



# Scattering amplitudes from dispersive iterations



A. Zhiboedov (CERN)  
Amplitudes 2022, Prague

based on works with M. Correia, A. Sever, and P. Tourkine

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### **Hard Problem:**

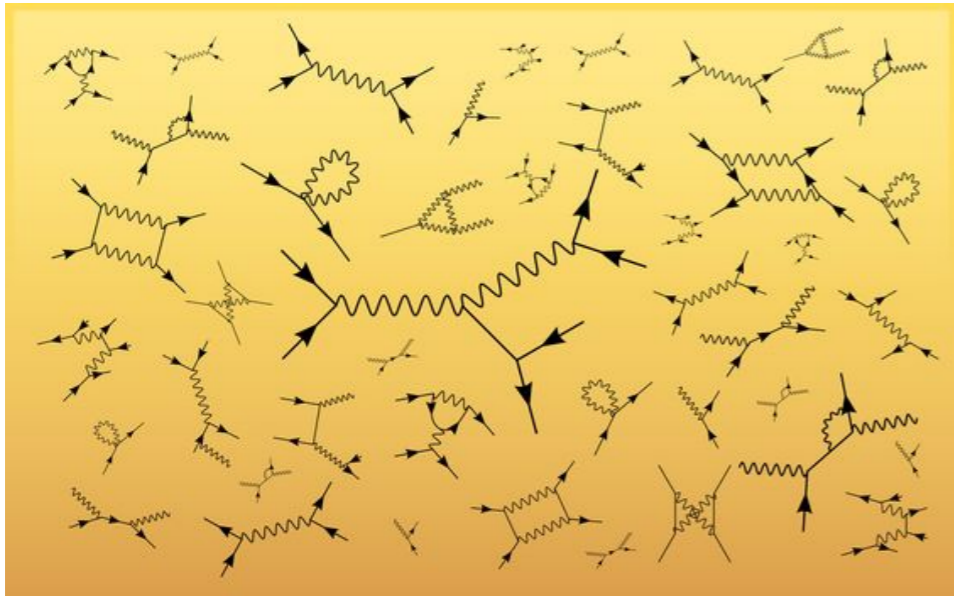
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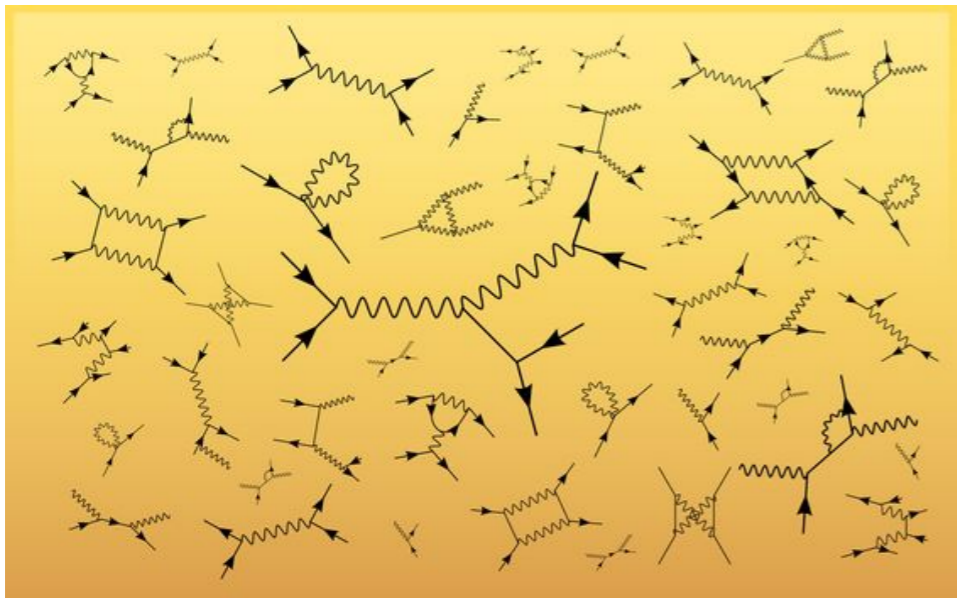
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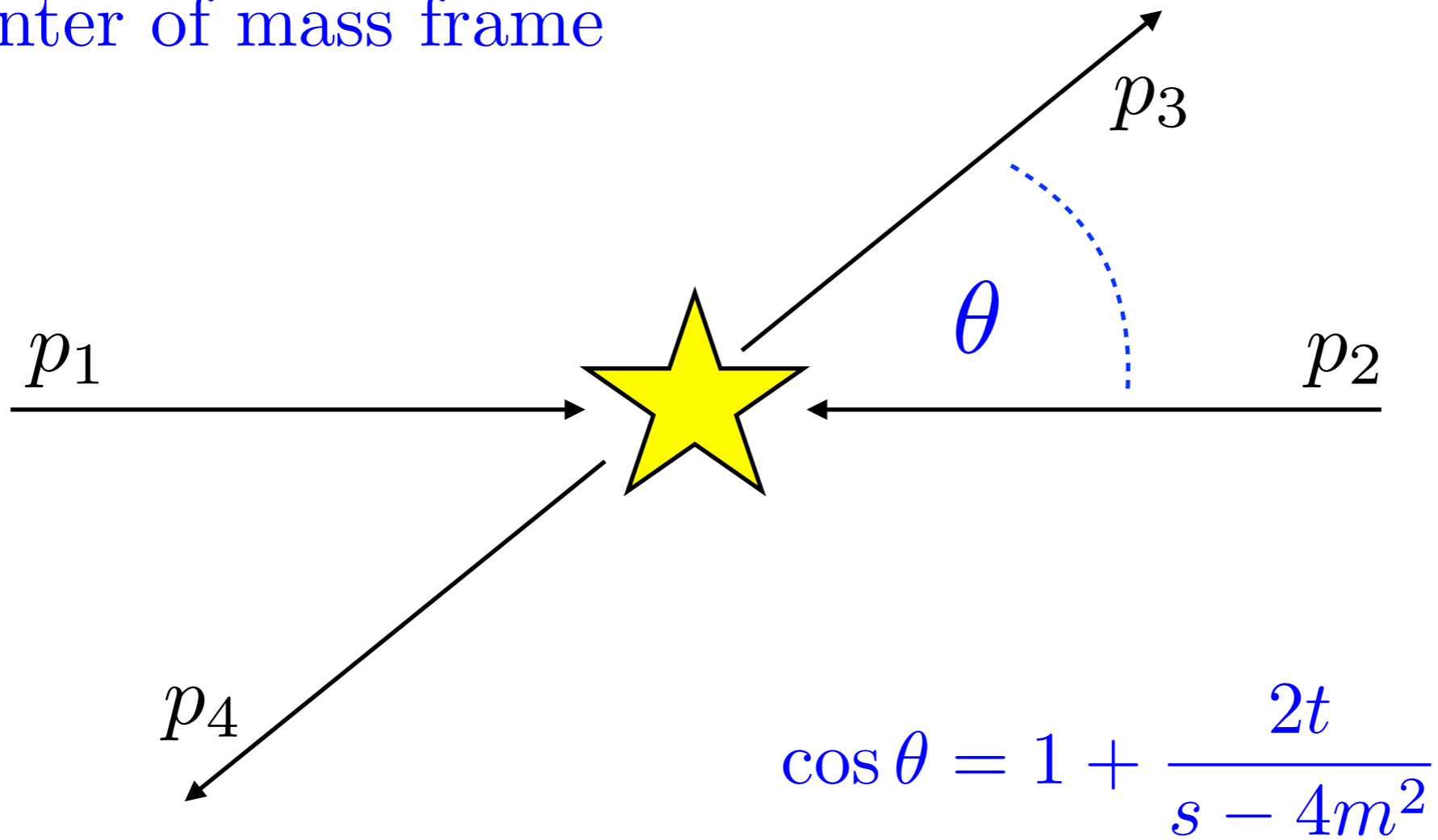


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## What about nonperturbative unitarity?

Let us focus on the **two-to-two scattering** amplitude  $T(s, t)$  of identical particles

center of mass frame



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## \* Elastic unitarity

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$$T(s, t) = 16\pi \sum_{J=0, J-\text{even}}^{\infty} (2J + 1) f_J(s) P_J \left( 1 + \frac{2t}{s - 4m^2} \right)$$

$$\text{Im} f_J(s) \geq \frac{1}{2} \frac{(s - 4m^2)^{1/2}}{\sqrt{s}} |f_J(s)|^2, \quad s \geq s_{\text{MP}}$$

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## \* Multi-particle unitarity

(detailed structure of multi-particle thresholds, LC)

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Snowmass White Paper: S-matrix Bootstrap

[Kruczenski, Penedones, van Rees '22]

# Dispersive representations

What makes the S-matrix bootstrap interesting is a tension between **analyticity**, **unitarity** and **crossing**.

<b>Dispersive representation</b>	<b>Analyticity</b>	<b>Crossing</b>	<b>Unitarity</b>
Dispersive relations with 2 subtractions		 *	
Crossing-symmetric dispersion relations			
Mandelstam representation			

[Auberson, Khuri '72][Sinha, Zahed '20]

(\*)  $d > 2$

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**Goal:** Construct  $T(s, t)$  which obeys the basic principles (elastic, inelastic, MP) and exhibits the correct physical structure (thresholds, LC).

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- Mandelstam representation, Mandelstam equation for  $\rho(s, t)$

[S. Mandelstam 58-62's]

[see also G. Chew, S. Frautschi, McCauley, K. Ter-Martirosyan, K. Wilson]

- Fixed point theorems for unitarity & crossing

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## 2. Implementation (new):

- Multi-particle Landau curves

[M. Correia, A. Sever, AZ '21]

- Numerical implementation in 2d and 4d

[P. Tourkine, AZ '21]

[P. Tourkine, AZ to appear]

# Constructing the 4d scattering amplitude: Method

# Mandelstam representation

Our starting point is the Mandelstam representation with one subtraction

$$T(s, t) = \lambda + B(s, t) + B(s, u) + B(t, u),$$
$$B(s, t) = \frac{s - s_0}{2} \int_{4m^2}^{\infty} \frac{ds'}{\pi} \frac{\rho(s')}{(s' - s)(s' - s_0)} + \frac{t - t_0}{2} \int_{4m^2}^{\infty} \frac{dt'}{\pi} \frac{\rho(t')}{(t' - t)(t' - t_0)}$$
$$+ (s - s_0)(t - t_0) \int_{4m^2}^{\infty} \frac{ds' dt'}{\pi^2} \frac{\rho(s', t')}{(s' - s)(t' - t)(s' - s_0)(t' - t_0)}$$

Crossing-symmetry implies that  $\rho(s, t) = \rho(t, s)$ ,

$$s_0 = t_0 = u_0 = \frac{4m^2}{3} .$$

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# Unitarity with Mandelstam Rep

One can show that **dispersive elastic unitarity** takes the following form

$$\rho(s, t) = \frac{(s - 4m^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}}{(4\pi)^2 \sqrt{s}} \int_{z_1}^{\infty} d\eta' \int_{z_1}^{\infty} d\eta'' \frac{T_t(s + i\epsilon, t(\eta')) T_t(s - i\epsilon, t(\eta'')) \theta(z - \eta_+)}{\sqrt{(z - \eta_-)(z - \eta_+)}} \quad s_{\text{MP}} > s > 4m^2,$$
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It relates **double spectral density** to the **square of the single discontinuity**.

- This formula guarantees elastic unitarity for partial waves with  $\text{Re}[J] > 0, J \in \mathbb{C}$ .
- For  $J = 0$  we have separately

$$\text{Im} f_0(s) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{(s - 4m^2)^{1/2}}{\sqrt{s}} |f_0(s)|^2 + \theta(s - s_{\text{MP}}) \eta_{\text{MP}}(s)$$

# Landau curves

What the **normal thresholds** are for single discontinuity, the **Landau curves** are for double discontinuity.

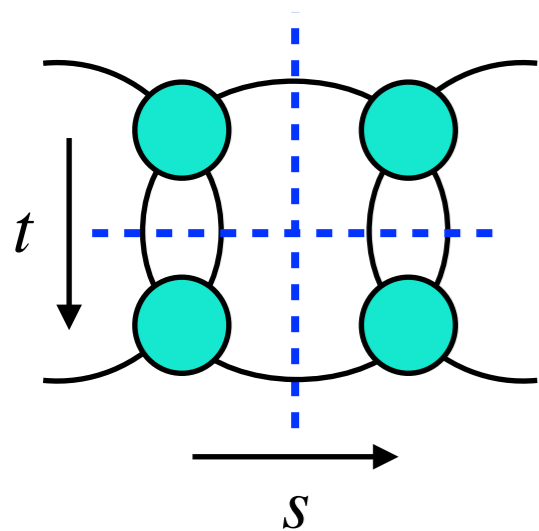
$$4m^2 \quad 16m^2 \quad 36m^2$$


# Landau curves

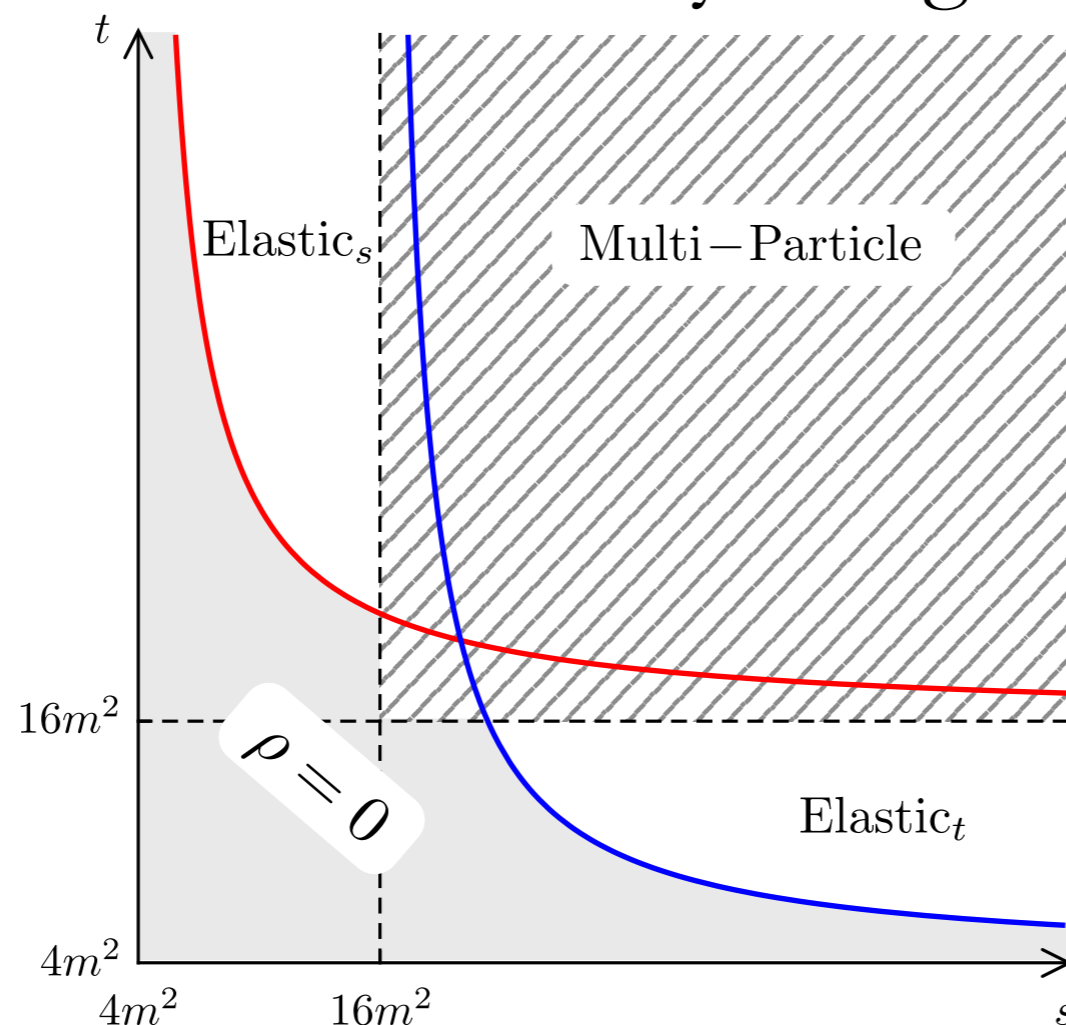
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Landau curves are non-perturbative loci which follow from the analytic continuation of unitarity along which the ddisc develops.

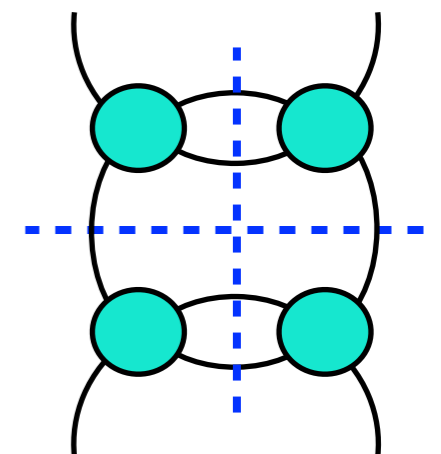


**scattering**



$$t = \frac{16m^2 s}{s - 4m^2}$$

$$s = \frac{16m^2 t}{t - 4m^2}$$



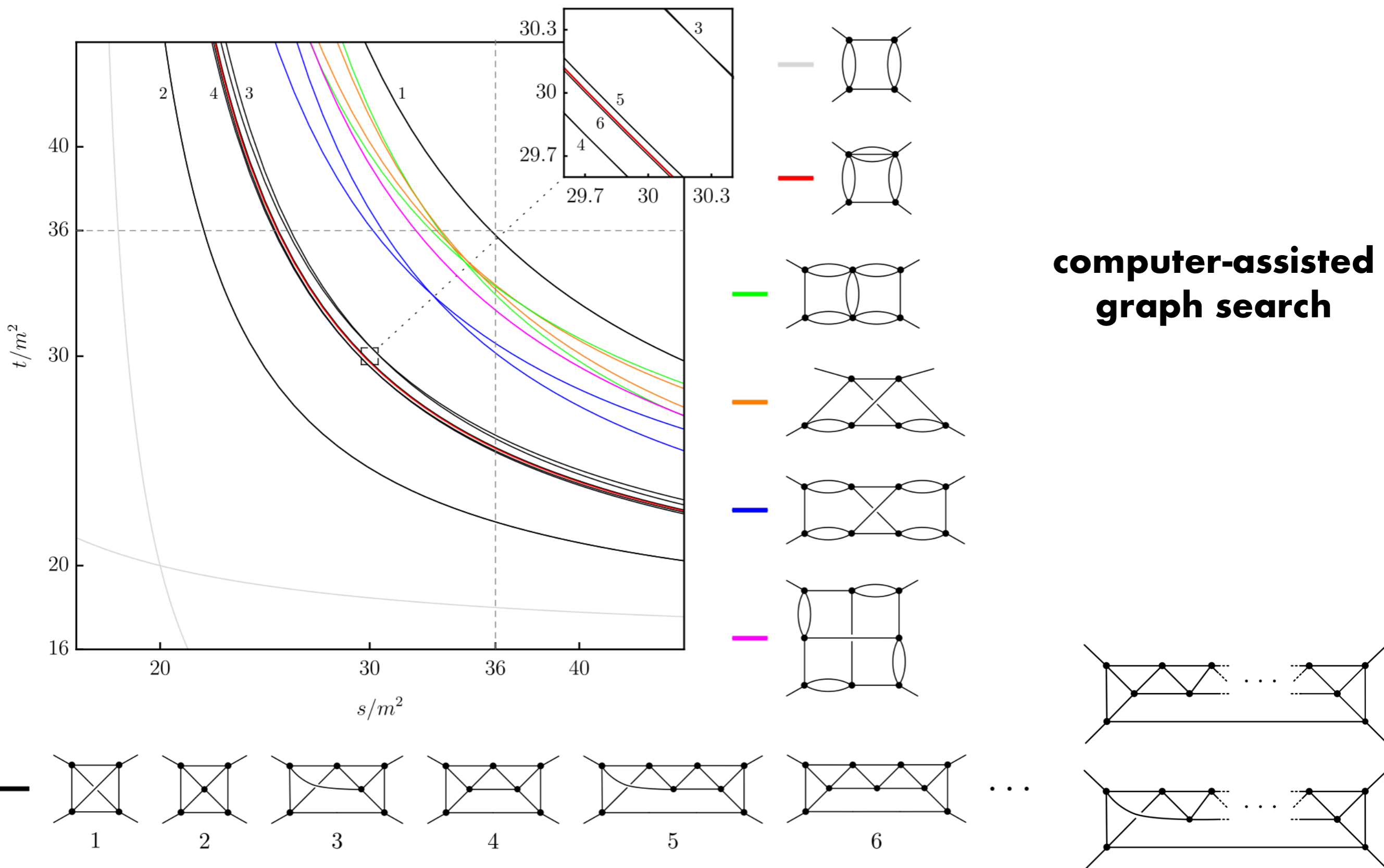
**implies production**



# Multi-particle Landau curves

[M. Correia, A. Sever, AZ '21]

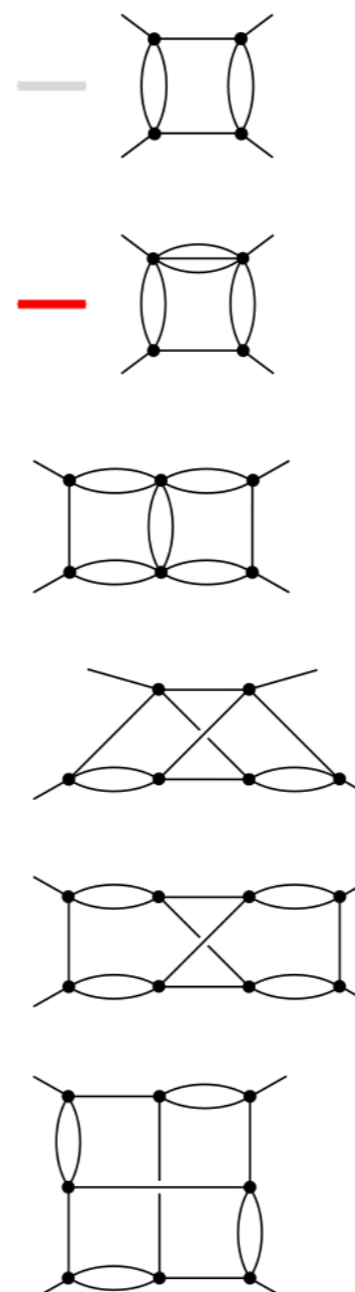
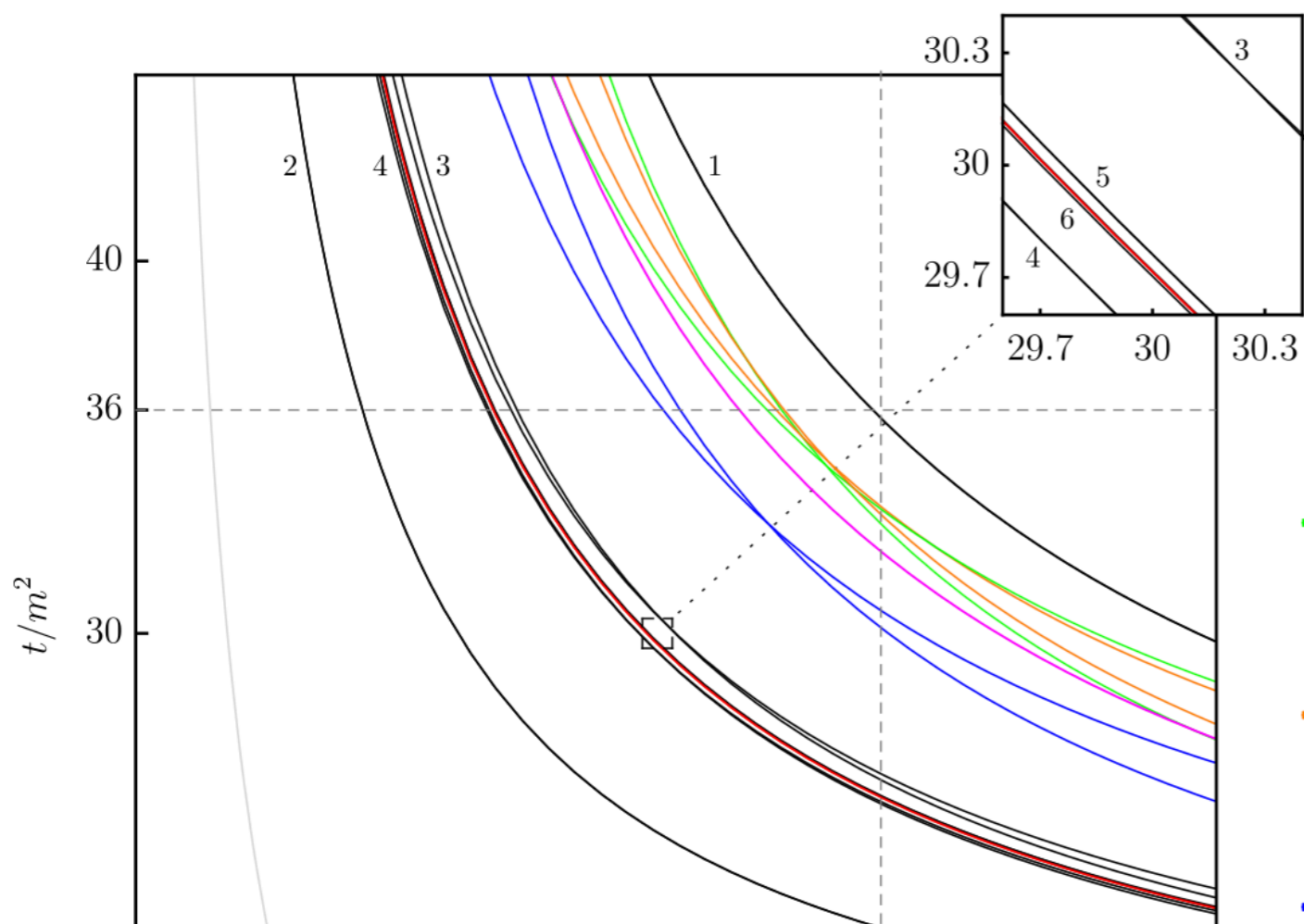
[M. Correia poster]



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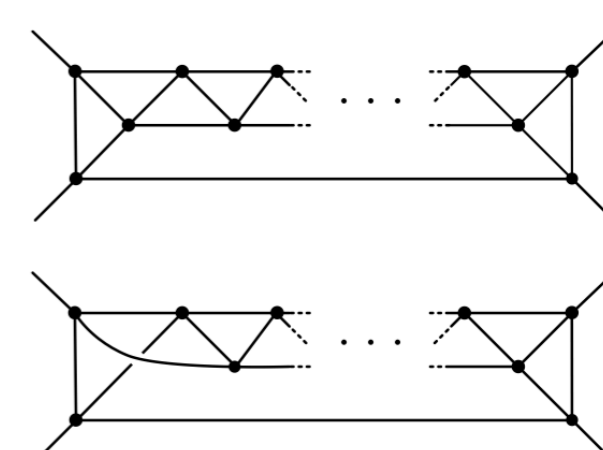
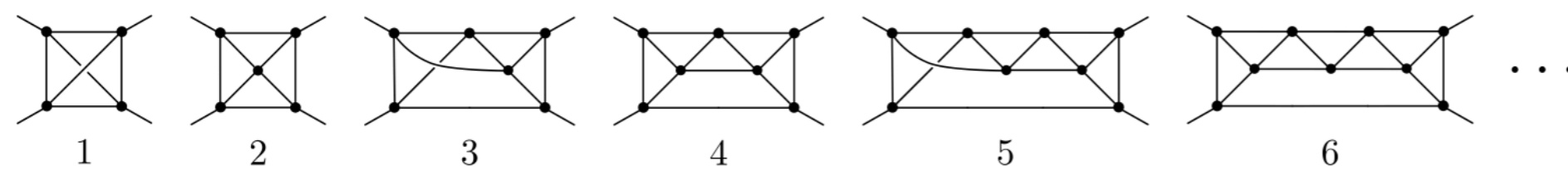
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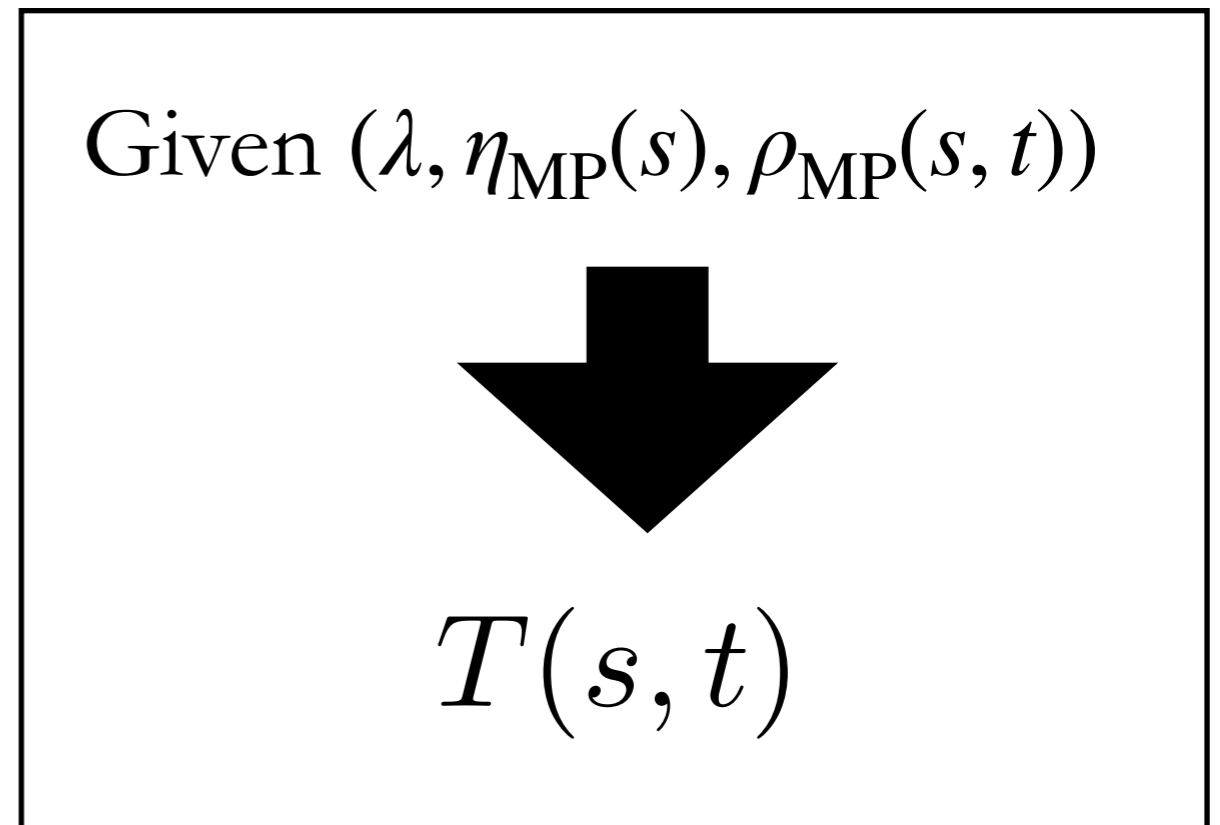
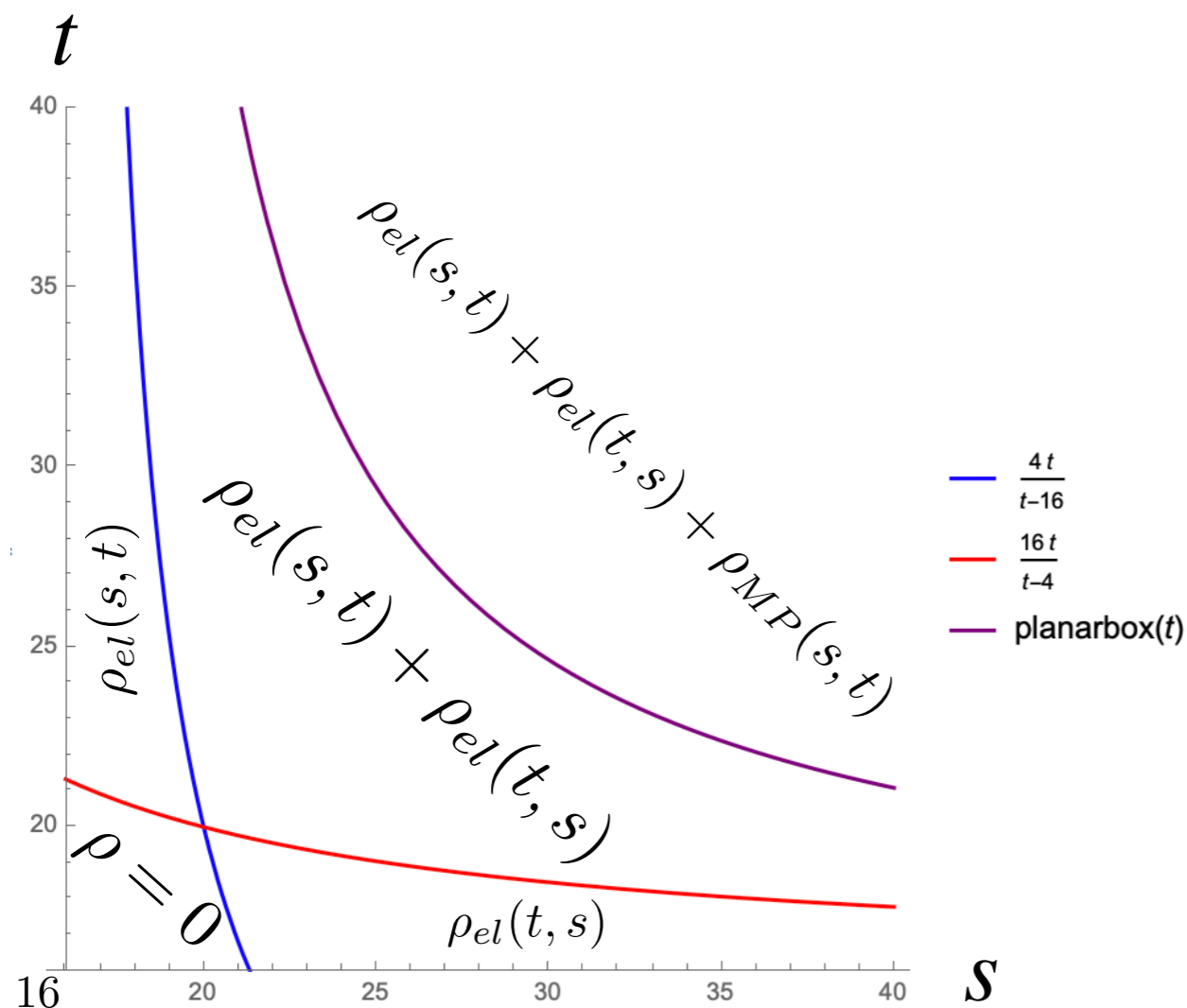
**computer-assisted  
graph search**

Quartic graphs ( $D = 4$ )									
# of vertices ( $V$ )	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
All graphs (no trivial bubbles)	2	3	23	111	788	5639	46603	410114	3587793
No trivial triangles	2	1	10	33	232	1522	12696	113034	1023415
2- or 4-particle cuts (exist)	2	1	7	25	157	955	7070	54835	429093
2- or 4-particle cuts (all legs)	2	1	4	5	12	7	10	7	9
No trivial boxes	2	1	3	4	9	4	4	3	3
$\alpha$ -positive Landau curves	2	1	2	1	3	1	1	1	1



# Iterations

Basic idea: Construct **scattering** from given **production** and **subtraction**  $\lambda$  by iterating unitarity.



Check that inelastic unitarity is also satisfied.

# Iteration scheme

## single disc:

$$\rho^{(n+1)}(s) = 8\pi \left( \frac{(s - 4m^2)^{1/2}}{\sqrt{s}} |f_0^{(n)}(s)|^2 + 2\theta(s - s_{\text{MP}})\eta_{\text{MP}}(s) \right) - 2 \int_{4m^2}^{\infty} \frac{dt'}{\pi} \rho^{(n)}(s, t') \left[ \frac{1}{t_0 - t'} + \frac{\log \frac{s+t'-4m^2}{t'}}{s - 4m^2} \right]$$

## double disc:

$$T_t^{(n+1)}(s, t) = \rho^{(n)}(t) + \int_{4m^2}^{\infty} \frac{ds'}{\pi} \frac{(s - s_0)\rho^{(n)}(s', t)}{(s' - s)(s' - s_0)} + \int_{4m^2}^{\infty} \frac{du'}{\pi} \frac{(u - u_0)\rho^{(n)}(u', t)}{(u' - u)(u' - u_0)}.$$

$$\rho_{\text{el}}^{(n+1)}(s, t) = \mathbf{M}[T_t^{(n)}, T_t^{(n)}](s, t),$$

$$\rho^{(n+1)}(s, t) = \rho_{\text{el}}^{(n+1)}(s, t) + \rho_{\text{el}}^{(n+1)}(t, s) + \rho_{\text{MP}}(s, t)$$

Fixed point of this mapping provides us with the solution to elastic unitarity (+some MP structure).

# Atkinson theorems

One first identifies the Banach space (complete, normed) of functions (bounded, Hölder continuous) which is closed under iterations of unitarity and dispersion relations.

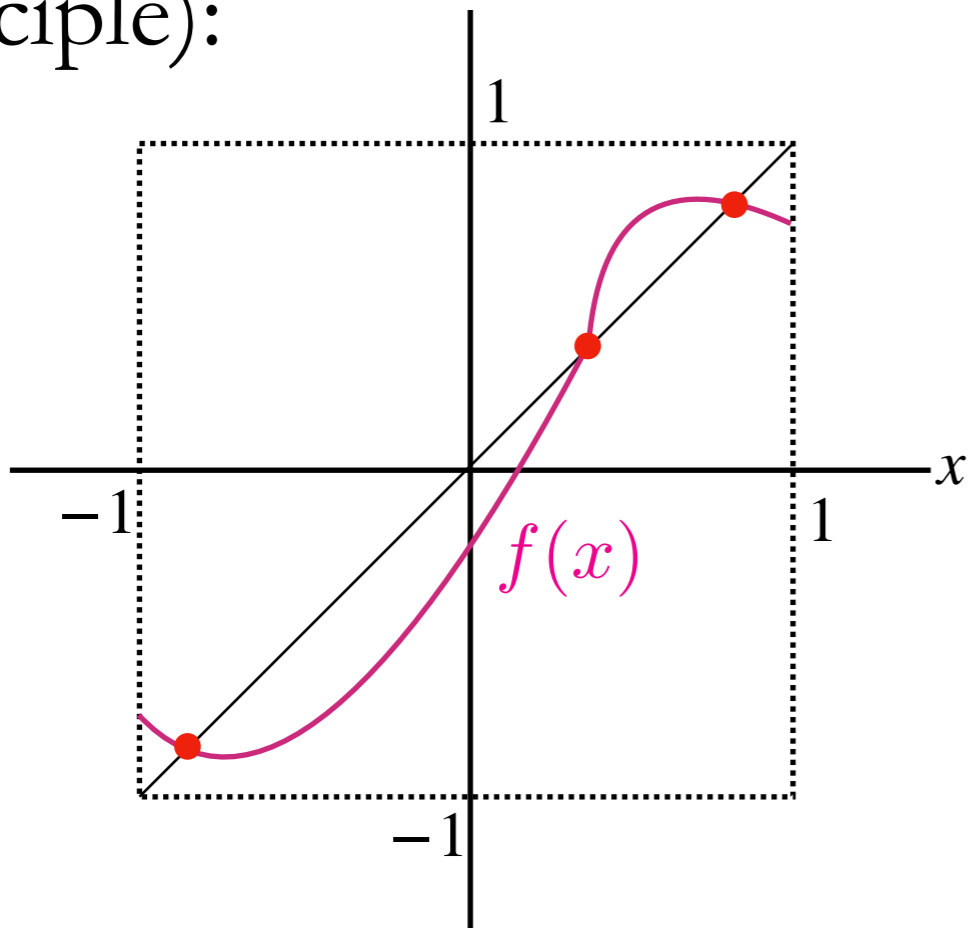
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**Atkinson theorem I:** unitarity+crossing iteration is a **continuous** operator on this space.

After that existence of the fixed point follows (Schauder's principle):



$$x = f(x)$$

# Atkinson theorems

**Atkinson theorem II:** if inelasticity is small enough, the mapping is contracting and the fixed point is unique.

$$\|\mathcal{O}(\omega_1) - \mathcal{O}(\omega_2)\| \leq k \|\omega_1 - \omega_2\|, \quad k < 1$$

**Contraction mapping theorem:** The solution is unique and can be reached by iterations.

$$\|\omega - \omega_n\| \leq \|\omega_1 - \omega_0\| \frac{k^n}{1 - k}.$$

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This provides us **in principle** with an infinite set of amplitude-functions parameterised by **production** that have (some of) the desired properties.

Can we construct them **in practice**?



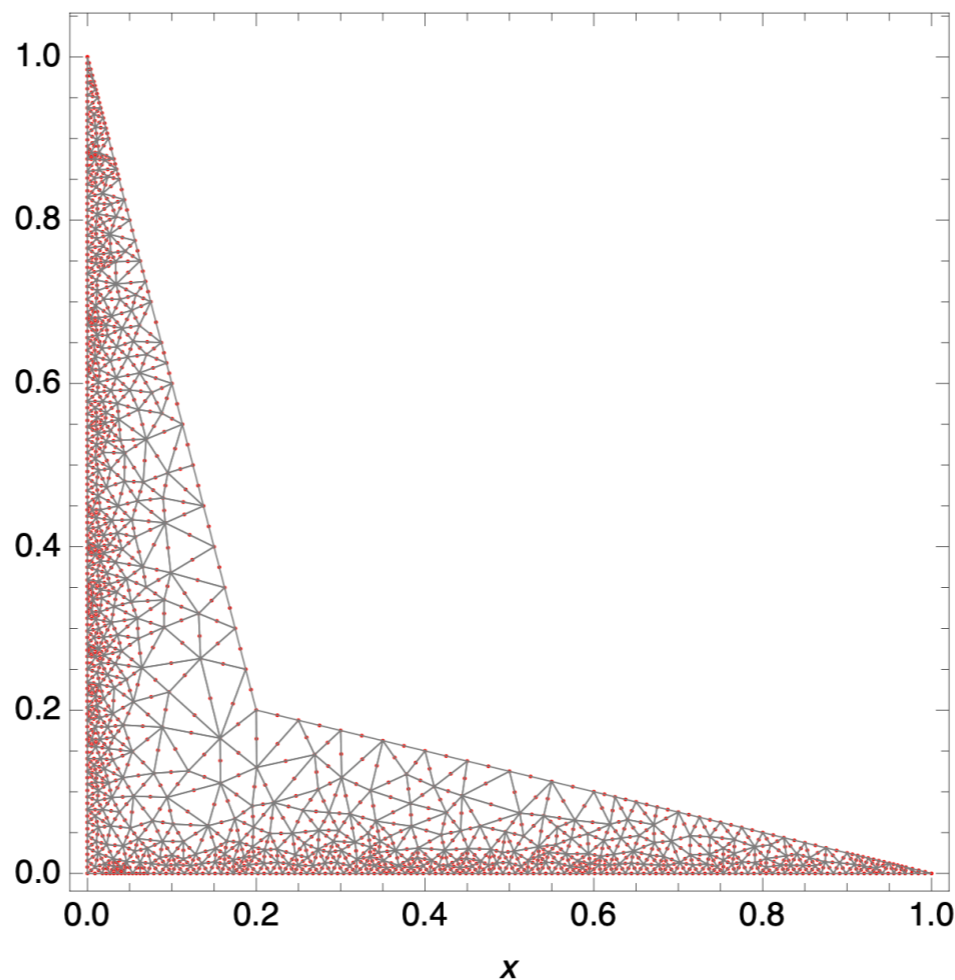
# Constructing the 4d scattering amplitude: Numerical implementation

# Numerical implementation

Consider the following coordinates

$$0 \leq x \equiv \frac{4m^2}{s} \leq 1 \qquad 0 \leq y \equiv \frac{4m^2}{t} \leq 1$$

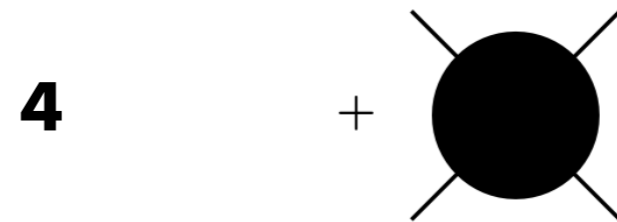
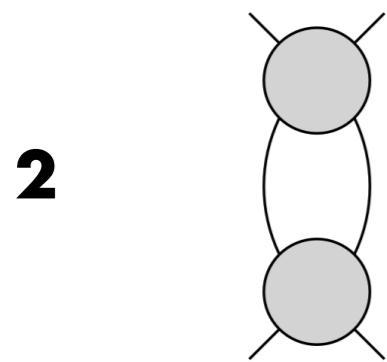
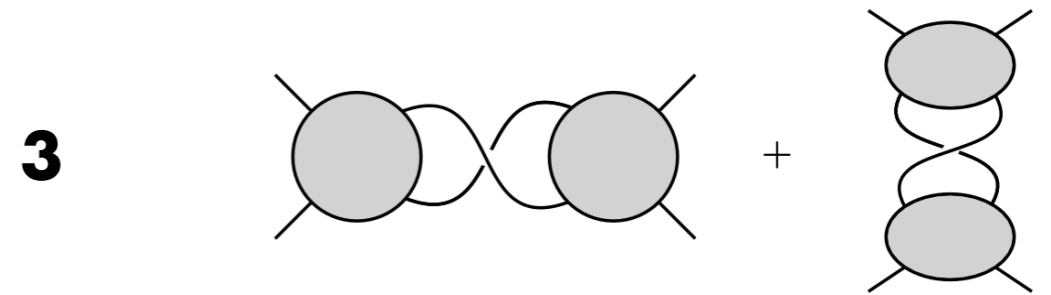
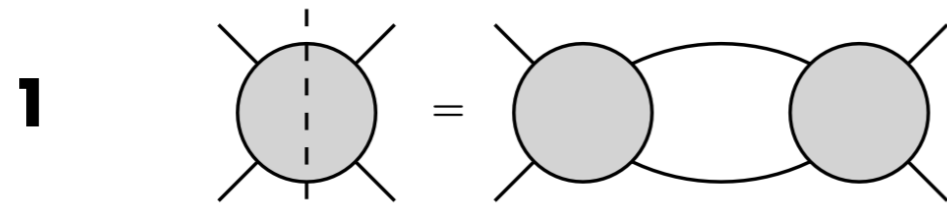
Introduce a grid



The Regge limit is treated by simply introducing cutoffs.

# Relationship to Feynman diagrams

What is the relation of all this to Feynman perturbation theory?

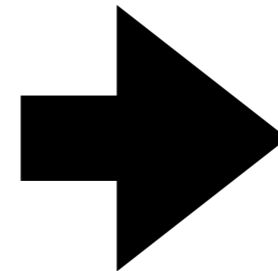


**(2PI irreducible graphs)**

The number of graphs and loops thus grows as follows

$$N_{n+1} = 3(N_n)^2 + 1$$

$$L = 2^n$$

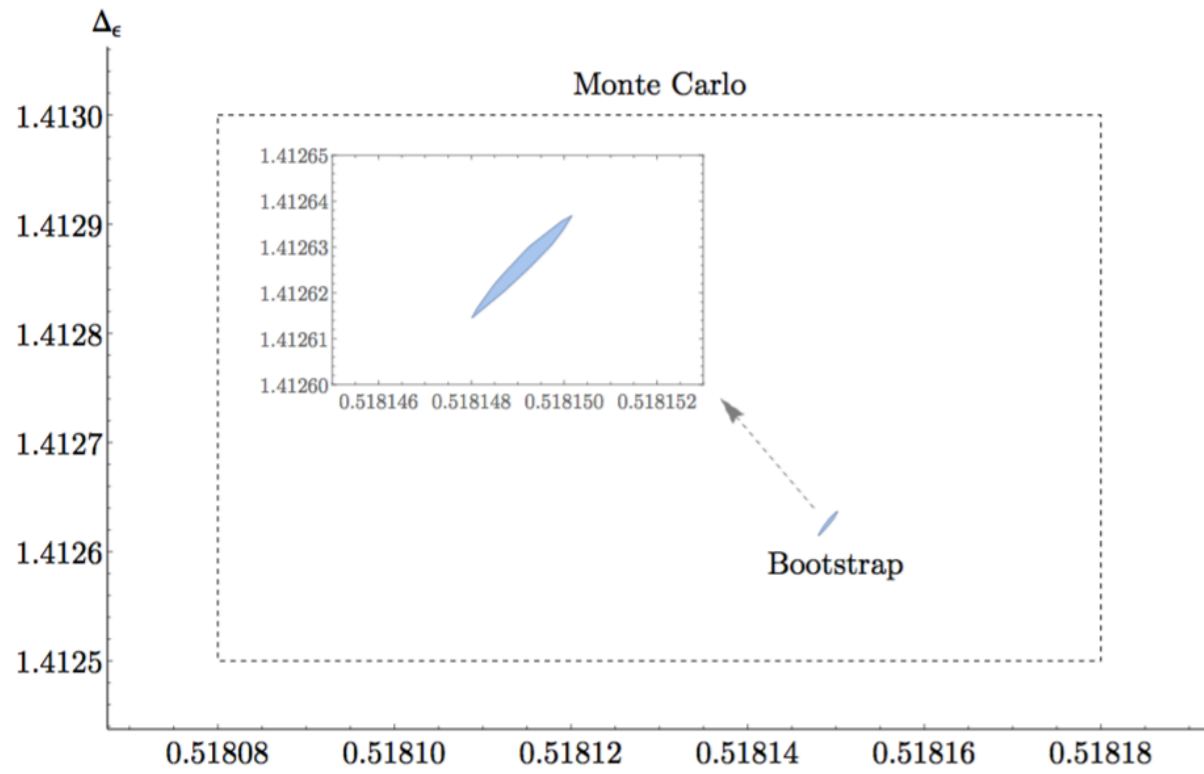


$$N(L) \simeq (1.86)^L$$

Using the finite grid also takes care of the Regge limit.

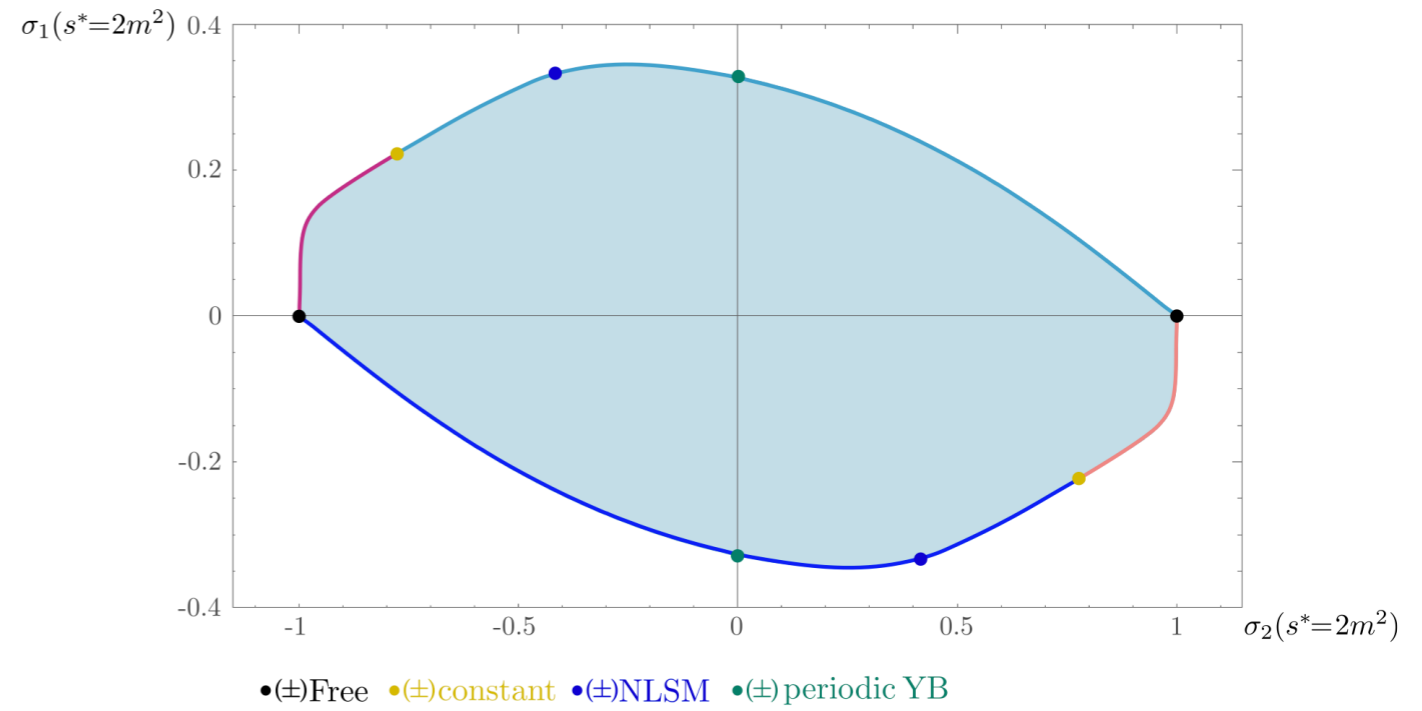
Spin zero partial wave is less transparent.

### Ising: Scaling Dimensions



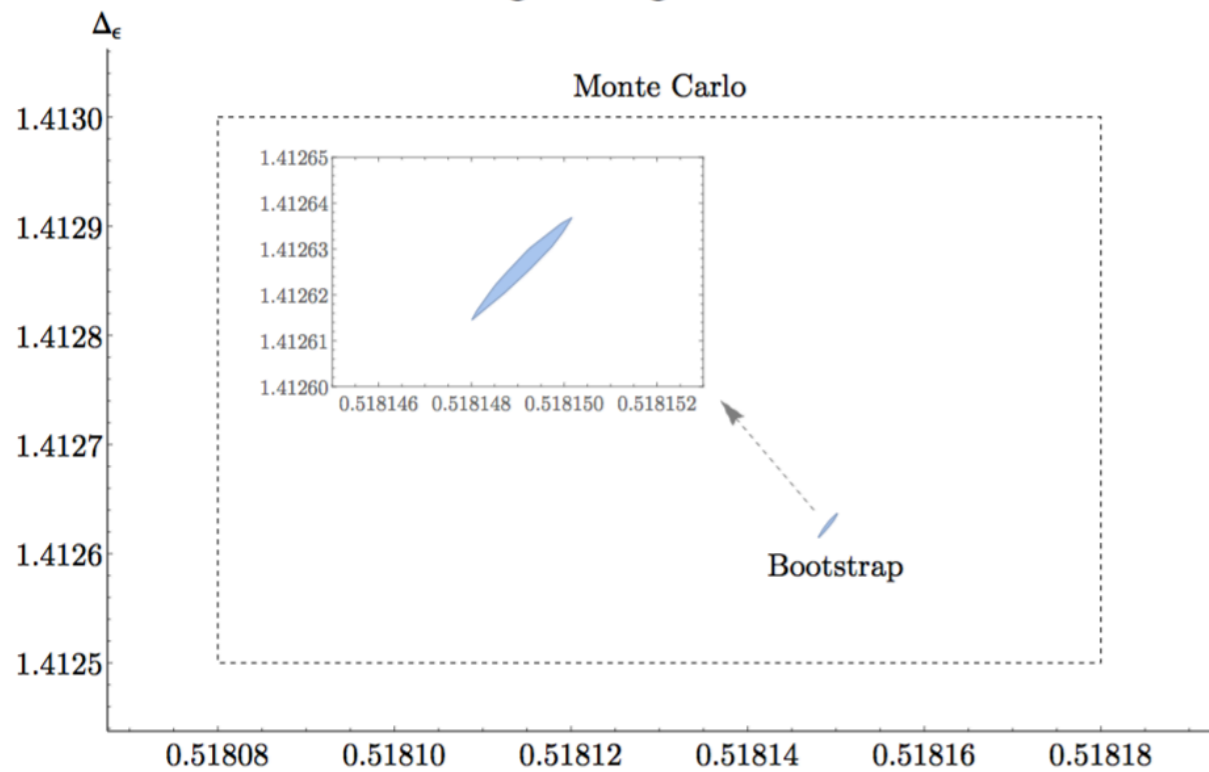
[Kos, Poland, Simmons-Duffin, Vichi '16]

### d=2



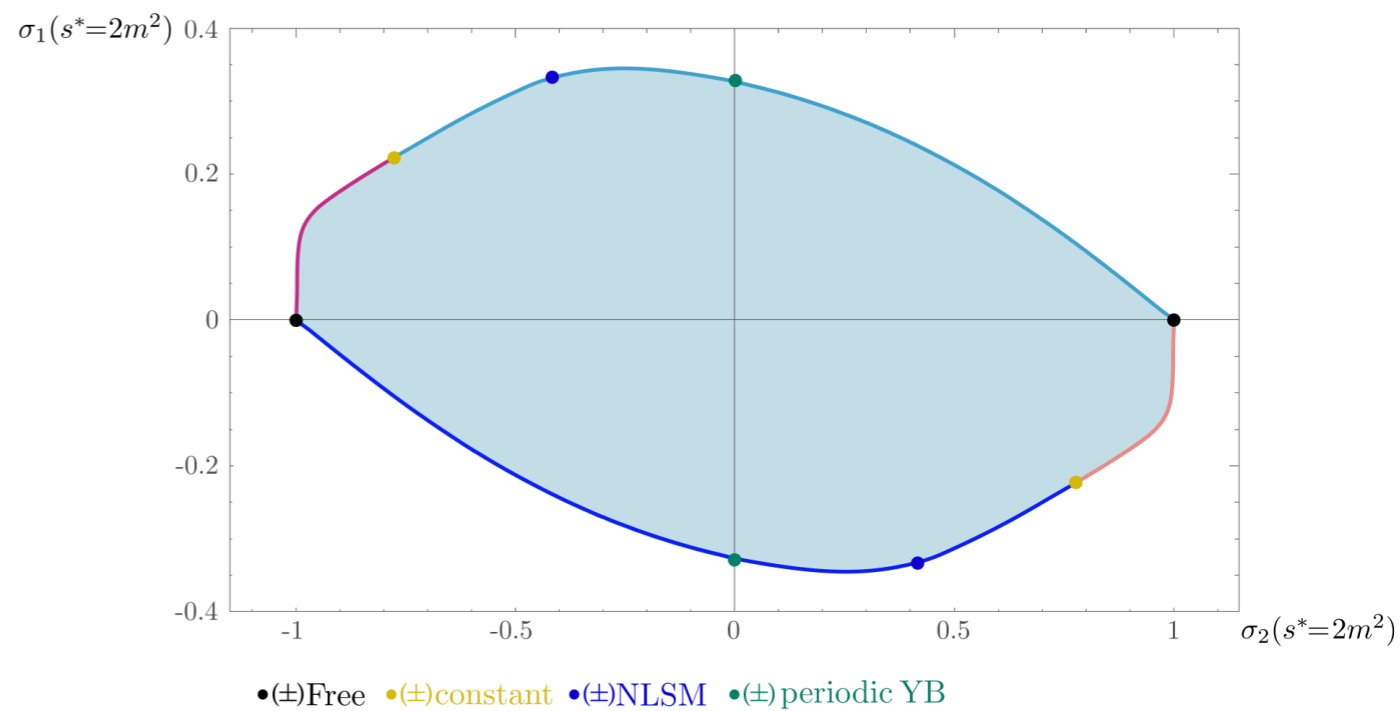
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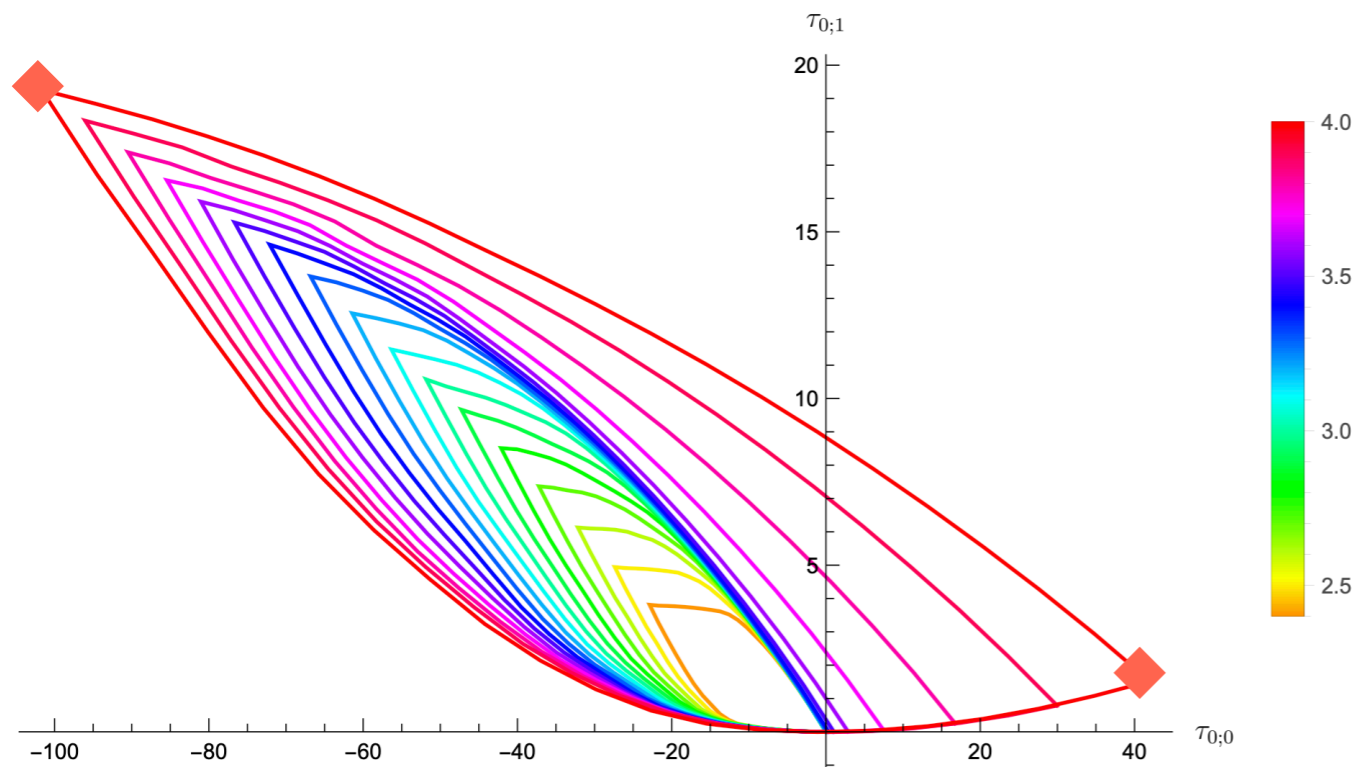


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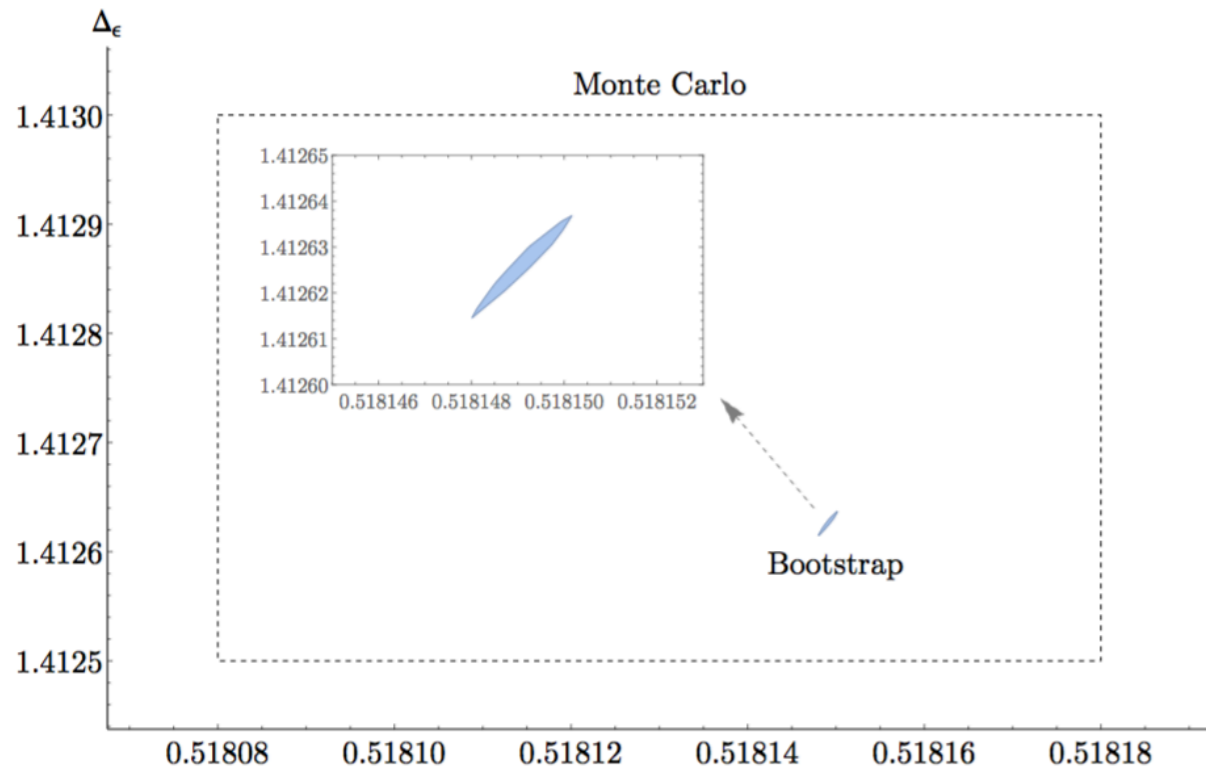
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[Chen, Fitzpatrick, Karateev '22]

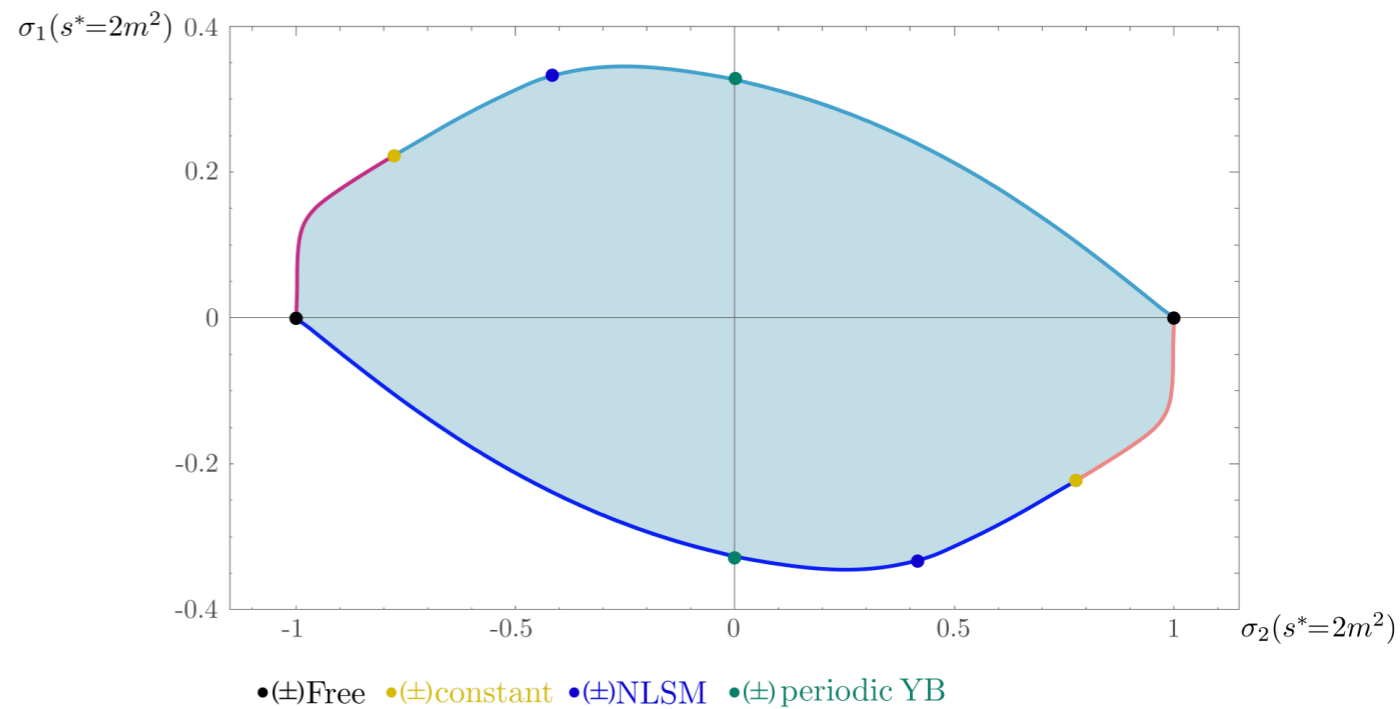
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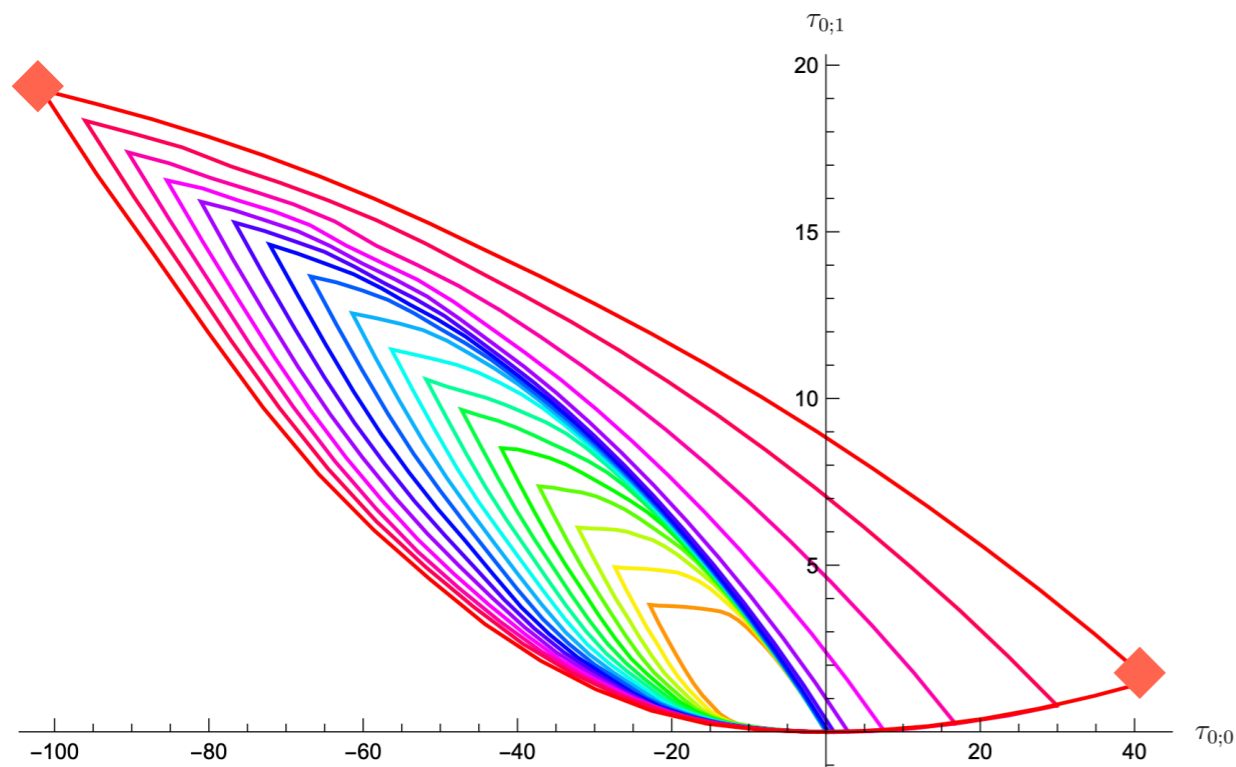


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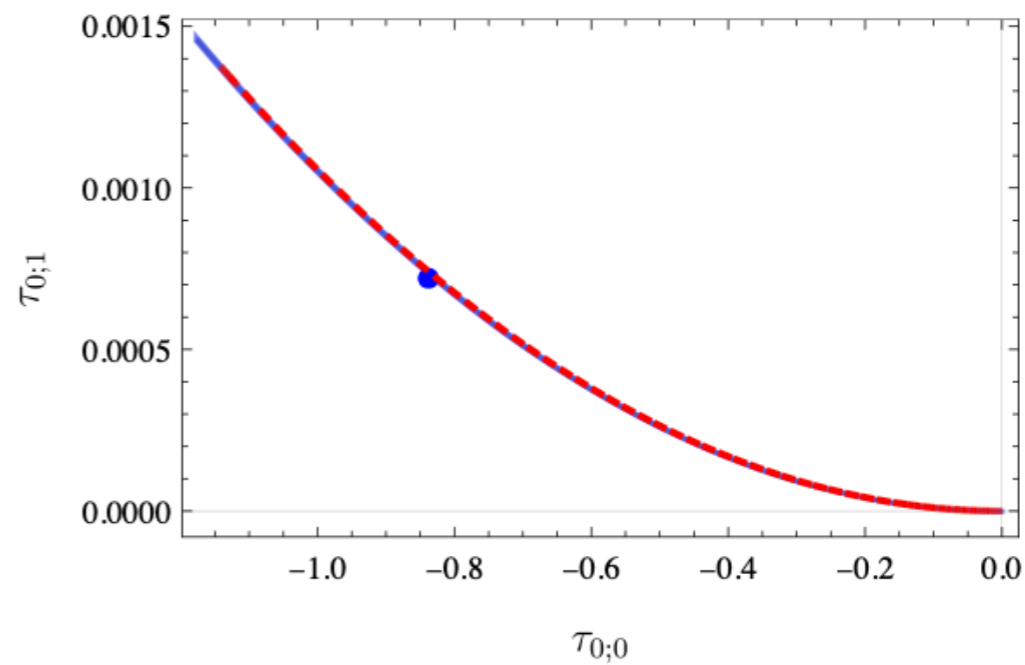


[Cordova, He, Kruczenski, Vieira '19]



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[Paulos, Penedones, Toledo, van Rees, Vieira '17]



**The bound is saturated by the 1-loop  $\phi^4$ !**

# Strip approximation

The extremal S-matrices obtained in the literature tend to be as elastic as possible. Motivated by this we can consider in our scheme the following input

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We can also set the multi-particle double spectral density to zero (“**strip approximation**”)

“the strip approximation, whose mention will bring tears to the eyes of those of us who are old enough to remember it.” (S. Weinberg)

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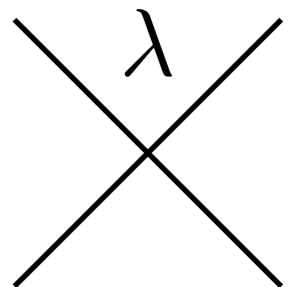
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The iterations are driven by the subtraction term

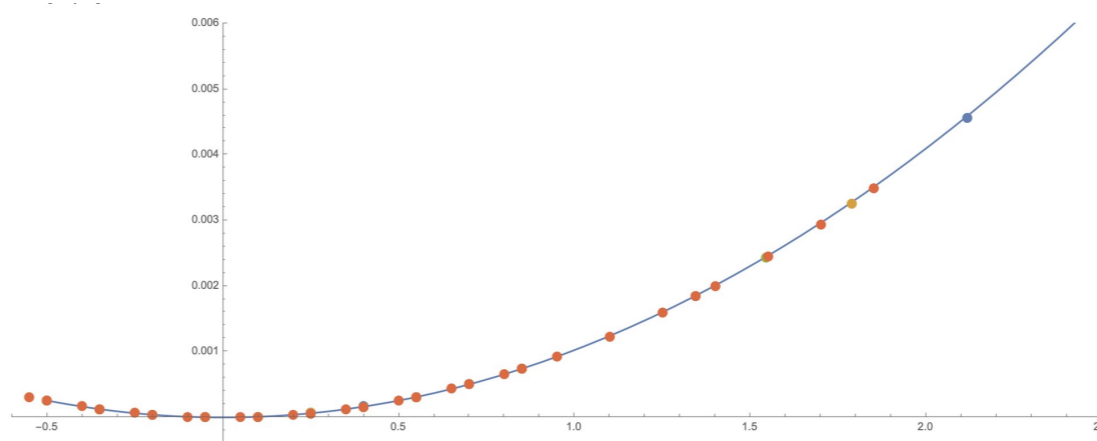


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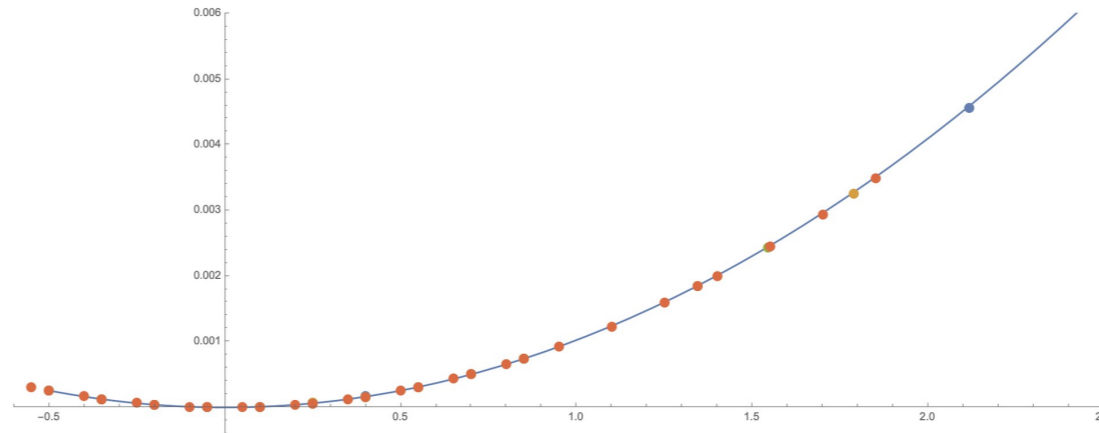
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- the result (approximately) saturates the primal S-matrix bound

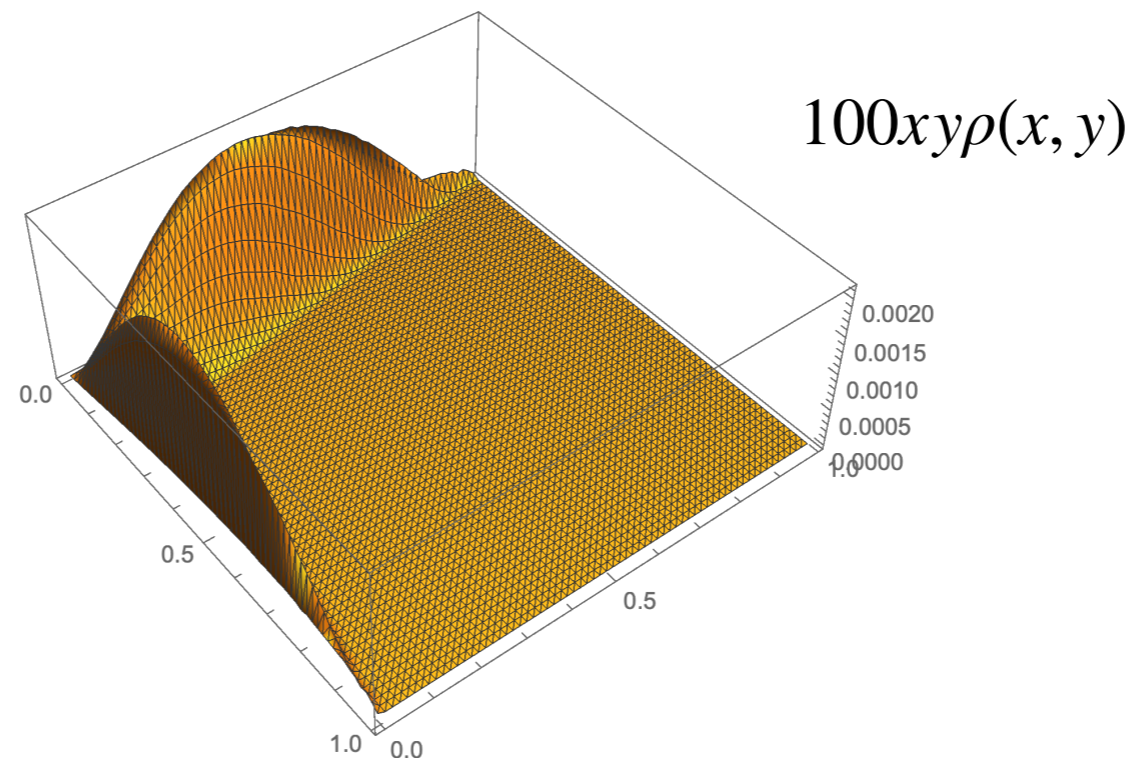


# Results

- iterations converge for  $-\pi \lesssim \lambda \lesssim 5\pi$
- the result (approximately) saturates the primal S-matrix bound

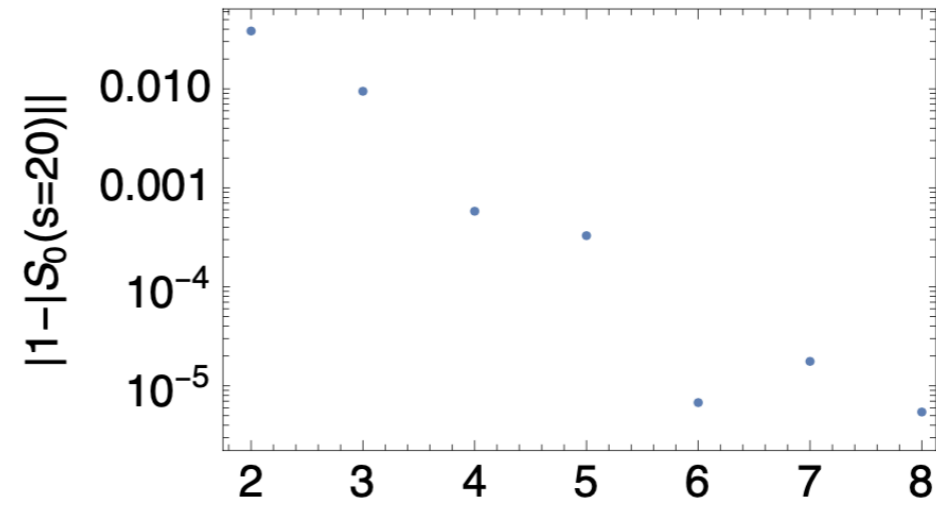
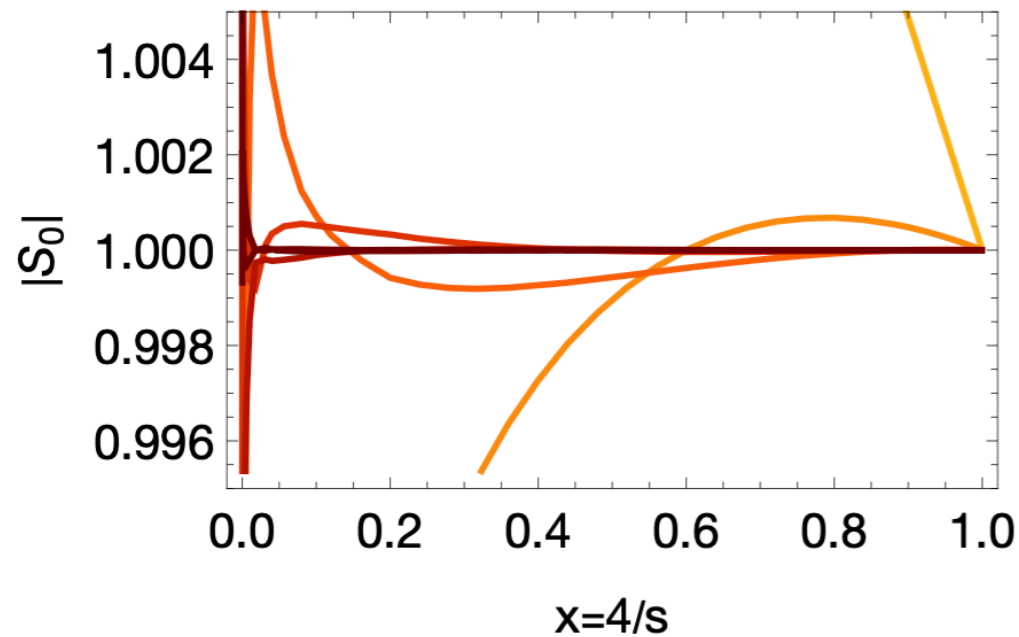


- double spectral density exhibits Landau curves

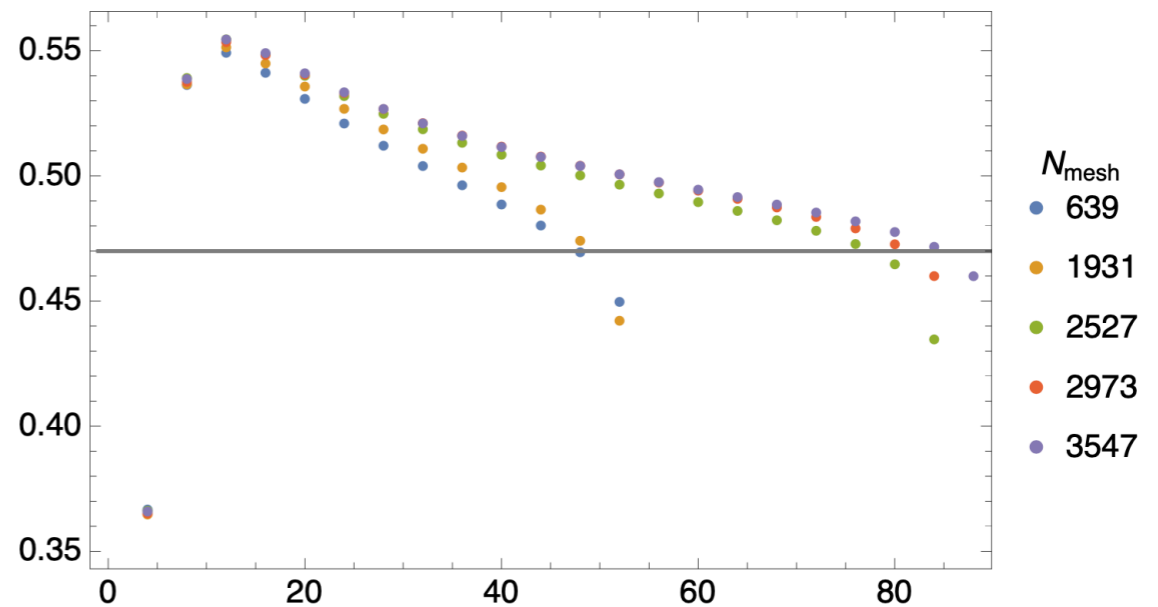
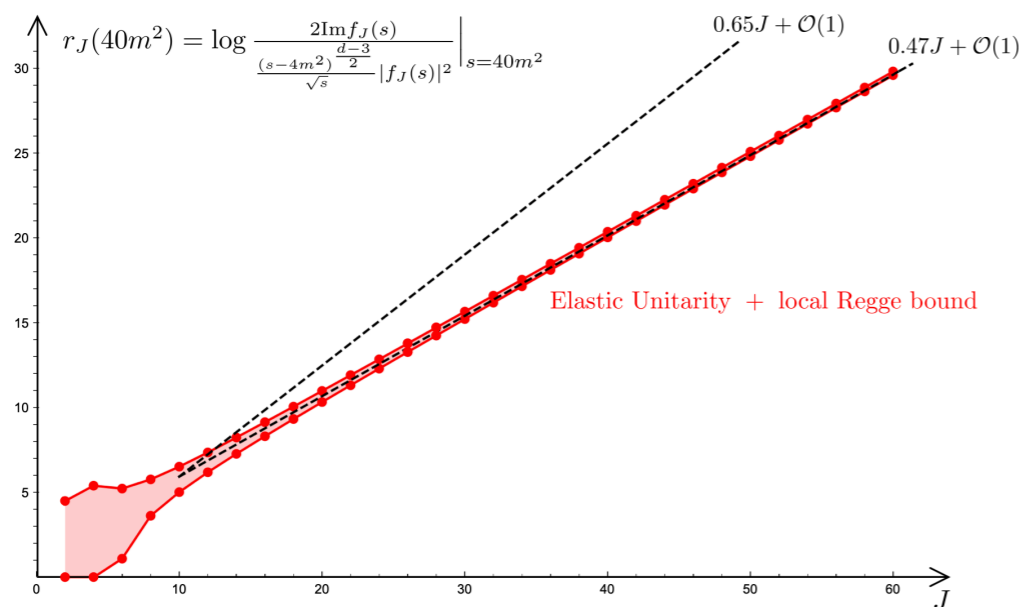


# Results

- elastic unitarity is improving quickly with the number of iterations  $\lambda = 5\pi$



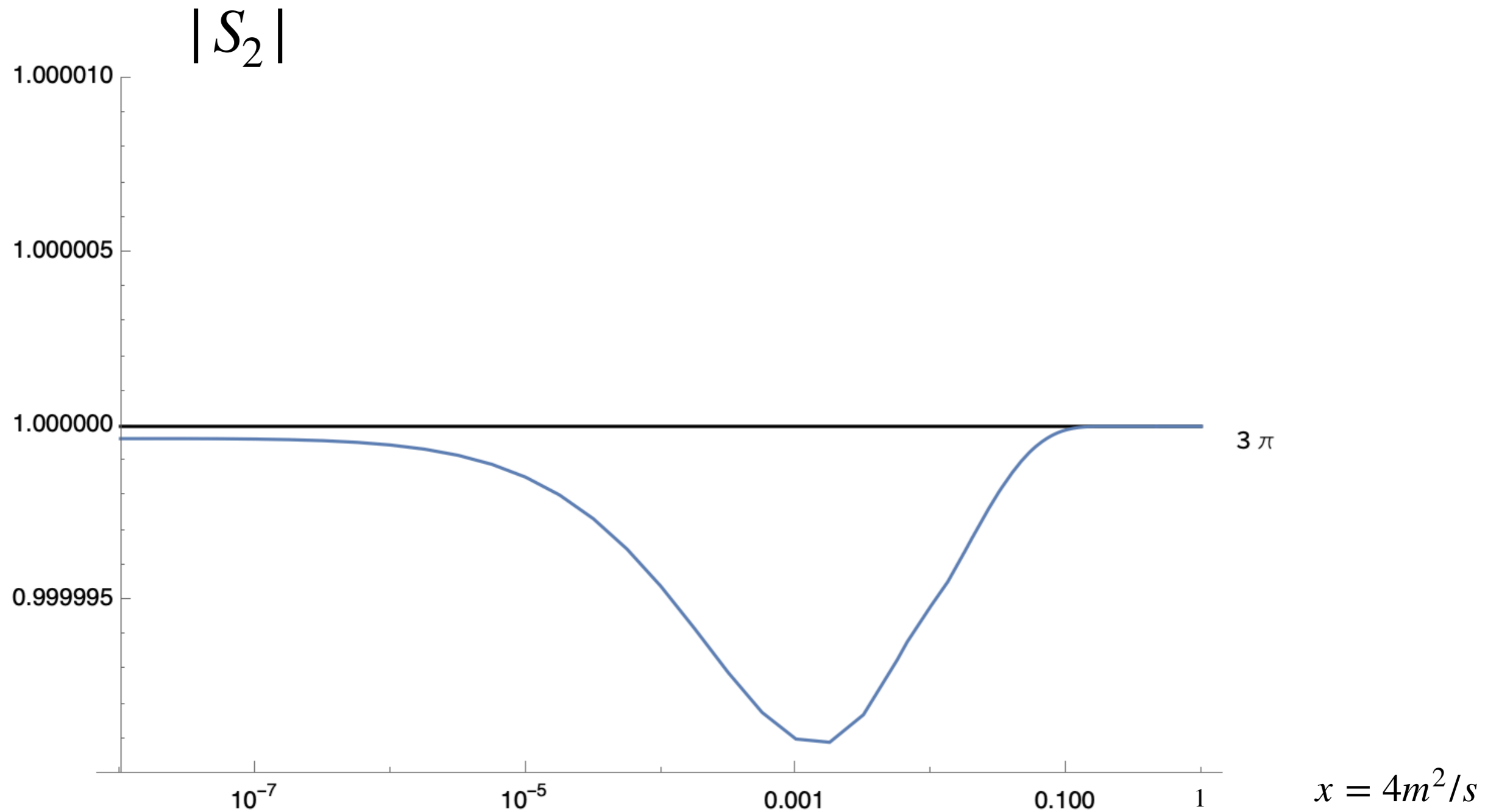
- Large spin partial waves agree with the Dragt-Martin analytic bootstrap





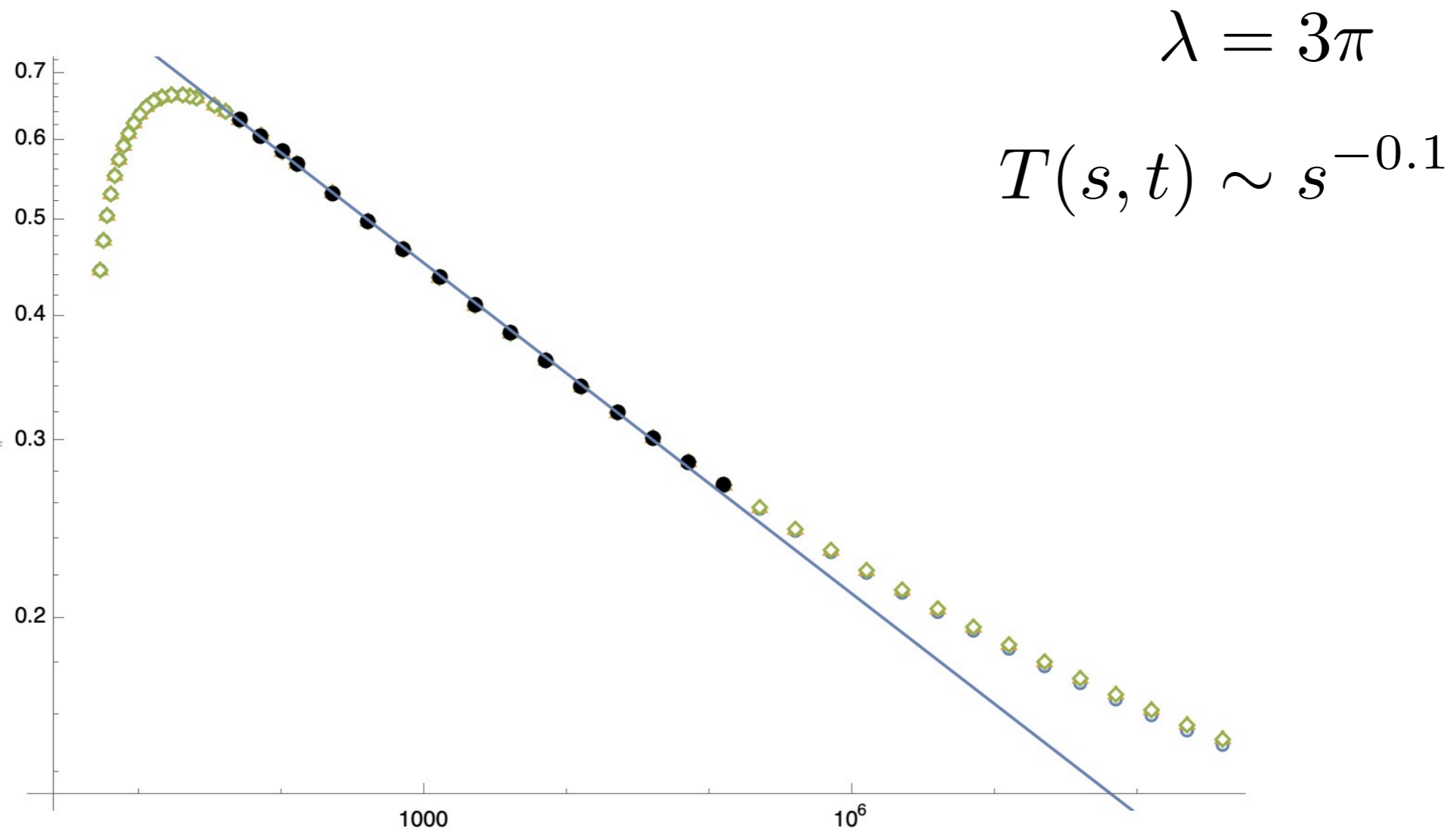
# Results

- partial waves do not go to 1 at infinite energy



**(primal bootstrap is inconclusive - more precision is needed)**

# Regge limit

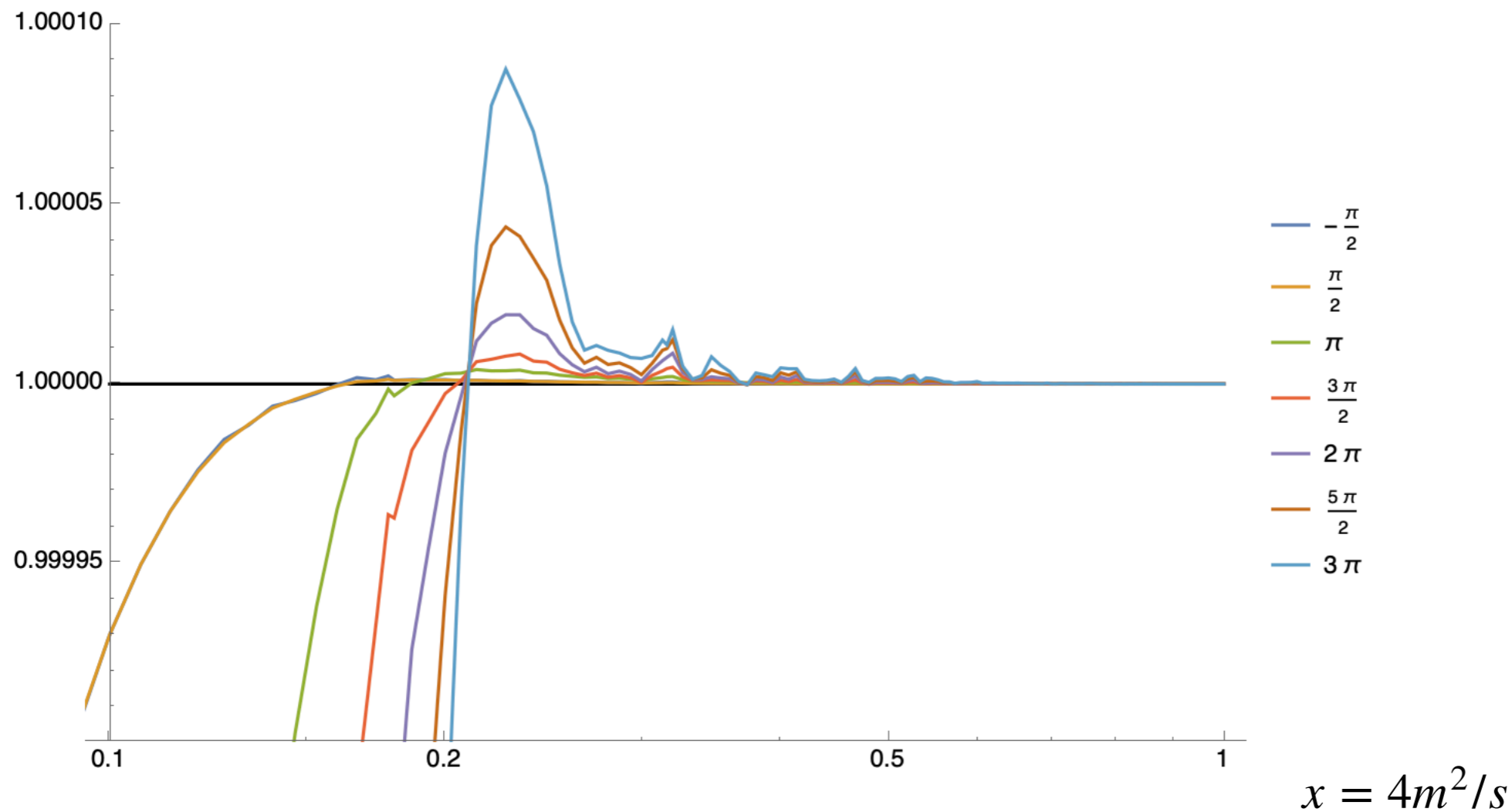




# Results

- there is  $\sim 10^{-10}$  violation of inelastic unitarity

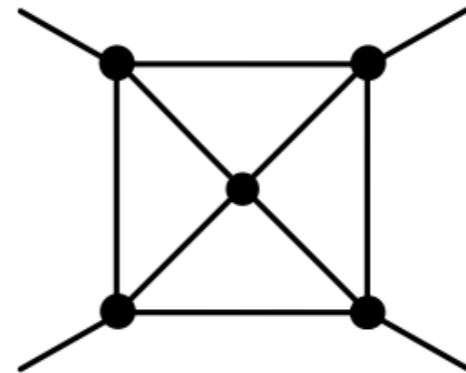
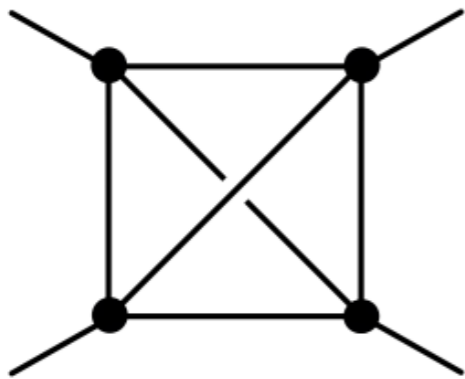
$$(|S_2| - 1) \times 10^6$$



Curiously, it scales like  $\lambda^4$ , so at the moment we believe it is real.

# Closing the system of equations

In the physical  $\phi^4$ ,  $\rho_{\text{MP}}(s, t) \neq 0$



in the full theory these graphs correspond to

$$\rho_{\text{MP}} = \int K_{np} \left( T_{2 \rightarrow 2} \right)^4$$

$$\rho_{\text{MP}} = \int K_{pl} \left( T_{2 \rightarrow 2} \right)^5$$

Deriving these kernels is an important open problem.

# Conclusions

Result: a computational algorithm to explore the space of nonperturbative S-matrices based on dispersive representation of the amplitude and iterations of unitarity and crossing.  
A lot to explore!

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**thank you for your attention!**

# Warm-up: $\phi^4$ iterations

Can we find the S-matrix by iterating the basic equations:

- Once-subtracted dispersion relations

$$T(s, t) = c_0(t) + \int_{4m^2}^{\infty} \frac{ds'}{\pi} K(s', s, t) T_s(s', t)$$

$$K(s', s, t) = \frac{(s - 2m^2 + t/2)^2}{(s' - 2m^2 + t/2)^2} \left( \frac{1}{s' - s} + \frac{1}{s' - u} \right)$$

- Unitarity

$$T_s(s, t) = \frac{(s - 4m^2)^{1/2}}{8(4\pi)^2 \sqrt{s}} \int_{-1}^1 dz' dz'' \mathcal{P}(z, z', z'') T(s, z') T^*(s, z'') + \theta(s - s_{\text{MP}}) \sigma_{\text{inel}}(s, t)$$

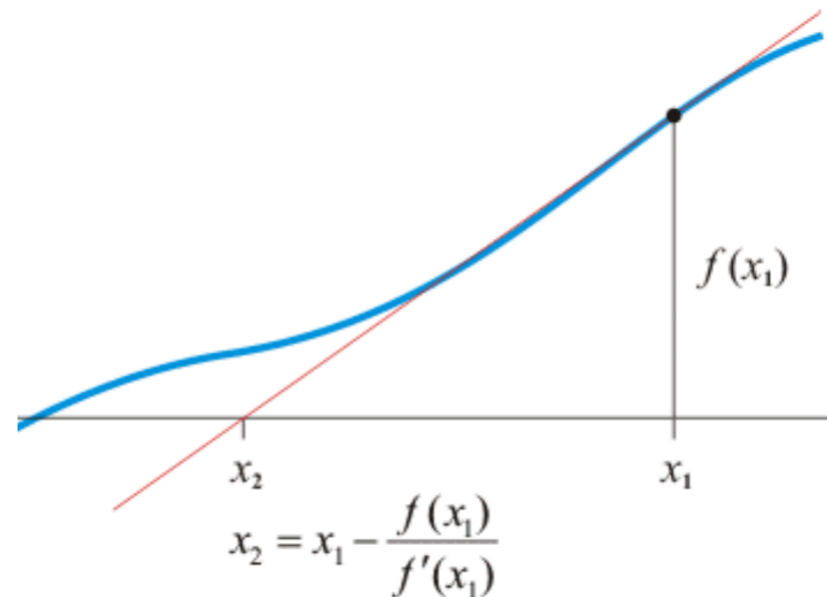
- Dispersive crossing

$$c_0(t) + \int_{4m^2}^{\infty} \frac{ds'}{\pi} K(s', s, t) T_s(s', t) = c_0(s) + \int_{4m^2}^{\infty} \frac{ds'}{\pi} K(s', t, s) T_s(s', s)$$

# Newton-Kantorovich method

To improve the convergence we can also try using the Newton-Kantorovich method (really the Newton method)

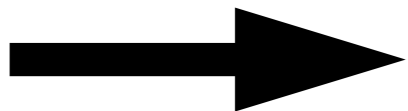
$$x_n = x_{n-1} + \frac{f(x_{n-1})}{f'(x_{n-1})}$$



Introduce  $f = 1 - \Phi$

$$\rho_n = \rho_{n-1} + [\Phi'[\rho_{n-1}]]^{-1} (1 - \Phi)[\rho_{n-1}]$$

x10 speed up



$$\Phi'[\rho_{n-1}](\rho_n - \rho_{n-1}) = (1 - \Phi)[\rho_{n-1}]$$

# Solution

This problem can be solved exactly. Consider a given inelasticity

$$S(s)S^*(s) = 1 - f_{inel}(s)$$

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$$S(s) = S_{\text{CDD}}(s) e^{\int_{4m^2}^{\infty} \frac{ds'}{2\pi i} \log[1 - f_{inel}(s')] \frac{\sqrt{s(s-4m^2)}}{\sqrt{s'(s'-4m^2)}} \left( \frac{1}{s'-s} + \frac{1}{s'-(4m^2-s)} \right)}$$

purely elastic

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For example

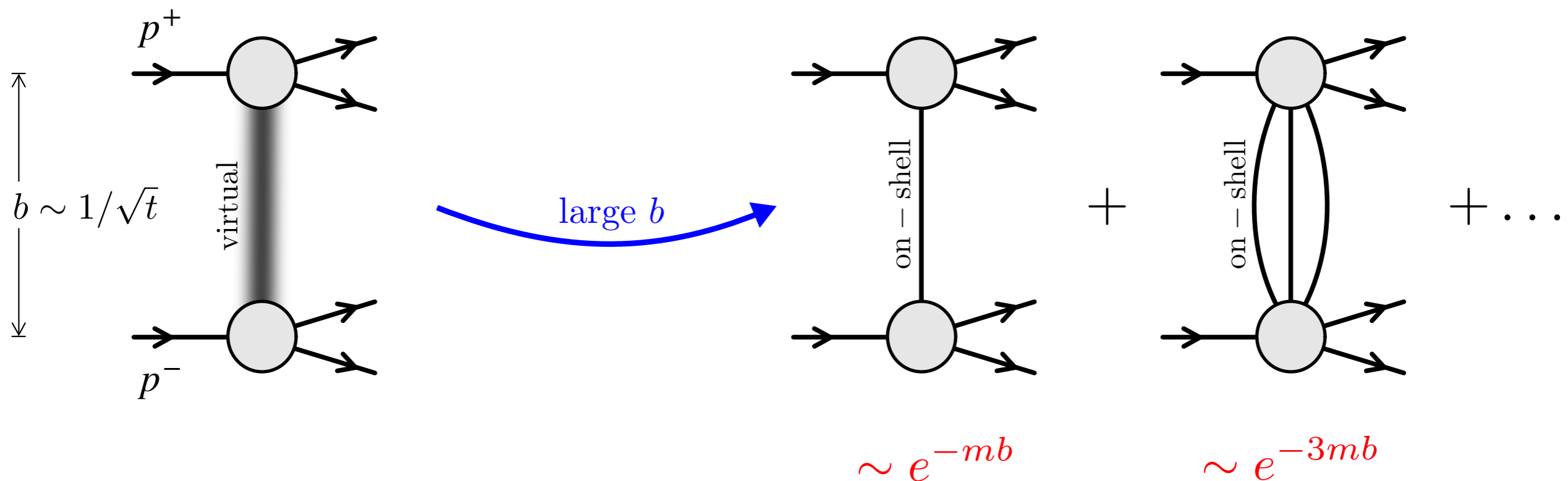
$$S_{\text{CDD}}^{\text{pole}} = \frac{\sqrt{s(s-4m^2)} + \sqrt{m_p^2(4m^2 - m_p^2)}}{\sqrt{s(s-4m^2)} - \sqrt{m_p^2(4m^2 - m_p^2)}}$$



# Scattering Implies Production

In  $d \geq 3$

$$T_{2 \rightarrow 2} \longrightarrow T_{2 \rightarrow n > 2}$$

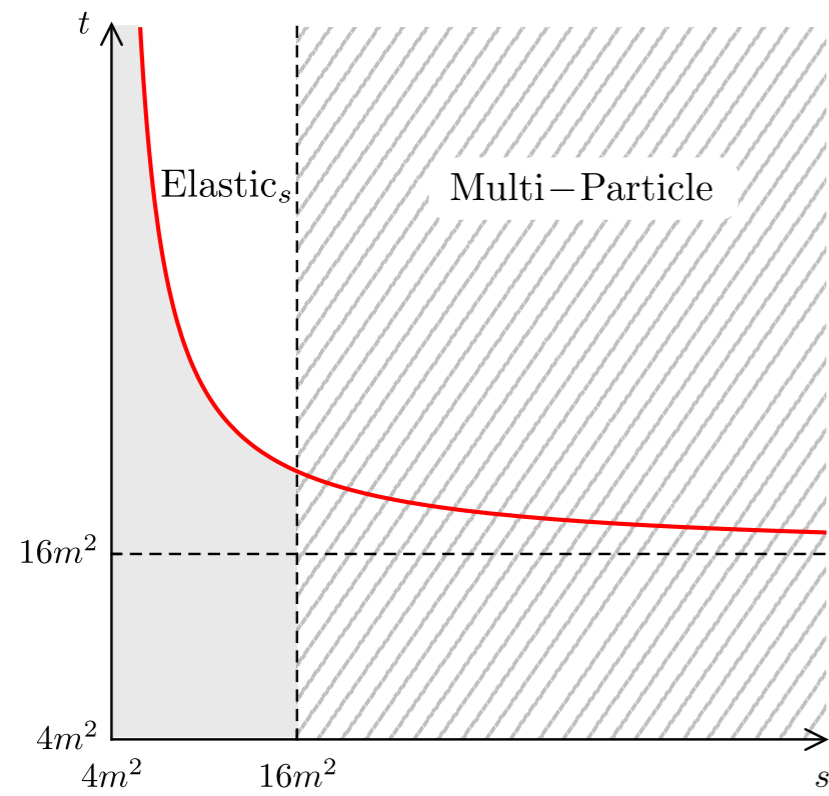


**for two-to-two scattering, elastic unitarity:**

An opportunity — was never implemented.

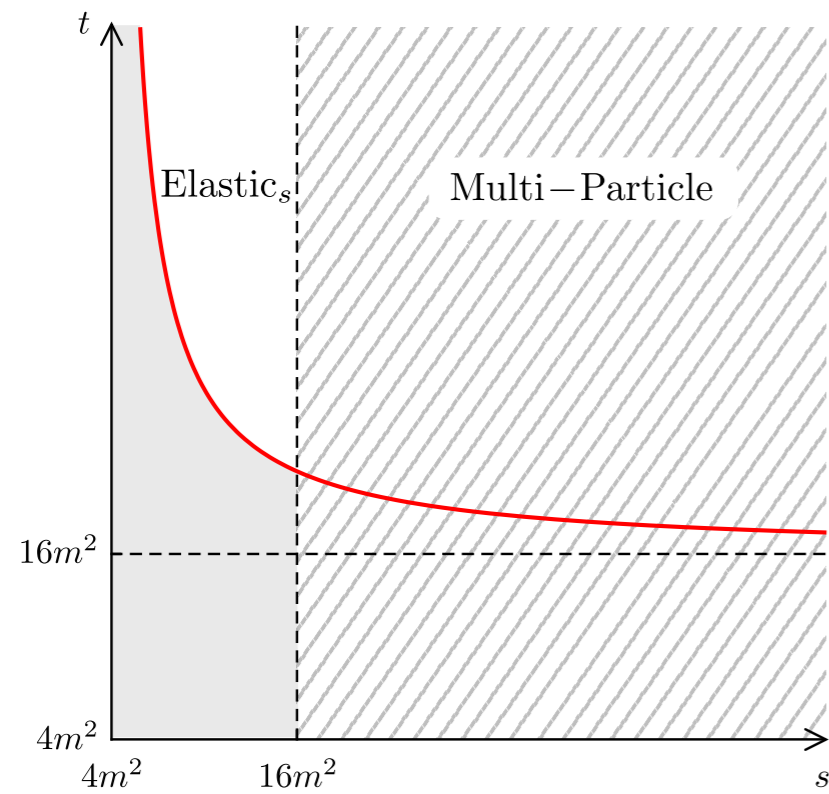
# Aks Theorem

[Aks '65]

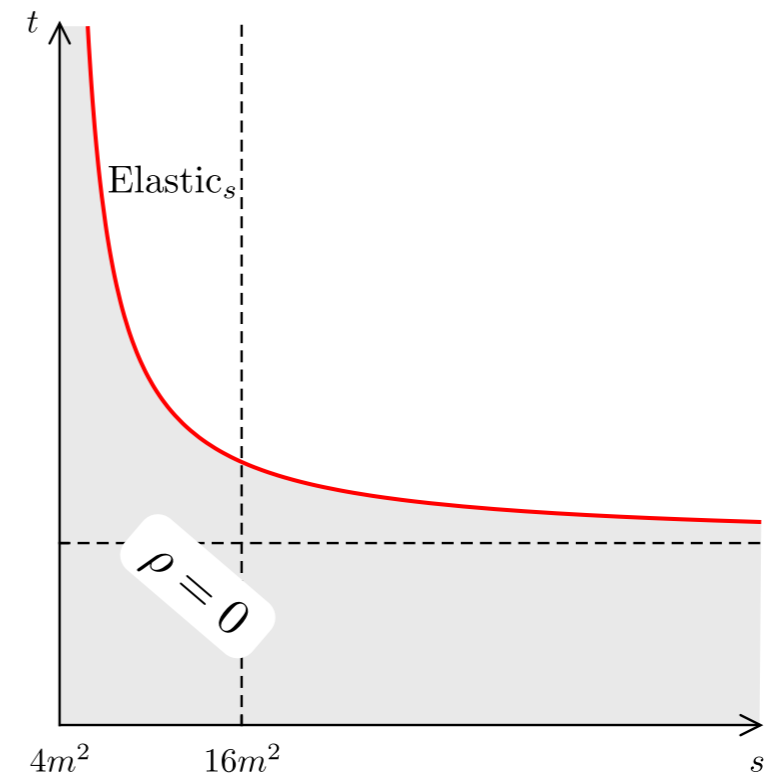


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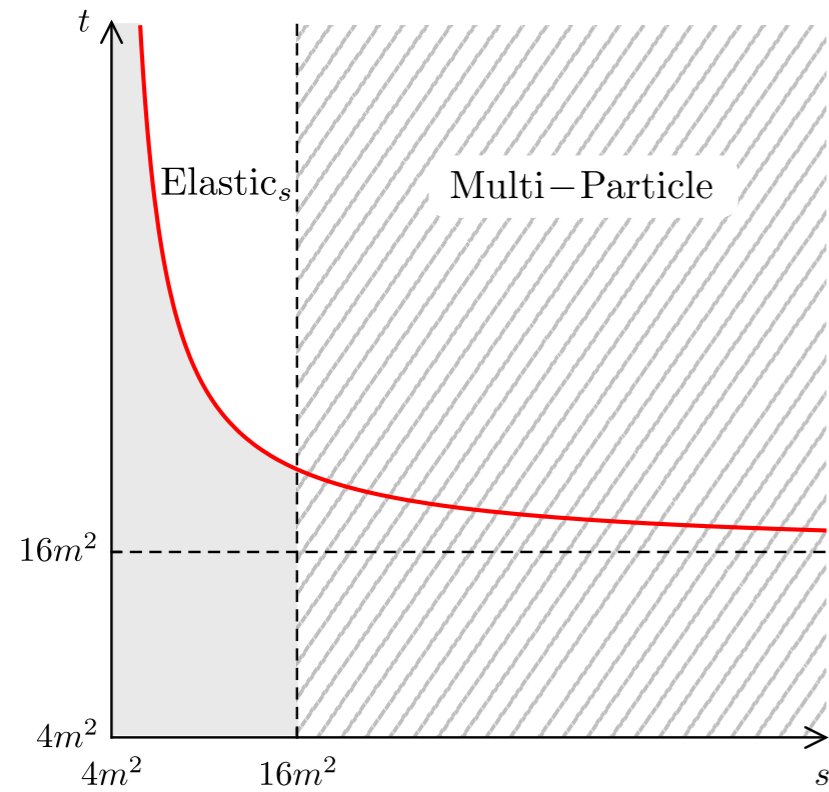


no particle  
production

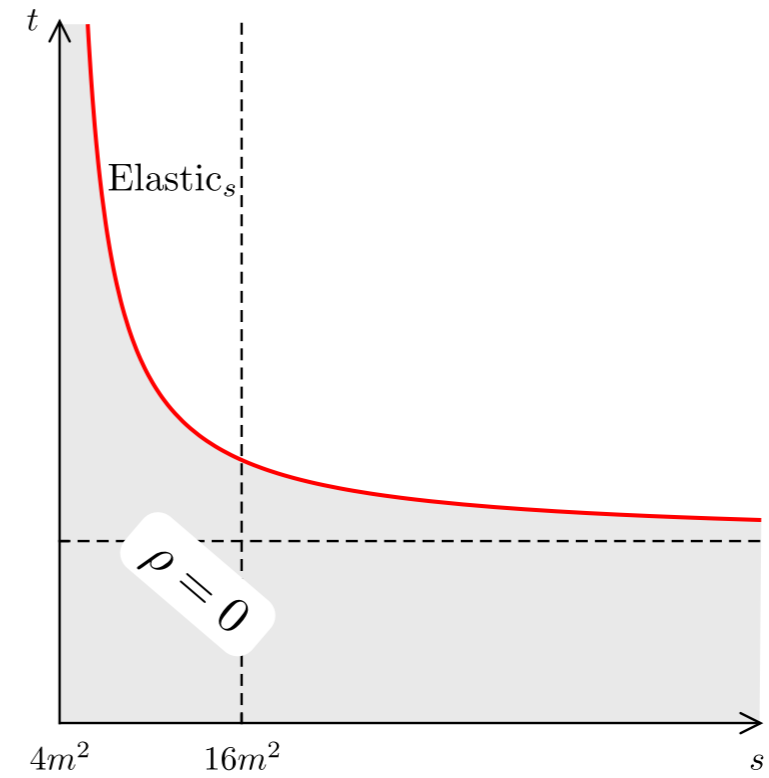


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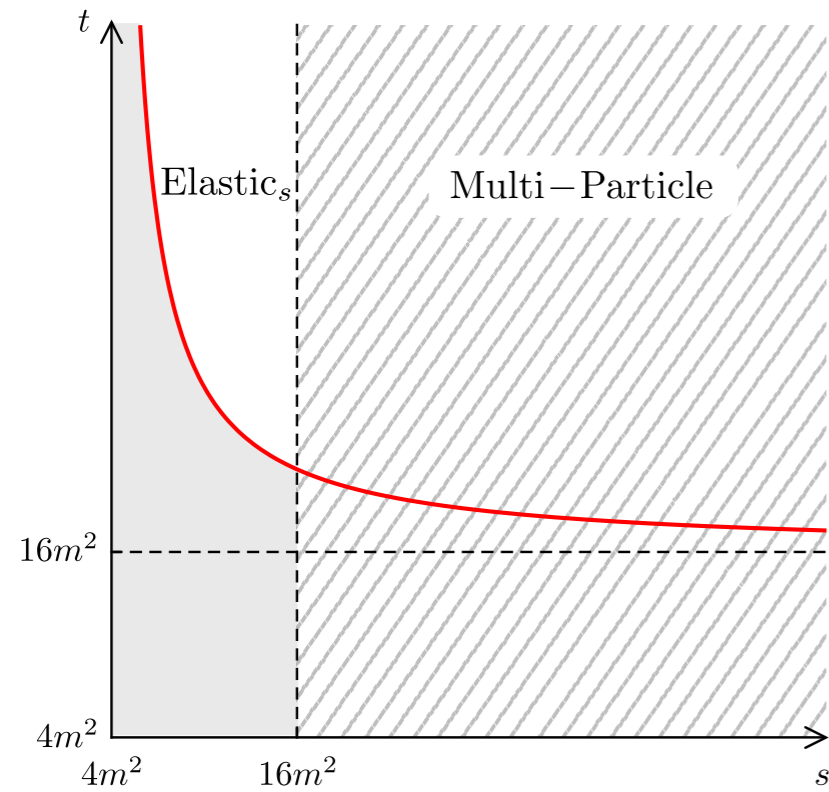
scattering  $\neq 0$

+

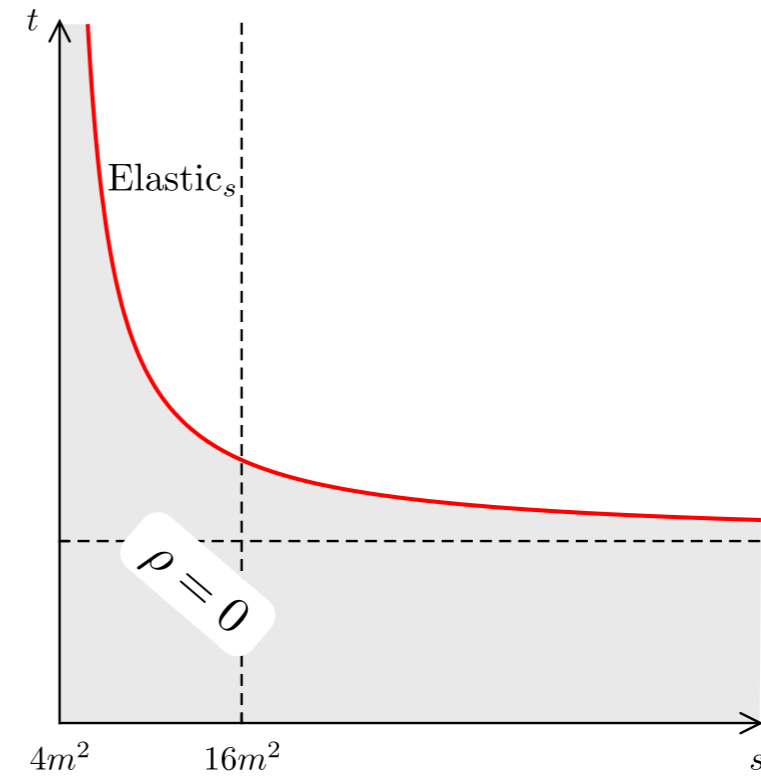
crossing

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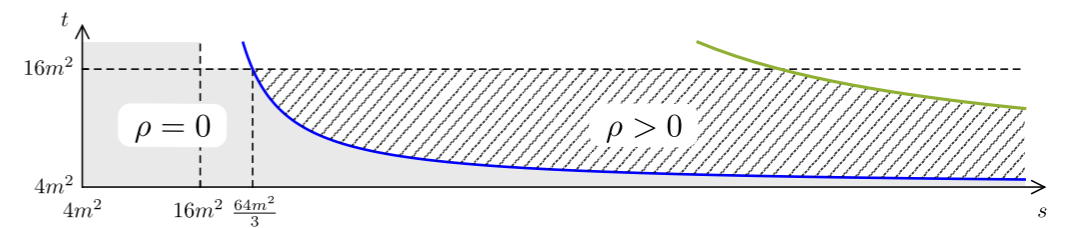
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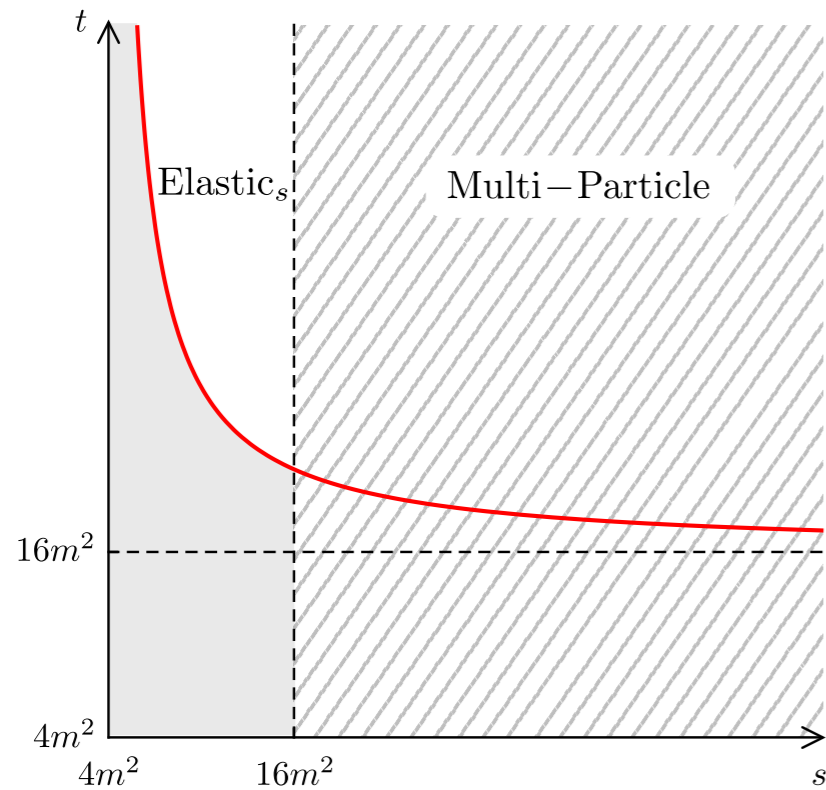
+

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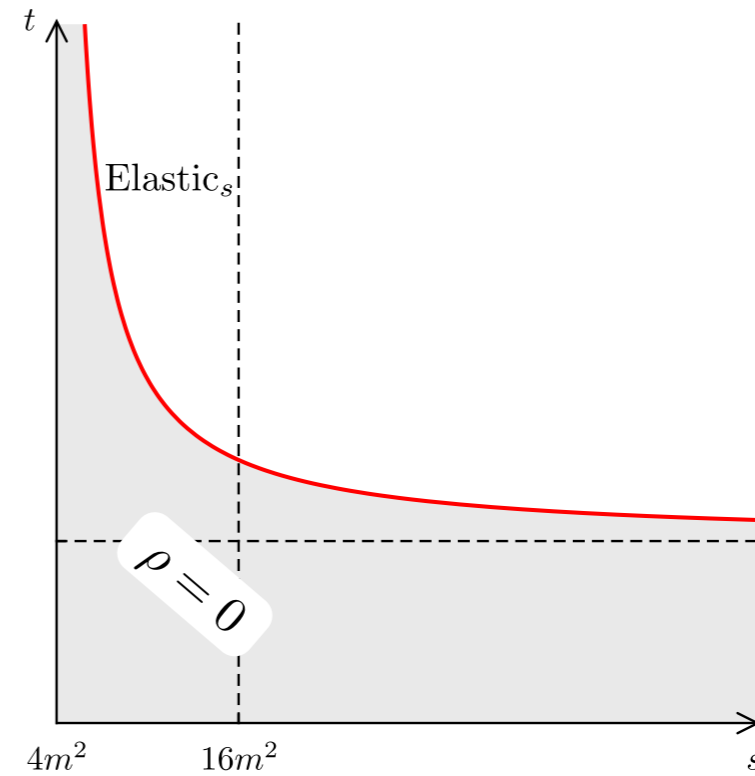


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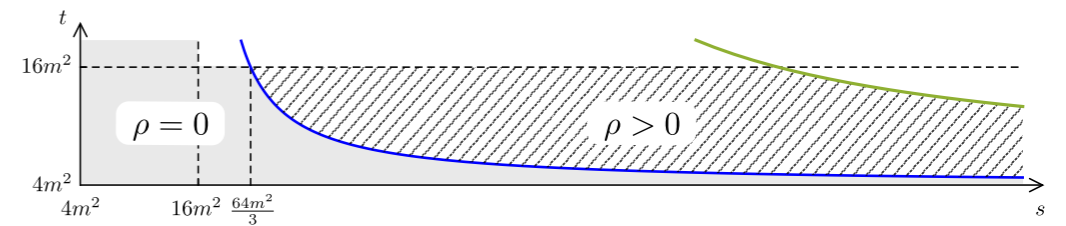
contradiction



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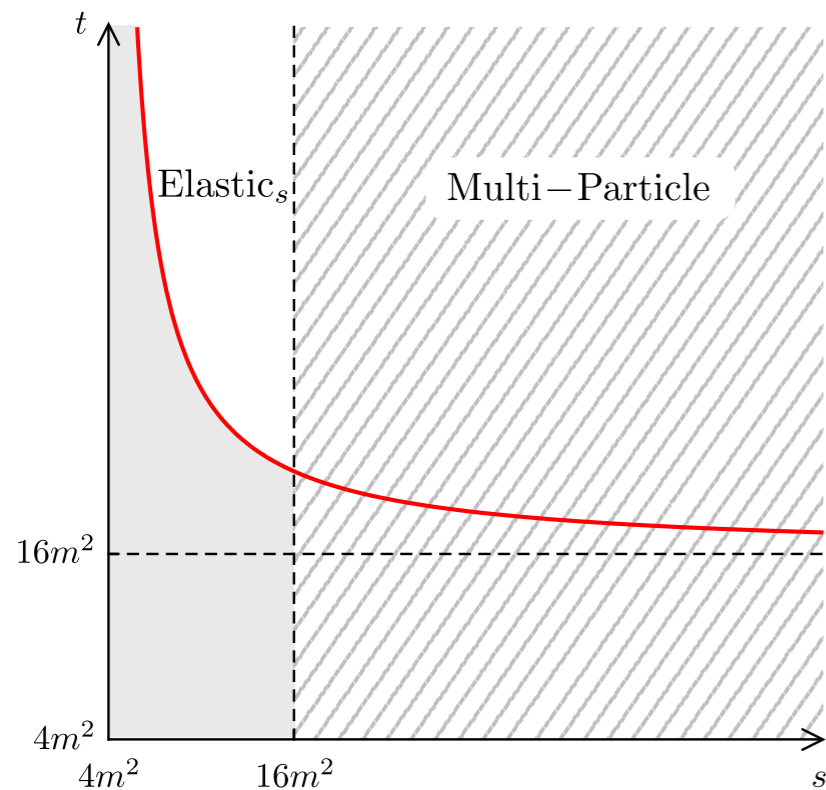
+

crossing

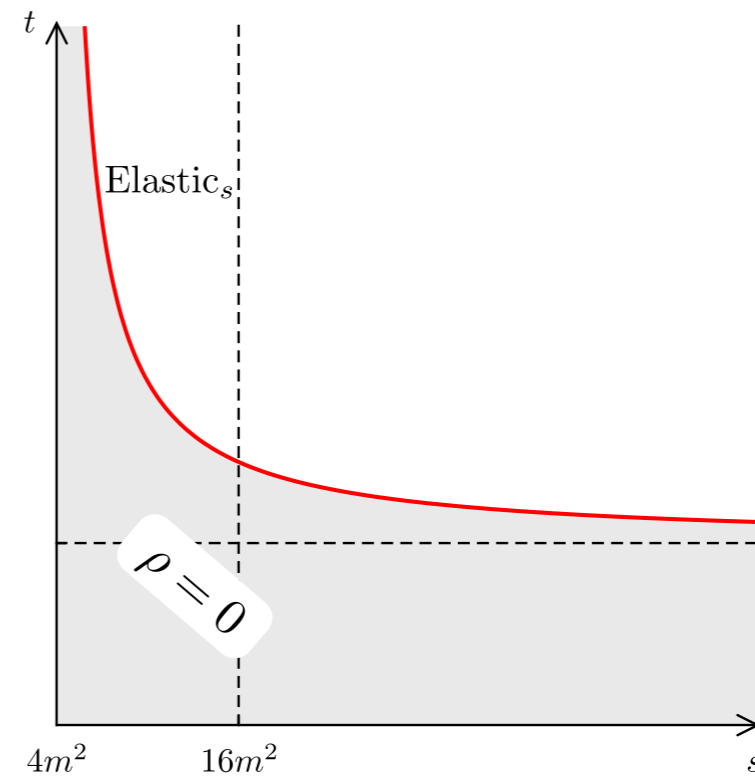


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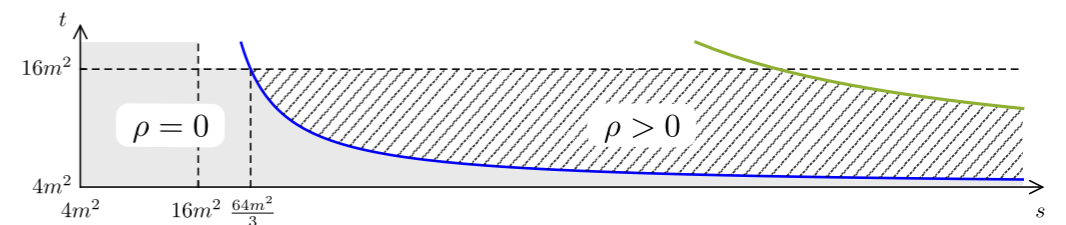
contradiction



scattering  $\neq 0$

+

crossing



$$\int d\text{LIPS}_4 \times \text{Disc}_t T_{2 \rightarrow 4}^{(+)} \text{Disc}_t T_{2 \rightarrow 4}^{(-)} \times K_{\text{Mandelstam}}^{2 \rightarrow 4}$$

$$= \frac{(t - 4m^2)^{\frac{d-3}{2}}}{4\pi^2 (4\pi)^{d-2} \sqrt{t}} \int_{\bar{z}_1}^{\infty} d\eta' \int_{\bar{z}_1}^{\infty} d\eta'' \text{Disc}_s T_{2 \rightarrow 2}^{(+)}(t, \eta') \text{Disc}_s T_{2 \rightarrow 2}^{(-)}(t, \eta'') \text{Disc}_{\bar{z}} K_d(\bar{z}, \eta', \eta'') > 0$$