

Positivity at (future) colliders

Ken Mimasu

University of Southampton

8th FCC Physics Workshop

CERN, 14th January 2025



Science and
Technology
Facilities Council

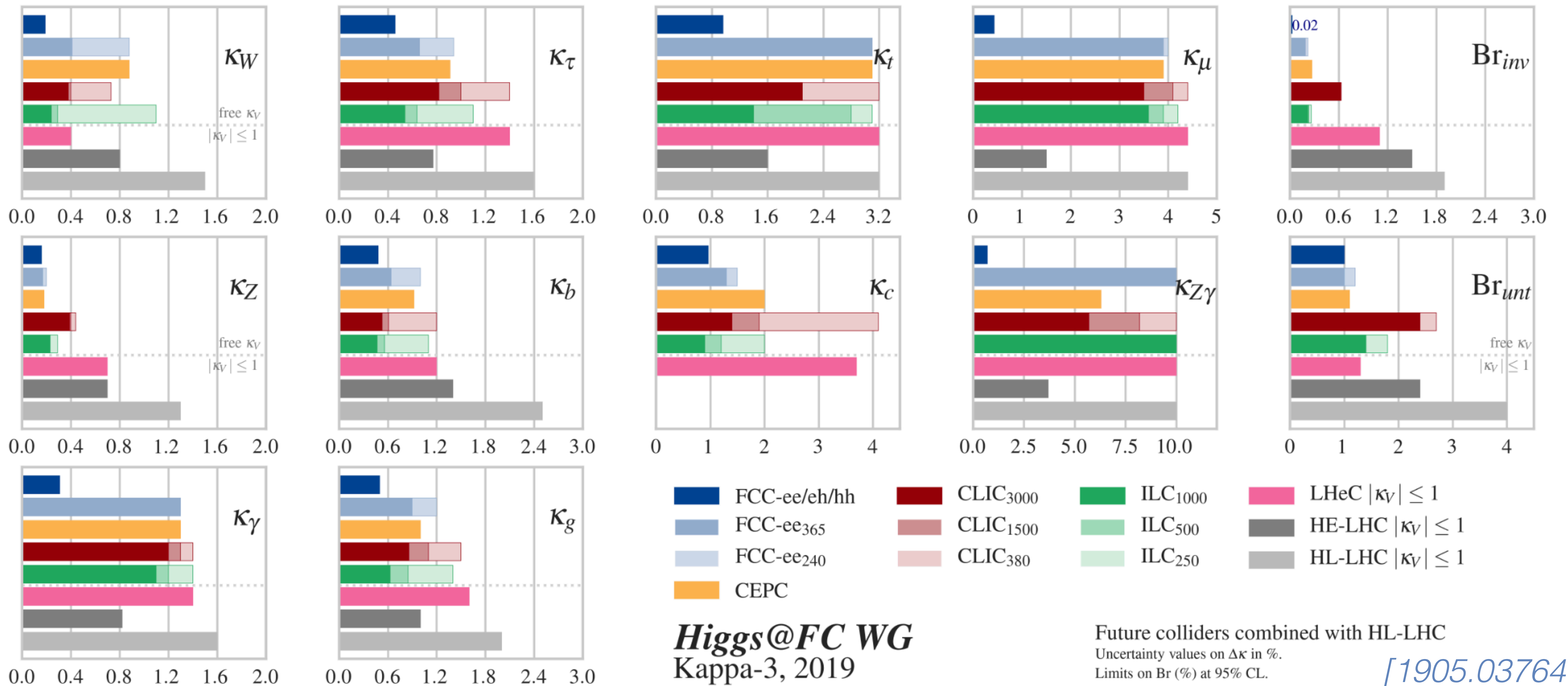
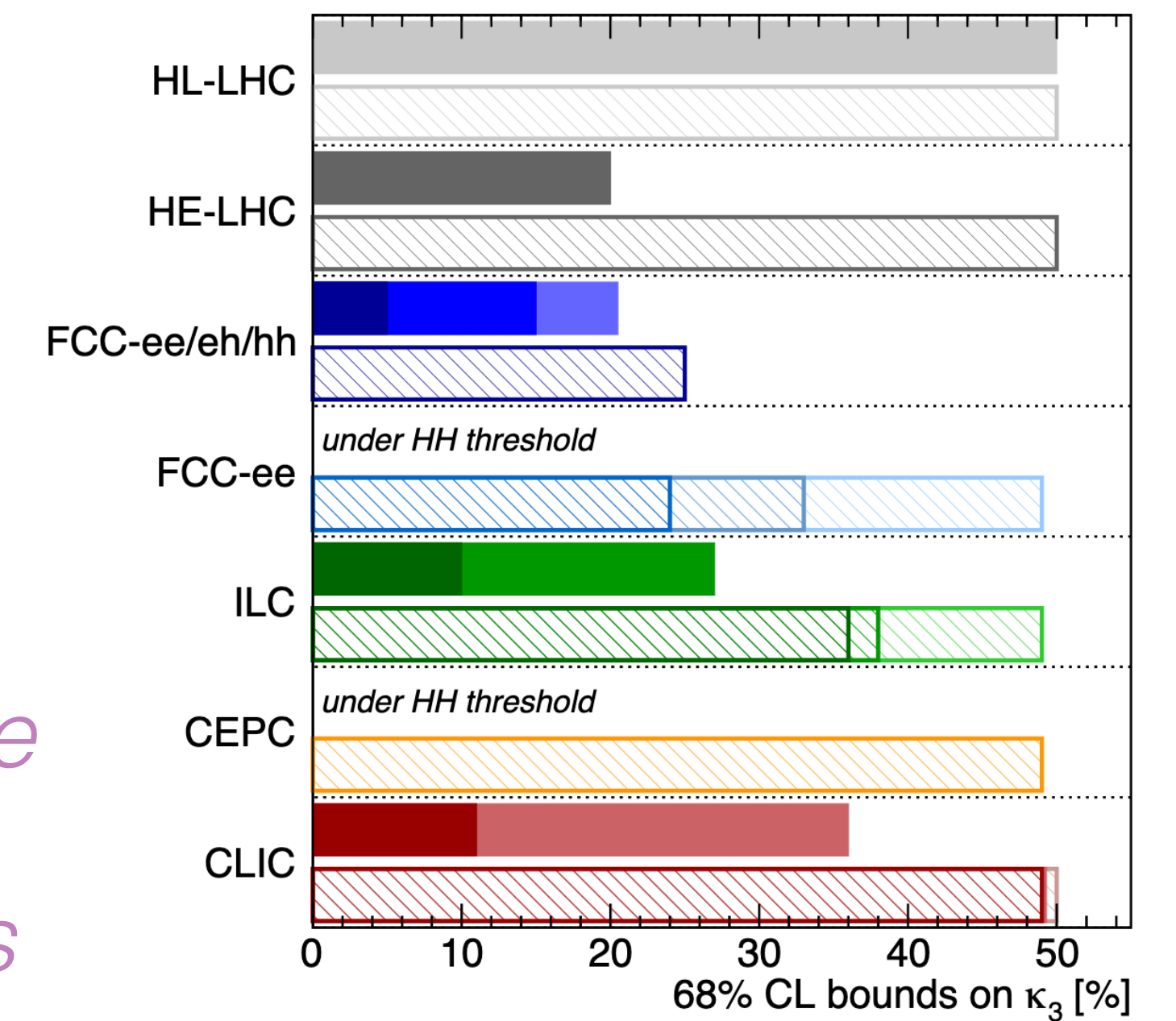


University of
Southampton

The indirect way

Precision measurements to probe new physics

dynamics of EWSB *Higgs potential/self-coupling* *flavor puzzle*
baryon asymmetry *dark sector* *new forces/matter/Higgses*

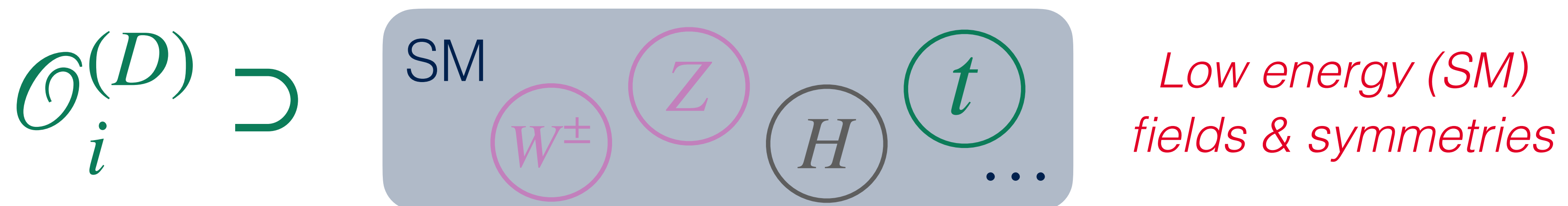


Modern approach: SMEFT=SM v2.0

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \sum_{i,D} \frac{c_i^{(D)} \mathcal{O}_i^{(D)}}{\Lambda^{D-4}}$$

BSM particle masses M \Leftrightarrow *Generic new physics scale Λ*

Low energy limit of \mathcal{A}_{BSM} \Leftrightarrow *Tower of operators $\mathcal{O}_i^{(D)}$*



Model parameters $\{g_{\text{BSM}}^i, M_k\}$ \Leftrightarrow *Wilson coefficients $\frac{c_j^{(D)}}{\Lambda^{D-4}} (g_{\text{BSM}}^i, M_k)$*

measure g_i : new physics model parameters

“Matching”

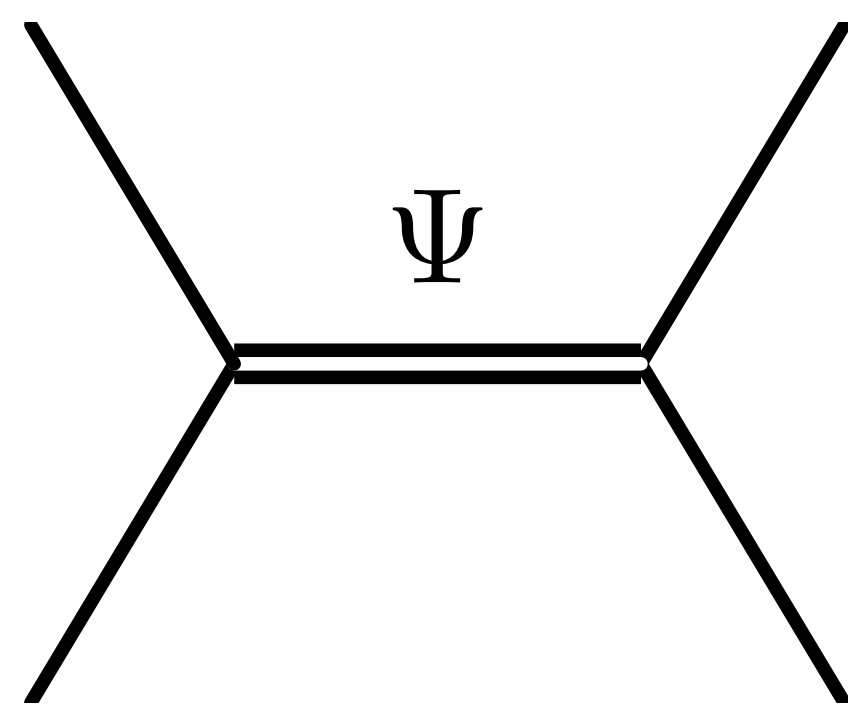
measure c_i : coupling strengths of new BSM interactions

Operators \Leftrightarrow amplitudes

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{BSM}}^n(E, M) \stackrel{E \ll M}{\sim} E^{4-n} \left(a_0 + a_1 \frac{E}{M} + a_2 \frac{E^2}{M^2} + \dots \right), \quad a_i(C_j)$$

Operators \Leftrightarrow amplitudes

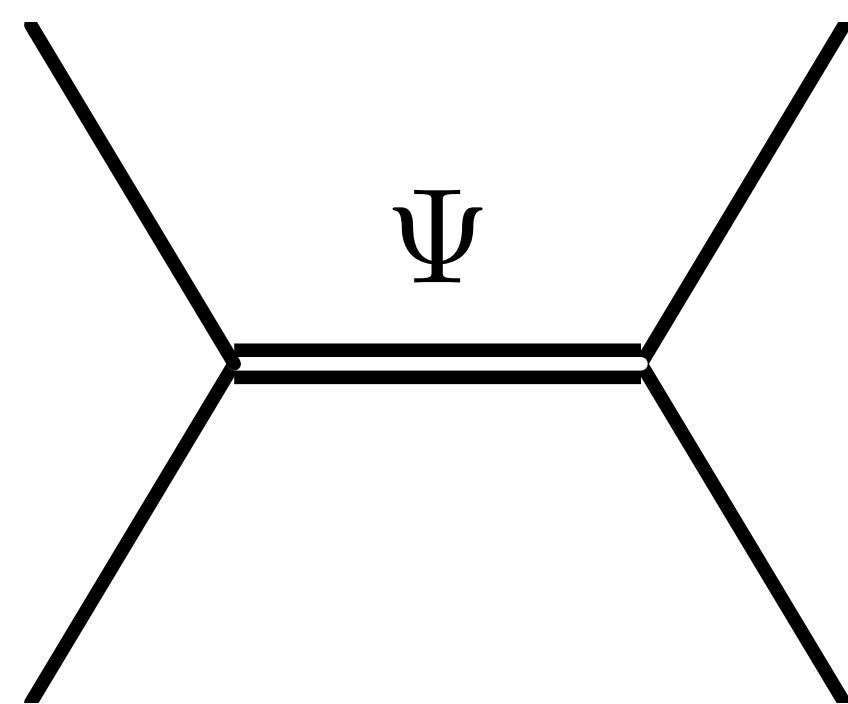
$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{BSM}}^n(E, M) \stackrel{E \ll M}{\sim} E^{4-n} \left(a_0 + a_1 \frac{E}{M} + a_2 \frac{E^2}{M^2} + \dots \right), \quad a_i(C_j)$$



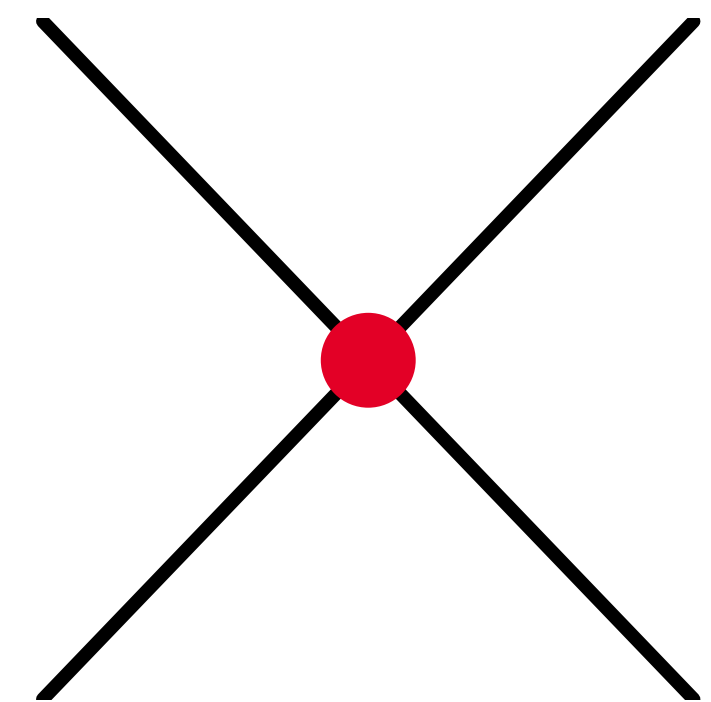
$$\frac{g^2}{p^2 - M^2} \approx -\frac{g^2}{M^2} \left[1 + \frac{p^2}{M^2} + \frac{p^4}{M^4} + \dots \right]$$

Operators \Leftrightarrow amplitudes

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{BSM}}^n(E, M) \stackrel{E \ll M}{\sim} E^{4-n} \left(a_0 + a_1 \frac{E}{M} + a_2 \frac{E^2}{M^2} + \dots \right), \quad a_i(C_j)$$



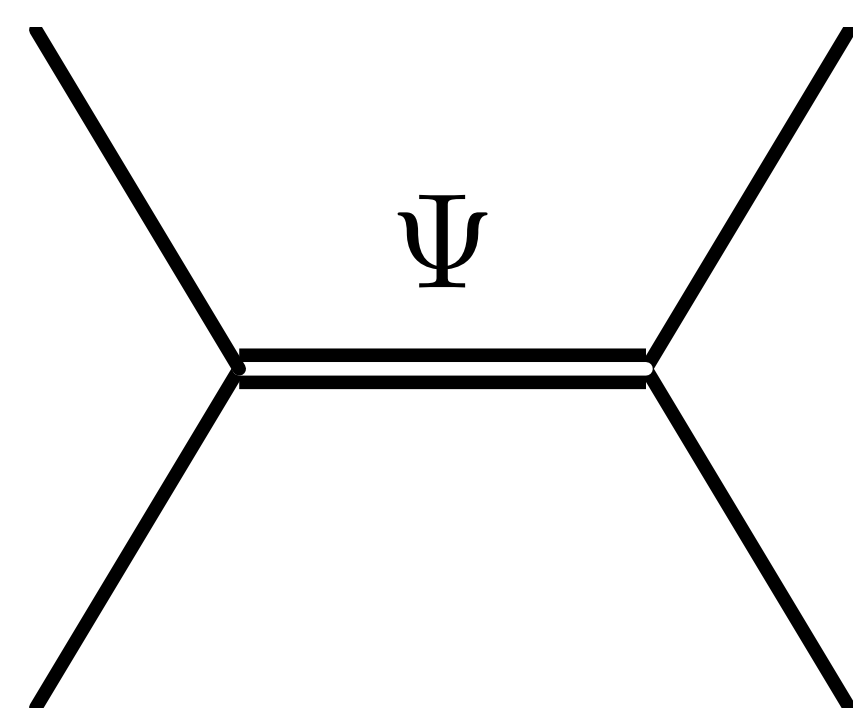
$$\frac{g^2}{p^2 - M^2} \approx -\frac{g^2}{M^2} \left[1 + \frac{p^2}{M^2} + \frac{p^4}{M^4} + \dots \right]$$



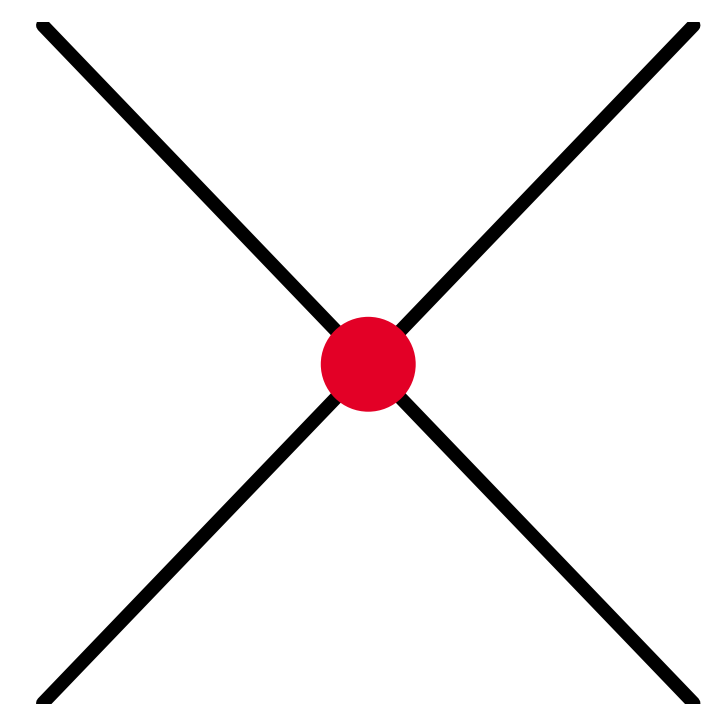
$$\mathcal{L} \sim g\Psi (\phi^\dagger \phi) \approx \frac{g^2}{M^2} (\phi^\dagger \phi)^2 + \frac{g^2}{M^4} \phi^\dagger \phi \partial^\mu \phi^\dagger \partial_\mu \phi + \frac{g^2}{M^6} \partial^\mu \phi^\dagger \partial_\mu \phi \partial^\nu \phi^\dagger \partial_\nu \phi + \dots$$

Operators \Leftrightarrow amplitudes

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{BSM}}^n(E, M) \stackrel{E \ll M}{\sim} E^{4-n} \left(a_0 + a_1 \frac{E}{M} + a_2 \frac{E^2}{M^2} + \dots \right), \quad a_i(C_j)$$



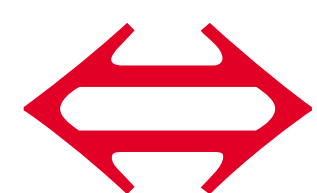
$$\frac{g^2}{p^2 - M^2} \approx -\frac{g^2}{M^2} \left[1 + \frac{p^2}{M^2} + \frac{p^4}{M^4} + \dots \right]$$



$$\mathcal{L} \sim g\Psi (\phi^\dagger \phi) \approx \frac{g^2}{M^2} (\phi^\dagger \phi)^2 + \frac{g^2}{M^4} \phi^\dagger \phi \partial^\mu \phi^\dagger \partial_\mu \phi + \frac{g^2}{M^6} \partial^\mu \phi^\dagger \partial_\mu \phi \partial^\nu \phi^\dagger \partial_\nu \phi + \dots$$

$ab \rightarrow cd$

$\{\mathcal{O}_i\} : C_i$



$\{\mathcal{A}_j\} :$

$\frac{s \quad t \quad st \quad s^2 \quad \dots}{\quad}$

$a_j^s \quad a_j^t \quad a_j^{st} \quad a_j^{s^2} \quad \dots$

Theoretical constraints in the IR

$$\mathcal{A}_{2\rightarrow 2} = a_0 + a_1^s s + a_1^t t + a_1^u u + a_2^s s^2 + a_2^t t^2 + a_2^u u^2 + a_1^{st} st + \dots$$

Theoretical constraints in the IR

$$\mathcal{A}_{2\rightarrow 2} = a_0 + a_1^s s + a_1^t t + a_1^u u + a_2^s s^2 + a_2^t t^2 + a_2^u u^2 + a_1^{st} st + \dots$$

1) \mathcal{L}_{EFT} dictates amplitudes

$$\mathcal{L}_{UV} \Rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{EFT} \Rightarrow \{\mathcal{A}_i\}$$

Theoretical constraints in the IR

$$\mathcal{A}_{2\rightarrow 2} = a_0 + a_1^s s + a_1^t t + a_1^u u + a_2^s s^2 + a_2^t t^2 + a_2^u u^2 + a_1^{st} st + \dots$$

1) \mathcal{L}_{EFT} dictates amplitudes

- Particle content, operator dimension
- Symmetries: gauge, flavor, custodial, CP, \mathbb{Z}_2, \dots
- Linear vs non-linear EWSB

$$\mathcal{L}_{UV} \Rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{EFT} \Rightarrow \{\mathcal{A}_i\}$$

$$\{C_i(g, M)\} \Rightarrow \{a_j(C_i)\}$$

Theoretical constraints in the IR

$$\mathcal{A}_{2\rightarrow 2} = a_0 + a_1^s s + a_1^t t + a_1^u u + a_2^s s^2 + a_2^t t^2 + a_2^u u^2 + a_1^{st} st + \dots$$

1) \mathcal{L}_{EFT} dictates amplitudes

$$\mathcal{L}_{UV} \Rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{EFT} \Rightarrow \{\mathcal{A}_i\}$$

- Particle content, operator dimension
- Symmetries: gauge, flavor, custodial, CP, \mathbb{Z}_2, \dots
- Linear vs non-linear EWSB

$$\{C_i(g, M)\} \Rightarrow \{a_j(C_i)\}$$

2a) Amplitudes have rules: can dictate \mathcal{L}_{EFT}

$\mathcal{A}_{2\rightarrow 2}$ not just any arbitrary polynomial in s, t, u

Theoretical constraints in the IR

$$\mathcal{A}_{2\rightarrow 2} = a_0 + a_1^s s + a_1^t t + a_1^u u + a_2^s s^2 + a_2^t t^2 + a_2^u u^2 + a_1^{st} st + \dots$$

1) \mathcal{L}_{EFT} dictates amplitudes

$$\mathcal{L}_{UV} \Rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{EFT} \Rightarrow \{\mathcal{A}_i\}$$

- Particle content, operator dimension

$$\{C_i(g, M)\} \Rightarrow \{a_j(C_i)\}$$

- Symmetries: gauge, flavor, custodial, CP, \mathbb{Z}_2, \dots
- Linear vs non-linear EWSB

2a) Amplitudes have rules: can dictate \mathcal{L}_{EFT}

$\mathcal{A}_{2\rightarrow 2}$ not just any arbitrary polynomial in s, t, u

- Momentum conservation: $s + t + u = \sum_i m_i^2$
- Locality, causality, Lorentz invariance
- Crossing symmetry

} Come for free in QFT
"baked in"

Theoretical constraints in the IR

$$\mathcal{A}_{2\rightarrow 2} = a_0 + a_1^s s + a_1^t t + a_1^u u + a_2^s s^2 + a_2^t t^2 + a_2^u u^2 + a_1^{st} st + \dots$$

1) \mathcal{L}_{EFT} dictates amplitudes

$$\mathcal{L}_{UV} \Rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{EFT} \Rightarrow \{\mathcal{A}_i\}$$

- Particle content, operator dimension

$$\{C_i(g, M)\} \Rightarrow \{a_j(C_i)\}$$

- Symmetries: gauge, flavor, custodial, CP, \mathbb{Z}_2, \dots
- Linear vs non-linear EWSB

2a) Amplitudes have rules: can dictate \mathcal{L}_{EFT}

$\mathcal{A}_{2\rightarrow 2}$ not just any arbitrary polynomial in s, t, u

- Momentum conservation: $s + t + u = \sum_i m_i^2$
- Locality, causality, Lorentz invariance
- Crossing symmetry

Come for free in QFT
"baked in"

- Unitarity $\Rightarrow c_i \frac{s^n}{\Lambda^{2n}} \lesssim 8\pi$

Signal breakdown of the EFT: new resonances

Theoretical constraints from the UV

What is UV?
assume QFT?
local, causal, unitary?

$$p^2 \ll M_{UV}^2$$
$$\mathcal{A}_{UV} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{2 \rightarrow 2}$$

Imprints on the EFT
patterns? restrictions?

Theoretical constraints from the UV

What is UV?

assume QFT?

local, causal, unitary?

$$p^2 \ll M_{UV}^2$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{UV} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{2 \rightarrow 2}$$

Imprints on the EFT

patterns? restrictions?

2b) Amplitudes have rules: can dictate \mathcal{L}_{EFT}

- Unitarity, locality, causality in the UV
- At fixed t , $\mathcal{A}(s, t)$ is analytic in the complex s plane
- Define ‘subtracted’ amplitude: $M_{ijkl}(s, t) = \mathcal{A}_{ijkl}(s, t) - \text{low energy discontinuities}$

Up to poles & branch cuts on real line

Theoretical constraints from the UV

What is UV?

assume QFT?

local, causal, unitary?

$$p^2 \ll M_{UV}^2$$

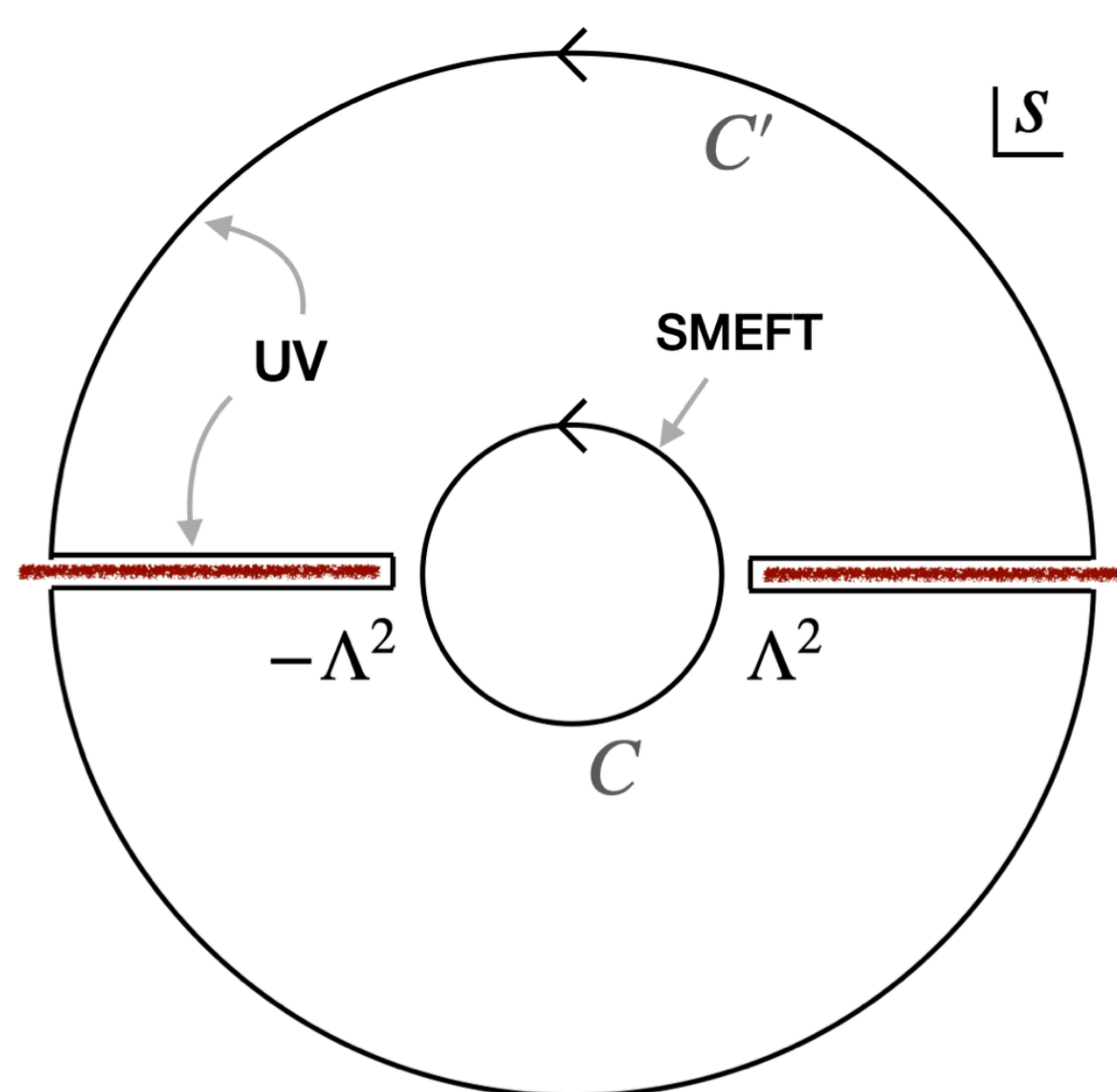
$$\mathcal{A}_{UV} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{2 \rightarrow 2}$$

Imprints on the EFT
patterns? restrictions?

2b) Amplitudes have rules: can dictate \mathcal{L}_{EFT}

- Unitarity, locality, causality in the UV
- At fixed t , $\mathcal{A}(s, t)$ is analytic in the complex s plane *Up to poles & branch cuts on real line*
- Define ‘subtracted’ amplitude: $M_{ijkl}(s, t) = \mathcal{A}_{ijkl}(s, t) - \text{low energy discontinuities}$ *low energy discontinuities*

fixed $t = t_0$, $M_{ijkl}(s, t_0)$



$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 M_{ijkl}(s)}{ds^2} = \oint_C \frac{d\mu}{2\pi i} \frac{M_{ijkl}(\mu)}{(\mu - s)^3}$$

Cauchy's integral formula
avoiding UV branch cuts

$$M \lesssim s \log^2 s, \quad s \rightarrow \infty \quad [\text{Froissart; Phys. Rev. 123 (1961) 1053-1057}]$$

Theoretical constraints from the UV

What is UV?
 assume QFT?
 local, causal, unitary?

$$p^2 \ll M_{UV}^2$$

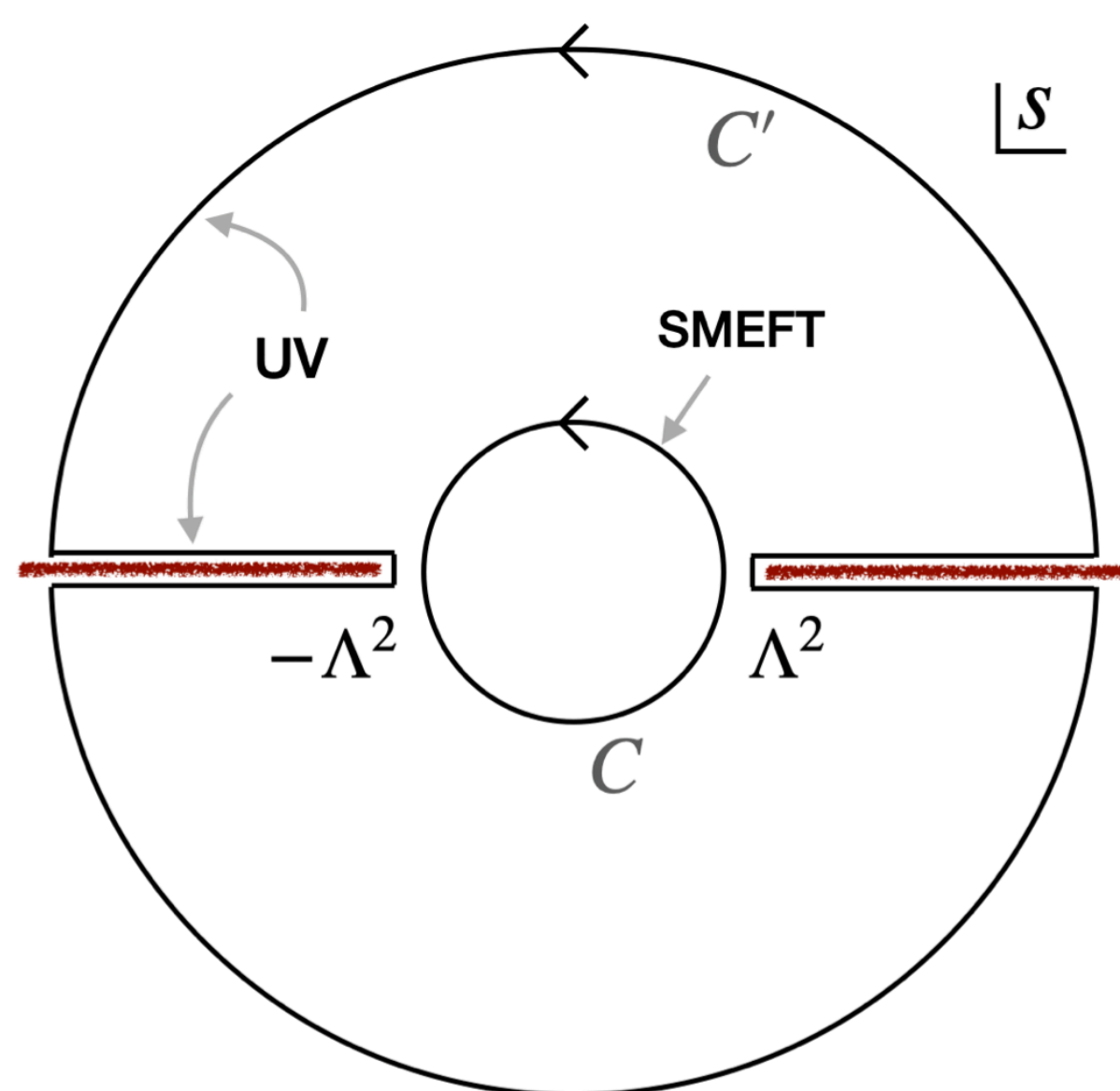
$$\mathcal{A}_{UV} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{2 \rightarrow 2}$$

Imprints on the EFT
 patterns? restrictions?

2b) Amplitudes have rules: can dictate \mathcal{L}_{EFT}

- Unitarity, locality, causality in the UV
- At fixed t , $\mathcal{A}(s, t)$ is analytic in the complex s plane *Up to poles & branch cuts on real line*
- Define ‘subtracted’ amplitude: $M_{ijkl}(s, t) = \mathcal{A}_{ijkl}(s, t) - \text{low energy discontinuities}$

fixed $t = t_0$, $M_{ijkl}(s, t_0)$



$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 M_{ijkl}(s)}{ds^2} = \oint_C \frac{d\mu}{2\pi i} \frac{M_{ijkl}(\mu)}{(\mu - s)^3}$$

Cauchy's integral formula
 avoiding UV branch cuts

$$M \lesssim s \log^2 s, \quad s \rightarrow \infty \quad [\text{Froissart; Phys. Rev. 123 (1961) 1053-1057}]$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 M_{ijkl}(s)}{ds^2} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d\mu}{2\pi i} \frac{\text{Disc}[M_{ijkl}(\mu)]}{(\mu - s)^3}$$

“Dispersion relation”

IR

UV

Theoretical constraints from the UV

What is UV?

assume QFT?

local, causal, unitary?

$$p^2 \ll M_{UV}^2$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{UV} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{2 \rightarrow 2}$$

Imprints on the EFT

patterns? restrictions?

2b) Amplitudes have rules: can dictate \mathcal{L}_{EFT}

- Unitarity, locality, causality in the UV
- At fixed t , $\mathcal{A}(s, t)$ is analytic in the complex s plane *Up to poles & branch cuts on real line*
- Define ‘subtracted’ amplitude: $M_{ijkl}(s, t) = \mathcal{A}_{ijkl}(s, t) - \text{low energy discontinuities}$
- Generalised optical theorem + twice subtracted dispersion relation:

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 M_{ijkl}(0)}{ds^2} = \sum_X \int d\Pi_X \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\infty} \frac{d\mu}{2\pi\mu^3} \left(m_{ij} m_{kl}^* + m_{i\tilde{l}} m_{k\tilde{j}}^* \right) \quad m_{ij} \equiv M_{ij \rightarrow X}(\mu)$$

Theoretical constraints from the UV

What is UV?

assume QFT?

local, causal, unitary?

$$p^2 \ll M_{UV}^2$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{UV} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{2 \rightarrow 2}$$

Imprints on the EFT

patterns? restrictions?

2b) Amplitudes have rules: can dictate \mathcal{L}_{EFT}

- Unitarity, locality, causality in the UV
- At fixed t , $\mathcal{A}(s, t)$ is analytic in the complex s plane *Up to poles & branch cuts on real line*
- Define ‘subtracted’ amplitude: $M_{ijkl}(s, t) = \mathcal{A}_{ijkl}(s, t) - \text{low energy discontinuities}$
- Generalised optical theorem + twice subtracted dispersion relation:

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 M_{ijkl}(0)}{ds^2} = \sum_X \int d\Pi_X \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\infty} \frac{d\mu}{2\pi\mu^3} \left(m_{ij} m_{kl}^* + m_{i\tilde{l}} m_{k\tilde{j}}^* \right) \quad m_{ij} \equiv M_{ij \rightarrow X}(\mu)$$

Elastic ($ij = kl$):
$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 M_{ijij}(0)}{ds^2} = \sum_X \int d\Pi_X \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\infty} \frac{d\mu}{2\pi\mu^3} \left(|m_{ij}|^2 + |m_{i\tilde{j}}|^2 \right) \geq 0$$

[Zhang; 2112.11665]

$$= \sum_i b_i C_i^{(8)} \geq 0 \quad \text{“Positivity”}$$

Positivity

Not all EFTs are created equal!

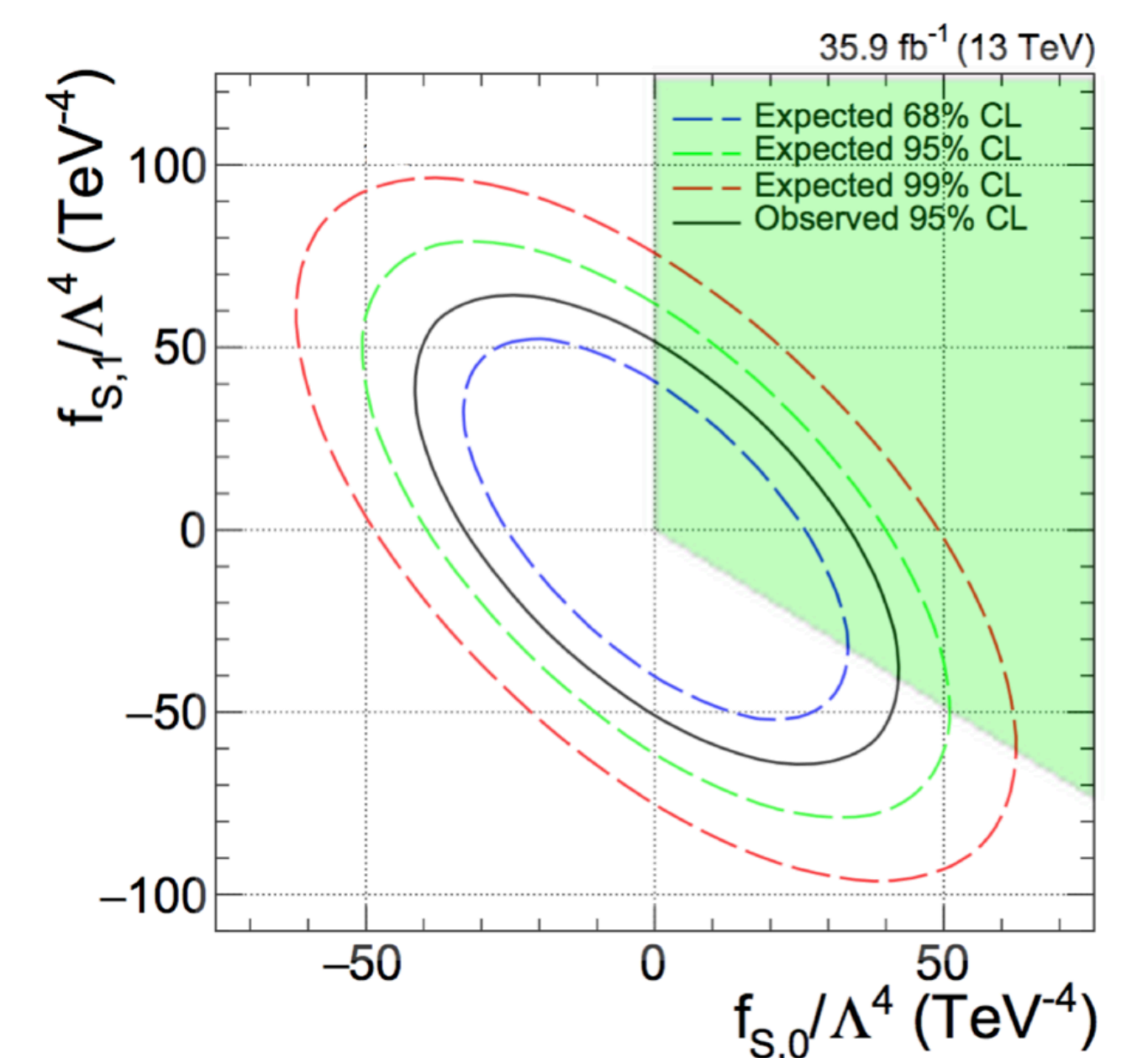
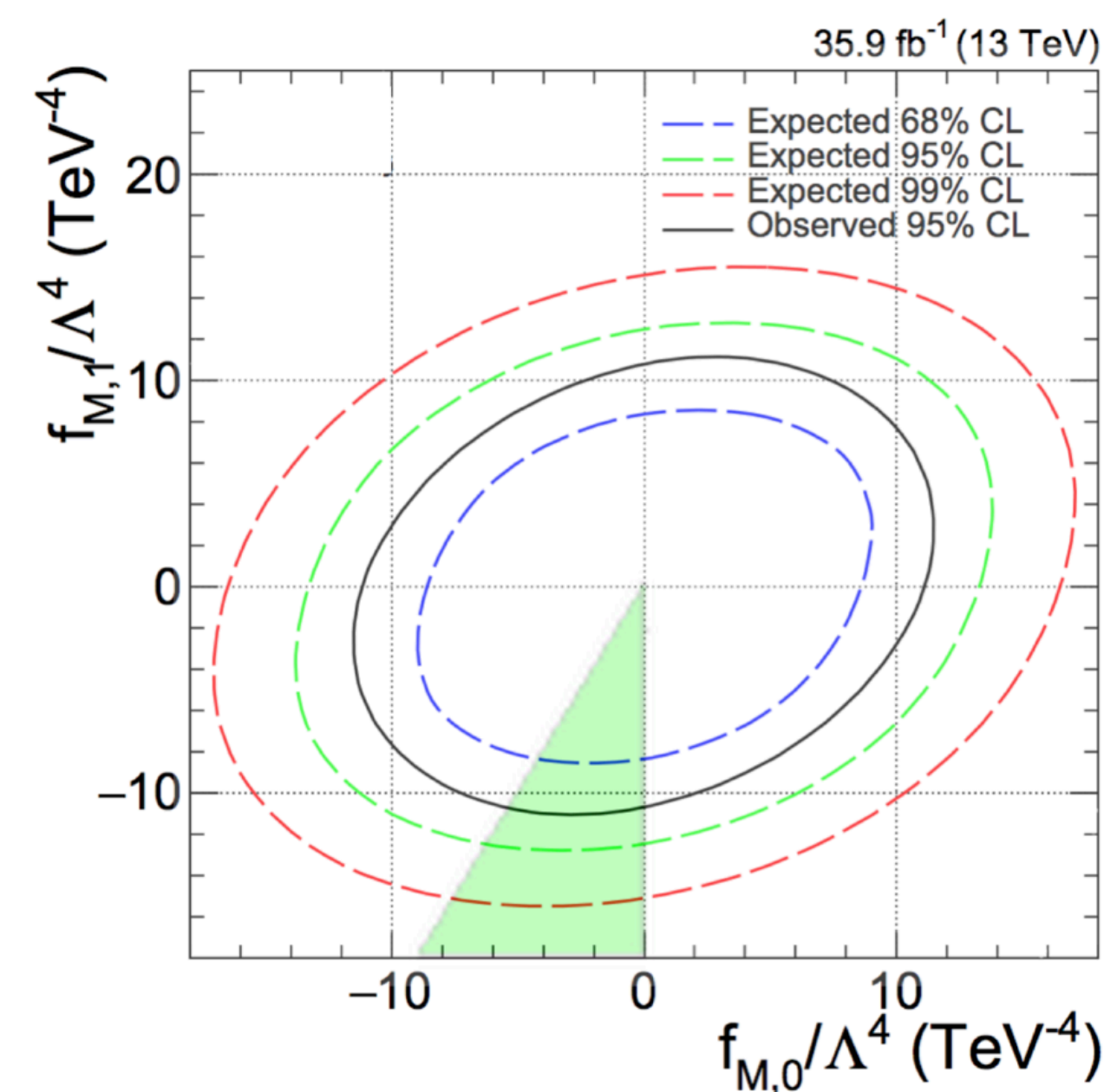
$$\sum_i b_i C_i^{(8)} \geq 0$$

Finding optimal bounds is a solved (numerical) problem

Vector boson scattering

[Bi, Zhang, Zhou; 1902.08977]

$$\begin{aligned}
 O_{S,0} &= [(D_\mu \Phi)^\dagger D_\nu \Phi] \times [(D^\mu \Phi)^\dagger D^\nu \Phi] \\
 O_{S,1} &= [(D_\mu \Phi)^\dagger D^\mu \Phi] \times [(D_\nu \Phi)^\dagger D^\nu \Phi] \\
 O_{S,2} &= [(D_\mu \Phi)^\dagger D_\nu \Phi] \times [(D^\nu \Phi)^\dagger D^\mu \Phi] \\
 O_{M,0} &= \text{Tr} \left[\hat{W}_{\mu\nu} \hat{W}^{\mu\nu} \right] \times [(D_\beta \Phi)^\dagger D^\beta \Phi] \\
 O_{M,1} &= \text{Tr} \left[\hat{W}_{\mu\nu} \hat{W}^{\nu\beta} \right] \times [(D_\beta \Phi)^\dagger D^\mu \Phi]
 \end{aligned}$$



Positivity

Not all EFTs are created equal!

$$\sum_i b_i C_i^{(8)} \geq 0$$

Finding optimal bounds is a solved (numerical) problem

Vector boson scattering

[Bi, Zhang, Zhou; 1902.08977]

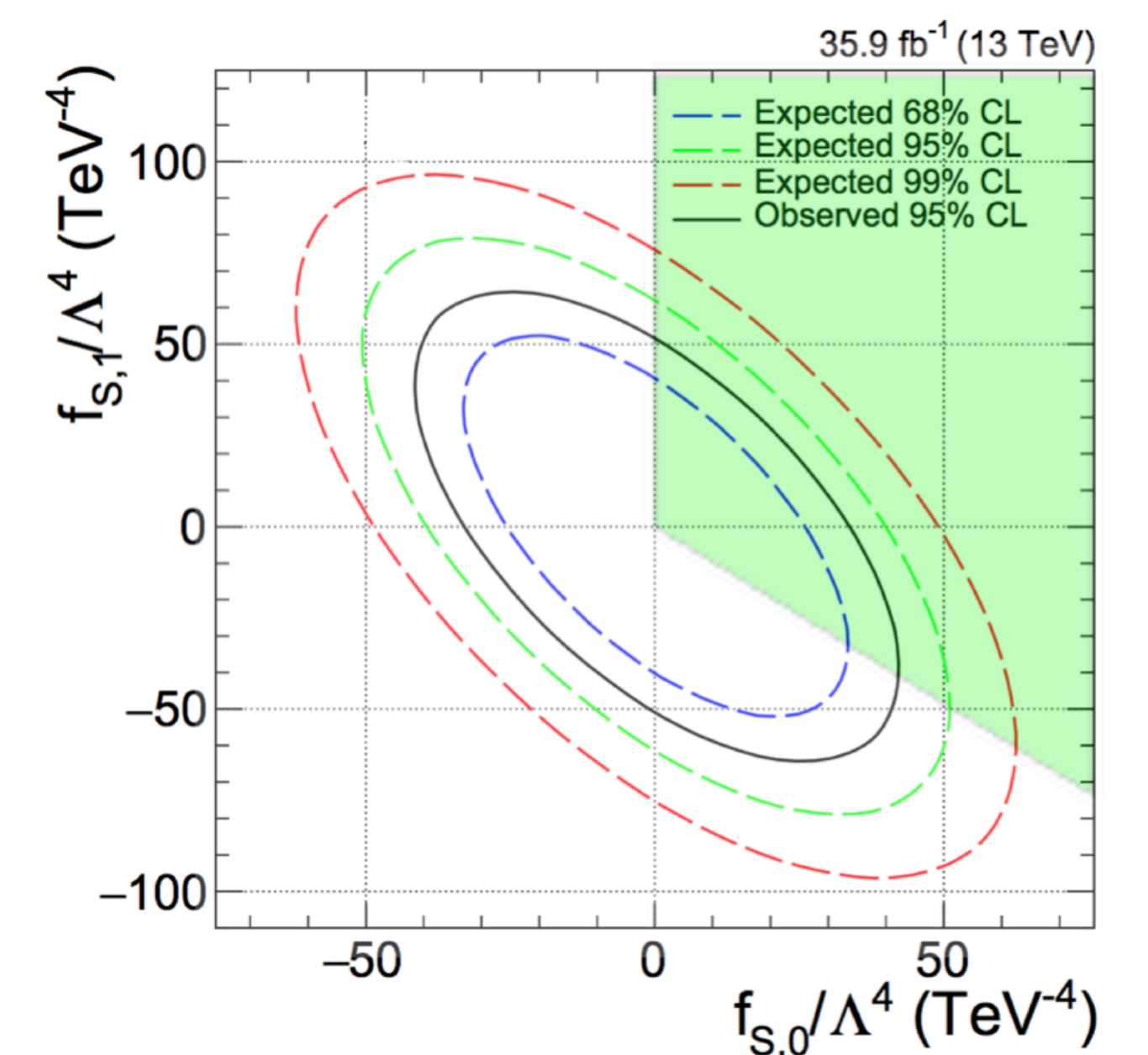
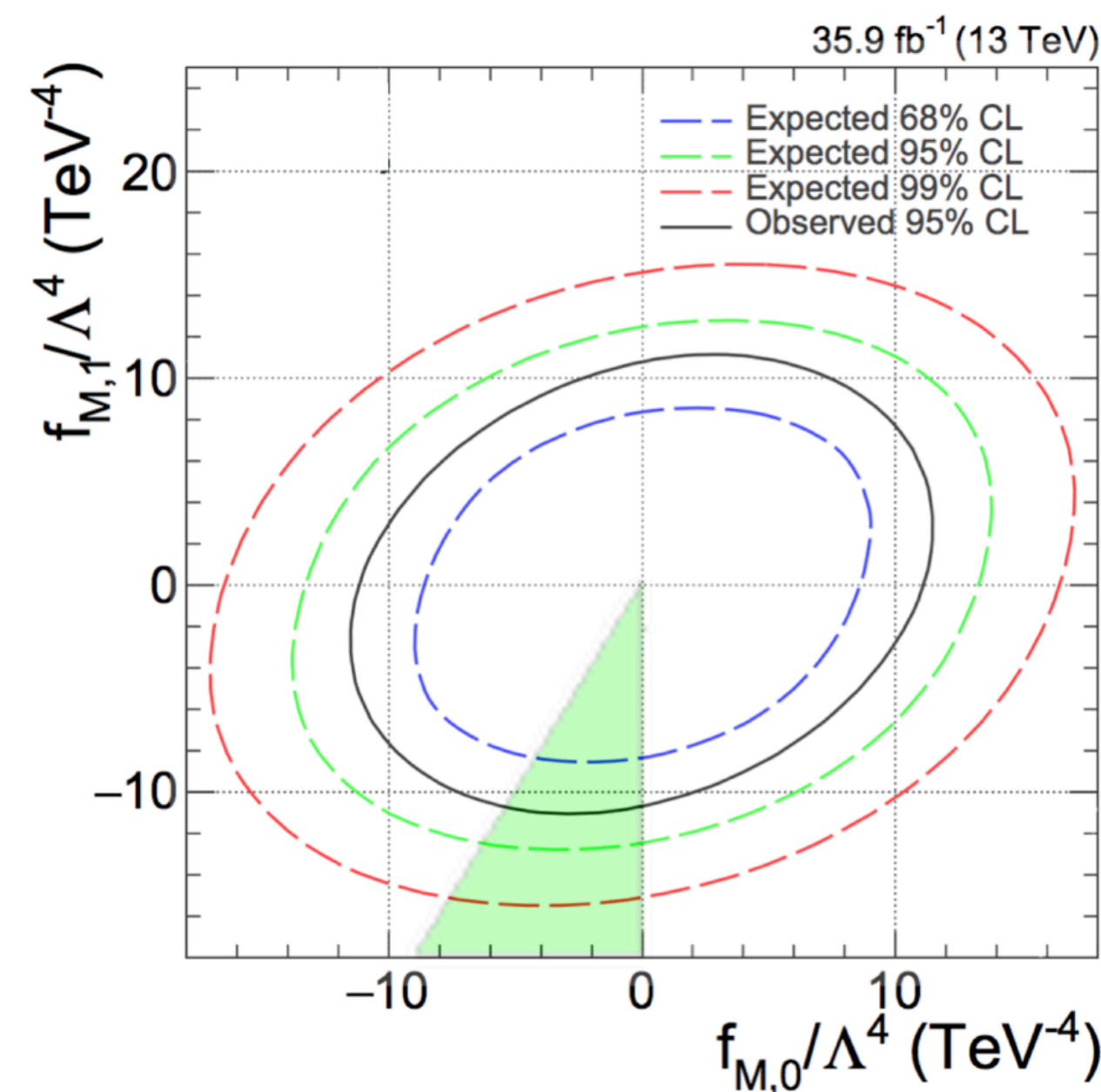
$$O_{S,0} = [(D_\mu \Phi)^\dagger D_\nu \Phi] \times [(D^\mu \Phi)^\dagger D^\nu \Phi]$$

$$O_{S,1} = [(D_\mu \Phi)^\dagger D^\mu \Phi] \times [(D_\nu \Phi)^\dagger D^\nu \Phi]$$

$$O_{S,2} = [(D_\mu \Phi)^\dagger D_\nu \Phi] \times [(D^\nu \Phi)^\dagger D^\mu \Phi]$$

$$O_{M,0} = \text{Tr} \left[\hat{W}_{\mu\nu} \hat{W}^{\mu\nu} \right] \times [(D_\beta \Phi)^\dagger D^\beta \Phi]$$

$$O_{M,1} = \text{Tr} \left[\hat{W}_{\mu\nu} \hat{W}^{\nu\beta} \right] \times [(D_\beta \Phi)^\dagger D^\mu \Phi]$$



\mathcal{L}_{EFT} { Top down: **predict**
Positivity: **rule out**
Bottom-up: **agnostic**

Positivity

Not all EFTs are created equal!

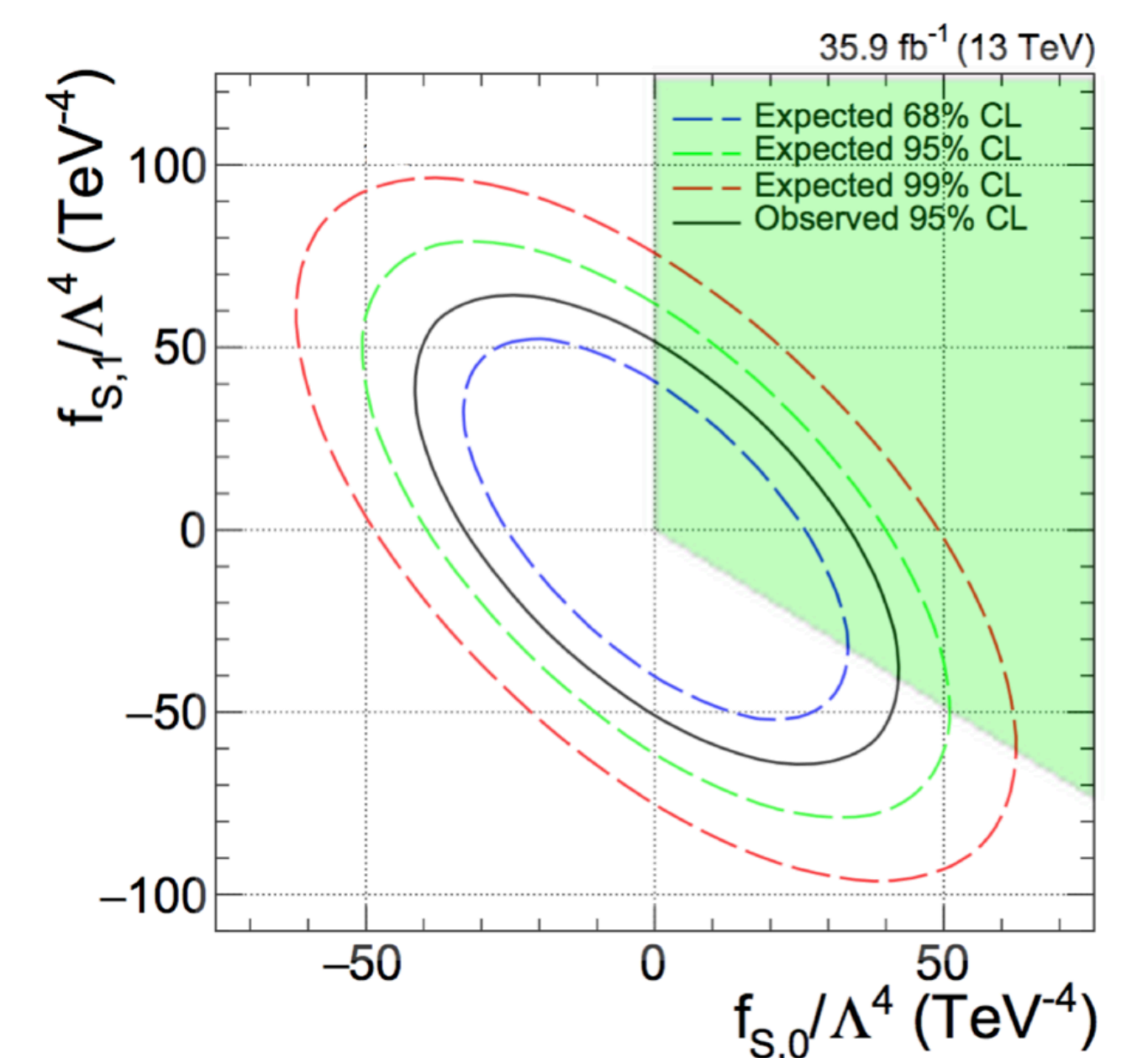
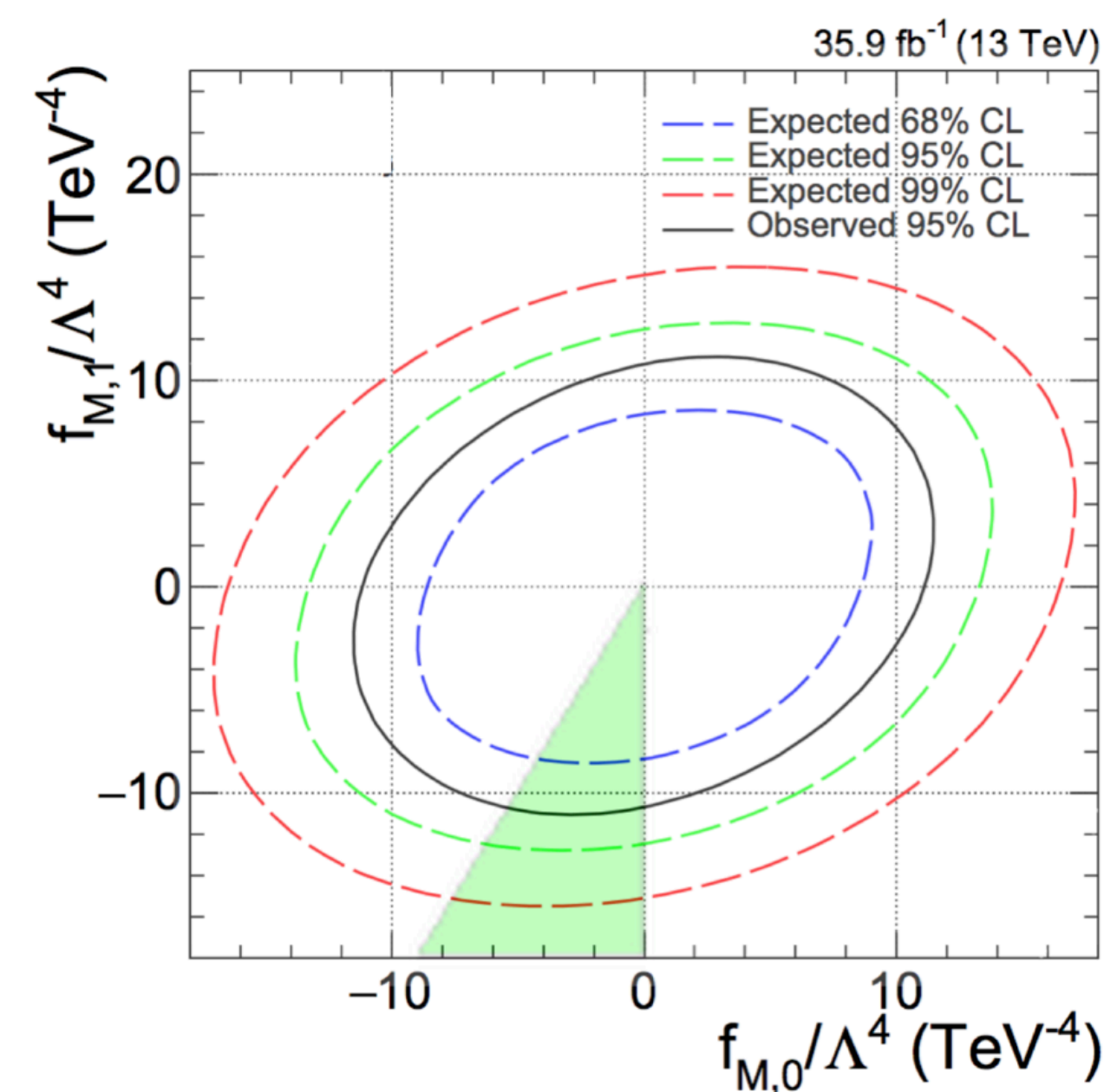
$$\sum_i b_i C_i^{(8)} \geq 0$$

Finding optimal bounds is a solved (numerical) problem

Vector boson scattering

[Bi, Zhang, Zhou; 1902.08977]

$$\begin{aligned} O_{S,0} &= [(D_\mu \Phi)^\dagger D_\nu \Phi] \times [(D^\mu \Phi)^\dagger D^\nu \Phi] \\ O_{S,1} &= [(D_\mu \Phi)^\dagger D^\mu \Phi] \times [(D_\nu \Phi)^\dagger D^\nu \Phi] \\ O_{S,2} &= [(D_\mu \Phi)^\dagger D_\nu \Phi] \times [(D^\nu \Phi)^\dagger D^\mu \Phi] \\ O_{M,0} &= \text{Tr} \left[\hat{W}_{\mu\nu} \hat{W}^{\mu\nu} \right] \times [(D_\beta \Phi)^\dagger D^\beta \Phi] \\ O_{M,1} &= \text{Tr} \left[\hat{W}_{\mu\nu} \hat{W}^{\nu\beta} \right] \times [(D_\beta \Phi)^\dagger D^\mu \Phi] \end{aligned}$$



\mathcal{L}_{EFT} { Top down: **predict**
Positivity: **rule out**
Bottom-up: **agnostic**

98% of 18D parameter space ruled out by positivity

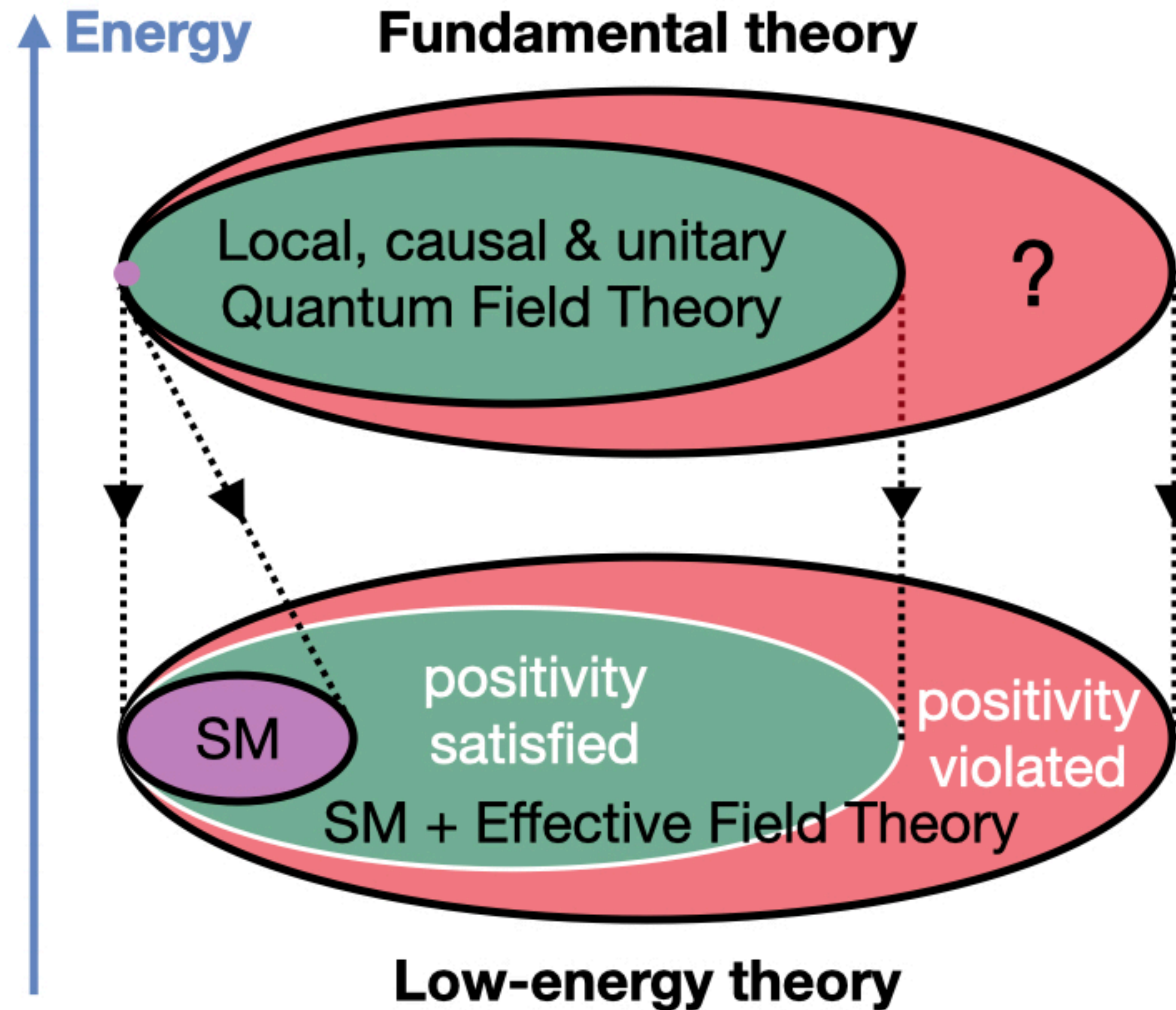
Positivity

Recent Snowmass review: [de Rham et al.; arXiv:2203.06805]

[Pham & Truong; PRD 31 (1985) 3027]

[Anathanarayan et al.; PRD 51 (1995) 1093-1100]

[Adams et al.; JHEP 10 (2006) 014]



Staying positive

How can we use this information?



Staying positive

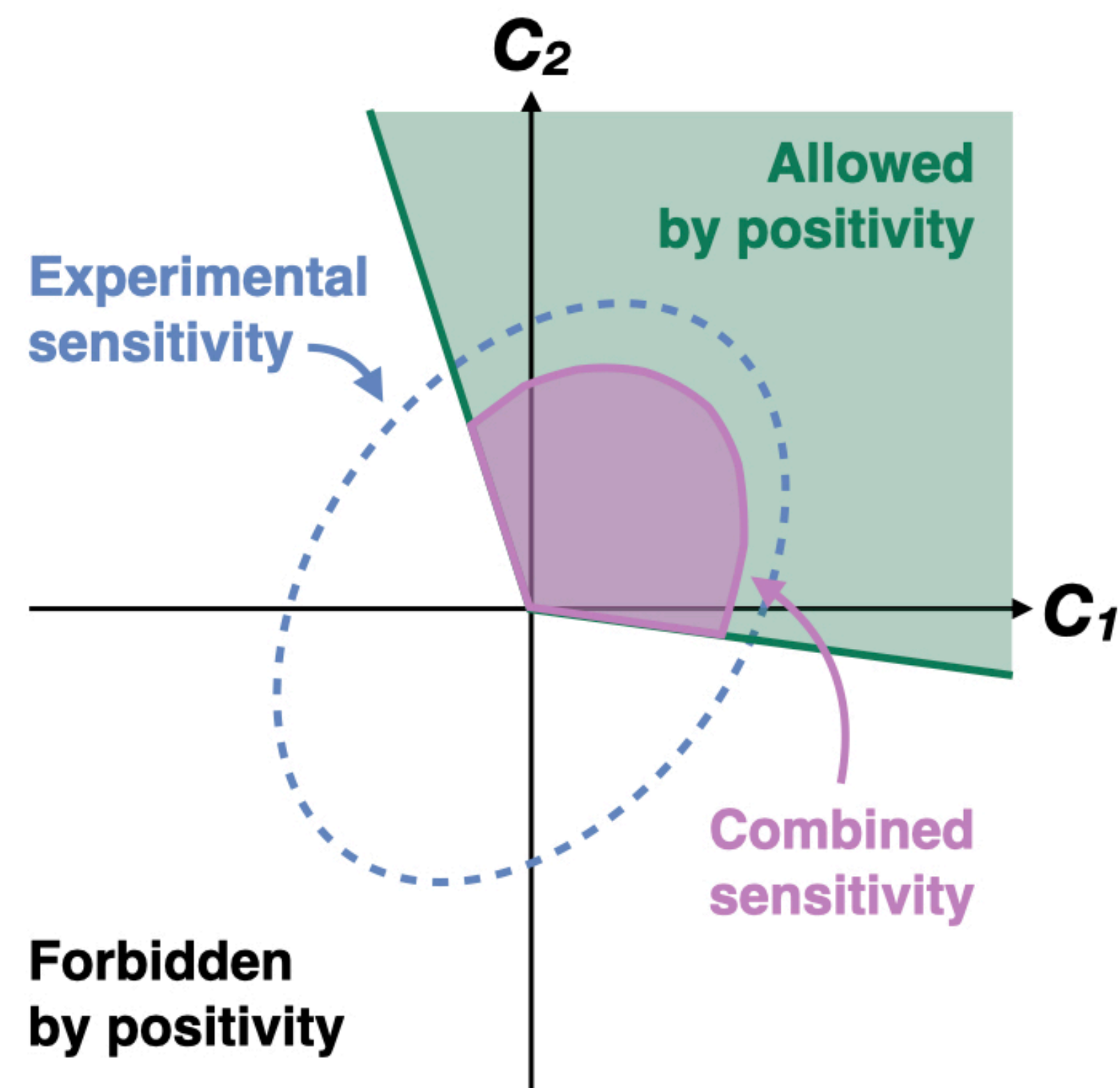
How can we use this information?

Positivity as a **theoretical prior**

$$P(C_i | \vec{x}) \propto \int_{C_i} \pi_{flat}(C_i) \cdot L(\vec{x} | C_i)$$



$$P(C_i | \vec{x}) \propto \int_{C_i} \pi_{pos.}(C_i) \cdot L(\vec{x} | C_i)$$



Staying positive

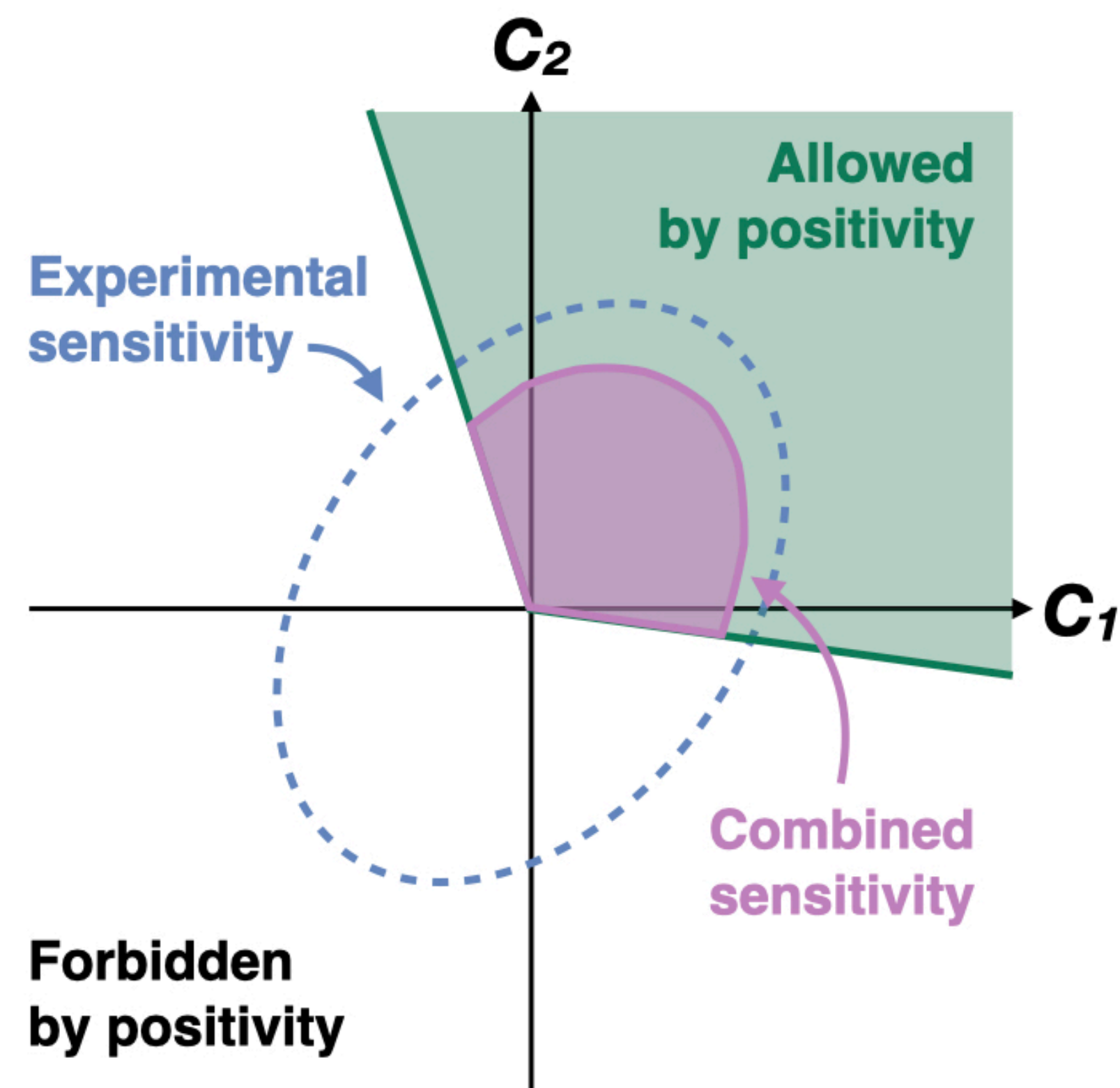
How can we use this information?

Positivity as a **theoretical prior**

$$P(C_i | \vec{x}) \propto \int_{C_i} \pi_{flat}(C_i) \cdot L(\vec{x} | C_i)$$



$$P(C_i | \vec{x}) \propto \int_{C_i} \pi_{pos.}(C_i) \cdot L(\vec{x} | C_i)$$



Search for **positivity violation**

“Test fundamental principles of QFT in the UV”



Staying positive

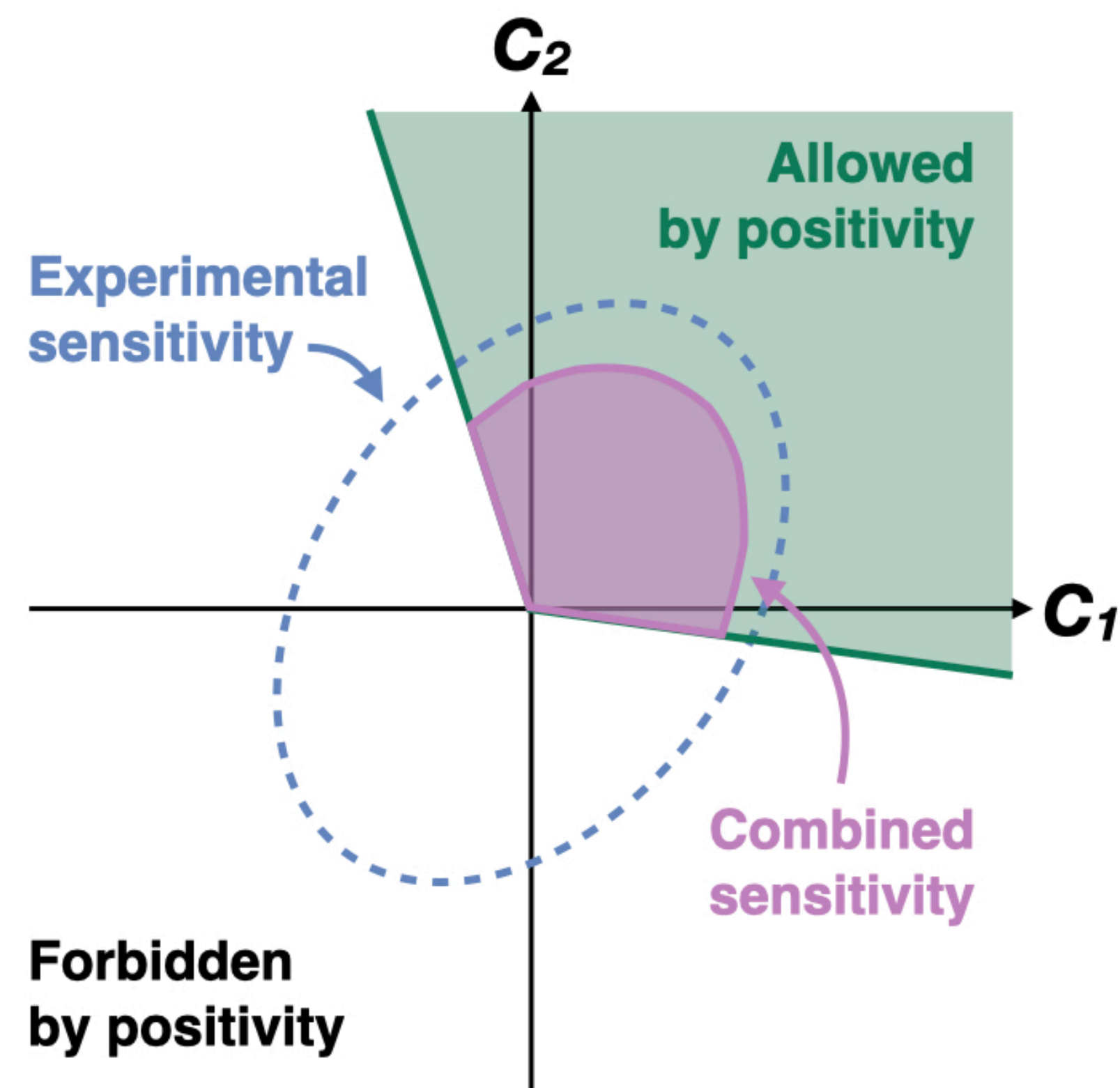
How can we use this information?

Positivity as a **theoretical prior**

$$P(C_i | \vec{x}) \propto \int_{C_i} \pi_{flat}(C_i) \cdot L(\vec{x} | C_i)$$



$$P(C_i | \vec{x}) \propto \int_{C_i} \pi_{pos.}(C_i) \cdot L(\vec{x} | C_i)$$



Search for **positivity violation**

“Test fundamental principles of QFT in the UV”

- What kind of exotic UV theory?
- Something revolutionary!



Staying positive

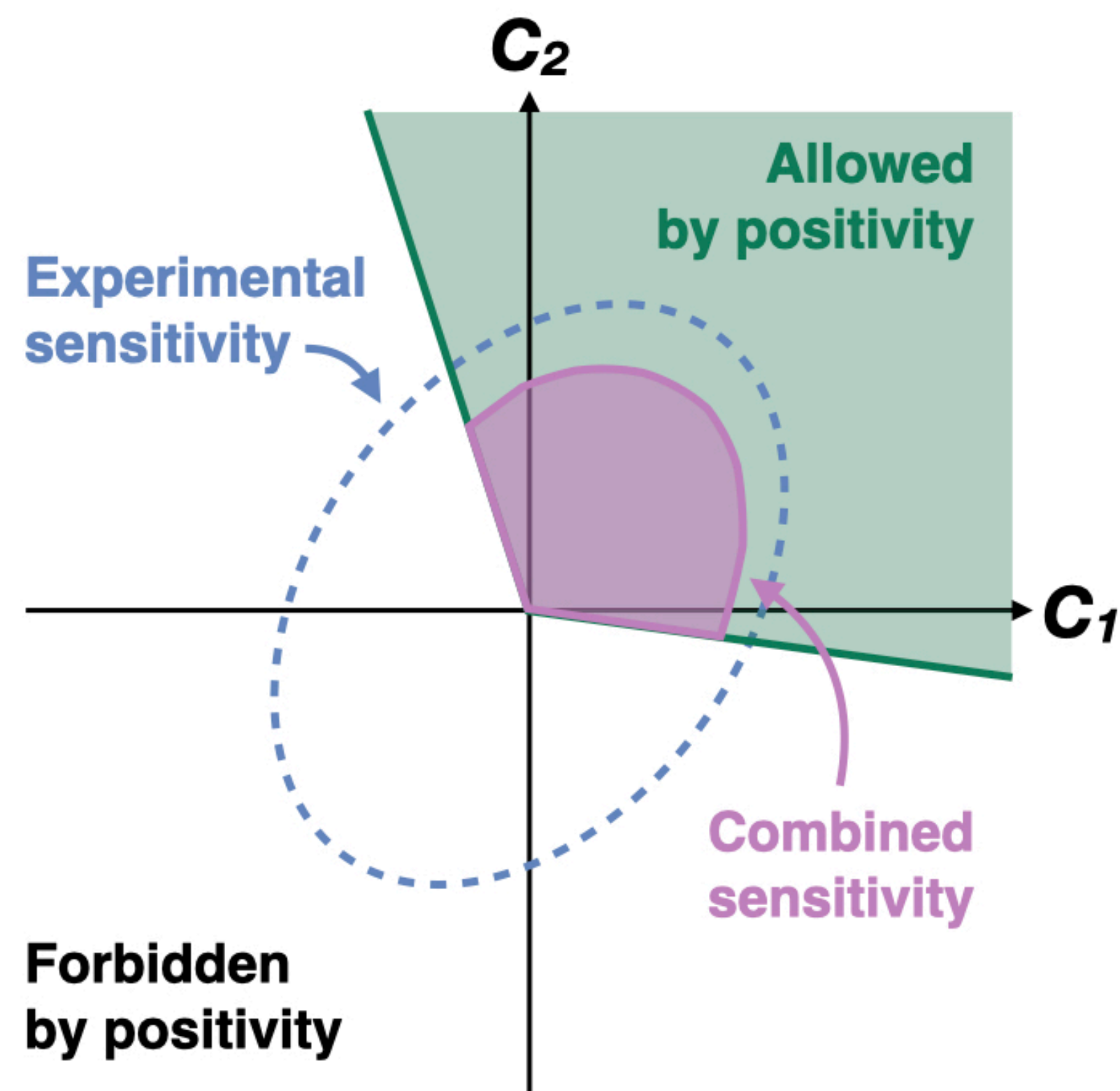
How can we use this information?

Positivity as a **theoretical prior**

$$P(C_i | \vec{x}) \propto \int_{C_i} \pi_{flat}(C_i) \cdot L(\vec{x} | C_i)$$



$$P(C_i | \vec{x}) \propto \int_{C_i} \pi_{pos.}(C_i) \cdot L(\vec{x} | C_i)$$



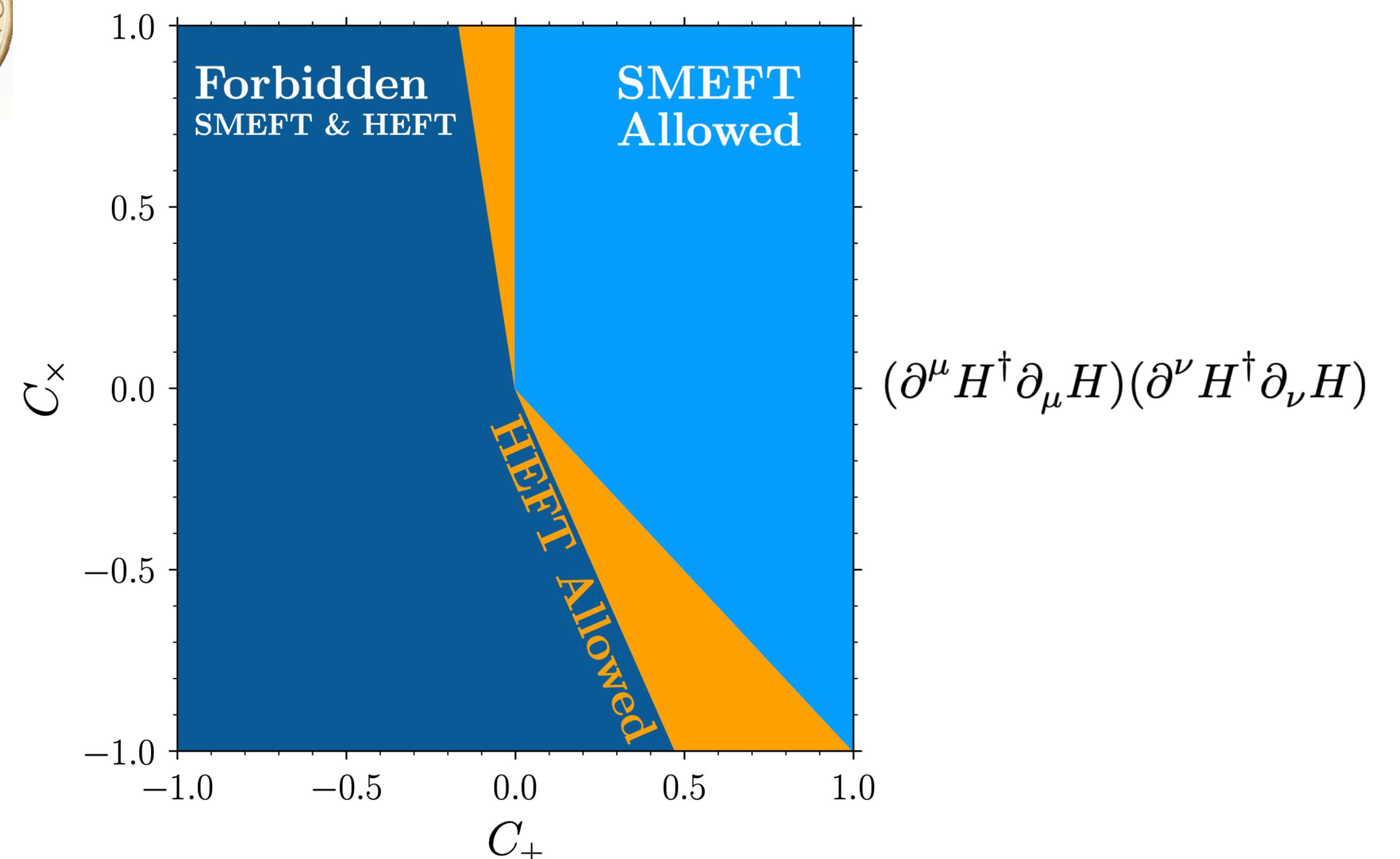
Search for **positivity violation**

“Test fundamental principles of QFT in the UV”

- What kind of exotic UV theory?
- Something revolutionary!
- More down to earth: **HEFT vs SMEFT**

[Remmen & Rodd; 2412.07827]

$$(\partial_{(\mu} H^\dagger \partial_{\nu)} H)(\partial^{(\mu} H^\dagger \partial^{\nu)} H)$$



Probing positivity

$$\frac{d^2 M_{ijij}(0)}{ds^2} \Rightarrow M(s) \sim \frac{s^{2+n}}{\Lambda^{4+2n}} \Rightarrow$$

Dimension-8 operators
 $(\partial\phi)^4$

$$\sum_i b_i C_i^{(8)} \geq 0$$

Probing positivity

$$\sum_i b_i C_i^{(8)} \geq 0$$

$$\frac{d^2 M_{ijij}(0)}{ds^2} \Rightarrow M(s) \sim \frac{s^{2+n}}{\Lambda^{4+2n}} \Rightarrow$$

Dimension-8 operators
 $(\partial\phi)^4$

e.g. $e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-$ at future colliders

[Fuks et al.; 2009.02212]

$$O_{ee} = (\bar{e}\gamma^\mu e) (\bar{e}\gamma_\mu e),$$

Dim-6

$$O_{el} = (\bar{e}\gamma^\mu e) (\bar{l}\gamma_\mu l),$$

$$O_{ll} = (\bar{l}\gamma^\mu l) (\bar{l}\gamma_\mu l),$$

$$O_1 = \partial^\alpha (\bar{e}\gamma^\mu e) \partial_\alpha (\bar{e}\gamma_\mu e),$$

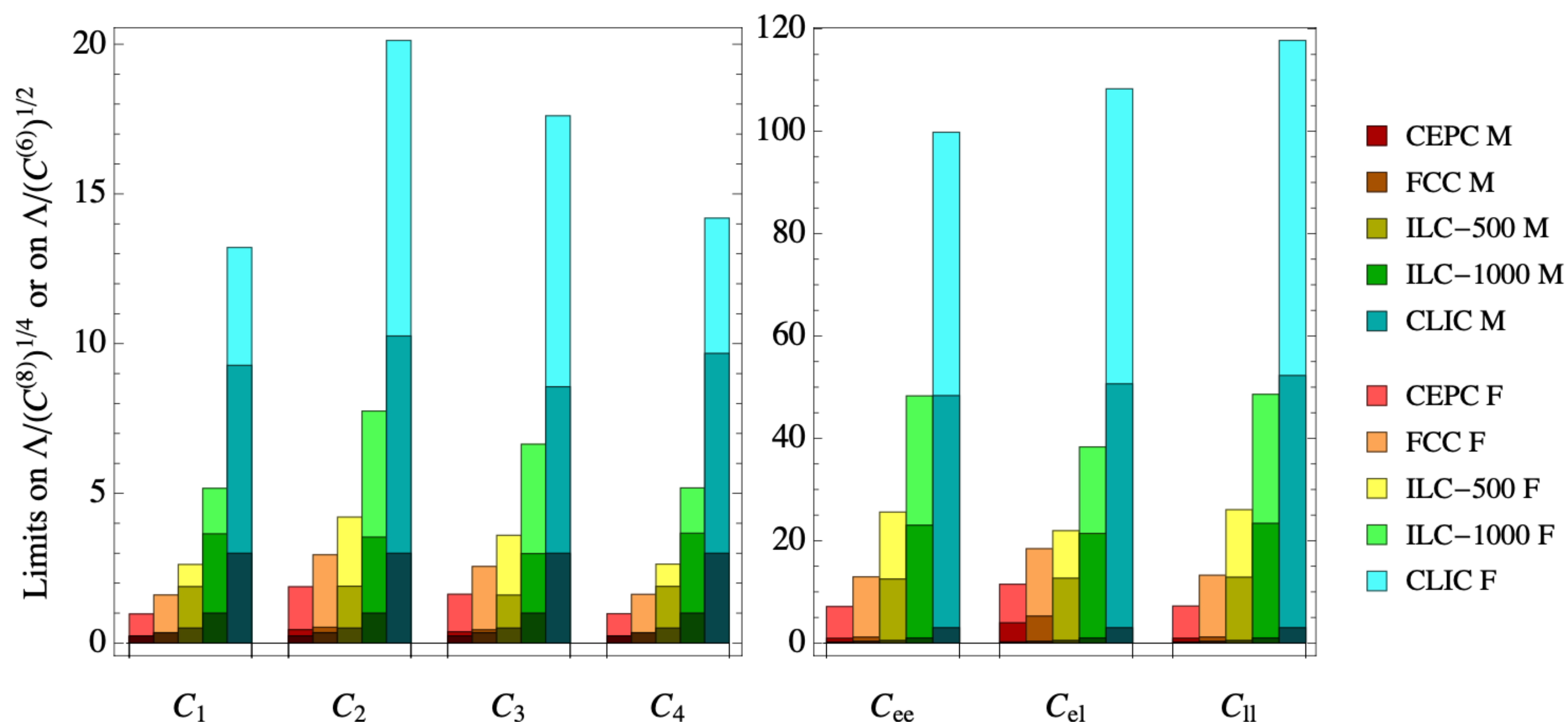
$$O_2 = \partial^\alpha (\bar{e}\gamma^\mu e) \partial_\alpha (\bar{l}\gamma_\mu l),$$

Dim-8

$$O_3 = D^\alpha (\bar{e}l) D_\alpha (\bar{l}e),$$

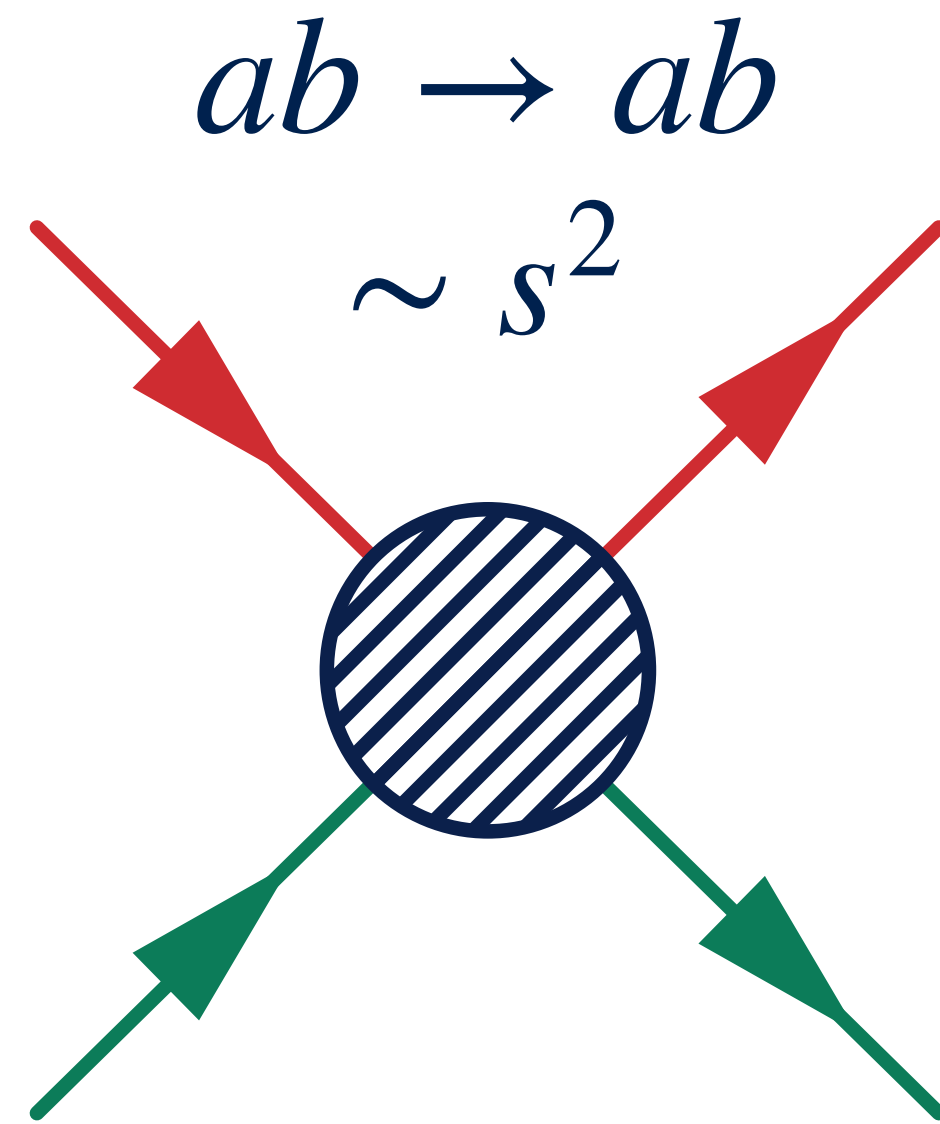
$$O_4 = \partial^\alpha (\bar{l}\gamma^\mu l) \partial_\alpha (\bar{l}\gamma_\mu l),$$

$$O_5 = D^\alpha (\bar{l}\gamma^\mu \tau^I l) D_\alpha (\bar{l}\gamma_\mu \tau^I l),$$



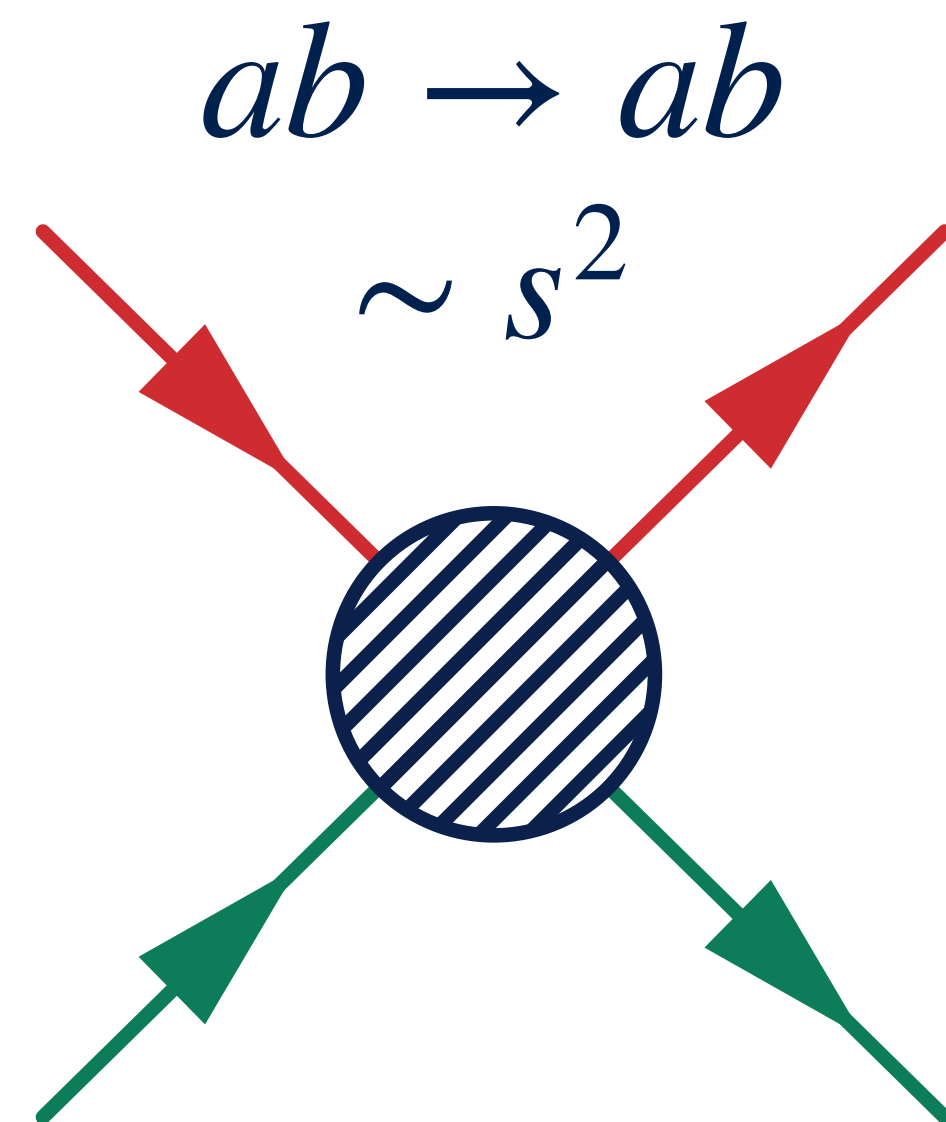
Angular distributions

**positivity bounds
on elastic scattering**

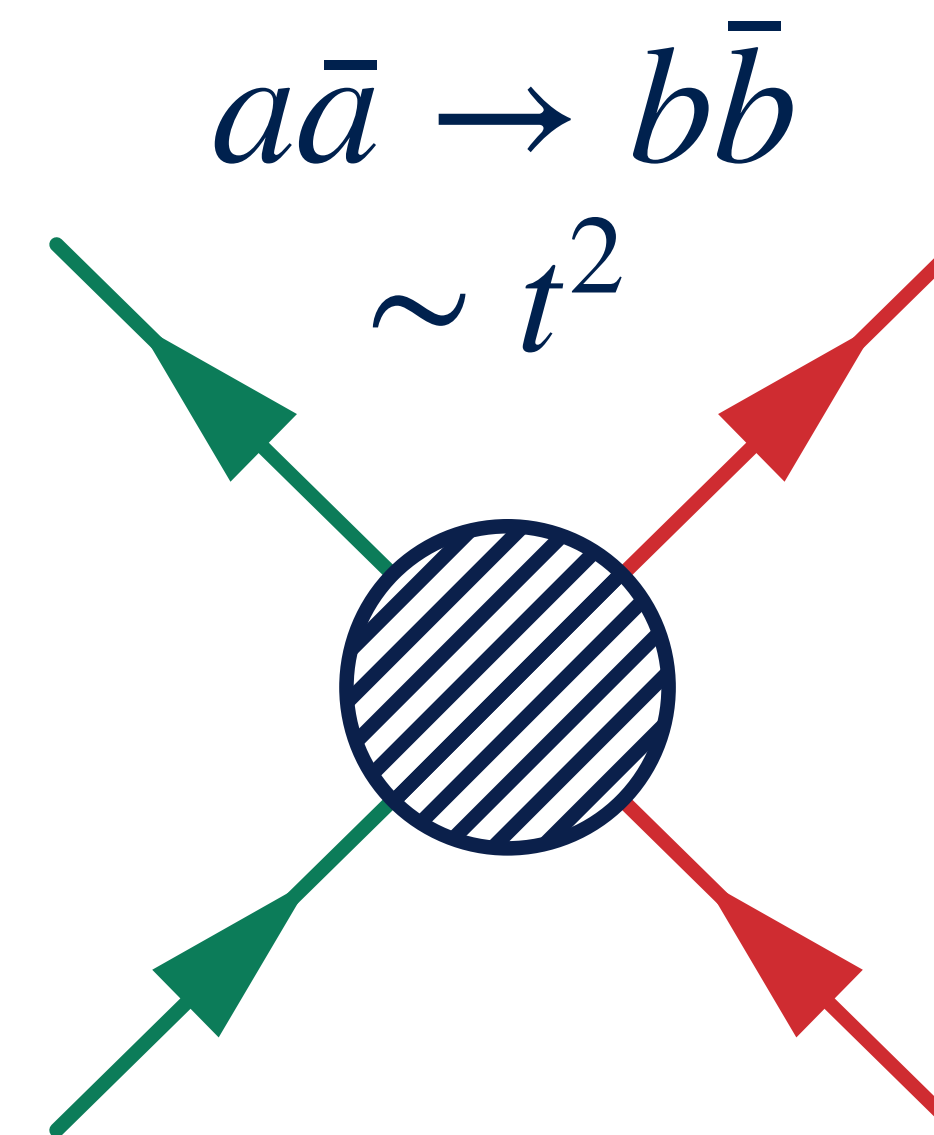


Angular distributions

**positivity bounds
on elastic scattering**



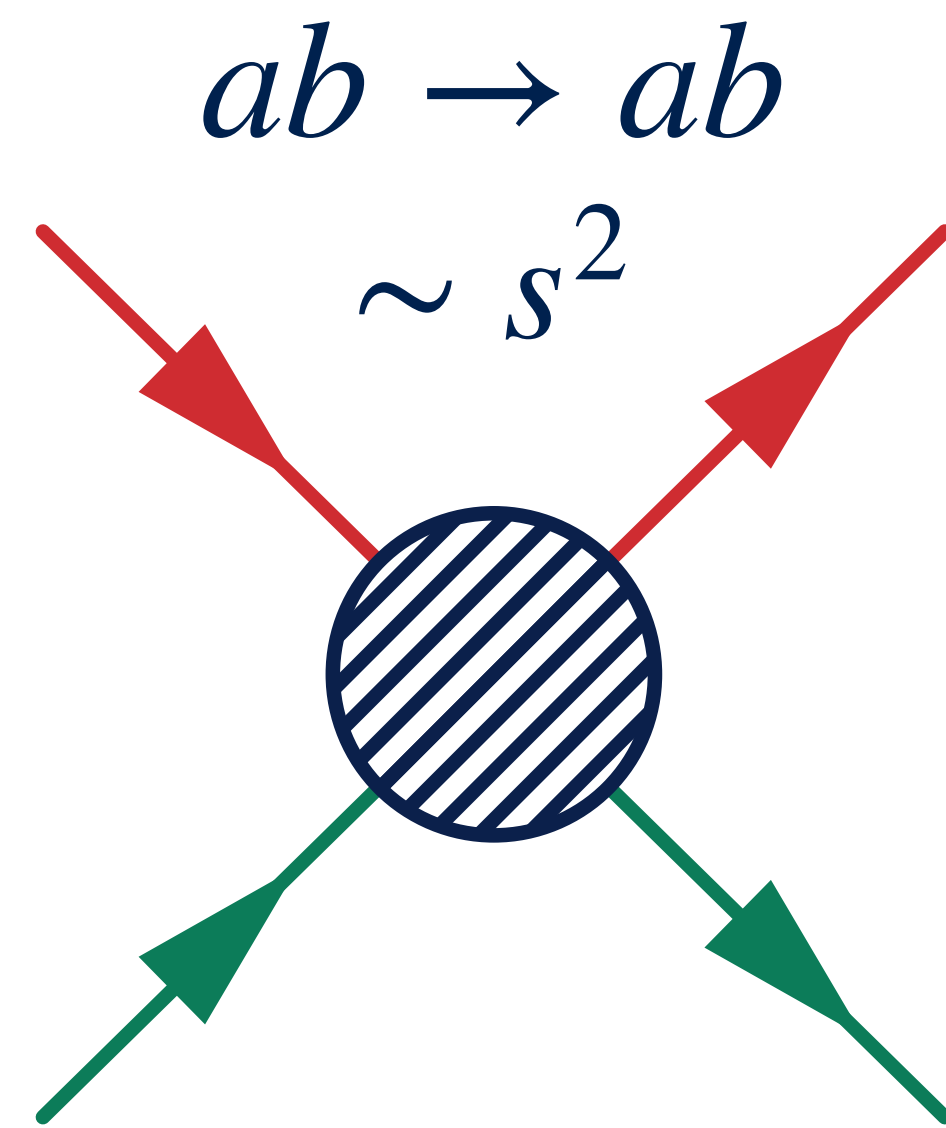
*crossing
symmetry*



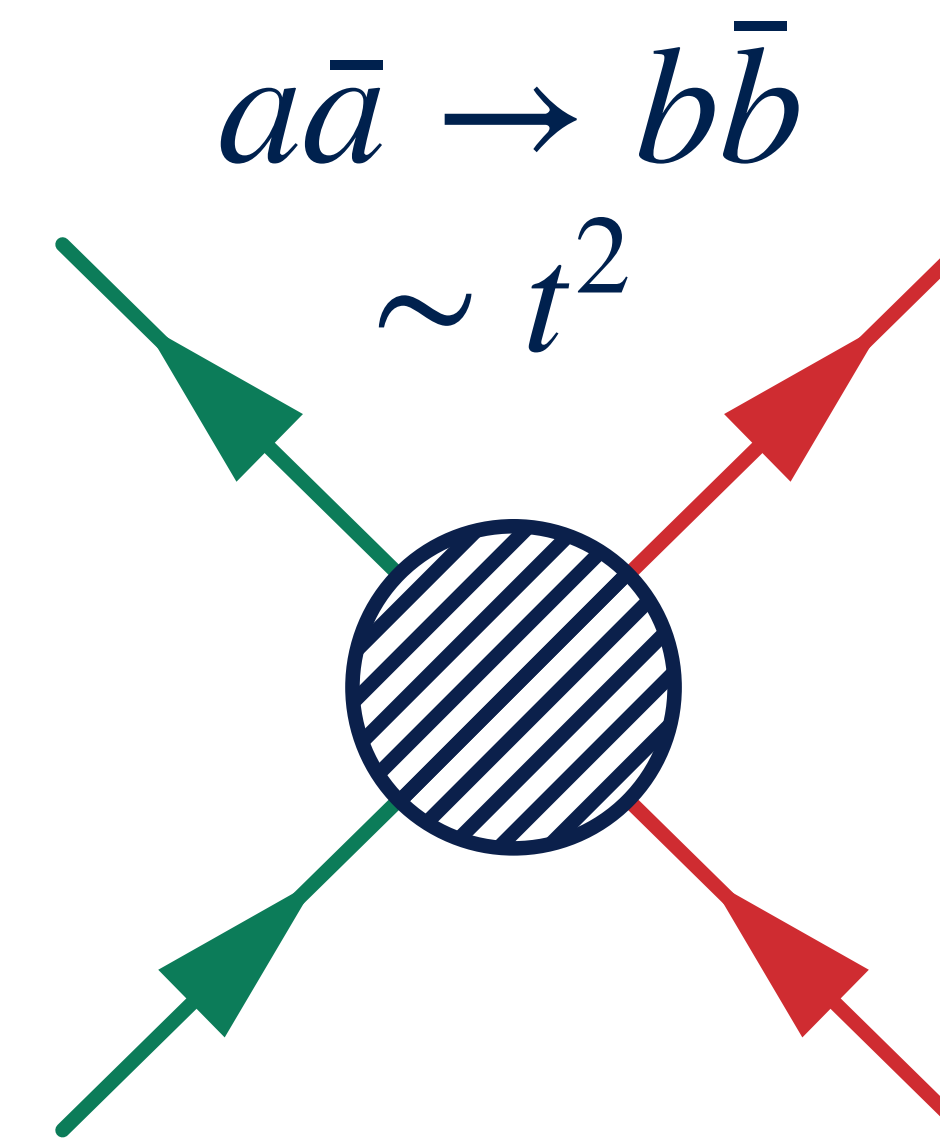
**New angular
dependence**

Angular distributions

positivity bounds
on elastic scattering



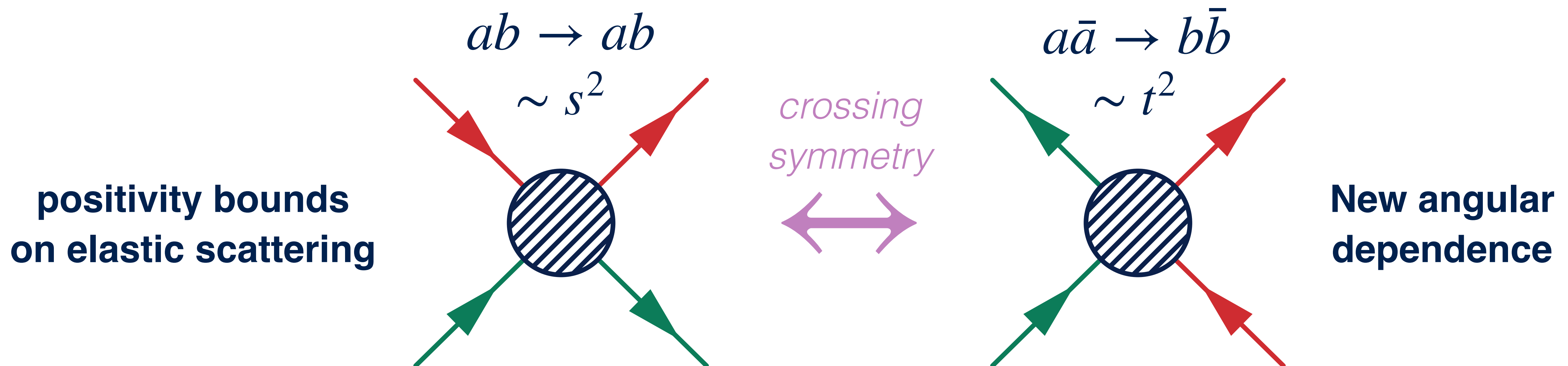
crossing
symmetry



New angular
dependence

e.g. Drell-Yan: $q\ell^+ \rightarrow q\ell^+ \leftrightarrow q\bar{q} \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^-$

Angular distributions



e.g. Drell-Yan: $q\ell^+ \rightarrow q\ell^+ \leftrightarrow q\bar{q} \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^-$

$$\frac{d\sigma_{pp \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^-}}{dm_{\ell\ell} d\eta_{\ell\ell} d\Omega_{\ell}} = \frac{3}{16\pi} \frac{d\sigma_{pp \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^-}}{dm_{\ell\ell} d\eta_{\ell\ell}} \left[(1 + c_\theta^2) + \frac{\tilde{A}_0}{2} (1 - 3c_\theta^2) + \tilde{A}_1 s_{2\theta} c_\phi \right.$$

$$\left. + \frac{\tilde{A}_2}{2} s_\theta^2 c_{2\phi} + \tilde{A}_3 s_\theta c_\phi + \tilde{A}_4 c_\theta + \tilde{A}_5 s_\theta^2 s_{2\phi} + \tilde{A}_6 s_{2\theta} s_\phi + \tilde{A}_7 s_\theta s_\phi \right]$$

l ≤ 2 angular moments

- SM: Spin-1 photon & Z-boson $\rightarrow l \leq 2$ angular dependence
- LO is ϕ symmetric: $\tilde{A}_{1,4} \neq 0$, NLO: $\tilde{A}_{1-7} \neq 0$

Angular distributions

Higher moments: dim-8 only (SM & dim-6 contributions are 0)

Angular distributions

Higher moments: dim-8 only (SM & dim-6 contributions are 0)

$$\frac{d\sigma_{pp \rightarrow l+l^-}}{dm_{\ell\ell} d\eta_{\ell\ell} d\Omega_{\ell}} = \frac{3}{16\pi} \frac{d\sigma_{pp \rightarrow l+l^-}}{dm_{\ell\ell} d\eta_{\ell\ell}} \left[(1 + c_{\theta}^2) + \frac{\tilde{A}_0}{2} (1 - 3c_{\theta}^2) + \tilde{A}_1 s_{2\theta} c_{\phi} \right.$$

$$l \leq 2 \quad \left. + \frac{\tilde{A}_2}{2} s_{\theta}^2 c_{2\phi} + \tilde{A}_3 s_{\theta} c_{\phi} + \tilde{A}_4 c_{\theta} + \tilde{A}_5 s_{\theta}^2 s_{2\phi} + \tilde{A}_6 s_{2\theta} s_{\phi} + \tilde{A}_7 s_{\theta} s_{\phi} \right.$$

$$l = 3 \quad \left. + \frac{\tilde{B}_1^e}{2} s_{\theta} (5c_{\theta}^2 - 1) c_{\phi} + \frac{\tilde{B}_1^o}{2} s_{\theta} (5c_{\theta}^2 - 1) s_{\phi} + \frac{\tilde{B}_0}{2} (5c_{\theta}^3 - 3c_{\theta}) \right.$$

$$+ \tilde{B}_3^e s_{\theta}^3 c_{3\phi} + \tilde{B}_3^o s_{\theta}^3 s_{3\phi} + \tilde{B}_2^e s_{\theta}^2 c_{\theta} c_{2\phi} + \tilde{B}_2^o s_{\theta}^2 c_{\theta} s_{2\phi}$$

$$+ \tilde{D}_4^e s_{\theta}^4 c_{4\phi} + \tilde{D}_4^o s_{\theta}^4 s_{4\phi} + \tilde{D}_3^e s_{\theta}^3 c_{\theta} c_{3\phi} + \tilde{D}_3^o s_{\theta}^3 c_{\theta} s_{3\phi}$$

$$l = 4 \quad \left. + \tilde{D}_2^e s_{\theta}^2 (7c_{\theta}^2 - 1) c_{2\phi} + \tilde{D}_2^o s_{\theta}^2 (7c_{\theta}^2 - 1) s_{2\phi} + \tilde{D}_1^e s_{\theta} (7c_{\theta}^3 - 3c_{\theta}) c_{\phi} \right.$$

$$\left. + \tilde{D}_1^o s_{\theta} (7c_{\theta}^3 - 3c_{\theta}) s_{\phi} + \frac{\tilde{D}_0}{2} (35c_{\theta}^4 - 30c_{\theta}^2 + 3) \right]$$

Angular distributions

Higher moments: dim-8 only (SM & dim-6 contributions are 0)

$$\frac{d\sigma_{pp \rightarrow l+l^-}}{dm_{\ell\ell} d\eta_{\ell\ell} d\Omega_{\ell}} = \frac{3}{16\pi} \frac{d\sigma_{pp \rightarrow l+l^-}}{dm_{\ell\ell} d\eta_{\ell\ell}} \left[(1 + c_{\theta}^2) + \frac{\tilde{A}_0}{2} (1 - 3c_{\theta}^2) + \tilde{A}_1 s_{2\theta} c_{\phi} \right.$$

$$l \leq 2 \quad \left. + \frac{\tilde{A}_2}{2} s_{\theta}^2 c_{2\phi} + \tilde{A}_3 s_{\theta} c_{\phi} + \tilde{A}_4 c_{\theta} + \tilde{A}_5 s_{\theta}^2 s_{2\phi} + \tilde{A}_6 s_{2\theta} s_{\phi} + \tilde{A}_7 s_{\theta} s_{\phi} \right.$$

$$l = 3 \quad \left. + \frac{\tilde{B}_1^e}{2} s_{\theta} (5c_{\theta}^2 - 1) c_{\phi} + \frac{\tilde{B}_1^o}{2} s_{\theta} (5c_{\theta}^2 - 1) s_{\phi} + \frac{\tilde{B}_0}{2} (5c_{\theta}^3 - 3c_{\theta}) \right.$$

$$\quad \left. + \tilde{B}_3^e s_{\theta}^3 c_{3\phi} + \tilde{B}_3^o s_{\theta}^3 s_{3\phi} + \tilde{B}_2^e s_{\theta}^2 c_{\theta} c_{2\phi} + \tilde{B}_2^o s_{\theta}^2 c_{\theta} s_{2\phi} \right.$$

$$\quad \left. + \tilde{D}_4^e s_{\theta}^4 c_{4\phi} + \tilde{D}_4^o s_{\theta}^4 s_{4\phi} + \tilde{D}_3^e s_{\theta}^3 c_{\theta} c_{3\phi} + \tilde{D}_3^o s_{\theta}^3 c_{\theta} s_{3\phi} \right.$$

$$l = 4 \quad \left. + \tilde{D}_2^e s_{\theta}^2 (7c_{\theta}^2 - 1) c_{2\phi} + \tilde{D}_2^o s_{\theta}^2 (7c_{\theta}^2 - 1) s_{2\phi} + \tilde{D}_1^e s_{\theta} (7c_{\theta}^3 - 3c_{\theta}) c_{\phi} \right.$$

$$\quad \left. + \tilde{D}_1^o s_{\theta} (7c_{\theta}^3 - 3c_{\theta}) s_{\phi} + \frac{\tilde{D}_0}{2} (35c_{\theta}^4 - 30c_{\theta}^2 + 3) \right]$$

Use $(\tilde{B}_0, \tilde{D}_0)$ to constrain the space of dim-8 WCs

$$O_{8,lq\partial 3} = (\bar{\ell} \gamma_{\mu} \overleftrightarrow{D}_{\nu} \ell) (\bar{q} \gamma^{\mu} \overleftrightarrow{D}^{\nu} q)$$

$$O_{8,ed\partial 2} = (\bar{e} \gamma_{\mu} \overleftrightarrow{D}_{\nu} e) (\bar{d} \gamma^{\mu} \overleftrightarrow{D}^{\nu} d)$$

$$O_{8,lq\partial 4} = (\bar{\ell} \tau^I \gamma_{\mu} \overleftrightarrow{D}_{\nu} \ell) (\bar{q} \tau^I \gamma^{\mu} \overleftrightarrow{D}^{\nu} q)$$

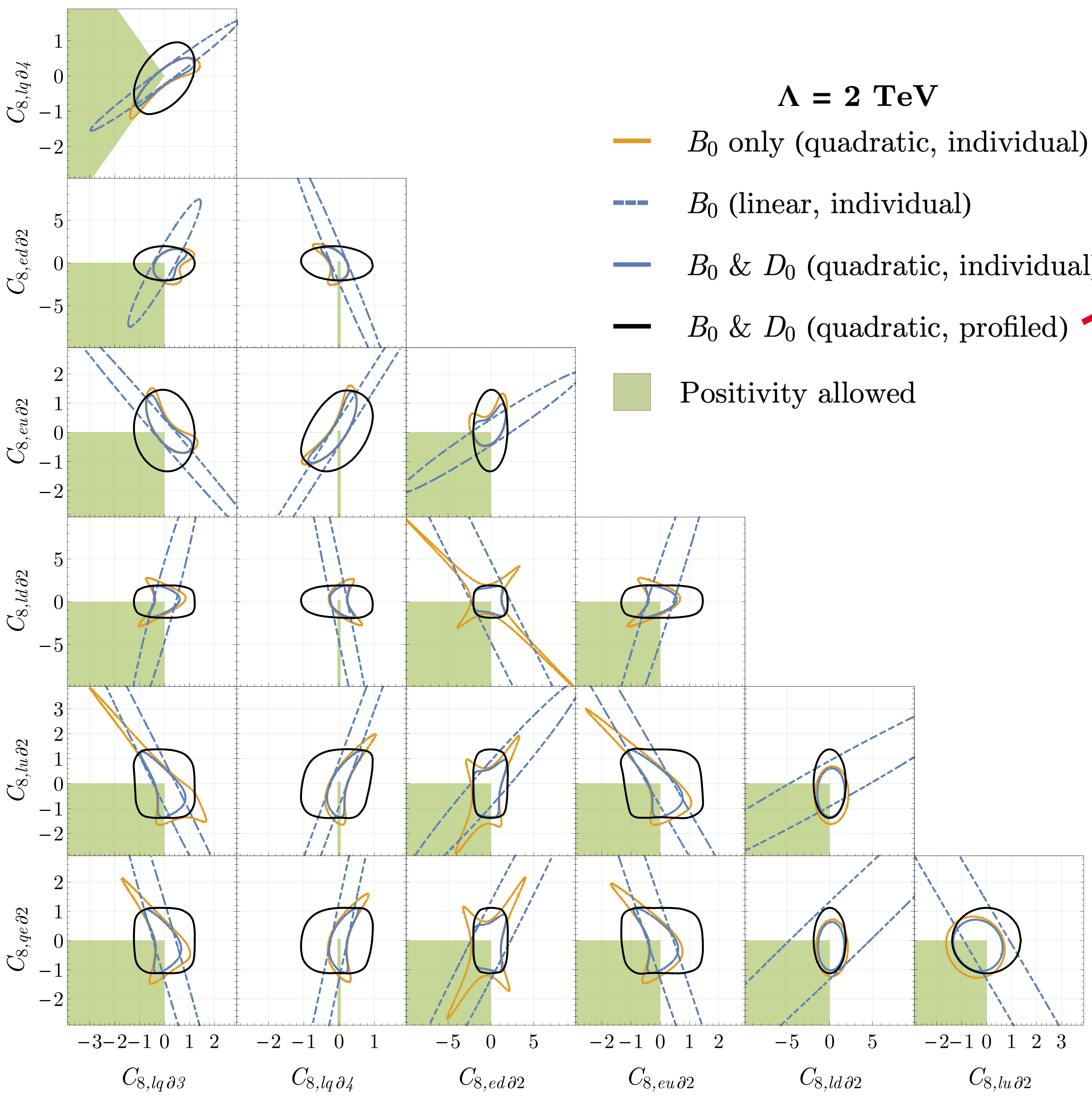
$$O_{8,eu\partial 2} = (\bar{e} \gamma_{\mu} \overleftrightarrow{D}_{\nu} e) (\bar{u} \gamma^{\mu} \overleftrightarrow{D}^{\nu} u)$$

$$O_{8,ld\partial 2} = (\bar{\ell} \gamma_{\mu} \overleftrightarrow{D}_{\nu} \ell) (\bar{d} \gamma^{\mu} \overleftrightarrow{D}^{\nu} d)$$

$$O_{8,qe\partial 2} = (\bar{e} \gamma_{\mu} \overleftrightarrow{D}_{\nu} e) (\bar{q} \gamma^{\mu} \overleftrightarrow{D}^{\nu} q)$$

$$O_{8,lu\partial 2} = (\bar{\ell} \gamma_{\mu} \overleftrightarrow{D}_{\nu} \ell) (\bar{u} \gamma^{\mu} \overleftrightarrow{D}^{\nu} u)$$

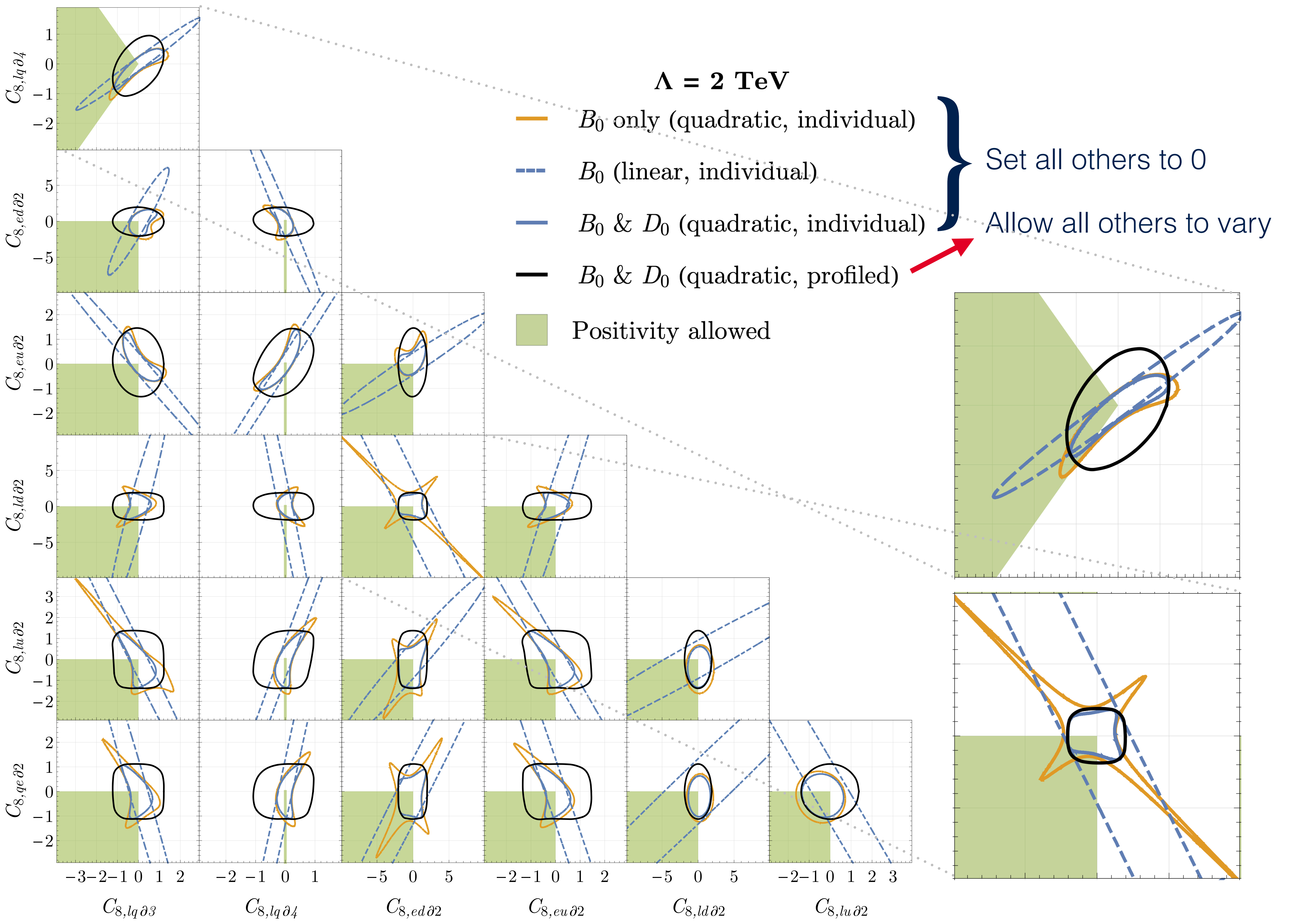
$\Lambda = 2 \text{ TeV}$



- B_0 only (quadratic, individual)
- - - B_0 (linear, individual)
- B_0 & D_0 (quadratic, individual)
- B_0 & D_0 (quadratic, profiled)
- Positivity allowed

} Set all others to 0
 Allow all others to vary

$\Lambda = 2 \text{ TeV}$



Testing positivity

Suppose we measure our WCs to be \vec{C}_0

Testing positivity

Suppose we measure our WCs to be \vec{C}_0

Define “distance” from region allowed by elastic positivity

$$-\Delta^{-4} \equiv \min \left[\min_{\text{processes}} \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 M(0)}{ds^2}, 0 \right] = \frac{\delta(\vec{C}_0)}{\Lambda^4},$$

elastic ql scatterings

“most non-positive” direction

$$\delta(\vec{C}_0) \equiv \min \left[\begin{aligned} &-4C_{8,lq\partial 3} + 4C_{8,lq\partial 4}, -4C_{8,lq\partial 3} - 4C_{8,lq\partial 4}, \\ &-4C_{8,ed\partial 2}, -4C_{8,eu\partial 2}, -4C_{8,ld\partial 2}, \\ &-4C_{8,lu\partial 2}, -4C_{8,qe\partial 2}, 0 \end{aligned} \right]$$

Testing positivity

Suppose we measure our WCs to be \vec{C}_0

Define “distance” from region allowed by elastic positivity

$$-\Delta^{-4} \equiv \min \left[\min_{\text{processes}} \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 M(0)}{ds^2}, 0 \right] = \frac{\delta(\vec{C}_0)}{\Lambda^4}, \quad \delta(\vec{C}_0) \equiv \min \left[\begin{array}{l} -4C_{8,lq\partial 3} + 4C_{8,lq\partial 4}, -4C_{8,lq\partial 3} - 4C_{8,lq\partial 4}, \\ -4C_{8,ed\partial 2}, -4C_{8,eu\partial 2}, -4C_{8,ld\partial 2}, \\ -4C_{8,lu\partial 2}, -4C_{8,qe\partial 2}, 0 \end{array} \right]$$

elastic ql scatterings “most non-positive” direction

Associate a scale, Δ , to positivity violation

Satisfied: $\Delta = \infty$

Violated: $\Delta = \frac{\Lambda}{\sqrt[4]{\delta C_{\min.}}}$

Testing positivity

Suppose we measure our WCs to be \vec{C}_0

Define “distance” from region allowed by elastic positivity

$$-\Delta^{-4} \equiv \min \left[\min_{\text{processes}} \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 M(0)}{ds^2}, 0 \right] = \frac{\delta(\vec{C}_0)}{\Lambda^4}, \quad \delta(\vec{C}_0) \equiv \min \left[\begin{aligned} &-4C_{8,lq\partial 3} + 4C_{8,lq\partial 4}, -4C_{8,lq\partial 3} - 4C_{8,lq\partial 4}, \\ &-4C_{8,ed\partial 2}, -4C_{8,eu\partial 2}, -4C_{8,ld\partial 2}, \\ &-4C_{8,lu\partial 2}, -4C_{8,qe\partial 2}, 0 \end{aligned} \right]$$

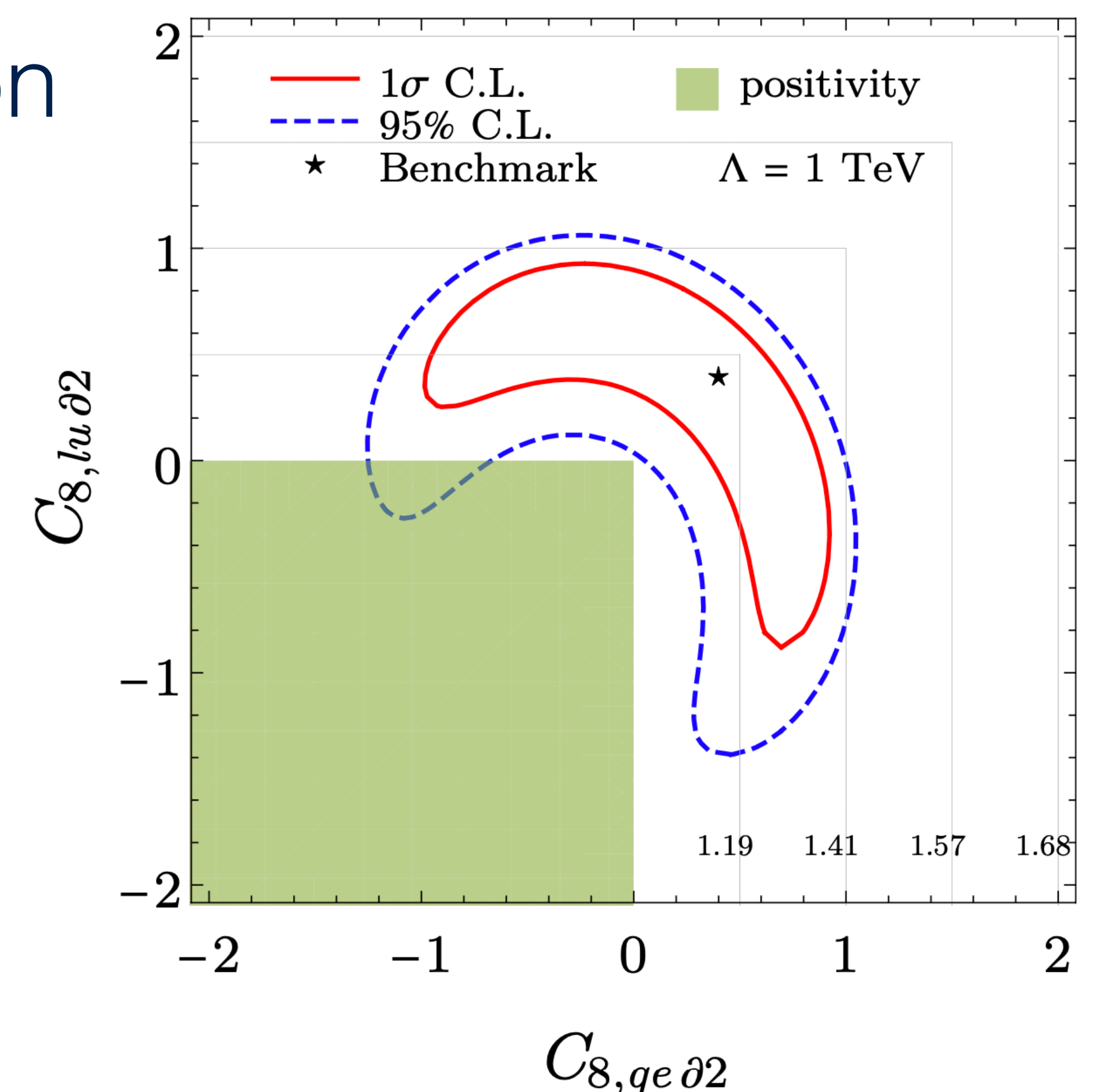
elastic ql scatterings
“most non-positive” direction

Associate a scale, Δ , to positivity violation

Satisfied: $\Delta = \infty$

Violated: $\Delta = \frac{\Lambda}{\sqrt[4]{\delta C_{\min.}}}$

This example: positivity violation measured at 1σ but not 95% C.L.

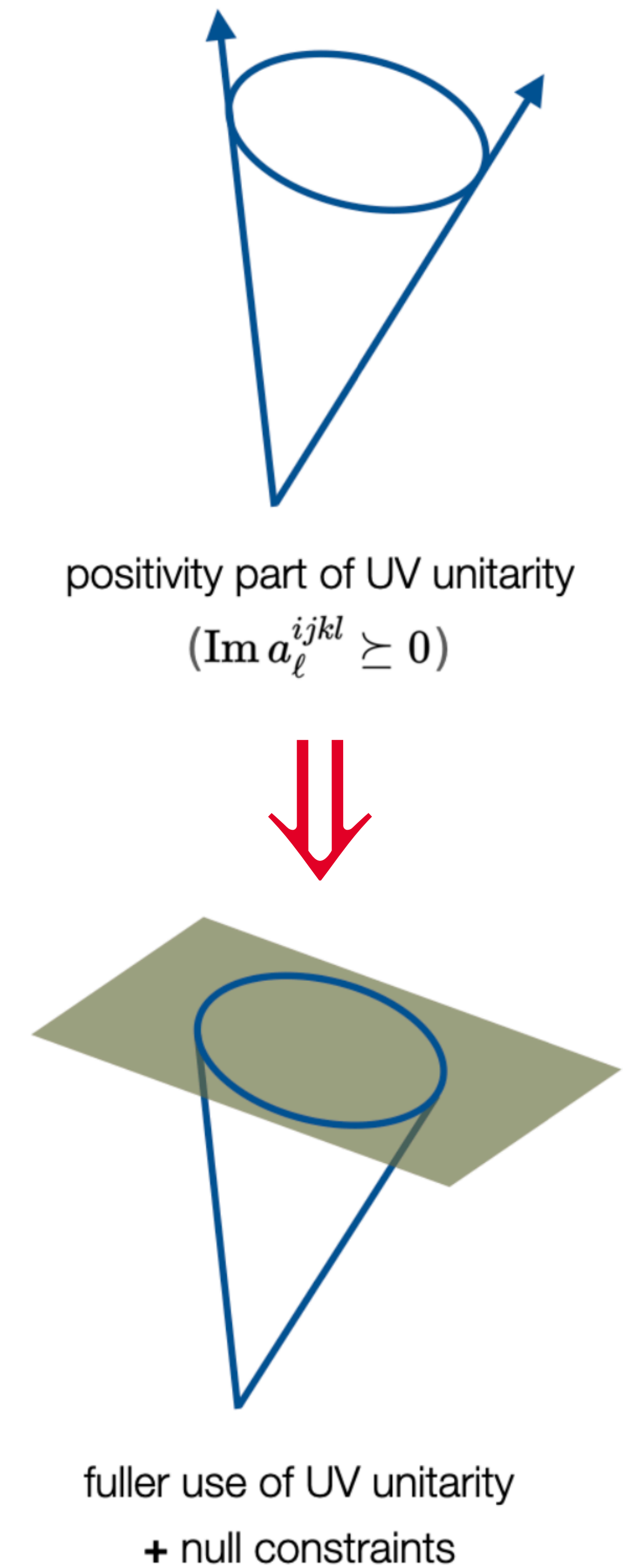
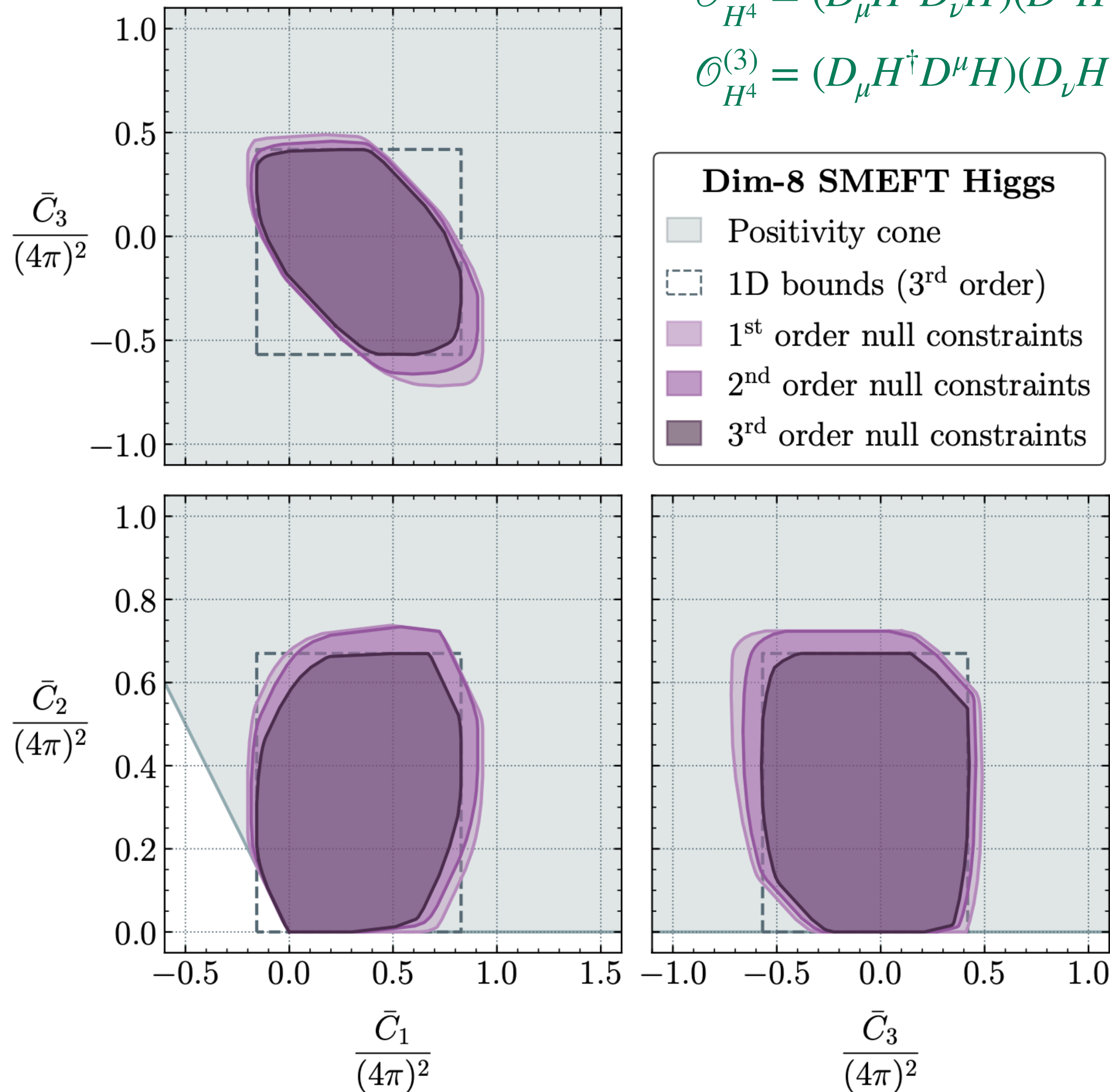


Capping the cone

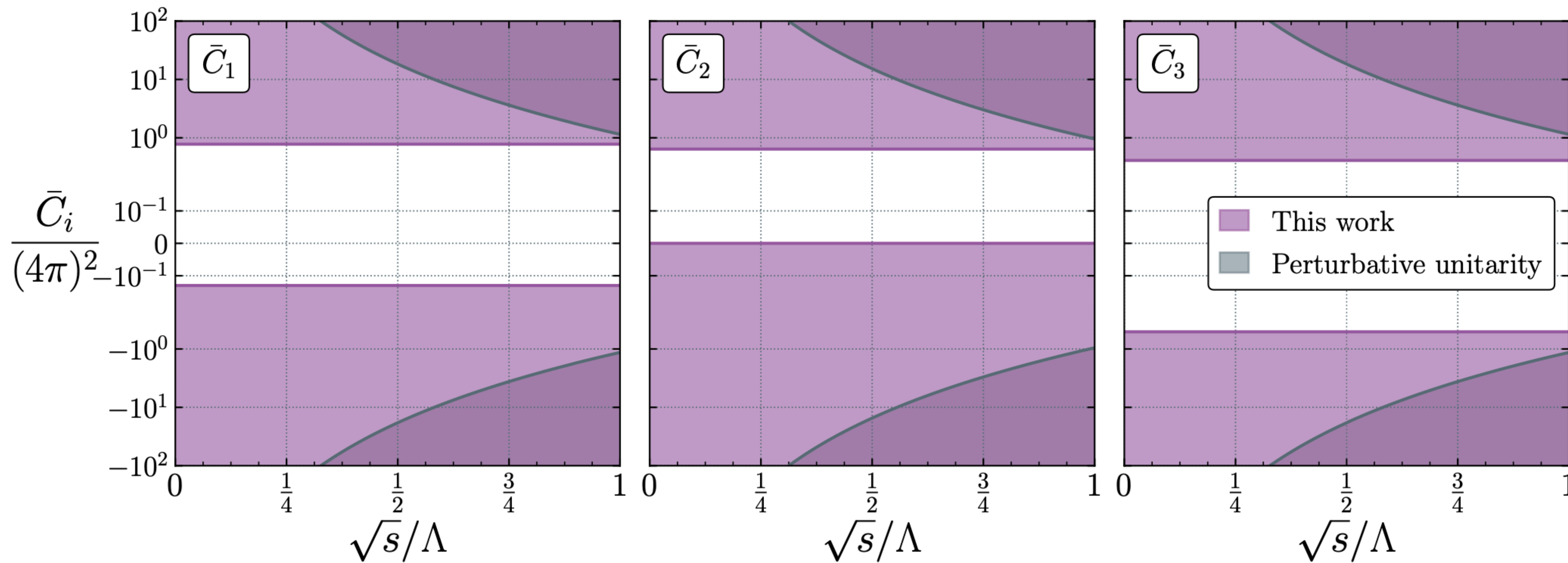
$$\mathcal{O}_{H^4}^{(1)} = (D_\mu H^\dagger D_\nu H)(D^\nu H^\dagger D^\mu H)$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{H^4}^{(2)} = (D_\mu H^\dagger D_\nu H)(D^\mu H^\dagger D^\nu H)$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{H^4}^{(3)} = (D_\mu H^\dagger D^\mu H)(D_\nu H^\dagger D^\nu H)$$



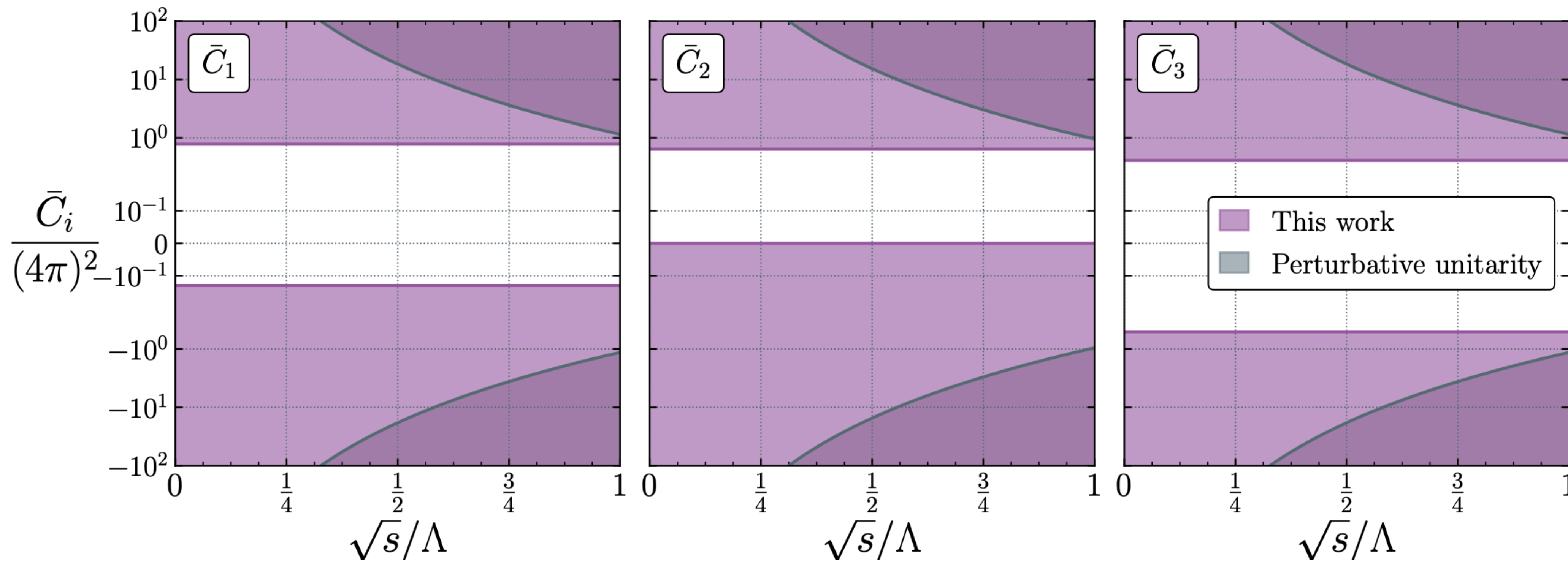
Comparisons



*Perturbative
unitarity in the EFT*

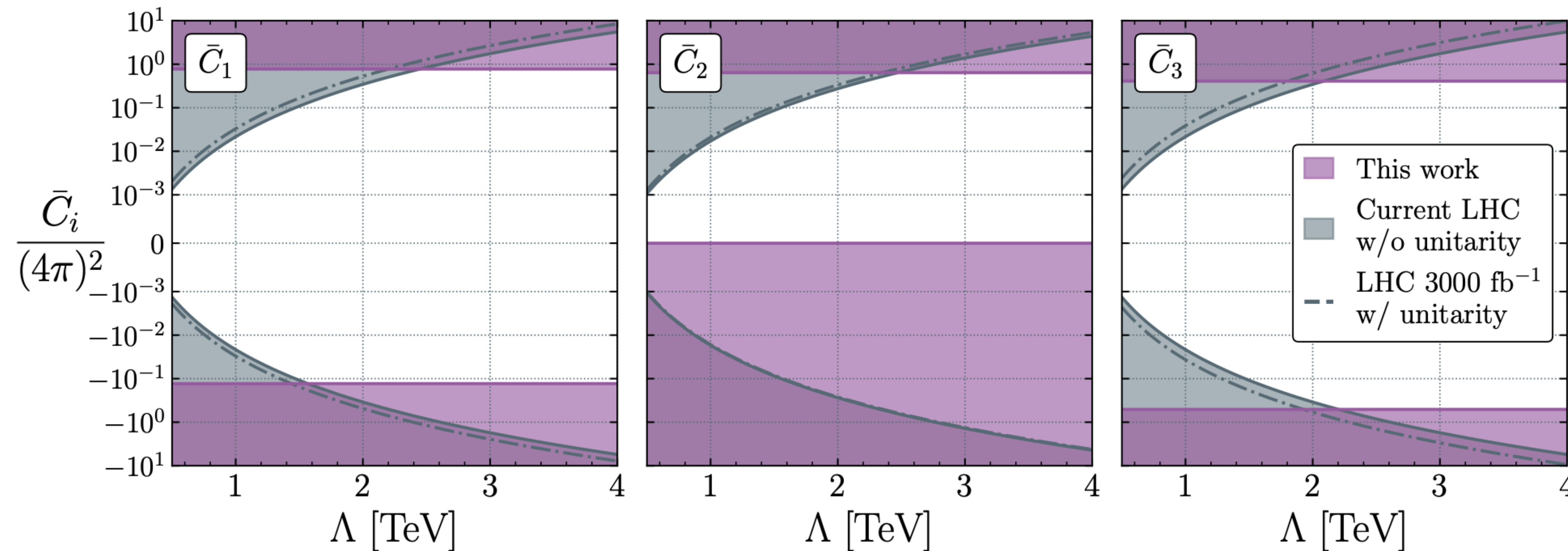
*[Almeida, Eboli &
Gonzalez-Garcia; PRD
101 (2020) 11, 113003]*

Comparisons



Perturbative unitarity in the EFT

[Almeida, Eboli & Gonzelez-Garcia; PRD 101 (2020) 11, 113003]



HL-LHC projections from VBS

[Capati et al.; JHEP 09 (2022) 038]

(See R. Covarelli's talk)

Conclusions & open questions

Positivity means that **dimension-8 is special**

- Heavy new physics must *unambiguously* show up there *“Inverse problem”*
- Important to control theory uncertainties in dim-6 EFT analyses

How best to use the information from positivity?

- Theory prior for statistical analyses \Rightarrow improved sensitivity
- Test the fundamental axioms of QFT

Devise positivity-sensitive experimental observables

- Angular distributions in $a\bar{a} \rightarrow b\bar{b}$

Future collider potential is largely unexplored

- Important part of the EFT programme beyond dim-6

Positivity, Amplitudes, and Phenomenology

7–11 Apr 2025

CERN

Europe/Zurich timezone



Overview

Participant List

Code of Conduct

Practical information

Health insurance, VISA

Accommodation

Directions to and inside CERN

Child Care

CERN map

Wi-fi Connection

TH workshop secretariat

 thworkshops.secretariat...

This CERN TH Institute, jointly hosted by the COMETA COST action, aims to connect the formal, phenomenological and experimental communities to discuss recent developments in the realm of first-principle theoretical constraints on scattering amplitudes relevant for the effective field theory (EFT) interpretation of collider data.

An overarching goal of the meeting will be to investigate concrete ways in which positivity and related constraints can connect collider and other data to fundamental properties of physics in the deep ultraviolet. Examples include the possibility of using the constraints as a prior in statistical interpretations, designing phenomenological studies to test positivity at present and future colliders, and exploring theoretical connections between positivity and outstanding problems in BSM physics.

The workshop will last 5 days (from Monday afternoon until Friday morning) and be all plenary with sessions dedicated to different sub-topics, including one day dedicated to experimental-theory exchange. The programme will be kept relatively light, with plenty of discussion time.

7-11th of April 2025

stay tuned!

Gauthier Durieux

Ilaria Brivio

Joe Davighi

Ken Mimasu

Tevong You

Tim Cohen

<https://indico.cern.ch/event/1488316/>

<https://th-dep.web.cern.ch/events/positivity-amplitudes-and-phenomenology>

Backup

+

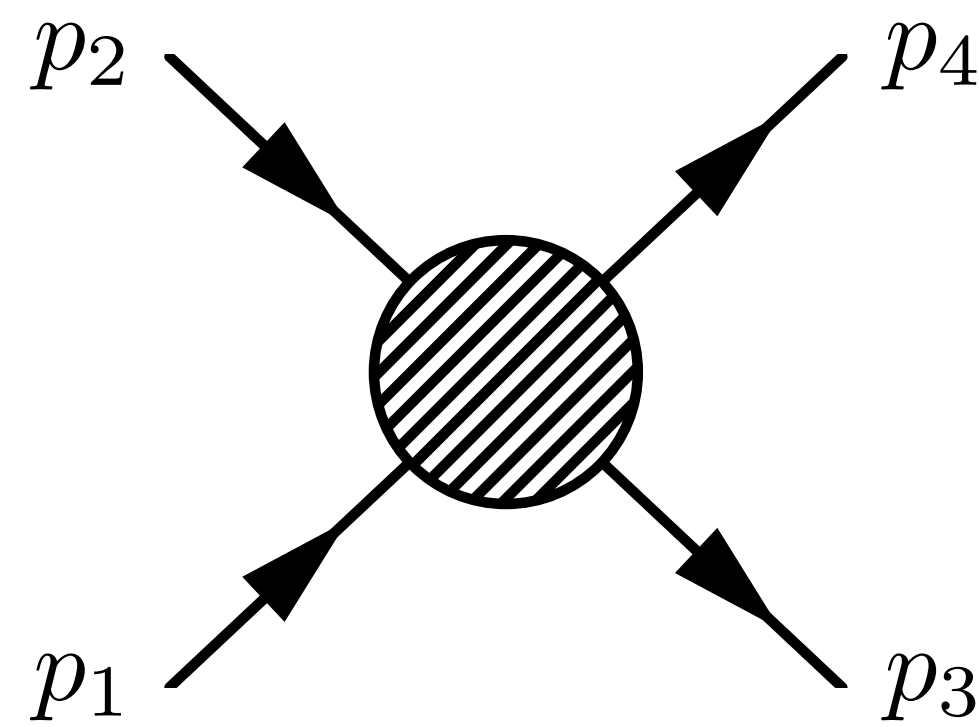


FC run parameters

[Fuks et al.; 2009.02212]

Scenario	Beam polarization $P(e^-, e^+)$	Runs (luminosity @ energy), [ab^{-1}] @ [GeV]			
		1	2	3	4
CEPC	None	2.6@161	5.6@240		
FCC-ee	None	10@161	5@240	0.2@350	1.5@365
ILC-500	(-80%, 30%)	0.9@250	0.135@350	1.6@500	
	(80%, -30%)	0.9@250	0.045@350	1.6@500	
ILC-1000	(-80%, 30%)	0.9@250	0.135@350	1.6@500	1.25@1000
	(80%, -30%)	0.9@250	0.045@350	1.6@500	1.25@1000
CLIC	(-80%, 0%)	0.5@380	2@1500	4@3000	
	(80%, 0%)	0.5@380	0.5@1500	1@3000	

New angular dependence



$\rightarrow \mathcal{A}(s, t)$

$$s = (p_1 + p_2)^2$$

$$t = (p_1 - p_3)^2$$

$$\cos \theta \sim 1 - \frac{2t}{s}$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{SM} : \text{spin-1} \rightarrow \propto \cos \theta \sim \frac{t}{s}$$

- Differential cross section $|\mathcal{A}|^2 \sim t, t^2: Y_{l \leq 2, m}$
- QCD corrections factorise, $l \leq 2$ unchanged
- Leading higher l contribution: NLL EW Sudakov

$$\sim \frac{\alpha^2}{16\pi^2} \log \frac{t}{m_W^2}$$

\mathcal{A}_{BSM} : new Lorentz structures

- Higher spin states or contact interactions (4F operators)

Dim 6 (E^2)

$$\mathcal{A} \sim s, t \Rightarrow |\mathcal{A}|^2 : l \leq 2$$

Dim 8 (E^4)

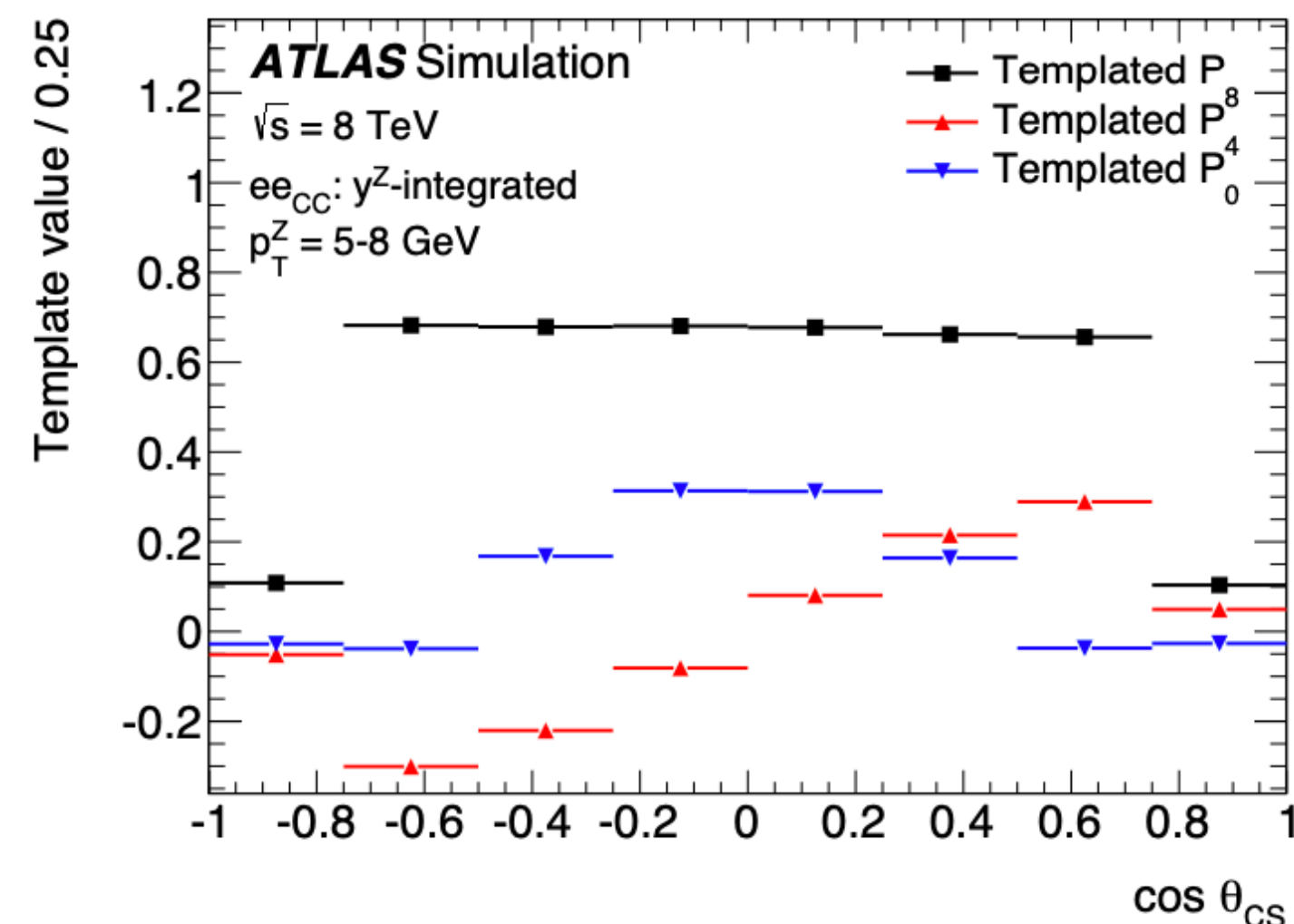
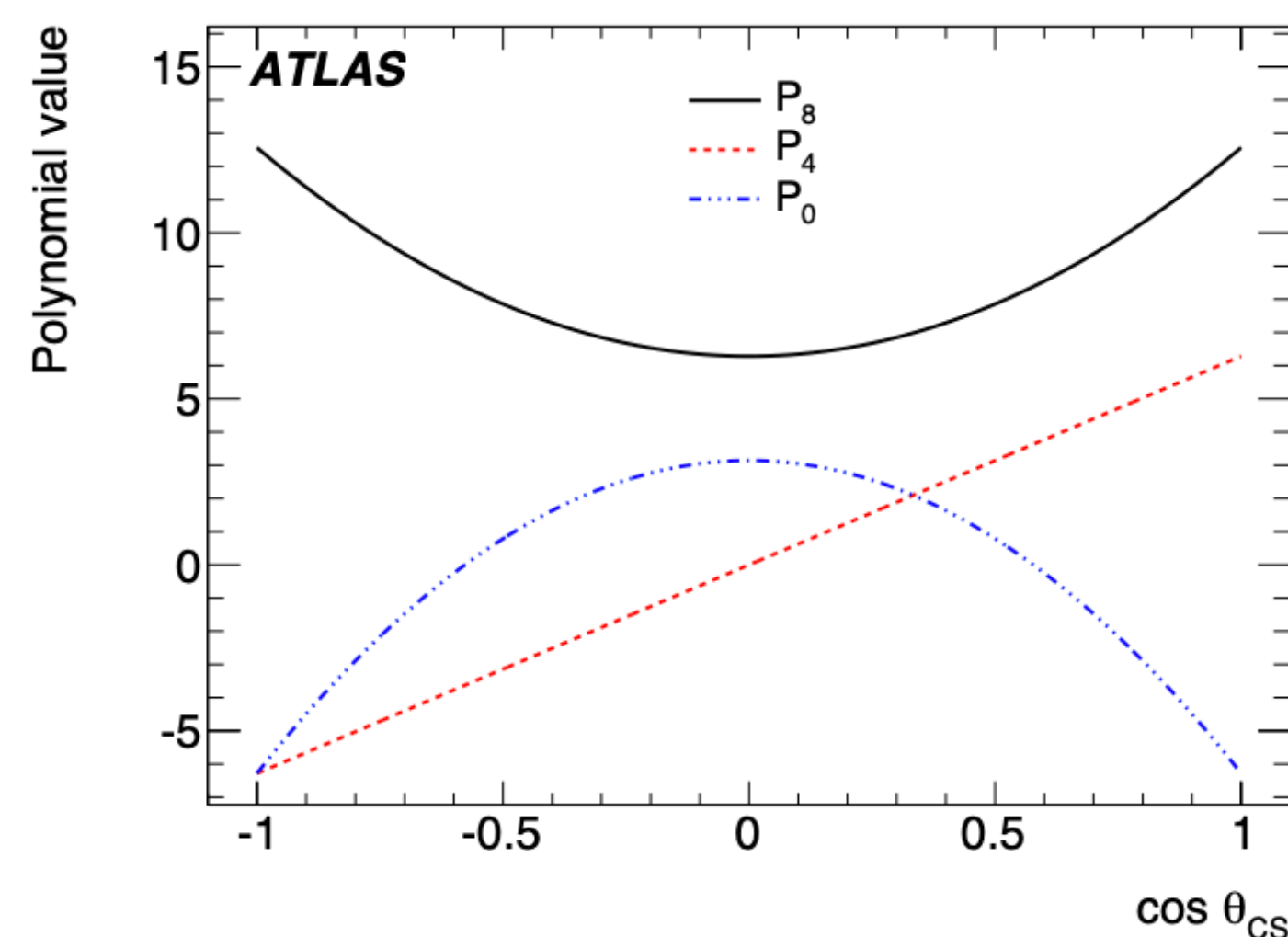
$$\mathcal{A} \sim s^2, t^2 \Rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{SM} \mathcal{A}_{EFT} : l \leq 3$$

Angular dependence

Extracting the \tilde{A}_i : moments of spherical harmonics *

$$\langle f(\theta, \phi) \rangle \equiv \left(\frac{d\sigma}{dm d\eta d\Omega} \right)^{-1} \int d\Omega_\ell \frac{d\sigma}{dm d\eta d\Omega} f(\theta, \phi) \quad f(\theta, \phi) \propto \{Y_{0,0}, Y_{1,0}, Y_{1,\pm 1}, Y_{2,0}, Y_{2,\pm 1}, Y_{2,\pm 2}\}$$

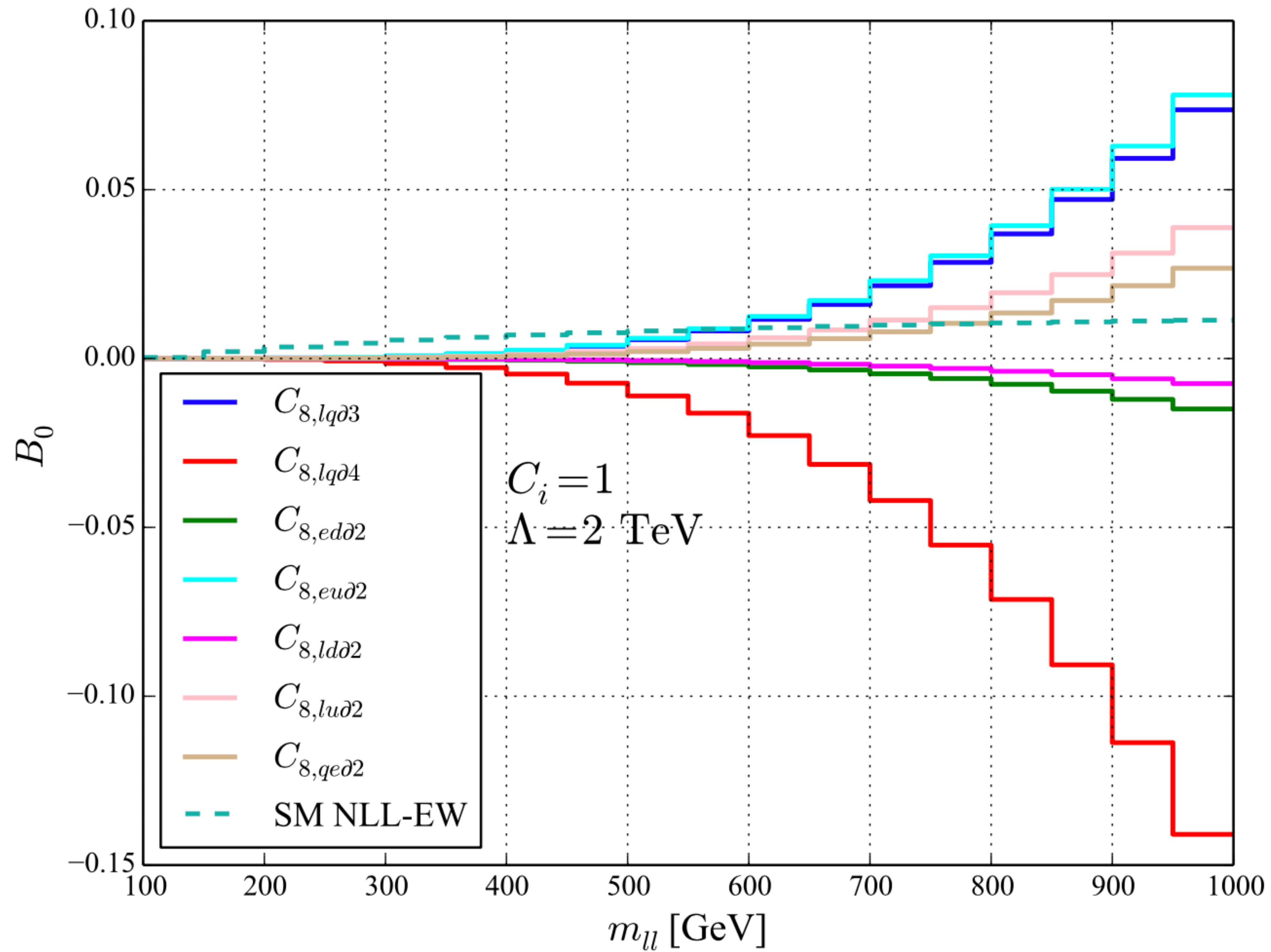
- A.K.A. weighted sum of the basis functions over event sample
- \tilde{A}_i 's are linear functions of the $\langle Y_{l,m} \rangle$
- * In practice, finite experimental acceptance
- Spoils the orthonormality of spherical harmonics



Extracted by fit to
signal templates

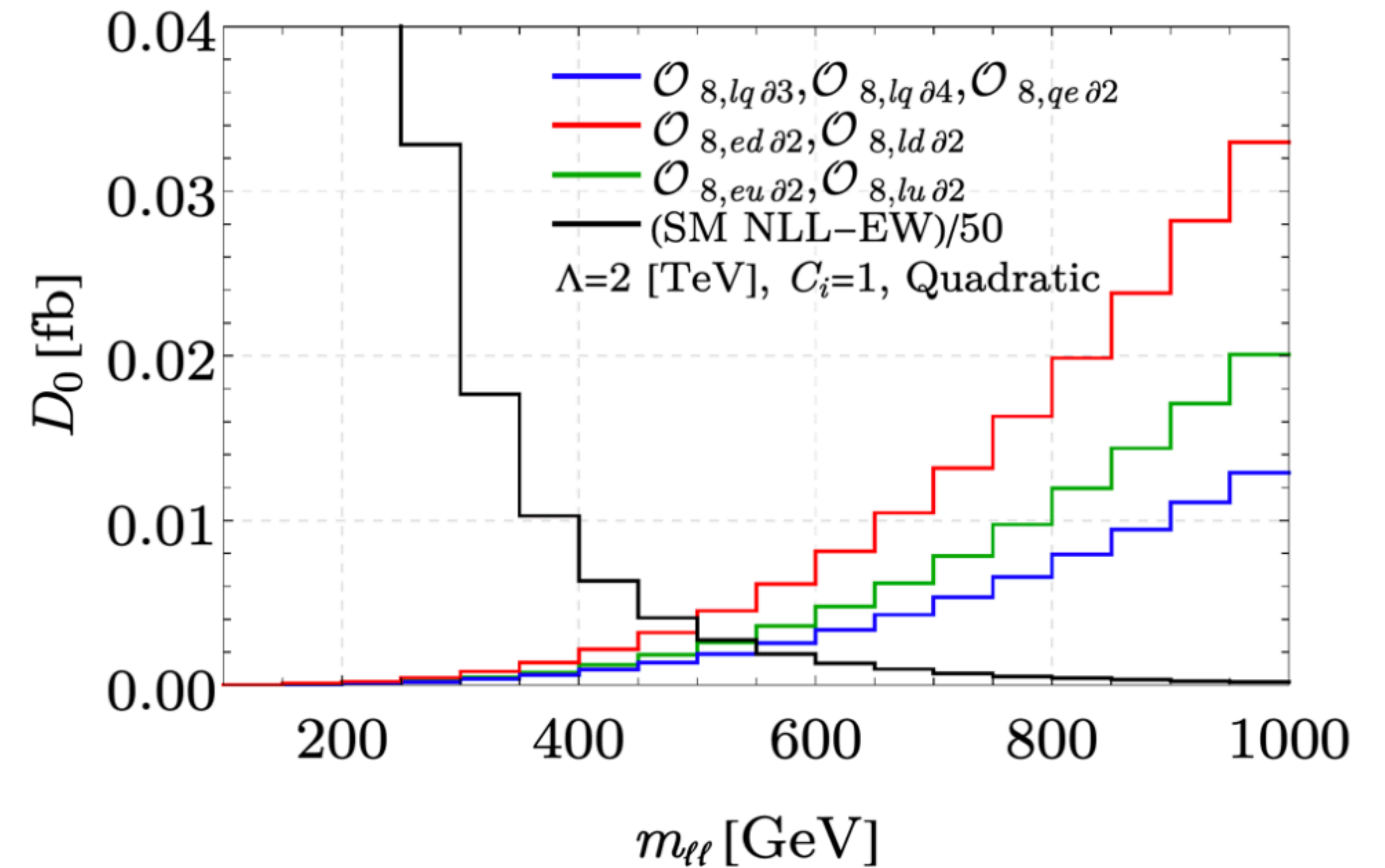
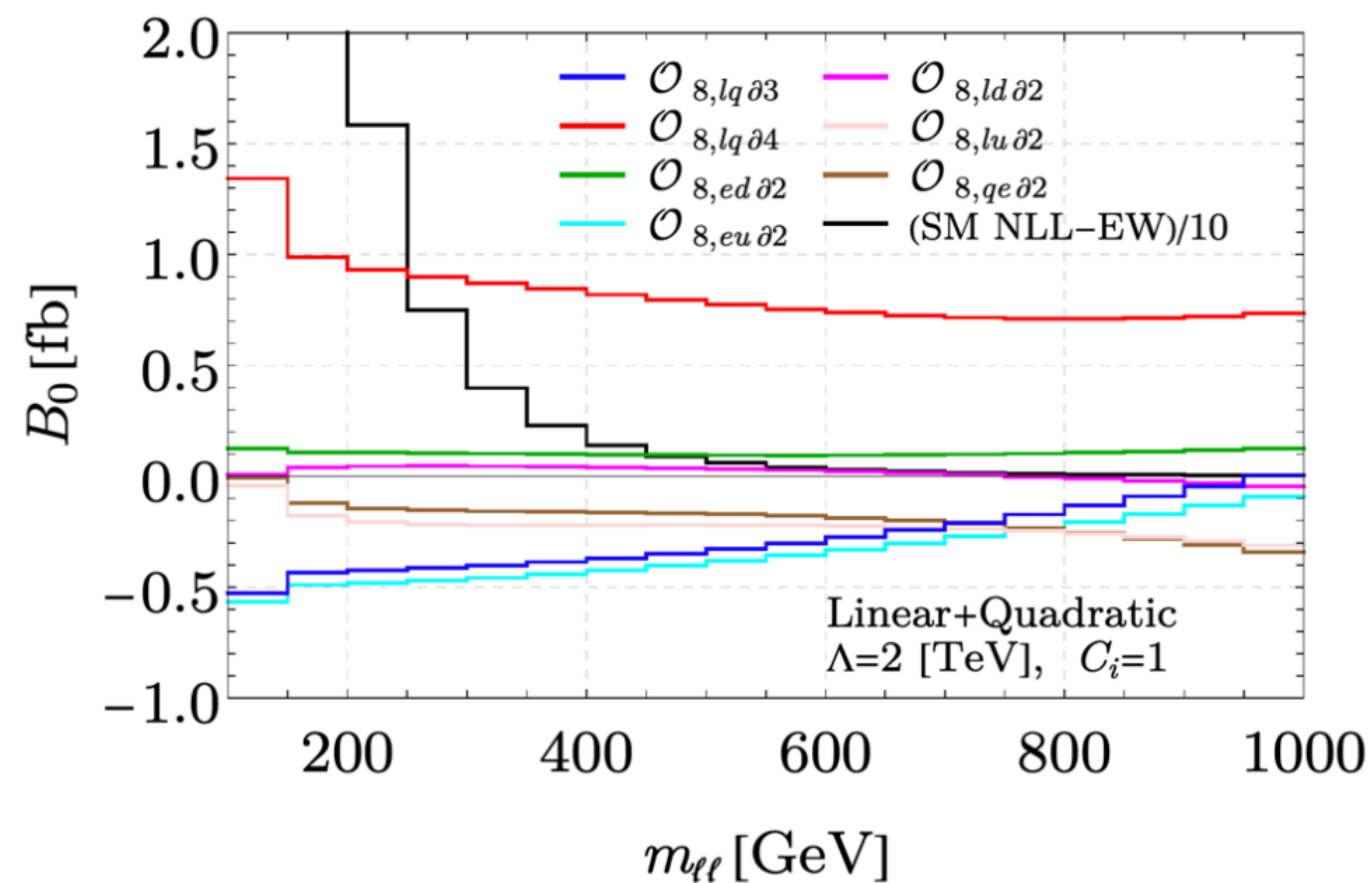
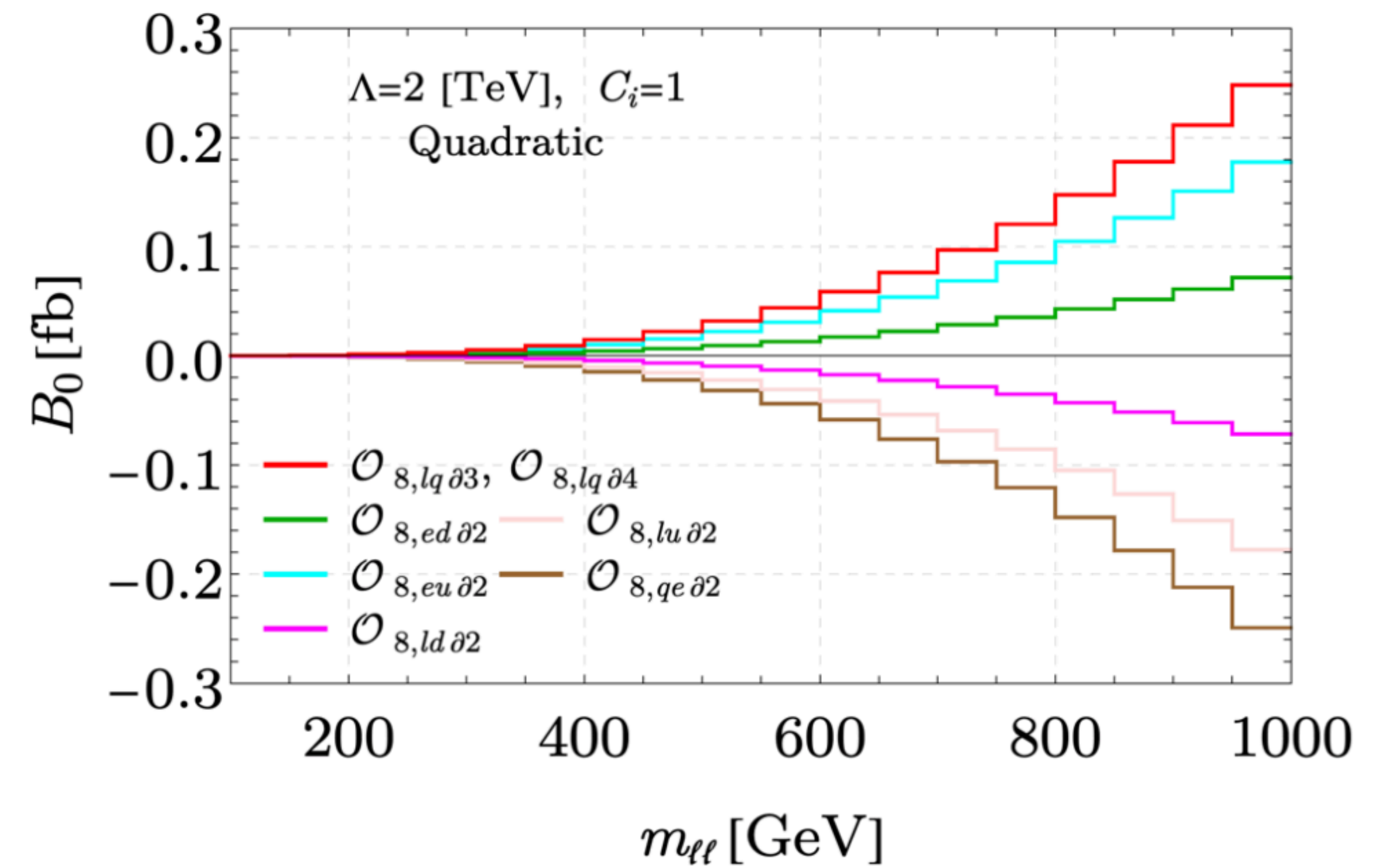
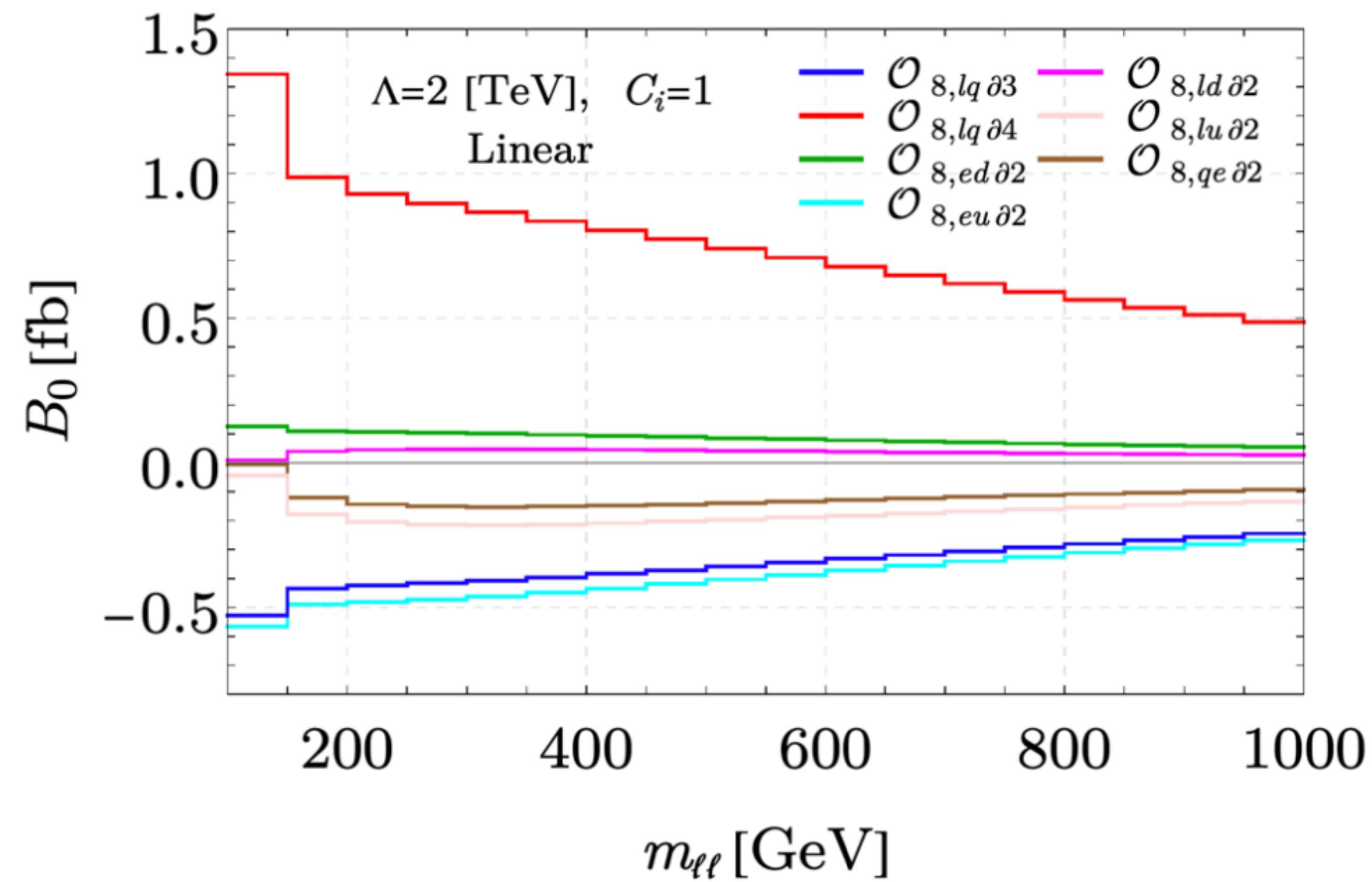
[CMS; PLB 750 (2015) 154-175]
[ATLAS; JHEP 08 (2016) 159]

$\tilde{B}_0(m_{\ell^+\ell^-})$



LHC predictions

$$\sqrt{s} = 14 \text{ TeV}$$



LHC sensitivity

1 TeV cut to mitigate impact of quadratics

Consider 10×10 square $\{m_{\ell\ell}, \eta_{\ell\ell}\}$ binning:

$$m_{\ell\ell}: \{100, 190, 280, 370, 460, 550, 640, 730, 820, 910, 1000\} \text{ GeV},$$

$$\eta_{\ell\ell}: \{-5, -4, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\},$$

Binned $\Delta\chi^2$, combining (B_0, D_0) , for $L_{\text{int.}} = 3000 \text{ fb}^{-1}$

$$\chi^2(C_i) \equiv \Delta\chi^2(C_i) = \sum_i \left(B_0^i(\vec{C}), D_0^i(\vec{C}) \right) \cdot \mathbf{V}^{-1} \cdot \left(B_0^i(\vec{C}), D_0^i(\vec{C}) \right) \leq 3.84,$$

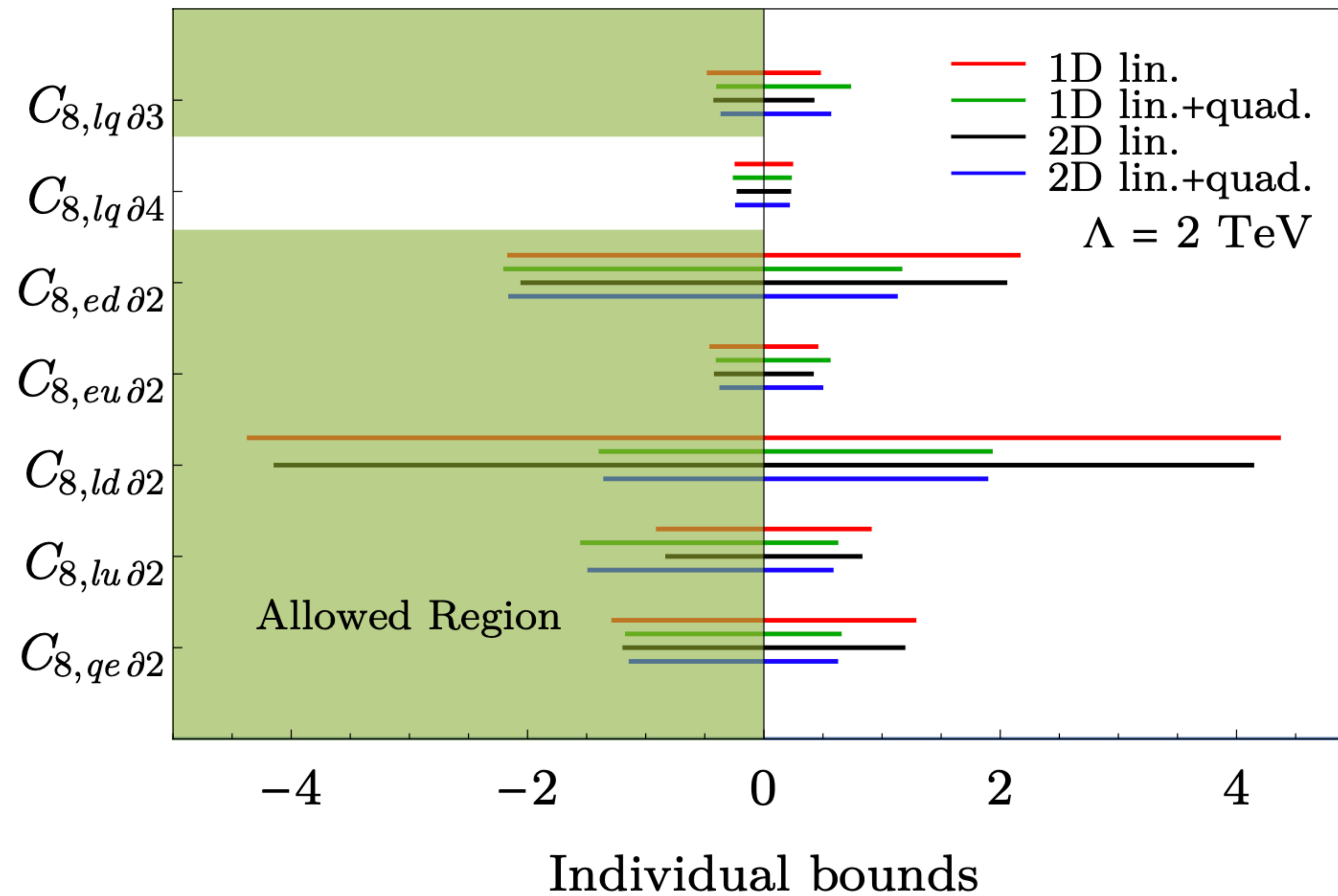
- B_0 & D_0 are correlated: statistical covariance matrix \mathbf{V}

$$V_{ij} = \frac{1}{L} \int_{m_{\text{min.}}}^{m_{\text{max.}}} dm_{\ell\ell} \int_{\eta_{\text{min.}}}^{\eta_{\text{max.}}} d\eta_{\ell\ell} \int_{-1}^1 dc_\theta \frac{d\sigma_{pp \rightarrow \ell^- \ell^+}}{d\eta_{\ell\ell} dm_{\ell\ell} dc_\theta} \cdot F_{ij}(c_\theta), \quad \text{(co)variance of weighted average(s)}$$

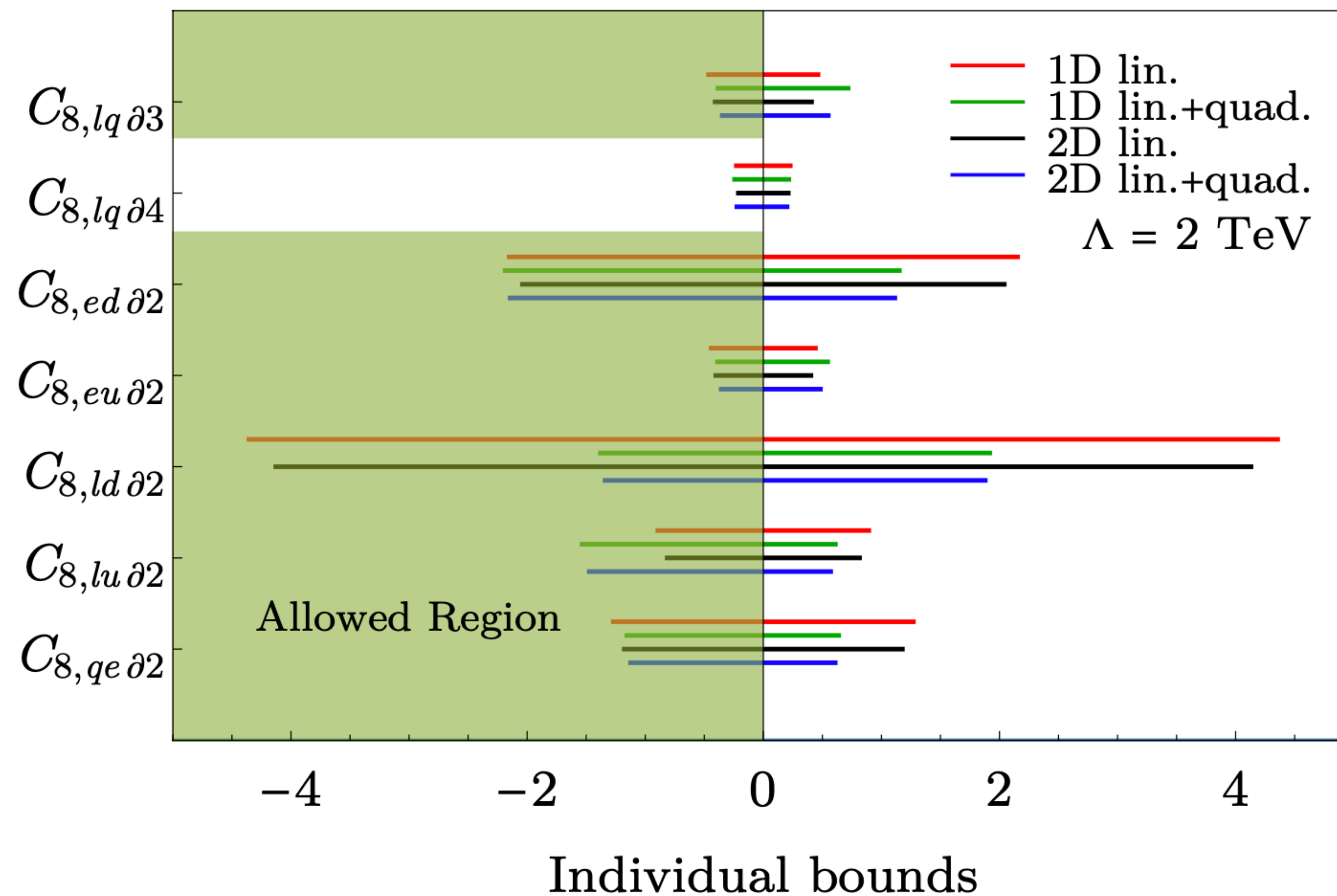
$$F_{11} = \frac{448\pi}{9} (Y_3^0(c_\theta))^2; \quad F_{22} = \frac{36\pi^3}{49} (Y_4^0(c_\theta))^2; \quad F_{12} = F_{21} = \sqrt{\frac{16}{7}} 4\pi^2 Y_3^0(c_\theta) Y_4^0(c_\theta)$$

- Variances **dominated by SM**, computed @ NLO QCD with `mg5`

Individual bounds on C_i



Individual bounds on C_i

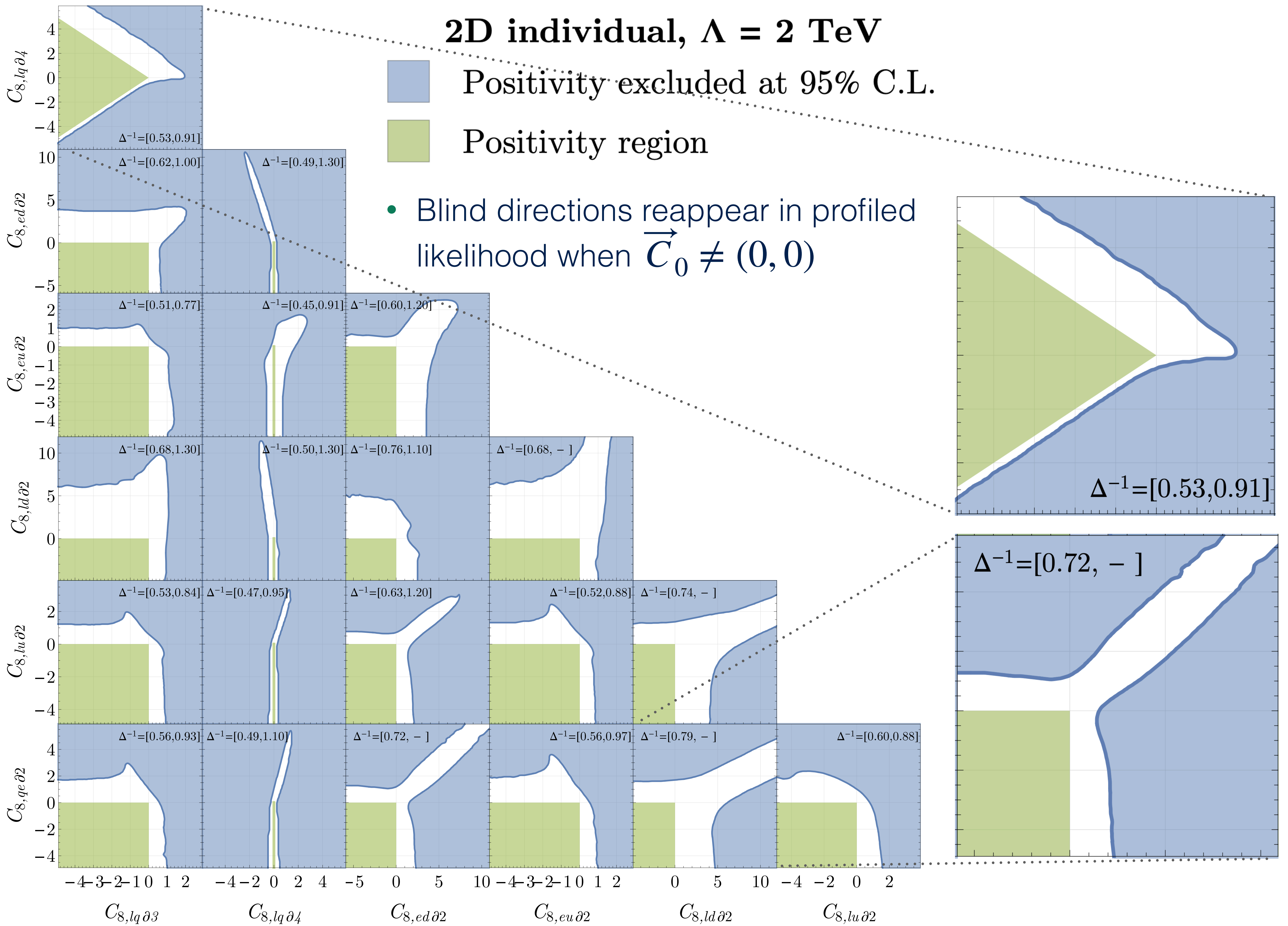


A priori restricted parameter space to consider

Can also be used to search for violations of positivity

Connection to the “inverse problem”

2D individual, $\Lambda = 2 \text{ TeV}$



More information?

Positivity cone uses “half” of UV amplitude information

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 M_{ijkl}(0)}{ds^2} = \sum_X \int d\Pi_X \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\infty} \frac{d\mu}{2\pi\mu^3} \left(m_{ij} m_{kl}^* + m_{i\tilde{l}} m_{k\tilde{j}}^* \right) \quad m_{ij} \equiv M_{ij \rightarrow X}(\mu)$$

- Partial wave coefficients, $a_{ijkl}(\mu)$, are also bounded from above
- In addition to $s \leftrightarrow u$ crossing symmetry, we have $s \leftrightarrow t$

$$0 < \rho_{\ell}^{iii} \leq 2$$

$$\rho_{\ell}^{ijkl} \equiv \text{Im}[a_{\ell}^{ijkl}]$$

$$\rho_{\ell}^{ijkl} = (-1)^{\ell} \rho_{\ell}^{jikl} = (-1)^{\ell} \rho_{\ell}^{ijlk}$$

More information?

Positivity cone uses “half” of UV amplitude information

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 M_{ijkl}(0)}{ds^2} = \sum_X \int d\Pi_X \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\infty} \frac{d\mu}{2\pi\mu^3} \left(m_{ij} m_{kl}^* + m_{i\tilde{l}} m_{k\tilde{j}}^* \right) \quad m_{ij} \equiv M_{ij \rightarrow X}(\mu)$$

- Partial wave coefficients, $a_{ijkl}(\mu)$, are also bounded from above

$$0 < \rho_{\ell}^{iiii} \leq 2$$

- In addition to $s \leftrightarrow u$ crossing symmetry, we have $s \leftrightarrow t$

$$\rho_{\ell}^{ijkl} \equiv \text{Im}[a_{\ell}^{ijkl}]$$

$$\rho_{\ell}^{ijkl} = (-1)^{\ell} \rho_{\ell}^{jikl} = (-1)^{\ell} \rho_{\ell}^{ijlk}$$

$s \leftrightarrow t$ crossing leads to a series of null constraints

$$0 = \sum_{\ell} 16(2\ell + 1) \int_{\Lambda^2}^{\infty} \frac{d\mu}{\mu^{r+4}} \left[C_{r,i_r}(\ell) \rho_{\ell}^{ijkl}(\mu) + D_{r,i_r}(\ell) \rho_{\ell}^{ijlk}(\mu) + E_{r,i_r}(\ell) \rho_{\ell}^{ikjl}(\mu) \right. \\ \left. + F_{r,i_r}(\ell) \rho_{\ell}^{iklj}(\mu) + G_{r,i_r}(\ell) \rho_{\ell}^{iljk}(\mu) + H_{r,i_r}(\ell) \rho_{\ell}^{ilkj}(\mu) \right]$$

Testing positivity

7D case: does the allowed region intersect positivity region?

- $\Delta^{-1} = [\Delta_{\text{low}}^{-1}, \Delta_{\text{high}}^{-1}]$, Δ_{low}^{-1} gives conservative estimate (highest scale)
- Uniformly sample a ball of radius 2, with $\Lambda = 1 \text{ TeV}$

