

Hi,
I am still trying to understand what is going wrong with the TPC digitization.
For this job I am using a i7 with 8Gb of memory, and I am visually monitoring the memory using the System Monitor given by the Ubuntu distribution.

I have run the run_digi_tpccombi.C, with all the detector digitization tasks, simulating 10k protons between 0.2 and 5 GeV/c.

I have seen that the used memory is in general quite stable. When I have started to take a look, it was stable around 750 Mb, without any variation.
After around 1000 events, I have seen that the digitization was stopping on a well defined event, in particular at this stage:

```
XXXXXX electrons arriving at readout
Aggregating drifted electrons into avalanches finished.
XXXXXX Avalanches created
0 aggregations done.
XXXXXX Signals created
PndTpcElectronicsTask::Exec
Building up padmap ...finished. XXX pads hit
.....
```

In the middle of TPC digitization, still filling the line with dots ".". This procedure has taken few minutes, and at the end the memory has raised up to 1.3Gb... just this task!
The memory has remained stable at 1.3Gb for a while. After a bit, a "long" tpc event has raised it up to 1.4Gb, then stable again for many events, and after another "heavy" event up to 1.8Gb, then to 2.1Gb, then finally 2.7Gb: increasing only during specific events and in the middle of tpc tasks.

The following is the 1.8Gb->2.1Gb case (the only one I have copied):

```
***** PndEmcMakeBump, event: 7077 *****
EMC header: fired crystals= 14, digi= 10, Total energy= 0.295201 [GeV], Reconstructed
clusters= 6, Total energy in clusters= 0.290243 [GeV]
23481 electrons arriving at readout
Aggregating drifted electrons into avalanches finished.
23481 Avalanches created
0 aggregations done.
43941 Signals created
PndTpcElectronicsTask::Exec
Building up padmap ...finished. 406 pads hit
.....
2878 Digis created
PndTpcClusterFinderTask::Exec
number of digis: 2878
371 cluster created containing 2878 digis from 2878
Hit array contains 26 hits
```

PndEmcMakeCluster, event: 7078

From this check, I can argue the following points:

The memory consumption is stable for almost all the events, for all the tasks
For some well defined events the memory jumps up, in the middle of TPC digitization
The memory does not go down after the heavy events, it is not cleaned and it remains blocked

I think it should be important to understand what is making the memory growing inside the "guilty" TPC task, and how to clean the memory to go back to the original size. If not, it is easy to understand that if one has a "limited" memory and not 8Gb like my machine, then there is a crash. In this case, if I would use a 2Gb limited machine, i.e. GSI lxi or my VM -> crash.

If I remember some time ago there was some discussion because in that TPC task many links were created, then maybe also them could be the reason... but I think still that we should find some way to reduce the memory somehow during processing.

I leave the word to the experts...