



# Introduction

Amber Boehnlein (SLAC)  
Transforming Geant4 for the future

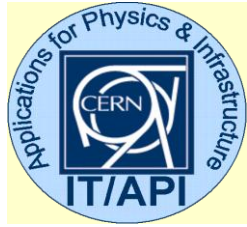
# Geant 4

# What is Geant4?

Geant4 is a tool kit that tracks particles through matter, breaking the particle motion into small segments, applying appropriate physical processes and probabilities at each segment.

- These processes can destroy old particles, modify state or create new ones
- Processes include atomic processes like ionization and excitation, decay processes, photonic transitions, secondary emission, etc..
- The wide coverage of physical processes comes from mixture of theory-driven, parameterization, and empirical formulae.
- Successor to Geant 3, Geant 4 Project began in 1994 with the first public release in 1998
- See Makoto Asai's talk for more details

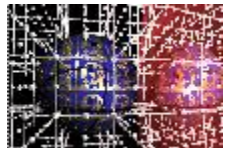
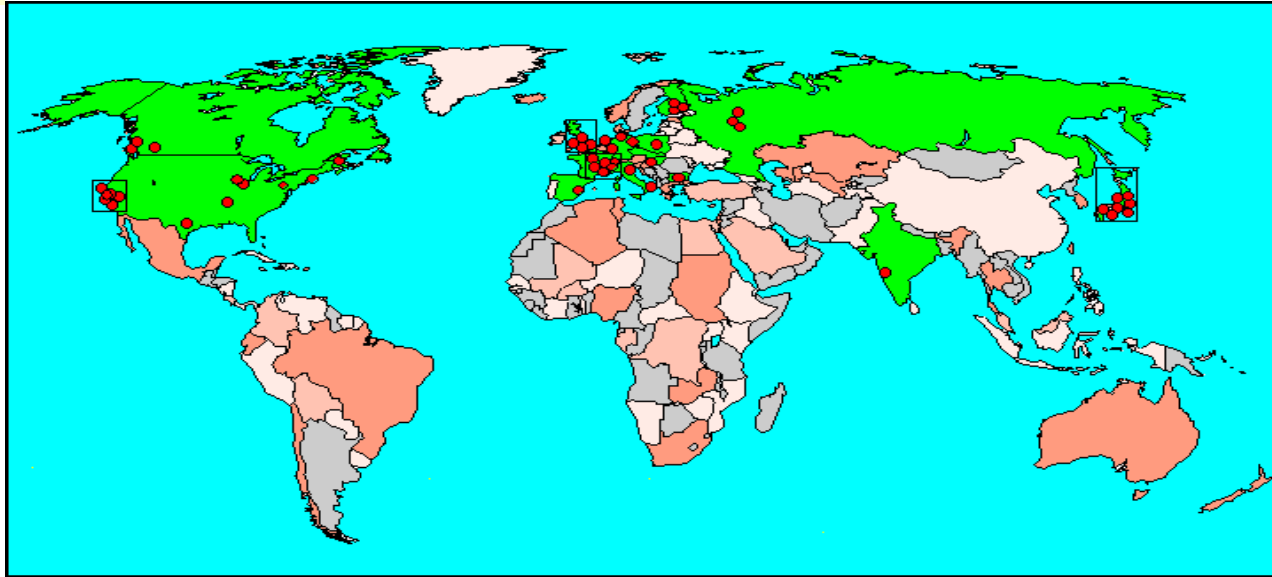
# Geant4 Collaboration



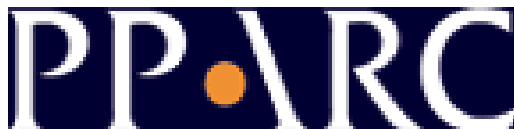
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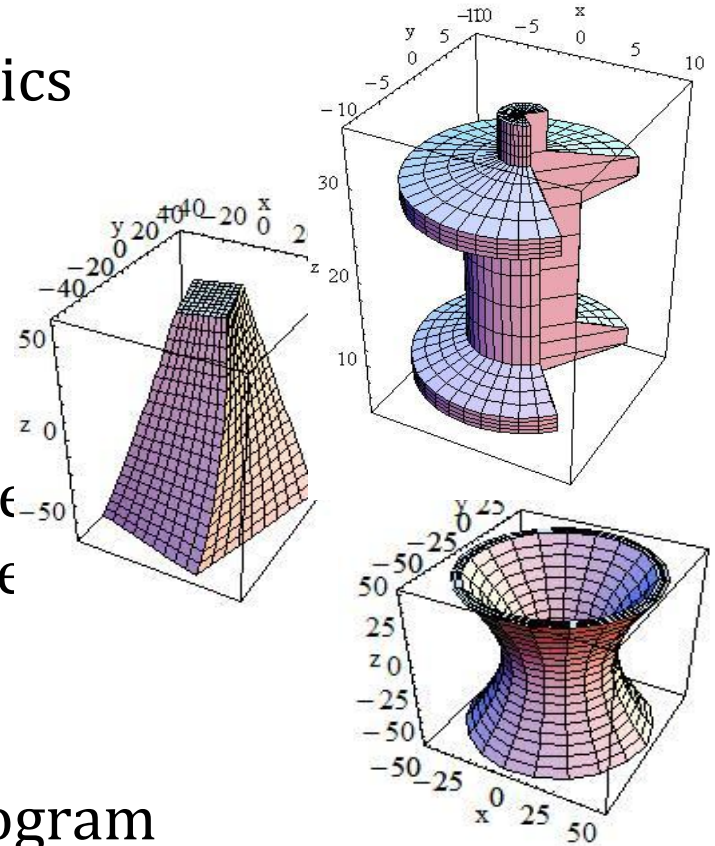
J.W.Goethe  
Universität



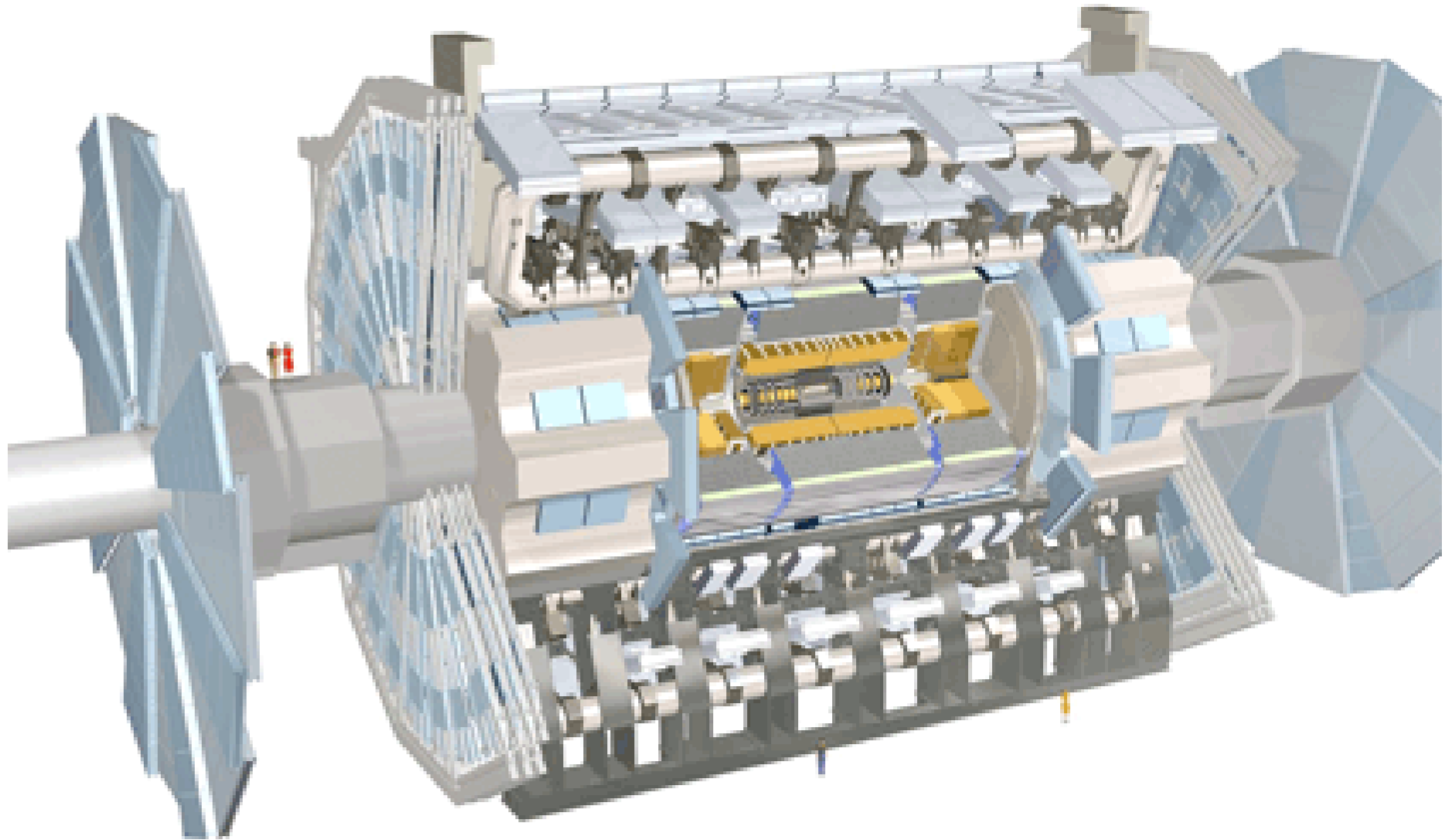
Collaborators also from non-member institutions, including  
Budker Inst. of Physics  
IHEP Protvino  
MEPHI Moscow  
Pittsburg University

# What Makes Geant 4 Unique?

- Geant 4 is distinguished from other Monte Carlo Particle Transport codes by
  - The comprehensive suite of physics processes and particle types
  - The complexity of geometrical descriptions leads to realistic representations.
  - A collaborative open source mode leveraging international expertise
- Enables the user to select physics processes/models and choice of GUI/visualization/persistency/histogramming technologies

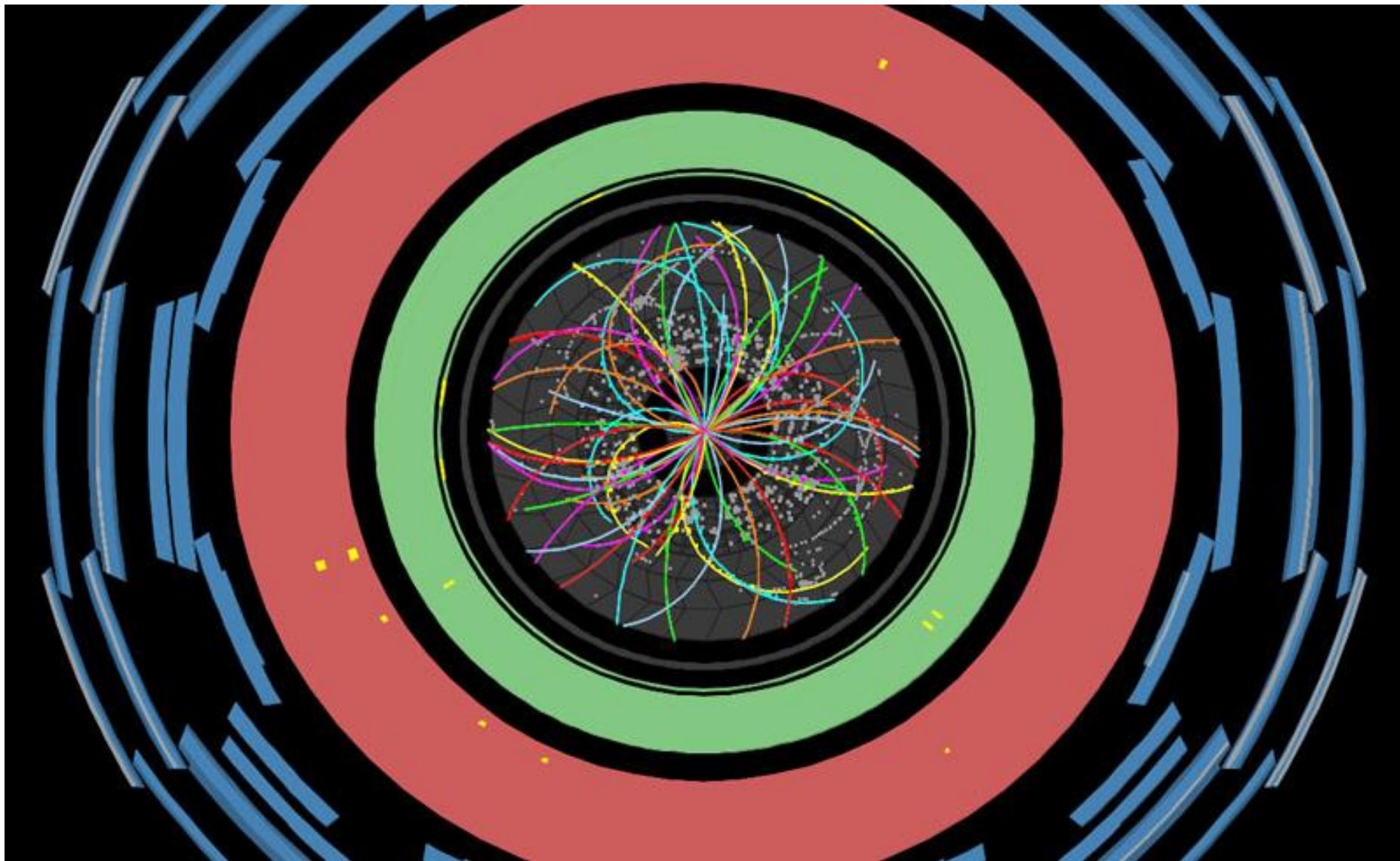


It takes a lot of stuff to detect particles...



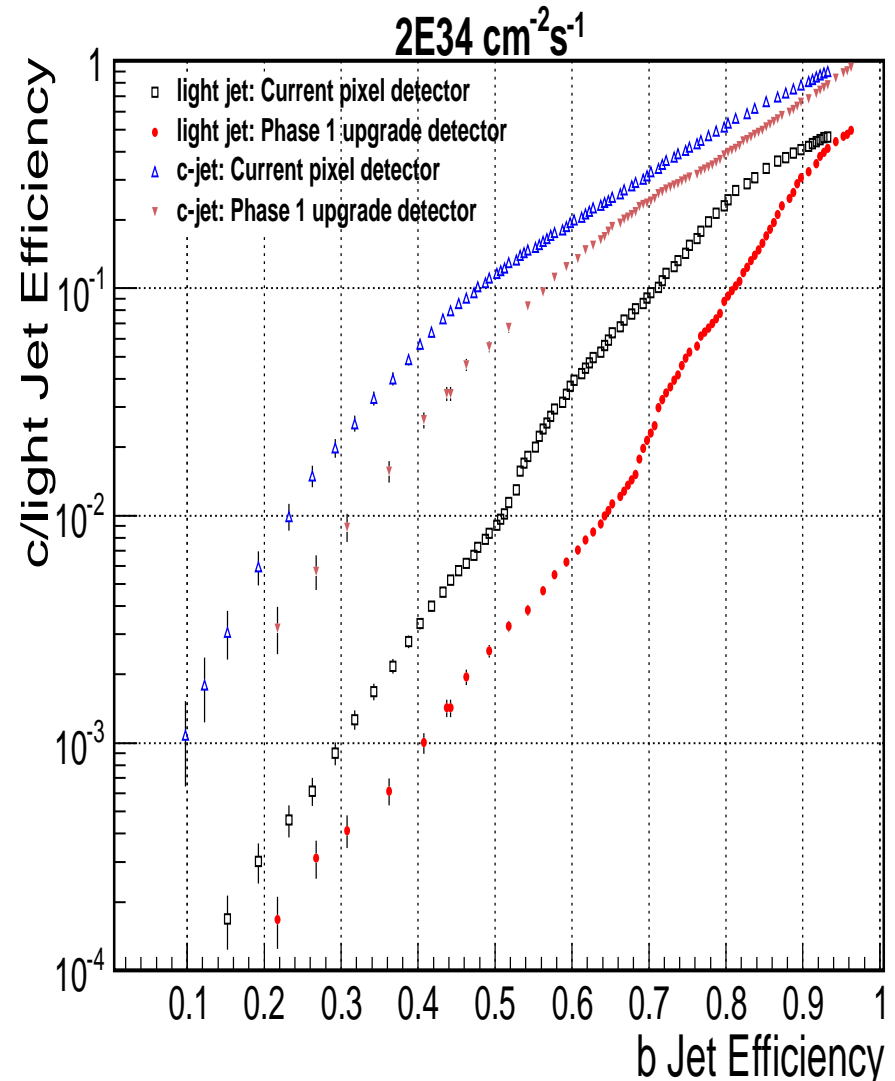


# The process



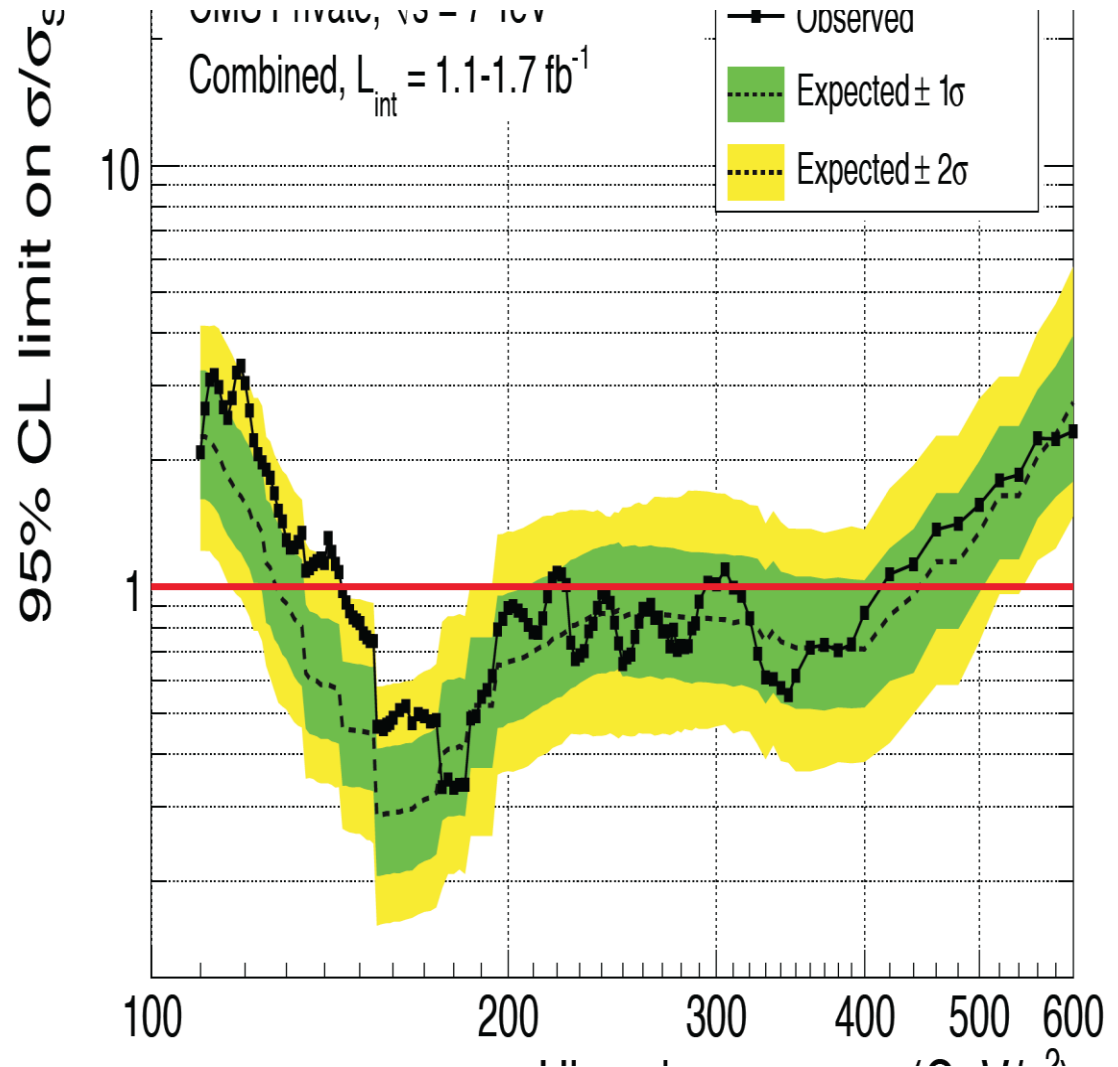
# Full Experiment Life Cycle

- Geant4 is used to support the full lifecycle of HEP experiments
- Detector design
- Commissioning&calibration
- Software development



# Life Cycle continued: Role in Analysis:

- Since Analysis rely on MC; Any useful data curation must also curate the experiment's Geant4 program
- (Plot show for illustrative purpose—not up to date)
- More details in Tom Lecompte's talk

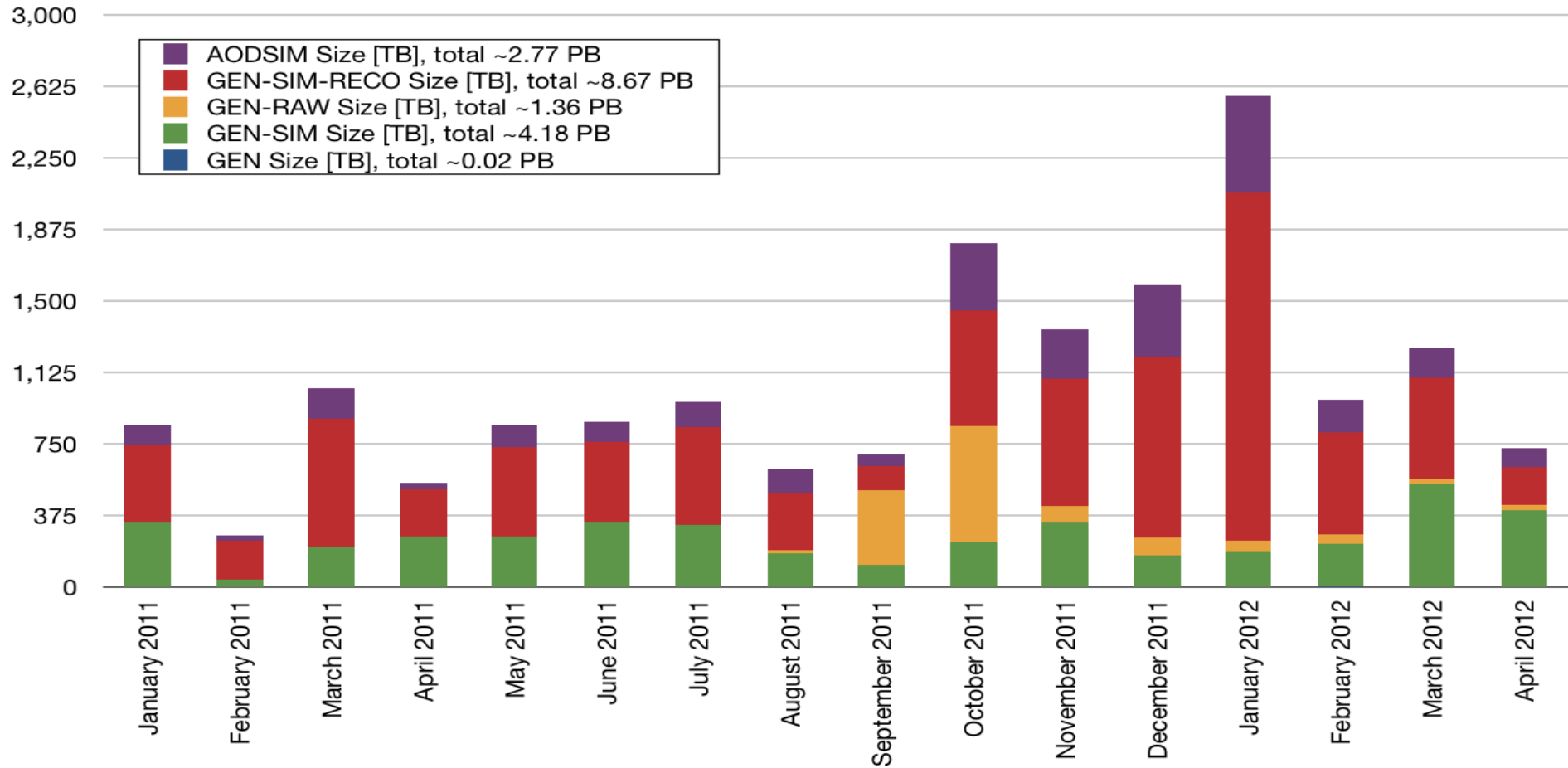




# The economics: CMS

G4 produces BIG Data! (See Rob Ross's talk for details)

MC in 2011/2012: Size in TB per Month



# Economics: continued: ATLAS resource report

- **Simulation (full and fast):** The time per event for full simulation was improved significantly. In July 2011, this time was ~5000 HS06 sec. Now the average over all production is 2700 HS06 sec. This improvement was achieved by introducing “Frozen Shower” parameterization in the forward calorimeters, by detector geometry optimizations, and by switching to 64-bit running.
- The ATLAS physics programme has greatly benefitted from the ability to simulate substantially more events than planned. This ability was enabled primarily by a combination of the improved CPU performance of the full simulation and of more CPU resources available than estimated for this purpose, in large part because of opportunistic use of additional resources and because of availability of more CPU resources than requested or pledged. Increased simulation has also required improvements in the sizes of simulated events and changes to data distribution policies for simulated samples.

See Rob Fowler and Jim Kowolkowski’s talks for more details

- These unique features of Geant 4 has lead to extended use beyond Particle and Nuclear Physics and beyond into condensed matter, radiation production, astrophysics, space science and medical applications.



<http://cern.ch/geant4>

# Geant 4

**Geant 4** is a toolkit for the simulation of the passage of particles through matter. It has been developed and maintained by a world-wide Collaboration of approximately 100 scientists.

Its application are as include high energy physics, astrophysics and nuclear physics experiments, medical, accelerator and space science studies.

**GLAST**  
*Gamma-ray Large Area Space Telescope*

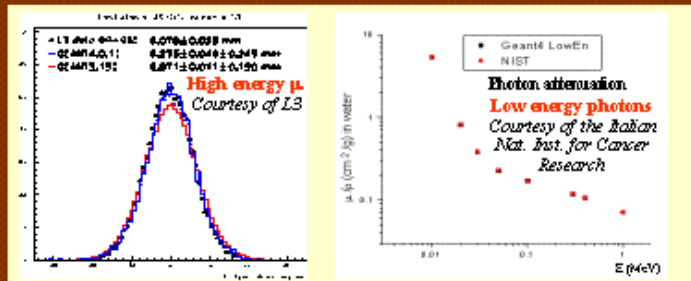
**ATLAS at LHC, CERN**

**Borexino**  
*at Gran Sasso Laboratory*

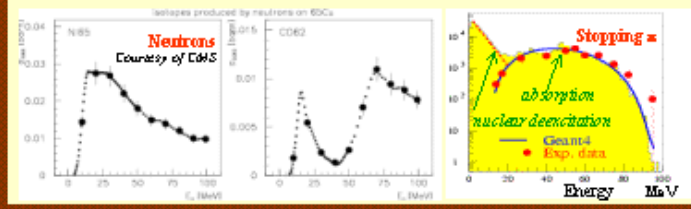
**ESA XMM**  
*X-ray telescope*

**CMS at LHC, CERN**

**BaBar at SLAC**



An abundant set of Physics Processes handle the diverse interactions of particles with matter across a wide energy range.



**Geant 4** exploits advanced Software Engineering techniques and Object Oriented technology to achieve transparency of physics implementation.



# Tool for Particle Simulation

- Joseph Perl - SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory
- Harald Paganetti, Jan Schümann - Massachusetts General Hospital
- Bruce Faddegon, Jungwook Shin - University of California San Francisco



# American Association of Physicists in Medicine

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## 2012 AAPM GRANT AND FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

### *Seed Grant Recipients*

**Huanjun Ding, Ph.D.** *University of California, Irvine*

"Quantification of breast density using photoncounting spectral mammography"

**Magdalena Bazalova, Ph.D.** *Stanford University*

"Towards radiation therapy with very high-energy electron beams"

### *Summer Undergraduate Fellowship*

**Jaebum Chung**

(Sponsored by the AAPM Southern California Chapter)

*Mentor: Dimitre Hristov Hristov, Ph.D. Stanford University*

**Paul Leo**

*Mentor: Anil Sethi, Ph.D. Loyola University Medical Center Chicago*

**Hannah Ponek**

*Mentor: Mahadevappa Mahesh, Ph.D. Johns Hopkins University*

**Lauren Rigsby**

*Mentor: George X. Ding, Ph.D. Vanderbilt University*

**Sean Rose**

*Mentor: Rob B. Mooij, Ph.D. University of Pennsylvania*

**Stephanie Sodergren**

*Mentor: Jean Pouliot, Ph.D. University of California, San Francisco*

### *Minority Undergraduate Summer Experience (Muse)*

**Desmond Fernandez**

*Mentor: Chris Beltran, Ph.D. Mayo Clinic*

**Omar Orbe-Toledo**

*Mentor: Eduardo G. Moros, Ph.D. H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center*

### **Coming Soon!**

The following programs are still in review.

The Fellowship for the training of a doctoral candidate in the field of Medical Physics

The AAPM Support for Clinical Residency in Imaging Medical Physics



# Summary

- Geant 4 is an incredibly powerful tool kit that fills a unique niche in the world of Monte Carlo Transport Codes
- It is indispensable within particle physics
  - It's a bit slow but the experiments usually find a way to cope sometimes by making physics trade-offs
- It is in wide use in aerospace, radiation protection and medical physics and beyond
  - National Prizes are good!
  - It requires a lot of knowledge to use it which is a by-product of its complexity
- It has been supported by small and dedicated international community for 18 years

# So why are we here?

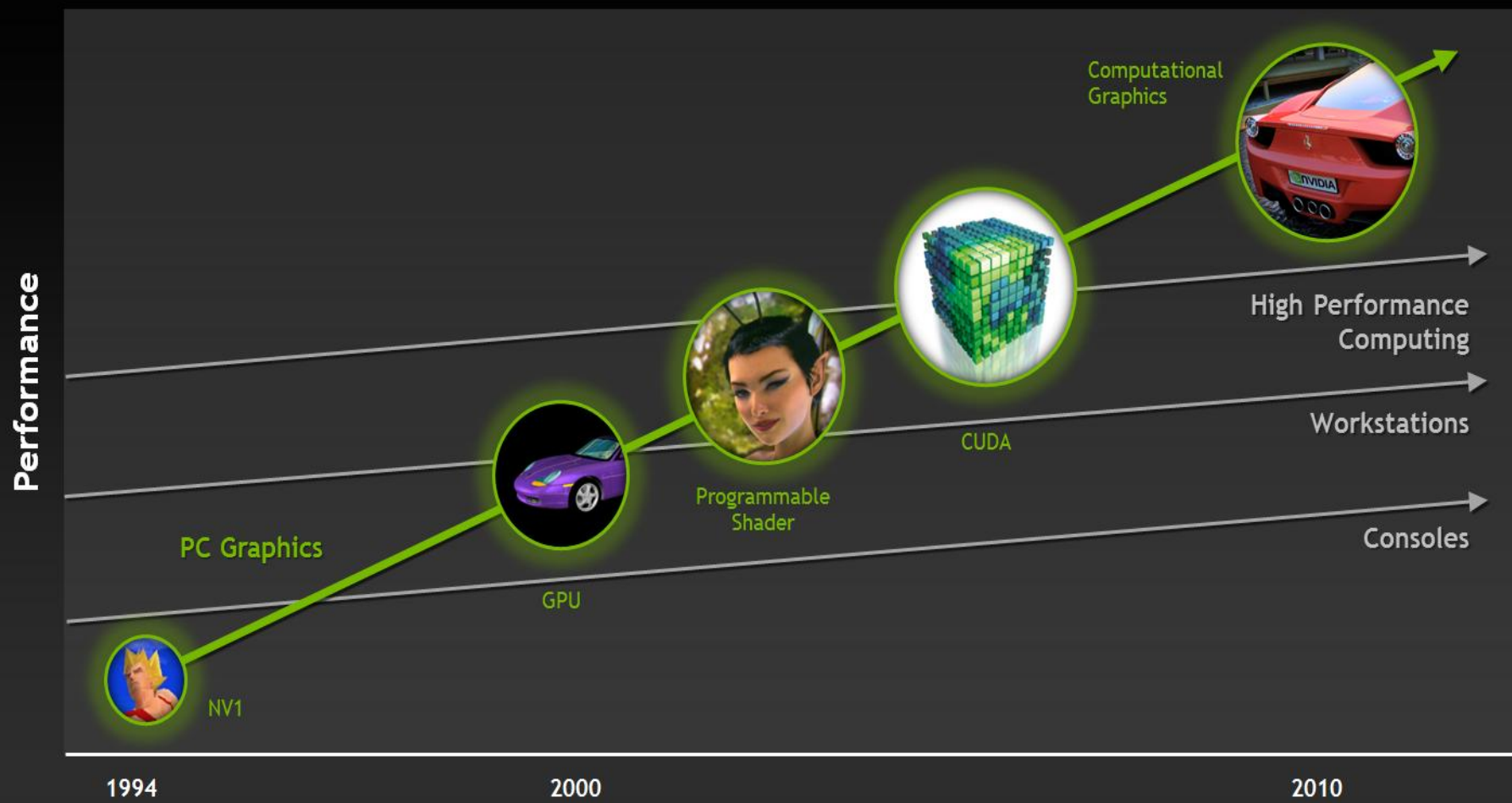
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# Because of

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*The plethora of issues represented by 30 or more years of collective scientific wisdom encapsulated in a legacy code base*

## The GPU - A Disruptive Innovation



# Moving Forward:

- There is incredible potential in the collaboration of Computer Scientists and domain scientists
  - Bring the best minds together
  - Enable computational physics on new architectures
  - Shorten development cycles?
    - Career issues
  - G4 is ‘big data’ in several ways—cross section tables and other internal data as well as out put data
- Adoption and support beyond original community
  - Work within an international collaboration
  - Public/Private Partnerships



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- The science in Geant 4 has the potential to be a disruptive technology
  - A development collaboration for re-architecting Geant 4 has the potential to disrupt scientific code development paradigm and manipulation of Big Data

*Let's Transform Geant4!*