

NEUTRINO PLATFORM WEEK

Nucleon axial form factors: how well are they known?

Luis Alvarez Ruso



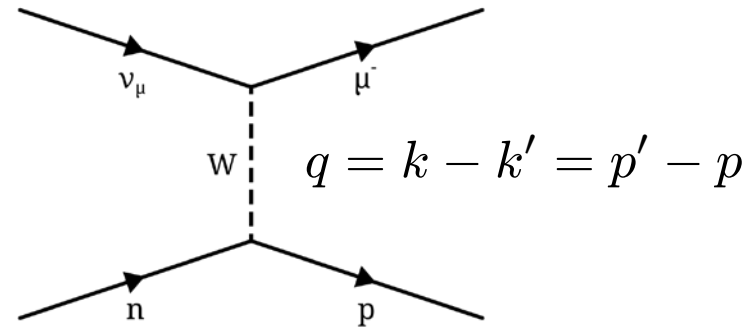
ν QE scattering on the nucleon

CCQE : $\nu(k) + n(p) \rightarrow l^-(k') + p(p')$

$\bar{\nu}(k) + p(p) \rightarrow l^+(k') + n(p')$

NCE : $\nu(k) + N(p) \rightarrow \nu(k') + N(p')$

$\bar{\nu}(k) + N(p) \rightarrow \bar{\nu}(k') + N(p')$



$$\mathcal{M} = \frac{G_F \cos \theta_C}{\sqrt{2}} l^\alpha J_\alpha$$

where $l^\alpha = \bar{u}(k') \gamma^\alpha (1 - \gamma_5) u(k)$

$$J_\alpha = \bar{u}(p') \left[\gamma_\alpha F_1^V + \frac{i}{2m_N} \sigma_{\alpha\beta} q^\beta F_2^V - \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 F_A - \frac{q_\mu}{m_N} \gamma_5 F_P \right] u(p)$$

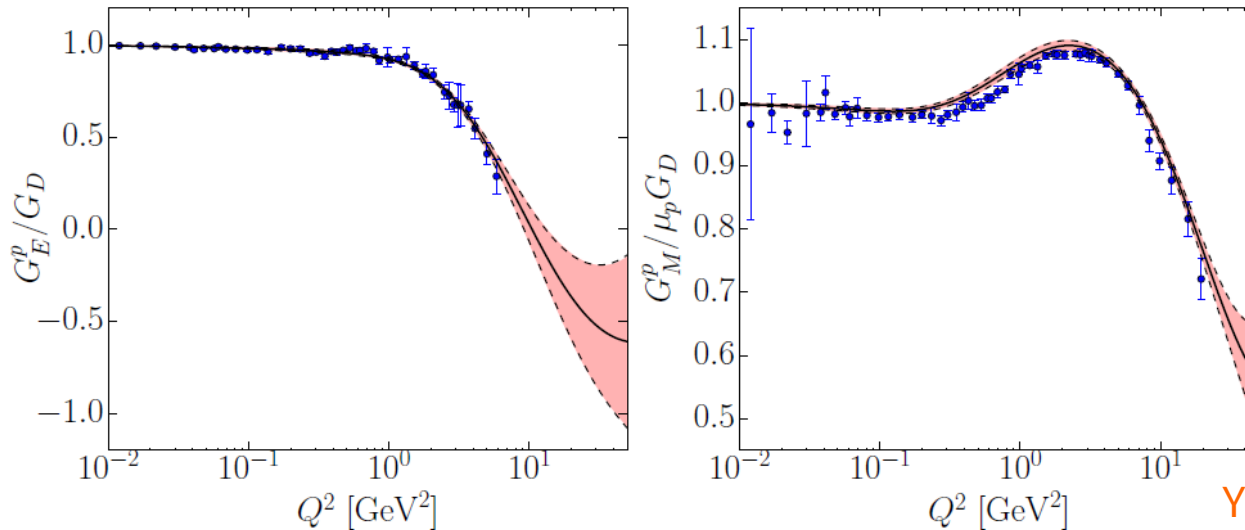
■ **Vector** form factors: $F_{1,2}^V = F_{1,2}^p - F_{1,2}^n$

$$G_E = F_1 + \frac{q^2}{2m_N} F_2 \quad \leftarrow \text{electric}$$

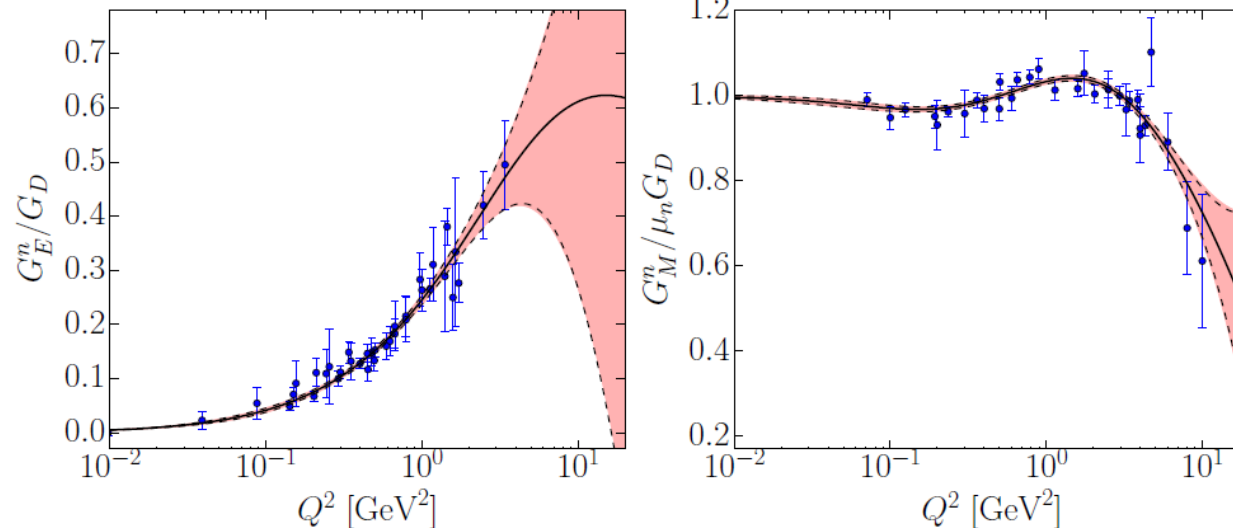
$$G_M = F_1 + F_2 \quad \leftarrow \text{magnetic}$$

Nucleon form factors

- EM form factors **well known** from (e,e') scattering



Ye et al., arXiv:1707.09063



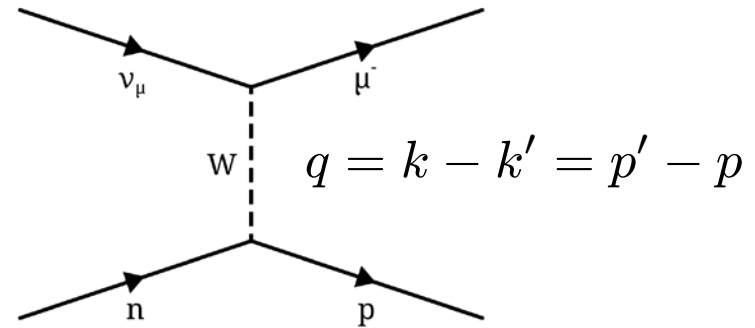
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■ Axial form factors:

$$F_A(Q^2) = g_A F(Q^2), \quad F_P(Q^2) = \frac{2M^2}{Q^2 + m_\pi^2} F_A(Q^2), \quad Q^2 = -q^2 > 0$$

$g_A = 1.267 \leftarrow \beta$ decay (n lifetime) **PCAC**

Nucleon axial form factor

$$F_A(Q^2) = g_A F(Q^2)$$

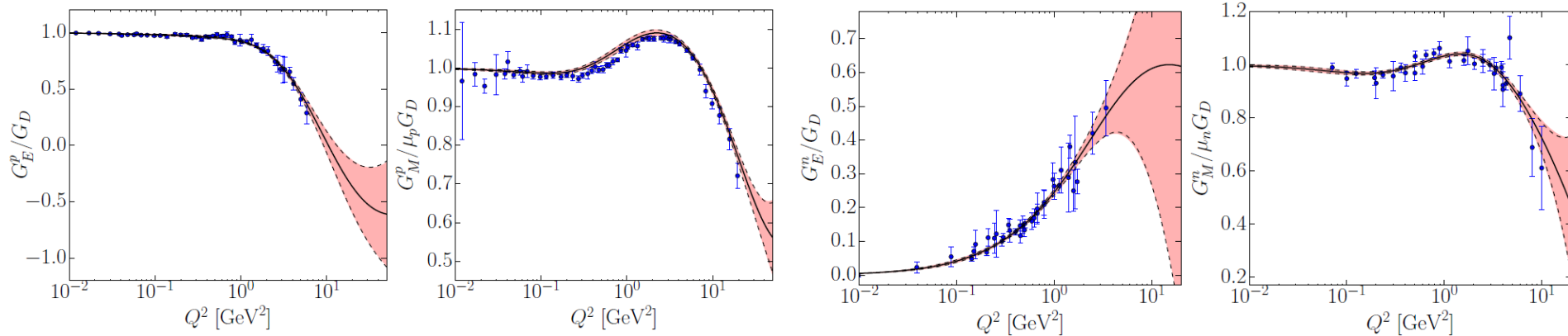
- $\nu_\mu d \rightarrow \mu^- p p$: fits to ANL, BNL, FNAL data

- Dipole ansatz: $F_A(Q^2) = g_A \left(1 + \frac{Q^2}{M_A^2}\right)^{-2}$

- $M_A = 1.016 \pm 0.026$ GeV Bodek et al., EPJC 53 (2008)
- A priori not theoretically justified

Nucleon form factors

EM form factors from (e,e') scattering

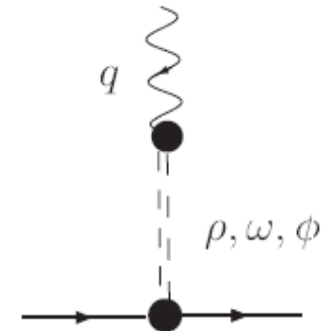


Ye et al., arXiv:1707.09063

Dipole behavior for $Q^2 \lesssim 1 \text{ GeV}^2$

- A priori not theoretically justified
- Exponential charge distributions (in the static limit)
- In the **VMD** picture, a dipole might arise from two mesons with similar masses and opposite couplings

$$G_D = \left(1 + \frac{Q^2}{0.71 \text{ GeV}^2} \right)^{-2}$$



Nucleon axial form factor

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- Leads to artificially small errors in M_A

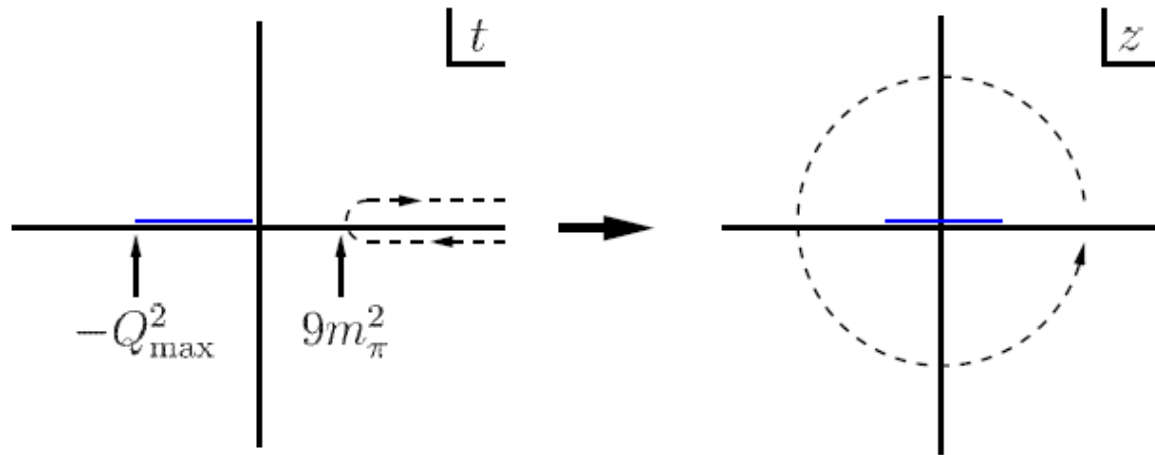
- Axial radius:

$$F_A(Q^2) = g_A \left(1 - \frac{1}{6} \langle r_A^2 \rangle Q^2 + \dots\right) \quad \langle r_A^2 \rangle = \frac{12}{M_A^2}$$

Nucleon axial form factor

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- z-expansion: R. Hill, G. Paz, ...



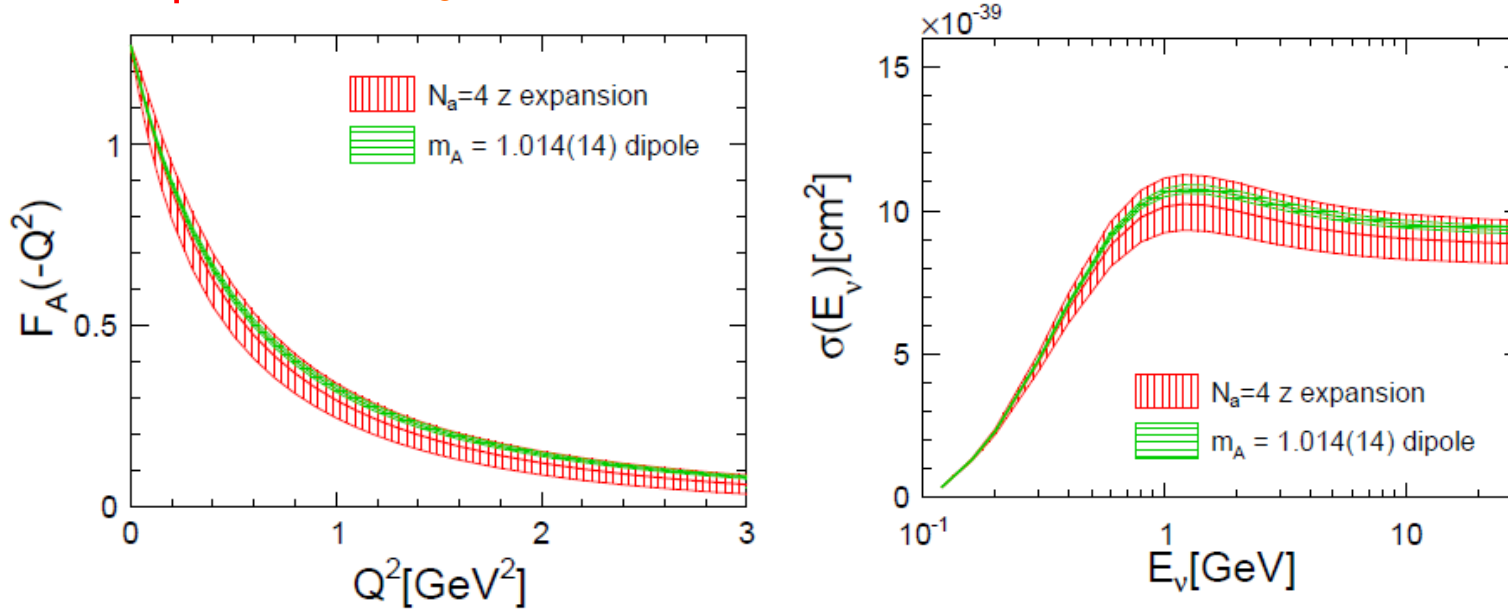
$$F_A(q^2) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k z(q^2)^k$$

$$z(t, t_{\text{cut}}, t_0) = \frac{\sqrt{t_{\text{cut}} - t} - \sqrt{t_{\text{cut}} - t_0}}{\sqrt{t_{\text{cut}} - t} + \sqrt{t_{\text{cut}} - t_0}}$$

- For a given Q_{max}^2 , t_0 can be chosen: $|z|$ is small (<1)

QE scattering on the nucleon

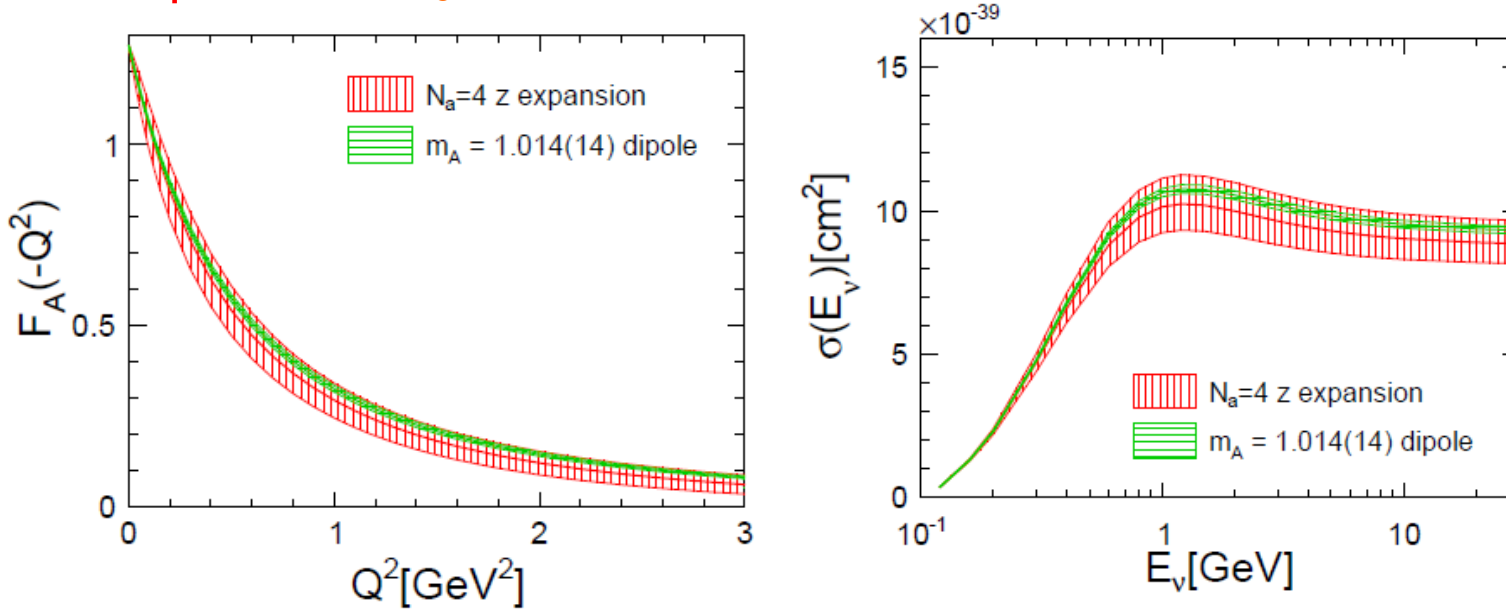
- **z-expansion** Meyer et al., PRD 93 (2016) : Fit to ANL, BNL, FNAL data



- $\langle r_A^2 \rangle = 0.46(22)$ fm² vs $0.453(12)$ fm² Bodek et al., EPJC 53 (2008)
 - At $E_\nu \sim 1$ GeV $\sigma(\text{CCQE})$ has $\approx 10\%$ error
 - **More precise information about F_A is (probably) needed**
 - Direct or indirect CCQE measurement on d/p
- Workshop at INT, Seattle, June 2018

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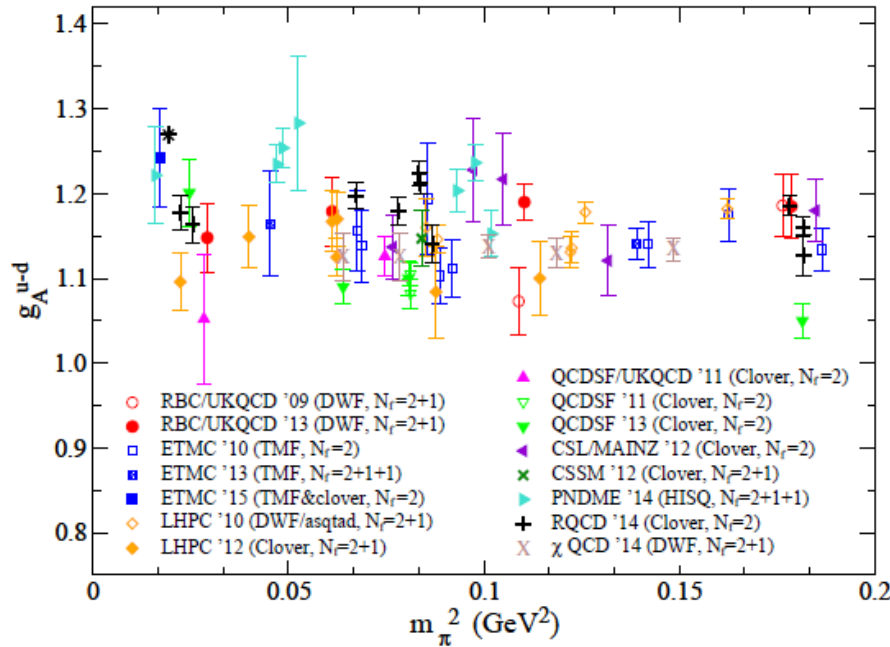
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- **Lattice QCD**

F_A & LQCD

- g_A : lower than exp. values have been recurrently obtained



Constantinou, PoS CD15 (2015) 009

- Recent progress:
 - improved algorithms for a careful treatment of excited states
 - low pion masses

Alexandrou et al., Phys. Rev. D 96 (2017)

Capitani et al., arXiv:1705.06186

Gupta, Phys.Rev. D96 (2017)

F_A & LQCD

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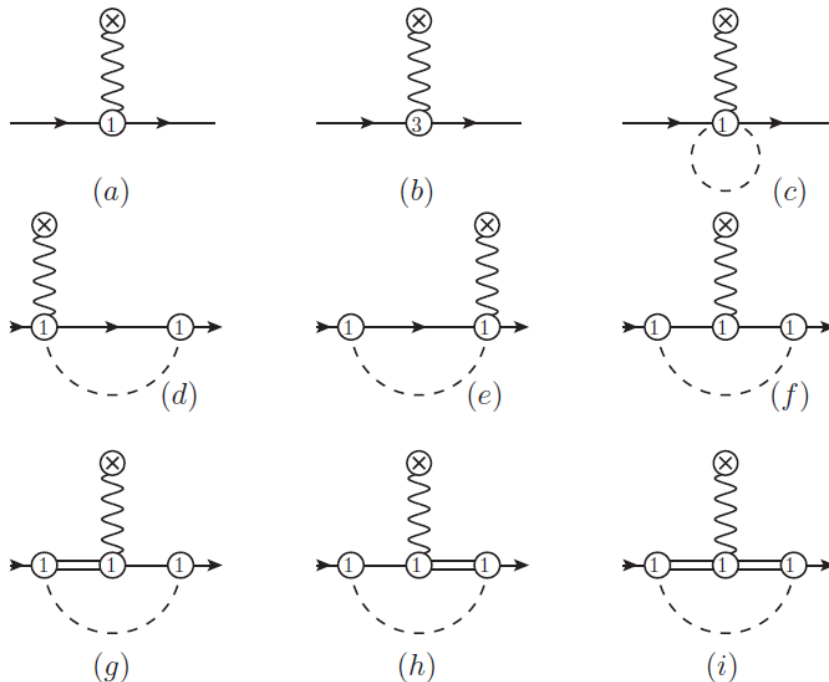
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- Baryon ChPT analysis: Yao, LAR, Vicente Vacas, PRD 96 (2017)

- $O(p^3)$, $Q^2 < 0.36 \text{ GeV}^2$, $130 \text{ MeV} < M_\pi < 473 \text{ MeV}$, explicit $\Delta(1232)$



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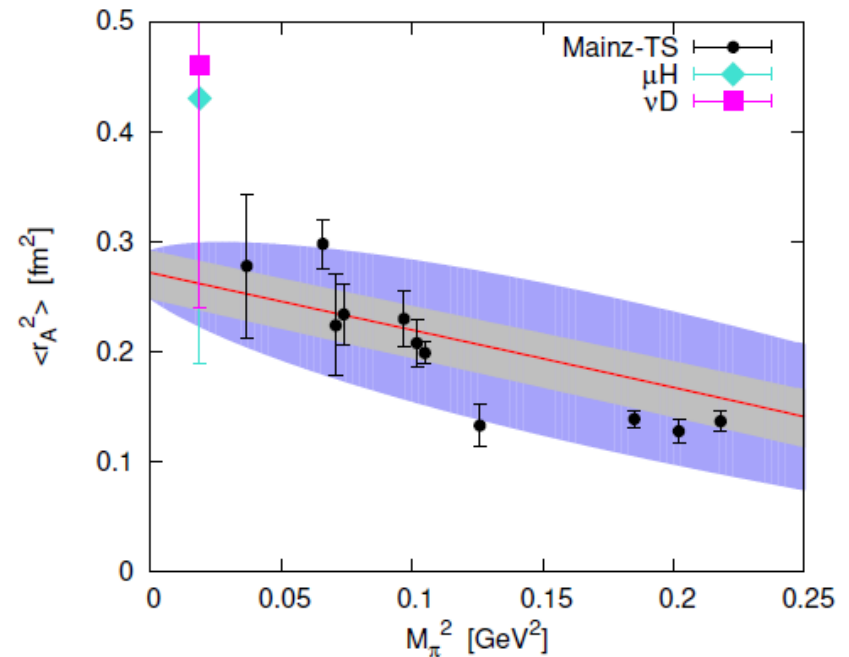
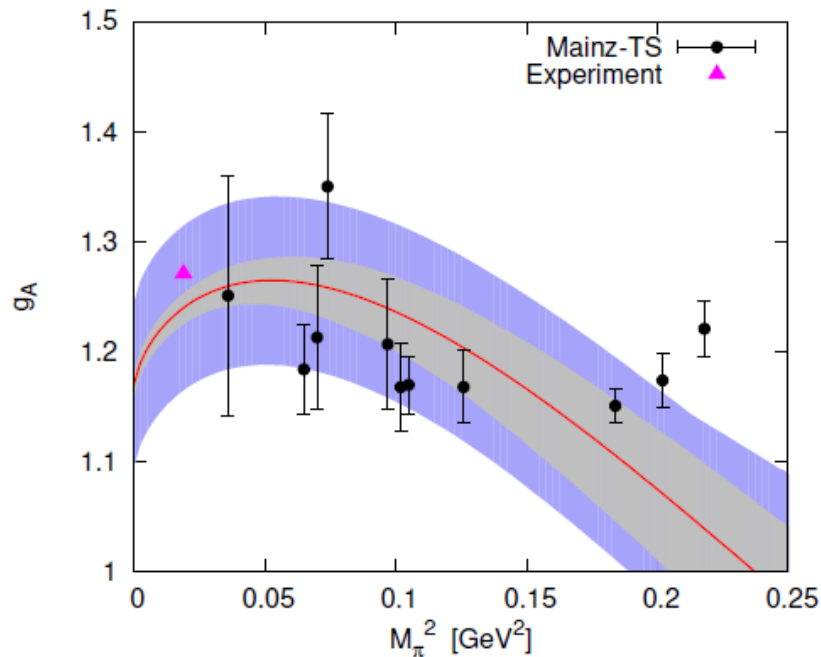
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- $g_A = 1.237(74)$, $\langle r_A^2 \rangle = 0.263(38) \text{ fm}^2$

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- Improvements:

- BChPT: $O(p^5)$ might be needed to improve M_π dependence

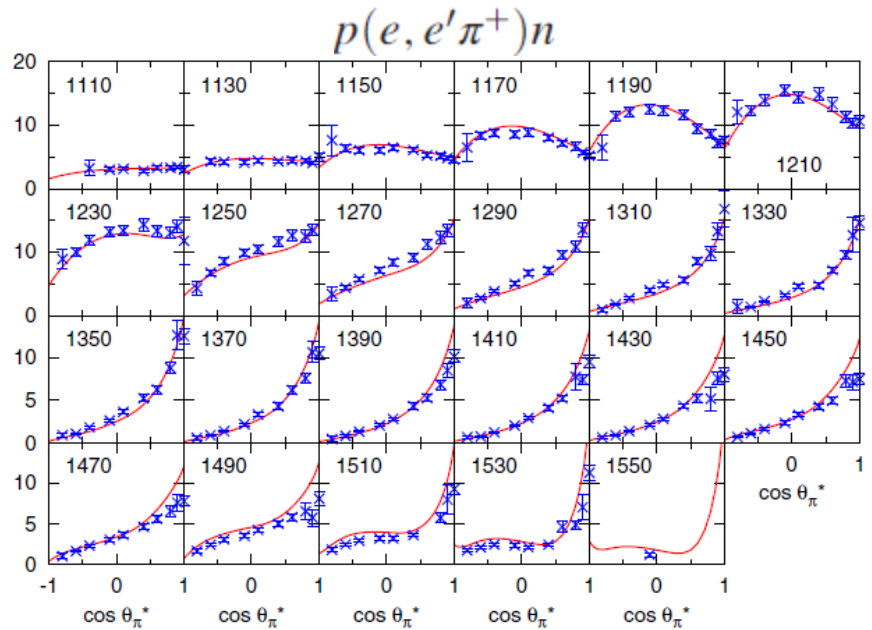
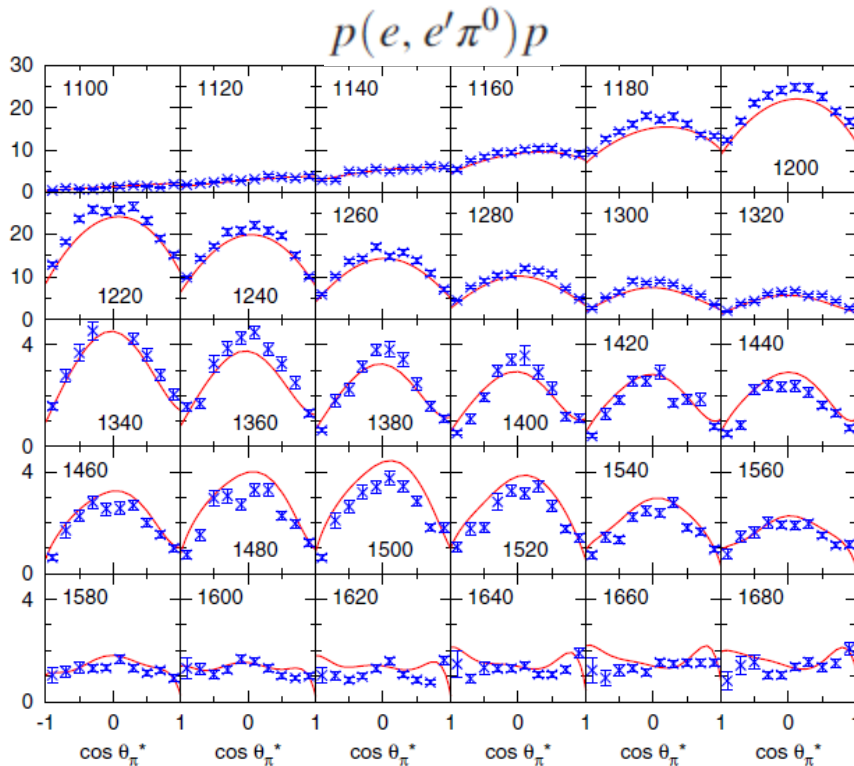
- LQCD: excited states and finite volume corrections

- Critical to reliably obtain F_A in LQCD

Inelastic channels

■ For example: $\nu_l N \rightarrow l N' \pi$

■ **Vector current** can be constrained with $\gamma N \rightarrow N \pi$, $e N \rightarrow e' N \pi$



Nakamura, Kamano, Sato, PRD92 (2015)

■ Axial current at $q^2 \rightarrow 0$ can be constrained with $\pi N \rightarrow N \pi$ (PCAC)

■ Very limited information about the axial current at $q^2 \neq 0$

In summary

- **Neutrino-nucleus** c.s. mismodeling could lead to unacceptably large systematic uncertainties or biased measurements.
 - *Nuclear effects*
 - Multi-nucleon problem
 - initial state description: **non-relativistic** *ab-initio* calculations, spectral functions, mean fields, collective effects
 - final state interactions: (**relativistic**) **NN**, **π N**, ...
 - **ν -nucleon** interactions: insufficiently constrained