



# Bootstrapping QCD

**Andrea Guerrieri**

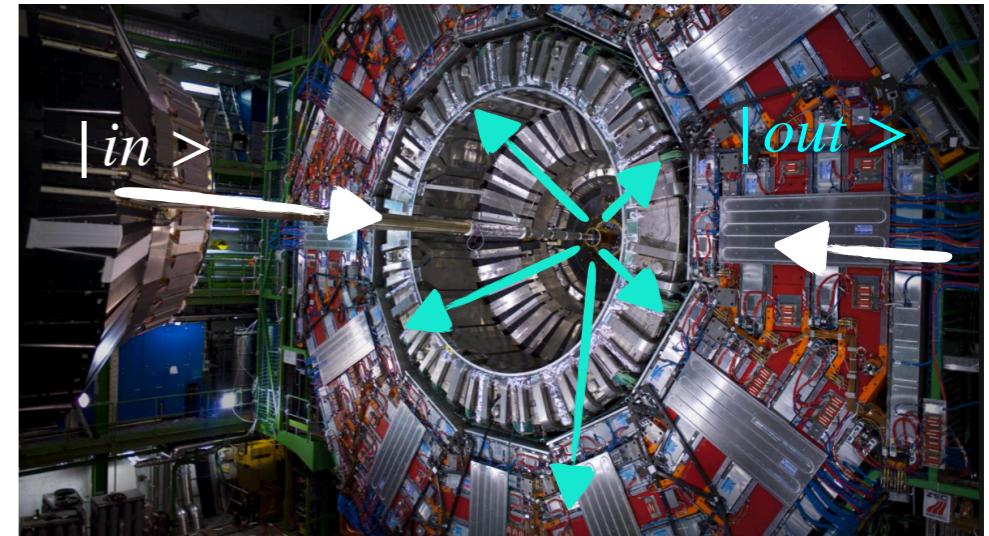
**Mar 21, 2023**



# S-matrix and Bootstrap

S-matrix or Scattering Amplitude

$$\mathcal{S}_{in \rightarrow out} \equiv \langle in | out \rangle$$

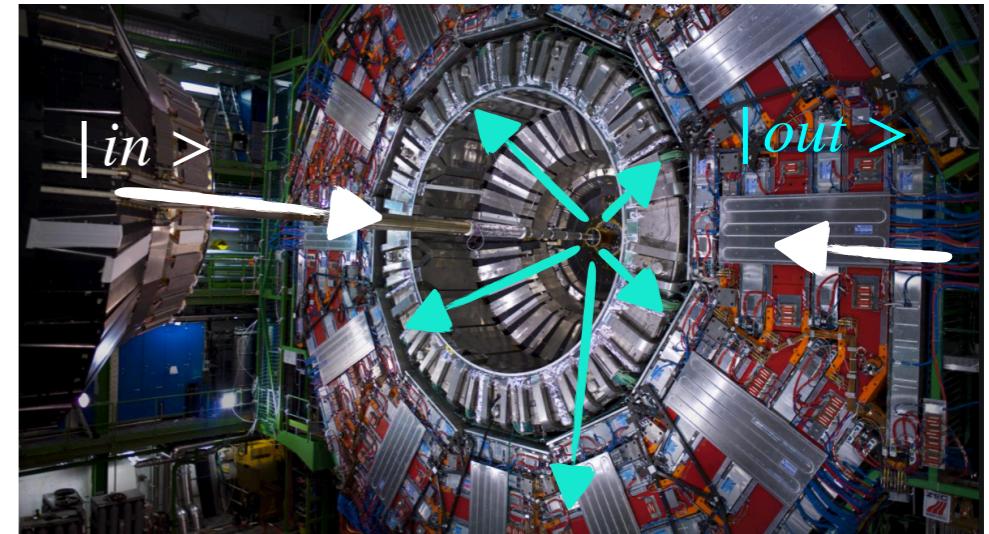


The original idea: global symmetries, causality, crossing and unitarity fully constrain the S-matrix

# S-matrix and Bootstrap

S-matrix or Scattering Amplitude

$$\mathcal{S}_{in \rightarrow out} \equiv \langle in | out \rangle$$



The original idea: global symmetries, causality, crossing and unitarity fully constrain the S-matrix

Too hard, slow progress since the '60s



The modern approach: constrain the space of all possible QFTs and QG theories compatible with causality, crossing, and unitarity

# Plan of the Talk

1) General Bounds [Model Independent]: Pion Scattering in the Chiral Limit

ALG, Penedones, Vieira, JHEP 06 (2021),  
arXiv: 2011.02802

2) Precision Physics? [Data Driven]: Pion Scattering in the gapped phase

ALG, Penedones, Vieira, PRL 122 (2019),  
arXiv: 1810.12849

3) Future predictions? Glueball Scattering

ALG, Hebbbar, van Rees, work in progress

4) An application to Confinement

Elias-Miró, ALG, Hebbbar, Penedones, Vieira,  
PRL 123 (2019), arXiv: 1906.08098

# General Bounds: Bootstrap Strategy

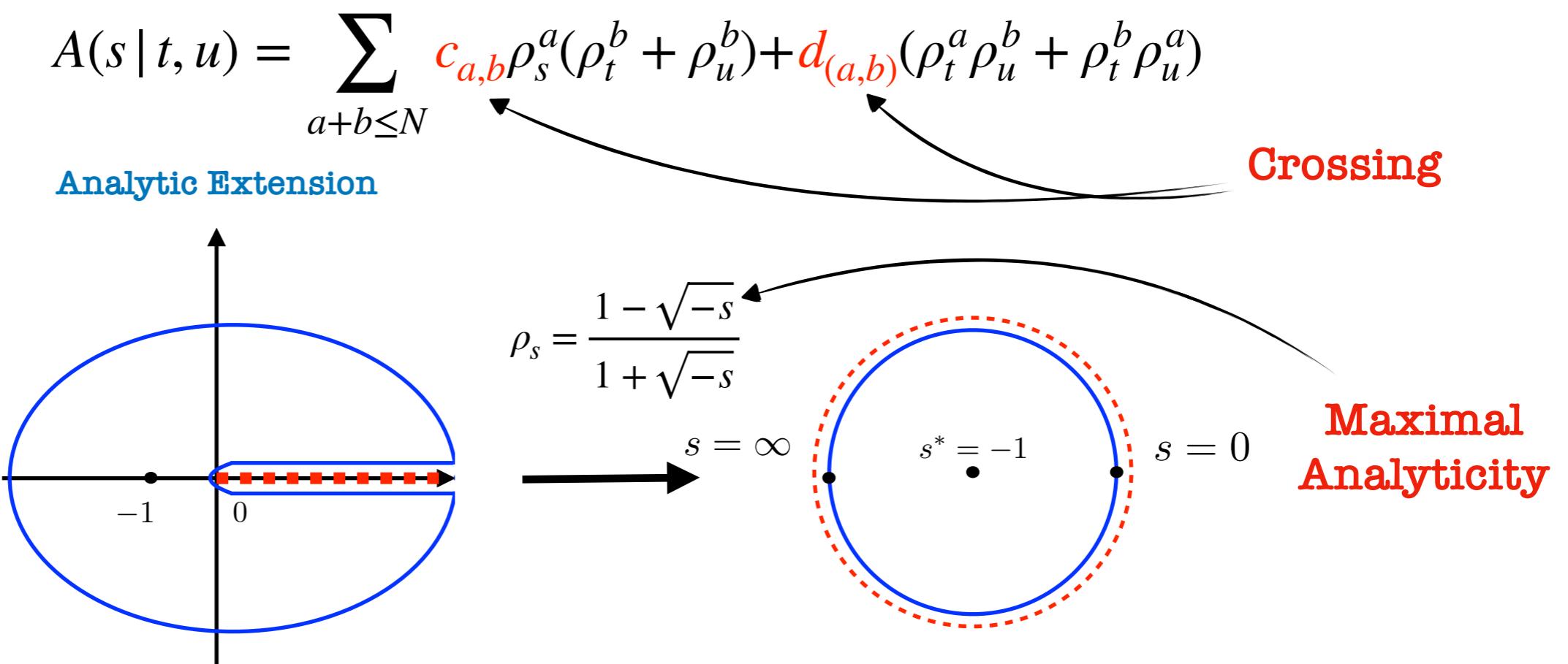
Low Energy Spectrum: N=3 identical massless scalars

# General Bounds: Bootstrap Strategy (crossing and Analyticity)

Low Energy Spectrum: N=3 identical massless scalars

**Step 1:** define a crossing symmetric and analytic Ansatz for the 2->2 Amplitude

$$\mathcal{T}_{ab}^{cd} = A(s|t,u)\delta_{ab}\delta^{cd} + A(t|s,u)\delta_a^c\delta_b^d + A(u|s,t)\delta_a^d\delta_b^c$$



# General Bounds: Bootstrap Strategy (Soft Theorems)

Low Energy Spectrum: N=3 identical massless scalars

**Step 1:** define a crossing symmetric and analytic Ansatz for the 2->2 Amplitude

**Step 2:** impose soft behavior  $\mathcal{T}(s = t = u = 0) = 0$

Low Energy Expansion of our Ansatz

$$A(s|t, u) = \left( \frac{s}{f_\pi^2} \right) + \frac{1}{f_\pi^4} \left[ \alpha s^2 + \beta(t^2 + u^2) - \frac{s^2}{32\pi^2} \log \frac{-s}{f_\pi^2} - \frac{t-u}{96\pi^2} \left( t \log \frac{-t}{f_\pi^2} - u \log \frac{-u}{f_\pi^2} \right) \right] + \dots$$

Universal Tree Level

Leading Non universal Corrections

Leading Loops

In practice we fix some of the  $c_{a,b}, d_{(a,b)}$  free variables to cancel square roots

$$\rho(s) = 1 + 2i\sqrt{s} - 2s - 2is^{3/2} + 2s^2 + \dots$$

# General Bounds: Bootstrap Strategy (Unitarity)

Low Energy Spectrum: N=3 identical massless scalars

**Step 1:** define a crossing symmetric and analytic Ansatz for the 2->2 Amplitude

**Step 2:** impose soft behavior  $\mathcal{T}(s = t = u = 0) = 0$

Low Energy Expansion of our Ansatz

**Step 3:** impose unitarity numerically as a constraint

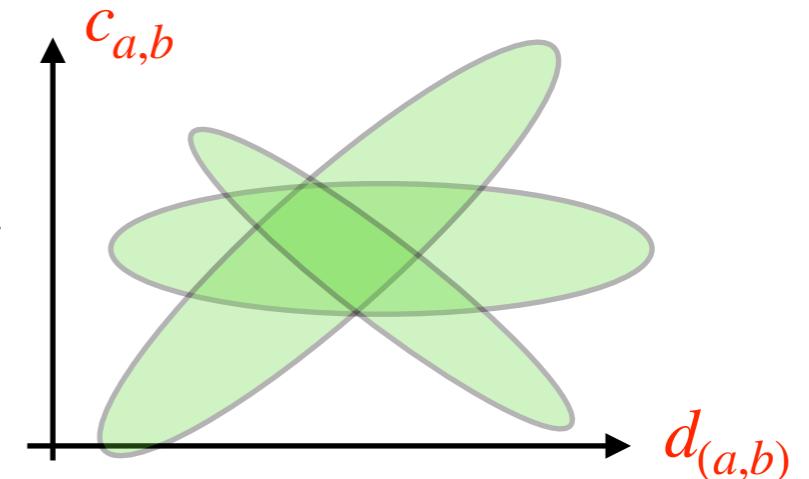
(the  $c_{a,b}, d_{(a,b)}$  cannot vary arbitrarily)

$$A(s | t, u) = \sum_{a+b \leq N} c_{a,b} \rho_s^a (\rho_t^b + \rho_u^b) + d_{(a,b)} (\rho_t^a \rho_u^b + \rho_t^b \rho_u^a)$$

Project the ansatz on Irreps of the flavor and Lorenz group:  
Decompose in Isospin and Partial Waves

$$S_\ell^I(s) \equiv 1 + iT_\ell^I(s) = \mathbb{P}_\ell^I[A]$$

$$|S_\ell^I(s)|^2 \leq 1, \quad s > 0, \quad \ell = 0, 2, \dots, \infty, \quad I = 0, 1, 2$$



# General Bounds: Bootstrap Strategy

Low Energy Spectrum: N=3 identical massless scalars

**Step 1:** define a crossing symmetric and analytic Ansatz for the 2->2 Amplitude

**Step 2:** impose soft behavior  $\mathcal{T}(s = t = u = 0) = 0$   
**Low Energy Expansion of our Ansatz**

**Step 3:** impose unitarity numerically as a constraint  
(the  $c_{a,b}, d_{(a,b)}$  cannot vary arbitrarily)

**Step 4:** Formulate an **OPTIMIZATION PROBLEM**

E.g. Minimize  $\beta$  at fixed  $\alpha$  (in units of  $f_\pi$ ) given Unitarity Constraints

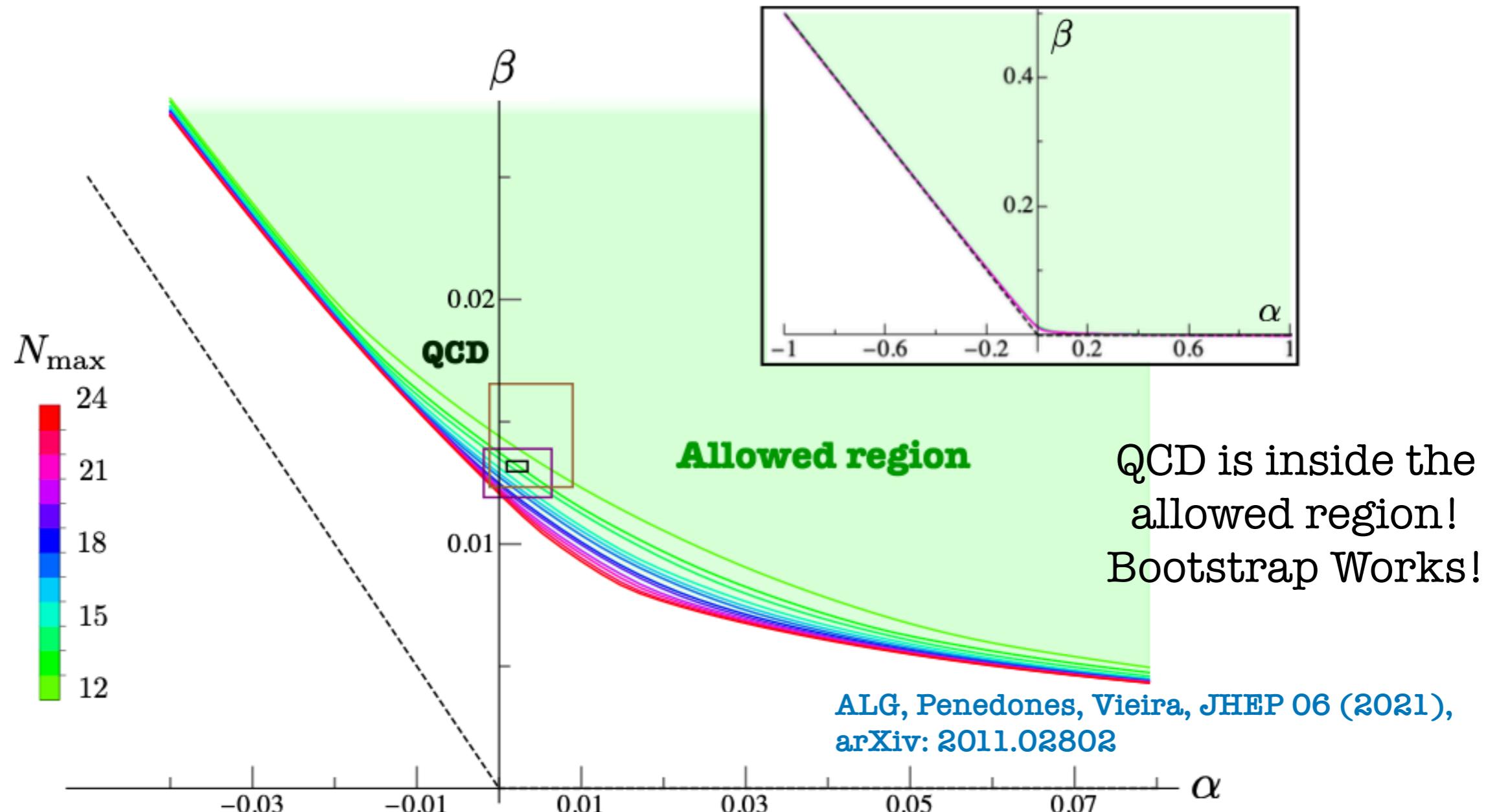
$$A(s|t,u) = \frac{s}{f_\pi^2} + \frac{1}{f_\pi^4} \left[ \alpha s^2 + \beta(t^2 + u^2) - \frac{s^2}{32\pi^2} \log \frac{-s}{f_\pi^2} - \frac{t-u}{96\pi^2} \left( t \log \frac{-t}{f_\pi^2} - u \log \frac{-u}{f_\pi^2} \right) \right] + \dots$$

# General Bounds on $\alpha, \beta$

$\alpha, \beta$  are linear functions of the Ansatz parameters  $c_{a,b}, d_{(a,b)}$

$$A(s | t, u) = \sum_{a+b \leq N} c_{a,b} \rho_s^a (\rho_t^b + \rho_u^b) + d_{(a,b)} (\rho_t^a \rho_u^b + \rho_t^b \rho_u^a)$$

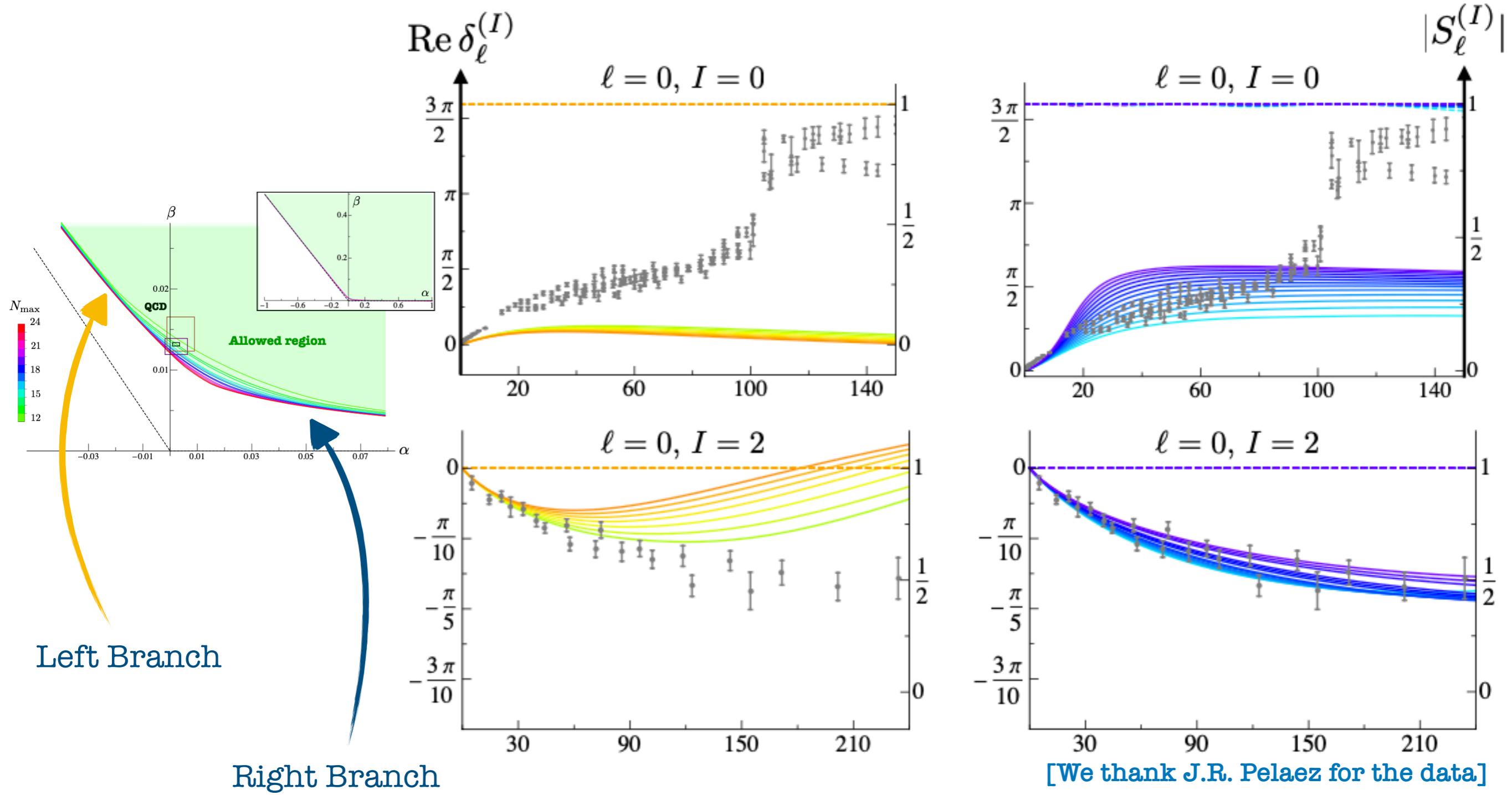
Minimize  $\beta$  at fixed  $\alpha$  (in units of  $f_\pi$ ) given Unitarity Constraints



# General Bounds: Extremal Amplitudes

The optimization procedure fixes the coefficients  $c_{a,b}, d_{(a,b)}$  !!

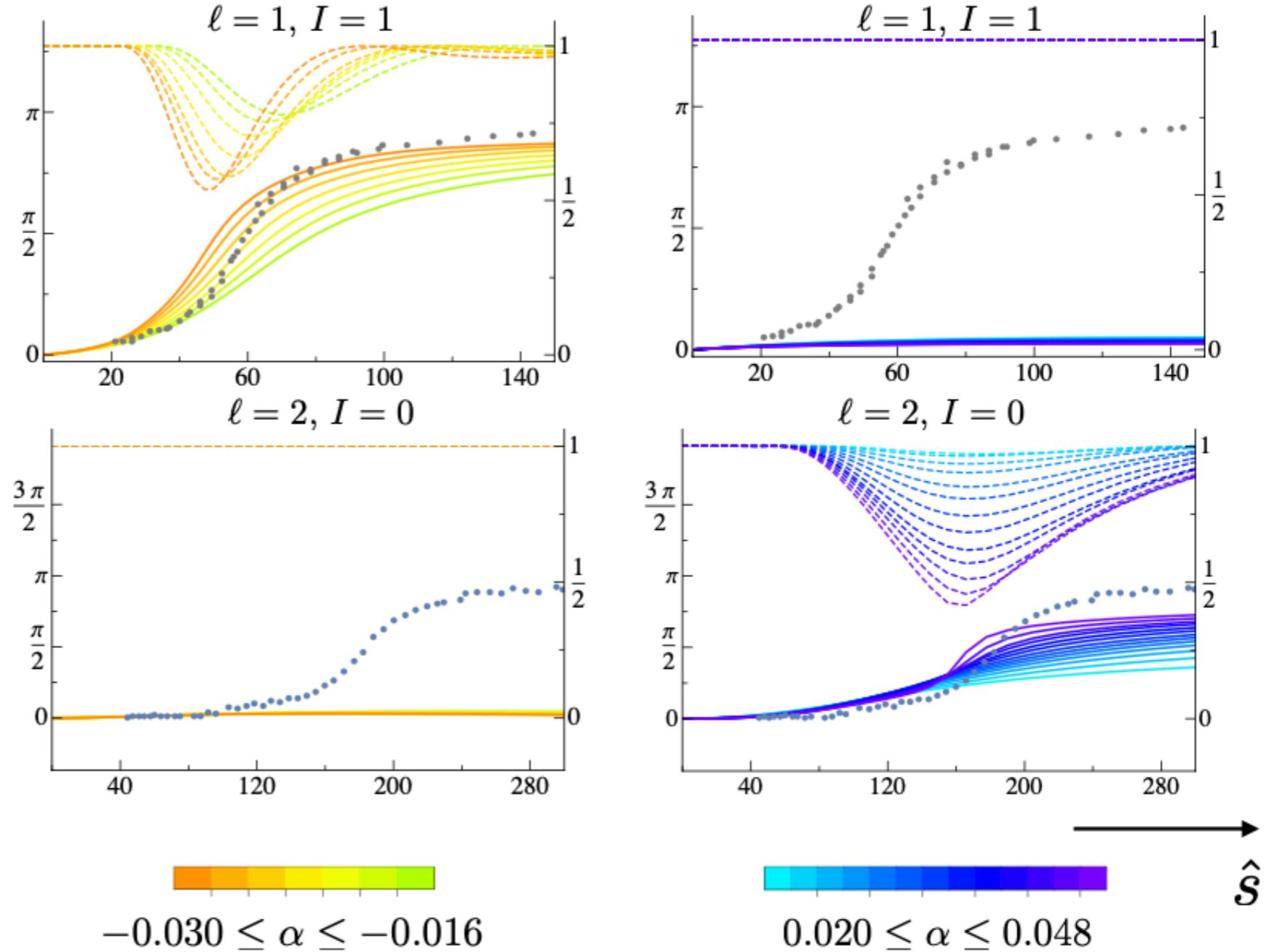
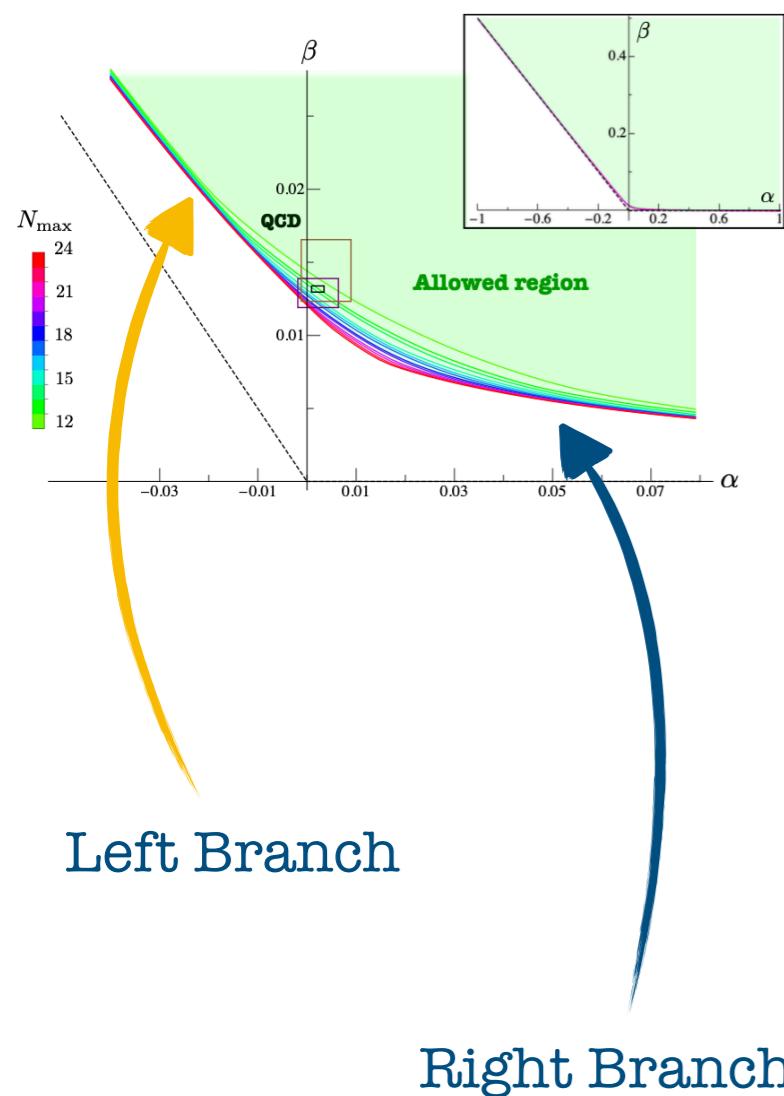
Phase Shifts and Resonances as a prediction of the Bootstrap!



# General Bounds: Extremal Amplitudes

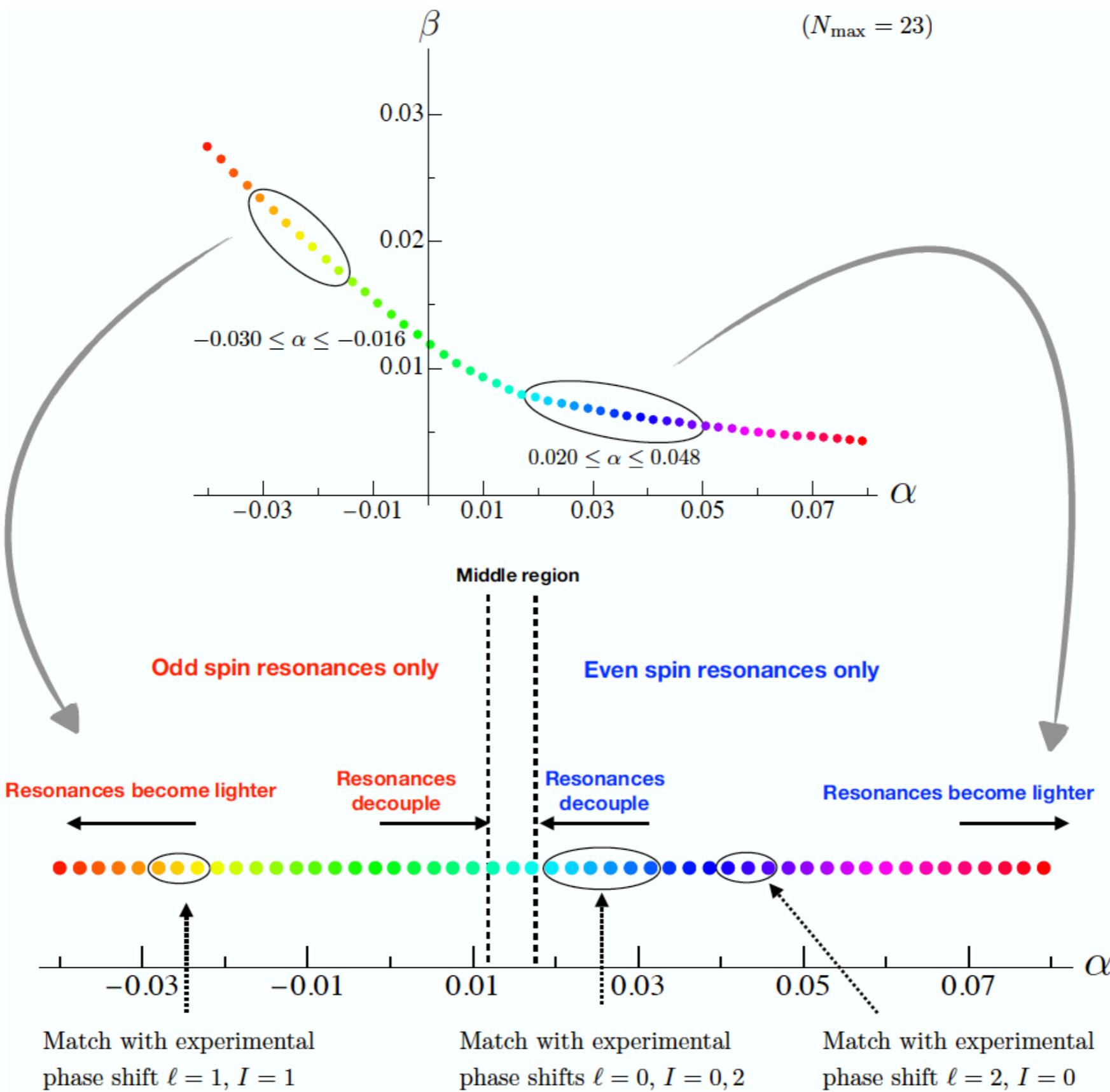
The optimization procedure fixes the coefficients  $c_{a,b}, d_{(a,b)}$  !!

Phase Shifts and Resonances as a prediction of the Bootstrap!



[We thank J.R. Pelaez for the data]

# General Bounds: Summary



# Precise Bounds: Gapped Pions

Low Energy Spectrum: N=3 identical **massive** scalars

# Precise Bounds: Gapped Pions

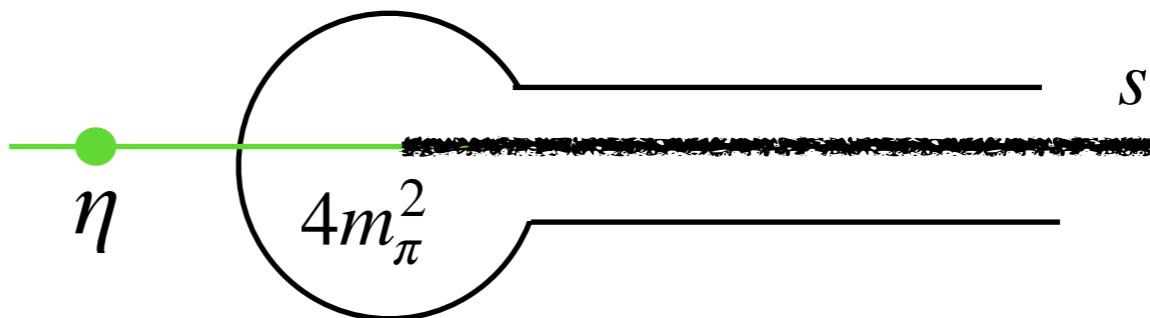
Low Energy Spectrum: N=3 identical **massive** scalars

**Step 1:** define a crossing symmetric and analytic Ansatz for the 2->2 Amplitude

**Step 3:** impose unitarity numerically as a constraint  
(the  $c_{a,b}$ ,  $d_{(a,b)}$  cannot vary arbitrarily)

$$A(s | t, u) = \sum_{a+b \leq N} c_{a,b} \rho_s^a (\rho_t^b + \rho_u^b) + d_{(a,b)} (\rho_t^a \rho_u^b + \rho_t^b \rho_u^a)$$

$$\rho_s = \frac{\sqrt{4m^2 - \eta} - \sqrt{4m^2 - s}}{\sqrt{4m^2 - \eta} + \sqrt{4m^2 - s}}$$



# Precise Bounds: Gapped Pions

Low Energy Spectrum: N=3 identical **massive** scalars

**Step 1:** define a **crossing symmetric** and **analytic** Ansatz for the 2->2 Amplitude

**Step 3:** impose unitarity numerically as a **constraint**  
(the  $c_{a,b}$ ,  $d_{(a,b)}$  cannot vary arbitrarily)

**Main difference:** Pions are **approximate** Goldstone bosons, what universal low energy properties?

Weinberg's low energy theorems

Below Threshold Zeros

$$T_0^{(0)}(s_0) = 0, \text{ where } s_0 \simeq \frac{1}{2}m_\pi^2$$

$$T_1^{(1)}(4m^2) = 0$$

$$T_0^{(2)}(s_2) = 0, \text{ where } s_2 \simeq 2m_\pi^2$$

# Precise Bounds: The Pion Peninsula

**Main assumption:** nonperturbative existence of the Chiral Zeros

**Bootstrap Question:** allowed Chiral Zeros region given the experimental input available?

**Input:**

1.  $\rho$  resonance
2. Scattering lengths

$$|a_\ell^I - a_\ell^I(\text{exp})| \leq \Delta a_\ell^I$$

ALG, Penedones, Vieira, PRL 122 (2019),  
arXiv: 1810.12849

# Precise Bounds: The Pion Peninsula

**Main assumption:** nonperturbative existence of the Chiral Zeros

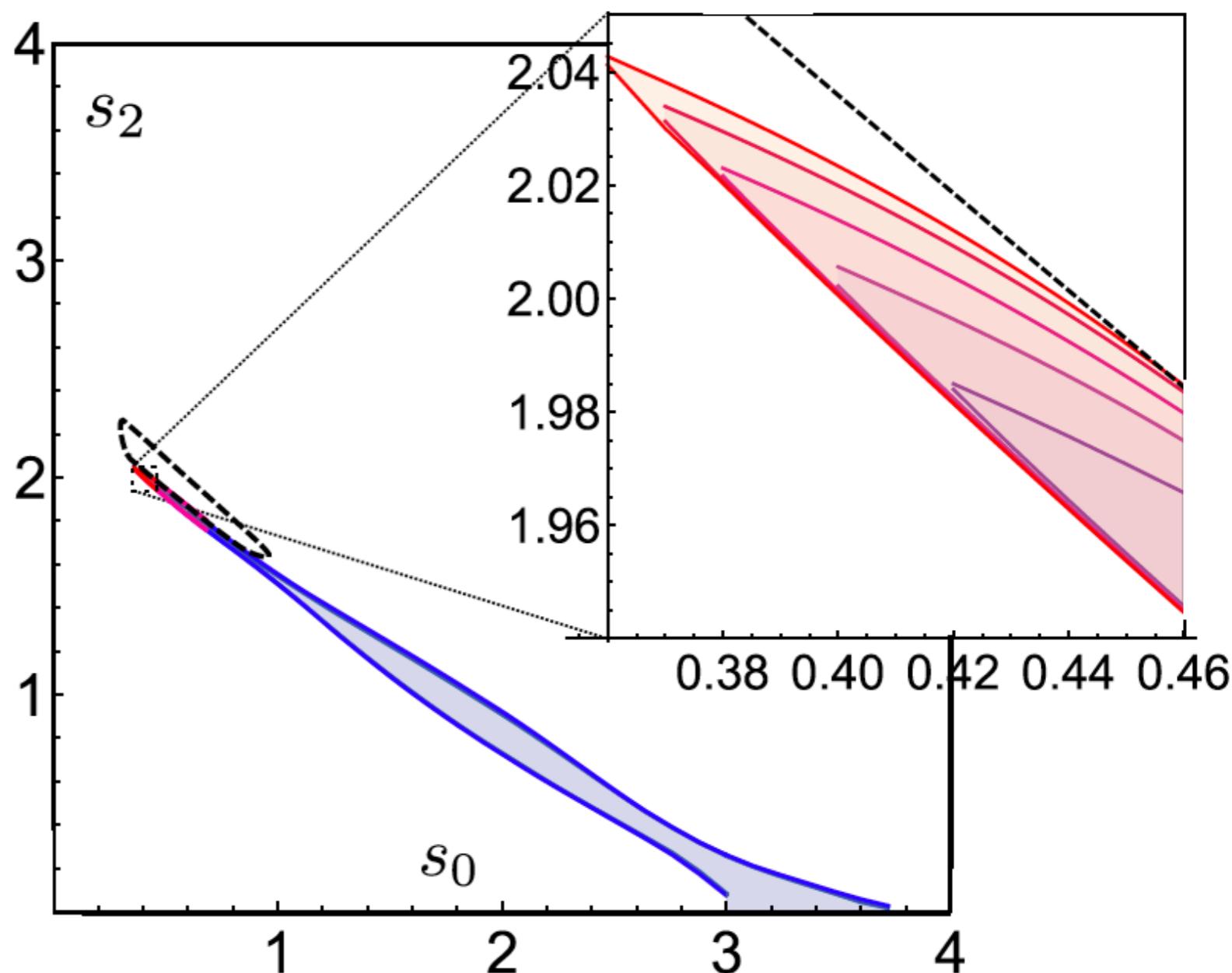
**Bootstrap Question:** allowed Chiral Zeros region given the experimental input available?

## Input:

1.  $\rho$  resonance
2. Scattering lengths

$$|a_\ell^I - a_\ell^I(\text{exp})| \leq \Delta a_\ell^I$$

ALG, Penedones, Vieira, PRL 122 (2019)  
arXiv: 1810.12849



# Precise Bounds: The Pion Peninsula

**Main assumption:** nonperturbative existence of the Chiral Zeros

**Bootstrap Question:** allowed Chiral Zeros region given the experimental input available?

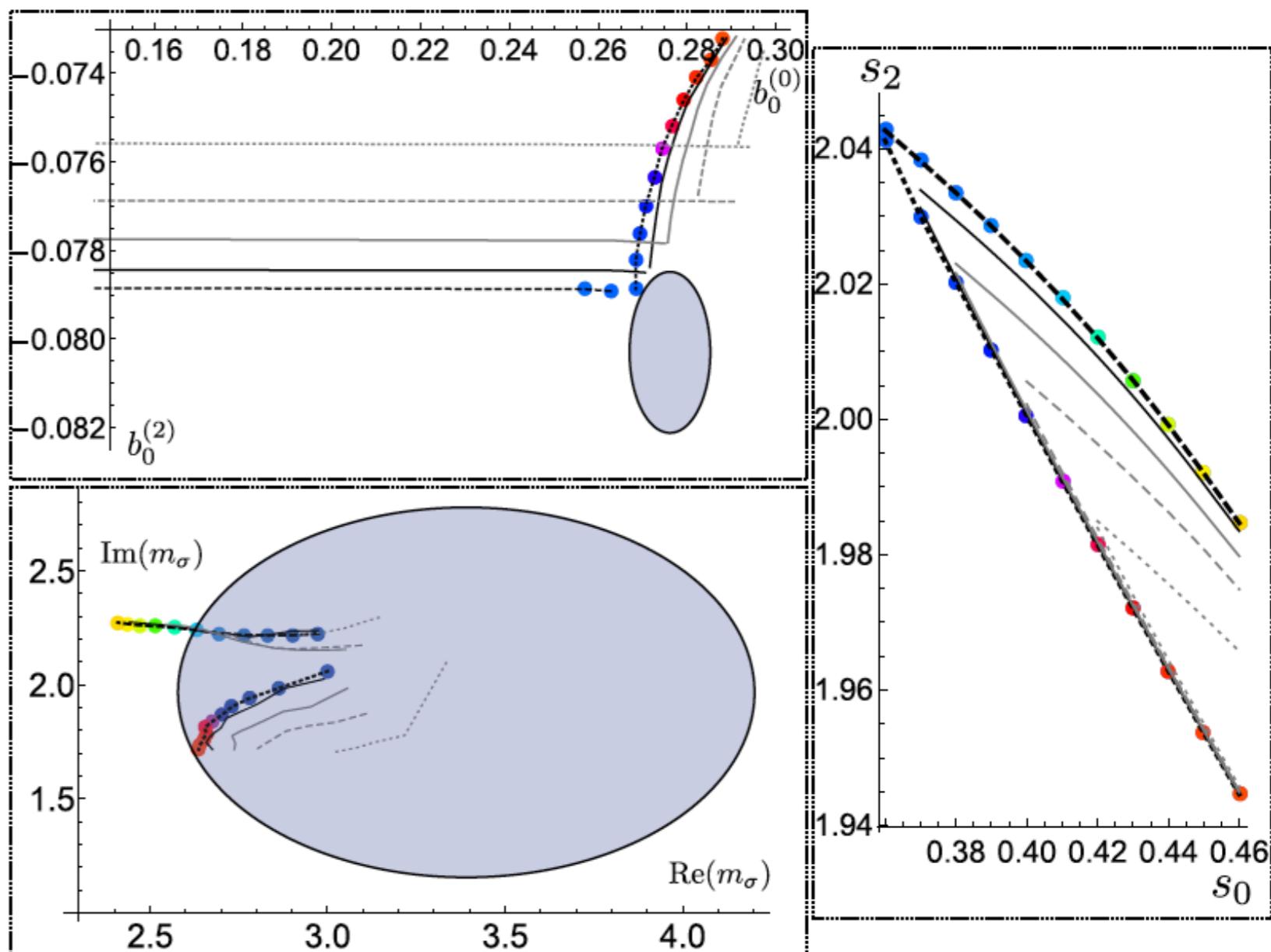
## Input:

1.  $\rho$  resonance
2. Scattering lengths

$$|a_\ell^I - a_\ell^I(\text{exp})| \leq \Delta a_\ell^I$$

ALG, Penedones, Vieira, PRL 122 (2019),  
arXiv: 1810.12849

$\sigma$  mass and width, and effective ranges agree close to the tip!



# Future predictions: Glueball Scattering?

Take pure  $SU(N)$  YM, the low energy spectrum contains Glueballs

		$M(J^{PC})/\sqrt{\sigma}$ continuum limit			
		$SU(2)$	$SU(3)$	$SU(4)$	$SU(5)$
$J^{PC}$					
G	$0^{++}$ gs	3.781(23)	3.405(21)	3.271(27)	3.156(31)
$G^*$	$0^{++}$ ex1	6.126(38)	5.855(41)	5.827(62)	5.689(53)
H	$2^{++}$ gs	5.349(20)	4.894(22)	4.742(15)	4.690(20)
$H^*$	$2^{++}$ ex1	7.22(6) <sup>+</sup>	6.788(40)	6.694(40)	6.607(45)
	$3^{++}$ gs	8.13(8)*	7.71(9)*		7.29(9)
	$4^{++}$ gs		7.60(12)*	7.36(9)*	7.41(10)

Athenodorou, Teper, arXiv: 2106.00364

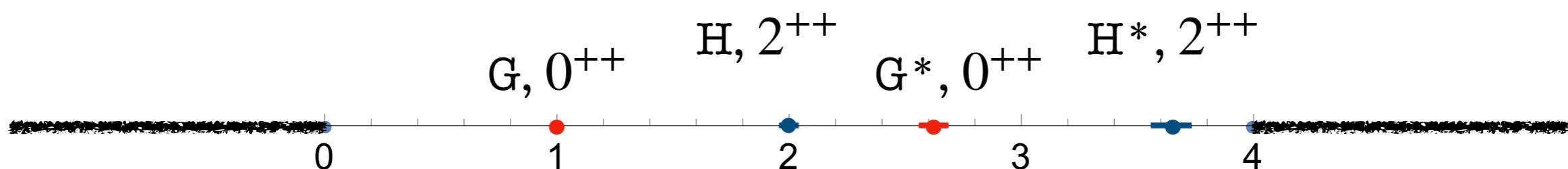
# Future predictions: Glueball Scattering?

Take pure SU(N) YM, the low energy spectrum contains Glueballs

		$M(J^{PC})/\sqrt{\sigma}$ continuum limit			
		$SU(2)$	$SU(3)$	$SU(4)$	$SU(5)$
$J^{PC}$					
G	$0^{++}$ gs	3.781(23)	3.405(21)	3.271(27)	3.156(31)
$G^*$	$0^{++}$ ex1	6.126(38)	5.855(41)	5.827(62)	5.689(53)
H	$2^{++}$ gs	5.349(20)	4.894(22)	4.742(15)	4.690(20)
$H^*$	$2^{++}$ ex1	7.22(6) <sup>+</sup>	6.788(40)	6.694(40)	6.607(45)
	$3^{++}$ gs	8.13(8)*	7.71(9)*		7.29(9)
	$4^{++}$ gs		7.60(12)*	7.36(9)*	7.41(10)

Athenodorou, Teper, arXiv: 2106.00364

Consider SU(2) YM,  $GG \rightarrow GG$  amplitude

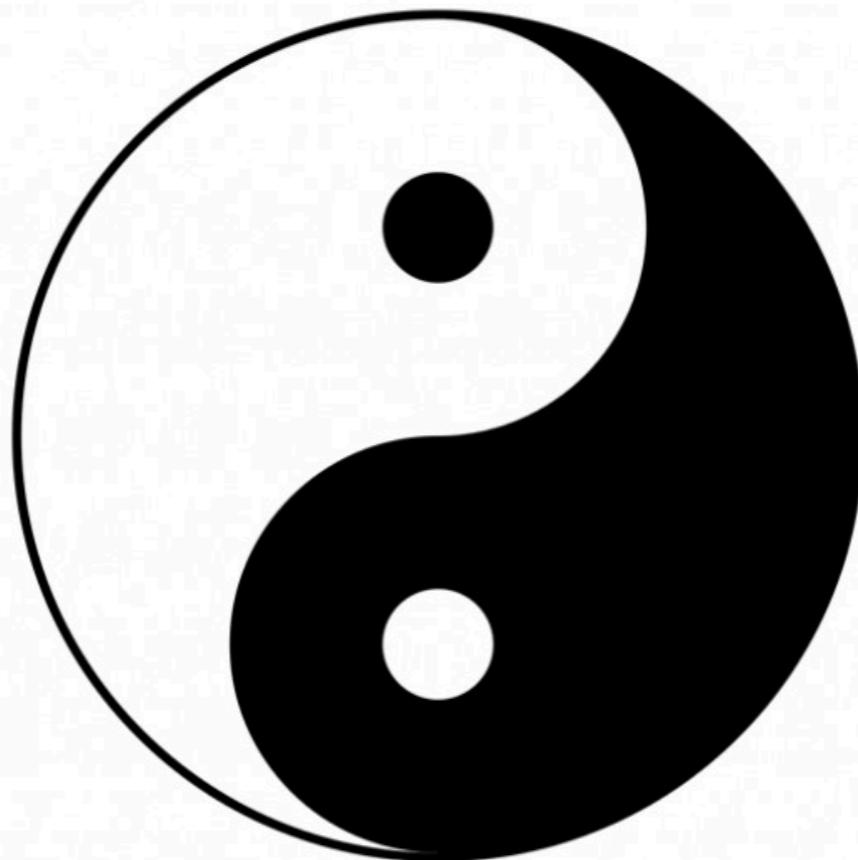
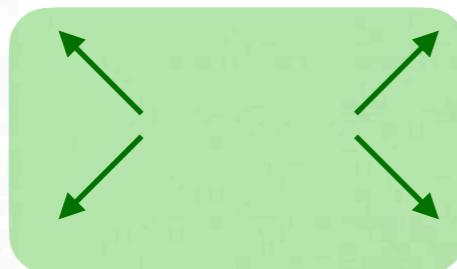


$$-\frac{g_G^2}{s - m_G^2} - \frac{g_{G^*}^2}{s - m_{G^*}^2} - \frac{g_H^2 P_2((u-t)/(m_H^2 - 4m_G^2))}{s - m_H^2} - \frac{g_{H^*}^2 P_2((u-t)/(m_{H^*}^2 - 4m_G^2))}{s - m_{H^*}^2} + \text{crossed poles}$$

# Dual Bootstrap Methods

**Primal Formulation:**  
Construct an ansatz for the amplitude

Paulos, Penedones, van Rees, Toledo, Vieira [1607.06110](#)  
(2D), [1708.06765](#) (4D)

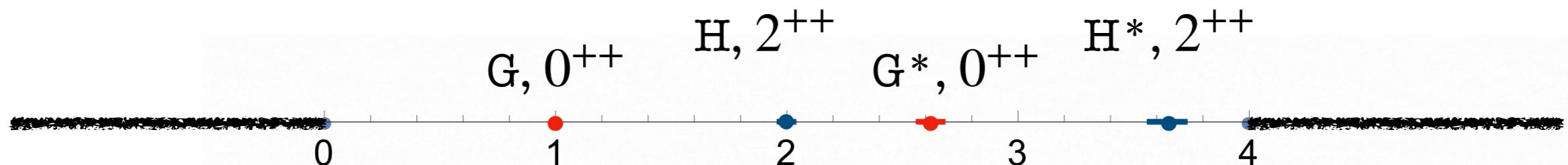


Homrich, ALG, Vieira '20 (2D) [2008.02770](#)  
Elias-Miró, ALG (2D) [2106.07957](#)  
ALG, Sever '21 (4D) [2106.10257](#)

**Dual Formulation:**  
Construct functionals to exclude points

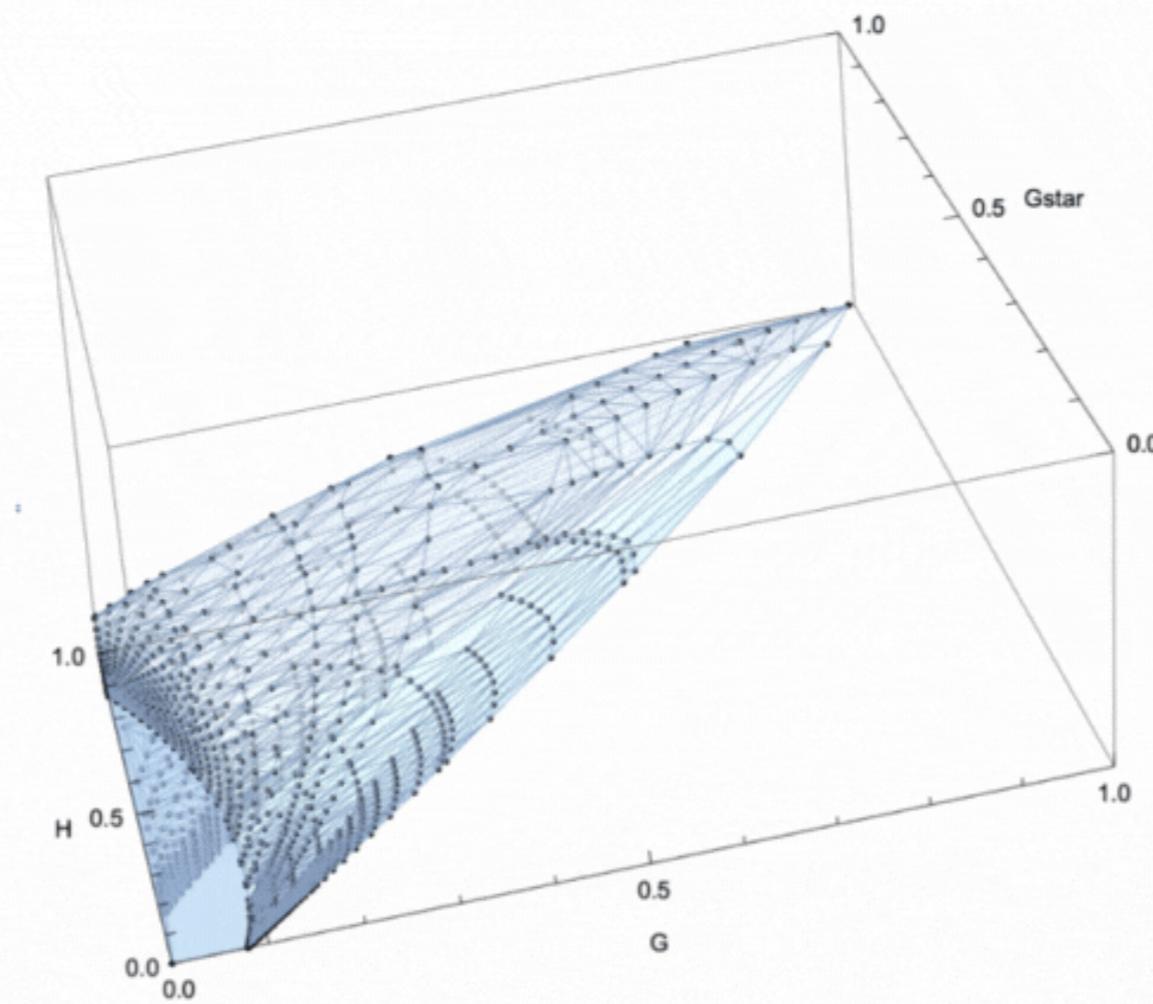


# Future predictions: Coupling Constants Space

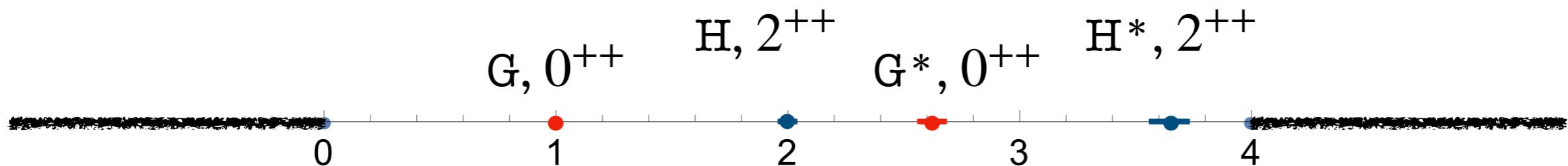


What are the allowed values for  $\{g_G, g_{G^*}, g_H, g_{H^*}\}$ ?

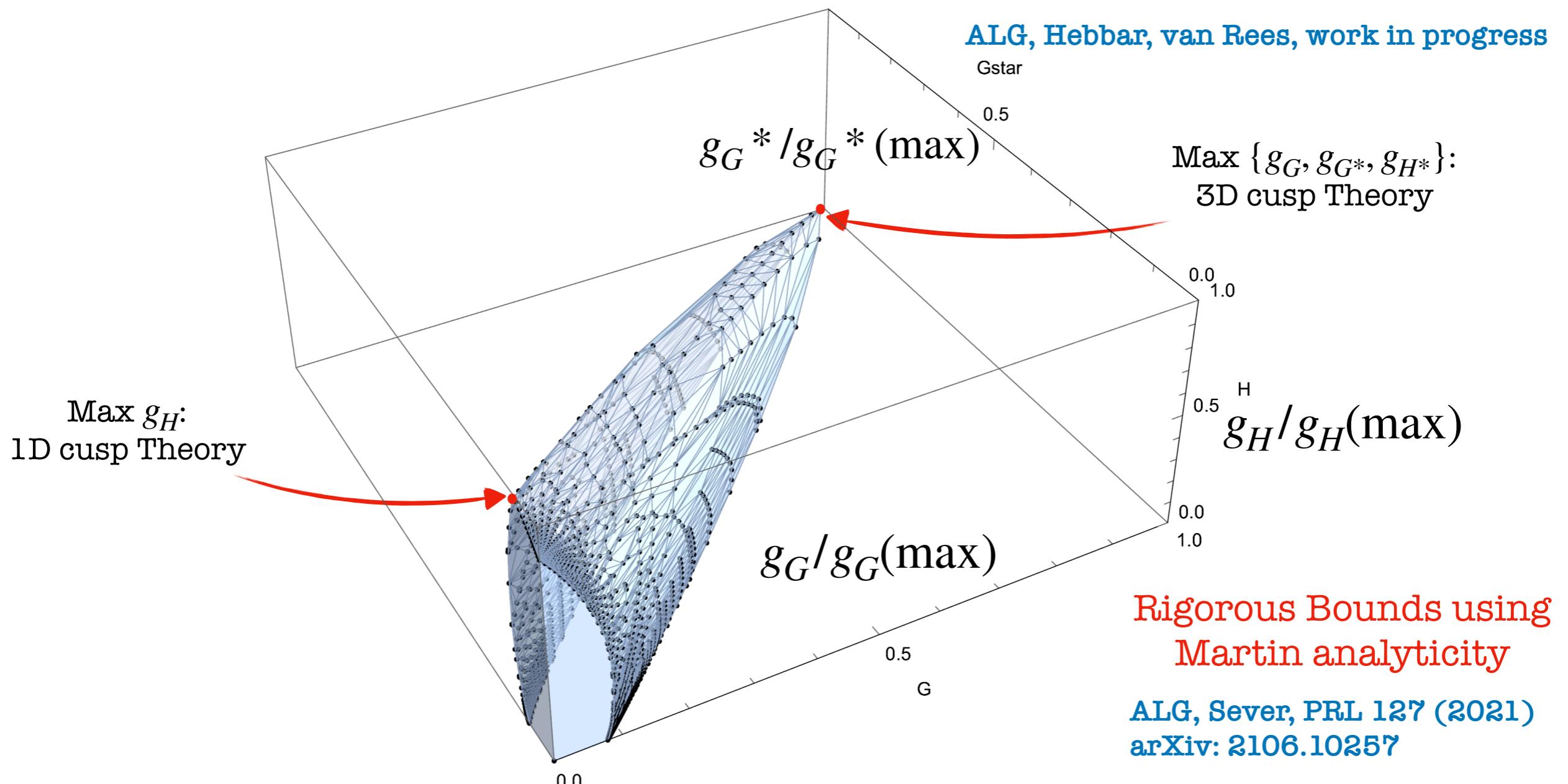
ALG, Hebbar, van Rees, work in progress



# Future predictions: Coupling Constants Space



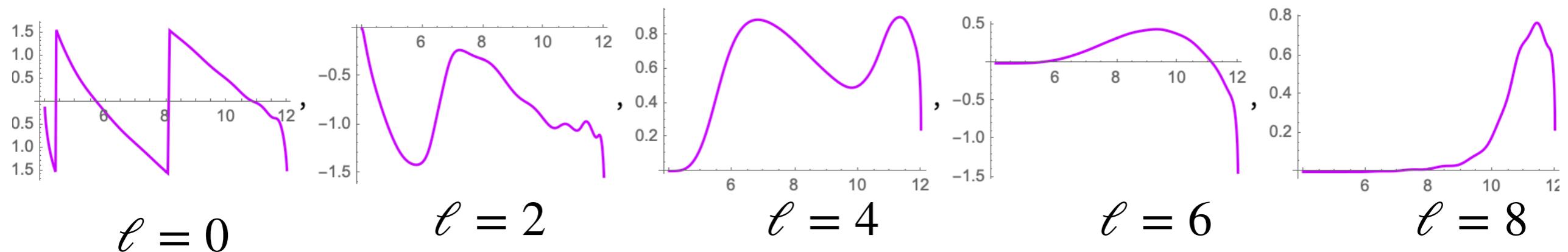
What are the allowed values for  $\{g_G, g_{G^*}, g_H, g_{H^*}\}$ ?



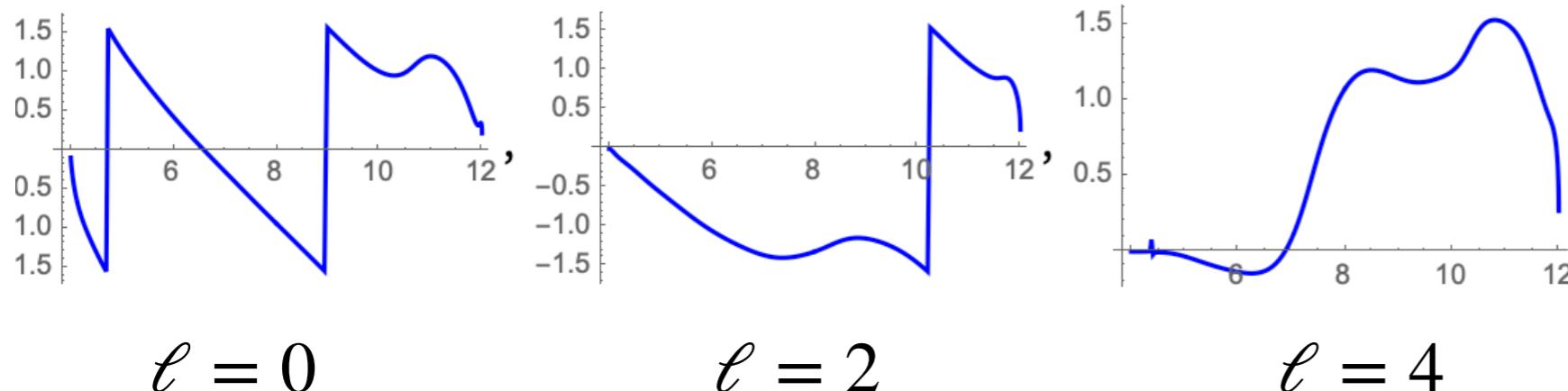
# Future predictions: Phase Shifts

ALG, Hebbar, van Rees, work in progress

$$g_G(\max) \simeq 220 \quad g_{G^*}(\max) \simeq 380 \quad g_{H^*}(\max) \simeq 15$$

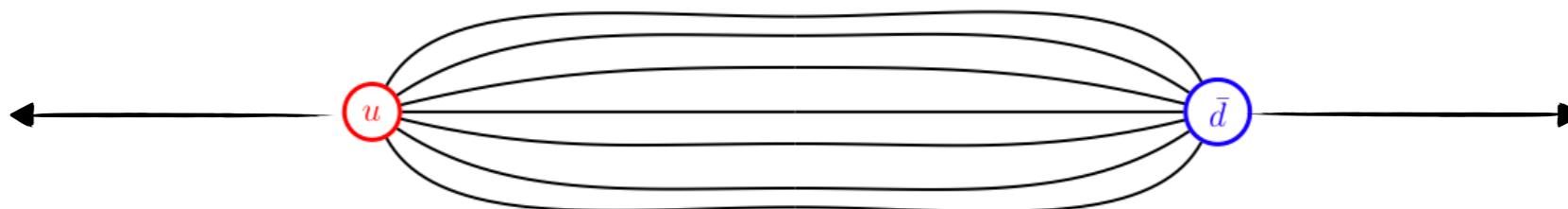


$$g_H(\max) \simeq 75$$



# Applications to Confinement

Distance between quarks  $\rightarrow \infty$



Large Distance Universality [D=3]

$$E_0(R)\ell_s = \frac{R}{\ell_s} + \frac{\pi \ell_s}{6 R} - \frac{\pi^2}{72} \left( \frac{\ell_s}{R} \right)^3 + \frac{\pi^3}{432} \left( \frac{\ell_s}{R} \right)^5 - \left( \frac{5\pi^4}{10368} + \Delta(\gamma_3) \right) \left( \frac{\ell_s}{R} \right)^7 + \dots$$

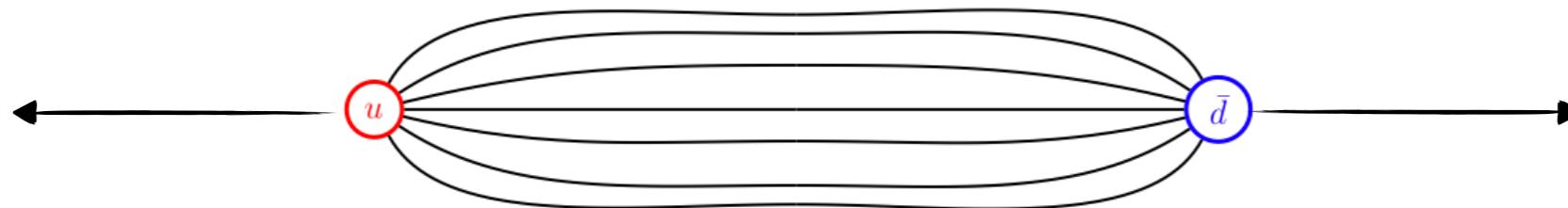
↑                   ↑  
Luscher           Luscher, Weisz,  
80's               Drummond

Aharony,  
Komargodsky,  
Dubovsky,  
Flauger,  
Gorbenko

Elias-Miró, ALG, Hebar, Penedones, Vieira,  
PRL 123 (2019), arXiv: 1906.08098

# Applications to Confinement

Distance between quarks  $\rightarrow \infty$



Large Distance Universality [D=3]

$$E_0(R)\ell_s = \frac{R}{\ell_s} + \frac{\pi \ell_s}{6 R} - \frac{\pi^2}{72} \left( \frac{\ell_s}{R} \right)^3 + \frac{\pi^3}{432} \left( \frac{\ell_s}{R} \right)^5 - \left( \frac{5\pi^4}{10368} + \Delta(\gamma_3) \right) \left( \frac{\ell_s}{R} \right)^7 + \dots$$

Luscher  
80's

Luscher, Weisz,  
Drummond

Aharony,  
Komargodsky,  
Dubovsky,  
Flauger,  
Gorbenko

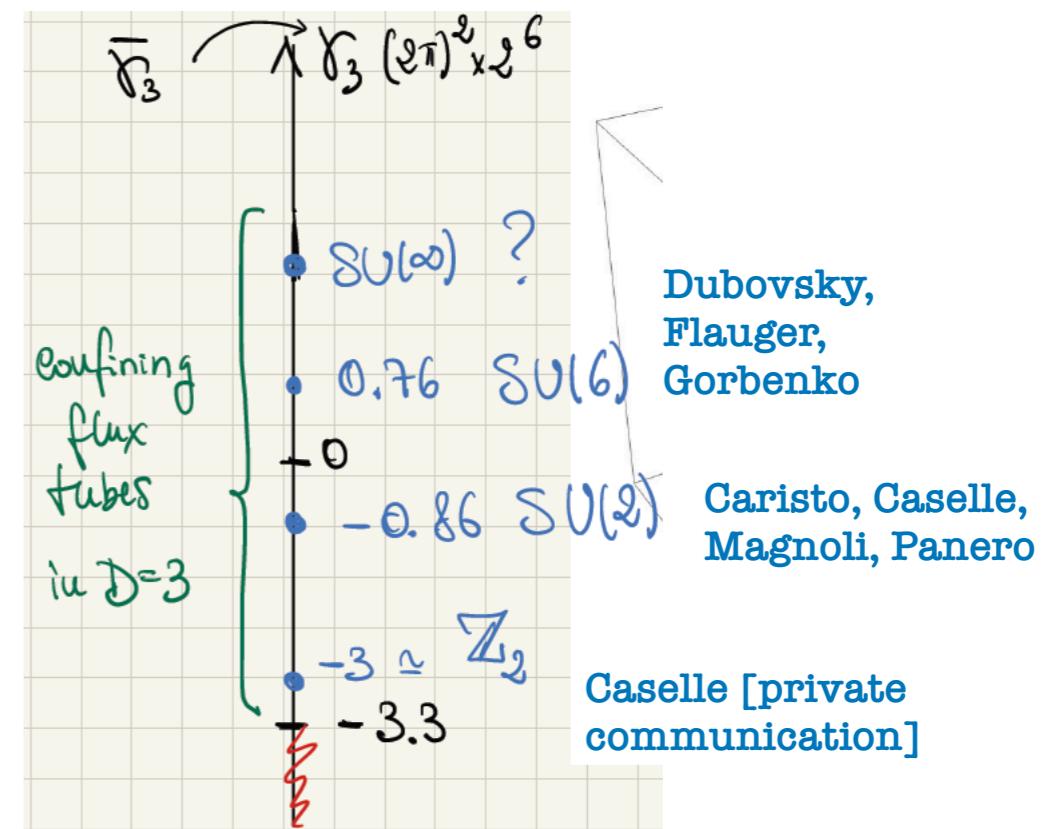
Elias-Miró, ALG, Hebar, Penedones, Vieira,  
PRL 123 (2019), arXiv: 1906.08098

Flux-Tube excitations S-matrix

$$S(s) = e^{i \frac{s}{4} \ell_s + i \gamma_3 s^3 \ell_s^6 + \dots}$$

S-matrix Bootstrap:  $\gamma_3 \geq -1/768$

$$\Delta(\gamma_3) = -\frac{32}{225} \pi^6 \gamma_3 \leq \frac{\pi^6}{5400}$$



# Future directions?

## General Bounds

QCD is the UV completion, not very useful...but useful for Quantum Gravity

## Precision Physics?

Pion Scattering in the gapped phase including the set of available data, how much can be fixed?

Can it be useful for pheno?

## Glueball Scattering (theoretically fun)

Plug the bounds in the Lüsher formula, inclusion of other processes  
 $GG^* \rightarrow GG^*, \dots$ , treating Landau singularities rigorously, ...

