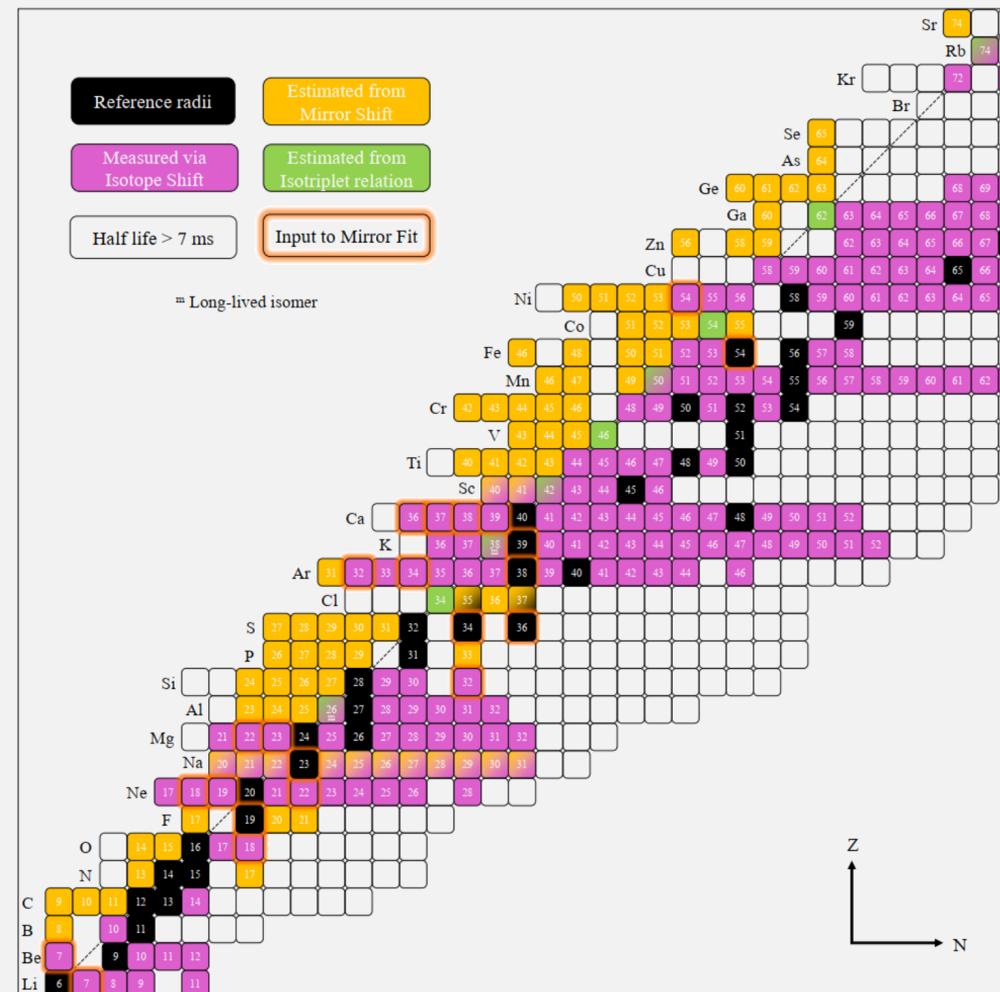


# New perspectives in the charge radii determination for light nuclei



ADNDT

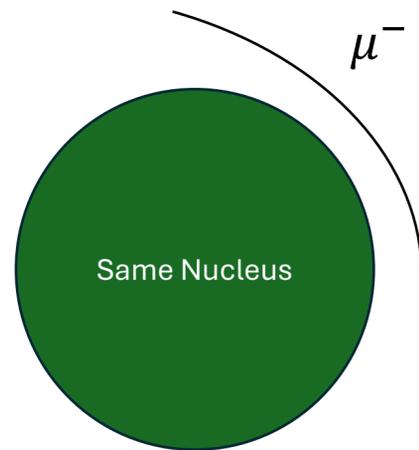
Ben Ohayon | Technion IIT | boahyon@technion.ac.il  
ECT\*, July 28<sup>th</sup> - Aug. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025

# Today

- Charge radii: a story of theory and experiment
- Reference-radii and their uncertainty
- New *global* initiatives

# Fruitful combination of experiment with theory

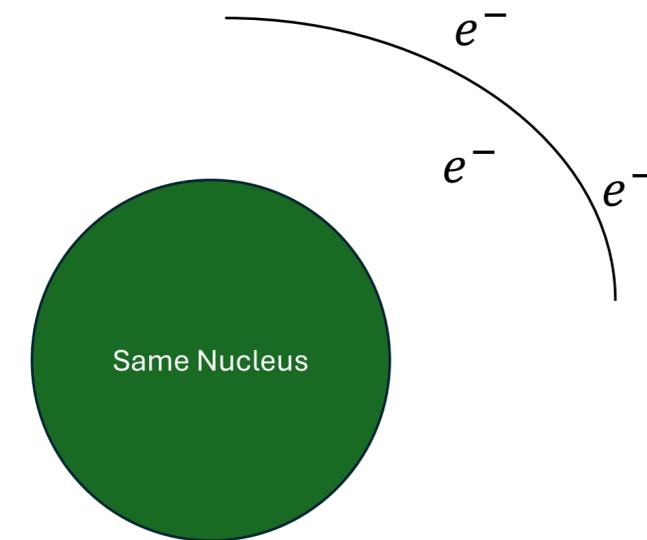
Measurements in  
Exotic atoms



Atomic & Nuclear  
Theory

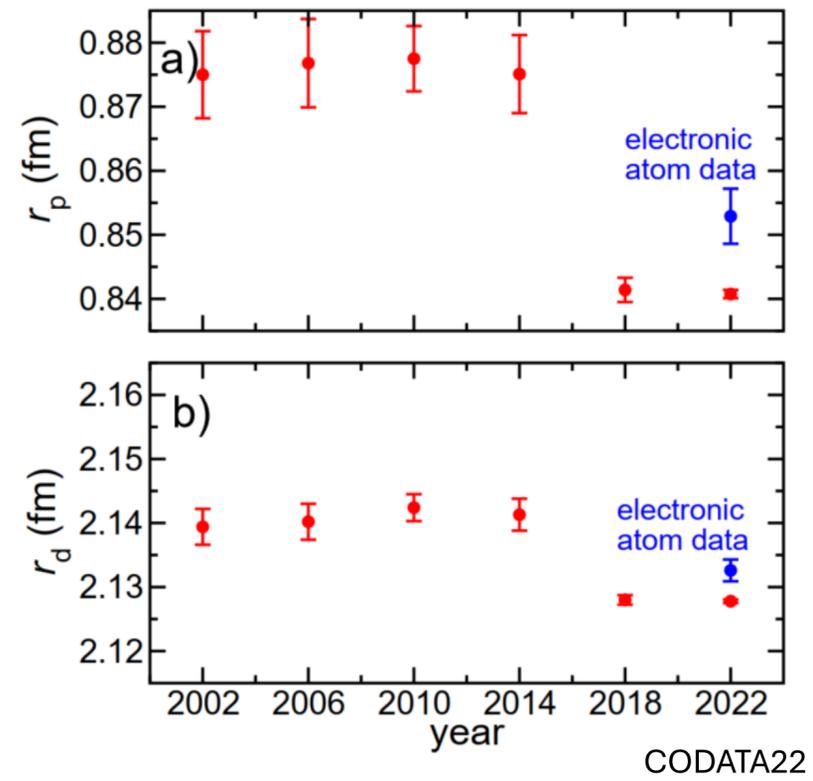


Measurements in  
Electronic atoms



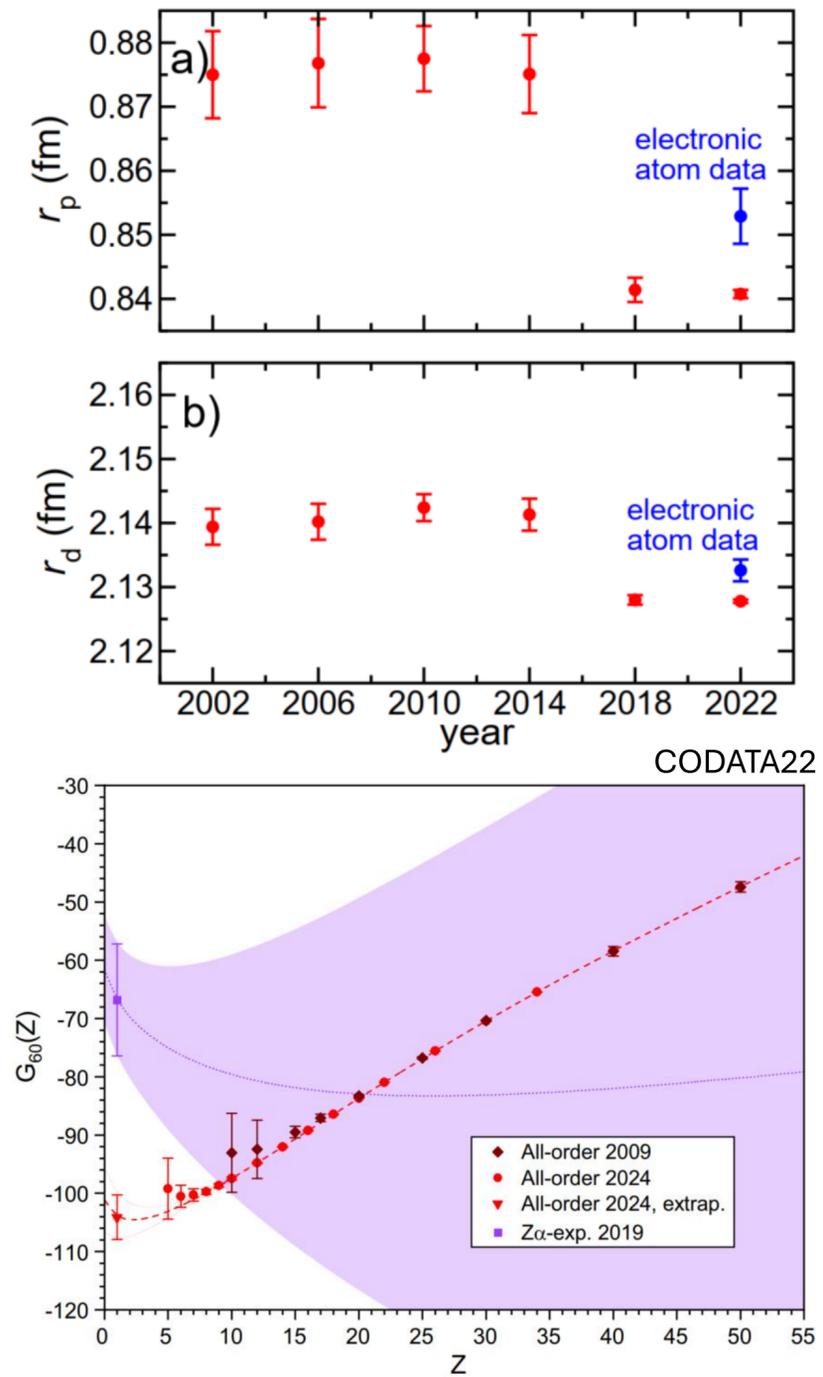
# Some Fruits

Determination of fundamental constants:



# Some Fruits

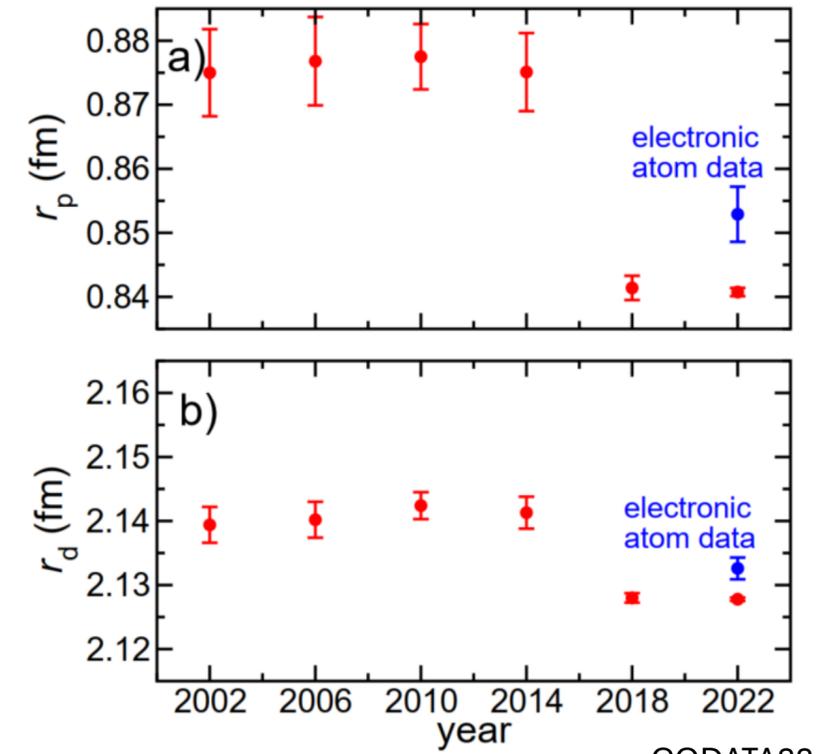
Determination of fundamental constants:



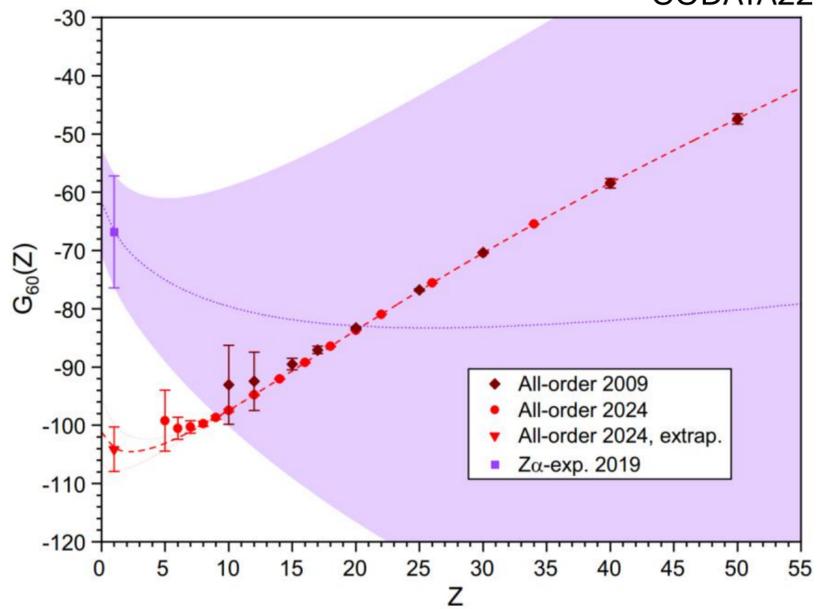
CODATA22

# Some Fruits

Determination of fundamental constants:

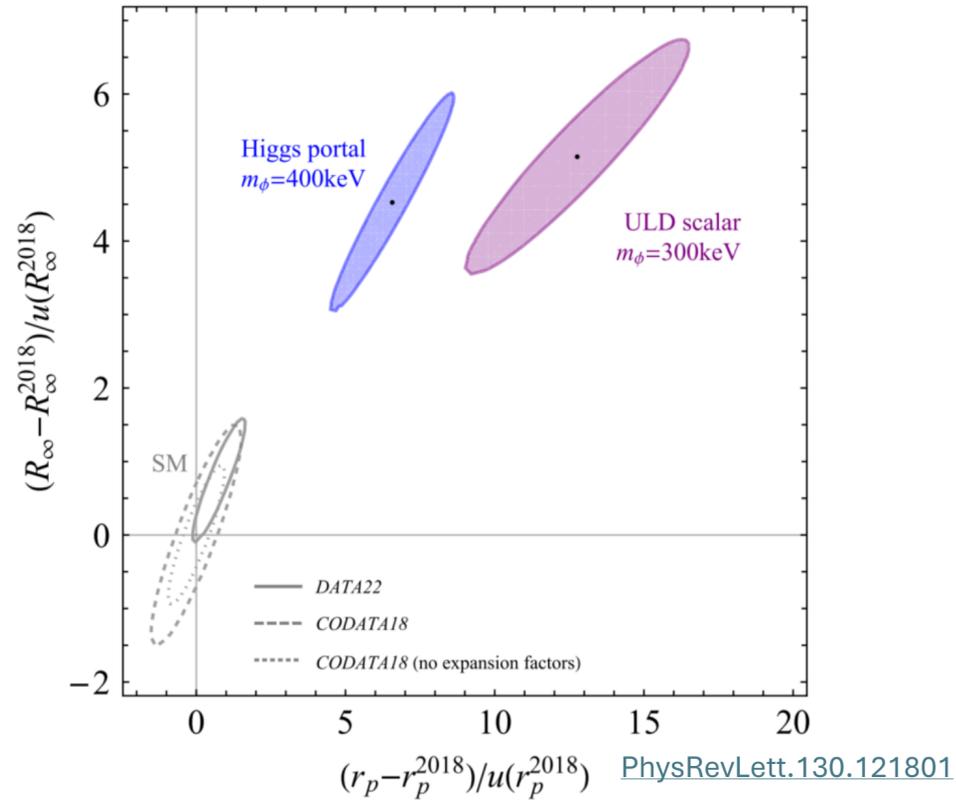


CODATA22



PhysRevLett.133.251803

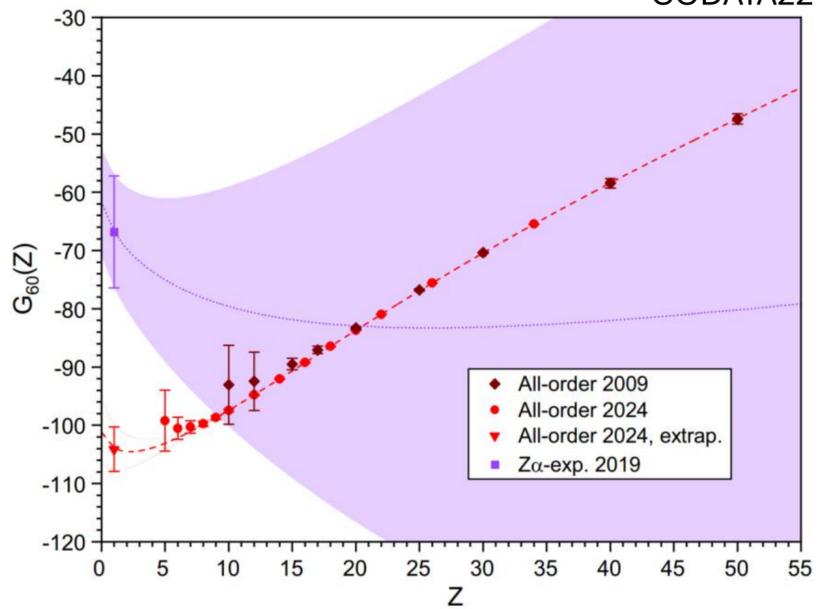
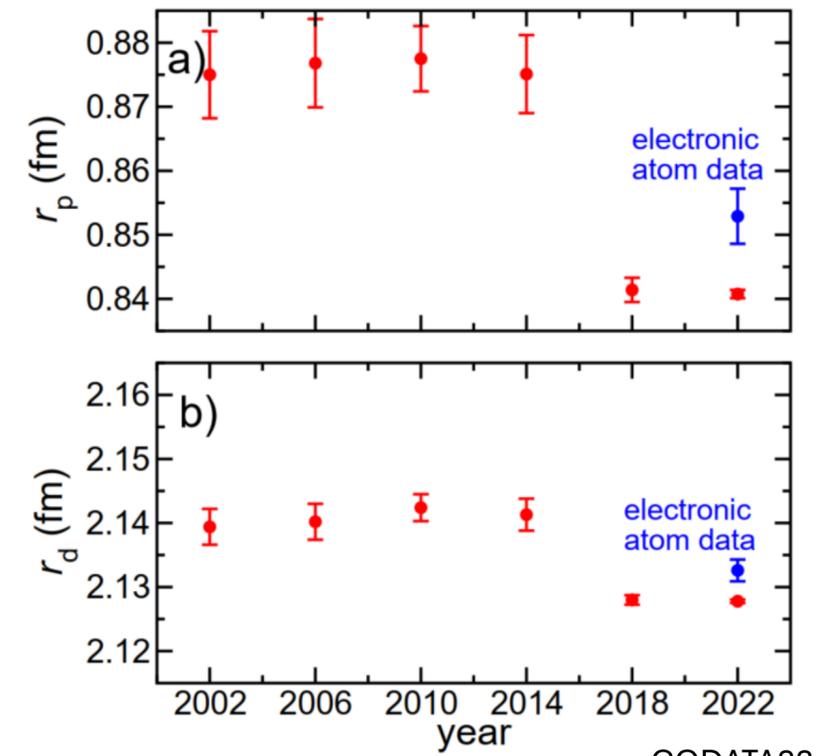
Search for new physics:



PhysRevLett.130.121801

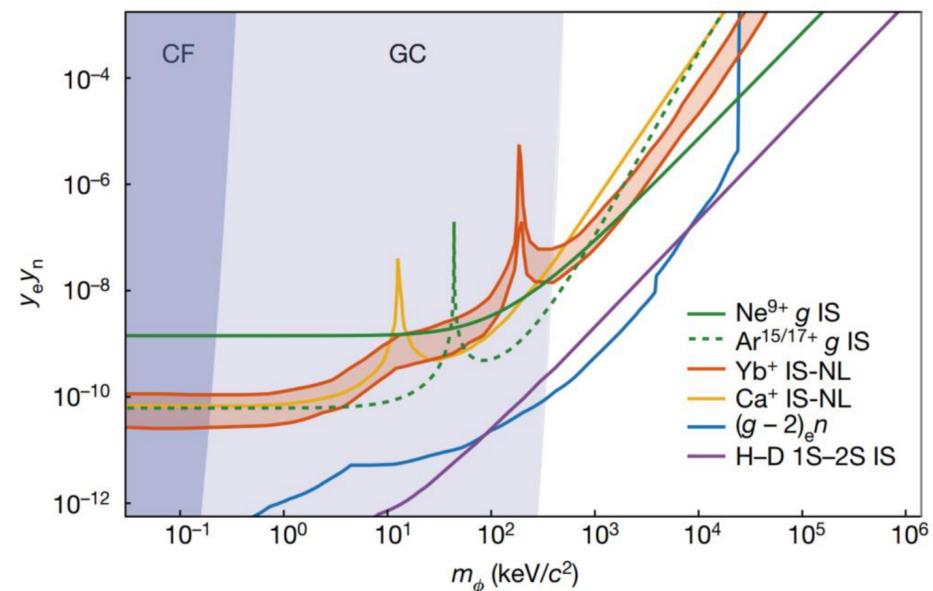
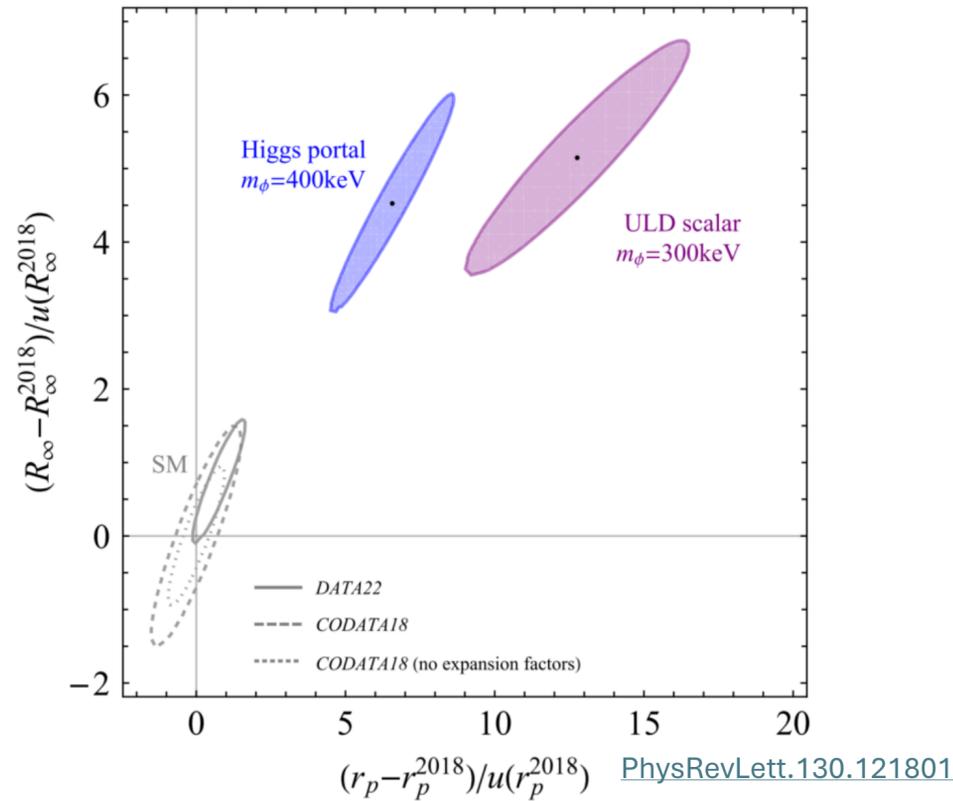
# Some Fruits

Determination of fundamental constants:



[PhysRevLett.133.251803](#)

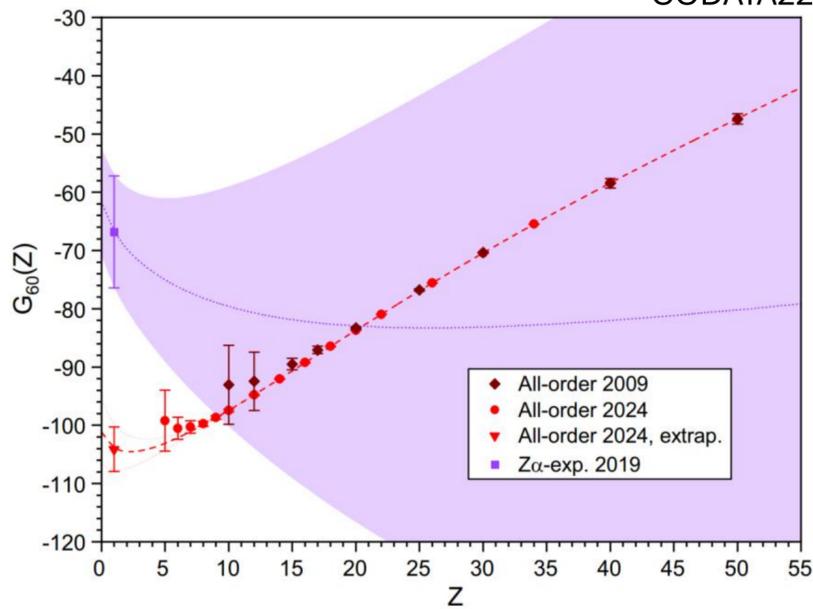
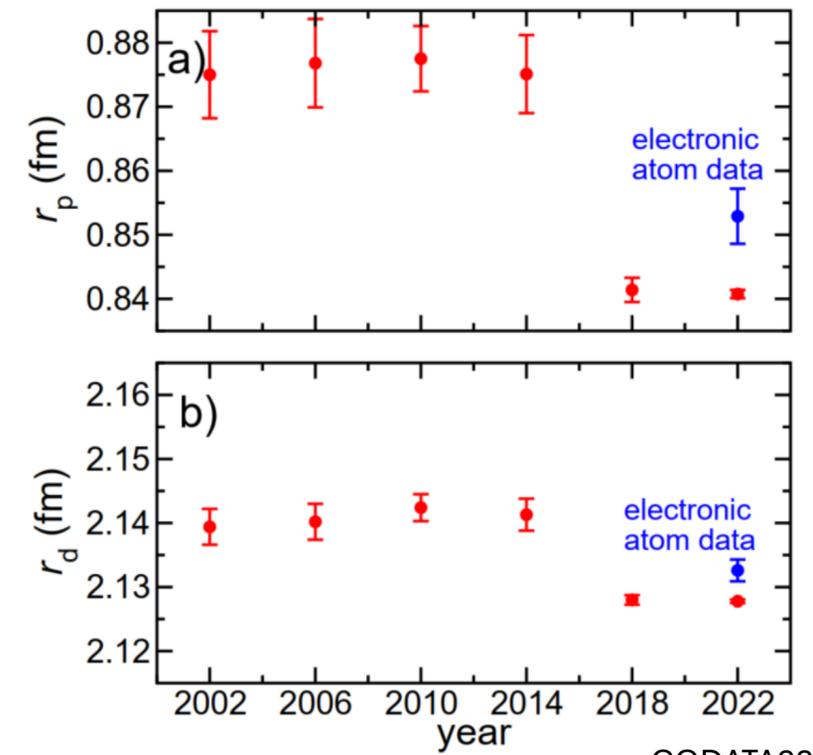
Search for new physics:



[Nature volume 606, pages 479–483](#)

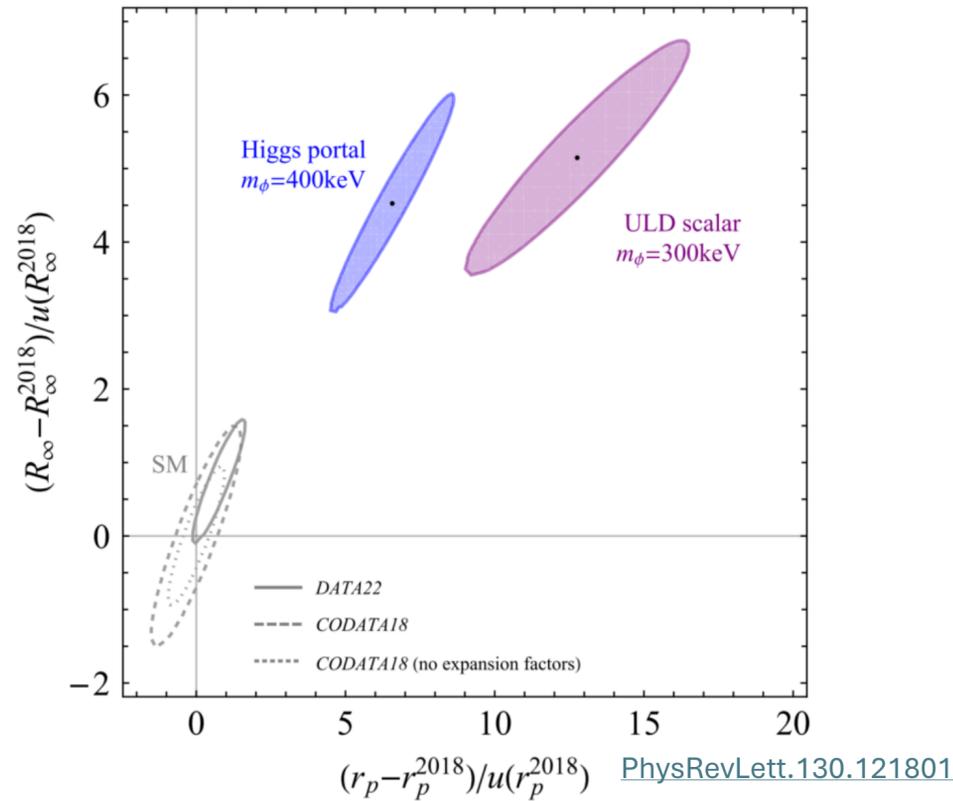
# Some Fruits

Determination of fundamental constants:

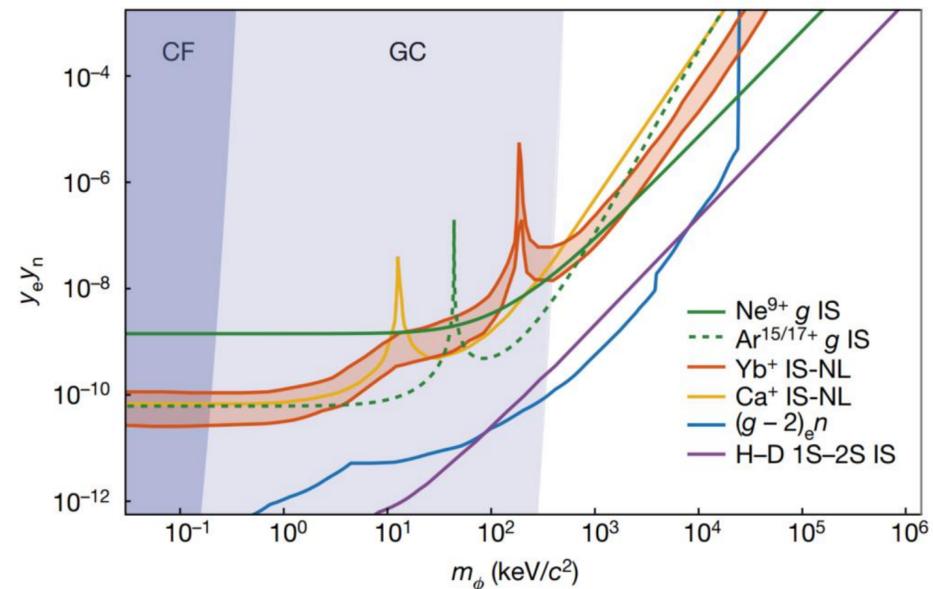


[PhysRevLett.133.251803](#)

Search for new physics:

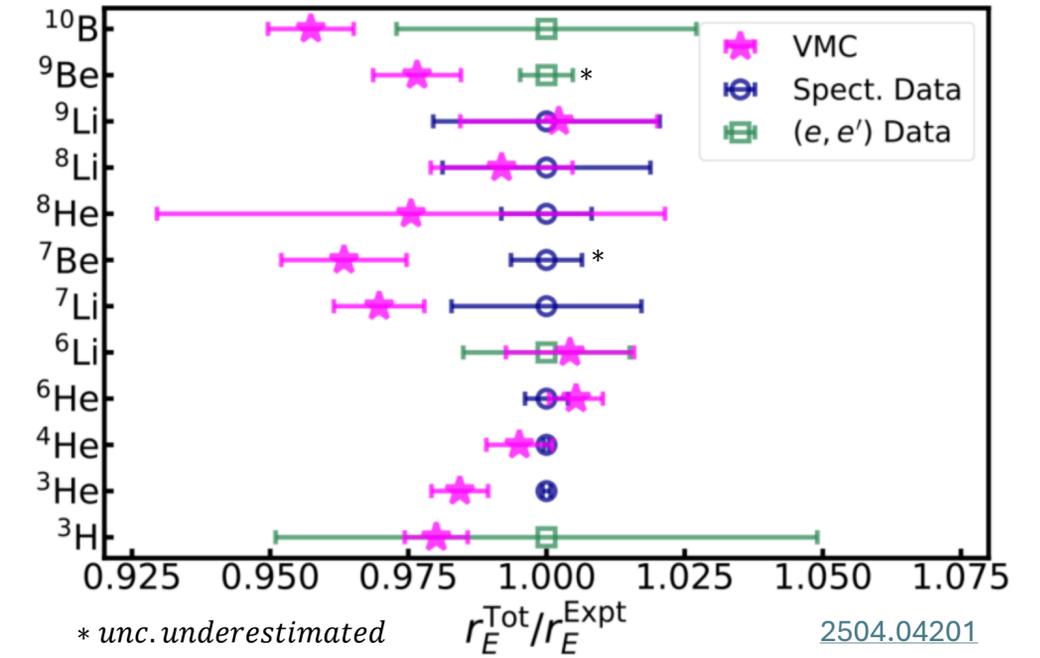


[PhysRevLett.130.121801](#)



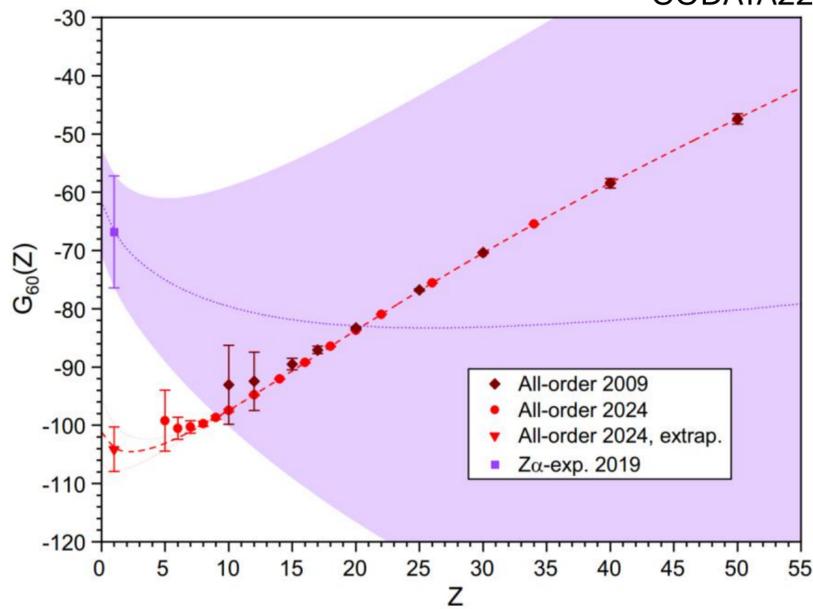
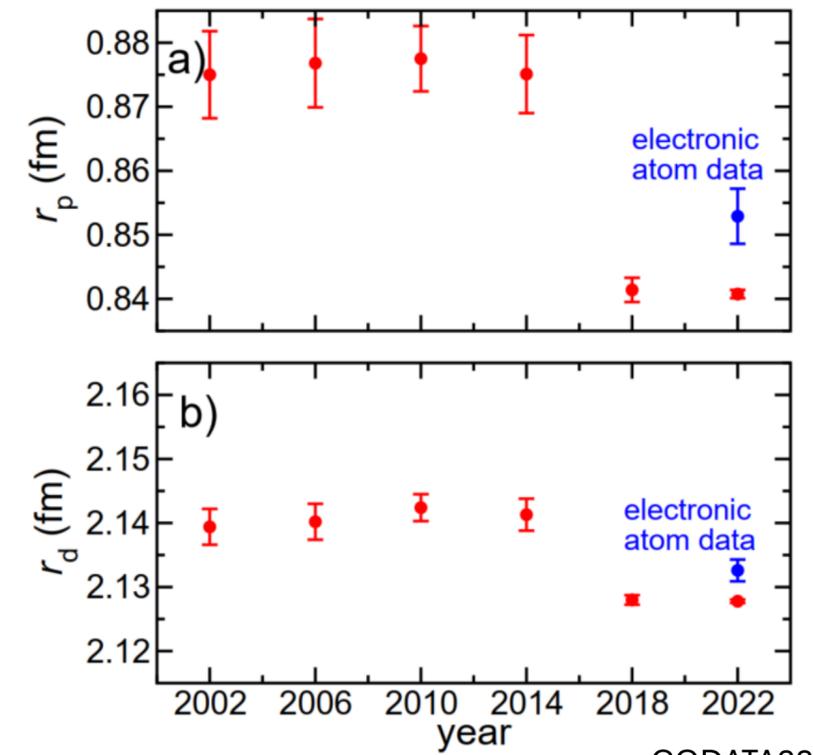
[Nature volume 606, pages 479–483](#)

Direct comparisons:



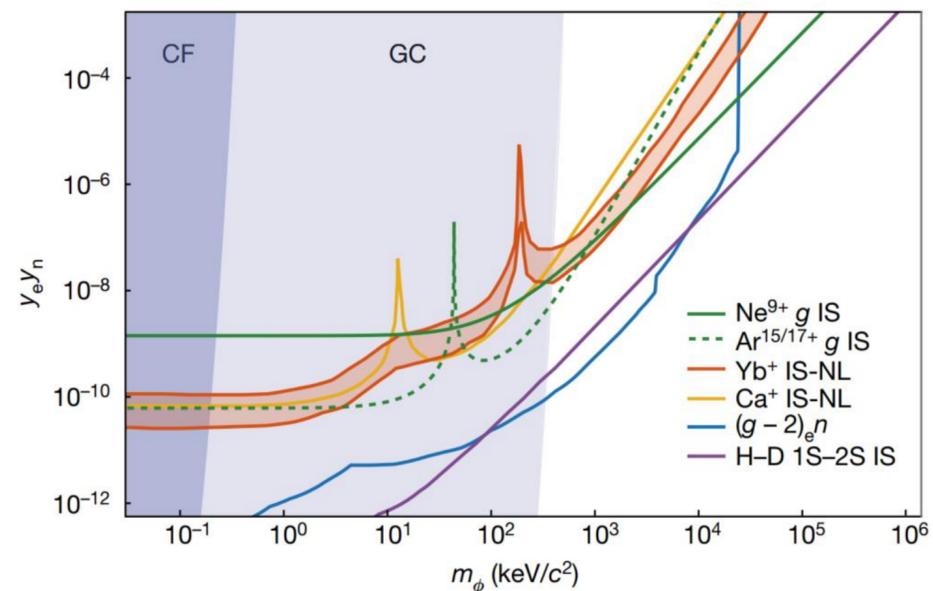
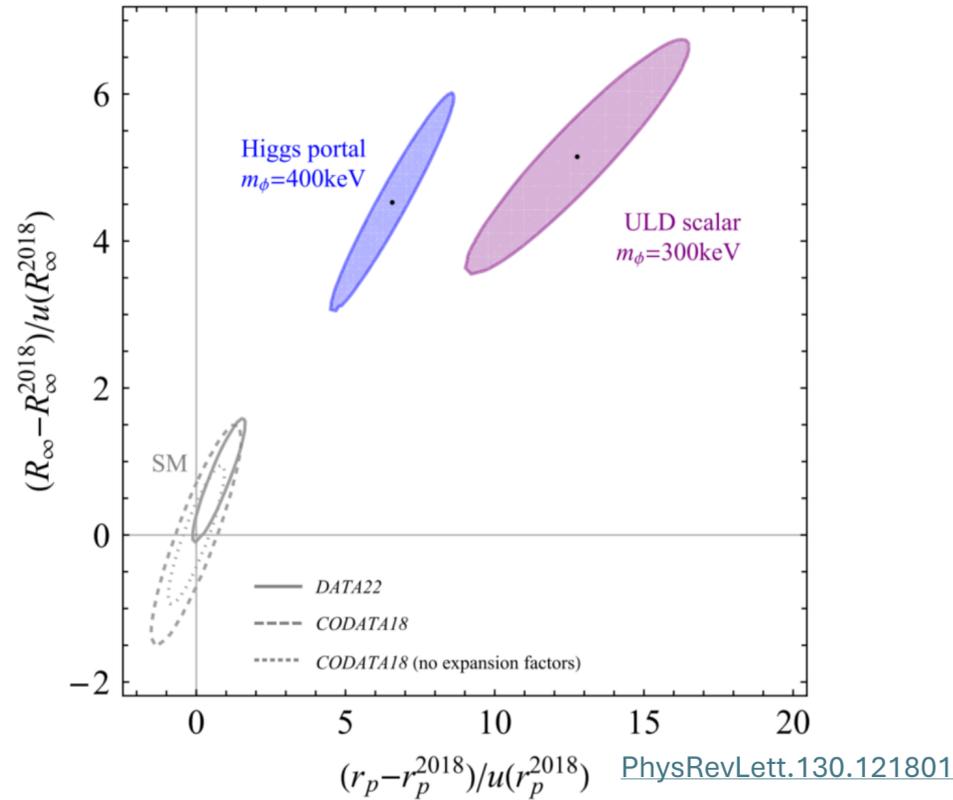
# Some Fruits

Determination of fundamental constants:



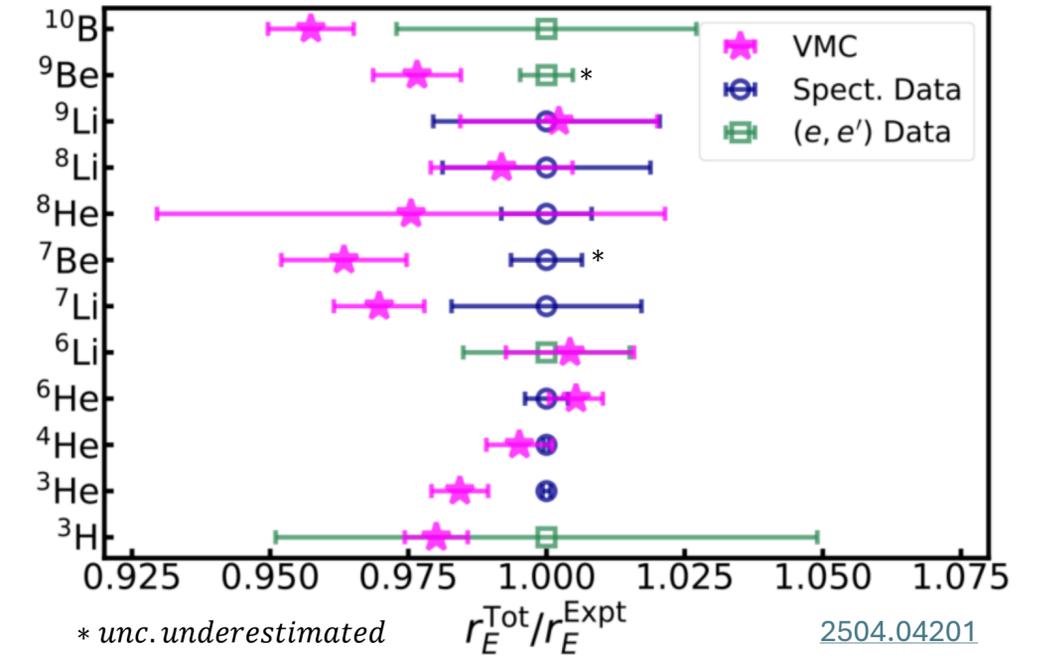
PhysRevLett.133.251803

Search for new physics:

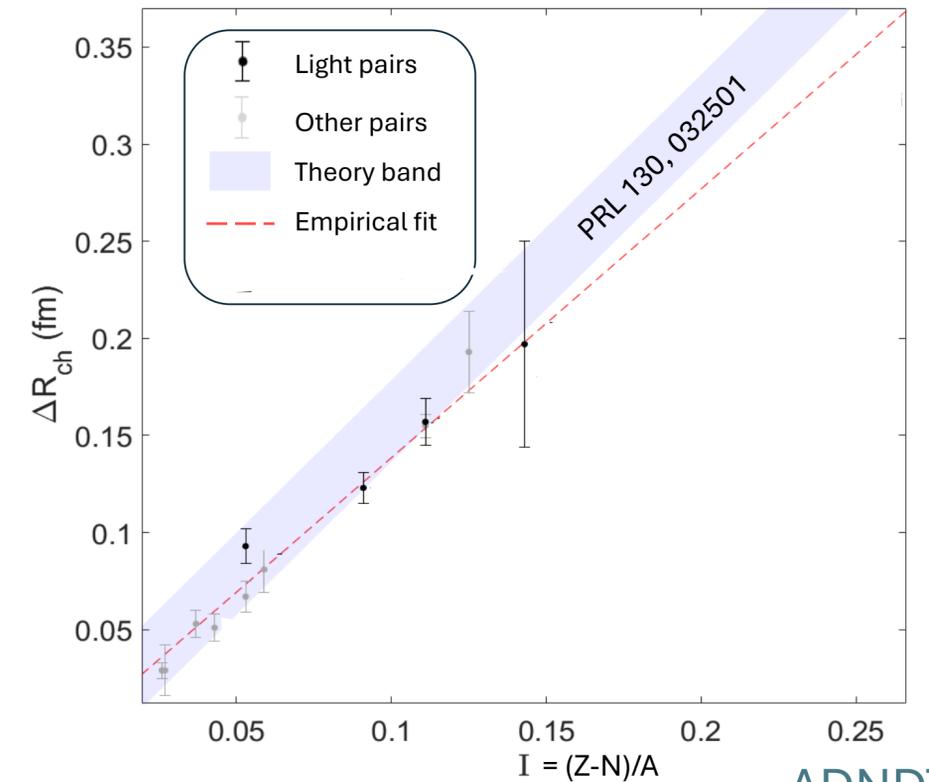


Nature volume 606, pages 479–483

Direct comparisons:



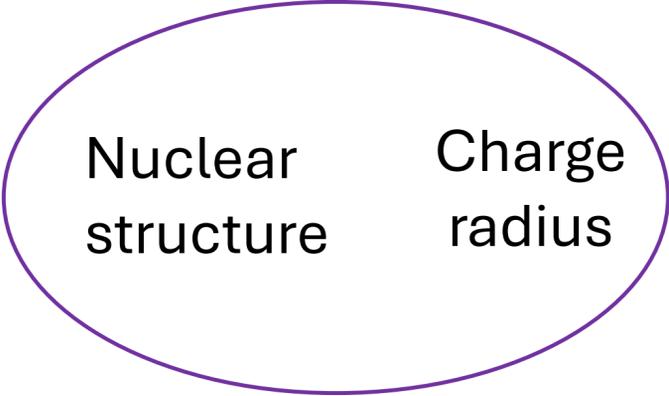
\* unc. underestimated  $r_E^{\text{Tot}} / r_E^{\text{Expt}}$  2504.04201



ADNDT

# Focus on light Helium-Like Ions:

## Muonic Atoms



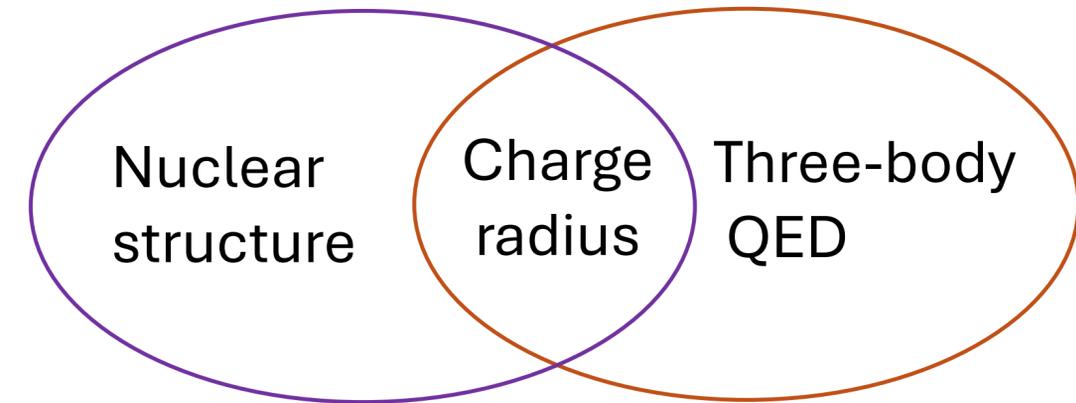
Nuclear structure      Charge radius

# Focus on light Helium-Like Ions:

Find Z dependence of missing contributions

$$E_{HO}(Z) \equiv E_{exp} - (E_2 + E_4 + E_5 + E_6 + \delta E_{FNS})$$

Muonic Atoms Helium-like ions

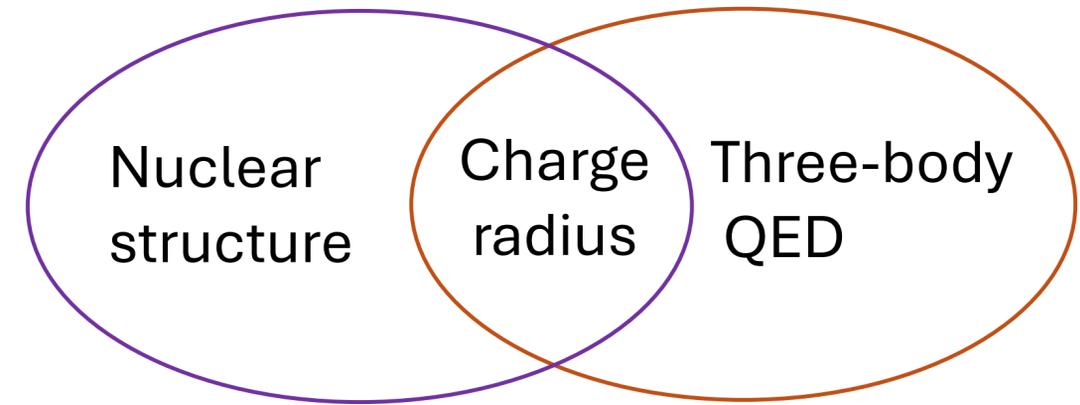


# Focus on light Helium-Like Ions:

Find Z dependence of missing contributions

$$E_{HO}(Z) \equiv E_{exp} - (E_2 + E_4 + E_5 + E_6 + \delta E_{FNS})$$

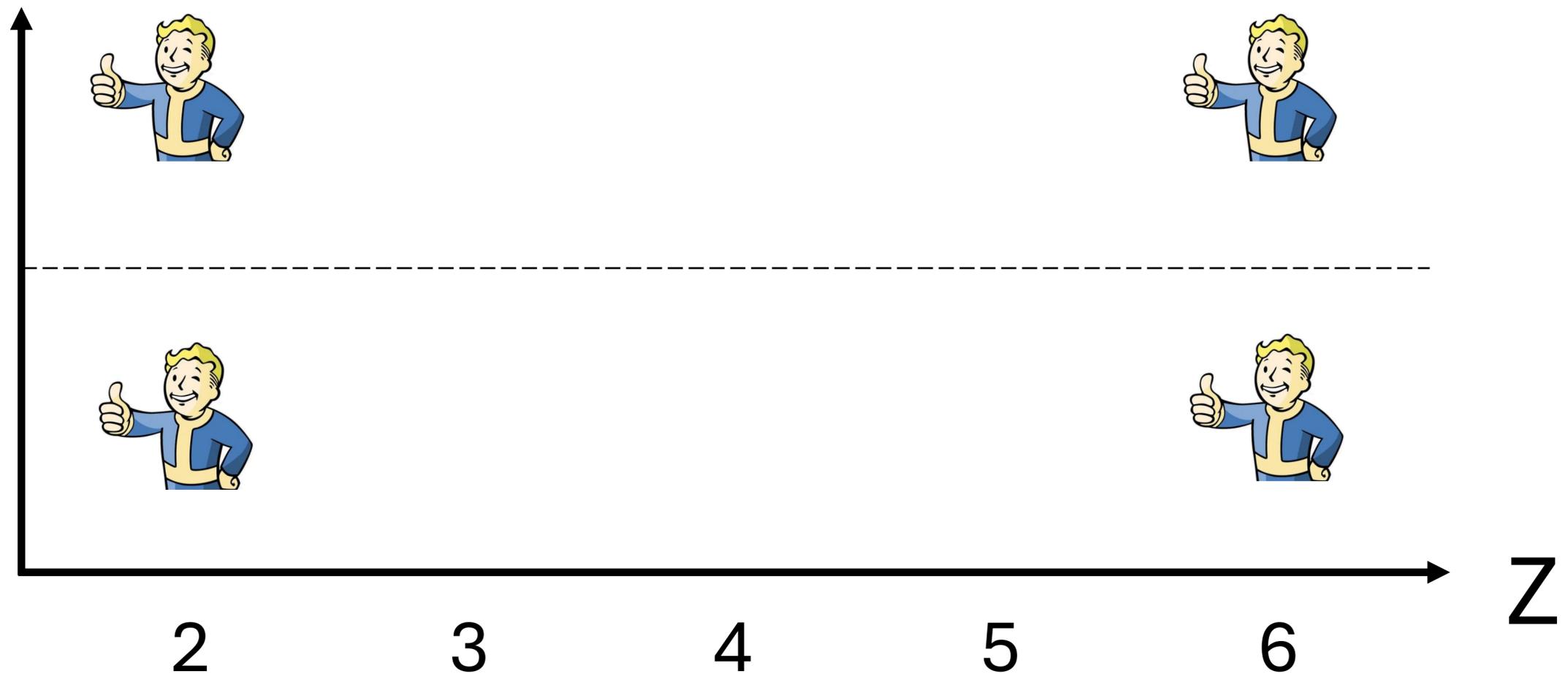
Muonic Atoms Helium-like ions



Radius from  
Muonic atoms:



High precision  
Experiments in HLIs:

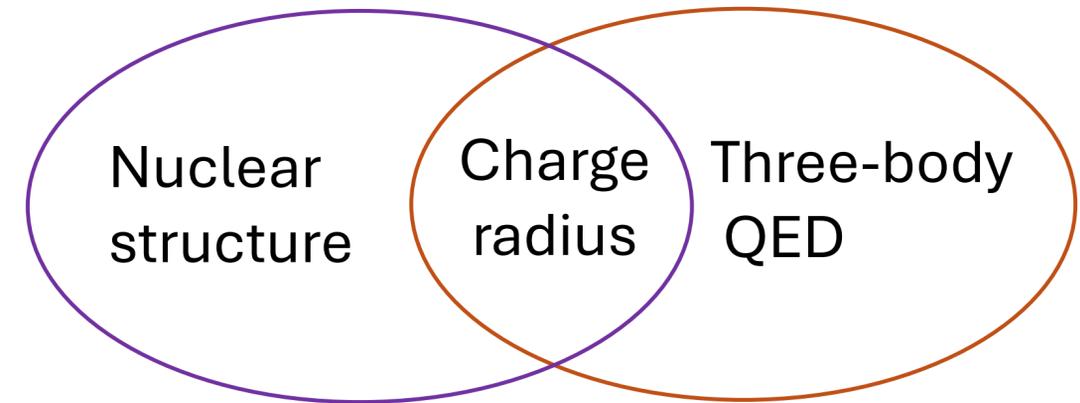


# Focus on light Helium-Like Ions:

Find Z dependence of missing contributions

$$E_{HO}(Z) \equiv E_{exp} - (E_2 + E_4 + E_5 + E_6 + \delta E_{FNS})$$

Muonic Atoms Helium-like ions



Radius from  
Muonic atoms:



High precision  
Experiments in HLIs:



Wuhan  
(beam)

MPQ  
(trap)



2

3

4

5

6

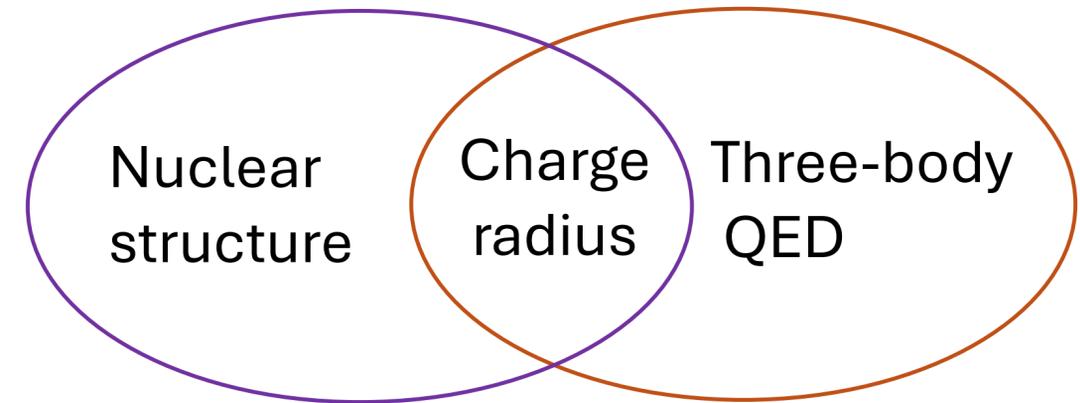
Z

# Focus on light Helium-Like Ions:

Find Z dependence of missing contributions

$$E_{HO}(Z) \equiv E_{exp} - (E_2 + E_4 + E_5 + E_6 + \delta E_{FNS})$$

Muonic Atoms Helium-like ions



Radius from  
Muonic atoms:



High precision  
Experiments in HLIs:



Wuhan  
(beam)  
MPQ  
(trap)

Darmstadt



2

3

4

5

6

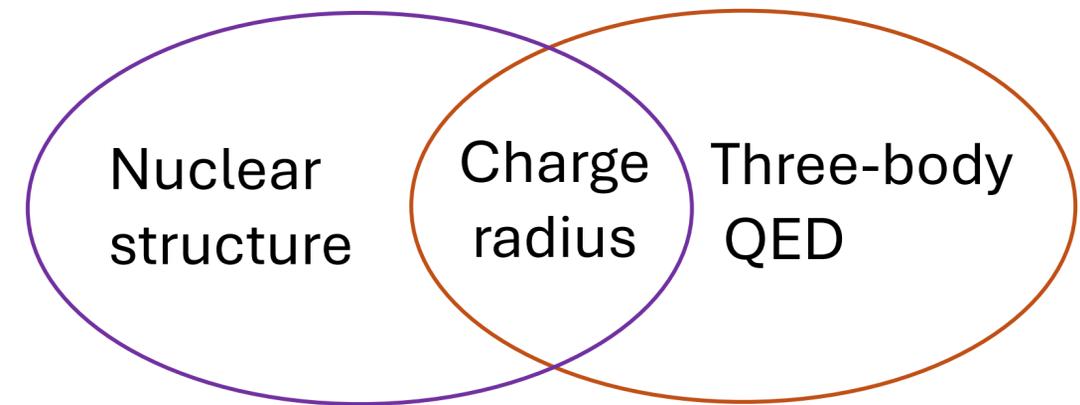
Z

# Focus on light Helium-Like Ions:

Find Z dependence of missing contributions

$$E_{HO}(Z) \equiv E_{exp} - (E_2 + E_4 + E_5 + E_6 + \delta E_{FNS})$$

Muonic Atoms Helium-like ions



Radius from  
Muonic atoms:



QUARTET



High precision  
Experiments in HLIs:



Wuhan  
(beam)

MPQ  
(trap)

Darmstadt



2

3

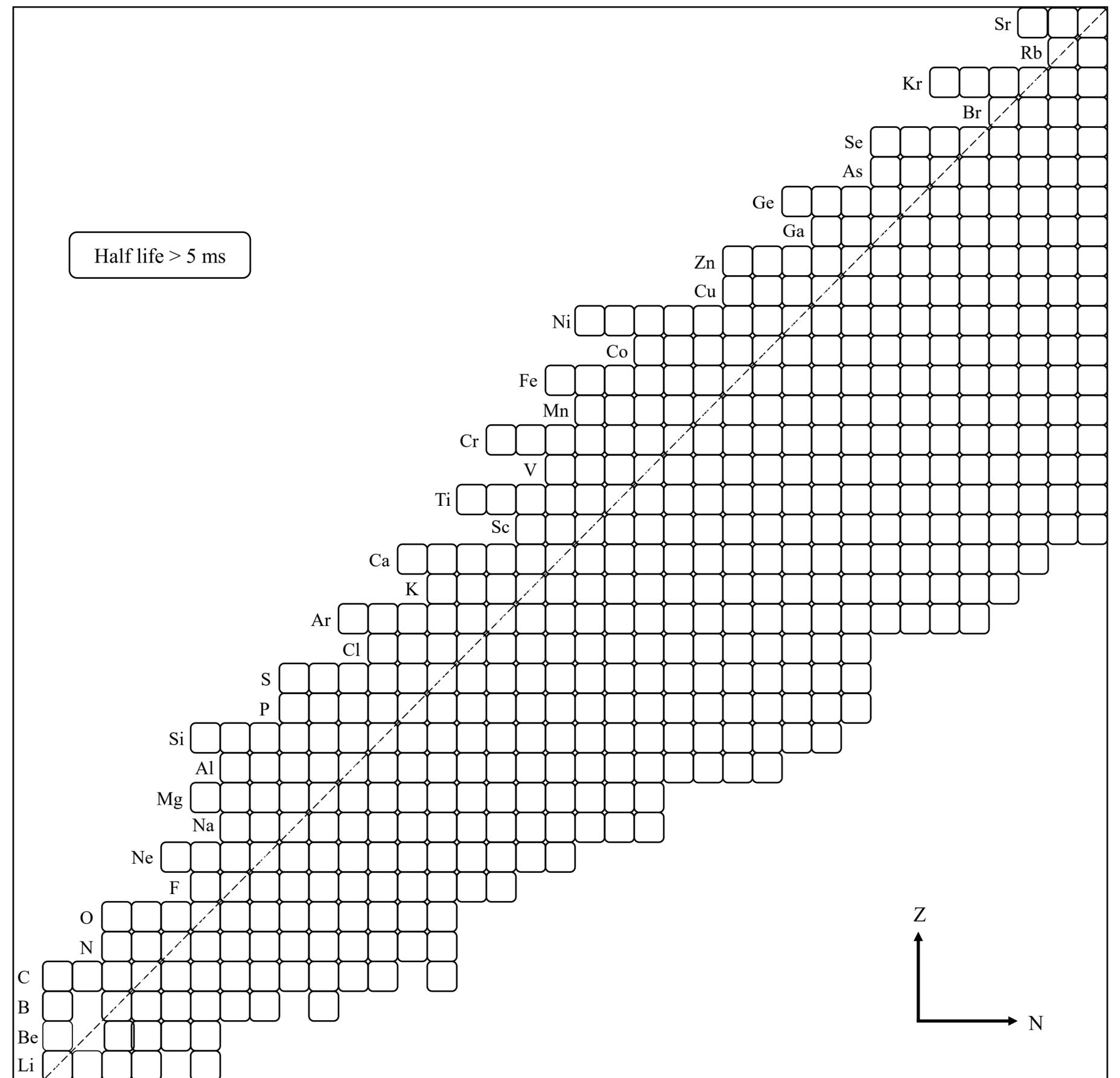
4

5

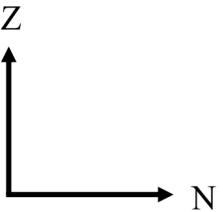
6

Z

Where do charge radii come from?



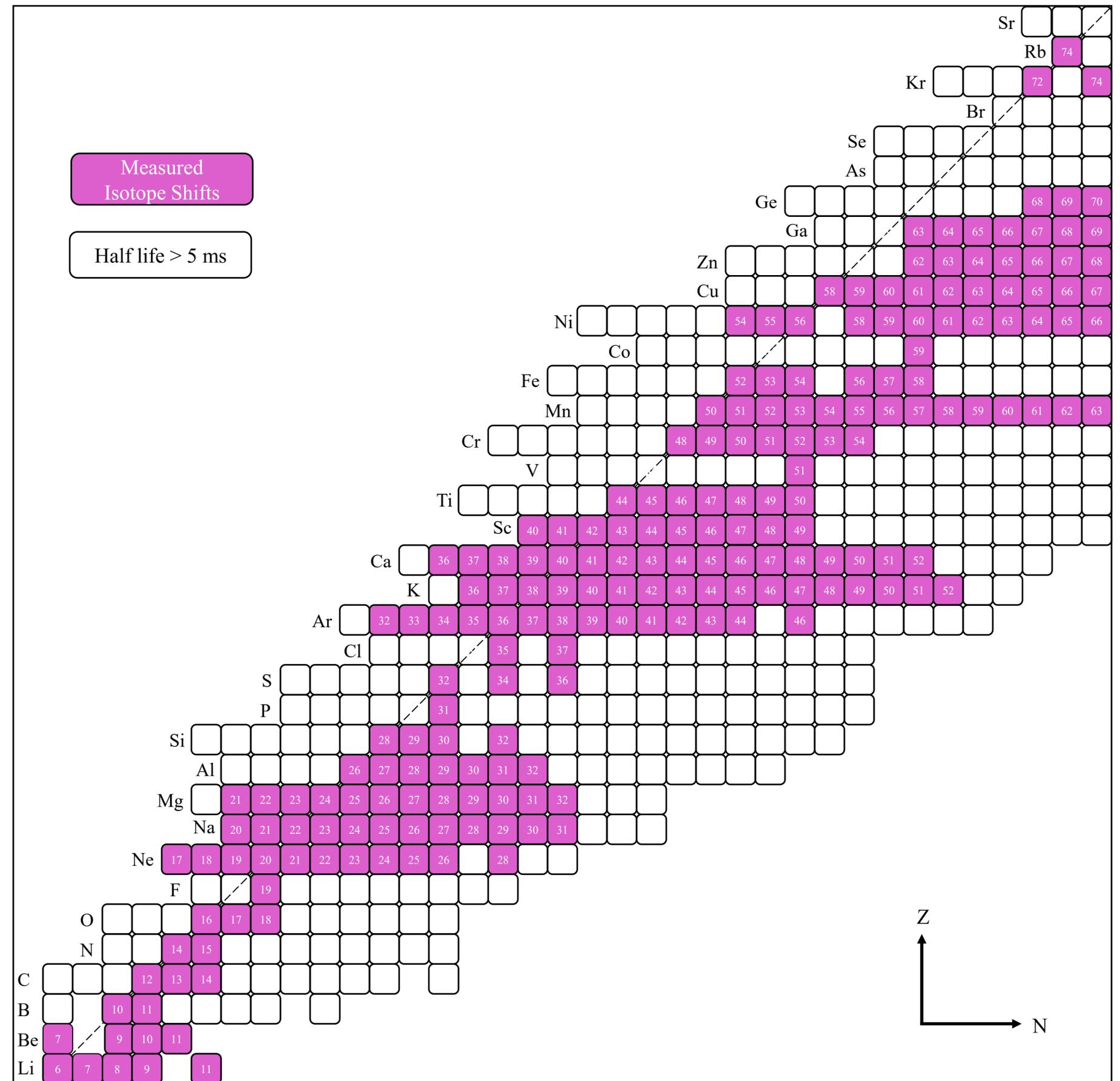
Half life > 5 ms



# Where do charge radii come from?

Extraction of **MS radius difference** from measurements

$$\delta\nu_{A,A'} \approx \left( \frac{1}{M_{A'}} - \frac{1}{M_A} \right) K + F \delta r_{A,A'}^2$$



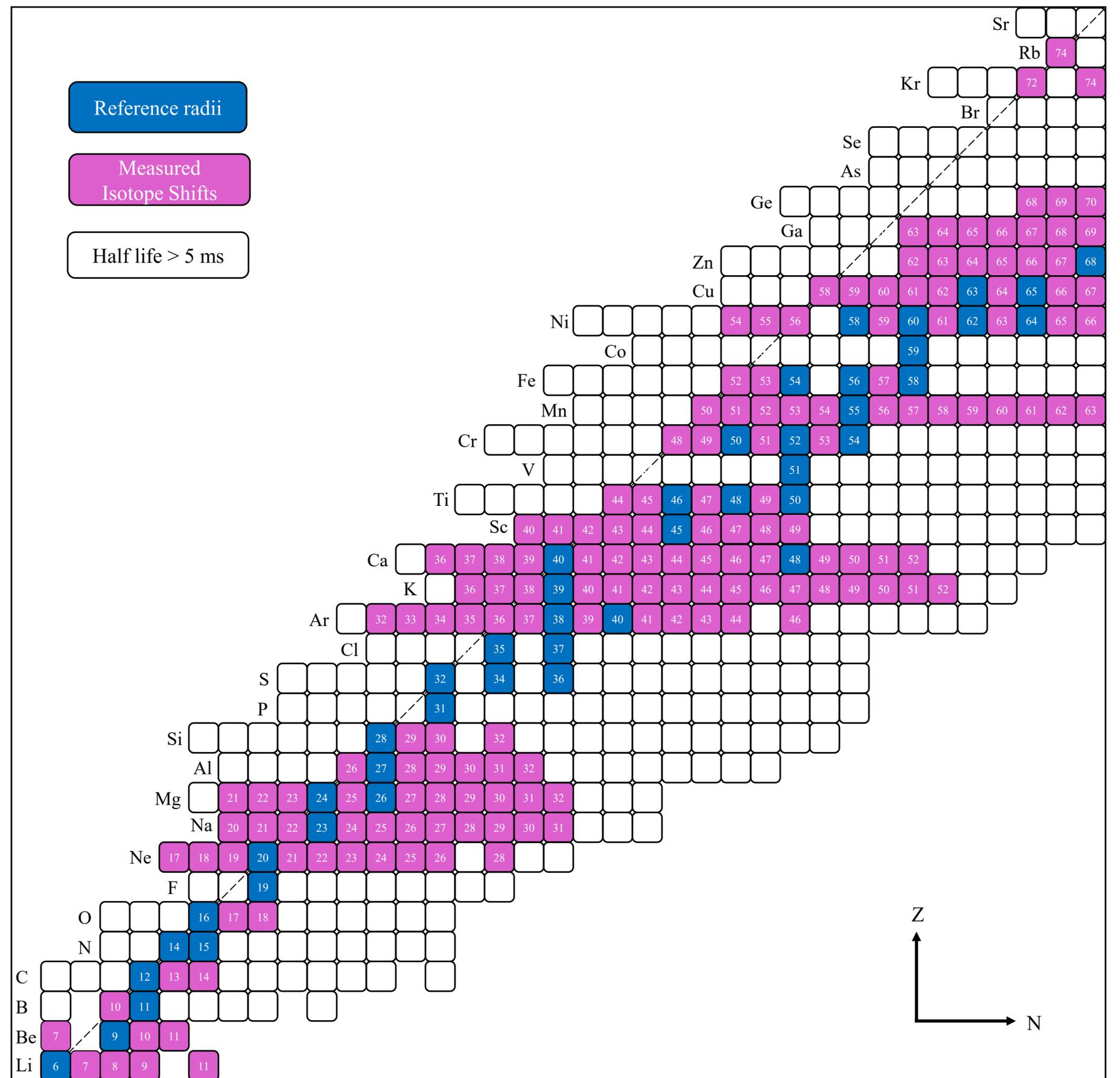
## Where do charge radii come from?

Extraction of **MS radius difference** from measurements

$$\delta\nu_{A,A'} \approx \left( \frac{1}{M_{A'}} - \frac{1}{M_A} \right) K + F \delta r_{A,A'}^2$$

**Reference radii** connect **MS differences** with absolutes

$$r_{A'}^2 = r_A^2 + \delta r_{A,A'}^2$$



## Where do charge radii come from?

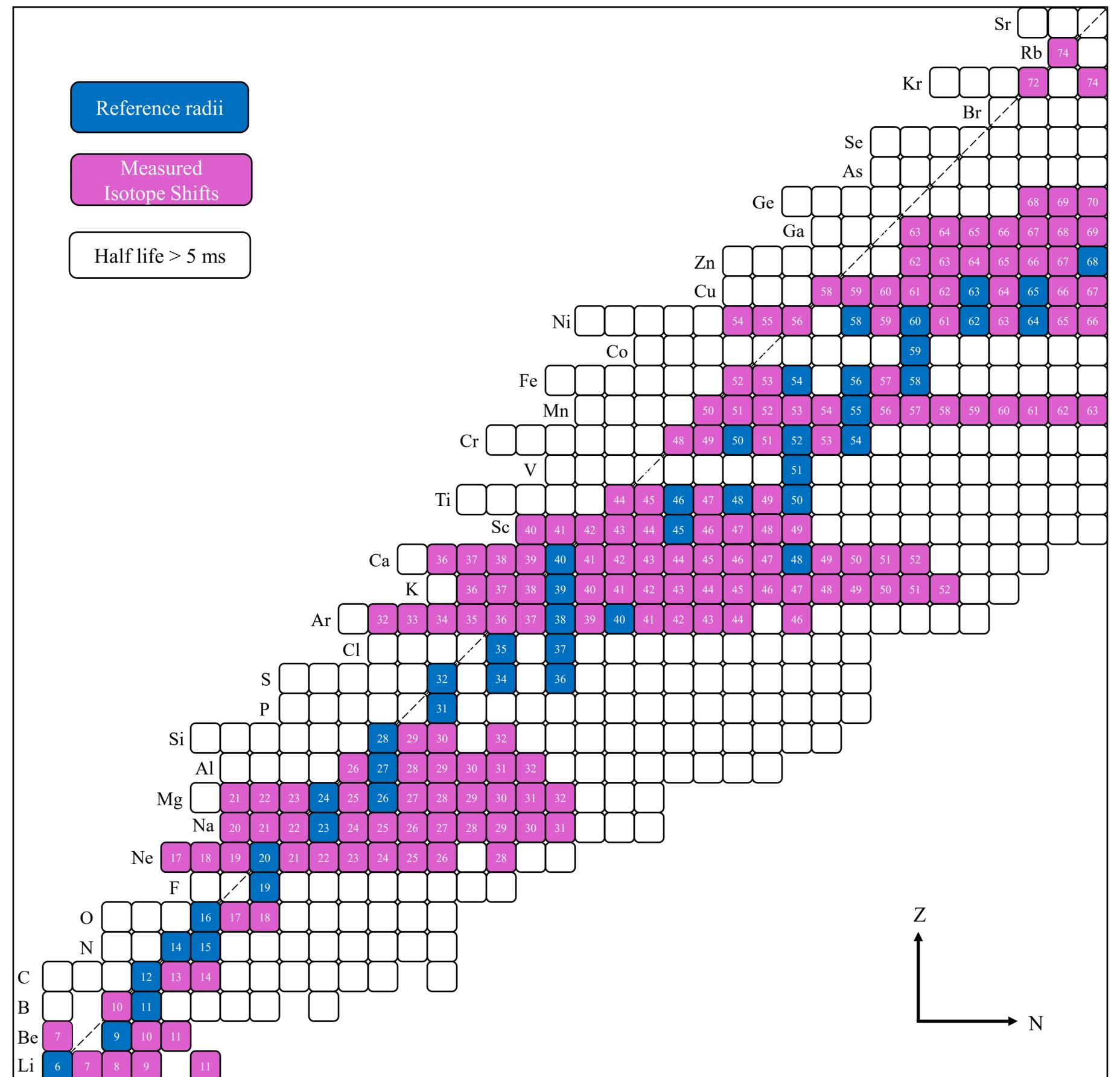
Extraction of **MS radius difference** from measurements

$$\delta\nu_{A,A'} \approx \left( \frac{1}{M_{A'}} - \frac{1}{M_A} \right) K + F \delta r_{A,A'}^2$$

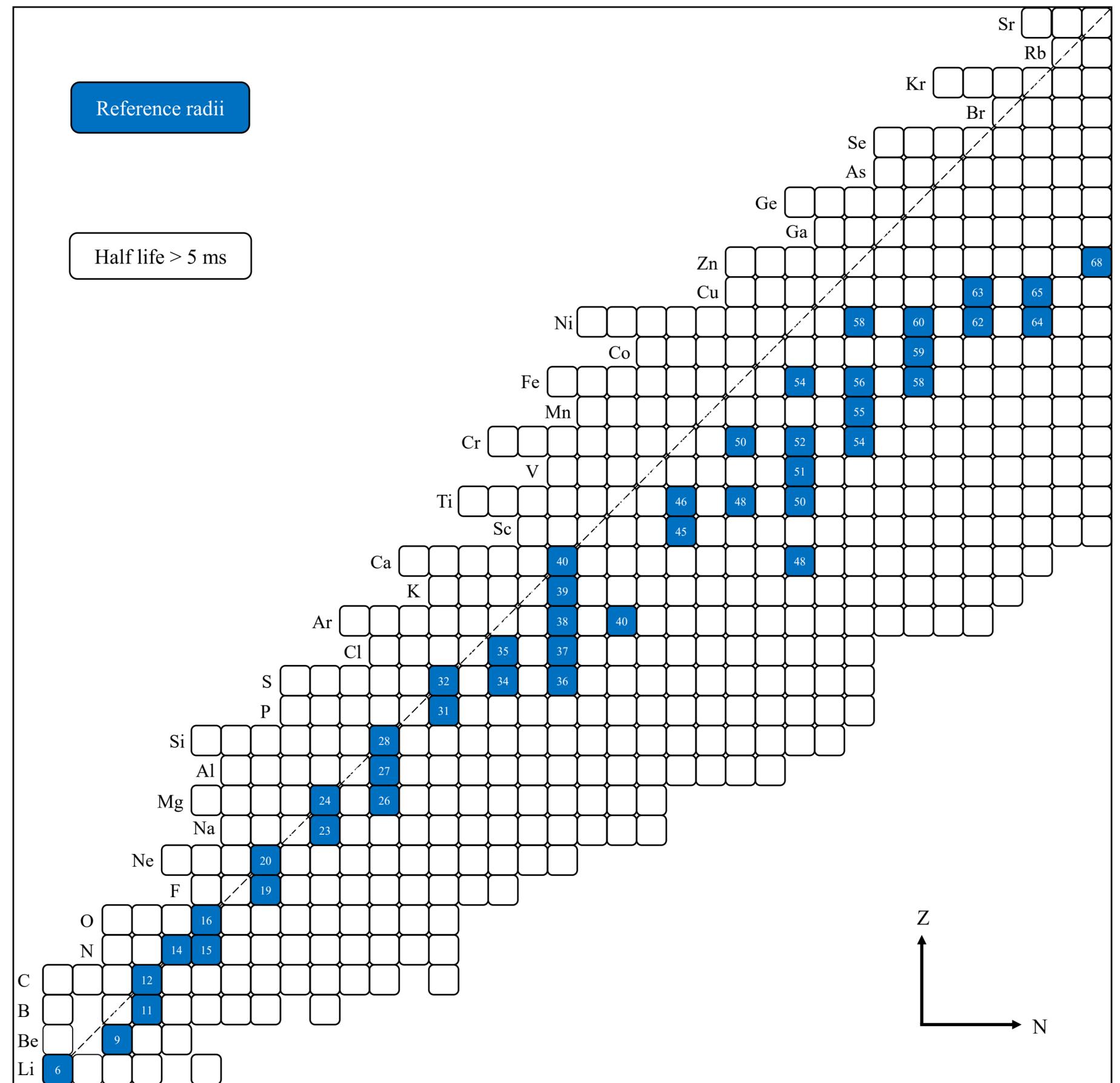
**Atomic factors**, either calculated or extracted from **reference radii** (King Plot).

**Reference radii** connect **MS differences** with absolutes

$$r_{A'}^2 = r_A^2 + \delta r_{A,A'}^2$$

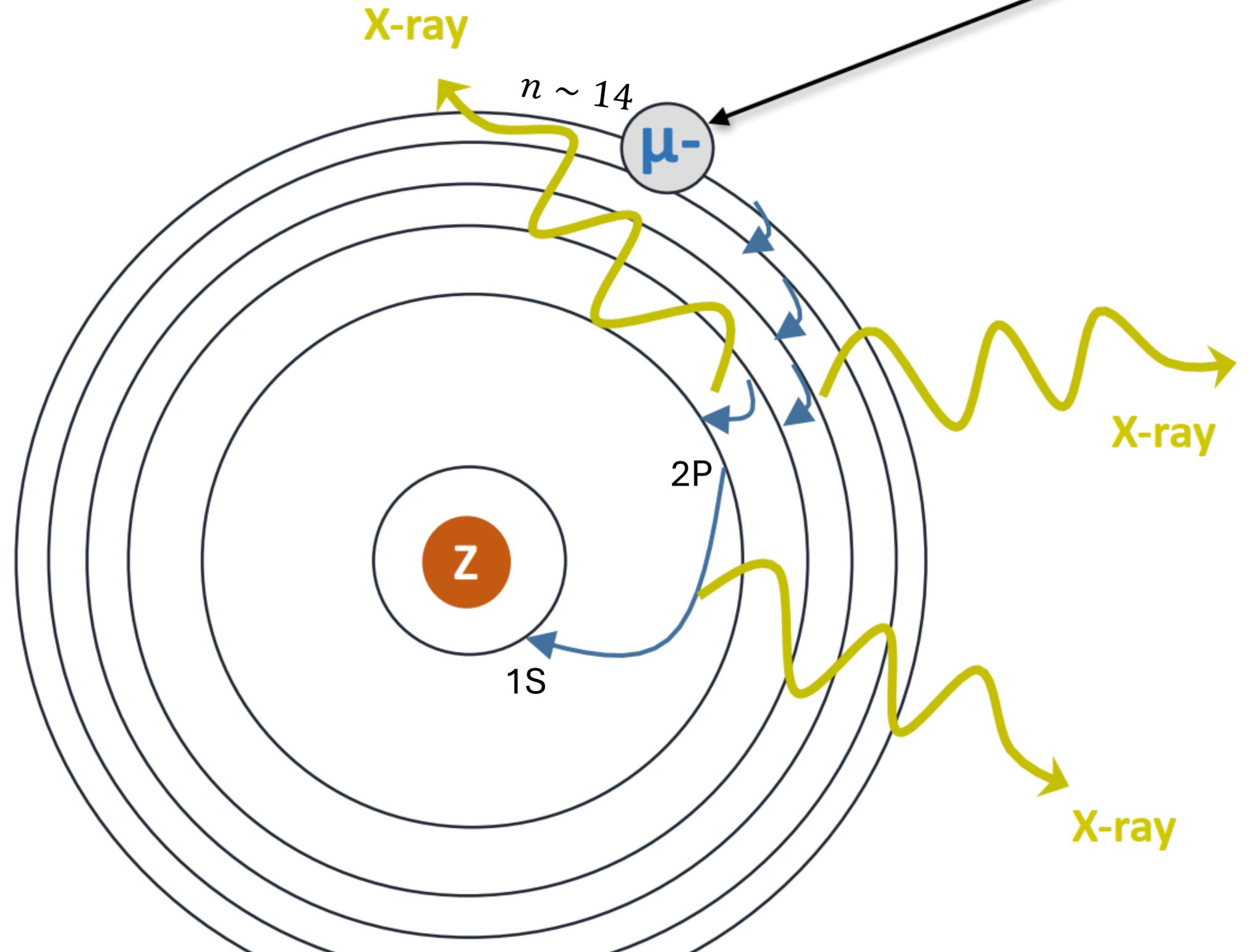


# Reference radii and where to find them

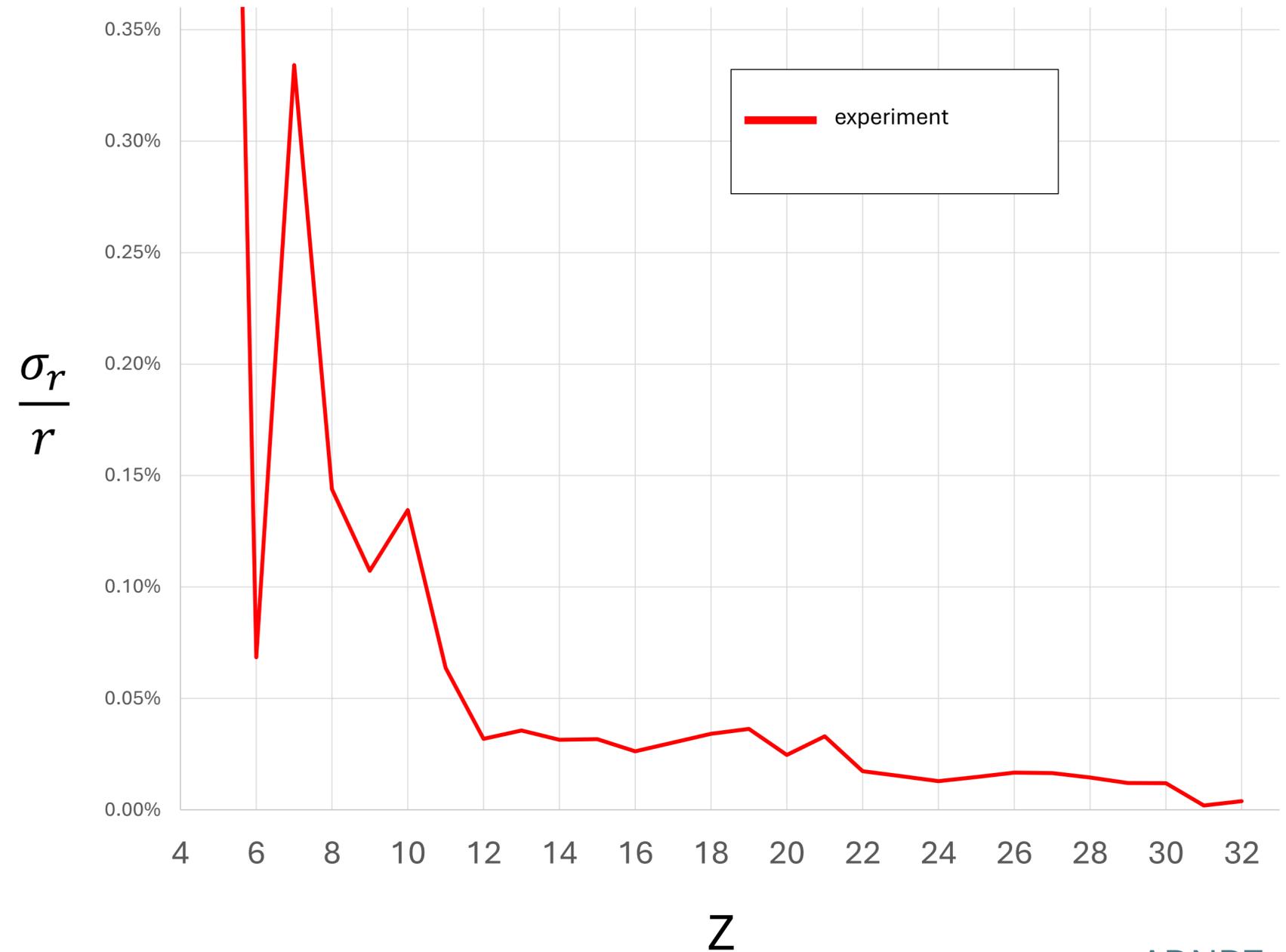


# Measuring nuclear radii with light muonic atoms:

1. Captured around  $N=14$
2. All electrons are emitted
3. Cascade to ground level
4. Muon decay  $\sim 2\mu s$
5.  $E_{2P-1S} = E_{QED} + \Delta E_{FNS} + \dots$

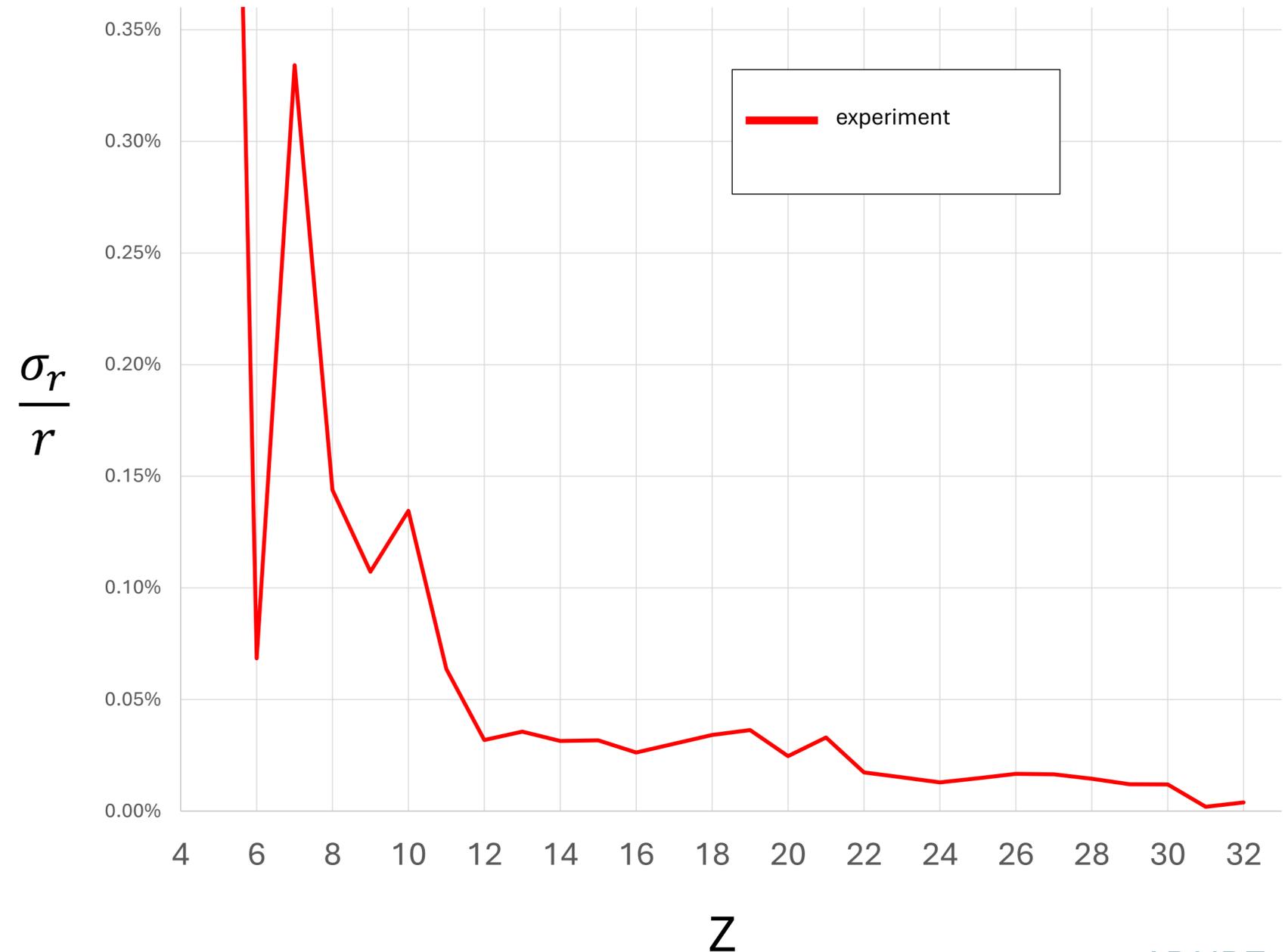


# Sources of Uncertainty to Ref. Radii:

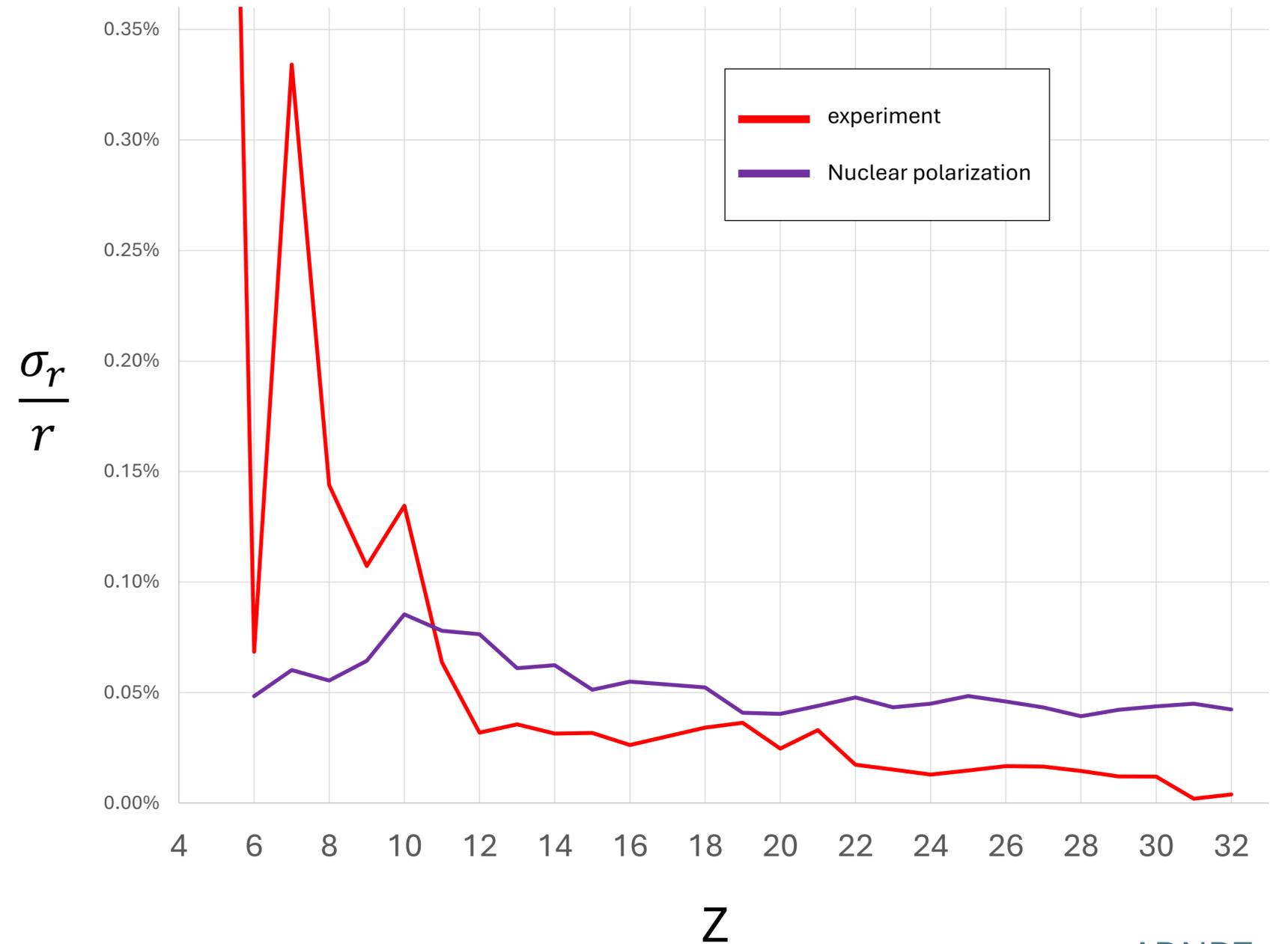


# Sources of Uncertainty to Ref. Radii:

Note:  
Some experimental  
uncertainty sources  
missing in F&H04 and  
A&M13.

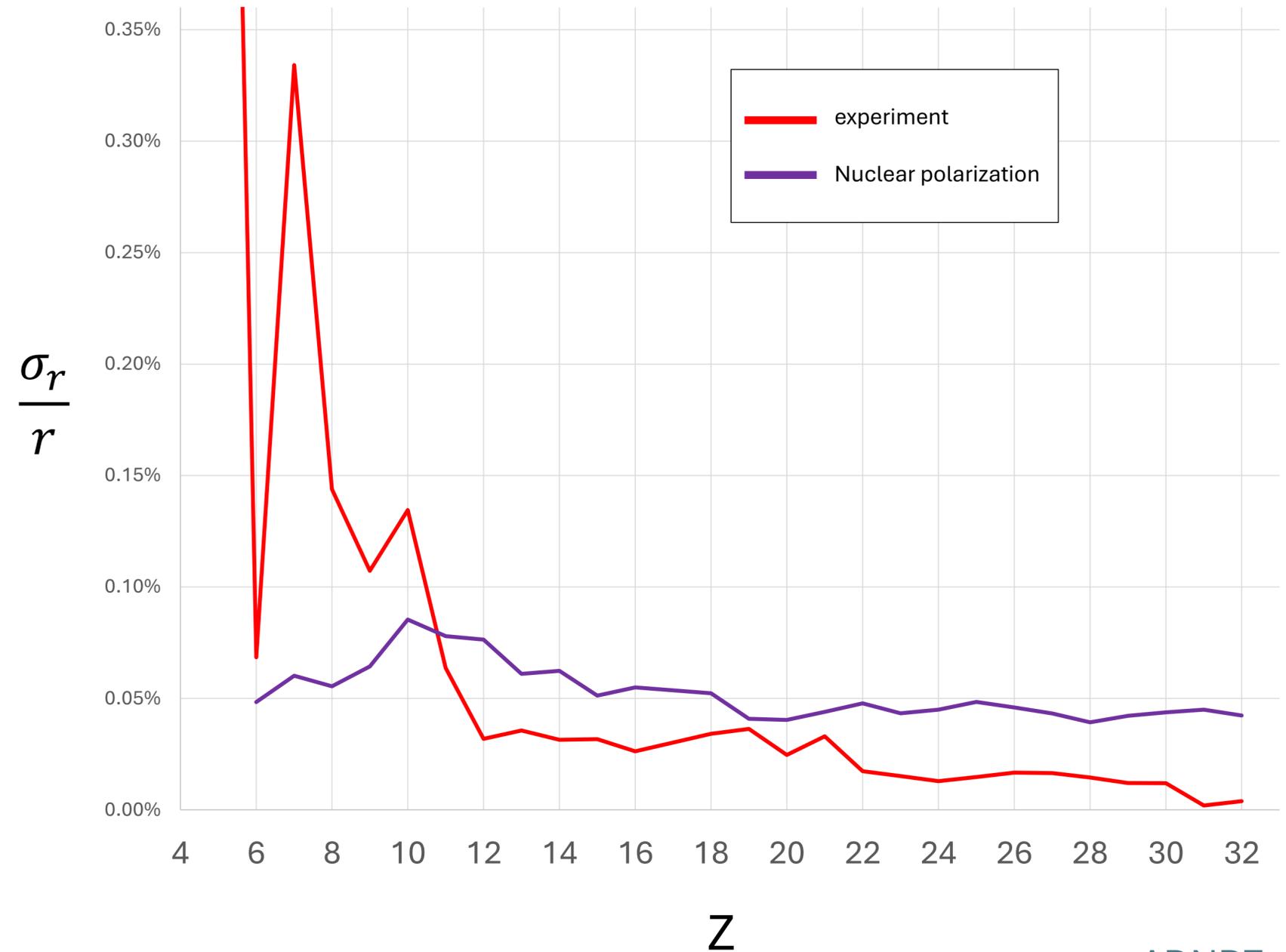


# Sources of Uncertainty to Ref. Radii:

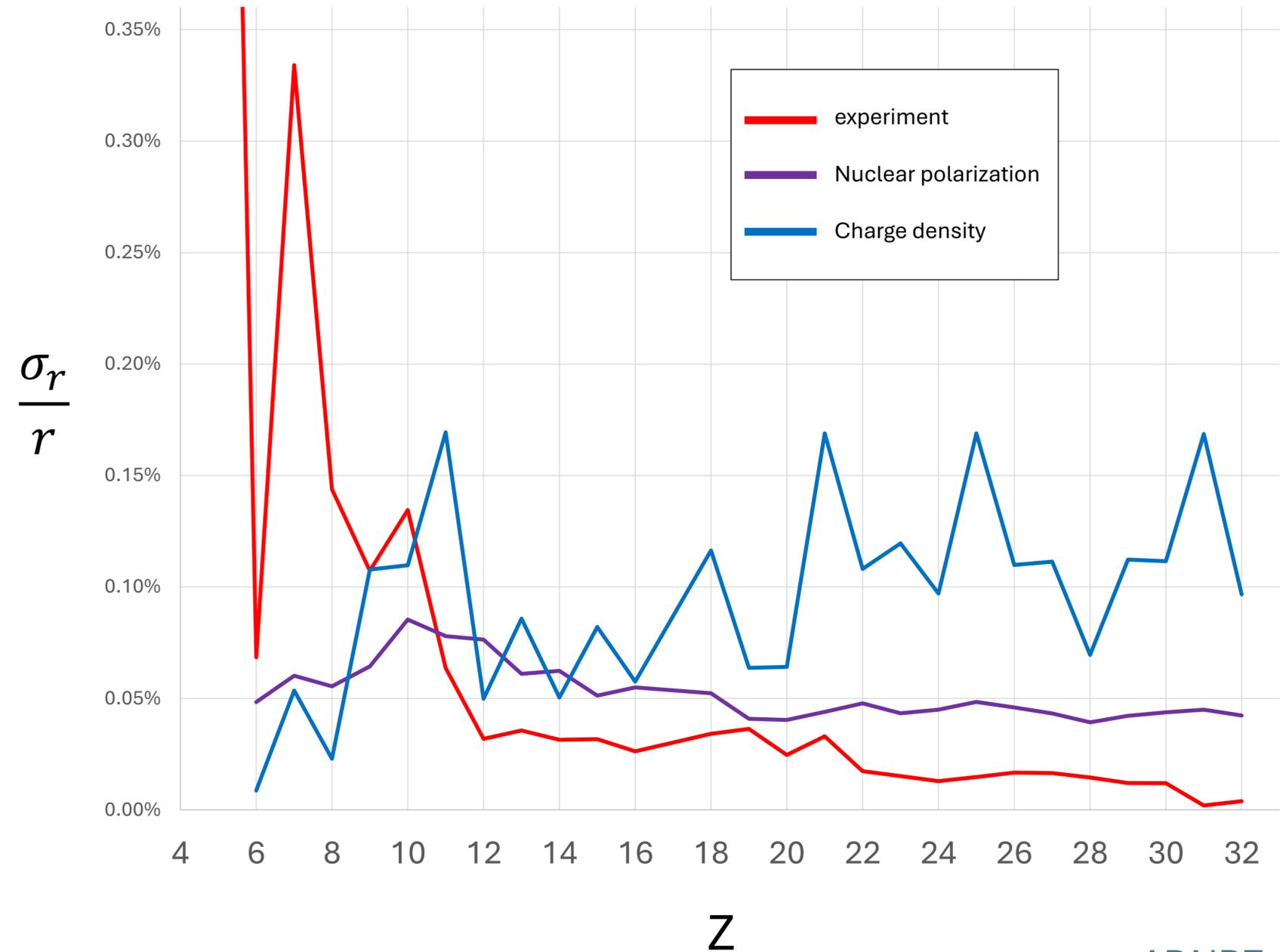


# Sources of Uncertainty to Ref. Radii:

Note: “old school”  
data-driven Nuc. Pol.



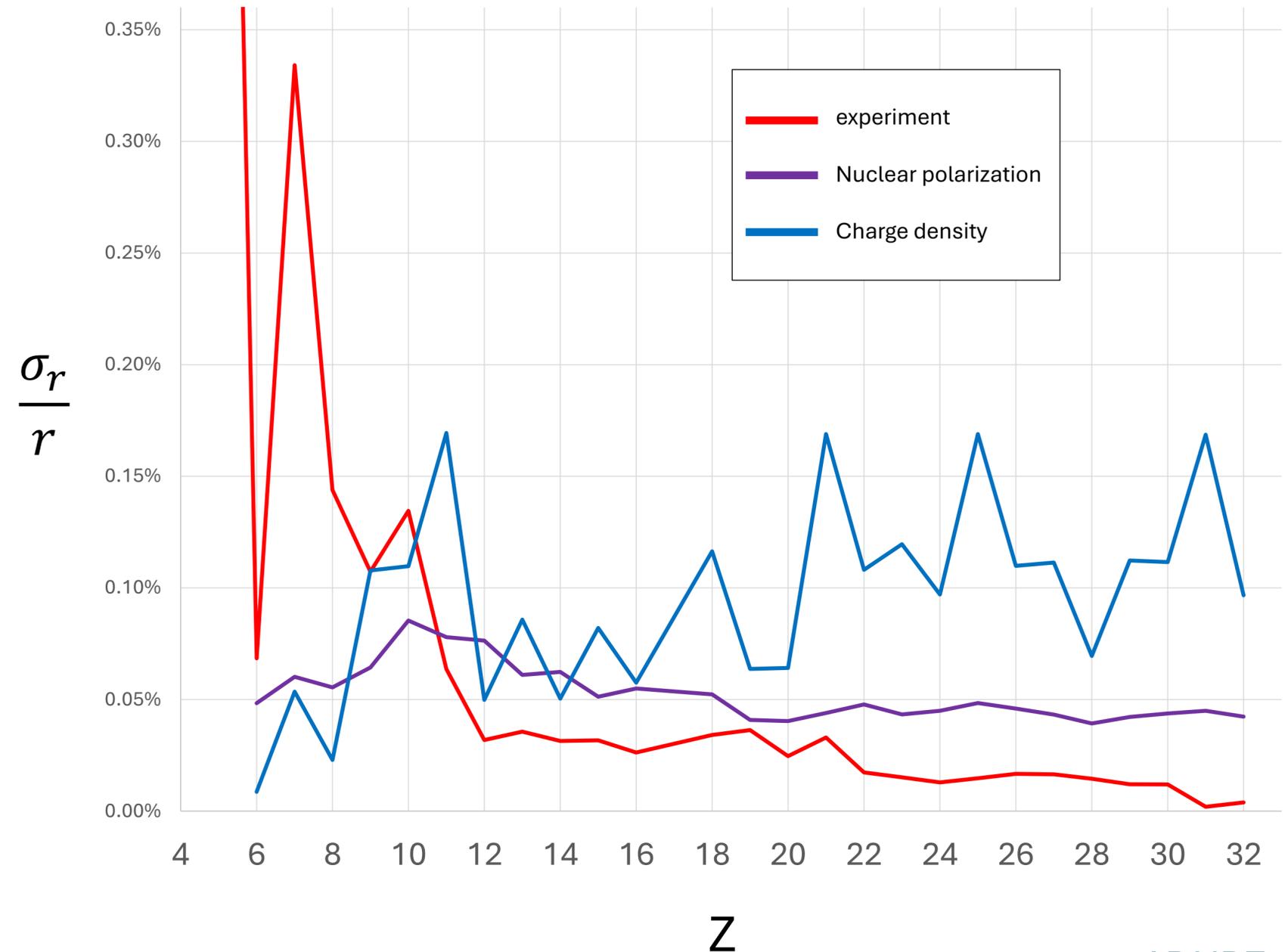
# Sources of Uncertainty to Ref. Radii:



# Sources of Uncertainty to Ref. Radii:

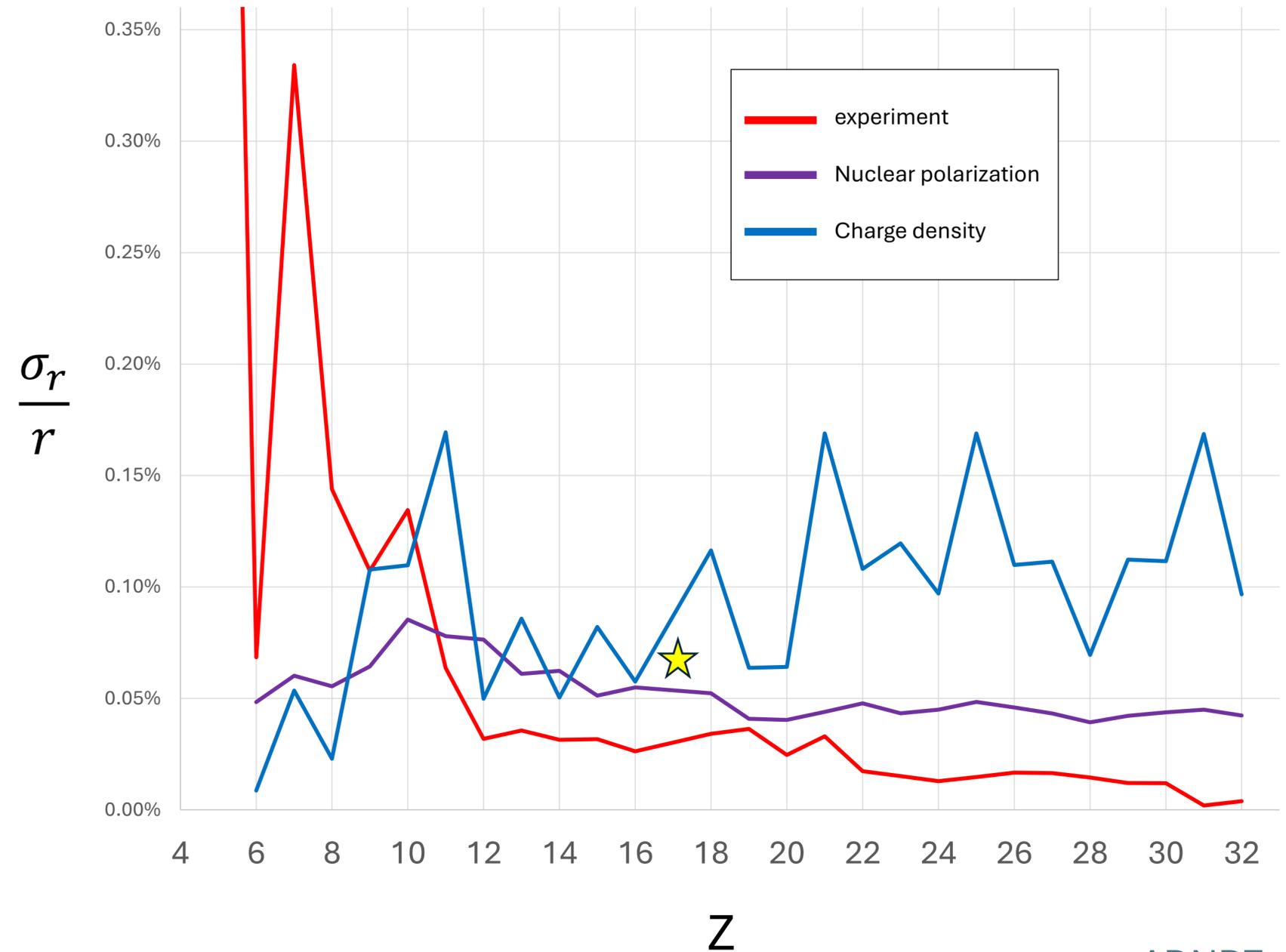
Within Barret moment  
recipe with moment  
ratios from scattering.

Can be improved with  
modern tools



# Sources of Uncertainty to Ref. Radii:

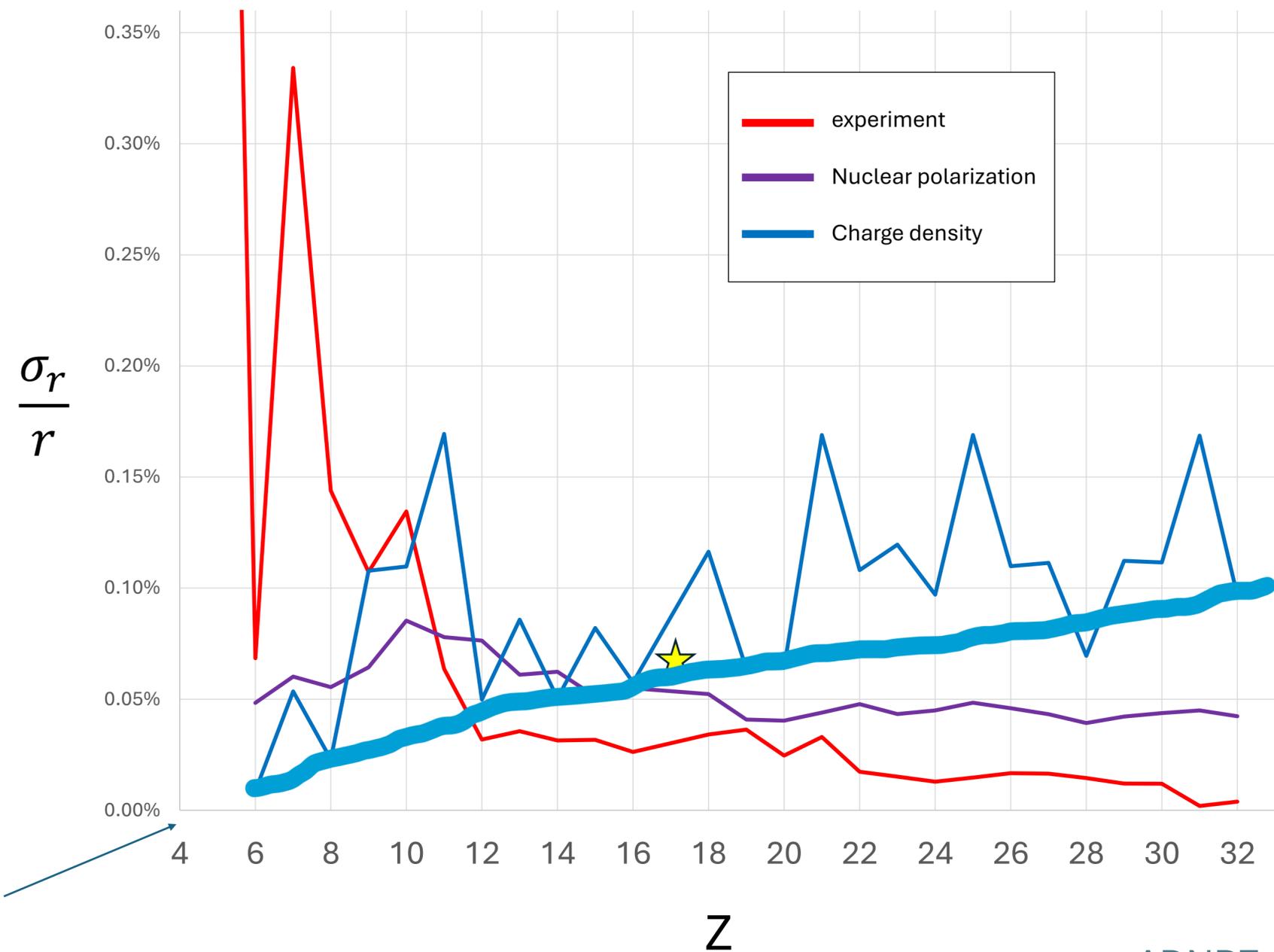
Modern Chlorine  
measurement + Theory  
arXiv:2506.08804



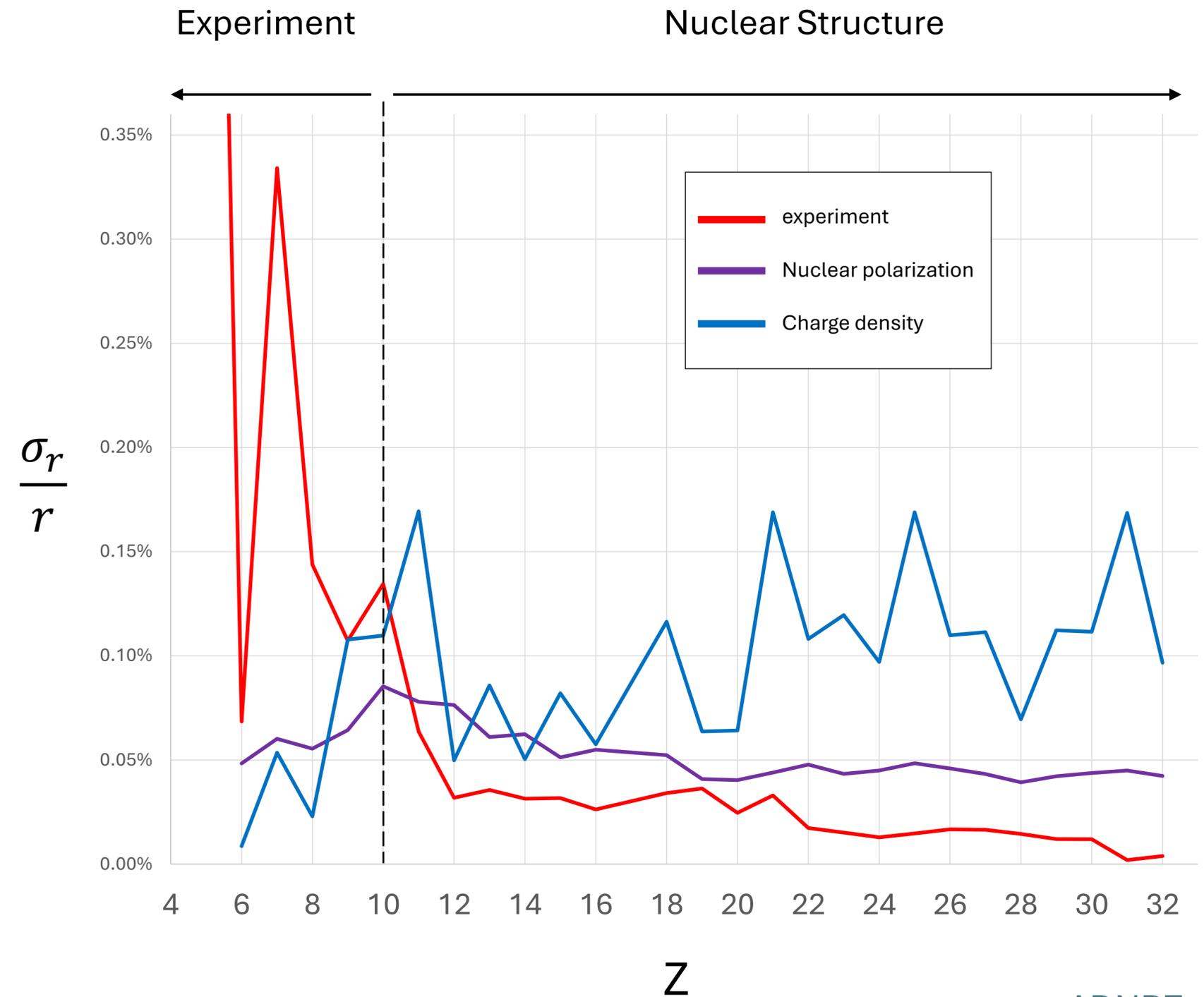
# Sources of Uncertainty to Ref. Radii:

Modern Chlorine  
measurement + Theory  
arXiv:2506.08804

Guess on best you can do  
with modern calculations



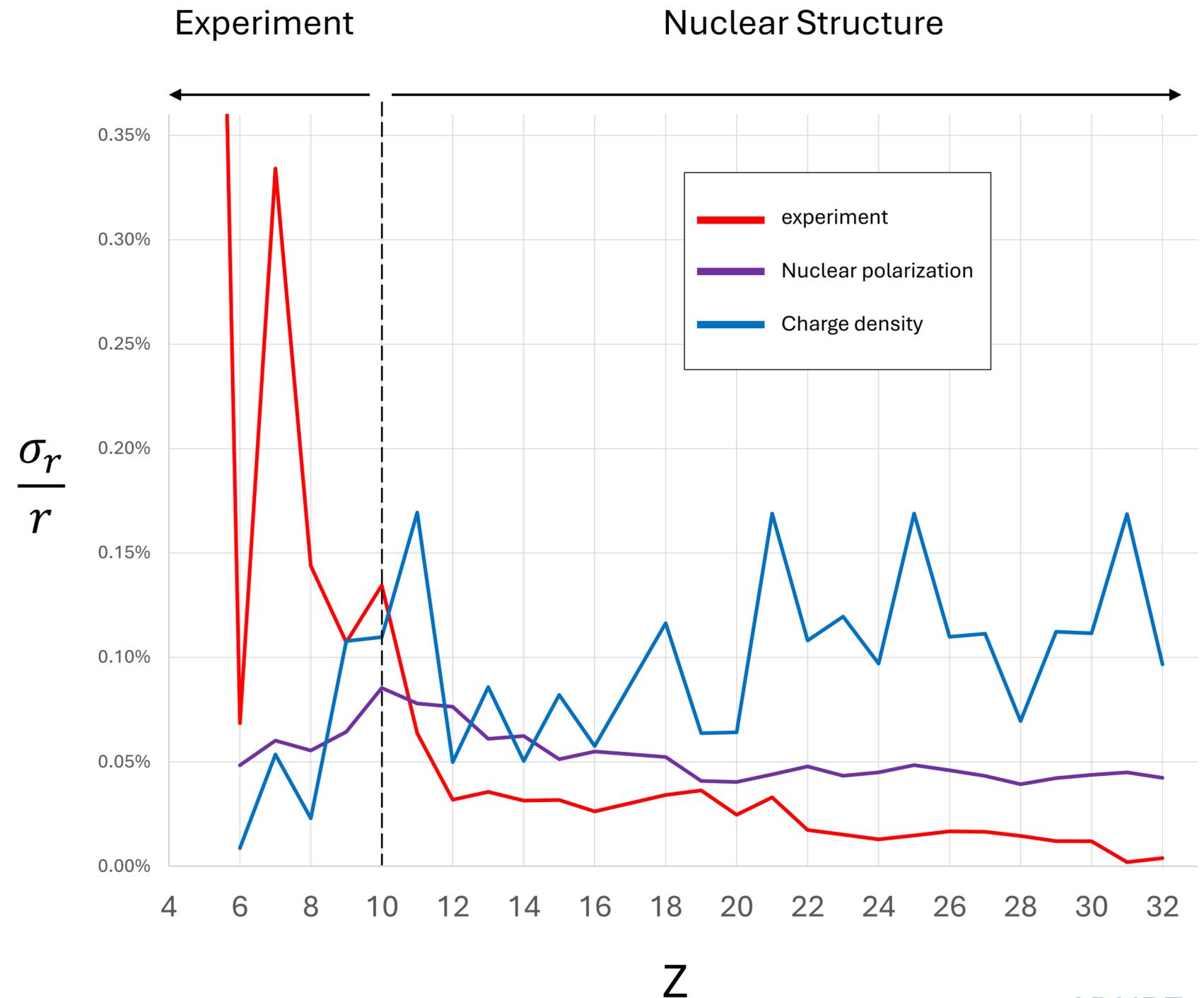
# Sources of Uncertainty to Ref. Radii:



# Sources of Uncertainty to Ref. Radii:

Not the final word !

Open the door to ongoing efforts



# Nuclear structure effects and how to handle them

Ab initio perturbative

Calculations:

elastic  $\approx$  shape

Inelastic  $\approx$  Nuc. Pol.

$(Z\alpha)^5$	TPE
$\alpha^2(Z\alpha)^4$	Coulomb distortion
$(Z\alpha)^6$	3PE
$\alpha(Z\alpha)^5$	eVP <sup>(1)</sup> with TPE
$\alpha(Z\alpha)^5$	$\mu$ SE <sup>(1)</sup> + $\mu$ VP <sup>(1)</sup> with TPE

[RevModPhys.96.015001](#)

Z = 1, 2

# Nuclear structure effects and how to handle them

Ab initio perturbative  
Calculations:  
elastic  $\approx$  shape  
Inelastic  $\approx$  Nuc. Pol.

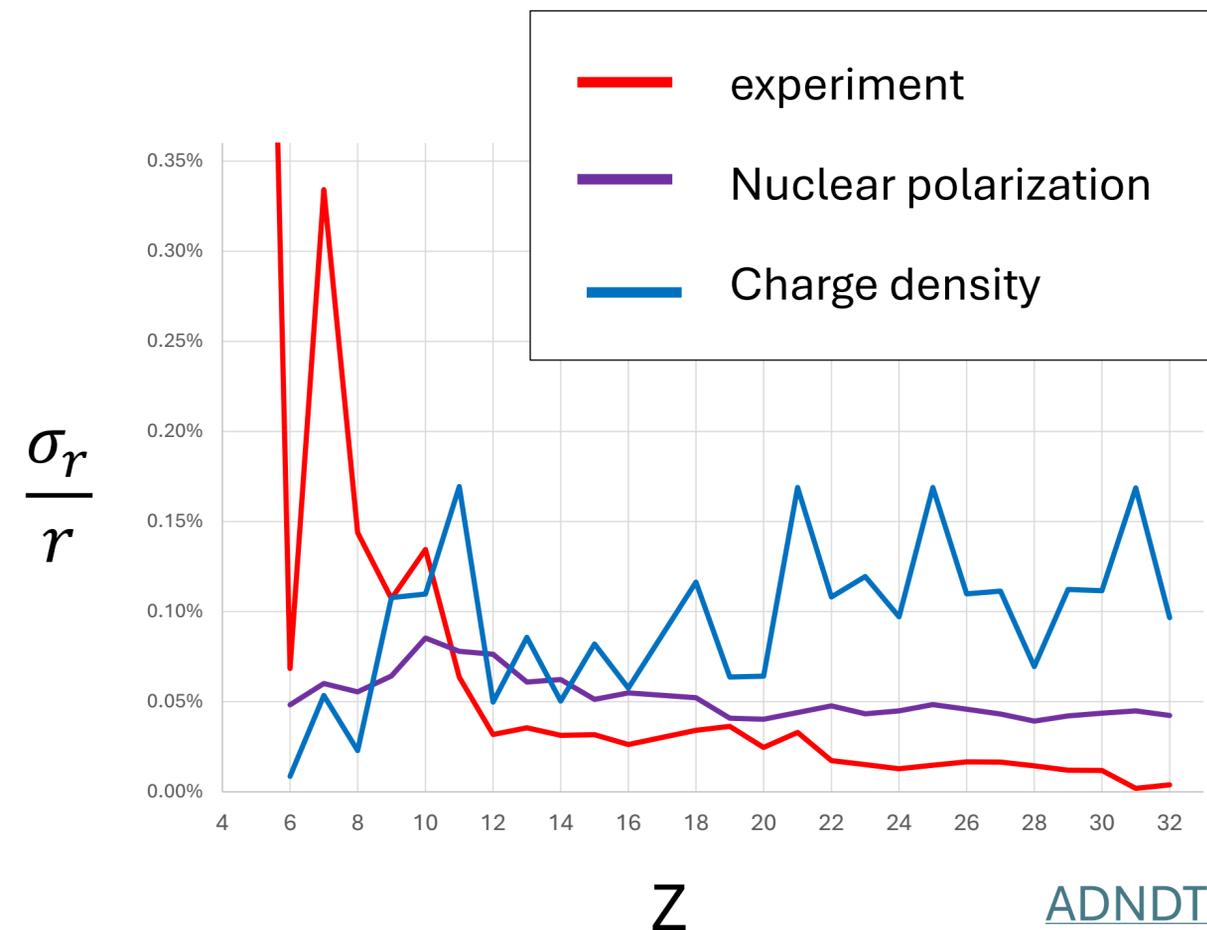
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[RevModPhys.96.015001](#)

Z = 1, 2

Elastic from electron scattering

Nuclear Pol. from calculation / data driven



# Nuclear structure effects and how to handle them

Ab initio perturbative  
Calculations:  
elastic  $\approx$  shape  
Inelastic  $\approx$  Nuc. Pol.

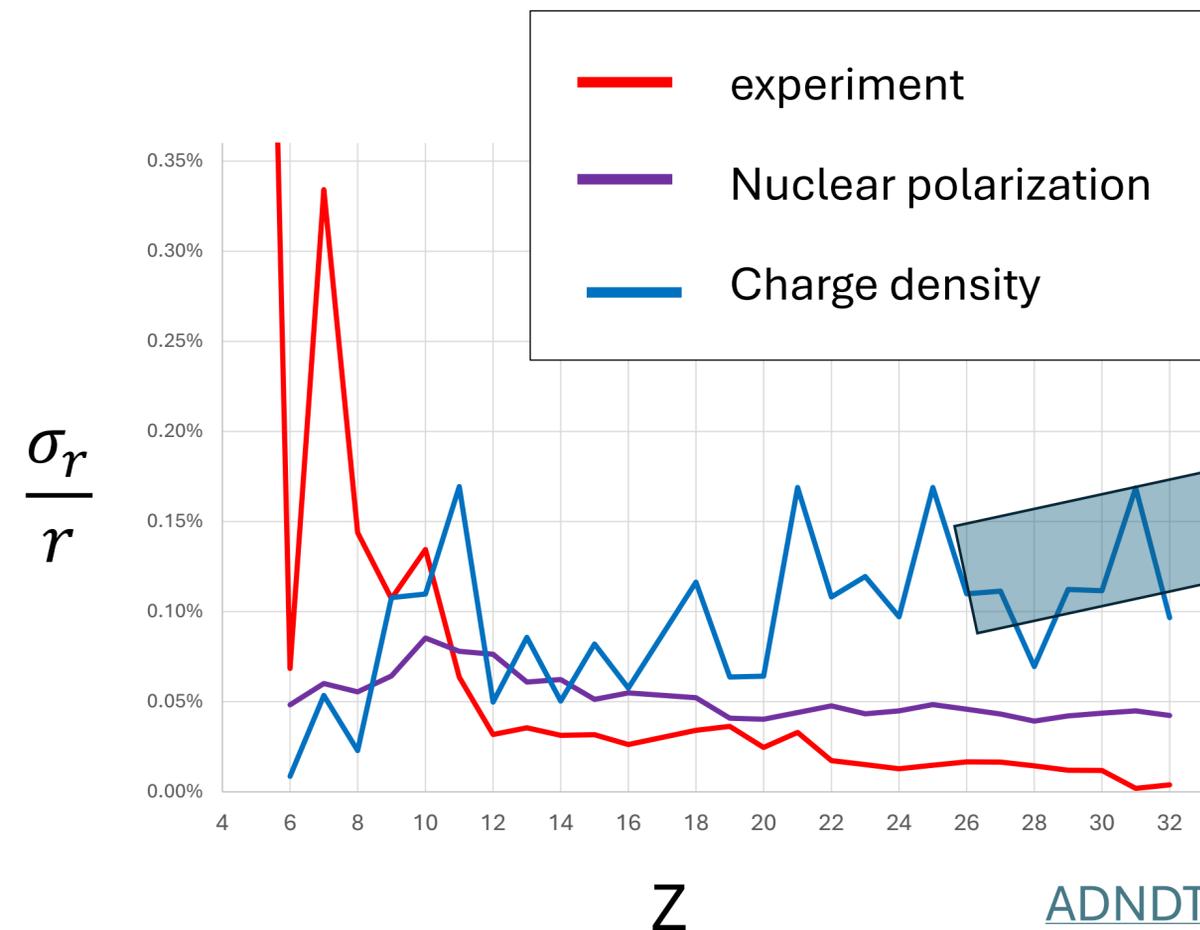
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[RevModPhys.96.015001](#)

Z = 1, 2

Elastic from electron scattering

Nuclear Pol. from calculation / data driven



Expected to get worse at higher Z !

ADNDT

# Nuclear structure effects and how to handle them

Ab initio perturbative  
Calculations:  
elastic  $\approx$  shape  
Inelastic  $\approx$  Nuc. Pol.

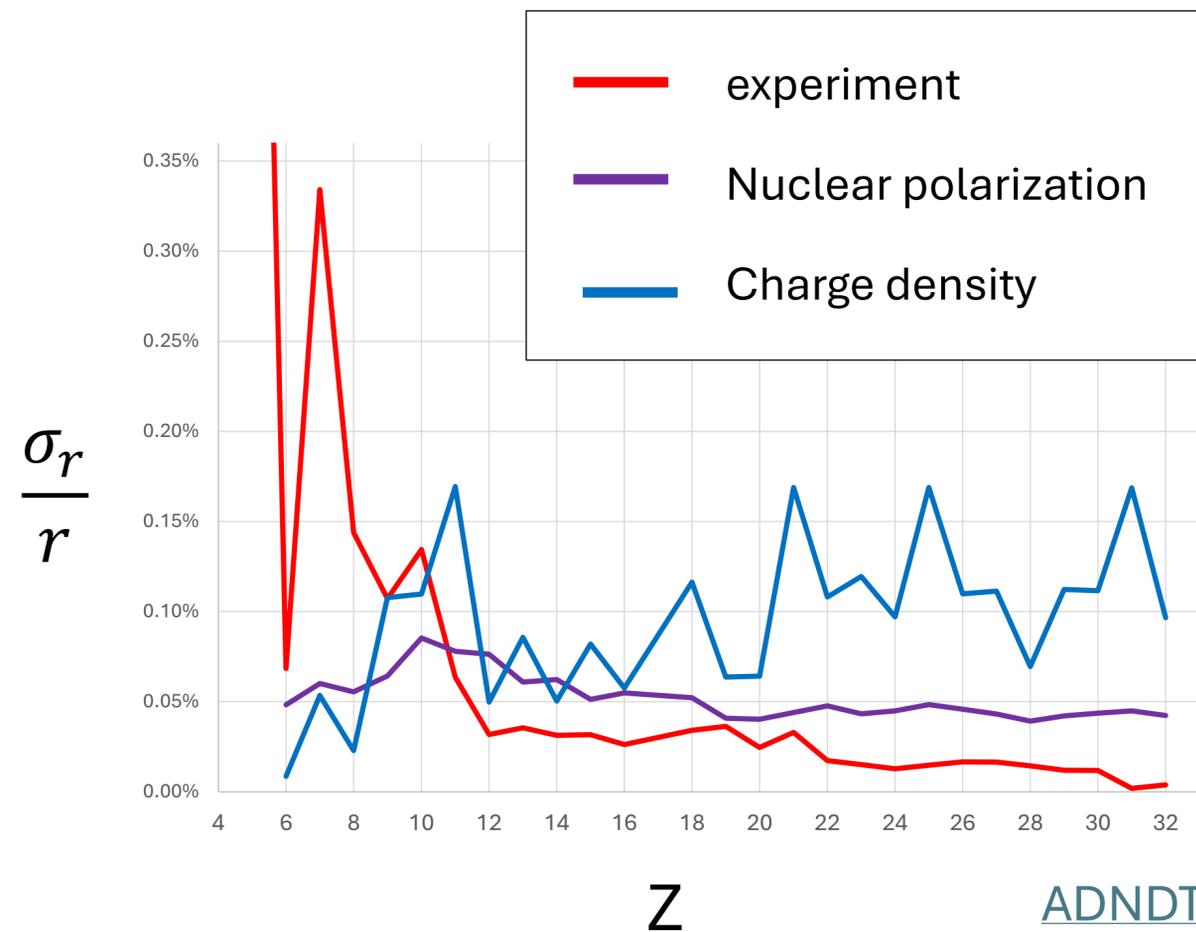
$(Z\alpha)^5$	TPE
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[RevModPhys.96.015001](https://arxiv.org/abs/1501.015001)

Z = 1, 2

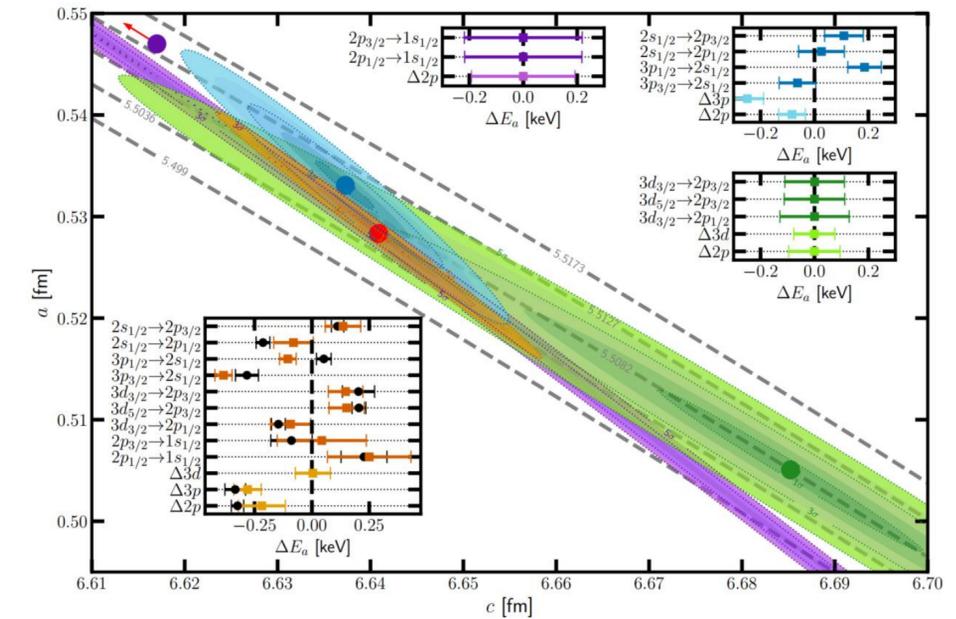
Elastic from electron scattering

Nuclear Pol. from calculation / data driven



ADNDT

Elastic from fit with several  
transitions  
Npol from calculation



Z = 82

[arXiv:2504.19977](https://arxiv.org/abs/2504.19977)

# Nuclear structure effects and how to handle them

Ab initio perturbative  
Calculations:  
elastic  $\approx$  shape  
Inelastic  $\approx$  Nuc. Pol.

$(Z\alpha)^5$   
 $\alpha^2(Z\alpha)^4$   
 $(Z\alpha)^6$   
 $\alpha(Z\alpha)^5$   
 $\alpha(Z\alpha)^5$

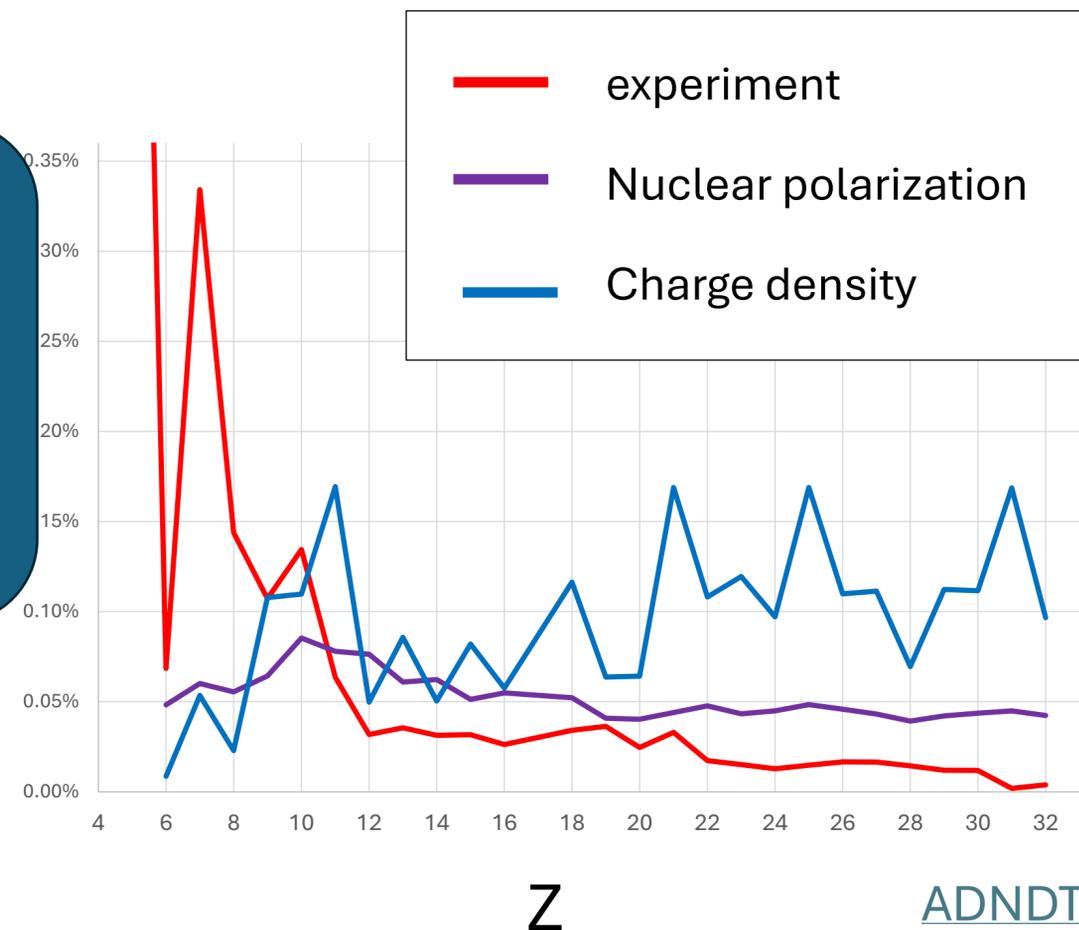
TPE  
Coulomb disto  
3PE  
eVP<sup>(1)</sup> with T  
 $\mu$ SE<sup>(1)</sup> +  $\mu$ VP

[RevModPhys.96.015001](#)

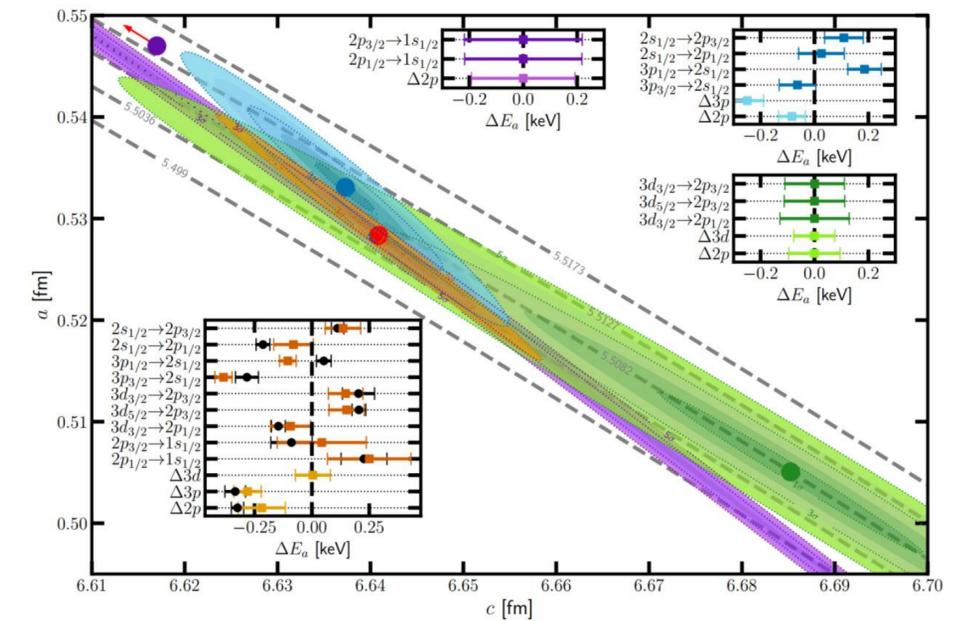
Z = 1, 2

Where can we  
push TPE  
calculations?

Elastic from electron scattering  
Nuclear Pol. from calculation / data driven



Elastic from fit with several  
transitions  
Npol from calculation



Z = 82

[arXiv:2504.19977](#)

# Nuclear structure effects and how to handle them

Ab initio perturbative  
Calculations:  
elastic  $\approx$  shape  
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$(Z\alpha)^5$   
 $\alpha^2(Z\alpha)^4$   
 $(Z\alpha)^6$   
 $\alpha(Z\alpha)^5$   
 $\alpha(Z\alpha)^5$

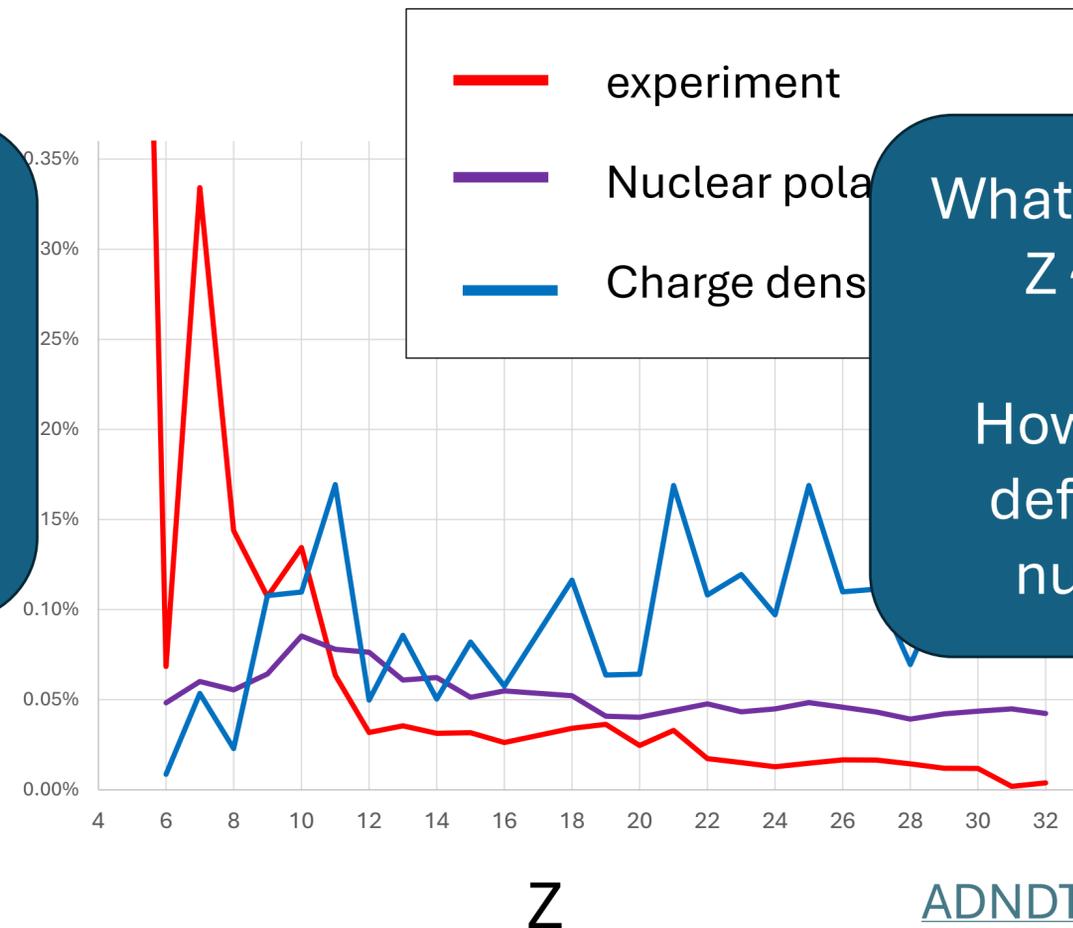
TPE  
Coulomb disto  
3PE  
eVP<sup>(1)</sup> with T  
 $\mu$ SE<sup>(1)</sup> +  $\mu$ VP

[RevModPhys.96.015001](#)

Z = 1, 2

Where can we  
push TPE  
calculations?

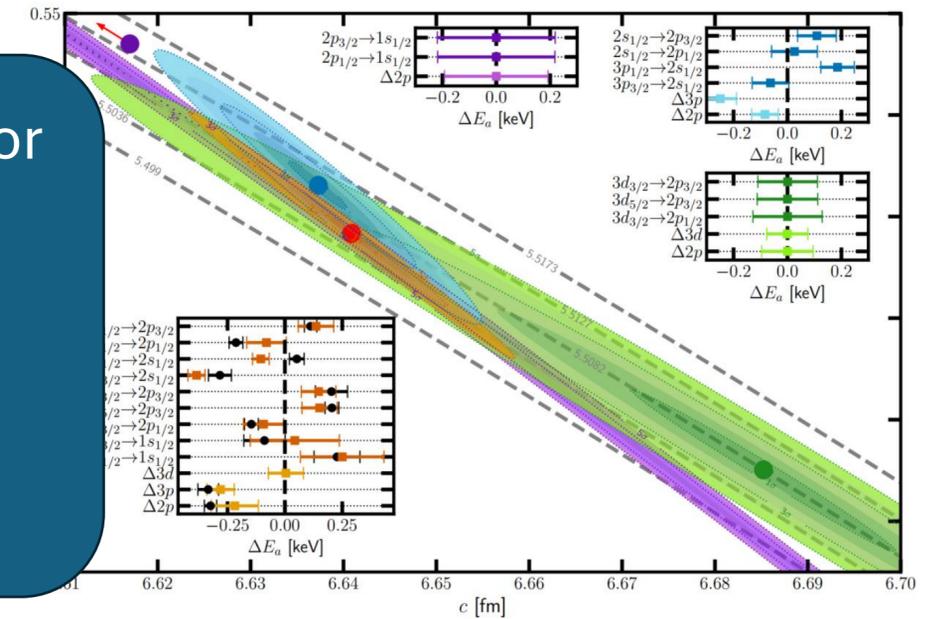
Elastic from electron scattering  
Nuclear Pol. from calculation / data driven



What to do for  
Z ~ 50 ?  
How about  
deformed  
nuclei ?

[ADNDT](#)

Elastic from fit with several  
transitions  
Npol from calculation



Z = 82

[arXiv:2504.19977](#)

# What's in the table:

ADNDT

**Table 2**

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el.	Z	A	$r_{\text{ch}}$	$\sigma_{\text{exp}}$	$\sigma_{\text{NP}}$	$\sigma_{\text{CD}}$	$\sigma_{\text{tot}}$	Note
Li	3	6	2.589	0.039			0.039	A
Be	4	9	2.519	0.012		0.030	0.032	B
B	5	11	2.411	0.021			0.021	C
C	6	12	2.483	0.002	0.001	0.000	0.002	D
N	7	14	2.556	0.009	0.002	0.001	0.009	
	7	15	2.612	0.009			0.009	E
O	8	16	2.701	0.004	0.001	0.001	0.004	F
F	9	19	2.902	0.003	0.002	0.003	0.005	†
Ne	10	20	3.001	0.004	0.003	0.003	0.006	†
Na	11	23	2.992	0.002	0.002	0.005	0.006	†
Mg	12	24	3.056	0.001	0.002	0.002	0.003	†
	12	26	3.030	0.001	0.002	0.002	0.003	†
Al	13	27	3.061	0.001	0.002	0.003	0.003	†G
Si	14	28	3.123	0.001	0.002	0.002	0.003	†
P	15	31	3.190	0.001	0.002	0.002	0.003	
S	16	32	3.262	0.001	0.002	0.003	0.003	
	16	34	3.284	0.001	0.002	0.003	0.004	
	16	36	3.298	0.001	0.001	0.003	0.004	
Cl	17	35	3.388	0.015			0.015	H
Cl	17	37	3.384	0.015			0.015	H
Ar	18	38	3.402	0.002	0.003	0.005	0.006	
	18	40	3.427	0.001	0.002	0.003	0.004	
K	19	39	3.435	0.001	0.001	0.003	0.004	
Ca	20	40	3.481	0.001	0.001	0.004	0.004	
	20	48	3.475	0.001	0.001	0.002	0.002	
Sc	21	45	3.548	0.001	0.002	0.006	0.007	

# What's going on?

ADNDT

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	7	14	2.556	0.009	0.002	0.001	0.009		
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Sc	21	45	3.548	0.001	0.002	0.006	0.007				g-factor

Plus a ton of laser-spectroscopy and theory

← Muonic

# Complementarity in Action:

$$\delta v_{20,22} \approx K \mu_{20,22} + F \delta r_{20,22}^2$$

# Complementarity in Action:

Isotope shift (ISOLDE)

Penning trap (MPK)

Atomic many body  
(BO & Berengut)

Diff. g-factor (MPK)

$$\delta\nu_{20,22} \approx K\mu_{20,22} + F\delta r_{20,22}^2$$

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$$\delta\nu_{20,22} \approx K\mu_{20,22} + F\delta r_{20,22}^2$$

Get K ↓

$$\delta\nu_{20,18} \approx K\mu_{20,18} + F\delta r_{20,18}^2$$

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Get K ↓

$$\delta\nu_{20,18} \approx K\mu_{20,18} + F\delta r_{20,18}^2$$

↓ Get  $\delta r_{20,18}^2$

$$r_{18}^2 = r_{20}^2 + \delta r_{20,18}^2$$

↑  
Muonic atoms

# Complementarity in Action:

Isotope shift (ISOLDE)

Penning trap (MPK)

Atomic many body  
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Diff. g-factor (MPK)

$$\delta\nu_{20,22} \approx K\mu_{20,22} + F\delta r_{20,22}^2$$

Get K ↓

$$\delta\nu_{20,18} \approx K\mu_{20,18} + F\delta r_{20,18}^2$$

↓ Get  $\delta r_{20,18}^2$

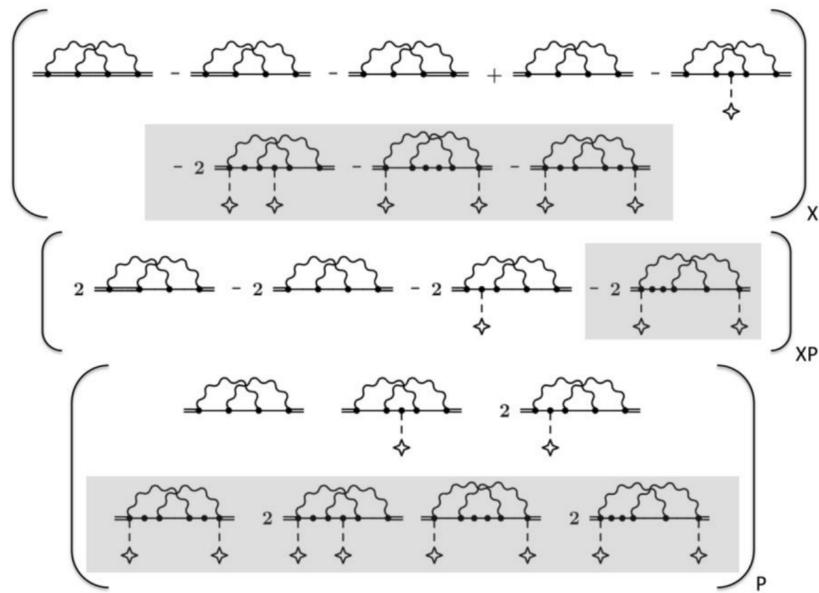
$$r_{18}^2 = r_{20}^2 + \delta r_{20,18}^2$$

Vud determination  
New physics in b-decay

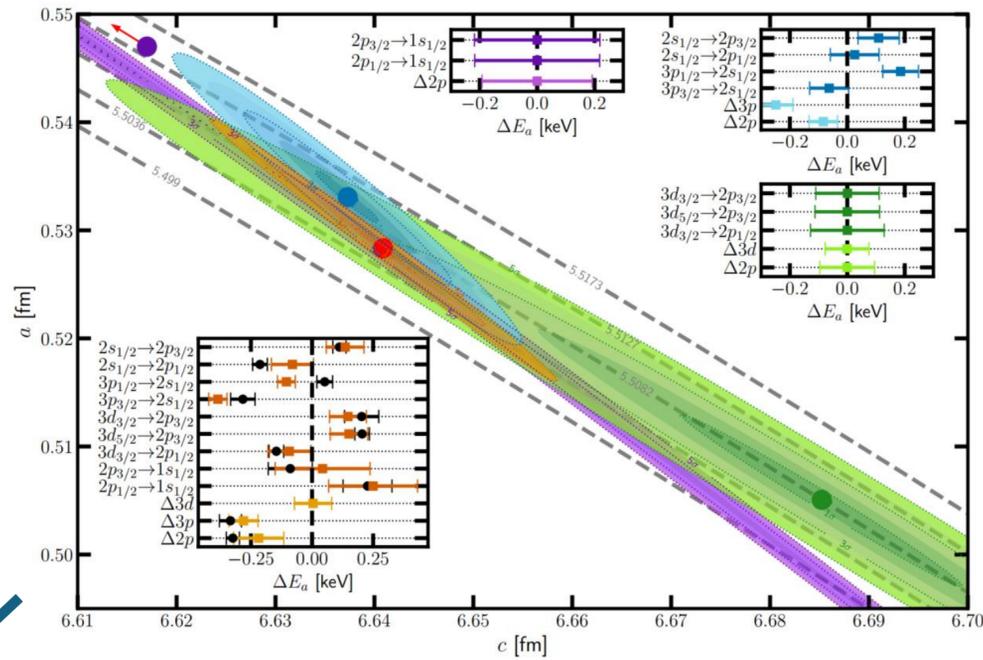
↑  
Muonic atoms

# Vision and Precision

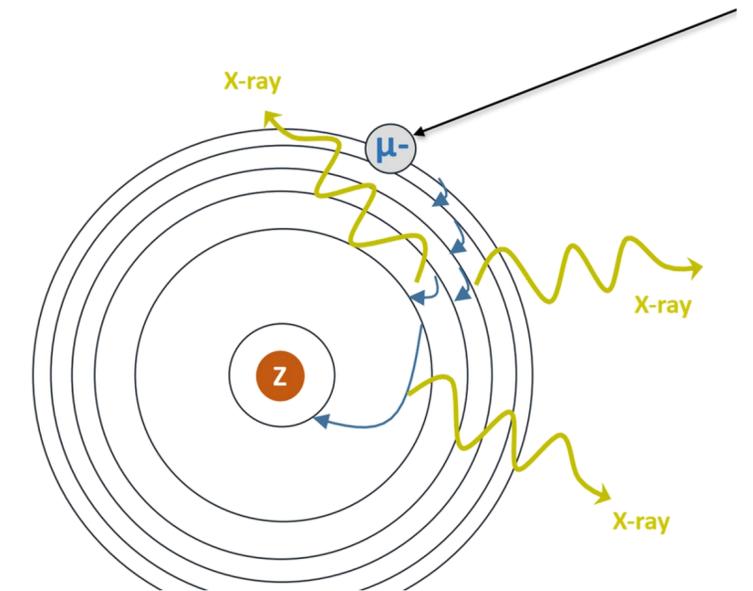
## Theory



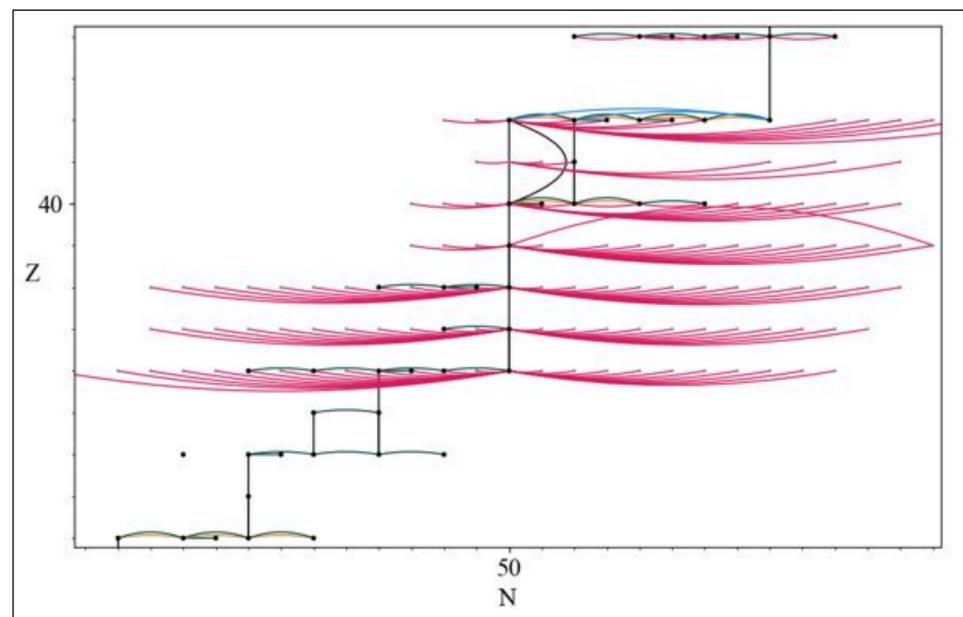
## Combined analysis



## Experiments



## Combining data



Clemson

## Curation & Dissemination

CSV file with recommended nuclear dipole moments    CSV file with recommended nuclear quadrupole moments    CSV file with compiled nuclear moments

Group 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18

1 n

Period 1 1 H    Z:  Search

2 3 Li 4 Be    A:  Reset

5 6 7 8 9 10

13 14 15 16 17 18

21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36

39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54

55 56 \* 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86

6 6 Cs Ba \*\* 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118

7 8 Fr Ra \*\* 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118

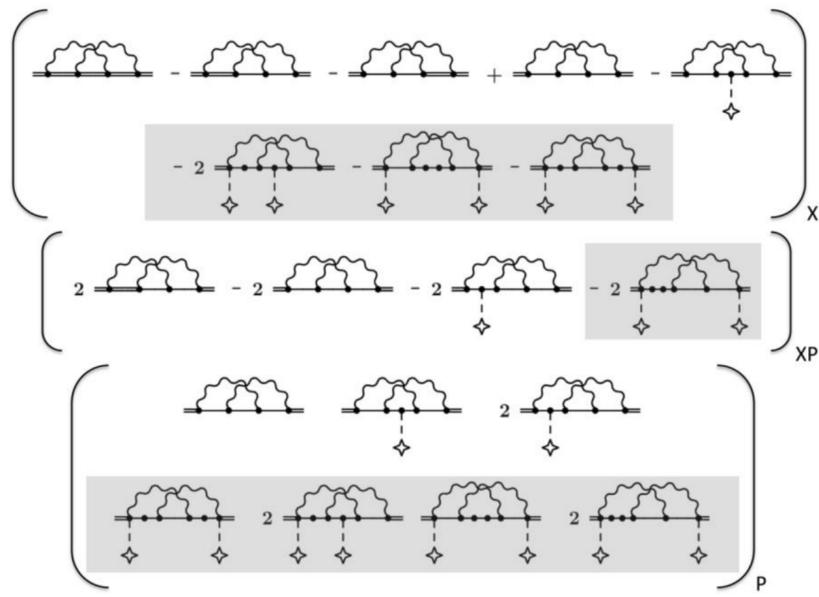
\*Lanthanides \* 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70

\*\*Actinides \*\* 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102

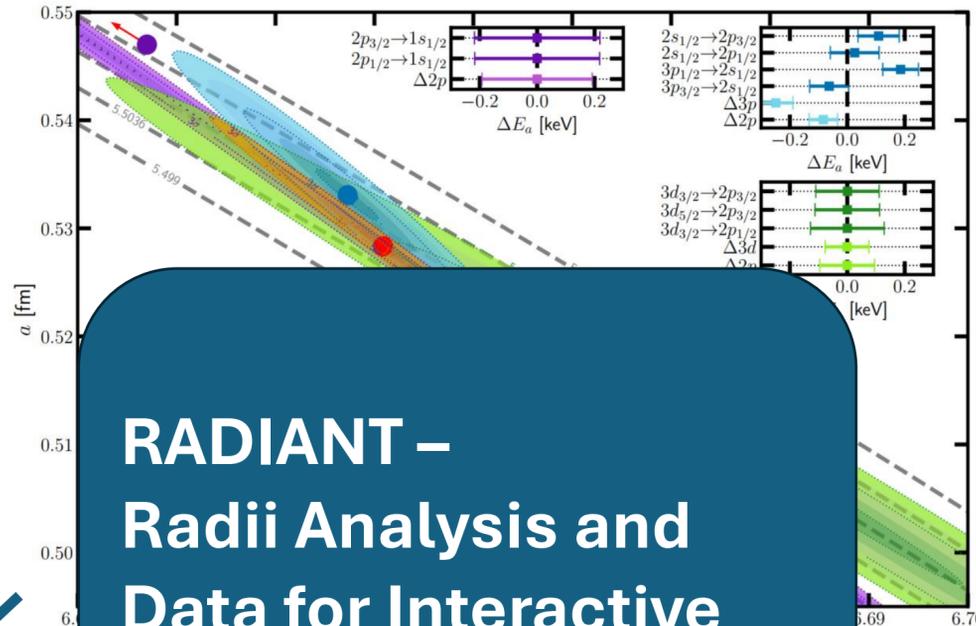
IAEA

# Vision and Precision

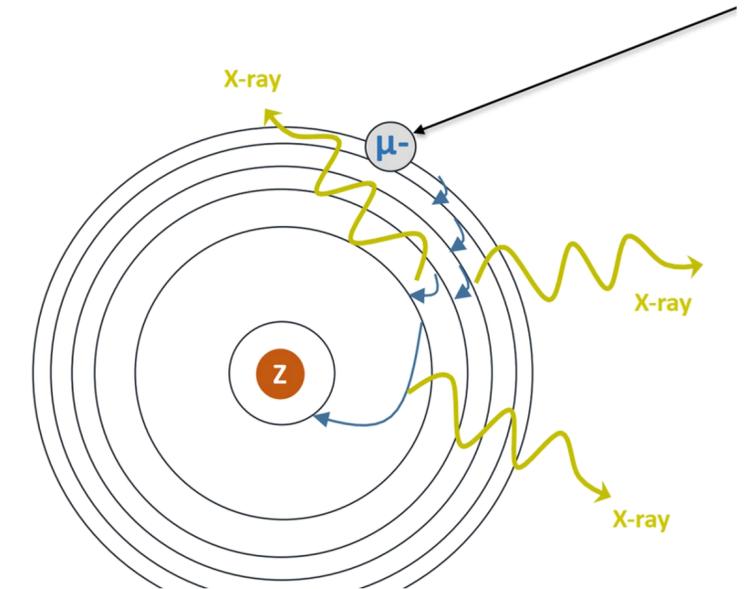
## Theory



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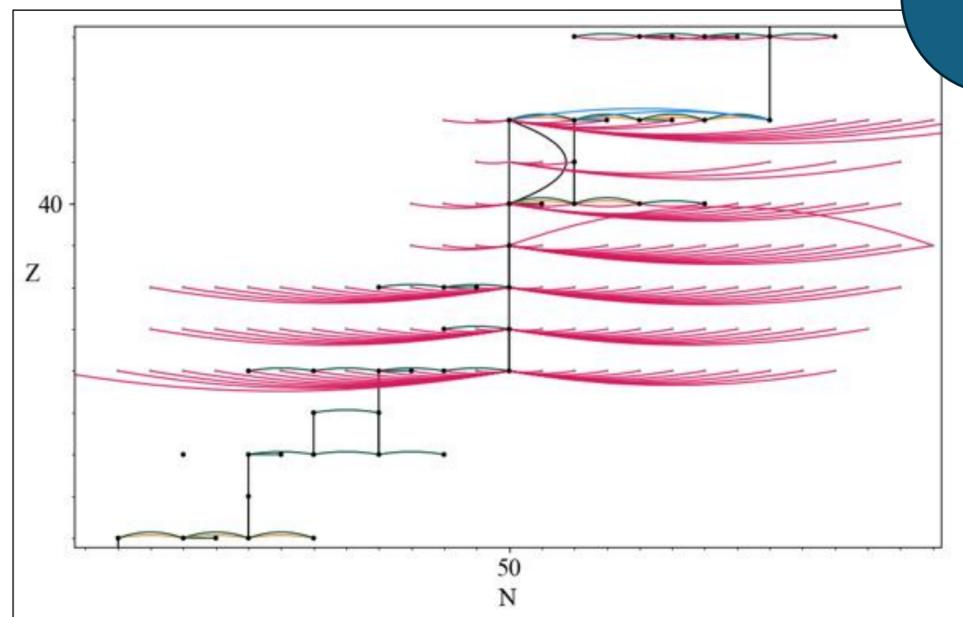


## Experiments



**RADIANT –  
Radii Analysis and  
Data for Interactive  
Nuclear Table**

## Combining data



Clemson

## ation & Dissemination

CSV file with recommended nuclear dipole moments    CSV file with recommended nuclear quadrupole moments    CSV file with compiled nuclear moments

Group	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
1	n																		
Period 1	H																	He	
2	Li	Be											B	C	N	O	F	Ne	
3	Na	Mg											Al	Si	P	S	Cl	Ar	
4	K	Ca	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	As	Se	Br	Kr	
5	Rb	Sr	Y	Zr	Nb	Mo	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Te	I	Xe	
6	Cs	Ba	*	Lu	Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg	Tl	Pb	Bi	Po	At	Rn
7	Fr	Ra	**	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118
			*	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70		
			**	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102		

\*Lanthanides  
\*\*Actinides

IAEA

Take home message:  
It is best to be the second best...

