

# Studying electroweak few-body observables in chiral effective field theory

The 11th International Workshop on Chiral Dynamics

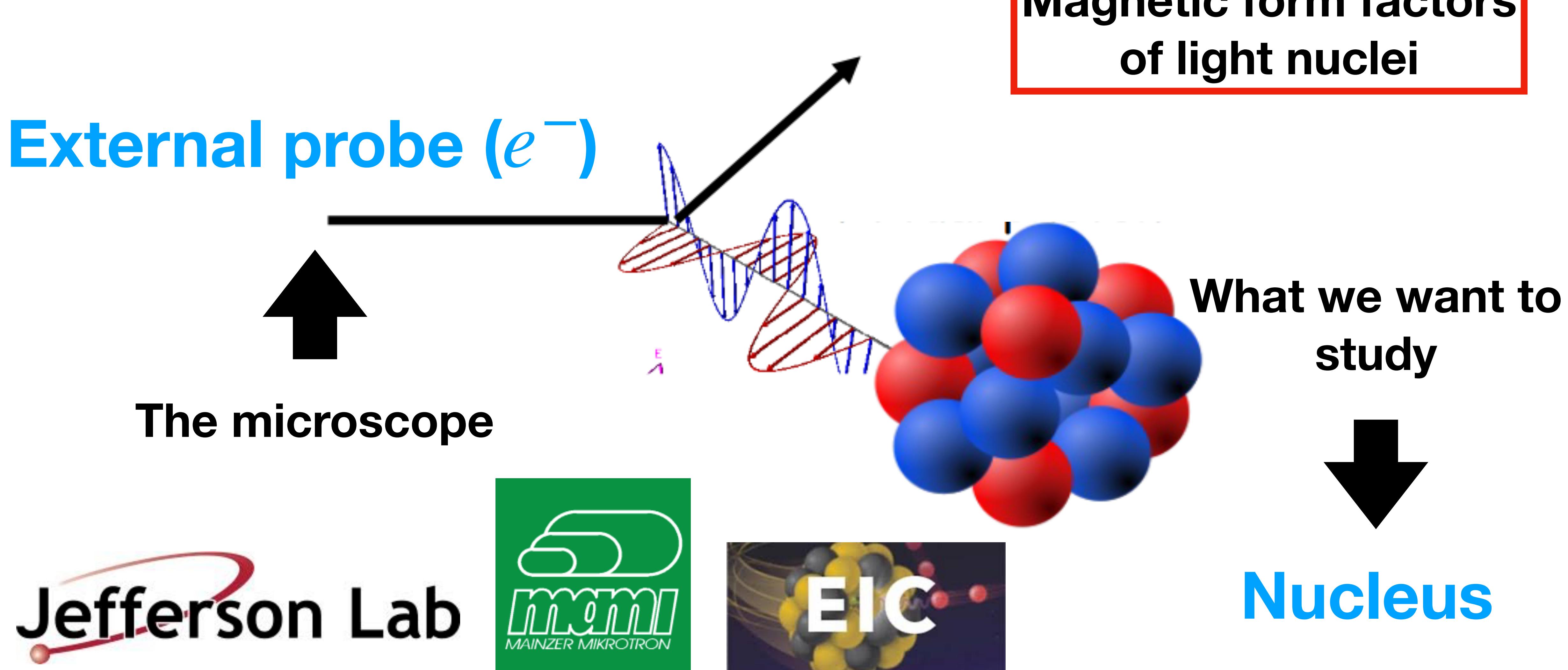
Ruhr University Bochum, Germany

August 26-31, 2024

Alex Gnech ([agnech@odu.edu](mailto:agnech@odu.edu))

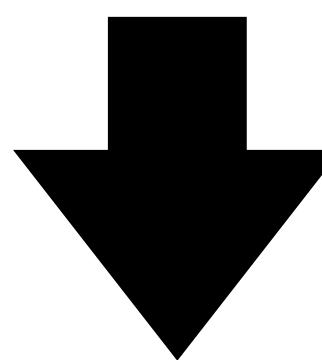


# Studying the nature of the strong interaction

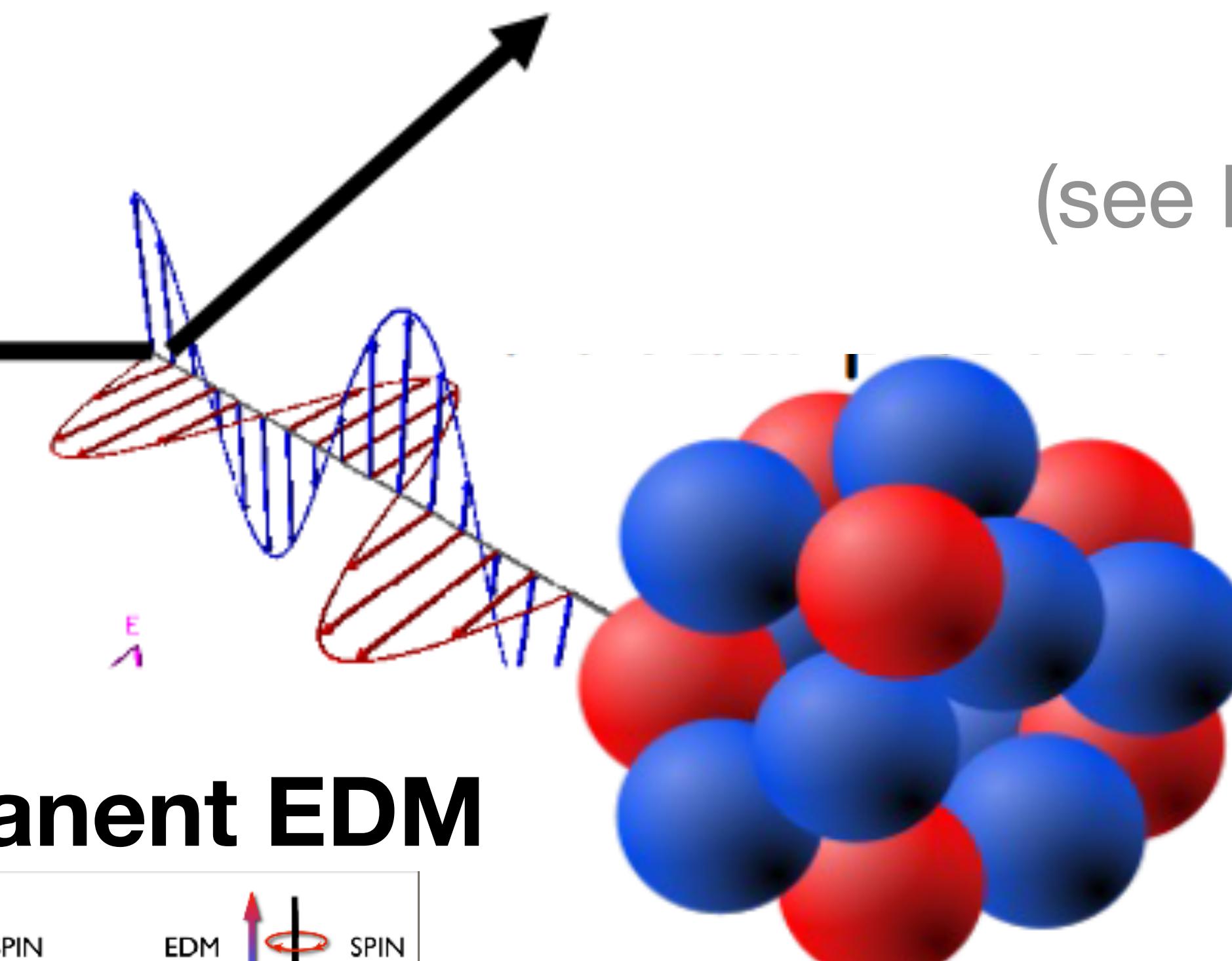


# Fundamental physics with nuclei

What we want to study



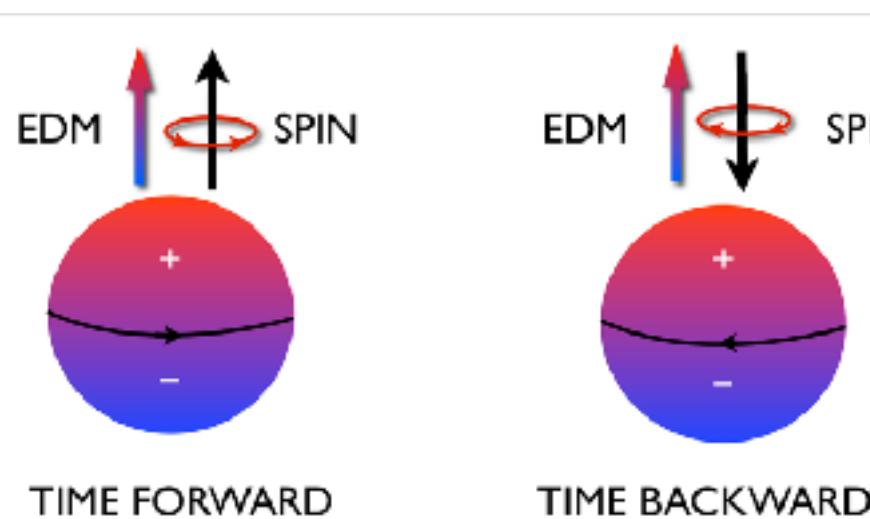
External probes



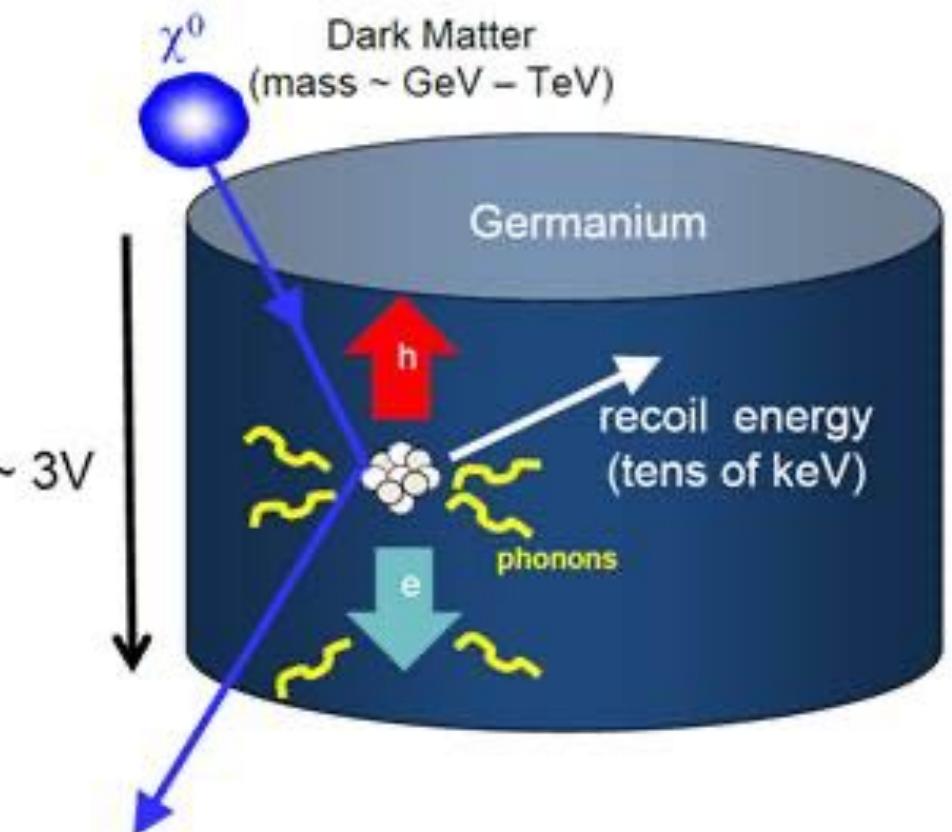
Neutrino Physics



Permanent EDM

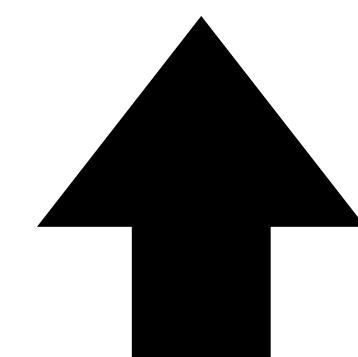


Dark matter



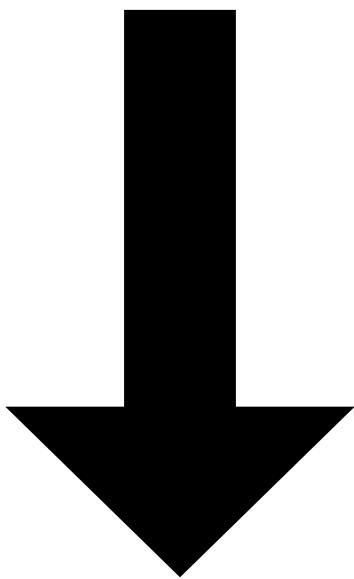
(see Elena Filandri's talk)

Nucleus



The microscope

An accurate understanding of nuclear structure and dynamics is  
needed to extract new physics from nuclear effects



Comprehensive quantitative and  
predictable theory description of all  
nuclear **structure** and reaction

# The ingredients

- The interaction

$$H = \sum_i \frac{p_i^2}{2M} + \sum_{i < j} V_{ij} + \sum_{i,j,k} V_{ijk} + \dots$$

- A way of solving the few- and many-body problem

- Hyperspherical Harmonic method
- Neural Network Quantum States
- Monte Carlo Methods
- Many more...

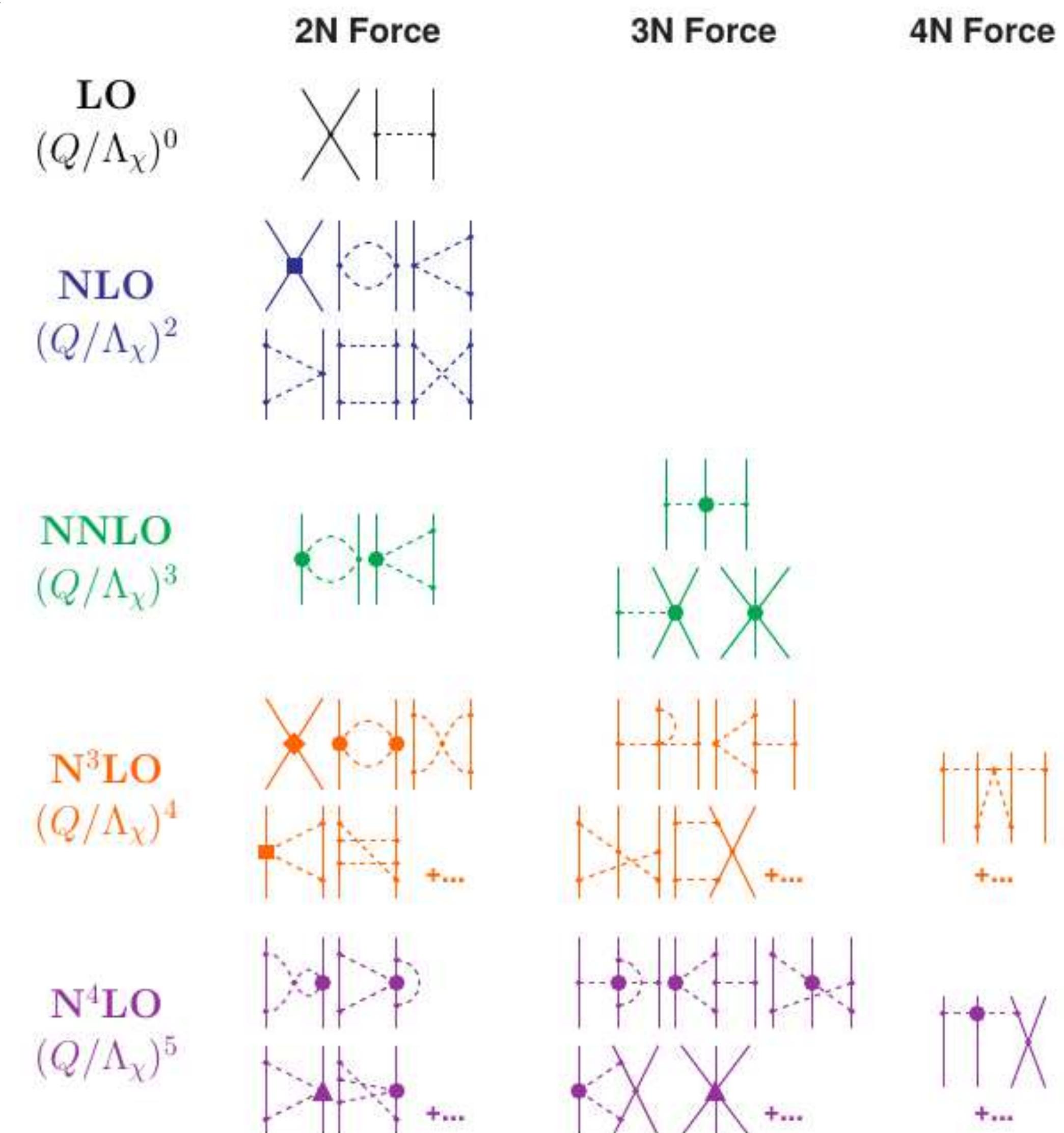
[Front. Phys. 8, 69 (2020)]

(a small advertisement)

(see Maria's talk)

# Chiral effective field theory

- Only Nucleons and Pions (and Deltas) as degrees of freedom ( $\Lambda_{QCD} \sim 1$  GeV)
- Direct connection with QCD: **chiral symmetry** (+ discrete symmetries + Lorentz invariance)
- **Low Energy Constants (LECs):** fitted on experimental data
- Organize the interaction as a power expansion  $Q/\Lambda_{QCD}$



Phys. Rev. C 96, 024004 (2017)

Phys. Rev. Lett. 115, 122301 (2015)

# Why chiral EFT?

- **Consistent treatment of interactions with external probes and BSM physics**
- **Reliable estimate of the uncertainties generated by the theory**



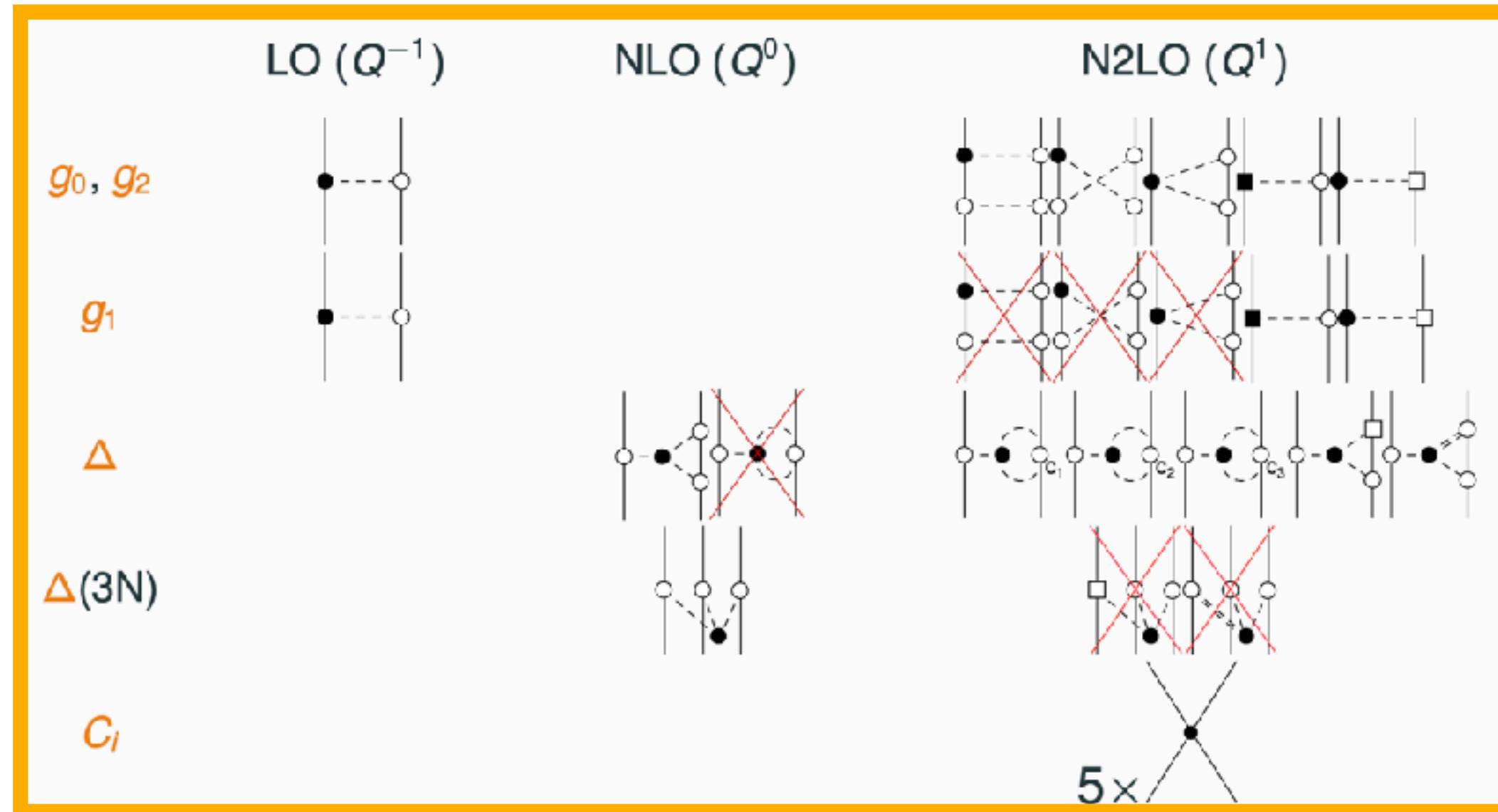
Electric dipole moments of light nuclei



Bayesian analysis of muon capture on deuteron

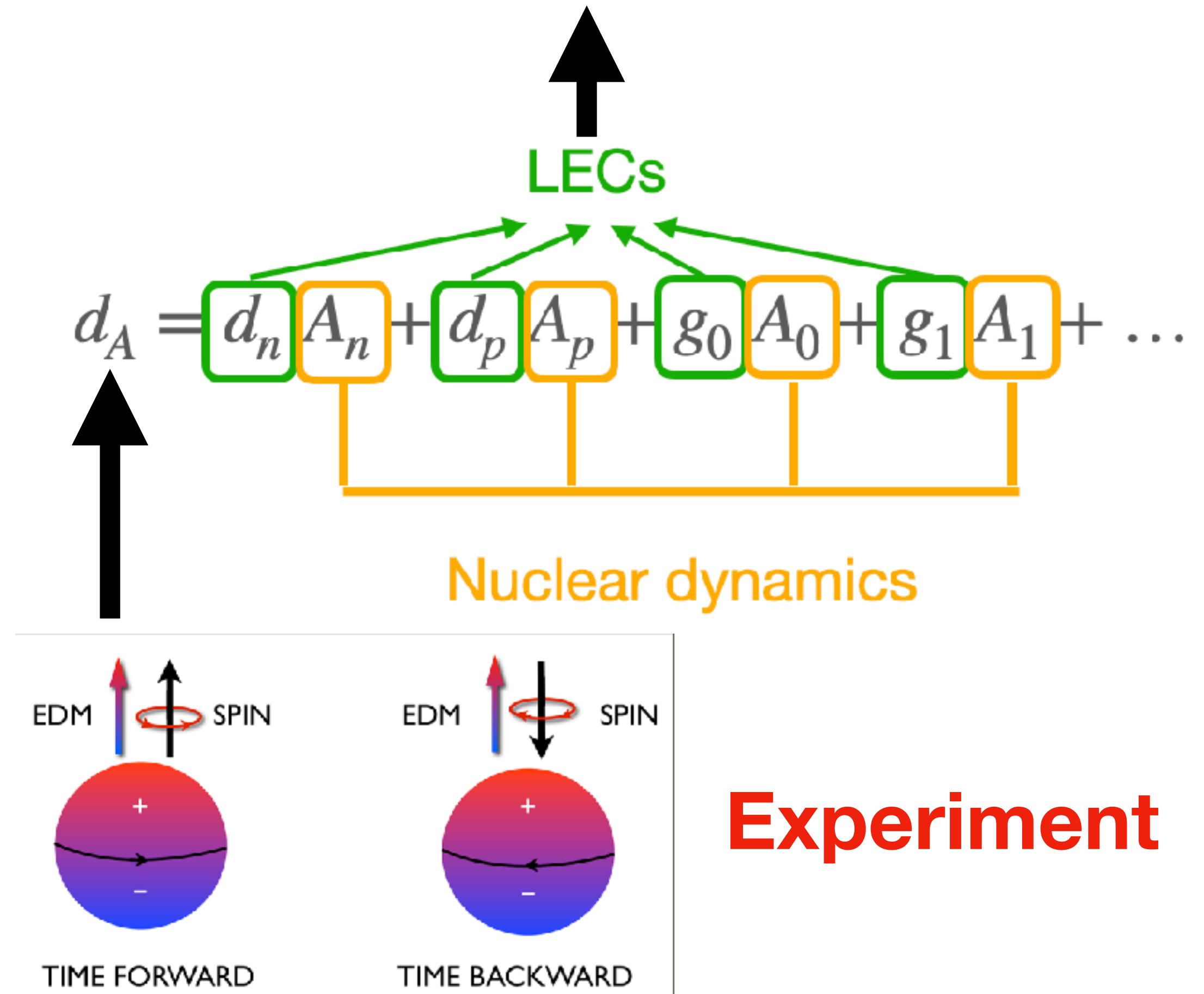
# The electric dipole moment

Fundamental theory (SM,BSM,...)  
with time reversal violation

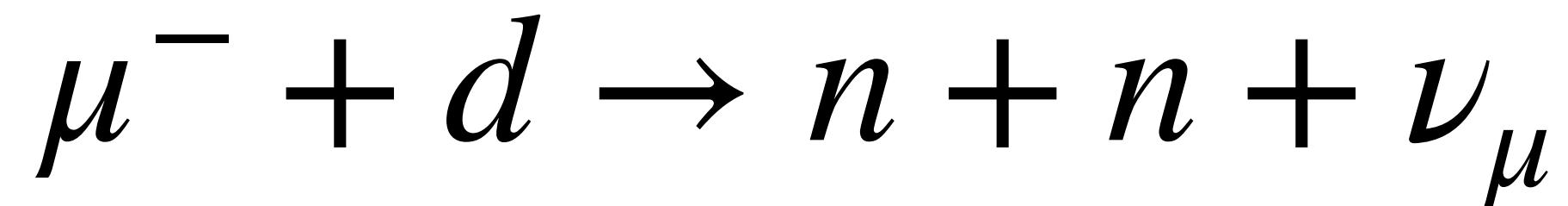


Nuclear potential + ab-initio

[AG et al., PRC 101, 024004 (2020)]  
[Front. Phys. 8, 218 (2020)]  
(see Lukas talk on Thursday  
for updates)



# Muon capture on deuteron

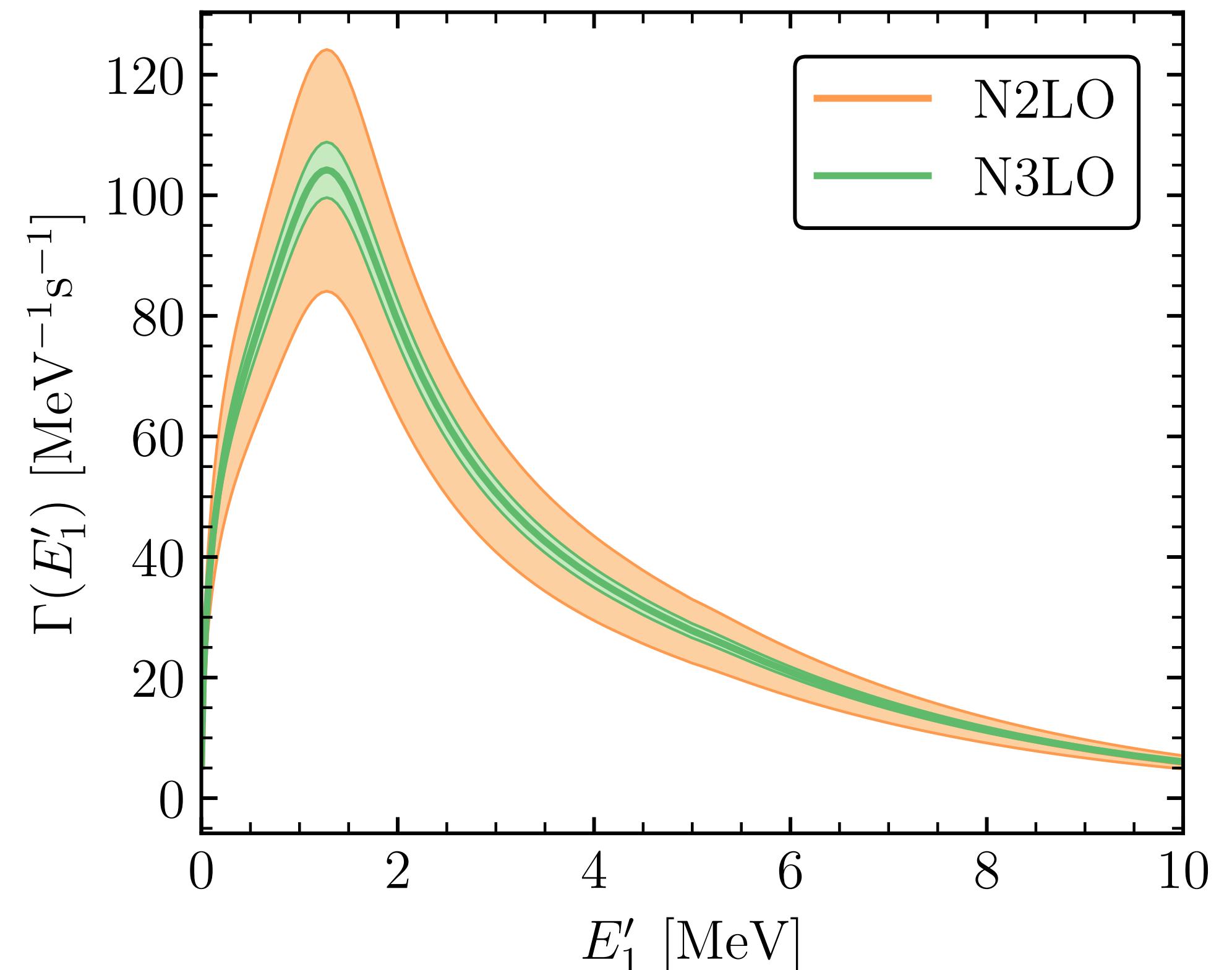


[AG et al., Phys. Rev. C 109, 035502 (2024)]

$$\Gamma_k(p) = \Gamma_{ref}(p) \sum_{n=0}^k c_n(p) Q^n(p)$$

Gaussian process + Bayes' theorem

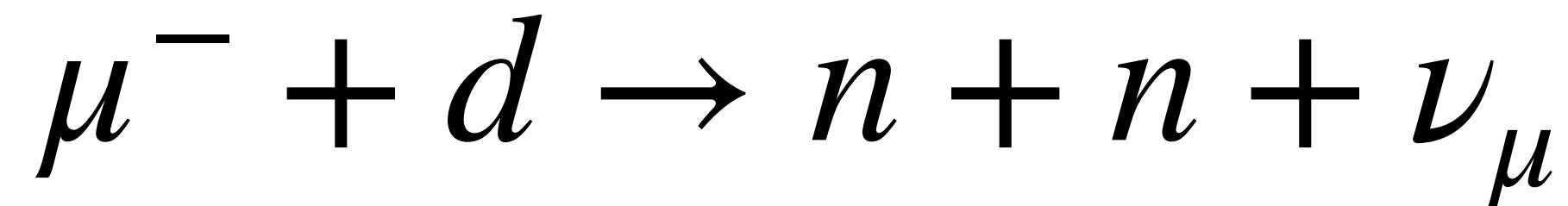
$$\delta\Gamma_k(p) = \Gamma_{ref}(p) \sum_{n=k+1}^8 c_n(p) Q^n(p)$$



Emitted single nucleon spectra with truncation error bands

Analysis based on: PRC 100, 044001 (2019) (BUQEYE Coll.)

# Muon capture on deuteron



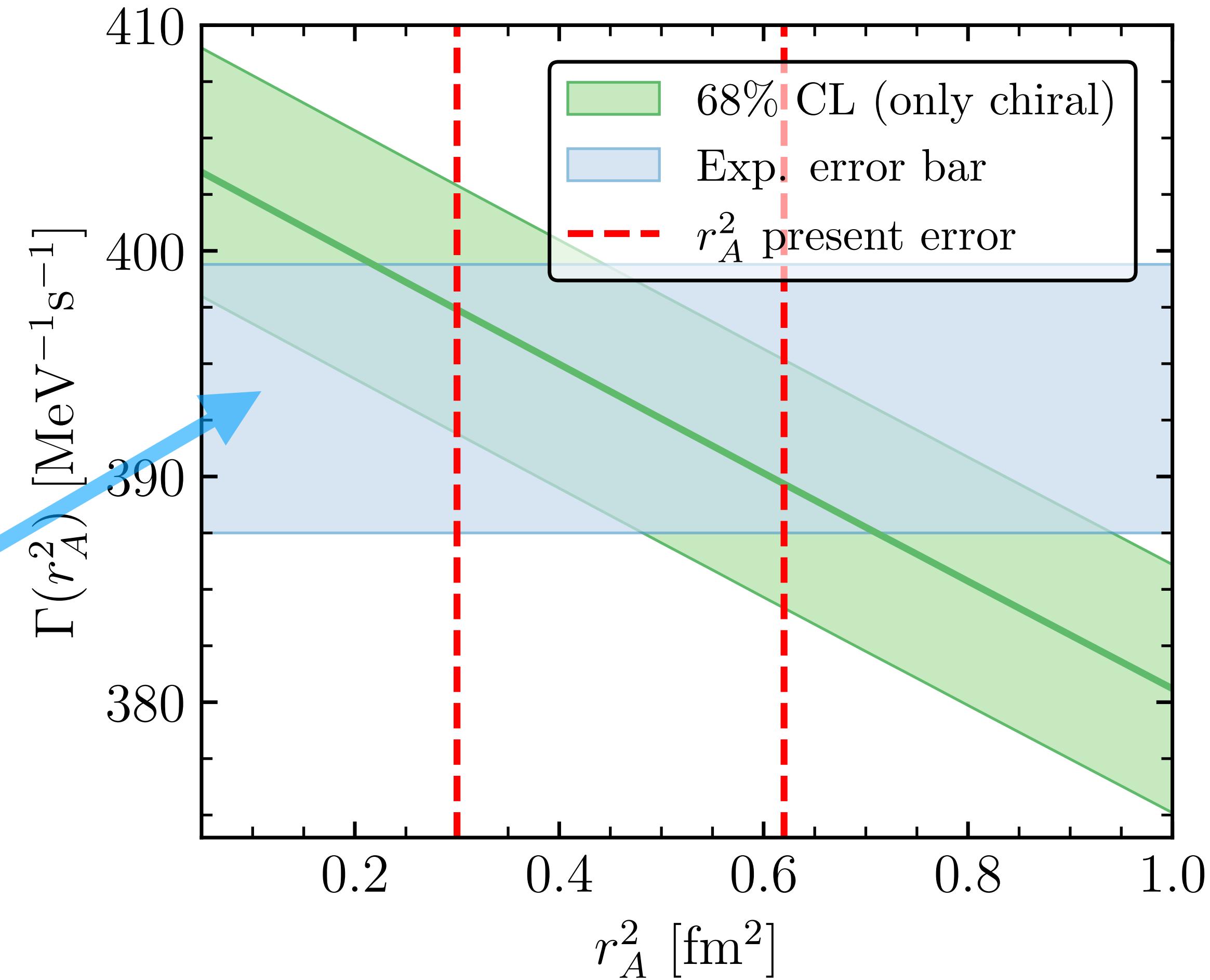
Strong dependence on the  
**axial radius\***

$$g_A(q^2) = g_A \left( 1 - \frac{1}{6} r_A^2 q^2 \right)$$

**The 1.5% error bands  
of MuSun experiment**

(hypothetical central value)

[from Phys. Rev. C 109, 035502 (2024)]



\* already observed in [ PRC 107, 065502 (2023)]

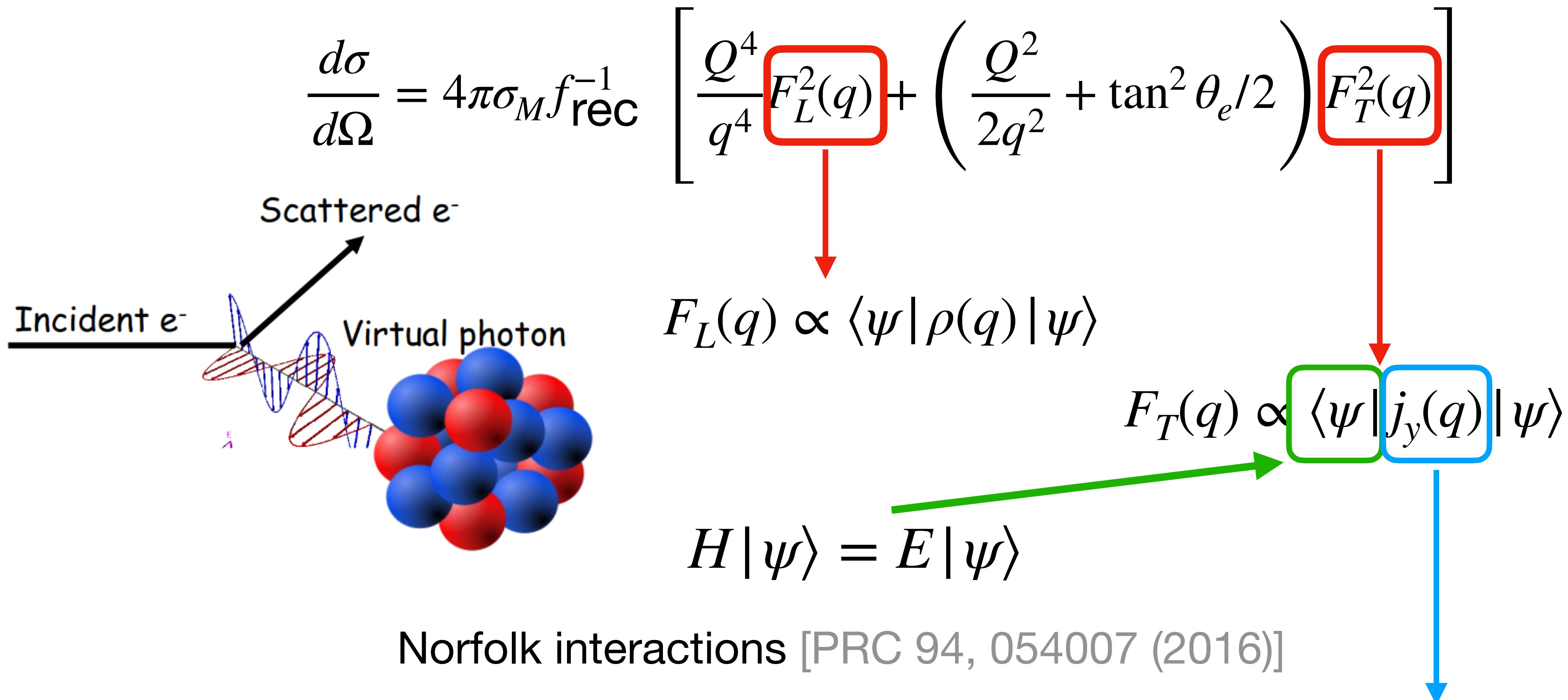
# Electromagnetic currents and magnetic form factors of light nuclei

QMC Group WashU:

G. Chambers-Wall, G. B. King, S. Pastore, M. Piarulli  
A.G., R. Schiavilla, R. B. Wiringa

[PRC 106, 04401 (2020),  
arXiv:2407.03487,  
arXiv:2407.04744]

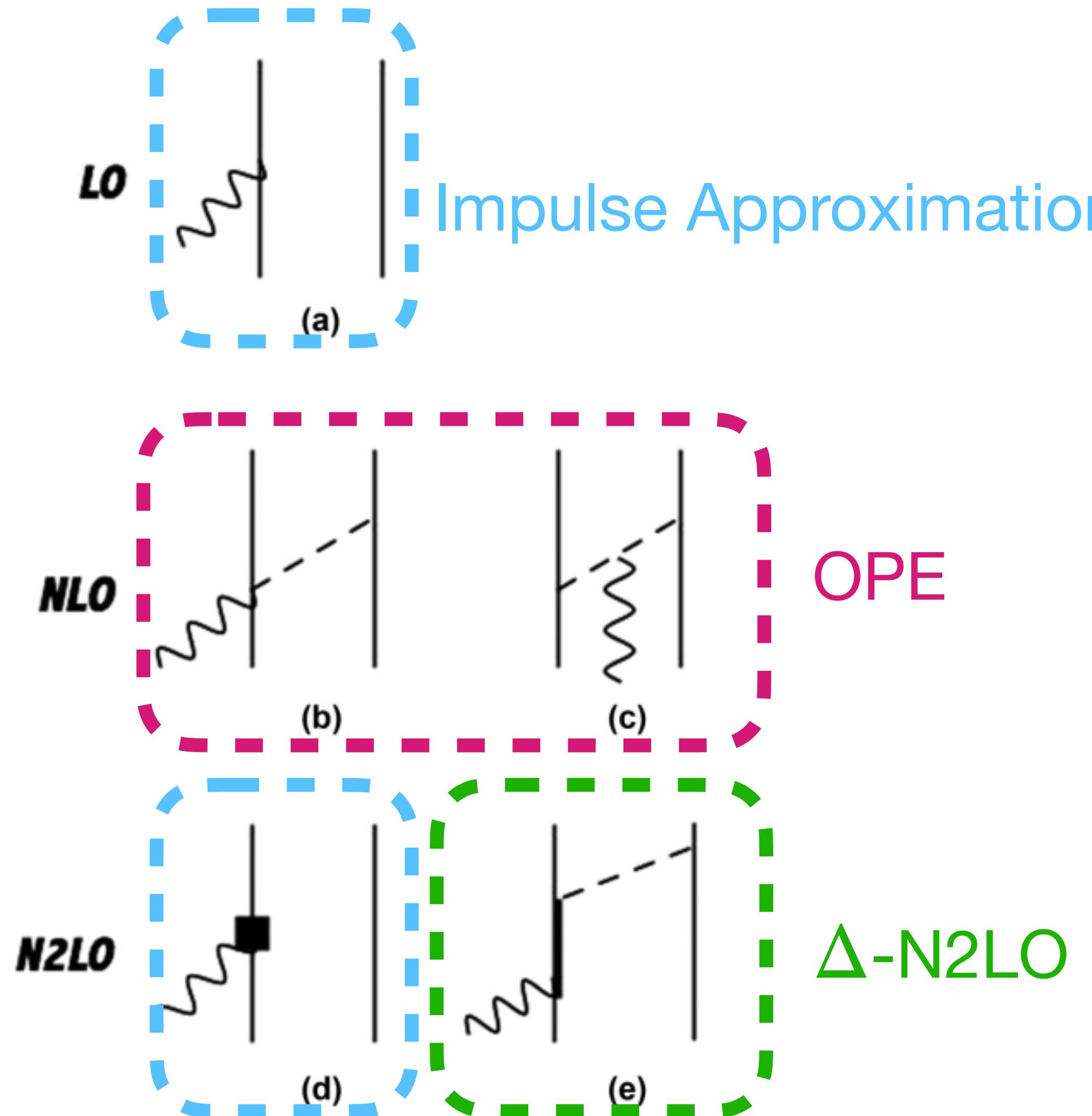
# Elastic scattering of electrons on nuclei



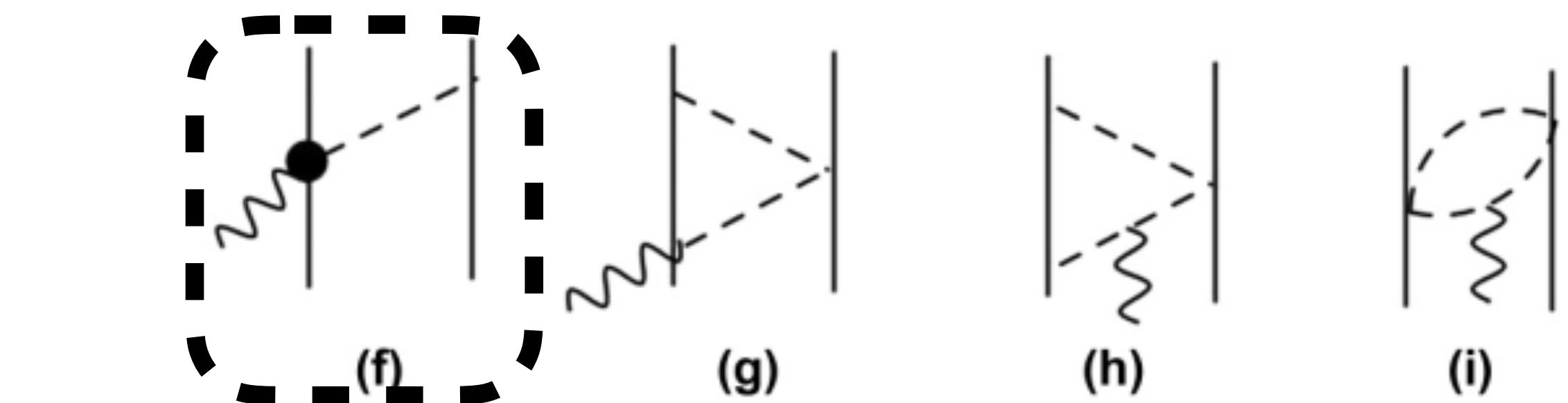
# The electromagnetic currents

Currents from:

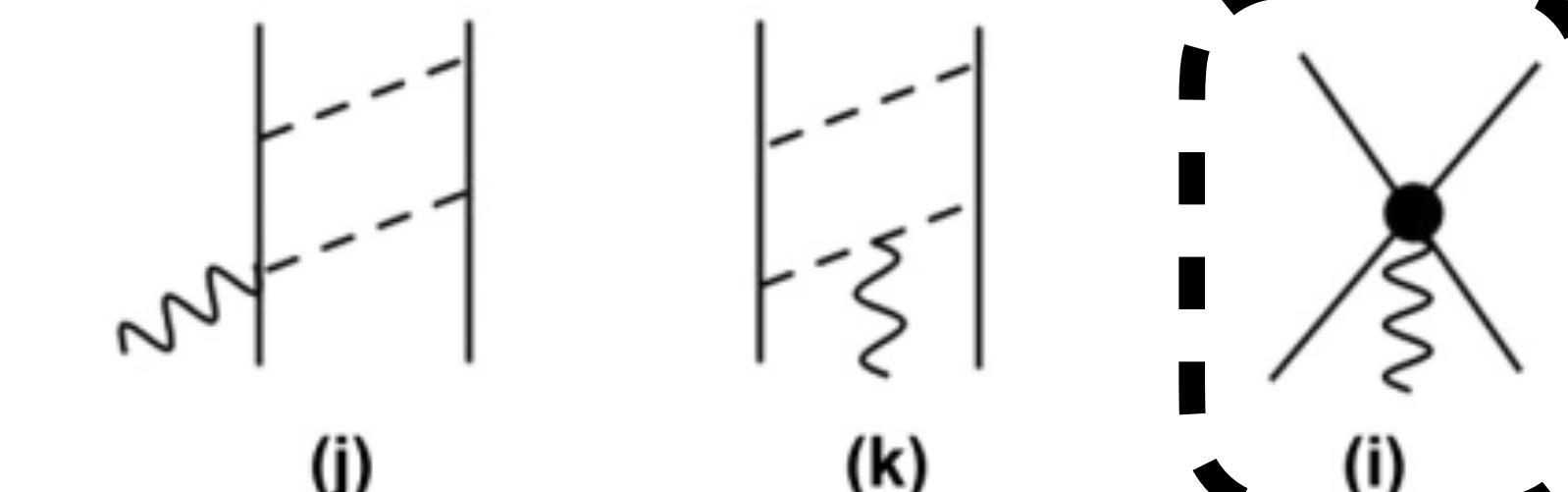
[PRC 80, 034004 (2009)]  
[PRC 99, 034005 (2019)]



$d_2^V \ d_3^V \ d_2^S$  N3LO-OPE



N3LO



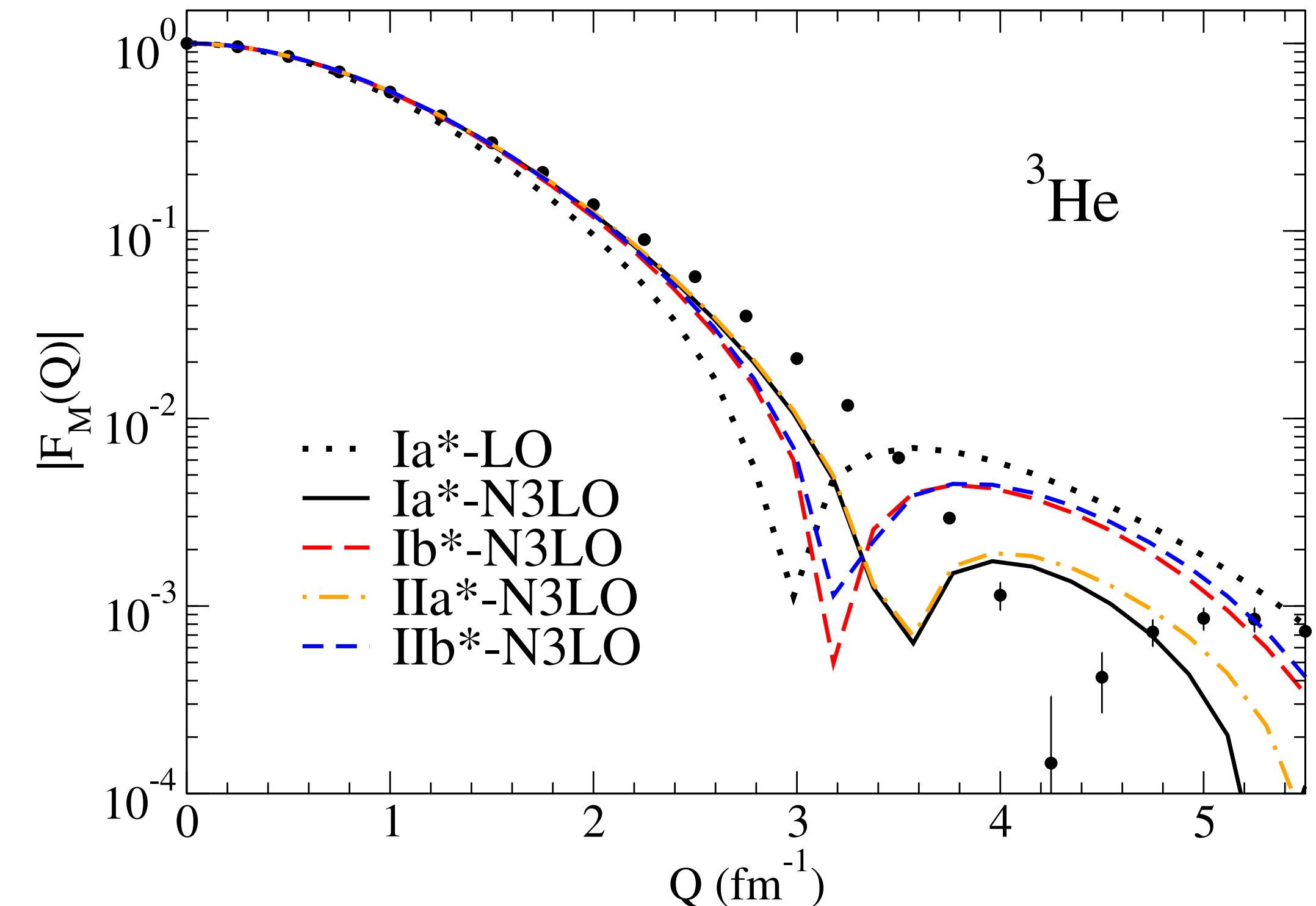
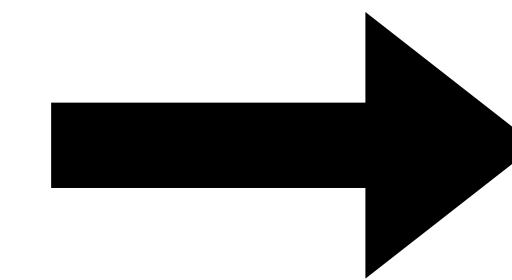
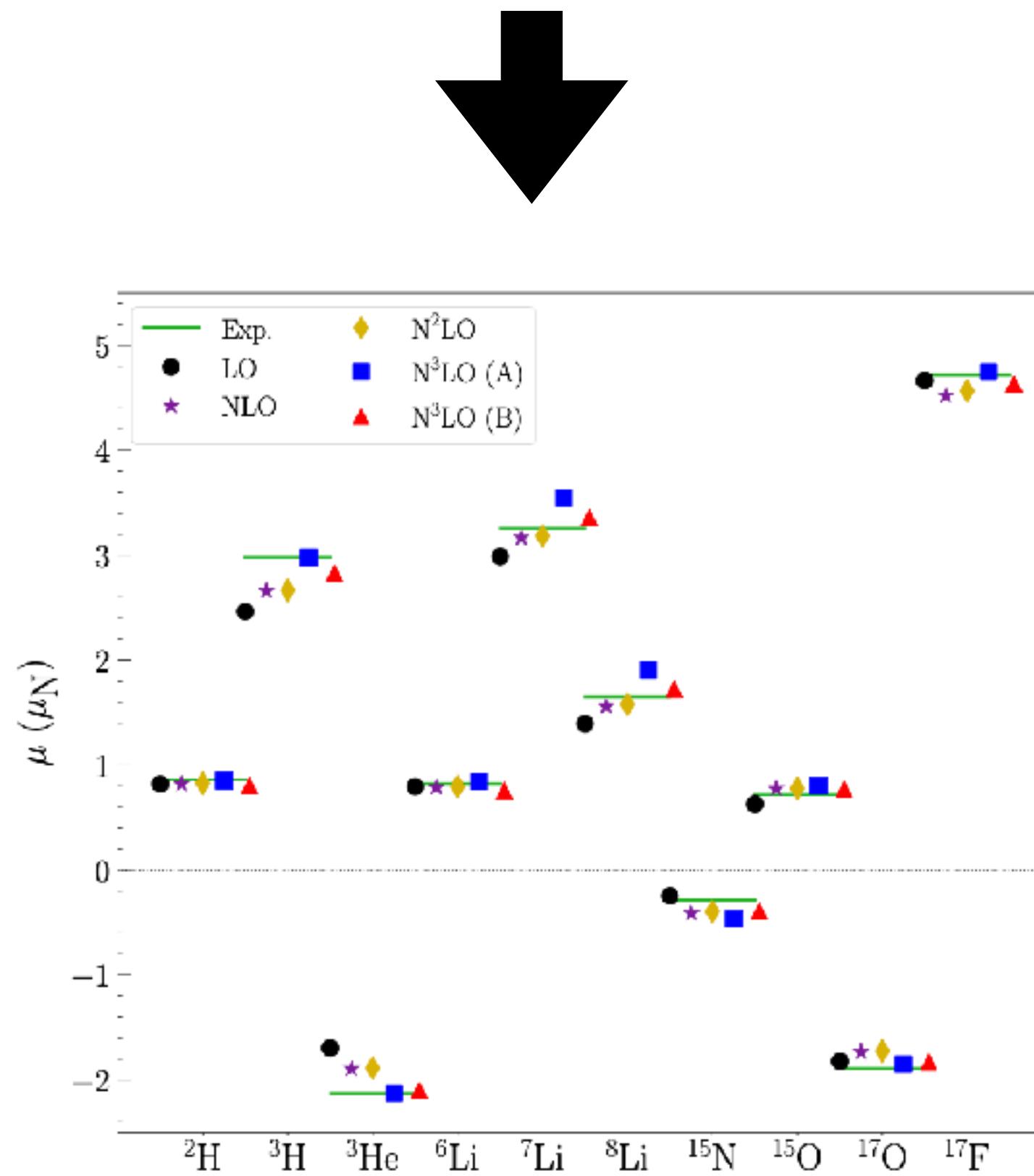
$d_1^V \ d_1^S$  contact terms

Red: isoscalar    Blue: isovector

See also [H. Krebs, EPJA 56, 234 (2020)] for another derivation

# LECs determination (classic approach)

Usually determined  
using the magnetic  
moments of light nuclei



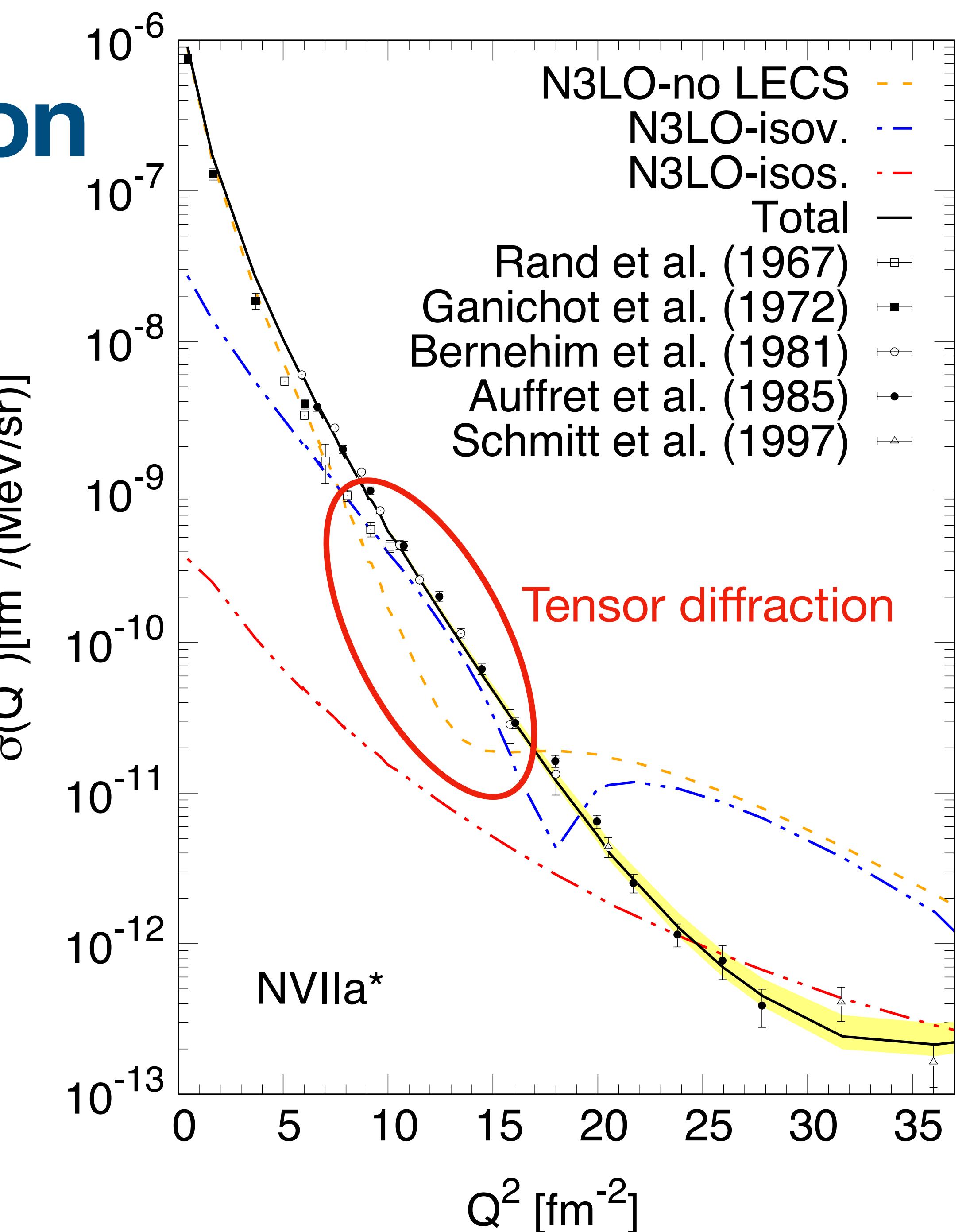
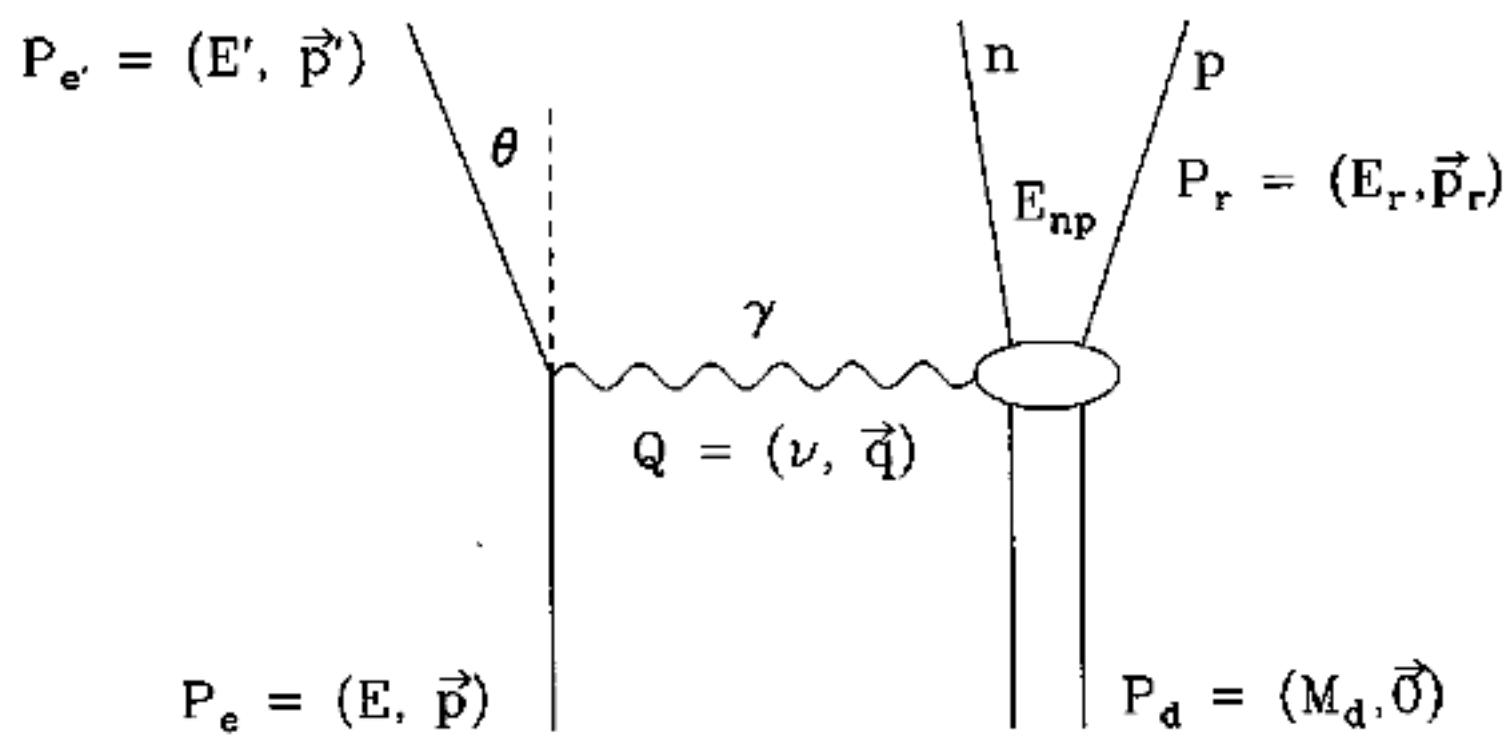
[ R. Schiavilla et al., PRC 99, 034005 (2019) ]

**Diffraction generated by  
tensor forces**

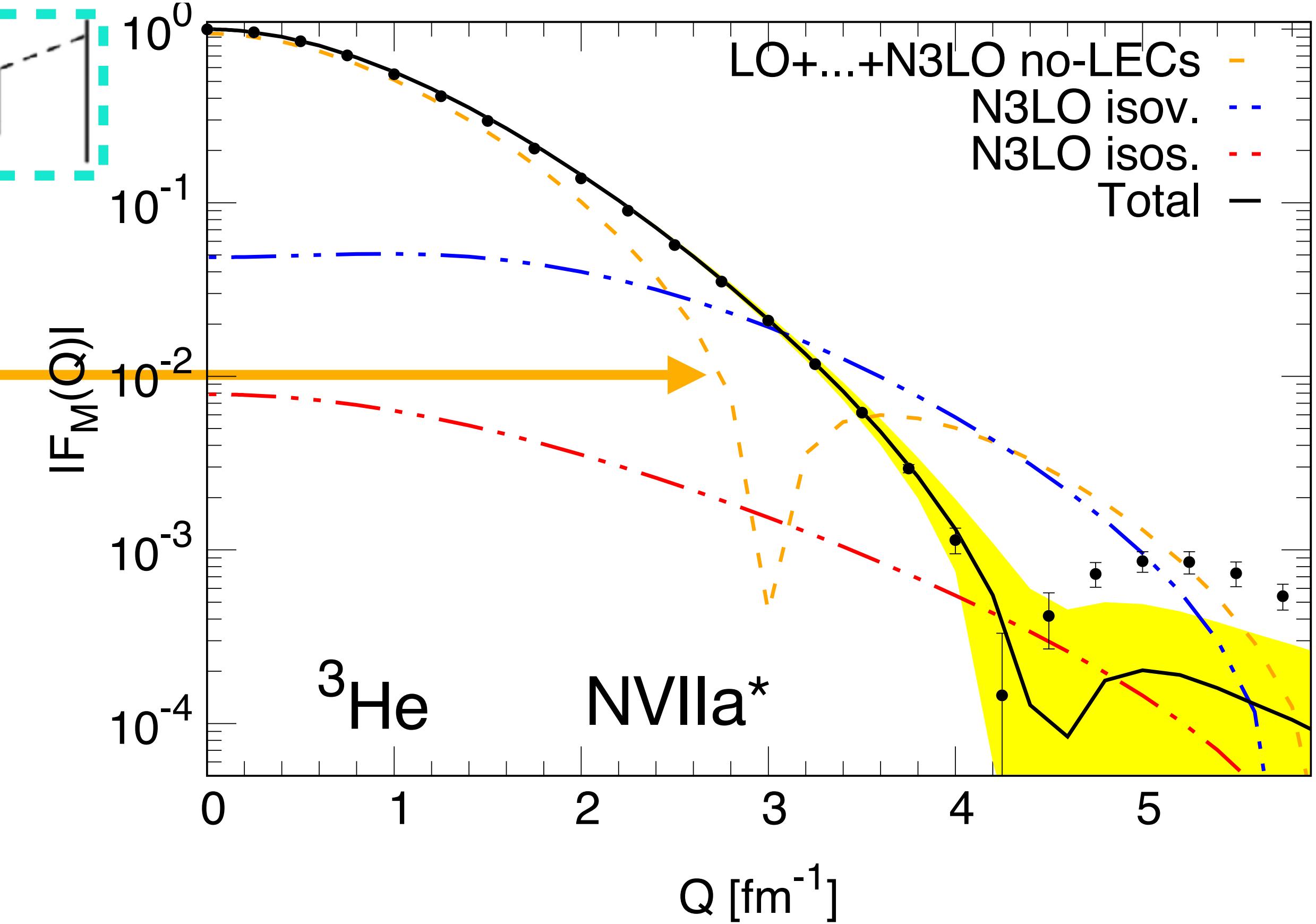
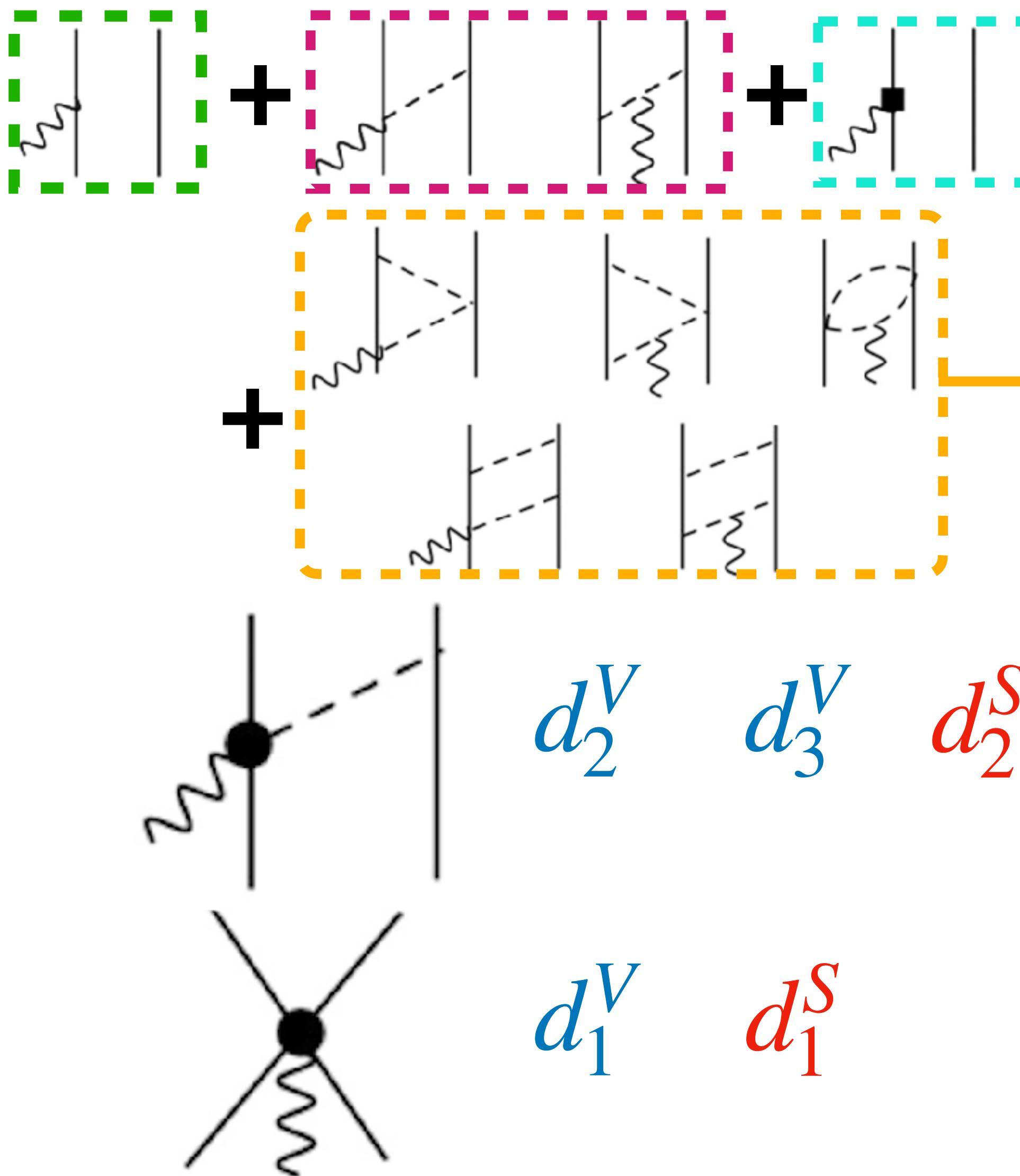
# New LECs determination

PRC 106, 04401 (2020)

- Magnetic moments of d,  $^3\text{He}$ ,  $^3\text{H}$  (fix normalization)
- Deuteron-threshold electrodisintegration at backward angles (fix dynamics)



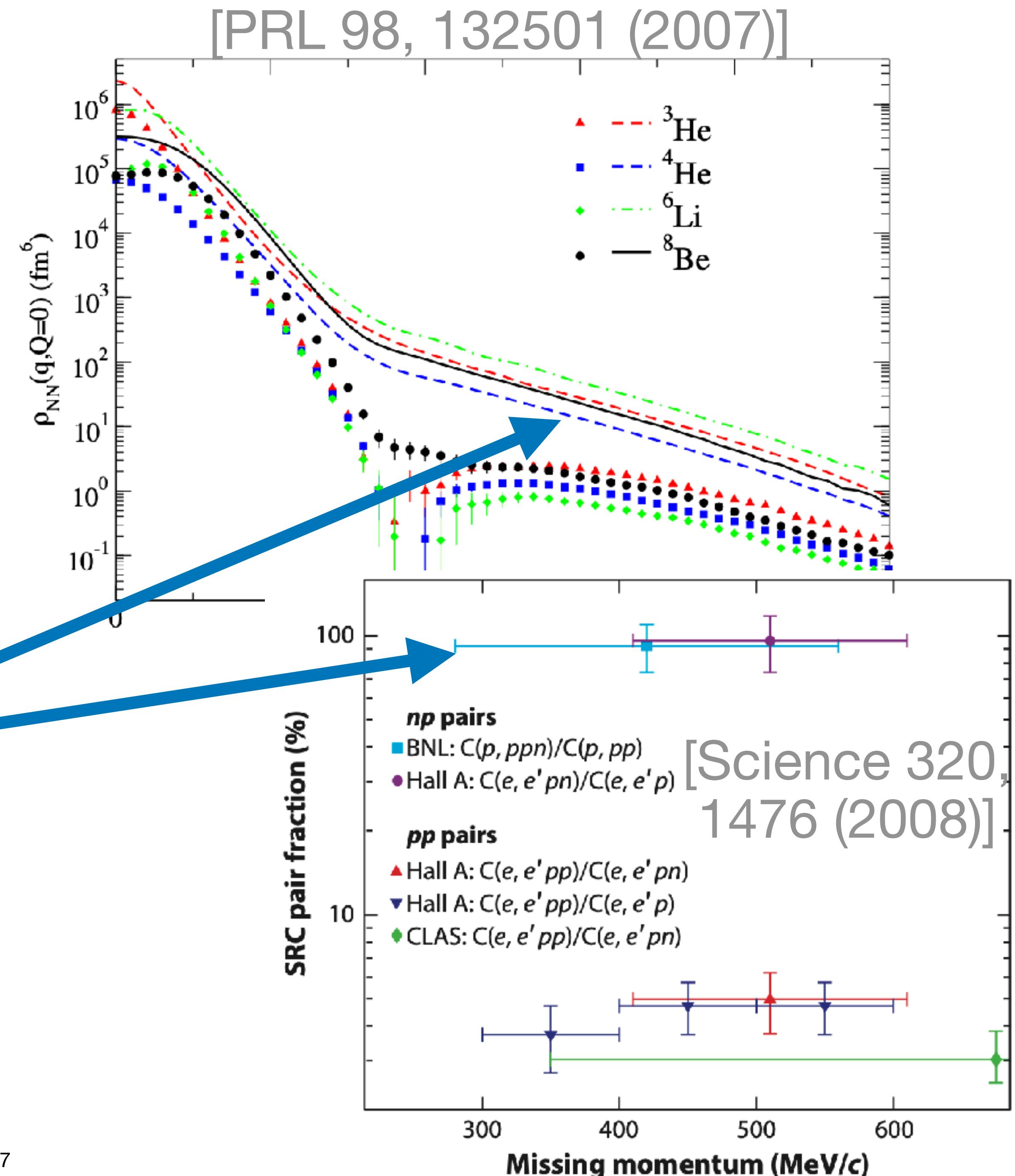
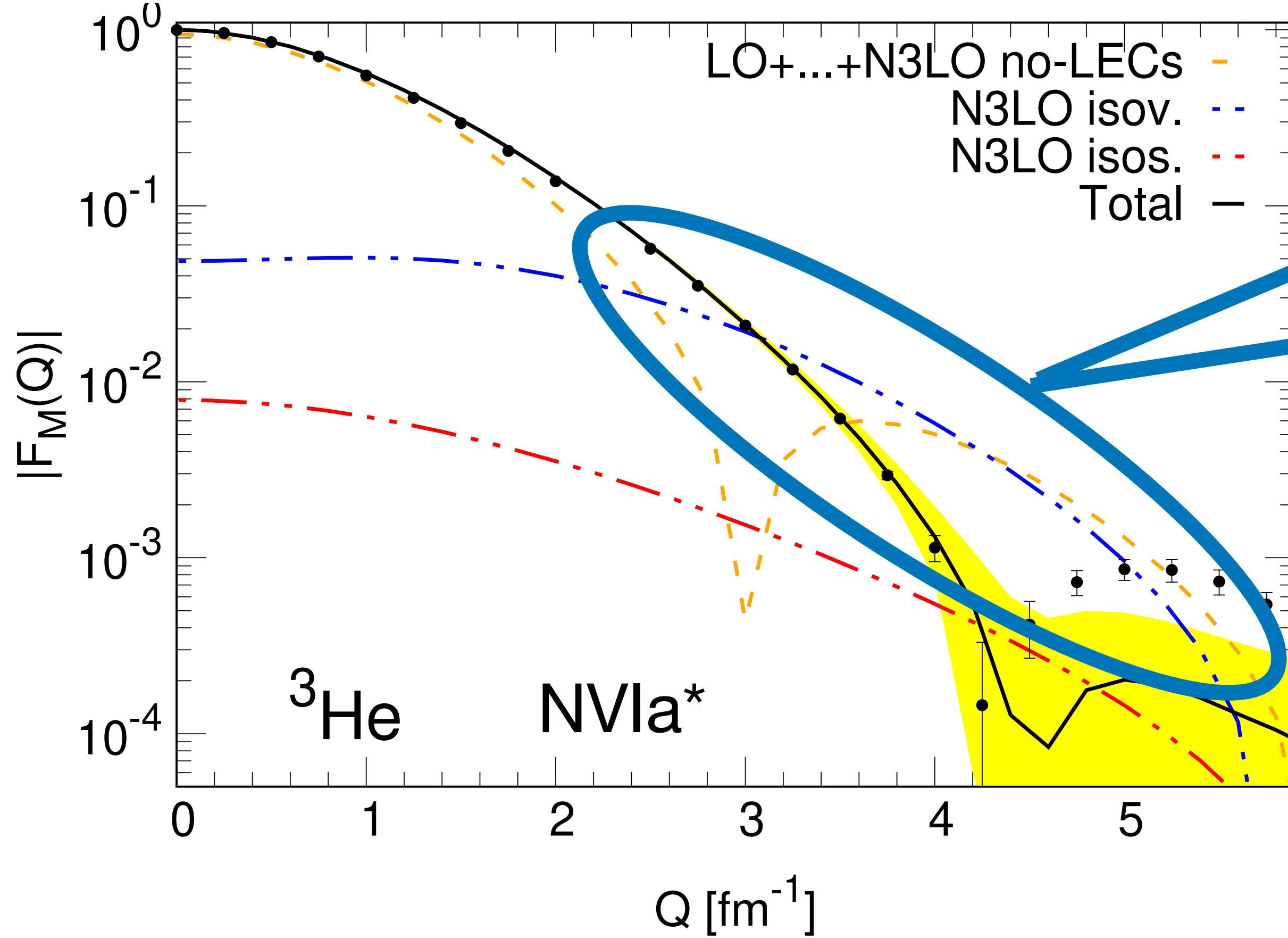
# Prediction of A=3 Magnetic Form Factor



**The isovector components  
fill/generates the diffraction**

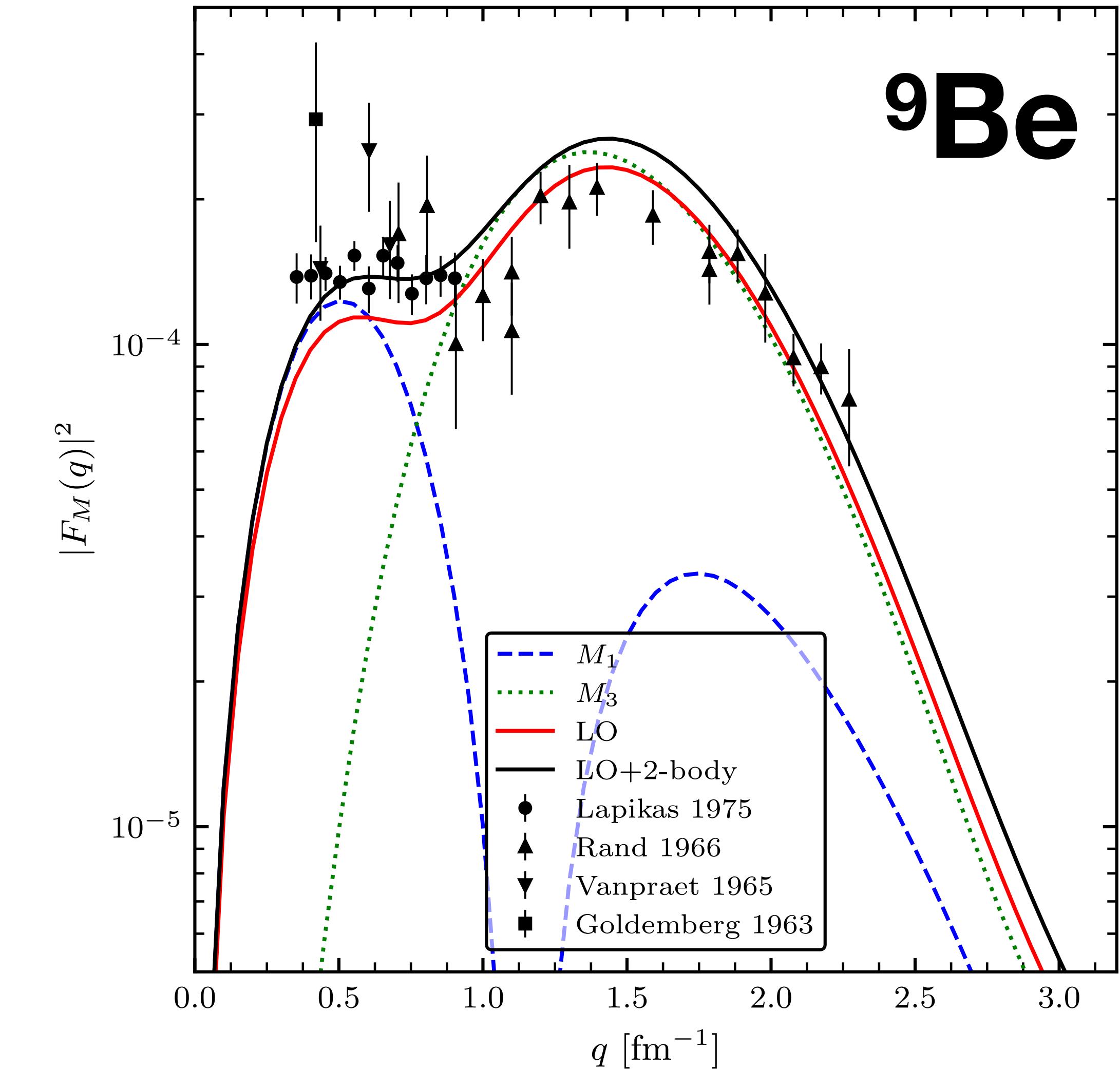
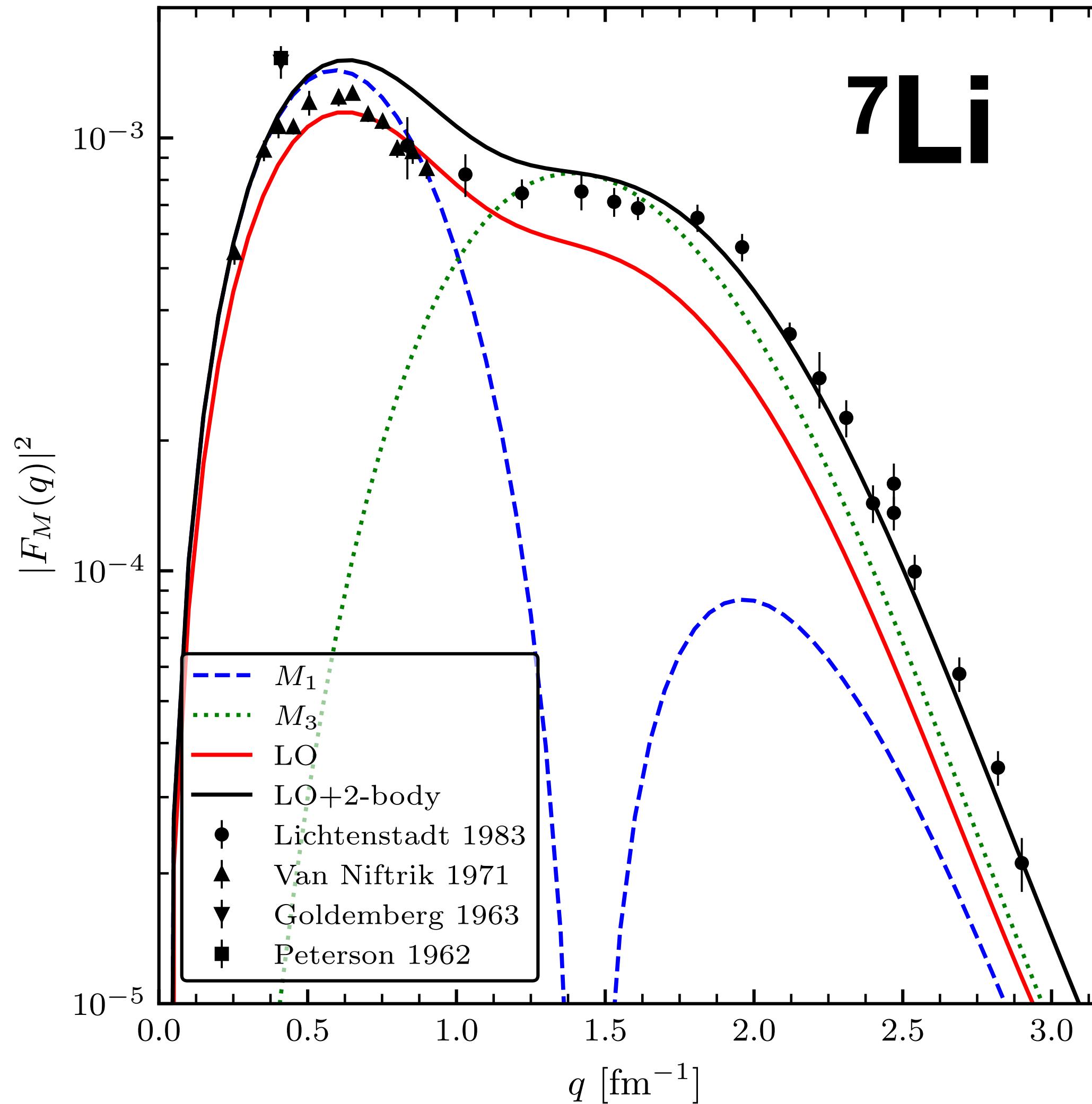
# Why does it work?

Isovector currents transform  
 $S/T=0/1$  in  $S/T=1/0$  pairs  
**np dominance**



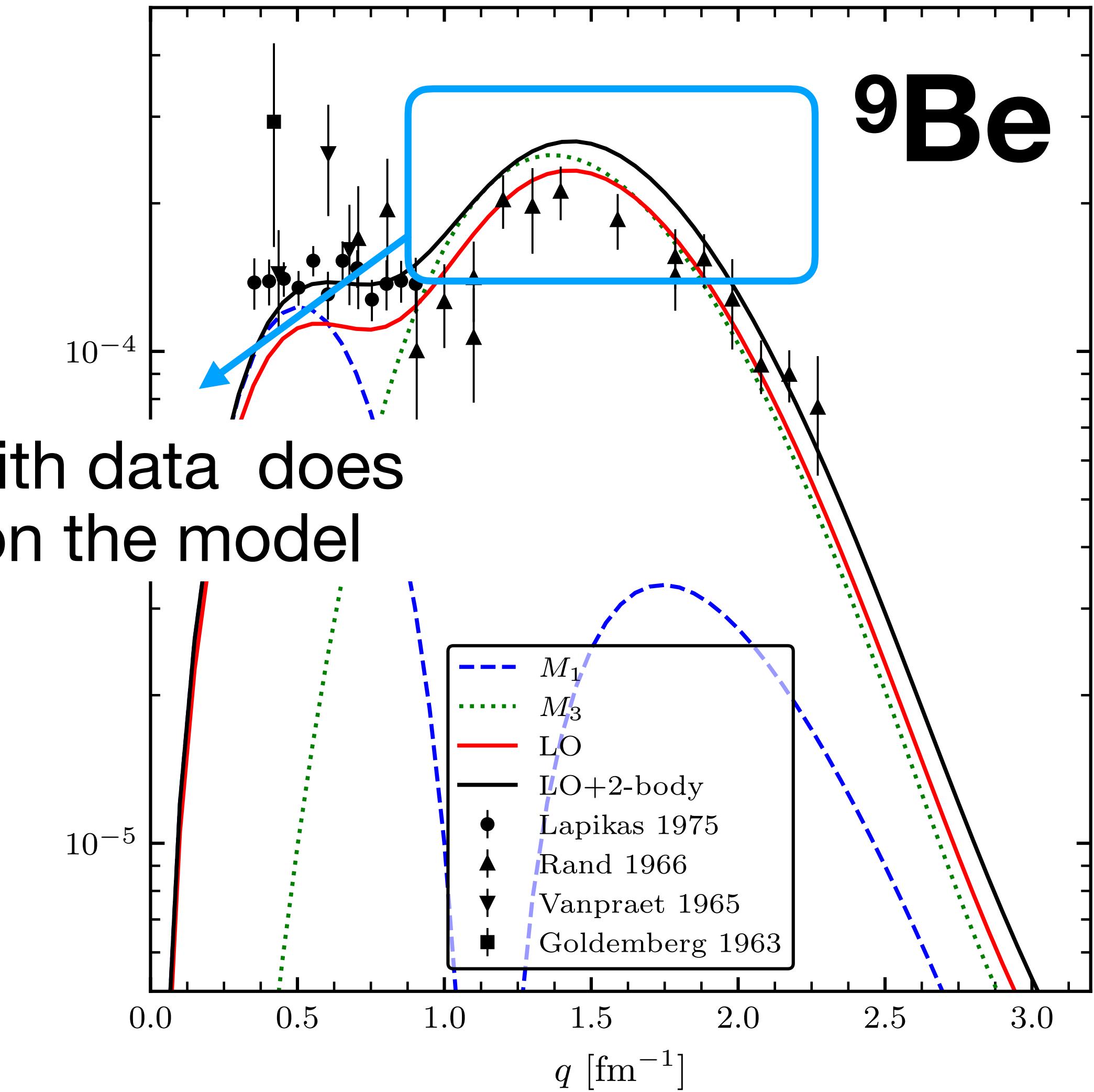
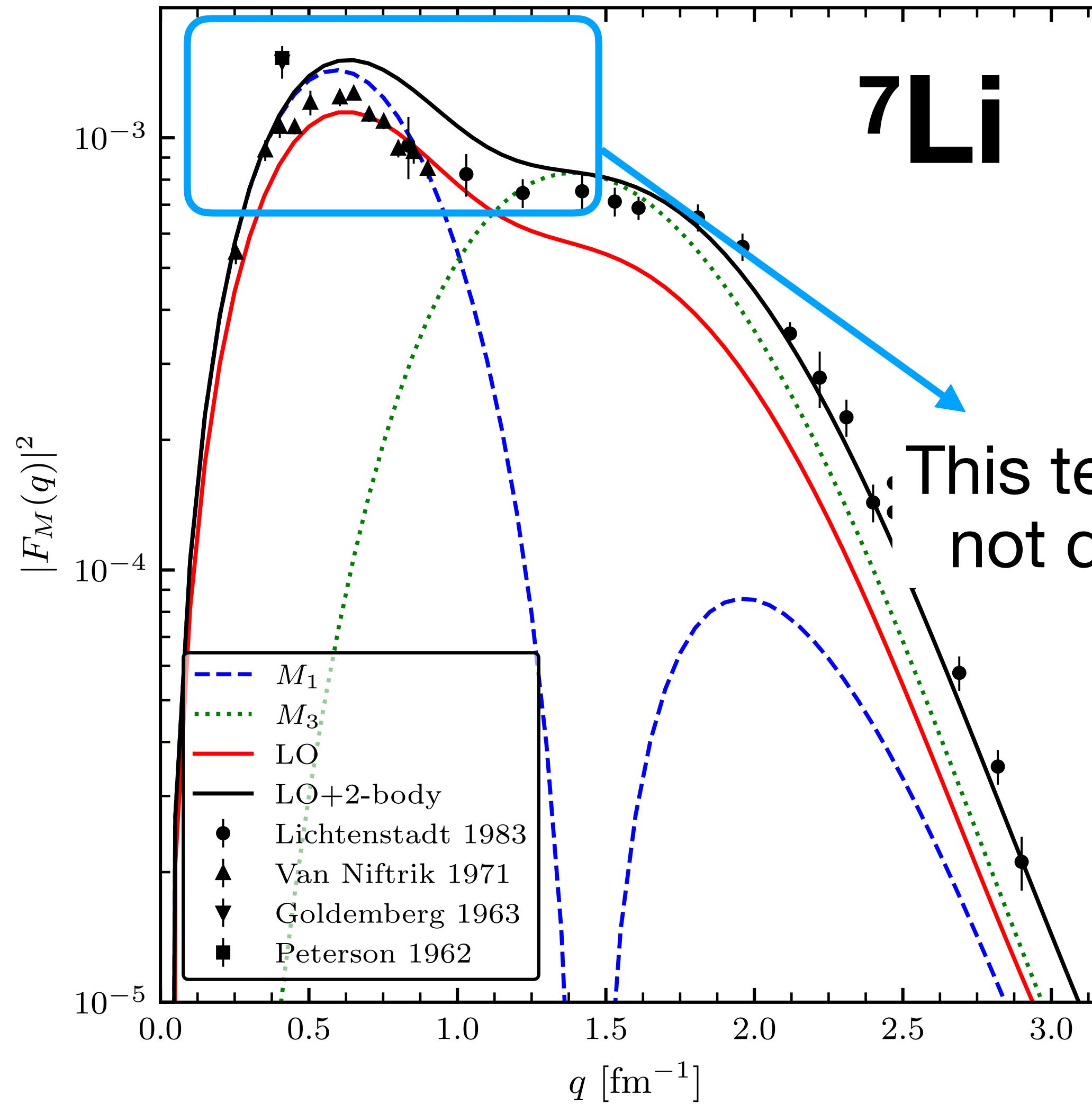
# Magnetic form factor predictions

## Lithium-7 and Berilium-9 (isovector dominated)



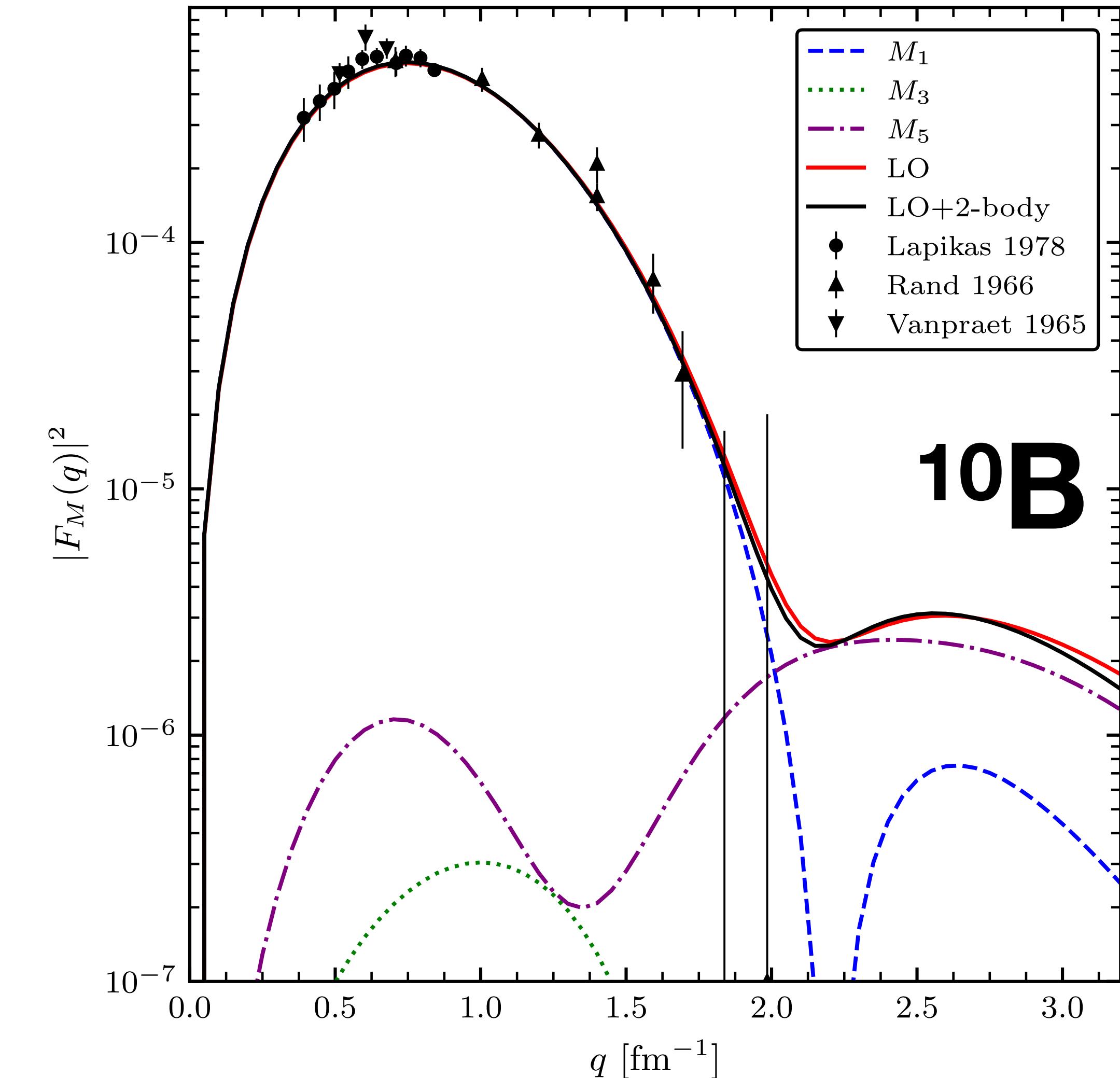
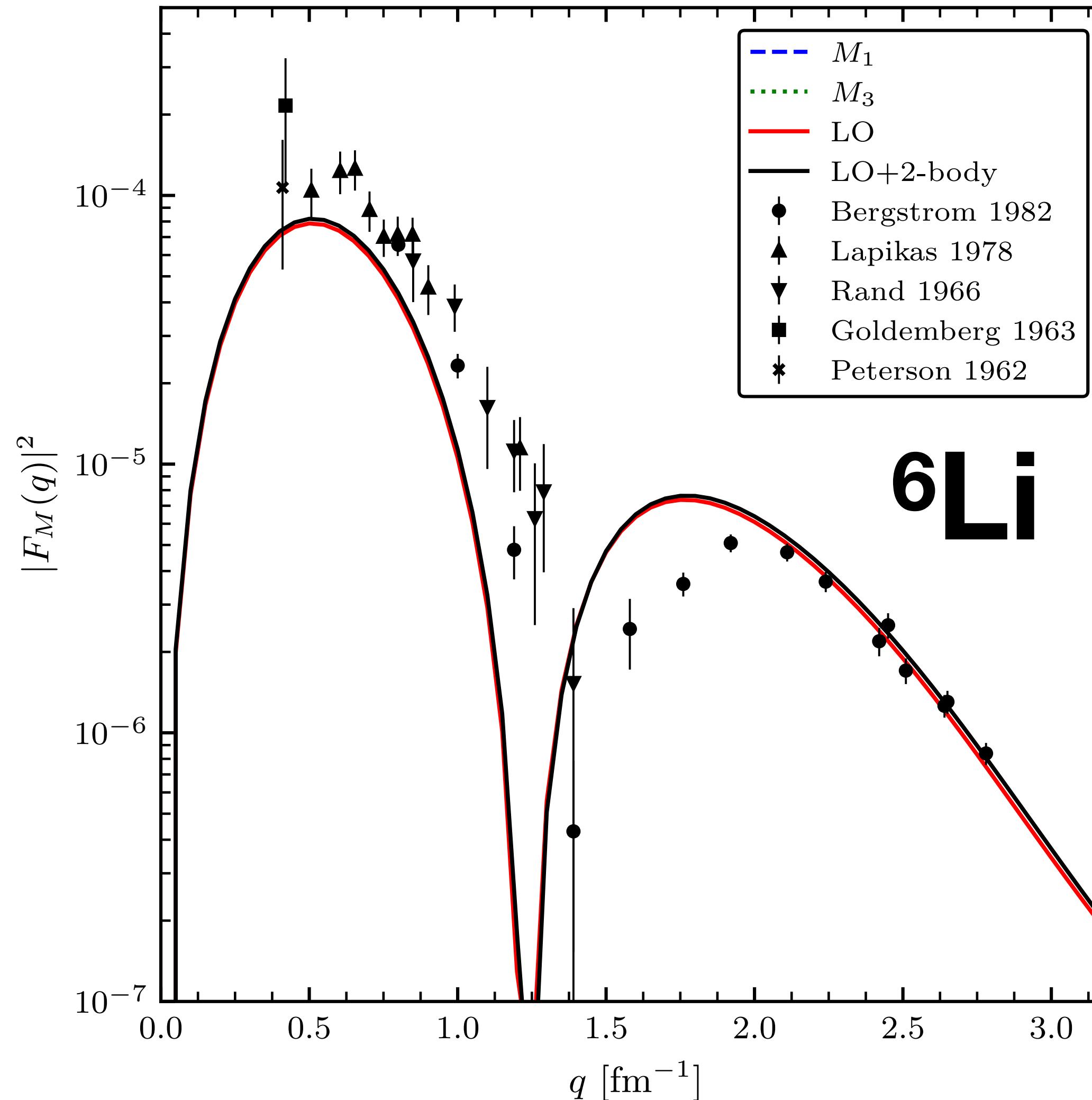
# Magnetic form factor predictions

## Lithium-7 and Berilium-9 (isovector dominated)



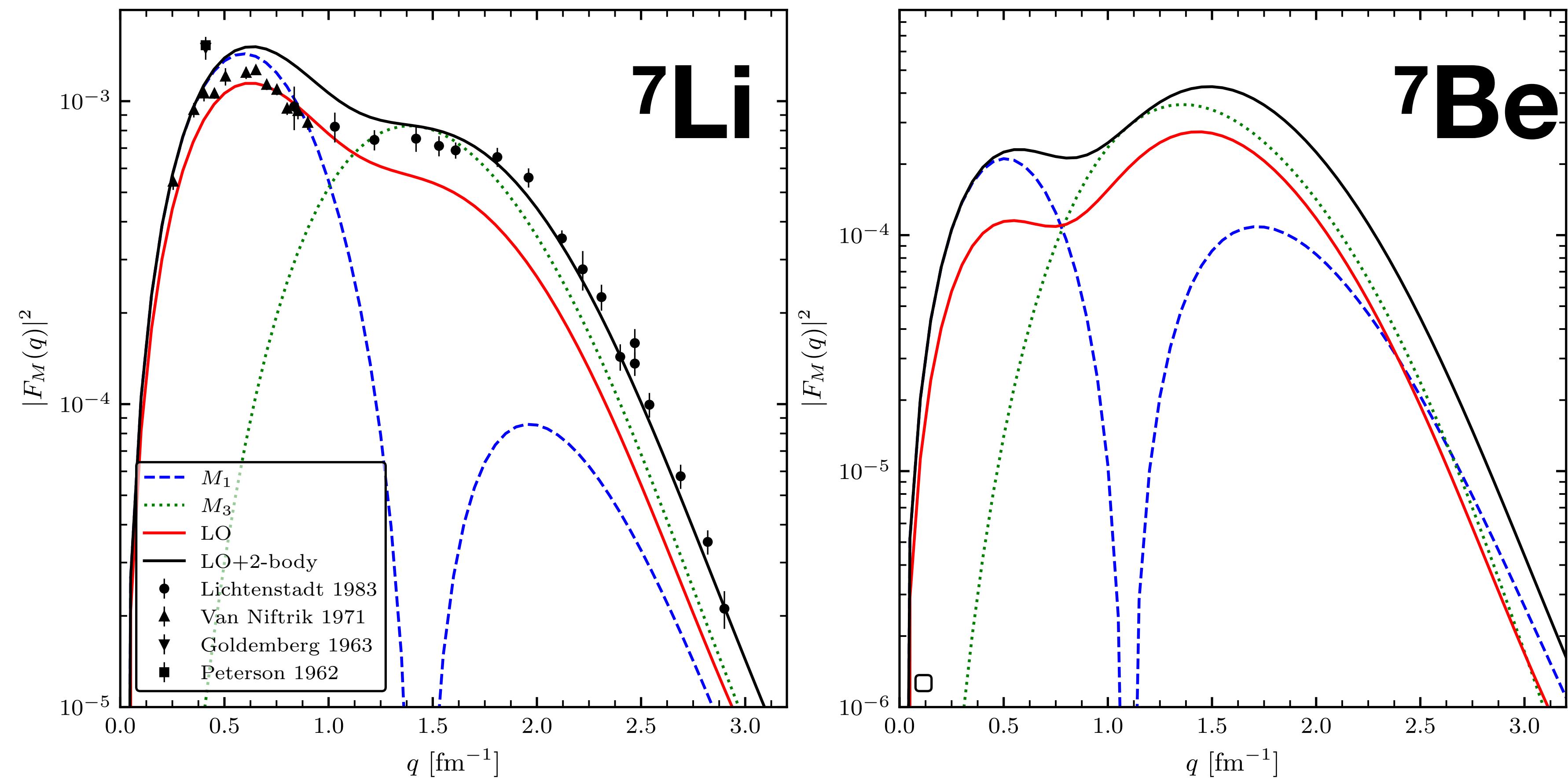
# Magnetic form factor predictions

## Lithium-6 and Boron-10 (isoscalar transition)



# Mirror nuclei structure

- $M_1$  is enhanced respect to  $M_3$  for nuclei with an unpaired neutron in the p-shell.
- We observed a similar behavior for the mirror systems  ${}^9\text{Li}-{}^9\text{C}$  and  ${}^9\text{Be}-{}^9\text{B}$



Pure prediction (no previous literature) + no experimental confirmation

# Mirror nuclei structure

## The reason

$$\mathbf{j}^{\text{LO}}(\mathbf{q}) = \frac{\epsilon_i(q_\mu^2)}{2m} [\mathbf{p}_i, e^{i\mathbf{q}\cdot\mathbf{r}_i}]_+ + i \frac{\mu_i(q_\mu^2)}{2m} e^{i\mathbf{q}\cdot\mathbf{r}_i} \boldsymbol{\sigma}_i \times \mathbf{q},$$

Convection current

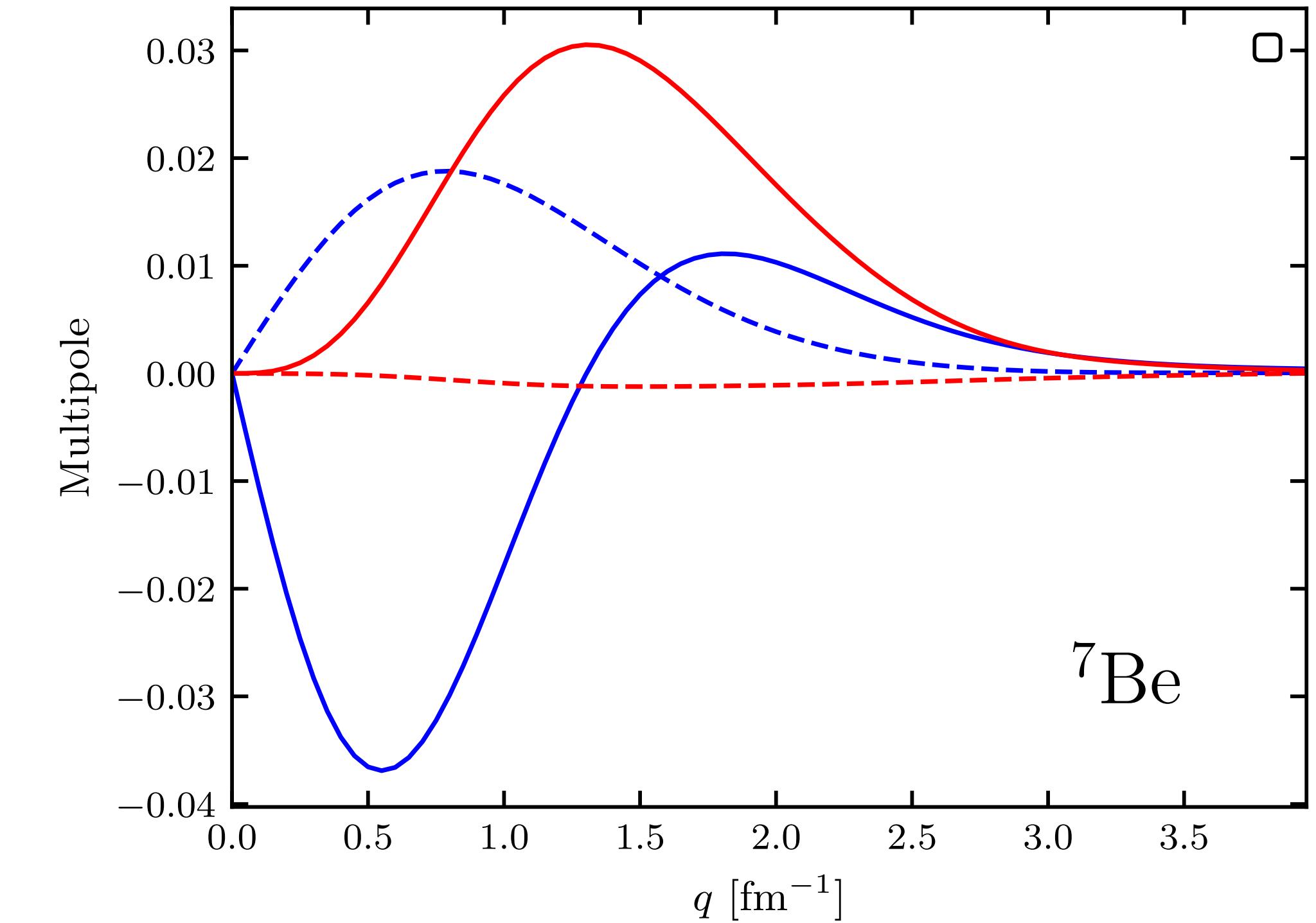
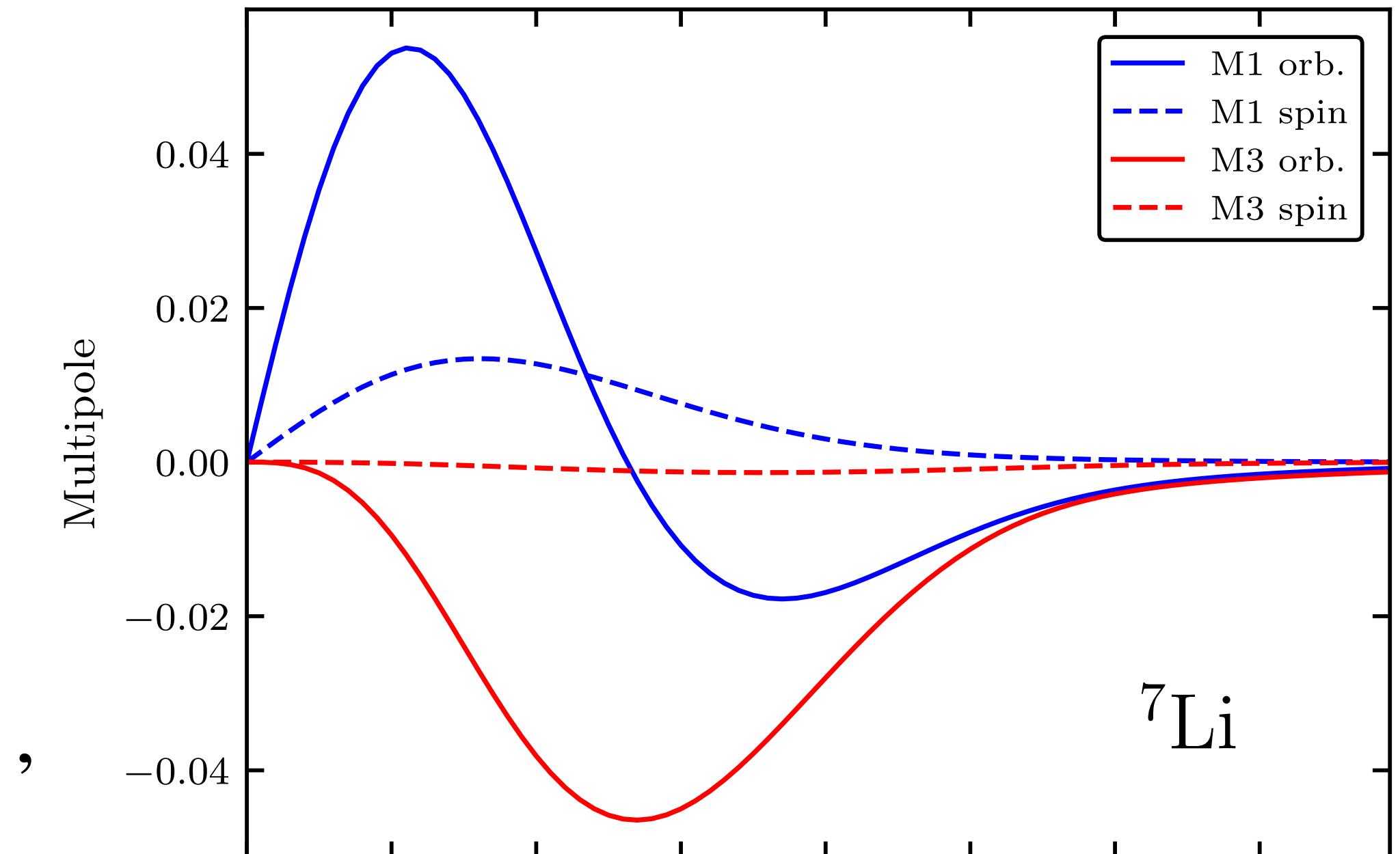


No contribution to  $M_3$

Magnetic current

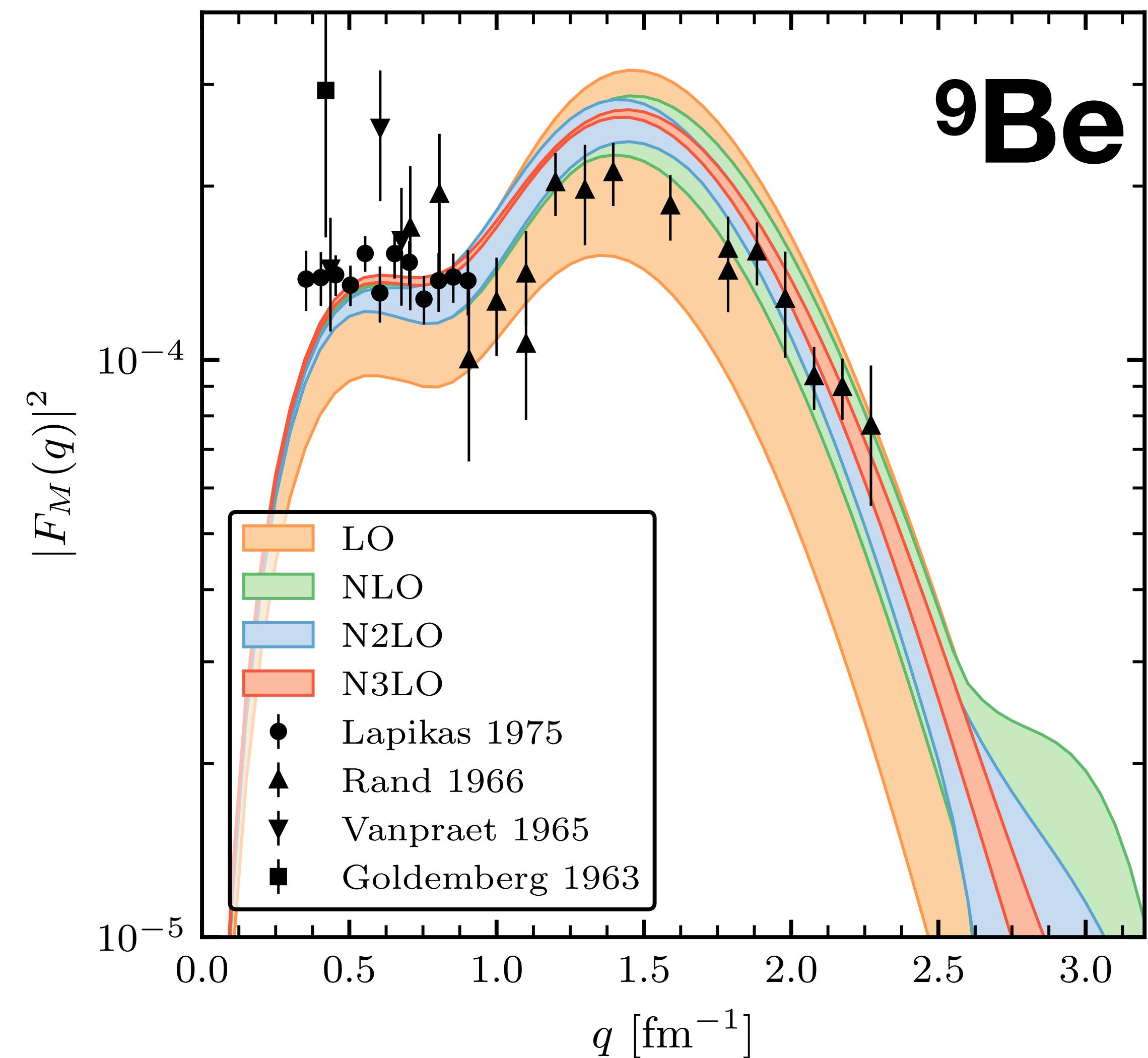


Change sign if there is an unpaired neutron/proton



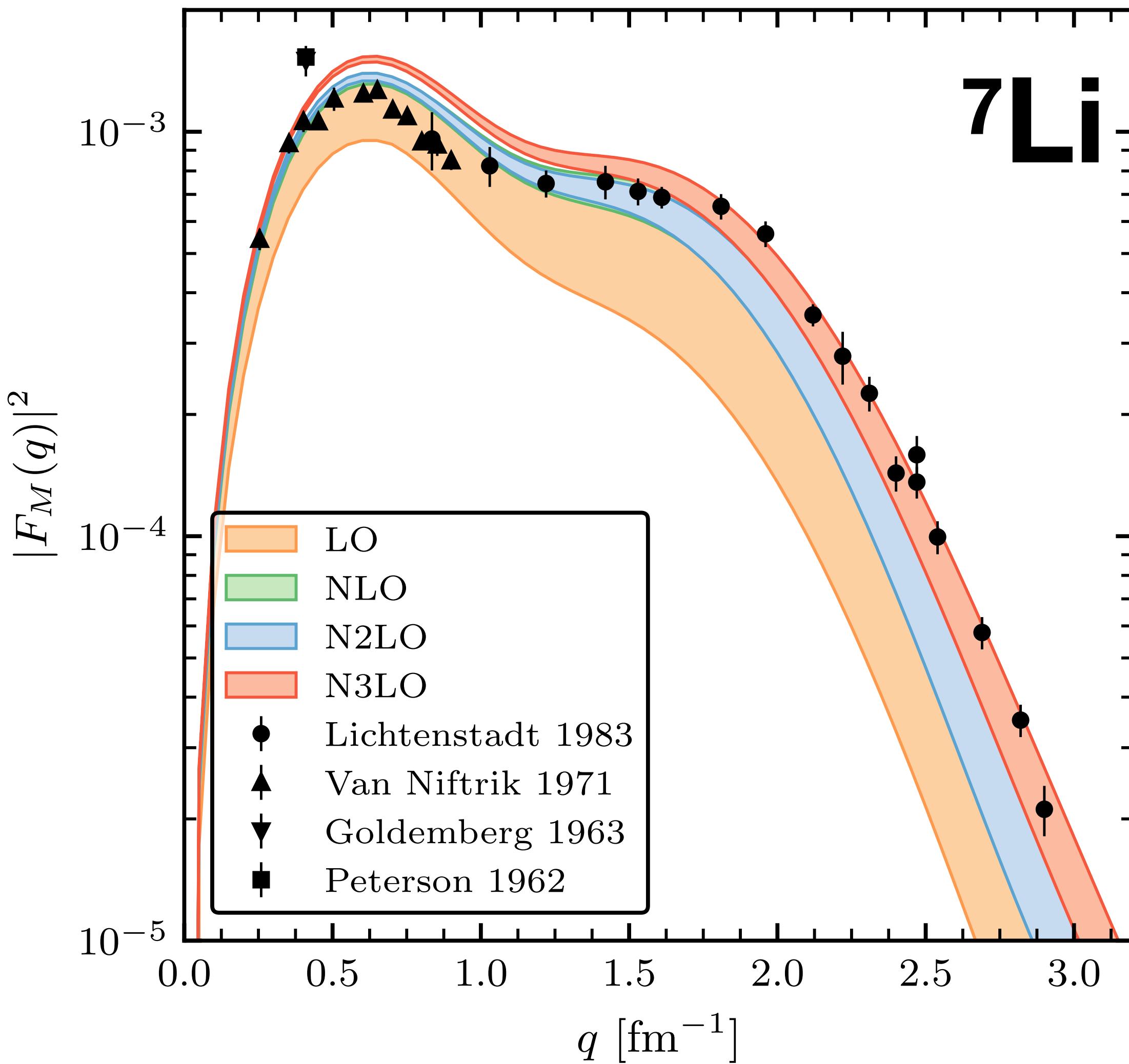
# Order by order expansion

- Error analysis based on:  
[EPJA 51, 53 (2015)]
- Expansion parameter:  
 $Q = (A - 1)/A \times q/\Lambda_b, \Lambda_b = 700 \text{ MeV}$
- Chiral expansion seems to have in general a good behavior.
- N3LO corrections for some nuclei are of the same size of N2LO.

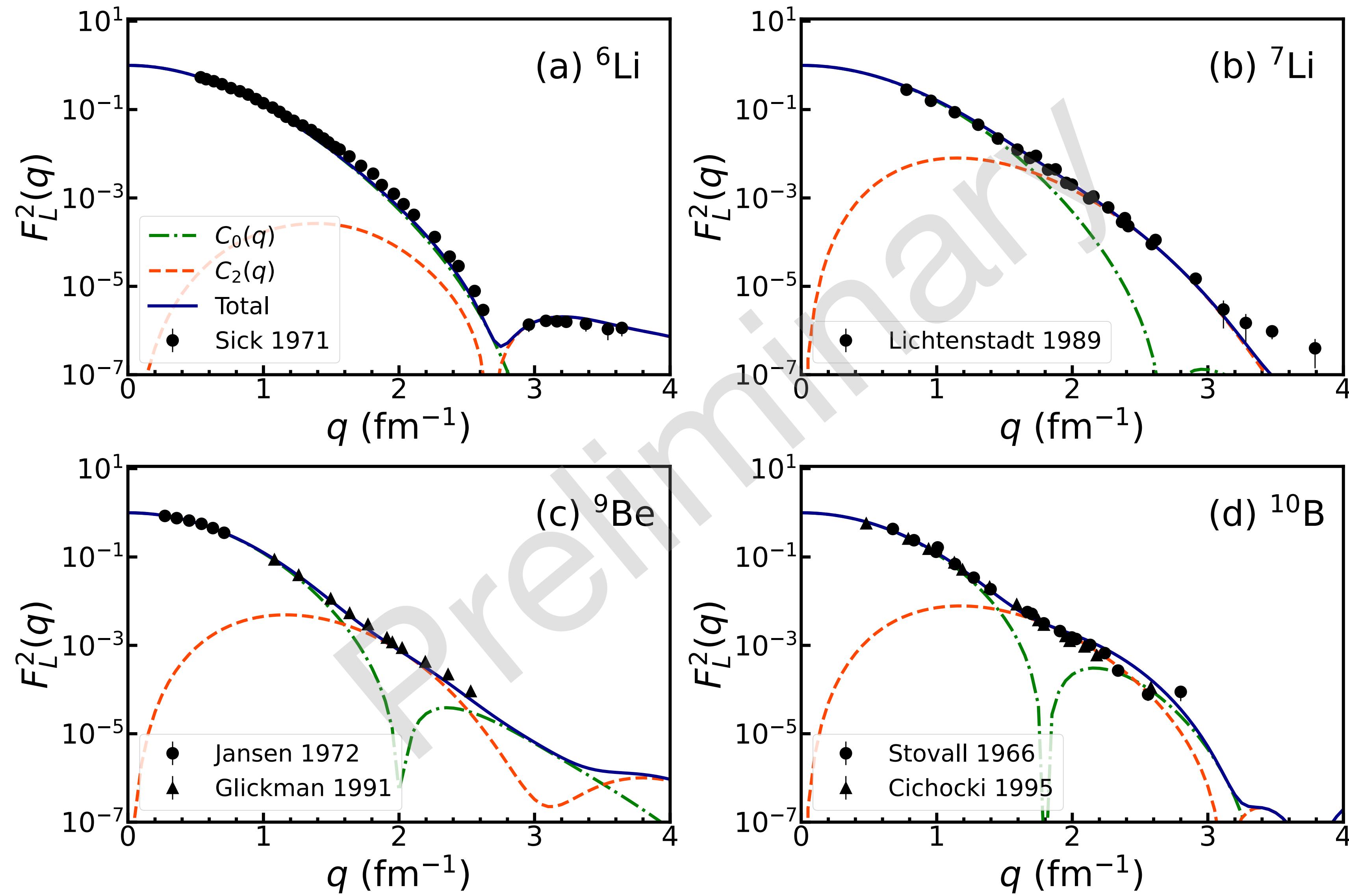


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# Charge form factor predictions



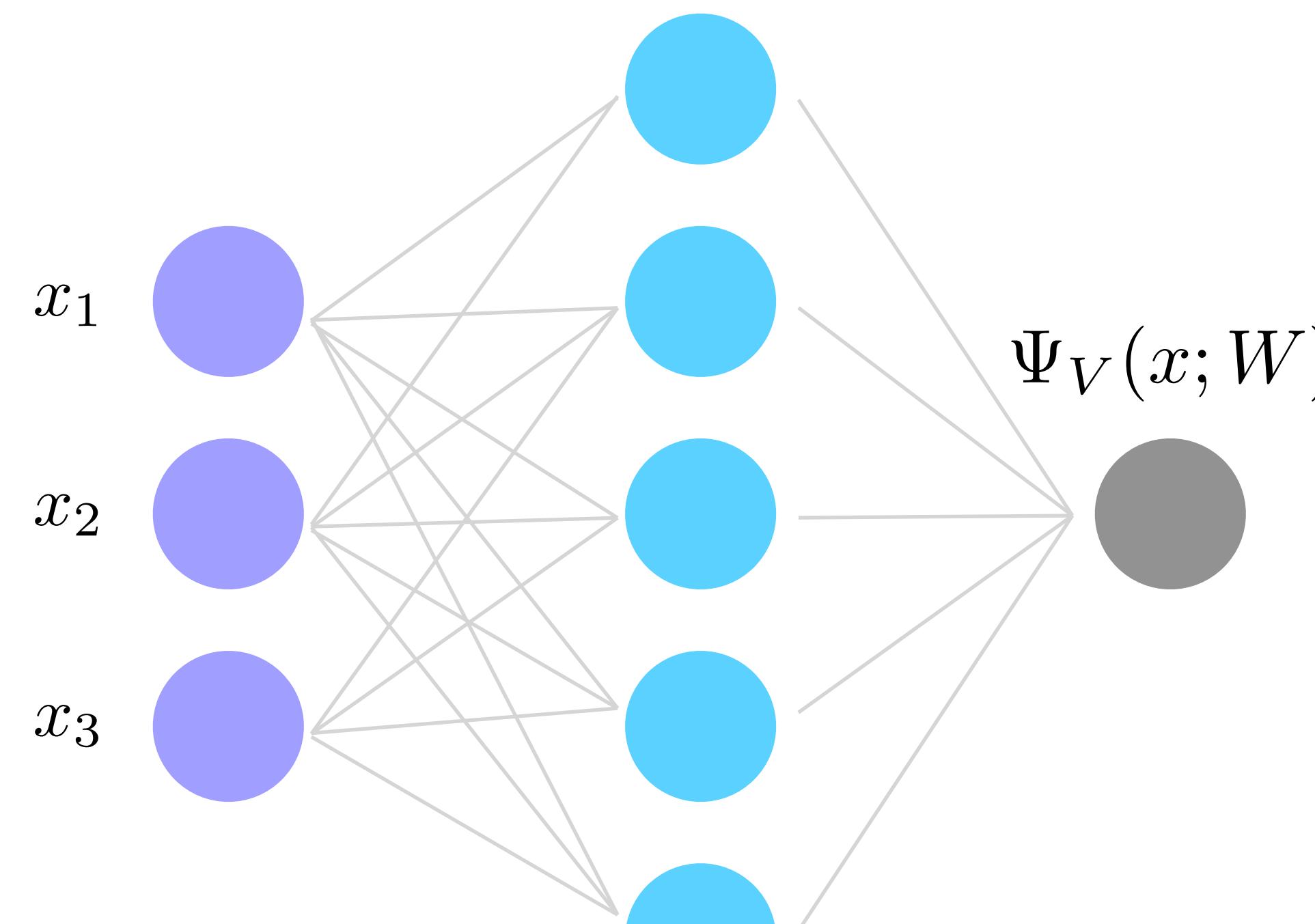
# Summary

## Magnetic form factors

- First ab-initio calculation of magnetic form factors of nuclei  $7 \leq A \leq 10$ .
- Good overall description of available magnetic form factor data.
- Two-body currents account up to 40-50% of the total contribution to the magnetic form factors.
- First observation of  $M_1/M_3$  inversion in mirror p-shell nuclei (not observed experimentally yet).

More precise data on more nuclei would permit  
to constrain better our models

# Post-scriptum: Neural-Network Quantum States



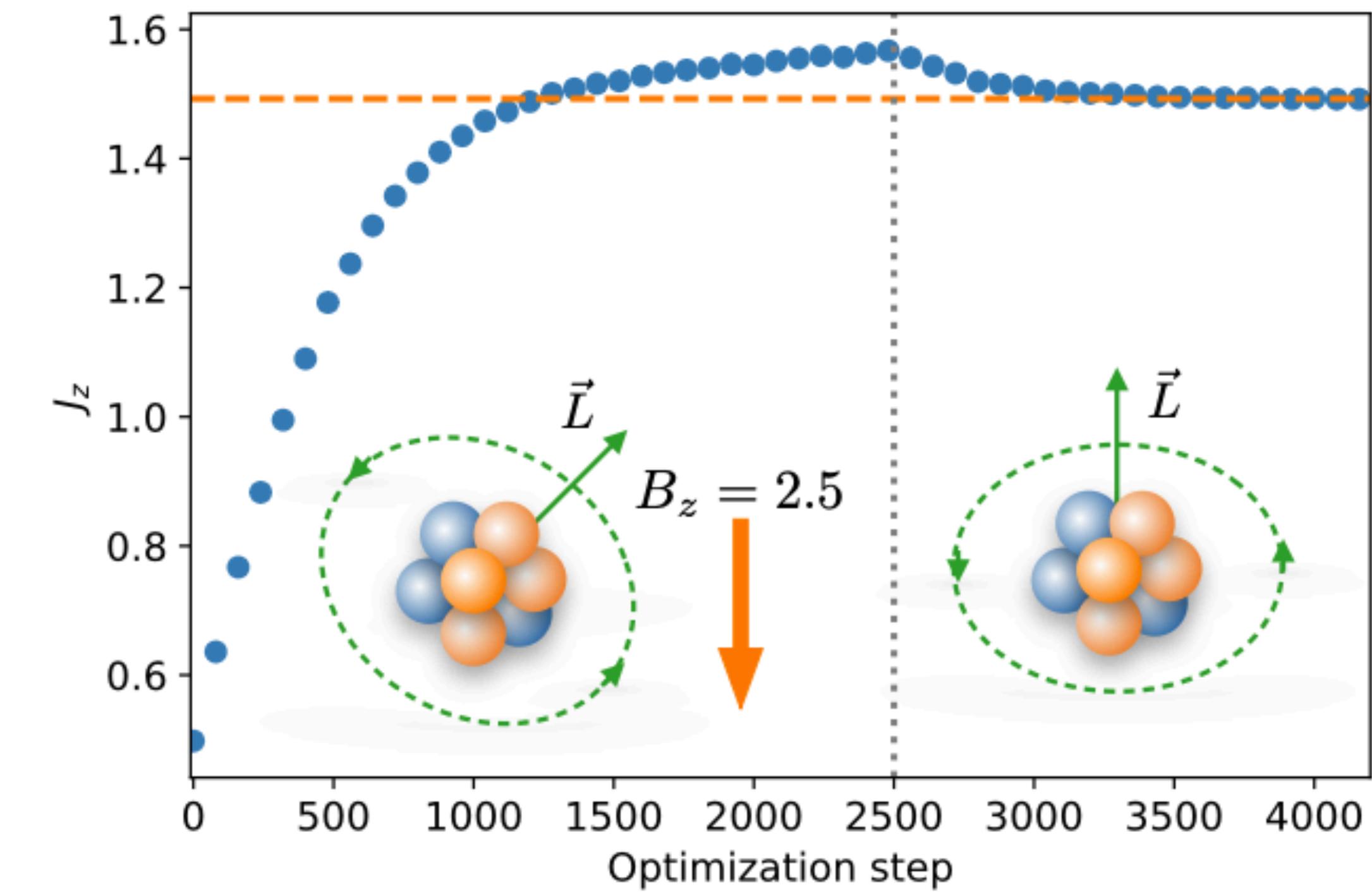
$x_i$  = position, spin, isospin

$W$  = weights of the network

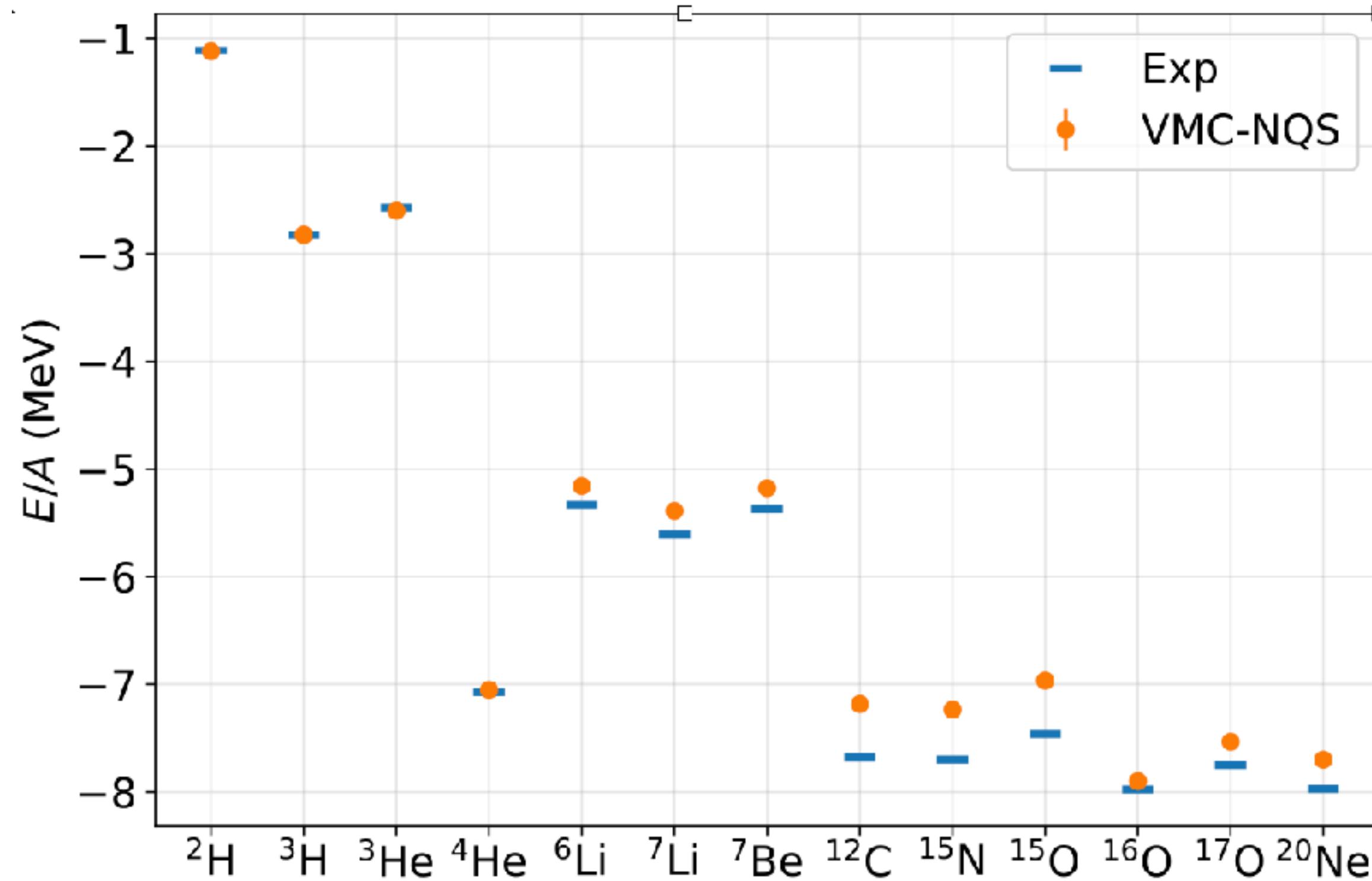
[arXiv:2308.16266 (2023)] accepted in PRL

The energy is the loss function

$$E = \min_W \frac{\langle \Psi_V(W) | H | \Psi_V(W) \rangle}{\langle \Psi_V(W) | \Psi_V(W) \rangle}$$

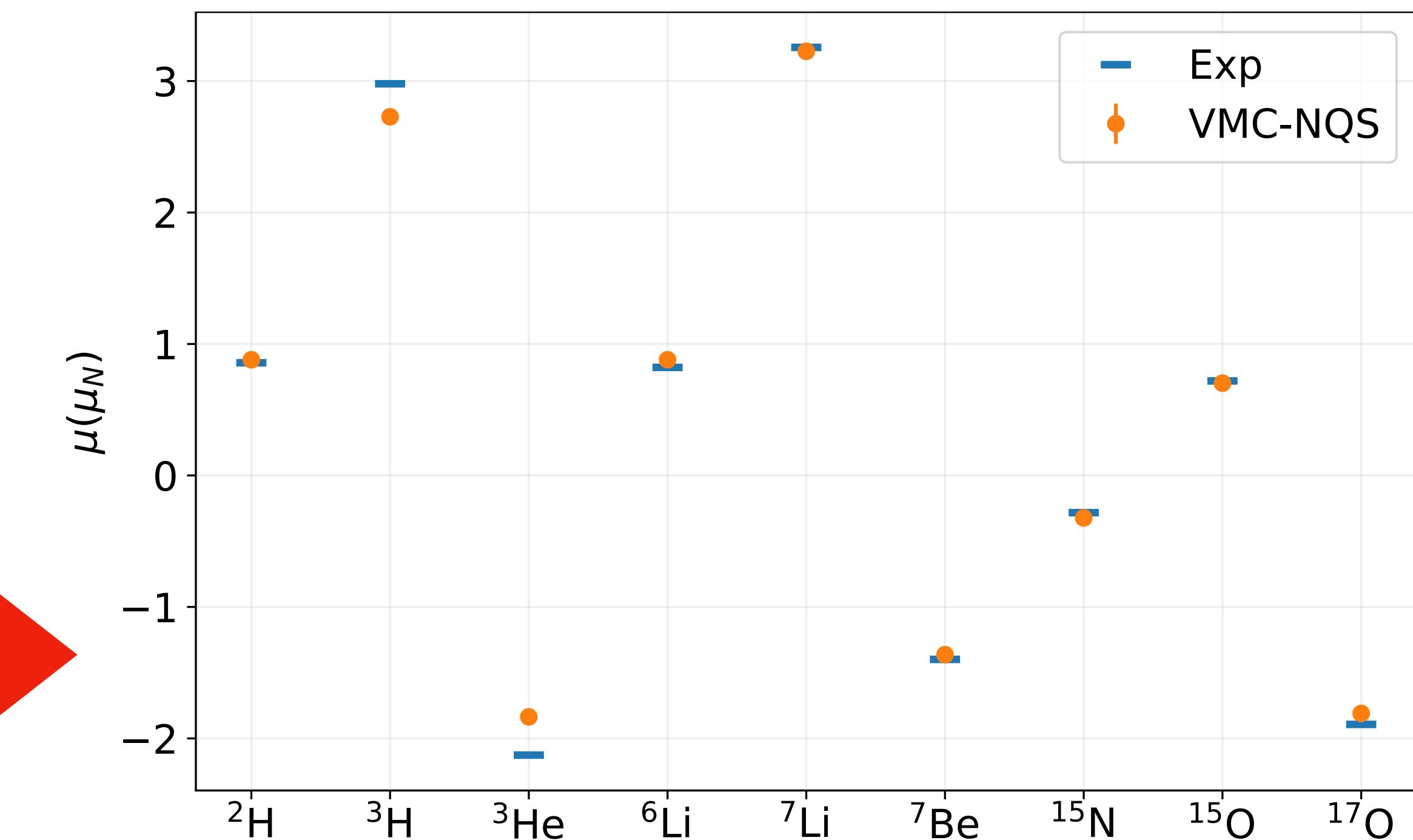


# Post-scriptum: Neural-Network Quantum States



Prediction of static magnetic moments

Pionless EFT + NNQS  
Prediction of binding energy of light nuclei  
**The NNQS is learning the Hamiltonian**



# Collaborators

L. Andreoli (JLab & ODU)  
G. Chambers-Wall (WashU)  
B. Fore (ANL)  
G. B. King (WashU)  
A. Lovato (ANL)  
L.E. Marcucci (UNIPI)  
S. Pastore (WashU)  
M. Piarulli (WashU)  
R. Schiavilla (JLab & ODU)  
A. Tropiano (ANL)  
M. Viviani (INFN Pisa)  
R. B. Wiringa (ANL)

# Acknowledgments

NTNP

DOE Topical Collaboration



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**



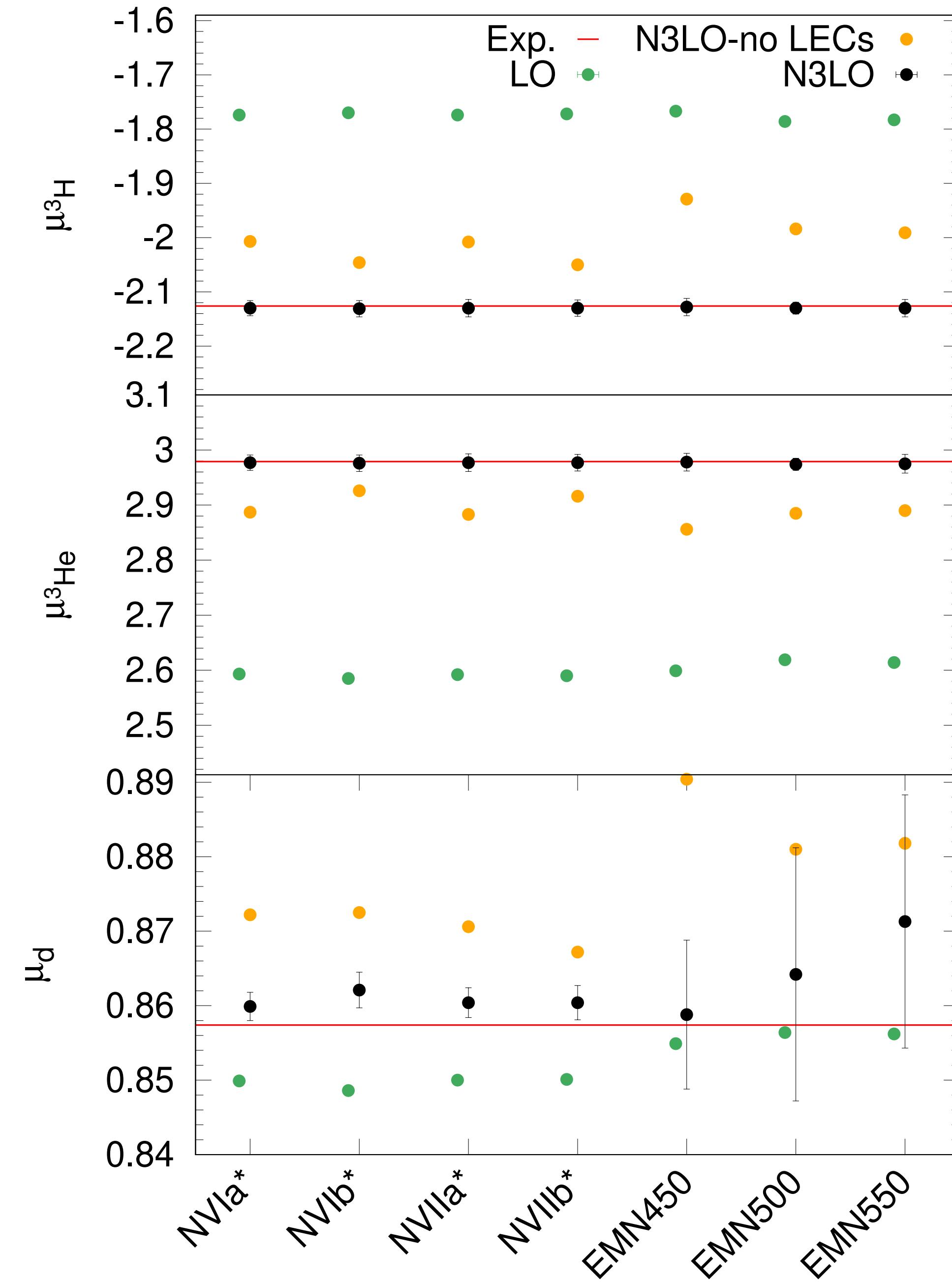
National Energy Research  
Scientific Computing Center

# Sparse

# Results of the fit

Pot.	$\chi^2/\text{ndf}$	$\chi^2/\text{ndf}$ (no Rand)
NVIa*	9.9	2.0
NVIb*	10.2	2.3
NVIIa*	11.6	2.5
NVIIb*	11.6	2.6
EMN450	11.3	2.8
EMN500	14.7	4.7
EMN550	17.7	7.9

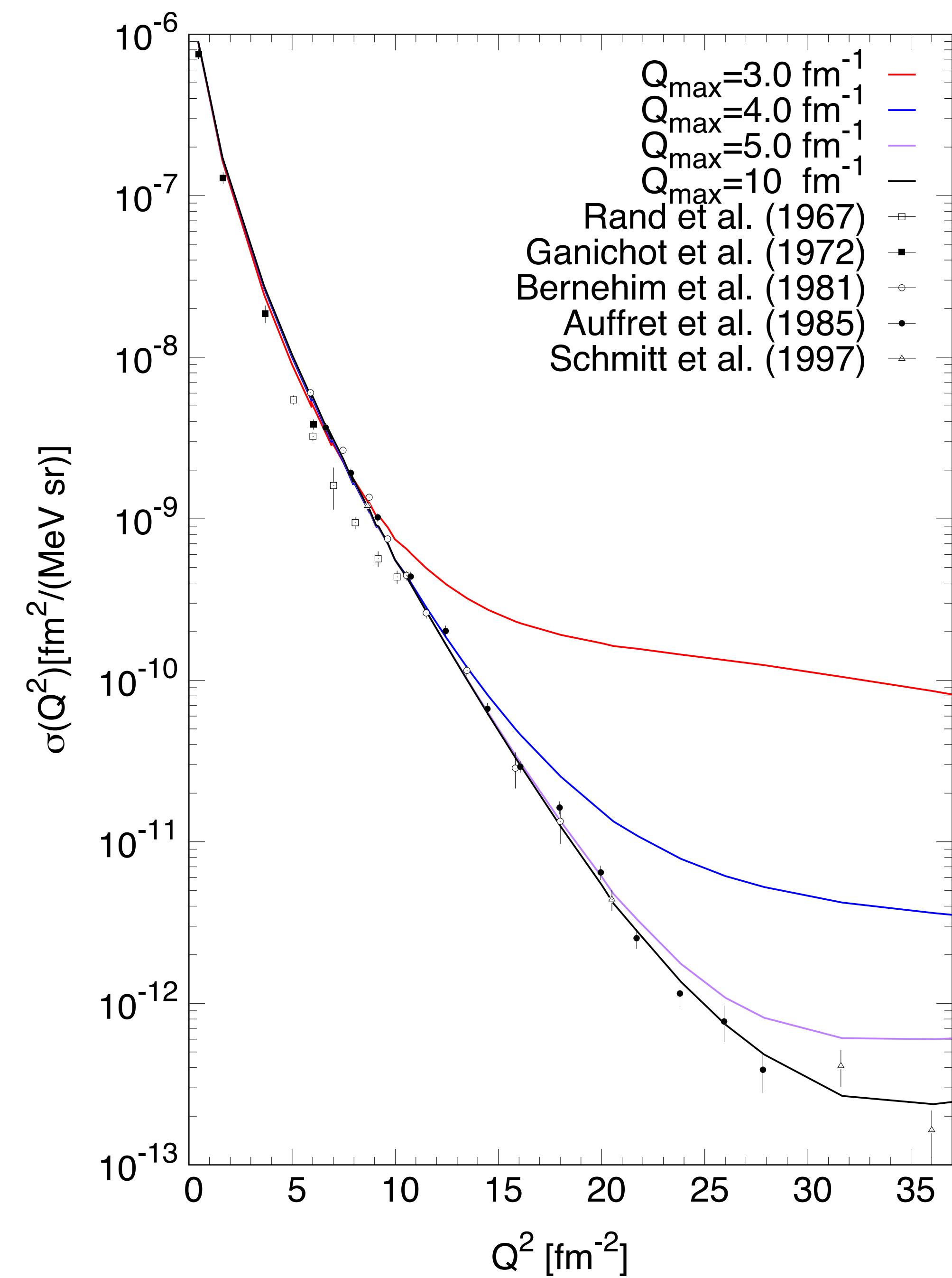
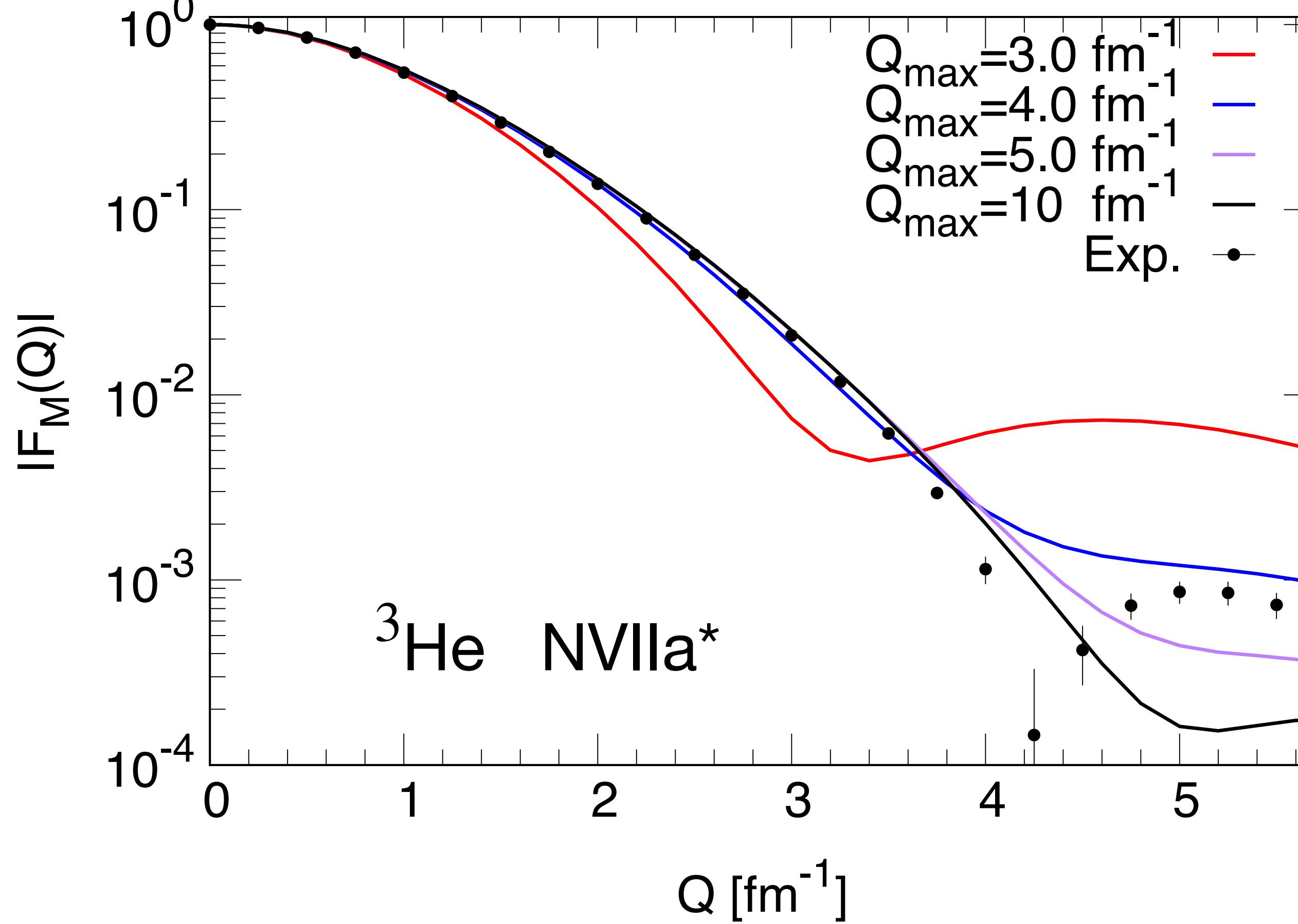
- $\text{ndf} \sim 40$
- Removing Rand *et al.* data,  $\chi^2$  improves



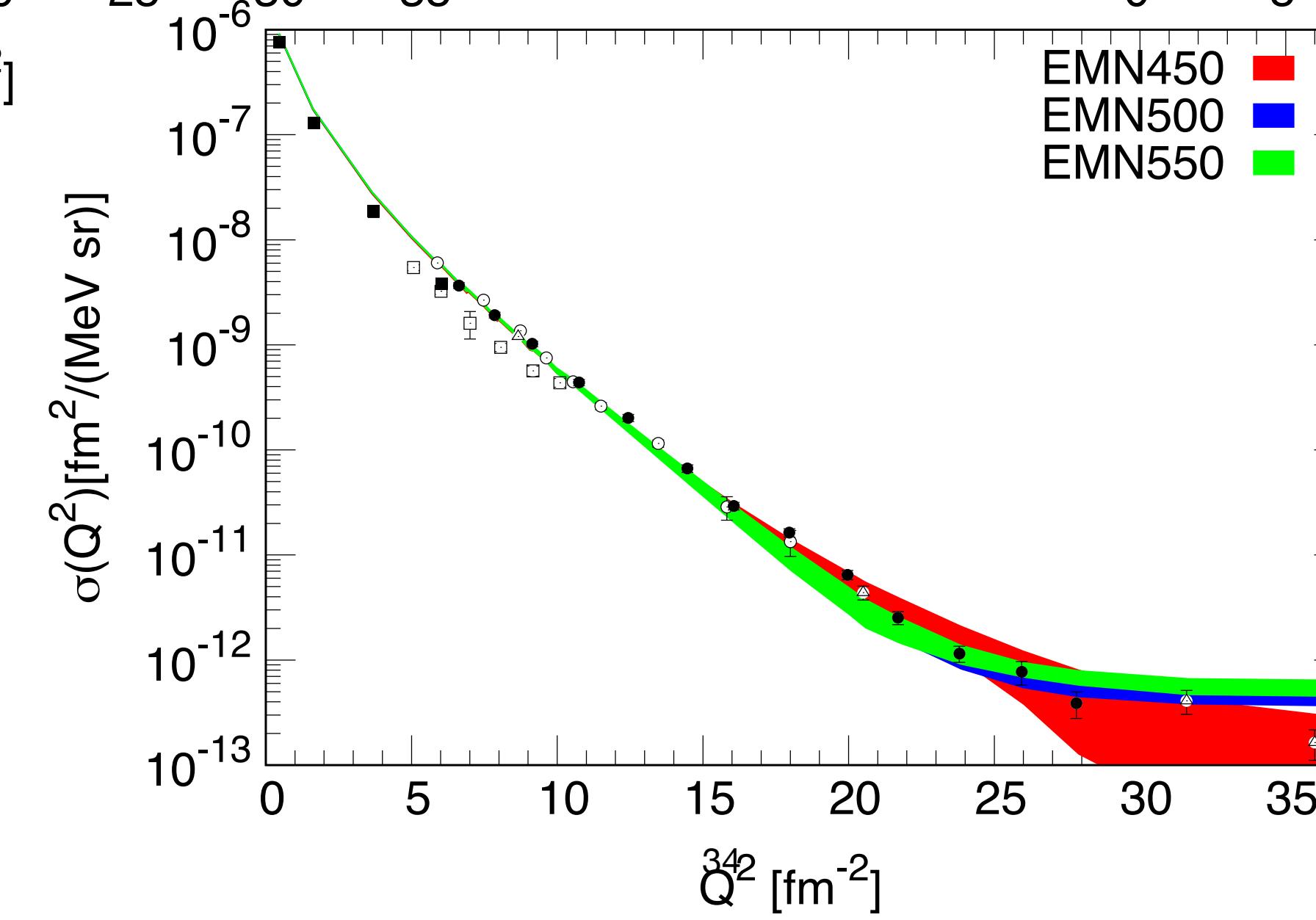
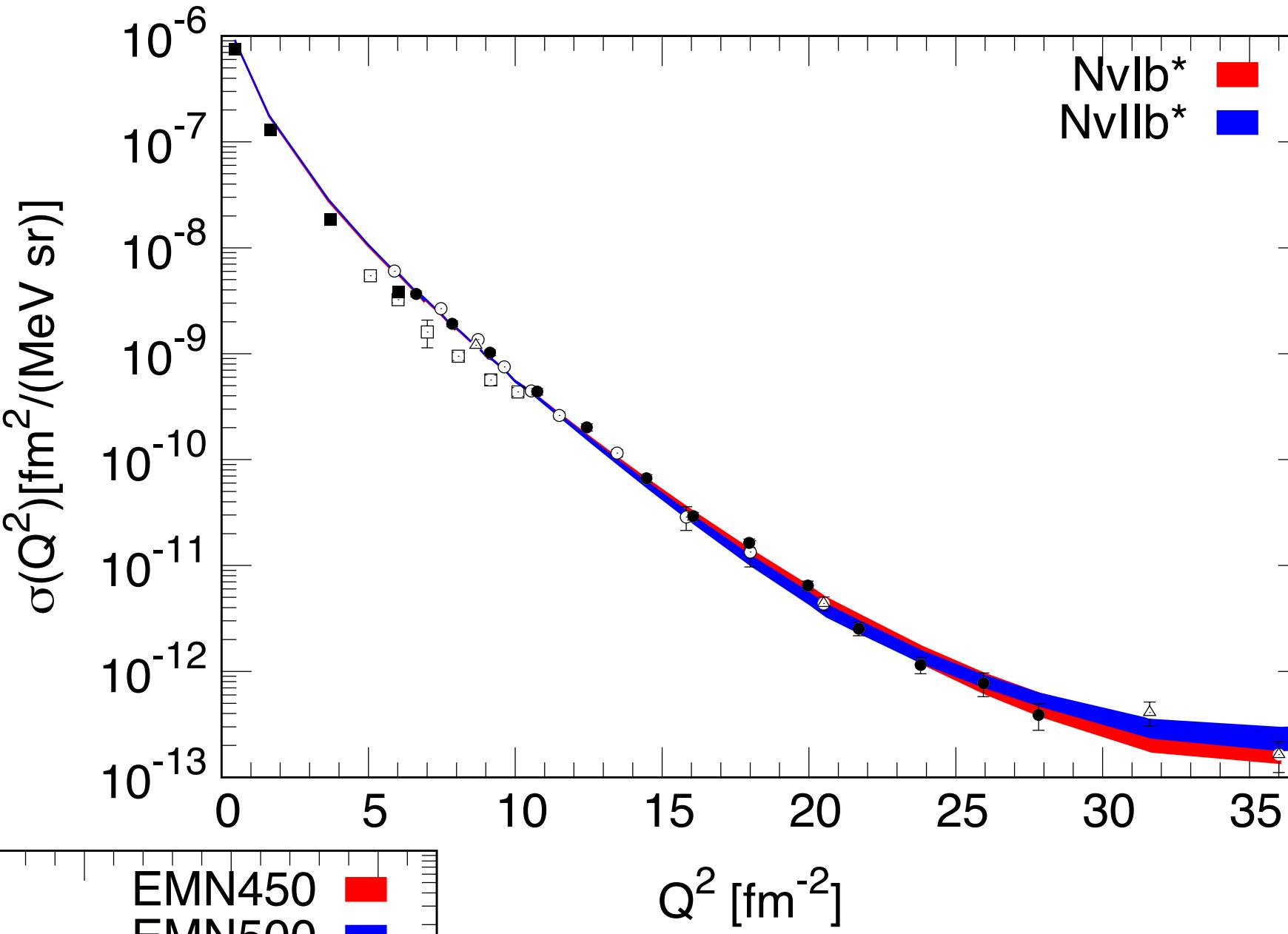
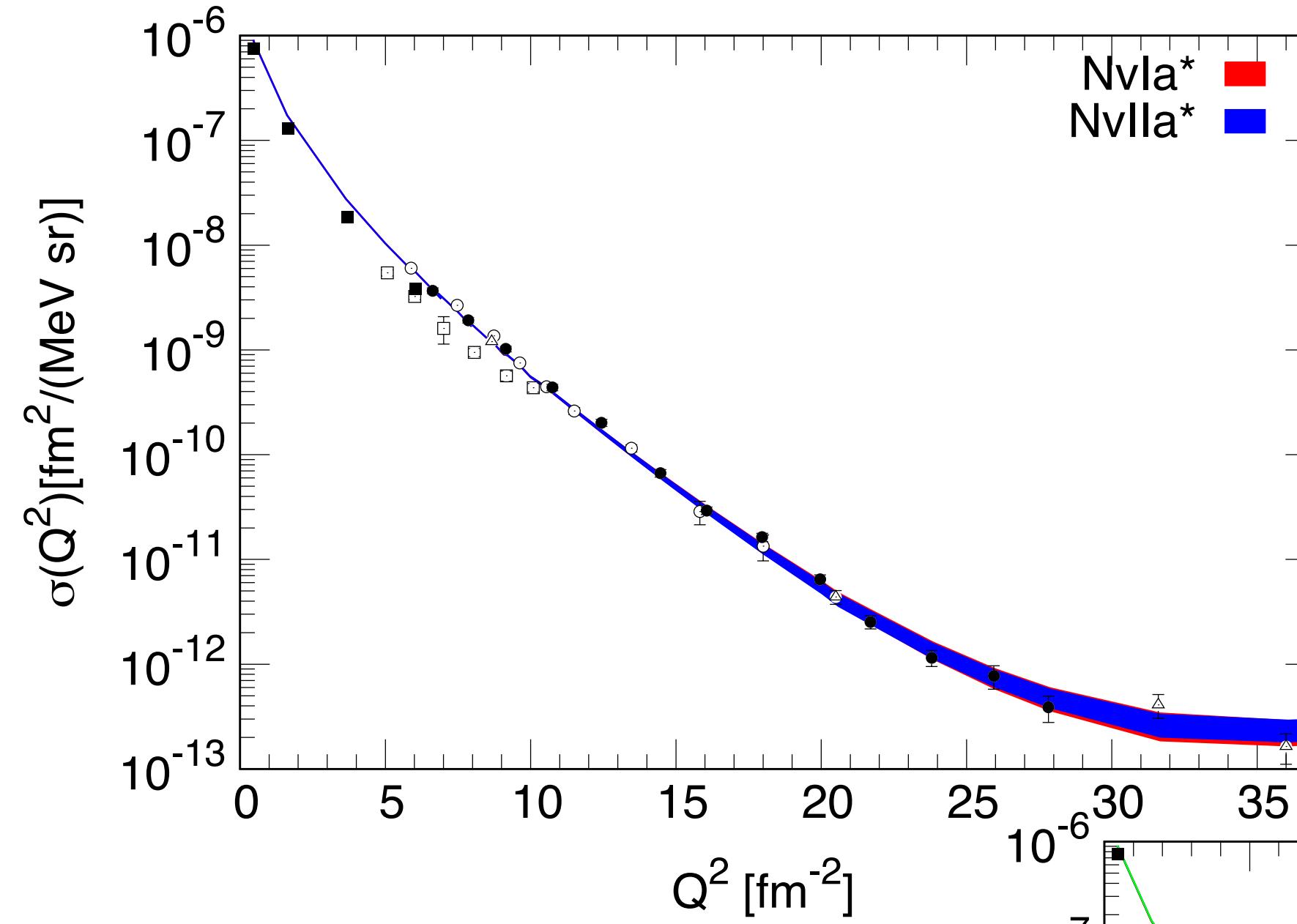
# References

- Fit of the currents and test on few-body nuclei  
[A.G. and R. Schiavilla, Phys. Rev. C 106, 044001 (2020)]
- Prediction of magnetic form factors of A=5-10  
[G. Chambers-Wall, A. G., G. B. King, S. Pastore, M. Piarulli, R. Schiavilla, R. B. Wiringa, arXiv:2407.04744, arXiv:2407.03487]
- Predictions of charge form factors (in progress)

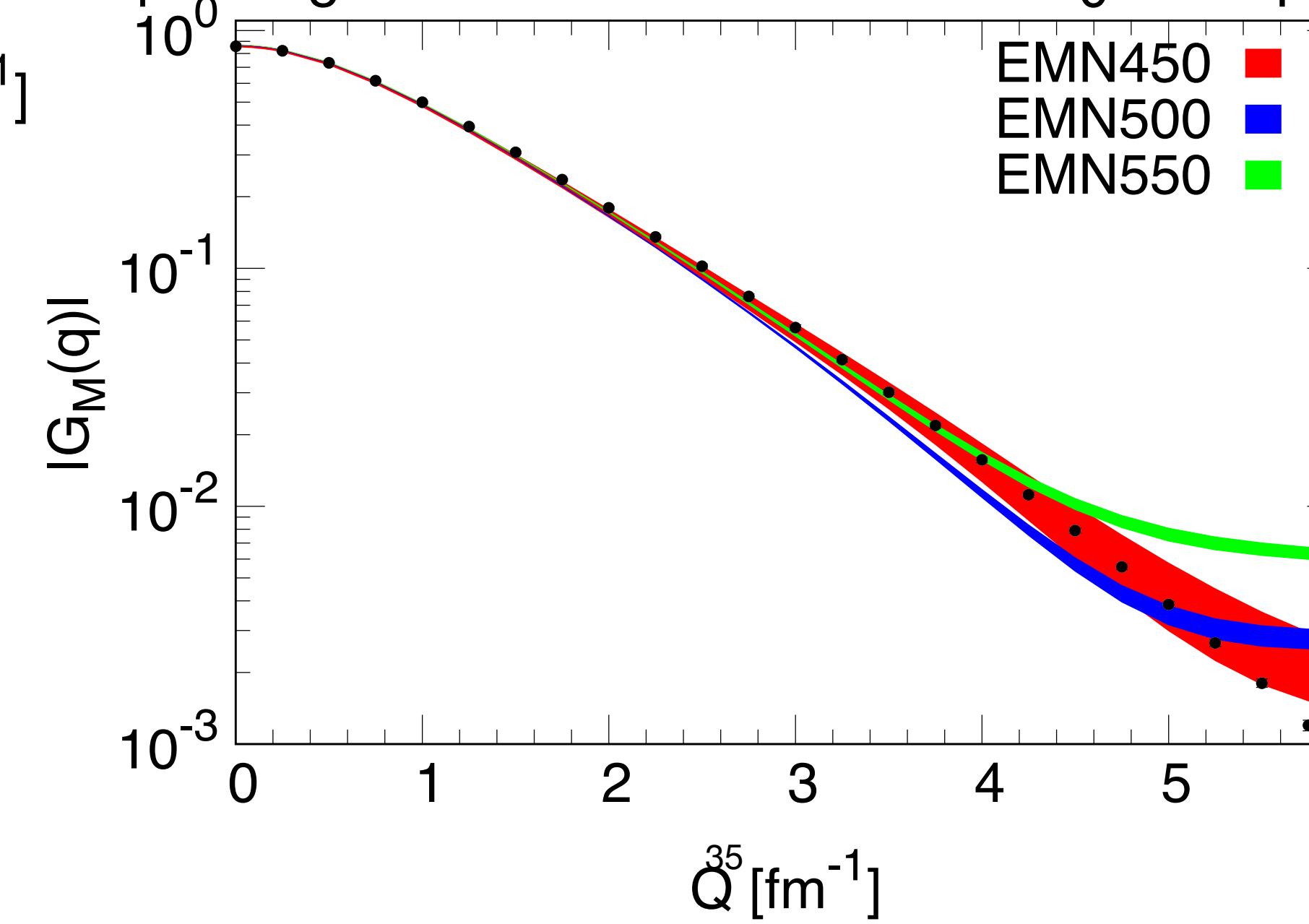
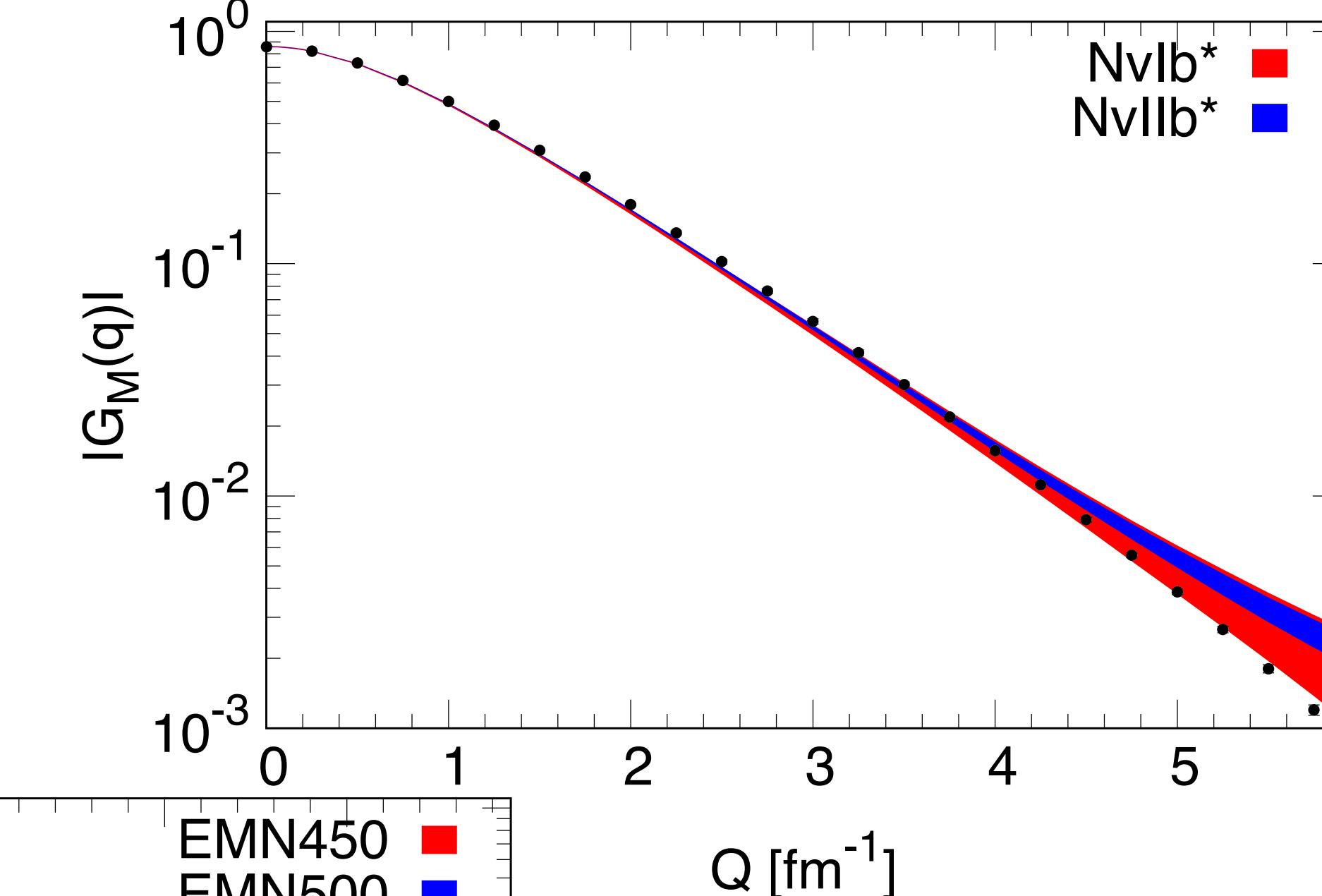
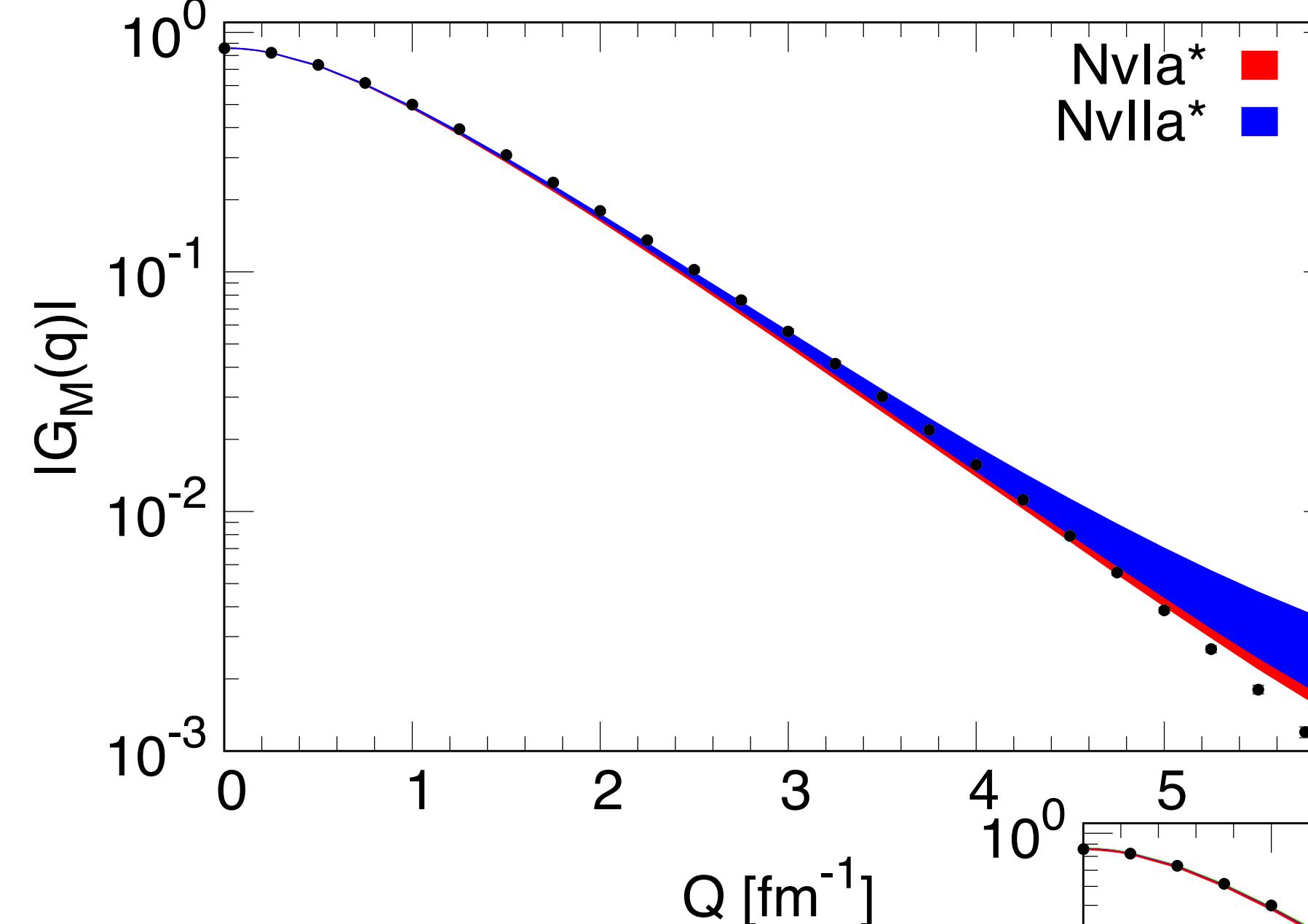
# Dependence on $Q^2_{\max}$



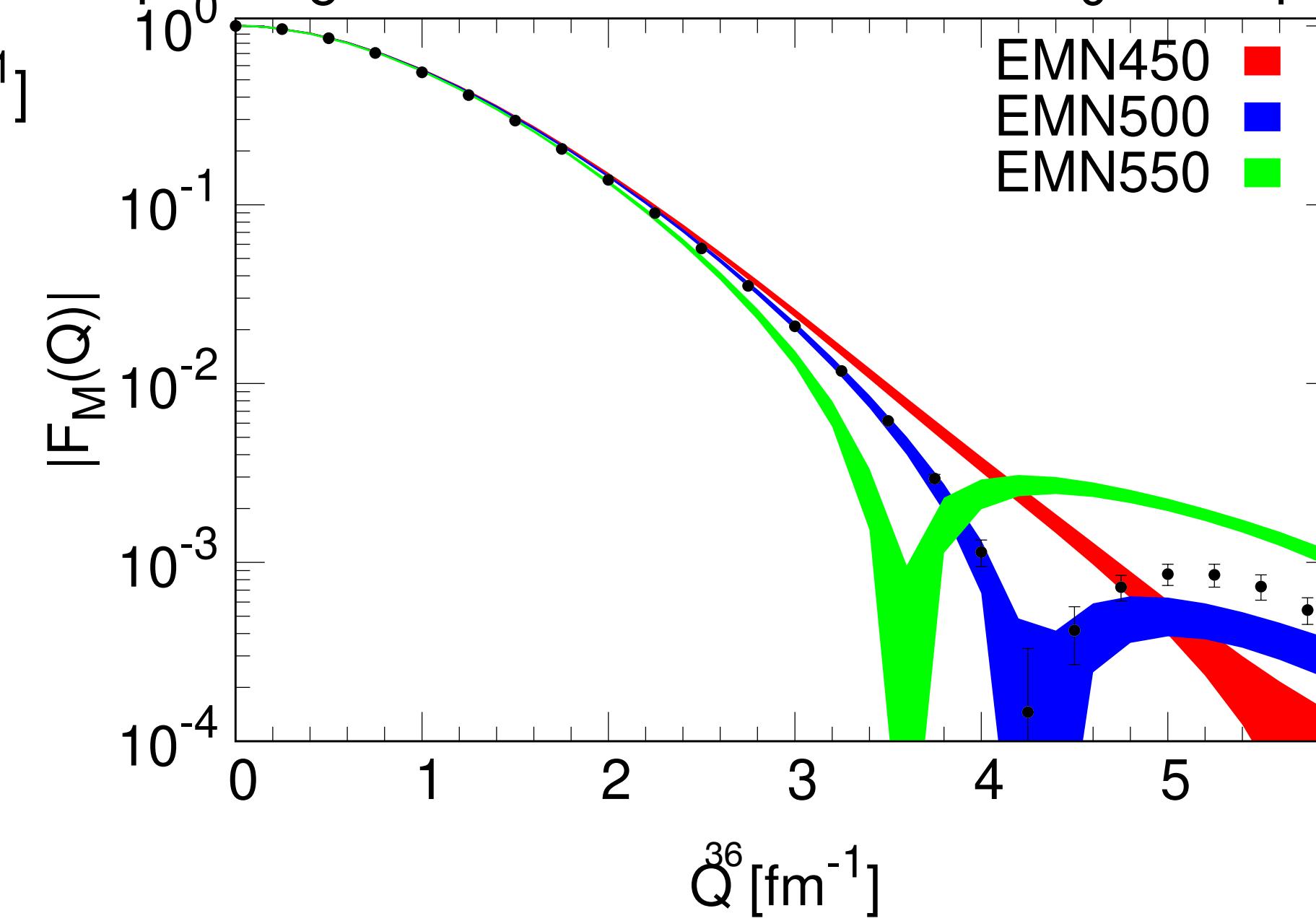
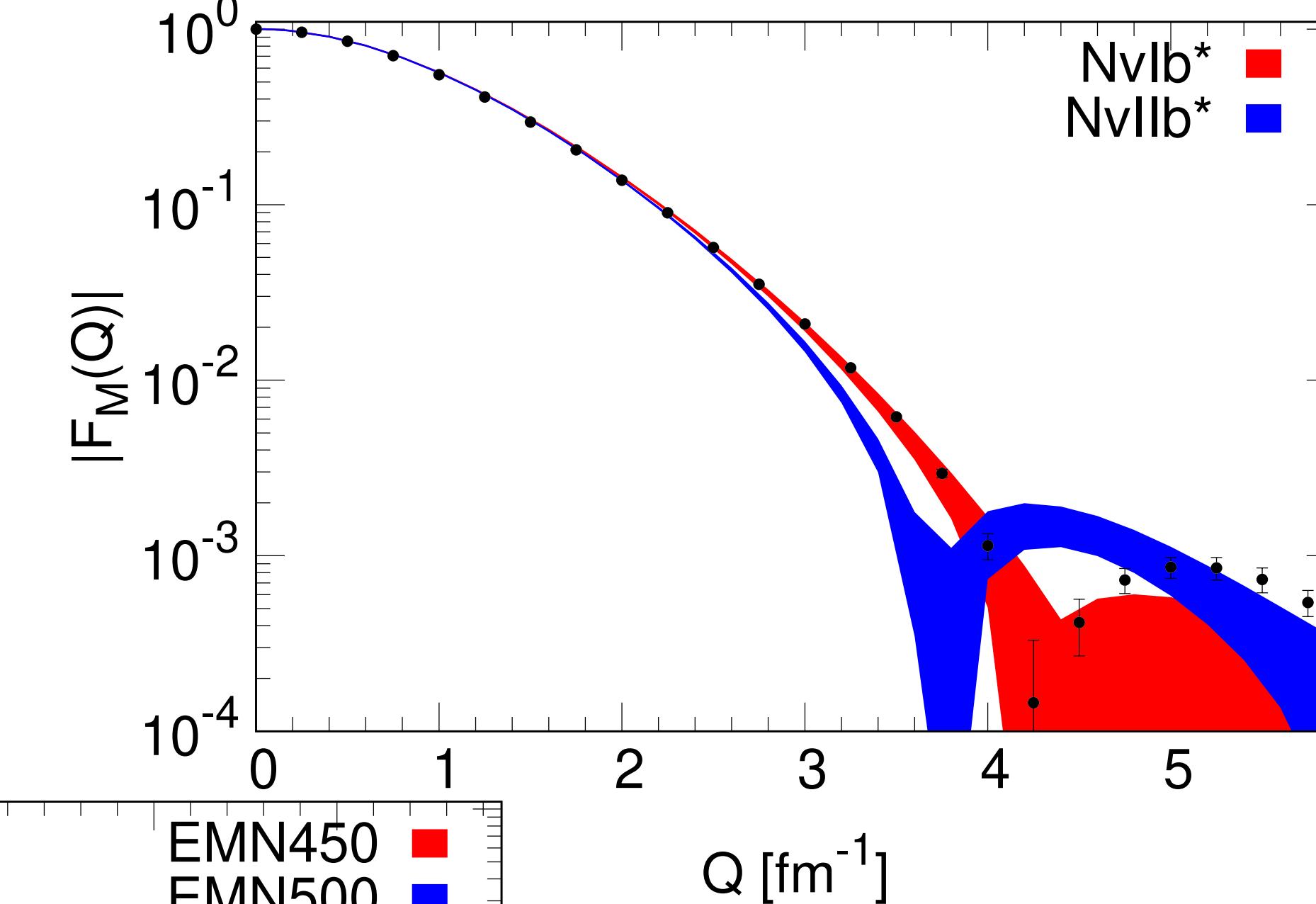
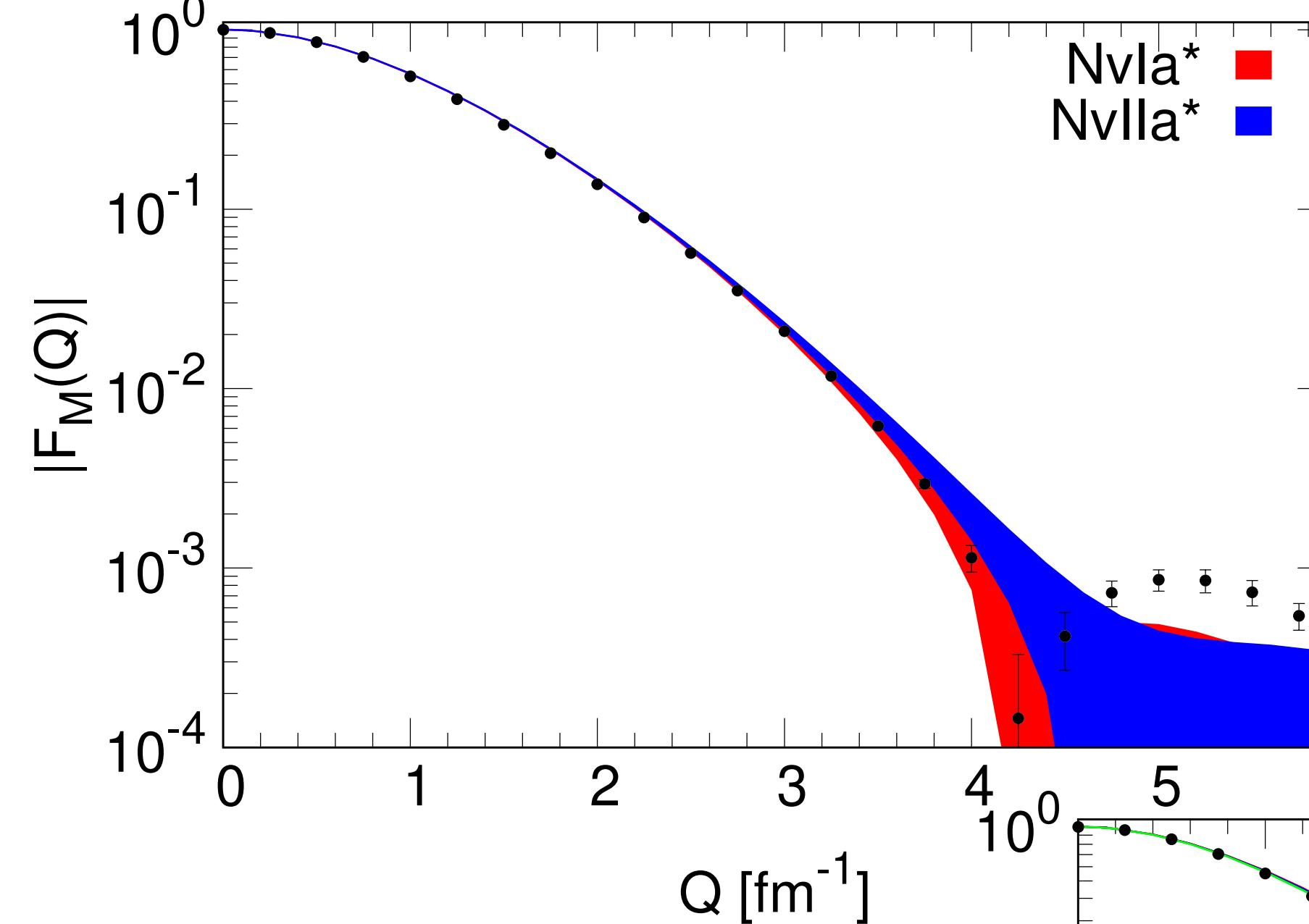
# d-threshold



# Magnetic form factors of $^2\text{H}$



# Magnetic form factors of ${}^3\text{He}$



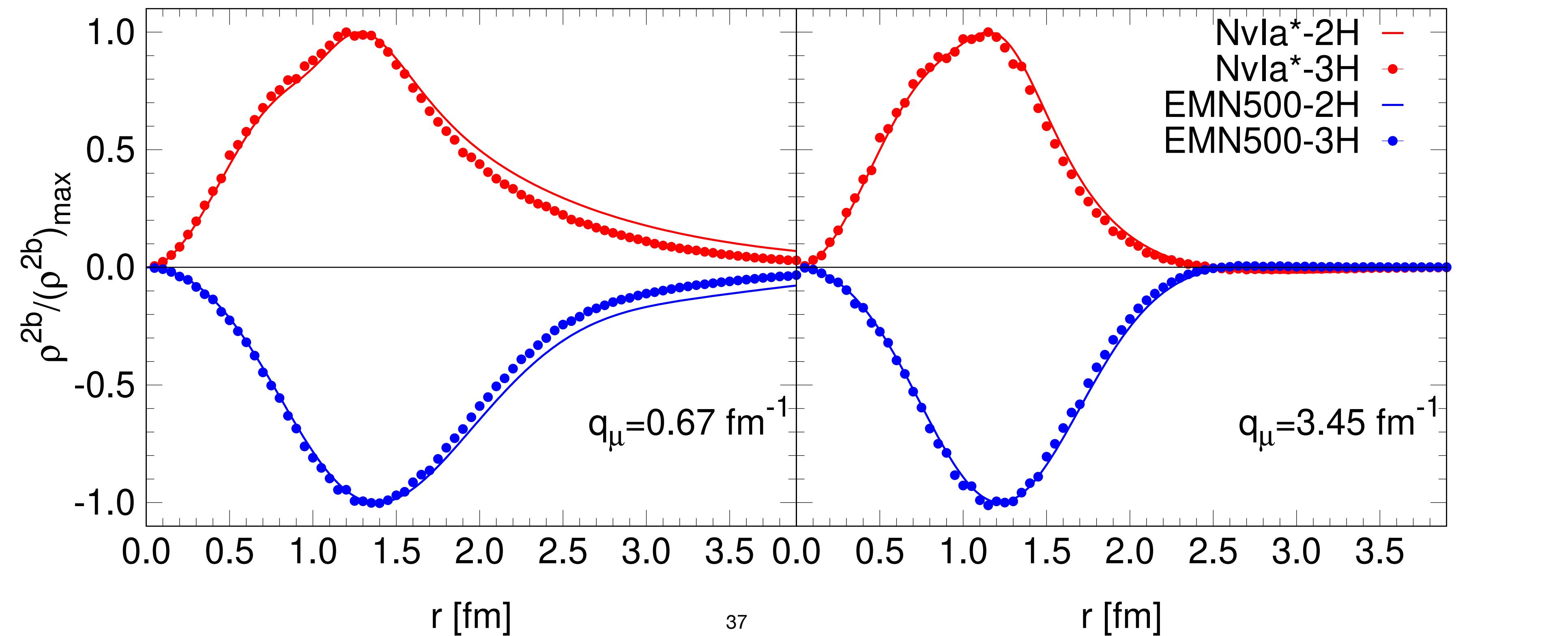
# Why does it work?

Universal behavior of isovector transitions

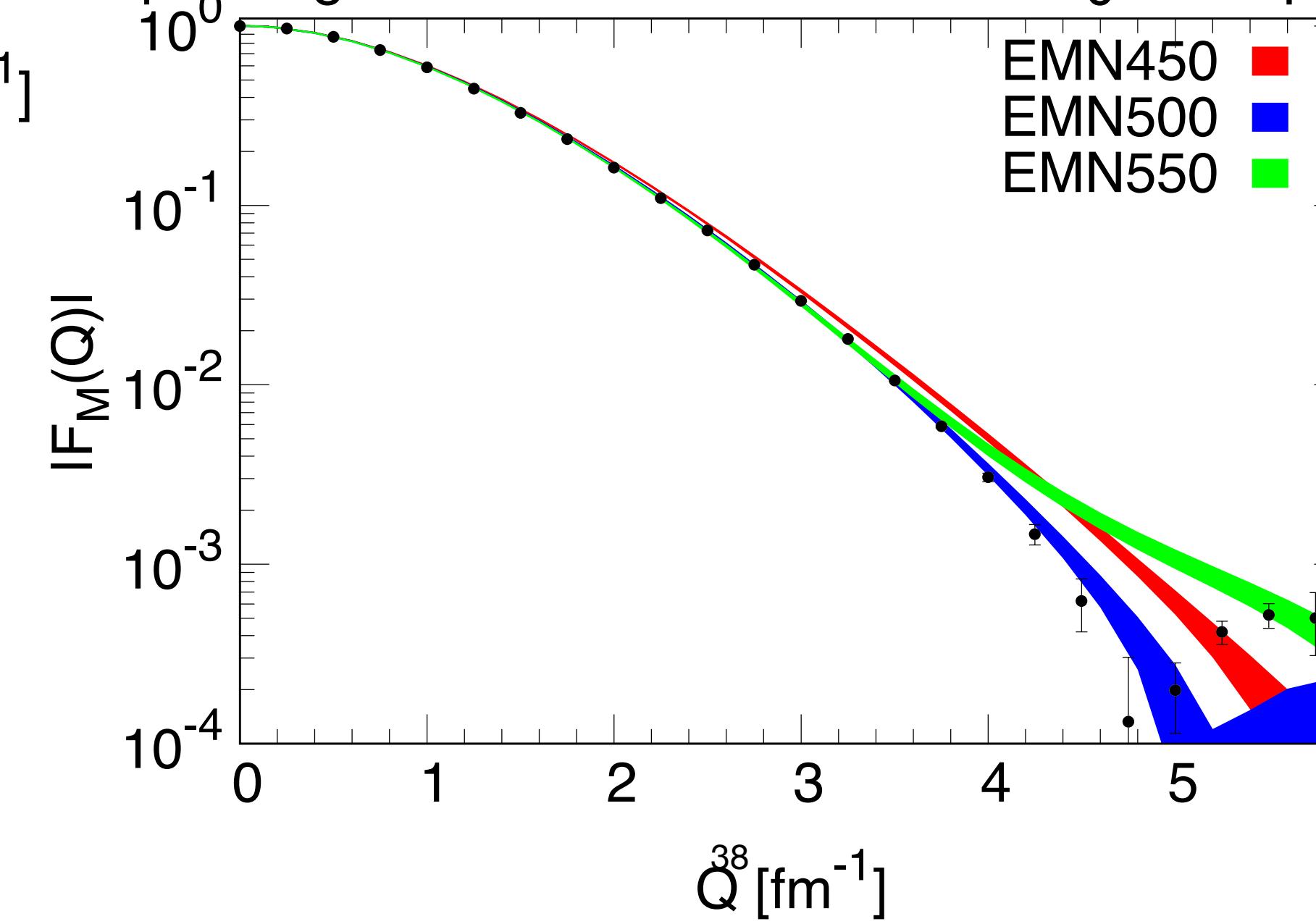
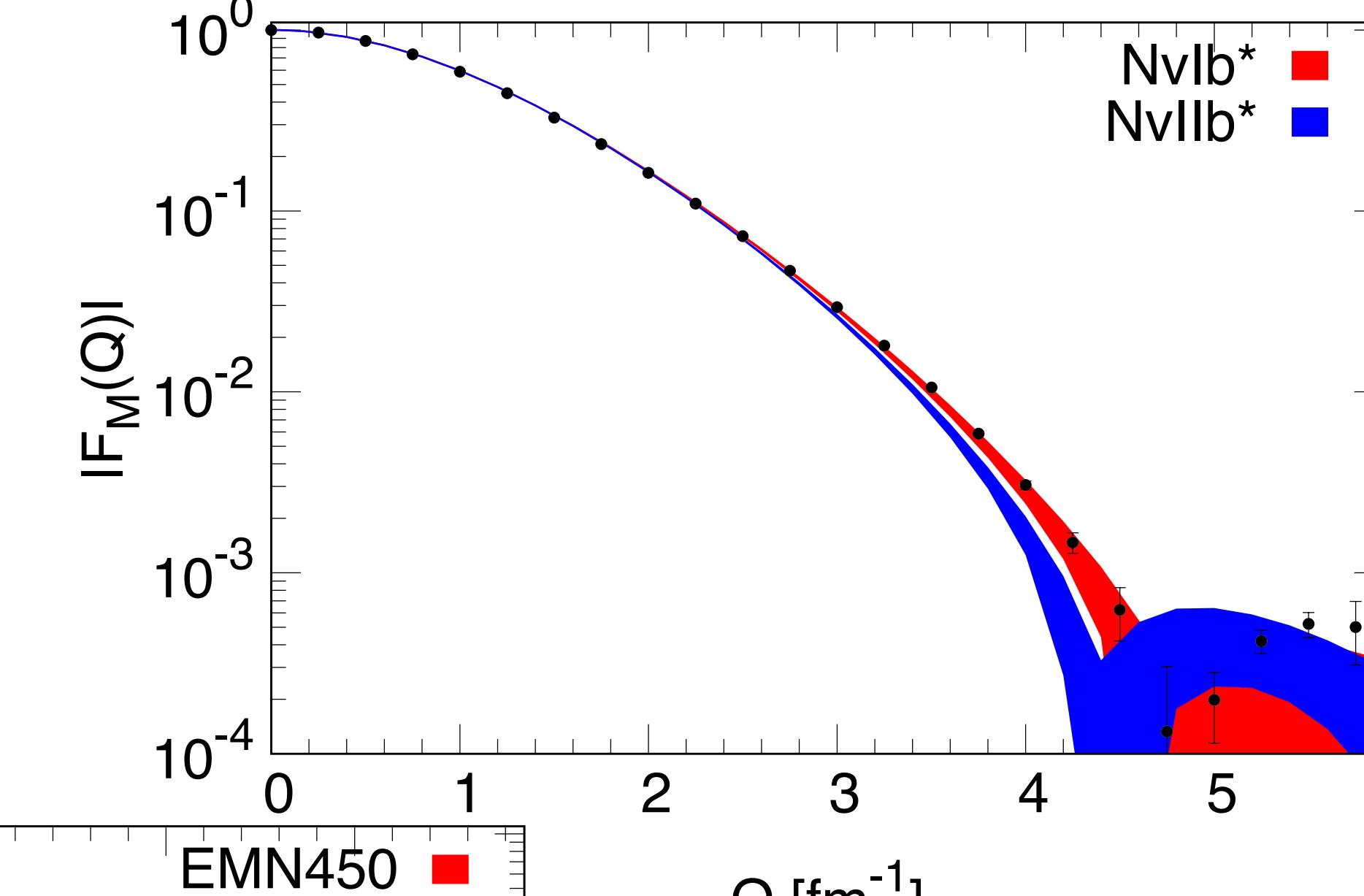
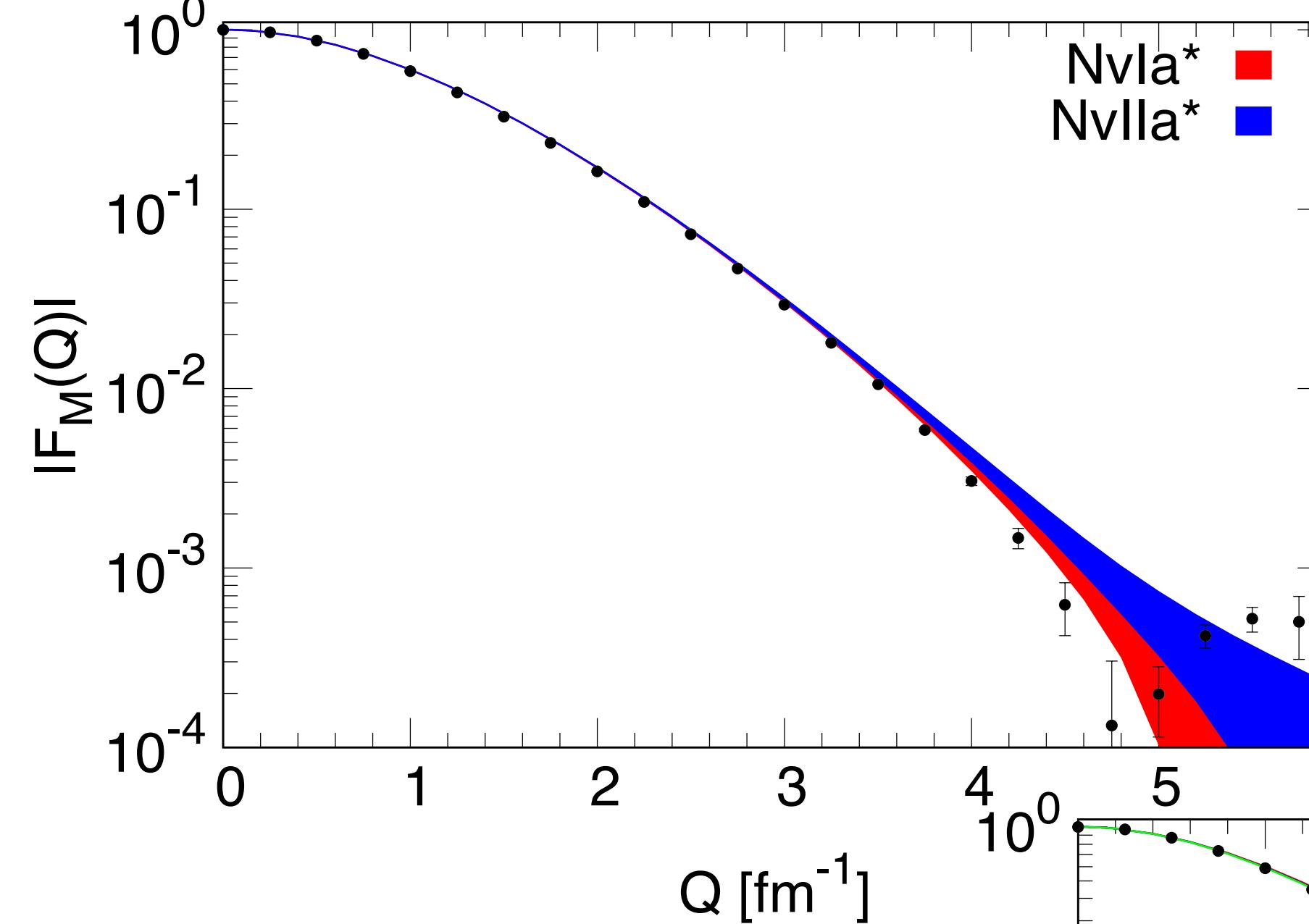
Correlated np  
pairs

Universal 2-body  
wave functions

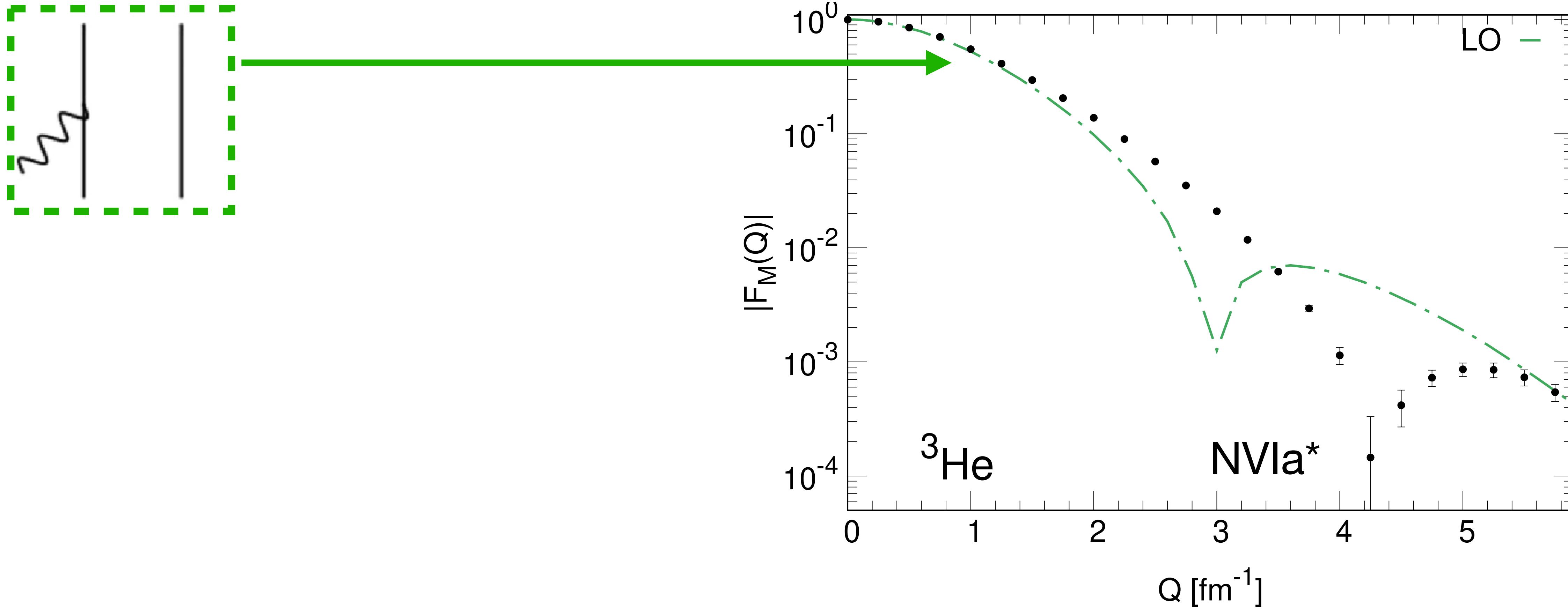
Universal 2-body  
transition densities



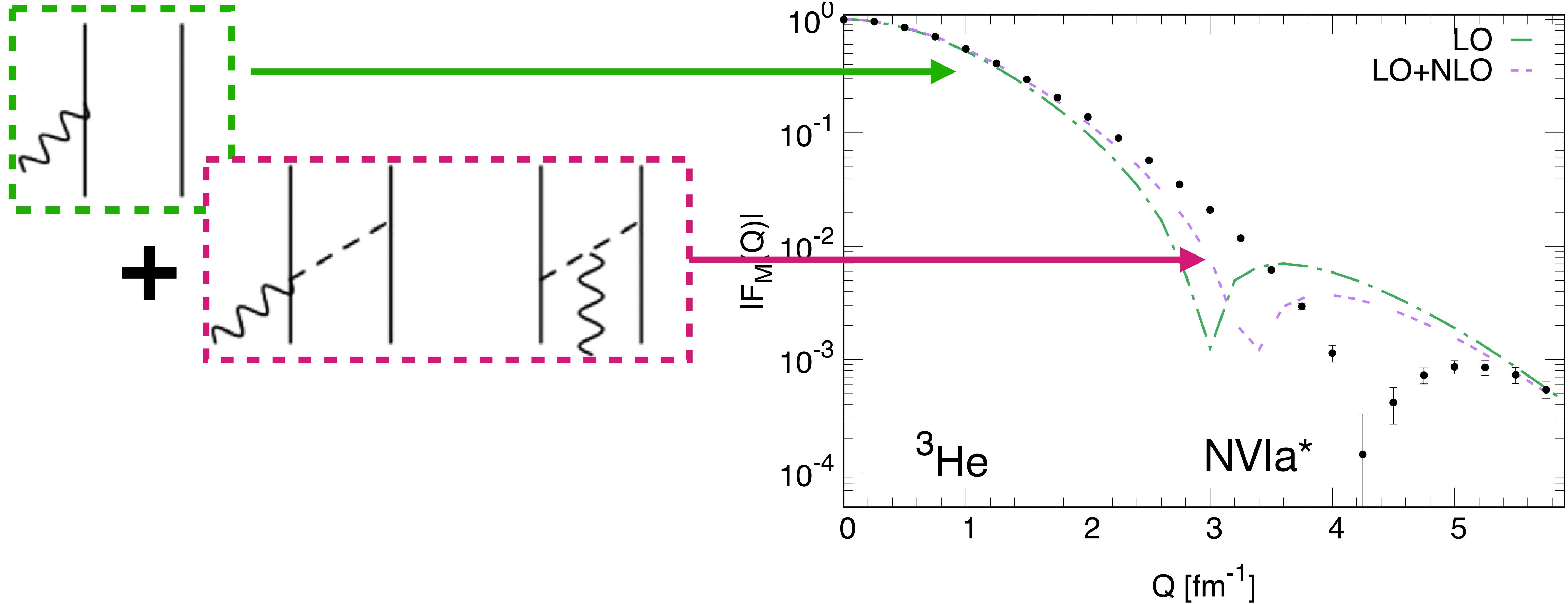
# Magnetic form factors of $^3\text{H}$



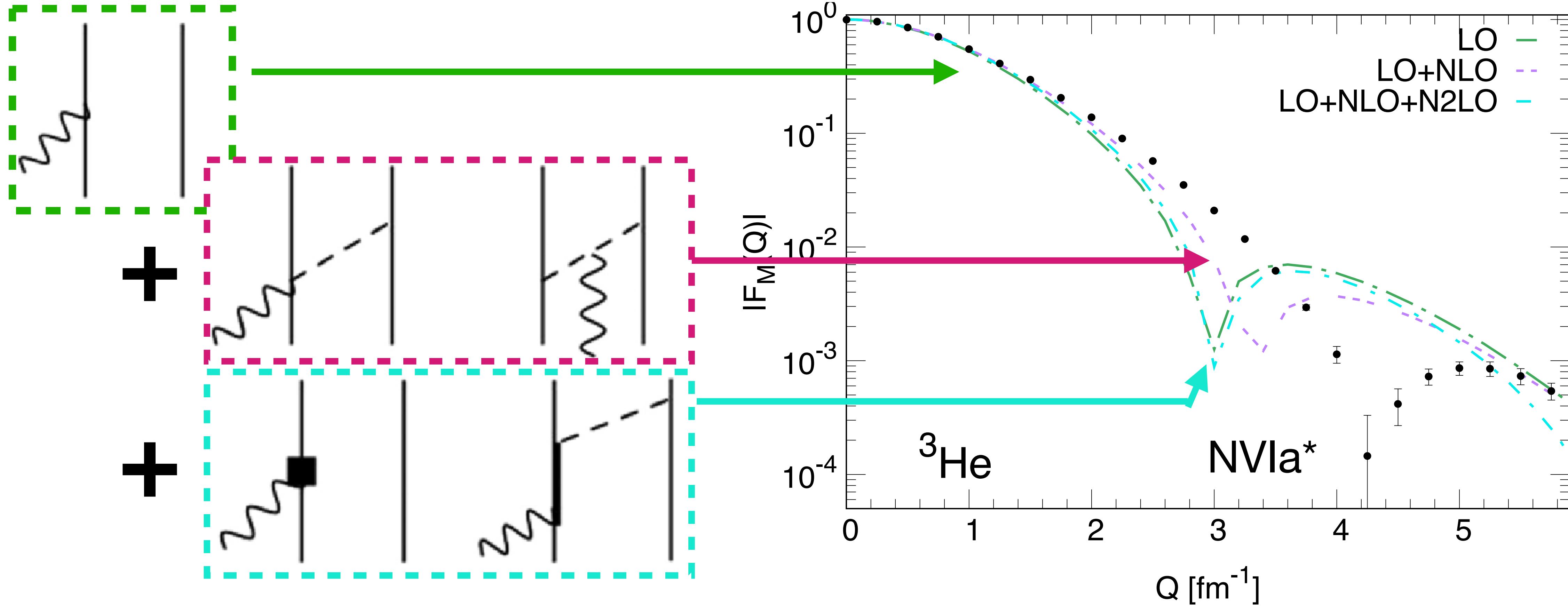
# Prediction of A=3 Magnetic Form Factors



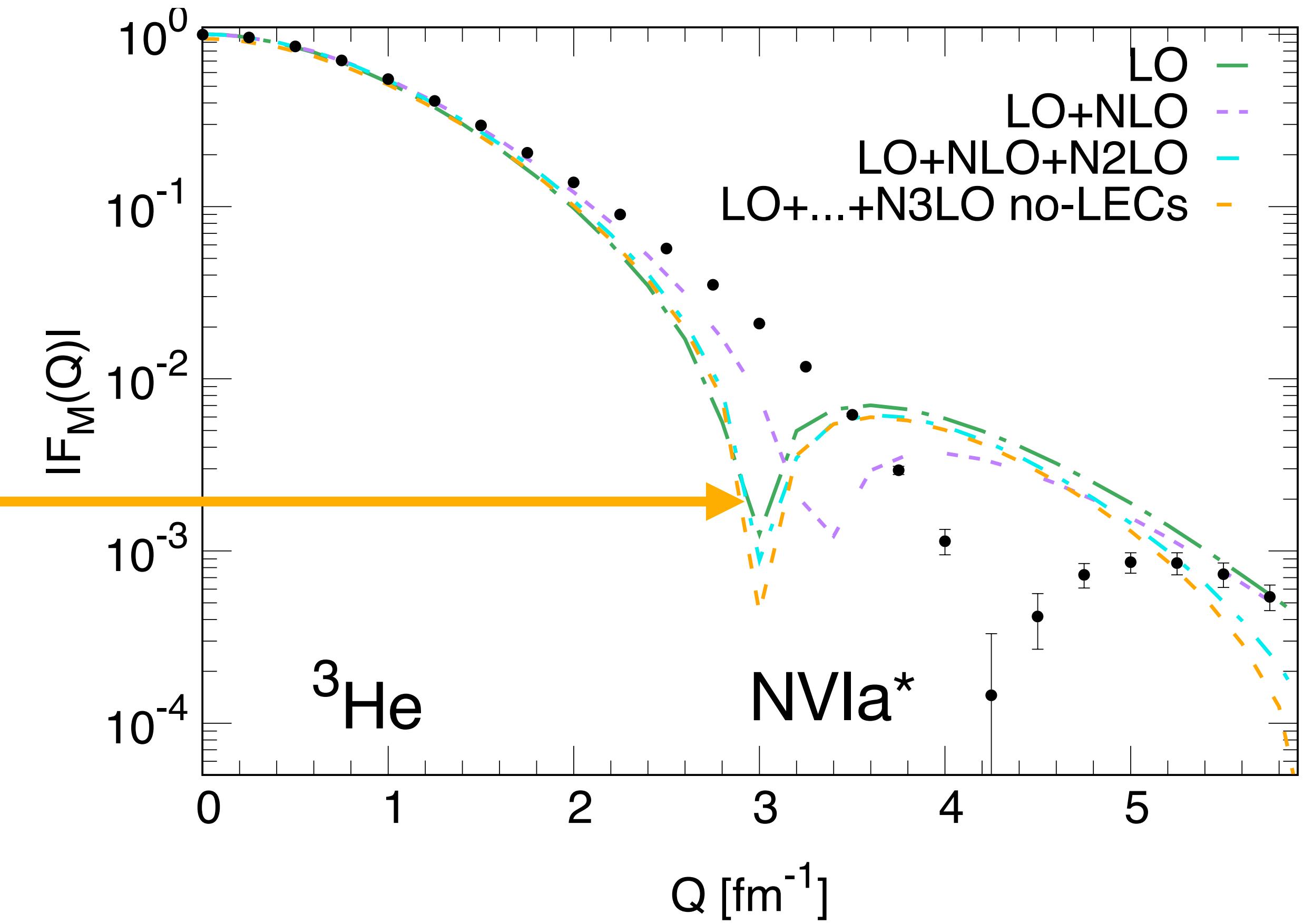
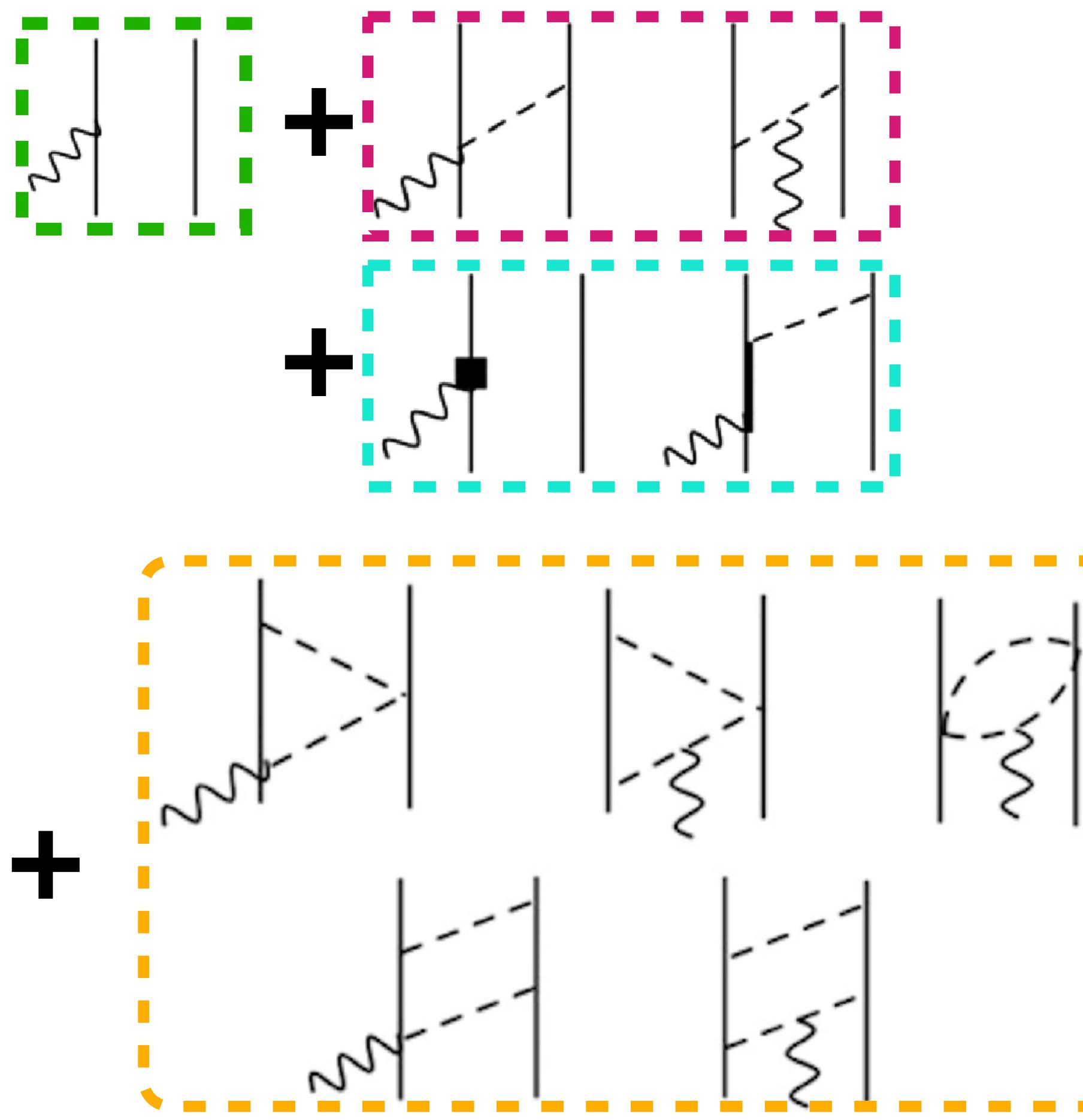
# Prediction of A=3 Magnetic Form Factor



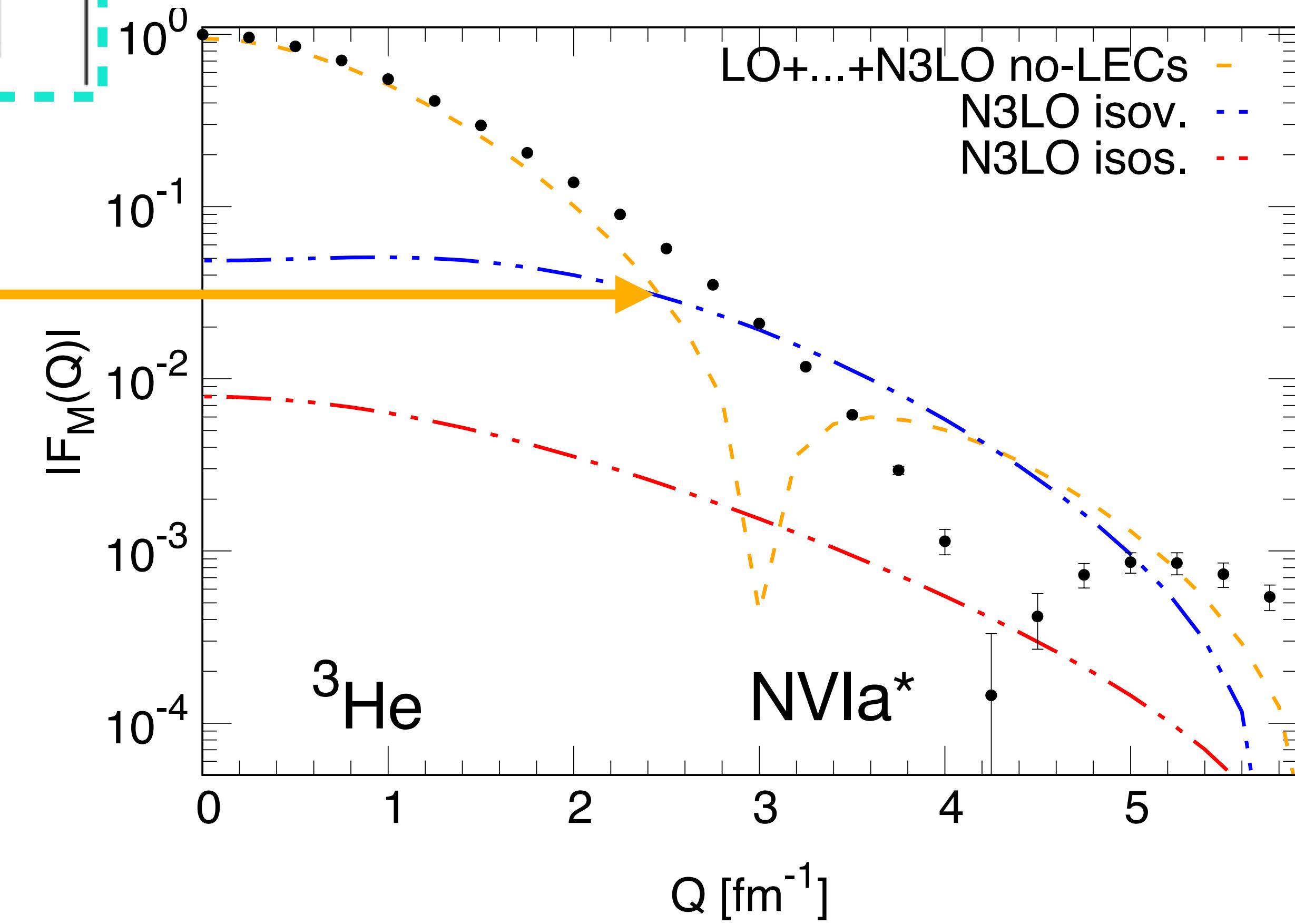
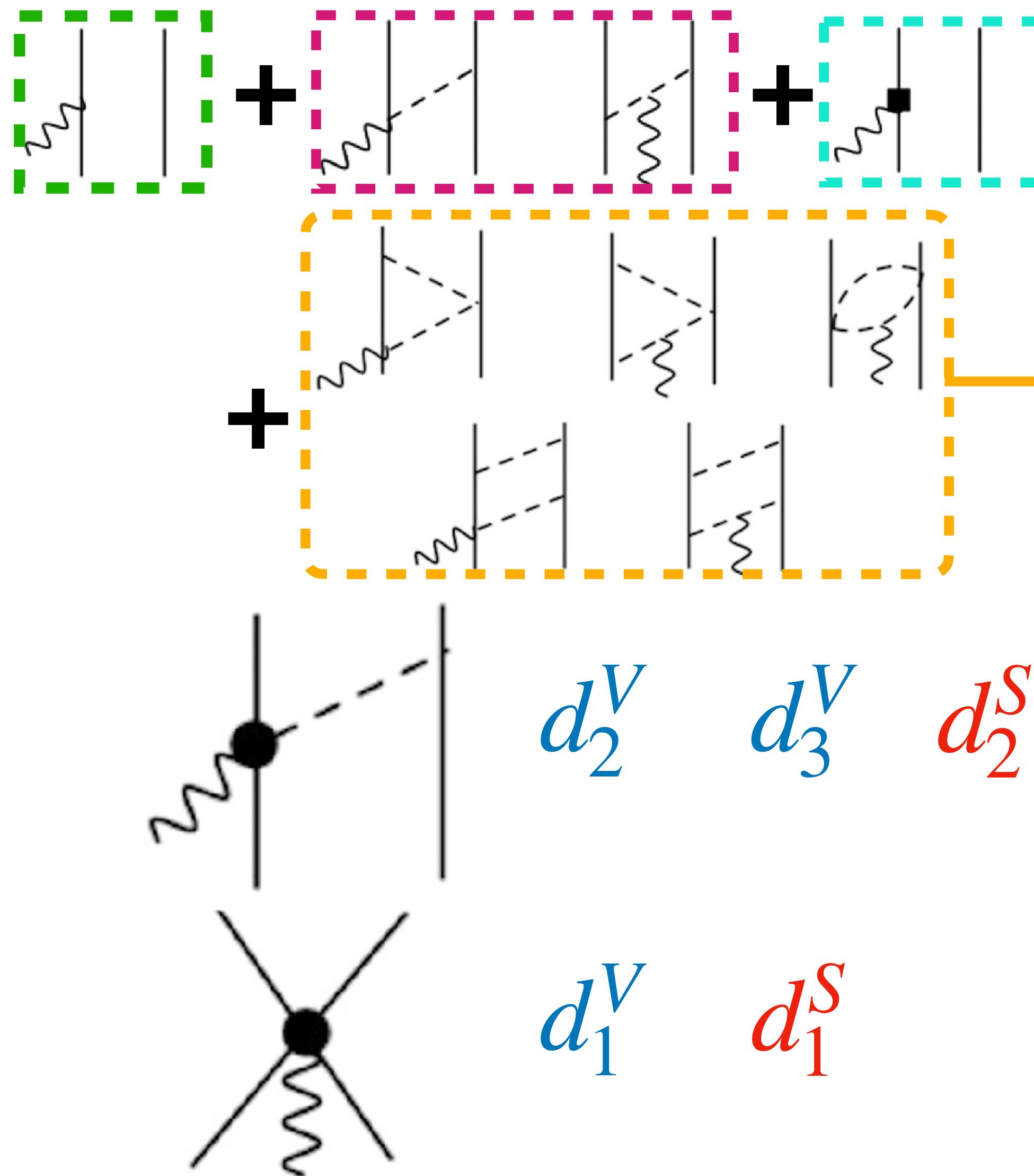
# Prediction of A=3 Magnetic Form Factor



# Prediction of A=3 Magnetic Form Factor



# Prediction of A=3 Magnetic Form Factor



# Reliability of the predictions

## Is $\chi$ EFT able to describe large Q?

- Truncation errors (as [EPJA 51,

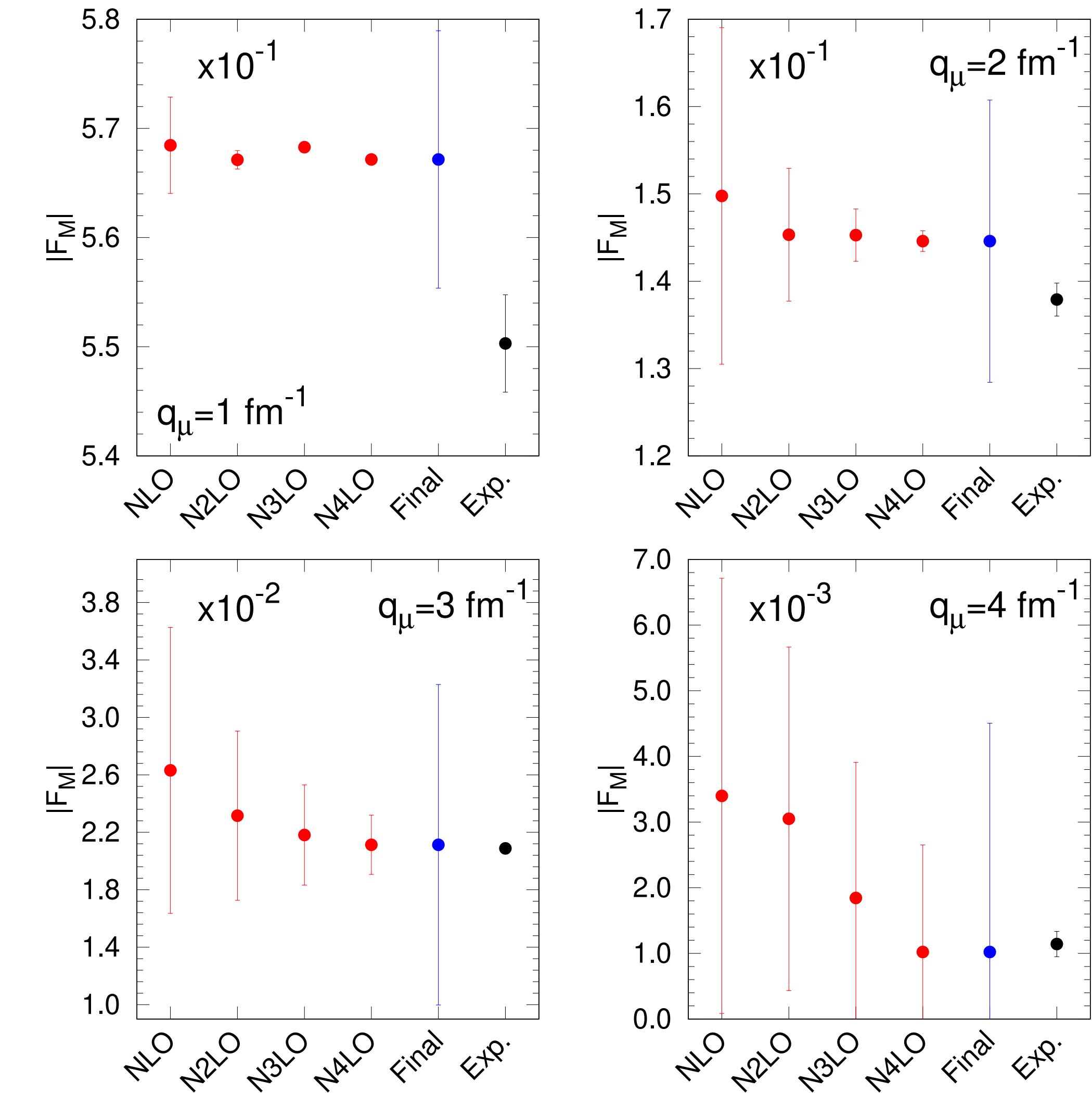
53 (2015)])

$$\alpha = \max \left\{ \frac{Q}{\Lambda_b}, \frac{m_\pi}{\Lambda_b} \right\} \quad \Lambda_b = 1 \text{ GeV}$$

- Nuclear interaction + currents

- Systematic explodes after

$Q^2 > 0.5 \text{ GeV}^2$



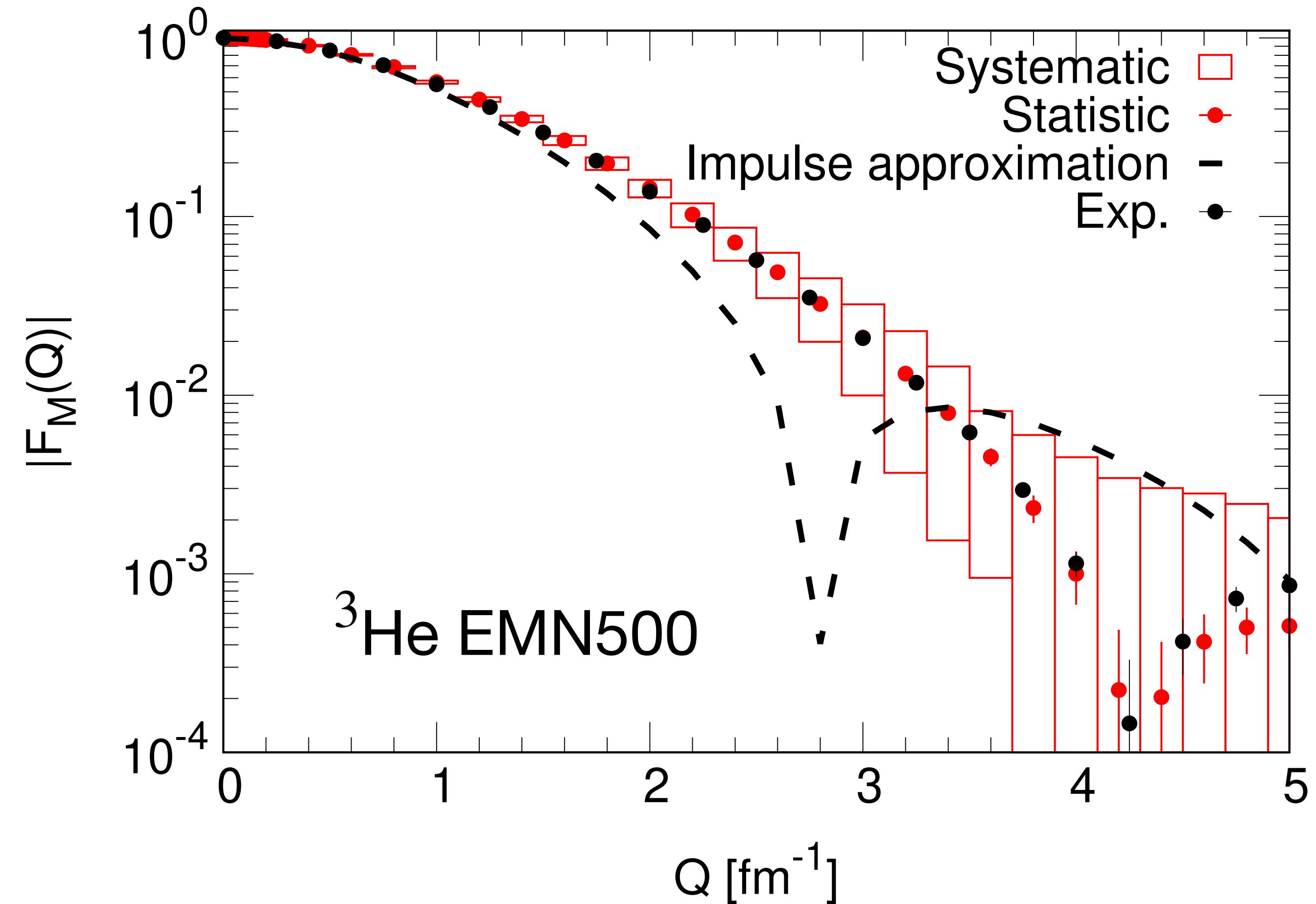
# Naive truncation error estimate

Is  $\chi$ EFT able to describe large  $Q^2$ ?

- Truncation errors (as [EPJA 51, 53 (2015)])

$$\alpha = \max \left\{ \frac{Q}{\Lambda_b}, \frac{m_\pi}{\Lambda_b} \right\} \quad \Lambda_b = 1 \text{ GeV}$$

- Nuclear interaction + currents
- Systematic explodes after  $Q^2 > 0.5 \text{ GeV}^2$

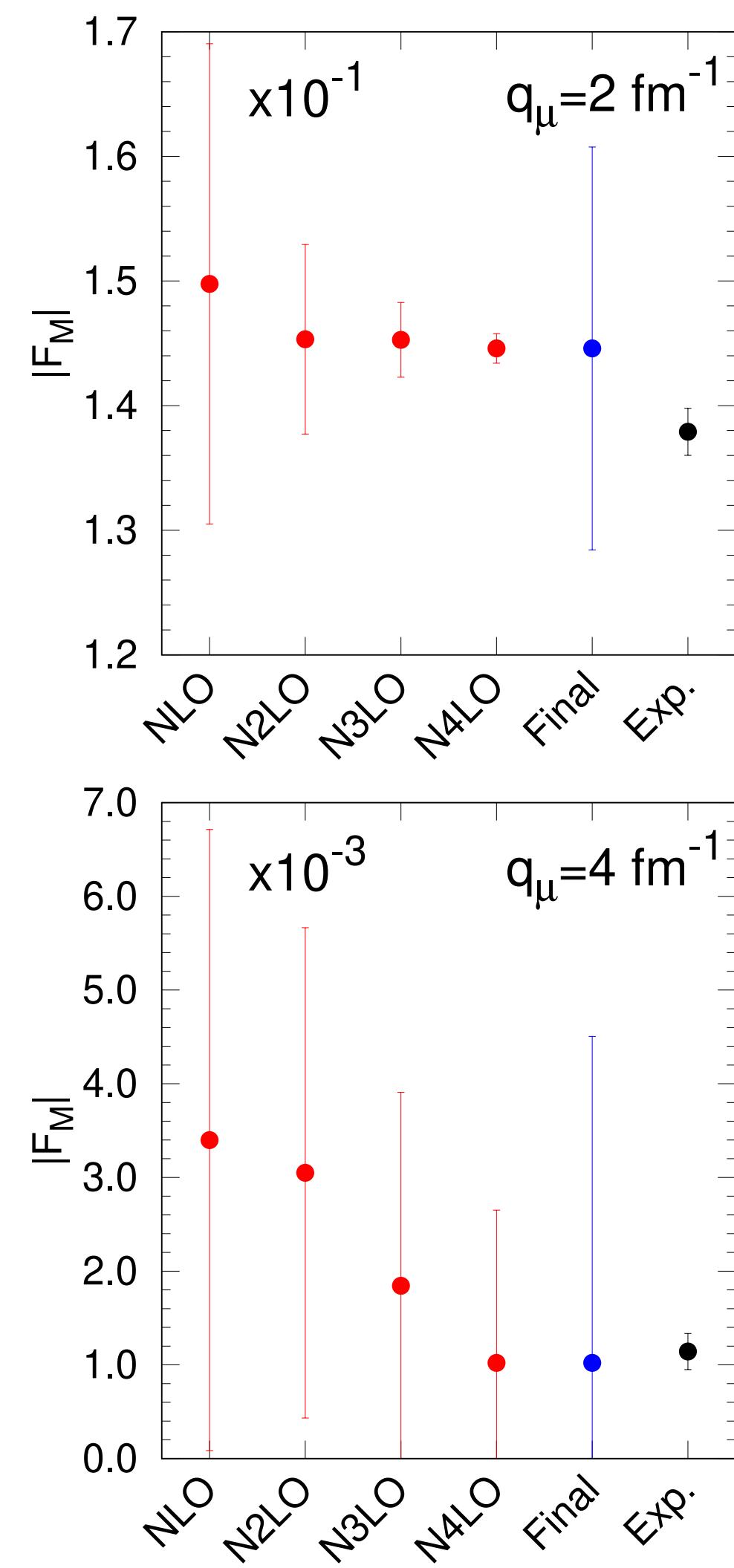
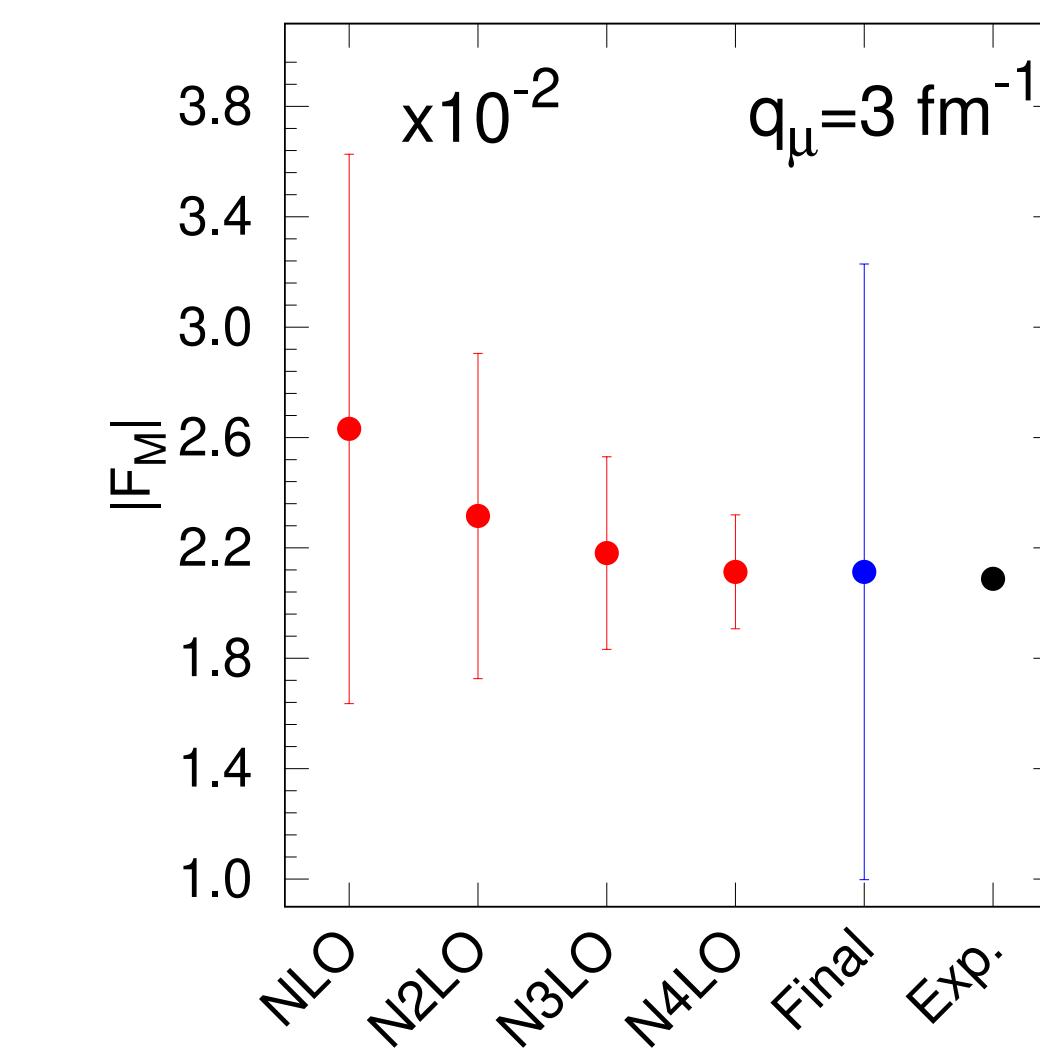
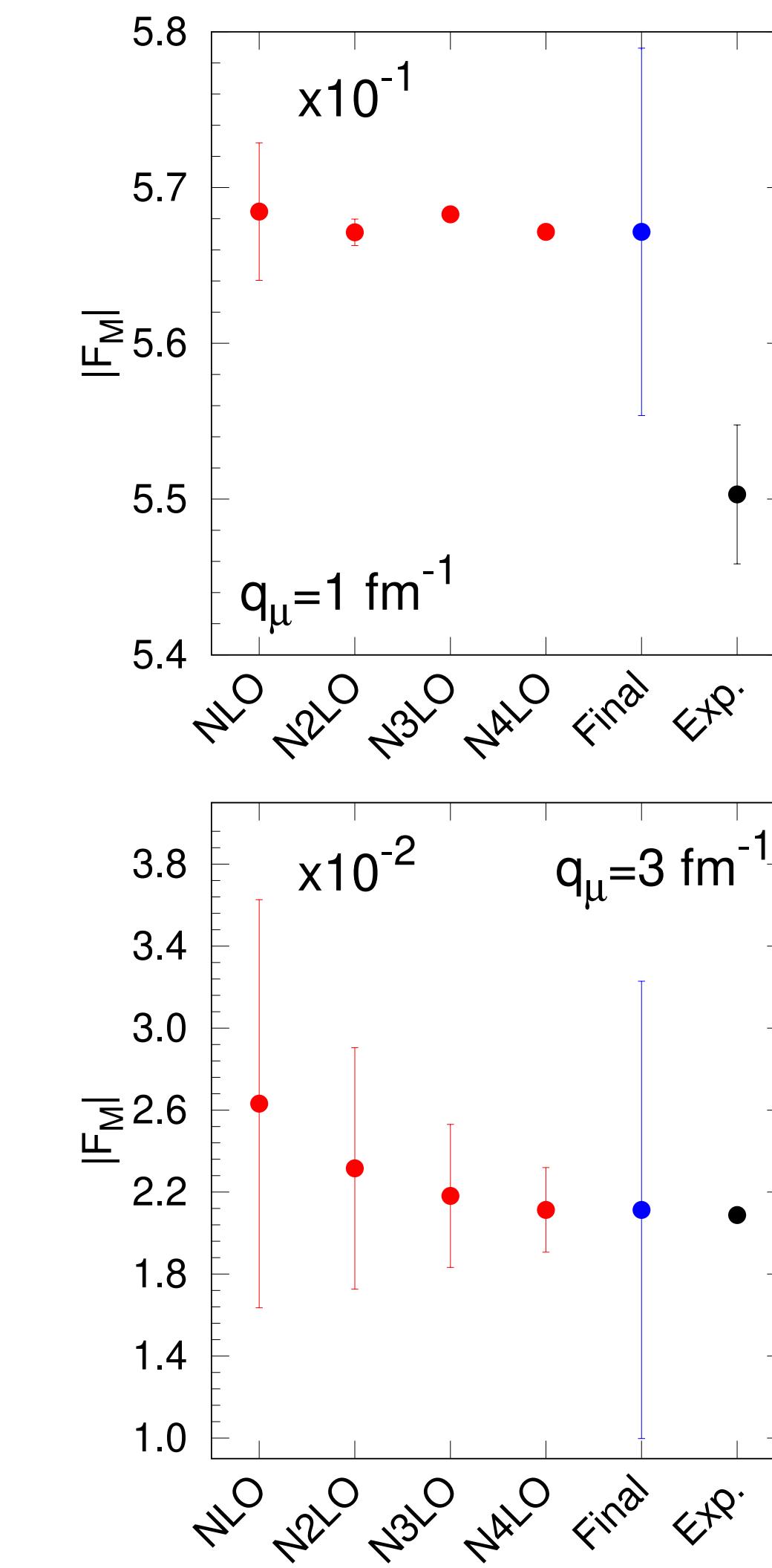
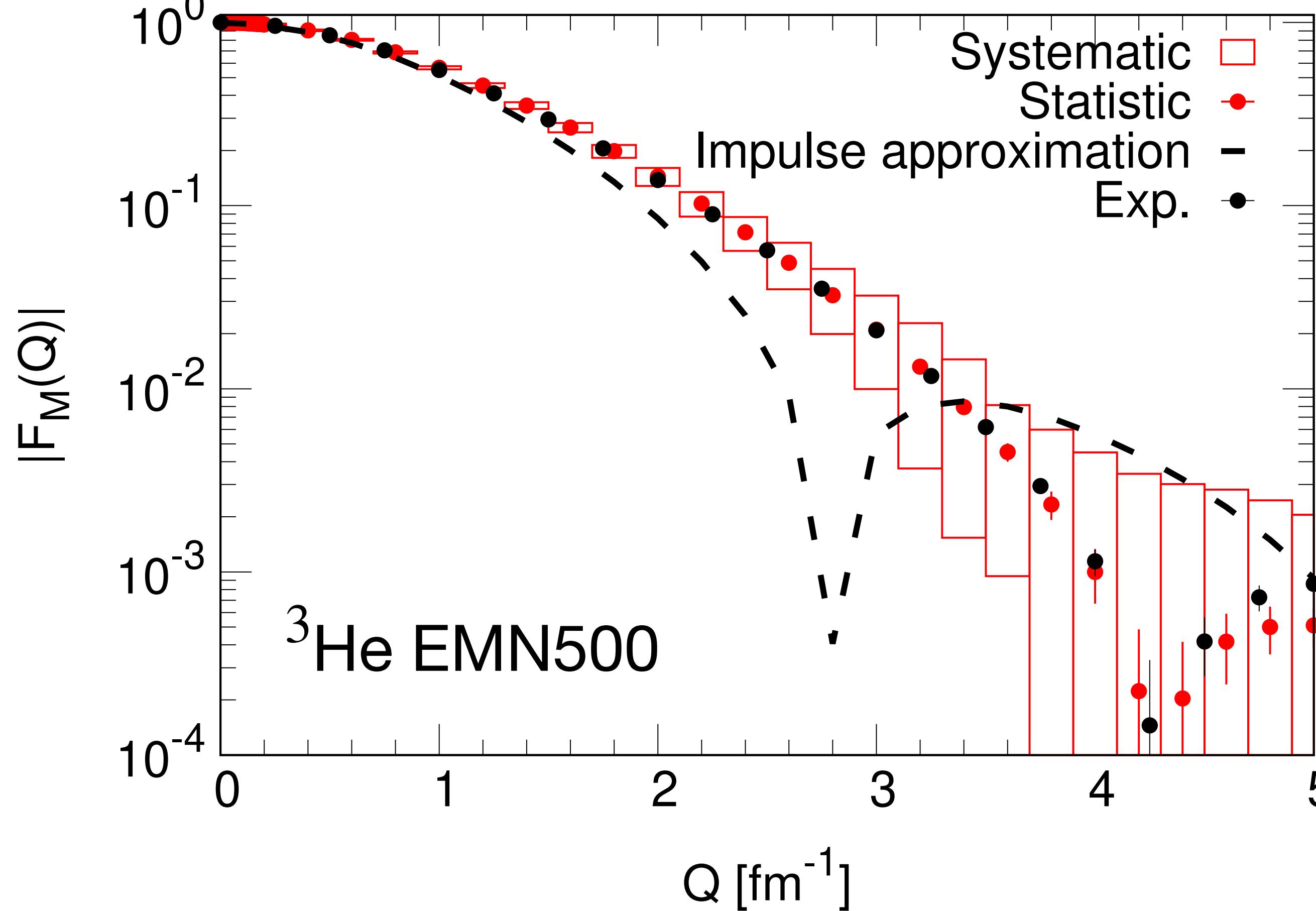


# Error estimate

- Truncation errors (as [EPJA 51, 53 (2015)])

$$\alpha = \max \left\{ \frac{q}{\Lambda_b}, \frac{m_\pi}{\Lambda_b} \right\}$$

$$\Lambda_b = 1 \text{ GeV}$$



# The NQS wave function

$$\Psi(x, W) \equiv \det \begin{bmatrix} \phi_v(x) & \phi_v(x_h) \\ \phi_h(x) & \phi_h(x_h) \end{bmatrix}$$

**Antisymmetry = Slater-determinant**

**Hidden Nucleon Ansatz**

Visible orbitals, visible coordinates

Visible orbitals, hidden coordinates

Hidden orbitals, visible coordinates

Hidden orbitals, hidden coordinates

[J. R. Moreno, et al., PNAS 119, 2122059119(2022)]

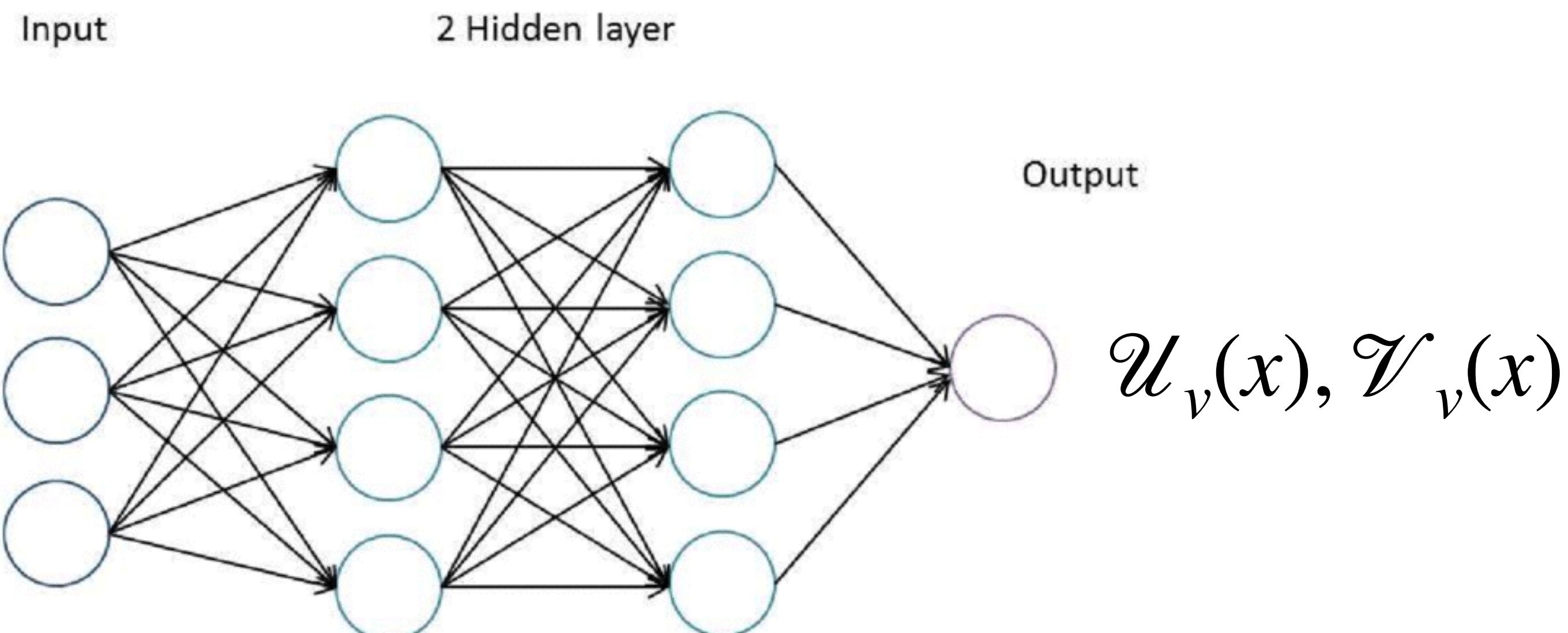
# The NQS wave function

$$\Psi(x, W) \equiv \det \begin{bmatrix} \phi_v(x) & \phi_v(x_h) \\ \phi_h(x) & \phi_h(x_h) \end{bmatrix}$$

Visible orbitals, visible coordinates

$$\phi_v(x) = \exp [a \tanh(\mathcal{U}_v(x)/a) + i\mathcal{V}_v(x)]$$

## Feed-forward fully connected Neural Network



$A \times A$  matrix  
≈  
standard slater determinant

# A simple interpretation

$$\Psi(x, W) \equiv \det \begin{bmatrix} \phi_v(x) & \phi_v(x_h) \\ \phi_h(x) & \phi_h(x_h) \end{bmatrix}$$

Let us consider  $N_h = 1$ ,  $\phi_h(x) = 0$  and,  $\phi_v(x_h) = 0$

$$\Psi(x, W) \equiv \boxed{\phi_h(x_h)} \times \boxed{\begin{array}{ccc} \phi_v^1(x_1) & \cdots & \phi_v^1(x_A) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \phi_v^A(x_1) & \cdots & \phi_v^A(x_A) \end{array}}$$

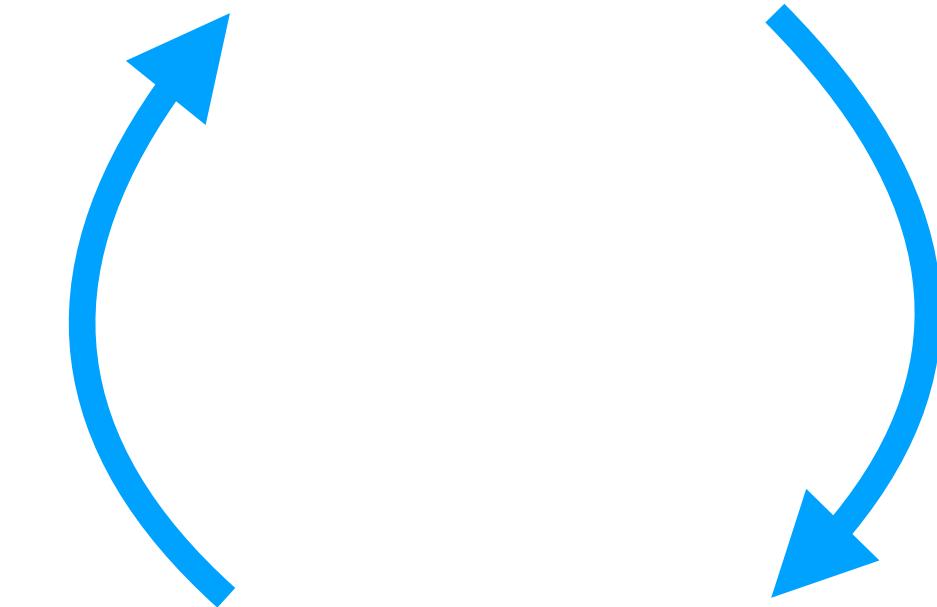
**Jastrow function**      **Slater determinant**

Hidden nucleons generate the correlations among the single orbitals

# Optimization of the wave function

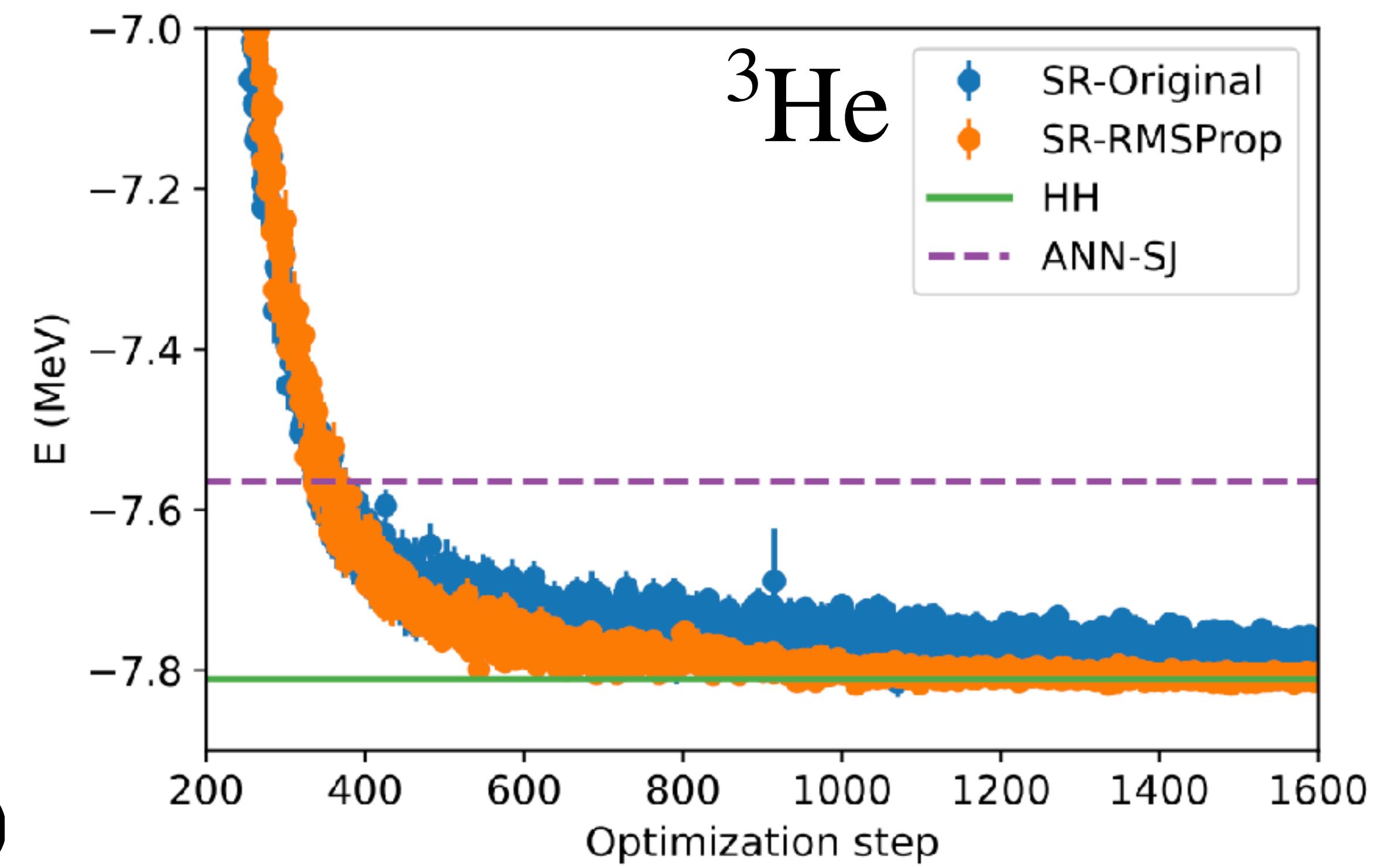
Monte Carlo

$$E(W) = \frac{\langle \Psi_V(W) | H | \Psi_V(W) \rangle}{\langle \Psi_V(W) | \Psi_V(W) \rangle}$$



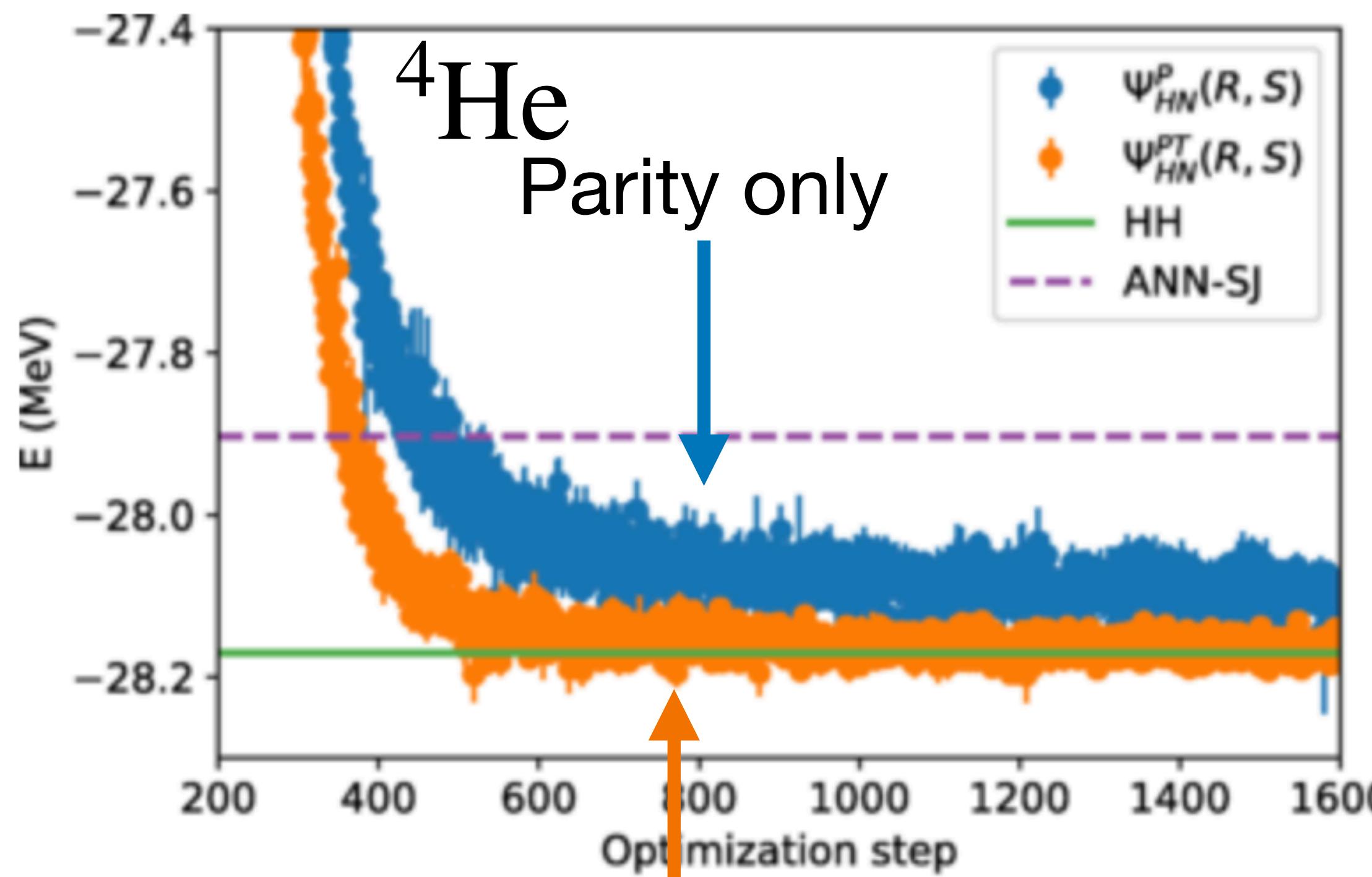
Stochastic reconfiguration method

$$W_{new} = W_{old} + \delta W(\partial_W \Psi, \partial_W^2 \Psi, E(W))$$

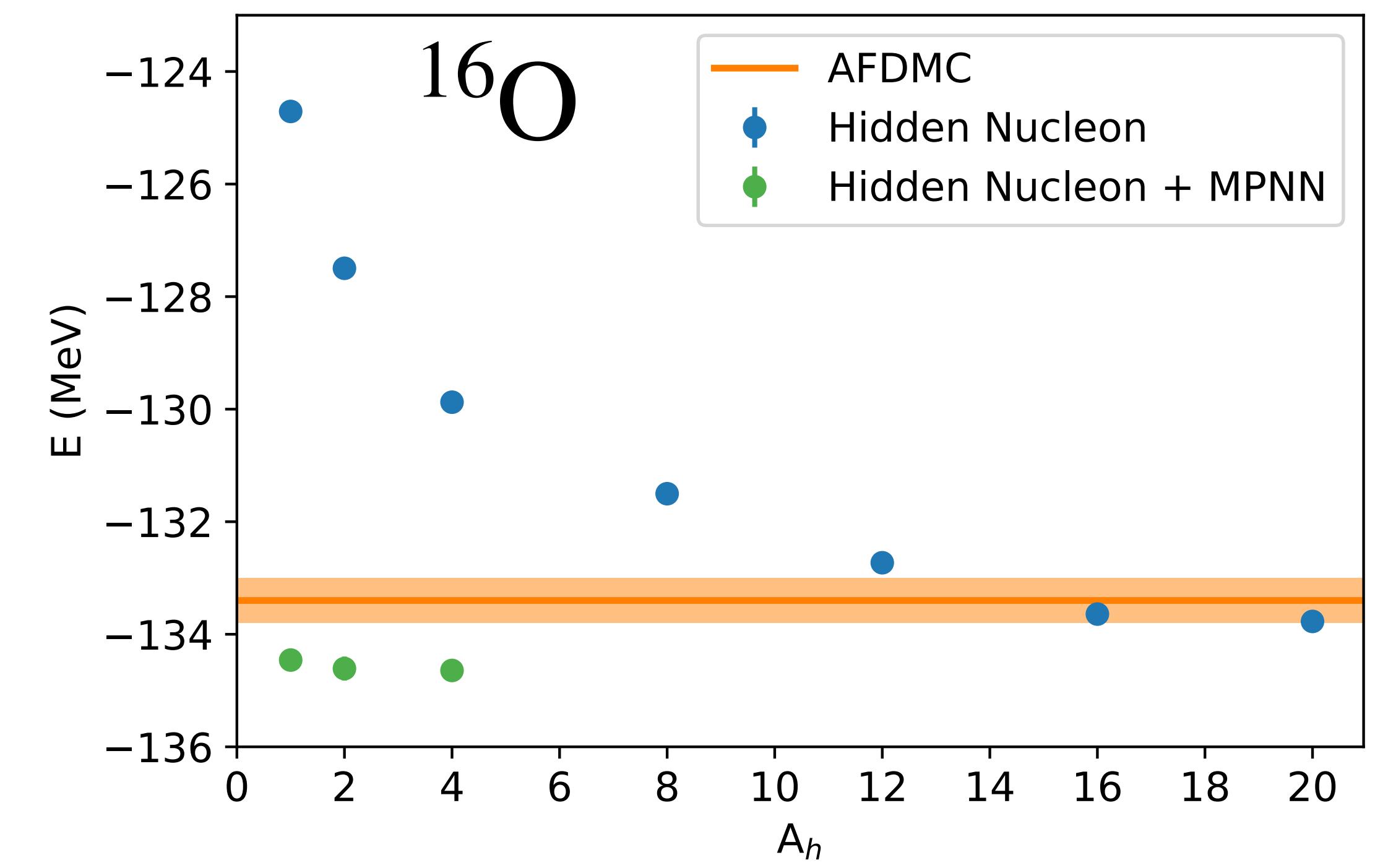


# Improving convergence

Instruct the network on discrete symmetries



Include correlations in the inputs

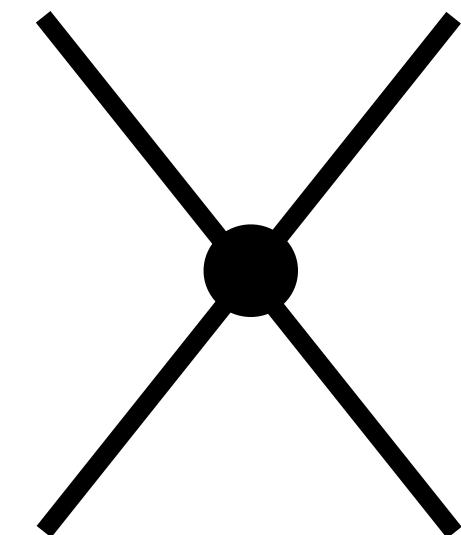


# To the essential

## Pionless EFT like model [R. Schiavilla et al. Phys. Rev. C 103, 054003 (2021)]

- Two-body interactions (with optimized cut-off – model “o”)

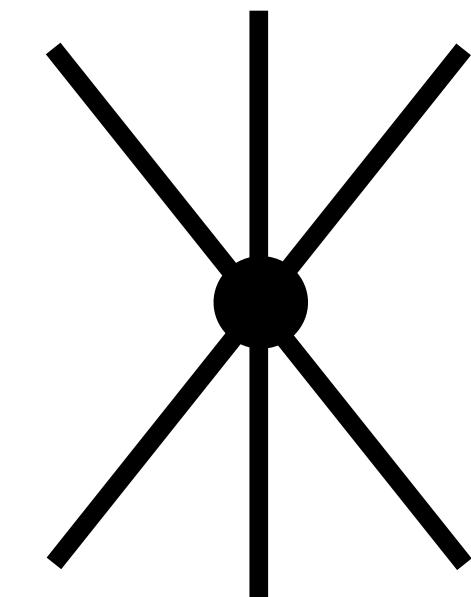
$$V = C_{01} P_0^\sigma P_1^\tau + C_{10} P_1^\sigma P_0^\tau$$



LECs fitted on  $np$  singlets scattering length and effective range + deuteron binding energy

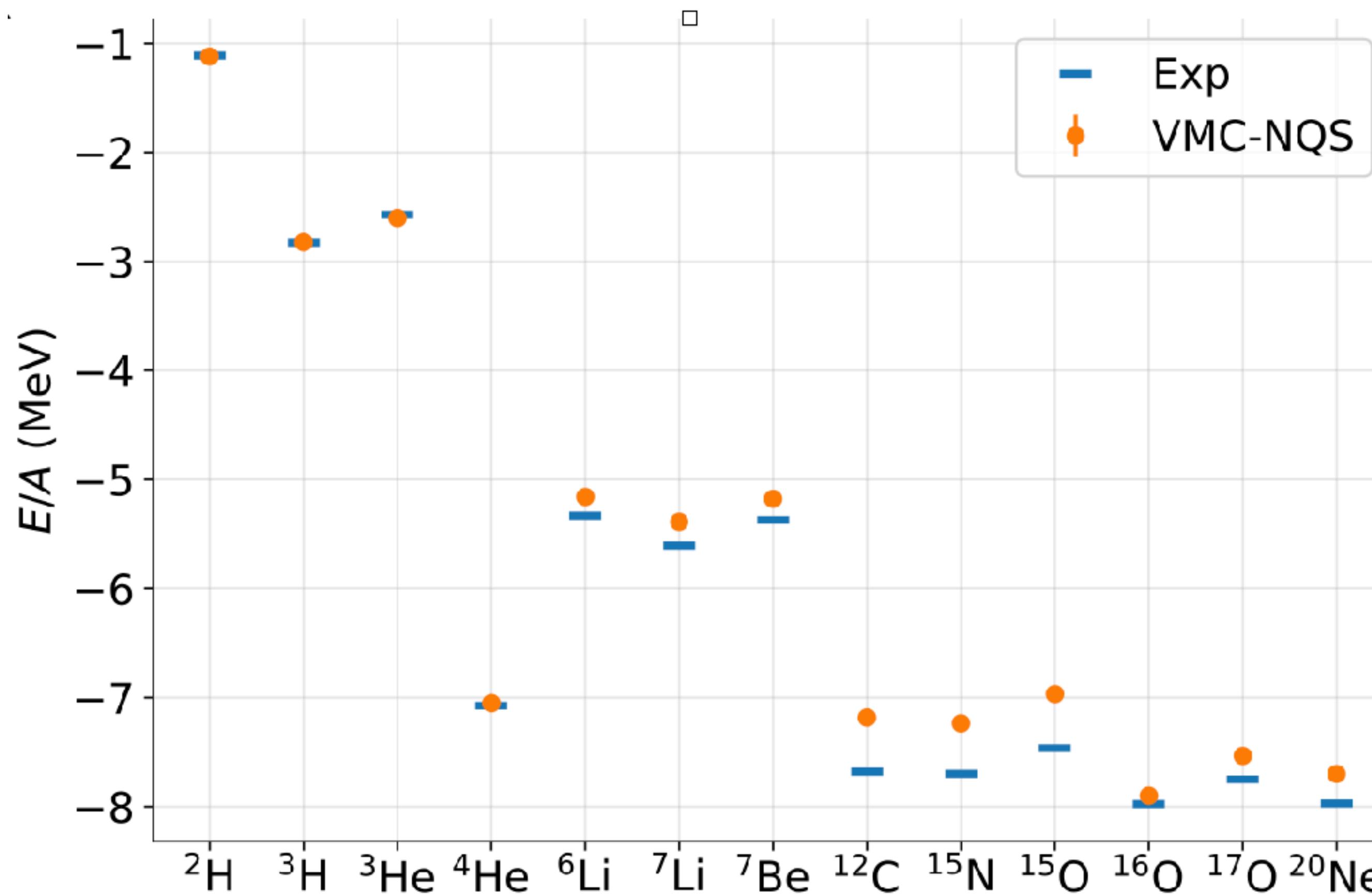
- Three-body interaction ( $R_3 = 1.1$  fm)

$$V_{3b} = c_E \frac{f_\pi^4}{\Lambda_\chi} \frac{(\hbar c)^6}{\pi^3 R_3^6} \sum_{\text{cyclic } ijk} e^{-\left(r_{ij}^2 + r_{jk}^2\right)/R_3^2}$$



$c_E$  fitted for reproducing tritium binding energy

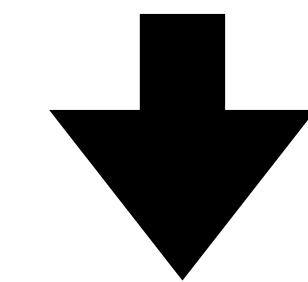
# Results: binding energies



Good agreement with the experimental values (<7%)

$^6\text{He}$ ,  $^8\text{Li}$ ,  $^8\text{B}$ ,  $^9\text{C}$ ,  $^{17}\text{F}$  are unstable against cluster breakup

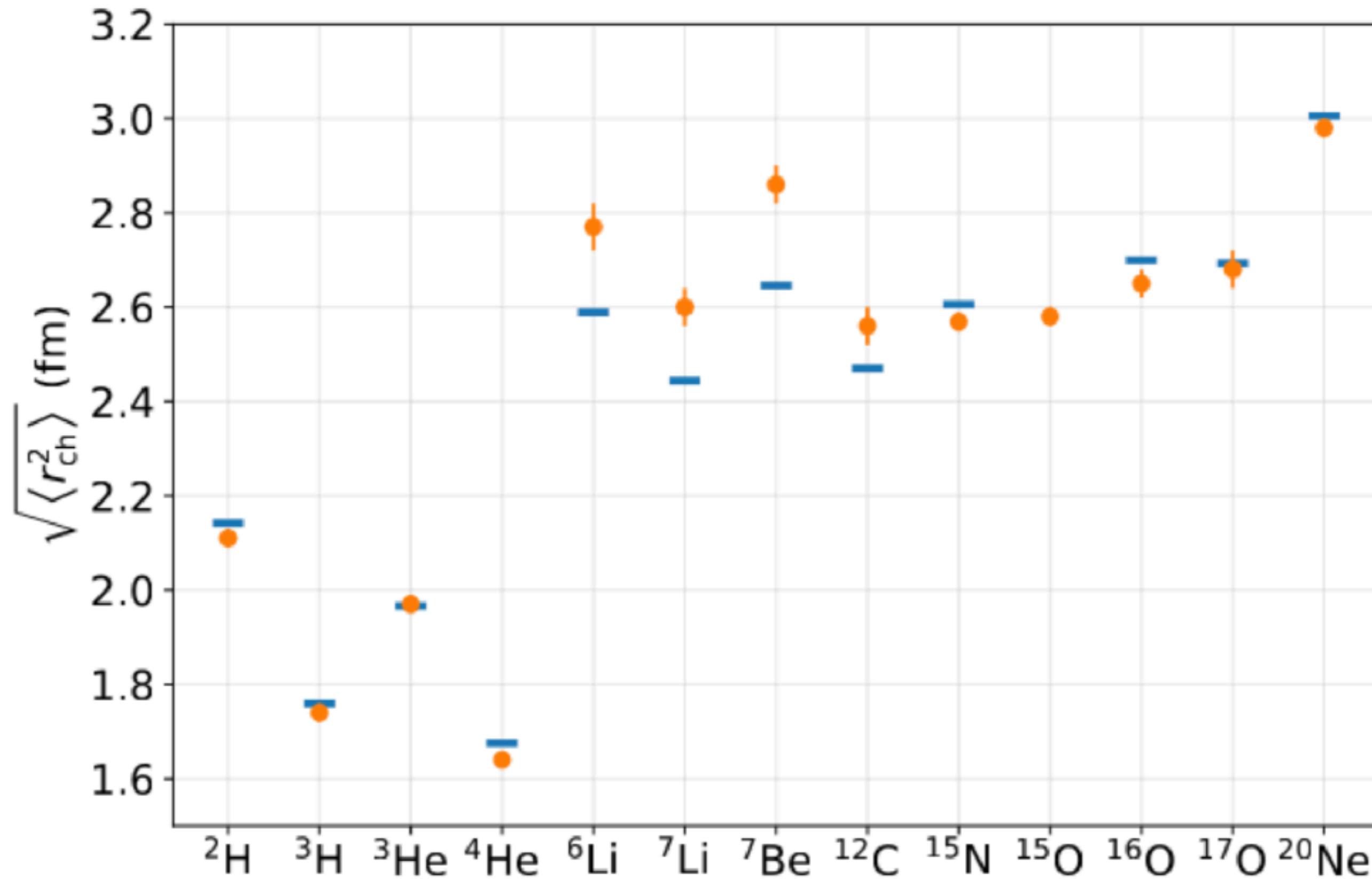
Computed nuclei underbind



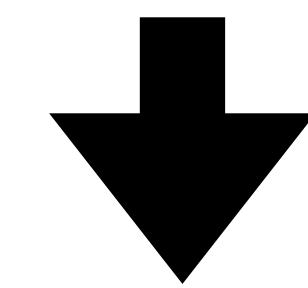
Excessive repulsion of the Hamiltonian

No pretraining of the NQS on Hartree-Fock wave function!!

# Results: charge radii



Results are stable



No need of extrapolation

No spin orbit and two-body currents corrections

# Revealing the shell structure

- **Require polarization of the wave function**

$$\mu = \langle J, J_z = J | \mu_z | J, J_z = J \rangle$$

- One body operator

$$\mu_z = \frac{1 + \tau_z}{2} L_z + \frac{\mu_s + \mu_v \tau_z}{2} \sigma_z$$



- Direct connection among shell structure and magnetic moments

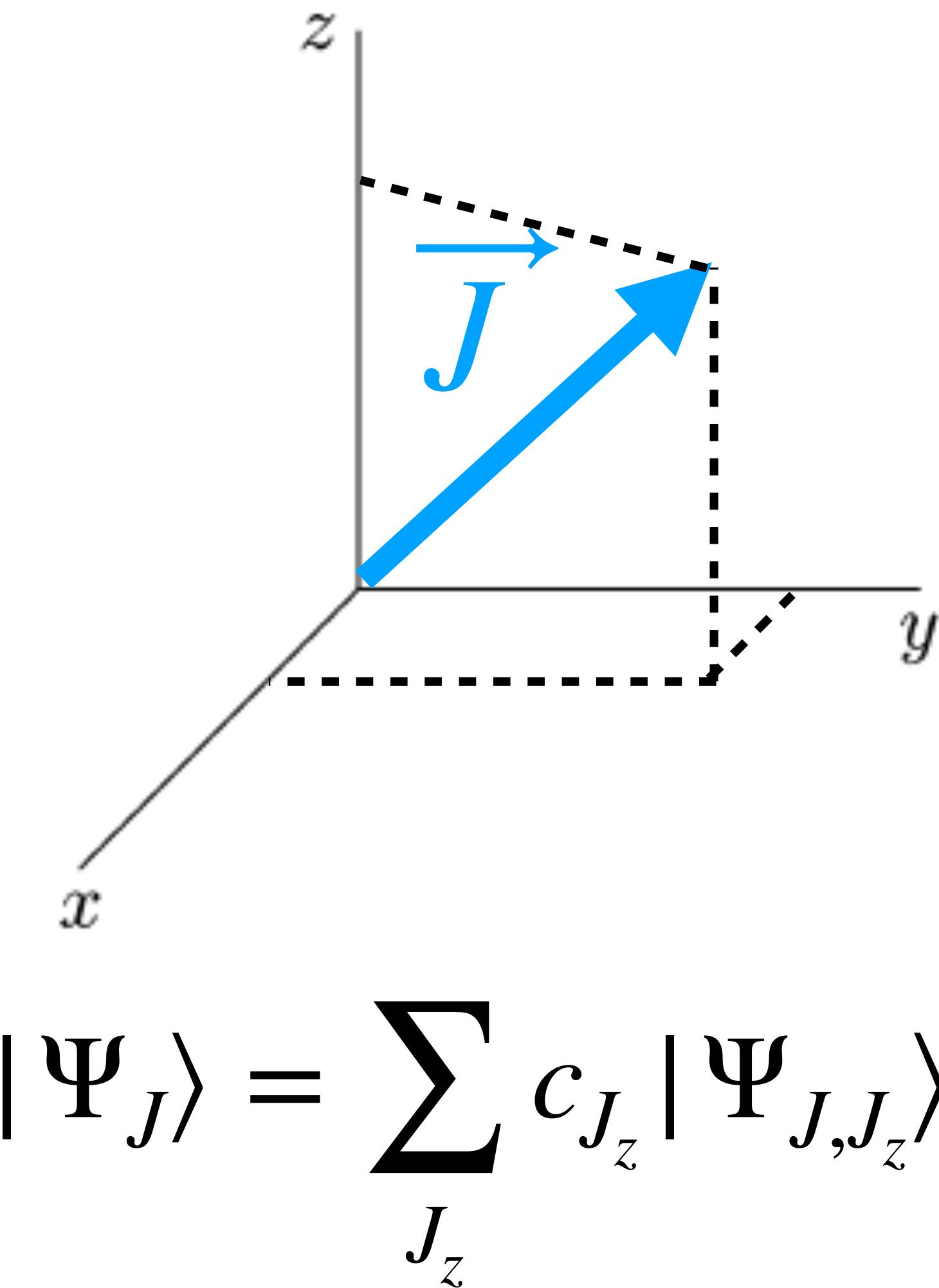
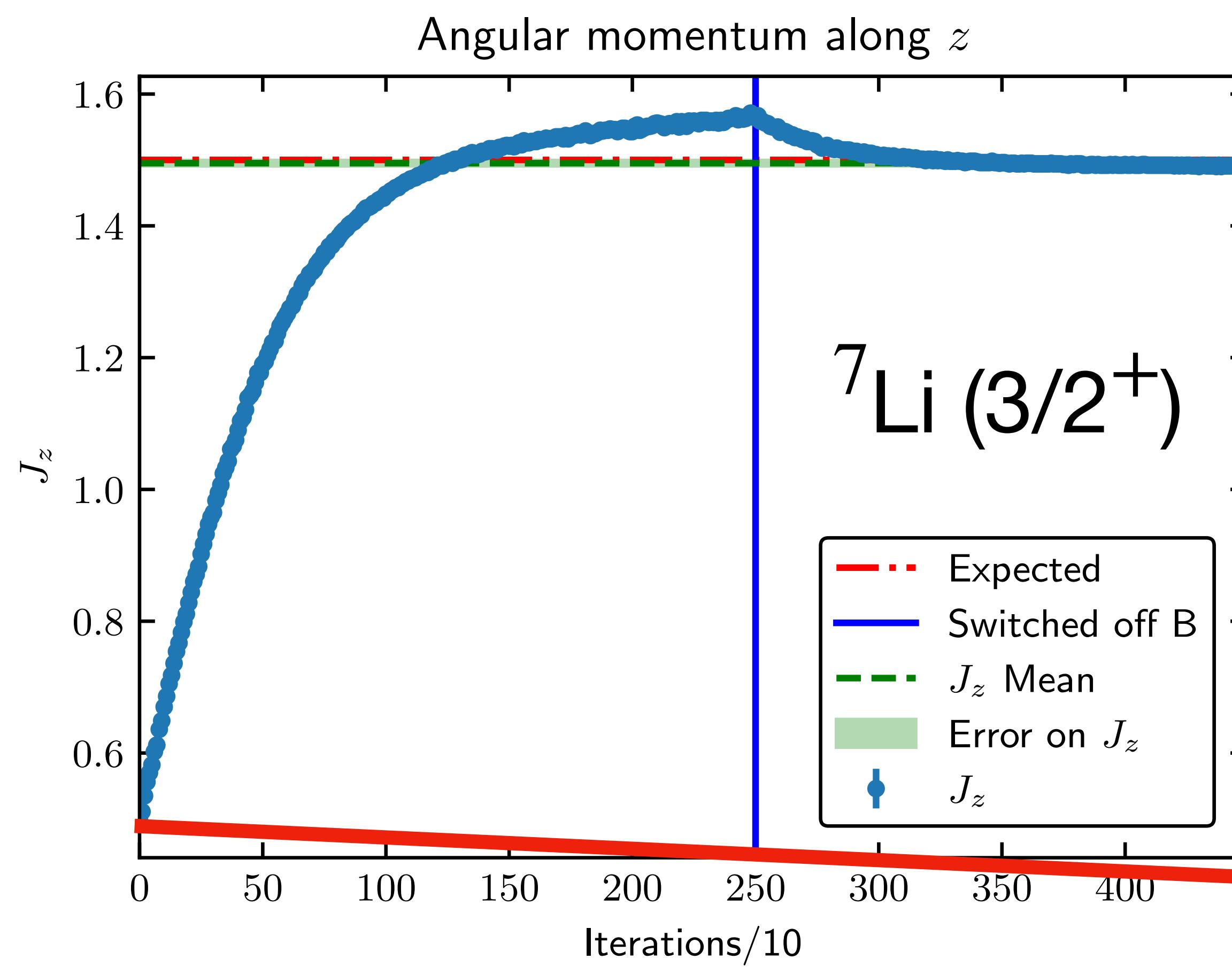
$$\mu = \mu_N \left( j - \frac{1}{2} + \lambda \right); \quad j = l + \frac{1}{2} \quad \mu = \mu_N \left[ j + \frac{j}{j+1} \left( \frac{1}{2} - \lambda \right) \right]; \quad j = l - \frac{1}{2}$$

Valid for uncoupled proton (JD Walecka, Theor. Nucl. and Subnucl. Phys.)

# Projection of NQS

What is measured

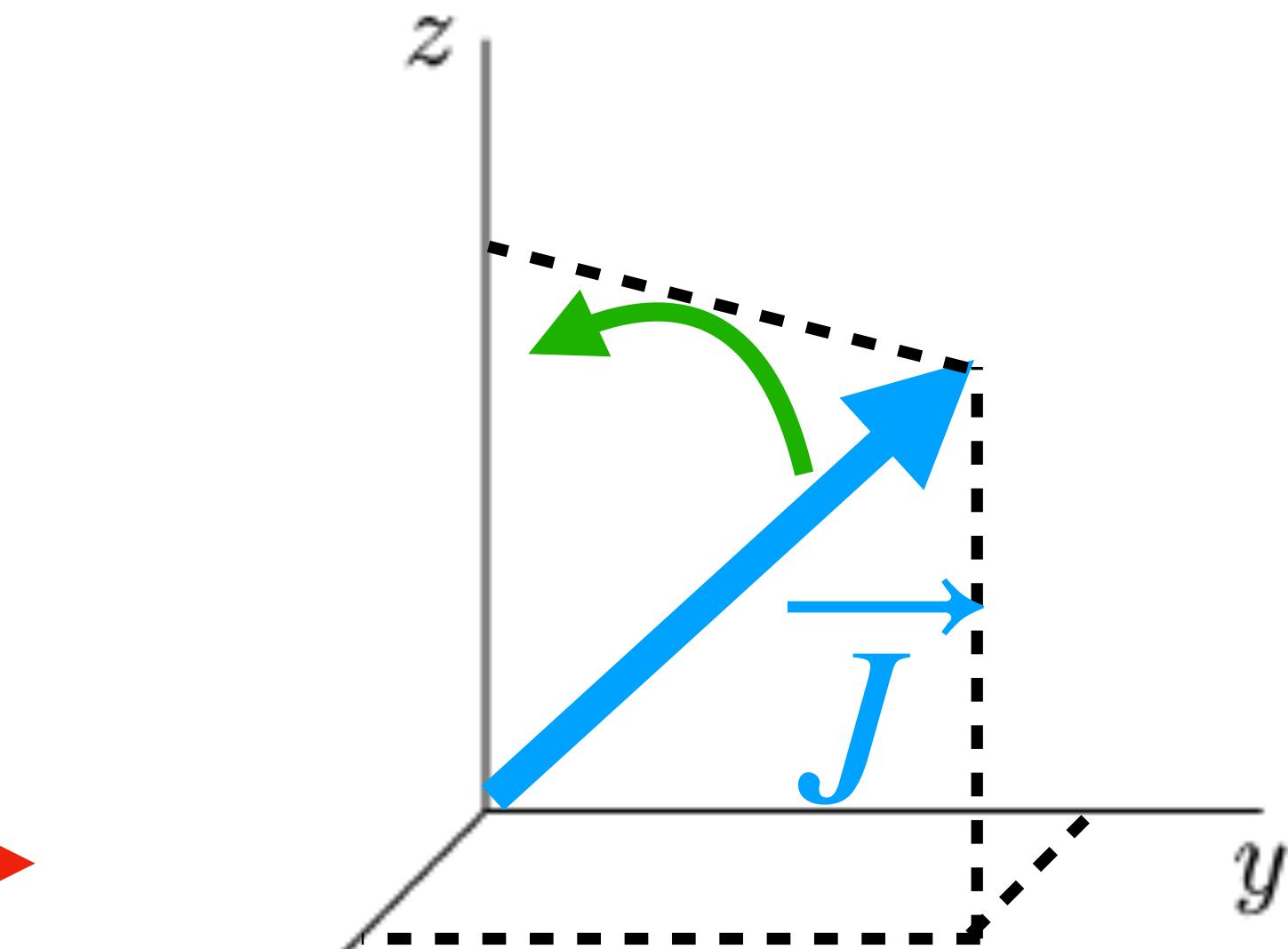
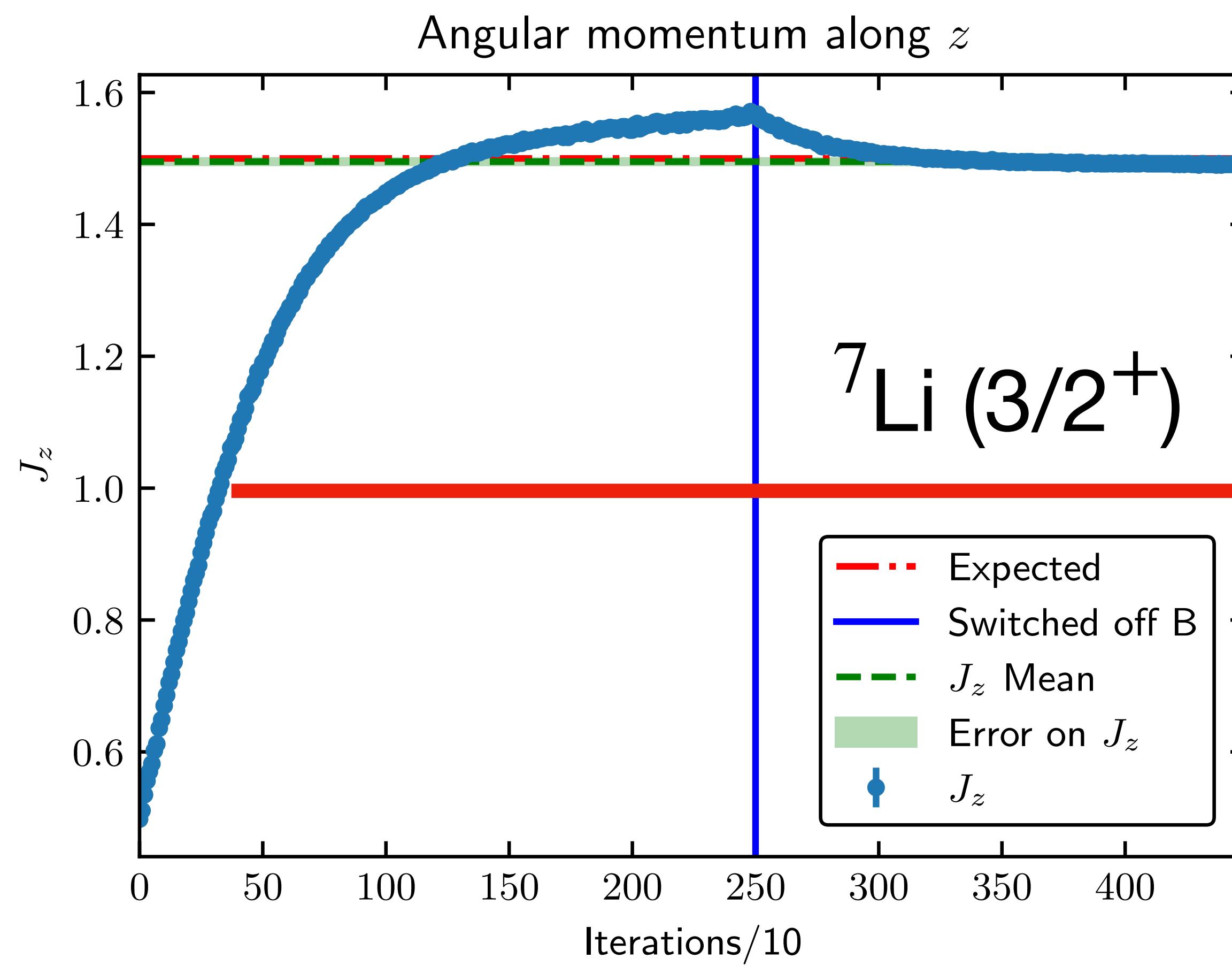
$$\mu = \langle J, J_z = J | \mu_z | J, J_z = J \rangle$$



# Projection of NQS

What is measured

$$\mu = \langle J, J_z = J | \mu_z | J, J_z = J \rangle$$

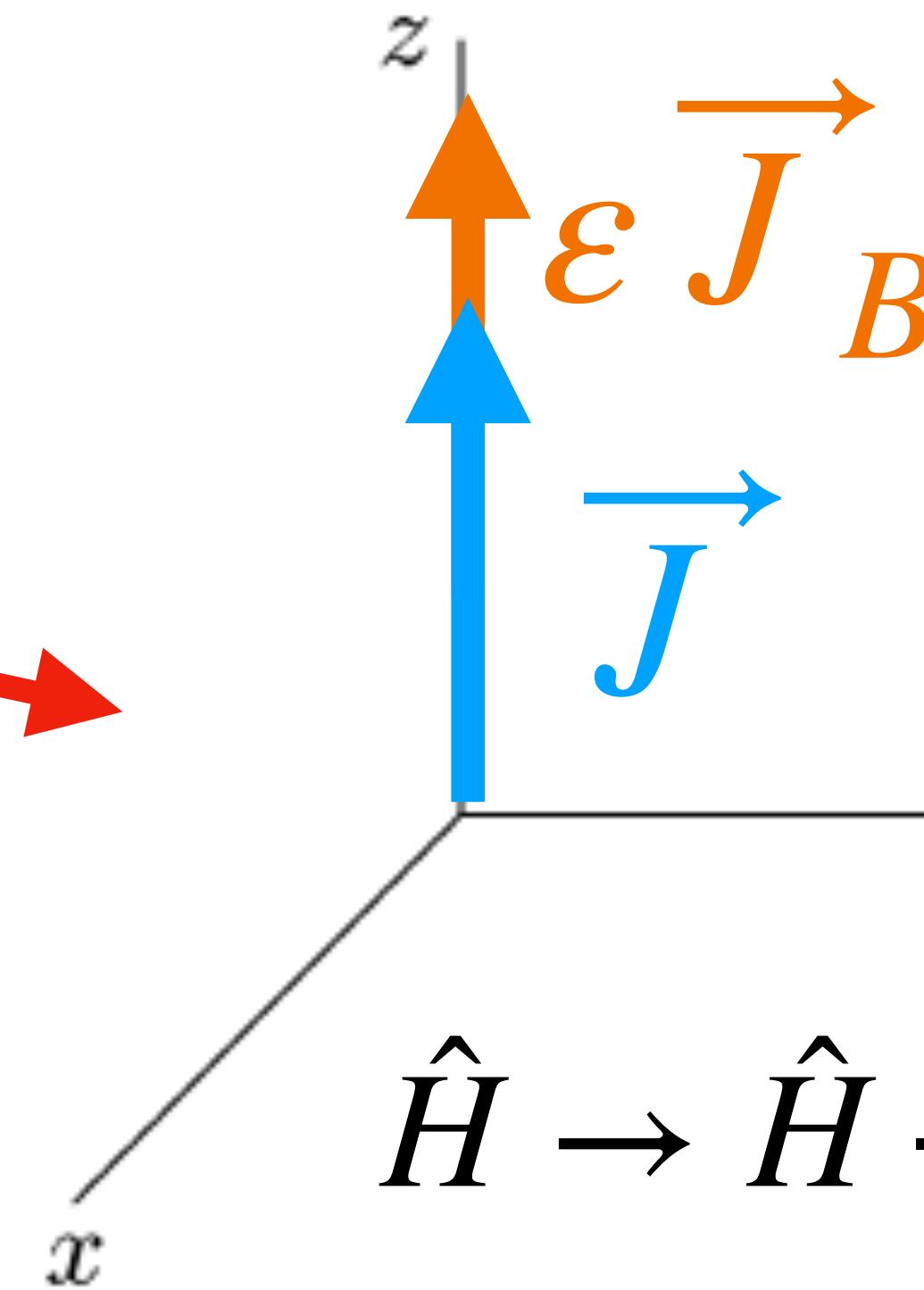
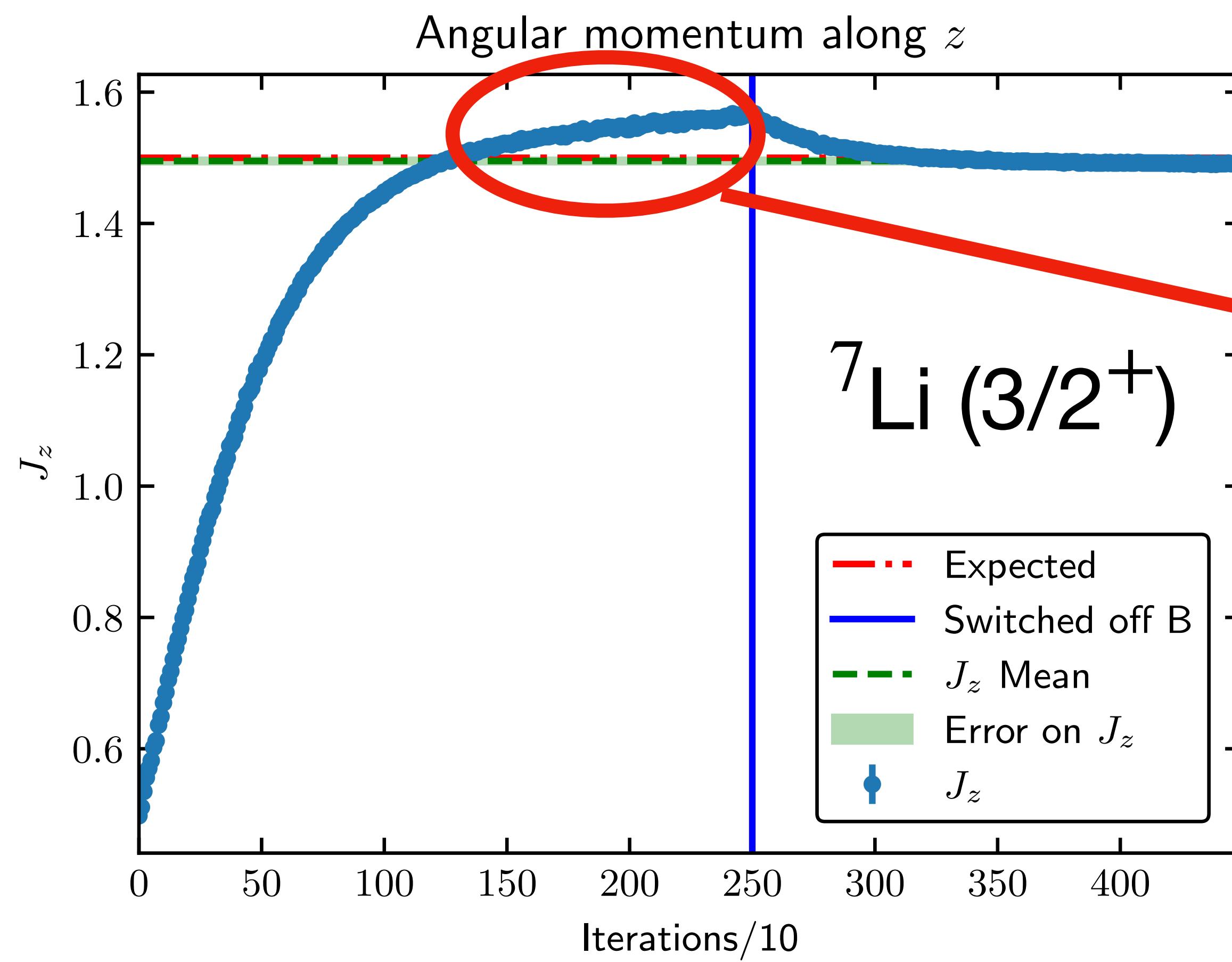


$$\hat{H} \rightarrow \hat{H} - \boxed{B_z} \hat{J}_z$$

# Projection of NQS

What is measured

$$\mu = \langle J, J_z = J | \mu_z | J, J_z = J \rangle$$

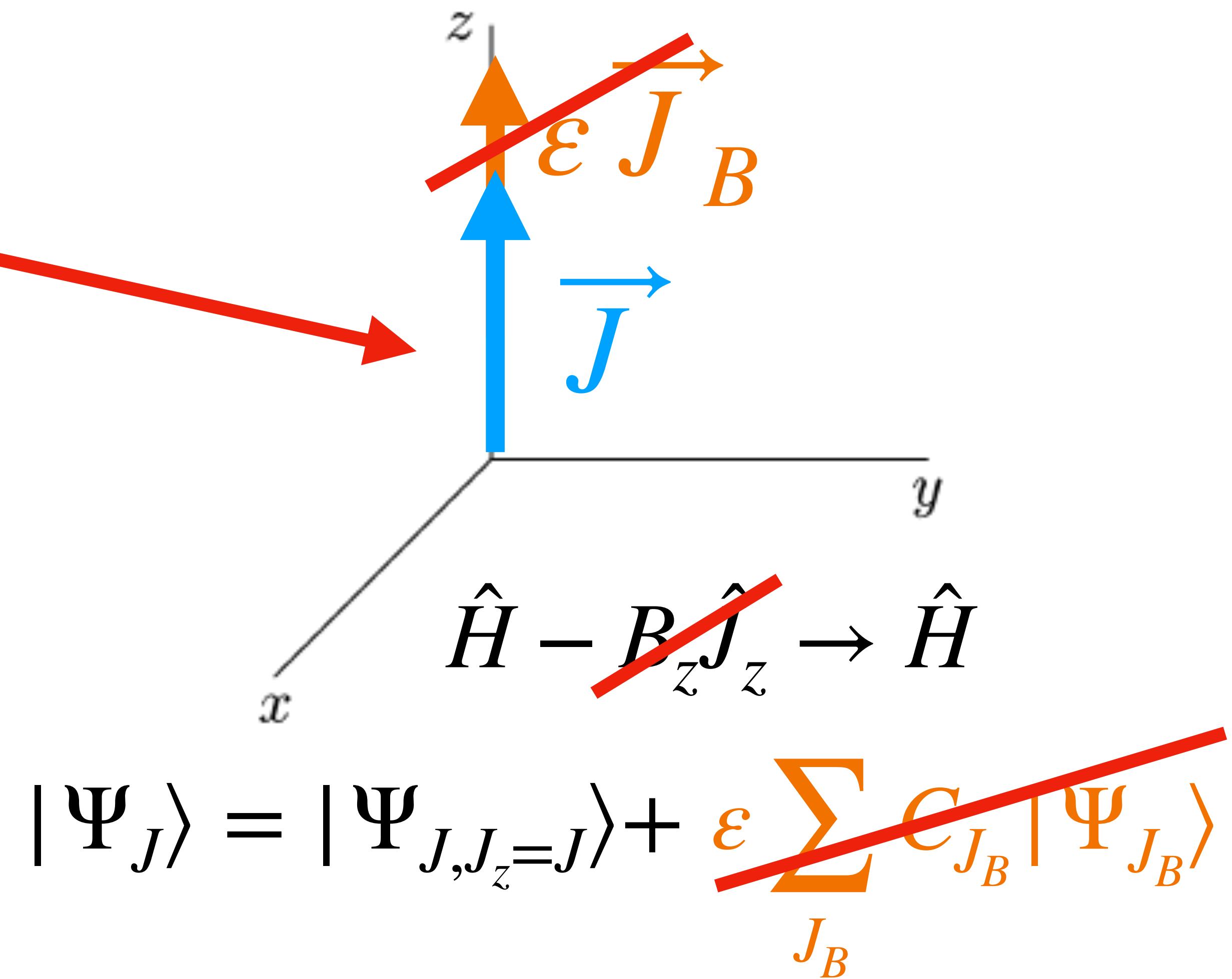
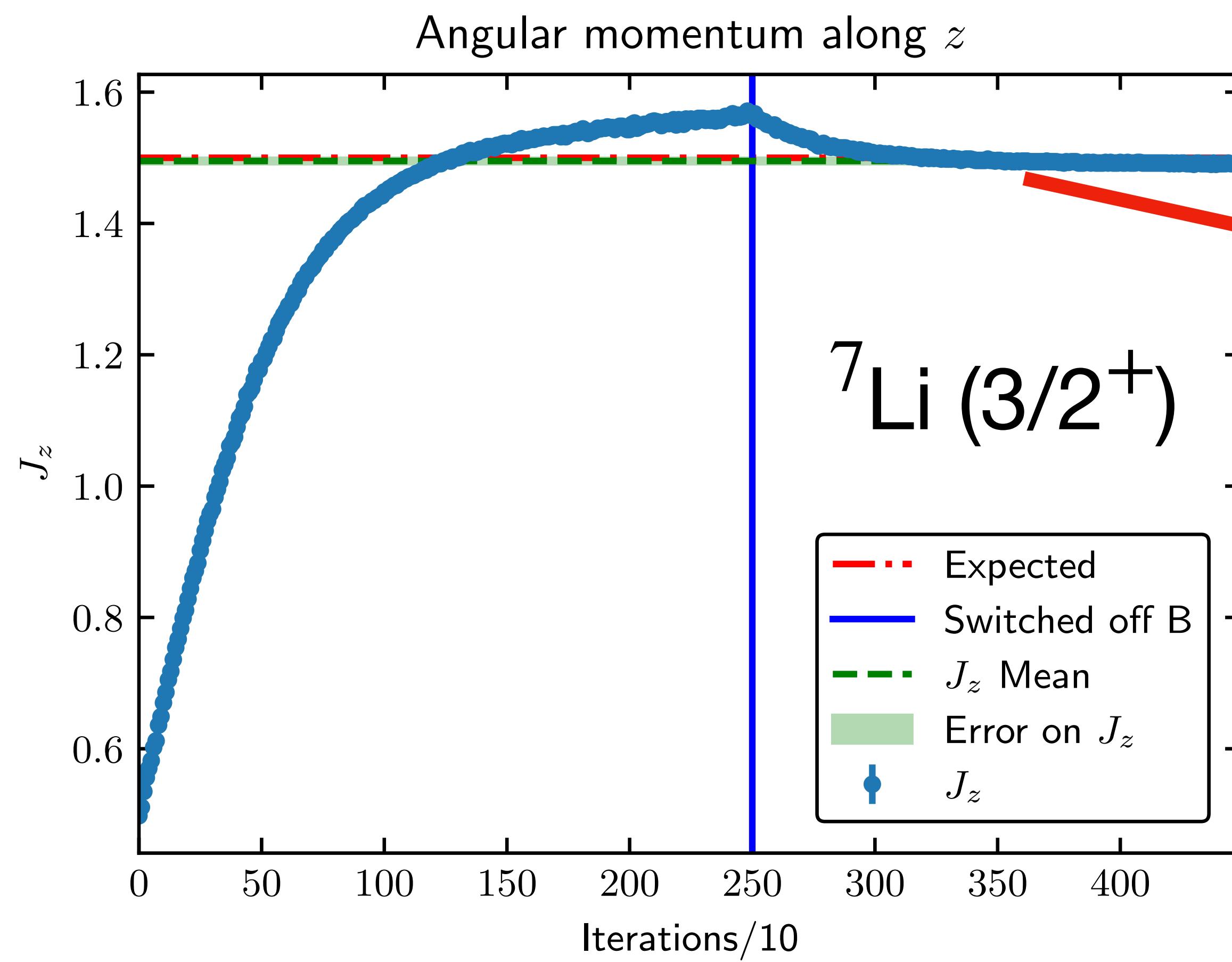


$$|\Psi_J\rangle = |\Psi_{J, J_z=J}\rangle + \varepsilon \sum_{J_B} C_{J_B} |\Psi_{J_B}\rangle$$

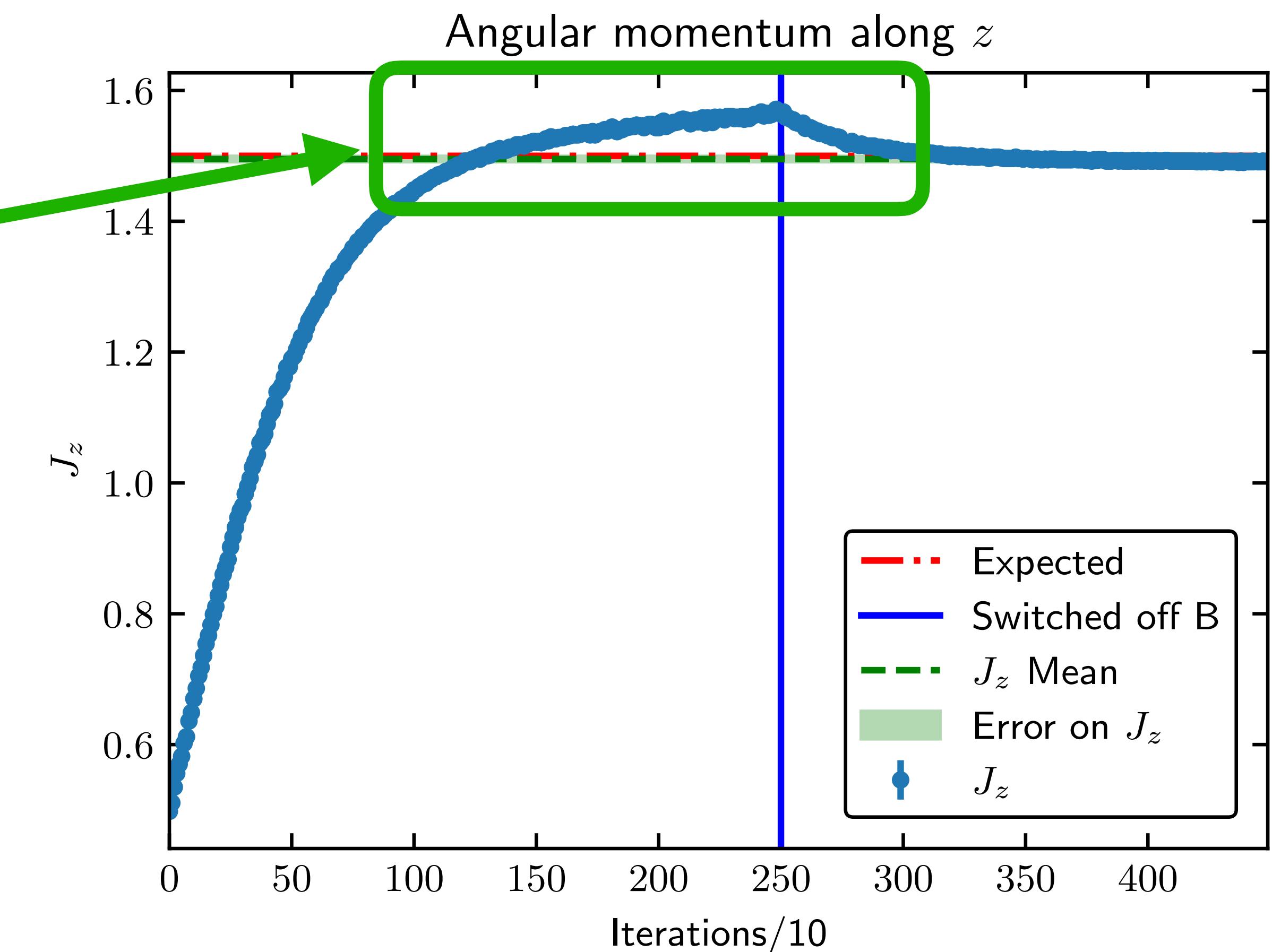
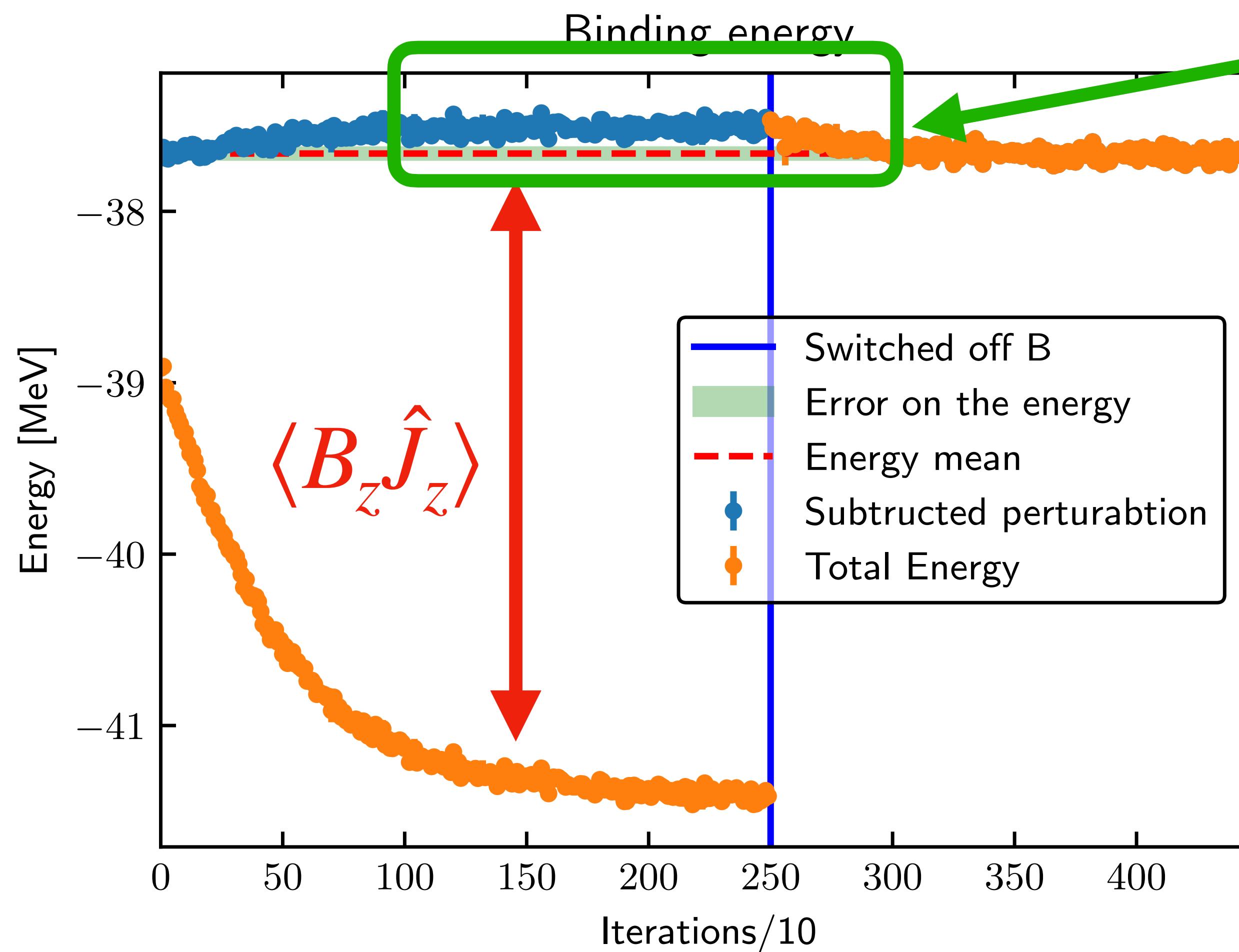
# Projection of NQS

What is measured

$$\mu = \langle J, J_z = J | \mu_z | J, J_z = J \rangle$$

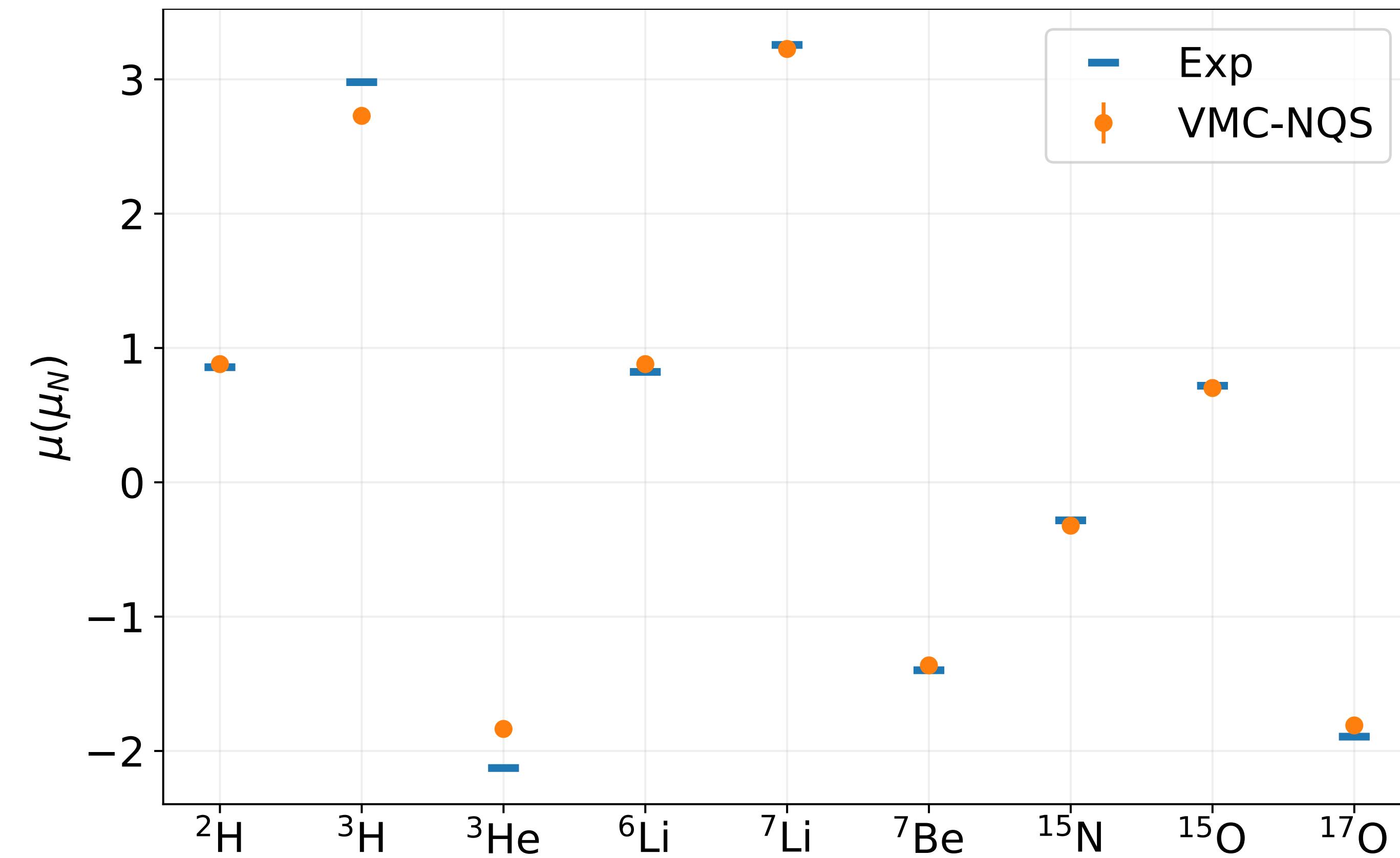


# Projection of NQS



- The magnetic field  $B_z$  needs to be maintained as a small perturbation

# Magnetic moments of selected light nuclei



- $^3\text{H}$  and  $^3\text{He}$  require two-body currents
- Good agreement for the remaining:  
VMC-NQS reconstruct with the pionless EFT hamiltonian the shell-model structure without any ansatz
- More sophisticated interactions need two-body currents [ see AFDMC and GFMC results]