

Correspondence between SMEFT and HEFT in Higgs physics

Jian Wang (王健)
Shandong University

第十一届中国LHC物理会议
Xinxiang, Oct 30, 2025

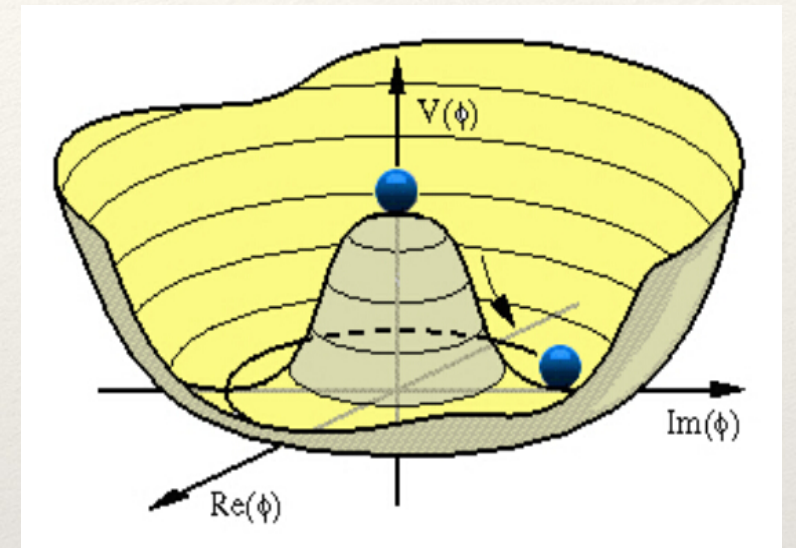
Higgs self-coupling in the SM

$$V(\phi) = -\mu^2 \phi^\dagger \phi + \lambda (\phi^\dagger \phi)^2$$



$$\phi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v + h \end{pmatrix}$$

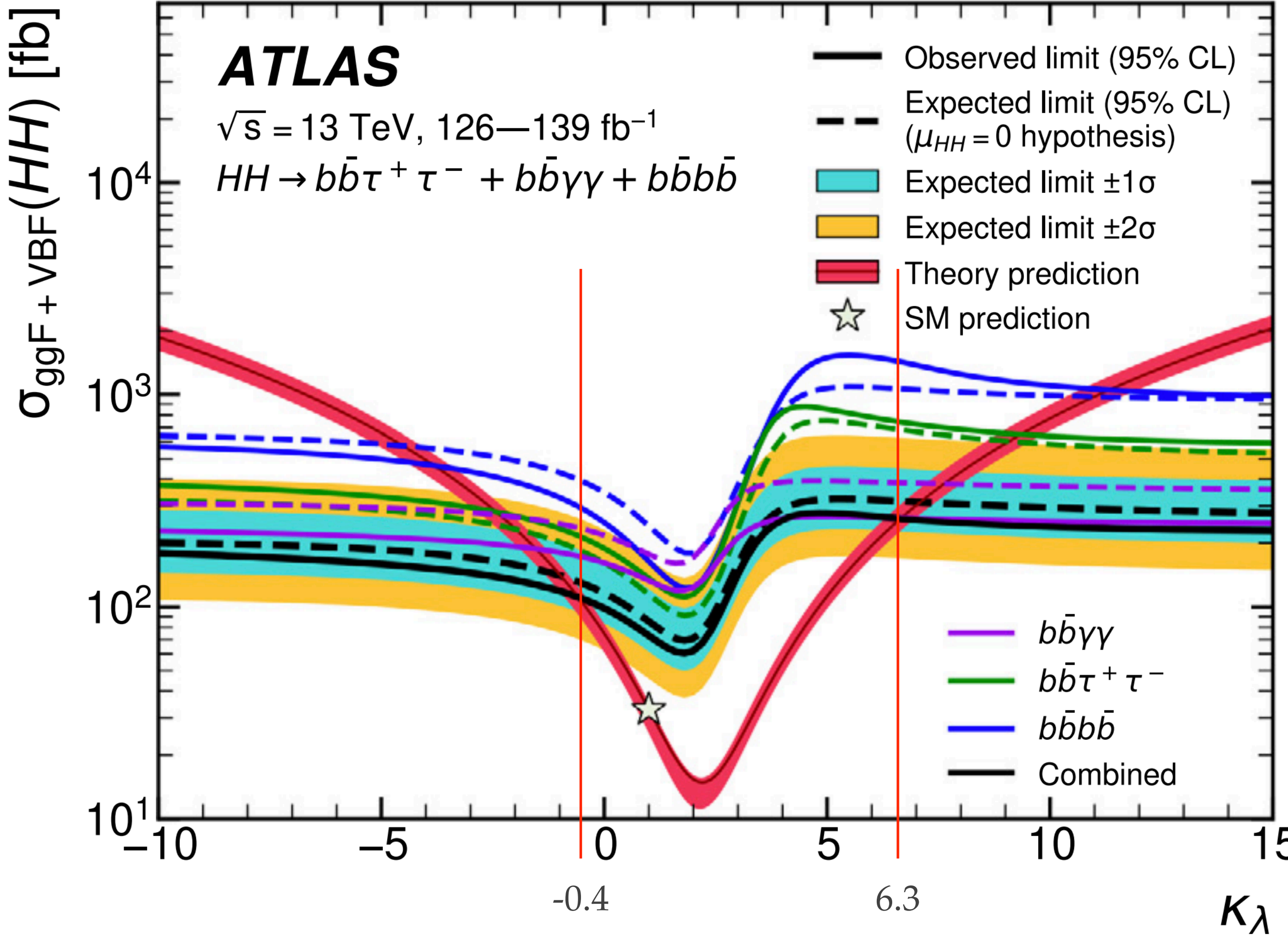
$$V(h) = \frac{1}{2} m_h^2 h^2 + \sqrt{\frac{\lambda}{2}} m_H h^3 + \frac{1}{4} \lambda h^4$$
$$\lambda = m_H^2 / 2v^2$$

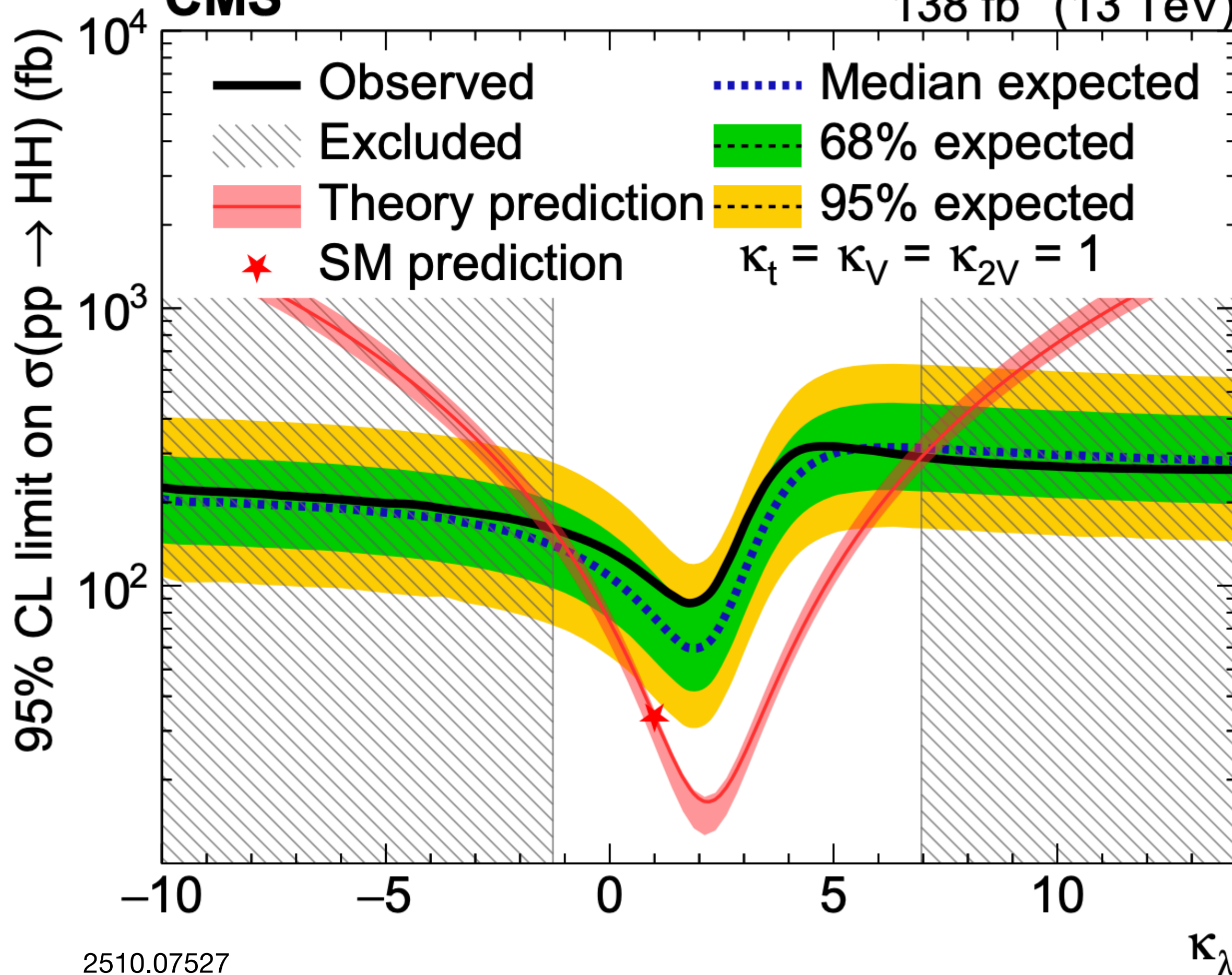


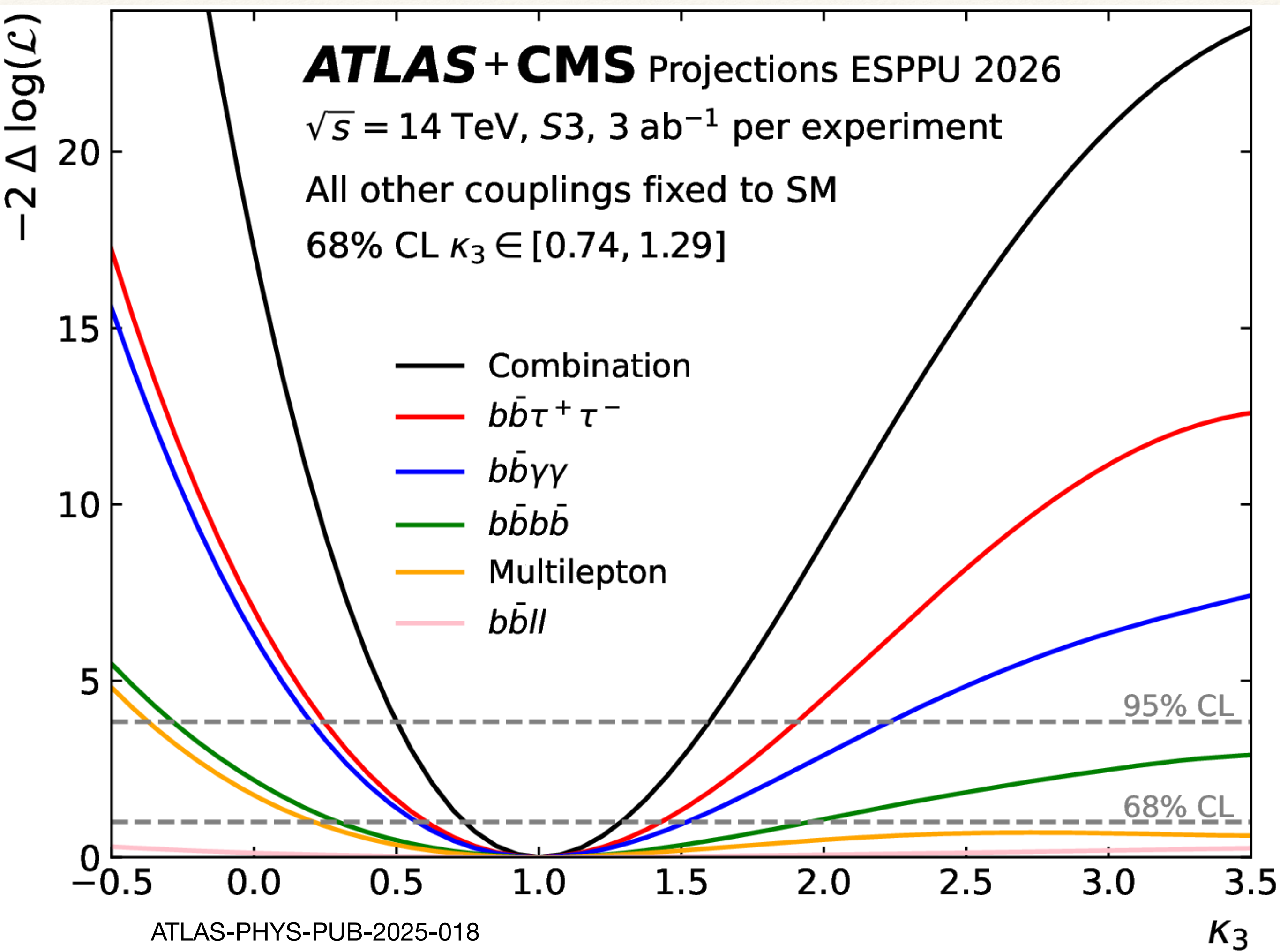
In some new physics models, the trilinear Higgs self-coupling may change by O(100)%, while the couplings with gauge bosons and fermions are still in agreement with SM.

S.Kanemura, et al, PLB558,157

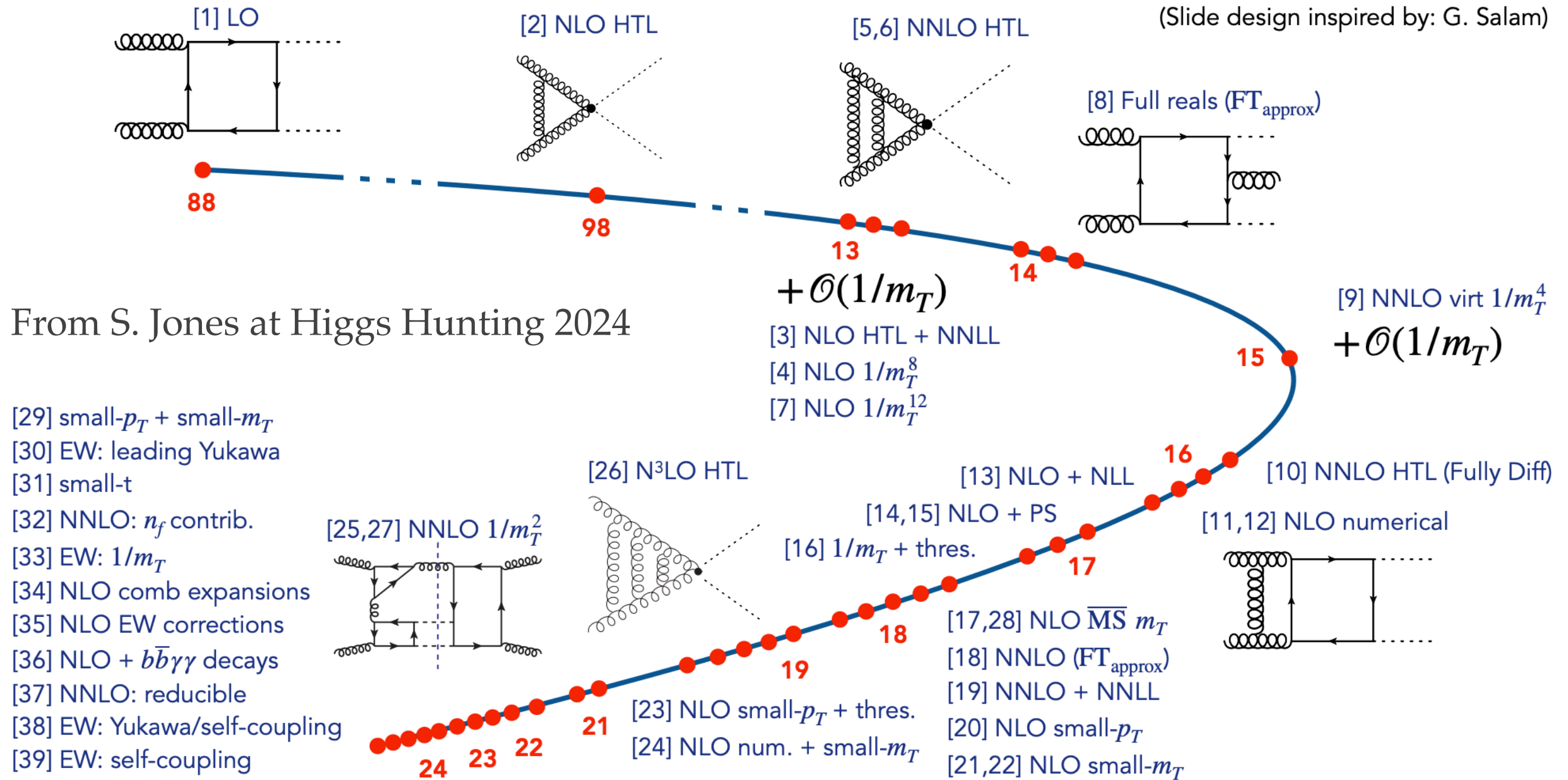
We need to measure the trilinear self coupling directly.



CMS138 fb⁻¹ (13 TeV)

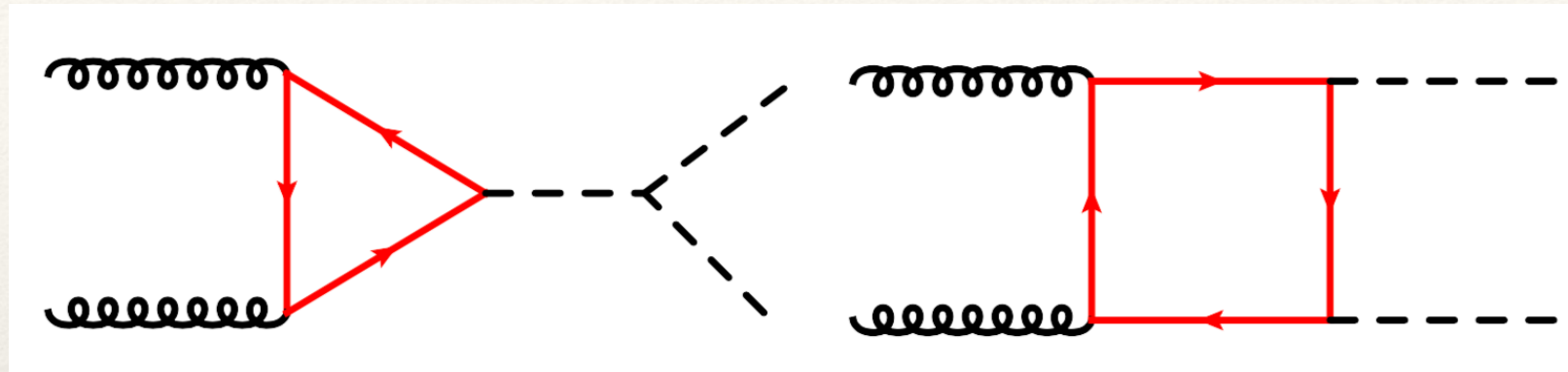


Long history in high precision calculations



[1] Glover, van der Bij 88; [2] Dawson, Dittmaier, Spira 98; [3] Shao, Li, Li, Wang 13; [4] Grigo, Hoff, Melnikov, Steinhauser 13; [5] de Florian, Mazzitelli 13; [6] Grigo, Melnikov, Steinhauser 14; [7] Grigo, Hoff 14; [8] Maltoni, Vryonidou, Zaro 14; [9] Grigo, Hoff, Steinhauser 15; [10] de Florian, Grazzini, Hanga, Kallweit, Lindert, Maierhöfer, Mazzitelli, Rathlev 16; [11] Borowka, Greiner, Heinrich, SPJ, Kerner, Schlenk, Schubert, Zirke 16; [12] Borowka, Greiner, Heinrich, SPJ, Kerner, Schlenk, Zirke 16; [13] Ferrera, Pires 16; [14] Heinrich, SPJ, Kerner, Luisoni, Vryonidou 17; [15] SPJ, Kuttimalai 17; [16] Gröber, Maier, Rauh 17; [17] Baglio, Campanario, Glaus, Mühlleitner, Spira, Streicher 18; [18] Grazzini, Heinrich, SPJ, Kallweit, Kerner, Lindert, Mazzitelli 18; [19] de Florian, Mazzitelli 18; [20] Bonciani, Deggrasi, Giardino, Gröber 18; [21] Davies, Mishima, Steinhauser, Wellmann 18, 18; [22] Mishima 18; [23] Gröber, Maier, Rauh 19; [24] Davies, Heinrich, SPJ, Kerner, Mishima, Steinhauser, David Wellmann 19; [25] Davies, Steinhauser 19; [26] Chen, Li, Shao, Wang 19, 19; [27] Davies, Herren, Mishima, Steinhauser 19, 21; [28] Baglio, Campanario, Glaus, Mühlleitner, Ronca, Spira 21; [29] Bellafronte, Deggrasi, Giardino, Gröber, Vitti 22; [30] Davies, Mishima, Schönwald, Steinhauser, Zhang 22; [31] Davies, Mishima, Schönwald, Steinhauser 23; [32] Davies, Schönwald, Steinhauser 23; [33] Davies, Schönwald, Steinhauser, Zhang 23; [34] Bagnaschi, Deggrasi, Gröber 23; [35] Bi, Huang, Huang, Ma Yu 23; [36] Li, Si, Wang, Zhang, Zhao 24; [37] Davies, Schönwald, Steinhauser, Vitti 24; [38] Heinrich, SPJ, Kerner, Stone, Vestner [39] Li, Si, Wang, Zhang, Zhao 24

gg → HH as a function of κ



$$\sigma_{HH} = A + B\kappa + C\kappa^2$$

computation	A [fb]	A/A(LO)	B [fb]	B/B(LO)	C [fb]	C/C(LO)
LO m_t fin	35.0		-23.0		4.73	
NLO m_t fin	62.6	1.79	-44.4	1.93	9.64	2.04
NLO m_t fin × NNLO SM FTApprox	70.0	2.00	-49.6	2.16	10.8	2.28
NNLO + NNLL $m_t \rightarrow \infty \times$						
NNLO+NLL SM (partial m_t fin)	71.3	2.04	-47.7	2.08	9.93	2.10

The meaning of κ

$$(\sigma \cdot \text{BR}) (gg \rightarrow H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma) = \sigma_{\text{SM}}(gg \rightarrow H) \cdot \text{BR}_{\text{SM}}(H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma) \cdot \frac{\kappa_g^2 \cdot \kappa_\gamma^2}{\kappa_H^2}$$

Handbook of LHC Higgs Cross Sections,1307.1347

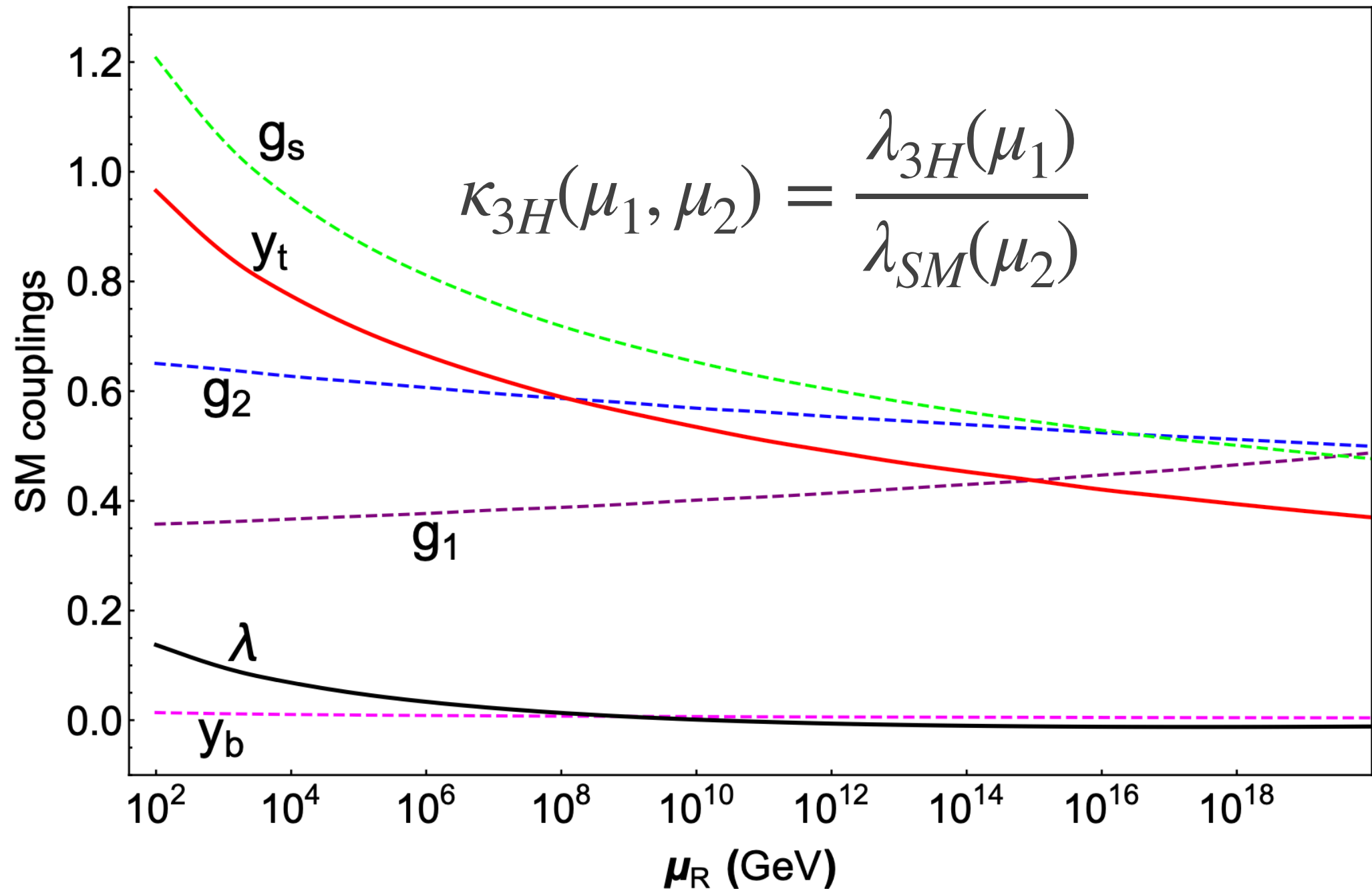
It can be considered as a rescaling factor of the corresponding parameter in the Lagrangian.

It is a ratio of two parameters in two Lagrangians ($\mathcal{L}_{NP}$ and $\mathcal{L}_{SM}$).

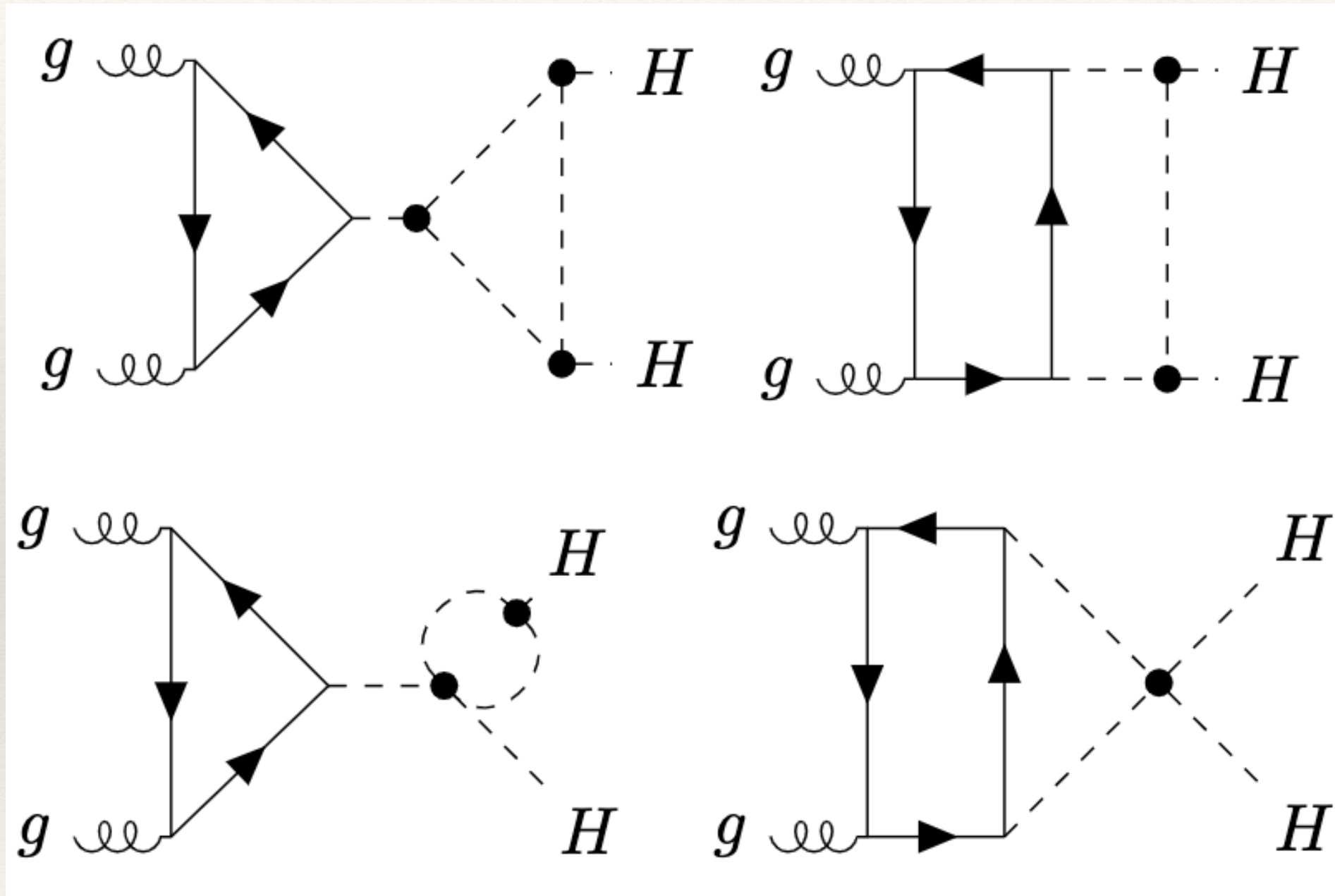
$$\kappa_{3H} = \frac{\lambda_{3H}}{\lambda_{SM}} \quad \kappa_{4H} = \frac{\lambda_{4H}}{\lambda_{SM}}$$

How to rescale the single parameter in $\mathcal{L}_{SM}$?

The meaning of κ



A more realistic function form



$$\sigma_{HH} = A + B\kappa_3 + C\kappa_3^2 + D\kappa_3^3 + E\kappa_3^4 + F\kappa_3^2\kappa_4 + G\kappa_3\kappa_4 + H\kappa_4 + \dots$$

HEFT

- To describe the new physics beyond the SM, we often take a consistent effective field theory framework.
- HEFT: Higgs field as a singlet, non-linear, no explicit constraints on couplings

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{HEFT}} = \mathcal{L}_2 + \mathcal{L}_4$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_2 = & \frac{v^2}{4} \left(1 + 2a \frac{H}{v} + b \left(\frac{H}{v} \right)^2 + \dots \right) \text{Tr}[D_\mu U^\dagger D^\mu U] \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu H \partial^\mu H - V(H) - \frac{1}{2g^2} \text{Tr}[\hat{W}_{\mu\nu} \hat{W}^{\mu\nu}] \\ & - \frac{1}{2g'^2} \text{Tr}[\hat{B}_{\mu\nu} \hat{B}^{\mu\nu}] + \mathcal{L}_{GF} + \mathcal{L}_{FP}. \end{aligned}$$

$$U(\pi^a) = e^{i\pi^a \tau^a / v}$$

$$\begin{aligned} V(H) = & (-\mu^2 + \lambda v^2) v H + \frac{1}{2} (-\mu^2 + 3\lambda v^2) H^2 \\ & + \kappa_3 \lambda v H^3 + \kappa_4 \frac{\lambda}{4} H^4. \end{aligned}$$

Renormalization

The renormalized Lagrangian in the κ framework after EW gauge symmetry breaking:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_H^\kappa = & \frac{1}{2}Z_\phi(\partial_\mu H)^2 - \left(-\frac{1}{2}Z_{\mu^2}Z_\phi Z_\nu^2\mu^2v^2 + \frac{1}{4}Z_\lambda Z_\phi^2 Z_\nu^4\lambda v^4 \right) - (Z_\lambda Z_\phi^2 Z_\nu^3\lambda v^3 - Z_{\mu^2}Z_\phi Z_\nu\mu^2v)H \\ & - \left(\frac{3}{2}Z_\lambda Z_\phi^2 Z_\nu^2\lambda v^2 - \frac{1}{2}Z_{\mu^2}Z_\phi\mu^2 \right) H^2 - Z_{\kappa_{3H}}Z_\lambda Z_\phi^2 Z_\nu\lambda_{3H}vH^3 - \frac{1}{4}Z_{\kappa_{4H}}Z_\lambda Z_\phi^2\lambda_{4H}H^4 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

The linear term is

$$(\mu^2v - \lambda v^3)H + [(\delta Z_{\mu^2} + \delta Z_\phi + \delta Z_\nu)\mu^2v - (\delta Z_\lambda + 2\delta Z_\phi + 3\delta Z_\nu)\lambda v^3]H$$

We choose the renormalization scheme in which there is no tadpole contributions.

$\mu^2 = \lambda v^2$ and $(\delta Z_{\mu^2} - \delta Z_\lambda - \delta Z_\phi - 2\delta Z_\nu)\mu^2v + T = 0$ with T the one-loop diagrams.

$$T = \frac{3\lambda_{3H}v}{16\pi^2}m_H^2 \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} + \ln \frac{\mu_R^2}{m_H^2} + 1 \right)$$

Renormalization

The quadratic term is

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu H)^2 - \mu^2 H^2 + \frac{1}{2}\delta Z_\phi(\partial_\mu H)^2 - \left(\frac{3}{2}\delta Z_\lambda + \frac{5}{2}\delta Z_\phi - \frac{1}{2}\delta Z_{\mu^2} + 3\delta Z_\nu \right) \mu^2 H^2 \\ & \equiv \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu H)^2 - \frac{1}{2}m_H^2 H^2 + \frac{1}{2}\delta Z_\phi(\partial_\mu H)^2 - \frac{1}{2}(\delta Z_{m_H^2} + \delta Z_\phi)m_H^2 H^2 \end{aligned}$$

We choose the on-shell renormalization scheme.

$$\begin{aligned} \delta Z_{m_H^2} &= \frac{3\lambda_{4H}}{16\pi^2} \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} + \ln \frac{\mu_R^2}{m_H^2} + 1 \right) + \frac{9\lambda_{3H}^2 v^2}{m_H^2} \frac{1}{8\pi^2} \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} + \ln \frac{\mu_R^2}{m_H^2} + 2 - \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{3}} \right) \\ \delta Z_\phi &= \frac{9\lambda_{3H}^2 v^2}{8\pi^2} \frac{\sqrt{3} - 2\pi/3}{\sqrt{3}m_H^2} \end{aligned}$$

Since we focus on the corrections induced by the Higgs self-couplings, we can simply take

$$\delta Z_\nu + \delta Z_\phi/2 = 0$$

Renormalization

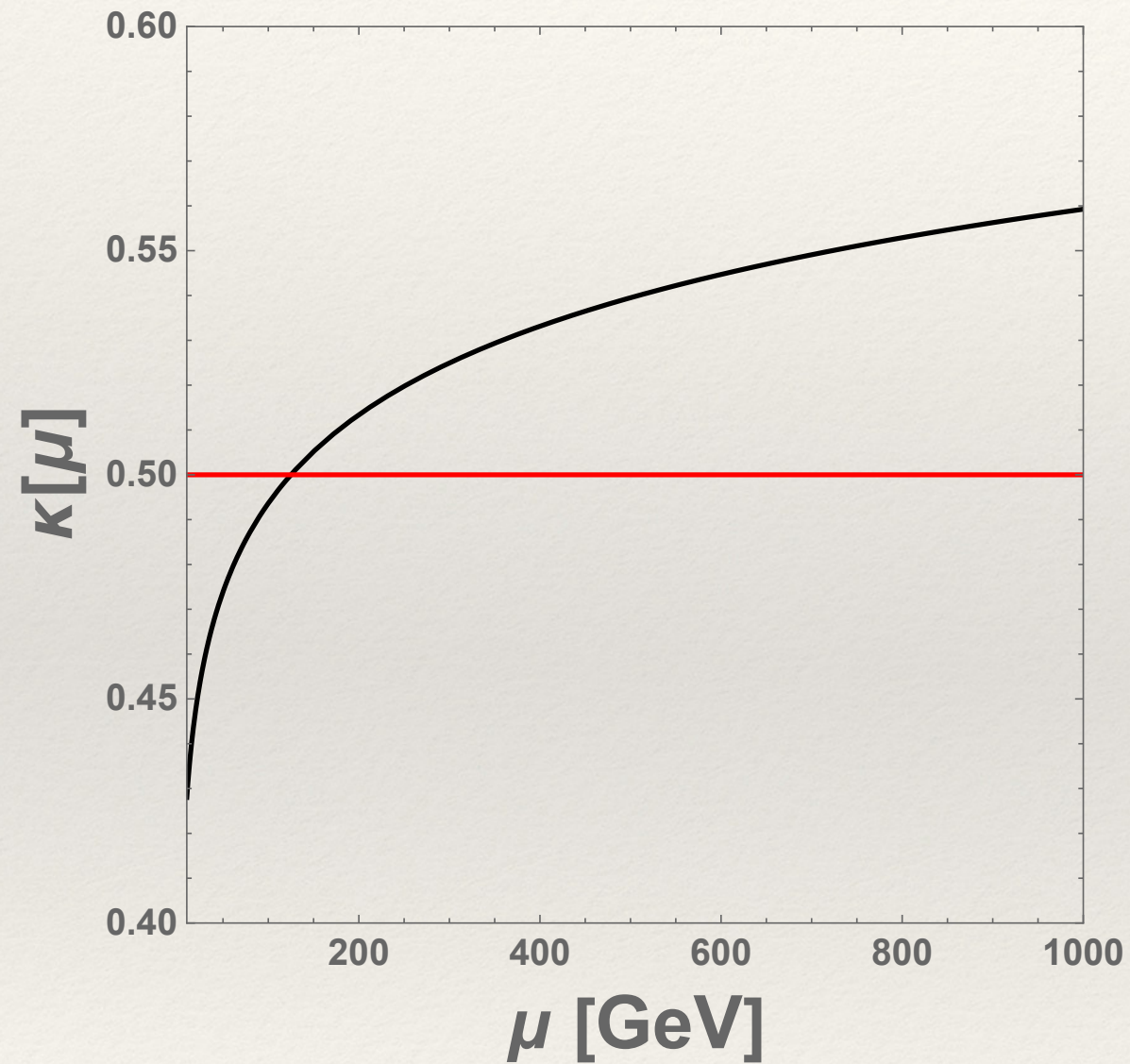
The result of one-particle reducible diagrams and counter-terms:

$\overline{\text{MS}}$ scheme

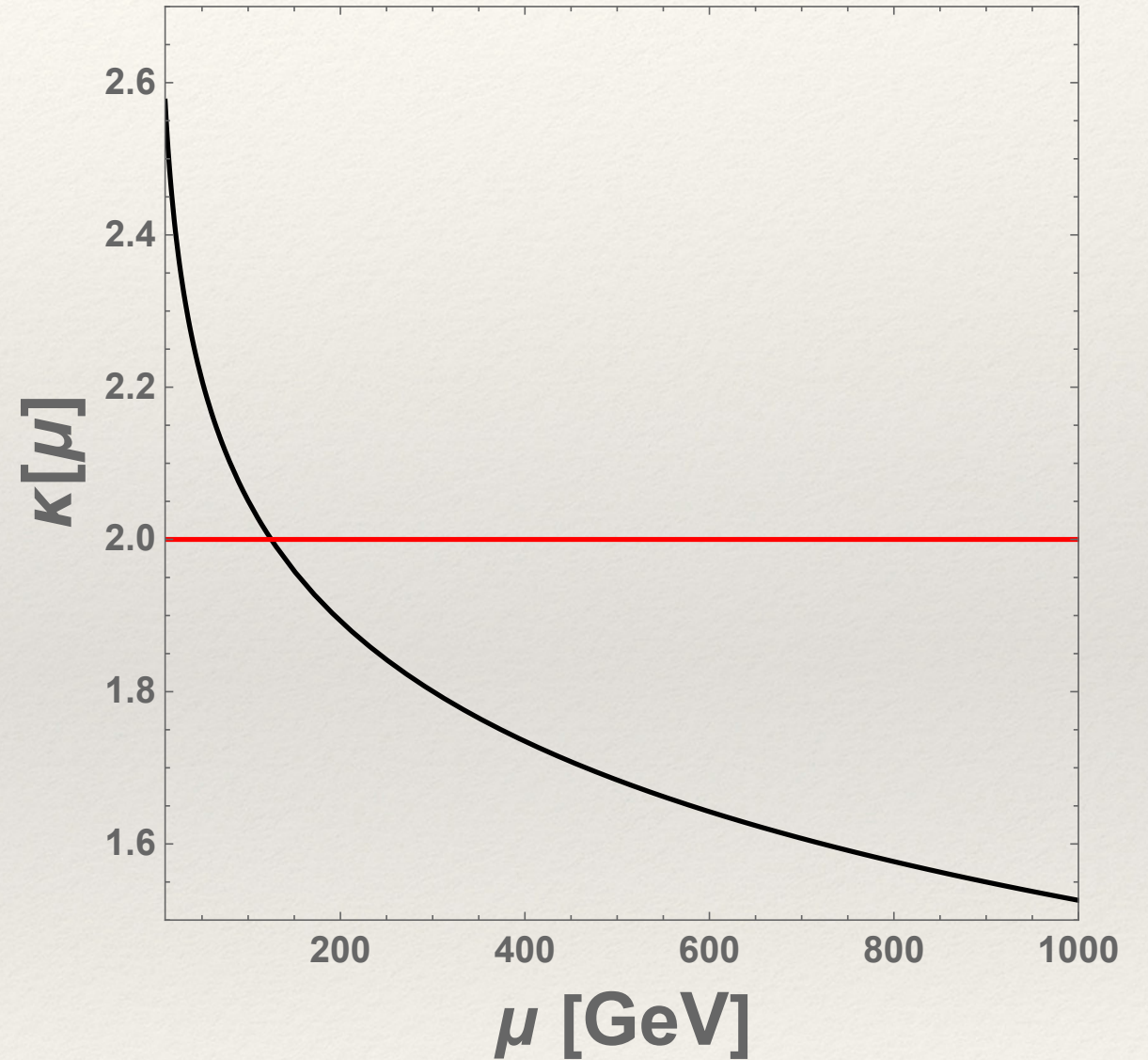
$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{M}_{gg \rightarrow H^* \rightarrow HH}^{\text{LO}} \times & \left\{ \frac{3}{16\pi^2} \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left(-2\lambda_{4H} - \lambda_{3H} + 6\lambda_{3H}^2 \frac{v^2}{m_H^2} \right) + \delta Z_{\kappa_{3H}} \right. \\
 & + \frac{3}{16\pi^2} \ln \frac{\mu_R^2}{m_H^2} \left[-2\lambda_{4H} - \lambda_{3H} + 6\lambda_{3H}^2 \frac{v^2}{m_H^2} \right] \\
 & - \frac{9\lambda_{3H}^2}{8\pi^2} \frac{v^2}{s - m_H^2} \left[\beta \left(\ln \left(\frac{1 - \beta}{1 + \beta} \right) + i\pi \right) + \frac{s}{m_H^2} \left(1 - \frac{2\pi}{3\sqrt{3}} \right) + \frac{5\pi}{3\sqrt{3}} - 1 \right] \\
 & + \frac{3\lambda_{3H}^2}{8\pi^2} \frac{v^2}{m_H^2} \left(12 - \frac{7\pi}{\sqrt{3}} \right) - \frac{9\lambda_{3H}^2 v^2}{4\pi^2} C_0[m_H^2, m_H^2, s, m_H^2, m_H^2, m_H^2] \\
 & \left. - \frac{3\lambda_{4H}}{16\pi^2} \left[\beta \left(\ln \left(\frac{1 - \beta}{1 + \beta} \right) + i\pi \right) + 5 - \frac{2\pi}{\sqrt{3}} \right] - \frac{3\lambda_{3H}}{16\pi^2} \right\},
 \end{aligned}$$

Running of $\kappa(\mu)$

$$\kappa(\mu = 125 \text{ GeV}) = 0.5$$



$$\kappa(\mu = 125 \text{ GeV}) = 2$$



Updated function forms

The λ dependent correction is

$$\delta\sigma_{\text{ggF,EW}}^{\kappa_\lambda} = (0.075\kappa_{\lambda_{3H}}^4 - 0.158\kappa_{\lambda_{3H}}^3 - 0.006\kappa_{\lambda_{3H}}^2 \kappa_{\lambda_{4H}} - 0.058\kappa_{\lambda_{3H}}^2 + 0.070\kappa_{\lambda_{3H}} \kappa_{\lambda_{4H}} - 0.149\kappa_{\lambda_{4H}}) \text{ fb}$$

$$\delta\sigma_{\text{VBF,EW}}^{\kappa_\lambda} = (0.0215\kappa_{\lambda_{3H}}^4 - 0.0324\kappa_{\lambda_{3H}}^3 - 0.0019\kappa_{\lambda_{3H}}^2 \kappa_{\lambda_{4H}} - 0.0043\kappa_{\lambda_{3H}}^2 + 0.0151\kappa_{\lambda_{3H}} \kappa_{\lambda_{4H}} - 0.0211\kappa_{\lambda_{4H}}) \text{ fb}$$

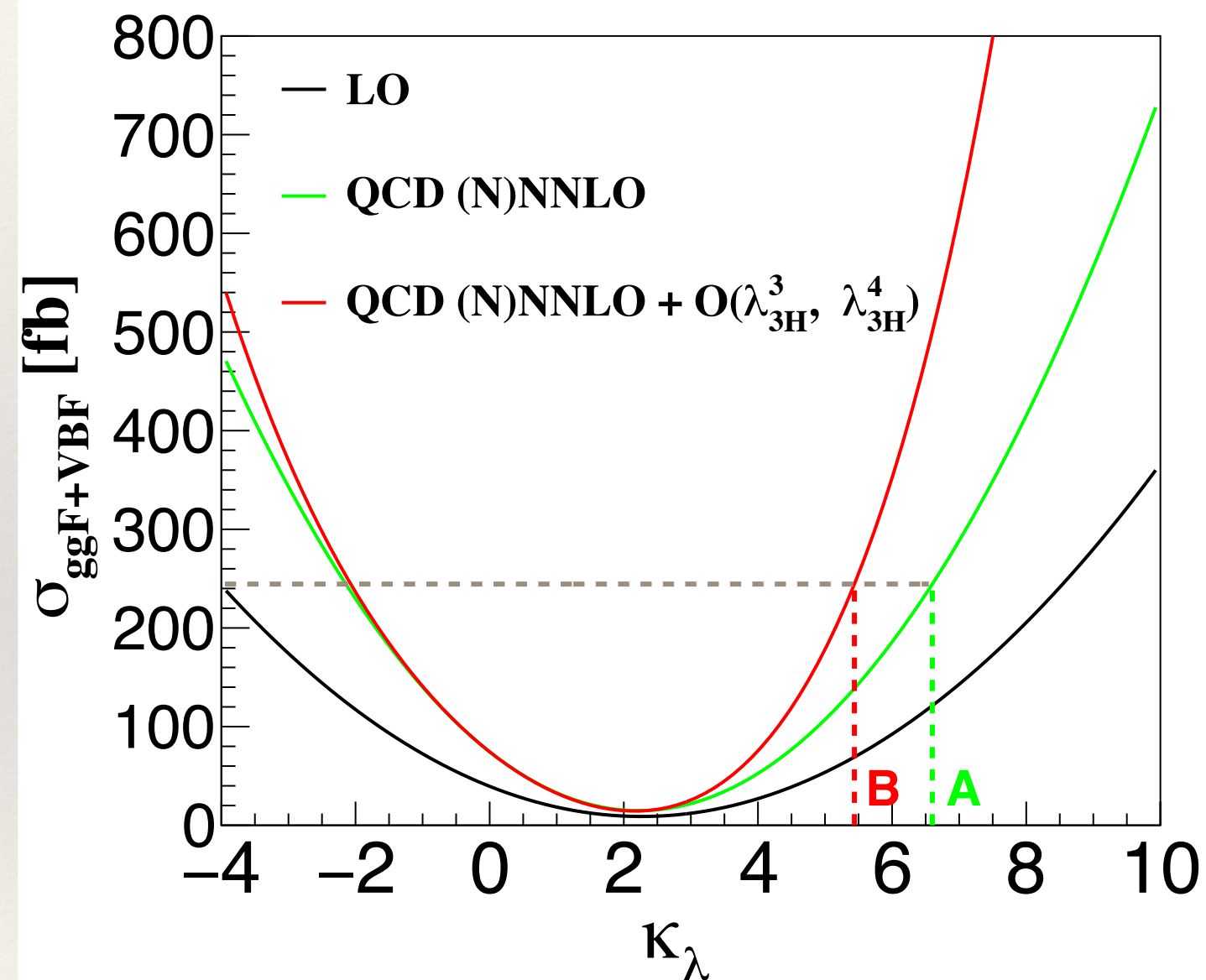
$\kappa_{\lambda_{3H}}$	$\kappa_{\lambda_{4H}}$	ggF			VBF		
		$\sigma_{\text{LO}}^{\kappa_\lambda}$	$\sigma_{\text{NNLO-FT}}^{\kappa_\lambda}$	$\delta\sigma_{\text{EW}}^{\kappa_\lambda}$	$\sigma_{\text{LO}}^{\kappa_\lambda}$	$\sigma_{\text{NNLO}}^{\kappa_\lambda}$	$\delta\sigma_{\text{EW}}^{\kappa_\lambda}$
1	1	16.7	31.2	-0.225	1.71	1.69	-2.30×10^{-2}
3	1	8.59	18.4	1.28	3.59	3.53	8.35×10^{-1}
6	1	67.3	161	60.6	25.1	24.6	20.7
1	3	16.7	31.2	-0.393	1.71	1.69	-3.89×10^{-2}
1	6	16.7	31.2	-0.646	1.71	1.69	-6.27×10^{-2}
3	3	8.59	18.4	1.30	3.59	3.53	8.50×10^{-1}
6	6	67.3	161	61.0	25.1	24.6	20.7

The QCD corrections are significant in ggF, but not sensitive to κ_{3H} .

The EW corrections are 91% (82%) in ggF (VBF) for $\kappa_{3H} = 6$.

The dependence on λ_{4H} is weak.

More stringent constraint



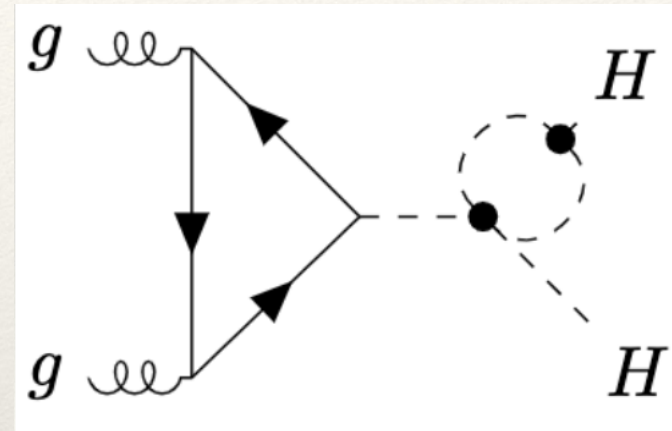
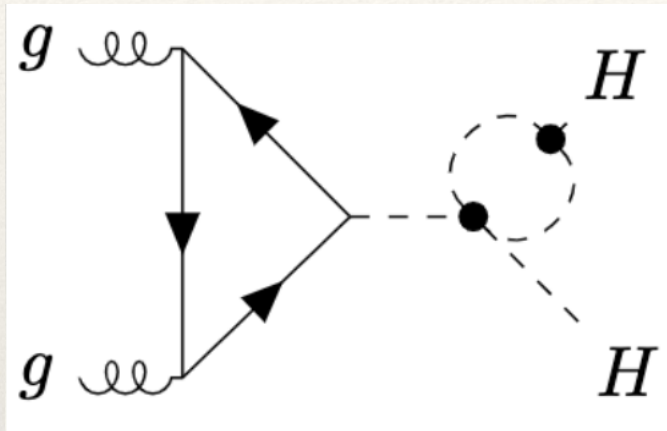
ATLAS (CMS) limit

6.6 (6.49)



5.4 (5.37)

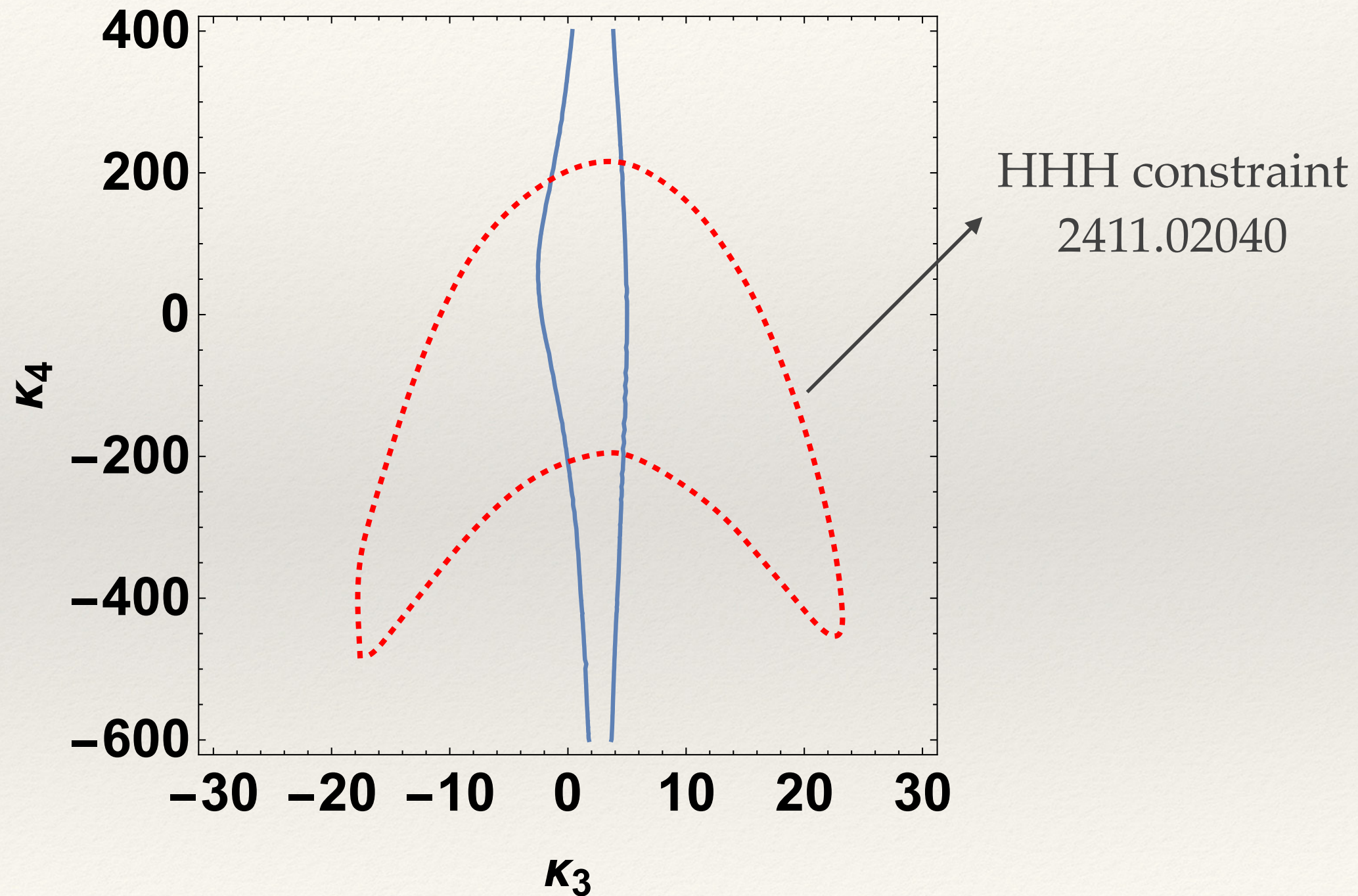
Sensitivity to κ_4



$$\begin{aligned} \delta\sigma_{\text{ggF,EW}}^{\kappa_\lambda} = & (0.075\kappa_{\lambda_{3H}}^4 - 0.158\kappa_{\lambda_{3H}}^3 - 0.006\kappa_{\lambda_{3H}}^2\kappa_{\lambda_{4H}} - 0.058\kappa_{\lambda_{3H}}^2 + 0.070\kappa_{\lambda_{3H}}\kappa_{\lambda_{4H}} - 0.149\kappa_{\lambda_{4H}}) \text{ fb} \\ & + [0.887\kappa_{\lambda_{3H}}^6 - 2.439\kappa_{\lambda_{3H}}^5 + 3.200\kappa_{\lambda_{3H}}^3 + \kappa_{\lambda_{4H}}(-0.579\kappa_{\lambda_{3H}}^4 + 2.821\kappa_{\lambda_{3H}}^3 - 2.870\kappa_{\lambda_{3H}}^2) \\ & + \kappa_{\lambda_{4H}}^2(0.135\kappa_{\lambda_{3H}}^2 - 0.742\kappa_{\lambda_{3H}} - 1.179)] \times 10^{-3} \text{ fb} \end{aligned}$$

This is only partial NNLO correction!

Sensitivity to κ_4



A query from experimentalists

From: Zhengliang Guo <zhengliang.guo@cern.ch>

Sent: Monday, June 2, 2025 8:16 PM

To: j.wang@sdu.edu.cn <j.wang@sdu.edu.cn>

“While applying the correction for the ggF to HH cross section, I noticed that the formula presented in your [report](#) at the HH meeting differs from another [reference](#). Specifically, when $k_3 = 1$, the effect of k_4 appears negative in your report, whereas it is positive in the reference. I was wondering if you could clarify the reason for this discrepancy.”

Comparison with SMEFT

- SMEFT: Higgs field as a doublet, Wilson coefficients suppressed by Λ

$$V(\phi_b) = -\mu_b^2(\phi^\dagger\phi)_b + \lambda_b(\phi^\dagger\phi)_b^2 + \frac{d_6^b}{\Lambda^2} \left[(\phi^\dagger\phi)_b - \frac{v^2}{2} \right]^3 + \frac{d_8^b}{\Lambda^4} \left[(\phi^\dagger\phi)_b - \frac{v^2}{2} \right]^4 + \frac{d_{10}^b}{\Lambda^6} \left[(\phi^\dagger\phi)_b - \frac{v^2}{2} \right]^5.$$

Borowka et al, 1811.12366

$$\mathcal{L}_{3H} = -\kappa_3\lambda v H^3 - (\delta Z_\lambda + \frac{3}{2}\kappa_3\delta Z_\phi + \bar{d}_6\delta Z_{d_6})\lambda v H^3,$$

$$\kappa_3 \equiv 1 + \bar{d}_6$$

$$d_6^b = Z_{d_6} \frac{\lambda\Lambda^2}{v^2} \bar{d}_6$$

Comparison with SMEFT

$$\mathcal{L}_{4H} + \mathcal{L}_{5H} = -\frac{1}{4}\kappa_4\lambda H^4 - \kappa_5\frac{\lambda}{v}H^5 + \dots$$

$$\kappa_4 \equiv 1 + 6\bar{d}_6 + \bar{d}_8$$

$$\kappa_5 \equiv \frac{1}{4}(3\bar{d}_6 + 2\bar{d}_8 + \bar{d}_{10})$$

If the new operators are renormalized in the $\overline{\text{MS}}$ scheme. We find that the amplitude of $gg \rightarrow H^* \rightarrow HH$ is different from that in HEFT.

$$\frac{i\mathcal{M}_{\text{SMEFT2}} - i\mathcal{M}_{\kappa_5}}{i\mathcal{M}_{\text{LO}}} = \frac{3m_H^2(\kappa_3 - 1) \left[-(3 - \sqrt{3}\pi)\kappa_3^2 + (\kappa_3 - 3\kappa_3^2 - \kappa_4)(1 + \ln \frac{\mu_R^2}{m_H^2}) \right]}{32\pi^2 v^2 \kappa_3}$$

Comparison with SMEFT

If we require that the amplitude remains the same, we have to change the renormalization condition. The renormalization of the dimension-six operator is not in $\overline{\text{MS}}$ any more.

$$(\delta Z_{d_6})_{\text{finite}} = (\delta Z_\lambda)_{\text{finite}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \delta Z_\lambda = & -\frac{3\lambda_3}{16\pi^2} \left[\frac{1}{\epsilon} + \ln \frac{\mu_R^2}{m^2} + 1 \right] + \frac{3\lambda_4}{16\pi^2} \left[\frac{1}{\epsilon} + \ln \frac{\mu_R^2}{m^2} + 1 \right] \\ & + \frac{3\lambda_3^2 v^2}{8\pi^2 m^2} \left[\frac{3}{\epsilon} + 3 \ln \frac{\mu_R^2}{m^2} + 6 - \sqrt{3}\pi \right], \end{aligned}$$

$\overline{\text{MS}}$ in HEFT is not $\overline{\text{MS}}$ in SMEFT!

Summary

The SM is a master piece in human history. It has been tested by a lot of experiments at very high precision level.

However, the Higgs sector still needs more precise comparison between theories and experiments.

Higher-order corrections provide more precise estimate of the dependence on Higgs self-couplings.

Thanks a lot for your attention!

Back-up slides

HEFT

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{L}_4 = & -a_{dd\nu\nu 1} \frac{\partial^\mu H \partial^\nu H}{v^2} \text{Tr}[\mathcal{V}_\mu \mathcal{V}_\nu] - a_{dd\nu\nu 2} \frac{\partial^\mu H \partial_\mu H}{v^2} \text{Tr}[\mathcal{V}^\nu \mathcal{V}_\nu] \\
& + \left(a_{11} + a_{H11} \frac{H}{v} + a_{HH11} \frac{H^2}{v^2} \right) \text{Tr}[\mathcal{D}_\mu \mathcal{V}^\mu \mathcal{D}_\nu \mathcal{V}^\nu] - \frac{m_H^2}{4} \left(2a_{H\nu\nu} \frac{H}{v} + a_{HH\nu\nu} \frac{H^2}{v^2} \right) \text{Tr}[\mathcal{V}^\mu \mathcal{V}_\mu] \\
& - \left(a_{HWW} \frac{H}{v} + a_{HHWW} \frac{H^2}{v^2} \right) \text{Tr}[\hat{W}_{\mu\nu} \hat{W}^{\mu\nu}] + i \left(a_{d2} + a_{Hd2} \frac{H}{v} \right) \frac{\partial^\nu H}{v} \text{Tr}[\hat{W}_{\mu\nu} \mathcal{V}^\mu] \\
& + \left(a_{\square\nu\nu} + a_{H\square\nu\nu} \frac{H}{v} \right) \frac{\square H}{v} \text{Tr}[\mathcal{V}_\mu \mathcal{V}^\mu] + \left(a_{d3} + a_{Hd3} \frac{H}{v} \right) \frac{\partial^\nu H}{v} \text{Tr}[\mathcal{V}_\nu \mathcal{D}_\mu \mathcal{V}^\mu] \\
& + \left(a_{\square\square} + a_{H\square\square} \frac{H}{v} \right) \frac{\square H \square H}{v^2} + a_{dd\square} \frac{\partial^\mu H \partial_\mu H \square H}{v^3} \\
& + \left(a_{Hdd} \frac{m_H^2}{v^2} + a_{ddW} \frac{m_W^2}{v^2} + a_{ddZ} \frac{m_Z^2}{v^2} \right) \frac{H}{v} \partial^\mu H \partial_\mu H.
\end{aligned}$$

Brivio et al, JHEP, 1403, 024

Gavela, Kanshin, Machado, Saa, JHEP, 1503, 043

Renormalization:

- Background field method:
- Scattering amplitude:

Guo, Ruiz-Femenia, Sanz-Cillero, PRD92,074005(2015)

Buchalla, et al, NPB, 928,93 (2018), PRD104,076005(2021)

Herrero, Morales, PRD106,073008 (2022)

Renormalization

In the SM, the Lagrangian for the Higgs sector can be written as

$$\mathcal{L}_H = (D_\mu \phi_0)^\dagger (D^\mu \phi_0) + \mu_0^2 (\phi_0^\dagger \phi_0) - \lambda_0 (\phi_0^\dagger \phi_0)^2$$

where ϕ_0 denotes the bare Higgs doublet and D_μ is the covariant derivative. The relations between the bare fields and couplings, and their renormalized counterparts, are given by $\phi_0 = Z_\phi^{1/2} \phi$, $\mu_0^2 = Z_\mu^2 \mu^2$, and $\lambda_0 = Z_\lambda \lambda$.

The EW gauge symmetry is spontaneously broken once the Higgs field develops a non-vanishing vacuum expectation value v . Taking the unitary gauge, we write the Higgs field as

$$\phi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (0, Z_v v + H)^T$$

Our strategy is equivalent to the application of HEFT in Higgs boson pair production.