

New insights into the nucleon form factors and proton radius from dispersive analysis

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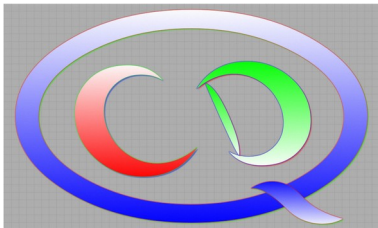
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Based on [arXiv2019.12960](#) and [EPJA 57 255\(2021\)](#)

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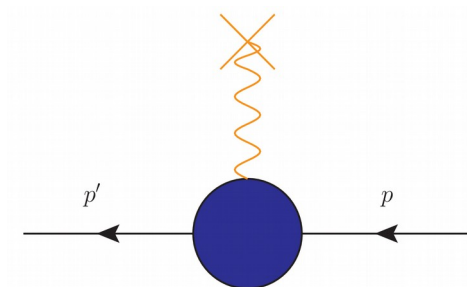


DFG Deutsche
Forschungsgemeinschaft



Nucleon Form Factors

- Definition

$$\langle p' | j_{\mu}^{\text{em}} | p \rangle = \bar{u}(p') \left[F_1(t) \gamma_{\mu} + i \frac{F_2(t)}{2m} \sigma_{\mu\nu} q^{\nu} \right] u(p),$$


$t = q^2 = (p' - p)^2 \equiv -Q^2$, $t > 0$ for time-like, $t < 0$ for space-like

- Normalization $F_1^p(0) = 1, F_1^n(0) = 0, F_2^p(0) = \kappa_p, F_2^n(0) = \kappa_n$.

- Isospin decomposition

$$F_i^{\text{isoscalar}} = \frac{1}{2}(F_i^p + F_i^n), F_i^{\text{isovector}} = \frac{1}{2}(F_i^p - F_i^n), i = 1, 2$$

- Sachs NFFs

$$G_E(t) = F_1(t) - \tau F_2(t), G_M(t) = F_1(t) + F_2(t)$$

$$\tau = -t/(4m^2)$$

Proton charge radius

- Definition $r_p^2 \equiv -6G'_E(0)$

- Measurements

- Leptonic hydrogen Lamb shift

$$(\Delta E_{LS})_{\text{measured}} = \Delta E_1 + \Delta E_2 C(r_p^2) + \mathcal{O}(m_r \alpha^6),$$

$$C(r_p^2) = c_1 + c_2 r_p^2 + \mathcal{O}(\alpha^2)$$

- Lepton-proton Scattering (Rosenbluth separation)

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_{\text{measured}} = \frac{d\sigma_{\text{Mott}}}{d\Omega} \frac{1}{1 + \tau} \left(G_E^2 + \frac{\tau}{\varepsilon} G_M^2 \right) (1 + \delta_{\text{radia.}}) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha^2)$$

Why Dispersion Theory?

- Difficulties on NFFs
 - Unknown expression $\longrightarrow$ parametrization-dependent
 - Data at $Q^2 = 0$ is unachievable $\longrightarrow$ extrapolation needed
- Dispersion theoretical NFFs
$$F(t) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{t_0}^{\infty} \frac{\text{Im } F(t')}{t' - t - i\epsilon} dt'$$
 - Unitarity and analyticity guaranteed,
 - Works well in the **whole** t-region, ($\sim 10^{-4}$ -10s GeV²) experimentally
 - Theoretical constraints of asymptotic behavior of NFFs can be added consistently,
 - Connects to data from various processes. (πN -scattering, $\dots$)

Dispersion Relations of NFFs

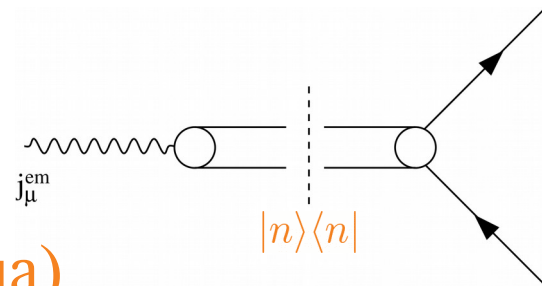
- Definition

$$F(t) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{t_0}^{\infty} \frac{\text{Im } F(t')}{t' - t - i\epsilon} dt' \quad \text{Starting from the lowest two-pion cuts } (t_0 = (2M_\pi)^2)$$

- **Low-mass part:** Spectral Decomposition

- Crossing symmetry $\langle N(p') | j_\mu^{\text{em}} | N(p) \rangle \longleftrightarrow \langle N(p) \bar{N}(\bar{p}) | j_\mu^{\text{em}} | 0 \rangle$
- Spectral decomposition G.F. Chew, *et al.* PhysRev110, 265(1958)

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Im} \langle N(p) \bar{N}(\bar{p}) | j_\mu^{\text{em}} | 0 \rangle \\ & \sim \sum_n \langle N(p) \bar{N}(\bar{p}) | n \rangle \langle n | j_\mu^{\text{em}} | 0 \rangle \end{aligned}$$

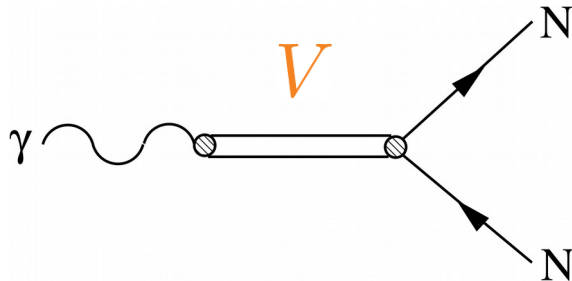


- Intermediate mass states (continua)

- Isoscalar $3\pi, 5\pi, K\bar{K}, \pi\rho, \dots$ – Isovector $2\pi, 4\pi, \dots$

Dispersion Relations of NFFs

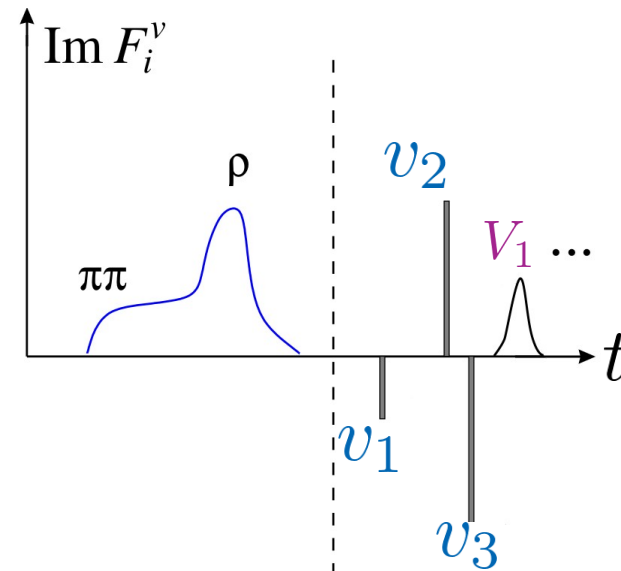
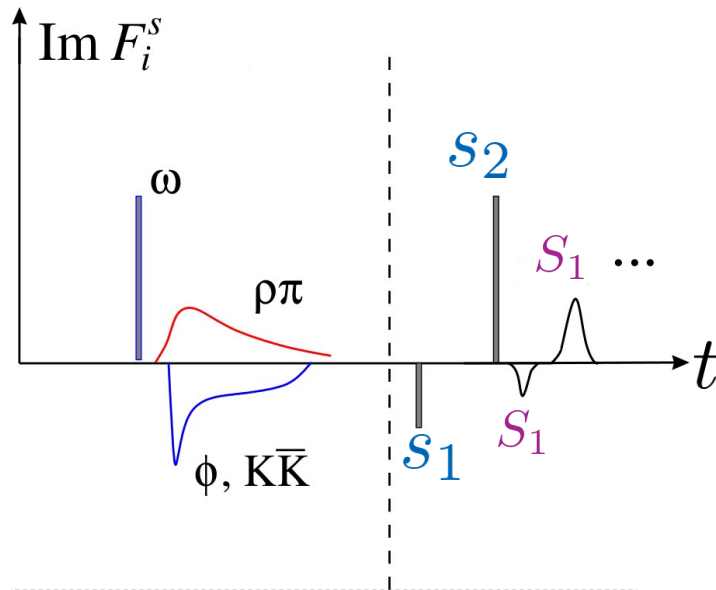
- **High-mass part:** Vector meson dominance



Effective poles

- **Narrow** state $s_1, s_2, \dots, v_1, v_2, \dots$
- **Broad** state $S_1, S_2, \dots, V_1, \dots$

- Sketch of the spectral functions



Theoretical constraints

- Normalization (4)
- Neutron charge radius squared (1)

A. A. Filin, *et al.* PhysRevLett124, 082501(2020)

$$\langle r_n^2 \rangle = -0.105^{+0.005}_{-0.006} \text{ fm}^2$$

- Superconvergence relations from pQCD (6)

$$\int_{t_0}^{\infty} \text{Im } F_i(t) t^n dt = 0, \quad i = 1, 2$$

with $n = 0$ for F_1 , $n = 0, 1$ for F_2

Data basis

Region	Observables	Coll.	$ t (\text{GeV}^2)$	number
<i>Spacelike</i> ($t < 0$)	$d\sigma/d\Omega$	MAMI	0.00384–0.977	1422
		PRad	0.000215–0.058	71
	$\mu_p G_E^p/G_M^p$	JLab	1.18–8.49	16
	G_E^n	world	0.14–1.47	25
	G_M^n	world	0.071–10.0	23
<i>Timelike</i> ($t > 0$)	$ G_{\text{eff}}^p $	world	3.52–20.25	153
	$ G_{\text{eff}}^n $	world	3.53–9.49	27
	$ G_E^p/G_M^p $	BaBar	3.52–9.0	6
	$d\sigma/d\Omega$	BESIII	3.52–3.80	10

- Number of data/free parameters

$$1753 \implies 4 + 3(N_s + N_v) + 4(N_S + N_V) - 11 + 31 + 2$$

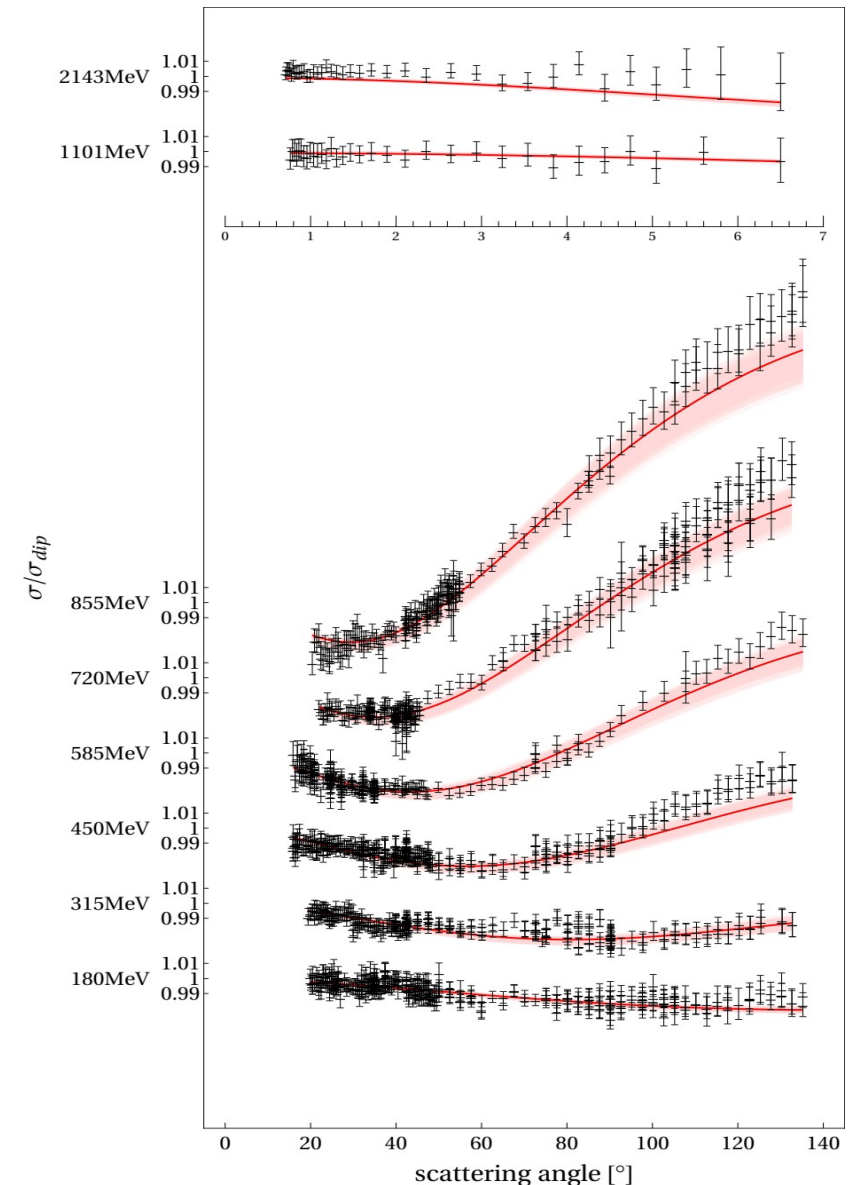
- Fitting strategy: $\chi_{\text{total}}^2 \equiv \sum_{i \text{ in } \{\text{data basis}\}} \frac{\chi_i^2}{\text{data points}}$

Space-like results

- Best configuration ‘**3s+5v+3S+3V**’
 - **74** parameters
 - $\omega, \phi, s_1, s_2, s_3, S_1, S_2, S_3 + K\bar{K} + \rho\pi$
 - $v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4, v_5, V_1, V_2, V_3 + \pi\pi$
 - $\chi^2/\text{dof} = 1.223$

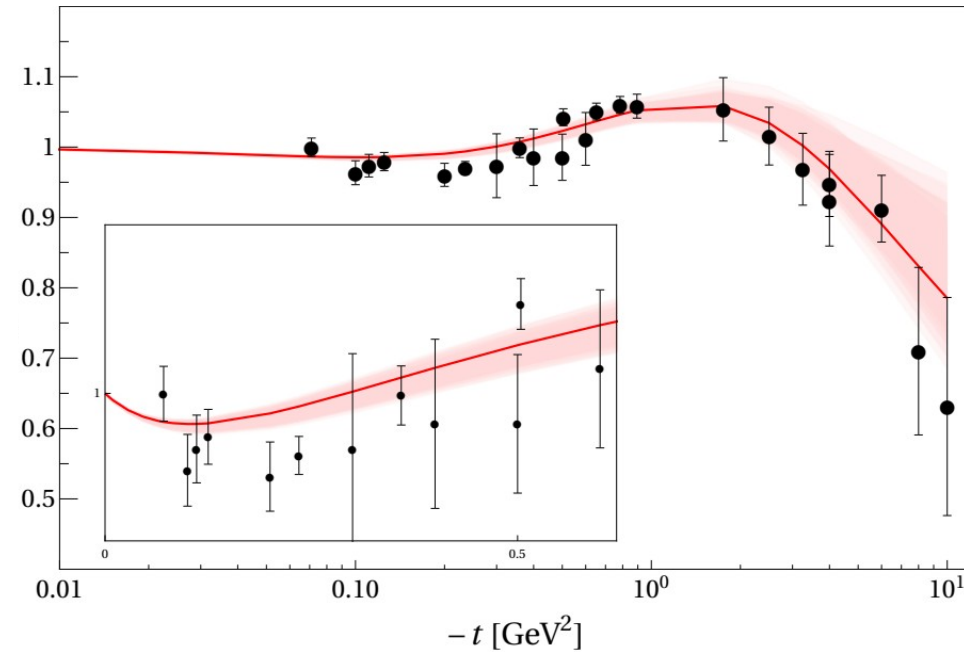
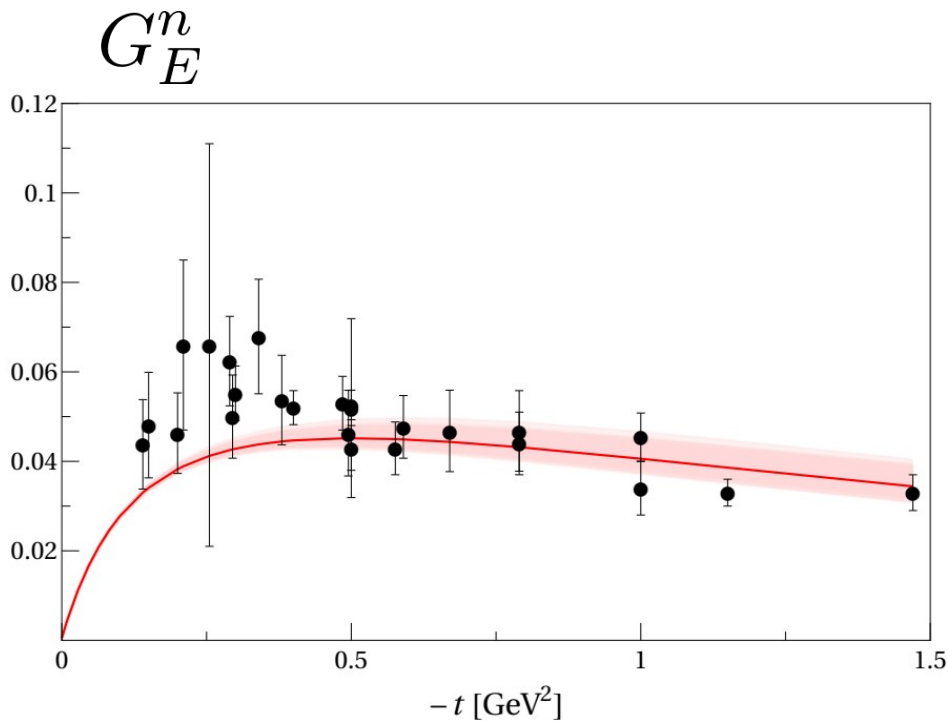
Line best fit

Band error from bootstrap sampling.



Space-like results

$$G_M^n / (\mu_n G_{\text{dip}})$$

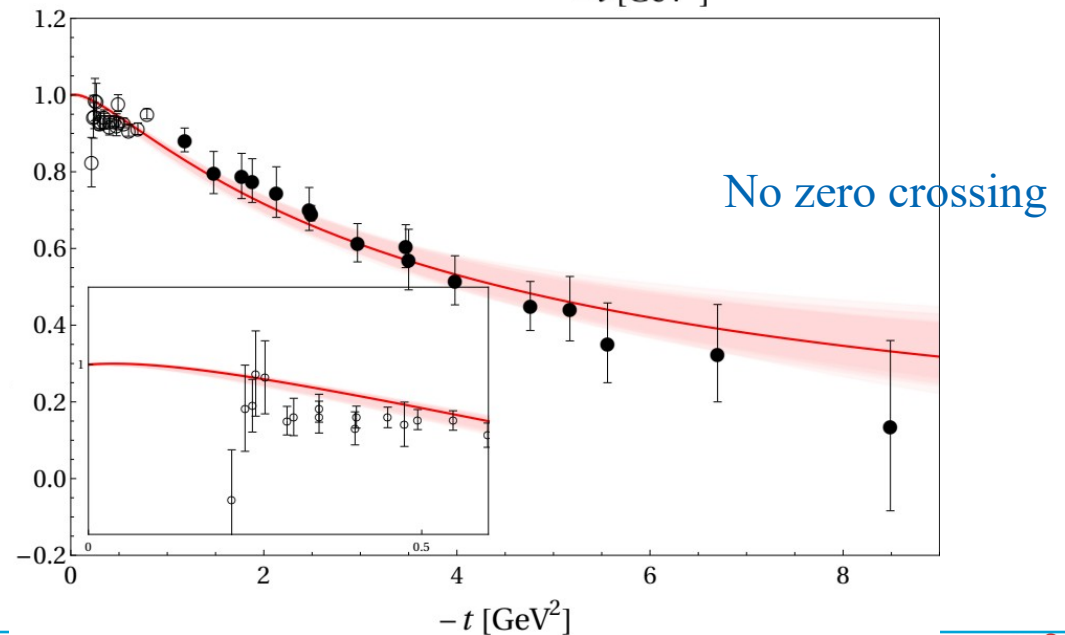


$$\mu_p G_E^p / G_M^p$$

Empty symbols not fitted

Line best fit

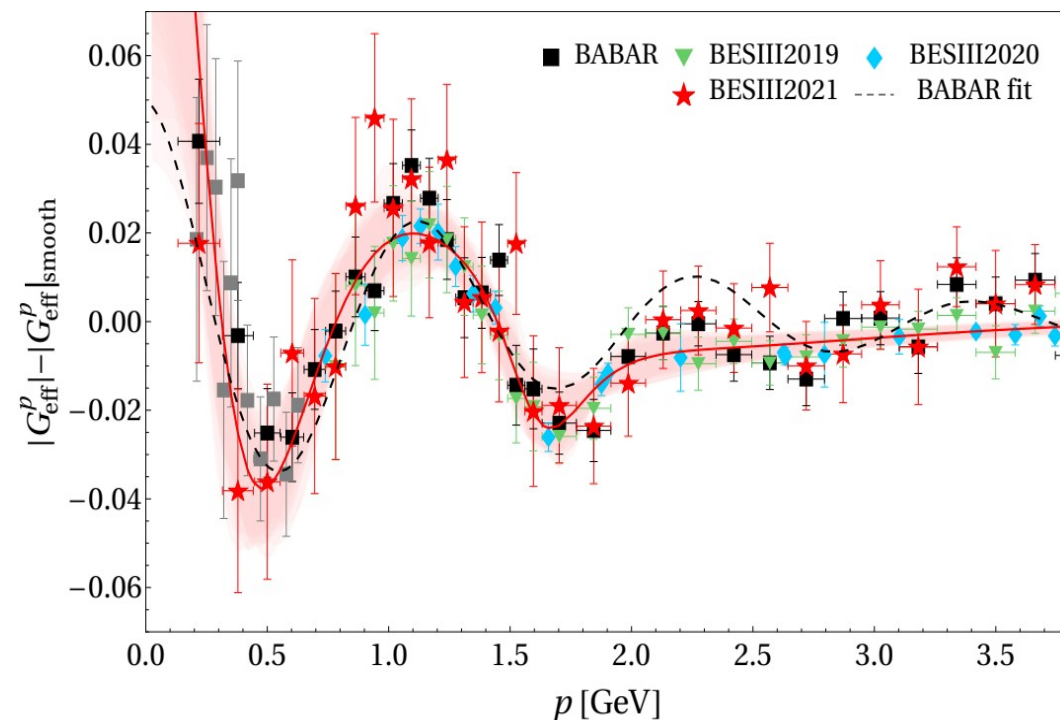
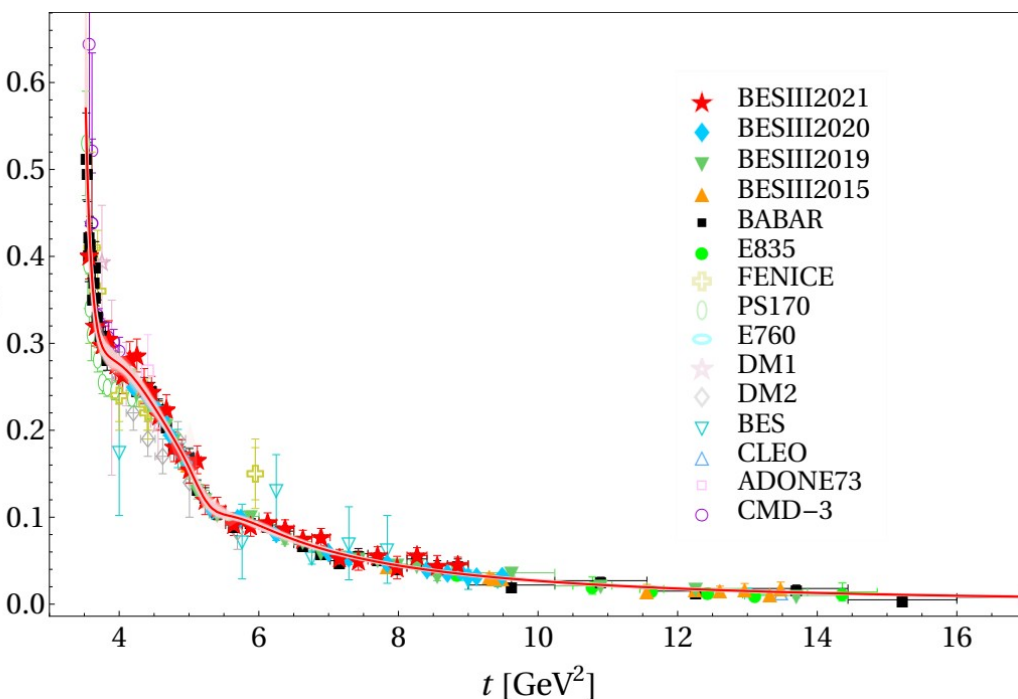
Band error from bootstrap sampling.



Time-like results

- Effective FFs $|G_{\text{eff}}^p|$

$$|G_{\text{eff}}| \equiv \sqrt{\frac{|G_E|^2 + \xi |G_M|^2}{1 + \xi}} \quad \xi = t/(2m^2)$$



Empty symbols not fitted

Line best fit

Band error from bootstrap sampling.

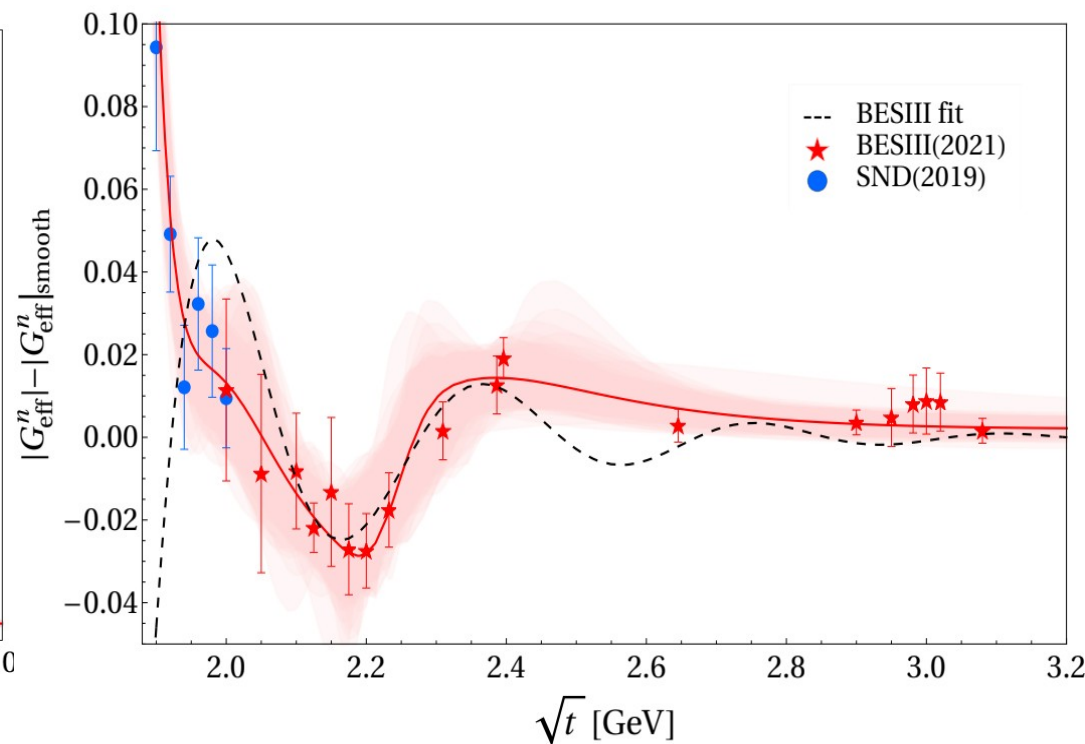
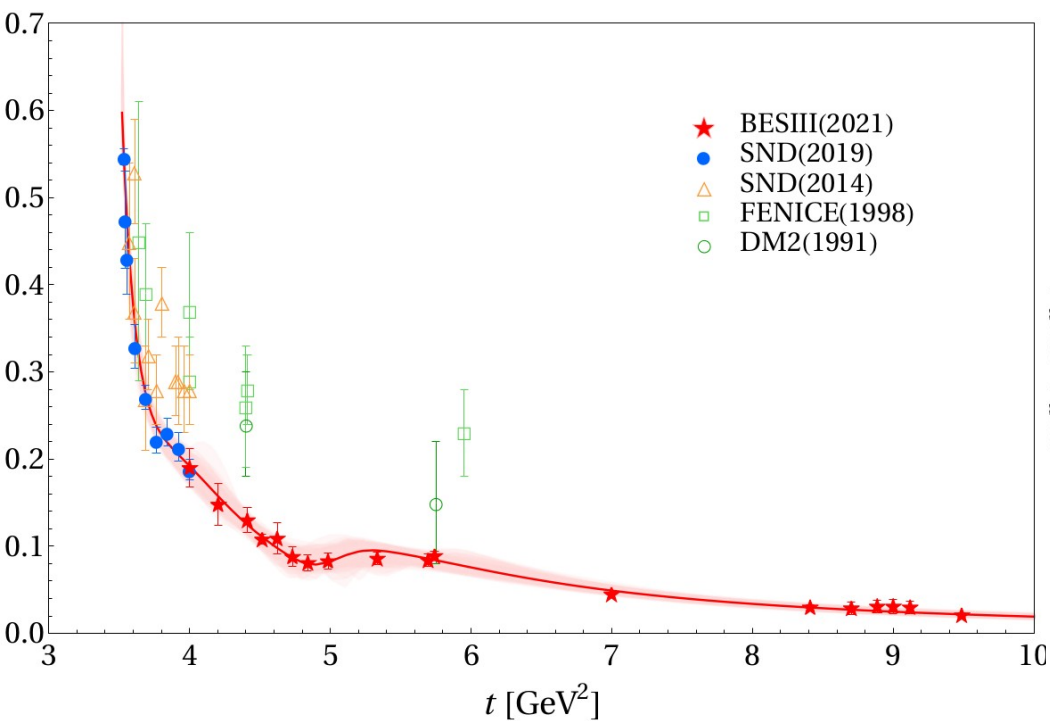
$$|G_{\text{eff}}^p|_{\text{smooth}} = \frac{7.7}{(1 + t/14.8)(1 - t/0.71)^2}$$

BABAR fit formula

$$F_p \equiv |G_{\text{eff}}^p| - |G_{\text{eff}}^p|_{\text{smooth}} = A \exp(-Bp) \cos(Cp + D)$$

Time-like results

- Effective FFs $|G_{\text{eff}}^n|$



Empty symbols not fitted

Line best fit

Band error from bootstrap sampling.

$$|G_{\text{eff}}^n|_{\text{smooth}} = \frac{4.87}{(1 + t/14.8)(1 - t/0.71)^2}$$

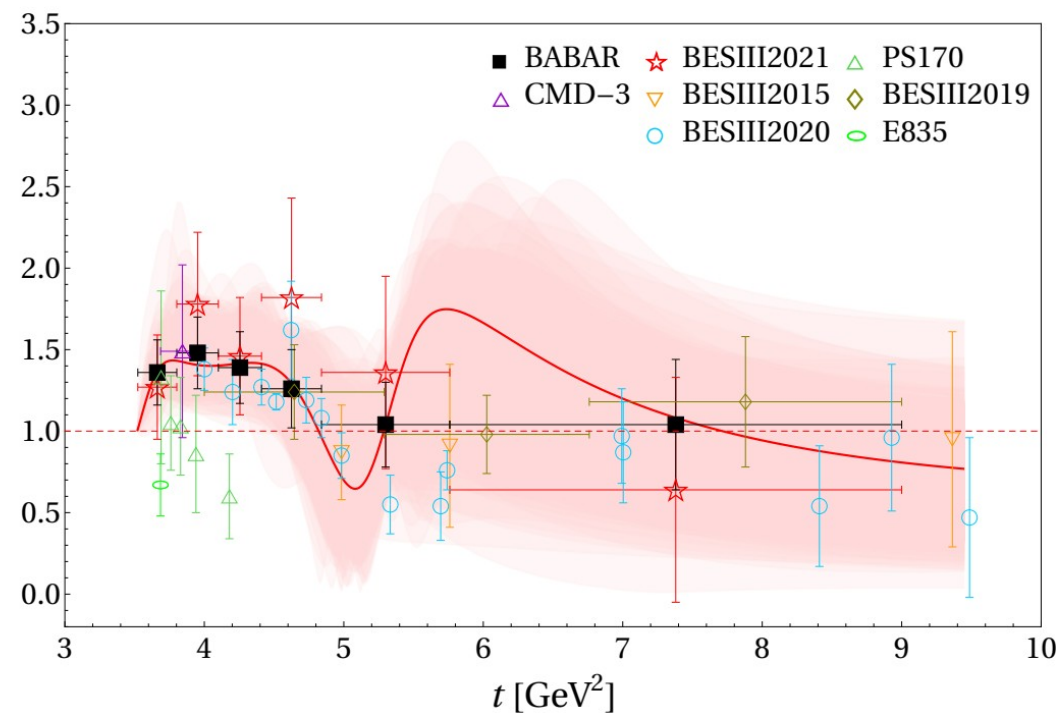
BESIII fit formula

$$F_n \equiv |G_{\text{eff}}^n| - |G_{\text{eff}}^n|_{\text{smooth}} = A \exp(-Bp) \cos(Cp + D)$$

Time-like results

$$|G_{\text{eff}}^p / G_{\text{eff}}^n|$$

$$|G_E^p / G_M^p|$$

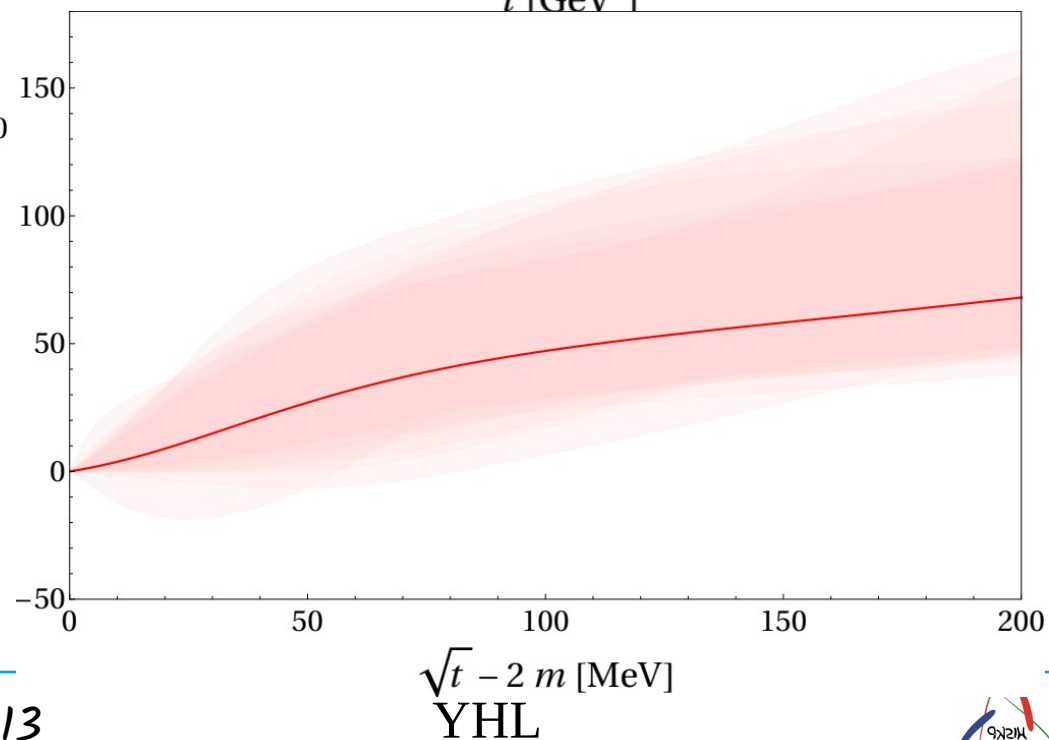
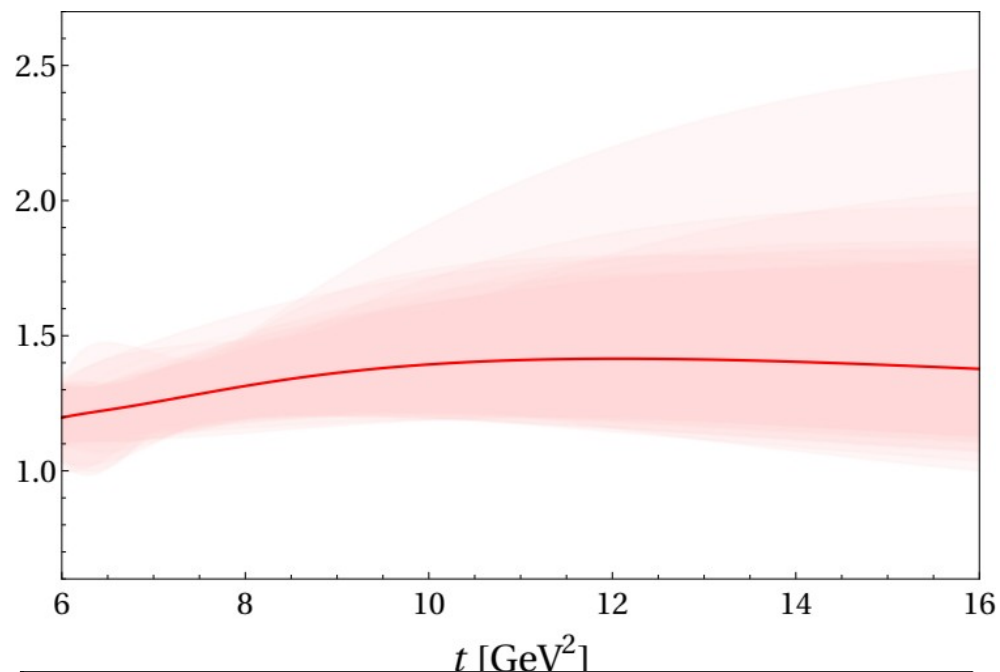


Empty symbols not fitted

$$\text{Arg}(G_E^p / G_M^p) [\text{deg}]$$

Line best fit

Band error from bootstrap sampling.

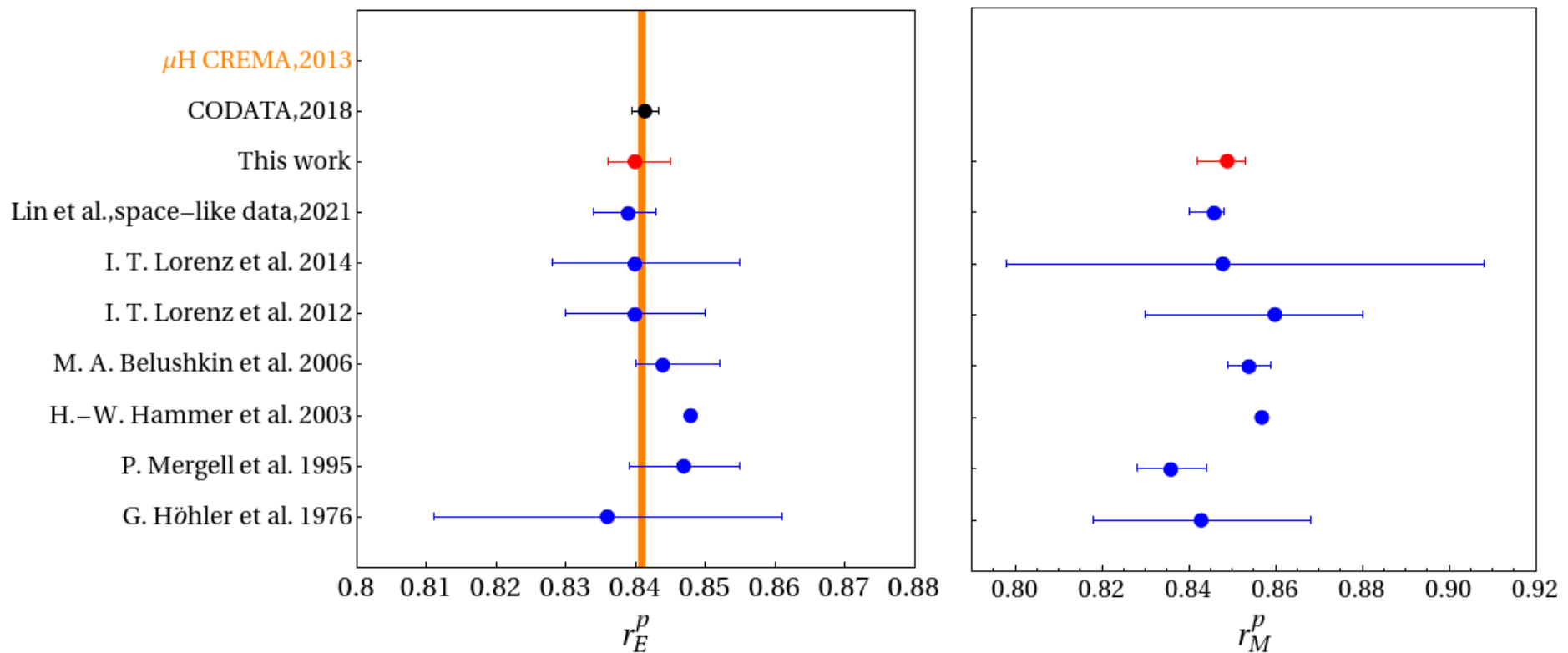


Proton charge radius

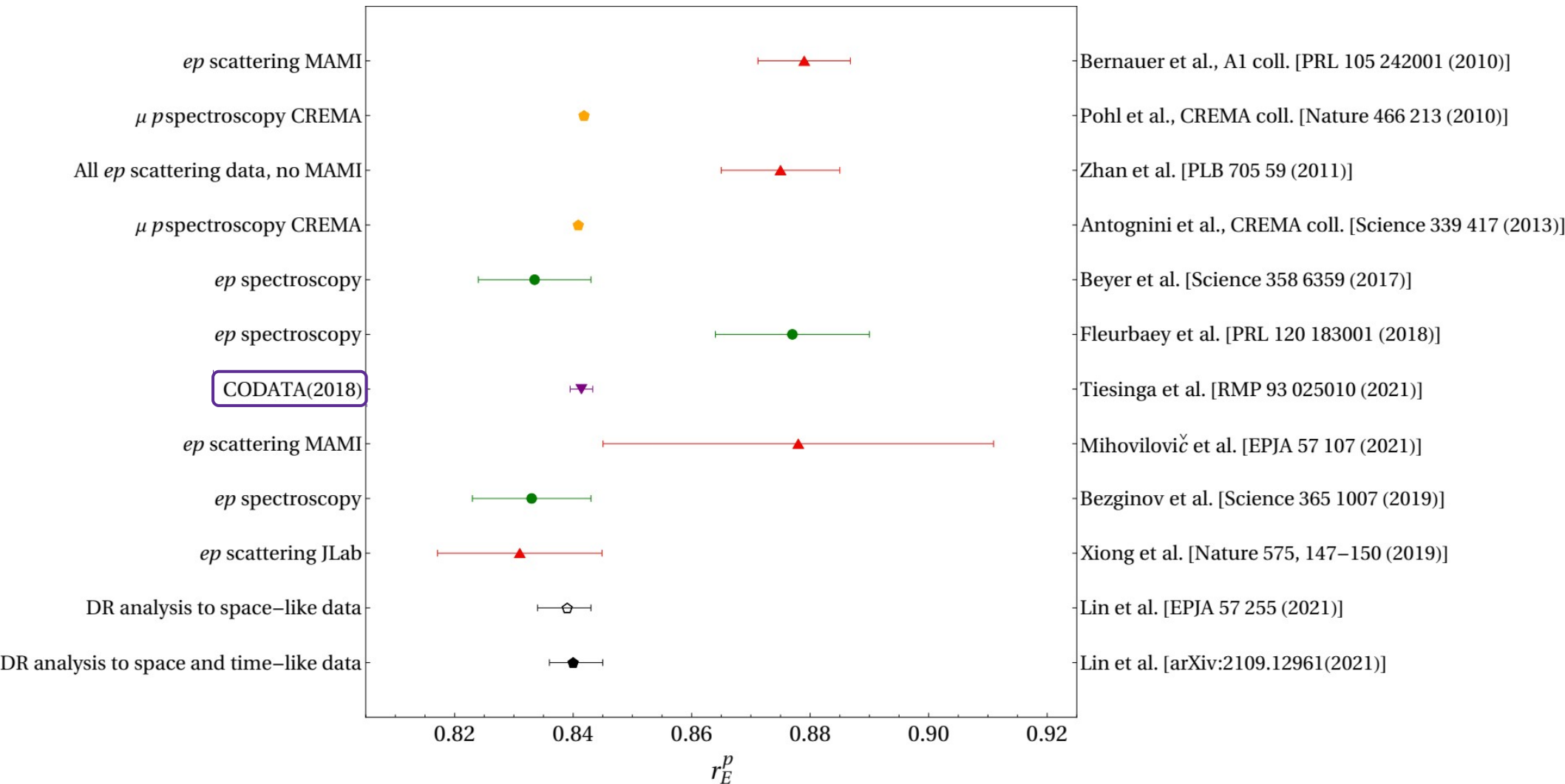
- Our determination “Systematical” error from variation of the spectral functions
“Statistical” error form bootstrap

$$r_E^p = 0.840^{+0.003}_{-0.002} {}^{+0.002}_{-0.002} \text{ fm}, \quad r_M^p = 0.849^{+0.003}_{-0.003} {}^{+0.001}_{-0.004} \text{ fm}$$

- Comparing to existing DR determinations



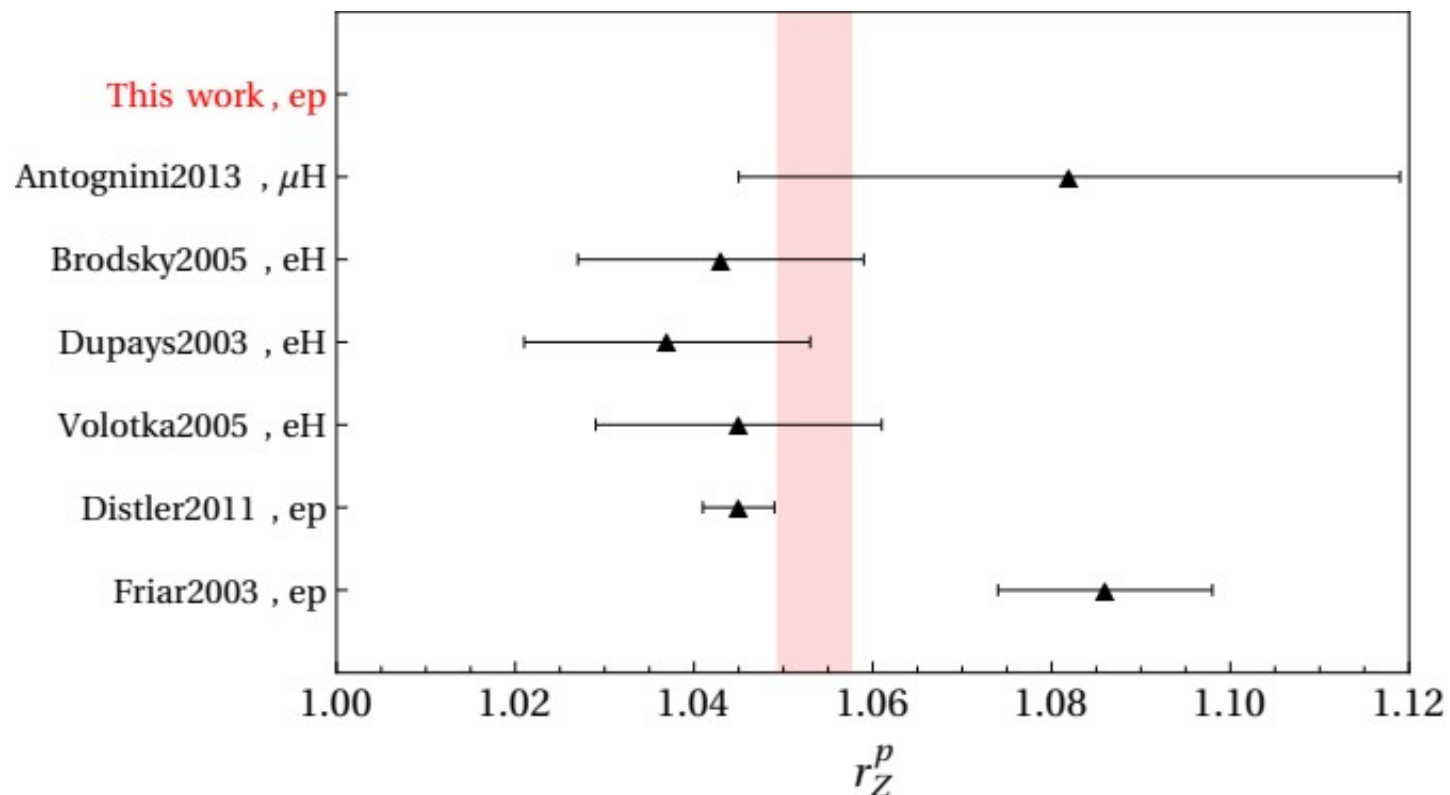
Comparing to recent measurements



Zemach radius and third Zemach moment

- Our determination

$$r_z = 1.054^{+0.003}_{-0.002} {}^{+0.000}_{-0.001} \text{ fm},$$
$$\langle r^3 \rangle_{(2)} = 2.310^{+0.022}_{-0.018} {}^{+0.014}_{-0.015} \text{ fm}^3.$$

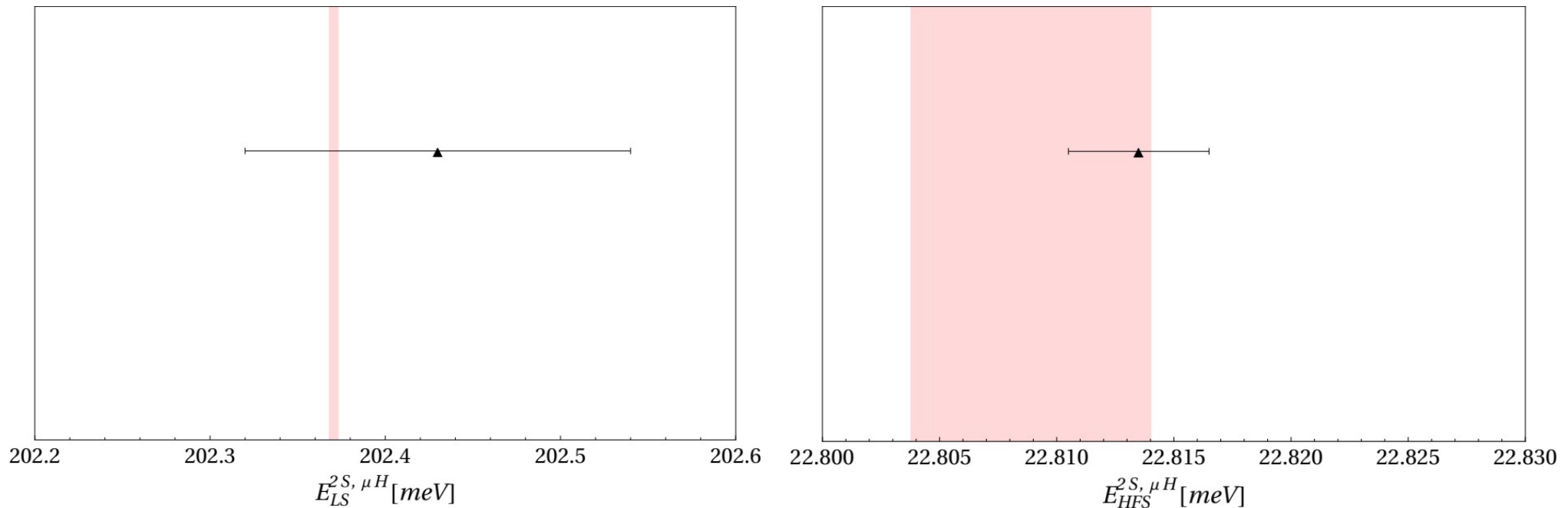


Comparison to spectroscopy observables

$$\Delta E_{\text{LS}} = 206.0336(15) - 5.2275(10)\langle r^2 \rangle_p + 0.0347\langle r^3 \rangle_{(2)}$$

$$\Delta E_{\text{HFS}} = 22.9843(30) - 0.1621(10)r_z$$

A. Antognini, *et al.* *AnnalsPhys*, 331 127(2013)



Bands from μ -H measurement, **Black** triangles are our determination.
A. Antognini, *et al.* *Science*, 339 417(2013)

Summary

- NFFs is extracted from the latest experimental data over the **full** range of momentum transfer by using dispersion theory for the first time.
 - Spacelike data 0.000215-0.977 GeV²
 - Timelike data 3.52-20.25 GeV²
- DR analysis on NFFs data provide **robust** and **consistent** proton radius over decades, agrees with the **small** one.
- The DR NFFs is also consistent with μ -H spectroscopy observables.
- Several issues on the behavior of NFFs are addressed,
 - **Disfavor** the zero crossing at intermediate spacelike momentum transfer.
 - $|G_{\text{eff}}^p/G_{\text{eff}}^n|$ and $\text{Arg}(G_E^p/G_M^p)$ in the time-like region are predicted.

Thank you very much for your attention!

Parametrization of NFFs

- Our spectral functions of NFFs read

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Im } F_i^s(t) &= \text{Im } F_i^{(s,K\bar{K})}(t) + \text{Im } F_i^{(s,\rho\pi)}(t) + \sum_{V=\omega,\phi,s_1,\dots} \pi a_i^V \delta(M_V^2 - t) \\
 &\quad + \sum_{V=r_{s1},\dots} \text{Im } F_i^{(s,V_i)}(t), \\
 \text{Im } F_i^v(t) &= \text{Im } F_i^{(v,2\pi)}(t) + \sum_{V=v_1,\dots} \pi a_i^V \delta(M_V^2 - t) \\
 &\quad + \sum_{V=r_{v1},\dots} \text{Im } F_i^{(v,V_i)}(t),
 \end{aligned}$$

- Then NFFs can be written as

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_i(t) &= \frac{a_i^V}{M_V^2 - t} \quad \text{for } \text{Im } F_i^{(s,K\bar{K})}(t), \text{Im } F_i^{(s,\rho\pi)}(t), \pi a_i^V \delta(M_V^2 - t) \\
 F_i(t) &= \frac{a_i^V}{M_V^2 - t - iM_V\Gamma_V} \quad \text{for } \text{Im } F_i^{(s,V_{rs})}(t), \text{Im } F_i^{(v,V_{rv})}(t)
 \end{aligned}$$

Fitting procedure

- Definition of χ^2

$$\chi_1^2 = \sum_i \sum_k \frac{(n_k C_i - C(t_i, \theta_i, \vec{p}))^2}{(\sigma_i + \nu_i)^2}$$

$$\chi_2^2 = \sum_{i,j} \sum_k (n_k C_i - C(t_i, \theta_i, \vec{p}))[V^{-1}]_{ij} (n_k C_j - C(t_j, \theta_j, \vec{p}))$$
$$V_{ij} = \sigma_i \sigma_j \delta_{ij} + \nu_i \nu_j$$

- Theoretical constraints are imposed in a soft way (implemented as additive terms to the total χ^2)

$$\chi_{\text{add.}}^2 = p [x - \langle x \rangle]^2 \exp (p [x - \langle x \rangle]^2)$$

Two-pion continuum

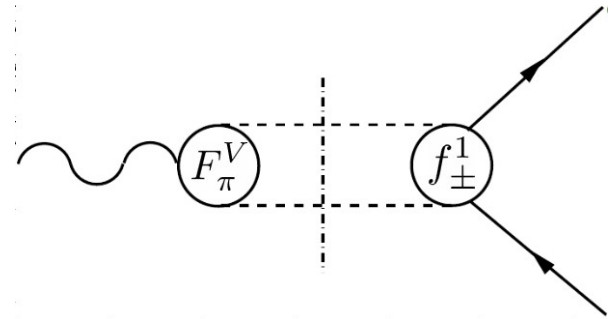
- Two-pion contribution to isovector spectral functions

M. Hoferichter, *et al.* EPJA52, 331(2016)

$$\text{Im } G_E^v(t) = \frac{q_t^3}{m\sqrt{t}} F_\pi^V(t)^* f_+^1(t) \theta(t - 4M_\pi^2) ,$$

$$\text{Im } G_M^v(t) = \frac{q_t^3}{\sqrt{2}t} F_\pi^V(t)^* f_-^1(t) \theta(t - 4M_\pi^2) ,$$

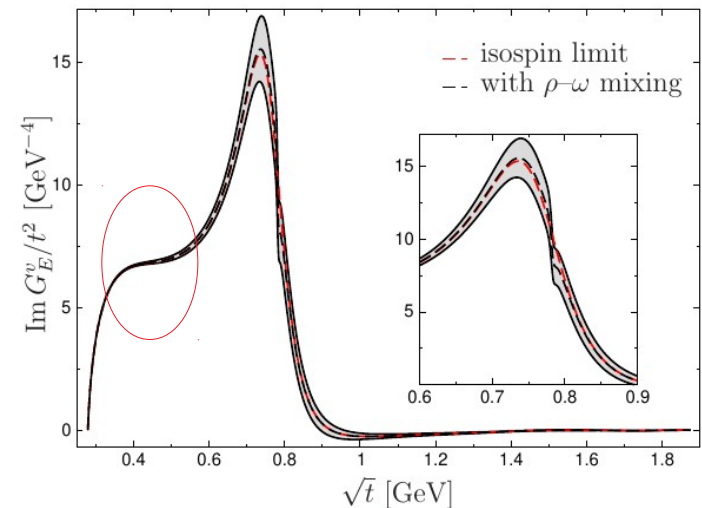
$$q_t = \sqrt{t/4 - M_\pi^2}$$



- Pion FFs F_π : from $\pi\pi$ scattering phase shift
- P-wave $\pi\pi \rightarrow N\bar{N}$ $f_\pm^1$: from analytic continuation of πN data

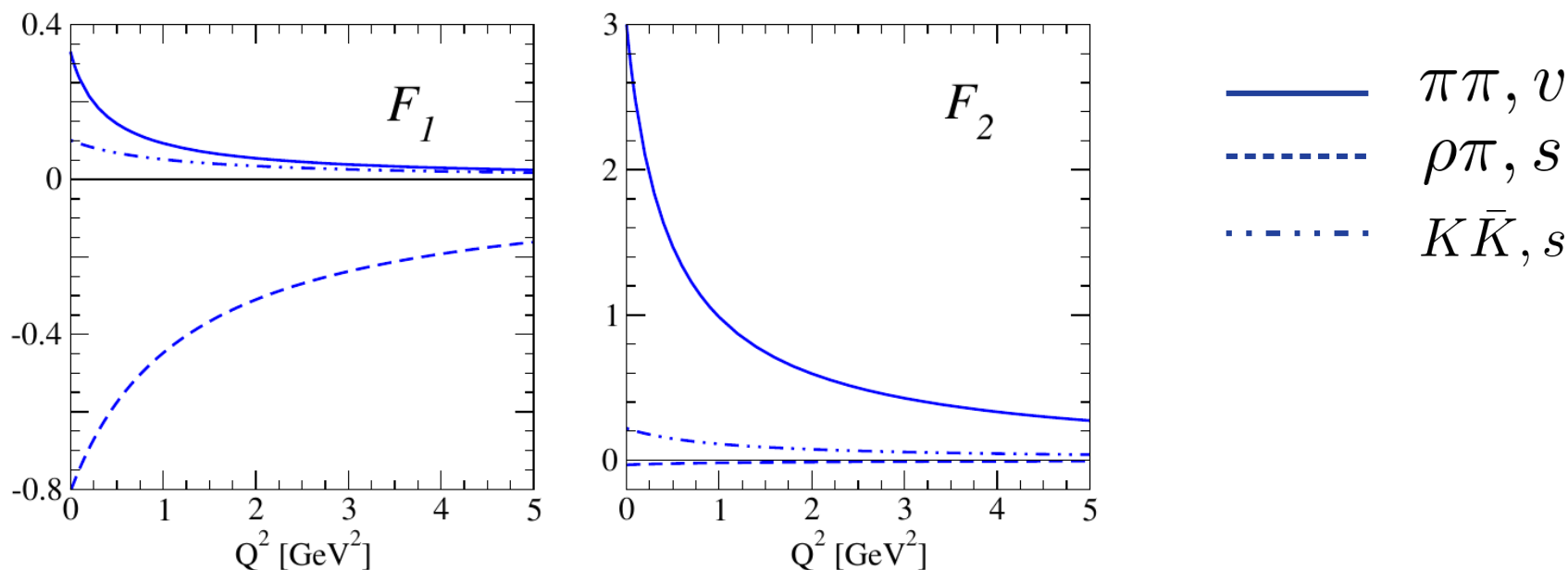
- Substantially different with the single ρ meson approximation

A **visible enhancement** on the left shoulder of ρ is found. $t_c = 3.98m_\pi^2$ very close to threshold



Parametrization of NFFs

- Continuum contributions (not fitted to data)
 - $\pi\pi$ based on precise analysis of pion-nucleon scattering
M. Hoferichter, et al. EPJA52, 331(2016)
 - $K\bar{K}$ from an analytic continuation of kaon-nucleon scattering data
H.-W. Hammer, et al. PRC60, 045205(1999)
 - $\rho\pi$ from investigation of the Bonn-Jülich N-N interaction model
U.-G. Meißner, et al. PLB633, 507(2006)



Two-photon-exchange correction

- Leading TPE contribution I. T. Lorenz, *et al.* PRD91, 014023(2015)

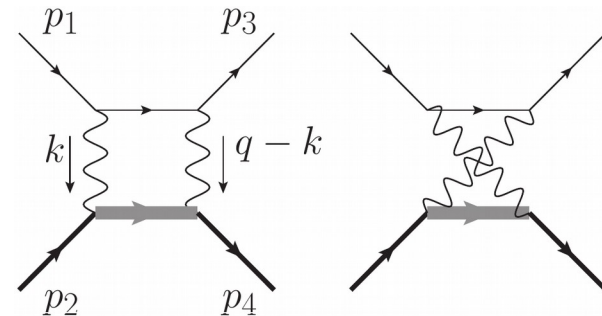
$$\frac{d\sigma_{\text{corr}}}{d\Omega} = \frac{d\sigma_{1\gamma}}{d\Omega} (1 + \delta_{2\gamma} + \dots) , \quad \delta_{2\gamma} \underbrace{\approx}_{\mathcal{O}(\alpha)} \frac{2\text{Re}(\mathcal{M}_{1\gamma}^\dagger \mathcal{M}_{2\gamma})}{|\mathcal{M}_{1\gamma}|^2}$$

- One-photon amplitude $\mathcal{M}_{1\gamma} = -\frac{e^2}{q^2} \bar{u}_e(p_3) \gamma_\mu u_e(p_1) \bar{u}_N(p_4) \Gamma^\nu u_N(p_2)$
- Two-photon amplitude $\mathcal{M}_{2\gamma}^{\text{box}} = -ie^4 \int \frac{d^4k}{(2\pi)^4} L_{\mu\nu}^{\text{box}} (H_N^{\mu\nu} + H_\Delta^{\mu\nu}) D(k) D(q-k)$

$$L_{\mu\nu}^{\text{box}} = \bar{u}_e(p_3) \gamma_\mu S_F(p_1 - k, m_e) \gamma_\nu u_e(p_1)$$

$$H_N^{\mu\nu} = \bar{u}_N(p_4) \Gamma^\mu (q - k) S_F(p_2 + k, m_N) \Gamma^\nu (k) u_N(p_2)$$

$$H_\Delta^{\mu\nu} = \bar{u}_N(p_4) (p_4) \Gamma_{\gamma\Delta\rightarrow N}^{\mu\alpha} (p_2 + k, q - k) S_{\alpha\beta} \\ \times (p_2 + k) \Gamma_{\gamma N\rightarrow\Delta}^{\beta\nu} (p_2 + k, k) u_N(p_2),$$



Values of the proton charge radius

- Historical DR determination

Ref.	r_E^p [fm]	r_M^p [fm]
G. Höhler et al. 1976	0.836 ± 0.025	0.843 ± 0.025
P. Mergell et al. 1995	0.847 ± 0.008	0.836 ± 0.008
H.-W. Hammer et al. 2003	0.848^*	0.857^*
M. A. Belushkin et al. 2006	$0.844^{+0.008}_{-0.004}$	0.854 ± 0.005
I. T. Lorenz et al. 2012	0.84 ± 0.01	$0.86^{+0.02}_{-0.03}$
I. T. Lorenz et al. 2014	$0.840^{+0.015}_{-0.012}$	$0.848^{+0.06}_{-0.05}$
Lin et al. 2021	$0.838^{+0.005+0.004}_{-0.004-0.003}$	$0.847 \pm 0.004 \pm 0.004$

Here * means that no error analysis has been performed.

Parameters of best fit

- Best fit

V_s	m_V	Γ	a_1^V	a_2^V	V_v	m_V	Γ	a_1^V	a_2^V
ω	0.783	0	0.701	0.338	v_1	1.050	0	0.782	-0.132
ϕ	1.019	0	-0.526	-0.997	v_2	1.323	0	-4.873	-0.645
s_1	1.031	0	0.422	-2.827	v_3	1.368	0	3.518	-0.987
s_2	1.120	0	0.122	3.655	v_4	1.462	0	2.243	-3.813
s_3	1.827	0	0.955	-1.122	v_5	1.532	0	-1.422	3.668
r_{s1}	1.903	0.973	-2.653	-1.753	r_{v1}	2.256	0.239	2.552	-1.217
r_{s2}	1.914	0.541	-3.069	2.017	r_{v2}	2.253	0.245	-1.947	0.551
r_{s3}	1.879	0.895	4.953	0.501	r_{v3}	2.220	0.362	-0.985	1.061

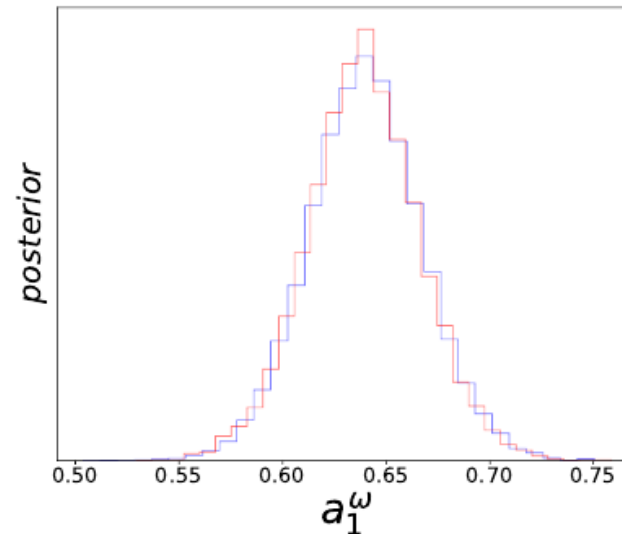
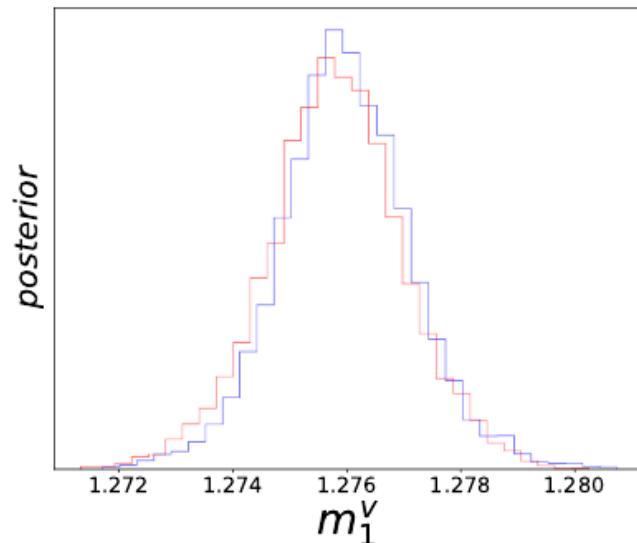
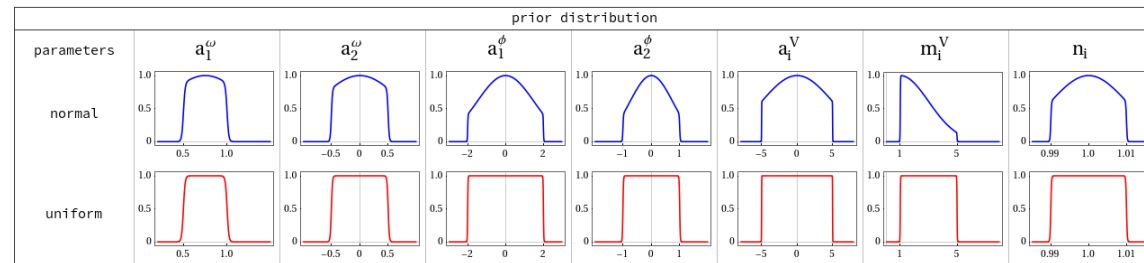
Bootstrap vs Bayesian in PRad fits

- Bayesian theorem

$$P(\text{parameters}|\text{data}) = \frac{P(\text{parameters})P(\text{data}|\text{parameters})}{P(\text{data})}$$

$$\text{posterior} \sim \text{prior} \times \text{likelihood}$$

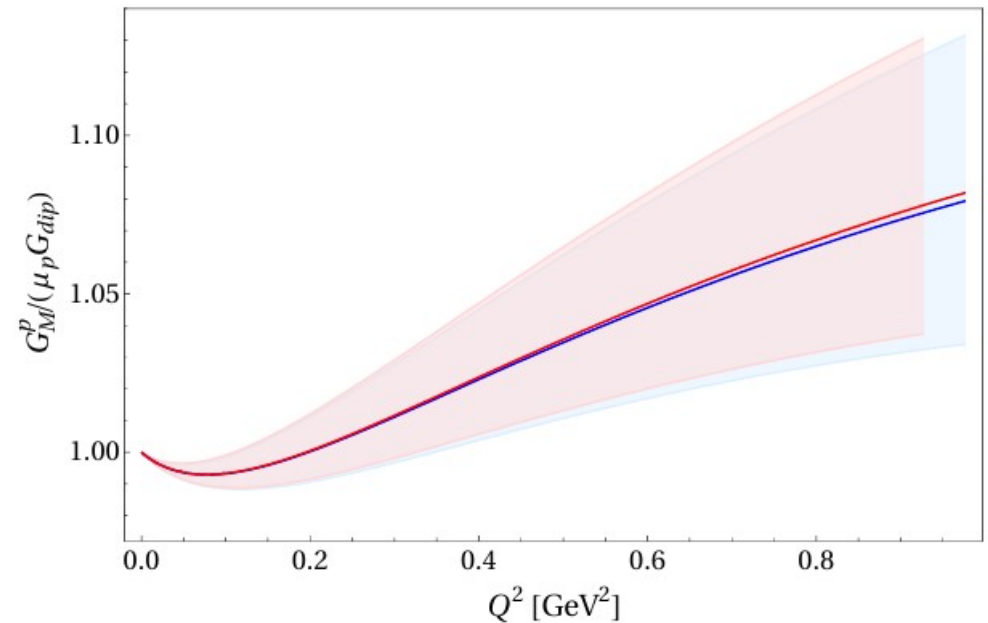
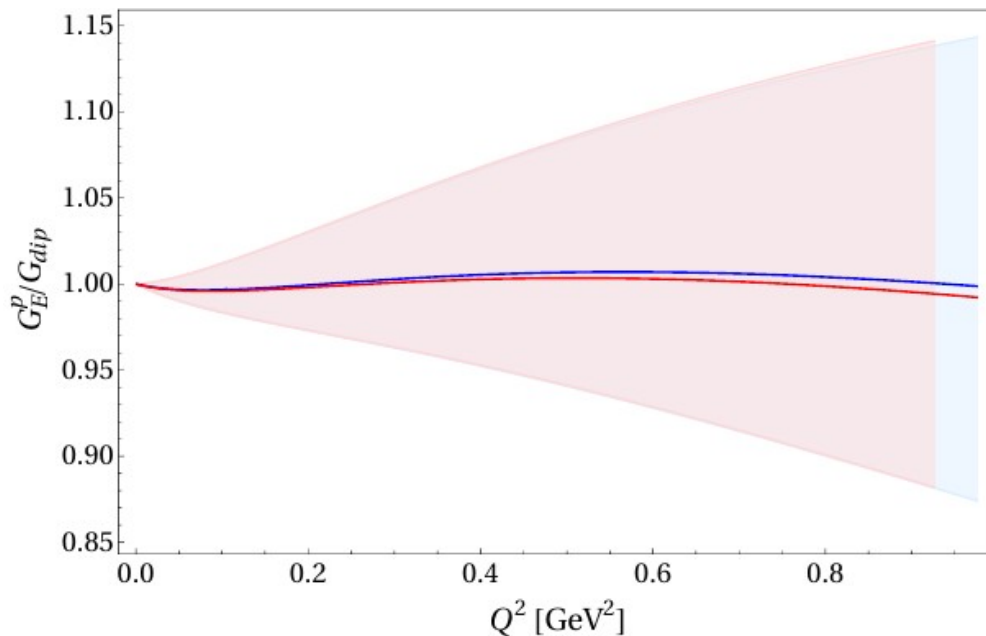
- Bayesian analysis



Bootstrap vs Bayesian in PRad fits

- Comparing with bootstrap sampling

Method	r_E^p [fm]	r_M^p [fm]
Bayesian normal	0.828 ± 0.011	0.843 ± 0.004
Bayesian uniform	0.828 ± 0.011	0.843 ± 0.004
Bootstrap	0.828 ± 0.012	0.843 ± 0.005



From “puzzle” to precision

- Some discussions

H.-W. Hammer, *et al.* SciBull65, 257(2020)
C. Peset, *et al.* 2106.00695

$$(\Delta E_L)_{\text{measured}} = E_1 + E_2 C(r_p^2) + \mathcal{O}(m_r \alpha^6), \quad C(r_p^2) = c_1 + c_2 r_p^2 + \mathcal{O}(\alpha^2)$$

δ_{TPE} encoded in coefficients E_1 , E_2 , and $C \sim \mathcal{O}(m_l)$

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \right)_{\text{measured}} = \frac{d\sigma_{\text{Mott}}}{d\Omega} \frac{1}{1 + \tau_p} \left(G_E^2 + \frac{\tau_p}{\varepsilon} G_M^2 \right) (1 + \delta_{\text{TPE}}) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha^2)$$

$\langle r_p^2 \rangle$, δ_{TPE} , higher moments($\langle r_p^n \rangle$) and polarizabilities

interwinded together when goes to the higher order corrections.

Only when the theory and experiment are at the same order of accuracy can the same $\langle r_p^2 \rangle$ be obtained.

Precision is the issue that really matters in the proton charge radius problem.