

Title: From UV to IR and back

Speakers: Claudia de Rham

Series: Quantum Gravity

Date: March 24, 2022 - 10:30 AM

URL: <https://pirsa.org/22030029>

Abstract: By considering the photon-graviton scattering amplitude at low-energy including loops from the Standard Model, I will argue how we can infer constraints on the Regge behaviour of the gravitational scattering amplitude. I will also comment on implications to other gauge fields in four and higher dimensions and application to the Weak Gravity Conjecture and connections with causality considerations.

Zoom Link: <https://pitp.zoom.us/j/91414100213?pwd=Z3g5SmRPb2xjUXEweGtjUC83WCtKdz09>



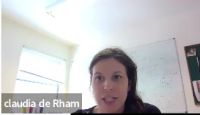
Perimeter Institute  
24<sup>th</sup> March 2022



# From UV to IR and back

Imperial College  
London Claudia de Rham

## Special thanks to amazing collaborators



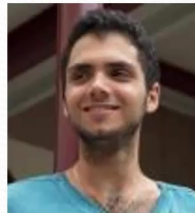
Lasma Alberte  
(@ Imperial)



Mariana Carrillo  
Gonzalez  
(@ Imperial)



Calvin Chen  
(@ Imperial)



Jeremie Francfort  
(@ Geneva)



Sebastian Garcia  
-Saenz  
(@ SUSTech)



Sumer Jaitly  
(@ Imperial)



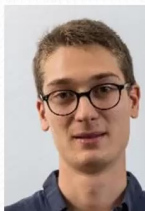
Lavinia Heisenberg  
(@ Heidelberg)



Aoibheann Margalit  
(@ Imperial)



Scott Melville  
(@ Cambridge)



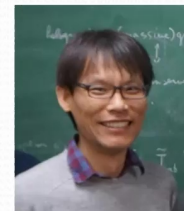
Victor Pozsgay  
(@ Imperial)



Johannes Noller  
(@ Portsmouth)



Andrew Tolley  
(@ Imperial)



Jun Zhang  
(@ ICTP  
Asia-Pacific)



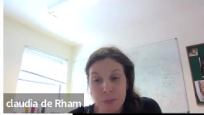
Shuang-Yong Zhou  
(@ USTC)

Speed of GWs & Causality: 1806.09417, 1909.00881, 2007.01847, 2112.05031, 2112.05054

Gravitational EFTS: 2005.13923, 2107.11384,

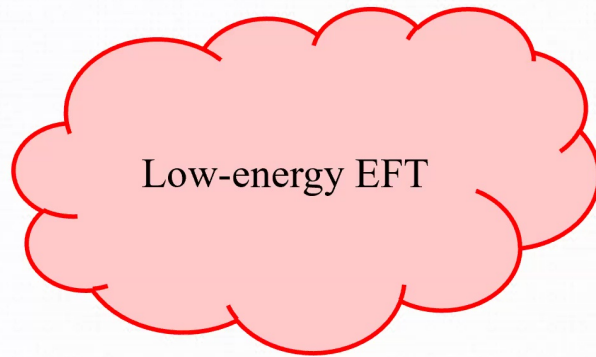
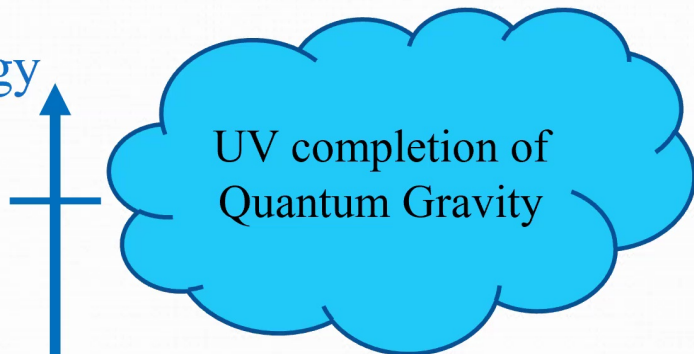
Positivity Bounds: 2007.12667, 2012.05798, 2103.06855, 2111.09226

Models of Dark Energy: 2108.12892, 2110.14327, ...



# Effective Field Theory

Energy

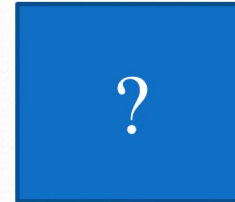
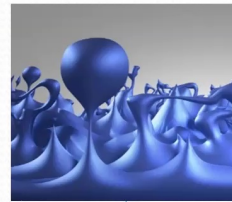
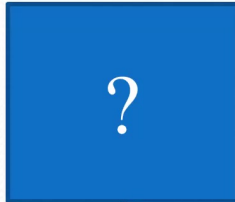


E.g.: GR + irrelevant operators  
+ (B)SM fields  
+ light degrees of freedom

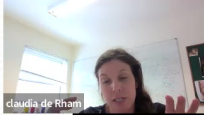


# High-energy completion

Energy

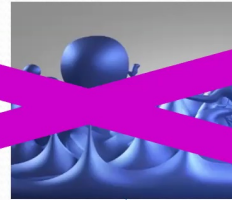
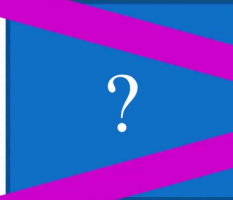
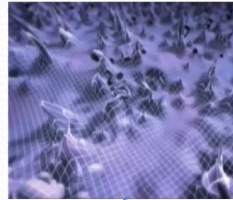


Model may seem **consistent** at **low-energy**



# High-energy completion

Energy



Yet we know that some models would **never EVER** be able to enjoy a **standard UV completion**

↑  
60 orders  
of magnitude  
↓

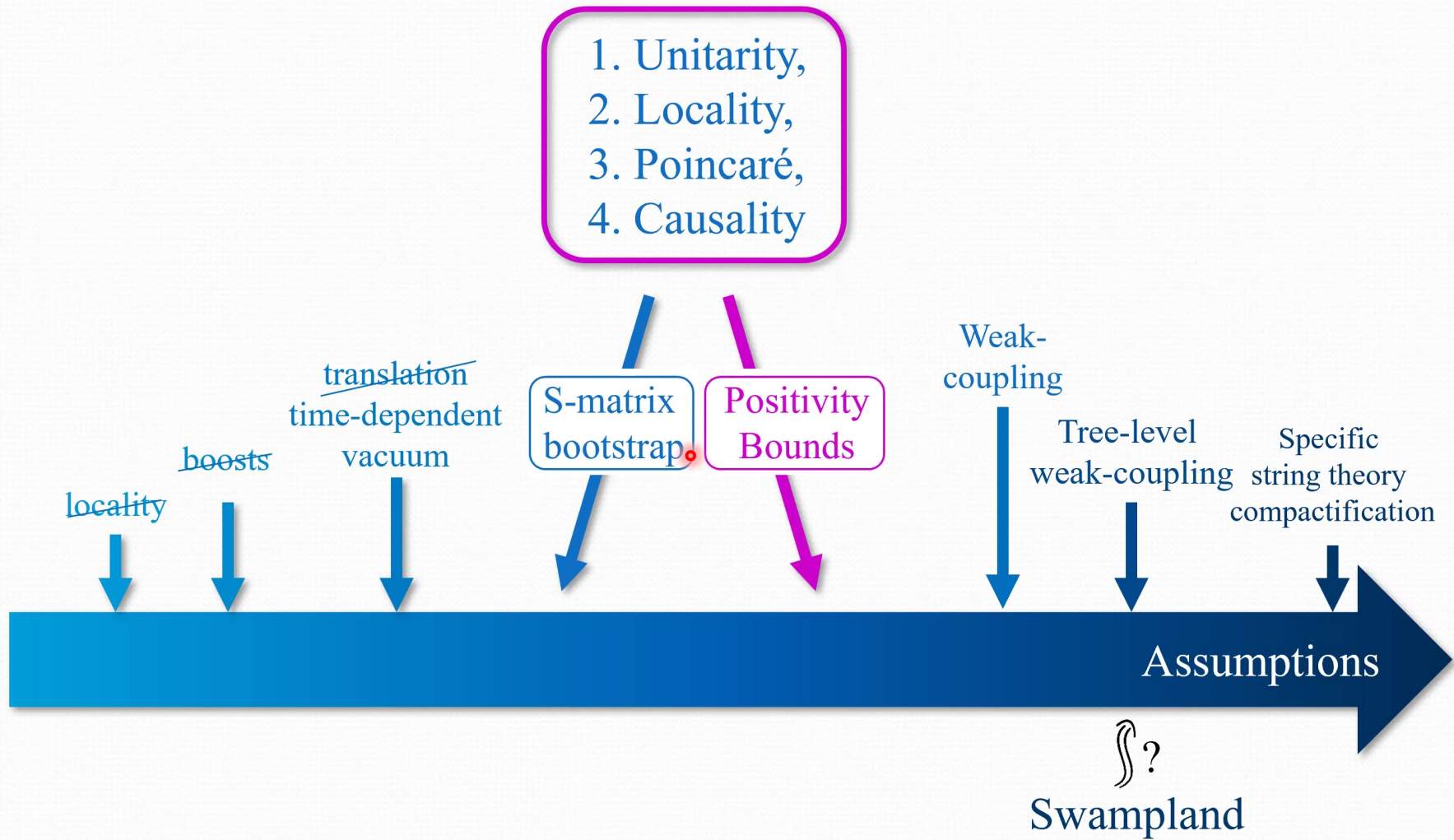
Model may seem **consistent** at **low-energy**



Its **not** that a theory with parameter  $\alpha = 0$  is ruled out but  $|\alpha| > 10^{-60}$  is allowed

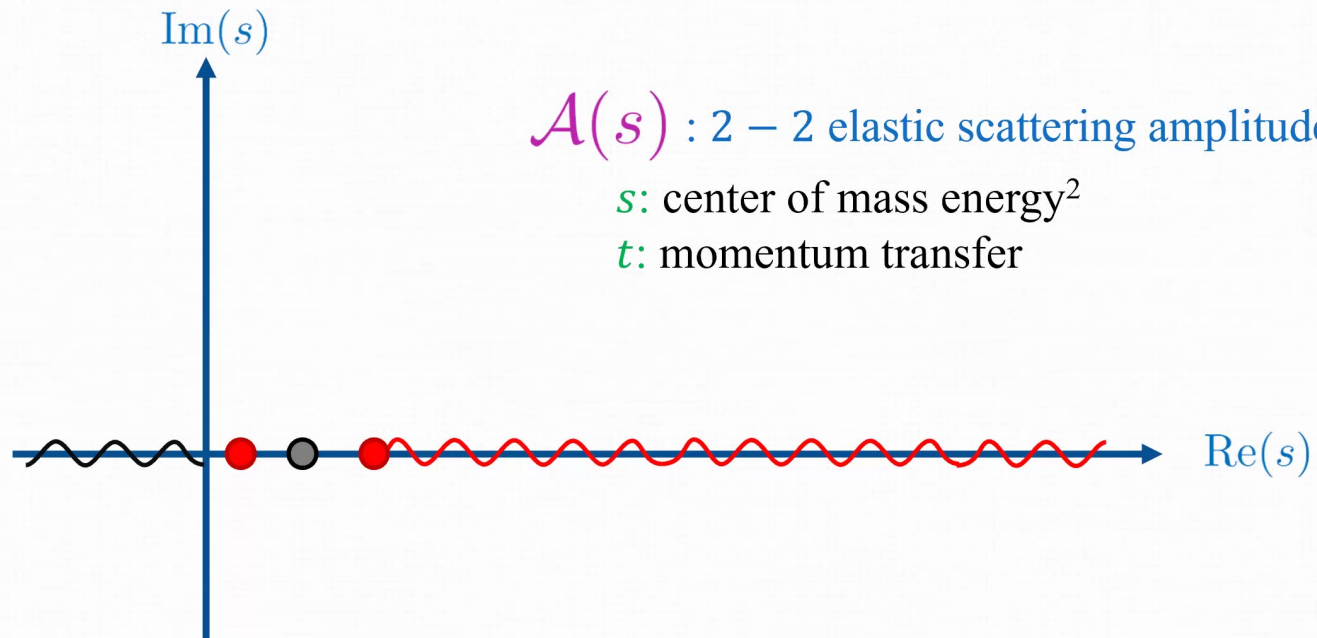
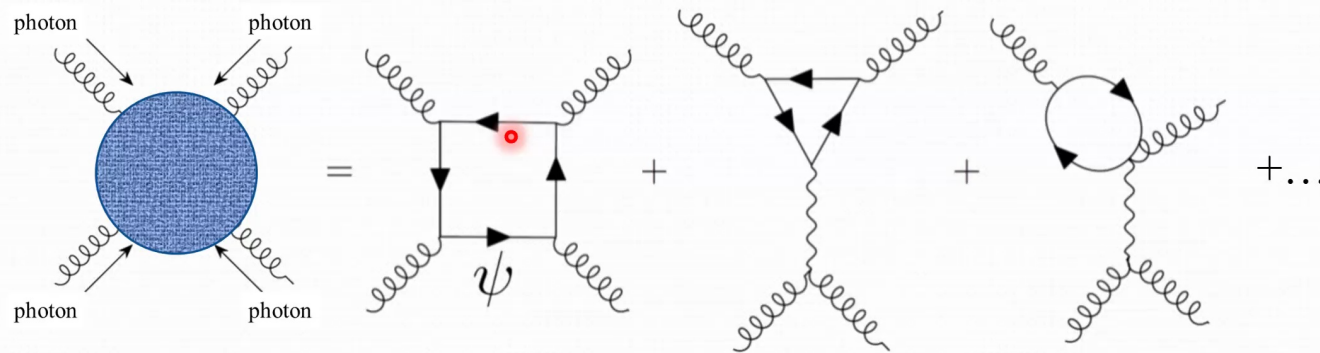


# Assumptions on the UV Completion

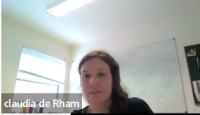




# Low-energy Scattering





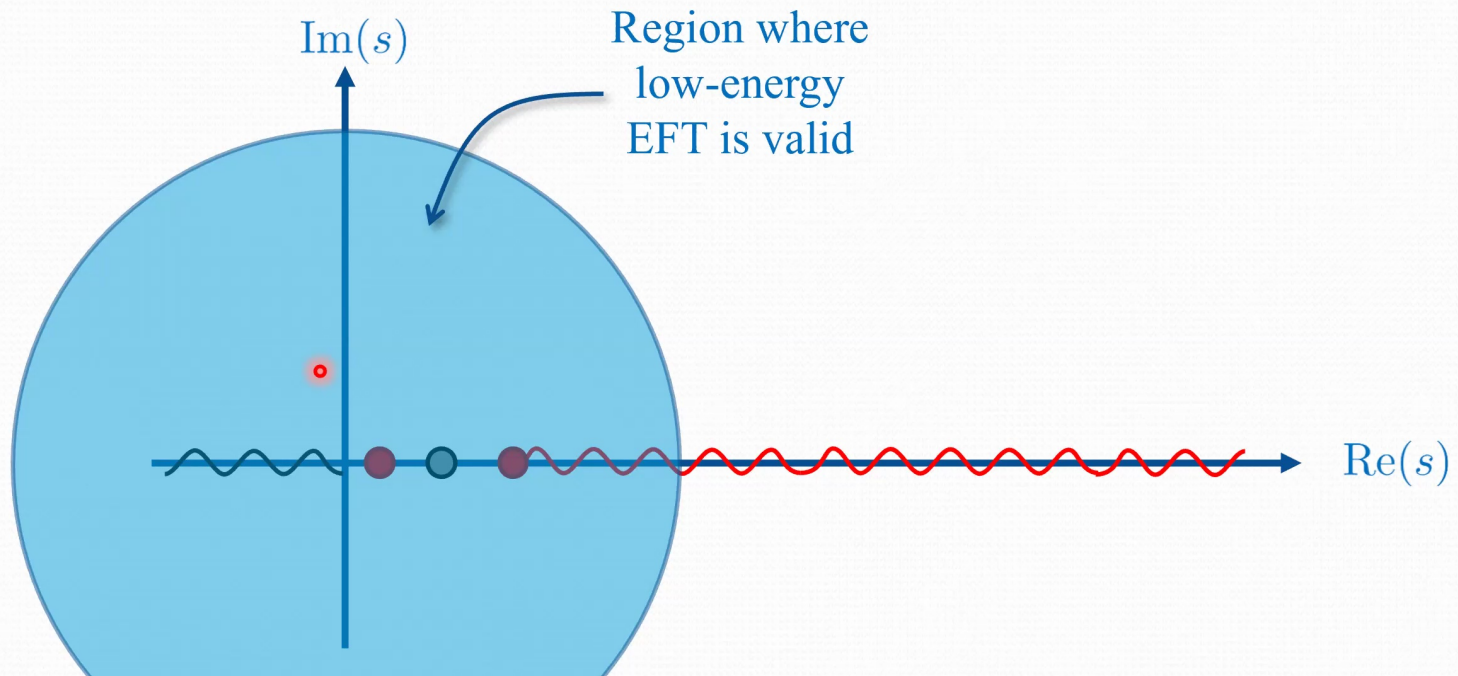


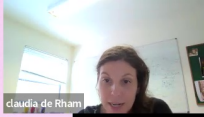
# Low-energy Scattering

$\mathcal{A}(s)$  : 2 – 2 elastic scattering amplitude

$s$ : center of mass energy<sup>2</sup>

$t$ : momentum transfer



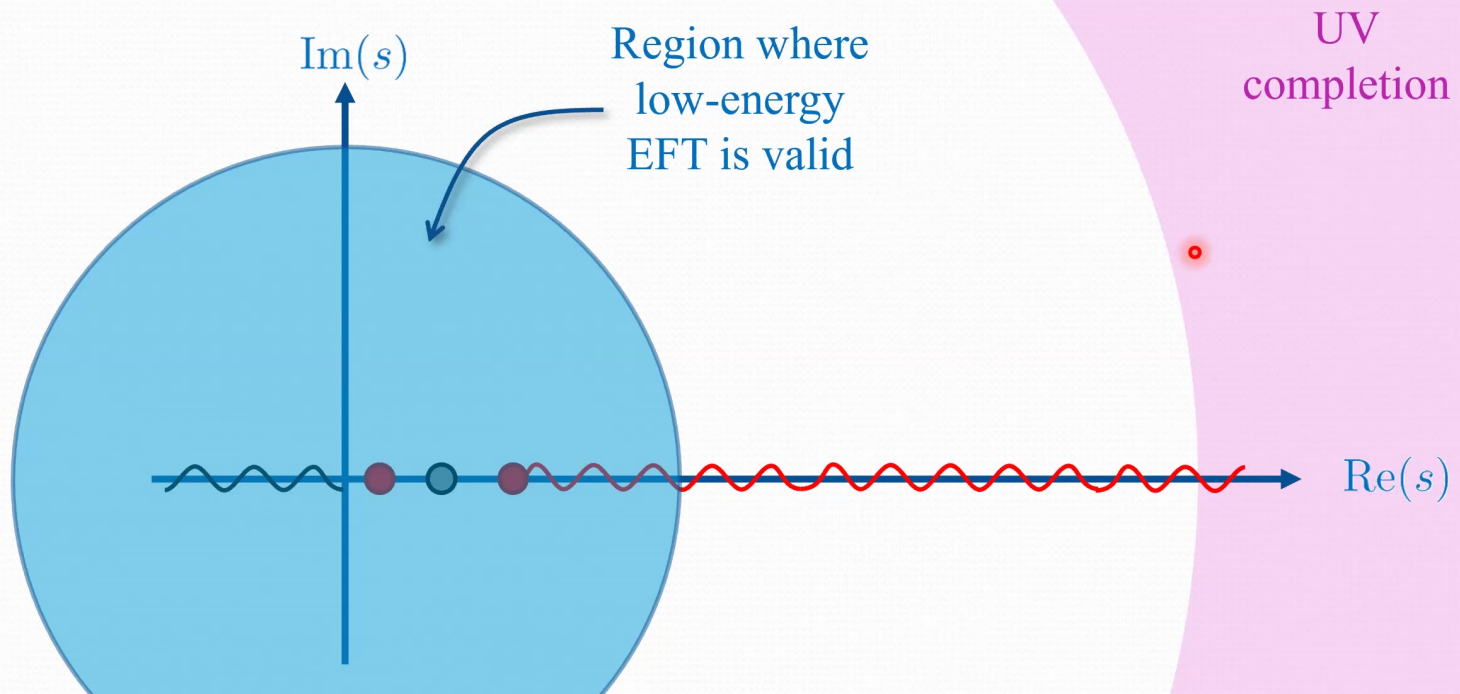


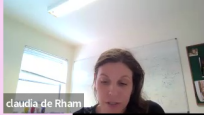
# Low-energy Scattering

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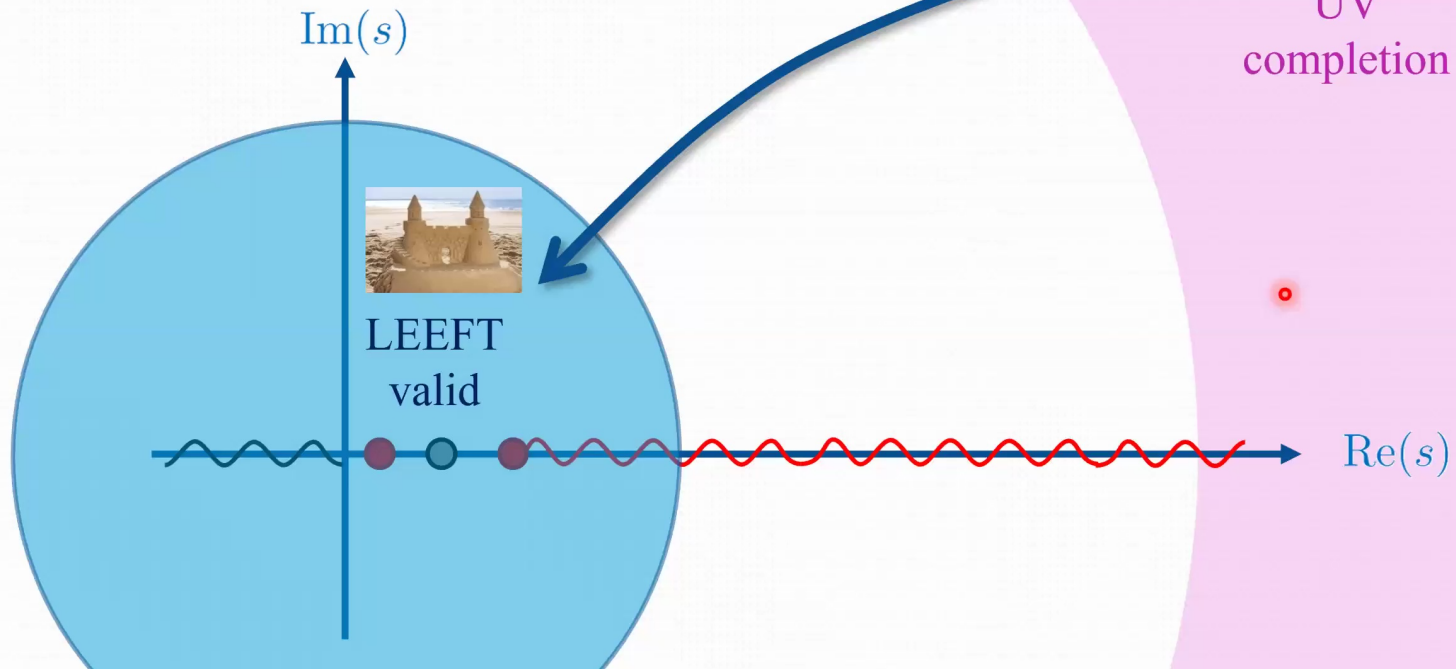
# Analyticity - Causality

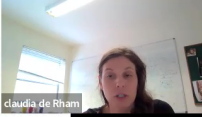
## Causality

– encoded by requirement of analyticity –  
is what **connects UV to IR**



UV  
completion



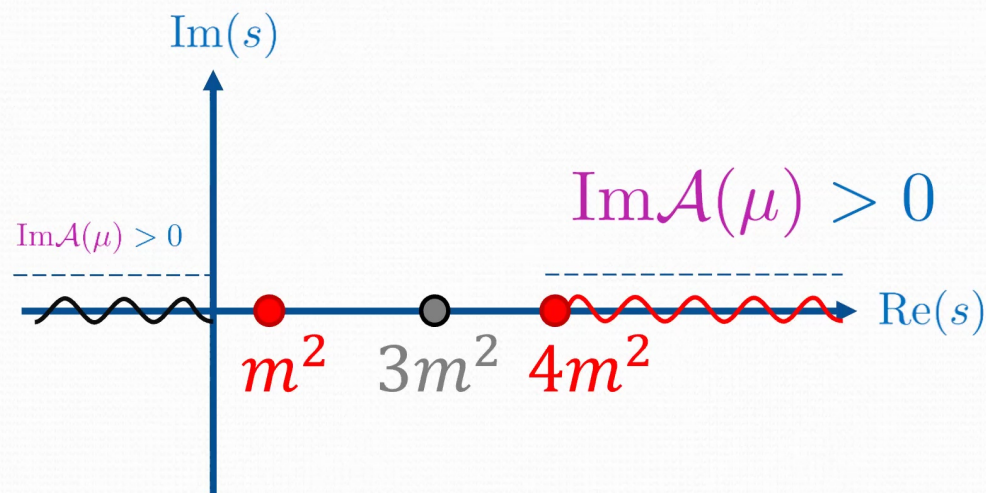


# Non-Gravitational EFT

- UV completion
- ✓ Unitary (optical theorem)
  - ✓ Lorentz invariant (crossing symmetry)

$\mathcal{A}$ : 2 – 2 elastic scattering amplitude

$$2 \operatorname{Im} \left[ \text{Diagram: circle with four external lines and a vertical dashed line} \right] = \sum_X \left| \text{Diagram: circle with four external lines and a horizontal dashed line} \right|^2 \geq \left| \text{Diagram: circle with four external lines} \right|^2$$



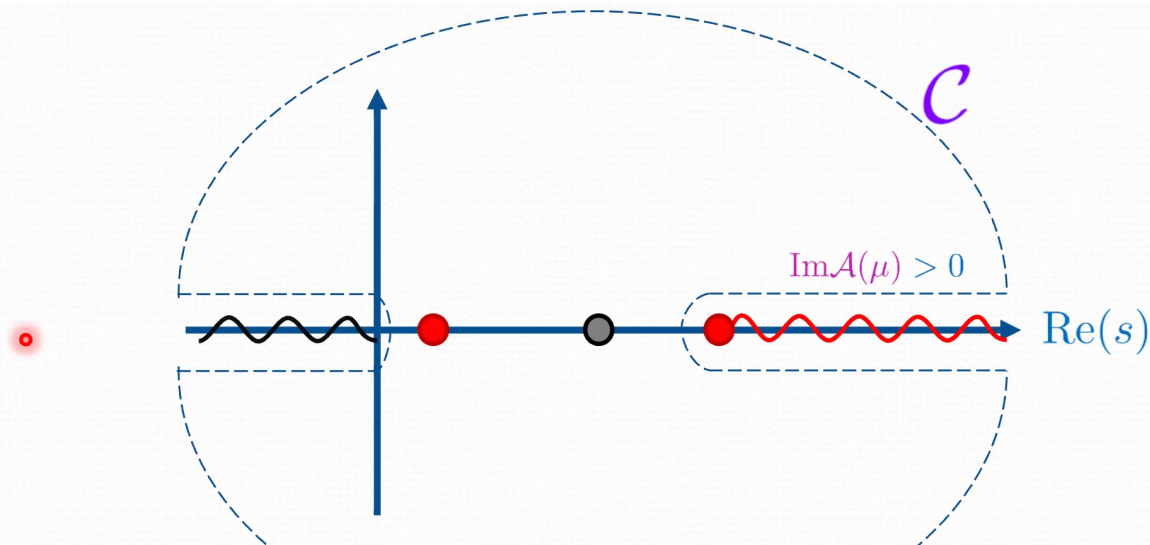


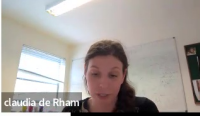
# Non-Gravitational EFT

UV completion

- ✓ Unitary (optical theorem)
- ✓ Lorentz invariant (crossing symmetry)
- ✓ CAUSAL (analyticity)

$$\mathcal{A}''(s)|_{t=0} = \oint_C \frac{\mathcal{A}(\mu)}{(\mu - s)^3} + \text{poles} + \text{cross-symmetric}$$





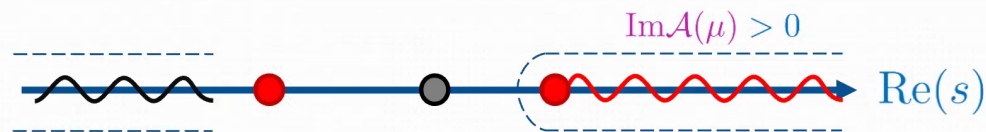
# Non-Gravitational EFT

UV completion

- ✓ Unitary (optical theorem)
- ✓ Lorentz invariant (crossing symmetry)
- ✓ CAUSAL (analyticity)
- ✓ Local (Froissart Bound)  $\lim_{|s| \rightarrow \infty} s^{-2} \mathcal{A}(s) = 0$

$$\mathcal{A}''(s) \Big|_{t=0} = \int_{4m^2}^{\infty} \frac{\text{Im} \mathcal{A}(\mu)}{(\mu - s)^3} + \text{cross-symmetric}$$

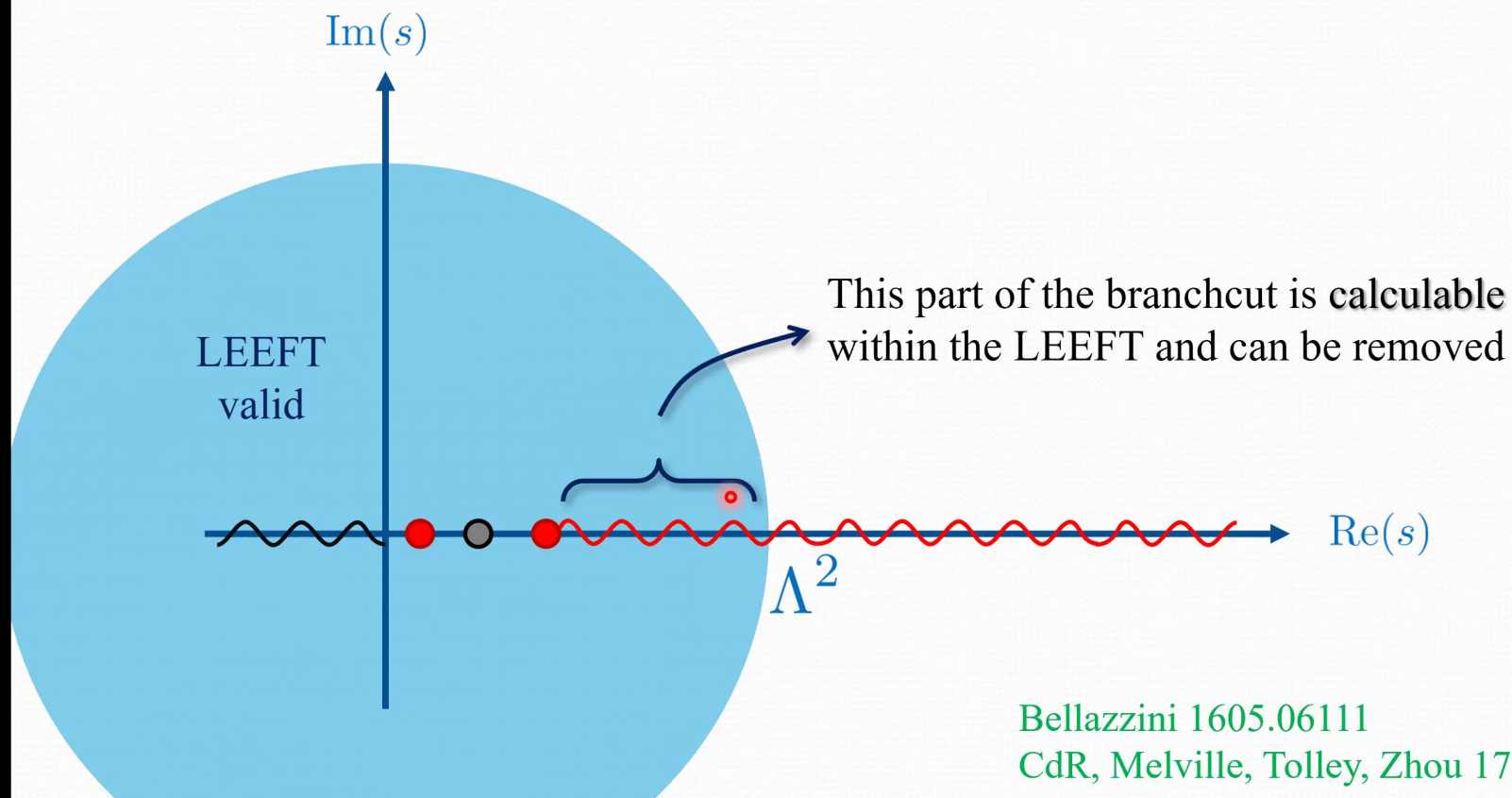
$$\frac{d^2 \mathcal{A}(s, t)}{ds^2} \Big|_{t=0} > 0$$



Pham and Truong 1985  
 Ananthanarayan, Toublan and Wanders, 1994  
 Adams et. al. 2006



# Improved Positivity Bounds

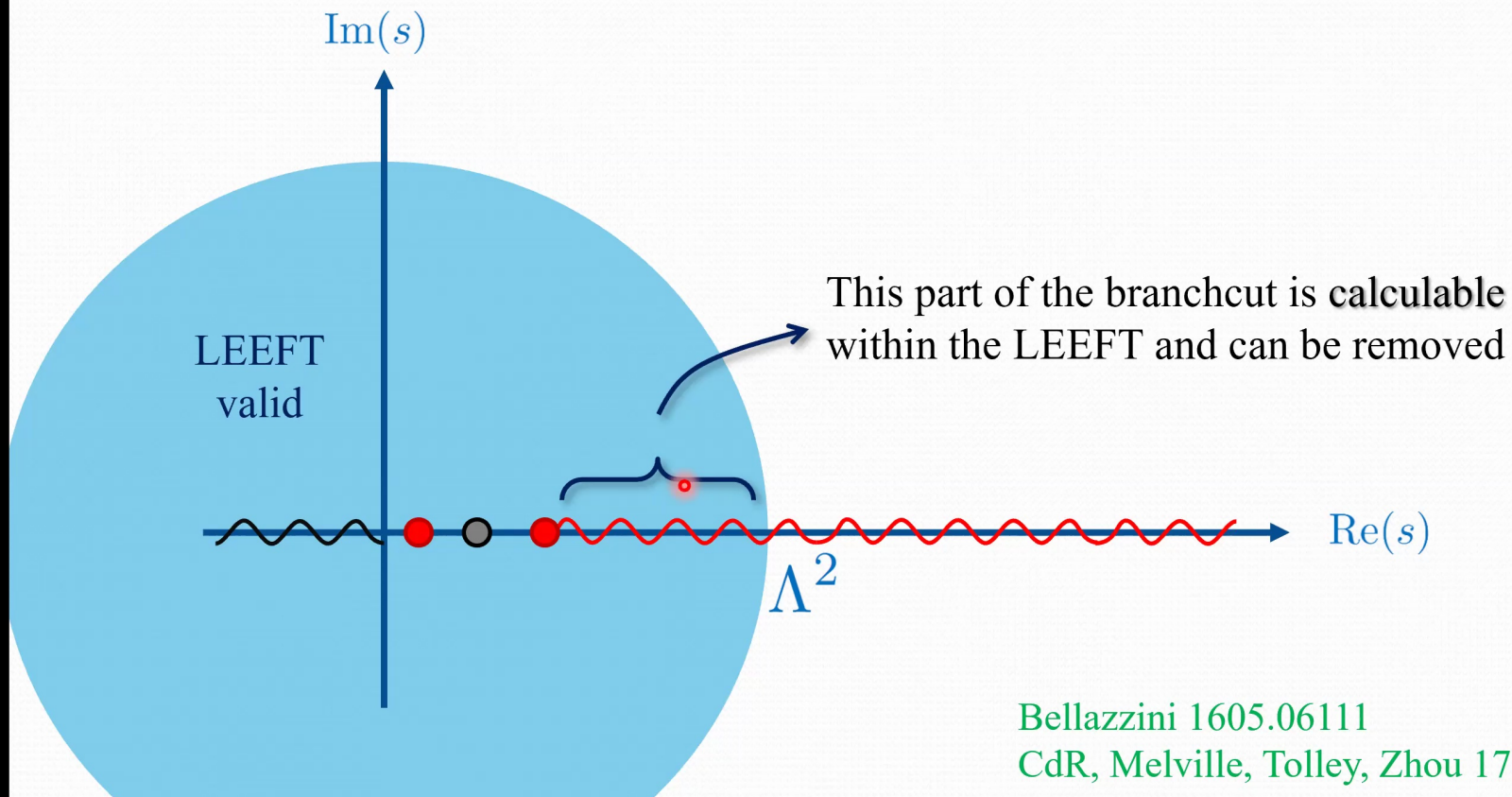


Bellazzini 1605.06111  
CdR, Melville, Tolley, Zhou 1702.08577



# Improved Positivity Bounds

$$\mathcal{A}''(s) > \int_{4m^2}^{\Lambda^2} d\mu \frac{\text{Im}\mathcal{A}(\mu)}{(\mu - s)^3} + \text{cross-symmetric} > 0$$

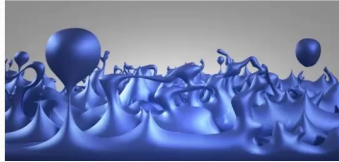


Bellazzini 1605.06111  
CdR, Melville, Tolley, Zhou 1702.08577





CoM Energy



UV completion

# Non-Gravitational EFT

- ✓ Unitary (optical theorem)
- ✓ Lorentz invariant (crossing symmetry)
- ✓ CAUSAL (analyticity)
- ✓ Local (Froissart Bound)  $\lim_{|s| \rightarrow \infty} s^{-2} \mathcal{A}(s) = 0$

$$\frac{\partial^n}{\partial t^n} \text{Im} \mathcal{A}(s, t) > 0$$

positivity bounds

(applied to low-energy scattering amplitude)

Low-energy EFT



● QUARKS ● LEPTONS ● BOSONS ● HIGGS BOSON

Pham and Truong 1985  
 Ananthanarayan, Toublan and Wanders, 1994  
 Adams et. al. 2006

$$\left. \frac{d^2 \mathcal{A}(s, t)}{ds^2} \right|_{t=0} > 0$$

+ infinite number of other bounds

CdR, Melville, Tolley & Zhou, 1702.06134 + ...

+ new fully crossing ones from Arkani-Hamed et.al., Bellazzini et.al. & Tolley et.al.

### 3. Dim-8 operators in VBS

The SMEFT Lagrangian is given by

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{SMEFT}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \sum_i \frac{c_i \mathcal{O}_i^{(6)}}{\Lambda^2} + \sum_i \frac{f_i \mathcal{O}_i^{(8)}}{\Lambda^4} + \dots, \quad (3.1)$$

where  $\Lambda$  is the cutoff and  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}}$  is the Standard Model Lagrangian. SMEFT shares the same particle content, gauge group structure and global symmetries as the Standard Model. We focus on vector boson scattering, and the relevant dim-8 operators are [6]

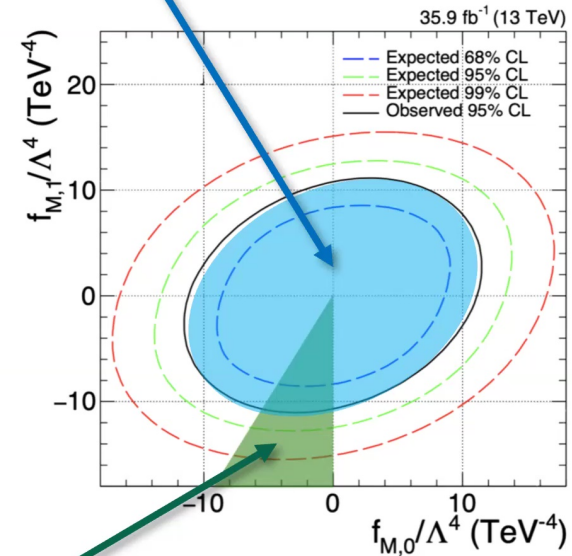
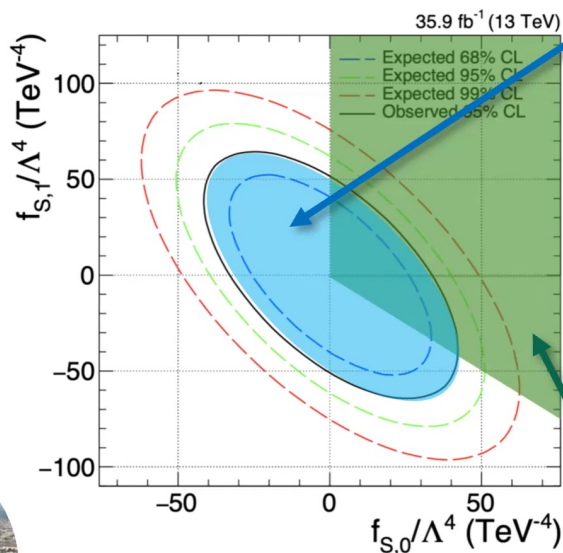
$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{O}_{S,0} &= [(D_\mu \Phi)^\dagger D_\nu \Phi] [(D^\mu \Phi)^\dagger D^\nu \Phi] & \mathcal{O}_{T,0} &= \text{Tr} [\hat{W}_{\mu\nu} \hat{W}^{\mu\nu}] \text{Tr} [\hat{W}_{\alpha\beta} \hat{W}^{\alpha\beta}] \\ \mathcal{O}_{S,1} &= [(D_\mu \Phi)^\dagger D^\mu \Phi] [(D_\nu \Phi)^\dagger D^\nu \Phi] & \mathcal{O}_{T,1} &= \text{Tr} [\hat{W}_{\alpha\nu} \hat{W}^{\mu\beta}] \text{Tr} [\hat{W}_{\mu\beta} \hat{W}^{\alpha\nu}] \\ \mathcal{O}_{S,2} &= [(D_\mu \Phi)^\dagger D_\nu \Phi] [(D^\nu \Phi)^\dagger D^\mu \Phi] & \mathcal{O}_{T,2} &= \text{Tr} [\hat{W}_{\alpha\mu} \hat{W}^{\mu\beta}] \text{Tr} [\hat{W}_{\beta\nu} \hat{W}^{\nu\alpha}] \\ \mathcal{O}_{M,0} &= \text{Tr} [\hat{W}_{\mu\nu} \hat{W}^{\mu\nu}] [(D_\beta \Phi)^\dagger D^\beta \Phi] & \mathcal{O}_{T,5} &= \text{Tr} [\hat{W}_{\mu\nu} \hat{W}^{\mu\nu}] \hat{B}_{\alpha\beta} \hat{B}^{\alpha\beta} \\ \mathcal{O}_{M,1} &= \text{Tr} [\hat{W}_{\mu\nu} \hat{W}^{\nu\beta}] [(D_\beta \Phi)^\dagger D^\mu \Phi] & \mathcal{O}_{T,6} &= \text{Tr} [\hat{W}_{\alpha\nu} \hat{W}^{\mu\beta}] \hat{B}_{\mu\beta} \hat{B}^{\alpha\nu} \\ \mathcal{O}_{M,2} &= [\hat{B}_{\mu\nu} \hat{B}^{\mu\nu}] [(D_\beta \Phi)^\dagger D^\beta \Phi] & \mathcal{O}_{T,7} &= \text{Tr} [\hat{W}_{\alpha\mu} \hat{W}^{\mu\beta}] \hat{B}_{\beta\nu} \hat{B}^{\nu\alpha} \\ \mathcal{O}_{M,3} &= [\hat{B}_{\mu\nu} \hat{B}^{\nu\beta}] [(D_\beta \Phi)^\dagger D^\mu \Phi] & \mathcal{O}_{T,8} &= \hat{B}_{\mu\nu} \hat{B}^{\mu\nu} \hat{B}_{\alpha\beta} \hat{B}^{\alpha\beta} \\ \mathcal{O}_{M,4} &= [(D_\mu \Phi)^\dagger \hat{W}_{\beta\nu} D^\mu \Phi] \hat{B}^{\beta\nu} & \mathcal{O}_{T,9} &= \hat{B}_{\alpha\mu} \hat{B}^{\mu\beta} \hat{B}_{\beta\nu} \hat{B}^{\nu\alpha}, \\ \mathcal{O}_{M,5} &= \frac{1}{2} [(D_\mu \Phi)^\dagger \hat{W}_{\beta\nu} D^\nu \Phi] \hat{B}^{\beta\mu} + hc & & \\ \mathcal{O}_{M,7} &= [(D_\mu \Phi)^\dagger \hat{W}_{\beta\nu} \hat{W}^{\beta\mu} D^\nu \Phi] & & \end{aligned} \quad (3.2)$$

where  $\hat{W}^{\mu\nu} \equiv ig \frac{\sigma^I}{2} W^{I,\mu\nu}$ ,  $\hat{B}^{\mu\nu} \equiv ig' \frac{1}{2} B^{\mu\nu}$  and the Higgs field should be expanded around the broken vacuum  $\Phi = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{v+h}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}^T$ .

e.g.

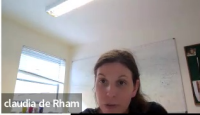
## Positivity bounds on dim-8 SMEFT operators

Regions compatible with data



Regions that can enjoy a standard high energy completion

Zhang&Zhou, 2018,  
Zhou 2019,2020





# Gravitational EFTs

- ✓ Unitary (optical theorem)
- ✓ Lorentz invariant (crossing symmetry)
- ✓ CAUSAL (analyticity)
- ✓ Local (Froissart Bound)

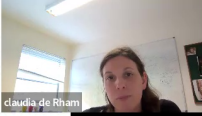


positivity bounds



(sub)luminal  
sound speed

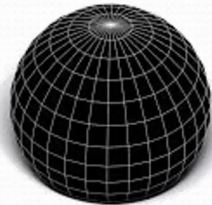
Surely all these subtleties are  
**suppressed...**  
Why should I care?



# Motivation 1: Weak Gravity Conjecture

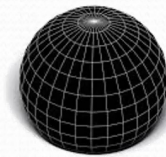
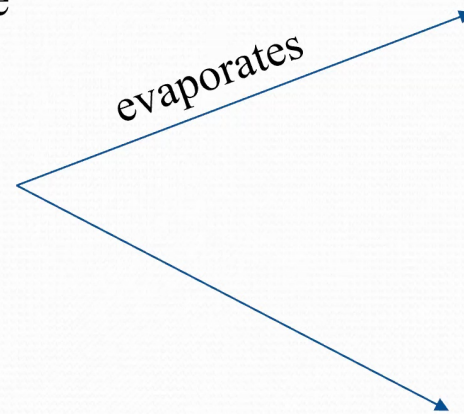
Consider a new BSM U(1)  $\mathcal{L} = \frac{M_{\text{Pl}}^2}{2} R - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu}^2$

Extremal Black Hole



$$Q = M$$

(in units of  $\sqrt{2} M_{\text{Pl}}$ )

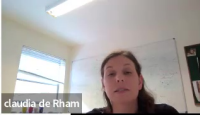


$$Q \leq M \quad (\text{to avoid naked singularity})$$



For every U(1), there must be a massive charged particle with  $Q \geq M$

Arkani-Hamed, Motl, Nicolis, Cumrun, 2007



# U(1) EFT

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{M_{\text{Pl}}^2}{2} R - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu}^2 + \underbrace{a \frac{q^4}{m^4} (F_{\mu\nu}^2)^2 + b \frac{2q^2}{m^2} F_{\mu\nu} F_{\alpha\beta} W^{\mu\alpha\nu\beta} + \dots}_{\text{Redresses BH mass and charge}}$$



Redresses BH mass and charge

New BH extremality condition is:

$$\left( \frac{\sqrt{2}|Q|}{M/M_{\text{Pl}}} \right)_{\text{extr}} = 1 + \frac{|\#|}{M^2/M_{\text{Pl}}^2} \mathcal{C}(a, b) + \dots$$

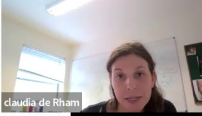
If  $\mathcal{C}(a, b) > 0$



Extremal BHs can evaporate *without* leading to naked singularity and *without* postulating a massive charged particle with  $Q \geq M$  (other than BHs themselves).

Do positivity bounds impose  $\mathcal{C} > 0$  ?

Kats, Motl & M. Padi, hep-th/0606100  
Cheung & Remmen, 1407.7865  
Hamada, Noumi & Shiu, 1810.03637



# Motivation 2: EFT of Gravity

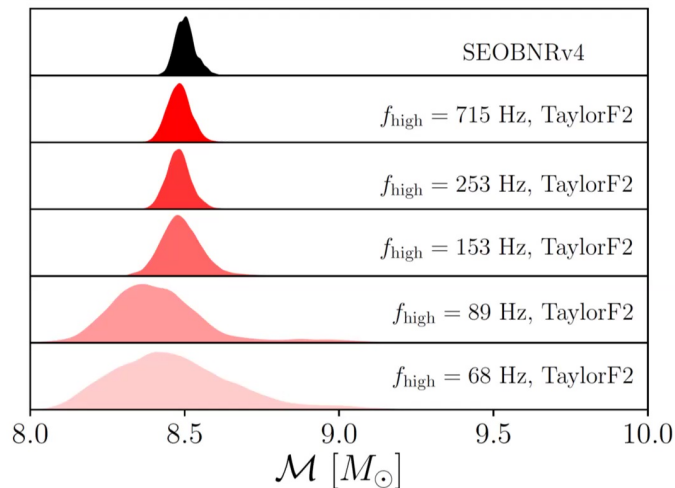
Interesting GWs constraints in dim-8 EFT

$$S_{\text{eff}} = 2M_{\text{pl}}^2 \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left( -R + \frac{C^2}{\Lambda^6} + \frac{\tilde{C}^2}{\tilde{\Lambda}^6} + \frac{C\tilde{C}}{\Lambda^6} \right) + \dots,$$

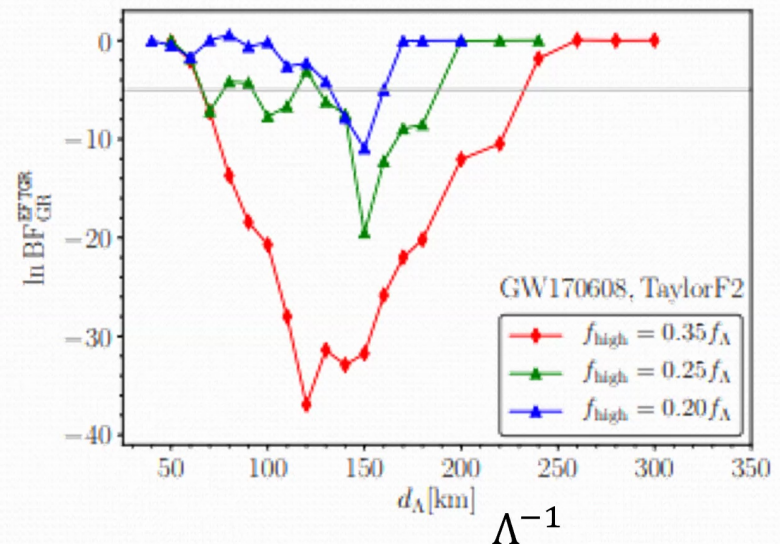
$$C \equiv R_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} R^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta},$$

$$\tilde{C} \equiv R_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} \epsilon^{\alpha\beta}_{\mu\nu} R^{\mu\nu\gamma\delta},$$

For GW170608, with corresponding cutoff of  $\Lambda \sim 10^{-13} \text{eV}$



chirp mass posterior density distribution



Sennett, Brito, Buonanno, Gorbenko, Senatore, 1912.09917



# Motivation 3: Constraining Models of DE

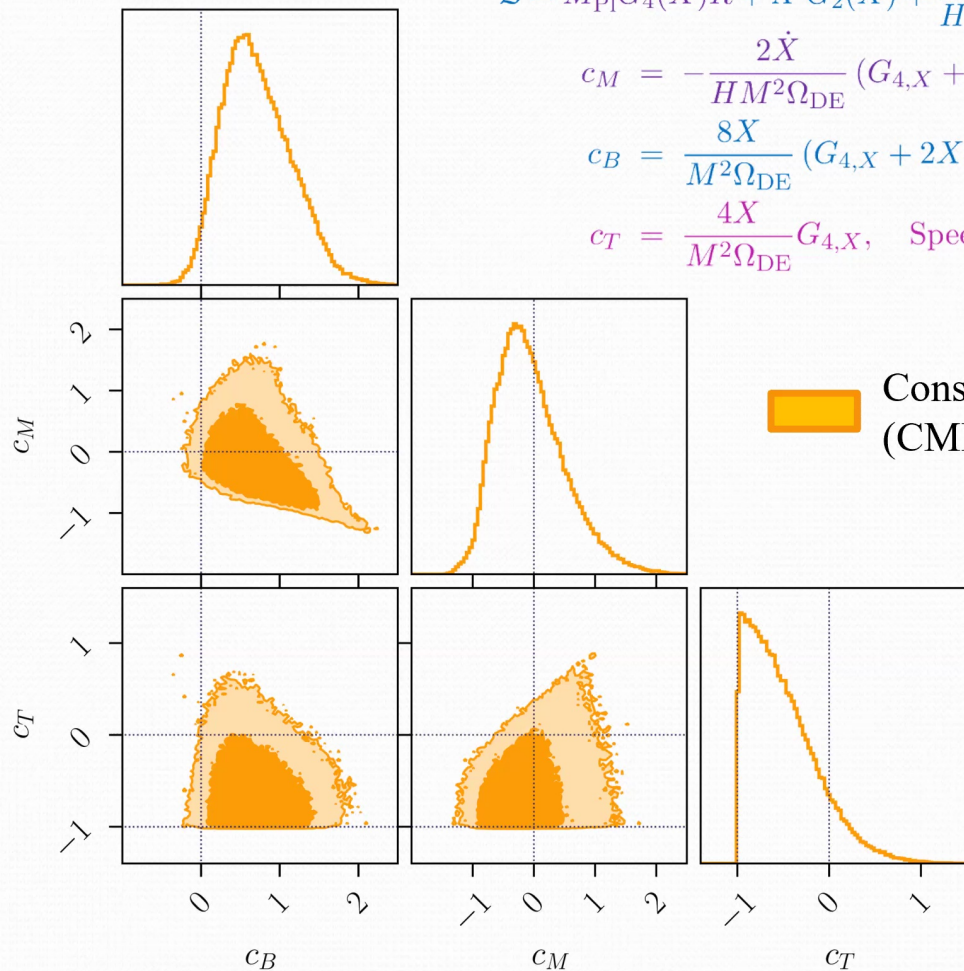
Example of DE/MG: quartic Horndeski with parameters  $c_{B,M,T}$


$$\mathcal{L} = M_{\text{Pl}}^2 G_4(X) R + \Lambda^4 G_2(X) + \frac{1}{H_0^2} G_{4,X}(X) \left( (\square\phi)^2 - (\nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu \phi)^2 \right) + \mathcal{L}_{\text{matter}}(\psi, g)$$

$$c_M = -\frac{2\dot{X}}{HM^2\Omega_{\text{DE}}} (G_{4,X} + 2XG_{4,XX}), \quad \text{Effective Planck Mass}$$

$$c_B = \frac{8X}{M^2\Omega_{\text{DE}}} (G_{4,X} + 2XG_{4,XX}), \quad \text{“Braiding” (scalar/tensor mixing)}$$

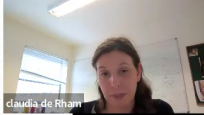
$$c_T = \frac{4X}{M^2\Omega_{\text{DE}}} G_{4,X}, \quad \text{Speed of GWs} - 1 \qquad M^2 = 2(G_4 - 2XG_{4,X})$$



 Constraints from observations (CMB, BAO, redshift space distortion,...)

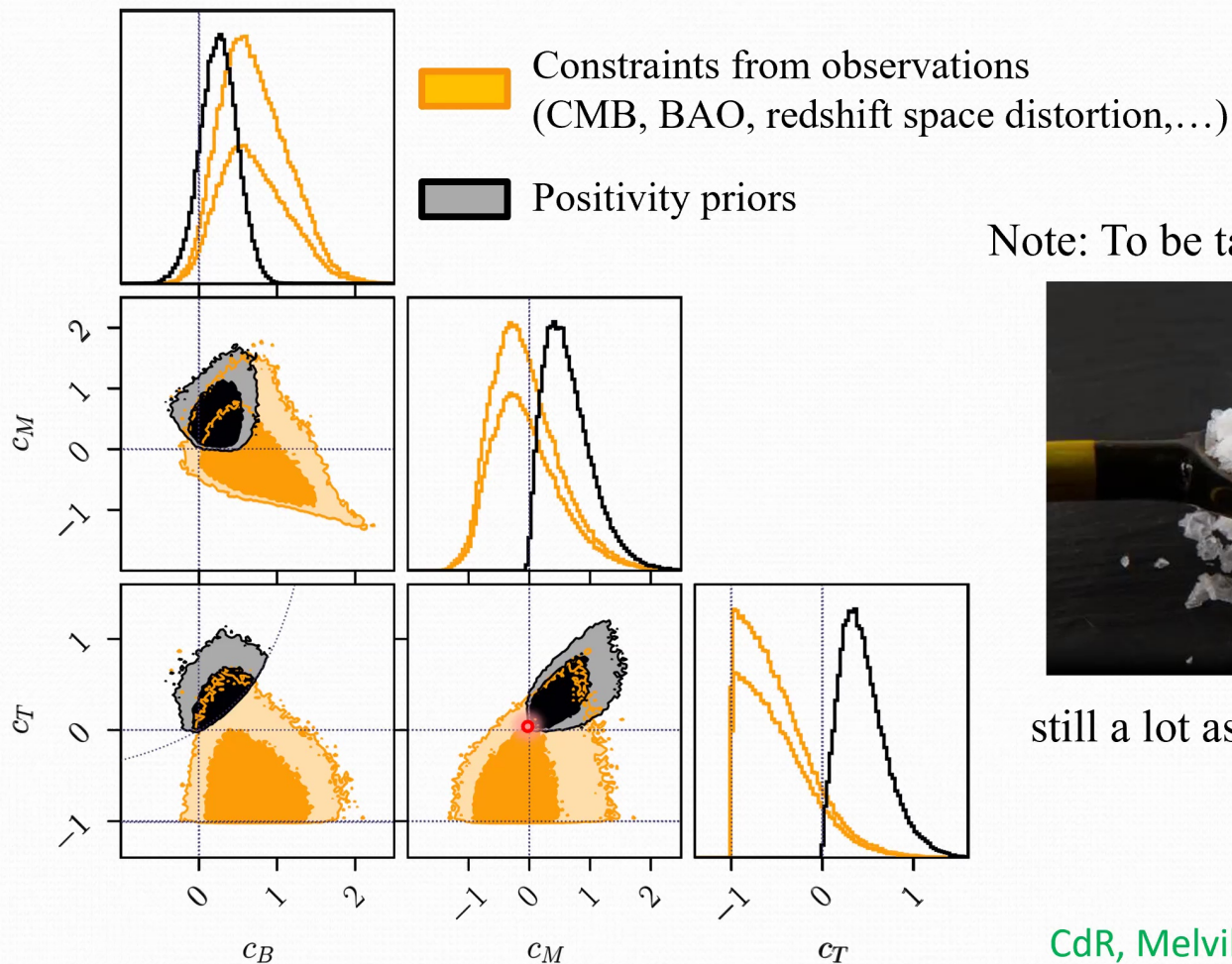


CdR, Melville and Noller 2103.06855



# Motivation 3: Constraining Models of DE

Example of DE/MG:  
quartic Horndeski with parameters  $c_{B,M,T}$



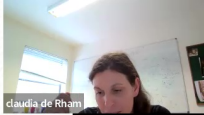
Note: To be taken with a pinch of salt



still a lot assumptions been made...

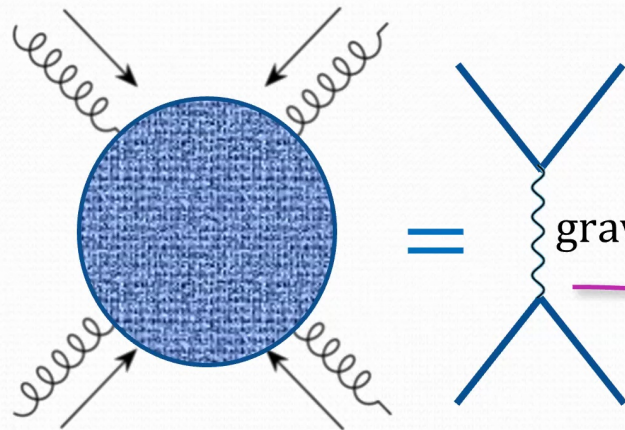
CdR, Melville and Noller 2103.06855





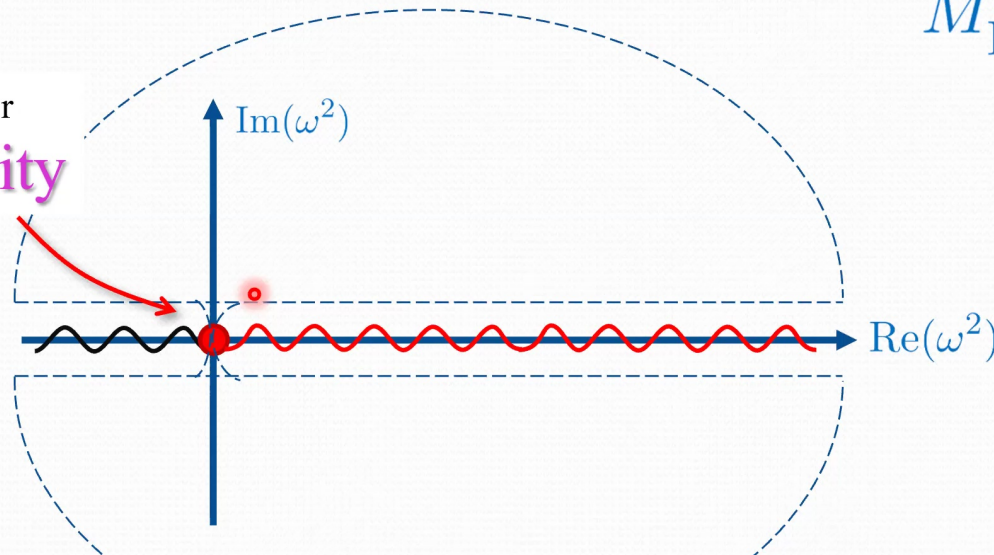
# Unitarity + Causality with Gravity

Graviton exchange spoils analyticity

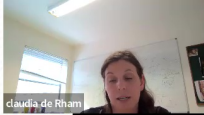


$$\mathcal{A} \sim -\frac{s^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2 t} + \frac{C s^2}{m^4}$$

no room for analyticity

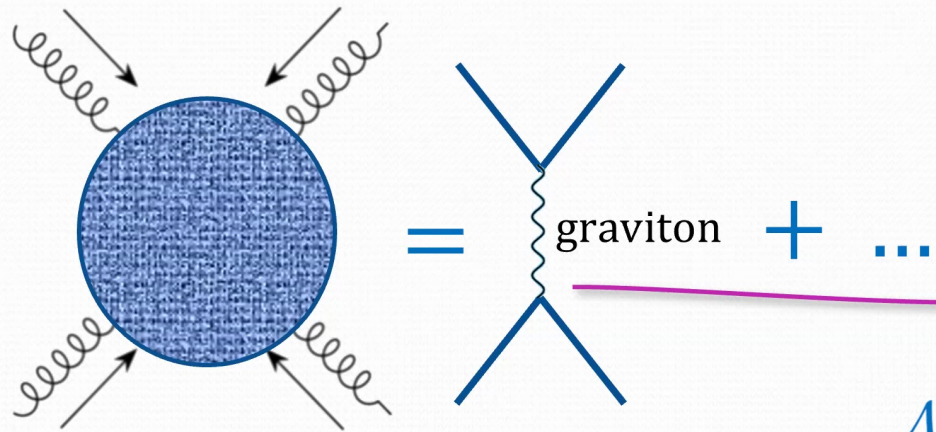


$C > 0$  ???



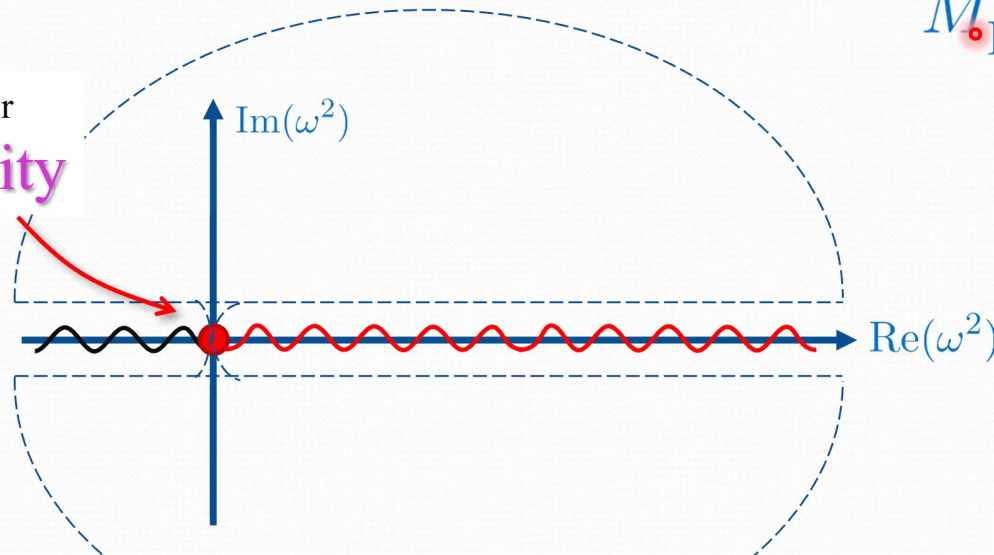
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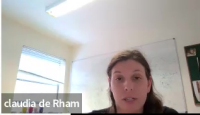


$$\mathcal{A} \sim -\frac{s^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2 t} + \frac{C s^2}{m^4}$$

no room for analyticity



$C > 0$  ???



# Gravitational bounds

$$A \sim -\frac{s^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^{D-2} t} + c \frac{s^2}{m^D} + \dots \quad \longrightarrow \quad \cancel{c > 0}$$

Conjectured (based on QED examples and causality arguments) that gravity generically allows for some mild negativity

$$c \gtrsim -\left(\frac{m}{M_{\text{Pl}}}\right)^{D-2}$$

with Alberte, Jaitly and Tolley  
2007.12667, 2012.05798

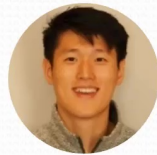
Consistent with results from “Sharp Boundaries for the Swampland”  
Caron-Huot, Mazac, Rastelli & Simmons-Duffin, 2102.08951

Can be derived using “Infrared Causality”,

Aoibheann  
Margalit



Calvin  
Chen

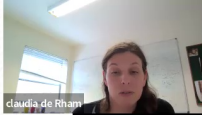


Andrew  
Tolley



2112.05031

arguments based on “Asymptotic Causality” would fail  
see also See also CdR, Tolley & Zhang 2112.05054



# Switch Gravity On

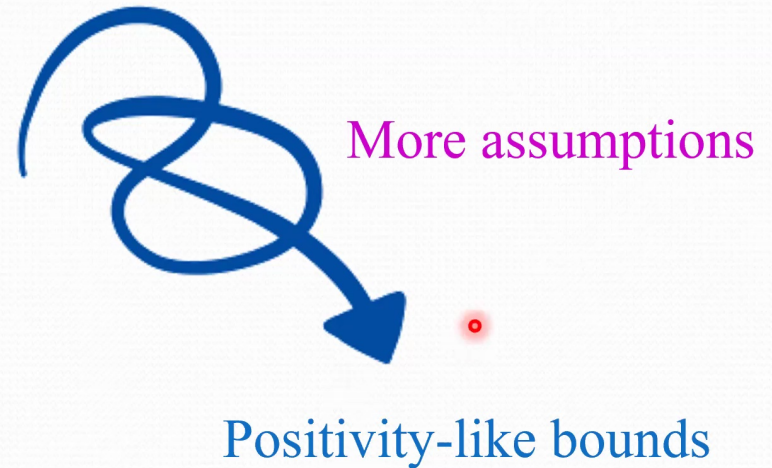
- ✓ Unitary
- ✓ Lorentz invariant (crossing symmetry)
- ? CAUSAL (analyticity)
- ? Local (Froissart-like Bound)  $\lim_{|s| \rightarrow \infty} s^{-2} \mathcal{A}(s) = 0$

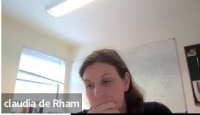
Causality ↔ Analyticity ?

Massless loops ↔ Gaplessness !

Massless spin-2 ↔ Froissart-like bound ?

Massless spin-2 ↔ t-channel pole !





# Assumptions

## 1. There is a limit where Massless Loops can be ignored

- Graviton loops are Mpl suppressed
- Spin < 2 massless loops do not contribute the  $s^2$  unless non-local IR-UV mixing

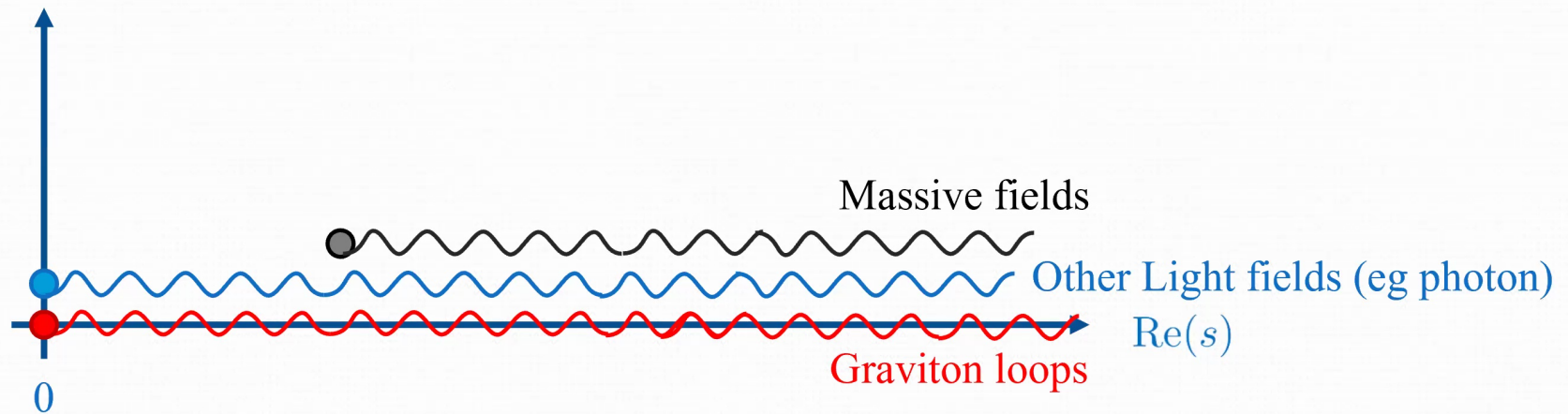
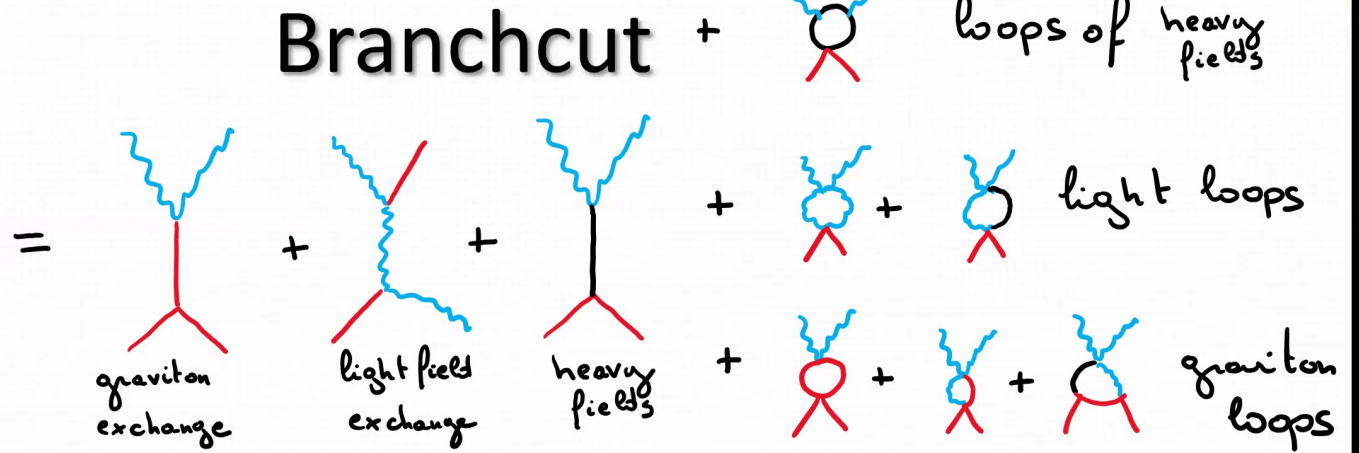
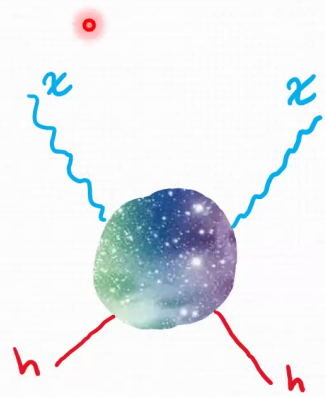
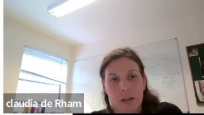
## 2. Amplitude respects Froissart-like Bound $\lim_{|s| \rightarrow \infty} s^{-2} \mathcal{A}(s) = 0$

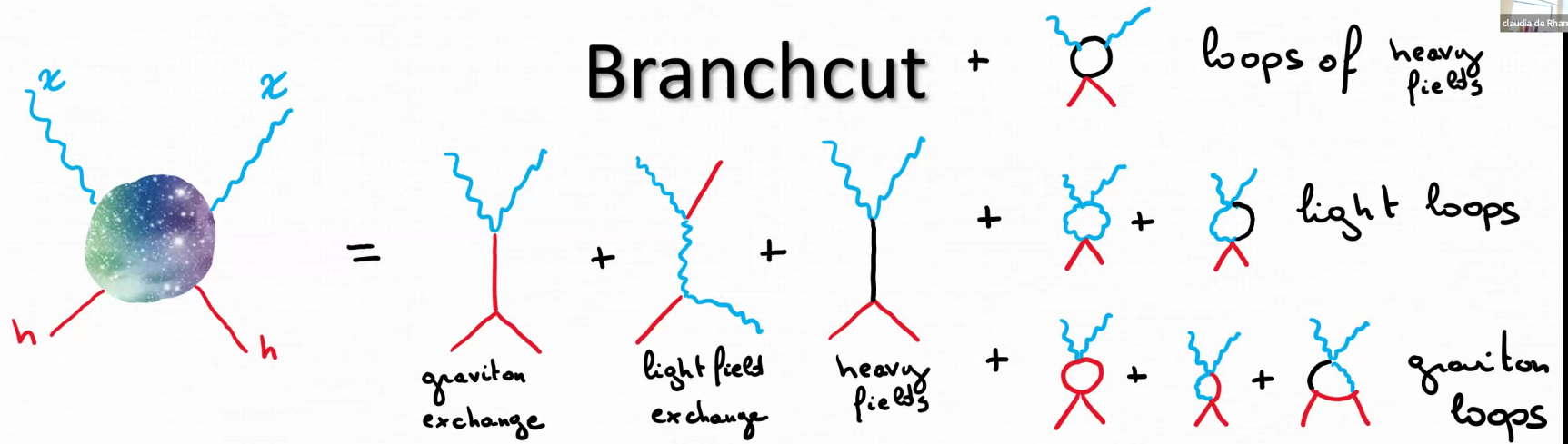
- Expected to be valid for instance in string theory in  $D \geq 5$
- For  $D = 4$ , IR divergences makes it more subtle

## → Regge behaviour $\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \text{Disc } \mathcal{A}(s, t) = r(t) \Lambda_r^4 \left( \frac{s}{\Lambda_r^2} \right)^{\alpha(t)}$

- Arises in weakly coupled string theory
- Can be argued for more universally if amplitude satisfies a dispersion relation in physical region with 2 subtractions

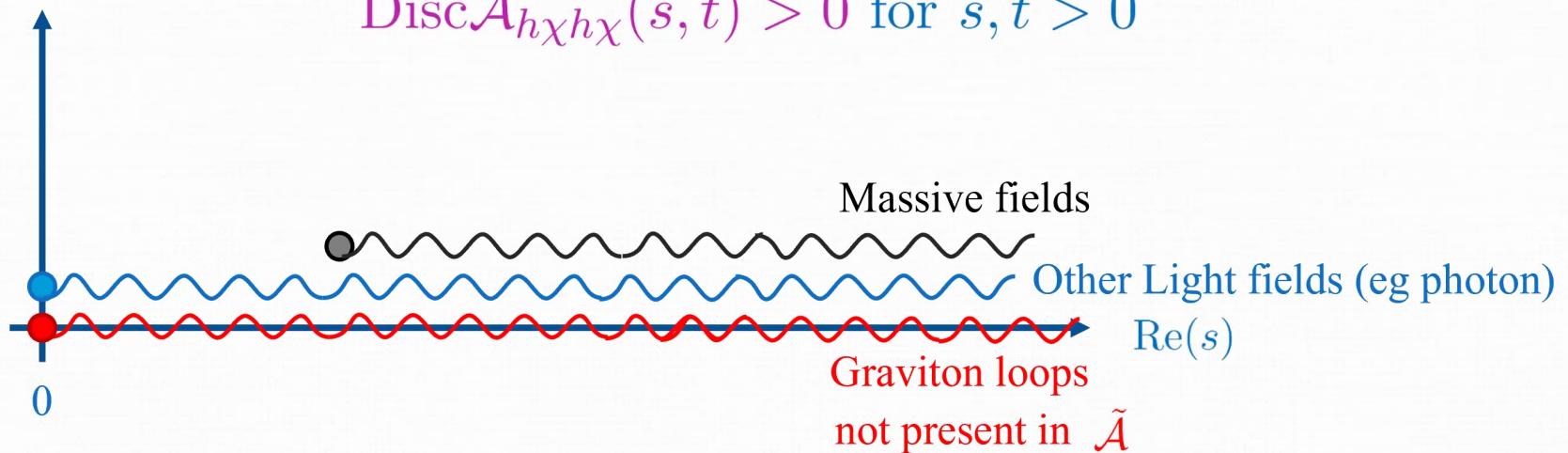
## 3. Analyticity away from real $s$ -axis, 4. Unitarity, 5. Crossing symmetry, ... in 1<sup>st</sup> Riemann sheet

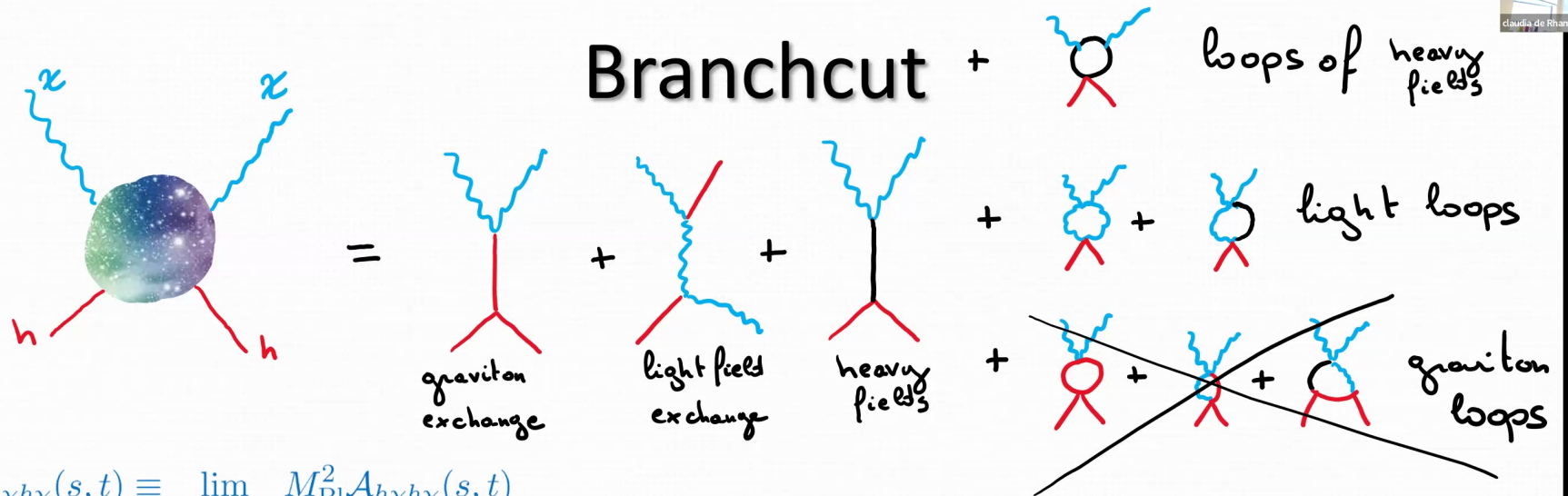




$$\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_{h\chi h\chi}(s, t) \equiv \lim_{M_{\text{Pl}} \rightarrow \infty} M_{\text{Pl}}^2 \mathcal{A}_{h\chi h\chi}(s, t)$$

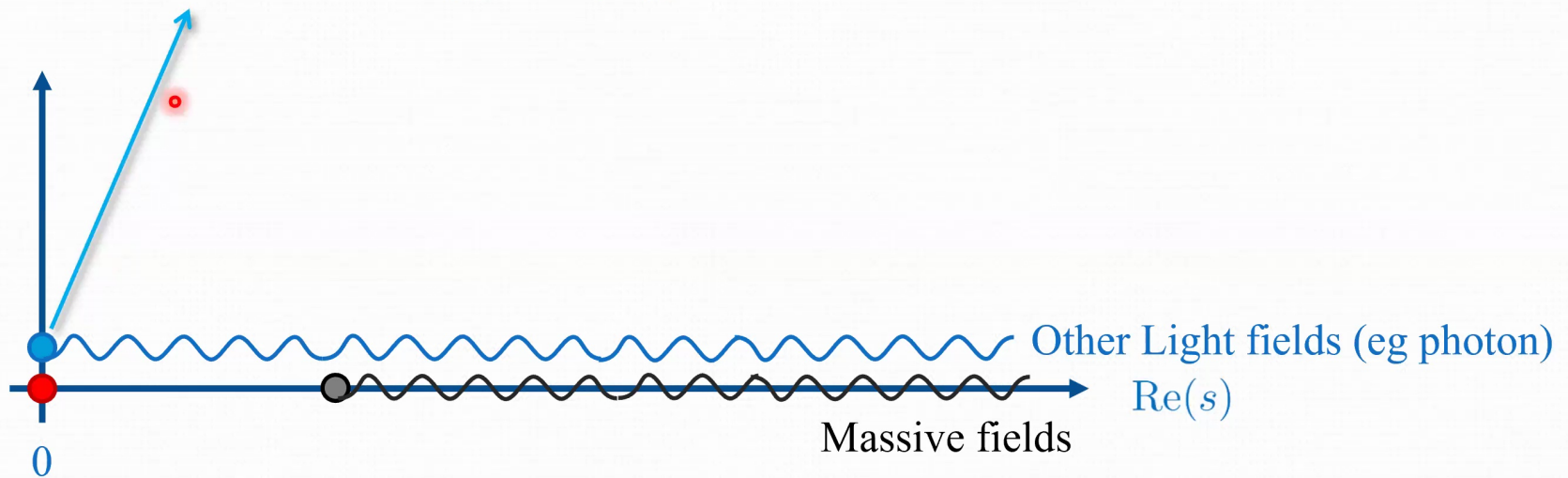
$$\text{Disc} \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_{h\chi h\chi}(s, t) > 0 \text{ for } s, t > 0$$



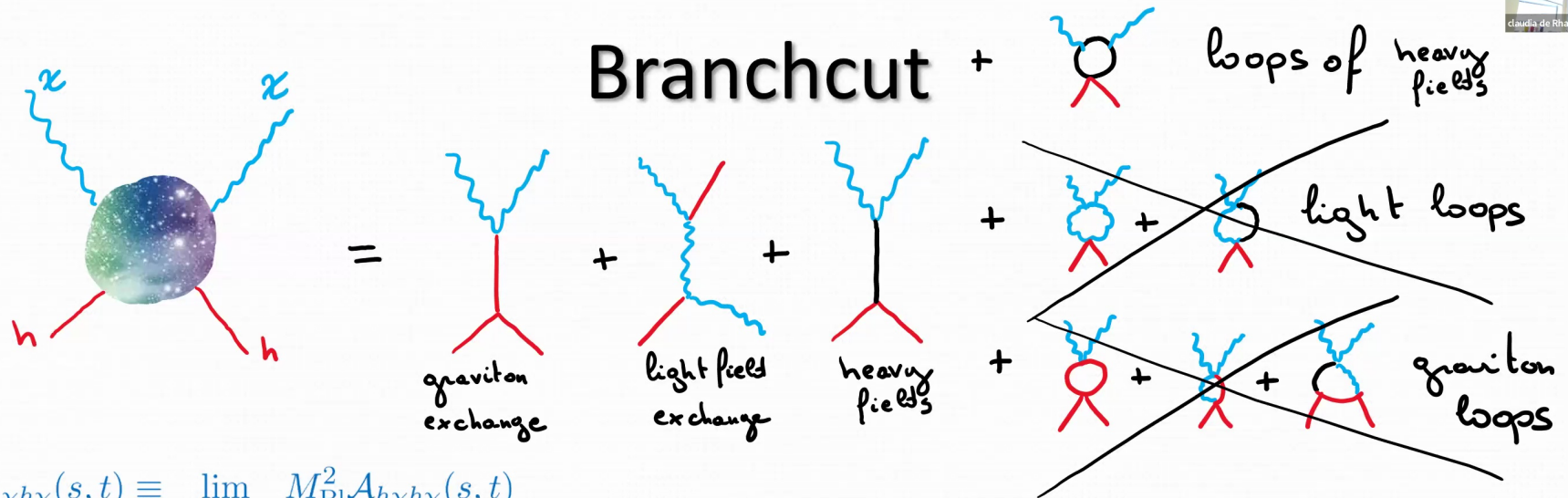


$$\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_{h\chi h\chi}(s, t) \equiv \lim_{M_{\text{Pl}} \rightarrow \infty} M_{\text{Pl}}^2 \mathcal{A}_{h\chi h\chi}(s, t)$$

Poles from other (spin < 2) light fields are harmless

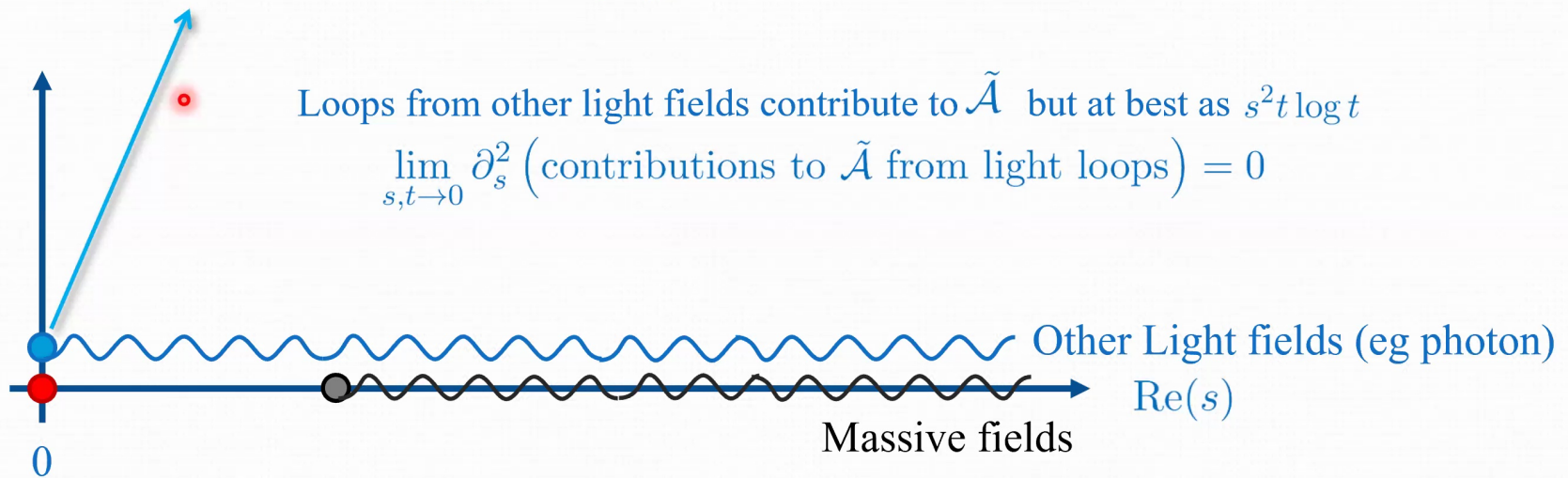






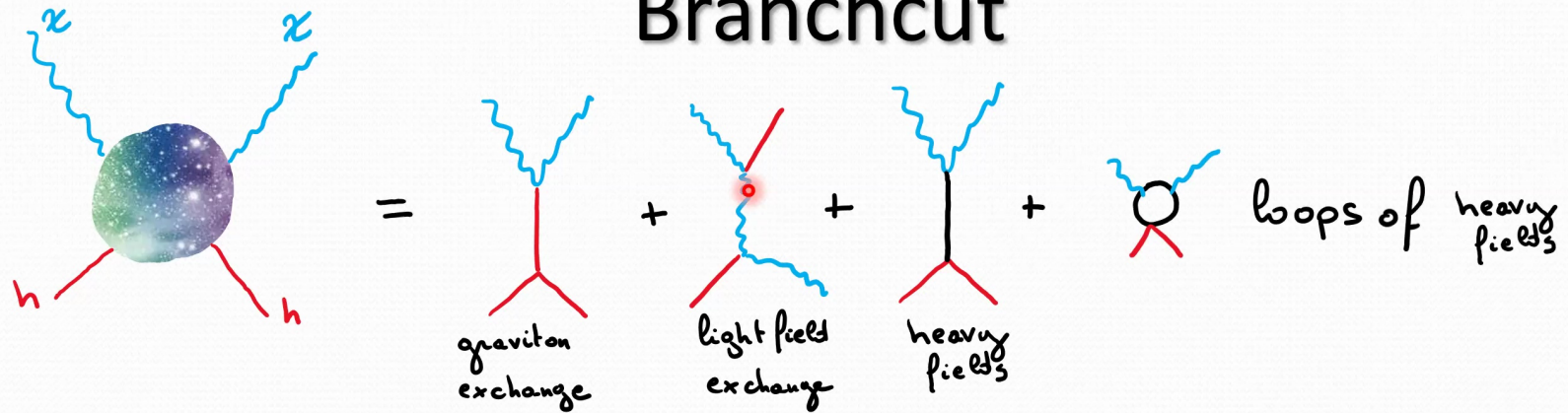
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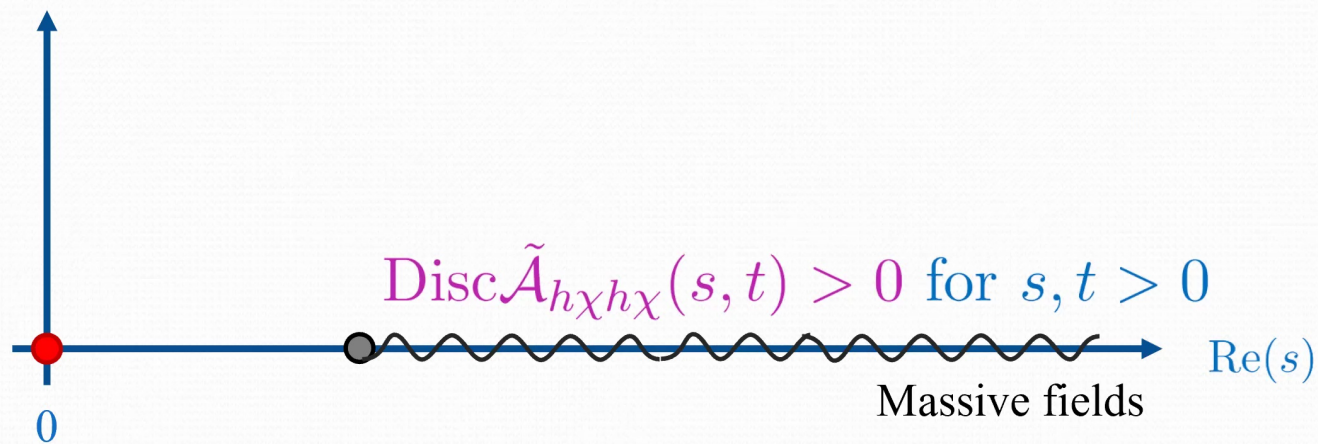




# Branchcut



$$\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_{h\chi h\chi}(s, t) \equiv \lim_{M_{\text{Pl}} \rightarrow \infty} M_{\text{Pl}}^2 \mathcal{A}_{h\chi h\chi}(s, t)$$





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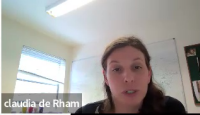
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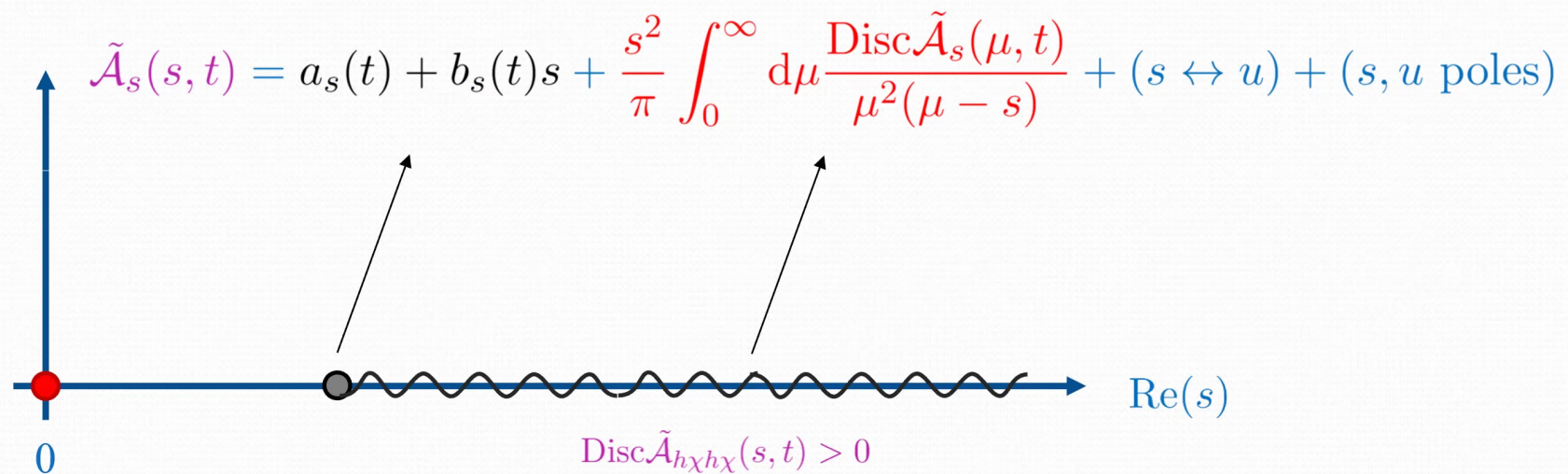
# Two Subtractions

Amplitude should admit a dispersion relation with 3 subtractions

$$\lim_{|s| \rightarrow \infty} s^{-3} \tilde{\mathcal{A}} = 0 \text{ for } t < 0 \text{ and } t > 0 \quad (\text{assuming no massless loops})$$

In  $D \geq 5$ , we would expect from perturbative string theory

$$\lim_{|s| \rightarrow \infty} s^{-2} \tilde{\mathcal{A}} = 0 \text{ for } t < 0 \quad \text{take it as an assumption in } D = 4$$





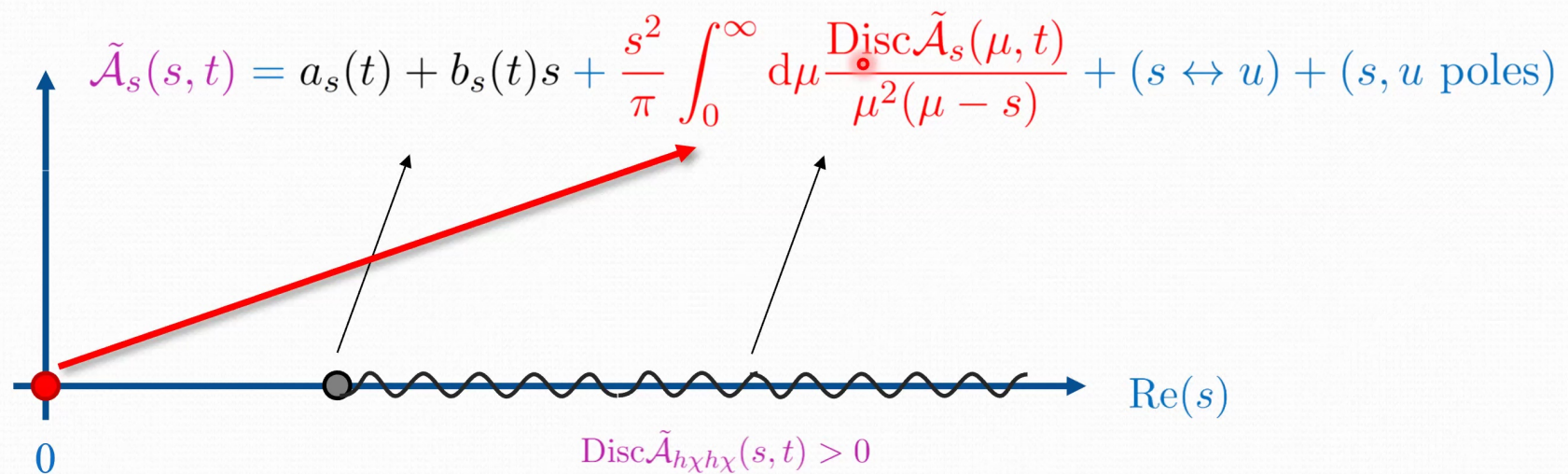
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# Regge behavior

$\lambda(t) \sim a + bt + ct^2$

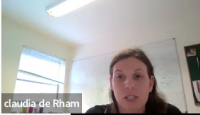
$$A = \frac{\lambda(t)}{m^2 - s} + s^2 \int_{4m^2}^{\infty} d\mu \frac{\text{Im} A(\mu, t)}{\mu^2(\mu - s)} + s \rightarrow u$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow m^2} \sim s^2 \int_{4m^2}^{\infty} d\mu \frac{\text{Im} (A(\mu, m^2))}{\mu^2(\mu - s)} \sim \frac{\lambda(s)}{m^2 - t} \rightarrow a + bs + cs^2$$

pole must come from  $\int d\mu$

- \* for  $t < m^2$   $\int d\mu$  finite  $\Rightarrow \lim_{|\mu| \rightarrow \infty} \text{Im} A < \mu^{(2)}$
  - \* for  $t = m^2$   $\int d\mu$  diverge  $\lim_{|\mu| \rightarrow \infty} \text{Im} A \sim \mu^{(2)}$
  - \* for  $t > m^2$  diverge but would converge with one extra subtraction  $\lim_{|\mu| \rightarrow \infty} \text{Im} A < \mu^{(3)}$
- Switch of power  $\equiv$  Regge behavior  
Implicit as soon as assume Froissart bound.

about  $t \sim m^2$ ,  $\lim_{|\mu| \rightarrow \infty} \text{Im} A(\mu, t) \sim \mu^{\alpha(t)} \approx \underbrace{\alpha(m^2)}_{=2} + (t - m^2) \alpha'(m^2)$



# Regge Assumption for massless state

near  $t = 0$

$$\lim_{\mu \rightarrow +\infty} \text{Disc } \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_{s,u}(\mu, t) = r_{s,u}(t) \Lambda_r^4 \left( \frac{\mu}{\Lambda_r^2} \right)^{\alpha_{s,u}(t)}$$

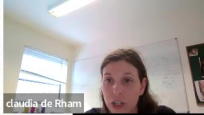
$\Lambda_r \gg$  other scales

$r_{s,u}(t)$  residue of Regge pole

$$\alpha_{s,u}(t) = 2 + \alpha'_{s,u} t + \dots$$

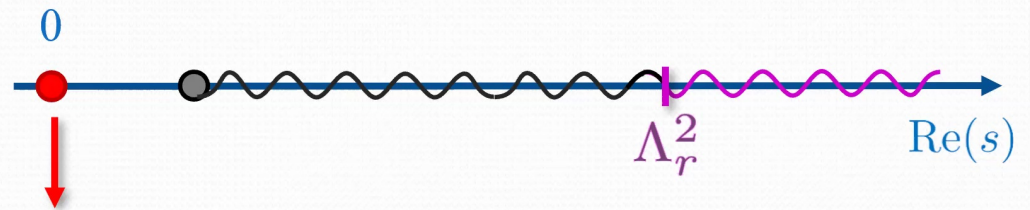
Regge slope

$t$  –dependence of Regge residue and slope  
typically expected to enter at string scale  $M_*$   
or scale  $\gg$  SM physics



# Subtracting Regge

$$\alpha_{s,u}(t) = 2 + \alpha'_{s,u}t + \dots$$



$$\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_s(s, t) = a_s(t) + b_s(t)s + \frac{s^2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty d\mu \frac{\text{Disc} \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_s(\mu, t)}{\mu^2(\mu - s)} + (s \leftrightarrow u) + (s, u \text{ poles})$$

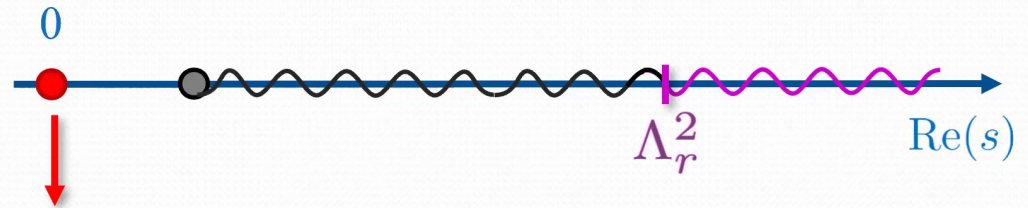






# Subtracting Regge

$$\alpha_{s,u}(t) = 2 + \alpha'_{s,u}t + \dots$$



$$\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_s(s, t) = a_s(t) + b_s(t)s + \underbrace{\frac{s^2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty d\mu \frac{\text{Disc} \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_s(\mu, t)}{\mu^2(\mu - s)}}_{\text{3 subtractions}} + (s \leftrightarrow u) + (s, u \text{ poles})$$

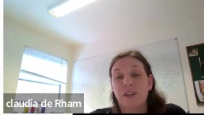
$$= \frac{s^3}{\pi} \int_0^\infty d\mu \frac{\text{Disc} \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_s}{\mu^3(\mu - s)} + \underbrace{\frac{s^2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty d\mu \frac{\text{Disc} \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_s}{\mu^3}}_{\text{3 subtractions}}$$

Finite & positive

$$\frac{s^2}{\pi} \int_0^{\Lambda_r^2} d\mu \frac{\text{Disc} \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_s}{\mu^3} + \underbrace{\frac{s^2}{\pi} \int_{\Lambda_r^2}^\infty d\mu \frac{\mu^{\alpha_s(t)-3}}{\Lambda_r^{2\alpha_s(t)-4}} r_s(t)}_{\text{Regge behaviour}}$$

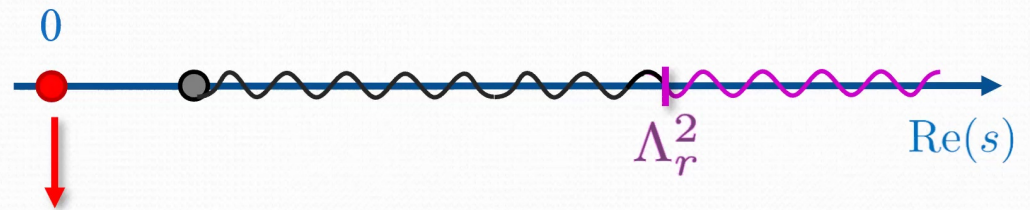
$$= \frac{s^2}{\pi} \frac{r_s(t)}{2 - \alpha_s(t)}$$

$$= -\frac{r_s(0)}{\pi \alpha'_s(0)} s^2 \left( \frac{1}{t} + -2(\ln r_s)' + (\ln \alpha'_s)' + \mathcal{O}(t) \right)$$



# Subtracting Regge

$$\alpha_{s,u}(t) = 2 + \alpha'_{s,u} t + \dots$$



$$\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_s(s, t) = a_s(t) + b_s(t)s + \frac{s^2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty d\mu \frac{\text{Disc} \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_s(\mu, t)}{\mu^2(\mu - s)} + (s \leftrightarrow u) + (s, u \text{ poles})$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial_s^2 \hat{\mathcal{A}}}{t=0} \right| > \underbrace{-2(\ln r)' + (\ln \alpha')'}_{\text{Related to details of Regge behaviour}}$$

typically assumed

$$\sim M_*^{-4} \ll \text{low-energy physics}$$

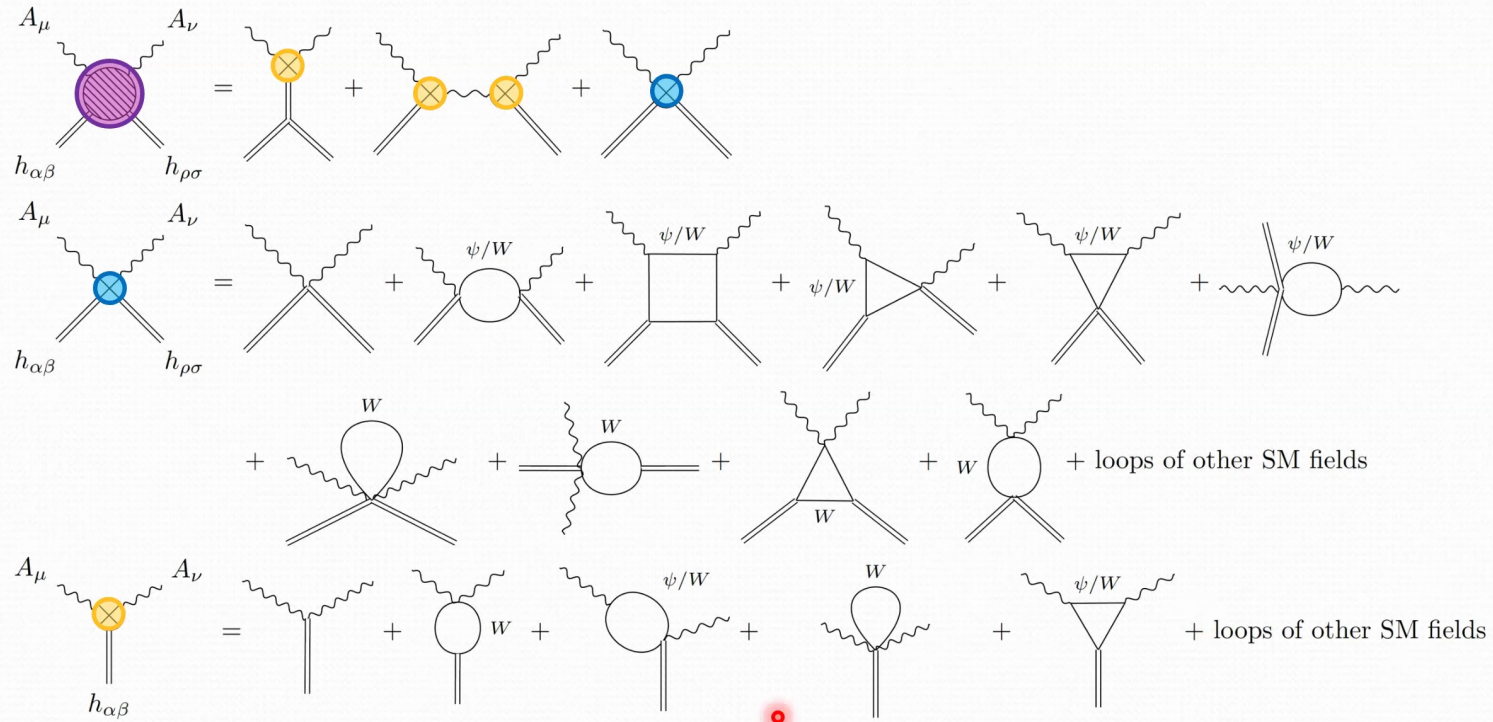
pole subtracted

Related to details of Regge behaviour



# hAhA

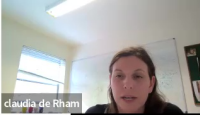
(graviton-photon scattering in SM)



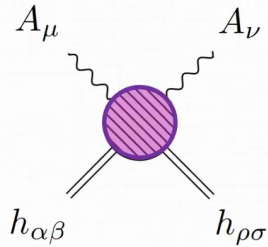
$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{M_{\text{Pl}}^2}{2} R - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu}^2 + b F_{\mu\nu} F_{\alpha\beta} R^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} + \mathcal{O}_{\text{dim} \geq 8}$$

Contribution to  $s^2$  dominated  
by lightest charged particle

$$b \sim -\frac{q_e^2}{1440\pi^2 m_e^2} \left( 1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{m_e^2}{m_{\text{Heavier}}^2}\right) \right)$$



# hAhA: graviton-photon scattering



$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{M_{\text{Pl}}^2}{2}R - \frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}^2 + bF_{\mu\nu}F_{\alpha\beta}R^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} + \mathcal{O}_{\text{dim}\geq 8}$$

$$b \sim \frac{q_e^2}{1440\pi^2 m_e^2}$$

$$|i\rangle = |f\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|+1\rangle_\gamma + \text{Sign}(b)|-1\rangle_\gamma) \otimes |\pm 2\rangle_{\text{graviton}}$$

$$\partial_s^2 \hat{\mathcal{A}} \Big|_{t=0} = -4|b| > -2(\ln r)' + (\ln \alpha')'$$

From assumption of Regge behaviour

Lasma Alberte



Sumer Jaitly



Andrew Tolley



2111.09226



# Reverse Engineering

$$\partial_s^2 \hat{\mathcal{A}} \Big|_{t=0} = -\frac{q_e^2}{360\pi^2 m_e^2} > -2(\ln r)' + (\ln \alpha)'$$

1. Causality/Locality

2. Light Loops

3. New Physics?

4. Regge Slope

$$(\ln \alpha)' \sim -\frac{q_e^2}{m_e^2} \sim -\frac{10^{38}}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2}$$

5. Regge Residue

$$(\ln r)' \sim \frac{q_e^2}{m_e^2} \sim \frac{10^{38}}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2}$$

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \text{Disc } \mathcal{A}(s, t) = r(t) \Lambda_r^4 \left( \frac{s}{\Lambda_r^2} \right)^{\alpha(t)}$$



# Summary: IR lessons to UV physics

- Accounting for **SM loops** in photon-graviton amplitude leads to negative amplitude

$$\partial_s^2 \hat{\mathcal{A}} \Big|_{t=0} = -\frac{q_e^2}{360\pi^2 m_e^2}$$

- Amount of negativity, is precisely **relevant to WGC positivity proofs**
- Could indicate a **violation of Froissart bound or non-local IR/UV mixing**. “Dramatic” outcome in higher-dim.
- Assuming Froissart-like bound, **UV Regge slope or residue controlled by scale of IR loops**  
(higher order corrections cannot be ignored)
- Amount of negativity tightly linked with **infrared causality**