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Status of soft probes and the initial condition of the quark-gluon plasma

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A central question in the phenomenology of relativistic heavy-ion collisions is how the initial state of the quark-gluon plasma (QGP) is precisely shaped. This contribution reports on recent groundbreaking advances concerning our understanding of the initial state of the QGP resulting from global Bayesian analyses (and their shortcomings) of soft probes. Ideas for future directions of investigation are pointed out.

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