

# ASSESSING THE VALIDITY OF THE EFFECTIVE FIELD THEORY DESCRIPTION

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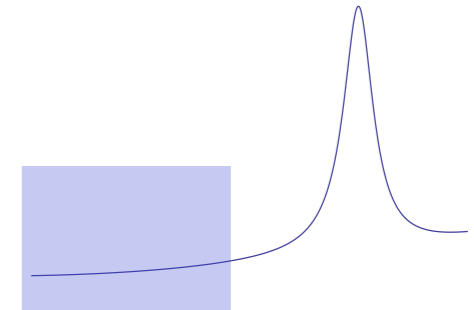
# On the use of Effective Field Theory

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Cannot access directly  
the new states



probe their tail effects with  
high-precision measurements



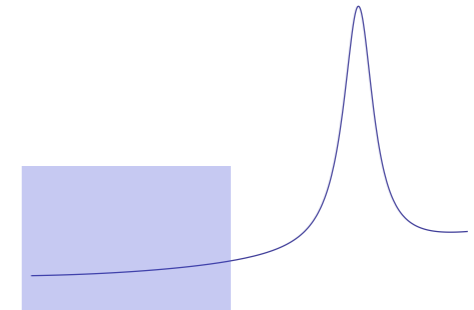
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- EFT ideal framework for low-energy machines with high precision (ex:  $e^+e^-$ )

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- In fact, even if energy is sufficient to discover (some of the) new particles, EFT can be useful to study the Higgs properties near threshold (low energy)

 EFT useful to give universal effective description of the contribution from new states in terms of a few local operators

No need of complete and accurate knowledge of mass spectrum, couplings etc.

- Going above threshold helps extracting the NP contribution

Effects from heavy New Physics naively scale like:

on-shell single production  $\frac{\delta c}{c} \sim \frac{g_*^2}{g_{SM}^2} \frac{m_h^2}{m_*^2}$

$m_*$  = scale of NP

$g_*$  = coupling strength of the new states with the Higgs boson

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Assessing the validity of the EFT is crucial to derive meaningful results and fully exploit the experimental data

- The validity of the EFT can be assessed *without* referring to specific UV models
- Specifying a power-counting is sufficient (and necessary)

# The SILH power counting

Giudice et al. JHEP 0706 (2007) 045

## Assumption:

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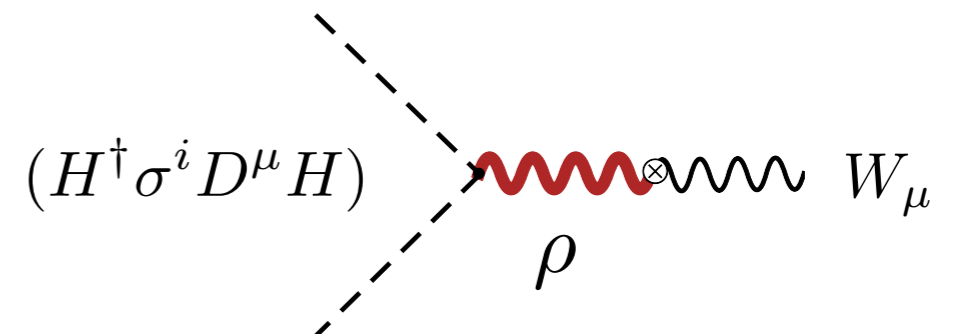
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Example:  $O_W = \frac{ig}{2m_W^2} (H^\dagger \sigma^i D^\mu H) (D^\nu W_{\mu\nu})^i$

$$\bar{c}_W \sim \left( \frac{m_W^2}{m_*^2} \right)$$



# The SILH power counting

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## Assumption:

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Expansion parameters:

$$\frac{\partial_\mu}{m_*},$$

$$\frac{v}{f},$$

$$\frac{\alpha_{SM}}{4\pi}$$

derivative expansion

expansion in powers  
of the SM couplings

expansion in powers  
of the Higgs field  $H/f$

## Secondary Assumptions:

1. The Higgs is a pseudo Nambu-Goldstone boson




operators that break the shift symmetry are suppressed

ex:  $(H^\dagger H)^3$ ,  $H^\dagger H G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{a\mu\nu}$

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### 3. (light) SM fermions are weakly coupled to the UV dynamics

Equivalent to assuming “universality” of NP effects, easier to comply with LEP

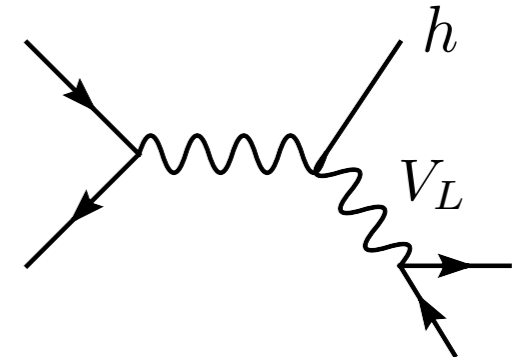
 current-current operators subdominant

# Assessing the validity of the EFT



# Example #1: Higgs associated production ( $q\bar{q} \rightarrow V_L h$ )

$$A = g^2 + O\left(g^2 \frac{E^2}{m_W^2} \bar{c}_{i=HB,(W-B)}\right) + O\left(g^2 \frac{E^2}{m_W^2} \bar{c}_{H\psi}\right)$$



$$O_W = \frac{ig}{2m_W^2} \left( H^\dagger \sigma^i \overleftrightarrow{D}^\mu H \right) (D^\nu W_{\mu\nu})^i$$

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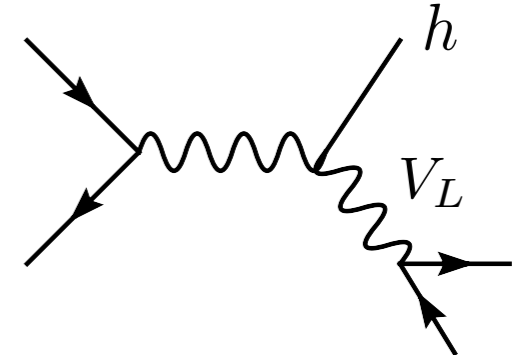
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Estimates from SILH power counting (1 scale  $m_*$  and 1 coupling strength  $g_*$ )

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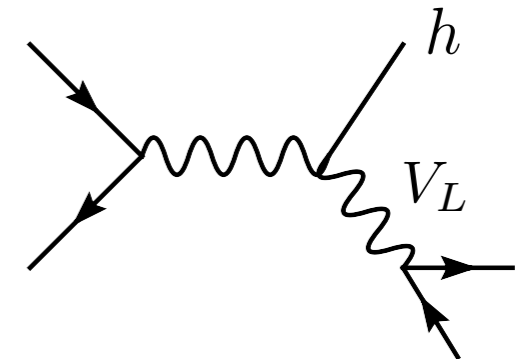
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arXiv:1406.7320

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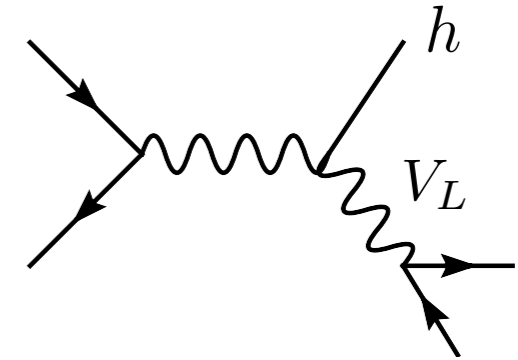
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$\delta A/A_{SM} \gg 1$   
if  $\lambda \gg g$



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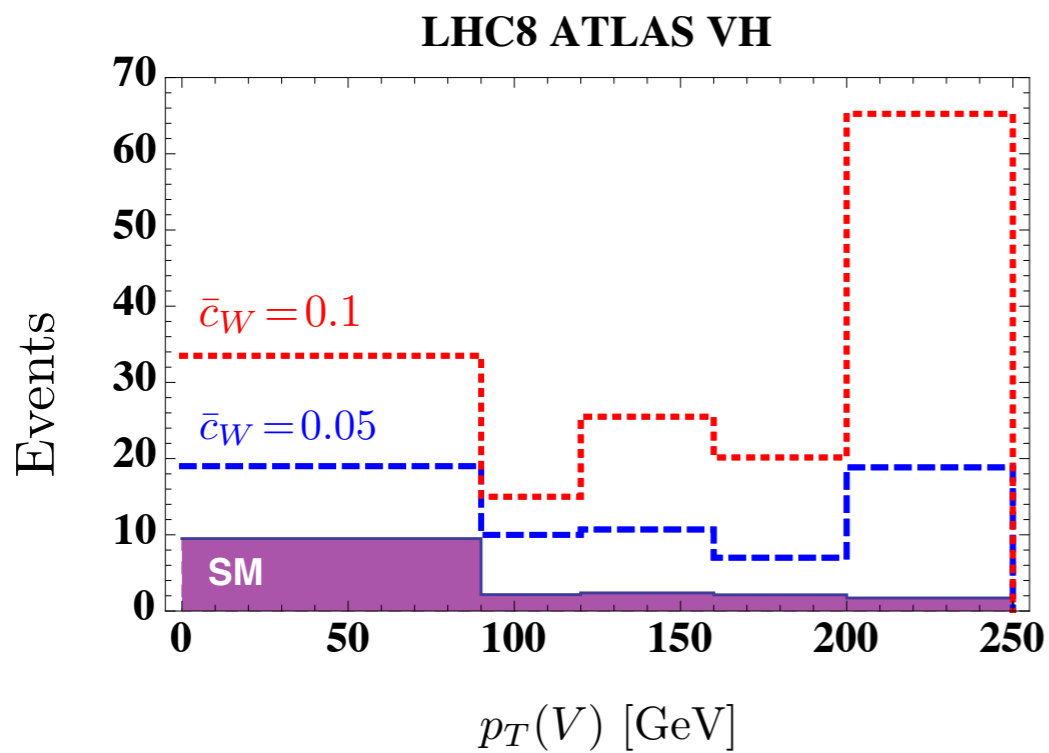
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Experimental searches not yet sensitive to SM Higgs signal

ATLAS-CONF-2013-079  
PRD 89 (2014) 012003 (CMS)  
D0, PRL 109 (2012) 121802

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PRD 91 (2015) 055029



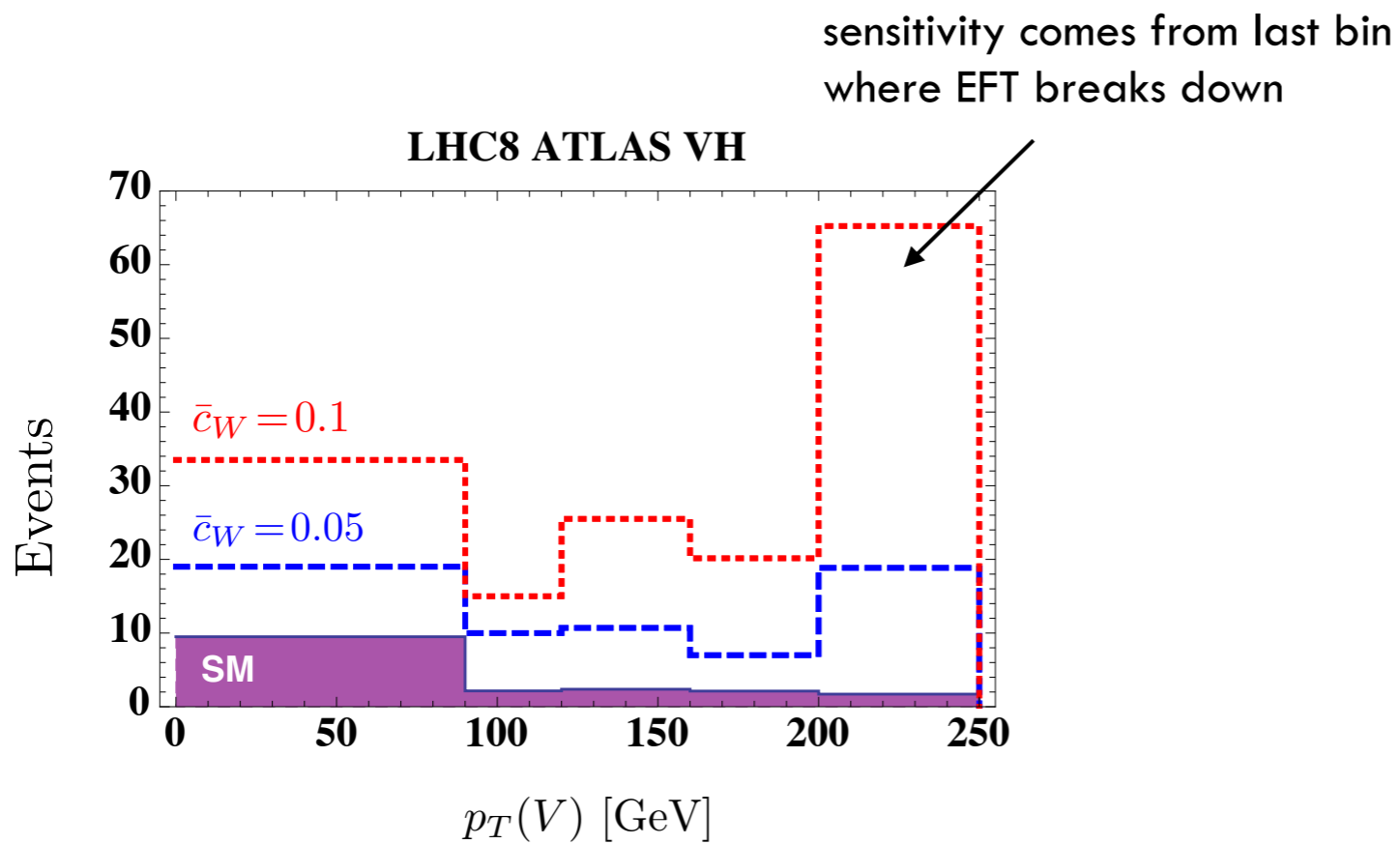
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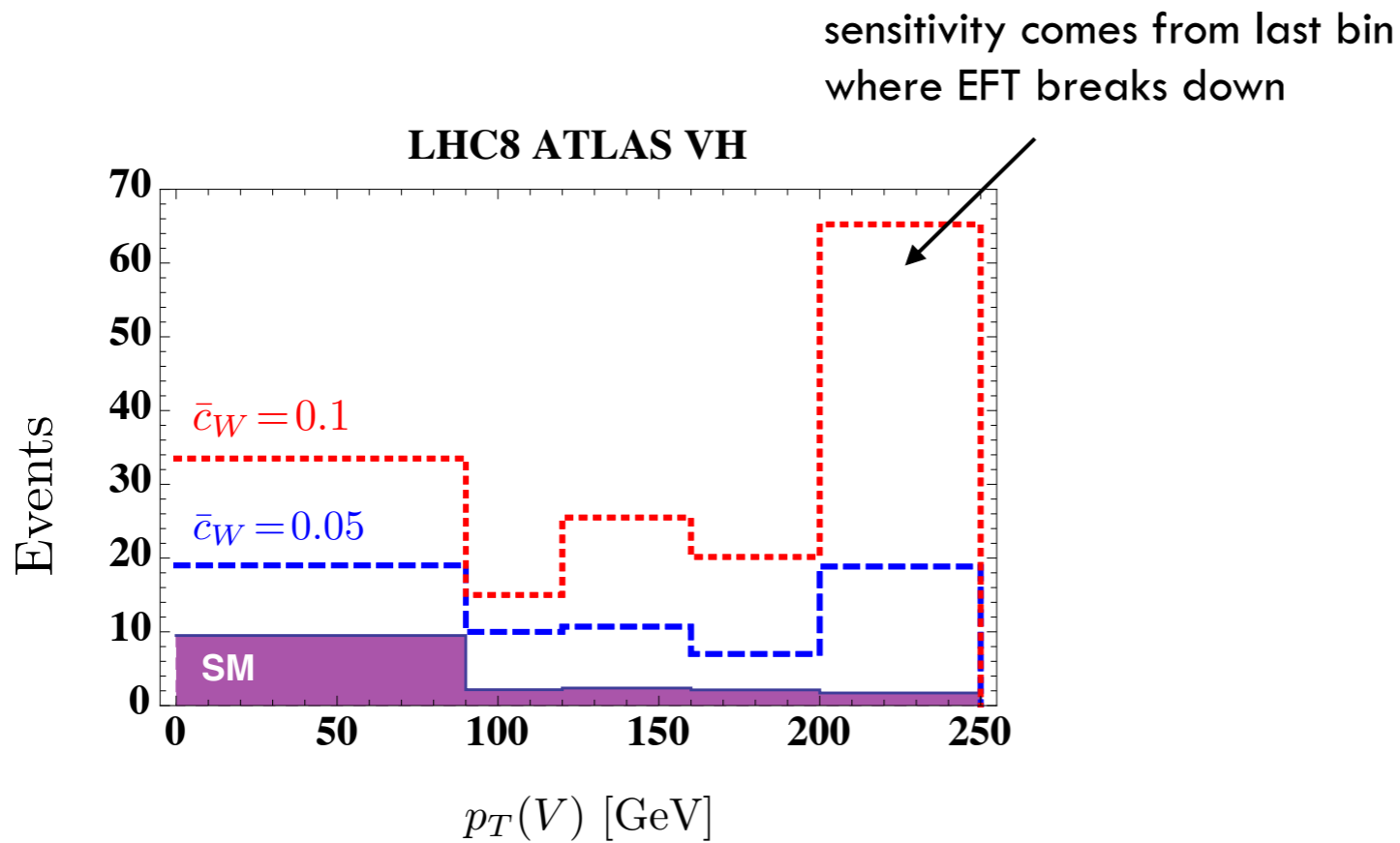
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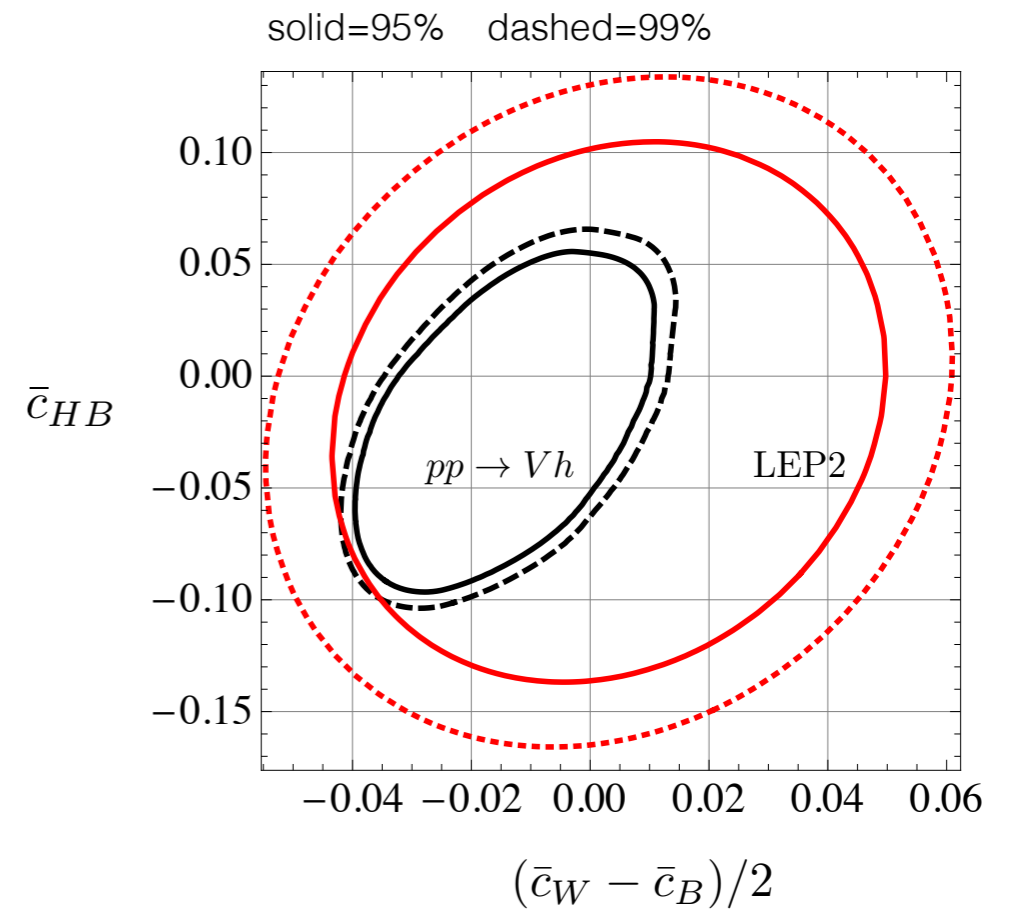
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Compare with LEP2 (TGCs):  
weaker bounds but EFT valid

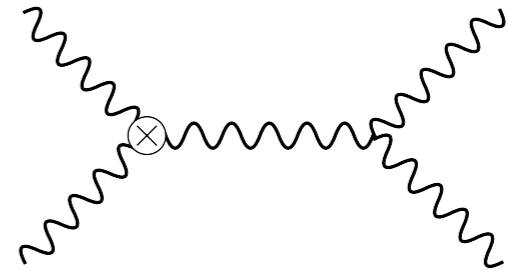
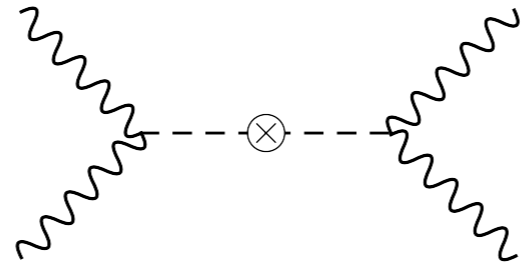
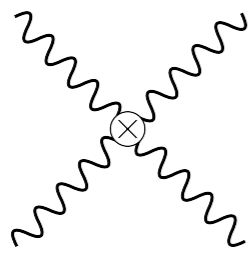


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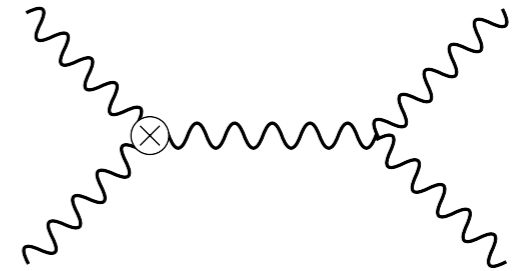
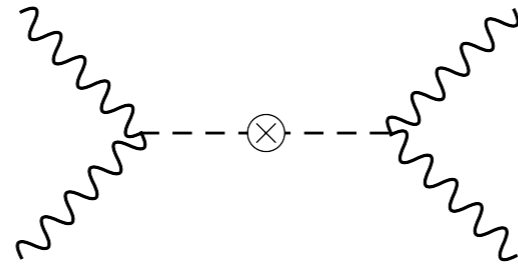
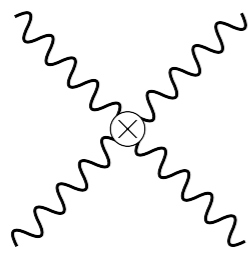
## Example #2: WW scattering



$$\mathcal{A}_{LL \rightarrow LL} = \mathcal{A}_{SM} (1 + O(\bar{c}_H)) + \bar{c}_H \frac{E^2}{v^2} + \dots$$

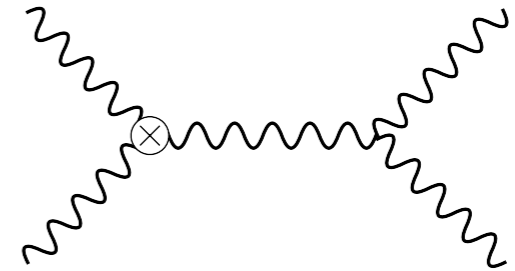
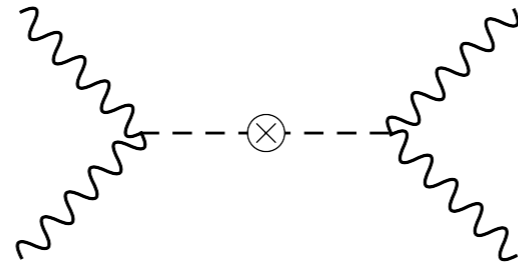
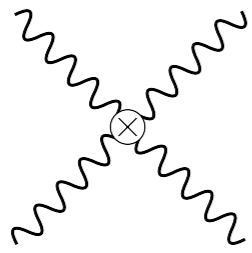


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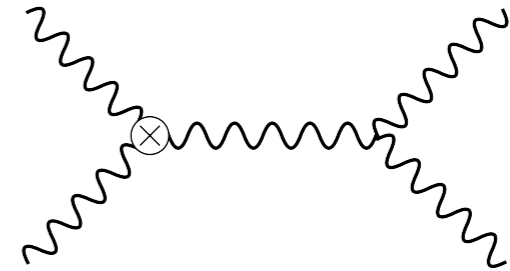
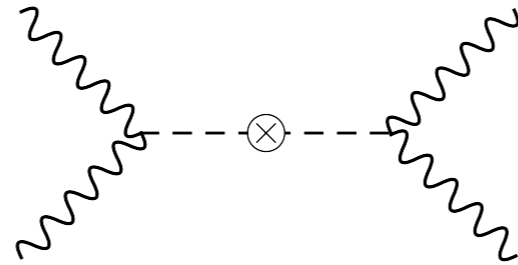
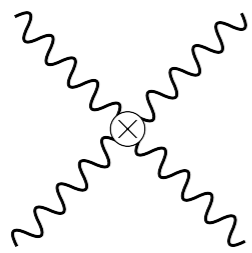
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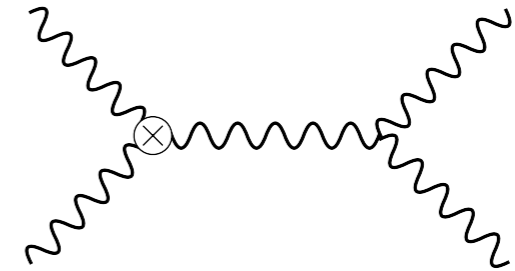
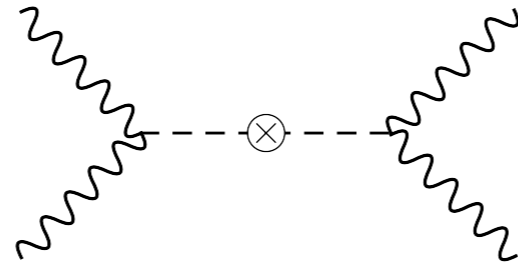
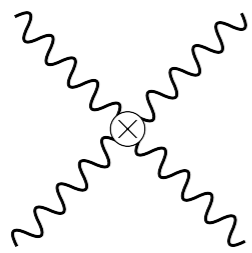
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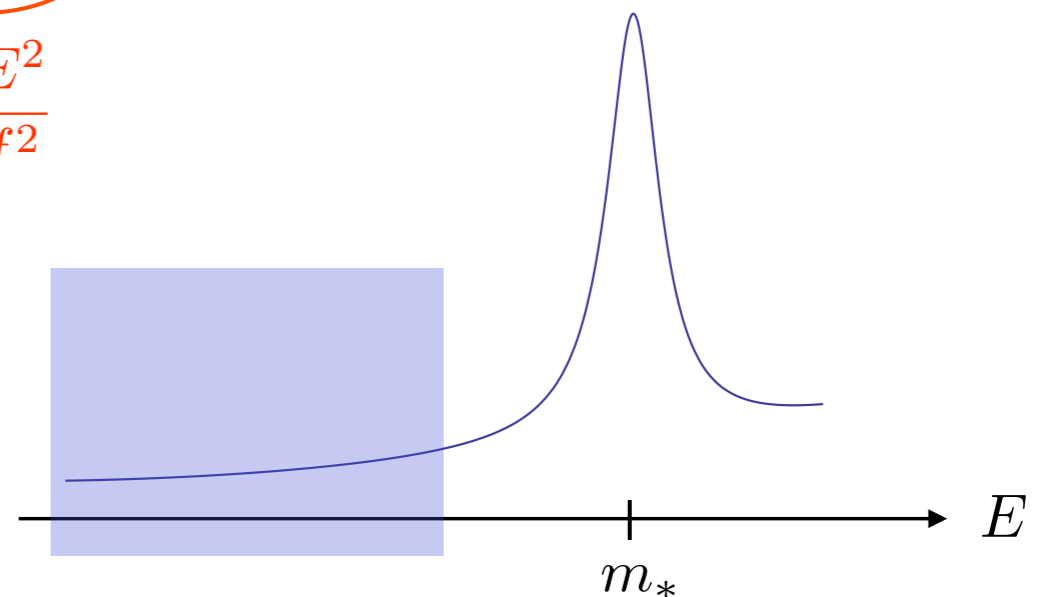


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Interesting energy window:

$$g_{SM} f < E < m_*$$



$$\frac{\delta \mathcal{A}}{\mathcal{A}_{SM}} \sim \frac{E^2}{g_{SM}^2 f^2} \lesssim \frac{g_*^2}{g_{SM}^2}$$

can be  $> 1$  if NP dynamics is *strongly coupled* ( $g_* > g_{SM}$ )

- Problem: Setting limits within the validity of the EFT (  $m_{inv} = m_{WW}$  or  $m_{hV} < m_*$  ) without knowing the value of  $m_*$

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Possible procedure:

See also: [Talks by T. Tait and A. Wulzer on Wednesday](#)

Azatov, R.C., Panico, Son, PRD 92 (2015) 035001

F. Riva et al. PRD 91 (2015) 055029

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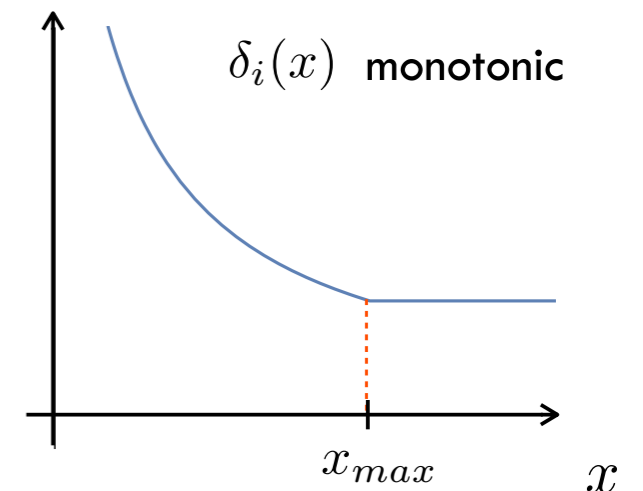
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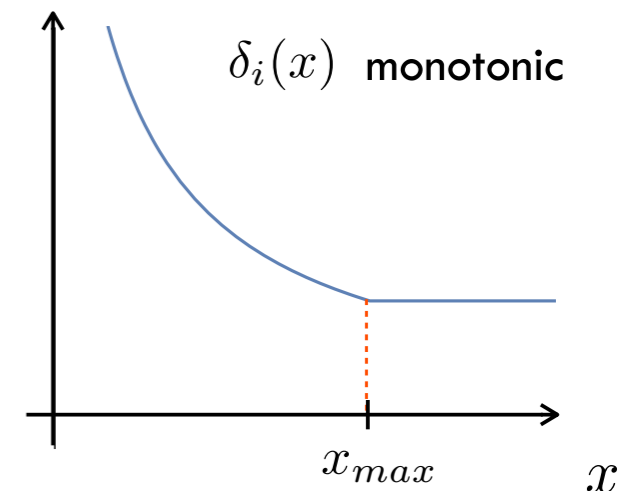
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2. Scan over  $M_{cut}$  and report (model-independent) bounds as functions of  $M_{cut}$
3. Specify a power counting to express  $\bar{c}_i = \bar{c}_i(m_*, g_*)$  and set  $M_{cut} = m_*$  (optimal value compatible with EFT)

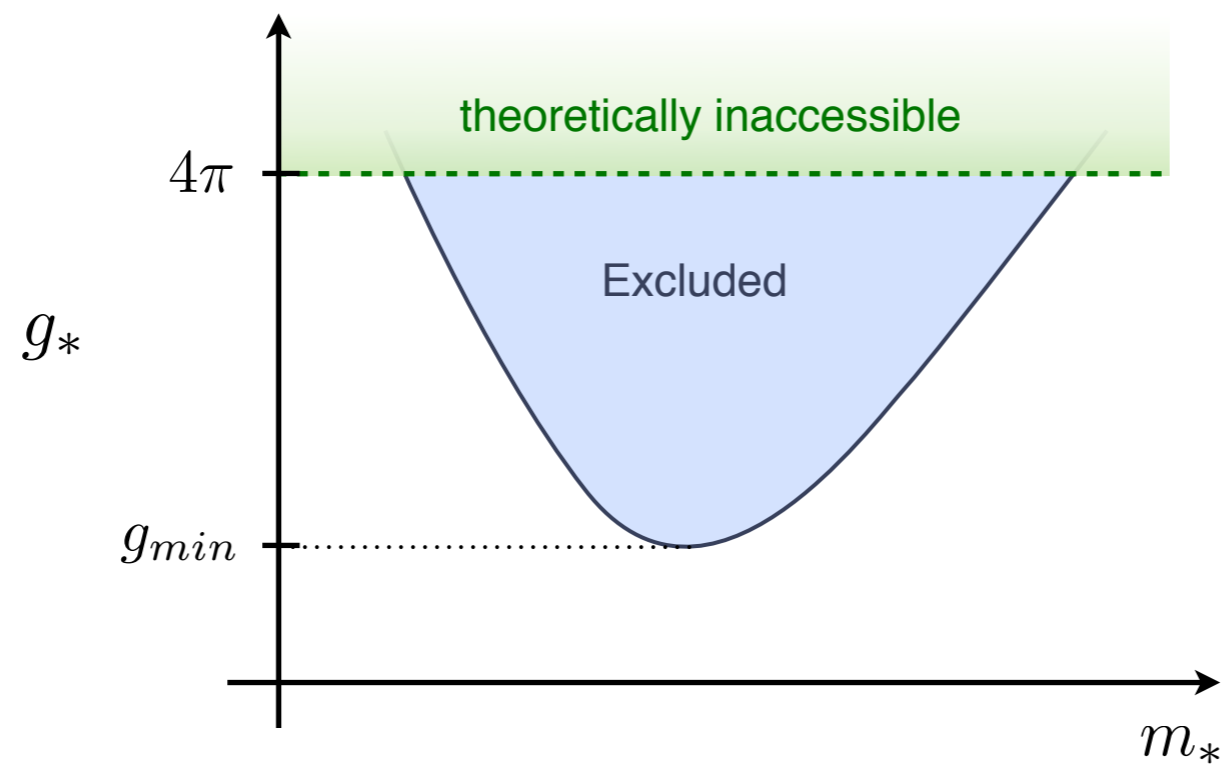


Bounds in the plane  $(m_*, g_*)$  follow from the inequalities

$$\bar{c}_i(m_*, g_*) \leq \delta_i(m_*)$$

Example:

$$\bar{c}_H = \frac{v^2 g_*^2}{m_*^2} \leq \delta_H(m_*) \quad \Rightarrow \quad g_* \leq \frac{m_*}{v} \sqrt{\delta_H(m_*)}$$



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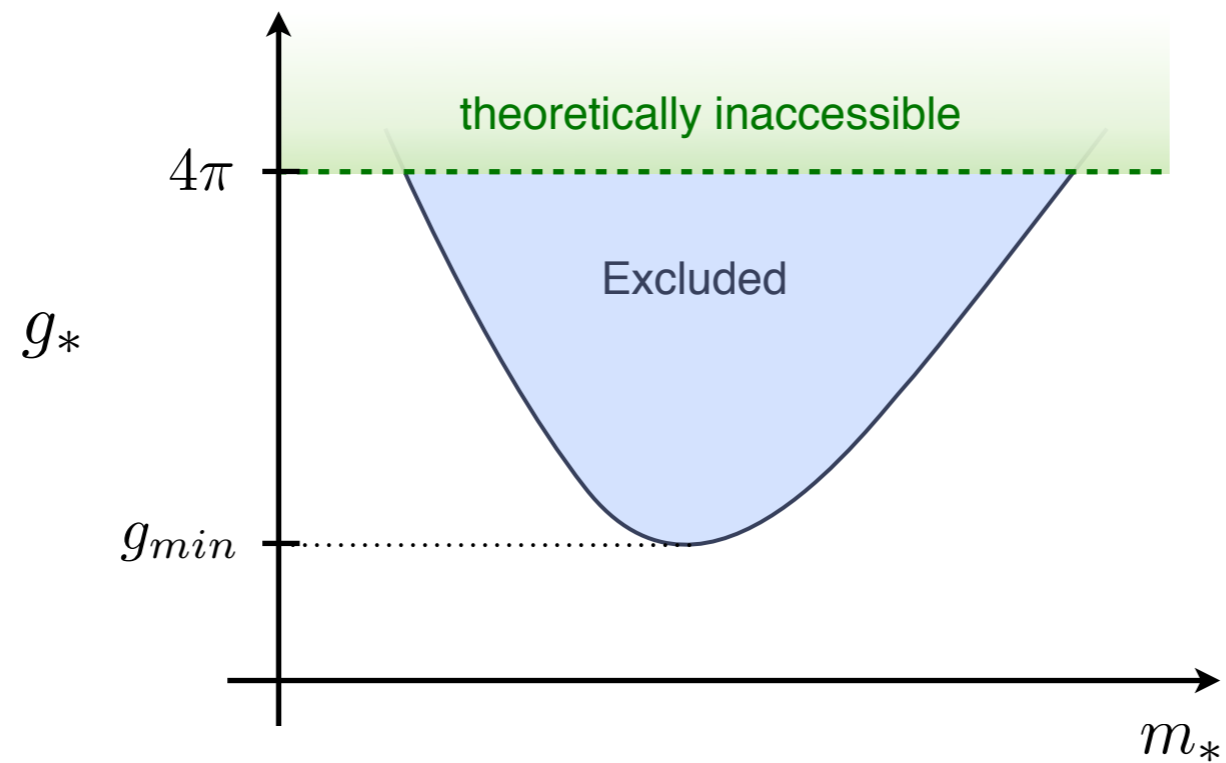


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$$m_* \sqrt{\delta_W(m_*)} \geq m_W$$



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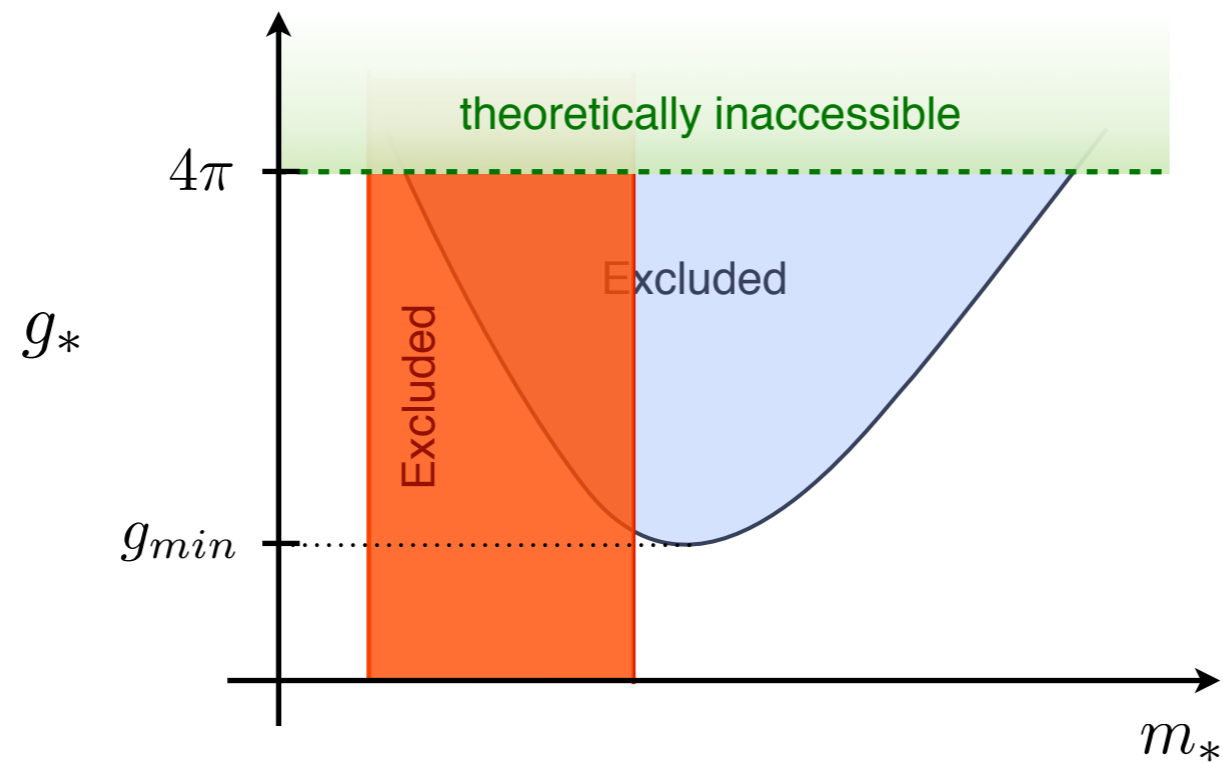


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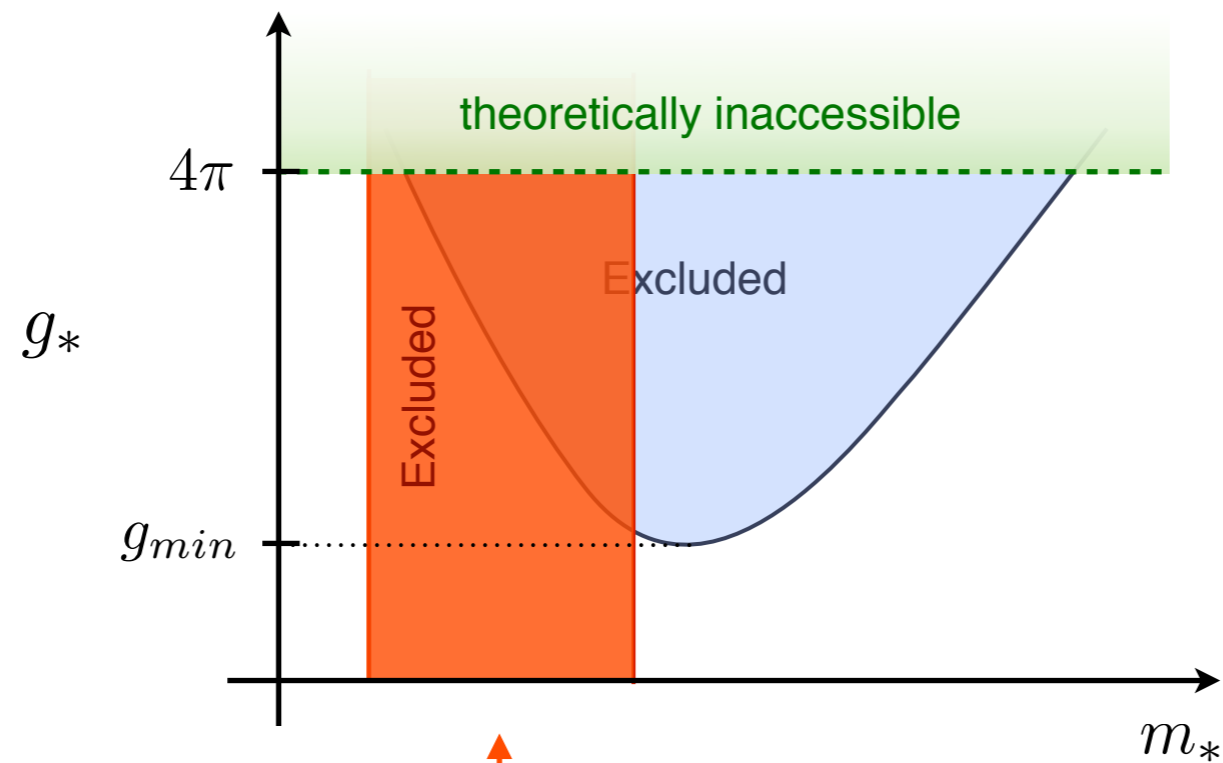


$$g_* \leq \frac{m_*}{v} \sqrt{\delta_H(m_*)}$$

$$\bar{c}_W = \frac{m_W^2}{m_*^2} \leq \delta_W(m_*)$$



$$m_* \sqrt{\delta_W(m_*)} \geq m_W$$



Excluded region is non-vanishing  
only if analysis is sensitive to SM

Are dim-6 operators sufficient ?

Normally, dimension-8 operators can be safely neglected as long as  $E/m_* \ll 1$  and  $v/f \ll 1$

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Exception: when dim-6 operators are suppressed for some *structural* reason

**Examples:** RC, C. Grojean, A. Falkowski, F. Goertz, F. Riva,  
note to appear on Higgs Yellow Report 4

1. *symmetry suppression of dim-6*
2. *observables with no contribution from dim-6*
3. *dim-6 do not interfere with SM (while dim-8 do)*
- ⋮

Examples of the second kind (observables free from dim-6):

0-Higgs vs 1-Higgs  $\longrightarrow$  See talk by Luca Merlo  
("decorrelations" in non-linear Lagrangian)

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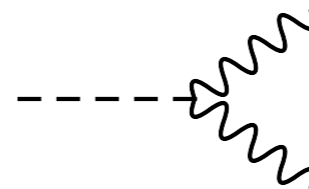
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1-Higgs vs 2-Higgs

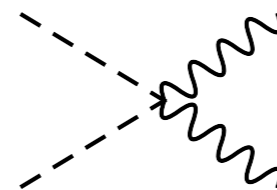
Ex: couplings of 1 and 2 Higgs bosons to vector bosons

[ RC, Grojean, Pappadopulo, Rattazzi, Thamm JHEP 1402 (2014) 006 ]

$$c_V = 1 - \frac{c_H}{2} \frac{v^2}{f^2} + \left( \frac{3c_H^2}{8} - \frac{c'_H}{4} \right) \frac{v^4}{f^4}$$



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dim 6:  $O_H = \frac{c_H}{2f^2} \partial_\mu |H|^2 \partial^\mu |H|^2$

dim 8:  $O'_H = \frac{c'_H}{2f^4} |H|^2 \partial_\mu |H|^2 \partial^\mu |H|^2$

$$\Delta c_{2V} = 2\Delta c_V^2 (1 + O(\Delta c_V^2))$$

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Expected precision at CLIC

(  $e^+e^-$  at  $\sqrt{s} = 3 \text{ TeV}$  )

with  $L = 2 \text{ ab}^{-1}$

3% on  $c_{2V}$

P. Roloff (CLICdp Coll.), talk at LCWS14

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For an  $SO(5)/SO(4)$  Composite Higgs:

A Higgs impostor does not respect this relation (ex:  $\Delta c_{2V} = \Delta c_V^2$  for a dilaton)

$$c_V = \sqrt{1 - (v^2/f^2)}$$

$$c_{2V} = 1 - 2(v^2/f^2)$$

$$\Delta c_{2V} = 2\Delta c_V^2$$

Example of the first kind (symmetry suppression):

double Higgs production via gluon fusion (assuming Higgs is a pNGB)

Azatov, R.C., Panico, Son Phys. Rev. D92 (2015) 035001

$$O_g = H^\dagger H G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{a\mu\nu} \quad \xrightarrow{\text{suppressed by}} \quad \frac{\lambda^2}{g_*^2} \quad (\lambda = \text{weak spurion breaking the shift symmetry})$$

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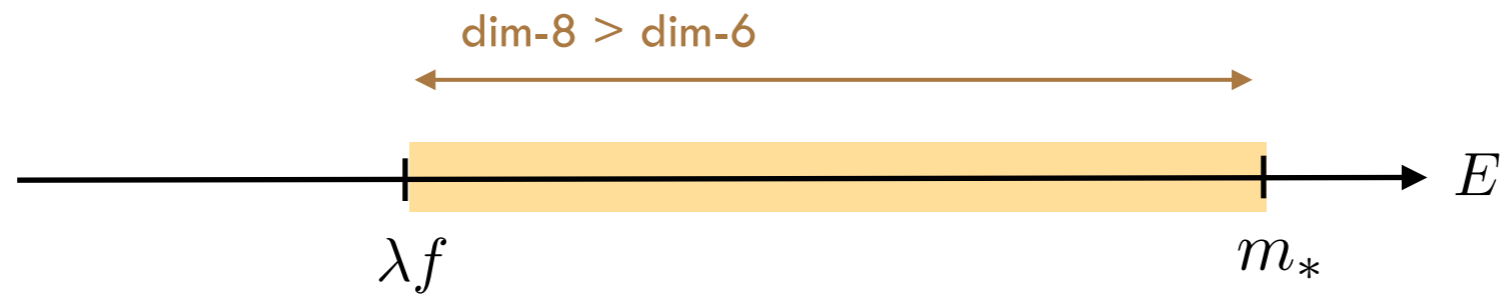
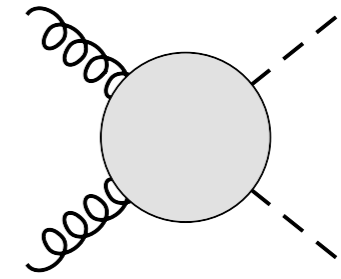
$$\frac{\delta A_8}{\delta A_6} \sim \frac{E^2}{m_*^2} \frac{g_*^2}{\lambda^2}$$

dim-8 dominate  
over dim-6 for:

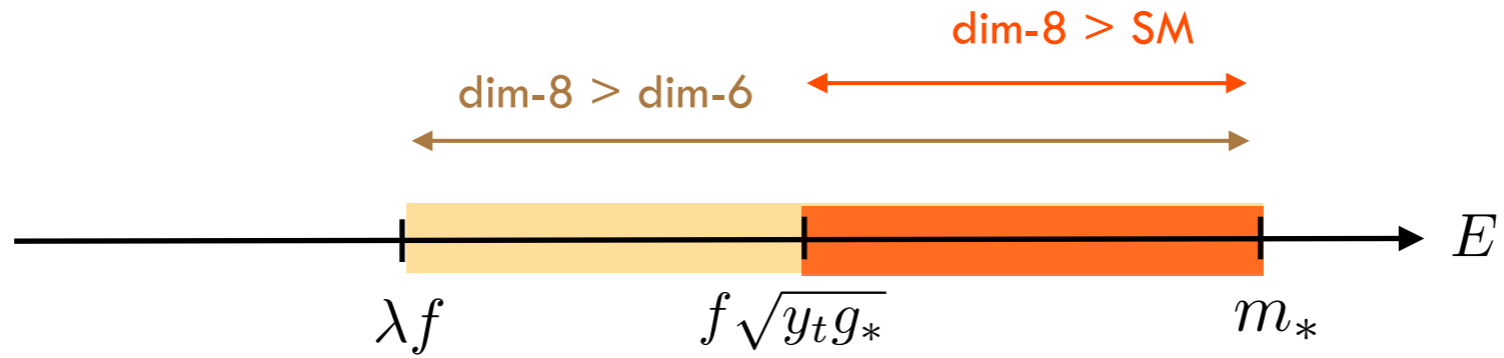
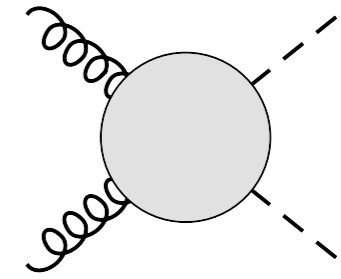
$$\lambda f < E < m_*$$

Example:  $\lambda = y_t$   
 $(v^2/f^2) = 0.1 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \lambda f \sim 500 \text{ GeV}$

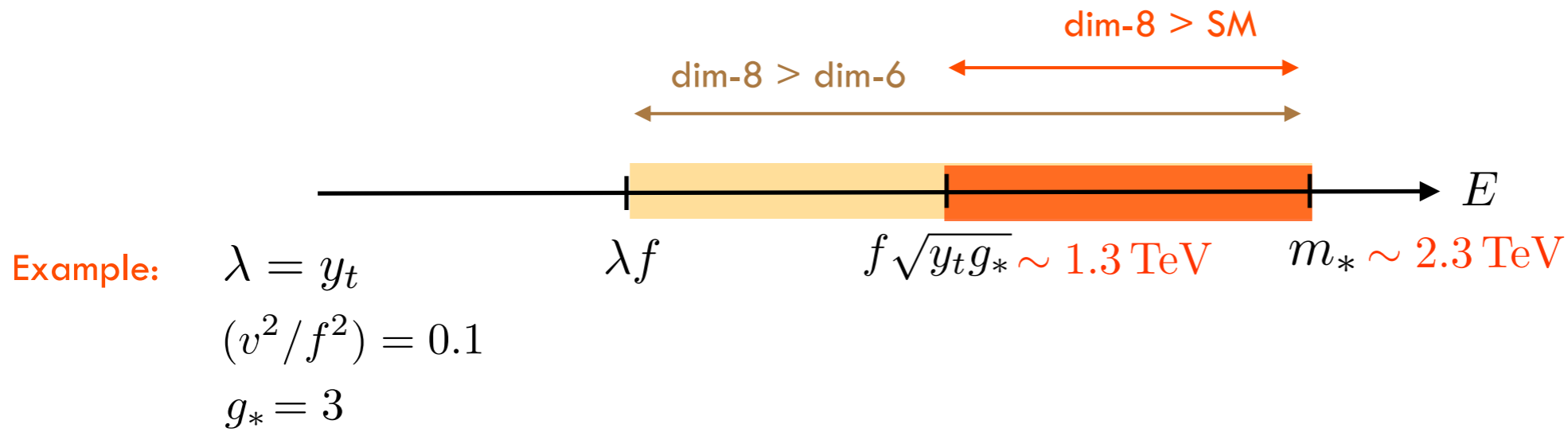
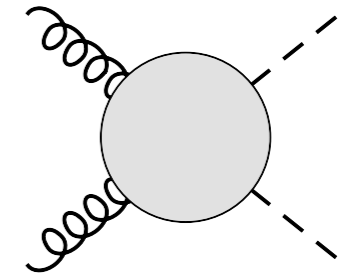
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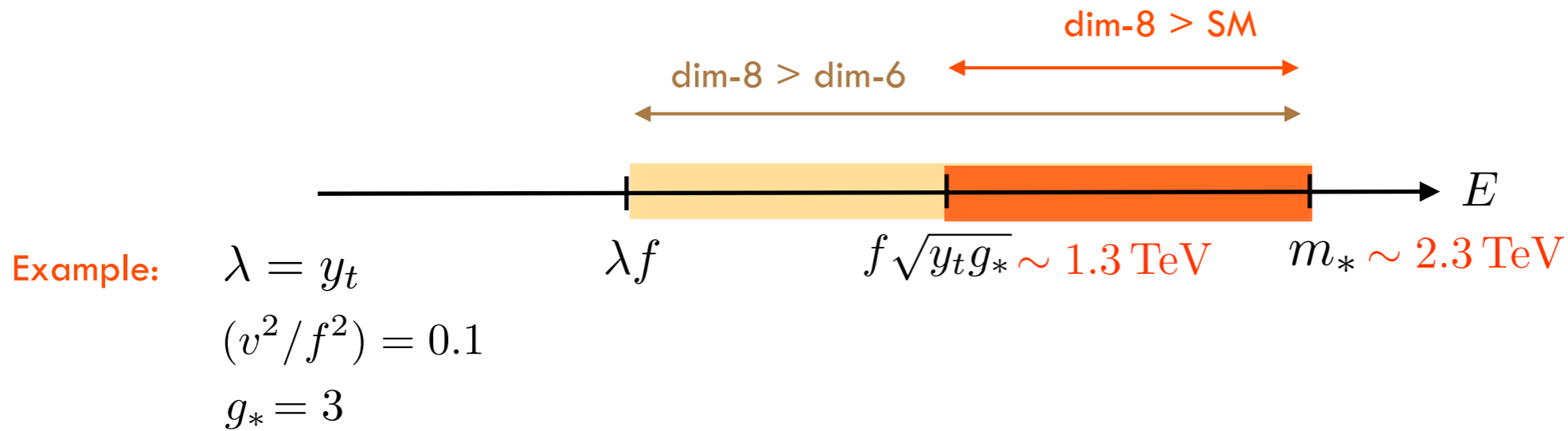
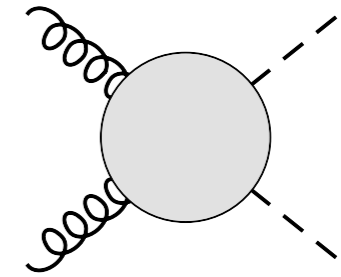
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For a luminosity:  $L = 3 \text{ ab}^{-1}$

- requiring at least 5 events
- including 10% efficiency due to kinematic cuts

Largest value of $m(hh)[\text{GeV}]$	$b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$	$4b$
$\sqrt{s} = 14 \text{ TeV}$	550	1550
$\sqrt{s} = 100 \text{ TeV}$	1350	4300

Probing dim-8 operators is very difficult (perhaps possible through  $hh \rightarrow 4b$  or at 100TeV)

## Testing dim-8 operators through angular distributions

- The scattering  $gg \rightarrow hh$  proceeds through  $J_z = 0$  and  $J_z = \pm 2$  transitions

$$M_0 \sim \text{const.}$$

$$M_2 \sim \sin^2 \theta$$

$\theta$  = angle between either of the Higgs bosons and the beam axis in the c.o.m frame



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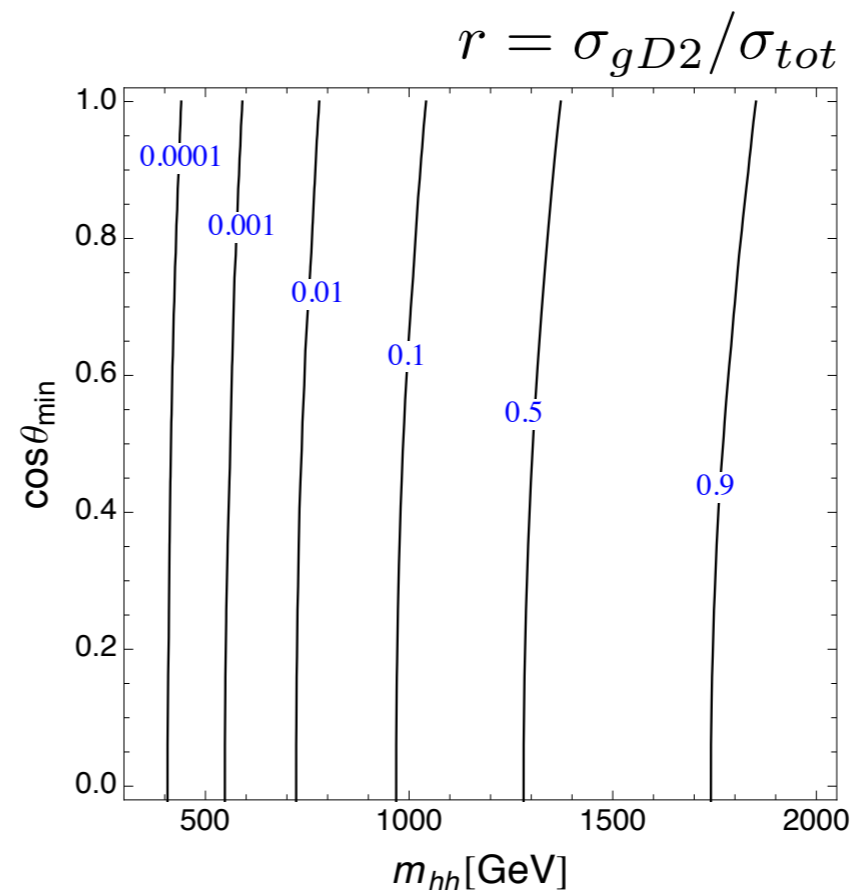
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$\bar{c}_{gD2}$  set to its SILH estimate with:

$$(v/f)^2 = 0.15$$

$$g_* = 3$$

$$[m_* = 1.9 \text{ TeV}]$$

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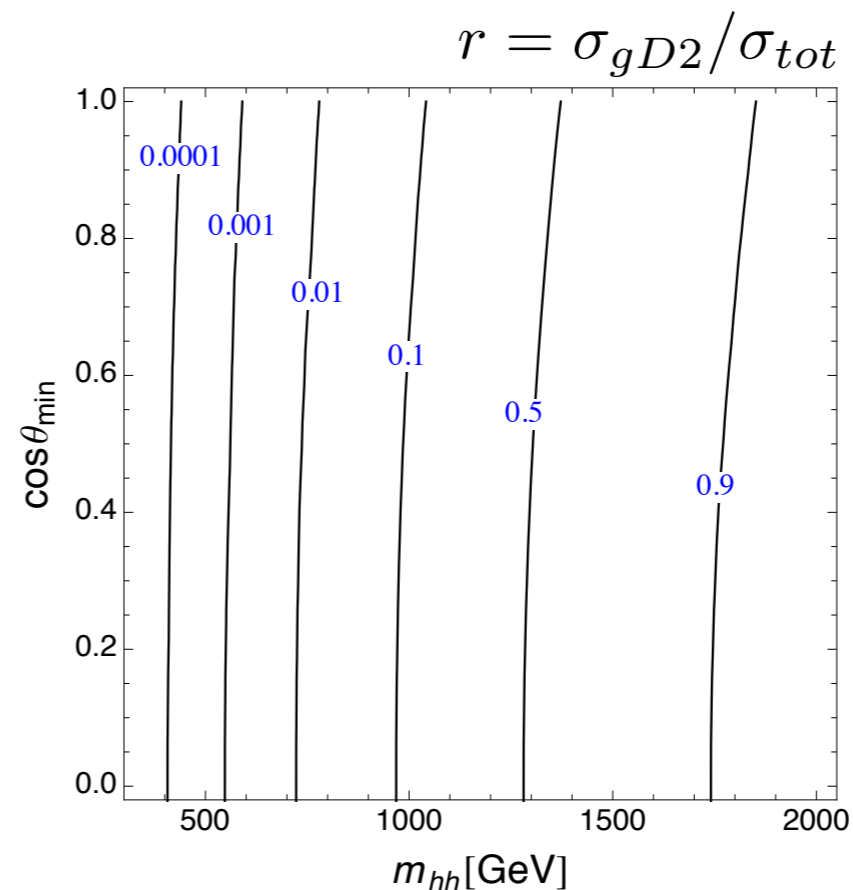
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Sensitivity on dim-8 operators only marginally improved by angular analysis



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- Specifying a power counting is sufficient and necessary (different estimates for different power countings)
- Possible procedure to extract bounds and report experimental results:
  - 1) first, derive bounds as a function of an energy cut
  - 2) then, cast bounds on theory space for a given power counting
- Dimension-8 operators can be safely neglected except in few special cases
  - Ex: -- dim-6 operators suppressed by symmetry
  - observables with no contribution from dim-6