
xFitter: introduction and software status

— S. Glazov, xFitter workshop,
Orsay, 9 Mar 2022 —

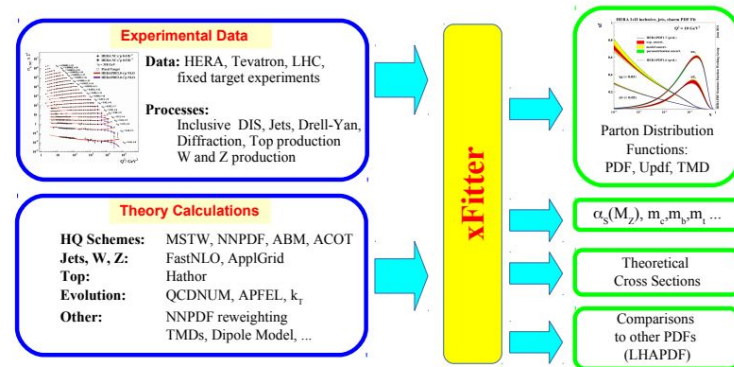
Last workshop: DESY Feb 26-28th, 2020



- Two years since the last workshop
- First face to face meeting for a long time.
- Many developments in between

xFitter overview

- xFitter is a QCD analysis tool
- Combines experimental data and theory with the focus on parton distribution function determination and other QCD parameters
- xFitter is supported by developers team, with a loose governance, consisting of experimentalists and theorists, with emphasis on phenomenology.
- xFitter developers continue software development of the package, support existing code, and also perform various analyses that are published as a team or as individual authors.



xFitter organization

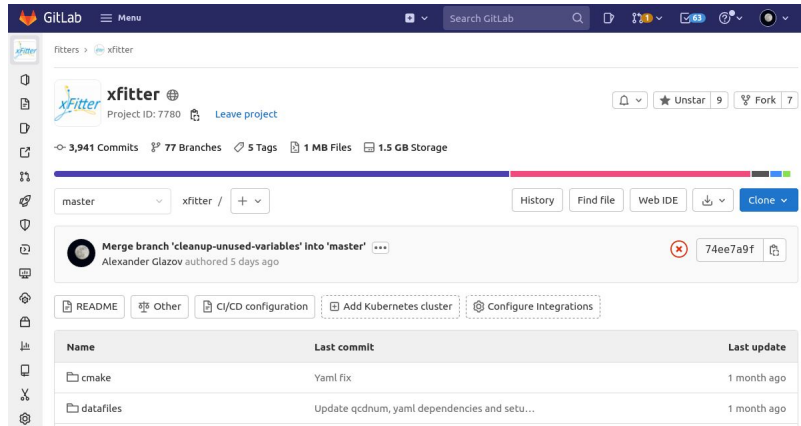
- xFitter developments are coordinated at biweekly xFitter developers' meetings (Wed 3pm CET/CEST).
- Communications occur using xfitter-devel@desy.de mailing list (ask me if you want to subscribe)
- No formal “spokesperson” position
- Everybody welcome to join, however for signing developers' papers a proof of contribution to the project is required.
- Software librarian is **currently vacant**, after Sasha Zenaiev left the project.

We had more strict governance model in the past, the current loose one seem to work
Ok, but it is open for a change

xFitter software overview

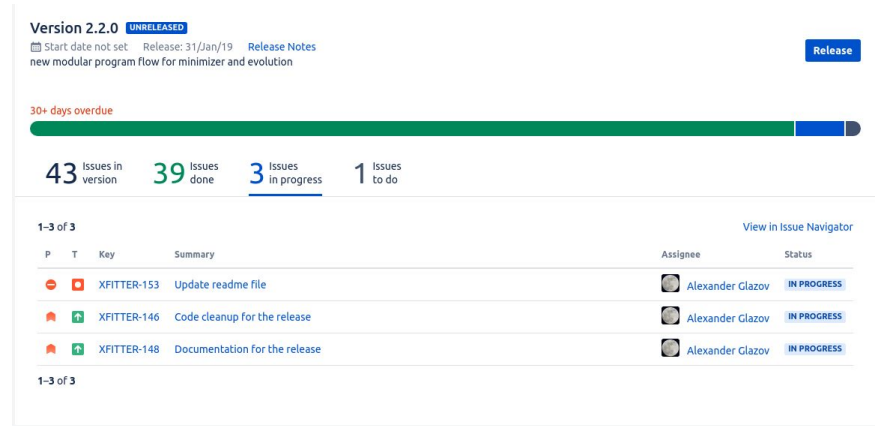
- Two supported “fortran-dominated” releases with a nuclear fork, downloadable from <https://www.xfitter.org/xFitter/xFitter/DownloadPage>
 - 2.0.0 Frozen frog
 - 2.0.1 Old Fashioned (mostly fixes for 2.0.0)
 - 2.0.1N Nuclear Daiquiri
- Several analyses used 2.1.0-release candidate, the code is tagged and can be found at gitlab <https://gitlab.cern.ch/fitters/xfitter/-/tags/master> before PionCeres merge
- Almost ready to be released as 2.2.0 “master” branch on gitlab repository which contains several major updates.
- We are likely to follow with 2.2.1 (bug fix) and 2.3.0 (further restructure) this year

xFitter code organization: gitlab and jira



The screenshot shows the GitLab interface for the 'xFitter' project. The project ID is 7780. It has 3,941 commits, 77 branches, 5 tags, 1 MB of files, and 1.5 GB of storage. The current branch is 'master'. A merge request is open to merge 'cleanup-unused-variables' into 'master', authored by Alexander Glazov 5 days ago. Below the merge request, there are buttons for 'README', 'Other', 'CI/CD configuration', 'Add Kubernetes cluster', and 'Configure Integrations'. A table lists the latest commits:

Name	Last commit	Last update
cmake	Yaml fix	1 month ago
datafiles	Update qcdnum, yaml dependencies and setu...	1 month ago



The screenshot shows the Jira project page for 'XFITTER'. The version is 2.2.0, which is 'UNRELEASED'. The start date is not set, and the release date is 31/Jan/19. The release notes mention a 'new modular program flow for minimizer and evolution'. A progress bar indicates '30+ days overdue'. The issue statistics are: 43 issues in version, 39 issues done, 3 issues in progress, and 1 issue to do. A table lists the issues:

P	T	Key	Summary	Assignee	Status
+	+	XFITTER-153	Update readme file	Alexander Glazov	IN PROGRESS
+	+	XFITTER-146	Code cleanup for the release	Alexander Glazov	IN PROGRESS
+	+	XFITTER-148	Documentation for the release	Alexander Glazov	IN PROGRESS

xFitter uses CERN services for the code <https://gitlab.cern.ch/fitters/xfitter> and issue tracking <https://its.cern.ch/jira/projects/XFITTER>. A CERN account is required for pull requests/ticket issue.

xFitter documentation: gitlab wiki

fitters > xfitter > Wiki > Home

Last edited by  **Simone Amoroso** 1 month ago

Page history

New page

Home



Version 2.2

User

IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM

[Installation script](#)
[Installing all datafiles](#)
[Installing with cmake](#)

Program steering


[Basic program usage](#)
[YAML steering](#)
[Data file format](#)
[Chi2 definition](#)
[Cuts](#)

Software documentation is moved to gitlab wiki <https://gitlab.cern.ch/fitters/xfitter/-/wikis/home> which is significantly improved in preparation for the **2.2.0 release**.

Please check the wiki before asking questions, and try to improve it.




xFitter data access: gitlab

fitters > xfitter-datafiles




xfitter-datafiles

Project ID: 88386 [Leave project](#)

  Star 0  Fork 0

250 Commits 11 Branches 0 Tags 6.6 GB Files 6.6 GB Storage

Data files for xfitter project [<https://gitlab.cern.ch/fitter/xfitter>, <https://www.xfitter.org>]





Auto DevOps

It will automatically build, test, and deploy your application based on a predefined CI/CD configuration.

Learn more in the [Auto DevOps documentation](#)

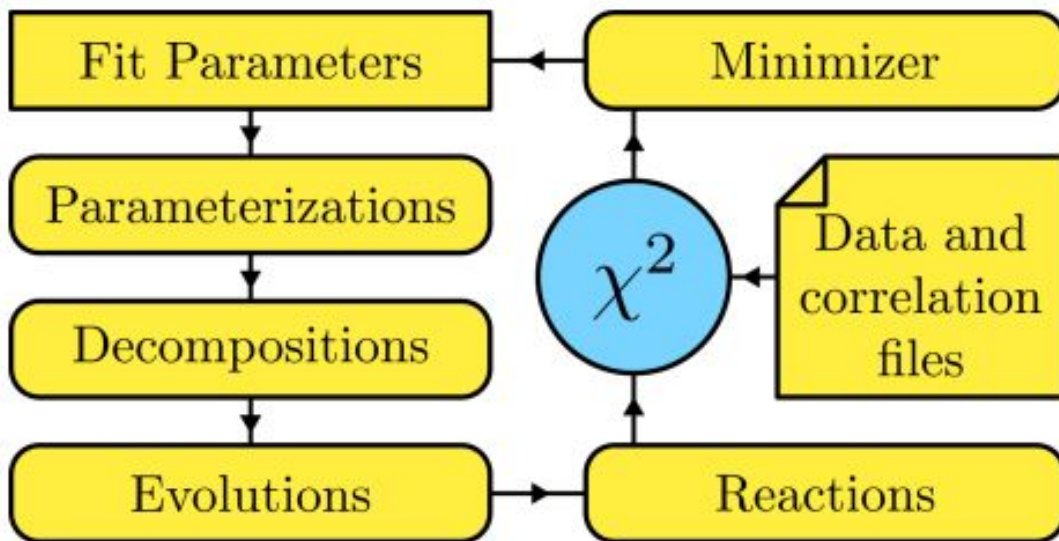
[Enable in settings](#)

master xfitter-datafiles / 

[History](#) [Find file](#) [Web IDE](#)  [Clone](#)

- Data access is now arranged via <https://gitlab.cern.ch/fitters/xfitter-datafiles>
- At the moment keep two versions of data files: compatible with 2.2.0 ("-thexp.dat") and with 2.0.0.

xFitter release 2.2.0



- Significant changes in the internal structure
- Re-written interfaces to minimizers, PDF parameterisation, decomposition, evolution and theory reactions
- Large changes in the user interface
- Data handling, format and chi2 calculation remain largely the same (but there are changes)

From talk by [Ivan Novikov](#)

New reaction interface

```
class ReactionTheory{
public:
    ReactionTheory() {};
```

virtual ~ReactionTheory() {};

public:

```
    using super=ReactionTheory;
    virtual string getReactionName()const=0; ///< Returns expected reaction name. Normally generated automatically by AddReaction.py
    virtual void atStart(); ///< called once after everything else is initialized
    virtual void atIteration(); ///< called in the beginning of each chi2 evaluation
    virtual void initTerm (TermData*); ///< called once for each term, after atStart()
    virtual void reinitTerm(TermData*); ///< called when some parameters for this term have changed and need to be re-read
    virtual void freeTerm (TermData*); ///< called for each term just before the ReactionTheory is destroyed. For cleanup
    ///< The following 2 methods are TEMPORARY, poorly defined and probably will be replaced
    virtual void atFCN3();
    virtual void atMakeErrorBands(int i);
    ///< Main function to compute predictions for given term. Return results by filling val and errors
    virtual void compute(TermData*,valarray<double>&val,map<string,valarray<double> >&errors)=0;
};
```

- All theory predictions inherit from ReactionTheory class.
- Design is to have single instance of the class which handles multiple datafiles

Updates of the program control

parameters.yaml



Since version 2.2, parameters.yaml is the main steering file for xFitter. Some options that control the old fortran code are still in steering.txt, but we are planning to slowly migrate to the YAML steering and get rid of steering.txt completely.

The fitted parameters, the used parameterizations, decompositions and evolutions are defined in parameters.yaml. See [defining parameters](#), [defining parameterisations](#), [defining evolutions](#)

Including files

Other YAML files can be included in the main file like this:

```
? !include PATH_TO_FILE
```

- Major changes in the way xFitter is steered
- Most of the parameters are moved to **parameters.yaml** file with only few options controlled by **steering.txt** namelists.
- The only namelists read from **steering.txt** are &InFiles, &InCorr, &CovarToNuisance, &xFitter (and only chi2 part of it), &Output, and &Cuts, the plan is to drop it altogether with version 2.3.0

Data format changes

<pre>!* File produced by HERAVerager !* Created on 20160405 &Data Name = 'ATLAS W+ lepton rapidity 2011' Reaction = 'CC pp' TheoryType = 'expression' TermName = 'A1', 'K' TermType = 'applgrid','kfactor' TermSource = 'datafiles/lhc/atlas/wzProduction/1612.03016/grid-40-6-15-3-Wplus_wyl.root', 'datafiles/lhc/atlas/wzProduction/1612.03016/kf.wplus.txt' TheorExpr = 'K*A1/1000' NData = 11 NColumn = 138</pre>	2.0.0 format
<pre>!* File produced by HERAVerager !* Created on 20160405 &Data Name = 'ATLAS W+ lepton rapidity 2011' Reaction = 'CC pp' TermName = 'A','K' TermSource = 'APPLgrid','KFactor' TermInfo = 'GridName=datafiles/lhc/atlas/wzProduction/1612.03016/grid-40-6-15-3-Wplus_wyl.root', 'FileName=datafiles/lhc/atlas/wzProduction/1612.03016/kf.wplus.txt','FileColumn=3' TheorExpr = 'K*A/1000' NData = 11 NColumn = 138</pre>	2.2.0 format
UU:----F1 wplus.dat Top L15 Git:master (Fortran company) -----	UU:----F1 wplus-thexp.dat Top L5 Git:master (Fortran company) -----

- Data format remains largely the same, main changes in the description of the theory.
- TheoryType, Reaction, TermType parameters become optional (“Reaction” is still used for cuts)
- There is a change of the kFactor table format: becomes more flexible, but also not compatible.
- Dataset parameters can be given in TermInfo, they can be also modified in the

Flexible evolution bindings

```
Evolutions:
  NAME:
    class: EVOLUTION_CLASS
    EVOLUTION_OPTIONS
  proton-QCDNUM:
    class: QCDNUM
    decomposition: proton
    #QCDNUM-specific options
    xGrid : [9.9e-7, 0.01, 0.1, 0.4, 0.7]
    xGridW : [1, 2, 4, 8, 16]
    Q2Grid : [1., 2.05e8 ]
    Q2GridW : [1., 1.]
    NQ2bins : 120
    NXbins : 200
    Read_QCDNUM_Tables : 1
    SplineOrder : 2
    ICheck : 0
  proton-LHAPDF:
    class: LHAPDF
    set: "CT10nlo"
    member: 0
  antiproton:
    class: FlipCharge
    input: proton-LHAPDF
  proton-APFELxx:
    ? !include evolutions/APFELxx.yaml
    decomposition: proton
...
```

- Similar to **ReactionTheory**, evolution codes are based on a **BaseEvolution** class
- Evolutions provide computations of the PDFs, α_S , and other parameters based on **PDFdecomposition**, external input, or other evolutions.
- xFitter job can have several or no evolutions (for reactions such as TensorPomeron)
- The extended flexibility simplifies fits involving combination of several targets, e.g. pp, ppbar, pPb, etc.

Changes in the minimizer

```
Parameters:
NAME: DEFINITION
Bg : [ -0.061953, 0.27 ]
Cg : [ 5.562367, 0.32 ]
Adv : DEPENDENT
Bdv : [ 1.029995, 0.06 ]
Cdv : [ 4.846279, 0.3 ]
Cubar: [ 7.059694, 0.8 ]
Dubar: [ 1.548098, 1.0 ]
Adbar: [ 0.1613, 0.01 ]
Bdbar: [ -0.1273, 0.004 ]
Cdbar: # another example of providing value, step etc.
  value: 9.586246
  step: 1.2345
  #min
  #max
  #pr_mean
  #pr_sigma
ZERO : 0
fs : 0.4 #no step means fixed
DbarToS: "=fs/(1-fs)"

Minimizer: MINUIT
MINUIT:
  Commands: |
    call fcn 1
    migrad
    hesse
    call fcn 3

doErrors : Hesse # or Pumplin
```

- Parameters are now specified in **parameters.yaml** file, with the syntax loosely following the one from minuit
- Parameters can be also provided as functions of other parameters
- Parameters are then controlled by minimizers, two of which are interfaced: fortran Minuit and CERES.
- More strict checks of the convergence compared to previous versions

From autotools to cmake

The build system has been completely rewritten using cmake. The new system is faster and more reliable.

Two libraries are required: **QCDNUM** and **yaml-cpp**. All other libraries are optional, cmake automatically detects whether they are installed and disables optional modules/features as necessary. After installing dependencies, one can use the wrapper script:

```
./make.sh install      - configure, compile, and install
./make.sh build        - configure and compile
./make.sh              - same (configure and compile)
./make.sh run          - configure, compile, install, and run
./make.sh clean        - delete all build files
./make.sh uninstall    - delete all installed files
./make.sh reconfigure  - configure from scratch
```

By default it builds in `./build` and installs in-source.

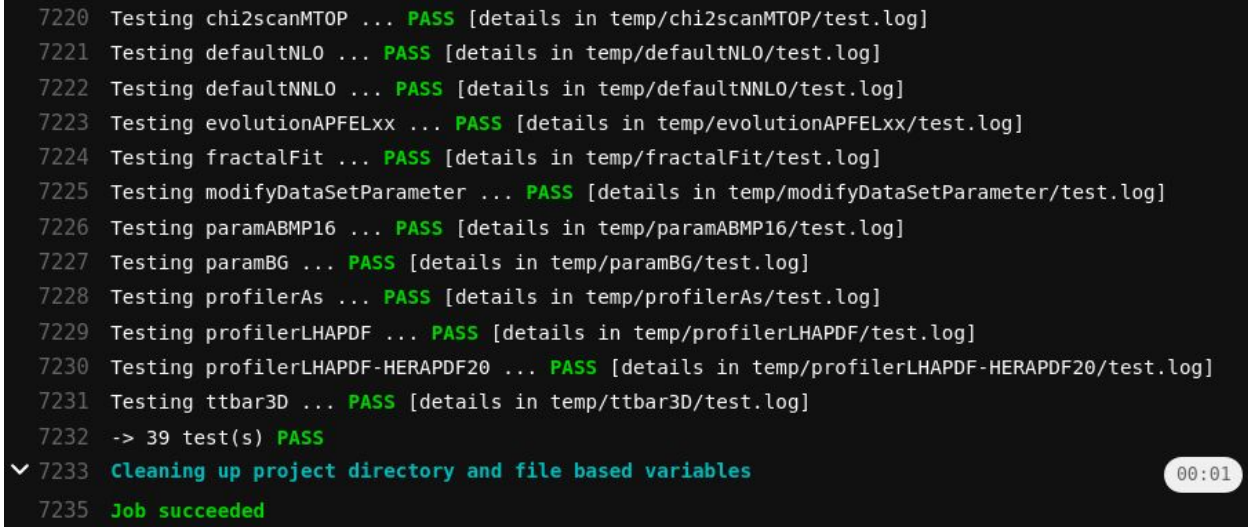
More information can be found on the wiki:

<https://gitlab.cern.ch/fitters/xfitter/-/wikis/Installation>

(from Ivan's slides https://indico.desy.de/event/25055/contributions/55814/attachments/36157/45265/status-master_1.pdf)

Improved validation

```
7220 Testing chi2scanMTOP ... PASS [details in temp/chi2scanMTOP/test.log]
7221 Testing defaultNLO ... PASS [details in temp/defaultNLO/test.log]
7222 Testing defaultNNLO ... PASS [details in temp/defaultNNLO/test.log]
7223 Testing evolutionAPFELxx ... PASS [details in temp/evolutionAPFELxx/test.log]
7224 Testing fractalFit ... PASS [details in temp/fractalFit/test.log]
7225 Testing modifyDataSetParameter ... PASS [details in temp/modifyDataSetParameter/test.log]
7226 Testing paramABMP16 ... PASS [details in temp/paramABMP16/test.log]
7227 Testing paramBG ... PASS [details in temp/paramBG/test.log]
7228 Testing profilerAs ... PASS [details in temp/profilerAs/test.log]
7229 Testing profilerLHAPDF ... PASS [details in temp/profilerLHAPDF/test.log]
7230 Testing profilerLHAPDF-HERAPDF20 ... PASS [details in temp/profilerLHAPDF-HERAPDF20/test.log]
7231 Testing ttbar3D ... PASS [details in temp/ttbar3D/test.log]
7232 -> 39 test(s) PASS
✓ 7233 Cleaning up project directory and file based variables
7235 Job succeeded
```



- Automatic validation of all pull requests / nightly builds
- Tests with minimal and full installation, including all dependences
- Most of functionality covered, plans to extend further.

Release strategy

Version 2.3.0 **UNRELEASED**

Start: 11/Nov/21 Release: 23/Dec/22 [Release Notes](#)
Polished 2.2.0, some extra features

Release

291 days left

9 Issues in version 0 Issues done 0 Issues in progress 9 Issues to do

1-9 of 9

[View in Issue Navigator](#)

P	T	Key	Summary	Assignee	Status
+	+	XFITTER-68	Theory reaction for DiffTop fastNLO	Andrey Sapronov	OPEN
+	+	XFITTER-54	S-ACOT chi at NNLO	Fred Olness	OPEN
+	+	XFITTER-139	Pure abstract base DIS classes	Alexander Glazov	OPEN
+	+	XFITTER-143	Extend base parameterisation class to allow for analytic (automatic?) d...	Alexander Glazov	OPEN
=	+	XFITTER-141	Improve CERES interface	Simone Amoroso	OPEN
=	+	XFITTER-142	Extra simple parameterisations	Simone Amoroso	OPEN
<	+	XFITTER-127	for ceres minimizations, parameters are not reported at the end of the ...	Simone Amoroso	OPEN
<	+	XFITTER-25	New DYTURBO interface	Stefano Camarda	OPEN
<	+	XFITTER-27	Update TMD code	Hannes Jung	OPEN

1-9 of 9

- 2.2.0 should be released at the workshop or shortly after
- 2.2.1 will target issues discovered with 2.2.0
- Few items moved from 2.2.0 to 2.3.0
- Further changes are to be discussed, including major update of data interface and chi2 computation.

Workshop goals

- Discuss xFitter software developments, finalize release 2.2.0, decide on 2.3.0
- Discuss xFitter developers' team ongoing and potential future analyses.
- Finalize Snowmass contribution

