



# Two topics in strong interactions physics with electromagnetic probes

Ulf-G. Meißner, Univ. Bonn & FZ Jülich

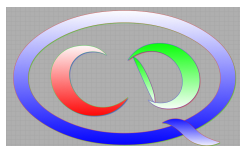
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by NRW-FAIR



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- Introductory remarks
- The proton radius: A theoreticians view
- The proton radius from  $J/\psi$  decays
- The minimal nuclear interaction
- *Ab initio* calculation of the  $^4\text{He}$  transition form factor
- Summary and outlook

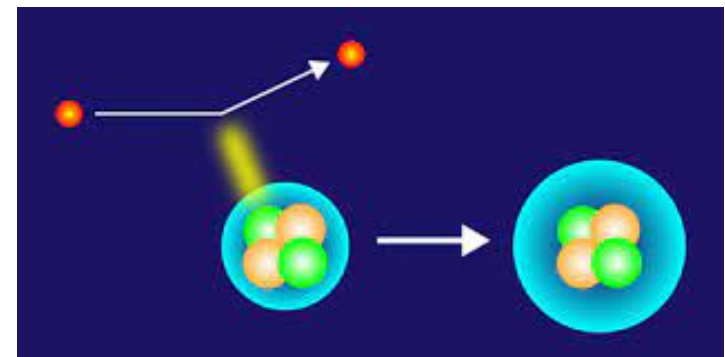
# Introductory remarks

# Electron scattering off nucleons and nuclei

- Electron scattering is a versatile tool to
  - ⇒ reveal the structure of the nucleon
  - ⇒ reveal the structure of atomic nuclei
  - ⇒ information encoded in **form factors**, ...
- Often complimentary information through final-state interactions (FSI) in reactions or decays
- this talk addresses two topics of high current interest:
  - a new method to measure the proton charge radius
  - an *ab initio* calculation of the  $^4\text{He}$  transition ff



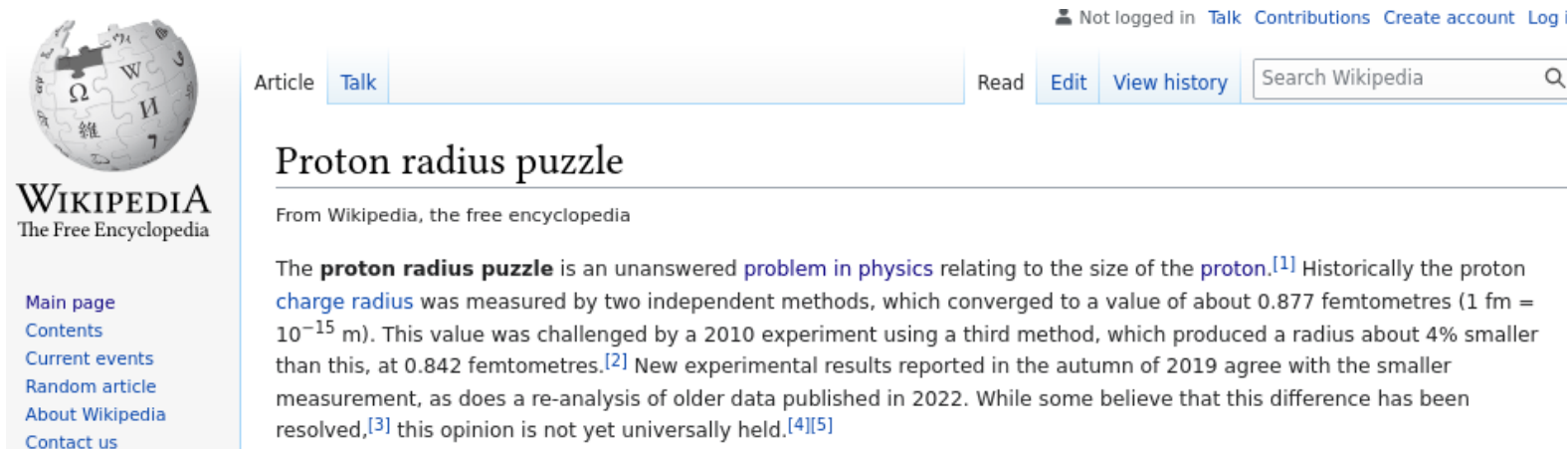
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# The proton radius “puzzle”

- The so-called proton radius puzzle: Much ado about nothing?



The screenshot shows the Wikipedia article for "Proton radius puzzle". At the top, it says "Not logged in" with links for "Talk", "Contributions", "Create account", and "Log in". Below that are tabs for "Article" and "Talk", and buttons for "Read", "Edit", and "View history". A search bar is also present. The article title "Proton radius puzzle" is prominently displayed, followed by the text "From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia". The main text of the article begins: "The **proton radius puzzle** is an unanswered [problem in physics](#) relating to the size of the [proton](#).<sup>[1]</sup> Historically the proton [charge radius](#) was measured by two independent methods, which converged to a value of about 0.877 femtometres (1 fm = 10<sup>-15</sup> m). This value was challenged by a 2010 experiment using a third method, which produced a radius about 4% smaller than this, at 0.842 femtometres.<sup>[2]</sup> New experimental results reported in the autumn of 2019 agree with the smaller measurement, as does a re-analysis of older data published in 2022. While some believe that this difference has been resolved,<sup>[3]</sup> this opinion is not yet universally held.<sup>[4][5]</sup>"

- Or stated differently: It’s all about precision

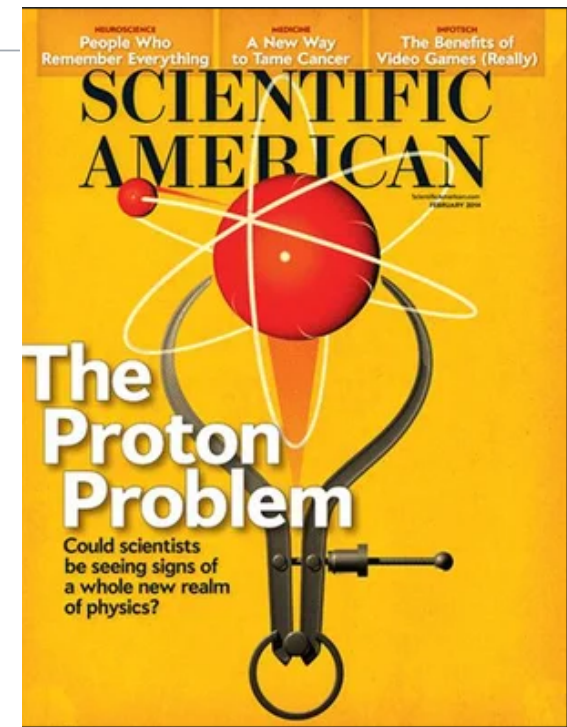


The banner for Science Bulletin features the Elsevier logo on the left, the text "Science Bulletin" in the center, and the Science Bulletin logo on the right. It includes the text "Science Bulletin 65 (2020) 257–258", "Contents lists available at ScienceDirect", and the journal homepage URL "www.elsevier.com/locate/scib".

News & Views

The proton radius: from a puzzle to precision

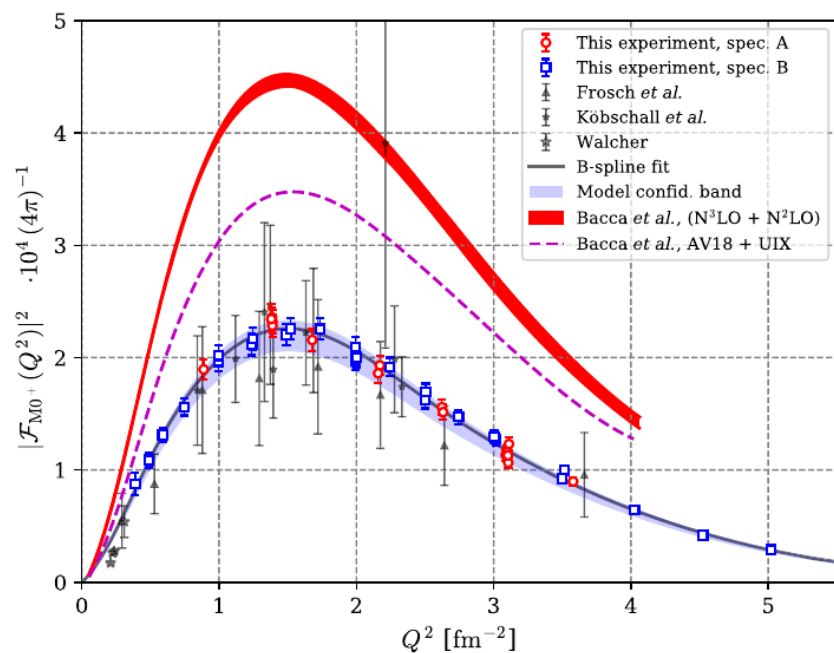
Hans-Werner Hammer<sup>a,b</sup>, Ulf-G. Meißner<sup>c,d,e,\*</sup>



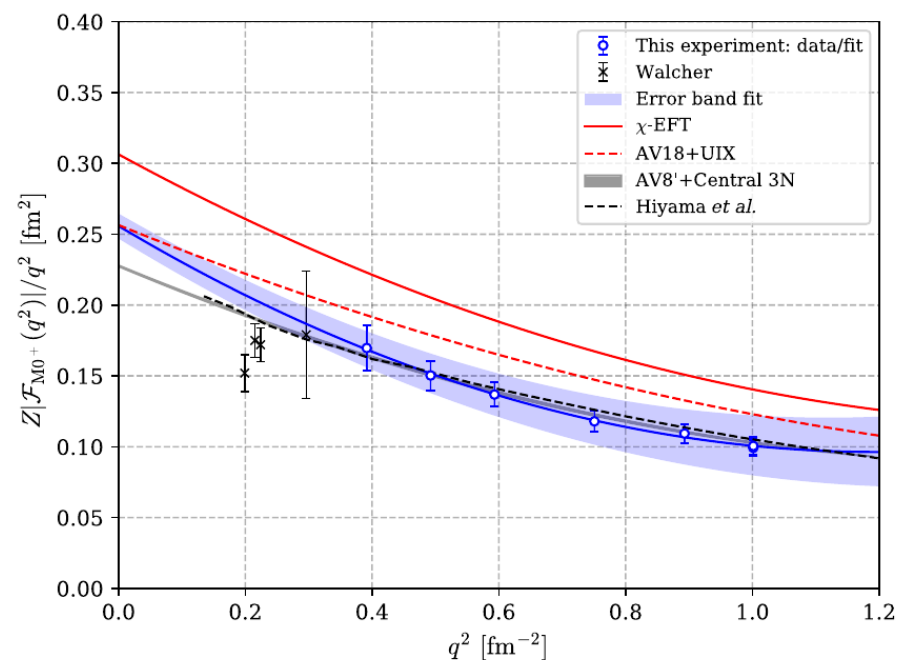
# The $^4\text{He}$ form factor puzzle

- Recent Mainz measurements of  $F_{M0}(0_2^+ \rightarrow 0_1^+)$  appear to be in stark disagreement with *ab initio* nuclear theory Kegel et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **130** (2023) 152502

- Monopole transition ff



- low-momentum expansion



⇒ A low-energy puzzle for nuclear forces?

# The proton radius and its relatives

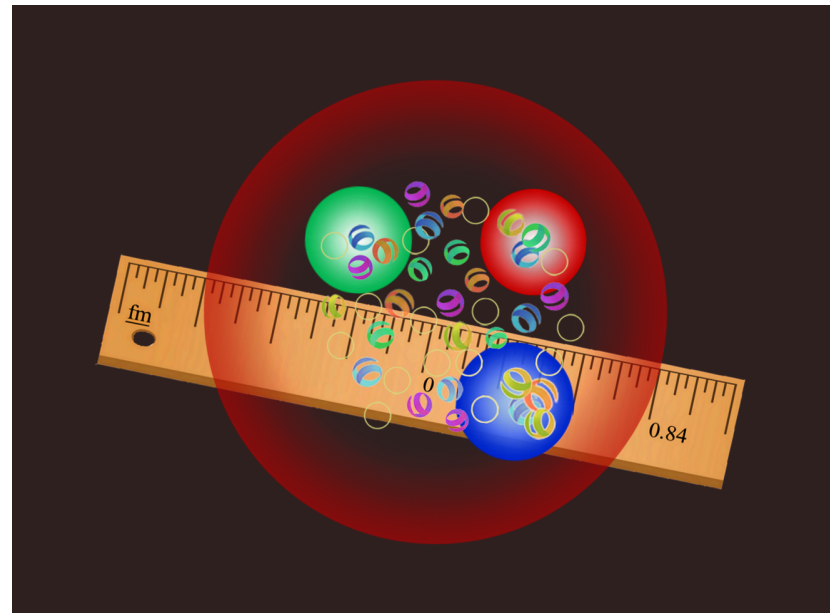


Fig. courtesy Yong-Hui Lin

# Proton charge radius

- Definition:  $r_p^2 \equiv -6 G'_E(0)$  [not discussing charge distribution here!]

- Measurements:

- Leptonic hydrogen Lamb shift (LS) [in principle 2 numbers:  $r_p$  &  $R_\infty$ ]

$$\Delta E_{LS} = \Delta E_1 + \Delta E_2 C(r_p^2) + \mathcal{O}(m_{\text{red}} \alpha_{\text{EM}}^2)$$

$$C(r_p^2) = c_1 + c_2 r_p^2 + \mathcal{O}(m_{\text{red}} \alpha_{\text{EM}}^2)$$

- Lepton-proton scattering (Rosenbluth separation)

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{d\sigma_{\text{Mott}}}{d\Omega} \frac{1}{1 + \tau} \left( G_E^2 + \frac{\tau}{\varepsilon} G_M^2 \right) (1 + \delta_{\text{rad.}}) + \mathcal{O}(m_{\text{red}} \alpha_{\text{EM}}^2)$$

- The neglected sibling, the proton magnetic radius:

$$(r_p^M)^2 \equiv -(6/\mu_p) G'_M(0)$$



# Proton charge & magnetic radius from DR

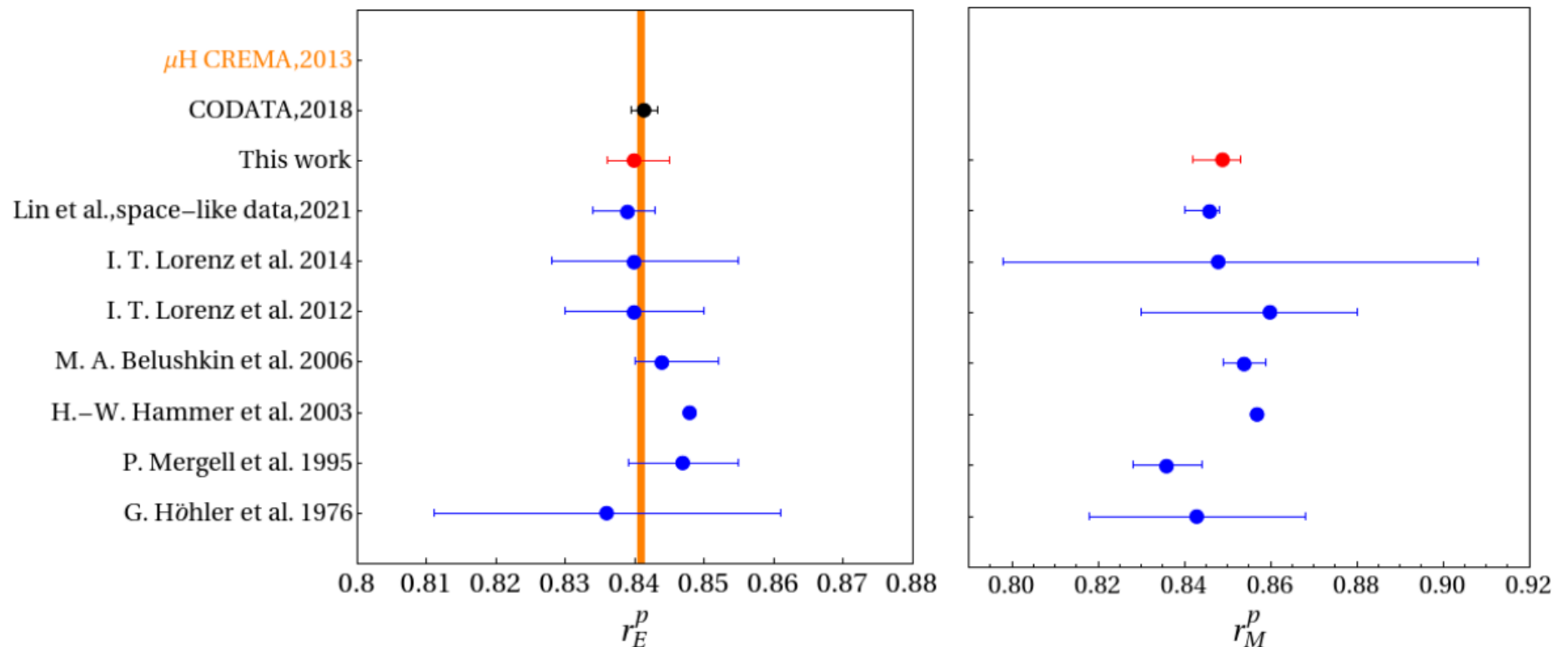
Lin, Hammer, UGM, Phys. Lett. B **816** (2021) 136254 [2102.11642 [hep-ph]]  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **128** (2022) 052002 [2109.12961 [hep-ph]]

- Dispersion relations – determination incl. statistical and systematic errors:

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

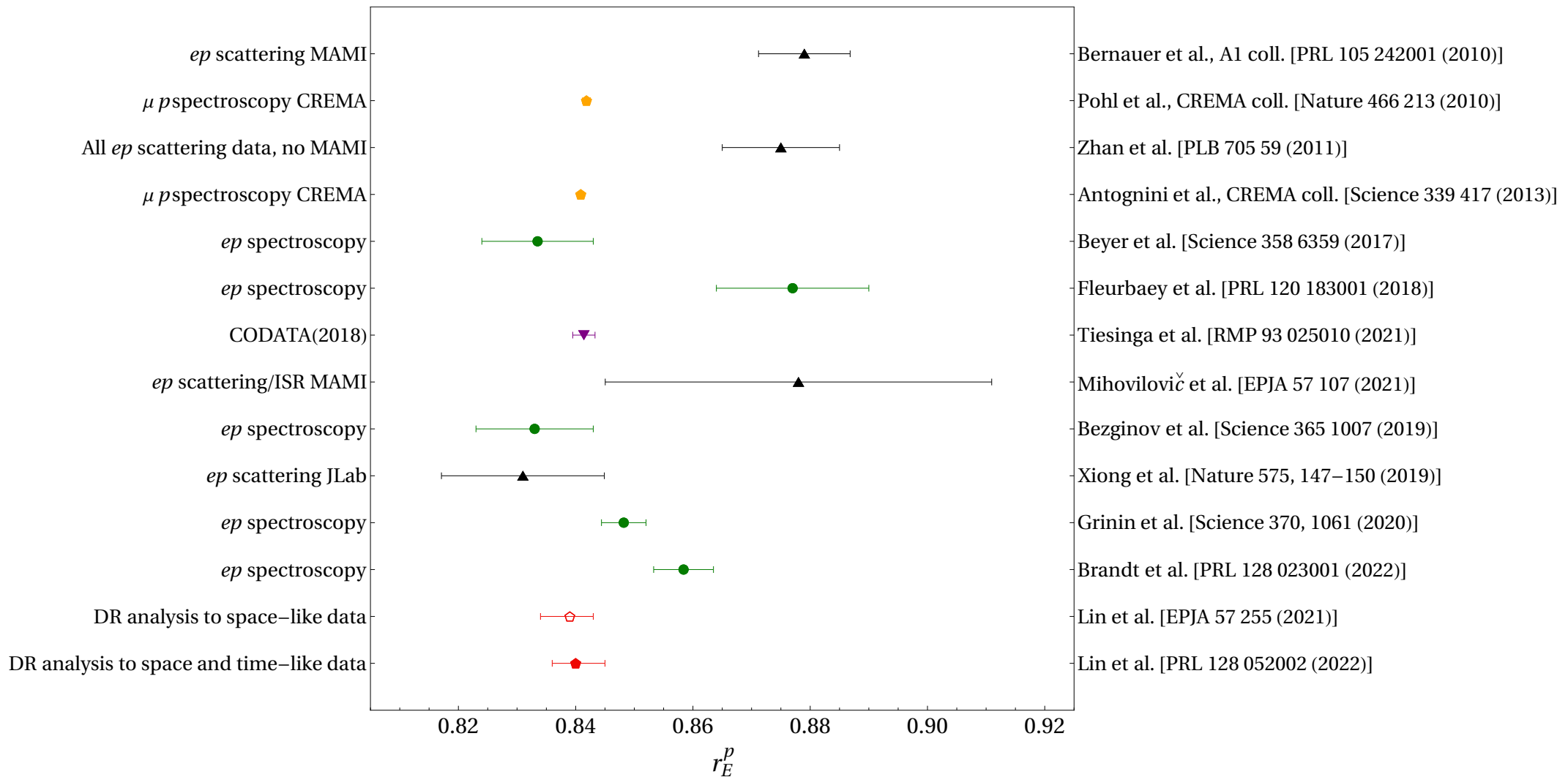
- Comparison to earlier DR determinations (some data)

Review on DR: Lin, Hammer, UGM, EPJA **57** (2021) 255



# Proton charge radius cont'd

- Comparison to recent measurements:

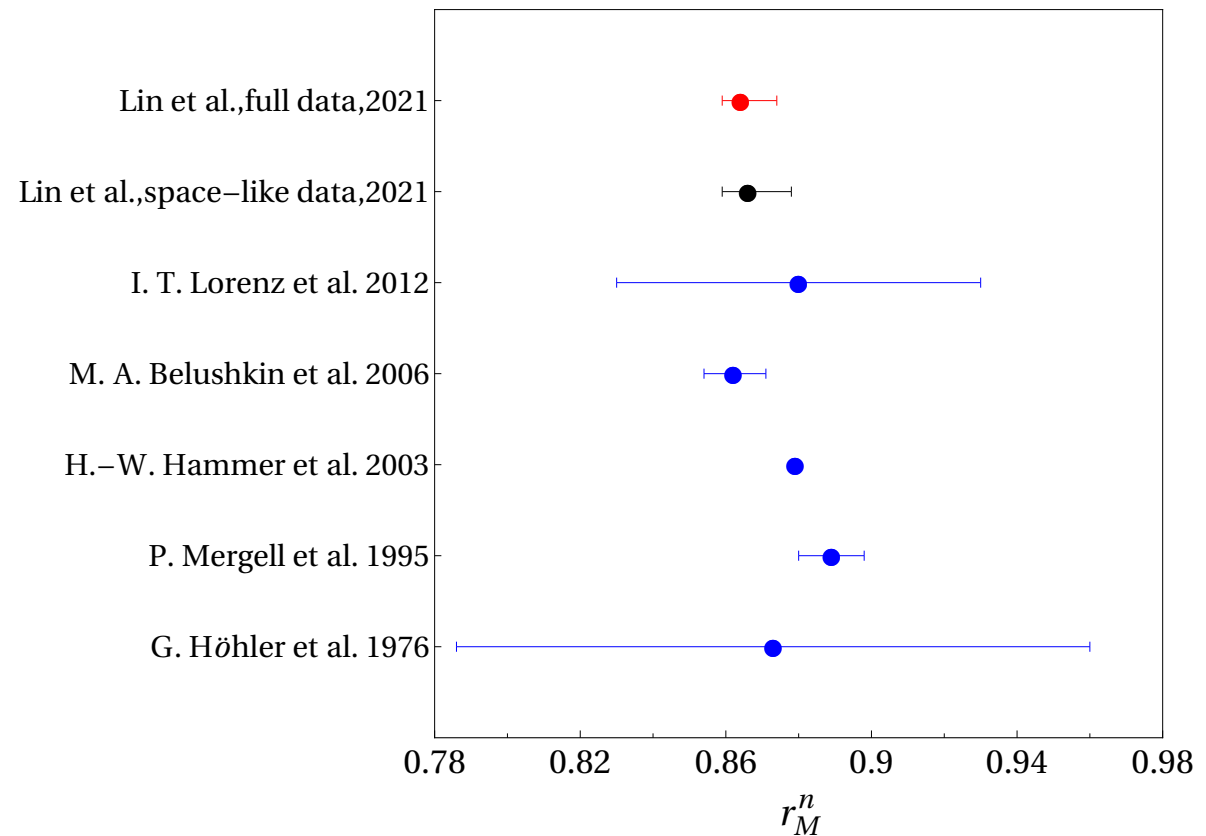


# Neutron radii

- The charge squared neutron  $(r_E^n)^2$  radius was mostly input in DR analyses, but not the magnetic one

$$r_M^n = 0.864_{-0.004}^{+0.004+0.006}_{-0.001} \text{ fm}$$

- ↪ rather stable over time
- ↪ but larger variation
- ↪ always the largest em radius!
- ↪ lattice QCD gives rather comparable isovector radii (p& n)



# Comparison with lattice QCD

- Compare isovector radii, these are free of disconnect diagrams
- Show only calculations at the physical pion mass

	$r_E^V$ [fm]	$r_M^V$ [fm]
Disp. rel.	0.900(2)(2)	0.854(1)(3)
Lattice/Mainz (new) [0]	0.882(12)(15)	0.814(7)(5)
Lattice/Cyprus [1]	0.920(19)(–)	0.742(27)(–)
Lattice/Mainz [2]	0.894(14)(12)	0.813(18)(7)
Lattice/ETMC [3]	0.827(47)(5)	—
Lattice/PACS [4]	0.785(17)(21)	0.758(33)(286)
Lattice/MIT [5]	0.787(87)	—

[0] D. Djukanovic et al., arXiv:2309.07491

[1] C. Alexandrou et al., in preparation (values PRELIMINARY, 09/22)

[2] D. Djukanovic et al., Phys. Rev. D **103** (2021) 094522 [2102.07460 [hep-lat]].

[3] C. Alexandrou et al., Phys. Rev. D **101** (2020) 114504 [2002.06984 [hep-lat]]

[4] E. Shintani et al., Phys. Rev. D **99** (2019) 014510 [E] Phys. Rev. D **102** (2020) 019902

[5] N. Hasan et al., Phys. Rev. D **97** (2018) 034504 [1711.11385 [hep-lat]]

A new magnetic puzzle? let's wait ...

# The proton radius from $J/\psi$ decays

Y.-H. Lin, F.-K. Guo, UGM, arXiv:2309.07850

related work: J. Guttman, M. Vanderhaeghen, Phys. Lett. B **719** (2013) 136

# The proton charge radius from $J/\psi$ decays

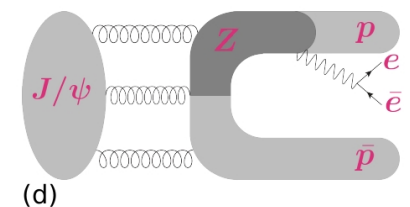
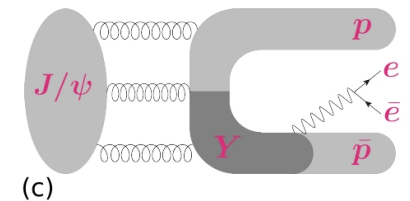
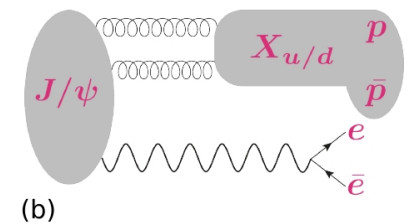
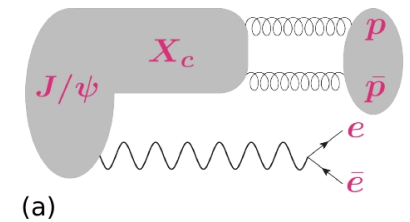
Lin, Guo, UGM, arXiv:2309.07850

- BESIII has a tremendous sample ( $\sim 10^{10}$ ) of  $J/\psi$  decays:
  - $\hookrightarrow$  study the sensitivity of  $J/\psi \rightarrow p\bar{p}e^+e^-$  to the nucleon em form factors
  - $\hookrightarrow e^+e^-$  threshold at  $1.05 \times 10^{-6} \text{ GeV}^2$  (never reached !)
- X-type: the same for  $p\bar{p}$  and  $n\bar{n}$
- Y- and Z-type (assume CPT):
  - $\hookrightarrow$  proton  $\rightarrow$  EMFFs
  - $\hookrightarrow$  Delta  $\rightarrow$  model the  $N^*$  background

so that

$$|\mathcal{M}|^2 = |\mathcal{M}_{Y+Z}|^2 + \underbrace{\left( \mathcal{M}_{Y+Z}\mathcal{M}_X^* + \mathcal{M}_{Y+Z}^*\mathcal{M}_X \right)}_{\mathcal{M}_{\text{mix}}} + |\mathcal{M}_X|^2$$

$\hookrightarrow$  subtracting the  $J/\psi \rightarrow n\bar{n}e^+e^-$  data

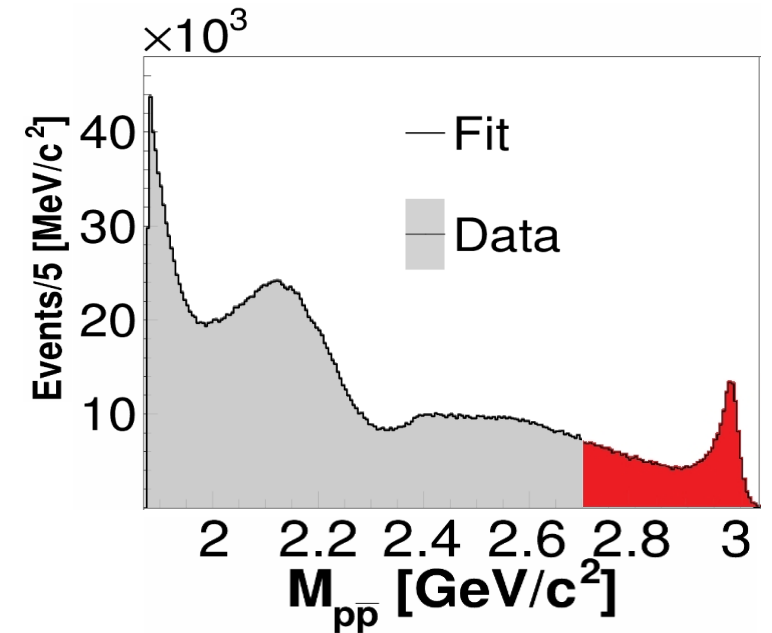


# The pertinent kinematic region

- Selection of the  $m_{p\bar{p}}$  region: search for best control of the background
- $p\bar{p}$  invariant mass distribution in  $J/\psi \rightarrow p\bar{p}\gamma$  from data taken in 2009-2018

Region of $m_{p\bar{p}}$ [GeV]	$X$ resonances
$\sim 1.95$	$X(1385)$
$2.0 \sim 2.2$	$f_0(2020), f_0(2100), f_0(2200)$ $a_1(1930)$ $f_2(2010)$
$2.7 \sim 3.05$	$\eta_c$

R. Kappert, PhD thesis, U. Groningen (2022)



- Signal:

$$\frac{d\Gamma_{\text{signal}}}{dm_{e^+e^-}} = \int_{2.7 \text{ GeV}}^{M_{J/\psi} - m_{e^+e^-}} dm_{p\bar{p}} \int d\cos\theta_p^* d\cos\theta'_e d\phi d\Gamma_{\text{signal}}$$

$$d\Gamma_{\text{signal}} \sim |\mathcal{M}|_{\text{signal}}^2 = |\mathcal{M}_{Y+Z}^N|^2 + \mathcal{M}_{\text{mix}}^{N+\eta_c}$$

# The pertinent kinematic region II

- $N$  and  $\Delta$  vertices in type-Y,Z diagrams:

$$\Gamma_{\gamma NN}^{\mu}(q) = ie \left( \gamma^{\mu} F_1(q^2) + \frac{i\sigma^{\mu\nu}}{2m_N} q_{\nu} F_2(q^2) \right)$$

$$\Gamma_{\gamma \Delta N}^{\alpha\mu}(q, p_{\Delta}) = ie \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \frac{3(m_N + m_{\Delta})}{2m_N((m_{\Delta} + m_N)^2 - q^2)} \\ \times g_M^{\Delta}(q^2) \epsilon^{\alpha\mu\rho\sigma} p_{\Delta,\rho} q_{\sigma}$$

Pascalutsa, Vanderhaeghen, Yang, Phys. Rept. **437** (2007) 125

- $J/\psi$ -vertices

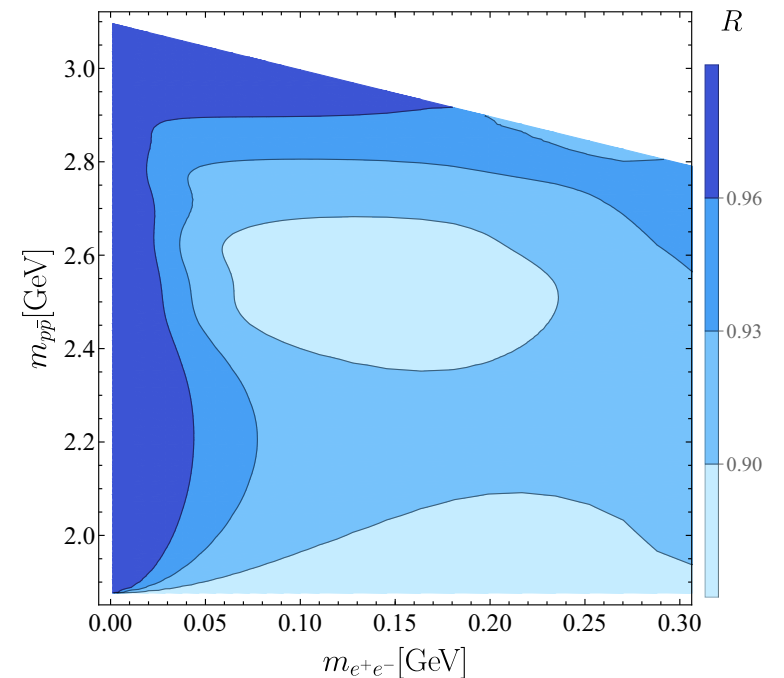
$$\Gamma_{J/\psi N \bar{N}}^{\mu}(r, p_0) = g_S \left( \gamma^{\mu} - \frac{r^{\mu}}{M_{J/\psi} + 2m_N} \right) \\ + g_D e^{i\delta_1} \left( \gamma_{\nu} - \frac{r_{\nu}}{M_{J/\psi} + 2m_N} \right) t^{\mu\nu}$$

$$\Gamma_{J/\psi \Delta \bar{N}}^{\mu\alpha}(r, p_0) = f_S \gamma_5 g^{\mu\alpha} + f_D e^{i\delta_2} \gamma_5 t^{\mu\alpha}$$

- Parameters determined from  $\mathcal{B}(J/\psi \rightarrow p\bar{p})$ ,  $\mathcal{B}(J/\psi \rightarrow \Delta\bar{p})$  and  $\Gamma_{J/\psi}$

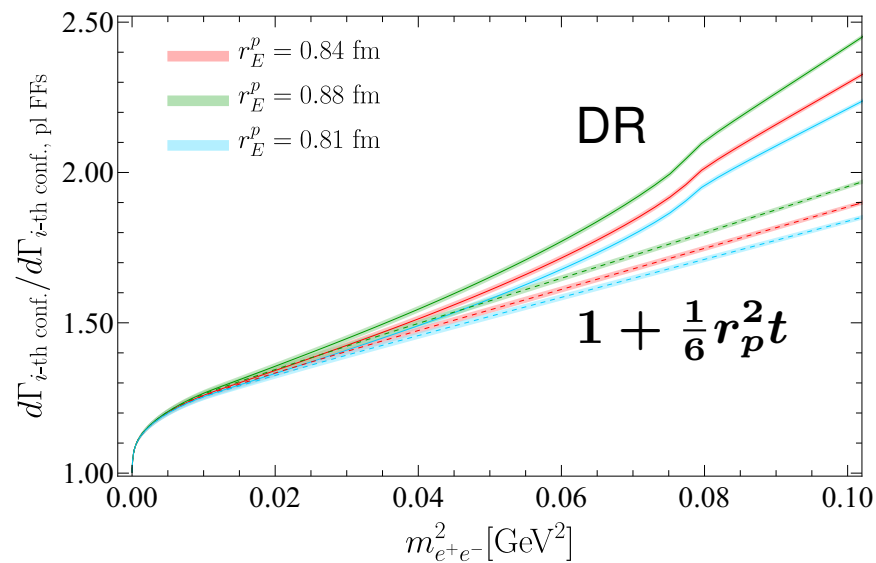
$\Rightarrow$  For  $m_{p\bar{p}} \gtrsim 2.7$  GeV, the proton pole contribution dominates the type-Y,Z diagrams

$$\frac{dR}{dm_{e^+e^-} dm_{p\bar{p}}} \sim \int \dots \frac{d\Gamma_{Y+Z}^N}{d\Gamma_{Y+Z}^{N+\Delta}}$$



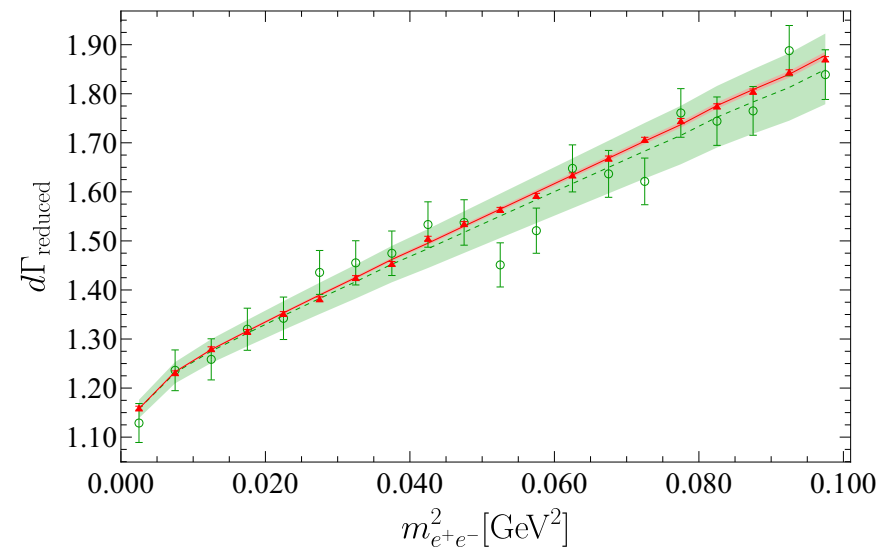


- DR vs polynomial fit



- Normalized to point-like proton  
→ better control of the systematics
- Parameter variations under control
- Polynomial ansatz too simple!  
→ cusp at the opening of the  $2\pi$  channel!

- Fits to synthetic data



- $10^4$  events at BESIII  
→  $r_p = (0.828 \pm 0.040)$  fm
- $10^6$  events at STCF Achasov et al., 2303.15790 [hep-ex]  
→  $r_p = (0.846 \pm 0.004)$  fm

# Essentials of Nuclear Binding

B. N. Lu, N. Li, S. Elhatisari, D. Lee, E. Epelbaum, UGM,  
Phys. Lett. **B 797** (2019) 134863

# A minimal nuclear interaction

- Basic idea:

- ↔ explore the approximate SU(4) spin-isospin symmetry of the nuclear forces

Wigner (1936)

- ↔ particular friendly for MC simulations (suppression of sign oscillations)

Chen, Lee, Schäfer, Phys. Rev. Lett. **93** (2004) 242302

- ↔ the  ${}^4\text{He}$  nucleus is a prime candidate ( $I = S = 0$ )

- Ingredients:

- ↔ 2N & 3N forces (contact interactions)

- ↔ local & non-local smearing (generates range of these forces)

- ↔ use later as the LO action free of sign problem (simple Hamiltonian)

Lu, Li, Elhatisari, Epelbaum, Lee, UGM. Phys. Lett. B **797** (2019) 134863 [arXiv:1812.10928]

- Highly SU(4) symmetric LO action without pions, local and non-local smearing:

$$H_{\text{SU}(4)} = H_{\text{free}} + \frac{1}{2!} C_2 \sum_n \tilde{\rho}(n)^2 + \frac{1}{3!} C_3 \sum_n \tilde{\rho}(n)^3$$

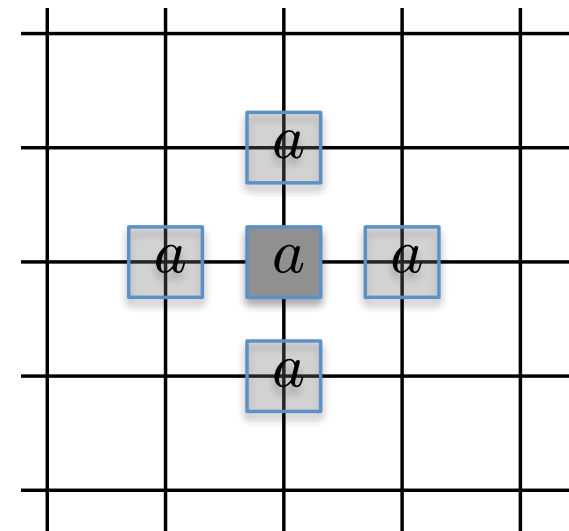
$$\tilde{\rho}(n) = \sum_i \tilde{a}_i^\dagger(n) \tilde{a}_i(n) + s_L \sum_{|n'-n|=1} \sum_i \tilde{a}_i^\dagger(n') \tilde{a}_i(n')$$

$$\tilde{a}_i(n) = a_i(n) + s_{NL} \sum_{|n'-n|=1} a_i(n')$$

- Only **four** parameters!

$C_2$  and  $C_3$  = strength of the leading two- and three-body interactions

$s_L$  and  $s_{NL}$  = strength of the local and the non-local interaction



# Essential elements for nuclear binding II

- Fixing the parameters:

- ★ interaction strength  $C_2$  and range  $s_L$  from the average S-wave scattering lengths and effective ranges (requires SU(4) breaking later)

- ★ interaction strength  $C_3$  from the  ${}^3\text{H}$  binding energy

- ★ interaction range  $s_{NL}$  can not be determined in light nuclei

↪ calculate the volume- and surface energy of mid-mass nuclei  $16 \leq A \leq 40$

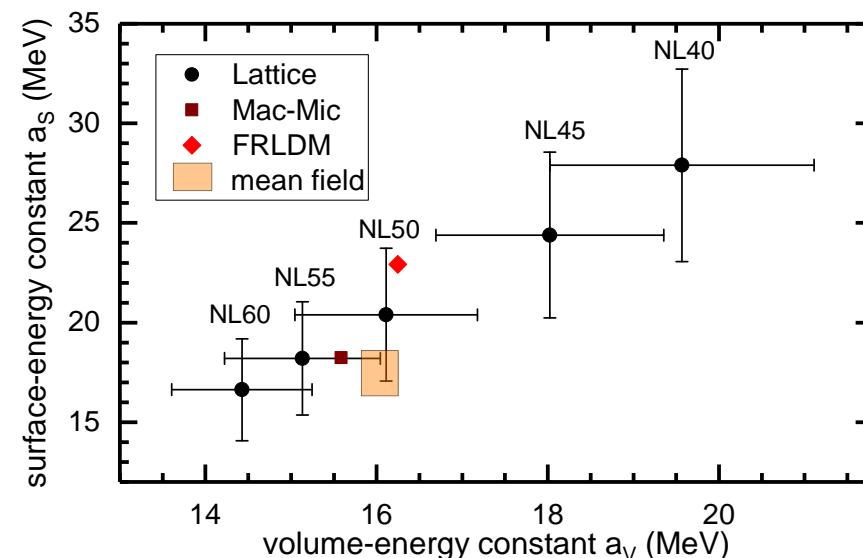
- compare w/ existing calculations:

↪  $s_{NL} = 0.5$

Mac-Mic: Wang et al., Phys. Lett. B **734** (2014) 215

FRLDM: Möller et al., Atom Data Nucl. Data Tabl. **59** (1995) 184

mean field: Bender et al., Rev. Mod. Phys. **75** (2003) 121



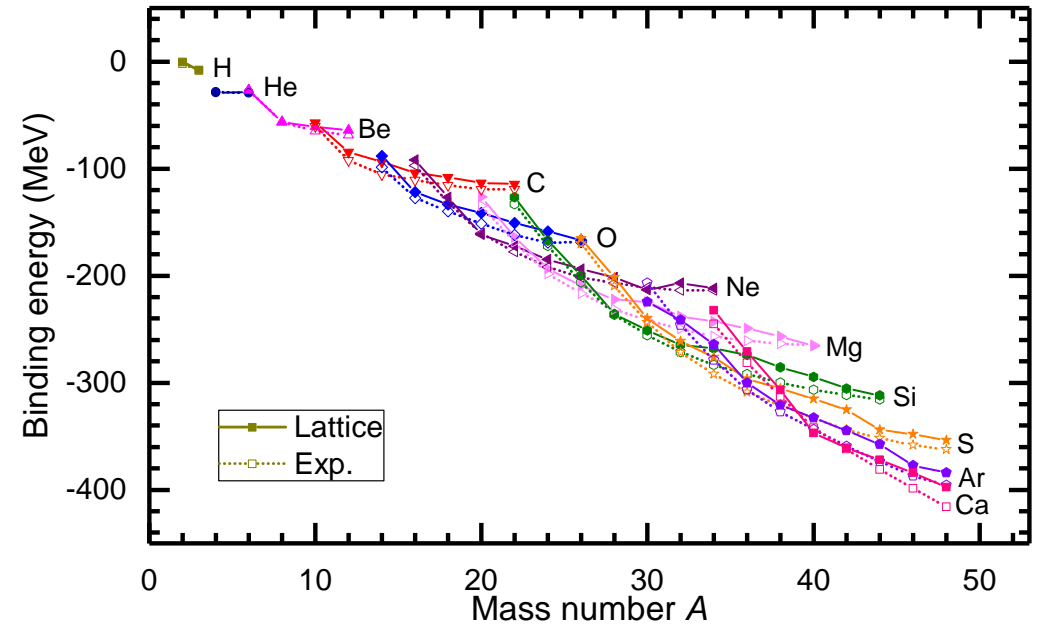
# Energies for selected nuclei

- Calculated binding energies for 3N & alpha-type nuclei:

	$B$ [MeV]	Coul. [MeV]	$B/\text{Exp.}$
${}^3\text{H}$	8.48(2)*	0.0	1.00
${}^3\text{He}$	7.75(2)	0.73(1)	1.00
${}^4\text{He}$	28.89(1)	0.80(1)	1.02
${}^{16}\text{O}$	121.9(3)	13.9(1)	0.96
${}^{20}\text{Ne}$	161.6(1)	20.2(1)	1.01
${}^{24}\text{Mg}$	193.5(17)	28.0(2)	0.98
${}^{28}\text{Si}$	235.8(17)	37.1(4)	1.00
${}^{40}\text{Ca}$	346.8(8)	71.7(6)	1.01

[\* = input]

- Binding energies for 86 even-even nuclei



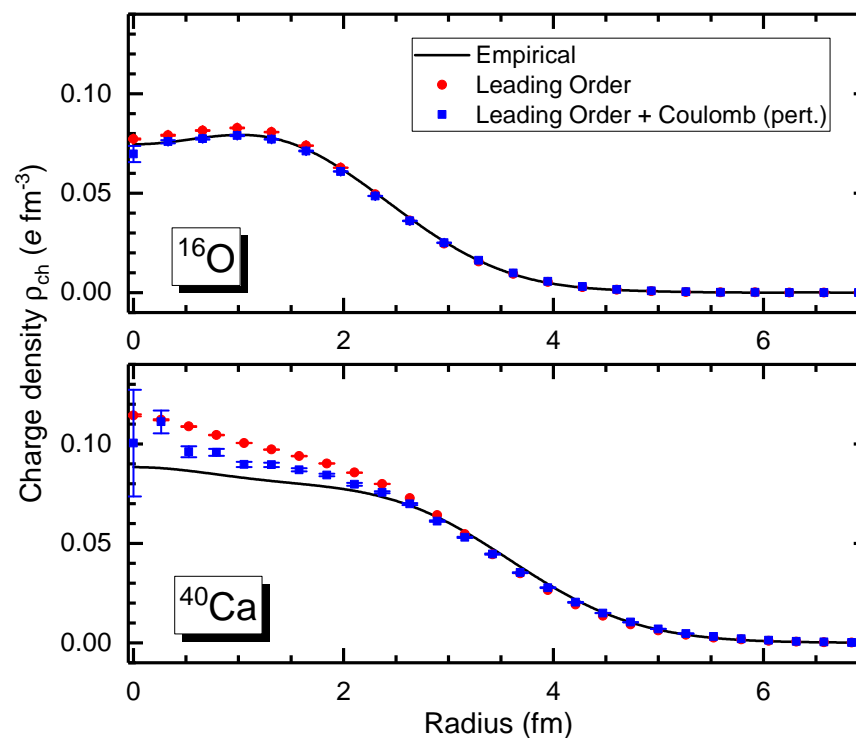
- selected nuclei: amazingly precise, all deviations  $\leq 4\%$  (except  ${}^{12}\text{C}$ )
- even-even isotopic chains come out amazingly precise, general trends reproduced  
 $\hookrightarrow$  on the proton-rich side better than on the neutron-rich one  $\rightarrow$  spin-dep. effects
- but remember: this is only leading order!

# Radii for selected nuclei

- Calculated charge radii for 3N & alpha-type nuclei:

	$R_{\text{ch}}$	Exp.	$R_{\text{ch}}/\text{Exp.}$
${}^3\text{H}$	1.90(1)	1.76	1.08
${}^3\text{He}$	1.99(1)	1.97	1.01
${}^4\text{He}$	1.72(3)	1.68	1.02
${}^{16}\text{O}$	2.74(1)	2.70	1.01
${}^{20}\text{Ne}$	2.95(1)	3.01	0.98
${}^{24}\text{Mg}$	3.13(2)	3.06	1.02
${}^{28}\text{Si}$	3.26(1)	3.12	1.04
${}^{40}\text{Ca}$	3.42(3)	3.48	0.98

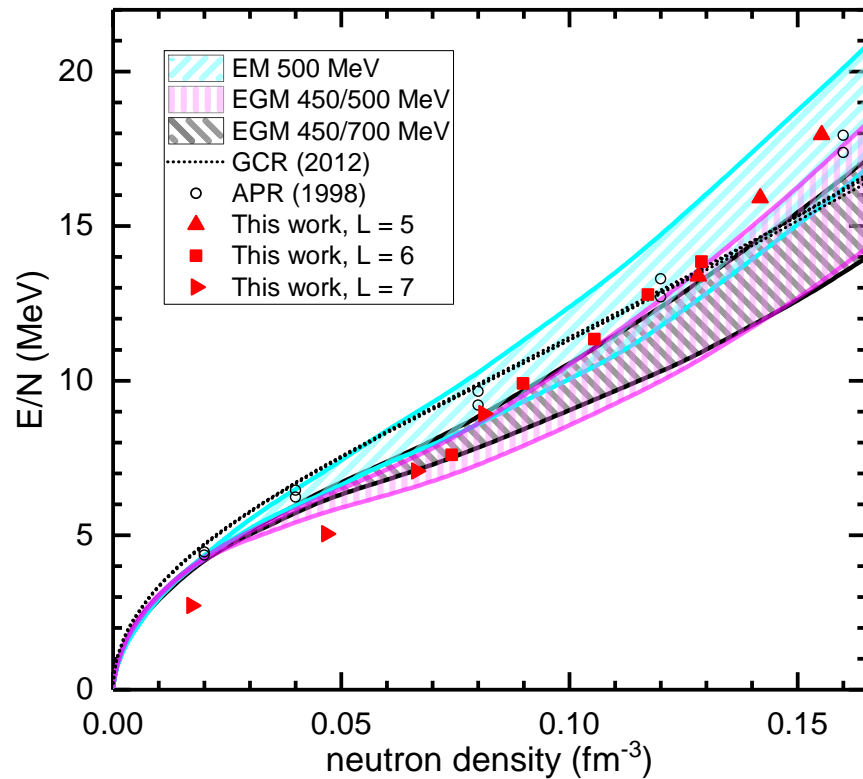
- Charge distributions for  ${}^{16}\text{O}$  and  ${}^{40}\text{Ca}$



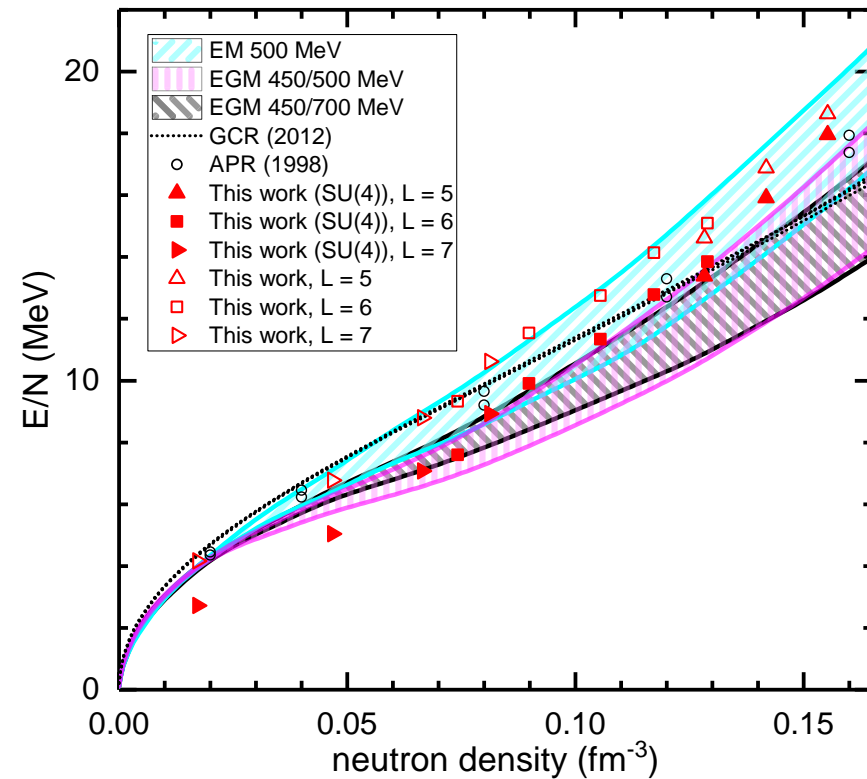
- Radii quite well described (except  ${}^{12}\text{C}$ )  
 ↪ overcomes earlier problems (see PRL 109 (2012) 252501, 112 (2014) 102501)
- Also a fair description of the charge distributions at LO!

# Neutron matter

- 14 to 66 neutrons in  $L = 5, 6, 7 \rightarrow \rho = 0.02 - 0.15 \text{ fm}^{-3}$



- exact SU(4)
- ↪ deviations at low densities



- SU(4) breaking term  $\rightarrow a_{nn} \checkmark$
- ↪ good overall description

APR = Akmal, Pandharipande, Ravenhall, Phys. Rev. C **58** (1998) 1804; GCR = Gandolfi, Carlson, Reddy, Phys. Rev. C **85** (2012) 032801;  
all others in: Tews et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **110** (2013) 032504.



# *Ab initio* calculation of the $^4\text{He}$ transition form factor

UGM, S. Shen, S. Elhatisari, D. Lee, 2309.01558 [nucl-th]

# Basic considerations

- Use the essential elements action, **all parameters fixed!**
- Calculate the transition ff and its low-energy expansion form the transition density

$$\rho_{\text{tr}}(r) = \langle 0_1^+ | \hat{\rho}(\vec{r}) | 0_2^+ \rangle$$

$$F(q) = \frac{4\pi}{Z} \int_0^\infty \rho_{\text{tr}}(r) j_0(qr) r^2 dr = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_{\lambda=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^\lambda}{(2\lambda + 1)!} q^{2\lambda} \langle r^{2\lambda} \rangle_{\text{tr}}$$

$$\frac{Z|F(q^2)|}{q^2} = \frac{1}{6} \langle r^2 \rangle_{\text{tr}} \left[ 1 - \frac{q^2}{20} \mathcal{R}_{\text{tr}}^2 + \mathcal{O}(q^4) \right]$$

$$\mathcal{R}_{\text{tr}}^2 = \langle r^4 \rangle_{\text{tr}} / \langle r^2 \rangle_{\text{tr}}$$

- The first excited state sits in the continuum & close to the  ${}^3H$ - $p$  threshold
  - ↪ use large volumes  $L = 10, 11, 12$  or  $L = 13.2$  fm, 14.5 fm, 15.7 fm
  - ↪ the lattice spacing is fixed to  $a = 1.32$  fm, corresponding  $\Lambda = \pi/a = 465$  MeV

# The first excited state

- 3 coupled channels with  $0^+$  q.n's  $\rightarrow$  accelerates convergence as  $L_t \rightarrow \infty$
- Shell-model wave functions (4 nucleons in  $1s_{1/2}$ , twice 3 in  $1s_{1/2}$  and 1 in  $2s_{1/2}$ )

$L$ [fm]	$E(0_1^+)$ [MeV]	$E(0_2^+)$ [MeV]	$\Delta E$ [MeV]
13.2	-28.32(3)	-8.37(14)	0.28(14)
14.5	-28.30(3)	-8.02(14)	0.42(14)
15.7	-28.30(3)	-7.96(9)	0.39(9)

$\hookrightarrow$  statistical and large- $L_t$  errors

$\hookrightarrow$  agreement w/ experiment:  $E(0_1^+) = 28.3$  MeV,  $\Delta E = 0.4$  MeV

$\hookrightarrow \Delta E$  consistent w/ no-core Gamov shell model

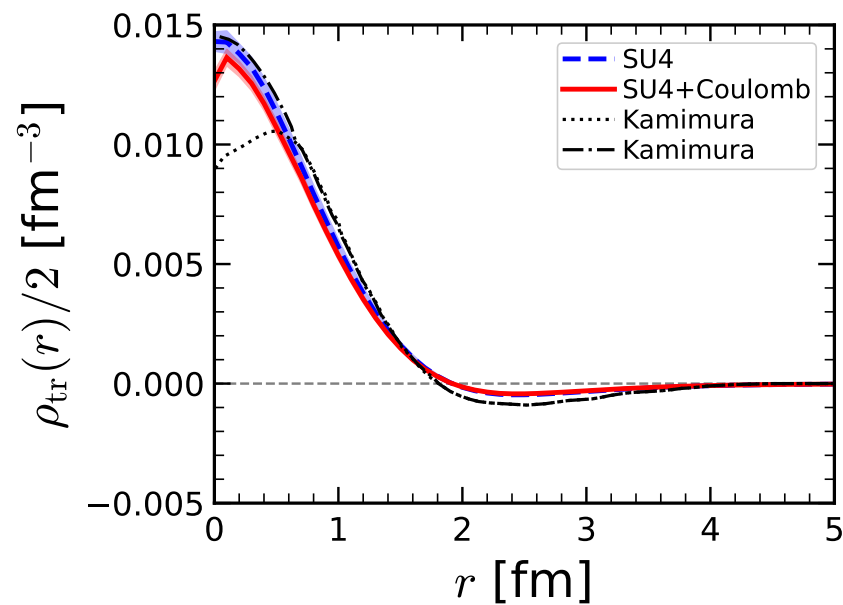
2306.05192 [nucl-th]

$\hookrightarrow$  consistent w/ the Efimov tetramer analysis  $\Delta E = 0.38(2)$  MeV

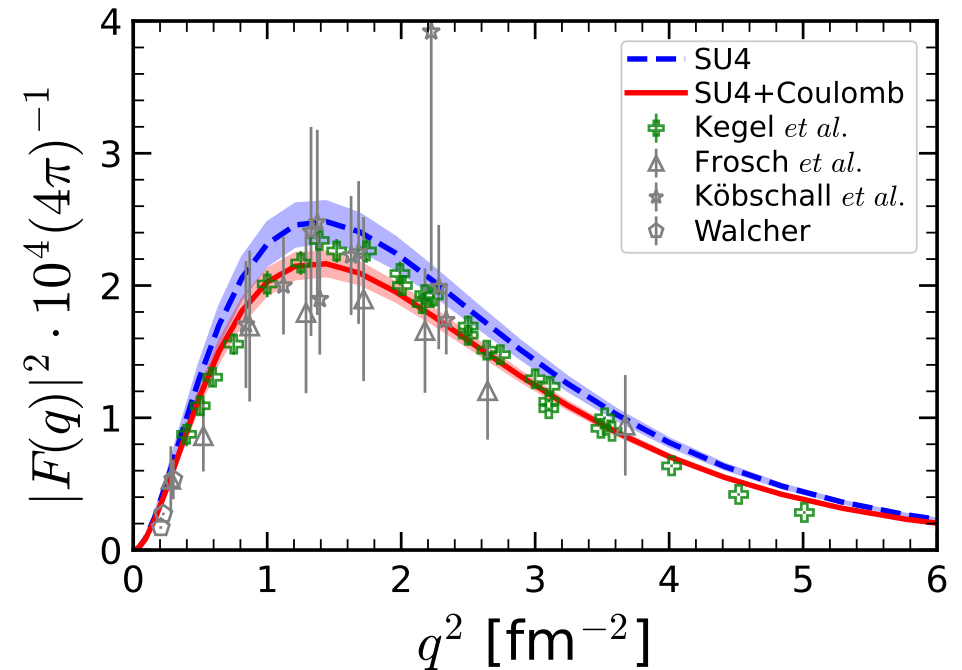
von Stecher, D'Incao, Greene, Nat. Phys. **5** (2009) 417; Hammer, Platter, EPJA **32** (2007) 113

# The transition form factor

- Transition charge density



- Transition form factor



↪ agrees with the reconstructed one  
from Kamimura PTEP 2023 (2023) 071D01

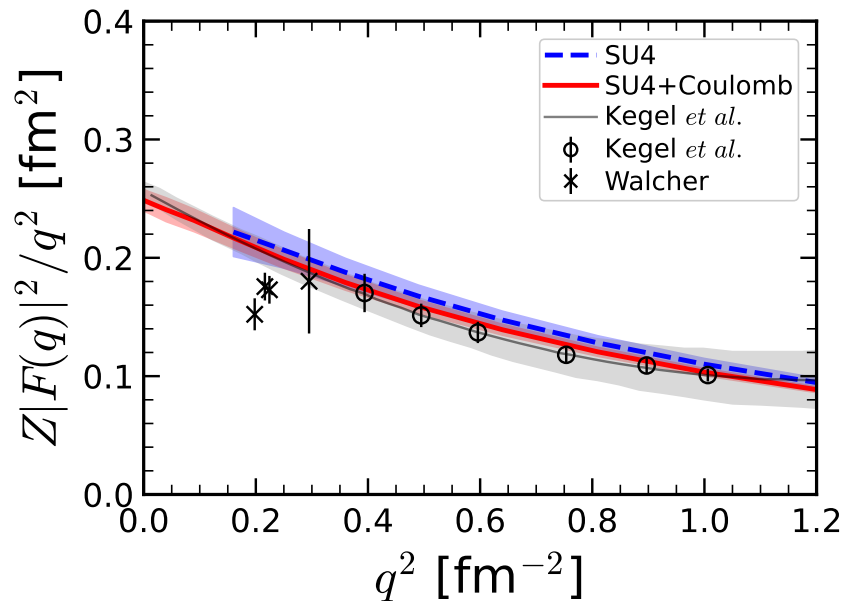
↪ very small central depletion (no zero)

↪ excellent description of the data

↪ Coulomb required plus smaller  
uncertainty (improved signal)

# The transition form factor II

- Small momentum expansion



	$\langle r^2 \rangle_{\text{tr}}$ [fm <sup>2</sup> ]	$\mathcal{R}_{\text{tr}}$ [fm]
Experiment	$1.53 \pm 0.05$	$4.56 \pm 0.15$
Th (AV8'+ centr. 3N)*	$1.36 \pm 0.01$	$4.01 \pm 0.05$
Th (AV18 + UIX )	$1.54 \pm 0.01$	$3.77 \pm 0.08$
<b>Th (NLEFT)</b>	<b><math>1.49 \pm 0.01</math></b>	<b><math>4.00 \pm 0.04</math></b>

\*Hiyama, Gibson, Kamimura, PRC 70 (2004) 031001

↪ Also consistent description of the low-energy data

↪ **No puzzle** to the nuclear forces!

↪ Can be improved using N3LO action + wave function matching

Elhatisari et al., 2210.17488 [nucl-th]

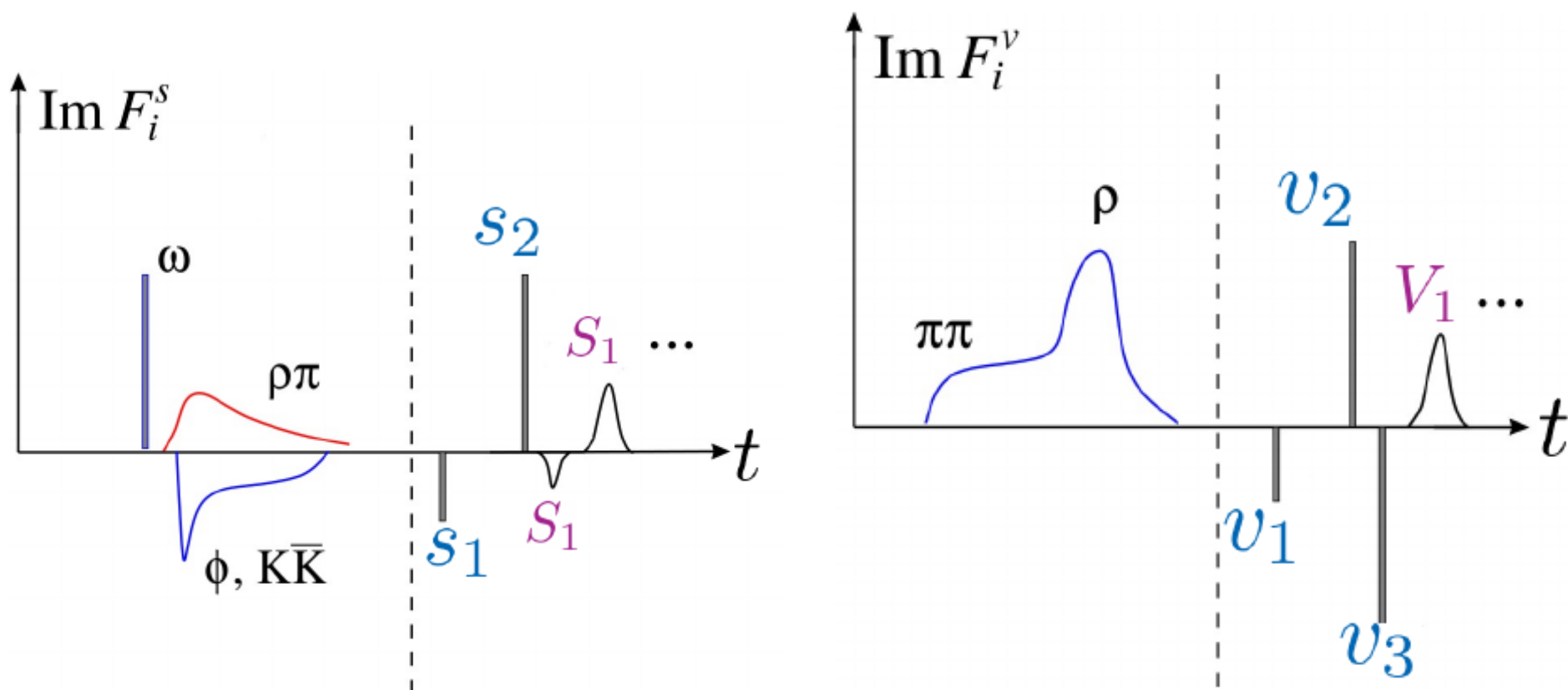
# Summary & outlook

- Presented a new method to determine the proton charge radius from  $J/\psi \rightarrow p\bar{p}e^+e^-$  and  $J/\psi \rightarrow n\bar{n}e^+e^-$  decays
  - ↪ studied sensitivity for BESIII and the future STCF → promising
  - ↪ method can be applied to other charged hadrons such as  $\Sigma^\pm, \Xi^-$
- Investigated the  $^4\text{He}$  transition form factor using NLEFT w/o tuning any parameter
  - ↪ minimal nuclear interaction gives a good description of the data
  - ↪ no problem to the nuclear forces

# Spares

# Summary: spectral functions

- Cartoons of the isoscalar/isovector spectral functions:



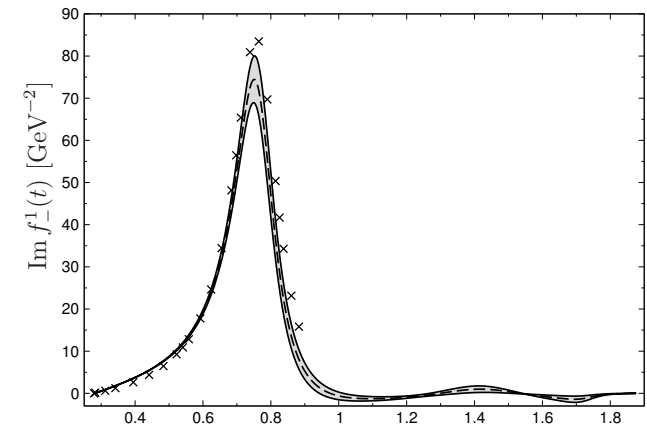
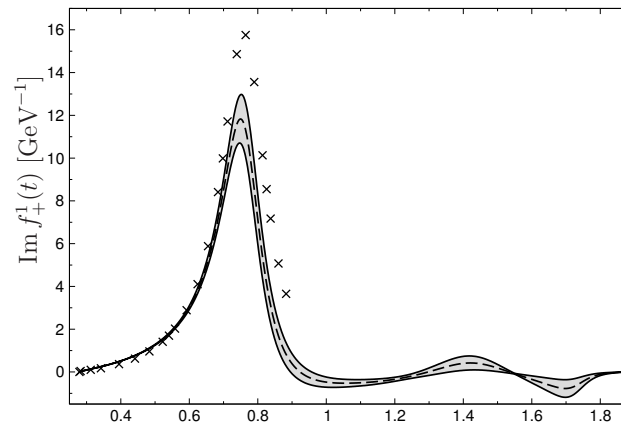
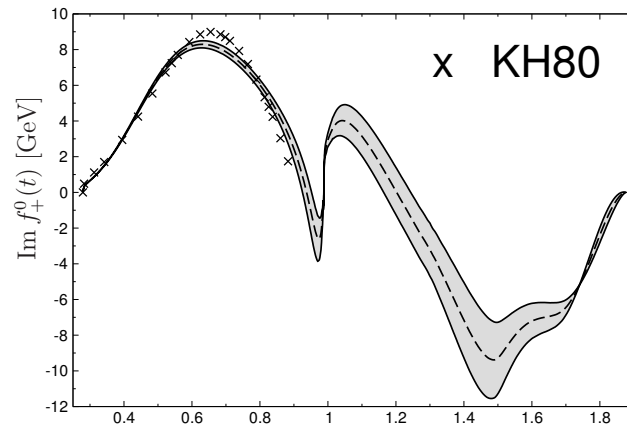
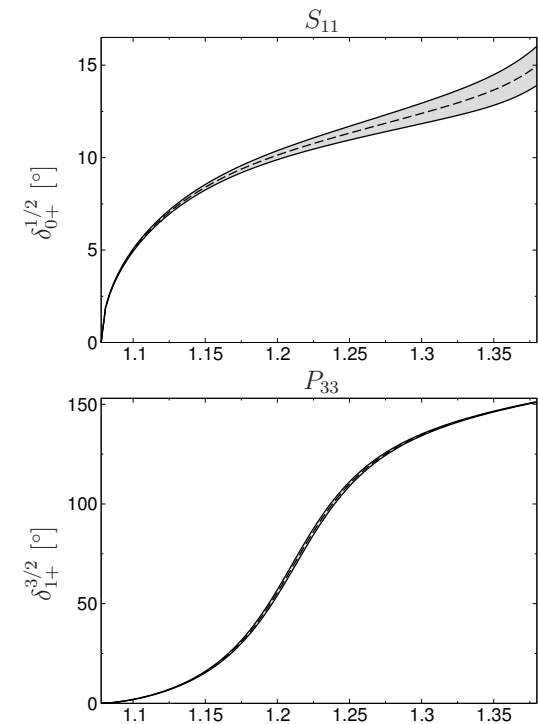


# Once more on the isovector spectral functions

Hoferichter, Kubis, Ruiz de Elvira, Hammer, UGM, Eur. Phys. J. A **52** (2016)331  
[arXiv:1609.06722 [nucl-th]]

# Roy-Steiner equation analysis

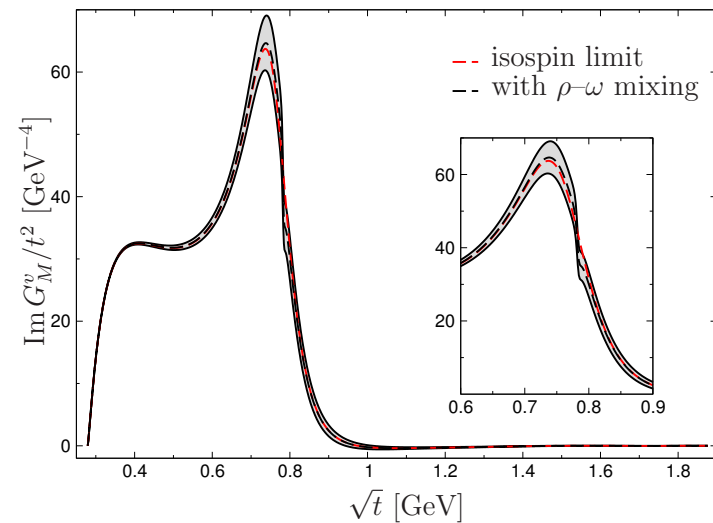
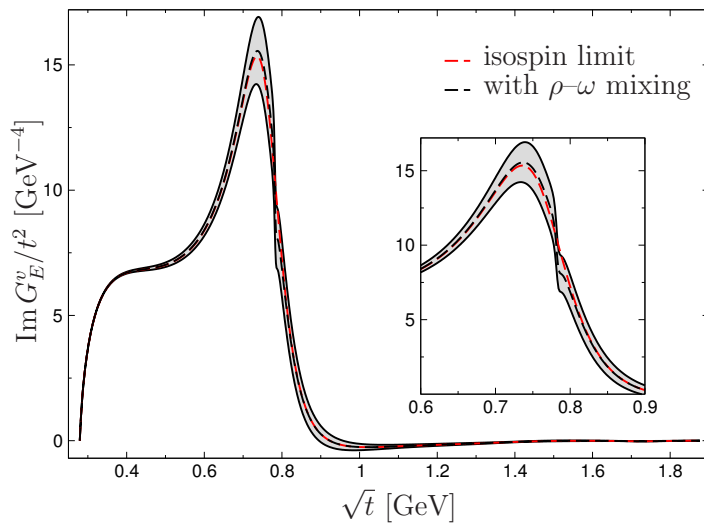
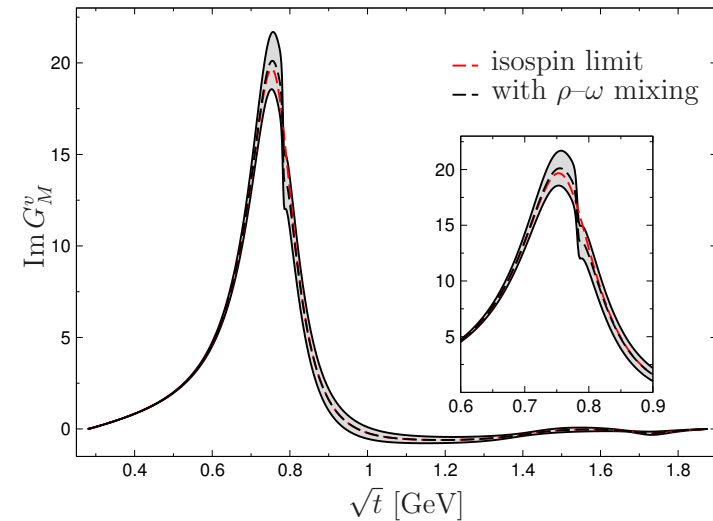
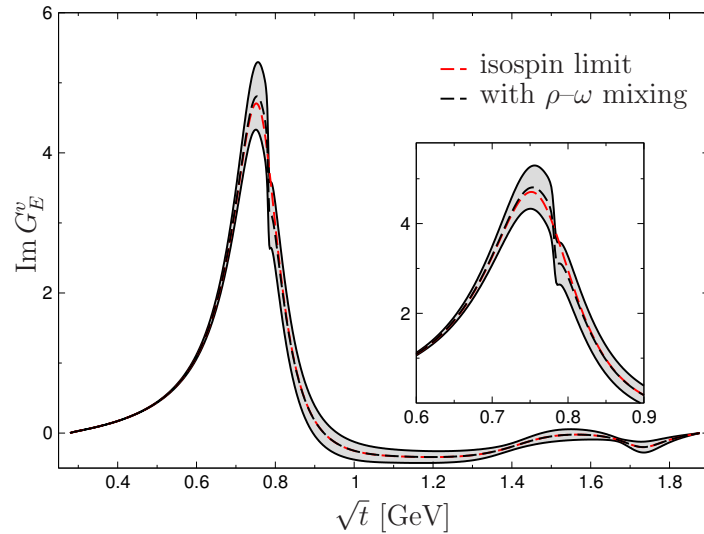
- improve the isovector spectral functions by
  - ↪ updated  $\pi N$  amplitudes from Roy-Steiner equations
  - ↪ include modern data (esp. pionic hydrogen & deuterium)
  - ↪ better treatment of isospin-violating effects
  - ↪ construct the pion FF from precise knowledge of  $\delta_1^1(s)$
  - ↪ perform systematic error analysis



Hoferichter, Ruiz de Elvira, Kubis, UGM, Phys. Rev. Lett. **115** (2015) 092301; Phys. Rev. Lett. **115** (2015) 192301; Phys. Rept. **625** (2016) 1; J.Phys. G**45** (2018) 024001

# New isovector spectral functions

- Precise determinations of the isovector spectral functions



# Proton charge radius - leptonic Lamb shift

- Energy levels in hydrogen:

$$E_{nlj} = R_\infty \left( -\frac{1}{n^2} + f_{nlj} \left( \alpha, \frac{m_e}{m_p}, \dots \right) + \delta_{\ell 0} \frac{C_{\text{NS}}}{n^3} r_p^2 \right)$$

$$f_{nlj} \left( \alpha, \frac{m_e}{m_p}, \dots \right) = X_{20} \alpha^2 + X_{30} \alpha^3 + X_{31} \alpha^3 \ln \alpha + X_{40} \alpha^4 + \dots$$

- $n, \ell, j$  - principal, orbital, total ang. momentum quantum numbers
  - $f_{nlj}$  - relativistic corr's, vacuum effects, other QED corrections
  - $m_e/m_p$  enters through the coefficients  $X_{20}, X_{30}, \dots$  (recoil)
  - $C_{\text{NS}}$  calculable leading order correction due to the finite  $r_p$
  - higher order charge distributions are included in  $f_{nlj}$
- ⇒ must measure at least 2 transitions to pin down the two unknowns
- ⇒ this is done in recent measurements, but not before! [inconsistency]

