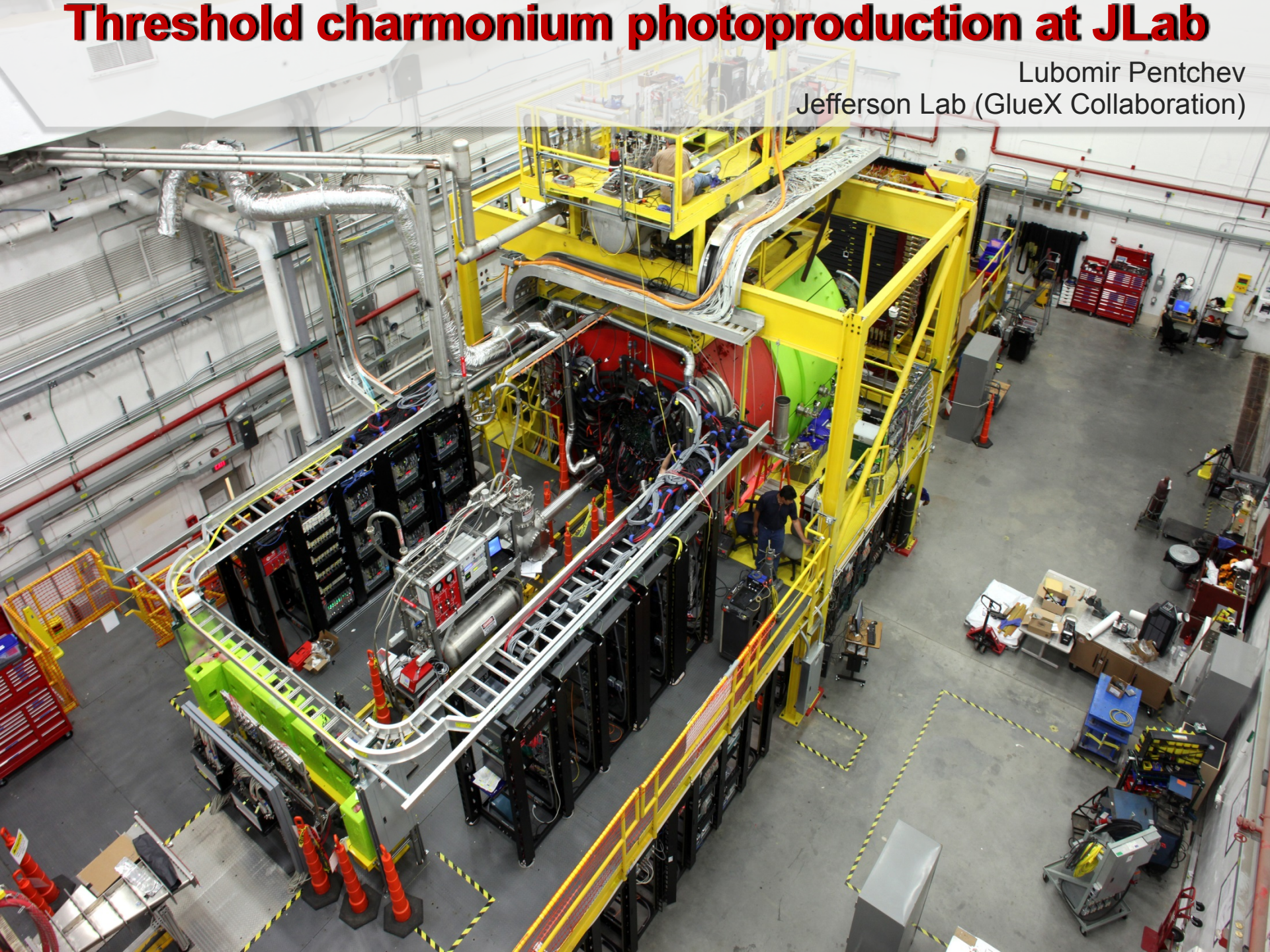
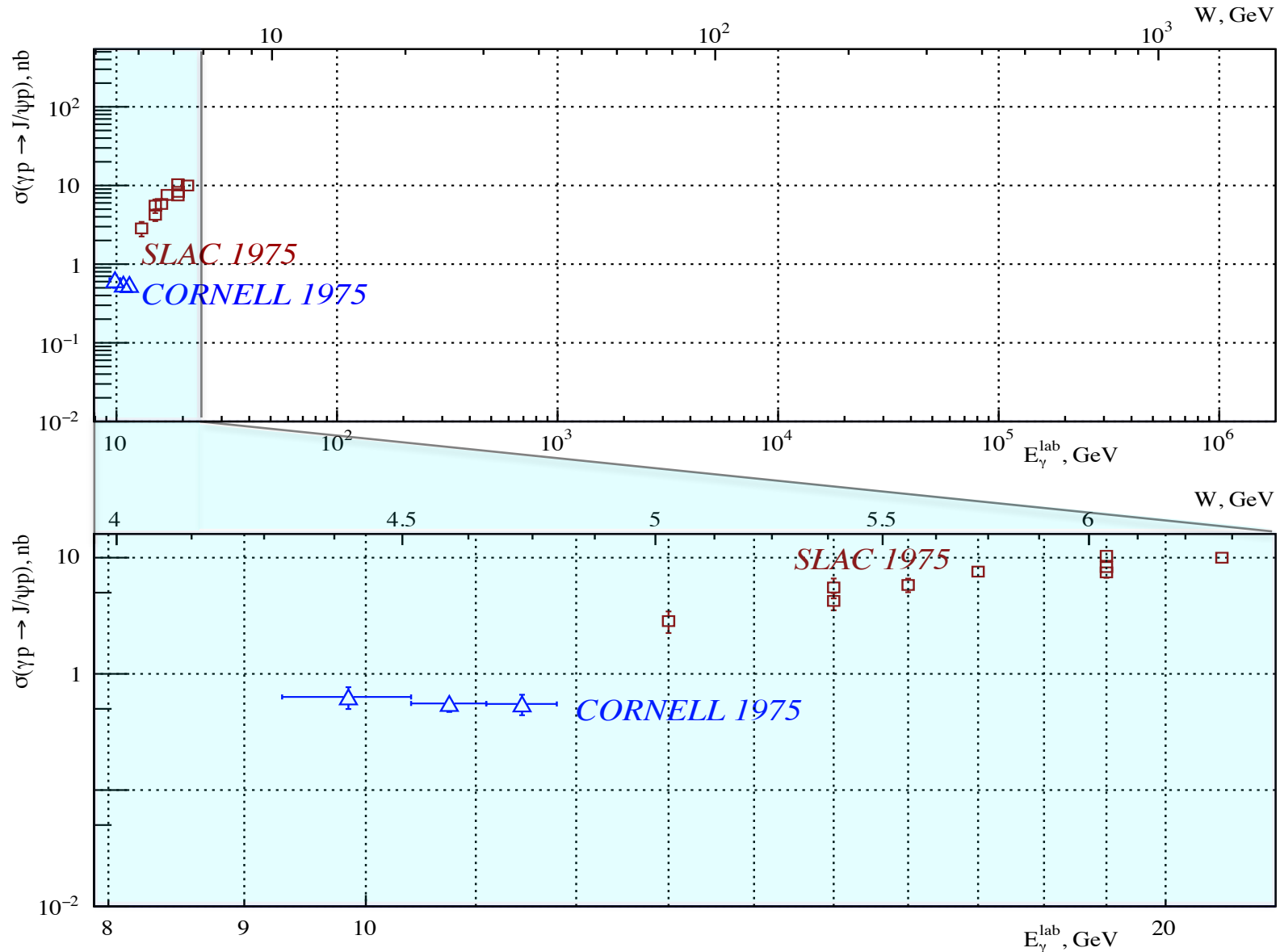


# Threshold charmonium photoproduction at JLab

Lubomir Pentchev  
Jefferson Lab (GlueX Collaboration)

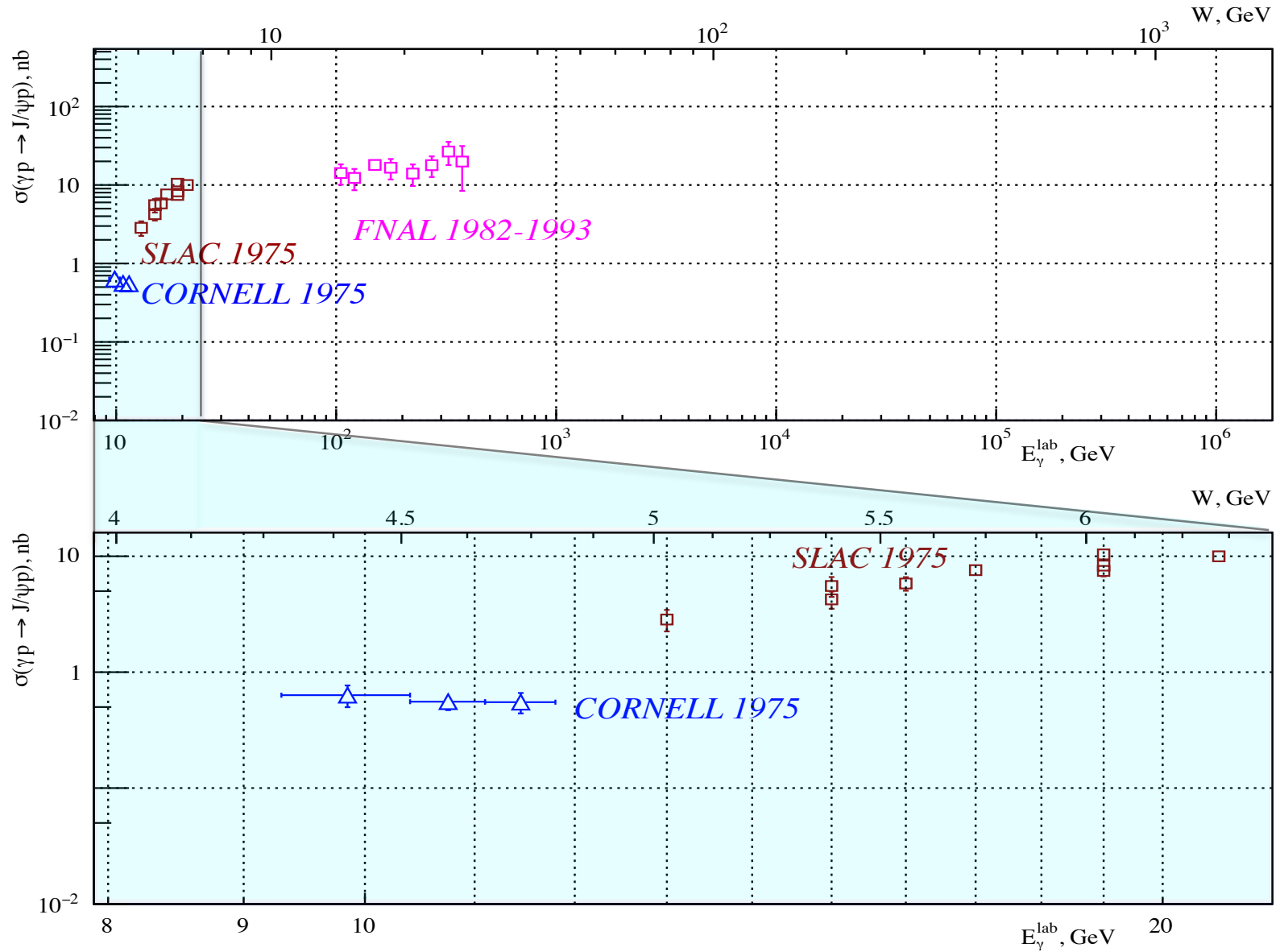


# ~50 years $J/\psi$ photoproduction

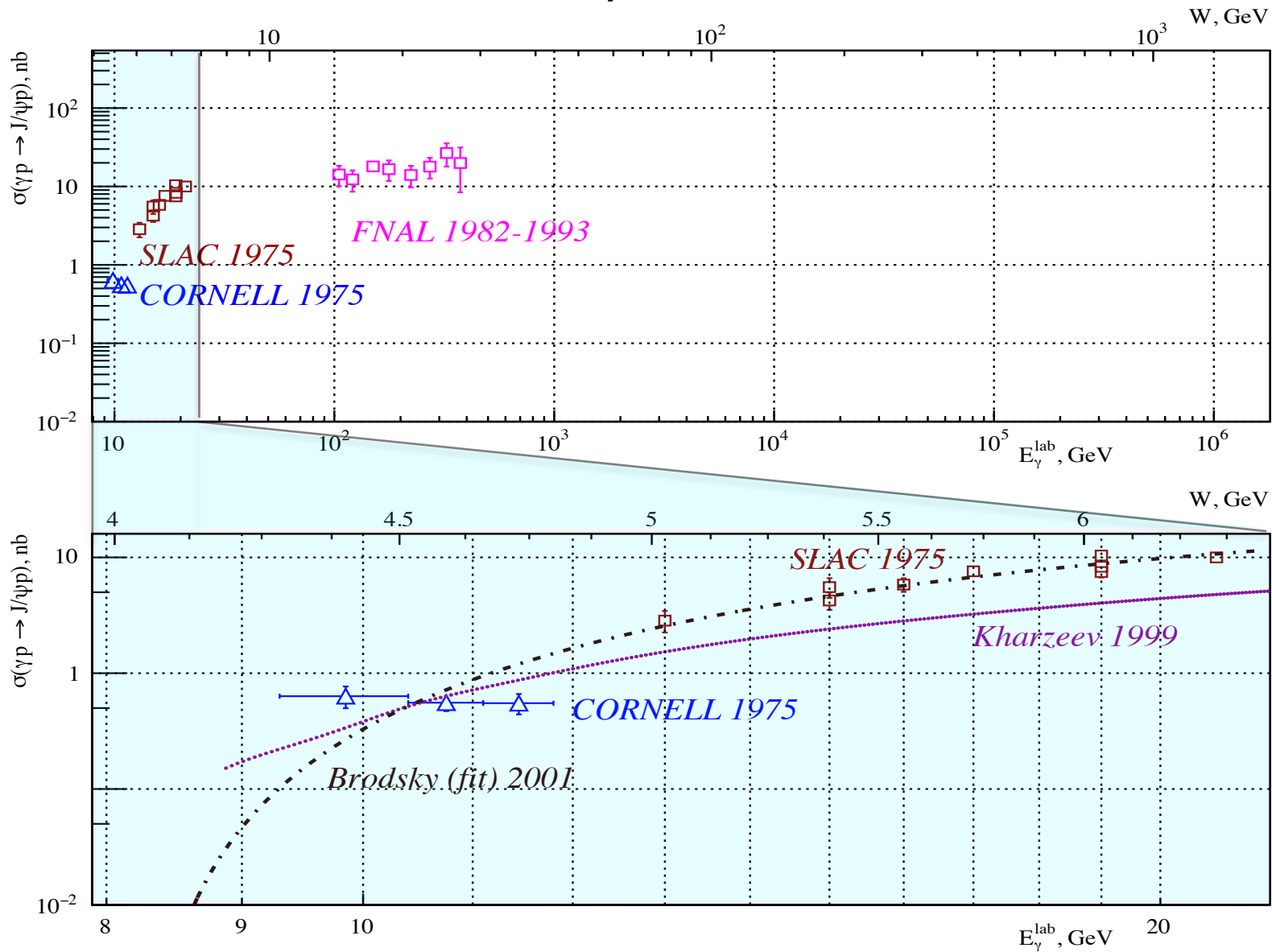


- FNAL: Knapp et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **34**, 1040 – **3 February 1975** (no explicit cross-sections given)
- SLAC: Camerini, Learned, Prepost, Spencer, Wisner, Ash, Anderson, Ritson, Sherden, and Sinclair, Phys. Rev. Lett. **35**, **2 June 1975**
- Cornell: Gittelmann, Hanson, Larson, Loh, Silverman, Theodosiou, Phys. Rev. Lett. **35**, **11 August 1975**

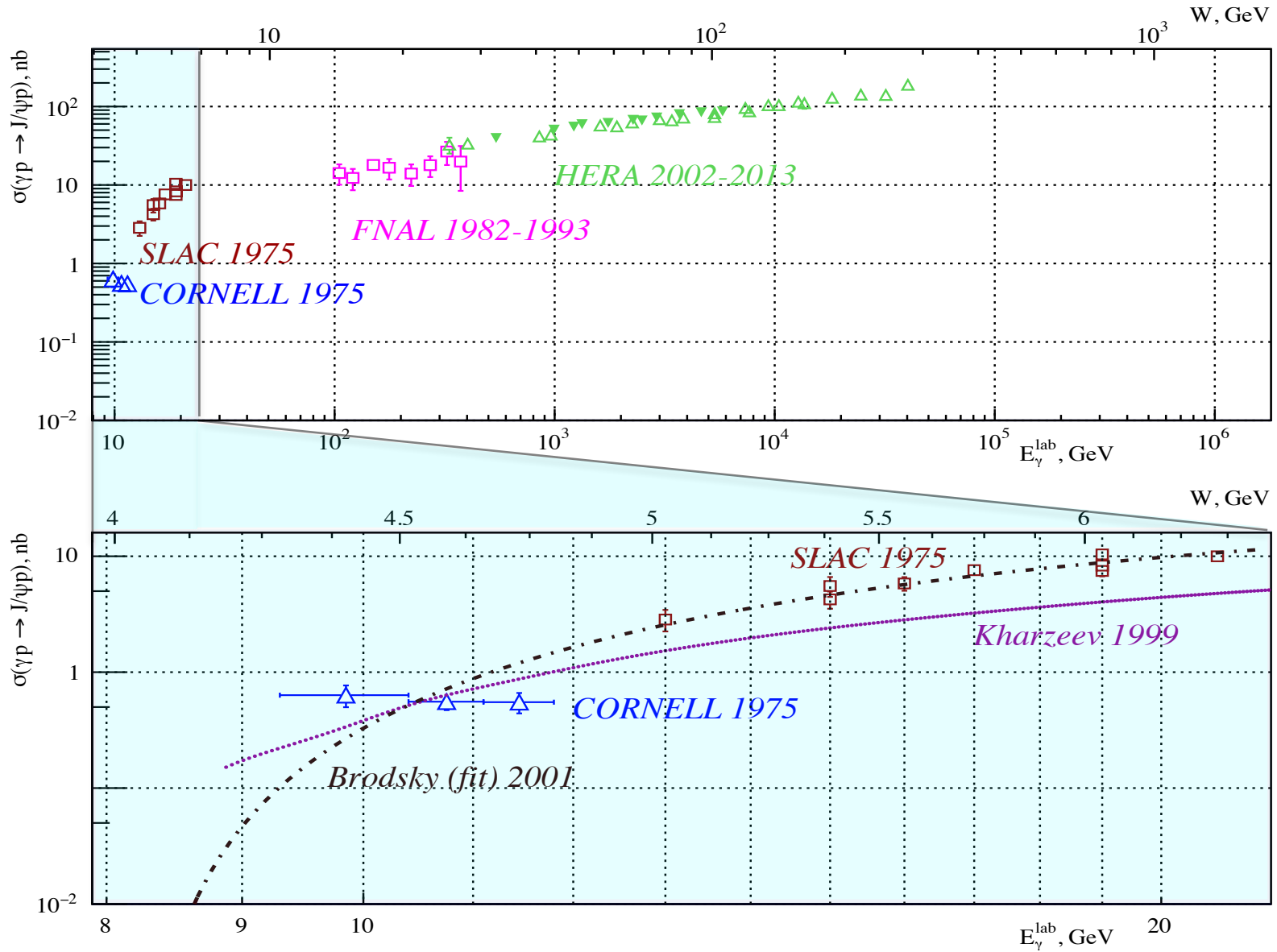
# ~50 years $J/\psi$ photoproduction



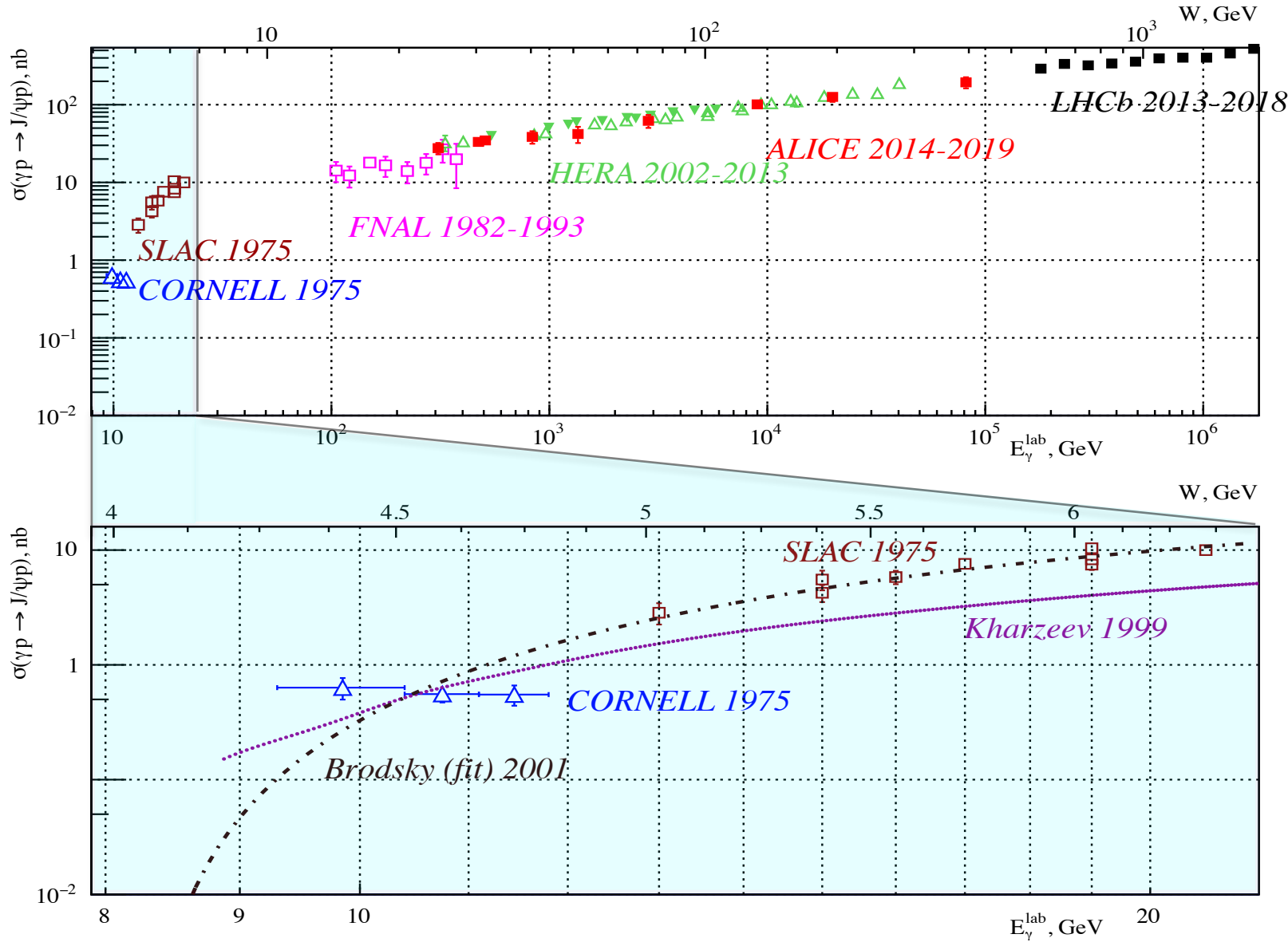
# ~50 years $J/\psi$ photoproduction



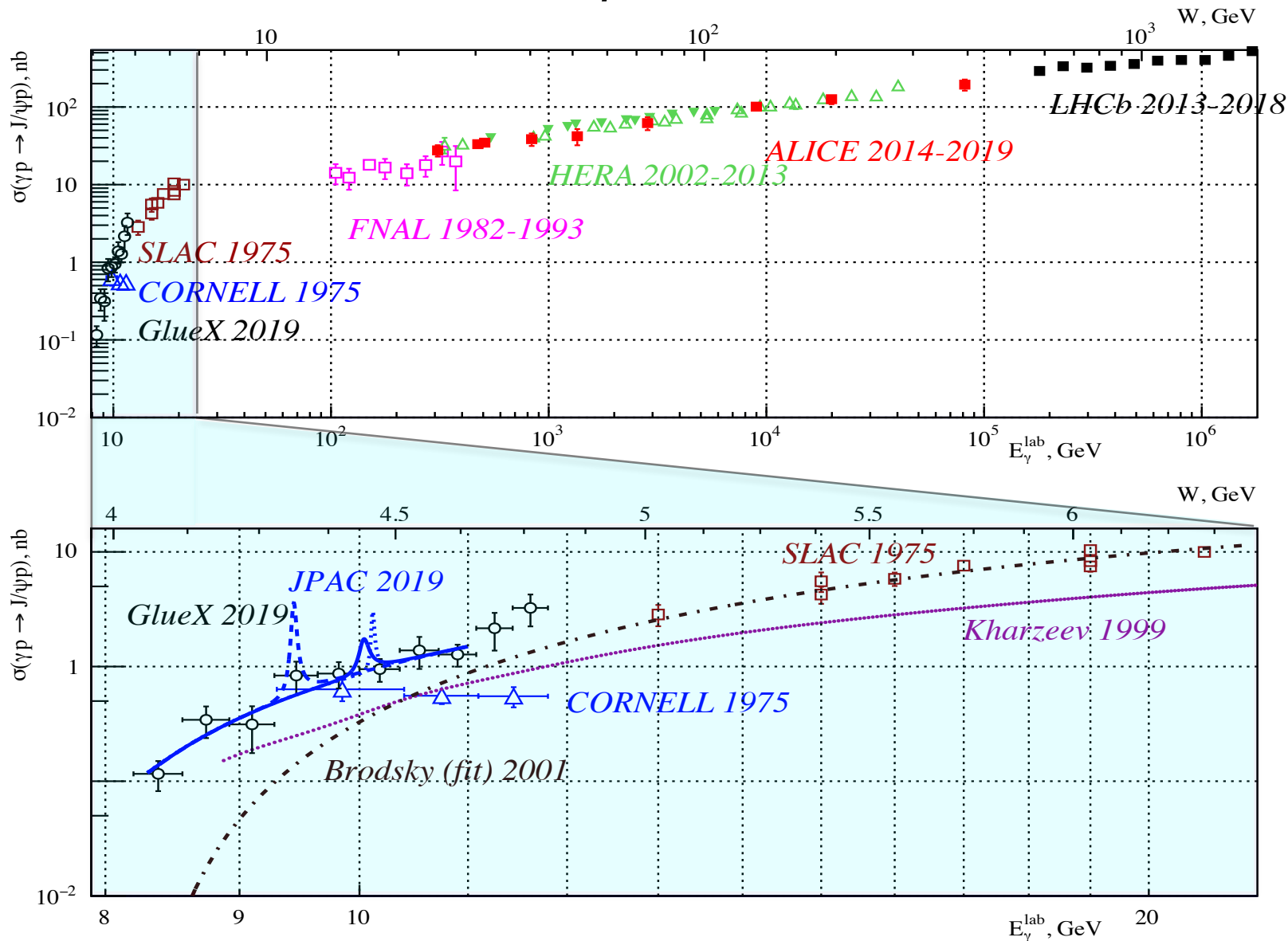
# ~50 years $J/\psi$ photoproduction



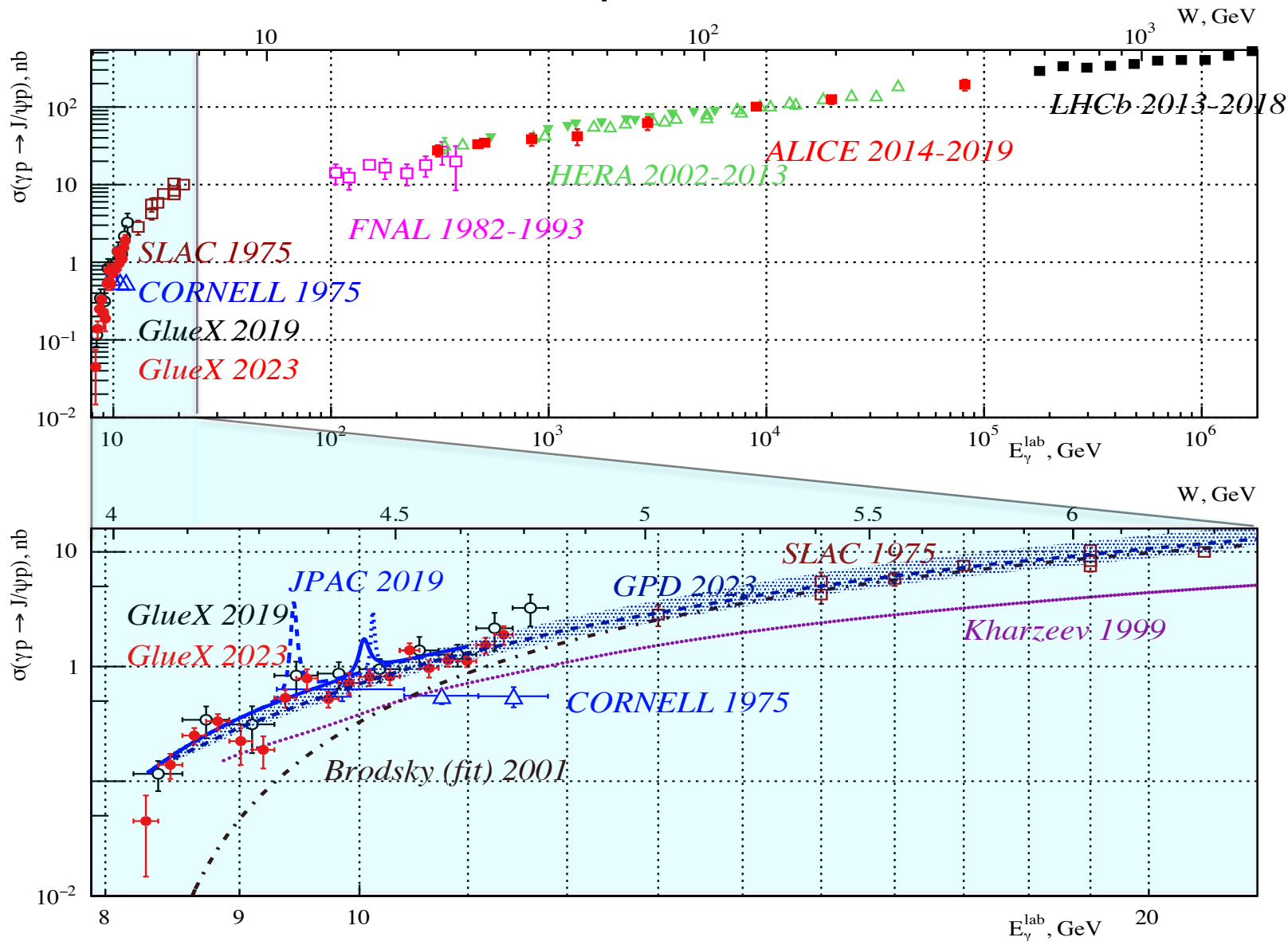
# ~50 years J/ψ photoproduction



# ~50 years $J/\psi$ photoproduction



# ~50 years $J/\psi$ photoproduction

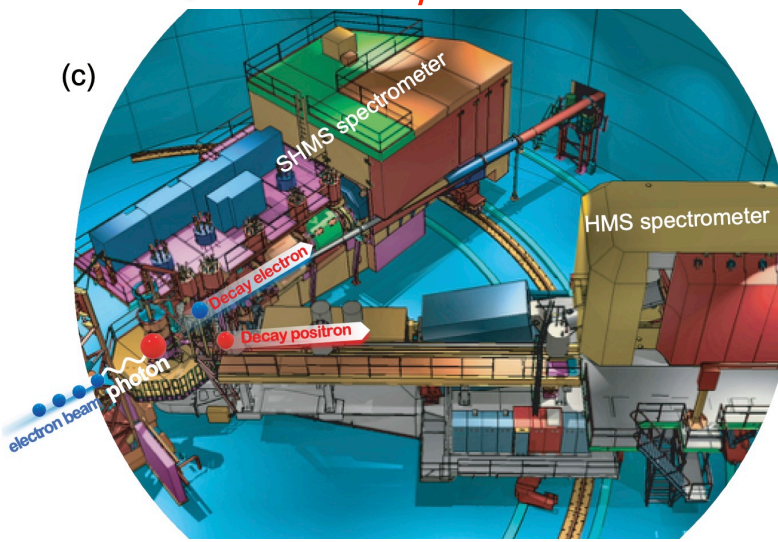




# Continuous Electron Beam Facility (CEBAF) at JLab

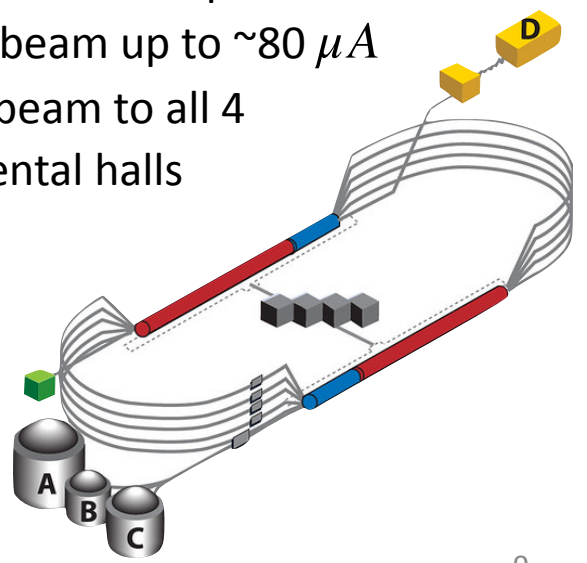


Hall C  $J/\psi$ -007

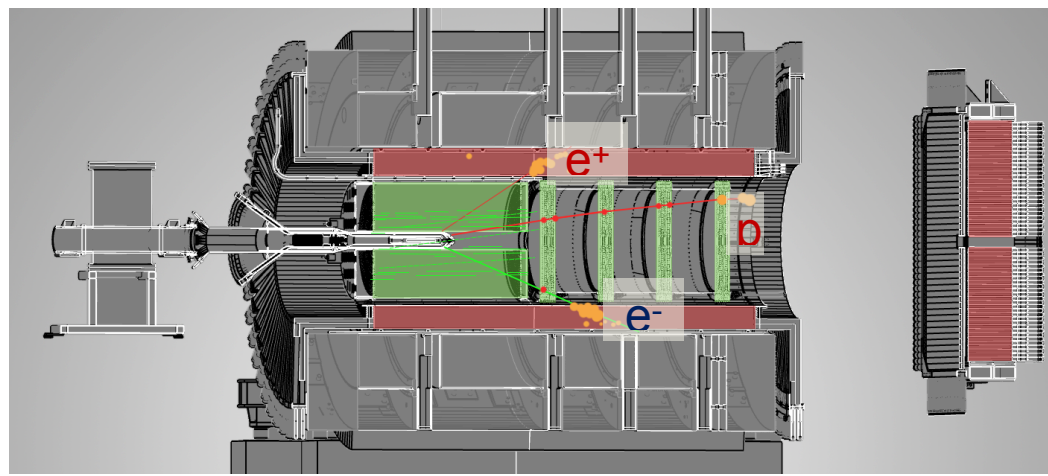
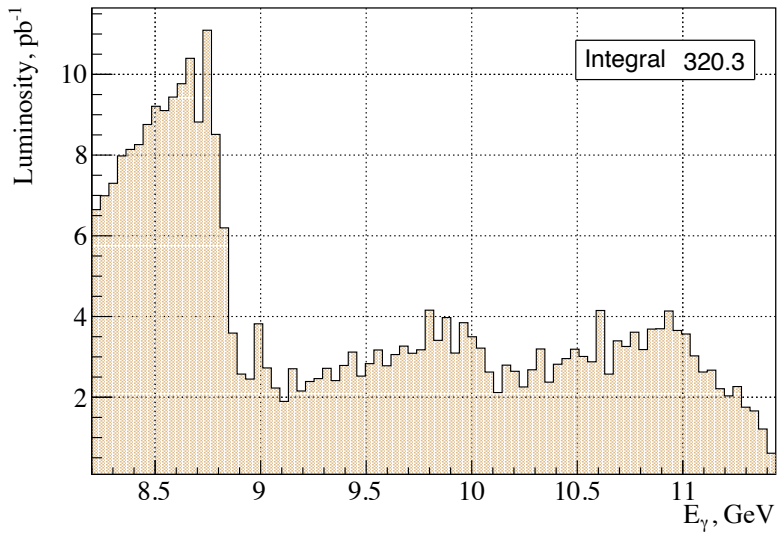
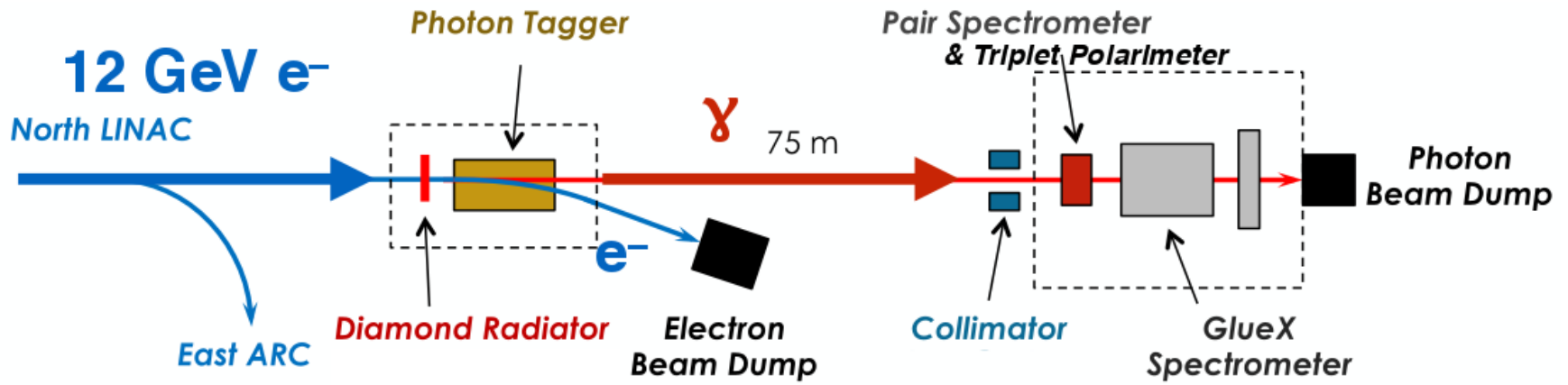


$$(\gamma)p \rightarrow J/\psi(p) \rightarrow e^+e^-(p)$$

- 12 GeV continuous polarized electron beam up to  $\sim 80 \mu A$
- Delivers beam to all 4 experimental halls



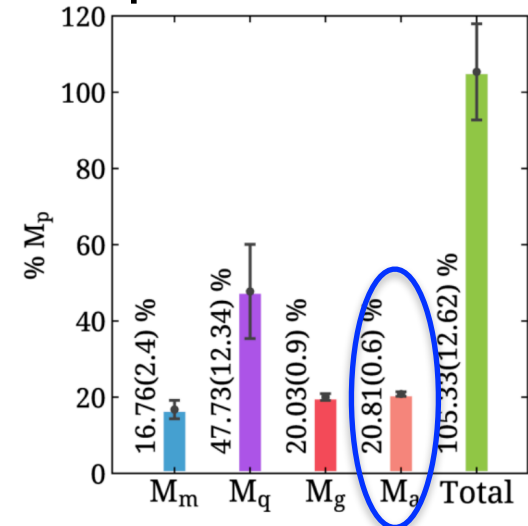
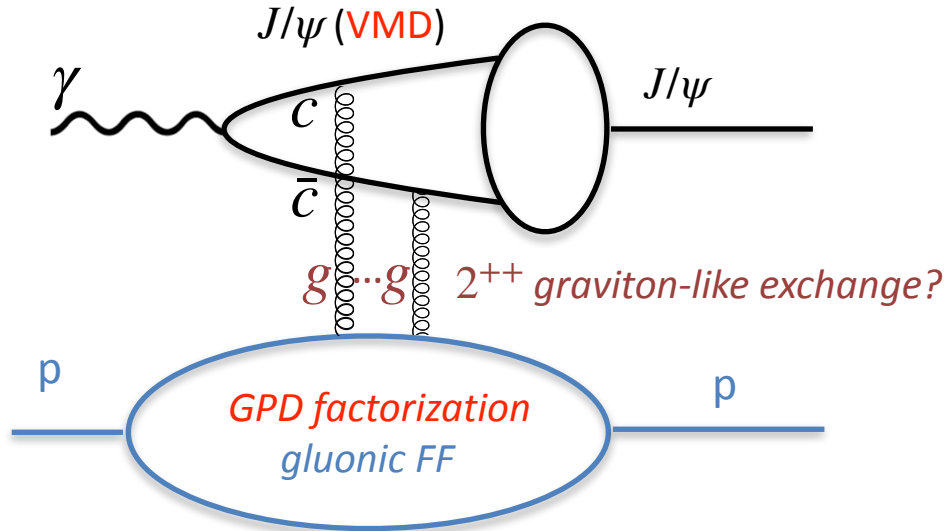
# Hall D beam line and detector



Hall D GlueX  $\gamma p \rightarrow J/\psi p \rightarrow e^+ e^- p$

- Linearly-polarized photon beam from coherent Bremsstrahlung off thin diamond
- Photon energy tagged by scattered electron: 0.2% resolution
- Intensity:  $\sim 2 \cdot 10^7 - 5 \cdot 10^7 \gamma/\text{sec}$  above  $J/\psi$  threshold (8.2 GeV)

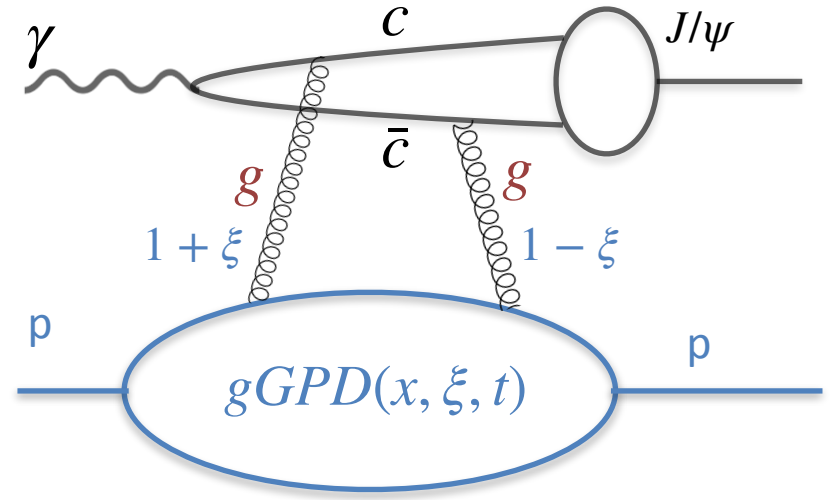
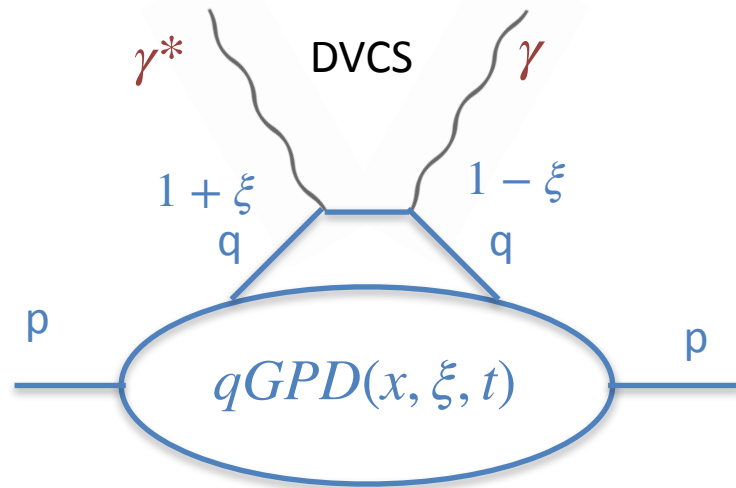
# Uniqueness of threshold $J/\psi$ photoproduction - relation to gluonic properties of proton



C. Alexandrou *et al.*, (ETMC), PRL 119, 142002 (2017)  
 C. Alexandrou *et al.*, (ETMC), PRL 116, 252001 (2016)

- No common quarks with proton target - interaction via gluon exchange
- Close to threshold  $J/\psi$  is produced  $\sim$  at rest, amplitude dominated by real part (at high energy Pomeron exchange gives imaginary amplitude), therefore sensitive to **trace anomaly** (Kharzeev, Satz, Syamtomov, Zinovjev 1996-1999) **contribution to proton mass** (Ji 1995), important information about  $p$ - $J/\psi$  interaction at low energies
- **GPD factorization** valid for skewness  $\xi \rightarrow 1$  (Guo, Ji *et al.* 2021-2024),  $2g$  dominated by  $2^{++}$  exchange (graviton) allows to study mass properties of the proton: **gravitational form factors**  $\rightarrow$  **mass radius of the proton** (Hatta, Kharzeev, Ji *et al.* 2018-2021)

# Uniqueness of threshold charmonium photoproduction - GPD approach



- Compton-like amplitudes, form-factors  $\mathcal{A}_g(t)$ ,  $\mathcal{B}_g(t)$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_g(t)$ , as in Deeply Virtual Compton scattering (DVCS)

However:

- gluon (not photon) probe
- Threshold kinematics is very different: **high momentum transfer  $t$  and skewness  $\xi$**
- In heavy-quark limit:  $t \rightarrow \infty$   $\xi \rightarrow 1$

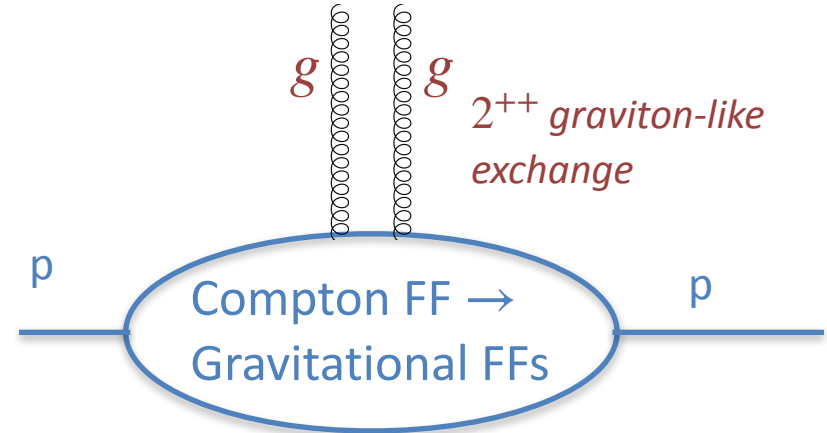
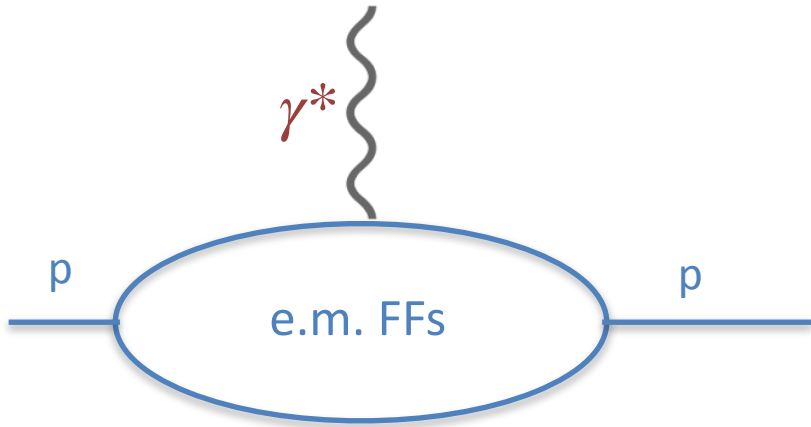
**For  $\xi \rightarrow 1$  expansion in  $x/\xi$ :**

$$d\sigma/dt = F(E_\gamma)\xi^{-4}[G_0(t) + \xi^2 G_2(t) + \xi^4 G_4(t)] + \dots, \quad G_i(t) \text{ functions of } \mathcal{A}_g^{(2)}(t), \mathcal{B}_g^{(2)}(t), \mathcal{C}_g(t)$$

**In leading-moment approximation:**

gluon Gravitational Form Factors  $A_g(t)$ ,  $B_g(t)$ ,  $C_g(t)$  are leading terms of  $\mathcal{A}_g^{(2)}(t)$ ,  $\mathcal{B}_g^{(2)}(t)$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_g(t)$

# Gluon Gravitational Form Factors



$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_{ep \rightarrow ep} = \left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_M \frac{1}{(1+\tau)} \left[ G_E^2(t) + \frac{\tau}{\epsilon} G_M^2(t) \right]$$

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{dt}\right)_{\gamma p \rightarrow J/\psi p} = F(E_\gamma) \xi^{-4} [G_0(t) + \xi^2 G_2(t) + \xi^4 G_4(t)]$$

Model approach - fit dipole/tripole FFs (within some model) to data

$$G_E(t), G_M(t) \sim G_D(t) = \frac{1}{(1 + t/0.71 \text{ GeV}^2)^2}$$

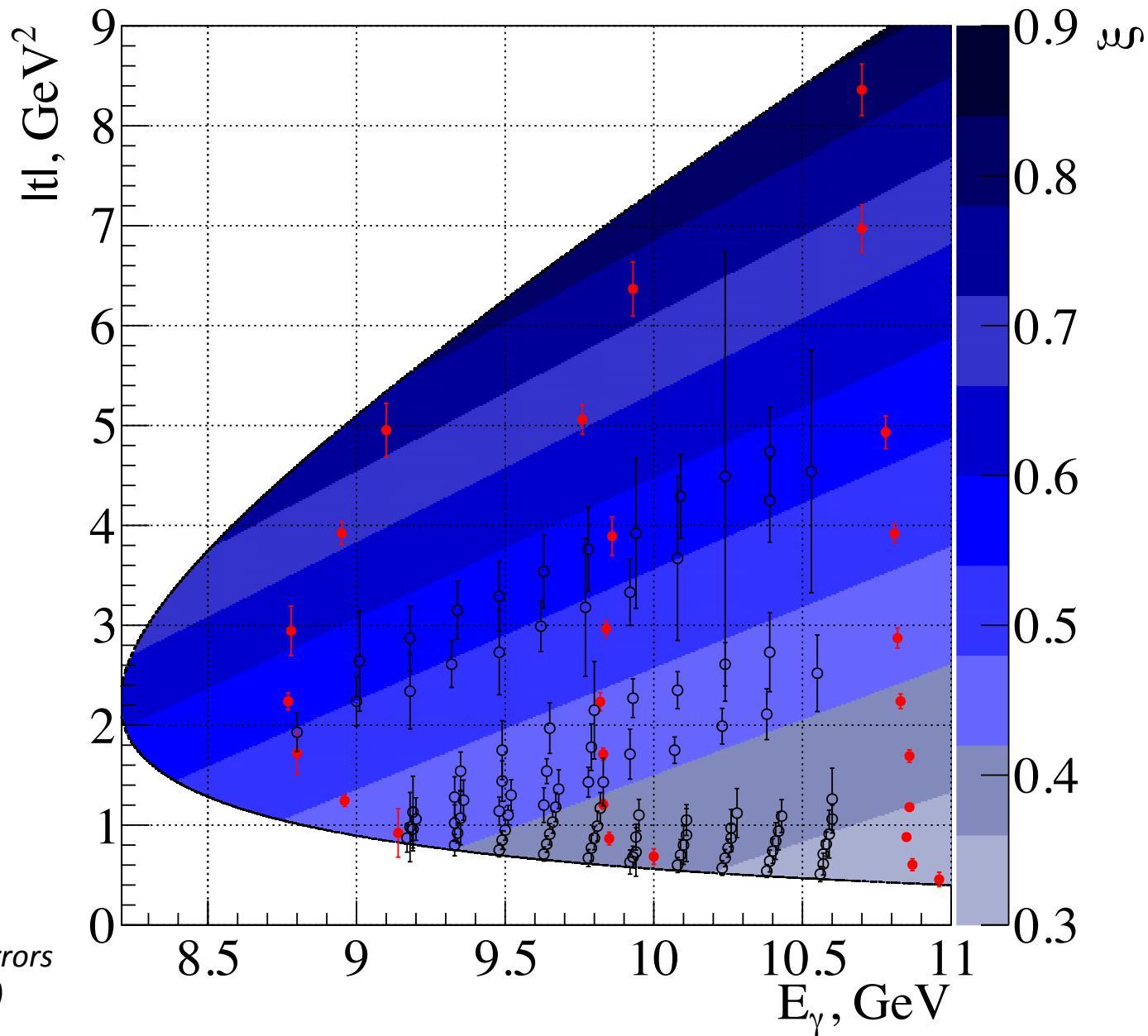
$$A_g(t), B_g(t), C_g(t) \sim \frac{1}{(1 + t/m_t^2)^{2(3)}}$$

Rosenbluth separation

$$\sigma_R = \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} / \left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_M \frac{\epsilon(1+\tau)}{\tau} = \frac{\epsilon}{\tau} G_E^2(t) + G_M^2(t),$$

$$\sigma_{R0} = \frac{d\sigma}{dt} \frac{\xi^2}{F(E_\gamma)} = \xi^{-2} G_0(t) + G_2(t) + \xi^2 G_4(t)$$

# Near-threshold $d\sigma/dt$ measurements

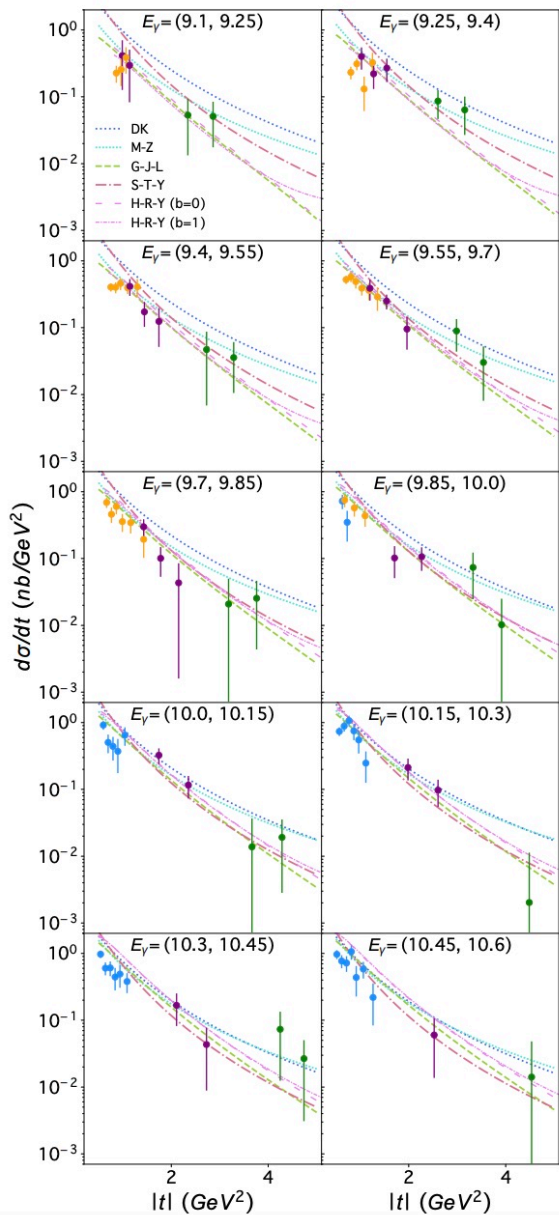


Hall C  $J/\psi - 007$

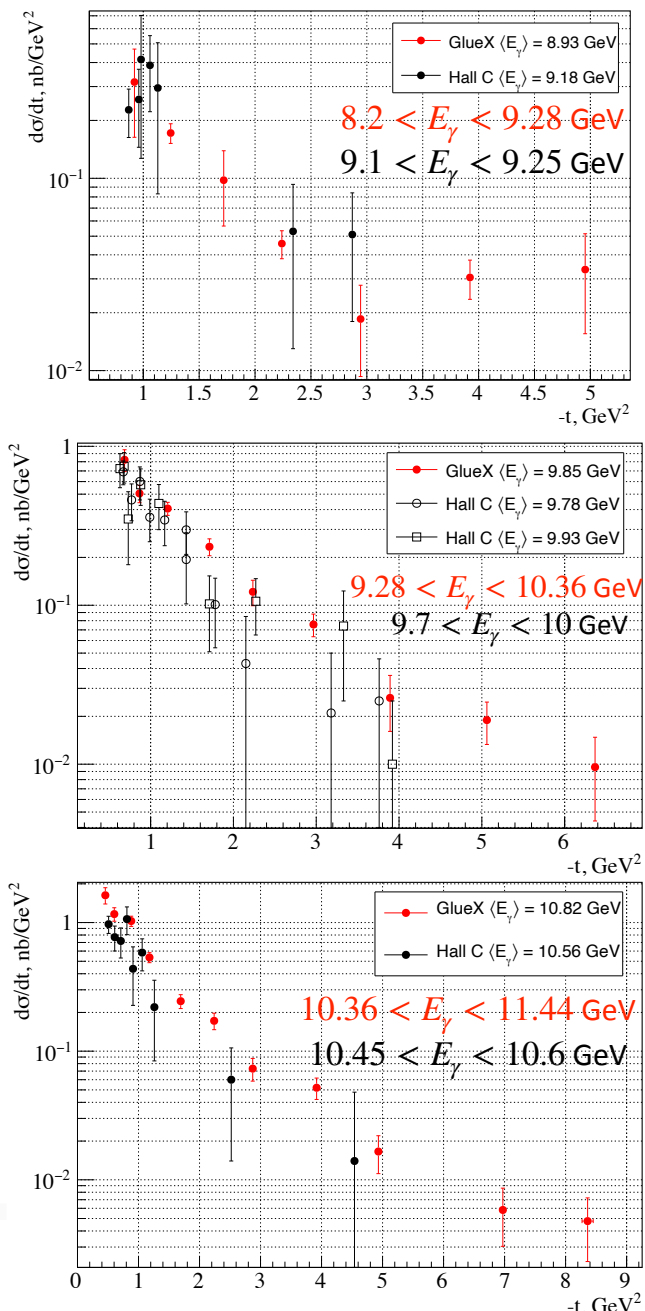
Hall D GlueX

Error bars: relative errors  
(not related to y-axis)

# Differential cross sections from $J/\psi$ -007 and GlueX



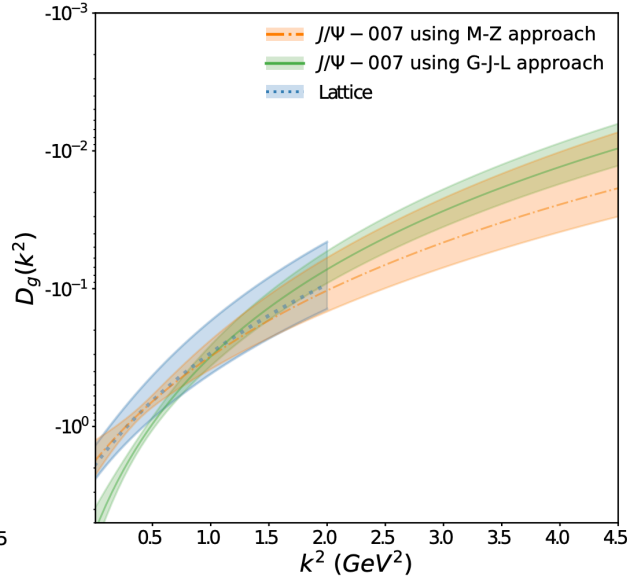
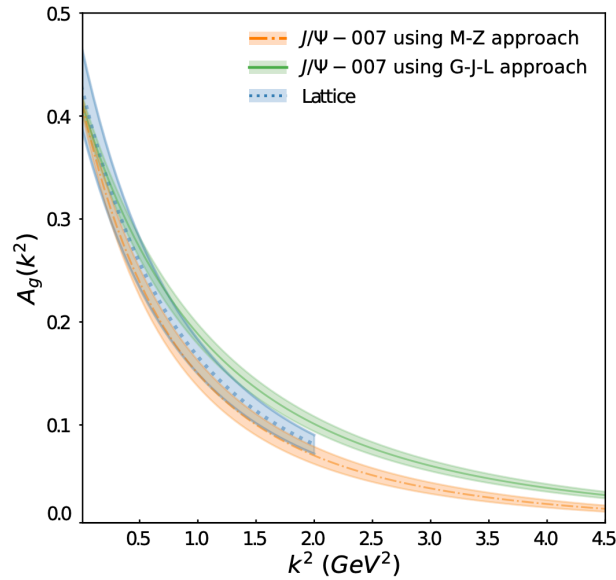
B. Duran et al. ( $J/\psi$ -007),  
Nature 615 (2023)



- 10 energy bins in  $J/\psi$ -007
- Results for the three **GlueX energy bins** compared to closest **Hall C ( $J/\psi$ -007) energies**
- Scale uncertainties: 20% in GlueX and 4% in Hall C results
- **Good agreement within the errors**; note also differences in average energies

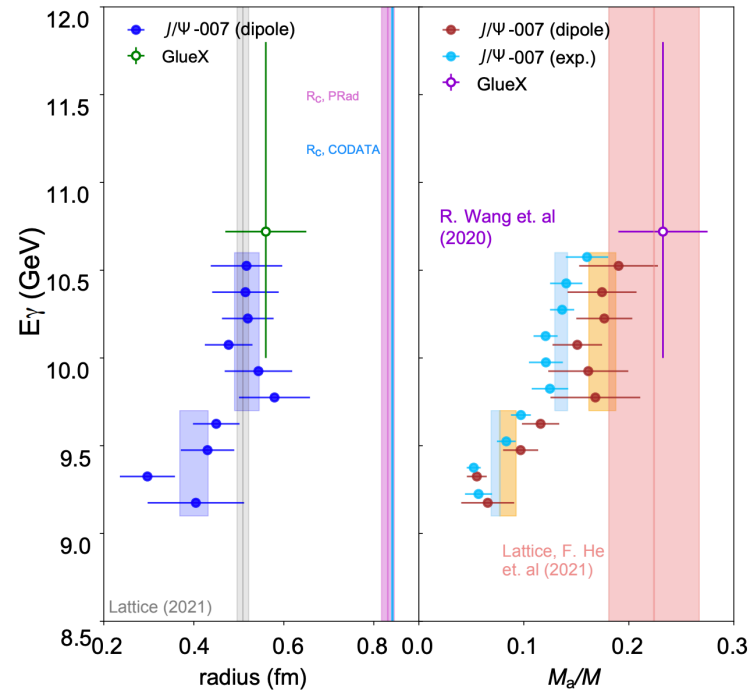
S. Adhikari et al. (GlueX),  
Phys. Rev. C 108 (2023)

# Gravitational Form Factors (model approach) - $J/\psi$ -007



*B. Duran et al. (J/ψ-007),  
Nature 615 (2023)*

$$k^2 = -t$$



Global fit of all Hall C  $d\sigma/dt$  data with 3 parameters,  $m_A$ ,  $m_C$ ,  $C(0)$ :

$$A_g(t) = \frac{A_g(0)}{(1 - t/m_A^2)^3}, \quad C_g(t) = \frac{C_g(0)}{(1 - t/m_C^2)^3}, \quad D_g(t) = 4C_g(t)$$

( $A_g(0)$  fixed from global DIS analysis) using two theoretical models:

1) *Guo, Ji, Liu PRD103 (2023)*, using GPD factorization

2) *Mamo, Zahed PRD101 (2020)*, holographic QCD,  $d\sigma/dt(t)$  directly related to GFF

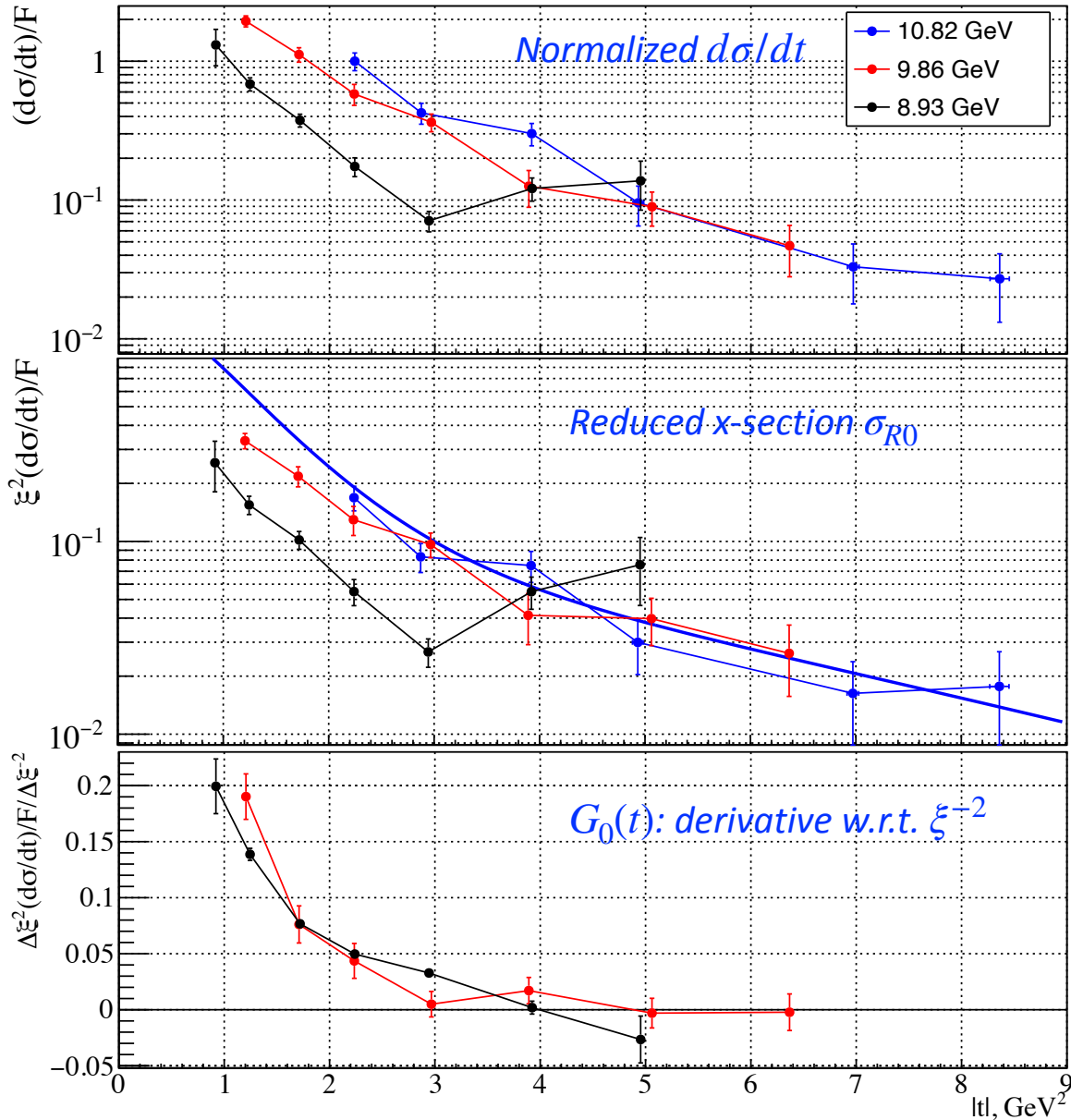
*Lattice calculations of GFF: Pefkou, Hackett, Shanahan PRD105 (2022)*

Mass radius and anomalous contribution to proton mass:

*Khazzev et al. NPA 661 (1999), Khazzev PRD 104 (2021), Guo et al. PRD 103 (2021)*



# Gluon Form Factors (Rosenbluth separation) - GlueX data



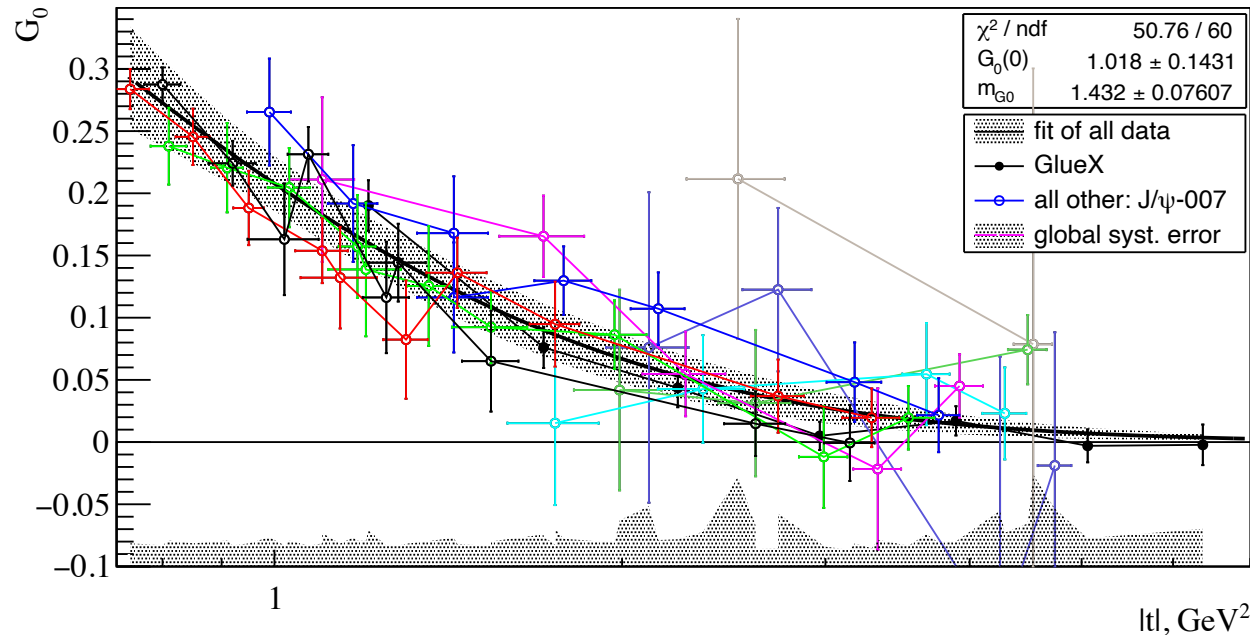
*Testing energy independence of the gluon Form Factors*

$$\sigma_{R0} = \frac{d\sigma}{dt} \frac{\xi^2}{F(E_\gamma)} = \xi^{-2} G_0(t) + G_2(t)$$

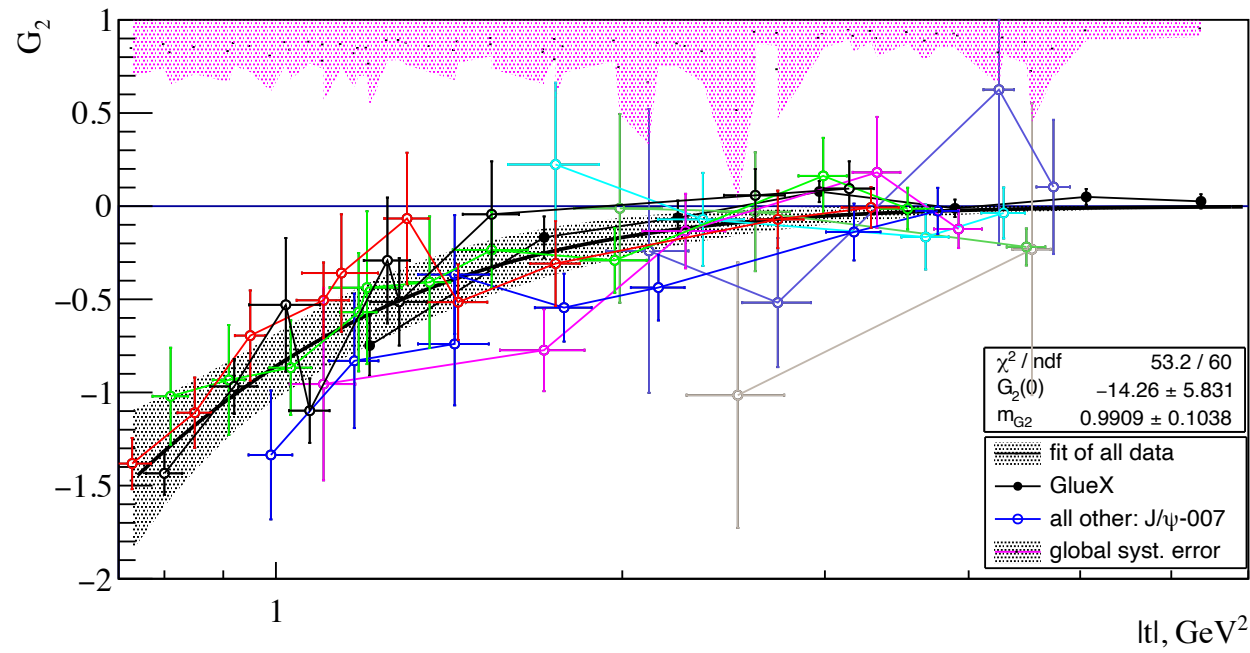
$$G_0(t) = \frac{\left[ \sigma_{R0}(E_i, t) - \sigma_{R0}(E_j, t) \right]}{\left[ \xi^{-2}(E_i, t) - \xi^{-2}(E_j, t) \right]}$$

$$\xi > 0.4$$

# Gluon Form Factors (Rosenbluth separation) - all data



*Testing energy independence of the gluon Form Factors*



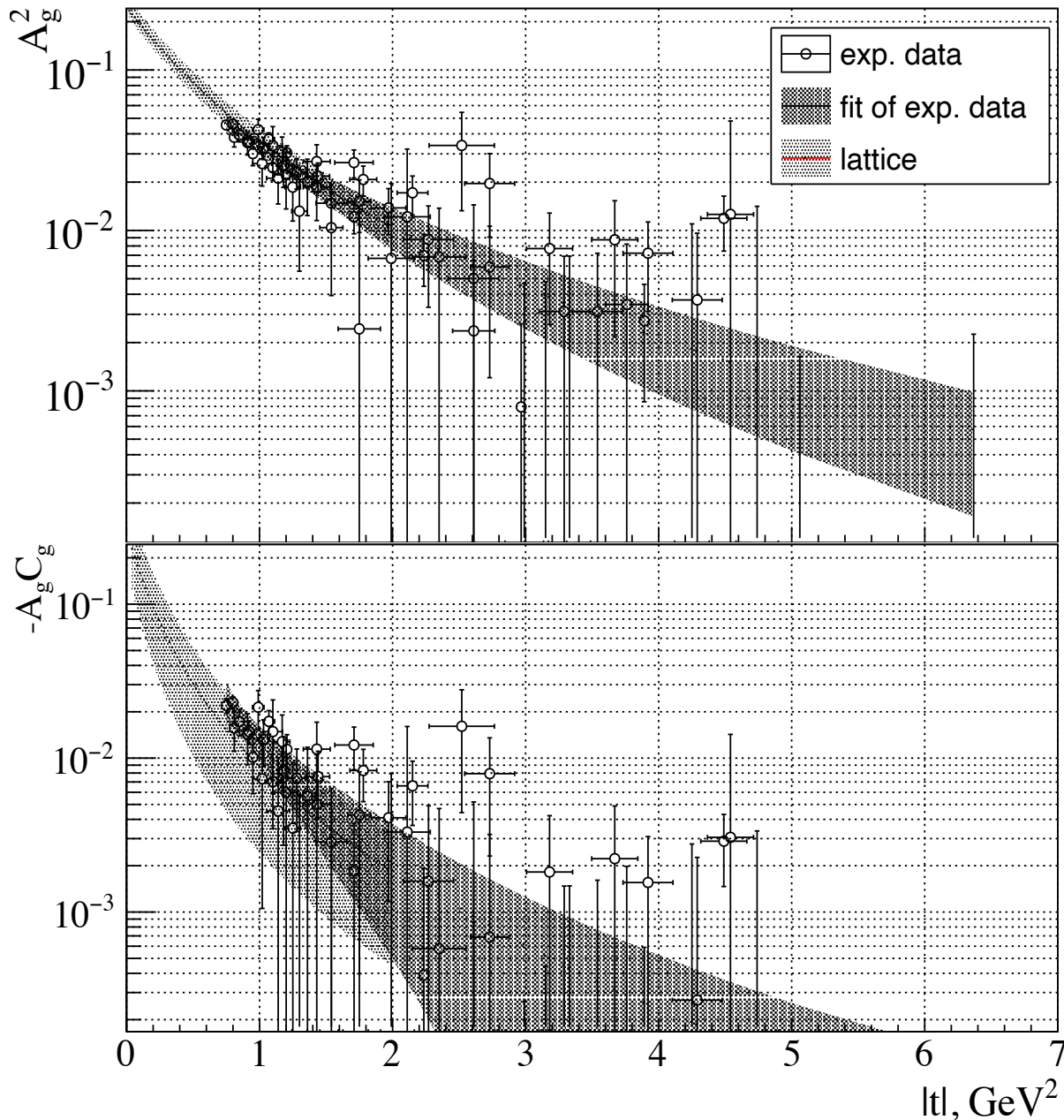
*Fits with:*

$$\frac{G(0)}{(1 + t/m^2)^4}$$

$\xi > 0.4,$   
 $E_\gamma > 9.3 \text{ GeV}$

*LP and E.Chudakov*  
*arXiv:2404.18776*

# Gluon Gravitational Form Factors - all data



$$G_0(t) = \left( \mathcal{A}_g(t) \right)^2 - \frac{t}{4m^2} \left( \mathcal{B}_g(t) \right)^2$$

$$G_2(t) = 2\mathcal{A}_g(t)\mathcal{C}_g(t) + 2\frac{t}{4m^2}\mathcal{B}_g(t)\mathcal{C}_g(t) - \left( \mathcal{A}_g(t) + \mathcal{B}_g(t) \right)^2$$

In leading-moment approximation  
access to gluon GFFs  $A_g(t)$ ,  $C_g(t)$   
(neglecting  $B_g(t)$ ):

$$G_0(t) \sim A_g^2(t)$$

$$G_0(t) + G_2(t) \sim A_g(t)C_g(t)$$

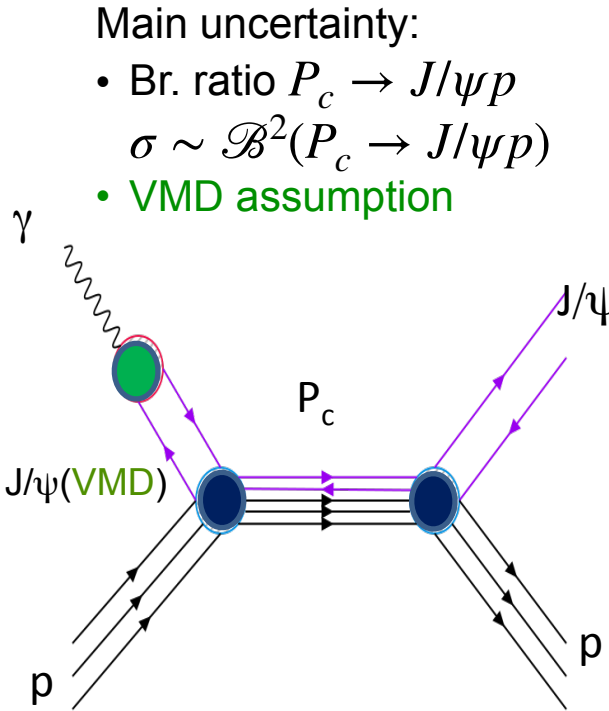
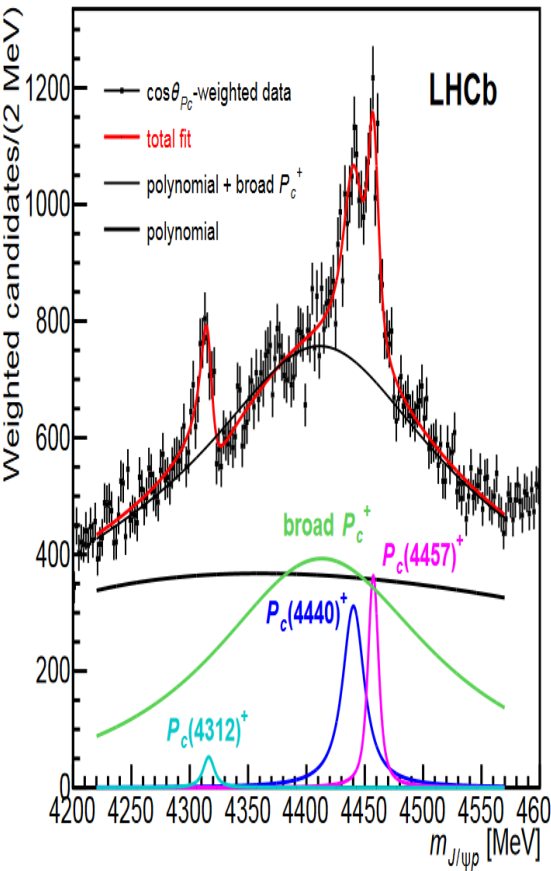
also calculated on lattice:

*Pefkou, Hackett, Shanahan PRD105 (2022),  
Hackett, Pefkou, Shanahan arXiv:2310.08484  
(2023)*

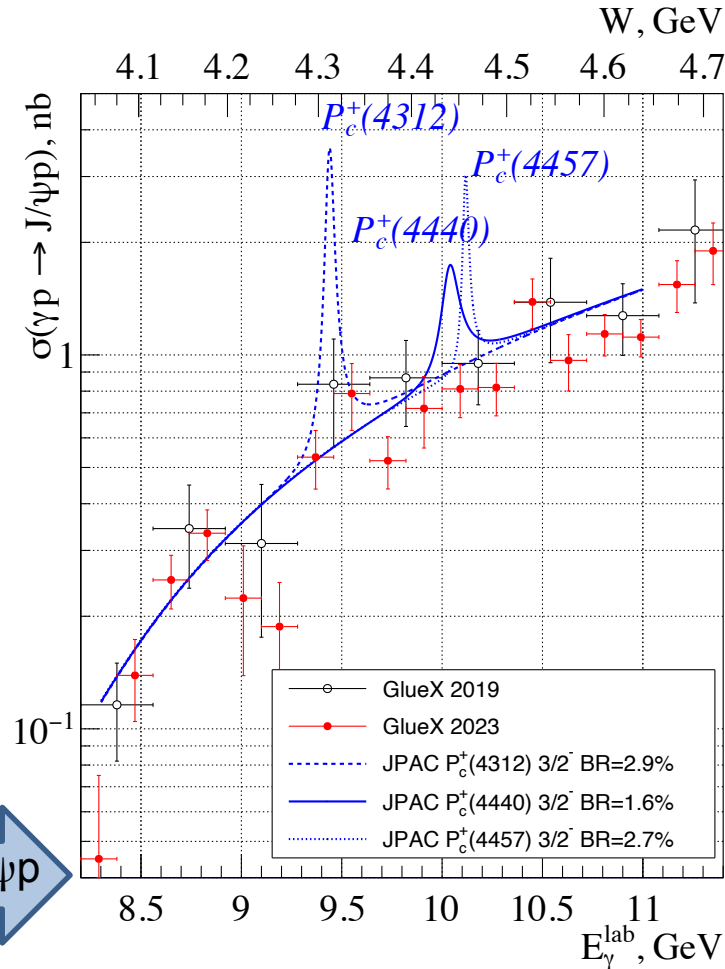
*LP and E.Chudakov  
arXiv:2404.18776*

# LHCb pentaquarks and $J/\psi$ photo-production

- If LHCb pentaquarks exist they should be seen in s-channel photoproduction (free of re-scattering effects in the final state):



LHCb  $P_c$  related to  $\gamma p \rightarrow P_c \rightarrow J/\psi p$

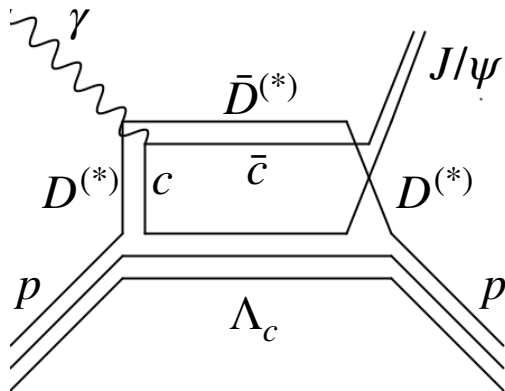
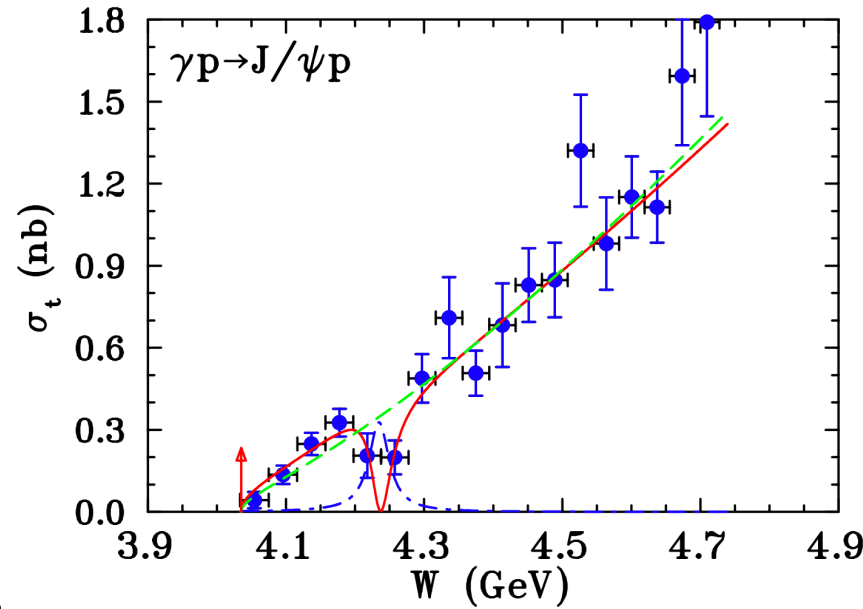
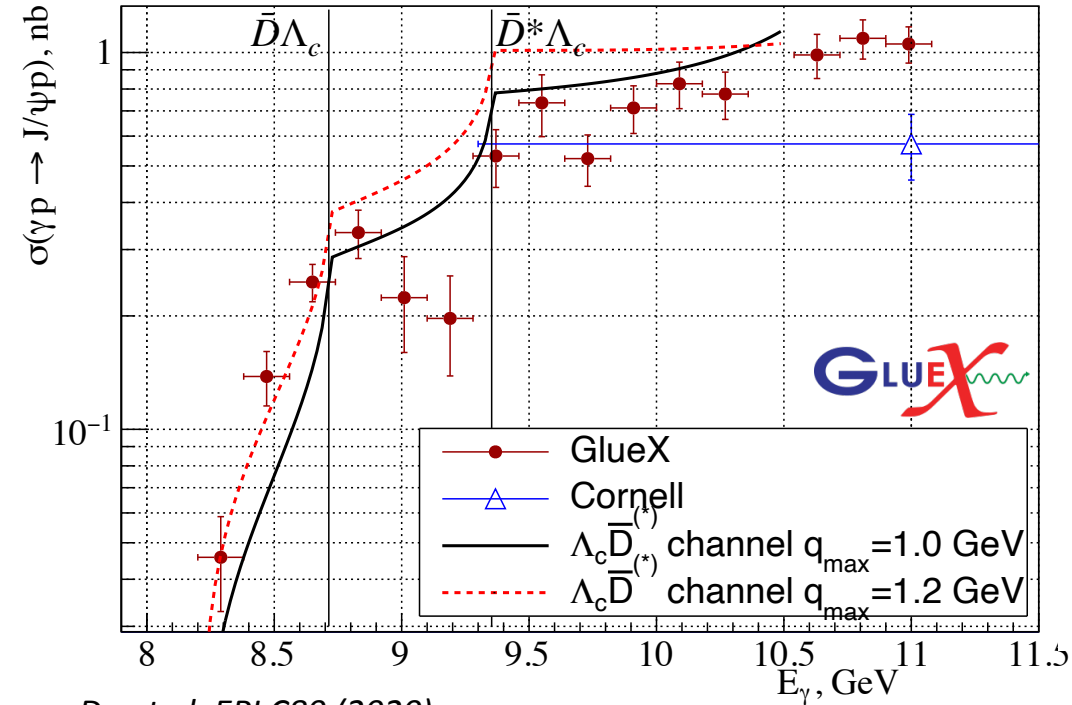


$J/\psi$ -007: much lower upper limits based on modeling  $t$ -dependence of  $P_c^+$  production

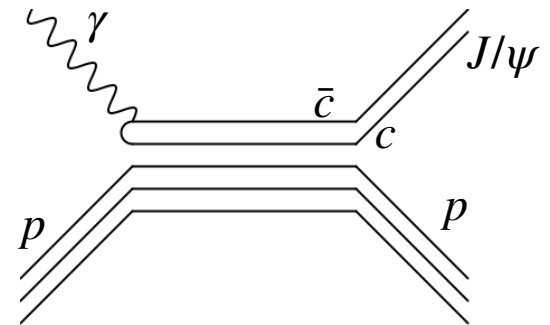
B.Dran, Ph.D. thesis, TU(2021)

V.Kubarovsky and M.B.Voloshin, PRD 92.031502 (2015).  
 M.Karliner and J.Rosner, arXiv: PLB 752, 329 (2016).  
 A.Blin, C.Fernandez-Ramirez, A.Jackura, V.Mathieu, V.Mokeev, A.Pilloni, and A.Szczepaniak, PRD 94,034002 (2016).

# Other reaction mechanisms: open-charm, 5q exchange



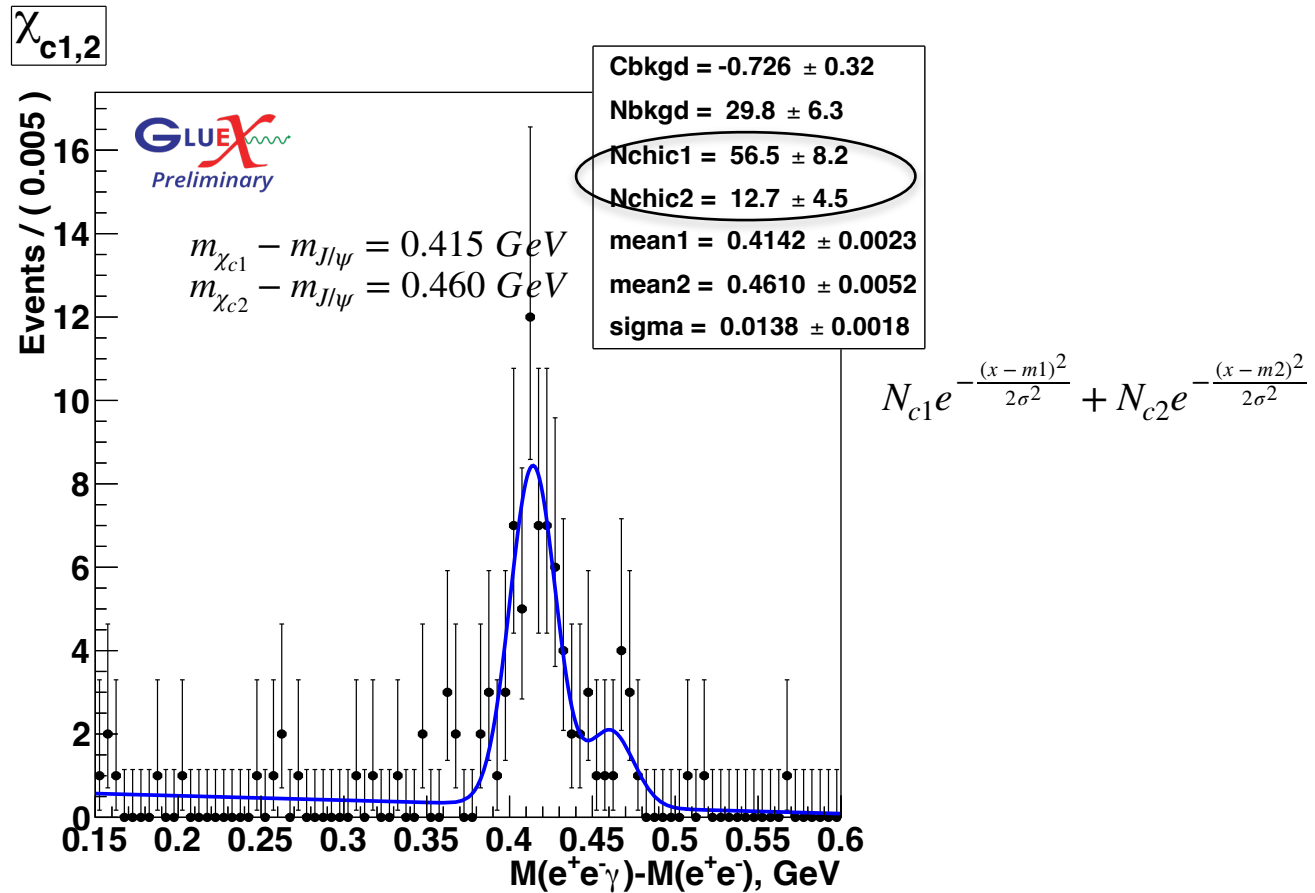
JPAC PRD 108 (2023)



Threshold photoproduction of **higher-mass charmonium states**

# C-event charmonium states at threshold with GlueX

$$\gamma p \rightarrow \chi_c p \rightarrow (J/\psi \gamma) p \rightarrow (e^+ e^- \gamma) p$$

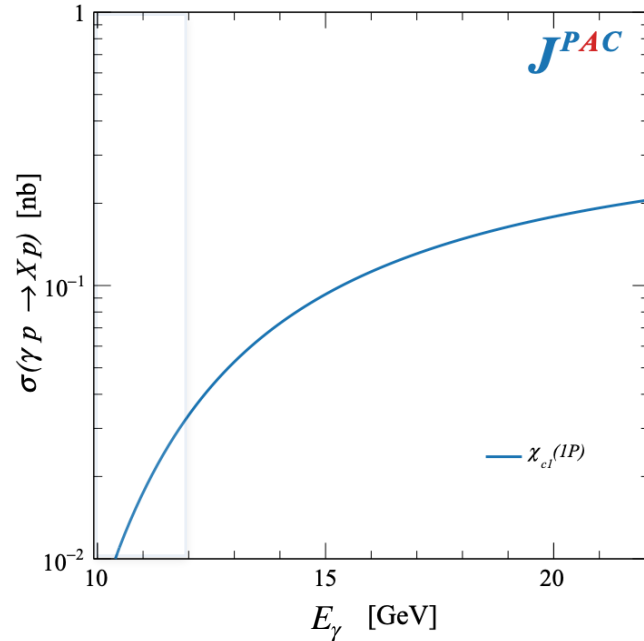
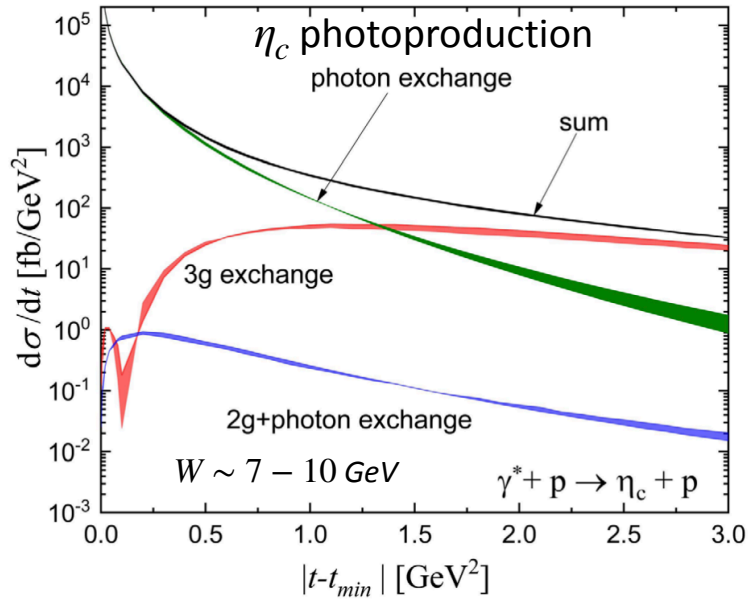


- $\chi_{c1}(3511)$  and  $\chi_{c2}(3556)$ ,  $1^{++}$  and  $2^{++}$  ( $1P$ ),  
 $E_\gamma^{thr} = 10.1 \text{ GeV}$

First ever evidence for photoproduction of C-even charmonium

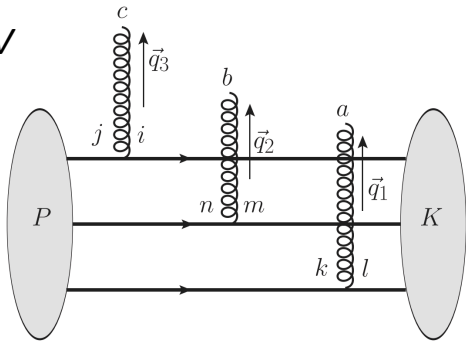
# C-even charmonium states with GlueX

C-odd ( $J/\psi, \psi'$ ) vs C-even ( $\chi_c$ ) production



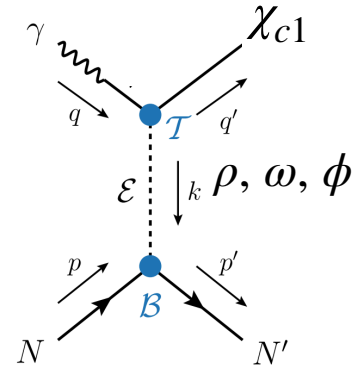
Dumitru, Skokov, Stebel, PRD 101 (2020), Dumitru, Stebel, PRD 99 (2019)

$W \sim 7 - 10 \text{ GeV}$



- High energies - perturbative calculation - Odderon (odd-parity Pomeron) 3g exchange

JPAC, PRD 102 (2020)



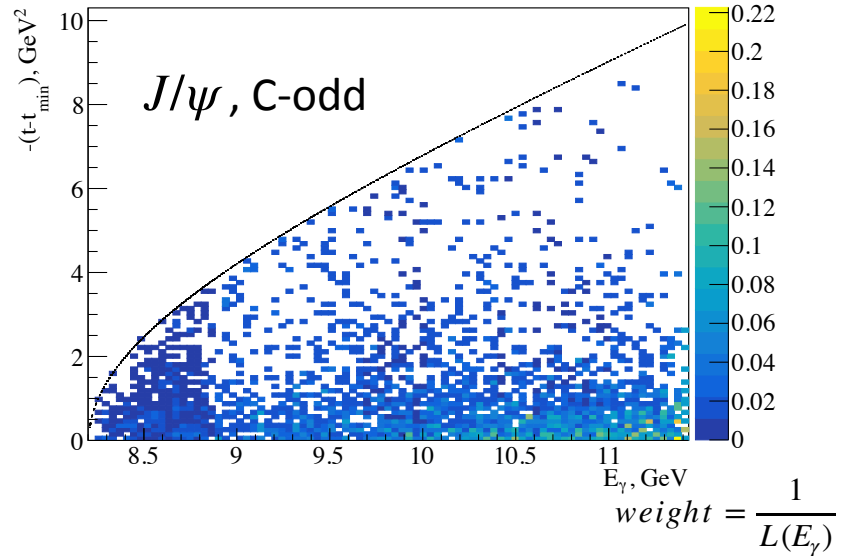
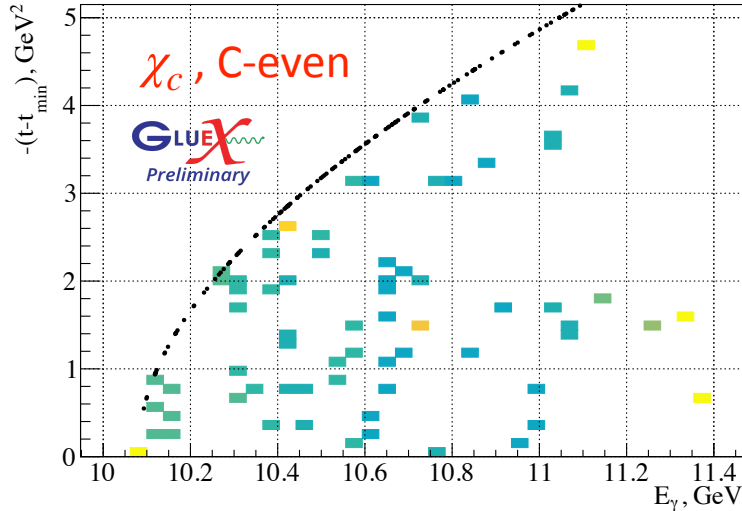
- Low energies - non-perturbative approach, vector meson exchange



# C-even charmonium states with GlueX

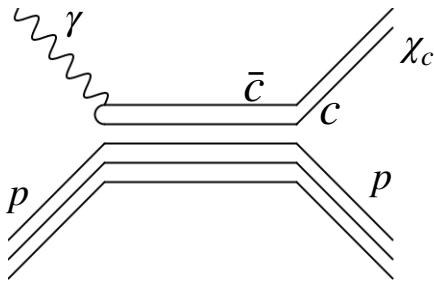
C-odd ( $J/\psi, \psi'$ ) vs C-even ( $\chi_c$ ) production

- Dramatic difference:  $\chi_c$  distribution in  $(E_\gamma, t)$  vs  $J/\psi$

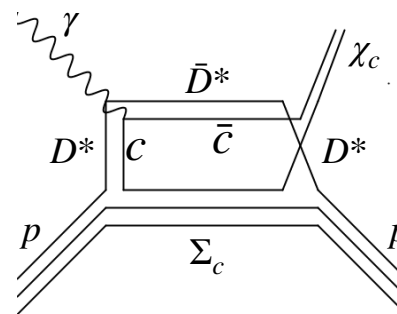


- At threshold other possible mechanisms may dominate:

S-channel exchange of  $5q$



Open-charm exchange

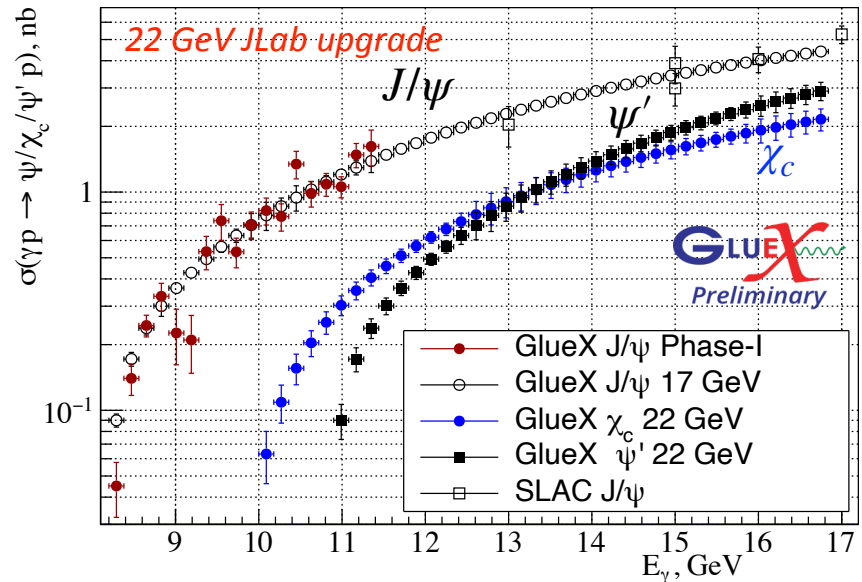
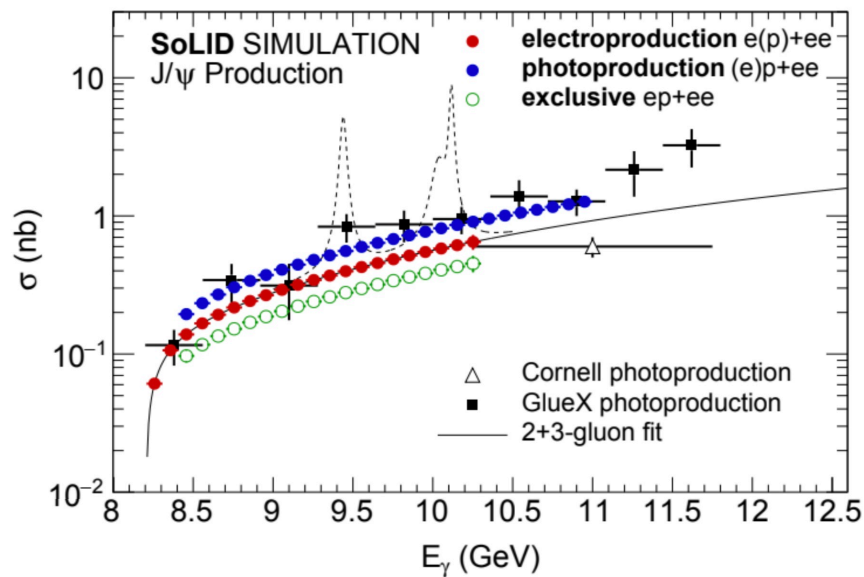


# Prospect for charmonium threshold production at JLab

- **GlueX** has planned running till 2025 (phase-II) and proposal for phase-III (double intensity):

Run Period	$J/\psi$	$\chi_{c1}$	$\psi(2S)$
2016-2020 Phase I-II	3,960	55	12
2023-2025 Phase II (planned)	3,615	48	11
Phase III (proposal)	11,271	364	178
Projected Total	18,846	467	201

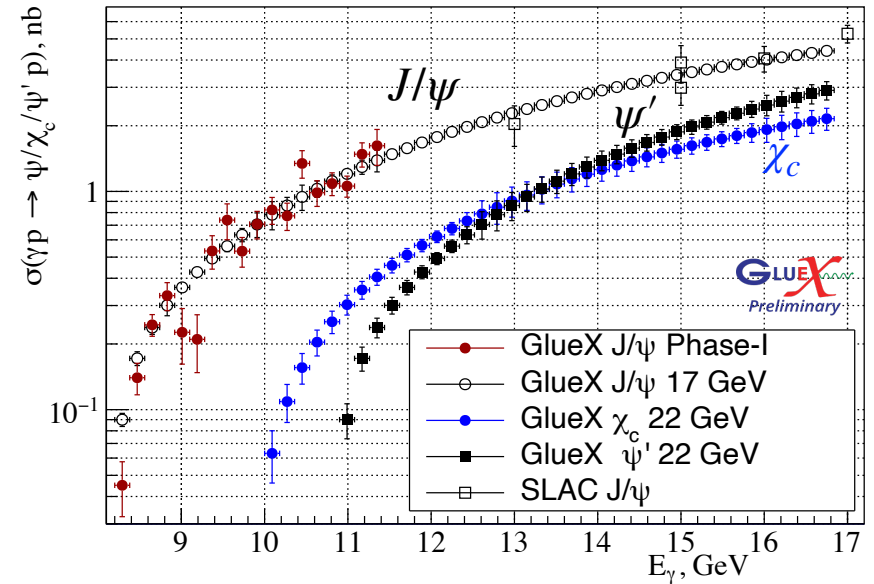
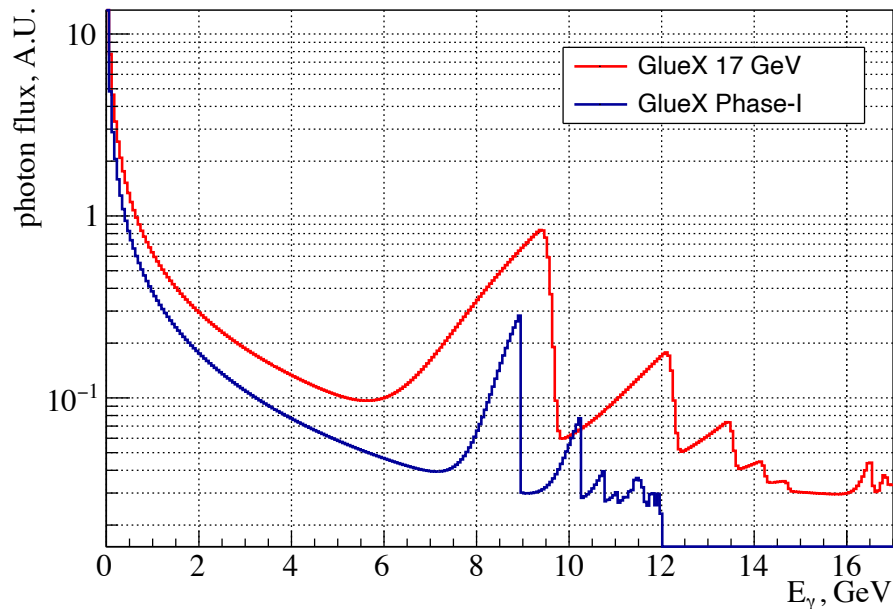
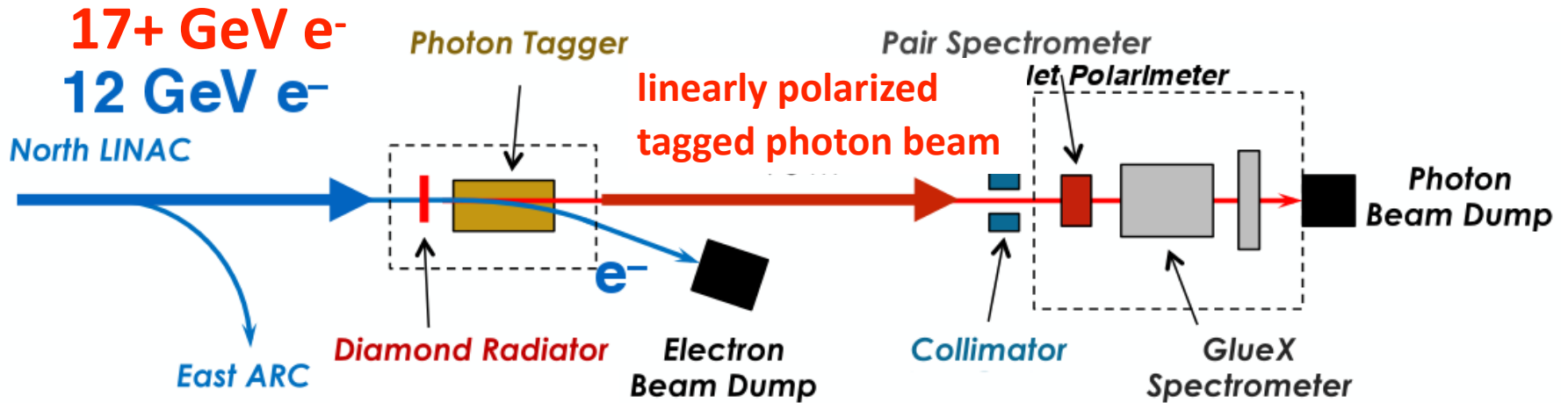
- Results from from Hall B expected soon
- **SoLID** detector (in Hall A) would be the ultimate  $J/\psi$  factory at threshold ( $800k$ ), including electroproduction ( $20k$ ) - mentioned in the recommendations of 2023 Long Range Plan for nuclear science, under reviewing process
- **JLab energy increase up to 22 GeV** (white paper - arXiv:2306.09360) critical in justifying charmonium photoproduction near threshold as a method to study mass properties of the proton; also passing thresholds of  $X(3872)$ ,  $Z_c^+(3900)$  photoproduction ( $\sim 12$  GeV)



# Summary

- After ~50 years, thanks to 12 GeV CEBAF, precise measurements of  $J/\psi$  photoproduction in full near-threshold kinematic region
- Near-threshold cross sections contain important information about gluonic (mass) properties of proton target and  $p$ - $J/\psi$  interaction at low energies
- Gluon Form Factors extracted from JLab data are energy independent in agreement with GPD factorization and within some models can be related to Gravitational Form Factors, showing general agreement with lattice, however more data and theoretical efforts are needed
- No evidence for LHCb pentaquarks in the s-channel found
- First ever evidence for C-even charmonium photoproduction - important to understand reaction mechanism, complementary to  $J/\psi$  (C-odd charmonium) studies
- Future planned and proposed experiments at JLab will increase significantly the statistics, critical for justifying threshold charmonium production as a tool to study gluonic structure of the nucleon

# Hall D Apparatus with 17+ GeV electron beam

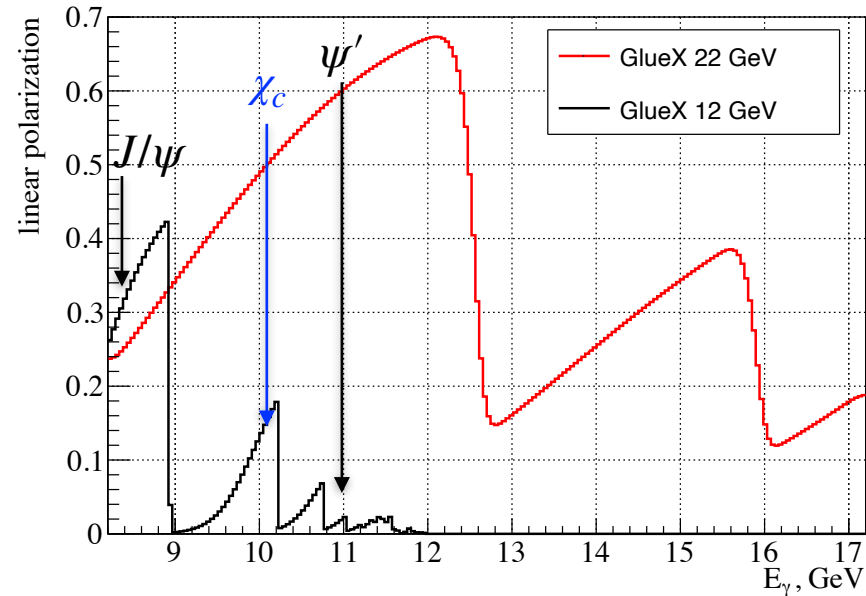


- Moving end point from 12 GeV to 17+ GeV:  
- higher flux (and polarization) toward higher energies, while low energies less affected (no load on detectors)

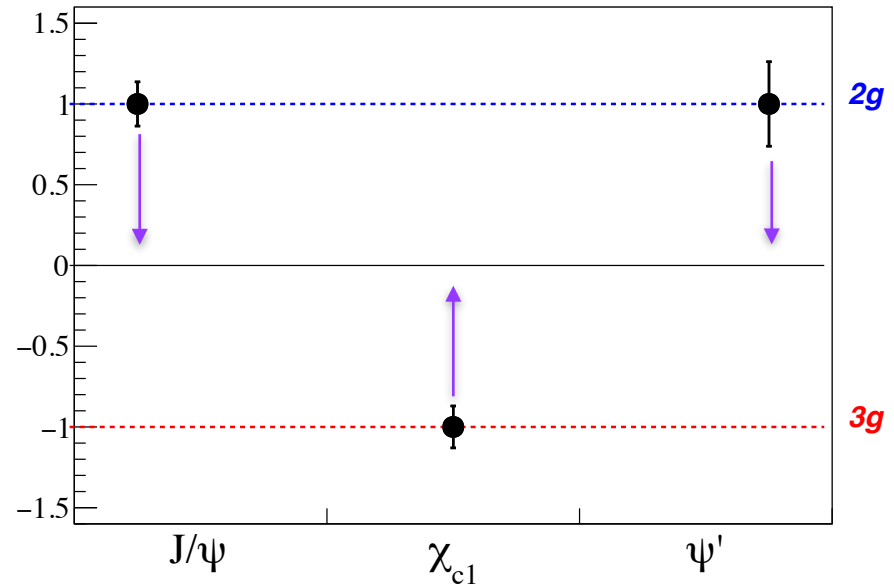
# Charmonium polarization measurements at 22 GeV

$$\text{naturalness} \times (-1)^{J=P}$$

$E_{el} = 22 \text{ GeV}$

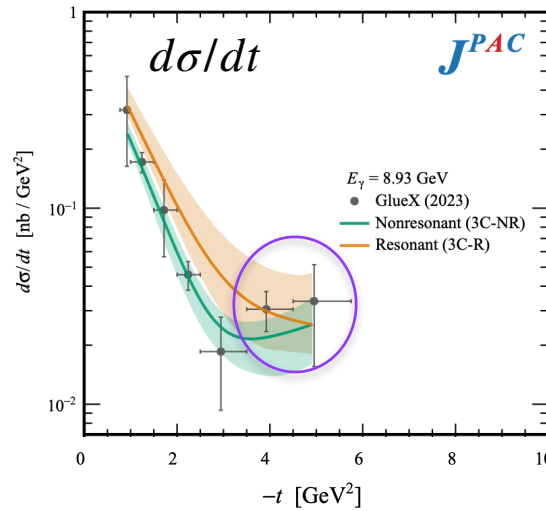
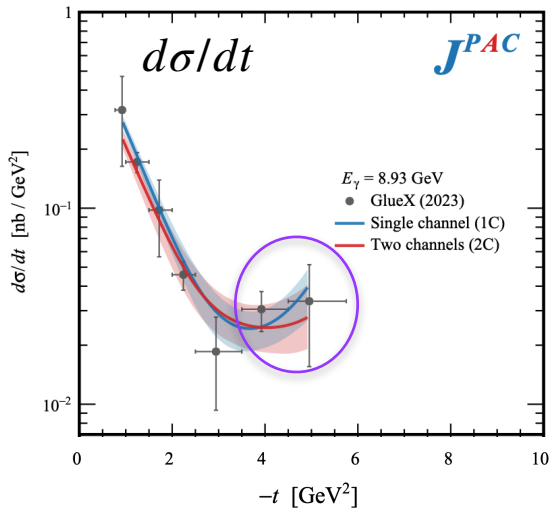
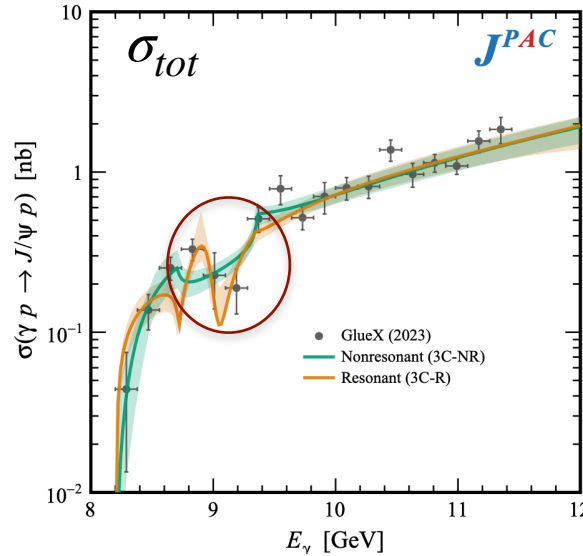
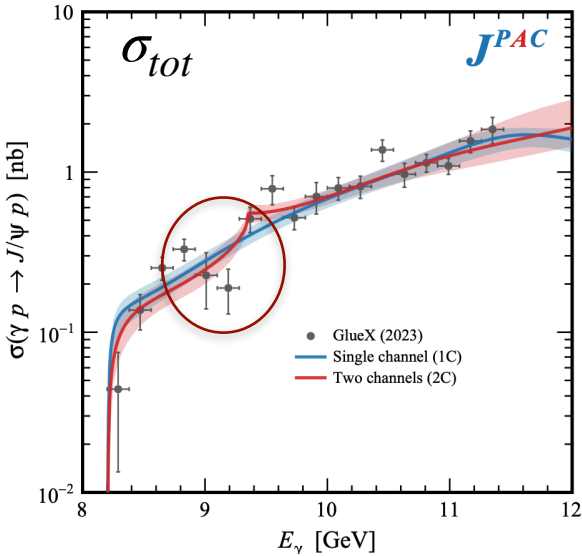


naturalness



Any deviation from the expected (via gluon exchange) naturalness indicates contribution of mechanism different from what is needed to study mass properties of the proton

# Phenomenological approach: JPAC results



Phenomenological model based on s-channel PW expansion ( $l \leq 3$ ):

- (1C)  $J/\psi p$  interaction
- (2C)  $J/\psi p$  and  $\bar{D}^* \Lambda_C$
- (3C-NR)  $J/\psi p, \bar{D} \Lambda_C, \bar{D}^* \Lambda_C$  (non-resonant solution)
- (3C-NR)  $J/\psi p, \bar{D} \Lambda_C, \bar{D}^* \Lambda_C$  (resonant solution)

No stat. significant preference:

- 9 GeV structure requires sizable contribution from open charm
- Severe violation of VMD and factorization not excluded
- s-channel resonance not excluded
- t-enhancement indicates s-channel contribution: due to proximity to threshold or open-charm exchange

JPAC arxiv:2305.01449 (2023)

Global fit of both Hall C & D  $d\sigma/dt(t)$  and Hall D  $\sigma_{tot}(E_\gamma)$