

THE GEORGE  
WASHINGTON  
UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON, DC

# The Proton Radius Puzzle: Are We Still Puzzled?

Evangeline J. Downie  
Bormio 2024



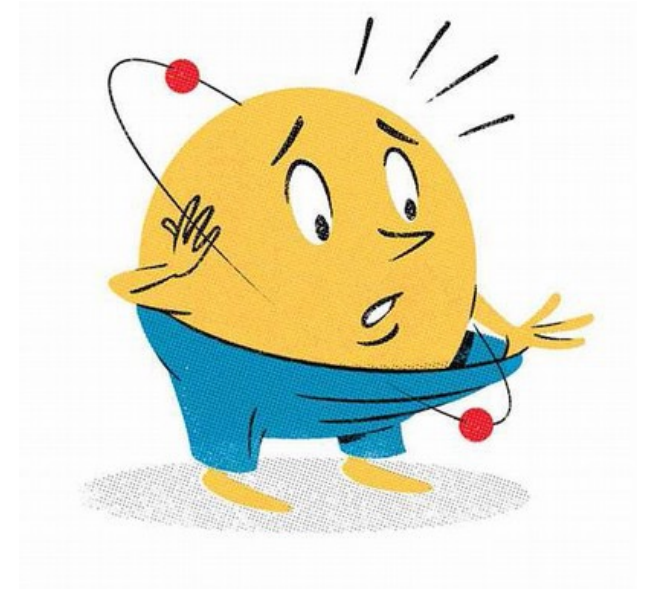
Award:  
PHY-2310026





Nature 466, 213 (2010)

Discrepancy between radius measured with electrons and muons

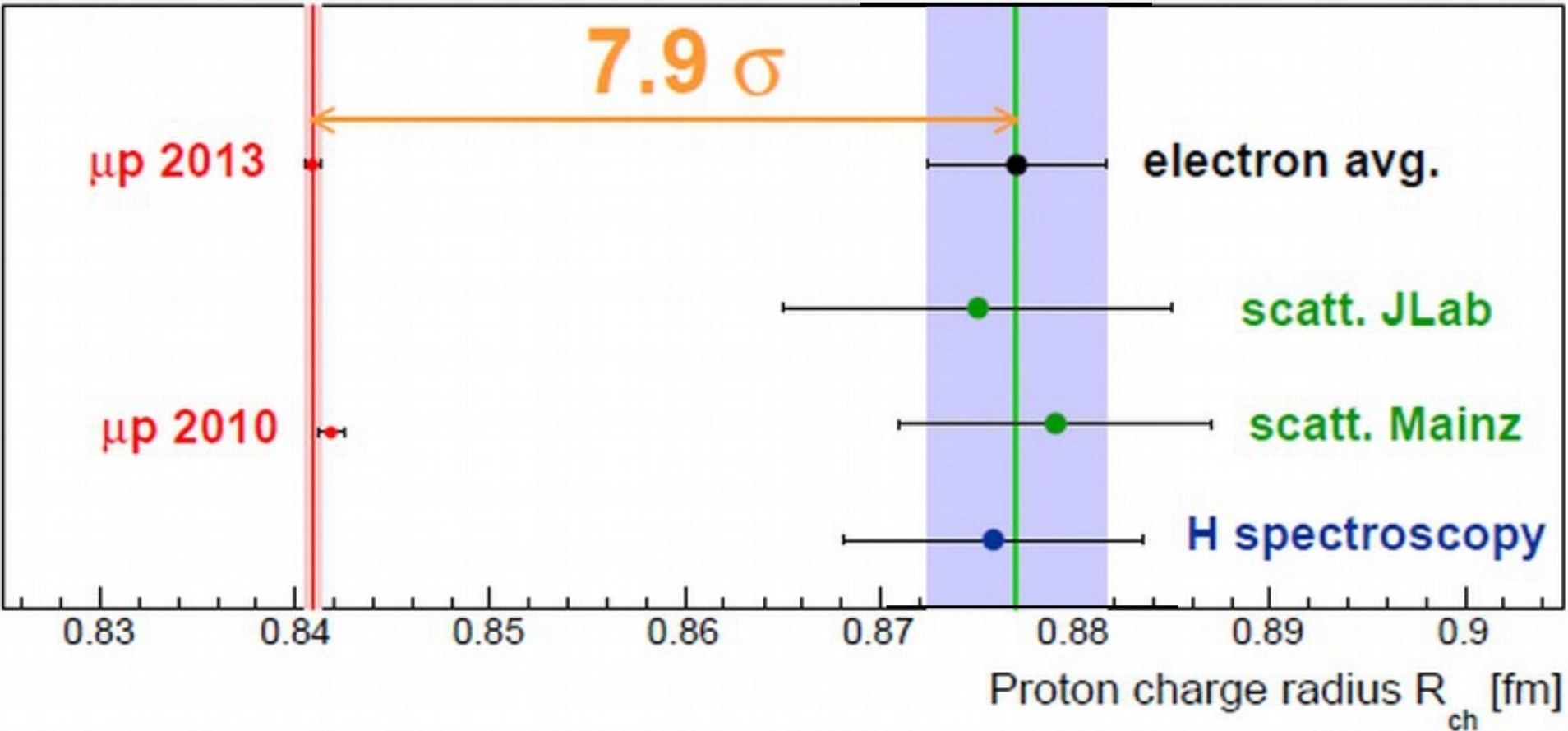


The New York Times

# The Proton Radius Puzzle (2010)



# The Proton Radius Puzzle (2010)



$\mu p$  2013: Antognini *et al.*  
 Science **339**, 417 (2013)

Jlab: Zhan *et al.*  
 PLB **705**, 59-64 (2011)

Mainz: Bernauer *et al.*  
 PRL **105**, 242001 (2010)

$\mu p$  2010: Pohl *et al.*  
 Nature **466**, 213 (2010)

# The Proton Radius Puzzle (2013)

Differential cross section

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}$$

Mott cross section

$$\left( \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \right)_{Mott}$$

Form Factor

$$G^2(Q^2)$$

# Radius from Scattering

Proton radius squared

Slope of the form factor as a function of momentum transfer

$$r^2 = -6 \left( \frac{dG(Q^2)}{d(Q^2)} \right)$$

$$\Big|_{Q^2=0}$$

Evaluated at momentum transfer = 0

# Radius from Scattering

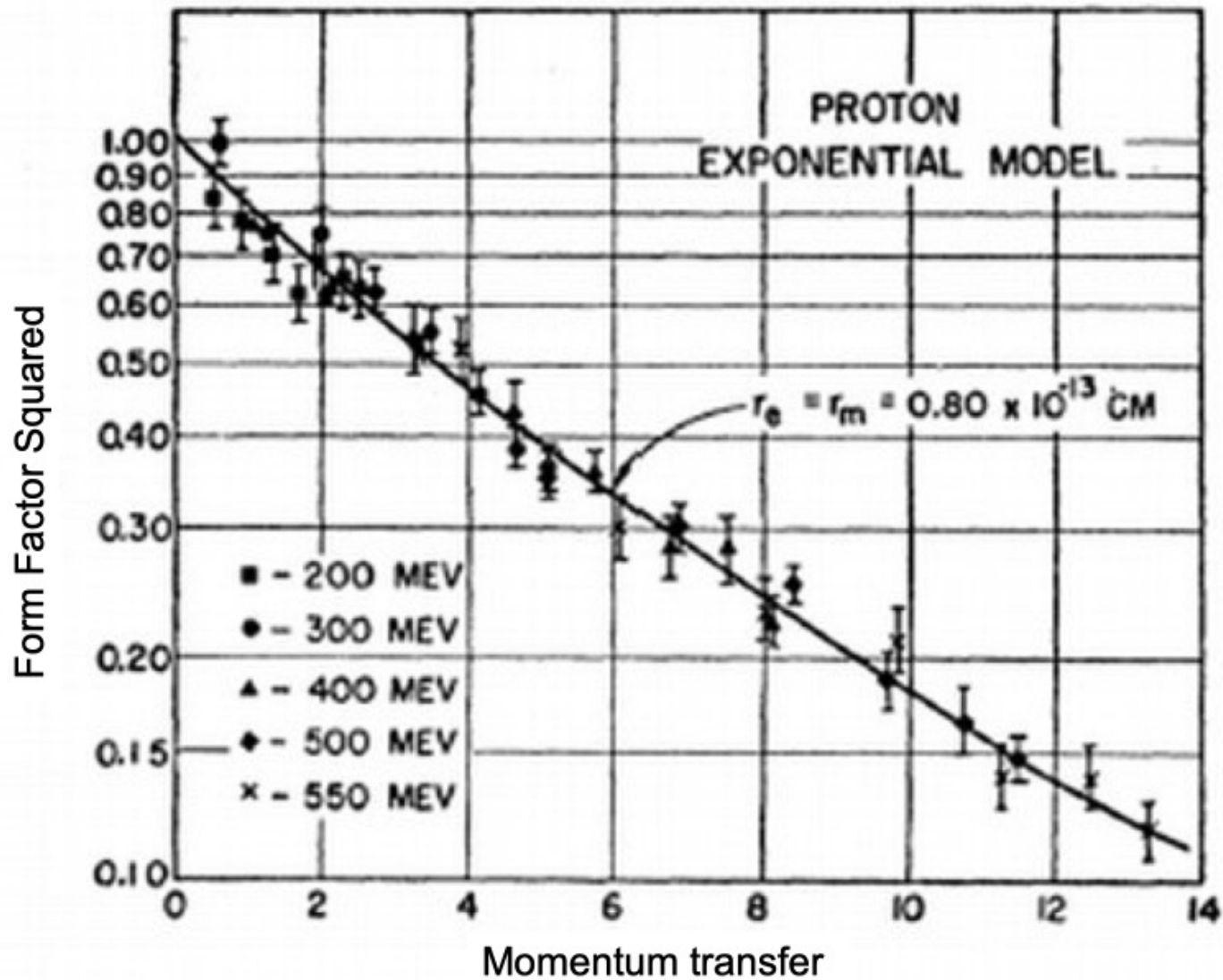
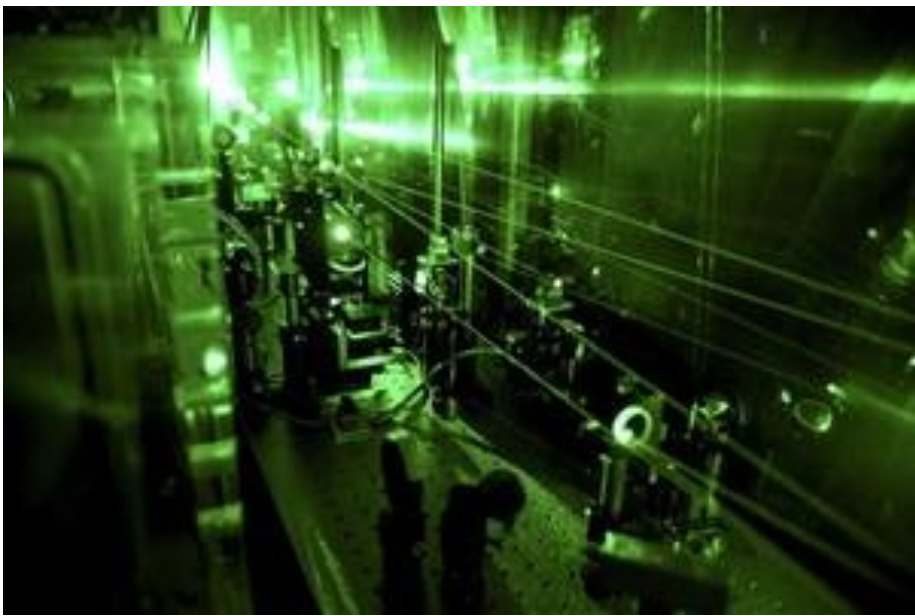
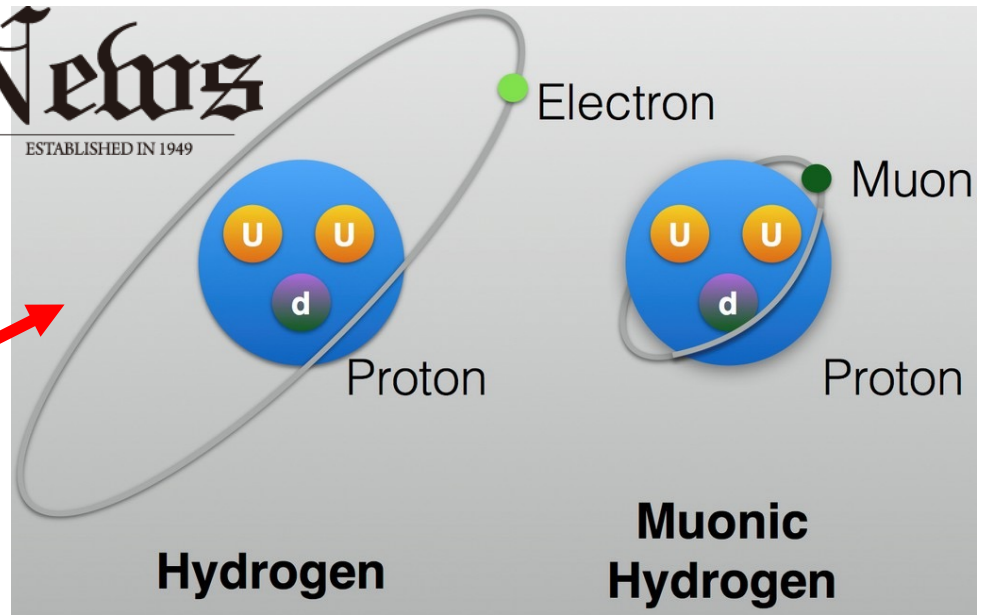


Figure from:  
Chambers & Hofstadter  
PRL **103** 1454 (1956)

# Radius from Scattering



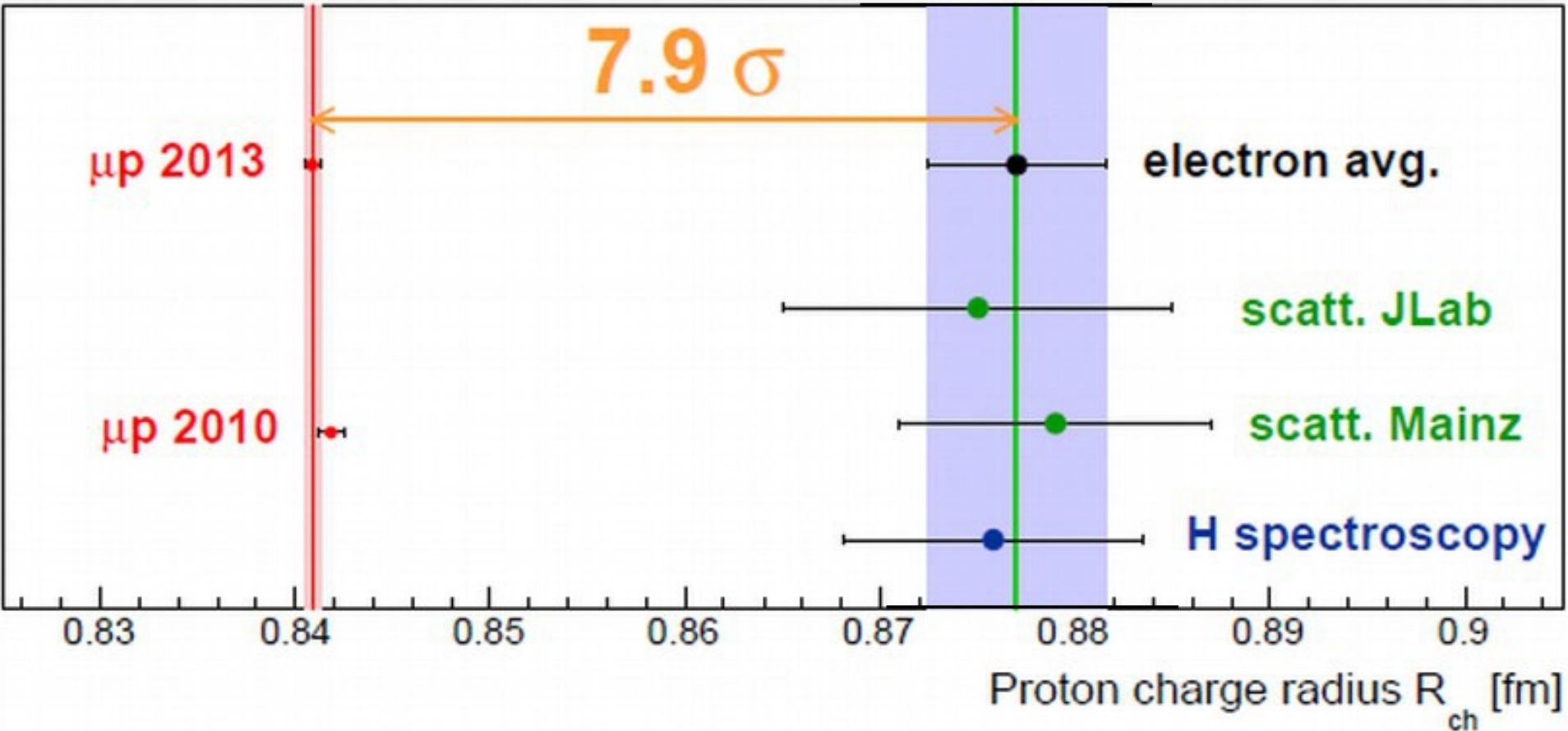
**Not to scale!**



- Energy level differences = precisely known physics (QED) + (tiny) proton size effect
- Muonic hydrogen spectroscopy  $\sim 8,000,000$  times more sensitive to radius

# Radius from Spectroscopy





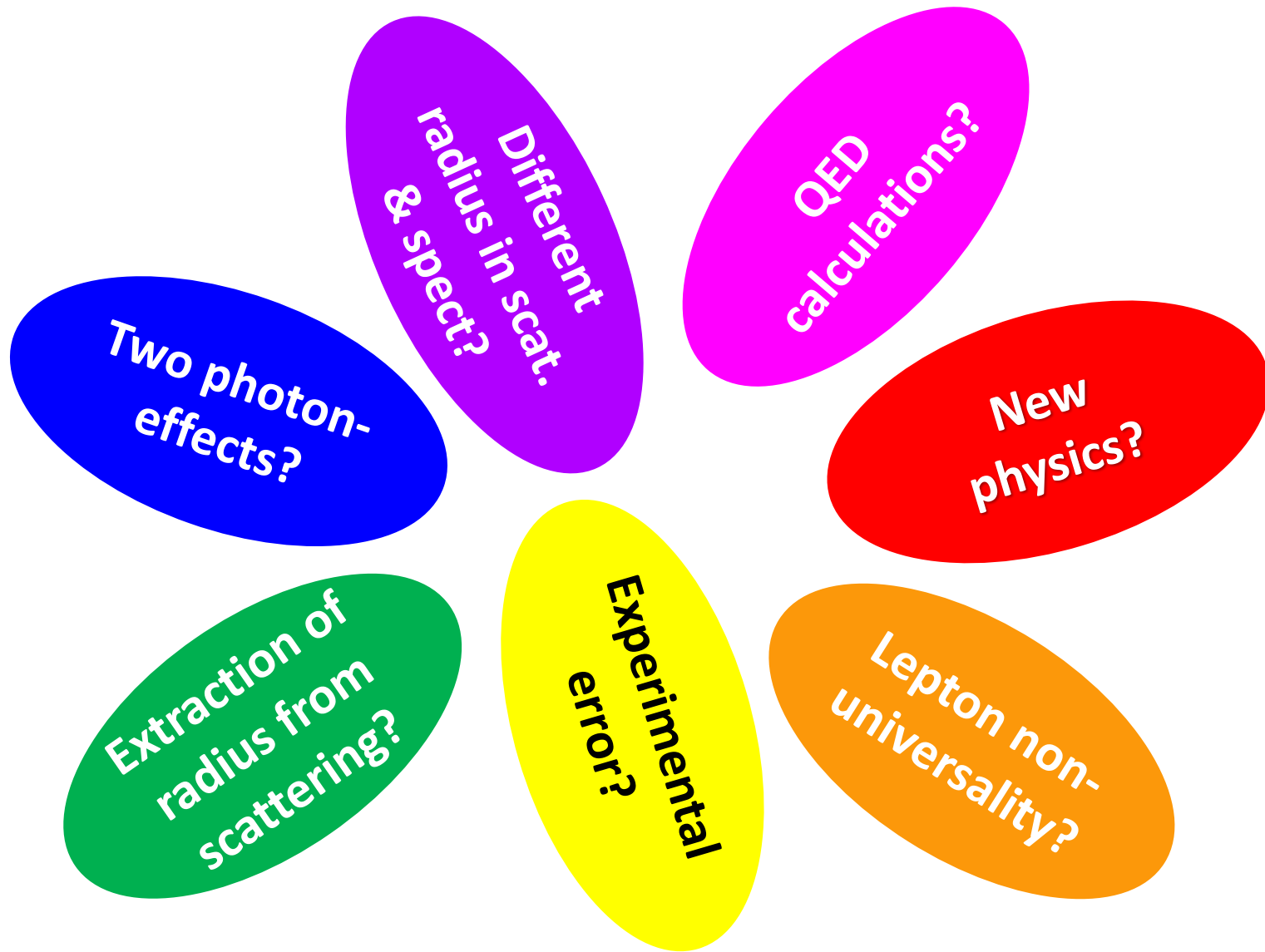
$\mu p$  2013: Antognini *et al.*  
 Science **339**, 417 (2013)

Jlab: Zhan *et al.*  
 PLB **705**, 59-64 (2011)

Mainz: Bernauer *et al.*  
 PRL **105**, 242001 (2010)

$\mu p$  2010: Pohl *et al.*  
 Nature **466**, 213 (2010)

# The Proton Radius Puzzle (2013)



For details see:  
The Proton Radius, Losinj (2019)  
<https://indico.cern.ch/event/806319/>

# How to resolve the PRP?

Two photon-effects?

Different radius in scat. & spect.?

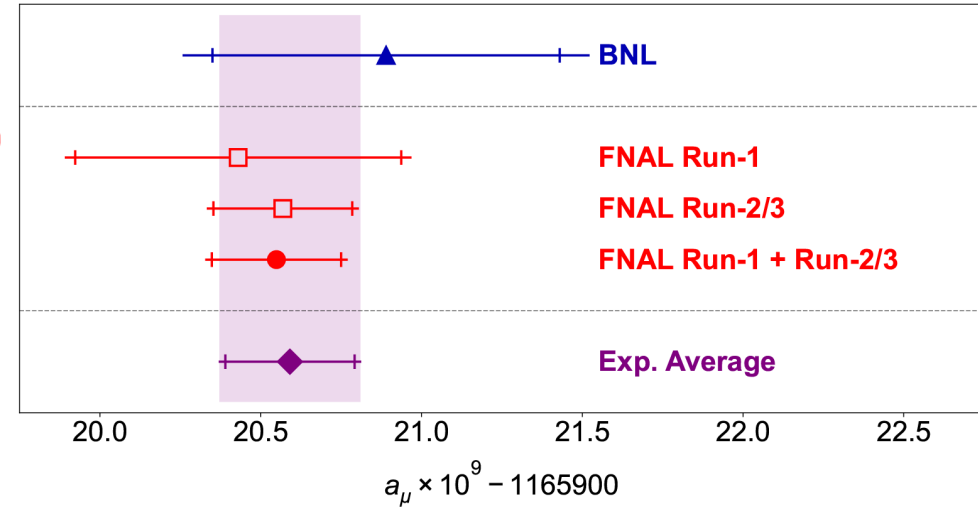
QED calculations?

New physics?

Extraction of radius from scattering?

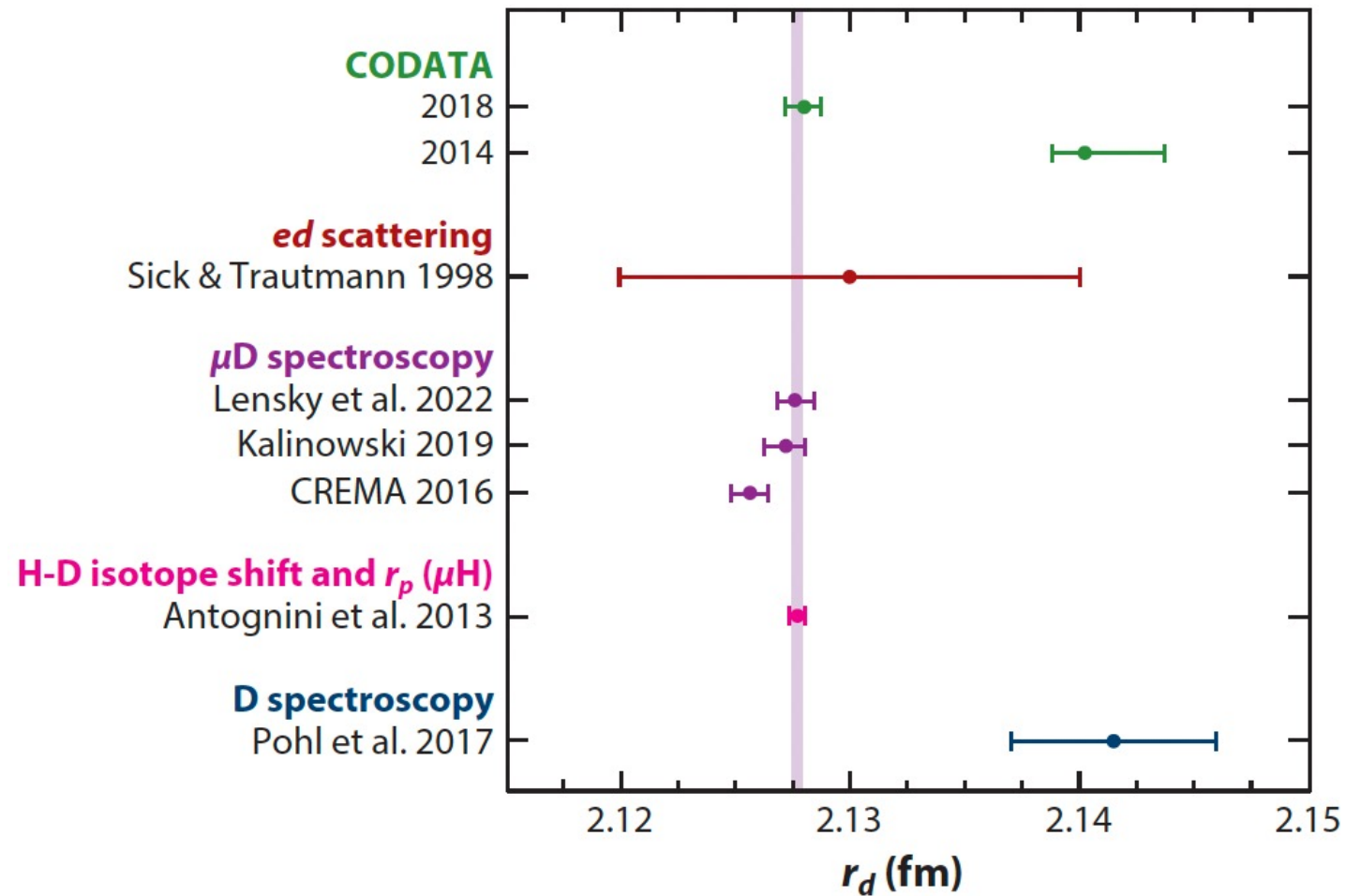
Experimental error?

Lepton non-universality?



New muon (g-2) result (2023)  
arXiv:2308.06230 [hep-ex]

# How to resolve the PRP?

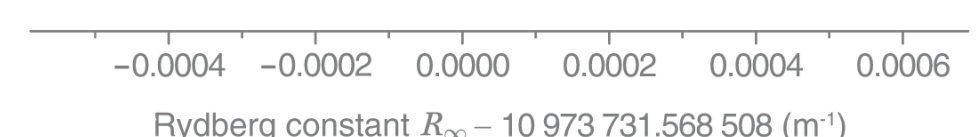
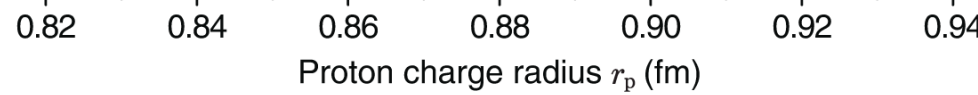
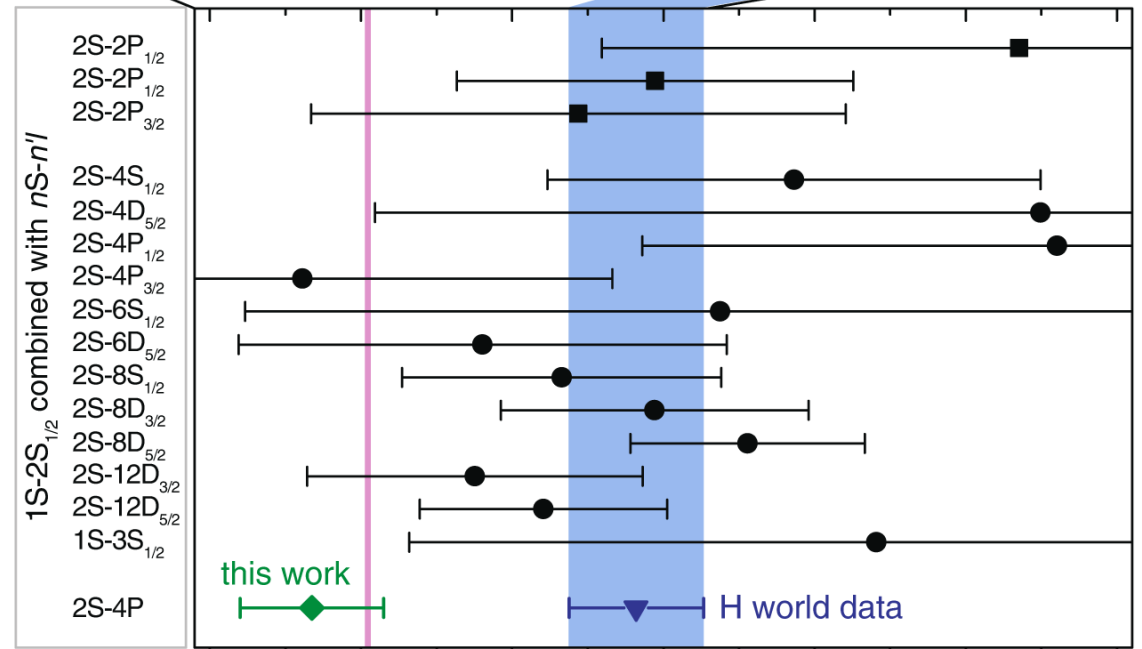
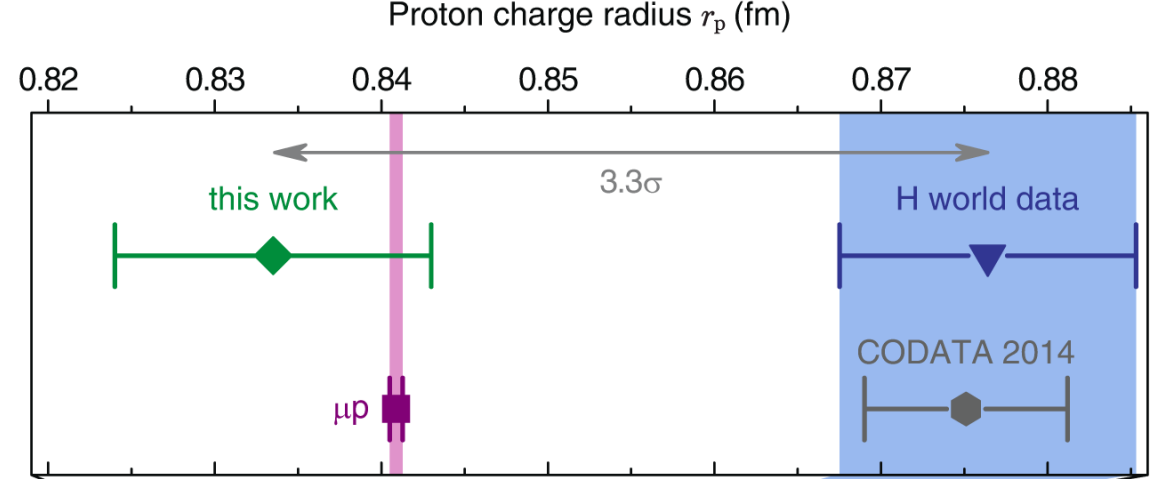


- Muonic deuterium agrees with muonic hydrogen: Pohl *et al.*, (CREMA) *Science* 353 (2016) 669
- Muonic  $4\text{He}$  agrees with electronic helium: Krauth *et al.*, *Nature* **589**, 527 (2021)
- A  $Z=1$  problem!
- Many new results on hydrogen

# Muonic atom spectroscopy: a $Z=1$ Problem

# MPQ Result 2S – 4P

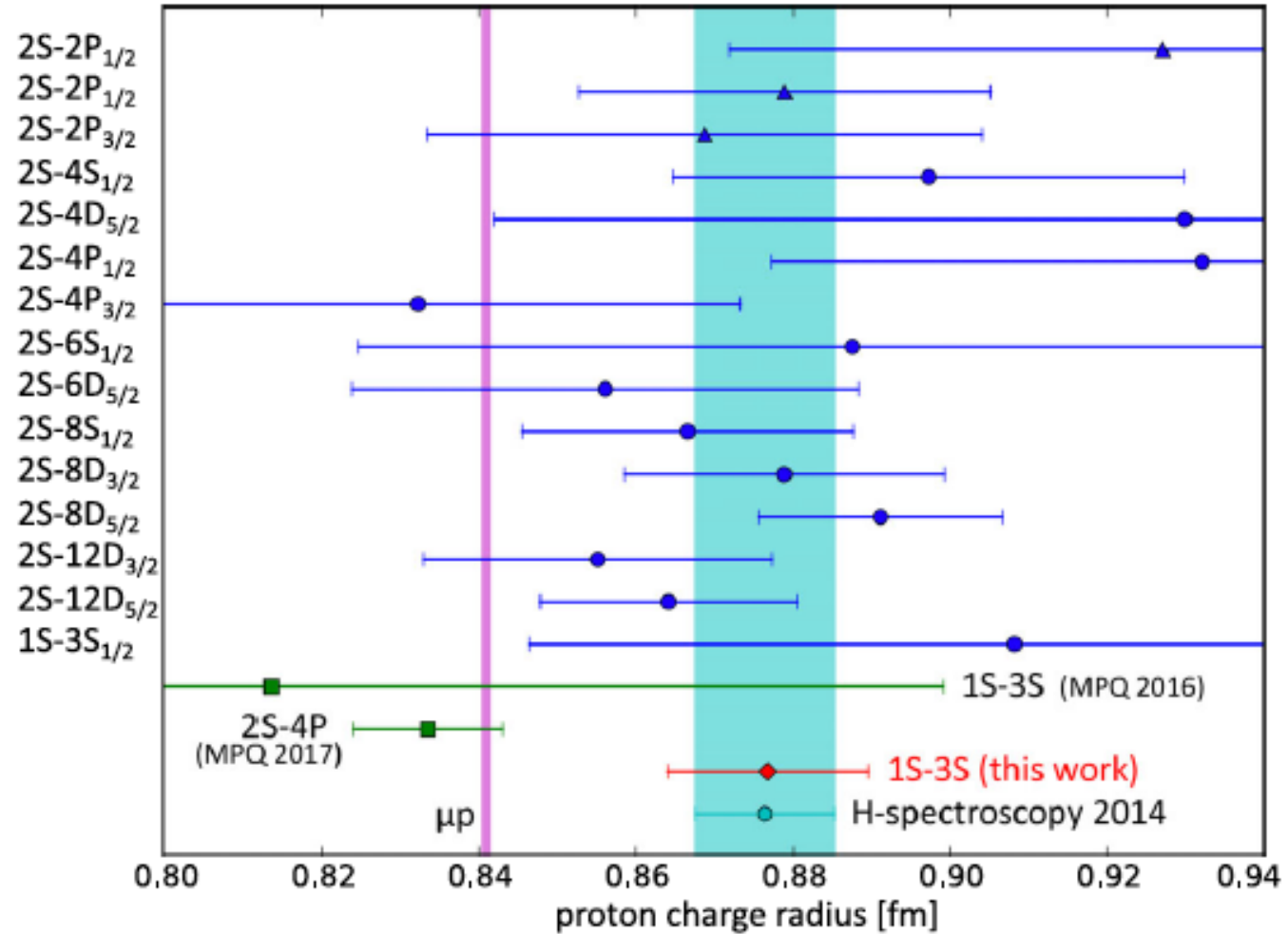
Beyer *et al.*  
 Science **358**, 79-85 (2017)  
 6 October 2017



# Spectroscopy: 2S-4P

# Orsay Result 1S – 3S

Fleurbaey *et al.*,  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **120**,  
183001 (2018)

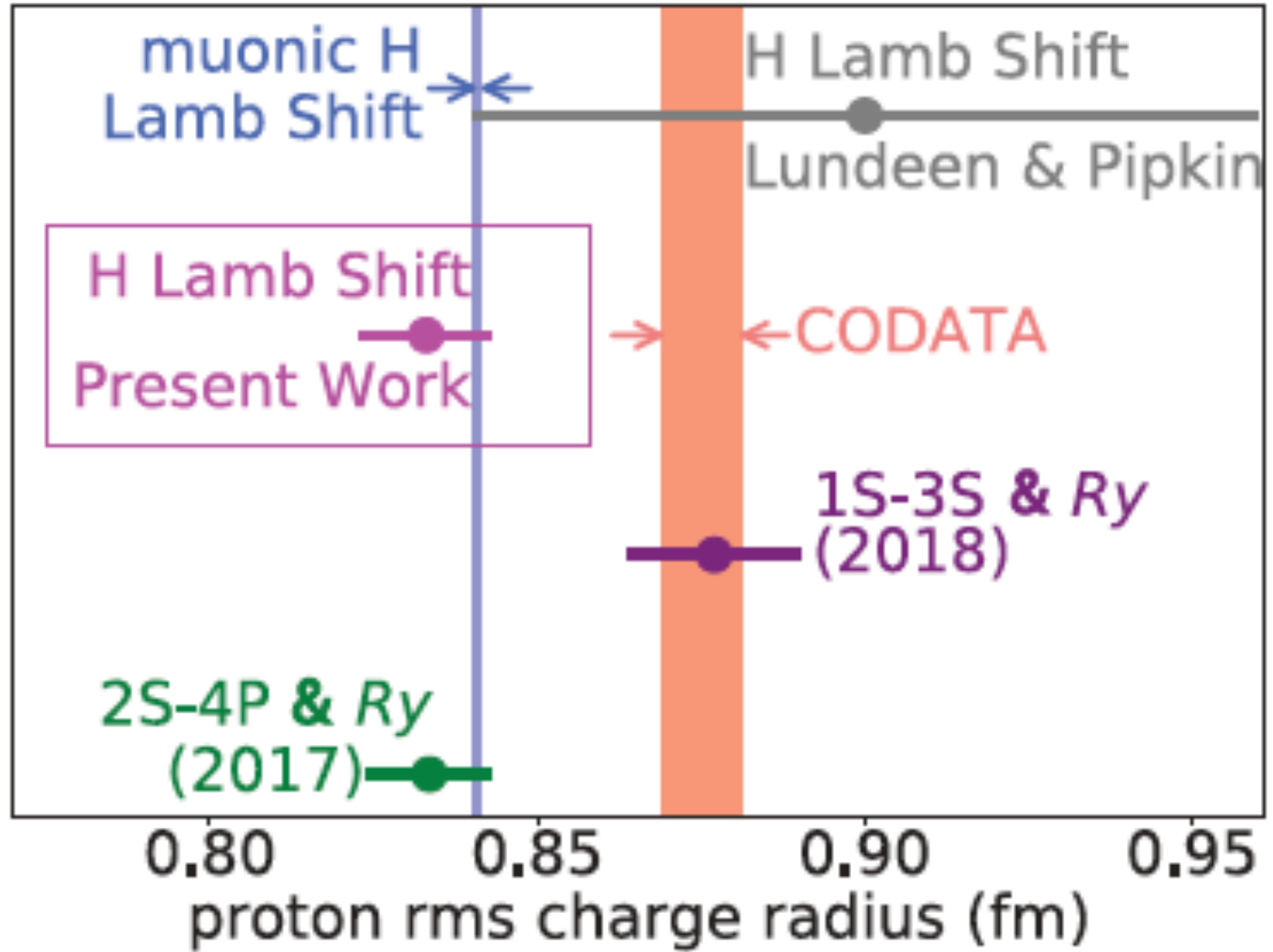


# Spectroscopy: 1S – 3S

# York Result 2S – 2P (Lamb Shift)

Bezginov *et al.*, Science **365**,  
1007–1012 (2019)

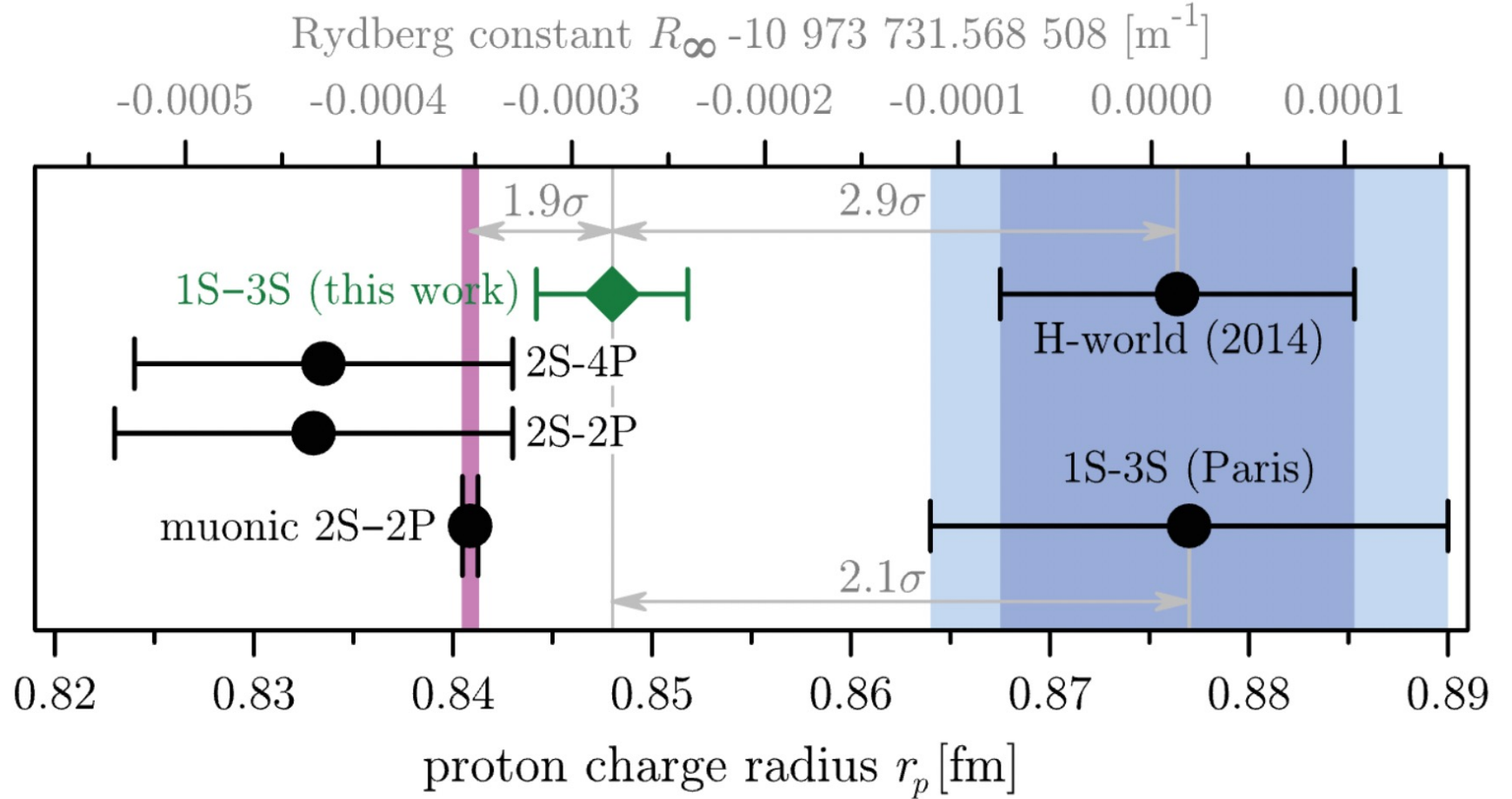
No involvement of Rydberg



# Spectroscopy: 2S – 2P, Rydberg Independent

# MPI Garching Result 2S – 3S

Grinin *et al.*, Science **370**,  
1061–1066 (2020)

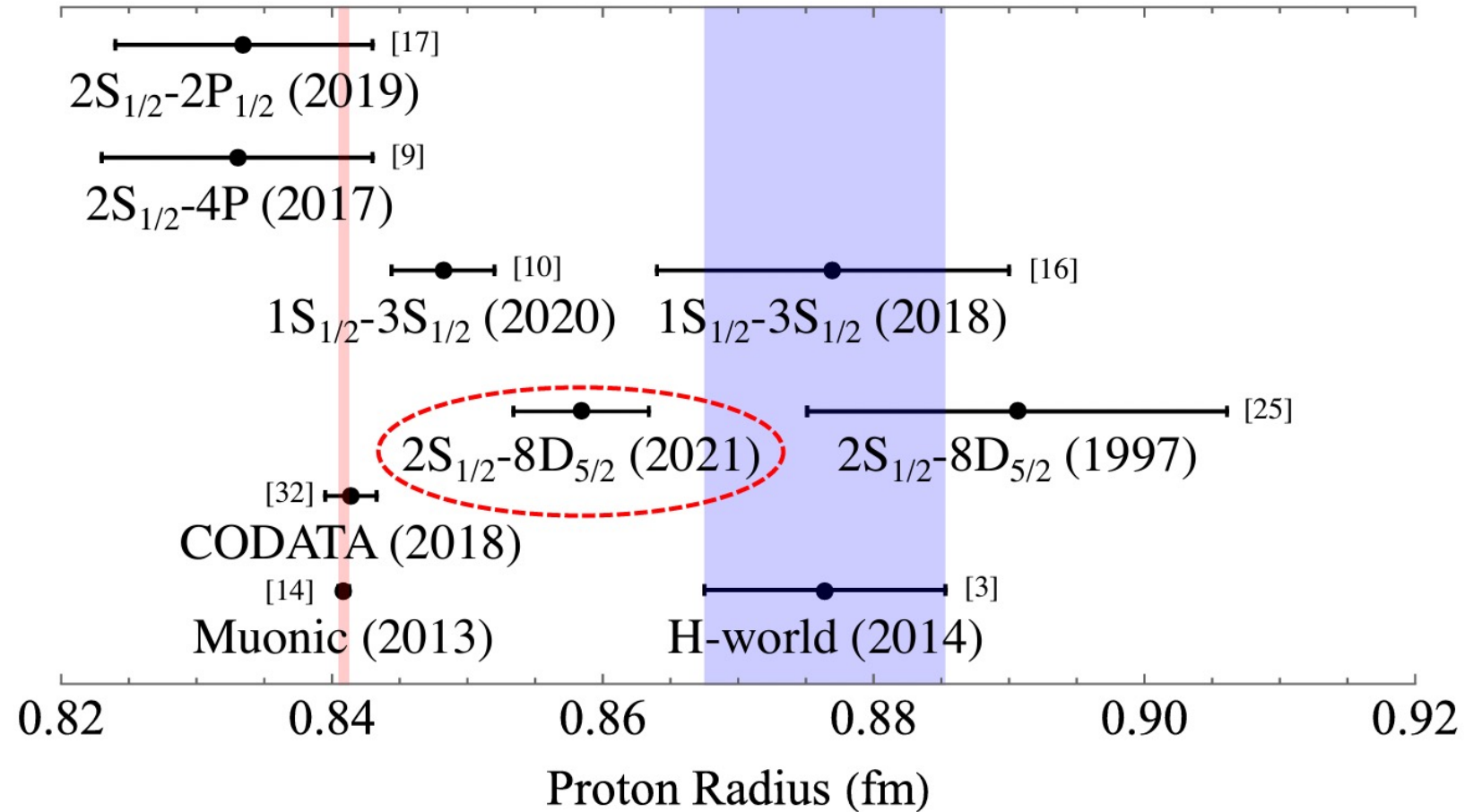


# Spectroscopy: 2S – 3S



# Colorado Result 2S – 8D

Brandt *et al.*, PRL **128**,  
023001 (2022)



# Spectroscopy: 2S – 8D

Mihovilović *et al.*,  
 PLB 771, 194 (2017)  
 Eur. Phys. J. A 57 107 (2021)

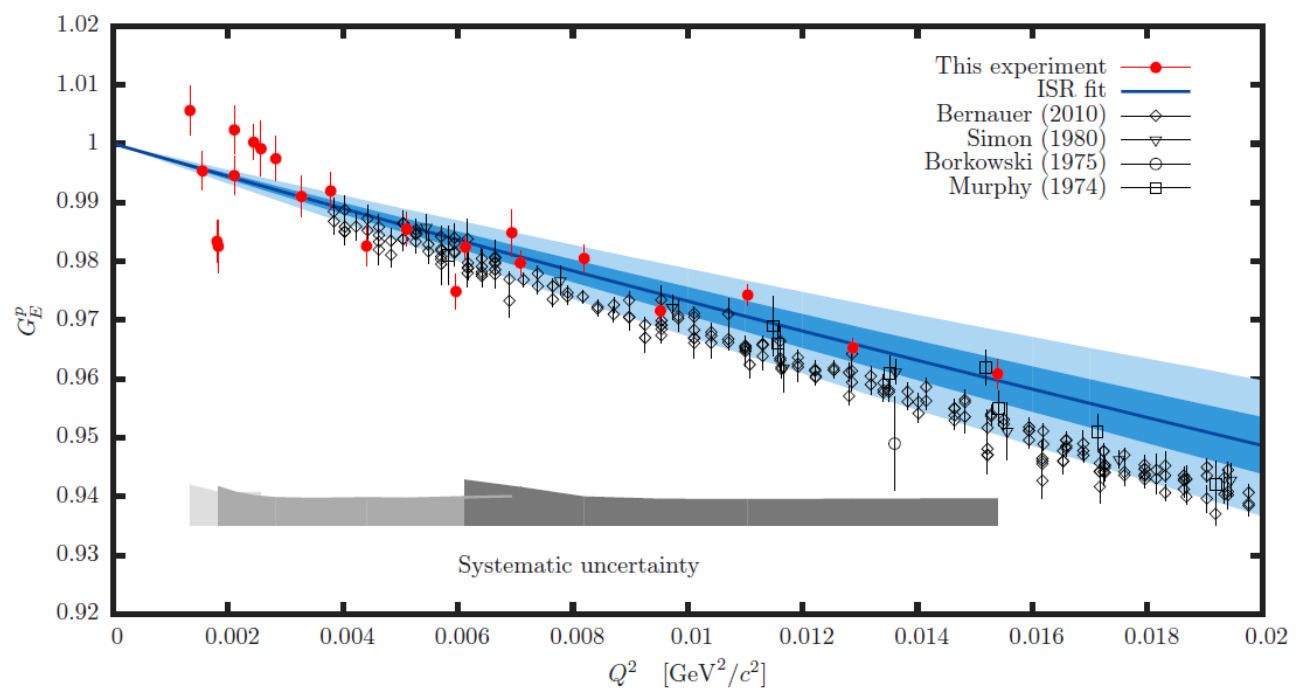
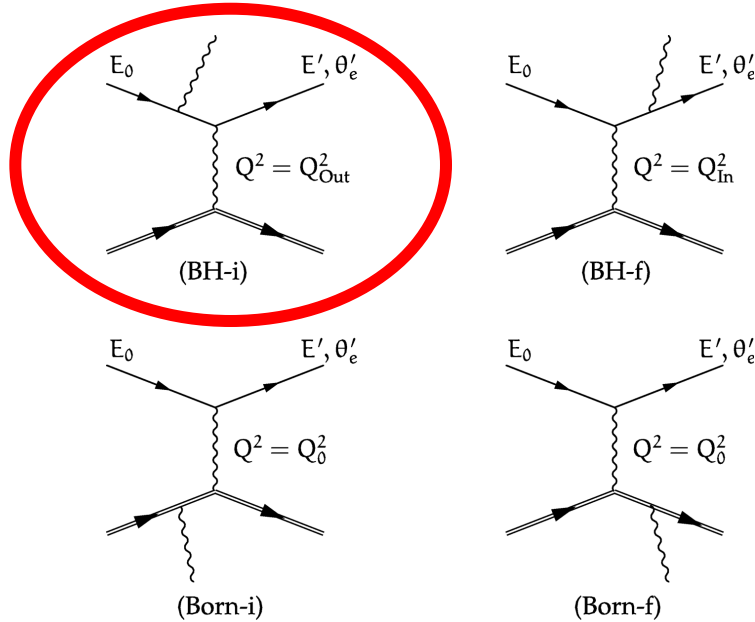


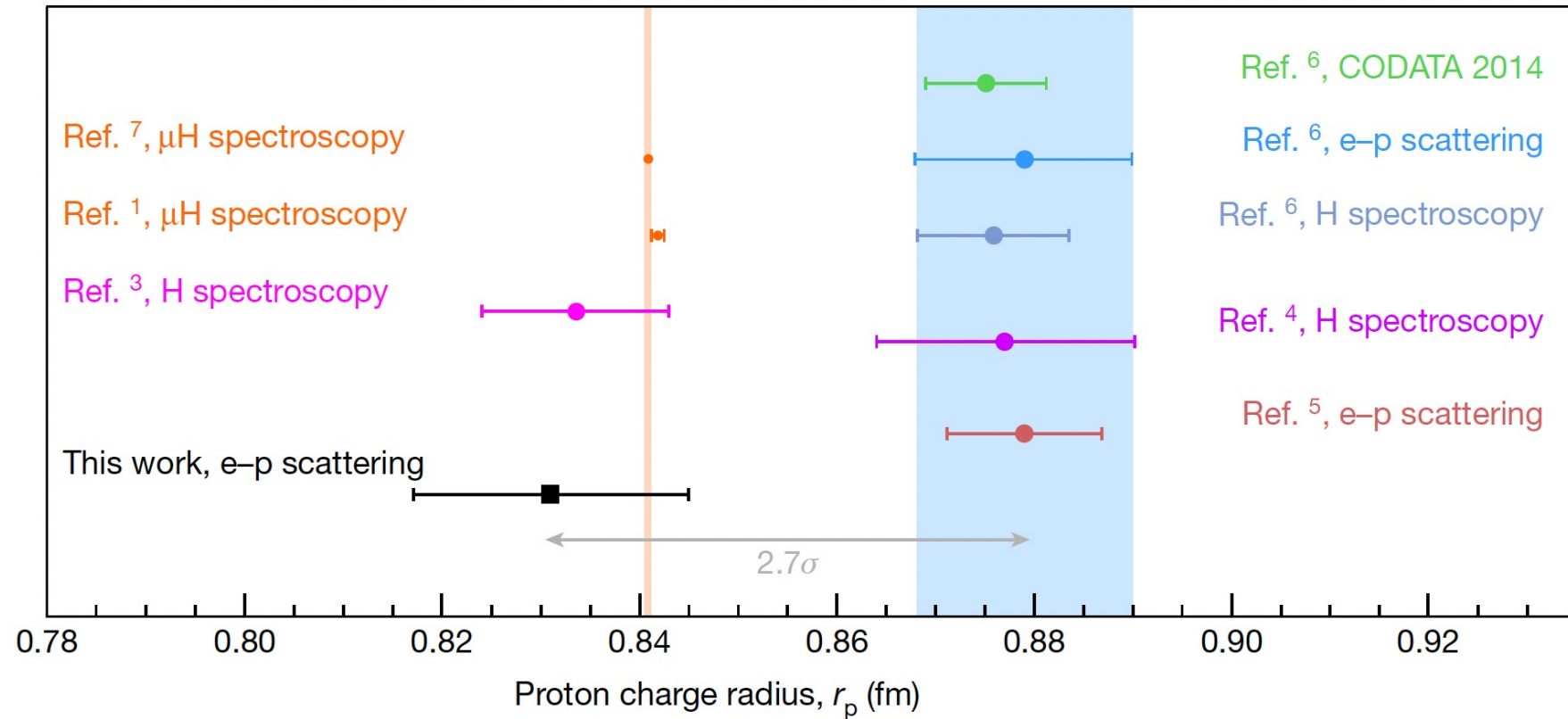
FIG. 3. (Color on-line) The proton electric form factor as a function of  $Q^2$  ( $= Q_{\text{Out}}^2$ ). Empty black points show previous data [19–22]. The results of this experiment are shown with full red circles. The error bars show statistical uncertainties. Gray structures at the bottom shows the systematic uncertainties for the three energy settings. The curve corresponds to a polynomial fit to the data defined by Eq. (2). The inner and the outer bands around the fit show its uncertainties, caused by the statistical and systematic uncertainties of the data, respectively.

- Result:  $r_p = (0.810 \pm 0.035 \text{ stat.} \pm 0.074 \text{ syst.} \pm 0.003 \Delta a \Delta b) \text{ fm}$ , not precise enough to differentiate
- Re-analysed 2021:  $r_p = (0.878 \pm 0.011 \text{ stat.} \pm 0.031 \text{ syst.} \pm 0.002 \text{ mod.}) \text{ fm}$
- New experiment with jet target (and MESA) planned

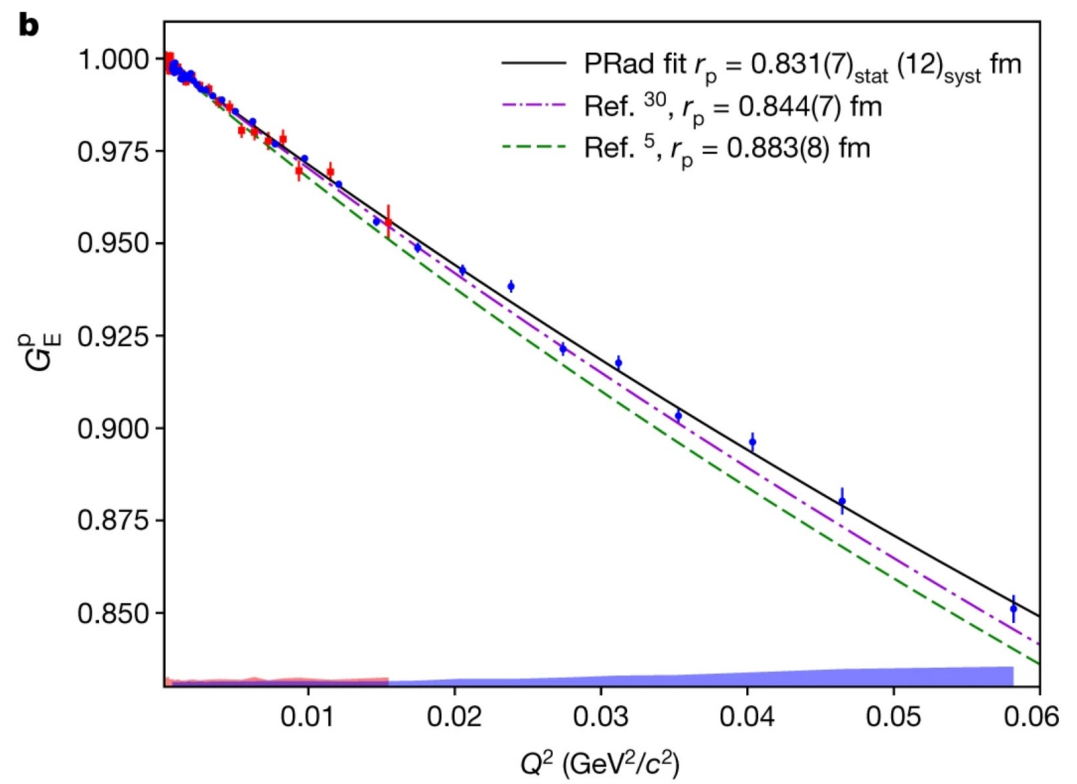
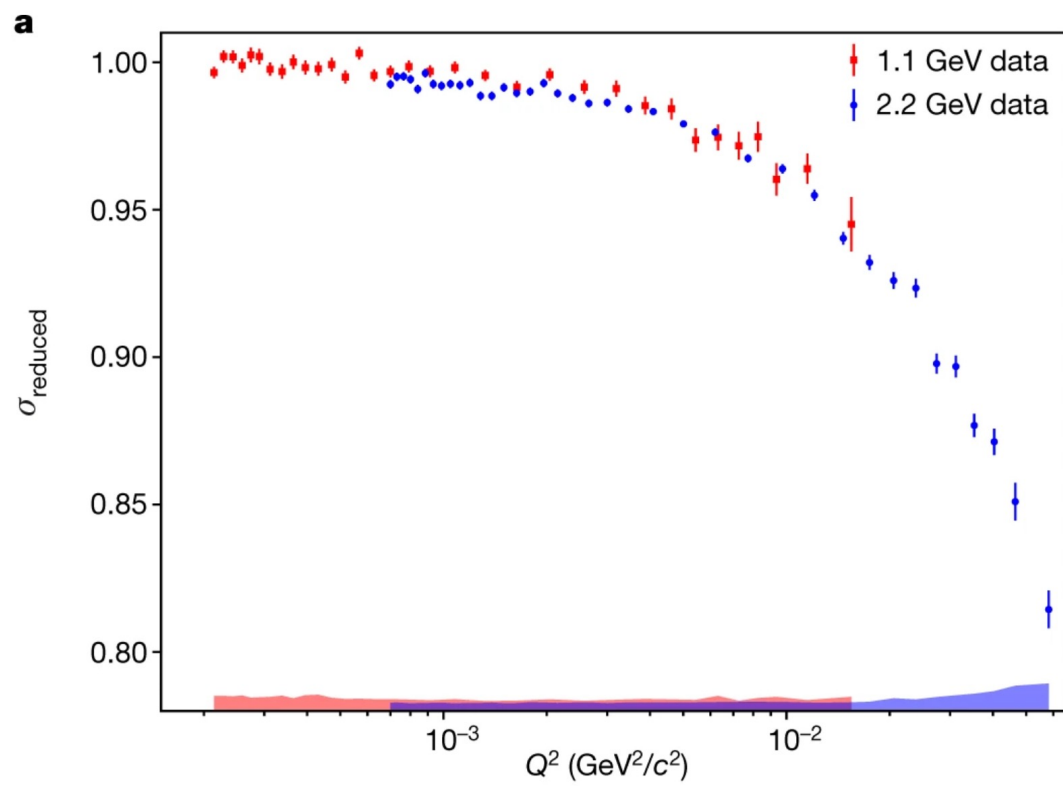
# Scattering: Mainz Initial State Radiation

# PRad Result Electron Scattering

Xiong *et al.*, Nature **575**,  
147 - 150 (2019)

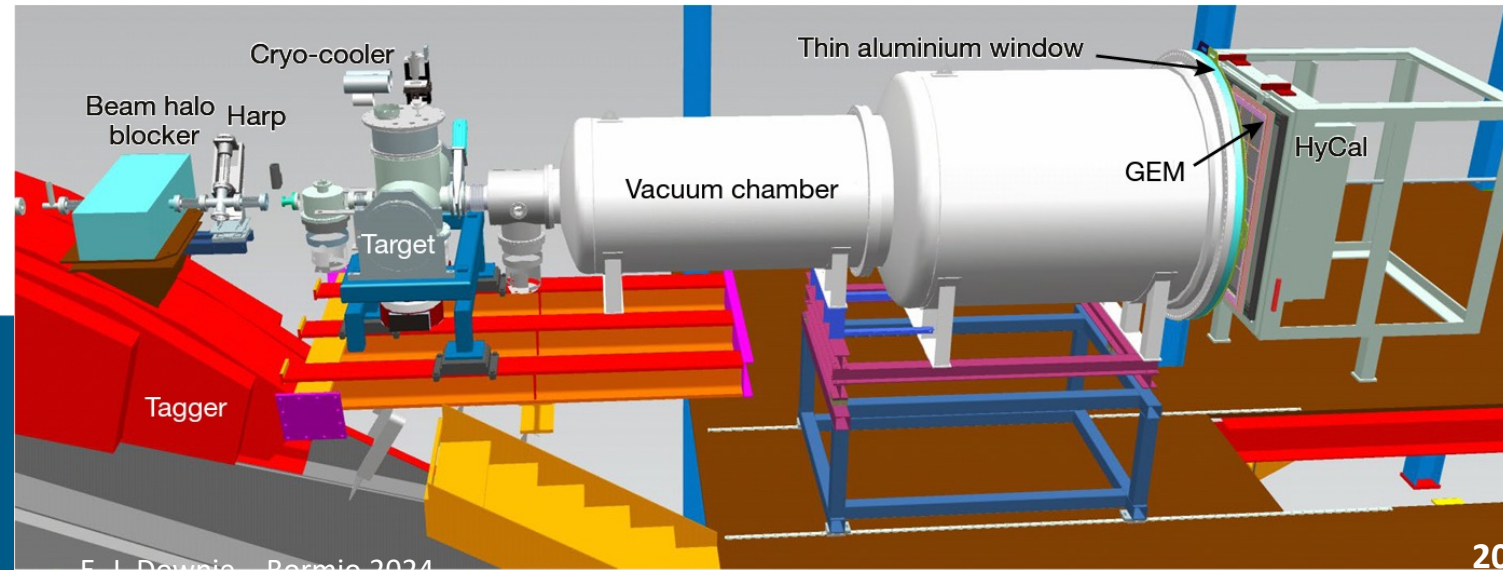


# Scattering: PRad @ JLab

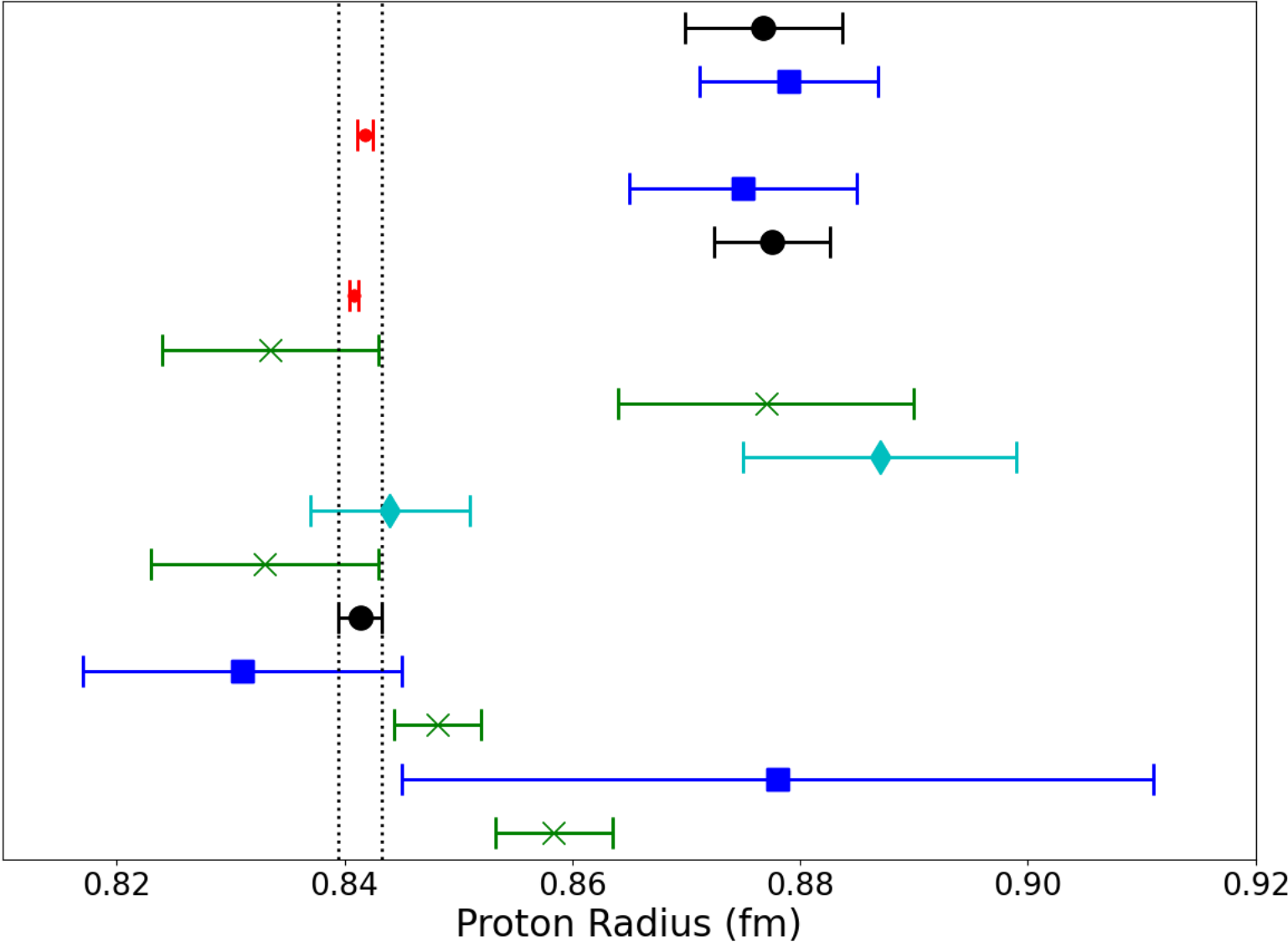


Xiong *et al.*, Nature **575**,  
147 - 150 (2019)

# Scattering: PRad



CODATA 06 (2008)  
 Bernauer (2010)  
 Pohl (2010)  
 Zhan (2011)  
 CODATA 10 (2012)  
 Antognini (2013)  
 Beyer (2017)  
 Fleurbaey (2018)  
 Sick (2018)  
 Alarcon (2019)  
 Bezninov (2019)  
 CODATA 18 (2019)  
 Xiong (2019)  
 Grinin (2020)  
 Mihovilovic (2021)  
 Brandt (2022)



**Muon Measurements:**  
 Spectroscopy –  $\mu\text{H}$

**Electron Measurements:**  
 Scattering – e  
 Spectroscopy – H

**Analysis of Measurements:**  
 Re-fitting of e scattering  
 CODATA

# Proton Radius Puzzle Status (2024)

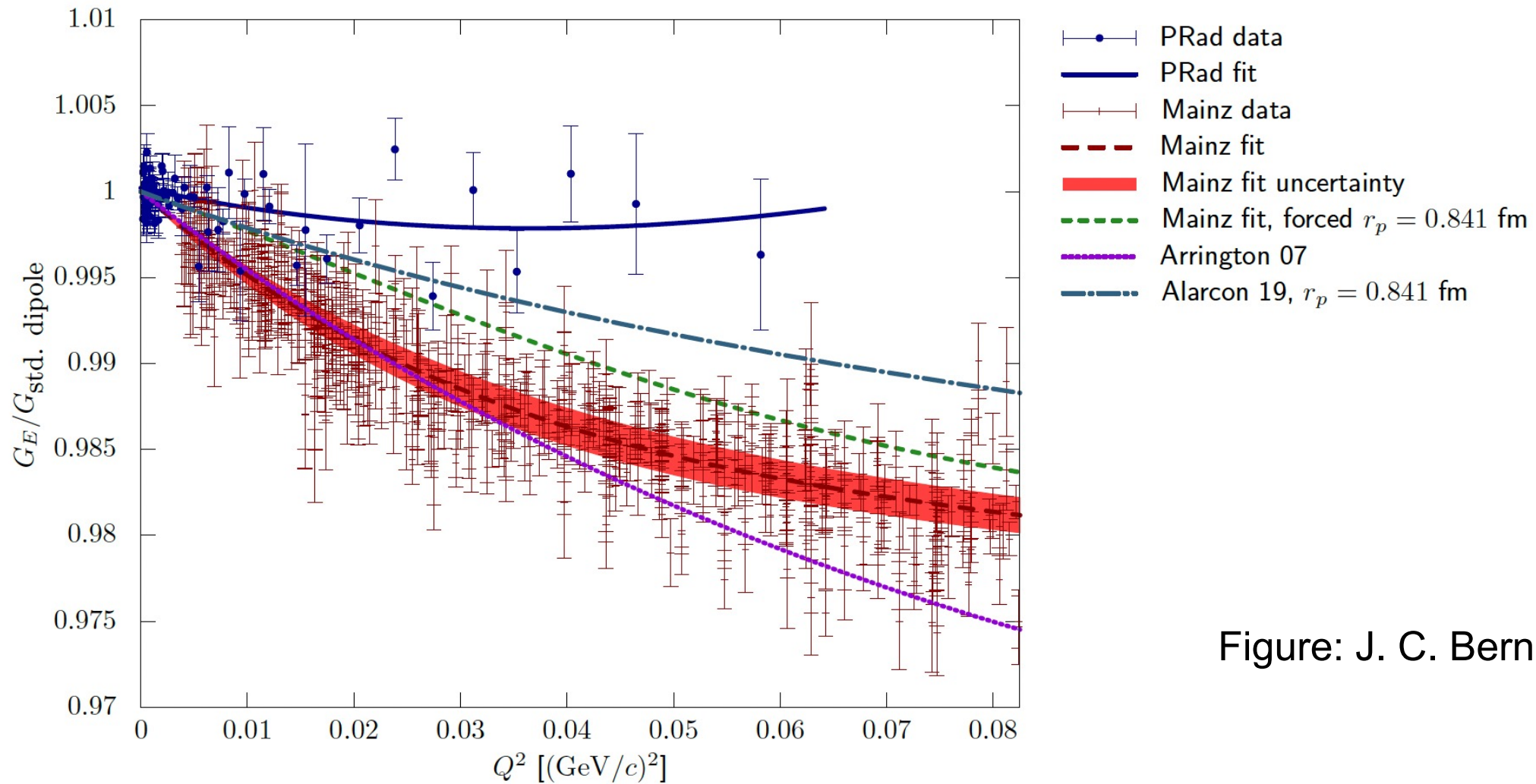
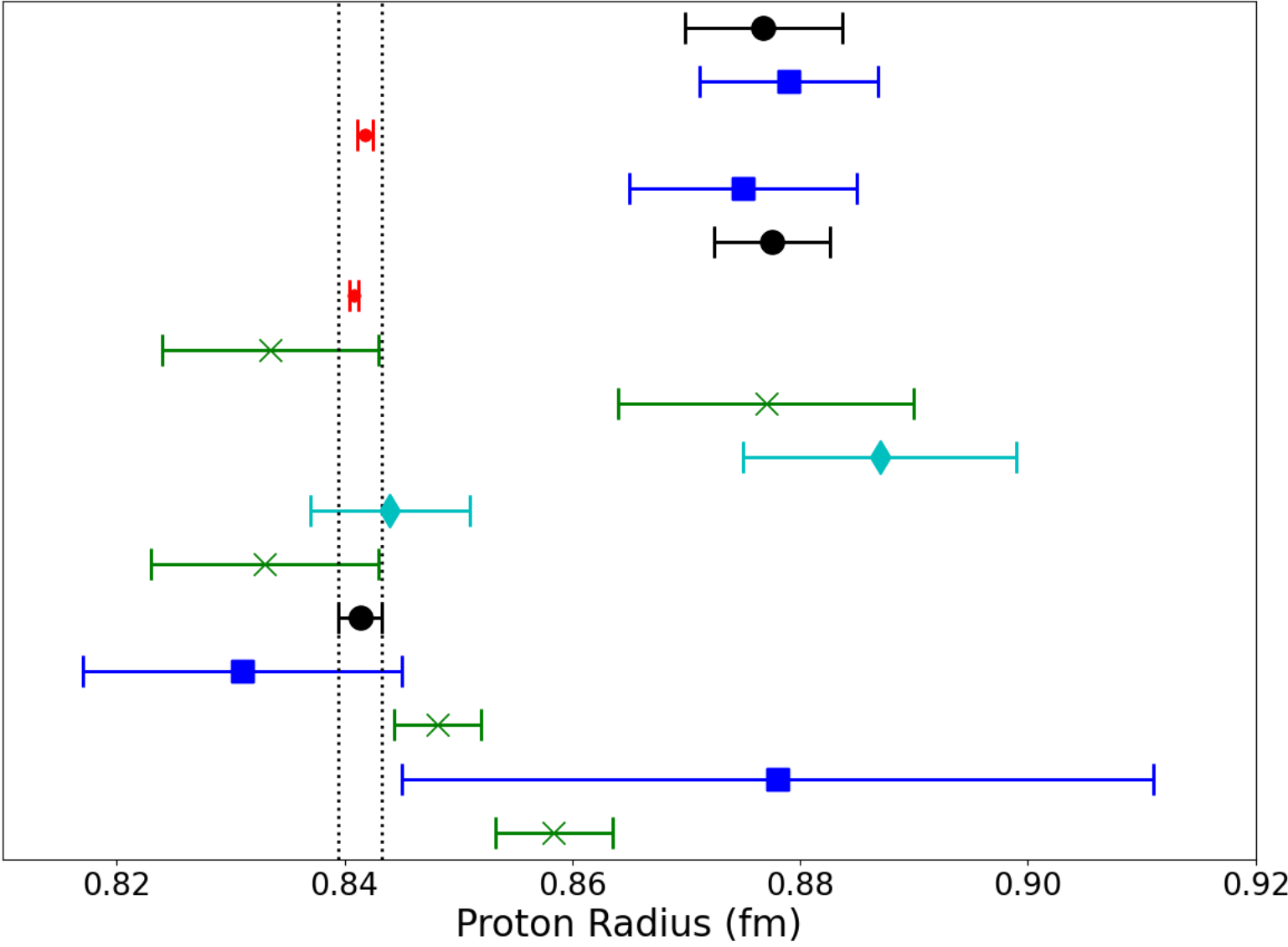


Figure: J. C. Bernauer

# Comparison of PRad & Mainz

- CODATA 06 (2008)
- Bernauer (2010)
- Pohl (2010)
- Zhan (2011)
- CODATA 10 (2012)
- Antognini (2013)
- Beyer (2017)
- Fleurbaey (2018)
- Sick (2018)
- Alarcon (2019)
- Bezninov (2019)
- CODATA 18 (2019)
- Xiong (2019)
- Grinin (2020)
- Mihovilovic (2021)
- Brandt (2022)



**Muon Measurements:**  
Spectroscopy –  $\mu\text{H}$

**Electron Measurements:**  
Scattering – e  
Spectroscopy – H

**Analysis of Measurements:**  
Re-fitting of e scattering  
CODATA

# Proton Radius Puzzle Status (2024)

---

Eite Tiesinga *et al.*: CODATA recon

The tension between the two approaches determining  $r_p$  and  $r_d$  has not been fully resolved. In fact, to obtain consistency among the many input data that contribute to the determination of  $R_\infty$ ,  $r_p$ , and  $r_d$ , a multiplicative expansion factor of 1.6 is applied to their uncertainties. Further experiments are needed.

CODATA inflate uncertainties by 1.6 and say that further experiments are needed. (2021)

# Proton Radius Puzzle Status (2024)



the muonic hydrogen results. We believe more experiments, especially those with improved precision from electron scattering, and new results from muon scattering will be essential to fully resolve this puzzle. To answer a more provocative question, whether there is a difference in the proton charge radius determined from experiments involving electronic ( $e-p$  and ordinary  $p-p$ ) experiments, significantly improved  $p-p$  and also measurements from  $\mu$  and  $\mu$  with precision comparable to  $e-p$  will be critical. Pushing the precision of  $e-p$  has proven to be the harbinger of

REVIEWS OF MODERN PHYSICS, VOLUME 94, JANUARY–MARCH 2022

## The proton charge radius

H. Gao <sup>\*</sup>

*Department of Physics, Duke University and the Triangle Universities Nuclear Laboratory, Science Drive, Durham, North Carolina 27708, USA*

M. Vanderhaeghen <sup>†</sup>

*Institut für Kernphysik and PRISMA<sup>+</sup> Cluster of Excellence, Johannes Gutenberg Universität, D-55099 Mainz, Germany*

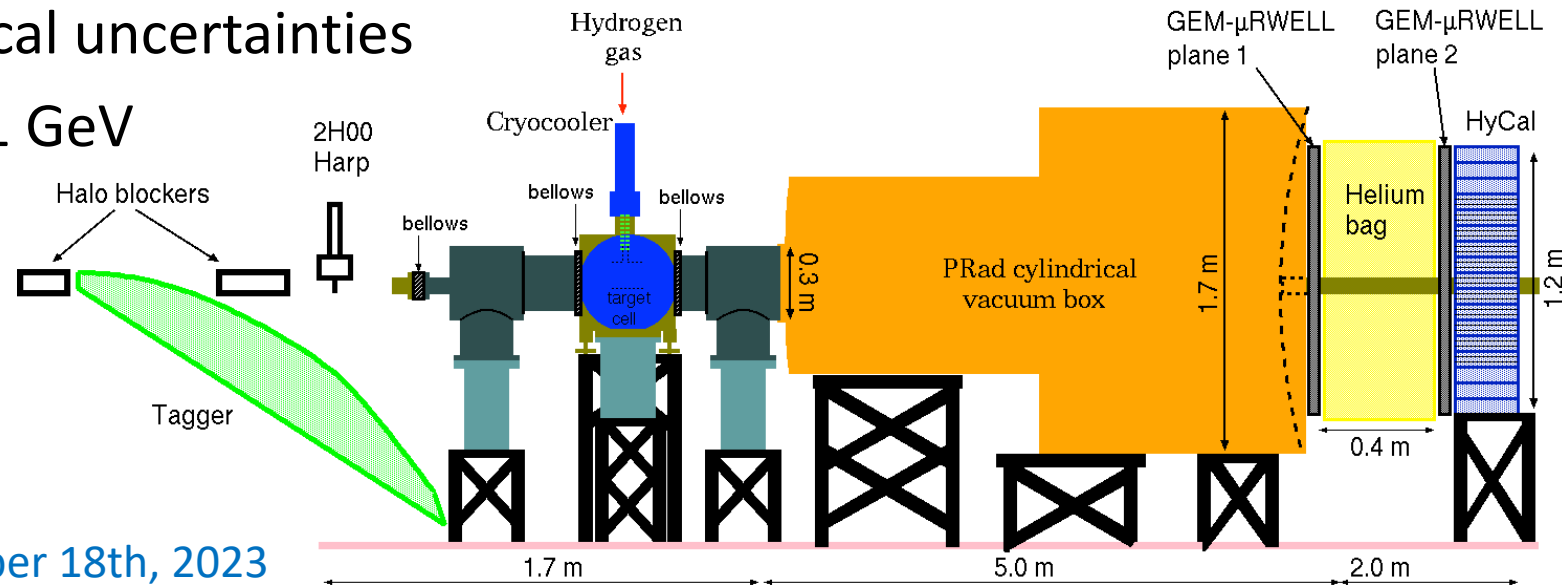


(published 21 January 2022)

# Proton Radius Puzzle Status (2024)

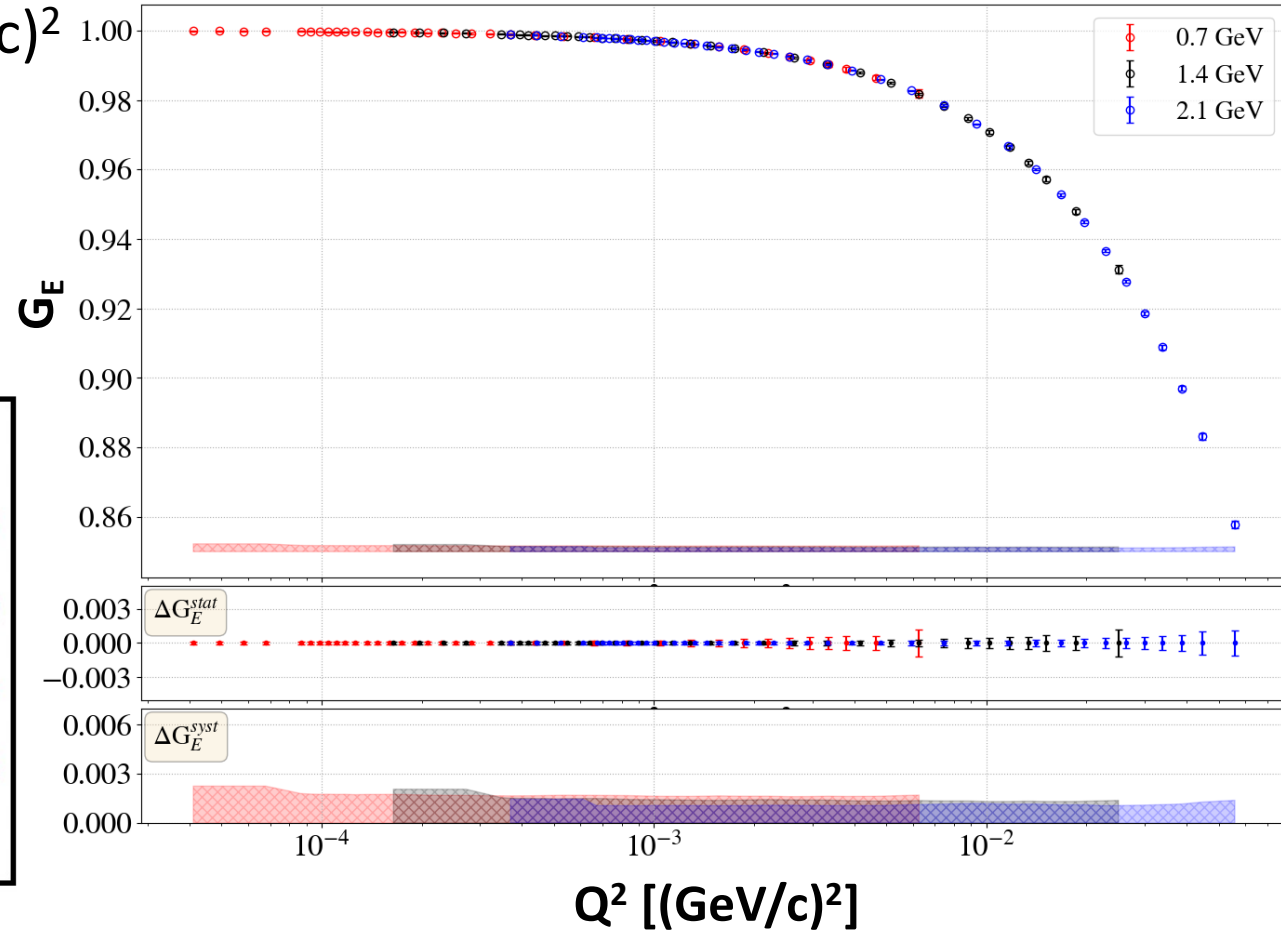
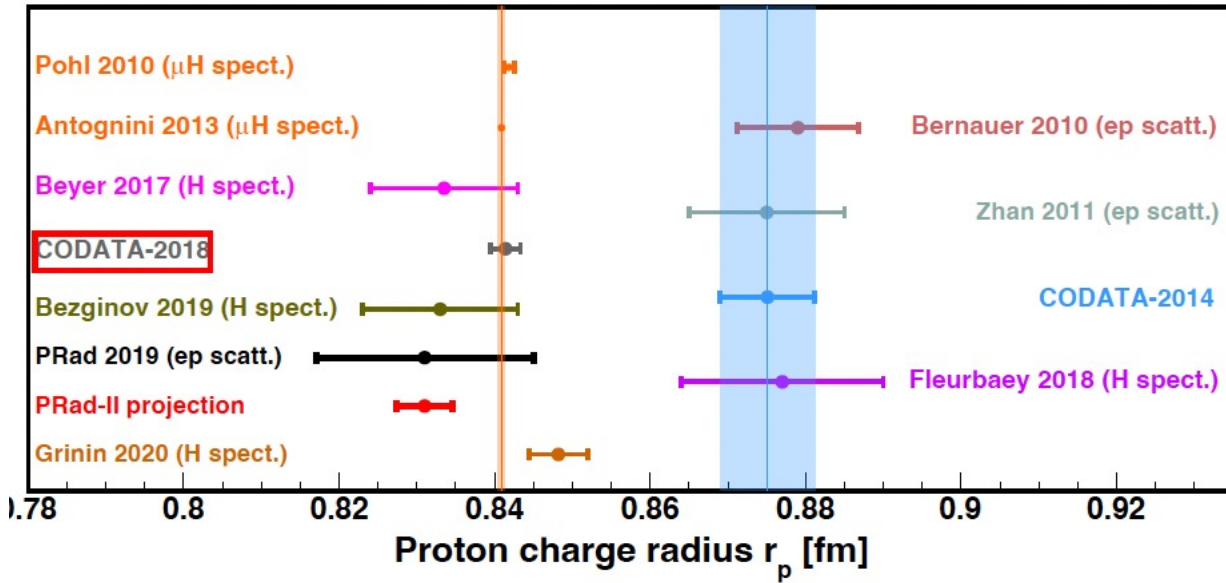
- Improvements for PRad-II:
  - Better upstream vacuum and halo rejection
  - Add second GEM plane
  - Upgrade HyCal:  $\text{PbWO}_4$ , FADC readout
  - Added scintillators: separate Moller from ep in elect. scattering angular range of  $0.5^\circ - 0.8^\circ$
  - Factor of 4 reduction in statistical uncertainties
  - Beam energies: 0.7, 1.4 and 2.1 GeV

PRad-II Experimental Setup (Side View)

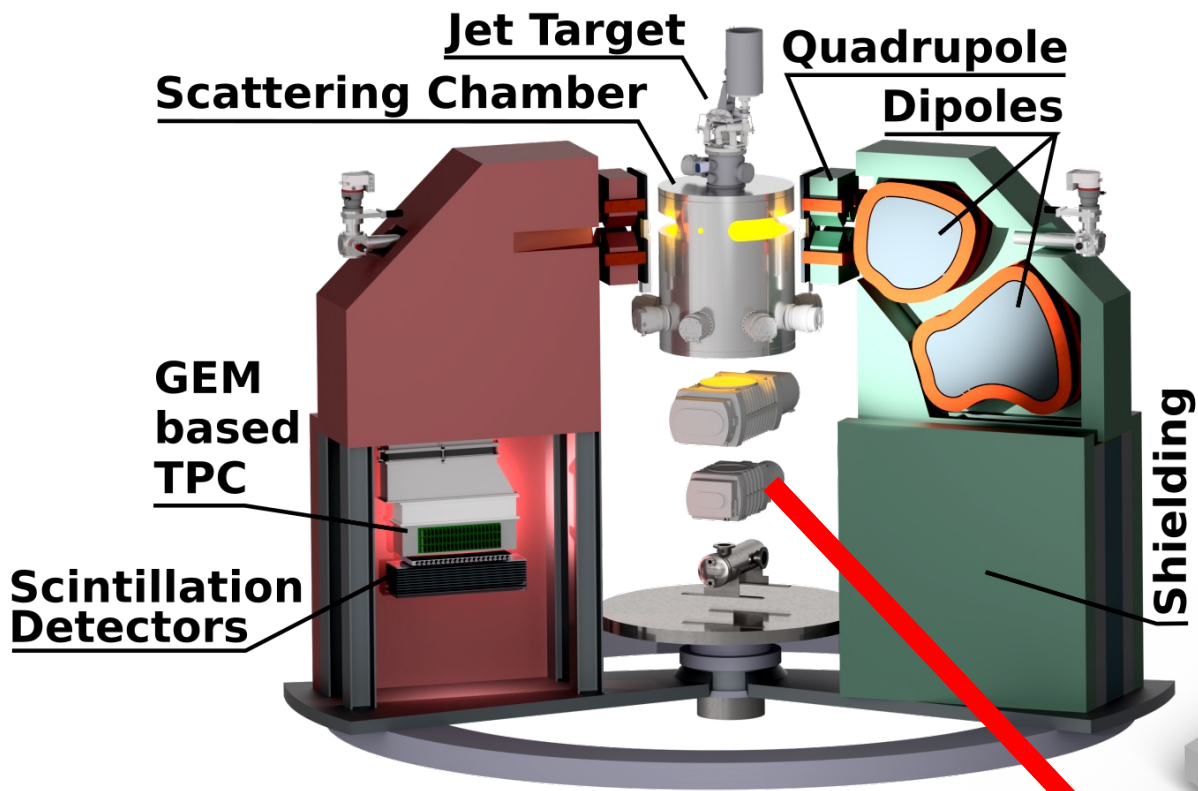


H. Gao: ERICE School on Nuclear Physics, September 18th, 2023

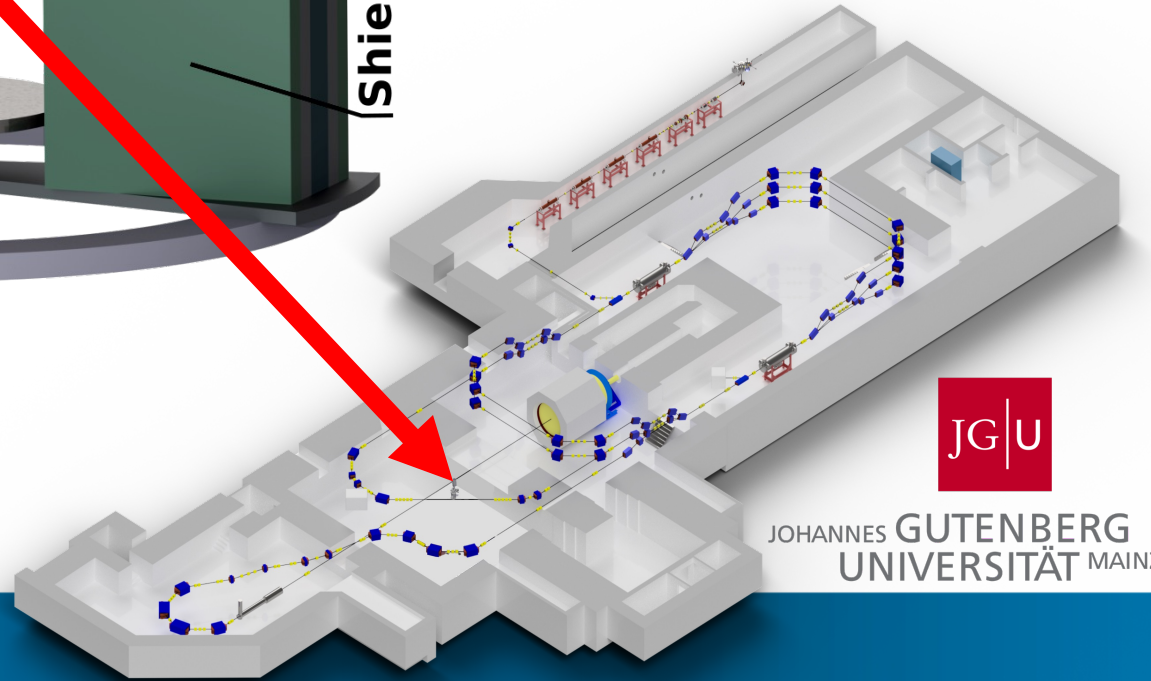
- Unprecedented low  $Q^2$  :  $4 \times 10^{-5} - 0.06$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup>
- Aiming for total uncertainty: 0.0036 fm
- Highest rating from JLab PAC 2020



H. Gao: ERICE School on Nuclear Physics, September 18th, 2023



- MESA accelerator (first beam 2024/25)
- ERL mode up to 1–10mA, 20 - 105 MeV
- Electron scattering with supersonic cryogenic gas target
- Coverage from  $Q^2 = 1 \cdot 10^{-5}$  to  $0.03 \text{ GeV}^2 \Rightarrow$  proton radius!

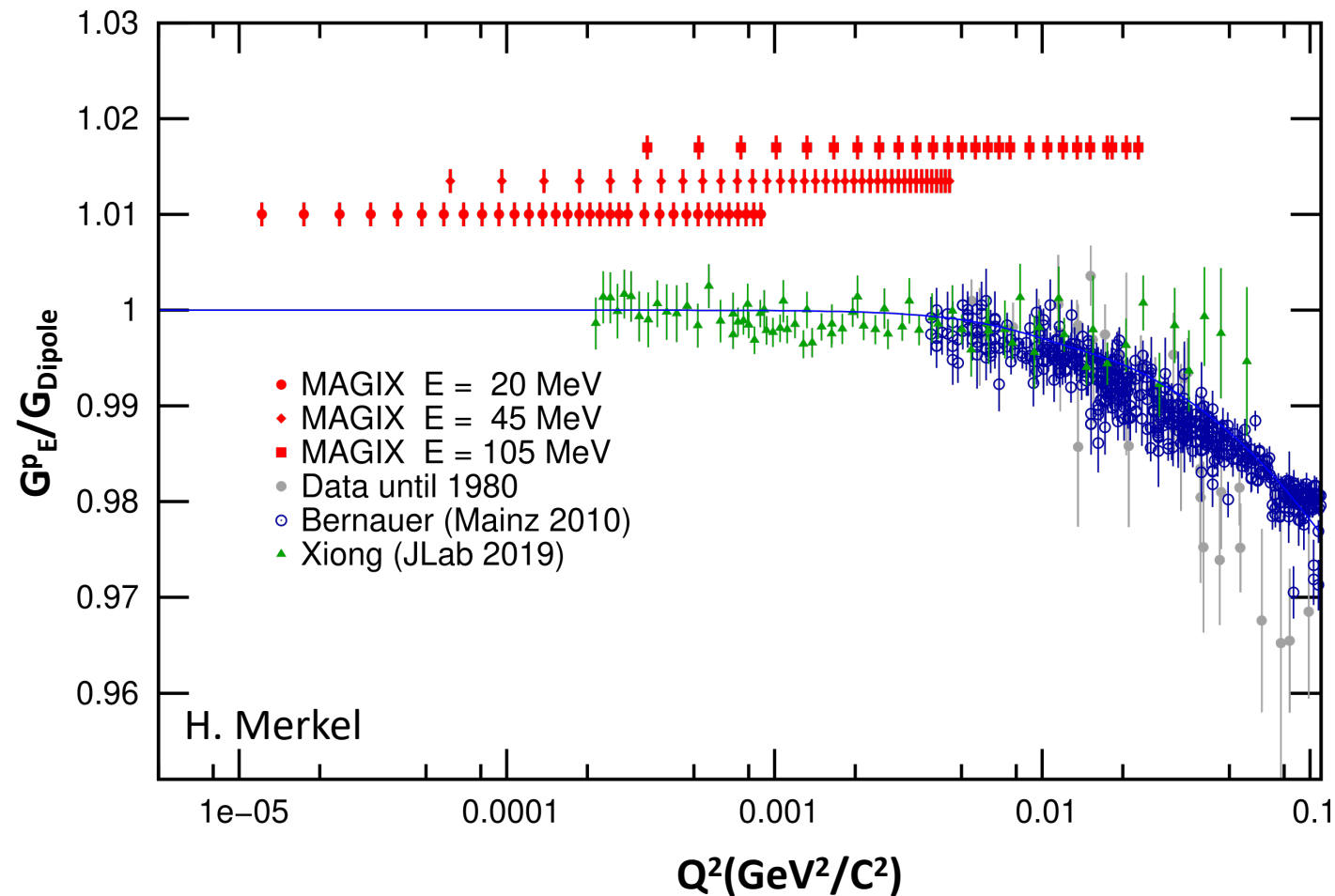
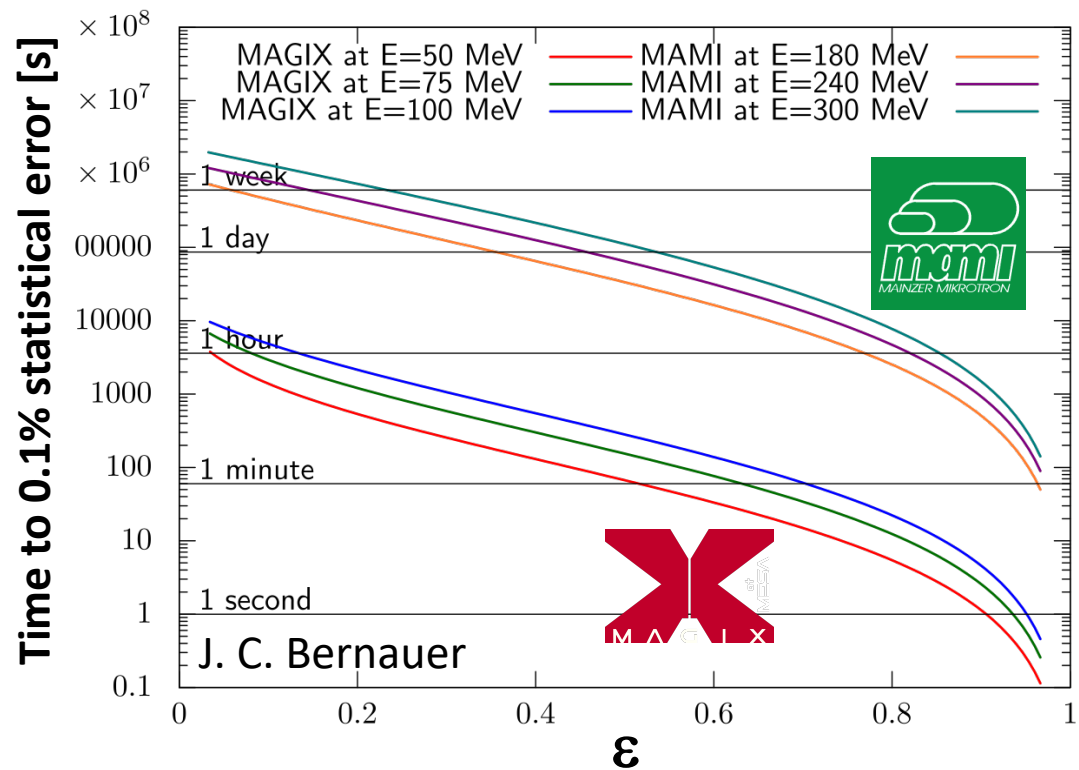


MAGIX info: S. Schlimme



# MAGIX Collaboration @ MESA

- First beam on solid target: 2025
- First data on proton: 2027



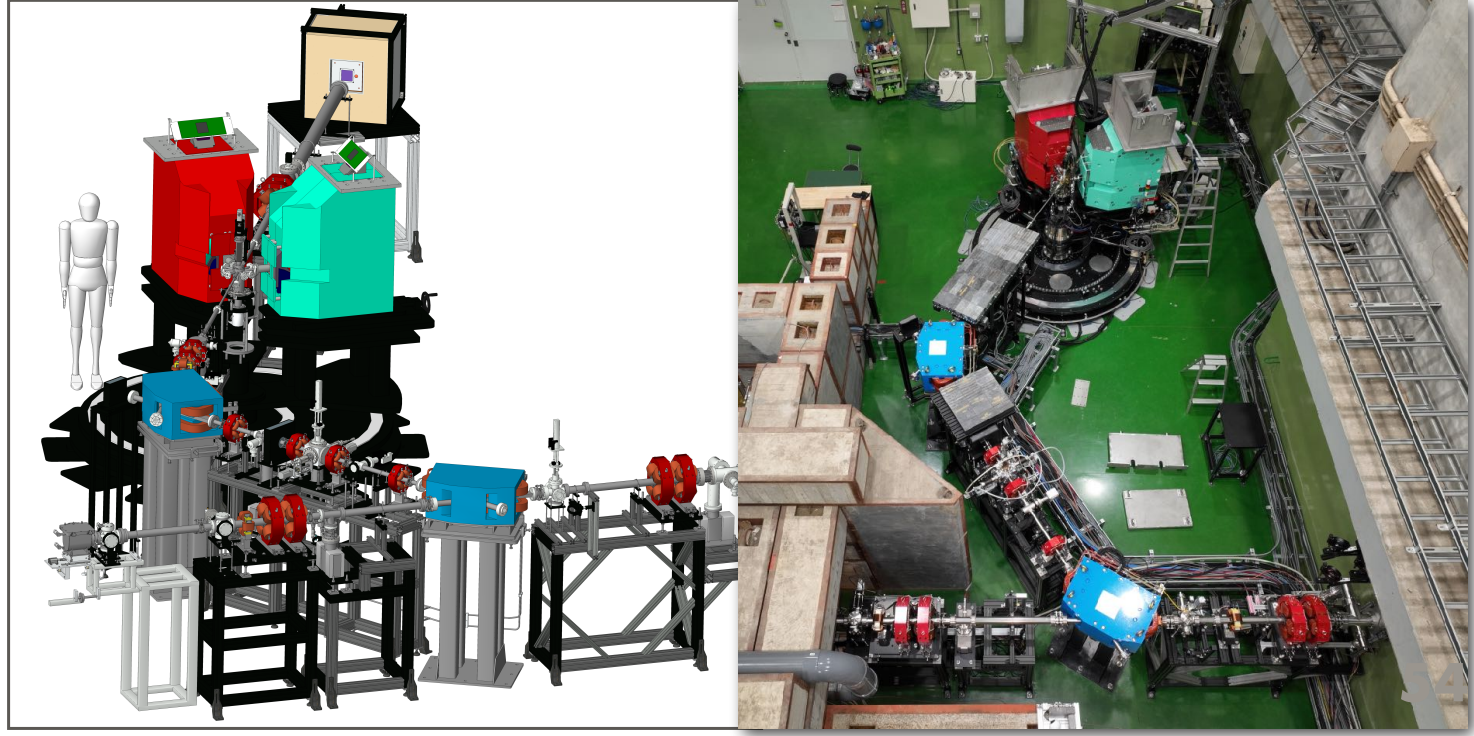
MAGIX info: S. Schlimme



MAGIX Collaboration @ MESA

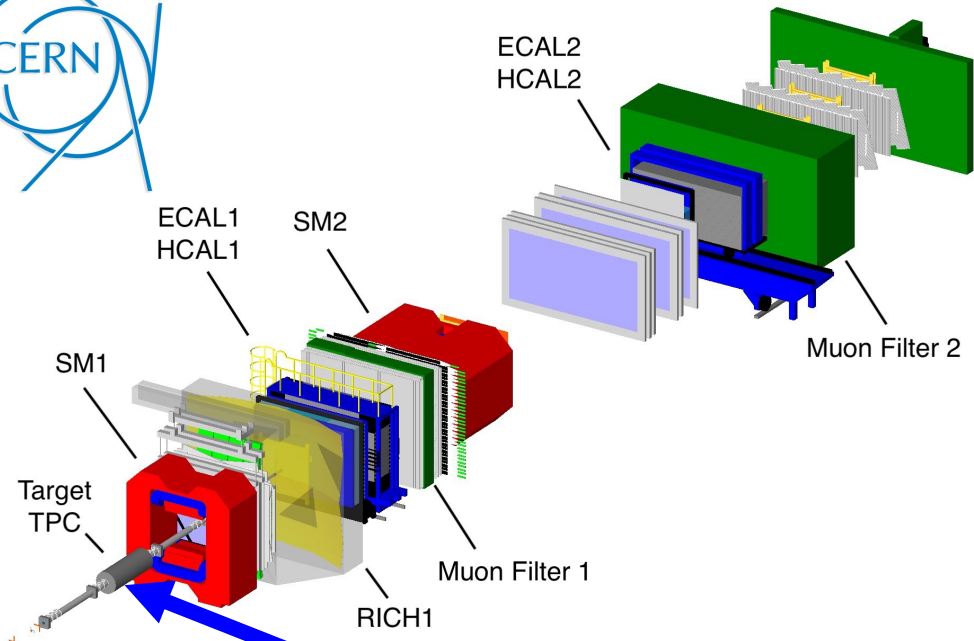
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON, DC

- $E_0 \sim 10\text{--}60 \text{ MeV}; \theta_e \sim 30^\circ\text{--}150^\circ;$
- $Q^2 \sim 0.0003 - 0.008 \text{ (GeV/c)}^2$
- Twin magnetic spectrometers
- Commissioning since 2019
- Production running 2023 – 2024
- Production running with  $\text{CH}_2$  target
- Normalization to  $^{12}\text{C}$  elastic scattering
- Expected errors  $10^{-3}$  on  $\sigma_{ep}$ , 1% on  $r_p$

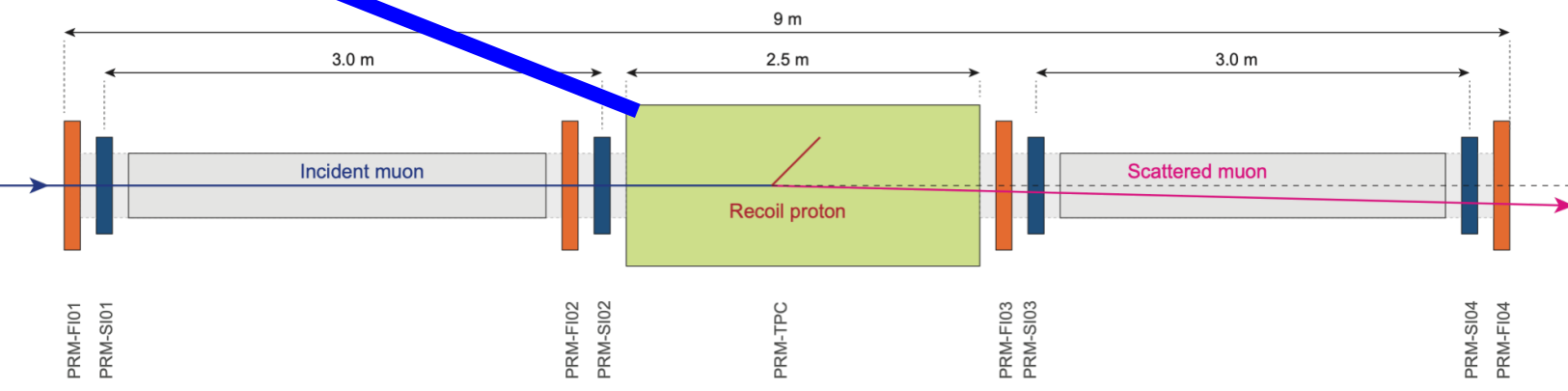


ULQ2 info by T. Suda and Y. Honda

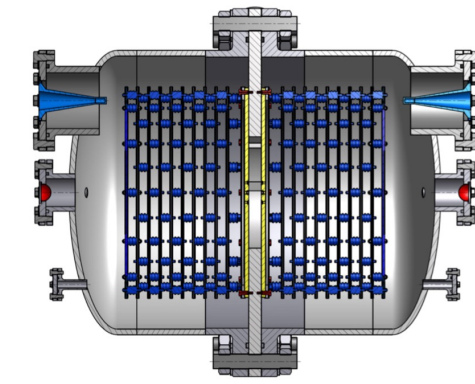
# ULQ2 @ ELPH Tohoku



- 100 GeV **muon** beam, CERN SPS M2 beam line
- Active-target TPC with high-pressure H<sub>2</sub>
- high-precision tracking and spectrometer for muon reconstruction
- Goal: 70 million elastic scattering events in the range  $10^{-3} < Q^2 < 4 \times 10^{-2} \text{ (GeV/c)}^2$
- Precision on the proton radius  $\sim 0.01 \text{ fm}$



■ Scintillating-fiber tracker   
 ■ Silicon tracker   
 ■ High-pressure hydrogen time-projection chamber   
 ■ Helium/vacuum beam pipe



TPC, 20 bar,  
 $\sim 50 \text{ keV}$   
 precision  
 on recoiling  
 proton

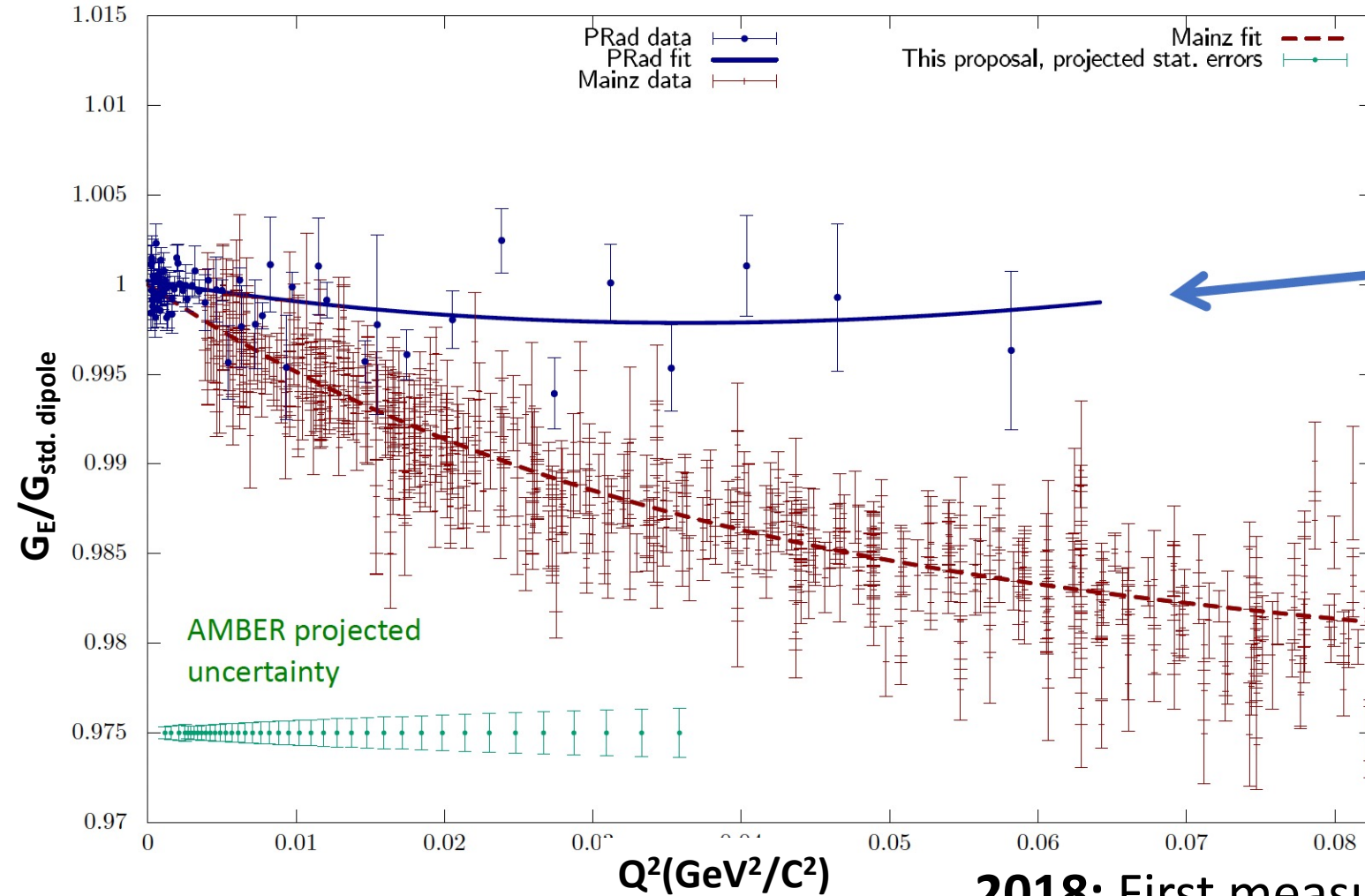
AMBER info: J. Friedrich



# AMBER @ CERN

E. J. Downie – Bormio 2024

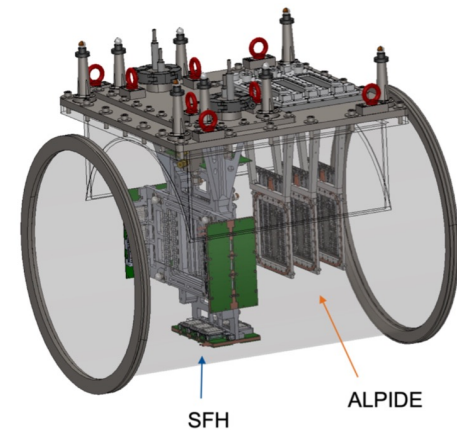




Proton Radius Experiment at Jefferson Lab  
**PR**oton  
**Rad**ius



New Si and SciFi  
 Unified Tracking System (UTS)



- 2018:** First measurement H<sub>2</sub> TPC in high energy  $\mu$  beam
- 2021:** First test run with IKAR TPC and existing tracking detectors from COMPASS
- 2023:** Test run with new free-running DAQ
- 2024:** Test run with IKAR TPC and UTS prototypes
- 2025:** Physics run with new TPC and final UTS

Figure: J. C. Bernauer  
 AMBER info: J. Friedrich



@ CERN



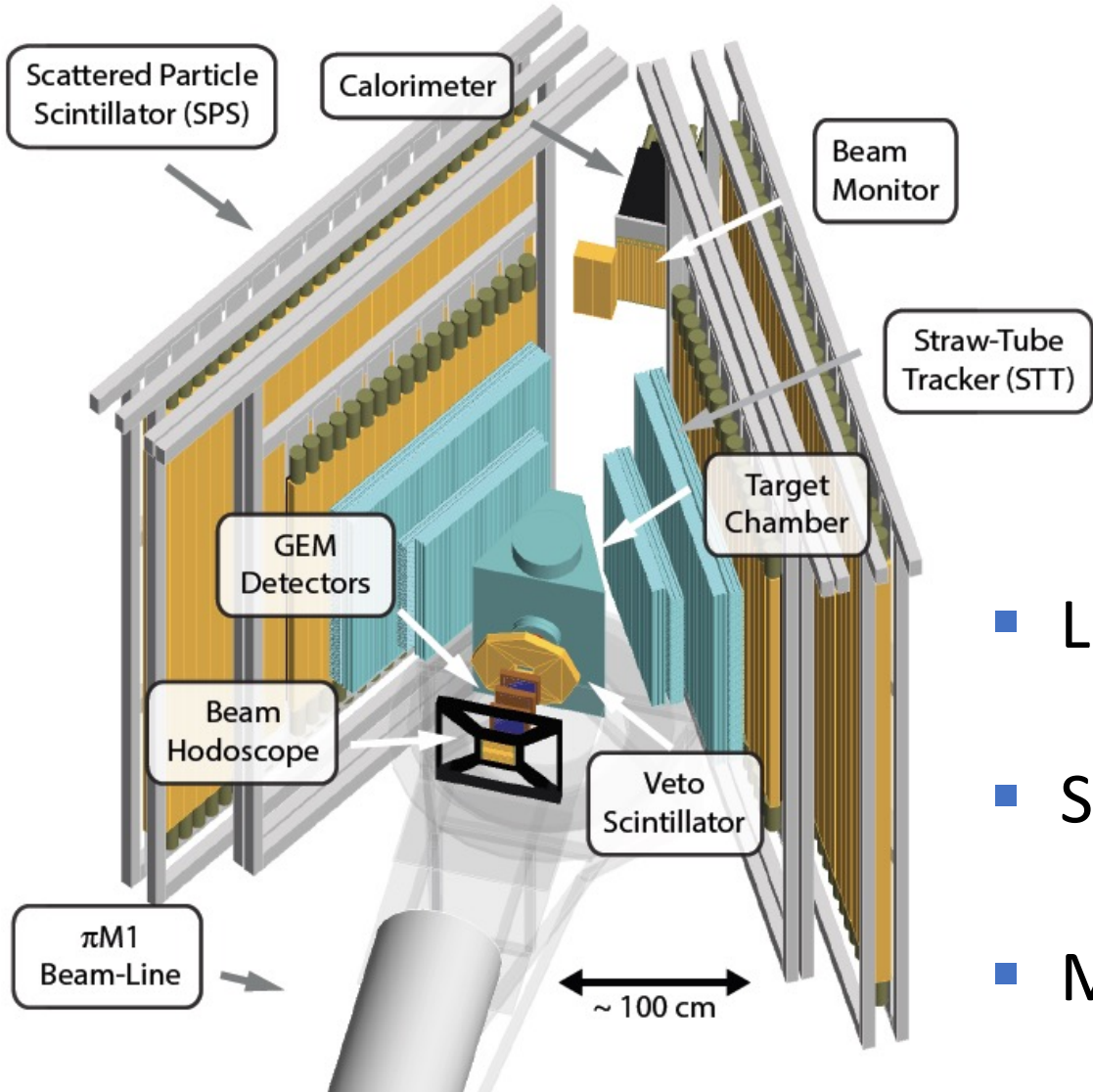


- MUSE in PiM1 beamline of Paul Scherrer Institute (mixed  $\mu/e/\pi$  beam)
- Allows direct comparison of  $\mu$  and  $e$ , cross sections, form factors
- Comparison of charge states,  $\mu^+/\mu^-$ ,  $e^+/e^-$ , two photon effects
- Extraction of radii using  $e$  and  $\mu$  in same experiment



MUSE



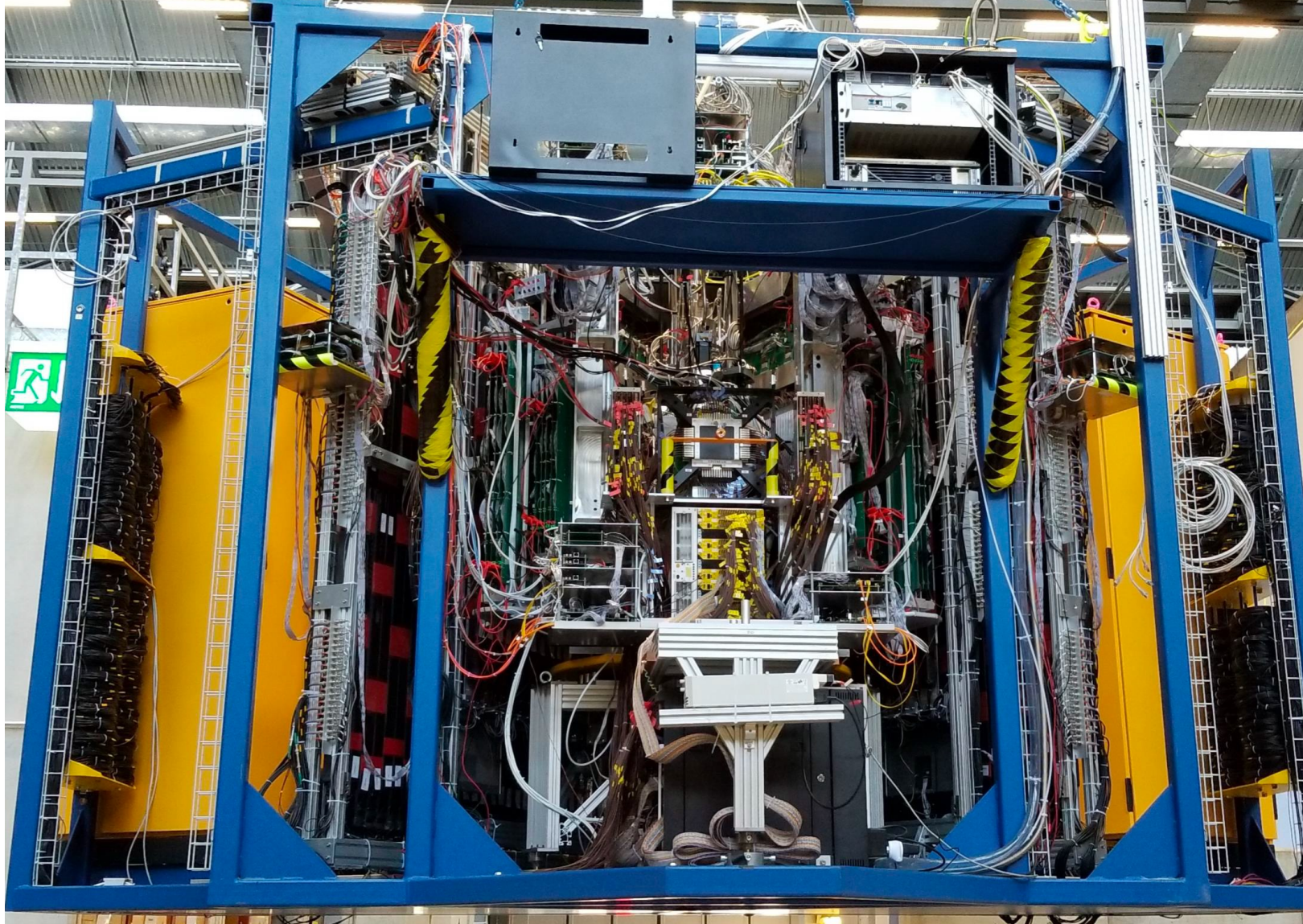


$\theta \approx 20^\circ - 100^\circ$   
 $Q^2 \approx 0.002 - 0.07 \text{ GeV}^2$   
 3.3 MHz total beam flux  
 $\approx 2\text{-}15\% \mu\text{'s}$   
 $\approx 10\text{-}98\% e\text{'s}$   
 $\approx 0\text{-}80\% \pi\text{'s}$

- Low beam flux
  - ✓ Large angle, non-magnetic detectors
- Secondary beam
  - ✓ Tracking of beam particles to target
- Mixed beam
  - ✓ Identification of beam particle in trigger



MUSE

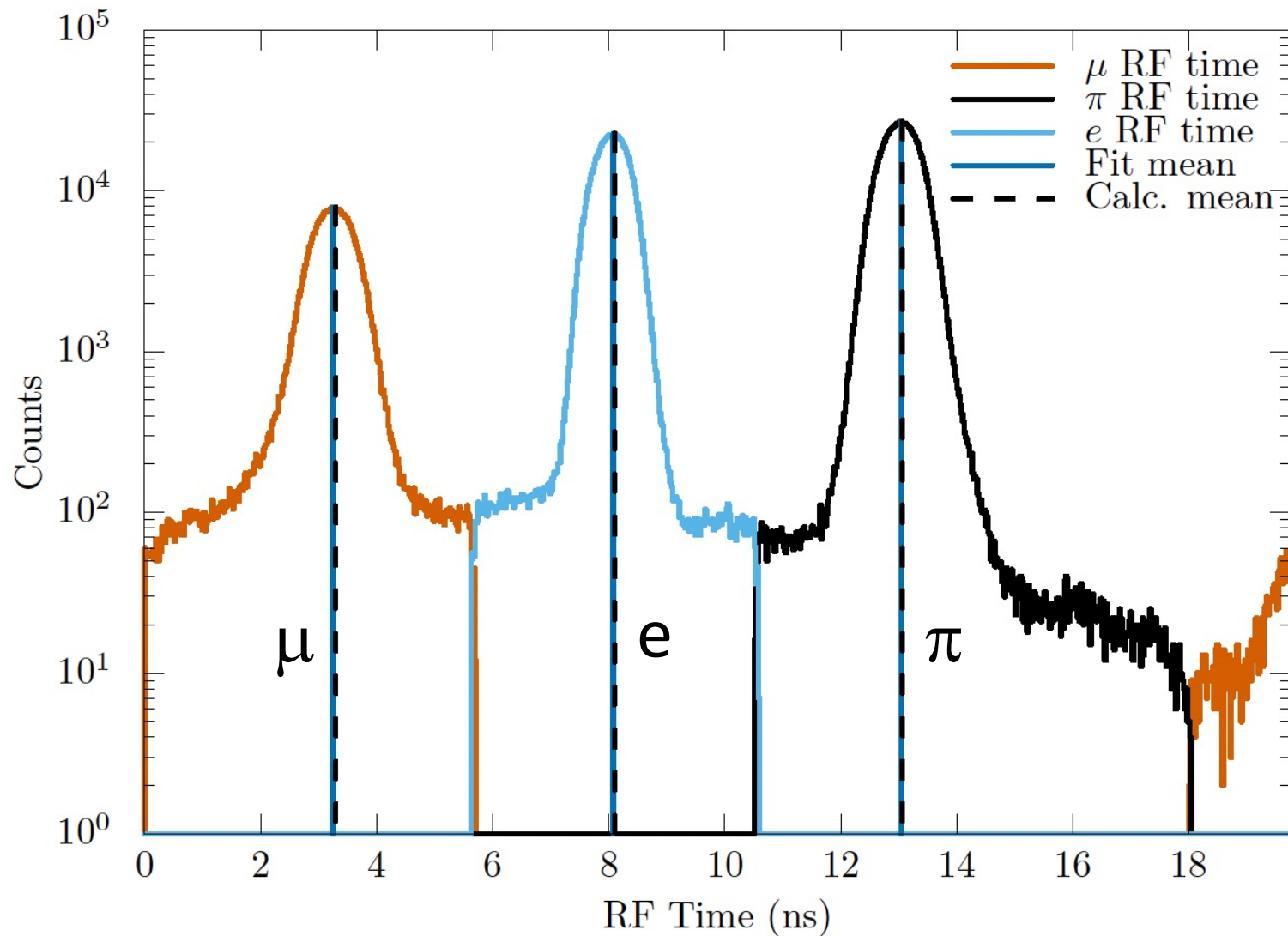


MUSE

PAUL SCHERRER INSTITUT



THE GEORGE  
WASHINGTON  
UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON, DC



BH – RF Time @ 160 MeV/c  
Used for Particle ID

Figure from:  
MUSE Analysis Report  
December 2023

MUSE Beam momenta:  
115, 160, 210 MeV/c

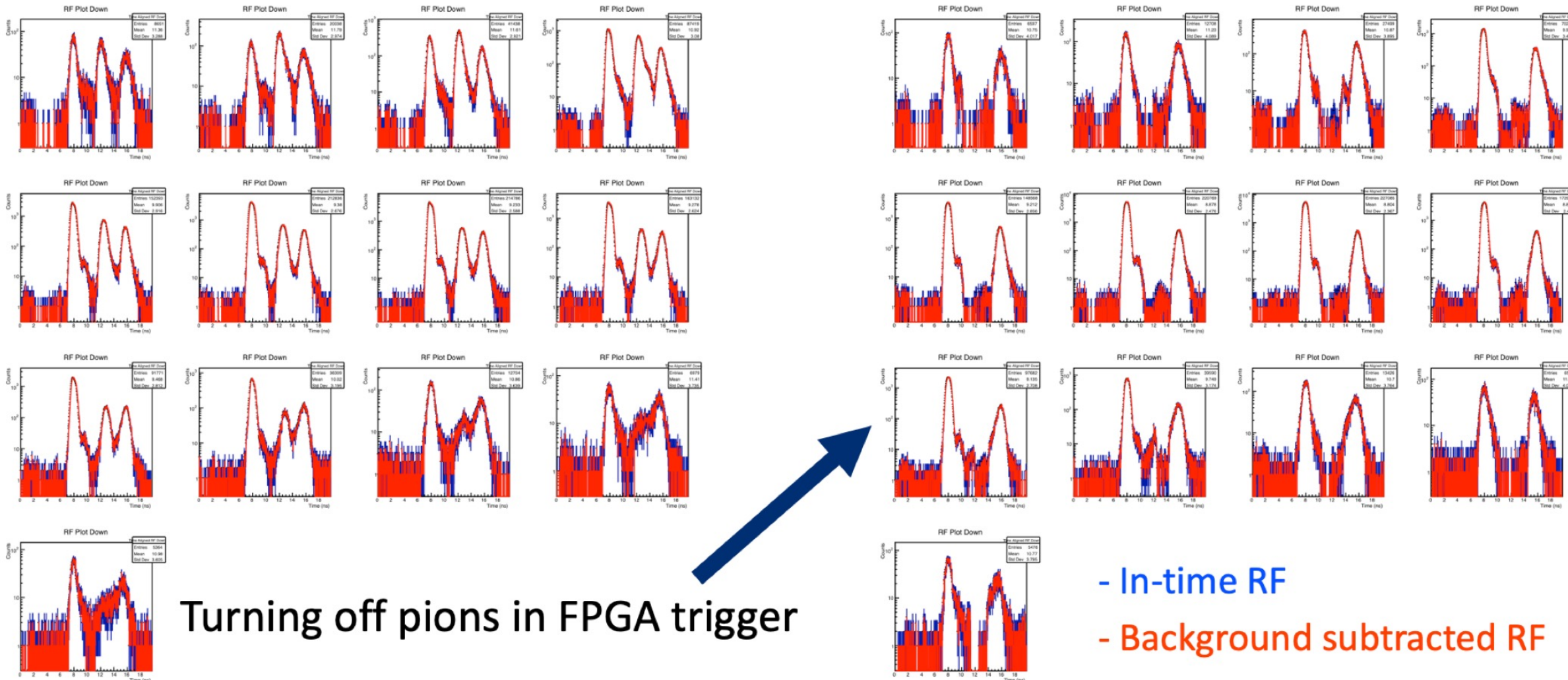


MUSE

PAUL SCHERRER INSTITUT

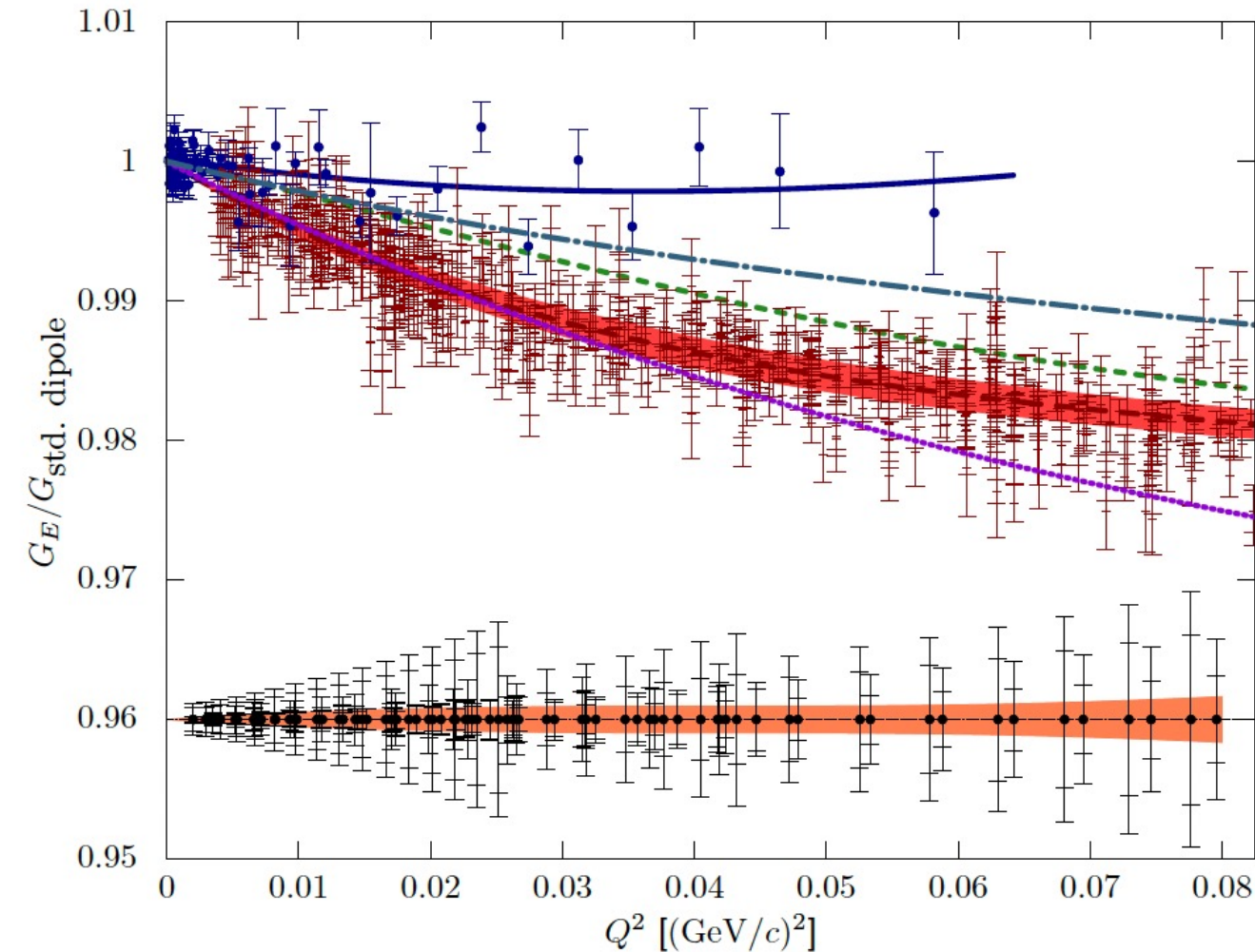


THE GEORGE  
WASHINGTON  
UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON, DC



MUSE

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY WASHINGTON, DC

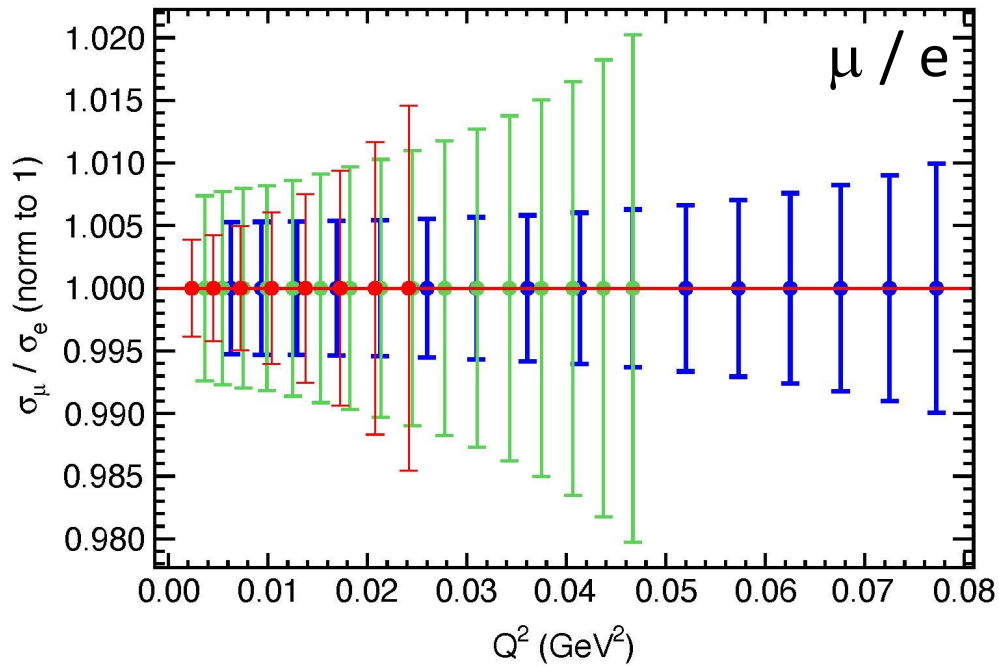


- PRad data
- PRad fit
- Mainz data
- - Mainz fit
- Mainz fit uncertainty
- - Mainz fit, forced  $r_p = 0.841$  fm
- · - Arrington 07
- · - Alarcon 19,  $r_p = 0.841$  fm
- MUSE data uncertainty on  $G_E$
- Projected MUSE uncertainty

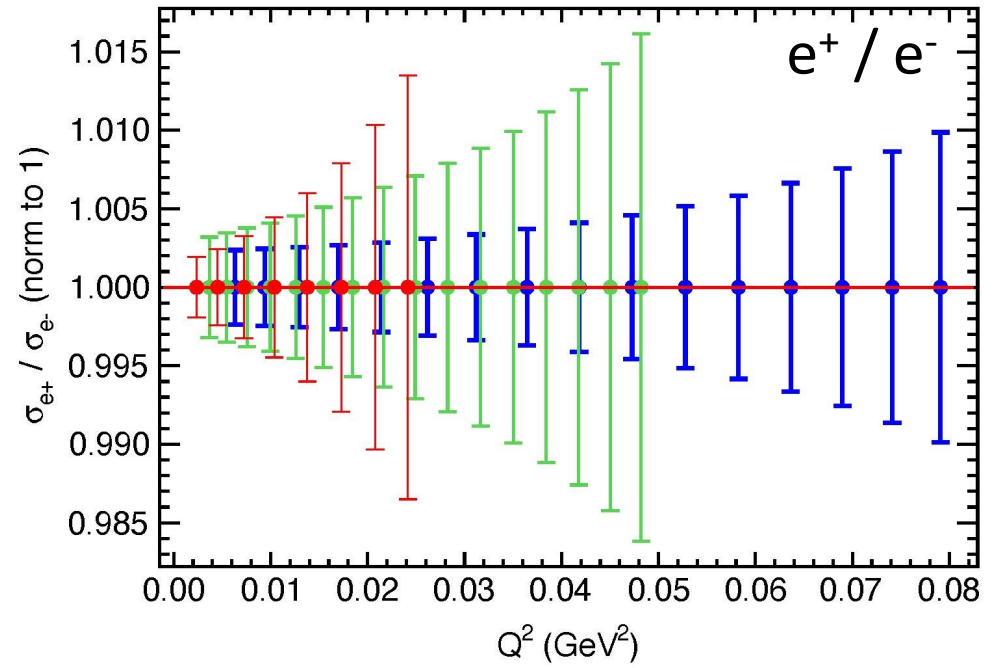
- Anticipated form factor uncertainty
- E. Cline, *et al.*, SciPost Phys. Proc. 5, 023 (2021)



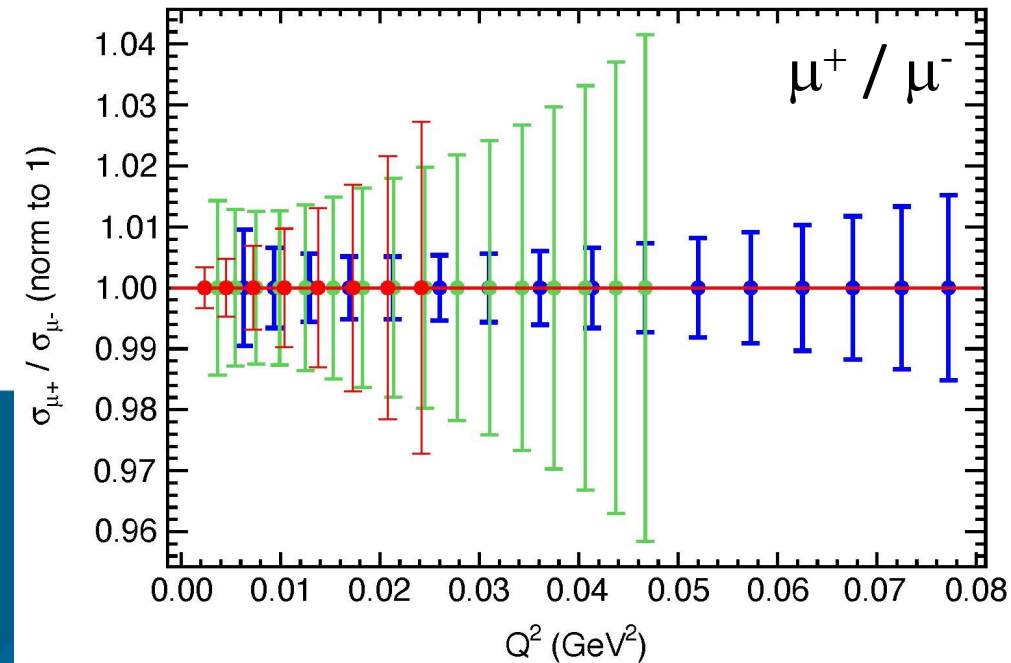
# Anticipated Results



115 MeV / c  
 160 MeV / c  
 210 MeV / c

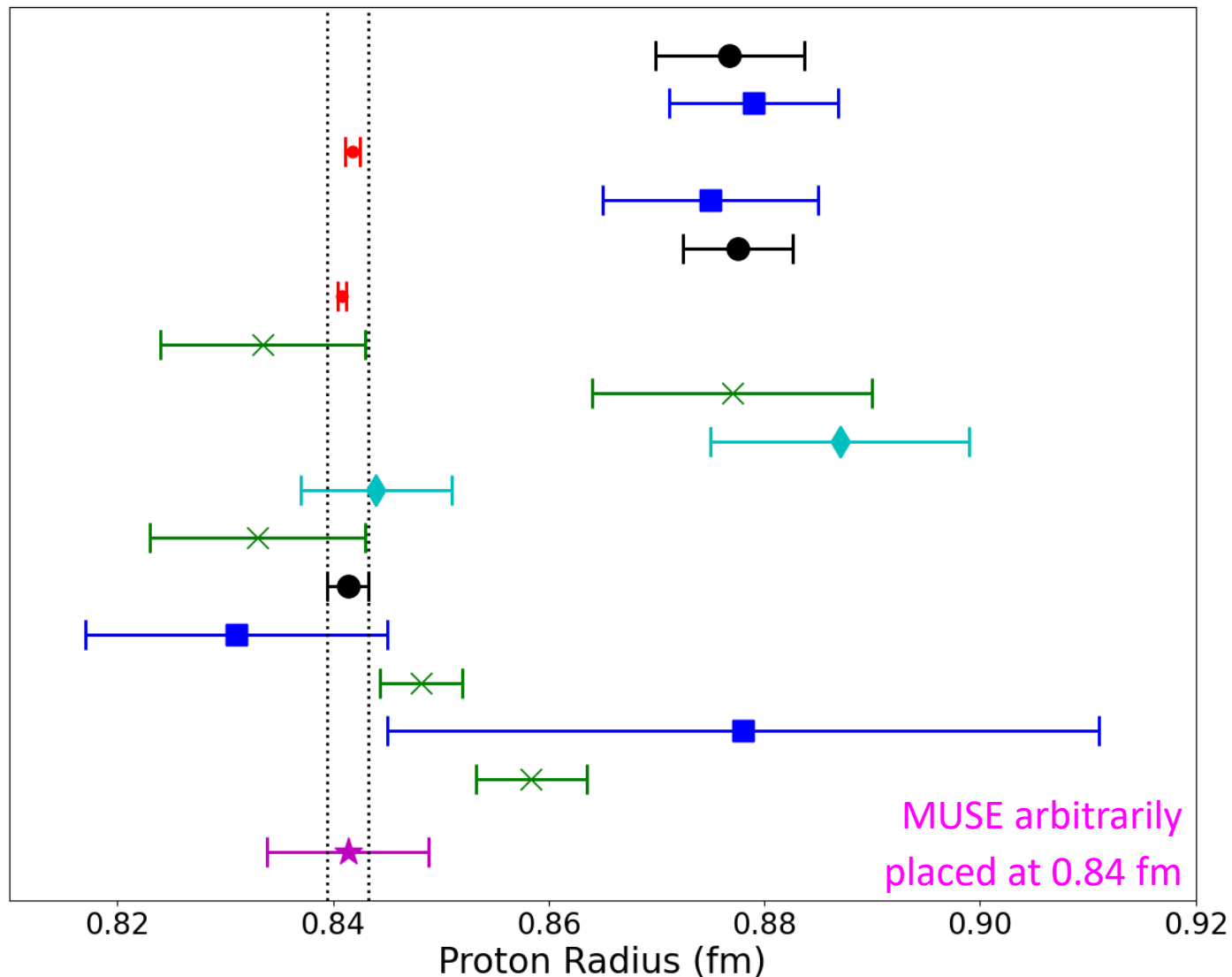


- Stat. uncertainty plotted, systematic better than 0.5%
- Based on assumption of one year of running
- ~20% of scattering data needed taken in first 2023 run



# Anticipated Results

CODATA 06 (2008)  
 Bernauer (2010)  
 Pohl (2010)  
 Zhan (2011)  
 CODATA 10 (2012)  
 Antognini (2013)  
 Beyer (2017)  
 Fleurbaey (2018)  
 Sick (2018)  
 Alarcon (2019)  
 Bezninov (2019)  
 CODATA 18 (2019)  
 Xiong (2019)  
 Grinin (2020)  
 Mihovilovic (2021)  
 Brandt (2022)  
 MUSE (future)



- Currently taking production data (2022 – 2025)
- MUSE only experiment measuring with e and  $\mu$  in same experiment
- MUSE accesses both charge states
- Cancellation of uncertainties gives  $\sigma(r_e - r_\mu) \cong 0.005$  fm



# Anticipated Results





Experiment	e / $\mu$	$Q^2$ (GeV/c) <sup>2</sup>	Status
AMBER	$\mu^+$ , $\mu^-$	0.001 – 0.04	Test runs ongoing, physics run 2025
MAGIX	$e^-$	0.00001 – 0.03	Beam 2025, data on proton 2027
MUSE	$e^+$ , $e^-$ , $\mu^+$ , $\mu^-$	0.002 – 0.07	Physics running, unblinding 2025/6
PRad II	$e^-$	0.00004 – 0.06	Approved by JLab PAC
ULQ2	$e^-$	0.0003 – 0.008	Production running 2023-24

- Proton Radius Puzzle remains unresolved
- Vibrant array of scattering experiments, e and  $\mu$
- Each with different beam / systematics
- Many spectroscopy efforts underway!

Thanks to: S. Schlimme, J. Friedrich, H. Gao, T. Suda and Y. Honda MUSE collaboration

# Conclusion

# PR<sub>o</sub>ton R<sub>a</sub>d<sub>i</sub>us

