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Parton Distributions in the Higgs Boson Era

With the recent discovery of the Higgs boson at the LHC, particle physics has entered a new era, where it is of utmost importance to provide accurate theoretical predictions for all relevant high energy processes for signal, background and New Physics production. Crucial ingredients of these predictions are the Parton Distribution Functions, which encode the non-perturbative dynamics determining how the proton's energy is split among its constituents, quarks and gluons. To bypass the drawbacks of traditional analyses, a novel approach to PDF determination has recently been proposed, based on artificial neural networks, machine learning techniques and genetic algorithms.

In this talk we motivate their relevance for LHC phenomenology and describe the latest developments of PDFs with LHC data.

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