

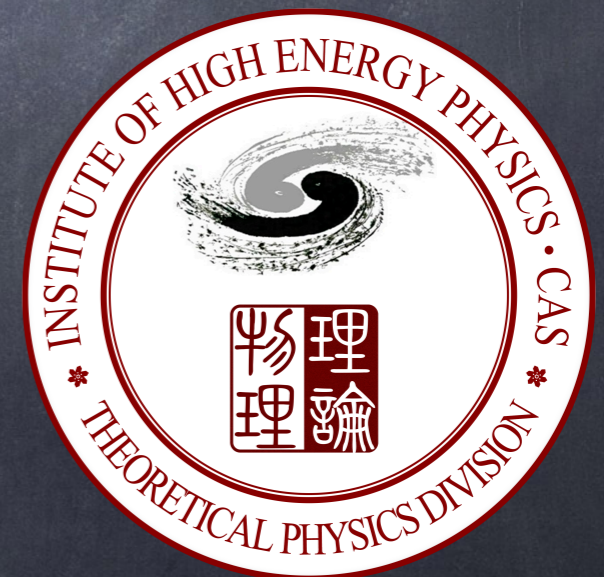
# Positivity in Multi-field EFTs

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Based on 2005.03047 with S.-Y. Zhou (PRL 125, 201601),  
2101.01191 with X. Li, H. Xu, C. Yang, and S.-Y. Zhou





# Positivity bounds

- EFTs describe the IR behavior of some “UV completion”, by integrating out its heavy dofs.
- But in a bottom-up view: not all EFTs have a UV completion!
- Using axiomatic principles of QFT, including causality, unitarity, Lorentz symmetry, etc., bounds can be placed on (the signs of) (combinations of) Wilson coefficients.

- 2-to-2 amplitude  $A_{2\rightarrow 2}(s, t) = c_0 + c_2 s^2 + c_{2,1} s^2 t + c_4 s^4 + \dots + c_{n,m} s^n t^m$

- $c_2 > 0$ ; or in SMEFT:  $C^{(8)} > 0$  [A. Adams et al., JHEP 06]

- More bounds on higher- $s$  dependence. Talk by F. Riva.

- Other recent developments [B. Bellazzini et al., 2011.00037]  
[A. Tolley et al., 2011.02400] [Caron-Huot and Van Duong, 2011.02957] [T. Trott, 2011.10058]  
[Arkani-Hamed et al., 2012.15849]



- We are interested in extracting the positivity bounds of:

- Leading energy dependence only,  $s^2$ . (Dim-8)

$$A(s, 0) = c_0 + c_2 s^2 + c_4 s^4 + \dots$$

- EFTs with more than one fields/particles. (e.g. **SMEFT operators**; or those involving multiplet particles, chiral PT, spin-2 EFTs, ...)
- Somewhat orthogonal to talk by F. Riva yesterday (one field but with all dimensions  $> 8$ ).
- Motivation: phenomenologically interesting scenarios, **SMEFT**, massive gravity, chiral PT, inflation... etc.



## Main result:

- Finding bounds is a geometric problem: finding the **extremal rays** of a **spectrahedron**.
- Small number of fields: analytical solution.
- Large number of fields: solve by semi-definite programming (SDPs).

### 2-scalar EFT

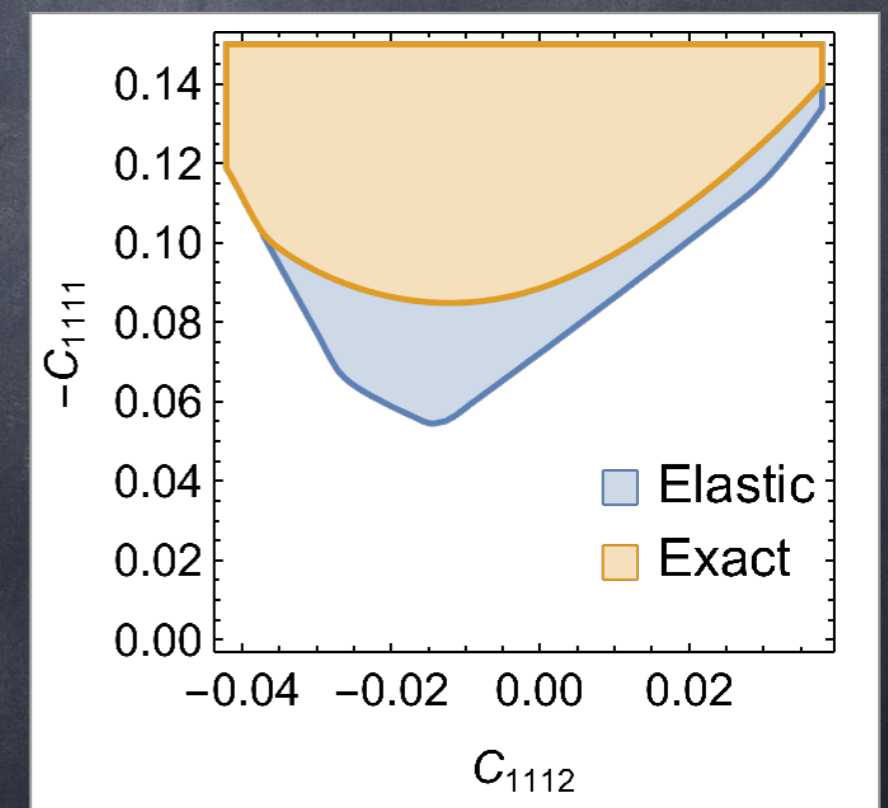
$$C_{1111} \geq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad 4C_{1111}C_{1212} - C_{1112}^2 \geq 0$$

$$\text{and} \quad \left\{ C_{1112}C_{1122}C_{1222} - C_{1111}C_{1222}^2 - C_{1112}^2C_{2222} + C_{1212}(-C_{1122}^2 + 4C_{1111}C_{2222}) \geq 0 \right.$$

$$\text{or} \quad \left[ \Delta \equiv 3(4C_{1111}C_{2222} - C_{1112}C_{1222}) + (C_{1122} + C_{1212})^2 \geq 0 \right.$$

$$\text{and} \quad \frac{3C_{1112}^2}{4C_{1111}} - 2(C_{1122} + C_{1212}) \leq \sqrt{\Delta} \leq C_{1212} - 2C_{1122}$$

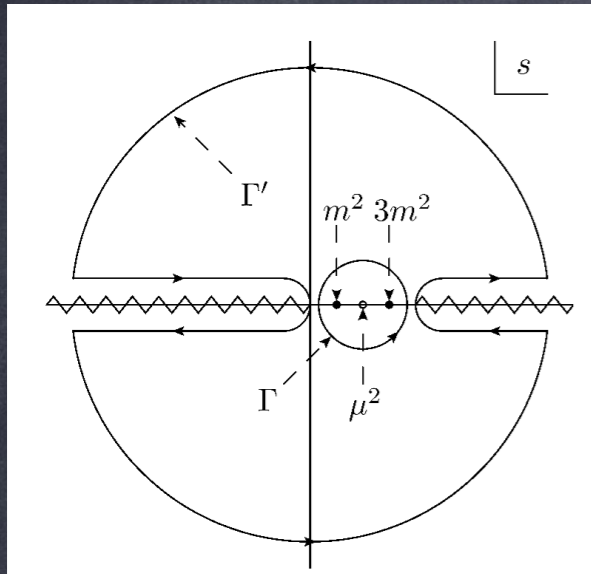
$$\text{and} \quad \left. \left. 2\Delta^{3/2} \geq 27(C_{1111}C_{1222}^2 + C_{1112}^2C_{2222}) - 9(C_{1122} + C_{1212})(8C_{1111}C_{2222} + C_{1112}C_{1222}) + 2(C_{1122} + C_{1212})^3 \right\} \right\}$$





# Dispersion relation

$$f = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\Gamma} ds \frac{A(s, 0)}{(s - \mu^2)^3} \quad (\text{not necessarily elastic})$$



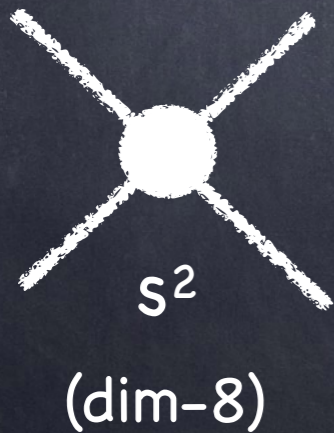
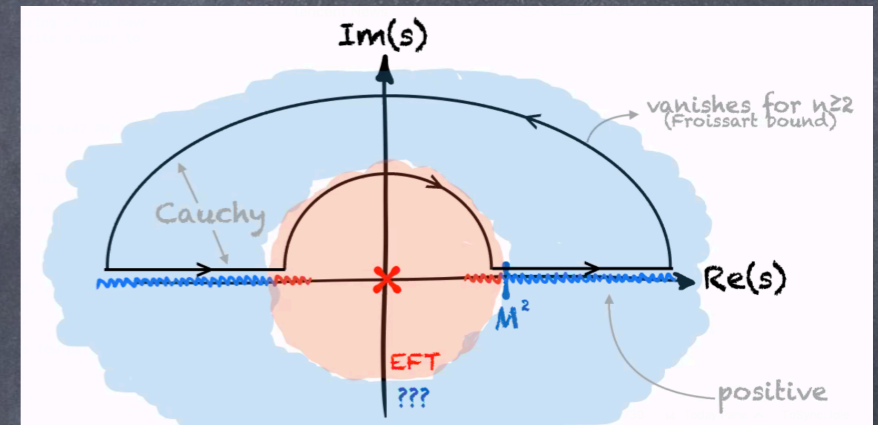
Causality  $\rightarrow$  Cauchy's integral formula

Unitarity  $\rightarrow$  Optical theorem

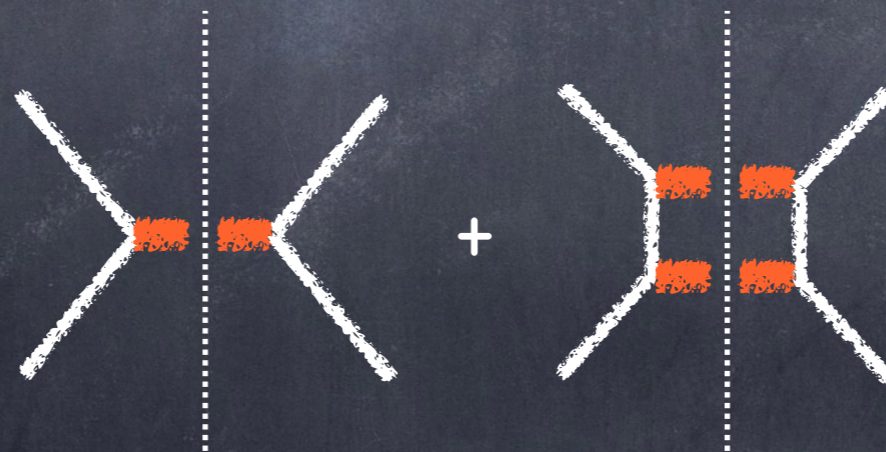
Froissart bound

$$A(s, 0) \leq \mathcal{O}(s \ln^2 s)$$

See also talk by Riva



=



+

+ ... +  $s \leftrightarrow u$  crossing



ijkl: particle index  
 $1 \leq i, j, k, l \leq n$

$$M^2 = m_i^2 + m_j^2 + m_k^2 + m_l^2$$

Forward scattering amp,  
 at low energy  
 (calculable in EFT)

$$\frac{d^2}{ds^2} M_{ij \rightarrow kl} \left( s = \frac{1}{2} M^2, t = 0 \right)$$

$$= \sum_X' \int_{(\epsilon\Lambda)^2}^{\infty} \frac{ds M_{ij \rightarrow X}(s, \Pi_X) M_{kl \rightarrow X}^*(s, \Pi_X)}{\pi \left( s - \frac{1}{2} M^2 \right)^3} + (j \leftrightarrow l)$$

$s \leftrightarrow u$  crossing

X = BSM states  
 summation & PS integration

Amplitude  
 of SM  $\rightarrow$  X



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$$M^{ijkl} = \sum_X' \int_{(\epsilon\Lambda)^2}^{\infty} \frac{d\mu m_X^{ij} m_X^{kl}}{\pi \left( \mu - \frac{1}{2} M^2 \right)^3} + (j \leftrightarrow l)$$

where  $M^{ijkl} \equiv \frac{d^2}{ds^2} M_{ij \rightarrow kl} \left( \frac{1}{2} M^2 \right)$ ,  $m_X^{ij} \equiv M_{ij \rightarrow X}(\mu, \Pi_X)$

$M^{ijkl}$  contains all scattering info at D8, and is calculable in SMEFT.

$$M^{ijkl} = \sum_{\alpha} C_{\alpha}^{(8)} / \Lambda^4 M_{\alpha}^{ijkl}$$



# The standard approach: elastic positivity

$$M^{ijkl} = \sum_X' \int_{(\epsilon\Lambda)^2}^{\infty} \frac{d\mu m_X^{ij} m_X^{kl}}{\pi(\mu - \frac{1}{2}M^2)^3} + (j \leftrightarrow l)$$

Simplest generalization from 1-scalar EFT to multi-fields:

- When  $i=k, j=l, (ij \rightarrow ij)$ ,  
RHS  $\rightarrow \text{Tr}(mm^T) \geq 0$  i.e.  $M^{ijij} \geq 0$



Dim-8 coef. space



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- Superposition:  $M(|u\rangle + |v\rangle \rightarrow |u\rangle + |v\rangle) = u^i v^j u^{*k} v^{*l} \cdot M^{ijkl}$

with superposed states:  $|u\rangle = u^i |i\rangle, |v\rangle = v^i |i\rangle$

RHS  $\rightarrow |u \cdot m_X \cdot v|^2 + |u \cdot m_X \cdot v^*|^2 \geq 0$

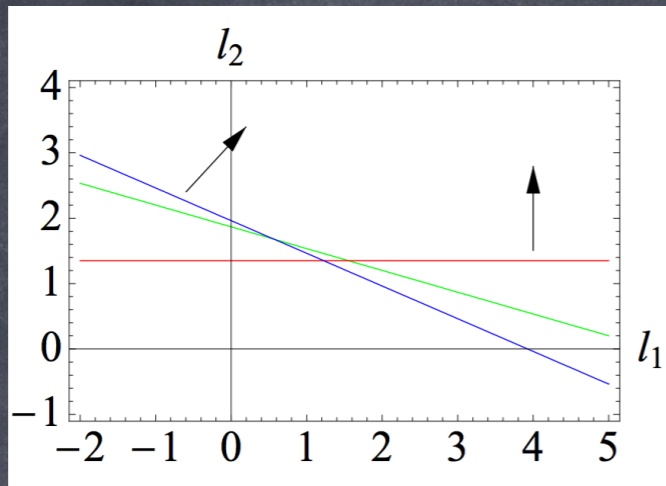
i.e.  $u^i v^j u^{*k} v^{*l} M^{ijkl} \geq 0$



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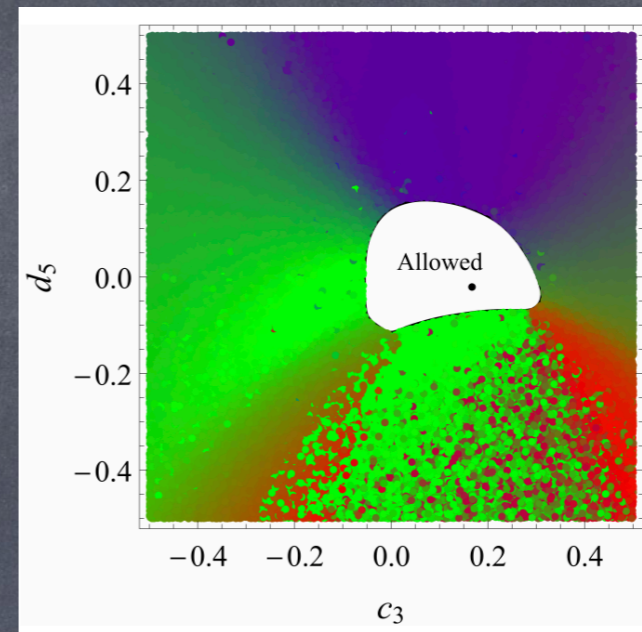


# Chiral PT



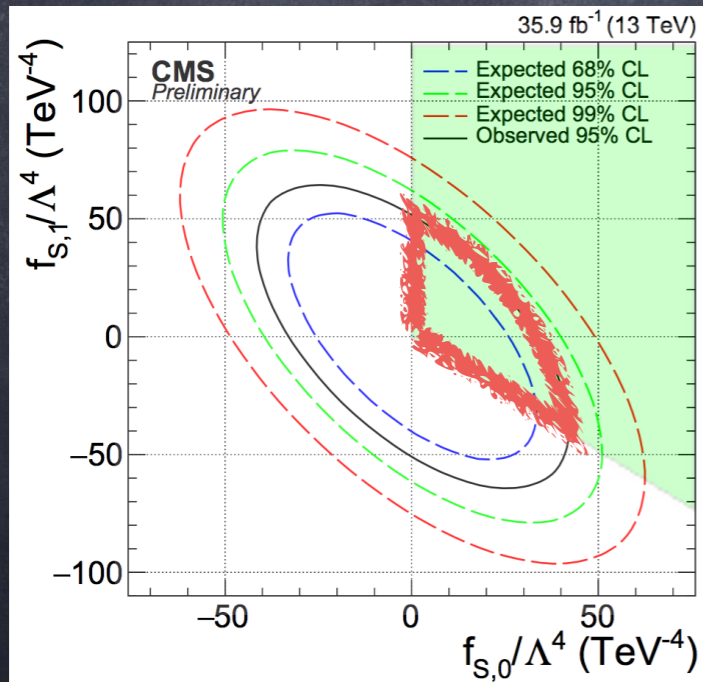
[0801.3222, Manohar & Mateu]

# dRGT massive gravity

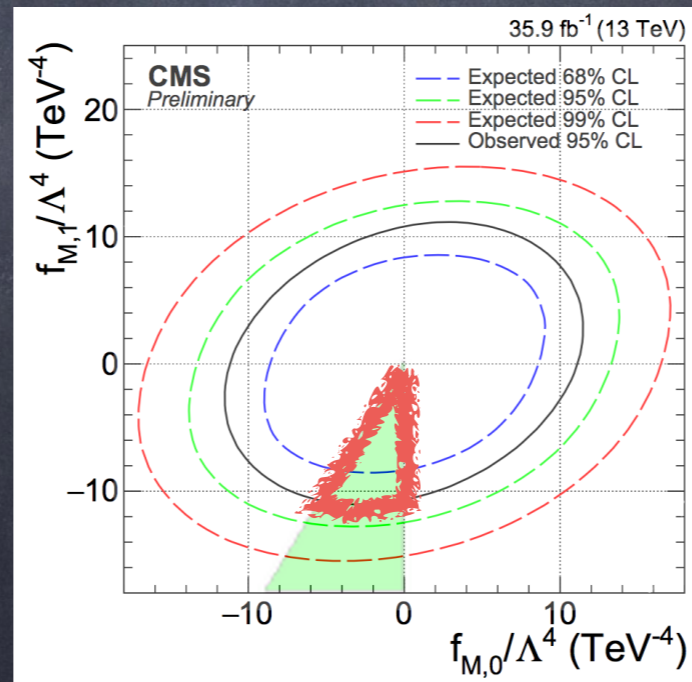


[1601.04068, Cheung & Remmen]

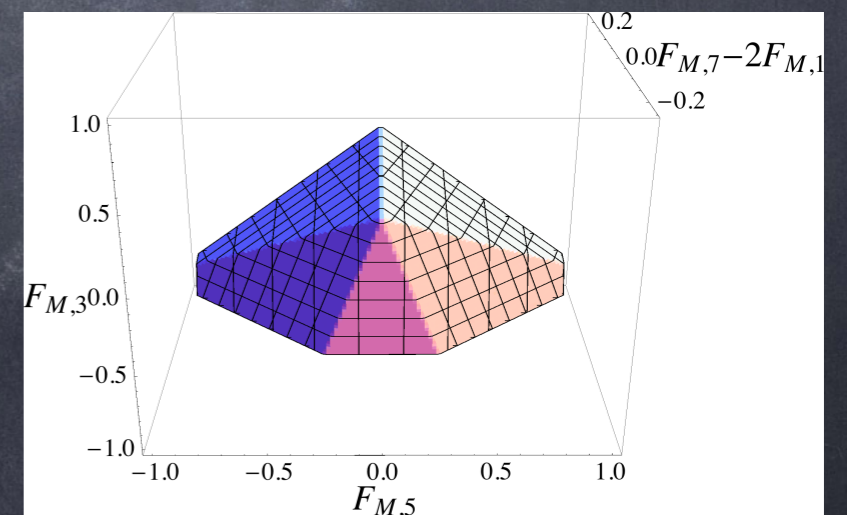
# Anomalous quartic-gauge boson couplings



CMS-PAS-SMP-18-001



[1902.08977, Q. Bi, CZ, S.-Y. Zhou]





# Beyond elastic positivity

- Motivations for an improved approach.
  - $u^i v^j u^{*k} v^{*l} M^{ijkl} \geq 0$  is however to the determination of degree-4 positive semidefinite (PSD) polynomial, which is NP hard.
    - e.g.  $u, v$  are 12-dimensional in the aQGC problem.
  - Connection to UV physics is not clear.
  - Elastic bounds are not the optimal.



$$M^{ijkl} = \sum_X' \int_{(\epsilon\Lambda)^2}^{\infty} \frac{d\mu m_X^{ij} m_X^{kl}}{\pi(\mu - \frac{1}{2}M^2)^3} + (j \leftrightarrow l)$$

- Being completely ignorant about  $m$ , the only essential math structure we need is

$i(jkl)$ :  $j, l$  symmetrized

$$M^{ijkl} \in \mathbf{C}^{n^4} = \text{cone} \left( \left\{ m^{i(j} m^{k|l)}, m \in \mathbb{R}^{n^2} \right\} \right)$$



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  - Conical hull**: The set of all positive linear combinations of elements of  $X = \{x\}$ , is a convex cone, denoted by  $C = \text{cone}(X)$



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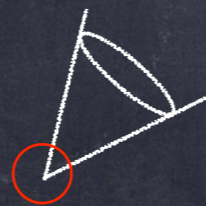
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- Conical hull:** The set of all positive linear combinations of elements of  $X = \{x\}$ , is a convex cone, denoted by  $C = \text{cone}(X)$

- Salient cone:** if the cone  $C$  does not contain any straight line.

$$x \in C \text{ and } -x \in C \Rightarrow x = 0$$

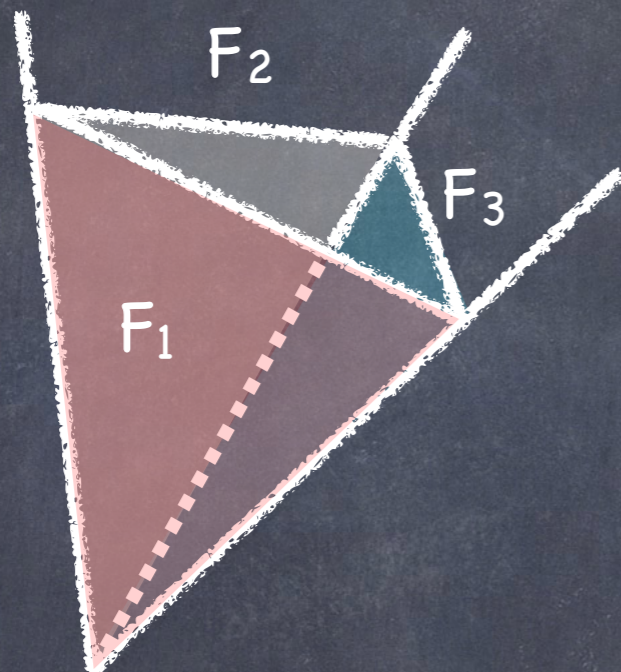


$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}^{ijkl} &= \sum_{\alpha} m_{\alpha}^{i(j} m_{\alpha}^{k|l)} \Rightarrow \mathcal{M}^{ijij} = 2 \sum_{\alpha} m_{\alpha}^{ij} m_{\alpha}^{ij} \geq 0 \\ -\mathcal{M}^{ijij} &= 2 \sum_{\beta} m_{\beta}^{ij} m_{\beta}^{ij} \geq 0 \\ \Rightarrow \mathcal{M}^{ijij} &= 2 \sum_{\alpha} m_{\alpha}^{ij} m_{\alpha}^{ij} = 0 \\ \Rightarrow m_{\alpha} &= 0 \Rightarrow \mathcal{M}^{ijkl} = 0 \end{aligned}$$



# Representations of polyhedral cones

face-representation



The polyhedral cone  $\{x\}$  is bounded by hyper-planes:

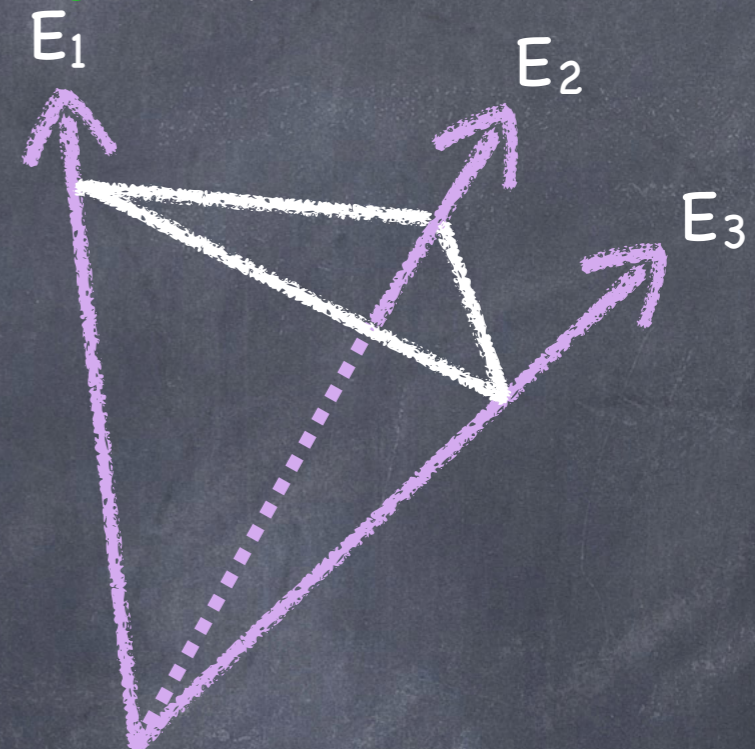
$$\vec{x} : \vec{n}_1 \cdot \vec{x} \geq 0$$

$$\vec{n}_2 \cdot \vec{x} \geq 0$$

⋮

$$\vec{n}_N \cdot \vec{x} \geq 0$$

edge-representation



Edges are the generators of  $\{x\}$

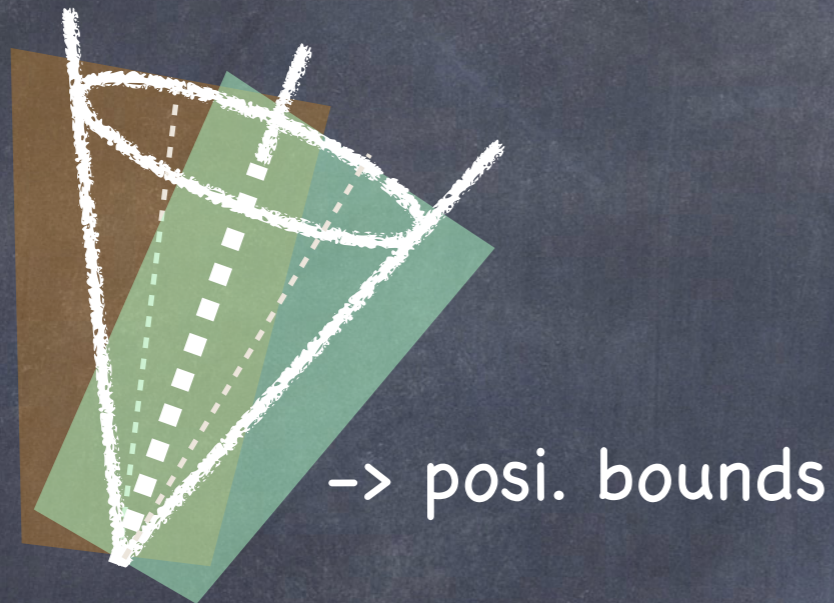
$$\vec{x} : \vec{x} = \sum_i w_i \vec{E}_i \quad (w_i \geq 0)$$

$$\{\vec{x}\} = \text{cone} \left( \left\{ \vec{E}_i \right\} \right) \quad (\text{conical hull})$$



# Representations of general cones

inequality-representation



extremal-representation

ER



- **Extremal Ray (ER):** An element  $x$  is an extremal ray of cone  $C$ , if it cannot be split into two other elements linearly independent:

if  $x = u + v$  and  $u, v \in C$ , then  $x = \lambda u$  or  $x = \lambda v, \lambda > 0$

- Denote the set of ERs by  $\text{ext}(\{x\})$
- (Krein-Milman theorem): a salient cone  $C$  is a conical hull of its **ERs**,  $C = \text{cone}(\text{ext}(C))$ , i.e. generators = ERs



- **Solution #1:** if the EFT has symmetries,  $m_{ij}$  is determined by symm.  
 => Use the "extremal representation approach": [CZ and S.-Y. Zhou PRL 125, 201601]

- The ERs/generators of the cone are "projectors"  
 [see also 1405.2960 Bellazzini et al.]

$$\text{cone} \left( \left\{ m^{i(j|k|l)}, m \in \mathbb{R}^{n^2} \right\} \right) \xrightarrow{\text{red arrow}} \text{cone} \left( \left\{ P_r^{i(j|k|l)} \right\} \right) \quad P_r^{ijkl} = \sum_{\alpha} C_{i,j}^{r,\alpha} \left( C_{k,l}^{r,\alpha} \right)^*$$

- "vertex enumeration" to get facets.



- ERs  $\Leftrightarrow$  UV states.  
 (For pheno applications see [B. Fuks, Y. Liu, CZ, S.-Y. Zhou 2009.02212])



## 4-Higgs operators:

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

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

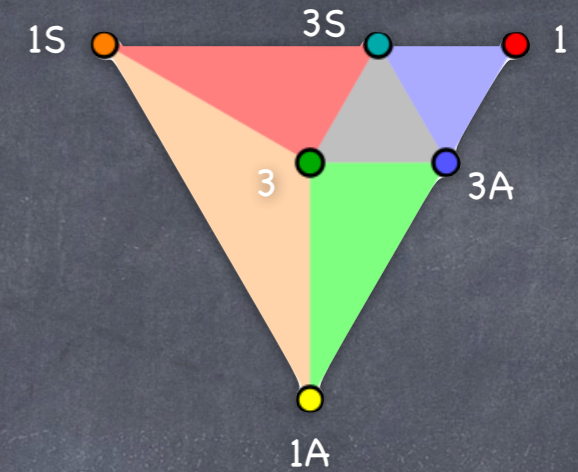
$$O_{S,2} = [(D_\mu \Phi)^\dagger D_\nu \Phi] \times [(D^\nu \Phi)^\dagger D^\mu \Phi]$$

$$f_{S,0} \geq 0$$

$$f_{S,0} + f_{S,2} \geq 0$$

$$f_{S,0} + f_{S,1} + f_{S,2} \geq 0$$

## Triangular cone



## 4-W operators:

$$O_{T,0} = \text{Tr}[\hat{W}_{\mu\nu} \hat{W}^{\mu\nu}] \text{Tr}[\hat{W}_{\alpha\beta} \hat{W}^{\alpha\beta}]$$

$$O_{T,2} = \text{Tr}[\hat{W}_{\alpha\mu} \hat{W}^{\mu\beta}] \text{Tr}[\hat{W}_{\beta\nu} \hat{W}^{\nu\alpha}]$$

$$O_{T,1} = \text{Tr}[\hat{W}_{\alpha\nu} \hat{W}^{\mu\beta}] \text{Tr}[\hat{W}_{\mu\beta} \hat{W}^{\alpha\nu}]$$

$$O_{T,10} = \text{Tr}[\hat{W}_{\mu\nu} \tilde{W}^{\mu\nu}] \text{Tr}[\hat{W}_{\alpha\beta} \tilde{W}^{\alpha\beta}]$$

$$F_{T,2} \geq 0,$$

$$4F_{T,1} + F_{T,2} \geq 0,$$

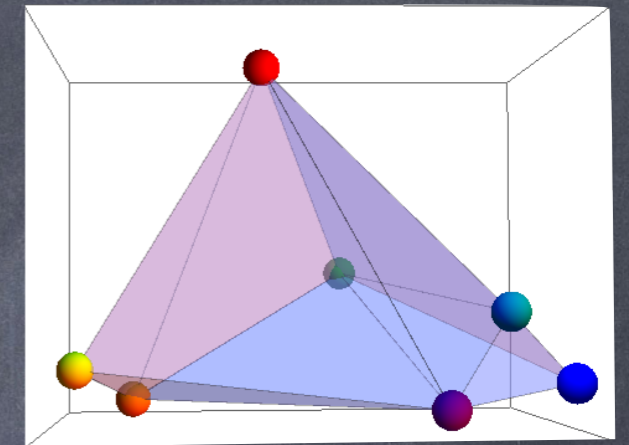
$$F_{T,2} + 8F_{T,10} \geq 0,$$

$$8F_{T,0} + 4F_{T,1} + 3F_{T,2} \geq 0,$$

$$12F_{T,0} + 4F_{T,1} + 5F_{T,2} + 4F_{T,10} \geq 0,$$

$$4F_{T,0} + 4F_{T,1} + 3F_{T,2} + 12F_{T,10} \geq 0.$$

## 6-facet 4D cone



## 4-electron operators:

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

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

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

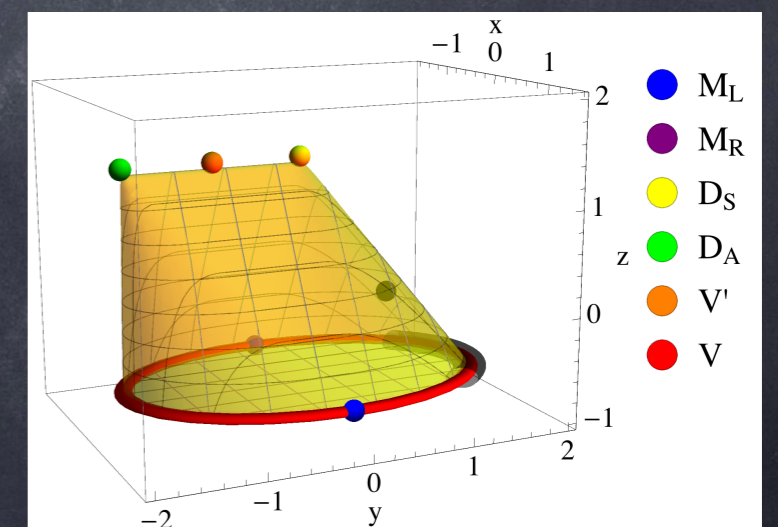
$$O_4 = \partial^\alpha (\bar{l} \gamma^\mu l) \partial_\alpha (\bar{l} \gamma_\mu l),$$

$$C_1 \leq 0, C_3 \geq 0, C_4 \leq 0$$

$$2\sqrt{C_1 C_4} \geq C_2,$$

$$2\sqrt{C_1 C_4} \geq -(C_2 + C_3).$$

## 4D "circular cone"



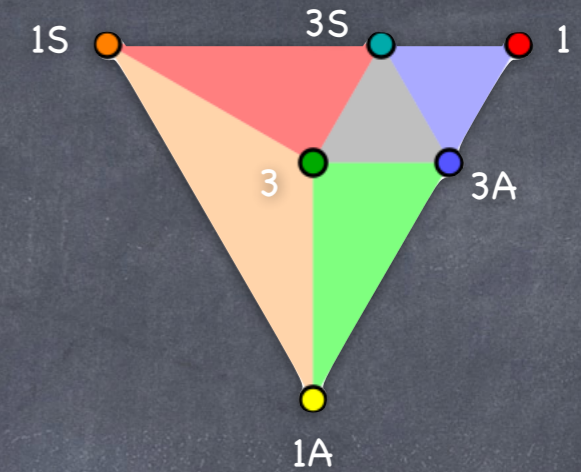
[CZ and S.-Y. Zhou 2005.03047]



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 O_{S,2} &= [(D_\mu \Phi)^\dagger D_\nu \Phi] \times [(D^\nu \Phi)^\dagger D^\mu \Phi] & f_{S,0} + f_{S,1} + f_{S,2} &\geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

## Triangular cone



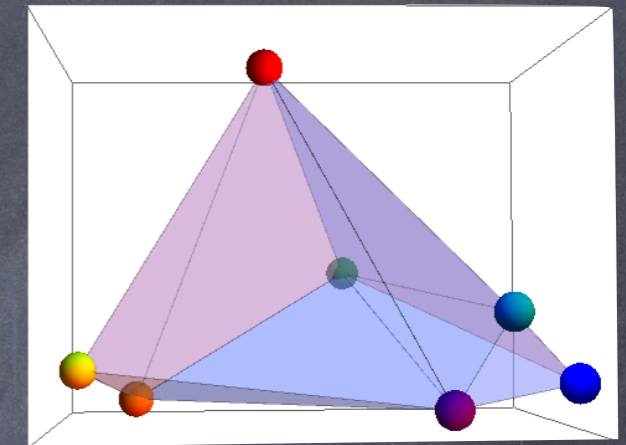
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$$\begin{aligned}
 F_{T,2} &\geq 0, \\
 4F_{T,1} + F_{T,2} &\geq 0, \\
 F_{T,2} + 8F_{T,10} &\geq 0, \\
 8F_{T,0} + 4F_{T,1} + 3F_{T,2} &\geq 0, \\
 12F_{T,0} + 4F_{T,1} + 5F_{T,2} + 4F_{T,10} &\geq 0, \\
 4F_{T,0} + 4F_{T,1} + 3F_{T,2} + 12F_{T,10} &\geq 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Beyond elastic positivity!

## 6-facet 4D cone

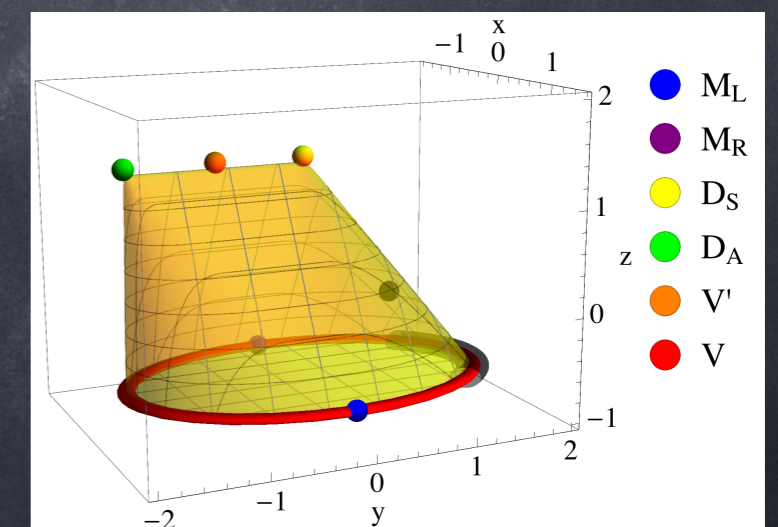


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 O_3 &= D^\alpha (\bar{e} l) D_\alpha (\bar{l} e), \\
 O_4 &= \partial^\alpha (\bar{l} \gamma^\mu l) \partial_\alpha (\bar{l} \gamma_\mu l),
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 C_1 &\leq 0, \quad C_3 \geq 0, \quad C_4 \leq 0 \\
 2\sqrt{C_1 C_4} &\geq C_2, \\
 2\sqrt{C_1 C_4} &\geq -(C_2 + C_3).
 \end{aligned}$$

## 4D "circular cone"



[CZ and S.-Y. Zhou 2005.03047]



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**Solution #2:** use duality.



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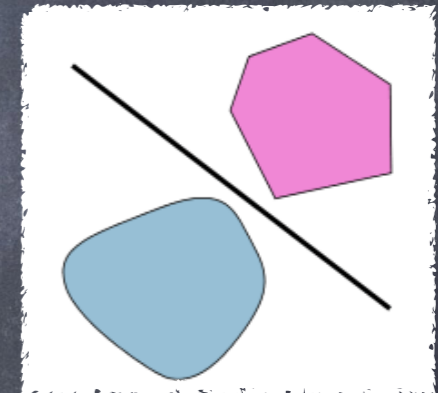
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• Are they enough to carve out exactly the original cone  $\mathbf{C}$ ?

• Yes: use hyperplane separation theorem.

$$\mathbf{C}^{n^4} = \{\mathcal{M} \mid Q \cdot \mathcal{M} \geq 0, \forall Q \in \mathbf{C}^{n^4*}\}.$$





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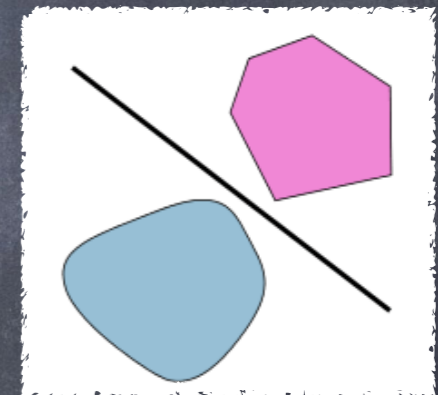
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• Are they enough to carve out exactly the original cone  $\mathbf{C}$ ?

• Yes: use hyperplane separation theorem.

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Q: What if there is no symmetries? How to characterize bounds?

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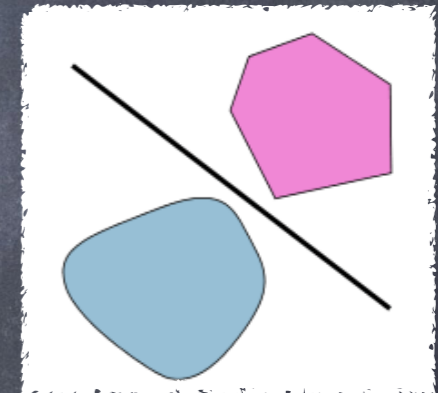
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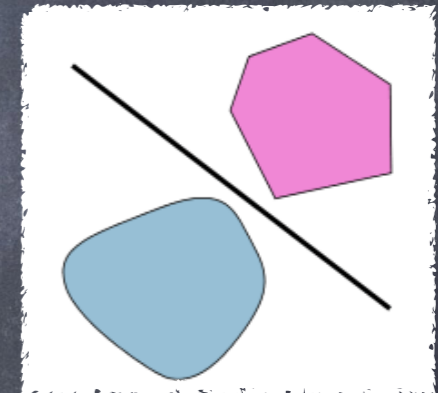
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• Caveat:  $\mathbf{C}^{n^4}$  is contained in a lower-dim subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^{n^4}$

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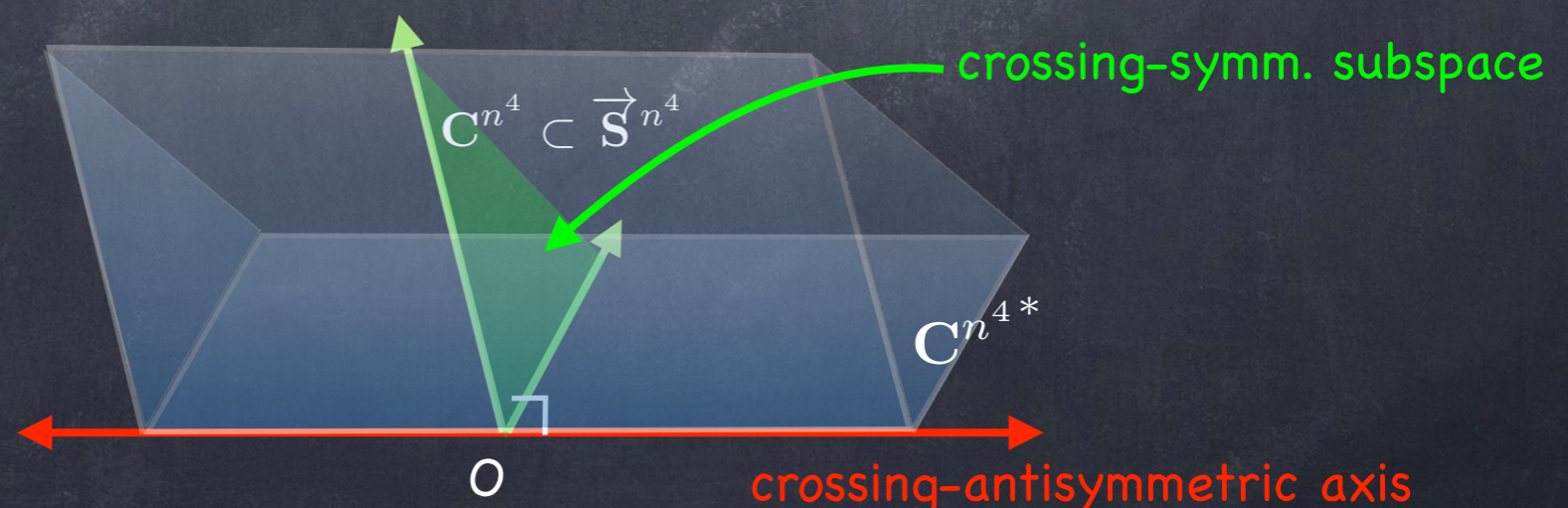
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- $\mathbb{C}^{n^4*}$  contains straight lines perpendicular to this subspace, and thus not salient.

- Not needed!





- Knowing that physical amplitudes are crossing symmetric,

$$\mathcal{Q}^{n^4} \equiv \mathcal{C}^{n^4*} \cap \vec{\mathcal{S}}^{n^4}$$

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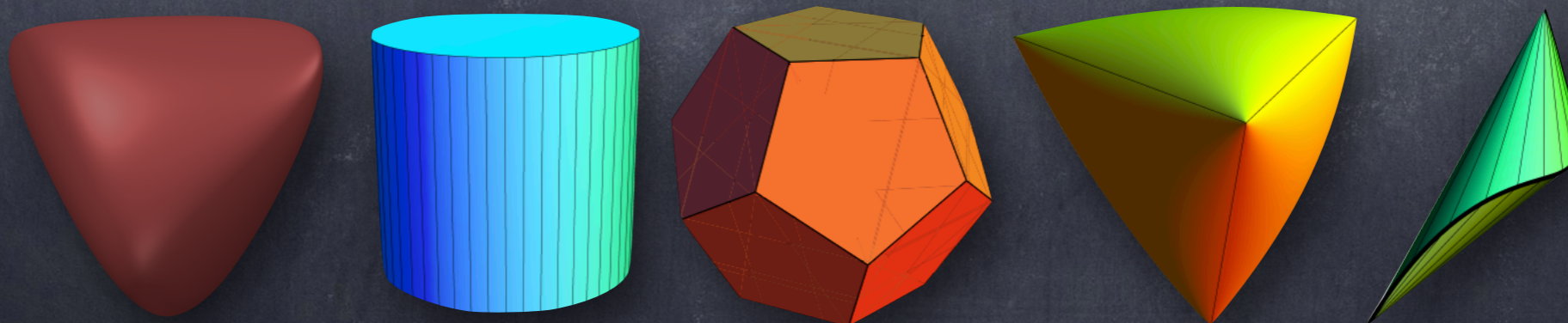
- Finding positivity bounds = finding ERs of some spectrahedron.

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# Spectrahedron?

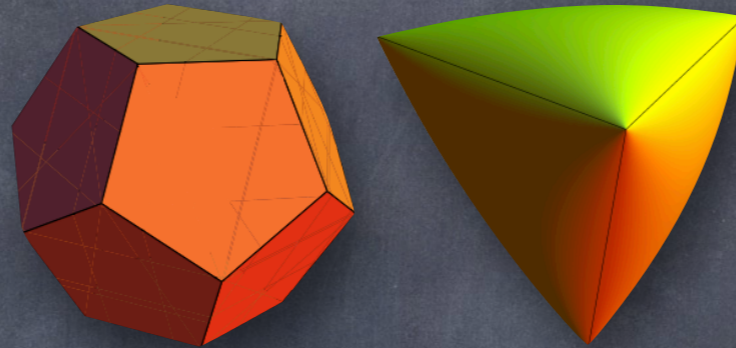
- Wiki: the set of  $n \times n$  positive semidefinite matrices forms a convex cone, and a spectrahedron is a shape that can be formed by intersecting this cone with a linear affine subspace.
- Let  $Q_i, i = 0, 1, \dots, N$  be the basis matrices of the affine space  
$$Q(x) = Q_0 + x_i Q_i$$
- The spectrahedron  $G = \{x \mid Q(x) \succeq 0\}$
- How do they look like? From google:





# Spectrahedron?

- Each point  $x$  in a spectrahedron is contained in (the relative interior of) a unique facet,  $F(x)$

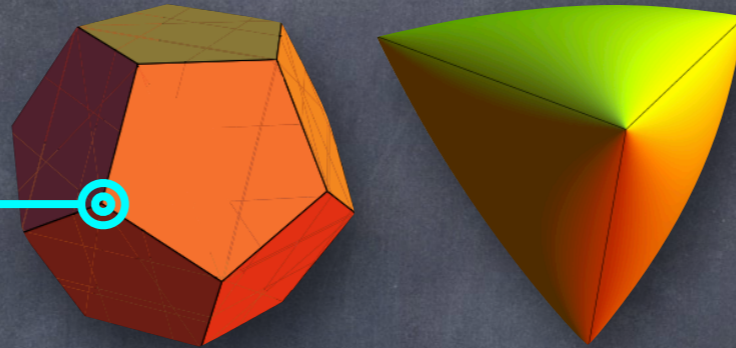




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$$\dim[F(x)] = 0$$

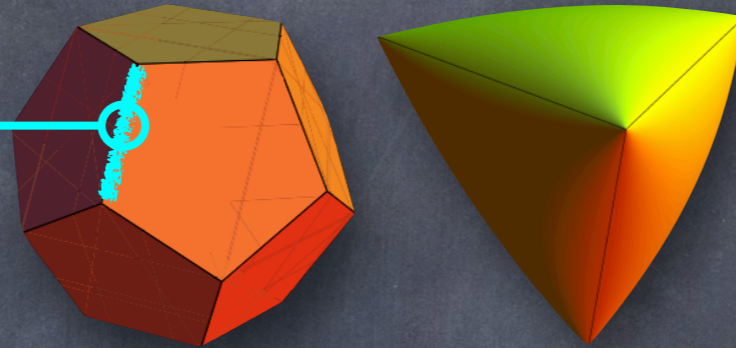




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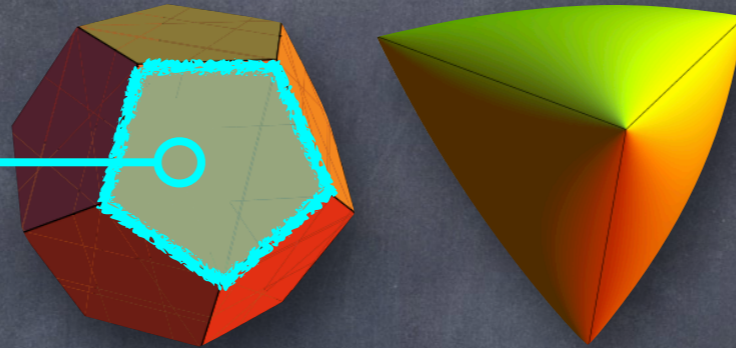




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$$\dim[F(x)] = 2$$

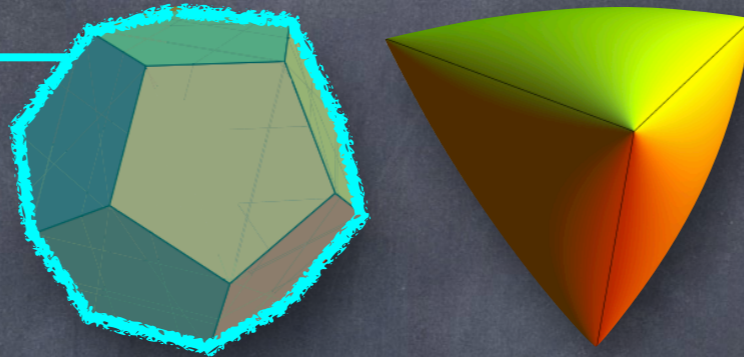




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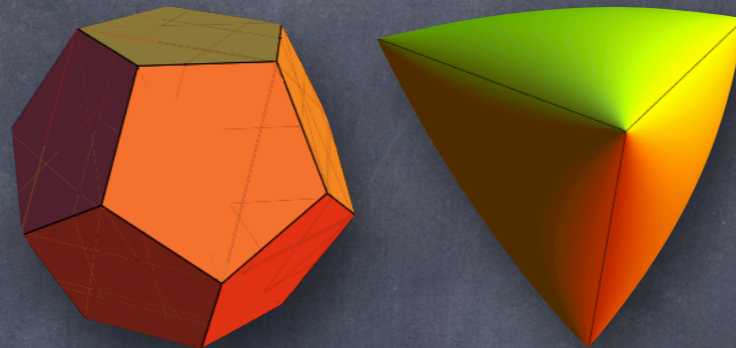
$$\dim[F(x)] = 3$$





# Spectrahedron?

- Each point  $x$  in a spectrahedron is contained in (the relative interior of) a unique facet,  $F(x)$



- The null space of  $Q(x)$  is constant on  $F(x)$   $\rightarrow$  numerically identify  $F(x)$  for any  $x$   
[Ramana & Goldman '95]
- Let  $\{u_i\}$  be basis of  $\text{Null}(Q(x))$ , then  $\text{Null}(B)$  is the linear span of  $F(x)$

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} Q_1 u_1 & \cdots & Q_m u_1 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ Q_1 u_k & \cdots & Q_m u_k \end{bmatrix}$$



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For illustration, impose a  $Z_2$

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# 3D "cross section" of 4D cones

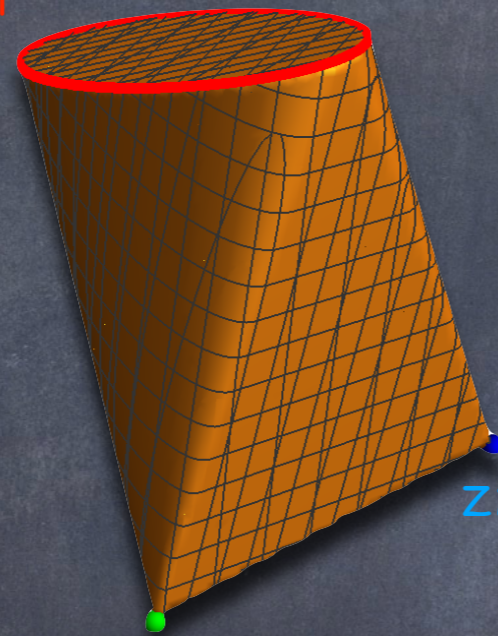
Amplitude space

Dual space (spectrahedron)

$$\mathbb{C}^{2^4}$$

$$\mathbb{Q}^{2^4}$$

Z2-even scalar



ERs = UV particles

ERs = posi. bounds

Z2-odd scalar

Z2-odd vector



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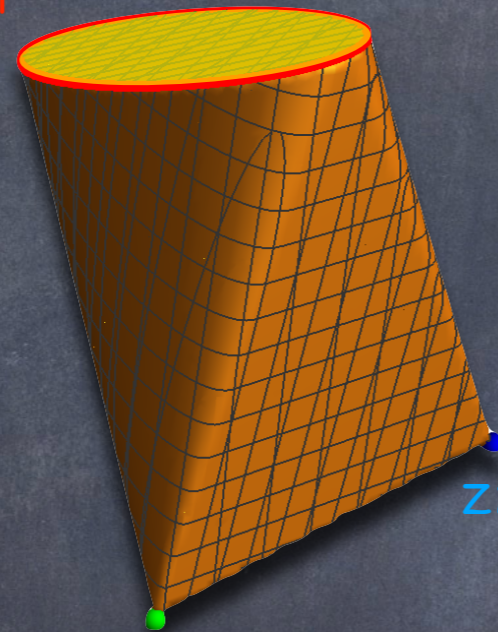
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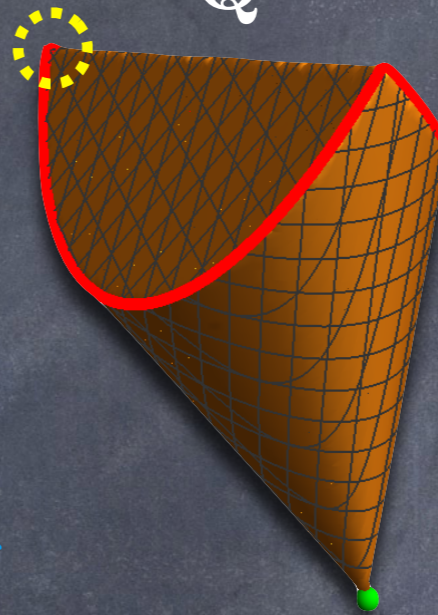
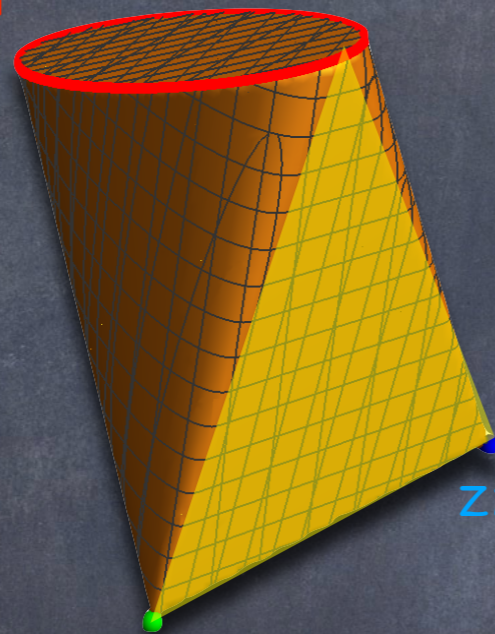
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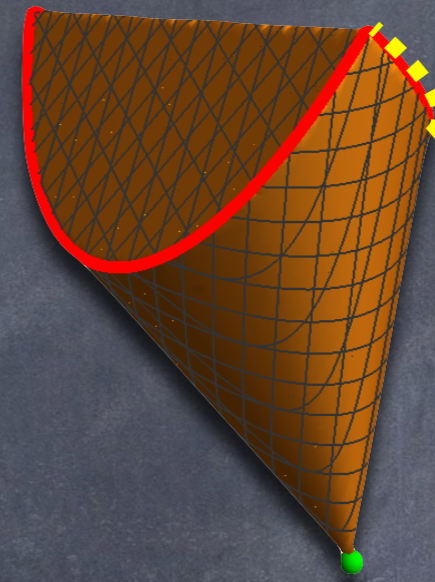
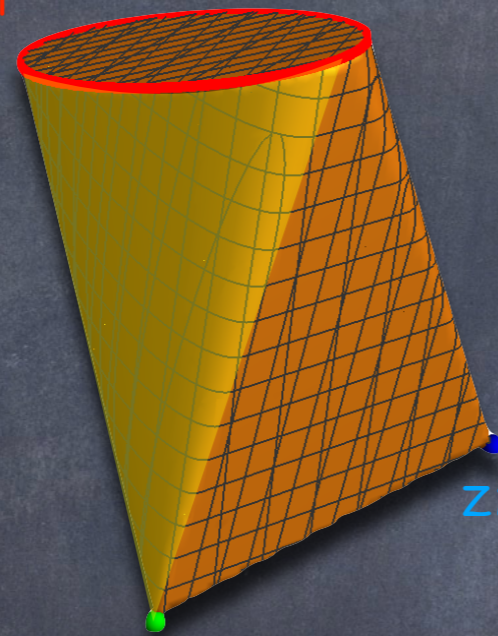
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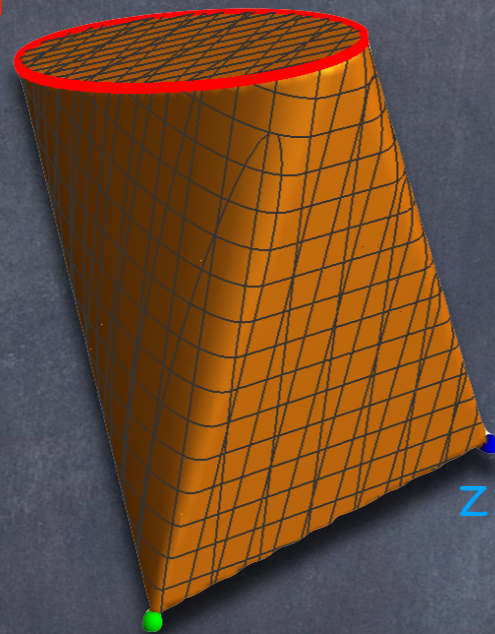
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Bounds

$$C_{1111} \geq 0, C_{2222} \geq 0, C_{1212} \geq 0$$

$$4\sqrt{C_{1111}C_{2222}} \geq \pm(2C_{1122} + C_{1212}) - C_{1212}$$



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Without Z2 constraint:

**ERs** of  $\mathbf{Q}^{2^4} \rightarrow$

$$\begin{matrix} & \text{kl=11} & 22 & 12 & 21 \\ \text{ij=11} & \begin{bmatrix} a^2 & ab & ac & ac \\ ab & b^2 & bc & bc \\ ac & bc & 2c^2 - ab & ab \\ ac & bc & ab & 2c^2 - ab \end{bmatrix} & & & \end{matrix} \quad c^2 \geq ab$$

- To check these are ERs, use the B matrix.
- Can prove these are complete set of ERs.



Linear bounds for each  $(a, b, c)$  real,  $c^2 \geq ab$ :

$$[a \quad c \quad b] \cdot D \cdot [a \quad c \quad b]^T \geq 0 \quad \forall c^2 \geq ab$$

where  $D = \begin{bmatrix} 2C_{1111} & C_{1112} & C_{1122} \\ C_{1112} & 2C_{1212} & C_{1222} \\ C_{1122} & C_{1222} & 2C_{2222} \end{bmatrix}$ .

To remove  $a, b, c$  dependence:

$$f(r, s, w) \equiv \left[ w^2 \quad \frac{rw+sw}{2} \quad rs \right] \cdot D \cdot \left[ w^2 \quad \frac{rw+sw}{2} \quad rs \right]^T$$
$$\geq 0 \quad \forall r, s, w \in \mathbb{R},$$

• i.e. a quartic form in  $(r, s, w)$  is PSD

• Can be determined by completing squares (for at most 3 variables, Hilbert 1888)



## Positivity bounds for general 2-scalar EFTs:

$$C_{1111} \geq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad 4C_{1111}C_{1212} - C_{1112}^2 \geq 0$$

$$\text{and} \quad \left\{ C_{1112}C_{1122}C_{1222} - C_{1111}C_{1222}^2 - C_{1112}^2C_{2222} + C_{1212}(-C_{1122}^2 + 4C_{1111}C_{2222}) \geq 0 \right.$$

$$\text{or} \quad \left[ \Delta \equiv 3(4C_{1111}C_{2222} - C_{1112}C_{1222}) + (C_{1122} + C_{1212})^2 \geq 0 \right.$$

$$\text{and} \quad \frac{3C_{1112}^2}{4C_{1111}} - 2(C_{1122} + C_{1212}) \leq \sqrt{\Delta} \leq C_{1212} - 2C_{1122}$$

$$\text{and} \quad \left. \left. 2\Delta^{3/2} \geq 27(C_{1111}C_{1222}^2 + C_{1112}^2C_{2222}) - 9(C_{1122} + C_{1212})(8C_{1111}C_{2222} + C_{1112}C_{1222}) + 2(C_{1122} + C_{1212})^3 \right] \right\}$$

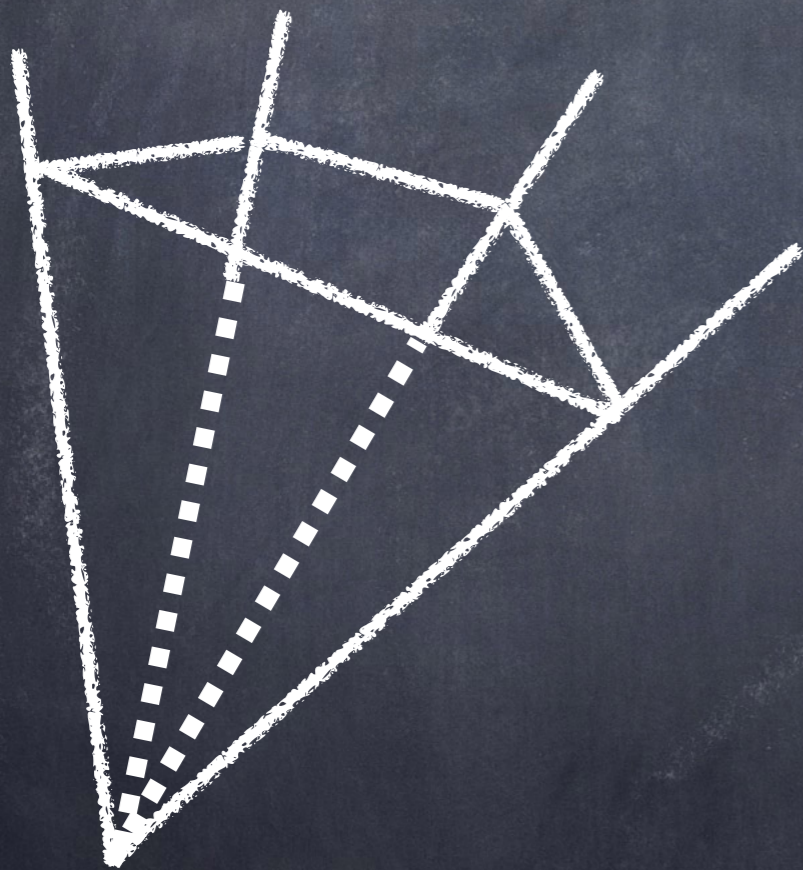
What if  $n > 2$ ? Either

1. Randomly search for ERs. (MC sampling of ERs); or
2. For a given amplitude  $M$ , numerically minimize  $Q.M$  on the spectrahedron.
  - This is a semidefinite programming (SDP).



# The "MC" approach

Recall each point  $x$  is contained in a unique facet,  $F(x)$ , determined by  $\text{Null}(B)$

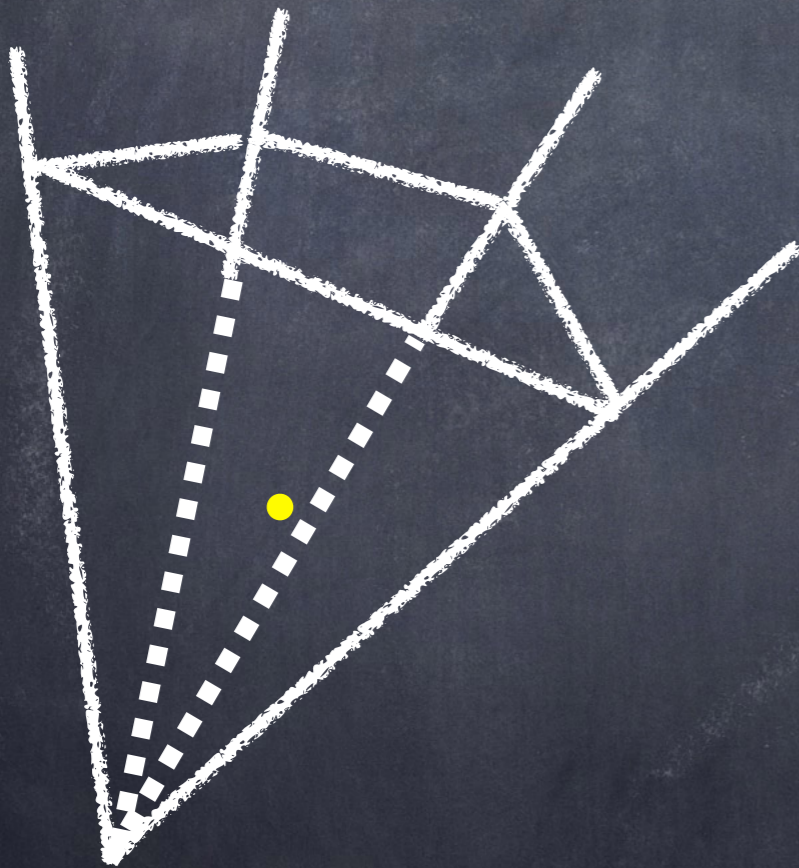




# The "MC" approach

Recall each point  $x$  is contained in a unique facet,  $F(x)$ , determined by  $\text{Null}(B)$

- Start with a random point  $x$

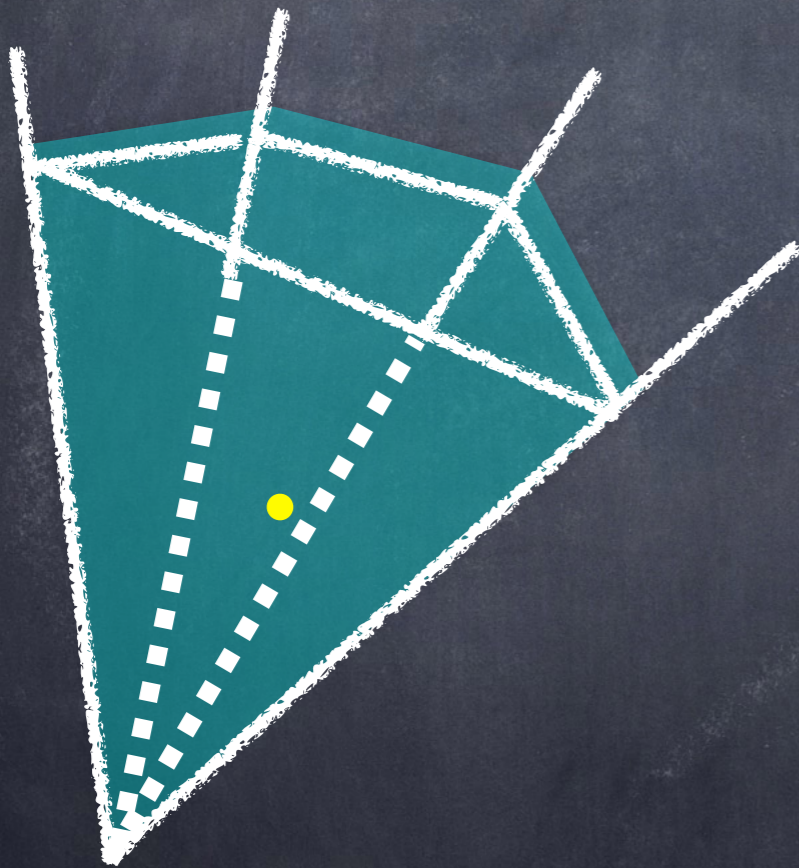




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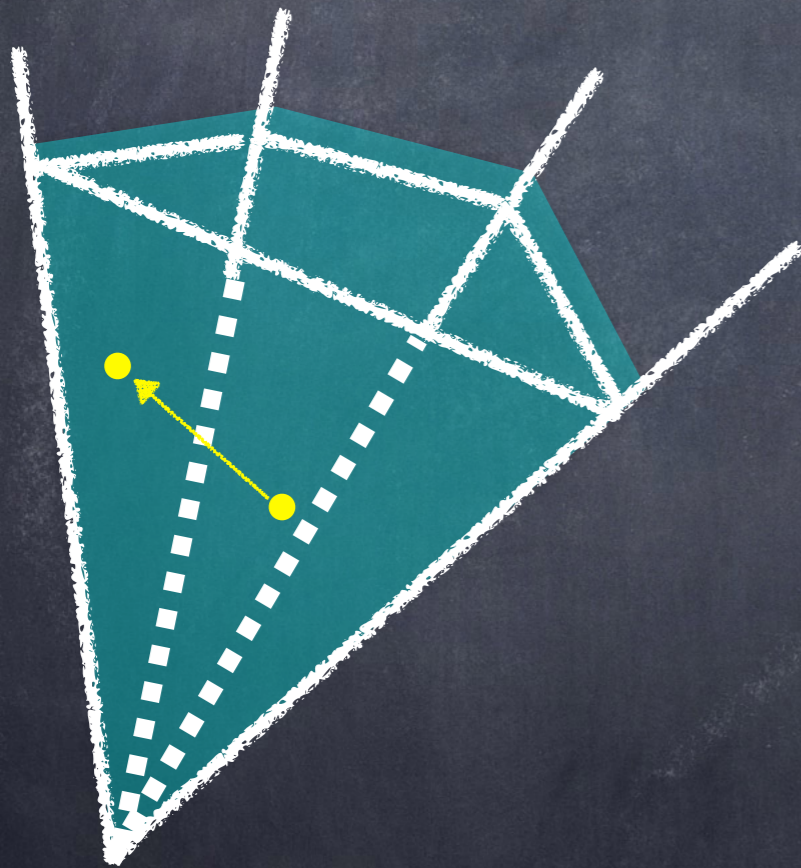
- Start with a random point  $x$
- Find the (k-)face  $F(x)$





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Recall each point  $x$  is contained in a unique facet,  $F(x)$ , determined by  $\text{Null}(B)$

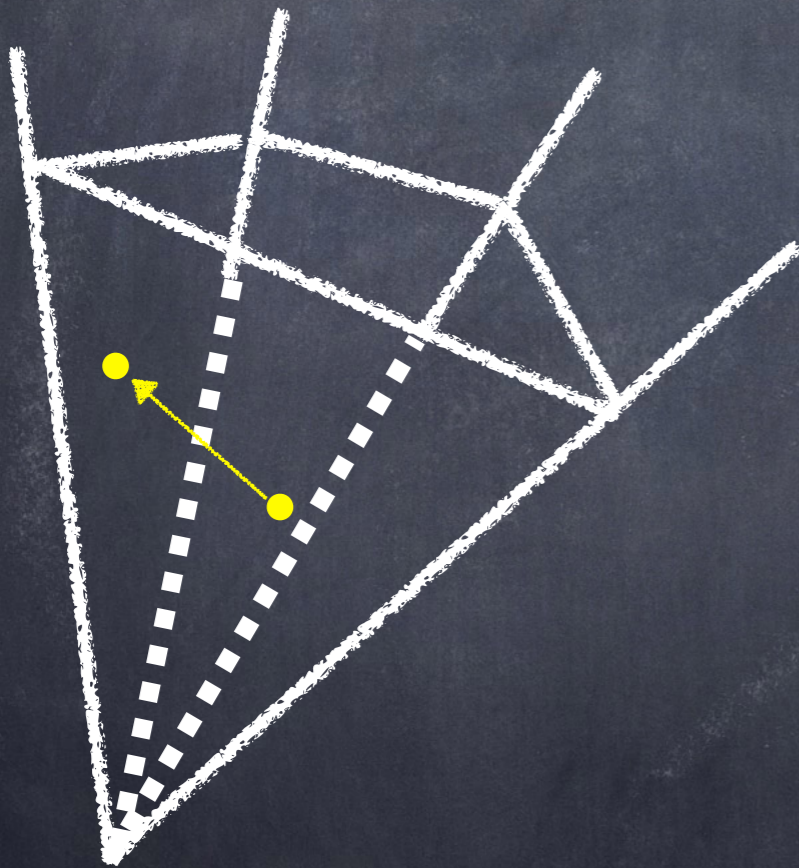


- Start with a random point  $x$
- Find the  $(k-)$ face  $F(x)$
- Take a random straight-line in  $F(x)$  that crosses  $x$ . Find its intersection with the boundary of the cone (this is a SDP).



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Recall each point  $x$  is contained in a unique facet,  $F(x)$ , determined by  $\text{Null}(B)$

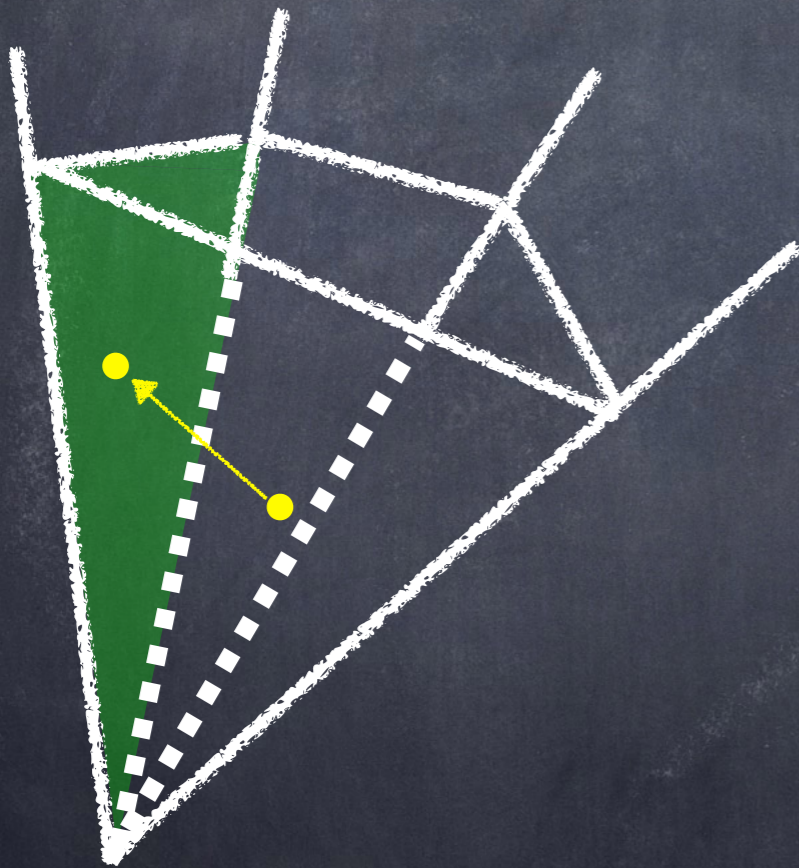


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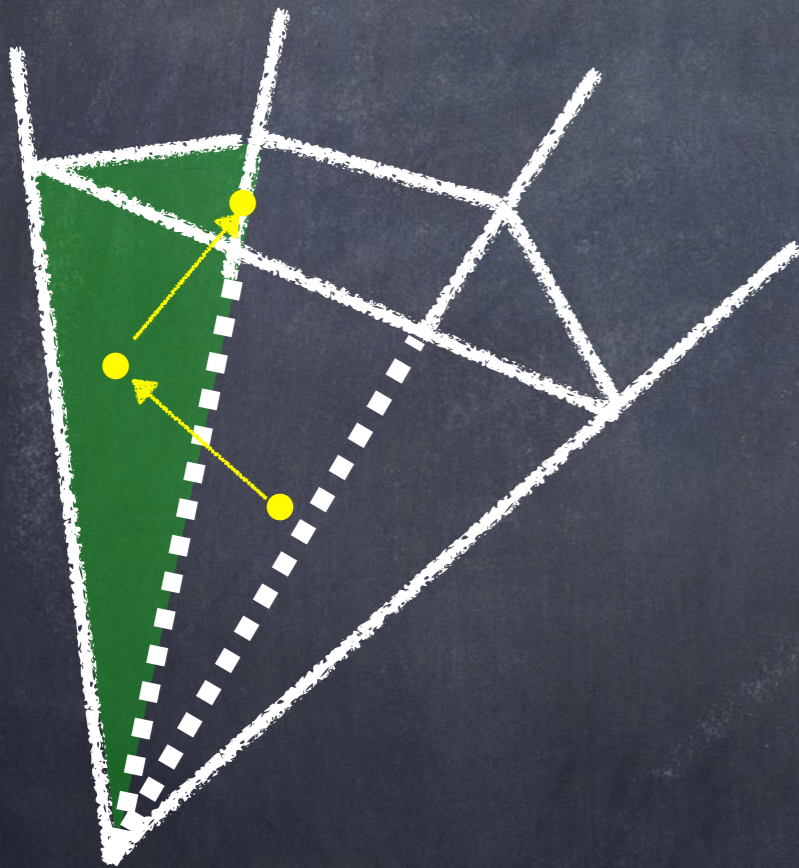


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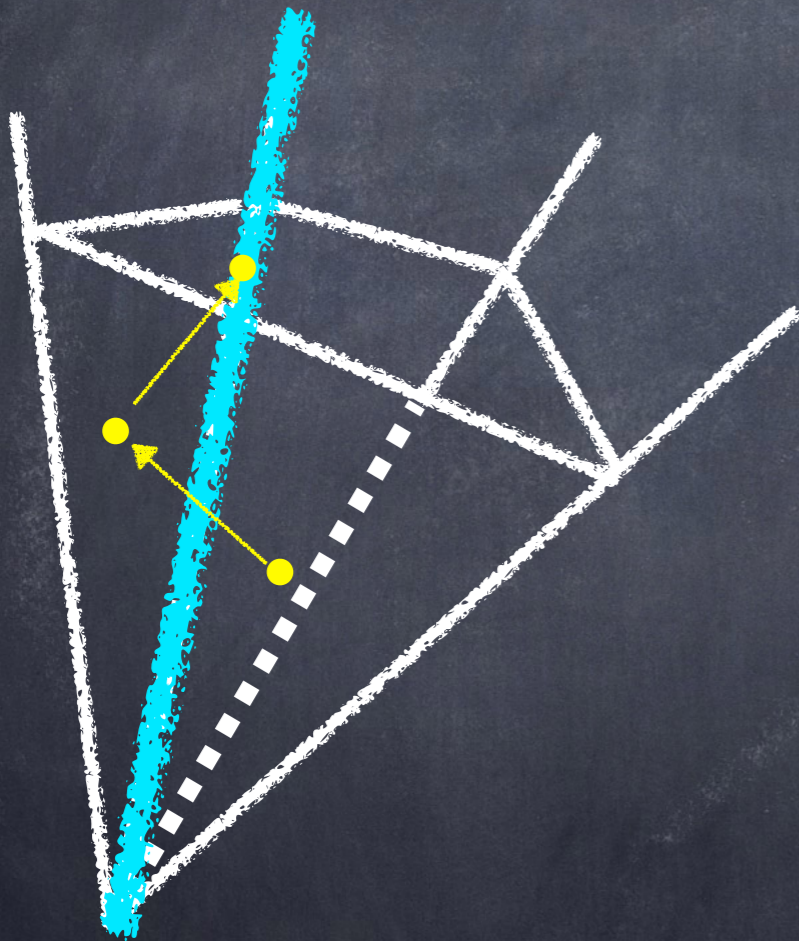


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- Take  $x$  to be the intersection point and iterate, until  $F(x)$  is dimension 1
- An ER is found.



Works for large problems!

4-Gluon OPs ->

$Q_{G^4}^{(1)}$	$(G_{\mu\nu}^A G^{A\mu\nu})(G_{\rho\sigma}^B G^{B\rho\sigma})$	$Q_{G^4}^{(7)}$	$d^{ABE} d^{CDE} (G_{\mu\nu}^A G^{B\mu\nu})(G_{\rho\sigma}^C G^{D\rho\sigma})$
$Q_{G^4}^{(2)}$	$(G_{\mu\nu}^A \tilde{G}^{A\mu\nu})(G_{\rho\sigma}^B \tilde{G}^{B\rho\sigma})$	$Q_{G^4}^{(8)}$	$d^{ABE} d^{CDE} (G_{\mu\nu}^A \tilde{G}^{B\mu\nu})(G_{\rho\sigma}^C \tilde{G}^{D\rho\sigma})$
$Q_{G^4}^{(3)}$	$(G_{\mu\nu}^A G^{B\mu\nu})(G_{\rho\sigma}^A G^{B\rho\sigma})$		
$Q_{G^4}^{(4)}$	$(G_{\mu\nu}^A \tilde{G}^{B\mu\nu})(G_{\rho\sigma}^A \tilde{G}^{B\rho\sigma})$		

Plus a  $(D6)^2$  term from double insertion

$\vec{x} \cdot \vec{C} \geq 0$     **x given by**

[0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0]	[0, 0, 6, 3, 7, 2, 0]	[24, 0, 12, 21, 15, 14, 0]	[0, 0, 96, 24, 64, 40, -81]
[0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0]	[8, 6, 1, 6, 0, 2, 0]	[24, 32, 24, 4, 8, 0, -27]	[40, 32, 80, 4, 0, 0, -189]
[2, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0]	[0, 6, 3, 12, 5, 0, 0]	[48, 36, 21, 27, 25, 0, 0]	[0, 0, 24, 120, 40, 104, -81]
[0, 2, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0]	[8, 6, 1, 12, 0, 0, 0]	[32, 40, 4, 80, 0, 0, -27]	[0, 0, 120, 24, 104, 40, -81]
[0, 0, 3, 0, 2, 0, 0]	[0, 6, 6, 9, 10, 4, 0]	[0, 48, 0, 48, 0, 40, -81]	[96, 0, 144, 24, 64, 40, -81]
[0, 0, 0, 3, 0, 2, 0]	[0, 12, 0, 14, 0, 0, -9]	[24, 0, 36, 24, 16, 40, -81]	[48, 0, 96, 24, 0, 40, -243]
[1, 1, 2, 2, 0, 0, 0]	[0, 0, 8, 8, 0, 8, -27]	[0, 0, 48, 24, 32, 40, -81]	[0, 192, 168, 96, 112, 120, -405]
[6, 0, 3, 0, 2, 0, 0]	[12, 0, 14, 0, 0, 0, -27]	[0, 0, 24, 48, 16, 56, -81]	[168, 480, 168, 156, 56, 160, -729]
[4, 2, 2, 1, 2, 0, 0]	[6, 8, 12, 1, 0, 0, -27]	[88, 32, 56, 4, 40, 0, -27]	[264, 384, 156, 168, 16, 200, -729]
[0, 0, 4, 0, 0, 0, -9]	[8, 16, 4, 8, 0, 8, -27]	[96, 42, 27, 84, 25, 0, 0]	[288, 384, 216, 168, 0, 200, -891]
[6, 0, 6, 0, 5, 0, 0]	[0, 24, 0, 12, 0, 8, -27]	[96, 66, 42, 39, 50, 4, 0]	[480, 384, 480, 168, 160, 200, -729]
[0, 0, 3, 6, 5, 4, 0]	[8, 22, 1, 14, 0, 10, -27]	[120, 42, 39, 42, 40, 14, 0]	[336, 768, 672, 216, 0, 200, -2187]

7D polyhedral cone with 48 facets!



# The SDP approach

Given amplitude  $\mathcal{M}^{ijkl}$ , how to check if it's allowed by positivity?

$$\mathbf{C}^{n^4} = \left\{ \mathcal{M} \in \vec{\mathbf{S}}^{n^4} \mid \mathcal{Q} \cdot \mathcal{M} \geq 0 \forall \mathcal{Q} \in \mathbf{Q}^{n^4} \right\}$$

The semi-definite programming (SDP) approach:

$$\min \quad \mathcal{Q} \cdot \mathcal{M}$$

subject to  $\mathcal{Q} \in \text{spectrahedron}$

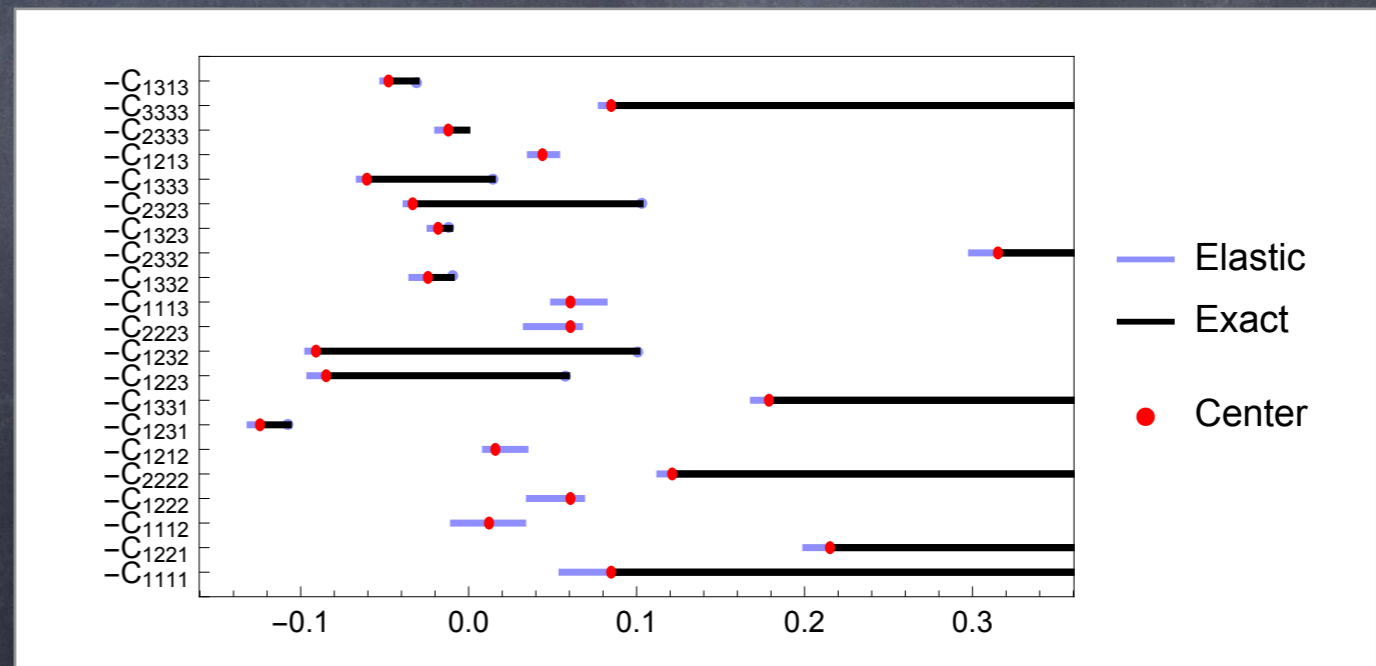
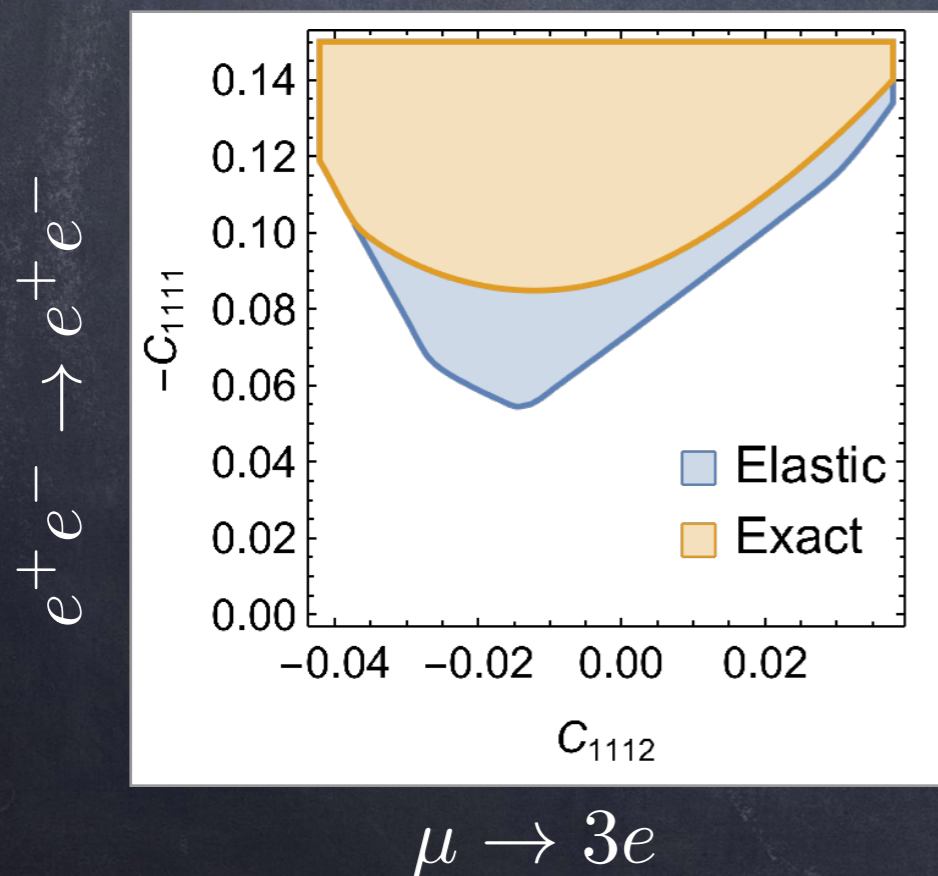
If a solution exists, then  $\mathcal{M}$  is allowed by positivity.

- Solvable within polynomial complexity.
- In contrast to elastic positivity, which is NP-hard.



# Example: improvements in SMEFT

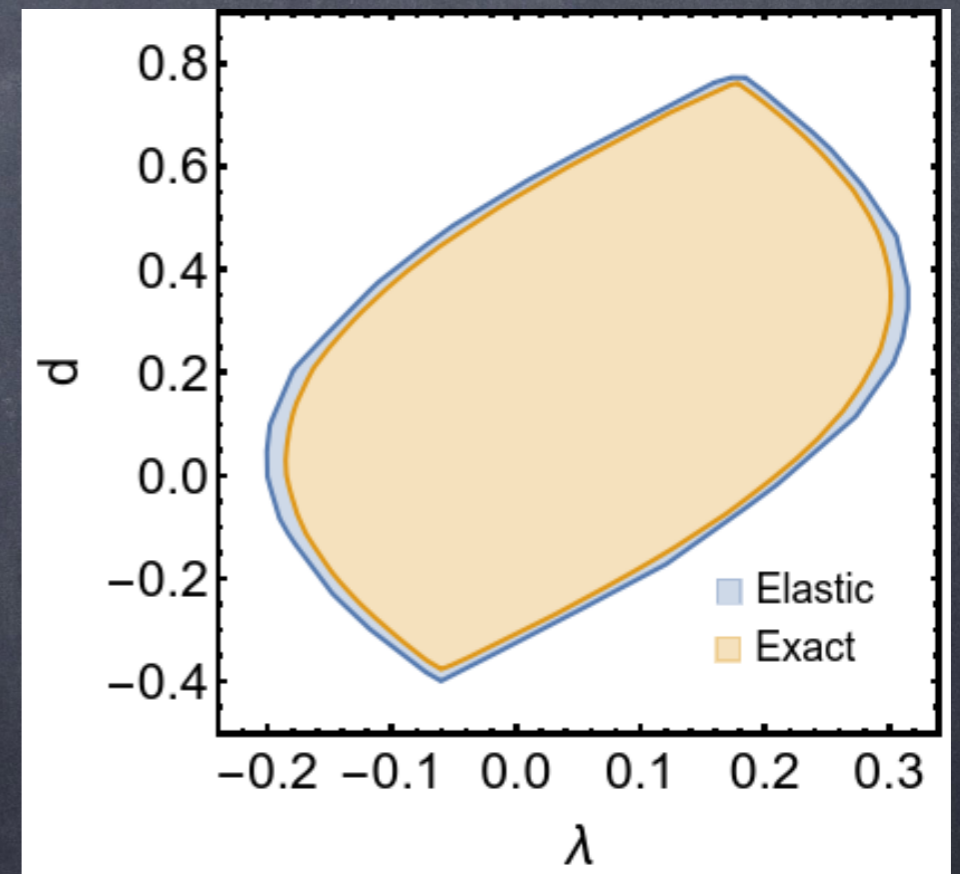
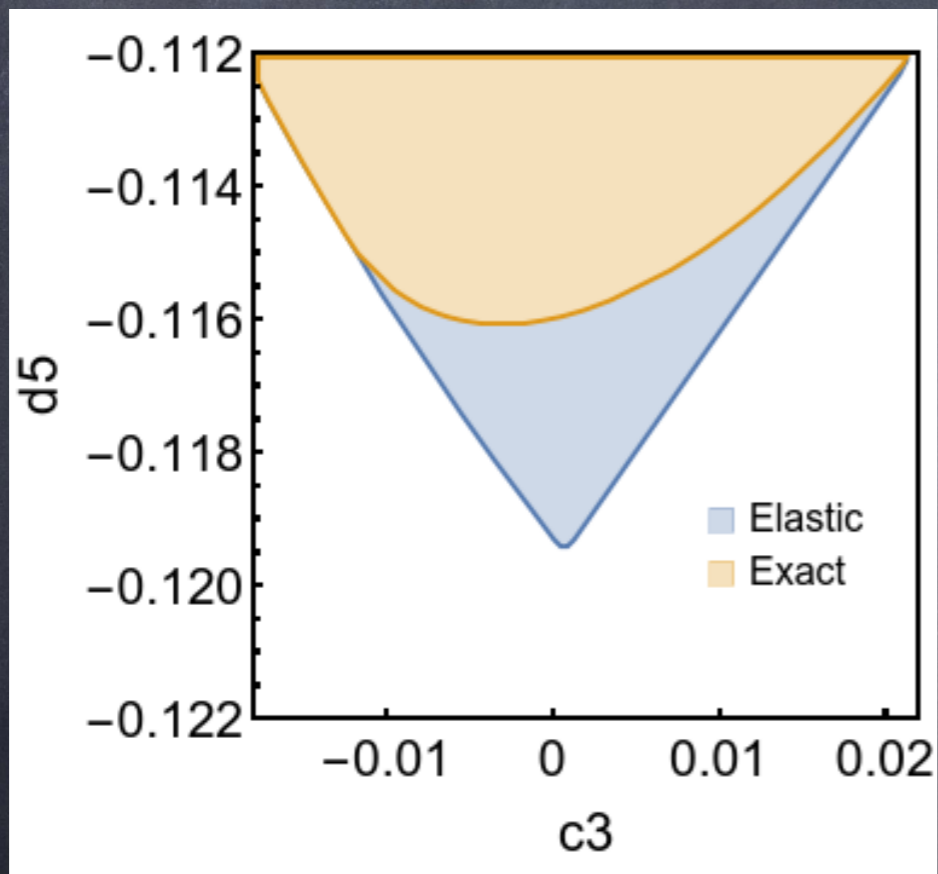
- SMEFT VVVV (aQGC) operators (W+B, n=12 modes): reproduced bounds by [2009.04490, K. Yamashita, CZ and S.-Y. Zhou] which were obtained by taking  $O(1000)$  discrete ERs in the amplitude space.
- SM flavor sector (n=3 fields) [2004.02885, Remmen & Rodd]
  - Flavor violating NP sets lower bounds on flavor conserving ones.





# Example: improvements in spin-2 EFT

- dRGT massive gravity (n=5): improves slightly the minimum value of  $d_5$ .
- Z2 bi-field spin-2 EFT (n=10): improving the elastic (superposed) positivity.





# Summary

- Positive structures arise at the dim-8 level in EFT coefficient space, as a consequence of axiomatic QFT principles.
- Realistic problems often involve multi-field EFTs, in which a convex geometric perspective helps to understand these structures.
- We convert the problem of finding bounds to a geometric problem: finding the ERs of a spectrahedron.
  - For small  $n$ , can be solved analytically.
  - For large  $n$ , can be solved as a semi-definite programming problem.
- Improved some previous results.



Backups



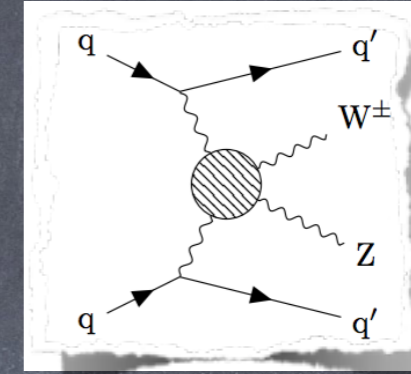
$$Q_{ex} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 3 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$



# Anomalous quartic-gauge boson couplings

[K. Yamashita, CZ, S.-Y. Zhou 2009.04490]

$$\begin{aligned}
 O_{T,0} &= \text{Tr}[\hat{W}_{\mu\nu}\hat{W}^{\mu\nu}]\text{Tr}[\hat{W}_{\alpha\beta}\hat{W}^{\alpha\beta}] & O_{T,1} &= \text{Tr}[\hat{W}_{\alpha\nu}\hat{W}^{\mu\beta}]\text{Tr}[\hat{W}_{\mu\beta}\hat{W}^{\alpha\nu}] \\
 O_{T,2} &= \text{Tr}[\hat{W}_{\alpha\mu}\hat{W}^{\mu\beta}]\text{Tr}[\hat{W}_{\beta\nu}\hat{W}^{\nu\alpha}] & O_{T,10} &= \text{Tr}[\hat{W}_{\mu\nu}\tilde{W}^{\mu\nu}]\text{Tr}[\hat{W}_{\alpha\beta}\tilde{W}^{\alpha\beta}] \\
 O_{T,5} &= \text{Tr}[\hat{W}_{\mu\nu}\hat{W}^{\mu\nu}]\hat{B}_{\alpha\beta}\hat{B}^{\alpha\beta} & O_{T,6} &= \text{Tr}[\hat{W}_{\alpha\nu}\hat{W}^{\mu\beta}]\hat{B}_{\mu\beta}\hat{B}^{\alpha\nu} \\
 O_{T,7} &= \text{Tr}[\hat{W}_{\alpha\mu}\hat{W}^{\mu\beta}]\hat{B}_{\beta\nu}\hat{B}^{\nu\alpha} & O_{T,11} &= \text{Tr}[\hat{W}_{\mu\nu}\tilde{W}^{\mu\nu}]\hat{B}_{\alpha\beta}\tilde{B}^{\alpha\beta} \\
 O_{T,8} &= \hat{B}_{\mu\nu}\hat{B}^{\mu\nu}\hat{B}_{\alpha\beta}\hat{B}^{\alpha\beta} & O_{T,9} &= \hat{B}_{\alpha\mu}\hat{B}^{\mu\beta}\hat{B}_{\beta\nu}\hat{B}^{\nu\alpha}
 \end{aligned}$$



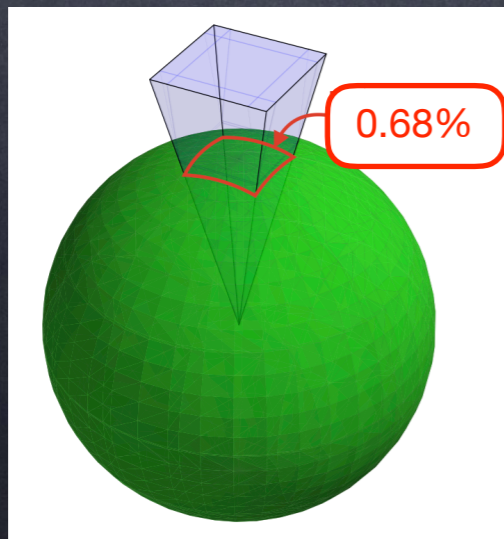
Infinite number of ERs!

Linear:

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_{T,2} &\geq 0 \\
 4F_{T,1} + F_{T,2} &\geq 0 \\
 F_{T,2} + 8F_{T,10} &\geq 0 \\
 8F_{T,0} + 4F_{T,1} + 3F_{T,2} &\geq 0 \\
 12F_{T,0} + 4F_{T,1} + 5F_{T,2} + 4F_{T,10} &\geq 0 \\
 4F_{T,0} + 4F_{T,1} + 3F_{T,2} + 12F_{T,10} &\geq 0 \\
 4F_{T,6} + F_{T,7} &\geq 0 \\
 F_{T,7} &\geq 0 \\
 2F_{T,8} + F_{T,9} &\geq 0 \\
 F_{T,9} &\geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Quadratic:

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_{T,9} (F_{T,2} + 4F_{T,10}) &\geq F_{T,11}^2 \\
 16 (2 (F_{T,0} + F_{T,1}) + F_{T,2}) (2F_{T,8} + F_{T,9}) &\geq (4F_{T,5} + F_{T,7})^2 \\
 32 (2F_{T,8} + F_{T,9}) (3F_{T,0} + F_{T,1} + 2F_{T,2} + 4F_{T,10}) &\geq 3 (4F_{T,5} + F_{T,7})^2 \\
 2\sqrt{2}\sqrt{F_{T,9} (F_{T,2} + 8F_{T,10})} &\geq \max (4F_{T,6} + F_{T,7} - 4F_{T,11}, F_{T,7} + 4F_{T,11}) \\
 4\sqrt{(8F_{T,0} + 4F_{T,1} + 3F_{T,2}) (2F_{T,8} + F_{T,9})} &\geq \max (-8F_{T,5} - F_{T,7}, 8F_{T,5} + 4F_{T,6} + 3F_{T,7}) \\
 4\sqrt{F_{T,9} (12F_{T,0} + 4F_{T,1} + 5F_{T,2} + 4F_{T,10})} &\geq \max (4F_{T,6} + F_{T,7} - 4F_{T,11}, F_{T,7} + 4F_{T,11}) \\
 4\sqrt{6}\sqrt{(2F_{T,8} + F_{T,9}) (12F_{T,0} + 4F_{T,1} + 5F_{T,2} + 4F_{T,10})} &\geq \max [-3 (8F_{T,5} + F_{T,7}), 3 (8F_{T,5} + 4F_{T,6} + 3F_{T,7})] \\
 \sqrt{6}\sqrt{(4F_{T,8} + 3F_{T,9}) (6F_{T,0} + 2F_{T,1} + 3F_{T,2} + 6F_{T,10})} &\geq \max [-3 (2F_{T,5} + F_{T,11}), 3 (2F_{T,5} + F_{T,7} + F_{T,11})] \\
 2\sqrt{(12F_{T,8} + 7F_{T,9}) (12F_{T,0} + 4F_{T,1} + 5F_{T,2} + 4F_{T,10})} &\geq \max (-12F_{T,5} - F_{T,7} - 2F_{T,11}, -12F_{T,5} + 4F_{T,6} - F_{T,7} - 2F_{T,11}, \\
 &\quad -12F_{T,5} - F_{T,7} + 2F_{T,11}, 12F_{T,5} + 4F_{T,6} + 5F_{T,7} + 2F_{T,11})
 \end{aligned}$$





To formulate this approach, **symmetries of the system help**  
 (will also discuss cases without symmetries)

- Make use of symmetries of the problem (SM symmetries, helicities)

- Dispersion relation:  $M^{ijkl} = \sum'_X \int_{(\epsilon\Lambda)^2}^{\infty} \frac{d\mu m_X^{ij} m_X^{kl}}{\pi(\mu - \frac{1}{2}M^2)^3} + (j \leftrightarrow l)$

- Becomes:  $M^{ijkl} = \sum'_{X \in r} \int_{(\epsilon\Lambda)^2}^{\infty} d\mu \frac{|\langle X|M|r \rangle|^2}{\pi(\mu - \frac{1}{2}M^2)^3} P_r^{i(j|k|l)}$

i(j|k|l): j,l symmetrized

- $P_r^{ijkl}$  is the projective operator of an irrep r, obtained by CG coefficients.

$$P_r^{ijkl} = \sum_{\alpha} C_{i,j}^{r,\alpha} \left( C_{k,l}^{r,\alpha} \right)^*$$

- The generators are simply (subset of)  $P_r^{i(j|k|l)}$



- At least for simple cases, the  $\text{ext}(G)$  can be found by inspection.

- E.g. simplest case:  
 $n=2$ , with some  $Z_2$  symmetry,  $e=f=0$ ,  $T \rightarrow$ 

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b & 0 & 0 \\ b & c & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & d & b \\ 0 & 0 & b & d \end{pmatrix}$$

- There are two kinds of ERs

- ER1:**  $a=b=c=0, d=1$

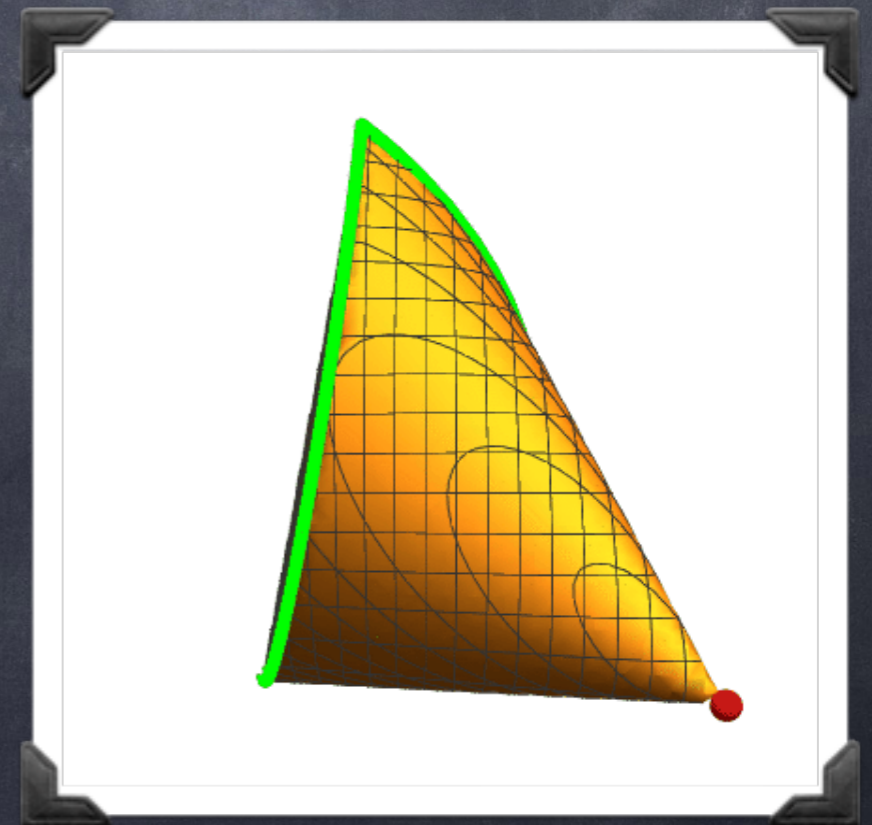
- ER2:**  $ac=b^2, d=|b|, a,c>0$

- To get bounds, write the amplitude as

$$M^{ijkl} = \begin{pmatrix} C_1 & C_2 & 0 & 0 \\ C_2 & C_3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & C_4 & C_2 \\ 0 & 0 & C_2 & C_4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_1, C_3, C_4 \geq 0 \text{ and } \sqrt{C_1 C_3} \geq \pm 2C_2 - C_4$$

A 3D cross section of the 4D cone  $(a,b,c,d)$





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 $n=2$ , with some  $Z_2$  symmetry,  $e=f=0$ ,  $T \rightarrow$ 

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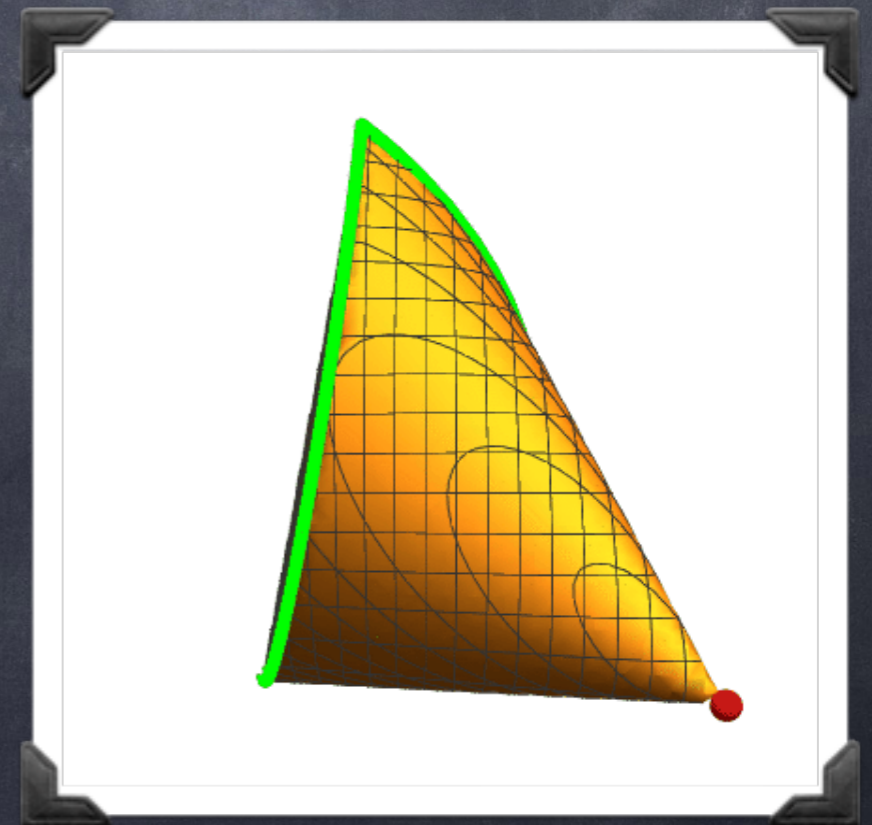
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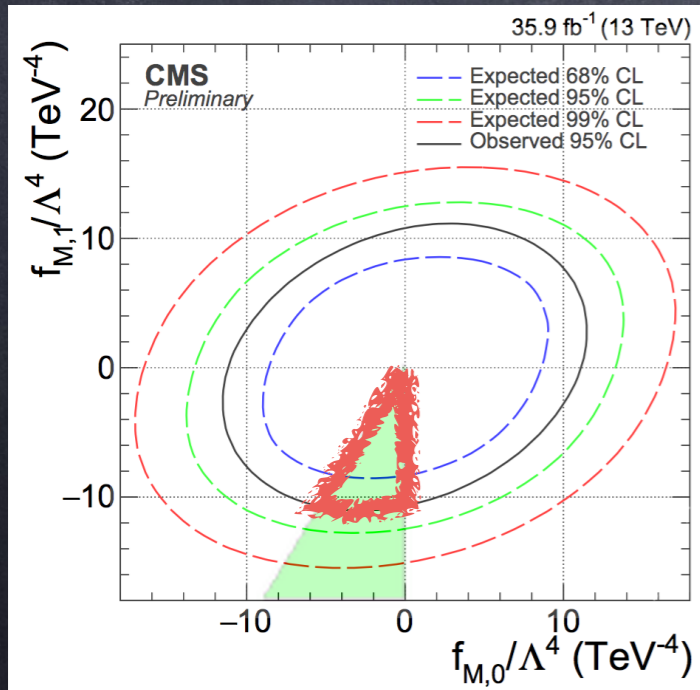
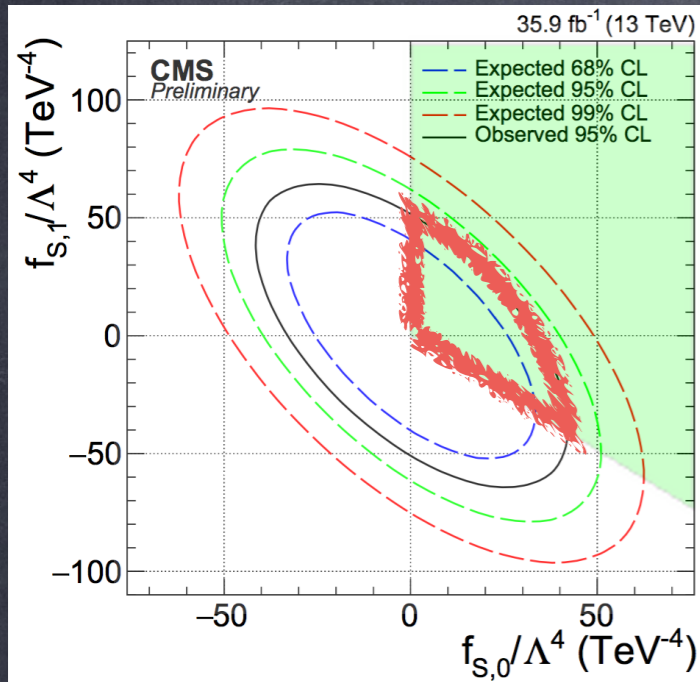
A 3D cross section of the 4D cone  $(a,b,c,d)$



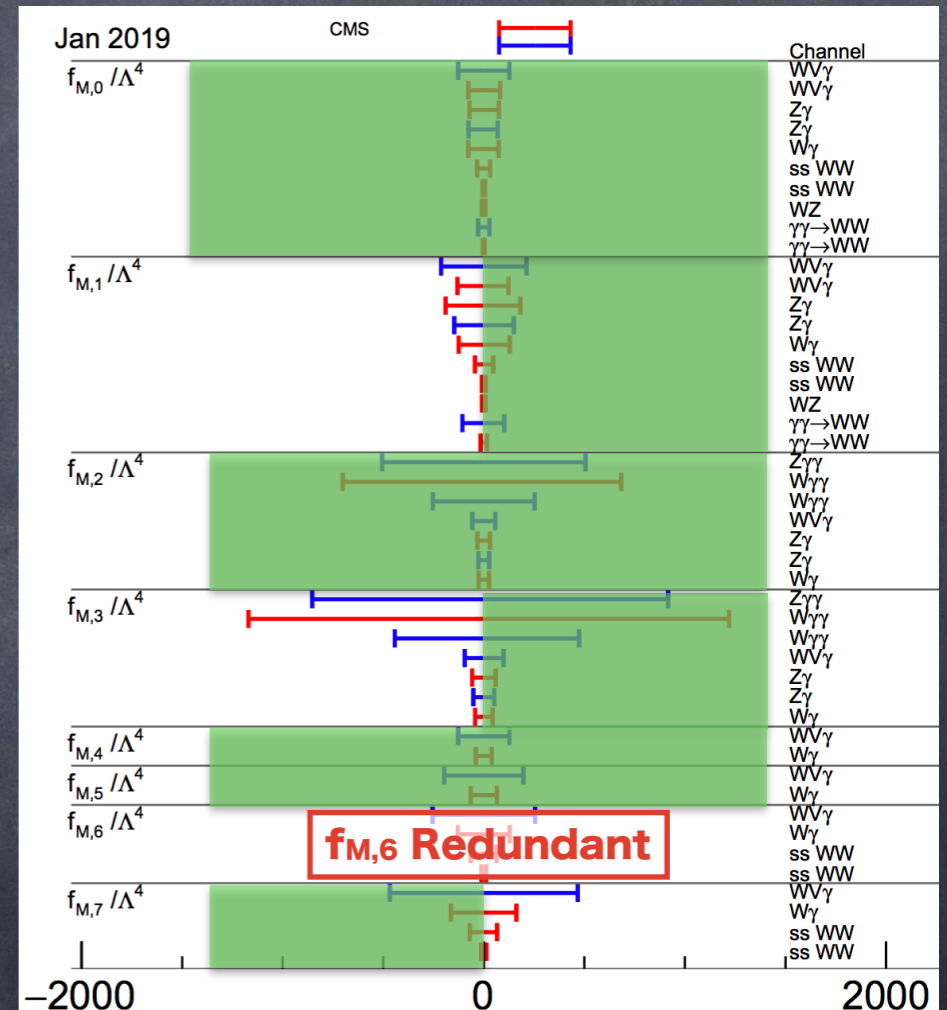
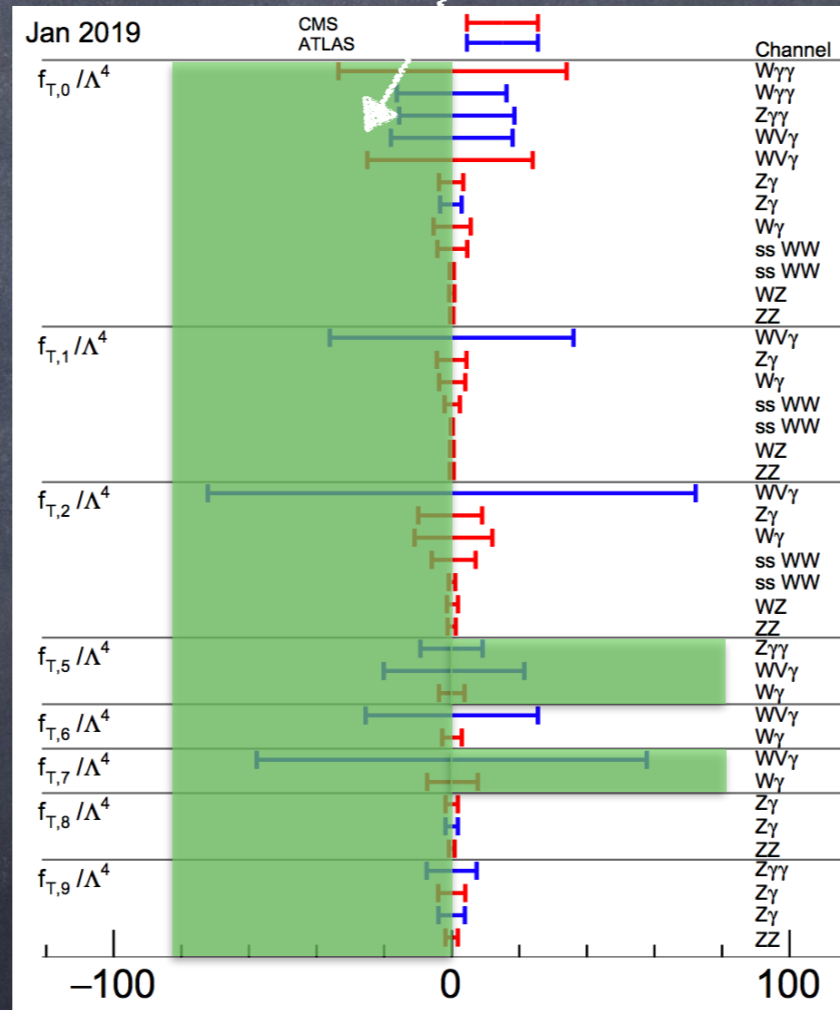


# Pheno applications...

- May change the interpretation of measurements.



Excluded



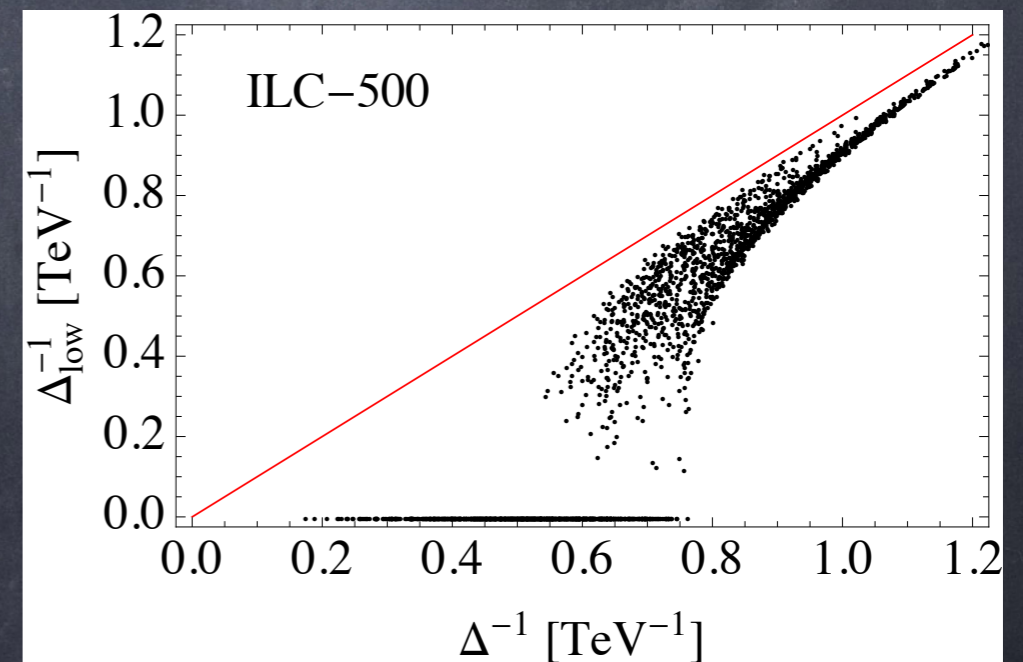
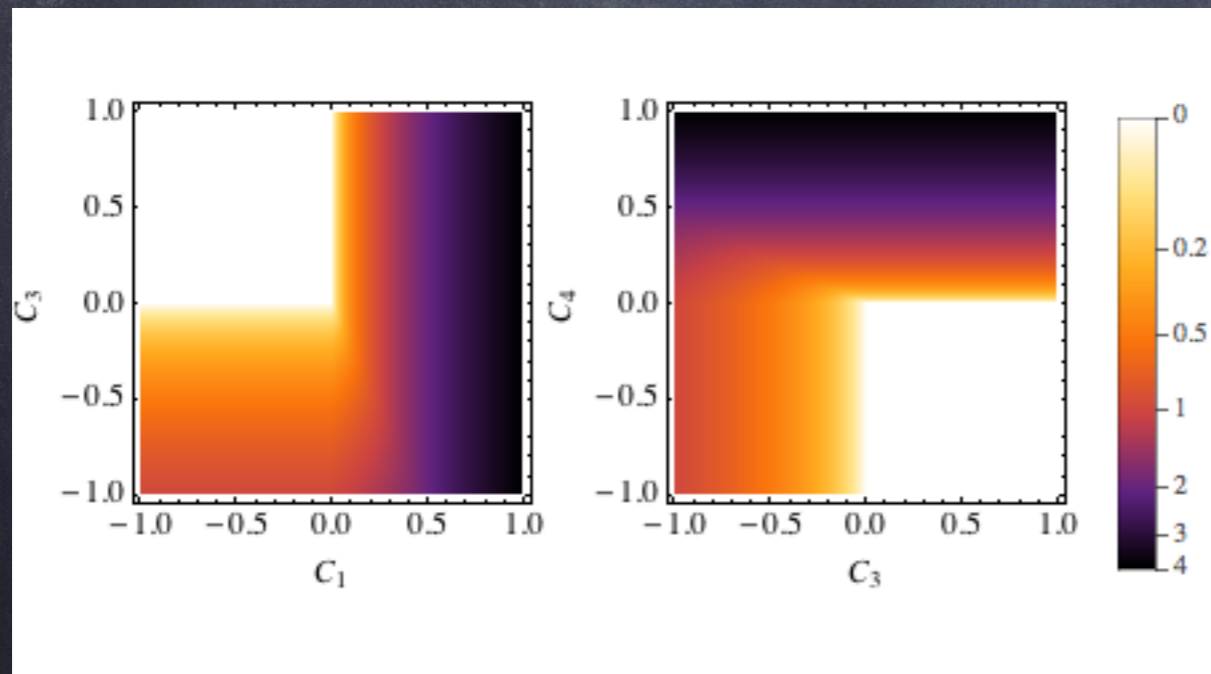
[https://twiki.cern.ch/twiki/bin/view/CMSPublic/PhysicsResultsSMPaTGC#aQGC\\_Results](https://twiki.cern.ch/twiki/bin/view/CMSPublic/PhysicsResultsSMPaTGC#aQGC_Results)



- **Test QFT principles:** Non-local UV completions violating polynomial boundedness, violation of Lorentz invariance, or even SMEFT expansion not valid...
- A similar study for future ee colliders: measure the “scale of violation”

$$-\Delta^{-4} \equiv \min \left[ \min_{\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2} \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 M(s, t=0)(\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2)}{ds^2}, 0 \right]$$

$$\Delta^{-1} \in [\Delta_{\text{low}}^{-1}, \Delta_{\text{high}}^{-1}], \text{ due to exp error}$$



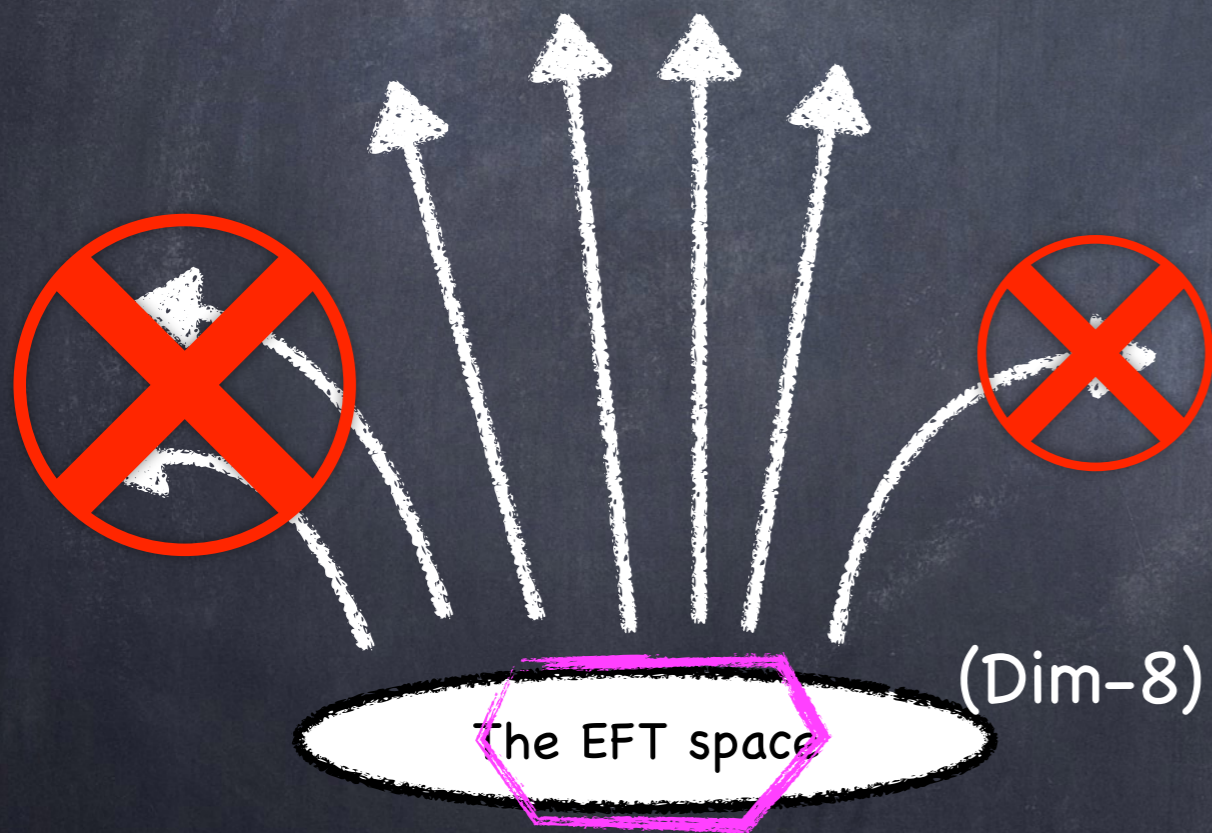


• Infer UV model from EFT measurements

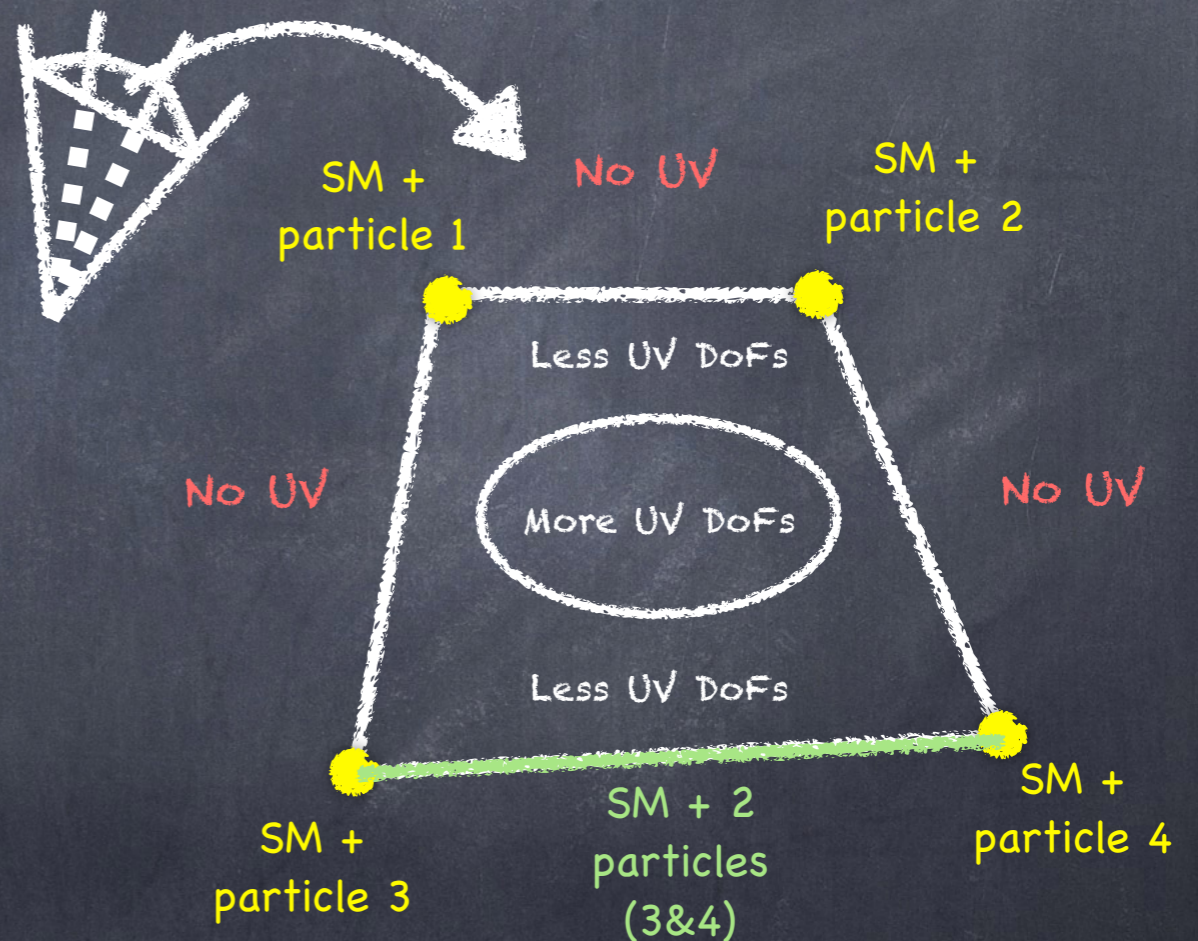
**Inverse problem:** Given the measured values of the operator coefficients around the electroweak scale, to what extent can we possibly determine the nature of the new physics beyond the SM? [Gu, Wang, 2008.07551]

see also [S. Dawson et al. 2007.01296] [N. Arkani-Hamed et al. hep-ph/0512190]

Many BSM models



Positivity bounds



[CZ and S.-Y. Zhou 2005.03047]

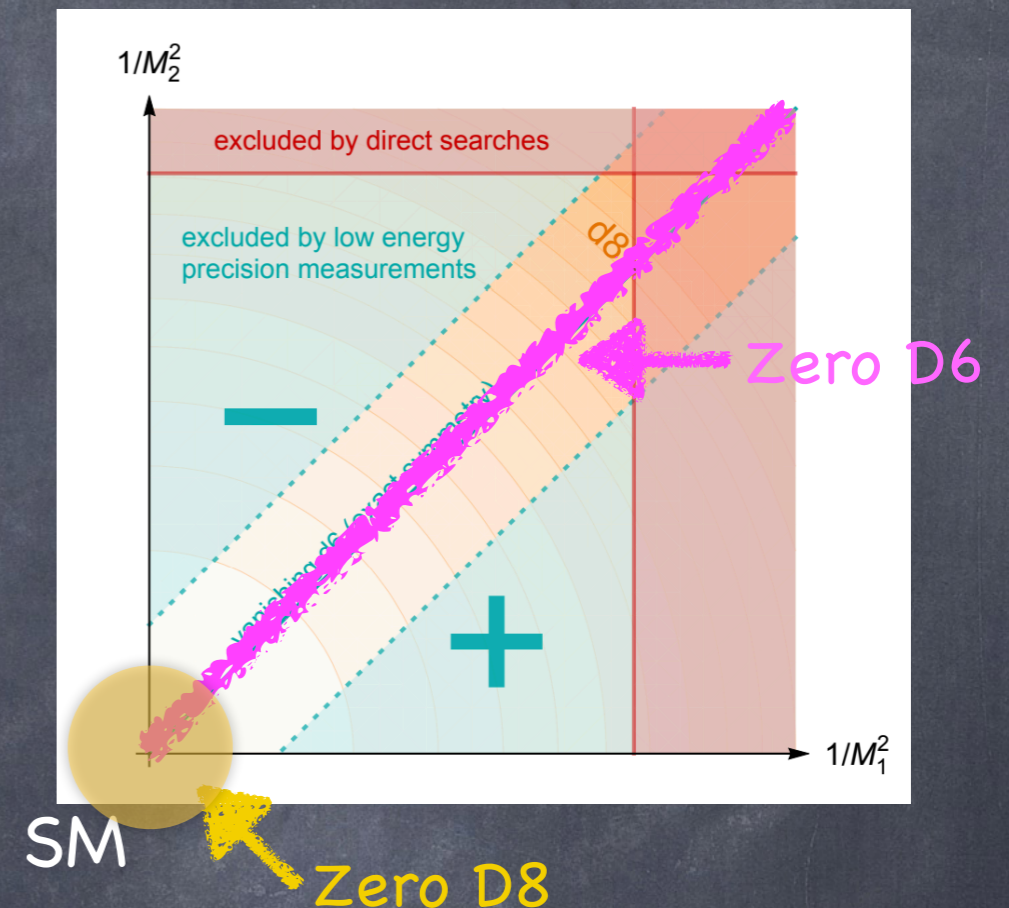
[2009.02212 B. Fuks, Y. Liu, CZ, S.-Y. Zhou]



- Testing and confirming the SM: Null result of measurements at dim-6 does not exclude all BSM, but does at dim-8 by using positivity bounds

[Gu, Wang, 2008.07551]

- Dim-6: no positivity, different states may cancel each other's effects.
  - E.g., scalar and vector generate 4-fermion operators with opposite signs.
  - No UV particle can be absolutely excluded.
- Dim-8: with positivity, different states are not allowed to cancel.



- All states can be excluded to some absolute scale. (by using positivity bound)
- Unlike dim-6 cannot lift this limit by adding more and more BSM states.
- A robust confirmation of the SM.

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Need for complete bounds:

- For most of these applications, its very useful to identify the **EXACT positivity bounds**.
- To test violation of QFT principles, conservative bounds will degrade the sensitivity to the amount of violation.
- To infer UV models/states, need to locate exactly the "vertices", or "edges", or more strictly the Extremal Rays in the positivity cone.
- To exclude all BSM models, at least need positivity bounds in all directions. (So that the positivity cone cannot contain a straight line).