



# podio (almost) v1.0 - A first stable release of the EDM toolkit

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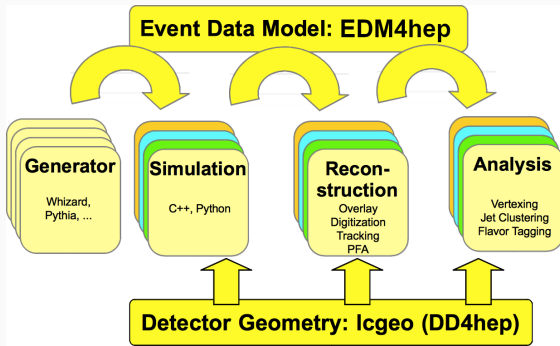


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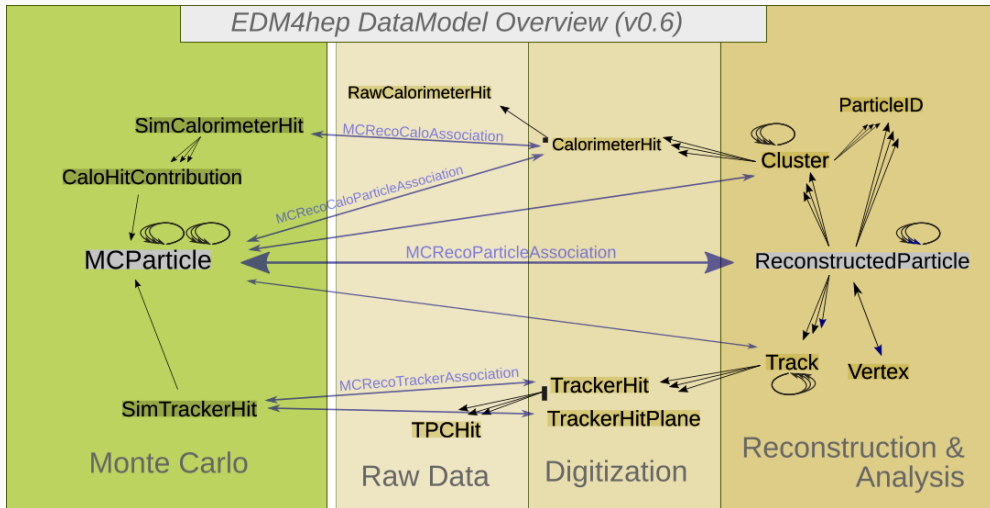
CHEP 2023  
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# The EDM at the core of HEP software





- Different components of HEP experiment software have to talk to each other
- The event data model defines the language for this communication
- Users express their ideas in the same language

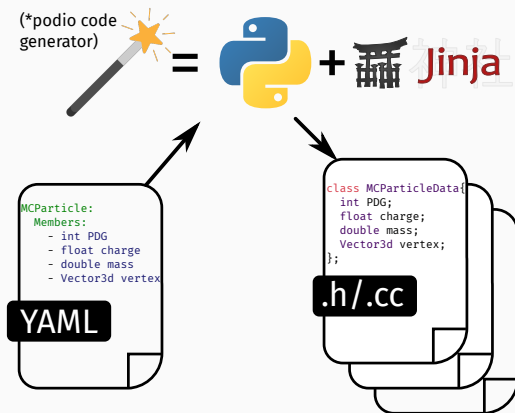
# Example: EDM4hep



Common EDM for Key4hep project ([Key4hep Progress Report on Integrations](#))

# The podio EDM toolkit

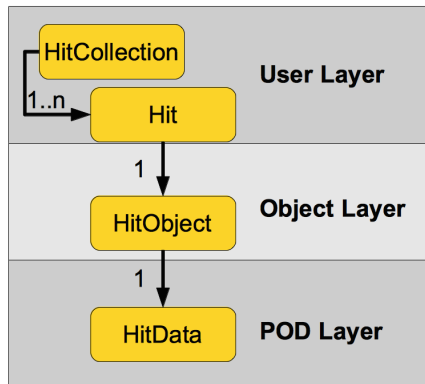
- Implementing a performant event data model (EDM) is non-trivial
- Use `podio` to generate code starting from a high level description
- Provide an easy to use interface to the users
- Main customers
  -  [key4hep/EDM4hep](https://github.com/key4hep/EDM4hep)
  -  [eic/EDM4eic](https://github.com/eic/EDM4eic)



 [AIDASoft/podio](https://github.com/AIDASoft/podio)

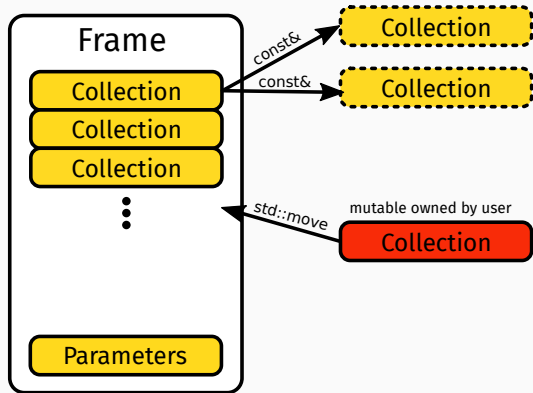
# The three layers of podio

- podio favors **composition over inheritance** and uses **plain-old-data (POD)** types wherever possible
- Layered design allows for efficient memory layout and performant I/O implementation



# The `Frame` - A generalized (event) data container

- *Type erased* container aggregating all relevant data
- Defines an *interval of validity* / category for contained data
  - Event, Run, readout frame, ...
- Easy to use and thread safe interface for data access
  - Immutable read access only
  - Ownership model reflected in API
- Decouples I/O from operating on the data

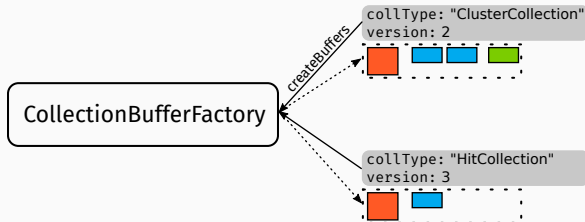
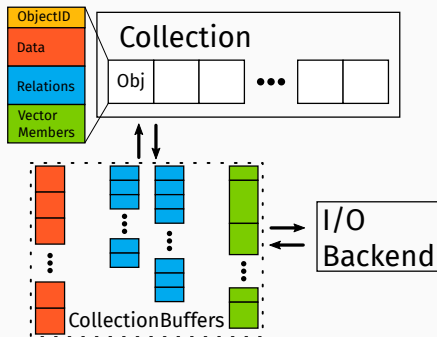


```
template<typename CollT>
const CollT& get(const std::string& name) const;

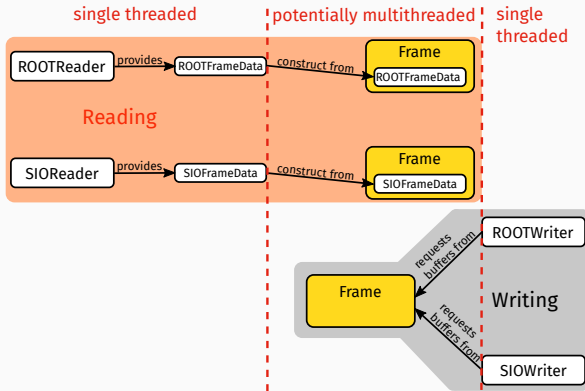
template<typename CollT, /*enable_if*/>
const CollT& put(CollT&& collection,
                const std::string& name);
```

# I/O low level basics

- I/O is based on collections
- `CollectionBuffer` holds all necessary data to (de)serialize a collection
  - Simple POD buffers (AoS)
  - I/O backend only needs to handle these
- `CollectionBufferFactory` creates empty buffers
  - (type, version) → `std::function`
  - Populated during datamodel library loading



# I/O on the Frame level

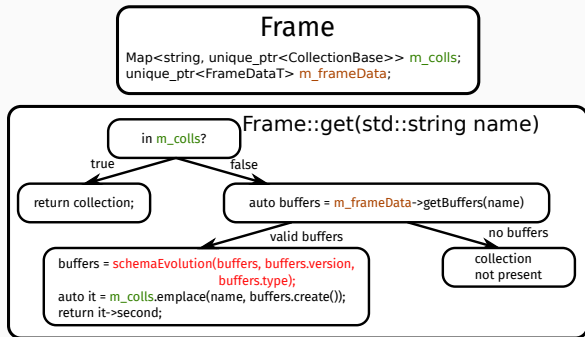


- Readers & Writers assumed to be single threaded
  - Low level building blocks
- Defer work as long as possible
  - Minimize time in Reader
- Frame can be constructed from “arbitrary” `FrameDataT`
  - Provides `CollectionBuffers`
  - Contain complete data for a Frame



# Schema evolution in podio

- Many considerations
  - Leverage backend if possible
  - Work for all backends
  - Allow user overrides
- Evolution always to latest version
  - e.g. 1 → 3 and 2 → 3
  - Users only see latest version
- Similar approach as `CollectionBufferFactory`
- Detect potential problems at code generation
  - Expand capabilities as necessary



Comparing datamodel versions v2 and v1

Found 3 schema changes:

- 'ex2::NamespaceStruct' has an added member 'y'
- 'ex2::NamespaceStruct' has a dropped member 'y\_old'
- 'ExampleStruct.x' changed type from 'int' to 'double'

Warnings:

- Definition 'ex2::NamespaceStruct' has a potential member [...]

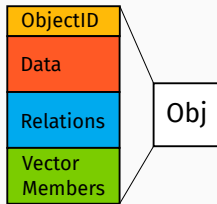
ERRORS:

- Forbidden schema change in 'ExampleStruct' for 'x' [...]

# Other recent developments


- Stable collection IDs
  - Initially: Insertion order into Frame
  - Now: Hash of collection name
- RNTuple based backend
- Storing datamodel definition in *metadata Frame*
  - String literal embedded into binary
  - Dumping via `podio-dump`
  - Always possible to regenerate datamodel from datafile

```
struct ObjectID {  
    int index;  
    uint64_t collectionID;  
};
```



```
readelf -p .rodata libedm4hep.so | grep options  
[ 368] {"options": {<...>},  
"schema_version": 1, "components": {<...>},  
"datatypes": {<...>}}
```

# Frame based I/O in k4FWCore

-  [key4hep/k4FWCore](https://github.com/key4hep/k4FWCore) offers core Key4hep services for Gaudi
  - Data service for podio generated EDMs
  - Historically grown separate implementation
- Replaced custom Reader / Writer with podio provided ones
  - (Almost) completely transparent
- `podio::Frame` not visible to user
- Some usability improvements in the works

```
using namespace edm4hep;

// declare handle
DataHandle<MCParticleCollection> m_pHandle{
    "Particles",
    Gaudi::DataHandle::Reader,
    this};

// declare handle as property
declareProperty("ParticleColl",
               m_pHandle,
               "mc collection");

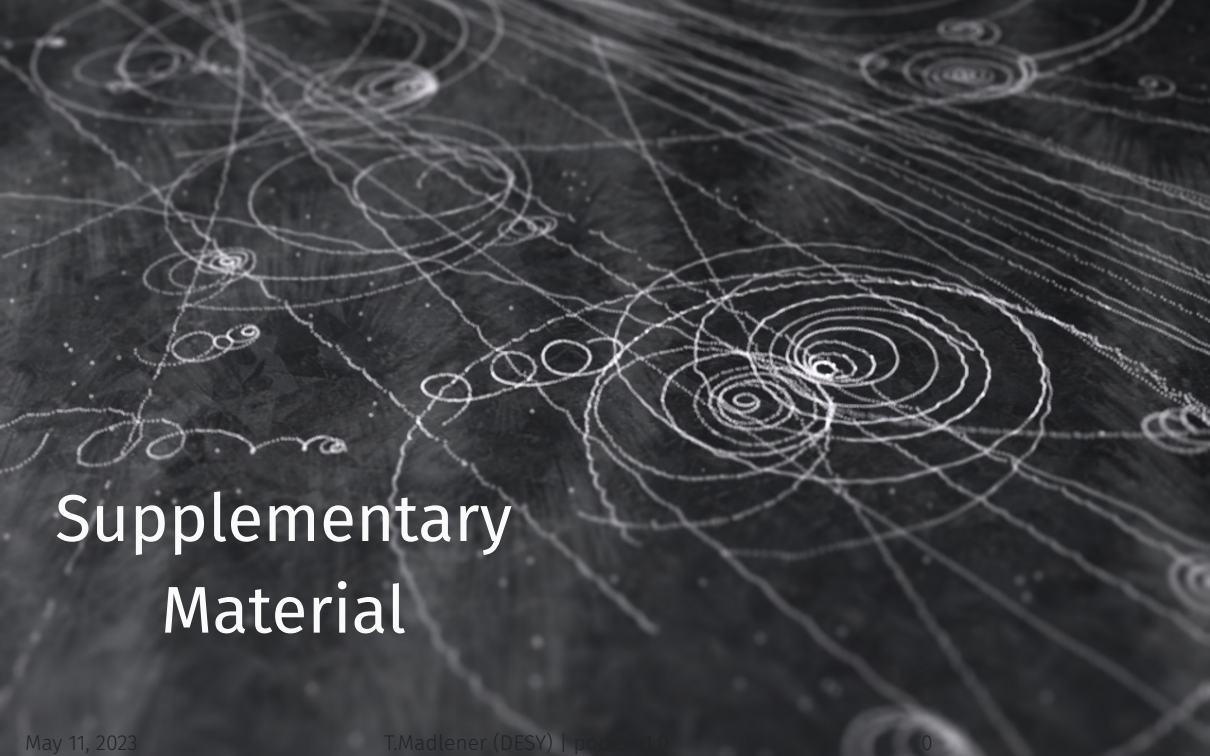
// use as
const auto particle = m_pHandle.get();
```

# Summary & Outlook

- The podio EDM toolkit is already used by several communities
- Many crucial features for a stable release were missing
- Introduced the Frame concept
- Complete overhaul of I/O parts to make schema evolution possible
- **Schema evolution**
- Consolidation of k4FWCore and standalone podio
- Tying up last few loose ends for v1.0
  - Backwards compatibility from then on

## Future plans

- Explore c++20 features for usage in podio (e.g. concepts, ranges)
- Explore usage on heterogeneous resources



# Supplementary Material

# podio - datamodel definition

```
components:
  edm4hep::Vector3f:
    Members: [float x, float y, float z]

datatypes:
  edm4hep::ReconstructedParticle:
    Description: "Reconstructed Particle"
    Author : "F.Gaede, DESY"
    Members:
      - edm4hep::Vector3f      momentum    // [GeV] particle momentum
      - std::array<float, 10> covMatrix    // energy-momentum covariance
    OneToOneRelations:
      - edm4hep::Vertex startVertex // start vertex associated to this particle
    OneToManyRelations:
      - edm4hep::Cluster clusters // clusters that have been used for this particle
      - edm4hep::ReconstructedParticle particles // associated particles
    ExtraCode:
      declaration: "bool isCompund() const { return particles_size() > 0; }\n"

edm4hep::ParticleID:
  VectorMembers:
    - float parameters // hypothesis params
```

\*extracted from [edm4hep.yaml](#)

- Reusable components
- Fixed sized arrays as members
- *VectorMembers* for variable sized array members
- 1 – 1 and 1 – N relations
- Additional user-provided code

# podio - features of generated code

```
auto recos = ReconstructedParticleCollection();  
// ... fill ...  
for (auto reco : recos) {  
    auto vtx = reco.getStartVertex();  
    for (auto rp : reco.getParticles()) {  
        auto mom = rp.getMomentum();  
    }  
}
```

← c++17 code with “value semantics”

↓ Python bindings via PyROOT

```
recos = ReconstructedParticleCollection()  
#... fill ...  
for reco in recos:  
    vtx = reco.getStartVertex()  
    for rp in reco.getParticles():  
        mom = rp.getMomentum()
```

```
d = ROOT.RDataFrame('events', 'events.root')  
h = (d.Define('abs_pdg', 'abs(Particle.PDG)')  
     .Define('mu_sel', 'abs_pdg == 13')  
     .Define('mu_px',  
             'Particle.momentum.x[mu_sel]')  
     .Histo1D('mu_px'))  
h.DrawCopy()
```

← Using RDataFrame to read ROOT files (uproot also possible)

# CMake interface for projects using podio

```
find_package(PODIO)

# generate the c++ code from the yaml definition
PODIO_GENERATE_DATAMODEL(edm4hep edm4hep.yaml headers sources IO_BACKEND_HANDLERS "ROOT;SIO")
# compile the core data model shared library (no I/O)
PODIO_ADD_DATAMODEL_CORE_LIB(edm4hep "${headers}" "${sources}")
# generate and compile the ROOT I/O dictionary
PODIO_ADD_ROOT_IO_DICT(edm4hepDict edm4hep "${headers}" src/selection.xml)
# compile the SIOBlocks shared library for the SIO backend
PODIO_ADD_SIO_IO_BLOCKS(edm4hep "${headers}" "${sources}")

# Install the created targets
install(TARGETS edm4hep edm4hepDict edm4hepSioBlocks)
```

- Easy to use functions for integrating a podio generated EDM into a project
- Split into core EDM library and I/O handling for different backends
  - Pick what you need
  - I/O handling parts dynamically loaded by podio on startup



# File layouts for Frame based I/O

- Default ROOT backend
  - One branch per collection data
  - More branches for relations and vector members
  - Contents of each *category* fixed by first Frame
  - Columnar on disk from hierarchical in memory
- Alternative SIO based backend
  - I/O library of LCIO (linear collider EDM)
  - Independent Frames

