

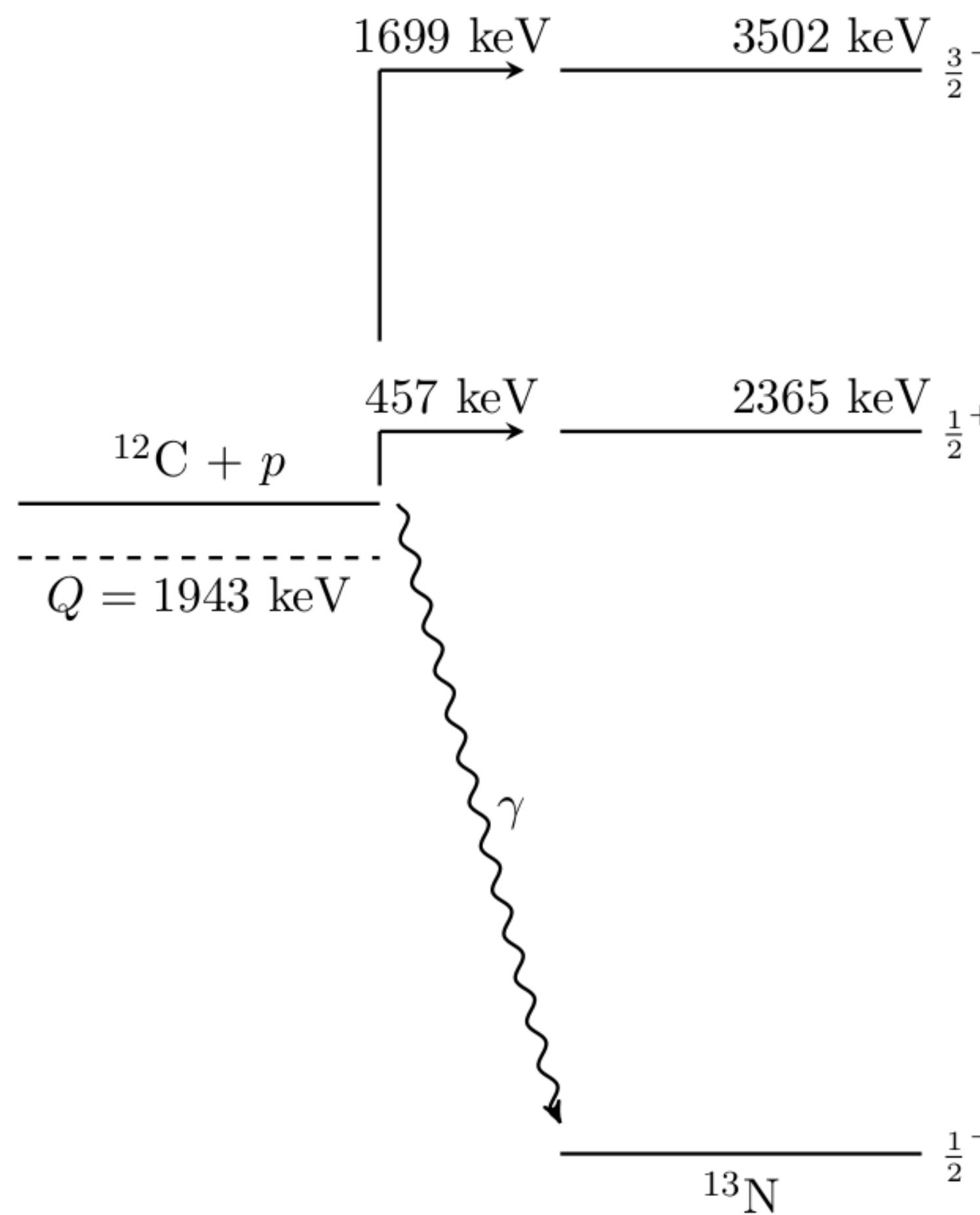
# Uncertainty Estimation for R-Matrix Analysis

Jakub Skowronski - Università degli Studi di Padova, INFN Padova

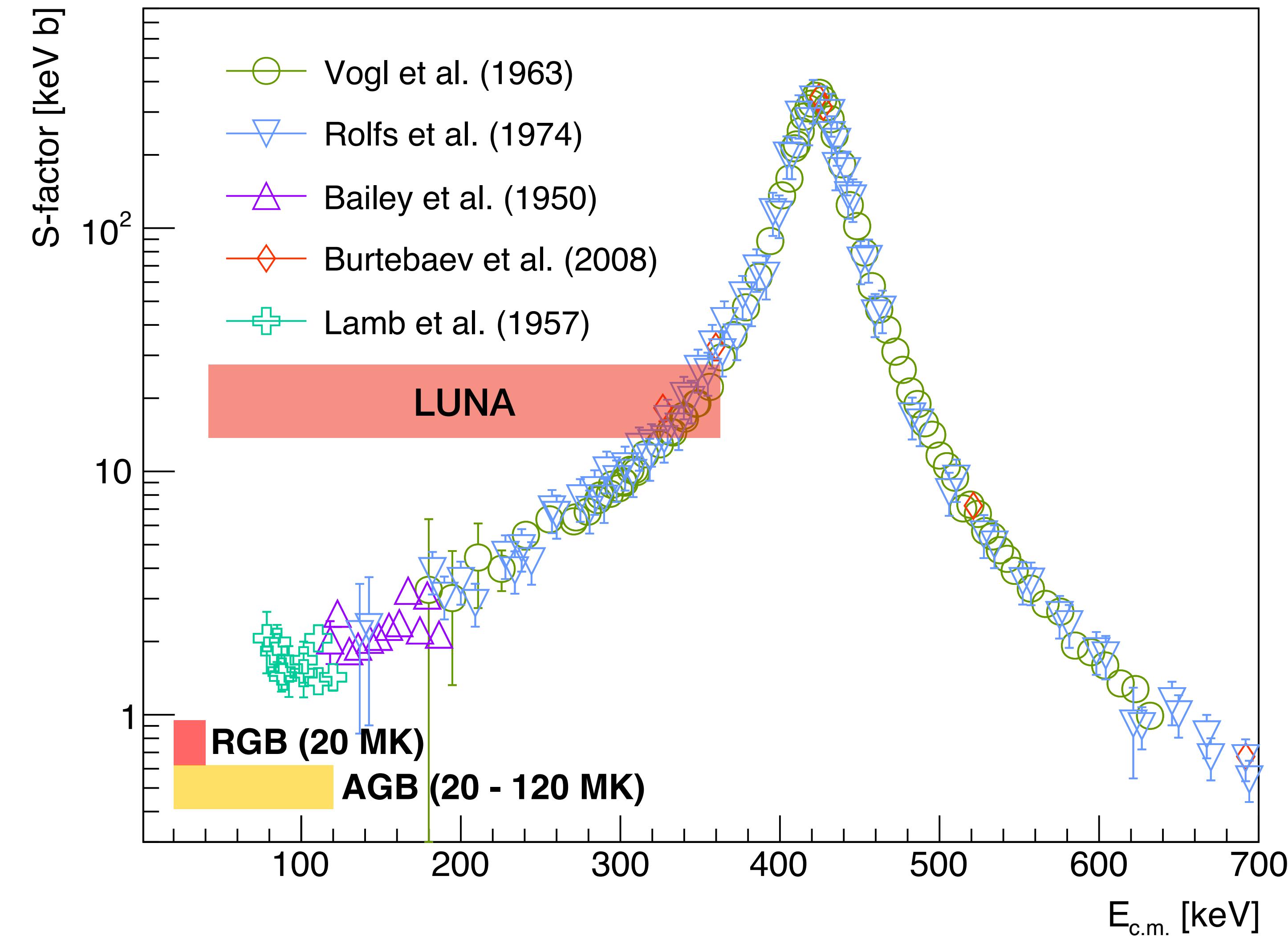
INDEN-LE - 18/11/2024



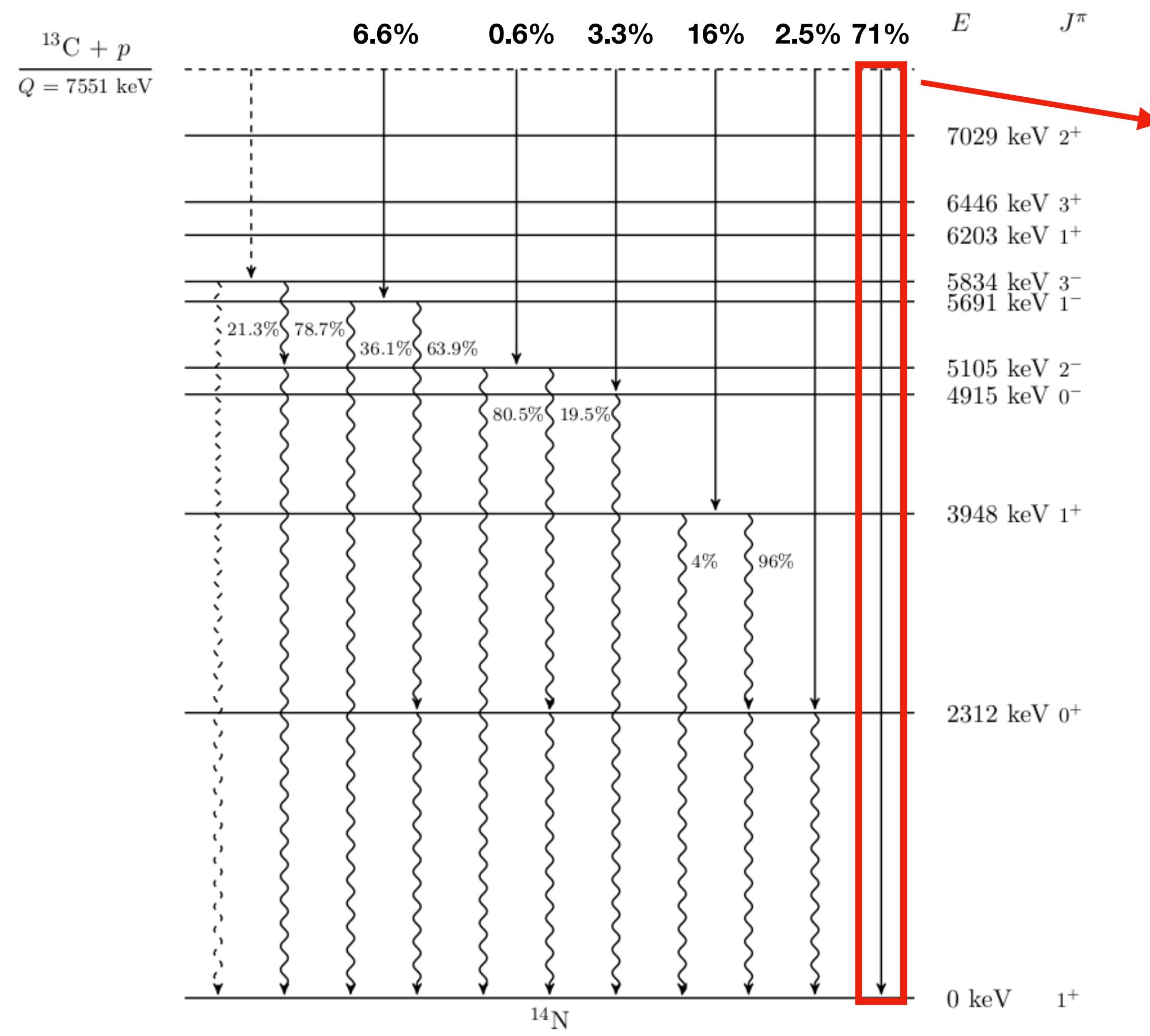
# Introduction - $^{12}\text{C}(\text{p},\gamma)^{13}\text{N}$ Reaction



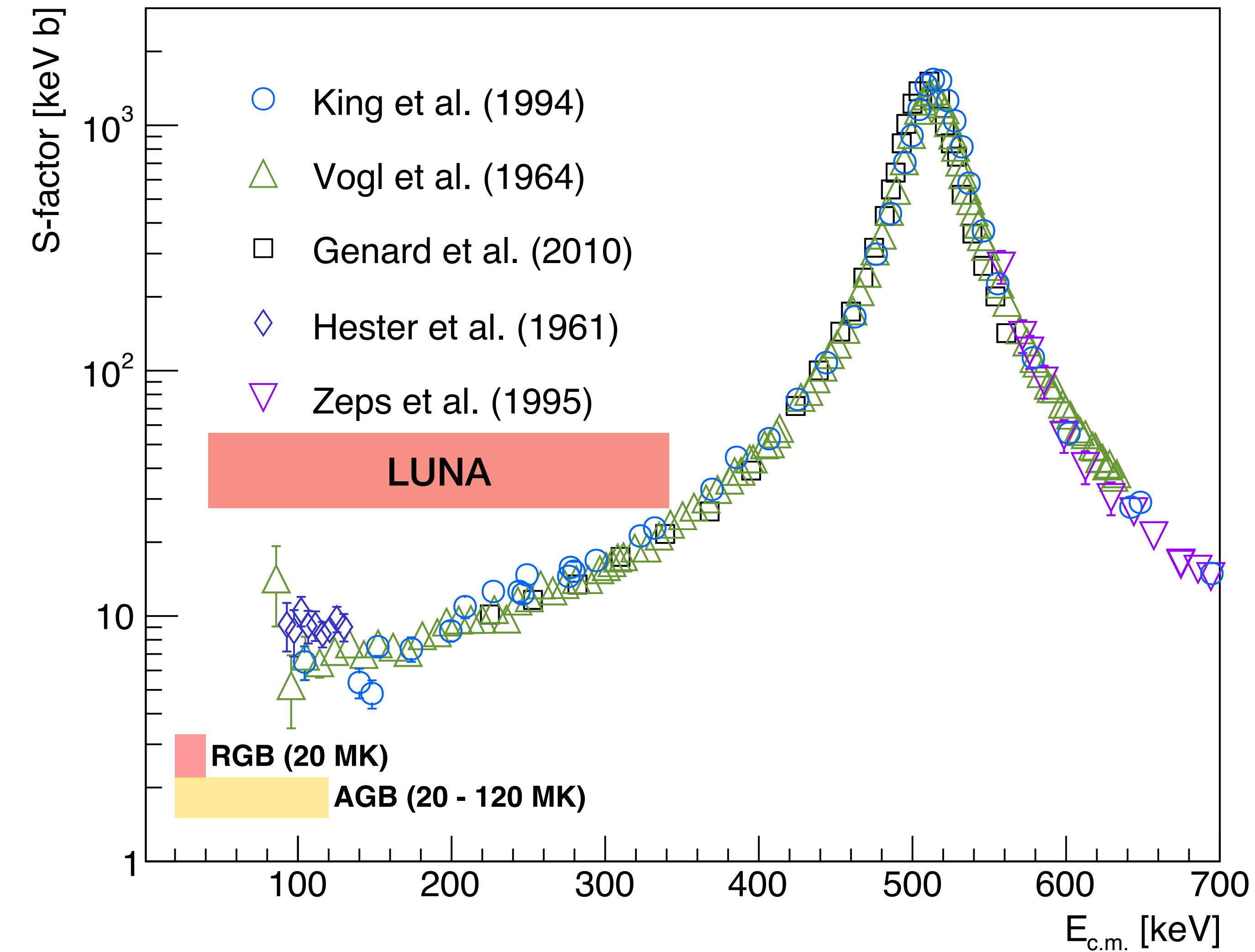
$^{12}\text{C}(\text{p},\gamma)^{13}\text{N}$  - Total Capture



# Introduction - $^{13}\text{C}(\text{p},\gamma)^{14}\text{N}$ Reaction



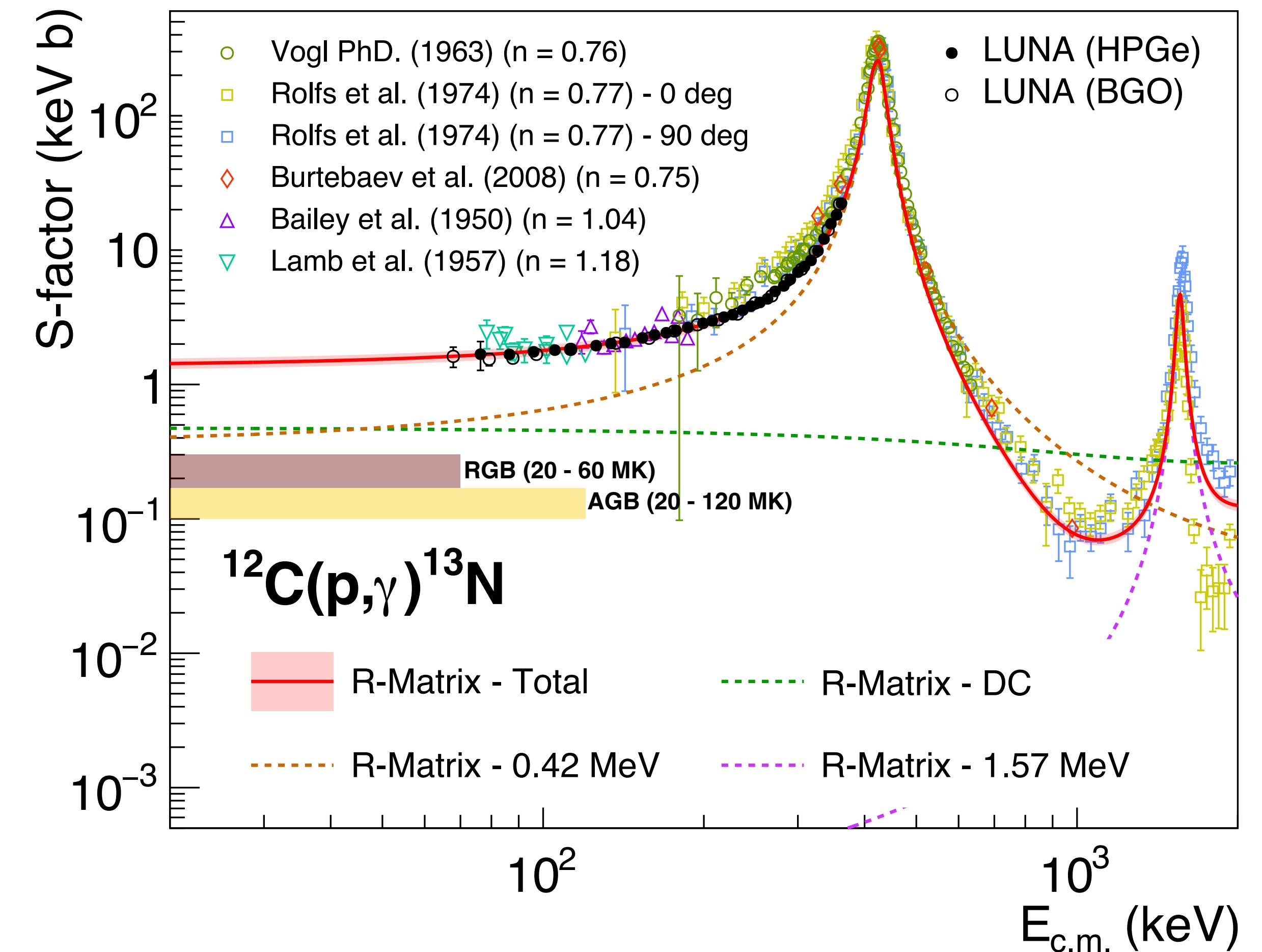
$^{13}\text{C}(\text{p},\gamma)^{14}\text{N}$  - Capture to Ground State



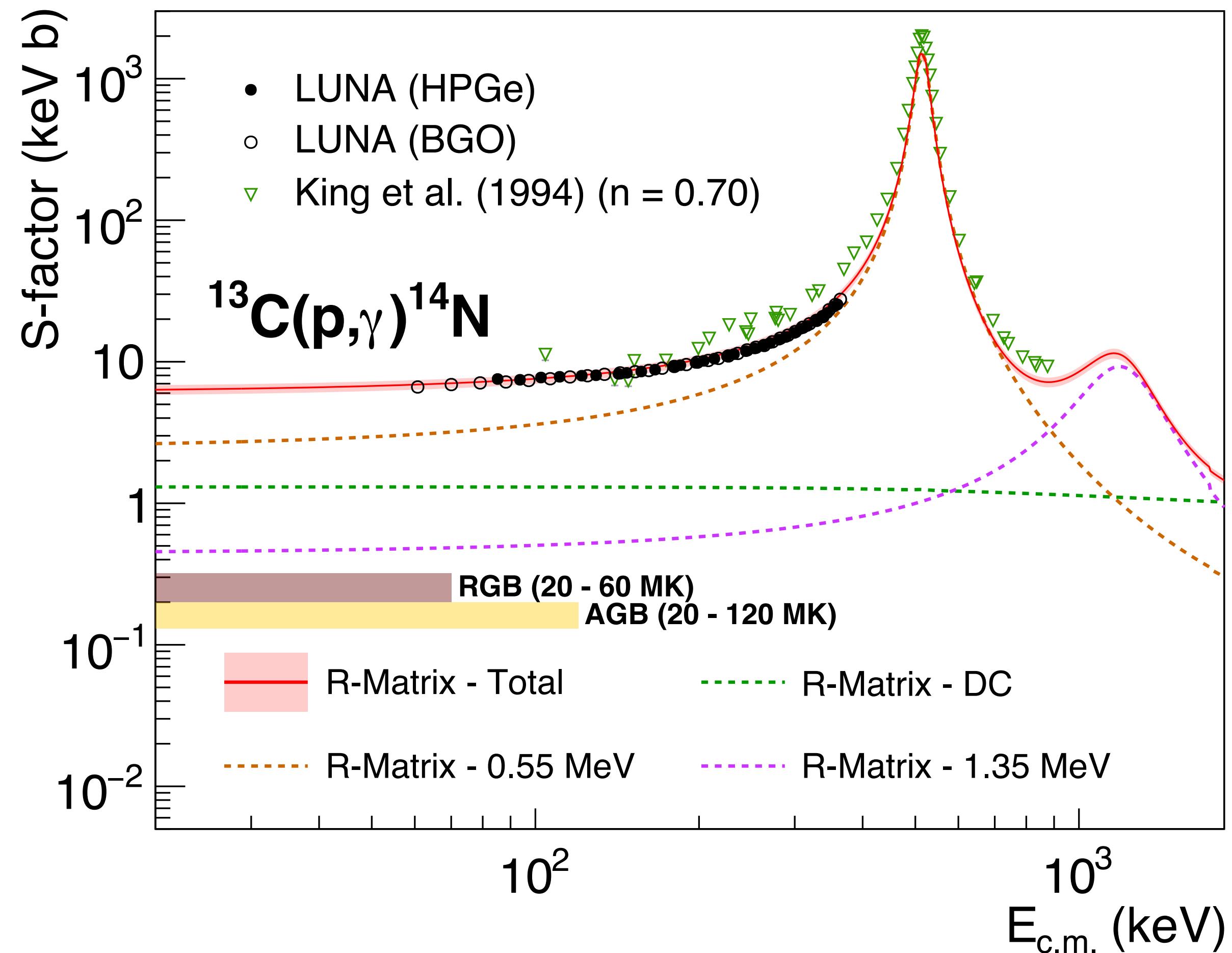
# Introduction - Results



~ 25% lower than literature...



~ 30% lower than literature...

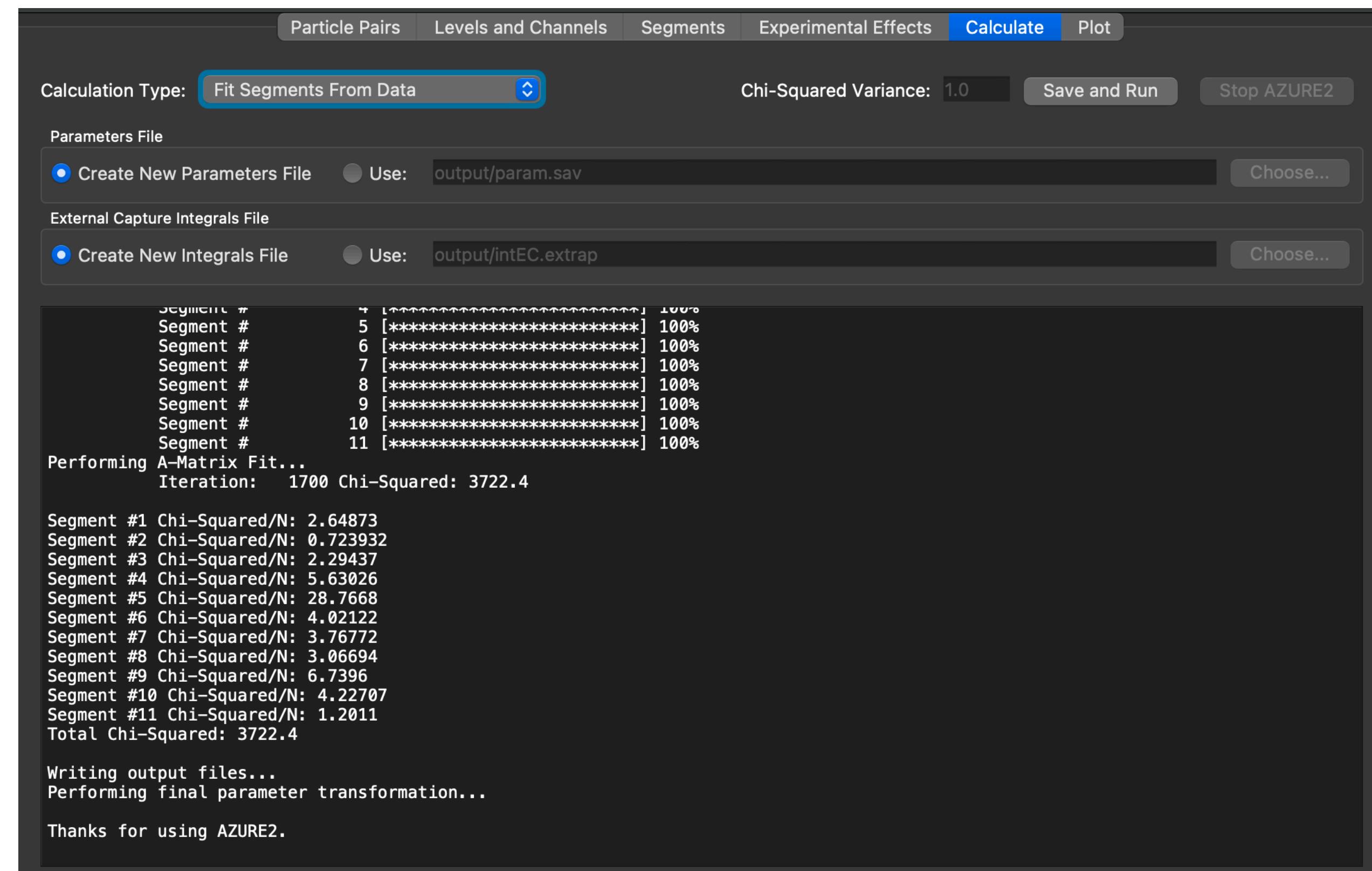


# Frequentist Approach



# First Attempt with AZURE2

- I started by using blindly the AZURE2 built-in minimiser, ie. MINUIT2
- The best-fit looked good, but...



The screenshot shows the AZURE2 software interface with a "Fit Segments From Data" calculation type selected. The parameters file is set to "Create New Parameters File" and the external capture integrals file is set to "Create New Integrals File". The output window displays the following text:

```
Segment #      1 [*****] 100%
Segment #      5 [*****] 100%
Segment #      6 [*****] 100%
Segment #      7 [*****] 100%
Segment #      8 [*****] 100%
Segment #      9 [*****] 100%
Segment #     10 [*****] 100%
Segment #     11 [*****] 100%
Performing A-Matrix Fit...
Iteration: 1700 Chi-Squared: 3722.4
Segment #1 Chi-Squared/N: 2.64873
Segment #2 Chi-Squared/N: 0.723932
Segment #3 Chi-Squared/N: 2.29437
Segment #4 Chi-Squared/N: 5.63026
Segment #5 Chi-Squared/N: 28.7668
Segment #6 Chi-Squared/N: 4.02122
Segment #7 Chi-Squared/N: 3.76772
Segment #8 Chi-Squared/N: 3.06694
Segment #9 Chi-Squared/N: 6.7396
Segment #10 Chi-Squared/N: 4.22707
Segment #11 Chi-Squared/N: 1.2011
Total Chi-Squared: 3722.4
Writing output files...
Performing final parameter transformation...
Thanks for using AZURE2.
```

AZURE2

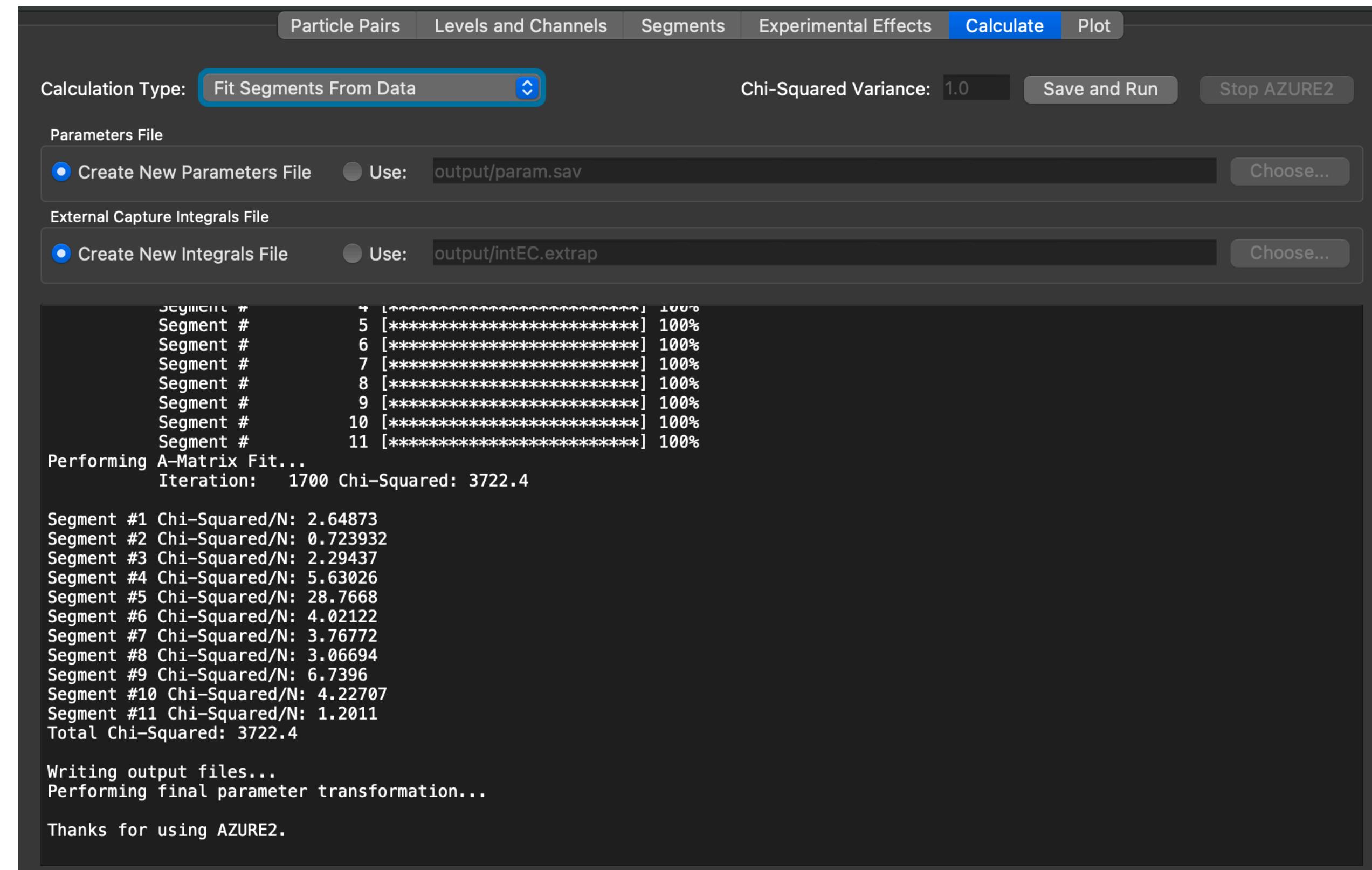


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- The best-fit looked good, but...
- The uncertainty is provided on the **formal parameters**



Not trivial to get cross section uncertainty out of it

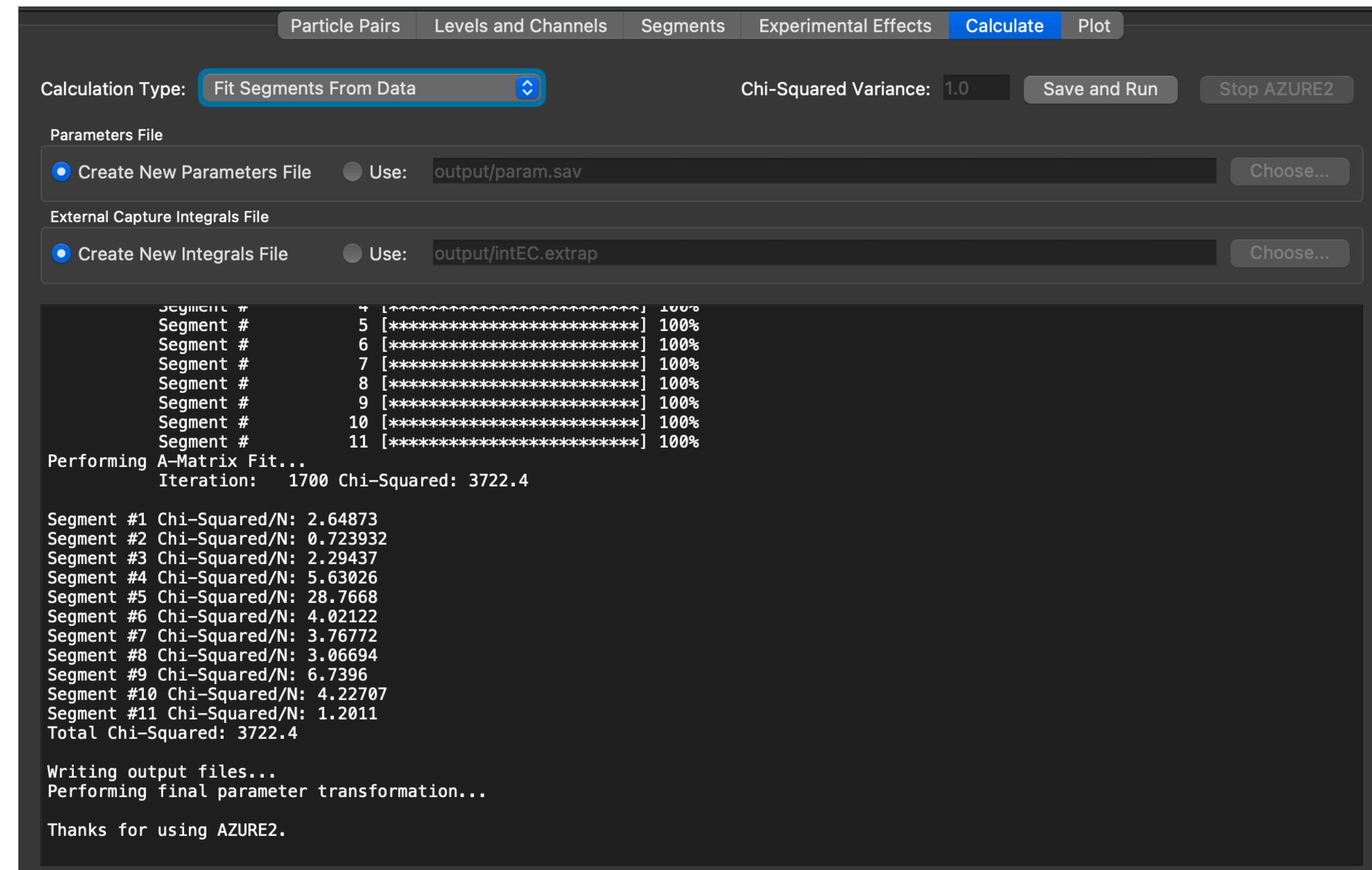


AZURE2



# First Attempt with AZURE2

- I started by using blindly the AZURE2 built-in minimiser, ie. MINUIT2
- The best-fit looked good, but...
- The uncertainty is provided on the **formal parameters**
- No possibility of **changing the minimiser**
- No possibility of **using bayesian methods**



AZURE2



Bayesian R-matrix Inference Code Kit (**BRICK**) published in **2021**

<https://pypi.org/project/brick-james>      10.3389/fphy.2022.888476

What it is: **python3** package to run **AZURE2** in headless mode



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What it is: **python3** package to run **AZURE2** in headless mode

## How does it work?

1. Copies your .azr, data and output files
2. Modifies the .azr file accordingly to your calculation
3. Launches the AZURE2 calculation (without GUI)
4. Reads the output files
5. Removes the copied files



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## Advantages

- You can use any minimiser you want

- **method** (*str, optional*) –  
Name of the fitting method to use. Valid values are:
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  - ‘*least\_squares*’: Least-Squares minimization, using Trust Region Reflective method
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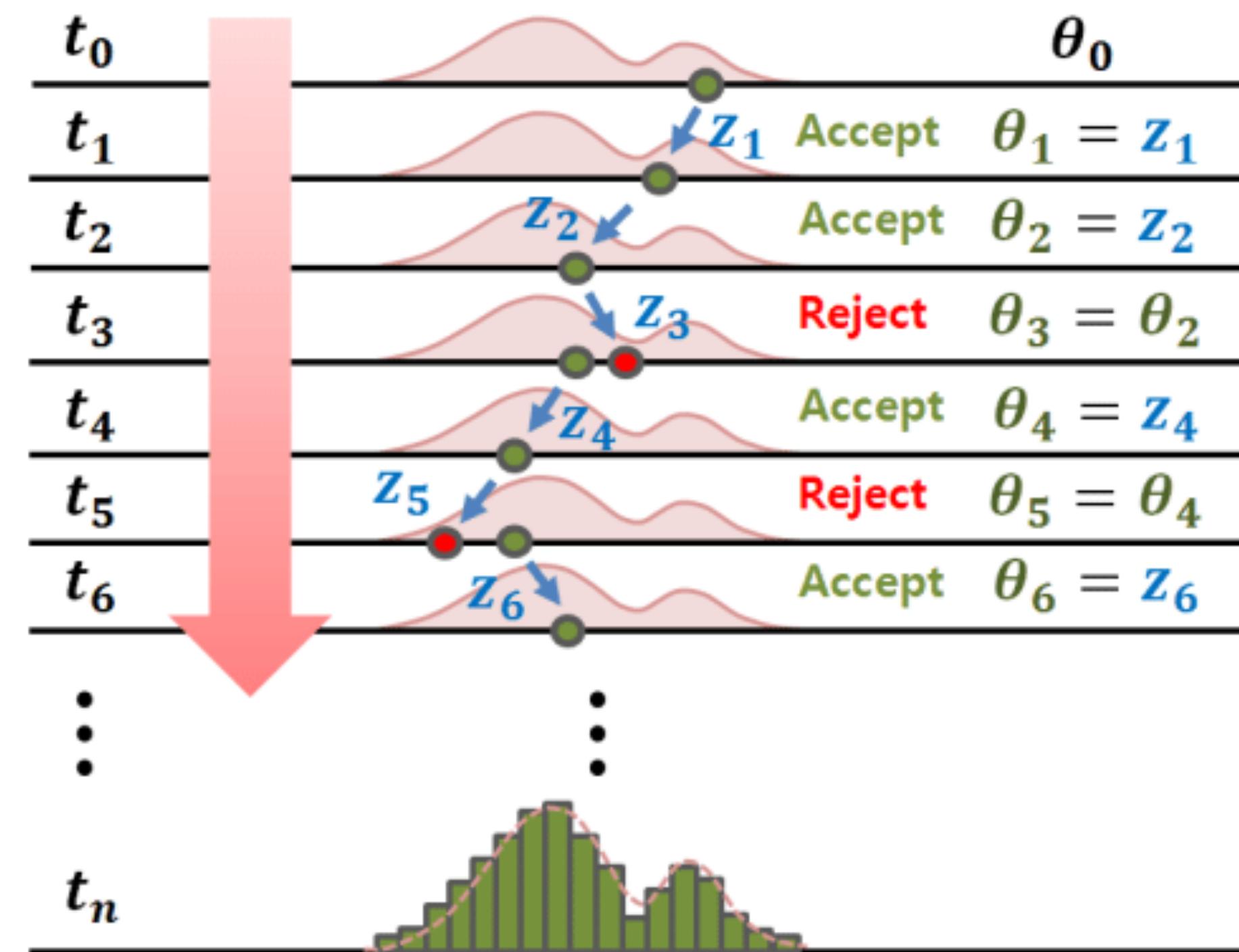


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## Advantages

- You can use any minimiser you want
  - You can use bayesian approaches
  - You can easily manipulate the data
- 1. Ask AZURE2 to calculate your cross section**
  - 2. Do your tricks: apply convolution, distributions, corrections etc.**
  - 3. Confront it with measured data**



LUNN

Bayesian R-matrix Inference Code Kit (**BRICK**) published in 2021

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## Advantages

- You can use any minimiser you want
- You can use bayesian approaches
- You can easily manipulate the date
- You can define your minimising functions

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i,j} \left( \frac{f_j y_{\text{obs},i} - y_{\text{theo}}}{f_j \sigma_{\text{stat},i}} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{1 - f_j}{\sigma_{\text{sist}}} \right)^2$$

$$\log \mathcal{L} = \sum_i -\frac{1}{2} \log (2\pi \sigma_{\text{stat},i}^2) - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{f_j y_{\text{obs},i} - y_{\text{theo}}}{f_j \sigma_{\text{stat},i}} \right)^2$$



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## Advantages

- You can use any minimiser you want
- You can use bayesian approaches
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- You can define your minimising functions
- You can easily sample your parameters

**ANC ~ Gaussian( $\mu$ ,  $\sigma$ )**



Get 1000 random numbers  
and see how it affects your  
cross section



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## AZURE2 = R-Matrix Calculator



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- You can define your minimising functions
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## AZURE2 = R-Matrix Calculator

## Disadvantages

- Heavy relies on I/O operations
- Slower than using raw AZURE2



# Frequentist Attempt

We can define our function to minimise as follows:

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i,j} \left( \frac{f_j y_{\text{obs},i} - y_{\text{theo}}}{f_j \sigma_{\text{stat},i}} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{1 - f_j}{\sigma_{\text{sist}}} \right)^2$$

doi: **10.1016/0168-9002(94)90719-6**

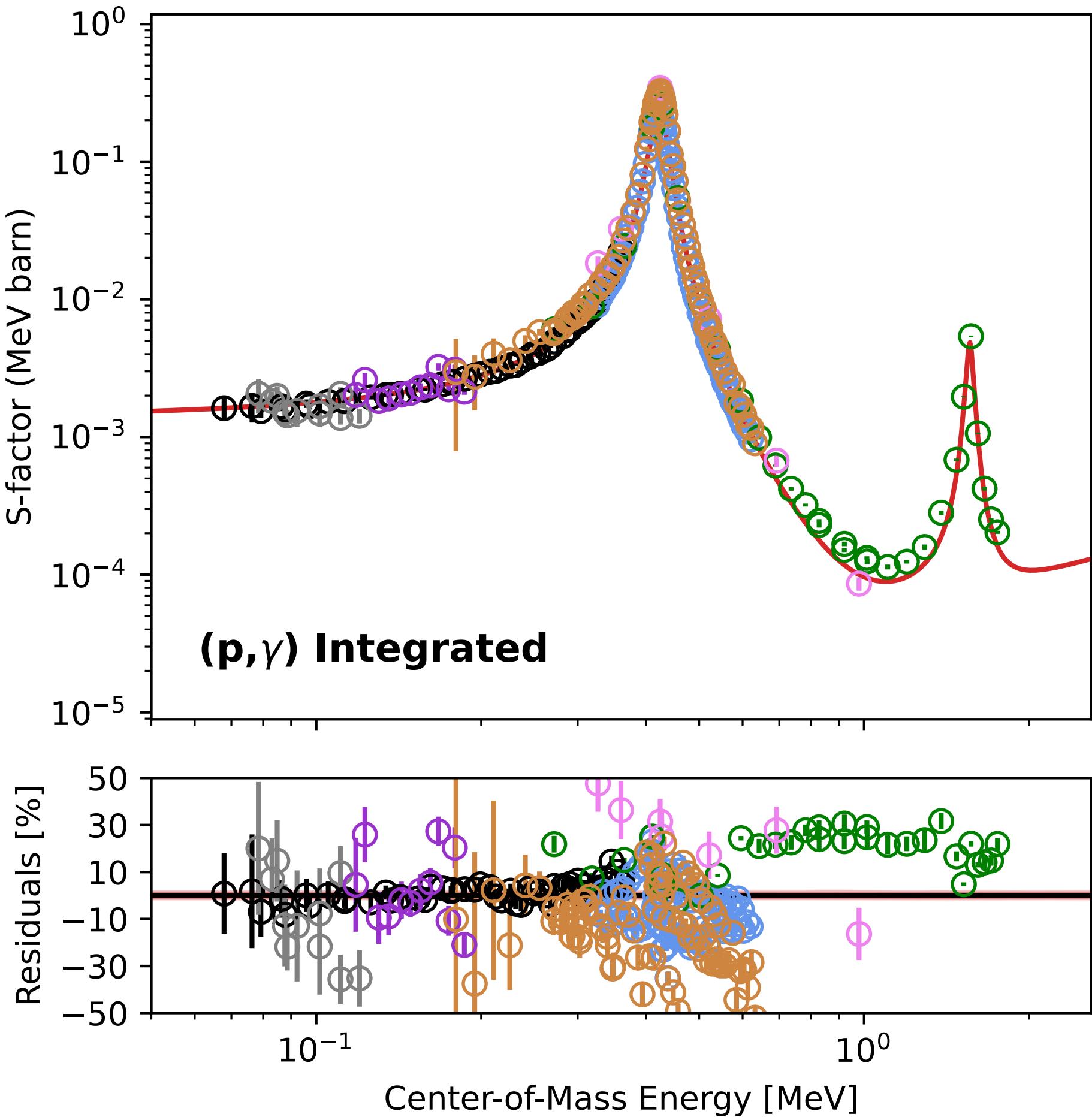
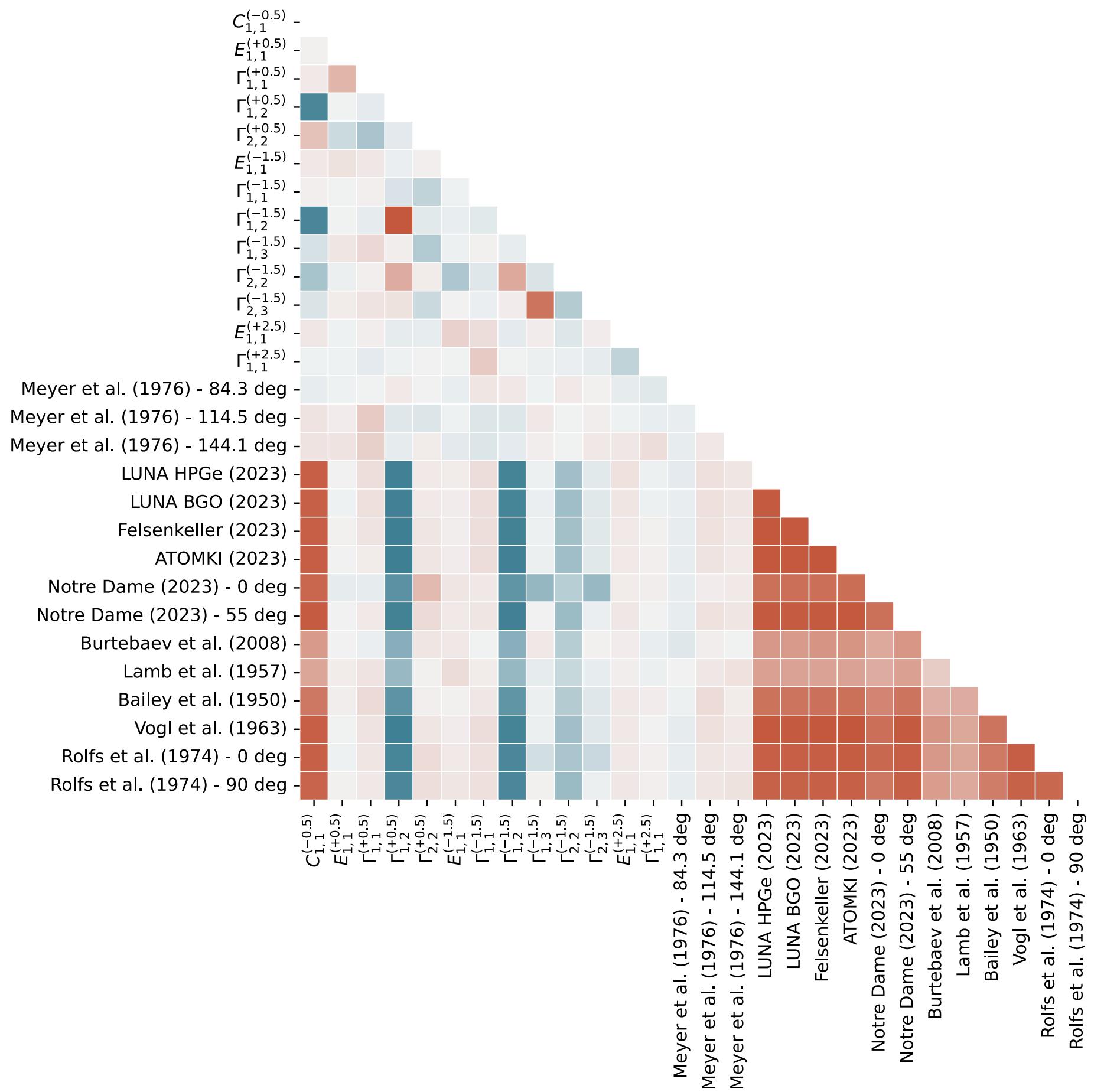
Then use the MINUIT2 wrapper for python3, *iminuit*



# Frequentist Fit - $^{12}\text{C}(\text{p},\gamma)^{13}\text{N}$ (1)

**What happened when I applied MINUIT2?**

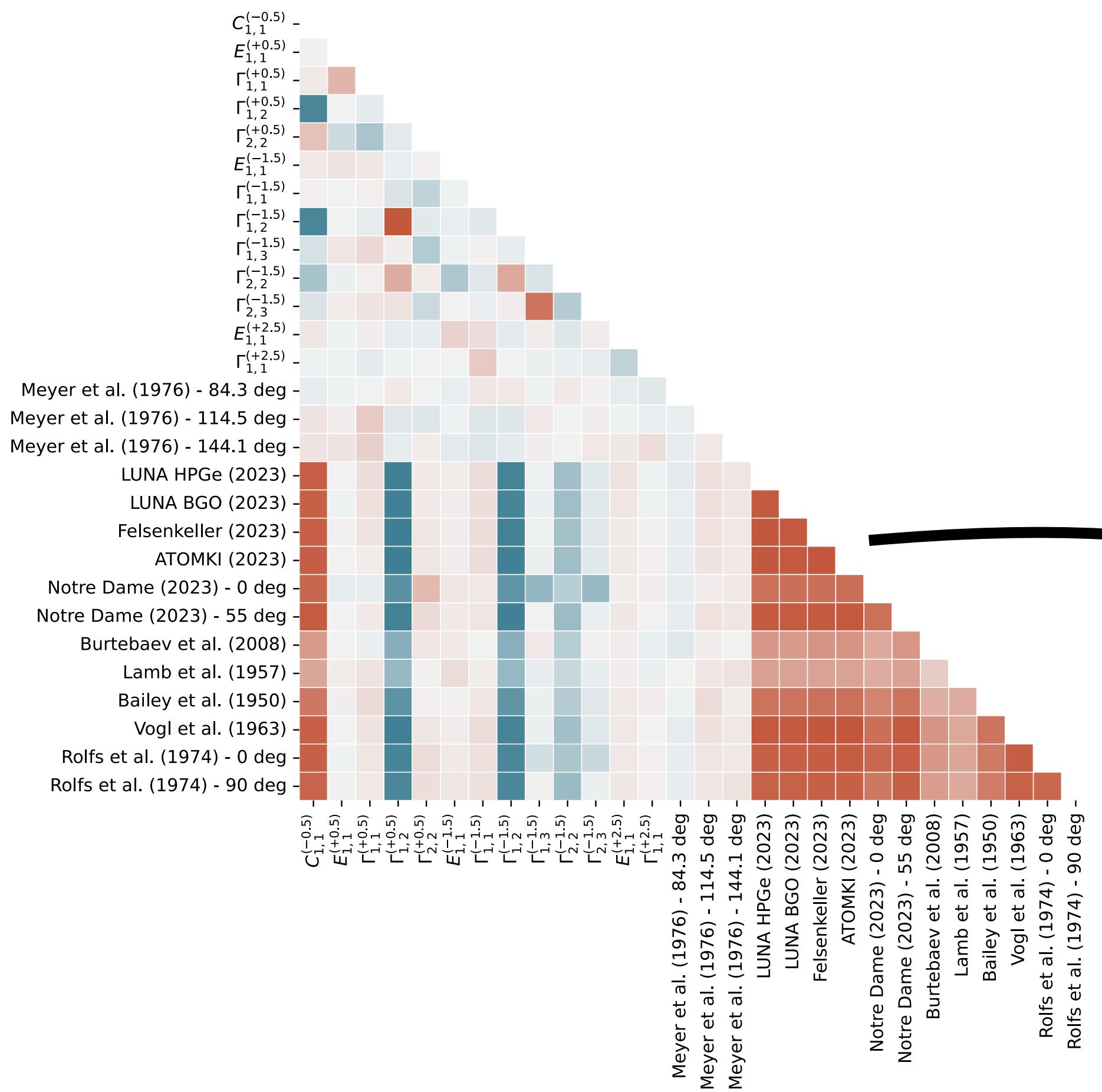
- |   |                          |   |                         |
|---|--------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| ∅ | LUNA HPGe (2023)         | ∅ | Burtebaev et al. (2008) |
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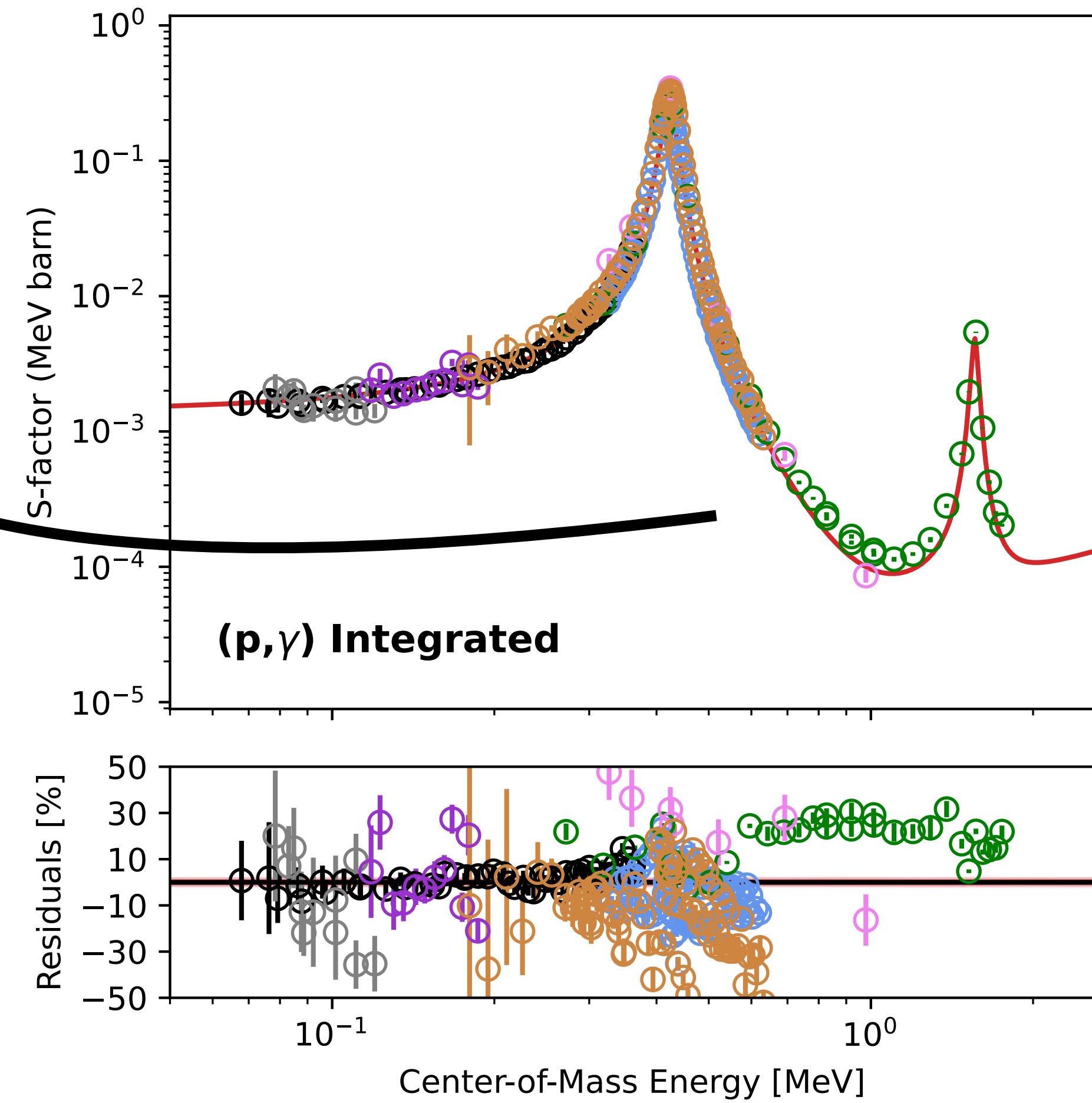
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Small uncertainty  
Huge Correlation



# Frequentist Uncertainty (2)

**How is the covariance matrix, ie. uncertainty, estimated in MINUIT2?**

MINUIT2 does get the **relative errors**, ie. covariance, correctly  
but the **absolute scale** depends on

$$\chi^2_{\text{dof}}(p_{\text{best}} + \sigma_p) = \chi^2_{\text{dof}}(p_{\text{best}}) + 1$$

Particle Data Group, Prog. Theor. Exp. Phys. 2022, 083C01



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**Discrepant datasets  $\rightarrow$  High  $\chi^2 \rightarrow$  Small fit uncertainty**



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... and indeed the previous fit had  $\chi^2_{\text{dof}} = 4.5$



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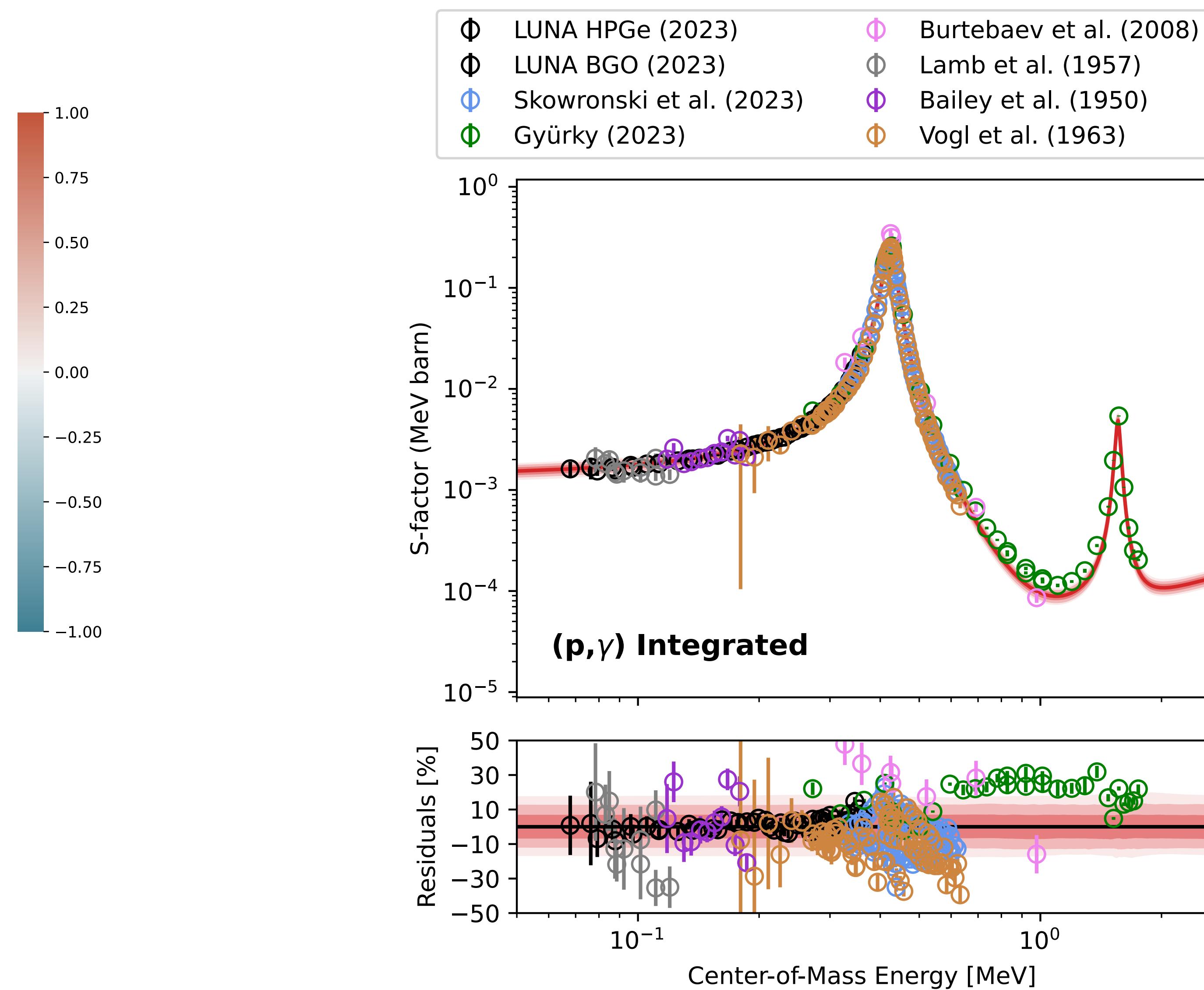
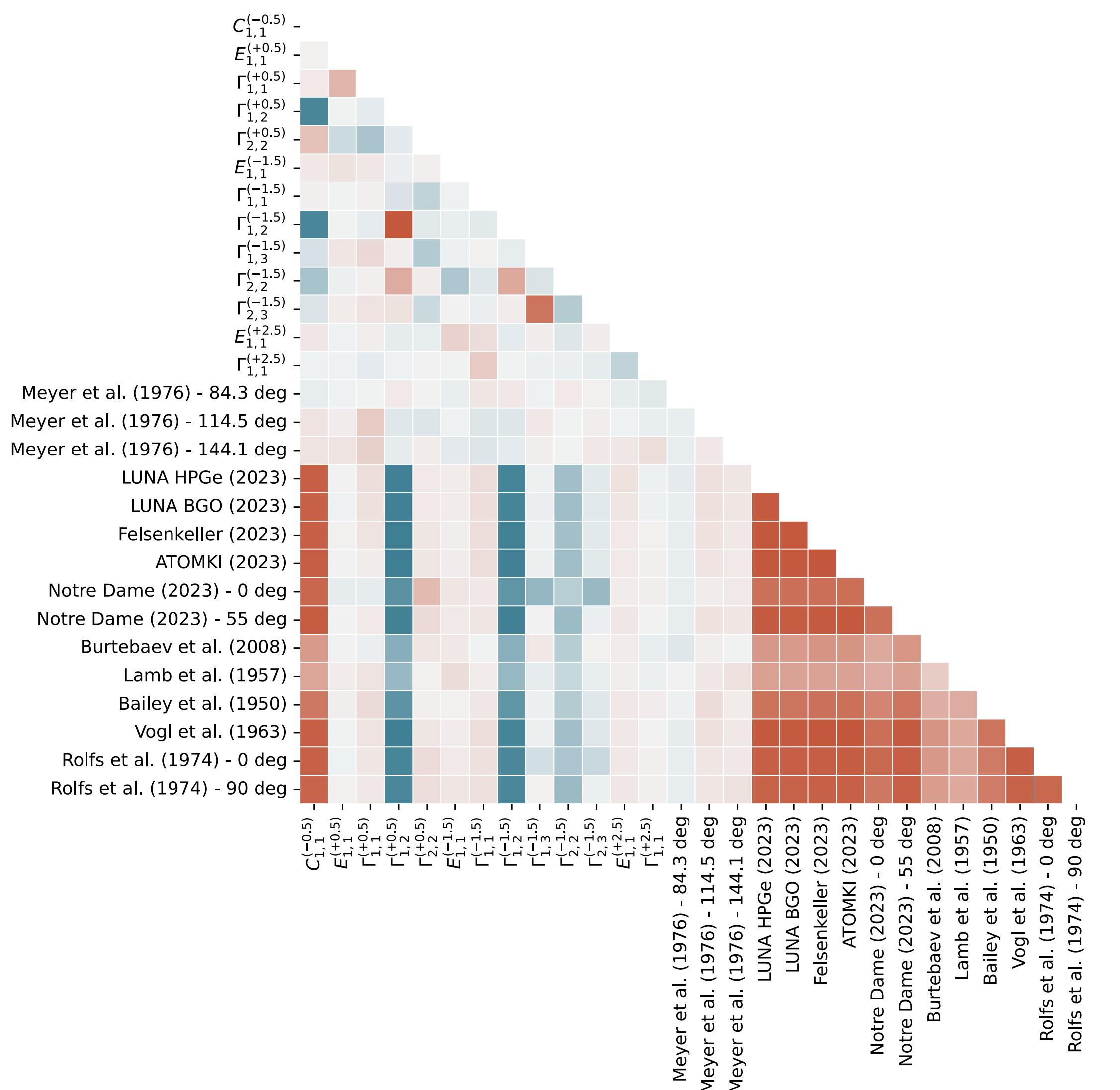
Particle Data Group, Prog. Theor. Exp. Phys. 2022, 083C01

**Discrepant datasets  $\rightarrow$  High  $\chi^2 \rightarrow$  Small fit uncertainty**

**Solution:** scale the data uncertainty to get  $\chi^2_{\text{dof}} = 1$

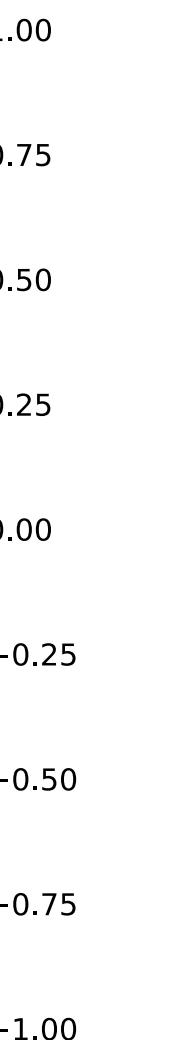
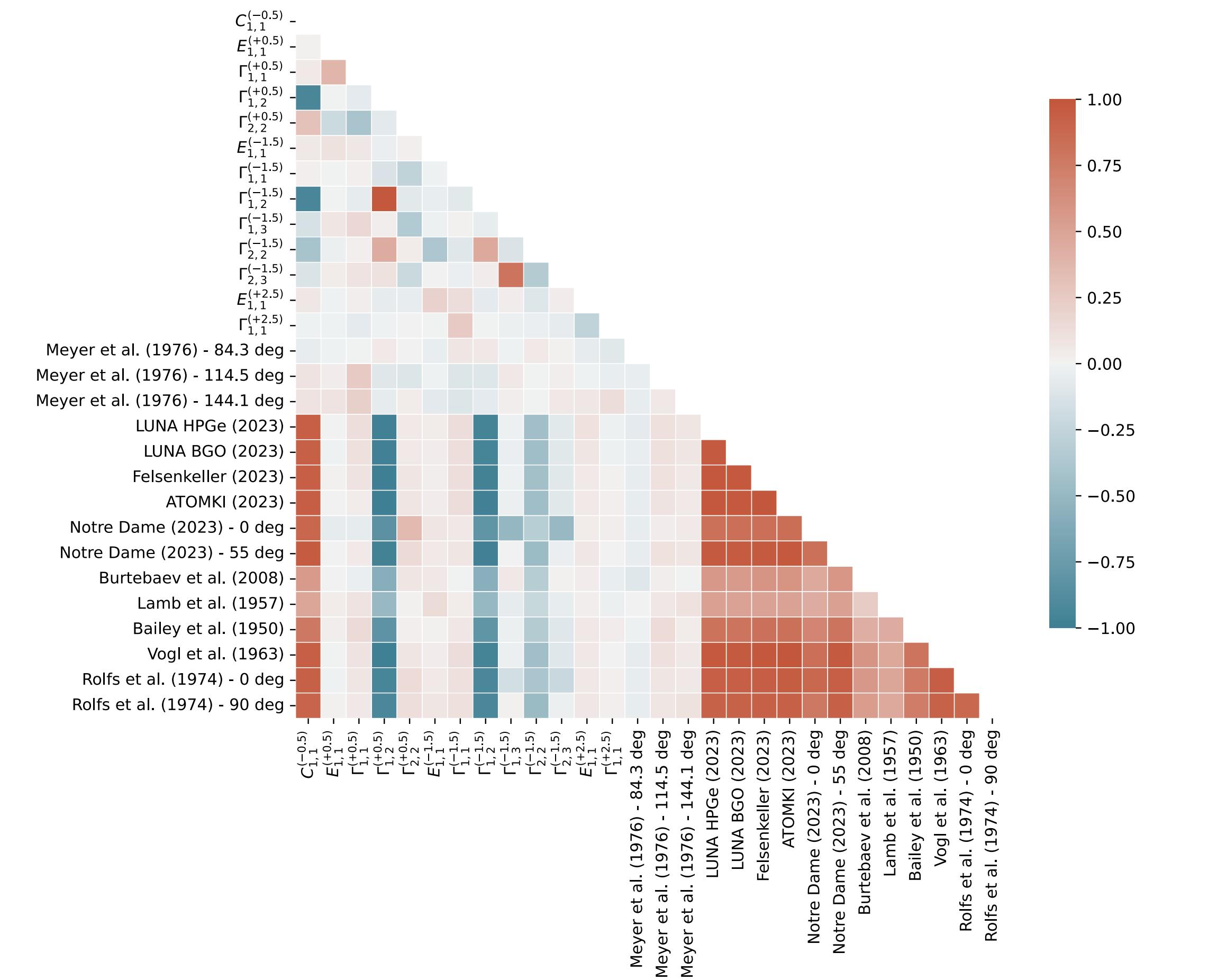


# Frequentist Fit - $^{12}\text{C}(\text{p},\gamma)^{13}\text{N}$ (2)



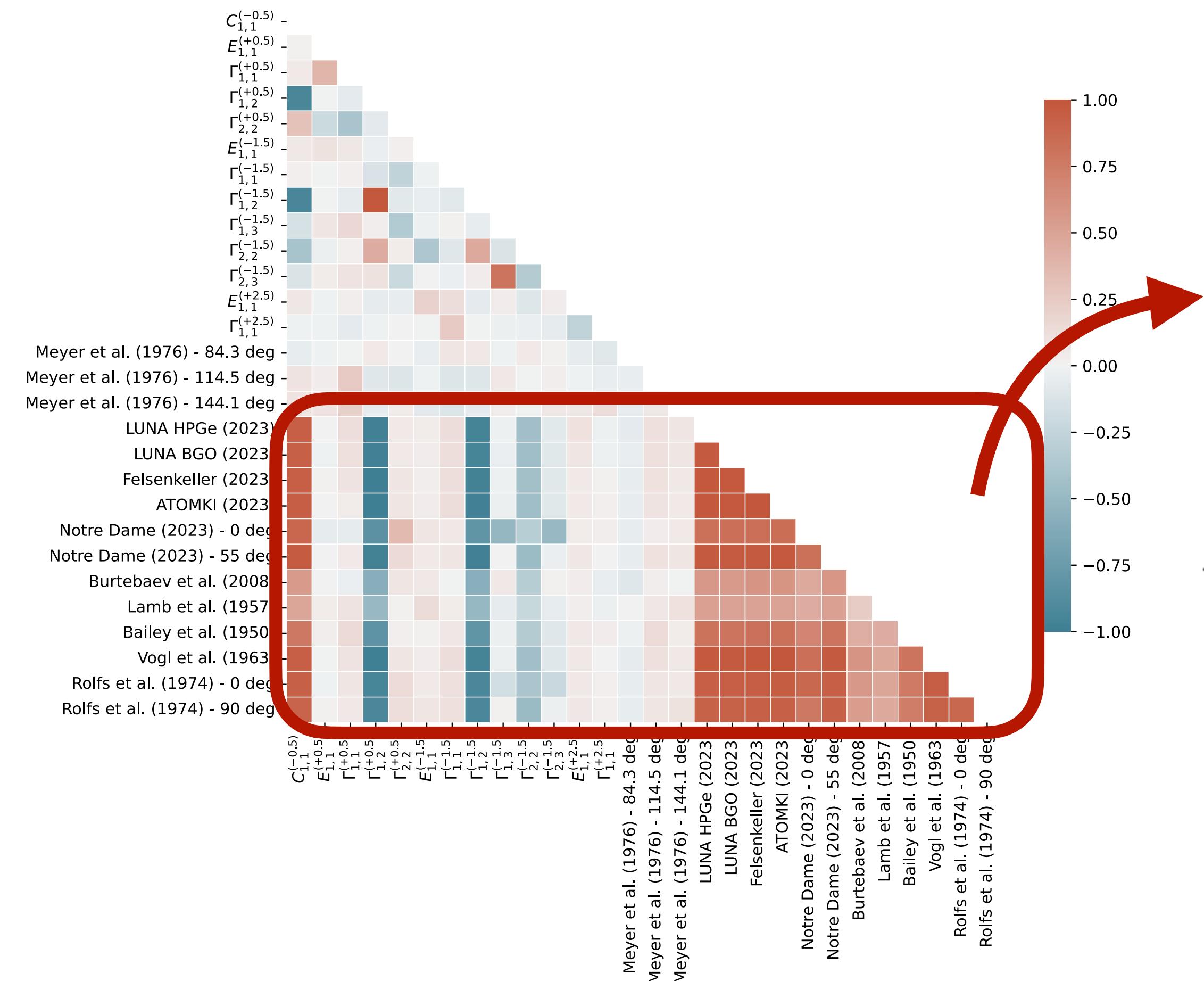
# Correlation Matrix

The correlation matrix points out an another issue



# Correlation Matrix

The correlation matrix points out an another issue



The normalizations drives all the other parameters

- Correlation coefficients very close to one (greater than 0.99). This indicates both an exceptionally difficult problem, and one which has been badly parametrized so that individual errors are not very meaningful because they are so highly correlated.

Taken from MINUIT manual



# Correlation Problem

Why huge correlations?

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i,j} \left( \frac{f_j y_{\text{obs},i} - y_{\text{theo}}}{f_j \sigma_{\text{stat},i}} \right)^2 - \left( \frac{1 - f_j}{\sigma_{\text{sist}}} \right)^2$$

~ number of data points      ~ number of dataset



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There is very little constrain on which is the best data normalization...

→ Many multiple minima exists!



# Correlation Problem

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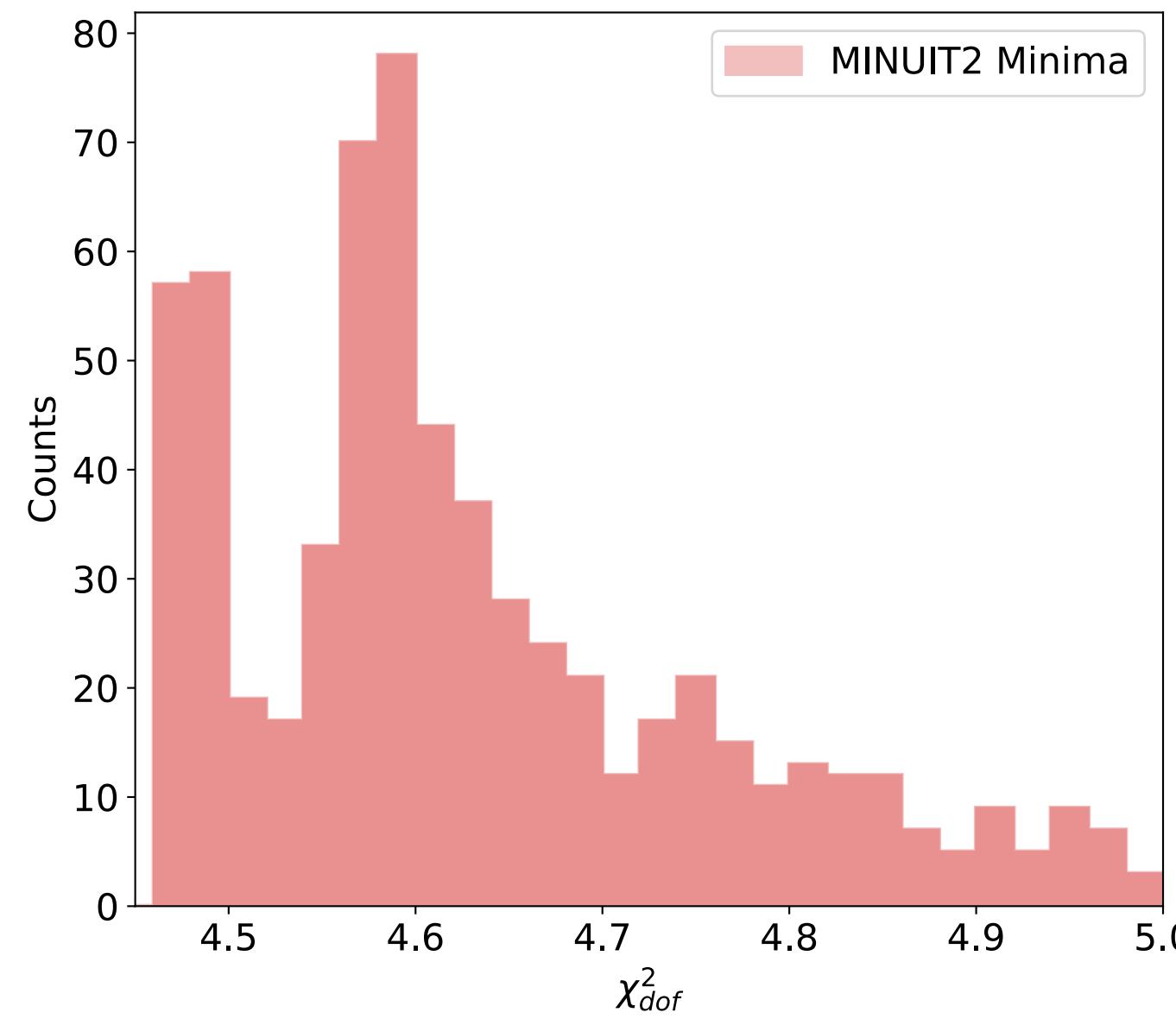
→ Many multiple minima exists! → Sometimes you get a different fit by changing the initial values...



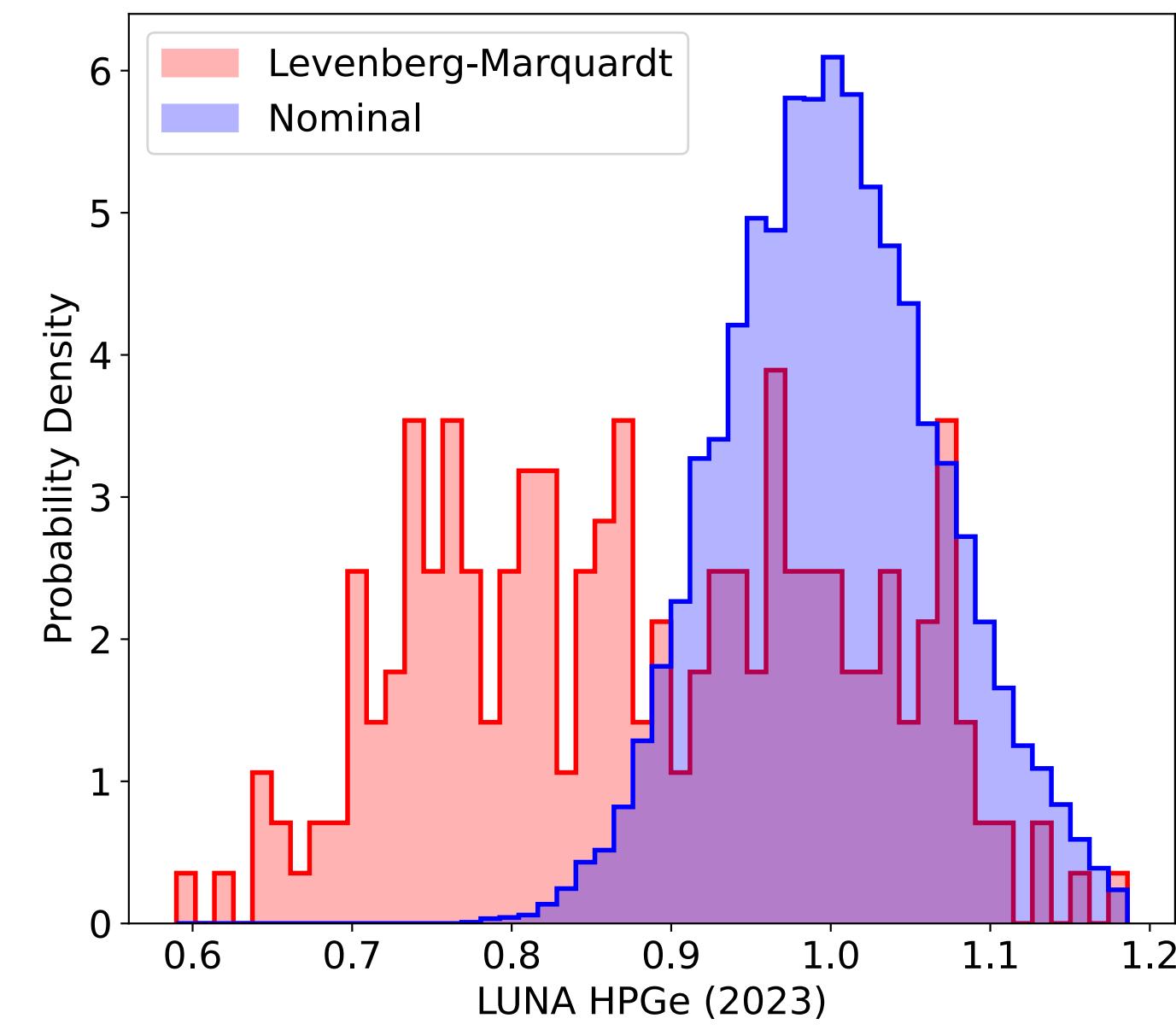
# Correlation Problem

All this just by changing the initial parameters of the fit!

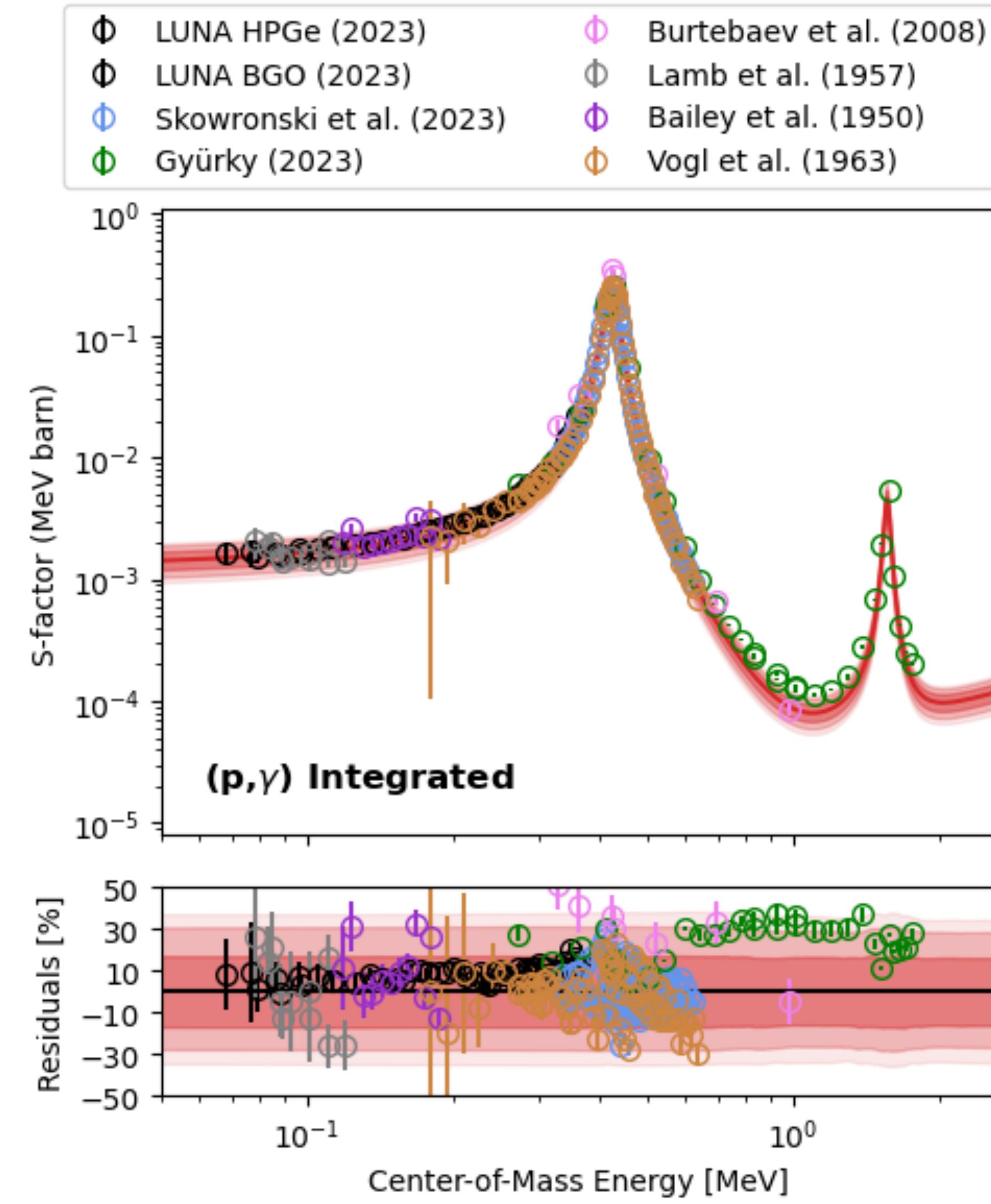
Comparable Minima



Wider Distribution



Huge Uncertainty



# Minimisers

**MIGRAD can easily stuck in a local minima**



**Different initial parameters can give different final result**



# Minimisers

MIGRAD can easily stuck in a local minima



Different initial parameters can give different final result

However, many other algorithms are available. The Imfit package include theme all:

- **method** (*str optional*) -

Name of the fitting method to use. Valid values are:

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- Not all find the same minimum
- Some are more consistent than others, ie. are able to find the same minimum...

↳ Automatically scales the covariance



# Frequentist Alternative

To overcome the previous issues we can:

- 1. Sample the data normalizations from systematic error distribution**
- 2. Fix the data normalizations to the sampled value**
- 3. Run the minimisation**
- 4. Repeat 10k times**
- 5. Estimate the uncertainty**

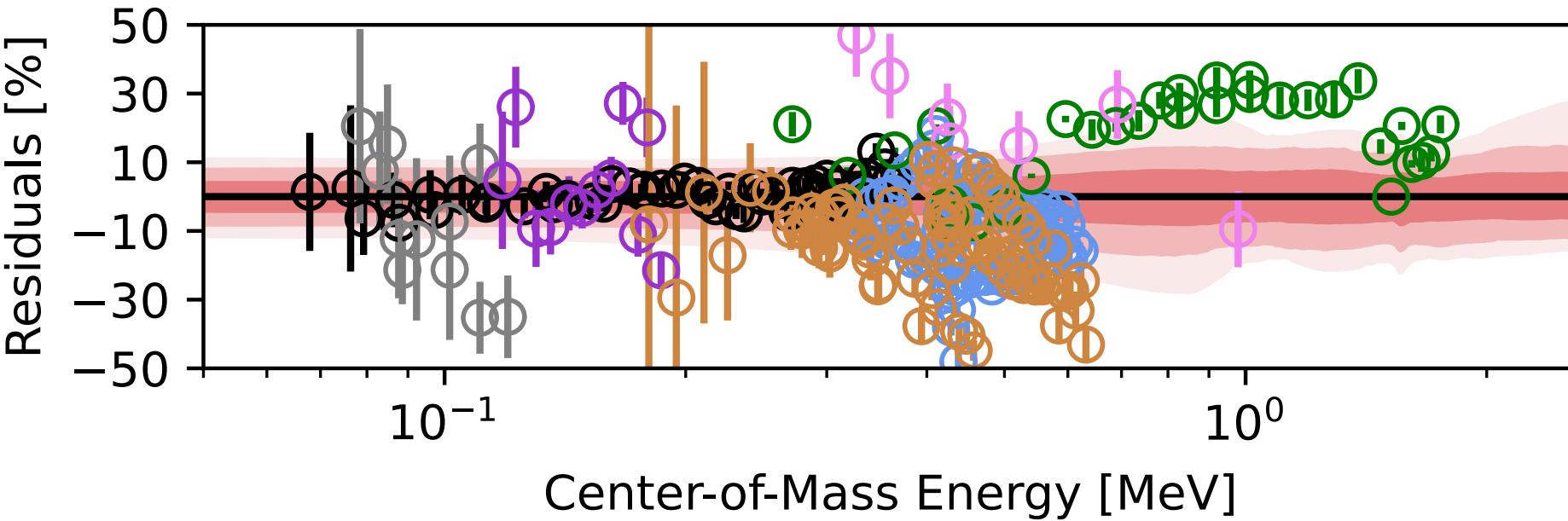
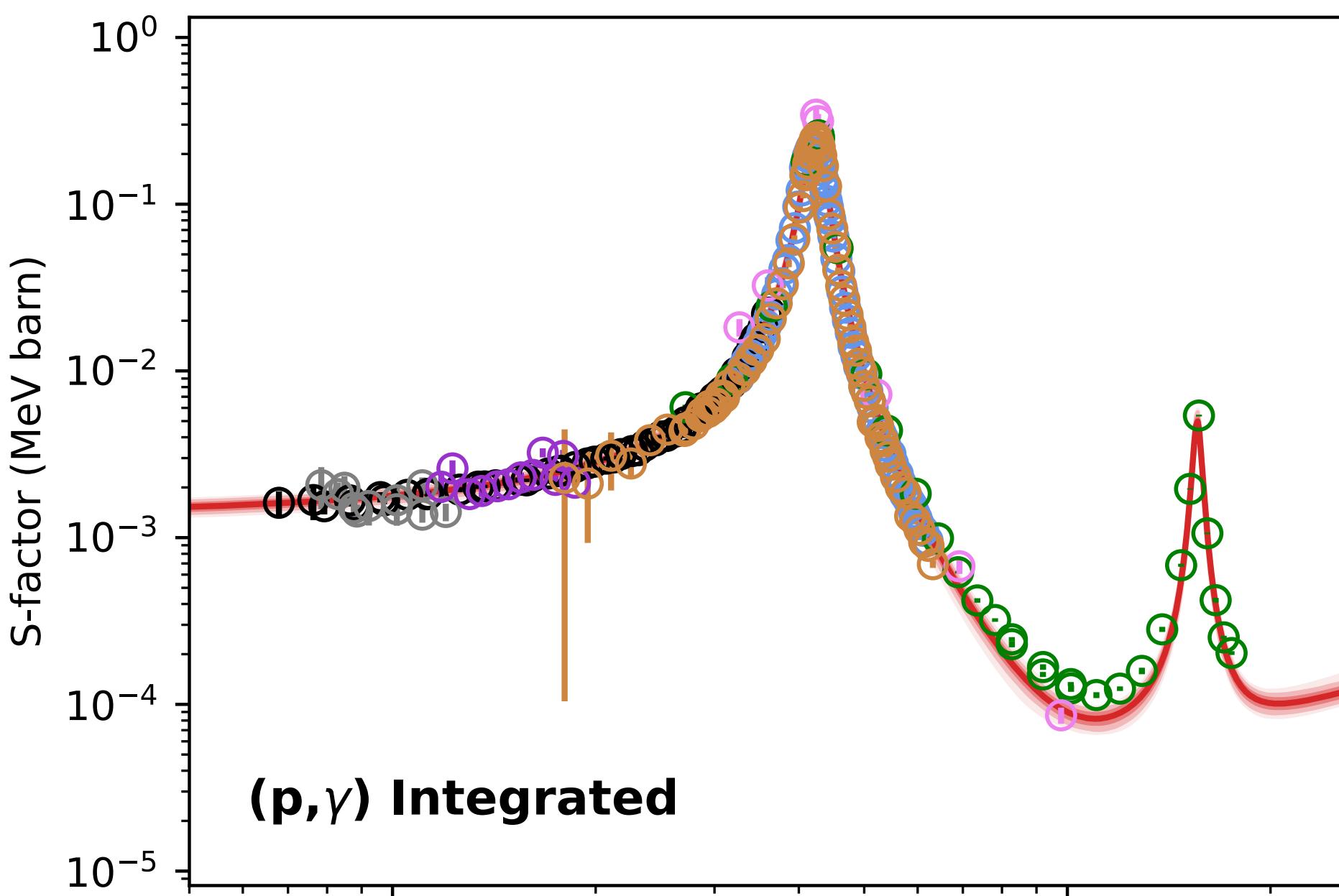


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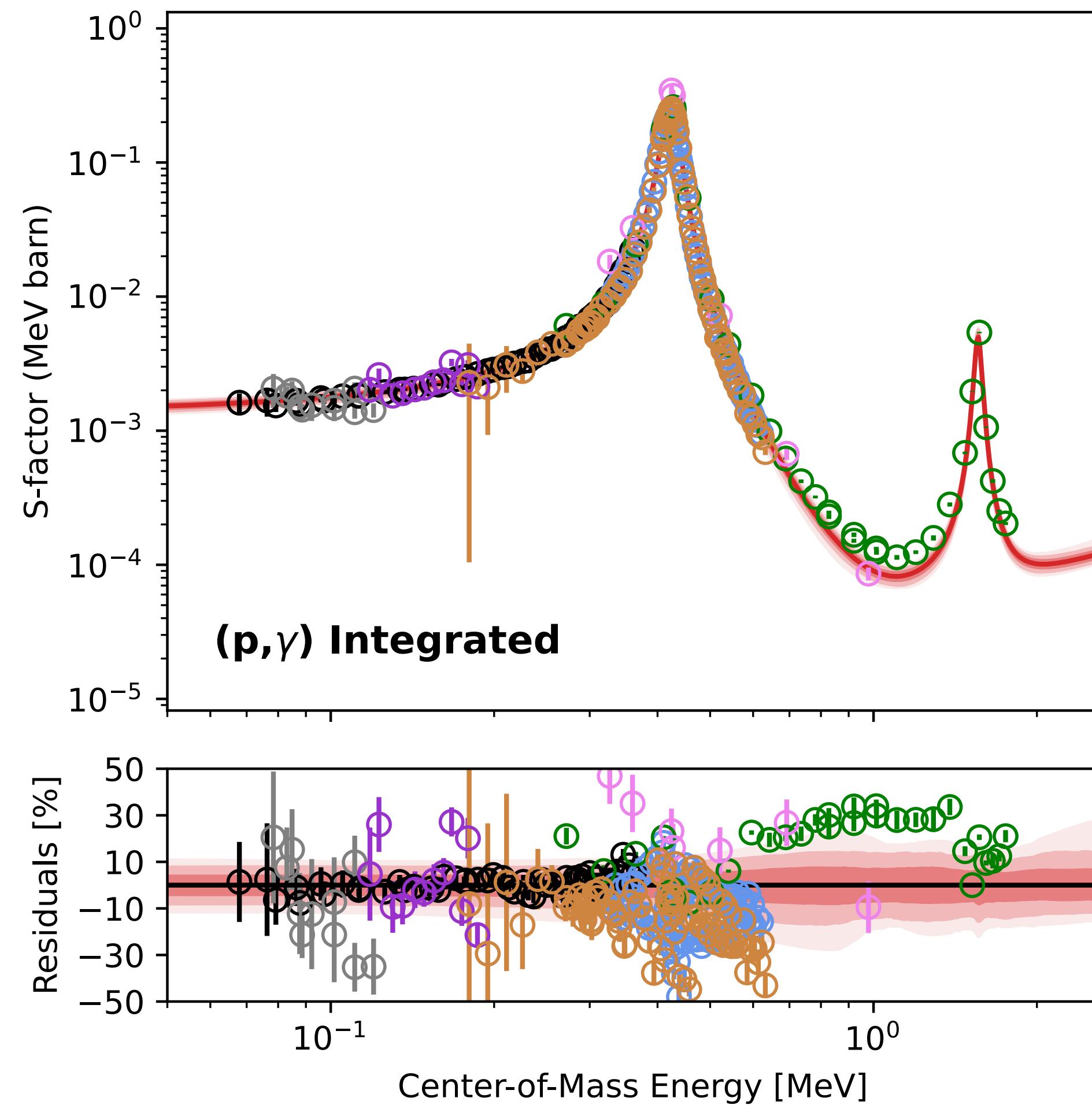
## Advantages

- No covariance matrix estimation**
- Unique minimum**

## Disadvantages

- Depends on systematic error evaluation**

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# Bayesian Approach



**emcee**: python3 package to perform MCMC (*intended* use of BRICK)

Reference: <https://arxiv.org/abs/1202.3665>

- Easy to use MCMC implementation
- Widely used in Physics community
- Very efficient, ie. **fast convergence**
- It sets up  $N$  **parallel workers** with  $N > 2N_p$
- Uses more *complex* algorithm than MH one

Reference: [10.2140/camcos.2010.5.65](https://doi.org/10.2140/camcos.2010.5.65)



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In order to use it, we need to change our cost function:

$$\log \mathcal{L} = \sum_i -\frac{1}{2} \log (2\pi\sigma_{\text{stat},i}^2) - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{f_j y_{\text{obs},i} - y_{\text{theo}}}{f_j \sigma_{\text{stat},i}} \right)^2$$



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No additional term!



# Prior Distributions

Before starting the sampling, the **prior distributions** for our parameters should be selected



LUNN

# Prior Distributions

Before starting the sampling, the **prior distributions** for our parameters should be selected

- Normal/log-normal distributions for **normalization parameters**
- Normal distributions for the **independently measured ANCs**
- Uniform distributions for **partial widths** of the resonances
- Uniform distributions for **resonance energies**

Informative

Uninformative



LUNN

# Prior Distributions

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Informative  
Uninformative

$[10^{-12}, 10^{12}] \text{ eV}$

$[E_{res} - 0.1, E_{res} + 0.1] \text{ keV}$



# Burn-in

Once the MCMC finishes check the **burn-in** region, ie. the number of samples that the MCMC needs to reach the minimum, and **remove it**

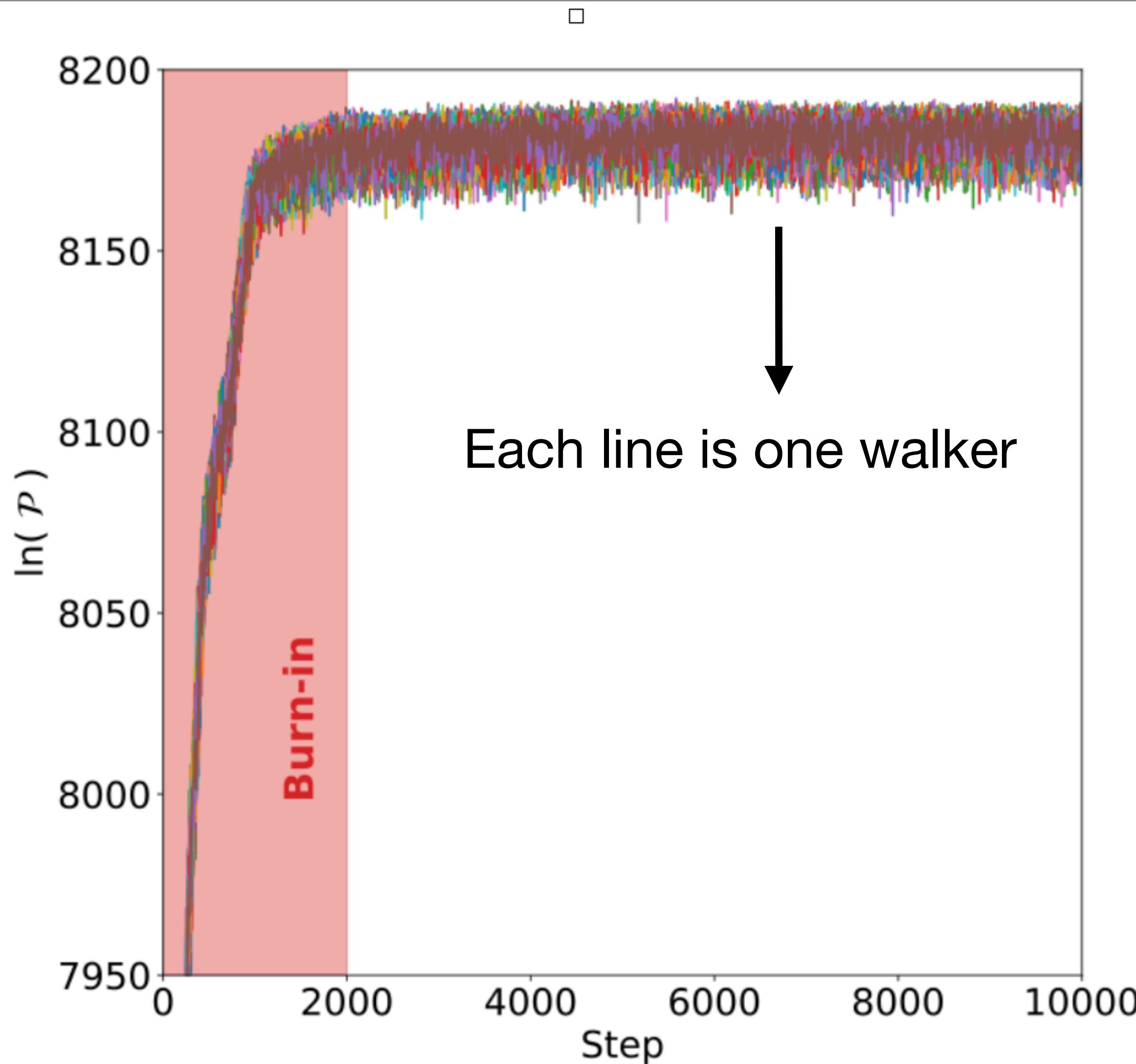


# Burn-in

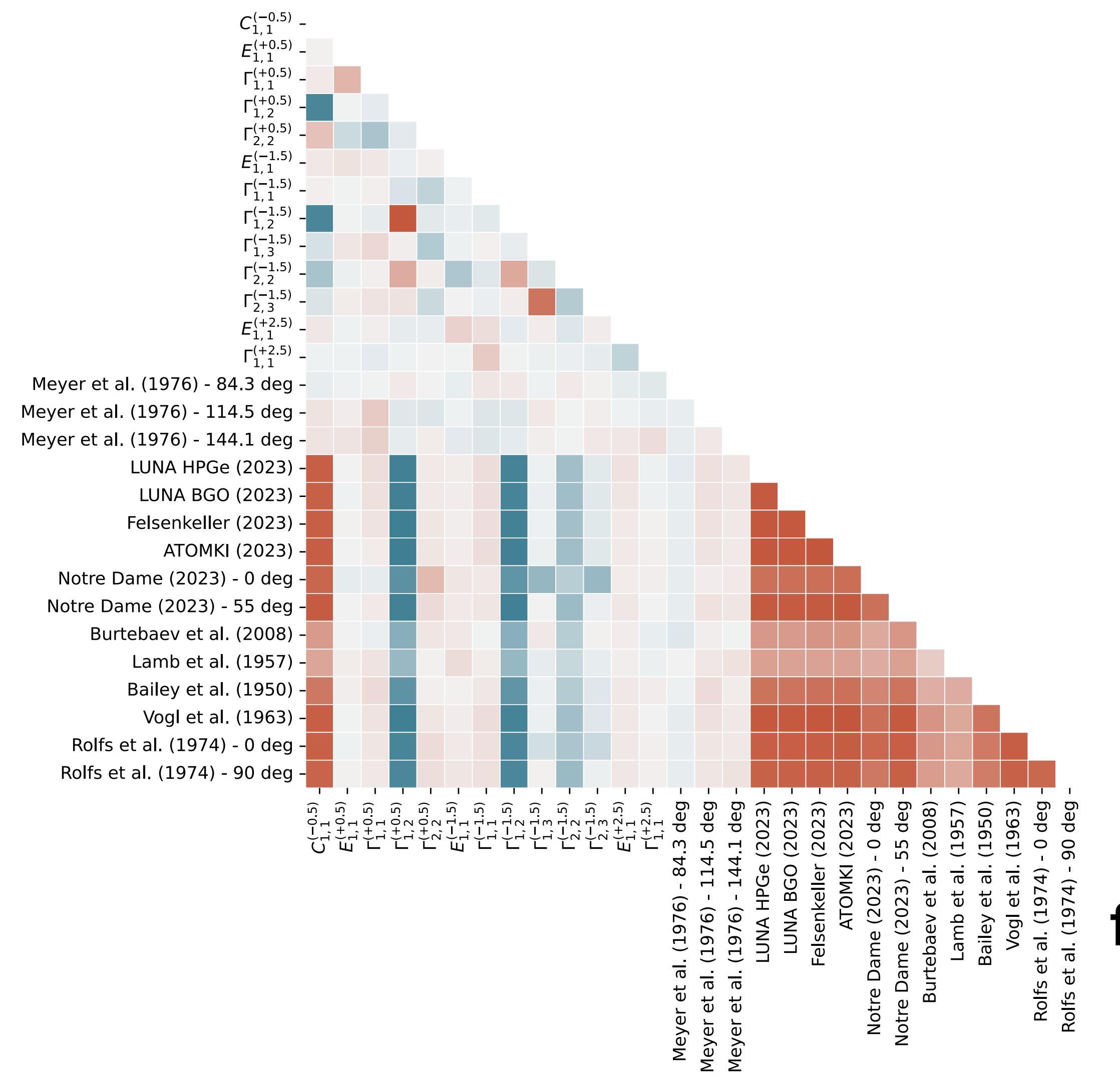
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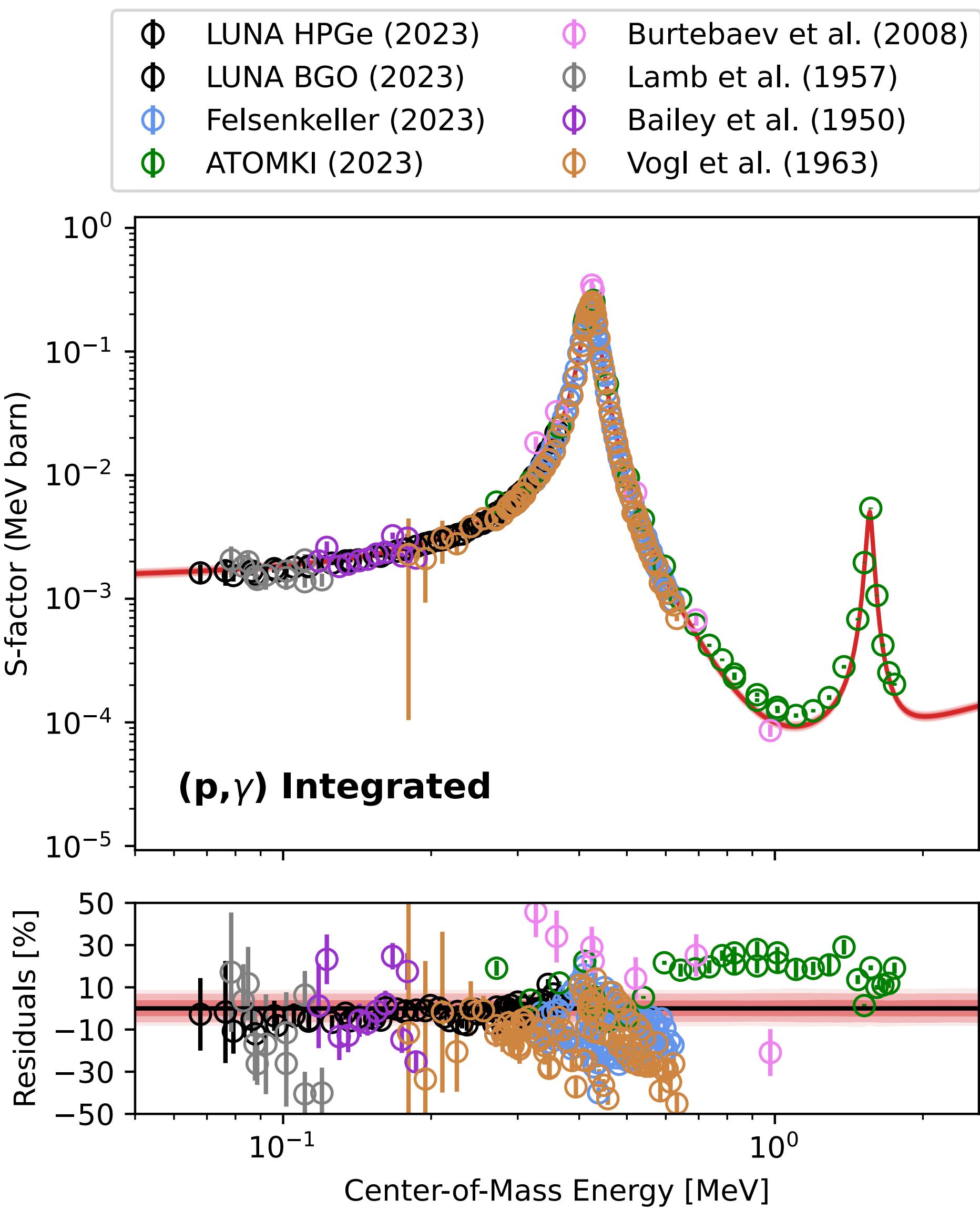
Use all the other ones to estimate the **mean value** and the **uncertainty** of your extrapolation



# Bayesian Fit - $^{12}\text{C}(\text{p},\gamma)^{13}\text{N}$



**Very similar to frequentist case!**

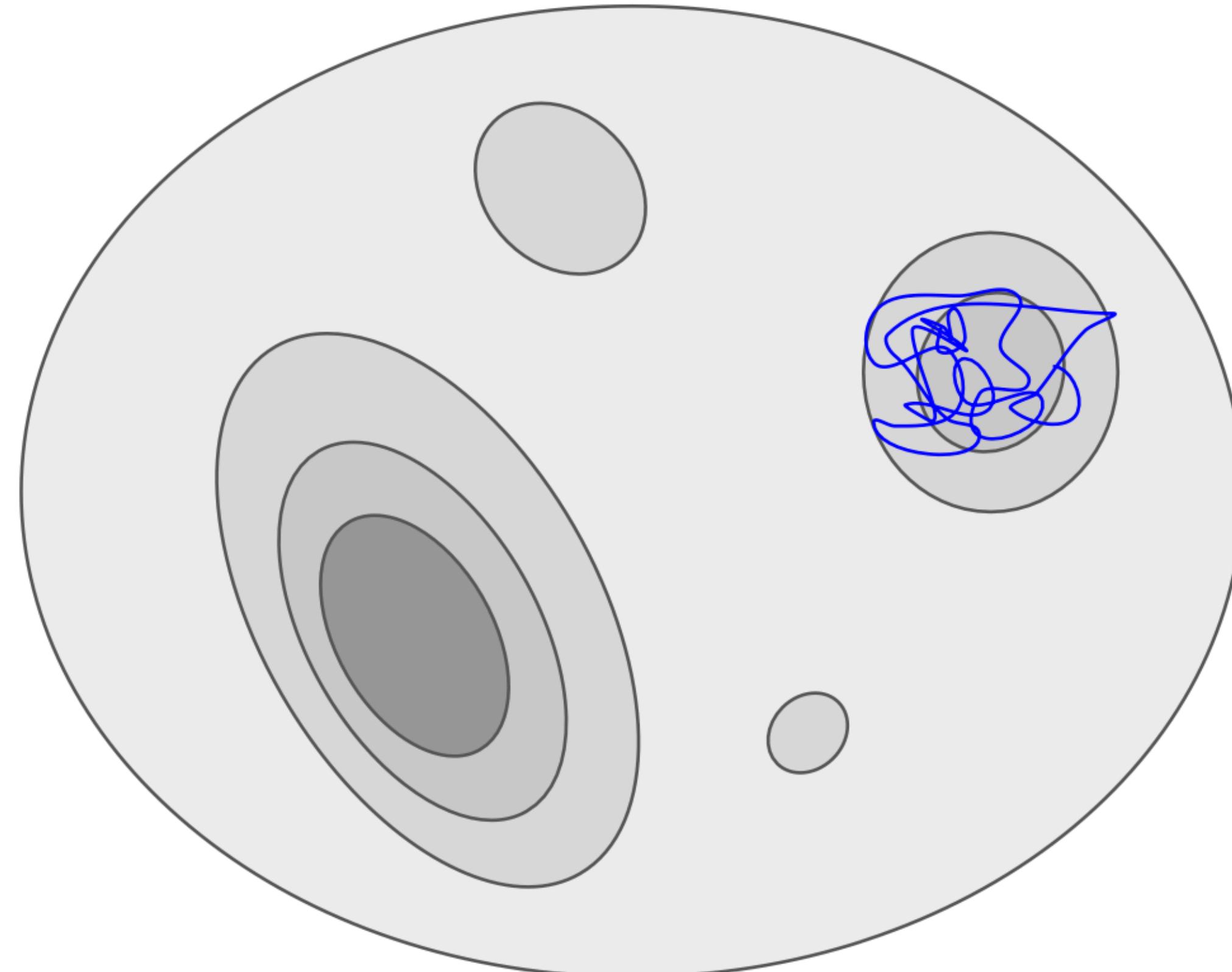


# MCMC and Multimodality

**MCMC is inherently bad at  
sampling multimodal  
distributions**

[Interactive Example](#)

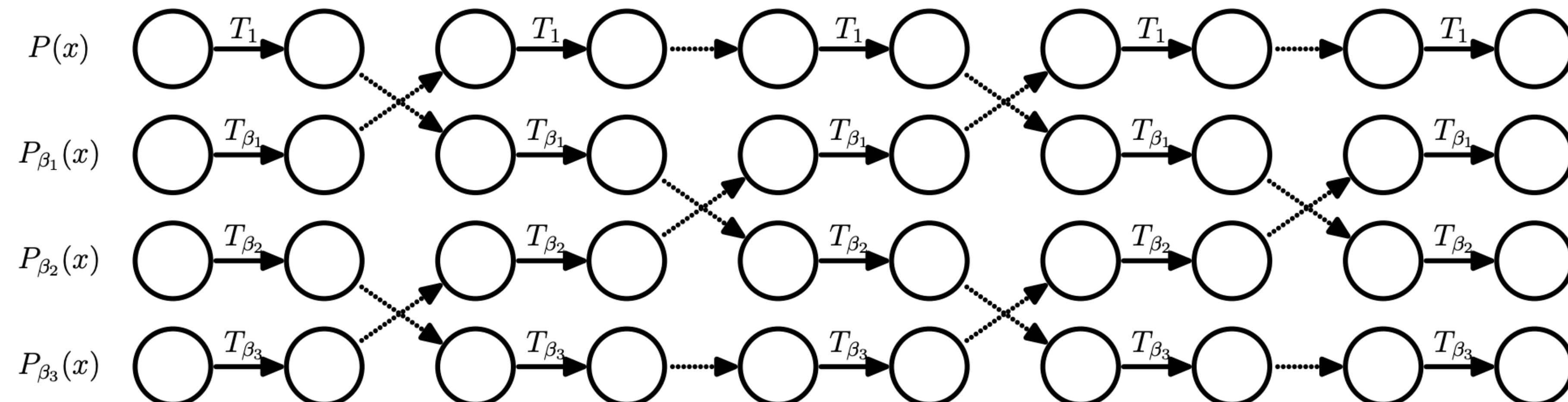
**Multimodality**



# Tempered MCMC

Idea: introduce the concept of **temperature**,  $T_i$ , that **broadens** the acceptance distribution

- Start multiple MCMC chains at **different temperatures**
- The **cold chains** will **explore the minima**, the **hot chains** will **find the minima**
- During the sampling, **exchange the temperatures** of the chains

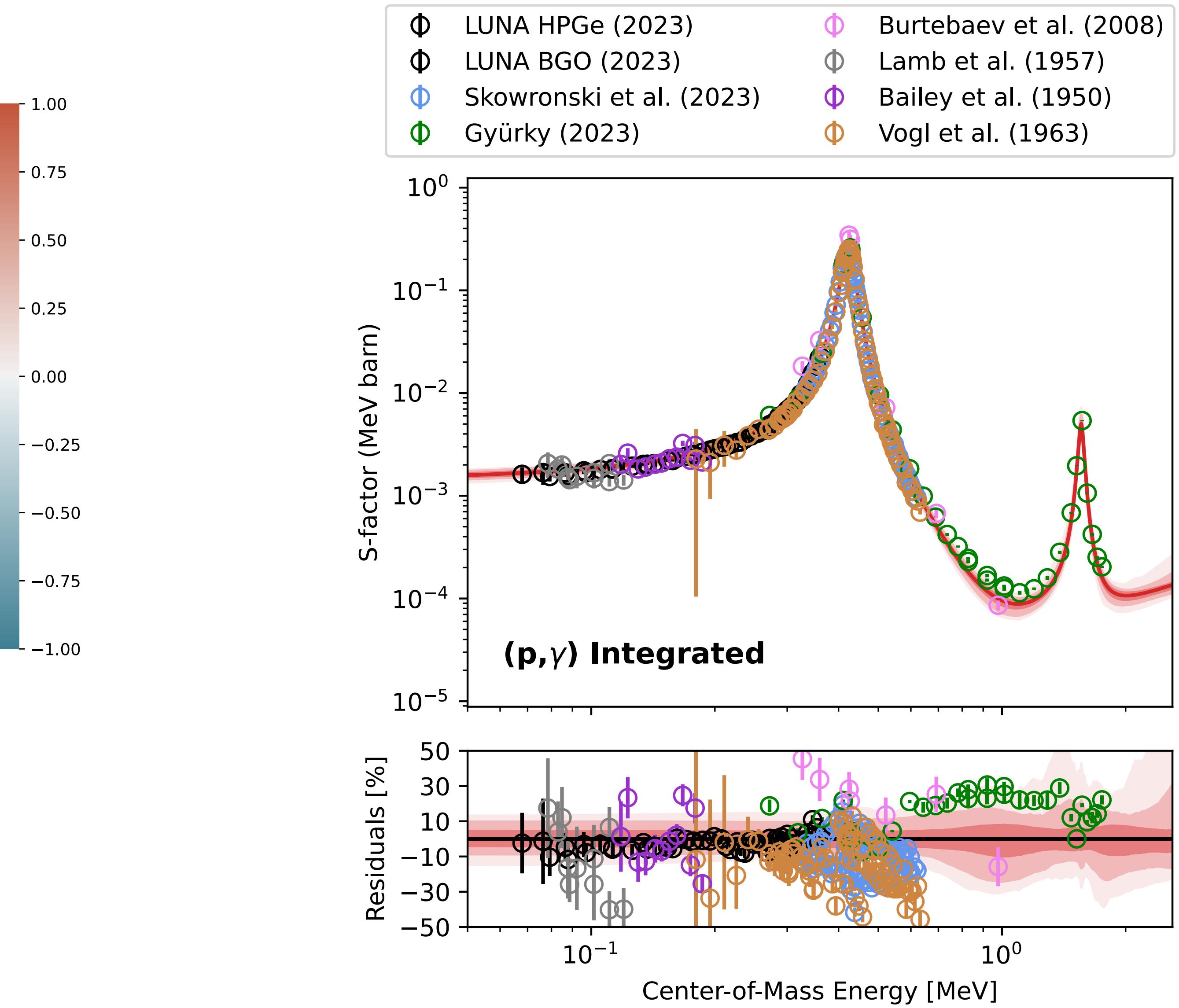
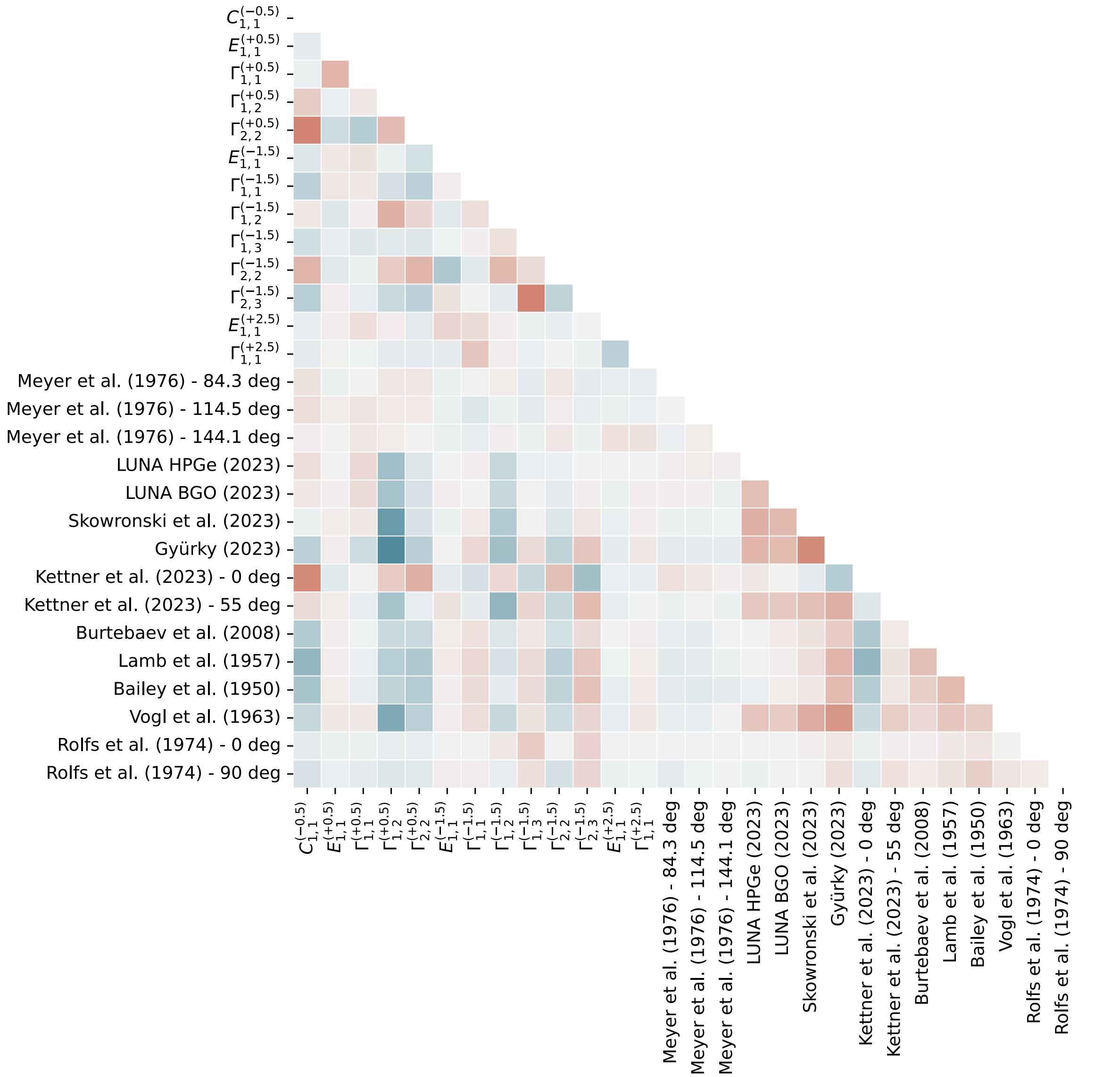


Code: <https://github.com/willvousden/ptemcee>

Reference: <https://arxiv.org/abs/1501.05823>



# Tempered Bayesian Fit - $^{12}\text{C}(\text{p},\gamma)^{13}\text{N}$



# Conclusions

- Do not take blindly whatever the minimiser gives you
- There is not much difference between the bayesian and the frequentist (as long as we know what we are doing!)
- Multimodality is our worst enemy...
- ...but Monte Carlo is our best friend
- python3 gives us all the tools to nicely analyze your data

**Thank you for attention!**

