



Gravitational Positivity Bounds on Dark Sector

Satoshi Shirai (Kavli IPMU)

Based on [arXiv:2305.10058](#)

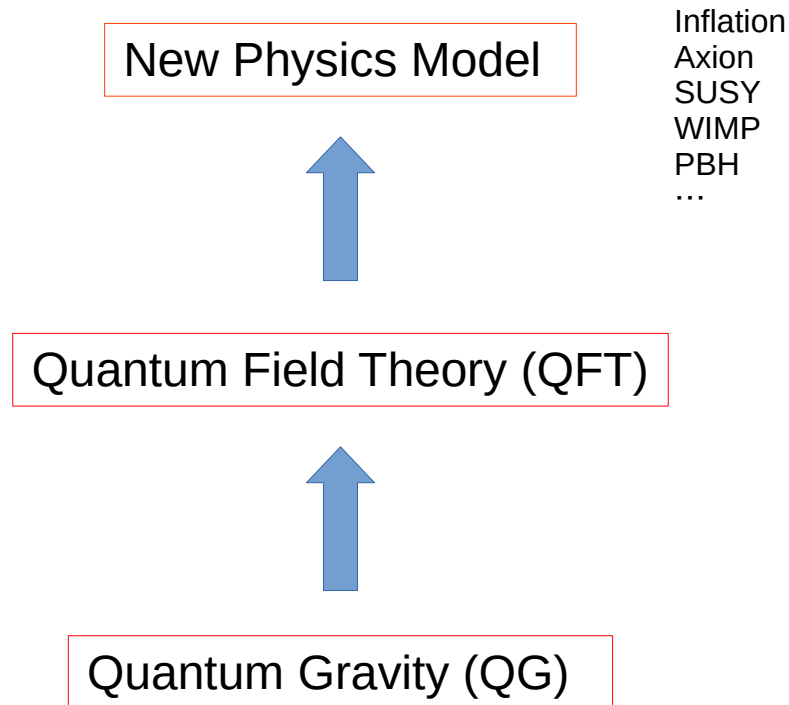
in collaboration with

Katsuki Aoki, Toshifumi Noumi, Ryo Saito, Sota Sato,
Junsei Tokuda and Masahito Yamazaki

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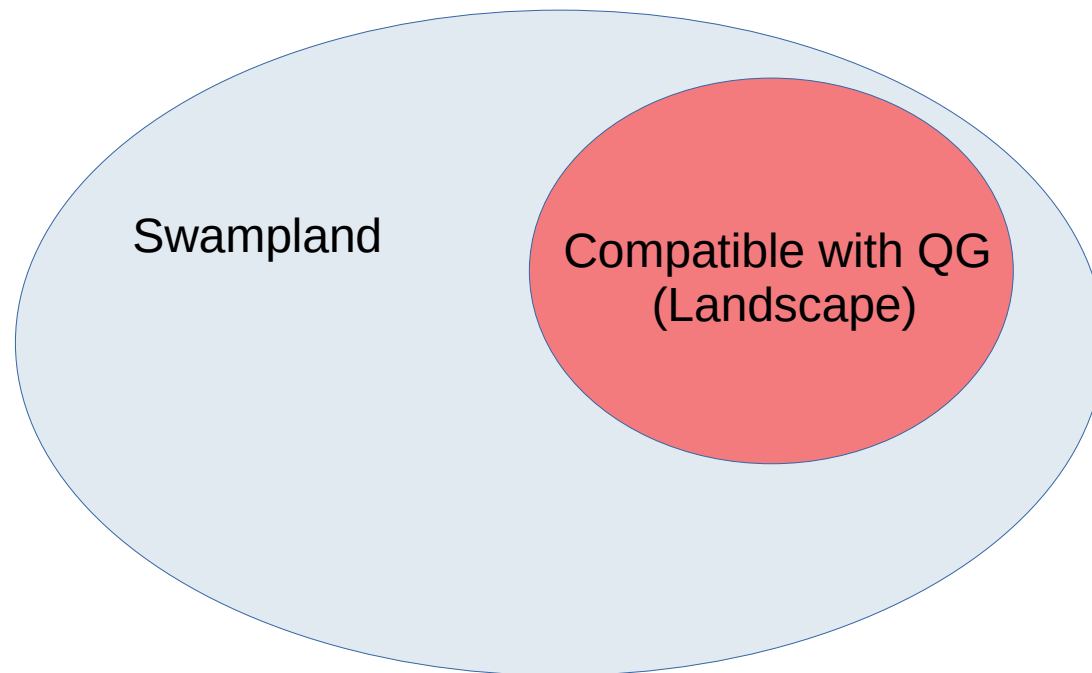
1. **Effective Field Theory and Quantum Gravity.**
Swampland and gravitational positivity bounds
2. **Positivity Bounds without Gravity.**
Necessary conditions of low-energy amplitude consistent with UV.
3. **Positivity Bounds with Gravity.**
t-channel graviton pole and its subtraction.
4. **Application for Hidden Massive Photons.**

Model for New Physics



QFT and Quantum Gravity

Self-Consistent QFT



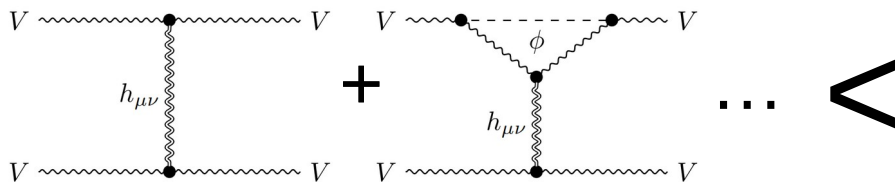
Examples of Swampland

- **No global symmetry** Banks & Dixon 88
- **Weak gravity conjecture** Arkani-Hamed et.al. 2006
 - Gravity should be weakest force.
- **Distance conjecture** Ooguri & Vafa 2006
 - Derivation of field VEV is less than M_{pl} .
- **de Sitter conjecture** Obied et.al, 2018
 - Forbidding flat potential with $V > 0$.

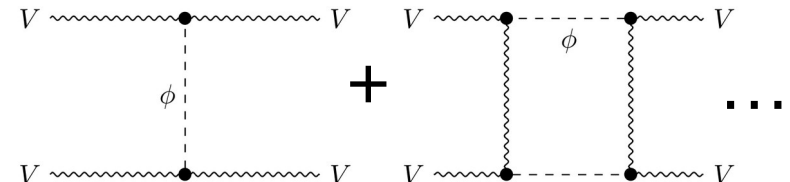
Gravitational Positivity

Swampland from comparison of gravitational and non-gravitational interaction.

Gravitational Process



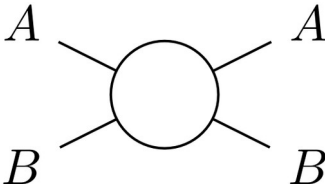
Non-Gravitational Process



The gravitational process is weaker than non-gravitational process.

Positivity w/o Gravity

Amplitude of forward scattering with s-u symmetry in IR theory :

$$i\mathcal{M}(s, t \rightarrow 0) =$$


A Feynman diagram consisting of a central circle with four external lines. The top-left and bottom-left lines are labeled 'A' and 'B' respectively. The top-right and bottom-right lines are labeled 'A' and 'B' respectively.

The IR behavior is given by

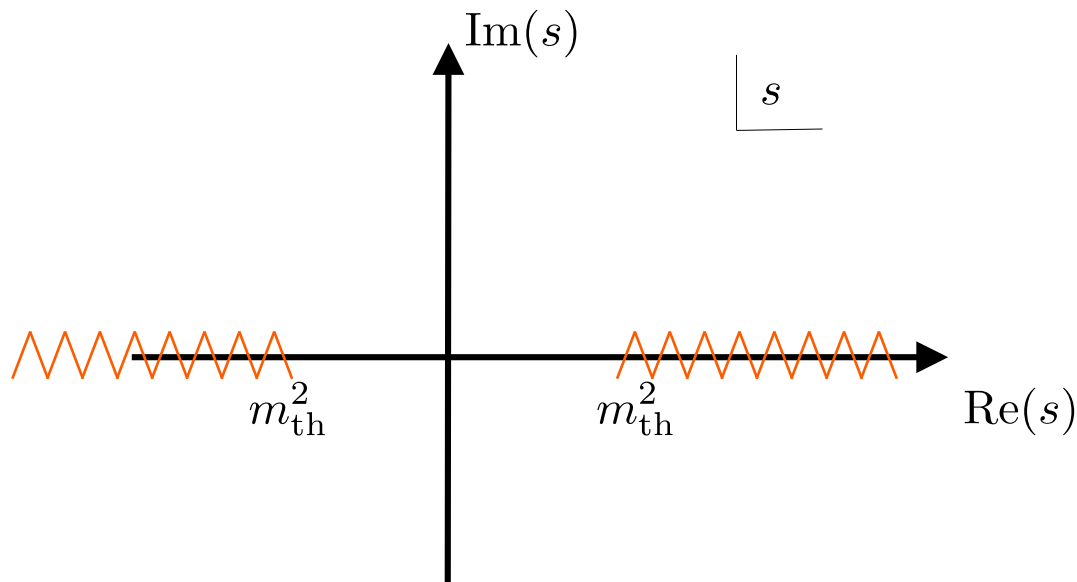
$$\mathcal{M}(s, t = 0) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_{2n}}{(2n)!} s^{2n}$$

Positivity condition

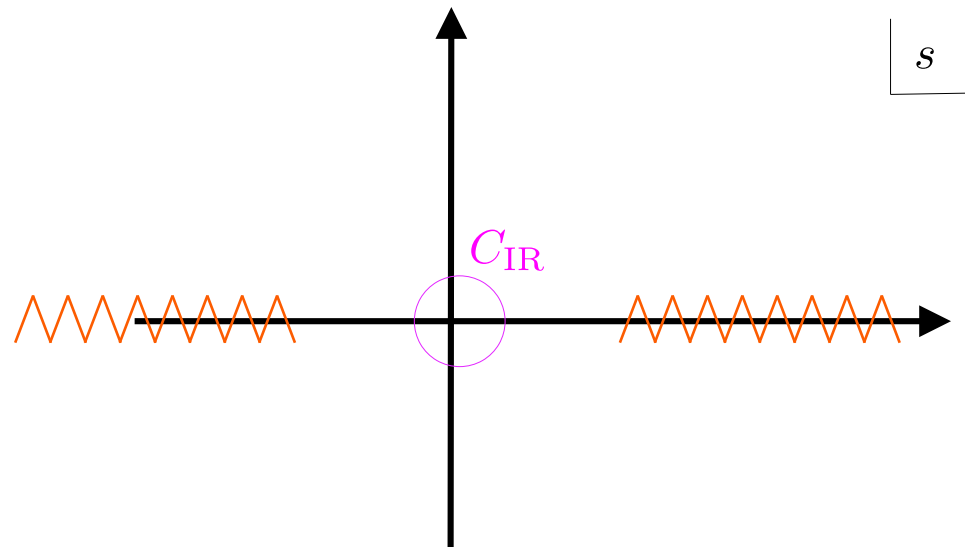
$$a_{2n} > 0$$

Assumptions

- Analyticity of the amplitude on complex s - plane except for cut and pole
- Unitarity: $\text{Im}\mathcal{M}(s, t = 0) > 0$ $\sigma_{\text{tot}}(s) \propto \text{Im}\mathcal{M}(s, t = 0)$
- High-energy behavior $\lim_{|s| \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathcal{M}(s, 0)}{s^2} \rightarrow 0$, c.f., Froissart bound.



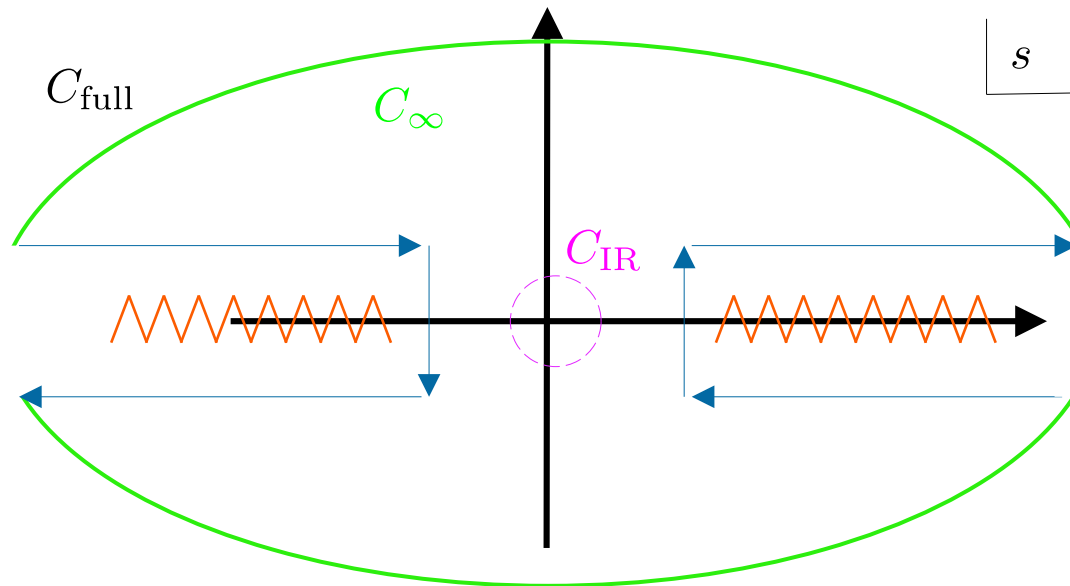
Positivity w/o Gravity



$$\mathcal{M} = \frac{1}{2}a_2s^2 + \dots$$

$$a_2 = \frac{1}{i\pi} \oint_{C_{\text{IR}}} \frac{\mathcal{M}(s, t=0)}{s^3}$$

Positivity w/o Gravity



$$\mathcal{M} = \frac{1}{2}a_2 s^2 + \dots$$

$$a_2 = \frac{1}{i\pi} \oint_{C_{\text{IR}}} \frac{\mathcal{M}(s, t=0)}{s^3} = \frac{1}{i\pi} \oint_{C_{\text{full}}} \frac{\mathcal{M}(s, t=0)}{s^3}$$

$$a_2 = \frac{4}{\pi} \int_{m_{\text{th}}^2}^{\infty} \frac{\text{Im} \mathcal{M}(s, 0)}{s^3} + \frac{1}{i\pi} \oint_{C_{\infty}} \frac{\mathcal{M}(s, 0)}{s^3}$$

Positivity w/o Gravity

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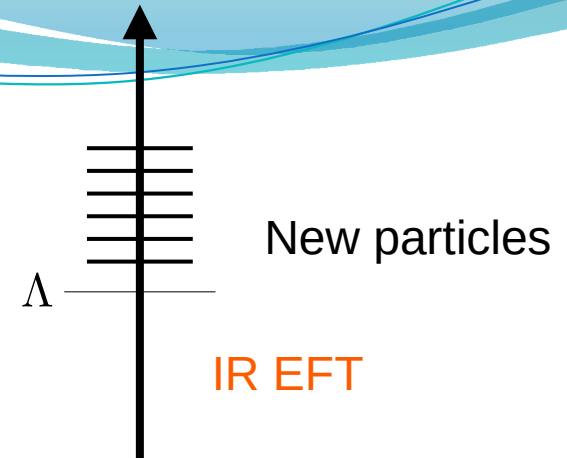


$$a_2 > 0$$

Improving Bounds

IR behavior of amplitude

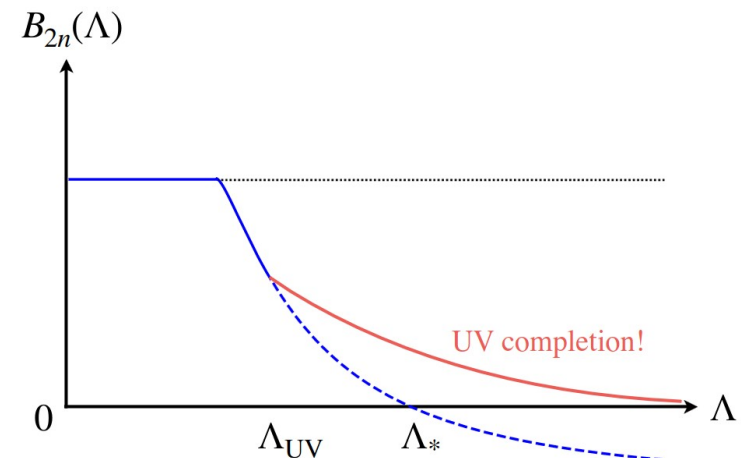
$$\mathcal{M} = a_2 s^2 + \dots \quad a_2 > 0$$



Introduce the cutoff scale of IR EFT Λ

$$B(\Lambda) = a_2 - \frac{4}{\pi} \int_{m_{\text{th}}^2}^{\Lambda^2} \frac{\text{Im}\mathcal{M}(s, 0)}{s^3} = \frac{4}{\pi} \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\infty} \frac{\text{Im}\mathcal{M}(s, 0)}{s^3} > 0$$

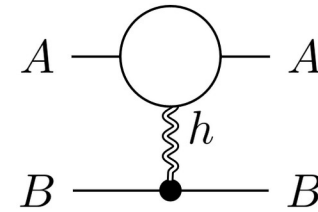
$B(\Lambda) \sim 0$ indicates the valid cutoff scale of EFT.



Including Gravity

$$\mathcal{M}(s, t \rightarrow 0) = -\frac{s^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{2n} s^{2n}$$

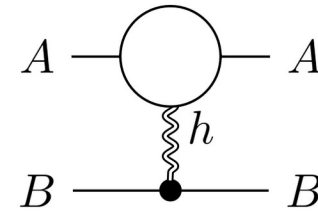
Graviton pole



Including Gravity

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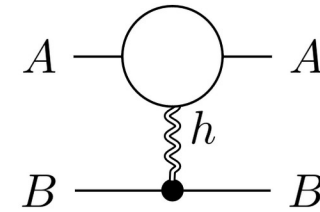
Graviton pole



➔
$$B(\Lambda) = \lim_{t \rightarrow -0} \left[\frac{2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2 t} + \frac{4}{\pi} \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\infty} ds \frac{\text{Im } \mathcal{M}(s, t)}{\left(s + \frac{t}{2}\right)^3} \right]$$

Apparently singular, undetermined sign?

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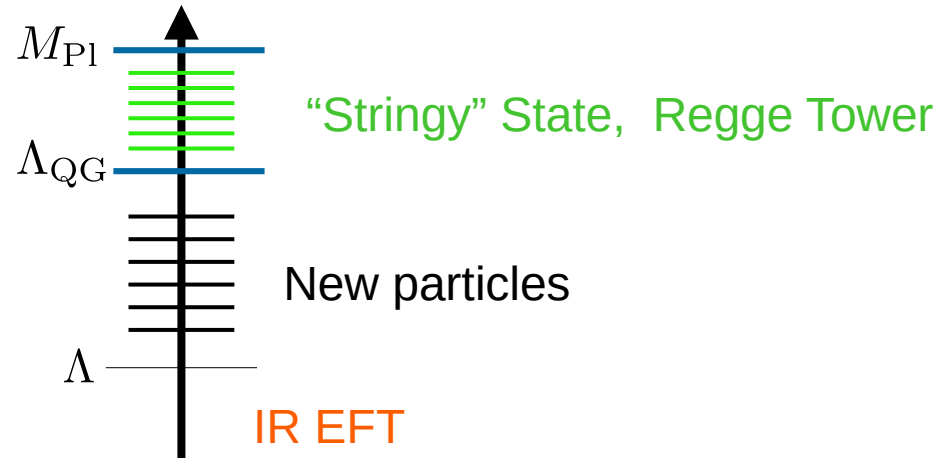
➡
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Apparently singular, undetermined sign?

Split into two parts

$$B(\Lambda) = \frac{4}{\pi} \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\Lambda_{\text{QG}}^2} ds \frac{\text{Im } \mathcal{M}(s, 0)}{s^3} + \lim_{t \rightarrow -0} \left[\frac{2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2 t} + \frac{4}{\pi} \int_{\Lambda_{\text{QG}}^2}^{\infty} ds \frac{\text{Im } \mathcal{M}(s, t)}{\left(s + \frac{t}{2}\right)^3} \right]$$

Including Gravity



Quantum Gravity

$$B(\Lambda) = \underbrace{\frac{4}{\pi} \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\Lambda_{\text{QG}}^2} ds \frac{\text{Im } \mathcal{M}(s, 0)}{s^3}}_{\text{IR part}} + \lim_{t \rightarrow -0} \left[\frac{2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2 t} + \frac{4}{\pi} \int_{\Lambda_{\text{QG}}^2}^{\infty} ds \frac{\text{Im } \mathcal{M}(s, t)}{\left(s + \frac{t}{2}\right)^3} \right]$$

IR part

Assumption:
Regge behavior resolves the singularity.

$$=: \frac{\sigma}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2 M_{\text{QG}}^2} \quad (\sigma = \pm 1)$$

Including Gravity

$$B(\Lambda) = \underbrace{\frac{4}{\pi} \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\Lambda_{\text{QG}}^2} ds \frac{\text{Im } \mathcal{M}(s, 0)}{s^3}}_{\text{IR part}} + \lim_{t \rightarrow -0} \underbrace{\left[\frac{2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2 t} + \frac{4}{\pi} \int_{\Lambda_{\text{QG}}^2}^{\infty} ds \frac{\text{Im } \mathcal{M}(s, t)}{\left(s + \frac{t}{2}\right)^3} \right]}_{=:\frac{\sigma}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2 M_{\text{QG}}^2} \quad (\sigma = \pm 1)}$$

$$O(M_{\text{Pl}}^0) + O(M_{\text{Pl}}^{-2}) + \dots$$



$$B_{\text{IR}}(\Lambda) \geq \frac{\sigma}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2 M_{\text{QG}}^2}$$

We do know the exact size of M_{QG} , but it will be around M_{pl} .

In this case, B is dominated by IR part.

How to: Gravitational Positivity

0. Write down the (renormalizable) Lagrangian of your model, couple the model to gravity, and consider a $2 \rightarrow 2$ scattering process $AB \rightarrow AB$.
1. Compute the amplitude $\mathcal{M}_{\text{non-grav}}$ of diagrams without gravity:

$$i\mathcal{M}_{\text{non-grav}}(s, t) = \begin{array}{c} A \quad A \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \text{---} \bigcirc \text{---} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ B \quad B \end{array} + \dots,$$

and $\mathcal{M}_{\text{grav}, t\text{-channel}}$ of graviton t -channel diagrams:

$$i\mathcal{M}_{\text{grav}, t\text{-channel}}(s, t) = \begin{array}{c} A \quad A \\ \text{---} \bigcirc \text{---} \\ | \\ B \text{---} \bullet \text{---} B \end{array} + \dots$$

2. Compute $B_{\text{non-grav}}$:

$$B_{\text{non-grav}}(\Lambda) = \frac{4}{\pi} \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\infty} ds \frac{\text{Im } \mathcal{M}_{\text{non-grav}}(s, t=0)}{(s - m_A^2 - m_B^2)^3}.$$

3. Compute series expansion of $\mathcal{M}_{\text{grav}, t\text{-channel}}$ around $t = 0$ and $s = m_A^2 + m_B^2$, and extract B_{grav} from the coefficient of $t^0(s - m_A^2 - m_B^2)^2$.
4. Compute $B(\Lambda) = B_{\text{non-grav}}(\Lambda) + B_{\text{grav}}(\Lambda)$ and check its positivity.

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 ≥ 0 ≤ 0

Abelian Higgs Model

Simple massive gauge boson model

$$\mathcal{L} = |D_\mu \Phi|^2 - \frac{\lambda}{4} (|\Phi|^2 - v^2)^2$$

Massive gauge boson V

$$m_V = \sqrt{2} g_\Phi v$$

Higgs boson ϕ

$$m_\phi = \sqrt{\lambda} v$$

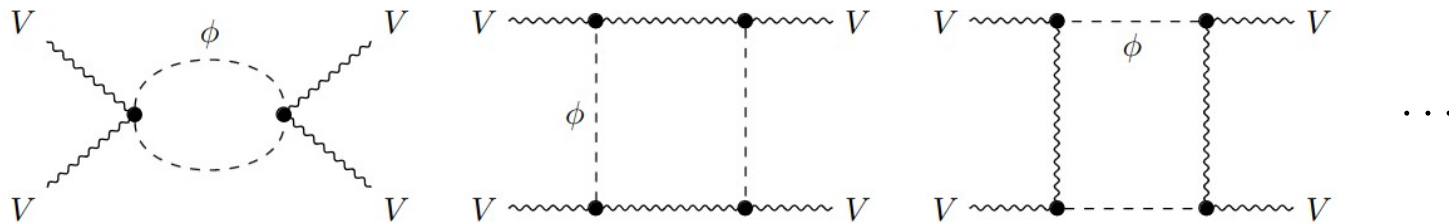
Let's consider 2-to-2 scattering and get the positivity bound.

$$V_T V_T \rightarrow V_T V_T$$

Non-Gravitational Part

Tree-level does not contribute to B.

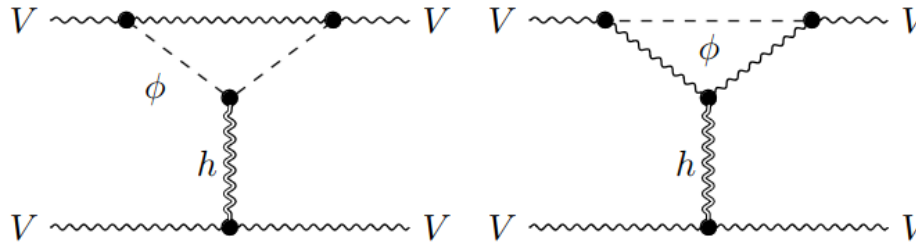
Let's compute one-loop diagrams by usual Feynman diagrams.



$$B_{\text{non-grav}}^{TT} = \frac{g_{\Phi}^4}{4\pi^2 \Lambda^4} + O(\Lambda^{-6})$$

Gravitational Part

Obtain graviton contribution with subtraction of t-pole.



$$B_{\text{grav}}^{TT} = -\frac{g_{\Phi}^2}{72\pi^2 m_{\phi}^2 M_{\text{Pl}}^2} \quad (m_V/m_{\phi} \rightarrow 0)$$

Gravitational Positivity

$$B_{\text{non-grav}}^{TT} = \frac{g_\Phi^4}{4\pi^2\Lambda^4} + O(\Lambda^{-6}) \quad B_{\text{grav}}^{TT} = -\frac{g_\Phi^2}{72\pi^2 m_\phi^2 M_{\text{Pl}}^2} \quad (m_V/m_\phi \rightarrow 0)$$

Gravitational Positivity implies:

$$B_{\text{non-grav}}^{TT} + B_{\text{grav}}^{TT} > 0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad m_\phi > \frac{\Lambda^2}{3\sqrt{2}g_\Phi M_{\text{Pl}}}$$

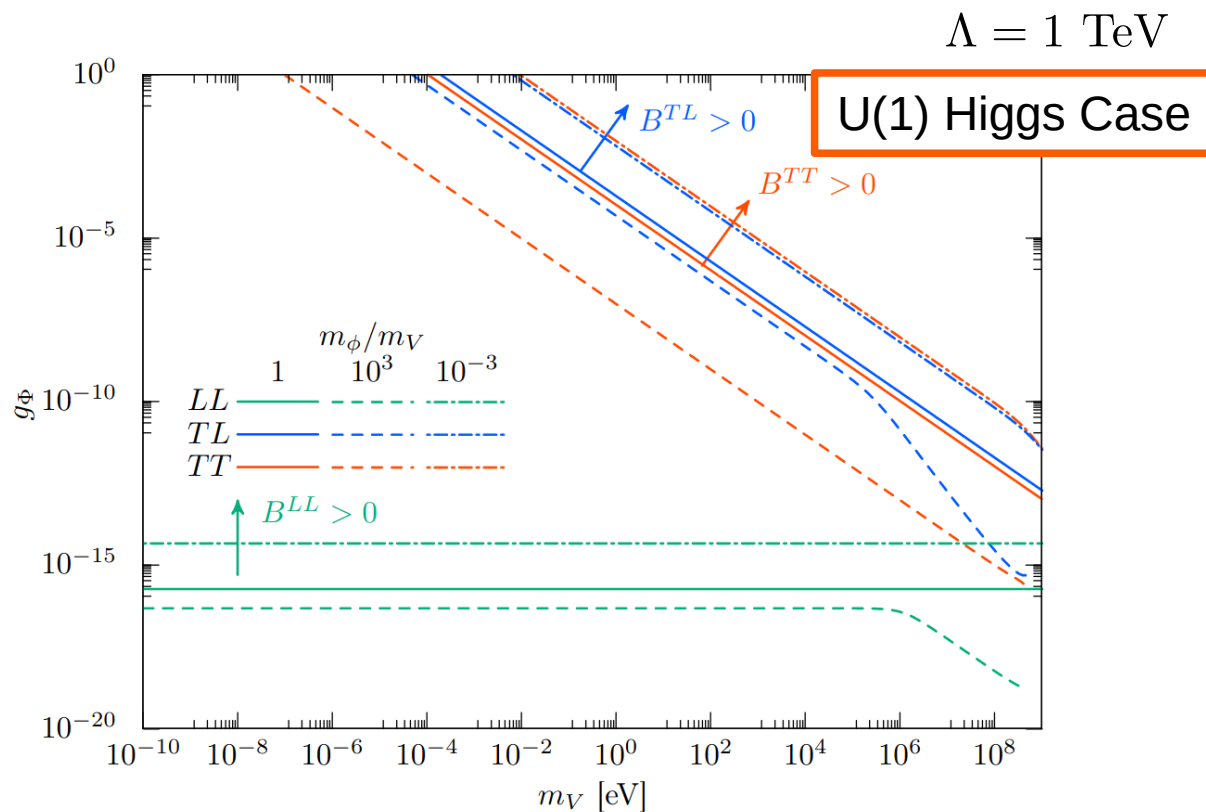
Other Helicity Cases

$$B_{\text{non-grav}}^{TT} + B_{\text{grav}}^{TT} > 0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad m_\phi > \frac{\Lambda^2}{3\sqrt{2}g_\Phi M_{\text{Pl}}}$$

$$B_{\text{non-grav}}^{TL} + B_{\text{grav}}^{TL} > 0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad m_V > \frac{\Lambda^2}{6\sqrt{2}g_\Phi M_{\text{Pl}}}$$

$$B_{\text{non-grav}}^{LL} + B_{\text{grav}}^{LL} > 0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad g_\Phi > \frac{\Lambda}{6\sqrt{2}M_{\text{Pl}}}$$

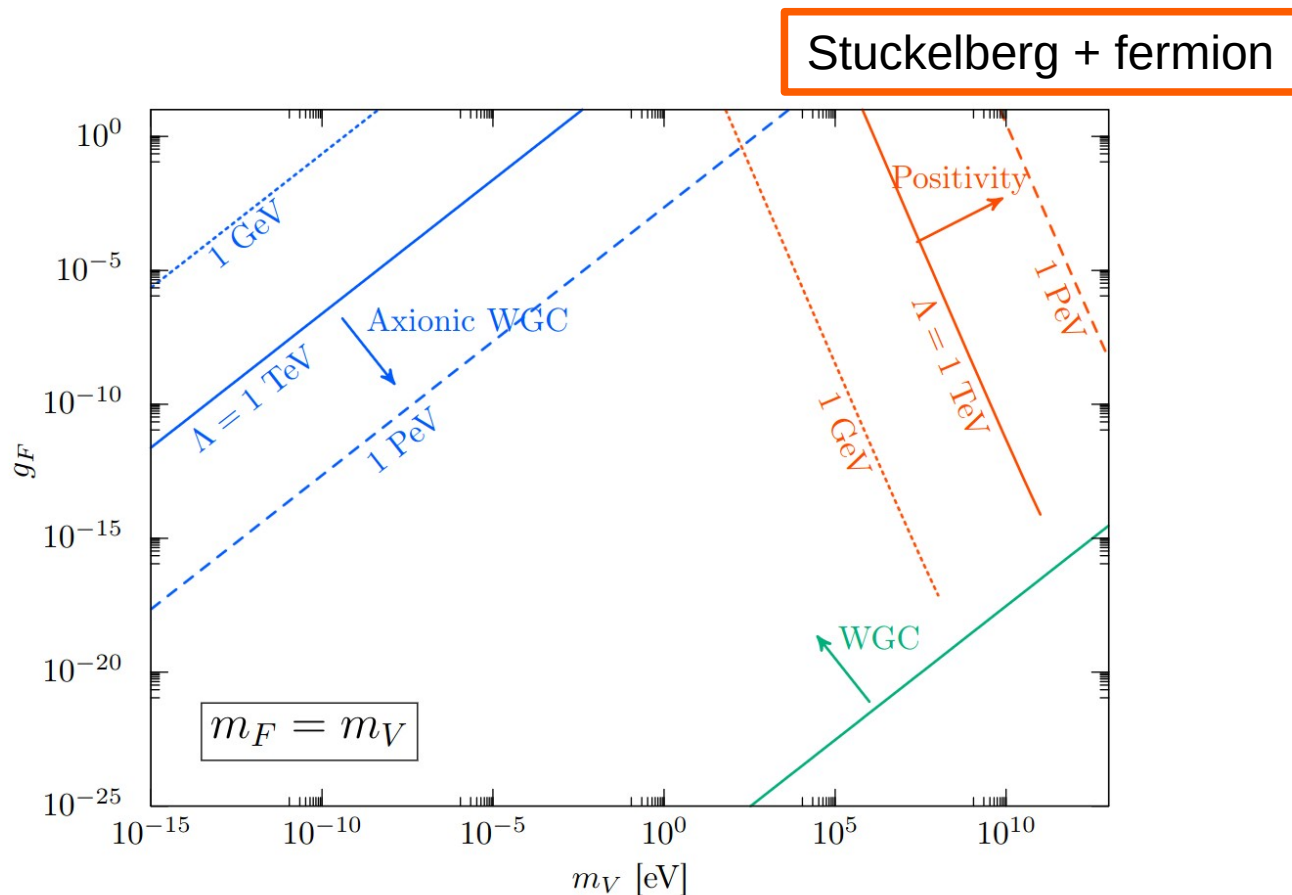
Gravitational Positivity



Larger mass and larger gauge couplings are preferred.

Stuckelberg Case

Axionic WGC:
arXiv:1808.09966
by M. Reece



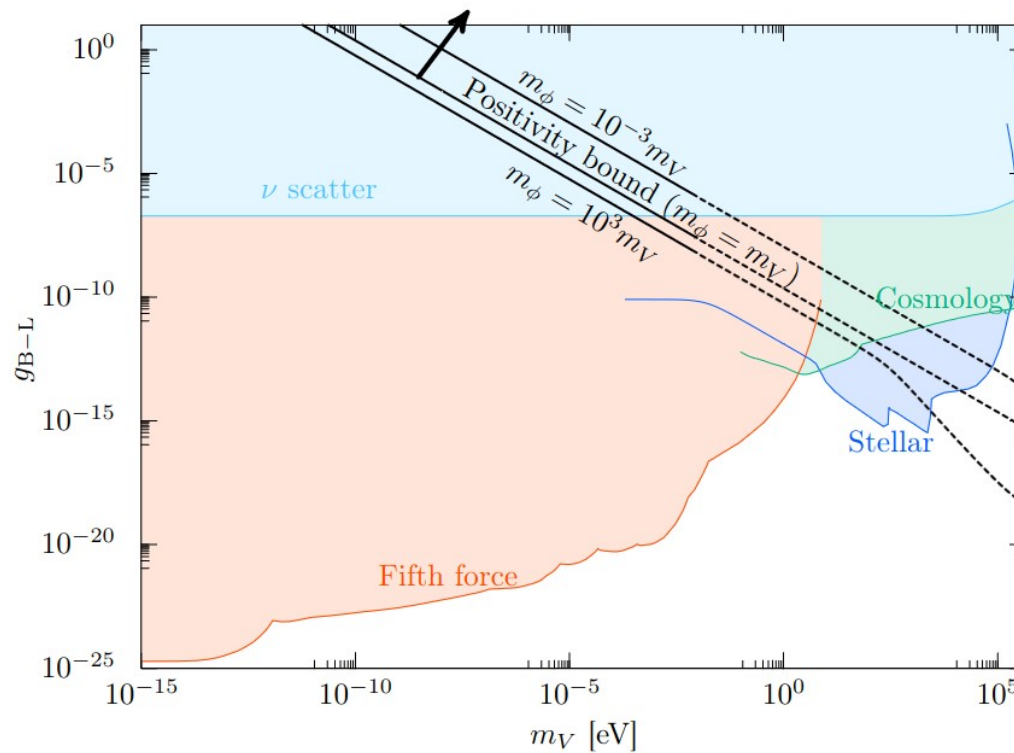
WGC: Weak gravity conjecture

Subtleties for Practical Application

- The Regge scale is still uncertain. $B(\Lambda) \geq \frac{\sigma}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2 M_{\text{QG}}^2}$
 - If this scale is much lower than the Planck scale, EFT constraint is weak.
 - Constraint of EFT or Quantum gravity itself?
- S-matrix needs stable asymptotic states
 - In the toy model case, the gauge boson can be stable.
 - Massive gauge boson coupling to SM sector decays into fermions/photons.
 - If the decay rate is super tiny, compared to e.g., age of Universe, can we use the positivity bound?

B-L gauge boson

$\Lambda = 1 \text{ GeV}$



Summary and Discussion

- Gravitational positivity can provide strong constraint on EFT.
 - However, it depends how QG resolve the t-singularity.
- Issues of unstable particles.
 - No asymptotic states in scattering.
 - $3 \rightarrow 3$ scattering?
 - Other kinematical choices?
- Various developments in this area of research are ongoing.