

Gravitational positivity bounds: implications for the swampland program

Junsei Tokuda (IBS, CTPU)

based on: [JHEP11(2020)054 **JT**, K. Aoki, S. Hirano]

[PRL127,091602(2021), K. Aoki, T.Q. Loc. T. Noumi, **JT**]

[PRD104,066022(2021) T. Noumi, **JT**]

[arXiv: 2205.12835 T. Noumi, S. Sato, **JT**]

[JHEP06(2023)032 T. Noumi, **JT**]

[arXiv: 2305.10058

K. Aoki, T. Noumi, R. Saito, S. Sato, S. Shirai, **JT**, M. Yamazaki]

Why Swampland?

Q. What is **the quantum gravity theory**?

- **We need predictions which can be tested** experimentally.
 - ✓ **Very difficult.** $M_{\text{pl}} \sim 10^{18}$ GeV: Very high.

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Q. What is **the quantum gravity theory**?

- **We need predictions which can be tested** experimentally.
 - ✓ **Very difficult.** $M_{\text{pl}} \sim 10^{18}$ GeV: Very high.
- But, **hidden predictions may exist.** → **Swampland program:**
[C. Vafa ('05)]

“Not all consistent-looking EFTs are consistent with quantum gravity.”

* Inconsistent EFTs are said to be in the Swampland.

Hidden predictions exist! (without gravity)

- Hidden predictions exist! (without gravity): **Positivity bounds**

[Adams – Arkani-Hamed – Dubovsky – Nicolis – Rattazzi ('06)]

[Pham – Truong ('85)]

... based on S-matrix **Unitarity** + **Analyticity** etc.

e.g.) EFT for photon: $\mathcal{L} \sim -F^2 + \frac{c_2}{m_e^4} F^4 + \dots \quad \longrightarrow \quad c_2 > 0$

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- *Can we extend positivity bound to the gravitational context?*
- *If so, does it give any interesting Swampland Conditions?*

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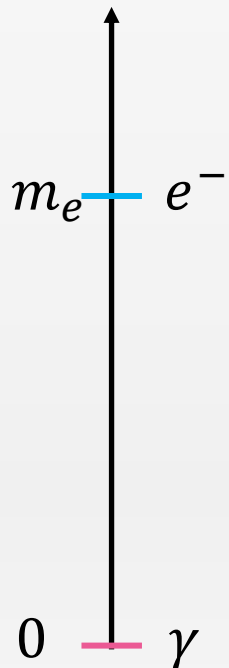
➤ Talk plan:

1. **A review of** positivity bounds without gravity.
2. **Formulation** of gravitational positivity bounds.
3. **Implications** for the Standard Model.

Positivity bound (without gravity) (1/3)

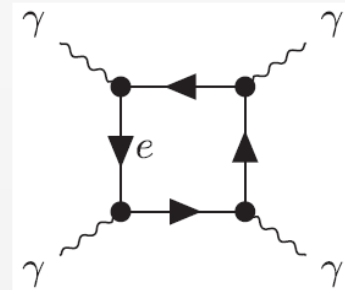
- Let's consider $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ amplitude $\mathcal{M}(s, t)$.
 - * $s \sim (\text{CM energy})^2$
 - * $t \sim \left(\frac{\text{momentum}}{\text{transfer}}\right)^2$
- UV complete theory: Local, Unitary, Lorentz invariant, Causal.
 - ➔ $\mathcal{M}(s, t)$ behaves well at high energies.

mass



QED

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QED}}[\gamma, e^-]$$



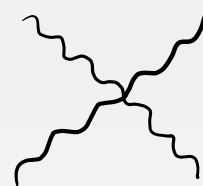
$$\sim \alpha^2 \log^2(m_e^2/s)$$



Embedding is possible
if and only if $c_2 > 0$.

EFT for photon

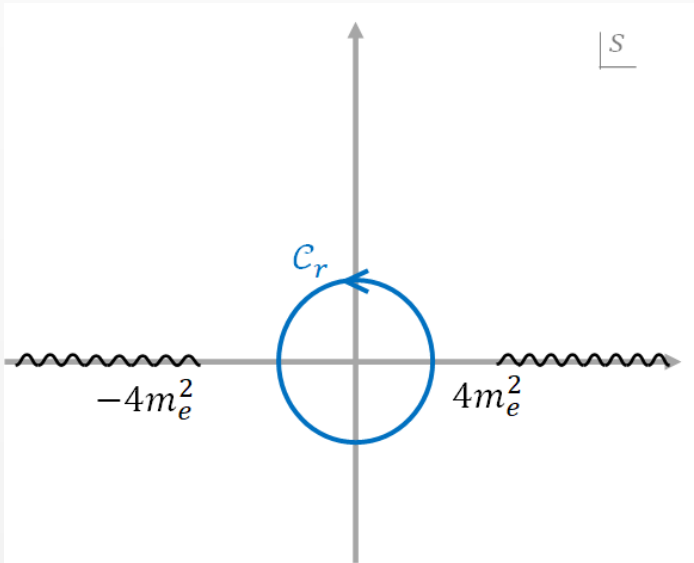
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{EFT}}[\gamma] \ni \frac{c_2}{m_e^4} F^4$$



$$\sim \frac{c_2}{m_e^4} s^2$$

Positivity bound (without gravity) (2/3)

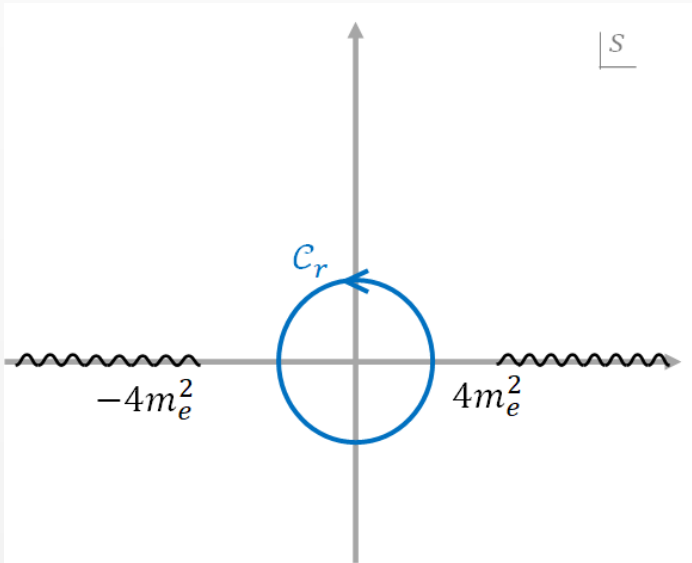
- We assume the analyticity of $\mathcal{M}(s, 0)$ except for usual poles and cuts. We consider a complex integral of $\mathcal{M}(s, 0)/s^3$:



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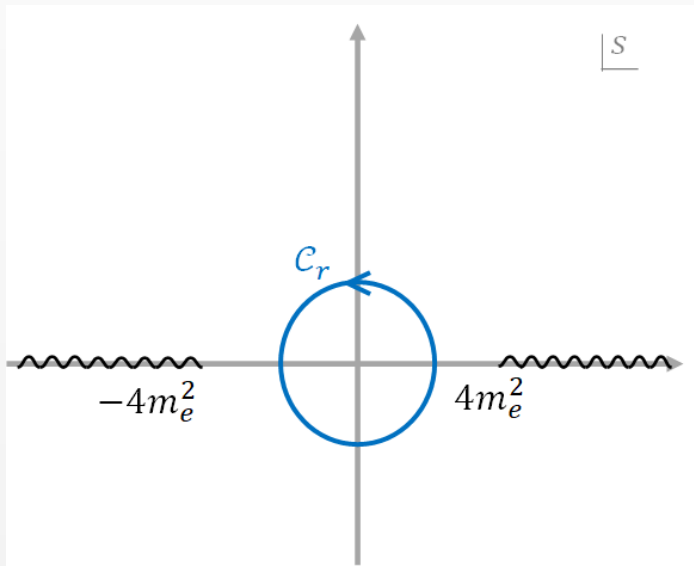
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= c_2 , EFT calculable

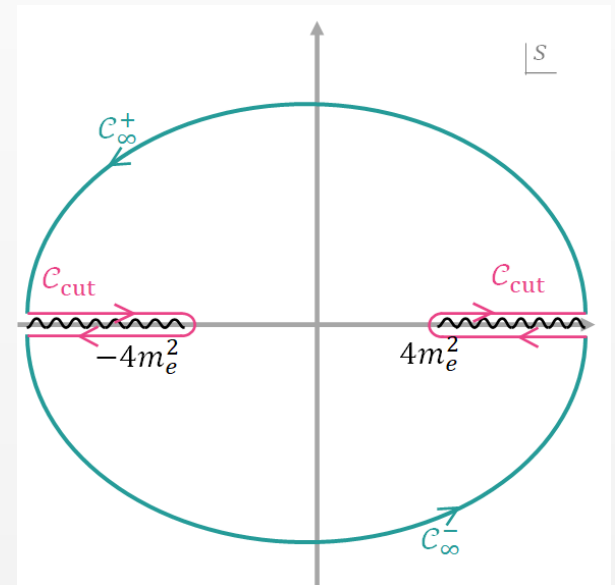
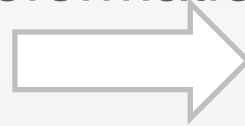
$$\mathcal{M}(s, 0) \sim c_0 s^0 + c_2 s^2 + \dots$$

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Contour deformation



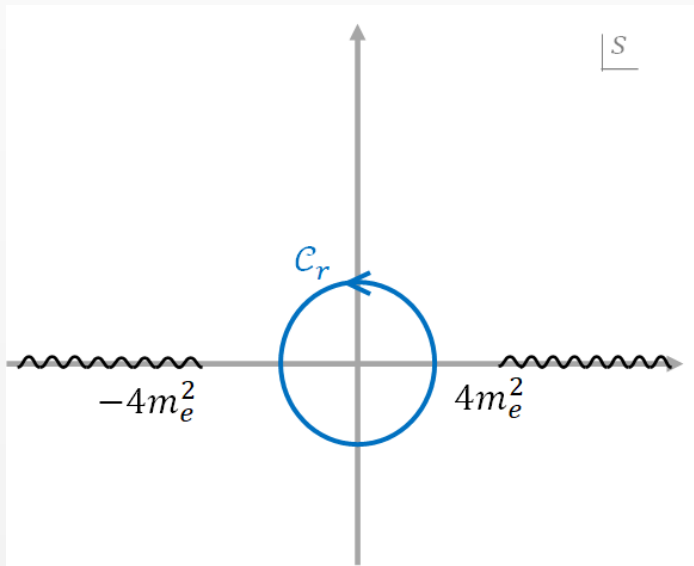
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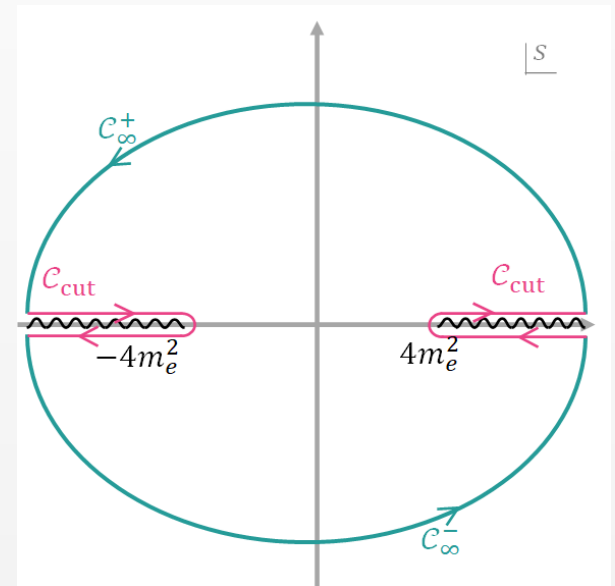
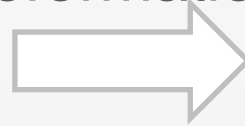
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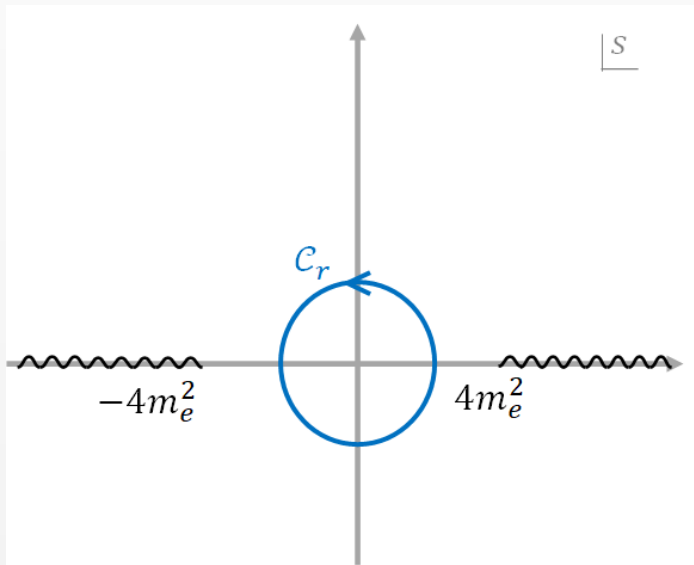
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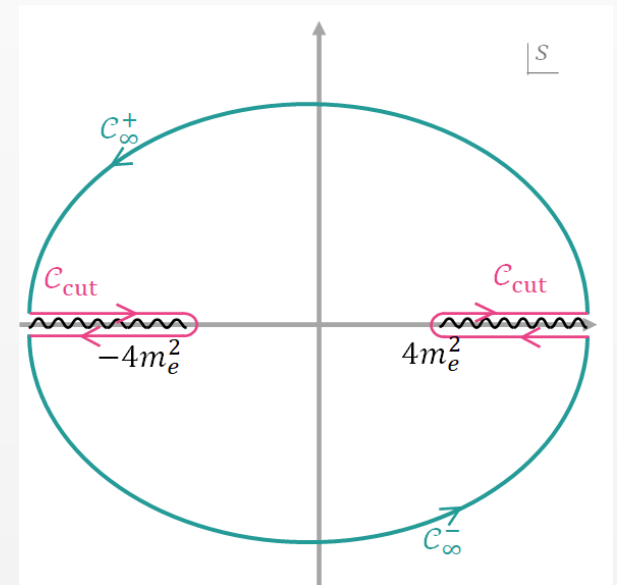
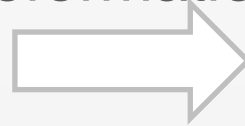
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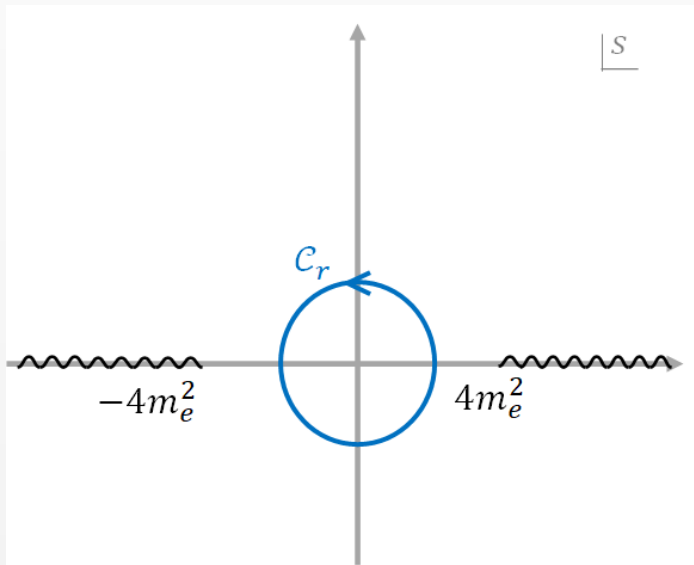
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= c_2 , EFT calculable > 0 (Unitarity)

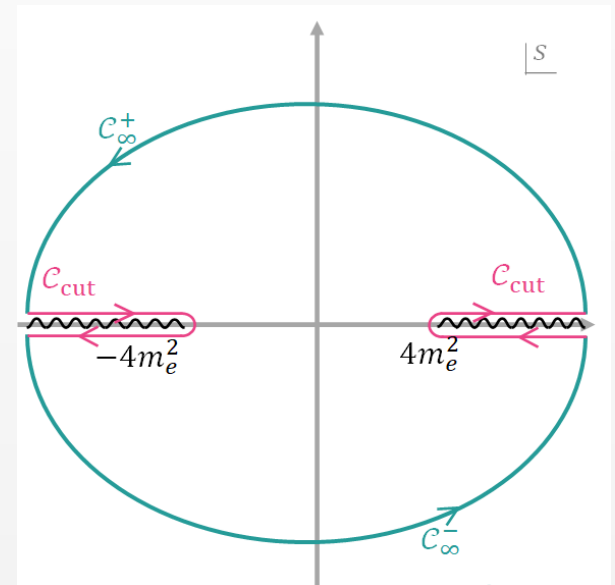
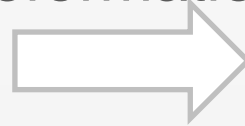
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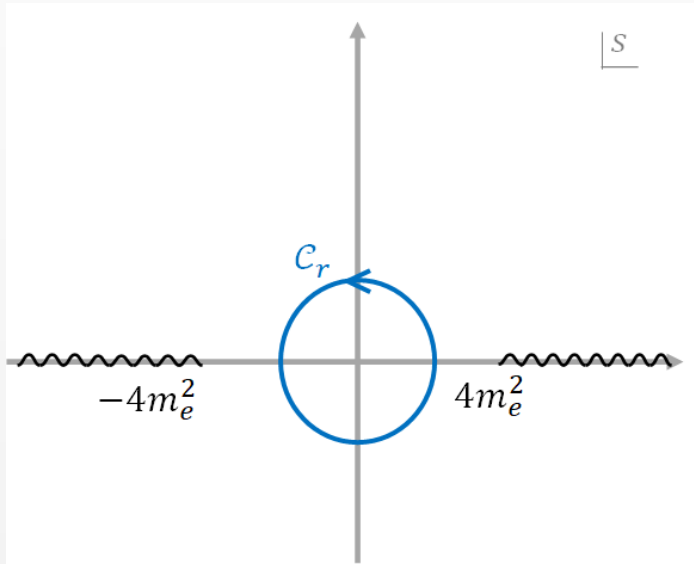
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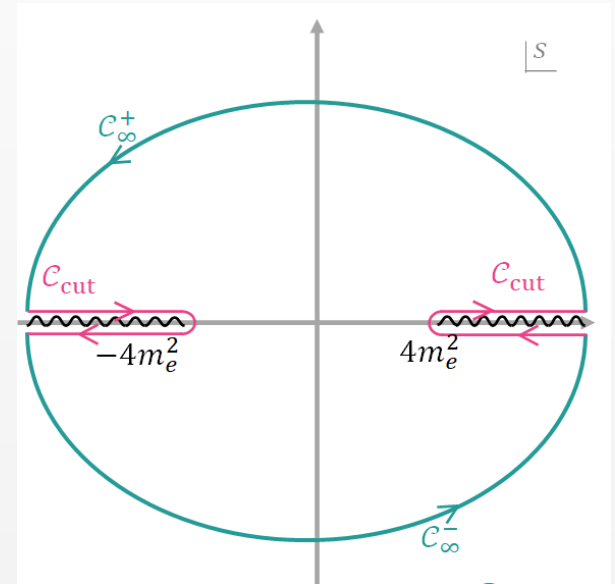
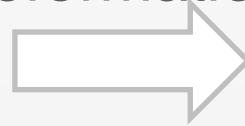
“Locality”(Froissart-Martin)

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Positivity bound (without gravity) (3/3)

- **“Positivity bounds”
(without gravity)**

$$c_2 = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{4m_e^2}^{\infty} ds \frac{\text{Im } \mathcal{M}(s, 0)}{s^3} > \mathbf{0}.$$

[Pham+('85), Adams+('06)]

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[Pham+('85), Adams+('06)]

- Separate the EFT piece and high-energy piece:

$$c_2(\Lambda) := c_2 - \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{4m_e^2}^{\Lambda^2} ds \frac{\text{Im } \mathcal{M}(s, 0)}{s^3}$$

* Λ = cutoff scale of EFT.

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[Bellazzini('16), de Rham+('17)]

Extension to Gravity?

- Quantum gravity S-matrix: **not fully understood**. c.f.) [Häring+('22)]
- Feature: t -channel graviton exchange **grows as fast as s^2** ,

$$\mathcal{M}(s, t) \ni \begin{array}{c} \gamma \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \gamma \\ | \\ \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} h_{\mu\nu} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \\ | \\ \gamma \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \gamma \end{array} \sim \frac{s^2}{M_{\text{pl}}^2 t}$$

- **Assume the mild UV behavior:** $\lim_{|s| \rightarrow \infty} |\mathcal{M}(s, t) s^{-2}| = 0$ for $t < 0$
c.f.) tree-level string: $\mathcal{M} \sim s^{2+\alpha' t} / M_{\text{pl}}^2 t$
- We can then derive a sum rule for $c_2(\Lambda)$.
* We ignore graviton loops and work up to $\mathcal{O}(M_{\text{pl}}^{-2})$.

Positivity bounds **with Gravity** (1/2)

- The sum rule for $c_2(\Lambda)$ contains **graviton t -channel pole**:

$$c_2(\Lambda) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^-} \left\{ \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\infty} ds \frac{\text{Im } \mathcal{M}(s, t)}{s^3} + \frac{\mathbf{1}}{M_{\text{pl}}^2 t} \right\} = \text{"}\infty - \infty\text{" } \stackrel{?}{>} \mathbf{0}$$

$$\mathcal{M}(s, t) \sim (s, t, u \text{ poles}) + c_2 s^2 + \dots \ni \left[\frac{-1}{M_{\text{pl}}^2 t} + c_2 \right] s^2$$

- One solution: consider sum rules **away from $t = 0$ limit**.

[Caron-Huot+ ('21)]

- ✓ Perform smearing in t to localize the sum rule in the domain $t \gtrsim -4m_e^2$. Equivalent to work in impact parameter $b \lesssim (2m_e)^{-1}$.
- ✓ IR div in D=4: $c_2 > -25(2M_{\text{pl}}m_e)^{-2} \log(0.6m_e b_{\text{IR}})$.

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[JT-Aoki-Hirano ('20)]

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$$\int_{s_* \gg \Lambda^2}^{\infty} ds \frac{\text{Im } \mathcal{M}(s, t)}{s^3} \sim f(t) \int_{s_* \gg \Lambda^2}^{\infty} ds \frac{s^{2+\alpha' t + \dots}}{s^3}$$

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Positivity bounds **with Gravity** (2/2)

(Related discussions:
[Hamada+('18 '23)]
[Herrero-Valea+('20)]
[Bellazzini+('19)]
[Alberte+('20,'21)])

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- **$c_2(\Lambda) = 0$ is allowed.** ✓ Type-II superstring amplitude: $c_2 = 0$.

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- **Scale of M :** depends on details of the Regge behavior.
- **$c_2(\Lambda) = 0$ is allowed.** ✓ Type-II superstring amplitude: $c_2 = 0$.
- **An explicit relation between EFT and quantum gravity!**
 - Violation of $c_2(\Lambda) \geq 0$ constrains UV properties of S-matrix (e.g. details of Regge behavior).
 - Today, we discuss **implications of $c_2(\Lambda) \geq 0$ for models.**

Application: Standard Model + GR

[Aoki-Loc-Noumi-[JT](#) ('21)]

- We focus on the $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ process in the Standard Model + GR.

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{M_{\text{pl}}^2}{2} R + \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \dots$$

* We ignore higher-derivative terms for simplicity.

* For earlier analysis in QED(-like)+GR, see [Cheung+('14), Andriolo+('18), Chen+('19), Alberte+('20)]

- We compute $c_2(\Lambda)$ and then discuss implications of $c_2(\Lambda) \geq 0$.

➤ We decompose $c_2(\Lambda)$ into two pieces:

$$c_2(\Lambda) = (\text{nongrav}) + (\text{grav})$$

(nongrav): contributions from processes without graviton.

(grav): contributions from processes with graviton.

Evaluate (nongrav)

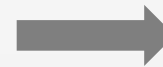
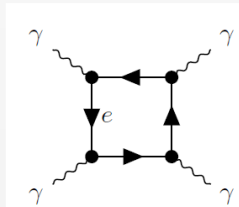
[Aoki-Loc-Noumi-[JT](#) ('21)]

- $\mathcal{M}_{\text{nongrav}}$ satisfies the twice-subtracted dispersion relation. Hence,

$$(\text{nongrav}) = \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\infty} ds \frac{\text{Im } \mathcal{M}_{\text{nongrav}}(s, 0)}{s^3} \simeq \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\infty} ds \frac{\sigma_{\text{tot}}^{\text{nongrav}}(s)}{s^2} > 0.$$

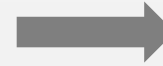
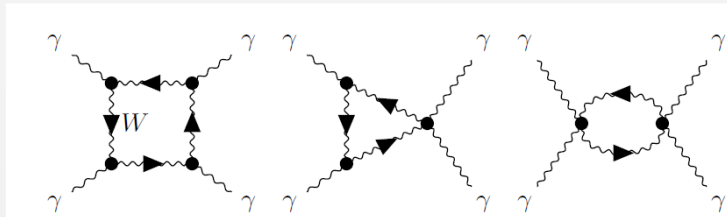
* $\sigma_{\text{tot}}^{\text{nongrav}} \simeq \frac{1}{s} \text{Im } \mathcal{M}_{\text{nongrav}}(s, 0)$: total cross section

QED:



$$\sigma_{\text{tot}}^{\text{nongrav}}(s) \sim \frac{e^4}{s}$$

Weak:



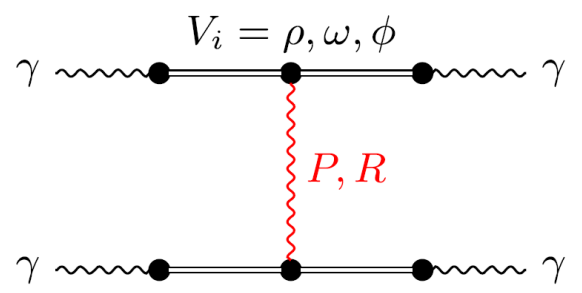
$$\sigma_{\text{tot}}^{\text{nongrav}}(s) \sim \frac{e^4}{m_W^2}$$

Evaluate (nongrav)

[Aoki-Loc-Noumi-[JT](#) ('21)]

- Since we consider physics at $t = 0$, IR physics can play a role.
- To calculate $\sigma_{\text{tot}}(s)$ at $s \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2$, the Regge theory is useful.
- QCD gives dominant contributions via **t-ch. Pomeron exchange**:

QCD:



$\sigma_{\text{tot}}^{\text{nongrav}}(s) \sim e^4 \left(\frac{s}{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2} \right)^{0.08}$

* [Kłusek-Gawenda+ ('16)] evaluates QCD contributions using the vector meson dominance model. We extrapolated their results up to high energies.

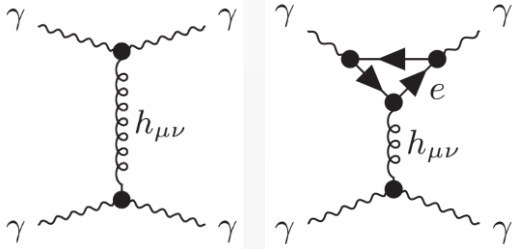
$$\therefore (\text{nongrav}) \sim \frac{e^4}{\Lambda^4} + \frac{e^4}{\Lambda^2 m_w^2} + \frac{e^4}{\Lambda^2 \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2} \left(\frac{\Lambda^2}{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2} \right)^{0.08}$$

Evaluate (grav) & Results

[Aoki-Loc-Noumi-[JT](#) ('21)]

- For gravitational piece, electron one-loop correction to $\gamma\gamma h$ couplings gives a dominant contribution, because electron is light:

(grav):



$$\mathcal{M}_{\text{grav}}(s, t) \sim -\frac{s^2}{M_{\text{pl}}^2 t} - \frac{e^2 s^2}{M_{\text{pl}}^2 m_e^2} + \mathcal{O}(t/m_e^2)$$

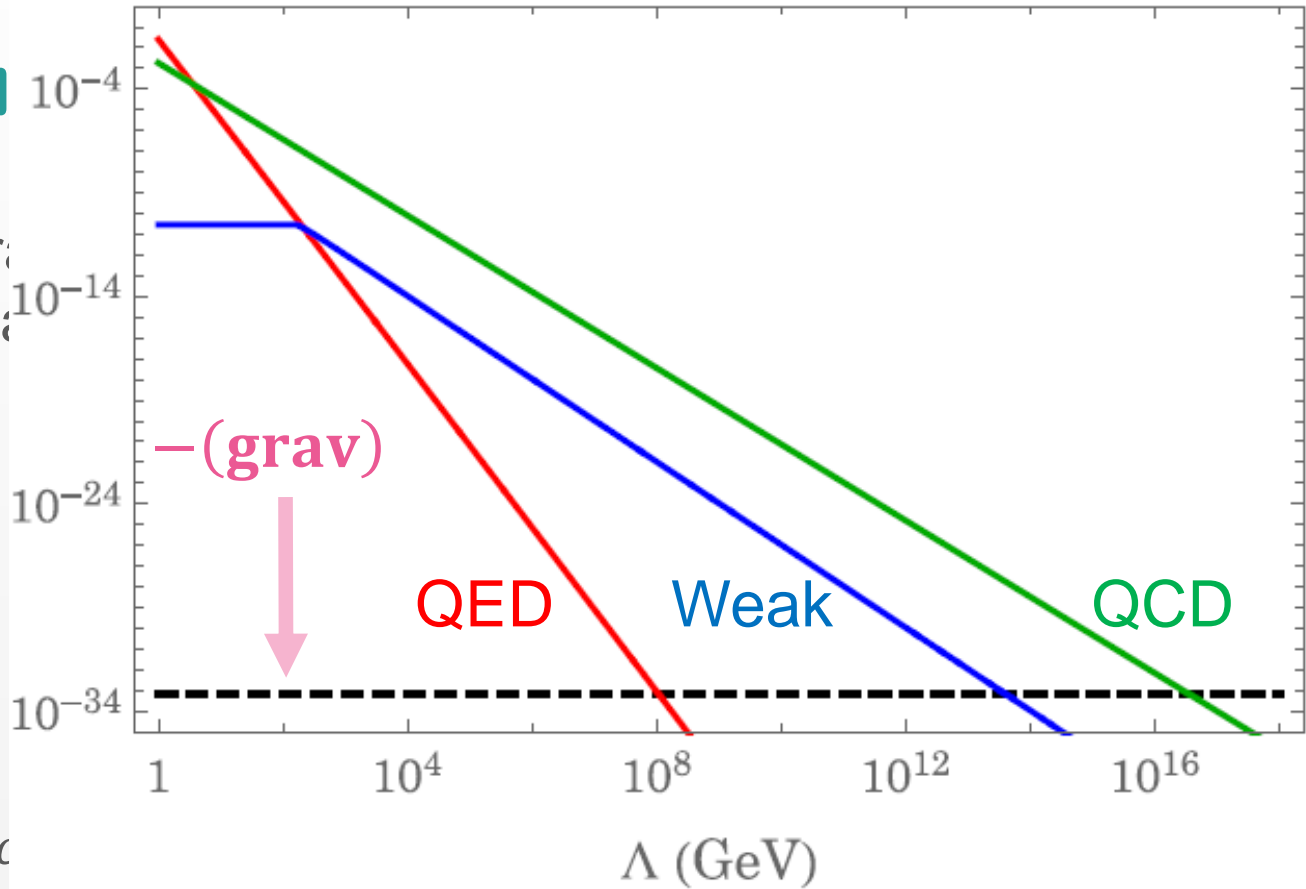
$$\therefore \text{(grav)} \sim -\frac{e^2}{M_{\text{pl}}^2 m_e^2} < 0$$

- Now, $c_2(\Lambda) = (\text{nongrav}) + \text{(grav)} \geq 0$ reads

$$\frac{e^4}{\Lambda^4} + \frac{e^4}{\Lambda^2 m_W^2} + \frac{e^4}{\Lambda^2 \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2} \left(\frac{\Lambda^2}{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2} \right)^{0.08} - \frac{e^2}{M_{\text{pl}}^2 m_e^2} \geq 0$$

Evalu

- For grav...
- gives a

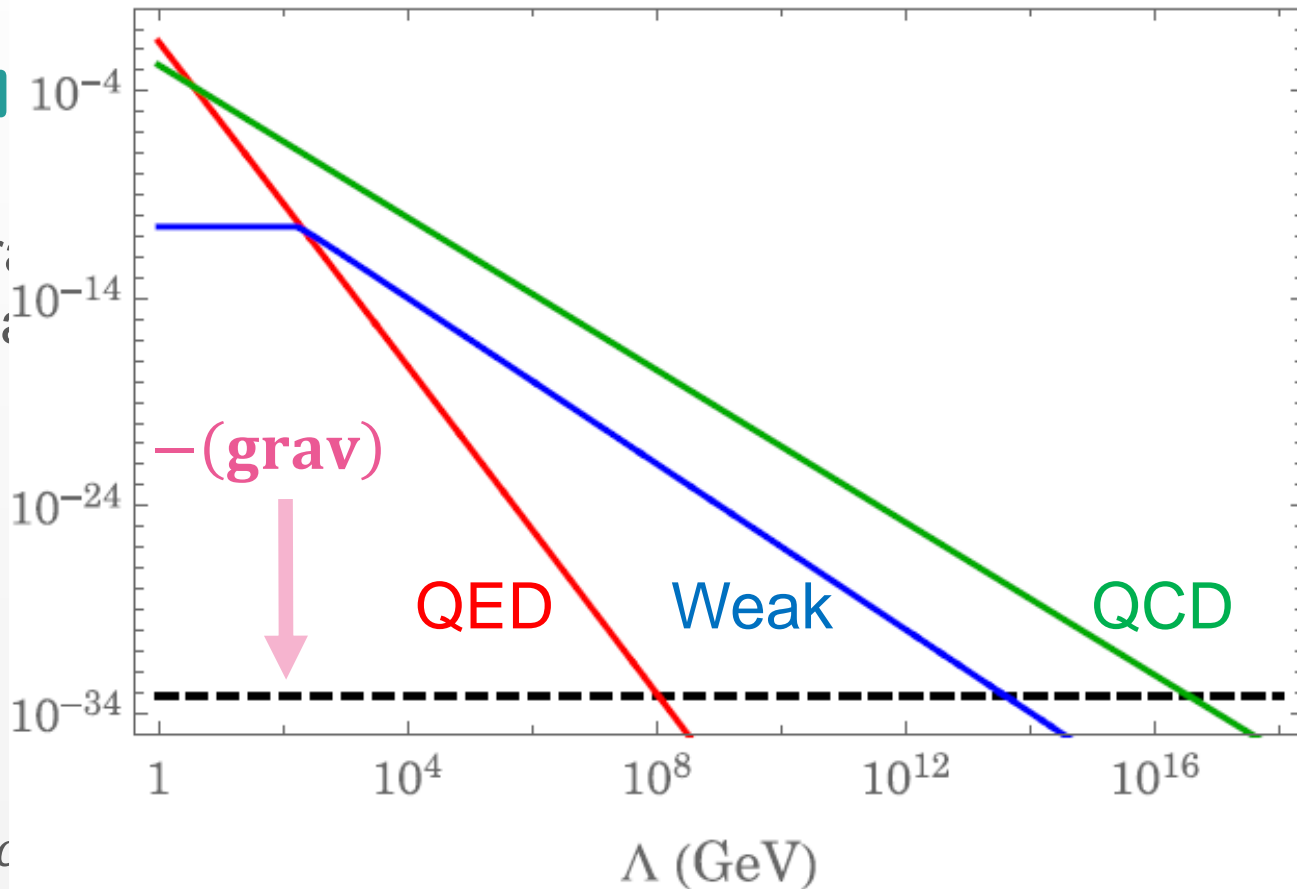


- Now, c

$$\frac{e^4}{\Lambda^4} + \frac{e^4}{\Lambda^2 m_w^2} + \frac{e^4}{\Lambda^2 \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2} \left(\frac{\Lambda^2}{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2} \right)^{0.08} - \frac{e^2}{M_{\text{pl}}^2 m_e^2} \geq 0$$

Evalu

- For gra
gives a



- Now, c

$$\frac{e^4}{\Lambda^4} + \frac{e^4}{\Lambda^2 m_w^2} + \frac{e^4}{\Lambda^2 \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2} \left(\frac{\Lambda^2}{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2} \right)^{0.08} - \frac{e^2}{M_{\text{pl}}^2 m_e^2} \geq 0$$



$$\Lambda \lesssim \mathcal{O}(10^{15-16}) \text{ GeV.}$$

- The Standard Model can easily satisfy our bound!

Summary

- Gravitational positivity bounds reveal UV-IR correlations.

Approximate positivity: $c_2(\Lambda) \geq \pm 1/M_{\text{pl}}^2 M^2$

* M : depends on details of UV theory (e.g. Regge behavior)

✓ Violation of $c_2(\Lambda) \geq 0$ constrains UV properties of S-matrix

- We discuss implications of $c_2(\Lambda) \geq 0$ for models.

- The Standard Model \longrightarrow Easily satisfies the bound 😊.

- Nontrivial for generic models. \longrightarrow Sota Sato's talk! (Next talk)

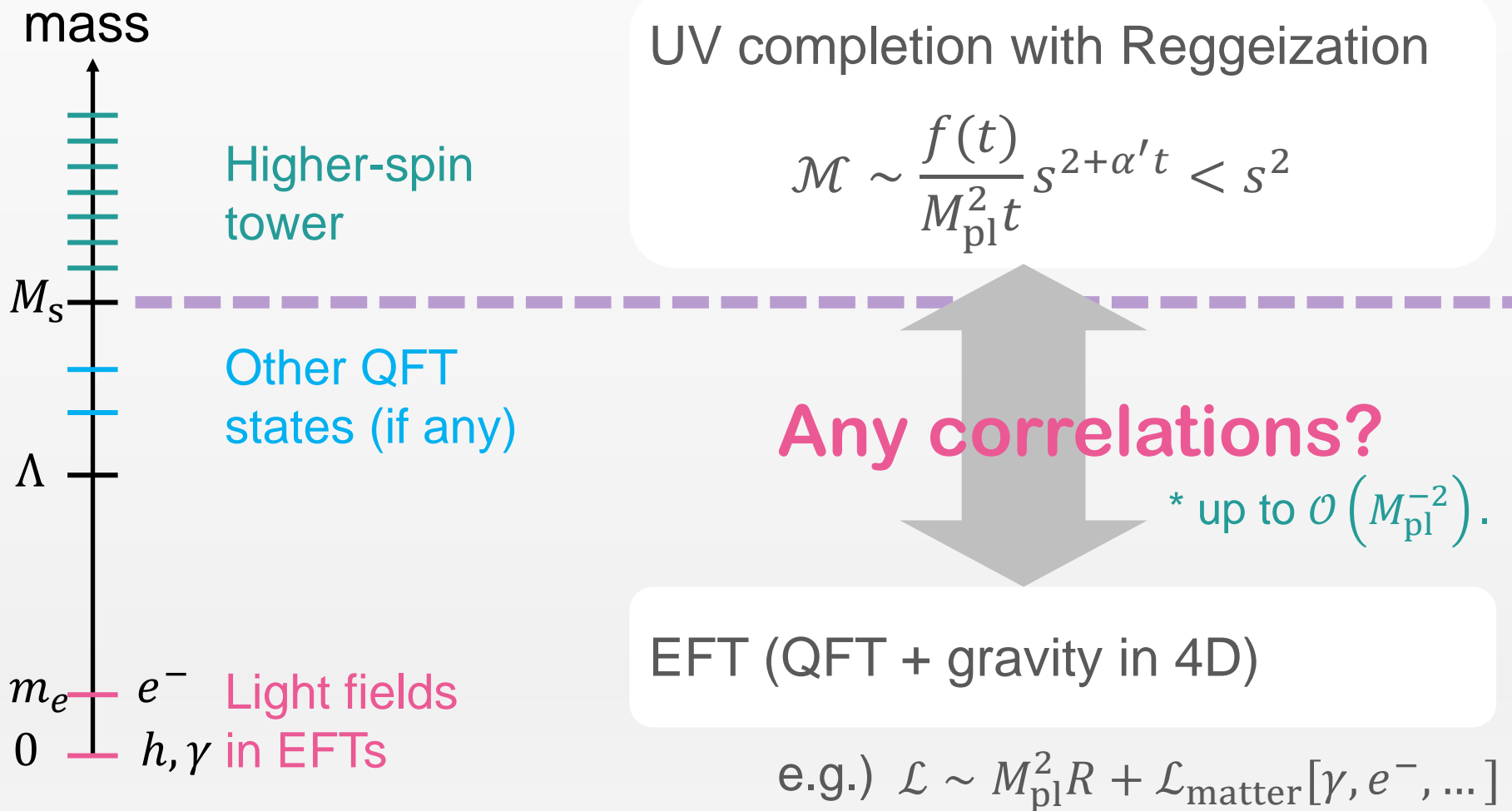
e.g.) dark sector physics

- **Further study of quantum gravity S-matrix will be important for phenomenology, and vice versa.**

backup

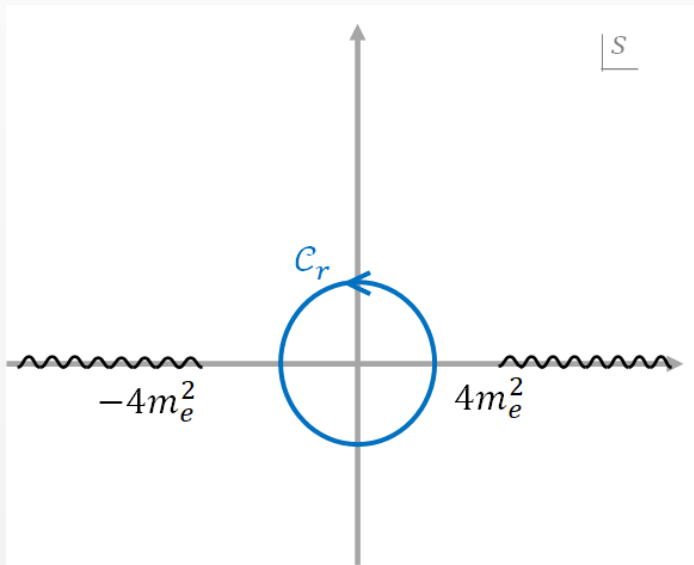
The setup we consider

- We **assume** the Reggeization of graviton exchange at UV.

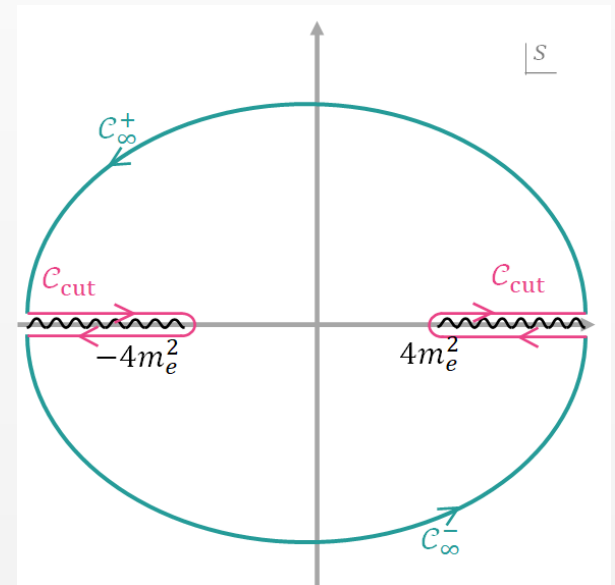


Basic properties of S-matrix

- How can we understand good properties of S-matrix?



Contour deformation



➤ **Analyticity** of $\mathcal{M}(s, 0)$ in the s -plane \longleftrightarrow **Causality**

➤ **Mild behavior** $\lim_{|s| \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{\mathcal{M}(s, 0)}{s^2} \right| = 0$ \longleftrightarrow **Locality & Unitarity**

Analyticity & Causality

c.f.) [Camanho-Edelstein-
Maldacena-Zhiboedov+('14)]

- To get some intuition, let's consider **a signal model**.
- We have an initial signal $f_{\text{in}}(t)$ and an out-signal $f_{\text{out}}(t)$ with

$$f_{\text{out}}(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt' S(t - t') f_{\text{in}}(t').$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \tilde{f}_{\text{out}}(\omega) = \tilde{S}(\omega) \tilde{f}_{\text{in}}(\omega), \quad S(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \tilde{S}(\omega) e^{-i\omega t}.$$

- $\tilde{S}(\omega)$: S-matrix element.
- **Causality** implies: $S(t) = 0$ for $t < 0$.

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{S}(\omega) = \int_0^{\infty} dt S(t) e^{i\omega t} \quad \text{Analytic in the upper half plane.}$$

Mild behavior from Locality & Unitarity

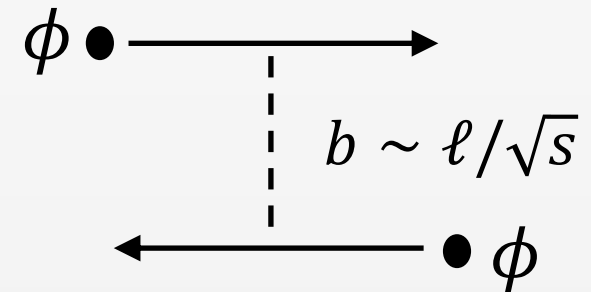
- Key: **polynomial boundedness (PB)**

$$\mathcal{M}(s, t) < s^N \quad \text{as } s \rightarrow \infty, t: \text{fixed.}$$

$$s^N \sim \partial^\# \sim \text{Locality}$$

- Consider the partial-wave expansion

$$\mathcal{M} \sim \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} (2\ell + 1) f_{\ell}(s) P_{\ell}(\cos \theta)$$



- **Partial-wave unitarity:** $|f_{\ell}(s)| \leq 1$
- Short-range force: $|f_{\ell}(s)| < s^N \exp(-m_e \ell / \sqrt{s})$ @ large ℓ

$$|\mathcal{M}(s, 0)| < \sum_{\ell=0}^{\sqrt{s} \ln s} (2\ell + 1) \sim s (\ln s)^2 \quad \text{as } s \rightarrow \infty. \quad \text{Froissart-Martin bound.}$$

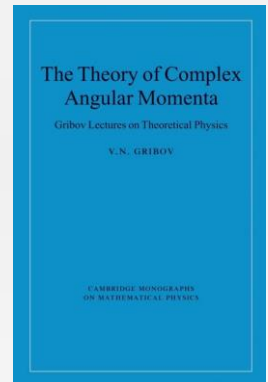
Why “ s^2 ”- bound ? (Naïve)

- The following *may be* useful. (But, just my naïve guess)
- Suppose that we have an elementary particle with spin- \mathcal{J} in our Lagrangian. t -channel exchange of spin- \mathcal{J} particle:

$$\mathcal{M}(s, t) \sim \frac{s^{\mathcal{J}}}{m_{\mathcal{J}}^2 - t}.$$

- **This violates the condition** $\lim_{|s| \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{\mathcal{M}(s, 0)}{s^2} \right| = 0$ **when $\mathcal{J} \geq 2$.**
- Usually renormalizable theories contain elementary particles with spin **less than two.**

c.f.) 4.3 of Gribov's textbook



Remark

- Recall that **(nongrav)** is evaluated as

$$\mathbf{(nongrav)} \simeq \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\infty} ds \frac{\sigma_{\text{tot}}^{\text{nongrav}}(s)}{s^2} > 0.$$

$$* \sigma_{\text{tot}}^{\text{nongrav}} \simeq \frac{1}{s} \text{Im } \mathcal{M}_{\text{nongrav}}(s, 0): \text{ total cross section}$$

- Typically, physics with the mass scale M gives

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}}^{\text{nongrav}}(s) \lesssim M^{-2} \quad (@ s \gtrsim M^2).$$

- If $\sigma_{\text{tot}}^{\text{nongrav}}(s)$ decays at $s \gg M^2$, its contribution to **(nongrav)** also decays.
- Light particles with non-decaying $\sigma_{\text{tot}}^{\text{nongrav}}$ are important.**

QED + GR

[Alberte-de Rham-Jaitly-Tolley. ('20)]

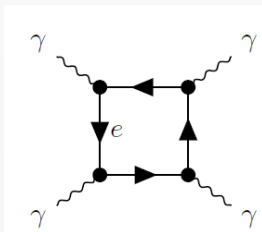
(Earlier works: [Cheung+('14), Andriolo+('18), Chen+('19)])

(see also: [Hamada+('23)])

- We focus on the $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ process.

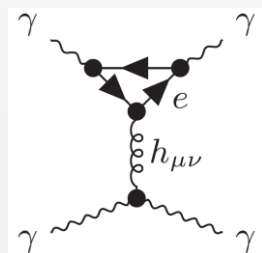
$$c_2(\Lambda) = (\text{nongrav}) + (\text{grav}) > -\mathcal{O}\left(M_{\text{pl}}^{-2} M_S^{-2}\right).$$

(nongrav):



$$\sim \frac{e^4}{\Lambda^4} > 0$$

(grav):



$$\sim -\frac{e^2}{M_{\text{pl}}^2 m_e^2} < 0$$

$$\Lambda \lesssim \sqrt{e M_{\text{pl}} m_e} \\ \approx \mathcal{O}(10^8) \text{ GeV.}$$

- **Renormalizable couplings can be constrained!**
- A cutoff is too low ? $m_e \rightarrow 0$ is prohibited?
- It is conjectured that $c_2(\Lambda) > -\mathcal{O}\left(M_{\text{pl}}^{-2} m_e^{-2}\right)$.

Setup: dark photon model

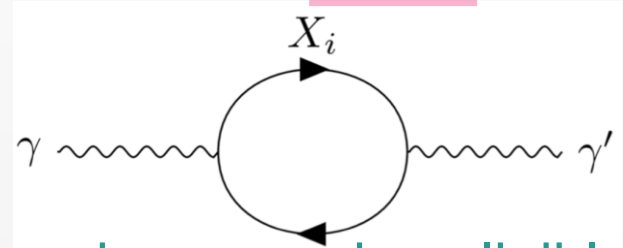
[Noumi-Sato-[JT](#) ('22)]

- A hidden U(1) massive gauge field A' with **kinetic mixing**:

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{M_{\text{pl}}^2}{2} R - \frac{1}{4} F^2 + e J_{\text{SM}}^\mu A_\mu - \frac{1}{4} F'^2 - \frac{m_{A'}^2}{2} A'^2 - \frac{\epsilon}{2} F F'$$

* F' : field strength of hidden U(1)

* For a while, we assume $\{X_i\}$'s are very heavy and negligible.



Setup: dark photon model

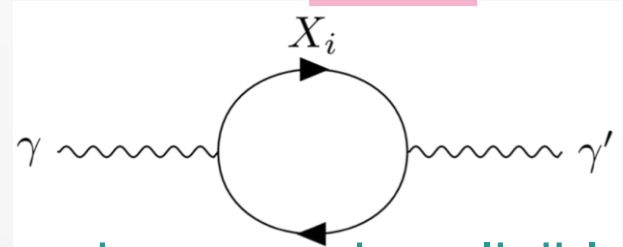
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* F' : field strength of hidden U(1)

* For a while, we assume $\{X_i\}$'s are very heavy and negligible.



- Diagonalizing the kinetic term,

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{M_{\text{pl}}^2}{2} R - \frac{1}{4} F^2 - \frac{1}{4} F'^2 - \frac{m_{A'}^2}{2} A'^2 + e J_{\text{SM}}^\mu (A_\mu - \epsilon A'_\mu)$$

- The dark photon A' is **coupled to the SM sector**.
- We consider $\gamma\gamma' \rightarrow \gamma\gamma'$ **process**. We ignore QCD sector.

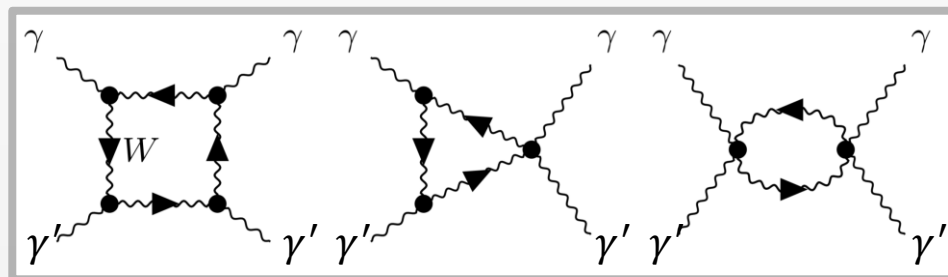
Results (1/2)

[Noumi-Sato-JT ('22)]

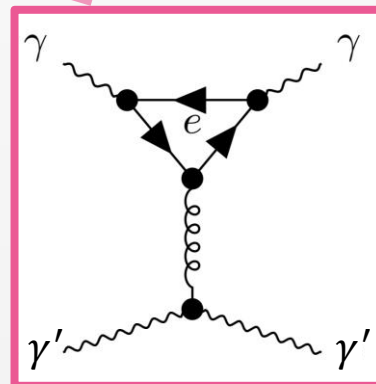
- For transverse modes:

$$c_2(\Lambda) \simeq \frac{32\alpha^2\epsilon^2}{m_W^2\Lambda^2} - \frac{11\alpha}{45m_e^2M_{\text{pl}}^2} \geq 0.$$

α : fine structure const
 M_{pl} : Planck mass
 m_W : mass of W-boson
 m_e : mass of electron



[Non-grav pieces]



[Grav pieces]

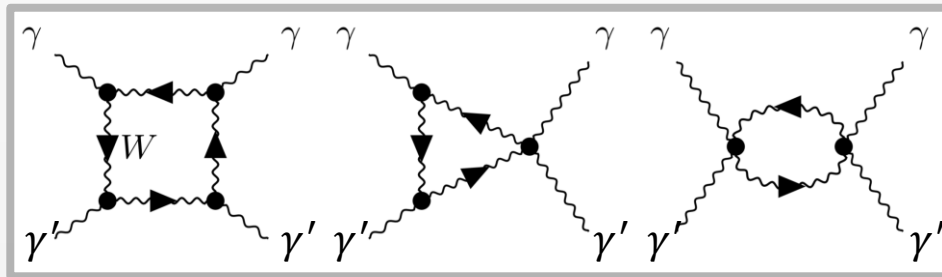
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[Noumi-Sato-JT ('22)]

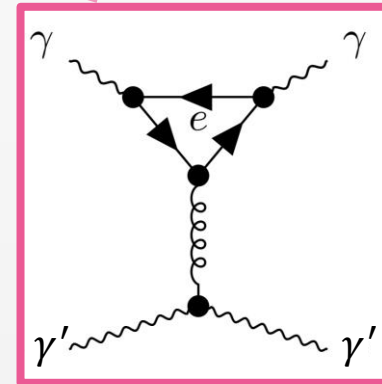
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[Non-grav pieces]



[Grav pieces]

- For longitudinal modes:

$$c_2(\Lambda) = \frac{8\alpha^2\epsilon^2}{m_W^2\Lambda^2} \cdot \left(\frac{m_{A'}}{m_W}\right)^2 - \frac{11\alpha}{45m_e^2M_{\text{pl}}^2} \geq 0.$$

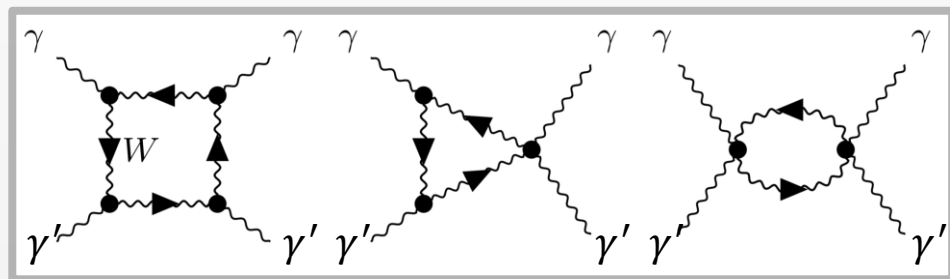
Results (1/2)

[Noumi-Sato-JT ('22)]

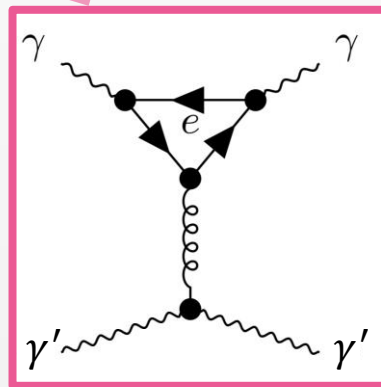
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[Non-grav pieces]



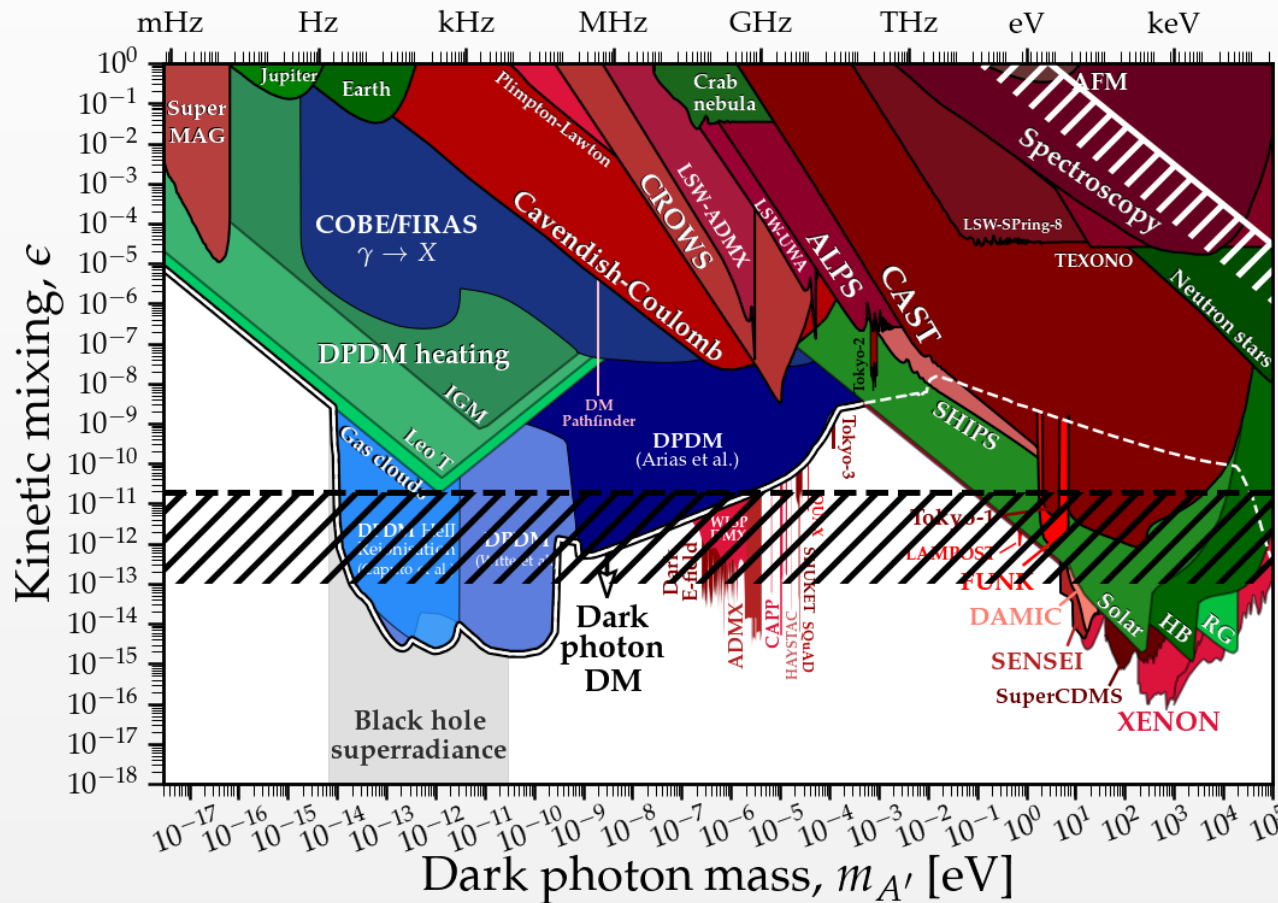
[Grav pieces]

- For longitudinal modes: Decoupling of longitudinal modes as $m_{A'} \rightarrow 0$.

$$c_2(\Lambda) = \frac{8\alpha^2\epsilon^2}{m_W^2\Lambda^2} \cdot \left(\frac{m_{A'}}{m_W}\right)^2 - \frac{11\alpha}{45m_e^2M_{\text{pl}}^2} \geq 0.$$

Results (2/2)

[Noumi-Sato-JT ('22)]



Bound from longitudinal modes

Bound from transverse modes

* We take $\Lambda = 1 \text{ TeV}$

- Testable **LOWER** bound on ϵ . Complementary to experimental search.
- Lower bound on $m_{A'}$ is suggested.
- New particles mediating $\gamma\gamma' \rightarrow \gamma\gamma'$ will change the results (next page).

Adding new particles

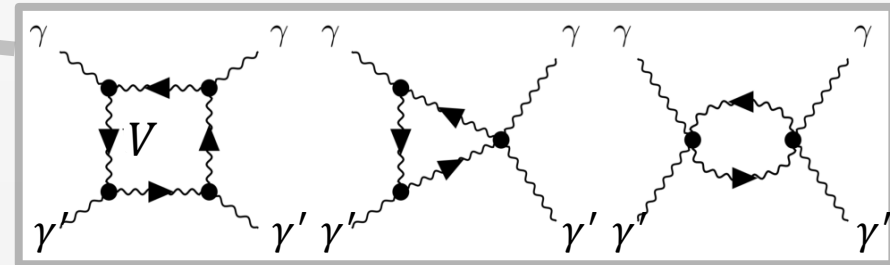
[Noumi-Sato-[JT](#) ('22)]

- We consider **vector bosons V charged under both $U(1)$ s.**
- For **longitudinal** modes:

$\tilde{\alpha}$: fine structure const for dark $U(1)$
 m_V : mass of bi-charge vector bosons

$$c_2(\Lambda) = \frac{16\alpha\tilde{\alpha}}{m_V^2\Lambda^2} \cdot \left(\frac{m_{A'}}{m_V}\right)^2 - \frac{11\alpha}{45m_e^2M_{\text{pl}}^2} \geq 0.$$

* We set $\epsilon \ll 1$ so that we can ignore the contributions from kinetic mixing.



Adding new particles

[Noumi-Sato-[JT](#) ('22)]

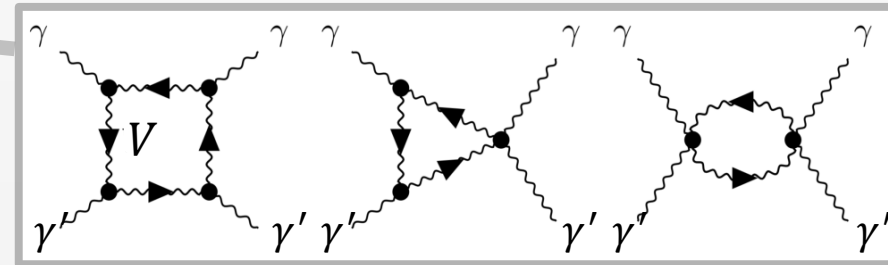
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* We set $\epsilon \ll 1$ so that we can ignore the contributions from kinetic mixing.



➔ $\Lambda \lesssim 10 \text{ TeV} \times \sqrt{4\pi\tilde{\alpha}} \left(\frac{m_{A'}}{1 \text{ keV}}\right) \left(\frac{1 \text{ TeV}}{m_V}\right)$

- Again, **very tiny mass $m_{A'}$ is disfavored.** This is because, non-gravitational piece vanishes in the limit $m_{A'} \rightarrow 0$.

(c.f. [Aoki-Noumi-Saito-Sato-Shirai-[JT](#)-Yamazaki ('23)])

Generalization

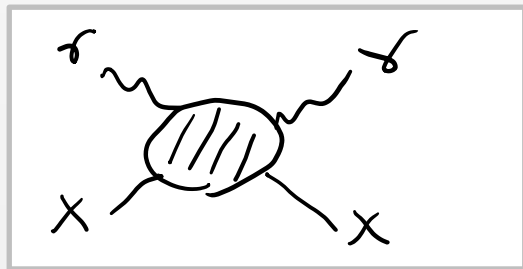
[Noumi-Sato-[JT](#) ('22)]

- Consider the GR+SM+dark sector model in 4D.

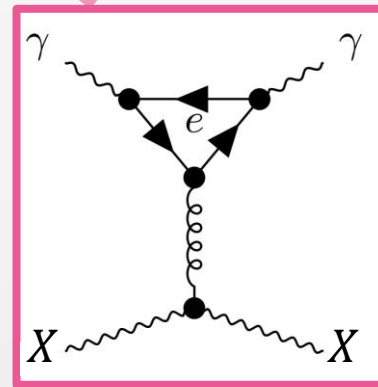
$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{M_{\text{pl}}^2}{2} R + \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}}[A_\mu, \dots] + \mathcal{L}_{\text{dark-sector}}[X, \dots]$$

- Focus on the process $\gamma X \rightarrow \gamma X$. (We've discussed $X = \gamma'$ case.)

$$c_2(\Lambda) \simeq c_2(\Lambda) \Big|_{\text{non-grav}} - \frac{11\alpha}{m_e^2 M_{\text{pl}}^2} \geq 0.$$



[Non-grav pieces]



[Grav pieces]

- “Dark sector cannot be too dark.”
- It would be interesting to consider various models! (e.g. axion)

Regge behavior: higher-spin states [Gribov's textbook]

- Regge behavior \sim Regge pole $f_\ell(t) \sim (\ell - \alpha(t))^{-1}$:

$$\mathcal{M}(s, t) \sim \sum_\ell f_\ell(t) P_\ell \left(1 + \frac{2s}{t-4m^2} \right) \sim P_{\alpha(t)} \left(1 + \frac{2s}{t-4m^2} \right) \sim s^{\alpha(t)}.$$

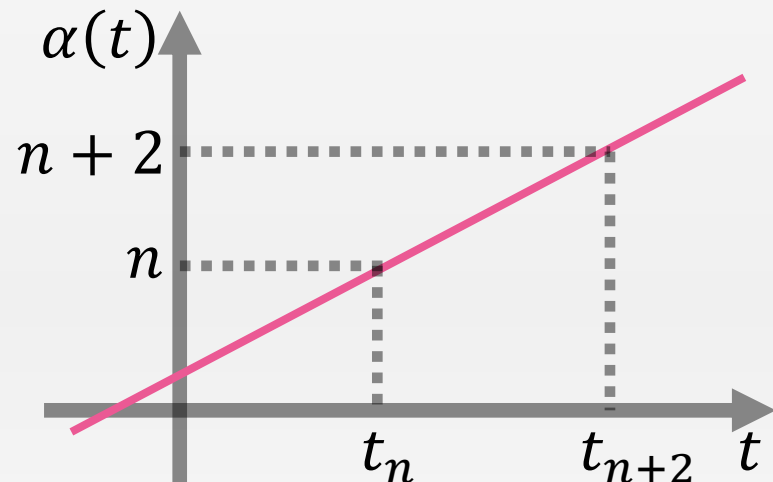
* Spin- J particle exchange (t-ch): $f_\ell(t) \sim \frac{\delta_{\ell J}}{t - M^2} \longrightarrow \mathcal{M}(s, t) \sim s^J.$

- The Regge trajectory $\alpha(t) \sim$ higher-spin spectra.

$$\alpha(t = t_n) = n \in \text{integers.}$$

$$f_{\ell=n}(t \sim t_n) \sim \frac{\text{const.}}{\alpha'(t_n)(t - t_n)}$$

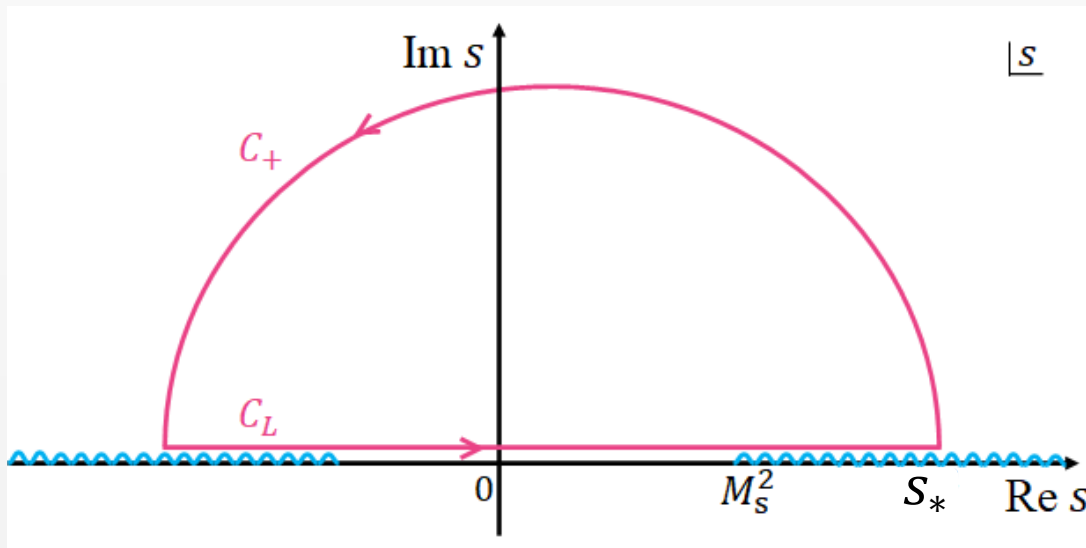
\longrightarrow Spin- n state with mass $\sqrt{t_n}$.



Finite energy sum rules

[Noumi-JT ('22)]

- We consider the scattering of massless identical scalar.
- We have $\int_{C_+ + C_L} \frac{ds}{2\pi i} (s + t/2)^{2n+1} \mathcal{M}(s, t) = 0 \quad (n = 0, 1, 2, \dots)$.



* We ignored s, u -channel poles of light particles.

* We ignored loops of light particles (for a while).

- We assume $\int_{C_+} \frac{ds}{2\pi i} (\dots) \mathcal{M}(s, t) \simeq \int_{C_+} \frac{ds}{2\pi i} (\dots) \mathcal{M}_R(s, t)$,

$$\mathcal{M}_R = \frac{-f(t)[e^{-i\pi\alpha(t)} + 1]}{\sin \pi\alpha(t)} (s/s_*)^{\alpha(t)}, \quad \alpha(t) = 2 + \alpha' t + \alpha'' t^2/2 + \dots$$

Finite energy sum rules

[Noumi-JT ('22)]

- **Finite energy sum rules (FESRs) [for $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$]**

$$\frac{f(t)}{\alpha(t) + 2n + 2} = \frac{1}{(s_* + t/2)^{2n+2}} \int_{M_S^2}^{s_*} ds (s + t/2)^{2n+1} \text{Im } \mathcal{M}(s, t).$$

$=: S_{2n+1}(t)$

- FESRs directly connect Regge parameters with “infrared” physics $s \leq s_*$!

✓ We can derive FESRs for $f(t)$ and $\alpha(t)$. For instance,

$$f'(0) = \frac{2}{n - m} [(n + 2)^2 S'_{2n+1}(0) - (m + 2)^2 S'_{2m+1}(0)] \quad (n, m = 0, 1, 2, \dots).$$

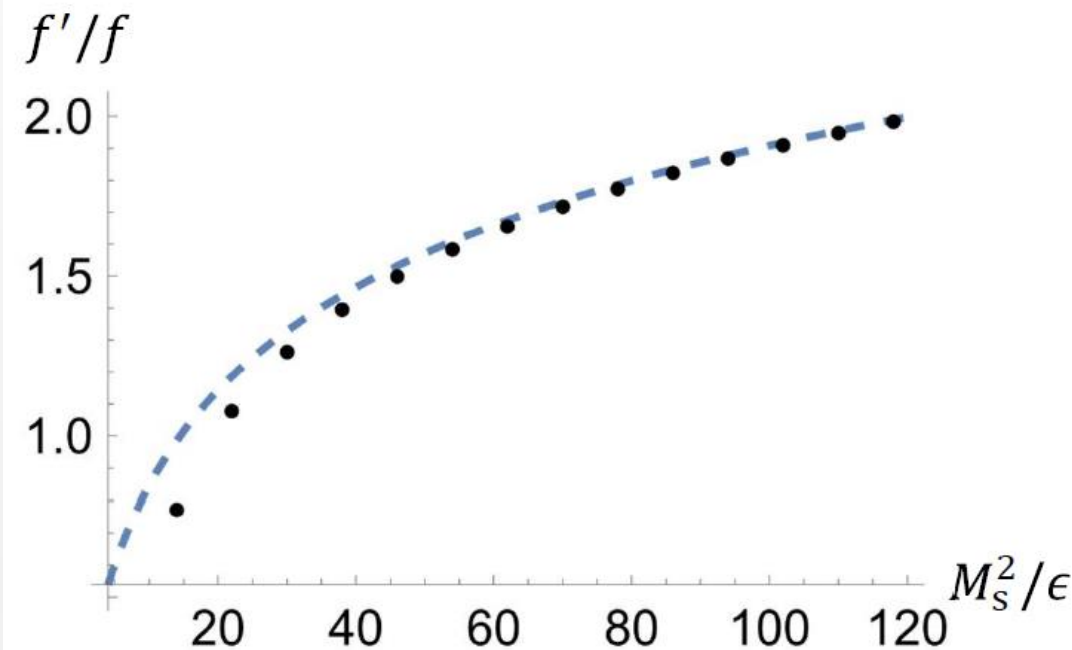
FESR test: examples

[Noumi-JT ('22)]

$$\text{Im } \mathcal{M}_{\text{type II}}(s, t)|_{s \gg 4, t \sim 0} \simeq \frac{256}{[\Gamma(1 + t/4)]^2} \left(\frac{s + t/2}{4} \right)^{2+t/2}.$$

$$f(t) = \frac{256}{[\Gamma(1 + t/4)]^2} \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} + \frac{t}{8} \right)^{\alpha(t)}$$

$$\alpha(t) = 2 + t/2.$$



(* We take $M_S^2 = 4$)

* $\epsilon := M_S^2/s_* \ll 1$.

Key Idea

[Noumi-JT ('22)]

$$\frac{f(t)}{\alpha(t) + 2n + 2} = \frac{1}{(s_* + t/2)^{2n+2}} \int_{M_S^2}^{s_*} ds (s + t/2)^{2n+1} \text{Im } \mathcal{M}(s, t).$$

- FESRs were useful in the context of strong interactions.
[lgi (1962), Dolen+(1967,68), Ademollo+(1967,68)...]
e.g.) • Experimental input for the RHS -> Constraints on LHS.
 - Veneziano amplitude = solution of “FESR bootstrap” for $\pi\pi \rightarrow \pi\omega$.
- Our case: no **experimental** input for $\text{Im } \mathcal{M}(s, 0)$ with $s > M_S^2$.
- But, we have a **theoretical** input !! **“Null constraints”**
... implied by **crossing symmetry**.

[Arkani-Hamed+('19, '21), Bellazzini+('20), Tolley+ ('20), Caron-Huot+('20)]

Results

[Noumi-[JT](#) ('22)]

- We confirm that the Regge parameters $f(t)$ and $\alpha(t)$ are governed by the scales of higher-spin tower M_s and α' , ignoring loops of light particles.

$$f'/f < 9.1 \times 10^2 M_s^{-2} \quad \alpha''/\alpha' > -2f'/f - 2.4 \times 10^5 M_s^{-4} / \alpha'$$

$$c_2 > -M_{\text{pl}}^{-2} M_s^{-2} \left[3.7 \times 10^3 + 2.4 \times 10^5 (M_s^2 \alpha')^{-1} \right]$$

* We choose $s_* = 10M_s^2$ as a benchmark point in this talk.

- IR finite grav. positivity bounds in D=4 dimensions!
- New bounds on gravitational Regge parameters.
- An extension to higher-D is straightforward.

Comparisons

[Noumi-JT ('22)]

- Our bounds are easily satisfied by string amplitude.

$$\frac{f'}{f} < \frac{10^2}{M_S^2} \times \{3.0, 2.2, 1.8, 1.5, 1.4, 1.3, 1.2\} \quad (D = 4, 5, 6, \dots, 10)$$

$$\frac{f'}{f} \Big|_{\text{type-II}} \simeq \frac{5.86}{M_S^2}$$

- In general, we expect $c_2 > \frac{-\mathcal{O}(1)}{M_{\text{pl}}^2 M_S^2}$ from power counting. This is proven in [Caron-Huot+('21)] in higher dimensions $D > 4$.
- However, the finite bound on c_2 in $D = 4$ was not known.
- We expect the presence of theoretical bound on c_2 which is much stronger than ours: *future work*.

Application 1: 4D scalar QFT + GR

- We consider 4D scalar QFT +GR.

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{M_{\text{pl}}^2}{2} R - \frac{1}{2} (\partial\phi)^2 - V(\phi) + (\text{counterterms}) \quad V(\phi) = \frac{m^2 \phi^2}{2} + \frac{g\phi^3}{3!} + \frac{\lambda\phi^4}{4!}$$

- We compute $c_2(\Lambda)$ and then discuss implications of $c_2(\Lambda) > \frac{-O(1)}{M_{\text{pl}}^2 M_S^2}$.

* $c_2(\Lambda)$: calculable within EFT

$$c_2(\Lambda) := c_2 - \int_{4m^2}^{\Lambda^2} ds \frac{\text{Im } \mathcal{M}(s, 0)}{(s - 2m^2)^3}$$

* Λ : EFT cutoff

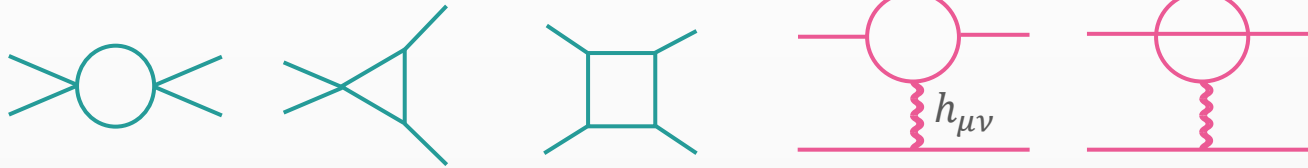
* $c_2 \sim$ “ s^2 coefficient”

$$\mathcal{M}(s, t) \sim (s, t, u \text{ poles}) + c_2 (s - 2m^2)^2 + \dots$$

- In this setup, loop diagrams give leading contributions to c_2 . Then, we also need to compute $\text{Im } \mathcal{M}(s, 0)$ to get $c_2(\Lambda)$. Actually, the “improvement procedure” is practically important. [Alberte, de Rham, Jaitly, Tolley ('20,'21)]

Results (1/2)

[T. Noumi, [JT](#) ('21)]



$$c_2(\Lambda) = c_{\text{non-grav}} + c_{\text{grav}} > -O\left(M_{\text{pl}}^{-2} M_s^{-2}\right).$$

$$c_{\text{non-grav}} = \left\{ \frac{\lambda^2}{16\pi^2 \Lambda^4} - \frac{\lambda g^2}{6\pi^2 \Lambda^6} \left[\ln\left(\frac{\Lambda^2}{m^2}\right) - \frac{1}{6} \right] + \frac{g^4}{12\pi^2 m^2 \Lambda^6} \right\} > 0$$

$$c_{\text{grav}} = -\frac{1}{M_{\text{pl}}^2} \left(\frac{45 - 8\pi\sqrt{3}}{1296\pi^2} \frac{g^2}{m^4} + \frac{10 - \pi^2}{4608\pi^4} \frac{\lambda^2}{m^2} \right) < 0$$

✓ This inequality is nontrivial when **the negative c_{grav}** dominates over “ $-O\left(M_{\text{pl}}^{-2} M_s^{-2}\right)$ ” on the RHS.

✓ In the limit $m \rightarrow 0$ while keeping $(\lambda, g/m)$ fixed, $c_{\text{grav}} \rightarrow -\infty$, leading to the violation of inequality.

➔ **$V(\phi)$ cannot be arbitrarily flat.**

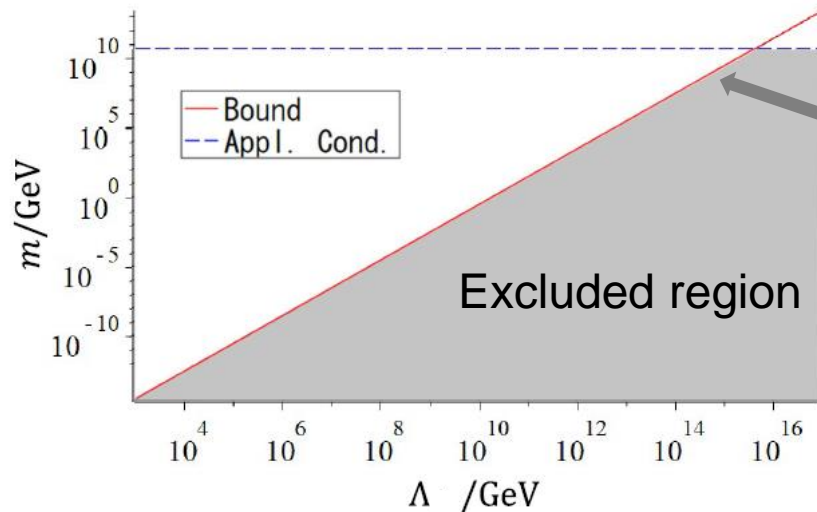
Results (2/2)

[T. Noumi, [JT](#) ('21)]

- When having a scaling $g^2 \leq |\lambda|m^2$, the bound reads

$$m \gtrsim \frac{\Lambda^2}{M_{\text{pl}}} \left[\frac{1.8 \times 10^{-2} (g/m)^2}{\lambda^2} + 4.6 \times 10^{-5} \right]^{1/2}$$

- In $\lambda\phi^4$ theory, the bound becomes a lower bound on m^2



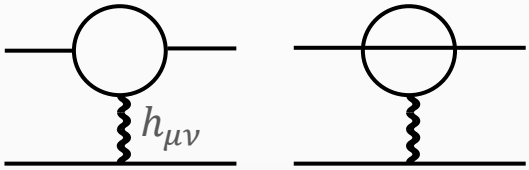
$$c_{\text{grav}} = M_{\text{pl}}^{-2} M_s^{-2} \Leftrightarrow m = 5.4 \times 10^{-4} |\lambda| M_s$$

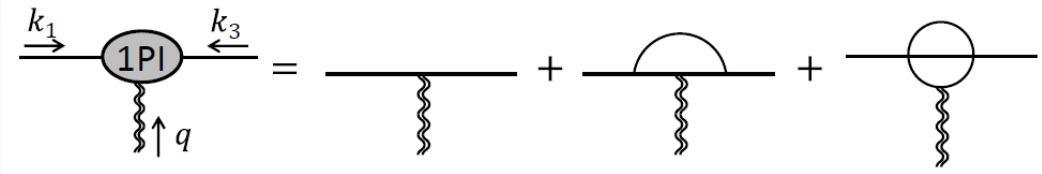
$$m = \sqrt{4.6 \times 10^{-5}} \frac{\Lambda^2}{M_{\text{pl}}} \\ \approx 2.8 \times 10^9 \left(\frac{M_{\text{pl}}}{10^{15} \text{ GeV}} \right)^2 \text{ GeV}$$

* $\lambda = 10^{-2}$, $M_s = 10^{16} \text{ GeV}$ is used in this plot.

- Our bound provides quantitative swampland criteria.
- Typically, tiny mass $m \ll \Lambda$ is disfavored.

Computation of c_{grav}

- $c_{\text{grav}} =$  $+ \dots$

- 1PI vertices $V^{\mu\nu}(k_1, k_3) =$ 

$$V^{\mu\nu}(k_1, k_3)|_{k_1^2=k_3^2=-m^2} \ni R(q^2)(k_1 - k_3)^\mu(k_1 - k_3)^\nu, \quad R_{\text{tree}}(q^2) = 1/2.$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{M}(s, t) \Big|_{\text{grav}} \sim \frac{4R^2(-t)su}{M_{\text{pl}}^2 t} \sim \frac{4R'(0)}{M_{\text{pl}}^2} s^2$$

$$\Rightarrow c_{\text{grav}} \simeq \frac{8R'(0)}{M_{\text{pl}}^2} \simeq -\frac{1}{M_{\text{pl}}^2} \left(\frac{45 - 8\pi\sqrt{3}}{1296\pi^2} \frac{g^2}{m^4} + \frac{10 - \pi^2}{4608\pi^4} \frac{\lambda^2}{m^2} \right) < 0. \quad \text{Negative!!}$$

- Negative term arises as a result of expanding $R(q^2)$ around $q^2 = 0$.

Sign of c_{grav} and superluminality

- Consider scalar theory.

$$c_{\text{grav}} = \text{[diagram: two circles with wavy lines] + \dots$$

- Relevant 1PI vertices:

$$\text{[diagram: 1PI vertex with external momenta } k_1, k_3 \text{ and internal momentum } q \text{]} = \text{[diagram: tadpole]} + \text{[diagram: self-energy]} + \text{[diagram: bubble]}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{L} = M_{\text{pl}}^2 R - \frac{1}{2} (\partial\phi)^2 - V(\phi) + \alpha R_{\mu\nu} (\partial^\mu\phi)(\partial^\nu\phi) \quad \alpha < 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow c_{\text{grav}} < 0$$

Effective metric for ϕ : $\tilde{g}_{\mu\nu} = g_{\mu\nu} - 2\alpha R_{\mu\nu}$

e.g.) FLRW metric with $\dot{H} < 0$

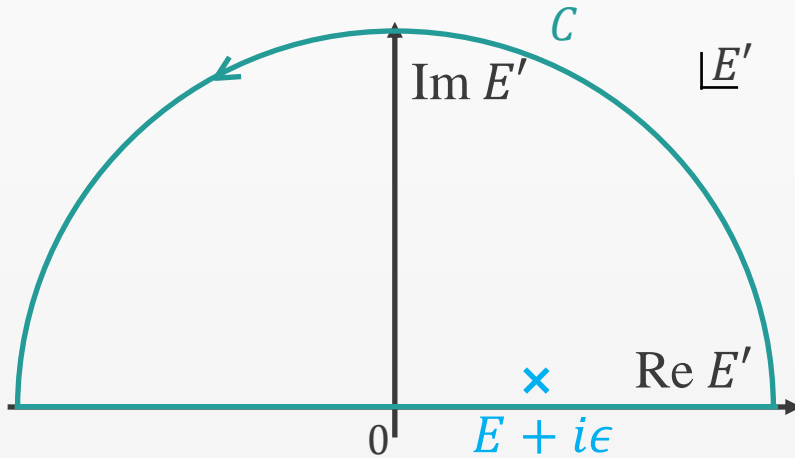
Dispersion relation: $\omega^2 \simeq (1 + 4\alpha\dot{H})k^2 > k^2$

Superluminal relative to the speed of GW!

$c_{\text{grav}} < 0 \sim$ Superluminal propagation in b.g. satisfying null-E condition.

Analyticity and Causality (4/5)

- Let us assume the analyticity and poly. boundedness of $S(E)$



$$S(E) = \frac{g(E)}{2\pi i} \oint_C \frac{dE'}{g(E')} \frac{S(E')}{E' - E - i\epsilon}$$

where $g(E)$ ensures $\lim_{|E| \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{S_{\beta\alpha}(E)}{g(E)} \right| = 0$.

➔
$$S(E) = \frac{g(E)}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dE'}{g(E')} \frac{-iS(E')}{E' - E - i\epsilon}$$
 $g(E)$: polynomial

➔
$$S(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dE}{2\pi} S(E) e^{-iEt} = \dots \text{ (next page) } \dots$$

Analyticity and Causality (5/5)

- Analyticity of $S_{\beta\alpha}(E)$ gives rise to

$$S(t) = g(i\partial_t) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dE'}{2\pi} \frac{iS_{\beta\alpha}(E')}{g(E')} e^{-iE't} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dE}{2\pi} \frac{e^{-i(E-E')t}}{E - E' + i\epsilon}$$

$$= g(i\partial_t)[\Theta(t)f(t)]$$

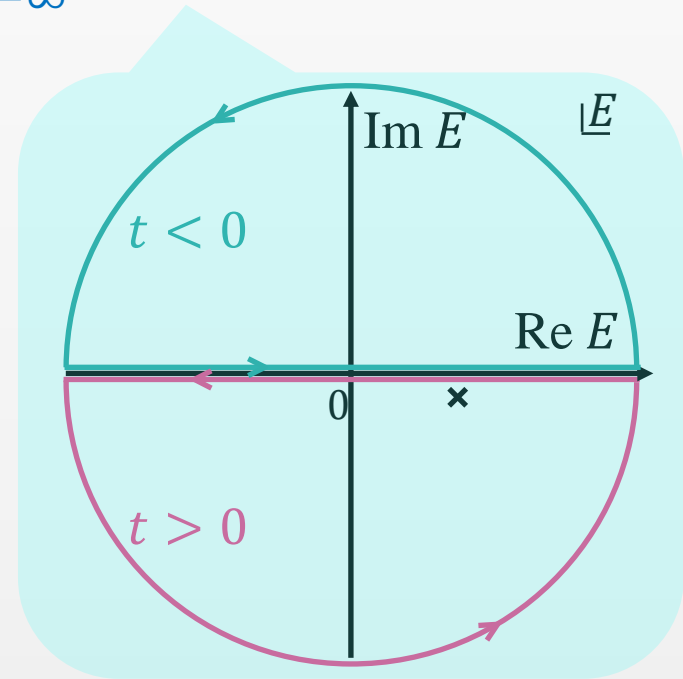
where

$$f(t) \equiv \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dE'}{2\pi} \frac{iS(E')}{g(E')} e^{-iE't}$$

- Polynomial boundedness of $S(E)$

➡ $g(i\partial_t)$ contains finite number of derivatives

➡ $S(t) = 0$ for $t < 0$: micro-causality.



Results (1/2)

[T. Noumi, [JT](#) ('21)]

- For transverse modes:

$$c_2(\Lambda) \simeq \frac{32\alpha^2\epsilon^2}{m_w^2\Lambda^2} - \frac{11\alpha}{m_e^2 M_{\text{pl}}^2} > -O\left(M_{\text{pl}}^{-2} M_S^{-2}\right).$$

$$\longrightarrow \epsilon \geq \sqrt{\frac{11}{5760\pi\alpha} \frac{m_w\Lambda}{m_e M_{\text{pl}}}} \simeq 1.9 \times 10^{-11} \left(\frac{\Lambda}{1 \text{ TeV}}\right)$$

α : fine structure const
 M_{pl} : Planck mass
 m_w : mass of W-boson
 m_e : mass of electron

- For longitudinal modes:

$$c_2(\Lambda) = \frac{8\alpha^2\epsilon^2}{m_w^2\Lambda^2} \cdot \left(\frac{m_{A'}}{m_w}\right)^2 - \frac{11\alpha}{m_e^2 M_{\text{pl}}^2} > -O\left(M_{\text{pl}}^{-2} M_S^{-2}\right).$$

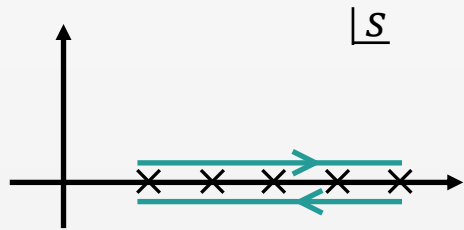
$$\longrightarrow \epsilon \geq \sqrt{\frac{11}{1440\pi\alpha} \frac{m_w\Lambda}{m_e M_{\text{pl}}}} \cdot \left(\frac{m_w}{m_{A'}}\right) \simeq 3.0 \times 10^{-3} \left(\frac{\Lambda}{1 \text{ TeV}}\right) \left(\frac{1 \text{ keV}}{m_{A'}}\right)$$

Example of positivity violation

- e.g) type- II superstring amplitude of identical massless boson

$$\mathcal{M}(s, t) = -A(s^2u^2 + t^2u^2 + s^2t^2) \frac{\Gamma\left(-\frac{\alpha's}{4}\right)\Gamma\left(-\frac{\alpha't}{4}\right)\Gamma\left(-\frac{\alpha'u}{4}\right)}{\Gamma\left(1+\frac{\alpha's}{4}\right)\Gamma\left(1+\frac{\alpha't}{4}\right)\Gamma\left(1+\frac{\alpha'u}{4}\right)} \quad (A > 0)$$

Higher-spin tower states Reggeize the amplitude.



$$s = 4N/\alpha' \quad (N = 1, 2, \dots)$$

$$\text{spin } J = 2N + 2$$

$$\text{Im } \mathcal{M}(se^{i\varepsilon}, t) \approx f(t) \left(\frac{\alpha's}{4}\right)^{2+\alpha't/2} \quad \text{for } s \gg \alpha'^{-1}, 0 < \varepsilon \ll 1.$$

$$f(0) = 256A/\alpha'^4, \quad \partial_t f(t)|_{t=0} = 128A/\alpha'^3.$$

$$\longrightarrow c_2(\Lambda) = \lim_{t \rightarrow -0} \left\{ \frac{4}{\pi} \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\infty} ds' \frac{\text{Im } \mathcal{M}(s', t)}{(s' + t/2)^3} + \frac{2}{M_{\text{pl}}^2 t} \right\} = 0$$

- ✓ Strict positivity is **violated**, due to **the exact cancellation:**
(Regge states) – (graviton t-pole) = 0