
Acknowledging the existence of a higher power:
how 'discrepancy modeling' of truncation
uncertainties in EFT expansions improves
parameter estimation and uncovers
underlying physics



OHIO
UNIVERSITY



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Ohio University

**RESEARCH SUPPORTED BY THE DOE OFFICE OF SCIENCE THE
NSF OFFICE OF ADVANCED CYBERINFRASTRUCTURE**

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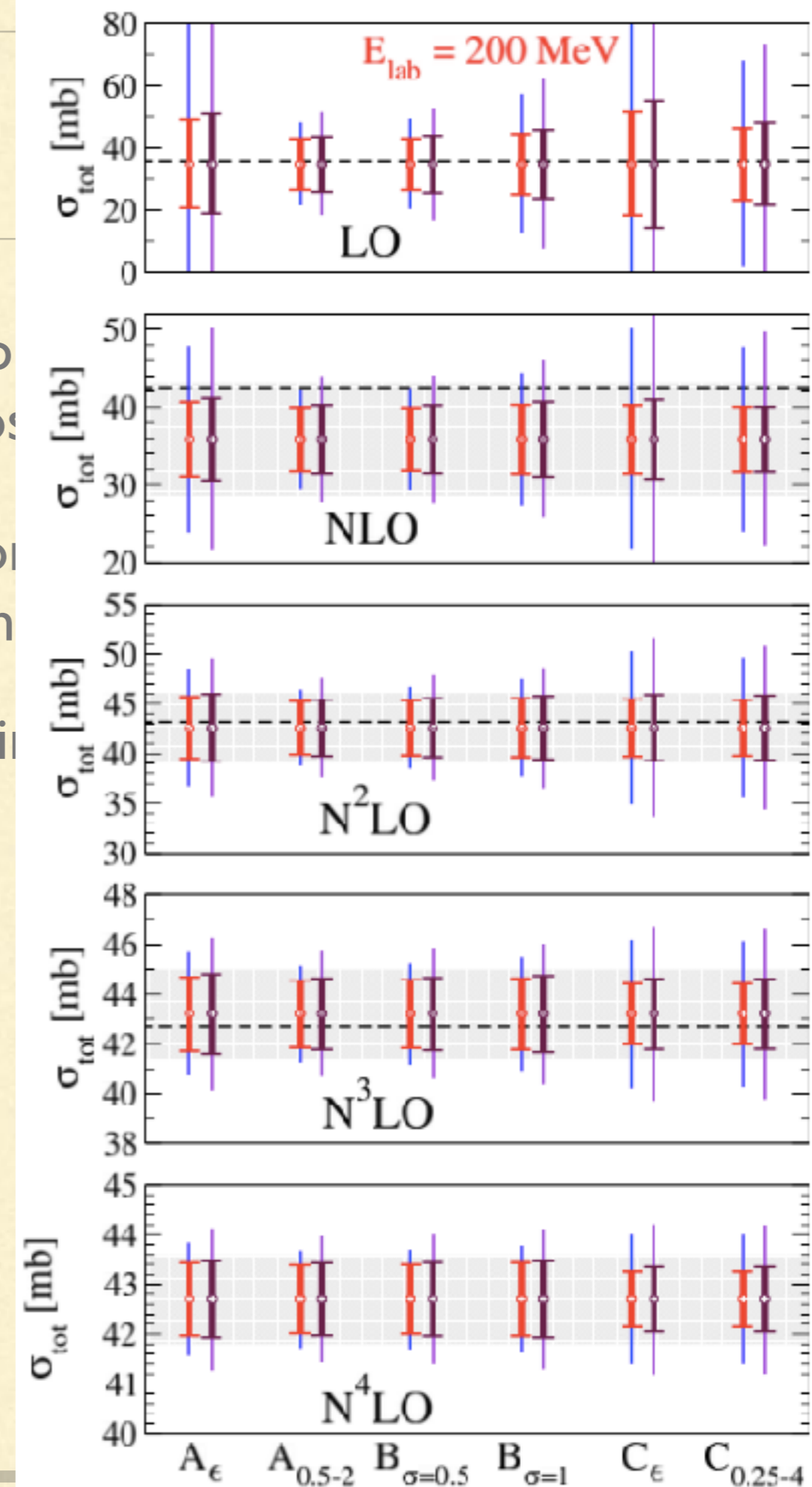
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- The resulting theory error bar is not just something we do to make ourselves look more scientific*. It also has the following benefits:
 - Makes it possible to check if EFT is working “as advertised”, i.e., do EFT truncation uncertainties produce right-sized error bands?

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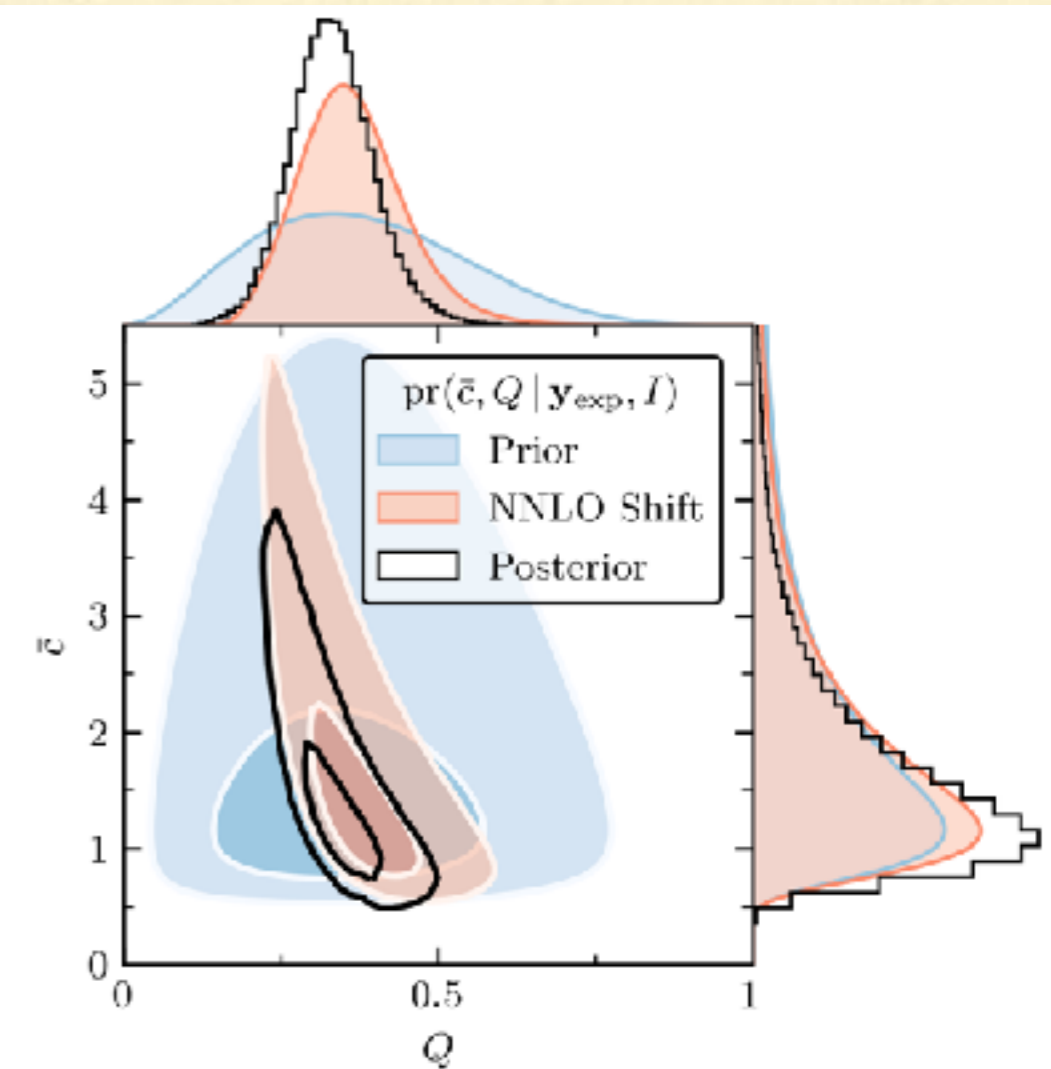
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- Truncation uncertainties can be calculated, and the persistence of EFT coefficient behavior across scales is a good sign.
- The resulting theory error bar is not just something we do to make ourselves look more scientific*. It also has the potential to be useful.
 - Makes it possible to check if EFT is working by comparing the predicted error bands to experimental data.
 - do EFT truncation uncertainties produce right-sized error bands?
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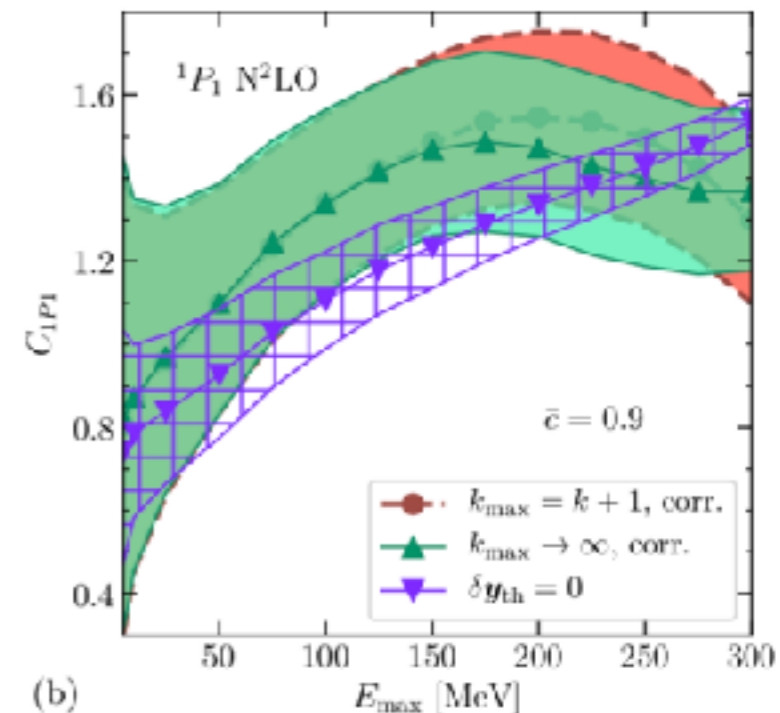
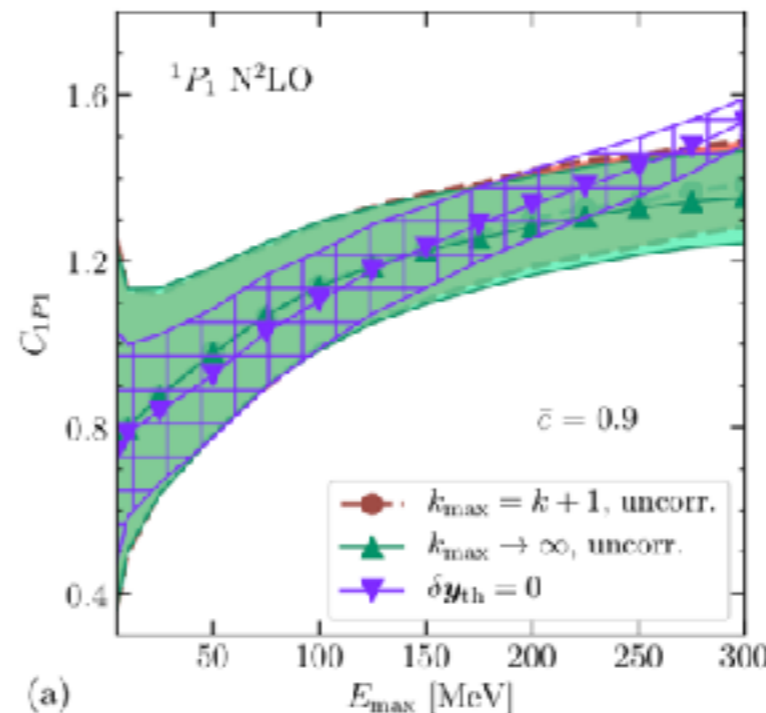
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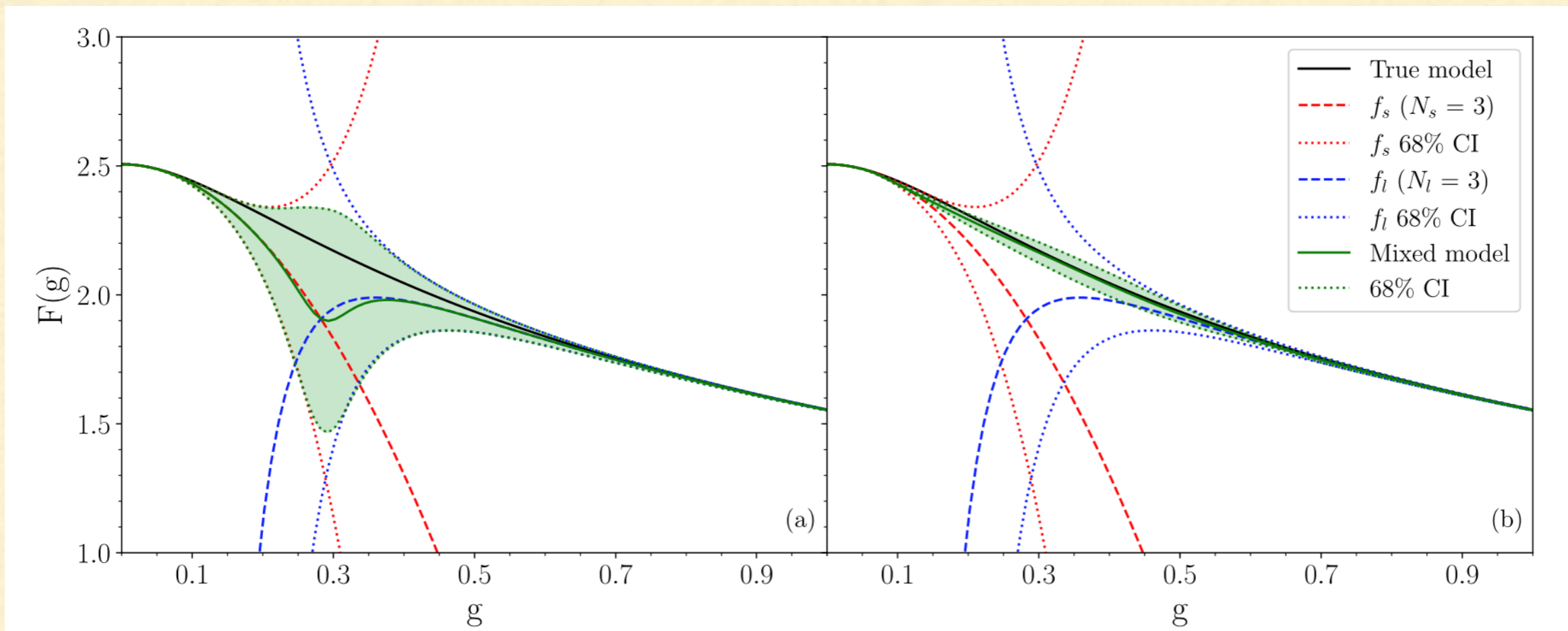
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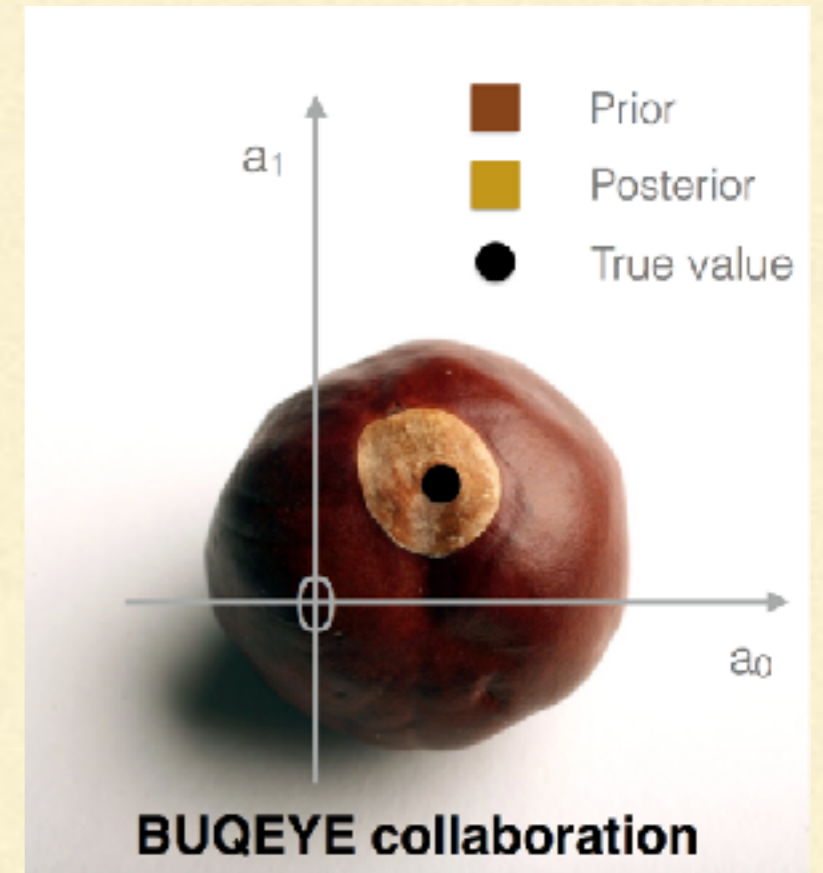


- Low-momentum EFTs with UQ can be combined with high-momentum approaches with UQ using Bayesian Model Mixing

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Outline

- How to calculate rigorous truncation errors
- LEC extraction with truncation errors
 - Getting LECs and the EFT expansion parameter simultaneously
 - Stabilizing LEC fits
- But what should I do about correlated theory uncertainty?
- The BAND Framework
 - Bayesian Model Mixing
- Future Work

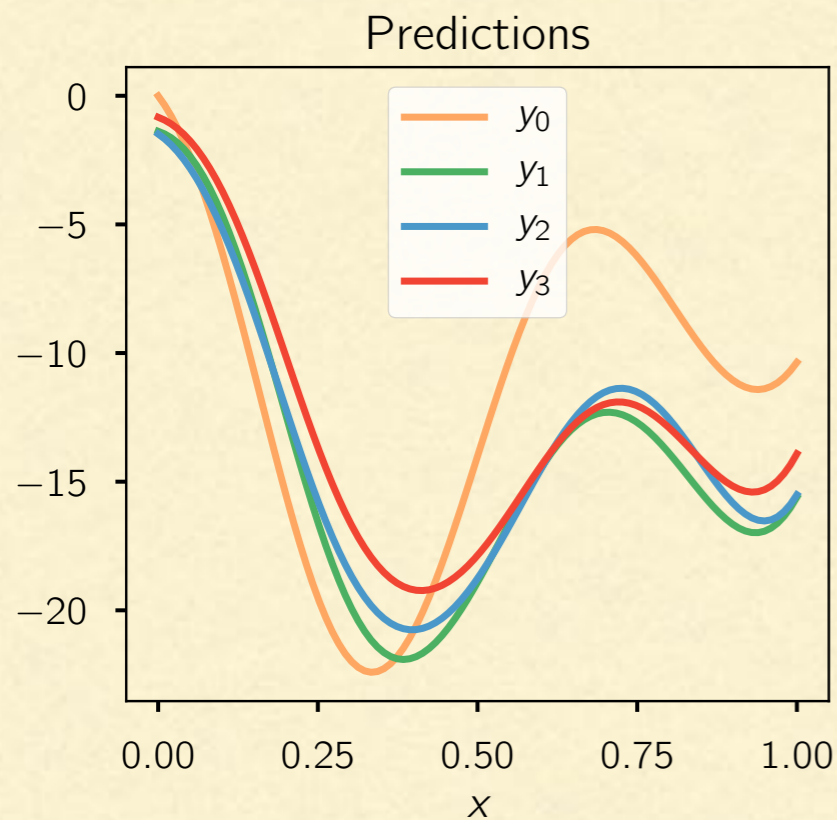


Truncation errors in χ EFT

- General EFT series for observable to order k : $y = y_{\text{ref}} \sum_{n=0}^k c_n(p/m_\pi) Q^n$
- In χ EFT $Q = \frac{(p, m_\pi)}{\Lambda_b}$; $\Lambda_b \approx 600 \text{ MeV}$

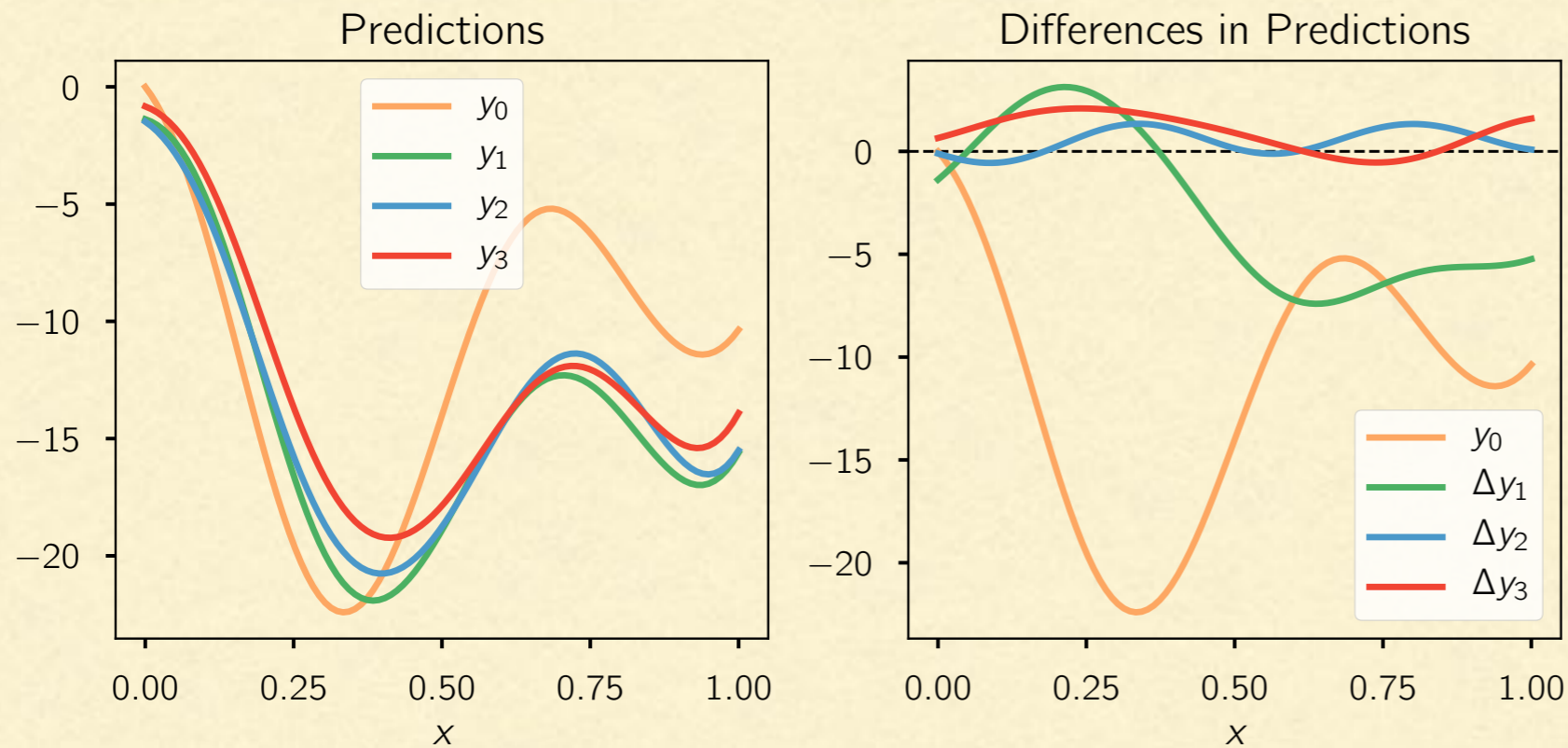
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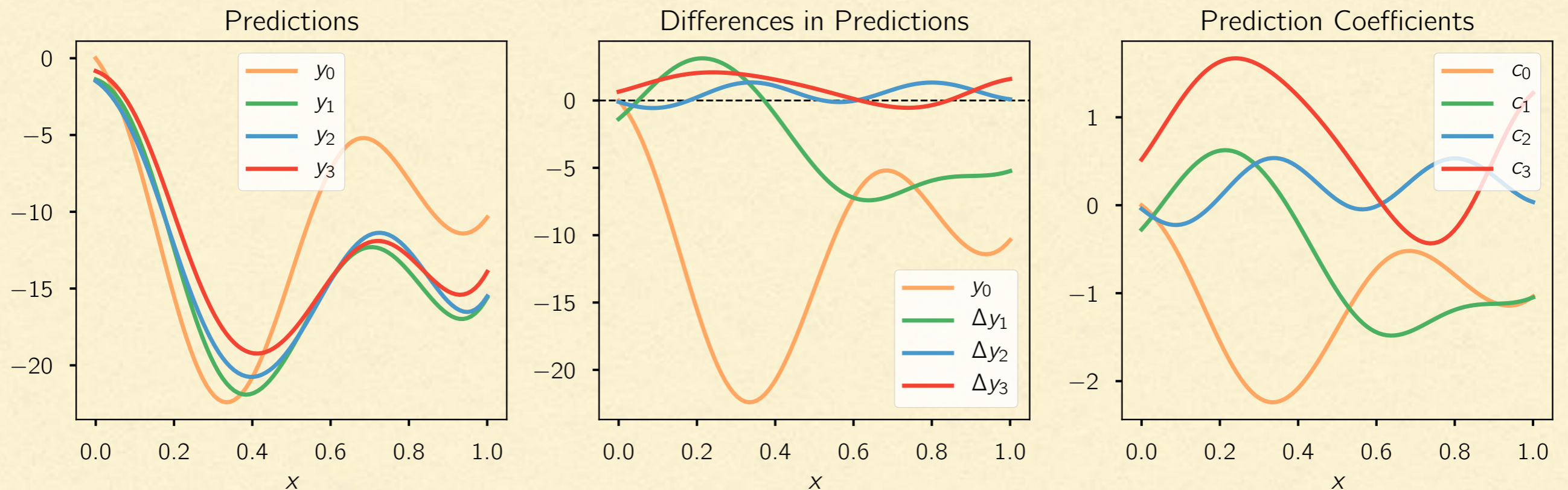
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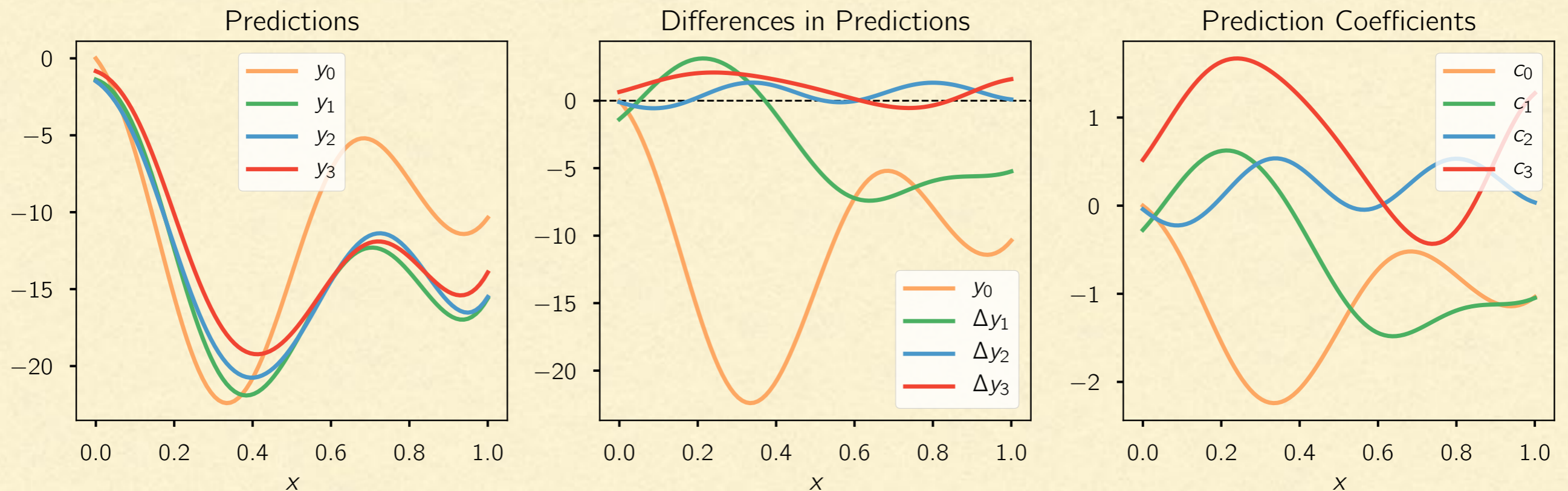
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**This is what a healthy observable expansion looks like:
bounded coefficients, that do not grow or shrink with order.**

Probability for EFT coefficients

Furnstahl, Klco, DP, Wesolowski, PRC, 2015 after Cacciari and Houdeau, JHEP, 2011

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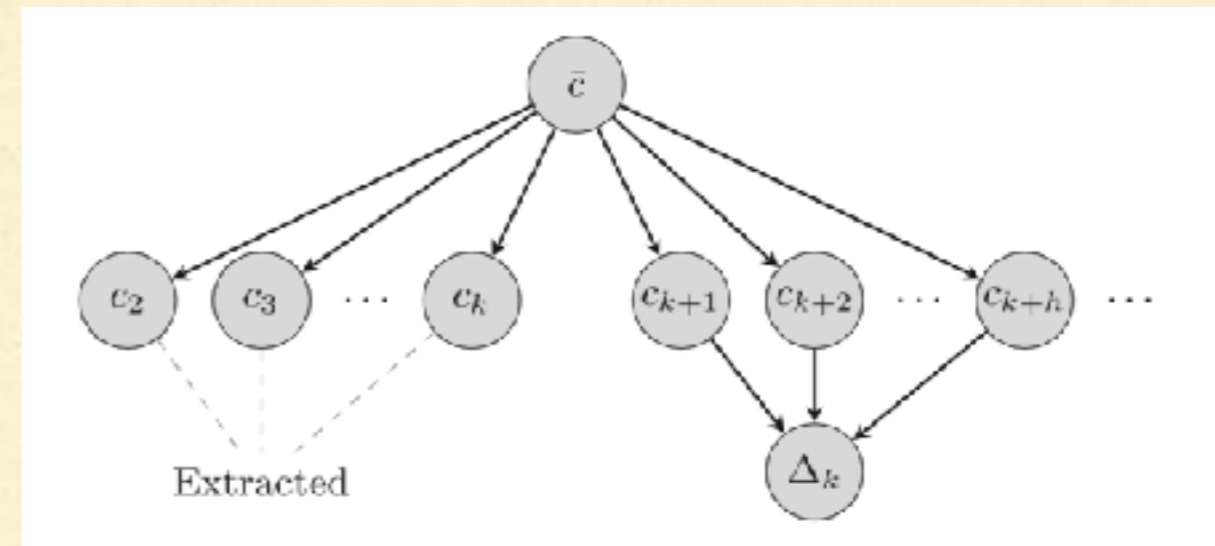
- So can we use extracted $c_0, c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k$ to estimate (in a probabilistic way) c_{k+1} ? From there construct $\Delta_k = y_{\text{ref}} - c_{k+1} Q^{k+1}$: truncation error

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- Bayesian model:

Parameter \bar{c} sets size of all dimensionless coefficients

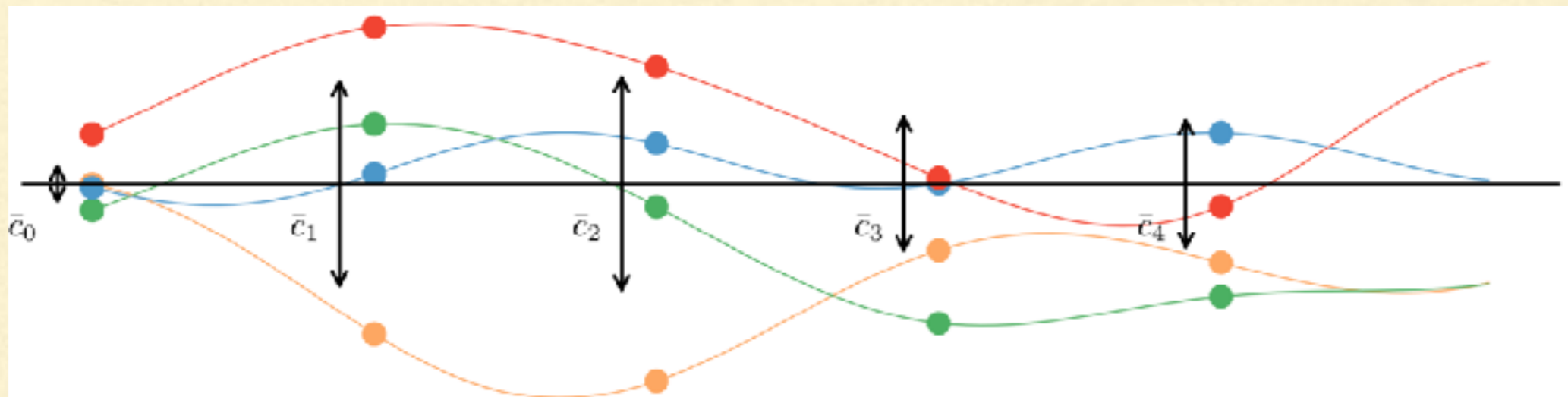
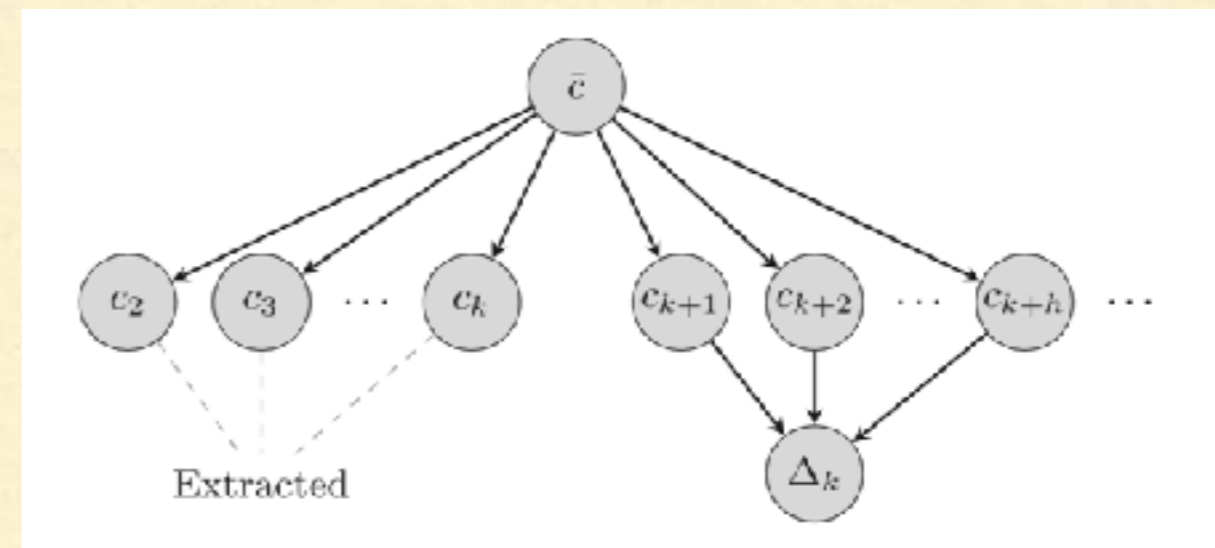


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First shot: \bar{c} can be different at different kinematic points:
“uncorrelated model”

NN scattering

Epelbaum, Krebs, Meißner, PRC, 2015

Employ “semi-local” potentials of Epelbaum, Krebs, and Meißner

$$\chi\text{EFT: } \mathcal{L}(N, \pi) \rightarrow V^{(k)} \rightarrow \delta \rightarrow \sigma_{np}$$

$$\sigma_{np}(E_{\text{lab}}) = \sigma_{\text{LO}} \sum_{n=0}^k c_n(p_{\text{rel}}) \left(\frac{p_{\text{rel}}}{\Lambda_b} \right)^n$$

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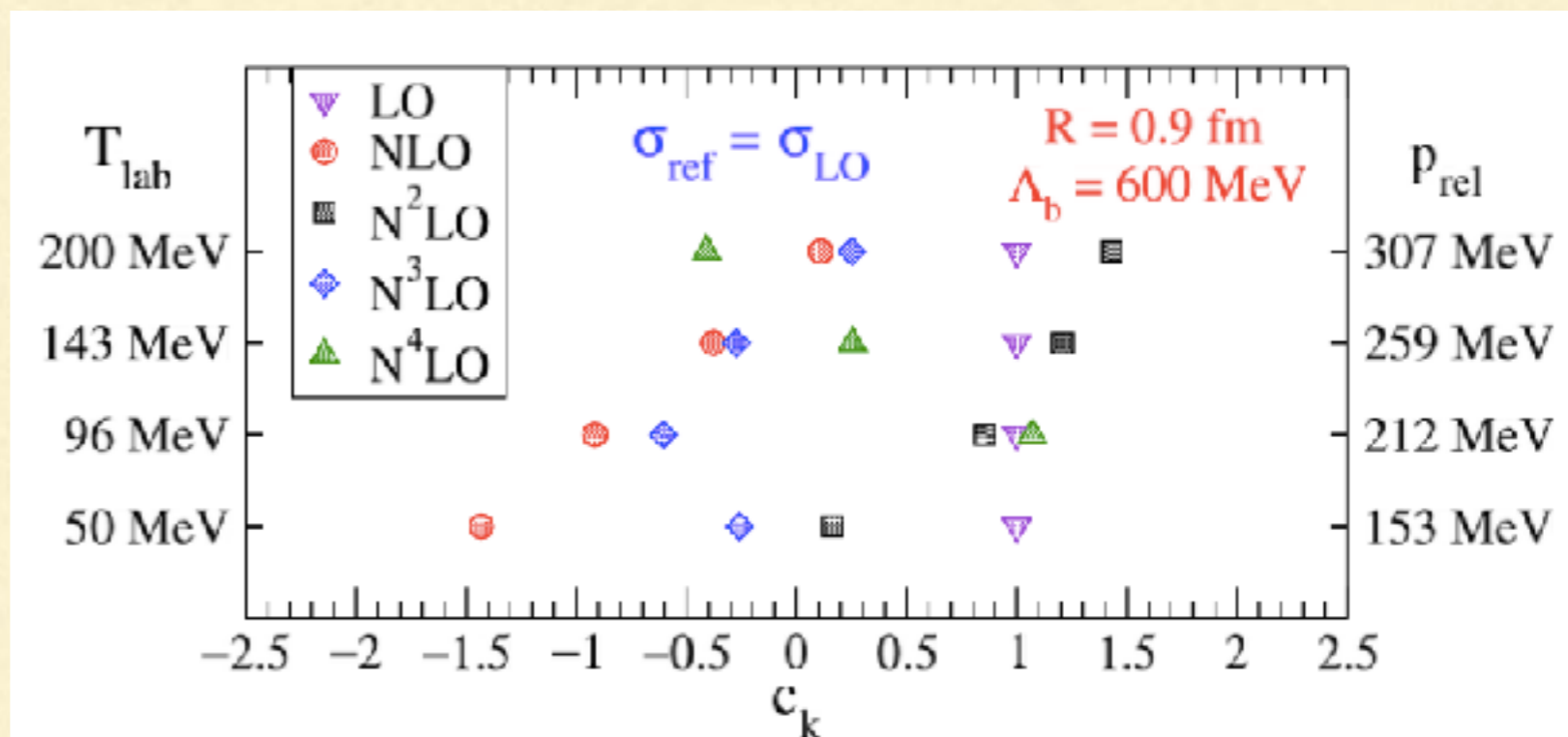
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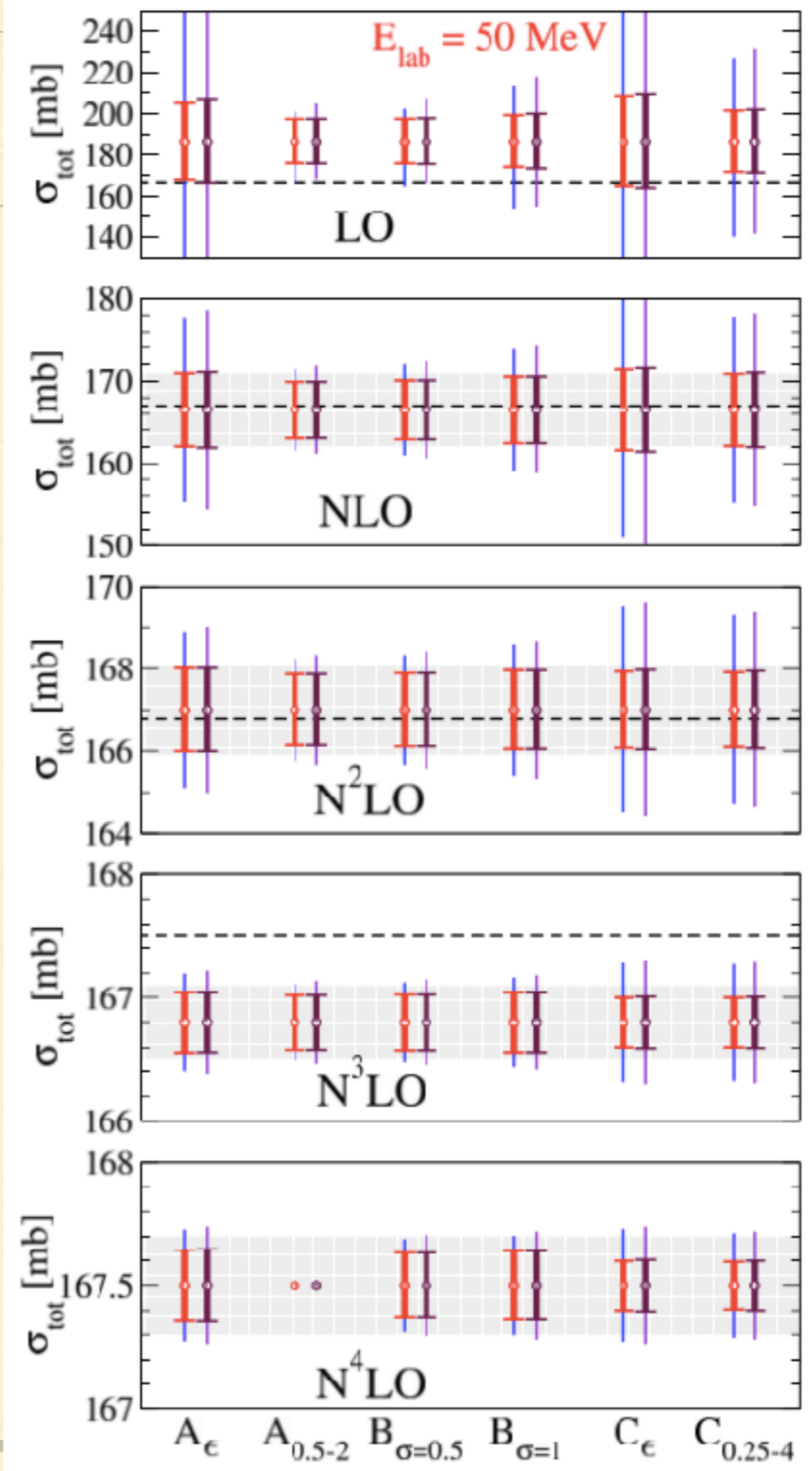
- NN cross section at $T_{\text{lab}}=50, 96, 143, 200$ MeV
- Potential regulated by local function, parameterized by R
- EKM identify $\Lambda_b=600$ MeV for smaller R values
- Here: $R=0.9$ fm data
- Results at LO, NLO, $N^2\text{LO}$, $N^3\text{LO}$, $N^4\text{LO}$ ($k=0, 2, 3, 4, 5$)

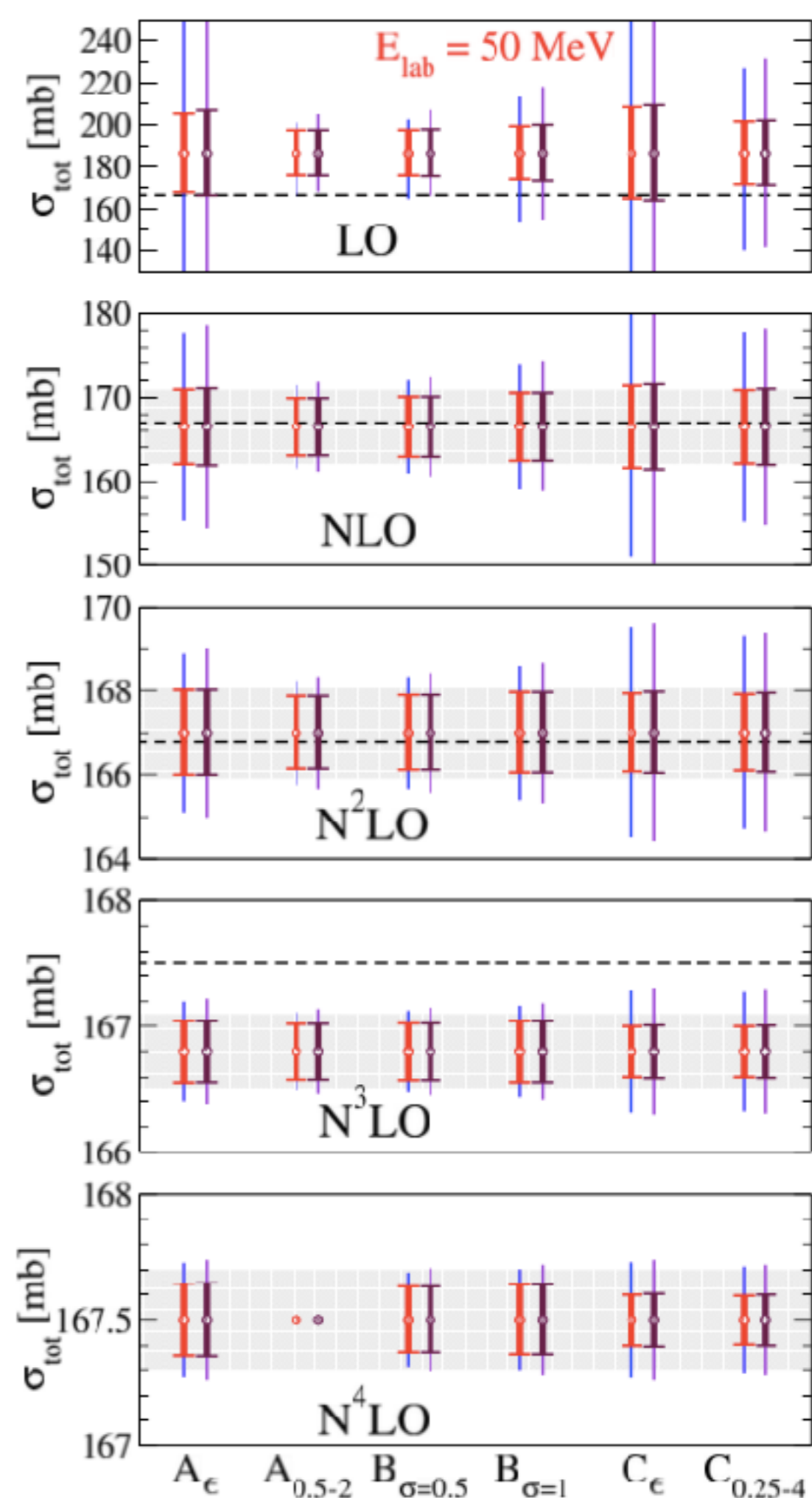
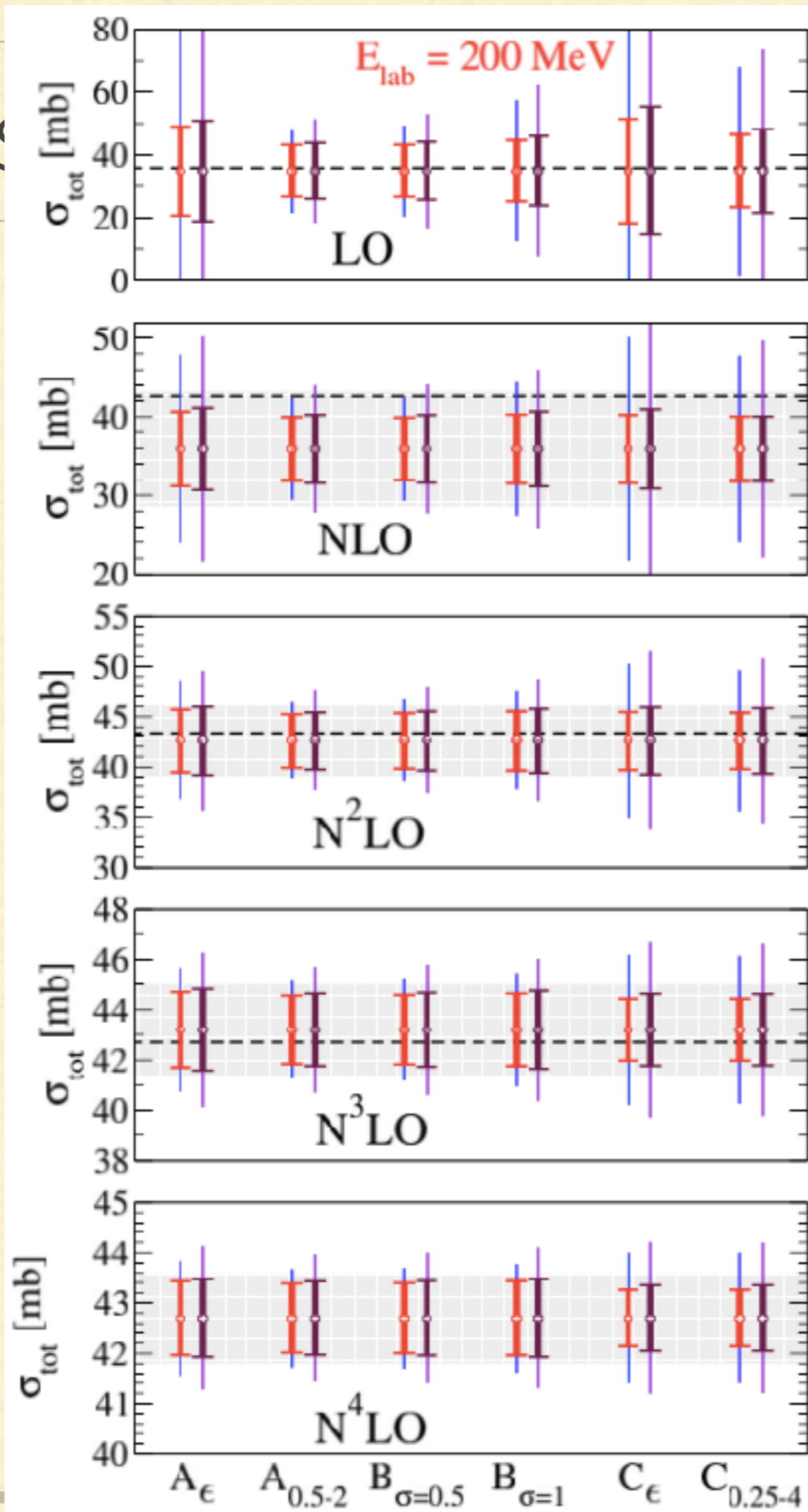
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Results





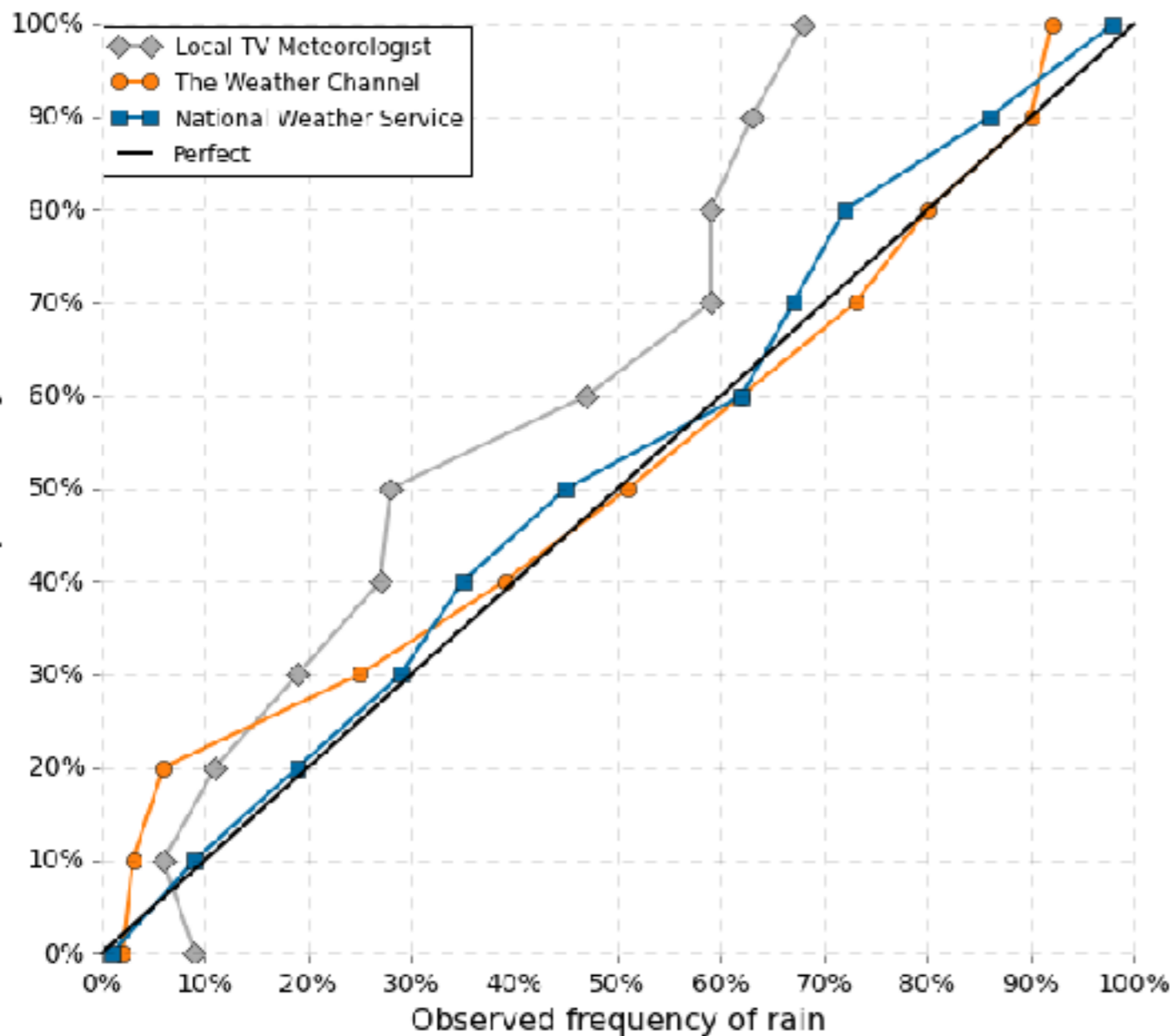
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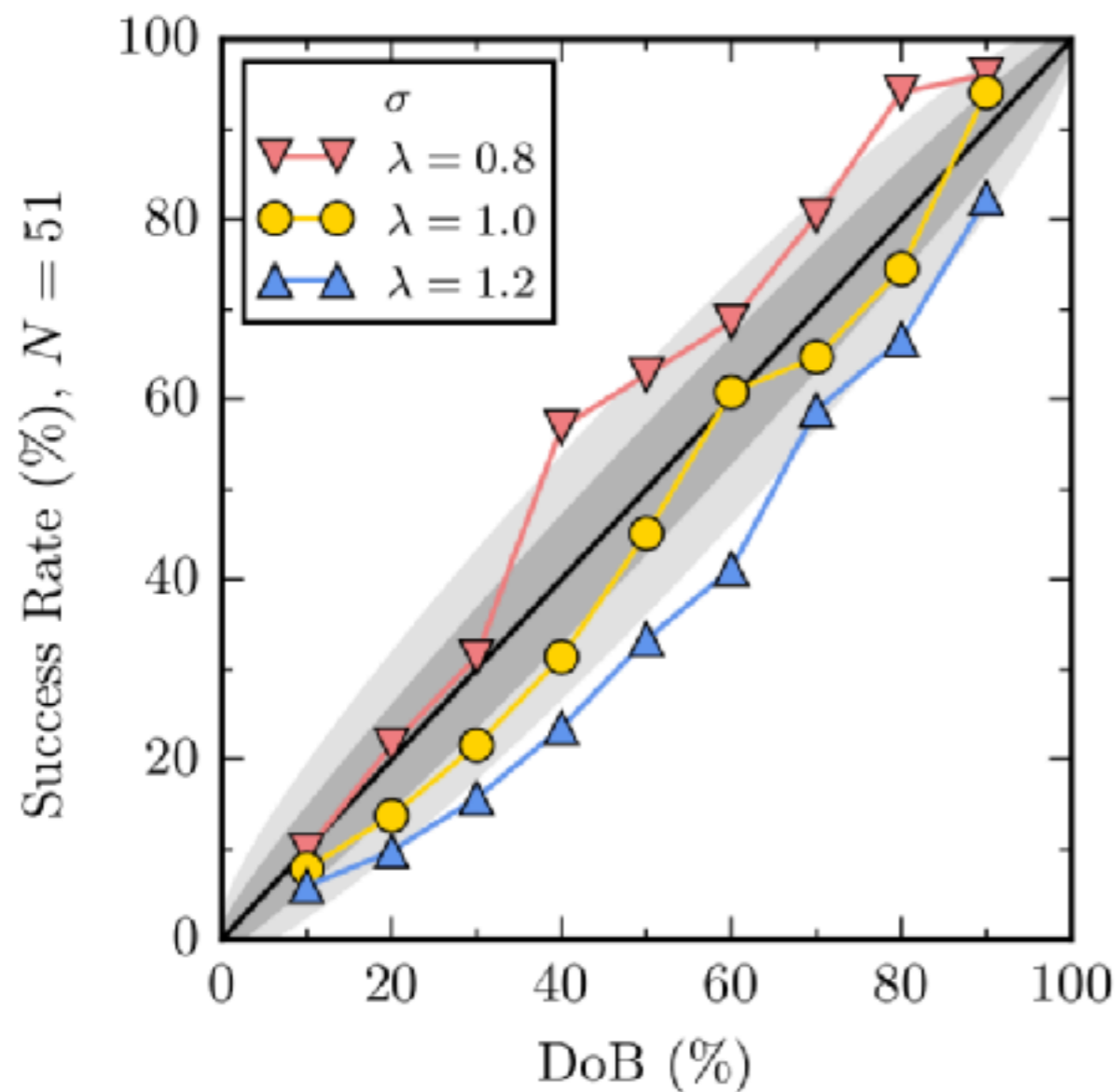
- Consider predictions at each order, with their error bars, as data and test them to see if the procedure is consistent
- Fix a given DOB interval: compute success ratio, compare

Accuracy of three weather forecasting services



Source: "The Signal and the Noise" by Nate Silver | Author: Randy Olson (randalolson.com / @randal_olson)

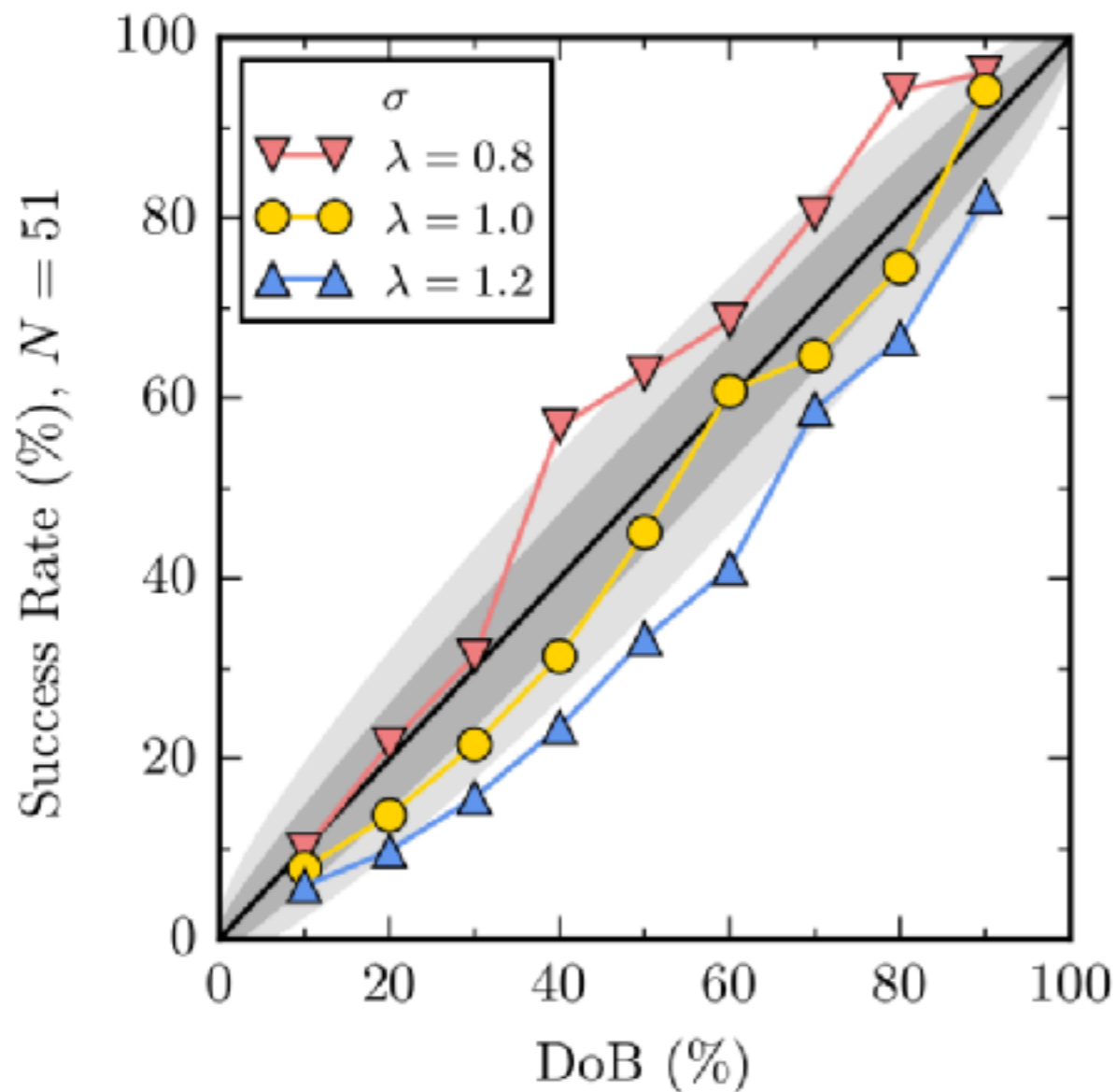
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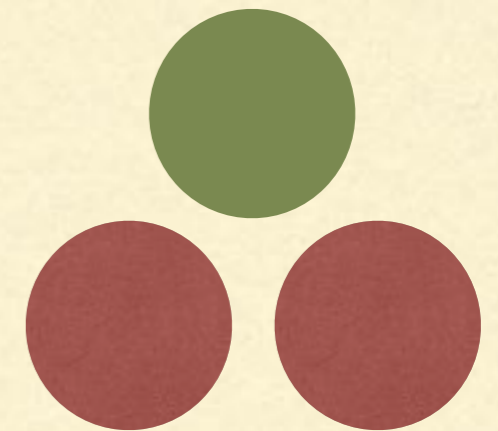
No evidence for significant rescaling of Λ_b

Parameter estimation from few-body data

Wesolowski, Svennson, Ekström, Forssén, Furnstahl, Melendez, DP, PRC 2021

Let's try and estimate the parameters of the three-nucleon force;
for the moment we stick to bound-state observables

- Binding energy of three-nucleon nuclei: ${}^3\text{H}$
- Binding energy of ${}^4\text{He}$
- Charge radius of ${}^4\text{He}$
- Beta-decay half-life of ${}^3\text{H}$, aka “GT matrix element”



Solve Schrödinger equation for ${}^3\text{He}$ and ${}^4\text{He}$ and compute radii,
GT matrix element

Done at $\mathcal{O}(Q^0)$, $\mathcal{O}(Q^2)$, $\mathcal{O}(Q^3)$

Emulation via a Reduced-Basis Method (EC) makes fast evaluation possible

3N error model

$$y_{\text{exp}} = y_{\text{th}} + \delta y_{\text{exp}} + \delta y_{\text{th}}$$

$$y_{\text{th}} = y_{\text{ref}} \sum_{i=0}^k c_i(\{a_j\}) Q^i$$

$$Q = \frac{P_{\text{typ}}}{\Lambda_b}$$

$$y_{\text{ref}} = y_{\text{LO}} \text{ here}$$

- Assume c_i 's Gaussian random variables with mean zero $\Rightarrow \delta y_{\text{th}} = y_{\text{ref}} \bar{c} \frac{Q^{k+1}}{\sqrt{1-Q^2}}$
 - Q is not obvious: we will actually make it a parameter and sample it.
 - We will also sample \bar{c}^2 , the mean-square value of the higher-order coefficients
 - \bar{c}^2 and Q are also constrained by information from the lower-order calculations
 - As a first go we take the covariance matrix $\bar{\delta} y_{\text{th}}$ to be diagonal, although we will assume that all observables share a common \bar{c}
-

Posterior and priors

$$\text{pr}(c_D, c_E, \bar{c}^2, Q | D, I) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{r}^T(\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\text{exp}} + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\text{th}})^{-1}\mathbf{r}\right) \exp\left(-\frac{c_D^2 + c_E^2}{2\bar{a}^2}\right) \text{pr}(\bar{c}^2 | Q, \bar{a}, I) \text{pr}(Q | c_D, c_E, I)$$

$$\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{y}_{\text{exp}} - \mathbf{y}_{\text{th}}$$

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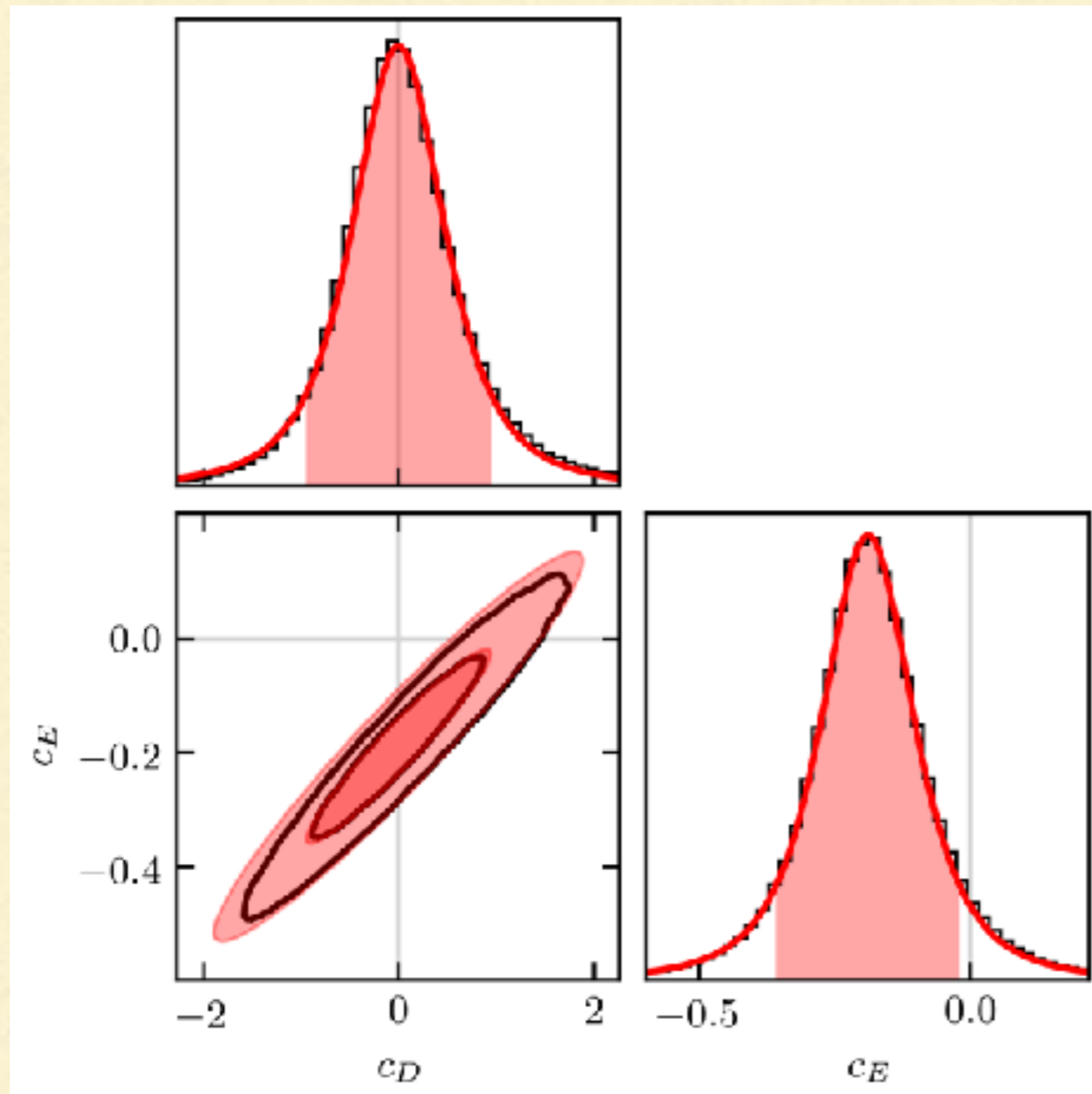
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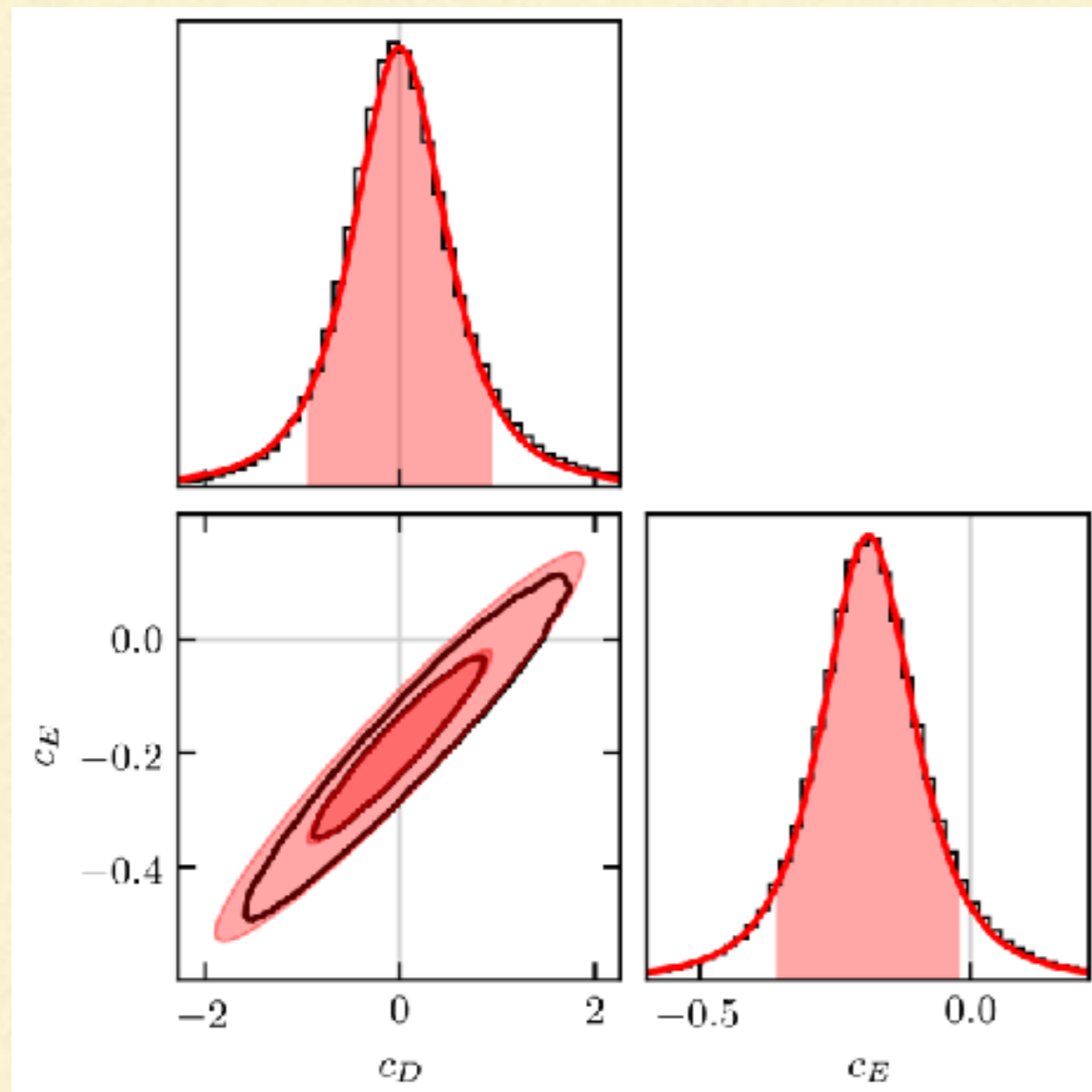
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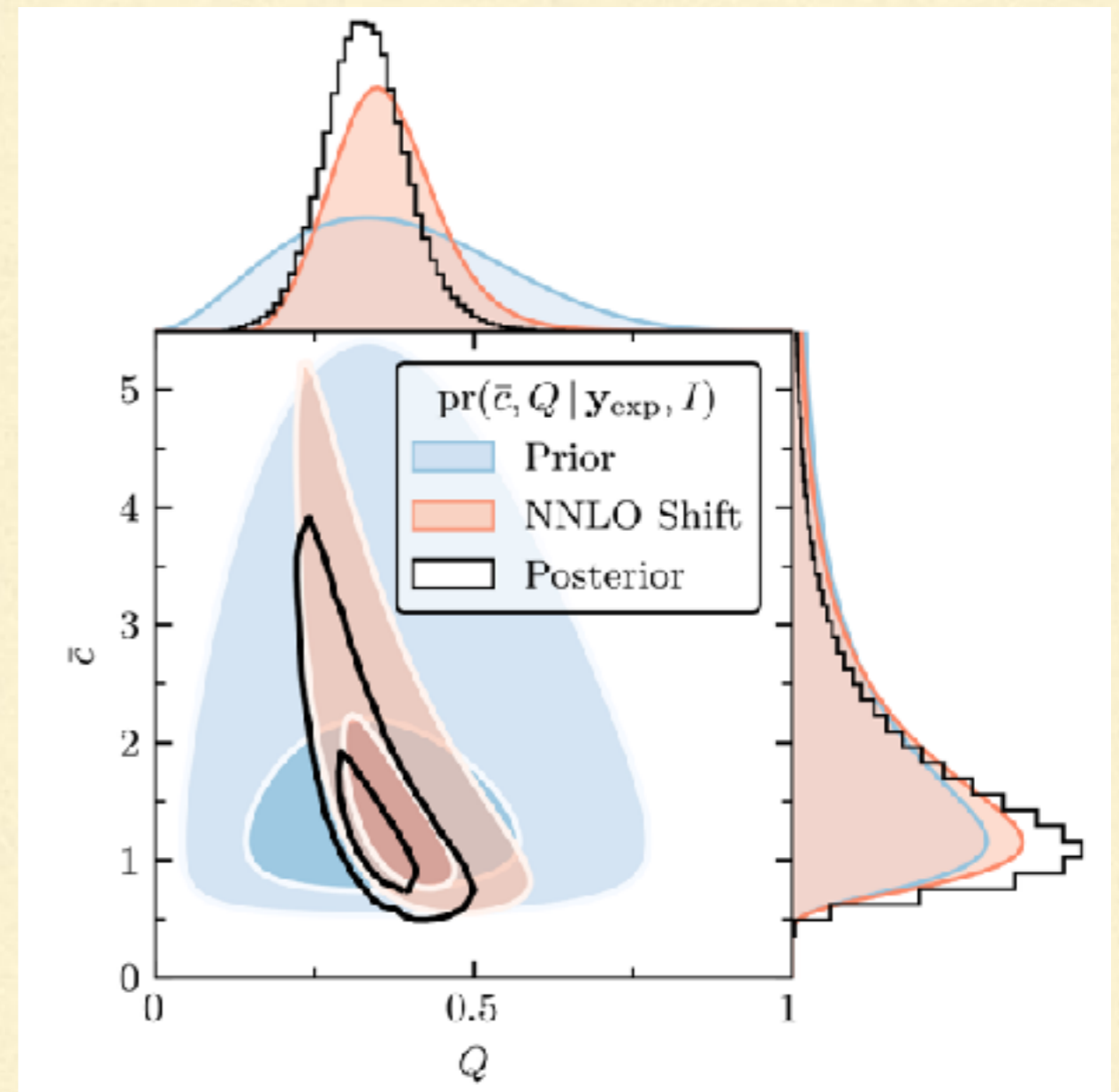


t distributions!

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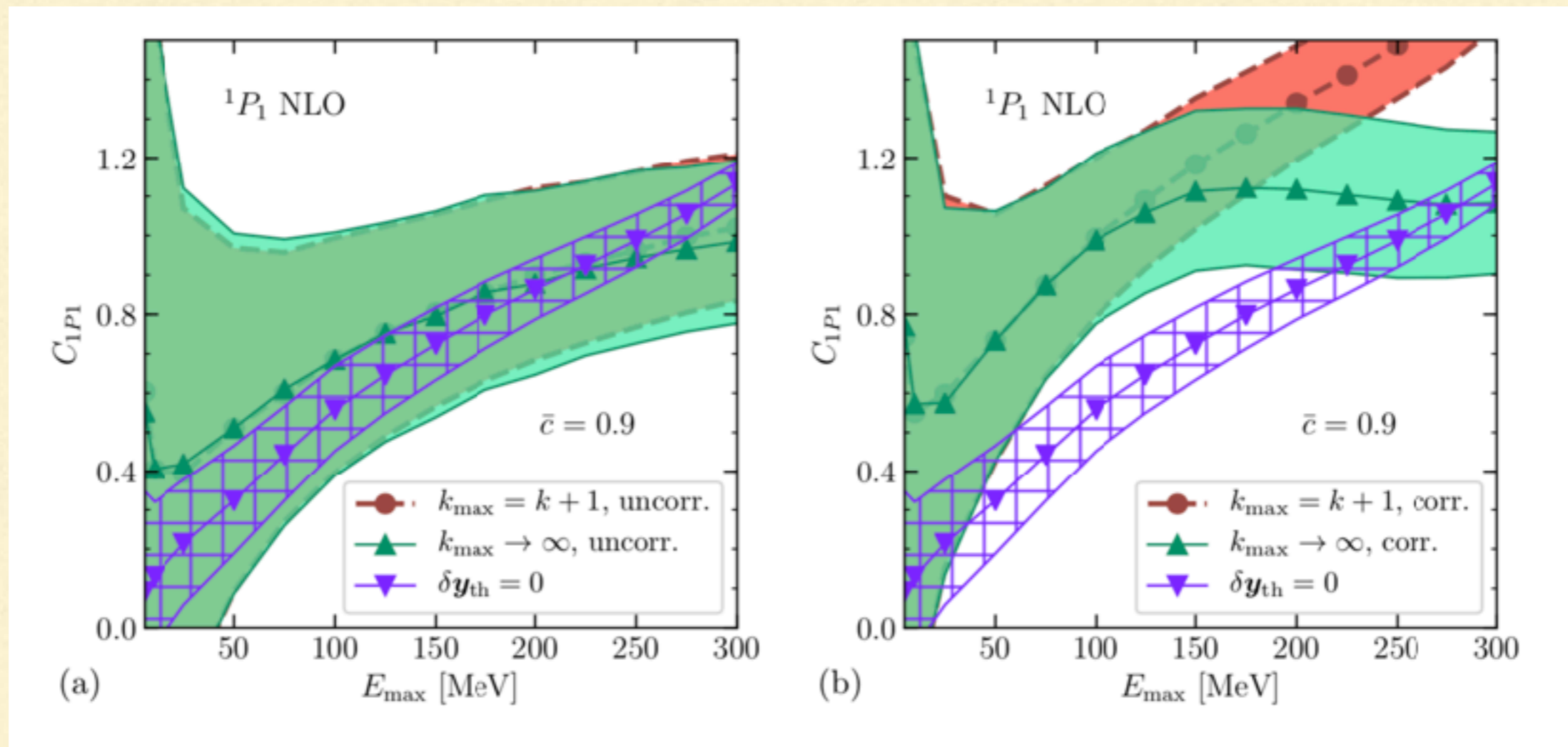
t distributions!



Q inferred from data,
convergence pattern

E_{\max} plots in the 1P_1

Wesolowski, Furnstahl, Melendez, DP, JPG 2018



$$(\Sigma_{\text{th,diag}})_{ij} = (\mathbf{y}_{\text{ref}})^2 \bar{c}^2 \delta_{ij} \sum_{n=k+1}^{k_{\max}} Q_i^{2n}$$

$$(\Sigma_{\text{th,corr}})_{ij} = (\mathbf{y}_{\text{ref}})_i (\mathbf{y}_{\text{ref}})_j \bar{c}^2 \sum_{n=k+1}^{k_{\max}} Q_i^n Q_j^n$$

- Can resum truncation error to all orders (under assumptions about its correlation across orders): tests validity of first-omitted term approximation

A Gaussian Process hypothesis

Melendez, Wesolowski, Furnstahl, DP, Pratola, PRC (2019)

$$y = y_{\text{ref}} \sum_{n=0}^k c_n(p/m_\pi) Q^n$$

Function c_n is not a constant.
But the c_n 's at different values of p aren't independent random variables either

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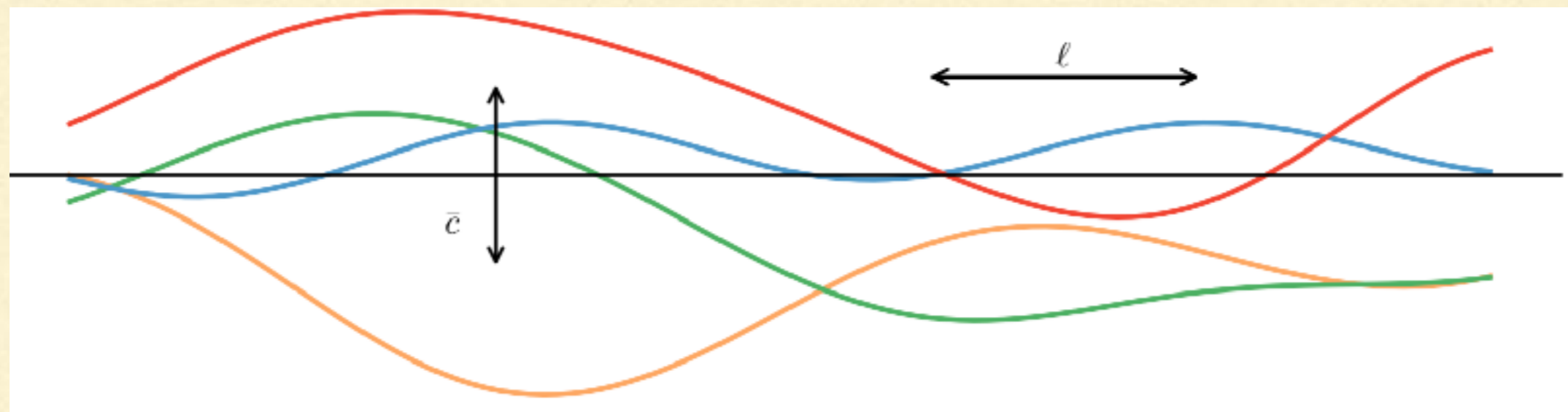
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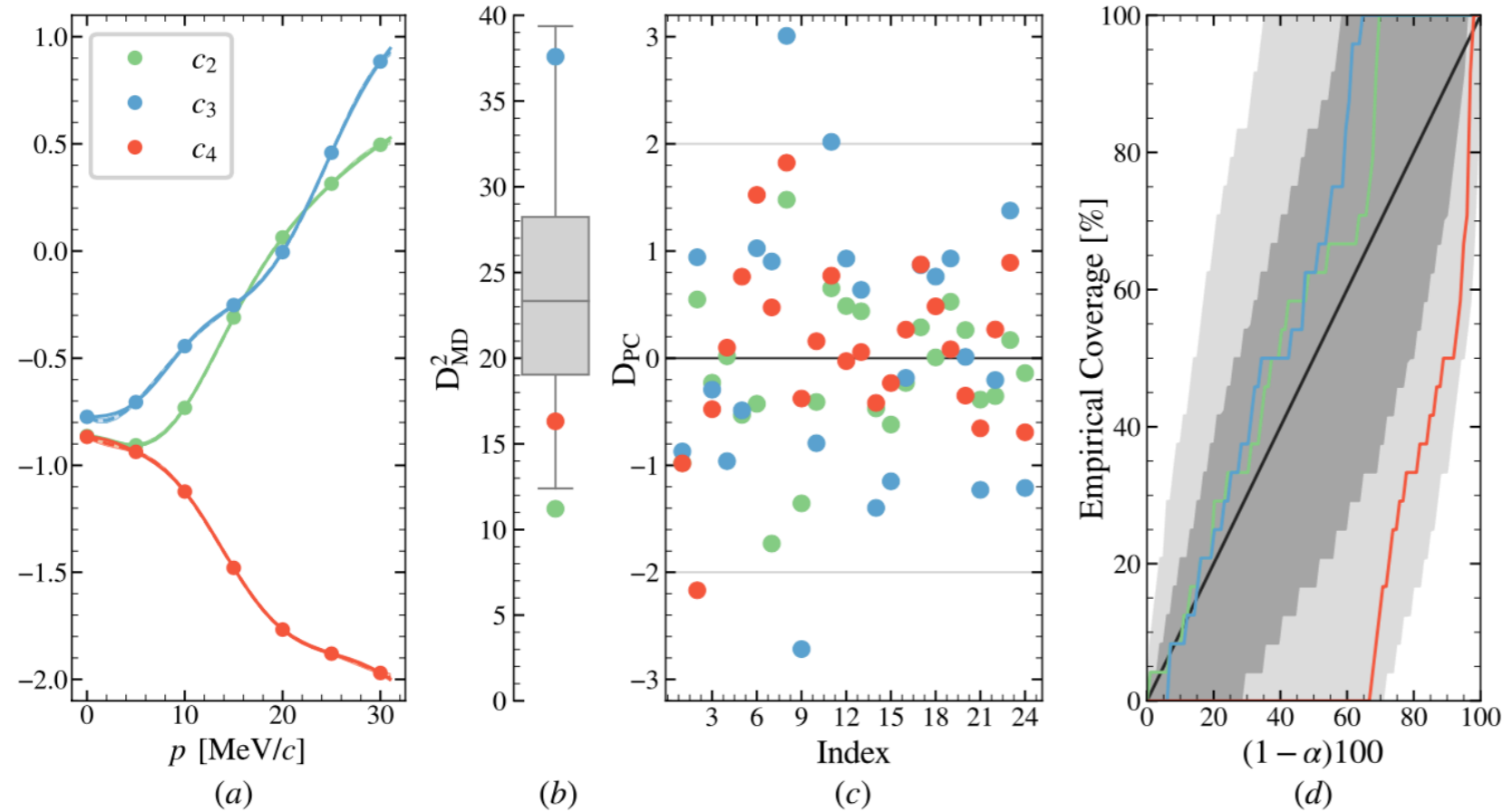
EFT coefficients at different orders can be modeled as independent draws from a *Gaussian Process* with a stationary kernel



- Gaussian distribution at each point
- With correlation structure parameterized by a single \bar{c}^2 and ℓ at all orders

Application to $np \rightarrow d\gamma$

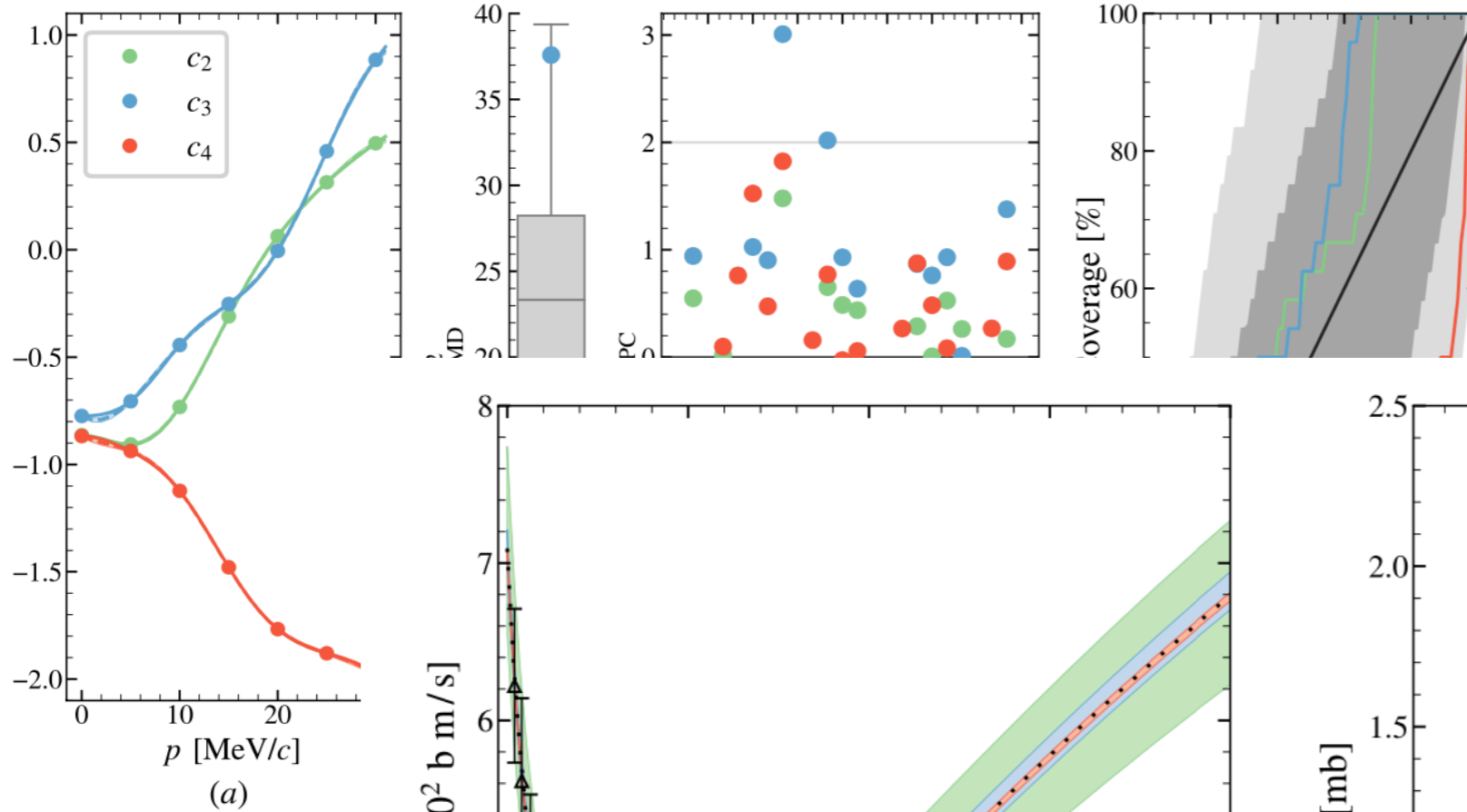
Acharya, Bacca, PLB 2022



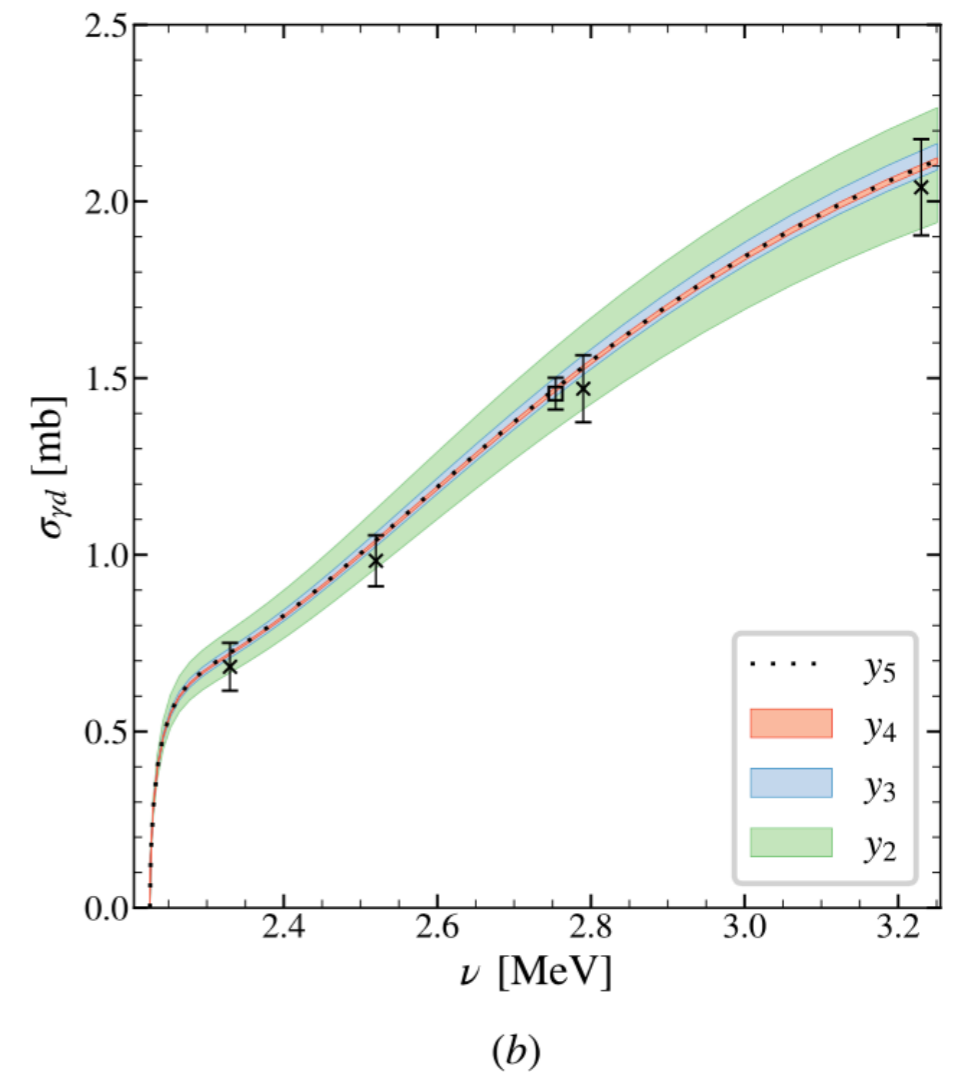
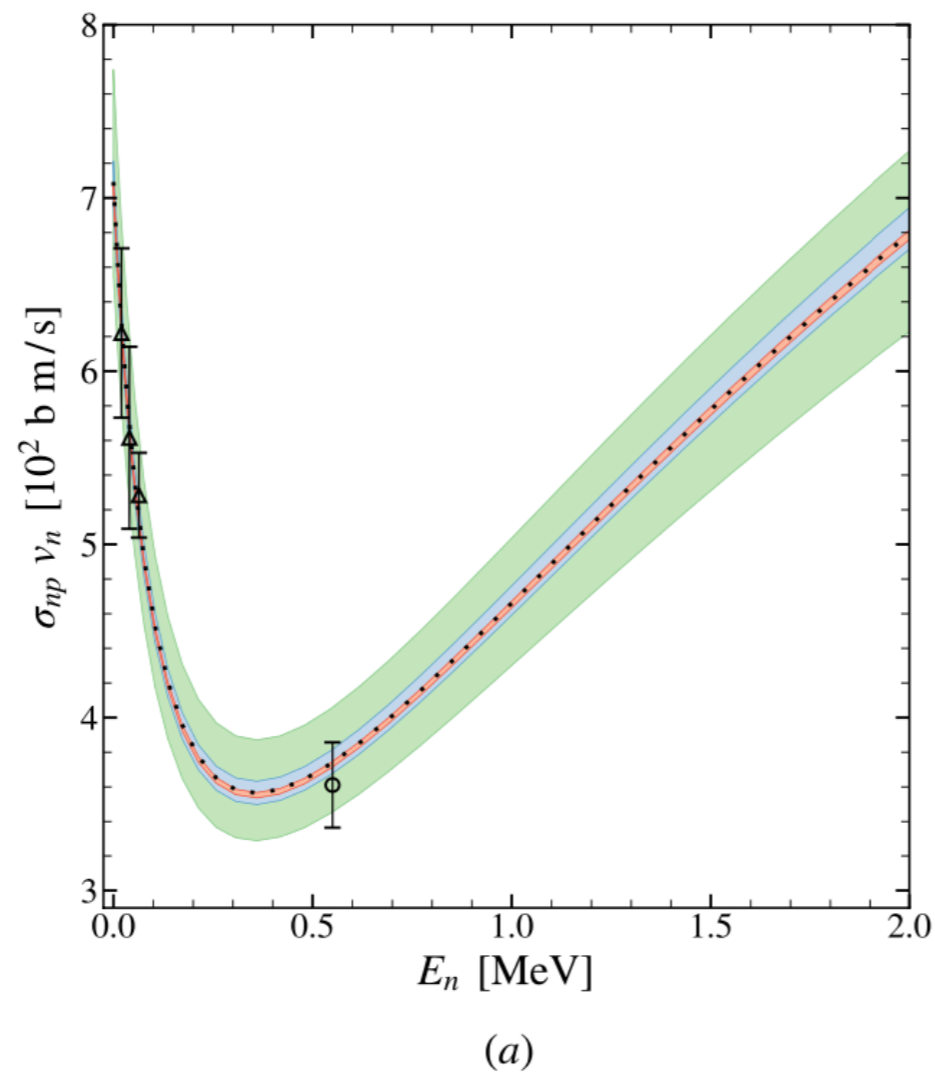
Publicly available
package gsum

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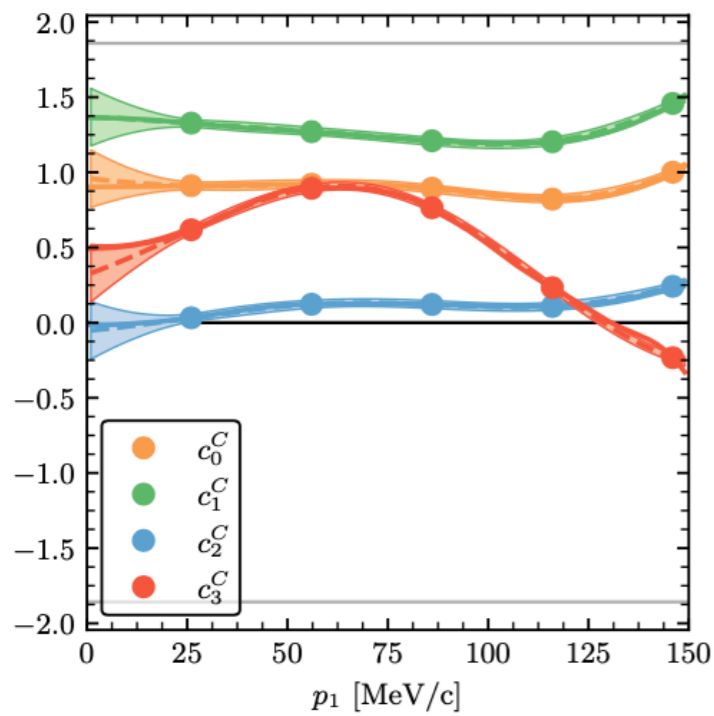


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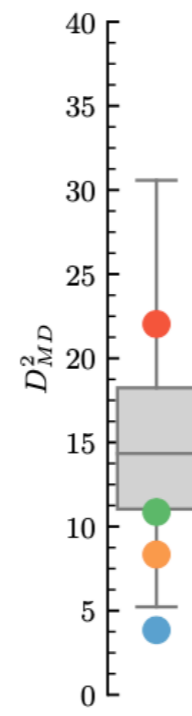


Application to $\mu^-d \rightarrow nn\nu_\mu$

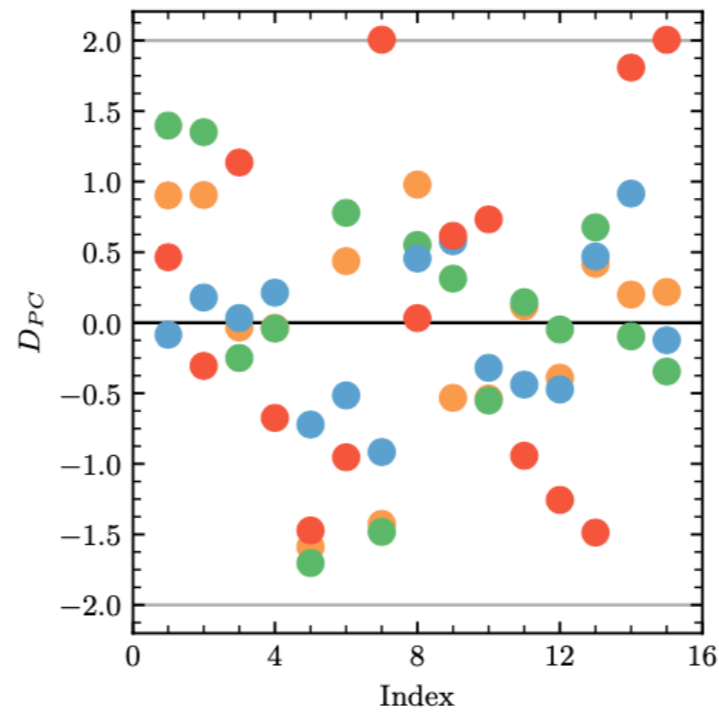
Gnech, Marcucci, Viviani, arXiv 2023



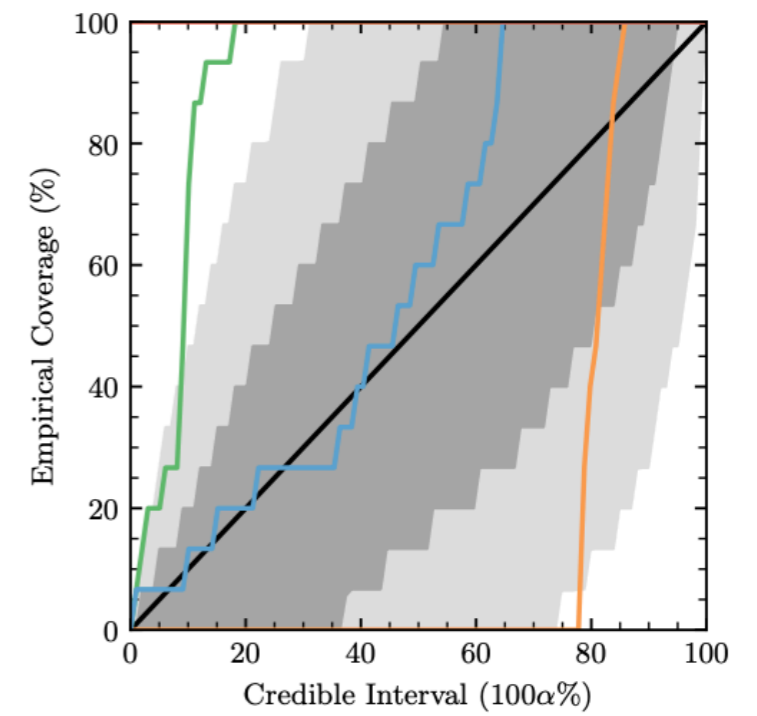
(a)



(b)



(c)



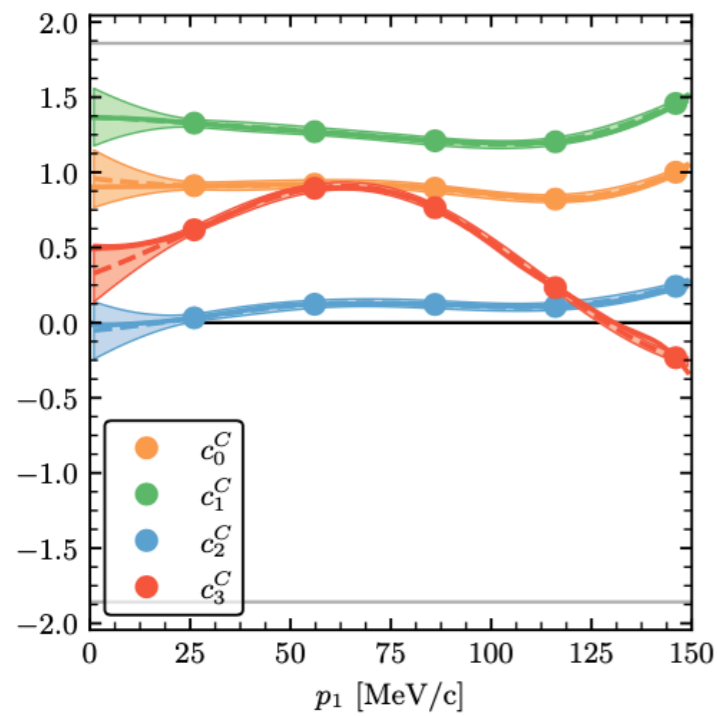
(d)

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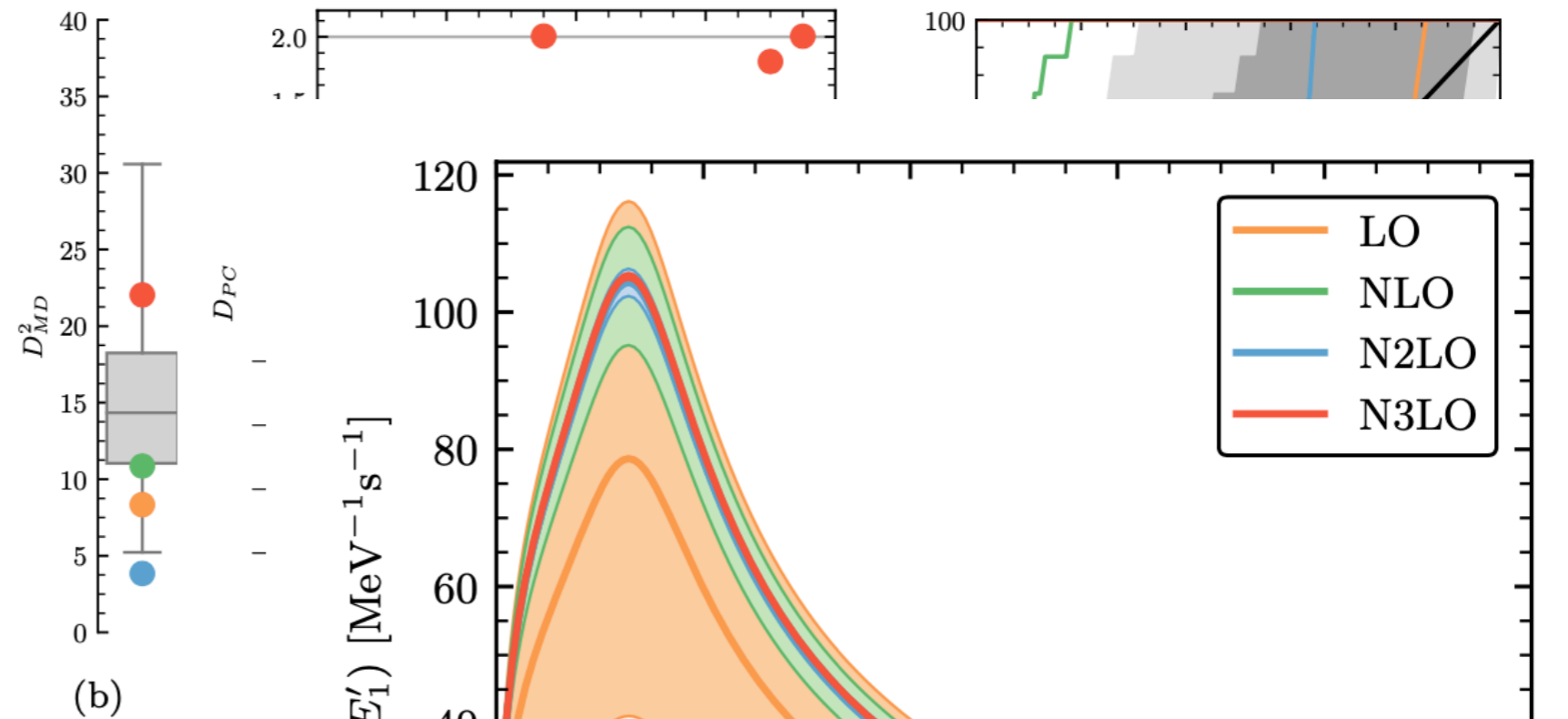
<https://github.com/buqeye/gsum>

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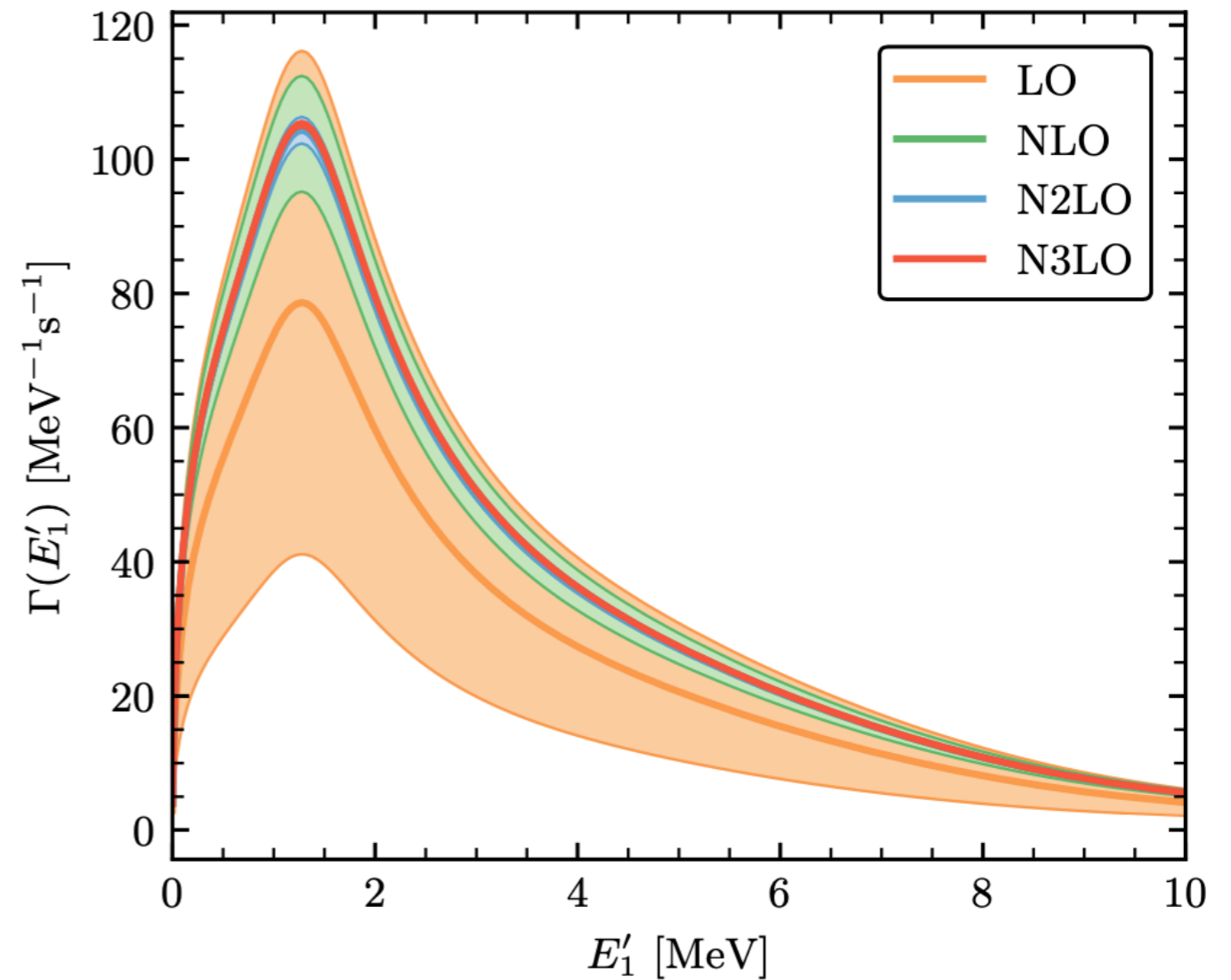
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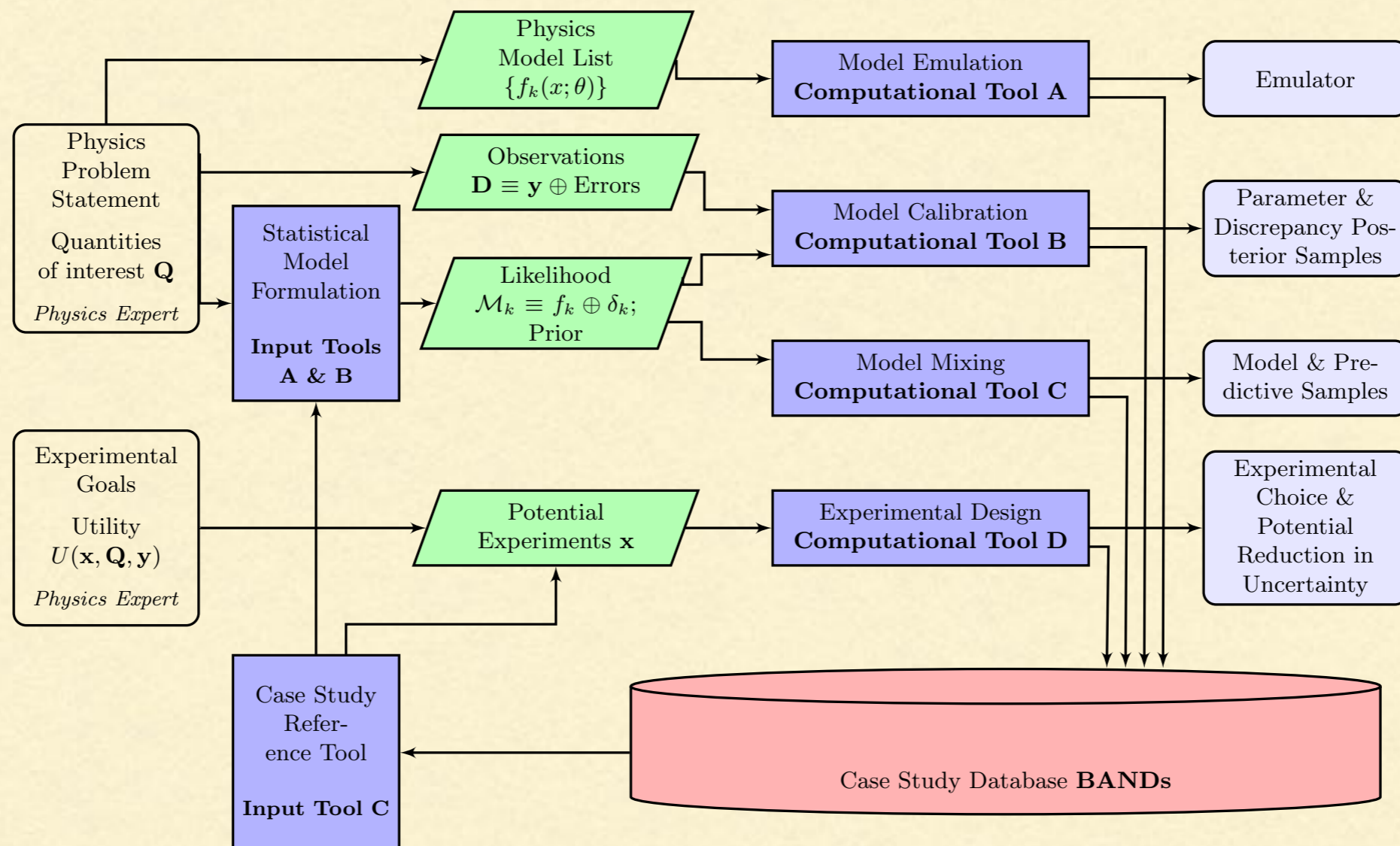
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Goal: Facilitate principled Uncertainty Quantification in Nuclear Physics



Research scientists and grad students



Pablo Giuliani



Kyle Godbey



Sunil Jaiswal



Moses Chan



Manuel Catacora-Rios



Dan Liyanage



Alexandra Semposki



Mookyong Son



John Yannotty

BAND Framework v0.3



Now available at <https://github.com/bandframework/bandframework>

■ Tools:

- surmise: for model emulation via Gaussian Processes and calibration
- SaMBA: Sandbox for Mixing via Bayesian Analysis
- Taweret: Model Mixing software
- BMEX: Bayesian Mass Explorer
- par moo: parallel multiobjective simulation optimization.
- rose: a reduced-order scattering emulator

■ Examples:

- QGP_Bayes: tutorial on Bayesian analysis of QGP simulations
- BRICK: Bayesian R-matrix Inference Code Kit
- BFRESCOX: Emulation and model calibration of coupled-channels treatment of nuclear reactions

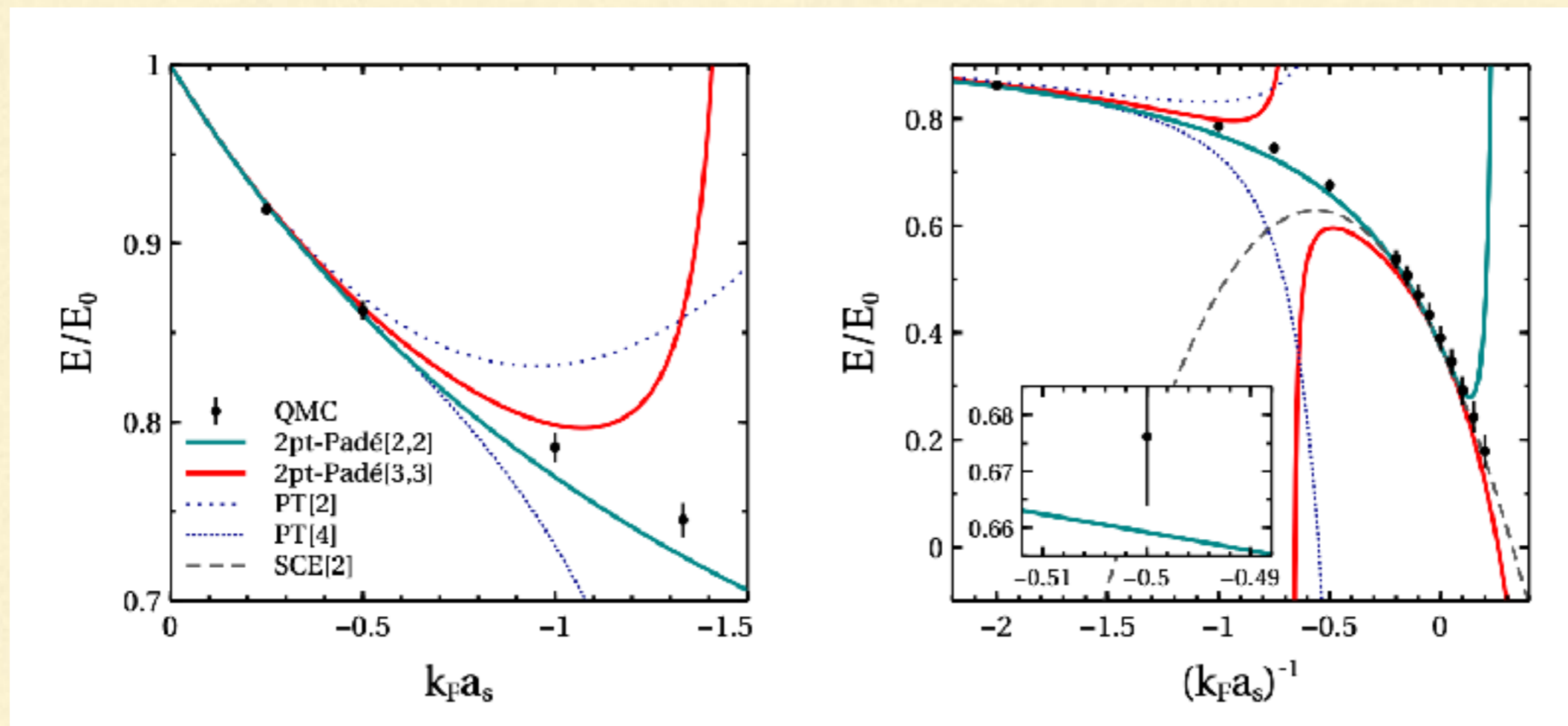


We welcome contributions (tools, examples, and suggestions) from the community

Bayesian Model Mixing

What if we have two (or more) nuclear-physics models, each of which works well in its own region of validity. How do we make reliable predictions across the entire space?

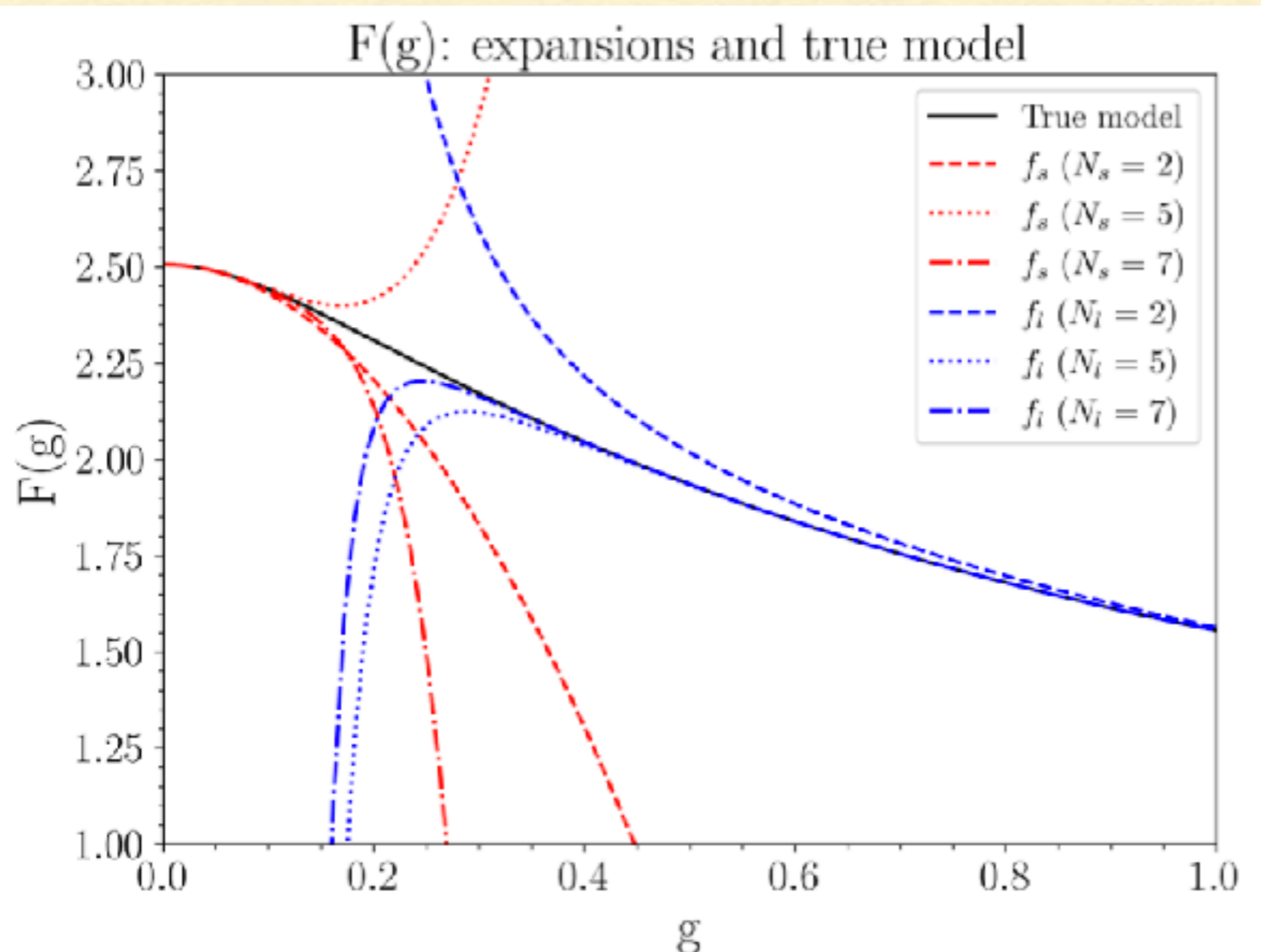
Example: gas of fermions with short-range interactions



A toy problem

Semposki, Furnstahl, DP Phys. Rev. C (2022)

- Consider weak-coupling expansion: $f_s(g) = \sum_{k=0}^{N_s} s_k g^k$
- And strong-coupling expansion for same thing: $f_l(g) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{g}} \sum_{k=0}^{N_l} l_k g^{-k}$



- E.g., 0d partition function of ϕ^4 theory:

$$f(g) = \int d\phi \exp(-\phi^2/2 - g^2\phi^4)$$

Honda, JHEP 2014, 19 (2014)

Step 1: “error model” for each physics model

- BUQEYE™ approach to truncation errors

- Rewrite perturbation-theory expansion as $\sum_{n=0}^k c_n Q^n$

- Put a prior on behavior of c_n (e.g. naturalness prior in EFT)

- Update prior based on known values $\{c_0, \dots, c_k\}$: $\text{pr}(c_{k+1} | \{c_n\}, I)$

- Estimate error due to next term as $\sqrt{\langle c_n^2 \rangle} Q^{k+1} \equiv \bar{c} Q^{k+1}$

- Here we take the values of $f_{s,l}(g)$ to be normally distributed around the result of order $N_{s,l}$ with a standard deviation given by

- Uninformative: $\sigma_{N_s} = \bar{c} g^{N_s+2} (N_s + 2)!; \sigma_{N_l} = \bar{d} \frac{1}{(N_l + 1)!} \frac{1}{g^{N_l+1}}$

- Informative: standard deviation includes additional factors of 4^{N_s} and $1/4^{N_l}$ to more closely match behavior of low-order coefficients

Step 2: Combine the Gaussians

- Combine K models by weighting them by their precision

$$f_{\dagger} = \frac{1}{Z_P} \sum_{k=1}^K \frac{1}{v_k} f_k; \quad Z_P = \sum_{k=1}^K \frac{1}{v_k}$$

- Then, e.g. if f_1 and f_2 are both normally distributed, so is the combination:

$$f_{\dagger} \sim \mathcal{N} \left(\frac{v_2 f_1 + v_1 f_2}{v_1 + v_2}, \frac{v_1 v_2}{v_1 + v_2} \right)$$

Phillips et al., “Get on the BAND Wagon: a Bayesian framework for quantifying model uncertainties...”

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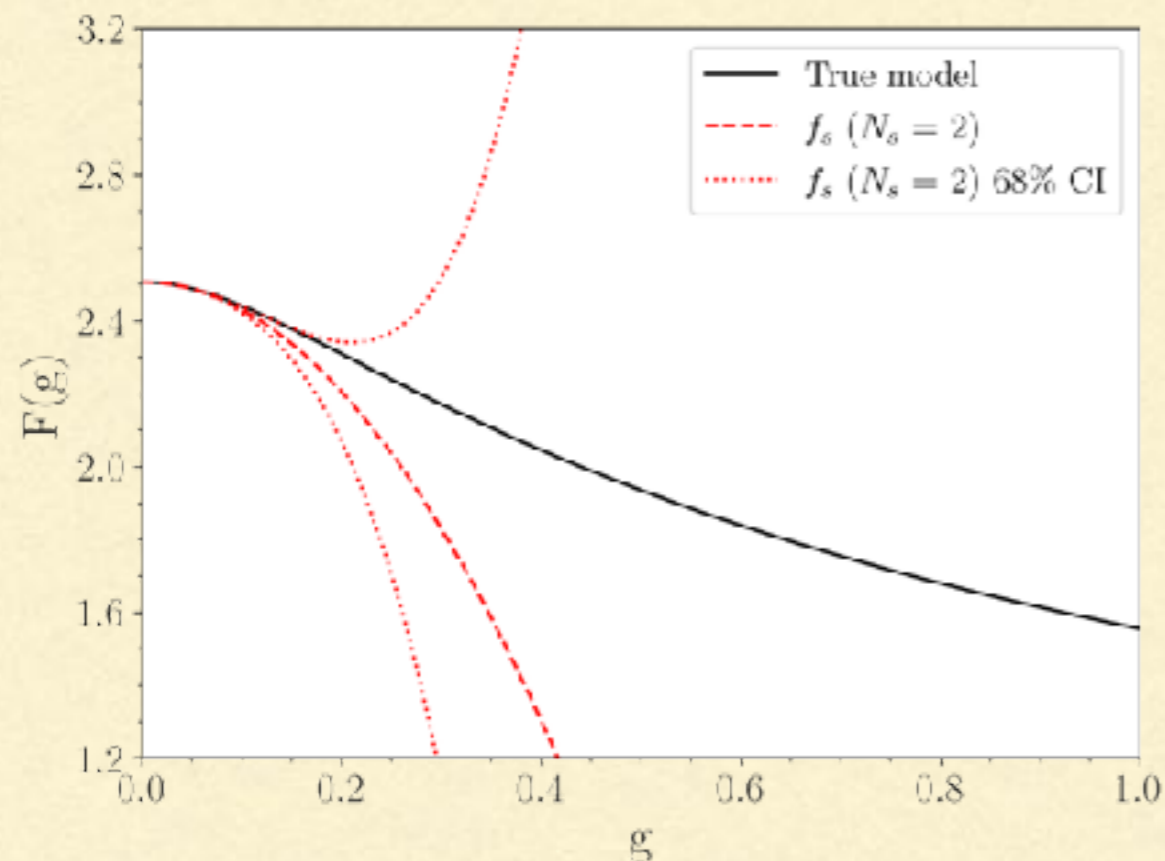
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$$N_s = N_l = 2$$

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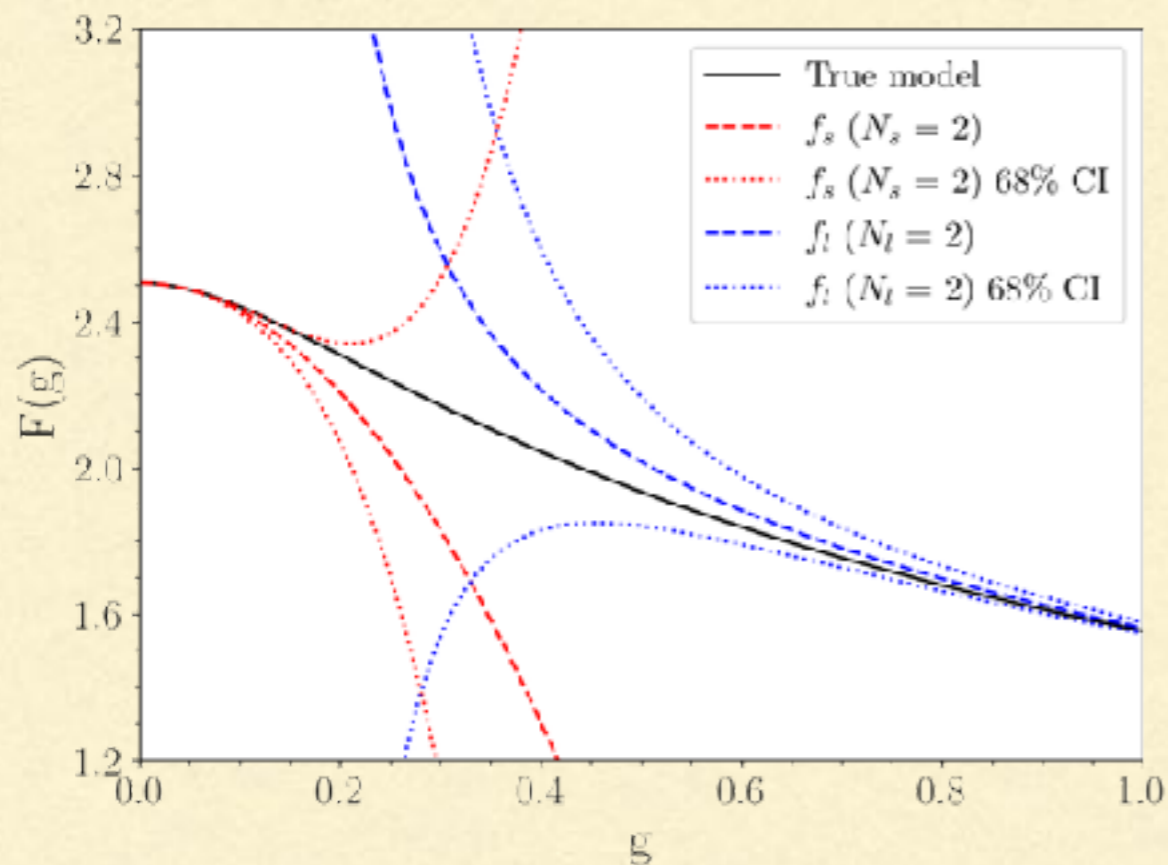
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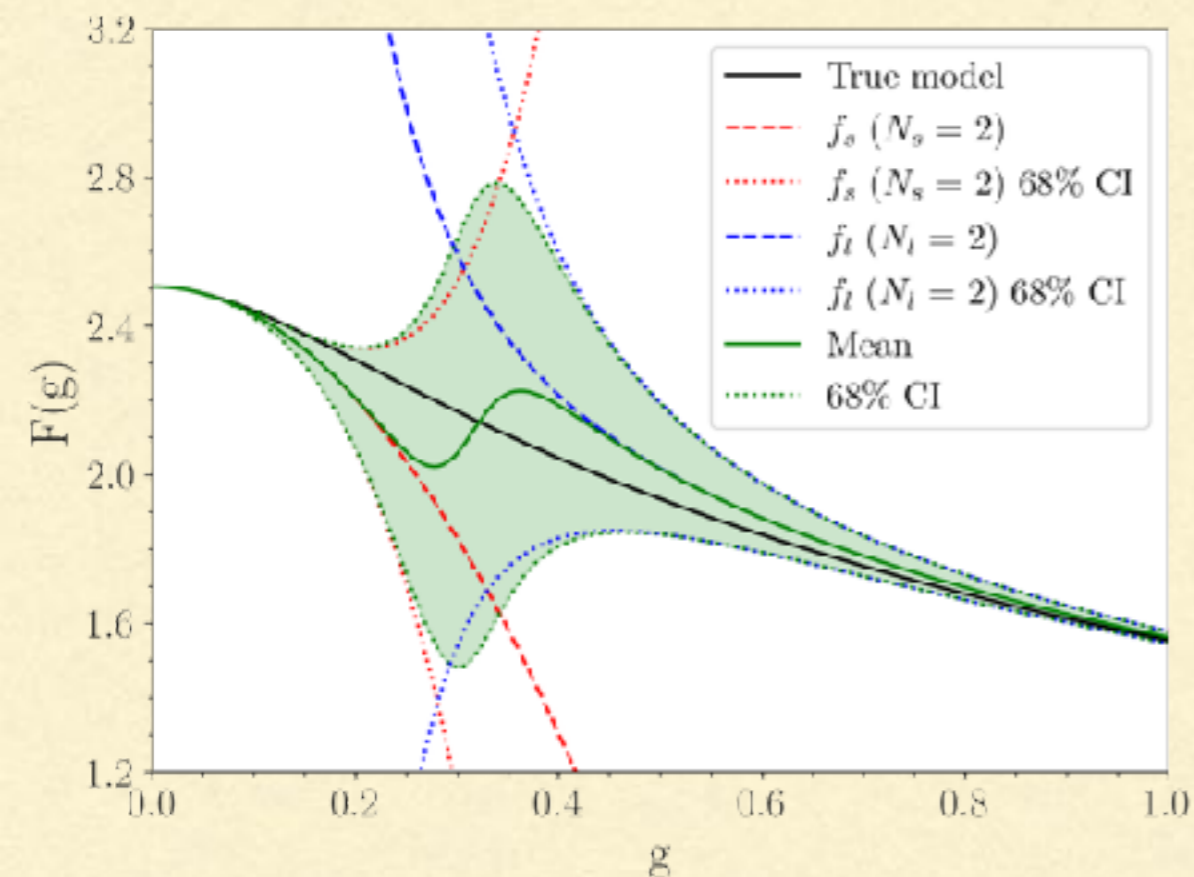
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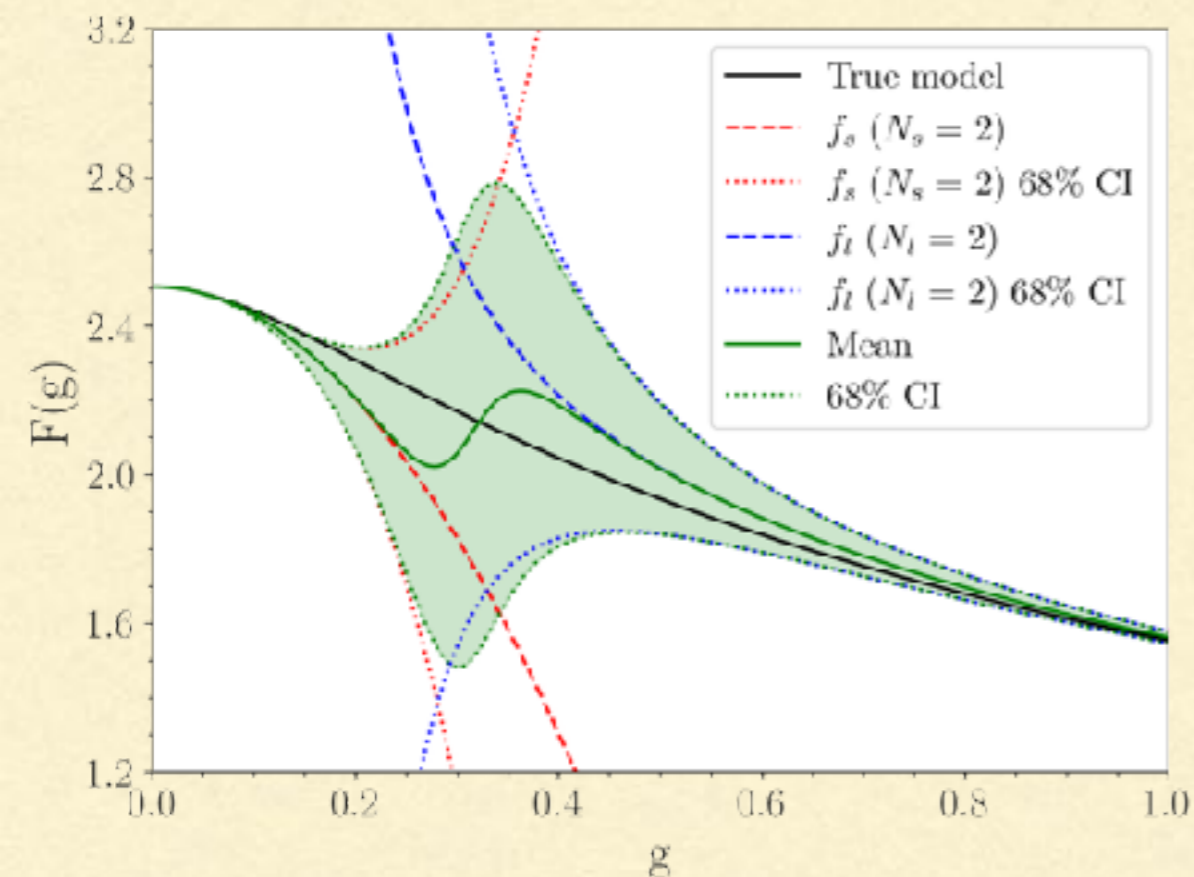
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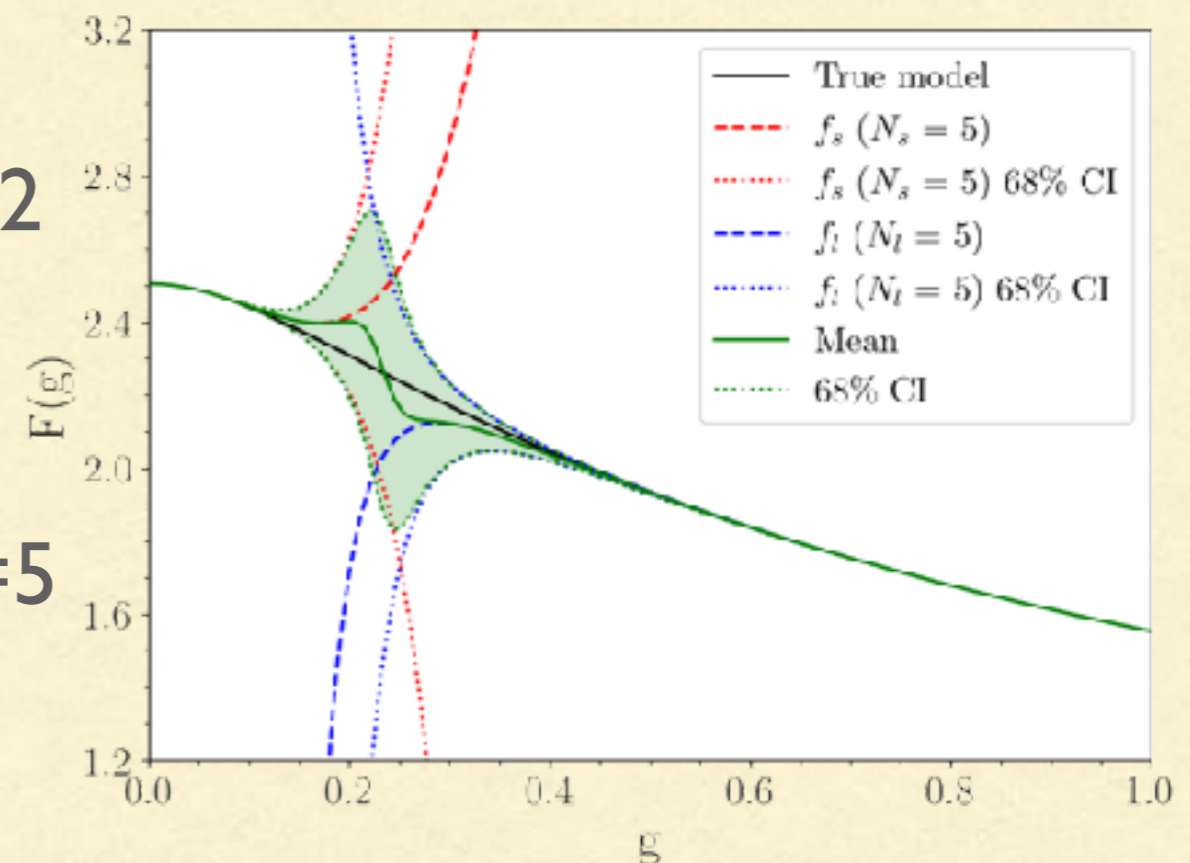
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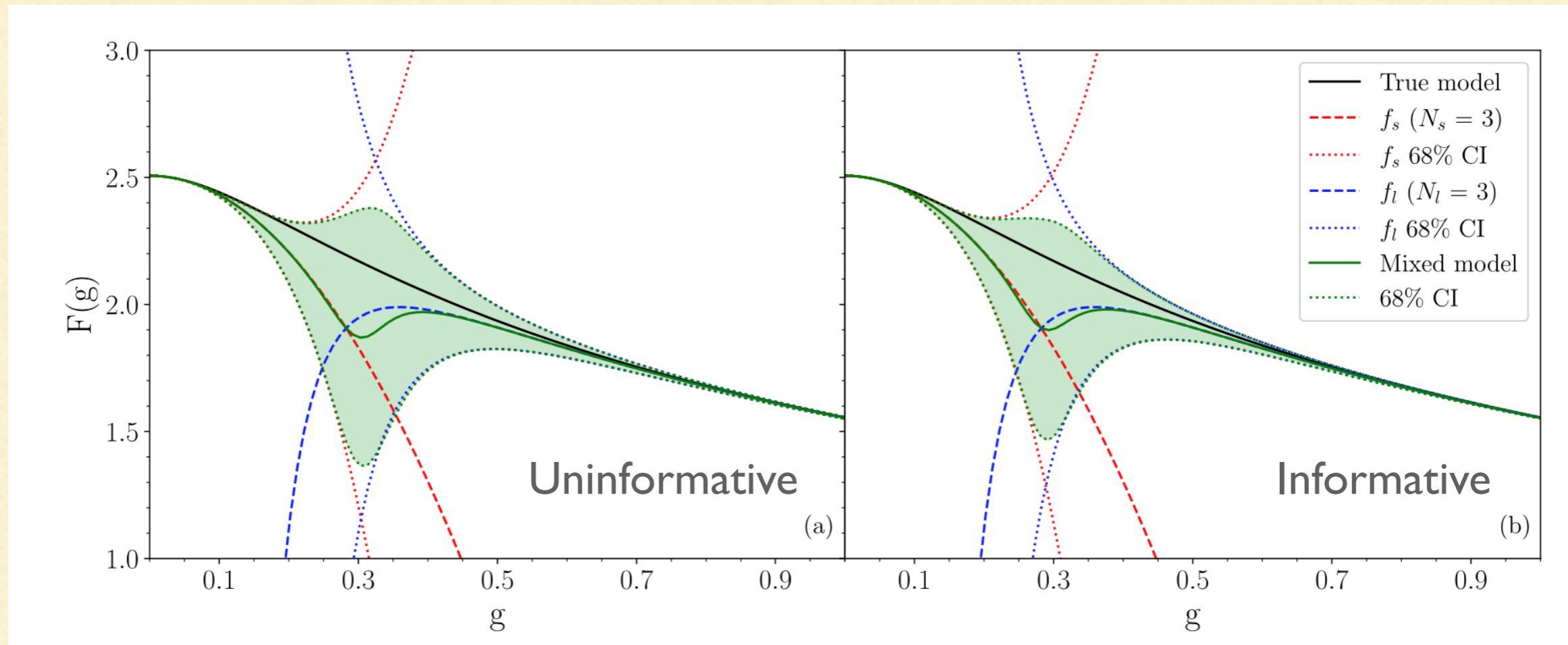


$N_s = N_l = 2$

$N_s = N_l = 5$



Bugs—or features?



- Result is sensitive to choice of error model
- Median has unexpected sinusoidal structure
- Error bands are wide compared to variation of function

Step 3: add a GP as third model

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- **IF** you think the connection is smooth
 - Want to impose a prior on ways small-g and large-g expansion can connect
 - Gaussian Process (GP): non-parametric interpolant that comes with uncertainty
 - Take two training data in small-g and two in large-g region and formulate a GP; include estimated truncation uncertainties in these training data
 - Pick three testing points, compute Mahalanobis distance to check validity of GP
 - Include GP as third model
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Results

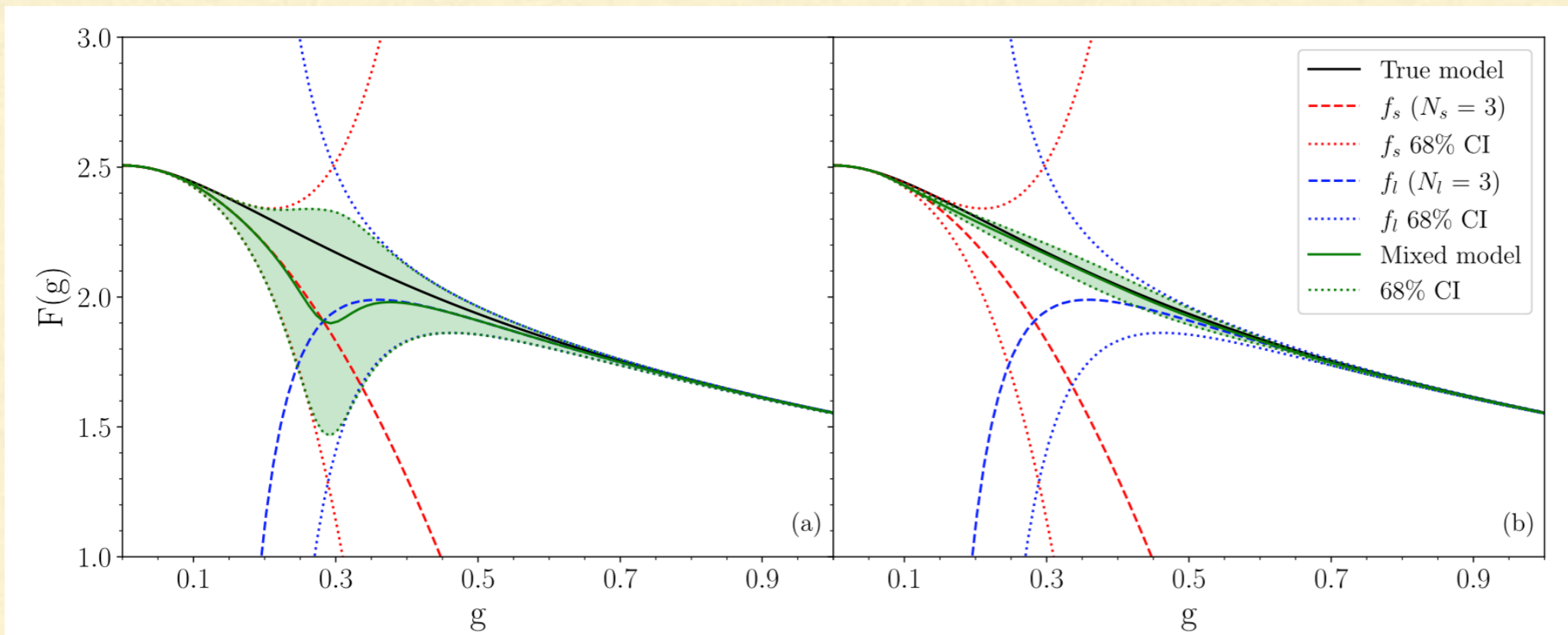
Semposki, Furnstahl, DP Phys. Rev. C (2022)

Uncertainty now much smaller in the gap

Results

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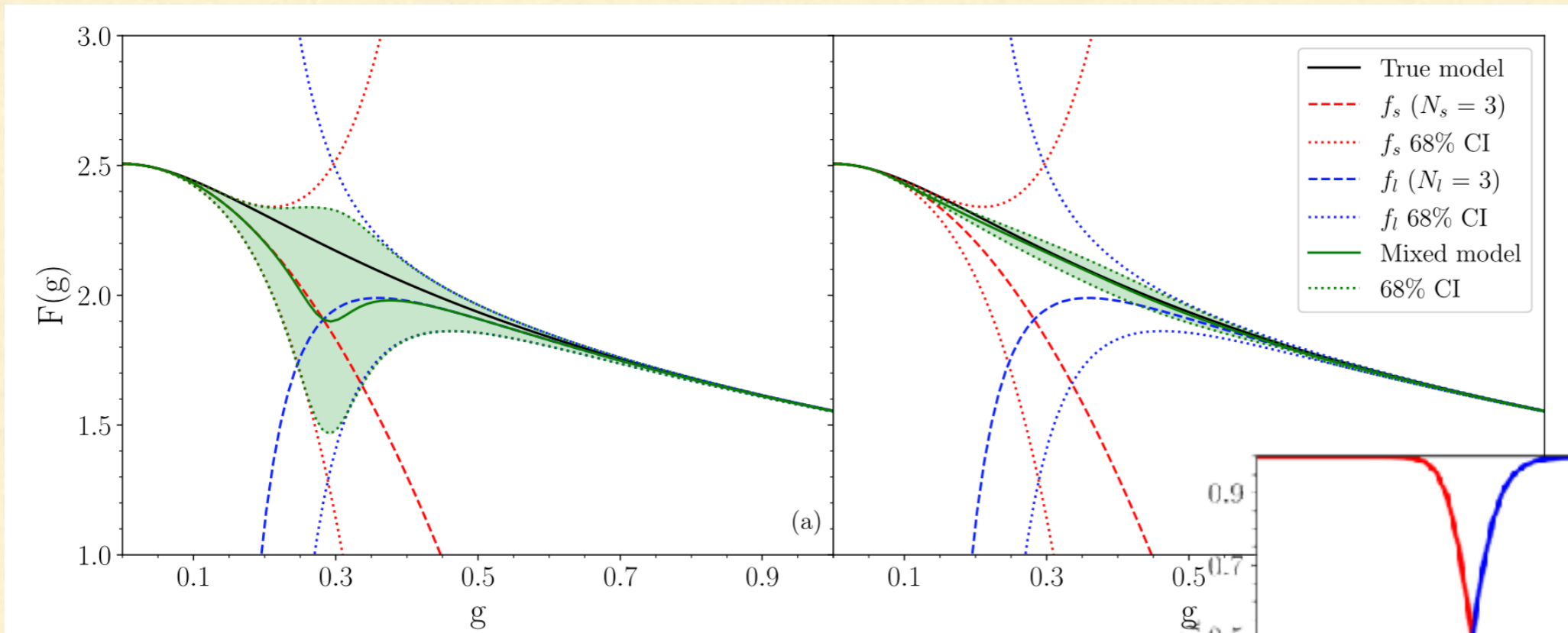
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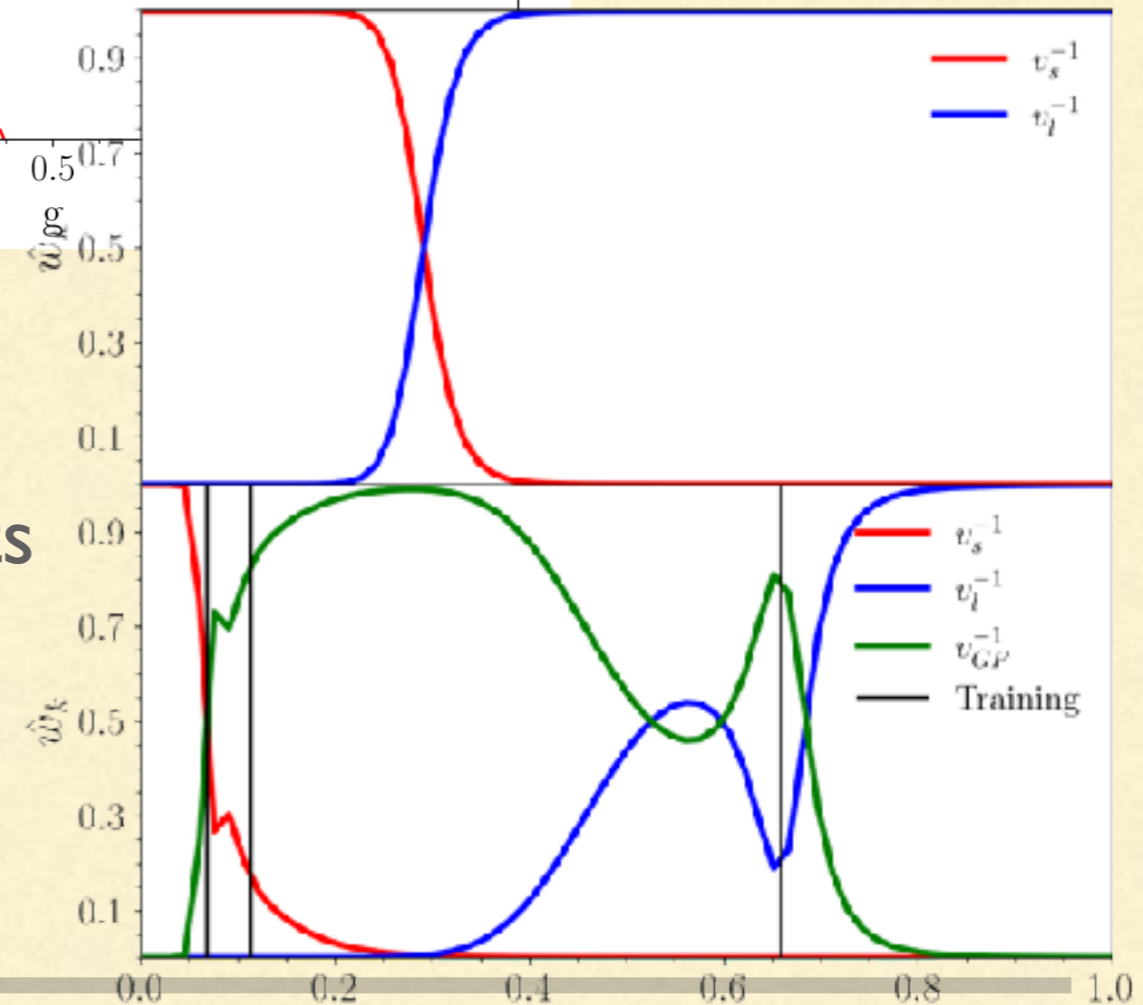
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Semposki, Furnstahl, DP Phys. Rev. C (2022)

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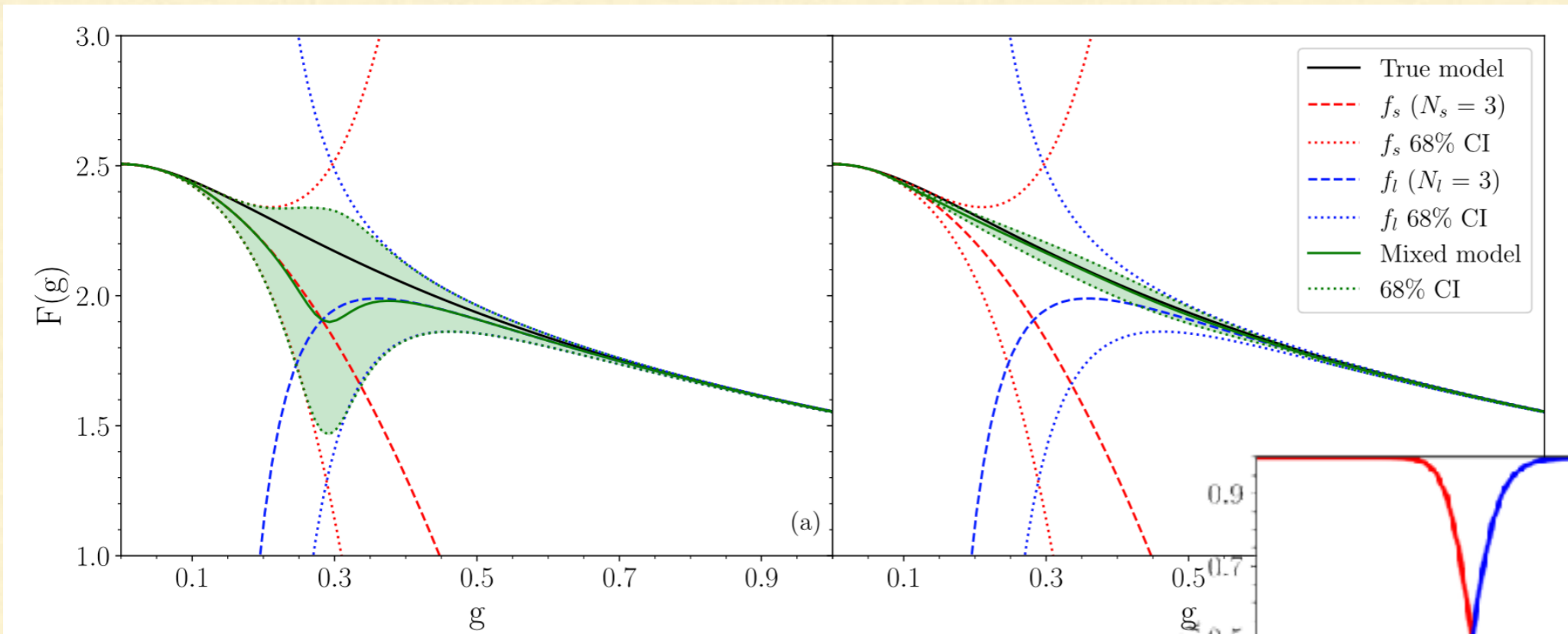
Model weights



Results

Semposki, Furnstahl, DP Phys. Rev. C (2022)

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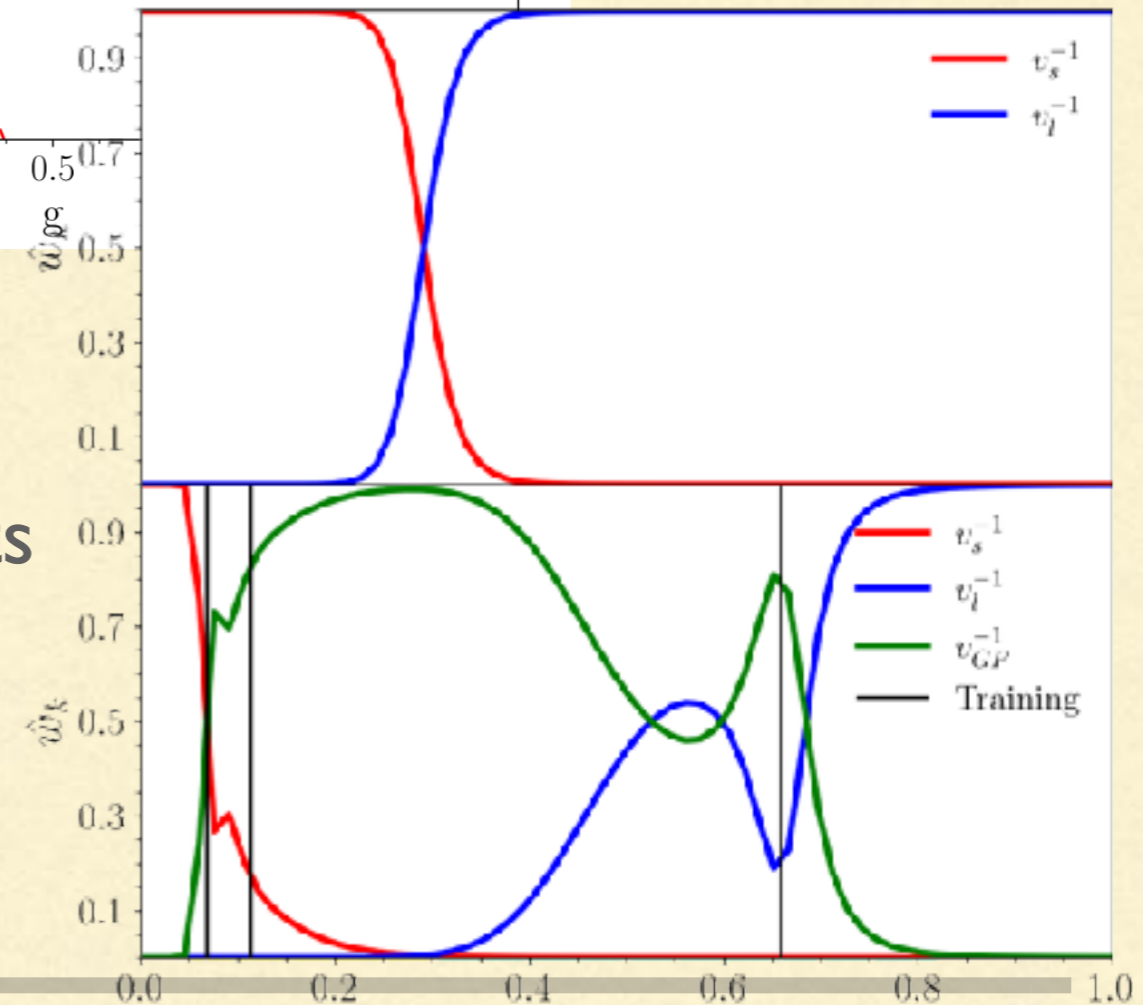


Performance improves as N_s and N_l increase

TABLE II. Calculated areas of each uncertainty band per truncation order in N_s and N_l . As expected, as both N_s and N_l increase, the uncertainty reduces.

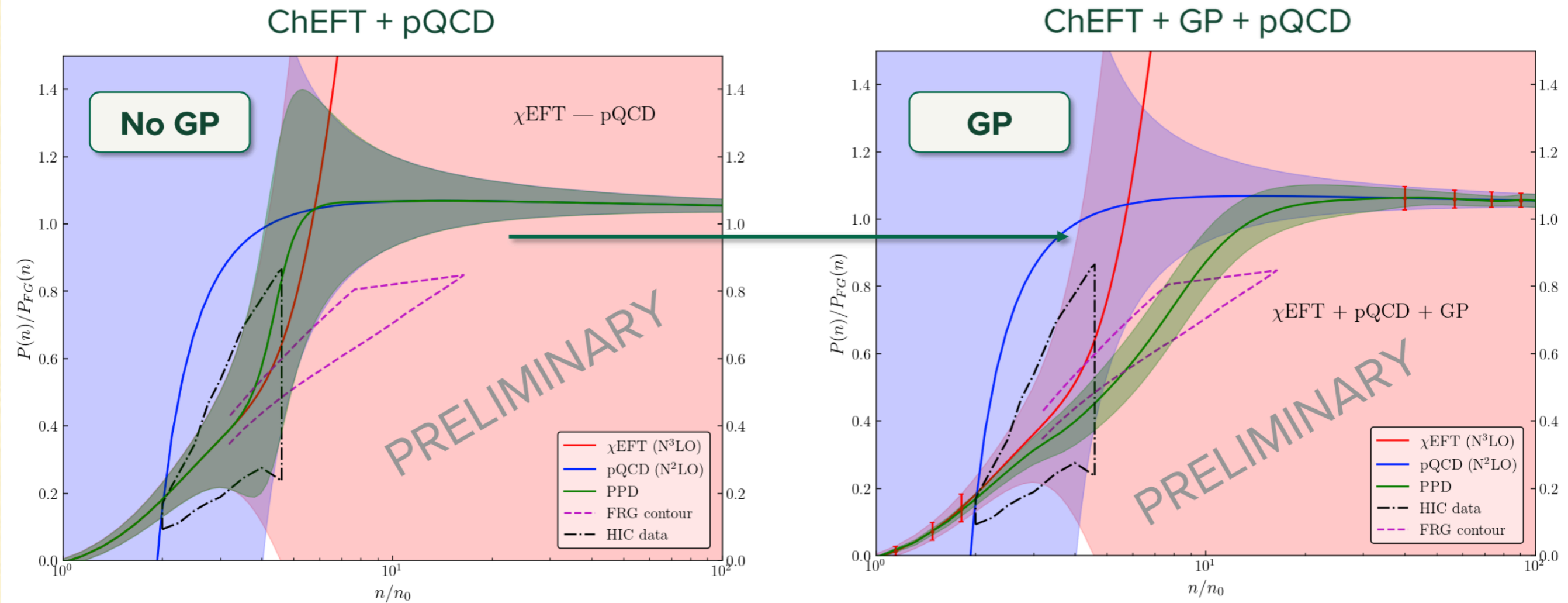
N_s	N_l	Gap length (g)	Gap area
2	2	0.92	0.05
2	4	0.60	0.02
3	3	0.92	0.04
4	4	0.26	0.03
5	5	0.21	0.02
8	7	0.13	0.01
5	10	0.11	0.003

Model weights



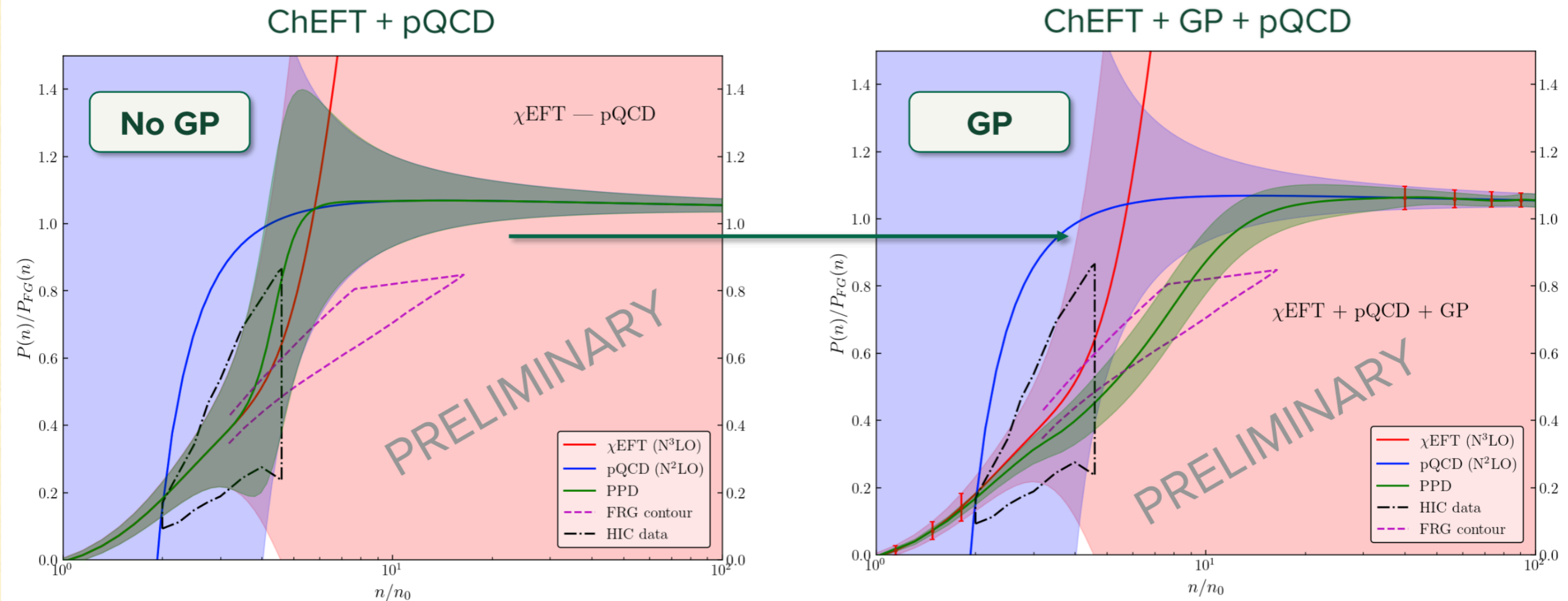
Results for symmetric nuclear matter

Semposki, Drischler, Furnstahl, DP, in preparation



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- pQCD uncertainties estimated from $p(n)$ using BUQEYETM technology
- Technical issues with GP training still under investigation for r.h. figure

Future work along these lines

- Gaussian Process model for order-by-order coefficients in χ EFT for NN scattering observables
Millican, Melendez, Furnstahl, Wesolowski, DP
 - Extraction of NN parameters using model for correlated uncertainties
Thim, Ekström, Forssén; Svennson, Ekstrom, Forssén
 - Use BUQEYE™ technology to simultaneously extract scattering parameters and breakdown scale in other EFTs
Bub, Piarulli, Pastore, Furnstahl, DP
 - And for other reactions
Burnelis, DP; Capel, Svennson, DP
 - Use these ideas to do UQ for electroweak reactions
Acharya, Bacca; Gnech, Marcucci, Viviani, ...?
 - Treatment of symmetric nuclear matter, neutron star matter via Bayesian Model Mixing
Semposki, Drischler, Furnstahl, DP
 - Applications of model mixing in nuclear structure and heavy-ion physics
Liyanage, Ingles, Jaiswal, Heinz, et al.; Kejzlar, Neufcourt, Nazarewicz; Giuliani, Godbey, Kejzlar, Nazarewicz
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Backup slides

Bayesian EFT parameter estimation

$$y_{\text{exp}} = y_{\text{th}} + \delta y_{\text{exp}} + \delta y_{\text{th}}$$

Bayesian EFT parameter estimation

■ $\delta y_{\text{th}} = y_{\text{ref}}(p)[c_{k+1}Q^{k+1} + \dots]$ $y_{\text{exp}} = y_{\text{th}} + \delta y_{\text{exp}} + \delta y_{\text{th}}$

- Posterior for parameters $\mathbf{a}=\{a_0, \dots, a_k\}$ by marginalizing:

$$\text{pr}(\mathbf{a}|D, k, k_{\text{max}}) = \int dc_{k+1} \dots dc_{k_{\text{max}}} \text{pr}(\mathbf{a}, c_{k+1}, \dots, c_{k_{\text{max}}}|D, k, k_{\text{max}})$$

and Bayesing $= \int dc_{k+1} \dots dc_{k_{\text{max}}} \frac{\text{pr}(D|\mathbf{a}, c_{k+1}, \dots, c_{k_{\text{max}}}, k, k_{\text{max}}) \text{pr}(\mathbf{a}|\bar{a}_{\text{fix}}) \prod_{j=k+1}^{k_{\text{max}}} \text{pr}(c_j|\bar{c}_{\text{fix}})}{\text{pr}(D|k, k_{\text{max}})}$



Bayesian EFT parameter estimation

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- Marginalization over c's produces revised correlation matrix in standard likelihood, accounts for uncertainties (and correlation structure) induced by omitted terms

$$\text{pr}(\mathbf{a} | D, k, k_{\text{max}}) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{r}^T (\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\text{exp}} + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\text{th}})^{-1} \mathbf{r}\right) \exp\left(-\frac{\mathbf{a}^2}{2\bar{a}^2}\right) \quad \mathbf{r} \equiv \mathbf{y}_{\text{exp}} - \mathbf{y}_{\text{th}}$$

$$(\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\text{th,corr}})_{ij} = (\mathbf{y}_{\text{ref}})_i (\mathbf{y}_{\text{ref}})_j \bar{c}^2 \sum_{n=k+1}^{k_{\text{max}}} Q_i^n Q_j^n \quad (\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\text{th,uncorr}})_{ij} = (\mathbf{y}_{\text{ref}})^2 \bar{c}^2 \delta_{ij} \sum_{n=k+1}^{k_{\text{max}}} Q_i^{2n}$$

Bayesian EFT parameter estimation

- $\delta y_{\text{th}} = y_{\text{ref}}(p)[c_{k+1}Q^{k+1} + \dots]$
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- Normal naturalness (i.e. Gaussian) prior for LECs. Here we take a fixed \bar{a} , could also marginalize over it.

A bit more on Gaussian Processes

- Non-parametric, probabilistic model for a function
- Suppose we already know f at $x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n$.
- Specify how $f(y)$ is correlated with $f(x_1), f(x_2), \dots$; don't specify underlying functional form.
- But value of $f(y)$ is not deterministic: it's given by a (Gaussian) probability distribution.
- Correlation decreases as points get further away from each other.
- Specify correlation matrix of f at x and y , e.g.:

$$k(f(x), f(y)) = \bar{c}^2 \exp\left(-\frac{(x - y)^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

- Two parameters \bar{c} and ℓ
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BAND timeline

- July 2020: beginning of grant from NSF OAC
 - December 2020: virtual BAND camp
 - December 2021: hybrid BAND camp
 - Summer 2022: Release of v0.2
 - Summer 2023: Release of v0.3, including additional model-mixing methods, emulators (ROSE), and additional physics examples, e.g., BMEX
 - Summer 2024: Release of v0.4, including experimental-design capability and additional physics examples
 - Summer 2025: Release of v1.0: full functionality
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