

# On-shell techniques for the standard-model effective theory

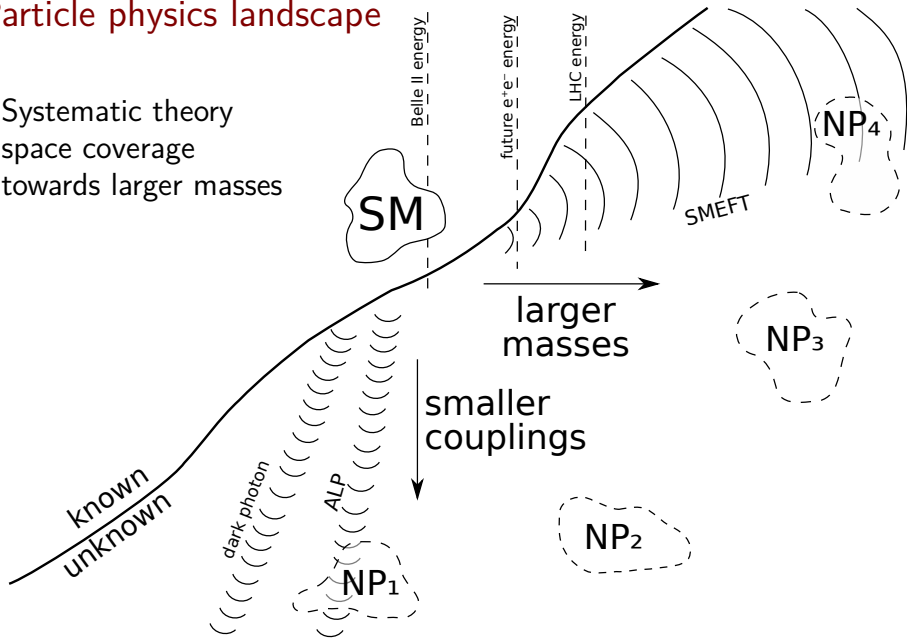
Gauthier Durieux  
(CP3 – UCLouvain)

*EFT matching from analyticity and unitarity*  
SciPost Phys. 16 (2024) 071, [2308.00035]  
with Stefano De Angelis

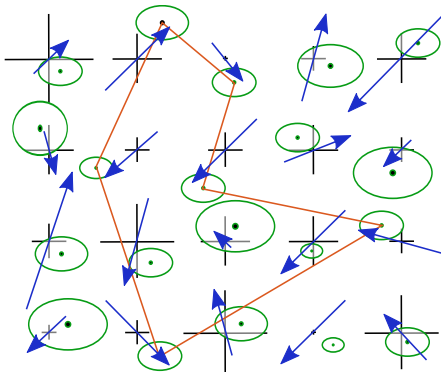


# Particle physics landscape

Systematic theory  
space coverage  
towards larger masses



# Isolating subtle patterns of new physics



array of sensitive observables

- precise SM&EFT predictions
- precise measurements
- correlate deviations

# Building LHC's legacy

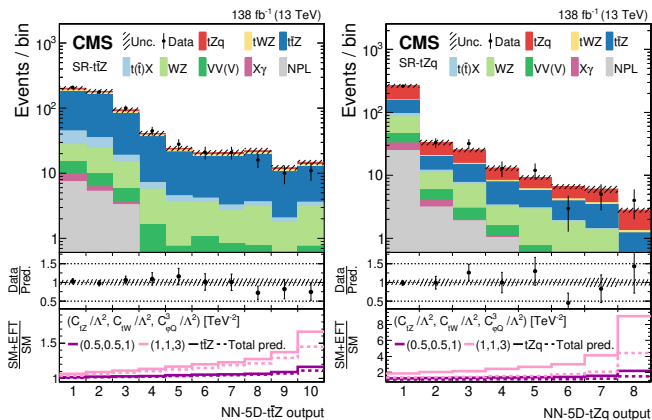
- Improved sensitivity (multidimensionally)
- Global picture (limited assumptions)
- Precise interpretation (better EFT predictions)
- Models' connection (matching, charting)
- New understanding (on-shell techniques)

SMEFT progresses

# ML optimisation for SMEFT

$tZ + X$  process in the three-lepton signal region

1. discriminate  $t\bar{t}Z$ ,  $tZj$  signals and backgrounds
2. train SM vs.  $(c_{tZ}, c_{tW}, c_{\phi q}^3)$  from reweighted samples



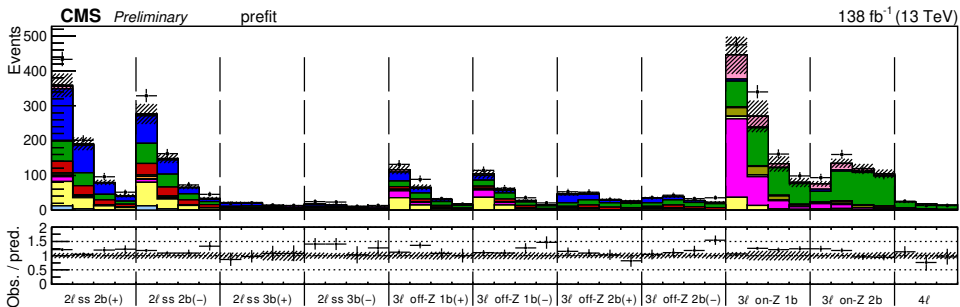
# Beyond signal and background processes

[CMS '20, '23]

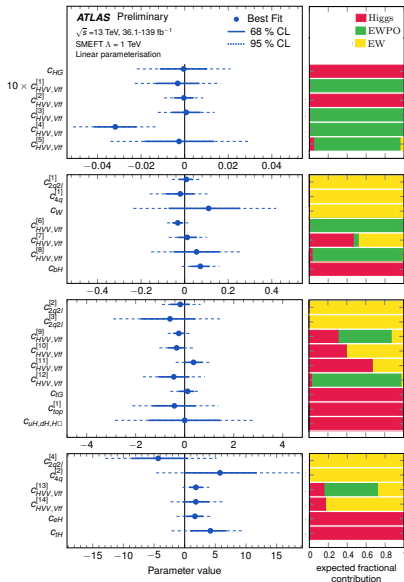
[see also 4 $\ell$  in ATLAS '21]

- leptons+ $b$ 's+jets final state,  $p_T$  bins, 178 data points
- contains  $tth$ ,  $ttZ$ ,  $ttW$ ,  $tZq$ ,  $tHq$ , diboson, etc.
- 26 top operator contributions from reweighting
- towards publication of 26D likelihood

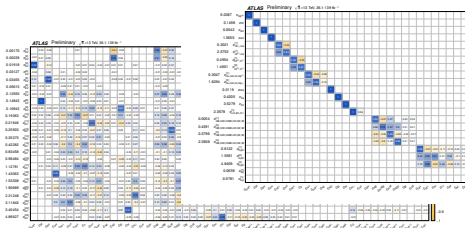
[Valsecchi LHCP23]



# ATLAS Higgs+diboson+EWPO combination



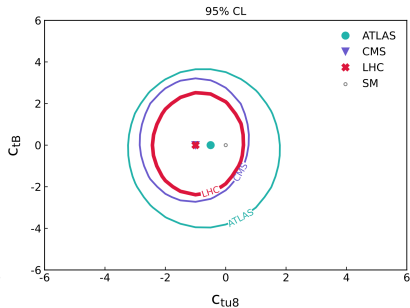
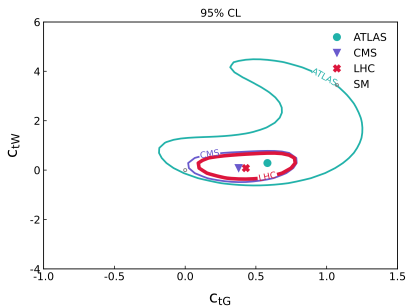
- Higgs '21 STXS combination
- diboson  $WW, WZ, 4\ell, Zjj$
- Z pole from LEP+SLC
- principal component analysis removing flat directions
- fit results for 22 eigen-vectors
- lin results





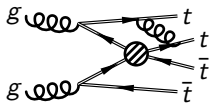
# ATLAS+CMS top combination

- full likelihoods:
  - $4t$  ( $n\ell$  ATLAS),  $4t$  ( $n\ell$  CMS),
  - $tt\gamma$  ( $1\ell$  CMS),  $tt\gamma$  ( $2\ell$  CMS),
  - $ttZ$  ( $n\ell$  ATLAS)
- $700^+$  bin,  $\sim 20$  processes
- 8 operators, lin & quad, also in  $tth$  and  $ttW$
- uncorrelated systematics

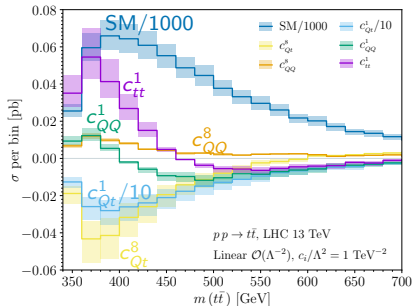
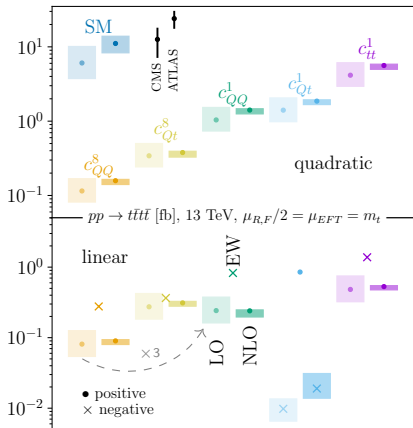
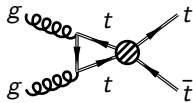


# SMEFT at one loop

Better accuracy  
and uncertainties

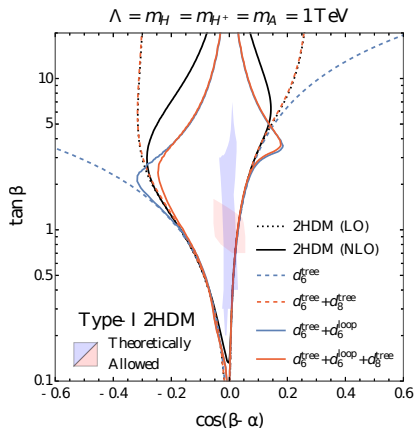
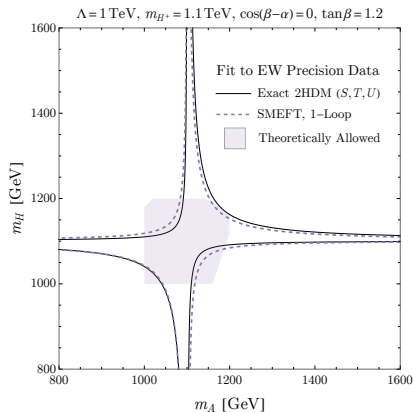


New sensitivities  
... and degeneracies



... to be resolved with more  
differential measurements

# Matching at one loop: the 2HDM



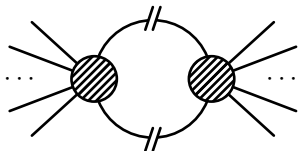
- EWPO constraints arising first at one-loop  
mild impact so far; more important with new  $Z$  pole?
- more accurate large- $\tan\beta$  description  
from Yukawa operators; probed with new Higgs measurements

# On-shell techniques

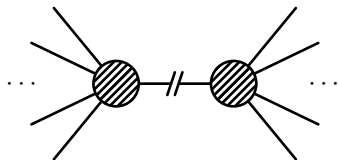
# Analyticity and unitarity of on-shell amplitudes

bypass unphysical fields, operators, Lagrangians  
avoid gauge and field redefinition redundancies

loops cut into lower loops  
+ rational terms



trees cut into smaller trees  
+ contact terms



recursive construction from the simplest amplitudes  
or more direct extraction of various quantities

# SMEFT applications

- operator enumeration

[Shadmi, Weiss '18], [Ma, Shu, Xiao '19], [Henning, Melia '19], [Falkowski '19], [GD, Machado '19]  
[Li, Ren, et al. '20, '20], [Accettulli Huber, De Angelis '21], [Harlander, Kempkens, Schaaf '23]

- kinematics characterisation

[Aoude, Machado '19], [GD, Kitahara, Shadmi, Weiss '19], [GD et al. '20]  
[Balkin et al. '21], [Dong, Ma, Shu, Zheng '21, '22], [De Angelis '22]  
[Bradshaw, Chang, Chen, Liu, Luty '22, '23], [Liu, Ma, Shadmi, Waterbury '23]

- anomalous dimensions

[Cheung, Shen '15], [Azatov et al. '16], [Bern et al. '19, '20], [Jiang et al. '20], [Elias Miró et al. '20, '21]  
[Baratella et al. '20, '20, '21], [Accettulli Huber, De Angelis '21], [Delle Rose et al. '22], [Baratella '22]  
[Machado, Renner, Sutherland '22], [Chala '23]

- matching to UV models

[Delle Rose, von Harling, Pomarol '22]  
[De Angelis, GD '23]

# Operator enumeration

# Massless three points

fully determined by little-group covariance

$$\mathcal{M}(1^{h_1}, 2^{h_2}, 3^{h_3}) = g \begin{cases} [12]^{h_1+h_2-h_3} [23]^{h_2+h_3-h_1} [31]^{h_3+h_1-h_2} & \text{for } h > 0 \\ \langle 12 \rangle^{-h_1-h_2+h_3} \langle 23 \rangle^{-h_2-h_3+h_1} \langle 31 \rangle^{-h_3-h_1+h_2} & \text{for } h < 0 \end{cases}$$

up to a constant coefficient

$$f^+ f^+ s [12]$$

$$v^+ v^+ s [12]^2$$

$$f^+ f^- v^+ [13]^2/[12]$$

$$v^+ v^+ v^- [12]^3/[23][31]$$

$$t^+ t^+ t^- \left( [12]^3/[23][31] \right)^2$$

$$[g] = 1 - |h| \equiv \sum h_i$$



# Massless higher-point contact terms

## Multiple independent structures for given helicities

non-vanishing Lorentz invariants ( $s_{ij} \equiv 2 p_i \cdot p_j$ ,  $\epsilon_{ijkl} \equiv \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} p_i^\mu p_j^\nu p_k^\rho p_l^\sigma$ )

solving · little-group covariance

· momentum conservation

· Schouten identity  $[12][34] - [13][24] + [14][23] = 0$

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solving · little-group covariance

· momentum conservation

· Schouten identity  $[12][34] - [13][24] + [14][23] = 0$

e.g. GR-SM-EFT up to dim-8:

[GD, Machado '19]

$$\begin{aligned} t^+ t^+ t^+ t^+ &: [12]^4 [34]^4 + [13]^4 [24]^4 + [14]^4 [23]^4 \\ t^+ t^+ v^+ v^+ &: [12]^4 [34]^2, [12]^2 [13][14][24][23] \\ t^+ v^+ f^+ f^- &: [12]^2 [13][124] \quad \times \text{polynomial}(s_{ij}, \epsilon_{ijkl}) \\ t^+ f^+ f^+ f^+ f^+ &: [12][13][14][15] \\ &\dots \end{aligned}$$

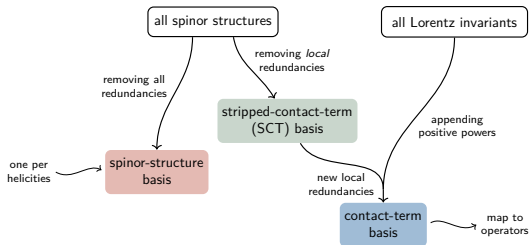
also from Hilbert series: [Ruhdorfer et al. '19]

# Divide and conquer

Separate spinors and Lorentz invariants

[GD, Kitahara, Machado, Shadmi, Weiss '20]

e.g.  $[12][34] \times s_{12}$



Exclude seemingly non-local relation

$$\times [12][34] = -[13][24] s_{12}/s_{13} \quad \text{at } d = 6$$

$$\checkmark [12][34] s_{13} = -[13][24] s_{12} \quad \text{at } d = 8$$

Counting from Hilbert series

[Bradshaw, Chang, Chen, Liu, Luty '22, '23]

$$\text{e.g. } H_{f+f+f+f+}(d) = \frac{2d^6 - d^8}{(1 - d^2)^2}$$

# Kinematics characterisation

# Massive little-group-covariant spinors

Two massless for one massive

$$p_{\mu}^i \sigma_{\alpha\dot{\alpha}}^{\mu} = q^i \rangle [q^i + k^i] \langle k^i = i^J \rangle [i_J] \quad \text{with } k_i^2 = 0 = q_i^2, \quad J = 1, 2$$

$$2k^i \cdot q^i = m_i^2$$

Spin  $s$  from  $2s$  symmetrized spin  $1/2$

left implicit, e.g.  $\langle 1^J 3^J \rangle [2^K 3^{J'}] + (J \leftrightarrow J')$  written as  $\langle \mathbf{13} \rangle [\mathbf{23}]$

Leading high-energy limit is just *unbolding*

Three-point examples:

*ffs*  $[\mathbf{12}], \langle \mathbf{12} \rangle$

*vvs*  $\langle \mathbf{12} \rangle^2, \langle \mathbf{12} \rangle [\mathbf{12}], [\mathbf{12}]^2$

*ssv*  $[\mathbf{3(1-2)3}] \equiv [\mathbf{3(p_1-p_2)3}]$

*ffv*  $\langle \mathbf{13} \rangle \langle \mathbf{23} \rangle, \langle \mathbf{13} \rangle [\mathbf{23}], [\mathbf{13}] \langle \mathbf{23} \rangle, [\mathbf{13}] [\mathbf{23}]$

... counting by spin irreps addition

## Four-point example: $ffZh$

- Twelve independent structures:

[GD, Kitahara, Shadmi, Weiss '19]

$$\mathcal{M}(1_f, 2_f, 3_Z, 4_h) \ni \begin{array}{ccc} & [13][23] & [312][13] \\ [13]\langle 23 \rangle & \langle 13 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle & \langle 321 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \\ \langle 13 \rangle [23] & [12]\langle 3(1 \pm 2)3 \rangle & [321][23] \\ & \langle 12 \rangle \langle 3(1 \pm 2)3 \rangle & \langle 312 \rangle \langle 13 \rangle \end{array} \times \text{poly}(s_{ij})$$

- Counted by Hilbert series:

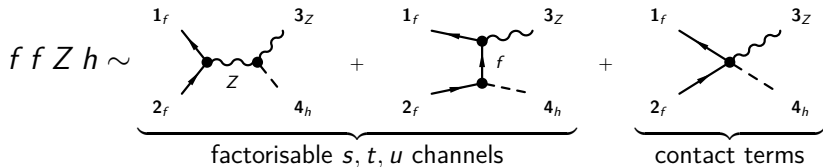
[Gráf, Henning, Lu, Melia, Murayama '22]

[Bradshaw, Chang, Chen, Liu, Luty '22, '23]

$$H_{ffZh}(d) = \frac{2d^5 + 6d^6 + 4d^7}{(1 - d^2)^2}$$

→ fully characterised kinematics, beyond lowest operator dim.

## EW symmetry from perturbative unitarity



$$\xrightarrow{\text{high energy}} \begin{cases} \frac{[12]}{m_Z} (c_{ffZ}^{\text{left}} - c_{ffZ}^{\text{right}}) \left( c_{ffh}^{\text{right}} - c_{ZZh} \frac{m_f}{2m_Z} \right) \\ \frac{\langle 12 \rangle}{m_Z} (c_{ffZ}^{\text{left}} - c_{ffZ}^{\text{right}}) \left( c_{ffh}^{\text{left}} - c_{ZZh} \frac{m_f}{2m_Z} \right) \end{cases}$$

as for the SM in the '70

[Llewellyn-Smith '73]

[Joglekar '73]

[Conwall et al. '73, '74]

# Matching to UV models



## EFT matching from cuts?

[Delle Rose, von Harling, Pomarol '22] examined, on-shell, the *magic zeros* found by [Arkani-Hamed, Harigaya '21] in  $(g - 2)_\mu$

finding that the rational terms of loops  
do not contribute

# Lessons from positivity

- Unitarity:

$$\mathcal{A}^\dagger(+i\epsilon) \stackrel{\text{CPT}}{=} \mathcal{A}(-i\epsilon)$$

$$(\mathcal{A} - \mathcal{A}^\dagger)/i = \mathcal{A} \cdot \mathcal{A}^\dagger$$

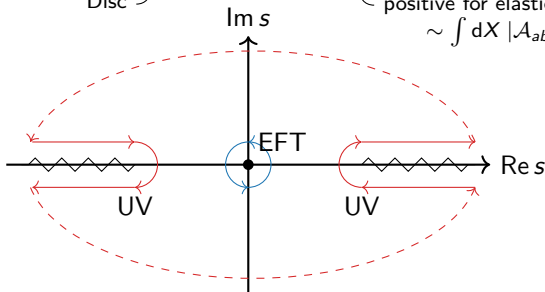
Disc ↗

sum over intermediate state X

positive for elastic+forward

$$\sim \int dX |\mathcal{A}_{ab \rightarrow X}|^2$$

- Analyticity:

controlled  
at 4 pointsvanishes  
by Froissart  
for  $n \geq 2$ 

$$\text{Res}_{s=0} \frac{\mathcal{A}_{ab \rightarrow ab}^{\text{EFT}}(s)}{s^{n+1}} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\infty} \frac{ds}{s^{n+1}} \left[ \text{Disc } \mathcal{A}_{ab \rightarrow ab}^{\text{UV}} + (-1)^n \text{Disc } \mathcal{A}_{\bar{a}\bar{b} \rightarrow \bar{a}\bar{b}}^{\text{UV}} \right] + C_\infty$$

$$\text{so } c_n \geq 0 \quad \text{for } n \text{ even } \geq 2$$

 $\geq 0$  $\geq 0$

# Lessons from positivity

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Disc ↗

sum over intermediate state X ↘

- Analyticity  
control at 4 points

Operator coefficients derive from cuts in four-point (elastic forward) amplitudes.

UV

vanishes by Froissart for  $n \geq 2$ 

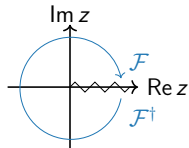
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# Lessons from anomalous dimensions

- In a massless theory, any  $(\log \mu^2)$  comes with a  $(-\log s_I)$
- A **dilation**  $z^{D/2}$  with  $D \equiv \sum_i p_i^\mu \frac{\partial}{\partial p_i^\mu}$  captures all Mandelstam logs in a single  $(-\log z)$  and disregards logs of  $s_I/s_J$  ratios

- **Form factors**  $\mathcal{F} \equiv \text{out} \langle p_1, \dots, p_m | \mathcal{O}(q) | 0 \rangle_{\text{in}}$  have all  $s_I \equiv (\sum_{i \in I} p_i^\mu)^2$  Mandelstams positive



- Dilated form factors  $\hat{\mathcal{F}}(z) \equiv z^{D/2} \mathcal{F}$  only have singularities at positive  $z$ 's

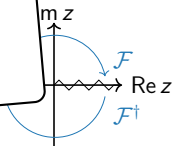
at  $\sum_k \alpha_k M_k^2 / \sum_I \alpha_I s_I$  in Feynman parameterisation

# Lessons from anomalous dimensions

- In a massless theory, any  $(\log \mu^2)$  comes with a  $(-\log s_I)$
- A **dilation**  $z^{D/2}$  with  $D \equiv \sum_i p_i^\mu \frac{\partial}{\partial p_i^\mu}$  captures all Mandelstam logs in a single factor

Dilated form factors have a known analytic structure at any multiplicity.

- **Form**  
 $s_I \equiv$

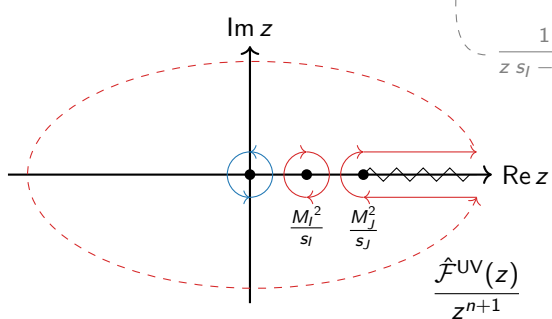


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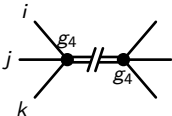
# Dispersive matching for massless EFTs

- equate  $\mathcal{F}^{\text{EFT}}$  and  $\mathcal{F}^{\text{UV}}$  order by order in the zero-momentum expansion
- dilate (with  $z^{D/2}$ ) and enforce  $\text{Res}_{z=0} \frac{\hat{\mathcal{F}}^{\text{EFT}}(z)}{z^{n+1}} = \text{Res}_{z=0} \frac{\hat{\mathcal{F}}^{\text{UV}}(z)}{z^{n+1}}$
- **EFT:**  $\text{Res}_{z=0} \frac{\hat{\mathcal{F}}^{\text{EFT}}(z)}{z^{n+1}} = c_n \text{poly}_n(s_l)$  with  $\mathcal{F}_{\text{tree}}^{\text{EFT}} = \sum_k c_k \text{poly}_k(s_l)$
- **UV:**  $\text{Res}_{z=0} \frac{\hat{\mathcal{F}}^{\text{UV}}(z)}{z^{n+1}} = \oint_{z=0} dz \frac{\hat{\mathcal{F}}^{\text{UV}}(z)}{z^{n+1}} = \left[ \sum \text{Res} + \int \text{Disc} + \int_{\infty} \right] \frac{\hat{\mathcal{F}}^{\text{UV}}(z)}{z^{n+1}}$



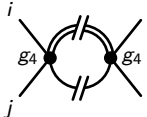
EFT matching  
from just cuts!

## Simple toy $\Phi\phi^3$ example



$$: \operatorname{Res}_{z=M^2/s_{ijk}} \frac{|\mathcal{A}(\phi\phi\phi \rightarrow \Phi)|^2}{z s_{ijk} - M^2} \frac{1}{z^{n+1}}$$

$$= \frac{g_4^2}{M^2} \left( \frac{s_{ijk}}{M^2} \right)^n$$



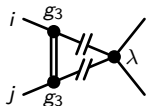
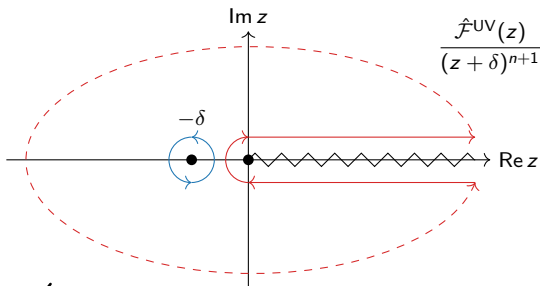
$$: \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{M^2/s_{ij}}^{\infty} \frac{dz}{z^{n+1}} \int d\text{LIPS} |\mathcal{A}(\phi\phi \rightarrow \phi\Phi)|^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{M^2/s_{ij}}^{\infty} \frac{dz}{z^{n+1}} \frac{1}{8\pi} \left( 1 - \frac{M^2}{z s_{ij}} \right) g_4^2$$

$$= \frac{g_4^2}{16\pi^2 n(n+1)} \left( \frac{s_{ij}}{M^2} \right)^n \quad \text{for } n > 0$$

- use amplitudes instead of form factors in practice
- all EFT orders obtained at once
- nothing to know about, or compute in, the EFT
- fewer legs and loops

## Massless cut subtlety



$$\begin{aligned}
 &: \int_0^\infty \frac{dz}{z^{n+1}} \int d\text{LIPS}_d \frac{\lambda g_3^2}{(l - p_i)^2 - M^2} \\
 &= \frac{\lambda g_3^2 M^{d-6}}{8(4\pi)^{\frac{d}{2}-2}} \left(\frac{s_{ij}}{M^2}\right)^n \frac{(-1)^{n+1} n! \csc \frac{\pi d}{2}}{\Gamma[\frac{d}{2} + n]} \\
 &= \frac{\lambda g_3^2}{16\pi^2 M^2} \frac{(-1)^n}{n+1} \left(\frac{s_{ij}}{M^2}\right)^n \left(\frac{1}{\bar{\epsilon}} + H_{n+1} + \log \frac{\mu^2}{M^2} + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon)\right)
 \end{aligned}$$

**NB:** phase-space integrals with more uncut propagators become complicated  
(unlike the hard region expansion,  $s_i \ll l^2 \sim M^2$ , at low EFT orders)



# The power of dimreg

- Loop contributions in the massless EFT lead to scaleless  $\int_0^\infty dz z^{\alpha+\epsilon} = 0$ .
  - The tree-level EFT amplitude is extracted.
- The soft region ( $l^2 \sim s_l \ll M^2$ ) of UV loops is similarly scaleless.
  - The hard region ( $s_l \ll l^2 \sim M^2$ ) of UV loops is extracted.
- UV loop contributions at infinity lead to scaleless  $\lim_{|z| \rightarrow \infty} |z|^{\alpha+\epsilon} = 0$ .
  - The boundary is tree-level exact.

# Rare boundary terms

multiplicity  $\cdot$  sum of coupling dim.

- no matching information unless  $n \geq \min(4 - m - [c_{\text{EFT}}])/2$
- no boundary term unless  $n \leq \max(4 - m - [c_{\text{UV}}])/2$   
 $\rightarrow \min[c_{\text{UV}}] \leq 4 - m - 2n \leq \max[c_{\text{EFT}}]$
- but  $\min[c_{\text{UV}}] = 0$  for a renormalisable theory  
 and  $\max[c_{\text{EFT}}] = 0$  for four- and higher-point contact-term operators  
 $\rightarrow$  then boundary only for  $[c_{\text{UV}}] = 0 = [c_{\text{EFT}}]$  and  $n = (4 - m)/2$

e.g.

$n$	EFT	UV
-1		
0		

# On-shell techniques for the standard-model effective theory

SMEFT can isolate subtle patterns of heavy new physics,  
and encode LHC's legacy.

On-shell additions to the theory toolbox  
ease computation and gain new understanding.

Dispersive EFT matching, from cuts.

simpler building blocks

all EFT orders accessible at once

not knowledge required about the EFT

... back to *magic zeros*, massive EFT generalisation,  
other types of EFTs, multi-loop, positivity beyond four points, ...