

# Compton amplitude and the nucleon structure functions

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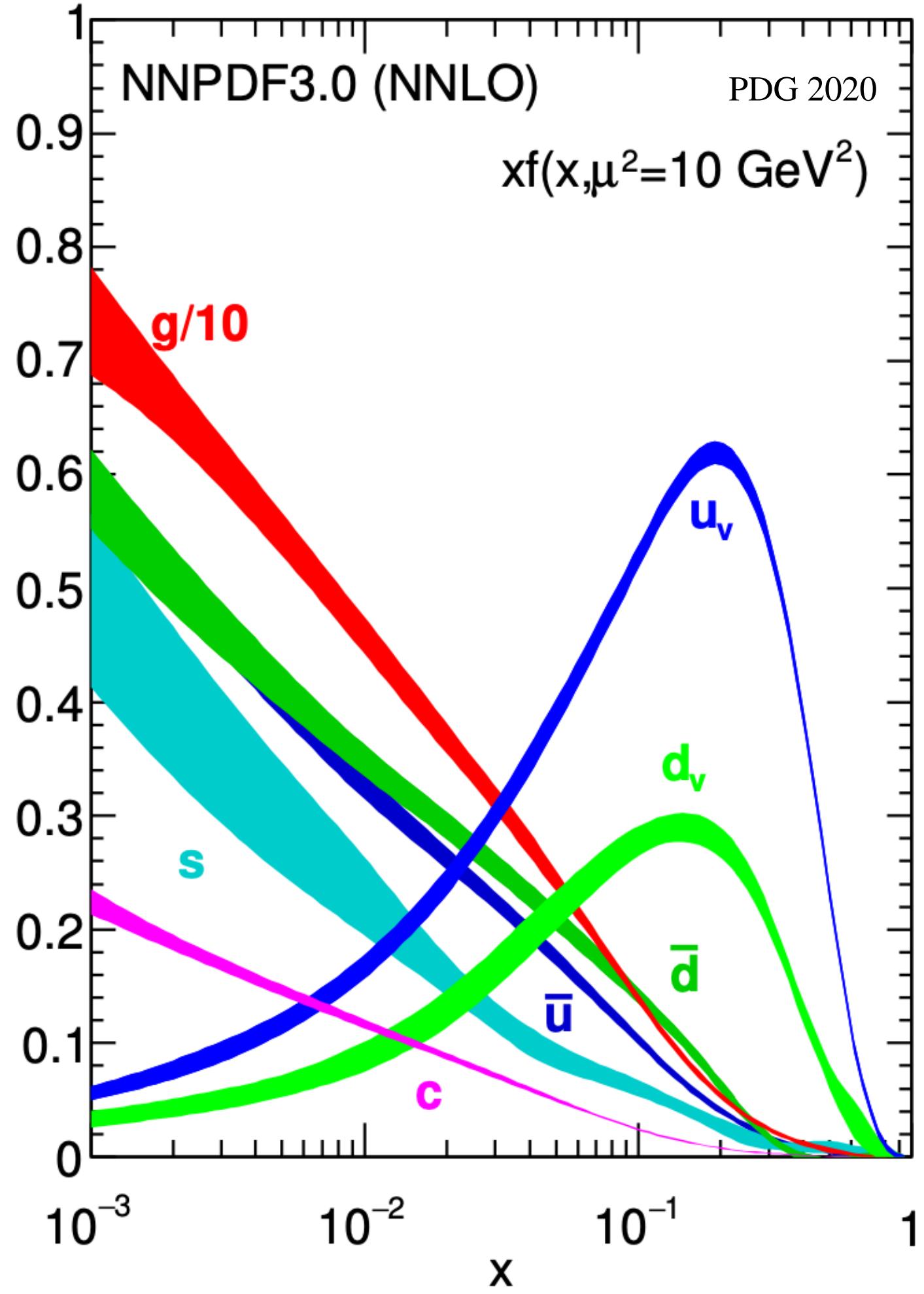
from lattice QCD

in collaboration with QCDSF:

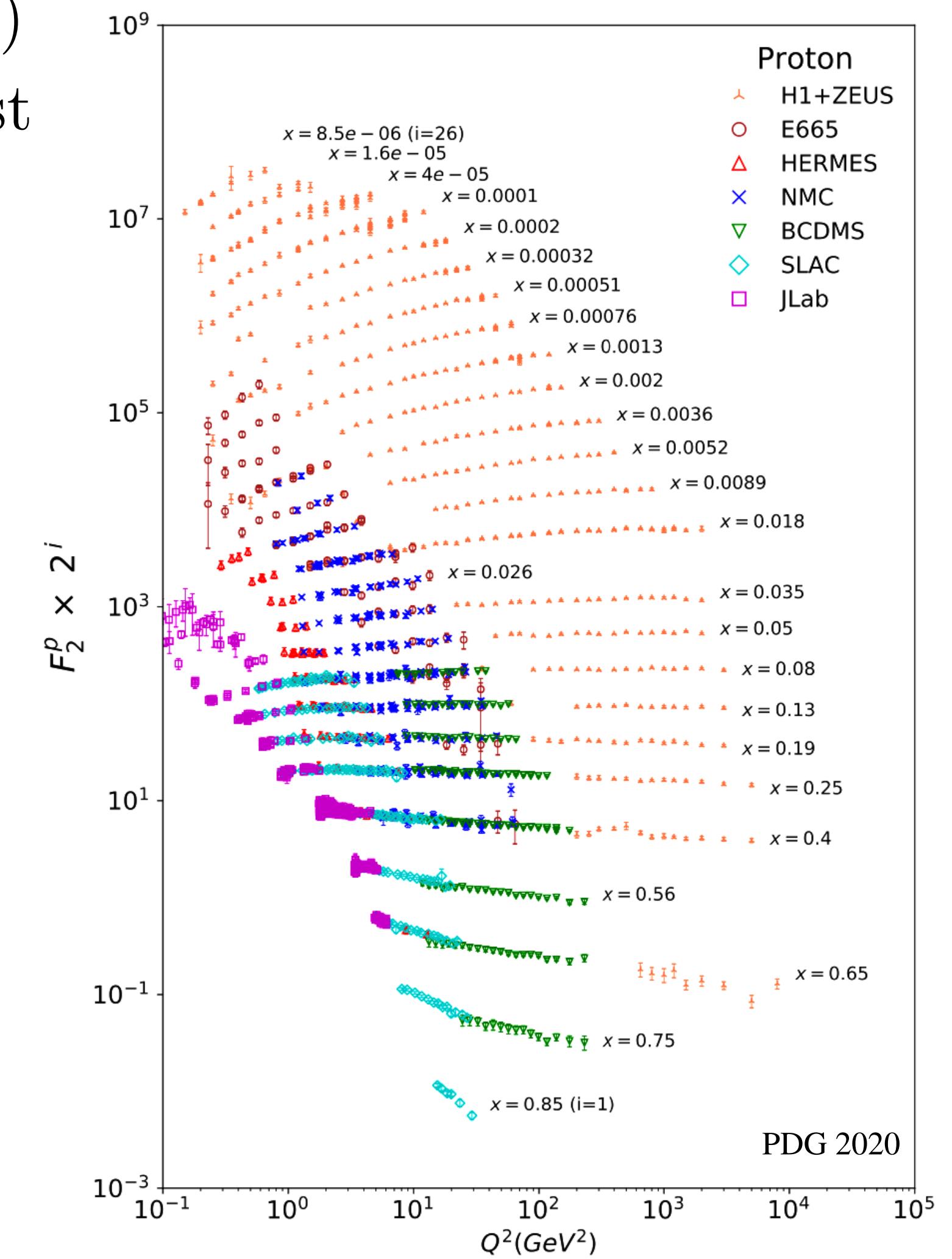
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# Motivation



- Nucleon structure (leading twist)
  - Parton distributions from first principles
  - Constraining the high- and low- $x$  regions better
- Scaling and Power corrections
  - $Q^2$  cuts of global QCD analyses
  - Large- $x$ , low- $Q^2$ :
    - Higher-twist contributions
    - Target mass corrections



# Forward Compton Amplitude

$$\text{Diagram} = \text{Diagram with box} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{M_N^2}{Q^2}, \frac{\mu^2}{Q^2}\right)$$

- We calculate the LHS: the physical amplitude
- also known as OPE without OPE
- Leading twist:
  - local matrix elements (ME) or quasi/pseudo-distributions
- Power corrections relevant at low- $Q^2$
- Difficult to calculate from local ME

[Chambers et al. PRL118]

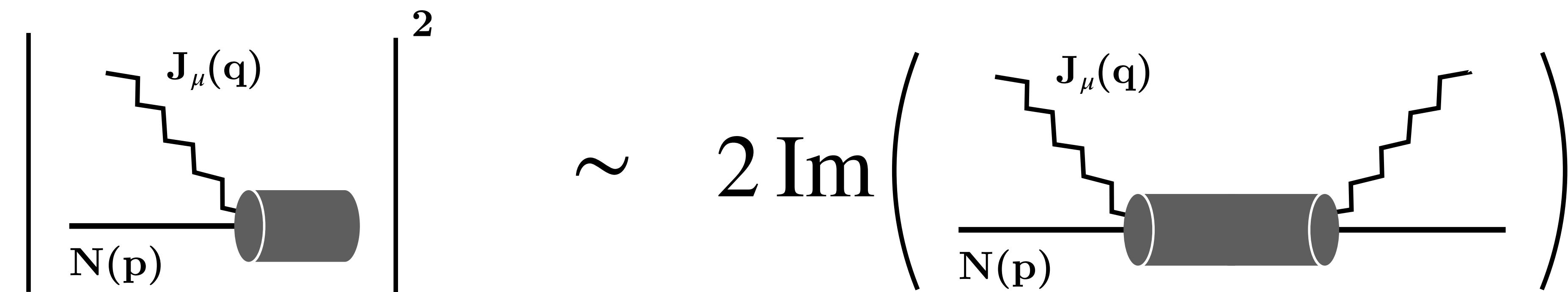
# Forward Compton Amplitude

$$T_{\mu\nu}(p, q) = i \int d^4z e^{iq \cdot z} \rho_{ss'} \langle p, s' | \mathcal{T}\{J_\mu(z) J_\nu(0)\} | p, s \rangle , \text{ spin avg. } \rho_{ss'} = \frac{1}{2} \delta_{ss'} \quad \boxed{\omega = \frac{2p \cdot q}{Q^2} = x^{-1}}$$

Same Lorentz decomposition as the Hadronic Tensor

$$= \left( -g_{\mu\nu} + \frac{q_\mu q_\nu}{q^2} \right) \boxed{\mathcal{F}_1(\omega, Q^2)} + \left( p_\mu - \frac{p \cdot q}{q^2} q_\mu \right) \left( p_\nu - \frac{p \cdot q}{q^2} q_\nu \right) \frac{\boxed{\mathcal{F}_2(\omega, Q^2)}}{p \cdot q}$$

Compton Structure Functions (SF)



DIS Cross Section ~ Hadronic Tensor

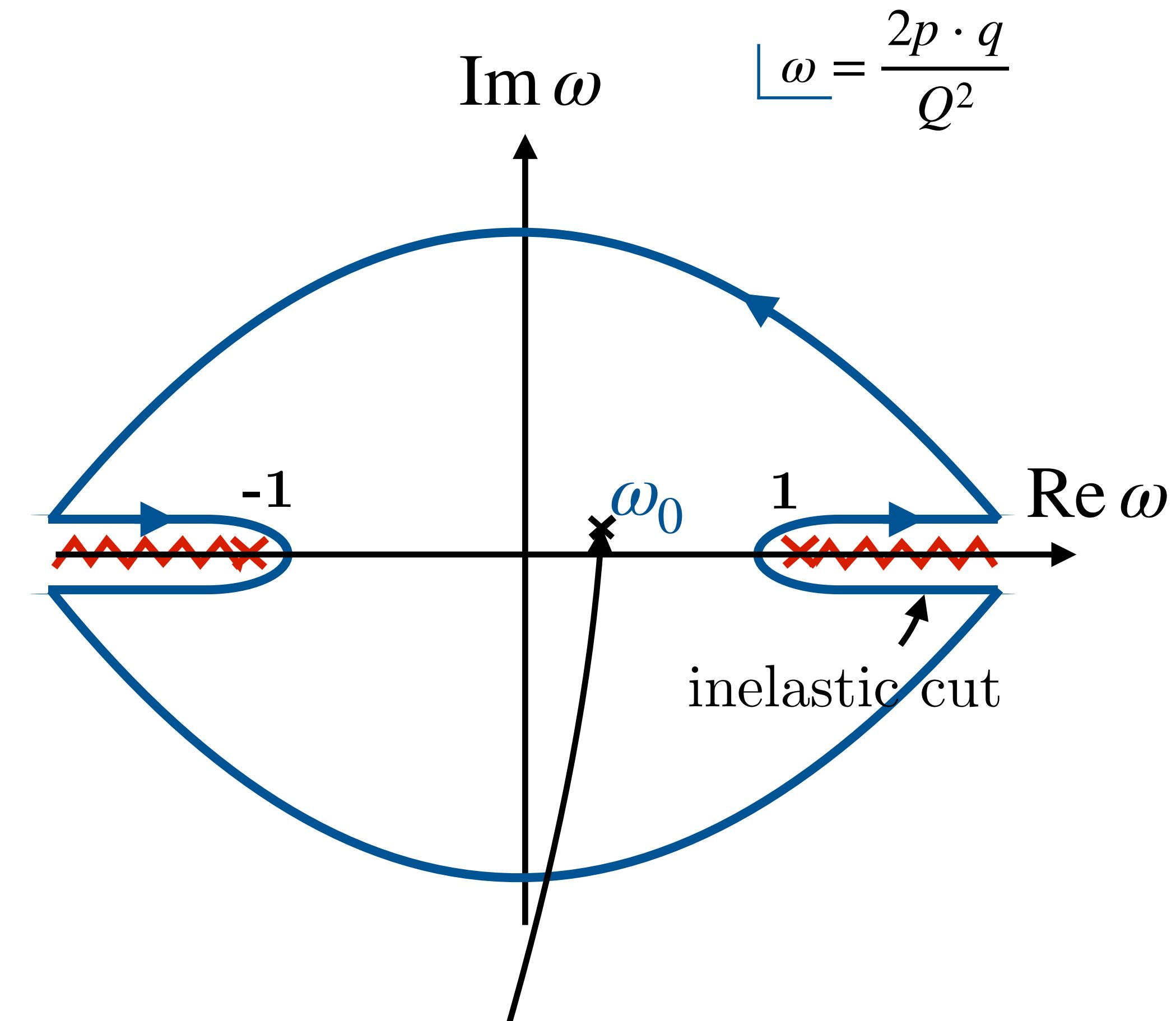
Forward Compton Amplitude ~ Compton Tensor

# Nucleon Structure Functions

- Dispersion relations connect Compton SFs to DIS SFs:

$$\overline{\mathcal{F}_1(\omega, Q^2)} = 2\omega^2 \int_0^1 dx \frac{2x F_1(x, Q^2)}{1 - x^2 \omega^2 - i\varepsilon}$$

$$\mathcal{F}_{2,3}(\omega, Q^2) = 4\omega \int_0^1 dx \frac{F_{2,3}(x, Q^2)}{1 - x^2 \omega^2 - i\varepsilon}$$



Minkowski and Euclidean formulations are equivalent (no need for  $i\varepsilon$  prescription) for the Compton Amplitude in the unphysical region

# Nucleon Structure Functions

- using the Taylor expansion,  $\frac{1}{1-(x\omega)^2} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (x\omega)^{2n-2}$

$$\underline{\omega} = \frac{2p \cdot q}{Q^2}$$

$$\overline{\mathcal{F}}_1(\omega, Q^2) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2\omega^{2n} 2 \int_0^1 dx x^{2n-1} F_1(x, Q^2) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2\omega^{2n} M_{2n}^{(1)}(Q^2)$$

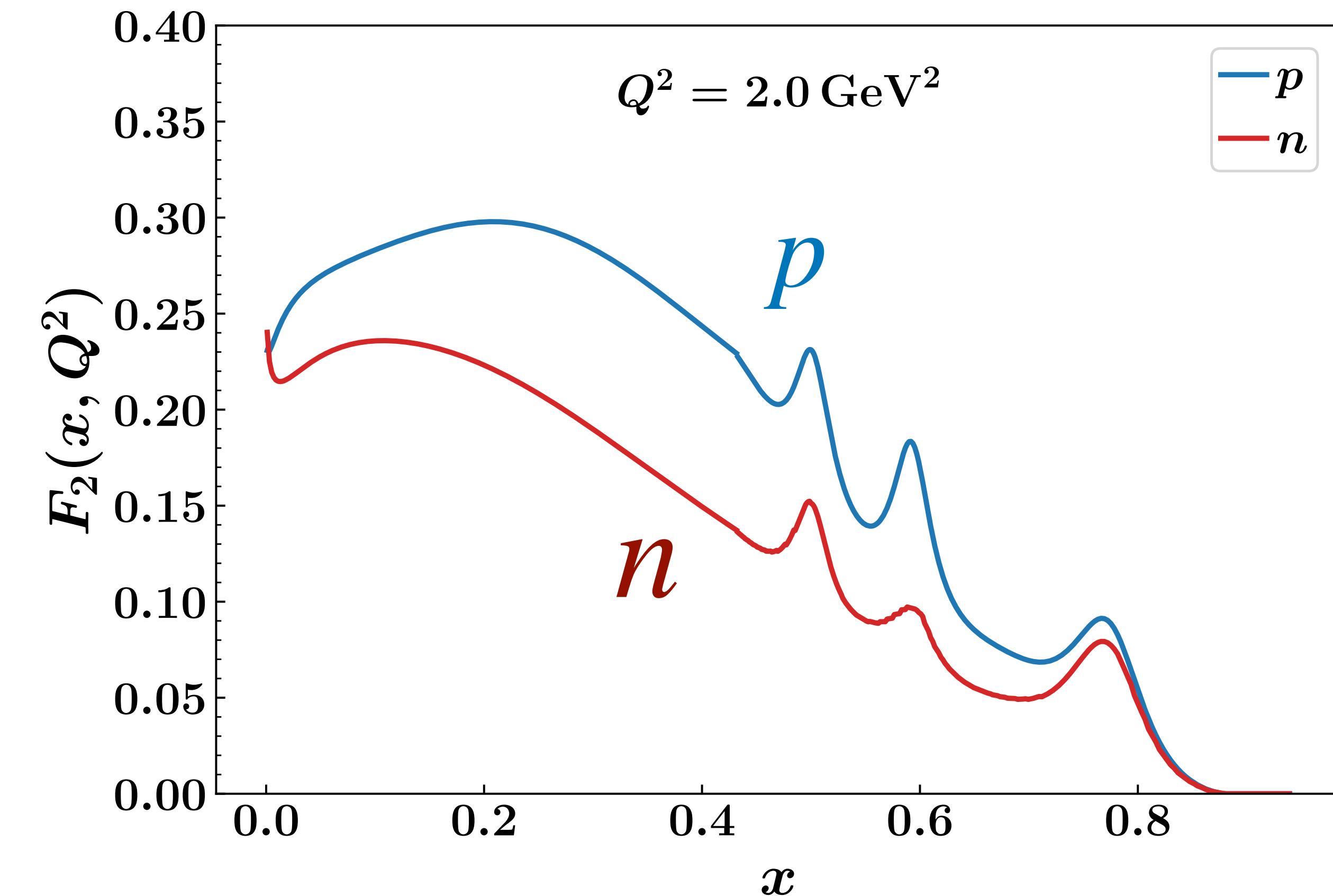
$$\mathcal{F}_2(\omega, Q^2) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 4\omega^{2n-1} \int_0^1 dx x^{2n-2} F_2(x, Q^2) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 4\omega^{2n-1} M_{2n}^{(2)}(Q^2)$$

$$\mathcal{F}_3(\omega, Q^2) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 4\omega^{2n-2} \int_0^1 dx x^{2n-2} F_3(x, Q^2) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 4\omega^{2n-2} M_{2n-1}^{(3)}(Q^2)$$

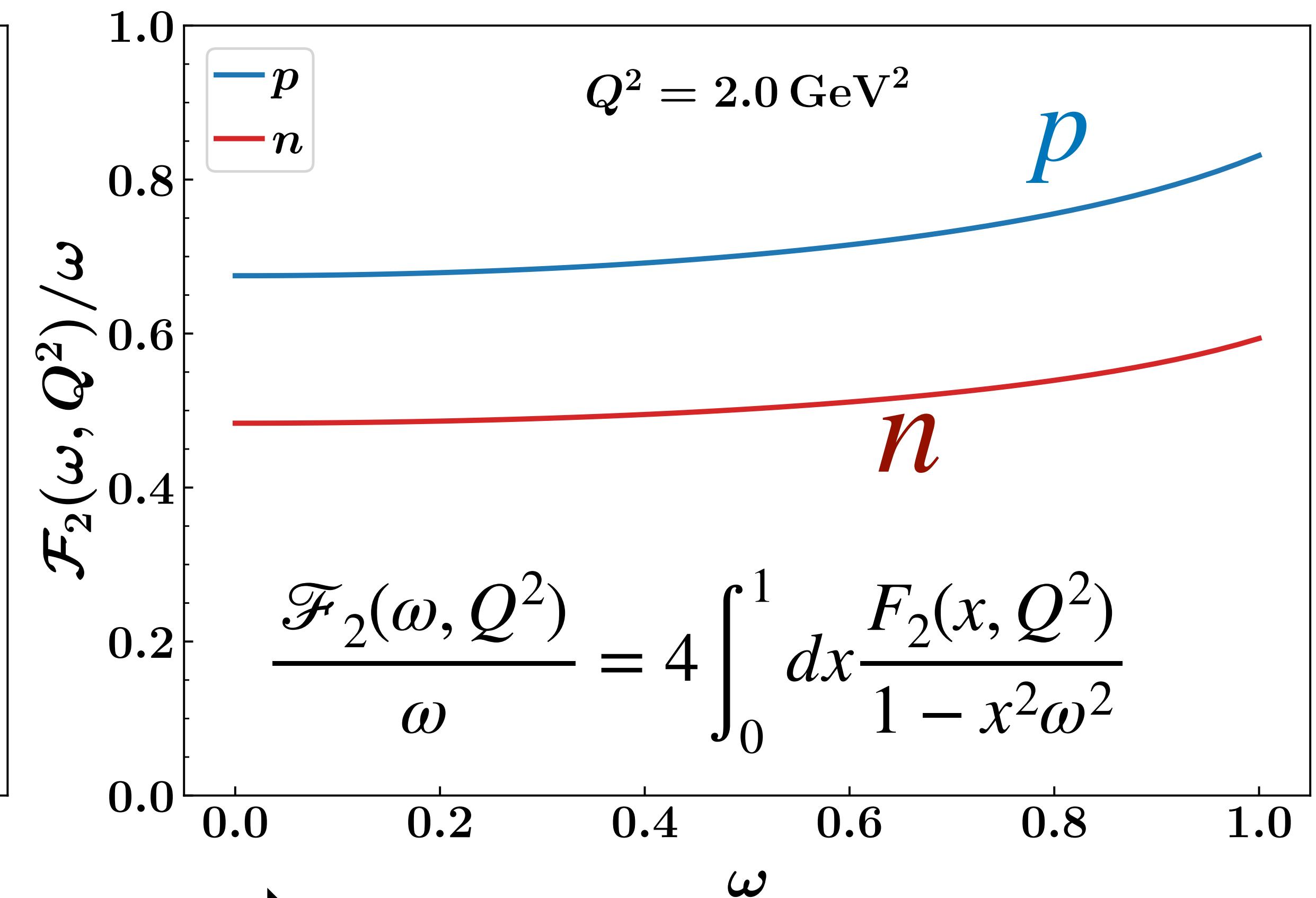
- Compton structure functions are given in terms of towers of physical Mellin moments

# Shape of the Compton Amplitude

Structure functions



Compton Amplitudes



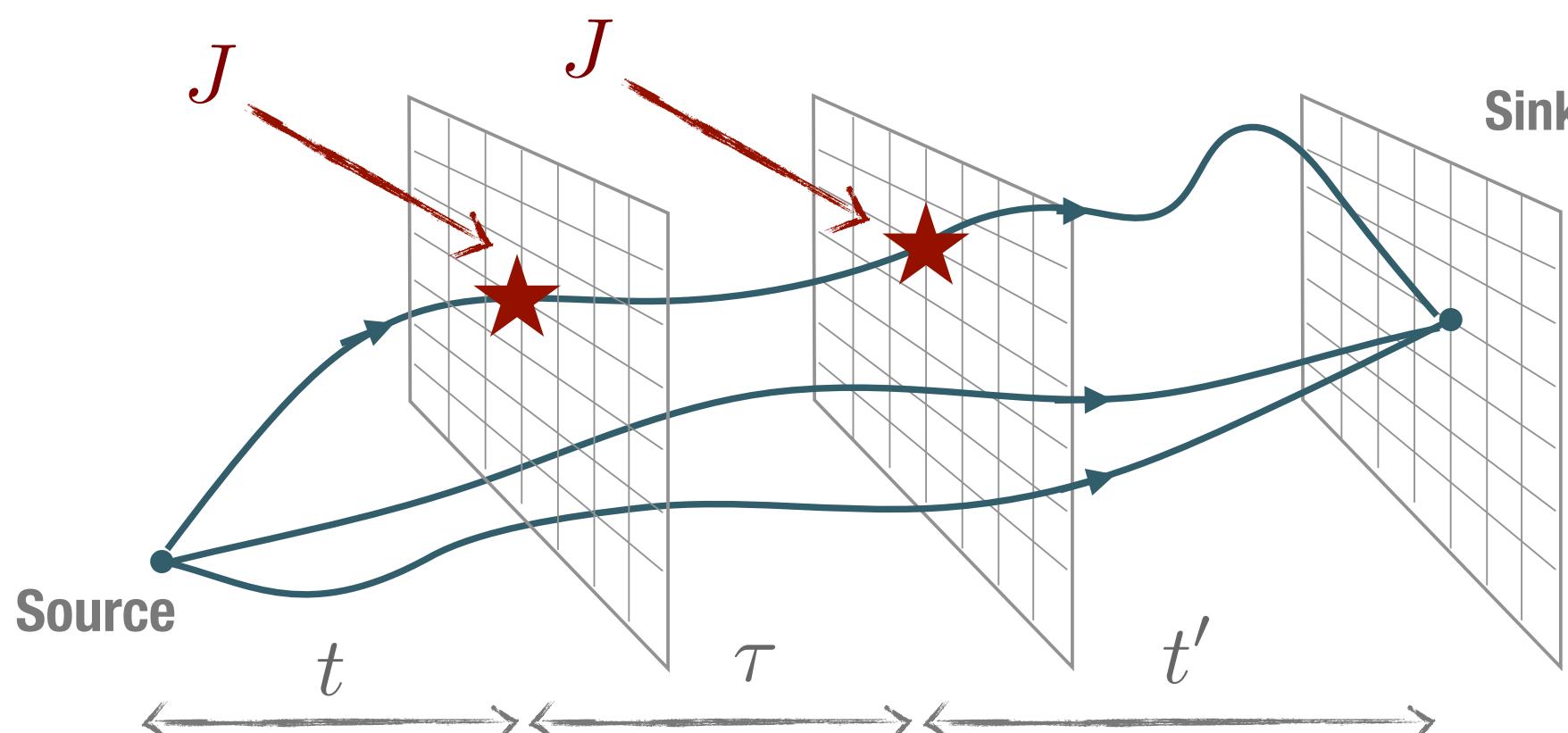
High-W: M. Arneodo et al. [NMC],  
PLB364, 107-115 (1995), [hep-ph/9509406]  
Low-W: M.E. Christy and P.E. Bosted,  
PRC81, 055213 (2010), [0712.3731]

dispersion relation

# Feynman–Hellmann

Modify the Euclidean QCD action, extract energy shifts:

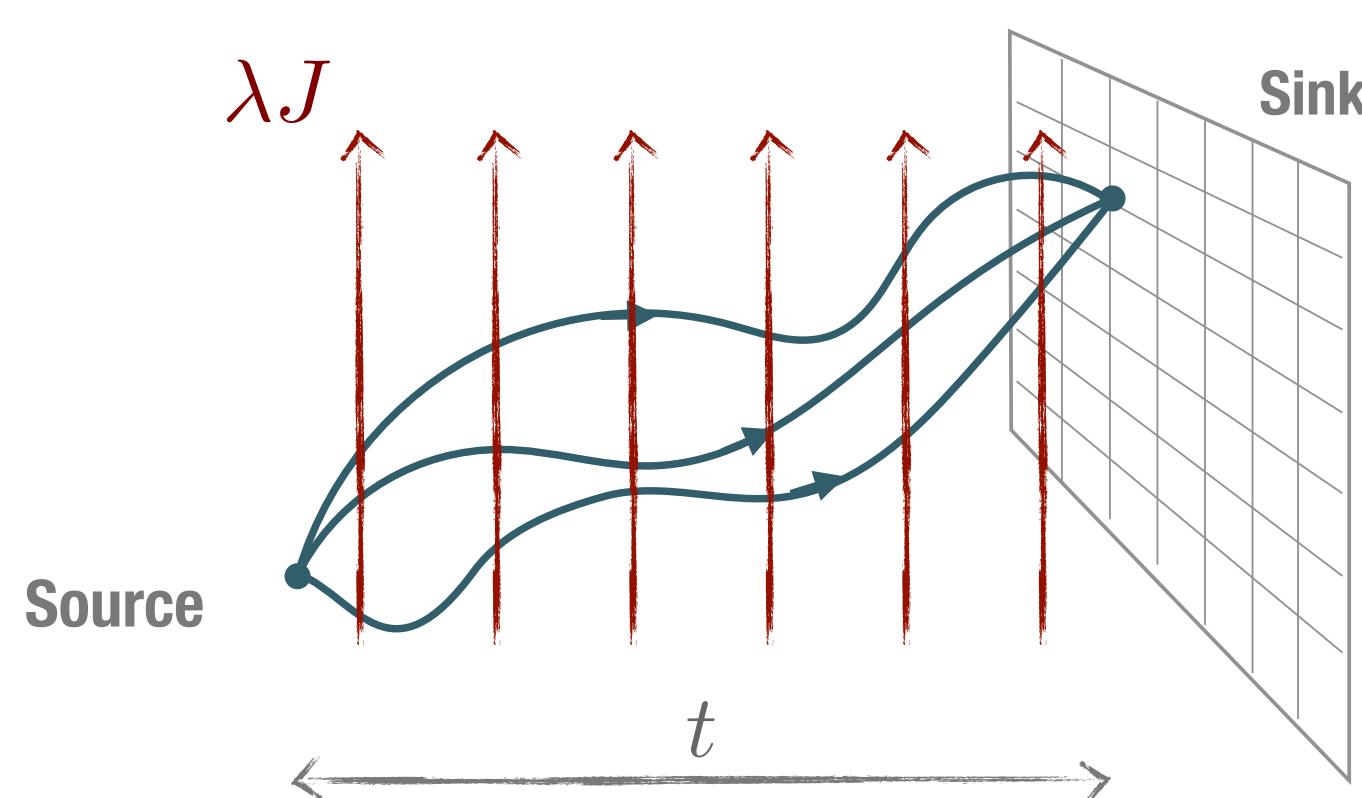
$$S \rightarrow S(\lambda) = S + \lambda \int d^4x \cos(q \cdot x) \bar{\psi}(x) \Gamma_\mu \psi(x) \quad \Gamma_\mu \in \{1, \gamma_\mu, \gamma_5 \gamma_\mu, \dots\}$$



- **4-pt functions**

$$t, t' \gg \frac{1}{\Delta E}, \quad \frac{\langle C_4(t, \tau, t') \rangle}{\langle C_2(t) \rangle \langle C_2(t') \rangle} \propto \langle N | J(\tau_E) J | N \rangle$$

$$\int_0^\infty d\tau_E \rightarrow \langle N | J J | N \rangle$$



- **Feynman—Hellmann**

$$t \gg \frac{1}{\Delta E}, \quad \left. \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial \lambda^2} \right|_{\lambda=0} \propto \langle N | J J | N \rangle$$

# Energy shifts

Isolate the 2nd-order energy shift

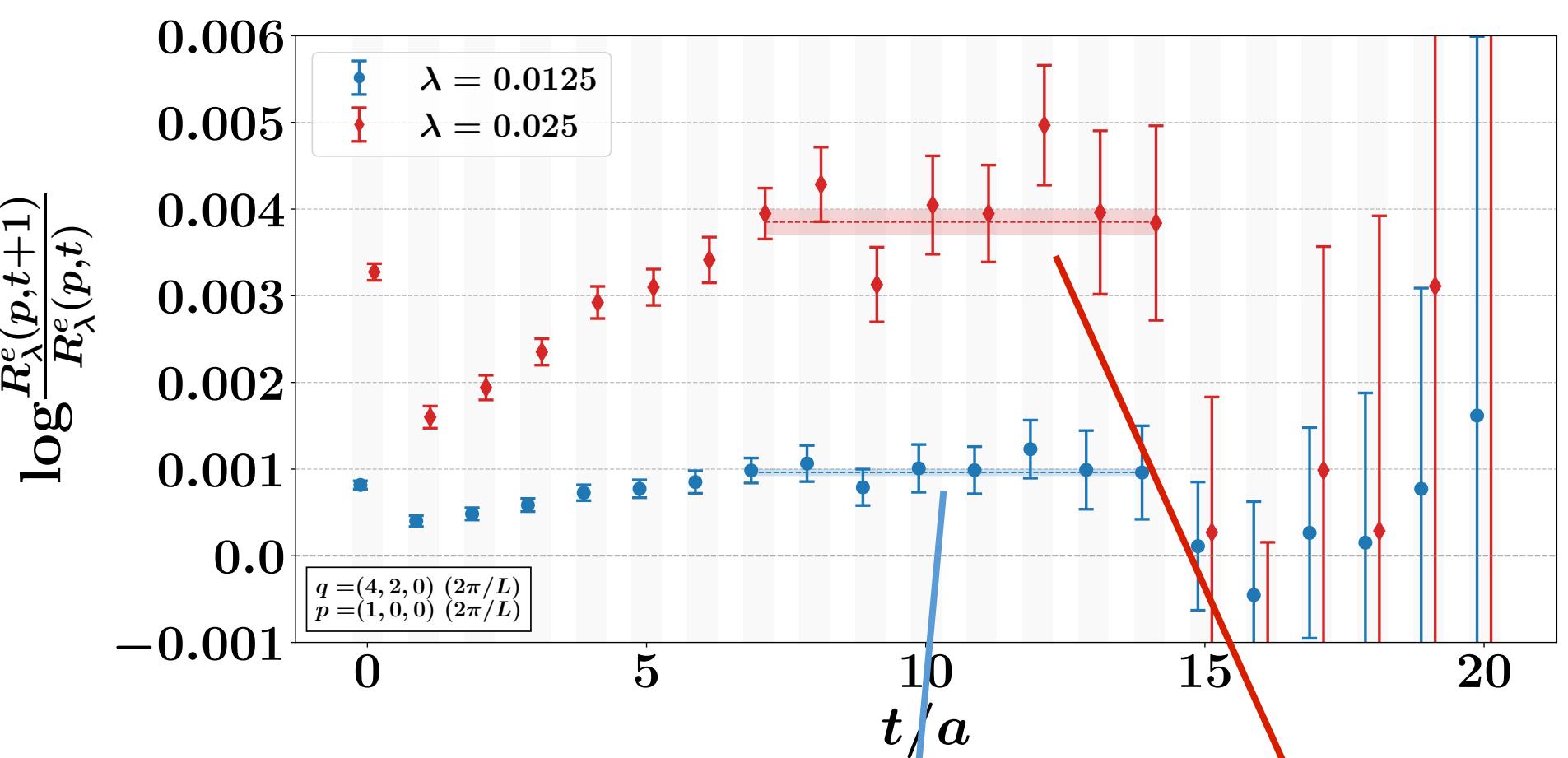
$$\begin{aligned} G_\lambda^{(2)}(\mathbf{p}; t) &\sim A_\lambda(\mathbf{p}) e^{-E_{N_\lambda}(\mathbf{p})t} \\ E_{N_\lambda}(\mathbf{p}) &= E_N(\mathbf{p}) + \lambda \frac{\partial E_{N_\lambda}(\mathbf{p})}{\partial \lambda} \Big|_{\lambda=0} + \frac{\lambda^2}{2!} \frac{\partial^2 E_{N_\lambda}(\mathbf{p})}{\partial^2 \lambda} \Big|_{\lambda=0} + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^3) \\ &= E_N(\mathbf{p}) + \Delta E_N^o(\mathbf{p}) + \Delta E_N^e(\mathbf{p}) \end{aligned}$$

Ratio of perturbed to unperturbed  
Euclidean 2-pt correlation functions

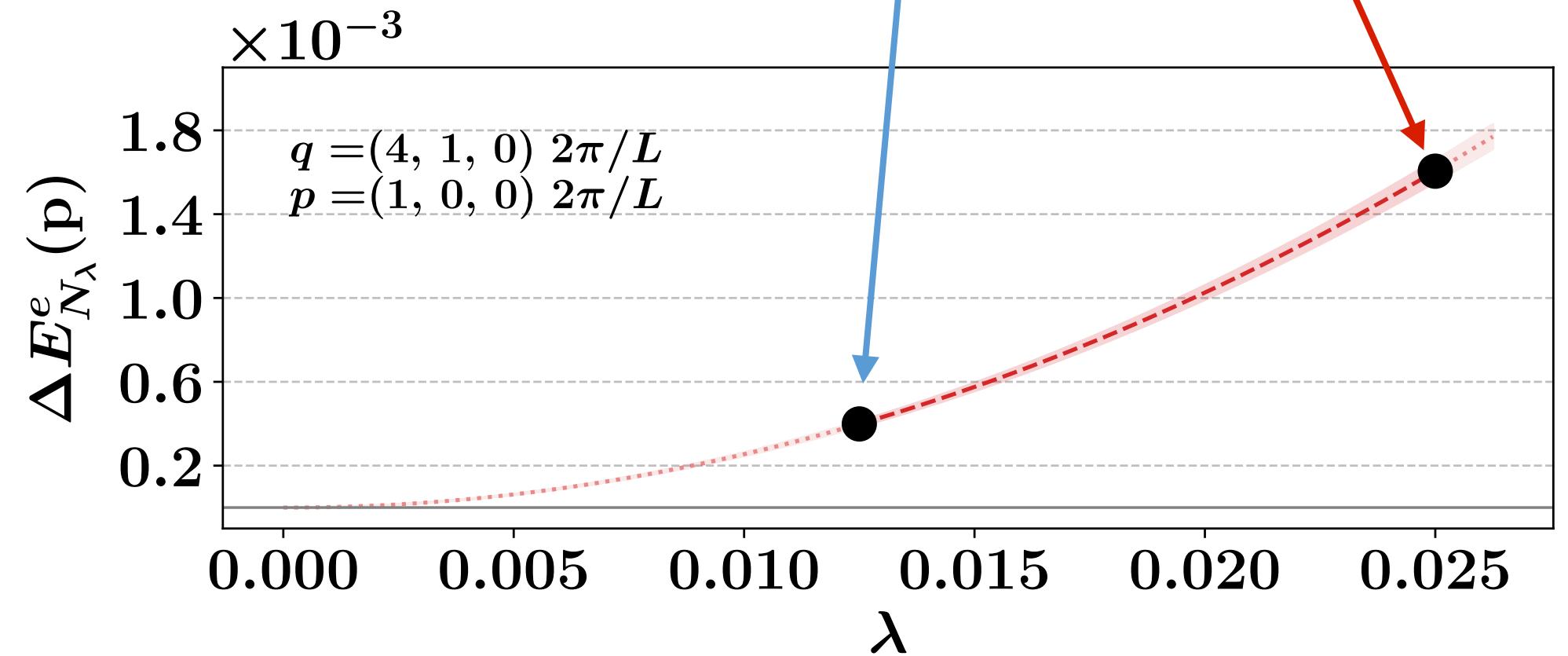
$$\begin{aligned} R_\lambda^e(\mathbf{p}, t) &\equiv \frac{\langle G_{+\lambda}^{(2)}(\mathbf{p}, t) \rangle \langle G_{-\lambda}^{(2)}(\mathbf{p}, t) \rangle}{(\langle G^{(2)}(\mathbf{p}, t) \rangle)^2} \\ &\xrightarrow{t \gg 0} A_\lambda(\mathbf{p}) e^{-2\Delta E_{N_\lambda}^e(\mathbf{p})t} \end{aligned}$$

$\langle \dots \rangle \equiv$  ensemble average,  
statistical uncertainty  
from a bootstrap procedure

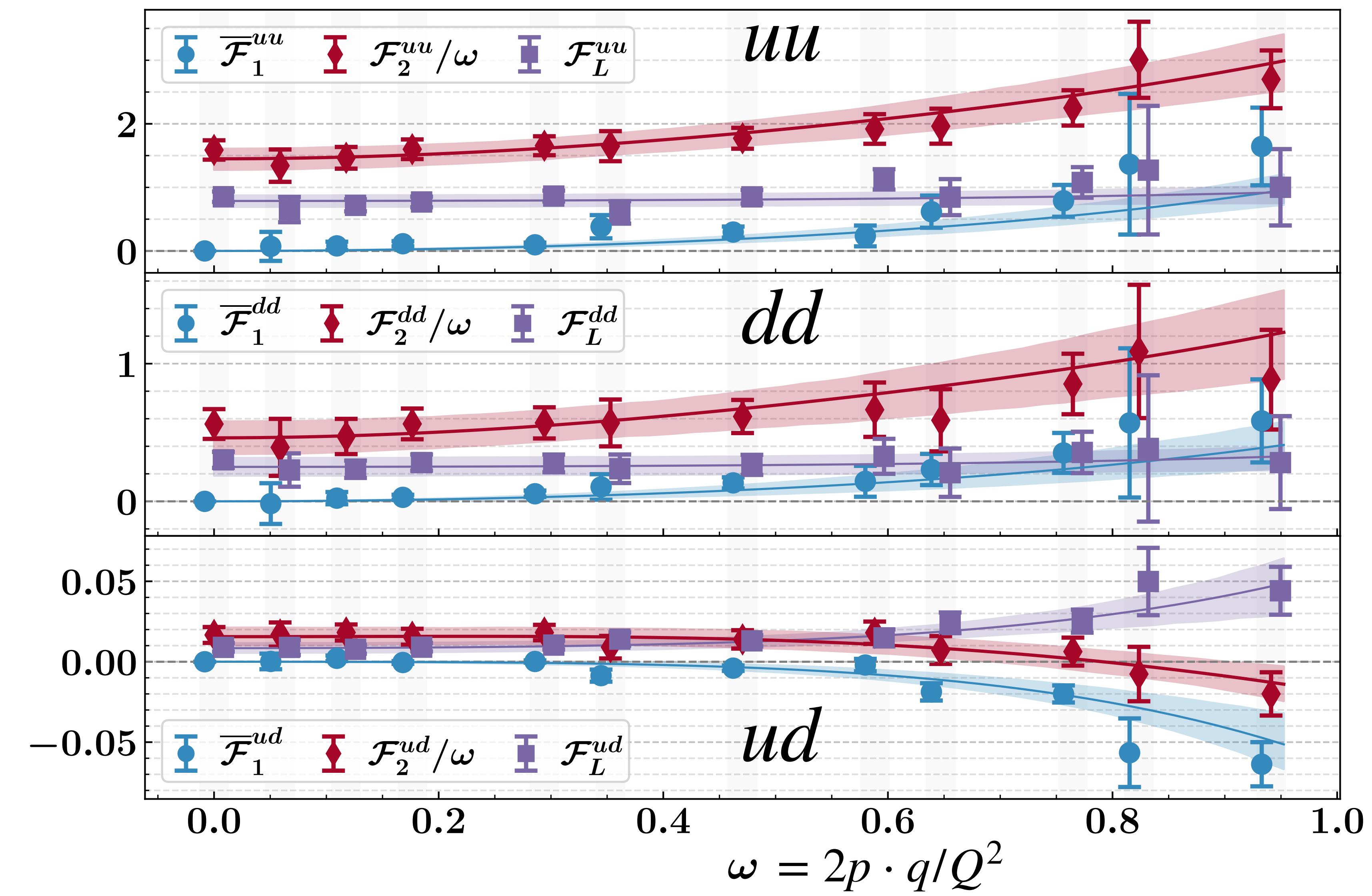
- Extract energy shifts for each  $\lambda$



- Get the 2nd order derivative



# Compton Structure Functions

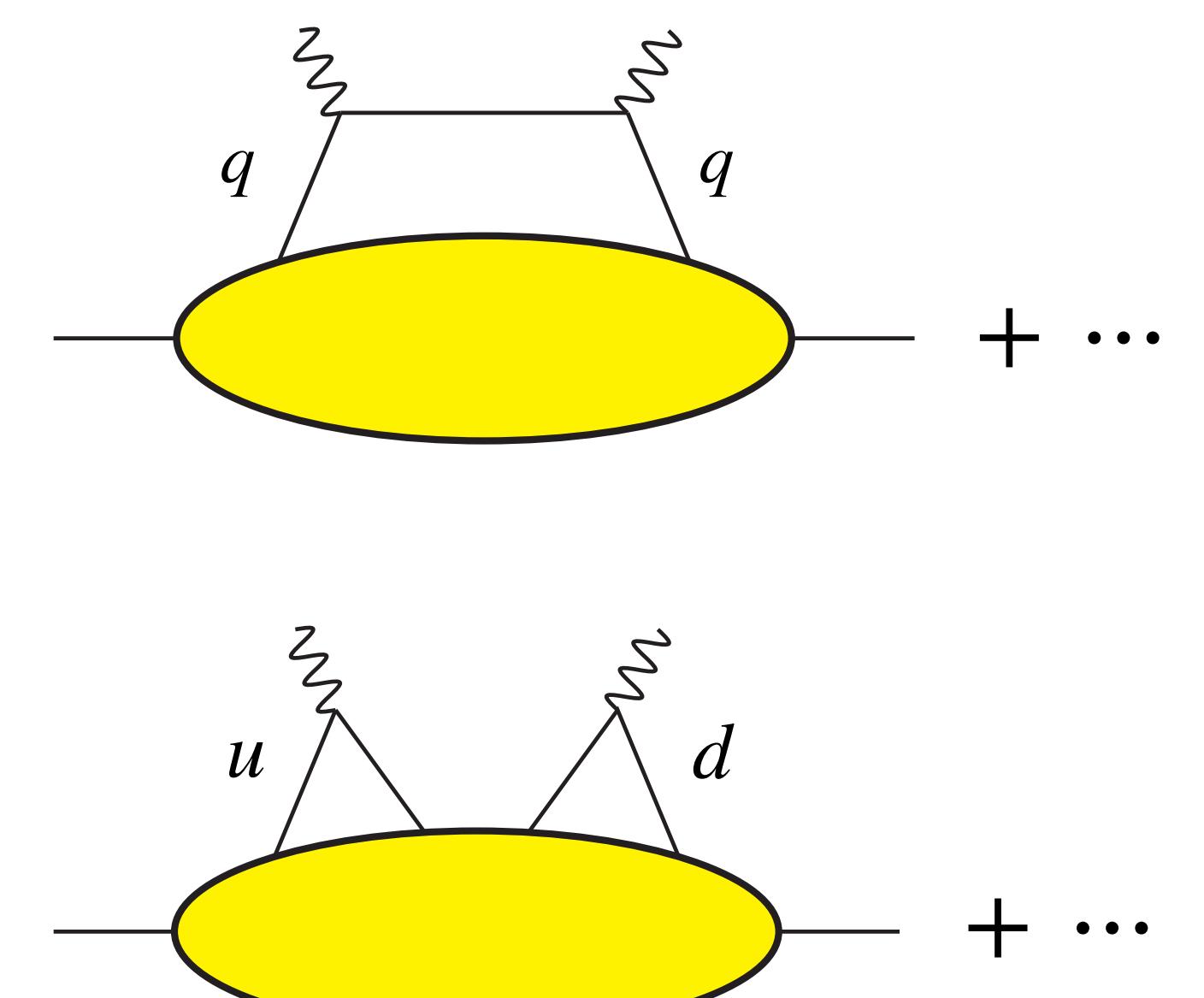


48<sup>3</sup>x96, 2+1 flavour

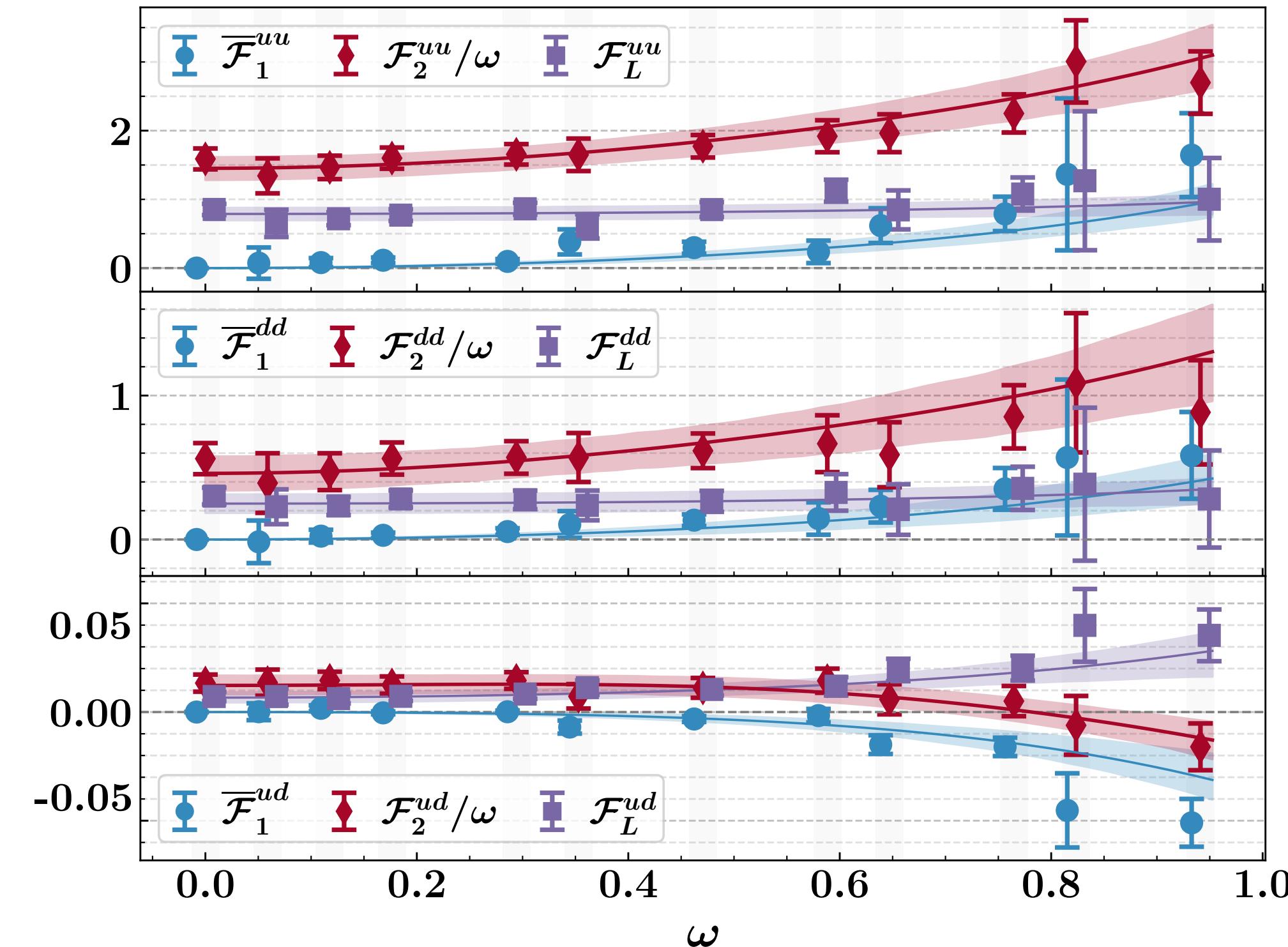
$a = 0.068$  fm

$m_\pi \sim 420$  MeV

$Q^2 = 4.9$  GeV<sup>2</sup>



# Moments | Fit details



- Bayesian approach by MCMC method

Sample the moments from Uniform priors  
*individually for  $u$ - and  $d$ -quark*

$$M_2(Q^2) \sim \mathcal{U}(0, 1)$$

$$M_{2n}(Q^2) \sim \mathcal{U}(0, M_{2n-2}(Q^2))$$

- Fit to an expansion of Mellin moments, e.g.

$$\bar{\mathcal{F}}_1^{qq}(\omega, Q^2) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2\omega^{2n} M_{2n}^{(1)}(Q^2)$$

- Enforce monotonic decreasing of moments for  $u$  and  $d$  only, not necessarily true for  $u-d$

$$M_2^{(1)}(Q^2) \geq M_4^{(1)}(Q^2) \geq \dots \geq M_{2n}^{(1)}(Q^2) \geq \dots \geq 0$$

We truncate at  $n = 4$  [ $\mathcal{O}(\omega^8)$ ], inclusive

No dependence to truncation order for  $3 \leq n \leq 10$

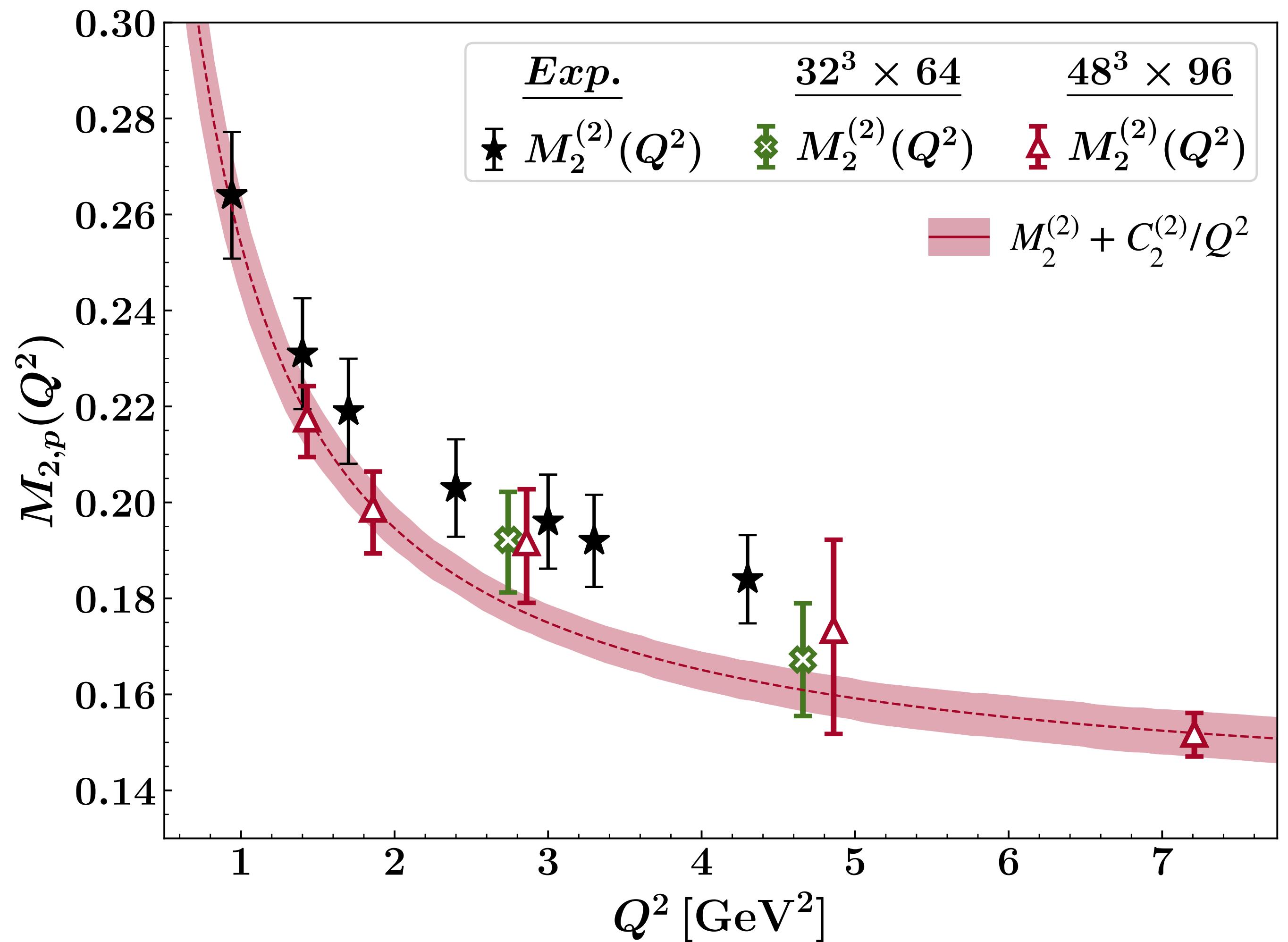
Normal Likelihood function,  $\exp(-\chi^2/2)$

$$\chi^2 = \sum_i \frac{(\bar{\mathcal{F}}_i - \bar{\mathcal{F}}^{obs}(\omega_i))^2}{\sigma_i^2}$$

stat. uncertainty  
via bootstrap analysis

# Moments | Power Corrections

- Unique ability to study the  $Q^2$  dependence of moments!

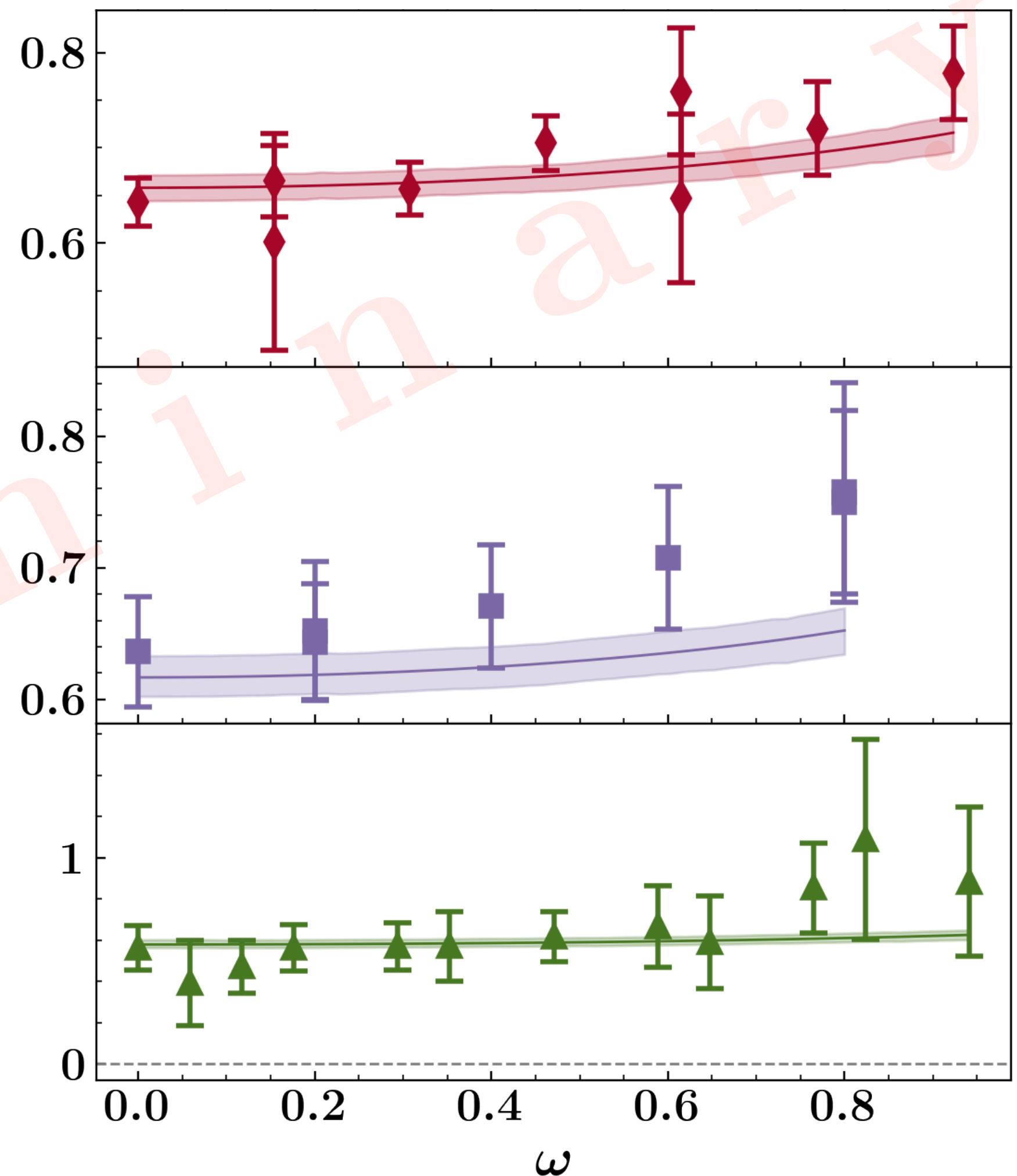
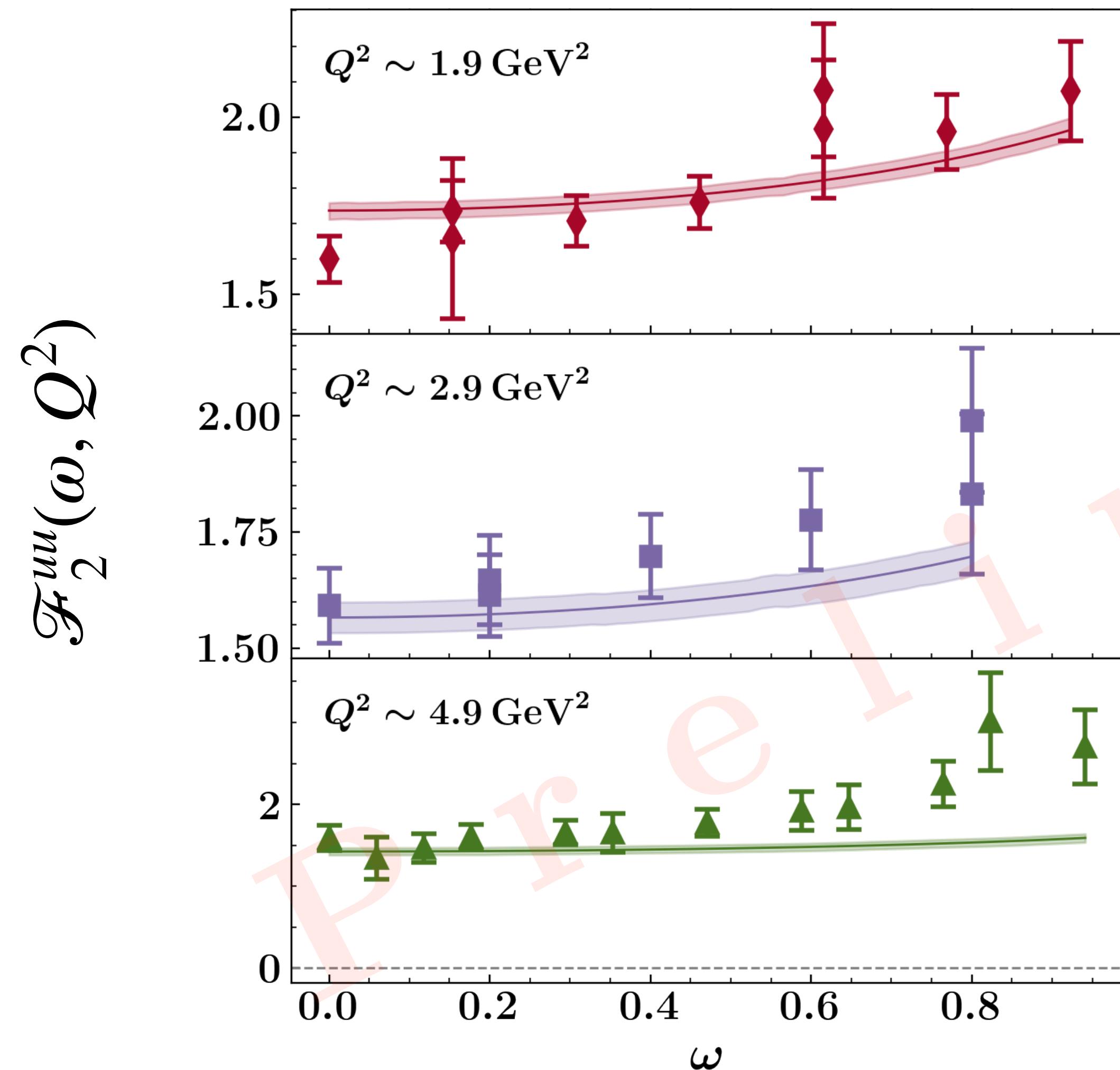


- Power corrections below  $\sim 3\text{ GeV}^2$ ?
- Naive modelling via:
- $M_2^{(2)}(Q^2) = M_2^{(2)} + C_2^{(2)}/Q^2$
- $C_2^{(2)}$  is a catch all correction term
- Can we distinguish
  - Target mass corrections,
  - Elastic ( $x = 1$ ),
  - $\ln Q^2$  scaling, and
  - genuine higher twist contributions?

★ Exp  $M_2^{(2)}$ : C. S. Armstrong, R. Ent, C. E. Keppel, S. Liuti, G. Niculescu, and I. Niculescu, Phys. Rev. D 63, 094008 (2001), arXiv:hep-ph/0104055.

# $\mathcal{F}_2$ | Global fit

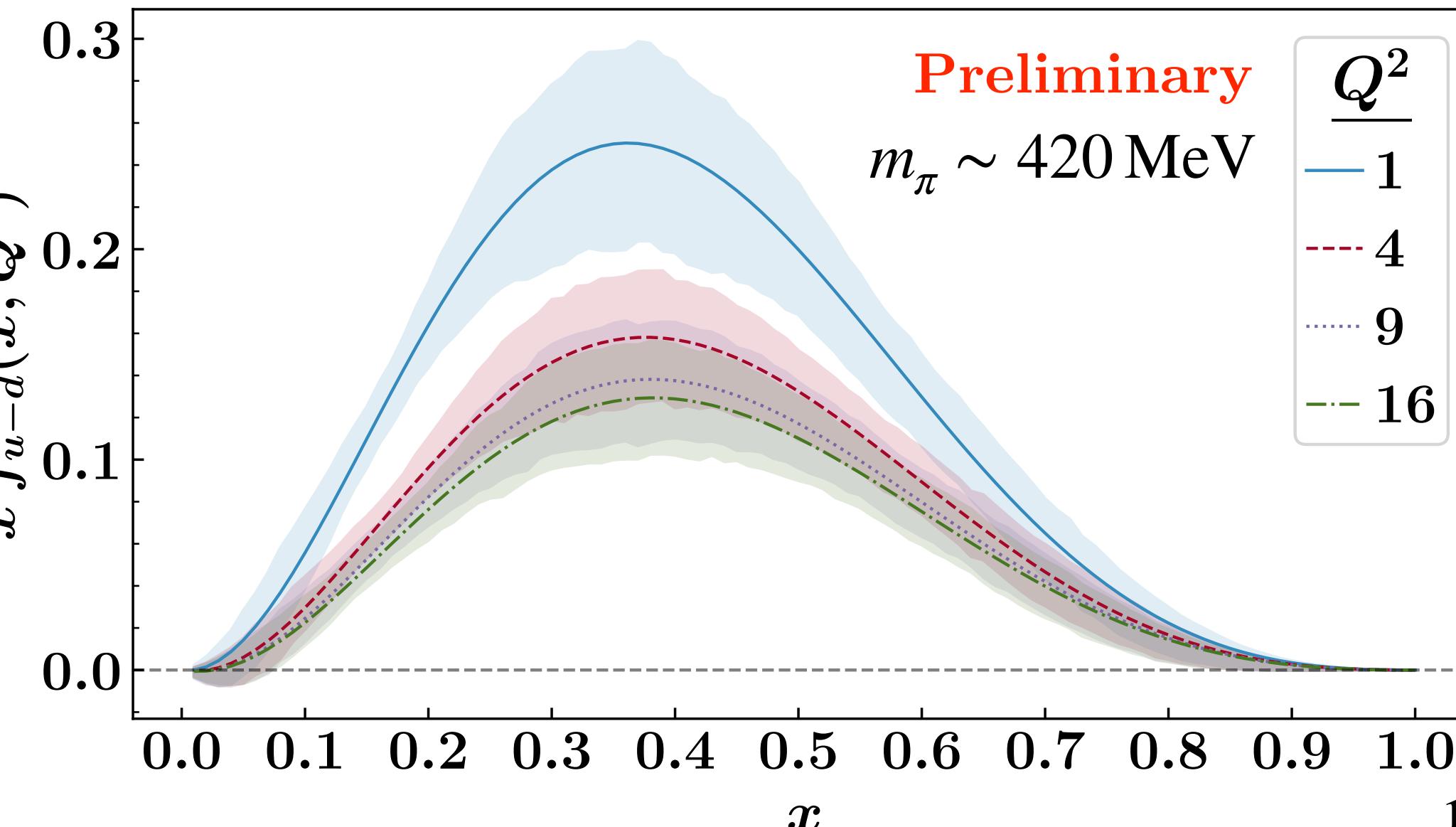
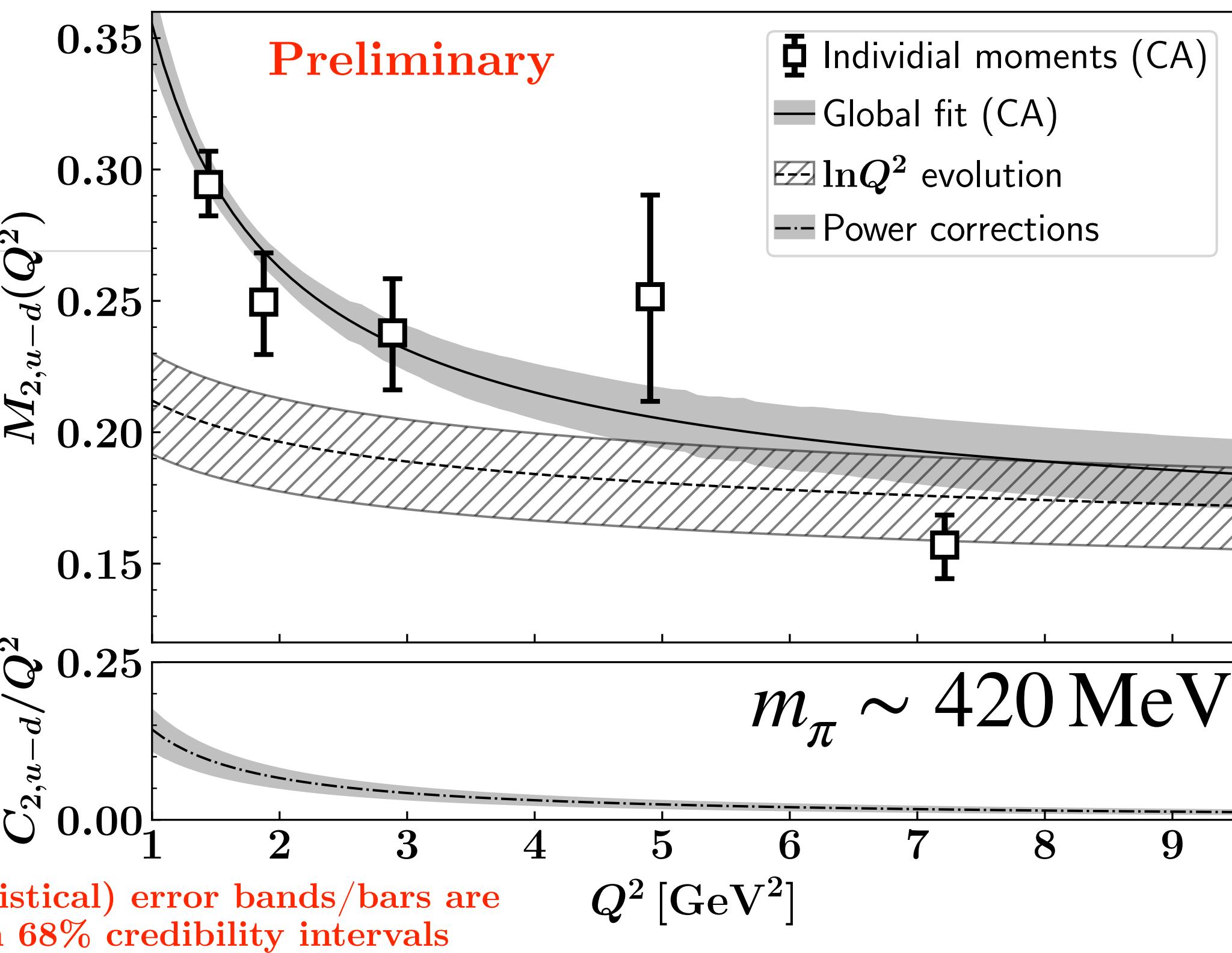
- Can we perform a global fit in  $Q^2$  to all our Compton amplitude results?



$\mathcal{F}_2^{dd}(\omega, Q^2)$

# $\mathcal{F}_2$ | Global fit

- fit to  $u_V$  and  $d_V$  quarks; get the non-singlet  $u - d$
  - Assume a parametric form for the SFs w/HT
  - $$f_q(x, Q^2) = a_q x^{b_q} (1 - x)^{c_q} \left( 1 + \frac{d_q x^{e_q} (1 - x)^{f_q}}{Q^2} \right)$$
  - $a_q, b_q, c_q, d_q, e_q, f_q$  are free fit parameters,  $q = [u, d]$
  - $a_q$  is normalised to lowest even moment,  $M_{2,q}$
  - Input  $f_q(x, Q^2)$  to the dispersion relation:  
Compton structure function is described by a generalised hypergeometric series,
  - $$\frac{\mathcal{F}_2(\omega, Q^2)}{4\omega} = M_2(Q^2) \sum_{n=1}^N \left( A_{2n}(b, c, Q^2) + \frac{C_{2n}(b, c, d, e, f, Q^2)}{Q^2} \right) \omega^{2n-2}$$
- $Q_0^2 = 4 \text{ GeV}^2$
- $A_{2n}, C_{2n}$  are known functions  
non-singlet  $\ln Q^2$  evolution at LO embedded in  $A_{2n}, C_{2n}$

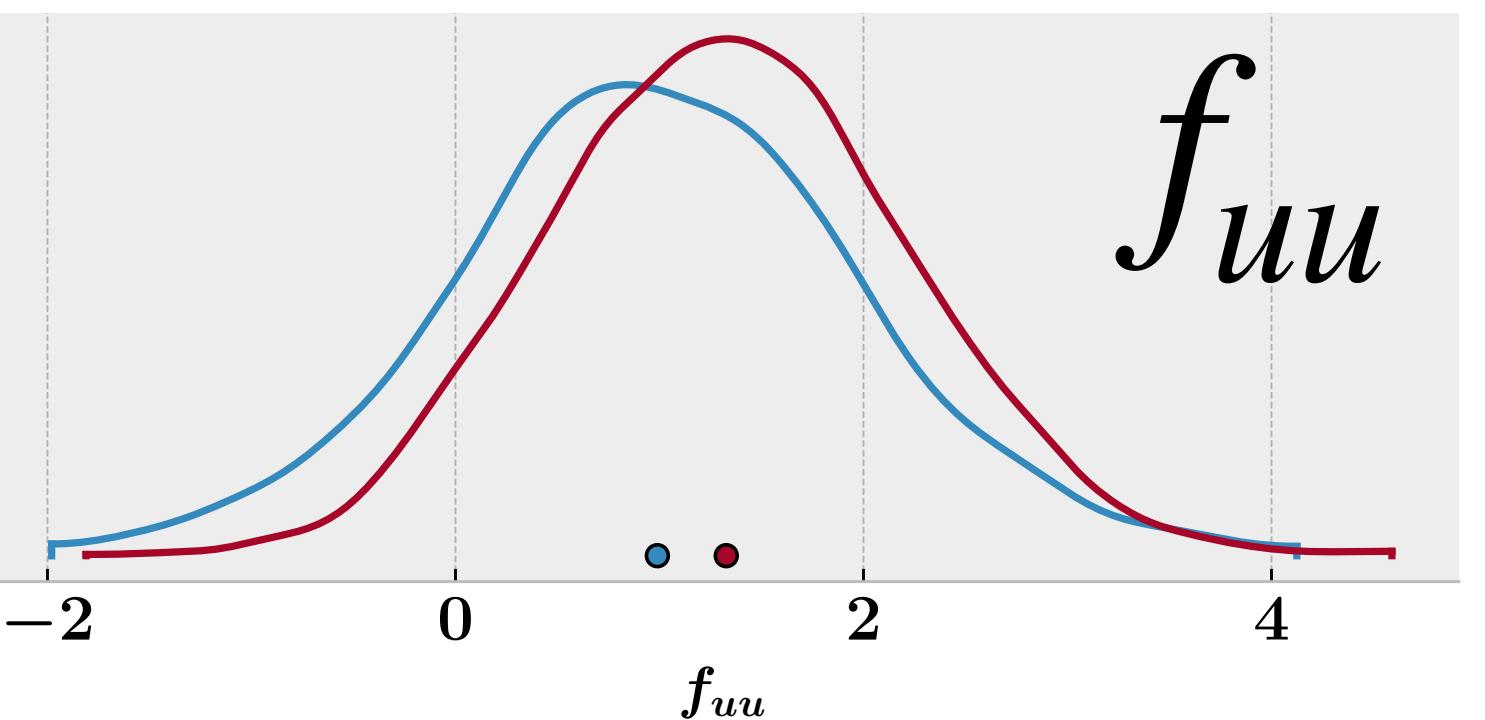
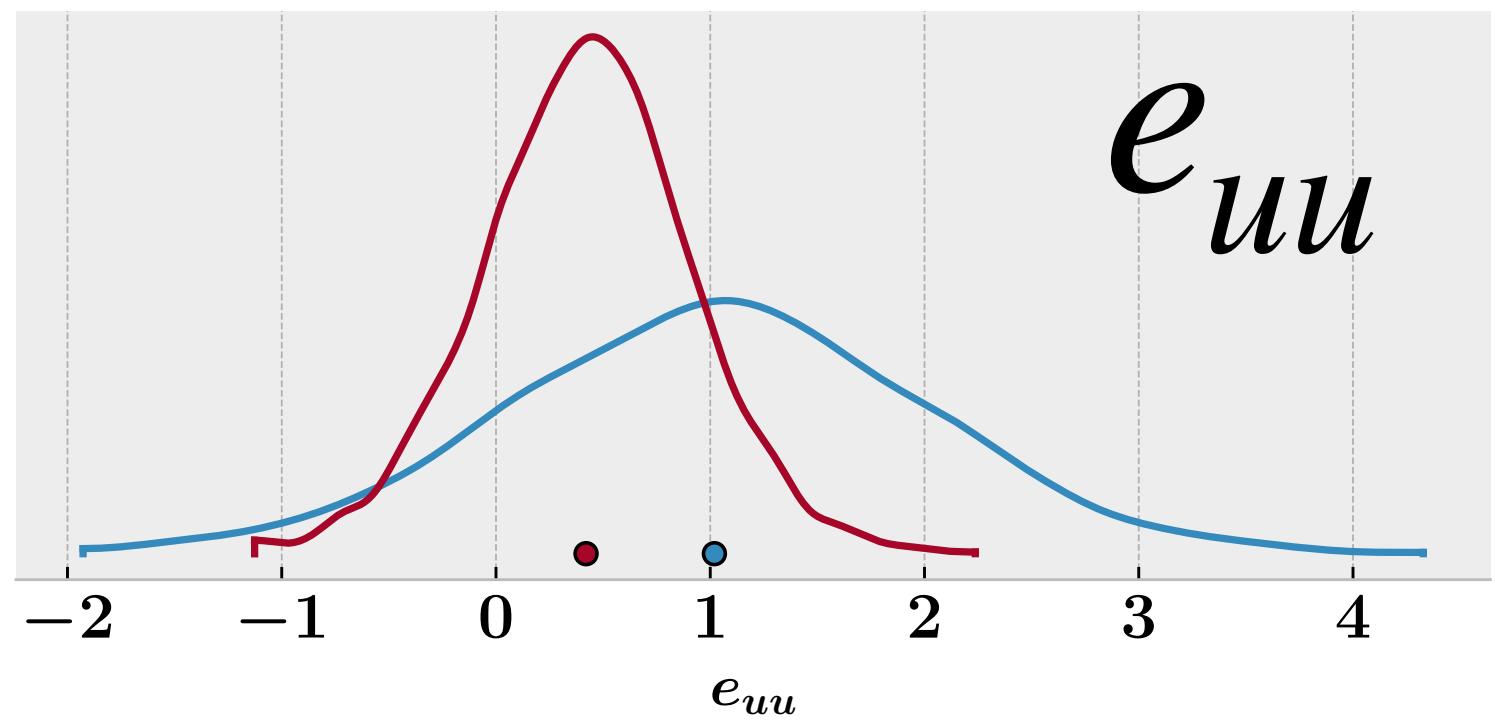
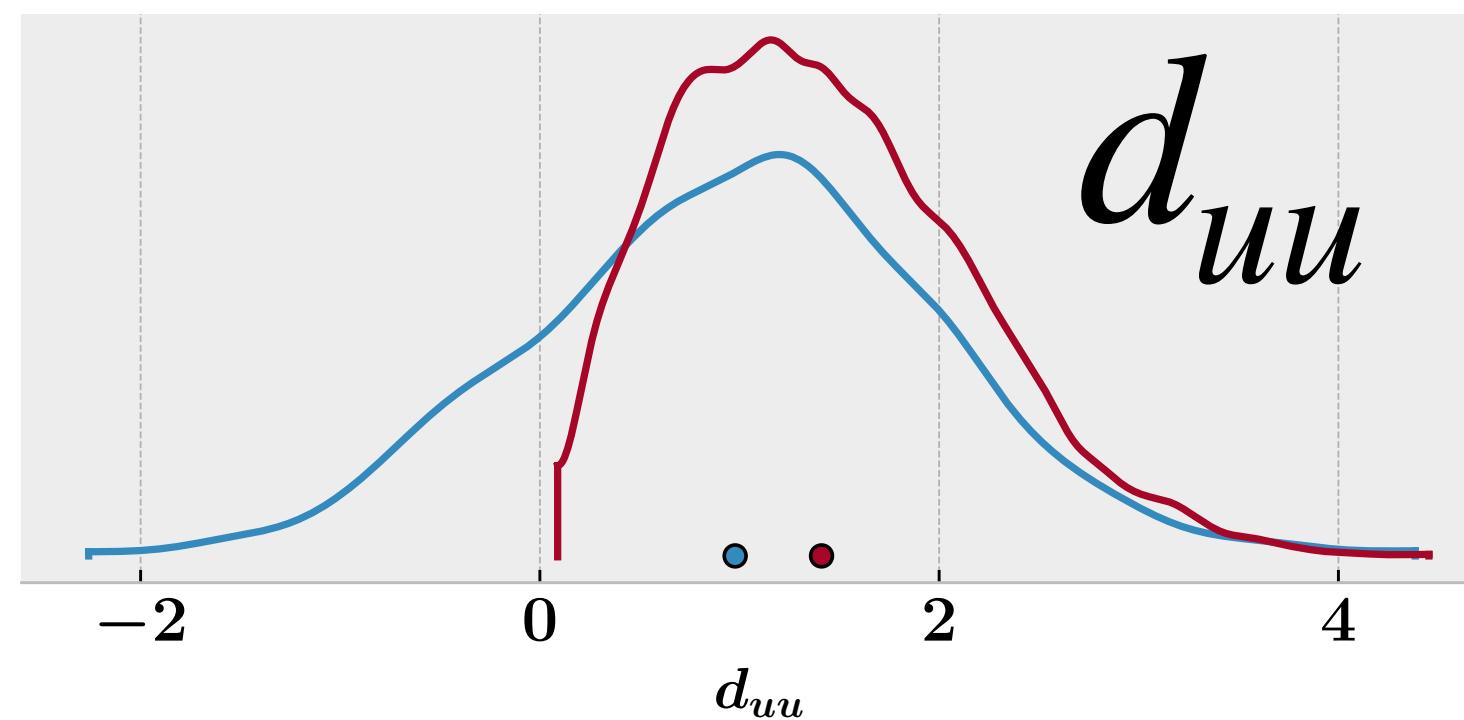
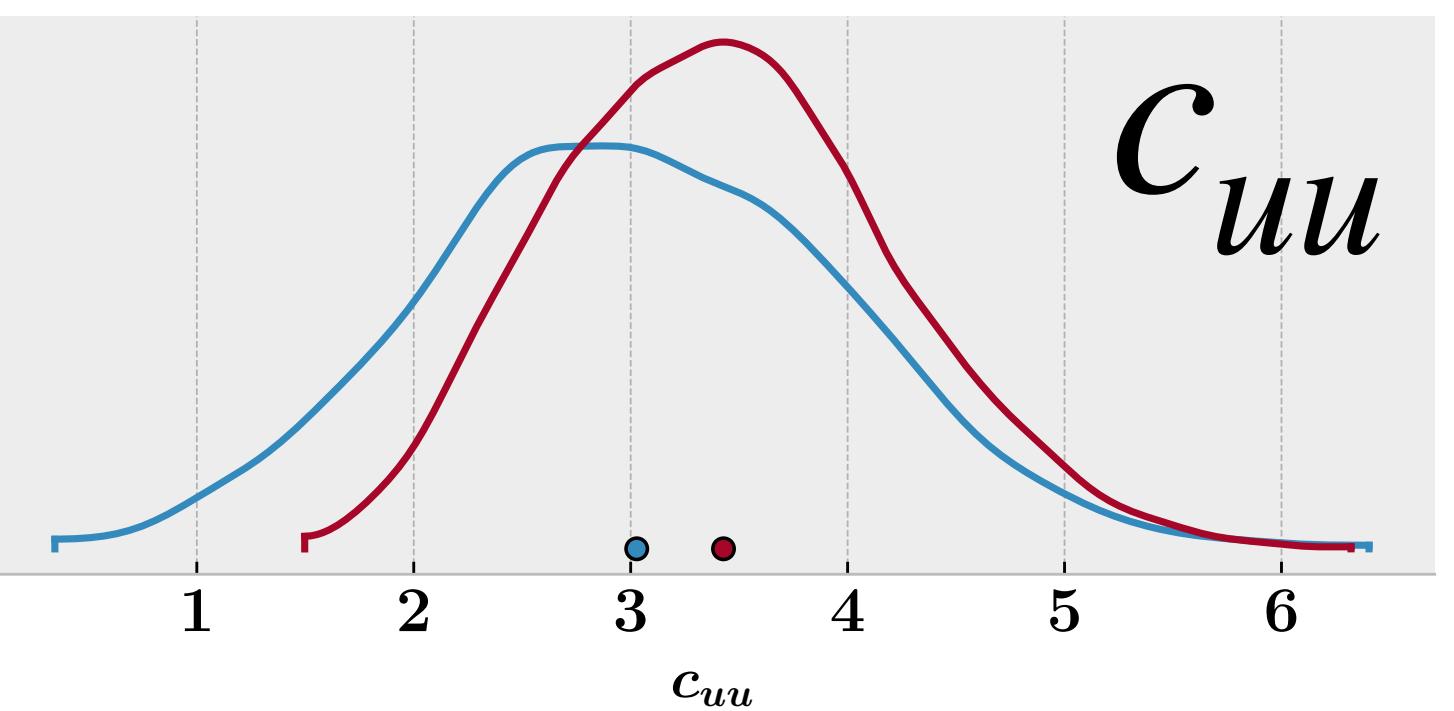
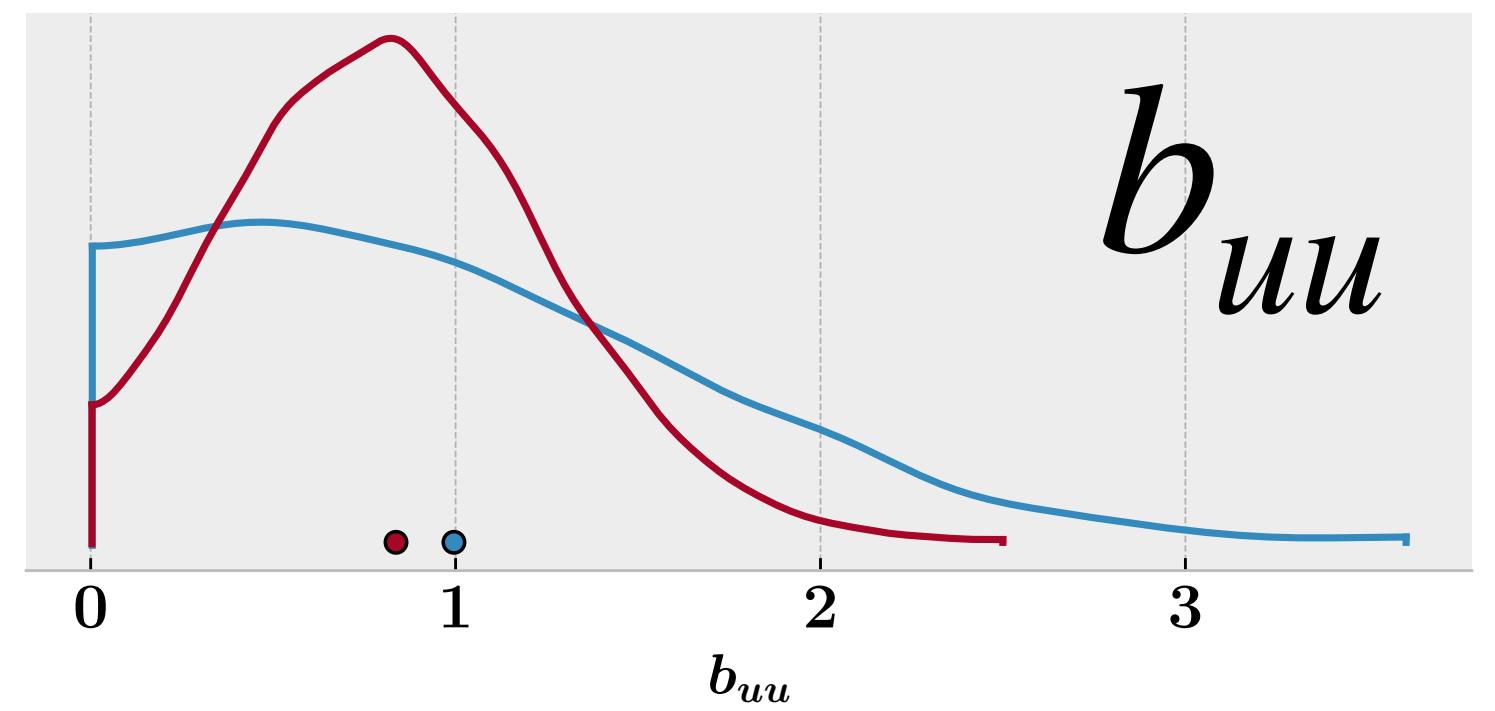
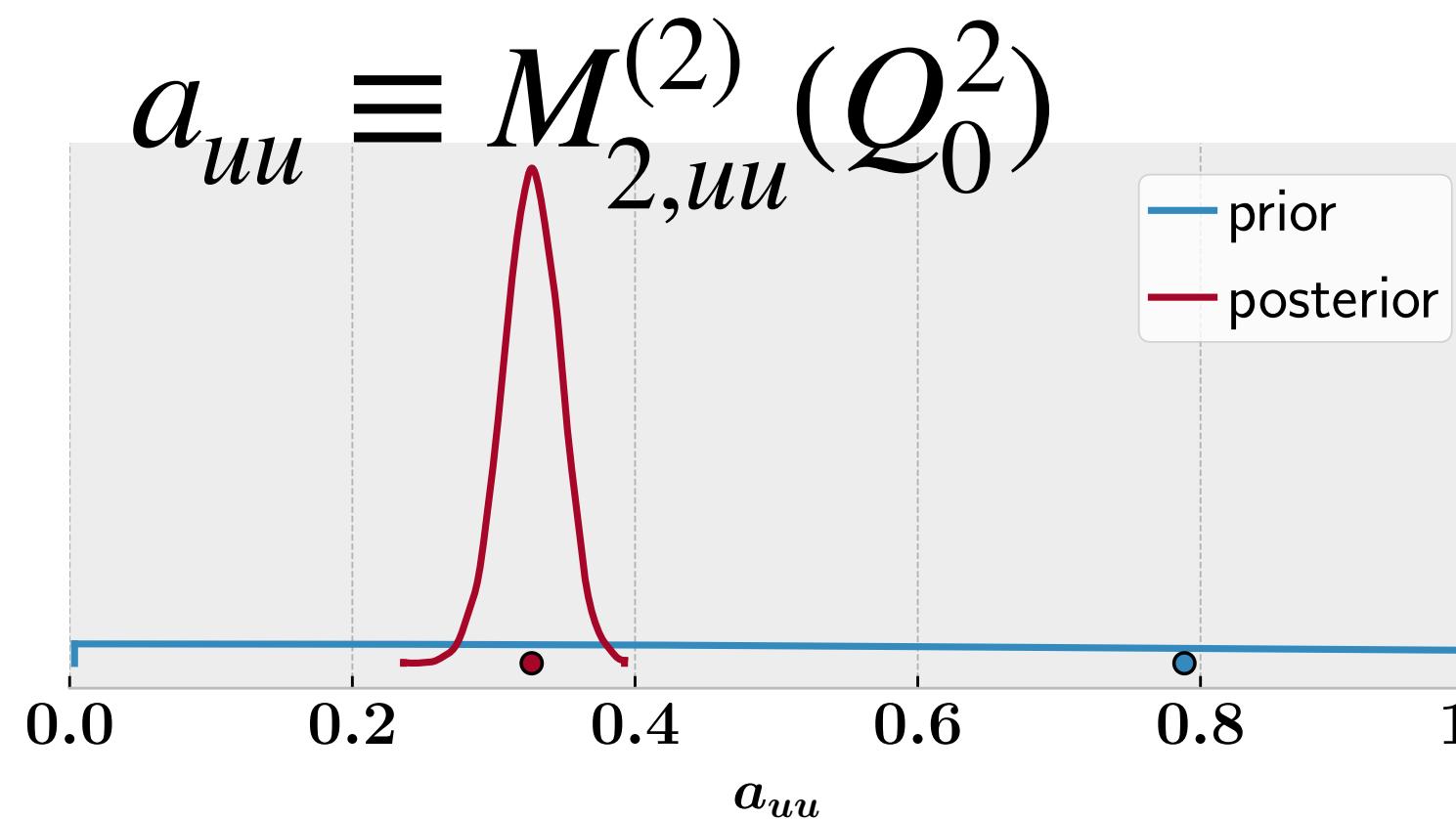


# $\mathcal{F}_2$ | Bayesian Priors / Posteriors

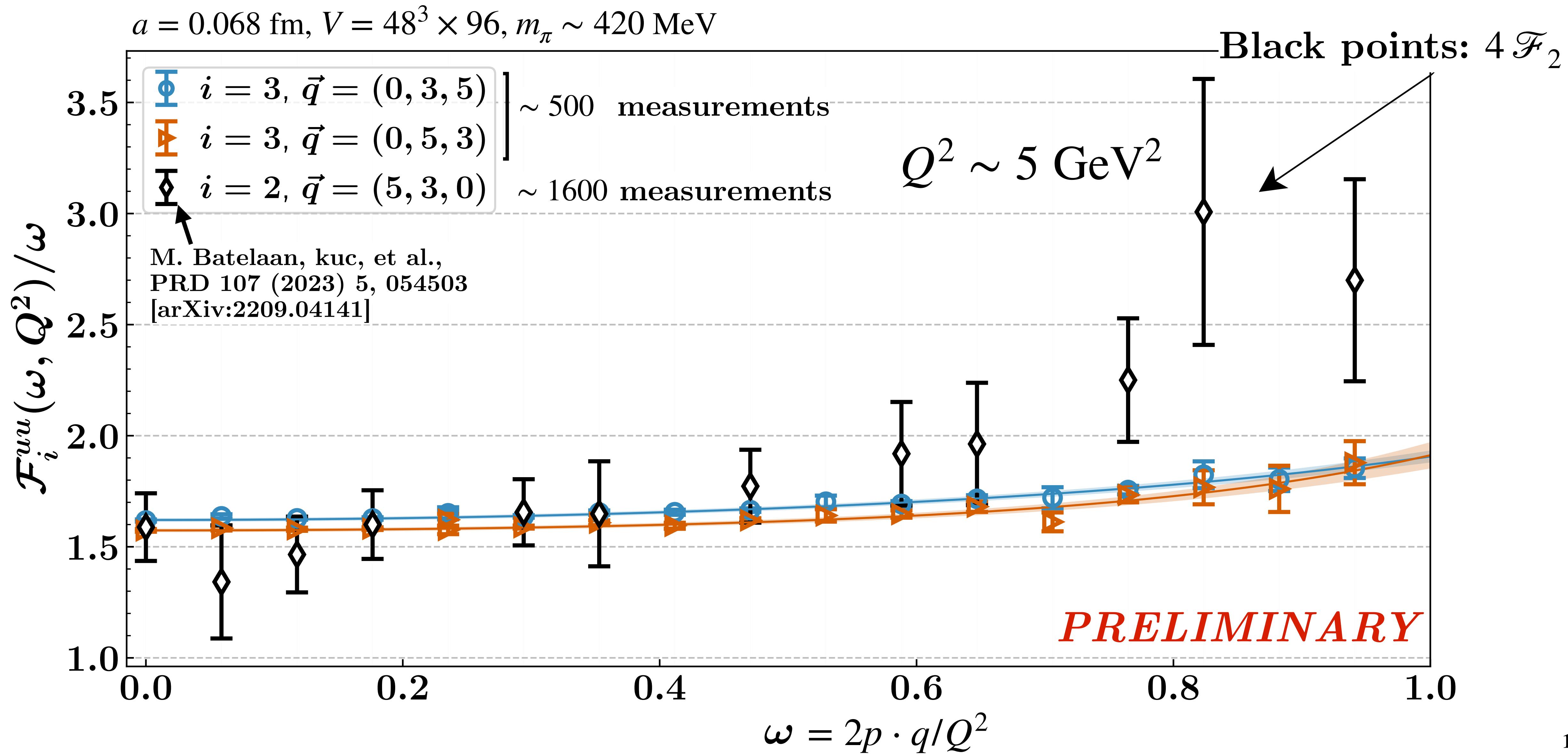
- Constrain the parameter space via [priors](#)
- Posteriors (except for  $a_{uu}$ ) are not unique

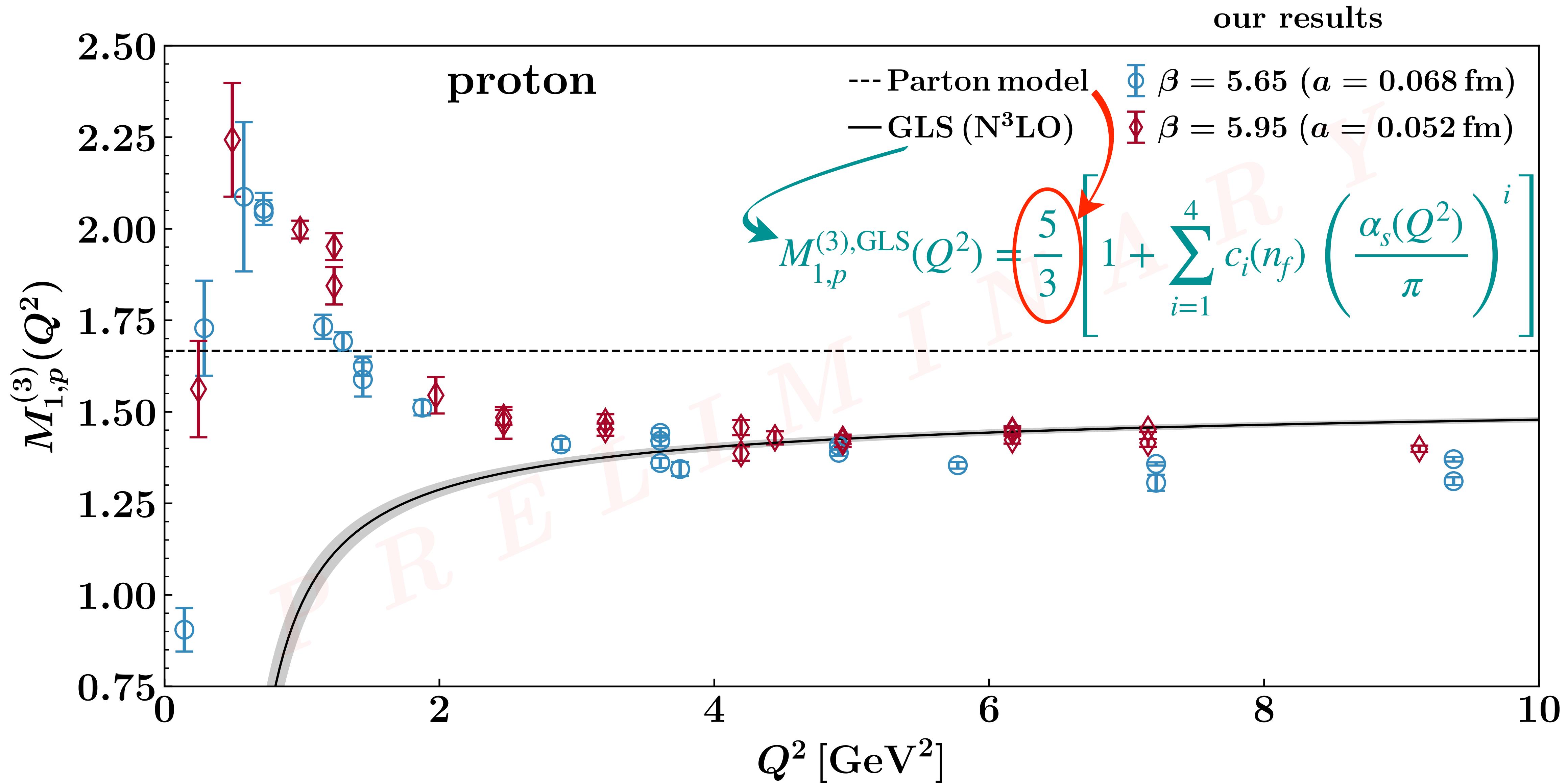
parametrisation

$$f_q(x, Q^2) = a_q x^{b_q} (1-x)^{c_q} \left( 1 + \frac{d_q x^{e_q} (1-x)^{f_q}}{Q^2} \right)$$



# $\mathcal{F}_3^{\gamma Z}$ | Parity-odd structure function





# $\mathcal{F}_3^{\gamma Z}$

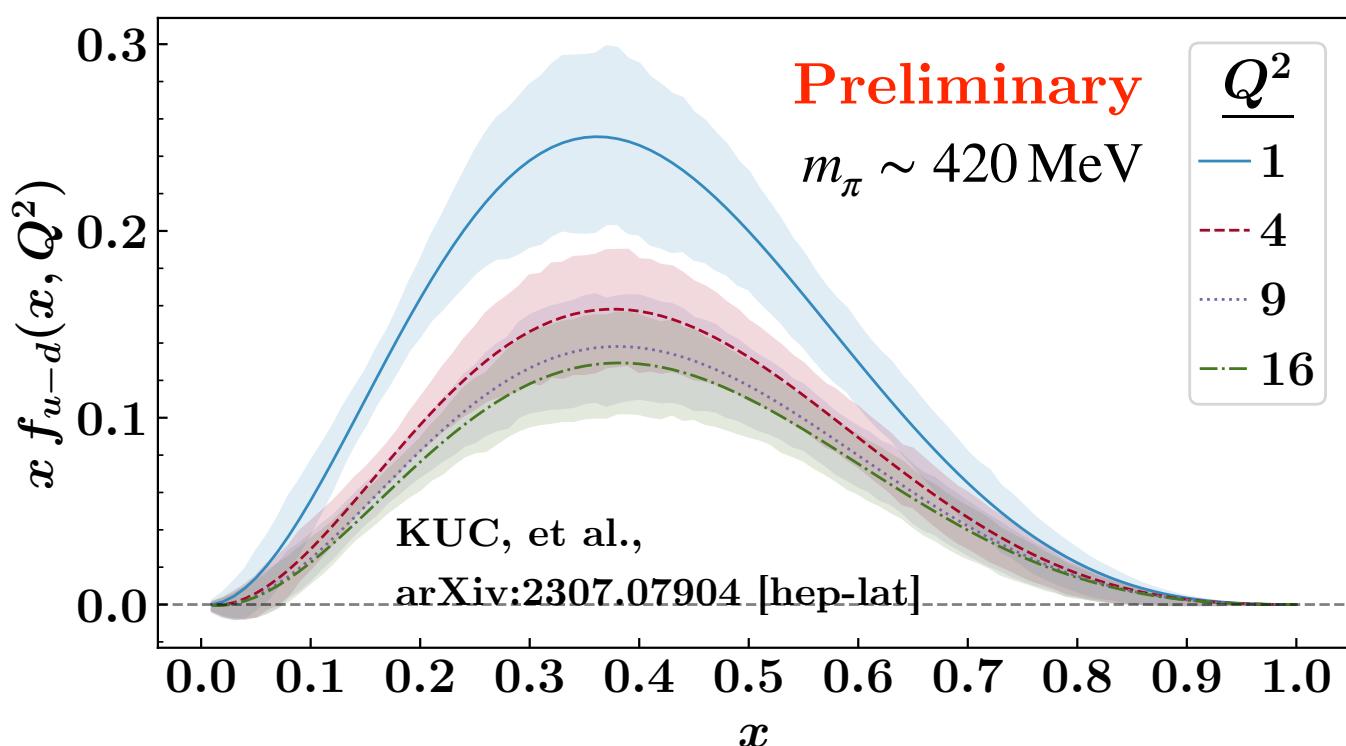
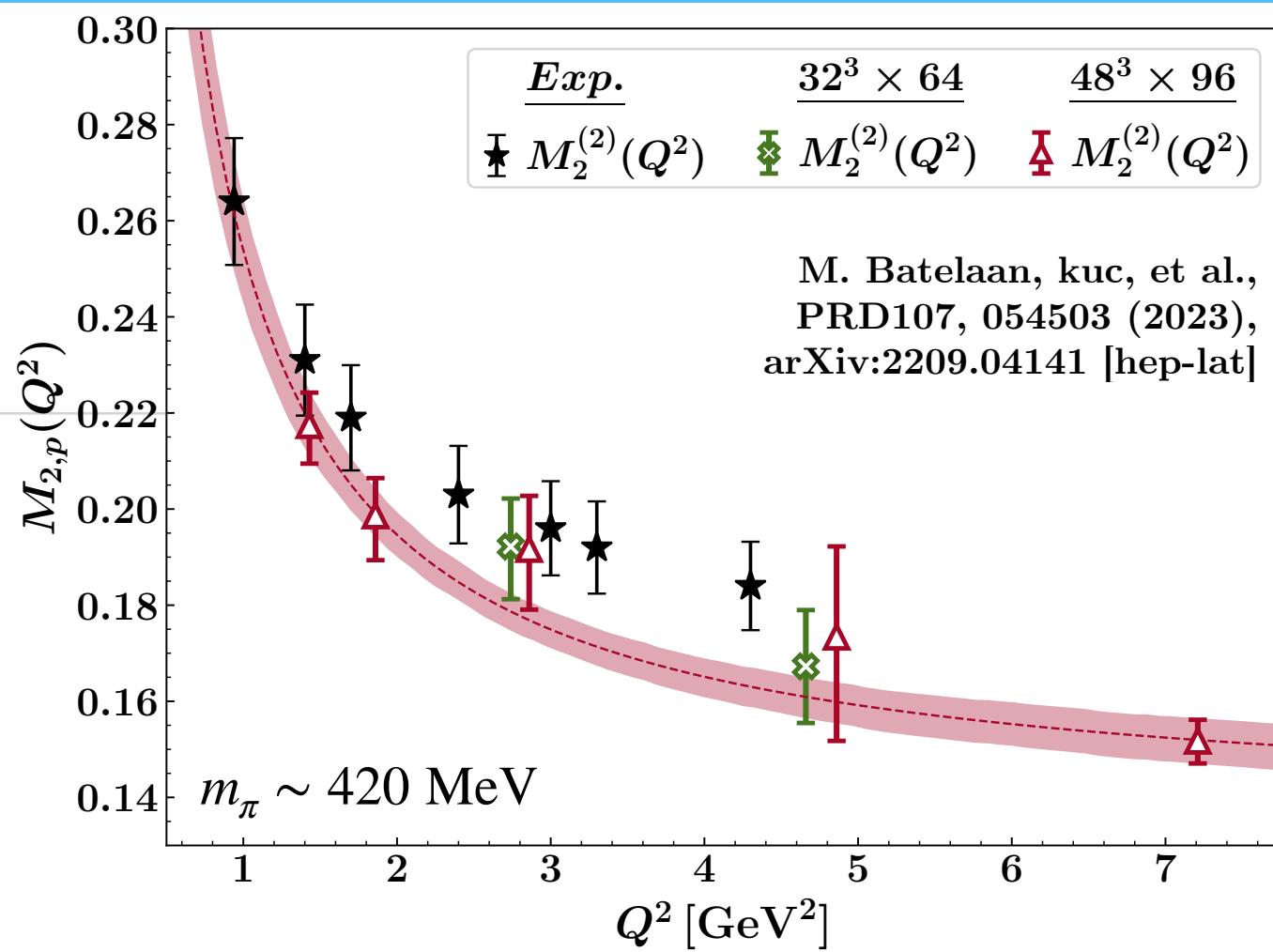
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- Statistical precision is much improved w.r.t  $\mathcal{F}_2$
- $\mathcal{F}_3$  is purely non-singlet
- Our current results have a good low/mid- $Q^2$  coverage,  $0.1 \lesssim Q^2 \lesssim 10 \text{ GeV}^2$ 
  - additional lattice spacings,  $m_\pi$  on the way
- Allows for a direct test of Gross-Llewellyn-Smith sum rule (benchmark quantity?)
- There are systematic uncertainties to control
- A global fit similar to  $\mathcal{F}_2$  can be performed
- $\mathcal{F}_3$  is a good candidate to incorporate to phenomenological global fits

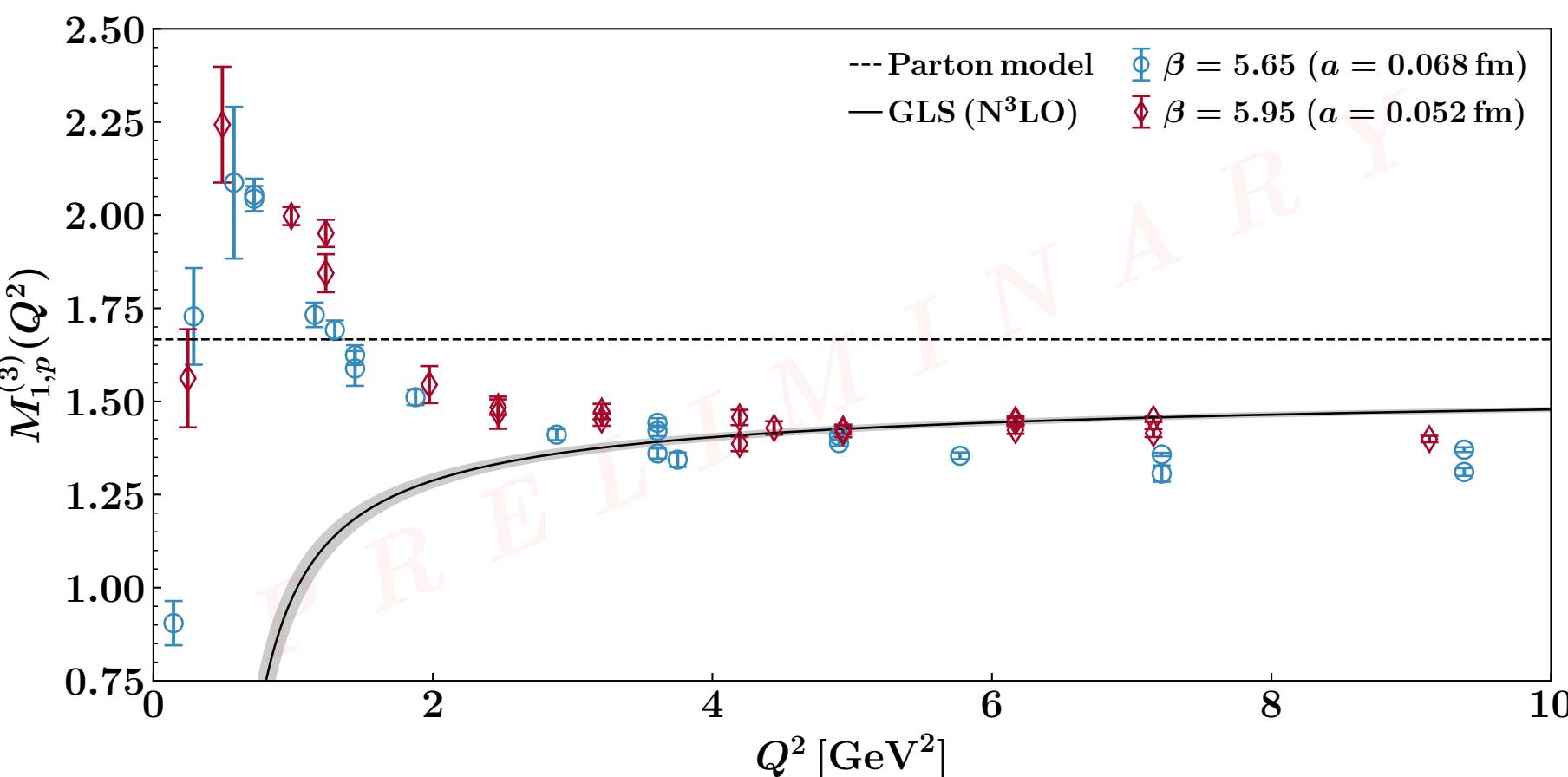


# Summary & Outlook

- Physical Compton amplitude, can be matched to OPE
- ✓ Can extract moments of DIS structure functions
- ✓ Systematic investigation of power corrections, higher-twist effects and scaling is within reach
- ✓ Exploratory investigation of  $x$ -dependence w/scaling and HT
- ✓ First moment of  $F_3$  (GLS sum rule) can serve as a benchmark quantity
- Plans to incorporate Compton amplitude results to the JAM framework
- Exploring synergies with quasi/pseudo methods would be beneficial



- Our approach can be extended to:
  - ✓ GPDs: A. Hannaford-Gunn et al.  
*Phys.Rev.D* **105**, 014502 [arXiv:2110.11532], and  
*Phys.Rev.D* **110** (2024) 1, 014509 [2405.06256]
  - spin-dependent structure functions,  $g_1, g_2$



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