

# Accessing the Electroweak Phase Transition through Top Quark and Higgs Boson Production

Lisa Biermann

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21st Workshop of the LHC Higgs Working Group

# Going Beyond the SM, with Extended Scalar Sectors

## Phase diagram of the SM

[Csikor, Fodor, Heitger, '99]

- **Extensions** of the Standard Model scalar sector...

→ Provide  $m_h = 125$  GeV in agreement with collider data

→ Ensured in parameter scans by using **ScannerS** [Coimbra et al. '13; Mühlleitner et al. '20] linked with **HiggsTools** [Bahl et al. '22]

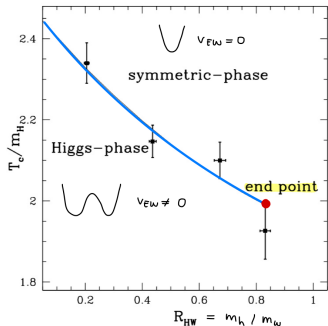
→ *Additionally* provide...

- DM candidates

[Sakharov '67] {

- New sources of  $\mathcal{CP}$  violation
- **(Strong) first-order electroweak phase transition (EWPT)**

⇒ Successful electroweak baryogenesis! [Cohen, Kaplan, Nelson '93; Morrissey, Ramsey-Musolf '12, ..]



first-order EWPT

Second-order  
EWPT for  
 $m_h = 72.4$  GeV

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- Extensions considered in this talk:

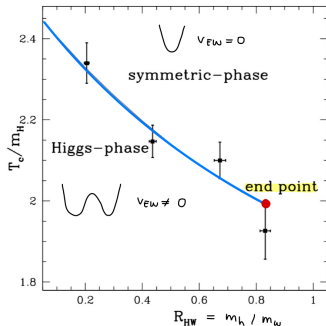
$$V = m_{11}^2 |\Phi_1|^2 + m_{22}^2 |\Phi_2|^2 - \left[ m_{12}^2 \Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2 + \text{h.c.} \right]$$

$$+ \frac{\lambda_1}{2} |\Phi_1|^4 + \frac{\lambda_2}{2} |\Phi_2|^4 + \lambda_3 |\Phi_1|^2 |\Phi_2|^2 + \lambda_4 (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2) (\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_1) + \frac{1}{2} \left[ \lambda_5 (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2)^2 + \text{h.c.} \right]$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} m_S^2 \Phi_S^2 + \frac{\lambda_8}{8} \Phi_S^4 + \frac{\lambda_7}{2} |\Phi_1|^2 \Phi_S^2 + \frac{\lambda_8}{2} |\Phi_2|^2 \Phi_S^2$$

$$- \sum_i \frac{C_6^i}{\Lambda^2} \mathcal{O}_6^i$$

w/ softly broken  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  symmetry  
 $(\Phi_{1,2} \rightarrow \pm \Phi_{1,2})$



first-order EWPT

Second-order EWPT for  $m_h = 72.4$  GeV

**2HDM** = Two-Higgs Doublet Model

[Lee '73; Ginzburg, Krawczyk, Osland '02;

Gunion, Haber '03; Branco et al. '12; ..]

R2HDM:  $\{m_{12}^2, \lambda_5\} \in \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \{h, H, A, H^\pm\}$

C2HDM:  $\{m_{12}^2, \lambda_5\} \in \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \{h_1, h_2, h_3, H^\pm\}$

December 6, 2024

2/12

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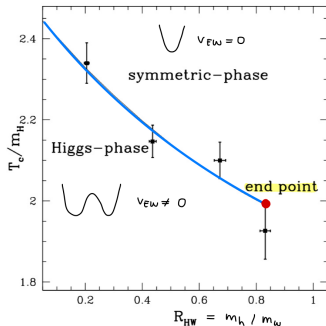
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**w/ softly broken  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  symmetry:**  $\Phi_{1,2} \rightarrow \pm \Phi_{1,2}, \Phi_S \rightarrow \Phi_S$   
 **$\mathbb{Z}'_2$  symmetry:**  $\Phi_{1,2} \rightarrow \Phi_{1,2}, \Phi_S \rightarrow -\Phi_S$



first-order EWPT

Second-order EWPT for  $m_h = 72.4$  GeV

**N2HDM** = Next-to-Minimal 2HDM

[He et al. '09; Grzadkowski, Osland '10; Logan '11; Boucenna, Profumo '11; Mühlleitner et al '19; ..]

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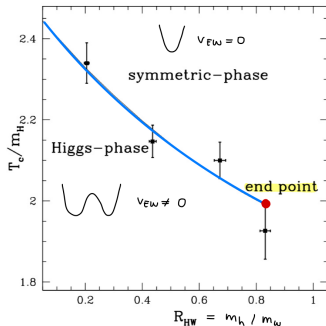
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first-order EWPT ↓  
Second-order EWPT for  $m_h = 72.4$  GeV

**2HDM-EFT** = 2HDM Effective Field Theory

[Crivellin et al. '16; Karmakar, Rakshit '17; Banerjee et al. '20; ..]

# Studying Phase Transitions with BSMPT

- Model-independent implementation of the one-loop daisy-resummed effective potential at finite temperature

v1: P. Basler, M. Mühlleitner

[arXiv:1803.02846]

v2: P. Basler, M. Mühlleitner, J. Müller

[arXiv:2007.01725]

v3: P. Basler, **LB**, M. Mühlleitner, J. Müller, R. Santos, J. Viana

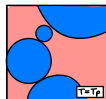
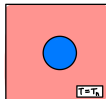
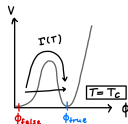
[arXiv:2404.19037] *new!*

Get it: <https://github.com/phbasler/BSMPT> !

$$V^{(1)}(\omega, T) = \underbrace{V^{(0)}(\omega)}_{\text{tree-level}} + \underbrace{V^{\text{CW}}(\omega)}_{\substack{T\text{-indep.} \\ \text{Coleman-Weinberg} \\ \text{potential} \\ \text{renormalized in } \overline{MS}\text{-scheme}}} + \underbrace{V^T(\omega, T)}_{\substack{T\text{-dep.} \\ \text{UV finite} \\ \text{IR finite after resummation} \\ m^2 \rightarrow m^2 + \Pi^{(1)}(0)}} + \underbrace{V^{\text{CT}}(\omega)}_{\substack{\text{finite shift of} \\ \text{scalar masses} \\ \text{and mixing angles} \\ \text{OS-scheme}}}$$

[S. Coleman, E. Weinberg, 1973]      [M. Carrington, 1992], [R. Parwani, 1992], [P. Arnold, O. Espinosa, 1993]      [P. Basler et al., 2017]

- v3:
  - Multi-step phase tracking
  - Calculation of the false vacuum decay and characteristic temperatures
  - Sourced gravitational wave spectra



- 'Strength' of the first-order EWPT:

$$\xi(T) \equiv \frac{\bar{\omega}_{\text{EW}}(T)}{T}, \quad \bar{\omega}_{\text{EW}}(T=0) = 246 \text{ GeV}$$

**Strong** first-order EWPT:  $\xi_c \equiv \xi(T = T_c) \gtrsim 1$  (baryon wash-out condition)  
[Morrissey, Ramsey-Musolf '12]

but: PT takes place at  $T \sim T_p < T_c$

( $T_c$  only prerequisite for PT  $\rightarrow$  vacuum trapping! [Baum et al. '21; Biekötter et al. '21/'23])

# Electroweak Phase Transitions from a Collider Angle

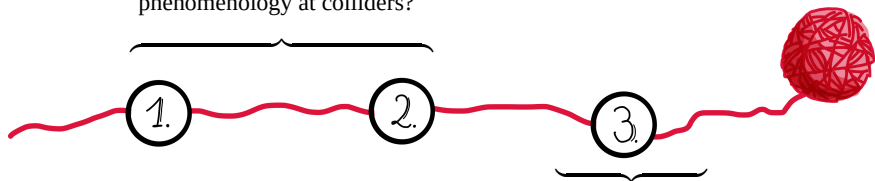
Anisha, D. Azevedo, **LB**,  
C. Englert, M. Mühlleitner  
[arXiv:2311.06353]

Anisha, **LB**, C. Englert,  
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[arXiv:2204.06966]

$$\bar{f}f\phi^3$$

$$\phi^6$$

How do 2HDM-EFT modifications  
that lead to  $\xi_c^{d6} \gtrsim 1$  impact  
phenomenology at colliders?



How does an EWPT imprint on  
multi-Higgs production?

**LB**, C. Borschensky, C. Englert,  
M. Mühlleitner, W. Naskar  
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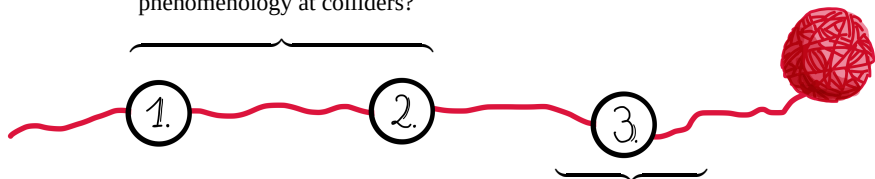
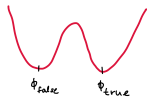
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How do 2HDM-EFT modifications  
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phenomenology at colliders?

→ Using  $\xi_c \gtrsim 1$  condition  
(prerequisite for an EWPT)



EWPT identified via  $\xi_p \gtrsim 1$  ←  
(EWPT takes place)

How does an EWPT imprint on  
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# Scalar-Fermion Dim-6 2HDM-EFT

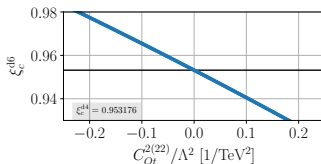
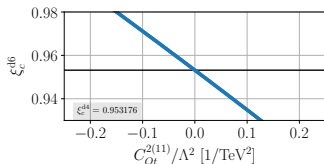
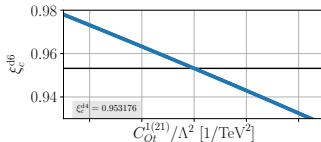
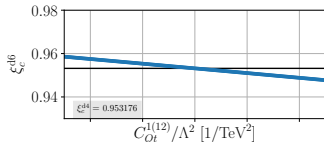
- Can we have **dim-6 enhanced** EWPTs in a Type-2 2HDM with

$$\xi_c^{d4} < 1 \xrightarrow{\text{dim-6}} \xi_c^{d6} \gtrsim 1 ?$$

- 2HDM extended by dim-6 top-Yukawa modifications:

$$V_{d6}^{(0)} = V_{d4}^{(0)}(\Phi_1, \Phi_2) - \sum_{ijk} \frac{C_{Qt}^{i(jk)}}{\Lambda^2} \mathcal{O}_{Qt}^{i(jk)}$$

$\mathcal{O}_{Qt}^{1(12)}$	$(\bar{Q}_L t_R \tilde{\Phi}_1)(\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2)$
$\mathcal{O}_{Qt}^{1(21)}$	$(\bar{Q}_L t_R \tilde{\Phi}_1)(\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_1)$
$\mathcal{O}_{Qt}^{2(11)}$	$(\bar{Q}_L t_R \tilde{\Phi}_2)(\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1)$
$\mathcal{O}_{Qt}^{2(22)}$	$(\bar{Q}_L t_R \tilde{\Phi}_2)(\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2)$



→ **Perturbativity** ensured by requiring linear response in  $\xi_c^{d6}$  when varying  $C_{Qt}^{i(jk)}/\Lambda^2$

⇒ SFOEWPT achievable in agreement with exp. constraints ✓

# Scalar-Fermion Dim-6 2HDM-EFT

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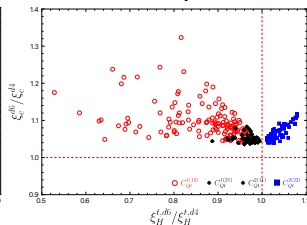
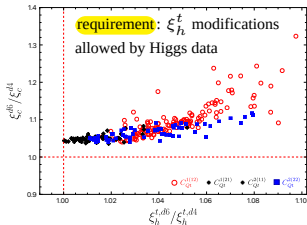
- Redefinition of Yukawa coupling to obtain dim-4 Yukawa interaction shifts dim-6 effects into coupling modifiers

$$\boxed{ht\bar{t}} \quad \xi_h^t = \frac{\cos \alpha}{\sin \beta} + \frac{v^3}{M_t} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}\Lambda^2} \left[ -C_{Qt}^{2(22)} \cos \alpha \sin^2 \beta + \cos \beta \sin \beta \sin \alpha \left( C_{Qt}^{1(12)} + C_{Qt}^{1(21)} + C_{Qt}^{2(11)} \right) \right]$$

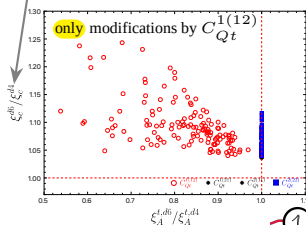
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$$\boxed{At\gamma_5\bar{t}} \quad \xi_A^t = \cot \beta + \frac{v^3}{M_t} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}\Lambda^2} \left[ \cos \beta C_{Qt}^{1(12)} \right]$$

## Coupling modifications for $\xi_c^{d6} \gtrsim 1$ (individual $C_{Qt}^i$ choices):

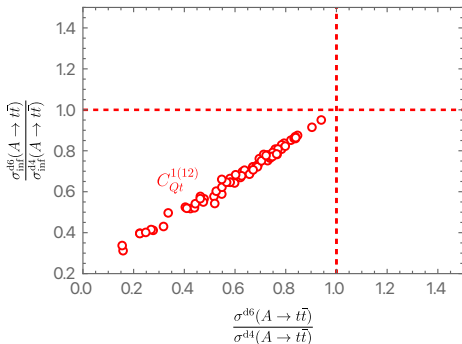
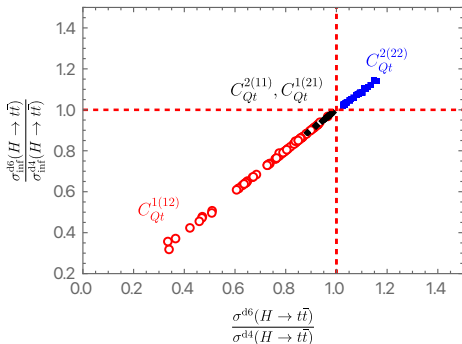


$1 - \xi_c^{d4}$  limited mostly by  $h$  signal strength constraints

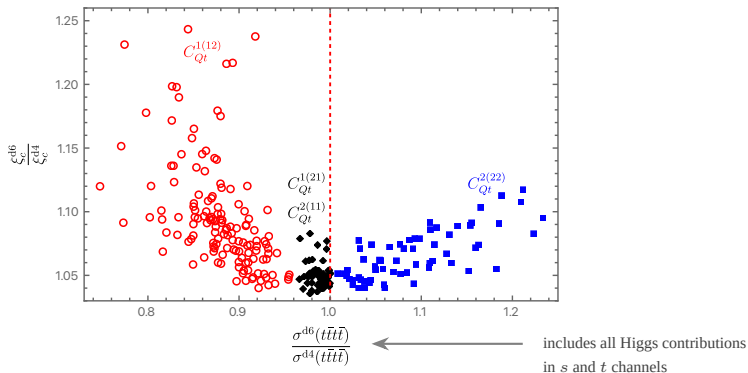


**resonant production:**  $\sigma(H/A \rightarrow t\bar{t}) \propto |\mathcal{M}(gg \rightarrow H/A \rightarrow t\bar{t})|^2$

**interference:**  $\sigma_{\text{inf}} \propto \text{Re}\{\mathcal{M}(gg \rightarrow H/A \rightarrow t\bar{t})\mathcal{M}^*(gg \rightarrow t\bar{t})\}$



- Underabundance of resonant  $H/A$  production if  $\xi_c^{\text{d6}} \gtrsim 1$  achieved through variation of  $C_{Qt}^{1(12)}$
- ⇒ If SFOEWPT realized via  $C_{Qt}^{1(12)}$  the current LHC BSM sensitivity is *overestimated!*
- $C_{Qt}^{2(22)}$  can lead to a 20% enhancement for  $H \rightarrow t\bar{t}$  while  $A \rightarrow t\bar{t}$  is unchanged
- *But:* Sensitivity for resonant  $t\bar{t}$  production is already limited at dim-4 due to destructive signal-background interference [Gaemers, Hoogeveen, '84; Jung, Song, Yoon '15; Basler et al. '19]
- ⇒ Possible further reduction in signal rate does not change observed outcome qualitatively, experimental strategies remain valid



- Four-top final state does not suffer from destructive signal-background interference  
→ Sensitivity to resonances not limited by interference!

[Kanemura et al. '15; Alvarez et al. '17/'19; Blekman et al. '22; Anisha et al. '23]

- **Increase** of cross section via  $C_{Qt}^{2(22)}$
- **Decrease** of cross section via  $C_{Qt}^{1(12)}$  and  $C_{Qt}^{1(21)}, C_{Qt}^{2(11)} \Rightarrow$  **LHC sensitivity overestimated!**

- Can we have **dim-6 enhanced** strong first-order EWPTs in a Type-2 2HDM?

$$\xi_c^{d4} < 1 \xrightarrow{\text{dim-6}} \xi_c^{d6} \gtrsim 1$$

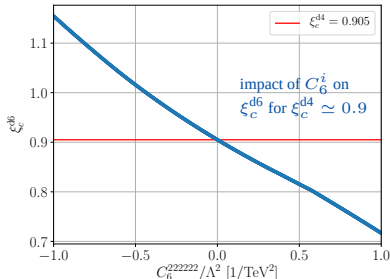
- 2HDM extended by scalar dim-6 operators:

$$V_{d6}^{(0)} = V_{d4}^{(0)}(\Phi_1, \Phi_2) - \sum_i \frac{C_6^i}{\Lambda^2} \mathcal{O}_6^i$$

$\mathcal{O}_6^{111111}$	$(\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1)^3$	$\mathcal{O}_6^{222222}$	$(\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2)^3$
$\mathcal{O}_6^{111122}$	$(\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1)^2 (\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2)$	$\mathcal{O}_6^{112222}$	$(\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1) (\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2)^2$
$\mathcal{O}_6^{122111}$	$(\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2) (\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_1) (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1)$	$\mathcal{O}_6^{122122}$	$(\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2) (\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_1) (\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2)$
$\mathcal{O}_6^{121211}$	$(\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2)^2 (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1) + \text{h.c.}$	$\mathcal{O}_6^{121222}$	$1(\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2)^2 (\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2) + \text{h.c.}$

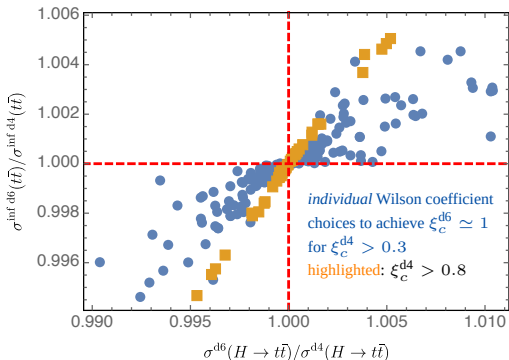
- Absorb dim-6 contributions (to scalar mass matrix) in shifts  $\lambda_i \rightarrow \lambda_i + \delta\lambda_i$  and  $m_{12}^2 \rightarrow m_{12}^2 + \delta m_{12}^2$

⇒ Shift of EFT effects into **Higgs self-couplings** and **multi-Higgs final states**



⇒ Linear response  $\sim C_6^i \rightarrow$  perturbativity ✓

⇒ SFOEWPT achievable in agreement with experimental constraints ✓



- **Top-philic** exotic Higgs with  $\text{BR}(H \rightarrow t\bar{t}) \gtrsim 0.8$

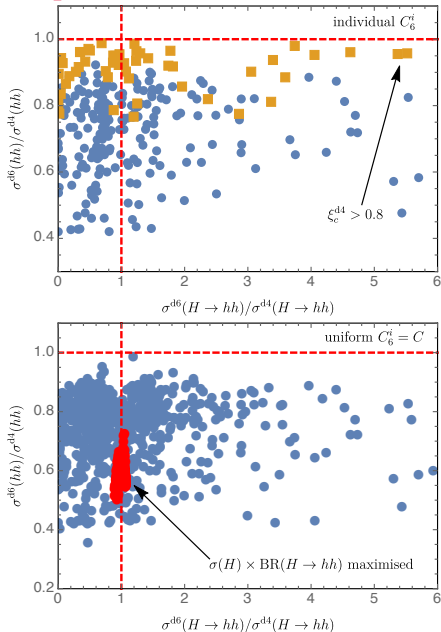
→ Prime candidate for exotic Higgs discovery

$$d\sigma \propto \underbrace{|\mathcal{M}(gg \rightarrow H \rightarrow t\bar{t})|^2}_{\text{resonant production}} + \underbrace{2 \text{Re}\{\mathcal{M}(gg \rightarrow H \rightarrow t\bar{t}) \overbrace{\mathcal{M}^*(gg \rightarrow t\bar{t})}^{\text{QCD continuum}}\}}_{\text{interference cross section} \equiv \sigma^{\text{inf}}}$$

can be *destructive* [Gaemers, Hoogeveen, '84; Jung, Song, Yoon '15; Basler et al. '19]

→  $(1 - \xi_c^{d4}) \propto$  resonant modifications

⇒ **No** phenomenologically observable modifications neither for resonant production, nor for interference

$hh$  productionIndividual  $C_6^i$  for  $\xi_c^{\text{d6}} \simeq 1$ 

- **Decreased** continuum  $\propto (1 - \xi_c^{\text{d4}})$  due to enhancement of  $\lambda_{hhh}$  up to  $\mathcal{O}(50\%)$   
[Baglio et al. '20]
- **Resonant** modifications up to factor 6 correlated with modification of  $\lambda_{Hhh}$
- ⇒ Constraining  $\xi_c$  via *separate* measurement of continuum and on-shell  $H$  production (*but* low BR ( $H \rightarrow hh$ ))

Uniform  $C_6^i$  for  $\xi_c^{\text{d6}} \simeq 1$ 

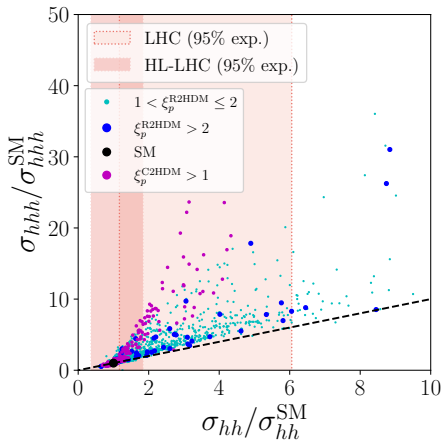
on-shell production and  
di-Higgs continuum  
less statistically limited

- **Top-philic** sample plus **Higgs-philic** sample
- Higgs-philic  $H$  suffer from low  $\xi_c^{\text{d4}} \rightarrow$  large Higgs potential modifications are required to achieve  $\xi_c^{\text{d6}} \gtrsim 1 \rightarrow$  decreased continuum ratio down to  $-50\%$
- Resonant enhancements up to 2.5 for cross section values of  $\mathcal{O}(\text{fb})$
- ⇒ Anticipate LHC sensitivity in  $b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$  and  $b\bar{b}\tau\bar{\tau}$  channels!

- Additional resonantly produced BSM scalars can lead to large enhancements of  $hh(h)$  rates

[Basler et al. '19; Abouabid et al. '22; Dawson et al. '23; Stylianou, Weiglein '24]

talk by Osama Karkout on Thursday  
on multi-Higgs production and EWPTs  
in the Two-Real-Singlet model  
[Karkout et al., '24]



- $hh$  and  $hhh$  cross sections can be enhanced for  $\xi_p > 1$  (while showing clear correlation)

→ Relative enhancement larger for  $hhh$

→ **R2HDM:**  $H \rightarrow hh$  probed in wider kinematic range through nested  $Hh$  production and new resonant  $H \rightarrow hhh$  decays

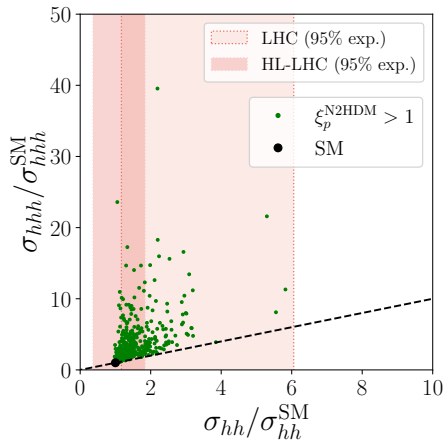
→ **C2HDM:** additional neutral ( $\mathcal{CP}$ -mixed) resonances lead to even larger enhancement of  $hhh$  over  $hh$



- Additional resonantly produced BSM scalars can lead to large enhancements of  $hh(h)$  rates

[Basler et al. '19; Abouabid et al. '22; Dawson et al. '23; Stylianou, Weiglein '24]

📌 talk by **Osama Karkout** on Thursday  
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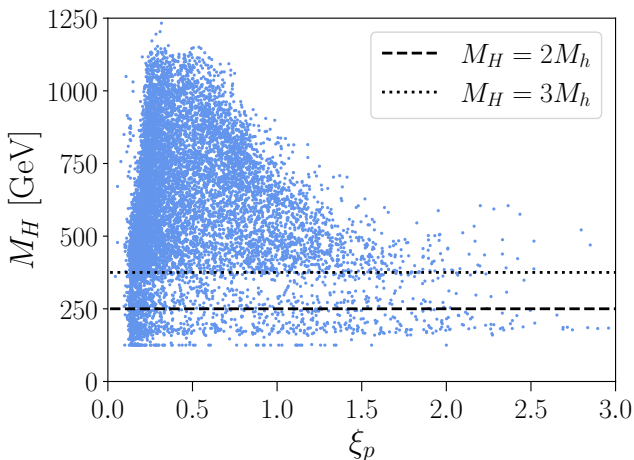
→ **N2HDM**:  $hhh$  enhanced by factor of 20 compared to  $hh$  enhancement while *not* showing overly anomalous behaviour in  $hh$

⇒ Look for  $hhh$  even if  $hh$  seems SM-like!

## Conclusions

- BSM physics that allows for a **strong first-order EWPT** (SFOEWPT) might be close to the TeV scale with LHC-relevant implications:
  - Modifications of the top-Higgs interactions in a 2HDM allow for an SFOEWPT and can (further) reduce sensitivity in  $t\bar{t}$  and  $t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$
  - Purely scalar dynamics that drive an SFOEWPT for a 2HDM modify  $t\bar{t}$  (not measurable) and  $hh$  (continuum reduction and **resonant enhancement** within LHC reach)
  - Significant **enhancement of triple Higgs production rate** possible together with almost SM-like di-Higgs production in N2HDM for SFOEWPT points!
  - ⇒ We can derive indirect constraints on the EWPT from top-pair and multi-Higgs production measurements!

Thanks! 



- EWPT driven by light spectra of BSM scalars
- Stronger PTs: Most points have correlated resonant  $H \rightarrow hh$  and  $Hh \rightarrow hhh \rightarrow$  wider phase space  $\Rightarrow$  larger  $hhh$  enhancement

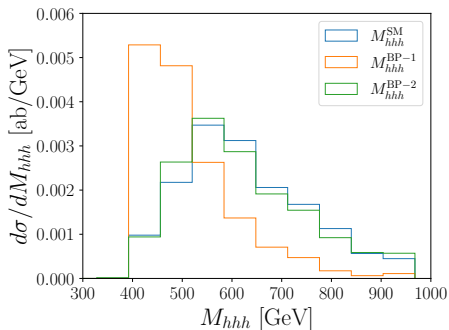
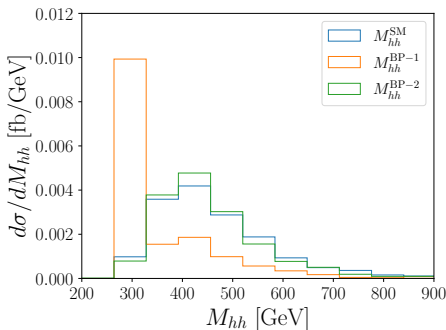
# Invariant Mass Distributions

LB, C. Borschensky, C. Englert, M. Mühlleitner, W. Naskar  
[arXiv:2408.08043]

**BP1:** largely enhanced  
( $hhh$  enhancement  $\times 4$  larger than  $hh$  enhancement)  
 $m_H \simeq 2m_h$

**BP2:** SM-like point

BPs	$\sigma_{hh}/\sigma_{hh}^{\text{SM}}$	$\sigma_{hhh}/\sigma_{hhh}^{\text{SM}}$	$M_H$ [GeV]
BP1 (largely enhanced)	3.24	15.26	274.29
BP2 (SM-like)	1.02	1.02	469.30



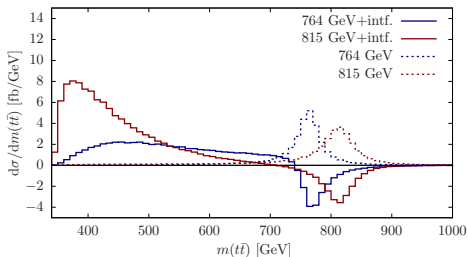
- Large enhancement in resonance region
  - Underproduction for  $M_{hh} \gtrsim m_H$  (destructive interference between triangle and box topologies enhanced)
  - Threshold region  $M_{hhh} \simeq 3m_h$  probes wider range of  $M_{h_i h_j} \simeq 2m_H$  enhancement ( $pp \rightarrow Hh, H \rightarrow hh$ )
- Comparably larger enhancement of  $hhh$  compared to  $hh$

# Interference in $t\bar{t}$ vs in $t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$

## Top-Pair Production $t\bar{t}$

[Gaemers, Hoogeveen, '84; Jung, Song, Yoon '15]

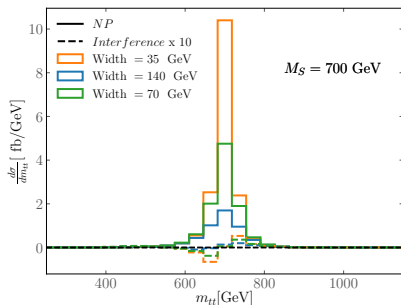
P. Basler, S. Dawson, C. Englert, M. Mühlleitner  
[arXiv:1909.09987]



- Destructive interference between  $gg \rightarrow H_i \rightarrow t\bar{t}$  and non-resonant amplitude contribution  $gg \rightarrow t\bar{t}$
- Resonance is removed by interference!

## Four-Top Final State $t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$

Anisha, O. Atkinson, A. Bhardwaj, C. Englert, W. Naskar  
[arXiv:2302.08281]



⇒ Resonance is robust against interference!