



Computational and Statistical Methods

Particle and Nuclear physics graduate student retreat 2025

Outline

- Let me talk about some useful tools and concepts
- Split in teams á 3 persons:







- And then you will work on a practical example
- Sessions: Friday 15-17 & Saturday 12:30-14

git and GitHub

Version control systems provide reproducibility



- Trackable changes
- Easy backup option
- Version control systems have a unique source of truth with which you have to sync your state (Collaborations!)
- GitHub is one popular online git provider



Important git commands

- git help open manual
- git status check current state
- git pull load most recent "true state"
- git diff check current changes
- git add a.txt add a file
- git commit take a snapshot of the current state
- git push transfer snapshots



Python

- Python is very popular inside and outside academia
- Let's use virtual environments:
 - We have a reproducible setup
 - We can control versions

Python Libraries: Numpy + SciPy + Matplotlib



- Efficient vector/matrix lib
- Basic Linear Algebra



 Includes all basic numeric algorithms, e.g. Integration, Differentiation, ...



Basic plotting tool

Why write your own library?

- Reuse parts of your code
- Split math/physics from pheno
- Easier access for externals
- Easier to extend

Testing your code

- When writing code we usually test along the way
 - → let's keep those tests in a dedicated way
- Unit tests test atomic pieces of code
 - \rightarrow e.g. symmetries, analytic solutions
- Benchmarks test against external references
 - → e.g. other papers, programs
- Most popular Python library: pytest



Let's get practical!

Let's rediscover gravity by observing a ski jumper!



- TEAM CAPTAIN
- General overview
- Code Reviews
- Infrastructure



- Develop library
- Develop unit tests
- Generate data



- Solve exercises
- Apply library
- Analyze data