

# Nf-part of the NNLO virtual correction to electroweak vector boson production using direct numerical integration

*based on arXiv:2407.18051*

*in collaboration with Matilde Vicini*



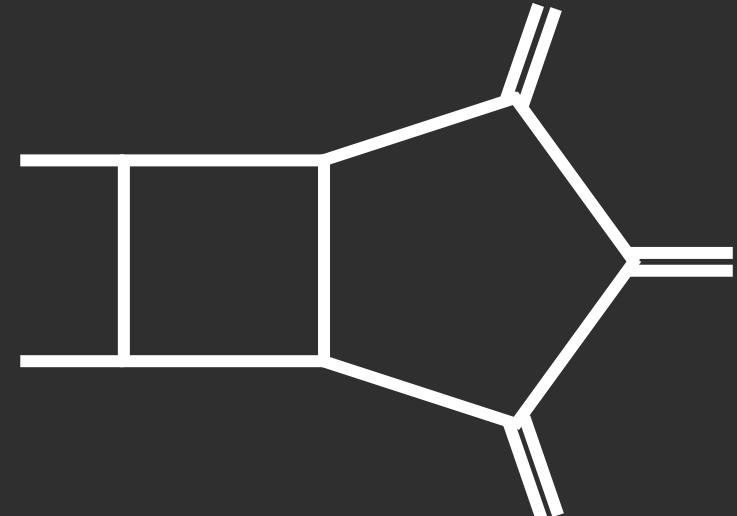
UNIVERSITÀ  
DI TORINO



Dario Kermanschah  
HP2, 11 September 2024

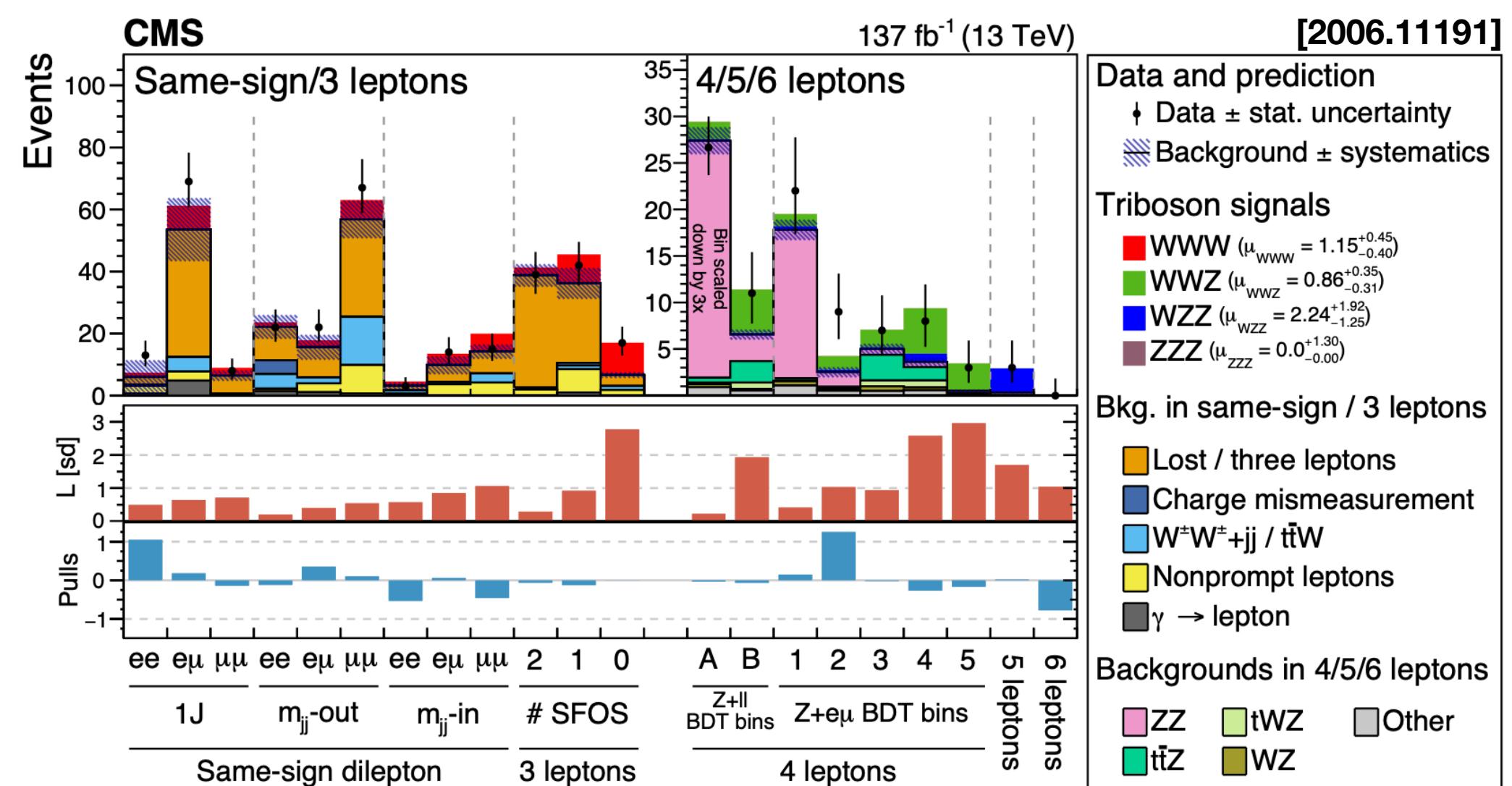
# How to conquer multi-scale multi-loop calculations?

- Full two-loop amplitudes beyond  $2 \rightarrow 3$  massless particles unavailable
- Overwhelming complexity of IBP reduction & unknown Master Integrals
- NNLO calculations become analytically intractable... resort to numerical methods!



## Why vector boson production?

- Uncharted territory: 3 massive bosons at two loops
- Fewer IR singularities: only ISR (no FSR)
- ATLAS and CMS become sensitive to three Z / W production, test quartic gauge-boson couplings & light-quark Yukawa couplings, BSM...



# Our approach for the two-loop virtual contribution: Local subtraction & direct numerical integration

Anastasiou, Haindl, Karlen,  
Sterman, Venkata, Yang, Zeng  
[2403.13712, 2212.12162,  
2008.12293, 1812.03753]

finite remainder:  $R^{(2)} = M^{(2)} - \frac{2\beta_0}{\epsilon} M^{(1)} - \mathbf{Z}^{(1)} M^{(1)} - \mathbf{Z}^{(2)} M^{(0)}$

$$\frac{2\beta_0}{\epsilon} M^{(1)}$$

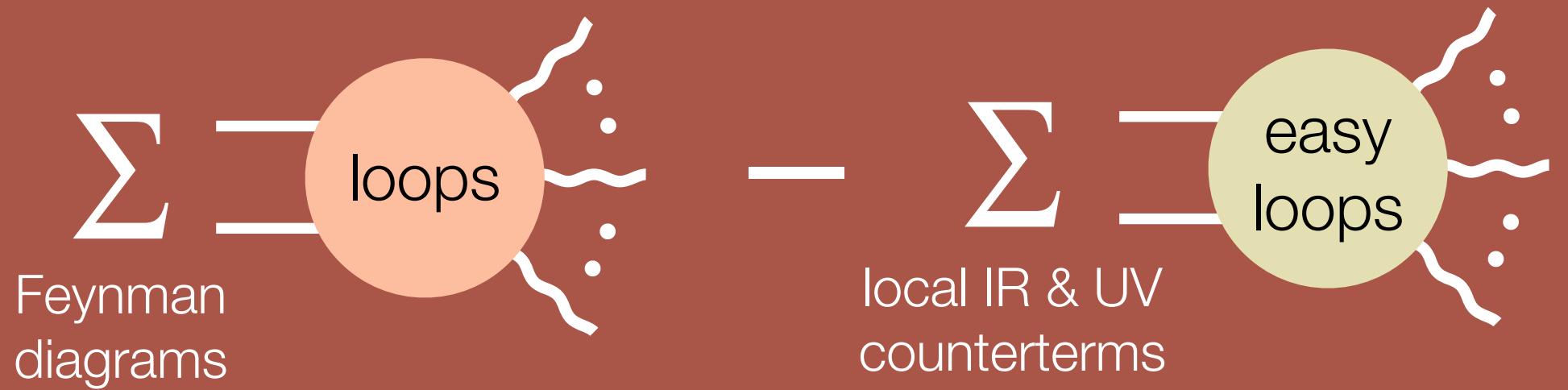
UV renorm.

Catani IR poles

$C_{\text{IR\&UV}}$  from local factorisation  
see Julia Karlen's talk!

## hard scattering amplitude

$$M_{\text{hard}}^{(2)} = M^{(2)} - C_{\text{IR\&UV}}$$



- finite in  $D = 4$  dimensions, no dim reg. ( $\gamma^5 \dots$ )
- integrate numerically with Monte Carlo
- directly in momentum space
- no IBPs, no Master integrals, no sector decomposition

## renormalisation & factorisation scheme change

$$+ C_{\text{IR\&UV}} - \frac{2\beta_0}{\epsilon} M^{(1)} - \mathbf{Z}^{(1)} M^{(1)} - \mathbf{Z}^{(2)} M^{(0)}$$

calculate analytically in  $D = 4 - 2\epsilon$  dimensions

$$= c_1 M_{\text{hard}}^{(1)} + c_0 M^{(0)}$$

interfere with tree & integrate over phase space  
to get the virtual cross section:  $\int d\Pi \sum_{\text{hel.}} |M|^2$

# Our approach for the two-loop virtual contribution: Local subtraction & direct numerical integration

Anastasiou, Haindl, Karlen,  
Sterman, Venkata, Yang, Zeng  
[2403.13712, 2212.12162,  
2008.12293, 1812.03753]

finite remainder:  $R^{(2)} = M^{(2)} - \frac{2\beta_0}{\epsilon} M^{(1)} - \mathbf{Z}^{(1)} M^{(1)} - \mathbf{Z}^{(2)} M^{(0)}$

UV renorm.

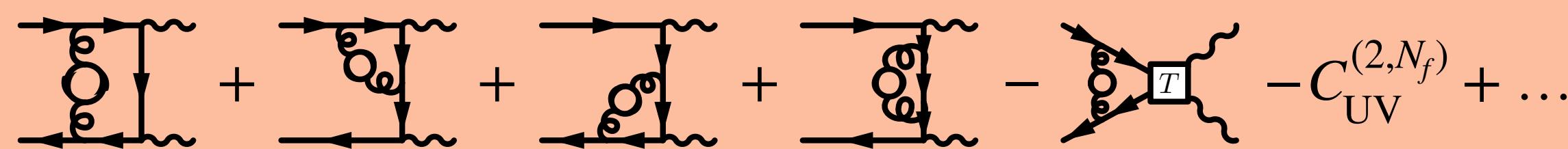
Catani IR poles

$C_{\text{IR\&UV}}$  from local factorisation  
see Julia Karlen's talk!

## hard scattering amplitude

$$M_{\text{hard}}^{(2)} = M^{(2)} - C_{\text{IR\&UV}}$$

Two-loop  $N_f$ -part  $\mathcal{M}_{\text{hard}}^{(2,N_f)}$



$$\sim \underbrace{\left( \frac{1}{l^2(l+k)^2} - \frac{1}{(l^2-M^2)^2} \right)}_{= \dots - C_{\text{UV}}^{\text{bubble}}} \underbrace{\left( \text{sum of tree-level diagrams} - C_{\text{UV}}^{(1)} + \dots \right)}_{= \mathcal{M}_{\text{hard}}^{(1)}}$$

## renormalisation & factorisation scheme change

$$+ C_{\text{IR\&UV}} - \frac{2\beta_0}{\epsilon} M^{(1)} - \mathbf{Z}^{(1)} M^{(1)} - \mathbf{Z}^{(2)} M^{(0)}$$

calculate analytically in  $D = 4 - 2\epsilon$  dimensions

$$= c_1 M_{\text{hard}}^{(1)} + c_0 M^{(0)}$$

interfere with tree & integrate over phase space

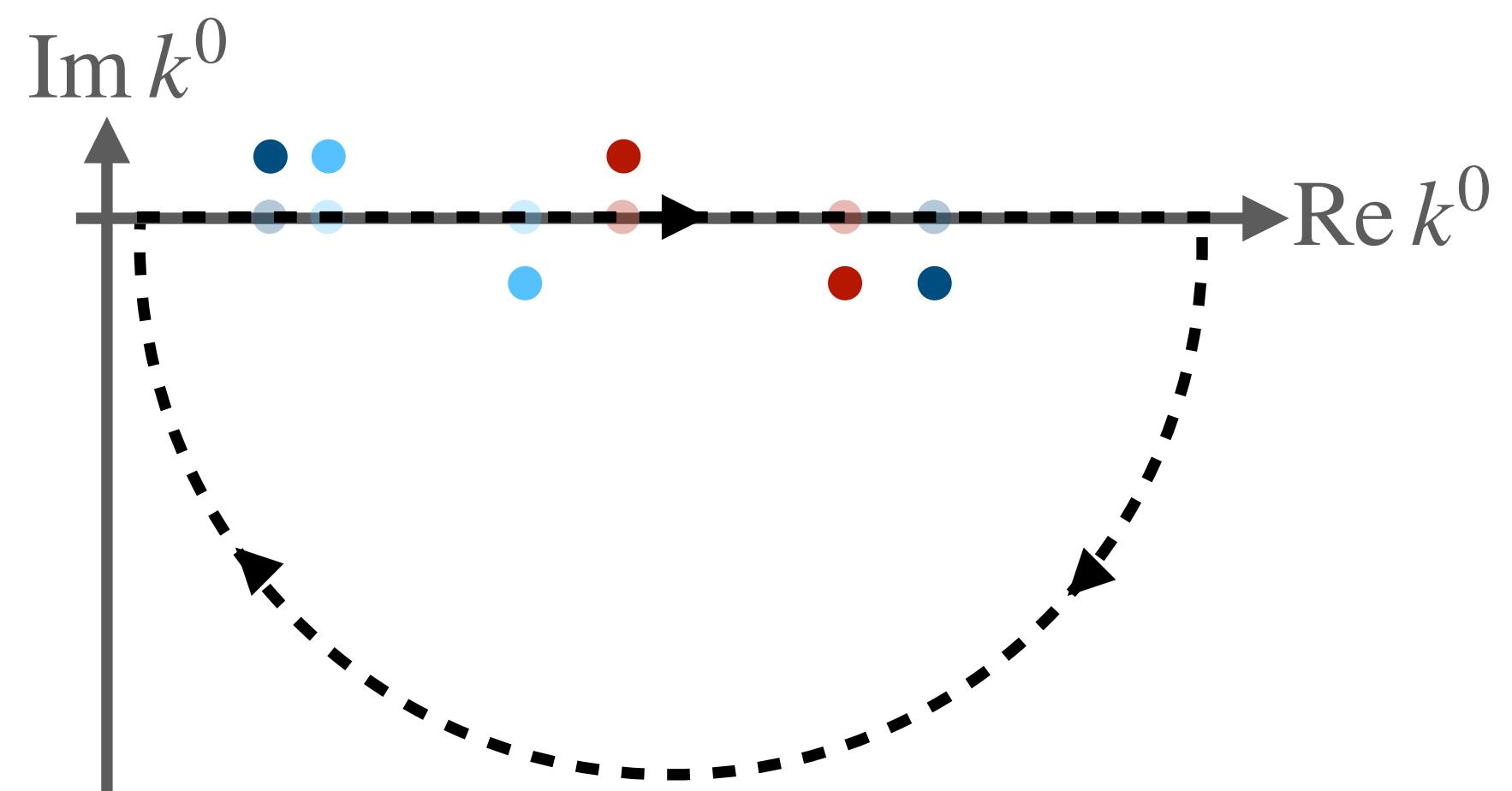
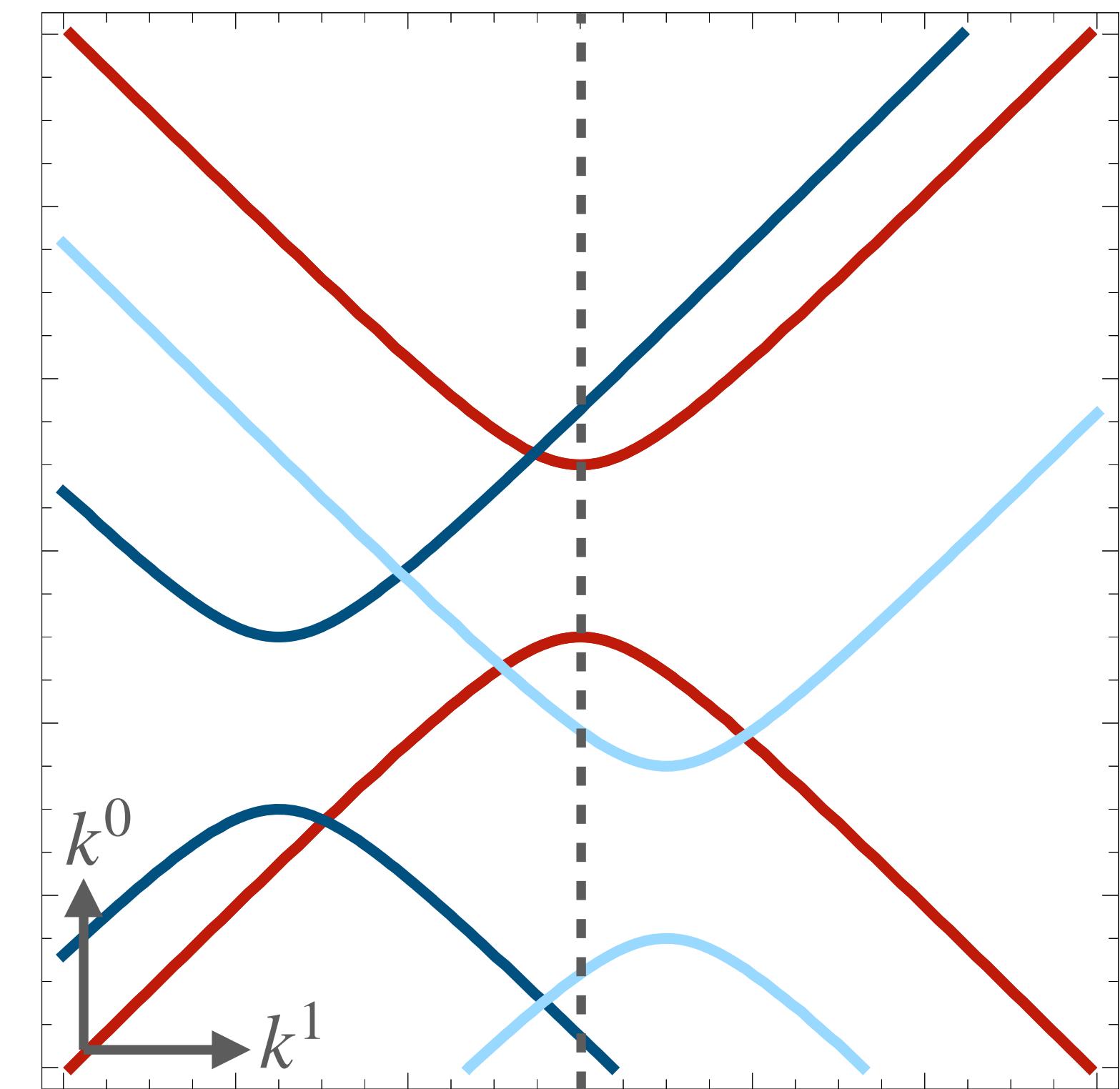
to get the virtual cross section:  $\int d\Pi \sum_{\text{hel.}} |M|^2$

# Local singularities of finite loop integrals

$$M_{\text{hard}} = \sum \text{Feyn. diagrams + local IR & UV CTs}$$

$$= \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int [d^4 k] \sum \dots \frac{\dots}{q_i^2 - m_i^2 + i\epsilon} \dots$$

- ✗ poles in the integration domain
- ✓ causal prescription
- ⚠ implement causal prescription for numerical integration  
→ analytic integration over  $k^0$

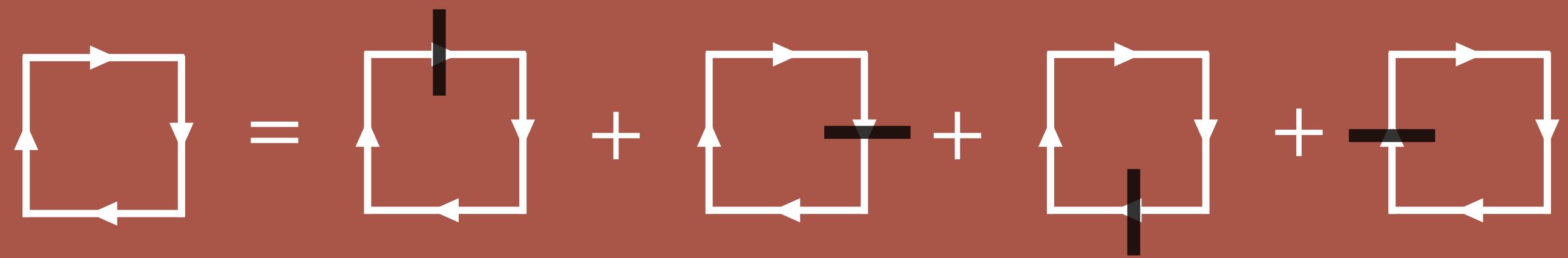


Loop integrals are rational functions in the energy component of the loop momentum  
→ integrate using the residue theorem: from  $D$  to  $D - 1$  integration dimensions per loop

Catani, Rodrigo et al. [0804.3170], ETHZ [1906.06138],  
Mainz [1902.02135], Valencia [2001.03564, 2010.12971]

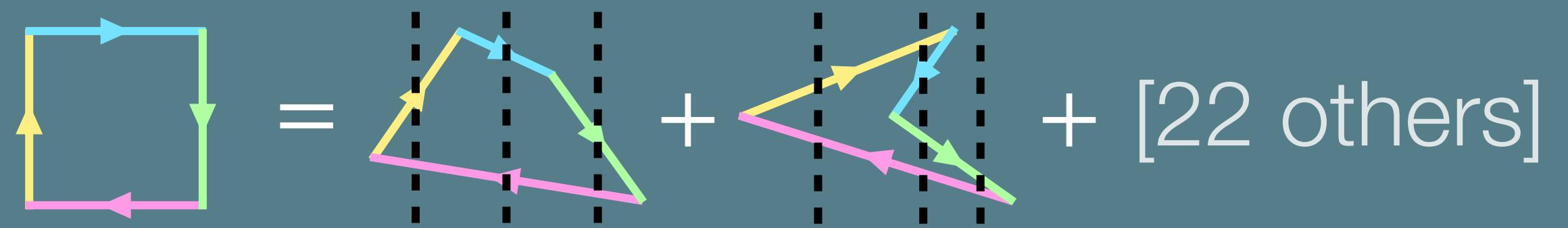
## Loop-Tree Duality

compact expression but problematic spurious singularities and derivatives for raised propagators



## Time-Ordered Perturbation Theory

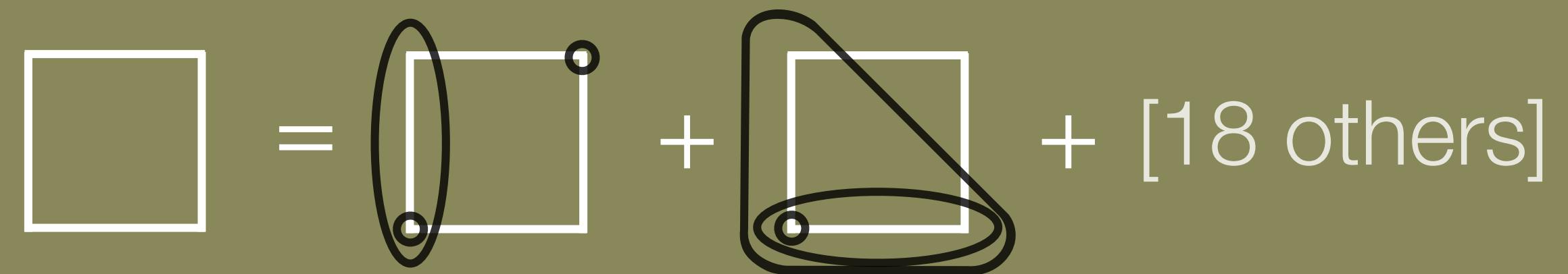
still some spurious singularities and more terms



Capatti [2211.09653]

## Cross-Free Family representation

no spurious singularities



+ many others ...

ETHZ [2009.05509], Mainz [2208.01060], Stony Brook [2309.13023],  
Valencia [2006.11217, 2112.09028, 2103.09237, 2102.05062]

# Threshold singularities

$$M_{\text{hard}} = \sum \text{Feyn. diagrams + local IR & UV CTs} = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int [d^4 k] \sum \dots \frac{\dots}{q_i^2 - m_i^2 + i\epsilon} \dots$$

$$= \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int [d^3 \vec{k}] \sum \dots \frac{\dots}{E_1 + E_2 - i\epsilon} \dots$$

✗ poles in the integration domain

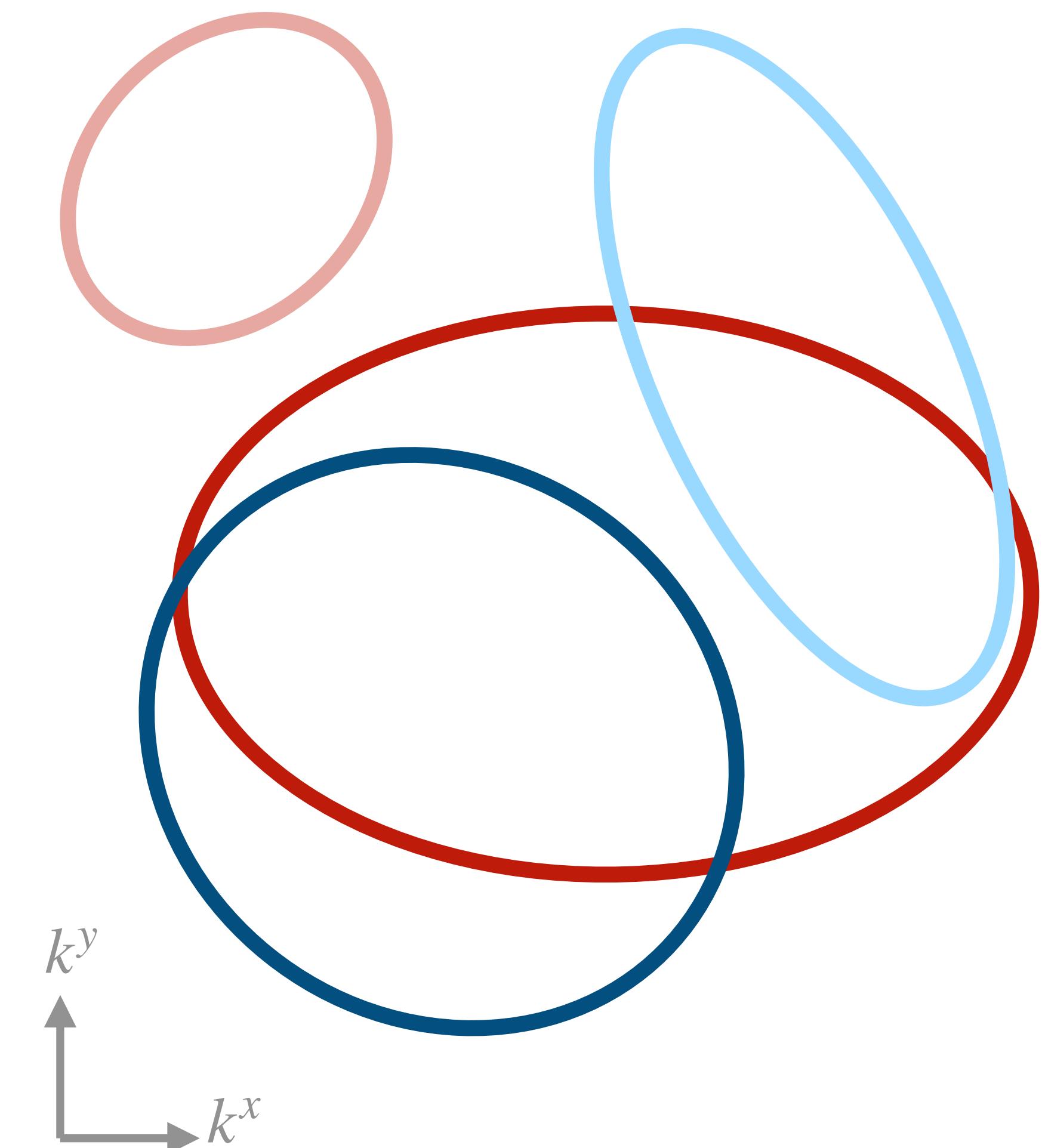
✓ causal prescription

⚠ implement causal prescription for numerical integration

→ Same problems? Yes but fewer integration dimensions

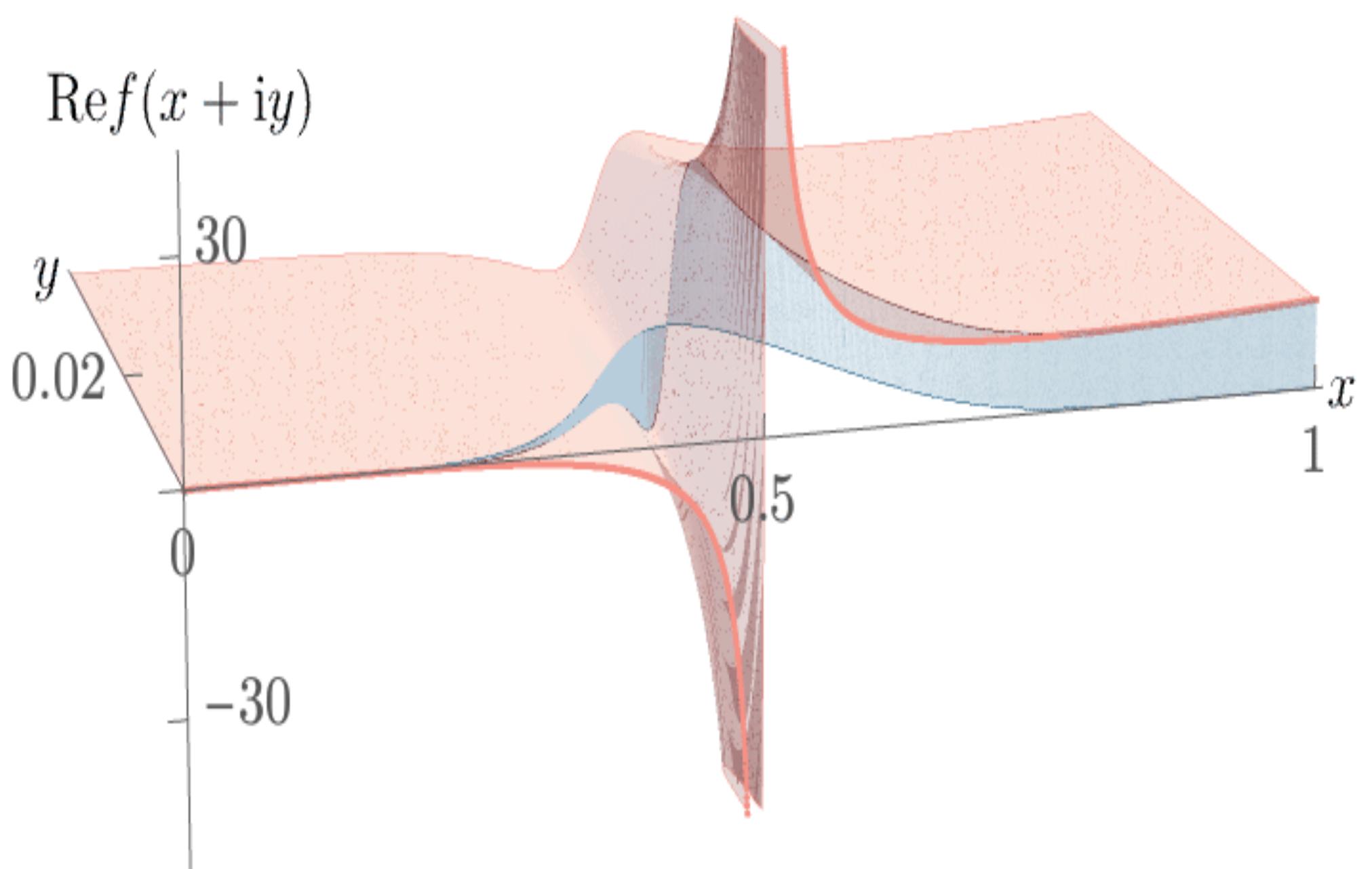
& fewer integrand singularities in compact region!

$$E_i = \sqrt{\vec{q}_i^2 + m_i^2}$$



## contour deformation

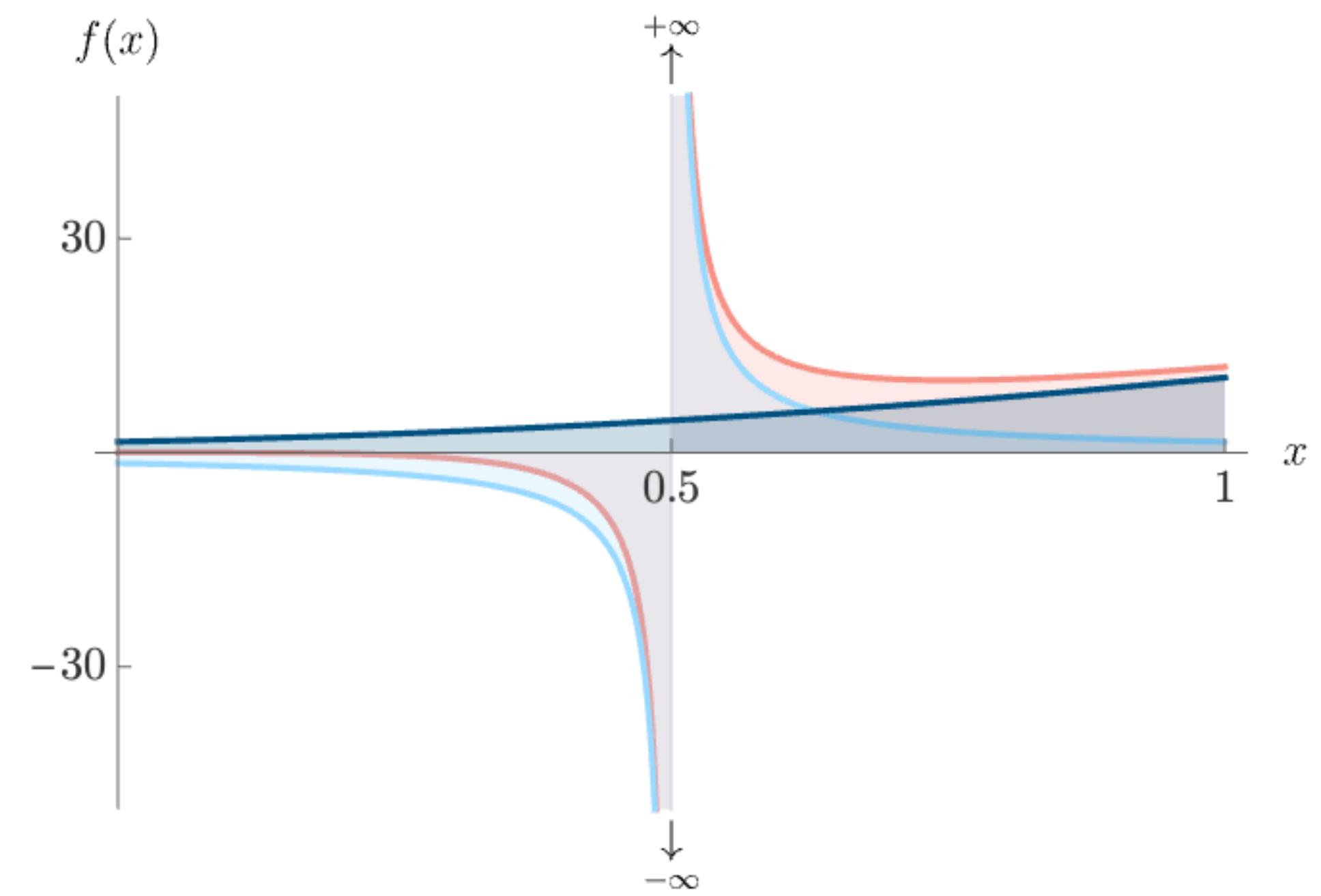
$$\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$



$$\frac{1}{1000000} \sum_{i=1}^{1000000} \text{Re } f(z(x_i)) j_z(x_i) = 4.9948$$

## subtraction

$$\frac{1}{x - x_0 + i\epsilon} = \text{PV} \frac{1}{x - x_0} - i\pi\delta(x_0)$$



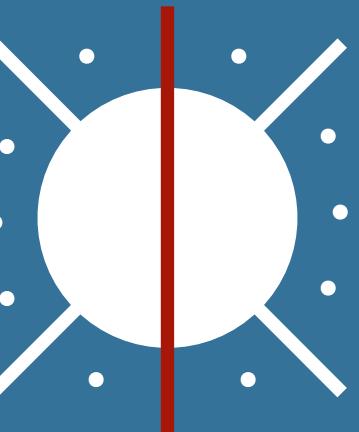
$$\frac{1}{1000000} \sum_{i=1}^{1000000} (f(x_i) - f_{ct}(x_i)) = 5.0008$$

# Subtraction of threshold singularities

around a threshold the integrand behaves as

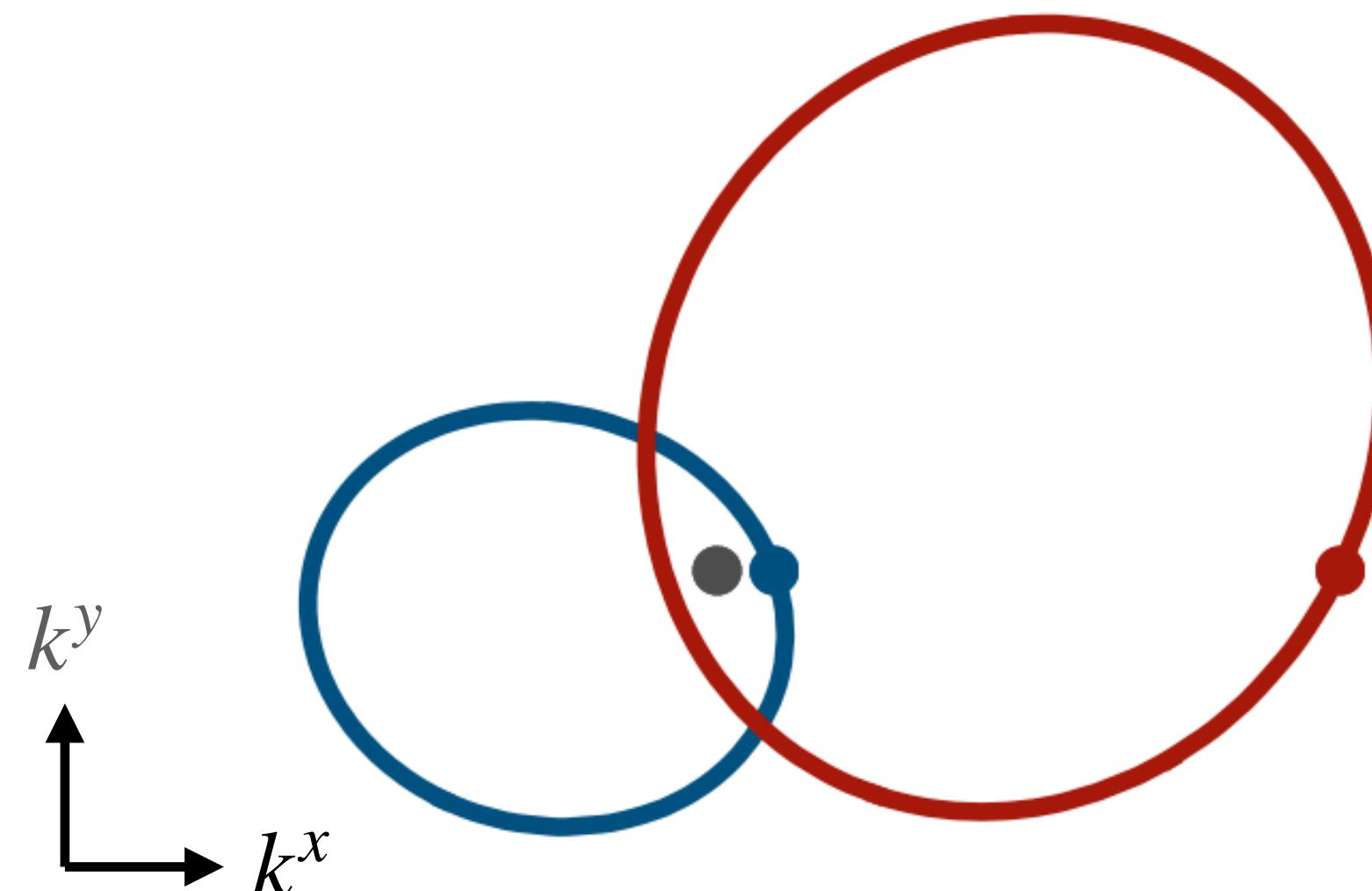
$$\mathcal{J} \sim \frac{\text{Res}_i \mathcal{J}}{|\vec{k}| - k_i \pm i\epsilon} \rightarrow \text{CT}_i \text{ threshold counterterm}$$

$$\text{Re } I = \int [d^3 \vec{k}] \left( \mathcal{J} - \sum_i \text{CT}_i \right) \quad \text{dispersive part}$$

$$\int [d^3 \vec{k}] \text{CT}_i = i\pi \int d\Pi \text{Res}_i \mathcal{J} = \text{phase space integral}$$


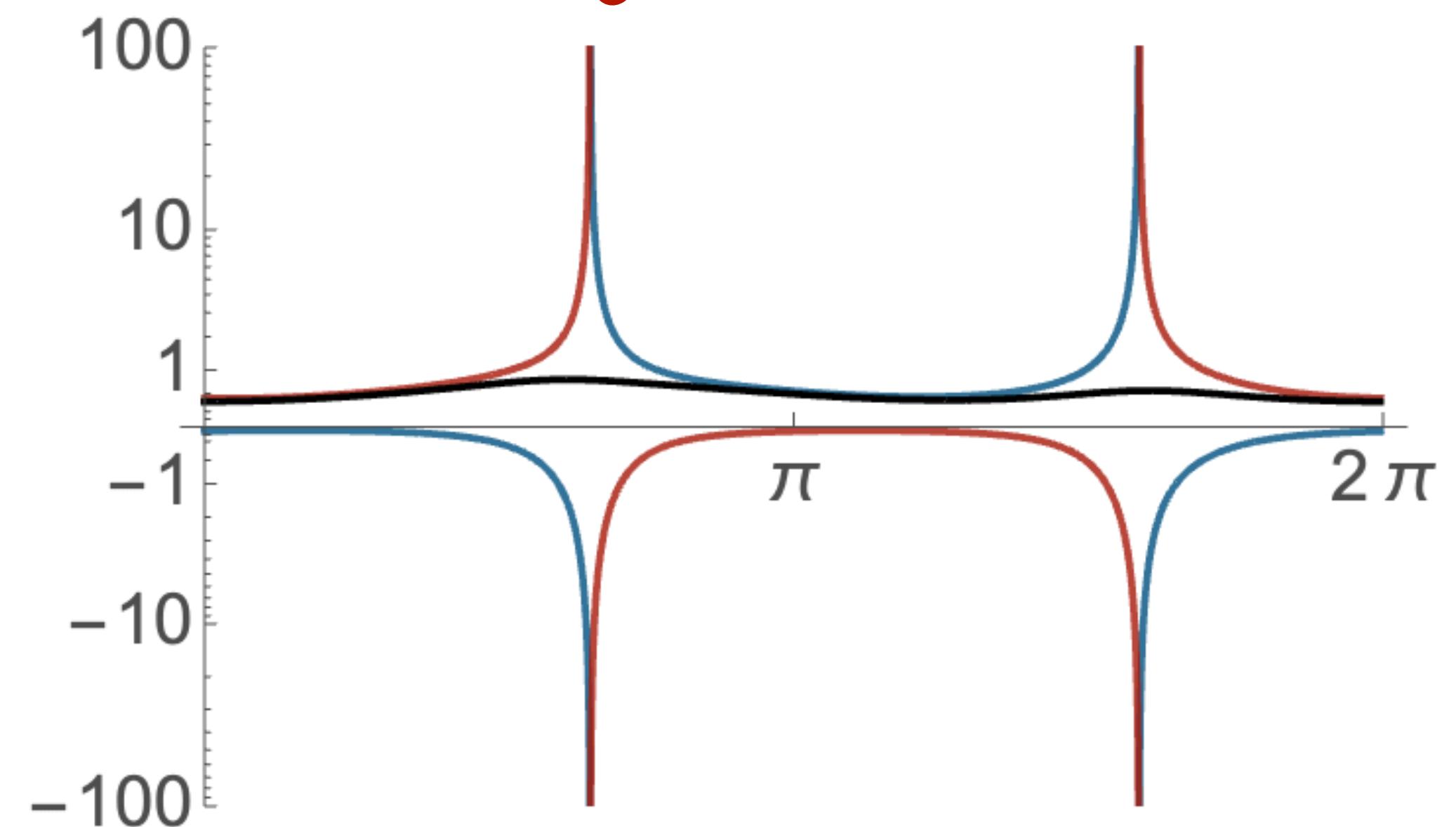
$$\text{Im } I = \pi \int d\Pi \sum_i \text{Res}_i \mathcal{J} \quad \text{absorptive part}$$

*local* optical theorem: all singularities incl. IR cancel



parameterisation aligns singularities

$$\text{Res}_O \mathcal{J} + \text{Res}_O \mathcal{J}$$

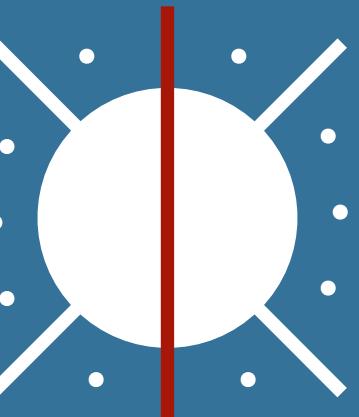


# Subtraction of threshold singularities

around a threshold the integrand behaves as

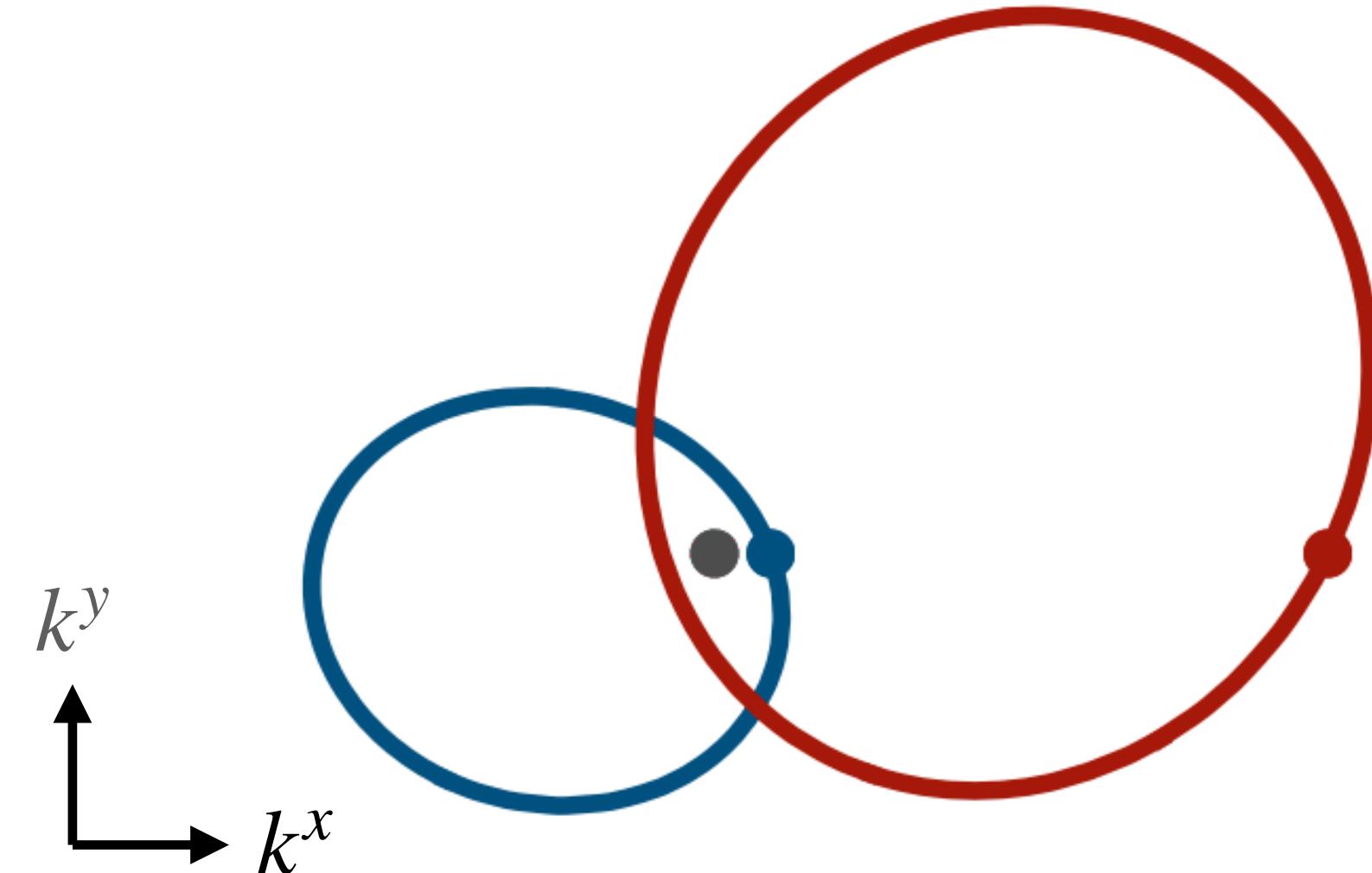
$$\mathcal{J} \sim \frac{\text{Res}_i \mathcal{J}}{|\vec{k}| - k_i \pm i\epsilon} \rightarrow \text{CT}_i \text{ threshold counterterm}$$

$$\text{Re } I = \int [d^3 \vec{k}] \left( \mathcal{J} - \sum_i \text{CT}_i \right) \quad \text{dispersive part}$$

$$\int [d^3 \vec{k}] \text{CT}_i = i\pi \int d\Pi \text{Res}_i \mathcal{J} = \text{phase space integral}$$


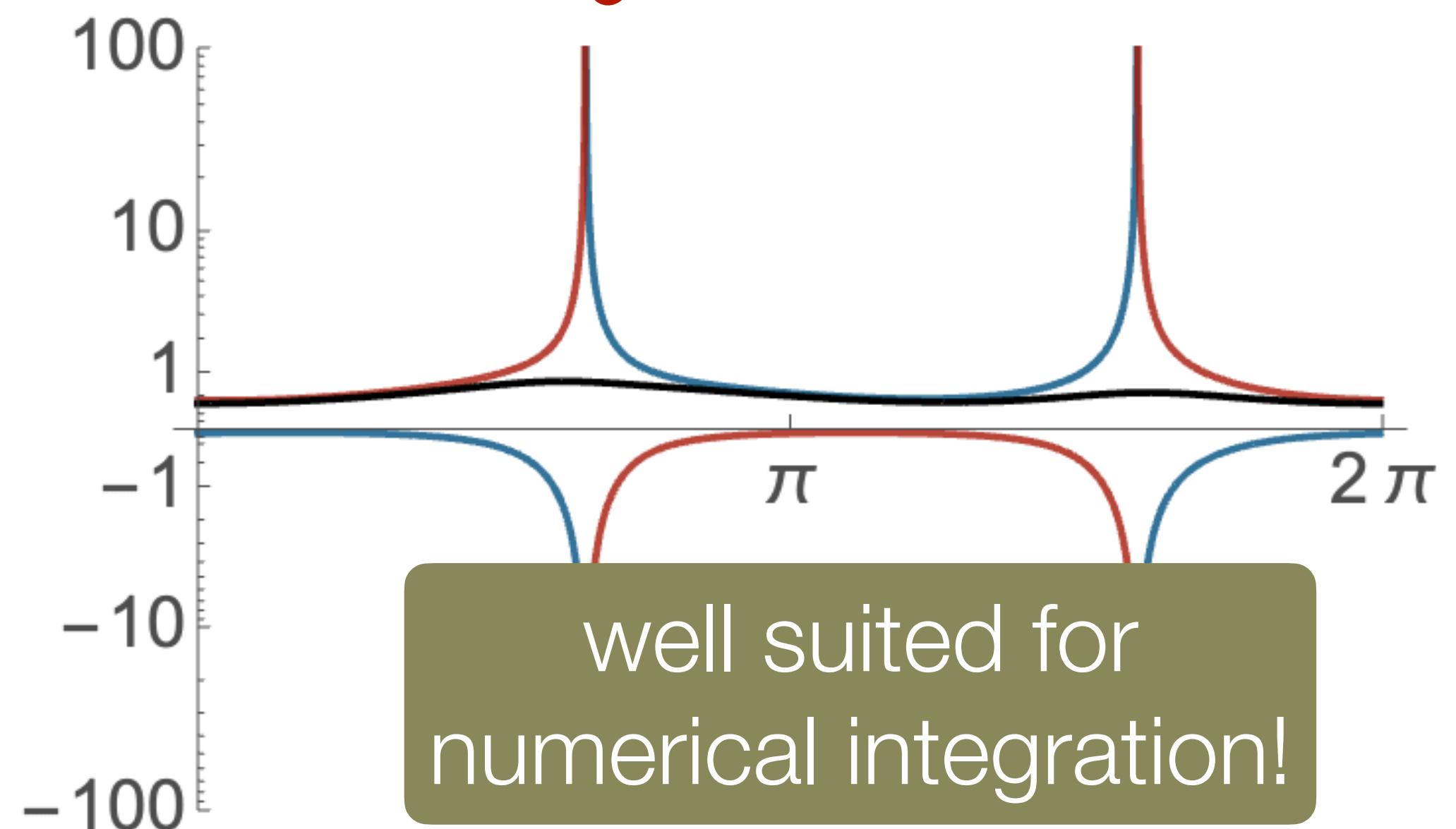
$$\text{Im } I = \pi \int d\Pi \sum_i \text{Res}_i \mathcal{J} \quad \text{absorptive part}$$

*local* optical theorem: all singularities incl. IR cancel



parameterisation aligns singularities

$$\text{Res}_O \mathcal{J} + \text{Res}_O \mathcal{J}$$



# Subtraction of threshold singularities

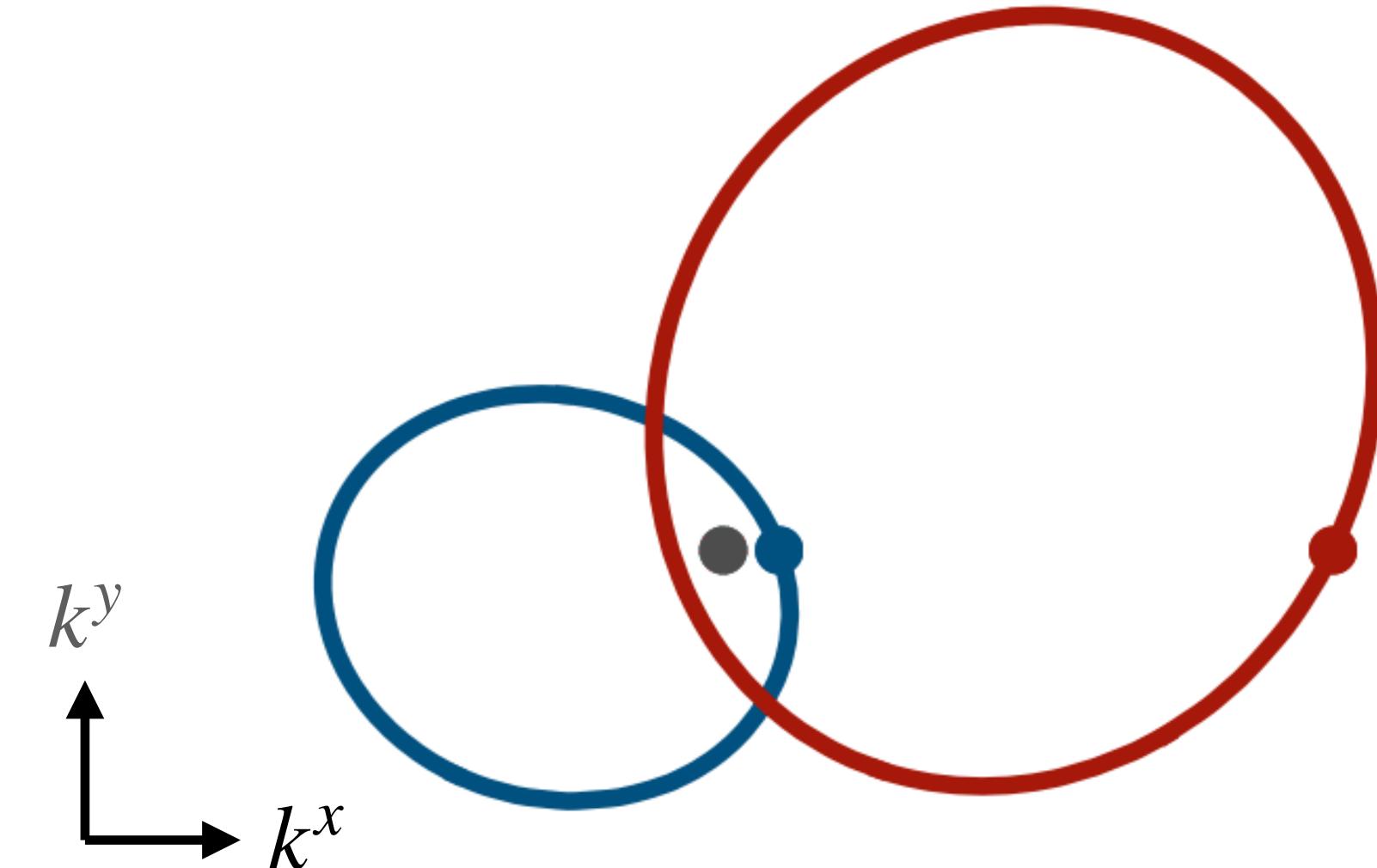
around a threshold the integrand behaves as

$$\mathcal{J} \sim \frac{\text{Res}_i \mathcal{J}}{|\vec{k}| - k_i \pm i\epsilon} \rightarrow \text{CT}_i \text{ threshold counterterm}$$

$$\text{Re } I = \int [d^3 \vec{k}] \left( \mathcal{J} - \sum_i \text{CT}_i \right) \quad \text{dispersive part}$$

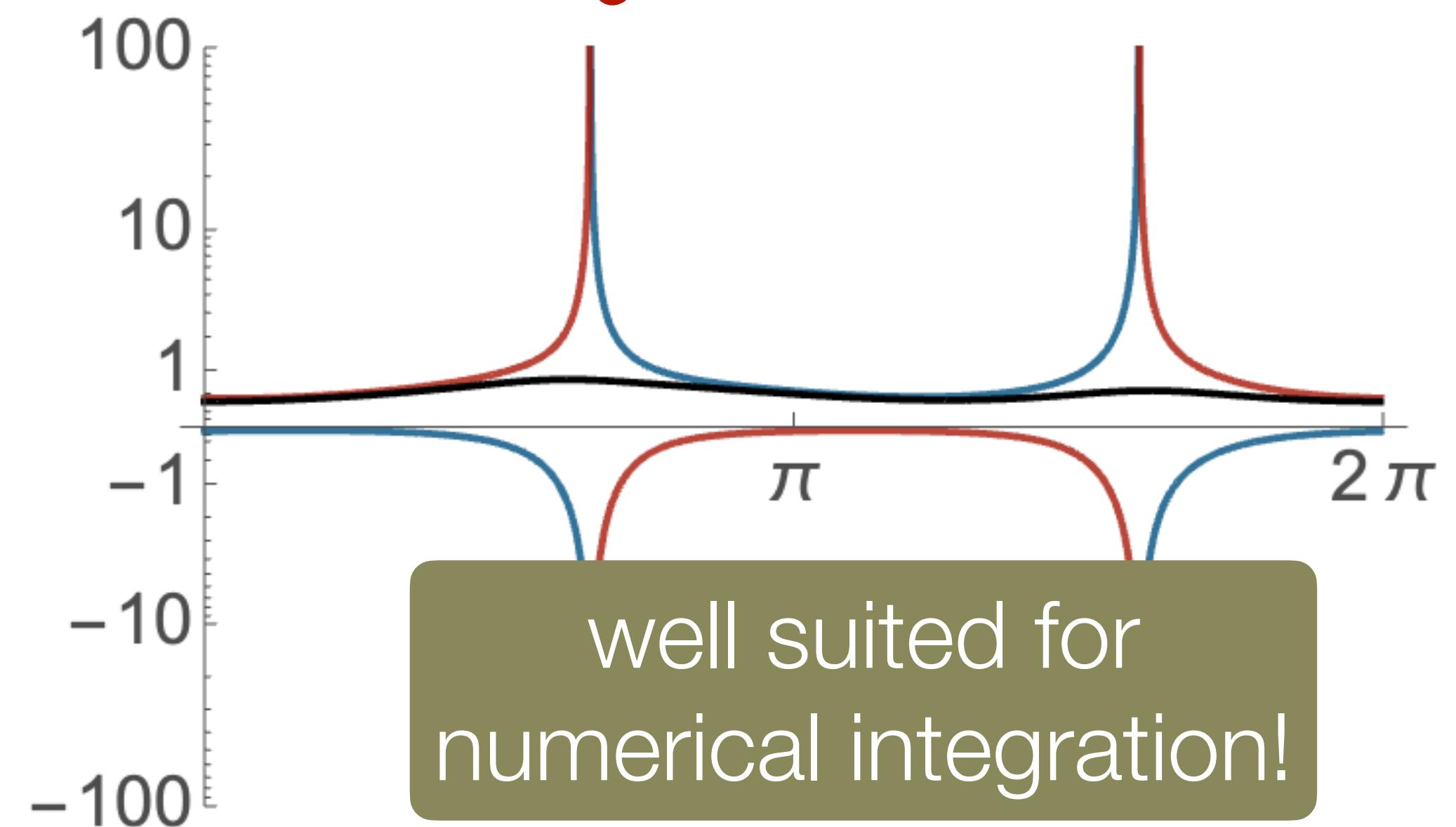
we will only need  
the dispersive part!

$$\int d\Pi d^3 \vec{k} d^3 \vec{l} \sum_{\text{hel.}} 2 \text{Re} \left[ \text{Diagram} + \dots \right]$$



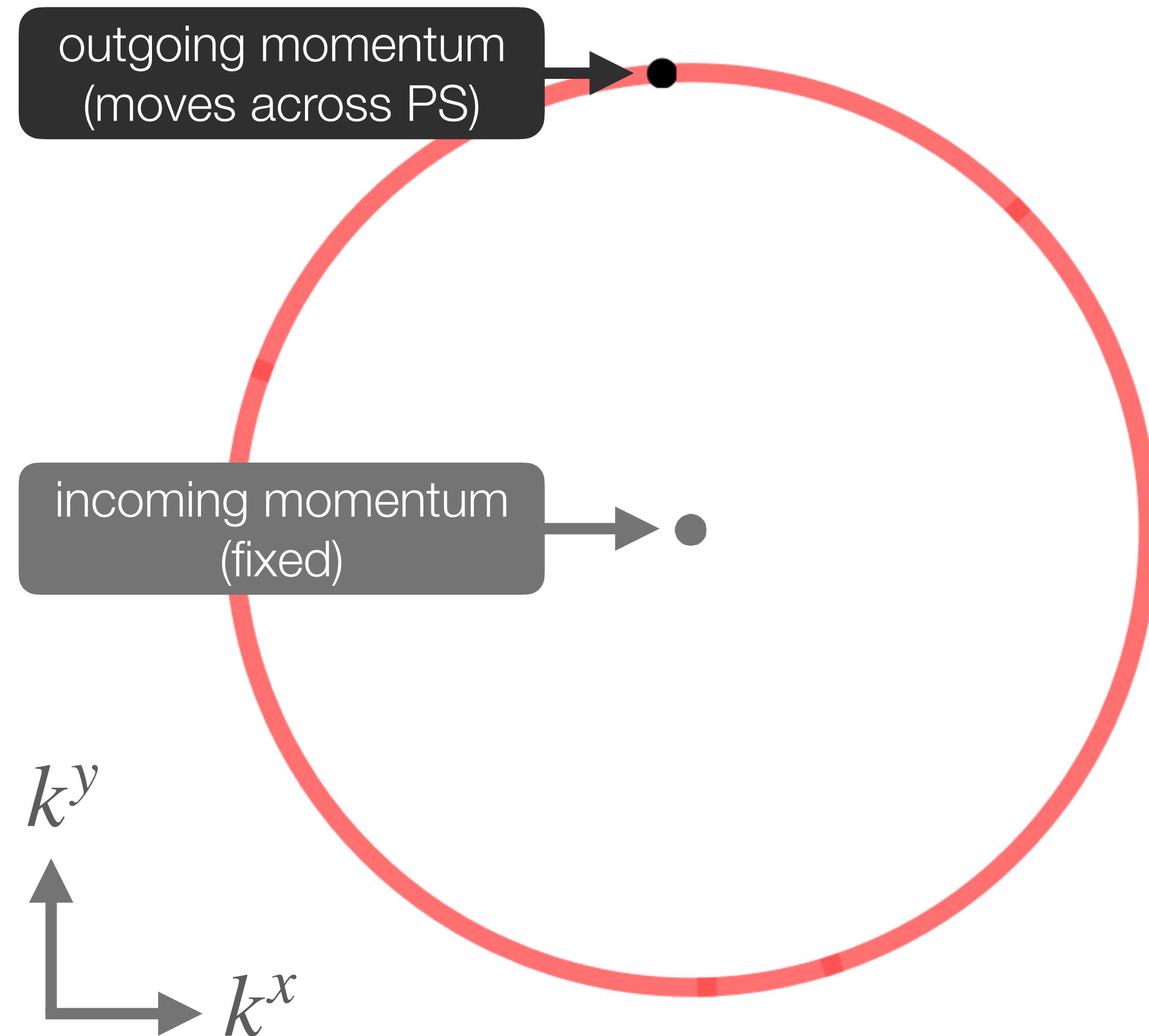
parameterisation aligns singularities

$$\text{Res}_\text{O} \mathcal{J} + \text{Res}_\text{O} \mathcal{J}$$

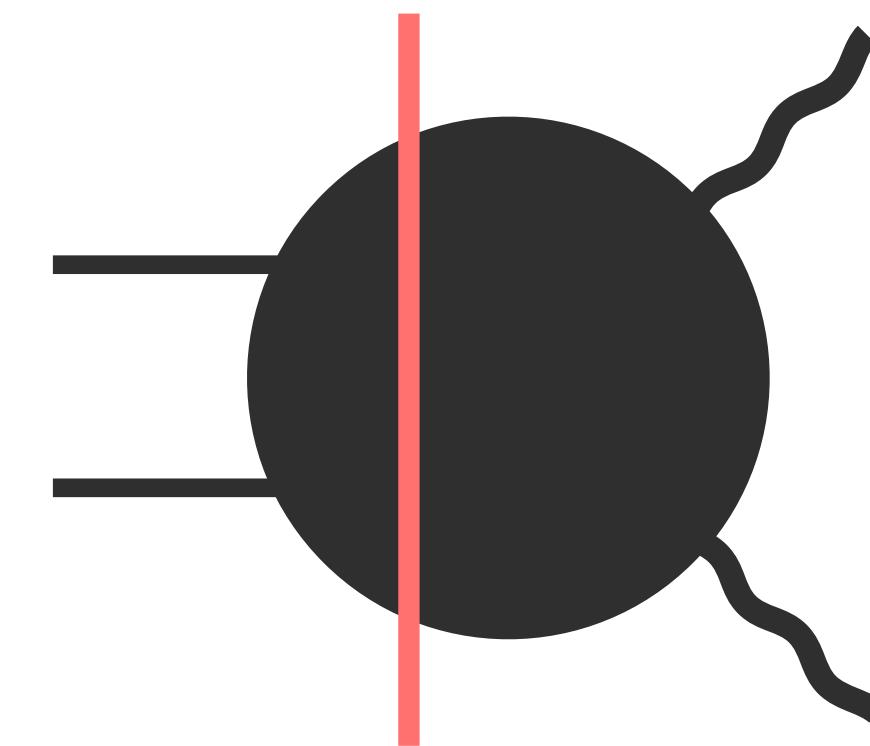


# Thresholds one-loop & two-loop $N_f$ amplitude

$$q\bar{q} \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$$

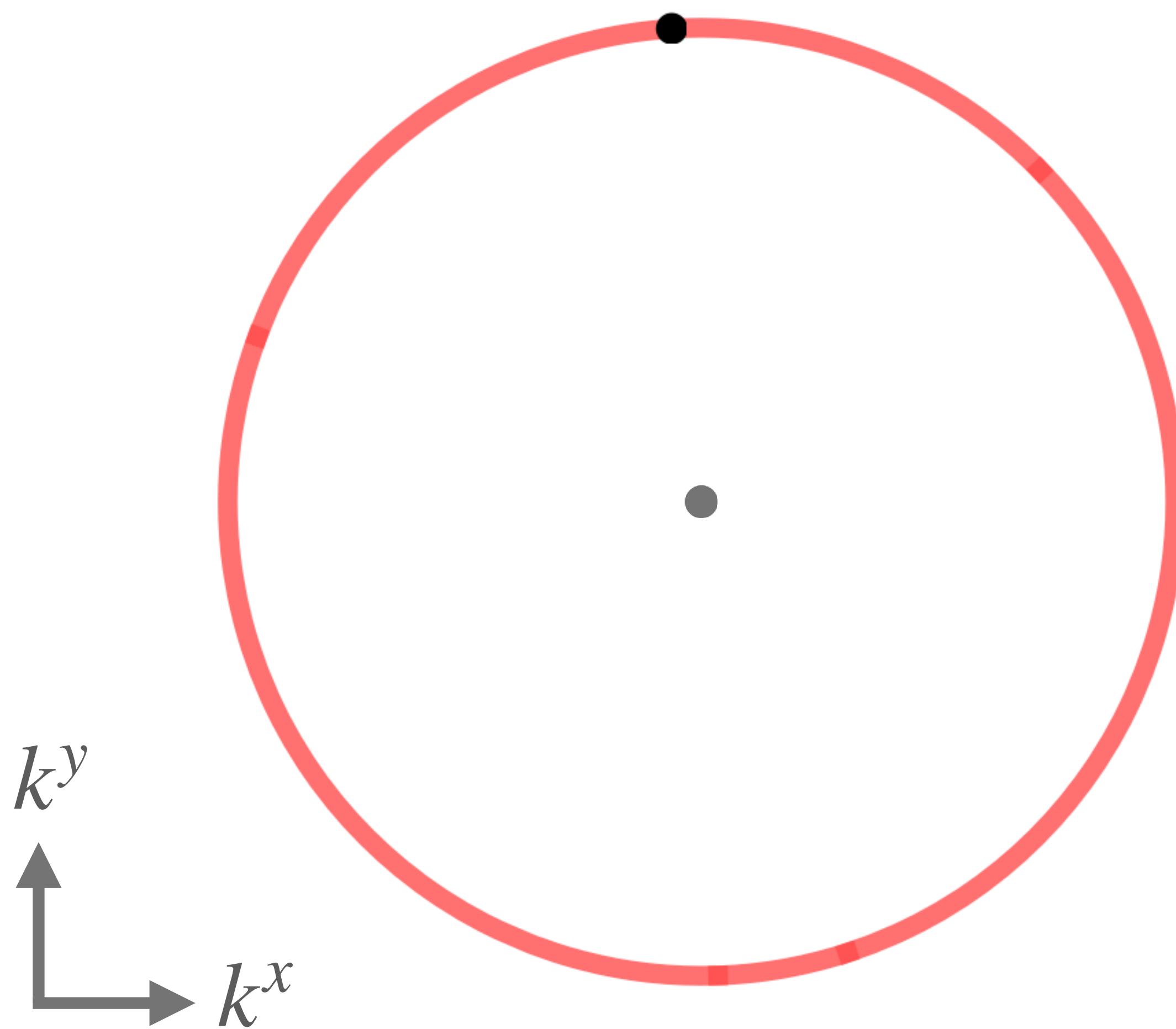


corresponding Cutkosky cuts

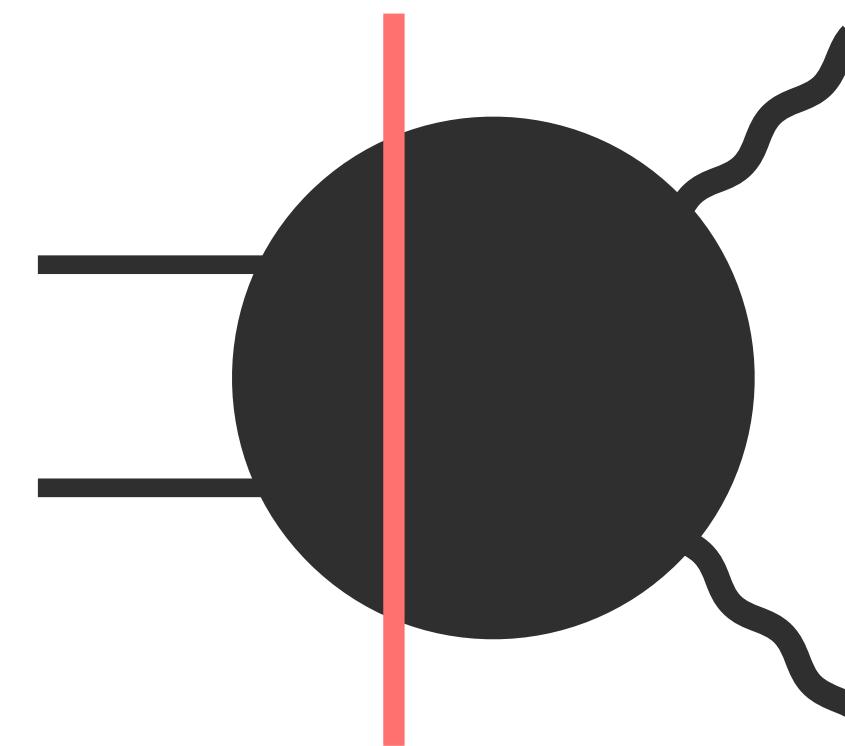


Thresholds  
one-loop & two-loop Nf amplitude

$$q\bar{q} \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$$

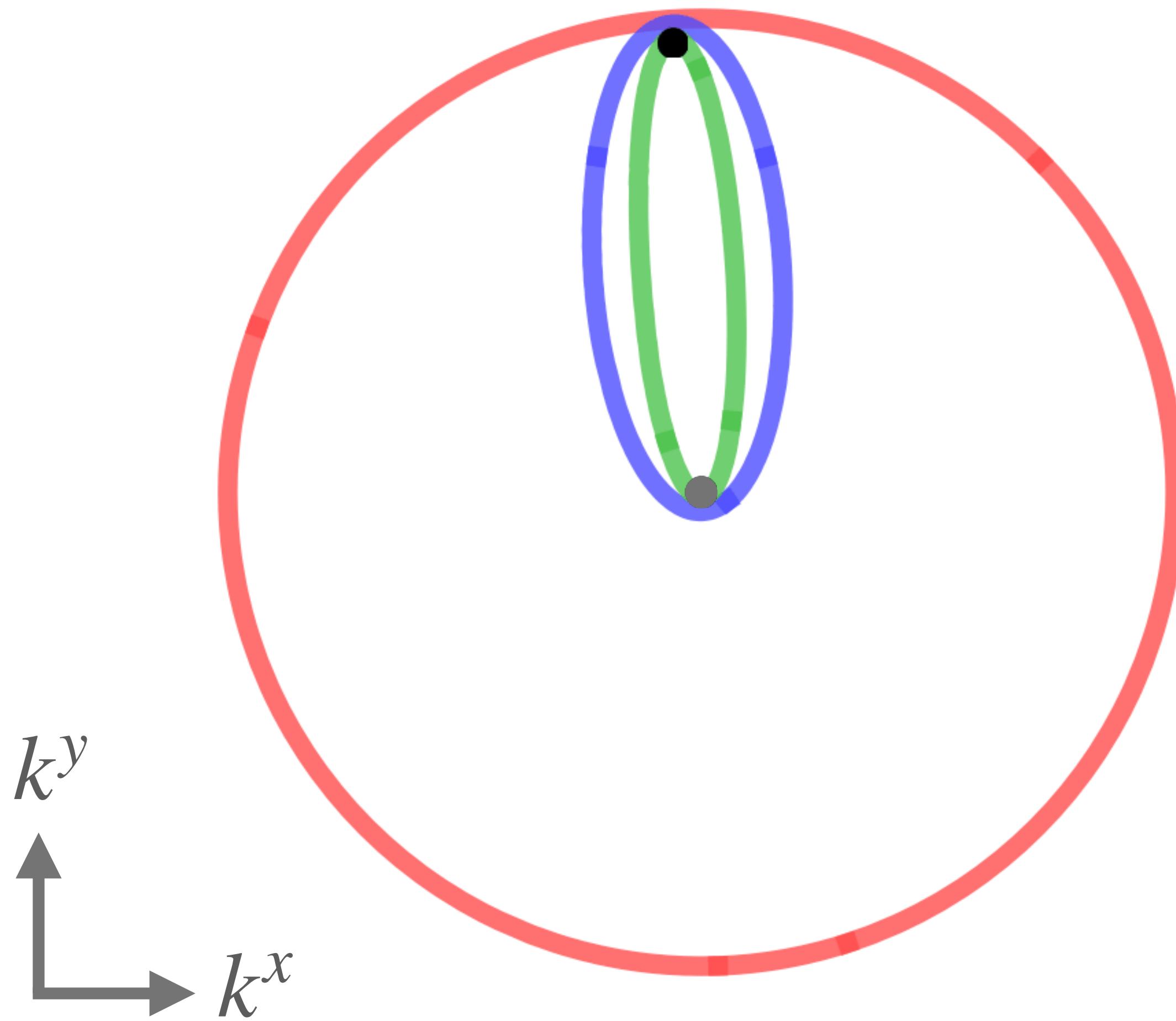


corresponding Cutkosky cuts

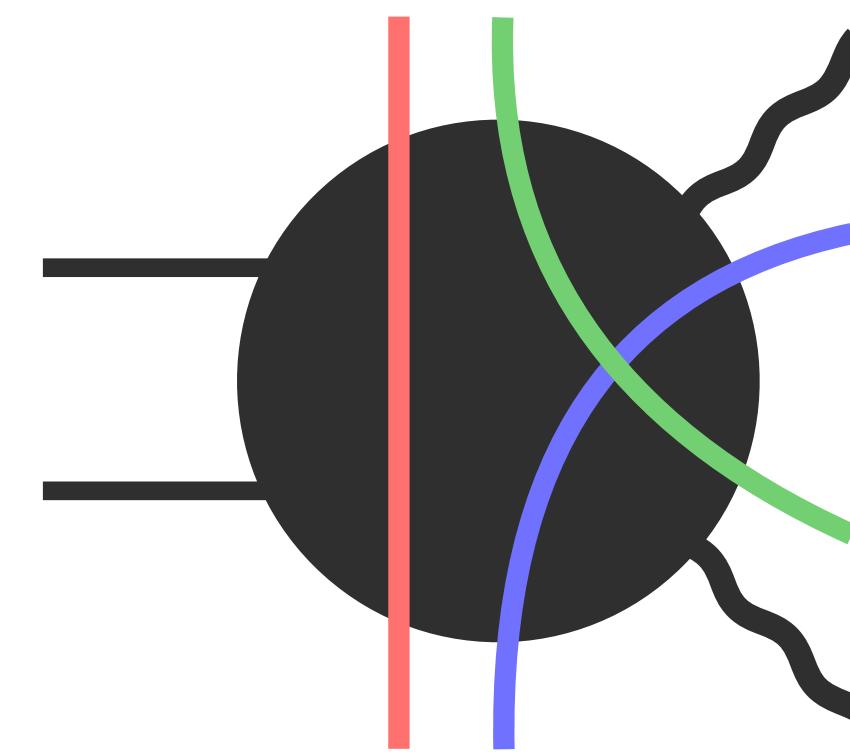


Thresholds  
one-loop & two-loop Nf amplitude

$$q\bar{q} \rightarrow \gamma^*\gamma^*$$

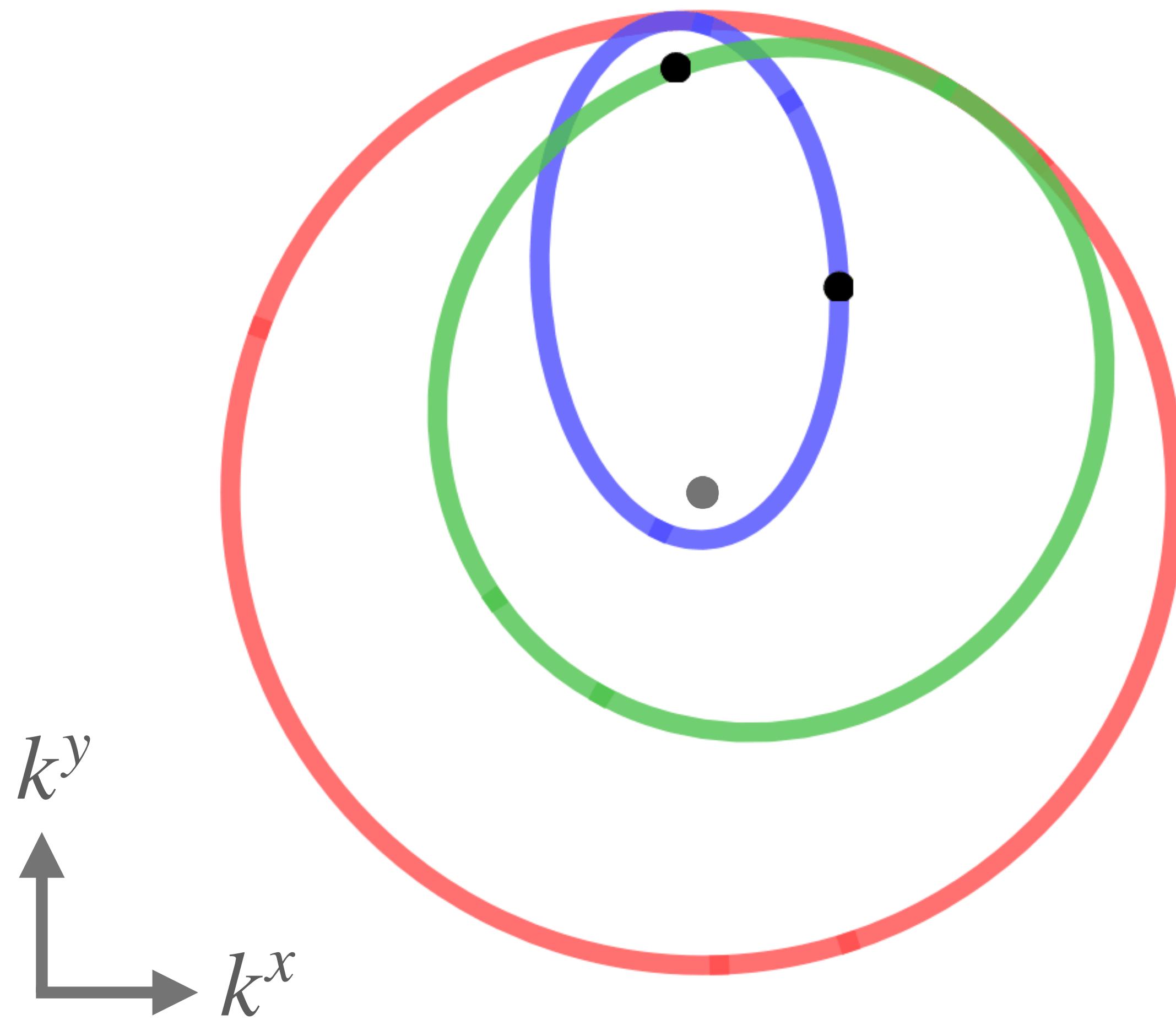


corresponding Cutkosky cuts

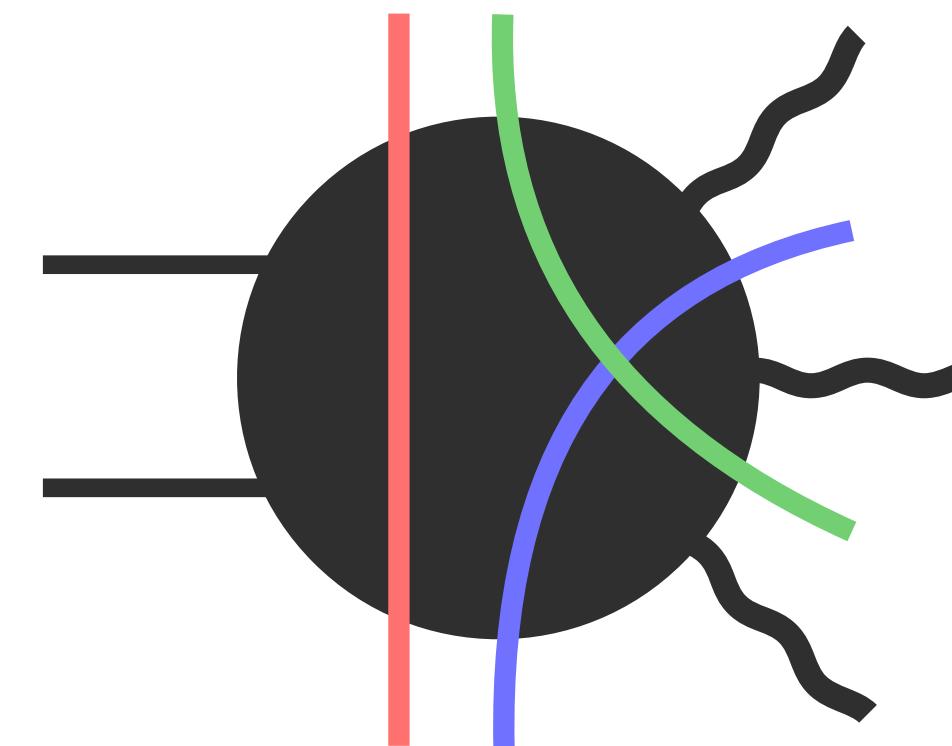


Thresholds  
one-loop & two-loop Nf amplitude

$$q\bar{q} \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$$

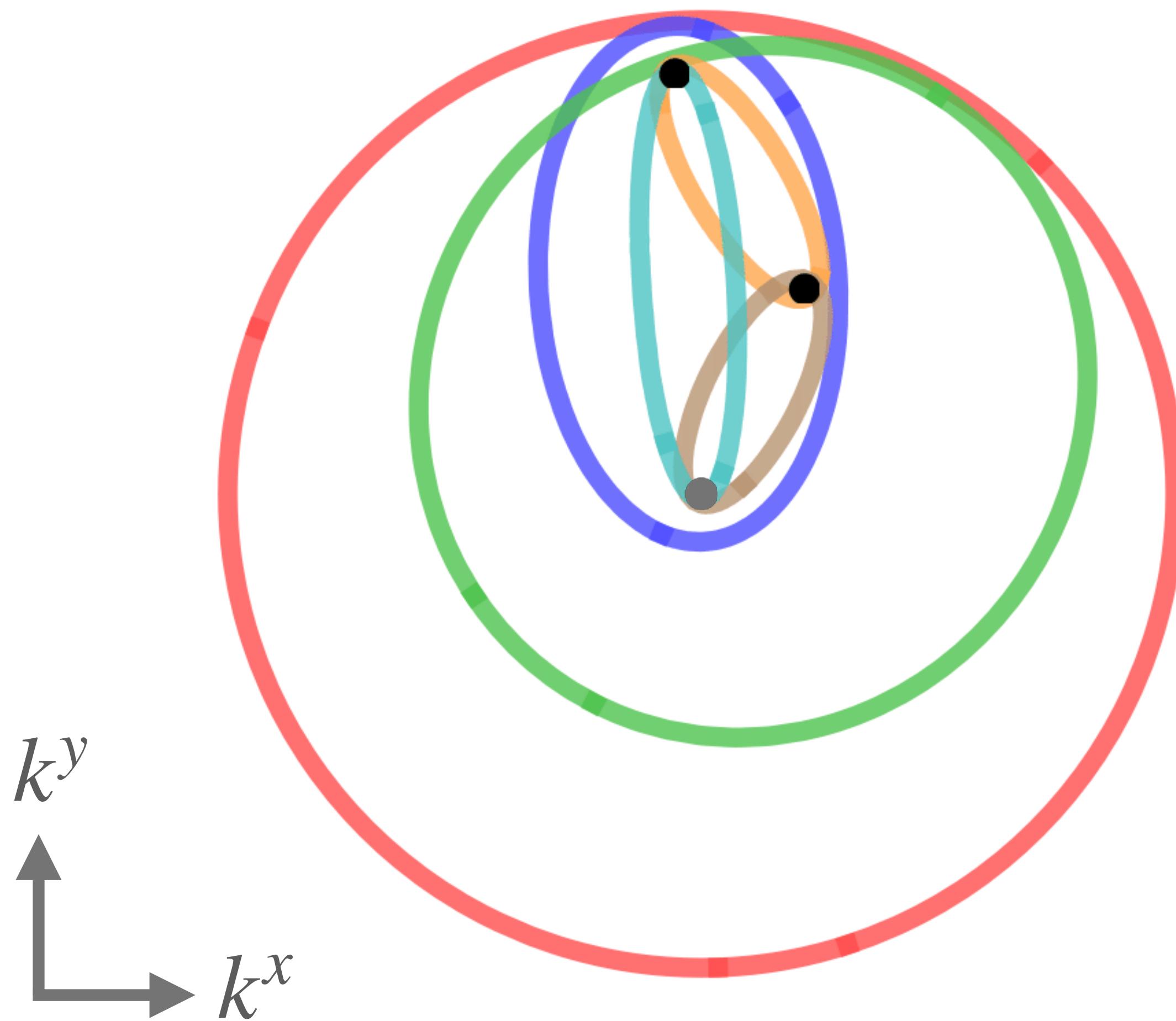


corresponding Cutkosky cuts

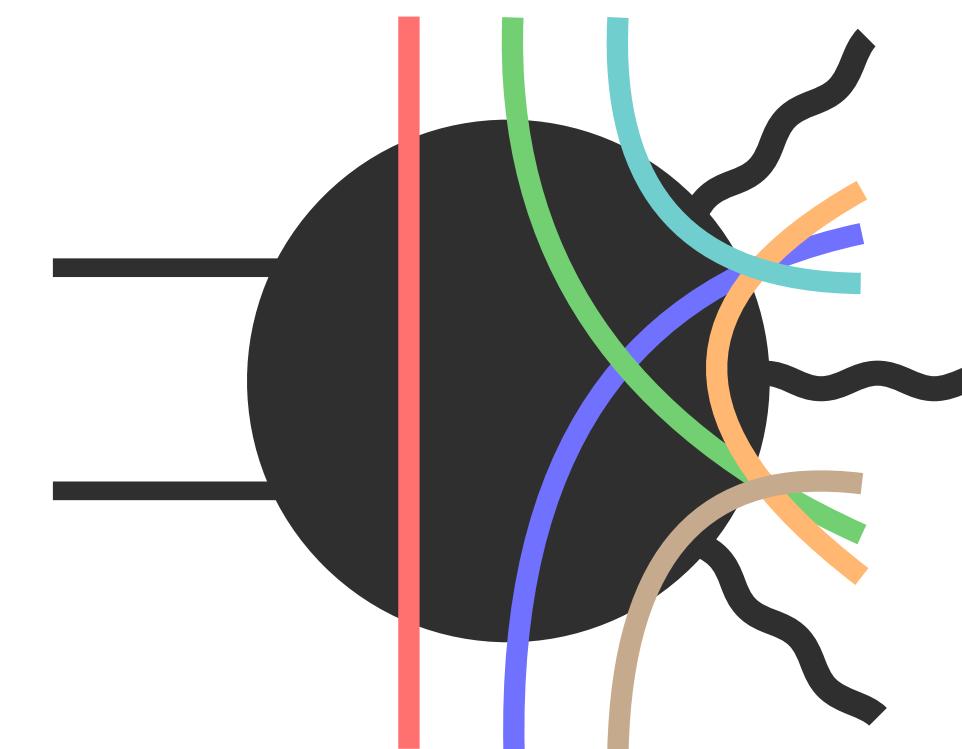


Thresholds  
one-loop & two-loop Nf amplitude

$$q\bar{q} \rightarrow \gamma^*\gamma^*\gamma^*$$

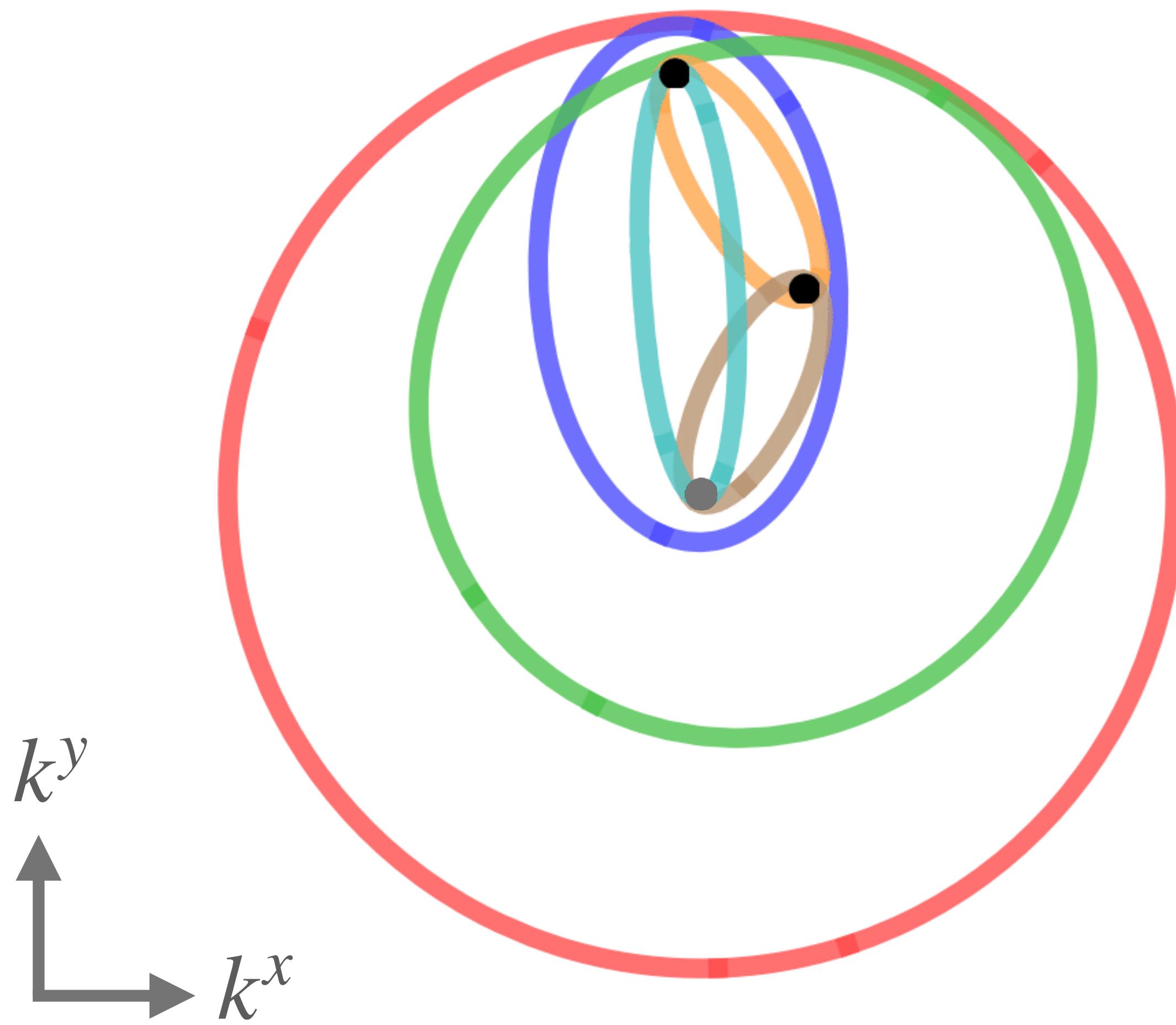


corresponding Cutkosky cuts

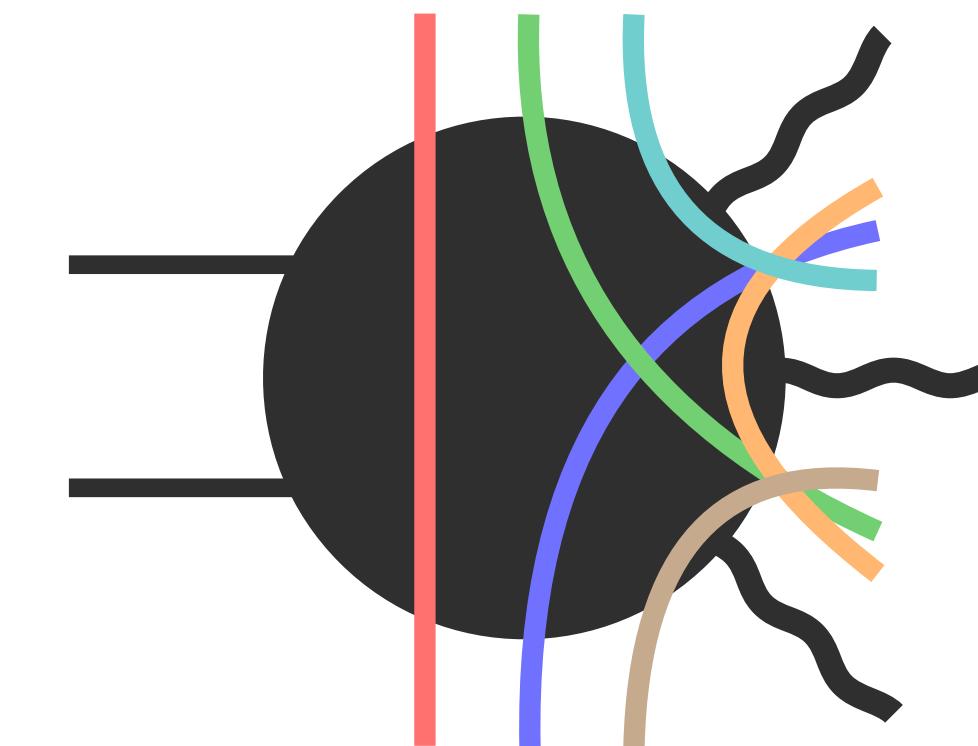


Thresholds  
one-loop & two-loop Nf amplitude

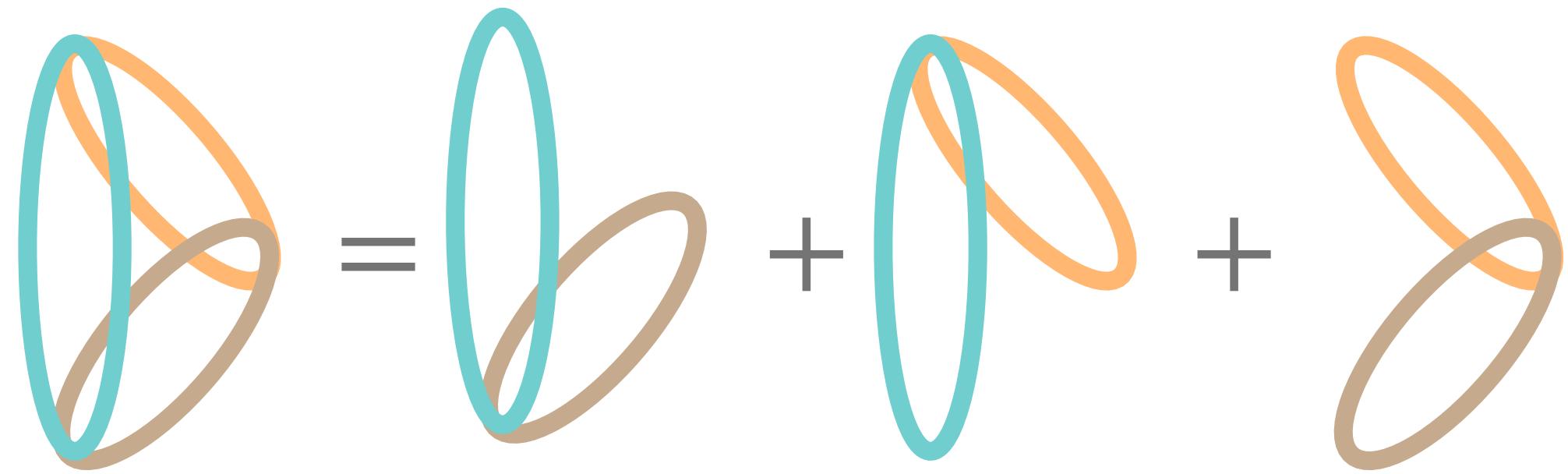
$$q\bar{q} \rightarrow \gamma^*\gamma^*\gamma^*$$



corresponding Cutkosky cuts



overlapping thresholds: multi-channelling



## NLO and NNLO-Nf virtual cross sections

numerical integration over loop & phase space  
summed over helicities and convoluted with PDFs

	Order	Result [pb]	$\Delta$ [%]	total time <sup>#</sup>	#potential for optimization!
$pp \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$	NLO	$5.2851 \pm 0.0164 \text{ e-01}$	0.3	10 min	NLO in BLHA NNLO-Nf in $\overline{\text{MS}}$
	NNLO-Nf	$-6.1475 \pm 0.0349 \text{ e-02}$	0.6	1 h 30 min	
$pp \rightarrow \gamma^*\gamma^*$	NLO	$4.3172 \pm 0.0089 \text{ e-01}$	0.2	2 min	NLO cross checked interferences with OpenLoops and cross sections with MadGraph
	NNLO-Nf	$-3.6943 \pm 0.0322 \text{ e-02}$	0.9	40 min	
$p_d p_d \rightarrow ZZ$	NLO	$7.0067 \pm 0.0159 \text{ e-01}$	0.2	4 min	in agreement with <b>FivePoint</b> <b>Amplitudes-cpp</b> Abreu, De Laurentis, Ita, Klinkert, Page, Sotnikov [2305.17056]
	NNLO-Nf	$-5.9363 \pm 0.0520 \text{ e-02}$	0.9	1 h 30 min	
$pp \rightarrow \gamma\gamma\gamma$	NLO	$1.4874 \pm 0.0140 \text{ e-04}$	0.9	2 h 30 min	in agreement with <b>FivePoint</b> <b>Amplitudes-cpp</b> Abreu, De Laurentis, Ita, Klinkert, Page, Sotnikov [2305.17056]
	NNLO-Nf	$-2.5460 \pm 0.0237 \text{ e-05}$	0.9	1 day	
$pp \rightarrow \gamma^*\gamma^*\gamma^*$	NLO	$1.4692 \pm 0.0144 \text{ e-04}$	1.0	2h 45 min	$\times 3!$ new!
	NNLO-Nf	$-1.4301 \pm 0.0137 \text{ e-05}$	1.0	4 days	
$p_d p_d \rightarrow Z\gamma_1^*\gamma_2^*$	NLO	$2.4600 \pm 0.0210 \text{ e-04}$	0.9	1 day 12 h	$\times 3!$ new!
	NNLO-Nf	$-2.5301 \pm 0.0229 \text{ e-05}$	0.9	1 month	

\*additional thresholds have to be considered

# Summary & Outlook

- Nf-contribution to NNLO virtual cross section for 3 massive vector boson production
- First NNLO calculation for the LHC using numerical integration over loop & phase space

Local IR factorisation  
& UV renormalisation

Analytic loop energy integration  
LTD, CFF, TOPT, ...

Threshold  
subtraction

**flexible and robust framework suited for automation**

- apply these techniques to the full NNLO virtual contribution
- combine with real radiation
- processes with colorful final state
- ...