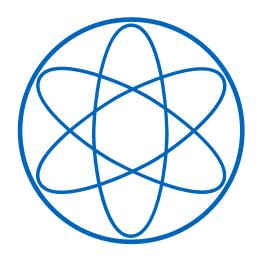


Development and Benchmarking of a Bayesian Inference Pipeline for LHC Physics



Scientific Thesis for the procurance of the degree

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from the Physics Department at the Technical University of Munich.

Supervised by *Prof. Dr. Lukas Heinrich*

ORIGINS Data Science Lab

Dr. Oliver Schulz

Max Planck Institute for Physics

Submitted by Christian Gajek

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Abstract

TODO

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Abbreviations

Autograd auto differentiation.

BAT Bayesian Analysis Toolkit.

GC garbage collector.

HEP High Energy Physics.

HF HistFactory.

HMC Hamiltonian Monte Carlo.

LHC Large Hadron Collider.

llh log likelihood.

MC Monte Carlo.

MCMC Markov chain Monte Carlo.

MH Metropolis-Hastings.

NP nuisance parameter.

pdf probability density function.

POI parameter of interest.

XLA accelerated linear algebra.

vi Abbreviations

Introduction

Large Hadron Collider (LHC) Luminosity LHC $2.1 \cdot 10^3 4 cm^{-2} s^- 1$

Mathematical Preliminaries

2.1 Frequentist versus Bayesian Inference

Given observed data, the likelihood $\mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ then serves as the basis to test hypotheses on the parameters $\boldsymbol{\theta}$.

$$p(\theta \mid x) = \frac{p(x \mid \theta) p(\theta)}{p(x)}$$
(2.1)

where $p(\theta)$ is called *prior*,

2.2 MCMC Sampling

Monte Carlo (MC)

Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC)

2.2.1 Markov Chains

2.2.2 Metropolis Hastings

Metropolis-Hastings (MH)

2.2.3 Hamiltonian Monte Carlo

Hamiltonian Monte Carlo (HMC)

HistFactory

HistFactory (HF) is a tool for binned statistical analysis which is widely used in LHC physics to measure the consistency of collision events with theoretical predictions. It has been employed for the discovery of the Higgs Boson [1] and is used in searches for new physics [2] by research groups around the planet. The relationship between theoretical predictions and collision events is formalized as statistical model $p(x | \theta)$. It describes the probability of observing data x given the model parameters θ . Typically, models in High Energy Physics (HEP) are complex with many parameters. HF enables a standardized way to build parameterized probability density functions and infer parameter properties from it.

3.1 Formalism

Statistical models in HistFactory describe simultaneous measurements of disjoint channels c (binned distributions as subspace of all collision events), where we observe the event counts n. In a particle detector several physical processes produce events in the selected channels. Hence, the total number of expected events¹ is the sum of all involved processes, the so called samples. This sample rates underlie variations and can be modified by the parameters θ . It is distinguished between free parameters η (e.g. the luminosity) and constrained parameters χ that account for systematic uncertainties. In a frequentist setting, these constrained terms can be viewed as auxiliary measurements a which result together with the channel events a in the observations a (a). Equation (3.1) illustrates this parametrization

$$p(\boldsymbol{x} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) = p(\boldsymbol{n}, \boldsymbol{a} \mid \boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\chi}) \tag{3.1}$$

¹this is often denoted as *event rate* since it used as input parameter to a Poisson distribution

The statistical model in HF consists of two parts – the *main model* of simultaneous measurements over multiple channels, and a *constrained term* that takes into account auxiliary measurements [3].

$$p(\boldsymbol{n}, \boldsymbol{a} \mid \boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\chi}) = \prod_{\substack{c \in \text{channels } b \in \text{bins}_c \\ \text{main model}}} \text{Pois}(n_{cb} \mid \nu_{cb}(\boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\chi})) \qquad \prod_{\substack{\chi \in \boldsymbol{\chi} \\ \text{constraint terms} \\ \text{for "auxiliary measurements"}}} c_{\chi}(a_{\chi} \mid \boldsymbol{\chi})$$
(3.2)

For each bin b and channel c, the total event rate ν_{cb} is is the sum over all involved sample rates ν_{scb} .

$$u_{cb}(\boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\chi}) = \sum_{s \, \in \, \mathrm{samples}}
u_{scb}(\boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\chi})$$

The sample event rates ν_{scb} are determined by a nominal rate ν_{scb}^0 and a set of multiplicative and additive rate modifiers $\kappa(\theta)$ and $\Delta(\theta)$, which are controlled by the model parameters $\theta = (\eta, \chi)$ [3].

$$\nu_{cb}(\boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\chi}) = \sum_{s \in \text{ samples}} \underbrace{\left(\prod_{\kappa \in \boldsymbol{\kappa}} \kappa_{scb}(\boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\chi})\right)}_{\text{multiplicative modifiers}} \left(\nu_{scb}^{0}(\boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\chi}) + \underbrace{\sum_{\Delta \in \boldsymbol{\Delta}} \Delta_{scb}(\boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\chi})}_{\text{additive modifiers}}\right)$$
(3.3)

The available modifiers in HistFactory are summarized in Table 3.1. Each modifier is defined for bin b, sample s and channel c and is controlled by at least one parameter $\theta \in \{\gamma, \alpha, \lambda, \mu\}$. By convention, bin-wise modifiers are denoted by γ and interpolation parameters with α . In contrast, luminosity λ and scale factors μ affect all bins equally.

Table 3.1: HistFactory modifiers and constraints [3].

Description	Modification	Constraint Term c_χ	Input
Uncorrelated Shape shapesys	$\kappa_{scb}(\gamma_b) = \gamma_b$	$\prod_{b} \operatorname{Pois} \left(r_{b} = \sigma_{b}^{-2} \rho_{b} = \sigma_{b}^{-2} \gamma_{b} \right)$	σ_b
Correlated Shape histosys	$\Delta_{scb}(\alpha) = f_p(\alpha \mid \Delta_{scb,\alpha=\pm 1})$	Normal $(a = 0 \mid \alpha, \sigma = 1)$	$\Delta_{scb,\alpha=\pm 1}$
Normalisation Uncert.	$ \kappa_{scb}(\alpha) = g_p\left(\alpha \kappa_{scb,\alpha\pm 1}\right) $	Normal $(a = 0 \mid \alpha, \sigma = 1)$	$\kappa_{scb,lpha\pm1}$
MC Stat. Uncertainty staterror	$\kappa_{scb}(\gamma_b) = \gamma_b$	$\prod_b \operatorname{Normal}\left(a_{\gamma_b} = 1 \gamma_b, \delta_b\right)$	$\delta_b^2 = \sum_s \delta_{sb}^2$
Luminosity lumi	$\kappa_{scb}(\lambda) = \lambda$	Normal $(l = \lambda_0 \mid \lambda, \sigma_{\lambda})$	λ_0,σ_λ
Normalisation normfactor	$\kappa_{scb}(\mu_b) = \mu_b$		
Data-driven Shape shapefactor	$\kappa_{scb}(\gamma_b)=\gamma_b$		

3.1. FORMALISM 7

The first five entries in Table 3.1 are constrained modifiers, defined by a constraint term c_{χ} (right part in (3.2)) and an input parameter.

- Uncorrelated shape modifiers affect each bin individually and are constrained by a Poisson. They are applied to model uncorrelated background, with rate uncertainties δ_b for each bin. $\sigma_b = \delta_b/\nu_b$ is the *relative* uncertainty of the expected total event rate ν_b and serves as input for the constraint term.
- Correlated shape modifiers are additive modifiers and controlled by a single parameter.

3.2 Workspaces

Statistical models in HF are described in plain-text JSON format. This scheme fully specifies the model structure as well as necessary constrained data in a single document, and hence is implementation independent. This JSON files represent a *workspace* which consists of *channels*, *measurements* and *observations*.

- Channels are certain regions in the space of collision events, each described by a statistical model. The regions are chosen to be disjoint and typically contain signal regions (SR) and control regions (CR) for a certain particle decay of interest.
 - The statistical model for a channel is constructed by a list of *samples* (models of involved physical processes) which consists of the predicted event rates and a set of modifiers (see Table 3.1).
- Measurements are a small subset of all model parameters the parameter of interest (POI). The measurement scheme in the JSON file can be configured with the initial value, interval bounds or auxdata for the parameter.
- Observations are the actual observed events for each bin in all channels.

For a detailed description of the HF JSON format, the reader is referred to the pyhf documentation [3].

Models in this thesis. Since real world examples are too complex to benchmark in acceptable time, this work mainly uses "toy" workspaces with a single channel. All model specifications utilized in this work are listed in Appendix A.

3.3 HistFactory Implementations

Currently, HistFactory is available in three different programming languages

- a C++ implementation,
- a Python version pyhf [4], and
- a Julia implementation LiteHF [5]

In chapter 5, this work employs pyhf and LiteHF for run-time benchmarks. To verify the equivalence of pyhf and LiteHF, the log posterior measure is evaluated for both implementations. The log likelihood in Python for a parameter vector θ is computed by the logpdf of the main_model, i.e.

```
def llh(param: np.ndarray) -> float
    """pyhf log likelihood from the main_model."""
    return model.main_model.logpdf(main_data, param)
```

In LiteHF one can access the log likelihood function by

For visualization purposes, the verification step is illustrated for the 2D 2_bin_corr model in section A.2. The prior vector is chosen to be

$$p(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \begin{bmatrix} \text{Uniform}(0, 5) \\ \text{Normal}(0, 1) \end{bmatrix}$$
(3.4)

and the log posterior measure is evaluated for 10^5 points $x \sim p(\theta)$ with equal initial seed. The samples coincidence for both implementations up to numerical precision. In Figure 3.1 1000 randomly chosen data points are picked out and illustrated for pyhf (blue) and LiteHF (orange).

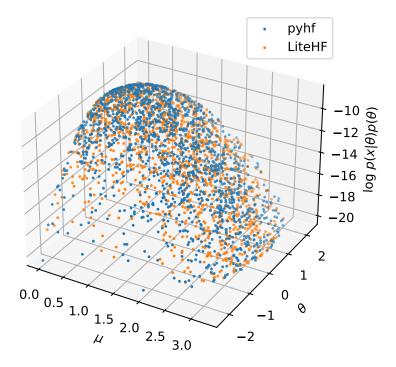


Figure 3.1: Verify the equivalence of the pyhf and LiteHF implementation by evaluating the log posterior measure $\log \left(p\left(\boldsymbol{x} \,|\, \boldsymbol{\theta} \right) p(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \right)$ at 1000 random points $\boldsymbol{x} \sim p(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ for the 2_bin_corr model (see section A.2). The 2D prior vector is set to $p(\mu, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \left[\text{Uniform}(0, 5), \, \text{Normal}(0, 1) \right]^T$.

Bayesian Inference with HistFactory

While the majority of statistical results in LHC physics are obtained by a frequentist setting, this chapter formalizes a Bayesian approach for parameter inference with HistFactory. First, it introduces the Bayesian Analysis Toolkit (BAT) which is used for MCMC sampling. Second, it derives a formalism to obtain prior distributions from HF models. Third, it discusses implementation details of batty – a Python-to-Julia interface to execute BAT functions in Python. The chapter ends with the verification of the Bayesian inference implementation for the HF models in Appendix A.

4.1 BAT

Bayesian Analysis Toolkit (BAT) [6]

4.2 Priors for HistFactory Models

This section derives the procedure of generating priors for HF models. As discussed in section 3.1, statistical models in HistFactory consist of a main model and constrained terms – which is the "frequentist way" of incorporating prior information. Bayesian inference for the parameters $\theta = (\eta, \chi)$ only uses the likelihood of the main model in (3.2)

$$p_{\text{main}}(\boldsymbol{n} | \boldsymbol{\theta}) \equiv p_{\text{main}}(\boldsymbol{x} | \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \prod_{c \in \text{channels } b \in \text{bins}_c} \text{Pois}(n_{cb} | \nu_{cb}(\boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\chi}))$$
 (4.1)

while the event rate $\nu_{cb}(\eta, \chi)$ is still computed according to (3.3). Hence, auxiliary measurements \boldsymbol{a} (see section 3.1) does not appear in the main model $p_{\text{main}}(\boldsymbol{x} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta})$ and \boldsymbol{x} corresponds to the observed events \boldsymbol{n} .

In contrast, priors make use of the auxiliary measurements \boldsymbol{a} and are derived from the constraint terms $c_{\chi}(a_{\chi}|\chi)$ in Table 3.1. To formalize this step further, we rewrite Bayes' rule:

$$p(\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \boldsymbol{x}) = \frac{p_{\min}(\boldsymbol{x} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) p(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{p(\boldsymbol{x})}$$

$$\equiv \frac{p_{\min}(\boldsymbol{x} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) p(\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \boldsymbol{a})}{p(\boldsymbol{x})}$$

$$= \frac{p_{\min}(\boldsymbol{x} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) p(\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \boldsymbol{a})}{p(\boldsymbol{x})} \frac{p(\boldsymbol{a} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) p_{\text{ur}}(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{p(\boldsymbol{a})}$$

$$= \frac{p_{\min}(\boldsymbol{x} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) p(\boldsymbol{a} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) p_{\text{ur}}(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{p(\boldsymbol{x})} \frac{p(\boldsymbol{a} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) p_{\text{ur}}(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{p(\boldsymbol{a})}$$

The prior $p(\theta \mid a)$ can be interpreted as *posterior* computed from the likelihood of auxiliary measurements $p(a \mid \theta)$, an ur-prior $p_{ur}(\theta)$ and a normalization constant. The last line illustrates the frequentist approach of incorporating auxiliary data – the *green* highlighted part is a product of likelihoods and corresponds to the statistical model in (3.2).

However, as discussed in ??, computing posteriors

$$p(\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \boldsymbol{a}) = \frac{p(\boldsymbol{a} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) p_{\text{ur}}(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{p(\boldsymbol{a})}$$
(4.2)

analytically is only possible for special choices of likelihood and prior. One of these special cases are *conjugate priors*: If the posterior distribution $p(\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \boldsymbol{a})$ is in the same distribution family as the prior distribution $p_{\rm ur}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$, then prior and posterior are called *conjugate distributions* and $p_{\rm ur}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ is called *conjugate prior* for the likelihood $p(\boldsymbol{a}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$. This method is applied in this work and elaborated in the next section.

4.2.1 Conjugate Priors

When using conjugate priors, we necessarily incorporate information about the parameter space due to the ur-prior. Nevertheless, to justify this approach we choose a *vague* ur-prior so that the updated prior $p(\theta \mid a)$ is mainly determined by data likelihood $p(a \mid \theta)$.

HistFactory basically uses two types of likelihoods in the constraint terms: On the one hand Poisson constrains for shapesys modifiers, on the other hand Normal distributions for the remaining constraint terms (see Table 3.1). Below, conjugate priors for both likelihood types are derived.

Poisson distributed Likelihoods

Conjugate priors for Poisson likelihoods are gamma-distributed $p(\theta) \equiv \text{Gamma}(\alpha, \beta)$. The probability density function (pdf) for a random variable $X \sim \text{Gamma}(\alpha, \beta)$ in shape-rate parameterization is given as

$$p(x; \alpha, \beta) = \frac{x^{\alpha - 1} e^{-\beta x} \beta^{\alpha}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \quad \text{for } x > 0$$
 (4.3)

where $\alpha, \beta > 0$ are the *shape* and *rate* parameter, and $\Gamma(\alpha)$ the *gamma function*. The expected value and variance of $X \sim \text{Gamma}(\alpha, \beta)$ is computed to

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \frac{\alpha}{\beta}$$
 and $\operatorname{Var}[X] = \frac{\alpha}{\beta^2}$ (4.4)

The Poisson likelihood of observing N independent and identically distributed events is

$$p(\boldsymbol{x} \mid \theta) = \prod_{i=1}^{N} \operatorname{Pois}(x_i \mid \theta) \quad \text{with} \quad \operatorname{Pois}(x_i \mid \theta) = \frac{\theta^{x_i} e^{-\theta}}{x_i!}$$
 (4.5)

According to Bayes' theorem (2.1) the posterior is calculated to be

$$p(\theta \mid \boldsymbol{x}) = \frac{p(\boldsymbol{x} \mid \theta) p(\theta)}{p(\boldsymbol{x})} \propto p(\boldsymbol{x} \mid \theta) p(\theta)$$
(4.6)

while we neglect the constant evidence term $p(\mathbf{x})$. Explicitly computing the posterior using (4.5) and (4.3) for priors $p(\theta) = \text{Gamma}(\alpha, \beta)$ yields

$$p(\theta \mid \boldsymbol{x}) \propto \prod_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\theta^{x_i} e^{-\theta}}{x_i!} \cdot \frac{\theta^{\alpha - 1} e^{-\beta \theta} \beta^{\alpha}}{\Gamma(\alpha)}$$

$$\propto \theta^{x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_N} e^{-\theta N} \cdot \theta^{\alpha - 1} e^{-\beta \theta}$$

$$= \theta^{N\bar{x} + \alpha - 1} e^{-(\beta + N)\theta}$$
(4.7)

In line 2 we skipped the constant terms $\Gamma(\alpha)$, $x_i!$, β^{α} and in line 3 the sample mean

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i \tag{4.8}$$

was introduced to simplify notation. Comparing (4.7) with the Gamma pdf in (4.3) and using the argument that the total area under a probability density function must evaluate to *one*, we can conclude that the posterior $p(\theta \mid x)$ is again a Gamma distribution

$$p(\theta \mid \mathbf{x}) = \operatorname{Gamma}(N\bar{x} + \alpha, \beta + N) \tag{4.9}$$

with the updated parameters

$$\alpha' = N\bar{x} + \alpha$$

$$\beta' = \beta + N \tag{4.10}$$

Normally distributed Likelihoods

Conjugate priors for normally distributed likelihoods are *normally* distributed likewise. To proof this, we consider the likelihood

$$p\left(\boldsymbol{x}\mid\boldsymbol{\theta}\right) = \prod_{i=1}^{N} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_{x}^{2}}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x_{i}-\boldsymbol{\theta})^{2}}{2\sigma_{x}^{2}}\right) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} (x_{i}-\boldsymbol{\theta})^{2}}{2\sigma_{x}^{2}}\right)$$
(4.11)

of N independent observations $\mathbf{x} = \{x_i\}_{i=1}^N$ with same mean θ and variance σ_x^2 . During the derivation it is assumed that the likelihood variance σ_x^2 is known.

For normally distributed priors

$$p(\theta) = \text{Normal}(\theta_0, \sigma_{\theta}^2)$$
 (4.12)

with mean θ_0 and variance σ_{θ}^2 , the posterior is again computed according to (4.6). Once more we neglect constant terms and after elementary calculus we obtain the expression

$$p(\theta \mid \boldsymbol{x}) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} (x_i - \theta)^2}{2\sigma_x^2}\right) \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{(\theta - \theta_0)^2}{2\sigma_\theta^2}\right)$$

$$= \exp\left[\frac{-\sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i^2 + 2\theta N\bar{x} - N\theta^2}{2\sigma_x^2} - \frac{\theta^2 - 2\theta\theta_0 + \theta_0^2}{2\sigma_\theta^2}\right]$$

$$\propto \exp\left[\frac{2\theta N\bar{x} - N\theta^2}{2\sigma_x^2} - \frac{\theta^2 - 2\theta\theta_0}{2\sigma_\theta^2}\right]$$
(4.13)

while we applied the sample mean \bar{x} (Equation (4.8)) in line 2 to simplify notation. Rewriting (4.13) in powers of θ yields

$$p(\theta \mid \boldsymbol{x}) \propto \exp \left[-\frac{\theta^2}{2} \underbrace{\left(\frac{1}{\sigma_{\theta}^2} + \frac{N}{\sigma_x^2} \right)}_{1/\sigma_{\theta}'^2} + \theta \left(\frac{\theta_0}{\sigma_{\theta}^2} + \frac{N\bar{x}}{\sigma_x^2} \right) \right]$$
(4.14)

Equation (4.14) is proportional to a Normal distribution which can be verified by introducing the variables

$$\sigma_{\theta}^{\prime 2} = \left(\frac{1}{\sigma_{\theta}^2} + \frac{N}{\sigma_x^2}\right)^{-1} \quad \text{and} \quad \theta' = \sigma_{\theta}^{\prime 2} \left(\frac{\theta_0}{\sigma_{\theta}^2} + \frac{N\bar{x}}{\sigma_x^2}\right)$$
(4.15)

By inserting these variables and multiplying (4.14) by a normalization constant

$$p(\theta \mid \boldsymbol{x}) \propto \exp\left[-\frac{\theta^2}{2\sigma_{\theta}'^2} + \frac{\theta\theta'}{\sigma_{\theta}'^2} - \frac{\theta'^2}{2\sigma_{\theta}'^2}\right] = \exp\left[-\frac{(\theta - \theta')^2}{\sigma_{\theta}'^2}\right]$$

we can conclude that the posterior is normally distributed with the parameters in (4.15)

$$p(\theta \mid \boldsymbol{x}) = \text{Normal}(\theta', \sigma_{\theta}'^2)$$

4.2.2 Implementation

After deriving the parameter updates for the conjugate priors, this section describes implementation details. Generating priors from HF models is implemented in the Python package priorhf which was developed during this work.

For all nuisance parameter (NP), auxiliary data in HF is stored in a member variable auxdata. The parameter order for pyhf models is determined by the parameter map

which contains all required parameter information (auxdata, parameter name, standard deviation sigma (only for staterror and lumi modifiers)) as well as the slice in which the parameter is located.

• For shapesys modifiers (uncorrelated shape), the auxdata entry corresponds to the rate parameter $r_b = \sigma_b^{-2}$ (Table 3.1, row 1), where $\sigma_b = \delta_b/\nu_b$ is the relative uncertainty of the expected total event rate ν_b [3]. This uncertainties are modeled by a Poisson $\tilde{\gamma}_b \sim \text{Pois}(r_b)$ with expectation $\mathbb{E}[\tilde{\gamma}_b] = r_b$. As initial prior (ur-prior)

¹Again, we use the argument that the area under a pdf must be equal to one.

we choose $p_{\rm ur}(\tilde{\gamma}_b) = {\rm Gamma}(1,\beta)$, with $\alpha = 1$ and compute the rate parameter β of the initial prior so that the expectation of likelihood and initial prior match, i.e.

$$\beta = \frac{\alpha}{r_b} \tag{4.16}$$

Then, we perform the parameter update in (4.10) for N=1, $\bar{x}=r_b$ and obtain an up-scaled prior

$$p(\tilde{\gamma}_b \mid \boldsymbol{a}) = \operatorname{Gamma}(\alpha', \beta') \text{ with } \mathbb{E}[\tilde{\gamma}_b] = r_b$$

In a final step, we re-scale the density $p(\tilde{\gamma}_b | \boldsymbol{a})$ so that it has an expected value of 1 by multiplying β' with r_b . To summarize, the prior distribution for a shapesys parameter γ_b is given by

$$\gamma_b \sim \text{Gamma}(r_b + 1, r_b + 1) \quad \text{with} \quad \mathbb{E}[\gamma_b] = 1$$
 (4.17)

which is derived from an ur-prior $p_{\rm ur}(\tilde{\gamma}_b) = {\rm Gamma}(\alpha = 1, \beta = 1/r_b)$.

The priors for the 2_bin_uncorr model² are illustrated in Figure 4.1a). The relative uncertainties σ_b for bin 1 and 2 are 10 % and 20 % (see section A.1). This results in a tighter prior distribution for γ_1 and a broader spread for the parameter γ_2 .

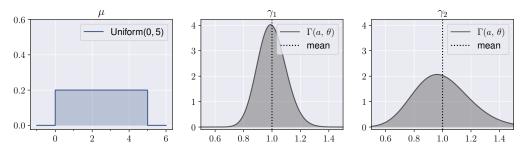
• The modifiers histosys and normsys are constrained by a zero-mean Normal distribution with variance 1 (see Table 3.1). The corresponding values in the auxdata vector are zeros. The initial prior is chosen as zero-mean Normal distribution with variance $\sigma_{\theta}^2 = 100$. After the parameter update in (4.15) (with N = 1, $\bar{x} = \theta_0 = 0$ and $\sigma_x^2 = 1$) we obtain the prior distribution

$$p(\theta \mid \boldsymbol{a}) = \text{Normal}\left(0, \ \sigma_{\theta}^{\prime 2} = \frac{100}{101}\right) \tag{4.18}$$

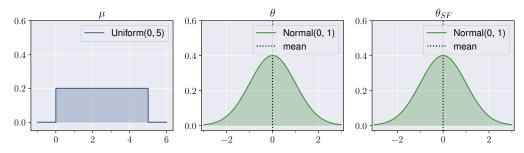
Priors for the 4_bin model³ are illustrated in Figure 4.1b) as standard normal distribution for the parameters θ and θ_{SF} .

²a 2-bin model with uncorrelated background

³3D parameter space with normsys and histosys modifiers



(a) Prior distributions for the 2_bin_uncorr model (section A.1) parameters



(b) Prior distributions for the 4_bin model (section A.3) parameters

Figure 4.1: Conjugate priors for the 2_bin_uncorr and 4_bin model. The signal strength parameter μ (left) is uniformly distributed for both models. The dashed line represents the mean of the Gamma and Normal distribution. Priors for the 2 dimensional 2_bin_corr model (section A.2) are equal to the first two distributions of the 4_bin model.

 Finally, staterror and lumi modifiers are also constrained by a Normal distribution (see Table 3.1). The mean values are 1 or λ₀ and are stored in auxdata. The ur-prior variance σ_θ² = 100 is again set to 100 and the mean θ₀ corresponds to the value in auxdata. The likelihood variance σ_x² is computed from the standard deviation sigma in the parameter map. Once more, the parameter update is calculated according to Equation (4.15) with N = 1.

Parameter of interest (POI) (like the signal strength μ) are unconstrained and modeled as uniform distribution from 0 to 5. All prior distributions are implemented as NamedTupleDist [7] of densities from the Distributions.jl package [8]. This step is necessary since priors directly interface to BAT which requires this type. Before converting priors to a NamedTupleDist, priors need to be represented as namedtuple⁴ to preserve the parameter order⁵.

⁴from collections import namedtuple

⁵Passing Python dictionaries to the NamedTupleDist constructor interchanges the parameter order even for Python versions ≥ 3.7 . This is because when a Python dict is converted to a Julia Dict, the order is not maintained.

This step is illustrated in the snipped below, where names is a list of the parameter names and param a list of Distributions.jl densities.

```
# Makro to convert keys of a dict as parameter string for namedtuple
key_str = lambda d: ' '.join(list(d.keys()))

prior_specs = dict(zip(names, param))
p = namedtuple('Prior', key_str(prior_specs))(**prior_specs)
priors = jl.unshaped(jl.NamedTupleDist(p))
```

In the last line, the unshaped [7] function is applied to obtain a flat prior vector.

4.3 batty – BAT to Python Interface

The complete pipeline for calling BAT functions from Python is implemented in batty – the BAT to Python interface, developed here [9]. During this work, batty was steadily tested an improved with several contributions. An old version of batty used PyCall.jl [10] to execute Julia functions from Python, which had one major drawback: The complete Python environment needed to be compiled each time batty was imported, which takes about 2 minutes. The current version of batty employs PythonCall.jl [11] that reduces the import time to about 10 seconds and speed up computations in batty by a factor of 4.

PythonCall.jl is suited to call Python functions in Julia and vice versa [11]. The corresponding Python package is called juliacall and is used in Python as

```
from juliacall import Main as jl
jl.seval('using BAT, Distributions')
```

The second line imports the Julia modules BAT [6] and Distributions [8] which enables the access to Julia types or functions using the prefix jl.<type/function> in the entire Python script.

4.3.1 Likelihoods for pyhf Models

All functionalities for computing pyhf likelihoods are implemented in the Python package pyhf_llh. For a fast computation of the log likelihood (llh) this work makes use of the jax-backend of pyhf⁶. jax [12] exploits auto differentiation (Autograd) and accelerated linear algebra (XLA) to speed up computations and automatically compute gradients. It is developed by Google and widely used in Machine Learning frameworks.

 $^{^6}$ pyhf can be configured to use different $tensor\ backends$ (NumPy, PyTorch, TensorFlow and JAX) for all numerical computations.

This work aims to implement MCMC sampling in Python for Metropolis-Hastings (MH) and Hamiltonian Monte Carlo (HMC) sampling. Since HMC requires the likelihood gradient, these values need to be passed from Python to Julia. This is accomplished by using a PyCallDensityWithGrad wrapper that contains pointers to the log likelihood (llh) function logf as well as a pointer to the llh function with gradient valgradlogf, i.e.

```
struct PyCallDensityWithGrad <: BAT.BATDensity
    logf::PythonCall.Py
    valgradlogf::PythonCall.Py
end</pre>
```

In addition, several steps have to be considered to pass gradient from Python to Julia, for details see pybat.jl in [9]. The pyhf likelihood is implemented as functor that returns the llh function for a given HF workspace

To enhance the computation time, we employ the just-in-time compilation (jit) by jax which returns highly optimized machine code for computing the log likelihood efficiently. The second entry for the PyCallDensityWithGrad wrapper is the llh_with_grad function

```
def pyhf_llh_with_grad(ws: str) -> Tuple[Callable, Callable]:
    """Returns the Tuple (llh, llh_with_grad) for the pyhf workspace 'ws'"""
    # jit llh and compute grad
    llh = pyhf_llh(ws)
    llh_grad = jit(grad(llh))
    # convert to float and catch out 'nan' values of pyhf
    llh_float = lambda x: -inf if jnp.isnan(llh(x)) else float(llh(x))

def llh_with_grad(param: np.ndarray) -> Tuple[float, np.ndarray]:
    """Convert jax.DeviceArray to (float, np.float64)"""
    return (llh_float(param), np.array(llh_grad(param), dtype=np.float64))

return (llh_float, llh_with_grad)
```

which returns a tuple (llh_float, llh_with_grad) required by PyCallDensityWithGrad. The gradient of the likelihood is computed by the grad() function from jax. To ensure that the return types are understood by PythonCall.jl⁷, jax.DeviceArray types need to be converted to float types. In addition, it is necessary to catch nan values of pyhf and replace them by -inf since bat_sample() does not work for nan values.

4.3.2 pyhf Benchmarks

The effects of using the jax backend instead numpy are discussed below for the HF models 2_bin_corr and 2_bin_uncorr (Appendix A). The compile time of bat_sample() for both cases is shown in Figure 4.2 (*left*). Using the jax backend slightly reduces the compile time for both models. In contrast, the memory usage during compilation increases by about 10% (Figure 5.1 *right*) for the jax backend.

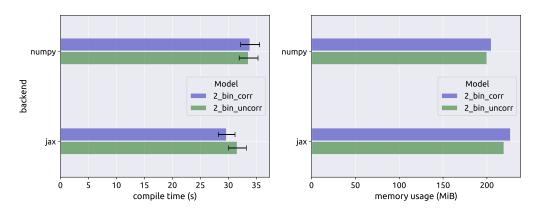


Figure 4.2: Compile time and memory usage while compiling bat_sample() with jax and numpy backend. Compile times typically fluctuate between $\pm 5\%$.

However, more important is the run-time performance. Figure 4.3a) shows the run-time with numpy backend for different MCMC steps in bat_sample(). The run-time statistics is visualized as box-plot as described in Appendix B. For the numpy setting, the 2_bin_corr is about two times slower than the 2_bin_uncorr model by performing 1k, 5k or 10k MCMC nsteps. With jax backend, the total run time can be reduced by a factor of 3 to 5 (see Figure 4.3b). In addition, the run-time of both models is roughly the same using the jax backend.

Benchmarks for directly evaluating the llh for jax and numpy are given in Figure B.2.

Unless stated differently, this work uses the jax backend for evaluating the log likelihood.

⁷which handles the conversion from Python types to Julia types, see [11]

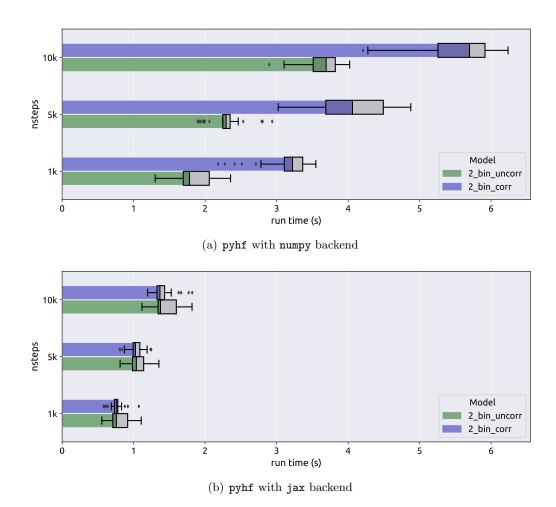


Figure 4.3: Run-time performance of bat_sample() once using the numpy backend and once with jax backend. The run-time is evaluated for the models 2_bin_corr and 2_bin_uncorr for different MCMC nsteps.

4.4 Bayesian Inference Examples

After setting up the priors and likelihood in section 4.2 and section 4.3, the complete Bayesian inference pipeline is verified for the HF models in Appendix A. As an example, the sampled posterior distribution for the 4-bin model is illustrated in Figure 4.4 as corner plot [13] for 100k MCMC steps.

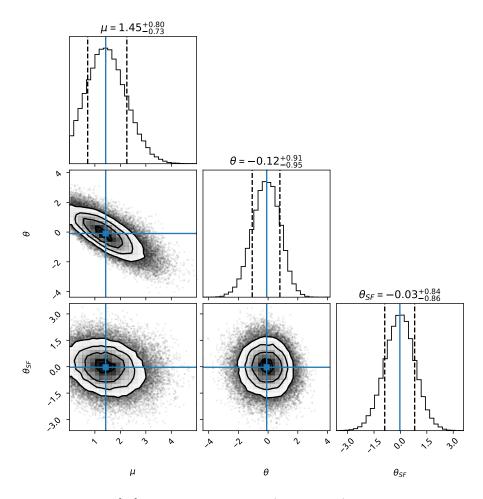


Figure 4.4: Corner plot [13] for the 4_bin Model (section A.3) using 100k HMC steps. The parameter mode is indicated by *blue* lines and the *dashed* lines represent the 1σ quantile of the sampled distributions.

A snipped for sampling this posterior in python is given below

```
likelihood = jl.PyCallDensityWithGrad(llh, llh_grad)
prior = make_prior('path/to/model')
posterior = jl.BAT.PosteriorMeasure(likelihood, prior)
samples = jl.bat_sample(posterior, method).result
```

where method is the MCMC sampling algorithm – Metropolis-Hastings or HMC.

The sampled posteriors are verified by a *posterior predictive check*, which is depicted in Figure 4.5 for all three models. All models can sufficiently represent the observation with a reduced variance compared to the prior predictions.

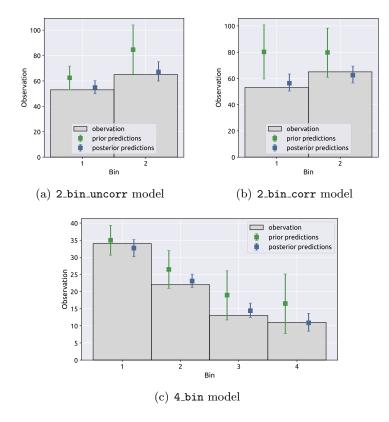


Figure 4.5: Prior and posterior predictive checks all models in Appendix A. The dot represents the median of the expected output and the error bars indicate the 1σ quantile.

Benchmarking the Python-Julia Pipeline against the Julia Implementation

This chapter compares the run-time performance of batty (section 4.3) with a pure-Julia implementation of Bayesian inference with LiteHF [5]. More specific, the following three implementations are evaluated

- Python + BAT (visualized in blue)
 Uses the Python-Julia bridge batty for Bayesian inference on HF models in Python.
- Julia + LiteHF (visualized in green)

 The complete inference chain is written and executed in Julia by using LiteHF [5], the Julia implementation of HF.
- Julia + pyhf (visualized in red)

The whole code runs in Julia but uses the Python likelihood from pyhf for inference. Executing Python code from Julia is accomplished by the PythonCall.jl module [11]. The pyhf likelihood is implemented in the pyhf_llh package that can be embedded in Julia by

```
llh = pyimport("pyhf_llh")
llh_func, llh_with_grad = llh.pyhf_llh_with_grad("path/to/model")
```

Run-times benchmarks are measured for both, MH and HMC based on two HF models.

5.1 Benchmark Setup

For each implementation the run-time of bat_sample() is measured. Therefore, bat_sample() takes two arguments, the posterior to be sampled and the MCMC method to be used.

```
# Metropolis Hastings
method = BAT.MCMCSampling(mcalg=BAT.MetropolisHastings(), nsteps=nsteps, nchains=2)
# or Hamiltonian MC
method = BAT.MCMCSampling(mcalg=BAT.HamiltonianMC(), nsteps=nsteps, nchains=2)
samples = bat_sample(posterior, method).result
```

The number of chains nchains is set to 2 for all benchmarks, and the run-time is measured for different numbers of MCMC nsteps.

To ensure reproducible benchmarks the following steps are taken into account

- Code that is executed by bat_sample() like computing the log likelihood does not use global variables. Accessing global variables inside a function increases the run-time in Julia and Python.
- Since Julia code is pre-compiled before execution, a distinction is made between the *compile time* and *run-time* of bat_sample(). The proportion of both times is illustrated in Figure 5.1 for the 2_bin_corr model for sampling 10k MCMC steps. The compile time accounts for more than 90% of the total execution time in all implementations and has a uncertainty of ±4%. Compiling bat_sample() in Python takes about twice as long as in Julia (see Figure 5.1 *left*).
- Benchmarks in Julia are obtained using the BenchmarkTools.jl module [14]. To measure "long" run-times sufficiently, the @benchmarkable maken is configured as

```
b = @benchmarkable bat_sample(posterior, mcalg) setup=(mcalg=$method)
sec = bootstrap_sec()
res = run(b, samples=samples, seconds=maximum([sec, 40]))
```

where the required time sec is bootstrapped from previous run-time measurements.

- All run-time benchmarks are written in Python or Julia scripts, since Jupyter Notebooks have lots of overhead.
- The benchmarks are carried out on a Linux computer with a Intel(R) Core(TM) i7-7700HQ CPU.

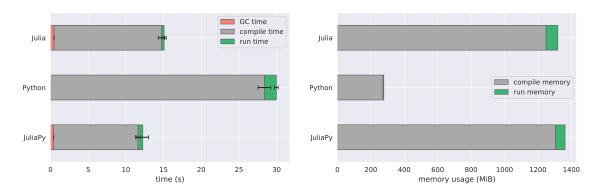


Figure 5.1: Total execution time and memory usage of bat_sample() for the 2_bin_corr model with 10k steps. The red, grey and green portion is the garbage collector (GC) time, the compile time and run time respectively. Compiling bat_sample() in Python takes about twice as long as in Julia. In contrast, the memory usage during compilation in Python is only one sixth of the memory usage in Julia. (The run-time memory usage in Python can't be measured sufficiently and hence is neglected in the right plot. Moreover, the GC time can not be evaluated in Python.)

5.2 Benchmarks

5.2.1 2_bin_corr Model

First, the run-time of the 2_bin_corr model (with a 2D parameter space) is evaluated for different MCMC nsteps. The results are visualized in Figure 5.2a) for Metropolis Hastings and in Figure 5.2b) for Hamiltonian MC. The run-time on the x-axis is plotted logarithmically and the numerical values are summarized Table 5.1.

Table 5.1: Summary of run-time benchmarks in Figure 5.2. The values represent the median run-time with 1σ standard deviation without outliers for 5k, 10k and 50k nsteps.

		5k	10k	$50\mathrm{k}$
Method	Implementation	${f run\text{-}time}\ (\mathrm{s})$		
	$\mathrm{Julia} + \mathtt{LiteHF}$	0.07 ± 0.01	0.09 ± 0.01	0.35 ± 0.04
\mathbf{MH}	Julia + pyhf	1.23 ± 0.16	1.52 ± 0.10	5.59 ± 0.43
	Python + BAT	2.67 ± 0.20	2.91 ± 0.15	6.39 ± 0.30
	$\mathrm{Julia} + \mathtt{LiteHF}$	0.42 ± 0.07	0.71 ± 0.10	3.59 ± 0.50
\mathbf{HMC}	Julia + pyhf	19.1 ± 2.0	35.6 ± 2.3	168 ± 9
	Python + BAT	45.9 ± 1.3	61.2 ± 1.9	186 ± 8

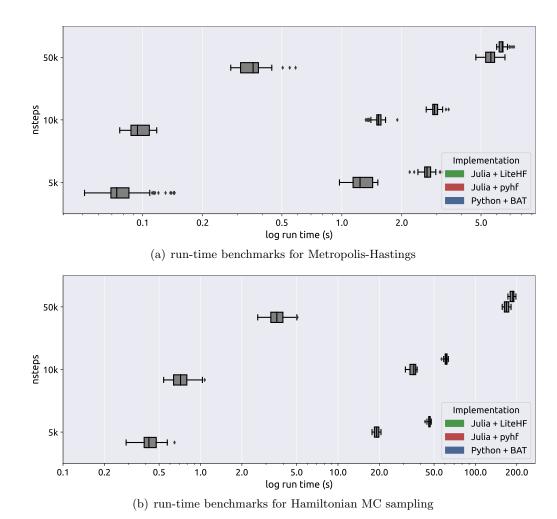


Figure 5.2: Run-time benchmark of the 2_bin_corr model for different MCMC nsteps with logarithmic time axis. Uncertainties are visualized as box-plot as illustrated in Figure B.1. The run-time in Julia is averaged over 100 runs, for the other two implementations over 40 runs for MH and 10 runs for HMC sampling.

Metropolis Hastings. The run-time of the pure-Julia implementation (green) is about 20 times faster than the Python-Julia pipeline (blue) for all steps. Executing the pyhf likelihood from Julia (red) is about 12 times slower that the pure-Julia implementation. For an increasing number of samples (nsteps) the run-time of Julia + pyhf approaches the execution time of batty (Python + pyhf).

Hamiltonian MC. Executing HMC in Python (Figure 5.2b) is about 100 times slower than the pure-Julia implementation (green) for 5k and 10k steps, and about 50 times slower for 50k steps. Again, calling the pyhf likelihood from Julia (red) outperforms the batty implementation (blue). For a small number of nsteps=[5k, 10k] the Julia version (Julia + pyhf) is about two times faster than batty, for 50k steps both implementations require approximately the same execution time.

5.2.2 n-Bin-Model

The runtime measurements in this section examine how the dimensionality of the parameter space affects the run-time. The n-bin model is implemented as simplemodel with uncorrelated background according to the 2_bin_uncorr model in section A.1. Repeatedly appending bins to the histogram is used as a simple method to increase the dimensionality of the inference problem (n bins corresponds to a (n+1)-dimensional parameter vector).

Metropolis-Hastings (MH)

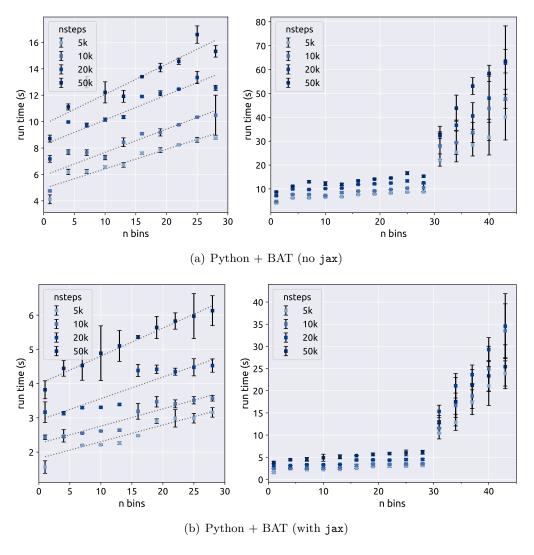


Figure 5.3: Run-time benchmark of the n-bin model in Python using Metropolis Hastings. A model with n bins represents a (n + 1)-dimensional parameter vector. The upper Figure uses a Float64 likelihood with no just-in-time compilation by jax, the likelihood in the lower Figure is jitted and has Float32 precision.

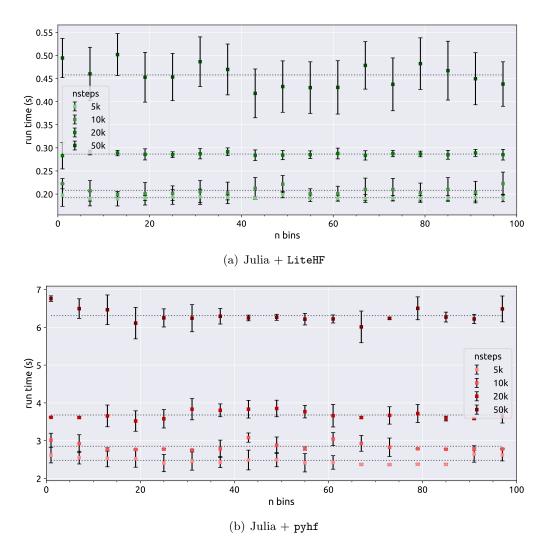


Figure 5.4: Run time benchmark of the n-bin Model in Julia using Metropolis Hastings. The Julia + LiteHF version (top) is fully implemented in Julia and outperforms the Julia + pyhf implementation (bottom) by a factor of 12.

Figure 5.3 shows the run-time development of bat_sample() in batty (Python + BAT) for an increasing number of bins using a jitted and not jitted likelihood¹. In both plots the run-time slightly increases for models with less than 30 bins (left). For larger models (n > 30 bins), the run-time in Python increases more sharply. The run-time for a 40-bin model already takes about 5 times longer than a 30-bin model.

The Julia benchmarks for the *n*-bin model are visualized in Figure 5.4. The pure-Julia version (*green*) is more than 10 times faster than the the jitted Python implementation in Figure 5.3b). Moreover, run-times stay *constant* up to a 100 dimensional parameter vector for different number of steps. The same behaviour can be observed for calling the pyhf

 $^{^{1}}$ The jitted likelihood is about 2.5 times faster for the n-bin model.

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likelihood from Julia (Figure 5.4b) while this implementation is about 12 times slower than the pure-Julia version.

Hamiltonian Monte Carlo (HMC)

The HMC run-times for the n-bin model are illustrated in Figure 5.5 for 5k and 10k MCMC steps. Similar to MH in Figure 5.3, run-times for the batty implementation only slightly increase for models with less than 30 parameters. Afterwards, the run-time significantly increases for n > 30 bins.

The run-times for the pure-Julia implementation are shown in Figure 5.5b). Again, run-times stay constant up to a 100 bin model and are about 100 times faster the Python version.

5.3 Discussion

In all considered benchmarks, the pure-Julia runs significantly faster than in the other two implementations where the <code>pyhf</code> likelihood is involved. Metropolis Hastings runs about

 \dots n-bin model in python jump at 30... However, the executing time of the log likelihood only slightly decreases

Python Issue for large dimensions (> 30): sampler chains often do not converge, since BrooksGelmanConvergence is not achieved. MCMCMultiCycleBurnin needs to be adapted...

- Explain
- Although

5.3. DISCUSSION 33

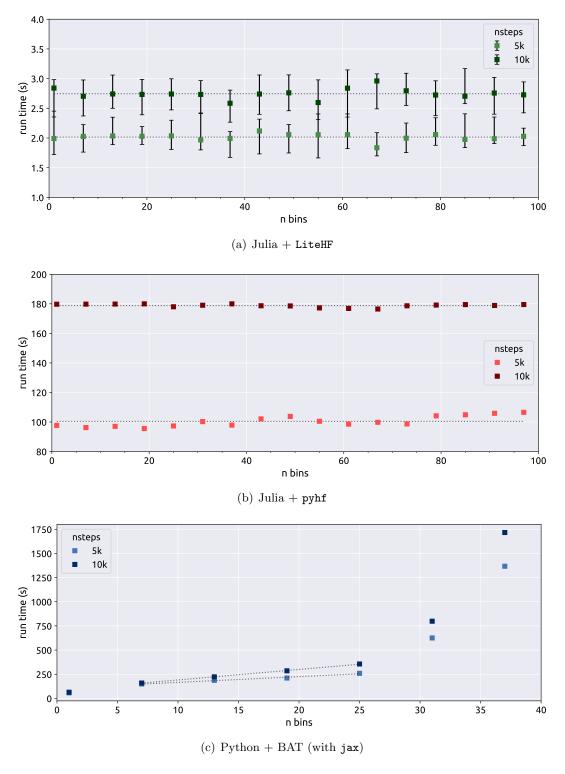


Figure 5.5: Run time benchmark for the n-bin Model using HMC for 5k and 10k nsteps. The Julia run-times (top) are averaged over 100 runs, the lower two run-times only represent a single run.

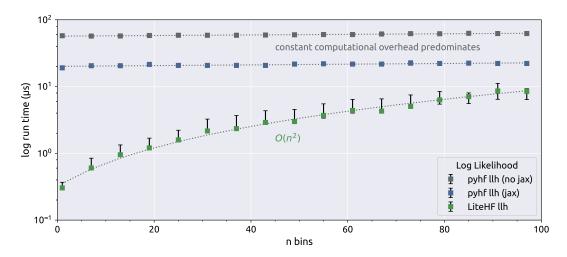


Figure 5.6: Benchmarking the log likelihood of the n-bin model up to 100 bins. The pyhf log likelihood is evaluated with and without just-in-time compilation by jax and compared to the LiteHF log likelihood. The run-time is averaged over 10^4 evaluations.

Chapter 6

Conclusion

Appendix A

HistFactory Models

A.1 2_bin_uncorr Model

```
• parameter \boldsymbol{\theta} = [\mu, \gamma_1, \gamma_2]
```

• signal model [5.0, 10.0] with normfactor modifier

• bkg model [50.0, 60.0], shapesys modifier with relative uncert. [10%, 20%]

```
"channels": [
  { "name": "singlechannel",
    "samples": [
      { "name": "signal",
        "data": [5.0, 10.0],
        "modifiers": [ { "name": "mu", "type": "normfactor", "data": null} ]
      { "name": "background",
        "data": [50.0, 60.0],
        "modifiers": [
          { "name": "uncorr_bkguncrt",
            "type": "shapesys",
            "data": [5.0, 12.0] }
        ]
    ]
  }
],
"observations": [
  { "name": "singlechannel", "data": [50.0, 60.0] }
],
"measurements": [
  { "name": "Measurement", "config": {"poi": "mu", "parameters": []} }
],
"version": "1.0.0"
```

A.2 2_bin_corr Model

```
• parameter \boldsymbol{\theta} = [\mu, \theta]
   • signal model [12.0, 11.0] with normfactor modifier
   • correlated background [50, 52.0] with histosys modifier
   • observations [53.0, 65.0]
{
    "channels": [
      { "name": "singlechannel",
        "samples": [
          { "name": "signal",
            "data": [12.0,11.0],
            "modifiers": [ { "name": "mu", "type": "normfactor", "data": null } ]
          { "name": "background",
            "data": [ 50.0, 52.0 ],
            "modifiers": [
              { "name": "correlated_bkg_uncertainty",
                "type": "histosys",
                "data": { "hi_data": [45.0, 57.0], "lo_data": [55.0, 47.0] }
            ]
          }
        ]
      }
    "observations": [
      { "name": "singlechannel", "data": [53.0, 65.0] }
   ],
    "measurements": [
        "name": "Measurement",
        "config": {
        "poi": "mu",
        "parameters": []
      }
   ],
    "version": "1.0.0"
```

A.3 4_bin Model

- parameter $\boldsymbol{\theta} = [\mu, \, \theta, \, \theta_{SF}]$
- signal model [2, 3, 4, 5] with normfactor modifier
- background model [30, 19, 9, 4] with histosys and normsys modifier
- observations [34, 22, 13, 11]

```
{
  "channels": [
    { "name": "singlechannel",
      "samples": [
        { "name": "signal MC",
          "data": [2, 3, 4, 5],
          "modifiers": [ { "name": "mu", "type": "normfactor", "data": null } ]
        },
          "name": "bkg MC",
          "data": [30, 19, 9, 4],
          "modifiers": [
            { "name": "theta",
              "type": "histosys",
              "data": { "hi_data": [31, 21, 12, 7], "lo_data": [29, 17, 6, 1] }
            { "name": "SF_theta",
              "type": "normsys",
              "data": {"hi": 1.1,"lo": 0.9}
            }
          ]
        }
      ]
    }
  ],
  "observations": [
    { "name": "singlechannel", "data": [34, 22, 13, 11]}
  "measurements": [
    { "name": "Measurement", "config": {"poi": "mu", "parameters": []} }
 ],
  "version": "1.0.0"
}
```

Appendix B

Run-time Statistics

While executing code on a PC, the running time of a function varies due to other active processes. A typical run time statistics for 10^4 samples is illustrated in Figure B.1.

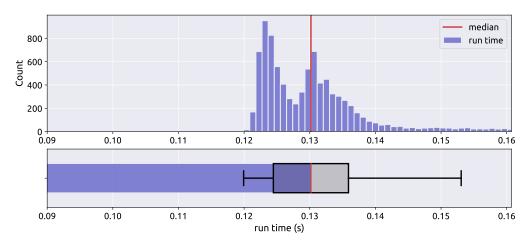


Figure B.1: Run-time statistics for evaluating the log likelihood 10k times.

In order simplify the plot while keeping track of the process statistics, run-times are visualized as bar-plot with an box-plot on top. The final bar value is the median run-time, which corresponds to the red line in the box-plot. The box contains $50\,\%$ of the data that is closed to the median and the whiskers mark the minimum and maximum value.

Benchmarking the log likelihood function with numpy and jax backend

A just-in-time compiled likelihood function (by jax) reduces the run-time by a factor of 2 to 4, compared to the numpy backend.

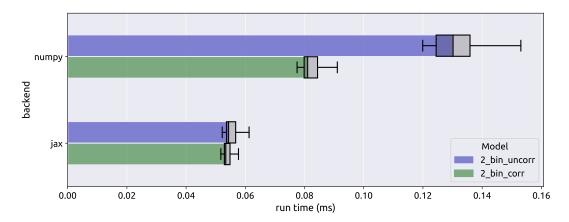


Figure B.2: Benchmarking the log likelihood with numpy and jax backend for two HF models.

Appendix C

Additional Run-time Benchmarks

Table C.1: Summary of run-time benchmarks in Figure C.1. The values represent the median run-time with 1σ standard deviation without outliers for 5k, 10k and 50k nsteps.

		5k	10k	50k
Method	Implementation	run-time (s)		
	$\mathrm{Julia} + \mathtt{LiteHF}$	0.08 ± 0.01	0.10 ± 0.00	0.40 ± 0.05
\mathbf{MH}	Julia + pyhf	1.11 ± 0.06	1.47 ± 0.05	5.09 ± 0.13
	Python + BAT	2.14 ± 0.12	2.46 ± 0.05	5.49 ± 0.13
	$\mathrm{Julia} + \mathtt{LiteHF}$	0.97 ± 0.06	1.45 ± 0.14	7.73 ± 0.79
\mathbf{HMC}	Julia + pyhf	31.9 ± 0.9	57.8 ± 3.0	257 ± 11
	Python + BAT	74.7 ± 4.0	97.7 ± 4.2	281 ± 14

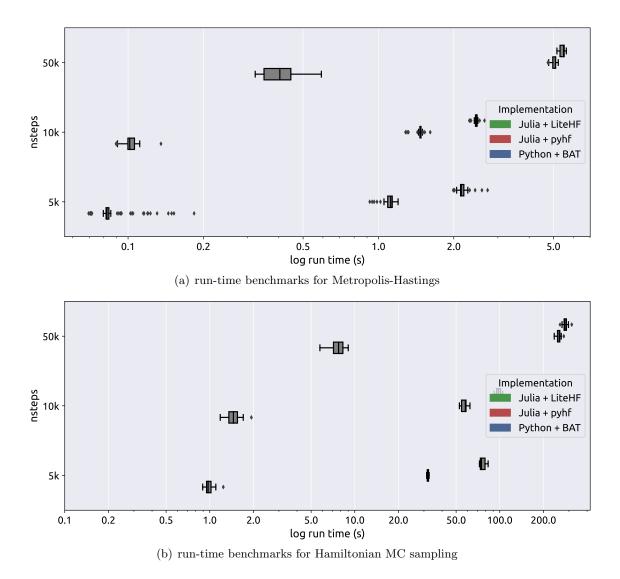


Figure C.1: Run-time benchmark for the 4_bin model for different MCMC nsteps with logarithmic time axis. Uncertainties are visualized as box-plot as illustrated in Figure B.1. The run-time in Julia is averaged over 100 runs, for the other two implementations over 40 runs for MH and 10 runs for HMC.

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