

Amplitudes and bootstrap

Rencontres de Physique des Particules
Janvier 2024, Sorbonne Université

Revue séminaire

Piotr Tourkine,
Laboratoire d'Annecy-le-Vieux de Physique Théorique,
CNRS & USMB



UNIVERSITÉ
SAVOIE
MONT BLANC

- Mostly a review talk, but by the end I'll flash some directions of research of mine, with collaborators:



Alexander Zhiboedov
CERN



Felipe Figueroa
LAPTh



Christopher Eckner
Nova Gorica



Damien Leflot
LAPTh



Mehmet Gumus
LAPTh

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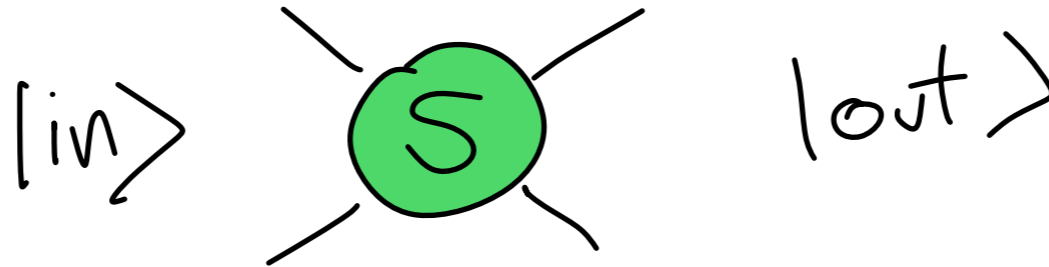


Mehmet Gumus
LAPTh





The S-matrix



- Essential for precision physics in colliders + gravitational waves
- Also a beautiful *theoretical laboratory* where you can ask questions regarding phenomena not accessible to experiments yet

Perturbative

“Scattering amplitudes”
methods

QCD background in colliders
EW sector
Gravitational waves

Non-perturbative

S-matrix bootstrap

strongly coupled phenomena:
super-transplanckian scattering in
gravity
confining gauge theories,
...

Amplitudes' methods

1-slide lightning review

- “On-shell revolution”, Lagrangians and gauge-invariance are a useless complication, geometric methods talk by Quentin Bonnefoy
- Massive progress on Feynman integrals, methods from algebraic geometry in particular
- *Double copy*:

gravity \sim (gauge)²,

↳ applications to gravitational wave from binary mergers

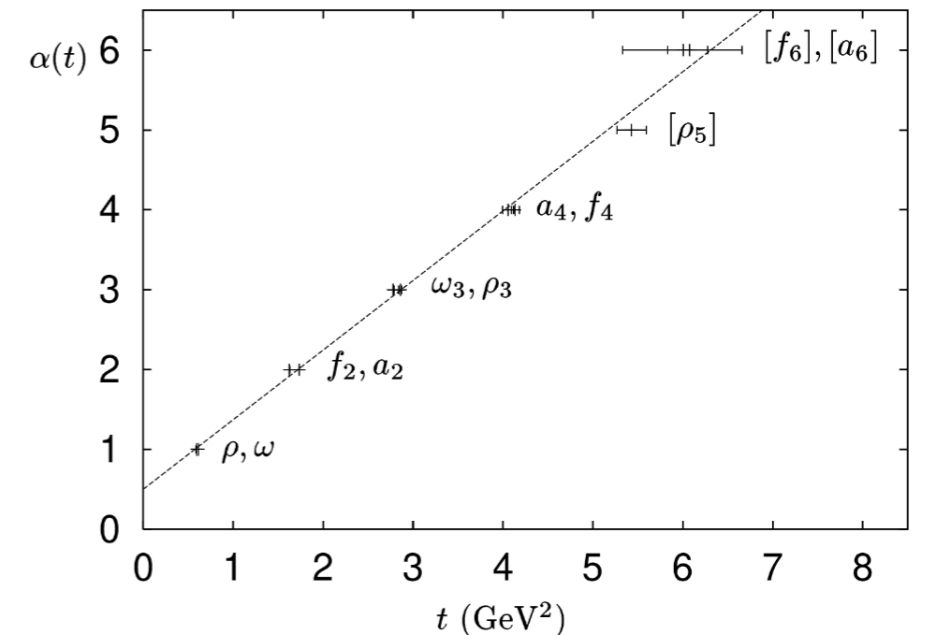
Outline

- Bootstraps: old and new
- Teaser
- Bootstrap axioms
- Dual approach; large N QCD
- Primal approach; scalar theories, quantum gravity
- Future prospects

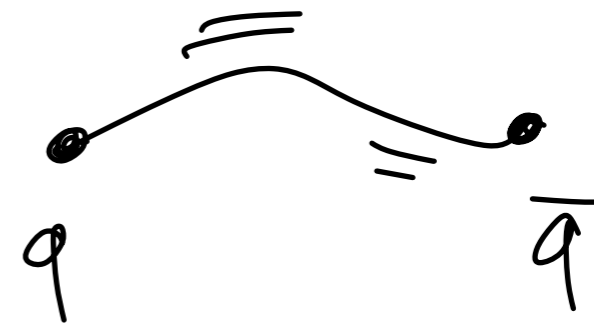
Old bootstrap

Soviet + Western groups

- People trying to understand strong interactions in the 60s and were confused by abundance of particles. Not at all like QED.
- Idea of bootstrap: use physical constraints plus a little something to solve theory (exp. input, other principle, etc.)
- Beautiful program, left aside when QCD came out. Important results: Froissart bound, crossing symmetry, Regge theory, etc. **String theory**.
- Main issues / unsolved questions:
 - lack of usable computational tools
 - not a super clear definition of principles to use (analyticity in particular);
 - multi-particle processes



Regge trajectories



$$A(s, t) \sim_{s \rightarrow \infty} s^{\alpha(t)}$$

$$J = \alpha(m_n^2)$$

Modern developments

S-matrix bootstrap

- Re-starts in 2016 with: [The S-matrix Bootstrap I, II, III, IV](#)
[M. F. Paulos, J. Penedones, J. Toledo, B. C. van Rees, P. Vieira](#)

- Builds on numerical success from CFT bootstrap

- New ingredients:

Paradigm change: explore **space** of theories, rather than solve one theory in particular

At boundaries of space of theories must lie special objects which one can hope to solve (e.g. 3d Ising model).

Right now, proposition that large-N Yang-Mills might lie at such a place, but other exotic phenomena as well

- Paris area and Geneva+Lausanne+Annecy are big hotspot for S-matrix bootstrap research in Europe
- S-matrix bootstrap series of workshops going strong (5 editions so far)



A maths exercise

A maths exercise

- Consider a sequence of real numbers and $(s_n)_{n \geq 0}$, $0 \leq s_n < s_{n+1}$
- Q: Do there exist functions of two complex variables, (s, t) :

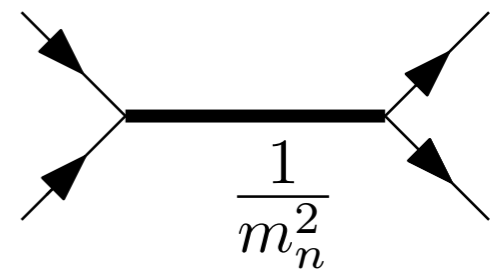
$$A(s, t) = \sum_{n=0}^N \frac{\sum_{j=0}^n a_{n,j} t^j}{s - s_n}$$

the unknowns
given

- Such that $A(s, t) = A(t, s)$ and $\forall n, j, a_{n,j} \geq 0$?

Meromorphic
amp

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}$$



A maths exercise

- Consider a sequence of real numbers and $(s_n)_{n \geq 0}$, $0 \leq s_n < s_{n+1}$
- Q: Do there exist functions of two complex variables, (s, t) :

$$A(s, t) = \sum_{n=0}^N \frac{\sum_{j=0}^n a_{n,j} t^j}{s - s_n} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{the unknowns} \\ \text{given} \end{array}$$

- Such that $A(s, t) = A(t, s)$ and $\forall n, j, a_{n,j} \geq 0$?
- Firstly, $N = \infty$, otherwise a finite polynomial in t cannot have singularities at $t = s_n$.
- $A(s, t) = A(t, s)$ gives:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^n a_{n,j} \left(\frac{t^j}{s - x_n} - \frac{s^j}{t - x_n} \right) = 0 \quad (\text{crossing})$$

A maths exercise

- $A(s, t) = A(t, s)$ gives:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^n a_{n,j} \left(\frac{t^j}{s - x_n} - \frac{s^j}{t - x_n} \right) = 0 \quad (\text{crossing})$$

$$\sum_{n,j} a_{n,j} A_{n,j}(t, s) = 0$$

A maths exercise

$$\sum_{n,j}^{\infty} a_{n,j} A_{n,j}(t, s) = 0 \quad (*)$$

A maths exercise

$$\sum_{n,j}^{\infty} a_{n,j} A_{n,j}(t, s) = 0 \quad (*)$$

- If you can find a linear functional F

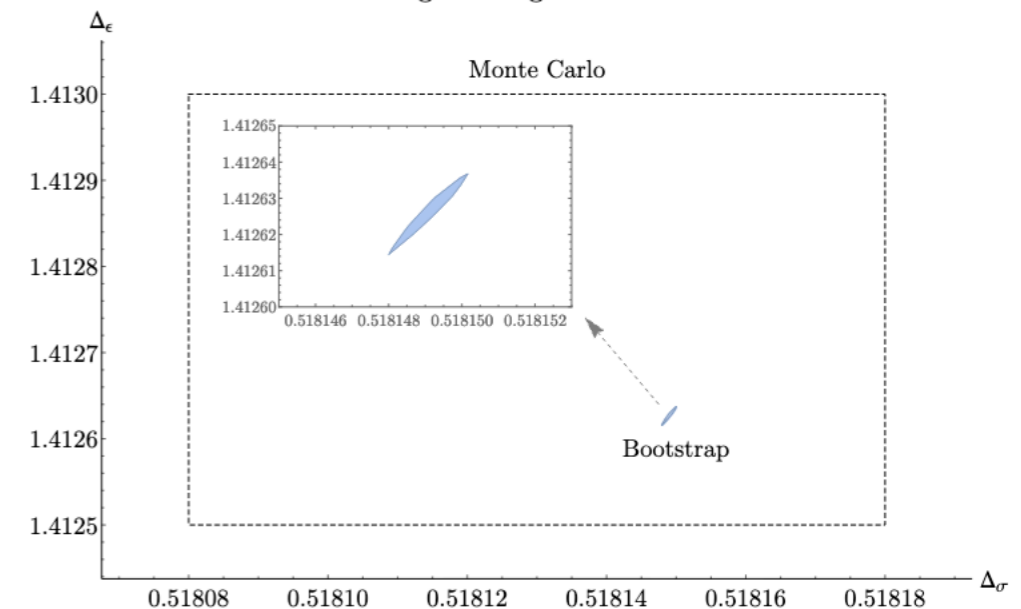
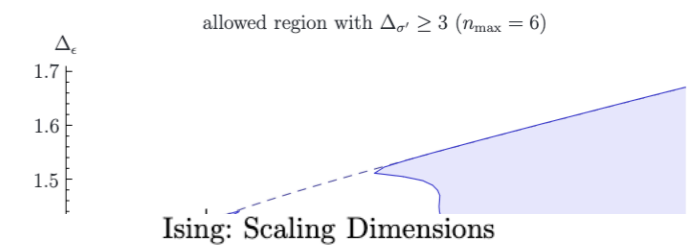
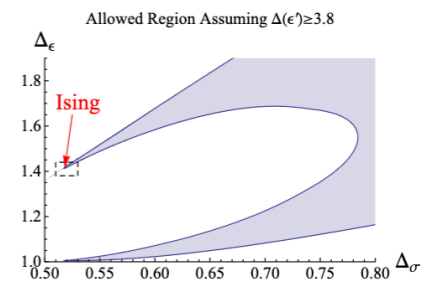
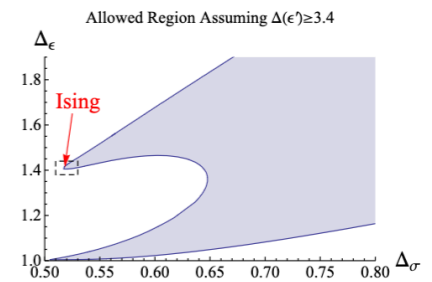
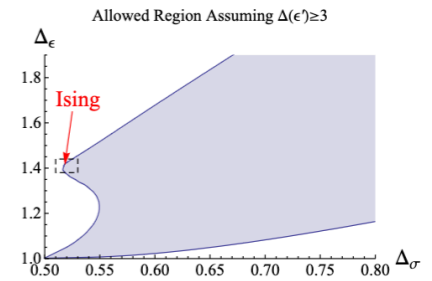
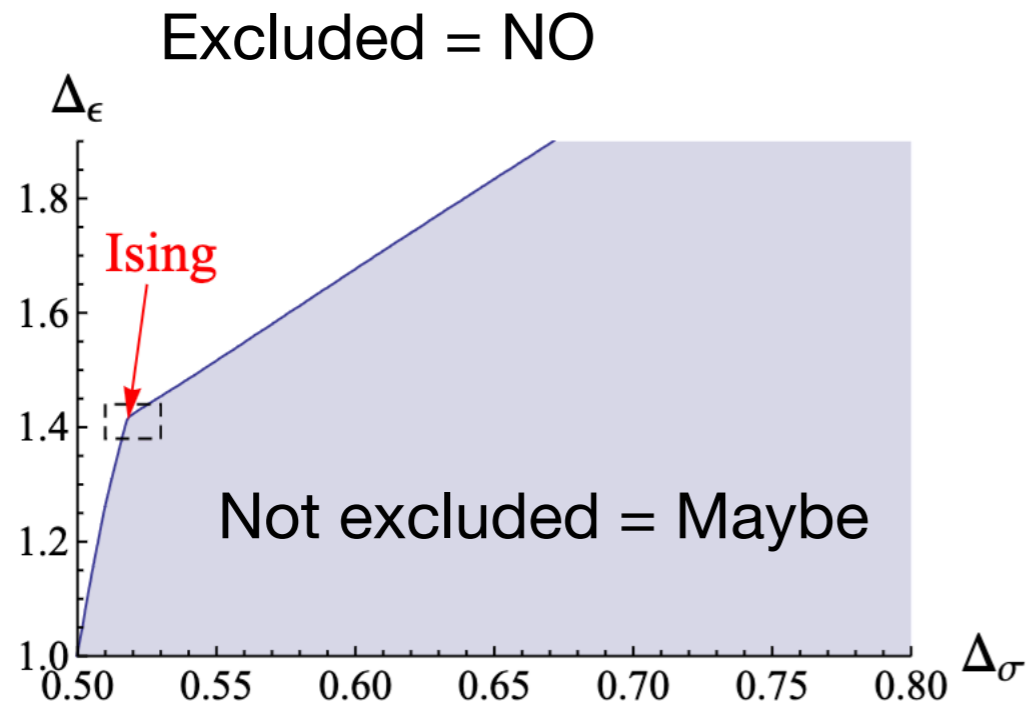
$$\forall n, j, \quad F[A_{n,j}] \geq 0$$

- Then you know that (*) does not have a solution, *without having to search the values of the a 's.*

- E.g. : $F(A) := A(s_0, t_0)$, or $F(A) = \sum f_{i,j} (\partial_s)^i (\partial_t)^j A(s, t) \Big|_{s=0, t=0}, \dots$

- scan the space of $f_{i,j}$: if no solution, can't say anything. If one is found: excluded.

Bootstrap of 3D Ising



[arXiv:0807.0004] JHEP **12** (2008) 031

Bounding scalar operator dimensions in 4D CFT

[R. Rattazzi](#), [V. S. Rychkov](#), [E. Tonni](#), [A. Vichi](#)

[arXiv:1203.6064] Phys.Rev. **D86** (2012) 025022

Solving the 3D Ising Model with the Conformal Bootstrap

[S. El-Showk](#), [M. F. Paulos](#), [D. Poland](#), [S. Rychkov](#), [D. Simmons-Duffin](#), [A. Vichi](#)

SDPB

Semi-definite programming adapted to conformal bootstrap

Main feature : arbitrary precision

Popular repositories

- sdpb** (Public) - A semidefinite program solver for the conformal bootstrap. C++ 49 stars 42 forks
- lie** (Public) - A python interface to the computer algebra package LiE, for computations with Lie groups, representations, etc.. 46 stars 11 forks
- ph229** (Public) - Course notes for Ph229ab 2018: Conformal Field Theory. TeX 25 stars 9 forks
- snarxiv** (Public) - The context-free grammar defining the arXiv (https://arxiv.org)
- snaplet-liftjax** (Public) - AJAX elements with anonymous handlers for Snap (based on Lift). Haskell 8 stars 1 fork

33 contributions in the last year

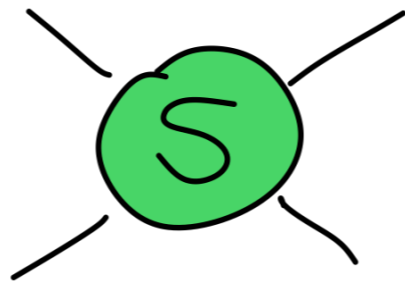
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
Mon					
Tue					
Wed					
Thu					
Fri					
Sat					
Sun					

Learn how we count contributions

[arXiv:1502.02033] JHEP **06** (2015) 174
A Semidefinite Program Solver for the Conformal Bootstrap
[D. Simmons-Duffin](#)

[arXiv:1909.09745]
Scaling the semidefinite program solver SDPB
[W. Landry, D. Simmons-Duffin](#)

The bootstrap axioms



from now on: mostly 2 to 2 scattering

most of the time gapped theory

$$s = 4E^2$$

$$t = -4E^2(1 - \cos(\theta))$$

Bootstrap axioms

A - C - U

- Analyticity Causality, locality; Dispersion relations
- Crossing Relativistic invariance
- Unitarity Quantum Mechanics

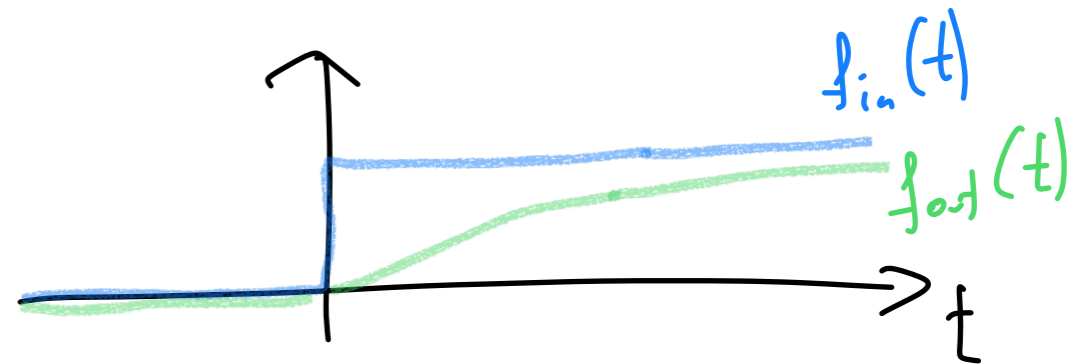
The S-matrix bootstrap : “what is the theory of relativistic quantum mechanical interactions ?”

[arXiv:2006.08221] JHEP **03** (2021) (null)
An Analytical Toolkit for the S-matrix Bootstrap
[M. Correia](#), [A. Sever](#), [A. Zhiboedov](#)

Analyticity

- Reflects causality.
- Signal model: Fourier transform of causal system can be analytically extended in upper half-plane.

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



$$S(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i\omega t} S(t) dt \xrightarrow{\text{causality}} \int_0^{\infty} e^{i\omega t} S(t) dt$$

$$e^{i(\omega_1 + i\omega_2)t} = e^{i\omega_1 t} e^{-\omega_2 t}$$

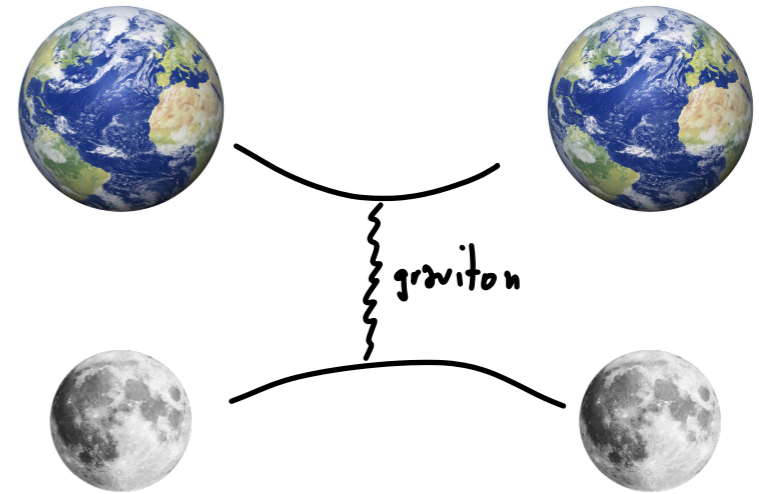
convergence is improved if $\Im \omega > 0$

Analyticity

- Reflects causality.
- Various levels of proven/unproven analyticity
- Maximal analyticity: the only singularities of the S-matrix are those dictated by unitarity. Unproven but believed to apply for the scattering of lightest states (with mass gap).
- Dispersion relations
- If scattering of non lightest-states, anomalous thresholds

[Correia; Mizera, Hannesdottir, ...]

Crossing



- $A(s, t) = A(t, s)$
- Singularities in t -channel \sim potential
- 2 to 2 and 2 to 3 proven, 60's (Bros Epstein Glaser; Bros)
- Crossing-symmetric dispersion relations
- Recent developments in n to m

[arXiv:2012.04877] Phys.Rev.Lett. **126**
(2021) 181601
Crossing Symmetric Dispersion Relations
in QFTs
[A. Sinha](#), [A. Zahed](#)

[arXiv:2310.12199]

Crossing beyond scattering amplitudes

[S. Caron-Huot](#), [M. Giroux](#), [H. S. Hannesdottir](#), [S. Mizera](#)

Unitarity

Partial wave unitarity

$$T(s, t) = 16\pi \sum_{J=0}^{\infty} (2J + 1) P_J(\cos(\theta)) f_J(s)$$

Legendre polynomials

$$S_J(s) = 1 + i\rho(s) f_J(s)$$

$$S_J(s) = 1 + i \frac{(s-4)^{(d-3)/2}}{\sqrt{s}} f_J(s)$$

↳ **partial waves** diagonalise unitarity:

Full, NP unitarity:

$$\bullet |S_J(s)|^2 \leq 1$$

Positivity:

$$\bullet \Im f_J(s) \geq 0$$

Straightforward to check, difficult to combine with crossing

Regge theory

- Needed to constrain high energy limit of amplitudes
- a.k.a. : Theory of complex angular momentum
- Beautiful formalism, could be improved and understood better
- E.g.: Can amplitudes with only finitely many trajectories exist?
[\[Eckner, Figueroa, T., wip\]](#)



Gribov



Regge



Mandelstam

Two broad classes of techniques

Primal; Dual

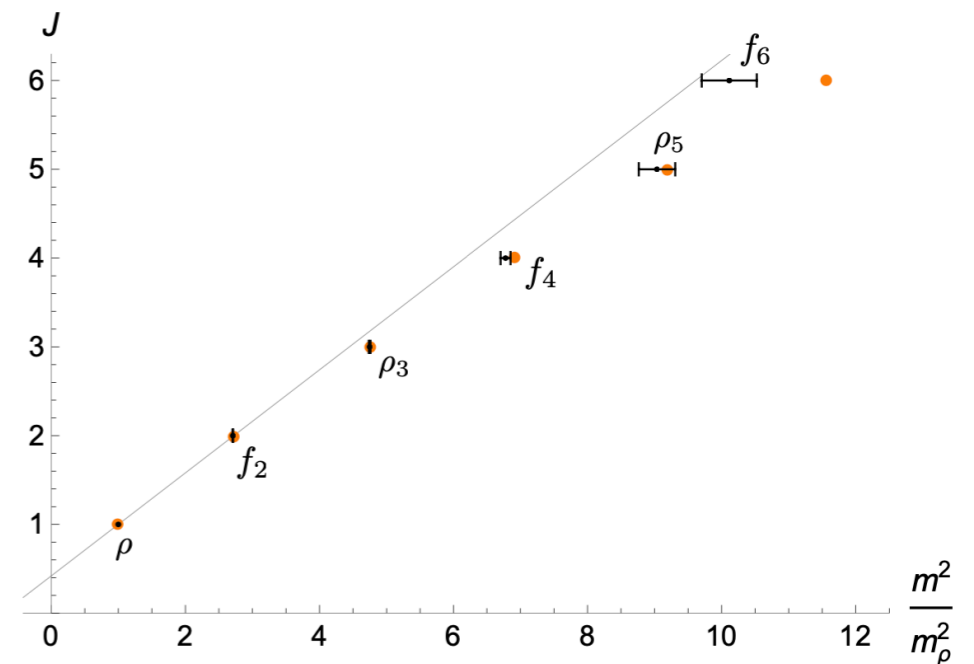
- Primal: Constructive
 - rho-Ansatz
 - Atkinson-Mandelstam iteration
- Dual: Functionals
 - Null constraints; “EFT-hedron”, large N QCD

Dual approaches, Functionals

Functionals

- Take a function, associate to it a scalar.

- E.g. : $\Phi[f] = f(x)$, $\Phi[f] = \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right|_{x=0} \dots$



Null constraints

Space of consistent EFTs

[arXiv:2011.02957] JHEP **05** (2021) 280

Extremal Effective Field Theories

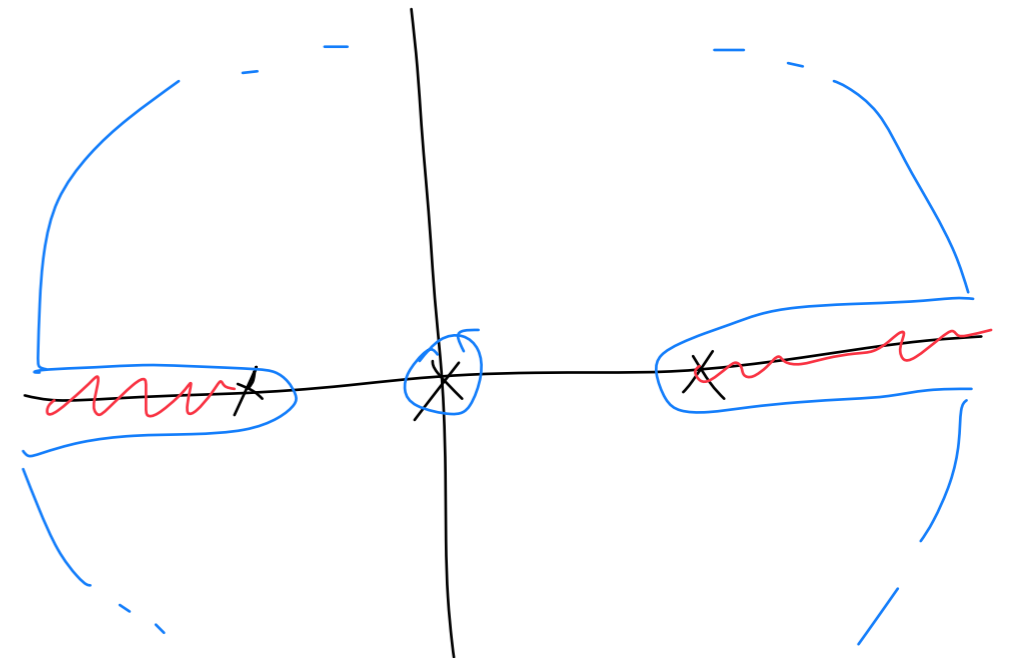
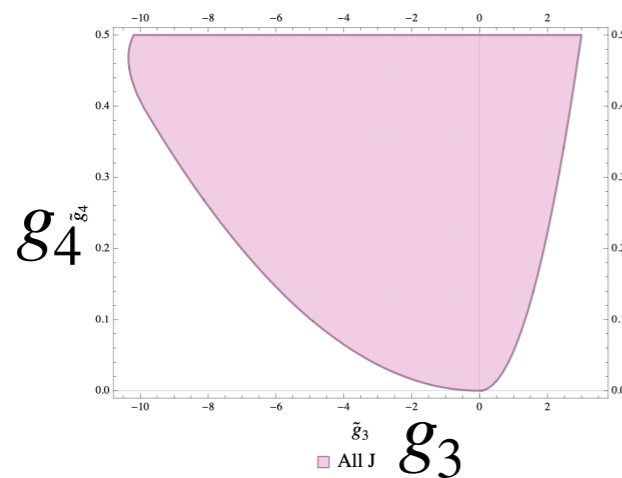
[S. Caron-Huot](#), [V. van Duong](#)

scalar EFT:

$$\mathcal{M}_{\text{low}}(s, t) = -g^2 \left[\frac{1}{s} + \frac{1}{t} + \frac{1}{u} \right] - \lambda + g_2(s^2 + t^2 + u^2) + g_3(stu) + g_4(s^2 + t^2 + u^2)^2 + g_5(s^2 + t^2 + u^2)(stu) \quad (2.3)$$

Crossing symmetry implies relation between

coefficient of s^4 and s^2t^2



Null constraints, positivity

Many groups working on different aspects of the problem

only a very partial list

see Marc Riembau's talk

[arXiv:2011.02957] JHEP **05** (2021) 280
Extremal Effective Field Theories
[S. Caron-Huot](#), [V. van Duong](#)

[arXiv:2011.00037] Phys.Rev.D **104** (2021) 036006
Positive Moments for Scattering Amplitudes
[B. Bellazzini](#), [J. Elias Miro](#), [R. Rattazzi](#), [M. Riembau](#), [F. Riva](#)

[arXiv:2011.02400] JHEP **05** (2021) 255
New positivity bounds from full crossing symmetry
[A. J. Tolley](#), [Z. Wang](#), [S. Zhou](#)

[arXiv:2012.15849] JHEP **05** (2021) 259
The EFT-Hedron
[N. Arkani-Hamed](#), [T. Huang](#), [Y. Huang](#)

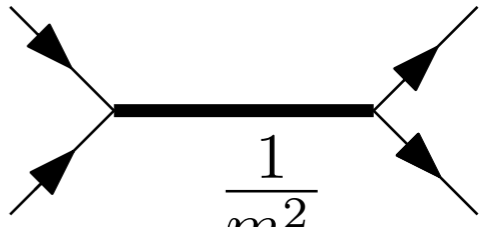
[arXiv:2102.08951] JHEP **07** (2021) 110
Sharp Boundaries for the Swampland
[S. Caron-Huot](#), [D. Mazac](#), [L. Rastelli](#), [D. Simmons-Duffin](#)

[arXiv:2103.12728] J.Phys.A **54** (2021) 344002
Gravitational Effective Field Theory Islands, Low-Spin Dominance, and the Four-Graviton Amplitude
[Z. Bern](#), [D. Kosmopoulos](#), [A. Zhiboedov](#)

Large N QCD

- At large N, mesons become exactly stable [’t Hooft, Witten, ‘70s]
- Loops are suppressed, amplitudes become meromorphic

$$A(s, t) = \sum_{n=0}^N \frac{\sum_{j=0}^n a_{n,j} t^j}{s - s_n}$$

$$A(s, t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{m_n^2}$$


The simplest, non-trivial, non-perturbative, S-matrices

(yet: only example - the Veneziano amplitude)

[arXiv:2203.11950] JHEP **08** (2022) 151

Bootstrapping Pions at Large N

[J. Albert](#), [L. Rastelli](#)

[arXiv:2312.15013]

Bootstrapping mesons at large N: Regge trajectory from spin-two maximization

[J. Albert](#), [J. Henriksson](#), [L. Rastelli](#), [A. Vichi](#)

[arXiv:2401.08736]

The Regge bootstrap, from linear to non-linear trajectories

[C. Eckner](#), [F. Figueroa](#), [P. Tourkine](#)

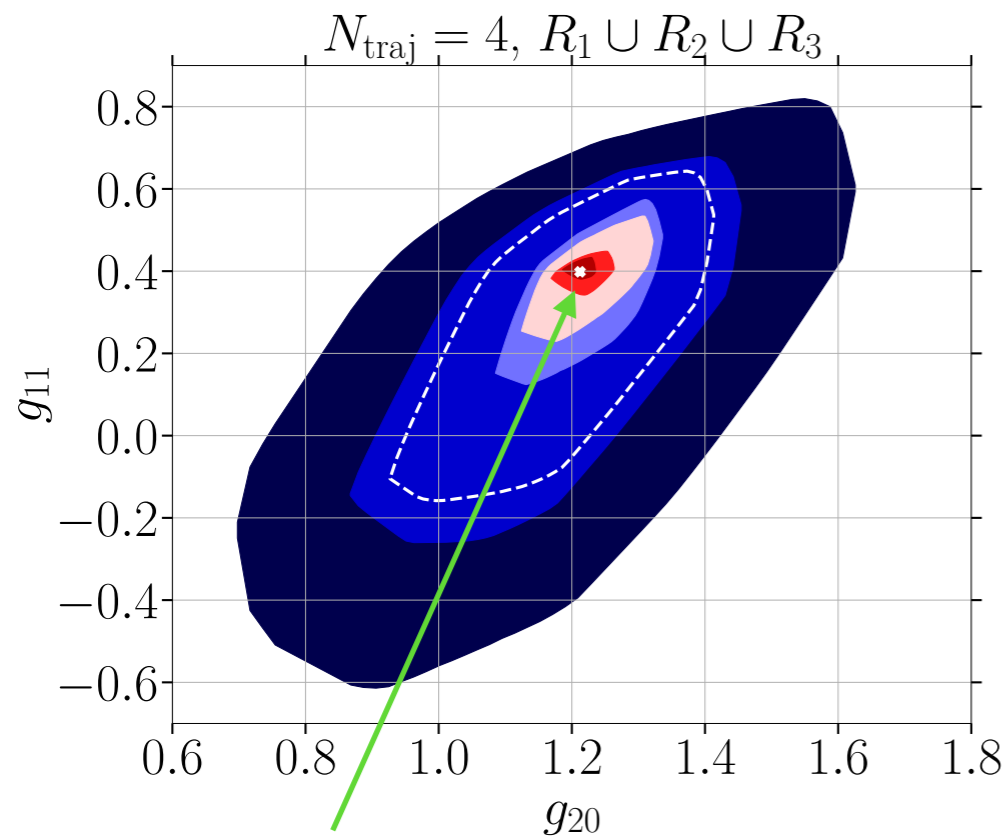
Dual models

[arXiv:2401.08736]

The Regge bootstrap, from linear to non-linear trajectories

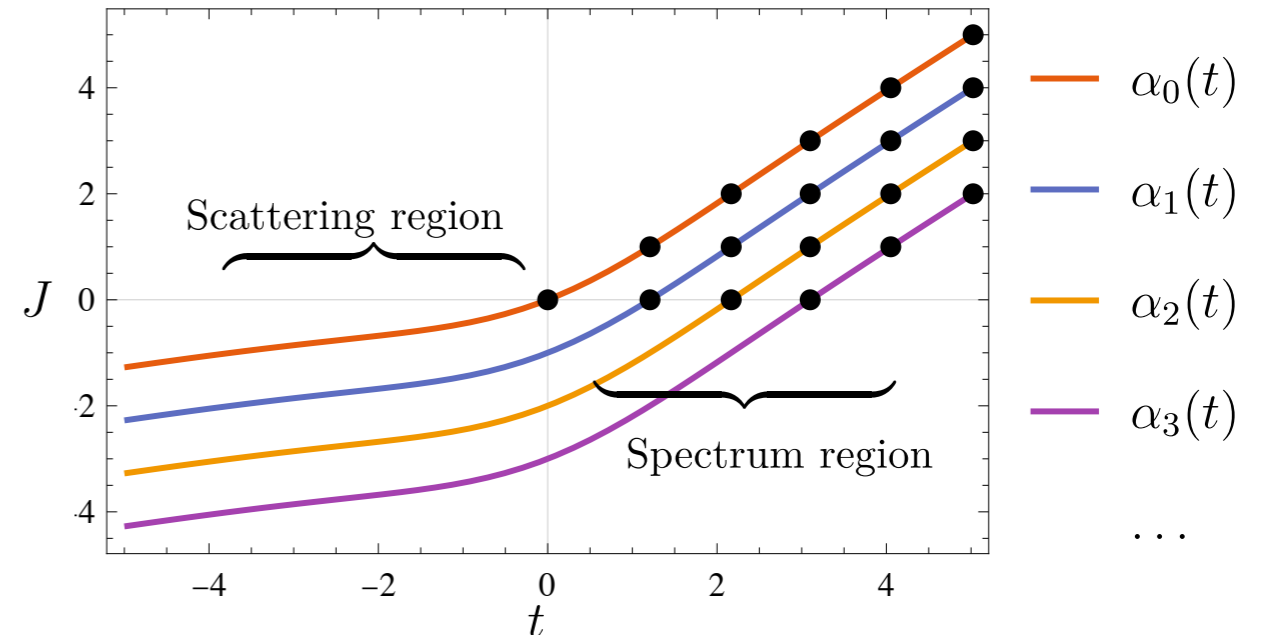
[C. Eckner](#), [F. Figueroa](#), [P. Tourkine](#)

- Found a way to do primal bootstrap for meromorphic amplitudes



String theory

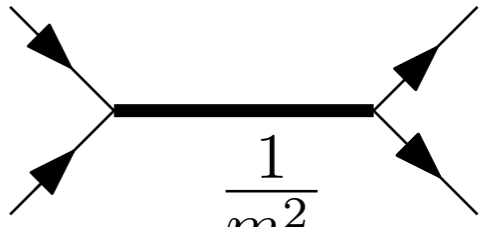
Can deform linear, Veneziano-like trajectory to more pheno-looking:



Large N QCD

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- Loops are suppressed, amplitudes become meromorphic

$$A(s, t) = \sum_{n=0}^N \frac{\sum_{j=0}^n a_{n,j} t^j}{s - s_n}$$

$$A(s, t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{m_n^2}$$


[arXiv:2203.11950] JHEP 08 (2022) 151

Bootstrapping Pions at Large N

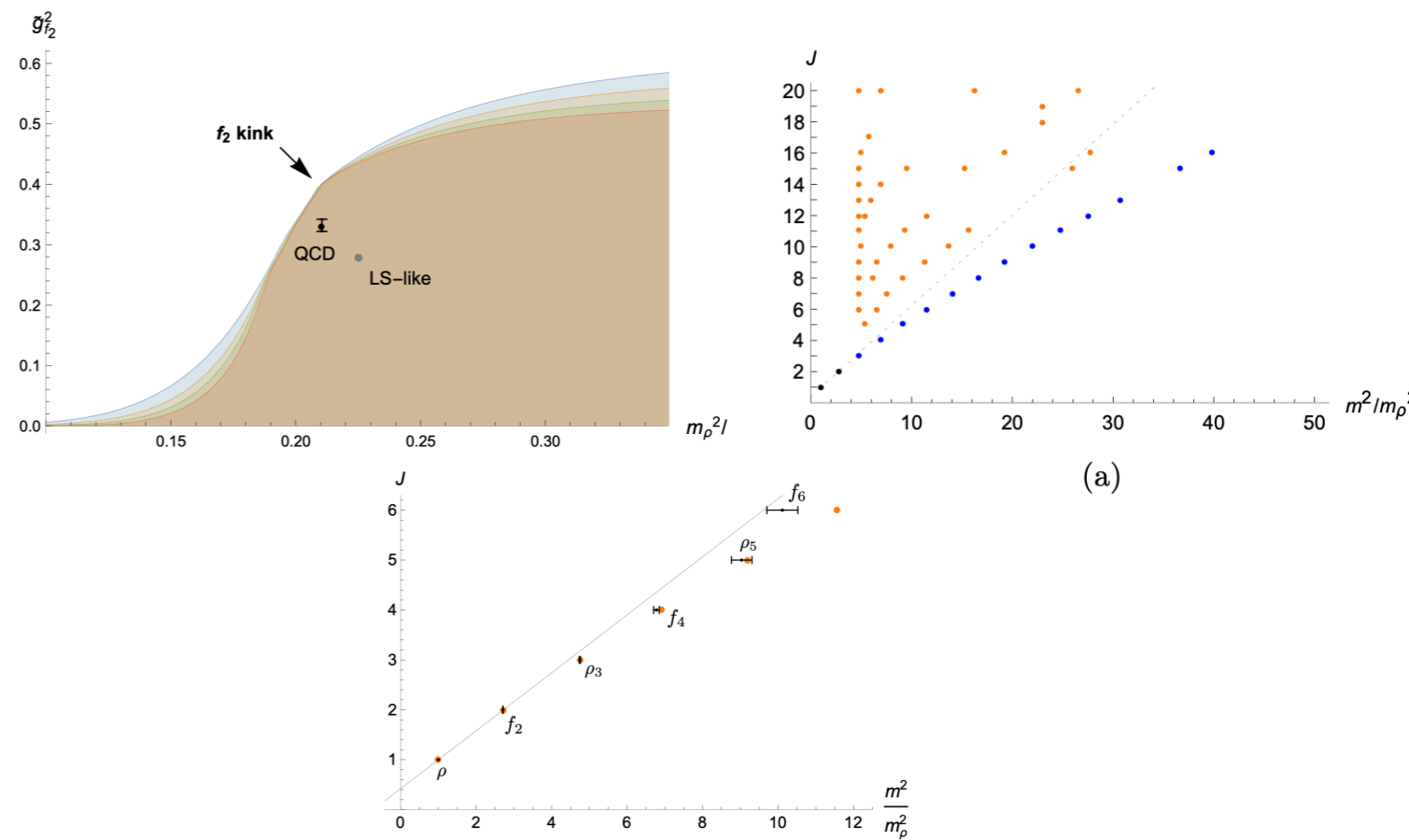
[J. Albert](#), [L. Rastelli](#)

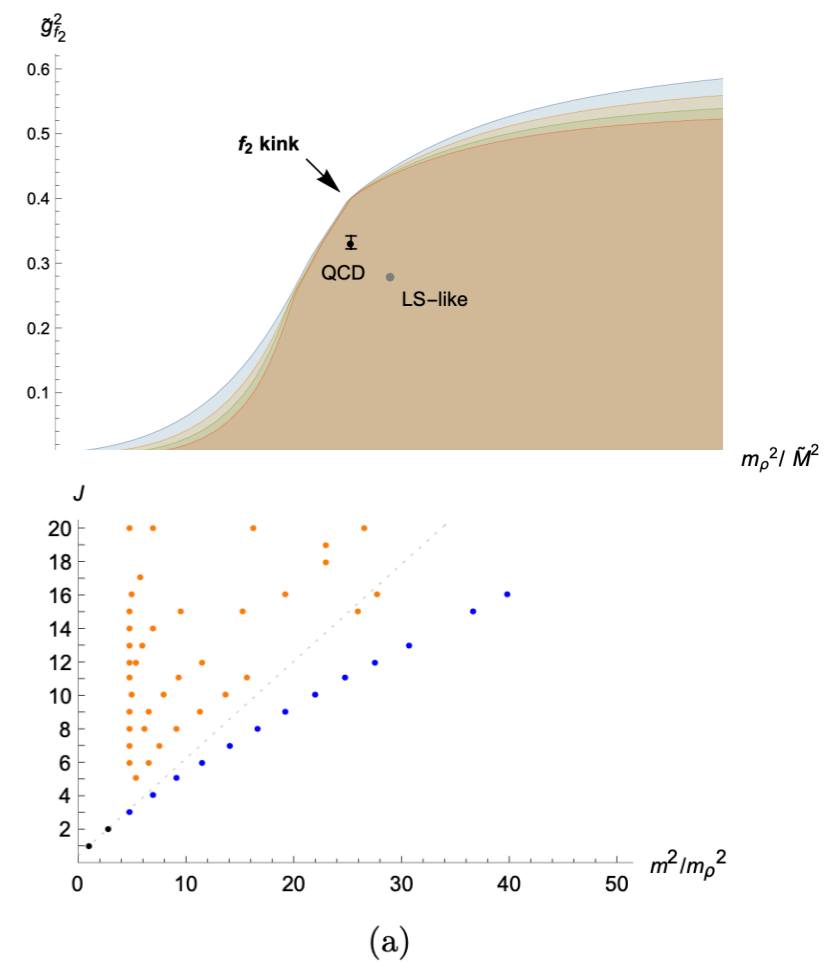
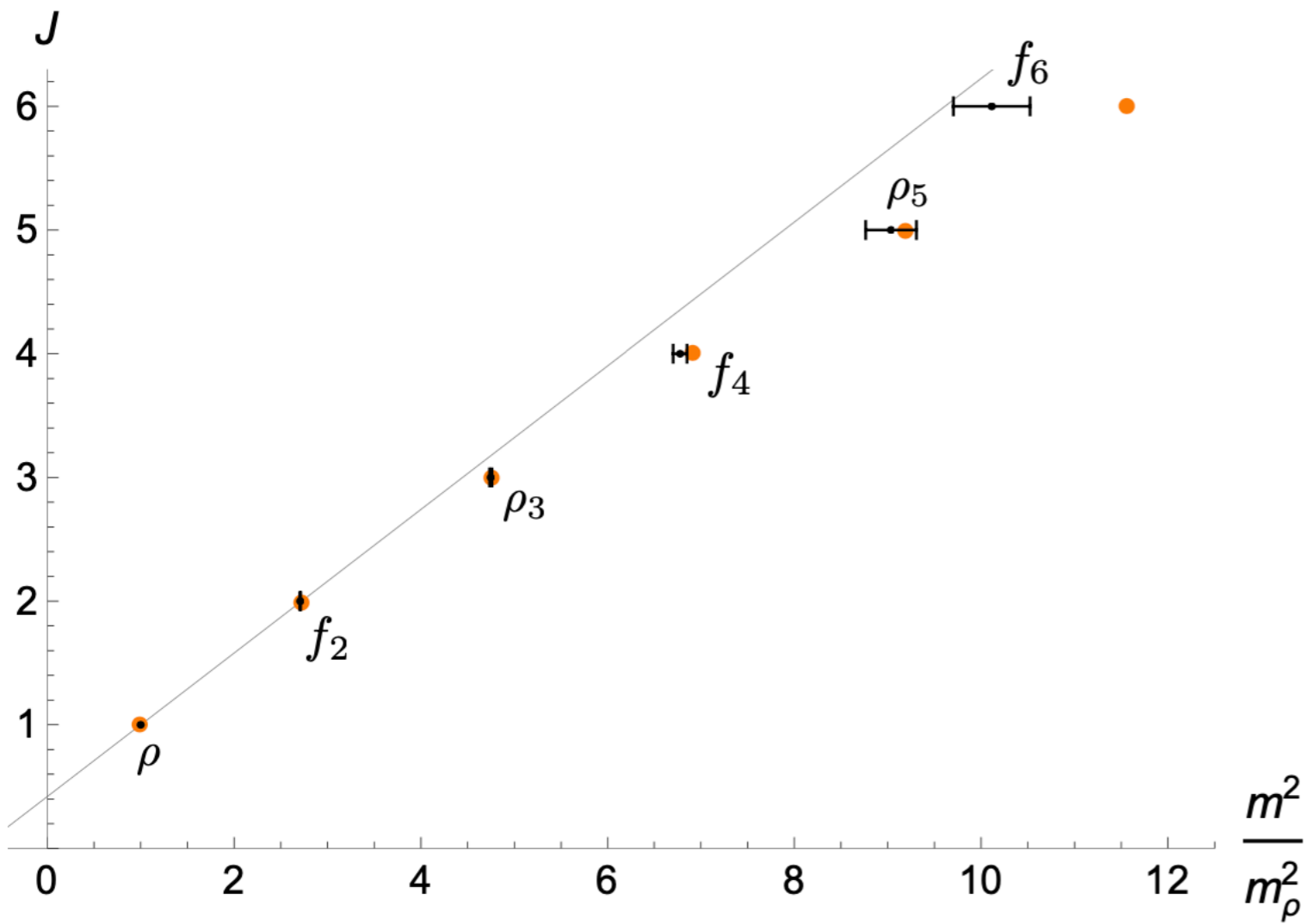
[arXiv:2312.15013]

Bootstrapping mesons at large N: Regge trajectory from spin-two maximization

[J. Albert](#), [J. Henriksson](#), [L. Rastelli](#), [A. Vichi](#)

extra assumption of massive spin 2





[arXiv:2312.15013]

Bootstrapping mesons at large N: Regge trajectory from spin-two maximization

[J. Albert](#), [J. Henriksson](#), [L. Rastelli](#), [A. Vichi](#)

Primal approaches

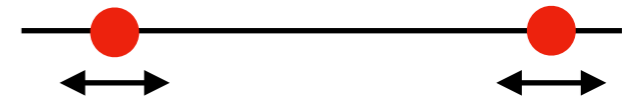


not that

Toy model primal amplitude

Motivation: QFT in (1+1) dimensions

$$t=0: \quad S(s, t) \rightarrow S(s)$$



- Take: $S(z) = -\frac{g^2}{z - z_0} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n, \quad |z| \leq 1$

- Q: Given unitarity $|S(z)|^2 \leq 1$ for $|z| = 1$, what is the max/min value of g^2 given any value of a_n ?

- Theorem : $g^2 = \pm (1 - z_0^2)$, with $a_0 = z_0$ and $a_n = 0, \forall n \geq 1$

The scalar space of amplitudes

d=4

Parametrise the amplitude as: [PPTvRV '17]

$$M^{\text{ans}}(s, t, u) = \sum_{a,b,c=0}^N \alpha_{(abc)} \rho_s^a \rho_t^b \rho_u^c, \quad s \mapsto \rho_s = \frac{\sqrt{4-s_0} - \sqrt{4-s}}{\sqrt{4-s_0} + \sqrt{4-s}}$$

Compute **partial waves**, as functions of the **alpha's**

Define observables:

$$c_0 = M(s_0, t_0, u_0)$$

$$c_2 = \partial_s^2 M(s, t_0, u_0) \Big|_{s=s_0}$$

...

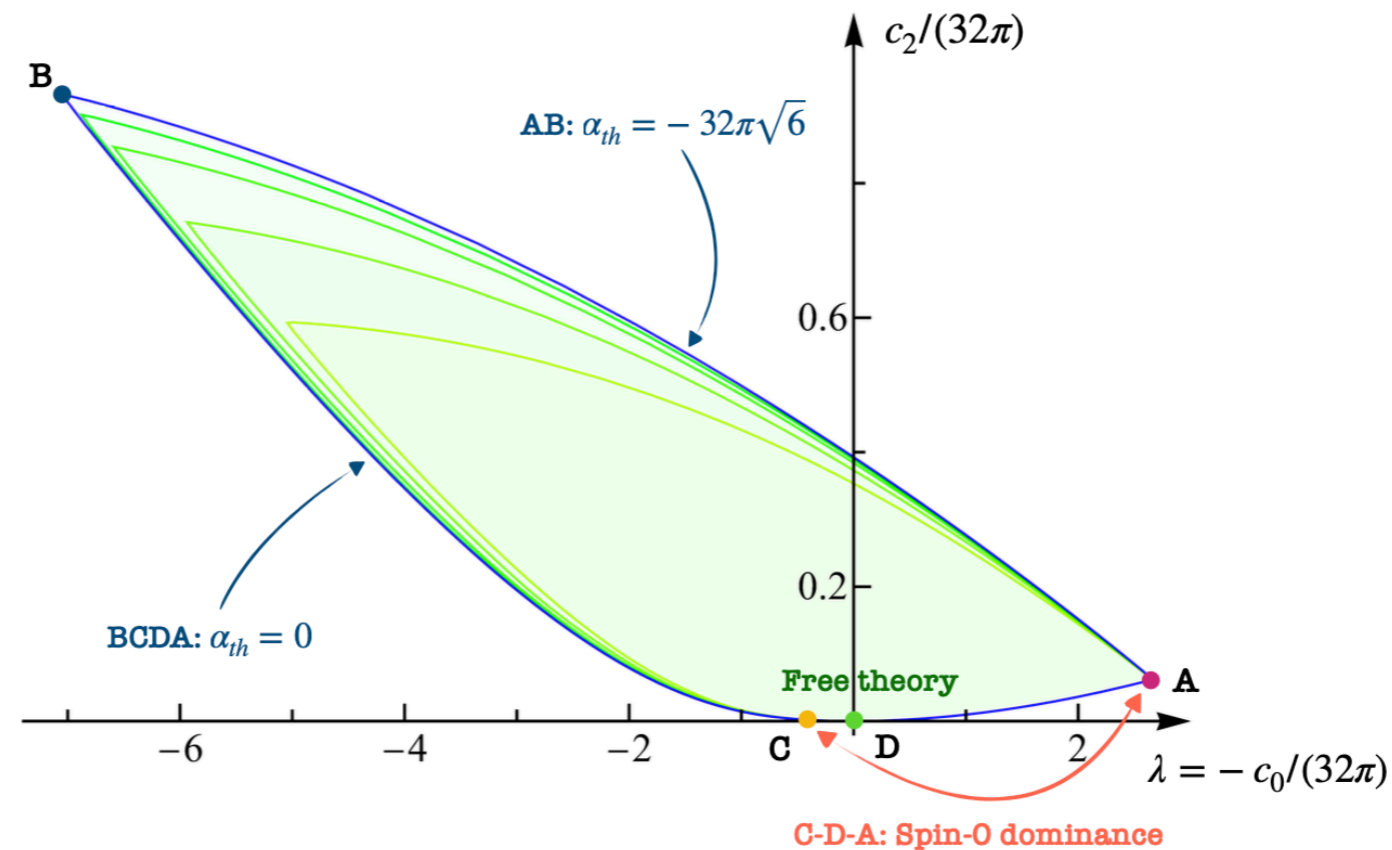
```
NMaximize[observable, |SJ|2 ≤ 1, alpha's, Method->"SDPB"]
```

The scalar space of amplitudes

amplitudes with \mathbb{Z}_2 symmetry (no ϕ^3 term)

[arXiv:2210.01502] JHEP **05** (2023) 001
Bridging Positivity and S-matrix Bootstrap
Bounds
[J. Elias Miro](#), [A. Guerrieri](#), [M. A. Gumus](#)

[arXiv:2207.12448] JHEP **12** (2022) 092
Nonperturbative Bounds on Scattering of
Massive Scalar Particles in $d \geq 2$
[H. Chen](#), [A. L. Fitzpatrick](#), [D. Karateev](#)

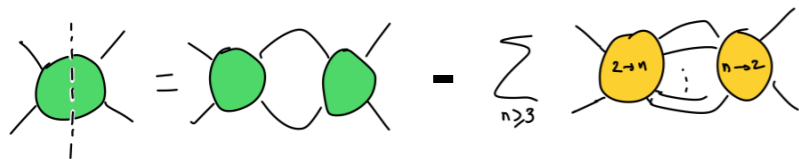


The scalar space of amplitudes

- Drawback: numerical precision not adapted, amplitudes seem *too unitarity*
- Aks theorem ('64): in $d > 2$, S-matrices cannot be purely elastic.
- In [Tourkine, Zhiboedov '21; '23], rigorous construction method

[Mandelstam;
Atkinson '60s]

Scattering from production



$$X = X^2 + f$$

Solve by iteration

$$X_n = X_{n-1}^2 + f$$

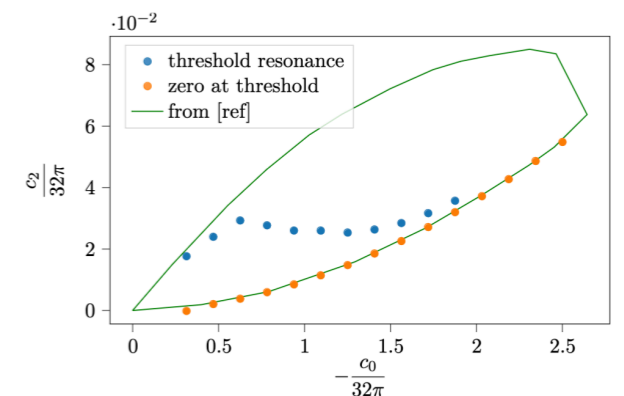
Recent results w/ [L. Leflot](#): use machine learning for toy-model (only $J=0$ scalar sector)

[Submitted on 22 Dec 2014 (v1), last revised 30 Jan 2017 (this version, v9)]

Adam: A Method for Stochastic Optimization

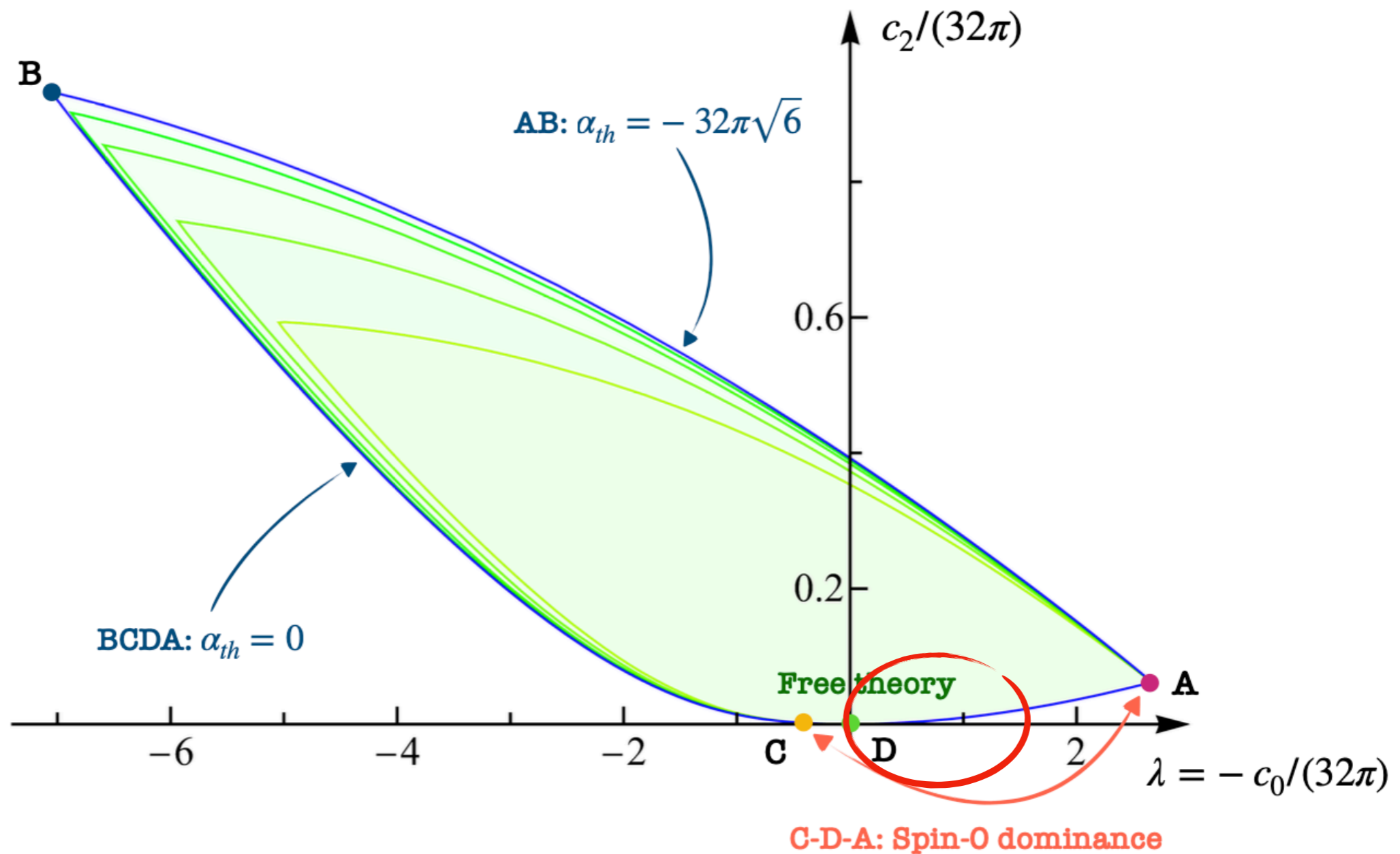
Diederik P. Kingma, Jimmy Ba

Extend applicability of rigorous construction in a much larger domain



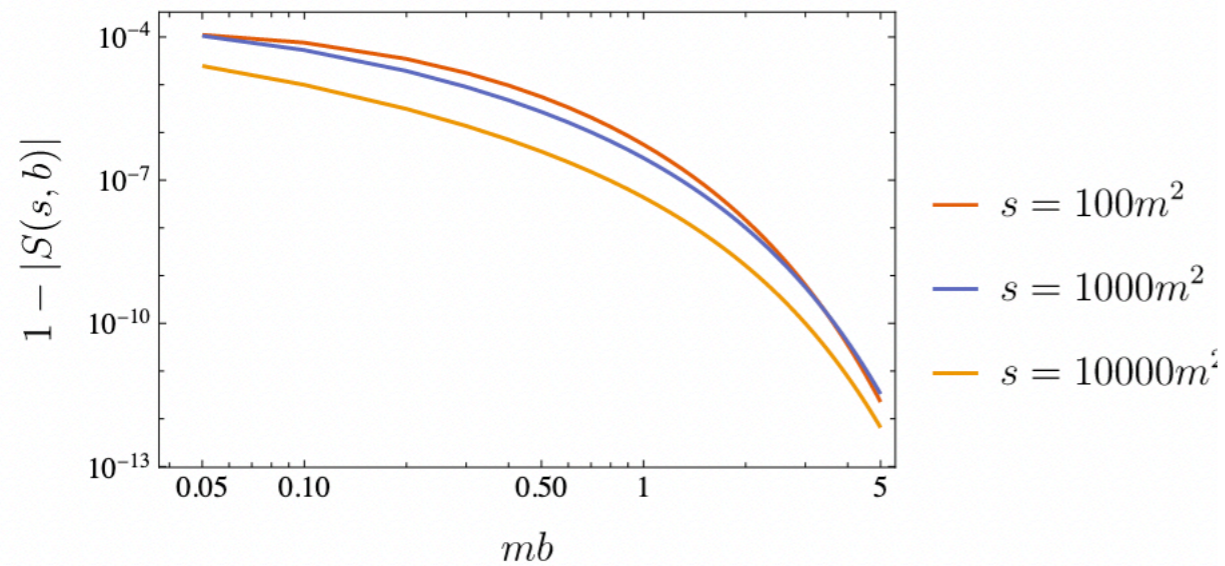
Drawback

convergence in smaller parameter space

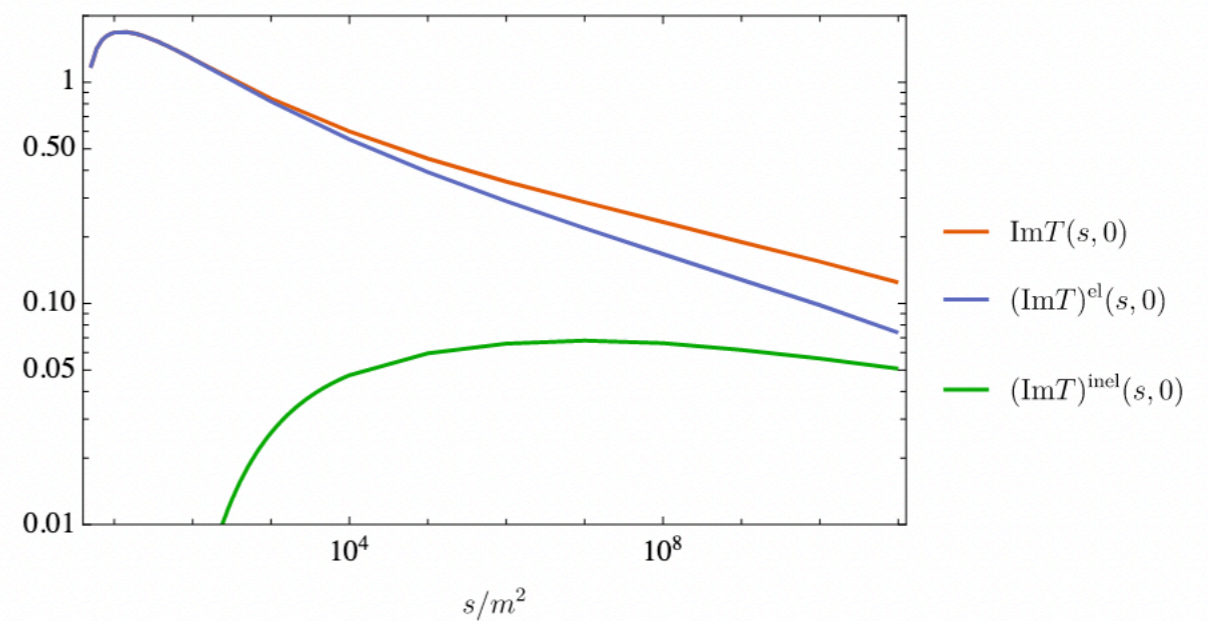
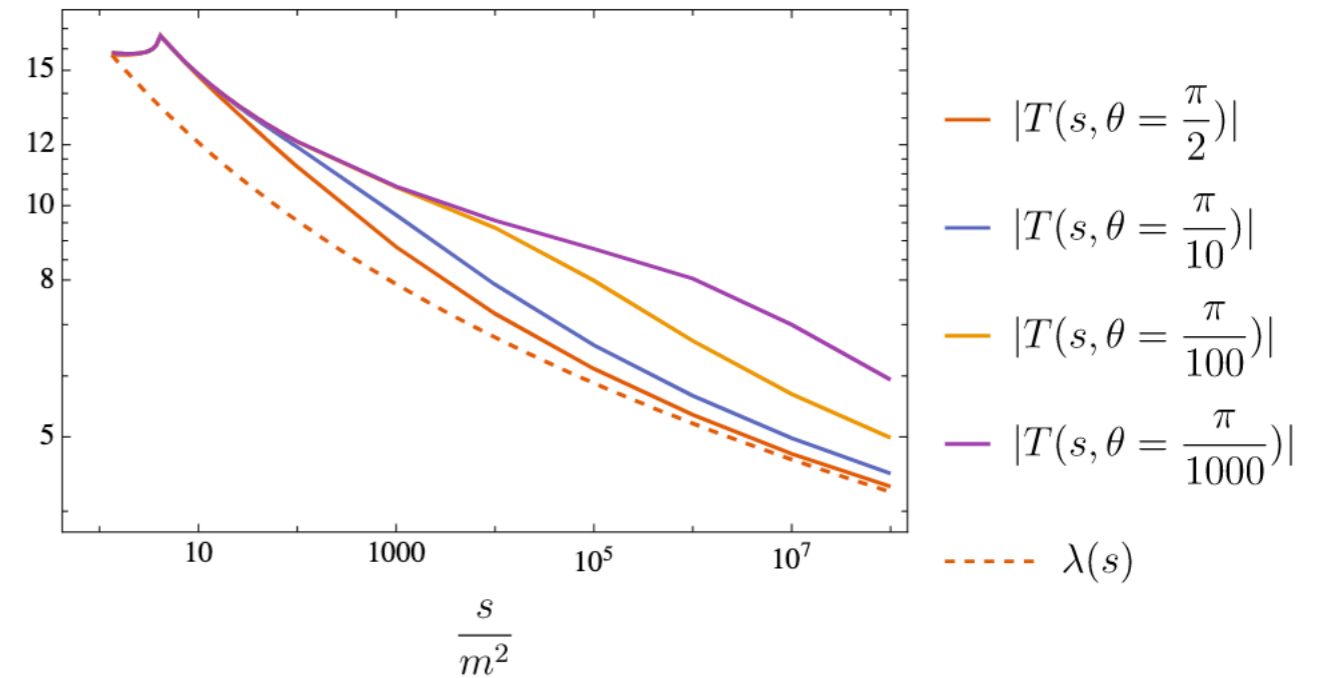


Results in d=4

Amplitude in impact parameter space

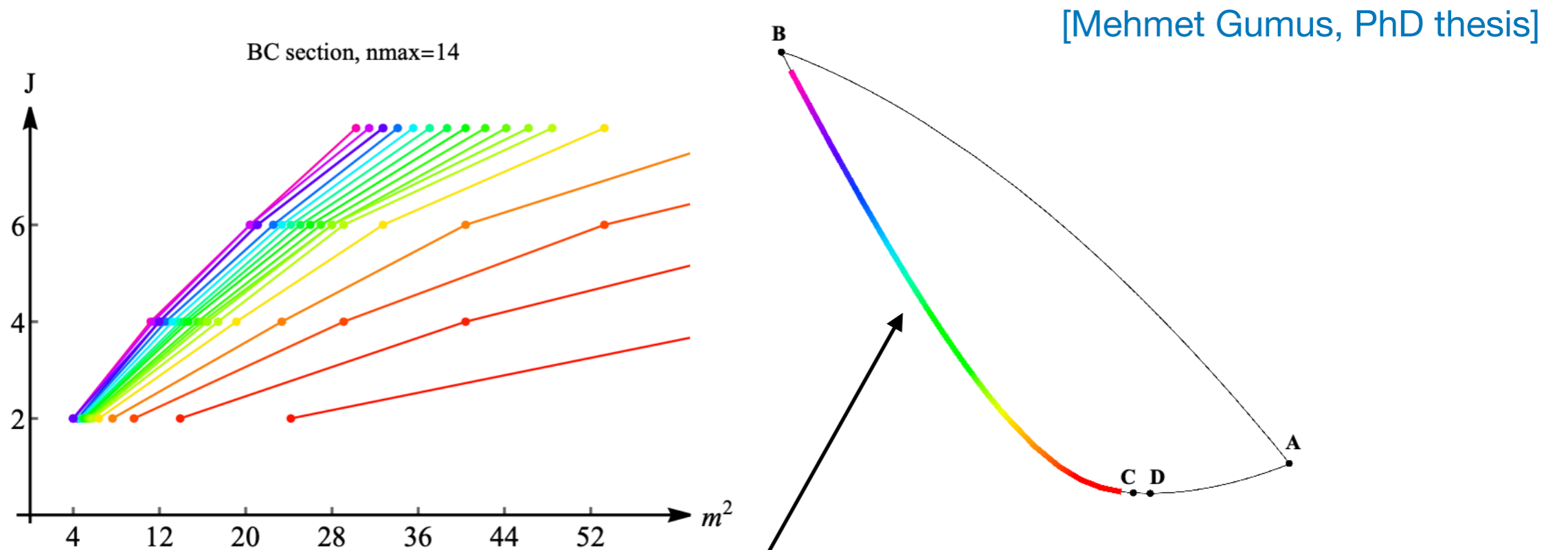


Amplitude at fixed angle



Cross-section

The scalar space of amplitudes



A tower of
Regge resonances!

Completely non-perturbative

Pion amplitude

- Recent progress by [\[He, Kruczenski\]](#) (see [Yifei's talk](#) later)

[\[arXiv:2309.12402\]](#)

Bootstrapping gauge theories

[Y. He](#), [M. Kruczenski](#)

Pion amplitude

- Recent progress by [\[He, Kruczenski\]](#) (see [Yifei's talk](#) later)
- Emergence of rho meson, unitarising the scattering

[\[arXiv:2309.12402\]](#)

Bootstrapping gauge theories

[Y. He](#), [M. Kruczenski](#)

Quantum gravity

- One of the big questions: how is gravity unitarised?
- Looked at 9-10-11 dim' supergravity

$$\frac{T(s, t, u)}{8\pi G_N} = s^4 \left(\frac{1}{stu} + \alpha l_P^6 + \dots \right)$$

First correction to (super) gravity

In string theory, this number is bounded (from below), can be calculated non-perturbatively

[arXiv:2102.02847] Phys.Rev.Lett. **127** (2021) 081601

Where is String Theory in the space of scattering amplitudes?

[A. Guerrieri](#), [J. Penedones](#), [P. Vieira](#)

[arXiv:2212.00151] JHEP **06** (2023) 064

Where is M-theory in the space of scattering amplitudes?

[A. Guerrieri](#), [H. Murali](#), [J. Penedones](#), [P. Vieira](#)

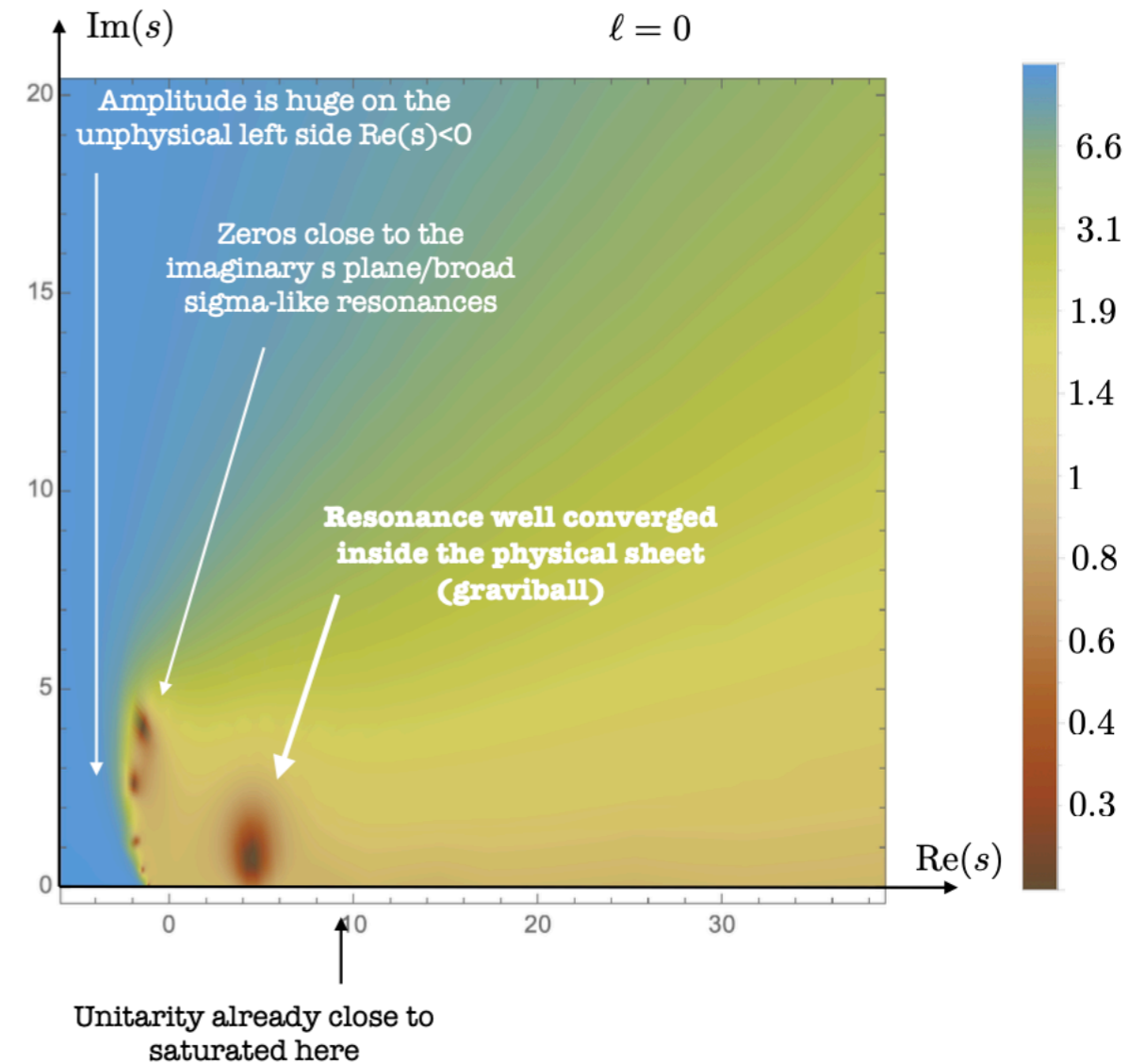
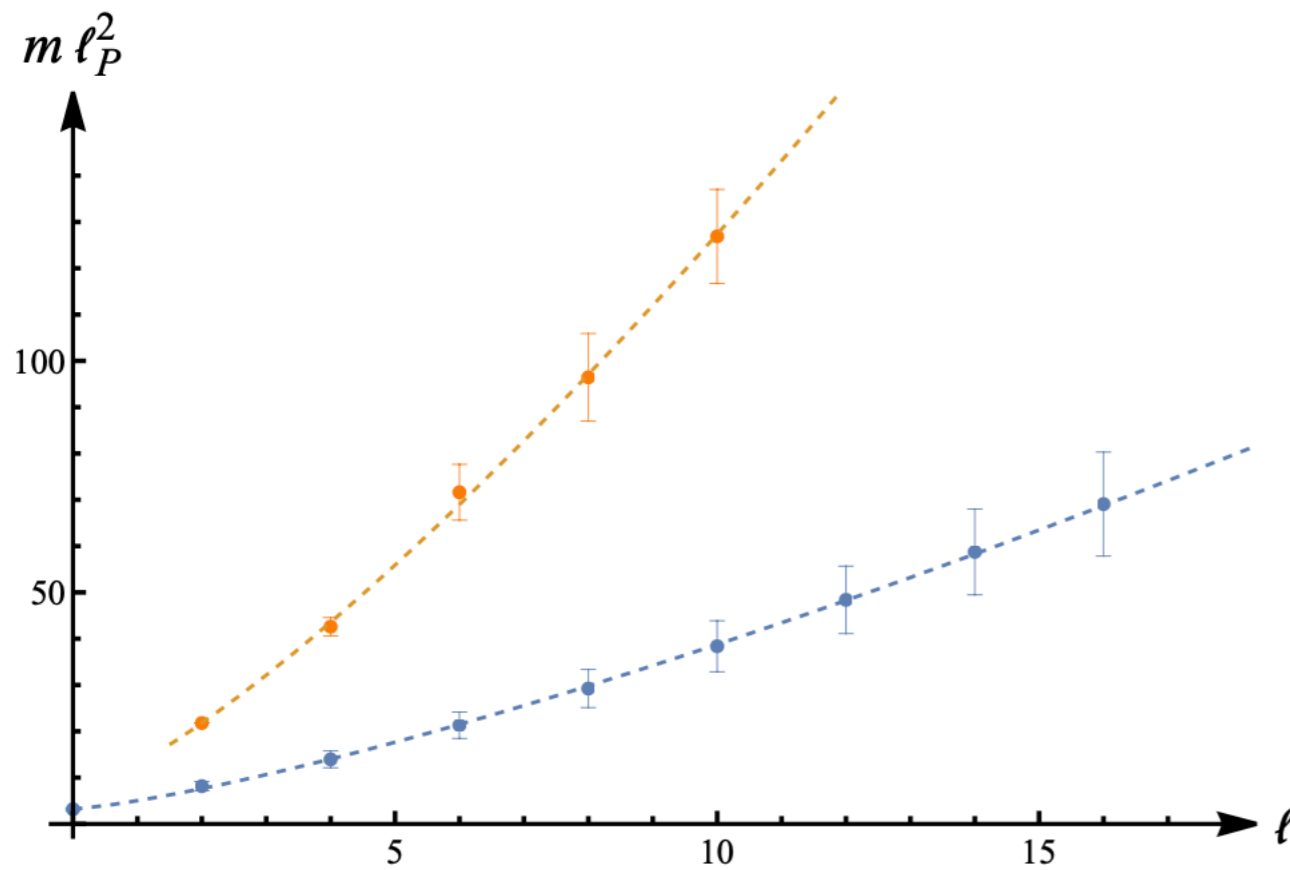
Dimension	Bootstrap	String/M-Theory
9	0.223 ± 0.002	0.241752
10	0.124 ± 0.003	0.138949
11	0.101 ± 0.005	0.102808

Where does the small discrepancy come from?

Quantum gravity

[arXiv:2212.00151] JHEP **06** (2023) 064
Where is M-theory in the space of scattering amplitudes?
A. Guerrieri, H. Murali, J. Penedones, P. Vieira

- A whole zoo of Regge resonances !

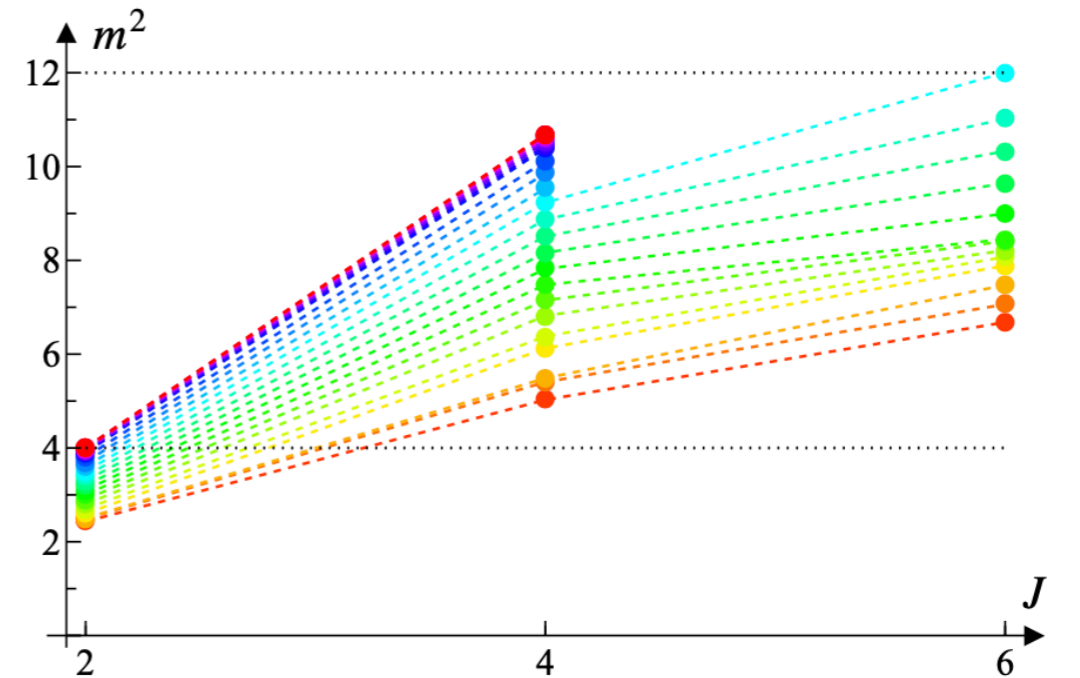
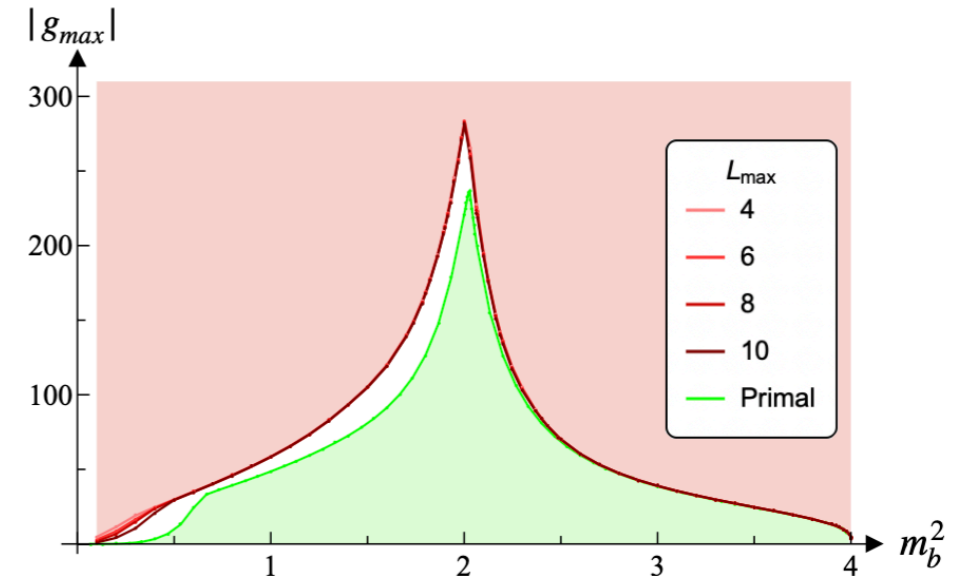
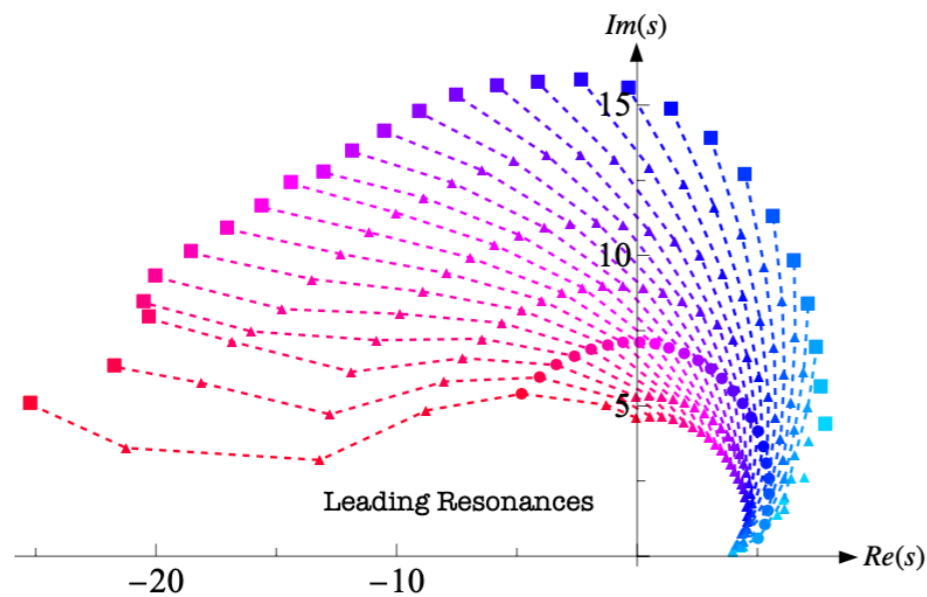
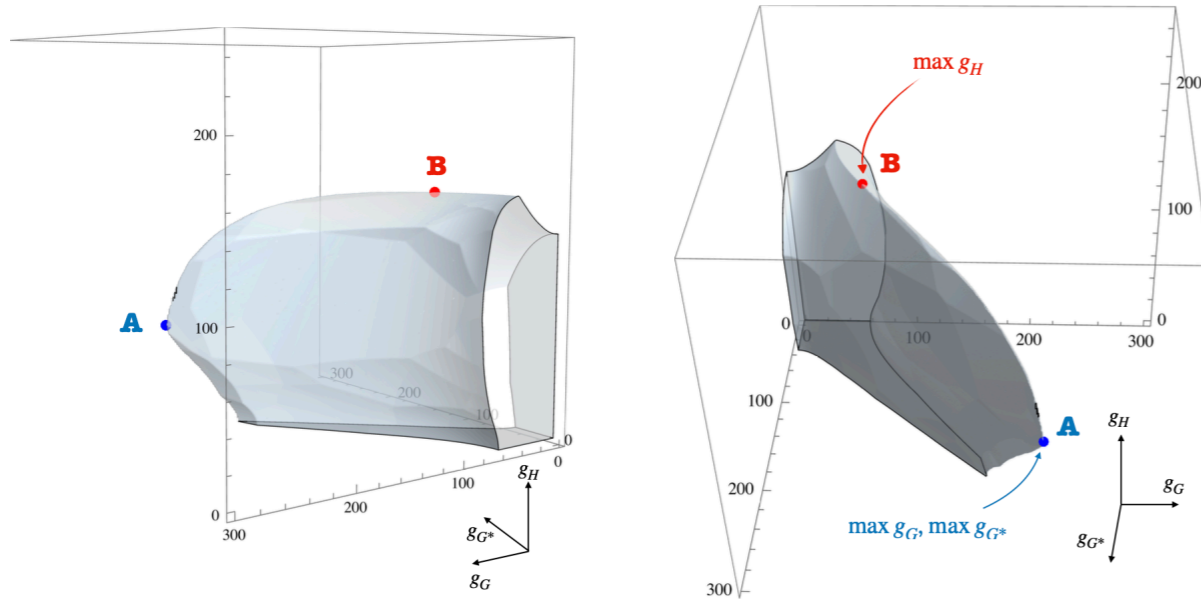


The gluehedron*

[arXiv:2312.00127]

Constraining Glueball Couplings
 A. L. Guerrieri, A. Hebbar, B. C. van Rees

Beautiful set of Regge trajectories

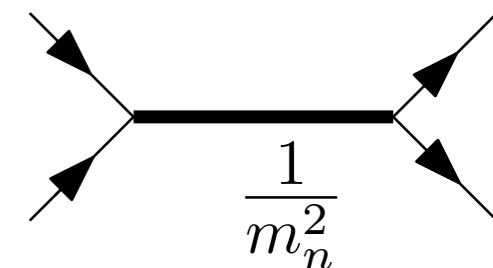


*Slide added a posteriori, for reference purposes, as another beautiful recent example of remarkable Regge trajectories in primal (& dual) approach

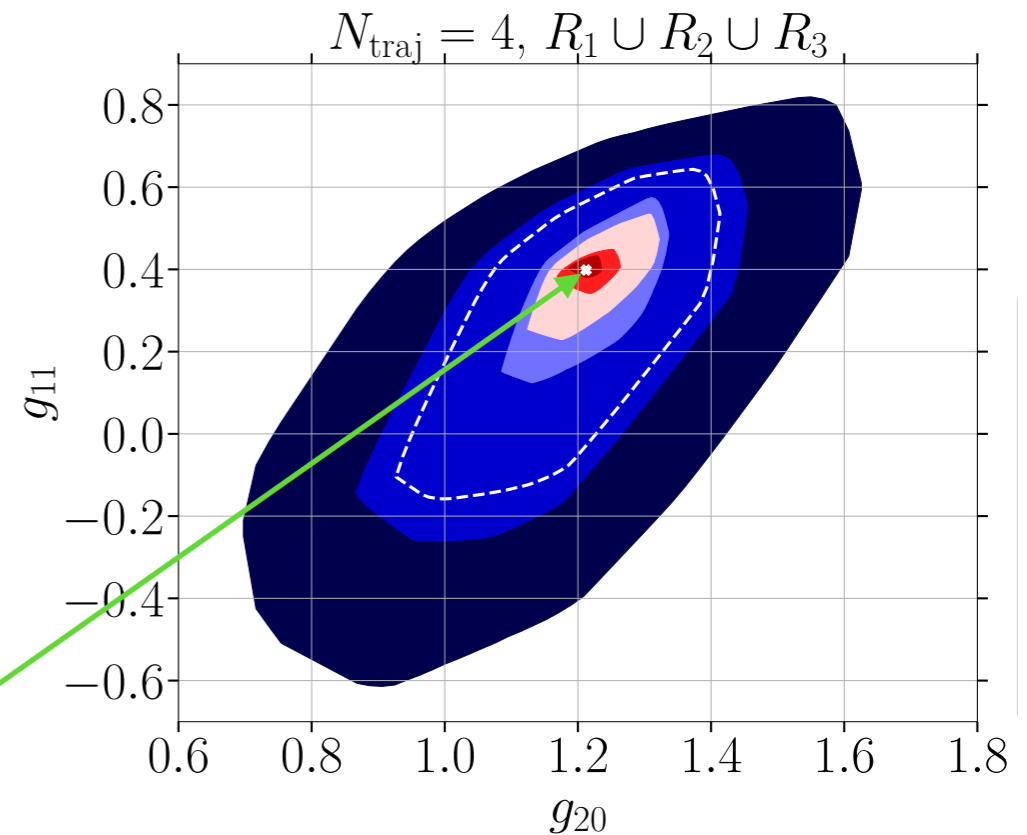
Back to the beginning, dual models

- Meromorphic amplitudes:
Subclass of non-perturbative S-matrices

$$A(s, t) = \sum_{n=0}^N \frac{\sum_{j=0}^n a_{n,j} t^j}{s - s_n} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A(s, t)$$



- string theory at tree-level, large N QCD
- There was no practical way to construct such amplitudes
- Found a way to do primal bootstrap for meromorphic amplitudes



String theory

[arXiv:2401.08736]

The Regge bootstrap, from linear to non-linear trajectories

[C. Eckner](#), [F. Figueroa](#), [P. Tourkine](#)

Open directions

- Remarkable set of results, completely non-obvious from the starting point: Regge trajectories (for scalars, ϕ^4 -like?), graviballs, stringy optimal bounds, etc
- A lot to explore, even at this level of 2-to-2 !
- What is the exact relation between these Regge resonances and unitarity?
- Maximal analyticity? Tension with growing Regge trajectory?
- Construct full scattering amplitudes of phenomenological use? Pions, kaons, ...
- Connect perturbative to non-pert ?
- Add higher-point unitarity/crossing constraints