4 Accessing Event Data

Gaudi Framework Tutorial, 2001

Topic

Schedule: Timing 15 minut

15 minutesLecture20 minutesPractice35 minutesTotal

Objectives

After completing this lesson, you should be able to:

- Understand how objects are delivered to user algorithms.
- Retrieve objects from the event data store within an algorithm.
- Use relationships between objects.
- Specify event data input.

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Lesson Aim

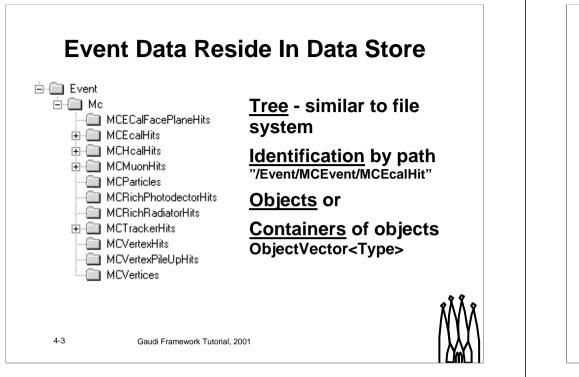
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In the user algorithm, where the actual data processing takes place, these input data must be retrieved from the transient data store.

Running a Gaudi job usually means to process data from particle collisions. The concept how the data store delivers data to the user will be explained. You should be aware of the machinery behind in order to analyze failures.

Typically objects do not have a life on their own, but become powerful through their relationships. A typical example are generated Monte-Carlo particles which usually have an origin vertex and if they have finite lifetime also decay vertices. You will learn how to access these relationships.

These input data have to be specified to allow the job to access the requested data sets.



Event Data Reside In Data Store

Within Gaudi all event data reside in a data store.

•Data and algorithms are separated.

•Algorithms and data storage mechanisms are separated.

In other words, data have a transient and a persistent representation with not necessarily equal mapping. Opposite to having a single representation of "persistent capable" objects, this solution allows for optimisation depending on the demands of the chosen representation:

•Persistent data are optimised in terms of persistent storage allocation, including e.g. data compression, minimisation of space used by bi-directional links a.s.o.

•Transient data are optimised according to the required performance; this includes e.g. duplication of links, which are followed very often.

Data either already have a persistent representation or are intended to be written to a persistent medium reside in a transient data store, which acts like a library storing objects for the use of clients. These data stores are tree like entities, which can be browsed, just like a normal file system. Its full path uniquely identifies any transient representation of an object within a store. This browse capability is used to retrieve collections of objects to be made persistent. Of course the internals of the data store are not directly exposed to the algorithms, but rather hidden behind a service, the persistency service. This service acts as a secretary delivering objects to the client - if the at all possible.

•Templated class

•What you fill in are pointers to T

•Iteration like STL vector

ObjectVector<MCParticle>* p;

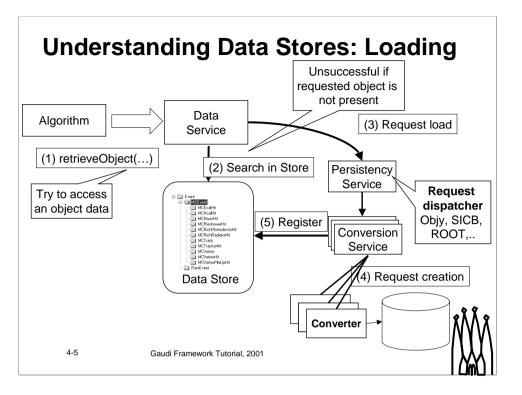
```
ObjectVector<MCParticle>::iterator i;
for( i=p->begin(); i != p->end(); i++ ) {
  log << MSG::INFO << (*i)->particleID().id();
}
```

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Understanding Data Stores: Loading

Whenever client requests an object from the data service the following sequence is invoked:

•The data service searches in the data store wether the transient representation of the requested objects already exists. If the object exists, a reference is returned and the sequence ends here.

•Otherwise the request is forwarded to the persistency service. The persistency service dispatches the request to the appropriate conversion service capable of handling the specified storage technology. The selected conversion service uses a set of data converters - each capable of creating the transient representation of the specified object type from its persistent data.

•The data converter accesses the persistent data store, creates the transient object and returns it to the conversion service.

•The conversion service registers the object with the data store, the sequence completes and the object is returned to the client. Once registered with the corresponding data store, the object knows about its hosting service.

Caveats

Consider Objects on the store as **RFAD-ONI Y**

- Do not modify existing objects!
- Do not destroy existing objects!

Never, never delete an object which is registered to the store

- It's not yours!
- It will only screw up others!

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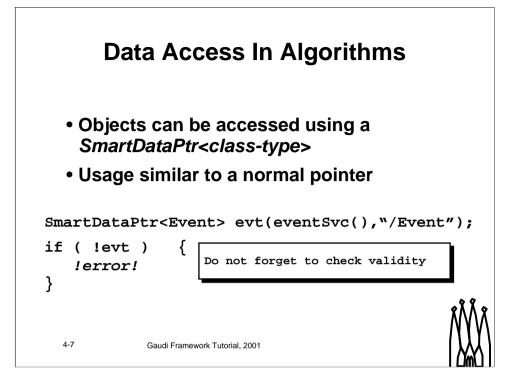
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Once an object is registered to the data store you should no longer consider it as yours. In particular changing containers is an absolute don't.

The data store also manages objects. An object created with new uses system memory. Once an object is registered to the data store, the data store is responsible for calling once and only once the corresponding *delete* operator. Deleting objects twice typically results in an access violation.

Although it is possible, you should never unregister an existing object for a simple reason:

•You never know who holds a reference to this object (and typically there is no way to find this out). All these references will be invalid.



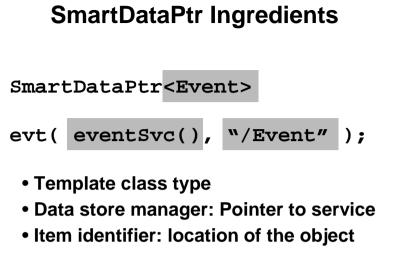
Data Access In Algorithms

The SmartDataPtr class can be thought of as a normal C++ pointer having a constructor. It is used in the same way as a normal C++ pointer.

The SmartDataPtr is a smart pointers that allow to access objects in the data store. The SmartDataPtr checks whether the requested object is present in the transient store and loads it if necessary (similar to the retrieveObject method of IDataProviderSvc). The SmartDataPtr object uses the data service to get hold of the requested object and deliver it to the user.

There is no magic behind, this object is only a small wrapper to minimize user code, the actual work is done by the data service.

Like a raw C pointer also a smart pointer may be invalid e.g. if the requested object cannot be received from the data store. The validity of the pointer *must* be checked before actually being used.



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SmartDataPtr Ingredients

The SmartDataPtr is a template class. This means the compiler generates code according to the template argument.

The standard constructor takes two arguments:

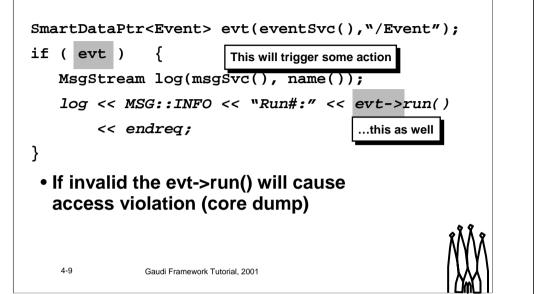
•a reference to the event data service and

•the location on the store where the object is located.

Note:

Before the object is delivered to the user, a type check is performed. This ensures that the type in the data store actually is the same as specified by the user.

SmartDataPtr Usage



SmartDataPtr Usage

Before anything else the corresponding header file must be included.

A SmartDataPtr has several overloaded operators:

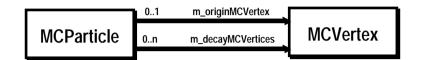
• if (evt) will access the data store and load the corresponding object from the persistent medium.

•evt->xxx will use the loaded object and apply the specified member function.

It is necessary to check the validity of the smart pointer before actually using the smart pointer. Otherwise an invalid memory location is accessed which on Unix platforms will result in a core dump.

Relationships Between Objects

Objects have relationships between each other



• Vertices are also connected to particles, but this we neglect here...

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Relationships Between Objects

Objects do not only have a life on their own, but become powerful through their relationships. A typical example are generated Monte-Carlo particles which usually have an origin vertex and if they have finite lifetime decay vertices.

The relationships can have different multiplicity: 0, 1 or many. Normally these relationships are implemented either as pointers or as arrays of pointers. However, this has the disadvantage, that these pointers cannot be made persistent because the next time the program starts the referred object could be located in a completely different part of the memory. Where this will be is unpredictable: it depends on the number of users currently logged in, the number of tasks running etc.

For this reason Gaudi uses another mechanism, which allows on one hand persistency, but on the other hand is the usage sufficiently similar to a raw pointer.

Implementing Relationships

- 0..1 Relationships can be implemented using a SmartRef<class-type>
- Usage similar to a normal pointer
- 0...n Relationships are implemented using a *SmartRefVector<class-type>* ...an array of *SmartRef<class-type>*
- Allow for late data loading



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Implementing Relationships

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The (Gaudi-)equivalent of the pointer between objects on the data store are SmartRefs. Similar to the SmartDataPtr this is as well a template class. When de-referencing (e.g. using the operator -> ()) the object behind is requested from the datastore and delivered to the user.

0...many relationships are implemented using arrays of these objects, or to be precise a SmartRefVector. This vector behaves like a std::vector from the STL library.

This allows for late object loading only when the pointer actually is used, but though have a consistent view.

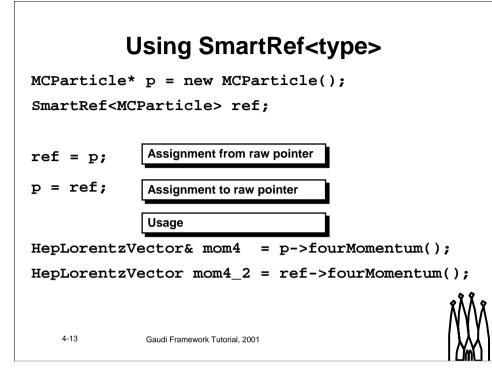
Using These Relationships

class MCPart	icle {	See Doxyg	en code documentation
•••			
SmartRef <m< td=""><th>lCVertex</th><td>> m_origi</td><td>nVertex;</td></m<>	lCVertex	> m_origi	nVertex;
•••			
MCVertex*	originM	CVertex()	{
return m	_origin	MCVertex;	load data and trigger conversion
}			
};			
			2
			M
4-12	Gaudi Framework	Futorial, 2001	()

Using the Relationships

Ideally the SmartRefs are not visible outside the class.

In the above example the Smartref is automatically converted to the corresponding pointer which actually is returned to the client. The client only sees the raw C++ pointer. Possible side-effects from using the SmartRef directly are not propagated.



Using SmartRef<type>

The usage of the SmartRefs and raw pointers is interchangeable. You can assign the pointer to the smart reference as well as the reverse.

The overloaded "->" operator allows the same usage like a pointer.

Note:

The "&" at the bottom makes a big difference:

HepLorentzVector& mom4 is an alias to the object behind, whereas HepLorentzVector mom4_2 is a *copy* of the particle's 4-momentum. Both is absolutely perfect C++ code. However, not paying attention to details like this can easily account for very efficiently executing code and very poor performance. Usually in this case the language is claimed to be "bad", whereas in practice it's the programmers fault.

Specify Event Data Input

EventSelector.Input = {"FILE=`sicbmc.dat'"};
 [{"Spec-1", ...,"Spec-n"}]

- Event data input is specified in the *job options*
- "Spec" is an array of qualified strings: "KEY1='VALUE1' ... KEYn='VALUEn'"

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Specify Event Data Input

Event Data Input is specified in the job options and is a property of the EventSelector. The property is a vector of qualified strings of the form

"KEY1='VALUE1' ... KEY2='VALUE2' ", "" // Specification of the first input
// Next input, etc

Note:

- A key refers to an individual information necessary to open the specified input source.
- A value is the information content corresponding to this key.
- Values are enclosed within single quotes (').
- One data input stream is enclosed between **double quotes** ("). The input stream is specified through at least one *key-value* pair.

Specify SICB Event Input

Input Type	KEY	VALUE
SICB data file	FILE	='/afs//myfile.dat'
SICB data from JOBID	JOBID	='16835'

- Retrieve JobIDs from the bookkeeping web page.
- Our main data source is SICB output.



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Specify SICB Event Data Input

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When reading SICB data, we deal with files or JOBIDs.

Files are specified by the key *FILE* followed by the file name. The file name can be relative or absolute to the execution directory.

JobIDs request the actual tape the input data is stored on from the ORACLE bookkeeping database. Like with SICB you can interactively interrogate the bookkeeping database using the corresponding web page: http://lhcb-comp.web.cern.ch/lhcb-comp/bookkeeping.

Specify Other Event Input

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Specify Other Event Data Input

The minimum information Gaudi needs to know for other data input are two things:

•the file specification and

•the technology to be used accessing these files.

When reading event collections there are additional specifiers, which we include here only for completeness. Please refer to the Gaudi users guide for further documentation of these specifiers.

Hands On: Print B⁰ Decays

•Use particle property service

- See "User Guide" chapter 12.5

•Retrieve MCParticles from event store

- "/Event/MC/MCParticles"

•Filter out the B⁰ particles

- Part. member particleID().id() is Geant 3 particle code

•For each B⁰ Loop over all decay vertices and print the decay particles

- recursion ?



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Hands On: Print B⁰ Decays

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In the following tutorial we will try to extract from the converted ATMC bank the B^o particles and try to print the entire decay tree. The required actions are the following:

•Filter out all B⁰ particles.

•For each B⁰ loop over all decay vertices and print the daughter particles.

•If the daughters have decay vertices themselves, recurse the second step.

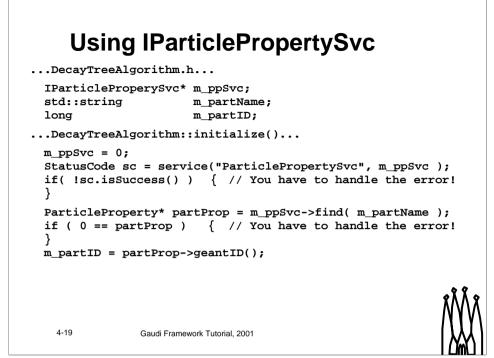
DecayTreeAlgorithm.cpp: Add Headers

#include "CLHEP/Units/PhysicalConstants.h"
#include "GaudiKernel/IParticlePropertySvc.h"
#include "GaudiKernel/ParticleProperty.h"
#include "GaudiKernel/SmartDataPtr.h"
#include "LHCbEvent/MCParticle.h"
#include "LHCbEvent/MCVertex.h"



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Hands On: Retrieve MCParticles #include "GaudiKernel/SmartDataPtr.h" SmartDataPtr<MCParticleVector> parts(eventSvc(), "/Event/MC/MCParticles"); if (parts) { ... loop over particles ...

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}

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Hands On: Loop Over MCParticles MCParticleVector::const_iterator i; for(i=parts->begin();i != parts->end(); i++) { if ((*i)->particleID().id() == m_partID){ printDecayTree(*i); New member function } }

Hands On: Print Decays

For each selected particle:

- Loop over decay vertices
- Print all daughters
 - If daughters have decay vertices
 - recurse
- If you run out of time, just print some particle property

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