

Studies on quark-mass dependence of the $N^*(920)$ pole from πN χ PT amplitudes

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Abstract

The quark-mass dependence of the $N^*(920)$ resonance is analyzed on K-matrix with the πN scattering amplitude calculated up to next-to-next-to-leading order in chiral perturbation theory. As the quark mass increases, $N^*(920)$ moves to the positive real axis in the complex energy s plane. Finally, it tends to drop into the u channel cut when the pion mass become 420 MeV.

The study of pion-nucleon scatterings has a history over sixty years. It is a surprise that only till very recently the pole structure of the pion N scattering amplitude below threshold, especially in the S_{11} channel, has been made clear. [1–4] In these studies, dispersion techniques play a crucial role, [5, 6], aided by unitarity constraint, i.e., the production representation [7–11]. As a result, a novel subthreshold pole in S_{11} channel located at $\sqrt{s} = (918 \pm 3) - i(163 \pm 9)$ GeV was established (see also Ref. [12]), and the existence of such a subthreshold pole has also been confirmed by K-matrix fit [13] and N/D method [14].

On the other side, the quark-mass dependence of resonance poles is an important subject since it is connected with the lattice studies on low energy QCD, providing a special angle for investigating strong interaction physics. This exercise has been applied to the prominent σ pole trajectory [15–18]. The first attempt to study the $N^*(920)$ trajectory with varying pion masses was carried out in a linear sigma model with nucleons in Ref. [19]. The main reason in Ref. [19] to choose the linear realization of chiral symmetry is to keep a better symmetry property at high temperatures. Since chiral perturbation theory provides a more general frame to parametrize our ignorance, i.e., the non-renormalizable terms, here we will choose chiral lagrangians with baryons to study the trajectory with varying quark mass, or the pion mass.

The partial wave πN scattering amplitude in LS scheme, denoted as T ¹, satisfies the partial wave optical theorem:

$$\text{Im } T(s) = \rho(s)|T(s)|^2. \quad (1)$$

The partial wave S matrix element in S_{11} channel can be defined as

$$S = 1 + 2i\rho(s)T, \quad (2)$$

where $\rho(s) = \sqrt{[s - (m_N + M_\pi)^2][s - (m_N - M_\pi)^2]}/s$. A K-matrix approximation is used to restore unitarity from perturbation amplitudes. The partial wave amplitude and partial wave S matrix element are

$$\tilde{T} = \frac{K}{1 - i\rho K}, \quad \tilde{S} = \frac{1 + i\rho K}{1 - i\rho K}. \quad (3)$$

Usually K is taken as the real part of the perturbation amplitude. For πN scattering, it is $\mathcal{K}^{(2)} \equiv T^{(2)}$ for $\mathcal{O}(p^2)$ calculation, and $\mathcal{K}^{(3)} \equiv T^{(3)} - i\rho(T^{(1)})^2$ for $\mathcal{O}(p^3)$ calculation.

The partial wave amplitude as constructed is a real analytical function in the complex s plane. There exists a physical cut, or right-hand cut, above the threshold $s > (m_N + M_\pi)^2$. Partial wave projection and loop integrals will also introduce other cuts, called left-hand cuts. All the cut structures in πN scattering are shown in Fig. 1 [6, 20]. However, in general, such unitarization approximations suffer from problems of violation of

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¹The process of partial wave projection is standard, see for example, Ref. [1].

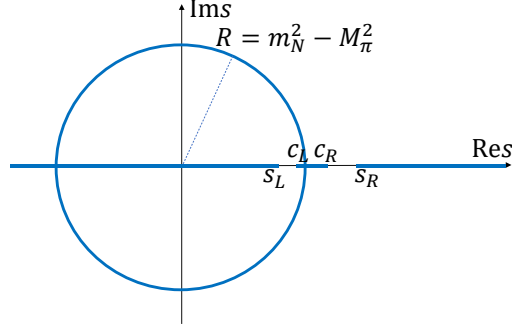


Figure 1: Cuts in πN scattering partial wave \mathcal{S} matrix element, represented by the bold lines. $s_L = (m_N - M_\pi)^2$, $c_L = (m_N^2 - M_\pi^2)^2/m_N^2$, $c_R = m_N^2 + 2M_\pi^2$, $s_R = (m_N + M_\pi)^2$

analyticity and crossing symmetry [21–24].² A direct consequence is the appearance of spurious physical sheet resonances (SPSRs). A case by case analysis seems to be required, at least, to ensure that the SPSRs play a minor contribution to physical quantities such as phase shifts. Barring for this, the K-matrix unitarization provides a quick but rough estimates of the physical pole position such as $N^*(920)$.

To proceed, we follow Refs. [1, 25]. Firstly we repeated the $\mathcal{O}(p^2)$ and $\mathcal{O}(p^3)$ results of Ref. [25]. The obtained partial wave unitary amplitude can be used to calculate the corresponding phase shift $\delta = \arctan[\rho \tilde{T}]$ and fit to the phase shift data which in turn determine the low energy constants. We directly use the results in Ref. [1]:

$$c_1 = -0.841 \text{ GeV}^{-1}, \quad c_2 = 1.170 \text{ GeV}^{-1}, \quad c_3 = -2.618 \text{ GeV}^{-1}, \quad c_4 = 1.677 \text{ GeV}^{-1}. \quad (4)$$

Substituting these low energy constants and physical quantities $m_N = 0.9383 \text{ GeV}$, $M = 0.1396 \text{ GeV}$, $F_\pi = 0.0924 \text{ GeV}$, $g_A = 1.267$, we can calculate the cuts and poles of the partial wave unitary matrix element of the S_{11} channel on the complex s plane. Results are shown in Table 1. The pole corresponding to $N^*(920)$ resonance is $\sqrt{s} = 0.9541 \pm i0.2653 \text{ GeV}$. The specific positions of some poles including $N^*(920)$ are shown in Figure 3(a).

Analytic structures	Resonances	virtual states
pole positions (GeV)	$0.9541 \pm i0.2653$	$0.9174, 0.9590$

Table 1: The pole positions in the $\mathcal{O}(p^2)$ πN scattering matrix element processed by K-matrix unitarization.

In the isospin limit, pion mass is related to quark mass by $M_\pi^2 \propto 2B_0 \hat{m}$ with $\hat{m} = (m_u + m_d)/2$ [26]. Therefore, studying the quark-mass dependence of $N^*(920)$ is equivalent to studying its changes with the increase of the pion mass. In addition, we also need to know the values of physical quantities such as m_N , g_A , and F_π at different pion masses. Some results have been given by the lattice QCD calculation, and there are also some theoretical fits on these results. For m_N , we use the ruler approximation in Ref. [27], that is, $m_N = 800 \text{ MeV} + M_\pi$, which is consistent with the lattice QCD results [28] in a large range. For g_A , we use the $\mathcal{O}(p^3)$ result in Ref. [29], and for F_π , we use the fit result with strategy 2 in Ref. [30]. Substituting these results into the partial wave unitary matrix element, we finally get the $N^*(920)$ trajectory when the pion mass increases from 0.1396 GeV to 0.44 GeV , as shown in Figure 2. Pole positions with different pion masses are plotted in Figure 3, where $N^*(920)$ pole locates at $\sqrt{s} = 1.1157 \pm i0.1534 \text{ GeV}$ for $M_\pi = 300 \text{ MeV}$, and $\sqrt{s} = 1.2154 \pm i0.0318 \text{ GeV}$ for $M_\pi = 440 \text{ MeV}$, respectively. As can be seen from Figure 2, the $N^*(920)$ pole gradually falls down to the real axis. When the pion mass reaches 0.44 GeV , the pole is very close to the real axis and is still above the u cut. It can be inferred that if the pion mass increases further, the pole will fall into the u cut.

One can also go to the $\mathcal{K}^{(3)}$ approximation to check the stability of our approximation. Remember that $\mathcal{K}^{(3)} = T^{(3)} - i\rho(T^{(1)})^2$, we need more low energy constants comparing with $\mathcal{K}^{(2)}$. we use the results of Fit 1 in Ref. [31]:

$$\begin{aligned} c_1 &= -1.22 \text{ GeV}^{-1}, \quad c_2 = 3.58 \text{ GeV}^{-1}, \quad c_3 = -6.04 \text{ GeV}^{-1}, \quad c_4 = 3.48 \text{ GeV}^{-1} \\ d_1 + d_2 &= 3.25 \text{ GeV}^{-2}, \quad d_3 = -2.88 \text{ GeV}^{-2}, \quad d_5 = -0.15 \text{ GeV}^{-2}, \\ d_{14} - d_{15} &= -6.19 \text{ GeV}^{-2}, \quad d_{18} = -0.47 \text{ GeV}^{-2} \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

Substituting these low energy constants, we can find the pole distribution of the partial wave unitary matrix elements for $M_\pi = 139.6 \text{ MeV}$, 300 MeV and 420 MeV , as shown in sub-figures (b), (d), and (f) of Figure 3.

²For example, a [1,1] Padé approximant of π scattering tend to put all contributions from different sources, e.g., s channel poles, left hand cuts, crossed channel resonance exchanges, into one single s channel resonance.

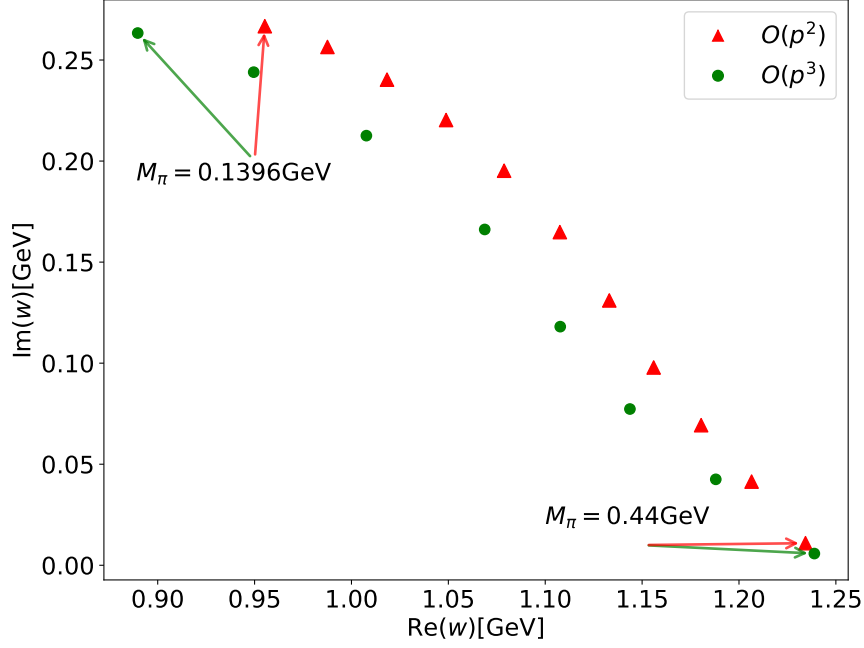


Figure 2: Variation of the $N^*(920)$ pole position with the pion mass in the \mathcal{K}_2 and \mathcal{K}_3 amplitudes. The unit is GeV. The \mathcal{K}_2 results are indicated by red triangles, while the \mathcal{K}_3 results are shown as green circles. The pion mass M_π varies from 0.1396 to 0.44 GeV.

The corresponding positions of $N^*(920)$ pole are $\sqrt{s} = 0.8897 \pm i0.2633$ GeV, $\sqrt{s} = 1.1157 \pm i0.1534$ GeV and $\sqrt{s} = 1.2154 \pm i0.0318$ GeV, respectively. Specifically, as the pion mass increases from 0.1396 GeV to 0.42 GeV, the trajectory of $N^*(920)$ is shown in Figure 2.

From Figure 3, we can see that the position of the poles far from the threshold are very different from the result of $\mathcal{O}(p^2)$, while the position of $N^*(920)$ pole does not change much. From Figure 2, we can see that even though considering the $\mathcal{O}(p^3)$ contribution, as the pion mass increases, $N^*(920)$ will still fall into the u cut.

discussion

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A Chiral Perturbation Theory

A.1 Chiral perturbation theory

The Lagrangian in ChPT can be expanded as $\mathcal{L} = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{L}_{\pi\pi}^{(2i)} + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{L}_{\pi N}^{(j)}$, where the magnitudes of $\mathcal{L}_{\pi\pi}^{(2i)}$ and $\mathcal{L}_{\pi N}^{(j)}$ are $\mathcal{O}(p^{2i})$ and $\mathcal{O}(p^j)$, respectively.

Terms of the meson part for calculation up to $\mathcal{O}(p^3)$ are [32]

$$\mathcal{L}_{\pi\pi}^{(2)} = \frac{F^2}{4} \text{Tr} \left[\nabla_\mu U (\nabla^\mu U)^\dagger \right] + \frac{F^2}{4} \text{Tr} \left[\chi U^\dagger + U \chi^\dagger \right], \quad (6)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\pi\pi}^{(4)} = \frac{l_3 + l_4}{16} \left[\text{Tr} (\chi U^\dagger + U \chi^\dagger) \right]^2 + \frac{l_4}{8} \text{Tr} \left[\nabla_\mu U (\nabla^\mu U)^\dagger \right] \text{Tr} (\chi U^\dagger + U \chi^\dagger). \quad (7)$$

where F is the pion decay constant in the chiral limit. $\chi = M^2 \mathbf{1}$ in the isospin symmetry and M is the lowest order pion mass.

Pions are contained in the SU(2) matrix:

$$U = \exp \left(i \frac{\phi}{F} \right), \quad \phi = \vec{\phi} \cdot \vec{\tau} = \begin{pmatrix} \pi_0 & \sqrt{2}\pi^+ \\ \sqrt{2}\pi^- & -\pi_0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (8)$$

The covariant derivative acting on the pion fields is defined as $\nabla_\mu U = \partial_\mu U - ir_\mu U + iUl_\mu$, where l_μ and r_μ are the external fields.

The required Baryon Lagrangians for calculation up to $\mathcal{O}(p^3)$ are [33]

$$\mathcal{L}_{\pi N}^{(1)} = \bar{\Psi} \left\{ i\not{D} - m + \frac{g}{2} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 u_\mu \right\} \Psi, \quad (9)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\pi N}^{(2)} = \bar{\Psi} \left\{ c_1 \text{Tr}[\chi_+] - \frac{c_2}{4m^2} \text{Tr}[u_\mu u_\mu] (D^\mu D^\mu + \text{h.c.}) + \frac{c_3}{2} \text{Tr}[u^\mu u_\mu] - \frac{c_4}{4} \gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu [u_\mu, u_\nu] \right\} \Psi, \quad (10)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\pi N}^{(3)} = \bar{\Psi} \left\{ -\frac{d_1 + d_2}{4m} \left([u_\mu, [D_\mu, u^\mu] + [D^\mu, u_\mu]] D^\mu + \text{h.c.} \right) \right. \quad (11)$$

$$\left. + \frac{d_3}{12m^3} \left([u_\mu, [D_\mu, u_\lambda]] (D^\mu D^\mu D^\lambda + \text{sym.}) + \text{h.c.} \right) + i \frac{d_5}{2m} \left([\chi_-, u_\mu] D^\mu + \text{h.c.} \right) \right. \quad (12)$$

$$\left. + i \frac{d_{14} - d_{15}}{8m} \left(\sigma^{\mu\nu} \text{Tr} [[D_\lambda, u_\mu] u_\nu - u_\mu [D_\lambda, u_\nu]] D^\lambda + \text{h.c.} \right) \right. \quad (13)$$

$$\left. + \frac{d_{16}}{2} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 \text{Tr} [\chi_+] u_\mu + \frac{id_{18}}{2} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 [D_\mu, \chi_-] \right\} \Psi. \quad (14)$$

where m and g are the bare nucleon mass and the bare axial-vector coupling constant, respectively. c_i, d_i are the low energy constants.

The chiral vielbein and the covariant derivative with respect to the nucleon field are defined as

$$u_\mu = i [u^\dagger (\partial_\mu - ir_\mu) u - u (\partial_\mu - il_\mu) u^\dagger], \quad (15)$$

$$D_\mu = \partial_\mu + \Gamma_\mu, \quad (16)$$

$$\Gamma_\mu = \frac{1}{2} [u^\dagger (\partial_\mu - ir_\mu) u + u (\partial_\mu - il_\mu) u^\dagger], \quad (17)$$

$$u = \sqrt{U} = \exp \left(\frac{i\phi}{2F} \right). \quad (18)$$

According to the power counting rule [34], the magnitude of a diagram with L loops, I_ϕ inner pion lines, I_N inner nucleon lines and $N^{(k)}$ vertices from $\mathcal{O}(p^k)$ Lagrangian are $\mathcal{O}(p^D)$, where $D = 4L - 2I_\phi - I_N + \sum_k^\infty k N^{(k)}$.

B Running results of the $N^*(920)$ in ChPT

In addition to the dependencies provided by lattice QCD, we can also obtain the m_N, F_π and g_A dependencies on M_π from chiral perturbation theory. The relations are as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} m_N &= m - 4c_1 M^2 + \Delta_m, \Delta_m = \frac{3g^2 m_N}{32\pi^2 F^2} \times [A_0(m_N^2) + M^2 B_0(m_N^2, M^2, m_N^2)], \\ F_\pi &= F + \Delta_F, \Delta_F = \frac{l_4 M^2}{F} + \frac{A_0[M^2]}{16\pi^2 F}, l_4 = l_4^r + \gamma_4 \lambda, \\ \lambda &= \frac{1}{(4\pi)^2} \mu^{d-4} \left\{ \frac{1}{d-4} - \frac{1}{2} (\ln 4\pi + \Gamma'(1) + 1) \right\}, l_4^r = \frac{\gamma_4}{32\pi^2} \left(\bar{l}_4 + \ln \frac{M^2}{\mu^2} \right), \quad \gamma_4 = 2, \\ g_A &= g + 4d_{16} M^2 + \Delta_g, \\ \Delta_g &= \frac{g[4(g^2 - 2)m_N^2 + (3g^2 + 2)M^2]}{16\pi^2 F^2 (4m_N^2 - M^2)} A_0[m_N^2] + \frac{g[(8g^2 + 4)m_N^2 - (4g^2 + 1)M^2]}{16\pi^2 F^2 (4m_N^2 - M^2)} \\ &\quad + \frac{gM^2[-8(g^2 + 1)m_N^2 + (3g^2 + 2)M^2]}{16\pi^2 F^2 (4m_N^2 - M^2)} B_0[m_N^2, m_N^2, M^2] - \frac{g^3 m_N^2 (4m_N^2 + 3M^2)}{16\pi^2 F^2 (4m_N^2 - M^2)} \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

where A_0 and B_0 are Passarino-Veltman functions.

In the $\mathcal{O}(p^2)$ calculations, since loop diagrams are not involved, the above expressions can be significantly simplified.

We first choose the parameters [35]:

$$c_1 = -0.841 \text{ GeV}^{-1}, \quad c_2 = 1.17 \text{ GeV}^{-1}, \quad c_3 = -2.618 \text{ GeV}^{-1}, \quad c_4 = 1.677 \text{ GeV}^{-1} \quad (20)$$

The resulting trajectory of the $N^*(920)$ pole is shown in Fig. 4

Figure 4 illustrates the evolution of the $N^*(920)$ pole trajectory with pion mass in the w -plane ($w = \sqrt{s}$). With increasing pion mass, the pole migrates toward the real axis and ultimately traverses the u -channel cut, thereby entering the second Riemann sheet. Furthermore, the position where it crosses is consistent with the result calculated using Equation 43 from the article [36].

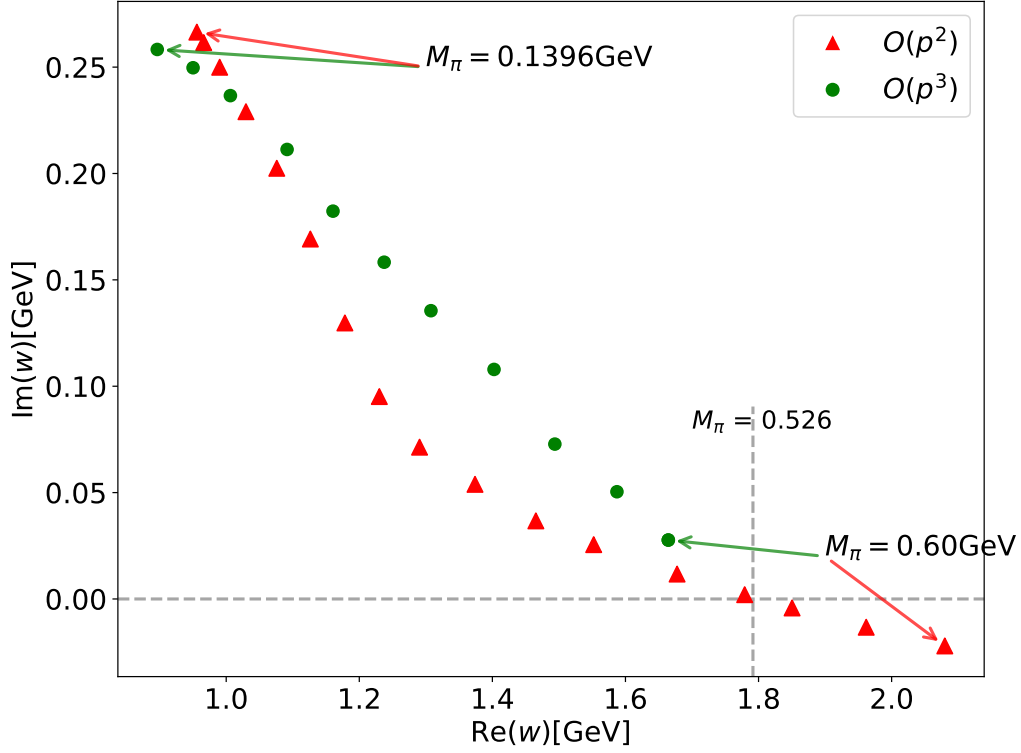


Figure 4: Trajectory of $N^*(920)$ pole in w -plane at $\mathcal{O}(p^2)$

We also extended our analysis to $\mathcal{O}(p^3)$ calculations. Using Eqs. (19) we plotted their dependence on the pion mass M_π as follows. Here we have chosen the following parameter values: $c_1 = -1.22 \text{ GeV}^{-1}$ [31], $d_{16} = -0.83 \text{ GeV}^{-2}$ [37], and $\bar{l}_4 = 4.4$ [38].

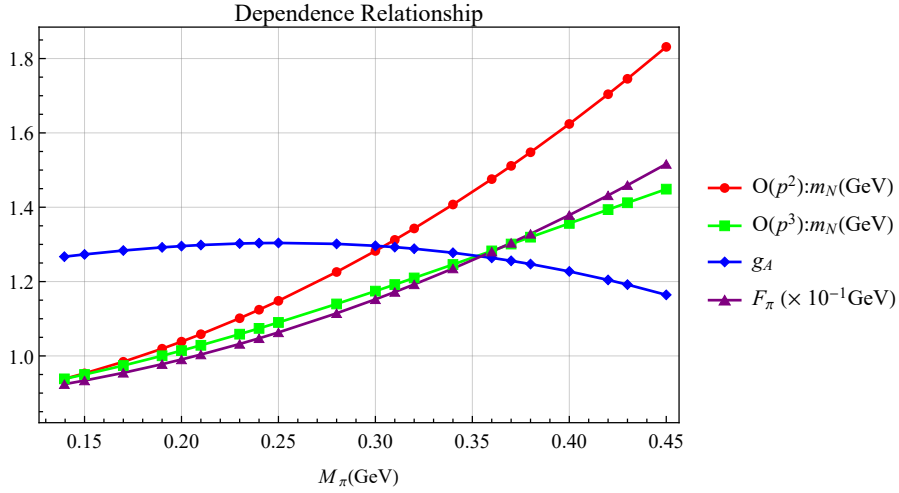


Figure 5: Dependencies of m_N , g_A and F_π on the pion mass M_π

For the $\mathcal{O}(p^3)$ calculations, we first employed the Yao parameter set [31], which was obtained by fitting the phase shifts using the perturbative amplitude [31]; however, at the $\mathcal{O}(p^3)$ level, it is consistent with the results from the K-matrix unitary amplitude [39].

$$\begin{aligned}
 c_1 &= -1.22 \text{ GeV}^{-1}, & c_2 &= 3.58 \text{ GeV}^{-1}, & c_3 &= -6.04 \text{ GeV}^{-1}, & c_4 &= 3.48 \text{ GeV}^{-1} \\
 d_{1+2} &= 3.25 \text{ GeV}^{-2}, & d_3 &= -2.88 \text{ GeV}^{-2}, & d_5 &= -0.15 \text{ GeV}^{-2} \\
 d_{14-15} &= -6.19 \text{ GeV}^{-2}, & d_{18} &= -0.47 \text{ GeV}^{-2}
 \end{aligned} \tag{21}$$

The complete results, incorporating both tree-level and loop contributions, are presented in Fig. 4. We have not tracked the trajectory after crossing the u -cut because the error in the integral calculation becomes substantial as the pole approaches the real axis.

In addition, we also tested another set of parameters [40,41], referred to as the WI08 parameter set, and found that the $O(p^3)$ loop diagram yields consistent results. The results are shown in the figure below, and the specific parameters are listed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
c_1 &= -1.50 \text{ GeV}^{-1}, & c_2 &= 3.76 \text{ GeV}^{-1}, & c_3 &= -6.63 \text{ GeV}^{-1}, & c_4 &= 3.68 \text{ GeV}^{-1} \\
d_{1+2} &= 3.67 \text{ GeV}^{-2}, & d_3 &= -2.63 \text{ GeV}^{-2}, & d_5 &= -0.07 \text{ GeV}^{-2} \\
d_{14-15} &= -6.80 \text{ GeV}^{-2}, & d_{18} &= -0.50 \text{ GeV}^{-2}
\end{aligned} \tag{22}$$

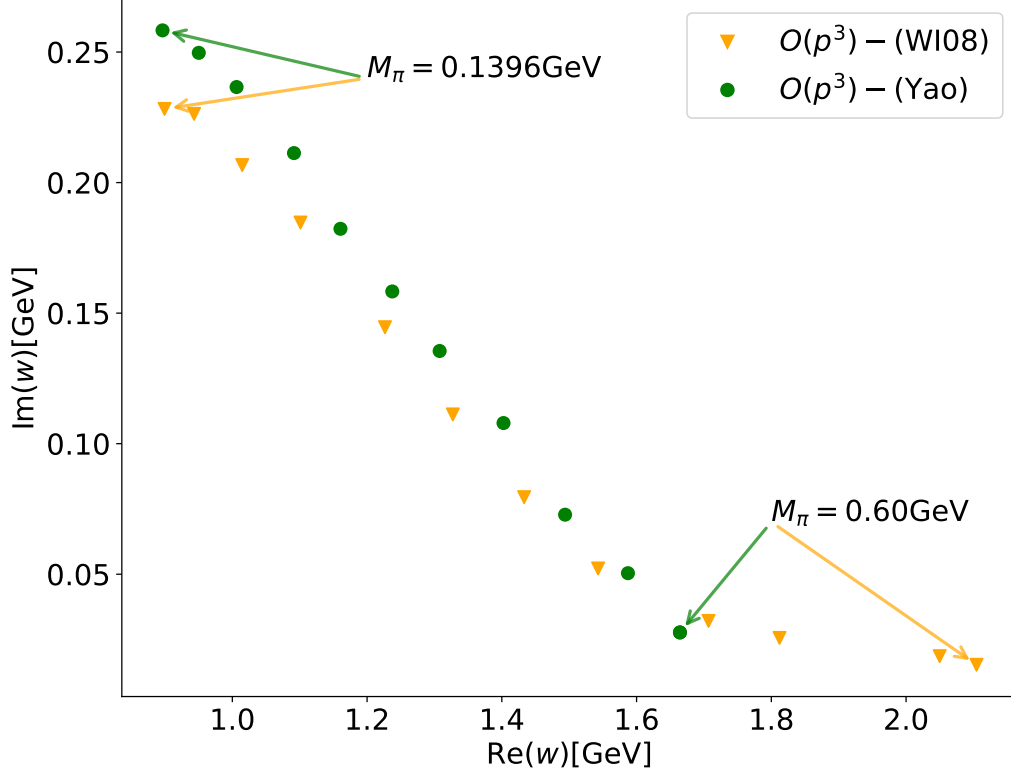
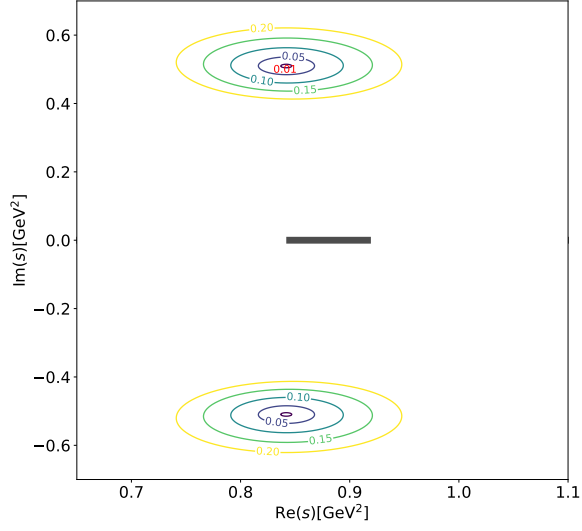
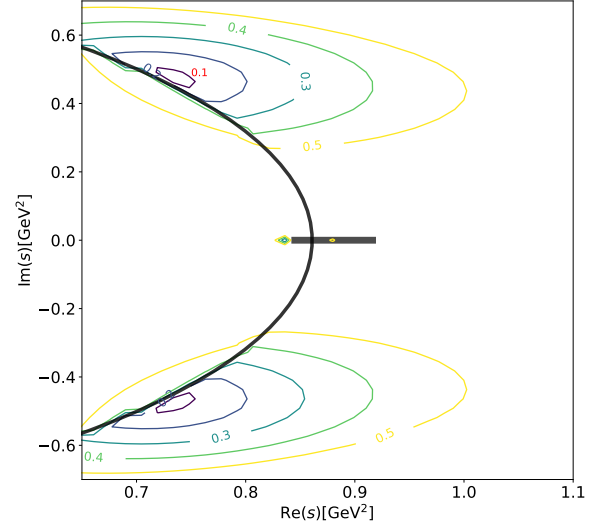


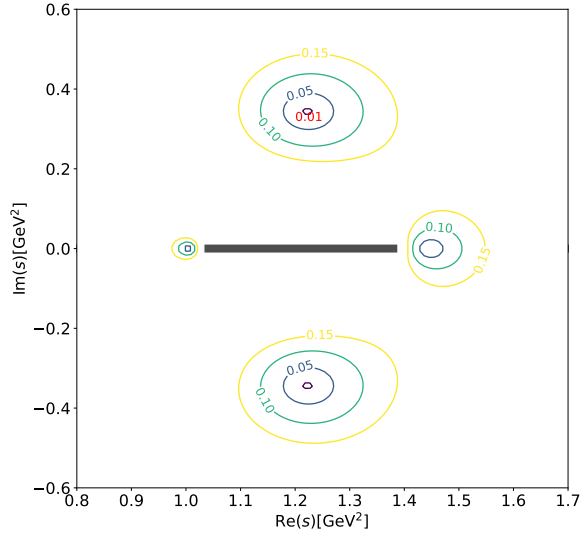
Figure 6: Full $\mathcal{O}(p^3)$ results including loop corrections.



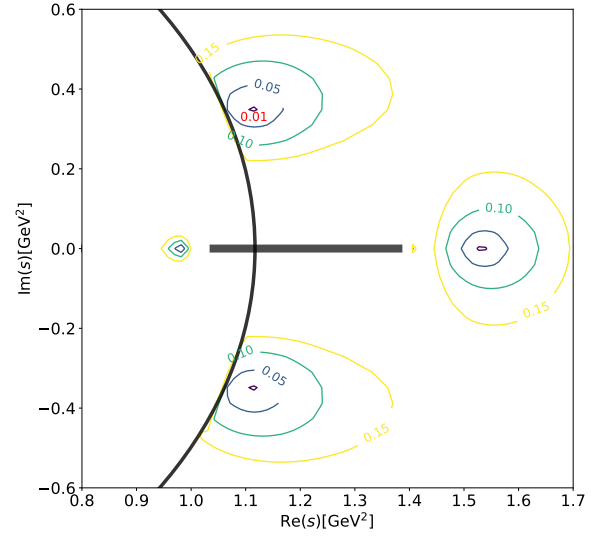
(a) $\mathcal{O}(p^2)$ $M = 139.6 \text{ MeV}$



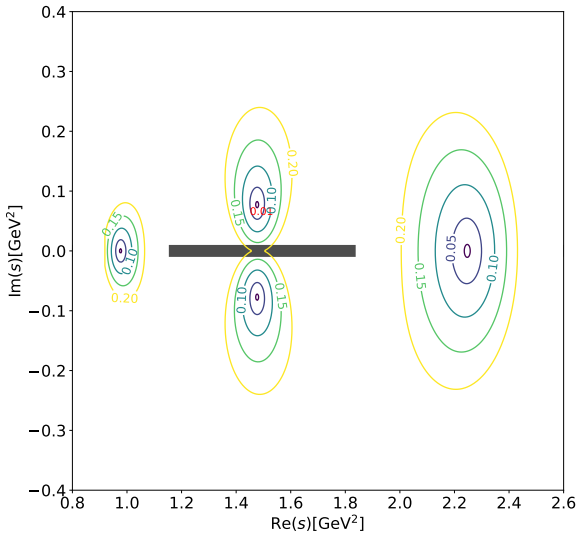
(b) $\mathcal{O}(p^3)$ $M = 139.6 \text{ MeV}$



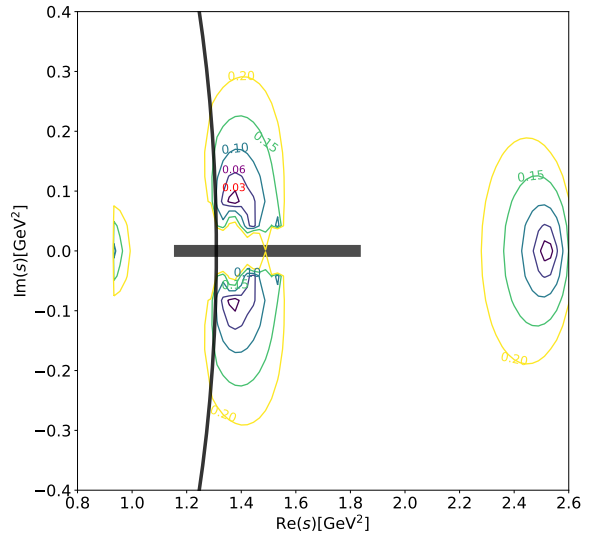
(c) $\mathcal{O}(p^2)$ $M = 300 \text{ MeV}$



(d) $\mathcal{O}(p^3)$ $M = 300 \text{ MeV}$



(e) $\mathcal{O}(p^2)$ $M = 420 \text{ MeV}$



(f) $\mathcal{O}(p^3)$ $M = 420 \text{ MeV}$

Figure 3: The contour of the modulus of the S_{11} matrix element on the first sheet of s plane. Thick black lines represent the cuts.