

Introduction to Fermilab computing

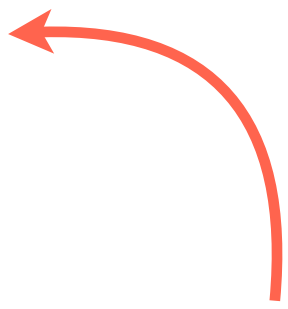
Miquel Nebot-Guinot
10th UK LArTPC Software Analysis Workshop
27 October 2025

Outline

1. Introduction.
2. Where to get help.
3. Accessing Fermilab computing.

4. Fermilab Computing philosophy:
UPS, cmake, MRB, ART, LArSoft

5. Running LArSoft:
Storage, Grid



Containers

1. Introduction

Groundwork

- This talk aims to serve as an introduction to the LArSoft environment, the FNAL computing context, the underlying machinery and some tools you'll use for running/developing work.
 - More on LArSoft in the tutorials.
- Steep learning curve, but we're here to help. Don't let the feeling of "*Can't ask such trivial thing*" to stop you from learning. We've all been there.
- Lots of acronyms, Sorry!
Lots of info/material in the slides as useful future reference.

DISCLAIMER:

This lecture is heavily inspired by previous workshops/tutorials/schools by Andrzej, Pierre, Iker, Erika, Tom Junk, Keneth Herner...
Thanks to all!

Don't be scared
Halloween will come after



1. Introduction

Groundwork

Key



\$ command line, file, path ...



Basic.

Good.

Best 😊

A silver pushpin icon is positioned at the top center of the white box, appearing to pin the box to the background.

Reference links for
further information

REFERENCE INFORMATION

1. Introduction

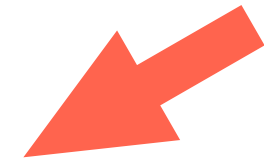
Computing resources

- Where can I run experiment code?
- at Fermilab → get a FNAL account:
https://microboone-exp.fnal.gov/at_work/start.html#Software
https://sbnsoftware.github.io/sbndcode_wiki/Newbie_Material.html
https://wiki.dunescience.org/wiki/DUNE_Computing/Getting_Started_Tutorial
- At CERN → <https://indico.fnal.gov/event/16218/contribution/2/material/slides/0.pdf>
- University clusters (if cvmfs installed) or your own installation →
<https://indico.hep.manchester.ac.uk/getFile.py/access?sessionId=26&resId=0&materialId=0&confId=5346>
- Here (Edinburgh local cluster) →
<http://t3-mw2.ph.ed.ac.uk> (guac web interface)
`ssh username@t3-mw2.ph.ed.ac.uk -L 3390:localhost:3389` (via remote desktop)

1. Introduction

Computing resources

This talk



- Where can I run experiment code?
- at Fermilab → get a FNAL account:
https://microboone-exp.fnal.gov/at_work/start.html#Software
https://sbnsoftware.github.io/sbndcode_wiki/Newbie_Material.html
https://wiki.dunescience.org/wiki/DUNE_Computing/Getting_Started_Tutorial
- At CERN → <https://indico.fnal.gov/event/16218/contribution/2/material/slides/0.pdf>
- University clusters (if cvmfs installed) or your own installation →
<https://indico.hep.manchester.ac.uk/getFile.py/access?sessionId=26&resId=0&materialId=0&confId=5346>
- Here (Edinburgh local cluster) →
<http://t3-mw2.ph.ed.ac.uk> (guac web interface)

This workshop

```
ssh username@t3-mw2.ph.ed.ac.uk -L 3390:localhost:3389
```

(via remote desktop)



2. Where to get help

Wikis and general info

- First and foremost:
 - <http://larsoft.org/training/>
- You can also have a look here for LArSoft information:
 - <https://larsoft.github.io/LArSoftWiki/>
- And here for the experiment-specific information:
 - DUNE: <https://wiki.dunescience.org/> (login)
<https://github.com/DUNE/dunesw/wiki> (login)
 - SBND: https://sbnsoftware.github.io/sbndcode_wiki/Wiki (public)
 - microBooNE: <https://cdcv.s.fnal.gov/redmine/projects/uboonecode/wiki> (login)
- Another list of links that I find very useful:
 - https://wiki.dunescience.org/wiki/DUNE_Computing/List_of_DUNE_Tutorials,_LArSoft_Workshops,_etc,_etc,_etc
- You can edit these pages (especially the experiment ones), once you have signed in Redmine/GitHub, and have been added to the user group.
 - **PLEASE:** If you find something isn't clear/wrong, make sure you change it for the next ones (or even for your future references)!!

2. Where to get help

List and slack

- You can also get help with through mailing list:

- larsoft@fnal.gov [-larsoft@fnal.gov](mailto:larsoft@fnal.gov) SBND-SOFTWARE@fnal.gov microboone_analysis_tools@fnal.gov
lariatsoft@fnal.gov dune-reco@fnal.gov dune-proto-sp-dra@fnal.gov

- To subscribe:

- Email to listserv@fnal.gov

- No subject

- And add in the body:

- subscribe <list> name lastname

- <https://listserv.fnal.gov> manage your list, subscriber's corner

- Slack: <http://slack.com/signin>

dunescience.slack.com

lariat-t1034.slack.com

shortbaseline.slack.com (SBN programme)

microboone.slack.com

- Interesting channels:

#larsoft, #larsoft_beginners #<exp>_young, #newbie_questions ...

Be wise choosing your
subscription email

Good practice:

—Check for the answer, someone may have already solved it.

—Make it easy for people to help you.

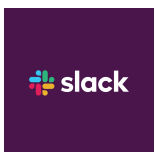
e.g. create “Minimal, Complete, and Verifiable”

example: <http://stackoverflow.com/help/mcve> .

—This allows experts to reproduce your problem and find the fix quickly, as contrary to: “my code does not compile”. *What code? Where? What version?*

—Often, you will find the solution yourself in the process. ;-)

If you spend a bit of time to understand your problem
it will make it more likely for experts to help



3. Accessing Fermilab computing.

Where to start: First steps (I)

- We assume you can ssh on the Fermilab cluster:
get a fnal account if not done yet:
 1. Fermilab computer account, kerberos password and services account:
<https://get-connected.fnal.gov/accessandbadging/access/>
 2. Request experiment/collaboration specific computing accounts:
https://fermi.servicenowservices.com/wp/?id=evg_sc_cat_item&sys_id=d361073881218500bea3634b5c987c4c

3. Accessing Fermilab computing.

Where to start: First steps (II)

- We assume you can ssh on the Fermilab cluster:
get a fnal account if not done yet:

Access to a remote server authenticating as yourself by providing a Kerberos 5 ticket

```
$ kinit username@FNAL.GOV  
$ ssh username@sbndgpvm01.fnal.gov -XY
```

3. Accessing Fermilab computing.

Where to start: First steps (II)

Make your ~/.ssh/config like this:

```
Host *.fnal.gov
# User username          # Fermilab user name (allows something to ssh like `ssh sbndgpvm01.fnal.gov`)
ForwardAgent yes
ForwardX11 yes           # Establish an X11 connection to get graphics on your laptop (via X servers: X11 or XQuartz)
ForwardX11Trusted yes
GSSAPIAuthentication yes. # Enable authentication via Kerberos 5
GSSAPIDelegateCredentials yes. # Forward Kerberos 5 credentials
LocalForward 5901 localhost:59XX # VNC setup (XX change for your VNC server number)
ConnectTimeout 60          # bail out if no answer for one minute
```

To improve your
graphics experience
VNC

login using your Kerberos password
Ssh into your selected server

```
$ kinit -Af -r 7d <your-kerberos-principal>@FNAL.GOV
$ ssh -K -XY <your-username>@sbndgpvm0N.fnal.gov
```

!! case matters for **FNAL.GOV**

ssh

- K tells SSH to forward the Kerberos credentials
- X Enables X11 forwarding
- Y Enables trusted X11 forwarding

kinit

- f (forwardable)
- p (proxiable)
- A (not restricted by address)
- r (renewable within [life])
- l with lifetime [lifetime]

To avoid disconnection
run in:
tmux

```
$ kinit -R username@FNAL.GOV || kinit -Af -l 26h -r 7d username@FNAL.GOV
$ssh username (ssh username@sbndgpvm0N.fnal.gov)
```

4. Fermilab Computing philosophy

- Complex, multi-level systems, all relying on each other:
 - A. **UPS** → setting the right dependancies.
 - B. **CMake** → compiling
 - C. **MRB** → version control (= GIT)
 - D. **ART** → the underlying structure for LArSoft (process events)
 - E. **LArSoft / <experiment>code** → what is actually interesting for you (where physics, simulation and analysis happen)
- You need to know a bit of all these to be able to develop efficiently.



4. Fermilab Computing philosophy

A: UPS (I)

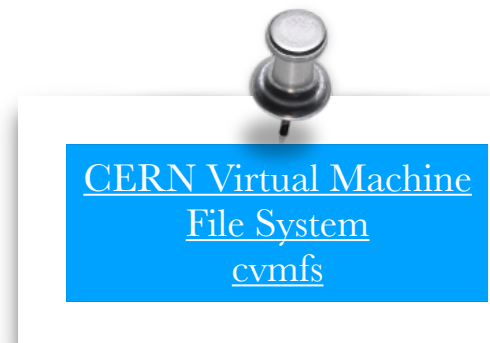
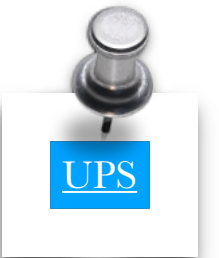
- To run program you need libraries.
- This is code you can reuse (like the underlying code for an `std::vector`)
- These are already compiled, gets linked at runtime
- Very sensitive against: the machine, the version of the code

```
$ ls -lh /usr/lib
total 97712
-rwxr-xr-x 1 root wheel 568K 21 Sep 05:16 libATCommandStudioDynamic.dylib*
-rwxr-xr-x 1 root wheel 218K 21 Sep 05:17 libAccessibility.dylib*
-rwxr-xr-x 1 root wheel 23K 21 Sep 05:16 libAccountPolicyTranslation.dylib*
-rwxr-xr-x 1 root wheel 44K 21 Sep 05:17 libAppleSSEExt.dylib*
-rwxr-xr-x 1 root wheel 128K 21 Sep 05:16 libAppletTranslationLibrary.dylib*
-rwxr-xr-x 1 root wheel 935K 21 Sep 05:16 libAudioIssueDetector.dylib*
-rwxr-xr-x 1 root wheel 168K 21 Sep 05:17 libAudioStatistics.dylib*
-rwxr-xr-x 1 root wheel 79K 21 Sep 05:16 libBSDPClient.A.dylib*
```

4. Fermilab Computing philosophy

A: UPS (II)

- UPS (Unix Product Support) is a system developed at Fermilab in late 1990s, that allows you to run code that depends on different versions of libraries, now called PRODUCTS, on the same machine.
- UPS is taking care of linking the correct libraries together with the correct version of the code you are trying to run.
- UPS changes automatically some environment variables (the ones you get when you do `$ env`).
 - Everything that gets setup is in the environment variable `$PRODUCTS`
 - You can try to do `echo $PRODUCTS`
- Where products live:
 - `/cvmfs/fermilab.opensciencegrid.org/products/larsoft/`
 - `/cvmfs/uboone.opensciencegrid.org/products/`
 - `/cvmfs/sbnd.opensciencegrid.org/products/`
 - `/cvmfs/dune.opensciencegrid.org/products/`
- Usually `source <path to product directory>/setup` will make this set of products available to you.



Discontinued by Fermilab
Used almost exclusively by
Fermilab-hosted experiments
Spack
(package manager for
supercomputers)

Coming "really" soon 🤔



BREAKING
LIVE NEWS



5

CHANNEL

URGENT-ALERT

BREAKING NEWS

- ScientificLinux7 reached end-of-life on June 30th of 2024. Running on unsupported OS is major security concern for any host.
- Next generation OS, AlmaLinux9 (AL9) is the replacement.

Alma9 migration

- Spack migration, a promising technique now that works in small scale tests
- Establish LArSoft release mechanisms, procedures, policies, update procedures, policies, SciSoft / experiment



Upgraded
security:
ALMA9,
spack, ...

run
SL7 in a
container

**Until “full” migration LArSoft
MUST run / build with UPS inside
SL7 containers.**



Developing LArSoft with containers wiki

Developing LArSoft with containers wiki

```
###
```

```
-----  
NOTE: This is an EL9 node  
For info on the transition from SL7 to EL9 check:  
https://sbnsoftware.github.io/GPVM\_migration  
The wiki has info about how to start a SL7 dev container for UPS  
-----
```

Interlude: Containers

- Software in HEP is difficult to install/configure
 - Building a frozen image that captures everything required to install is a good practice.
 - Multiple users can run — — — based on these images
- Why care? You should be familiar with this if using distributed computing (Grid) to avoid “dependency-hell”

A solution:

Package Software into Standardized Units for Development, Shipment and Deployment

a.k.a. Containers

- So what is it? What does it do?
 1. Allows you to run jobs from old systems on the grid (reproducibility)
 2. Keeps jobs and users isolated (security)
 3. Can run same job/code on more machines/hardware (accessibility)

A container is a standard unit of software that packages up code and all its dependencies so the application runs quickly and reliably from one computing environment to another.

Interlude: Containers

Containers

- Lots of kind-of *virtual env* tools out there



Further Containers

Further Containers



 **Fermilab**



(Past)LArSoft workshops



Courtesy of Rob Currie

M.Nebot-Guinot

4. Fermilab Computing philosophy

A: UPS: crash course

Containers



```
sh /exp/$(id -ng)/data/users/vito/podman/start_SL7dev.sh
```

```
source ./fermilab-sl7/bin/activate-asroot
```

```
/cvmfs/uboone.opensciencegrid.org/bin/shell_apptainer.sh
```

```
/cvmfs/oasis.opensciencegrid.org/mis/apptainer/current/bin/apptainer shell --shell=/bin/bash \  
-B /cvmfs,/exp,/nashome,/pnfs/dune,/opt,/run/user,/etc/hostname,/etc/hosts,/etc/krb5.conf --ipc --pid \  
/cvmfs/singularity.opensciencegrid.org/fermilab/fnal-dev-sl7:latest
```

DUNE

- Listing what software is available:

```
$ ups list -aK+ <software> <version> or $ ups list -aK+ <software>
```

- Listing what you have already asked ups to use:

```
$ ups active
```

- Listing the dependencies:

```
$ ups depend <software> <version> -q <qualifiers> # <qualifier> (e.g. e26:prof) is a qualifier that specifies the compiler  
version
```

- To setup a software:

```
$ setup <software> <version> -q <qualifiers>
```

- To do the inverse of above:

```
$ unsetup <software>
```

4. Fermilab Computing philosophy

B: CMake

- Different ways to compile you code:

- OPTION 1: Command line

```
$ gcc yourfile.C -o Executable.exe
```

- OPTION 2: Makefile which contains the above line.

```
$ make
```

- OPTION 3: CMakeList.txt which contains the information to generate the Makefile.

```
$ cmake <path where CMakeList.txt is>
```

```
$ make
```



- Why do we do this? Say you want to link ROOT to your executable

- OPTION 1:

```
$ gcc yourfile.C -o Executable.exe -I/data/root/include -L$/data/root/lib -lCore -lCint -lGraf -lGraf3d -lHist -lHtml -lMatrix -lMinuit -lPostscript -lProof -lTree -lGpad -lGui -lGX11 -lRint -L/usr/lib/X11R5 -lXpm -lX11 -lm -ldld
```

- OPTION 2: That line would be in the makefile

- Now you change the version of ROOT, or change its location. OPTION 2 fails.

- You want to have something that generate the Makefile for you.

- **CMake!!** It is a “meta-make”, i.e. it looks at your system configuration and creates its makefiles depending on your system configuration. Helps if you have multiple repositories (as we do).

- Very simple way of writing very complicated Makefile, do learn how to use it, it will save you time.

<https://cmake.org/cmake-tutorial/>

<https://root.cern.ch/how/integrate-root-my-project-cmake>

Types of Headaches

Migraine



Hypertension



Stress



Makefile



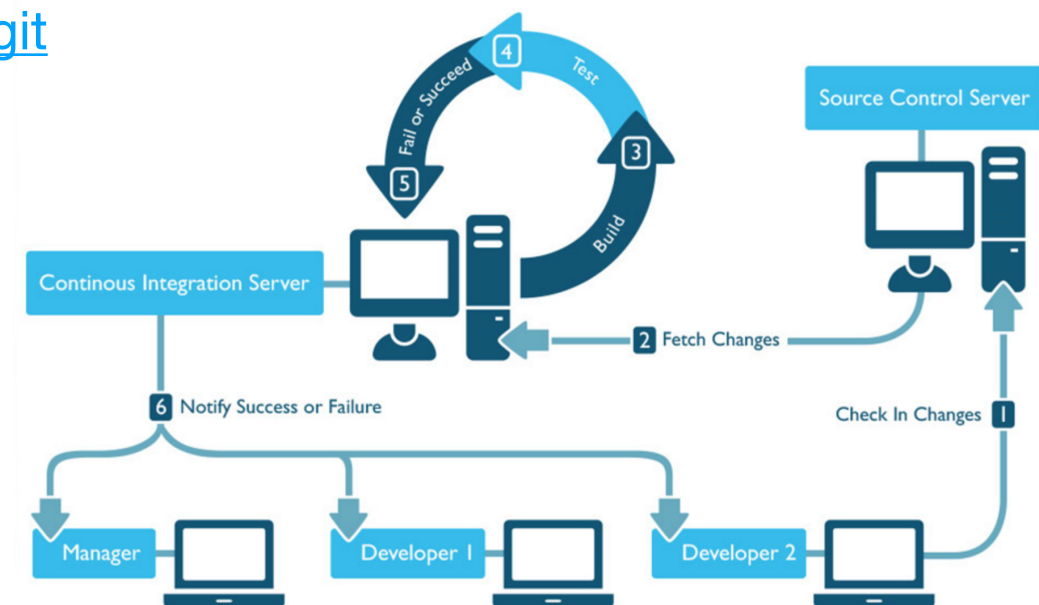
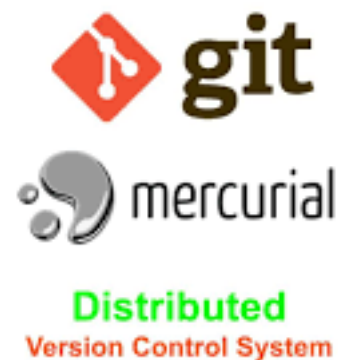
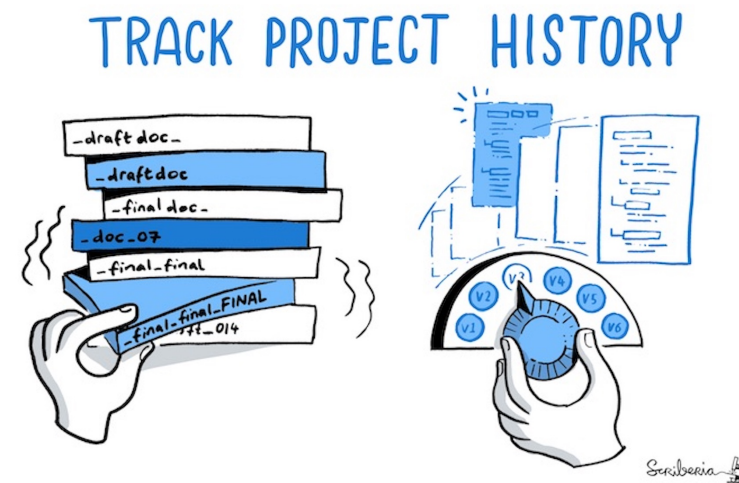
4. Fermilab Computing philosophy

C: MRB: Version control

- You may be already familiar (or should be) with some kind of version control for your documents (reports, thesis ...)
- Version control is a must for any sort of collaborative work which involves coding.
- Essentially, Git tracks the changes of the code (and allow you to revert).
- Big advantages: scales very well with code size and number of people.
- Hard to understand the logic. At the beginning, everyone makes mistakes
- Easy way to learn:

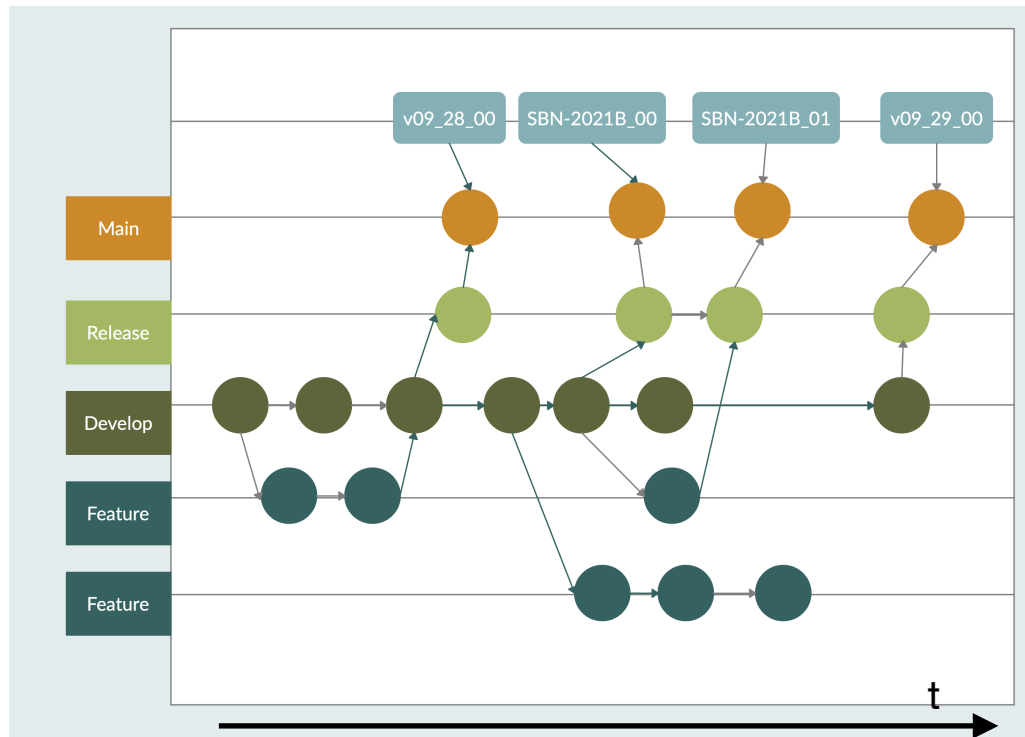
<https://www.coursera.org/learn/version-control-with-git>

<https://github.com/skills/introduction-to-github>



4. Fermilab Computing philosophy

C: MRB - Git: Crash course



Git: an open-source, distributed version-control system

- GitHub: a platform for hosting and collaborating on Git repositories
- Branch structure, every code change that you make is assigned to a branch.
- **Master/Main:** The version that is tagged that you can get from UPS
- **Hotfix:** If ever there was a big problem in master that needed to be sorted quickly
- **Develop:** The most up-to-date version of the code. Develop becomes master at the time of a release.
- **Feature:** What you or somebody else are working on that may be integrated in develop at some point. Do use `feature/<username>_name`

Some “most used” git commands:

```
git branch -a -List available feature branches
git checkout feature/name -Check out a branch to work on.
git add <files> -Tell git to track selected files.
git status -See which files are tracked and which are not
git commit <files> -m "commit message" -Commit the tracked files to your local repository
git push origin -Push to the main repository for everyone to see.
```

Git cheat sheet

Git cheat sheet

4. Fermilab Computing philosophy

C: MRB

- LArSoft itself currently resides in multiple repositories.
- **MRB** (multi repository build system) uses GIT and UPS to keep track of the dependencies and make sure you're good to go.
 - Often it will tell you that you're not.

```
----- check this block for errors -----
      mrbsetenv
Error encountered when setting up product: larsoft
ERROR: Version conflict -- dependency tree requires versions conflicting with current
      setup of product larsoft: version v09_35_00 vs v09_34_00
      ERROR: setup -B larsoft v09_35_00 -q +e17:+prof failed
ERROR: For more information, type "ups depend larsoft v09_35_00 -q +e17:+prof"
      or "ups list -aK+ larsoft v09_35_00 "
      ERROR: setup of required products has failed
```

Most commonly used commands

command	short hand	arguments	description	(opinionated) comments
mrbs newDev	mrbs n	-v \$Version -q \$Qualifier	Start a new development area	Use this when updating version
mrbs gitCheckout	mrbs g	sbndcode	Clone a git repository	You could clone with git clone too, but don't
mrbs install	mrbs i	-j \$numcores mrbs i --generator=ninja	Run buildtool with install	Compile and move/update code
mrbs zapDist	mrbs zd		Delete everything in both your build and localProducts areas	zapBuild and zapInstall also exist. IMO better to remove everything
mrbs updateDepsCM	mrbs uc		Update the main CMakeLists.txt file	To be used after manually editing CMakeLists.txt
mrbs test	mrbs t		Run buildtool with tests	Run this when you want to modify base code... software manager will ask you about it
mrbs setenv			Setup a development environment: source \$MRB_DIR/bin/mrbsSetEnv	Always* use this before building code
mrbs lp			Setup all products installed in the working localProducts_XXX directory: source \$MRB_DIR/bin/setup_local_products	Always* use this before running custom code



MRB

4. Fermilab Computing philosophy

C: Day at work

After your initial or custom setup:

Checkout the develop branch of the code:

```
$ cd $MRB_SRCS
$ mrb g dunesim # this is where the git clone happens
```

Create your branch

```
$ cd dunesim/dunesim
$ git flow feature start username_myAwesomeFeature
# This will create a branch feature/username_myFeature locally
#Also git checkout origin/branch_name + git switch -c username_myFeature
```

Edit / Modify

```
$ emacs -nw DAQSimAna/trigprim.cc
```

Track your changes

```
$ git add DAQSimAna/trigprim.cc
```

Commit

```
$ git commit -m "I modified trigprim and it now does that."
```

Finished your work?

```
$ git flow feature finish
# this will run the equivalent of:
# $ git checkout develop
# $ git merge feature/username_myFeature
```

!! dune_suite checkout inefficient
instead build only a subset of the dune suite:
dunesim, duneana, dunereco, dune prototypes ...

See backup

Want to modify code from collaborator?

```
$ git fetch
$ git rebase feature/collaborator_ThatFeature
```



Want to share with collaborators?

```
$ git flow feature publish
# equivalent to $ git push origin
```

!!

```
$ git push origin develop
```

WARNING if you break someone else's code, get authorisation first!!

(see next)

4. Fermilab Computing philosophy

C: Day at y

Checkout the develop branch of the co

```
$ cd $MRE
$ mrb g dunesim # this is wher
```

Create your branch

```
$ cd dunesim
$ git flow feature start us
# This will create a branch featu
```

Edit / Modify

```
$ emacs -nw DAQSim
```

Track your changes

```
$ git add DAQSimA
```

Commit

```
$ git commit -m "I modified tri
```

Finished your work?

```
$ git flow feature fi
# this will run the equiv
# $ git checkout dev
# $ git merge feature/userna
```

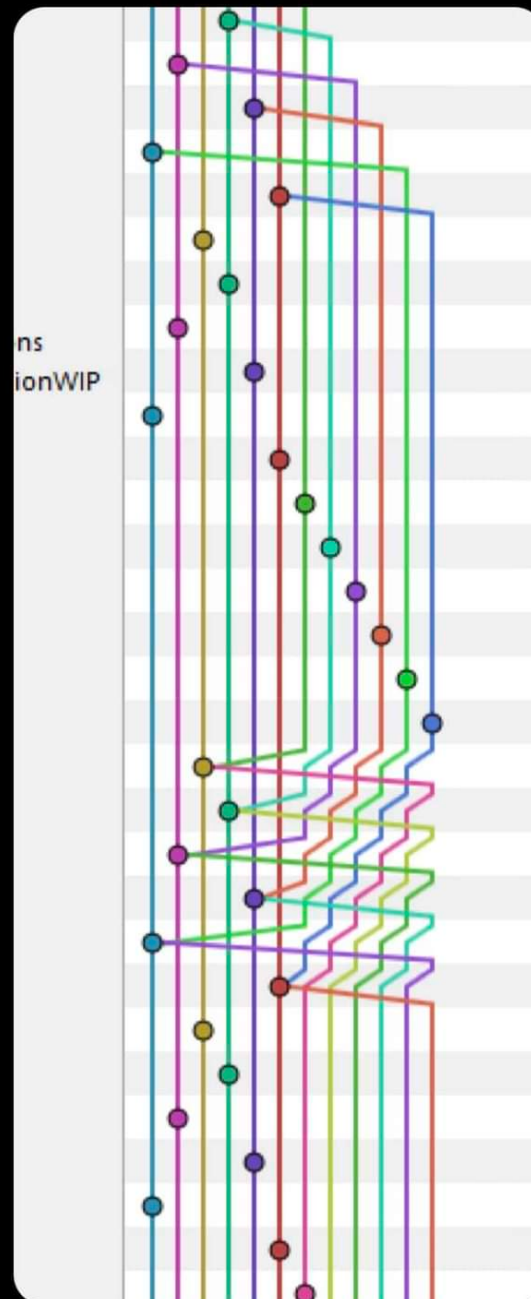


```
$ git push origin devel
```



Huenry Hueffman
@HenryHoffman

I fucked up Git so bad it turned into
Guitar Hero



suite checkout inefficient
d build only a subset of the dune suite:
sim, duneana, dunereco, duneprototypes ...

See backup

modify code from collaborator?

```
$ git fetch
base feature/collaborator_ThatFeature
```



collaborators?

```
git flow feature publish
ivalent to $ git push origin
```

code, get authorisation first!!

(see next)

4. Fermilab Computing philosophy

C: “Standardised” day at work

After your initial or custom setup:

Checkout the develop branch of the code:

```
$ cd $MRB_SRCS  
$ mrb g sbndcode
```

Create your branch

```
$ cd sbndcode  
$ git checkout origin/branch_name  
$ git switch -c feature/$USER_myFeature
```

Create/ Edit / Fix ...

```
$ emacs -nw sbndcode/OpDetSim/opDetSBNDTriggerAlg.cc
```

Track your changes

```
$ git add sbndcode/OpDetSim/opDetSBNDTriggerAlg.cc  
$ git commit -m “modified bla and it now does bla.”
```

Compile/test/check

```
$ git push -u origin feature/$USER_myFeature
```

Finished your work? Want to integrate? ↓

Open a Pull Request for your exp repository in GitHub.com



Before clone ->
on GitHub.com create
personal fork



<https://docs.github.com/en/get-started/quickstart/fork-a-repo>

<https://docs.github.com/en/get-started/quickstart/fork-a-repo>



<https://sbnsoftware.github.io/AnalysisInfrastructure/how-to-develop>

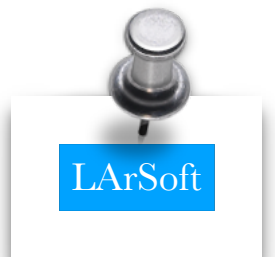
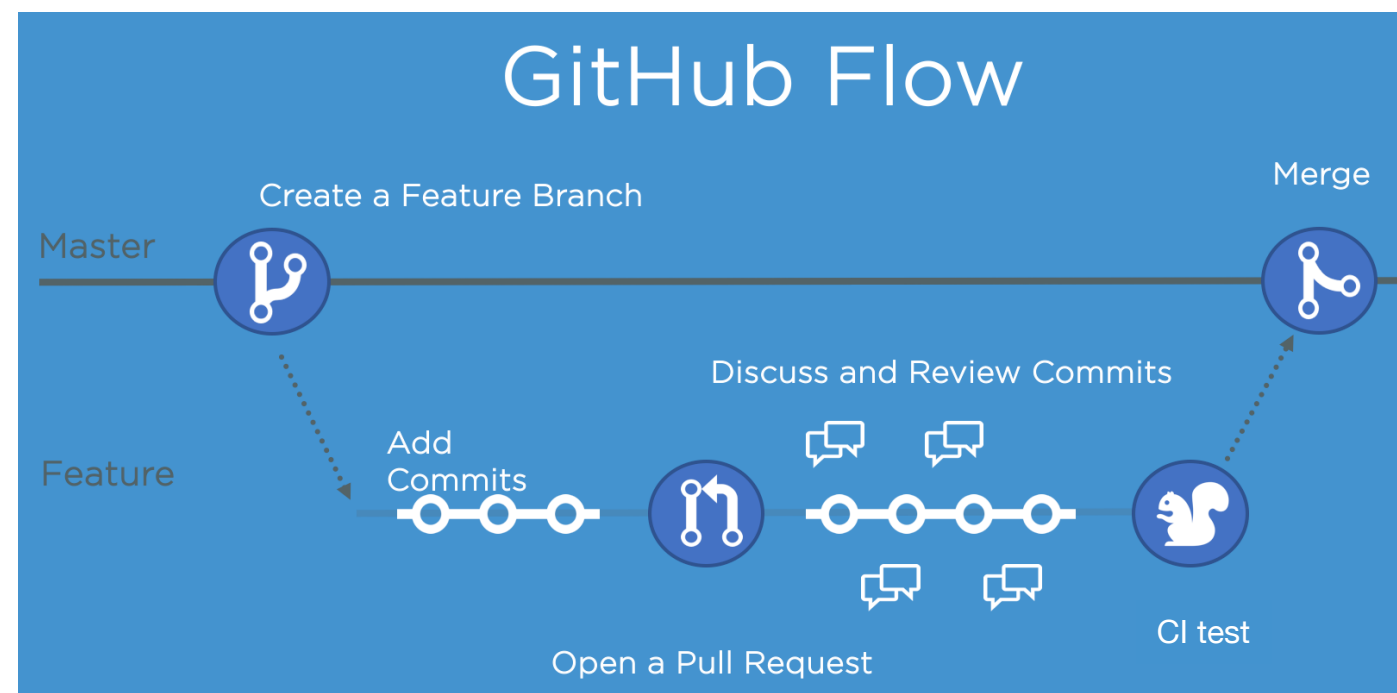
<https://sbnsoftware.github.io/AnalysisInfrastructure/how-to-develop>

Does your exp Validate?

4. Fermilab Computing philosophy

C: GitHub

- LArSoft , SBND, ICARUS, DUNE, (even) MicroBooNE have moved their repositories to GitHub.
 - Merging into develop happens after approval via a “pull request” (PR).
- You need to have a github.com account: <https://github.com/join>
- On the machine you'll be working on, let git know what your repo is:
 - `git config --global user.name "<First Name> <Last Name>"`
 - `git config --global user.email <Your-Email-Address>`
 - `git config --global user.github <Your-GitHub-Account-Username>`
- You can also set up your ssh key on your machine to make check-ins easier: <https://help.github.com/articles/generating-ssh-keys>



LArSoft

SBND

dunesw

uboone

microboone

Break

- Complex, multi-level systems, all relying on each other:

A. **UPS** → setting the right dependancies.

B. **CMake** → compiling

C. **MRB** → version control (= GIT)

D. **ART** → the underlying structure for LArSoft (process events)

E. **LArSoft / <experiment>code** → what is actually interesting for you (where physics, simulation and analysis happen)

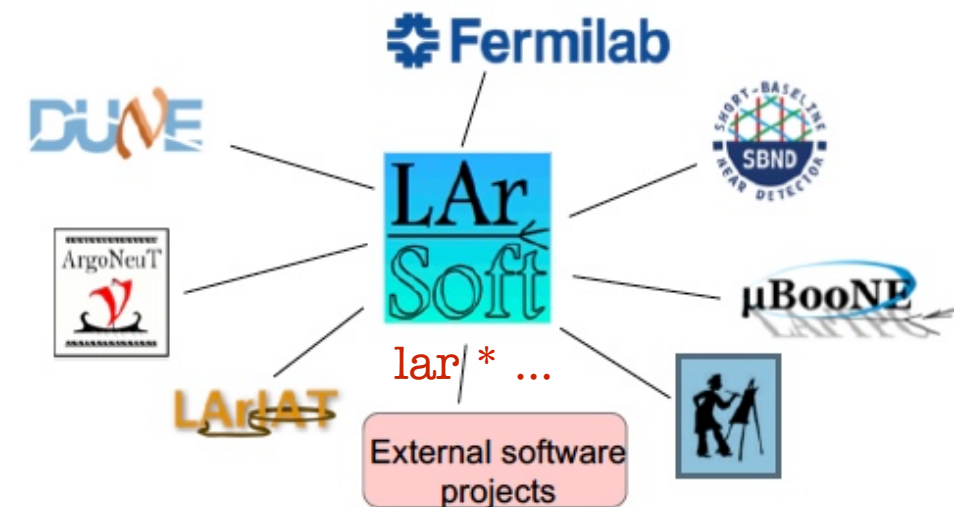


4. Fermilab Computing philosophy

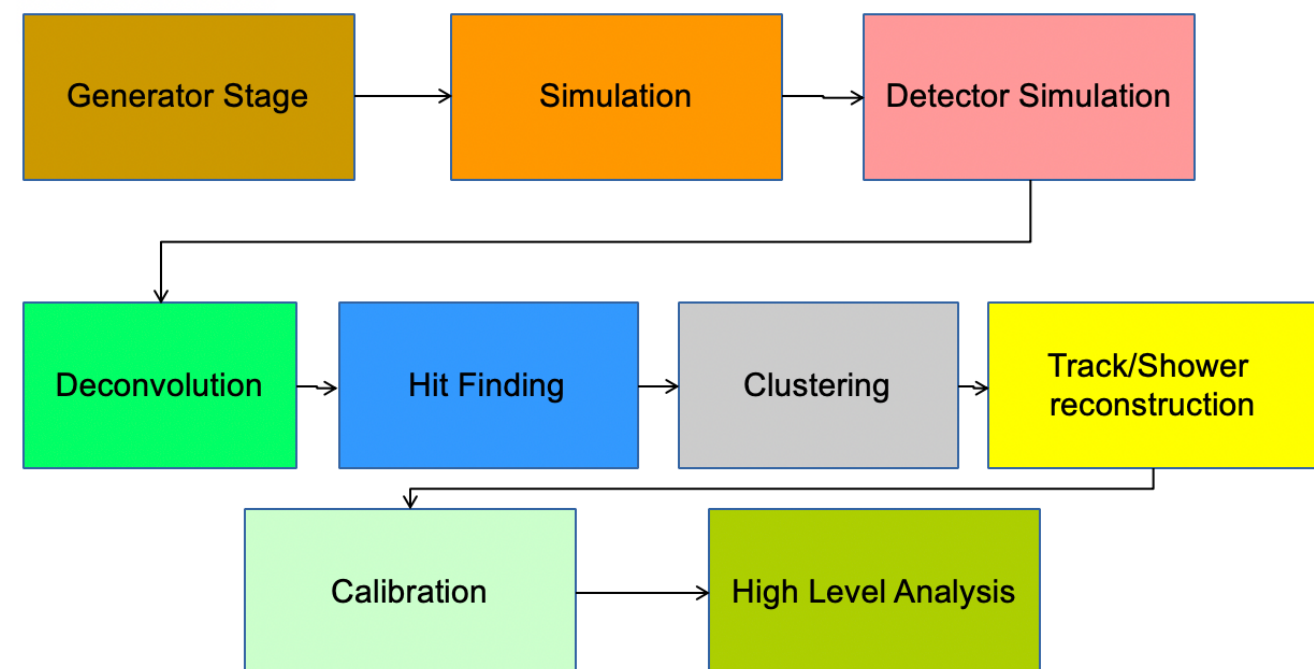
D: LArSoft

Liquid Argon Software framework used by several experiments.

<https://larsoft.org>



- LArSoft is a software suite that is very versatile:
 - can run multiple simulation and reconstruction algorithms
 - on different experiments and detectors.
 - Can run in stages.
 - Parameters can be changed through configuration files.
- It has its own data structure/related input output/ configuration file language.
- Code that it uses needs to be structured in pre-defined ways (modules) to work.



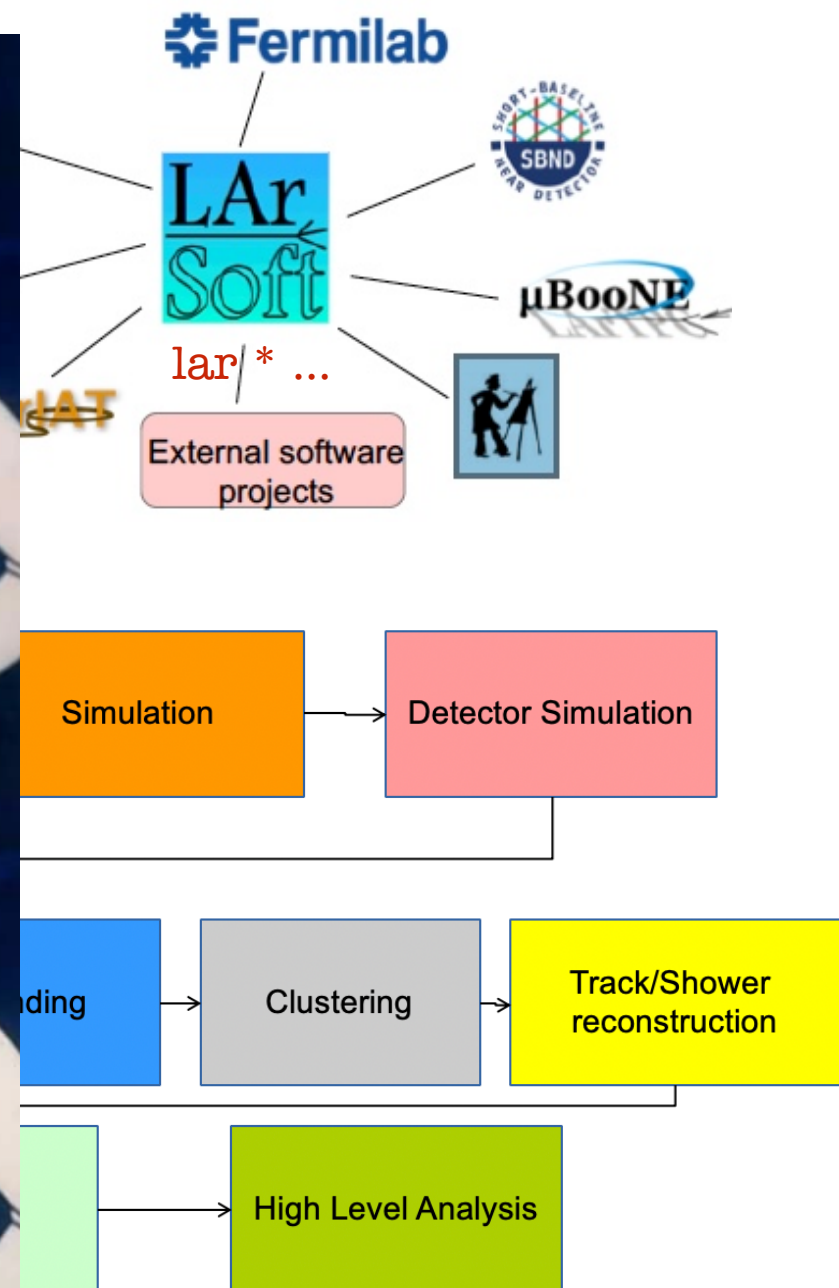
Each stage is a module or more.
Each stage passes data products, “objects”, to the next stage.

4. Fermilab Computing philosophy

D: LArSoft (ART)

Liquid Argon Software
by several experiments
<https://larsoft.org>

- LArSoft is a software suite that
 - can run multiple simulation algorithms
 - on different experiments
 - Can run in stages.
 - Parameters can be changed in configuration files.
- It has its own data structure and configuration file language.
- Code that it uses needs to be structured in pre-defined ways (modules) to work.



Each stage is a module or more.
Each stage passes data products, “objects”, to the next stage.

4. Fermilab Computing philosophy

D: Art (concepts)

- LArSoft is built on top of the art event processing framework
- The art framework:
 - is an event-processing framework for particle physics experiments
 - Reads events from user-specified input sources
 - Invokes user-specified modules to perform reconstruction, simulation, analysis, event-filtering tasks
 - May write results to one or more output files **Modules**
 - Configurable, dynamically loaded, user-written units with entry points called at specific times within the event loop → **You can reprocess an event and recreate data product.**



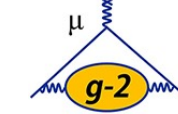
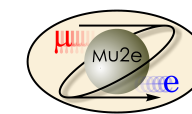
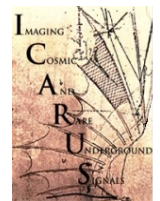
art provides the framework needs for ~2k physicists



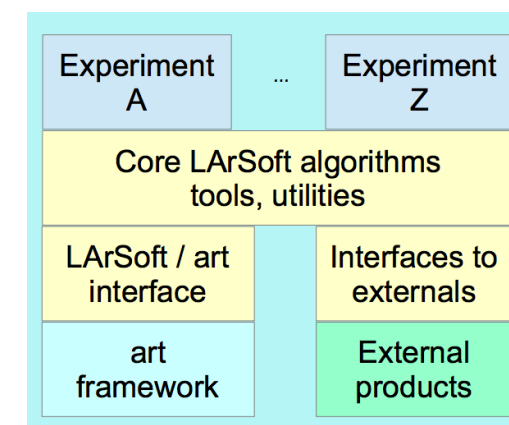
artdaq
project



LArIAT
experiment



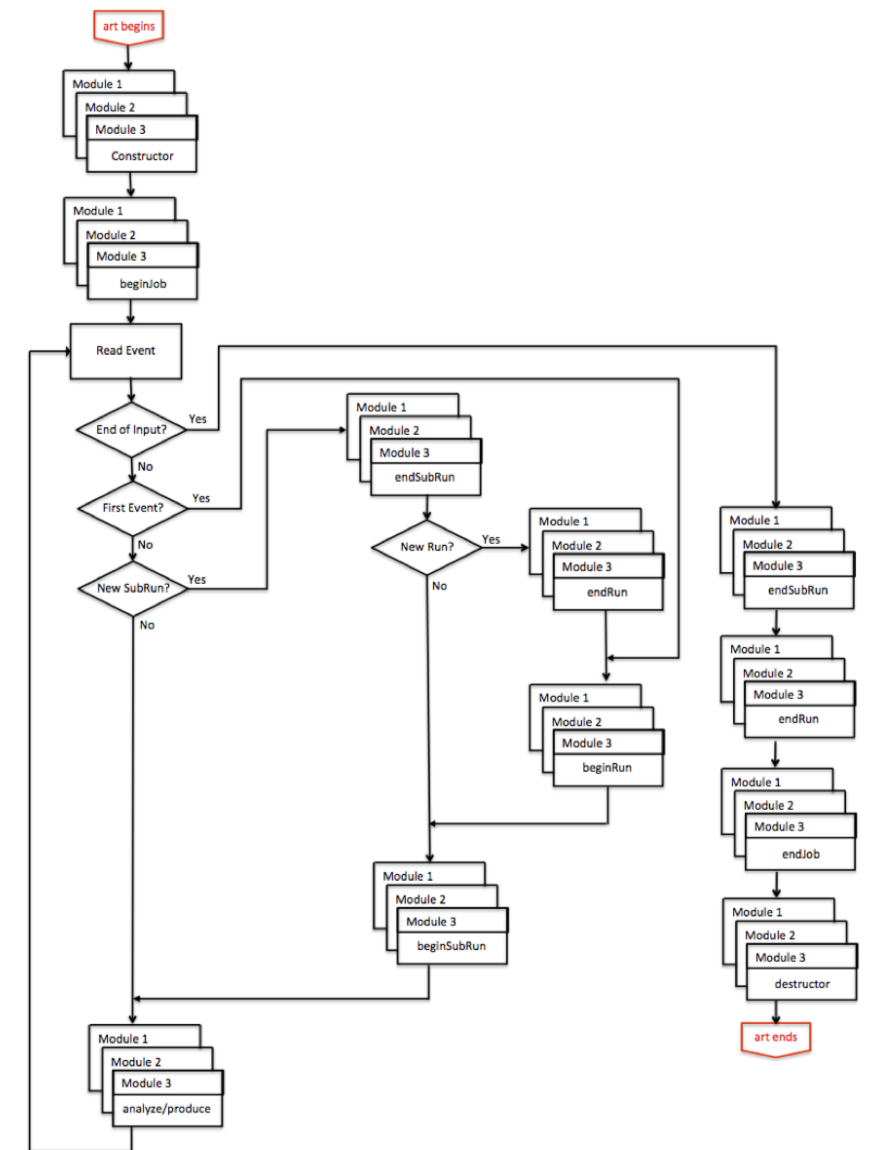
@next
(prev.)



4. Fermilab Computing philosophy

D: ART (classes)

- Modules (Three types)
 - **Producer**: add data product to an event
 - **Filter**: filter events
 - **Analyzer**: read information from an event and retrieve data product (no addition of data product to an event)
You cannot change a data product in an event: What is there stays there!!
- Services:
 - Configurable global utilities registered with framework, with entry points to event loop transitions and whose methods may be accessed within modules
- Tools:
 - Configurable, local utilities callable inside modules
- .fcl files
 - The run-time configuration of art, modules, services and tools specified in FHiCL
 - Fermilab Hierarchical Configuration Language, allows configuring jobs and modules on the fly.
 - See art workbook and FHiCL quick-start guide for more information on using FHiCL to configure art jobs
 - See <https://cdcv.sfnal.gov/redmine/projects/fhicl-cpp/wiki/Wiki> for C++ bindings and using FHiCL parameters inside programs



4. Fermilab Computing philosophy

D: FHiCL (.fcl)

- Fermilab Hierarchical Configuration Language, allows configuring jobs and modules on the fly.
- There are two types of files (mostly by convention): header/include files, and job files. Both end with .fcl
- How .fcls looks like

```
#include "fcl/minimalMessageService.fcl"

process_name : hello

source : {
  module_type : RootInput
  fileNames   : [ "inputFiles/input01.art" ]
}

services : {
  message : @local::default_message
}

physics :{
  analyzers: {
    hi : {
      module_type : HelloWorld
    }
  }

  e1      : [ hi ]
  end_paths : [ e1 ]
}
```

A series of definitions `name : value`

form a FHiCL table or a parameter set (all the goes between {}).

The name of the module to be loaded/run and files.

The parameter set in analyzers (or filters or producers) defines the run-time configuration for all of the modules that are part of the job

D: ART Rules

.Thou shalt not modify data products (objects) “on” the event.

You may add things to the event, but once you have done so, they may not be changed.

.Thou shalt not have modules depend on other modules.

Developed a really cool function in your track-finder module you want to use somewhere else? Too bad.

.Thou shalt only have modules interact with each other via the event.

Run through modules linearly, and always get previous results via the event.

Inherited wisdom.

4. Fermilab Computing philosophy

E: LArSoft/<experiment>code

- **LArSoft** is a body of code with specific product for each experiment user.
 - **dunesw, sbndcode, uboonecode ...** are experiment software built using LArSoft/art. A release (and UPS product) is bound to a particular release of LArSoft.
- Once setup you experiment specific software you can use its modules and fcl to run LArSoft job tipping
`lar -c config-file.fcl <other-options> [<source-file>]`

most common options

- `-c` The argument to `-c` is the *run-time configuration file*, a text file that tells one run of *art* what it should do.
- `-s` Source data file (multiple OK) or `-S` file containing a list of source files to read, one per line
- `-n` Number of events to process.
- `-T` File name for TFileService (name your histograms file)
- `-o` Event output stream file (different options for multiple files)
- `--nthreads` Number of threads to use for event processing
- `--timing` Activate monitoring of time spent per event/module.

Can be defined
inside the fcl

Many more with `lar -h`

4. Fermilab Computing philosophy

E: LArSoft day to day

- Most days you will be running larsoft jobs combining producer, analyzer and filter modules.
- You will configure what modules actually get run using a .fcl file.
- You will also configure these modules using the .fcl file (which detector, its conditions etc...)
- The modules may produce LarSoft objects/data products and pass them on to the next ones in the chain.
- At the end you'll need an analyzer module that either makes plots directly, or produces a TTree object (or analogous).

5. Running LArSoft

- Now that you know the basics on **How** lets get on **Where**:
 - A: Storage
 - B: Grid
 - C: Containers
- You need to know a bit of all these to be able to collaborate (don't mess resources so others can work too).

5. Running LArSoft

A: Fermilab Storage

- You'll run your code with different goals: develop (test), debug (fix), proof of concept, large analysis, ...
- You'll need to understand where to run/store depending on your necessities.

Start here



Overview of Storage Volumes at Fermilab							
	Quota/Space	Retention Policy	Tape Backed?	Retention Lifetime on disk	Use for	path	Grid Accessible
Persistent dCache	No/~100 TB/exp	Managed by Experiment	No	Till manually deleted	immutable files w/ long lifetime	/pnfs/<experiment>/persistent	Yes
Scratch dCache	No/no limit	LRU eviction - least recently used file deleted	No	Varies, ~30 days (NOT guaranteed)	immutable files w/ short lifetime	/pnfs/<experiment>/scratch	Yes
(Soon deprecated) Resilient dCache	No/O(5) GB	Periodic eviction if file not accessed	No	Approx 30 days (your experiment may have an active clean up policy)	code library tarballs for grid jobs (do NOT use for grid job outputs)	/pnfs/<experiment>/resilient	Yes
Tape backed dCache	No/O(4) PB	LRU eviction (from disk)	Yes	Approx 30 days	Long-term archive	/pnfs/<experiment>/rest_of_path	Yes
BlueArc Data	Yes (~1 TB)/ ~100 TB total	Managed by Experiment	No	Till manually deleted	Storing final analysis samples	/exp/<experiment>/data	No
BlueArc App	Yes (~100 GB)/ ~3 TB total	Managed by Experiment	No	Till manually deleted	Storing and compiling software	/exp/<experiment>/app	No

FIFE Understanding_storage_volumes

DUNE_Data_Management_tutorial

microboone_DM_tutorial

5. Running LArSoft

B: Jobs on the Grid

- For large production you may need to use the grid.
Check that what you want is not already available as official experiment data production.
Depending on the scale (experiment) you may need to request it to the data management/production team.

- Most tools rely on tarballs of your code.

- Few ways to submit jobs to the grid :

- Project-py
https://sbnsoftware.github.io/sbndcode/wiki/Using_projectpy_for_grid_jobs.html
https://cdcvs.fnal.gov/redmine/projects/project-py/wiki/Project-py_guide
(project.py)
https://cdcvs.fnal.gov/redmine/projects/larbatch/wiki/User_guide
<https://microboone-docdb.fnal.gov/cgi-bin/sso/ShowDocument?docid=42845>
- Jobsub_client -> jobsub_lite (token authentication) Batch job submission and management toolkit
https://wiki.dunescience.org/wiki/DUNE_Computing/Submitting_Jobs_at_Fermilab
<https://dune.github.io/computing-basics/07-grid-job-submission/index.html>
https://fifewiki.fnal.gov/wiki/Getting_started_with_jobsub_lite
- POMS
https://indico.fnal.gov/event/48790/contributions/213065/attachments/142274/179587/POMS_for_LArSoft.pdf
https://indico.fnal.gov/event/49414/contributions/217601/attachments/144636/183861/FIFE_SummerSchool_POMS.pdf
- JustIN
<https://justin.dune.hep.ac.uk/docs/tutorials.dune.md>

NOTE: larbatch project.py, and condor_lar.sh are NOT officially supported, and no official assistance is available for any problems you may encounter using them.



increasingly sample size
(also complexity and tools/resources)



Summary

- “LArSoft” means/needs lots of things.
- Thankfully lots of developers have gone through and have documented their “odyssey”.
- In here lots of information to digest and references for further details.
- Read, try, ask .. repeat (and don’t forget to enjoy your journey)



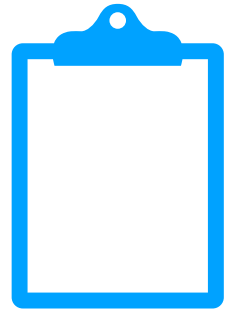
*Now that you've been shown, you can practise on your own, and you'll all be champion Larsofters by the time you're fully grown.
Zog adaptation*

Backup

Tutorials/extra refs

- **HSF Training Center:**
Training and educational material for the High Energy Physics community
<https://hsf-training.org/training-center/>
- DUNE Software and computing tutorial
<https://dune.github.io/computing-basics/>

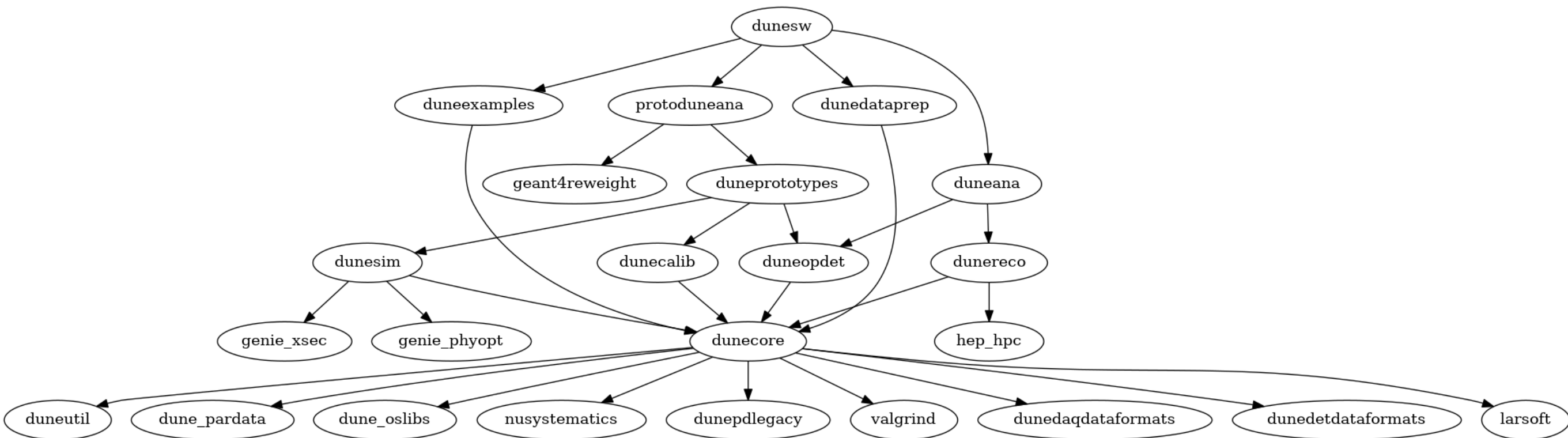
https://sbnsoftware.github.io/sbndcode_wiki/Computing_resources.html#computing-access



- Do not run in the build directory
 - an `mrz` (make clean) will delete everything.
 - 3 terminals edit, build and run (specifics machines and areas).
 - `ssh username@dunebuild01.fnal.gov` go to your build area, source-setup.
- Do not edit the `.fcl` or `.gdml` files in the build (futile) or `localProducts...` (will get overwritten at compilation) directories.
- Do edit the `.fcl` files in `srcs/` and copy them over to `localProducts` by “`mrz i`” or “make install”.
- Know which files you are using: `$FHICL_FILE_PATH`, `$FW_SEARCH_PATH` and others define this.

dunesw

- Old (huge) dunetpc software refactored to be more efficient now
- DUNE's liquid argon TPCs -- the far detector (HD-VD), ProtoDUNE-SP, ProtoDUNE-DP, ProtoDUNE-VD, ICEBERG and associated cold-boxes



Spack

- Using SPACK instead of UPS + MRB
<https://cdcvcs.fnal.gov/redmine/projects/spack-planning/wiki>
- SPACK tutorials
<https://fifewiki.fnal.gov/wiki/Spack>

Grid jobs

- Fermilab has its own “preference” (supported) of running grid jobs
- Inherited knowledge still available for others. Example:
 - https://sbnsoftware.github.io/icaruscode/wiki/Computing_Resources.html#submitting-jobs-virtual-organisation
- Jobsub_lite Example
<https://dune.github.io/computing-basics/07-grid-job-submission/index.html>

Data catalog

- Samweb:
[https://cdcv.s.fnal.gov/redmine/projects/sam/wiki/
User Guide for SAM](https://cdcv.s.fnal.gov/redmine/projects/sam/wiki/User_Guide_for_SAM)
[https://cdcv.s.fnal.gov/redmine/projects/sam-main/wiki/
Sam web client Command Reference](https://cdcv.s.fnal.gov/redmine/projects/sam-main/wiki/Sam_web_client_Command_Reference)
- MetaCAT + RUCIO
[https://docs.dunescience.org/cgi-bin/sso/RetrieveFile?
docid=30145](https://docs.dunescience.org/cgi-bin/sso/RetrieveFile?docid=30145)
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