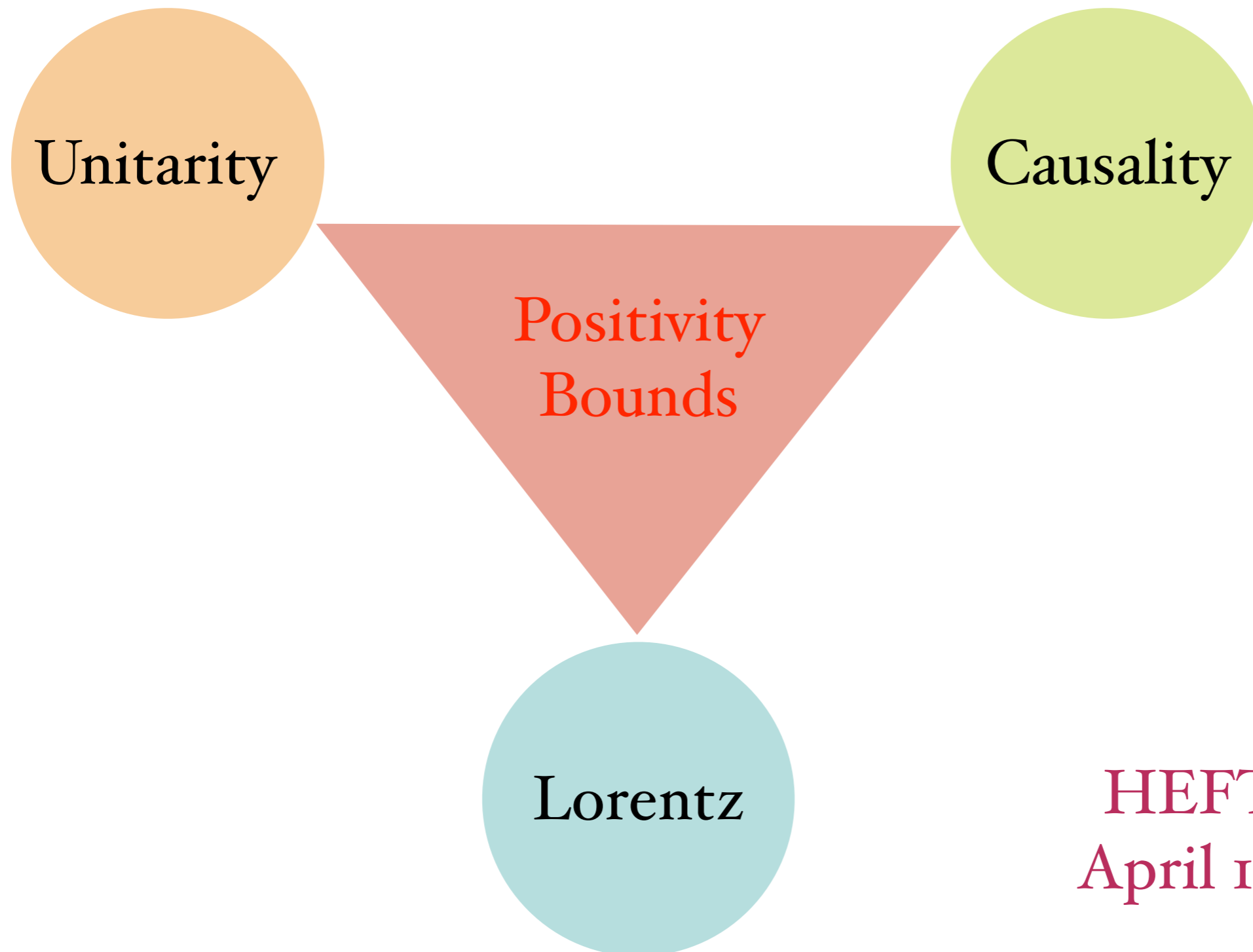


Effective Field Theories and Positivity Bounds

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Are all EFTs allowed? - SWAMPLAND

With typical assumption that:

UV completion is Local, Causal, Poincare Invariant and Unitary

Answer: NO! Certain low energy effective theories do not admit well defined UV completions



Kallen-Lehmann Spectral Representation

Together with Poincare invariance these imply:

$$i\langle 0|\hat{T}\hat{O}(x)\hat{O}(y)|0\rangle = \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} e^{ik\cdot(x-y)} G_O(k)$$

$$G_O(k) = \frac{Z}{k^2 + m^2 - i\epsilon} + S(-k^2) + (-k^2)^N \int_{4m^2}^{\infty} d\mu \frac{\rho(\mu)}{\mu^N (k^2 + \mu - i\epsilon)}$$

$$S(-k^2) = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} c_k (-k^2)^k \quad \lim_{\mu \rightarrow \infty} \rho(\mu) \sim \mu^{\Delta - d/2} \quad N = [\Delta - d/2 + 1]$$

Δ UV Conformal weight

Positive Spectral Density
as a result of Unitarity

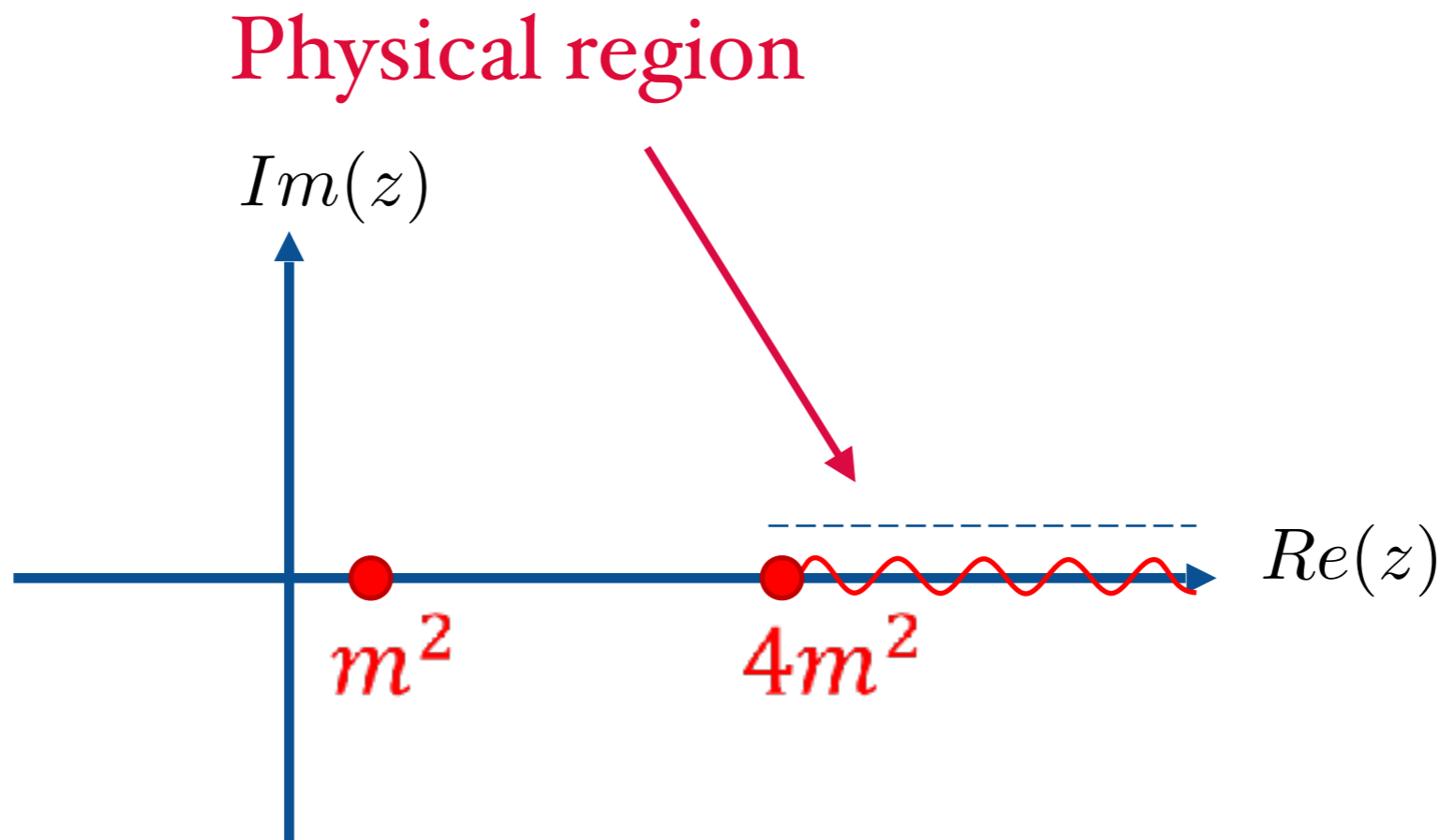
$$\rho(\mu) \geq 0$$

Analytic Structure

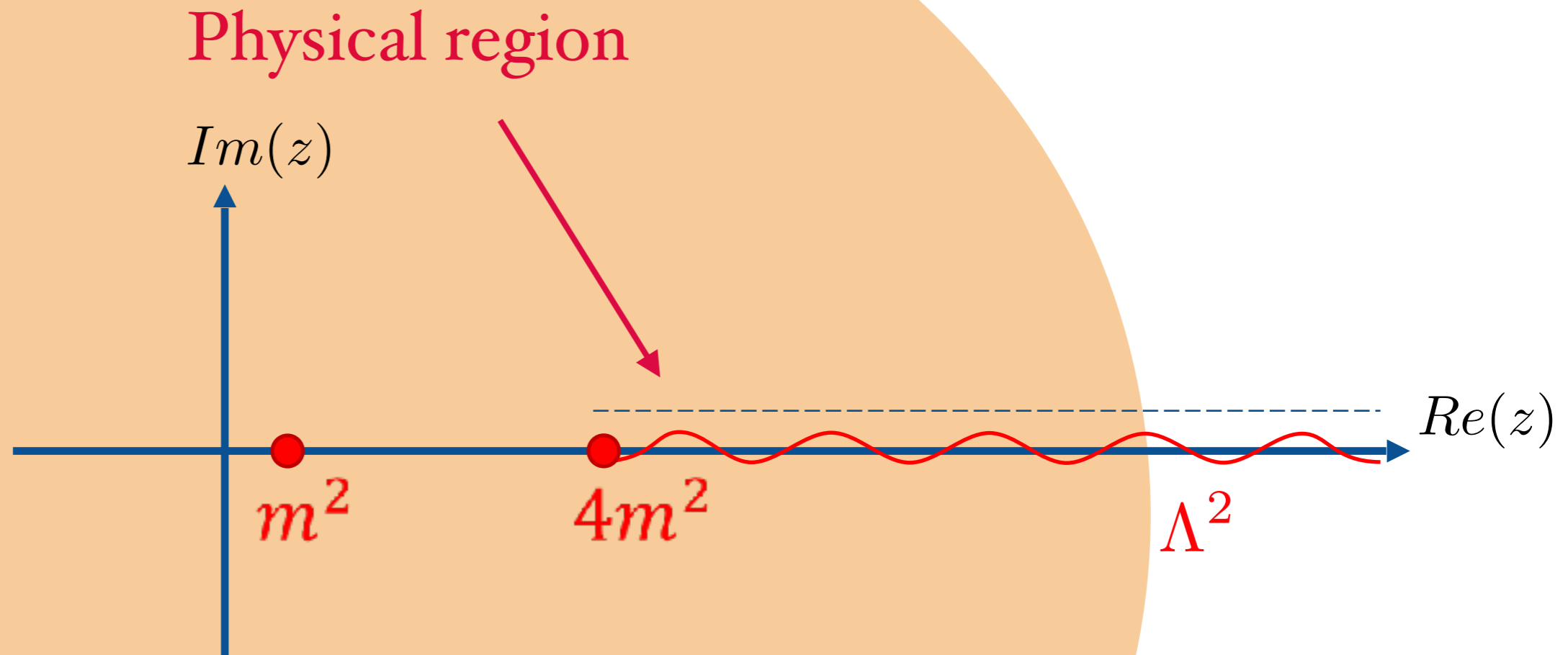
Define complex momenta squared $z = -k^2 + i\epsilon$

$$G_O(z) = \frac{Z}{m^2 - z} + S(z) + z^N \int_{4m^2}^{\infty} d\mu \frac{\rho(\mu)}{\mu^N (\mu - z)}$$

Pole **Branch cut**



Region of Validity of EFT



EFT valid here, can calculate pole
and 'low energy' part of cut

UV completion
- unknown?

Analytic Structure 2: Move the branch cut!

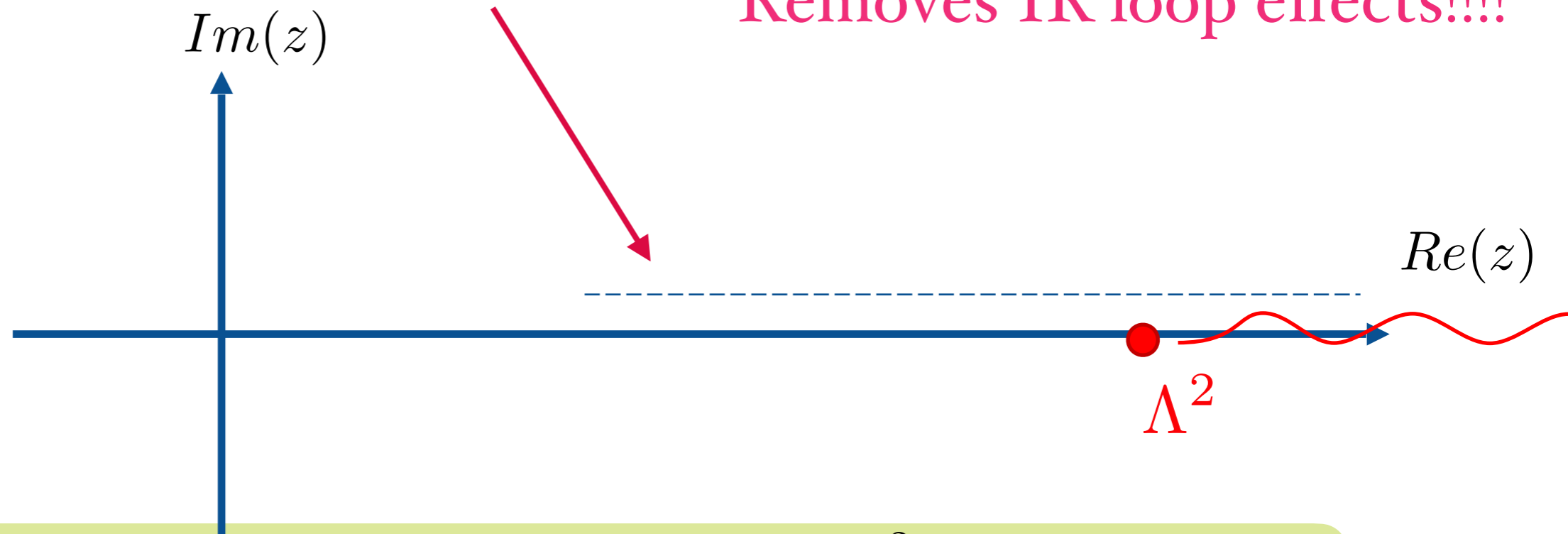
de Rham, Melville, AJT, Zhou 1702.08577

Bellazzini et al 1710.02539

de Rham, Melville, AJT 1710.09611

Physical region

Removes IR loop effects!!!!



$$G'_O(z) = G_O(z) - \frac{z}{m^2 - z} - z^N \int_{4m^2}^{\Lambda^2} d\mu \frac{\rho(\mu)}{\mu^N (\mu - z)}$$

$$G'_O(z) = S(z) + z^N \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\infty} d\mu \frac{\rho(\mu)}{\mu^N (\mu - z)}$$

Calculable in
EFT

Linear (Improved) Positivity Bounds

$$G'_O(z) = S(z) + z^N \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\infty} d\mu \frac{\rho(\mu)}{\mu^N (\mu - z)}$$

$$M \geq N$$

$$D_M(z) = \frac{1}{M!} \frac{d^M}{dz^M} G'_O(z) = \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\infty} d\mu \frac{\rho(\mu)}{(\mu - z)^{M+1}}$$

$$D_M(0) = \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\infty} d\mu \frac{\rho(\mu)}{\mu^{M+1}}$$

$$D_M(0) > 0$$

$$D_M(0) \geq \Lambda^2 D_{M+1}(0)$$

Positivity of these integrals enforces positivity of combinations of Wilson coefficients for Irrelevant operators

Nonlinear (Improved) Positivity Bounds

Maths by Stieltjes in 1890s, applied to amplitudes positivity in 1970s!! Recently rediscovered ..

$$D_M(0) = \int_{\Lambda^2} d\mu \frac{\rho(\mu)}{\mu^{M+1}} = \left\langle \frac{1}{\mu^M} \right\rangle$$

Arkani-Hamed, Huang, Huang **EFT-Hedron** 2020

see also Bellazzini et al, **Positive Moments ..**, 2020

$$y^T D_M y = \sum_{p,q=0}^N D_{M+p+q} y^p y^q = \left\langle \mu^{-M} \left(\sum_{p=0}^N y^p \mu^{-p} \right)^2 \right\rangle > 0$$



$$\det(D_M) > 0$$

‘positivity of N x N Hankel matrix’

$$(D_M)_{pq} = D_{M+p+q}$$

Simply example **Cauchy-Schwarz**:

$$\langle (\mu^{-M} + \lambda \mu^{-N})^2 \rangle \geq 0$$

$$D_{2M} D_{2N} \geq (D_{N+M})^2$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} D_{2N} & D_{N+M} \\ D_{N+M} & D_{2M} \end{pmatrix}$$

‘positivity of 2 x 2 Hankel matrix’

What does this tell us about EFT?

e.g. Suppose scalar field in EFT with tree level action

$$S = \int d^4x \hat{O}(x) \left[\square + a_1 \frac{\square^2}{\Lambda^2} + a_2 \frac{\square^3}{\Lambda^4} + \dots \right] \hat{O}(x)$$

Tree level Feynman propagator is

$$G_O(z) = \frac{1}{z + a_1 \frac{z^2}{\Lambda^2} + a_2 \frac{z^3}{\Lambda^4} + a_3 \frac{z^4}{\Lambda^6} + a_4 \frac{z^5}{\Lambda^8} \dots}$$



Assume no subtractions needed

$$G'_O(z) = \frac{a_1}{\Lambda^2} + \frac{(a_2 - a_1^2)}{\Lambda^4} z + \frac{a_1^3 - 2a_1 a_2 + a_3}{\Lambda^6} z^2 + \frac{a_4 - 2a_1 a_3 - a_2^2 + 3a_1^2 a_2 - a_1^4}{\Lambda^8} z^3 + \mathcal{O}(z^4)$$

What does this tell us about EFT?

$$G'_O(z) = \frac{a_1}{\Lambda^2} + \frac{(a_2 - a_1^2)}{\Lambda^4} z + \frac{a_1^3 - 2a_1 a_2 + a_3}{\Lambda^6} z^2 + \frac{a_4 - 2a_1 a_3 - a_2^2 + 3a_1^2 a_2 - a_1^4}{\Lambda^8} z^3 + \mathcal{O}(z^4)$$

assuming no
subtractions

$$N = 0$$

$$D_2 D_0 > D_1^2$$

NonLinear (Improved)

Positivity Bounds:

$$(a_1^3 - 2a_1 a_2 + a_3) a_1 - (a_2 - a_1^2)^2 > 0$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$a_1 a_3 - a_2^2 > 0$$

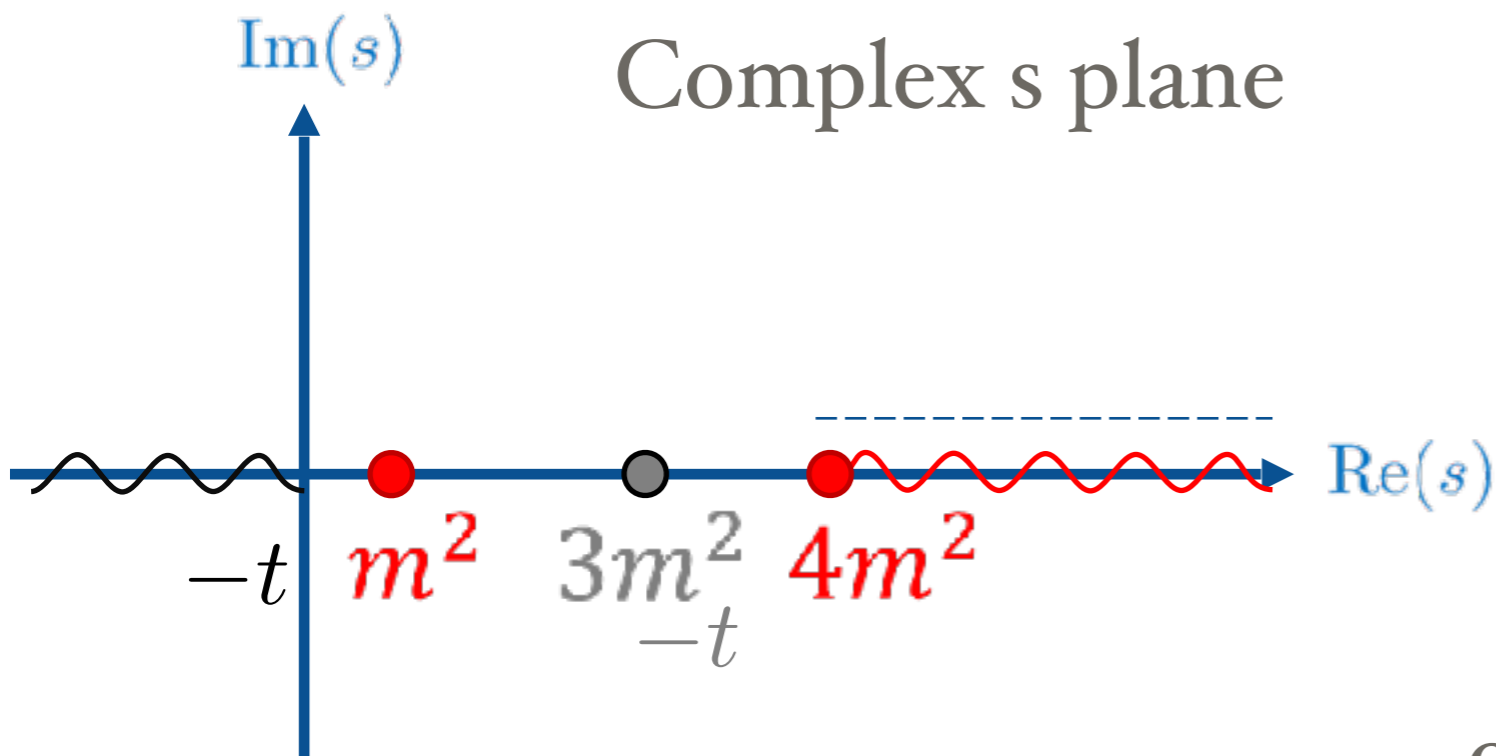
$$D_3 D_0^2 - D_1^3 + 2D_0^2 (D_2 D_0 - D_1^2) > 0$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$a_4 a_1^2 - a_2^3 > 0$$

**Linear (Improved)
Positivity Bound**

Scattering Amplitude Analyticity



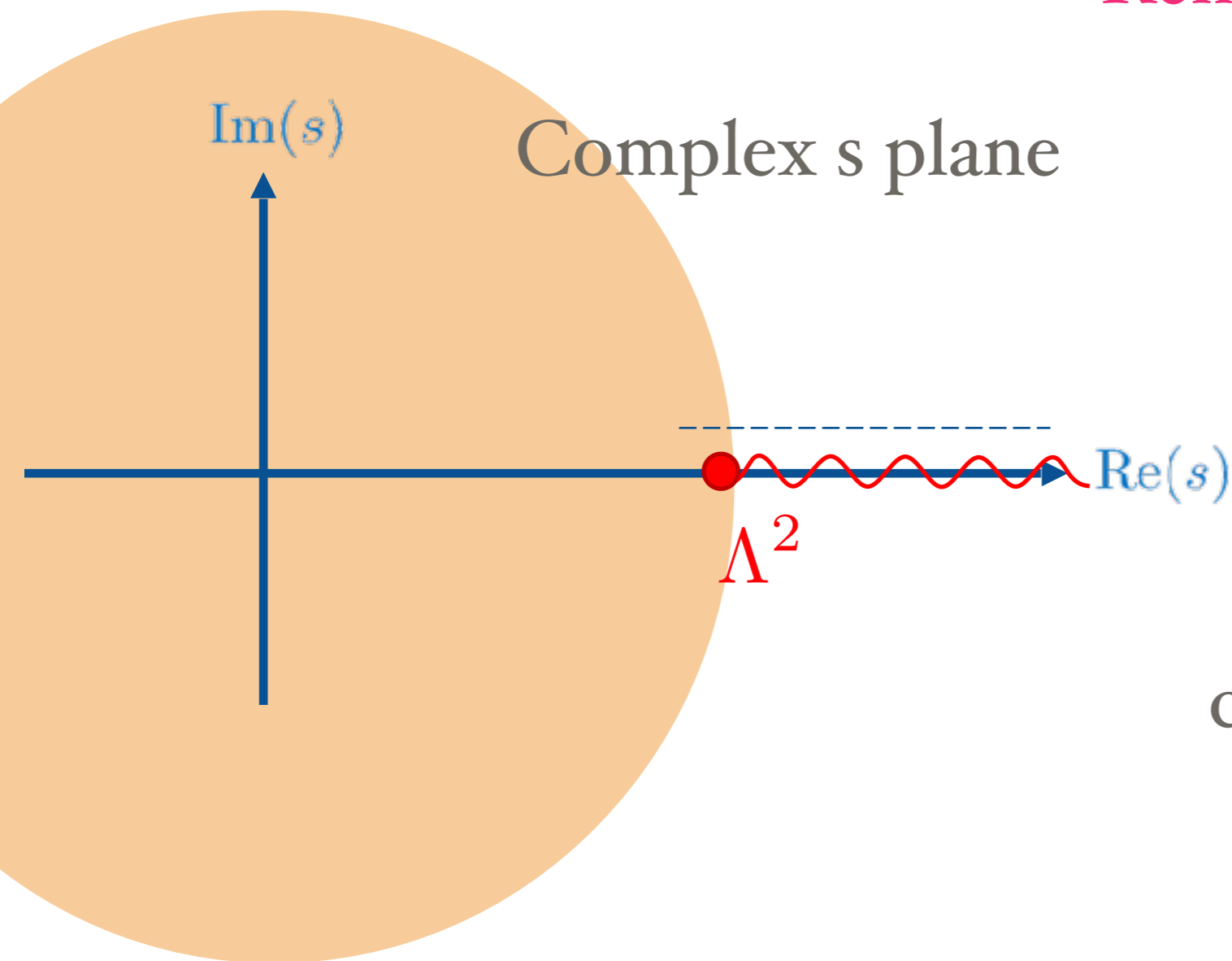
Physical scattering region is $s \geq 4m^2$

crossing: $u = 4m^2 - s - t$

$$\mathcal{A}_s(s, t) = \underbrace{\frac{\lambda_s(t)}{m^2 - s} + \frac{\lambda_u(t)}{m^2 - u}}_{\text{Poles}} + \underbrace{(c_0(t) + c_1(t)s)}_{\text{Subtractions}} + \underbrace{\frac{s^2}{\pi} \int_{4m^2}^{\infty} d\mu \frac{\text{Im}(A_s(\mu, t))}{\mu^2(\mu - s)} + \frac{u^2}{\pi} \int_{4m^2}^{\infty} d\mu \frac{\text{Im}(A_u(\mu, t))}{\mu^2(\mu - u)}}_{\text{Branch cuts}}$$

'Improved' Scattering Amplitude Analyticity

Removes IR loop effects!!!!



Physical scattering region is $s \geq 4m^2$

crossing: $u = 4m^2 - s - t$

$$\mathcal{A}'_s(s, t) = c_0(t) + c_1(t)s + \frac{s^2}{\pi} \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\infty} d\mu \frac{\text{Im}(\mathcal{A}_s(\mu, t))}{\mu^2(\mu - s)} + \frac{u^2}{\pi} \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\infty} d\mu \frac{\text{Im}(\mathcal{A}_u(\mu, t))}{\mu^2(\mu - u)}$$

Fixed t (improved) linear Positivity Bounds

$$\mathcal{A}'_s(s, t) = c_0(t) + c_1(t)s + \frac{s^2}{\pi} \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\infty} d\mu \frac{\text{Im}(\mathcal{A}_s(\mu, t))}{\mu^2(\mu - s)} + \frac{u^2}{\pi} \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\infty} d\mu \frac{\text{Im}(\mathcal{A}_u(\mu, t))}{\mu^2(\mu - u)}$$



$$\frac{1}{M!} \frac{d^M}{ds^M} \mathcal{A}'_s(2m^2 - t/2, t) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\infty} d\mu \frac{\text{Im}\mathcal{A}_s(\mu, t) + \text{Im}\mathcal{A}_s(\mu, t)}{(\mu - 2m^2 + t/2)^{M+1}} > 0$$

$$M \geq 2$$

$$0 \leq t < 4m^2$$

Even M

RH Cut

LH Cut

Fixed t (improved) 'Stieltjes' Positivity Bounds

$$\frac{1}{M!} \frac{d^M}{ds^M} \mathcal{A}'_s(2m^2 - t/2, t) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\infty} d\mu \frac{\text{Im} \mathcal{A}_s(\mu, t) + \text{Im} \mathcal{A}_s(\mu, t)}{(\mu - 2m^2 + t/2)^{M+1}} > 0$$

$$0 \leq t < 4m^2$$

$$\det_{pq} \left(\frac{1}{(M+p+q)!} \frac{d^{M+p+q}}{ds^{M+p+q}} \mathcal{A}'_s(2m^2 - t/2, t) \right) > 0$$

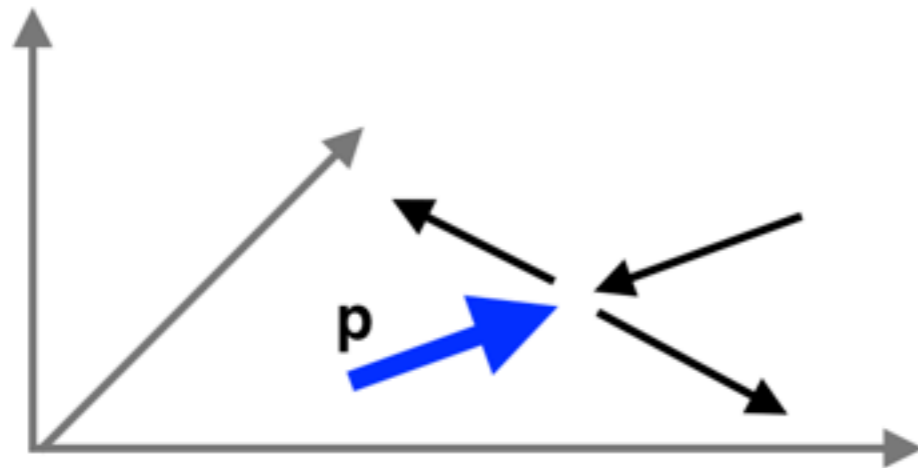
Even $M+p+q$

$$0 \leq t < 4m^2$$

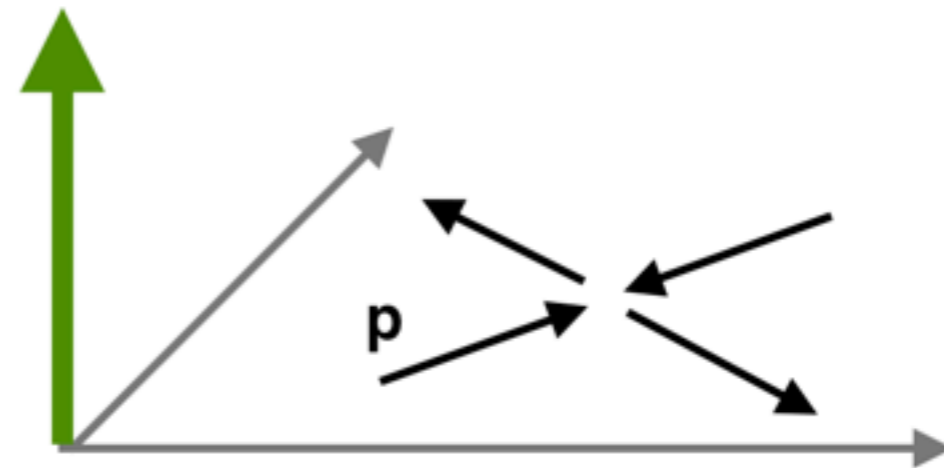
Scattering of all spins

Kotanski, 1965

Helicity



Transversity



$$T_{\tau_1 \tau_2 \tau_3 \tau_4} = \sum_{\lambda_1 \lambda_2 \lambda_3 \lambda_4} u_{\lambda_1 \tau_1}^{S_1} u_{\lambda_2 \tau_2}^{S_2} u_{\tau_3 \lambda_3}^{S_1*} u_{\tau_4 \lambda_4}^{S_2*} \mathcal{H}_{\lambda_1 \lambda_2 \lambda_3 \lambda_4}$$

Change of Basis $u_{\lambda \tau}^S = \langle S, \lambda | e^{-i \frac{\pi}{2} \hat{J}_z} e^{-i \frac{\pi}{2} \hat{J}_y} e^{i \frac{\pi}{2} \hat{J}_z} | S, \tau \rangle$

$$T_{\tau_1 \tau_2 \tau_3 \tau_4}^S(s, t, u) = e^{-i \sum_i \tau_i \chi} T_{-\tau_1 - \tau_4 - \tau_3 - \tau_2}^u(u, t, s)$$

Crossing is Simple!!

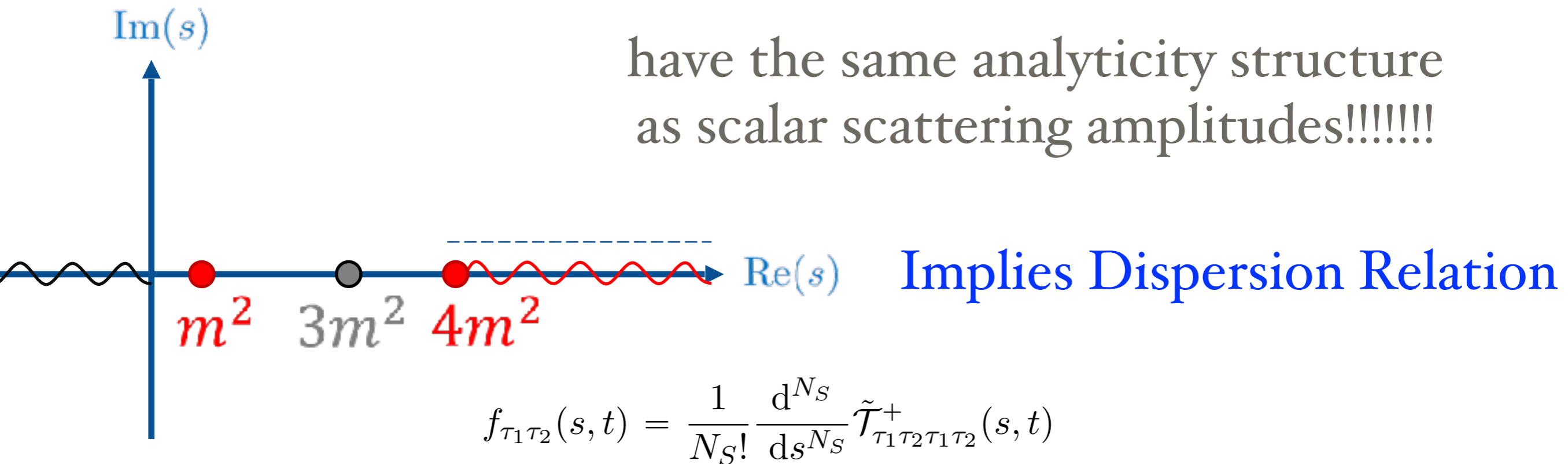
Dispersion Relation with Positivity along BOTH cuts

de Rham, Melville, AJT, Zhou 1706.02712

Punch line: The specific combinations:

$$\mathcal{T}_{\tau_1\tau_2\tau_3\tau_4}^+(s, \theta) = (\sqrt{-su})^\xi \mathcal{S}^{S_1+S_2} (\mathcal{T}_{\tau_1\tau_2\tau_3\tau_4}(s, \theta) + \mathcal{T}_{\tau_1\tau_2\tau_3\tau_4}(s, -\theta))$$

have the same analyticity structure as scalar scattering amplitudes!!!!!!



$$f_{\tau_1\tau_2}(s, t) = \frac{1}{N_S!} \frac{d^{N_S}}{ds^{N_S}} \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{\tau_1\tau_2\tau_1\tau_2}^+(s, t)$$

$$f_{\tau_1\tau_2}(v, t) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{4m^2}^{\infty} d\mu \frac{\text{Abs}_s \mathcal{T}_{\tau_1\tau_2\tau_1\tau_2}^+(\mu, t)}{(\mu - 2m^2 + t/2 - v)^{N_S+1}} + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{4m^2}^{\infty} d\mu \frac{\text{Abs}_u \mathcal{T}_{\tau_1\tau_2\tau_1\tau_2}^+(4m^2 - t - \mu, t)}{(\mu - 2m^2 + t/2 + v)^{N_S+1}}$$

Positive partial wave Moments

Partial wave expansion:

$$A(s, t) = F(\alpha) \frac{s^{1/2}}{(s - 4m^2)^\alpha} \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} (2\ell + 2\alpha) C_\ell^{(\alpha)}(\cos \theta) a_\ell(s), \quad \alpha = \frac{D - 3}{2}$$

Define
$$\rho_{\ell, \alpha}(\mu) = \frac{F(\alpha)}{(\mu - \mu_p)^3} \frac{\mu^{1/2}}{(\mu - 4m^2)^\alpha} (2\ell + 2\alpha) \text{Im} a_\ell(\mu) C_\ell^{(\alpha)}(1)$$

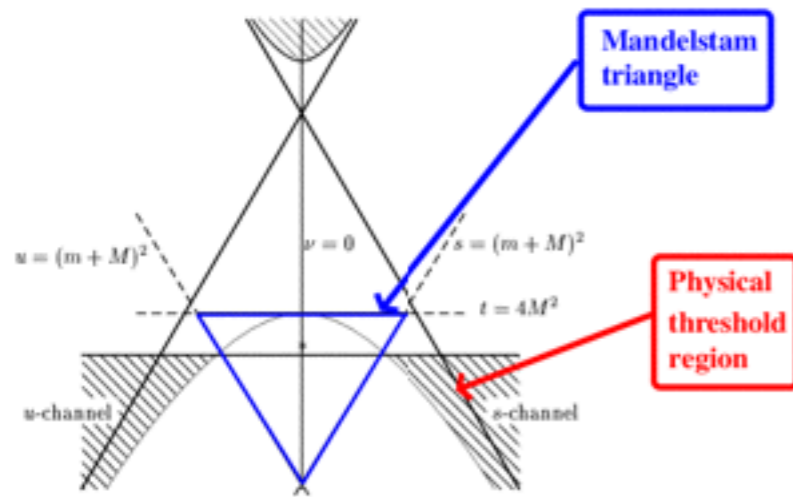
$$\frac{1}{2} \partial_s^2 \mathcal{A}'(s, t) = \sum_{\ell} \int_0^\infty d\mu \left[\frac{1}{(\mu - s)^3} + \frac{1}{(\mu - s - t)^3} \right] \frac{\mu^3 \rho_{\ell, \alpha}(\mu)}{C_\ell^{(\alpha)}(1)} C_\ell^{(\alpha)} \left(1 + \frac{2t}{\mu} \right)$$

$$f^{(2N, M)} \equiv \frac{1}{2(2N + 2)!} \partial_t^M \partial_s^{2N+2} \mathcal{A}'(s, t) \quad f^{(2N, 0)} = \sum_{\ell} \int d\mu \rho_{\ell, \alpha}(\mu) \frac{1}{\mu^{2N}} > 0, \quad N = 0, 1, 2, \dots,$$

$$\langle\langle X(\mu, l) \rangle\rangle = \frac{\sum_{\ell} \int d\mu \rho_{\ell, \alpha}(\mu) X(\mu, l)}{\sum_{\ell} \int d\mu \rho_{\ell, \alpha}(\mu)}$$

$$f^{(2N, 0)} = \langle\langle \frac{1}{\mu^{2N}} \rangle\rangle$$

Crossing Symmetry



[AJT, Zi-Yue Wang, Shuang-Yong Zhou](#)
arXiv:2011.02400

[Simon Caron-Huot, Vincent Van Duong](#)
arXiv:2011.02957

[Aninda Sinha, Ahmadullah Zahed](#)
arXiv:2012.04877

$$A_s(s, t, u) = A_t(t, s, u)$$

Null-constraints

$$0 = \mathcal{A}(s, t) - \mathcal{A}(t, s) = \sum_{\ell} \int d\mu \rho_{\ell, \alpha}(\mu) \left[\frac{2H_{D, \ell} st (s^2 - t^2)}{(D-2)D\mu^2} + \dots \right]$$

$$\sum_{\ell} \int d\mu \rho_{\ell, \alpha}(\mu) \frac{H_{D, \ell}}{\mu^2} = 0$$

$$H_{D, \ell} = \ell(\ell + D - 3)[4 - 5D - 2(3 - D)\ell + 2\ell^2]$$

$$\left\langle \left\langle \frac{H_{D, \ell}}{\mu^2} \right\rangle \right\rangle = 0$$

Key Idea

$$\left\langle\left\langle \frac{H_{D,\ell}}{\mu^2} \right\rangle\right\rangle = 0$$

Make Maximal use of null constraints
to strengthen positivity bounds

$$H_{D,\ell} = \ell(\ell + D - 3)[4 - 5D - 2(3 - D)\ell + 2\ell^2]$$

$$\langle\langle X(\mu, l) \rangle\rangle = \frac{\sum_{\ell} \int d\mu \rho_{\ell,\alpha}(\mu) X(\mu, l)}{\sum_{\ell} \int d\mu \rho_{\ell,\alpha}(\mu)}$$

Example

$$f^{(2N,M)} \equiv \frac{1}{2(2N+2)!} \partial_t^M \partial_s^{2N+2} \mathcal{A}'(s, t) \Big|_{s,t \rightarrow 0}$$

$$\frac{f^{(0,1)}}{f^{(0,0)}} + \left\langle\left\langle \frac{3}{2\mu} \right\rangle\right\rangle = \left\langle\left\langle \frac{2(-3 + D)\ell + 2\ell^2}{(D-2)\mu} \right\rangle\right\rangle$$

Cauchy-Schwarz

$$\langle\langle X(\mu, l) \rangle\rangle^2 \leq \langle\langle X(\mu, l)^2 \rangle\rangle$$

$$\left(\frac{f^{(0,1)}}{f^{(0,0)}} + \left\langle\left\langle \frac{3}{2\mu} \right\rangle\right\rangle \right)^2 = \left\langle\left\langle \frac{2(D-3)\ell + 2\ell^2}{(D-2)\mu} \right\rangle\right\rangle^2 \leq \left\langle\left\langle \left(\frac{2(D-3)\ell + 2\ell^2}{(D-2)\mu} \right)^2 \right\rangle\right\rangle$$

ZERO!!!

BUT!!!

$$(2(D-3)\ell + 2\ell^2)^2 = (5D-4) [2(D-3)\ell + 2\ell^2] + 2H_{D,\ell}$$

hence:

$$\left(\frac{f^{(0,1)}}{f^{(0,0)}} + \left\langle\left\langle \frac{3}{2\mu} \right\rangle\right\rangle \right)^2 \leq \frac{5D-4}{D-2} \left\langle\left\langle \frac{2(D-3)\ell + 2\ell^2}{(D-2)\mu^2} \right\rangle\right\rangle$$

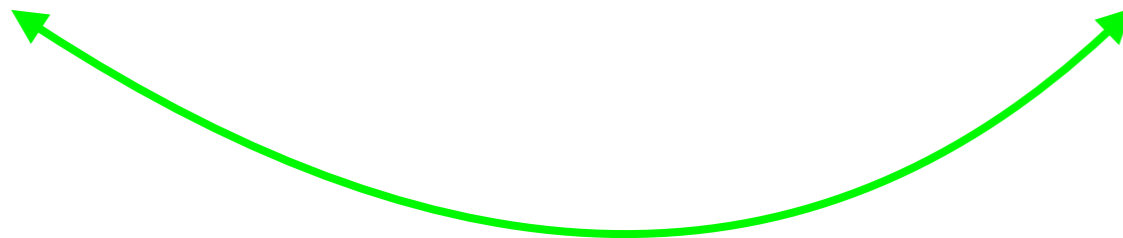
Upper and Lower Bound

given:

$$\left\langle\left\langle \frac{2(D-3)\ell + 2\ell^2}{(D-2)\mu^2} \right\rangle\right\rangle < \frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \left\langle\left\langle \frac{2(D-3)\ell + 2\ell^2}{(D-2)\mu} \right\rangle\right\rangle$$

then:

$$\left(\frac{f^{(0,1)}}{f^{(0,0)}} + \left\langle\left\langle \frac{3}{2\mu} \right\rangle\right\rangle \right)^2 < \frac{5D-4}{(D-2)\Lambda^2} \left(\frac{f^{(0,1)}}{f^{(0,0)}} + \left\langle\left\langle \frac{3}{2\mu} \right\rangle\right\rangle \right)$$



$$-\frac{3}{2\Lambda^2} f^{(0,0)} < f^{(0,1)} < \frac{5D-4}{(D-2)\Lambda^2} f^{(0,0)}$$

Weakly Broken Galileon

$$\Lambda_3^{4-D} \mathcal{L}_{\text{mg}} = -\frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \pi \partial^\mu \pi - \frac{1}{2} m^2 \pi^2 + \sum_{n=3}^{D+1} \frac{g_n}{\Lambda_3^{3n-3}} \pi \partial^{\mu_1} \partial_{[\mu_1} \pi \partial^{\mu_2} \partial_{\mu_2} \pi \cdots \partial^{\mu_n} \partial_{\mu_n]} \pi$$

$$+ \sum_i \mathcal{O}_i \left(\frac{\partial^2 \pi}{\Lambda_3^3}, \frac{\partial^3 \pi}{\Lambda_3^4}, \frac{\partial^4 \pi}{\Lambda_3^5}, \dots \right),$$

$$\Lambda_3^{4-D} \mathcal{L}_{\text{wbg}} = -\frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \pi \partial^\mu \pi - \frac{\alpha}{\Lambda_3^4} (\partial \pi)^4 + \sum_{n=3}^{D+1} \frac{g_n}{\Lambda_3^{3n-3}} \pi \partial^{\mu_1} \partial_{[\mu_1} \pi \partial^{\mu_2} \partial_{\mu_2} \pi \cdots \partial^{\mu_n} \partial_{\mu_n]} \pi$$

$$+ \sum_i \mathcal{O}_i \left(\frac{\partial^2 \pi}{\Lambda_3^3}, \frac{\partial^3 \pi}{\Lambda_3^4}, \frac{\partial^4 \pi}{\Lambda_3^5}, \dots \right),$$

Weakly Broken Galileon

$$\mathcal{A}'(s, t) \sim \frac{1}{\Lambda_3^{D-4}} \left(\frac{m^2}{\Lambda_3^6} x + \frac{1}{\Lambda_3^6} y + \frac{1}{\Lambda_3^8} x^2 + \dots \right)$$

$$y = stu$$

$$x = s^2 + t^2 + u^2$$

not suppressed

suppressed

Contradiction!!!

$$-\frac{3}{2\Lambda^2} f^{(0,0)} < f^{(0,1)} < \frac{5D-4}{(D-2)\Lambda^2} f^{(0,0)}$$

No local UV completion
 for weakly broken
 Galileons

See also

Extended bounds

$$\mathcal{A}'(s, t) = \sum_{p, q=0}^{\infty} c_{p, q} w^p t^q \quad w = -(s - 2m^2)(u - 2m^2)$$

General Idea:

I: Given a polynomial $Polynomial(l)$ whose highest power is positive

$$\langle \mu^{-M} Polynomial(l) \rangle \geq \langle \mu^{-M} Min(Polynomial(l)) \rangle$$

Low orders in l \longrightarrow Lower t derivatives

II: Use null constraints to define new polynomials

$$\pm \langle \mu^{-M} Polynomial(l) \rangle + \langle \mu^{-M} NullPolynomial(l) \rangle = \langle \mu^{-M} Polynomial'(l) \rangle \geq \langle \mu^{-M} Min(Polynomial'(l)) \rangle$$

0!

Extended bounds

$$\mathcal{A}'(s, t) = \sum_{p, q=0}^{\infty} c_{p, q} w^p t^q$$

$$w = -(s - 2m^2)(u - 2m^2)$$

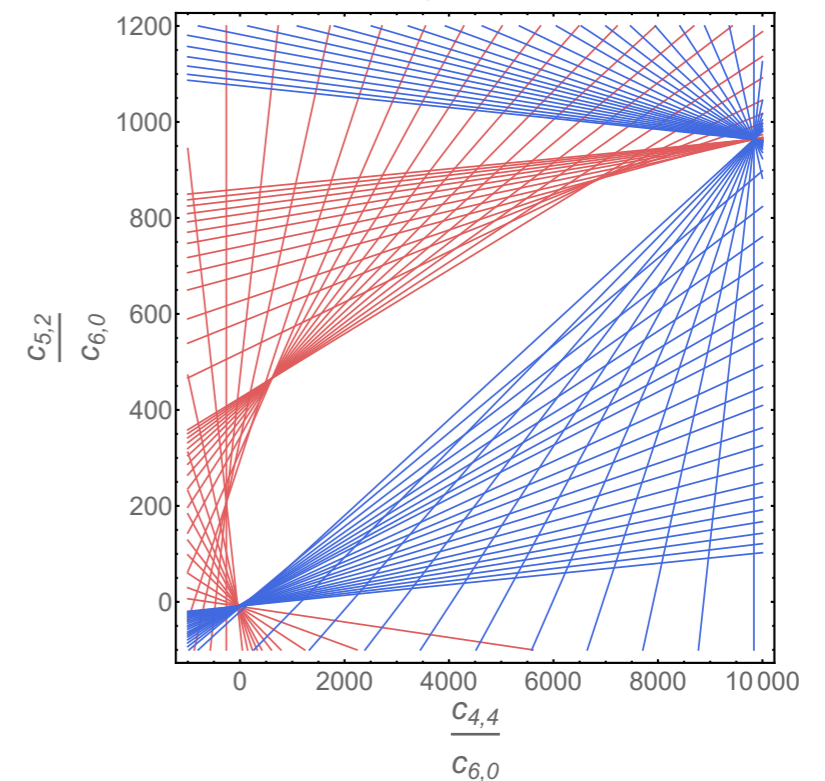
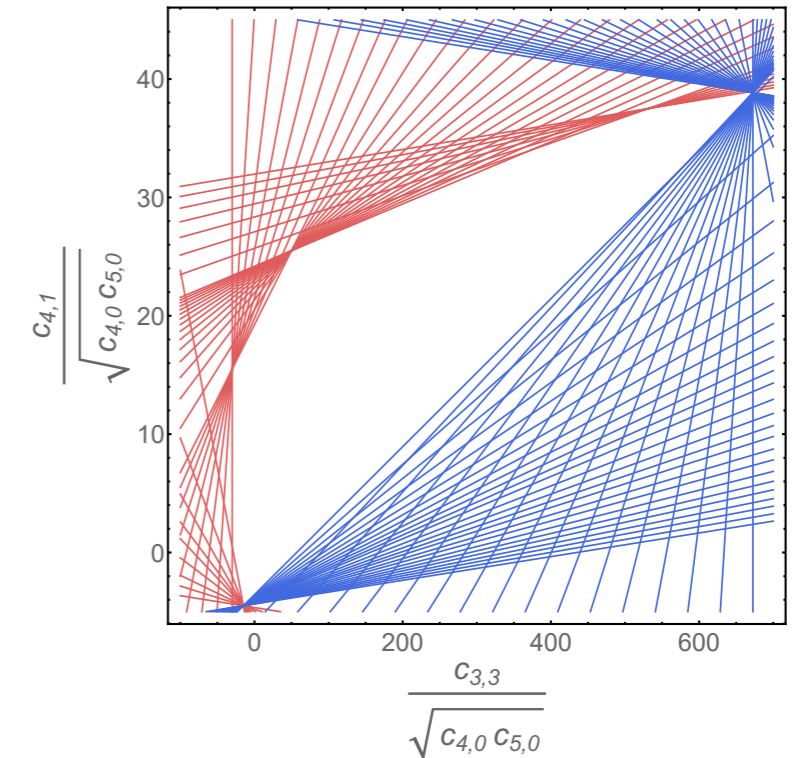
AJT, Zi-Yue Wang, Shuang-Yong Zhou
arXiv:2011.02400

See also

Simon Caron-Huot, Vincent Van Duong
arXiv:2011.02957

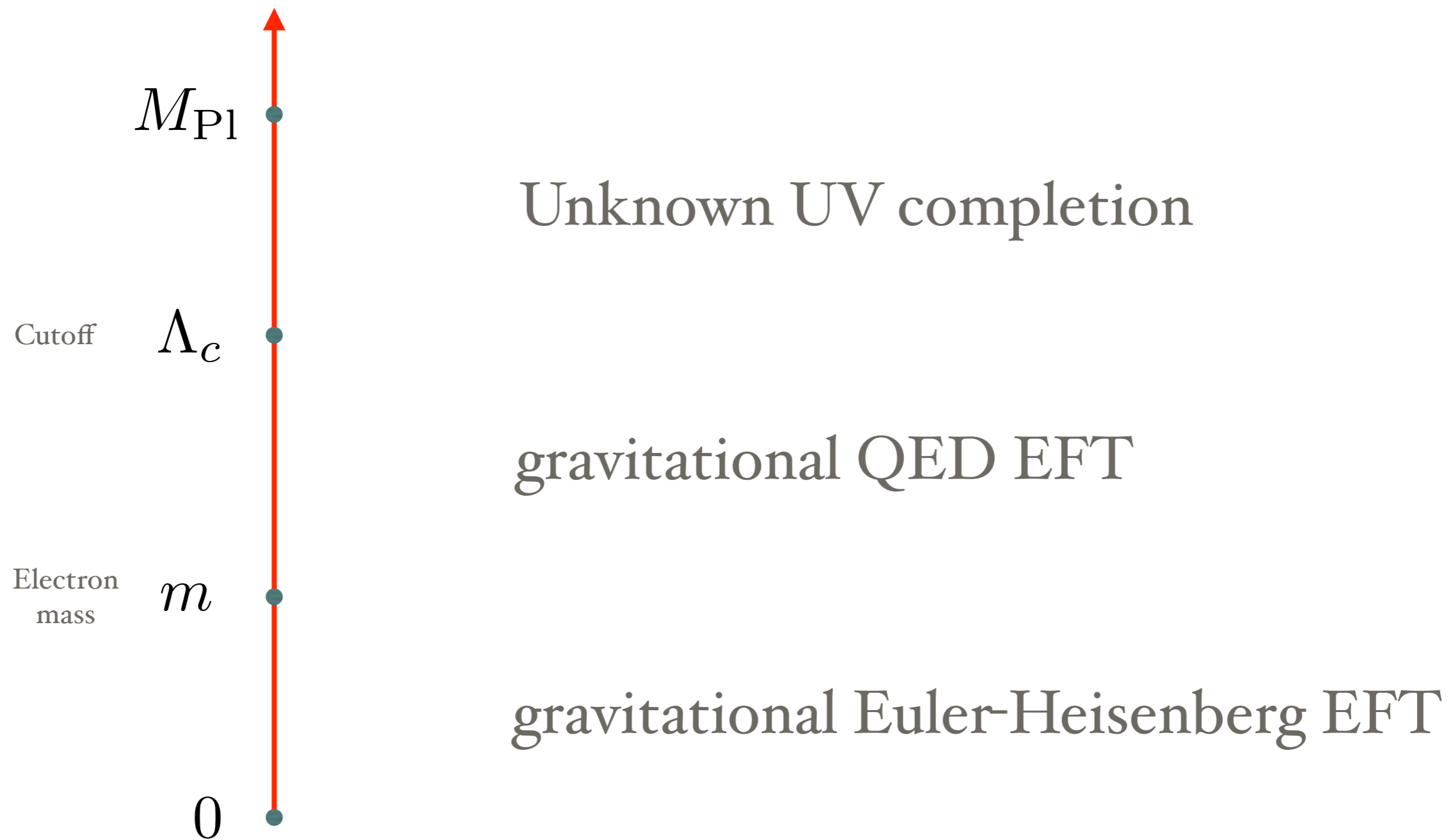
Bellazzini et al, **Positive Moments ..**, 2020

(m, n)	$D_{m,n}^{\text{stu}}$ bound	$\bar{D}_{m,n}^{\text{stu}}$ bound
(1, 1)	$c_{1,1} > -\frac{3}{2}\sqrt{c_{1,0}c_{2,0}}$	$c_{1,1} < 8\sqrt{c_{1,0}c_{2,0}}$
(2, 1)	$c_{2,1} > -\frac{5}{2}\sqrt{c_{2,0}c_{3,0}}$	$c_{2,1} < \frac{465}{38}\sqrt{c_{2,0}c_{3,0}}$
(2, 2)	$c_{2,2} > -\frac{9}{2}c_{3,0}$	$c_{2,2} < \frac{2961}{58}c_{3,0}$
(3, 1)	$c_{3,1} > -\frac{7}{2}\sqrt{c_{3,0}c_{4,0}}$	$c_{3,1} < \frac{1097}{58}\sqrt{c_{3,0}c_{4,0}}$
(3, 2)	$c_{3,2} > -7c_{4,0}$	$c_{3,2} < \frac{10027}{59}c_{4,0}$
(3, 3)	$c_{3,3} + \frac{3}{4}c_{4,1} > -\frac{147}{8}\sqrt{c_{4,0}c_{5,0}},$ $c_{3,3} - 8c_{4,1} > -154\sqrt{c_{4,0}c_{5,0}},$ $c_{3,3} - \frac{481}{12}c_{4,1} > -\frac{7777}{8}\sqrt{c_{4,0}c_{5,0}},$ $c_{3,3} - 104c_{4,1} > -3369\sqrt{c_{4,0}c_{5,0}}$	$c_{3,3} - \frac{650}{41}c_{4,1} < \frac{2310}{41}\sqrt{c_{4,0}c_{5,0}}$
(4, 2)	$c_{4,2} > -\frac{17}{2}c_{5,0}$	$c_{4,2} < \frac{3923}{12}c_{5,0}$
(4, 3)	$c_{4,3} + \frac{3}{4}c_{5,1} > -\frac{253}{8}\sqrt{c_{5,0}c_{6,0}},$ $c_{4,3} - \frac{180}{41}c_{5,1} > -\frac{8705}{82}\sqrt{c_{5,0}c_{6,0}},$ $c_{4,3} - \frac{325}{12}c_{5,1} > -\frac{16825}{24}\sqrt{c_{5,0}c_{6,0}},$ $c_{4,3} - \frac{169}{2}c_{5,1} > -\frac{11187}{4}\sqrt{c_{5,0}c_{6,0}},$ $c_{4,3} - \frac{743}{4}c_{5,1} > -\frac{63279}{8}\sqrt{c_{5,0}c_{6,0}}$	$c_{4,3} - \frac{73153}{1748}c_{5,1} < \frac{708543}{3496}\sqrt{c_{5,0}c_{6,0}}$
(4, 4)	$c_{4,4} + \frac{25}{24}c_{5,2} > -\frac{147}{8}c_{6,0},$ $c_{4,4} - \frac{125}{37}c_{5,2} > -\frac{71175}{74}c_{6,0},$ $c_{4,4} - \frac{785}{52}c_{5,2} > -\frac{83490}{13}c_{6,0},$ $c_{4,4} - \frac{2485}{69}c_{5,2} > -\frac{1144125}{46}c_{6,0}$	$c_{4,4} - 15c_{5,2} < \frac{195}{2}c_{6,0},$ $c_{4,4} + \frac{368085}{36544}c_{5,2} < \frac{2365845}{18272}c_{6,0}$



What about coupling to
gravity?

gravitational QED scales



gravitational Euler-Heisenberg

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QED}} = \sqrt{-g} \left[\frac{M_{\text{Pl}}^2}{2} R - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} - \bar{\psi}(i\not{D} + m)\psi - eA_\mu \bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\psi \right]$$



$$S_{\text{Eul-Heis},1} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[\frac{M_{\text{Pl}}^2}{2} R - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + \frac{a_1}{m^4} (F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu})^2 + \frac{a_2}{m^4} (F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu})^2 \right. \\ \left. + \frac{b_1}{m^2} R F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + \frac{b_2}{m^2} R_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\lambda} F^\nu{}_\lambda + \frac{b_3}{m^2} R_{\mu\nu\lambda\rho} F^{\mu\nu} F^{\lambda\rho} \right. \\ \left. + c_1 R^2 + c_2 R_{\mu\nu} R^{\mu\nu} + c_3 R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} R^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} + \dots \right],$$



$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Eul-Heis},2} = \sqrt{-g} \left[\frac{M_{\text{Pl}}^2}{2} R - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + \frac{a'_1}{m^4} (F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu})^2 + \frac{a'_2}{m^4} (F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu})^2 + \frac{b_3}{m^2} F_{\mu\nu} F_{\rho\sigma} C^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \right]$$

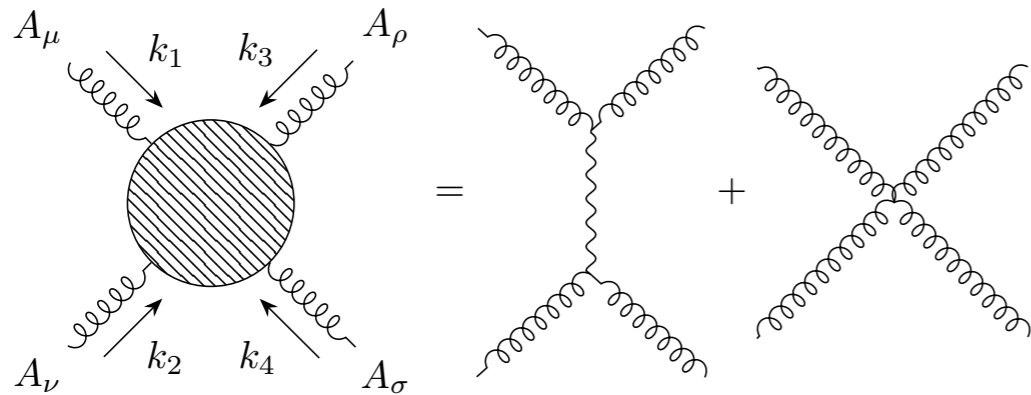
$$a'_1 = a_1 + \frac{1}{4} \frac{m^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} b_2 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{m^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} b_3, \quad a'_2 = a_2 + \frac{1}{4} \frac{m^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} b_2 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{m^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} b_3$$

Relevant for discussions of
Weak Gravity Conjecture

Hamada, Noumi, Shui 1909.01352
Bellazzini et al 1902.03250

Positivity (t-channel pole removed)

Cheung, Remmen 1407.7865



$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{Eul-Heis}}(+ + --) = \mathcal{A}_{\text{Eul-Heis}}(-- ++) = \frac{s^4}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2 stu} + \frac{8(a'_1 + a'_2)}{m^4} s^2$$

For spinor QED

$$\frac{e^4}{5760 M_{\text{Pl}}^2 \pi^2} \left(-24 \frac{m^2}{e^2} + 11 M_{\text{Pl}}^2 \right) > 0$$

For scalar QED

$$\frac{e^4}{2880 M_{\text{Pl}}^2 \pi^2} \left(-2 \frac{m^2}{e^2} + M_{\text{Pl}}^2 \right) > 0$$

$$e/m \gtrsim \sqrt{2}/M_{\text{Pl}}$$

Weak Gravity Conjecture!!!

Problem!

Non-Gravitational part positive

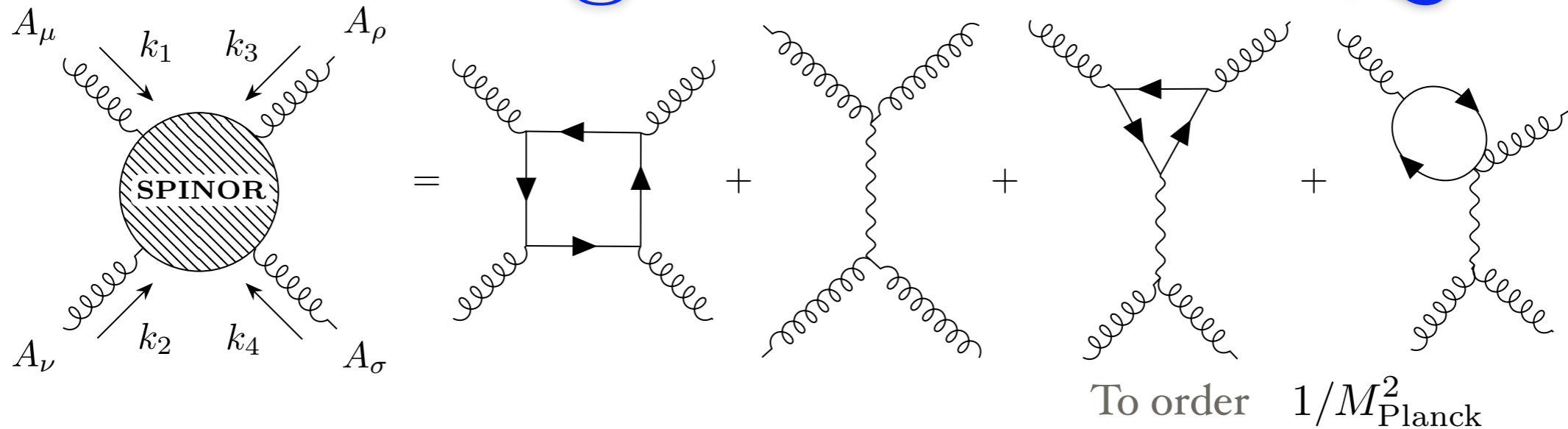
Gravitational part negative

$$\frac{e^4}{5760M_{\text{Pl}}^2\pi^2} \left(-24\frac{m^2}{e^2} + 11M_{\text{Pl}}^2 \right) > 0$$

‘Known’ contribution from electron loops

This contribution can be **removed**, by applying (improved) positivity bounds directly to gravitational QED EFT!!

Cutoff of gravitational QED



$$0 < \partial_s^2 \tilde{\mathcal{A}}^I(0, 0, 0) - \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\epsilon^2 \Lambda_c^2} ds' \frac{\text{Disc}_s \mathcal{A}^I(s', 0, u')}{s'^3} - \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\epsilon^2 \Lambda_c^2} du' \frac{\text{Disc}_u \mathcal{A}^I(s', 0, u')}{u'^3}$$

$$0 < \frac{11e^4}{360\pi^2 m^4} - \frac{11e^2}{180\pi^2 m^2 M_{\text{Pl}}^2} - \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\epsilon^2 \Lambda_c^2} ds' \frac{\text{Disc}_s \mathcal{A}^I(s', 0, u')}{s'^3} - \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\epsilon^2 \Lambda_c^2} du' \frac{\text{Disc}_u \mathcal{A}^I(s', 0, u')}{u'^3}$$

$$0 < -\frac{11e^2}{360\pi^2 m^2 M_{\text{Pl}}^2} - \frac{e^2}{3\pi^2 \Lambda^2 M_{\text{Pl}}^2} - \frac{e^4}{4\pi^2 \Lambda^4} - \frac{e^2 m^2}{4\pi^2 \Lambda^4 M_{\text{Pl}}^2} + \frac{e^4}{\pi^2 \Lambda^4} \ln \frac{\Lambda}{m} + \frac{e^2 m^2}{\pi^2 \Lambda^4 M_{\text{Pl}}^2} \ln \frac{\Lambda}{m},$$

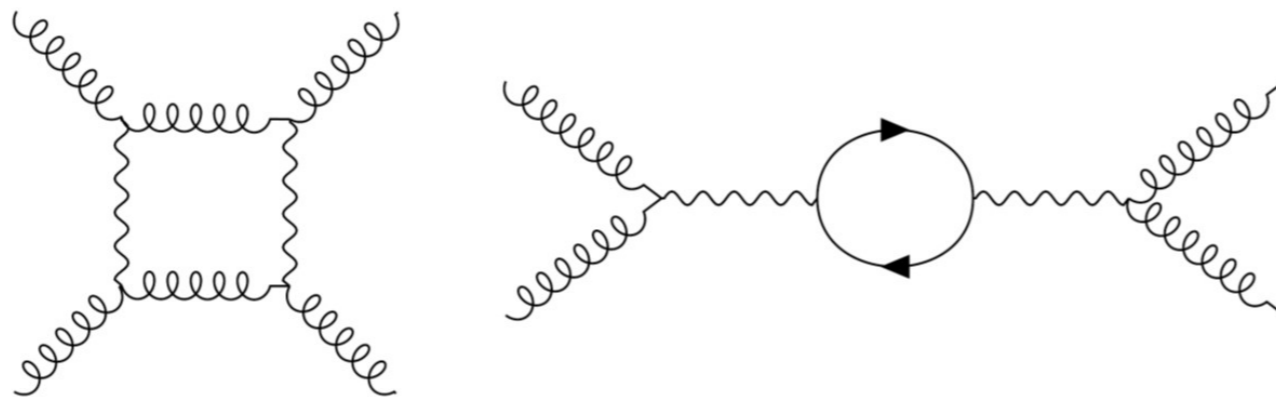
$$\frac{e^4}{\pi^2 \Lambda^4} \left(\ln \frac{\Lambda}{m} - \frac{1}{4} \right) - \frac{11e^2}{360\pi^2 m^2 M_{\text{Pl}}^2} > 0$$

$$\epsilon \Lambda_c \lesssim (em M_{\text{Pl}})^{1/2}$$

Higher order gravitational contributions

$$\gamma(\mu) = \gamma_m - B \ln(\mu/m)$$

Coefficient of
R squared
terms



$$\frac{e^4}{\pi^2 \Lambda^4} \left(\ln \frac{\Lambda}{m} - \frac{1}{4} \right) - \frac{11e^2}{360\pi^2 m^2 M_{\text{Pl}}^2} - \frac{B}{M_{\text{Pl}}^4} \ln \left(\frac{\Lambda}{m} \right) + \frac{\gamma_m}{M_{\text{Pl}}^4} > 0$$

Noted in 3D in
Chen et al. 1901.11480

$$- \frac{11e^2}{360\pi^2 m^2 M_{\text{Pl}}^2} + \frac{\gamma_\Lambda}{M_{\text{Pl}}^4} > 0$$

$$m \gtrsim \frac{e M_{\text{Pl}}}{\sqrt{N_*}}$$

Alternative Explanation - mild negativity allowed

Decoupling limits consistent with

$$c > -\frac{\mathcal{O}(1)}{M^2 M_{\text{Pl}}^2}$$

Alberte et al. 2007.12667

Tokuda et al. 2007.15009

Herrero-Valea et al. 2011.11652

Conjecture

Positivity Bounds and the Massless Spin-2 Pole

[Lasma Alberte](#), [Claudia de Rham](#), [Sumer Jaitly](#), [Andrew J. Tolley](#)

[arXiv:2007.12667](#)

For a weakly coupled (tree level) UV completion, given

$$A(s, t) = -\frac{s^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2 t} + \frac{\tilde{c}}{M^4} s^2 + \dots$$

Conjecture!

$$\tilde{c} > -\frac{M^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} \times \mathcal{O}(1)$$

Recently 'Proven'!

$$\tilde{c} > -\frac{M^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} 17 \log(1.7 M b_{\text{max}})$$

Sharp Boundaries for the Swampland

[Simon Caron-Huot](#), [Dalimil Mazac](#), [Leonardo Rastelli](#), [David Simmons-Duffin](#)

[arXiv:2102.08951](#)

Conclusions

- * Positivity Bounds are very powerful at constraining irrelevant operators in a low energy EFT
- * **Full crossing symmetry** implies **upper and lower bounds** on Wilson coefficients
- * Strong constraints on **interacting massive spin theories** and **supersoft** theories
- * Full understanding of extension to **massless gravity** (no mass gap) unclear, although recent exciting progress
- * Small amount of '*negativity*' allowed with gravity, without contradicting unitarity and causality