

# Production of two, three, and four Higgs bosons: where SMEFT and HEFT depart

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<sup>1</sup>In collaboration with Rafael L. Delgado, Raquel Gómez-Ambrosio, Alexandre Salas-Bernárdez and Juan J. Sanz-Cillero - [2311.04280](#)

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# Outline

- 1 Introduction
  - Motivation
  - Higgs Effective Field Theory (HEFT)
  - Relation to SMEFT
- 2 Amplitudes and cross sections calculations
  - $\omega\omega \rightarrow 2h$
  - $\omega\omega \rightarrow 3h$
  - $\omega\omega \rightarrow 4h$
- 3 Cross section phenomenology
  - SMEFT-like model. Benchmark points
  - Non-SMEFT-like models. Benchmark points
  - BP study
- 4 Conclusions and next steps

# Motivation

- Given the SM is an EFT, we have to find the next EFT.
- At the current energies, both SMEFT and HEFT are valid descriptions of the currently available LHC data.
- Multi-Higgs measurements at HL-LHC and beyond are crucial to rule out one another.
- As a first approximation, only one SMEFT operator is needed (at each EFT dimension).

# Higgs Effective Field Theory

## Canonical form

### HEFT Lagrangian<sup>1</sup>

[Appelquist et al. - Phys. Rev. D 22 (1980) 200, Longhitano et al. - Phys. Rev. D 22 (1980) 1166]

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{HEFT}} = \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu h \partial^\mu h + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{F}(h) \partial_\mu \omega^a \partial^\mu \omega^a + \mathcal{O}(\omega^4)$$

### Flare function<sup>2</sup>

[Gómez-Ambrosio, Llanes-Estrada, Salas-Bernárdez and Sanz-Cillero - 2204.01762]

$$\mathcal{F}(h) = 1 + a_1 \frac{h}{v} + a_2 \left( \frac{h}{v} \right)^2 + a_3 \left( \frac{h}{v} \right)^3 + a_4 \left( \frac{h}{v} \right)^4 + \mathcal{O}(h^5)$$

$$a \equiv \frac{a_1}{2}, \quad a_2 \equiv b \quad \text{with} \quad a_{1,\text{SM}} = 2, \quad a_{2,\text{SM}} = 1, \quad a_{3,\text{SM}} = 0, \quad a_{4,\text{SM}} = 0$$

<sup>1</sup>We only focus on the EW sector. In the conditions where, under the Goldstone equivalence theorem, longitudinal VBS is approximated by Goldstone scattering.

<sup>2</sup>Where  $a_n$  is the effective coupling of  $\omega\omega$  with  $nh$ . This can be done similarly for the Yukawa sector through the study of  $t\bar{t} \rightarrow n \times h$  processes, see:

Englert et al. - 2308.11722, Gómez-Ambrosio et al. - 2207.09848

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# Higgs Effective Field Theory

## Redefined form

Calculations have also been checked with:

## Redefined HEFT Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{HEFT}} = \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu h \partial^\mu h + \frac{1}{2} \hat{\mathcal{F}}(h) \partial_\mu \omega^a \partial^\mu \omega^a + \mathcal{O}(\omega^4)$$

## Redefined Flare function<sup>3</sup>

$$\hat{\mathcal{F}}(h) = 1 + \hat{a}_2 \left(\frac{h}{v}\right)^2 + \hat{a}_3 \left(\frac{h}{v}\right)^3 + \hat{a}_4 \left(\frac{h}{v}\right)^4 + \mathcal{O}(h^5)$$

$$\hat{a}_2 = b - a^2, \quad \hat{a}_3 = a_3 - \frac{4a}{3} (b - a^2), \quad \hat{a}_4 = a_4 - \frac{3}{2} a a_3 + \frac{5}{3} a^2 (b - a^2)$$

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<sup>3</sup>This redefinition gives a more direct interpretation of the results.

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# Relation to SMEFT

## SMEFT

### SMEFT lagrangian

[Gómez-Ambrosio, Llanes-Estrada, Salas-Bernárdez and Sanz-Cillero - 2207.09848]

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{SMEFT}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \sum_{n=5}^{\infty} \sum_i \frac{c_i^{(n)}}{\Lambda^{n-4}} \mathcal{O}_i^{(n)}$$

### $\mathcal{O}_{H\Box}$ operator

$$\mathcal{O}_{H\Box}^{(6)} = (H^\dagger H)\Box(H^\dagger H), \quad \mathcal{O}_{H\Box}^{(8)} = (H^\dagger H)^2\Box(H^\dagger H), \quad \partial^2 \equiv \Box$$

### SMEFT parameters

$$d = \frac{2v^2 c_{H\Box}^{(6)}}{\Lambda^2}, \quad \rho = \frac{c_{H\Box}^{(8)}}{2(c_{H\Box}^{(6)})^2}$$

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# Relation to SMEFT

## Relation between parameters

### Relation with canonical parameters<sup>4</sup>

$$a_1/2 = a = 1 + \frac{d}{2} + \frac{d^2}{2} \left( \frac{3}{4} + \rho \right) + \mathcal{O}(d^3)$$

$$a_2 = b = 1 + 2d + 3d^2(1 + \rho) + \mathcal{O}(d^3)$$

$$a_3 = \frac{4}{3}d + d^2 \left( \frac{14}{3} + 4\rho \right) + \mathcal{O}(d^3)$$

$$a_4 = \frac{1}{3}d + d^2 \left( \frac{11}{3} + 3\rho \right) + \mathcal{O}(d^3)$$

---

<sup>4</sup> $a_5$  and  $a_6$  can be found in the paper.  
 $a_n$  for  $n \geq 7$  vanishes at order  $1/\Lambda^4$ .

$$\omega\omega \rightarrow 2h^5$$

The following results in this section are calculated in the massless limit.

## Amplitude

$$T_{\omega\omega \rightarrow 2h} \stackrel{\text{HEFT}}{=} -\frac{\hat{a}_2 s}{v^2} =$$

$$\stackrel{\text{SMEFT}}{=} -\frac{s}{v^2} [d + 2d^2(1 + \rho)] + \mathcal{O}(d^3)$$

## Cross section

$$\sigma_{\omega\omega \rightarrow 2h} \stackrel{\text{HEFT}}{=} \frac{8\pi^3 \hat{a}_2^2}{s} \left(\frac{s}{16\pi^2 v^2}\right)^2 =$$

$$\stackrel{\text{SMEFT}}{=} \frac{8\pi^3}{s} [d^2 + 4d^3(1 + \rho)] \left(\frac{s}{16\pi^2 v^2}\right)^2 + \mathcal{O}(d^4)$$

<sup>5</sup>Compatible with previous analysis in e.g. Arganda et al. - [1807.09763](#), Dobado et al. - [1711.10310](#).

$$\omega\omega \rightarrow 3h^6$$

## Amplitude

$$T_{\omega\omega \rightarrow 3h} \stackrel{\text{HEFT}}{=} -\frac{3\hat{a}_3 s}{v^3} =$$

$$\stackrel{\text{SMEFT}}{=} -\frac{4s}{v^3} d^2 (1 + \rho) + \mathcal{O}(d^3)$$

## Cross section

$$\sigma_{\omega\omega \rightarrow 3h} \stackrel{\text{HEFT}}{=} \frac{12\pi^3 \hat{a}_3^2}{s} \left( \frac{s}{16\pi^2 v^2} \right)^3 =$$

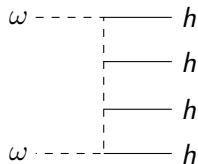
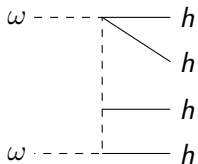
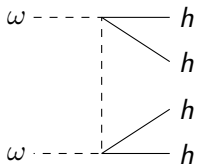
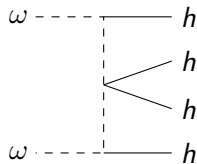
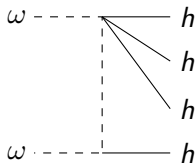
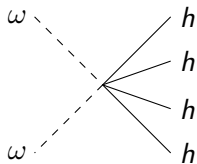
$$\stackrel{\text{SMEFT}}{=} \frac{64\pi^3}{3s} d^4 (1 + \rho)^2 \left( \frac{s}{16\pi^2 v^2} \right)^3 + \mathcal{O}(d^5)$$

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<sup>6</sup>Previous analysis with modifications in e.g. Gonzalez-Lopez et al. - [2011.13915](#), Chen et al. - [2105.11500](#).

$\omega\omega \rightarrow 4h$ 

## Contributing diagrams



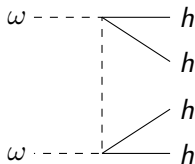
With permutations of external particles, there are a total of 75 diagrams

$\omega\omega \rightarrow 4h$ 

## Amplitude

$$T_{\omega\omega \rightarrow 4h} \stackrel{\text{HEFT}}{=} -\frac{4s}{v^4} (3\hat{a}_4 + \hat{a}_2^2 (B-1)) =$$

$$\stackrel{\text{SMEFT}}{=} -\frac{4s}{v^4} d^2 (1 + \rho + B) + \mathcal{O}(d^3)$$



## Cross section

$$\sigma_{\omega\omega \rightarrow 4h} \stackrel{\text{HEFT}}{=} \frac{8\pi^3}{9s} \left( \frac{s}{16\pi^2 v^2} \right)^4 \left[ (3\hat{a}_4 - \hat{a}_2^2)^2 + 2(3\hat{a}_4 - \hat{a}_2^2) \hat{a}_2^2 \chi_1 + \hat{a}_2^4 \chi_2 \right] =$$

$$\stackrel{\text{SMEFT}}{=} \frac{8\pi^3}{9s} \left( \frac{s}{16\pi^2 v^2} \right)^4 d^4 \left[ (1 + \rho)^2 + 2(1 + \rho) \chi_1 + \chi_2 \right] + \mathcal{O}(d^5)$$

$\omega\omega \rightarrow 4h$ 

## Parameters

## Amplitude

$$B = f_1 f_2 f_3 f_4 \left( \mathcal{B}_{1234} + \mathcal{B}_{1324} + \mathcal{B}_{1423} + \mathcal{B}_{2314} + \mathcal{B}_{2413} + \mathcal{B}_{3412} \right)$$

$$\mathcal{B}_{ijkl} = \frac{z_{ij} z_{kl}}{2f_i f_j z_{ij} - f_i z_i - f_j z_j}$$

$$f_i = \frac{q p_i}{q^2}, \quad z_i = \frac{2k_1 p_i}{q p_i}, \quad z_{ij} = z_{ji} = \frac{q^2 (p_i p_j)}{(q p_i)(q p_j)}$$

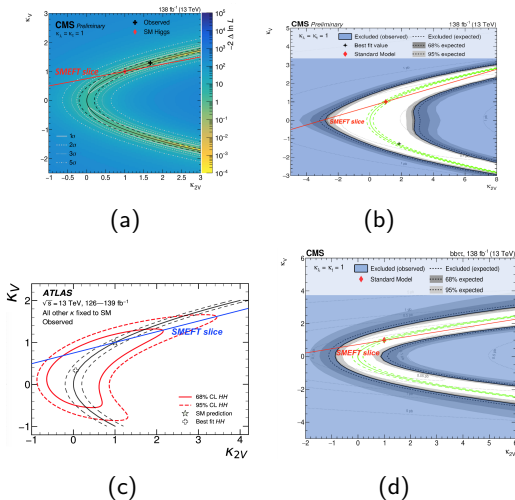
$$q = k_1 + k_2 = p_1 + p_2 + p_3 + p_4$$

## Cross section

$$\chi_n = \mathcal{V}_4^{-1} \int d\Pi_4 B^n, \quad \chi_1 = -0.124984 (10), \quad \chi_2 = 0.0193760 (16)$$



## Cross section phenomenology. ATLAS and CMS data



- $a_1$  is relatively well known from Higgs decays at LHC. Close to the SM, up to  $\mathcal{O}(10\%)$ .

- $\kappa_V = a = \frac{a_1}{2}$

$$\kappa_{2V} = a_2$$

- Superimposed SMEFT correlation:

$$a_2 = 2a_1 - 3$$

- Plotted parabolas:

$$\hat{a}_2 \equiv a_2 - \frac{a_1^2}{4} = 0$$

$$\hat{a}_2 = \pm 0.2$$

Figure: (a) Phys. Rev. Lett. 131 (2023) 041803 [2205.06667]

(b) CMS-PAS-HIG-21-005 (c) ATLAS-CONF-2022-050

(d) Phys. Lett. B 842 (2023) 137531 [2206.09401].

# SMEFT-like model. Benchmark points

## SMEFT<sup>(D=6)</sup> BP

$$d = 0.1$$

$$a = a_1/2 = 1.05, \quad b = a_2 = 1.20$$

$$a_3 = 0.1\hat{3}, \quad a_4 = 0.0\hat{3}$$

- $d$  is compatible with the SM deviation range of ATLAS and CMS,  $\Delta a = a - 1 \approx 0.05$  with  $a \approx 1 + d/2$ .

## SMEFT<sup>(D=8)</sup> BP

$$d = 0.1, \quad \rho = 1$$

$$a = a_1/2 \approx 1.06, \quad b = a_2 = 1.26$$

$$a_3 = 0.22, \quad a_4 = 0.10$$

- $d$  is crucial for the convergence of the expansion.
- $\rho$  is not really relevant.

# Non-SMEFT-like models<sup>7</sup>. Benchmark points

BP1( $a_1$ )

$$\mathcal{F}(h) = \exp \left\{ a_1 \frac{h}{v} \right\}$$

$$a_2 = 2.205, a_3 \approx 1.54, a_4 \approx 0.81$$

BP2( $a_1$ )

$$\mathcal{F}(h) = \left( 1 - \frac{a_1 h}{2v} \right)^{-2}$$

$$a_2 \approx 3.31, a_3 \approx 4.63, a_4 = 6.08$$

BP1( $a_1, a_2$ )

$$\mathcal{F}(h) = \exp \left\{ a_1 \frac{h}{v} + \left( a_2 - \frac{a_1^2}{2} \right) \frac{h^2}{v^2} \right\}$$

$$a_3 \approx -0.57, a_4 \approx -0.90$$

BP2( $a_1, a_2$ )

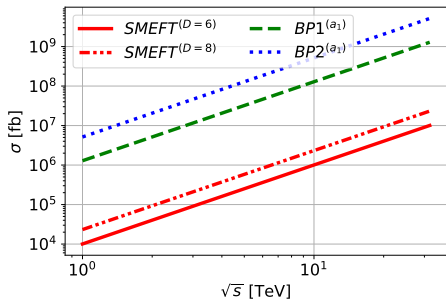
$$\mathcal{F}(h) = \left( 1 - \frac{a_1 h}{2v} - \left( \frac{a_2}{2} - \frac{3a_1^2}{8} \right) \frac{h^2}{v^2} \right)^{-2}$$

$$a_3 \approx -2.01, a_4 \approx -4.53$$

<sup>7</sup>This flare functions have no real zeros [Cohen et al. - [2008.08597](#), Manohar et al. [1605.03602](#)] but fulfil the postivity requirements in Gómez-Ambrosio et al. - [2204.01763](#)

## BP study

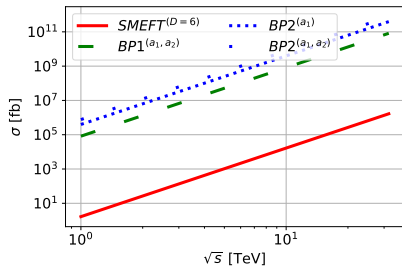
2H



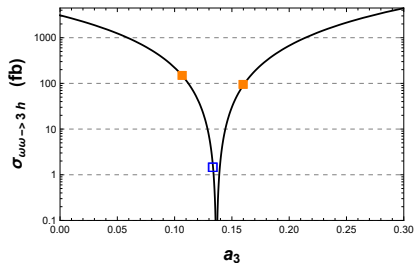
- SMEFT is suppressed by 2 orders of magnitude.
- $BP1^{(a_1, a_2)}$  and  $BP2^{(a_1, a_2)}$  are identical to  $SMEFT^{(D=6)}$ .
- If  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  are set to the SM values, **SMEFT cross section vanishes**, but HEFT barely changes.

## BP study

3H



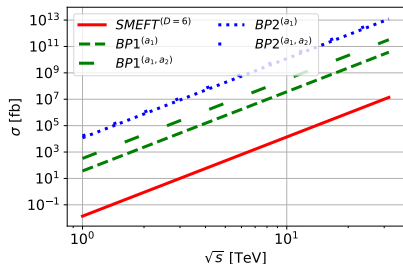
- SMEFT is suppressed by 5 orders of magnitude.
- $BP1^{(a_1)}$  XS accidentally vanishes for this parameters' values.
- Some very particular values could bring HEFT XS lower than SMEFT's (e.g. Dilaton model).



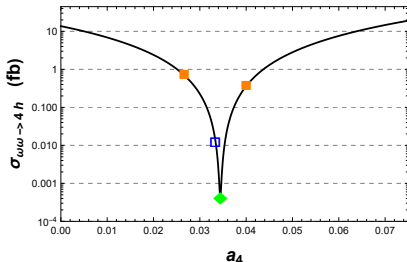
- $a_1$  and  $a_2$  are set to their  $SMEFT^{(D=6)}$  values.  $\sqrt{s} = 1$  TeV.
- SMEFT is a particular value (blue).
- A 20% variation on  $a_3$  varies the XS by 2 orders of magnitude.
- The XS vanishes for a particular value.

## BP study

4H



- SMEFT is suppressed by 4 orders of magnitude.
- Some very particular values could bring HEFT XS lower than SMEFT's (e.g. Dilaton model).



- $a_1$ ,  $a_2$  and  $a_3$  are set to their SMEFT<sup>(D=6)</sup> values.  $\sqrt{s} = 1$  TeV.
- SMEFT is a particular value (blue).
- A 20% variation on  $a_4$  varies the XS by 2 orders of magnitude.
- The XS doesn't vanish.

# Conclusions and next steps

## Conclusions

- We studied longitudinal VBS using the Goldstone equivalence theorem and massless approximation.
- We computed analytic expressions for  $2h$ ,  $3h$  and  $4h$  production at lowest order (tree level) for SMEFT and HEFT.
- Multi-Higgs production is very suppressed in SMEFT but not in general HEFT scenarios (with interesting exceptions).

## Next steps

- Full collider analysis: PDFs, mass corrections, NLO...

THANK YOU!



## 5 Back up

- Back up 1. Redefinition of HEFT
- Back up 2. HEFT-SMEFT parameters relation

# Back up 1. Redefinition of HEFT

## Fields redefinition

### Fields redefinition

$$\omega^a \rightarrow \omega^a + g(h) \omega^a, \quad h \rightarrow h + \mathcal{N} (1 + g(h)) \frac{\omega^a \omega^a}{v}$$

# Back up 1. Redefinition of HEFT

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### HEFT lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{HEFT}} = \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu h\partial^\mu h + \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{F}(h)\partial_\mu\omega^a\partial^\mu\omega^a + \mathcal{O}(\omega^4)$$

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### Redefined flare function

$$\hat{\mathcal{F}}(h) = \mathcal{F}(h) \left(1 + g(h)\right)^2$$

# Appendix 1. Redefinition of HEFT

## Flare function redefinition

### Normalization

$$\mathcal{N} = \frac{a}{2}$$
$$g(h) = -a \frac{h}{v} + a^2 \frac{h^2}{v^2} + \frac{1}{3} a(b - 4a^2) \frac{h^3}{v^3} + \frac{1}{4} a(a_3 - 4ab + 8a^3) \frac{h^4}{v^4} + \mathcal{O}(h^5)$$

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### Flare function

$$\mathcal{F}(h) = 1 + a_1 \frac{h}{v} + a_2 \left(\frac{h}{v}\right)^2 + a_3 \left(\frac{h}{v}\right)^3 + a_4 \left(\frac{h}{v}\right)^4 + \mathcal{O}(h^5)$$

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### Redefined flare function

$$\hat{\mathcal{F}}(h) = 1 + \hat{a}_2 \left( \frac{h}{v} \right)^2 + \hat{a}_3 \left( \frac{h}{v} \right)^3 + \hat{a}_4 \left( \frac{h}{v} \right)^4 + \mathcal{O}(h^5)$$



# Back up 1. Redefinition of HEFT

## Parameters redefinition

### Redefined parameters

$$\hat{a}_2 = b - a^2$$

$$\hat{a}_3 = a_3 - \frac{4a}{3}(b - a^2)$$

$$\hat{a}_4 = a_4 - \frac{3}{2}a a_3 + \frac{5}{3}a^2(b - a^2)$$

# Back up 2. HEFT-SMEFT parameters relation

## Parameters

### SMEFT parameters

$$d = \frac{2v^2 c_{H\Box}^{(6)}}{\Lambda^2} \quad , \quad \rho = \frac{c_{H\Box}^{(8)}}{2(c_{H\Box}^{(6)})^2}$$

## Back up 2. HEFT-SMEFT parameters relation

Relation with canonical parameters

Relation with canonical parameters

$$a_{1/2} = a = 1 + \frac{d}{2} + \frac{d^2}{2} \left( \frac{3}{4} + \rho \right) + \mathcal{O}(d^3)$$

$$a_2 = b = 1 + 2d + 3d^2(1 + \rho) + \mathcal{O}(d^3)$$

$$a_3 = \frac{4}{3}d + d^2 \left( \frac{14}{3} + 4\rho \right) + \mathcal{O}(d^3)$$

$$a_4 = \frac{1}{3}d + d^2 \left( \frac{11}{3} + 3\rho \right) + \mathcal{O}(d^3)$$

## Back up 2. HEFT-SMEFT parameters relation

Relation with redefined parameters

Relation with redefined parameters

$$\hat{a}_2 = d + 2d^2(1 + \rho) + \mathcal{O}(d^3)$$

$$\hat{a}_3 = \frac{4}{3}d^2(1 + \rho) + \mathcal{O}(d^3)$$

$$\hat{a}_4 = \frac{1}{3}d^2(1 + \rho) + \mathcal{O}(d^3)$$