PHYSTAT-Flavour 2020



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Look-elsewhere effect in particle physics - knowns and unknowns

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The LEE, also known as multiple comparisons problem and addressed by a trials factor, has become an essential part of any analyst's toolkit in the last decade. It is much less esoteric and much more pervasive that one could naively think and we'll walking through a series of first hand recounts of appearances it has made in the LHC. We'll both discuss known techniques to deal with the effect as well as potential caveats in hitherto unseen problems. While some potential problems are related to physics, the future is highly multi-dimensional and that brings us to present-day statistics issues that, interestingly, particle physicists may end up being reasonably equipped to tackle.

Presenter: DAVID, André (CERN)
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