

Flavor-nondiagonal neutral Higgs Yukawa couplings revisited

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A graphic featuring a yellow background with a black silhouette of a city skyline at the bottom. A colorful starburst pattern of particle tracks is on the right side.

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Introduction

In the Standard Model (SM), the Higgs-fermion Yukawa coupling matrices are proportional to the corresponding diagonal fermion mass matrices.

- This is a very good feature of the SM, since experimental data reveals that flavor-changing neutral currents (FCNC) are highly suppressed.

The absence of tree-level Higgs-mediated FCNCs is not a generic feature of extended Higgs sectors.

- For example, it is standard practice introduce a symmetry of the two-Higgs doublet model (2HDM) Lagrangian to provide a natural explanation for the absence of tree-level Higgs-mediated FCNCs.

Cheng and Sher¹ advocated for a mechanism that replicated the hierarchies of the quark masses and CKM angles in the structure of the Yukawa matrices.

- As a consequence of the Cheng-Sher ansatz, the tree-level off-diagonal neutral Higgs–fermion couplings are suppressed (but not set to zero).²

It is sometimes asserted that the Cheng-Sher ansatz is no longer viable in light of the most recent collider data. Joseph M. Connell and I have revisited the Cheng-Sher ansatz in the context of the basis-independent approach to the 2HDM³ (and a recent update of the Fritzsch textures for the quark mass matrices).

¹T.P. Cheng and M. Sher, Phys. Rev. D **35**, 3484 (1987)

²The detailed phenomenology of this proposal was further investigated in a series of papers by J.L. Díaz-Cruz, R. Noriega-Papaqui, and A. Rosado, Phys. Rev. D **69**, 095002 (2004); **71**, 015014 (2005) [with follow up works by M.A. Arroyo-Ureña, J.L. Díaz-Cruz and collaborators], and in a series of papers by M. Gómez-Bock and collaborators. Additional works by J. Hernández-Sánchez, S. Moretti, and collaborators are also noteworthy.

³H.E. Haber and D. O’Neil, Phys. Rev. D **74**, 015018 (2006); **D83**, 055017 (2011).

Lightning review of the 2HDM

Φ_1 and Φ_2 : two (complex) hypercharge-one $SU(2)_L$ doublets of scalar fields, with scalar potential $\mathcal{V}(\Phi_1, \Phi_2)$, in the Φ -basis.

The scalar field vacuum expectations values (vevs) are of the form

$$\langle \Phi_i \rangle = \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \hat{v}_i \end{pmatrix},$$

where \hat{v} is a complex vector of unit norm,

$$\hat{v} = (\hat{v}_1, \hat{v}_2) = (c_\beta, s_\beta e^{i\xi}),$$

$c_\beta \equiv \cos \beta$, $s_\beta \equiv \sin \beta$, and $v = (\sqrt{2}G_F)^{-1/2} \simeq 246$ GeV.

\mathcal{H}_1 and \mathcal{H}_2 : Higgs basis fields

$$\mathcal{H}_1 = (\mathcal{H}_1^+, \mathcal{H}_1^0) \equiv \hat{v}_i^* \Phi_i, \quad \mathcal{H}_2 = (\mathcal{H}_2^+, \mathcal{H}_2^0) \equiv e^{i\eta} \epsilon_{ij} \hat{v}_i \Phi_j,$$

where $\epsilon_{12} = -\epsilon_{21} = 1$ and $\epsilon_{11} = \epsilon_{22} = 0$, and there is an implicit sum over repeated indices. The phase factor $e^{i\eta}$ indicates that the Higgs basis is not unique, since one can always rephase the Higgs basis field \mathcal{H}_2 while maintaining $\langle \mathcal{H}_2^0 \rangle = 0$.

Physical neutral scalars: h_1, h_2 and h_3 obtained by diagonalizing the neutral scalar squared-mass matrix

$$R\mathcal{M}^2 R^\top = \text{diag} (m_1^2, m_2^2, m_3^2),$$

where $R \equiv R_{12}R_{13}R_{23}$ is the product of three rotation matrices parametrized by θ_{12}, θ_{13} and θ_{23} , respectively.

The physical neutral mass-eigenstate scalar fields are

$$h_k = q_{k1} (\sqrt{2} \operatorname{Re} \mathcal{H}_1^0 - v) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (q_{k2}^* \mathcal{H}_2^0 e^{i\theta_{23}} + \text{h.c.}),$$

where the q_{k1} and q_{k2} are exhibited in table below (where $s_{ij} \equiv \sin \theta_{ij}$ and $c_{ij} \equiv \cos \theta_{ij}$).

k	q_{k1}	q_{k2}
1	$c_{12}c_{13}$	$-s_{12} - ic_{12}s_{13}$
2	$s_{12}c_{13}$	$c_{12} - is_{12}s_{13}$
3	s_{13}	ic_{13}

Without loss of generality, one can set $\theta_{23} = 0$ by rephasing \mathcal{H}_2^0 .

2HDM Yukawa couplings

In the Higgs basis,

$$\begin{aligned}
 -\mathcal{L}_Y = & \sum_{i,m,n} \left\{ (\widehat{\kappa}^U)_{mn} \mathcal{H}_1^{0\dagger} \widehat{u}_{mL} \widehat{u}_{nR} + (\widehat{\rho}^U)_{mn} \mathcal{H}_2^{0\dagger} \widehat{u}_{mL} \widehat{u}_{nR} + \text{h.c.} \right\} \\
 & + \left\{ (\widehat{\kappa}^{D\dagger})_{mn} \mathcal{H}_1^0 \widehat{d}_{mL} \widehat{d}_{nR} + (\widehat{\rho}^{D\dagger})_{mn} \mathcal{H}_2^0 \widehat{d}_{mL} \widehat{d}_{nR} + \text{h.c.} \right\} \\
 & + \left\{ (\widehat{\kappa}^{E\dagger})_{mn} \mathcal{H}_1^0 \widehat{e}_{mL} \widehat{e}_{nR} + (\widehat{\rho}^{E\dagger})_{mn} \mathcal{H}_2^0 \widehat{e}_{mL} \widehat{e}_{nR} + \text{h.c.} \right\},
 \end{aligned}$$

where $f_R \equiv \frac{1}{2}(1 + \gamma_5)f$ and $f_L \equiv \frac{1}{2}(1 - \gamma_5)f$ [with four-component fermion fields $f = u, d, \nu, e$]. The hatted fields correspond to the fermion interaction-eigenstate fields. Setting $\mathcal{H}_1^0 = \mathcal{H}_1^{0\dagger} = v/\sqrt{2}$ yields the fermion mass matrices

$$(\widehat{M}_U)_{mn} = \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}} (\widehat{\kappa}^U)_{mn}, \quad (\widehat{M}_{D,E})_{mn} = \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}} (\widehat{\kappa}^{D,E\dagger})_{mn}.$$

The singular value decompositions of the quark mass matrices yield:

$$L_u^\dagger \widehat{\mathbf{M}}_U R_u \equiv \mathbf{M}_U = \text{diag}(m_u, m_c, m_t),$$

$$L_d^\dagger \widehat{\mathbf{M}}_D R_d \equiv \mathbf{M}_D = \text{diag}(m_d, m_s, m_b),$$

$$L_e^\dagger \widehat{\mathbf{M}}_E R_e \equiv \mathbf{M}_E = \text{diag}(m_e, m_\mu, m_\tau),$$

where the masses m_f are real and nonnegative, and the unitary matrices L_f and R_f relate hatted interaction-eigenstate fermion fields with unhatted mass-eigenstate fields,

$$\widehat{f}_{mL} = (L_f)_{mn} f_{nL}, \quad \widehat{f}_{mR} = (R_f)_{mn} f_{nR}.$$

The Cabibbo-Kobayashi-Maskawa (CKM) matrix is defined by

$$\mathbf{K} \equiv L_u^\dagger L_d.$$

The corresponding Higgs–fermion interactions involving mass-eigenstate scalar and fermion fields are given by

$$\begin{aligned}
-\mathcal{L}_Y = & \bar{U} \left\{ \frac{M_U}{v} q_{k1} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[q_{k2}^* \boldsymbol{\rho}^U P_R + q_{k2} \boldsymbol{\rho}^{U\dagger} P_L \right] \right\} U h_k \\
& + \bar{D} \left\{ \frac{M_D}{v} q_{k1} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[q_{k2} \boldsymbol{\rho}^{D\dagger} P_R + q_{k2}^* \boldsymbol{\rho}^D P_L \right] \right\} D h_k \\
& + \bar{E} \left\{ \frac{M_E}{v} q_{k1} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[q_{k2} \boldsymbol{\rho}^{E\dagger} P_R + q_{k2}^* \boldsymbol{\rho}^E P_L \right] \right\} E h_k \\
& + \left\{ \bar{U} \left[\mathbf{K} \boldsymbol{\rho}^{D\dagger} P_R - \boldsymbol{\rho}^{U\dagger} \mathbf{K} P_L \right] D H^+ + \bar{N} \boldsymbol{\rho}^{E\dagger} P_R E H^+ + \text{h.c.} \right\},
\end{aligned}$$

where $P_R \equiv \frac{1}{2}(1 + \gamma_5)$, $P_L \equiv \frac{1}{2}(1 - \gamma_5)$, and the mass-eigenstate fields of the down-type quarks, the up-type quarks, the charged leptons and the neutrinos are $D = (d, s, b)^\top$, $U \equiv (u, c, t)^\top$, $E = (e, \mu, \tau)^\top$, and $N = (\nu_e, \nu_\mu, \nu_\tau)^\top$, respectively.

The physical ρ -type Yukawa couplings are

$$\rho^U \equiv L_u^\dagger \widehat{\rho}^U R_u ,$$

$$\rho^{D^\dagger} \equiv L_d^\dagger \widehat{\rho}^{D^\dagger} R_d ,$$

$$\rho^{E^\dagger} \equiv L_e^\dagger \widehat{\rho}^{E^\dagger} R_e ,$$

which are arbitrary complex coupling matrices that are independent of the fermion mass matrices.

Note the presence of flavor-nondiagonal, CP-violating neutral Higgs–fermion interactions due to the complex nondiagonal ρ^F matrices.

Specializing to the CP-conserving 2HDM

Assume that the only source of CP-violation is the unremovable phase of the CKM matrix. Then, there exists a real Higgs basis, in which the all scalar potential parameters and Higgs-fermion Yukawa couplings are real. For example,

$$\mathcal{V} \supset \frac{1}{2}Z_5 e^{-2i\eta} (\mathcal{H}_1^\dagger \mathcal{H}_2)^2 + [Z_6 e^{-i\eta} \mathcal{H}_1^\dagger \mathcal{H}_1 + Z_7 e^{-i\eta} \mathcal{H}_2^\dagger \mathcal{H}_2] \mathcal{H}_1^\dagger \mathcal{H}_2 + \text{h.c.}$$

where η can be chosen such that $Z_{5,6,7}$ are real. If $Z_6 \neq 0$ and/or $Z_7 \neq 0$, then the real Higgs basis is unique up to an overall sign, $\mathcal{H}_2 \rightarrow -\mathcal{H}_2$. For example,

$$\varepsilon \equiv \text{sgn } Z_6 ,$$

changes sign when $\mathcal{H}_2 \rightarrow -\mathcal{H}_2$.

The physical neutral Higgs bosons consist of two CP-even scalars h and H (with $m_h < m_H$) and a CP-odd scalar A , which are related to the neutral fields of the Higgs basis via

$$\begin{pmatrix} H \\ h \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} c_{\beta-\alpha} & -s_{\beta-\alpha} \\ s_{\beta-\alpha} & c_{\beta-\alpha} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{2} \operatorname{Re} \mathcal{H}_1^0 - v \\ \varepsilon \sqrt{2} \operatorname{Re} \mathcal{H}_2^0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad A = \varepsilon \sqrt{2} \operatorname{Re} \mathcal{H}_2^0,$$

and⁴

$$\varepsilon c_{\beta-\alpha} = \frac{-|Z_6|v^2}{\sqrt{(m_H^2 - m_h^2)(m_H^2 - Z_1 v^2)}}.$$

h is SM-like when $ c_{\beta-\alpha} \ll 1$ $0 \leq \beta - \alpha \leq \pi$			
k	h_k	q_{k1}	q_{k2}
1	h	$s_{\beta-\alpha}$	$\varepsilon c_{\beta-\alpha}$
2	$-\varepsilon H$	$-\varepsilon c_{\beta-\alpha}$	$s_{\beta-\alpha}$
3	εA	0	i

⁴ Z_1 is the coefficient of $\frac{1}{2}(\mathcal{H}_1^\dagger \mathcal{H}_1)^2$ in the scalar potential.

If $|c_{\beta-\alpha}| \ll 1$ then h is SM-like. In this regime (the so-called *Higgs alignment limit*), the following approximate expressions are satisfied:⁵

$$\begin{aligned}
|c_{\beta-\alpha}| &\simeq \frac{|Z_6|v^2}{m_H^2 - m_h^2} \ll 1, \\
m_h^2 &\simeq v^2(Z_1 + Z_6 c_{\beta-\alpha}), \\
m_H^2 - m_A^2 &\simeq v^2(Z_5 - Z_6 c_{\beta-\alpha}), \\
m_H^2 - m_{H^\pm}^2 &\simeq \frac{1}{2}v^2(Z_4 + Z_5 - 2Z_6 c_{\beta-\alpha}).
\end{aligned}$$

In the decoupling limit, the Higgs alignment limit is achieved with $M_H \gg v$ and $Z_i \sim \mathcal{O}(1) \implies m_H \sim m_A \sim m_{H^\pm} \gg m_h$.

⁵ Z_4 is the coefficient of $(\mathcal{H}_1^\dagger \mathcal{H}_2)(\mathcal{H}_2^\dagger \mathcal{H}_1)$ in the scalar potential.

CP-conserving neutral Higgs-fermion Yukawa couplings:

$$\begin{aligned}
-\mathcal{L}_Y = & \bar{U} \left\{ \left[\frac{M_U}{v} s_{\beta-\alpha} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \varepsilon c_{\beta-\alpha} (\rho^U P_R + [\rho^U]^\top P_L) \right] h \right. \\
& + \varepsilon \left[\frac{M_U}{v} \varepsilon c_{\beta-\alpha} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} s_{\beta-\alpha} (\rho^U P_R + [\rho^U]^\top P_L) \right] H - \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} \varepsilon (\rho^U P_R - [\rho^U]^\top P_L) A \left. \right\} U \\
& + \sum_{F=D,E} \bar{F} \left\{ \left[\frac{M_F}{v} s_{\beta-\alpha} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \varepsilon c_{\beta-\alpha} ([\rho^F]^\top P_R + \rho^F P_L) \right] h \right. \\
& + \varepsilon \left[\frac{M_F}{v} \varepsilon c_{\beta-\alpha} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} s_{\beta-\alpha} ([\rho^F]^\top P_R + \rho^F P_L) \right] H + \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} \varepsilon ([\rho^F]^\top P_R - \rho^F P_L) A \left. \right\} F.
\end{aligned}$$

Note that: (i) $\varepsilon c_{\beta-\alpha} = -|c_{\beta-\alpha}|$; (ii) no $\tan \beta$ dependence.

Remark: In the Higgs alignment limit, where $c_{\beta-\alpha} \rightarrow 0$, the Yukawa couplings of h coincide with those of the SM (and are hence flavor-diagonal). In contrast, H and A generically possess flavor-nondiagonal couplings in the Higgs alignment limit.

Flavor textures

A long-standing program initiated by H. Fritzsch⁶ provides a phenomenological explanation of the quark mixing hierarchy based on a correlation with the quark mass hierarchy. Du and Xing subsequently proposed that⁷

$$\widehat{\mathbf{M}}_F = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & C_F & 0 \\ C_F^* & \widetilde{B}_F & B_F \\ 0 & B_F^* & A_F \end{pmatrix},$$

where $A_F, \widetilde{B}_F \in \mathbb{R}$ (with no loss of generality, one can take $A_F > 0$). In particular, by choosing $A_F \gg |B_F|, |\widetilde{B}_F|, C_F$, one can reproduce the hierarchy of quark masses and CKM angles.

⁶H. Fritzsch, "Calculating the Cabibbo angle," Phys. Lett. B **70** (1977) 436.

⁷D.-s. Du and Z.-z. Xing, Phys. Rev. D **48**, 2349 (1993).

This proposed form is called the four-zero texture of hermitian quark mass matrices, since there are a total of four independent zeros⁸ in \widetilde{M}_F for $F = U, D$.⁹ A previous proposal in which $\widetilde{B}_F = 0$ (the six-zero texture) is no longer consistent with data.

Writing $B_F = |B_F|e^{i\phi_{B_F}}$ and defining $C_F = |C_F|e^{i\phi_{C_F}}$ and $P_F \equiv \text{diag}(1, e^{-i\phi_{C_F}}, e^{-i(\phi_{B_F} + \phi_{C_F})})$, it is convenient to define:

$$\overline{M}_F = P_F^\dagger \widehat{M}_F P_F = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & |C_F| & 0 \\ |C_F| & \widetilde{B}_F & |B_F| \\ 0 & |B_F| & A_F \end{pmatrix}.$$

⁸Due to the assumption of hermiticity, a pair of off-diagonal zeros is counted as one texture zero.

⁹The assertion that \widehat{M}_U and \widehat{M}_D are hermitian matrices with $(\widehat{M}_U)_{11} = (\widehat{M}_D)_{11} = (\widehat{M}_D)_{13} = 0$ does not require an extra set of assumptions, since these conditions can always be achieved by an appropriately chosen weak-basis transformation [e.g., see G.C. Branco, D. Emmanuel-Costa, and R. González Felipe, Phys. Lett. B **477** (2000) 147 and **670** (2009) 340 (with H. Serôdio)]. The additional constraint of $(\widehat{M}_U)_{13} = 0$ is chosen to provide a good fit to the CKM matrix elements as a function of the quark masses.

Since $\overline{\mathbf{M}}_F$ is a real symmetric matrix, its eigenvalues (denoted by λ_i^F) are real numbers, denoted by λ_i^F ($i = 1, 2, 3$)

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda^3 - \lambda^2(A_F + \tilde{B}_F) - \lambda(|C_F|^2 + |B_F|^2 - \tilde{B}_F A_F) + |C_F|^2 A_F \\ = (\lambda - \lambda_1^F)(\lambda - \lambda_2^F)(\lambda - \lambda_3^F). \end{aligned}$$

in a convention where $|\lambda_1^F| < |\lambda_2^F| < |\lambda_3^F|$. The λ_i^F are related to the coefficients of the characteristic equation above,

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{B}_F &= \lambda_1^F + \lambda_2^F + \lambda_3^F - A_F, \\ |B_F| &= \sqrt{\frac{(A_F - \lambda_1^F)(A_F - \lambda_2^F)(\lambda_3^F - A_F)}{A_F}}, \\ |C_F| &= \sqrt{\frac{-\lambda_1^F \lambda_2^F \lambda_3^F}{A_F}}. \end{aligned}$$

Under the assumption that $A_F \gg |B_F|, |\tilde{B}_F|, C_F$,

$$\lambda_{1,2}^F \simeq \frac{1}{2} \left[\tilde{B}_F - \frac{|B_F|^2}{A_F} \pm \sqrt{\left(\tilde{B}_F - \frac{|B_F|^2}{A_F} \right)^2 + 4|C_F|^2} \right], \quad \lambda_3^F \simeq A_F + \frac{|B_F|^2}{A_F},$$

where the maximal eigenvalue is denoted by λ_3^F and terms of $\mathcal{O}(1/A_F^2)$ have been dropped. Since $A_F > 0$, it follows that $\lambda_1^F \lambda_2^F < 0$ and $\lambda_3^F > A_F$. It is convenient to adopt a convention where $|\lambda_1^F| < |\lambda_2^F| < \lambda_3^F$, with $\eta_F \equiv \text{sgn } \lambda_2$. In particular,

$$\eta_F = \begin{cases} +1, & \text{if } \lambda_1^F < 0 \text{ and } \lambda_2^F > 0 & \implies & |B_F|^2 < A_F \tilde{B}_F \\ -1, & \text{if } \lambda_1^F > 0 \text{ and } \lambda_2^F < 0 & \implies & |B_F|^2 > A_F \tilde{B}_F \end{cases}$$

We now introduce the matrix $H_F = \text{diag}(-\eta_F, \eta_F, 1)$.

Hence,

$$Q_F^\top P_F^\dagger \widehat{M}_F P_F Q_F H_F = \text{diag}(m_1^F, m_2^F, m_3^F),$$

where $m_i^F \equiv (-\eta_F \lambda_1^F, \eta_F \lambda_2^F, \lambda_3^F)$ and

$$Q_F = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{\frac{\lambda_2^F \lambda_3^F (A_F - \lambda_1^F)}{A_F (\lambda_2^F - \lambda_1^F) (\lambda_3^F - \lambda_1^F)}} & \eta_F \sqrt{\frac{\lambda_1^F \lambda_3^F (\lambda_2^F - A_F)}{A_F (\lambda_2^F - \lambda_1^F) (\lambda_3^F - \lambda_2^F)}} & \sqrt{\frac{\lambda_1^F \lambda_2^F (A_F - \lambda_3^F)}{A_F (\lambda_3^F - \lambda_1^F) (\lambda_3^F - \lambda_2^F)}} \\ -\eta_F \sqrt{\frac{\lambda_1^F (\lambda_1^F - A_F)}{(\lambda_2^F - \lambda_1^F) (\lambda_3^F - \lambda_1^F)}} & \sqrt{\frac{\lambda_2^F (A_F - \lambda_2^F)}{(\lambda_2^F - \lambda_1^F) (\lambda_3^F - \lambda_2^F)}} & \sqrt{\frac{\lambda_3^F (\lambda_3^F - A_F)}{(\lambda_3^F - \lambda_1^F) (\lambda_3^F - \lambda_2^F)}} \\ \eta_F \sqrt{\frac{\lambda_1^F (A_F - \lambda_2^F) (A_F - \lambda_3^F)}{A_F (\lambda_2^F - \lambda_1^F) (\lambda_3^F - \lambda_1^F)}} & -\sqrt{\frac{\lambda_2^F (A_F - \lambda_1^F) (\lambda_3^F - A_F)}{A_F (\lambda_2^F - \lambda_1^F) (\lambda_3^F - \lambda_2^F)}} & \sqrt{\frac{\lambda_3^F (A_F - \lambda_1^F) (A_F - \lambda_2^F)}{A_F (\lambda_3^F - \lambda_1^F) (\lambda_3^F - \lambda_2^F)}} \end{pmatrix}.$$

That is, the singular value decomposition of the quark mass matrices can be achieved using

$$L_f = P_F Q_F, \quad R_f = L_f H_F, \quad \text{for } f = u, d.$$

A detailed analysis by H. Fritzsch, Z.-z. Xing and D. Zhang, Nucl. Phys. B **974** (2022) 115634, yields a very good fit to the CKM mixing angles and CP-violating phase by setting $A_U = A_D$. For example, in the case of $\eta_U = \eta_D = 1$, Fritzsch et al. obtain:

$$\widehat{M}_U \simeq m_t \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0.00018 & 0 \\ 0.00018 & 0.18924 & 0.38787 \\ 0 & 0.38787 & 0.81444 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\widehat{M}_D \simeq m_b \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0.00465 & 0 \\ 0.00465 & 0.20335 & 0.38448 \\ 0 & 0.38448 & 0.81444 \end{pmatrix}.$$

with $\arg C_U - \arg C_D = 0.53216\pi$ and $\arg B_U - \arg B_D = 1.0313\pi$.

We shall extend the ansatz of Fritzsch et al. by setting

$$A_E = A_U = A_D.$$

An ansatz for the flavor structure of $\hat{\rho}^F$

The ρ -type Yukawa coupling matrices in the fermion mass-eigenstate basis are given by

$$\rho^F = Q_F^\top P_F^\dagger \hat{\rho}^F P_F Q_F H_F .$$

For simplicity we take ρ^F by adopting the following ansatz:

$$P_F^\dagger \hat{\rho}^F P_F = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{v} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & c_F |C_F| & 0 \\ c_F |C_F| & \tilde{b}_F \tilde{B}_F & b_F |B_F| \\ 0 & b_F |B_F| & a_F A_F \end{pmatrix} .$$

The a_F , b_F , \tilde{b}_F and c_F are real $\mathcal{O}(1)$ parameters (of either sign).

Note that if $a_F = b_F = \tilde{b}_F = c_F$ then $\rho^F = a_F \kappa^F$, which corresponds to the flavor-aligned 2HDM. By taking a_F , b_F , \tilde{b}_F and c_F unequal, we inject the hierarchical structure of the fermion mass matrices into the ρ^F , as originally proposed by T.P. Cheng and M. Sher.¹⁰

We assume that $A \sim \mathcal{O}(m_3)$ and $m_1 \ll m_2 \ll m_3$ (dropping the superscript F for convenience). To obtain accurate approximate expressions for the ρ_{ij} , the size of $m_3 - A$ is critical. Suppose that $m_3 - A \sim \mathcal{O}(m_2)$. In this case, we can write

$$A = \bar{\alpha} m_3, \quad m_3 - A = \bar{\beta} m_2,$$

where $\bar{\alpha}$ and $\bar{\beta}$ are positive $\mathcal{O}(1)$ parameters.¹¹

¹⁰The original Cheng-Sher ansatz was based on the six-zero texture scheme where $\tilde{B}_F = 0$.

¹¹These parameters should not be confused with α and β , which appear in $c_{\beta-\alpha}$.

We then obtain:

$$\begin{aligned}\rho_{11} &\simeq \frac{\sqrt{2} \eta m_1}{v} \left[\bar{\alpha} \bar{\beta} (2b - a - \tilde{b}) + \eta (2c - (1 - \bar{\alpha})(2b - a) - \bar{\alpha} \tilde{b}) \right], \\ \rho_{12} = -\rho_{21} &\simeq \frac{\sqrt{2m_1 m_2}}{v} \left[\bar{\alpha} \bar{\beta} (2b - a - \tilde{b}) + \eta (c - (1 - \bar{\alpha})b - \bar{\alpha} \tilde{b}) \right], \\ \rho_{13} = -\eta \rho_{31} &\simeq \frac{\sqrt{2m_1 m_3} \sqrt{\bar{\alpha} \bar{\beta}}}{v} \left[\bar{\alpha} (a - b) + (1 - \bar{\alpha})(b - \tilde{b}) \right], \\ \rho_{22} &\simeq \frac{\sqrt{2} \eta m_2}{v} \left[-\bar{\alpha} \bar{\beta} (2b - a - \tilde{b}) + \eta ((2\bar{\alpha} - 1)\tilde{b} + 2(1 - \bar{\alpha})b) \right], \\ \rho_{23} = \eta \rho_{32} &\simeq \frac{\sqrt{2m_2 m_3} \sqrt{\bar{\alpha} \bar{\beta}}}{v} \left[\bar{\alpha} (b - a) - (1 - \bar{\alpha})(b - \tilde{b}) \right], \\ \rho_{33} &\simeq \frac{\sqrt{2} m_3}{v} \left[\bar{\alpha}^2 a + 2\bar{\alpha}(1 - \bar{\alpha})b + (1 - \bar{\alpha})^2 \tilde{b} \right],\end{aligned}$$

where terms of $\mathcal{O}(m_1/m_{2,3})$ and $\mathcal{O}(m_2/m_3)$ have been dropped.¹²

¹²Note that in an approximation where $m_2 \ll m_3$ and $\bar{\beta} \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$, one can also drop all terms that are proportional to $1 - \bar{\alpha} = \bar{\beta} m_2 / m_3$.

In particular, taking $\bar{\beta} \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$ yields the Cheng-Sher ansatz

$$\rho_{ij} = k_{ij} \frac{\sqrt{m_i m_j}}{v}, \quad \text{where } k_{ij} \sim \mathcal{O}(1).$$

However, in light of the analysis by Fritzsche et al. previously cited, $A_F/m_f = 0.81444$, which yields

$$\bar{\beta} \simeq 0.18556 m_3/m_2.$$

Using $\overline{\text{MS}}$ quark masses evaluated at m_Z and the lepton masses yield: $m_t/m_c \simeq 271$, $m_b/m_s \simeq 53.4$, and $m_\tau/m_\mu = 16.81$.

Hence,

$$\bar{\beta}_U \simeq 50, \quad \bar{\beta}_D \simeq 10, \quad \bar{\beta}_E = 3.12.$$

That is, k_{11} , k_{12} , k_{21} , and k_{22} are enhanced by an $\mathcal{O}(\bar{\beta})$ factor, while k_{13} , k_{31} , k_{23} , and k_{32} are enhanced by an $\mathcal{O}(\bar{\beta}^{1/2})$ factor.

The (modified) Cheng-Sher ansatz in light of LHC Higgs data

In the absence of FCNC phenomena mediated by the scalars of the 2HDM, one can ascertain an upper limit for $|c_{\beta-\alpha}|$ and lower limits for the masses of H , A , and H^\pm , assuming the ansatz for the flavor structure of $\widehat{\rho}^F$ adopted above.

Preliminary results for our analysis are shown below, where we have fixed $m_h = 125$ GeV and $m_H \sim m_A \sim m_{H^\pm} \sim 800$ GeV.¹³

¹³With these masses, one-loop FCNC phenomena mediated by H^\pm (such as $b \rightarrow s + \gamma$) yield only small corrections to the corresponding contributions mediated by W^\pm and cannot be ruled out by current experimental data.

Constraints imposed on our parameter scans

We scan over the $\mathcal{O}(1)$ parameters that define the ρ^F and $|c_{\beta-\alpha}|$ [the latter determines the parameter $|Z_6|$] subject to the following constraints:

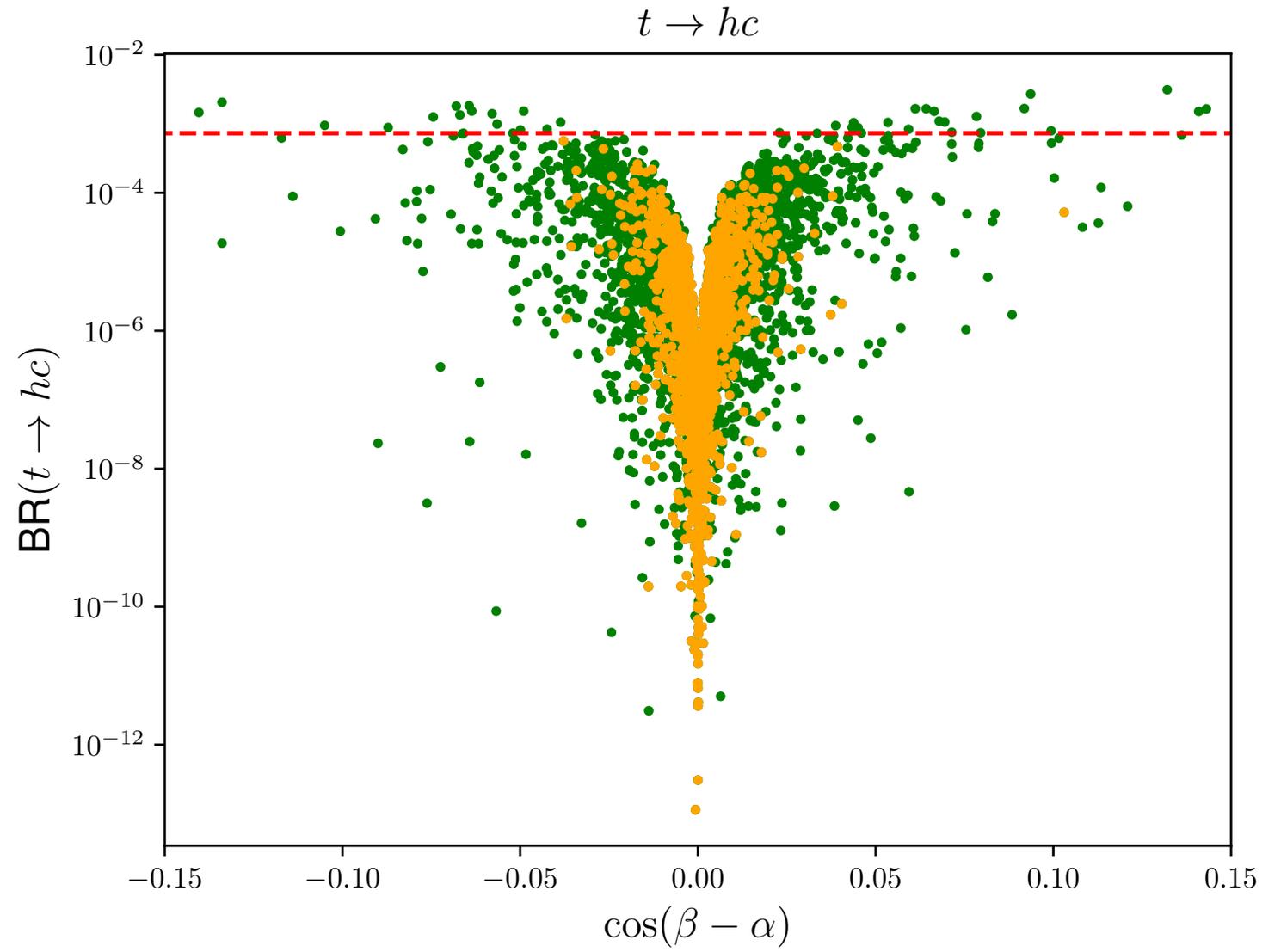
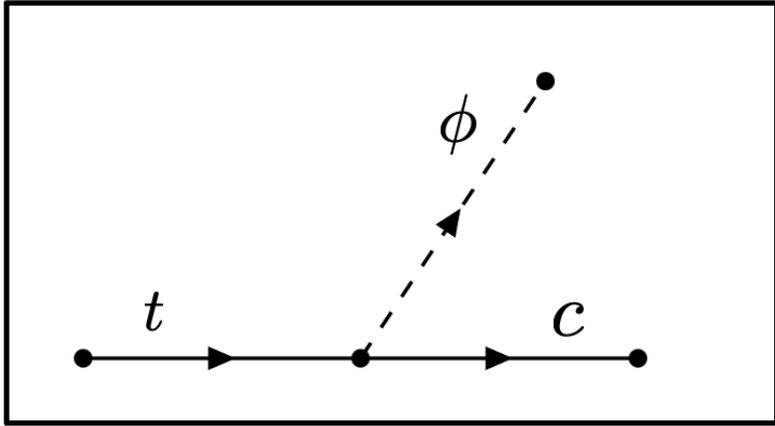
- The scalar potential is bounded from below.
- Tree-level unitarity and perturbativity.
- precision electroweak constraints on S , T , and U .
- precision LHC Higgs data (h BRs and cross sections)

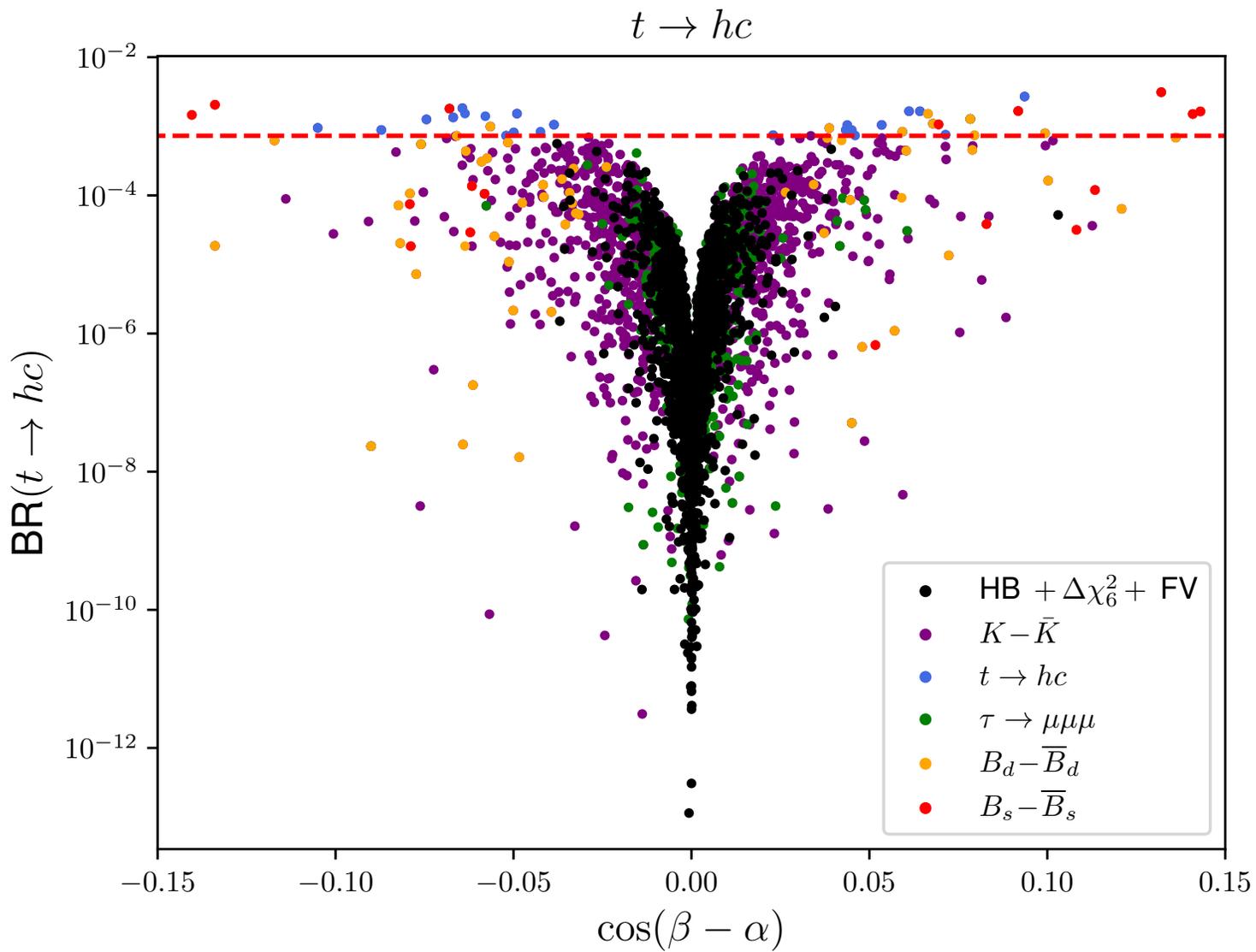
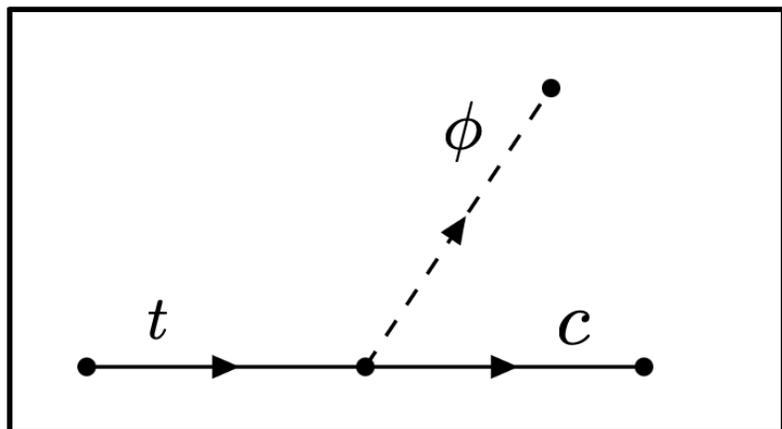
Constraints are checked using the public codes 2HDMC and HiggsTools. We exclude points with $\Delta\chi^2 \gtrsim 6$ as provided by HiggsSignals (corresponding to a 95% CL exclusion limit for the joint estimation of two parameters).

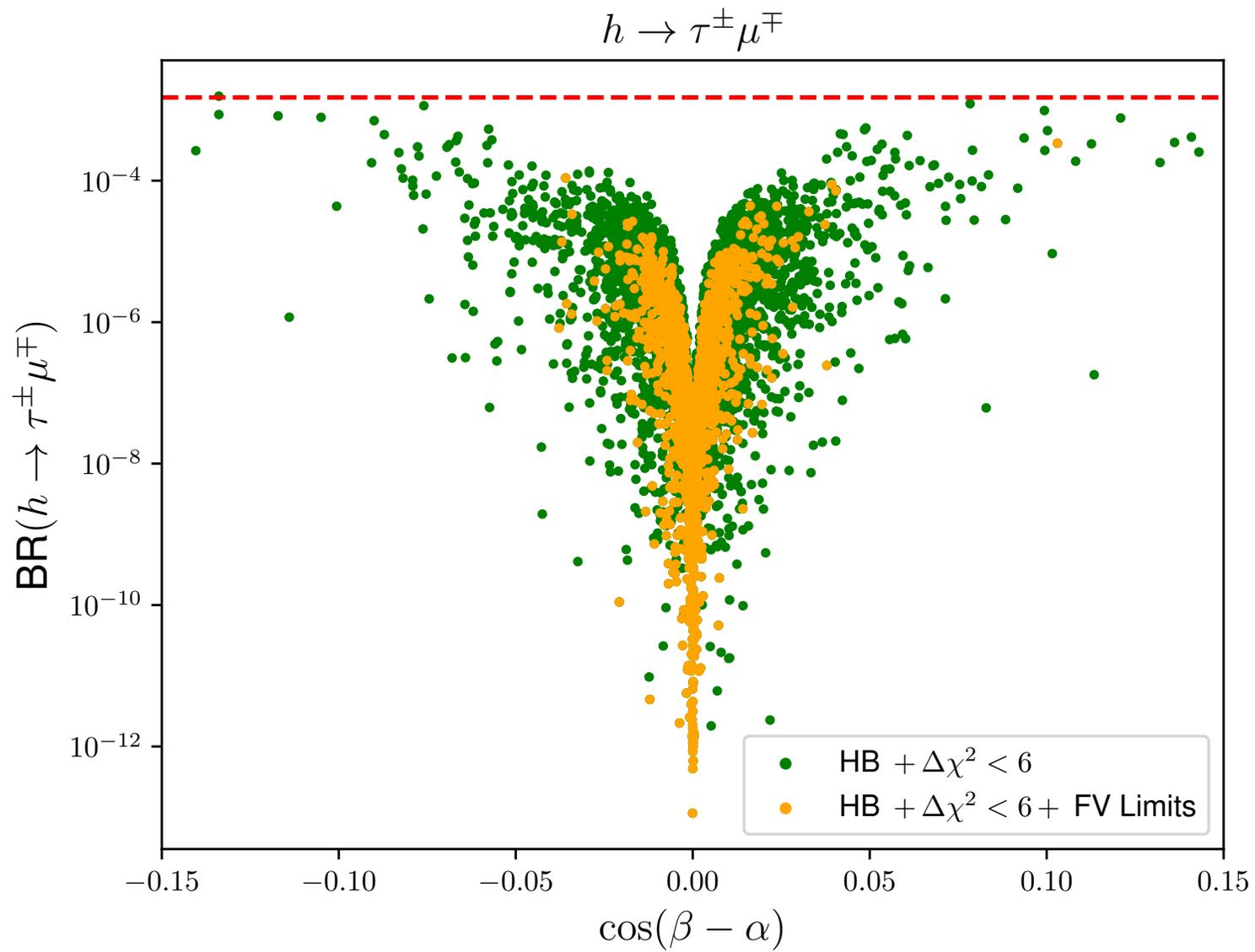
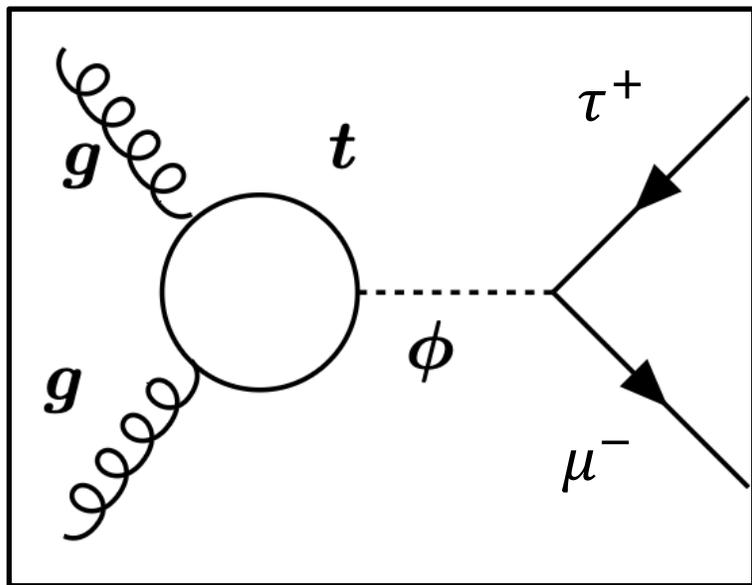
Flavor-changing processes mediated by neutral scalars

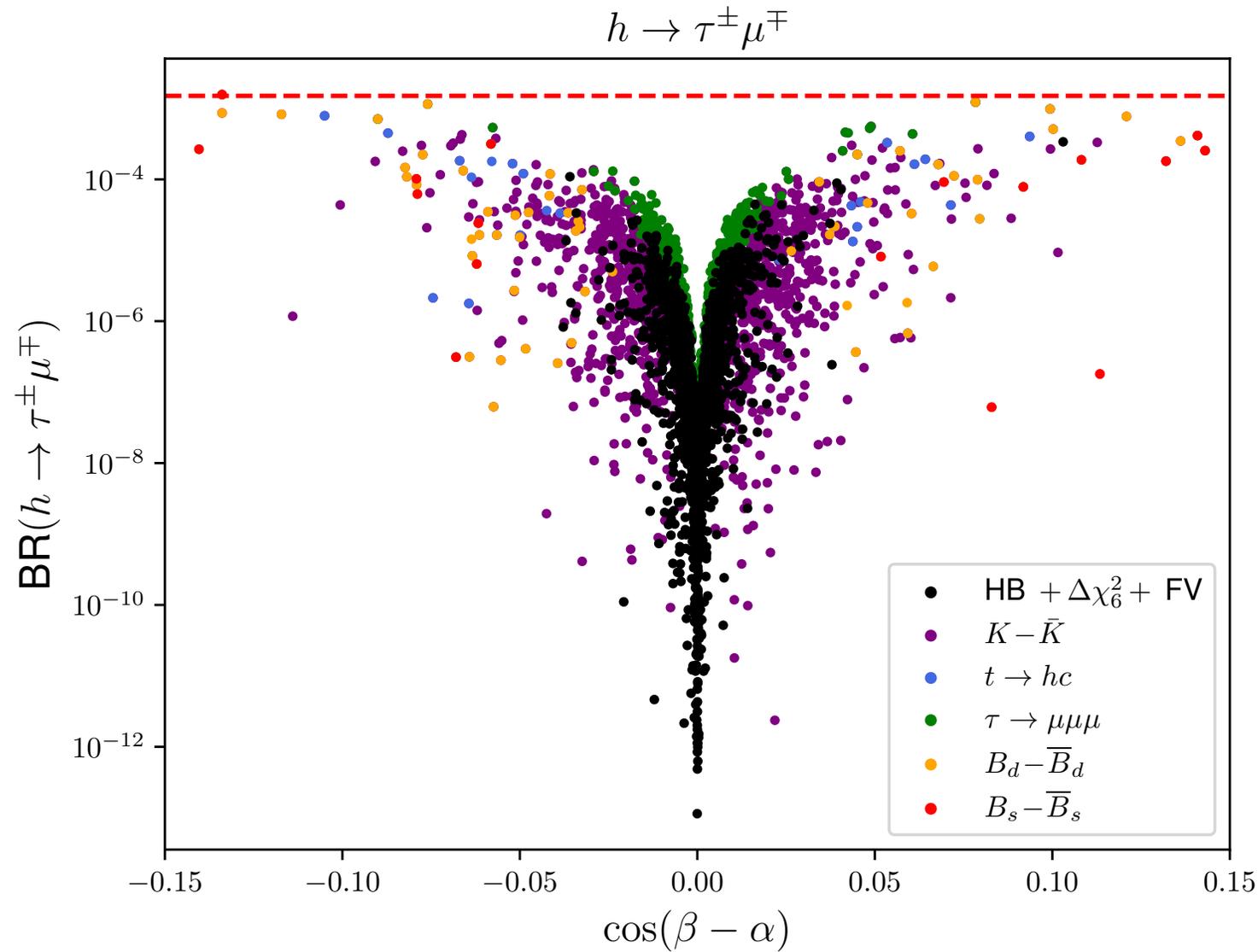
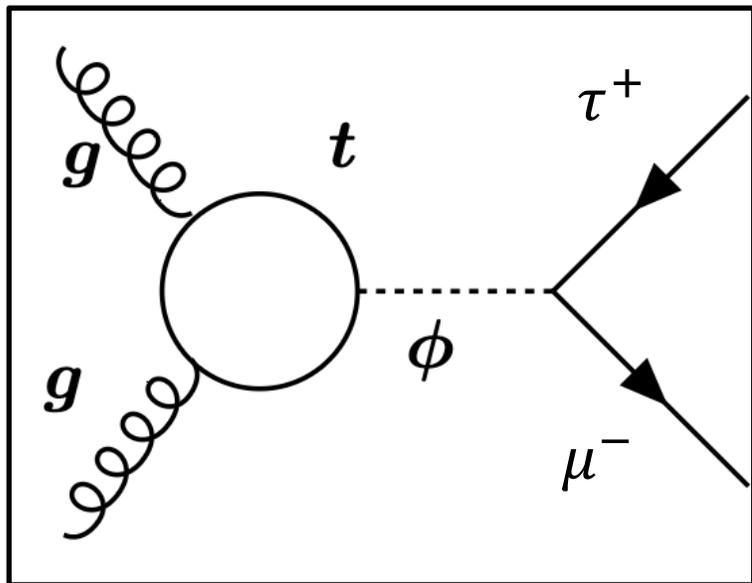
1. $t \rightarrow hc$
2. $h \rightarrow \tau^\pm \mu^\mp, h \rightarrow \tau^\pm e^\mp, h \rightarrow \mu^\pm e^\mp$
3. $\tau^\pm \rightarrow \mu^\pm \gamma, \tau^\pm \rightarrow e^\pm \gamma, \mu^\pm \rightarrow e^\pm \gamma$
4. $\tau^- \rightarrow \mu^- \mu^+ \mu^-, \mu^- e^+ e^-, e^- \mu^+ \mu^-, \mu^- \rightarrow e^- e^+ e^-$
5. $K^0-\bar{K}^0$ mixing
6. $P_{s,d}^0-\bar{P}_{s,d}$ mixing ($P = B, D$)
7. $B_{s,d}^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-, \tau^+ \tau^-$
8. $b \rightarrow s \mu^+ \mu^-, s \tau^+ \tau^-$

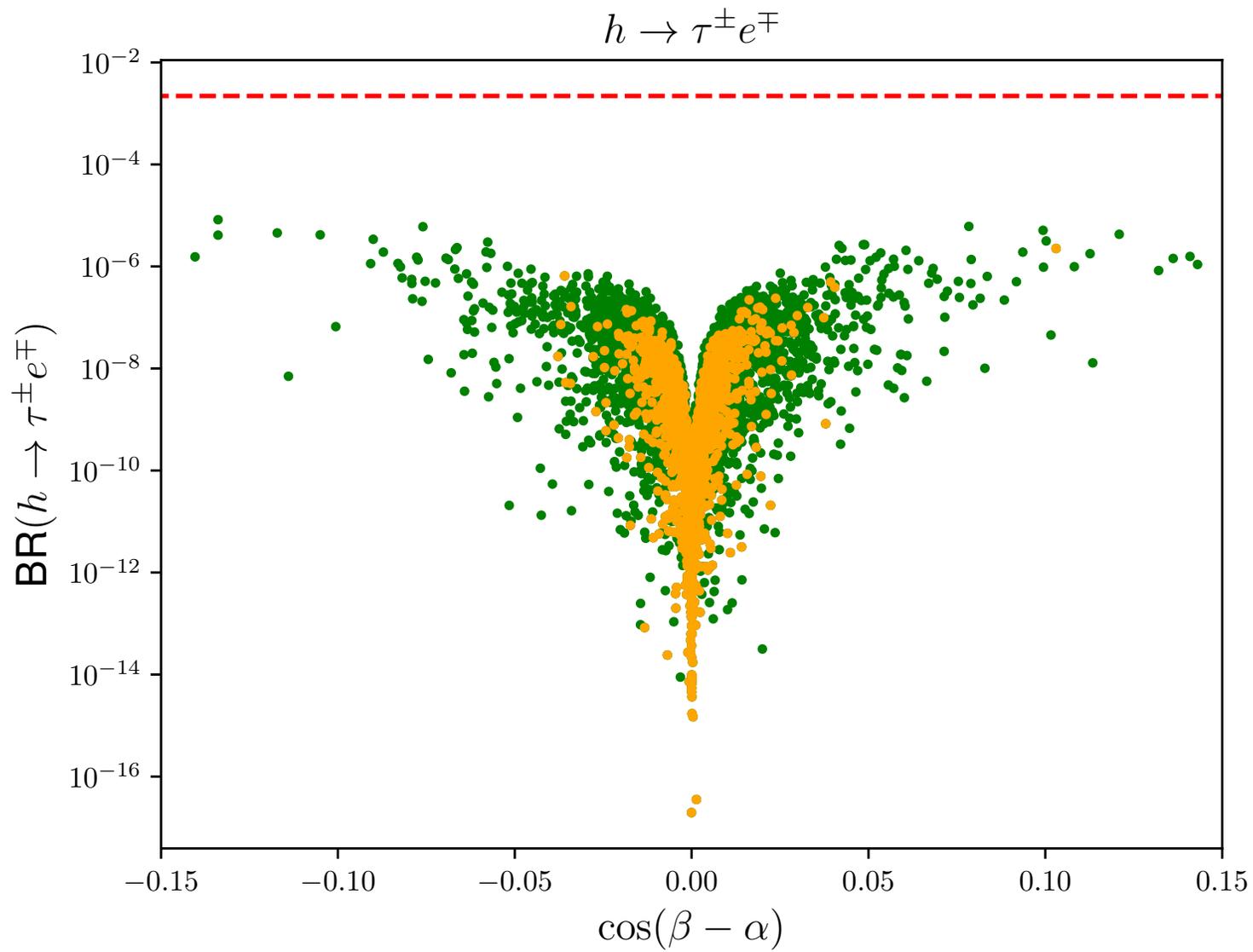
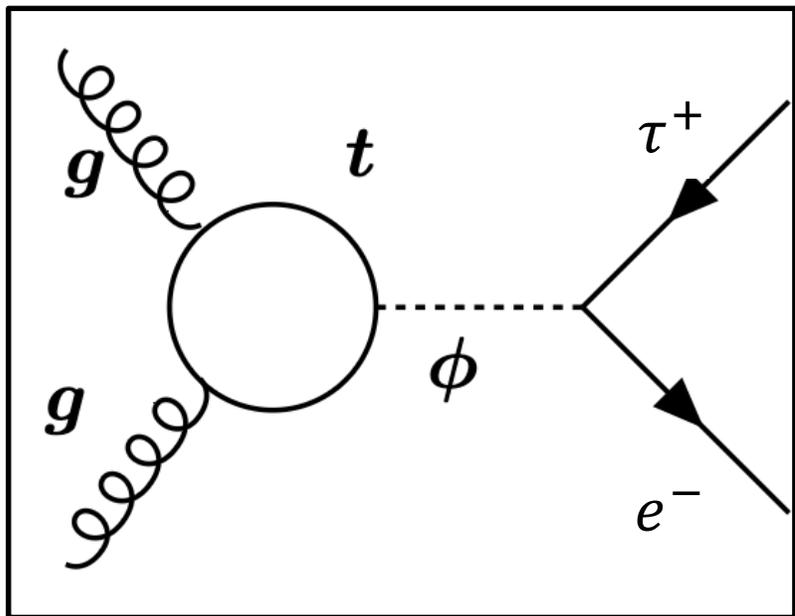
All plots shown are preliminary.

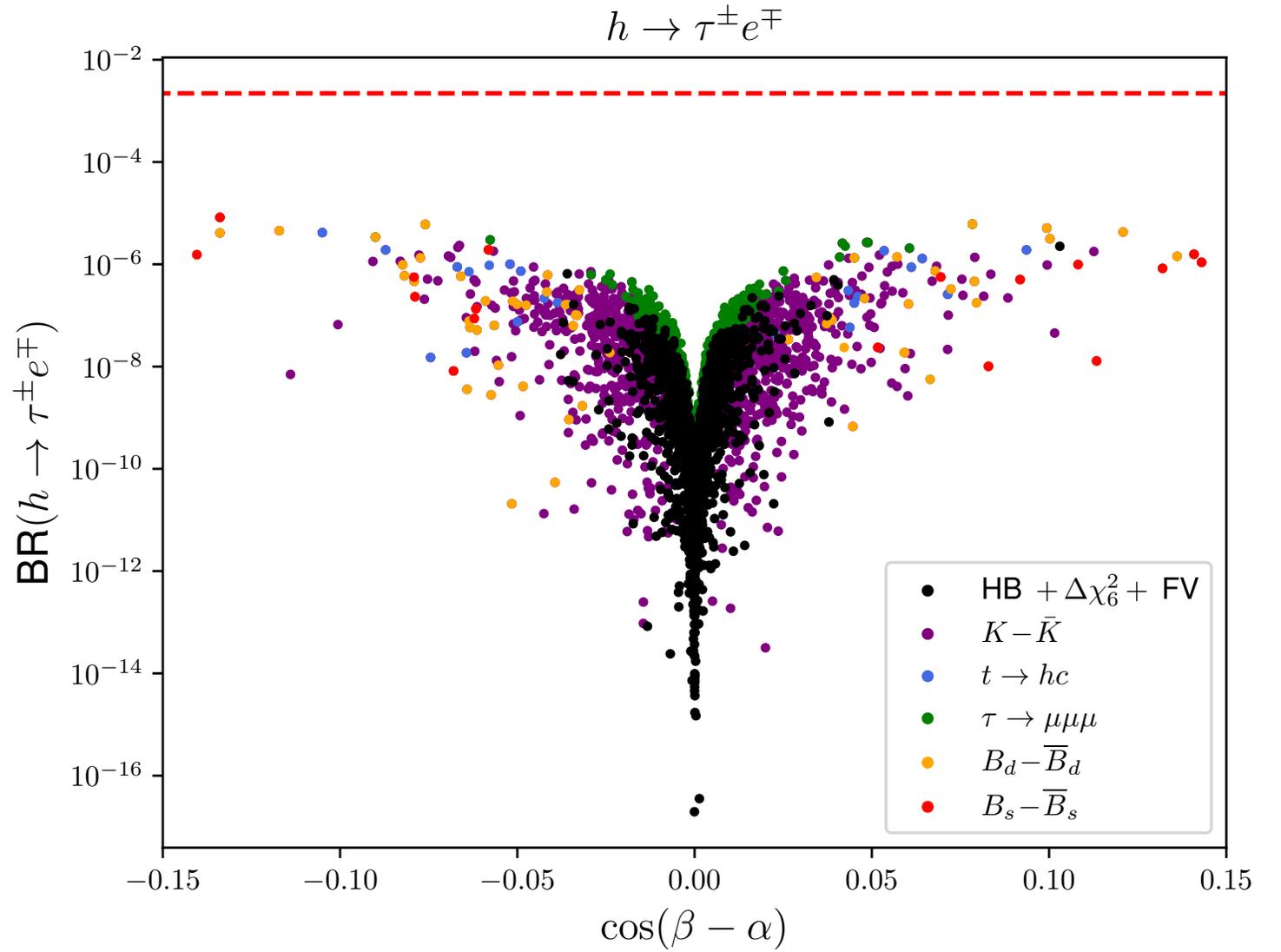
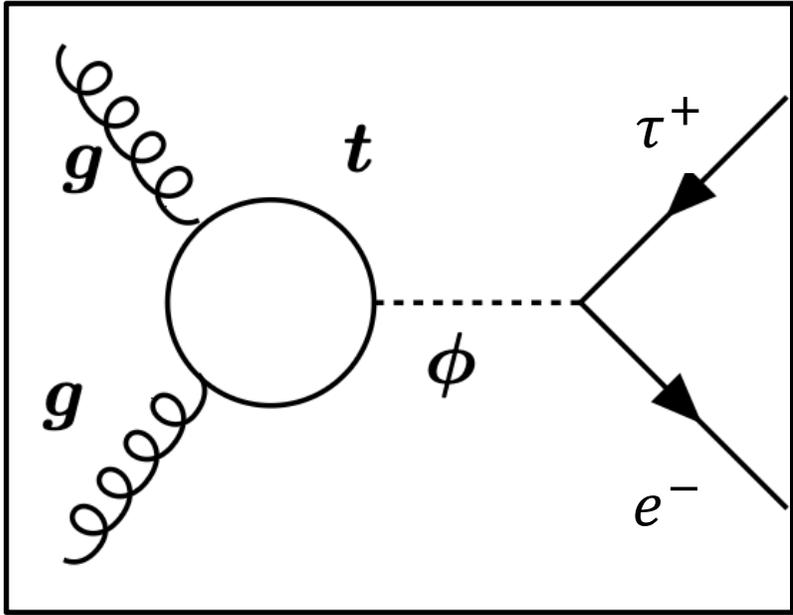


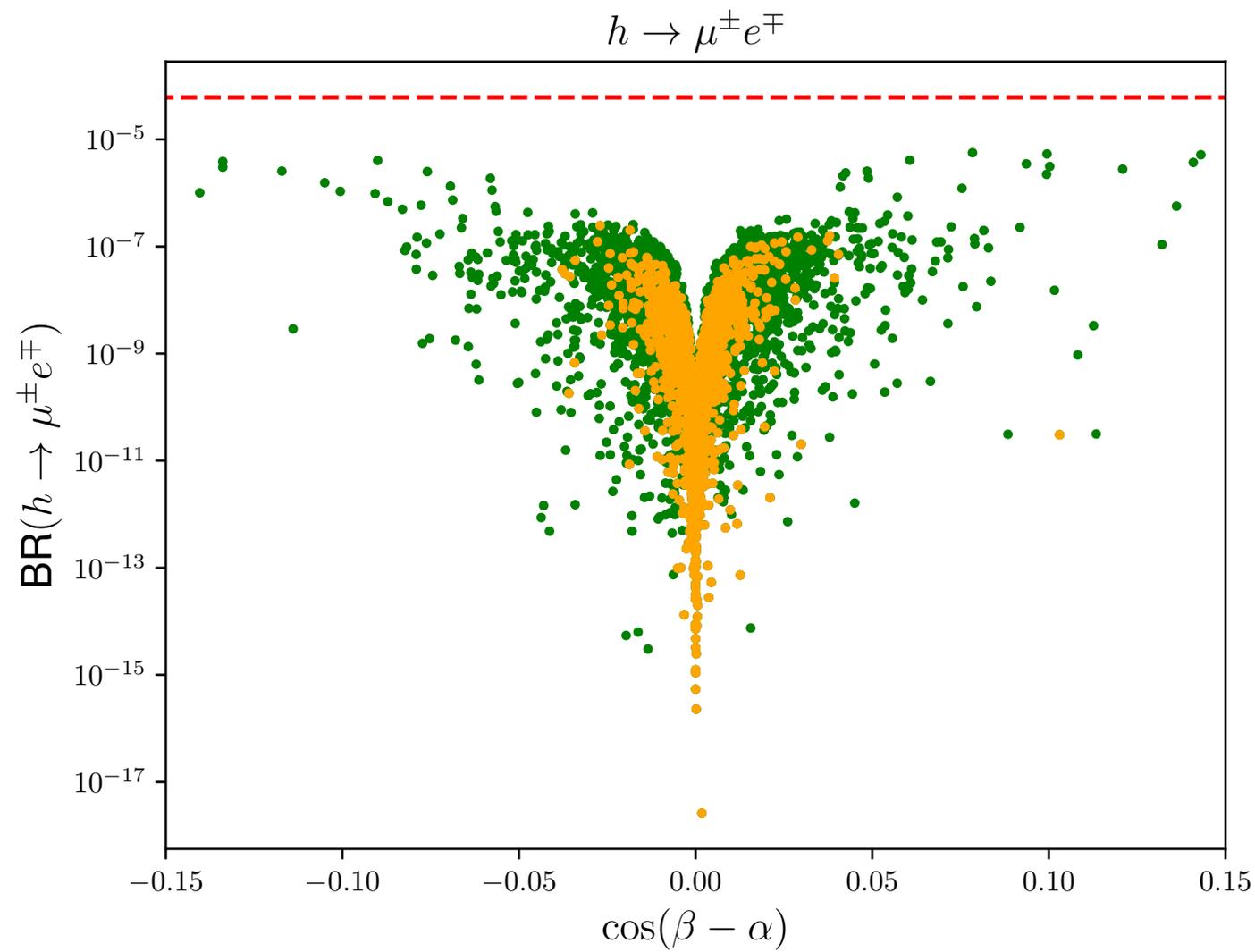
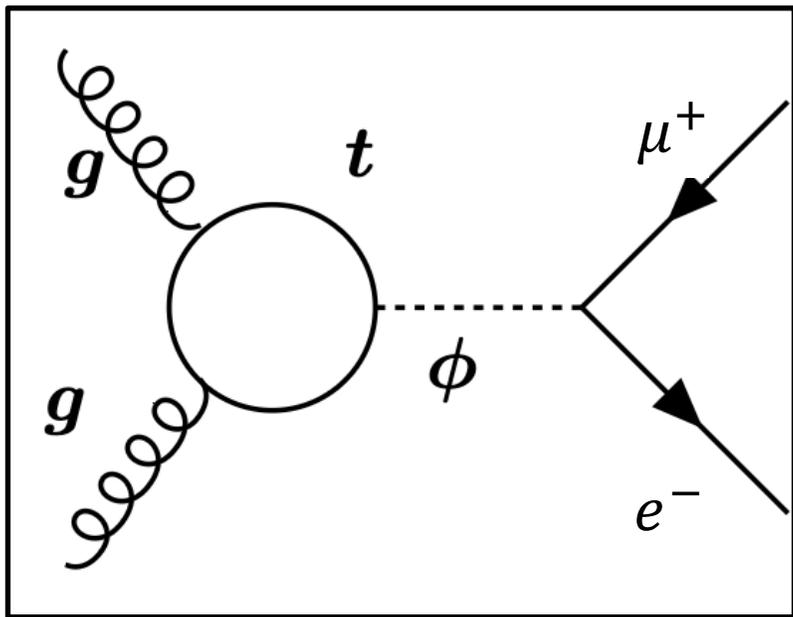


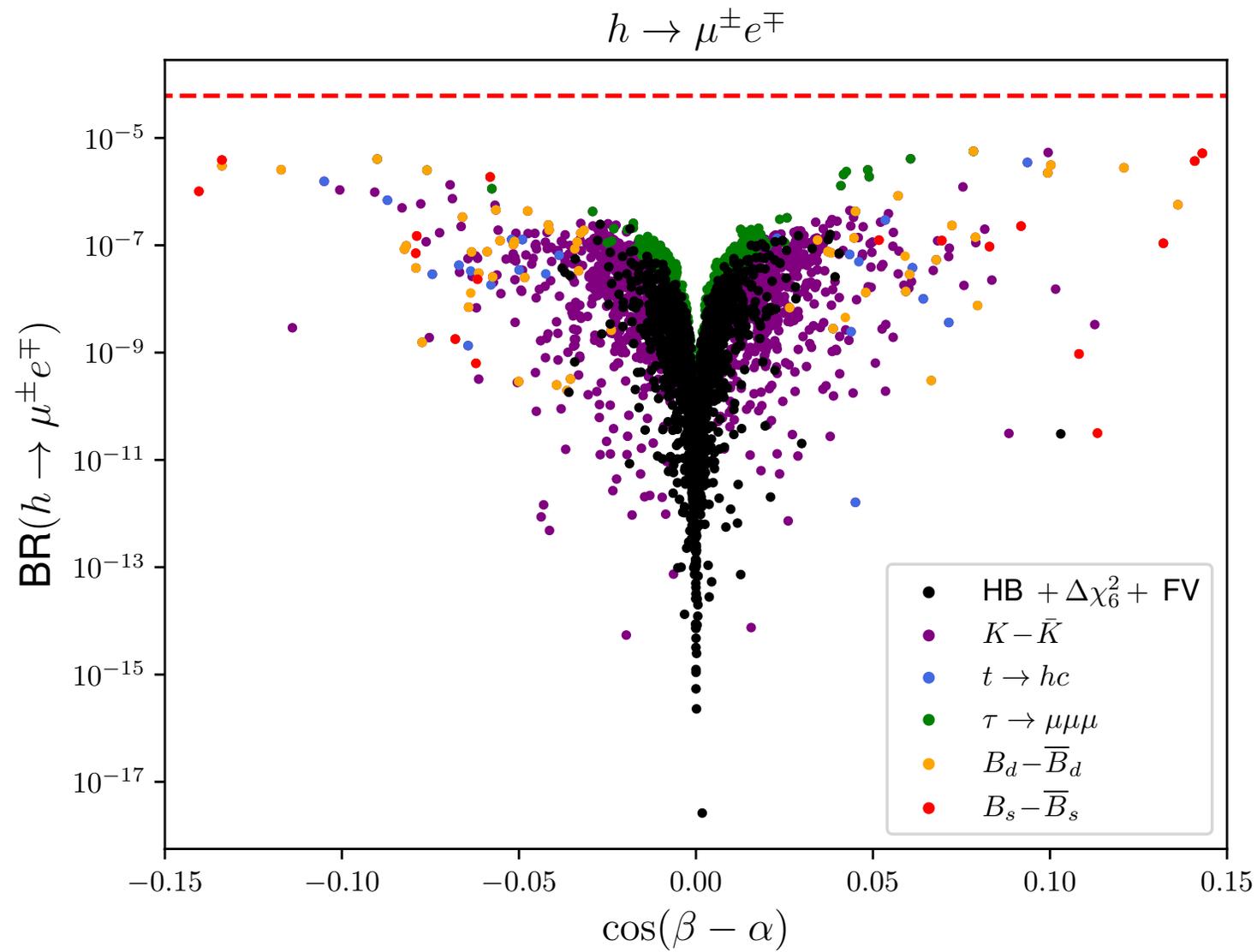
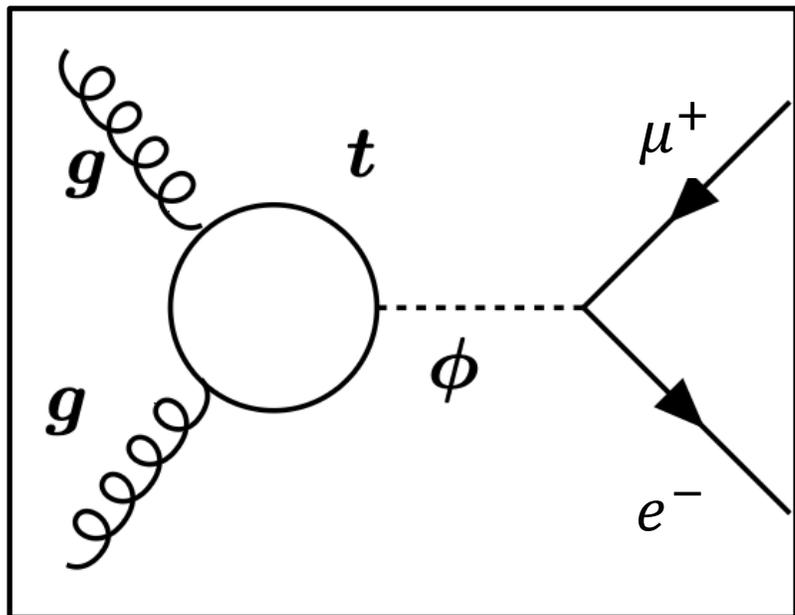




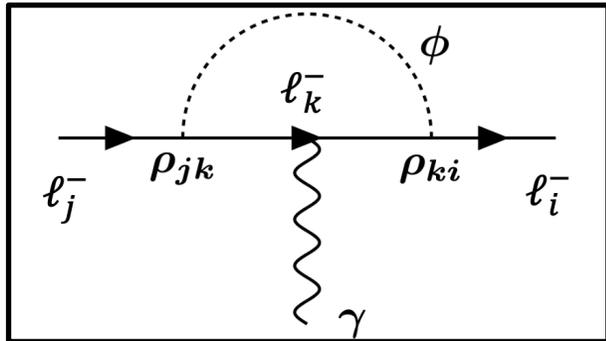




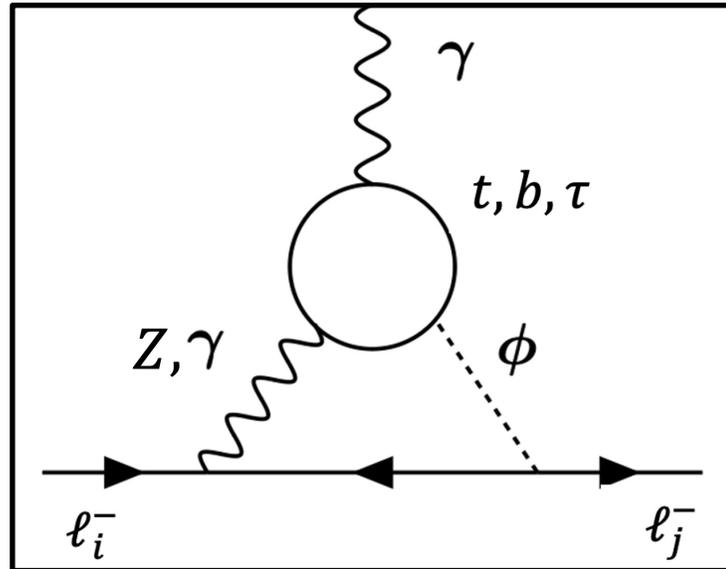




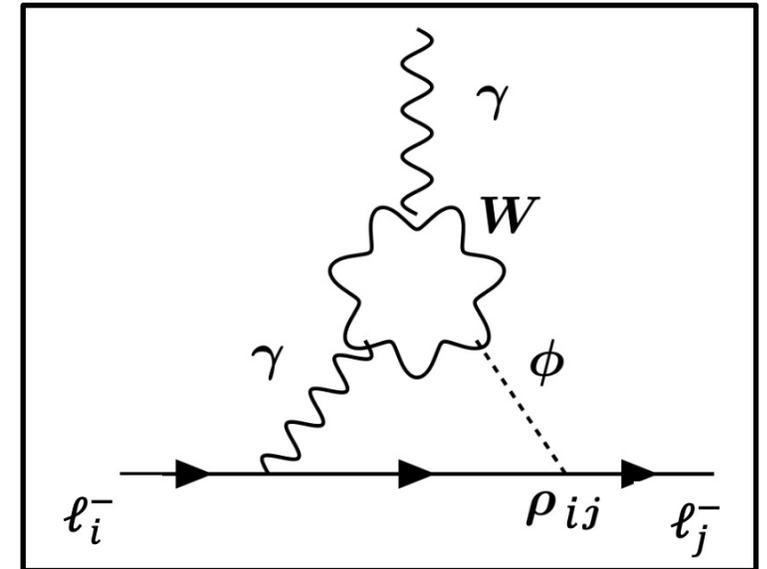
$$\ell_1^\pm \rightarrow \ell_2^\pm + \gamma$$



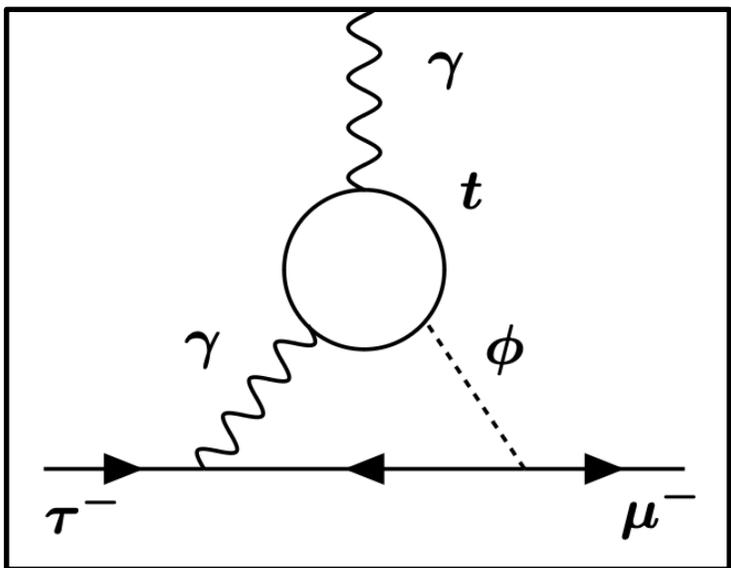
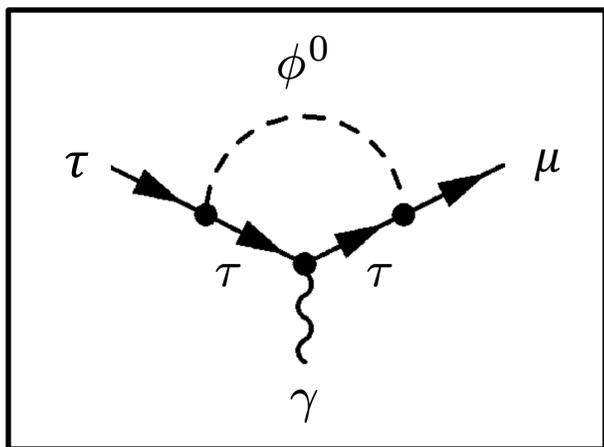
One-loop diagrams



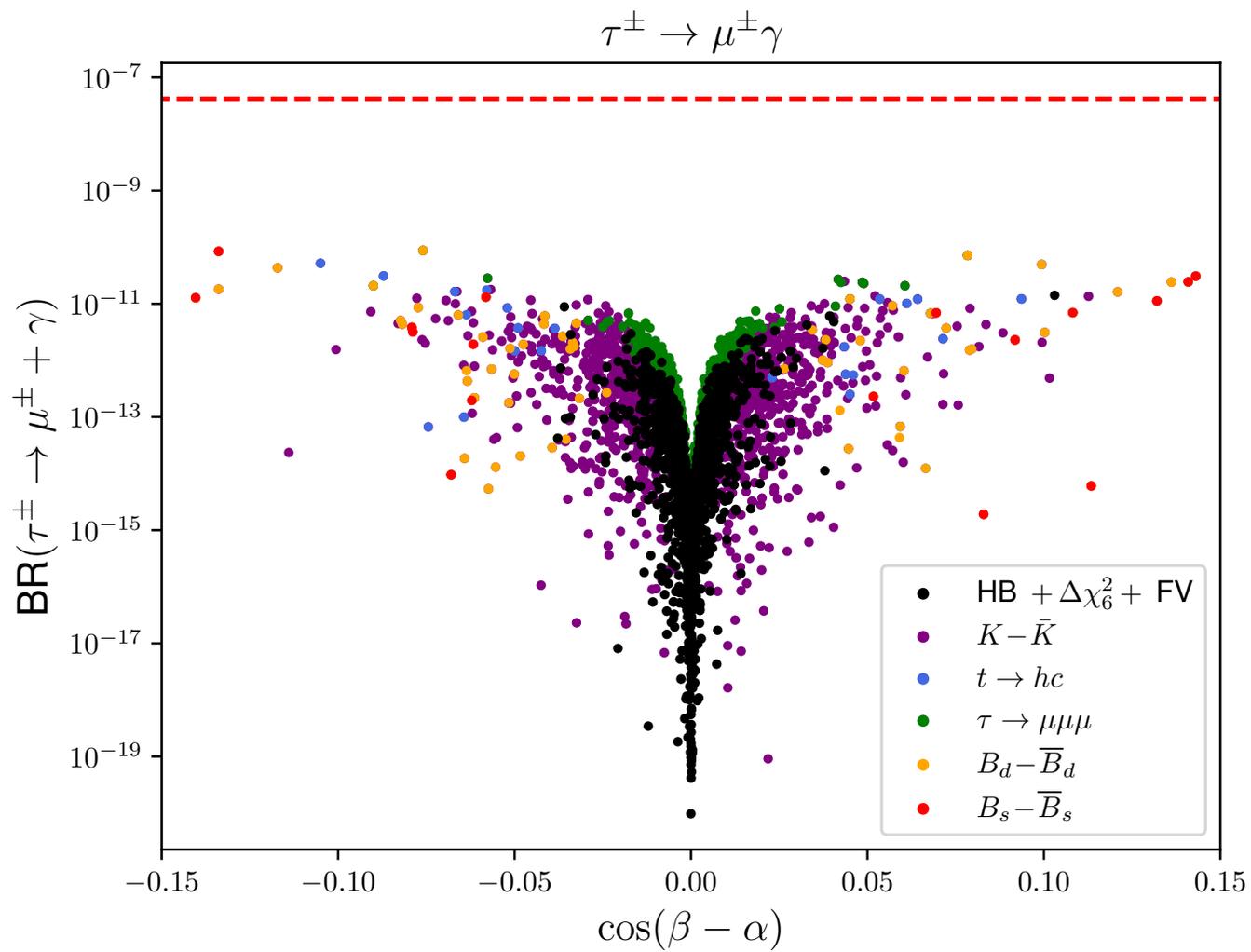
Two-loop Barr-Zee diagrams dominate

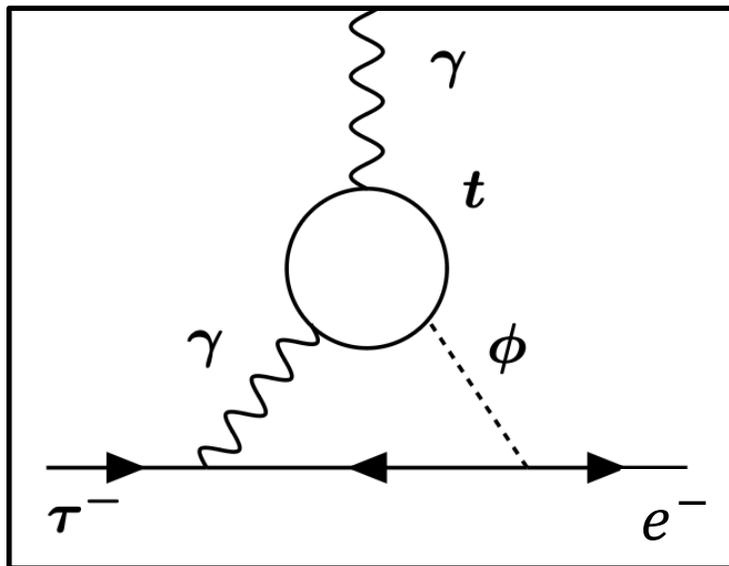
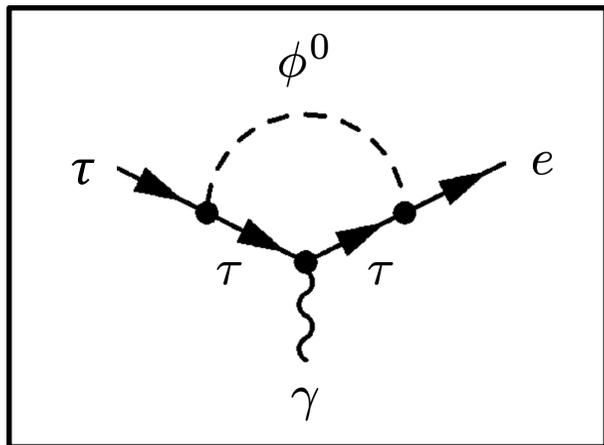


Heaviest loops dominate

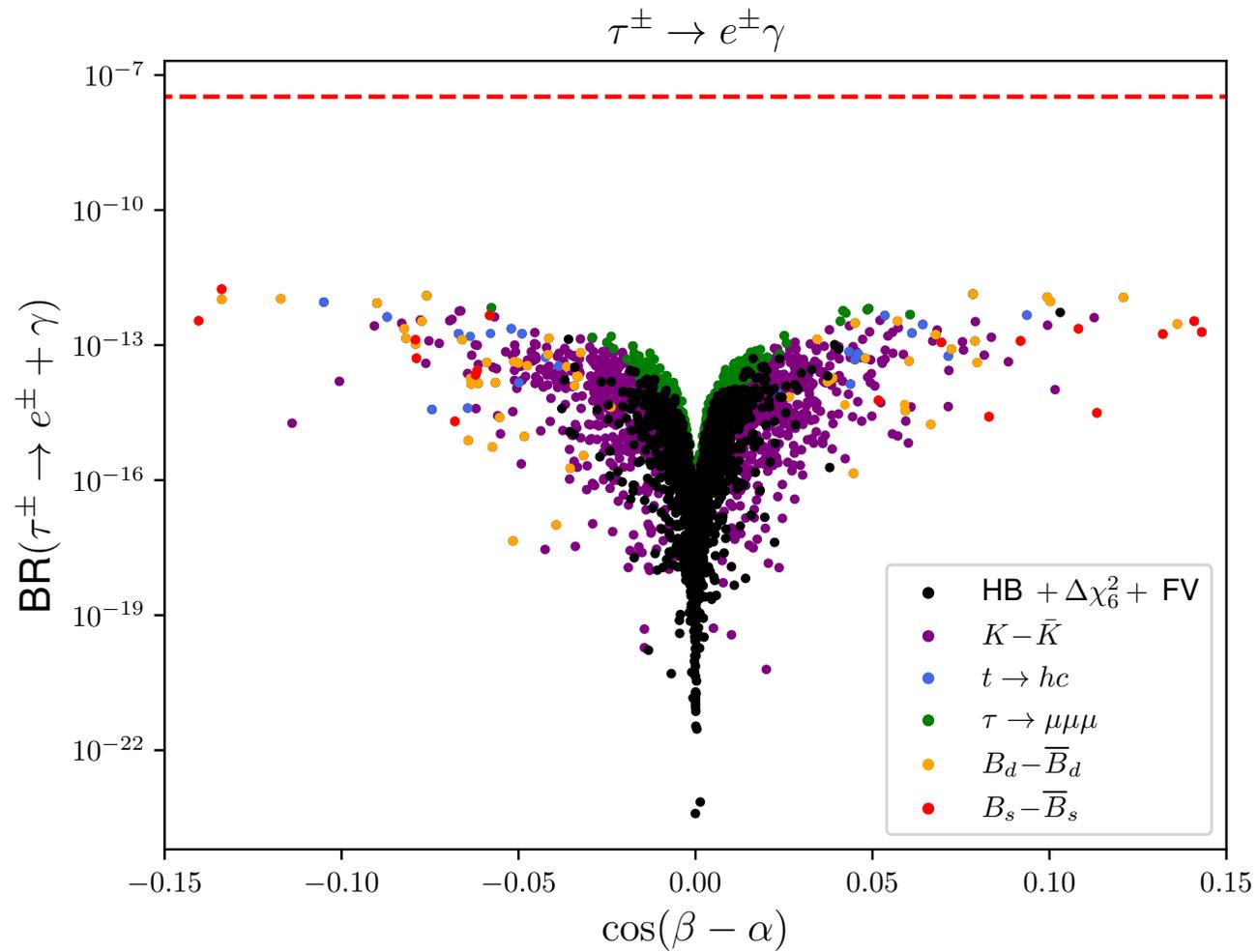


Two-loop diagrams dominate



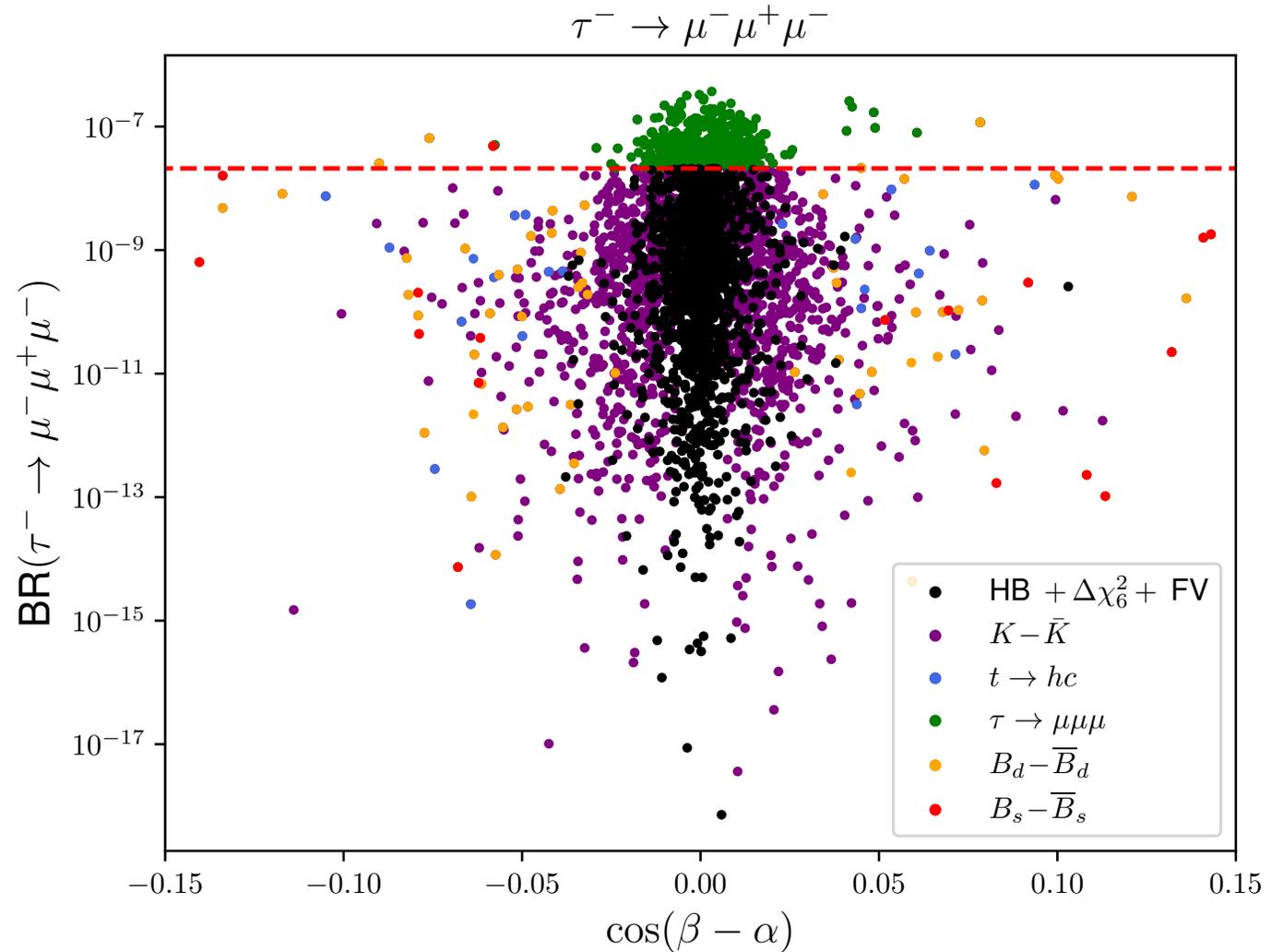
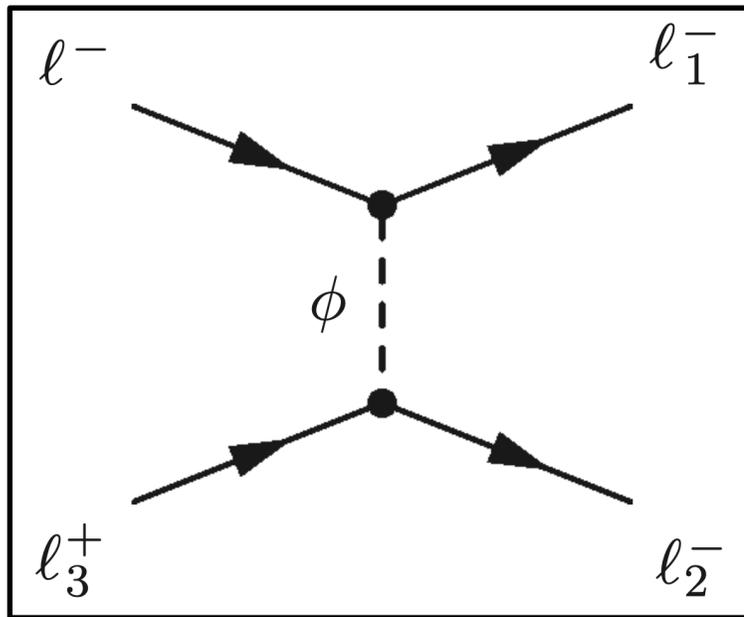


Two-loop
diagrams
dominate

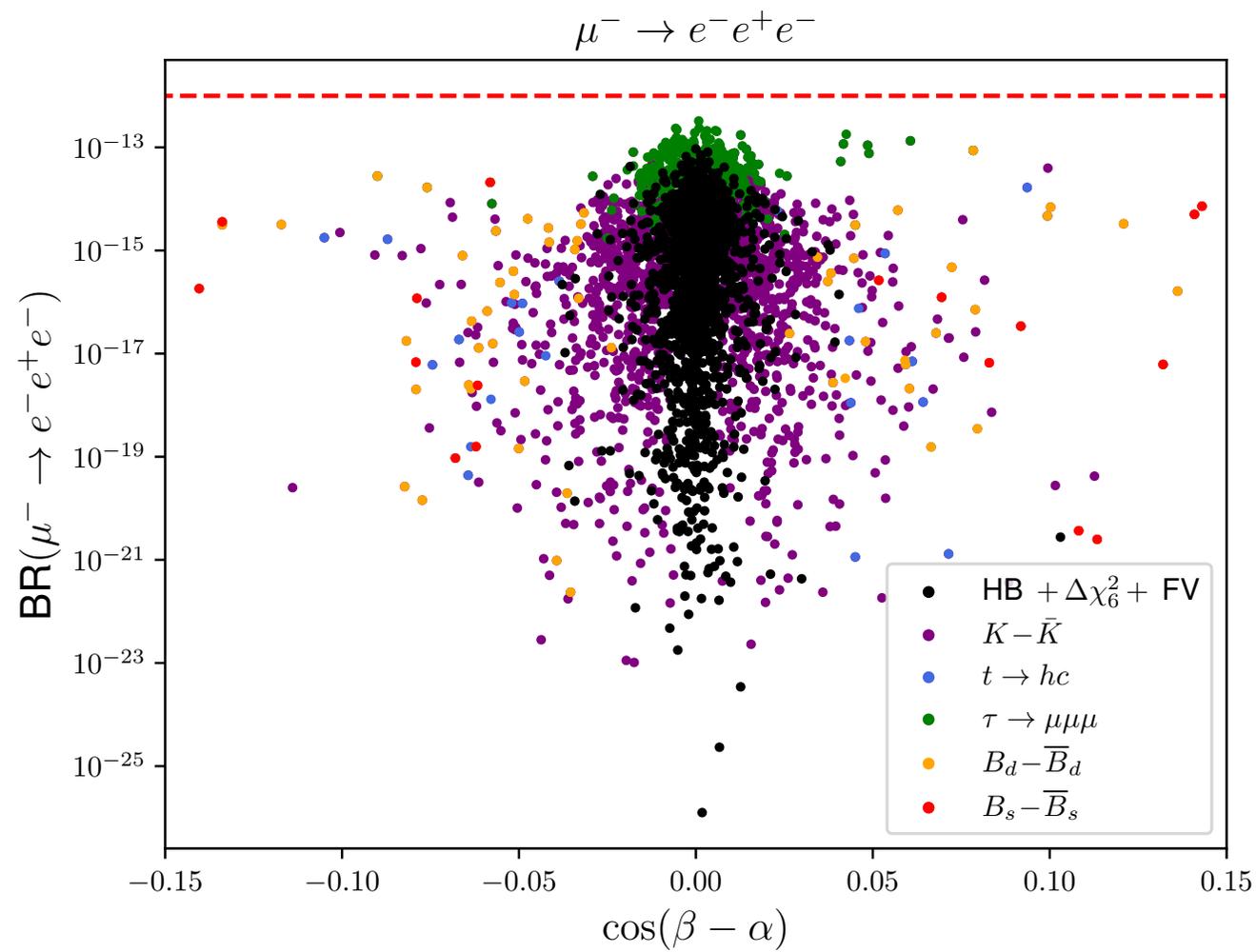
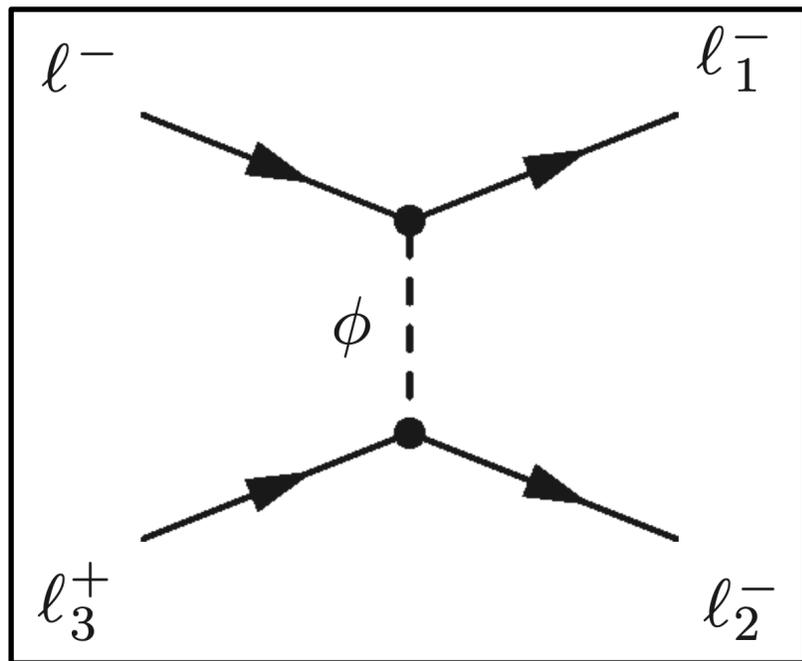


$$\tau^- \rightarrow \mu^- + \mu^+ + \mu^-$$

(Other 3 lepton final states all have very small BR's)



$$\mu^- \rightarrow e^- + e^+ + e^-$$



Higgs-mediated Neutral meson mixing

Higgs mediated contributions to neutral meson mixing ($B_{d,s} - \bar{B}_{d,s}$, $K - \bar{K}$ and $D - \bar{D}$ mixing) arise in our model. Integrating out the three neutral Higgs bosons, we obtain the following dimension six effective Lagrangian describing B_s meson mixing

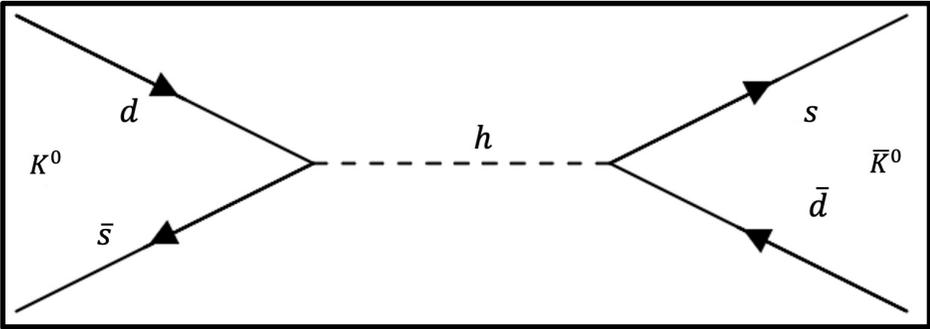
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = C_2 (\bar{b}_R s_L)^2 + \tilde{C}_2 (\bar{b}_L s_R)^2 + C_4 (\bar{b}_R s_L) (\bar{b}_L s_R) + \text{h.c.}$$

with Wilson coefficients,

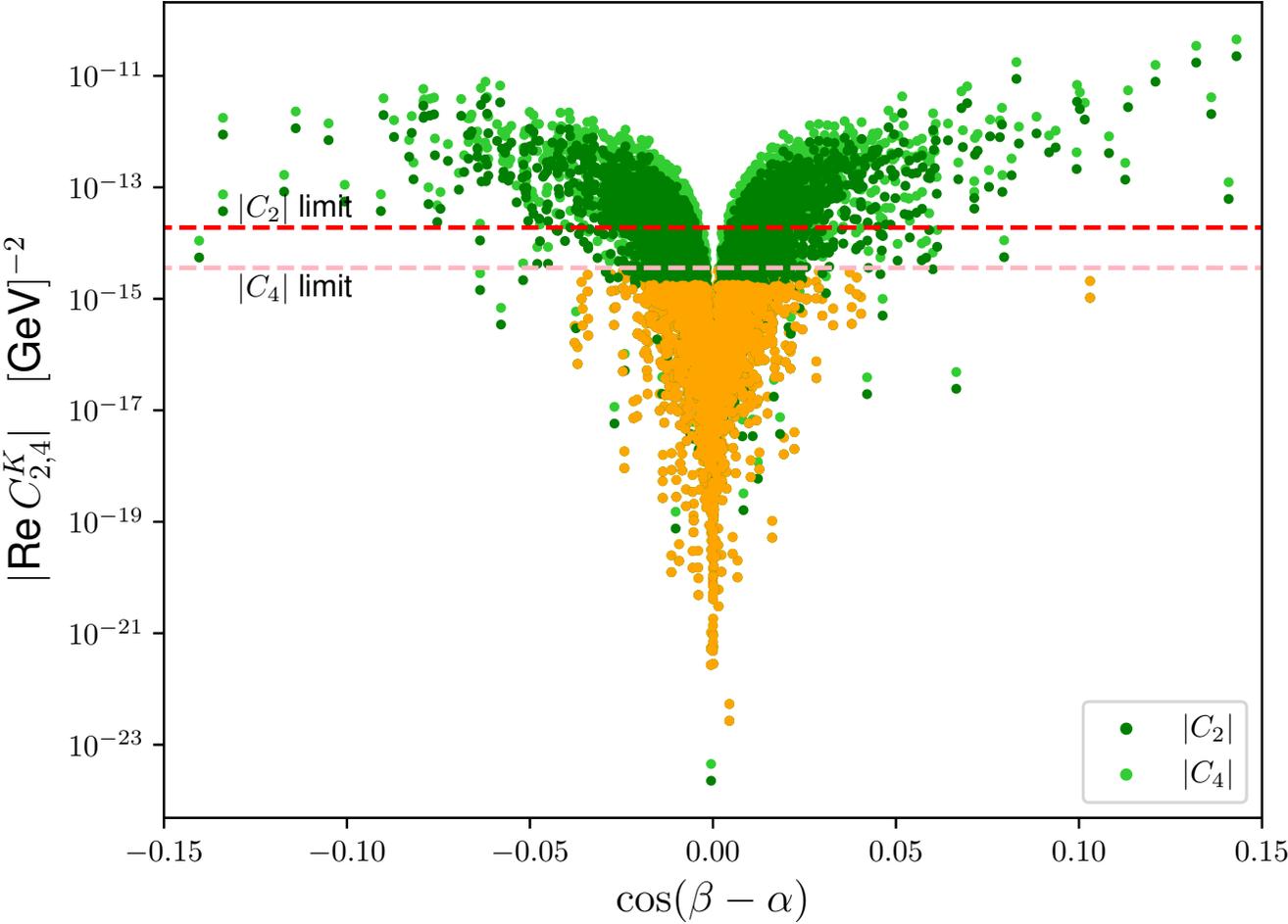
$$C_2 = \frac{(\rho_{32}^D)^2}{4} \left(\frac{\sin^2(\beta - \alpha)}{m_H^2} + \frac{\cos^2(\beta - \alpha)}{m_h^2} - \frac{1}{m_A^2} \right),$$
$$\tilde{C}_2 = \frac{(\rho_{23}^{D*})^2}{4} \left(\frac{\sin^2(\beta - \alpha)}{m_H^2} + \frac{\cos^2(\beta - \alpha)}{m_h^2} - \frac{1}{m_A^2} \right),$$
$$C_4 = \frac{(\rho_{32}^D)(\rho_{23}^{D*})}{2} \left(\frac{\sin^2(\beta - \alpha)}{m_H^2} + \frac{\cos^2(\beta - \alpha)}{m_h^2} + \frac{1}{m_A^2} \right),$$

and corresponding Wilson coefficients for B_d , K , and D mixing.

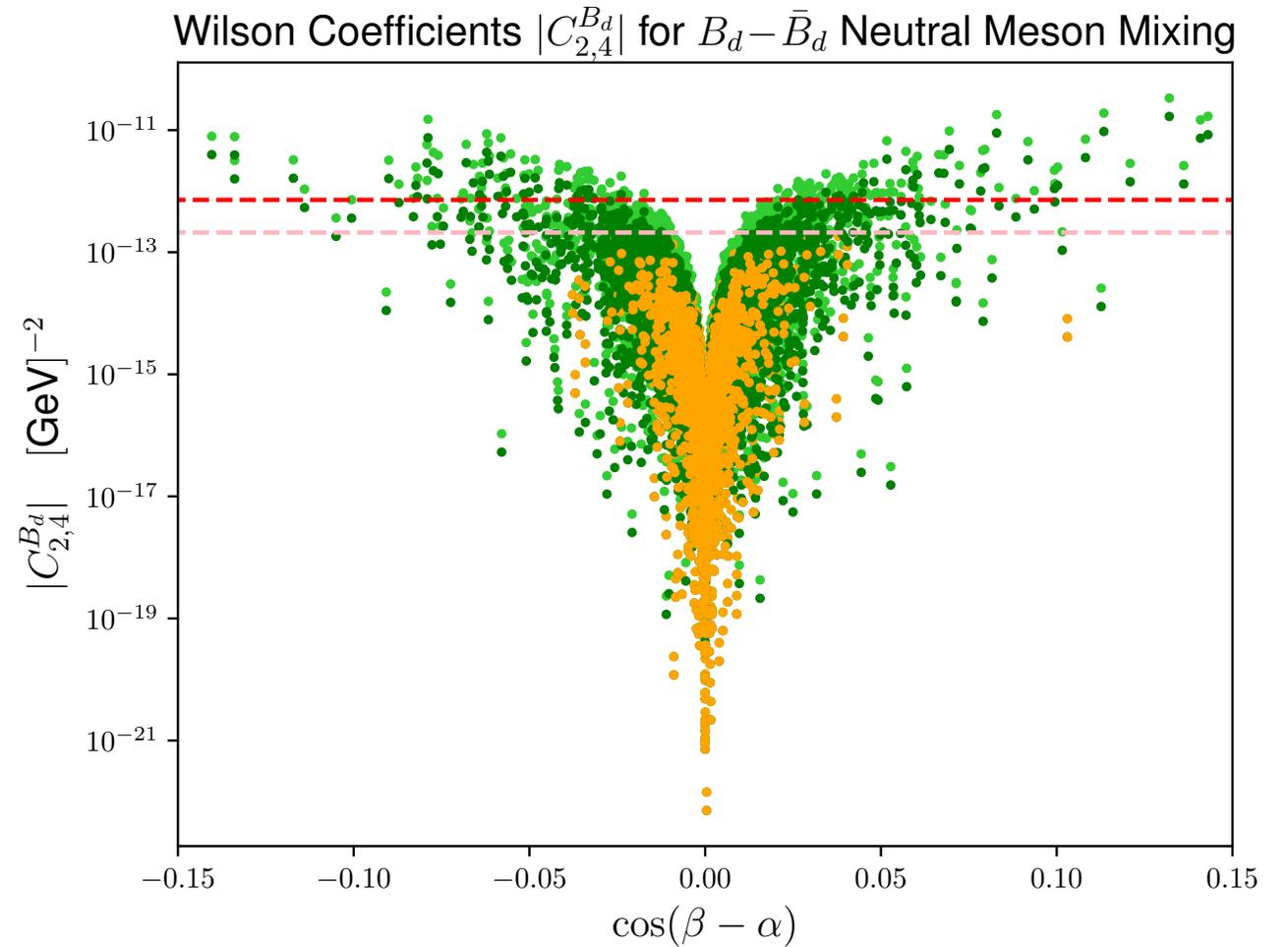
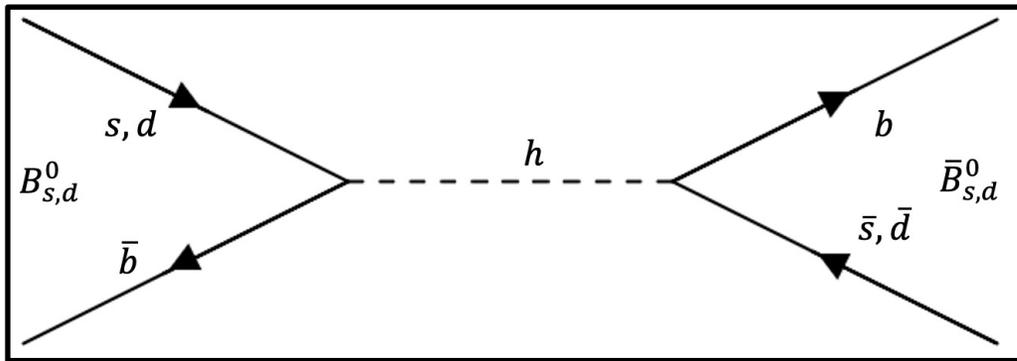
Kaon Mixing $K^0 - \bar{K}^0$



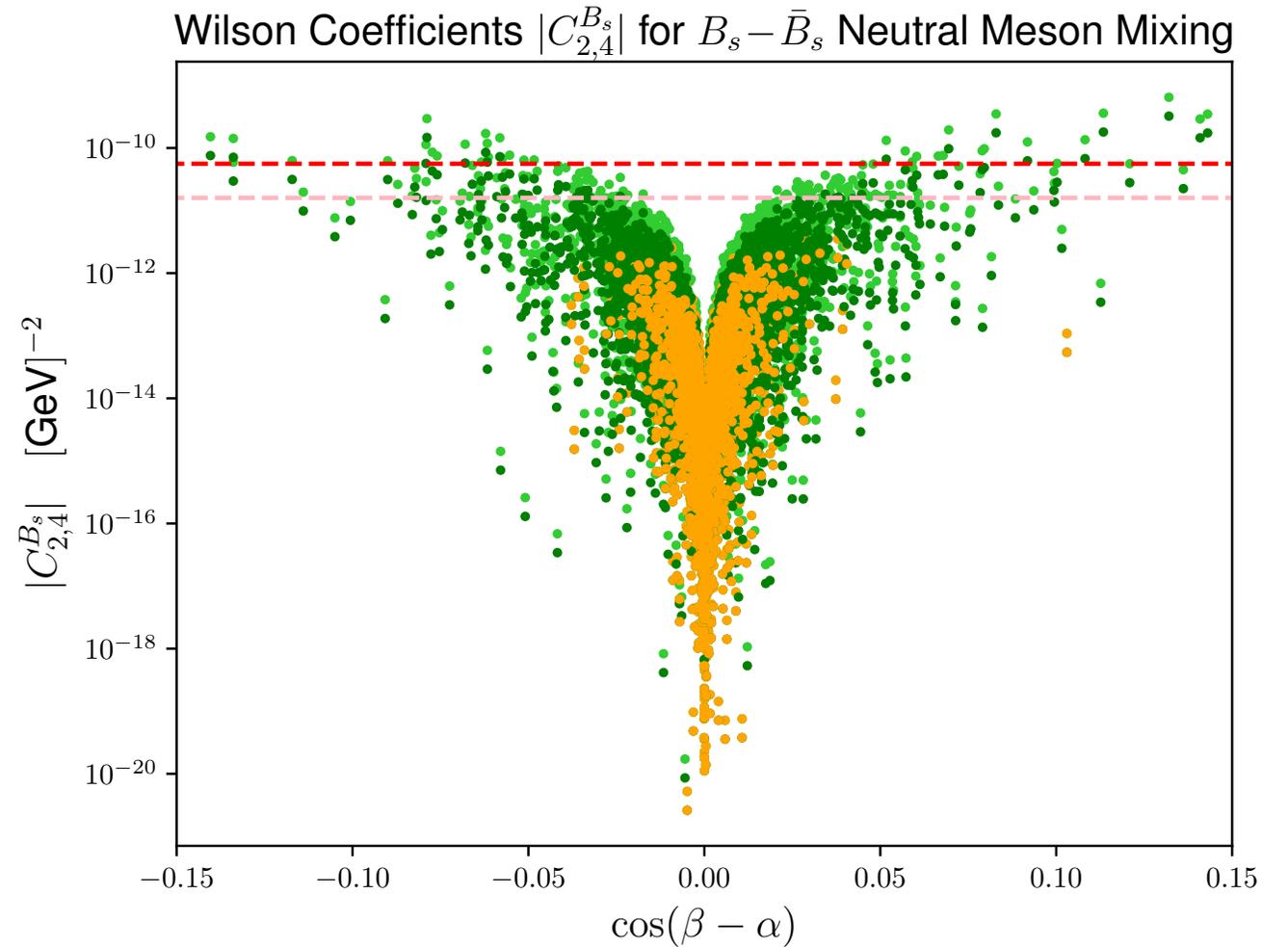
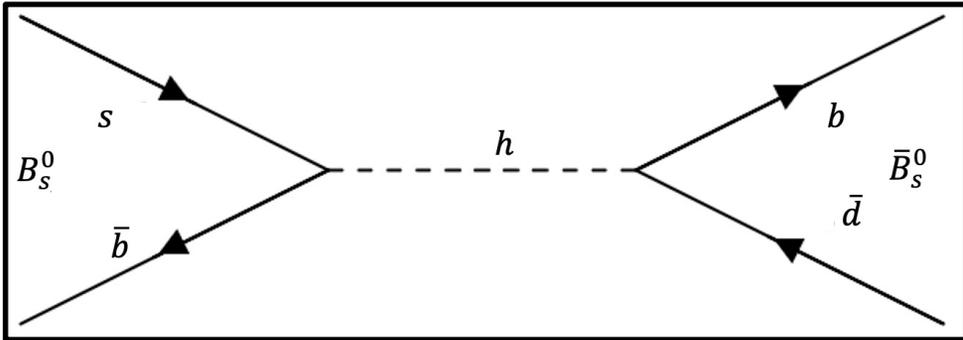
Wilson Coefficients $|\text{Re } C_{2,4}^K|$ for $K - \bar{K}$ Neutral Meson Mixing



Neutral B Meson Mixing: $B_d^0 - \bar{B}_d^0$



Neutral Strange B Meson Mixing: $B_S^0 - \bar{B}_S^0$



Conclusions and Future work

- The viability of the Cheng-Sher ansatz for off-diagonal neutral Higgs–fermion Yukawa couplings should be examined...
 - in a formalism where the unphysical parameter $\tan\beta$ never appears.
 - by making use of the most recent analysis of the CKM parameters based on the Fritzsch textures for the up and down quark mass matrices.
- Phenomenological implications of (the less suppressed) flavor off-diagonal decays of the heavy Higgs scalars should be investigated.
- Extend the analysis to allow for CP-violating phases in the ρ -type Yukawa matrices and scalar potential.
- The Fritzsch and Cheng-Sher textures are not RG-stable. Thus, it would be useful to construct UV completions of the 2HDM that could provide an (approximate) explanation for the Yukawa matrix textures used here.