

# Nucleon EM form factors and radius extraction with dispersively improved chiral EFT

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**Summary:** New method for calculating/analyzing nucleon FFs combining dispersion theory and  $\chi$ EFT

Implements analyticity in momentum transfer  $t$

Includes  $\pi\pi$  rescattering and  $\rho$  resonance through unitarity

Enables predictive calculations, controlled theoretical accuracy

Uses radii as parameters  $\leftrightarrow$  LECs, ideally suited for radius extraction

## Outline

Motivation: Analyticity in radius extraction

Method: Dispersive representation, elastic unitarity,  $\chi$ EFT input, radii as parameters

Results: Spectral functions, form factors, uncertainties

Applications: Proton radius extraction from  $ep$  scattering, electric and magnetic

Applications:  $\mu p$  scattering  $\leftarrow$

Method: J. M. Alarcon, C. Weiss, PLB 784 (2018) 373; PRC **97**, 055203 (2018);

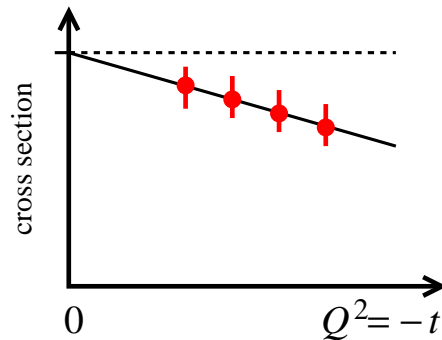
J. M. Alarcon, A. N. Hiller Blin, M. Vicente Vacas, C. Weiss, NPA **964**, 18 (2017)

Applications: J. M. Alarcon, D. Higinbotham, C. Weiss, Z. Ye, PRC 99 (2019) 044303;

J. M. Alarcon, D. Higinbotham, C. Weiss, PRC 102 (2020) 035203

# Motivation: Analyticity

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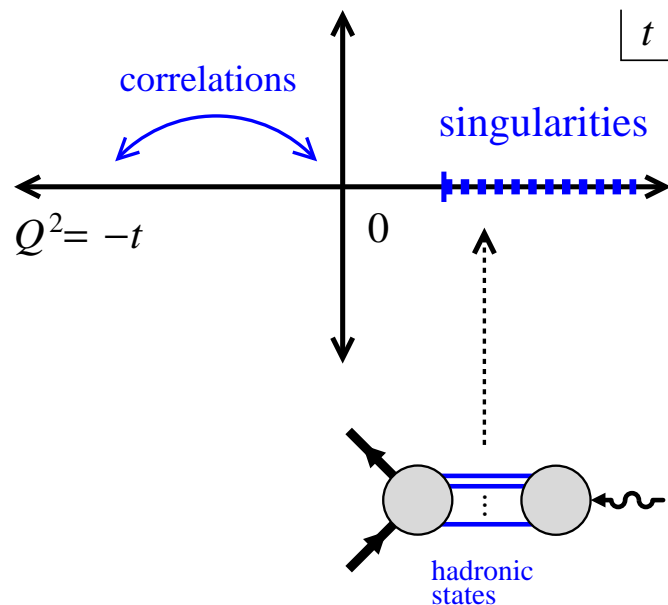
- Challenges in proton radius extraction

Derivative at  $Q^2 = 0 \leftrightarrow$  data at finite  $Q^2 > 0$

Extrapolation  $Q^2 \rightarrow 0$ : Stability, functional bias

Higher derivatives?  $\rightarrow$  Dynamical scales?

Magnetic radius: Contribution of  $G_M^p \propto \tau/\epsilon$ , vanishes for  $Q^2 \rightarrow 0$



- Analyticity

FFs analytic functions of  $t = -Q^2$

Singularities: Branch cuts at  $t > 0$ .  
Hadronic exchanges

Positions of singularities: Hadron masses ✓

Strength of singularities: Couplings, phase space ?

Implications for FF behavior at  $t < 0$   
and radius extraction!

- Implications of analyticity

Correlates functional behavior of FF at  $Q^2 > 0$  with derivatives  $Q^2 = 0$

Predicts size of higher derivatives from dynamical scales (in singularities), stable results

Provides sum rules relating integrals over singularities with local derivatives  $F'(0)$  etc.

*These features can be implemented/exploited without complete knowledge of the functions!  
We can/should use them for radius extraction!*

- New method: DI $\chi$ EFT

Implement analyticity through dispersion relation

Correlate radii with behavior of FFs at finite  $Q^2 > 0$  through sum rules (radii as parameters)

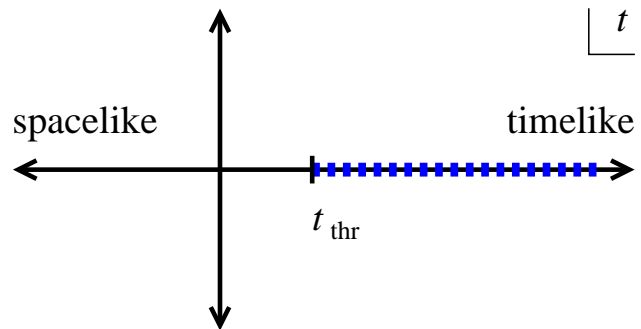
*Uniquely suited for radius extraction!*

[Other approaches based on analyticity:  $z$ -expansion – only analyticity, no dynamical input  
Traditional dispersion theory with  $\pi\pi$  continuum – complete predictions, no flexibility

Höhler et al. 1975+; Belushkin, Hammer, Meissner 2007; Lorenz, Hammer, Meissner 2012

# Method: Dispersive representation

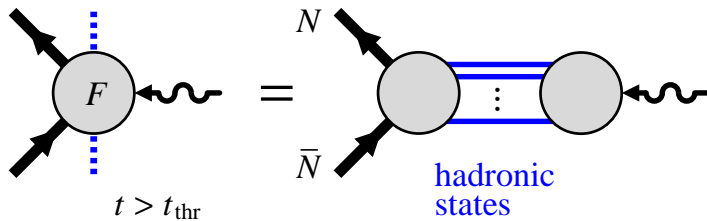
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- Dispersive representation

$$F_i(t) = \int_{t_{\text{thr}}}^{\infty} \frac{dt'}{\pi} \frac{\text{Im } F_i(t')}{t' - t - i0}$$

Expresses analytic structure of  $F_i(t)$



- Spectral functions  $\text{Im } F_i(t)$

Current  $\rightarrow$  hadronic states  $\rightarrow N\bar{N}$

Processes in unphysical region  $t < 4M_N^2$

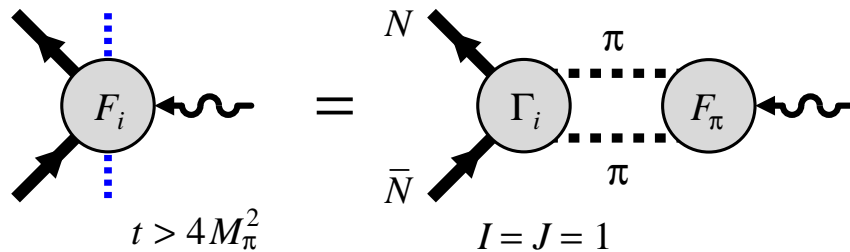
Spectral functions to be provided by theory

Frazer, Fulco 1960; Höhler et al 1975+

Isovector:  $\pi\pi$  (incl.  $\rho$ ),  $4\pi$ ,  $K\bar{K}$ , ...  
 Isoscalar:  $3\pi$  (incl.  $\omega$ ),  $K\bar{K}$  (incl.  $\phi$ ), ...

# Method: Spectral functions on $\pi\pi$ cut

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$$\begin{aligned} \text{Im} F_i(t) &= \frac{k_{\text{cm}}^3}{\sqrt{t}} \Gamma_i(t) F_\pi^*(t) \\ &= \underbrace{\frac{k_{\text{cm}}^3}{\sqrt{t}} \frac{\Gamma_i(t)}{F_\pi(t)}}_{\chi\text{EFT}} \underbrace{|F_\pi(t)|^2}_{\text{Data}} \end{aligned}$$

- Elastic unitarity relation

$F_\pi(t)$  timelike pion FF,  $\Gamma_i(t)$  partial-wave amplitude  $\pi\pi \rightarrow N\bar{N}$

Amplitudes have same phase from  $\pi\pi$  rescattering — Watson's theorem

- Factorized representation (N/D method)

$\Gamma_i/F_\pi$  free of  $\pi\pi$  rescattering

→ calculate in  $\chi\text{EFT}$ , well convergent

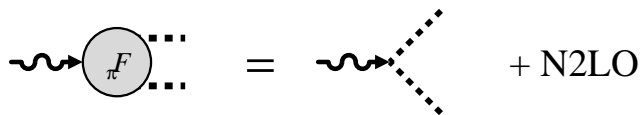
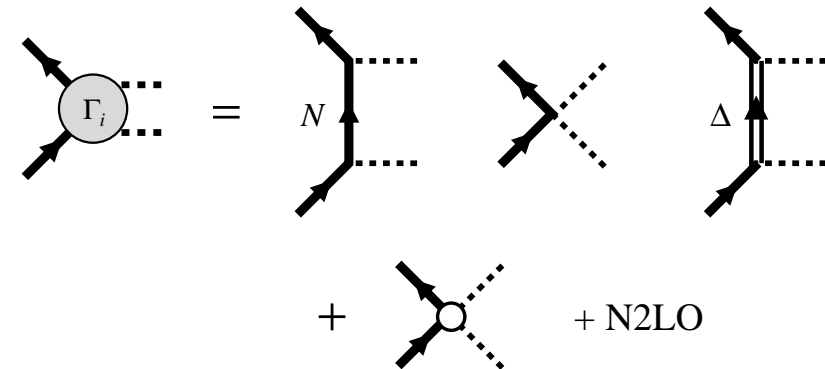
$|F_\pi|^2$  includes  $\pi\pi$  rescattering,  $\rho$  resonance

→ take from  $e^+e^-$  data, LQCD

- New  $\chi\text{EFT}$ -based approach

# Method: Chiral EFT

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- Relativistic  $\chi$ EFT

Expansion in  $\{M_\pi, k_\pi\}/\Lambda_\chi$

Include  $\Delta$  isobar

- Calculation of  $\Gamma_i(t)/F_\pi(t)$

LO: Born terms + Weinberg-Tomozawa

NLO: Contact term in  $\Gamma_i(t)$

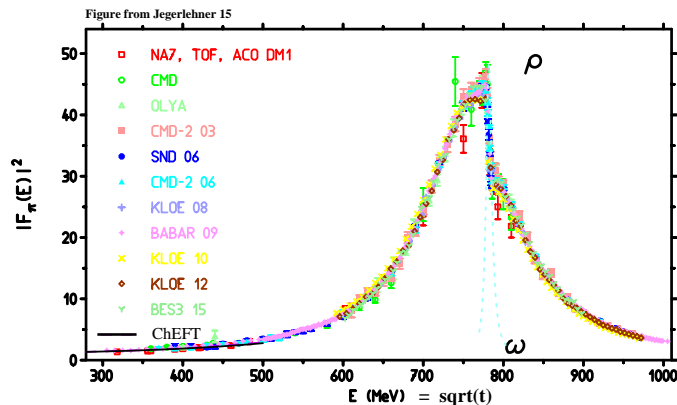
N2LO: Contact term and pion loops

Presently: Use Partial N2LO, unknown LEC

Good convergence

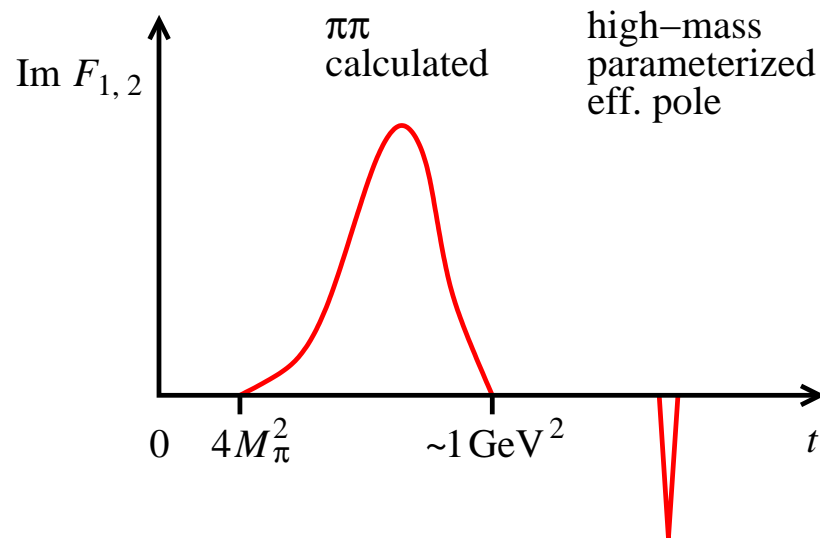
- Pion timelike FF  $|F_\pi(t)|^2$

Measured accurately in  $e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$



# Method: Sum rules and parameters

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- Spectral functions

$\pi\pi$  continuum calculated:  
Elastic unitarity +  $\chi$ EFT

High-mass states parameterized:  
Effective pole

Sufficient for low- $Q^2$  form factors,  
uncertainty quantified

$$\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{t_{\text{thr}}}^{\infty} dt \frac{\text{Im} F_1(t)}{t} = Q$$

$$\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{t_{\text{thr}}}^{\infty} dt \frac{\text{Im} F_1(t)}{t^2} = \frac{1}{6} \langle r^2 \rangle_1$$

$$\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{t_{\text{thr}}}^{\infty} dt \frac{\text{Im} F_2(t)}{t} = \kappa$$

$$\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{t_{\text{thr}}}^{\infty} dt \frac{\text{Im} F_2(t)}{t^2} = \frac{1}{6} \kappa \langle r^2 \rangle_2$$

- Sum rules and parameters

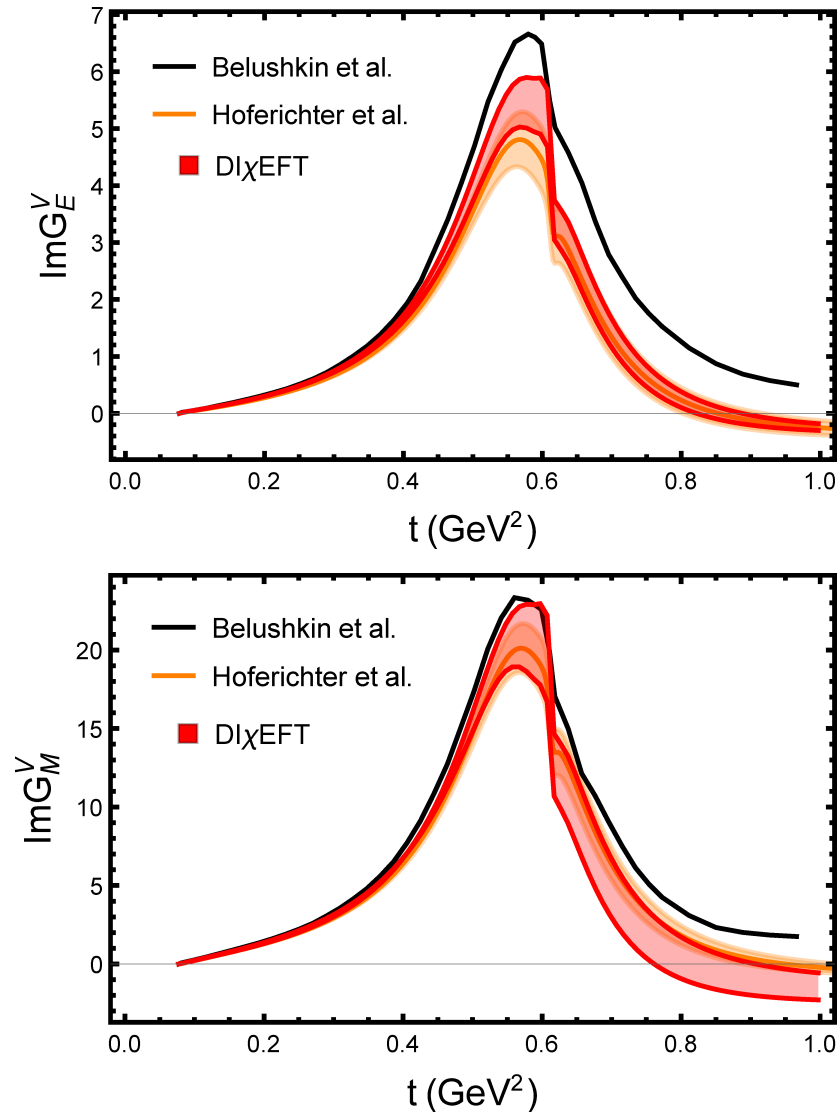
Sum rules for  $F(0)$ ,  $F'(0)$  = charges, radii

Express  $\chi$ EFT LEC in terms of radii

Radii appear directly as parameters,  
control global behavior of FF!

# Results: Spectral functions

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- DI $\chi$ EFT spectral functions in  $\pi\pi$  region

Band shows uncertainty from radii

Good agreement with Roy-Steiner results  
[Hoferichter et al 2017](#)

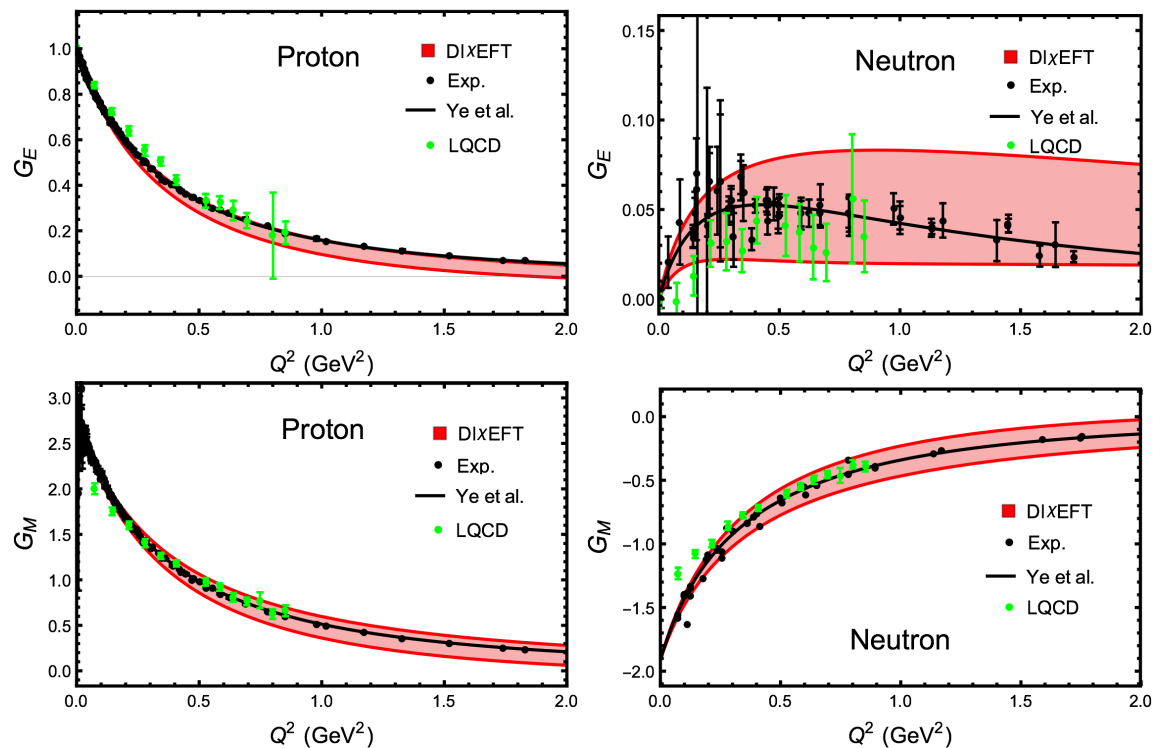
- Qualitative improvement compared to traditional  $\chi$ EFT

$\pi\pi$  rescattering included through  $|F_\pi(t)|^2$



# Results: Form factors

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$$G_i(t) = \int_{4M_\pi^2}^{\infty} \frac{dt'}{\pi} \frac{\text{Im } G_i(t')}{t' - t - i0}$$

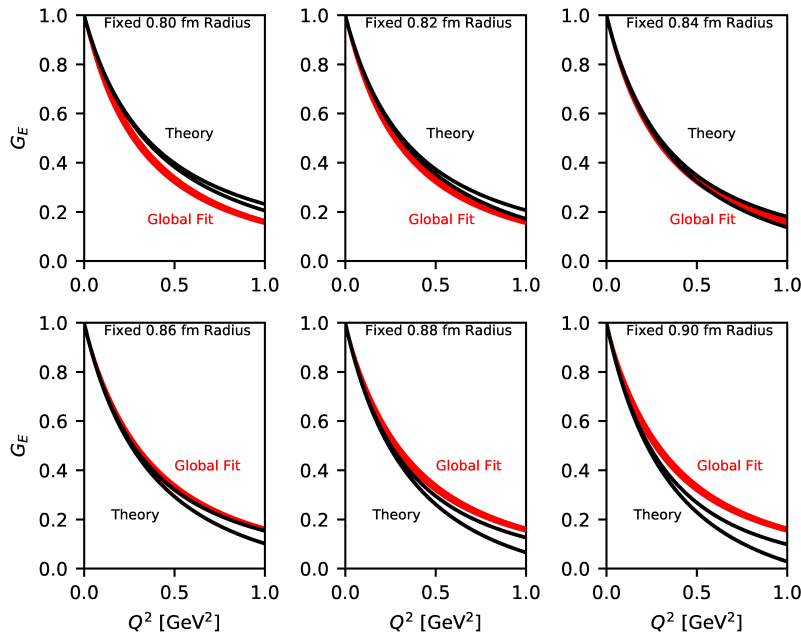
Alarcon, Weiss, PLB 784 (2018) 373  
Uncertainty bands: PDG range of nucleon radii

- $\text{D}\chi\text{EFT}$  form factors

Evaluated using dispersion integral with spectral functions

Band shows uncertainty from radii. Also quantified uncertainty from high-mass states

Excellent agreement with data. Not fit, but prediction based on dynamics



Alarcon, Higinbotham, Weiss, Ye PRC 99 (2019) 044303  
Global FF fit from Ye et al 2017

- $\text{Dl}\chi\text{EFT}$  provides family of FFs  $G_{E,M}(Q^2)$  depending on radii as parameters

Each member respects analyticity, sum rules

Each has intrinsic theoretical uncertainty

- Radius correlated with finite- $Q^2$  behavior

Provided by analyticity

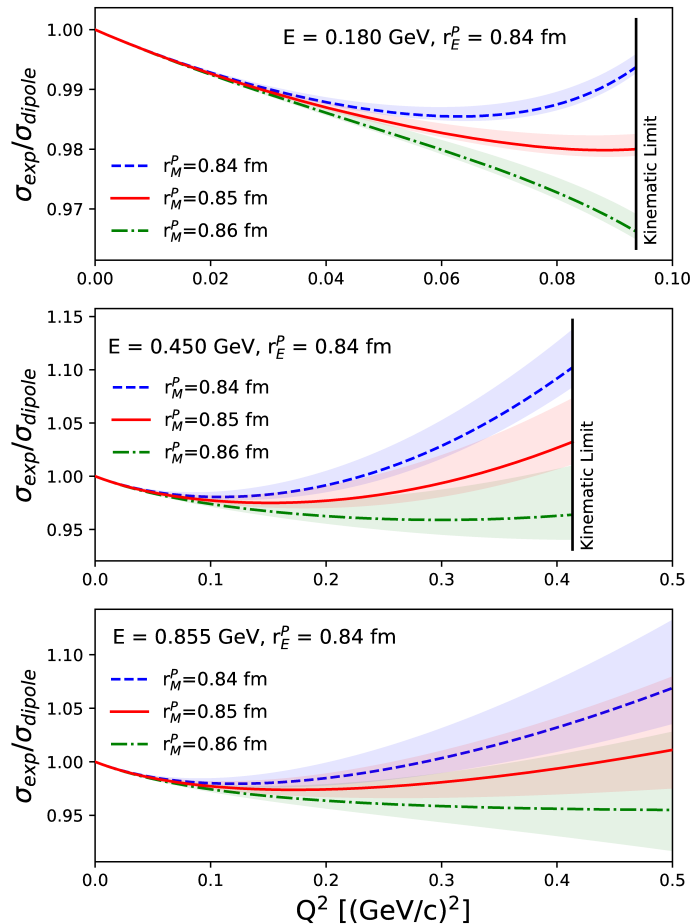
Use for radius extraction

- Extracted  $r_E^p$  from FF fit

Compared  $\text{Dl}\chi\text{EFT}$  FFs with global fit  $G_E^p(Q^2)$

Obtained  $r_E^p = 0.844(7)$  fm (cf. muonic hydrogen)

$r_E^p$  constrained by data to  $Q^2 \sim 0.5 \text{ GeV}^2$



- Extracted  $r_E^p$  and  $r_M^p$  from cross section fit

Mainz A1 data  $E=0.18\text{--}0.855 \text{ GeV}$ ,  $Q^2=0.003\text{--}1.0 \text{ GeV}^2$

Used  $\text{D}\chi\text{EFT } G_{E,M}^p(Q^2)$  dep on  $r_E^p, r_M^p$

Fitted cross sections with floating normalizations

Quantified fit and theoretical uncertainties

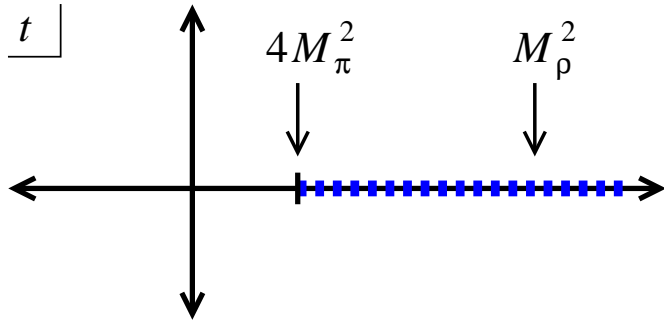
$$r_E^p = 0.842 \pm 0.002 \text{ (fit } 1\sigma) \text{ }^{+0.005}_{-0.002} \text{ (theory full-range) fm}$$

$$r_M^p = 0.850 \pm 0.001 \text{ (fit } 1\sigma) \text{ }^{+0.009}_{-0.004} \text{ (theory full-range) fm}$$

- $\text{D}\chi\text{EFT}$  enables accurate  $r_M^p$  extraction

Sensitivity to  $G_M^p$  only at finite  $Q^2$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \left( \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \right)_{\text{Mott}} \frac{\epsilon [G_E^p]^2 + \tau [G_M^p]^2}{\epsilon(1 + \tau)}$$



- Form factor derivatives from DR

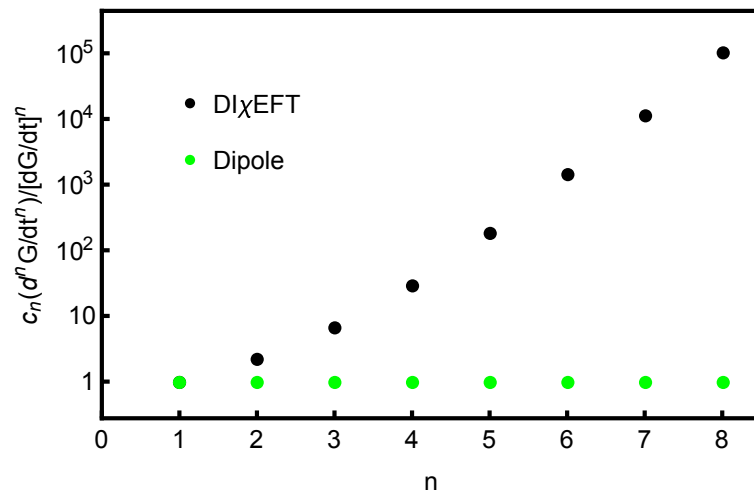
$$\left. \frac{d^n G_i^V(t)}{dt^n} \right|_{t=0} = \int_{4M_\pi^2}^{\infty} \frac{dt'}{\pi} \frac{\text{Im } G_i^V(t')}{t'^{n+1}}$$

- Two dynamical scales

$4M_\pi^2$  two-pion threshold

$M_\rho^2$  maximum of spectral function

Relative weight depends on  $n$



- Unnatural size of higher derivatives

Model-independent prediction

Could be tested in polynomial fits

- Same framework can be used to simulate/analyze  $\mu p$  elastic scattering
- Implemented so far

Code for evaluating  $\mu p$  elastic cross section in terms of  $\text{Dl}\chi\text{EFT}$  FFs: Jupyter notebook

Studied sensitivity of cross section to radii in MUSE kinematics

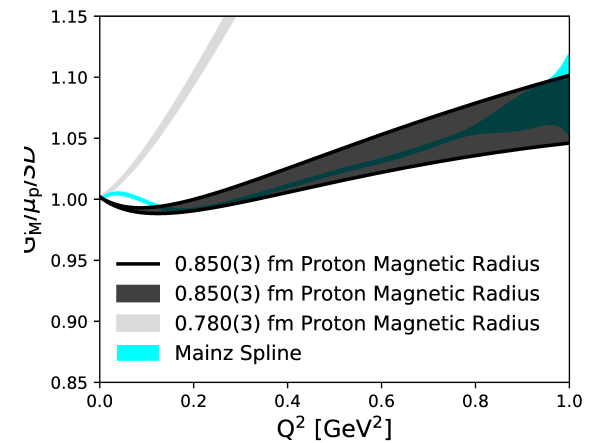
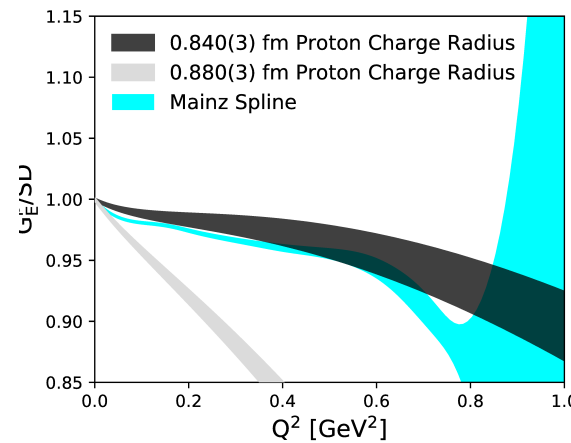
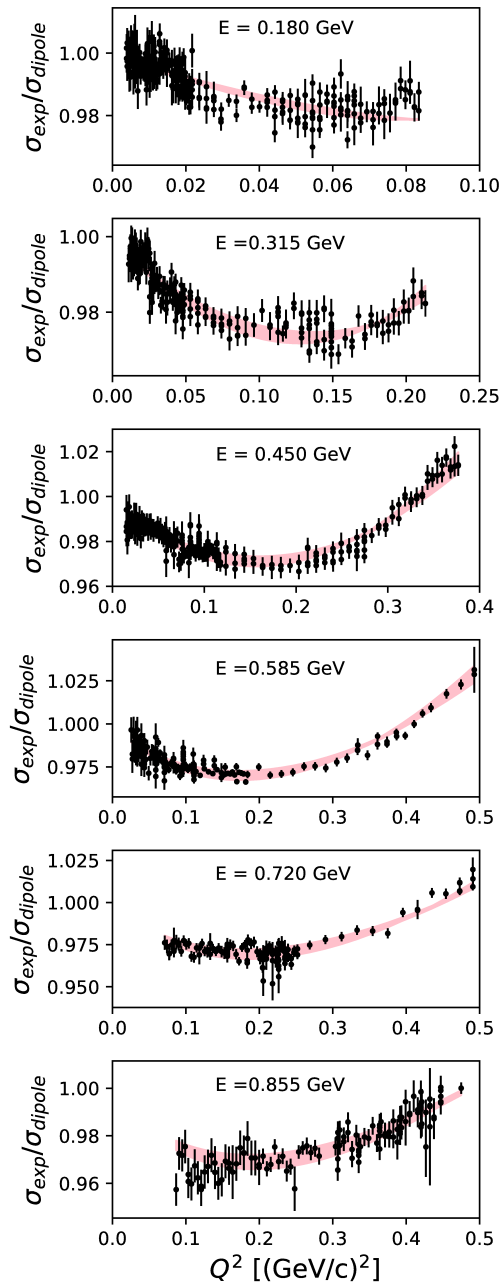
→ J. Alarcon

Two-photon exchange corrections can be included

Use results of Tomalak, Vanderhaeghen 2016-18

- Further steps: Discussion

- $\text{Dl}\chi\text{EFT}$  describes nucleon FFs combining dispersion theory and  $\chi\text{EFT}$ 
  - Includes  $\pi\pi$  rescattering and  $\rho$  resonance through unitarity
  - Enables predictive calculations, controlled theoretical accuracy
  - Excellent agreement with empirical FFs up to  $Q^2 \sim 1 \text{ GeV}^2$  and beyond
- $\text{Dl}\chi\text{EFT}$  enables theory-based radius extraction
  - Correlates  $Q^2 = 0$  derivatives with finite- $Q^2$  behavior through analyticity + sum rules
  - Employs radii directly as parameters  $\leftrightarrow$  LECs
  - Extractions performed: FF and cross section fits, electric and magnetic radius
- Other applications and extensions (not covered here)
  - Nucleon transverse charge/magnetization densities  
Alarcon, Hiller Blin, Vicente Vacas, Weiss, NPA **96**, 18 (2017); Alarcon, Weiss, in progress
  - Nucleon scalar FF  
Alarcon, Weiss, PRC **96**, 055206 (2017)
  - Resonance transition FFs  $N \rightarrow \Delta$  planned



Left: Mainz A1 data and  $\text{DI}\chi\text{EFT}$  fit. The  $\text{DI}\chi\text{EFT}$  predictions are shown at the radii corresponding to the best fit. The band shows the fit uncertainty.

Above: Comparison of  $\text{DI}\chi\text{EFT}$  parameterization with the Mainz spline fit. The  $\text{DI}\chi\text{EFT}$  predictions are shown for two values of the radii within the range of the Mainz fit.

J. M. Alarcon, D. Higinbotham, C. Weiss, PRC 102 (2020) 035203