



Neural Network Fits of Parton Distributions

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QCD-N'16

4th Workshop on the QCD Structure of the Nucleon

Guetxo, Spain, 11/07/2016

(unpolarized) Parton Distributions

The distribution of energy that **quarks and gluons** carry **inside the proton** is quantified by the **Parton Distribution Functions (PDFs)**

$$g(x, Q)$$

Q : Energy of the quark/gluon collision
Inverse of the resolution length

$g(x, Q)$: Probability of finding a gluon inside a proton, carrying a fraction x of the proton momentum, when probed with energy Q

x : Fraction of the proton's momentum

PDFs are determined by non-perturbative QCD dynamics: cannot be computed from first principles, and need to be **extracted from experimental data** with a **global analysis**

👤 **Energy conservation**

$$\int_0^1 dx \left(g(x, Q) + \sum_q q(x, Q) \right) = 1$$

👤 **Dependence with quark/gluon collision energy Q** determined in perturbation theory

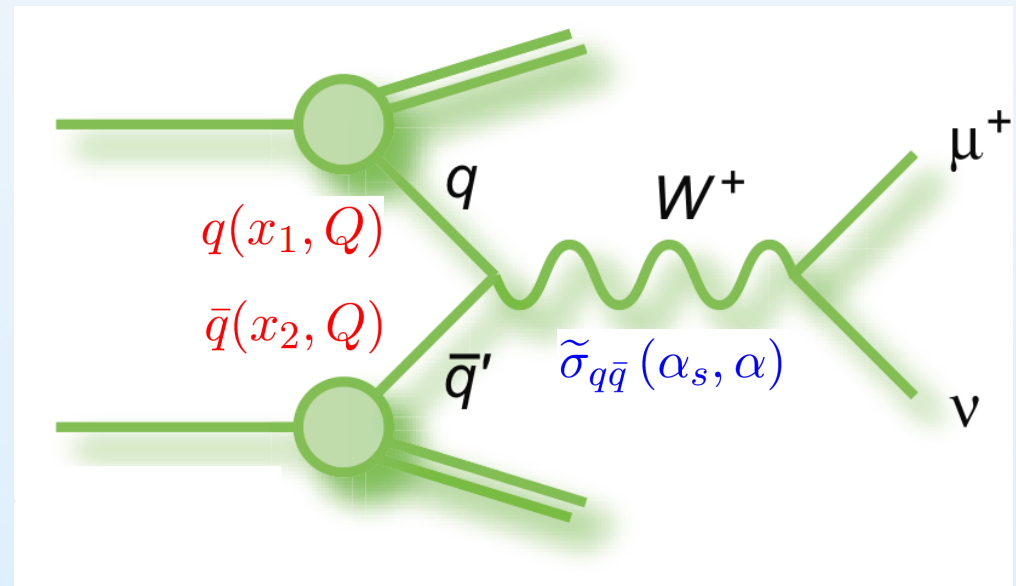
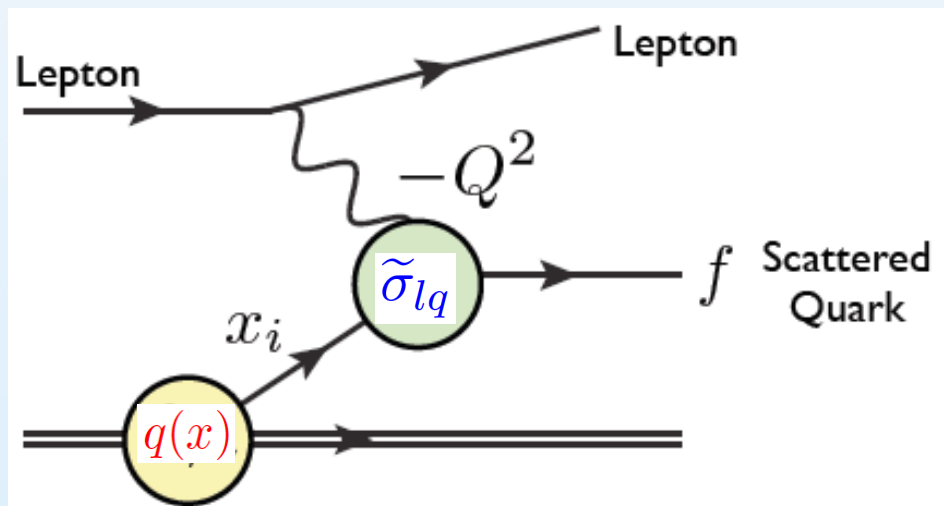
$$\frac{\partial g(x, Q)}{\partial \ln Q} = P_g(\alpha_s) \otimes g(x, Q) + P_q(\alpha_s) \otimes q(x, Q)$$

The Factorization Theorem

The QCD Factorization Theorem guarantees PDF universality: extract them from a subset of process and use them to provide pure predictions for **new processes**

$$\sigma_{lp} \simeq \tilde{\sigma}_{lq}(\alpha_s, \alpha) \otimes q(x, Q)$$

$$\sigma_{pp} \simeq \tilde{\sigma}_{q\bar{q}}(\alpha_s, \alpha) \otimes q(x_1, Q) \otimes \bar{q}(x_2, Q)$$



Determine PDFs in lepton-proton collisions

And use them to compute cross-sections in proton-proton collisions at the LHC

The NNPDF approach

A **novel approach to PDF determination**, improving the limitations of the traditional PDF fitting methods with the use of **advanced statistical techniques** such as **machine learning** and **multivariate analysis**

Non-perturbative PDF parametrization

- 📌 **Traditional approach:** based on **restrictive functional forms** leading to strong theoretical bias
- 📌 **NNPDF solution:** use **Artificial Neural Networks** as universal unbiased interpolants

PDF uncertainties and propagation to LHC calculations

- 📌 **Traditional approach:** limited to Gaussian/linear approximation
- 📌 **NNPDF solution:** based on the **Monte Carlo replica method** to create a probability distribution in the space of PDFs. Specially critical in **extrapolation regions** (i.e. high- x) for New Physics searches

Fitting technique

- 📌 **Traditional approach:** deterministic minimization of χ^2 , **flat directions** problem
- 📌 **NNPDF solution:** **Genetic Algorithms** to explore efficiently the vast parameter space, with **cross-validation** to avoid fitting stat fluctuations

ANN as universal interpolators

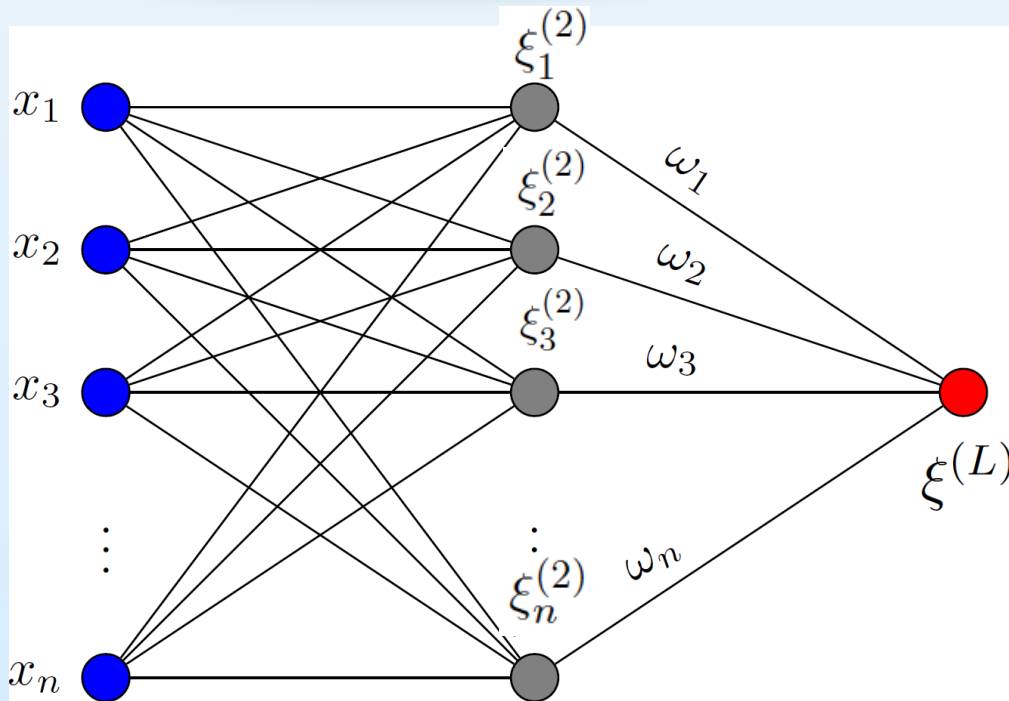
- ANNs are routinely exploited in **high-energy physics**, in most cases as **classifiers** to separate between interesting and more mundane events
- ANNs also provide **universal unbiased interpolants** to parametrize the non-perturbative dynamics that determines the **size and shape of the PDFs** from experimental data

Traditional approach

$$g(x, Q_0) = A_g(1-x)^{a_g}x^{-b_g} (1 + c_g\sqrt{s} + d_gx + \dots)$$

NNPDF approach

$$g(x, Q_0) = A_g \text{ANN}_g(x)$$



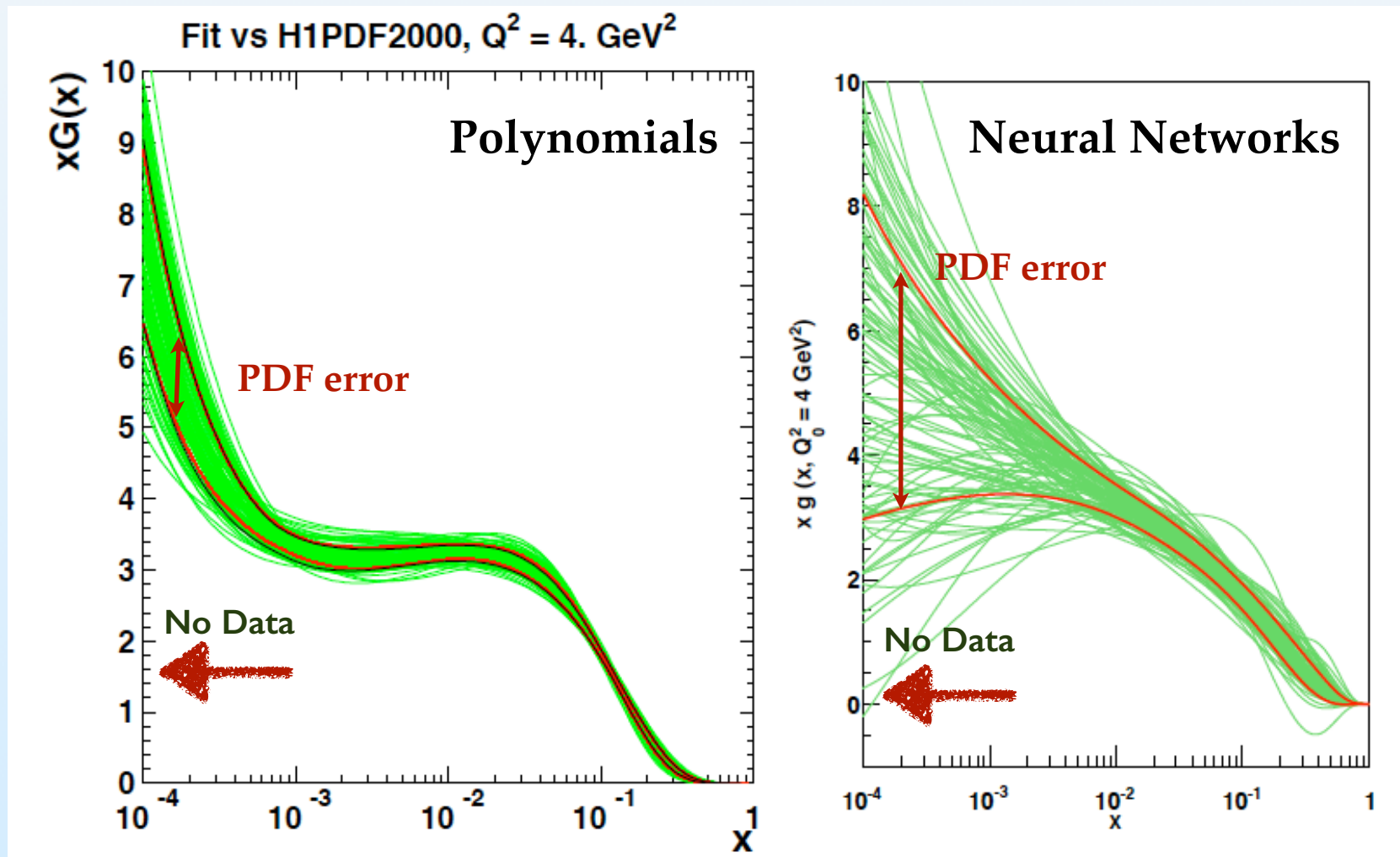
$$\text{ANN}_g(x) = \xi^{(L)} = \mathcal{F} \left[\xi^{(1)}, \{\omega_{ij}^{(l)}\}, \{\theta_i^{(l)}\} \right]$$

$$\xi_i^{(l)} = g \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n_{l-1}} \omega_{ij}^{(l-1)} \xi_j^{(l-1)} - \theta_i^{(l)} \right)$$

- ANNs eliminate **theory bias** introduced in PDF fits from choice of *ad-hoc* functional forms
- NNPDF fits used **O(400) free parameters**, to be compared with O(10-20) in traditional PDFs. Results stable if **O(4000) parameters used!**
- Faithful extrapolation:** PDF uncertainties **blow up** in regions with scarce experimental data

Artificial Neural Networks vs Polynomials

- 📌 Compare a **benchmark PDF analysis** where the **same dataset** is fitted with **Artificial Neural Networks** and with **standard polynomials**, other settings identical)
- 📌 ANNs avoid biasing the PDFs, **faithful extrapolation at small- x** (very few data, thus error blow up)



The Monte Carlo replica method

Two main approaches to estimate **PDF uncertainties**: the **Hessian method** and the **Monte Carlo method**

In the **Hessian method**, the χ^2 is expanded quadratically in the **fit parameters** $\{a_n\}$ around the best fit

$$H_{lm}^n \equiv \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 \chi_n^2}{\partial a_l \partial a_m} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{pts.}}} \frac{1}{(\sigma_{n,i}^{\text{uncorr.}})^2 + \sum_k (\sigma_{n,k,i}^{\text{corr.}})^2} \frac{\partial T_{n,i}(\{a\})/\mathcal{N}_n}{\partial a_l} \frac{\partial T_{n,i}(\{a\})/\mathcal{N}_n}{\partial a_m}$$

The Hessian matrix is diagonalized, and PDF errors on **cross sections** F from linear error propagation

$$\Delta \chi_{\text{global}}^2 \equiv \chi_{\text{global}}^2 - \chi_{\text{min}}^2 = \sum_{i,j=1}^n H_{ij} (a_i - a_i^0)(a_j - a_j^0), \quad \Delta F = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\sum_{k=1}^n [F(S_k^+) - F(S_k^-)]^2},$$

In the **Monte Carlo replica method**, pseudo-data replicas with same fluctuations as real data are generated, and then a PDF fit is performed **in each individual replica**

Leads to **probability distribution in the space of PDFs**, without linear/Gaussian approximations

Pseudo-data
MC replica

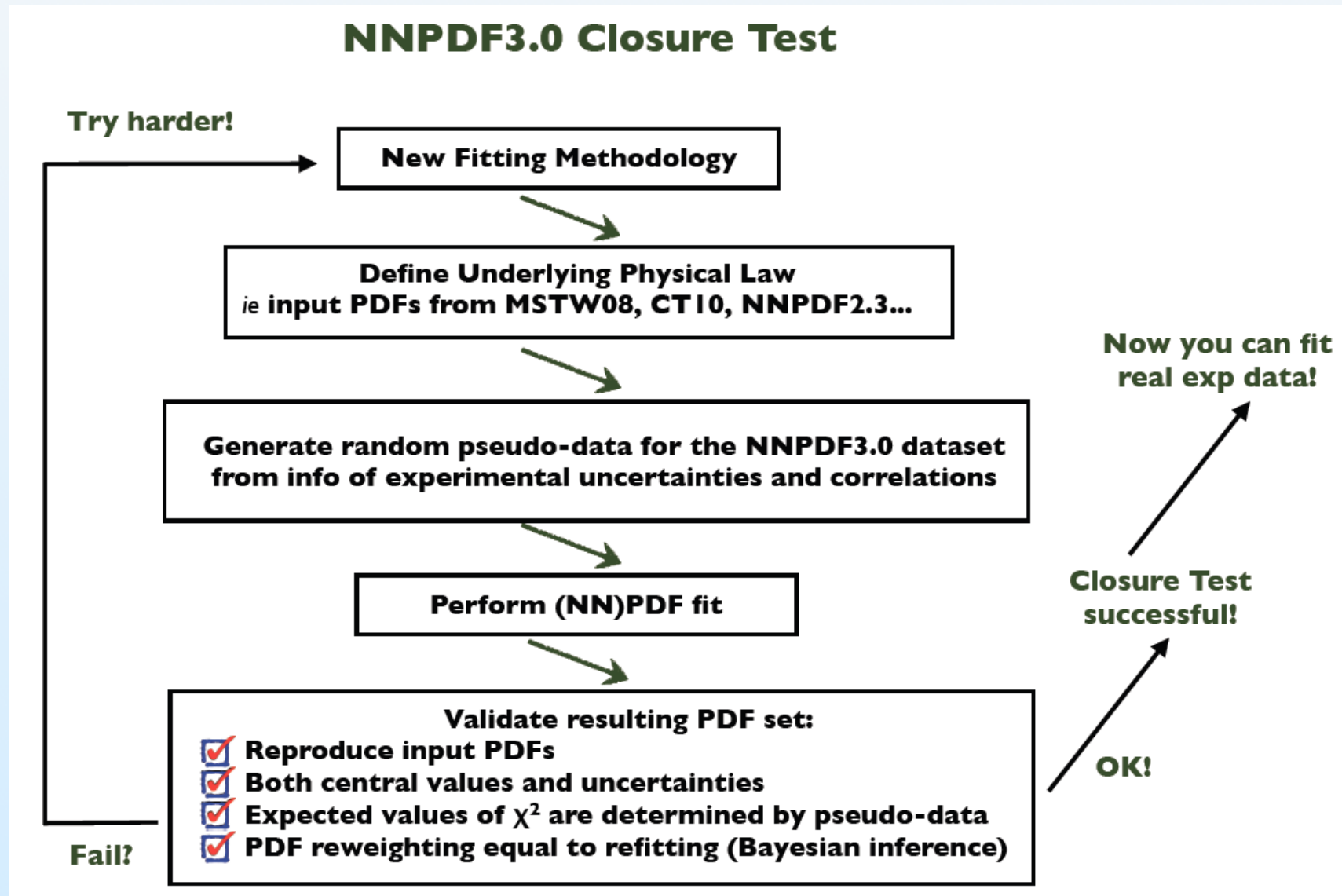
Original data

$$D_{m,i} \rightarrow \left(D_{m,i} + R_{m,i}^{\text{uncorr.}} \sigma_{m,i}^{\text{uncorr.}} + \sum_{k=1}^{N_{\text{corr.}}} R_{m,k}^{\text{corr.}} \sigma_{m,k,i}^{\text{corr.}} \right) \cdot (1 + R_m^{\mathcal{N}} \sigma_m^{\mathcal{N}})$$

$$\Delta F = \sqrt{\frac{N_{\text{rep}}}{N_{\text{rep}} - 1} (\langle F^2 \rangle - \langle F \rangle^2)}.$$

Closure Testing of Parton Distributions

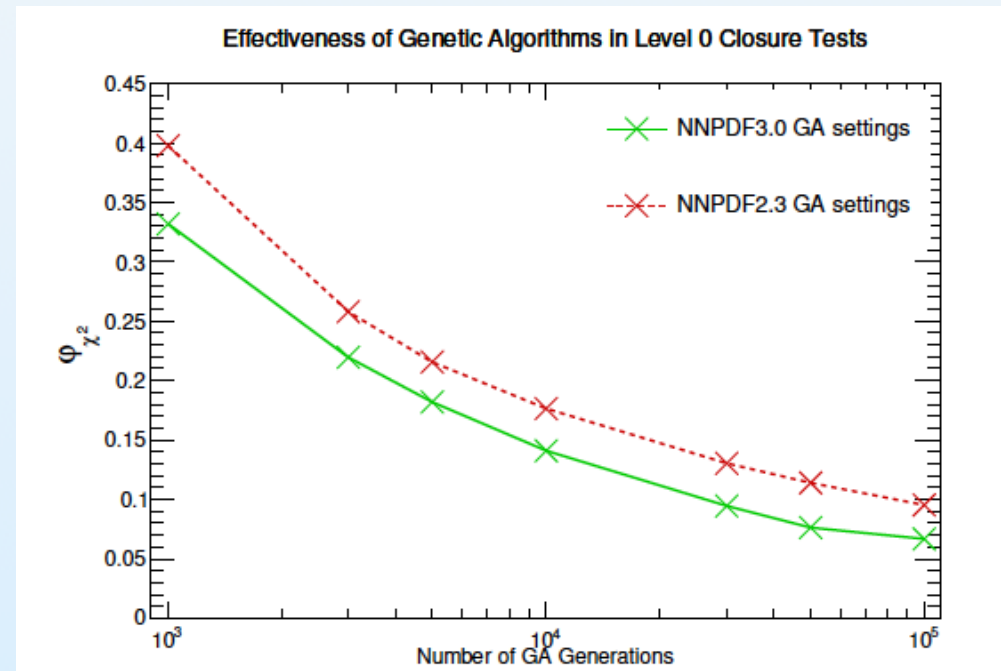
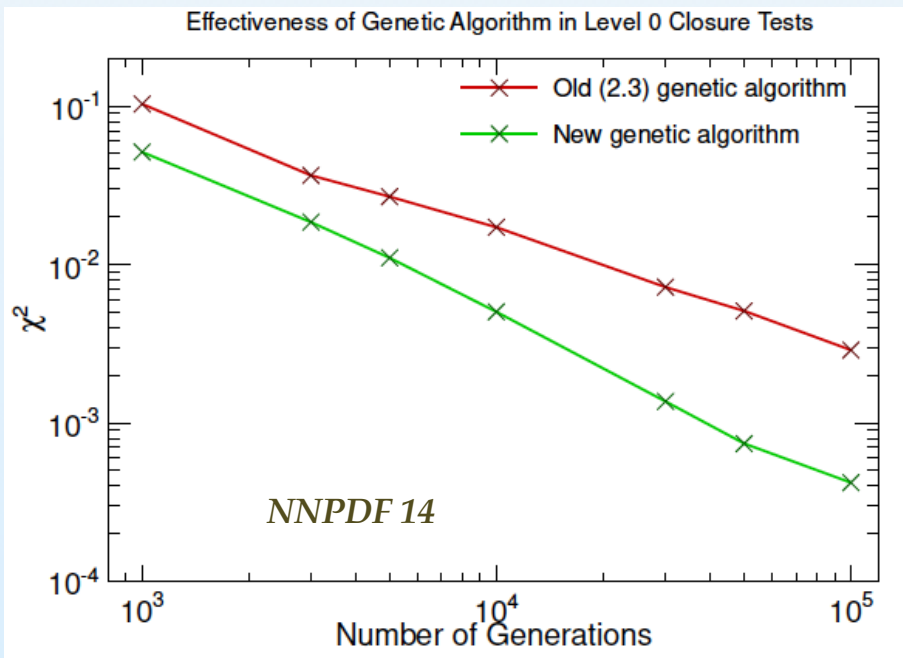
- PDF uncertainties have been often criticised by a potential lack of statistical interpretation
- NNPDF performed a systematic closure tests analysis based on pseudo-data, and verified that PDF uncertainties exhibit a statistically robust behaviour



Closure Testing of Parton Distributions

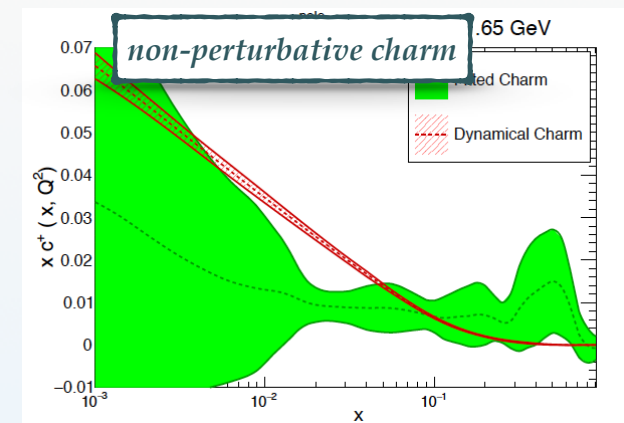
For instance, if the **pseudo-data is generated without statistical fluctuations** (that is, identical to the input theory) then the agreement with theory by construction should become **arbitrarily good**

And indeed it does: as the minimization advances, the χ^2 **decreases monotonically**, and the PDF uncertainties as well are reduced, as the **fitted theory collapses to the underlying law**

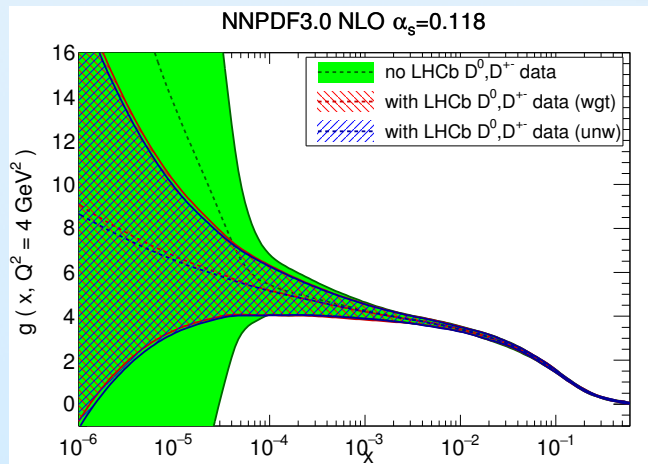


$$\varphi_{\chi^2} \equiv \sqrt{\langle \chi^2[\mathcal{T}[f_{\text{fit}}], \mathcal{D}_0] \rangle - \chi^2[\langle \mathcal{T}[f_{\text{fit}}] \rangle, \mathcal{D}_0]}.$$

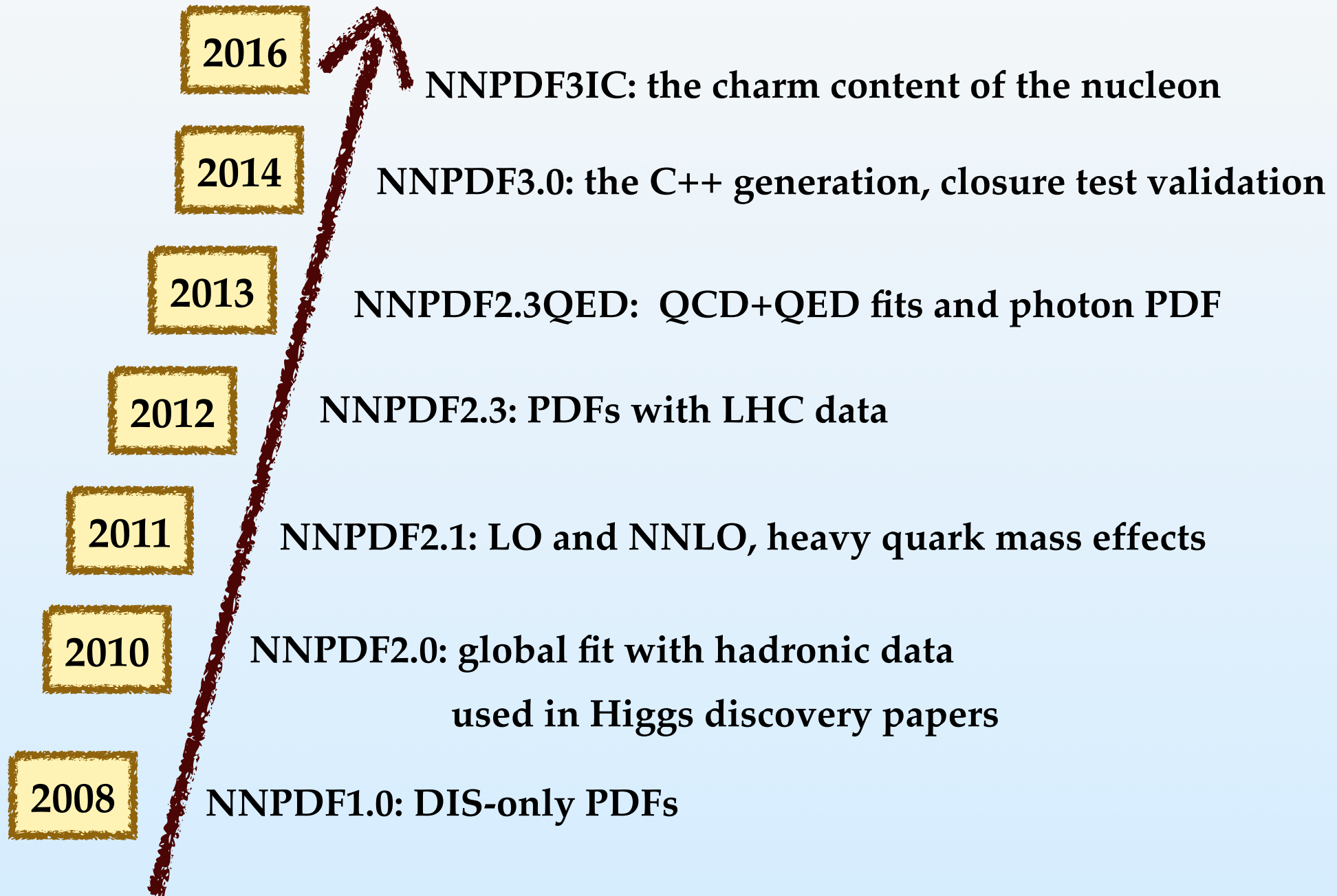
Measure of **PDF uncertainties** in units of **data uncertainties**



Recent Results with Unpolarized NNPDFs

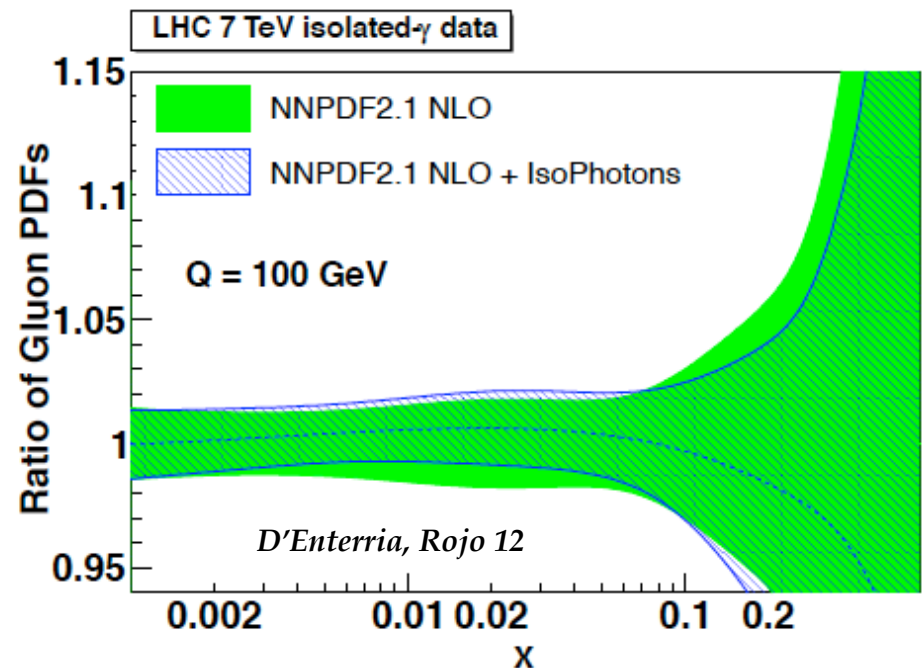
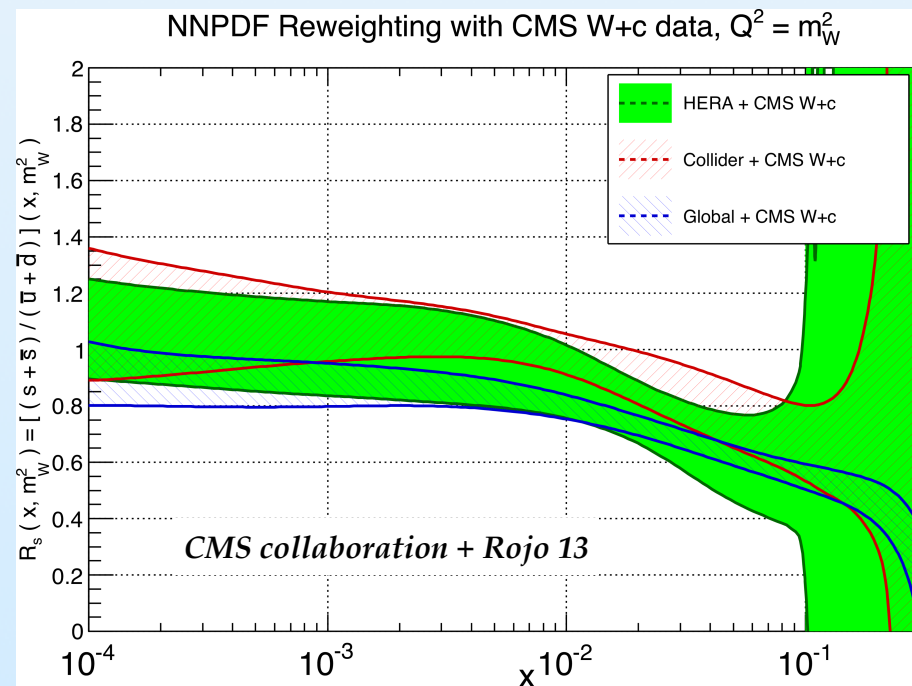
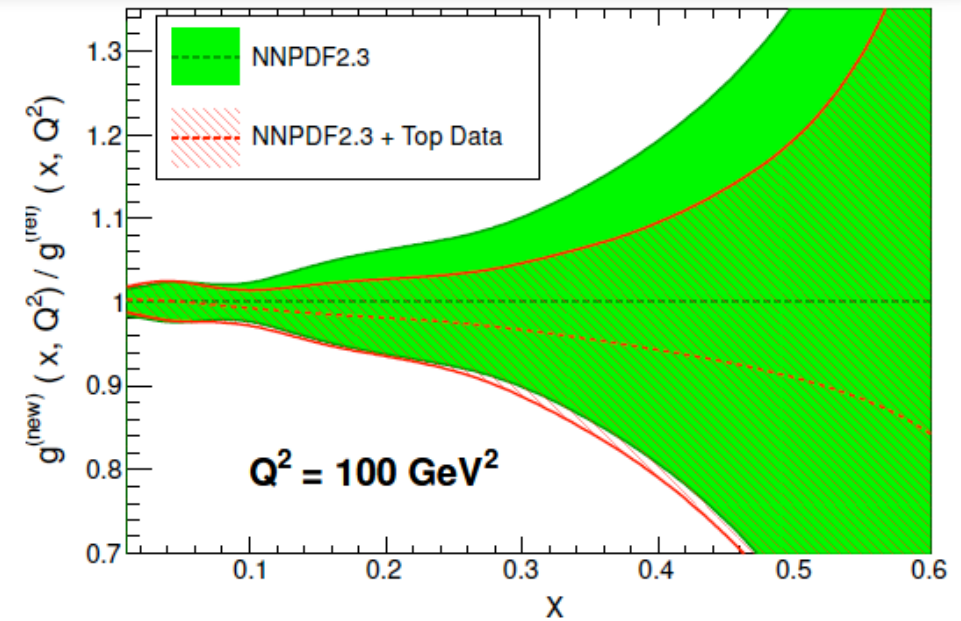
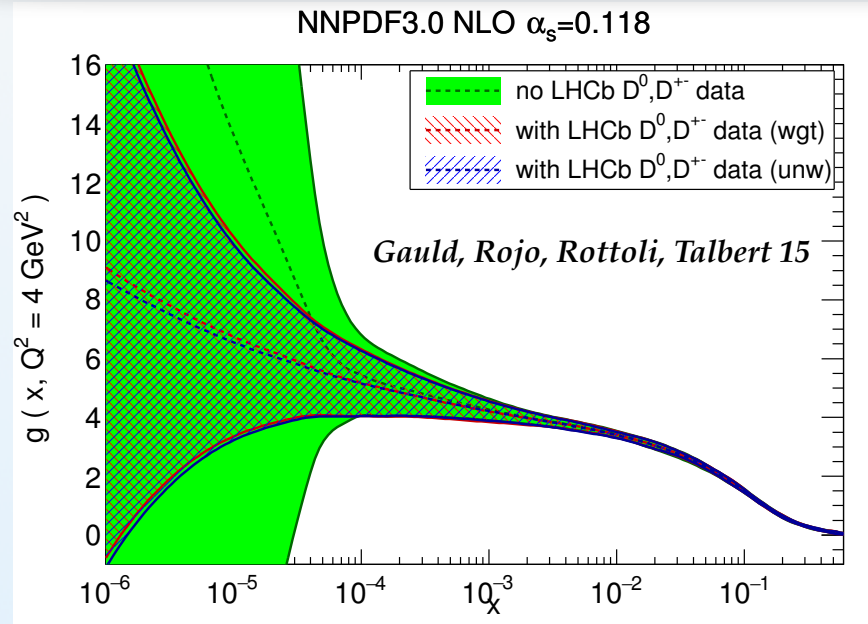


The NNPDF time-line



PDF constraints from LHC data

Exploitation of PDF-sensitive information from LHC data: essential component of global PDF fit program



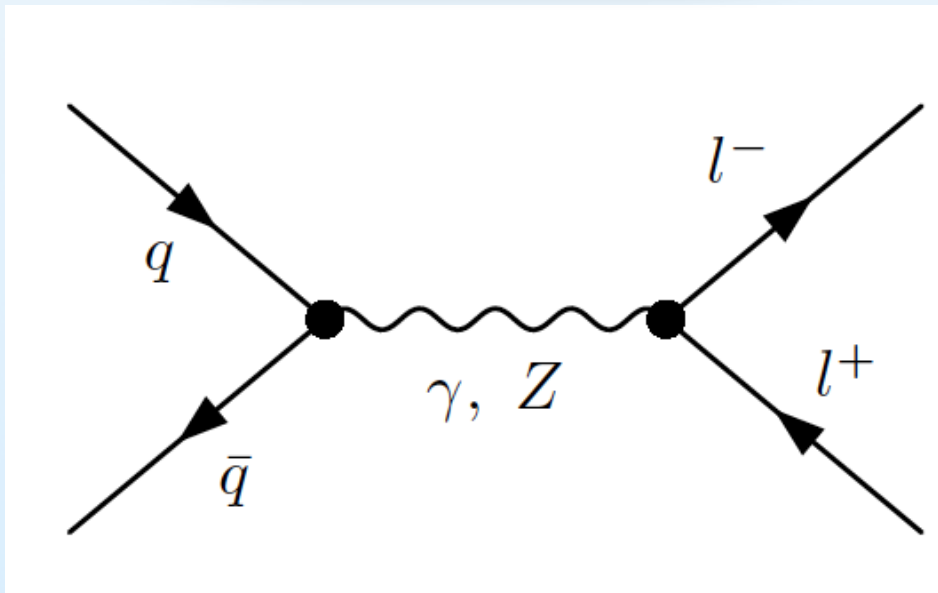
Parton Distributions with QED corrections

At the LHC, **electroweak corrections** can become comparable or larger than **QCD effects**

Precision physics thus requires **PDFs with QCD+QED evolution**, and a determination of the **photon PDF**

Drell-Yan process: high-mass lepton pair production

QCD-only, leading order



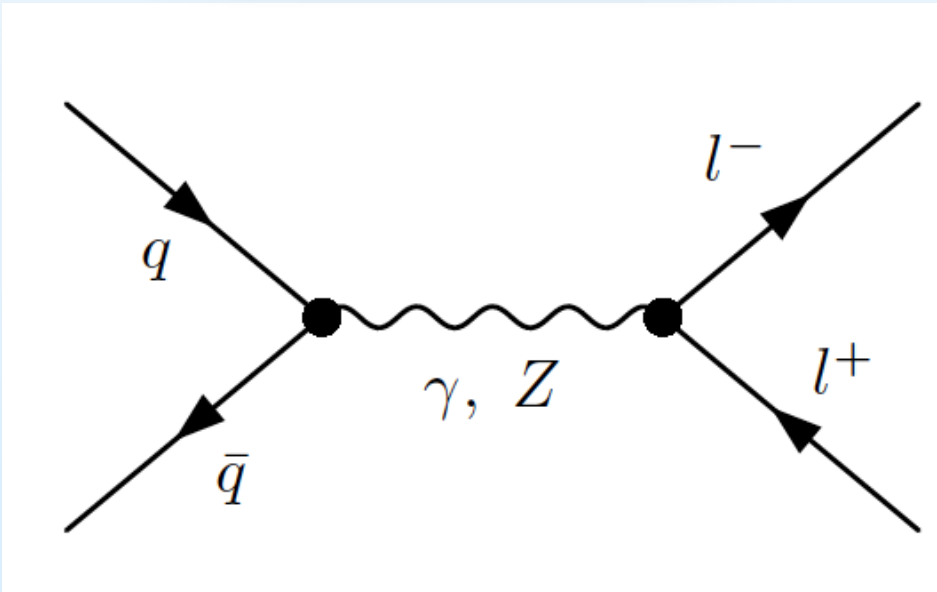
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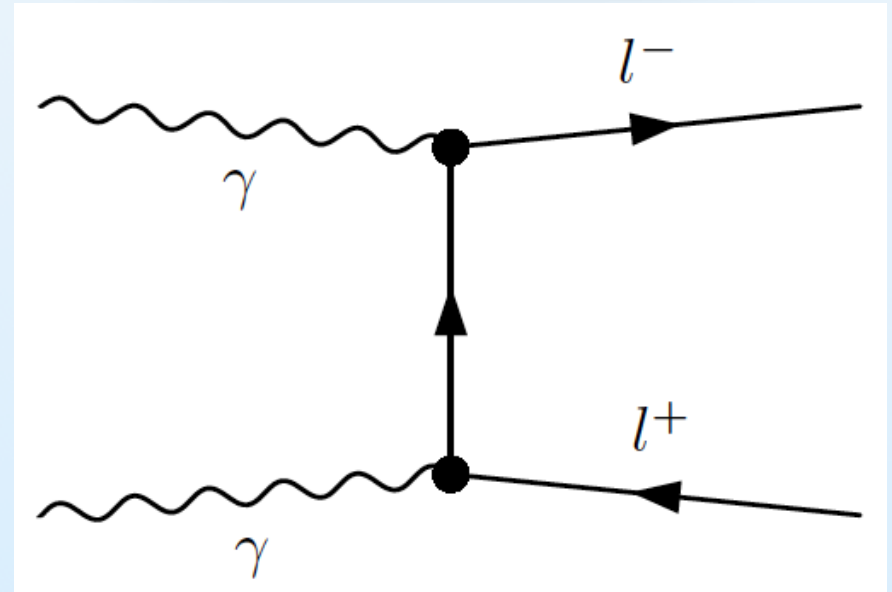
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Drell-Yan process: high-mass lepton pair production

QCD-only, leading order



QCD+QED, leading order



For many processes, accurate determination of the **photon PDF** as important as that of **quark and gluon PDFs**

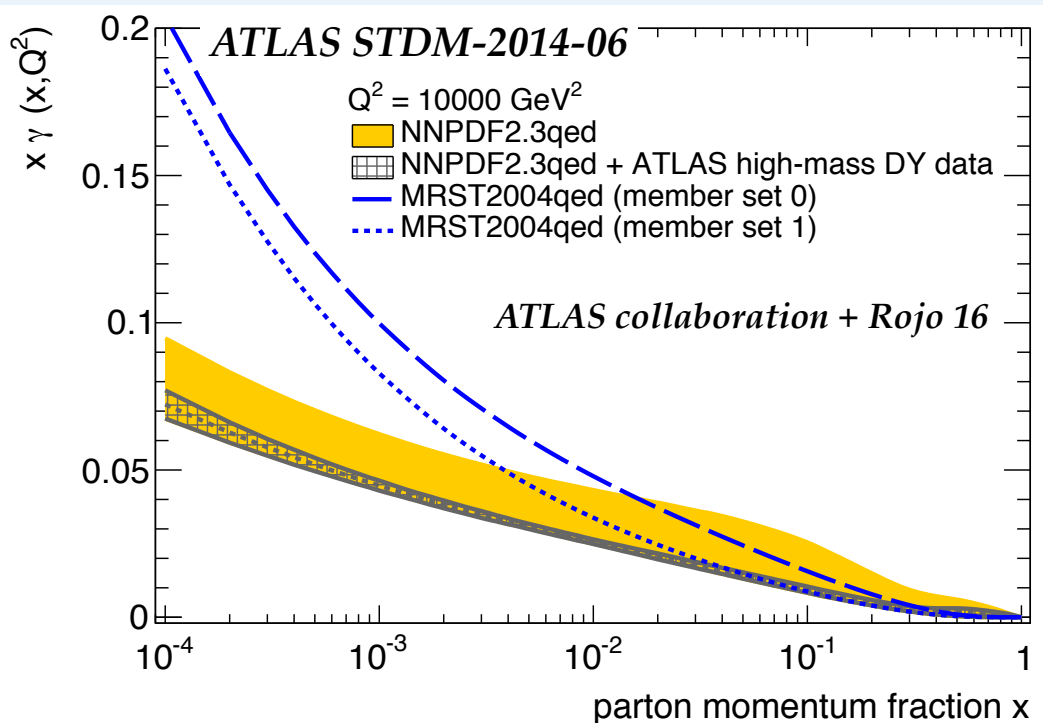
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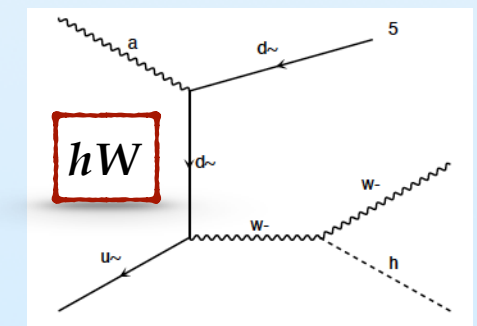
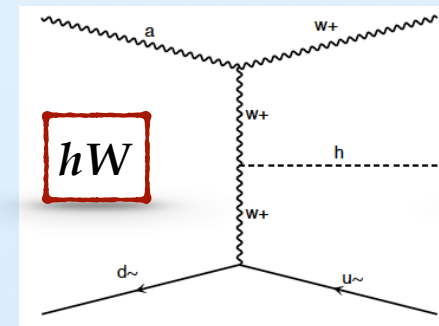
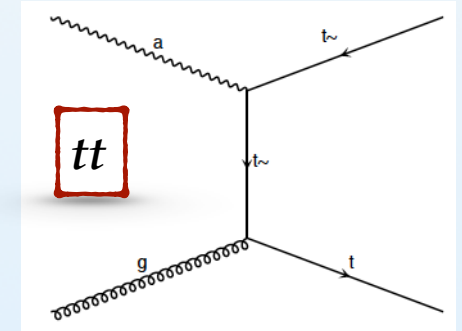
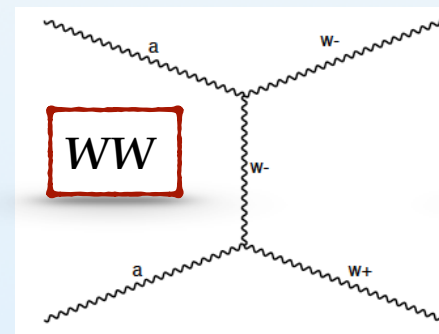
NNPDF2.3QED: first (and only) QED PDF fit with model-independent photon PDF determination

Ball, Bertone, Carrazza, Forte, Guffanti, Hartland, Rojo 13



*.... now being improved with high-statistics
ATLAS high-mass Drell-Yan measurements*

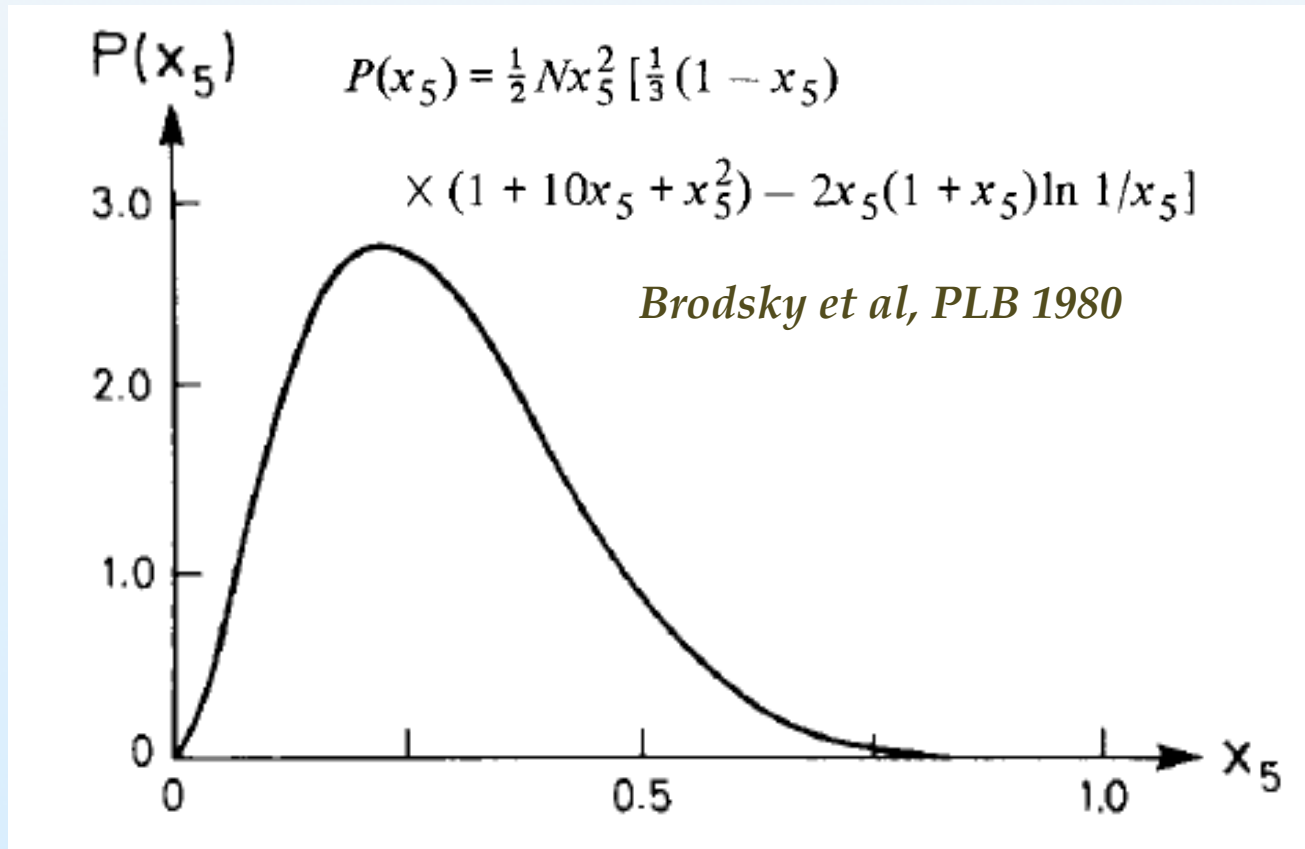
Photon-induced processes ubiquitous at LHC



The charm content of the proton

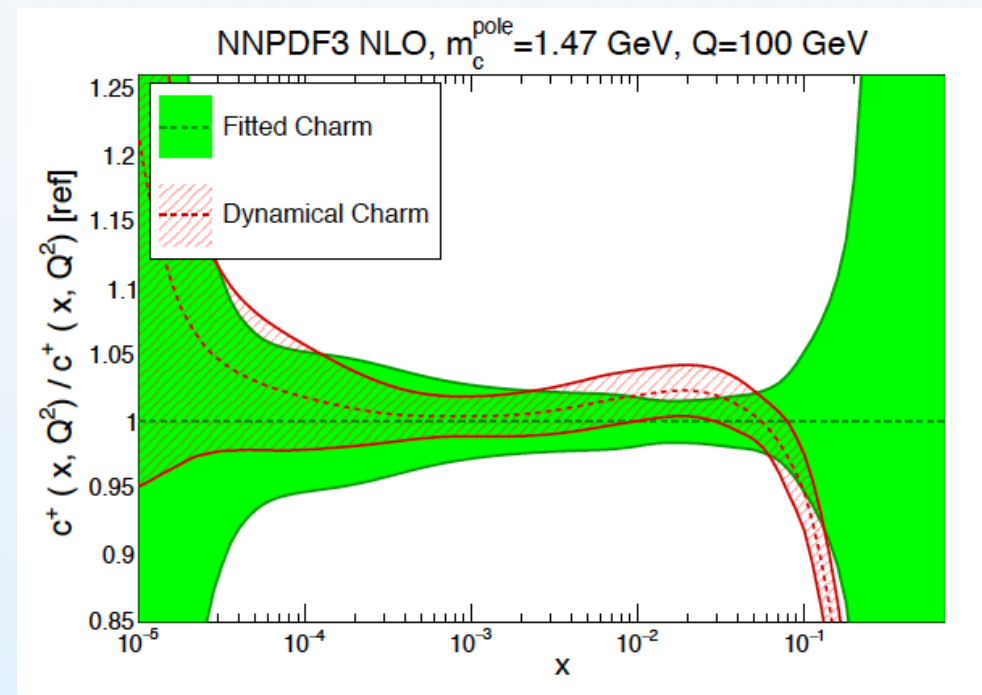
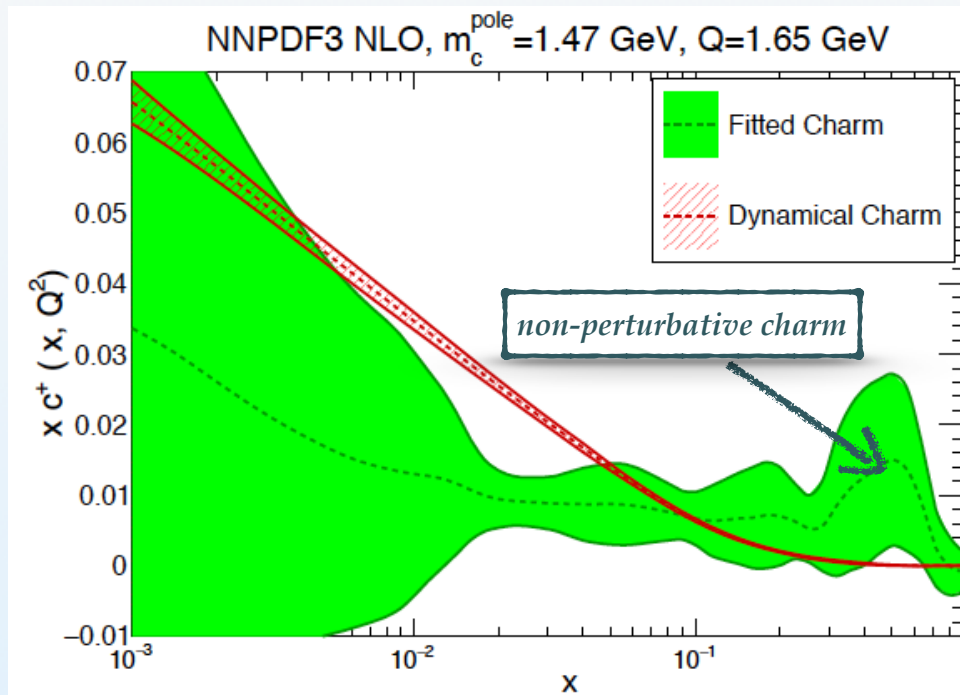
📍 The motivation to fit a charm PDF in a global analysis is **two-fold**:

- ☑ Stabilise the dependence of LHC calculations with respect to **value of the charm mass**
- ☑ Quantify the **non-perturbative charm component in the proton** and compare with models



A 30-years old conundrum of QCD!

Global QCD analysis with Intrinsic Charm



Ball, Bertone, Bonvini, Carrazza, Forte, Guffanti, Hartland, Rojo and Rottoli 16

At low scales, evidence for a **non-perturbative charm component**, but PDF errors still large

At LHC scales, **fitted and dynamical charm in good agreement** for $x < 0.01$

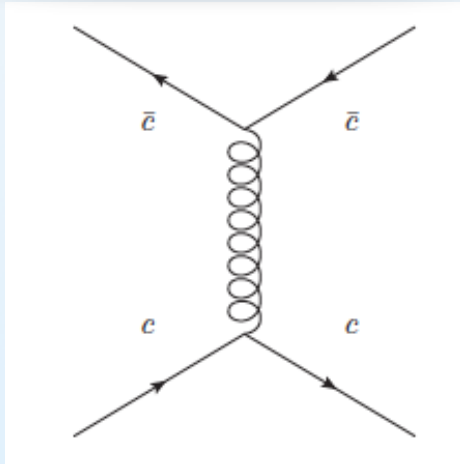
Charm can account up to **1% of the total proton momentum** at low scales

PDF set	Q	Charm momentum fraction
NNPDF3 dynamical charm	1.65 GeV	$(0.239 \pm 0.003)\%$
NNPDF3 fitted charm		$(0.7 \pm 0.3)\%$
NNPDF3 fitted charm (no EMC)		$(1.6 \pm 1.2)\%$

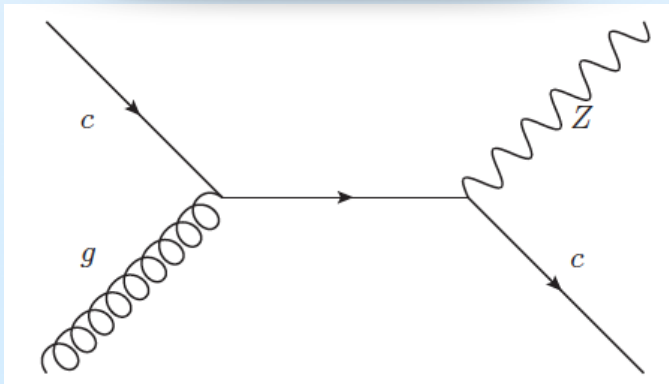
The charm PDF: implications for the LHC

- ✓ A number of LHC processes are sensitive to the **charm content of the proton**
- ✓ Typically to probe **large-x charm** we need either **large p_T** or **forward rapidities** production
- ✓ Within the **reach of the LHC** at Run II

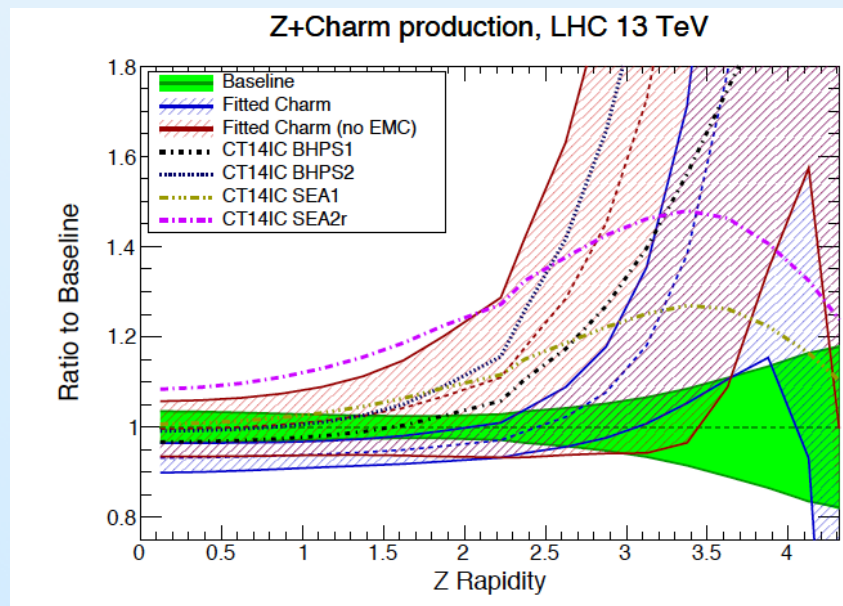
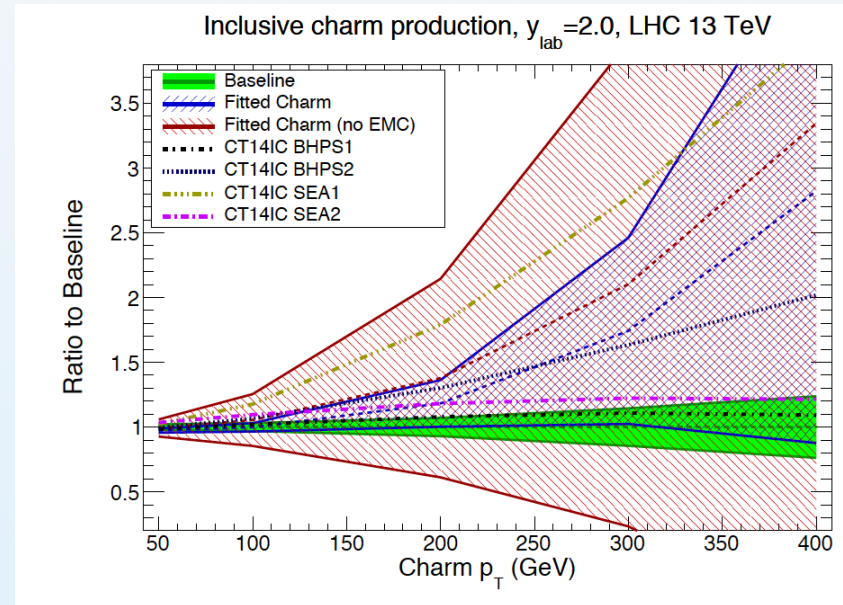
D meson production



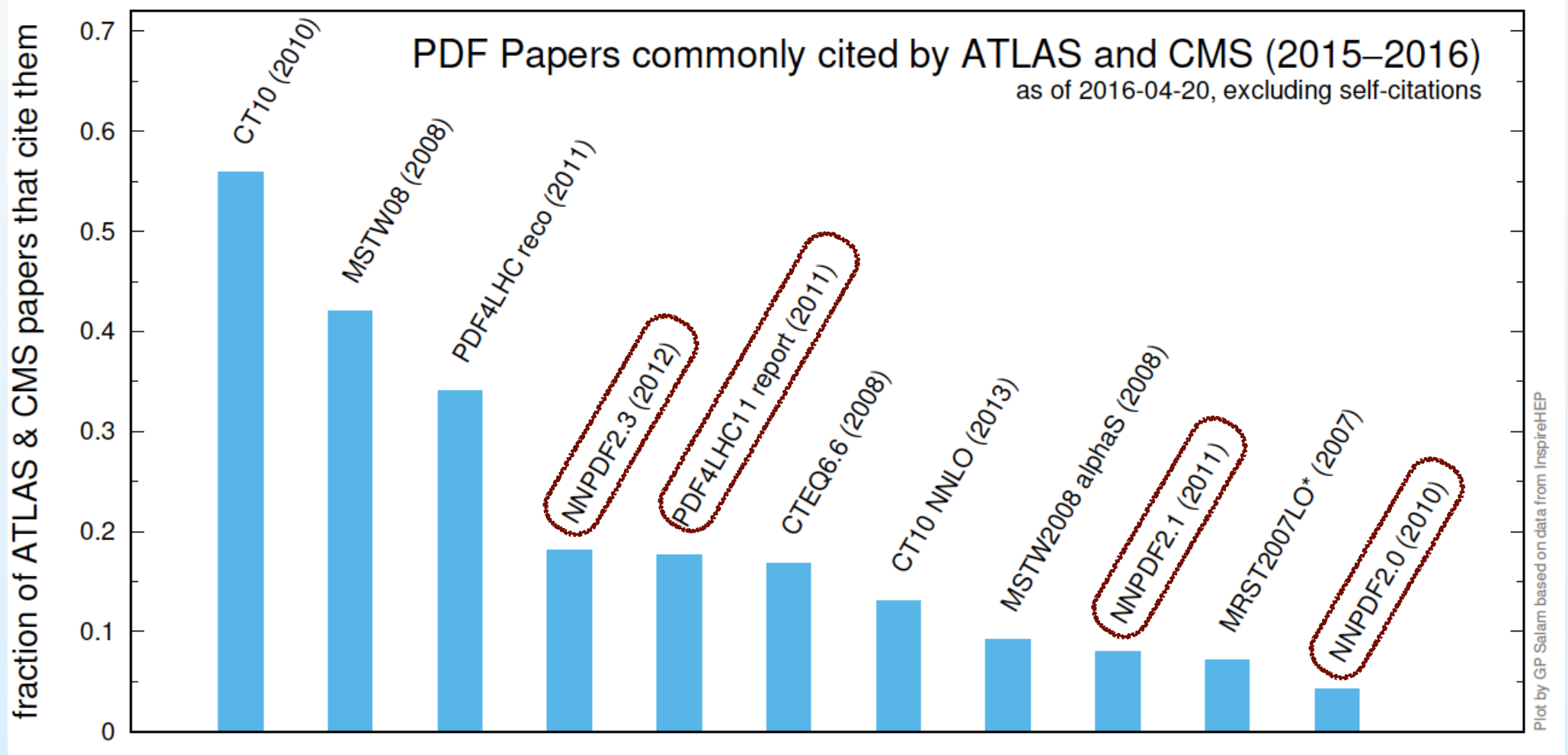
Z+charm production



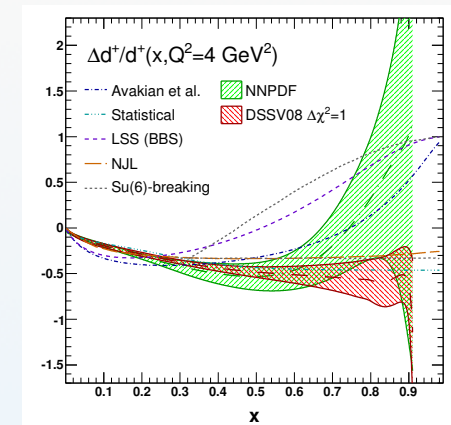
Juan Rojo



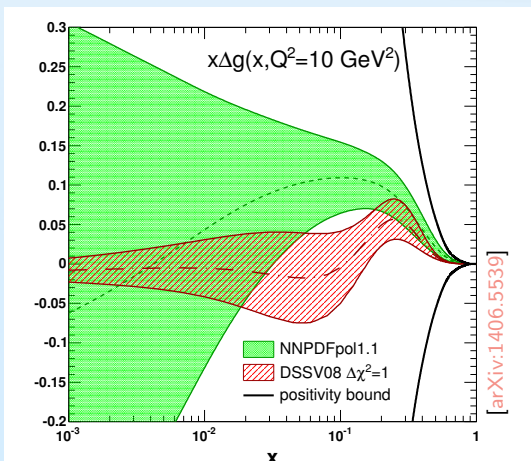
PDFs usage in ATLAS and CMS



Parton Distributions are an essential component of many LHC analyses



Recent Results with Polarized NNPDFs

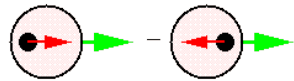


NNPDF, arXiv:1303.7236

NNPDF, arXiv:1406.5539

Polarised Parton Distributions

- 🔊 **Polarised PDFs** provide a unique windows on the **spin structure of the proton**.
- 🔊 How the **proton spin is distributed among its constituents** is a crucial issue for our understanding of **non-perturbative QCD and confinement**



$$\Delta f(x, Q^2) = f^{\rightarrow\rightarrow}(x, Q^2) - f^{\rightarrow\leftarrow}(x, Q^2)$$

How do quarks (including sea quarks) and gluons carry the proton spin

$$S(\mu) = \frac{1}{2} = \sum_f \langle P; S | \hat{J}_f^z(\mu) | P; S \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 dx \Delta \Sigma(x, \mu) + \int_0^1 dx \Delta g(x, \mu) + L_z$$

Quarks?

Gluons?

Angular Mom?

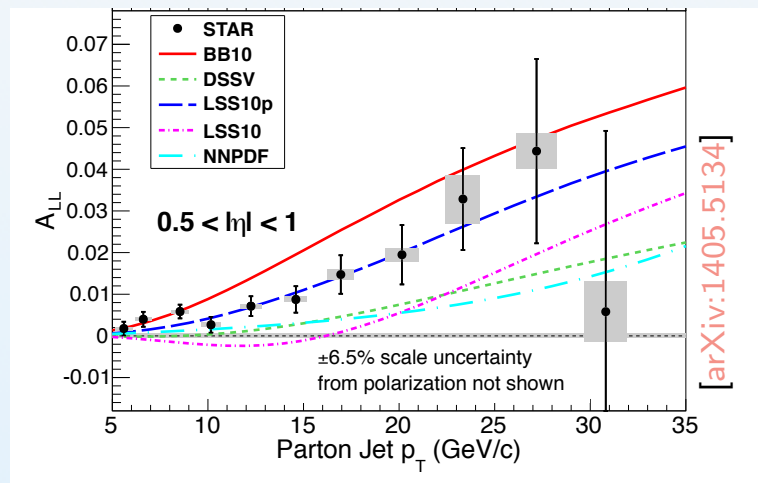
e.g. DIS $d\Delta\sigma = \sum_{q,\bar{q},g} \Delta f(x, Q^2) \otimes d\Delta\hat{\sigma}_{\gamma^* f}(xP, \alpha_s(Q^2))$ $d\Delta\hat{\sigma}_{\gamma^* f} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi}\right)^n d\Delta\hat{\sigma}_{\gamma^* f}^{(n)}$

	Reaction	Partonic subprocess	PDF probed	x	Q ² [GeV ²]
	$\ell^\pm \{p, d, n\} \rightarrow \ell^\pm X$	$\gamma^* q \rightarrow q$	$\Delta q + \Delta \bar{q}$ Δg	$0.003 \lesssim x \lesssim 0.8$	$1 \lesssim Q^2 \lesssim 70$
	$\ell^\pm \{p, d\} \rightarrow \ell^\pm hX$	$\gamma^* q \rightarrow q$	$\Delta u \Delta \bar{u}$ $\Delta d \Delta \bar{d}$ Δg	$0.005 \lesssim x \lesssim 0.5$	$1 \lesssim Q^2 \lesssim 60$
	$\ell^\pm \{p, d\} \rightarrow \ell^\pm DX$	$\gamma^* g \rightarrow c\bar{c}$	Δg	$0.06 \lesssim x \lesssim 0.2$	~ 10
	$\vec{p} \vec{p} \rightarrow jet(s)X$	$gg \rightarrow qg$ $qg \rightarrow qg$	Δg	$0.05 \lesssim x \lesssim 0.2$	$30 \lesssim p_T^2 \lesssim 800$
	$\vec{p} p \rightarrow W^\pm X$	$u_L \bar{d}_R \rightarrow W^+$ $d_L \bar{u}_R \rightarrow W^-$	$\Delta u \Delta \bar{u}$ $\Delta d \Delta \bar{d}$	$0.05 \lesssim x \lesssim 0.4$	$\sim M_W^2$
	$\vec{p} \vec{p} \rightarrow \pi X$	$gg \rightarrow qg$ $qg \rightarrow qg$	Δg	$0.05 \lesssim x \lesssim 0.4$	$1 \lesssim p_T^2 \lesssim 200$

- 🔊 First measurements with polarised DIS (80s) showed that **quark contribution much smaller than expected** (*proton spin crisis*)
- 🔊 With the availability of polarised hadronic and semi-inclusive data, **global polarised PDF fits possible**
- 🔊 The NNPDF framework has also been applied to the polarized case, with **NNPDFpol1.1** is the most updated set

Unraveling the gluon polarisation

- Contribution of gluon polarisation to the proton spin has been of the **big unknowns** in the last 30 years
- The analysis of RHIC polarised jet data in the NNPDFpol1.1 and DSSV frameworks provides **first ever evidence for positive (non-zero) polarisation** of the gluon in the proton
- Importance of this important result recognised also in **media outlets**



$$A_{LL} = \frac{\sigma^{++} - \sigma^{+-}}{\sigma^{++} + \sigma^{+-}}$$

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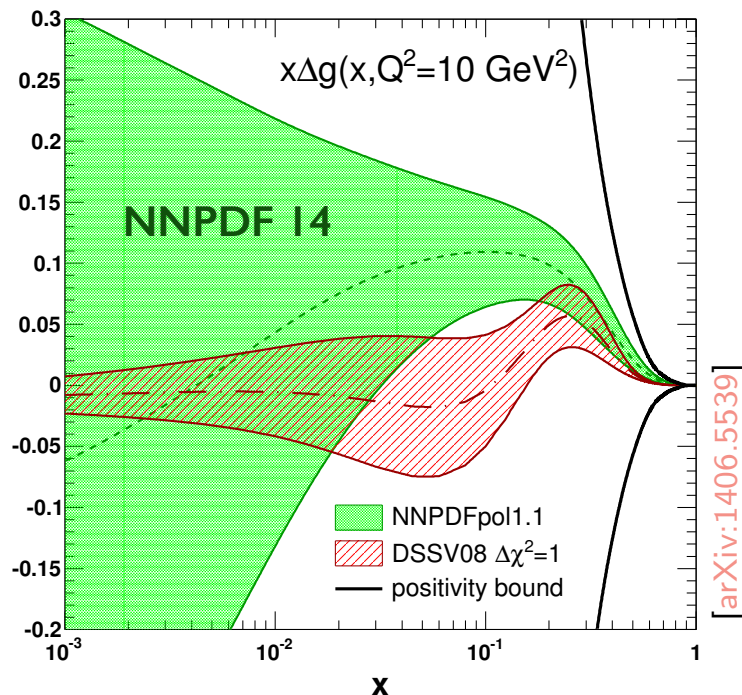
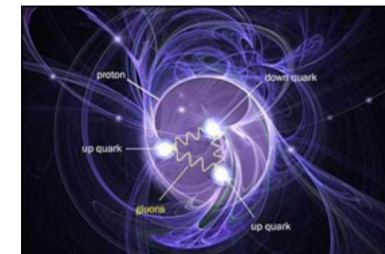
Proton Spin Mystery Gains a New Clue

Physicists long assumed a proton's spin came from its three constituent quarks. New measurements suggest particles called gluons make a significant contribution

July 21, 2014 | By Clara Moskowitz

Protons have a constant spin that is an intrinsic particle property like mass or charge. Yet where this spin comes from is such a mystery it's dubbed the "proton spin crisis." Initially physicists thought a proton's spin was the sum of the spins of its three constituent quarks. But a 1987

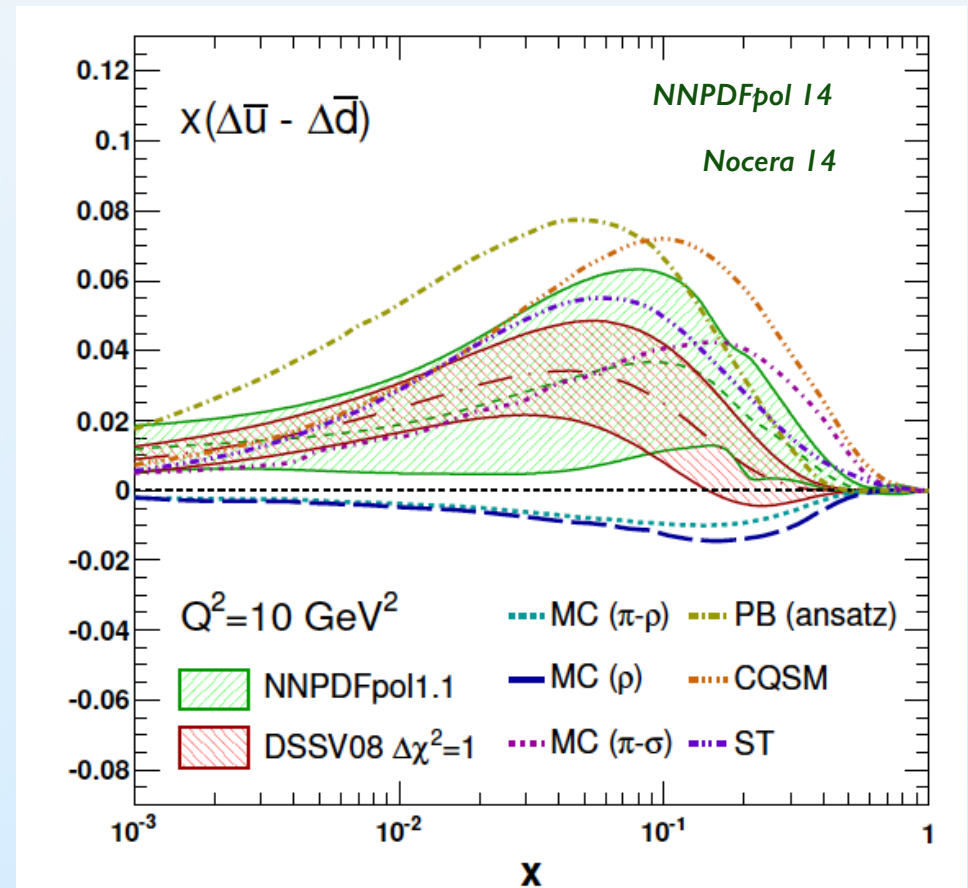
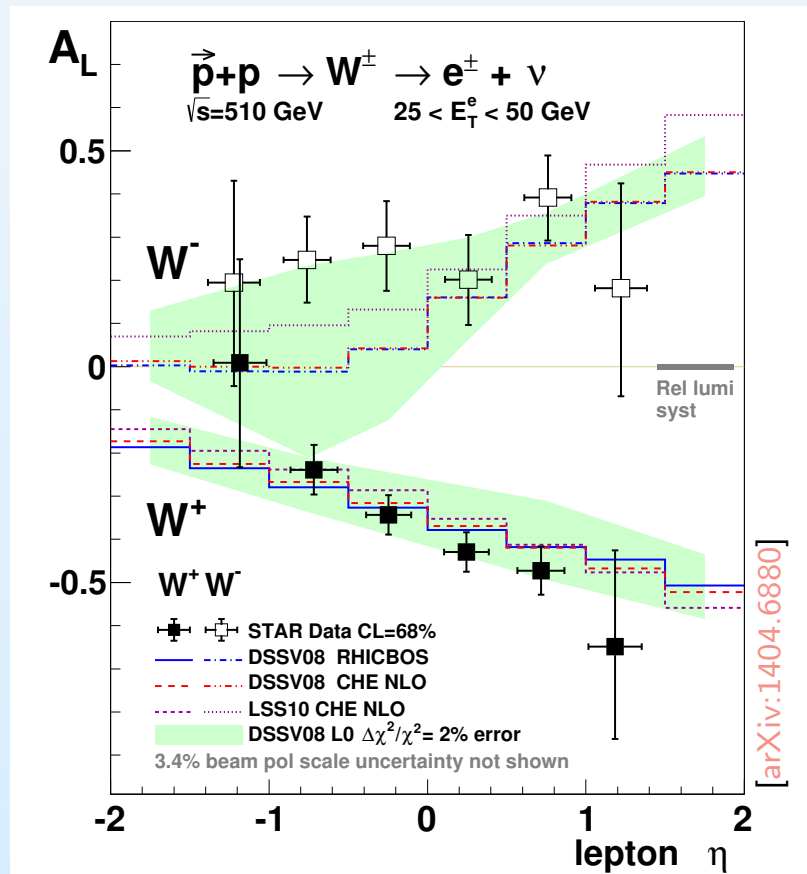
experiment showed that quarks can account



Total contribution of gluons to proton spin still unknown since **large uncertainties at small-x** from lack of data: need an **Electron-Ion Collider**

The polarised quark sea

- Inclusive DIS data does not allow to separate polarised quarks from antiquarks
- Recent data on polarised **semi-inclusive DIS** and **hadronic W production** allow this separation
- Stringent constraints on **non-perturbative models** of the polarized proton

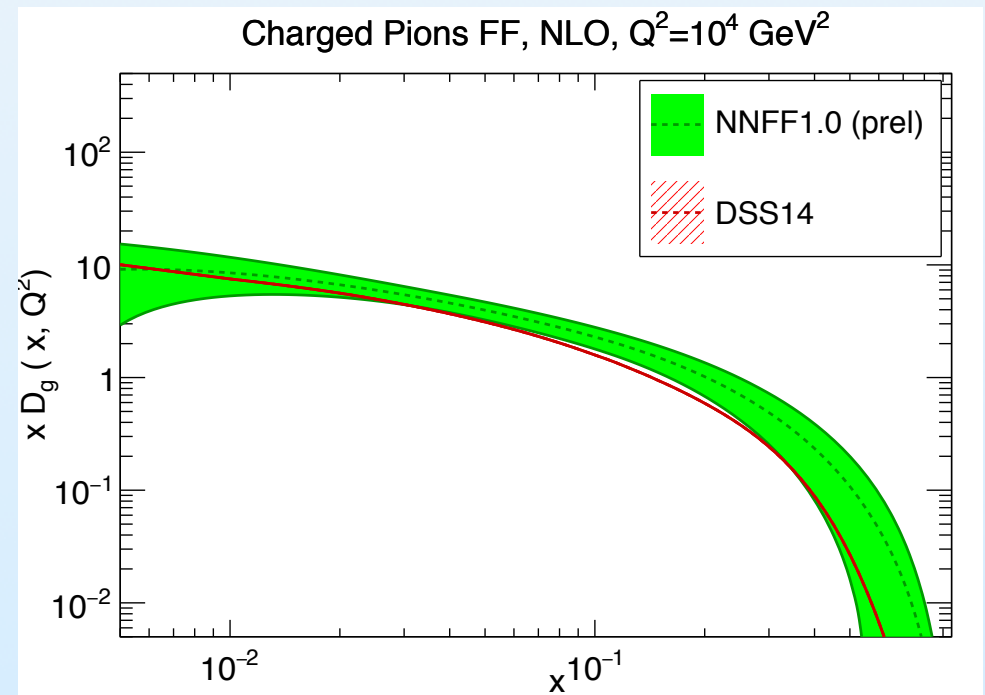
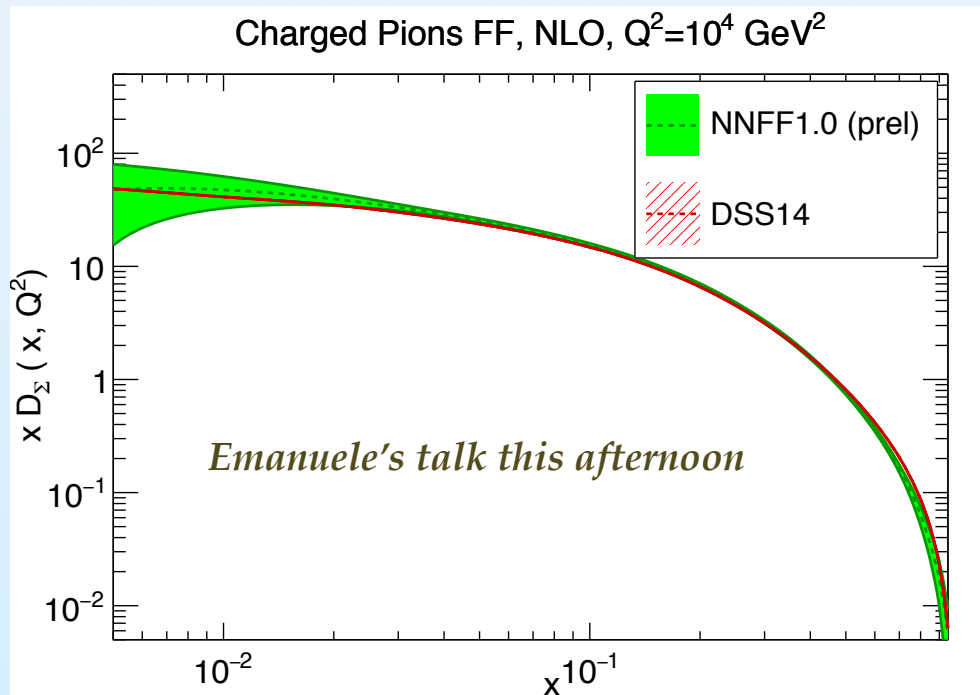




The Way Ahead

Neural Network Fragmentation Functions

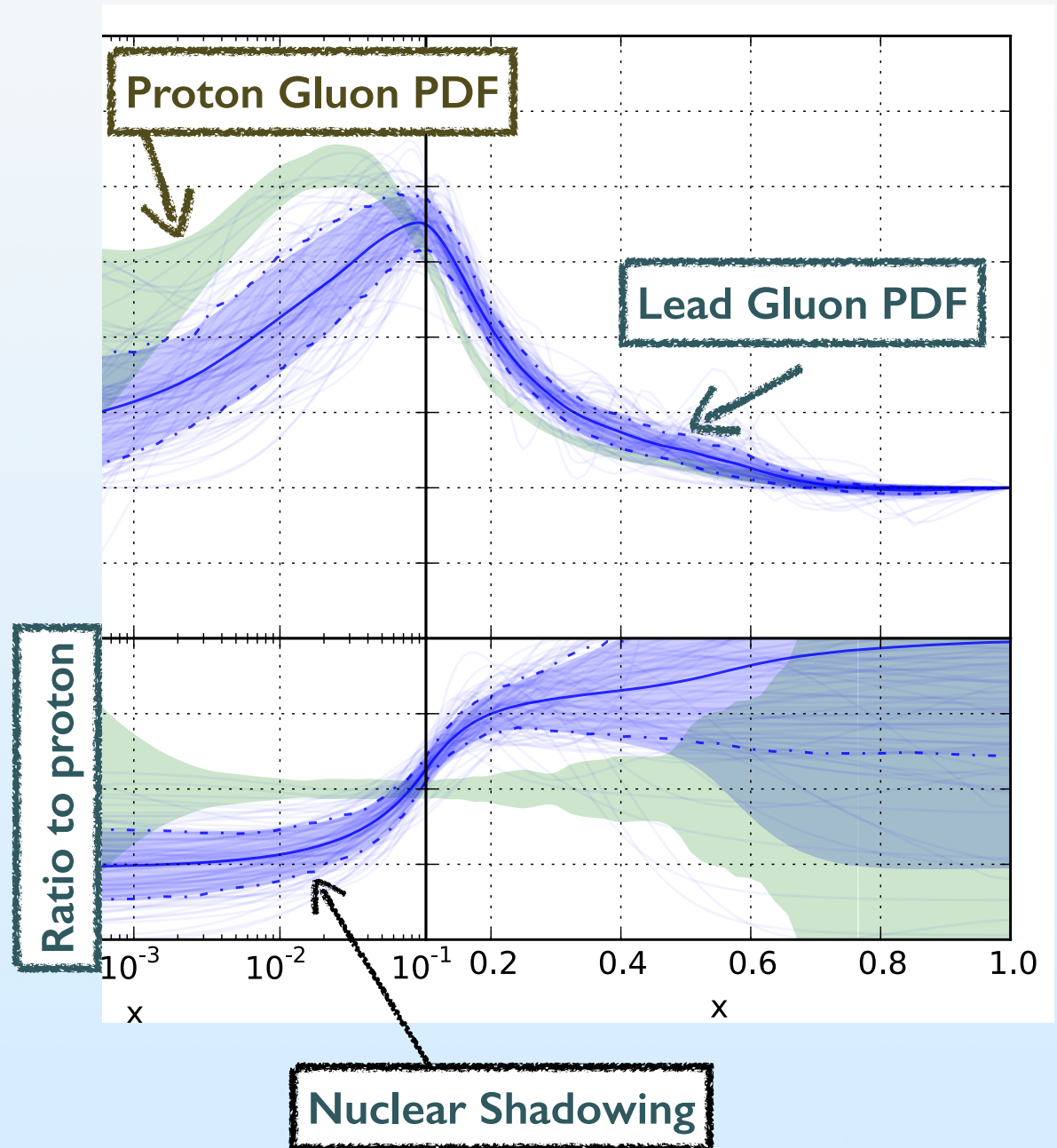
- Fragmentation functions (FFs) parametrize the non-perturbative dynamics responsible for the hadronization process (*Rodolfo's talk*)
- As opposed to MC hadronization models, FFs can be used to compute hadron production to much **higher formal accuracy**: NNLO in e+e-, NLO in DIS and pp
- Crucial for our understanding of **non-perturbative QCD**, to obtain information on the nucleon structure from **semi-inclusive processes**, and for **LHC phenomenology**, *i.e.* inclusive hadron production as probe of the quark-gluon plasma
- Now working in NNFF1.0, the **first set of FFs using the NNPDF methodology**



NNFF1.0: Bertone, Carrazza, Nocera and JR, in preparation

Neural Network Nuclear PDFs

- The **PDFs of nucleons in bound nuclei** are modified as compared to the free nucleon PDFs
- Nuclear PDFs parametrize a rich variety of **nuclear effects**: shadowing, the EMC effect, Fermi motion
- High-precision nuclear PDFs are a crucial ingredient of the **pPb and PbPb heavy ion program at the LHC**, providing the cold-nuclear matter benchmark for quark-gluon plasma characterisation
- Now working in N3PDF1.0, the **first set of nuclear PDFs using the NNPDF methodology**



The NNPDF Roadmap

Unpolarized

present: NNPDF3.0

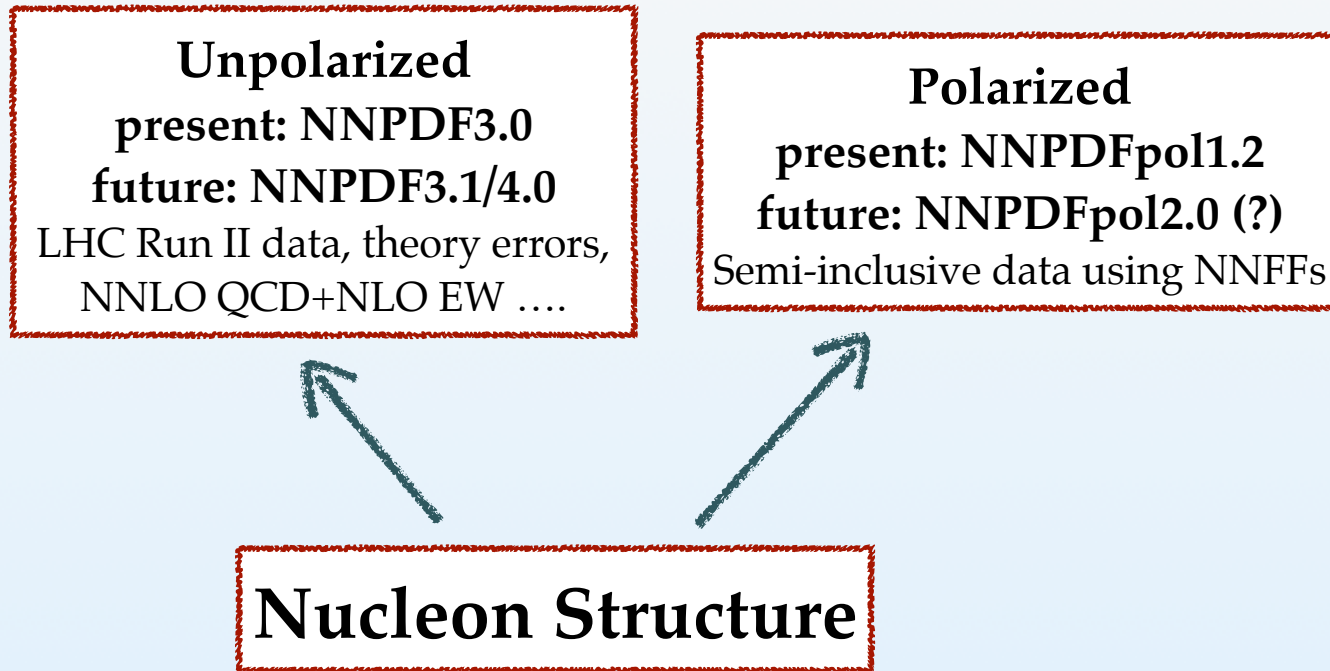
future: NNPDF3.1/4.0

LHC Run II data, theory errors,
NNLO QCD+NLO EW

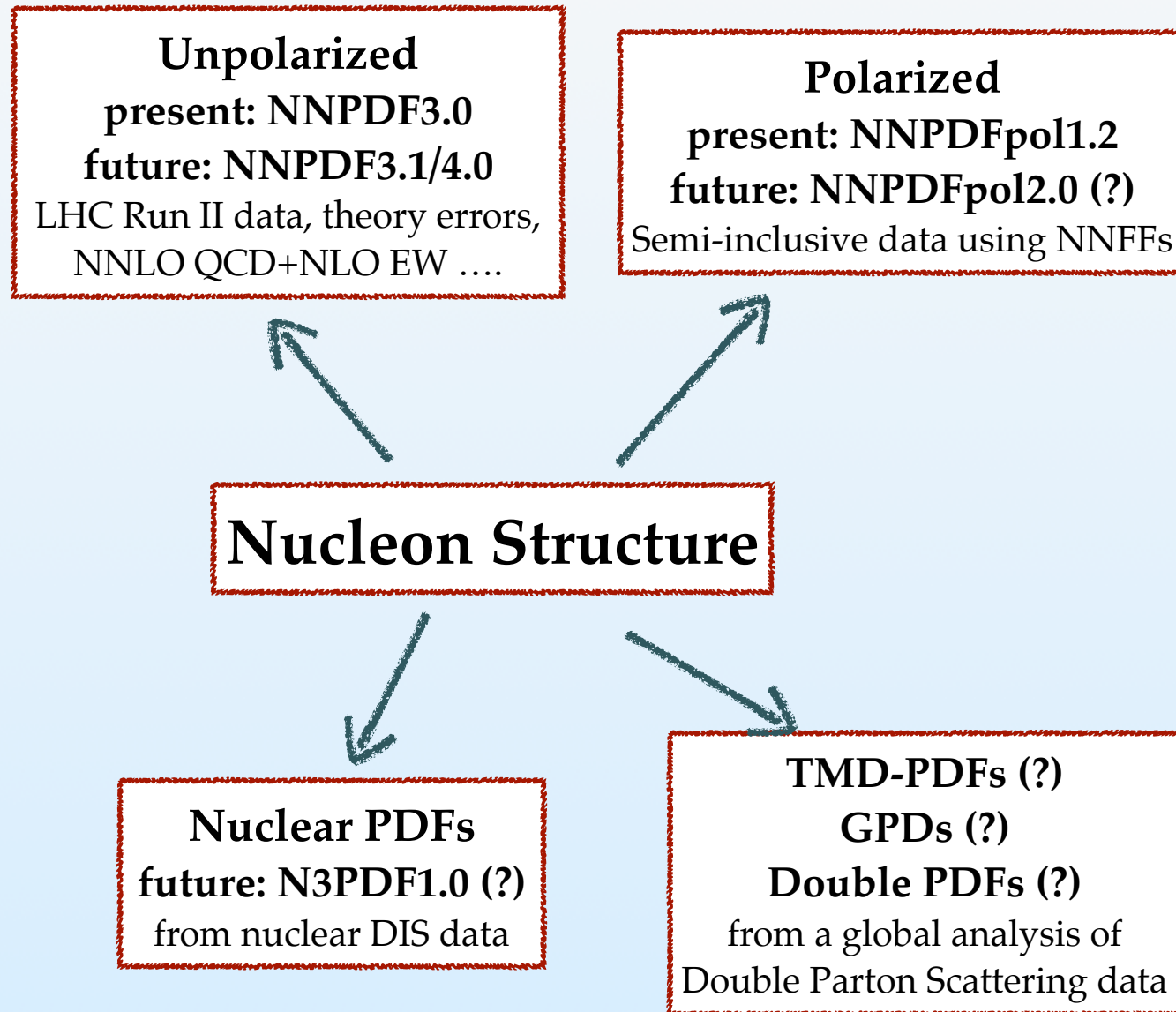


Nucleon Structure

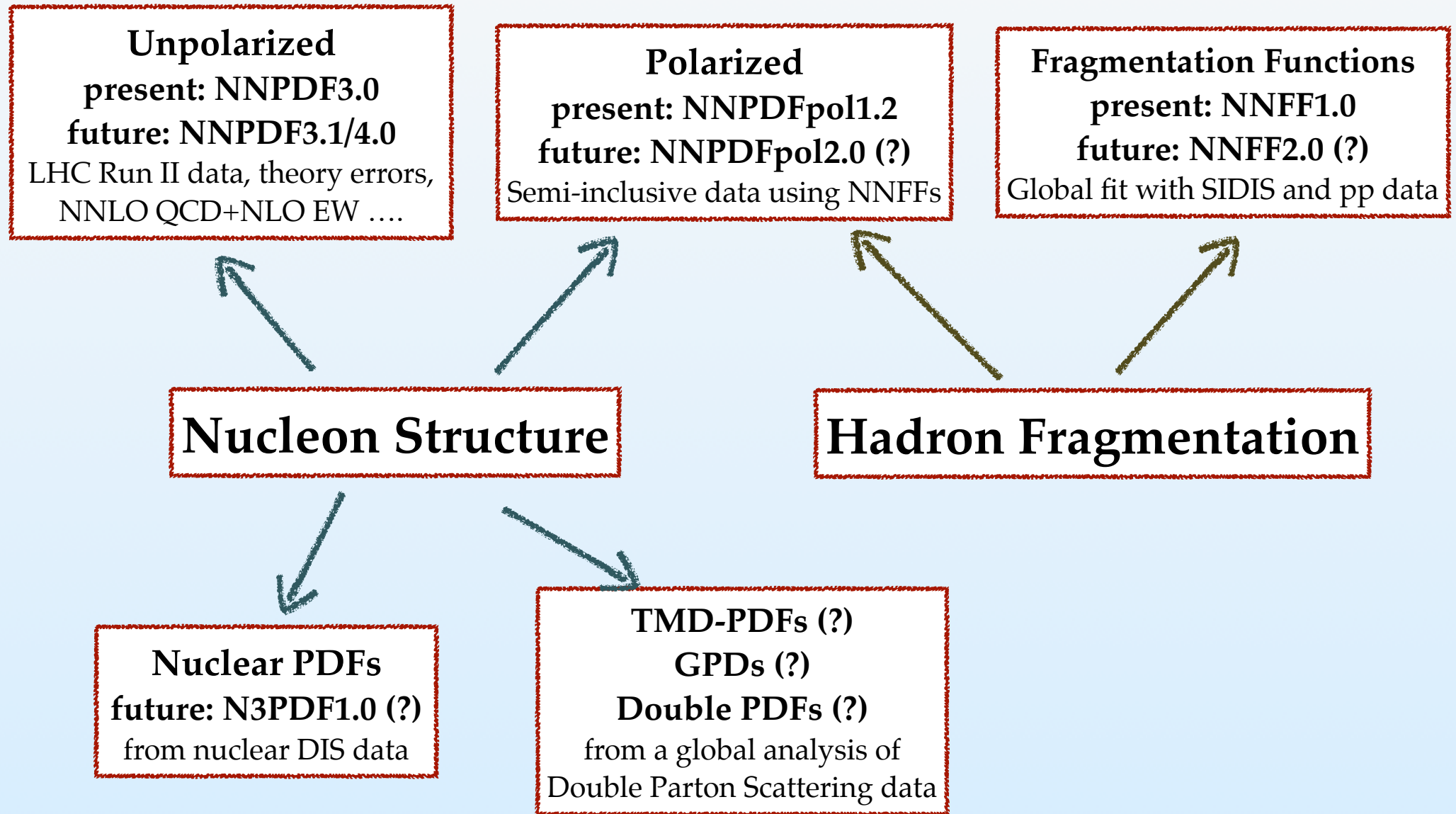
The NNPDF Roadmap



The NNPDF Roadmap



The NNPDF Roadmap



The NNPDF Roadmap

