinder(myField);
    fieldIsInitialized = true;
}
```
Beyond your first field

• Create your own field class
  – To describe your setup’s EM field

• Global field and local fields
  – The world or detector field manager
  – An alternative field manager can be associated with any logical volume
    • Currently the field must accept position global coordinates and return field in global coordinates

• Customizing the field propagation classes
  – Choosing an appropriate stepper for your field
  – Setting precision parameters
Creating your own field

Create a class, with one key method – that calculates the value of the field at a Point

```cpp
void ExN04Field::GetFieldValue(
    const double Point[4],
    double *field) const
{
    field[0] = 0.;
    field[1] = 0.;
    if(abs(Point[2])<zmax &&
        (sqr(Point[0])+sqr(Point[1]))<rmax_sq)
    { field[2] = Bz; } 
    else
    { field[2] = 0.; } 
}
```

Point [0..2] position
Point[3] time
Global and local fields

• One field manager is associated with the ‘world’
  – Set in G4TransportationManager
• Other volumes can override this
  – By associating a field manager with any logical volume
    • By default this is propagated to all its daughter volumes
      G4FieldManager* localFieldMgr =
      new G4FieldManager(magField);
      logVolume->setFieldManager(localFieldMgr,
      true);
      where ‘true’ makes it push the field to all the volumes it
      contains.
Contributors to Field sub-category

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