

Nucleon Form Factors at High Momentum Transfer

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INT Program INT17-68W
"The Flavor Structure of Nucleon Sea"
Seattle, WA, October 11, 2017



Nucleon form factors at high momentum

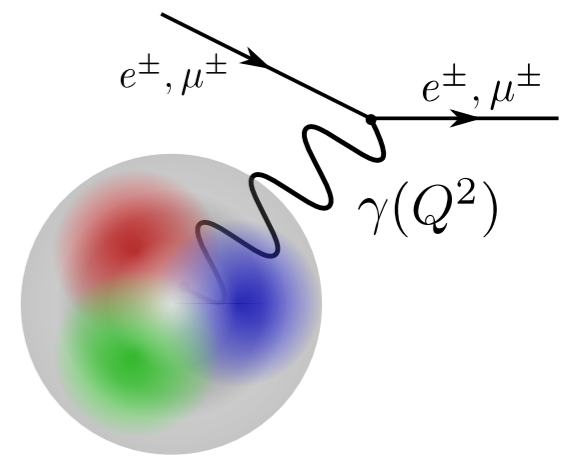
- Phenomenological motivation
 - Form factors: JLab program, Perturbative Q^2 -scaling limit*
 - Lattice TMDs & qPDFs*
- Challenges for high-momentum nucleon structure
 - Signal / noise for required kinematics*
 - Boosted (momentum) smearing*
- Details of calculation
- Preliminary results and comparison to phenomenology
- Summary and Outlook

Nucleon Vector Form Factors

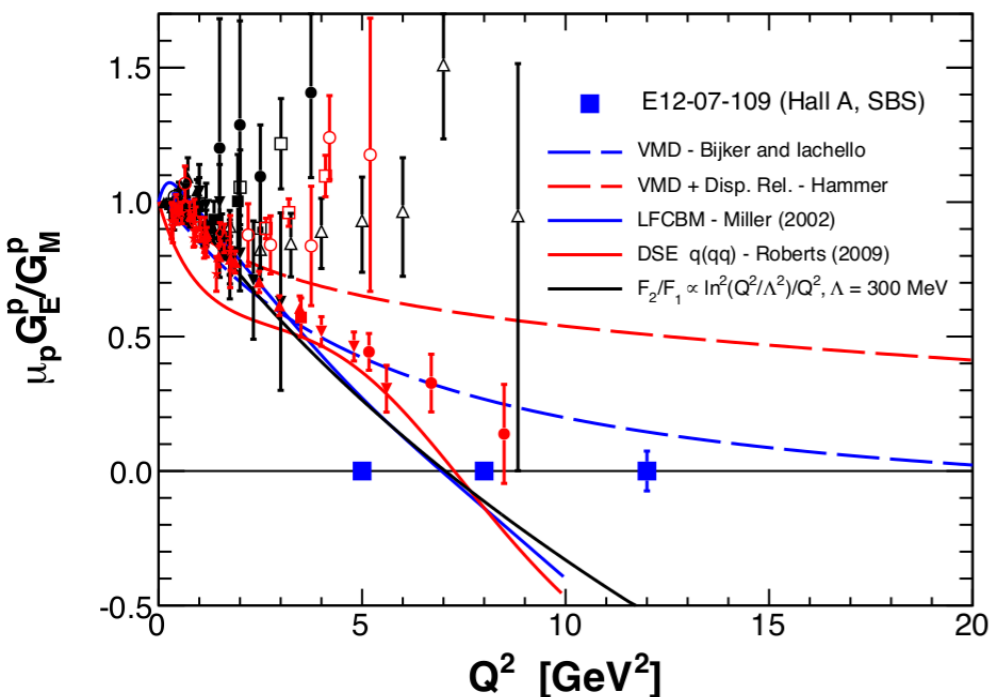
$$\langle P + q | \bar{q} \gamma^\mu q | P \rangle = \bar{U}_{P+q} \left[F_1(Q^2) \gamma^\mu + F_2(Q^2) \frac{i\sigma^{\mu\nu} q_\nu}{2M_N} \right] U_P$$

$$G_E(Q^2) = F_1(Q^2) - \frac{Q^2}{4M^2} F_2(Q^2)$$

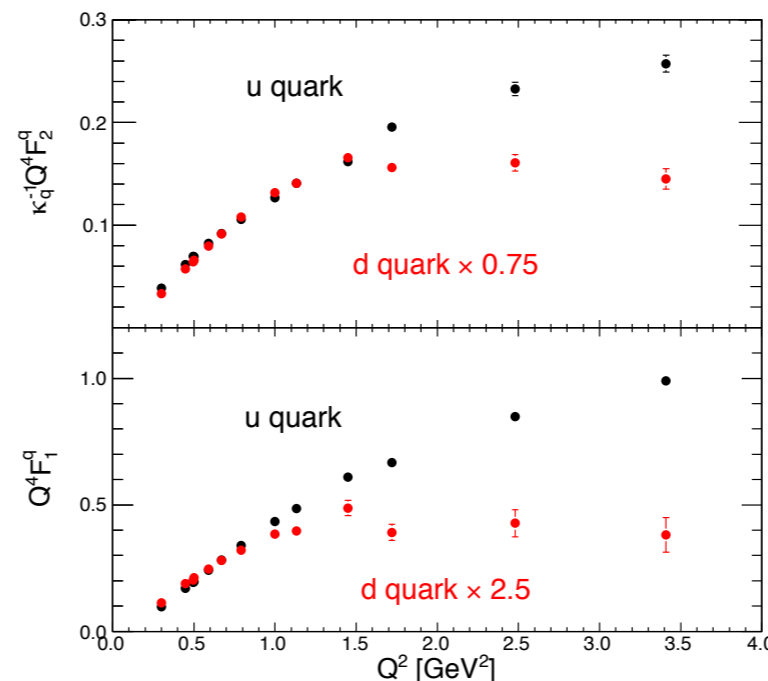
$$G_M(Q^2) = F_1(Q^2) + F_2(Q^2)$$



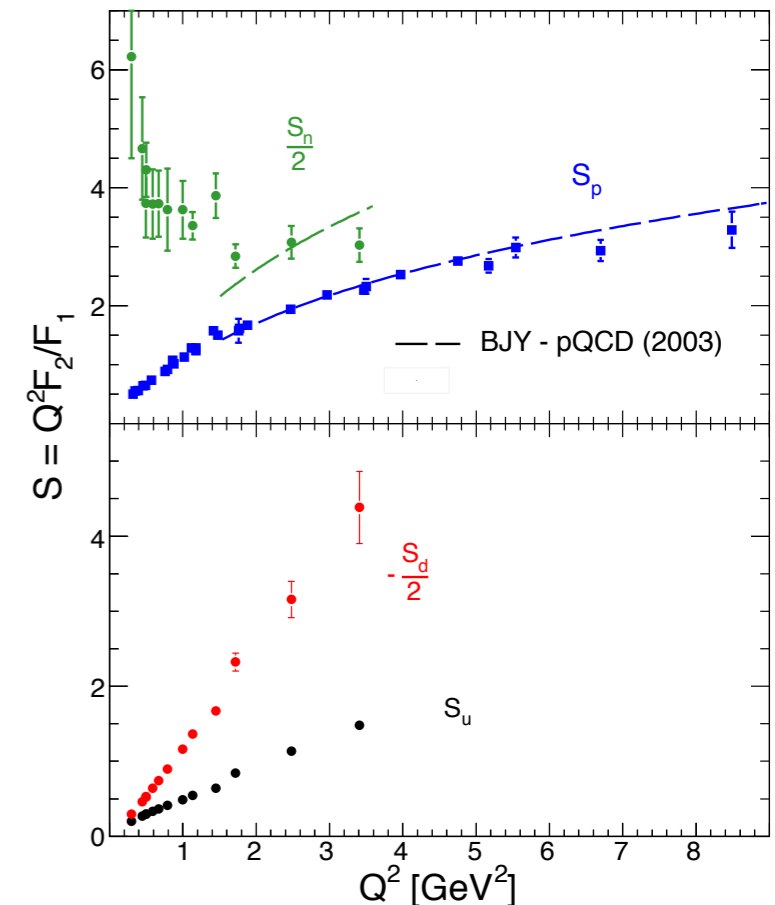
- JLab@12GeV + Super BigBite: explore form factors at Q^2 up to 18 GeV^2
 - (G_E/G_M) dependence
 - (F_1/F_2) scaling at $Q^2 \rightarrow \infty$
 - u -, d -flavor contributions to form factors



[Research Mgmt. Plan for SBS(JLab Hall A)]



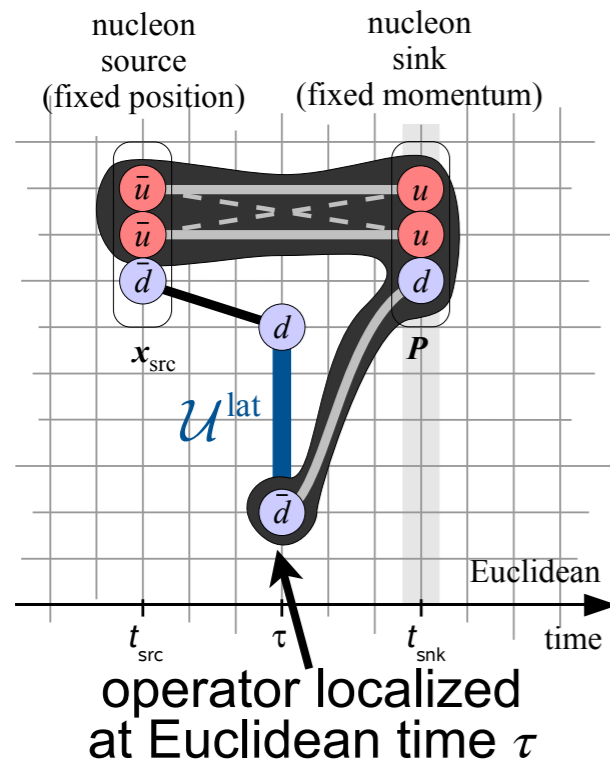
[G.D.Cates, C.W.de Jager, S.Riordan, B.Wojtsekhovski, PRL106:252003, arXiv:1103.1808]



Common Problem with TMD, qPDF

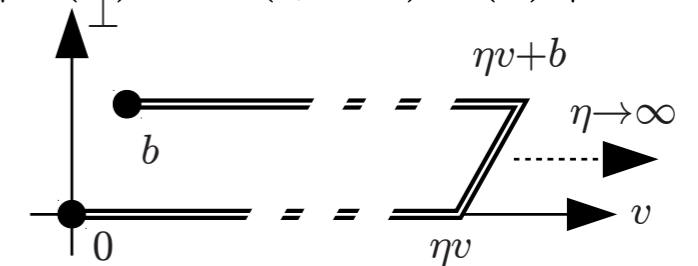
[B.Musch, M.Engelhardt, et al]

Non-local lattice operator



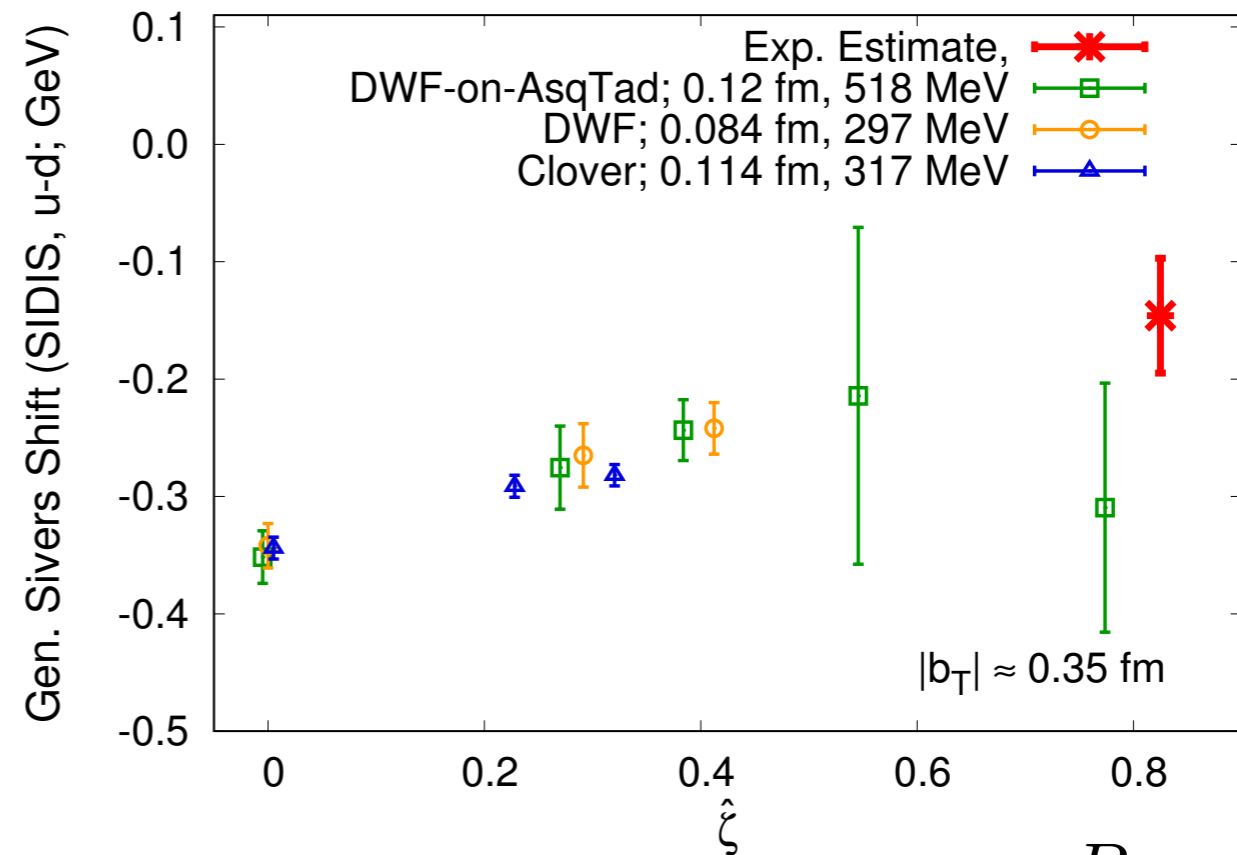
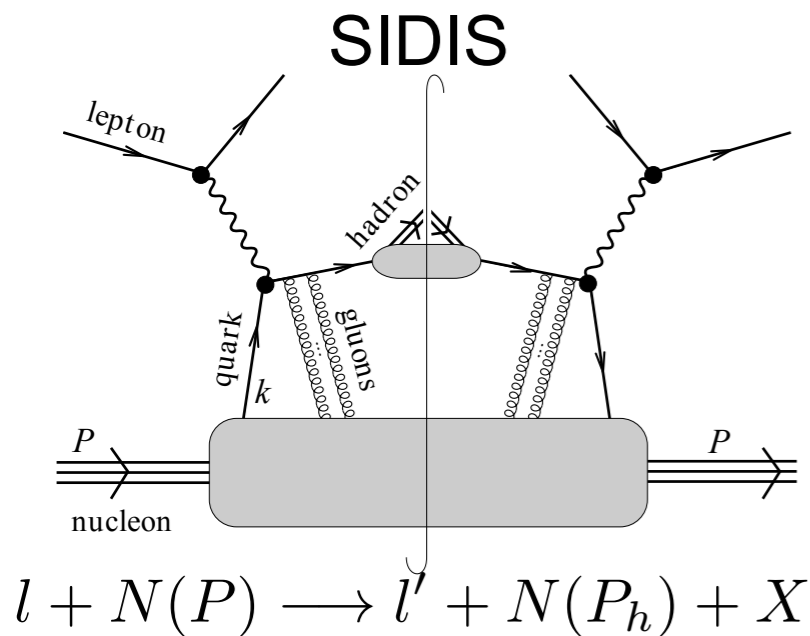
$$\Phi(b, P, S, \hat{\zeta}, \mu) = \frac{1}{2} \langle P, S | \bar{q}(0) \Gamma \mathcal{U}(\eta v, b) q(b) | P, S \rangle$$

with spacelike link path $\mathcal{U} =$



probes k_{\perp} -moments
("shifts") of TMDs

$$\sim \int dx \int d^2 \vec{k}_{\perp} k_i f(x, \vec{k}_{\perp})$$



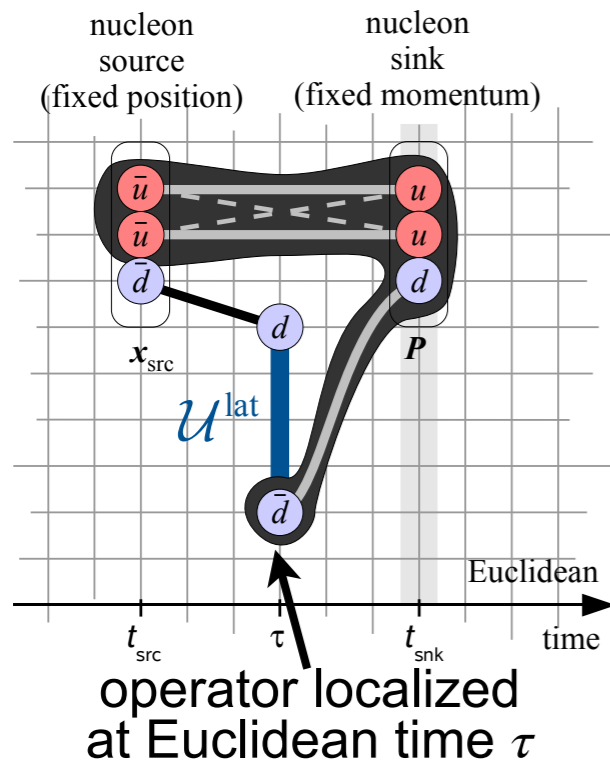
LC limit of spacelike staple:
Collins-Soper parameter

$$\hat{\zeta} = \frac{P \cdot v}{m_N |v|} \rightarrow \infty$$

Common Problem with TMD, qPDF

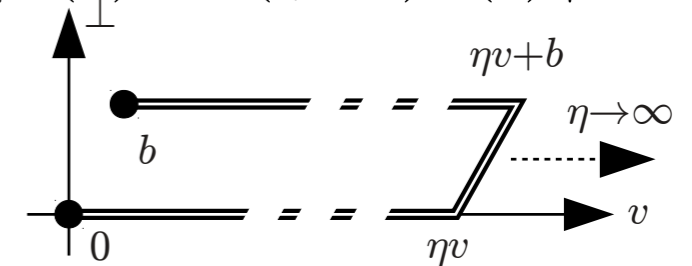
[B.Musch, M.Engelhardt, et al]

Non-local lattice operator



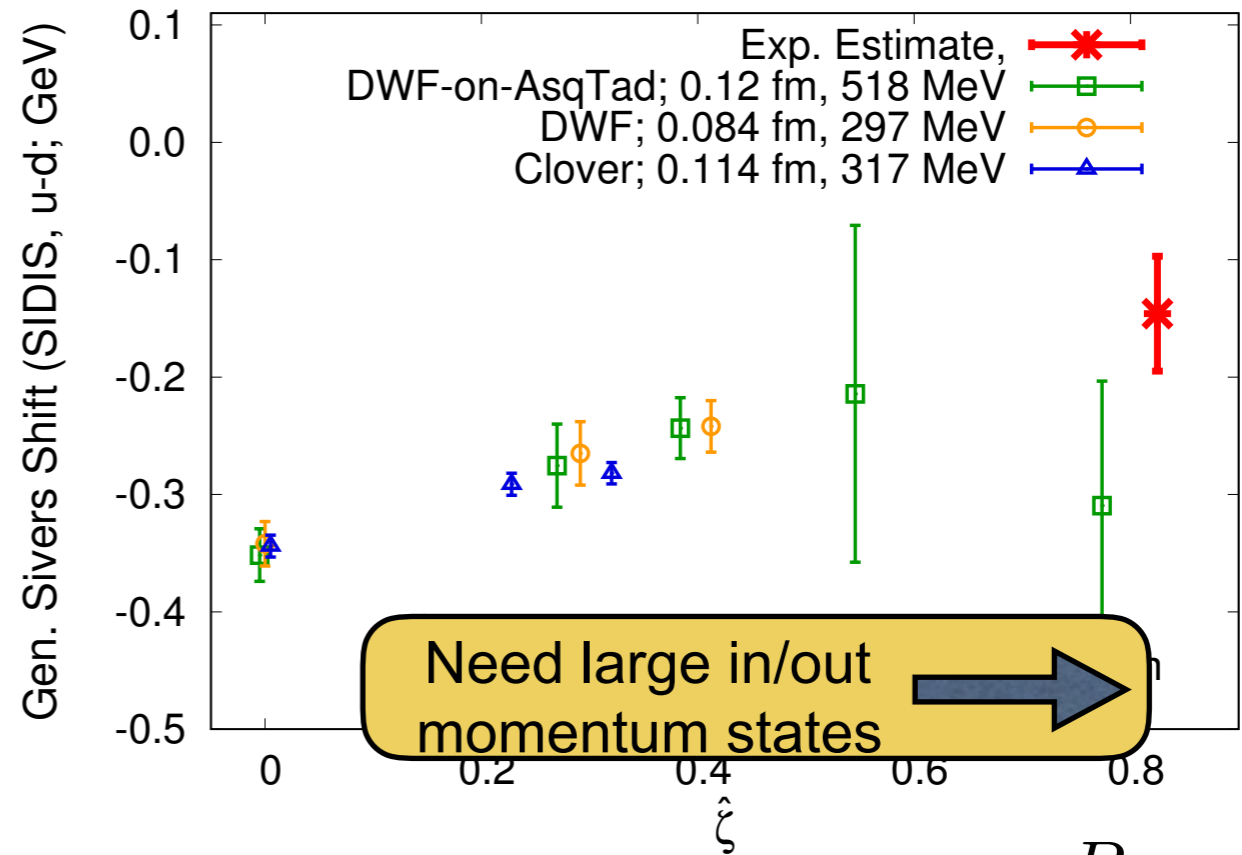
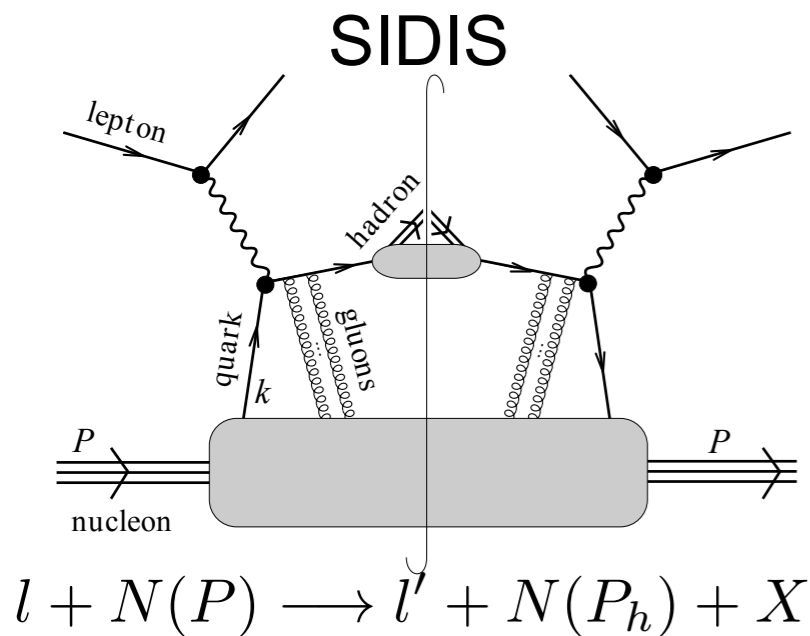
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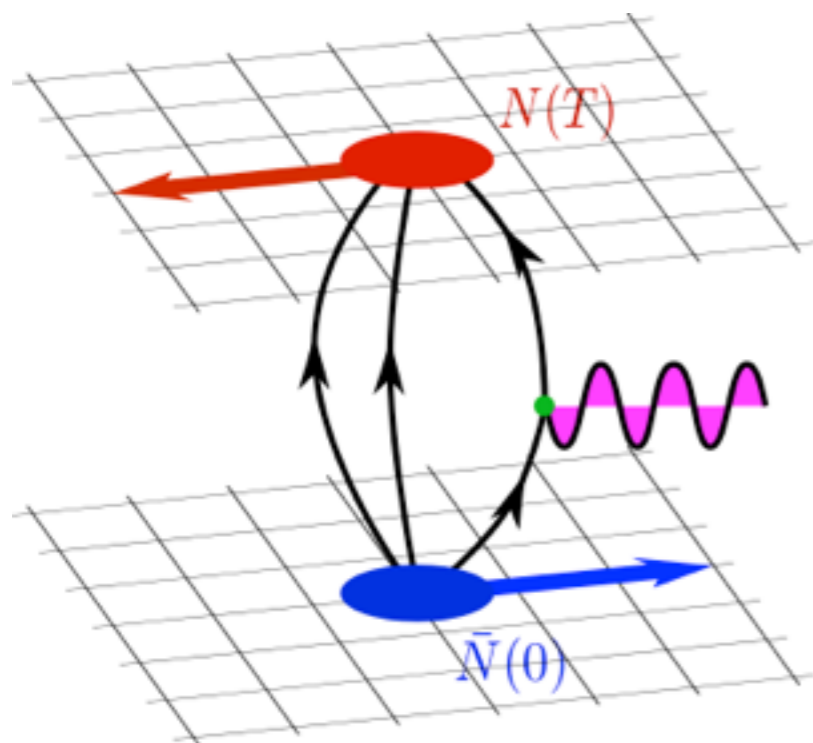
$$\sim \int dx \int d^2 \vec{k}_{\perp} k_i f(x, \vec{k}_{\perp})$$



LC limit of spacelike staple:
Collins-Soper parameter

$$\hat{\zeta} = \frac{P \cdot v}{m_N |v|} \rightarrow \infty$$

Accessing Large Q^2 : Breit Frame



Minimize $E_{in,out}$ for required Q^2 :

$$Q^2 = (\vec{p}_{in} - \vec{p}_{out})^2 - (E_{in} - E_{out})^2$$

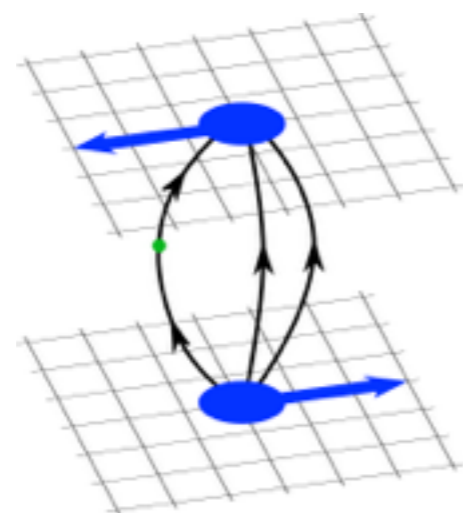
Back-to-back

$$Q^2 = 4\vec{p}^2$$

At right angle

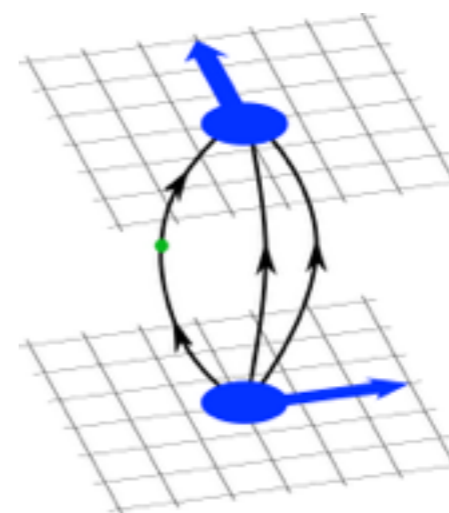
$$Q^2 = 2\vec{p}^2$$

For $Q^2 = 8 \text{ GeV}^2$



$$|\vec{p}| = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{Q^2} \approx 1.4 \text{ GeV}$$

$$E_N \approx 1.8 \text{ GeV}$$



$$|\vec{p}| = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} Q^2} \approx 2.0 \text{ GeV}$$

$$E_N \approx 2.3 \text{ GeV}$$

Challenges for Large Q^2 on a Lattice

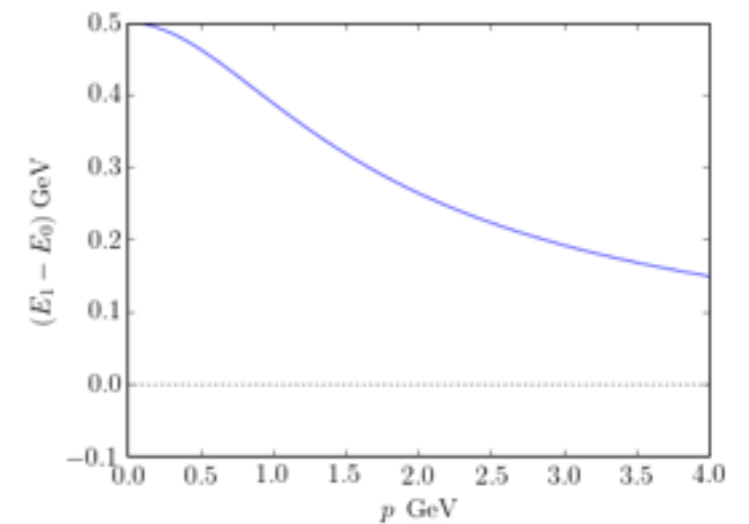
- Stochastic noise : grows faster with T [Lepage'89]:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Signal} & \quad \langle N(T)\bar{N}(0) \rangle & \sim e^{-E_N T} \\ \text{Noise} & \quad \langle |N(T)\bar{N}(0)|^2 \rangle - |\langle N(T)\bar{N}(0) \rangle|^2 & \sim e^{-3m_\pi T} \\ \text{Signal/Noise} & & \sim e^{-(E_N - \frac{3}{2}m_\pi)T} \end{aligned}$$

- Excited states: boosting "shrinks" the energy gap

$$E_1 - E_0 = \sqrt{M_1^2 + \vec{p}^2} - \sqrt{M_2^2 + \vec{p}^2} < M_1 - M_0$$

- In this work : use 2-exponential fits



Reduction of lattice correlator noise is crucial

Challenges for Large Q^2 on a Lattice (2)

- Discretization effects : $O(a^1)$ for local operator
 $O(a^1)$ improved vector-current operator

$$(V_\mu)_I = \bar{q}\gamma_\mu q + c_V a \partial_\nu (\bar{q}i\sigma_{\mu\nu}q)$$

improvement term is likely to grow with Q^2

- Disconnected contractions

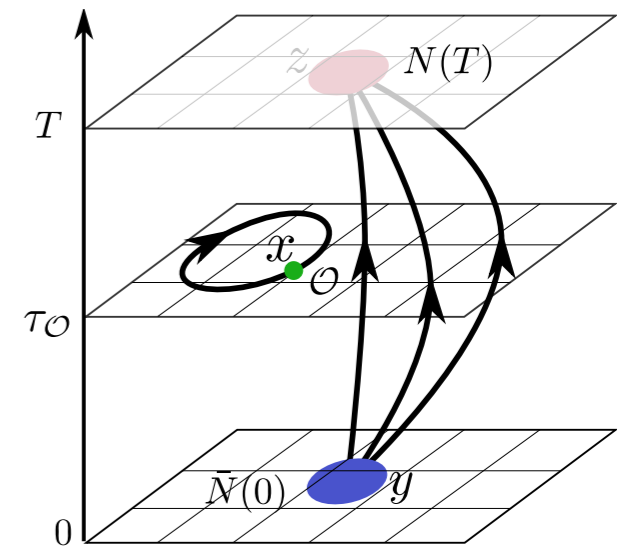
expensive: $\langle N' | J_\mu | N \rangle_{\text{disc}} \sim \langle \overline{N'N} \cdot \text{Tr}[\gamma_\mu \mathcal{D}^{-1}] \rangle$

negligible for small $Q^2 \lesssim 1 \text{ GeV}^2$

[J. Green, S. Meinel, et al; PRD92:031501]

- need to explore at $Q^2 \gtrsim 1 \text{ GeV}^2$

- noise reduction for $\overline{N'N}$ is critical



High-momentum Hadron States on a Lattice

Nucleon operator is built from \approx Gaussian smeared quarks

$$N_{\text{lat}}(x) = (\mathcal{S} u)_x^a [(\mathcal{S} d)_x^b C \gamma_5 (\mathcal{S} u)_x^c] \epsilon^{abc}$$

Gaussian shape in momentum space :

reduced overlap with quark WFs in a boosted nucleon

$$\mathcal{S}_{\text{at-rest}} = \exp\left[-\frac{w^2}{4} (i\vec{\nabla})^2\right] \sim \exp\left(-\frac{w^2 \vec{k}_{\text{lat}}^2}{4}\right)$$

SOLUTION: improve the overlap by shifting the spatial smearing operator in momentum space ("*momentum smearing*")

[orig. B.Musch; first explored in G.Bali et al, 1602.05525]

$$\mathcal{S}_{\vec{k}_0} = \exp\left[-\frac{w^2}{4} (-i\vec{\nabla} - \vec{k}_0)^2\right] \sim \exp\left(-\frac{w^2 (\vec{k}_{\text{lat}} - \vec{k}_0)^2}{4}\right)$$

Modified smearing operator

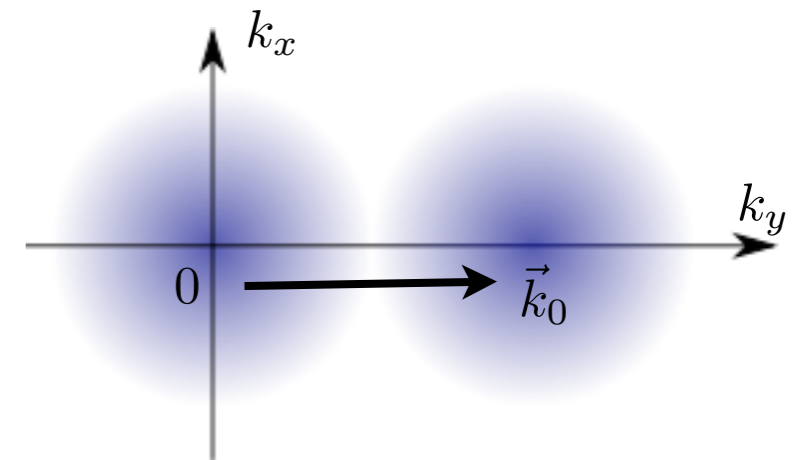
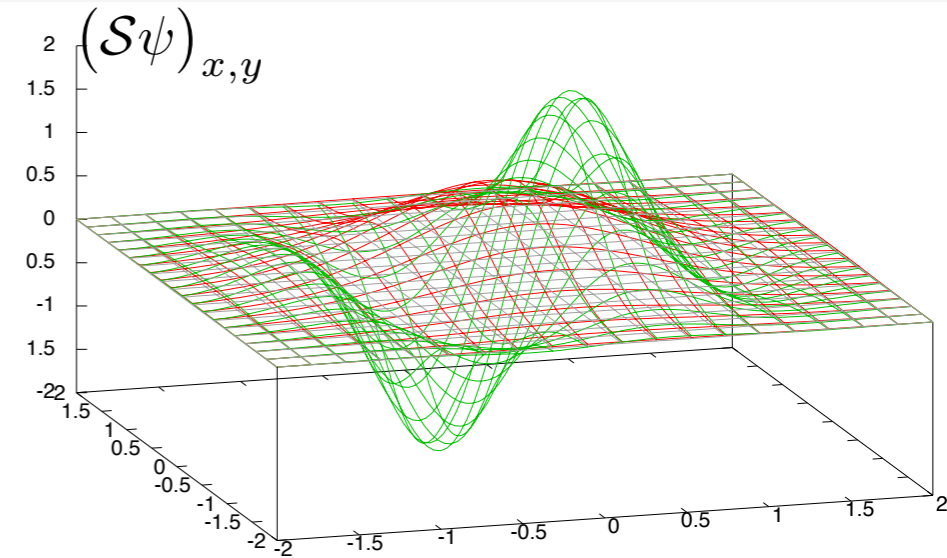
$$[\mathcal{S}_{\vec{k}_0}(\psi)]_x = e^{+\vec{k}_0 \vec{x}} \mathcal{S}(e^{-\vec{k}_0 \vec{y}} \psi_y) \sim e^{+\vec{k}_0 \vec{x}} \cdot \text{smooth fcn.}(x)$$

Modified covariant smearing operator in lattice*color space

$$[\mathcal{S}_{\vec{k}_0}]_{x,y} = e^{+i\vec{k}_0 \vec{x}} [\mathcal{S}]_{x,y} e^{-i\vec{k}_0 \vec{y}} \iff$$

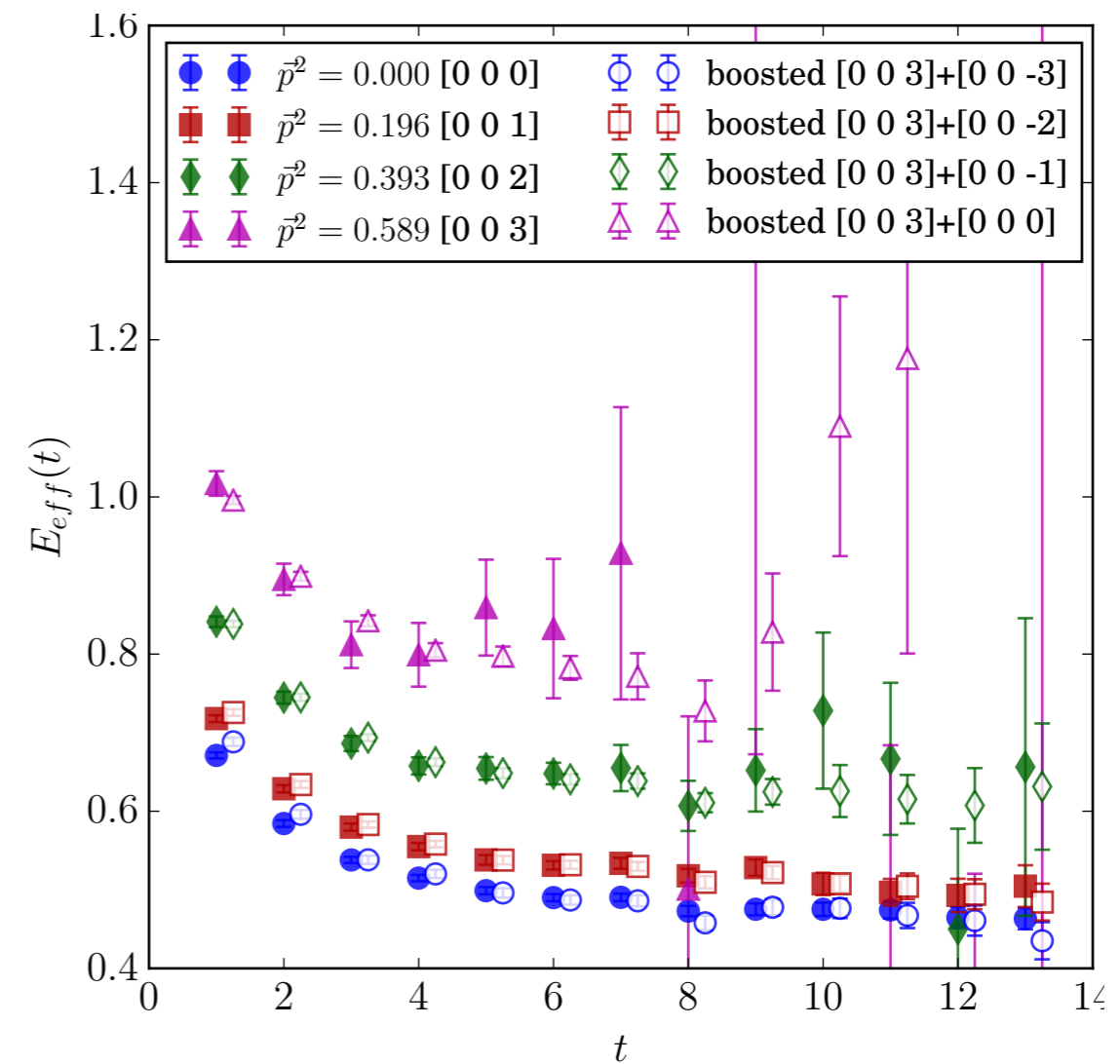
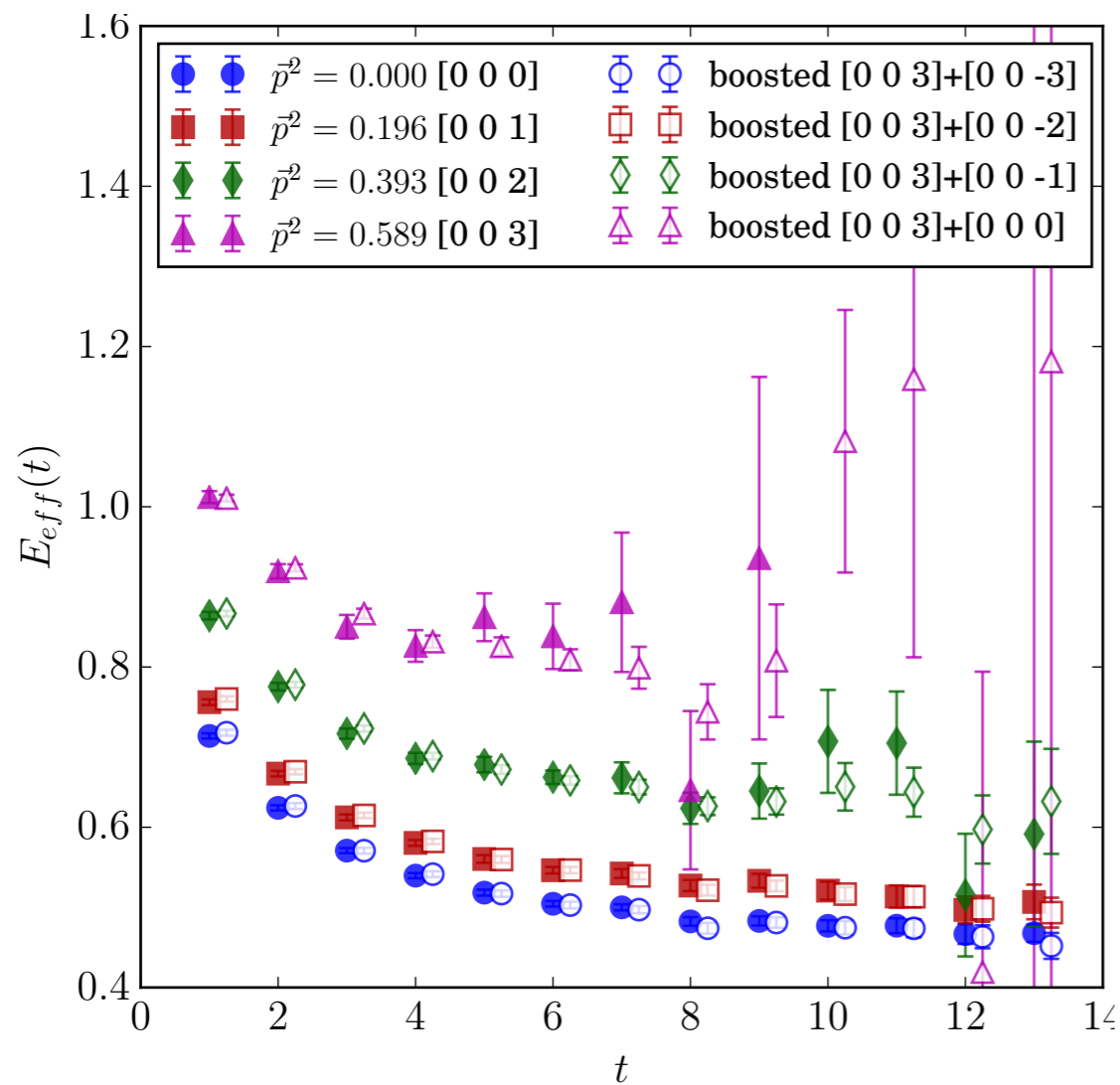
Smearing with twisted gauge links

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_{x,y} &\longrightarrow e^{+i\vec{k}_0 \vec{x}} \Delta_{x,y} e^{-i\vec{k}_0 \vec{y}} \\ U_{x,\mu} &\longrightarrow e^{-ik_\mu} U_{x,\mu} \end{aligned}$$



Signal Gain : Traditional vs. Boosted Smearing

Nucleon Effective Energy: $m_\pi = 300$ MeV, $a=0.094$ fm, $32^3 \times 64$



$width \approx 5a$

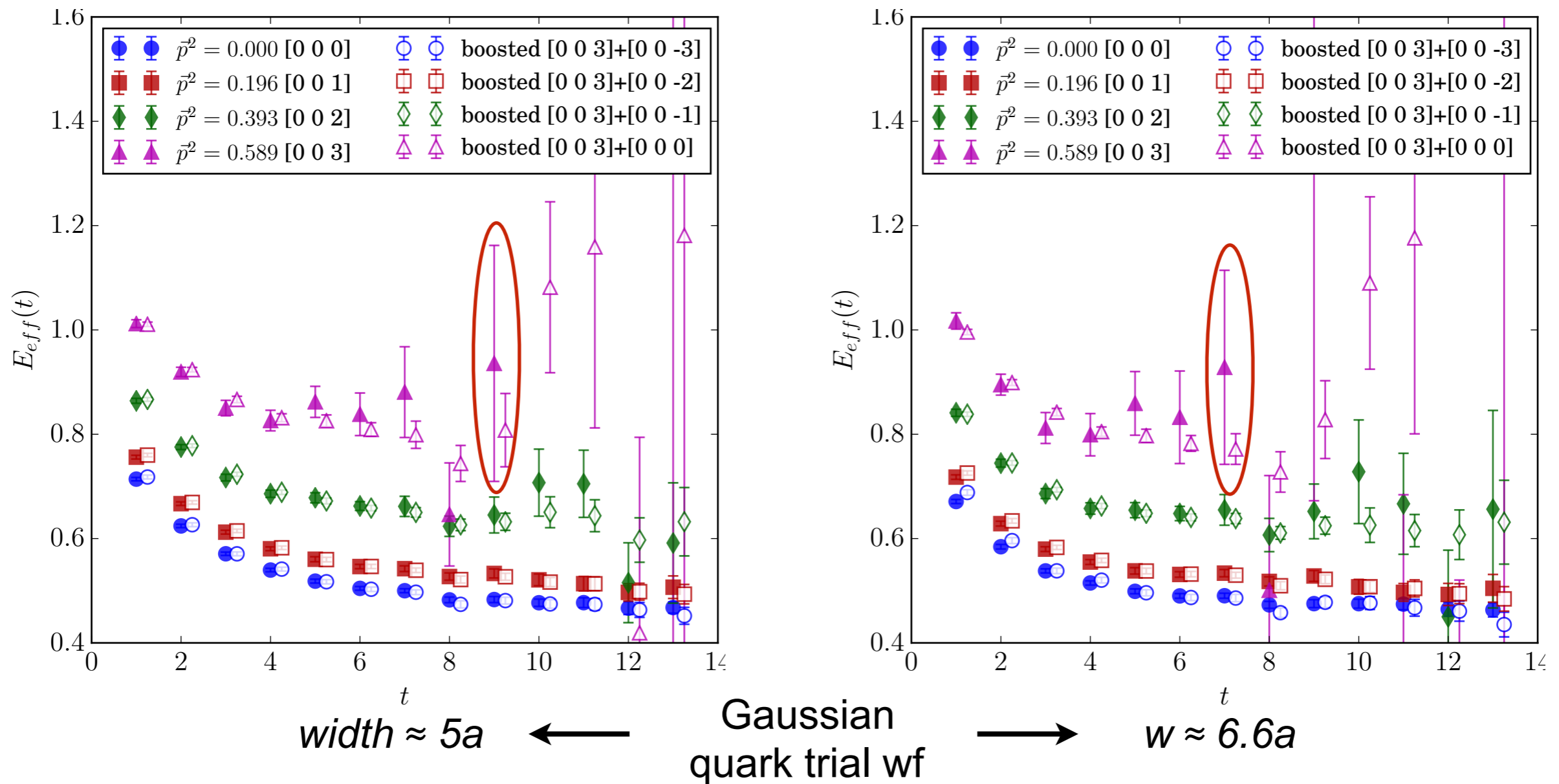
← Gaussian smearing →

$w \approx 6.6a$

- each quark is boosted with the same $k=[0\ 0\ 1]$
- $w \approx 5.55a$ chosen as \approx optimal

Signal Gain : Traditional vs. Boosted Smearing

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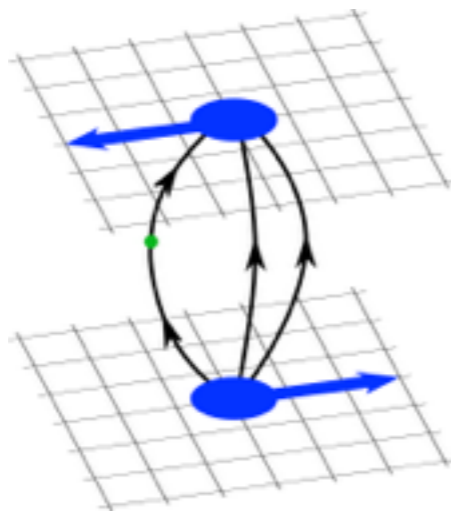
Preliminary Study: 2 Gauge Ensembles

Exploratory study with clover-improved Wilson action (WM/JLab) at $m_\pi \approx 300$ MeV

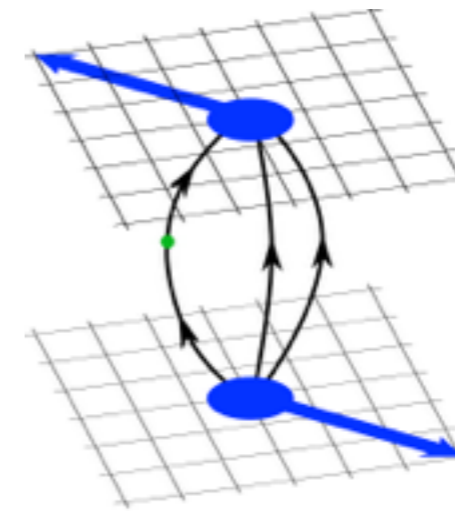
- $32^3 \times 64$
- $a = 0.094$ fm
- $\rho_{min} = 0.42$ GeV
- $t_{sep} = (8 \dots 12)a = 0.65 \dots 0.97$ fm
- boost-smear with $[1, 0, 0]$
- $240 \times 64 = 15,360$ samples

- $32^3 \times 96$
- $a = 0.114$ fm
- $\rho_{min} = 0.34$ GeV
- $t_{sep} = (6 \dots 10)a = 0.68 \dots 1.14$ fm
- boost-smear with $[1, 1, 0]$
- $210 \times 96 = 20,160$ samples

$$Q^2 \lesssim 6.1 \text{ GeV}^2$$



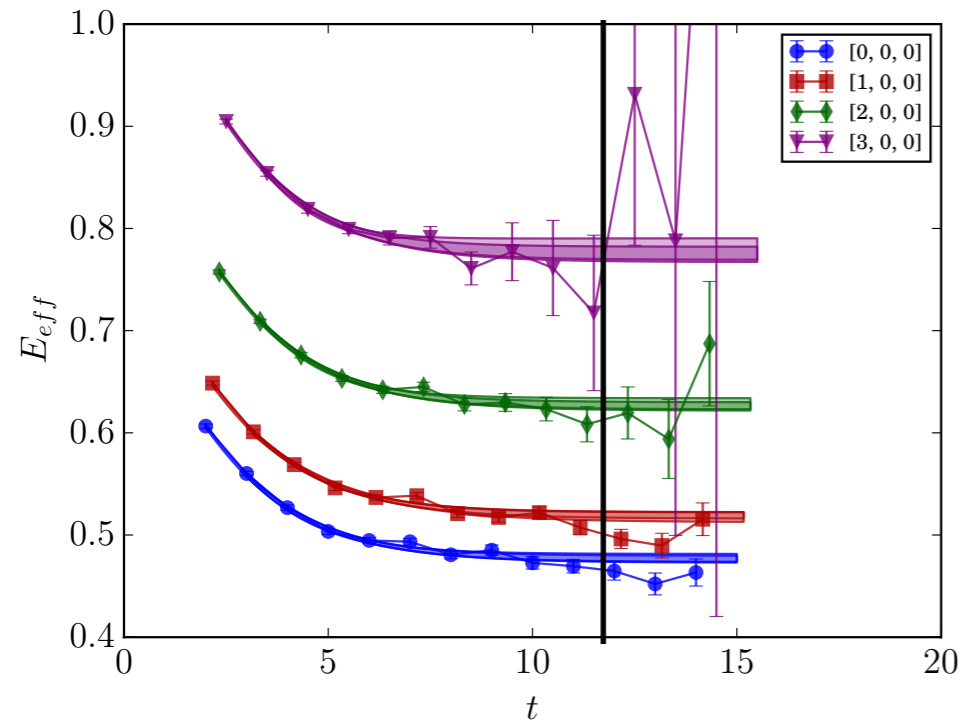
$$Q^2 \lesssim 8.3 \text{ GeV}^2$$



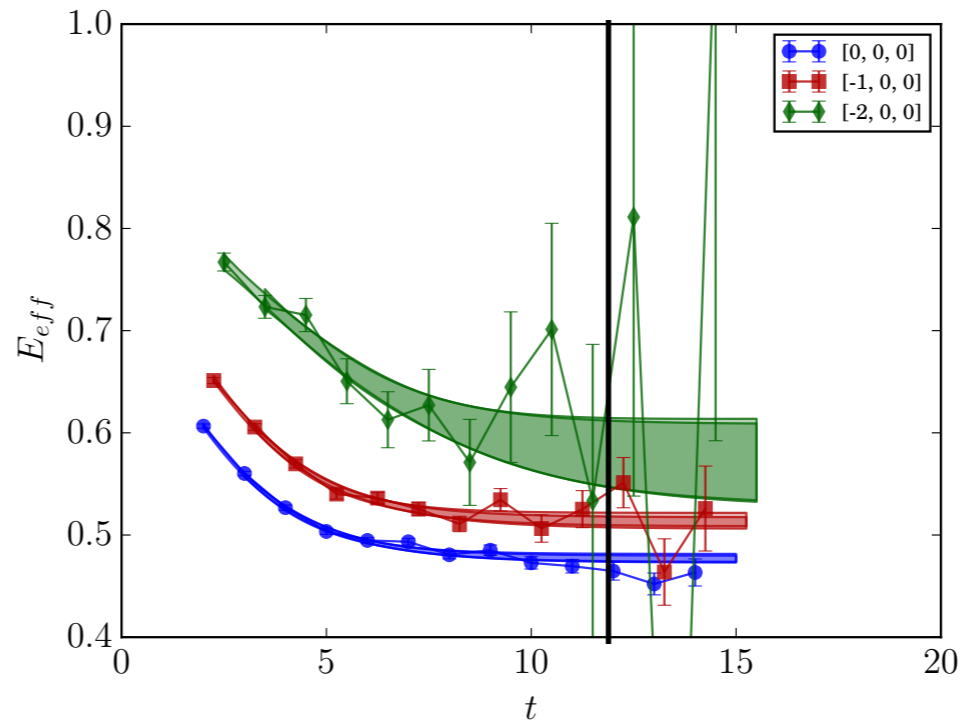
- each quark is smeared with the same "boost" $k = p/3$

Effective Energy from Boost-Smeared C2pt

$p_N \uparrow$ boost



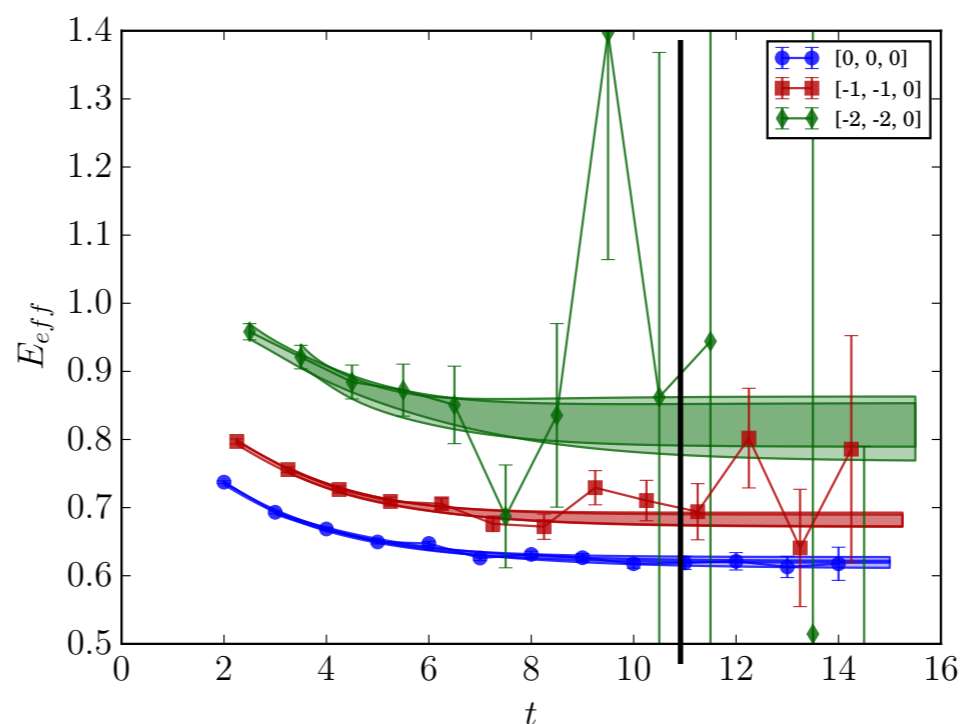
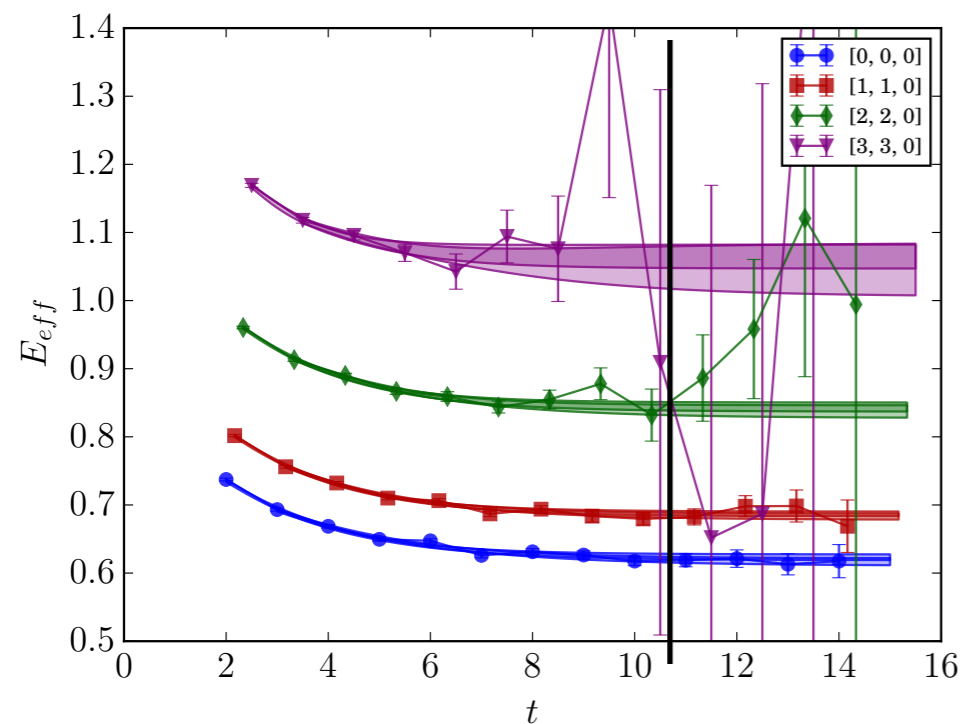
$p_N \updownarrow$ boost



$a=0.094$ fm

$k_{\text{boost}}=[1,0,0]$

Select source-sink sep
(8 ..12) $a = 0.75 \dots 1.13$ fm



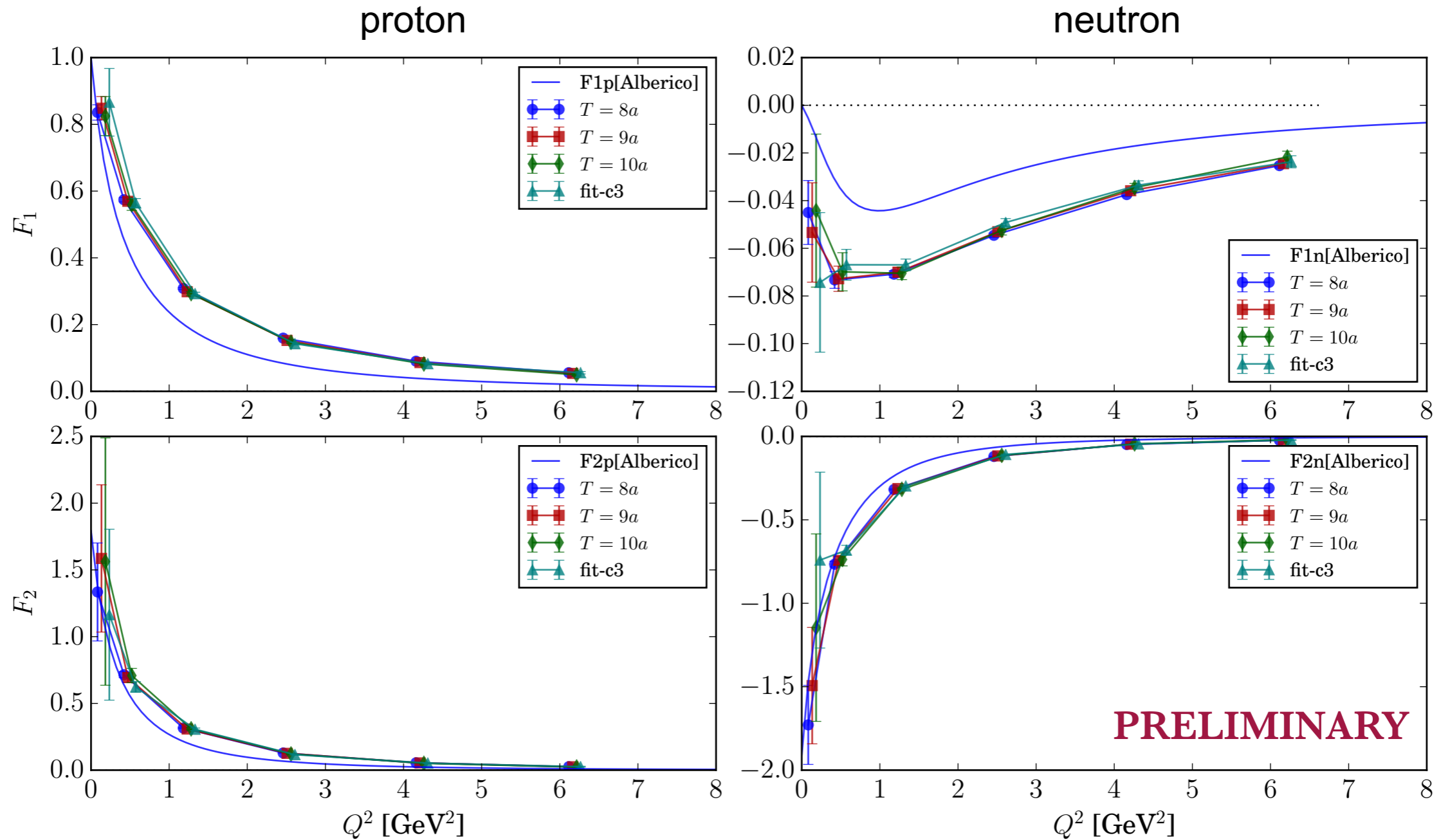
$a=0.114$ fm

$k_{\text{boost}}=[1,1,0]$

Select source-sink sep
(6 ..10) $a = 0.68 \dots 1.1$ fm

Nucleon Form Factors at $a=0.094$ fm

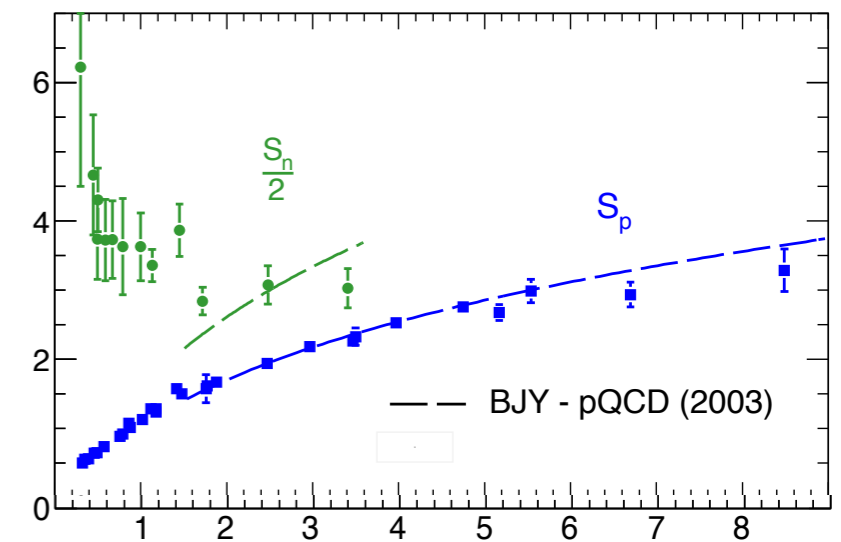
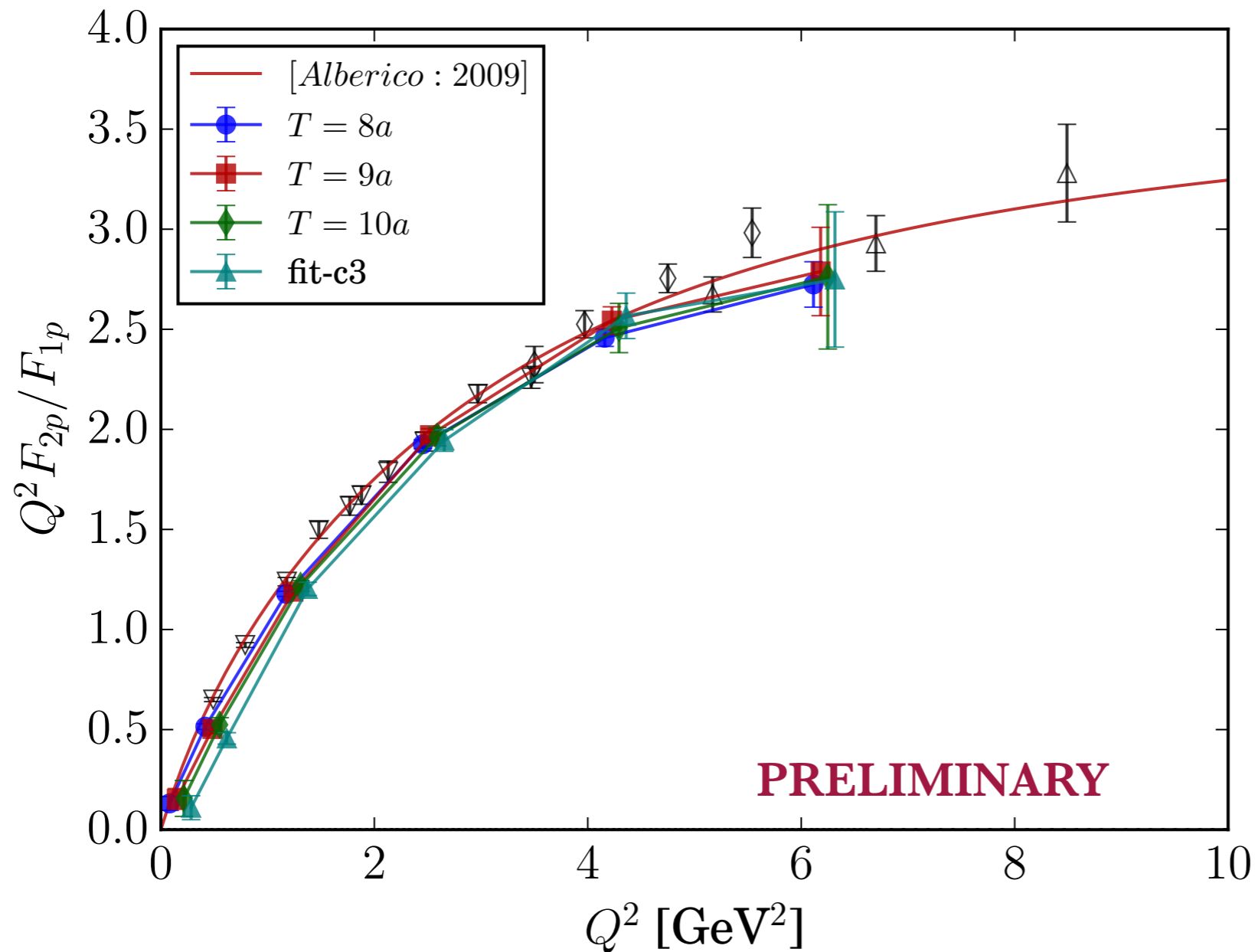
- No disconnected diagrams
- No discretization corrections



$$\langle P + q | \bar{q} \gamma^\mu q | P \rangle = \bar{U}_{P+q} \left[F_1(Q^2) \gamma^\mu + F_2(Q^2) \frac{i\sigma^{\mu\nu} q_\nu}{2M_N} \right] U_P$$

F_{2p}/F_{1p} Scaling

- No disconnected diagrams
- No discretization corrections

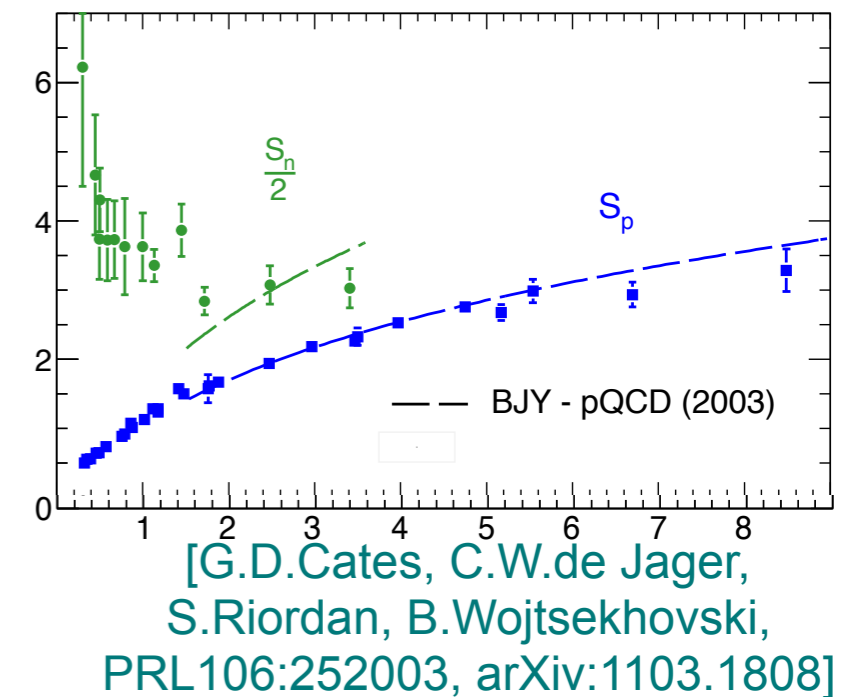
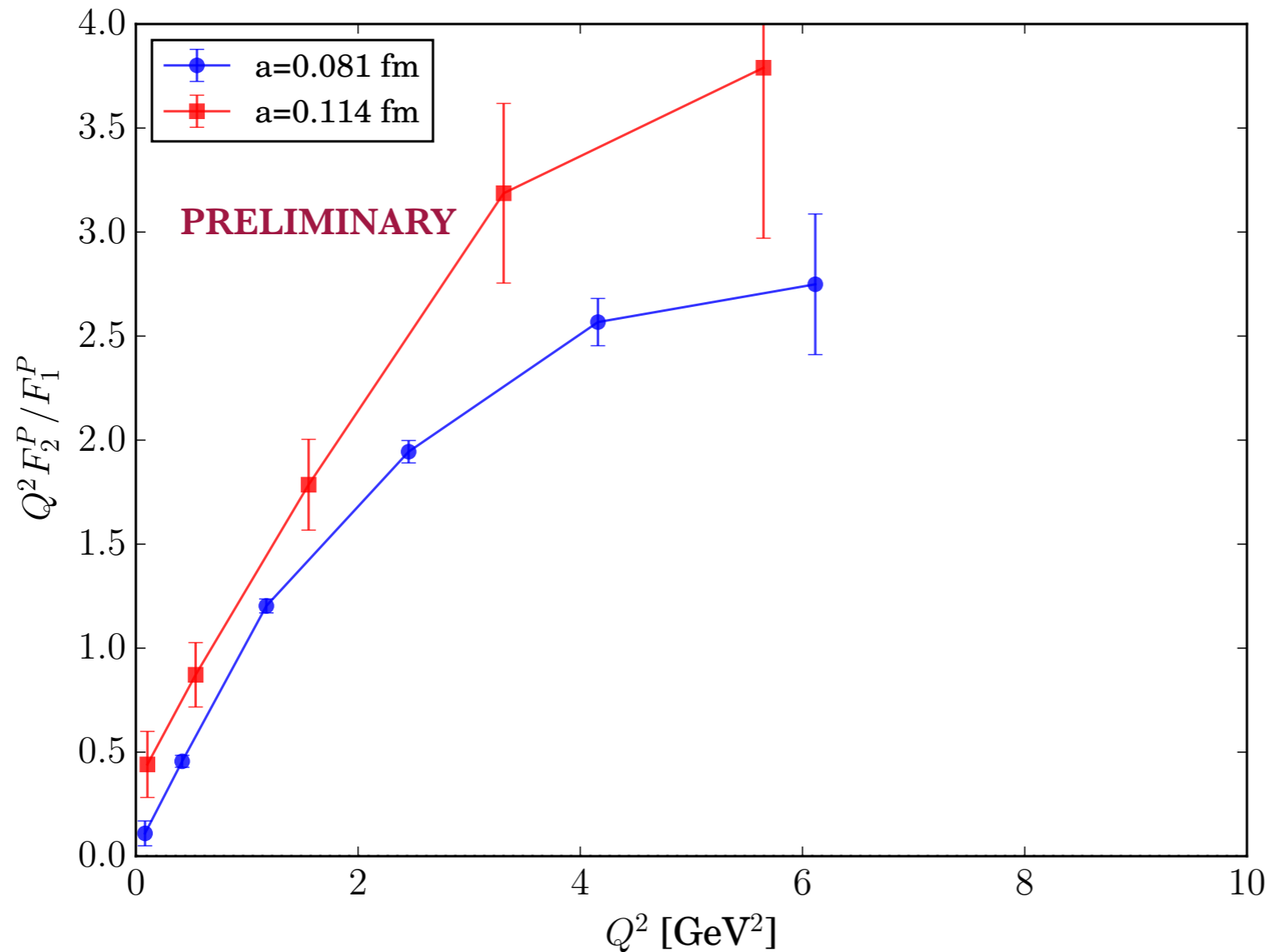


[G.D.Cates, C.W.de Jager, S.Riordan, B.Wojtsekhovski, PRL106:252003, arXiv:1103.1808]

- comparison to exp. data and pheno.parameterization [Alberico et al, PRC74:065204(2009)]
- expect $Q^2 F_1(Q^2)/F_2(Q^2) \sim \log[Q^2/\Lambda^2]$ scaling [Belitsky, Ji, Yuan (2003)]

F_{2p}/F_{1p} Scaling: a -Dependence

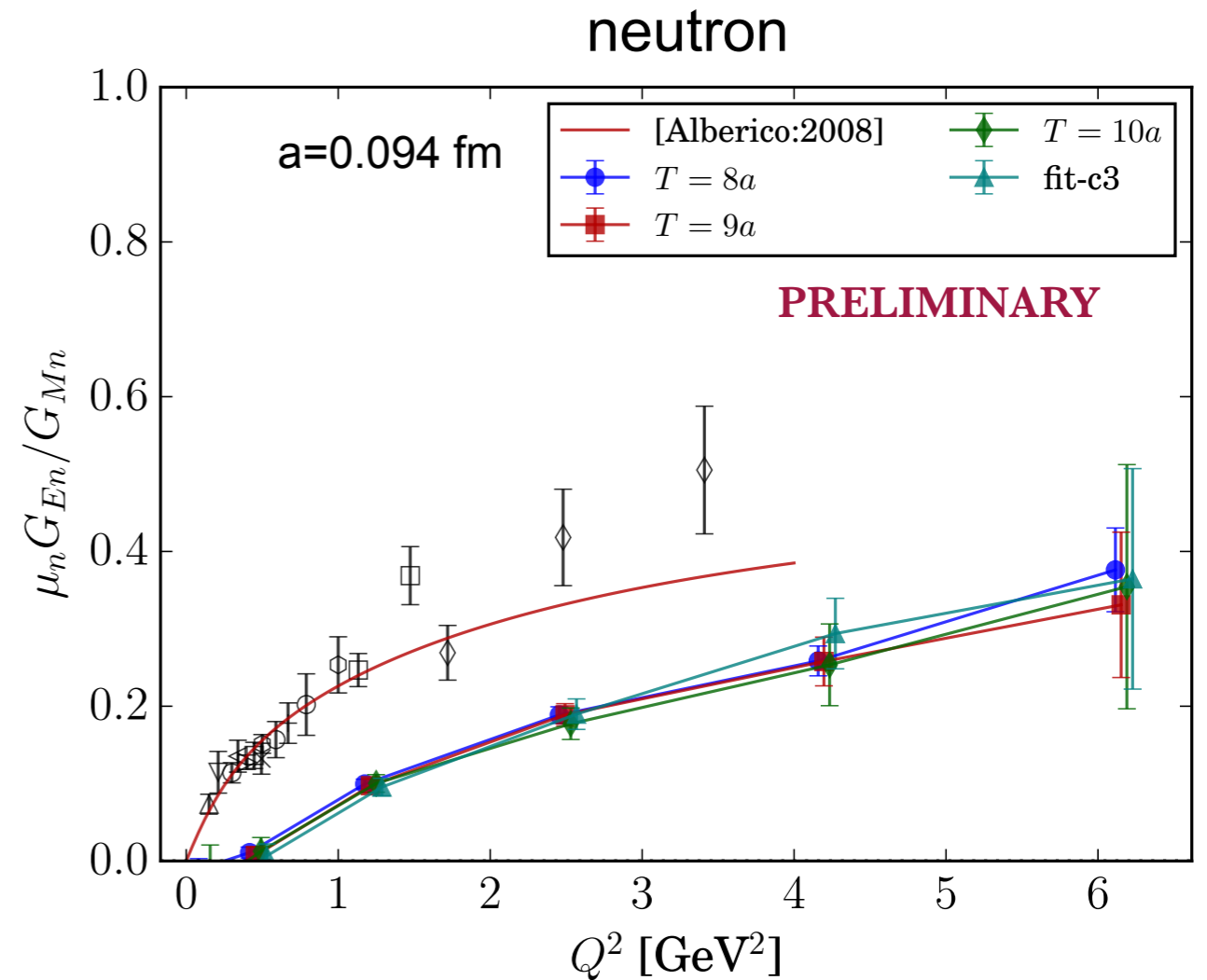
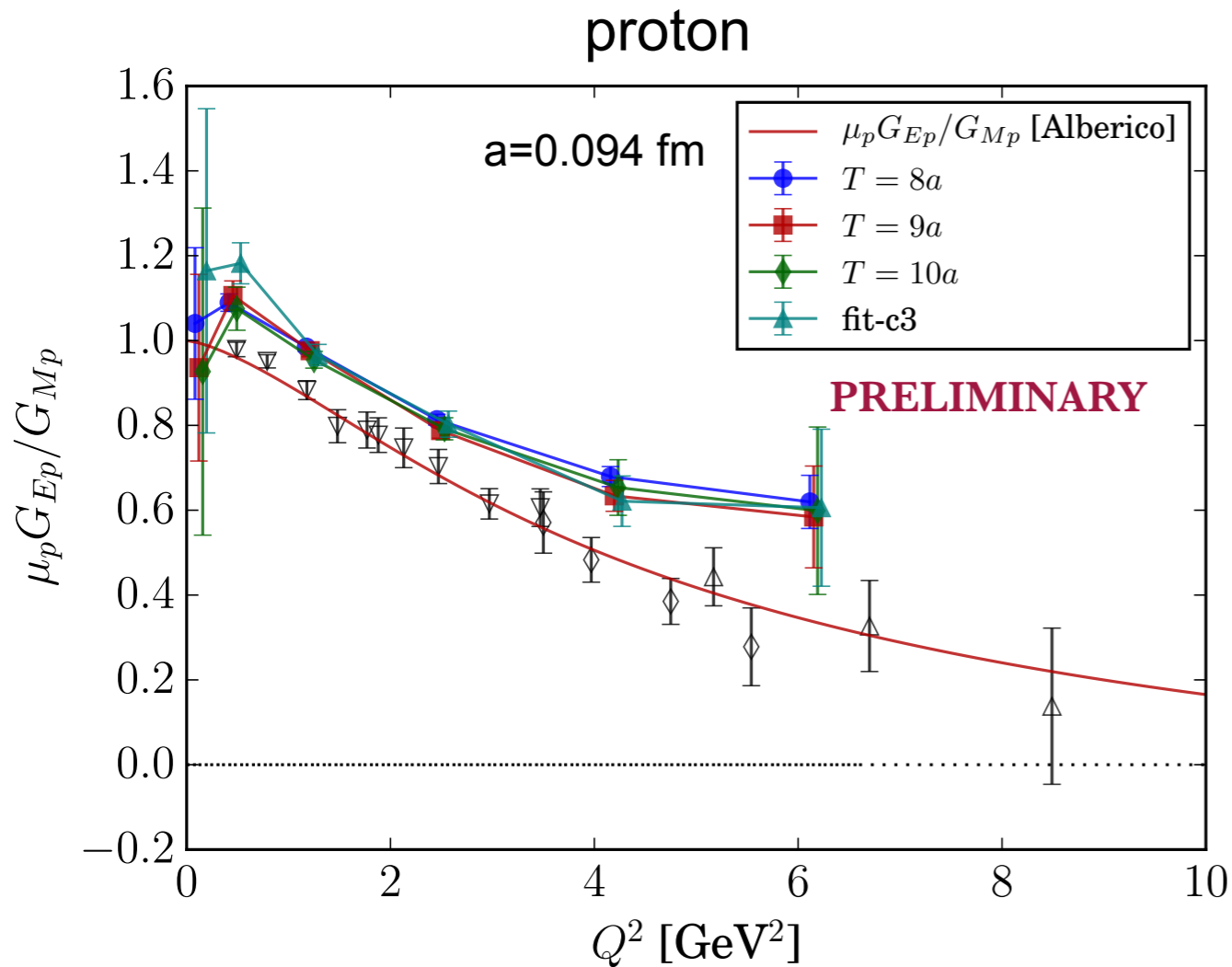
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- expect $Q^2 F_1(Q^2)/F_2(Q^2) \sim \log[Q^2/\Lambda^2]$ scaling [Belitsky, Ji, Yuan (2003)]

G_{Ep}/G_{Mp} for Proton and Neutron

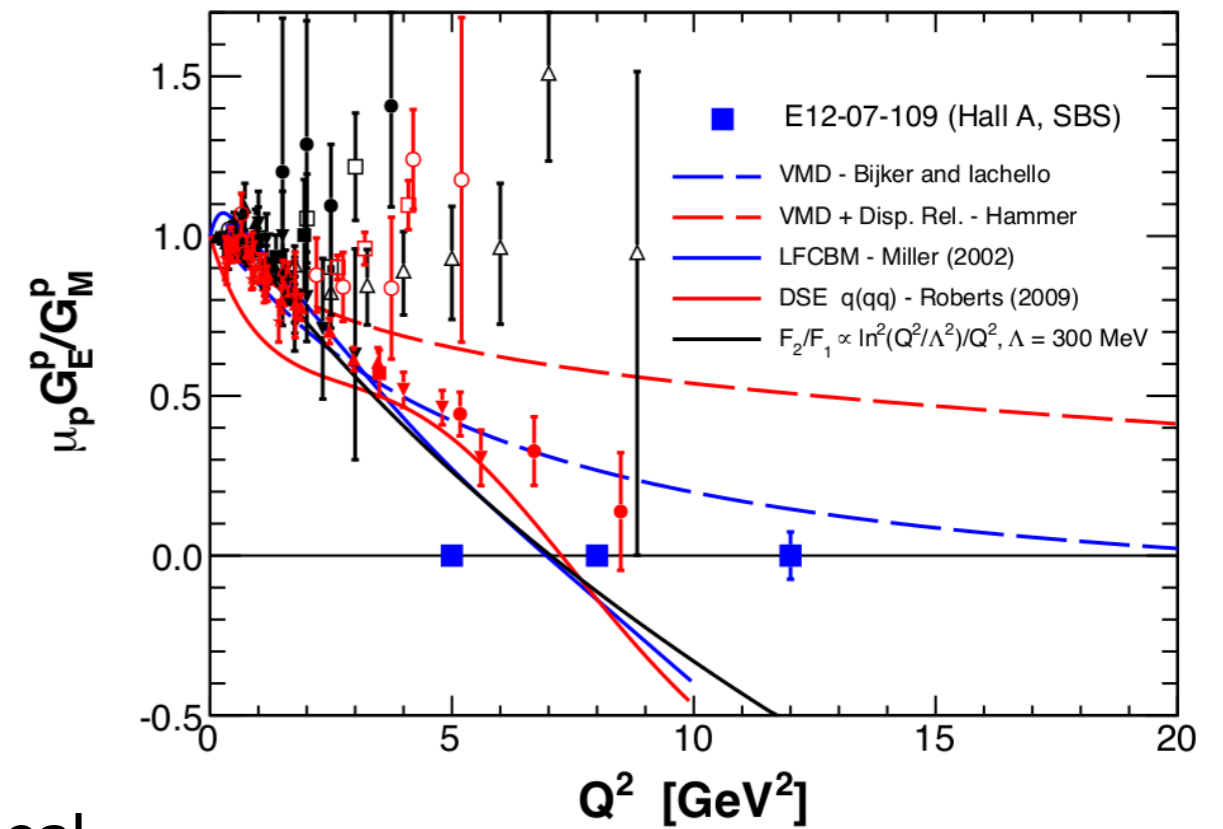
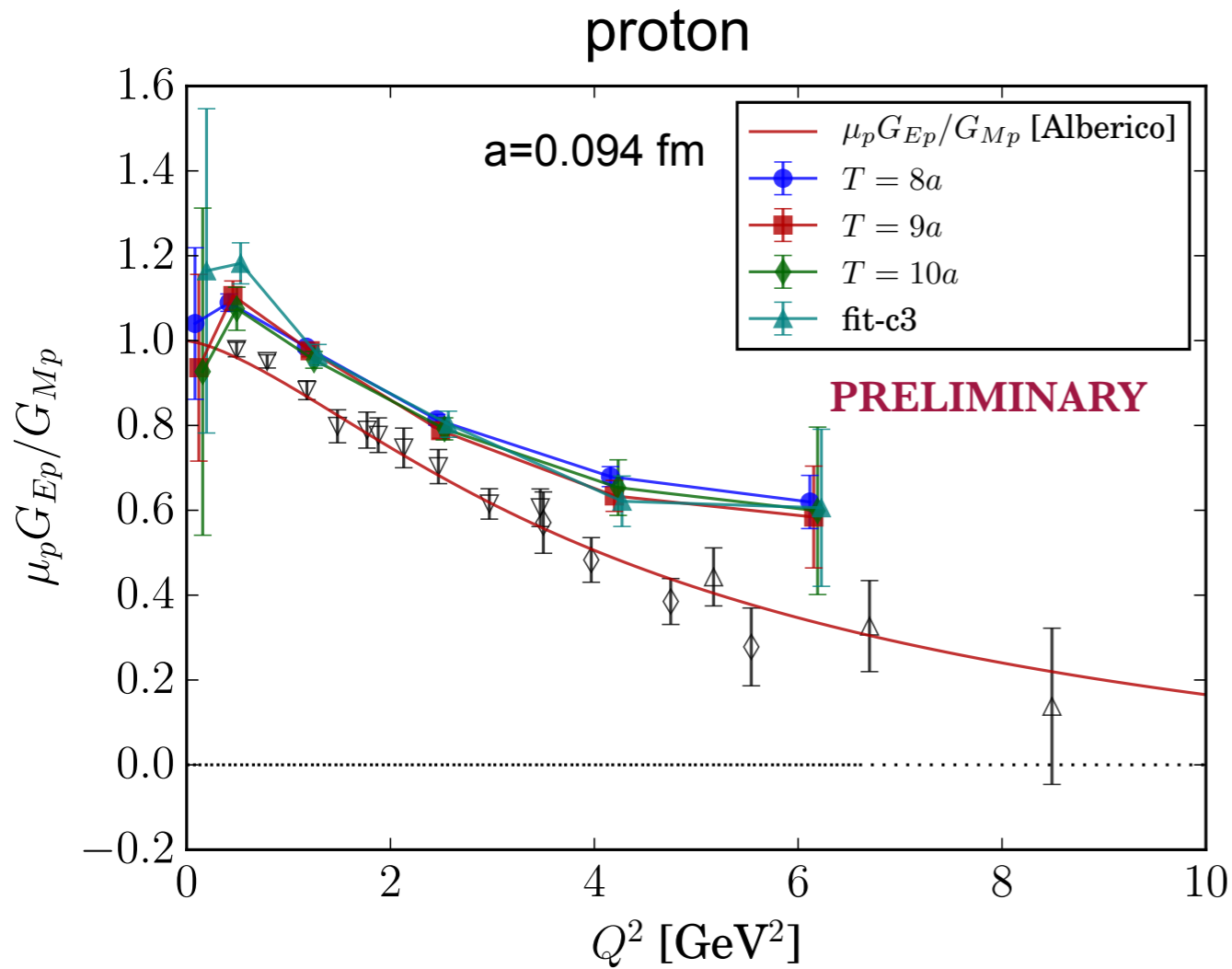
- No disconnected diagrams
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● lattice data are normalized by the physical $\mu_{p,n}$

G_{Ep}/G_{Mp} for Proton

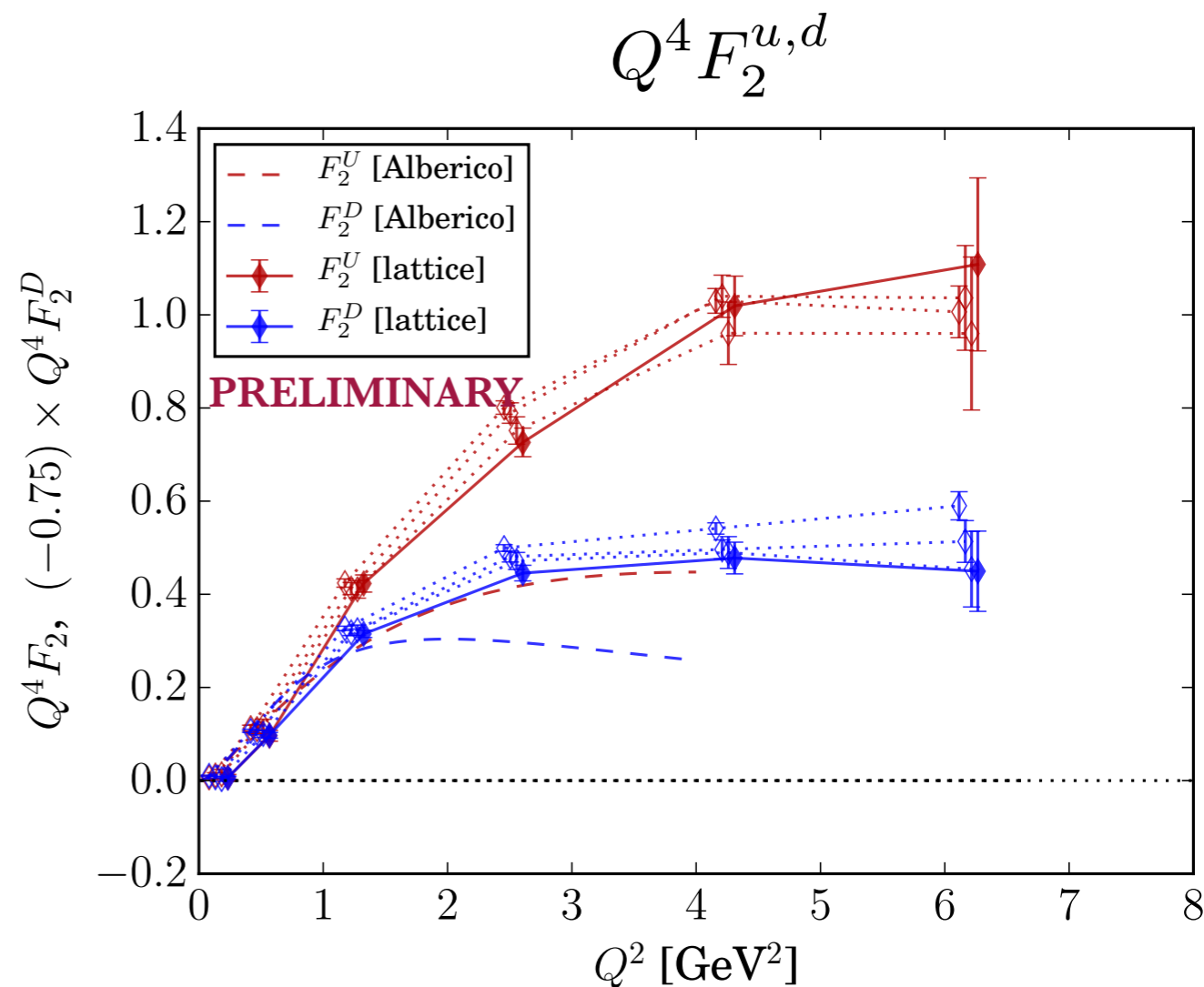
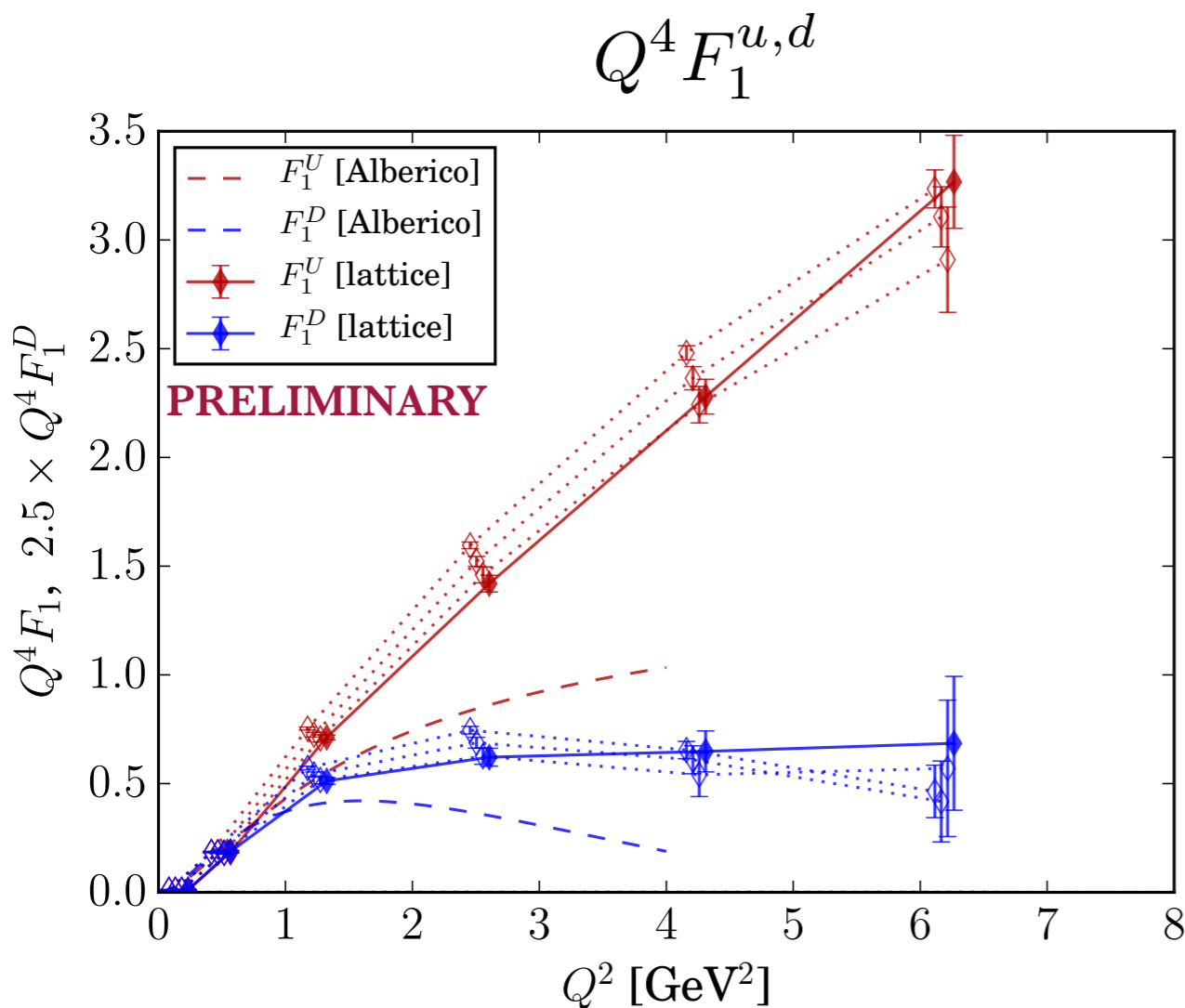
- No disconnected diagrams
- No discretization corrections



● lattice data are normalized by the physical $\mu_{p,n}$

Q^2 Dependence of F_1^u and F_1^d

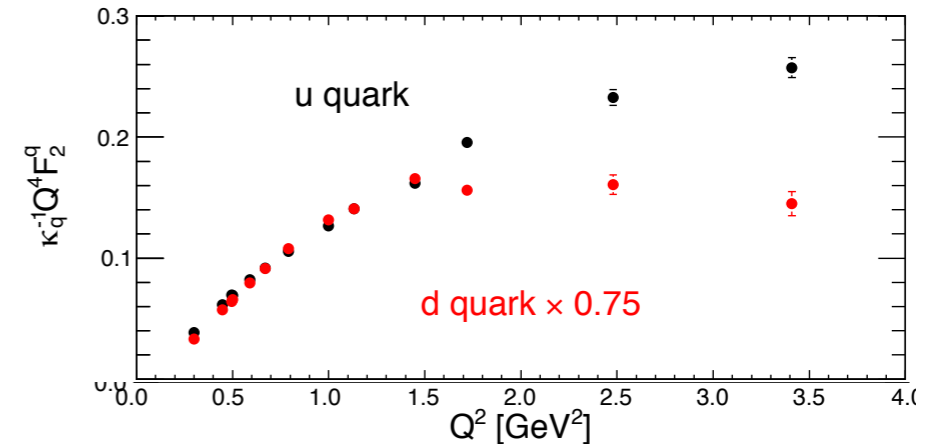
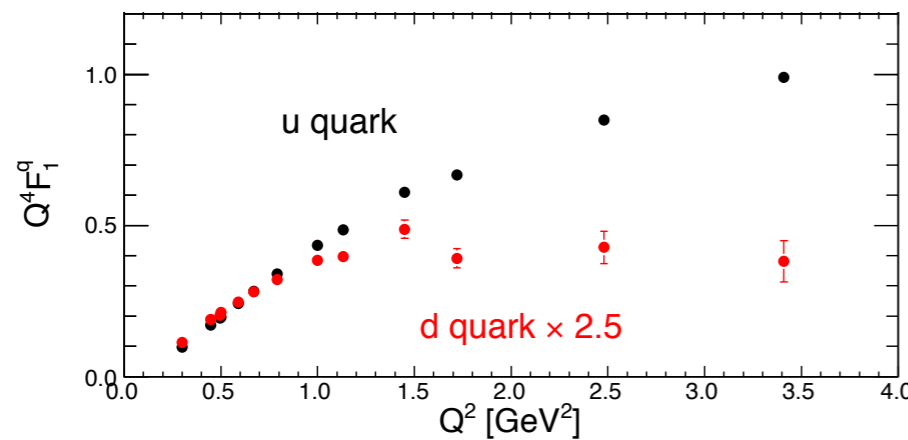
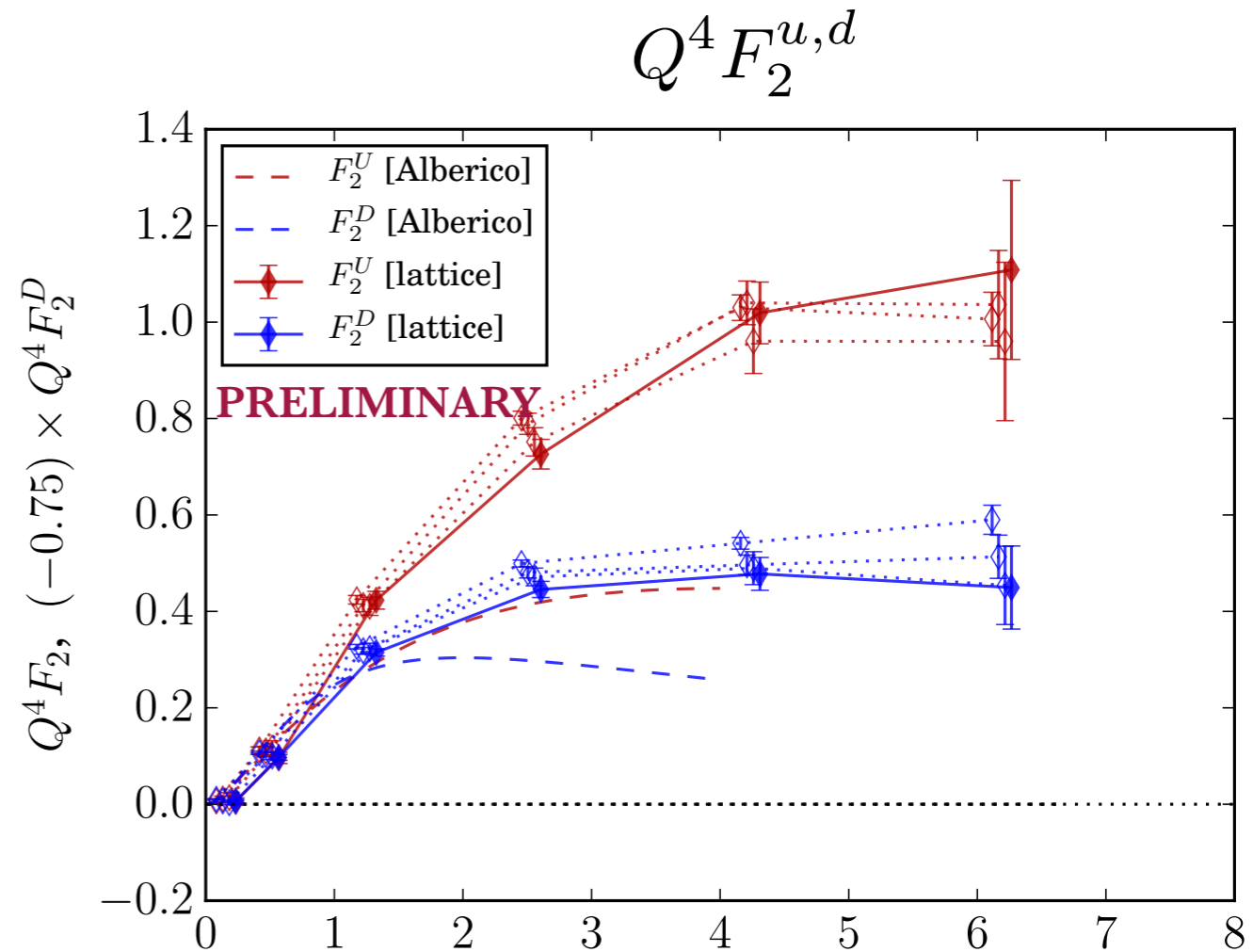
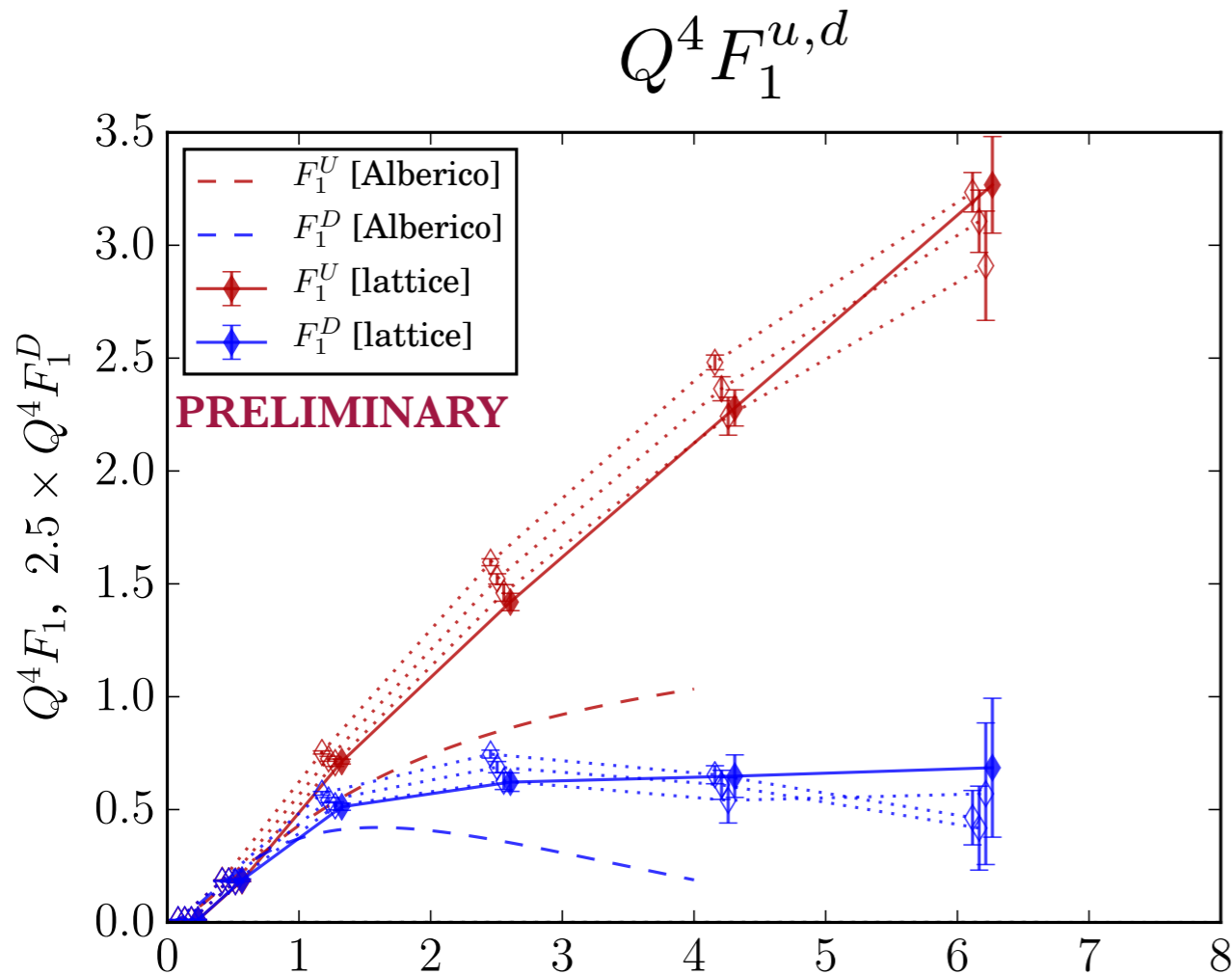
- No disconnected diagrams
- No discretization corrections



- expect $F_1(Q^2) \sim Q^4$, $F_2(Q^2) \sim Q^6$ scaling [Lepage, Brodsky (1979)]
- Both form factors overshoot experiment (x2-2.5)
- evidence for excited states

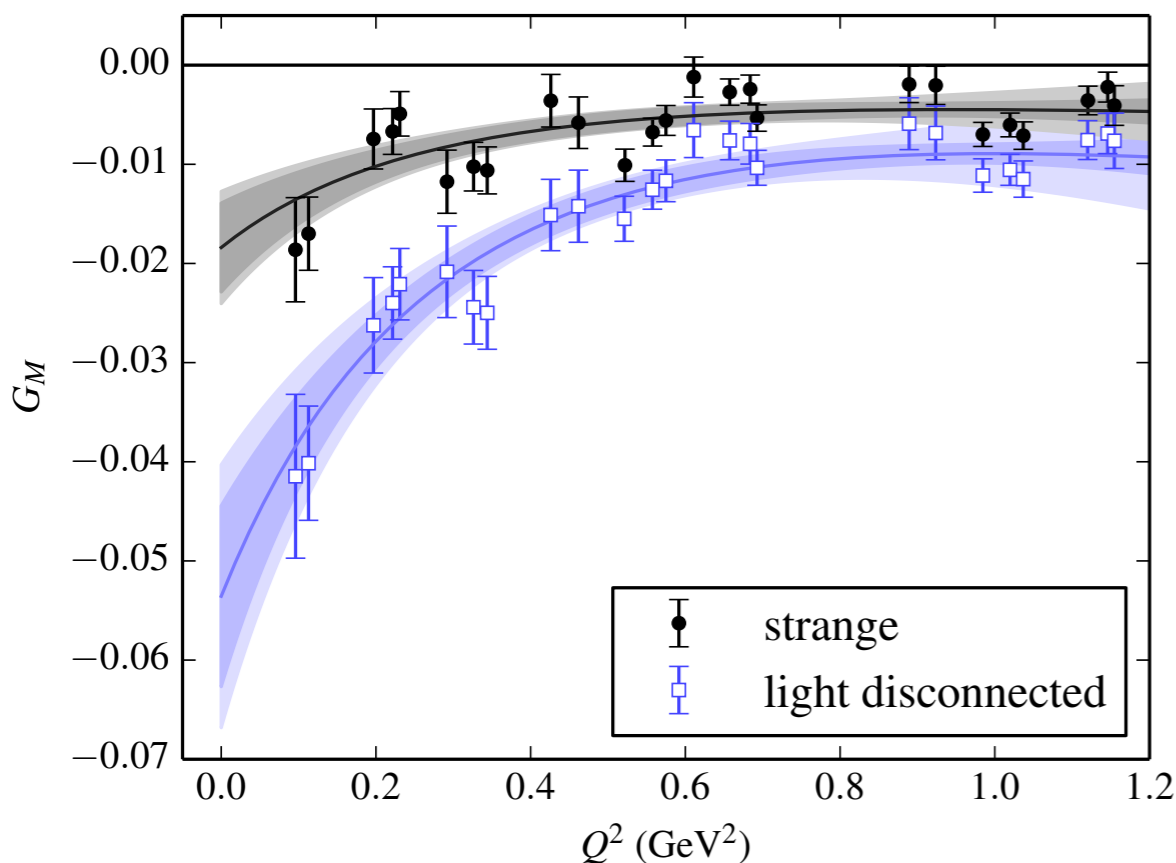
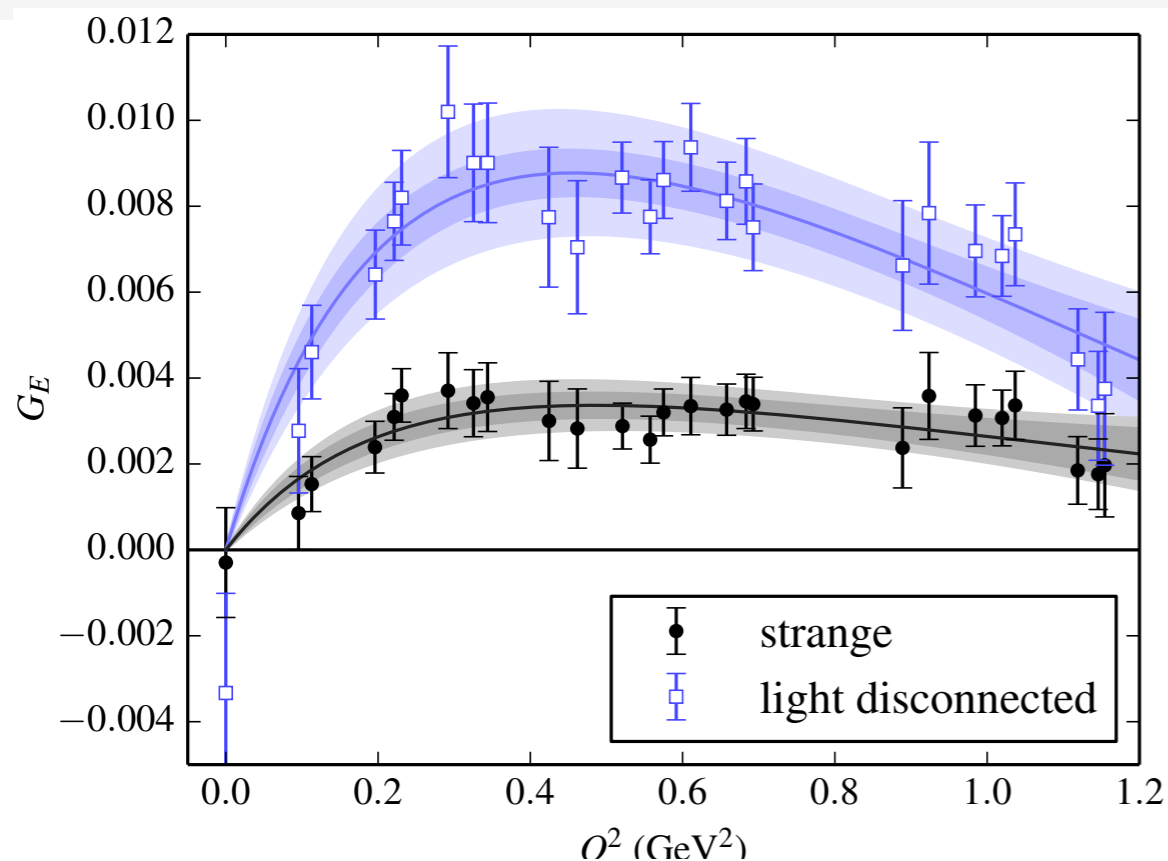
Light Flavor contributions to $F_{1,2}$

- No disconnected diagrams
- No discretization corrections



- Reproduce features of flavor dependence [G.D.Cates, et al, PRL 106:252003(2011)]
- Larger form factors: nucleon (+ exc.states?) on a lattice is more "compact"
- Discretization effects?

Disconnected Nucleon FF's for up to $\sim 1 \text{ GeV}^2$



[J. Green, S. Meinel, et al; PRD92:031501]

$N_f=2+1$ dynamical fermions, $m_\pi \approx 320 \text{ MeV}$
(the "coarse" JLab Clover ensemble)

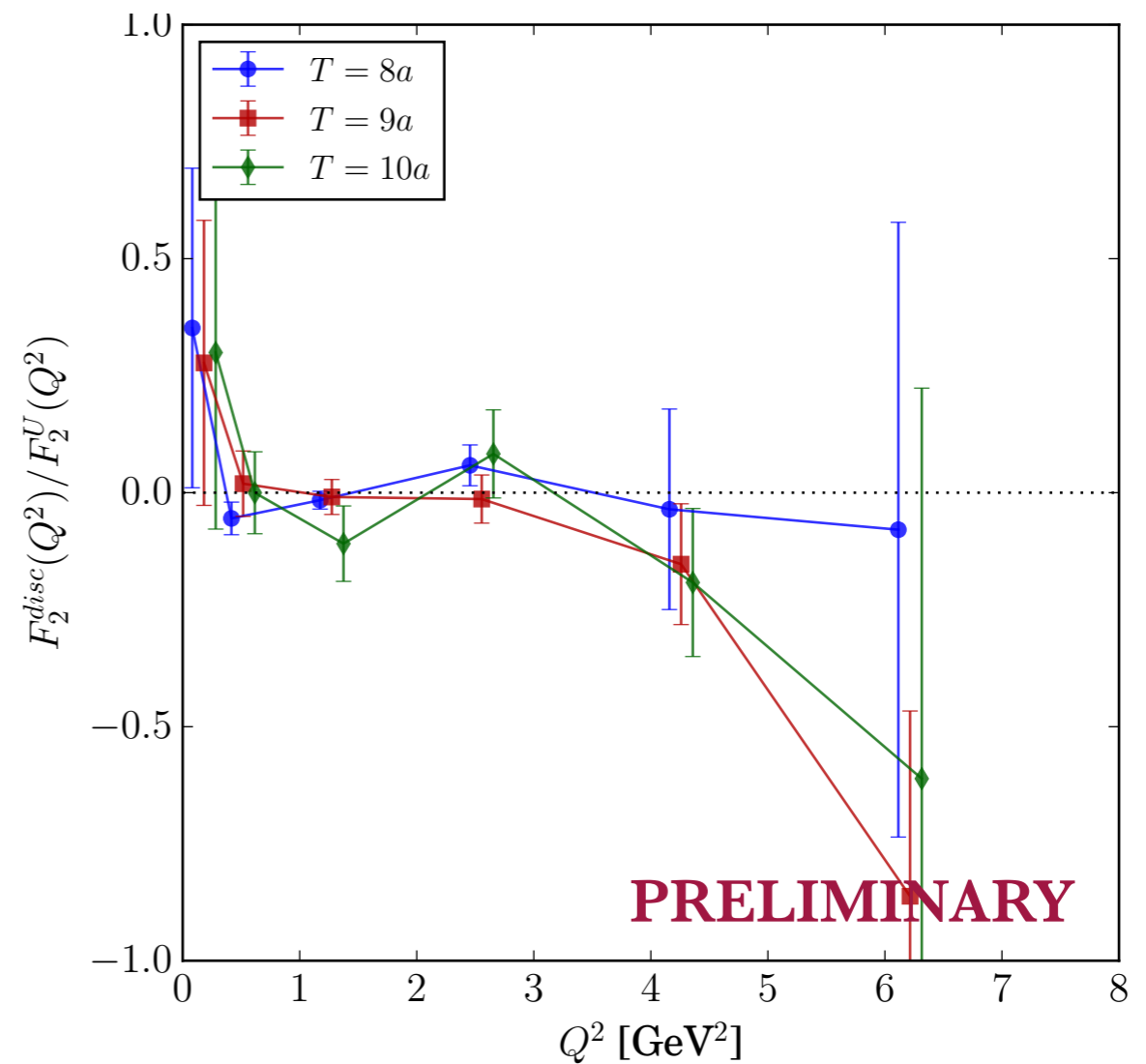
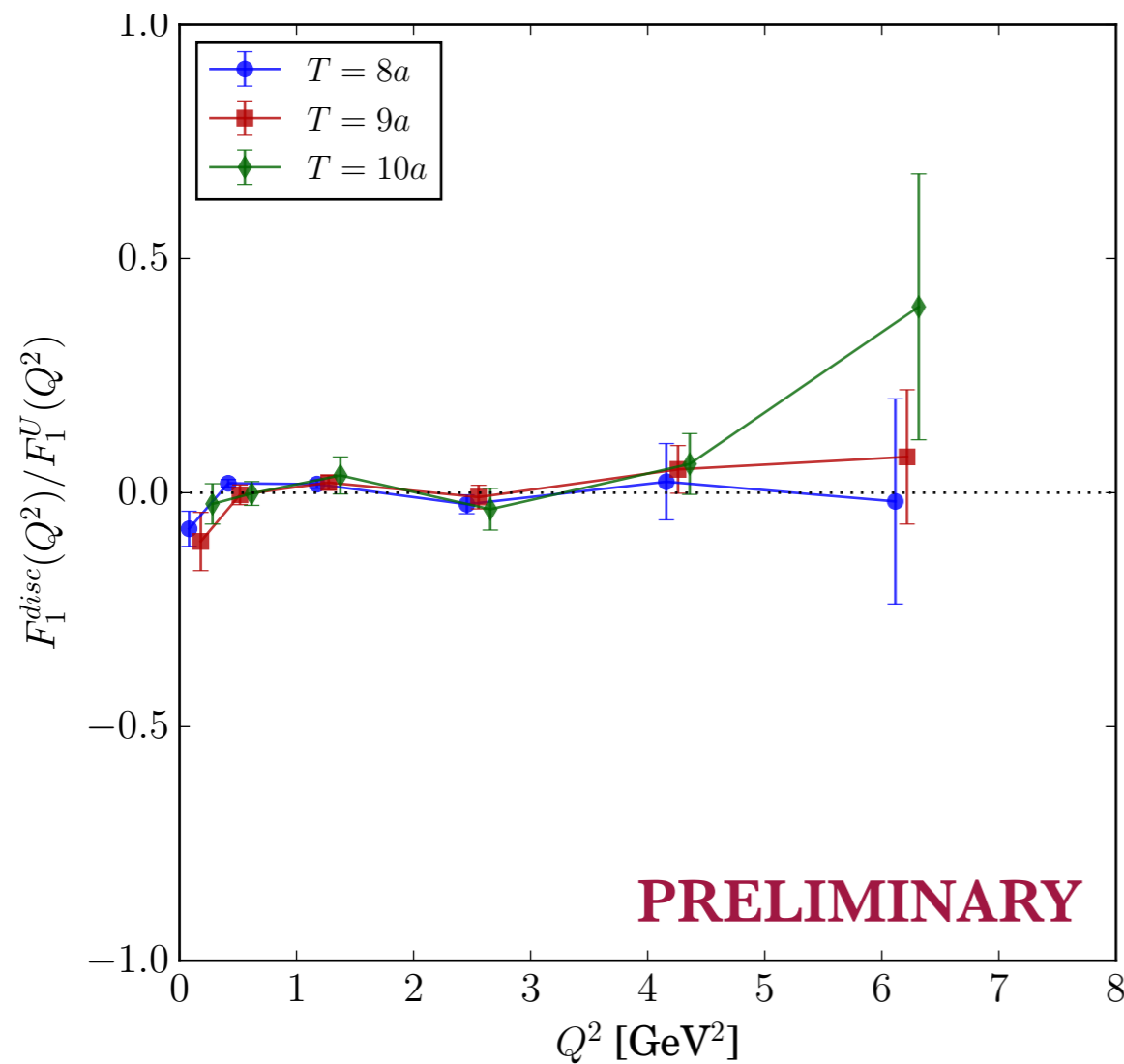
$$|(G_E^{u/d})_{\text{disc}}| \lesssim 0.010 \text{ of } |(G_E^{u-d})_{\text{conn}}|$$

$$|(G_E^s)_{\text{disc}}| \lesssim 0.005 \text{ of } |(G_E^{u-d})_{\text{conn}}|$$

$$|(G_M^{u/d})_{\text{disc}}| \lesssim 0.015 \text{ of } |(G_M^{u-d})_{\text{conn}}|$$

$$|(G_M^s)_{\text{disc}}| \lesssim 0.005 \text{ of } |(G_M^{u-d})_{\text{conn}}|$$

Disconnected Nucleon FF's: Relative Contribution



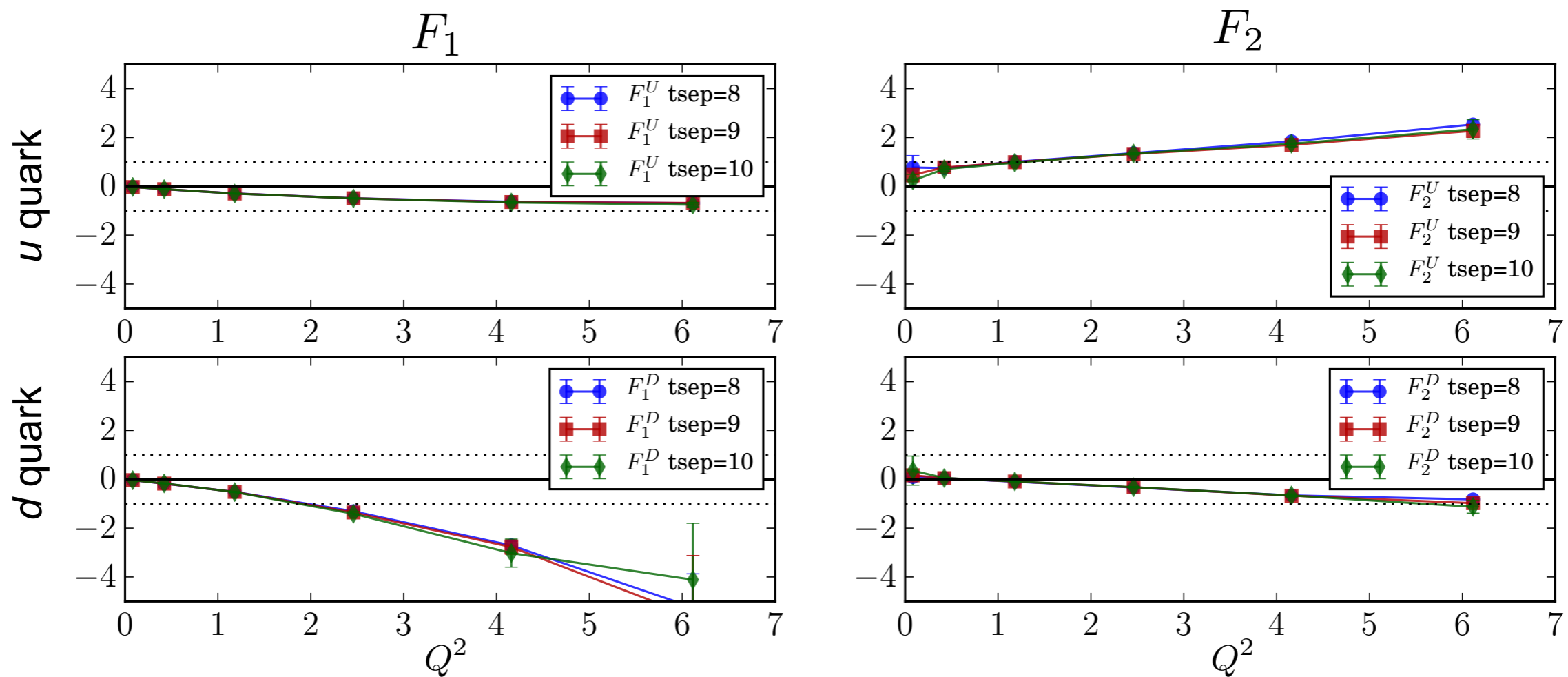
- $a=0.094$ fm ensemble
- Ratio of disconnected to connected(U) contributions
- Simplified preliminary analysis (plateau averages)

O(a) Vector Current Improvement

• No disconnected diagrams

Improved vector current $(V_\mu)_I = \bar{q}\gamma_\mu q + c_V a\partial_\nu \bar{q}i\sigma_{\mu\nu}q$

O(a¹) correction : form factors of $a \langle N | \partial_\nu (\bar{q}i\sigma^{\mu\nu}q) | N \rangle$



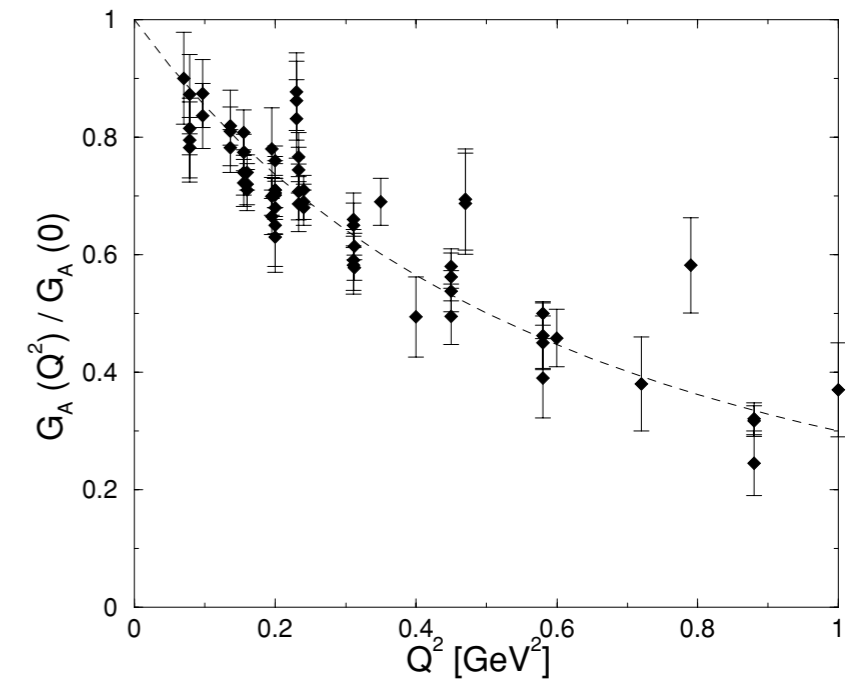
Relative magnitude of O(a¹) effects : $\{O(a^1)\} / \{O(a^0)\}$ form factors

- need improvement coefficient c_V : can be computed from current conservation

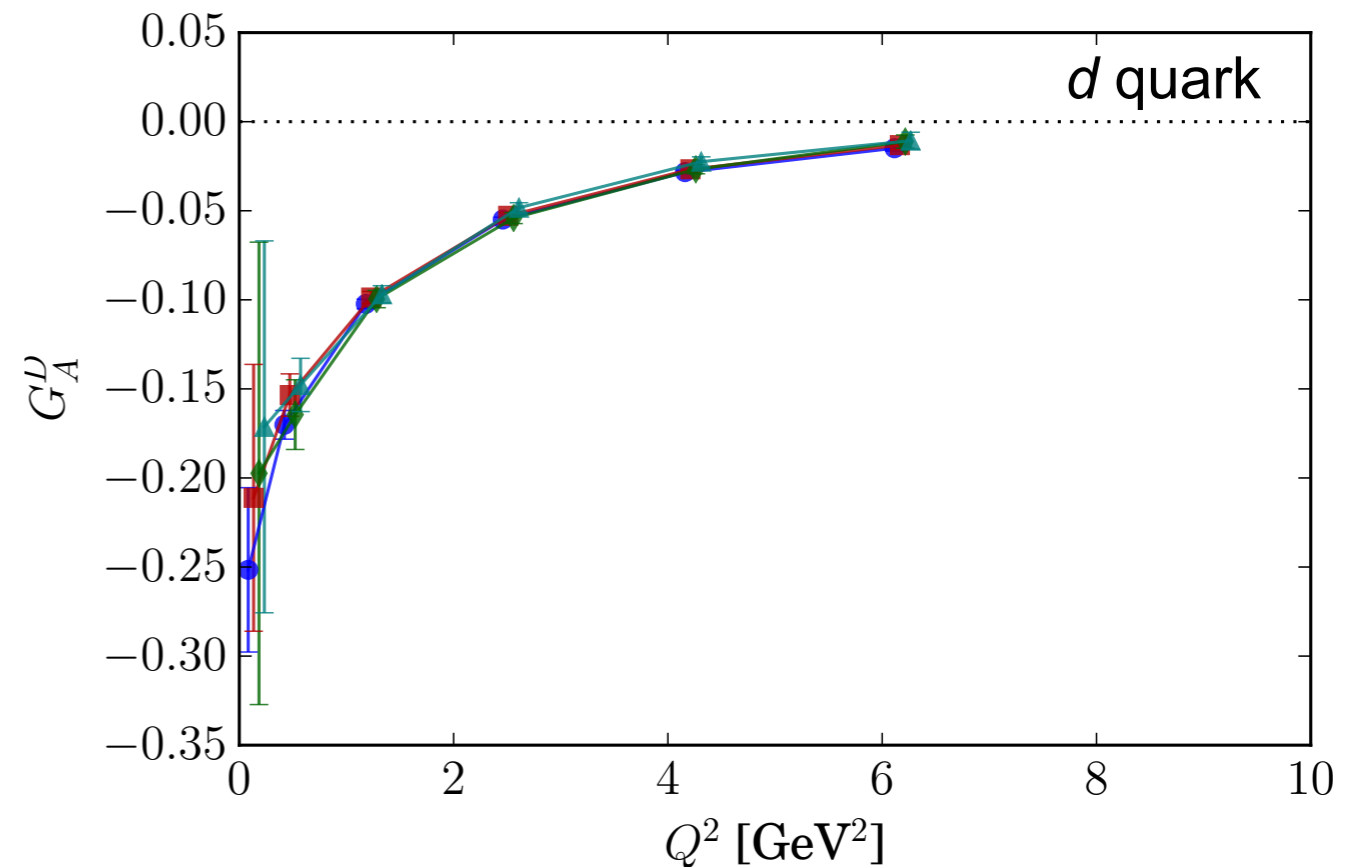
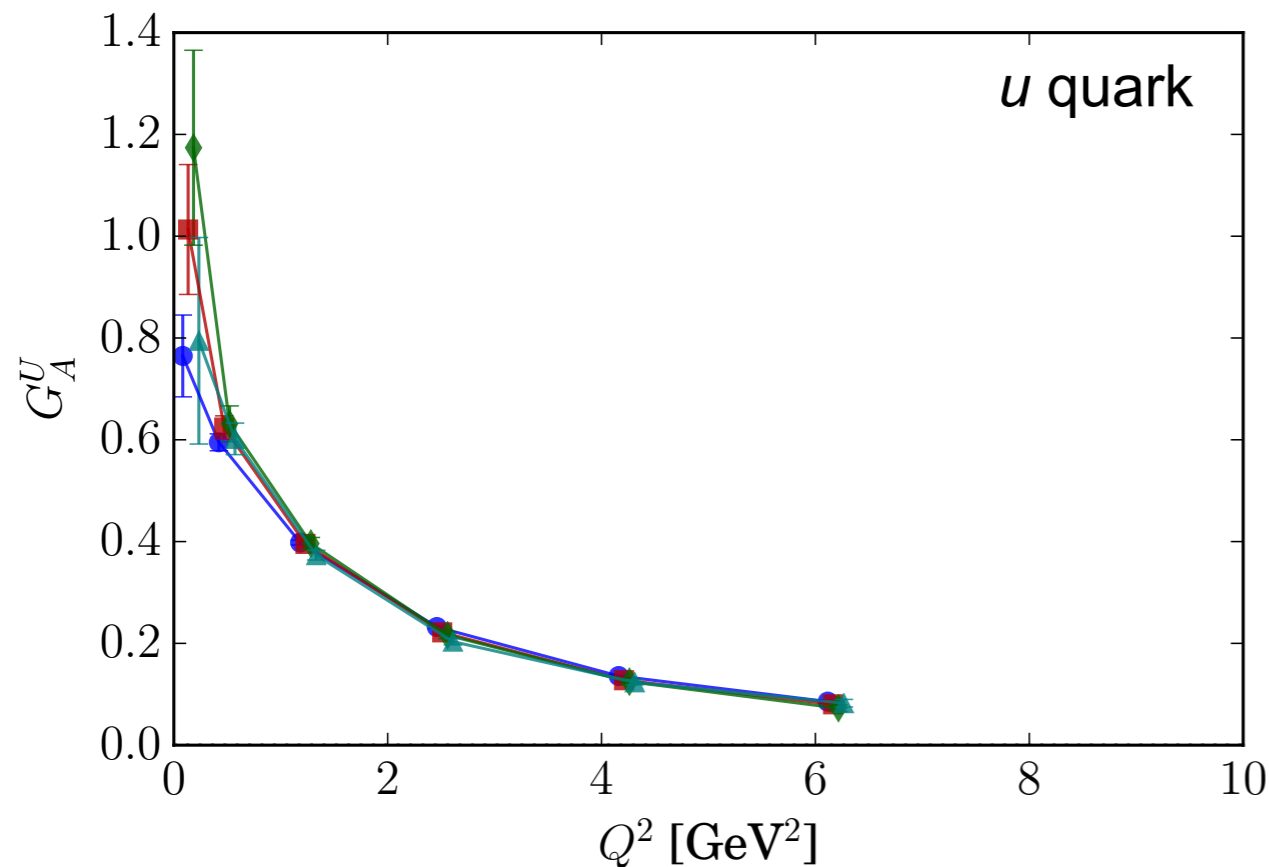
Axial Form Factors

- No disconnected diagrams
- No discretization corrections

- $G_A(Q^2)$ are measured in ν -scattering, π -production;
implications for neutrino flux norm. (e.g. in IceCube)
- Axial radius (r_A^2)= $12 / m_A^2$: model dependence
varying nuclear / G_A shape models: $m_A=0.9 \dots 1.4$ GeV
- Reanalysis suggests large uncertainty in $G_A(Q^2)$
[\[B.Bhattacharya,R.Hill,G.Paz, PRD84:073006\(2011\)\]](#)



[\[V.Bernard et al, J.Phys.G28:R1\(2002\)\]](#)



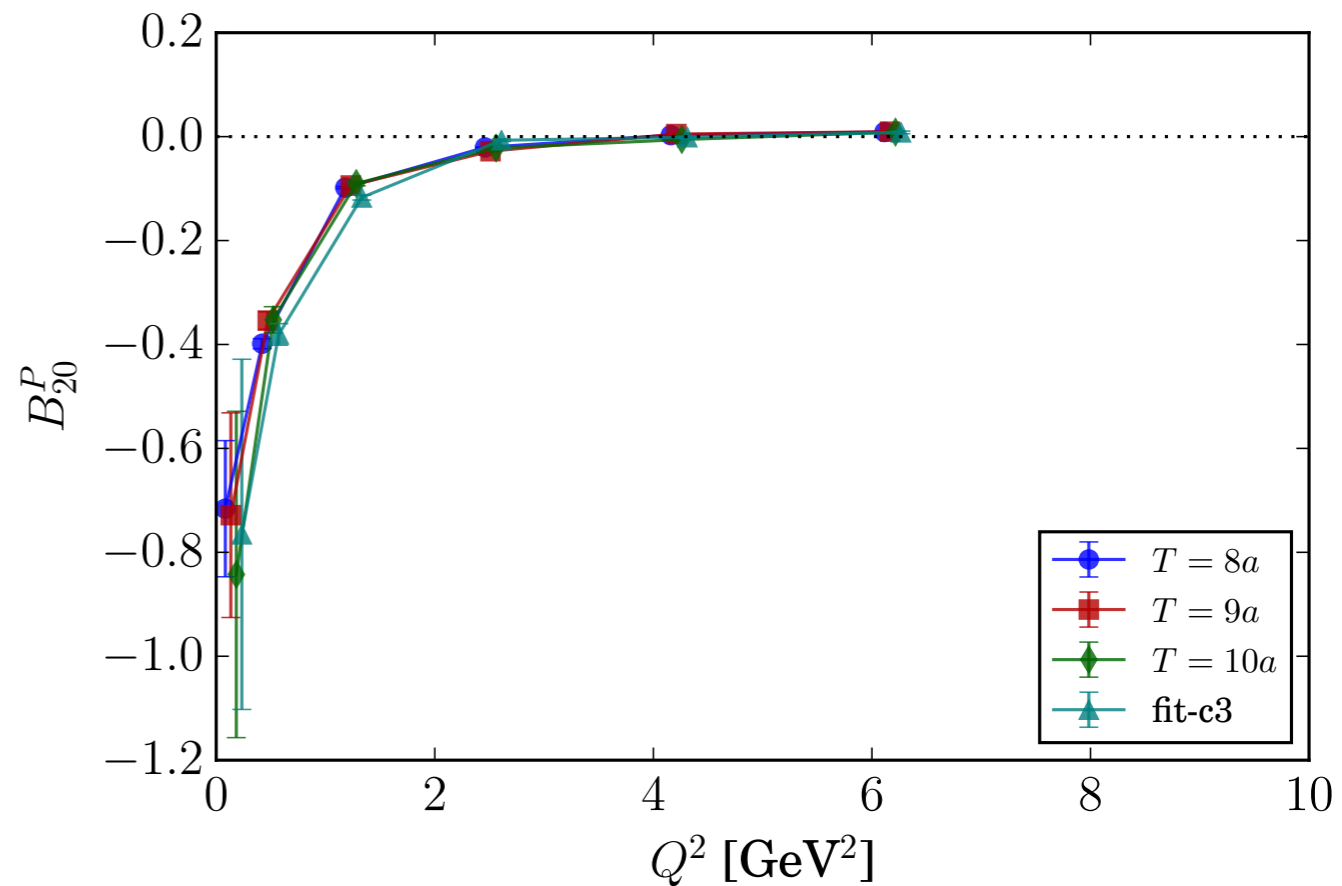
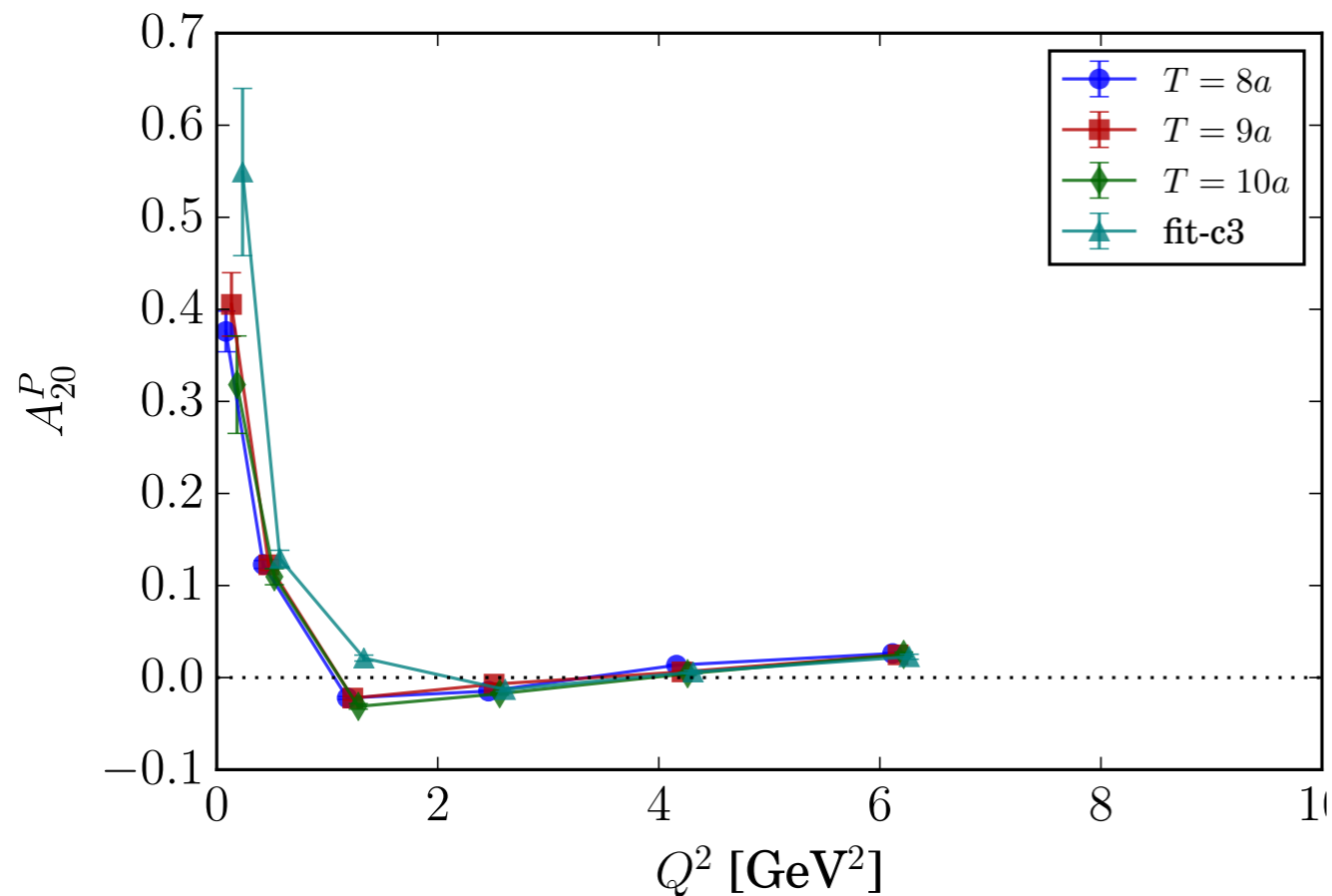
n=2 Generalized Form Factors

- No disconnected diagrams
- No discretization corrections

Generalized form factors: moments of GPDs

$$A_{20}(Q^2) = \int dx x H^q(x, \xi = 0, t = -Q^2)$$

$$B_{20}(Q^2) = \int dx x E^q(x, \xi = 0, t = -Q^2)$$



● Goal: constraints on GPD analysis from lattice

Summary and Outlook

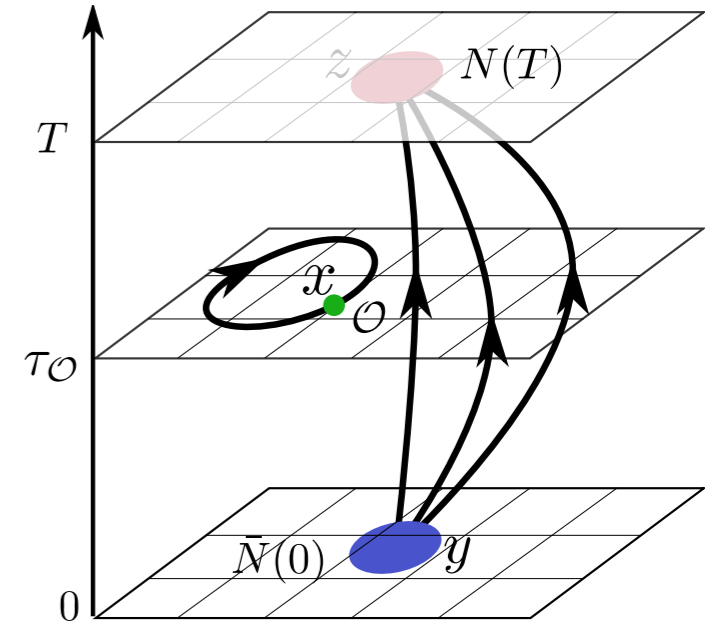
- Initial results for high-momentum form factors with a new technique
"momentum(boosted)" smearing : essential for studying relativistic hadrons on a lattice
- G_{Ep}/G_{Mp} agrees qualitatively with experiment;
 F_2/F_1 scaling agrees qualitatively with experiment, perturbative QCD
agreement is (apparently?) independent of excited states
- Discretization effects grow quickly with Q^2
Form factors on $a=0.1$ fm lattice: $\sim O(1)$ at $Q^2=6$ GeV²
Non-perturbative vector current improvement needed
- The new TMD and PDF programmes on a lattice (Lin, Engelhardt) depend on efficient and reliable evaluation relativistic nucleon matrix elements
computing form factors is a "benchmark" for studying discretization and excited state effects for relativistic nucleons on a lattice
- Implications for neutrino physics (axial current) and constraining GPD

(BACKUP) Disconnected Quark Loops

- Stochastic evaluation:
$$\begin{cases} \xi(x) = \text{random } Z_2\text{-vector} \\ E[\xi^\dagger(x)\xi(y)] = \delta_{x,y} \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_x e^{iqx} \mathbb{D}^{-1}(x, x) \approx \frac{1}{N_{MC}} \sum_i^{N_{MC}} \xi_{(i)}^\dagger (e^{iqx} \mathbb{D}^{-1} \xi_{(i)})$$

$$\text{Var}\left(\sum_x \mathbb{D}^{-1}(x, x)\right) \sim \frac{1}{N_{MC}} \quad (\text{contributions from } \mathbb{D}^{-1}(x \neq y))$$

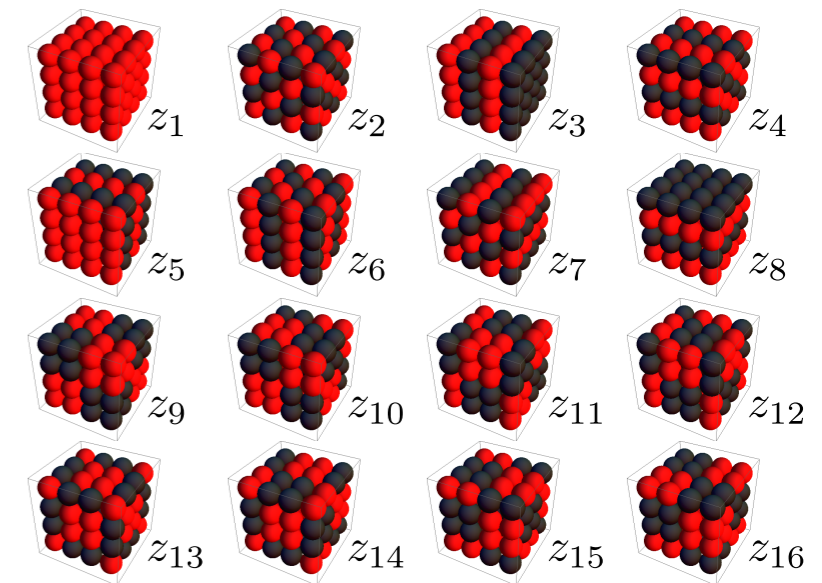


- Exploit $\mathbb{D}^{-1}(x, y)$ **FALLOFF** to reduce $\sum_{x \neq y} |\mathbb{D}^{-1}(x, y)|^2$:

Hierarchical probing method [K.Orginos, A.Stathopoulos, '13]:

In sum over $N=2^{nd+1}$ 3D(4D) **Hadamard vectors**, near-(x,y) terms cancel:

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_i z_i(x) z_i(y)^\dagger = \begin{cases} 0, & 1 \leq |x - y| \leq 2^k, \\ 1, & x = y \text{ or } 2^k < |x - y| \end{cases}$$



- Further decrease variance by deflating low-lying, long-range modes [A.Gambhir's PhD thesis]