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# Isvector Axial and Pseudoscalar Form Factors From Twisted Mass Lattice QCD at the Physical Point

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Liverpool, UK



# Nucleon Structure with Physical Point Ensembles

## Outline

- Ensembles
- Lattice setup and statistics
- Axial and pseudoscalar form factors
  - Excited state analysis
  - Continuum extrapolation
  - $Q^2$  – dependence
  - PCAC relation and pion pole dominance
- Conclusions



## *ETM Collaboration*

*Cyprus* (Univ. of Cyprus, Cyprus Inst.), *Germany* (Berlin/Zeuthen, Bonn, Wuppertal), *Italy* (Rome I, II, III, Parma), *Poland* (Poznan), *Switzerland* (Bern), *US* (Temple, PA)

# Axial Form Factors

Matrix element of the axial-vector current:

$$\langle N(p', s') | A_\mu^3 | N(p, s) \rangle = \bar{u}(p', s') \mathcal{O}^\mu u(p, s)$$

$$\mathcal{O}^\mu = \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 G_A(q^2) + \frac{q^\mu \gamma_5}{2m_N} G_P(q^2), \quad q = p' - p$$

**Axial ( $G_A$ ) and Induced Pseudoscalar ( $G_P$ ) form factors**

- Axial charge  $g_A = G_A(q^2=0)$
- Form factors known to less accuracy experimentally compared to, e.g. Electromagnetic
  - Via elastic scattering:  $\nu_\mu + n \rightarrow \mu^- + p$
  - Via charged pion electroproduction
- Required in neutrino oscillation experiments. Traditionally modelled with dipole:

$$G_A(Q^2) = \frac{g_A}{(1 + Q^2/M_A^2)^2}$$

- Also of interest:  $g_P^* = \frac{m_\mu}{2m_N} G_P(0.88m_\mu^2)$

# Axial Form Factors

Matrix element of the pseudo scalar current:

$$\langle N(p', s') | P | N(p, s) \rangle = \bar{u}(p', s') G_5(q^2) \gamma_5 u(p, s)$$

Pseudoscalar ( $G_5$ ) form factor

- Goldberger Treiman relation

$$G_A(q^2) + \frac{q^2}{4m_N^2} G_P(q^2) = \frac{F_\pi m_\pi^2}{m_N(m_\pi^2 - q^2)} G_{\pi NN}(q^2)$$

where

$$m_q G_5(q^2) = \frac{F_\pi m_\pi^2}{m_\pi^2 - q^2} G_{\pi NN}(q^2)$$

- Requiring that close to the pole, the divergence cancels on both sides

$$G_P(q^2) = \frac{4m_N^2}{m_\pi^2 - q^2} G_A(q^2) \Big|_{q^2 \rightarrow m_\pi^2}$$

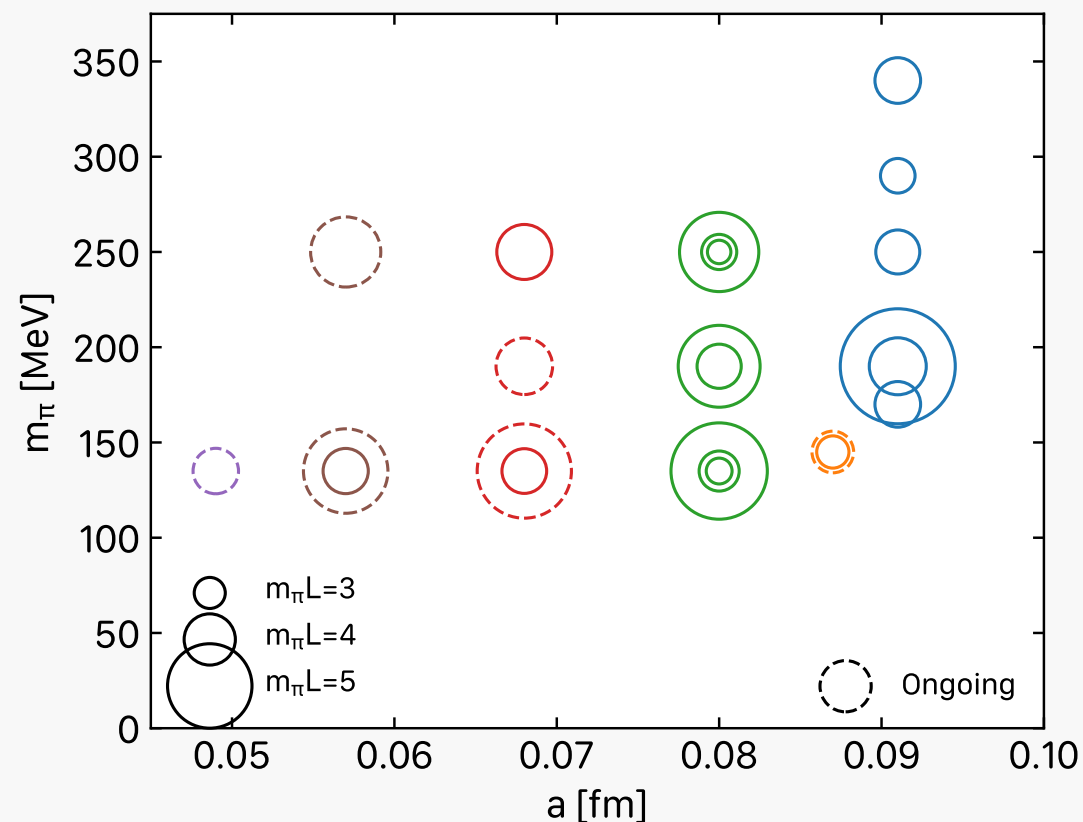
Similarly we can relate  $G_A$  to  $G_{\pi NN}$  and  $G_P$  to  $G_5$



# Ensembles

## Three $N_f=2+1+1$ ensembles at physical pion mass

Ens. ID (abbrv.)	Vol.	$a$ [fm]
cB211.072.64 (cB64)	$64 \times 128$	0.07957(13)
cC211.060.80 (cC80)	$80 \times 160$	0.06821(13)
cD211.054.96 (cD96)	$96 \times 192$	0.05692(12)

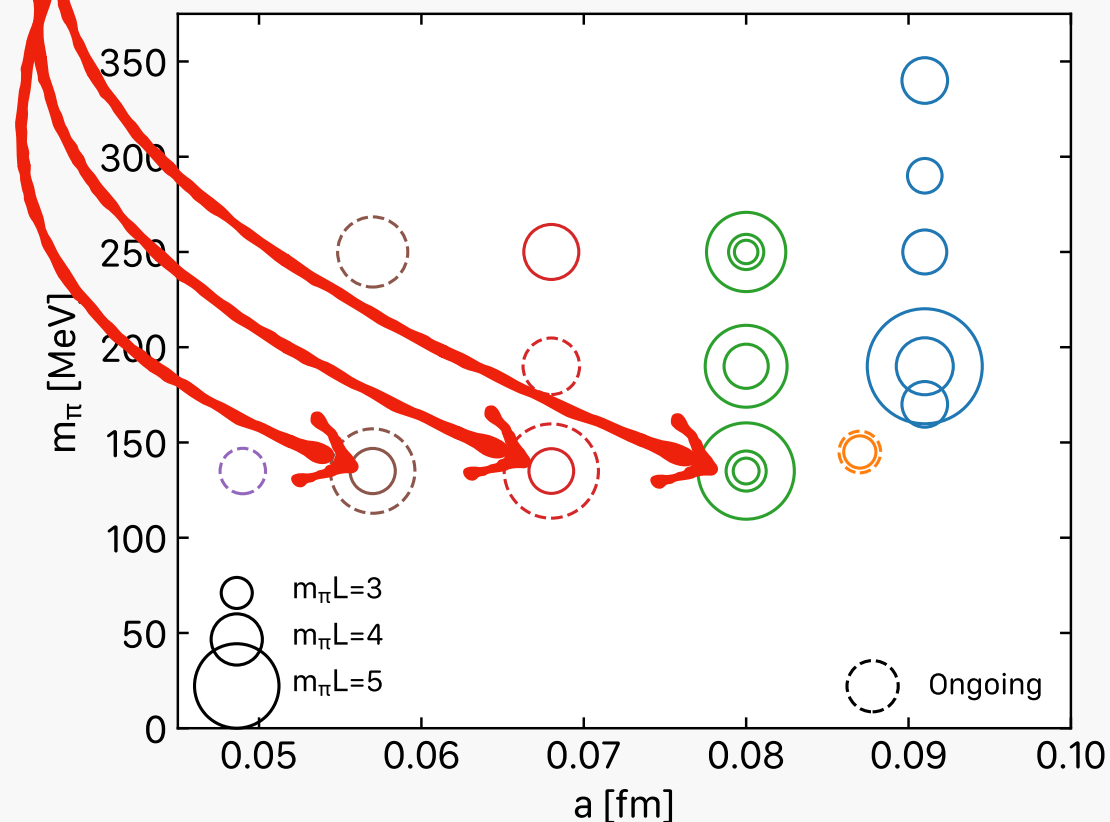


- Lattice spacings quoted as determined from meson sector
  - ▶ See paper on  $\alpha_\mu^{\text{HVP}}$  for details – Phys. Rev. D107,074506 • arXiv:2206.15084 [hep-lat].
- Axial form-factors for cB64 reported:
  - ▶ Isovector – Phys.Rev.D 103 (2021) 3,034509 • arXiv:2011.13342 [hep-lat]
  - ▶ Flavor decomposition – Phys. Rev. D104 (2021) 074503 • arXiv:2106.13468 [hep-lat]
- **Here:** Isovector; continuum limit; more thorough excited state analysis;
  - ▶ Details: Phys. Rev. D109 (2024) 3,034503 • arXiv:2309.05774 [hep-lat]
  - ▶ Renormalised non-perturbatively using Ward Identities via a “hadronic scheme”, see: Phys. Rev. D107(2023) 074506 • arXiv:2206.15084 [hep-lat]

# Ensembles

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- Lattice spacings quoted as determined from meson sector
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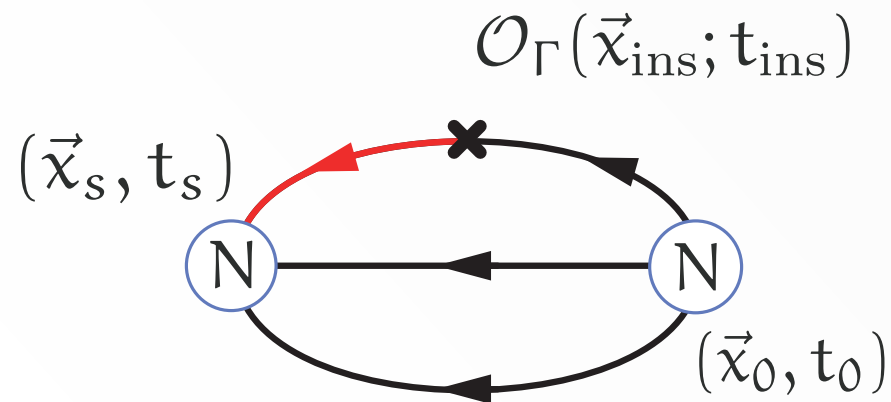
# Matrix elements on the Lattice

General three-point function:

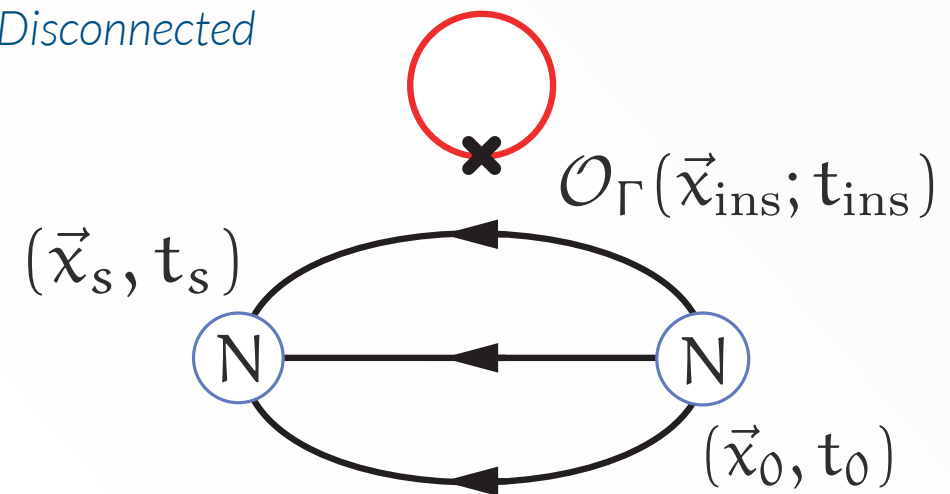
$$G_{\Gamma}(P; \vec{q}; t_s, t_{\text{ins}}) = \sum_{\vec{x}_s, \vec{x}_{\text{ins}}} e^{-i\vec{q} \cdot \vec{x}_{\text{ins}}} p^{\alpha\beta} \langle \bar{\chi}_{\text{N}}^{\beta}(\vec{x}_s; t_s) | \mathcal{O}_{\Gamma}(\vec{x}_{\text{ins}}; t_{\text{ins}}) | \chi_{\text{N}}^{\alpha}(\vec{0}; 0) \rangle$$

Isovector case  $\rightarrow$  *connected contributions* using *fixed-sink sequential inversions*

*Connected*



*Disconnected*



*Disconnected contributions*

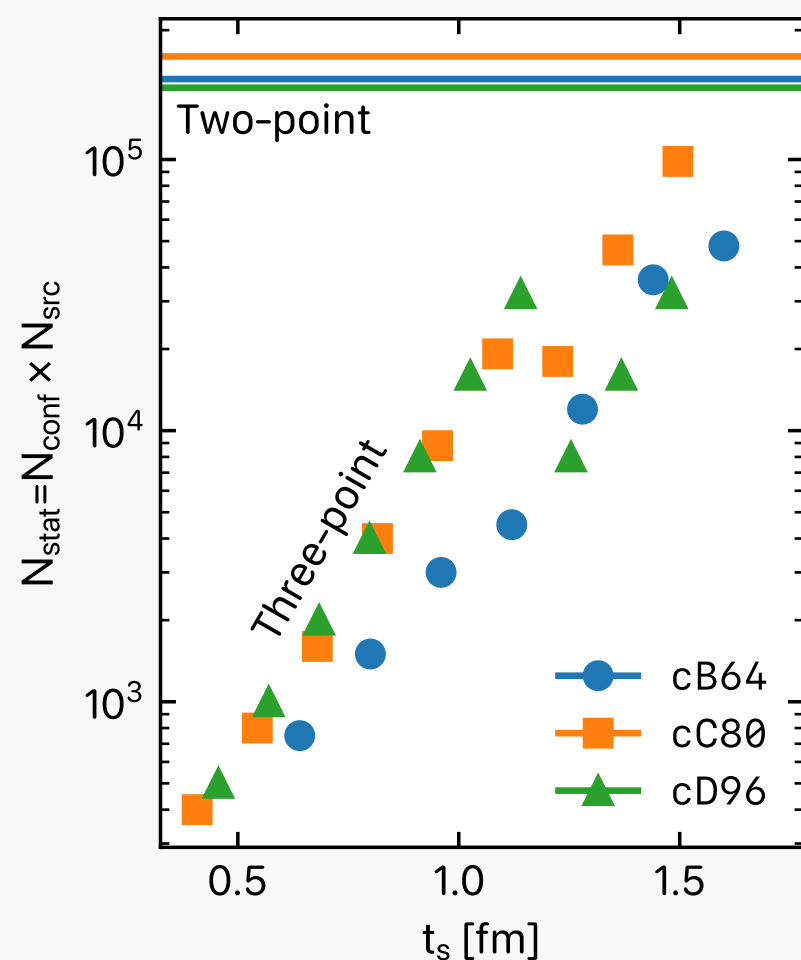
- Vanish for isovector case as  $a \rightarrow 0$
- Not included here. Inclusion may change approach to continuum limit

See also talk by [Yan Li, Tuesday @ 11:55](#) – “Investigation of  $\pi N$  contributions to nucleon matrix elements”

# Statistics

$$R_{\Gamma}(P; \vec{q}; t_s; t_{ins}) = \frac{G_{\Gamma}(P; \vec{q}; t_s; t_{ins})}{G(\vec{0}; t_s)} \sqrt{\frac{G(\vec{p}; t_s - t_{ins})G(\vec{0}; t_{ins})G(\vec{0}; t_s)}{G(\vec{0}; t_s - t_{ins})G(\vec{p}; t_{ins})G(\vec{p}; t_s)}}$$

*Connected:* Increasing  $N_{src}$  with  $t_s$



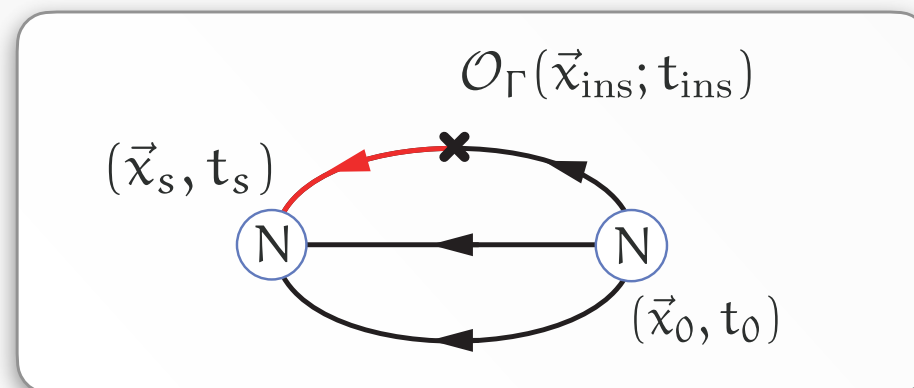
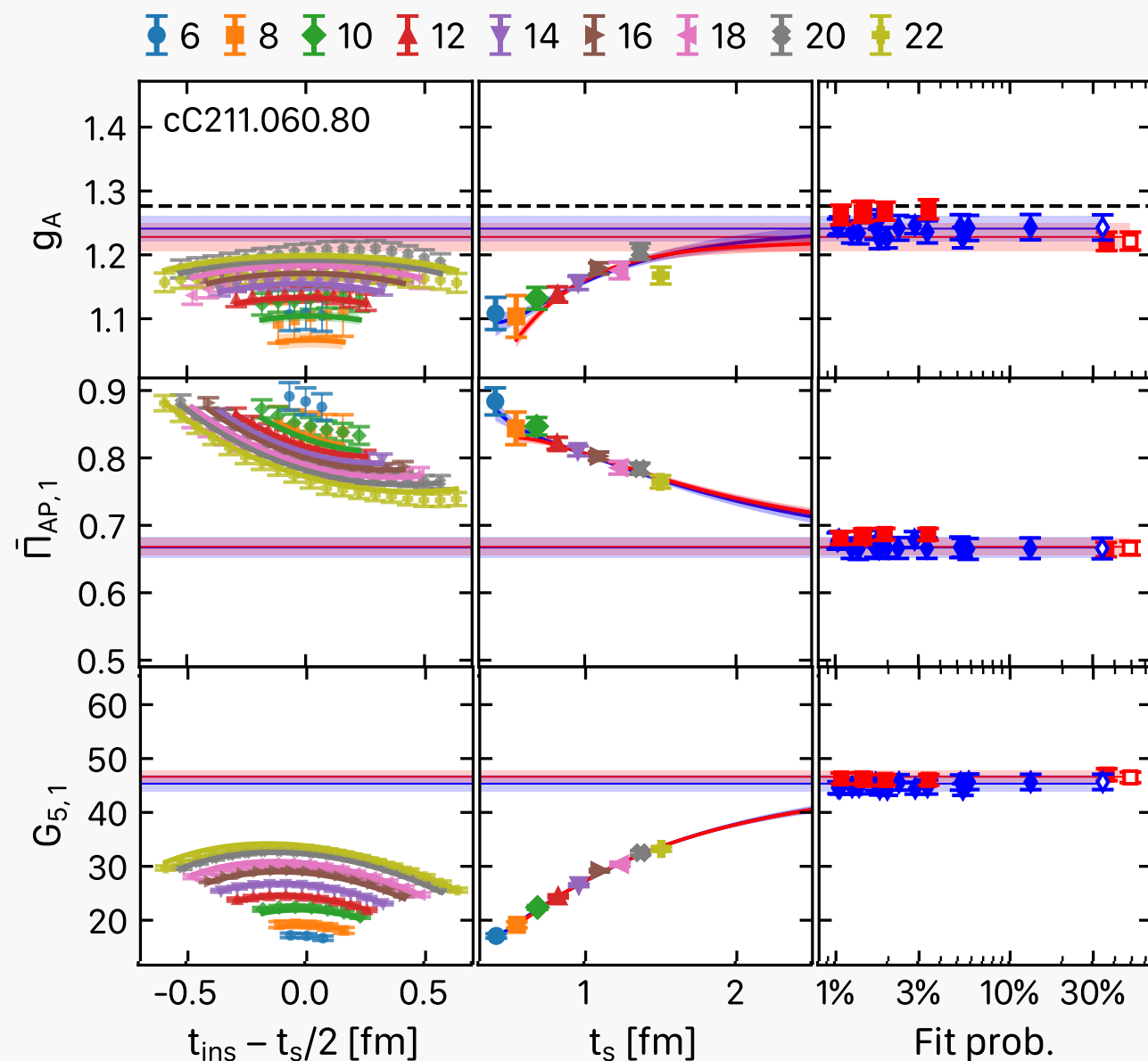
*Ideally:* Aim for constant statistical errors over all values of  $t_s$  of a given ensemble

- ▶ Robust analysis of excited states: summation method, two- or three-state fits, etc.

*Two-point function:* High number of sources per config

- ▶ Improves signal for multi-state fits
- ▶ Improves signal of disconnected contributions

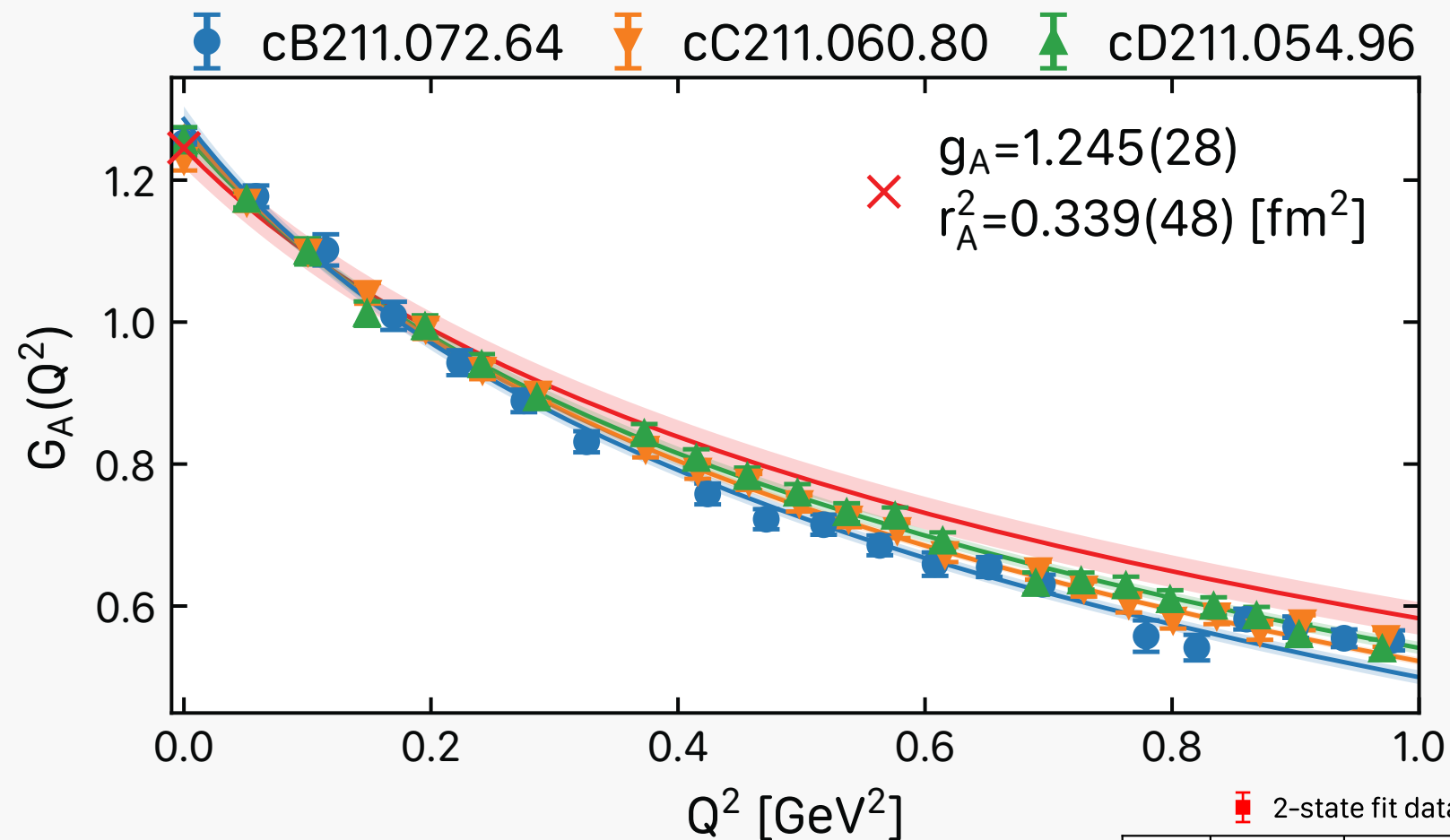
# Correlation function analysis



- 0 and 1 unit of momentum fit together first to extract  $m_N$
- Temporal component of axial current included
- Larger momenta fitted with  $m_N$  as prior
- Both **two-** and **three-**state fits

- Example from intermediate lattice spacing  $a \approx 0.07$  fm
- 9 separations,  $t_s \approx 0.4 - 1.5$  fm

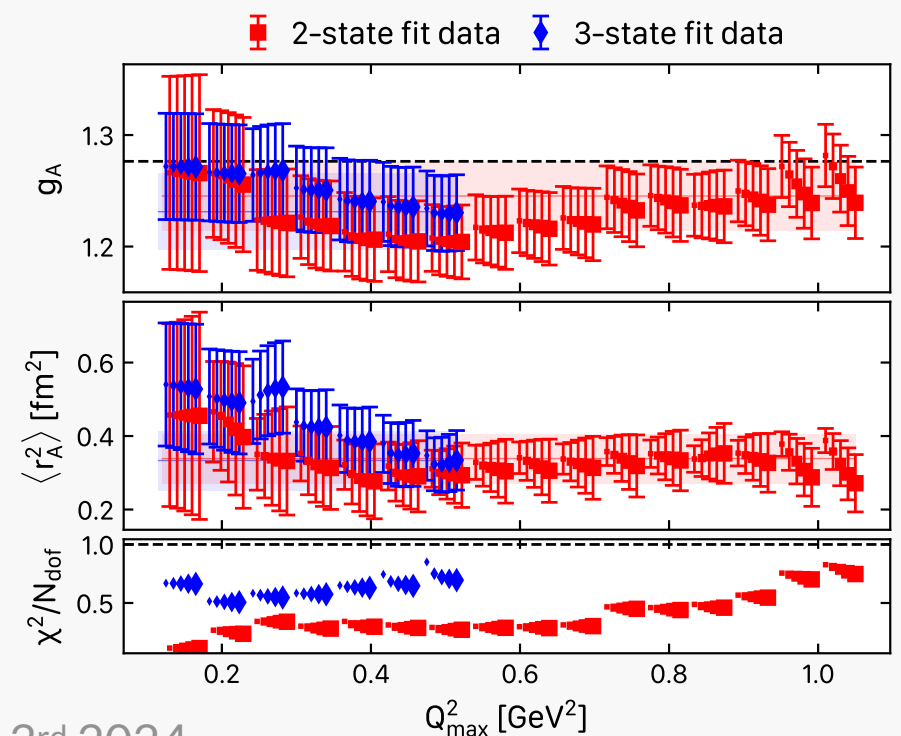
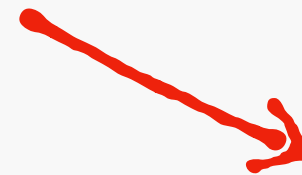
# Axial Form Factor



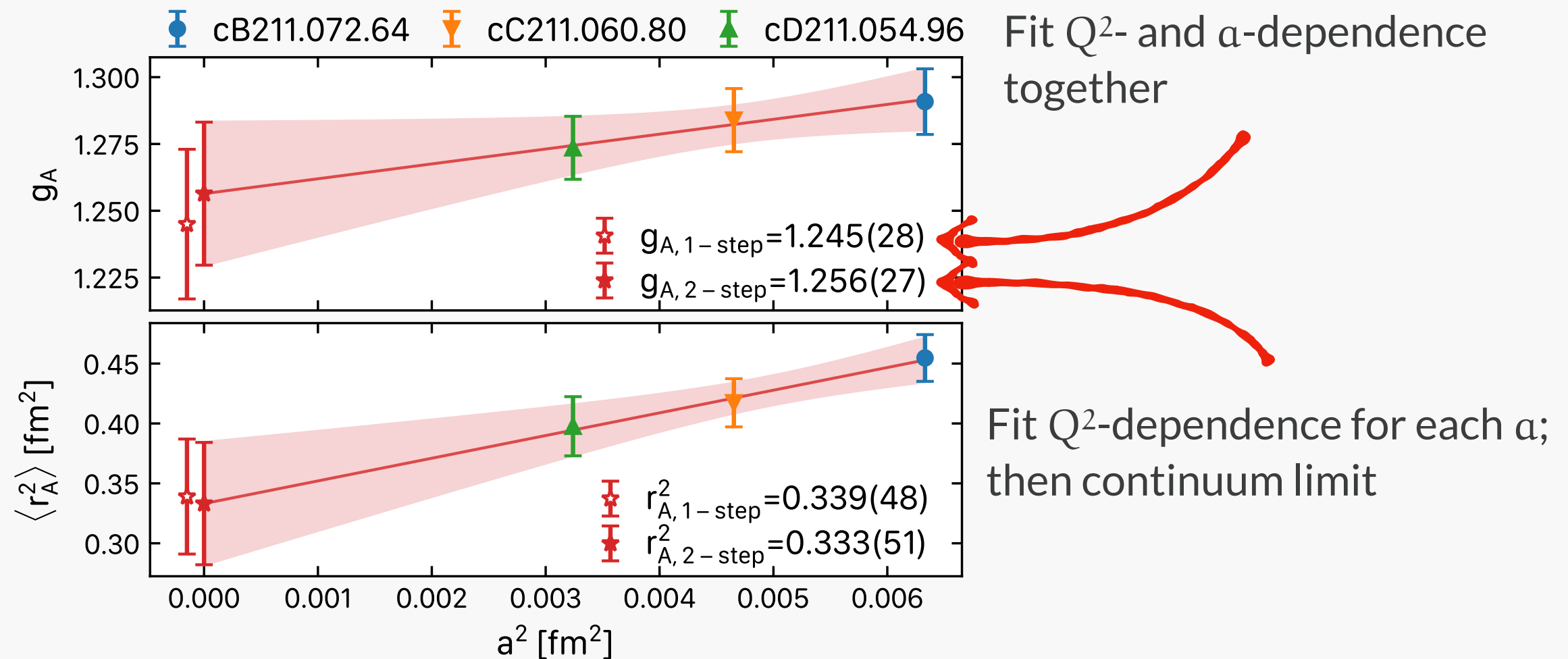
$$G(Q^2) = \sum_{k=0}^{k_{\max}} a_k z^k(Q^2),$$

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

$z$ -expansion; convergence after 3<sup>rd</sup> order

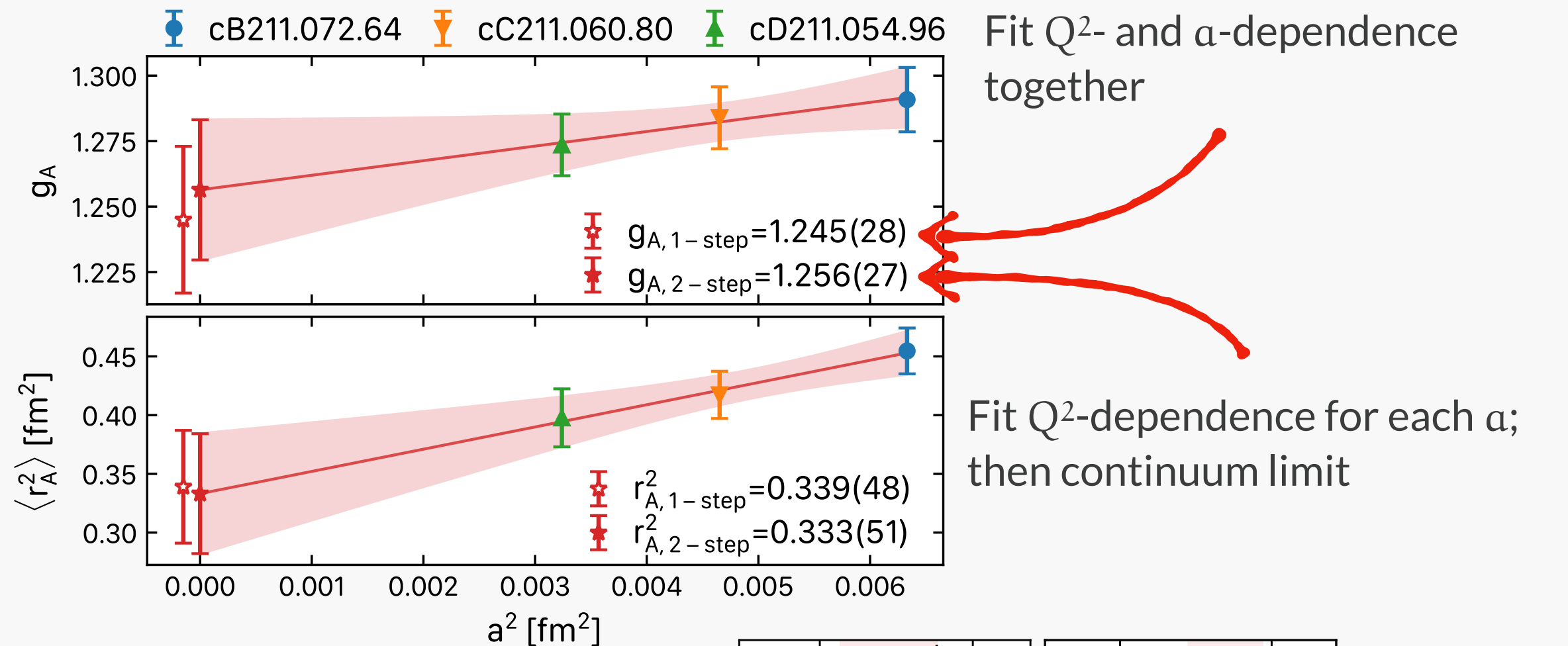


# Axial charge and radius

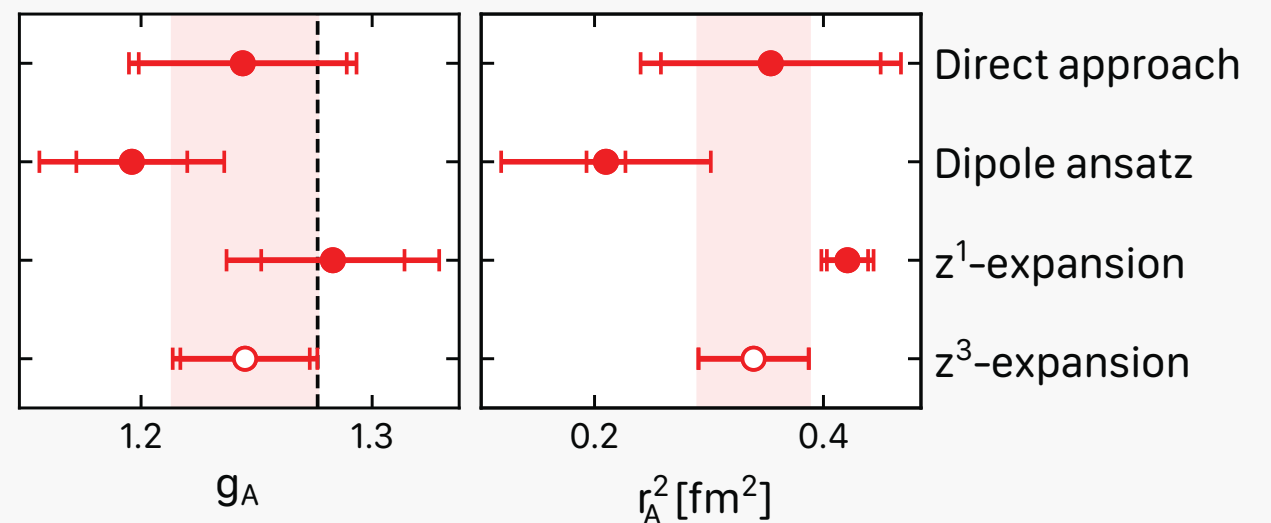


Christo Iona, Monday @ 11:15 – “Nucleon axial, tensor, and scalar charges and  $\sigma$ -terms from lattice QCD”

# Axial charge and radius

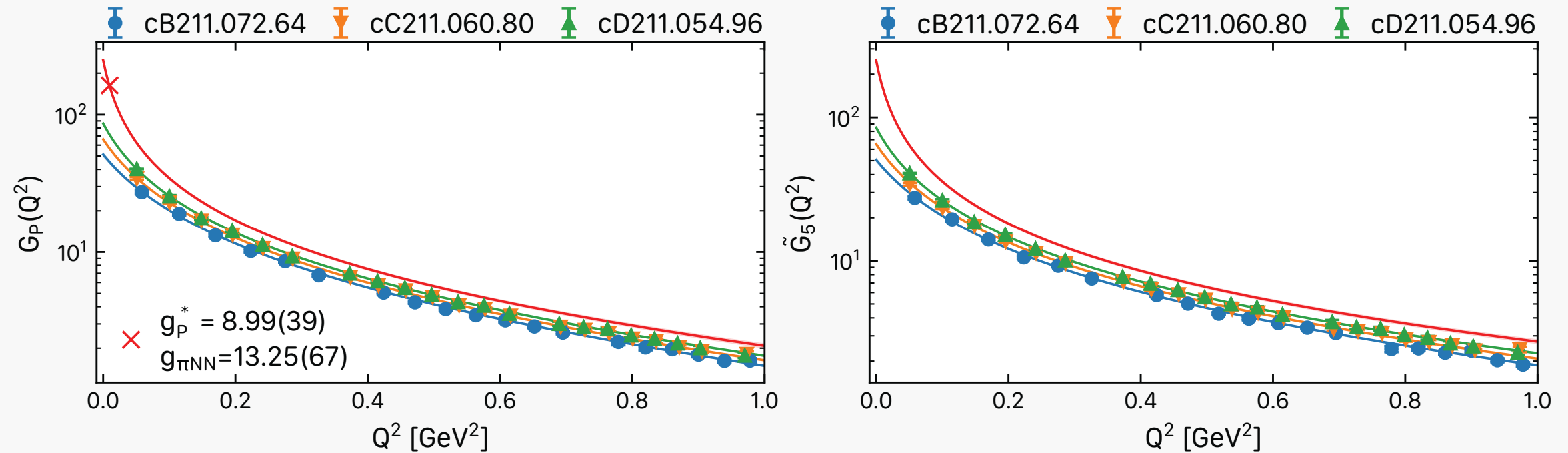


- $z^3$ -expansion
- Two-state fits to correlators
- Agreement with dipole and “direct”



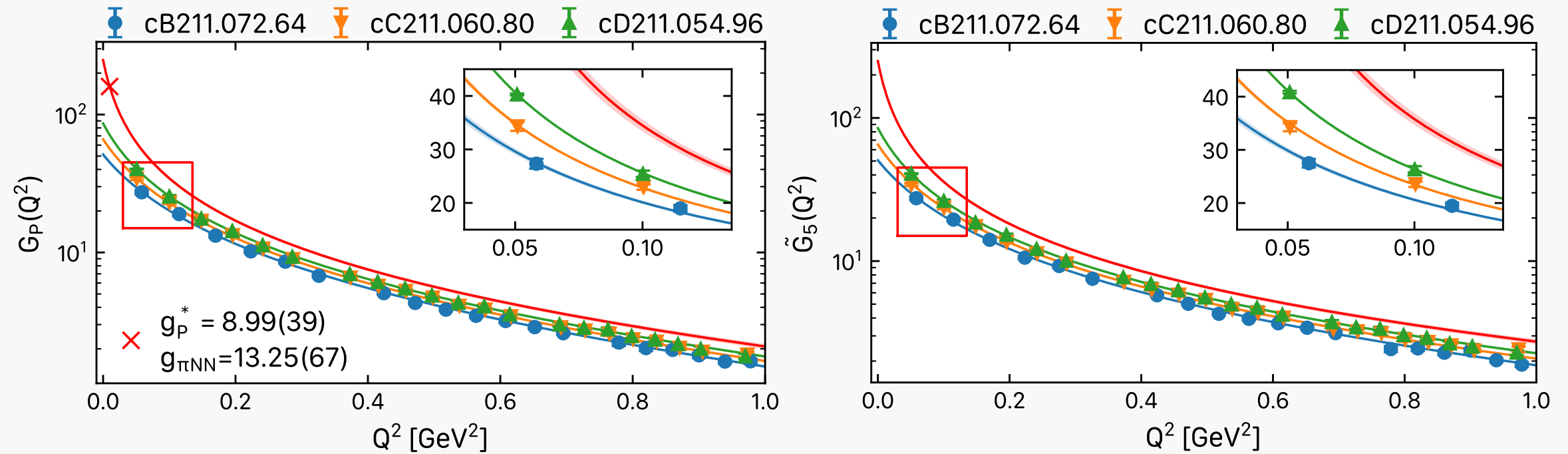


# Induced pseudo scalar & Pseudo scalar



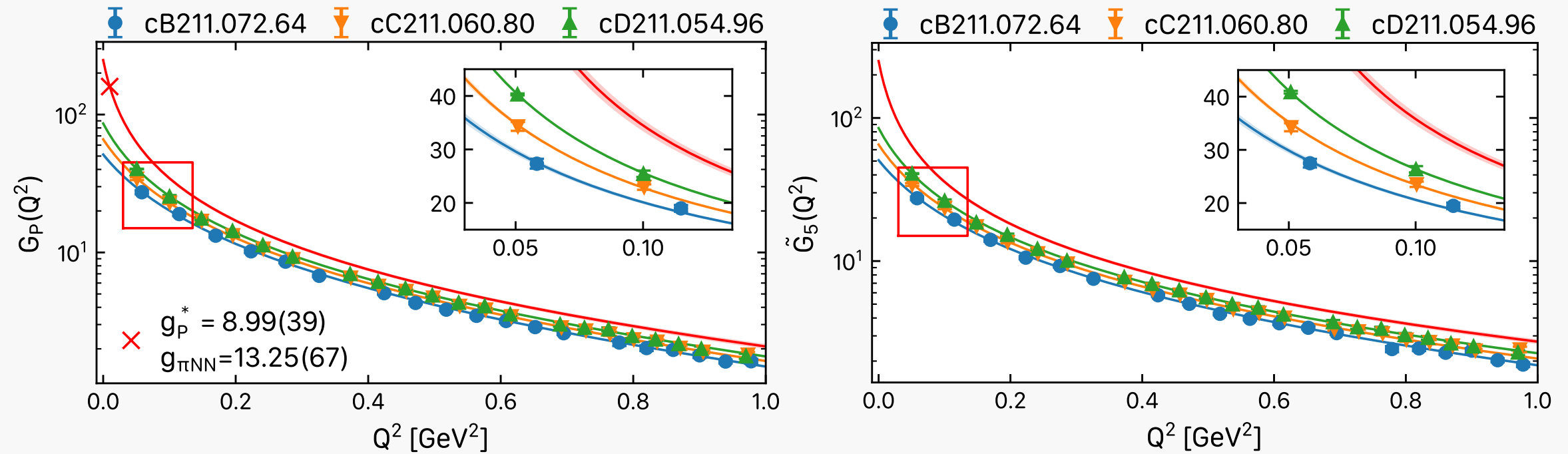
- Note the logarithmic scale
- Relatively large cut-off effects, especially at low  $Q^2$

# Induced pseudo scalar & Pseudo scalar



- Note the logarithmic scale
- Relatively large cut-off effects, especially at low  $Q^2$

# Induced pseudo scalar & Pseudo scalar



$$r_{\text{PPD},2}(Q^2) = \frac{4m_N}{m_\pi^2} \frac{m_q G_5(Q^2)}{G_P(Q^2)} = \frac{4m_N^2}{m_\pi^2} \frac{G_A(Q^2)}{G_P(Q^2)} - \frac{Q^2}{m_\pi^2} = 1 + \left( \frac{\langle r_A^2 \rangle m_\pi^2}{6} - \Delta_{\text{GT}} \right) \left( 1 + \frac{Q^2}{m_\pi^2} \right)$$

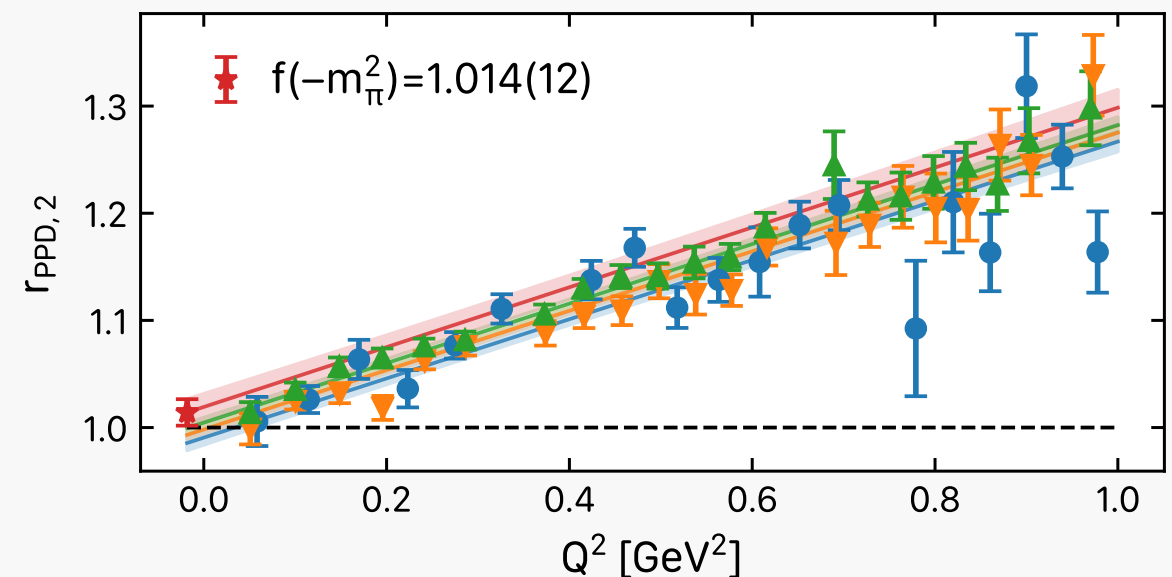
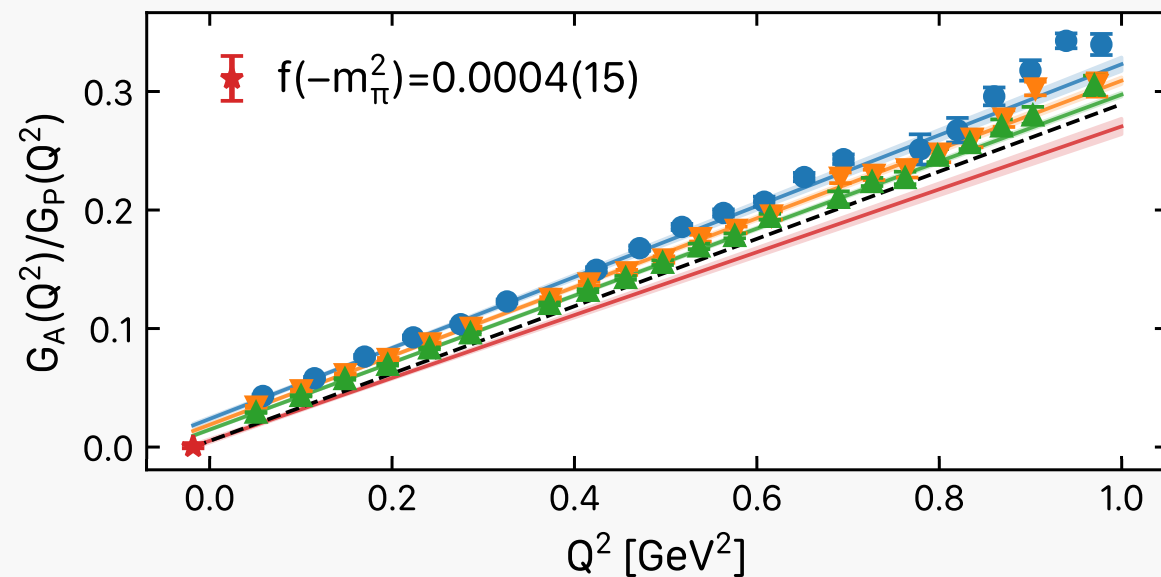
PCAC

Expansion of  $G_A(Q^2)$

$$\Delta_{\text{GT}} = 1 - \frac{g_A m_N}{g_{\pi NN} F_\pi}$$

$$\frac{G_A(Q^2)}{G_P(Q^2)} = \frac{Q^2 + m_\pi^2}{4m_N^2} \Big|_{Q^2 \rightarrow -m_\pi^2}$$

# Induced pseudo scalar & Pseudo scalar



$$r_{\text{PPD},2}(Q^2) = \frac{4m_N}{m_\pi^2} \frac{m_q G_5(Q^2)}{G_P(Q^2)} = \frac{4m_N^2}{m_\pi^2} \frac{G_A(Q^2)}{G_P(Q^2)} - \frac{Q^2}{m_\pi^2} = 1 + \left( \frac{\langle r_A^2 \rangle m_\pi^2}{6} - \Delta_{\text{GT}} \right) \left( 1 + \frac{Q^2}{m_\pi^2} \right)$$

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$$\Delta_{\text{GT}} = -0.0213(38) \approx 2\%$$

# Axial & Pseudoscalar form factors

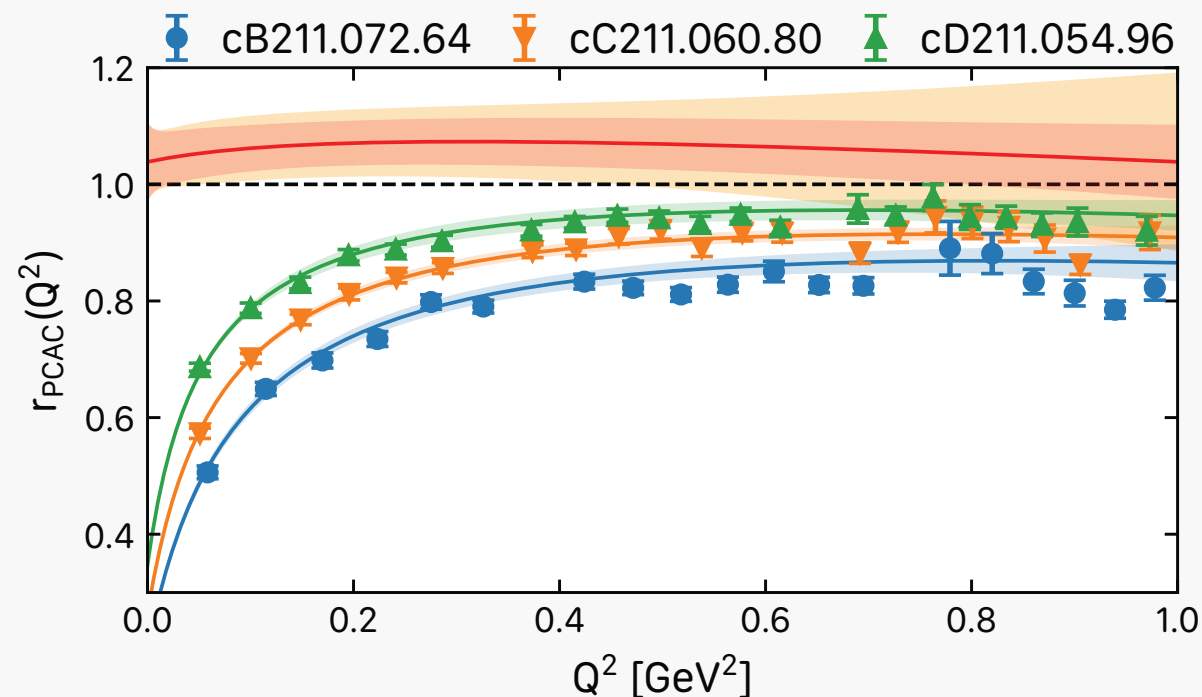
Check relation between axial and pseudoscalar form factors

- From PCAC relation

$$\partial^\mu A_\mu = 2m_q P$$

- Between nucleon states:

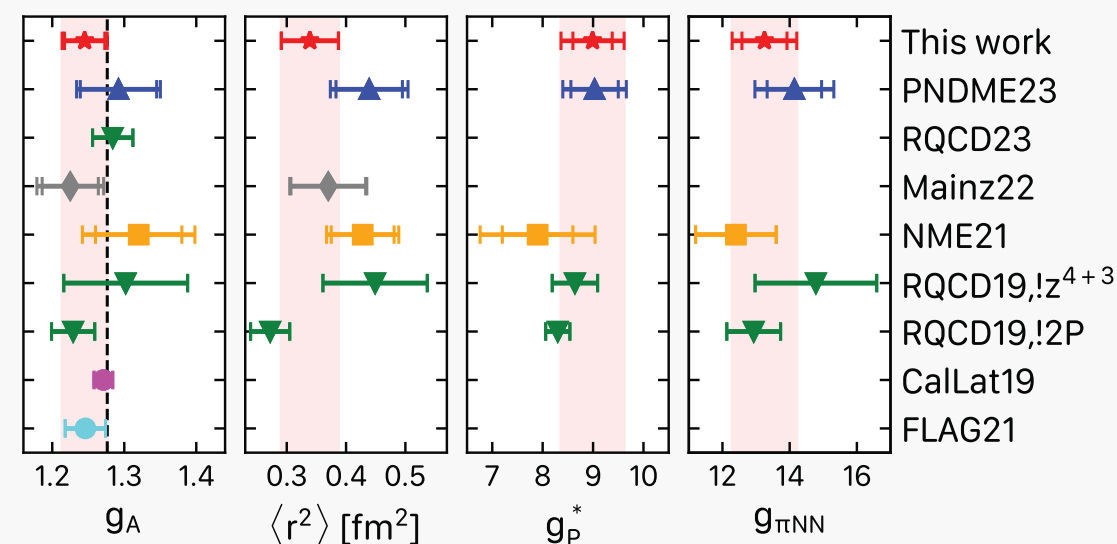
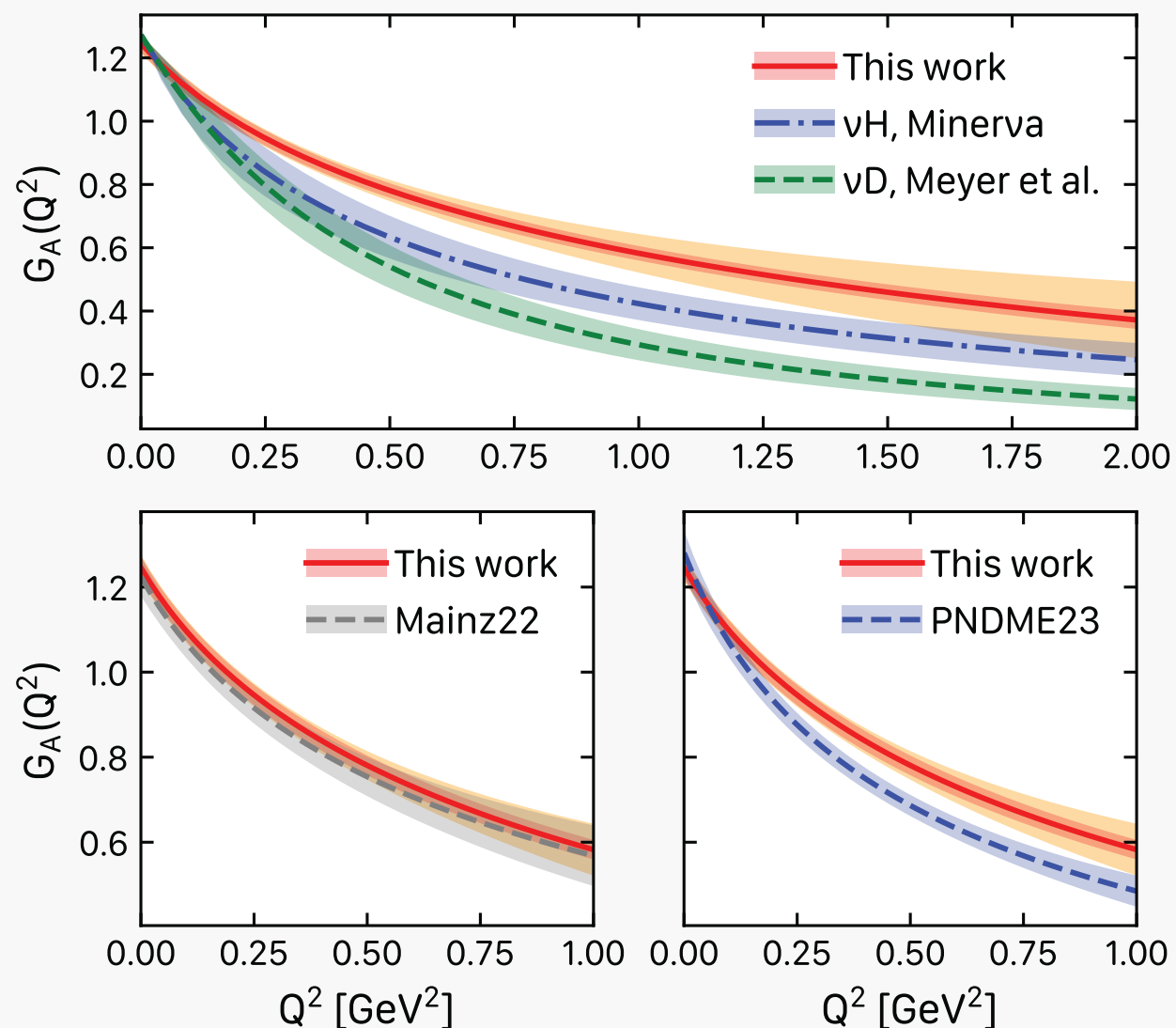
$$G_A(Q^2) - \frac{Q^2}{4m_N^2} G_P(Q^2) = \frac{m_q}{m_N} G_5(Q^2)$$



- Relation from PCAC restored at continuum limit ( $a \rightarrow 0$ )

# Axial & Pseudoscalar form factors

Comparison with experiment and other lattice results



- Good agreement with other lattice results
- Note the MINER $\nu$ A result (2023):
  - $r_A = 0.73(17)$  fm or
  - $(r_A)^2 = 0.53(25)$  fm<sup>2</sup>

# Summary & Outlook

- Three twisted mass ensembles → Continuum limit directly at physical point
- Axial, induced pseudo scalar, and pseudo scalar form factors
- Multiple sink-source separations
  - high statistics with increasing separation
  - allow good two- and three-state fits to correlation functions
- PCAC relation
  - Not satisfied at finite  $a$ , but restored at continuum limit
- Relations arising from pion pole dominance assumption
  - Similarly to PCAC, restored at continuum limit
- Axial form factor, axial radius
  - Agreement with other lattice results
  - Predict slightly smaller axial radius compared to experiments



# Acknowledgements



Με τη συγχρηματοδότηση  
της Ευρωπαϊκής Ένωσης

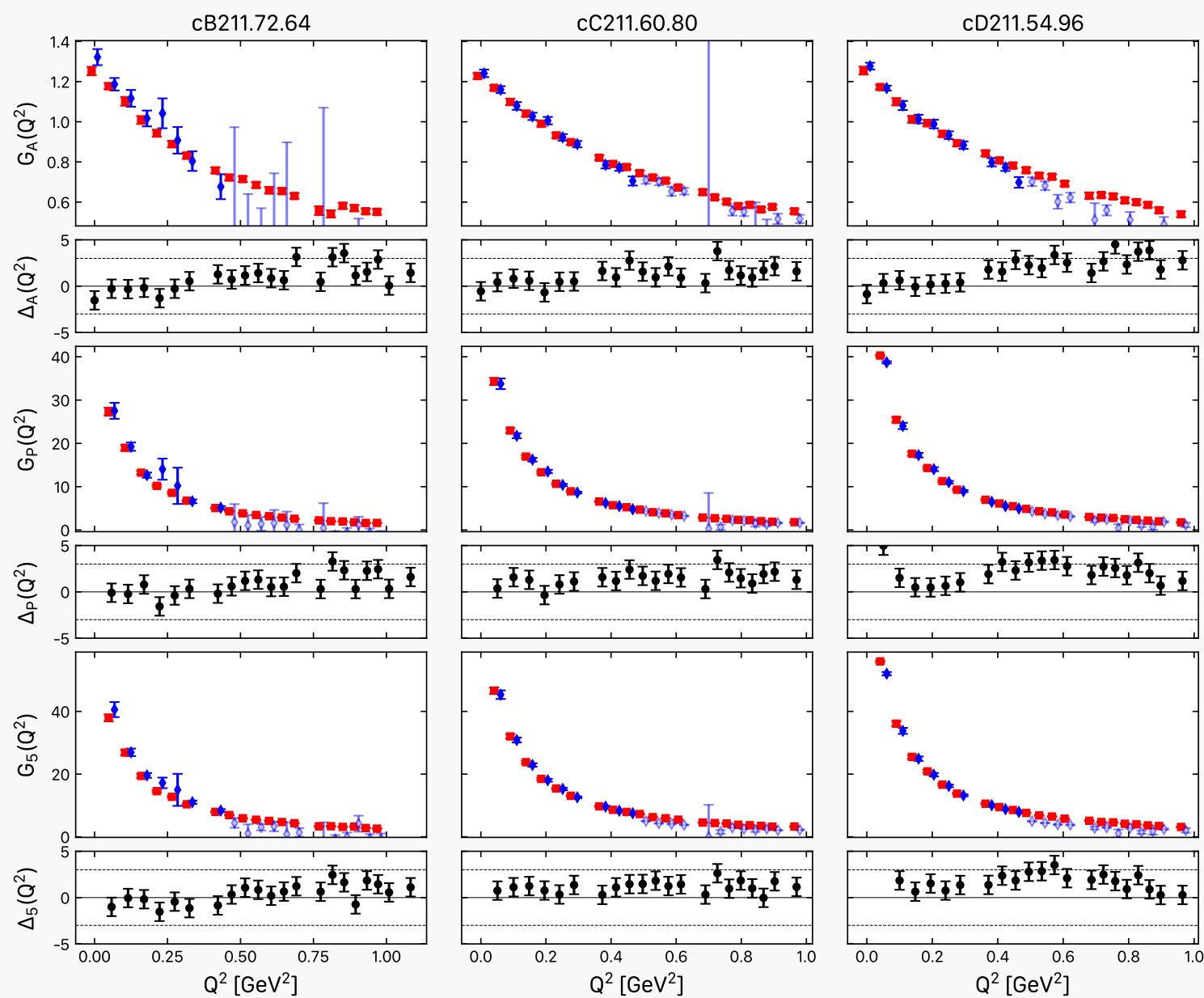


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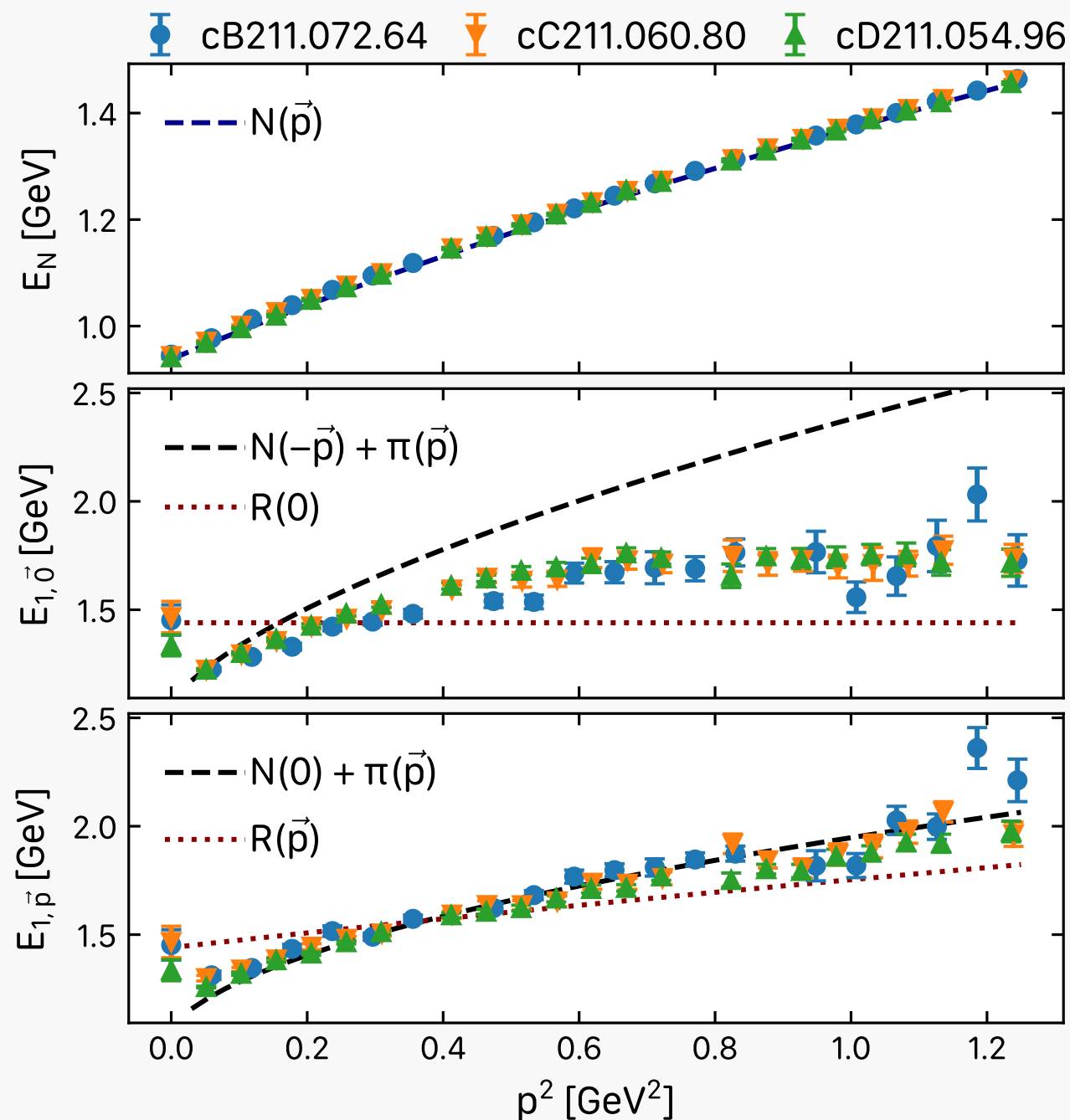


# Backup



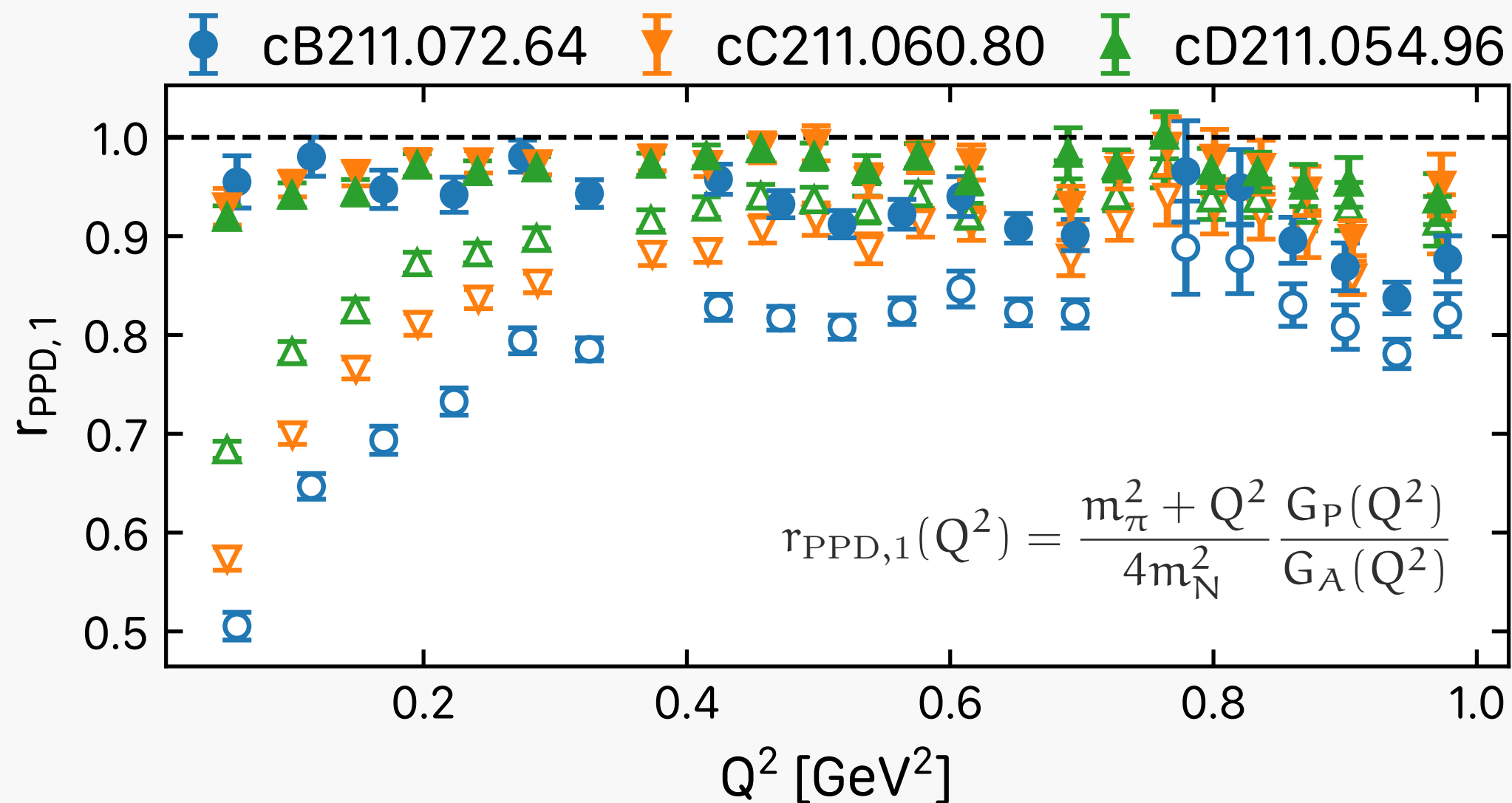
- Two- vs Three-state fits
- Three-state fits stable for  $Q^2 \lesssim 0.465 \text{ GeV}^2$

# Backup



- From two-state fits to both two- and three-point functions

# Backup



- Open symbols: using unitary pion mass  $m_\pi^{\text{TM}}$
- Filled symbols: using Osterwalder-Seiler pion mass  $m_\pi^{\text{OS}}$