

Proton radii for muonic hydrogen spectroscopy from lattice QCD

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Hartmut Wittig

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Outline

1 Motivation

2 Lattice setup and form factor calculation [PRD 109, 094510]

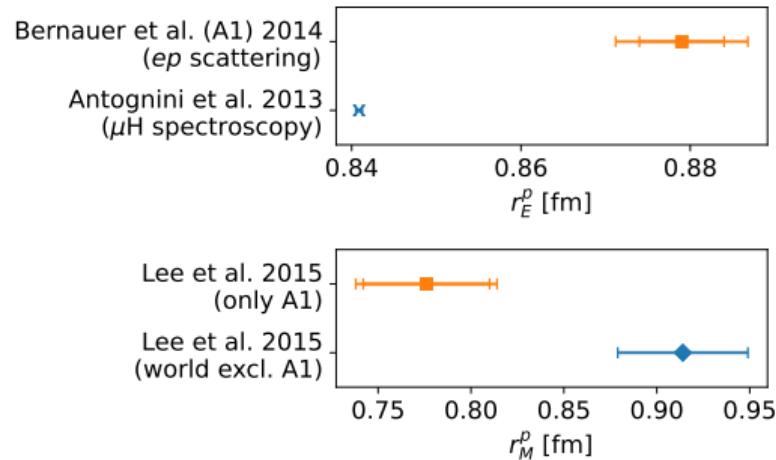
3 Zemach and Friar radii from the lattice [PRD 110, L011503]

4 Model average and final results

5 Conclusions and outlook

Motivation

- “Proton radius puzzle”: discrepancy between different determinations of the electric and magnetic radii of the proton
- In lattice QCD as in the context of scattering experiments: electromagnetic radii extracted from slope of corresponding form factors at $Q^2 = 0$
- Tension between Q^2 -dependence of form factors from different experiments
- Accurate determination of proton radii from muonic hydrogen spectroscopy \Rightarrow other definitions of radii, not previously computed on the lattice, become relevant
- Upcoming high-precision measurements of hyperfine splitting in muonic hydrogen by FAMU and CREMA



Motivation

- Lamb shift
 - LO proton-structure contribution: electric radius
 - NLO: two-photon exchange, dominated by elastic part, depends on third Zemach moment¹,

$$\langle r_E^3 \rangle_{(2)}^p = \frac{24}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{dQ^2}{(Q^2)^{5/2}} \left[(G_E^p(Q^2))^2 - 1 + \frac{1}{3} \langle r_E^2 \rangle^p Q^2 \right] \quad (1)$$

- Associated radius: Friar radius, $r_F^p = \sqrt[3]{\langle r_E^3 \rangle_{(2)}^p}$
- Hyperfine splitting (HFS)
 - LO proton-structure contribution: Zemach radius²,

$$r_Z^p = -\frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{dQ^2}{(Q^2)^{3/2}} \left(\frac{G_E^p(Q^2) G_M^p(Q^2)}{\mu_M^p} - 1 \right) \quad (2)$$

- First-principles prediction of Zemach radius could be checked by high-precision experiments

¹Friar 1979 [[Ann. Phys. 122, 151](#)]; ²Zemach 1956 [[Phys. Rev. 104, 1771](#)].

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Ensembles

Coordinated Lattice Simulations (CLS)³

- Non-perturbatively $\mathcal{O}(a)$ -improved Wilson fermions, $N_f = 2 + 1$
- $\text{tr } M_q = 2m_l + m_s = \text{const.}$
- Tree-level improved Lüscher-Weisz gauge action
- $\mathcal{O}(a)$ -improved conserved vector current

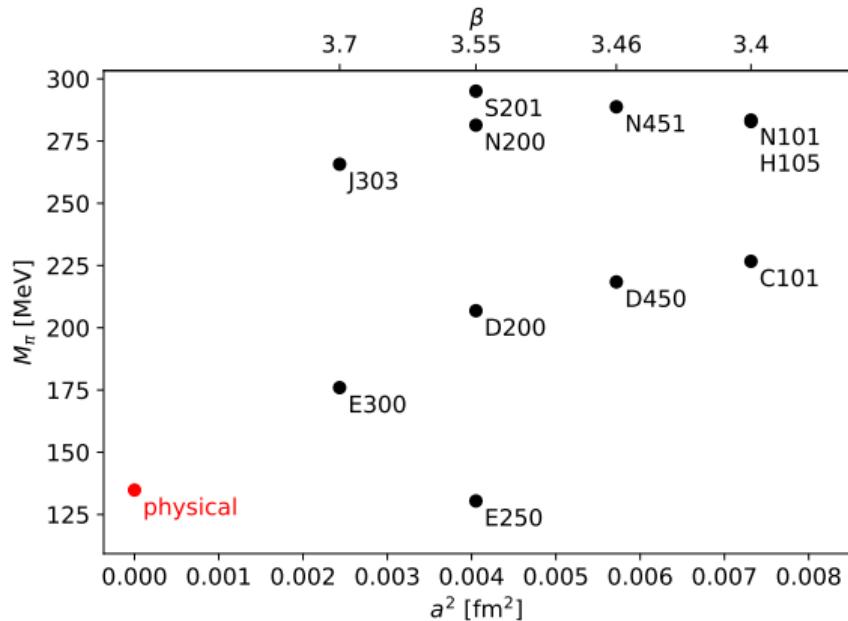
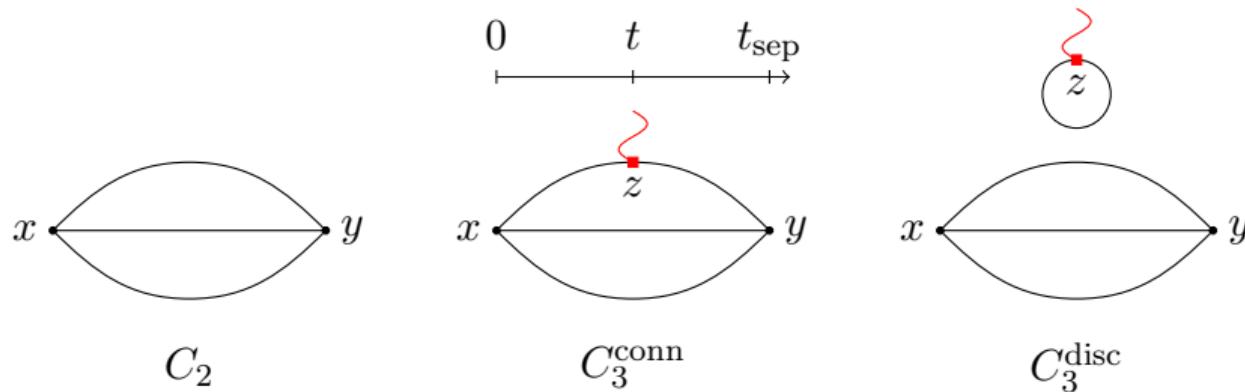


Figure: Overview of the ensembles used in this study

³Bruno et al. 2015 [[JHEP 2015 \(2\), 43](#)]; Bruno, Korzec, and Schaefer 2017 [[PRD 95, 074504](#)].

Nucleon two- and three-point correlation functions



- Measure the two- and three-point correlation functions of the nucleon
- For three-point functions, Wick contractions yield connected and disconnected contribution
- Compute the quark loops via a stochastic estimation using a frequency-splitting technique⁴
- Extract the effective form factors $G_{E,M}^{\text{eff}}$ using the ratio method⁵

⁴Giusti et al. 2019 [[EPJC 79, 586](#)]; Cè et al. 2022 [[JHEP 2022 \(8\), 220](#)]; ⁵Korzec et al. 2009 [[PoS 066, 139](#)].

Excited-state analysis

- Summation method: parametric suppression of excited-state effects ($\propto e^{-\Delta t_{\text{sep}}}$ instead of $\propto e^{-\Delta t}$, $e^{-\Delta(t_{\text{sep}}-t)}$ [Δ : energy gap to lowest-lying excited state])
- Apply LO summation method with varying starting values t_{sep}^{\min} for the linear fit (ground-state form factor = slope as function of t_{sep})
- Perform a weighted average over t_{sep}^{\min} , where the weights are given by a smooth window function⁶,

$$\hat{G} = \frac{\sum_i w_i G_i}{\sum_i w_i}, \quad w_i = \tanh \frac{t_i - t_w^{\text{low}}}{\Delta t_w} - \tanh \frac{t_i - t_w^{\text{up}}}{\Delta t_w}, \quad (3)$$

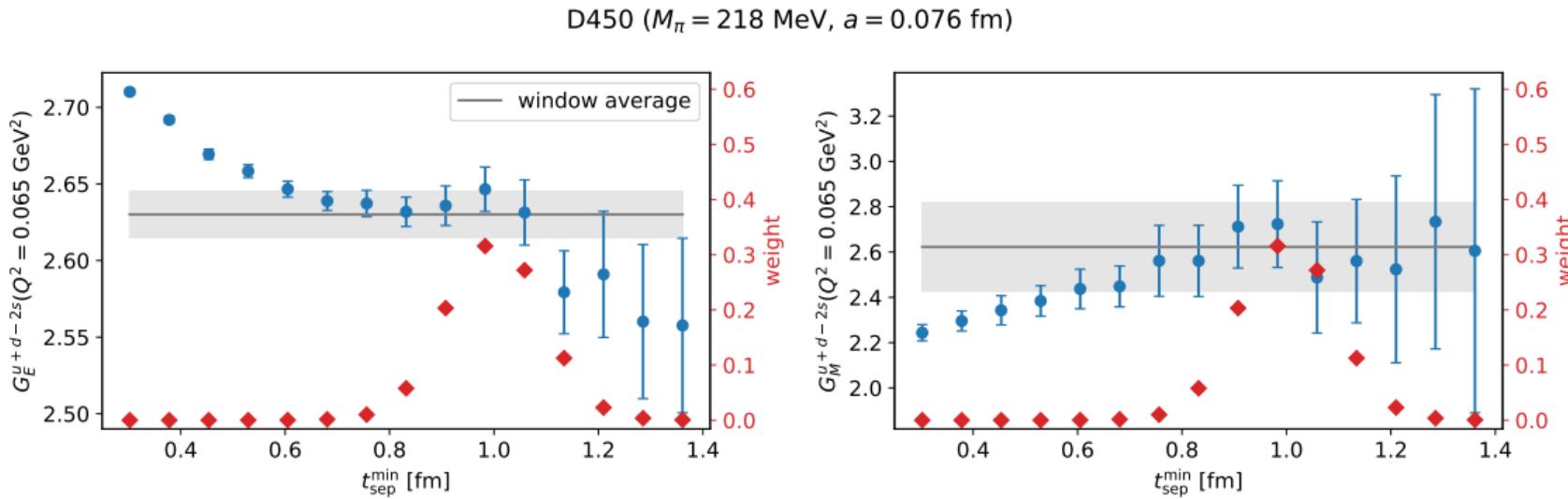
where t_i is the value of t_{sep}^{\min} in the i -th fit, $t_w^{\text{low}} = 0.9 \text{ fm}$, $t_w^{\text{up}} = 1.1 \text{ fm}$ and $\Delta t_w = 0.08 \text{ fm}$

- Reliable detection of the plateau with reduced human bias (same window on all ensembles)
- Conservative error estimate

⁶Djukanovic et al. 2022 [PRD 106, 074503]; Agadjanov et al. 2023 [PRL 131, 261902].

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Direct Baryon χ PT fits

- Combine parametrization of the Q^2 -dependence with the chiral, continuum, and infinite-volume extrapolation
- Use expressions from covariant baryon chiral perturbation theory⁷ to perform simultaneous fit to the pion-mass, Q^2 -, lattice-spacing, and finite-volume dependence of the form factors
- Include contributions from the ρ (ω and ϕ) mesons in the isovector (isoscalar) channel
- Reconstruct proton and neutron observables from separate fits to the isovector and isoscalar form factors
- Perform fits with various cuts in M_π and Q^2 , as well as with different models for the lattice-spacing and finite-volume dependence, in order to estimate systematic uncertainties
- Large number of degrees of freedom \Rightarrow improved stability against lowering the Q^2 -cut
- Compute Zemach and Friar radii directly at physical point rather than on each ensemble

⁷Bauer, Bernauer, and Scherer 2012 [[PRC 86, 065206](#)].

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Extrapolation of the form factors

- $B\chi$ PT including vector mesons only trustworthy for $Q^2 \lesssim 0.6 \text{ GeV}^2$
- Tail of the integrands suppressed (estimate see below)
- Extrapolate $B\chi$ PT fit results using a z -expansion⁸ *ansatz*,

$$G_E^{p,n}(Q^2) = \sum_{k=0}^9 a_k^{p,n} z(Q^2)^k, \quad G_M^{p,n}(Q^2) = \sum_{k=0}^9 b_k^{p,n} z(Q^2)^k, \quad (4)$$

where

$$z(Q^2) = \frac{\sqrt{\tau_{\text{cut}} + Q^2} - \sqrt{\tau_{\text{cut}} - \tau_0}}{\sqrt{\tau_{\text{cut}} + Q^2} + \sqrt{\tau_{\text{cut}} - \tau_0}} \quad (5)$$

- We fix $G_E^p(0) = a_0^p = 1$ and $G_E^n(0) = a_0^n = 0$, and use $\tau_{\text{cut}} = 4M_{\pi,\text{phys}}^2$ and $\tau_0 = 0$
- Incorporate large- Q^2 constraints on form factors⁹ (4 sum rules for each form factor¹⁰)

⁸Hill and Paz 2010 [PRD 82, 113005]; ⁹Lepage and Brodsky 1980 [PRD 22, 2157]; ¹⁰Lee, Arrington, and Hill 2015 [PRD 92, 013013].

Integration

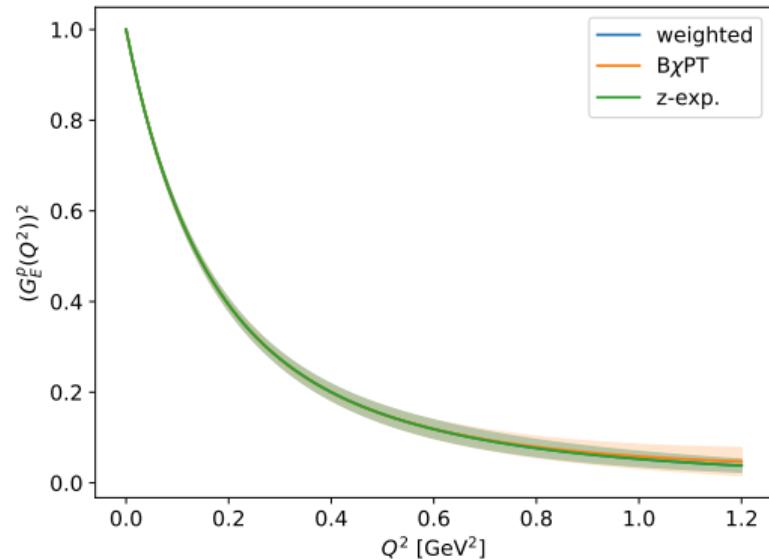
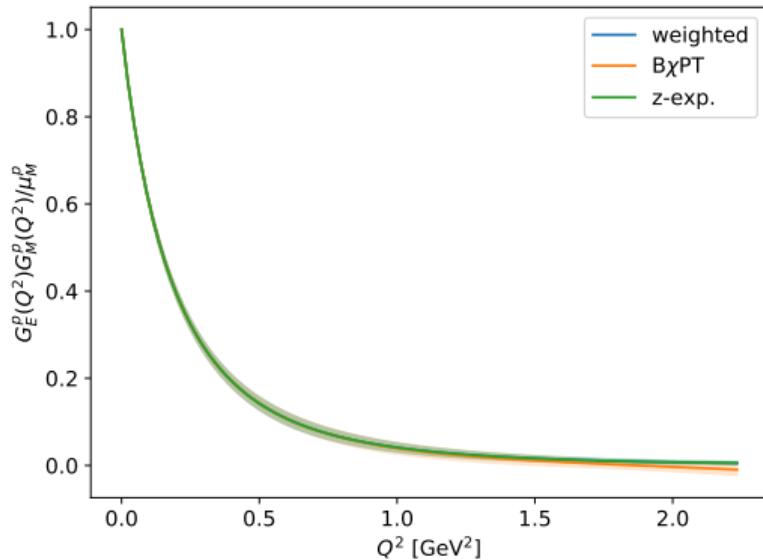
- For integration, smoothly replace $B\chi$ PT parametrization of the form factors by z -expansion-based extrapolation ($\Delta Q_w^2 = 0.1 \text{ GeV}^2$),

$$F(Q^2) = \frac{1}{2} \left[1 - \tanh \left(\frac{Q^2 - Q_{\text{cut}}^2}{\Delta Q_w^2} \right) \right] F^\chi(Q^2) + \frac{1}{2} \left[1 + \tanh \left(\frac{Q^2 - Q_{\text{cut}}^2}{\Delta Q_w^2} \right) \right] F^z(Q^2), \quad (6)$$

where $F(Q^2) \equiv G_E(Q^2)G_M(Q^2)/\mu_M$ for r_Z and $F(Q^2) \equiv G_E^2(Q^2)$ for $\langle r_E^3 \rangle_{(2)}$, resp.

Integration: integrands for the proton

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where $F(Q^2) \equiv G_E(Q^2)G_M(Q^2)/\mu_M$ for r_Z and $F(Q^2) \equiv G_E^2(Q^2)$ for $\langle r_E^3 \rangle_{(2)}$, resp.

- Estimate contribution of the form factors at $Q^2 > Q_{\text{cut}}^2$ by setting $F^z(Q^2) \equiv 0$
- Contribution of FFs above 0.6 GeV^2 to r_Z^p less than 0.9 %, to $\langle r_E^2 \rangle_{(2)}^p$ less than 0.3 %
- Cancellation between different terms of the integrand for $\langle r_E^3 \rangle_{(2)}^p$ at small Q^2 does not occur at the required numerical accuracy on all bootstrap samples
- Regulate integral from $Q^2 = 0$ to $Q^2 = 0.01 \text{ GeV}^2$ by replacing $t_0 Q^2 \rightarrow t_0 Q^2 + \epsilon$ in the denominator, $\epsilon = 1 \cdot 10^{-7} \Rightarrow$ change in $\langle r_E^3 \rangle_{(2)}^p$ by less than 0.06σ

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Model average

- Perform a weighted average over the results of all fit variations, using weights derived from the Akaike Information Criterion¹¹,

$$w_i = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\text{BAIC}_i\right) \Bigg/ \sum_j \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\text{BAIC}_j\right), \quad \text{BAIC}_i = \chi^2_{\text{noaug,min},i} + 2n_{f,i} + 2n_{c,i}, \quad (7)$$

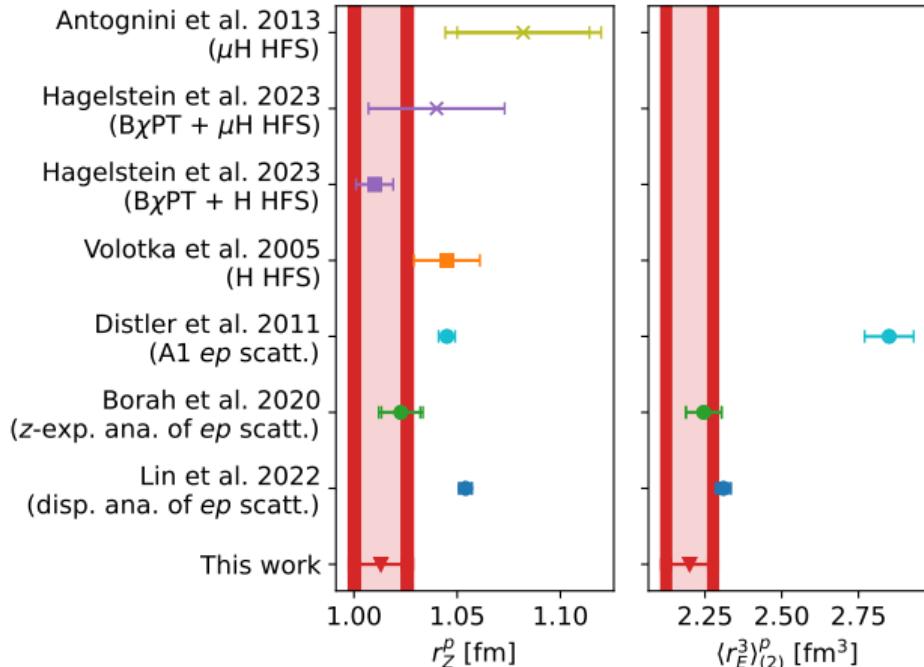
where n_f is the number of fit parameters and n_c the number of cut data points

- Strongly prefers fits with low n_c , i.e., the least stringent cut in $Q^2 \Rightarrow$ apply a flat weight over the different Q^2 -cuts to ensure strong influence of our low-momentum data
- Determine the final cumulative distribution function (CDF) from the weighted sum of the bootstrap distributions¹²
- Quote median of this CDF together with the central 68 % percentiles

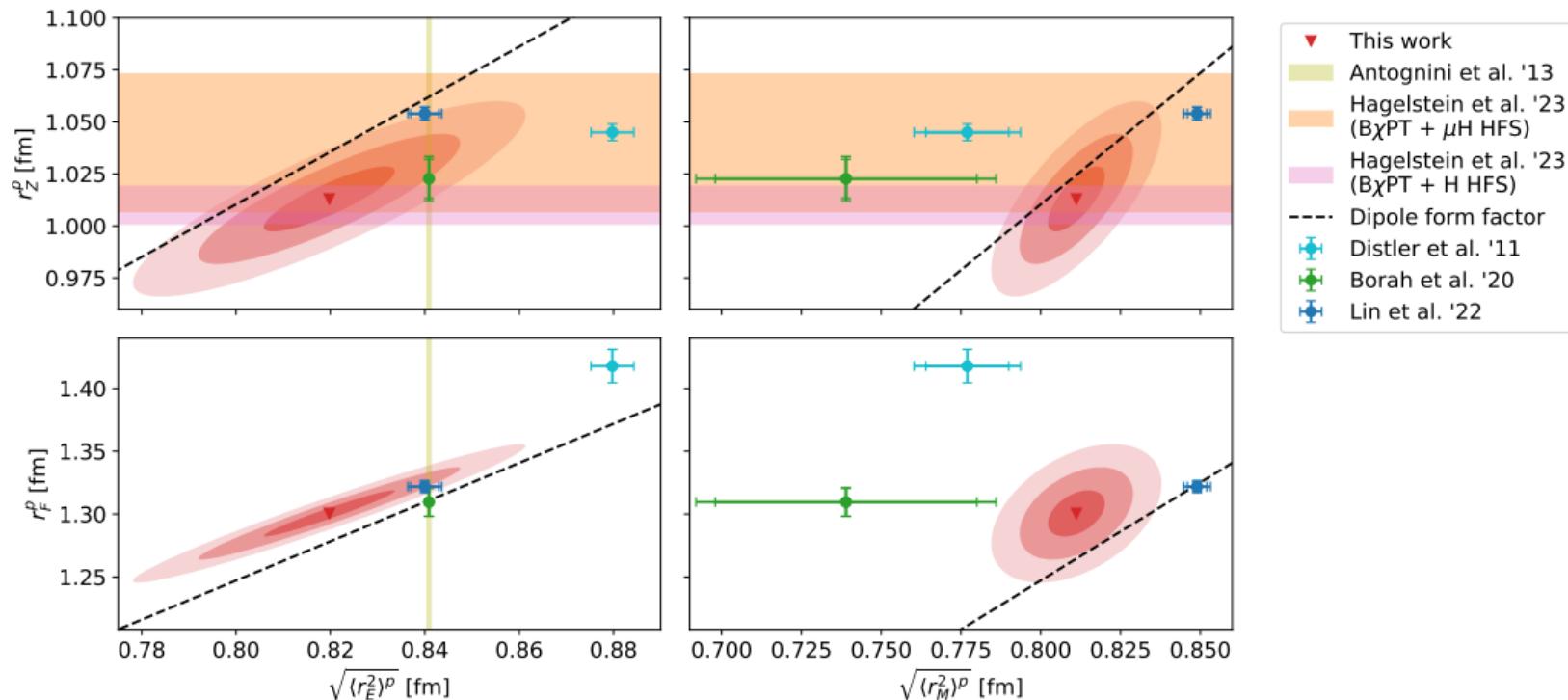
¹¹Akaike 1974 [[IEEE Trans. Autom. Contr. 19, 716](#)]; Neil and Sitisou 2022 [[arXiv:2208.14983](#)]; ¹²Borsányi et al. 2021 [[Nature 593, 51](#)].

Results for Zemach radii and third Zemach moments

- r_Z^p : low value favored, but agrees within 2σ with most other determinations (except for dispersive analysis)
- $\langle r_E^3 \rangle_{(2)}^p$: low value favored, good agreement with dispersive analysis, clear tension with A1
- Our estimates are $\sim 86\%$ and $\sim 97\%$, respectively, correlated with electric proton radius
- Low results for r_Z^p and $\langle r_E^3 \rangle_{(2)}^p$ expected, no independent puzzle
- Neutron results agree with z -expansion analysis of world en -scattering data, larger error



Correlations between different proton radii



Lattice results seem to confirm trends observed in data-driven evaluations

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Conclusions

- Determination of Zemach and Friar radii of the proton and neutron from lattice QCD
- Based on calculation of the electromagnetic form factors which includes connected and disconnected contributions, as well as a full error budget
- Precision of proton radii sufficient to allow meaningful comparison to data-driven evaluations
- Small values for Zemach and Friar radii of the proton favored
- Large correlation with electromagnetic radii
- Good agreement with dispersive approaches for electric properties of the proton (electric and Friar radii), tension regarding its magnetic properties (magnetic and Zemach radii)
- Further investigations required, in particular for the proton's magnetic and Zemach radii
- Goal: complete and consistent picture of all electromagnetic properties of the nucleon

Backup slides

From correlation functions to form factors

- Average over the forward- and backward-propagating nucleon and over x-, y-, and z-polarization for the disconnected part
- Calculate the ratios

$$R_{V_\mu}(\mathbf{q}; t_{\text{sep}}, t) = \frac{C_{3,V_\mu}(\mathbf{q}; t_{\text{sep}}, t)}{C_2(\mathbf{0}; t_{\text{sep}})} \sqrt{\frac{\bar{C}_2(\mathbf{q}; t_{\text{sep}} - t) C_2(\mathbf{0}; t) C_2(\mathbf{0}; t_{\text{sep}})}{C_2(\mathbf{0}; t_{\text{sep}} - t) \bar{C}_2(\mathbf{q}; t) \bar{C}_2(\mathbf{q}; t_{\text{sep}})}}, \quad (8)$$

where $t_{\text{sep}} = y_0 - x_0$, $t = z_0 - x_0$, and $\bar{C}_2(\mathbf{q}; t_{\text{sep}}) = \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{q}} \in \mathbf{q}} C_2(\tilde{\mathbf{q}}; t_{\text{sep}}) / \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{q}} \in \mathbf{q}} 1$

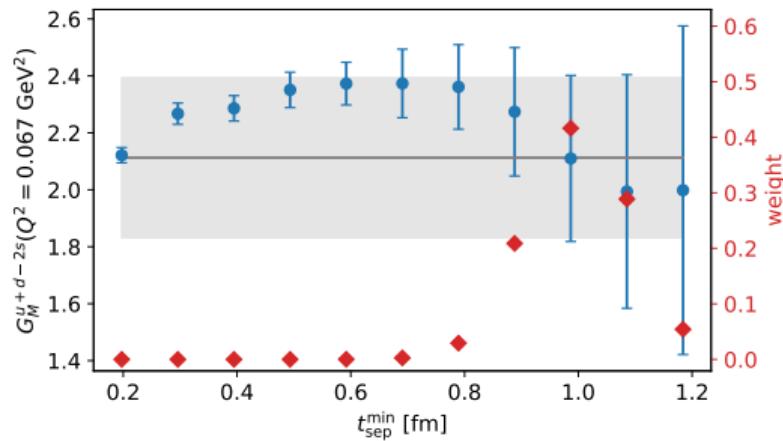
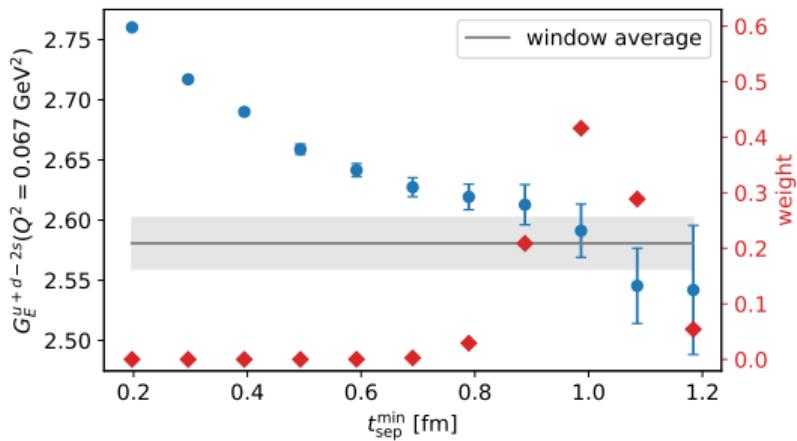
- At zero sink momentum, the effective form factors can be computed from the ratios as

$$G_E^{\text{eff}}(Q^2; t_{\text{sep}}, t) = \sqrt{\frac{2E_{\mathbf{q}}}{m + E_{\mathbf{q}}}} R_{V_0}(\mathbf{q}; t_{\text{sep}}, t), \quad (9)$$

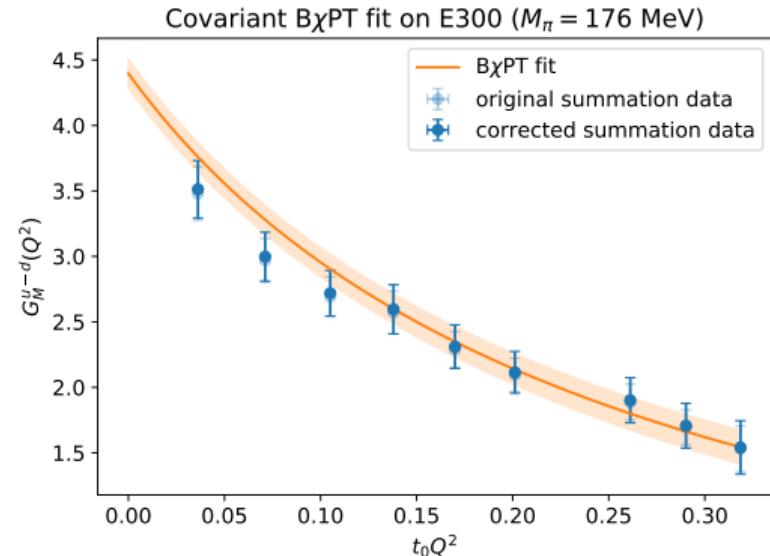
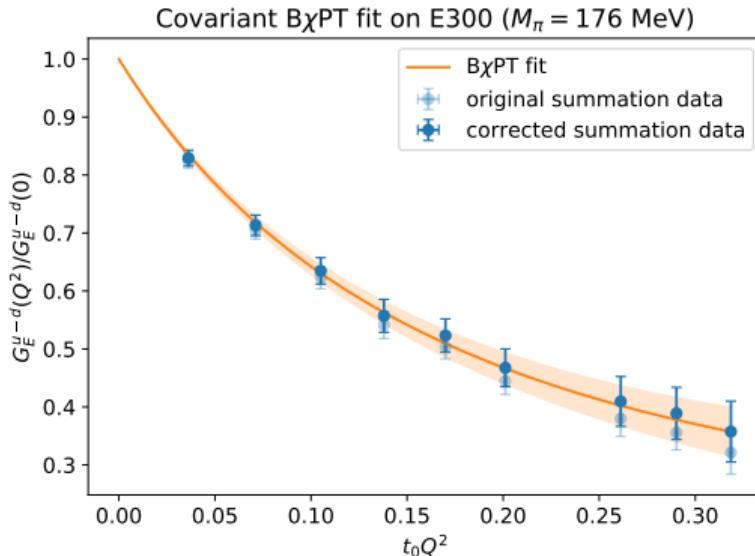
$$G_M^{\text{eff}}(Q^2; t_{\text{sep}}, t) = \sqrt{2E_{\mathbf{q}}(m + E_{\mathbf{q}})} \frac{\sum_{j,k} \epsilon_{ijk} q_k \operatorname{Re} R_{V_j}^{\Gamma_i}(\mathbf{q}; t_{\text{sep}}, t)}{\sum_{j \neq i} q_j^2} \quad (10)$$

Excited-state analysis: window average on E300

E300 ($M_\pi = 176$ MeV, $a = 0.049$ fm)

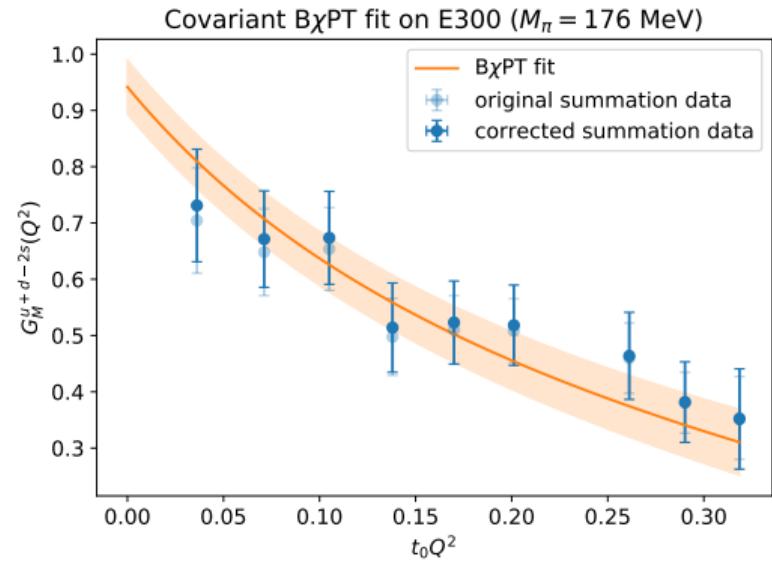
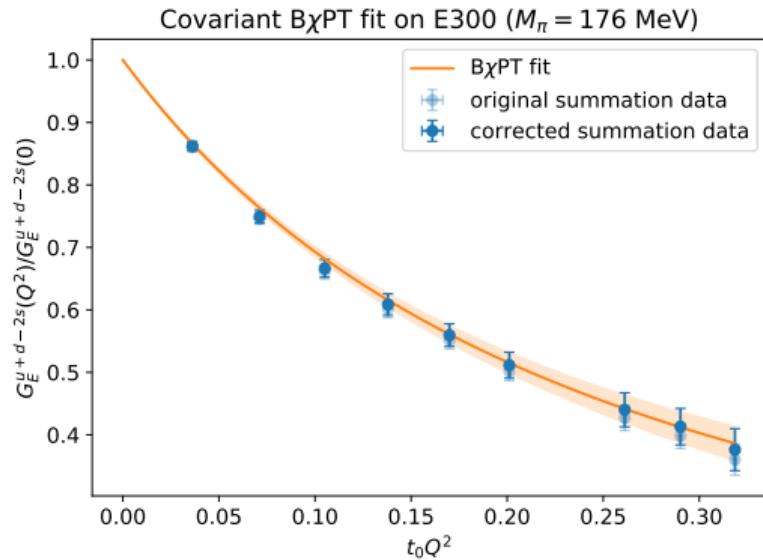


Q^2 -dependence of the isovector form factors on E300

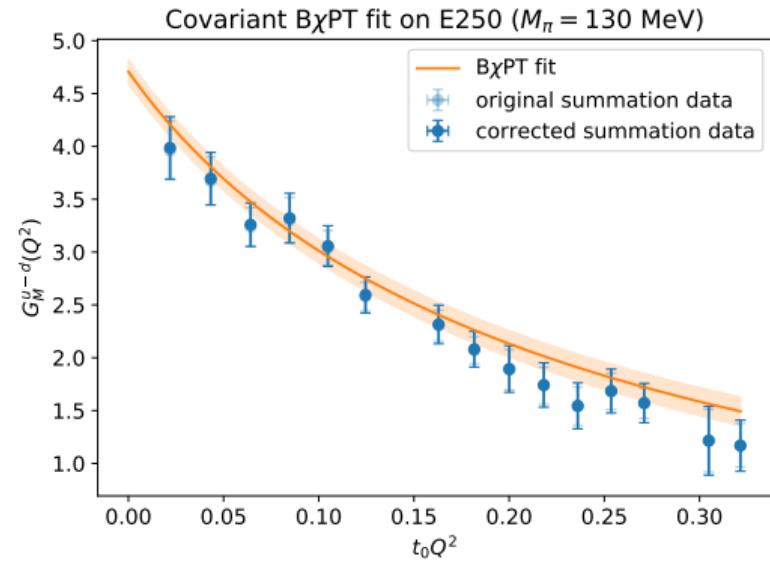
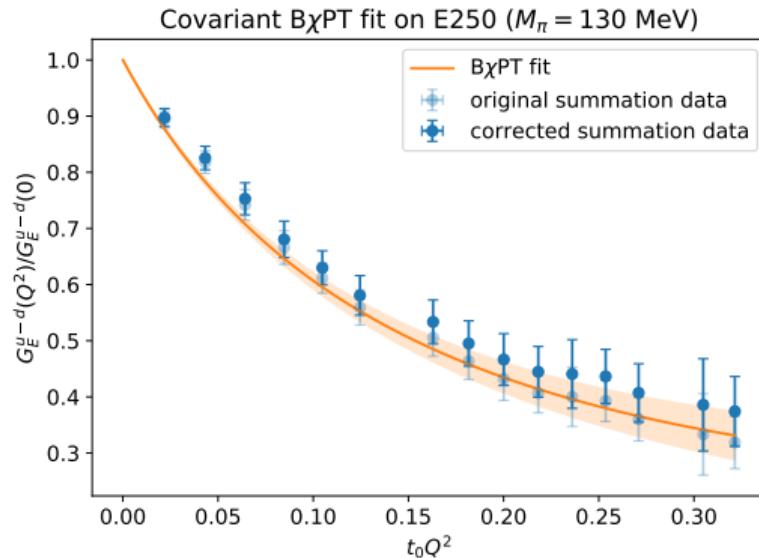


- Direct B χ PT fit describes data very well
- Reduced error due to the inclusion of several ensembles in one fit

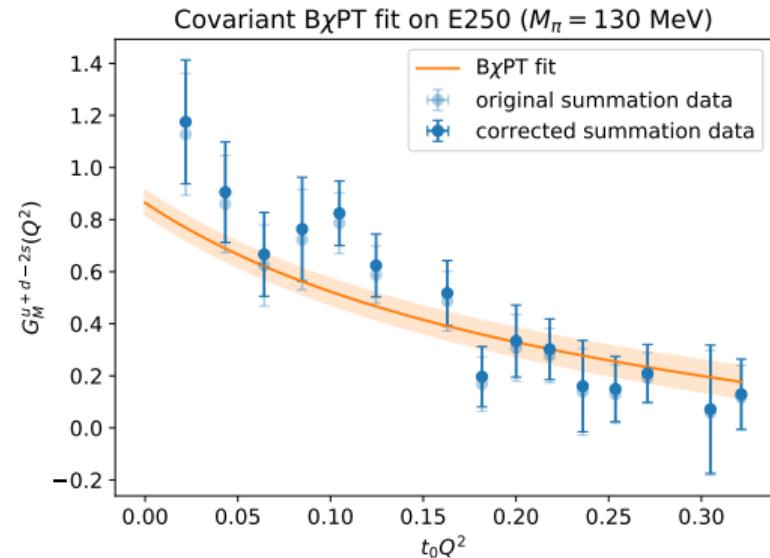
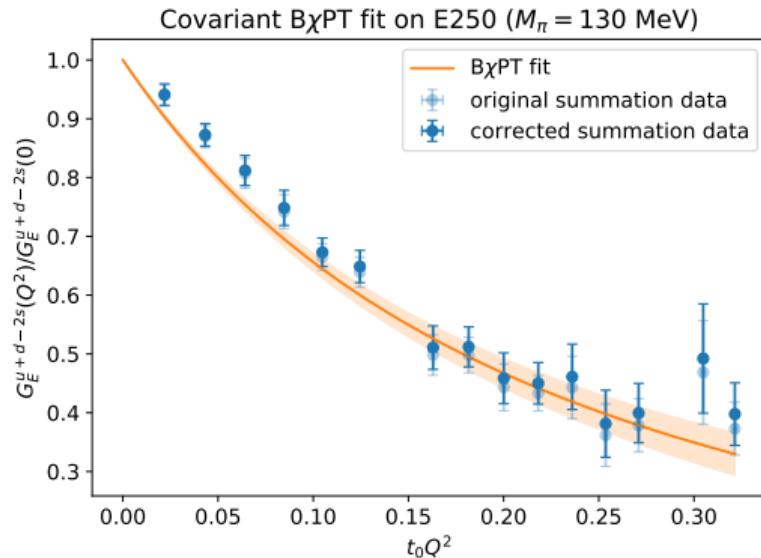
Q^2 -dependence of the isoscalar form factors on E300



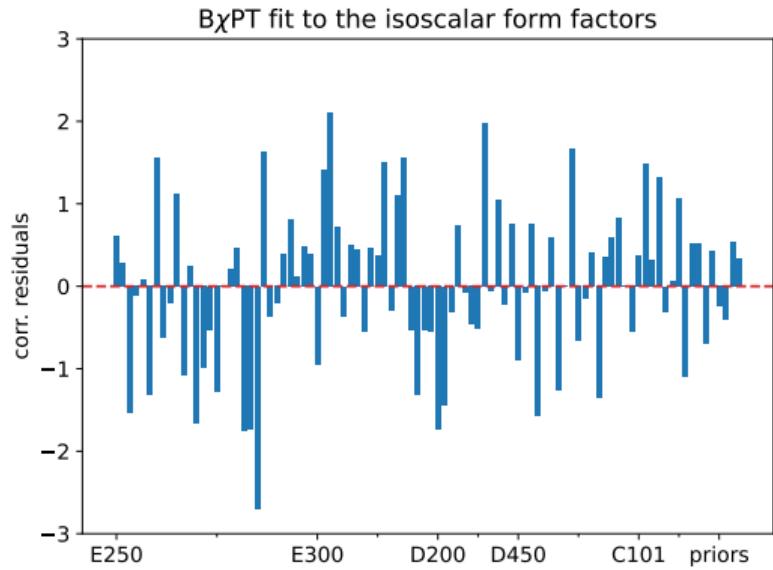
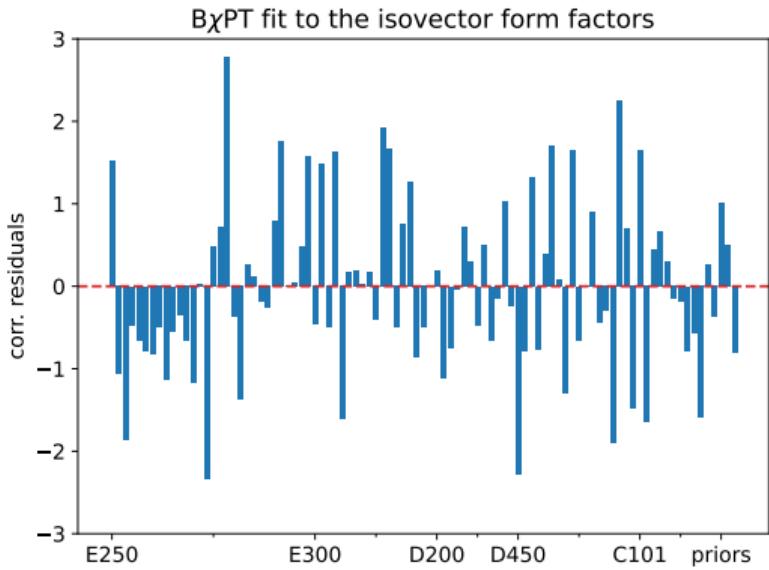
Q^2 -dependence of the isovector form factors on E250



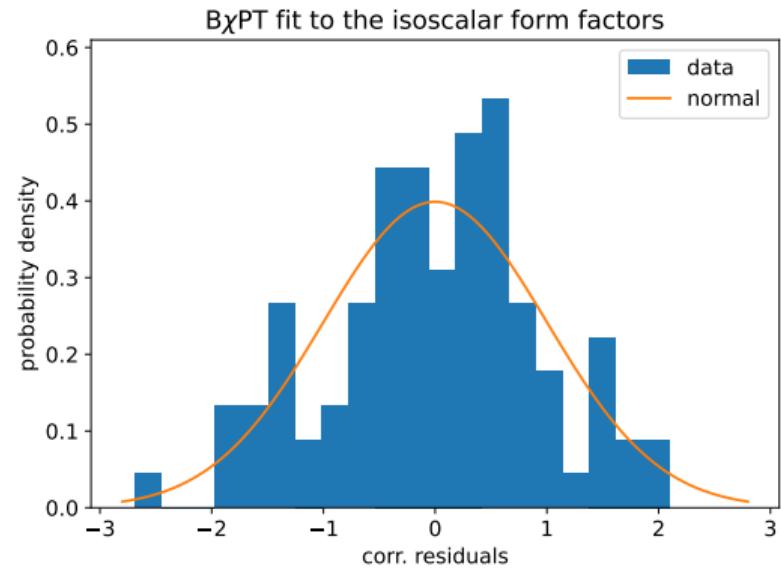
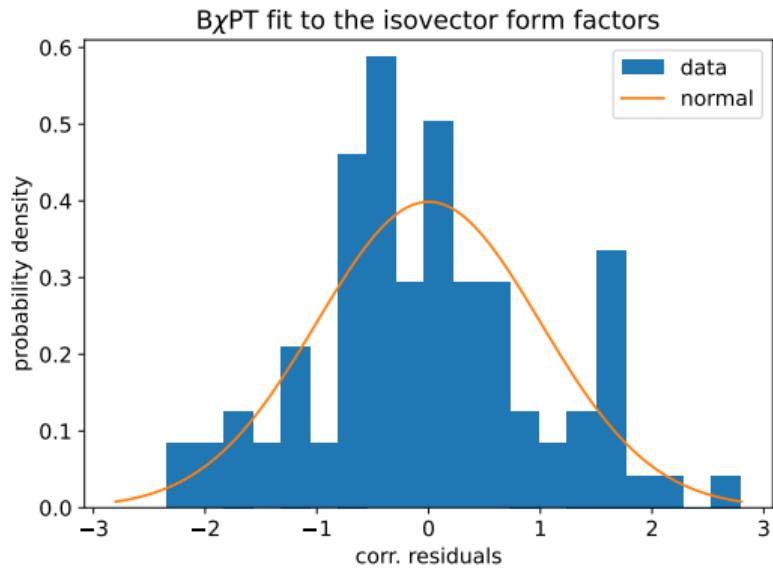
Q^2 -dependence of the isoscalar form factors on E250



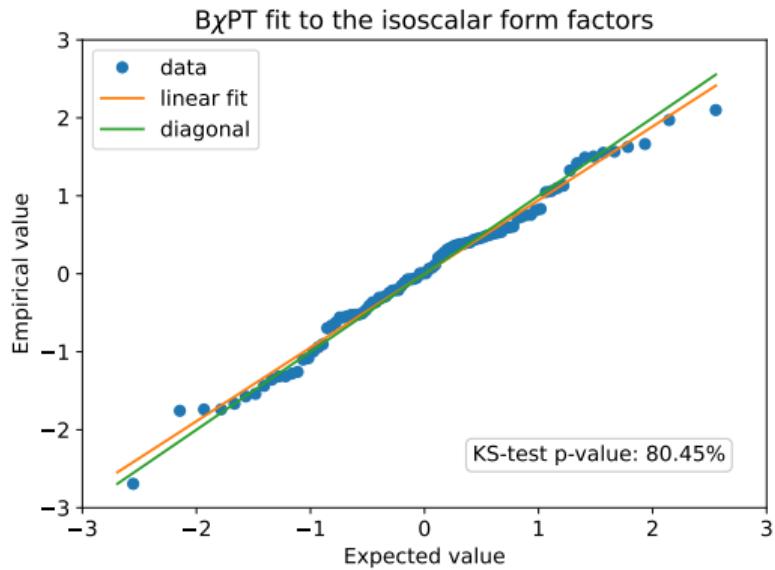
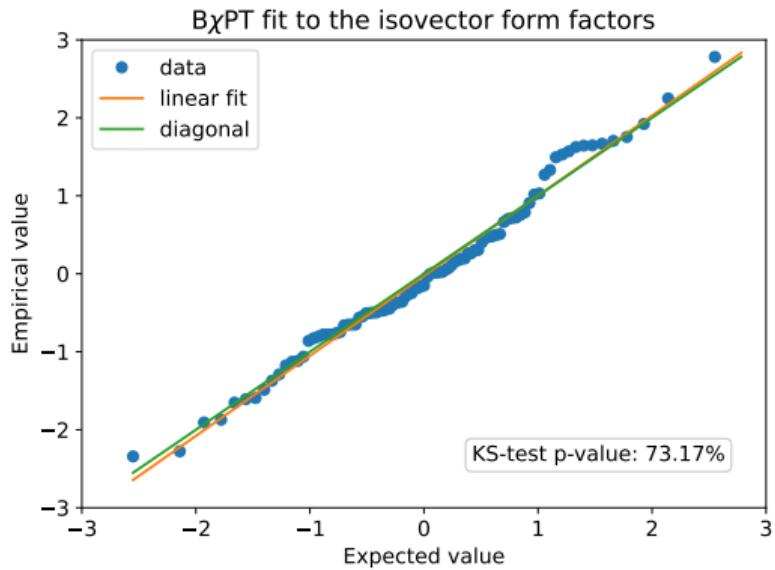
Residuals of the $B\chi$ PT fits



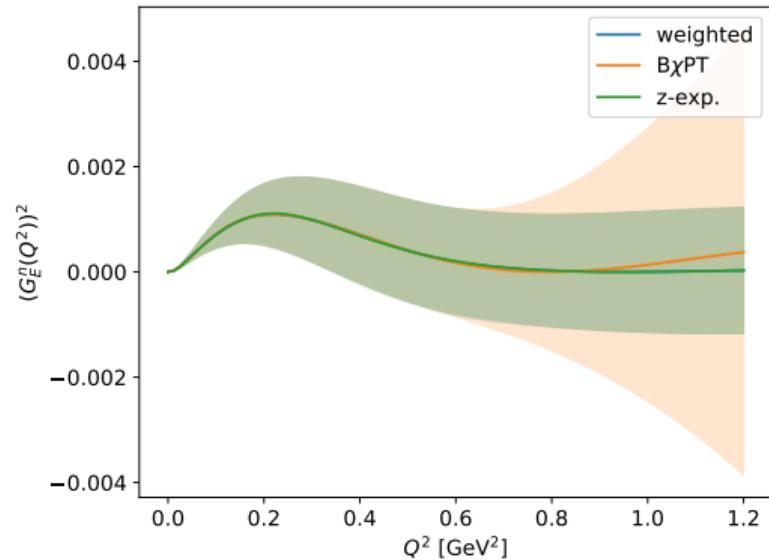
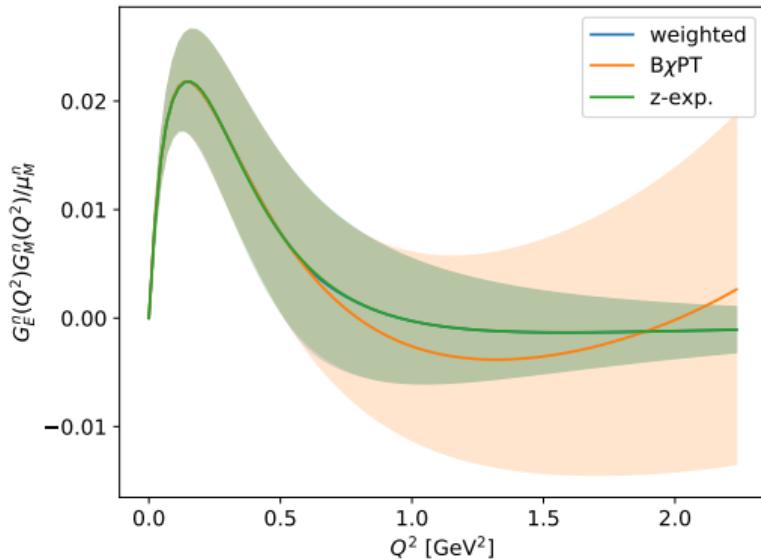
Histograms



Q-Q plots



Integrands for the Zemach radius and third Zemach moment of the neutron



- $B\chi\text{PT}$ clearly not reliable for large Q^2
- z -expansion agrees well with $B\chi\text{PT}$ parametrization in region where it is fitted

Disambiguating the statistical and systematic uncertainties

- Scale the statistical variances of the individual fit results by a factor of $\lambda = 2$
- Repeat the model averaging procedure
- Assumptions:
 - Above rescaling only affects the statistical error of the averaged result
 - Statistical and systematic errors add in quadrature
- Contributions of the statistical and systematic errors to the total error,

$$\sigma_{\text{stat}}^2 = \frac{\sigma_{\text{scaled}}^2 - \sigma_{\text{orig}}^2}{\lambda - 1}, \quad \sigma_{\text{syst}}^2 = \frac{\lambda \sigma_{\text{orig}}^2 - \sigma_{\text{scaled}}^2}{\lambda - 1} \quad (11)$$

- Consistency check: results are almost independent of λ (if it is chosen not too small)

Correlations between different proton radii

- Estimate covariance matrix of model-averaged results for different proton radii r_j ,

$$C_{jk} = \frac{1}{(\text{cdf}_{\mathcal{N}}^{-1}(3/4))^2} \text{med}([r_j - \text{med}(r_j)][r_k - \text{med}(r_k)]), \quad \text{corr}_{jk} = C_{jk}/\sqrt{C_{jj}C_{kk}} \quad (12)$$

- Calculate median from model-averaged (empirical) CDF
- We obtain as correlation matrix of $[\sqrt{\langle r_E^2 \rangle^p}, \sqrt{\langle r_M^2 \rangle^p}, r_Z^p, r_F^p]$,

$$\text{corr} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0.41294995 & 0.85702489 & 0.97214447 \\ 0.41294995 & 1 & 0.72010978 & 0.42834371 \\ 0.85702489 & 0.72010978 & 1 & 0.79974042 \\ 0.97214447 & 0.42834371 & 0.79974042 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (13)$$

- Approximate model-averaged distribution as multivariate Gaussian with above covariance matrix in vicinity of central values \rightarrow plot confidence ellipses