FAST DETECTOR SIMULATION USING LELAPS

WILLY LANGEVELD
(Presented by Michael Peskin)
Stanford Linear Accelerator Center, Stanford, CA 94309

Lelaps is a fast detector simulation program which reads StdHep generator files and produces SIO or LCIO output files. It swims particles through detectors taking into account magnetic fields, multiple scattering and dE/dx energy loss. It simulates parameterized showers in EM and hadronic calorimeters and supports gamma conversions and decays.

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1 Introduction

Lelaps is a fast detector simulation program and a number of C++ class libraries, the most important one being CE PACK, the main simulation tool kit. Main programs (lelap ses) have been written for BaBar and for LCD (LDMar01, SDJan03 and SDMar04 are implemented). CE PACK can also be used in conjunction with Geant4 parameterized volumes. In this way it is integrated in BaBar’s Geant4-based simulation. The standalone version for LCD reads StdHep generator files using the (included) lStdHep class library, and produces SIO or LCIO output files that can be read by JAS and LCD Wired. It swims particles through detectors taking into account magnetic fields, multiple scattering and dE/dx energy loss. It produces parameterized showers in EM and hadronic calorimeters, converts gammas, supports decays of certain short-lived particles (V decays), and it does all this very fast.

2 CE PACK

The main class library is called CE PACK containing the simulation tool kit.

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2.1 Geometry

Geometries are constructed using CENodes, which may contain a list of subnodes. A number of common CENode types are predefined (cylinders, cones, boxes, spheres etc.). Transformations may be applied to CENodes in order to position and orient them. Arbitrary affine transformations are allowed. CENodes need to provide methods for determining distance along a straight line to entrance and exit, and for determining whether points are inside them.

CENodes may be assigned a numeric id and subid and may implement a method to compute a subid from a location. This can be used to implement e.g. calorimeter segmentation. CENodes do not have to be 3D objects: several predefined CENodes consist of one or more 2D surfaces, which can be used, for example, to simulate wire layers in drift chambers, or drift zones in TPCs. A Lelaps-simulated ZZ event in the SiD detector is shown in figure 1.

2.2 Materials

Specifying materials is very easy in Lelaps. All elements are built in with default pressure and temperature for gases or density for solids and liquids. Any compound can be specified by chemical formula and density or (for gases) temperature and pressure. Mixtures can be created by mixing elements and compounds by volume or by weight. All needed quantities are calculated automatically. This includes constants needed for multiple scattering and energy loss, radiation lengths, interaction lengths and constants needed for shower parameterization.
2.3 Matprop

The Lelaps distribution comes with a little program called matprop that allows one to view various material properties. An online version of matprop is available at the URL

http://www.slac.stanford.edu/comp/physics(matprop.html).

2.4 Tracking

Tracking is performed by taking steps along a linear trajectory with endpoints on a helix, such that the sagitta stays below a certain (settable) maximum. CENodes have bounding spheres or cylinders; when computing distances to CENodes, only relevant CENodes are considered. After each step, the amount of material traversed is checked: if enough material was traversed, multiple scattering and energy loss is performed and track parameters and the list of relevant CENodes are updated. When an intersection occurs within a step, the fractional step is executed, the CENode is entered, and the remaining fraction of the step follows.

Multiple scattering is performed using the algorithm of Lynch and Dahl[1]. Material is saved up along the track until there is enough. dE/dx is calculated using the methods by Sternheimer and Peierls[2]. All constants are precalculated by the material classes.

2.5 Shower parameterization

Electromagnetic showers are parameterized using the algorithms of Grindhammer and Peters[3]. Calorimeters are treated as homogeneous media. The longitudinal shower profile is given by a gamma distribution with coefficients depending on the material (Z) and energy. The profiles are fluctuated and correlations between the coefficients are taken into account.

For each step of one radiation length, a radial profile is computed consisting of two distributions, one describing the core of the shower and the other the tail. Various parameters are functions of Z, shower depth t and energy. The energy to be deposited is divided into spots thrown in radius according to the radial profile, and uniformly in φ and between t and t+1. Roughly, about 400 spots are generated per GeV of shower energy and reported as hits.

Hadronic showers are parameterized in a similar way, with some modifications. The location where the shower starts is simulated using an exponential law with attenuation given by the interaction length. The longitudinal profile
uses the Bock parameterization[4]. A combination of two gamma distributions, one using radiation lengths and the other interaction lengths, is used. The Bock parameterization does not specify radial profiles. For the moment we use a radial profile similar to Grindhammer and Peters (for EM showers) but with radiation lengths replaced by interaction lengths and faster spread with depth. The parameters still need to be fine-tuned.

These parameterizations were compared to results from Geant4[5]. In general pretty good agreement was found for EM showers. Hadronic showers agree pretty well longitudinally, but not as well radially. Hadronic shower parameterization has been tweaked since then, but needs further work.

2.6 Decays and gamma conversions

CEPack supports decays of unstable particles and gamma conversions. Supported unstable particles are $\pi^0$, $K^0_s$, $\Lambda$, $\Sigma^{+/0}$, $\Xi^{-0}$ and $\Omega^-$. Only decay modes with branching fractions greater than 2% are supported (mostly “V decays”).

3 Using CEPack in Geant4

To use CEPack inside Geant4 one subclasses G4VFastSimulationModel. In its setup() method, one creates the CENode and subnodes corresponding to the CEPack geometry. In the Doit() method one converts from G4FastTracks to CETracks and calls the CETrack’s swim() method. By subclassing CETrack, all hits are reported using the CETrack reportHit() method. One then converts hits to one’s favorite format and updates Geant4’s notion of the track using G4FastStep (or calls KillPrimaryTrack() if the track has ended).

4 CEPack and Lelaps

Lelaps for LCD is a standalone program which sets up the CEPack geometry, reads input files and produces output files. Currently supported geometries are LDMar01, SDJan03 and SDMar04. To read generator level event files in StdHep format, it uses class lStdHep (“StdHep light”, included in the distribution). StdHep particles are converted to CETracks and tracked through the geometry. When hits are reported, they are added to SIO or LCIO hit lists. For calorimeter hits, the spots are first accumulated and turned into energy depositions in individual calorimeter cells and then added as hits. Finally, the SIO or LCIO event structure is written out.
5 Performance

Taking the example of a typical $e^+e^- \rightarrow ZZ$ input file, the performance of Lelaps is as follows. With tracking alone, Lelaps can simulate 3–4 events per second (at 1 GHz processor speed) for the LD detector, or about 2 events/s for the SiD detector. Adding parameterized showering costs 15% (SiD) to 30% (LD). Adding decays and conversions takes another 20%. Writing an LCIO output file (14 MB compressed for 100 events) costs another 40%. SIO output takes much longer (a factor 2 to 4 depending heavily on calorimeter segmentation)—this could be optimized, but SIO is a deprecated format.

The performance is slightly platform/machine dependent. On a Linux machine, tracking takes 0.281 seconds/event, on a Solaris machine 0.154 seconds/event, and on Windows (cygwin with gcc 3.2) 0.384 seconds/event (all at 1 GHz processor speed).

6 Future

The Lelaps and CEPack interfaces are not yet frozen. Changes may be necessary considering the planned new features and improvements. Some of these are: support for combinatorial geometry; allowing shower continuation into a next volume and reading geometry descriptions from a standard file format. Also, hadronic showers need further tuning.

References

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bLelaps (storm wind) was a dog with such speed that, once set upon a chase, he could not fail to catch his prey. Having forged him from bronze, Hephaestus gave him to Zeus, who in turn gave him to Athena, the goddess of the hunt. Athena gave Lelaps as a wedding present to Procris, daughter of Thespius, and the new bride of famous hunter Cephalus. A time came when a fox created havoc for the shepherds in Thebes. The fox had the divine property that its speed was so great that it could not be caught. Procris sent Lelaps to catch the fox. But because both were divine creatures, a stalemate ensued, upon which Zeus turned both into stone. Feeling remorse, Zeus elevated Lelaps to the skies, where he now shines as the constellation Canis Major, with Sirius as the main star.