Form Factor and Model Dependence in Neutrino-Nucleus Cross Sections

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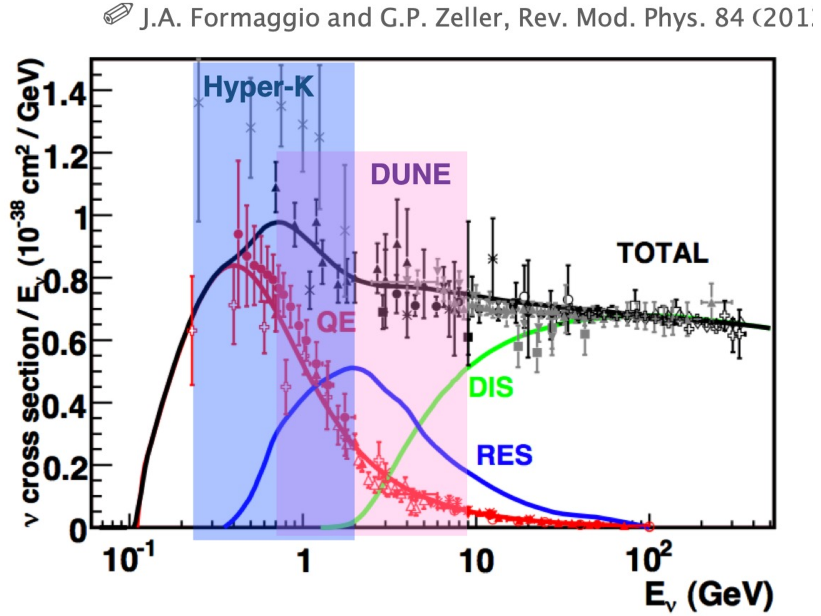
NuInt22

Based on arXiv 2210.02455 [hep-ph]

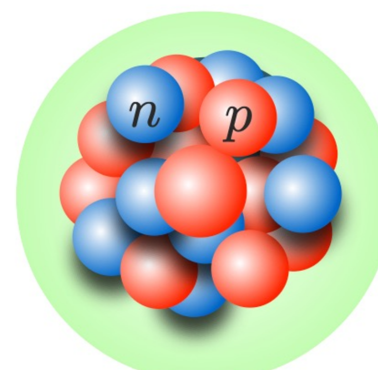
Introduction

- Next generation of oscillation experiments require cross sections with
  - **unprecedented accuracy**
  - **robust theory uncertainty estimates**



- Theory uncertainties come from
  - Approximations from solving many body problem
  - Single & few nucleon form factors

- Estimation of these errors
  - Requires consistent formalism capable of including all interaction mechanisms
  - Disentanglement of effect of single nucleon form factors from one and two body currents

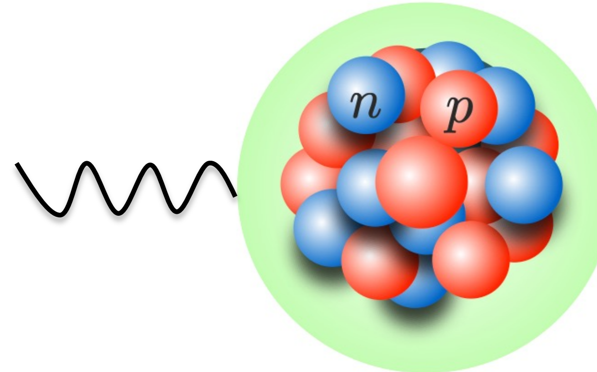


Many Body solution to Neutrino-Nucleus Scattering

- Neutrino-nucleus scattering described by leptonic and nuclear response tensors

$$\sigma \sim L_{\mu\nu} R^{\mu\nu}$$

- Nuclear response to probe (weak boson) contains all information on the structure of nucleus



$$R^{\mu\nu} = \sum_f \langle 0|J^{\mu\dagger}|f\rangle\langle f|J^\nu|0\rangle \delta(E_0 + \omega - E_f)$$

$$J^\mu = \sum_i j_i^\mu + \sum_{j>i} j_{ij}^\mu \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad H = \sum_i \frac{\mathbf{p}_i^2}{2m} + \sum_{i<j} v_{ij} + \sum_{i<j<k} V_{ijk}$$

- Realistic Hamiltonian provided by AV18 an IL7 potentials
  - Fit to a wide range of nn and pn scattering data

- Look at two many body methods which share the same underlying nuclear dynamics
  - Focus on CC0pi production

Cross Sections: Greens Function Monte Carlo (GFMC)

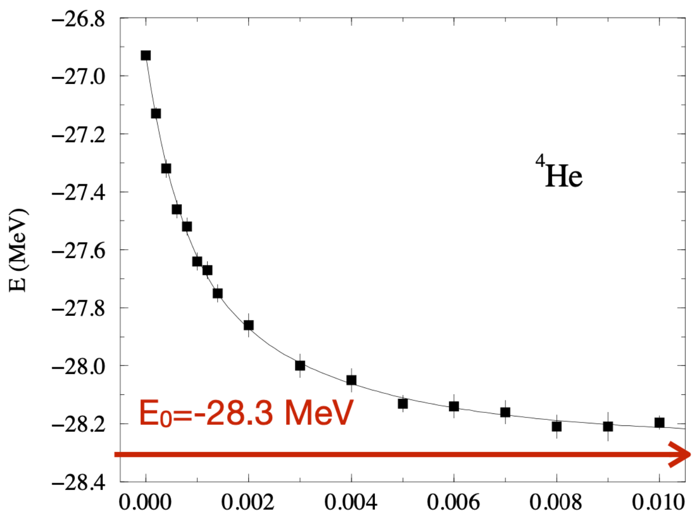
- Ground state solved via variational principle and imaginary time evolution

$$|\Psi_T\rangle = \sum_n c_n |\Psi_n\rangle \qquad e^{-(H-E_0)\tau}|\Psi_T\rangle \rightarrow |\Psi_0\rangle$$

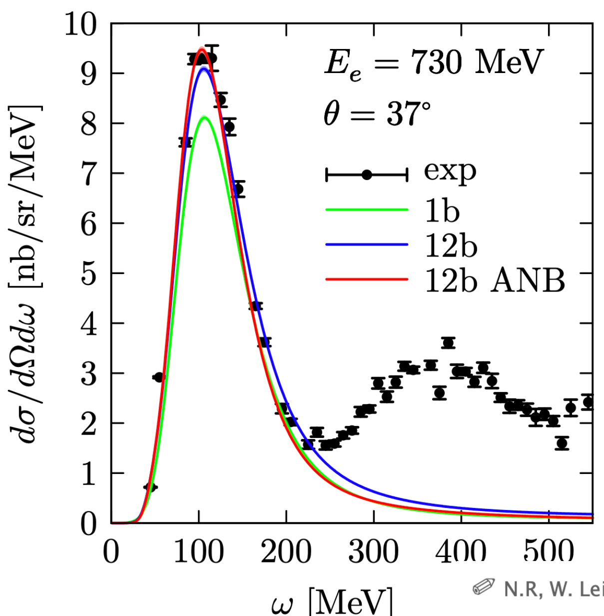
- Compute the Euclidean response, imaginary time evolve

$$E_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{q},\tau) = \int_{\omega_{\rm th}}^{\infty} d\omega e^{-\omega\tau} R_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{q},\omega)$$

B. Pudliner et al., PRC **56**, 1720 (1997)



- Inversion needed to obtain response function



N.R, W. Leidemann, et al PRC 97 (2018) no.5, 055501

- Fully retains many body correlations in initial and final state
- Validated via electron scattering
- Number of approximations
  - Non-relativistic
  - Static delta

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$$J^\mu = \sum_i j_i^\mu + \sum_{j>i} j_{ij}^\mu$$

Cross Sections: Spectral function approach (SF)

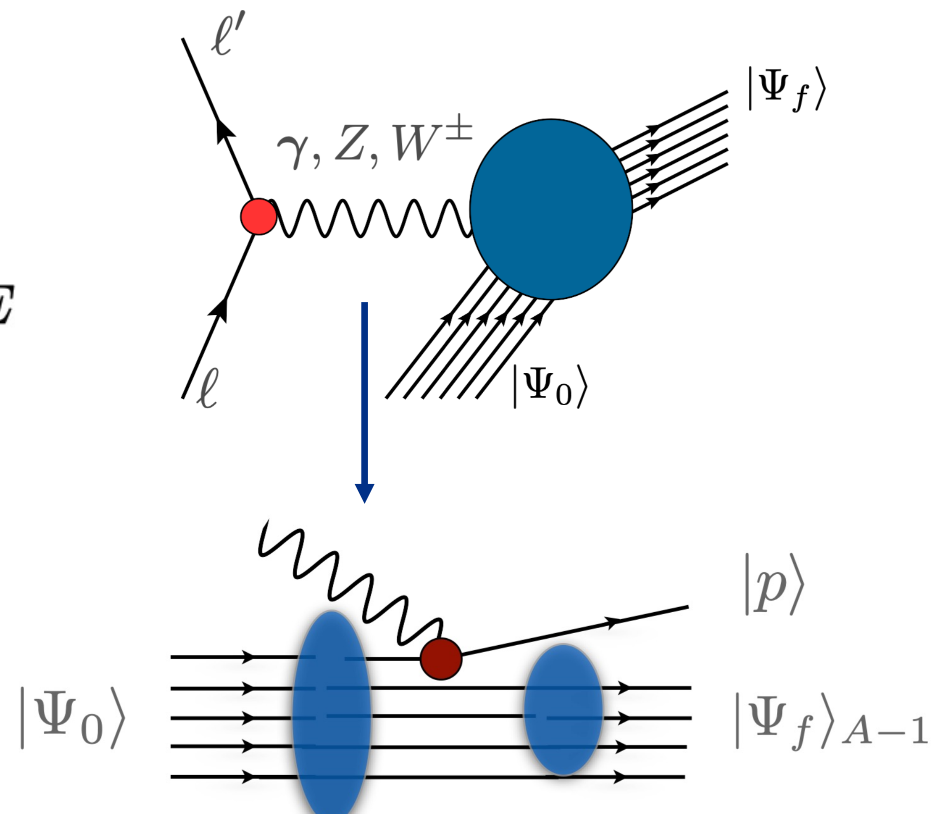
- For sufficient |**q**|, scattering factorizes
  - Incoherent sum of scattering with individual nucleons

- Single nucleon knockout (QE)

$$|f\rangle = |\mathbf{p}'\rangle \otimes |\Psi_f^{A-1}, \mathbf{p}_{A-1}\rangle$$

$$d\sigma = \int (d\sigma)_{nucleon} P(\mathbf{p}, E) d^3k dE$$

- Ingredients boil down to
  - Single nucleon cross section
  - Hole spectral function



Cross Sections: MEC Calculation

$$J^\mu = \sum_i j_i^\mu + \sum_{j>i} j_{ij}^\mu$$

- Two nucleon knockout $|\psi_f^A\rangle \to |pp'\rangle_a \otimes |\psi_f^{A-2}\rangle$

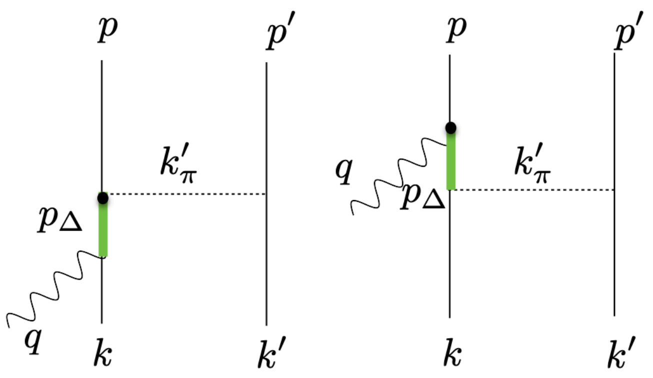
$$R_{\rm 2b}^{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{q},\omega) = \frac{V}{2}\int dE \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3}\frac{d^3k'}{(2\pi)^3}\frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3}\frac{m_N^4}{e(\mathbf{k})e(\mathbf{k}')e(\mathbf{p})e(\mathbf{p}')}$$
$$\times P_h(\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}',E)\sum_{ij}\langle k\,k'|j_{ij}^{\mu\,\dagger}|p\,p'\rangle_a\langle p\,p'|j_{ij}^\nu|k\,k'\rangle$$
$$\times\,\delta(\omega - E + 2m_N - e(\mathbf{p}) - e(\mathbf{p}')) .$$

- Two body current

$$j_{\rm CC}^\mu = (j_{\rm pif}^\mu)_{\rm CC} + (j_{\rm sea}^\mu)_{\rm CC} + (j_{\rm pole}^\mu)_{\rm CC} + (j_\Delta^\mu)_{\rm CC}$$

  - Δ current gives dominant contribution and is highly model dependent

- Two body spectral function



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QMC Spectral Function

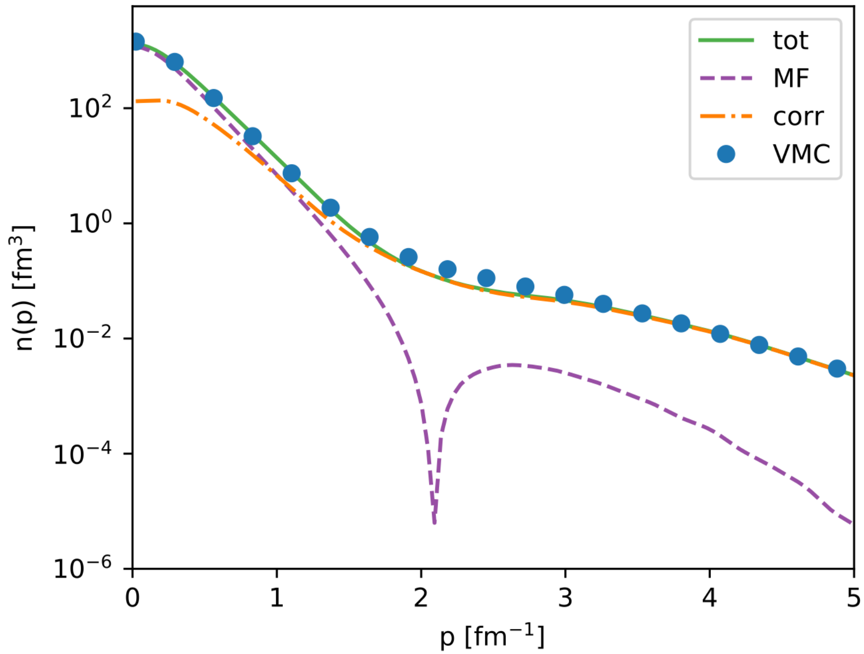
- One nucleon spectral function

$$P_{p,n}(\mathbf{k},E) = \sum_n |\langle\Psi_0^A|[|k\rangle|\Psi_n^{A-1}\rangle]|^2 \times \delta(E + E_0^A - E_n^{A-1})$$
$$= P^{MF}(\mathbf{k},E) + P^{\rm corr}(\mathbf{k},E)$$

  - Mean Field (A-1 bound states)
  - Correlation component from continuum
  - Momentum space overlaps obtained from VMC overlaps
    - Same Hamiltonian as GFMC!

- Two nucleon spectral function
  - Only mean field contribution

$$P^{\rm MF}_{\tau_k,\tau'_k}(\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}',E) = n_{\tau_k,\tau_{k'}}(\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}')$$
$$\times\, \delta\Big(E - B_0 + \bar{B}_{A-2} - \frac{\mathbf{K}^2}{2m_{A-2}}\Big)$$



N.B.

Different calculations of SF available from different experiments, QMC applicable for comparison with GFMC

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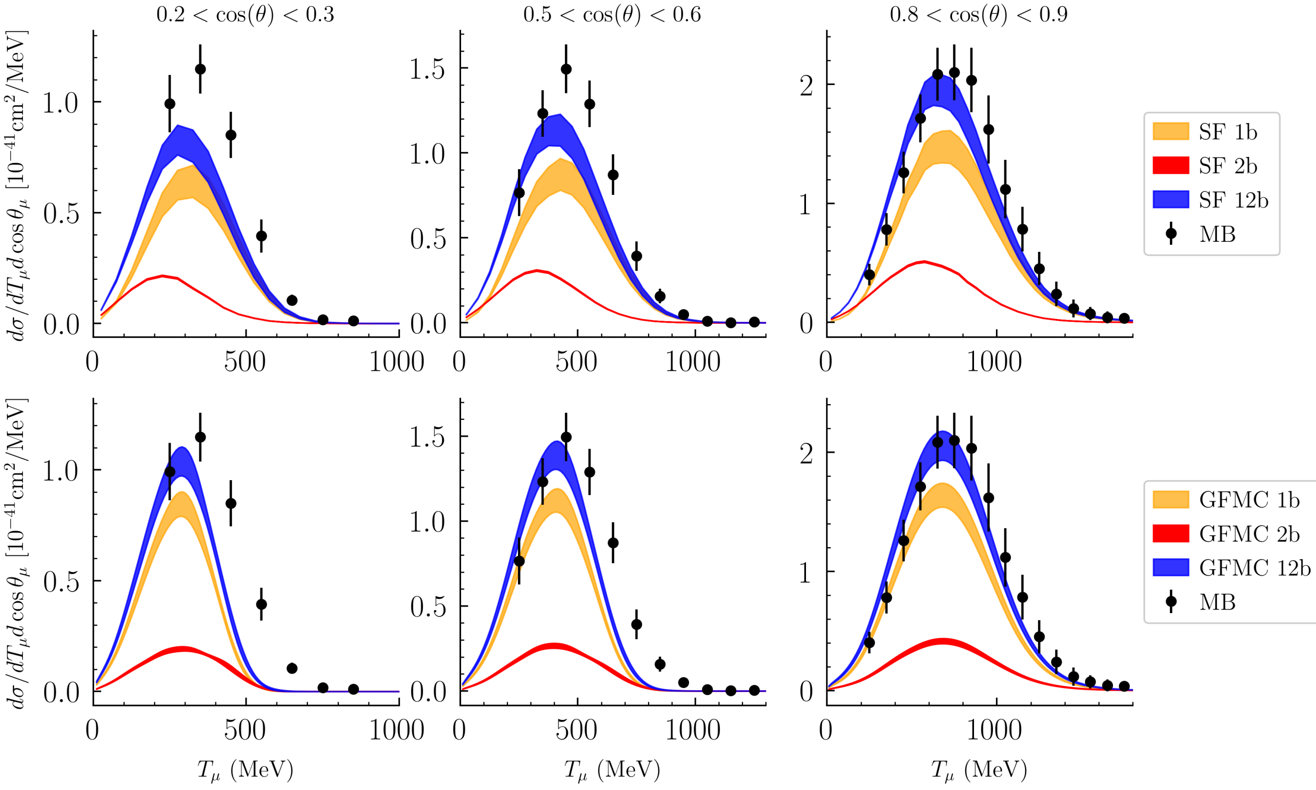
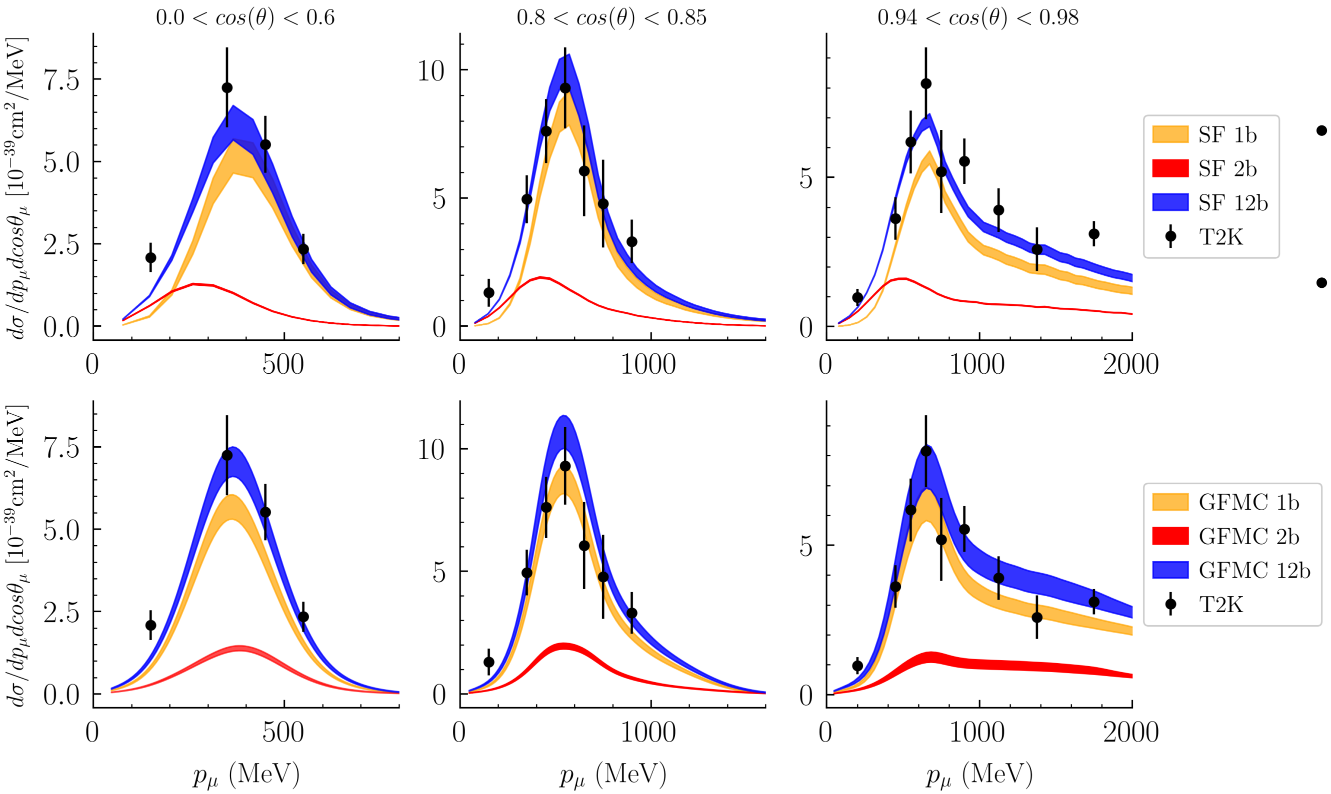
MiniBooNE – 1 and 2 Body Breakdown



- Separate 1 Body and 2 Body contributions
- SF and GFMC show deficit for small cos θ
- Model dependent pion subtraction at small T_μ
- GFMC non-relativistic nature means disagreements at large Q^2
- SF and GFMC 2 Body peaks shifted b/c of interference effects

T2K – 1 and 2 Body Breakdown



- GMFC and SF provide excellent agreement
- T2K flux peaks at lower energies
- SF and GFMC 2 Body peaks shifted b/c of interference effects

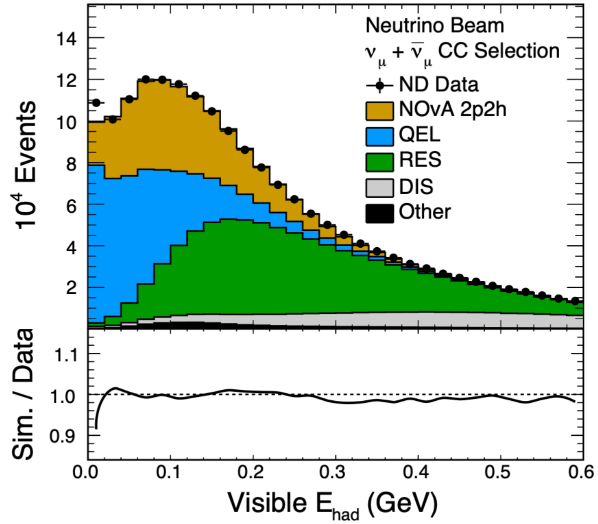
SF vs GFMC predictions

MiniBooNE	$0.2 < \cos\theta_\mu < 0.3$	$0.5 < \cos\theta_\mu < 0.6$	$0.8 < \cos\theta_\mu < 0.9$
GFMC/SF difference in $d\sigma_{\text{peak}}$ (%)	22.8	20.3	5.6

T2K	$0.0 < \cos\theta_\mu < 0.6$	$0.80 < \cos\theta_\mu < 0.85$	$0.94 < \cos\theta_\mu < 0.98$
GFMC/SF difference in $d\sigma_{\text{peak}}$ (%)	13.4	7.3	10.0

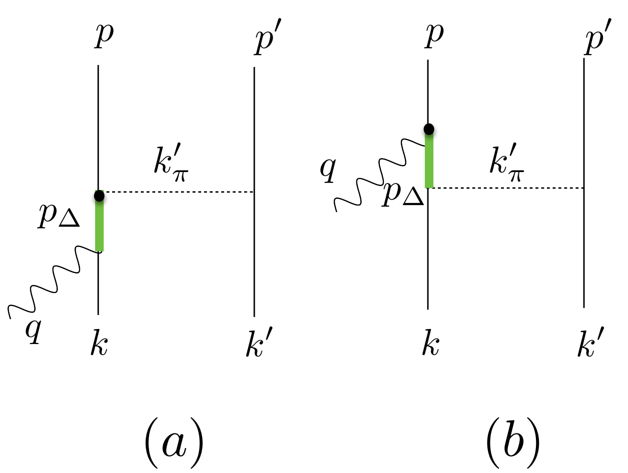
- Differences due to:
  - GFMC
    - Non-relativistic nature of GFMC
    - Static treatment of Δ propagator
  - SF
    - No FSI in factorization scheme
    - Lack of 1-2 body interference
  - First attempt at uncertainty due to factorization approach

Model dependence of MEC calculation in SF



Eur.Phys.J.C 80 (2020)

- Many experiments tune MEC e.g. Nova, MINERvA, MicroBooNE, etc.
- Unconstrained due to N → Δ transition form factors
- Investigate necessary precision on Δ parameters needed for future oscillation analysis



$$C_5^A = \frac{1.2}{(1 - q^2/M_{A\Delta})^2} \times \frac{1}{1 - q^2/(3M_{A\Delta})^2}$$

- Leading axial coupling of N → Δ

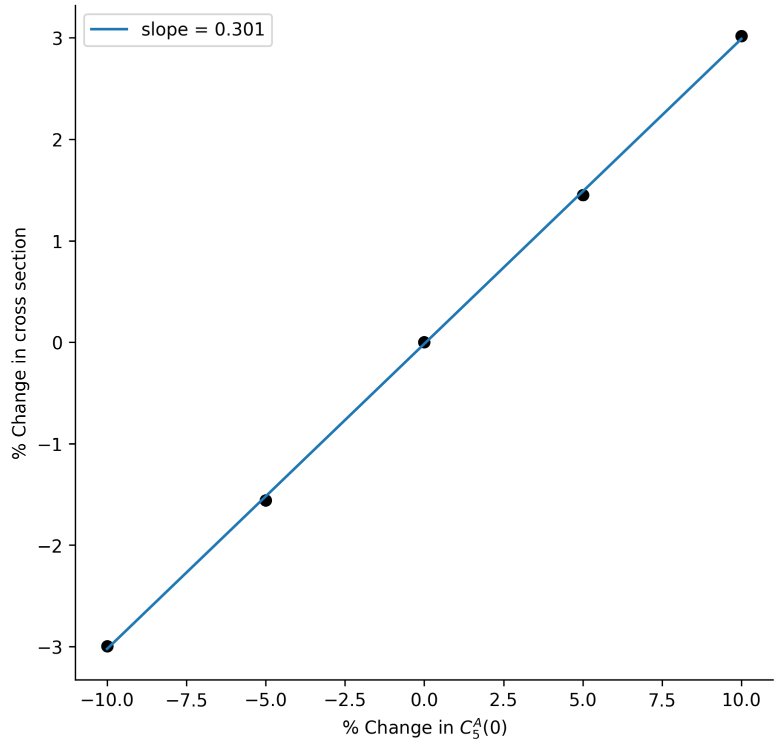
$$\Gamma(p_\Delta) = \frac{(4f_{\pi N\Delta})^2}{12\pi m_\pi^2} \frac{|\mathbf{d}|^3}{\sqrt{s}} (m_N + E_d) R(\mathbf{r}^2) \quad R(\mathbf{r}^2) = \left(\frac{\Lambda_R^2}{\Lambda_R^2 - \mathbf{r}^2} \right)$$

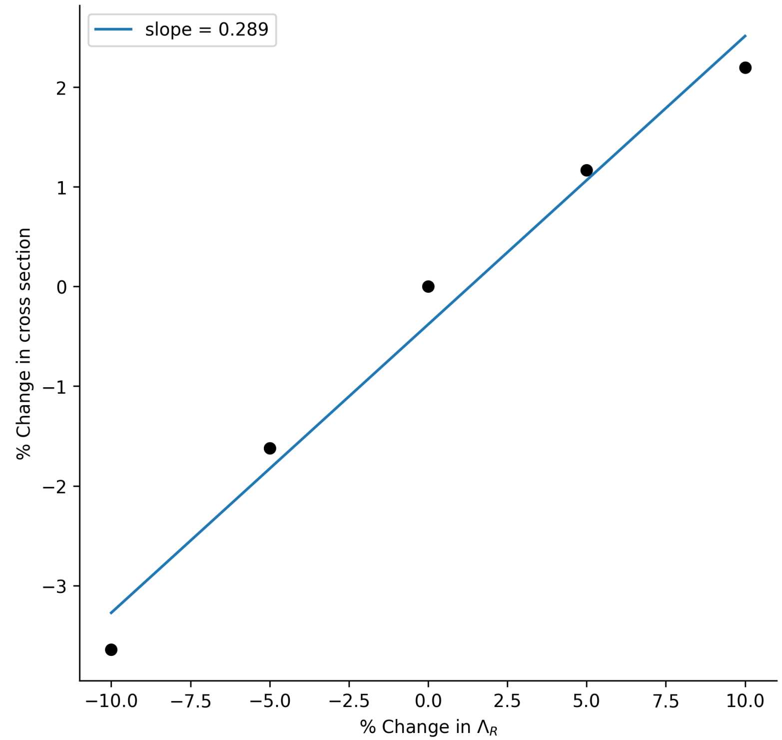
- Renormalizes Δ self energy

Model dependence of MEC calculation in SF

- Numerically estimate $\delta \frac{d\sigma_{peak}}{d\cos\theta dT_\mu}$
  - Change in peak cross section with respect to change in MEC parameter

Need O(%) level precision! LQCD target

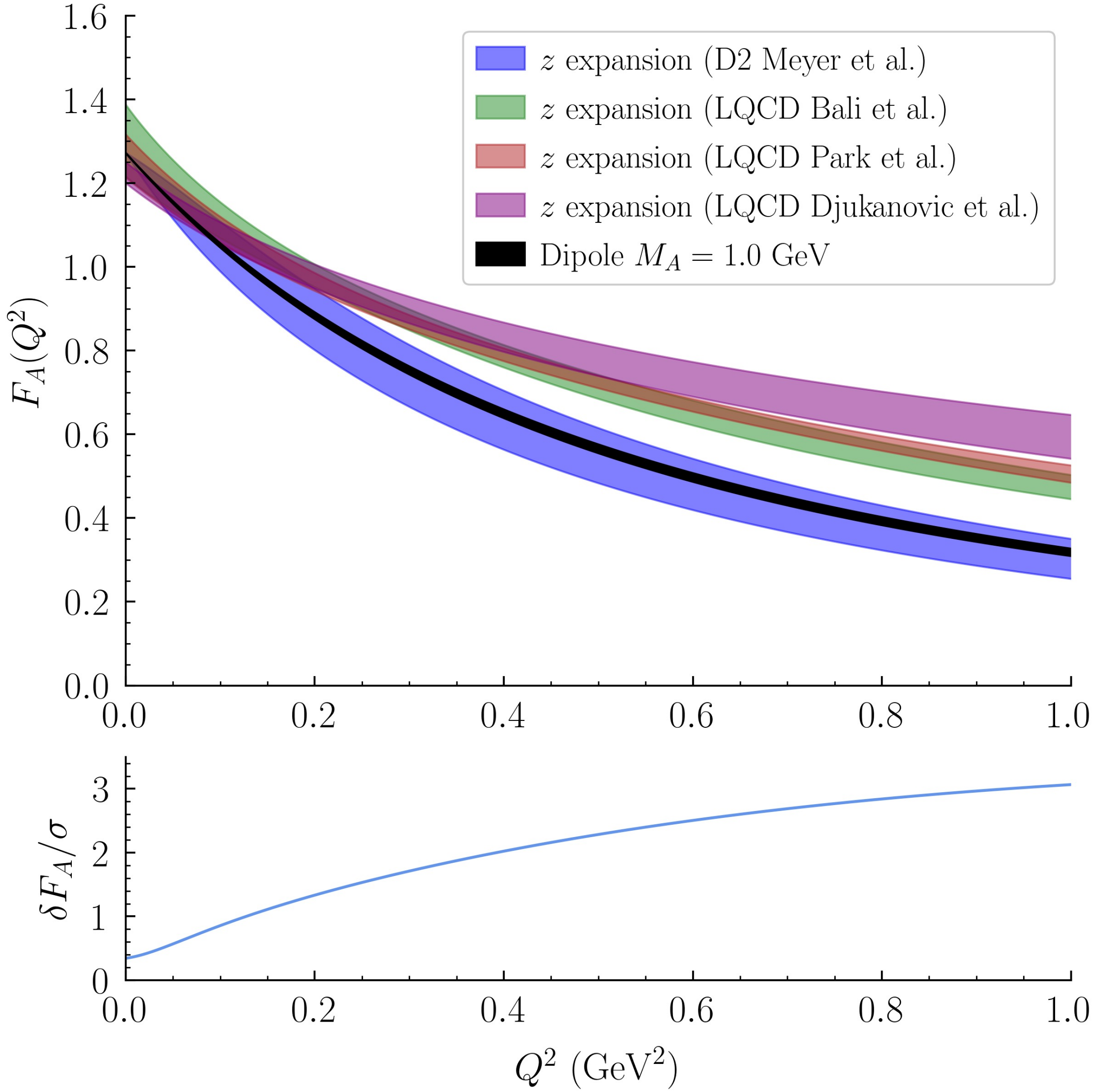




$$C_5^A = \frac{1.2}{(1-q^2/M_{A\Delta})^2} \times \frac{1}{1-q^2/(3M_{A\Delta})^2)}$$

$$\Gamma(p_\Delta) = \frac{(4f_{\pi N\Delta})^2}{12\pi m_\pi^2}\frac{|\mathbf{d}|^3}{\sqrt{s}}(m_N+E_d)R(\mathbf{r}^2) \quad R(\mathbf{r}^2) = \left(\frac{\Lambda_R^2}{\Lambda_R^2-\mathbf{r}^2}\right)$$

Axial Form Factor



$$z(Q^2) = \frac{\sqrt{t_c + Q^2} - \sqrt{t_c - t_0}}{\sqrt{t_c + Q^2} + \sqrt{t_c - t_0}}$$

$$F_A(Q^2) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k \, z(Q^2)^k \approx \sum_{k=0}^{k_{\max}} a_k \, z(Q^2)^k$$

- Dipole parameterization severely underestimates uncertainty
- Meyer et al. D2 z expansion gives similar CV but larger errors
- LQCD Bali and Park et al. z expansion give much larger normalization at $Q^2 > 0.3$ GeV^2

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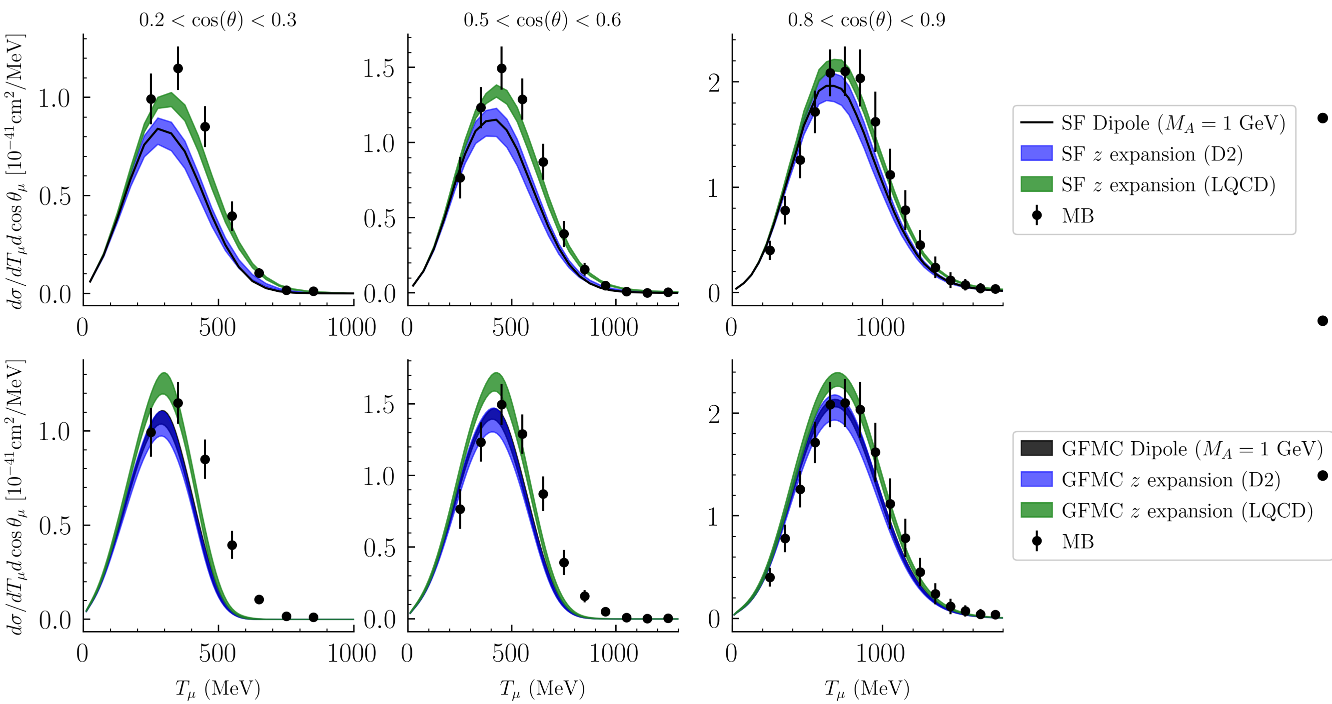
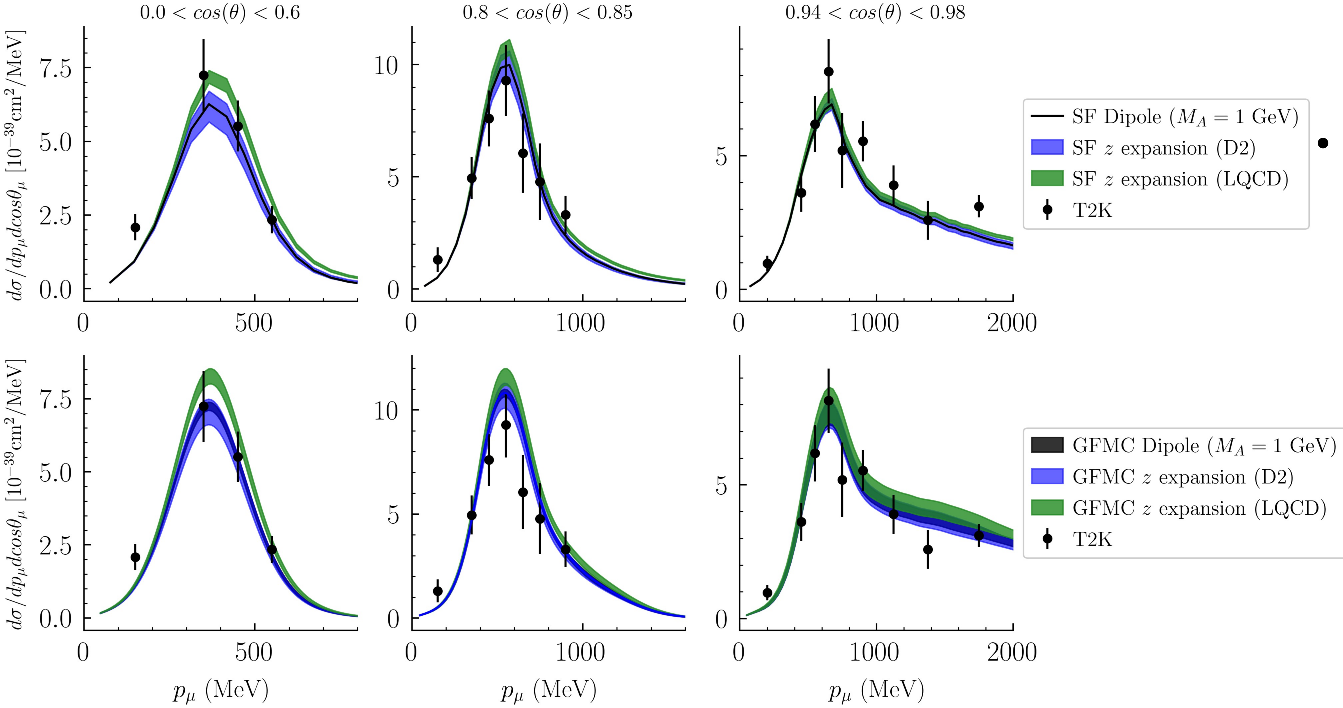
MiniBooNE – Form Factor Breakdown



- Dipole vs. LQCD z expansion vs. D2 z expansion
- Universal 10-20% increase in normalization with LQCD z expansion
- SF agreement better with LQCD z expansion
- GFMC disagreement regardless of form factor

MiniBooNE	$0.2 < \cos\theta_\mu < 0.3$	$0.5 < \cos\theta_\mu < 0.6$	$0.8 < \cos\theta_\mu < 0.9$
SF Difference in $d\sigma_{\text{peak}}$ (%)	16.3	17.1	9.3
GFMC Difference in $d\sigma_{\text{peak}}$ (%)	18.6	17.1	12.2

MiniBooNE – Form Factor Breakdown



- T2K comparison fairly independent of parameterization
- Mostly due to T2K's lower beam energy and thus Q^2 where form factors agree

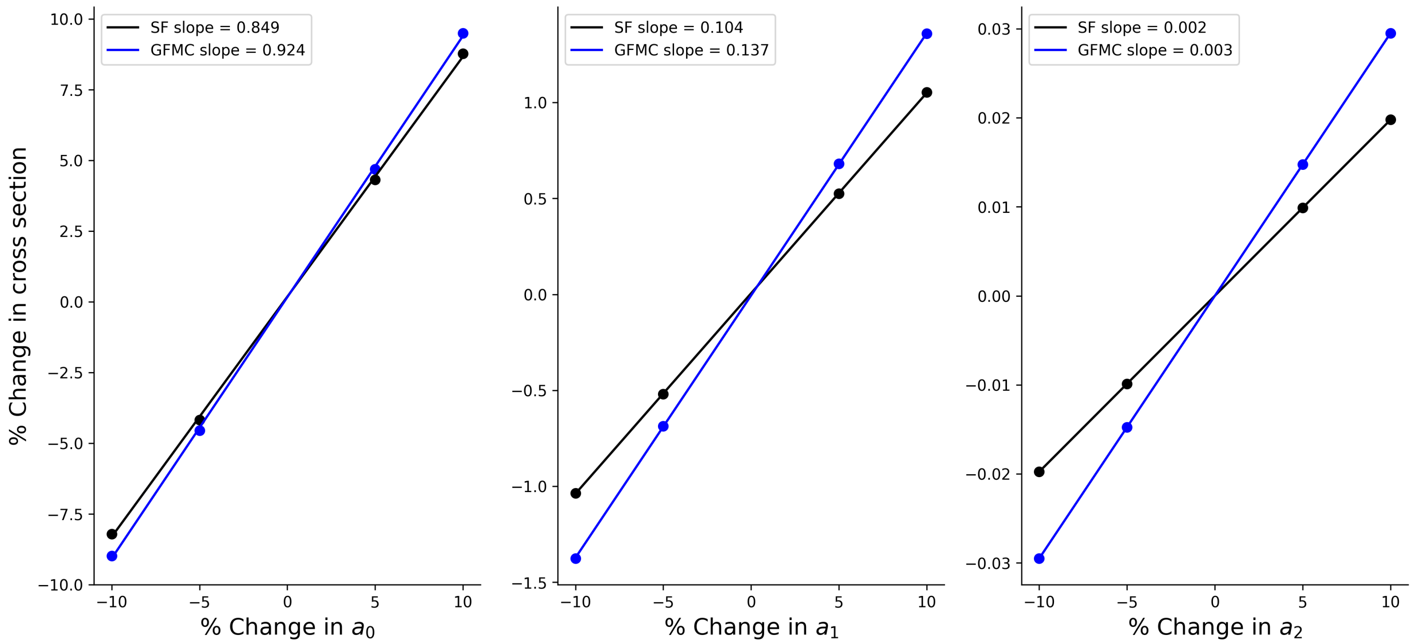
T2K	$0.0 < \cos\theta_\mu < 0.6$	$0.80 < \cos\theta_\mu < 0.85$	$0.94 < \cos\theta_\mu < 0.98$
SF difference in $d\sigma_{\text{peak}}$ (%)	15.3	8.2	3.3
GFMC difference in $d\sigma_{\text{peak}}$ (%)	15.8	8.0	4.6

Form Factor Uncertainty Analysis

LQCD precision target

- Numerically estimate $\delta \frac{d\sigma_{peak}}{d\cos\theta dT_\mu}$, LQCD precision targets
  - Change in peak cross section with respect to change in z expansion parameters a_k

MiniBooNE $0.5 < \cos\theta < 0.6$



  - 1% (10%) effect on a_0 (a_1) gives 1% effect on peak of flux folded cross section (effect decreases at forward angles)

Summary

- Comparison of two many body methods
  - SF vs. GFMC: Share the same underlying dynamics
- Saw 10-20% discrepancy due to myriad of differences
- Set precision goals for $N \rightarrow \Delta$ transition form factors
  - Very model dependent
- Also set precision goals for Axial vector form factor with z-expansion
  - Need % level for a_0 and 10% level for a_1
- Also showed that data has room for both MEC contributions and enhanced axial form factor for LQCD
  - Step towards decoupling the two in ν-Nucleus tunes