Gen-HET statistics on string theory

What is Gen-HET?

- GenHET is a permanent working group hosted by the CERN Theory Department
- Main objectives are to monitor the situation of women in High Energy
 Theoretical Physics, increase the awareness of gender issues in the
 field, improve the visibility and presence of women in decision
 making roles and providing networking, support and mentoring,
 particularly to early career researchers.
- Several activities to pursue these objectives.

https://genhet.web.cern.ch

Working Group on data collection

- Alex Belin
- Agnese Bissi
- Yolanda Lozano
- Silvia Penati

Thanks to all the members of the community and of Gen-HET working group who contributed to collect the data.

Some background

The last survey on the high energy community dates back to 2017.

There was (and still is) a strong urge to monitor the statistics and to collect updated data.

Some background

The last survey on the high energy community dates back to 2017.

There was (and still is) a strong urge to monitor the statistics and to collect updated data.

There are several problem when trying to collect data:

- the global theoretical high energy community is large
- biological gender vs gender identity
- we are not (at least not all of us) experts on data collection
- we do it in our spare time.

We decided to start with a smaller setup:

We decided to start with a smaller setup:



We decided to start with a smaller setup:

String theory community (broadly speaking— defines themselves as string theorist/attend Strings conference)

We decided to start with a smaller setup:

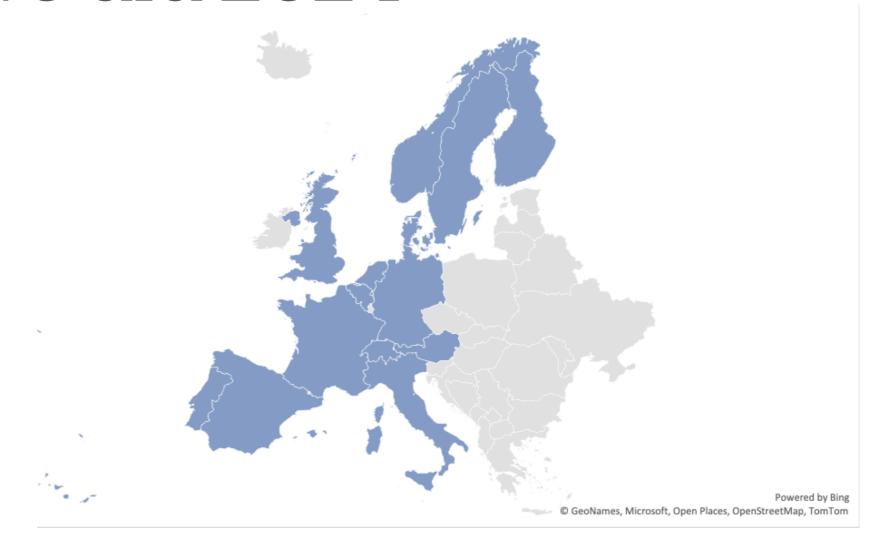
String theory community (broadly speaking— defines themselves as string theorist/attend Strings conference)

We decided to start with a smaller setup:

String theory community (broadly speaking— defines themselves as string theorist/attend Strings conference)

(some) European institutions

How we did 2024

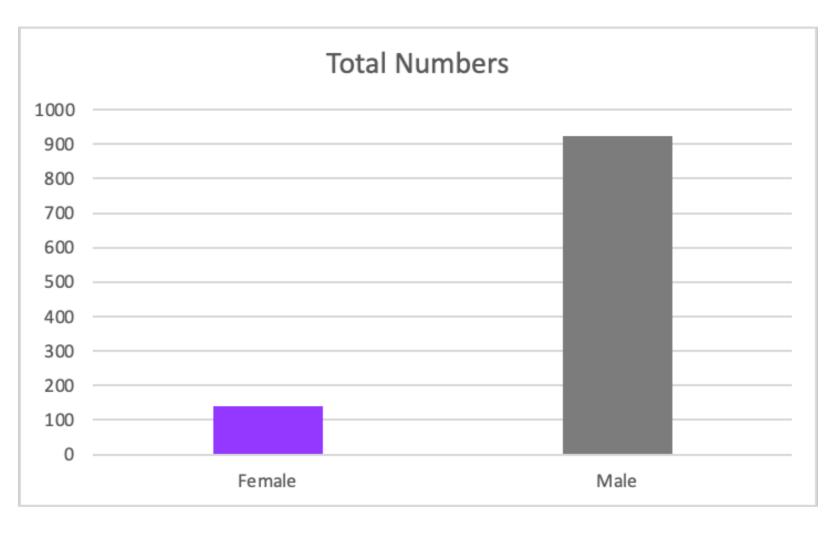


Ask a reference person in each of the blue countries to fill in a table with these entries

Female PhD	Total PhD	Female Post Doc	Total Post Doc	Female Associate Prof.	Total Associate Prof.	Female Full Professor	Total Full Professor	
------------	-----------	--------------------	-------------------	------------------------------	-----------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------	--

Results 2024

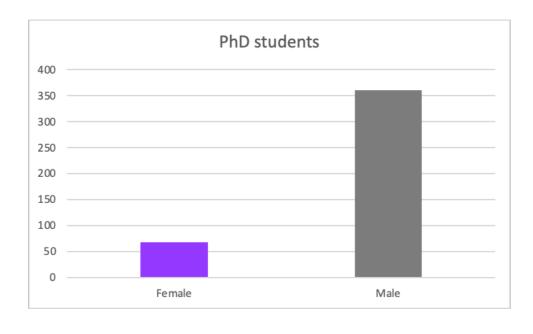
Total number of scientists: 1062

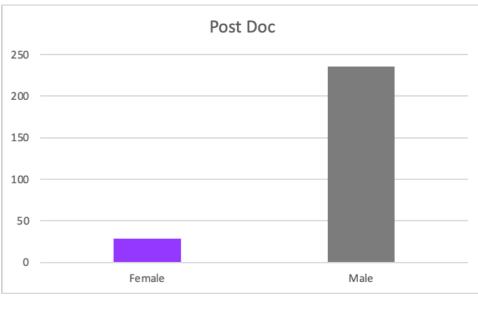


13%

87%

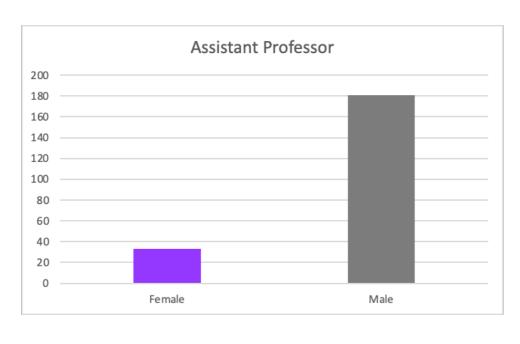
Results 2024

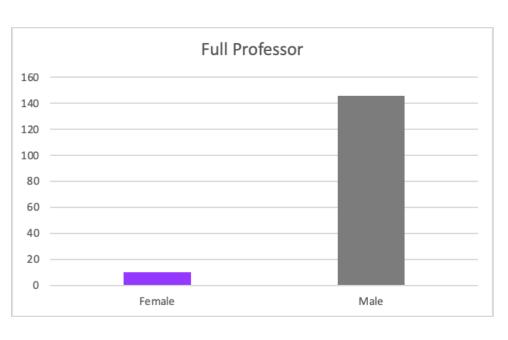








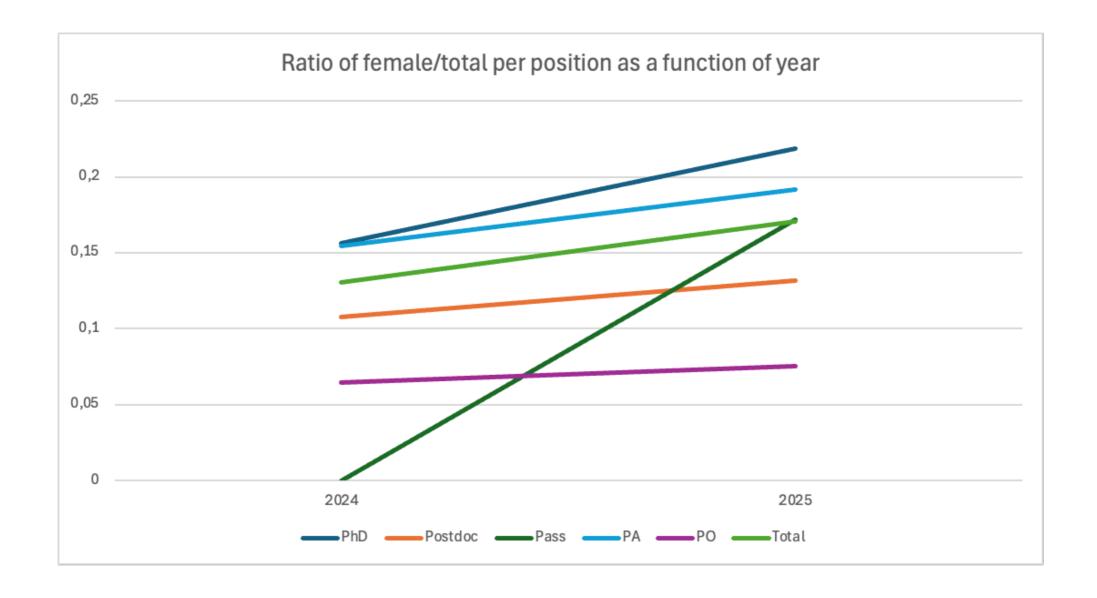




5% 85

949

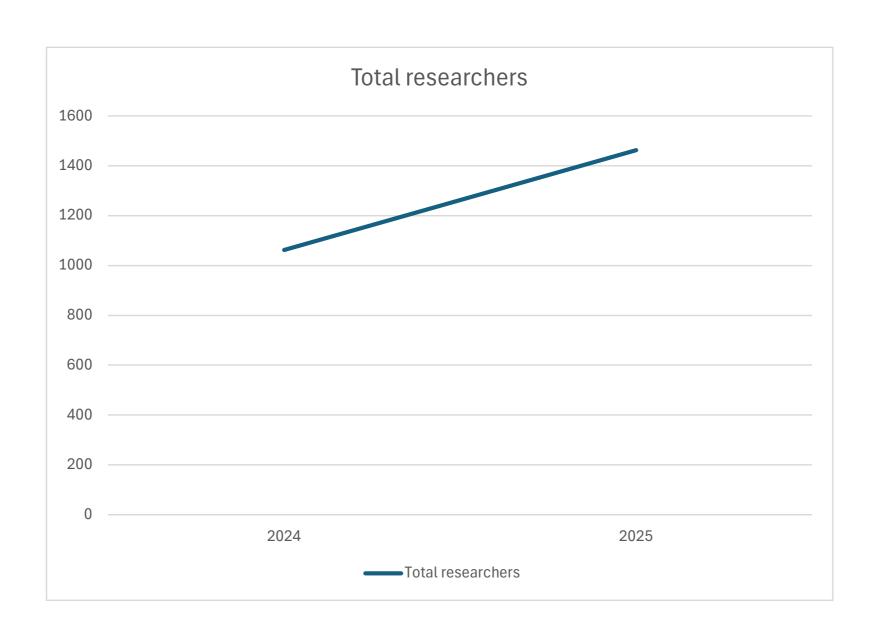
Results 2025



We decided to add a new category: Assistant professor (tenure track or non permanent).

We added a few countries (Greece, Israel, Ireland).

Thanks!



What to do next

We will monitor the data each year, in a similar fashion of what we did in 2025

Expand into other continents

Include other data, such as nationality etc.

Find a standardised framework to collect data, also qualitative.

STRING THEORY MENTORING PROGRAM

Mentoring program for people working on string theory across the world

It is open to anyone but targeted to underrepresented groups

https://sites.google.com/view/mentoring-program-string-th

Coordinated by
Mariana Graña and Irene Valenzuela







Applications are now open!

You can apply as a mentee and/or as a mentor at any career stage

Deadline: September 14, 2025