

# Progress in Parton Distribution Functions

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CERN PH-TH

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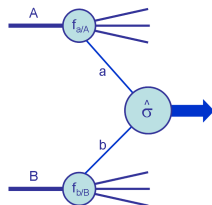
# Introduction

- Protons are not elementary particles: made of **partons**.  
 $\Rightarrow$  **Parton Distribution Functions (PDFs)** essential to relate theory to experiment at the LHC (and Tevatron, HERA, ...).
- $f_{a/A}(x, Q^2)$  gives *number density* of partons  $a$  in hadron  $A$  with momentum fraction  $x$  at a hard scale  $Q^2 \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2$ .

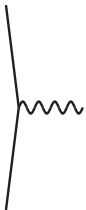
$$\sigma_{AB} = \sum_{a,b=q,g} \int_0^1 dx_a \int_0^1 dx_b f_{a/A}(x_a, Q^2) f_{b/B}(x_b, Q^2) \hat{\sigma}_{ab}$$

## Outline of talk:

- Sketch of standard pQCD framework
- Determination of PDFs via global fits
- Recent developments from fitting groups
- Implications for Tevatron and LHC



# Diagrammatic interpretation of collinear factorisation

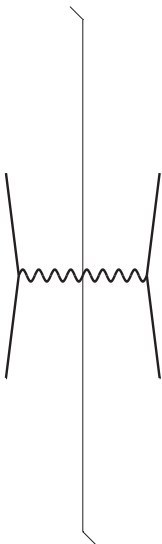


- Drell–Yan production at LO:  
 $q\bar{q} \rightarrow V = W/Z/\gamma^*$
- Cut diagram:  $|\mathcal{M}|^2 = \mathcal{M}\mathcal{M}^*$
- Large logarithm from collinear gluon emission:  
 $\int_{k_0^2}^{Q^2} (dk_T^2/k_T^2) \frac{\alpha_S}{2\pi} P_{q \leftarrow q}(z)$
- Similar collinear logs from other parton splittings.
- DGLAP evolution equation:

$$\frac{\partial f_{a/p}}{\partial \ln Q^2} = \frac{\alpha_S}{2\pi} \sum_{a'=q,g} P_{a \leftarrow a'} \otimes f_{a'/p}$$

- $f_{a/p}(x, Q_0^2) \Rightarrow f_{a/p}(x, Q^2)$

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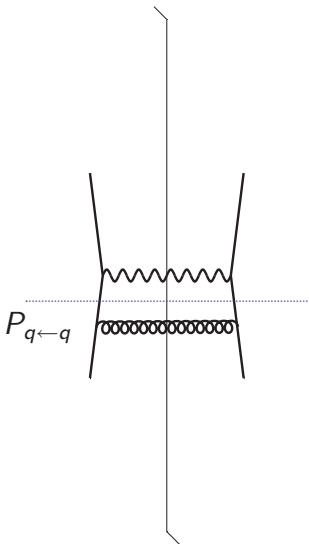


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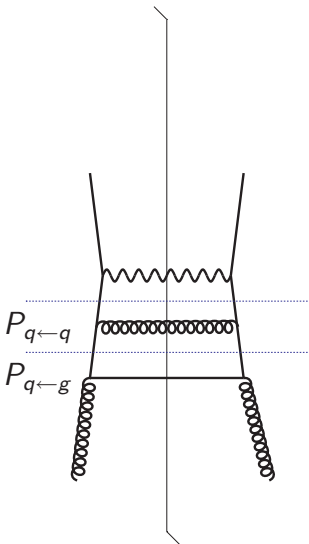


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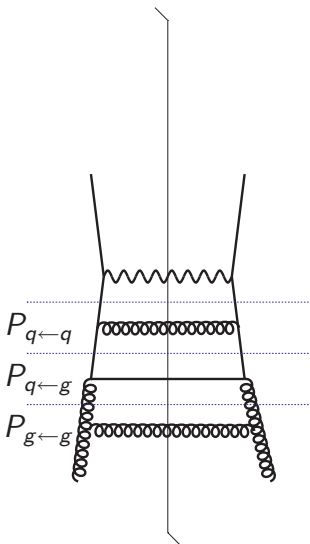


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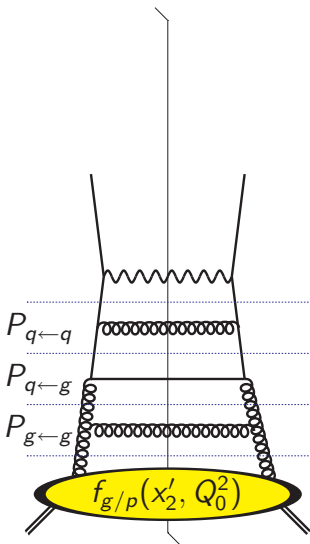
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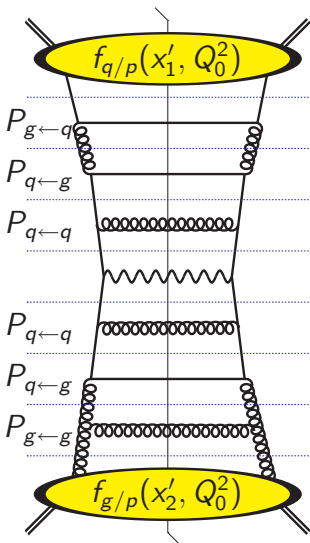
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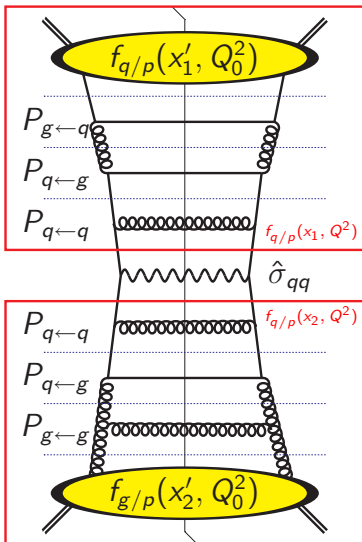


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# Fixed-order collinear factorisation at hadron colliders

- The “standard” pQCD framework: holds up to formally power-suppressed (“higher-twist”) terms  $\mathcal{O}(\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2/Q^2)$ .
- Expand  $\hat{\sigma}_{ab}$ ,  $P_{aa'}$  and  $\beta$  as perturbative series in  $\alpha_S$  ( $\mu_R = \mu_F = Q$ ).

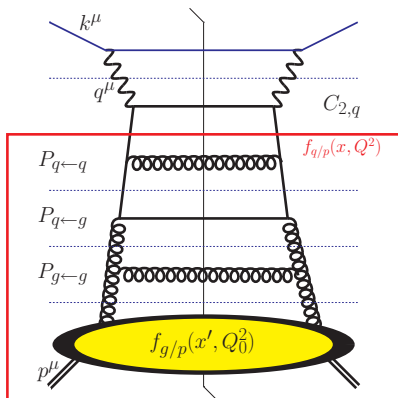
$$\sigma_{AB} = \sum_{a,b=q,g} [\hat{\sigma}_{ab}^{\text{LO}} + \alpha_S(Q^2)\hat{\sigma}_{ab}^{\text{NLO}} + \dots] \otimes f_{a/A}(x_a, Q^2) \otimes f_{b/B}(x_b, Q^2)$$

PDF evolution: 
$$\frac{\partial f_{a/A}}{\partial \ln Q^2} = \frac{\alpha_S}{2\pi} \sum_{a'=q,g} [P_{aa'}^{\text{LO}} + \alpha_S P_{aa'}^{\text{NLO}} + \dots] \otimes f_{a'/A}$$

$\alpha_S$  evolution: 
$$\frac{\partial \alpha_S}{\partial \ln Q^2} = -\beta^{\text{LO}} \alpha_S^2 - \beta^{\text{NLO}} \alpha_S^3 - \dots$$

Need to extract input values  $f_{a/A}(x, Q_0^2)$  and  $\alpha_S(M_Z^2)$  from data.  
(N.B. Theory not perfect, e.g. resummation of  $\ln(1/x)$  terms needed?)

# Structure functions in deep-inelastic scattering (DIS)



Kinematic variables:

$$Q^2 = -q^2 > 0$$

$$W^2 = (q + p)^2$$

$$s = (k + p)^2$$

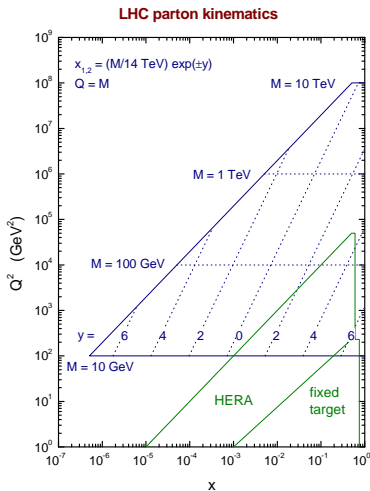
$$x_{\text{Bj}} = \frac{Q^2}{2p \cdot q} \simeq \frac{Q^2}{Q^2 + W^2}$$

$$y = \frac{q \cdot p}{k \cdot p} \simeq \frac{Q^2}{x_{\text{Bj}} s}$$

$$F_i(x_{\text{Bj}}, Q^2) = \sum_{a=q,g} \int_{x_{\text{Bj}}}^1 dz C_{i,a}(z) \frac{x_{\text{Bj}}}{z} f_{a/p}\left(\frac{x_{\text{Bj}}}{z}, Q^2\right)$$

$$\equiv \sum_{a=q,g} C_{i,a} \otimes f_{a/p}, \quad C_{i,a} = C_{i,a}^{\text{LO}} + \alpha_S C_{i,a}^{\text{NLO}} + \dots$$

# From HERA *et al.* to the LHC



- PDFs are **universal**.
- Fit existing data from **HERA** and **fixed-target** experiments, together with **Tevatron** data.
- **HERA** *ep* (H1, ZEUS).
- **Fixed-target** experiments:  
*lp, ld*  
(BCDMS, NMC, E665, SLAC),  
*νN*  
(CCFR, NuTeV, CHORUS),  
*pp, pd* (E866/NuSea).
- **Tevatron** *p $\bar{p}$*  (CDF, DØ).
- DGLAP evolution gives PDFs at higher  $Q^2$  for LHC.

# Paradigm for PDF determination by “global analysis”

- 1 **Parameterise** the  $x$  dependence for each flavour  $a = q, g$  at the input scale  $Q_0^2 \sim 1 \text{ GeV}^2$  in some flexible form, e.g.

$$xf_{a/p}(x, Q_0^2) = A_a x^{\Delta_a} (1-x)^{\eta_a} (1 + \epsilon_a \sqrt{x} + \gamma_a x),$$

subject to number- and momentum-sum rule constraints.

- 2 **Evolve** the PDFs to higher scales  $Q^2 > Q_0^2$  using the DGLAP (Dokshitzer–Gribov–Lipatov–Altarelli–Parisi) evolution equations.
- 3 **Convolute** the evolved PDFs with  $C_{i,a}$  and  $\hat{\sigma}_{ab}$  to calculate theory predictions corresponding to a wide variety of data.
- 4 **Vary** the input parameters  $\{A_a, \Delta_a, \eta_a, \epsilon_a, \gamma_a, \dots\}$  to minimise

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{pts.}}} \left( \frac{\text{Data}_i - \text{Theory}_i}{\text{Error}_i} \right)^2$$

# Determination of parton distributions by global analysis

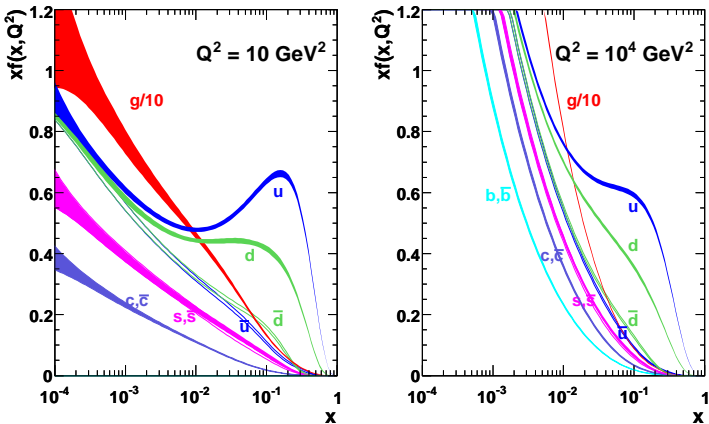
An “industry” for more than 20 years.

Regular updates as new data and theory become available.

- 1 First NLO fit: **Martin+Roberts+Stirling** ('88) + **Thorne** ('98).  
Recently, “**MSTW**” = **MRST** – Roberts + G.W.  
{MRST 2001 LO, MRST 2004 NLO, MRST 2006 NNLO}  
→ **MSTW 2008 LO, NLO, NNLO fits** [[arXiv:0901.0002](https://arxiv.org/abs/0901.0002)]
- 2 Other major group: “**CTEQ**” = **C**oordinated  
**T**heoretical–**E**xperimental Project on **Q**CD.
  - CTEQ6L1 LO [[hep-ph/0201195](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/0201195)]
  - CTEQ6.6 NLO [[arXiv:0802.0007](https://arxiv.org/abs/0802.0007)]
  - CTEQ NNLO?
- 3 Other groups fitting a restricted range of data with fewer free parameters: [S. Alekhin et al.](#), **HERA** experiments (H1, ZEUS).
- 4 NNPDF Collaboration: see later.

# Example of PDFs obtained from global analysis

## MSTW 2008 NLO PDFs (68% C.L.)



- Error bands shown are obtained from propagation of experimental uncertainties on the fitted data points.



# Criteria for choice of tolerance $T = \sqrt{\Delta\chi^2_{\text{global}}}$

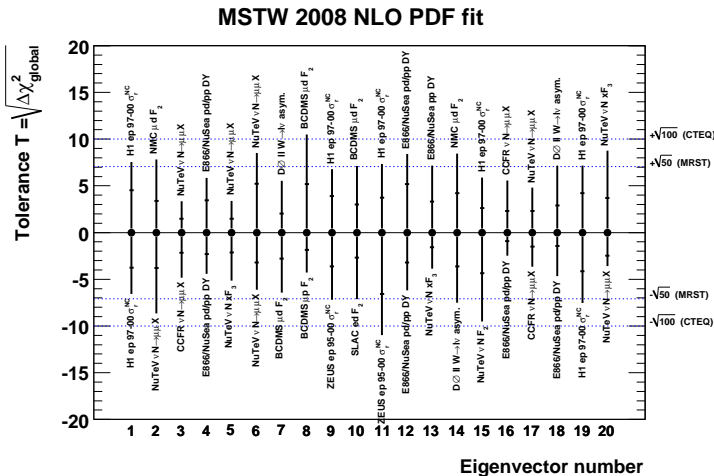
## Parameter-fitting criterion

- $T^2 = 1$  for 68% ( $1-\sigma$ ) C.L.,  $T^2 = 2.71$  for 90% C.L.
- **In practice:** minor inconsistencies between fitted data sets, and unknown experimental and theoretical uncertainties, so **not appropriate for global PDF analysis.**

## Hypothesis-testing criterion (proposed by CTEQ)

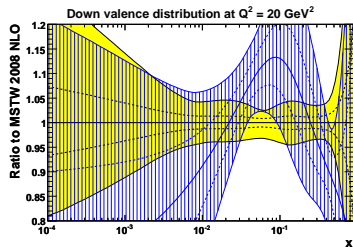
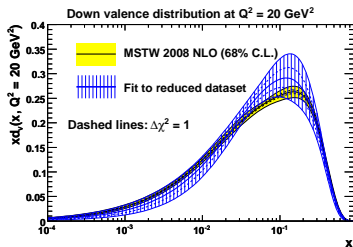
- Much weaker: treat PDF sets obtained from eigenvectors of covariance matrix as **alternative hypotheses.**
- Determine  $T^2$  from the criterion that **each data set should be described within its 90% C.L. limit.** Very roughly, a “good” fit has  $\chi^2 \simeq N_{\text{pts.}} \pm \sqrt{2N_{\text{pts.}}}$  for each data set.
- **CTEQ:**  $T^2 = 100$  for 90% C.L. limit, **MRST:**  $T^2 = 50$ .

# Dynamic tolerance: different for each eigenvector



- Outer (inner) error bars give tolerance for 90% (68%) C.L.

# Test of dynamic tolerance: fit to reduced dataset



- Fit to **reduced dataset** comprising **589** DIS data points, cf. **2699** data points in **global** fit.
- Errors given by  $T^2 = 1$  don't overlap  $\Rightarrow$  inconsistent data sets included in global fit.
- **Dynamic tolerance**  $T^2 > 1$  **accommodates** mildly inconsistent data sets.
- **Issues:**  $T^2 > 1$  not statistically rigorous, parameterisation dependence?

# Alternative approach: NNPDF Collaboration

**NNPDF Collaboration:** R. Ball, L. Del Debbio, S. Forte, A. Guffanti, J. Latorre, A. Piccione, J. Rojo, M. Ubiali

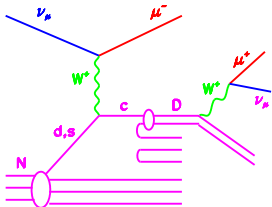
## MSTW approach [[arXiv:0901.0002](https://arxiv.org/abs/0901.0002)] (CTEQ similar)

Parameterisation	$xf_{a/p} \sim A_a x^{\Delta_a} (1-x)^{\eta_a} (1 + \epsilon_a \sqrt{x} + \gamma_a x)$
Minimisation	Non-linear least-squares (Marquardt method)
Error propagation	Hessian method with dynamical tolerance
Application	Use best-fit and 40 eigenvector PDF sets

## NNPDF approach [[arXiv:0808.1231](https://arxiv.org/abs/0808.1231)]

Parameterisation	Neural network (37 free parameters per PDF)
Minimisation	Genetic algorithm (stop before overlearning)
Error propagation	Generate $N_{\text{rep}} \sim \mathcal{O}(1000)$ MC data replicas
Application	Calculate average and s.d. over $N_{\text{rep}}$ PDF sets

# NuTeV/CCFR dimuon cross sections and strangeness



$$\frac{d\sigma}{dx dy}(\nu_\mu N \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- X) \propto \frac{d\sigma}{dx dy}(\nu_\mu N \rightarrow \mu^- c X)$$

- $\nu_\mu$  and  $\bar{\nu}_\mu$  cross sections constrain  $s$  and  $\bar{s}$ , respectively, for  $0.01 \lesssim x \lesssim 0.2$ .

- Can **relax assumption** made in previous fits that

$$s(x, Q_0^2) = \bar{s}(x, Q_0^2) = \frac{\kappa}{2} [\bar{u}(x, Q_0^2) + \bar{d}(x, Q_0^2)], \text{ with } \kappa \approx 0.5.$$

- MSTW **parameterise** at input scale of  $Q_0^2 = 1 \text{ GeV}^2$  in the form:

$$xs^+(x, Q_0^2) \equiv xs(x, Q_0^2) + x\bar{s}(x, Q_0^2) = A_+ (1-x)^{\eta_+} xS(x, Q_0^2),$$

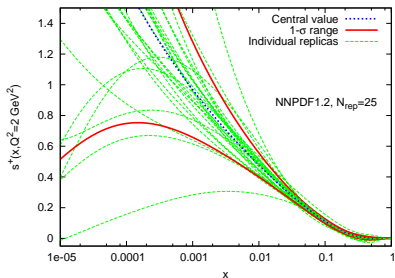
$$xs^-(x, Q_0^2) \equiv xs(x, Q_0^2) - x\bar{s}(x, Q_0^2) = A_- x^{0.2} (1-x)^{\eta_-} (1-x/x_0).$$

- $x_0$  fixed by zero strangeness:  $\int_0^1 dx [s(x, Q_0^2) - \bar{s}(x, Q_0^2)] = 0$ .

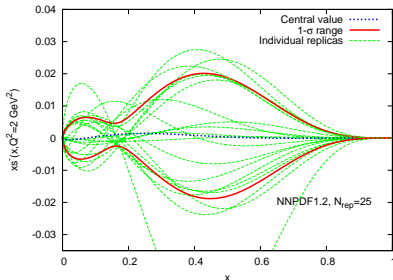
# First fits from NNPDF Collaboration

- NNPDF1.0: fit only DIS structure function data.  
Fix  $s = \bar{s} = (\bar{u} + \bar{d})/4$  at  $Q_0^2 = 2 \text{ GeV}^2$ .
- NNPDF1.1: free strangeness but no  $\nu N$  dimuon data.
- NNPDF1.2: free strangeness and add  $\nu N$  dimuon data.

$s^+ \equiv s + \bar{s}$  at  $Q^2 = 2 \text{ GeV}^2$ :



$xs^- \equiv xs - x\bar{s}$  at  $Q^2 = 2 \text{ GeV}^2$ :

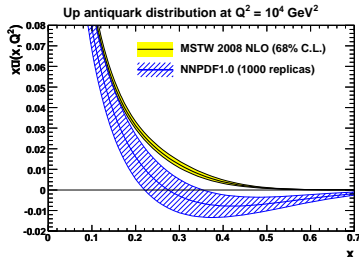
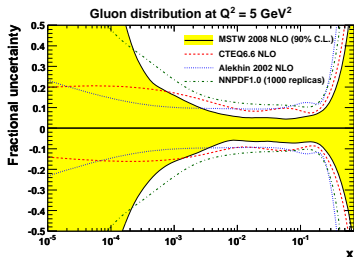
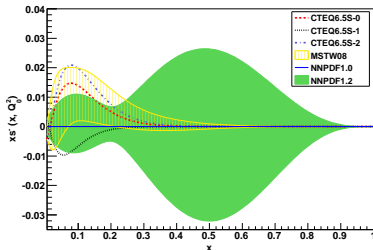
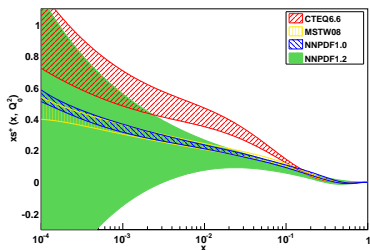


- Data only constrain  $0.01 \lesssim x \lesssim 0.2$ .

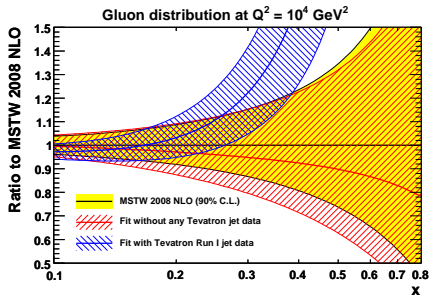
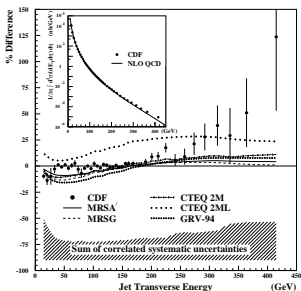
# NNPDFs compared to “standard” PDFs

$$xS^+ \equiv xS + x\bar{S} \text{ at } Q^2 = 2 \text{ GeV}^2:$$

$$xS^- \equiv xS - x\bar{S} \text{ at } Q^2 = 2 \text{ GeV}^2:$$

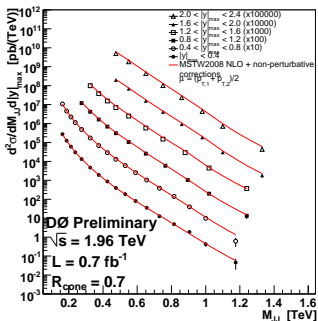


# Impact of Tevatron Run II inclusive jet production data

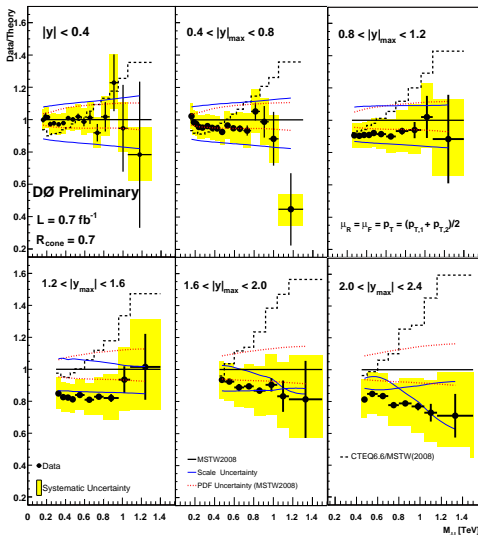


- Initial Tevatron Run I jet data showed an **excess** at high  $E_T$ , later **accommodated** by refitting gluon distribution.
- Run I data included in recent PDF fits up to **MRST 2006** (and current **CTEQ6.6**).
- **MSTW 2008** is first PDF fit to include Run II data: preference for **smaller** gluon distribution at high  $x$ .

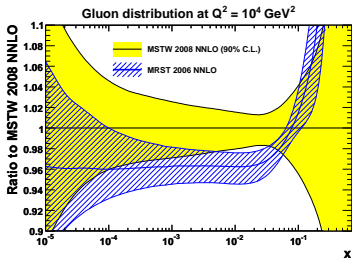


Description of  $D\bar{D}$  dijet mass spectrum[ $D\bar{D}$  Note 5919-CONF]

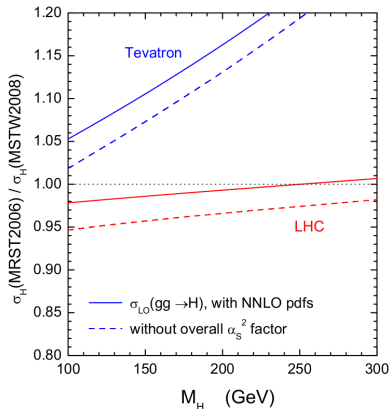
- Data favour **less** gluon at high  $x$  (**MSTW 2008** over **CTEQ6.6**).



# Implications of new PDFs for Higgs cross sections

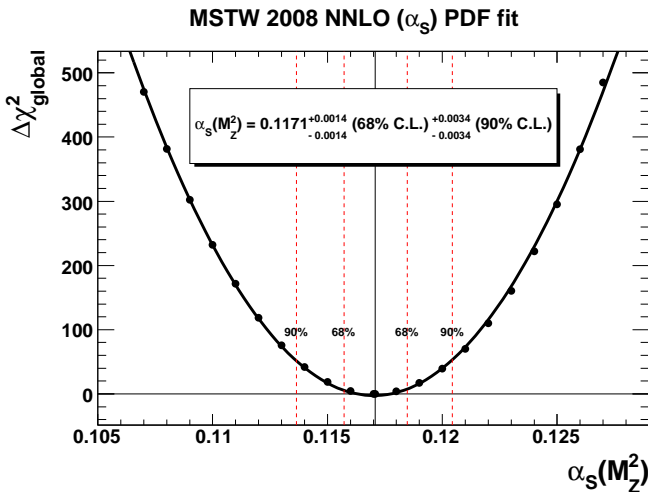


- NNLO trend similar to NLO:  
**smaller 2008** gluon at high  $x$ ,  
 larger **2008** gluon at low  $x$   
 (momentum sum rule).
- $\alpha_S(M_Z^2) = 0.1191$  (2006)  
 $\rightarrow 0.1171$  (**MSTW 2008**)



- Higgs cross sections **smaller**  
 at Tevatron with **2008** PDFs.
- Used in Tevatron exclusion  
 results (March 2009).

# $\Delta\chi_{\text{global}}^2$ as a function of $\alpha_S(M_Z^2)$ for the NNLO global fit

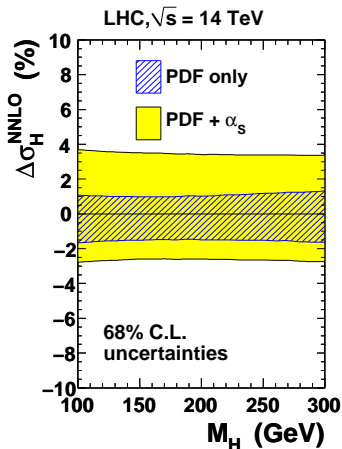
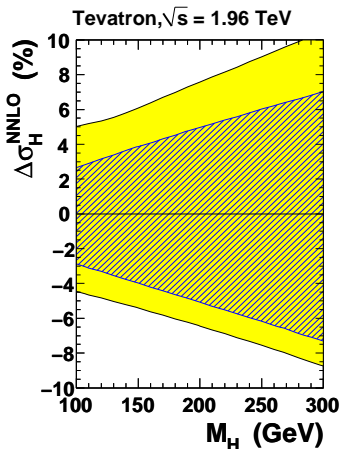


- Additional theory uncertainty ( $\lesssim |\text{NNLO} - \text{NLO}| = 0.003$ ).
- cf. PDG world average value of  $\alpha_S(M_Z^2) = 0.1176 \pm 0.002$ .

# Impact of $\alpha_S$ on SM Higgs uncertainty versus $M_H$

- **Correlation** between PDF and  $\alpha_S$  uncertainties in cross section calculations [MSTW, [arXiv:0905.3531](https://arxiv.org/abs/0905.3531)].

## Higgs cross sections with MSTW 2008 NNLO PDFs

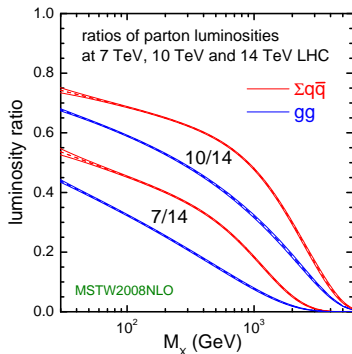
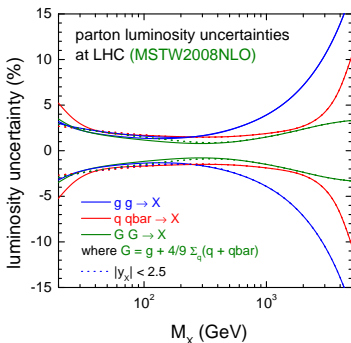


# Parton luminosity functions

If  $\hat{\sigma}_{ab} = C_X \delta(\hat{s} - M_X^2)$ , with  $\hat{s} = x_a x_b s$ , then

$$\sigma_{AB} = \sum_{a,b} \int_0^1 dx_a \int_0^1 dx_b f_{a/A}(x_a, M_X^2) f_{b/B}(x_b, M_X^2) \hat{\sigma}_{ab} = C_X \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}_{ab}}{\partial M_X^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}_{ab}}{\partial M_X^2} = \int_{\tau}^1 \frac{dx}{x} f_{a/A}(x, M_X^2) f_{b/B}(\tau/x, M_X^2), \quad \tau = \frac{M_X^2}{s}$$



# Summary

- **Parton Distribution Functions (PDFs)** are a non-negotiable input to all theory predictions at hadron colliders.
- **NNPDF** approach is a promising alternative to the **MSTW/CTEQ** approach: fully global fit expected soon.
- **Tevatron Run II jets** prefer **smaller high- $x$  gluon** than Run I: impact on Higgs cross sections at Tevatron.
- Now possible to consistently calculate combined **“PDF+ $\alpha_S$ ”** uncertainty on hadronic cross sections.
- **Parton luminosities** are a simple way to understand basic properties of hadronic cross sections.