
Analyzing STAR Data if You Are New to STAR: A MuDst & PicoDst Tutorial

[Now emphasizing PicoDST examples but the MuDST examples are shown at the back of the slide stack]

Based on the excellent tutorials by Dan Magestro, Akio Agowa,
Grigory Nigmatkulov, and a cast of a thousand wizards

by
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First edition written in 2006, updated in 2011, and updated again in 2024

please send suggestions and comments to jhthomas@berkeley.edu

If you are new to STAR but familiar with Root...



- **STAR data analysis techniques use a few distinct styles and conventions that are unique to STAR ... but which are very powerful**
 - **Cons**
 - **Makers**
 - **muDSTs**
 - **picoDSTs**
 - **The Scheduler** (sums-submit, previously known as star-submit)

- **STAR uses 'cons' to compile, link, and make files**
 - You should create a sub-directory called 'StRoot' in your primary work area
 - Create a sub-directory called 'HelloWorld' under 'StRoot'
 - Put 'HelloWorld.cxx' and 'HelloWorld.h' into 'StRoot/HelloWorld/'
 - Now type 'cons' from your primary directory and your files will be automatically compiled and linked
 - No Make files! Somebody else does all that work for you ...
 - This works even if your files refer to other STAR or ROOT software
- You can change the version of root, the compilers, and cons
 - The command '**starpro**' issued at the command line will give you the production version of all STAR software
 - Similarly, '**starold**', '**starnew**', and '**stardev**' give the newest stable version of the software or the developmental version of the software.
 - A specific version of older star software can be achieved with the 'starver' command (e.g. '**starver SL21a**')

Check out your own copy of STAR Software



- You can checkout your own copy of STAR software, change it, cons it, and 'root4star' will use the local copy in your StRoot area before using the global STAR copy of that library
 - From your primary directory, execute the following command
 - > **cv**s co **StRoot/StPicoEvent**
(p.s. note capitalization is important)
 - This will create the StRoot sub-directory and fill it with all of the StPicoEvent routines. You can now compile the software
 - > **stardev** ← cvs contains the latest software that may only compile in dev
 - > **cons**
 - The local copy of the files (and your changes) in StRoot/StPicoEvent will be the default until you delete the directory.
 - You may not want this result ... so check out software wisely
- STAR offline software is documented in CVS, D'Oxygen & GitHub
 - CVS: <http://www.star.bnl.gov/cgi-bin/protected/cvsweb.cgi/StRoot/>
 - D'Ox: <http://www.star.bnl.gov/webdata/dox/html/classes.html>
 - GitHub: <https://github.com/star-bnl/star-sw>

The CVS and D'Ox links can be found via homepage => computing => CVS Tools or homepage => computing => Offline doc => Classes => Class Index

- **STAR analysis software uses ‘Makers’**
 - For our purposes, this is a recommended style for structuring your event analysis programs
 - A Maker has three required member functions
 - **Init()**
 - **Make()**
 - **Finish()**
 - You can do elegant things with Makers, including chaining several of them together, but for now we will introduce the style
- **The elements of the “HelloWorldMaker.cxx”**

```
Int_t HelloWorldMaker::Init( )  
{ // Do once at the start of the analysis, create histograms, etc. }
```

```
Int_t HelloWorldMaker::Make( )  
{ // Do every event  
  cout << "Hello World" << end ;  
  return kStOK ; }
```

```
Int_t HelloWorldMaker::Finish( )  
{ // Do once at the end of the analysis, close files, etc. }
```

Execute the Maker from a macro like this ...



```
void HelloWorld( )
{
    // Load libraries
    load();
    gSystem -> Load("HelloWorldMaker.so") ;

    // List of member links in the chain
    StChain* chain = new StChain ;
    HelloWorldMaker* Hello = new HelloWorldMaker( ) ;

    Int_t nEvents = 10 ;

    // Loop over the links in the chain
    chain -> Init() ;
    chain -> EventLoop(1,nEvents) ;
    chain -> Finish() ;

    // Cleanup
    delete chain ;
}
```

} You can make a list of several makers

} and they will be executed, in order, here.

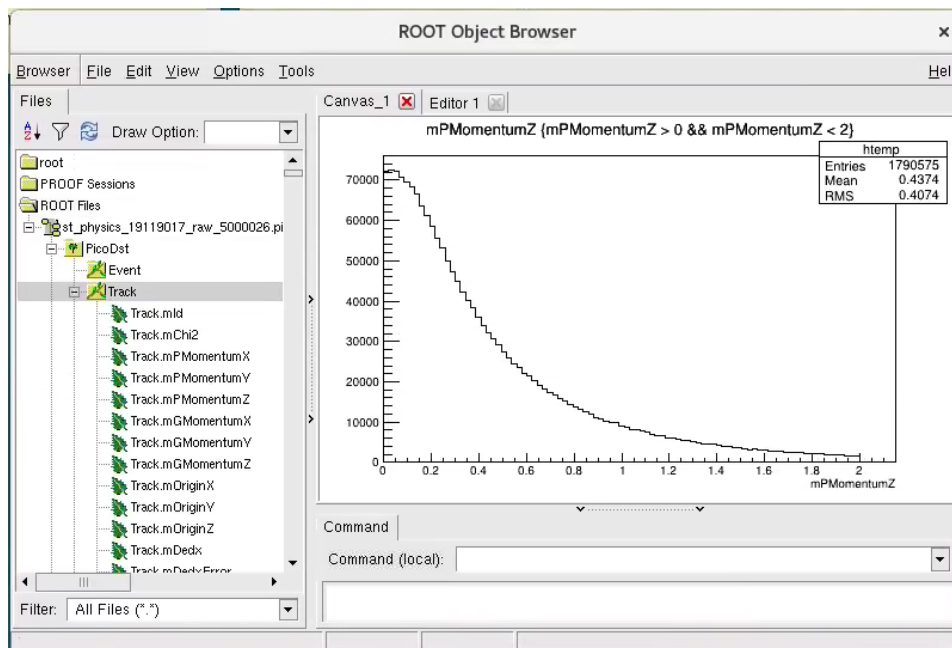
Full examples at SDCC: </star/data01/pwg/jhthomas/muDstTutorial/HelloWorldExample>
or </star/data01/pwg/jhthomas/picoDstTutorial/HelloWorldExample>

How Do I Read a STAR Data Tape?



- One way is to open a PicoDst file and a TBrowser, and off you go
 - Fast way to read the data (just requested quantities are read)
 - Good for quick checks, data sanity, learning branch names, etc.
 - TChains of TFiles can be used to increase stats (not shown here)

```
root[0] TFile myFile("st_physics_sample_data.picoDst.root")
root[1] TBrowser myBrowser
root[2] PicoDst->Draw("mPMomentumZ", "mPMomentumZ > 0 && mPMomentumZ < 2")
```



Sample picoDst.root file at SDCC: </star/data01/pwg/jhthomas/picoDstTutorial/>

A Better Way to Read a MuDst or a PicoDst



- Let StMuDstMaker or StPicoDstMaker do the work for you
 - The Makers handle all the IO
 - All event and track information is accessed with simple class methods
 - Read only the data you want without wasting time ...
 - Example: you can read the TPC tracks and skip over the EMC towers without paying an IO penalty, etc.

```
StPicoDstMaker *picoDstMaker = new StPicoDstMaker( PicoIoMode ioMode,  
                                                    const char *fileName="",  
                                                    const char *name="PicoDst" )
```


Commonly used branches, methods



PicoTrack

PrimaryTracks & GlobalTracks

track quantities

```
StPicoTrack* picoTrack = mPicoDstMaker->picoDst()->track(i)

picoTrack->pMom().Eta() // pseudorapidity
picoTrack->pMom().Phi() // az.angle (radians)
picoTrack->pPt() // transverse mom. for Primary
picoTrack->charge() // +1 or -1
picoTrack->nHits() // TPC hits
picoTrack->nHitsFit() // TPC hits used in fit
[...]
```

vectors and helices

```
picoTrack->gDCA() // TVector3
picoTrack->pMom() // TVector3
picoTrack->helix() // StPicoPhysicalHelix
[...]
```

calculated pid quantities

```
picoTrack->dEdxPullPion() // 0. <= pidProb <= 1.0
picoTrack->nSigmaKaon() // nSigma (bethe-bloch)
[...]
```

PicoEvent

event-wise quantities

```
StPicoEvent* picoEvent = mPicoDstMaker->picoDst()->event()

picoEvent->refMult()
picoEvent->primaryVertex() // TVector3
picoEvent->bField() // B Field (Tesla)
picoEvent->runId()
```

trigger-wise quantities

```
picoEvent->triggerIds()
picoEvent->isTrigger()
```

Instantiating StPicoDstMaker



- StPicoDstMaker can accept files in two different ways
 - A filename (e.g. myFile.picoDst.root)
 - A list of files (e.g. myFiles.list)

```
StPicoDstMaker *picoMaker = new StPicoDstMaker( PicoIoMode ioMode,  
                                                const char *fileName="",  
                                                const char *name="PicoDst" )
```

- Using the STAR scheduler is the best way to create the filelists:
 - Instantiate after creating an StChain:

```
StPicoDstMaker* picoMaker = new StPicoDstMaker( StPicoDstMaker::IoRead,  
                                                InputFileList,  
                                                "picoDst" )
```

2 = read from InputFileList

Name of .root file or filelist

Preferred file extension

Using StPicoDstMaker in a Macro



```
void MacroExample( TString InputFileList )
{
  // Load Libraries
  load() ;
  // Create Histograms
  TCanvas*   nCanvas[2] ;
  TH1F*     histogram[2] ;
  ...
  // Run the picoDstMaker
  StPicoDstMaker* maker = new StPicoDstMaker(StPicoDstMaker::IoRead,InputFileList,"picoDst")
  maker -> Init() ;
  while ( !maker->Make() )
  {
    // Do 'event' analysis based on event pointers
    StPicoEvent* picoEvent = maker -> picoDst()-> event() ;
    histogram[0] -> Fill( picoEvent -> primaryVertex().z() ) ;
    ...
    // Get 'track' data, make cuts on tracks, do physics analysis
    Int_t ntracks = maker -> picoDst()-> numberOfTracks() ;
    for ( Int_t itrack = 0 ; itrack < ntracks ; itrack++ ) // Main loop for analysis
    {
      ...
      histogram[1] -> Fill( track->pMom().Perp() ) ;
    }
  }
  // Finish using the picoDstMaker
  histogram[0] -> Draw() ;
  histogram[1] -> Draw() ;
}
```

This could be in the Init() function of a maker

Analyze 'event' data

Analyze 'track' data

This could be in the Finish() function of a maker

Full example at SDCC: /star/data01/pwg/jhthomas/picoDstTutorial/MacroExample
Execute with root4star > MacroExample.C("filename.picoDst.root")

Using StPicoDstMaker in a Chain



```
void SimpleAnalysis(Int_t nEvents, Int_t nFiles, TString InputFileList,
                   TString OutputDir, TString JobIdName )
{
  // Load libraries
  load()
  gSystem -> Load("SimpleAnalysis.so") ;

  // List of member links in the chain
  StChain*          chain          = new StChain ;
  StPicoDstMaker*  muDstMaker      = new StPicoDstMaker(StPicoDstMaker::IoRead, InputFileList) ;
  SimpleAnalysisMaker* AnalysisCode = new SimpleAnalysisMaker(picoDstMaker) ;

  ...

  // Loop over the links in the chain
  chain -> Init() ;
  chain -> EventLoop(1, nEvents) ;
  chain -> Finish() ;

  // Cleanup
  delete chain ;
}
```

← Precompile your analysis Maker
using 'cons'

↑ Your analysis Maker in the chain

Full example at SDCC: /star/data01/pwg/jhthomas/picoDstTutorial/SimpleExample
Execute with: sums-submit SimpleAnalysis.xml, output into *.histograms.root file
Browse with root4star > new TBrowser("filename.histograms.root")

- The strategy for a SimpleAnalysisMaker

Constructor: Pass pointer to StPicoDstMaker object

do once →

Init(): Instantiate & define histograms

do once
every event



Make(): Get pointers to StPicoEvent & StPicoTrack for current event, apply event cuts, loop over tracks, apply track cuts, & fill histograms

Clear(): Do nothing (some analyses may clear collections, etc.)

do once →

Finish(): Write histograms to file, print information to stdout

SimpleAnalysisMaker.h



```
#ifndef SimpleAnalysisMaker_def
#define SimpleAnalysisMaker_def

#include "StMaker.h"

class StPicoDstMaker ;
class StPicoDst      ;
class StPicoEvent    ;
class StPicoTrack    ;
class TH1F           ;
class TFile          ;
Class TString        ;

#define MaxNumberOfTH1F      10

class SimpleAnalysisMaker : public StMaker
{
private:
    StPicoDstMaker* mPicoDstMaker      ;
    StPicoDst*      mPicoDst           ;
    TH1F*           histogram[MaxNumberOfTH1F] ;
    TFile*          histogram_output   ;
    ULong_t         mEventsProcessed   ;
    TString         mHistogramOutputFileName ;

public:
    SimpleAnalysisMaker(StPicoDstMaker* maker) ;
    virtual             ~SimpleAnalysisMaker( ) ;

    Int_t Init      ( ) ;
    Int_t Make      ( ) ;
    Int_t Finish    ( ) ;

    void SetOutputFileName(TString name) {mHistogramOutputFileName = name;}
    ClassDef(SimpleAnalysisMaker,1)
};
```

Unique to this analysis

Generic to all analyses

```
ClassImp(SimpleAnalysisMaker) // Macro for CINT compatibility

SimpleAnalysisMaker::SimpleAnalysisMaker( StPicoDstMaker* maker ):StMaker()
{
    for ( Int_t i = 0 ; i < NumberOfTH1F ; i++ ) { histogram[i] = NULL ; }
    mPicoDstMaker      = maker          ; // Pass PicoDst pointer
    histogram_output   = NULL          ; // Zero the Pointer to output file
    mEventsProcessed   = 0              ; // Zero the Number of Events
    mHistogramOutputFileName = ""      ; // Histogram Output File Name
}

Int_t SimpleAnalysisMaker::Init( ) ← Create histograms
{
    histogram_output = new TFile( mHistogramOutputFileName, "recreate" ) ;
    const Int_t nbins = 100 ;
    histogram[0] = new TH1F( "Vertex", "Vertex Z Position", nbins, -25.0, 25.0 ) ;
    histogram[1] = new TH1F( "Pt", "Transverse Momentum", nbins, 0, 10 ) ;
    return kStOK ;
}

Int_t SimpleAnalysisMaker::Finish( ) ← Write histograms, close files, etc.
{
    histogram_output -> Write() ;
    cout << "Total Events Processed in DstMaker " << mEventsProcessed << endl ;
    return kStOk ;
}
```

SimpleAnalysisMaker.cxx (continued)



```
Int_t SimpleAnalysisMaker::Make( )
{
  // Get 'event' data

  StPicoDst*   mPicoDst = mPicoDstMaker->picoDst()   ;
  StPicoEvent* picoEvent = mPicoDst->event()         ;

  histogram[0] -> Fill( picoEvent->primaryVertex().z() ) ; } Analyze 'event' data

  // Get 'track' data, make cuts on tracks, do physics analysis

  int ntracks = mPicoDst->numberOfTracks()           ;

  for( Int_t inc = 0 ; inc < ntracks ; inc++ )
  {
    StPicoTrack*      track      = mPicoDst->track(inc)      ;
    StPicoTrackCovMatrix* trackCov = mPicoDst->trackCovMatrix(inc) ;
    if ( !track )
      continue ;
    if ( !track->isPrimary() )
      continue ;
    if ( !trackCov )
      continue ; } Analyze 'track' data

    histogram[1] -> Fill( track->pMom().Perp() ) ;
  }

  mEventsProcessed++ ;
  return kStOK ;
}
```


BiggerAnalysisMaker.cxx



```
Int_t BiggerAnalysisMaker::Make( )
{
  // Get 'event' data
  StPicoDst*      mPicoDst = mPicoDstMaker->picoDst()      ;
  StPicoEvent*   picoEvent = mPicoDst->event()             ;
  histogram[0]   -> Fill( picoEvent->primaryVertex().z() ) ;
  Int_t ntracks = mPicoDst->numberOfTracks()               ;
  TList HighPtTracks
  // Get 'track' data, make cuts on tracks, do physics analysis.
  for ( Int_t inc = 0 ; inc < ntracks ; inc++ )
  {
    StPicoTrack*      track      = mPicoDst->track(inc)      ;
    StPicoTrackCovMatrix* trackCov = mPicoDst->trackCovMatrix(inc) ;
    if ( !track )      continue ; if ( !track->isPrimary() ) continue ;
    if ( !trackCov )   continue ;
    histogram[1] -> Fill( track->pMom().Perp() )              ;
  }
  // Option - you can store tracks in a TList and repeat analyses on the TList
  for( Int_t inc = 0 ; inc < ntracks ; inc++ )
  {
    StPicoTrack*      track      = mPicoDst->track(inc)      ;
    StPicoTrackCovMatrix* trackCov = mPicoDst->trackCovMatrix(inc) ;
    if ( !track )      continue ; if ( !track->isPrimary() ) continue ;
    if ( !trackCov )   continue ;
    if ( track->pMom().Perp() >= 2.0 ) HighPtTracks.Add(track) ;
  }
  TListIter GetHighPtTracks(&HighPtTracks) ;
  StPicoTrack* listedtrack ;
  while ( ( listedtrack = (StPicoTrack*)GetHighPtTracks.Next() ) )
  { histogram[2] -> Fill ( listedtrack->pMom().Perp() ) ; }
  mEventsProcessed++ ;
  return kStOK ;
}
```

First pass at physics analysis

Create list and save selected tracks

Physics analysis on saved tracks

Full example at SDCC: /star/data01/pwg/jhthomas/picoDstTutorial/BiggerExample
Execute with: sums-submit BiggerAnalysis.xml, output into *.histograms.root file

Recommended cuts on the data for a 'typical' picoDST analysis

Cuts on event information:

<code>picoEvent->refMult()</code>	// Centrality determination (many options)
<code>picoEvent->primaryVertex()</code>	// Primary tracks Not equal to (0,0,0)
<code>picoEvent->runID()</code>	// Select good runs, discard bad runs

Cuts on track quality:

<code>picoTrack->gDCA(pVertex).Mag()</code>	< 2 cm
<code>picoTrack->pMom().Eta()</code>	< 1.0
<code>picoTrack->nHitsPoss()</code>	≥ 5
<code>picoTrack->nHitsFit()</code>	≥ 15
<code>nHitsFit() / nHitsPoss()</code>	> 0.55

For additional details about the data, trigger conditions etc., see:

<http://www.star.bnl.gov/STAR/comp/prod/> especially the trigger information on that page.

Also see: <http://www.star.bnl.gov/protected/common/> for 2004-2024 run information. Drill down into this directory tree to see more information about each years triggers and centrality information.

Most important ... talk to your colleagues to get their advice about cuts and triggers!

- **Q: Where do I get a list of files to run through my macro?**
 - **A: Don't**
 - **B: You can run a small list of files through a ROOT Macro on your local machine**
But your local resources will quickly be overwhelmed if the list is too long.
See the example in the tutorial area for an indication how to do this.
- **STAR data files are so large that it is very inefficient to maintain a list of files and to run that list through a single CPU**
 - **The network is the bottleneck**
 - **For example: the Run-4 DSTs use 40 TB of disk space and the disks will fail if you try to move a significant fraction of this around the farm**
(OK, an old example ... but the moral of the story is the same in 2024)
- **It is better to move your job to the data**
 - **The STAR μ DSTs and picoDSTs are stored on local disks at SDCC**
 - **You can send your job to the CPU where the data is stored**
 - **This is a very efficient use of the network because only your histograms have to come back over the network**
- **The STAR Scheduler does this for you automatically**

The Scheduler builds the list of files



- The Scheduler builds the lists of files based on a query to the file catalogue to determine what you want. You can do this from the command line:

```
> get_file_list.pl -keys path,filename -cond filetype=daq_reco_picoDst,  
  trgsetupname=production_AuAu200_2019,sanity=1,storage=local
```
- Or you can do it with a script. A sample .xml file to coordinate the file catalogue query and the submission of your job might look like this:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8" ?>  
<job minEvents="500" fileListSyntax="xrootd" >  
  
  <command>  
    starpro  
    root4star -q -b SimpleAnalysis.C\ (0,$INPUTFILECOUNT,\"$FILELIST\", \"$SCRATCH\", \"$JOBID\" \\)  
  </command>  
  
  <SandBox installer="ZIP">  
    <Package>  
      <File>file:./SimpleAnalysis.C</File>  
      <File>file:./StRoot</File>  
    </Package>  
  </SandBox>  
  
  <input  
URL="catalog:star.bnl.gov?filetype=daq_reco_picoDst,trgsetupname=production_AuAu200_2019,sanity=1,storage=local"  
nFiles="2" />  
  
  <stdout URL="file:./$JOBID.out"/>  
  <stderr URL="file:./$JOBID.err"/>  
  <output fromScratch="*.root" toURL="file:/star/data01/pwg/myName/myDirectory/" />  
  
</job>
```

See the documentation on the STAR computing homepage => Grid => Scheduler and
<https://drupal.star.bnl.gov/STAR/event/2022/01/14/Scheduler-tutorial/Scheduler-Tutorial>

Putting it all together ...



~home/SimpleAnalysisExample

SimpleAnalysis.xml, SimpleAnalysis.C, StRoot

~home/SimpleAnalysisExample/StRoot

SimpleAnalysis

~home/SimpleAnalysisExample/StRoot/SimpleAnalysis

SimpleAnalysisMaker.cxx, SimpleAnalysisMaker.h

- In order to do STAR data analysis, you have to build 4 files
 - SimpleAnalysis.xml ← Query the file catalogue
 - SimpleAnalysis.C ← Put makers in a 'chain'
 - SimpleAnalysisMaker.cxx
 - SimpleAnalysisMaker.h } Do physics analysis
- Submit your analysis request to the farm using this command
 - > sums-submit SimpleAnalysis.xml

- **This tutorial, its source code and sample data files are located here**
SDCC: [/star/data01/pwg/jhthomas/muDstTutorial](#)
And [/star/data01/pwg/jhthomas/picoDstTutorial](#)
- **An introduction to PicoDSTs by Grigory Nigmatkulov**
https://drupal.star.bnl.gov/STAR/system/files/Nigmatkulov_intro2pico_Krakow2019.pdf
- **STAR offline software is documented in CVS, D'Oxygen, and on GitHub**
<http://www.star.bnl.gov/webdata/dox/html/classes.html>
This link can be found from STAR homepage => computing => offline doc
- **The Scheduler by Levente Hajdu**
<http://www.star.bnl.gov/public/comp/Grid/scheduler/>
<https://drupal.star.bnl.gov/STAR/event/2022/01/14/Scheduler-tutorial/Scheduler-Tutorial>
- **Data production and data available on disk**
<https://drupal.star.bnl.gov/STAR/comp/prod>
<https://www.star.bnl.gov/public/comp/prod/localdata/ProdDDstreams.html>
https://www.star.bnl.gov/public/comp/prod/localdata/ProdDDstreams_pico.html

MuDST specific slides

If you are new to STAR but familiar with Root...



- **STAR data analysis techniques use a few distinct styles and conventions that are unique to STAR ... but which are very powerful**
 - **Cons**
 - **Makers**
 - **muDSTs**
 - **picoDSTs**
 - **The Scheduler** (sums-submit, previously known as star-submit)

- **STAR uses 'cons' to compile, link, and make files**
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 - Create a sub-directory called 'HelloWorld' under 'StRoot'
 - Put 'HelloWorld.cxx' and 'HelloWorld.h' into 'StRoot/HelloWorld/'
 - Now type 'cons' from your primary directory and your files will be automatically compiled and linked
 - No Make files! Somebody else does all that work for you ...
 - This works even if your files refer to other STAR or ROOT software
- You can change the version of root, the compilers, and cons
 - The command '**starpro**' issued at the command line will give you the production version of all STAR software
 - Similarly, '**starold**', '**starnew**', and '**stardev**' give the newest stable version of the software or the developmental version of the software.
 - A specific version of older star software can be achieved with the '**starver**' command (ie. '**starver SL21a**')

Check out your own copy of STAR Software



- You can checkout your own copy of STAR software, change it, cons it, and 'root4star' will use the local copy in your StRoot area before using the global STAR copy of that library
 - From your primary directory, execute the following command
 - > **cv**s co **StRoot/StMuDSTMaker**
(p.s. note capitalization of DST)
 - This will create the StRoot sub-directory and fill it with all of the StMuDstMaker routines. You can now compile the software
 - > **stardev** ← cvs contains the latest software that may only compile in dev
 - > **cons**
 - The local copy of the files (and your changes) in StRoot/StMuDSTMaker will be the default until you delete the directory.
 - You may not want this result ... so check out software wisely
- STAR offline software is documented in CVS & D'Oxygen
 - CVS: <http://www.star.bnl.gov/cgi-bin/protected/cvsweb.cgi/StRoot/>
 - D'Ox: <http://www.star.bnl.gov/webdata/dox/html/classes.html>
 - GitHub: <https://github.com/star-bnl/star-sw>

The CVS and D'Ox links can be found via homepage => computing => CVS Tools
or homepage => computing => Offline doc => Classes => Class Index

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 - For our purposes, this is a recommended style for structuring your event analysis programs
 - A Maker has three required member functions
 - **Init()**
 - **Make()**
 - **Finish()**
 - You can do elegant things with Makers, including chaining several of them together, but for now we will introduce the style
- **The elements of the “HelloWorldMaker.cxx”**

```
Int_t HelloWorldMaker::Init( )  
{ // Do once at the start of the analysis, create histograms, etc. }
```

```
Int_t HelloWorldMaker::Make( )  
{ // Do every event  
  cout << "Hello World" << end ;  
  return kStOK ; }
```

```
Int_t HelloWorldMaker::Finish( )  
{ // Do once at the end of the analysis, close files, etc. }
```

Execute the Maker from a macro like this ...



```
void HelloWorld( )
{
    // Load libraries
    gROOT  -> Macro("loadMuDst.C")
    gSystem -> Load("HelloWorldMaker.so") ;

    // List of member links in the chain
    StChain* chain = new StChain ;
    HelloWorldMaker* Hello = new HelloWorldMaker( ) ;

    Int_t nEvents = 10 ;

    // Loop over the links in the chain
    chain -> Init() ;
    chain -> EventLoop(1,nEvents) ;
    chain -> Finish() ;

    // Cleanup
    delete chain ;
}
```

← The load sequence is different for muDSTs and picoDSTs, see examples

} You can make a list of several makers

} and they will be executed, in order, here.

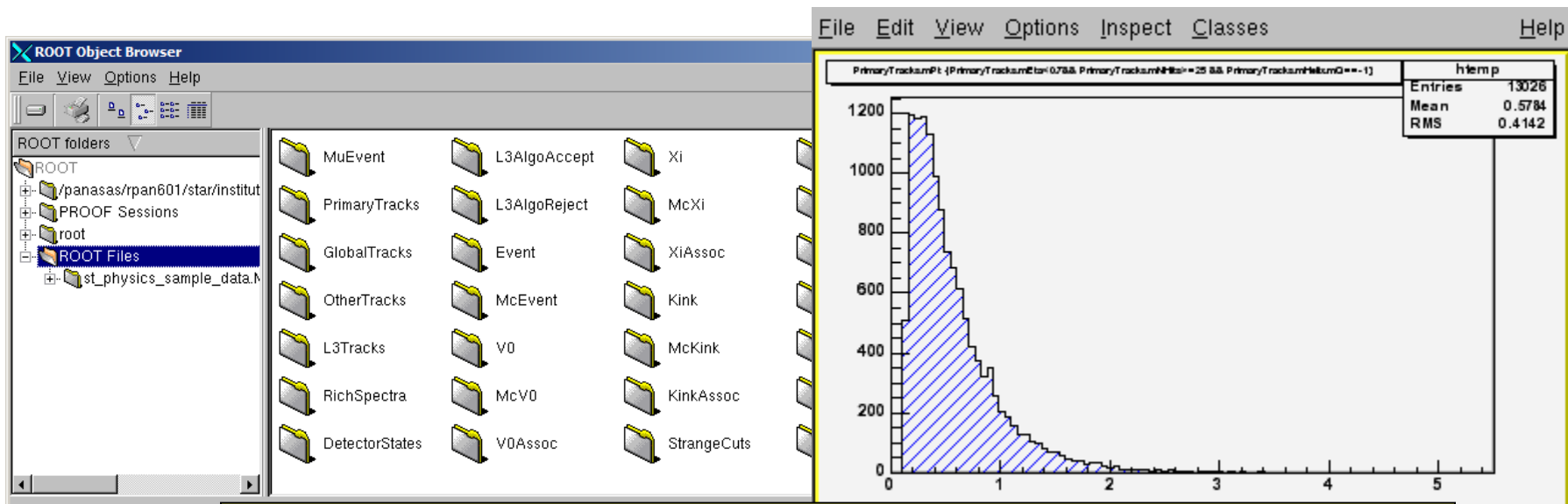
Full example at SDCC: [/star/data01/pwg/jhthomas/muDstTutorial/HelloWorldExample](#)
or [/star/data01/pwg/jhthomas/picoDstTutorial/HelloWorldExample](#)

How Do I Read a STAR Data Tape?



- One way is to open a MuDst file, a TBrowser, and off you go
 - Fast way to read the data (just requested quantities are read)
 - Good for quick checks, data sanity, etc.
 - TChains of TFiles can be used to increase stats (not shown here)

```
root[0] TFile f("st_physics_sample_data.MuDst.root")
root[1] TBrowser b
root[2] MuDst->Draw("PrimaryTracks.mPt", "PrimaryTracks.mEta<0.7 &&
    PrimaryTracks.mNHits>=25 && PrimaryTracks.mHelix.mQ==-1")
<TCanvas::MakeDefCanvas>: created default TCanvas with name c1
```



A Better Way to Read a MuDst or a PicoDst



- Let StMuDstMaker or StPicoDstMaker do the work for you
 - The Makers handle all the IO
 - All event and track information is accessed with simple class methods
 - Read only the data you want without wasting time ...
 - Example: you can read the primary tracks and skip over the global tracks without paying an IO penalty
 - Essential for physics analysis with multiple primary vertices (≥ 2005)

```
StMuDstMaker *muDstMaker = new StMuDstMaker( int mode,  
                                              int nameMode,  
                                              const char *dirName="./",  
                                              const char *fileName="",  
                                              const char *filter=".",  
                                              int maxfiles=10,  
                                              const char *name="MuDst" )
```

Commonly used branches, methods



GlobalTracks, PrimaryTracks

	<pre>StMuTrack *muTrack = (StMuTrack*) GetTracks.Next();</pre>
track quantities	<pre>muTrack->eta() // pseudorapidity muTrack->phi() // az.angle (radians) muTrack->pt() // transverse mom. muTrack->charge() // +1 or -1 muTrack->nHits() // TPC hits muTrack->nHitsFit() // TPC hits used in fit [...]</pre>
vectors and helices	<pre>muTrack->dcaGlobal() // StThreeVectorF muTrack->momentum() // StThreeVectorF muTrack->helix() // StPhysicalHelixD [...]</pre>
calculated pid quantities	<pre>muTrack->pidProbPion() // 0. <= pidProb <= 1.0 muTrack->nSigmaKaon() // nSigma (bethe-bloch) [...]</pre>

MuEvent

	<pre>StMuEvent *muEvent = mMuDstMaker->muDst()->event();</pre>
event-wise quantities	<pre>muEvent->refMult() muEvent->primaryVertexPosition().z() muEvent->magneticField() muEvent->ctbMultiplicity()</pre>
detector- and trigger-wise collections	<pre>muEvent->triggerIdCollection() muEvent->fpdCollection()</pre>

Instantiating StMuDstMaker

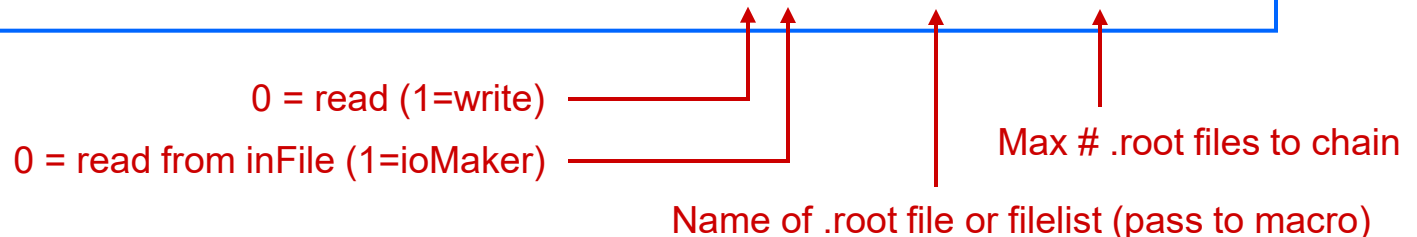


- StMuDstMaker can take file lists in many formats
 - Contents of a directory
 - Lists of files
 - Filename filtering possible

```
StMuDstMaker *muDstMaker = new StMuDstMaker(int mode,  
                                             int nameMode,  
                                             const char *dirName="./",  
                                             const char *fileName="",  
                                             const char *filter=".",  
                                             int maxfiles=10,  
                                             const char *name="MuDst" )
```

- Using the STAR scheduler is the best way to create the filelists:
 - Instantiate after creating an StChain:

```
StMuDstMaker *muDstMaker = new StMuDstMaker(0,0,"",inFile,"",100)
```



Using StMuDstMaker in a Macro



```
void MacroExample( Int_t nFiles, Char_t InputFileList[256] )
{
  // Load Libraries
  gROOT -> Macro("loadMuDst.C")
  // Create Histograms
  TCanvas*   nCanvas[2] ;
  TH1F*      histogram[2] ;
  ...
  // Run the muDstMaker
  StMuDstMaker* maker = new StMuDstMaker(0,0,"",InputFileList,"MuDst",nFiles) ;
  while ( !maker->Make() )
  {
    // Do 'event' analysis based on event pointers
    StMuEvent* muEvent      = maker -> muDst()-> event() ;
    histogram[0] -> Fill( muEvent -> primaryVertexPosition().z() ) ;
    // Get 'track' data, make cuts on tracks, do physics analysis
    TObjArray* tracks = maker -> muDst()-> primaryTracks() ;
    TObjArrayIter GetTracks(tracks) ;
    StMuTrack* track ;
    while ( ( track = (StMuTrack*)GetTracks.Next() ) ) // Main loop for Iterating
    {
      histogram[1] -> Fill( track->pt() ) ;
    }
  }
  // Finish using the muDSTmaker
  ...
  histogram[0] -> Draw() ;
  histogram[1] -> Draw() ;
}
```

This could be in the Init()
function of a maker

Analyze 'event'
data

Analyze 'track' data

This could be in the Finish()
function of a maker

Full example at SDCC: /star/data01/pwg/jhthomas/muDstTutorial/MacroExample
Execute with root4star > MacroExample.C(1, "filename.MuDst.root")

Using StMuDstMaker in a Chain



```
void SimpleAnalysis(Int_t nEvents, Int_t nFiles, TString InputFileList,
                   TString OutputDir, TString JobIdName )
{
  // Load libraries
  gROOT  -> Macro("loadMuDst.C")
  gSystem -> Load("SimpleAnalysis.so") ;

  // List of member links in the chain
  StChain*      chain = new StChain ;
  StMuDstMaker* muDstMaker = new StMuDstMaker(0,0,"",InputFileList,"MuDst",nFiles) ;
  SimpleAnalysisMaker* AnalysisCode = new SimpleAnalysisMaker(muDstMaker) ;

  ...

  // Loop over the links in the chain
  chain -> Init() ;
  chain -> EventLoop(1,nEvents) ;
  chain -> Finish() ;

  // Cleanup
  delete chain ;
}
```

← Precompile your analysis Maker using 'cons'

↑ Your analysis Maker in the chain

Full example at SDCC: /star/data01/pwg/jhthomas/muDstTutorial/SimpleExample
Execute with: sums-submit SimpleAnalysis.xml, output into *.histograms.root file
Browse with root4star > new TBrowser("filename.histograms.root")

- The strategy for a SimpleAnalysisMaker

Constructor: Pass pointer to StMuDstMaker object

Init(): Instantiate & define histograms

every event { **Make():** Get pointers to StMuEvent & StMuTrack for current event, apply event cuts, loop over tracks, apply track cuts, & fill histograms

Clear(): Do nothing (some analyses may clear collections, etc.)

Finish(): Write histograms to file, print information to stdout

```
#ifndef SimpleAnalysisMaker_def
#define SimpleAnalysisMaker_def

#include "StMaker.h"
#include "TString.h"

class StMuDstMaker ;
class TFile ;
class TH1F ;

#define MaxNumberOfTH1F 10

class SimpleAnalysisMaker : public StMaker
{
private:
    StMuDstMaker* mMuDstMaker ;
    TH1F*          histogram[MaxNumberOfTH1F] ;
    TFile*         histogram_output ;
    UInt_t         mEventsProcessed ;
    TString        mHistogramOutputFileName ;

public:
    SimpleAnalysisMaker(StMuDstMaker* maker) ;
    virtual           ~SimpleAnalysisMaker( ) ;

    Int_t Init      ( ) ;
    Int_t Make      ( ) ;
    Int_t Finish    ( ) ;

    void SetOutputFileName(TString name) {mHistogramOutputFileName = name;}
    ClassDef(SimpleAnalysisMaker,1)
};

#endif
```

Unique to this analysis

Generic to all analyses

```
ClassImp(SimpleAnalysisMaker) // Macro for CINT compatibility

SimpleAnalysisMaker::SimpleAnalysisMaker( StMuDstMaker* maker ) : StMaker()
{
  for ( Int_t i = 0 ; i < NumberOfTH1F ; i++ ) { histogram[i] = NULL ; }
  mMuDstMaker      = maker ; // Pass MuDst pointer
  histogram_output = NULL ; // Zero the Pointer to output file
  mEventsProcessed = 0 ; // Zero the Number of Events
  mHistogramOutputFileName = "" ; // Histogram Output File Name
}

Int_t SimpleAnalysisMaker::Init( ) ← Create histograms
{
  histogram_output = new TFile( mHistogramOutputFileName, "recreate" ) ;
  const Int_t nbins = 100 ;
  histogram[0] = new TH1F( "Vertex", "Vertex Z Position", nbins, -25.0, 25.0 ) ;
  histogram[1] = new TH1F( "Pt", "Transverse Momentum", nbins, 0, 10 ) ;
  return kStOK ;
}

Int_t SimpleAnalysisMaker::Finish( ) ← Write histograms, close files, etc.
{
  histogram_output -> Write() ;
  cout << "Total Events Processed in DstMaker " << mEventsProcessed << endl ;
  return kStOk ;
}
```

SimpleAnalysisMaker.cxx (continued)



```
Int_t SimpleAnalysisMaker::Make( )
{
  // Get 'event' data

  StMuEvent* muEvent      = mMuDstMaker -> muDst()-> event() ;
  histogram[0] -> Fill( muEvent->primaryVertexPosition().z() ) ;
  // Get 'track' data, make cuts on tracks, do physics analysis

  TObjArray* tracks = mMuDstMaker -> muDst()-> primaryTracks() ;
  TObjArrayIter GetTracks(tracks) ;
  StMuTrack* track ;

  while ( ( track = (StMuTrack*)GetTracks.Next() ) )
  {
    histogram[1] -> Fill( track->pt() ) ;
  }

  mEventsProcessed++ ;
  return kStOK ;
}
```

Analyze 'event' data

Analyze 'track' data

// Create an iterator
// Pointer to a track
// Main loop for Iterating

```
Int_t BiggerAnalysisMaker::Make( )
{
  // Get 'event' data
  StMuEvent* muEvent      = mMuDstMaker->muDst()->event() ;
  histogram[0] -> Fill( muEvent->primaryVertexPosition().z() ) ;

  // Get 'track' data, make cuts on tracks, do physics analysis.
  TObjArray* tracks = mMuDstMaker->muDst()->primaryTracks() ;
  TObjArrayIter GetTracks(tracks) ;
  StMuTrack* track ;

  while ( ( track = (StMuTrack*)GetTracks.Next() ) )
    { histogram[1] -> Fill( track->pt() ) ; }

  // Option - you can store the tracks in a TList and do physics analysis
  // on the TList. This is a good way to do pairwise analyses.

  TList HighPtTracks ;
  GetTracks.Reset() ;
  while ( ( track = (StMuTrack*)GetTracks.Next() ) )
    { if ( track->pt() >= 2.0 ) HighPtTracks.Add(track) ; }

  TListIter GetHighPtTracks(&HighPtTracks) ;
  StMuTrack* listedtrack ;
  while ( ( listedtrack = (StMuTrack*)GetHighPtTracks.Next() ) )
    { histogram[2] -> Fill ( listedtrack->pt() ) ; }

  mEventsProcessed++ ;
  return kStOK ;
}
```

First pass at
physics analysis

Create list and save
selected tracks

Physics analysis
on saved tracks

Full example at SDCC: /star/data01/pwg/jhthomas/muDstTutorial/BiggerExample
Execute with: sums-submit BiggerAnalysis.xml, output into *.histograms.root file
Browse with root4star > new TBrowser("filename.histograms.root")

Recommended cuts on the data for a 'typical' MuDst analysis

Cuts on event information:

`muEvent->refMult()` // Centrality determination
`muEvent->primaryVertexPosition()` // Not equal to (0,0,0) for older daq files
`mMuDstMaker->muDst()->numberOfPrimaryVertices()` // == 0,1 for new files

Cuts on track quality:

`muTrack->dcaGlobal().mag()` < 2 cm
`muTrack->eta()` < 1.0
`muTrack->flag()` ≥ 0
`muTrack->nHitsFit()` > 15
`nHitsFit() / nHitsMax()` > 0.55

For additional details about the data, trigger conditions etc., see:

<http://www.star.bnl.gov/STAR/comp/prod/> especially the trigger information on that page.

Also see: <http://www.star.bnl.gov/protected/common/> for 2004-2024 run information. Drill down into this directory tree to see more information about each years triggers and centrality information.

Most important ... talk to your colleagues to get their advice about cuts and triggers!

- **Q: Where do I get a list of files to run through my macro?**
 - **A: Don't**
- **STAR data files are so large that it is very inefficient to maintain a list of files and to run that list through a single CPU**
 - **The network is the bottleneck**
 - **For example: the Run-4 DSTs use 40 TB of disk space and the disks will fail if you try to move a significant fraction of this around the farm** (OK, an old example ... but the moral of the story is the same in 2024)
- **It is better to move your job to the data**
 - **The STAR μ DSTs and picoDSTs are stored on local disks at SDCC**
 - **You can send your job to the CPU where the data is stored**
 - **This is a very efficient use of the network because only your histograms have to come back over the network**
- **The STAR Scheduler does this for you automatically**

The Scheduler builds the list of files



- The Scheduler builds the lists of files based on a query to the file catalogue to determine what you want. You can do this from the command line:
 - > `get_file_list.pl -keys path,filename -cond filetype=daq_reco_mudst, trgsetupname=ProductionCentral,collision=AuAu200,sanity=1,storage=local`
- Or you can do it with a script. A sample .xml file to coordinate the file catalogue query and the submission of your job might look like this:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8" ?>
<job minEvents="500" fileListSyntax="xrootd" >

<command>
  starpro
  cons
  root4star -q -b SimpleAnalysis.C\ (0,$INPUTFILECOUNT,\"$FILELIST\", \"$SCRATCH\", \"$JOBID\")
</command>

<SandBox installer="ZIP">
  <Package>
    <File>file:./SimpleAnalysis.C</File>
    <File>file:./StRoot</File>
  </Package>
</SandBox>

<input
  URL="catalog:star.bnl.gov?filetype=daq_reco_mudst,trgsetupname=productionCentral,sanity=1,storage=local"
  nFiles="2" />

<stdout URL="file:./$JOBID.out"/>
<stderr URL="file:./$JOBID.err"/>
<output fromScratch="*.root" toURL="file:/star/data01/pwg/myName/myDirectory" />

</job>
```

See the documentation on the STAR computing homepage => Grid => Scheduler and <https://drupal.star.bnl.gov/STAR/event/2022/01/14/Scheduler-tutorial/Scheduler-Tutorial>

Putting it all together ...



~home/SimpleAnalysisExample

SimpleAnalysis.xml, SimpleAnalysis.C, StRoot

~home/SimpleAnalysisExample/StRoot

SimpleAnalysis

~home/SimpleAnalysisExample/StRoot/SimpleAnalysis

SimpleAnalysisMaker.cxx, SimpleAnalysisMaker.h

- In order to do STAR data analysis, you have 4 files to build
 - SimpleAnalysis.xml ← Query the file catalogue
 - SimpleAnalysis.C ← Put makers in a 'chain'
 - SimpleAnalysisMaker.cxx } Do physics analysis
 - SimpleAnalysisMaker.h }
- Submit your analysis request to the farm using this command
 - > sums-submit SimpleAnalysis.xml

- **This tutorial, its source code and sample data files are located here**
SDCC: [/star/data01/pwg/jhthomas/muDstTutorial](#)
And [/star/data01/pwg/jhthomas/picoDstTutorial](#)
- **An introduction to PicoDSTs by Grigory Nigmatkulov**
https://drupal.star.bnl.gov/STAR/system/files/Nigmatkulov_intro2pico_Krakow2019.pdf
- **STAR offline software is documented in CVS, D'Oxygen, and on GitHub**
<http://www.star.bnl.gov/webdata/dox/html/classes.html>
This link can be found from STAR homepage => computing => offline doc
- **The Scheduler by Levente Hajdu**
<http://www.star.bnl.gov/public/comp/Grid/scheduler/>
<http://www.star.bnl.gov/public/comp/Grid/scheduler/faq.html>
<https://drupal.star.bnl.gov/STAR/comp/sofi/filecatalog/user-manual>
- **Data production and data available on disk**
<https://drupal.star.bnl.gov/STAR/comp/prod>
<https://www.star.bnl.gov/public/comp/prod/localdata/ProdDDstreams.html>
https://www.star.bnl.gov/public/comp/prod/localdata/ProdDDstreams_pico.html

Additional Topics

- Note that MuDST files use structures that are unique to STAR
 - **StThreeVectorF**
is a three vector that can be used to take dot products, cross products and several other very useful functions
 - **StPhysicalHelixD**
is a state vector containing the parameters of a helix
 - Etcetera, etcetera
- These are classes from the StarClass Library
 - SCL is a very comprehensive library of tools and beautifully written
http://www.star.bnl.gov/public/html/tmp/dev_StarClassLibrary.pdf
- ROOT has equivalent classes that do the same thing
 - TVector3 is essentially identical to StThreeVectorF, etc.
 - ROOT was a primitive beast at the time the StarClass Library was written and it did not have ThreeVectors. So we wrote our own.

There is no way to change the fact that we use the StarClassLibrary and so you must have it, and use it, in order to analyze MuDSTs.