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The data science challenges of particle physics

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Particle physics poses several unique challenges for data science with multi-petabyte datasets, complex particle detectors, and the search for exceedingly rare signals in the data. The field is characterized by large, international collaborations, which requires a high-level of collaboration. I will give an overview of our data science challenges and discuss the statistical aspects of the recent discovery of the Higgs boson, including the collaborative statistical modeling techniques that are transforming the field. I will identify places where our tools and techniques are quickly evolving or beginning to fail and opportunities for fruitful collaboration with the nascent field of data science.

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