This is the first part of two lectures on ROOT.

ROOT is an advanced tool for the data analysis optimized for large datasets.

In this lecture I will present briefly the main characteristics of the ROOT framework, in particular I will cover:

- The user interface of the package with some more details on its scripting capabilities
- Its high quality graphics capabilities
- Its mathematic libraries
- Its capabilities to store simple objects like histograms as well as large collection of data (trees)
- Finally the parallel ROOT facility (PROOF) will be presented

The lecture will present ROOT in a very basic way, no previous knowledge of the package or programming knowledge is required.