



Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare  
Sezione di Padova

# How large can the light quark Yukawa couplings be?

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*Higgs 2024, Uppsala, 6 Nov 2024*

*Nudžeim Selimović*

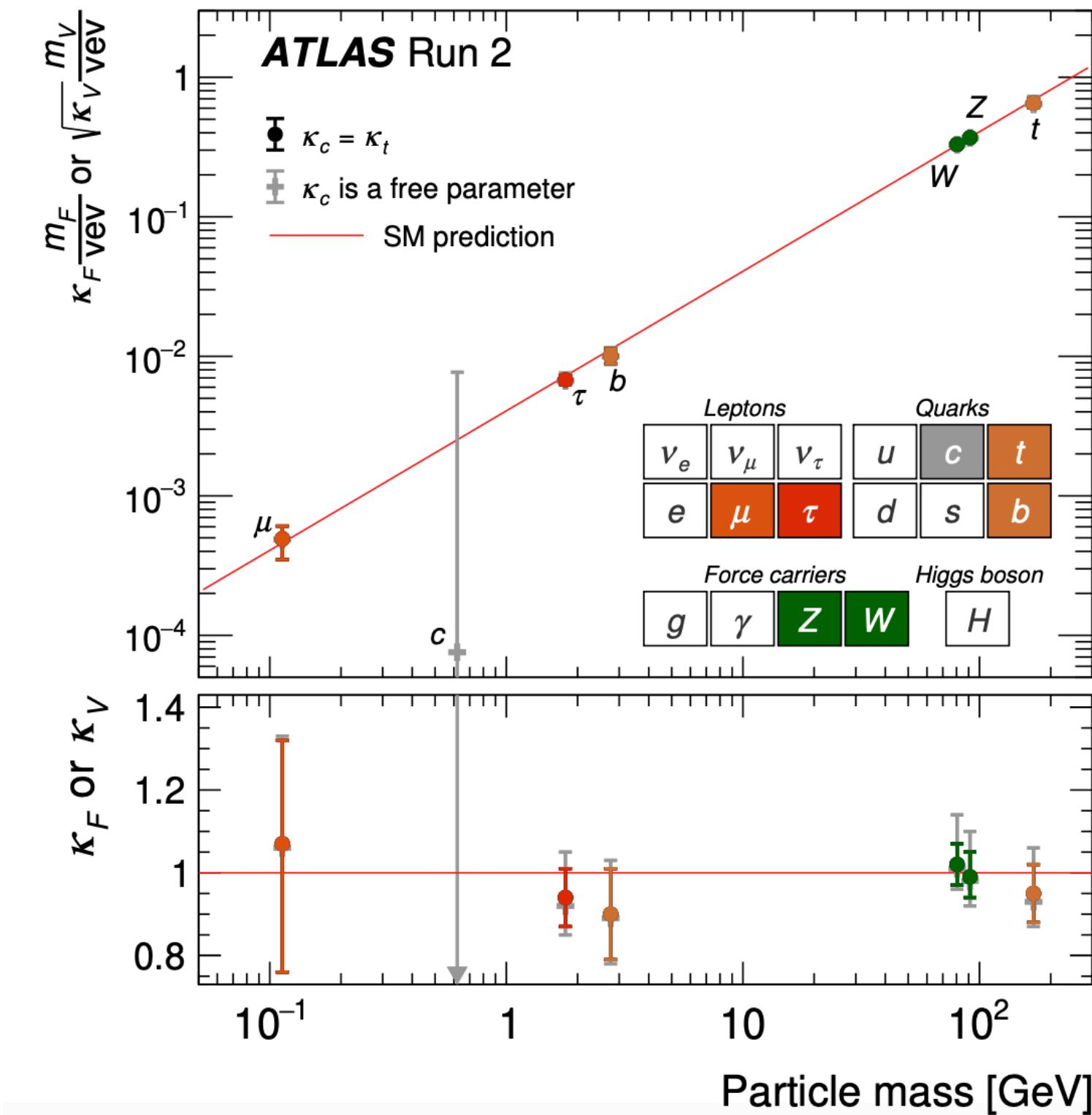
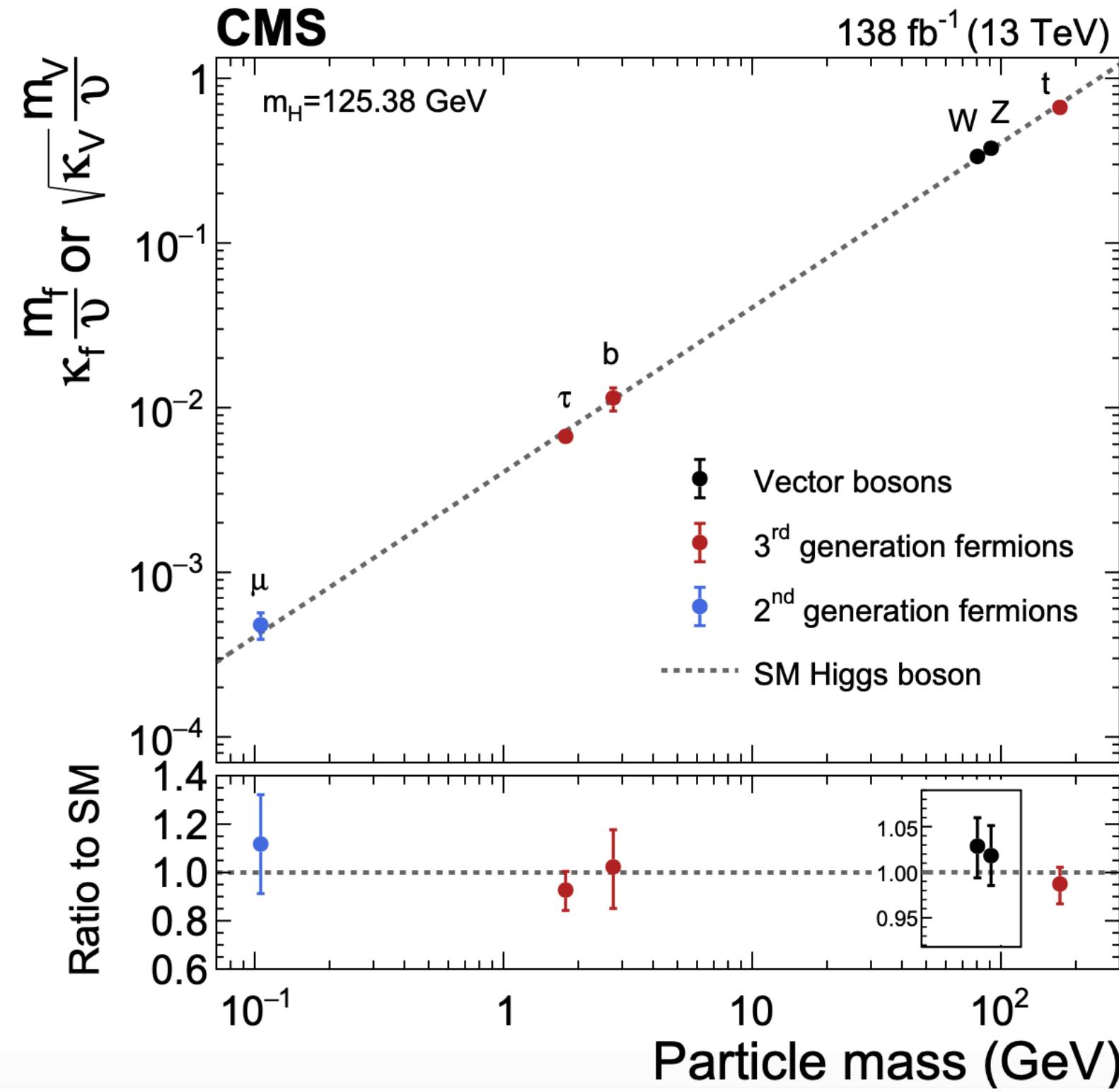
*INFN Padova*

*Based on work with:*

*Barbara Anna Erdelyi, Ramona Gröber*

[arXiv:2410.08272](https://arxiv.org/abs/2410.08272)

# A portrait of the Higgs



It is responsible for (most of) electroweak symmetry breaking and the generation of the third-family fermion masses.

What about light families?

$$\kappa_q = \frac{y_{hqq} v}{\sqrt{2} m_q}$$

# Light-quark Yukawas

Direct constraints on the **Higgs-charm** coupling in  $pp \rightarrow V(h \rightarrow c\bar{c})$ :

- ATLAS [arXiv:2410.19611](#):  $|\kappa_c| < 4.2$  @ 95% CL
- CMS [arXiv:2205.05550](#):  $|\kappa_c| < 5.5$  @ 95% CL

Many proposals to further constrain the **light-quark** couplings to Higgs:

- The Higgs  $p_T$  distribution: F. Bishara, U. Haisch, P. F. Monni, and E. Re; [arXiv:1606.09253](#)
- $W^\pm h$  charge asymmetry: F. Yu; [arXiv:1609.06592](#)
- Global fits to Higgs data: J. de Blas et al.; [arXiv:1905.03764](#)
- Higgs pair production: L. Alasfar, R. Corral Lopez, and R. Gröber; [arXiv:1909.05279](#)
- $h + \gamma$  production: J. A. Aguilar-Saavedra, J. M. Cano, and J. M. No; [arXiv:2008.12538](#)
- Triboson final states: A. Falkowski, S. Ganguly, P. Gras, J. M. No, K. Tobioka, N. Vignaroli, and T. You; [arXiv:2011.09551](#)
- Off-shell Higgs measurements: Y. Zhou; E. Balzani, R. Gröber, and M. Vitti; [arXiv:1505.06369](#); [arXiv:2304.09772](#)

$$|\kappa_c| < 1.2$$

$$|\kappa_s| < 13$$

$$|\kappa_u| < 260$$

$$|\kappa_d| < 156$$

HL-LHC @ 95% CL

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HL-LHC @ 95% CL

Are there models/particles which can give rise to these without having been excluded already?

# Exploration of the BSM space

We assume heavy new physics -- and use SMEFT. *See talk by Konstantin for a nice introduction.*

Anything that matches to:

$$\mathcal{O}_{u\phi} = \bar{q}_L \tilde{\phi} u_R \phi^\dagger \phi \quad \text{and/or} \quad \mathcal{O}_{d\phi} = \bar{q}_L \phi d_R \phi^\dagger \phi$$

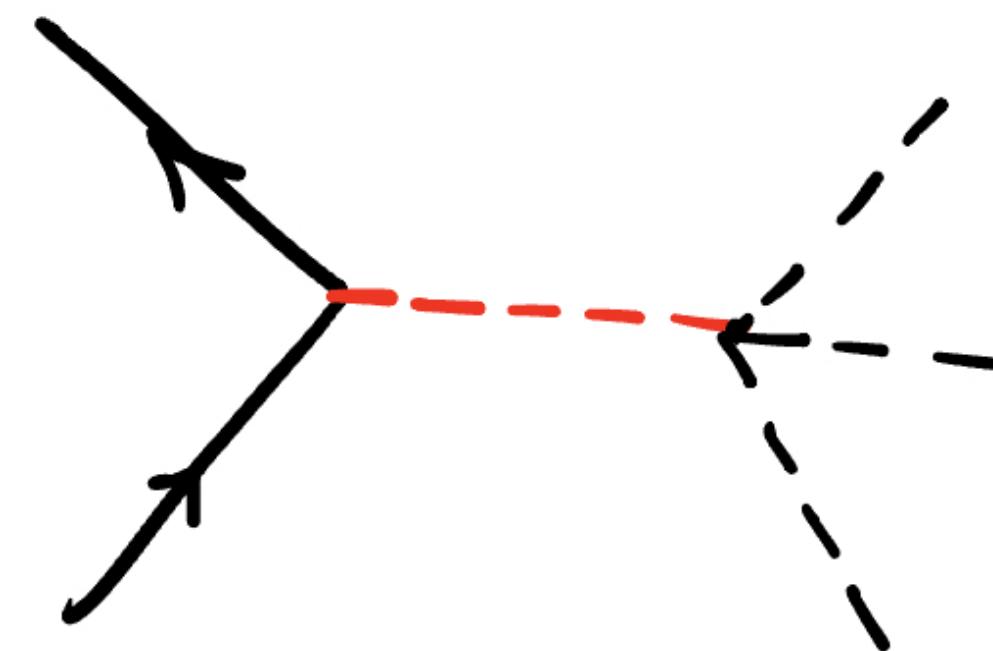
modify the effective Higgs-quark coupling

$$-\mathcal{L} \supset g_{h q_i \bar{q}_j} \bar{q}_j q_i h \quad \text{with} \quad g_{h q_i \bar{q}_j} = \frac{m_q}{v} \delta_{ij} [1 + v^2 \mathcal{C}_{\phi, \text{kin}}] - \frac{v^2}{\sqrt{2}} (\tilde{\mathcal{C}}_{q\phi})_{ij}$$

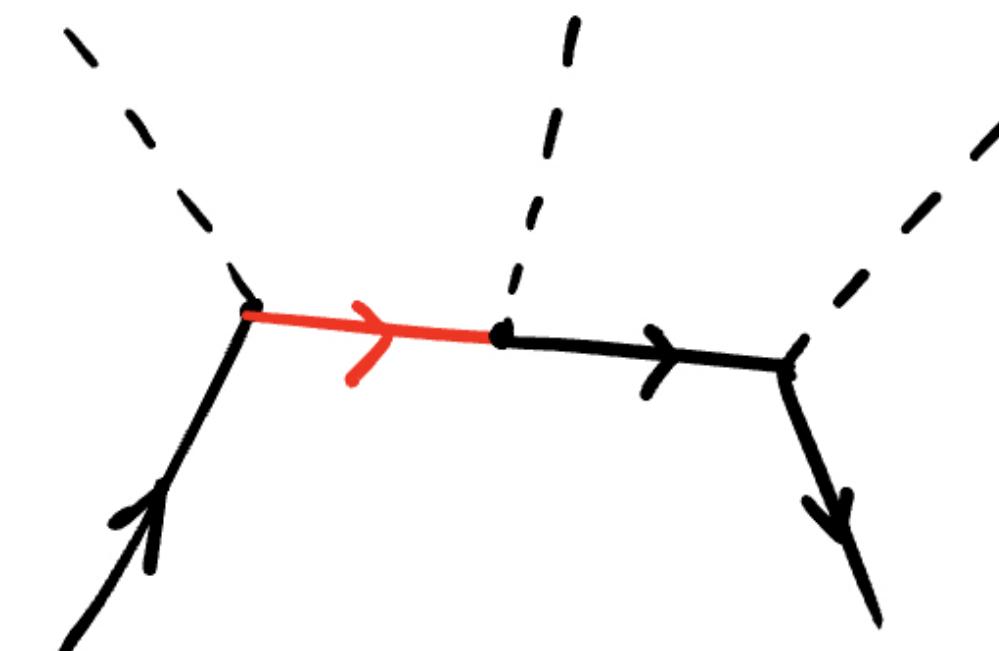
1. Single mediators.

Two options:

New scalars:



New fermions:



Higgs bosons with large couplings to light quarks: D. Egana-Ugrinovic, S. Homiller, P. Meade; [arXiv:1908.11376](https://arxiv.org/abs/1908.11376)

How charming can the Higgs be? A.S. Giannakopoulou, P. Meade, M. Valli; [arXiv:2410.05236](https://arxiv.org/abs/2410.05236)

# Exploration of the BSM space

$$\mathcal{O}_{u\phi} = \bar{q}_L \tilde{\phi} u_R \phi^\dagger \phi$$

and

$$\mathcal{O}_{d\phi} = \bar{q}_L \phi d_R \phi^\dagger \phi$$

## 1. Single mediators.

Difficult to produce sizeable modifications as:

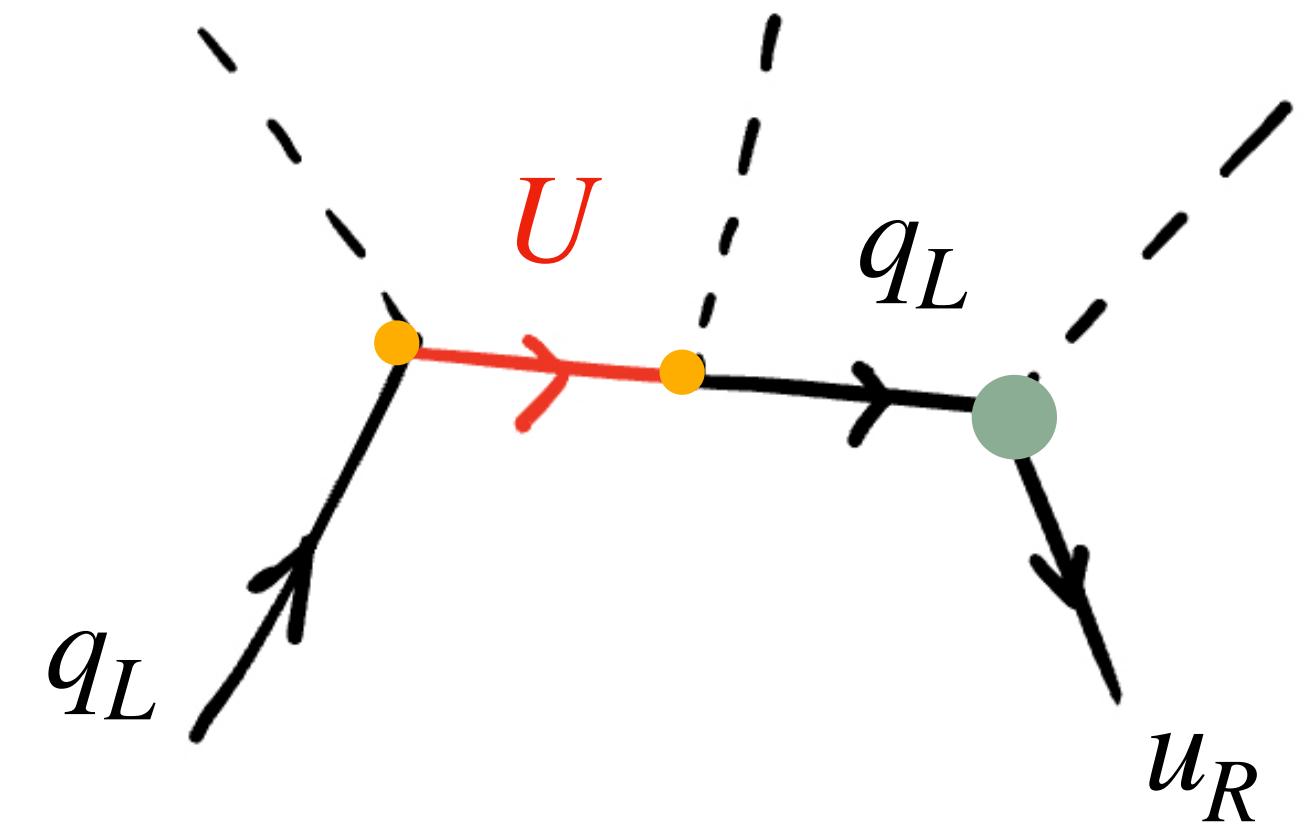
$$C_{q\phi} \simeq y_q \times \lambda_{\text{NP}}^2 \quad \text{such that} \quad \kappa_q = \frac{g_{hqq}}{g_{hqq}^{\text{SM}}} \simeq 1 \pm \frac{v^2}{\Lambda_{\text{NP}}^2} \lambda_{\text{NP}}^2$$

Concrete example:  $U \sim (3,1)_{2/3}$

$$-\mathcal{L} \supset \lambda_U \bar{U}_R \tilde{\phi}^\dagger q_L + M_U \bar{U} U$$

$$[C_{u\phi}]_{ij} = \frac{[y_u^*]_{jk} [\lambda_U]_k [\lambda_U^*]_i}{2M_U^2} \longrightarrow$$

$$\kappa_u \simeq 1 + \frac{v^2 |[\lambda_U]_1|^2}{2M_U^2} = 1 - \sqrt{2}\delta g_{Zu}$$



Already very constrained  
by electroweak processes

# Exploration of the BSM space

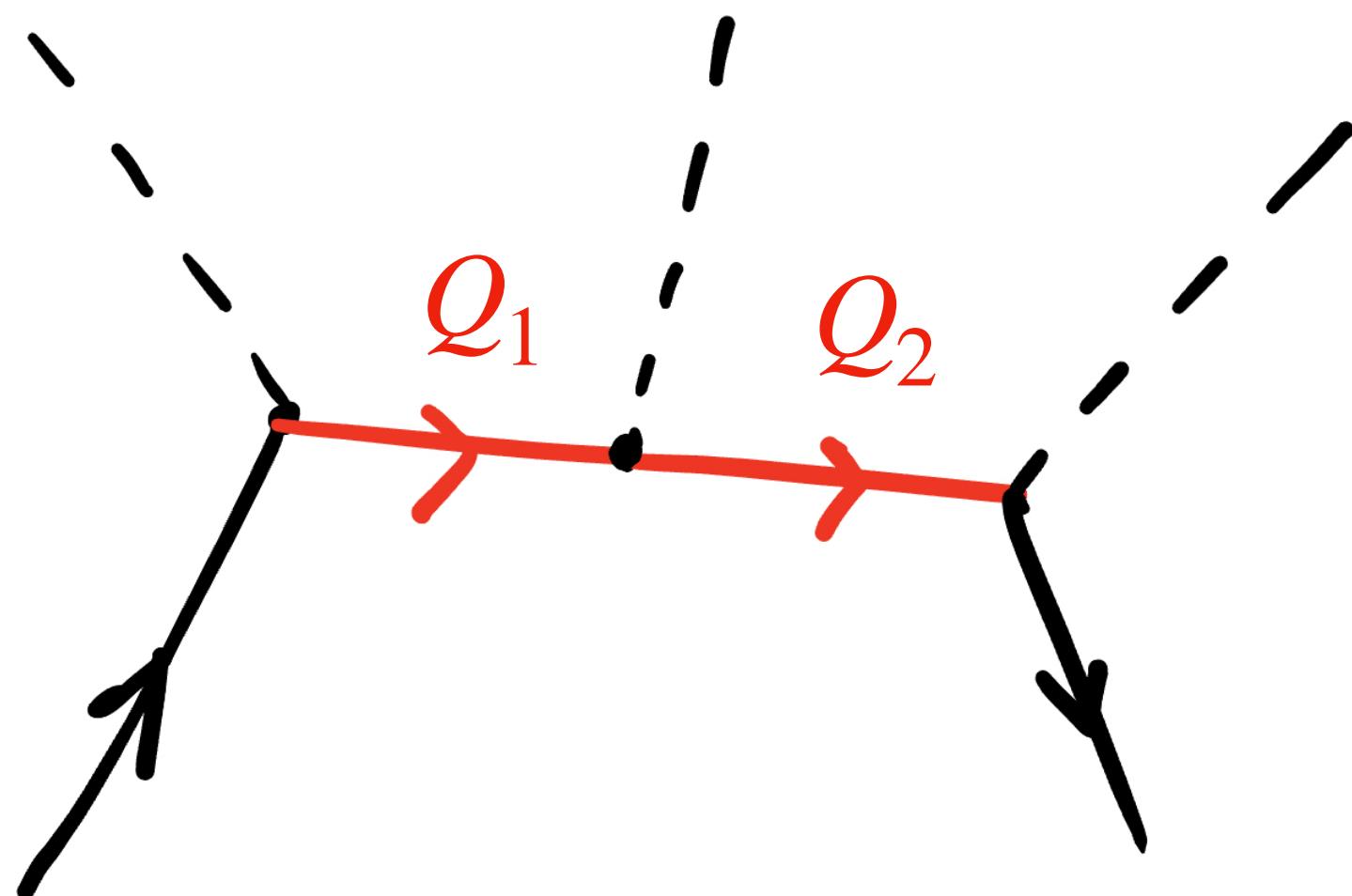
$$\mathcal{O}_{u\phi} = \bar{q}_L \tilde{\phi} u_R \phi^\dagger \phi$$

and

$$\mathcal{O}_{d\phi} = \bar{q}_L \phi d_R \phi^\dagger \phi$$

$\mathcal{C}_{q\phi} \neq y_q(1 \pm \mathcal{O}(1) v^2/\Lambda^2)$  can be achieved with **a pair** of new particles

2. New pairs:



There is no dim-4 Yukawa  $y_q$  insertion.

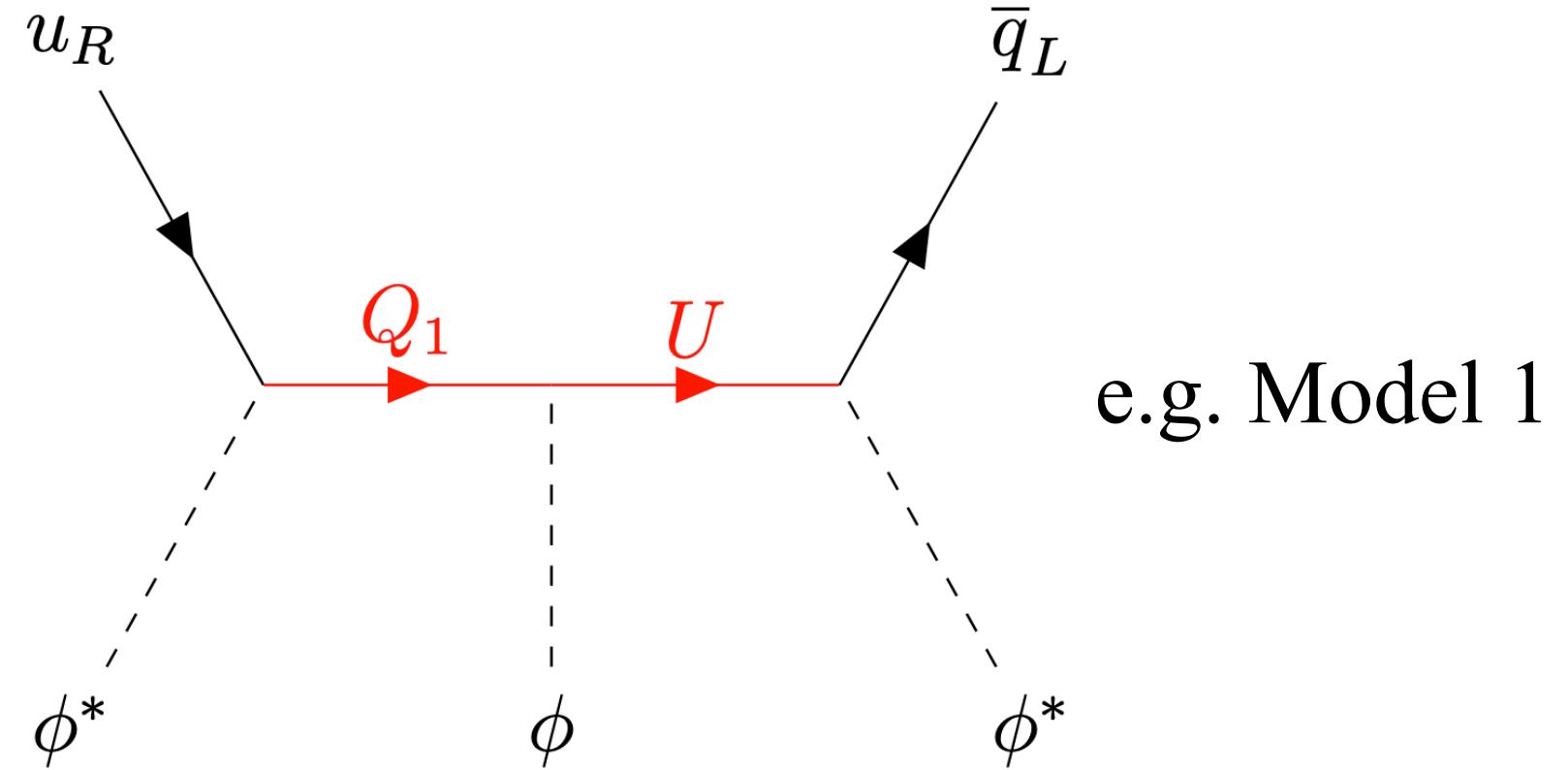
# Exploration of the BSM space

Seven vector-like quarks that allow for the couplings to the Higgs doublet and the SM fermions:

Name	$U$	$D$	$Q_1$	$Q_5$	$Q_7$	$T_1$	$T_2$
Irrep under $G_{\text{SM}}$	$(3, 1)_{\frac{2}{3}}$	$(3, 1)_{-\frac{1}{3}}$	$(3, 2)_{\frac{1}{6}}$	$(3, 2)_{-\frac{5}{6}}$	$(3, 2)_{\frac{7}{6}}$	$(3, 3)_{-\frac{1}{3}}$	$(3, 3)_{\frac{2}{3}}$

Eight possible simplified models:

	Singlet + Doublet	Doublet + Triplet
Model 1	$U + Q_1$	Model 5 $T_1 + Q_1$
Model 2	$D + Q_1$	Model 6 $T_1 + Q_5$
Model 3	$U + Q_7$	Model 7 $T_2 + Q_1$
Model 4	$D + Q_5$	Model 8 $T_2 + Q_7$



All characterised by (schematically):

$$-\mathcal{L} \supset \boxed{\lambda_{q_L}} Q_1 \phi q_L + \boxed{\lambda_{q_R}} Q_2 \phi q_R + \boxed{\lambda_{Q_1 Q_2}} Q_1 \phi Q_2 \quad \rightarrow \quad \kappa_q - 1 \sim \frac{v^2 \lambda_{q_L} \lambda_{q_R} \lambda_{Q_1 Q_2}}{M_{Q_1} M_{Q_2}}$$

# Constraints

The following operators are generated at tree-level:

$h \rightarrow u_L \bar{u}_R$	$[\mathcal{O}_{u\phi}]^{rp}$	$\bar{q}_L^r \tilde{\phi} u_R^p \phi^\dagger \phi$	$[\mathcal{O}_{d\phi}]^{rp}$	$\bar{q}_L^r \phi d_R^p \phi^\dagger \phi$	$h \rightarrow d_L \bar{d}_R$
$Z \rightarrow u_R \bar{u}_R$	$[\mathcal{O}_{\phi u}]^{rp}$	$(i\phi^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu \phi)(\bar{u}_R^r \gamma^\mu u_R^p)$	$[\mathcal{O}_{\phi d}]^{rp}$	$(i\phi^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu \phi)(\bar{d}_R^r \gamma^\mu d_R^p)$	$Z \rightarrow d_R \bar{d}_R$
$Z \rightarrow u_L \bar{u}_L$	$[\mathcal{O}_{\phi q}^{(1)}]^{rp}$	$(i\phi^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu \phi)(\bar{q}_L^r \gamma^\mu q_L^p)$	$[\mathcal{O}_{\phi q}^{(3)}]^{rp}$	$(i\phi^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu^I \phi)(\bar{q}_L^r \gamma^\mu \sigma^I q_L^p)$	$Z \rightarrow u_L \bar{u}_L$
$Z \rightarrow d_L \bar{d}_L$	$[\mathcal{O}_{\phi ud}]^{rp}$	$(i\tilde{\phi}^\dagger D_\mu \phi)(\bar{u}_L^r \gamma^\mu d_L^p)$			$Z \rightarrow d_L \bar{d}_L$
					$W \rightarrow u_L \bar{d}_L$

Important one-loop effects:

$$gg \rightarrow h$$

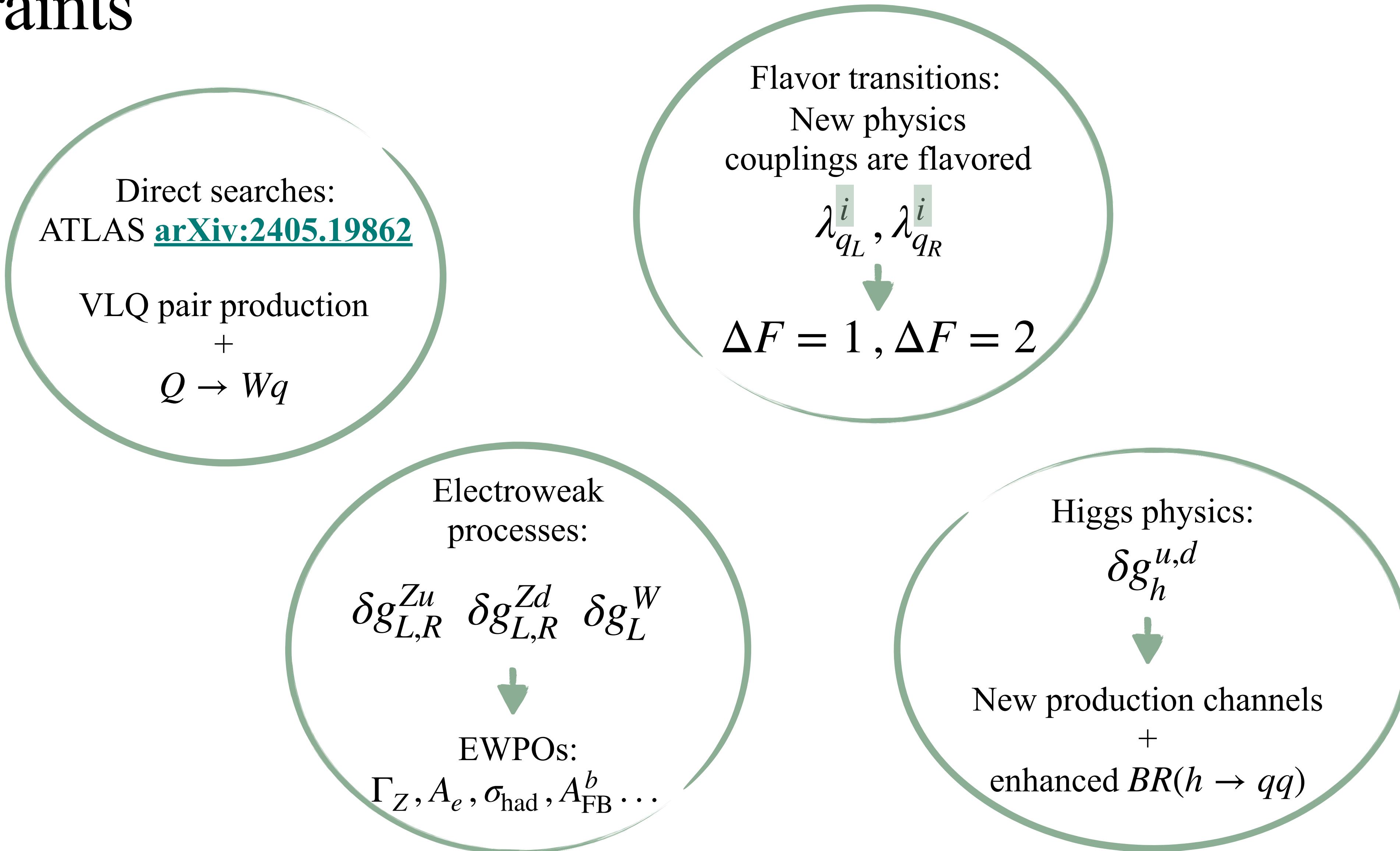


$$h \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$$

$\mathcal{O}_{\phi\square}$	$(\phi^\dagger \phi) \square (\phi^\dagger \phi)$	$\mathcal{O}_{\phi G}$	$\phi^\dagger \phi G_{\mu\nu}^A G^{\mu\nu A}$	$\mathcal{O}_{\phi B}$	$\phi^\dagger \phi B_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu}$
$\mathcal{O}_{\phi D}$	$ \phi^\dagger D_\mu \phi ^2$	$\mathcal{O}_{\phi W}$	$\phi^\dagger \phi W_{\mu\nu}^I W^{\mu\nu I}$	$\mathcal{O}_{\phi WB}$	$\phi^\dagger \sigma^I \phi W_{\mu\nu}^I B^{\mu\nu}$

Electroweak processes &  $m_W$

# Constraints



# Direct searches

Run II 140 fb<sup>-1</sup>:

ATLAS [arXiv:2405.19862](#): *Search for pair-produced vector-like quarks coupling to light quarks in the lepton plus jets final state using 13 TeV pp collisions with the ATLAS detector*

$$\text{BR}(Q \rightarrow Wq) = 1$$

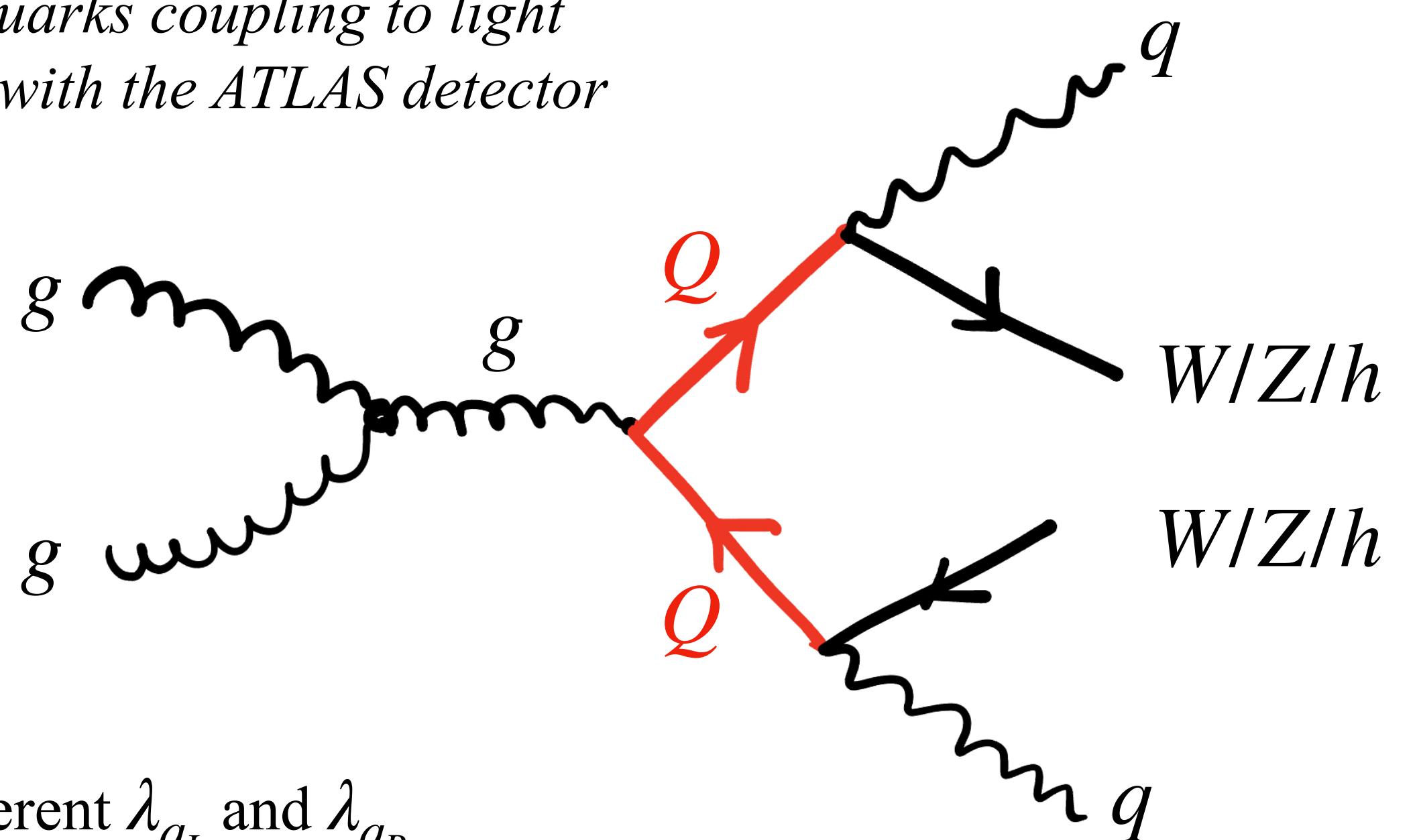
$$M_Q > 1530 \text{ GeV} @ 95\% \text{ CL}$$

$$\text{BR}(Q \rightarrow Wq : Zq : hq) = 0.5 : 0.25 : 0.25$$

$$M_Q > 1150 \text{ GeV} @ 95\% \text{ CL}$$

Different branching ratios can be obtained in Models 1 – 8 for different  $\lambda_{q_L}$  and  $\lambda_{q_R}$

We set  $M_{Q_1} = M_{Q_2} = \Lambda > 1.6 \text{ TeV}$ .



# Flavor transitions

$$-\mathcal{L} \supset \lambda_{q_L}^i Q_1 \phi q_L^i + \lambda_{q_R}^i Q_2 \phi q_R^i + \lambda_{Q_1 Q_2} Q_1 \phi Q_2 \rightarrow [C_{q\phi}]^{ij} \sim \frac{v^2 \lambda_{q_L}^i \lambda_{q_R}^j \lambda_{Q_1 Q_2}}{M_{Q_1} M_{Q_2}}$$

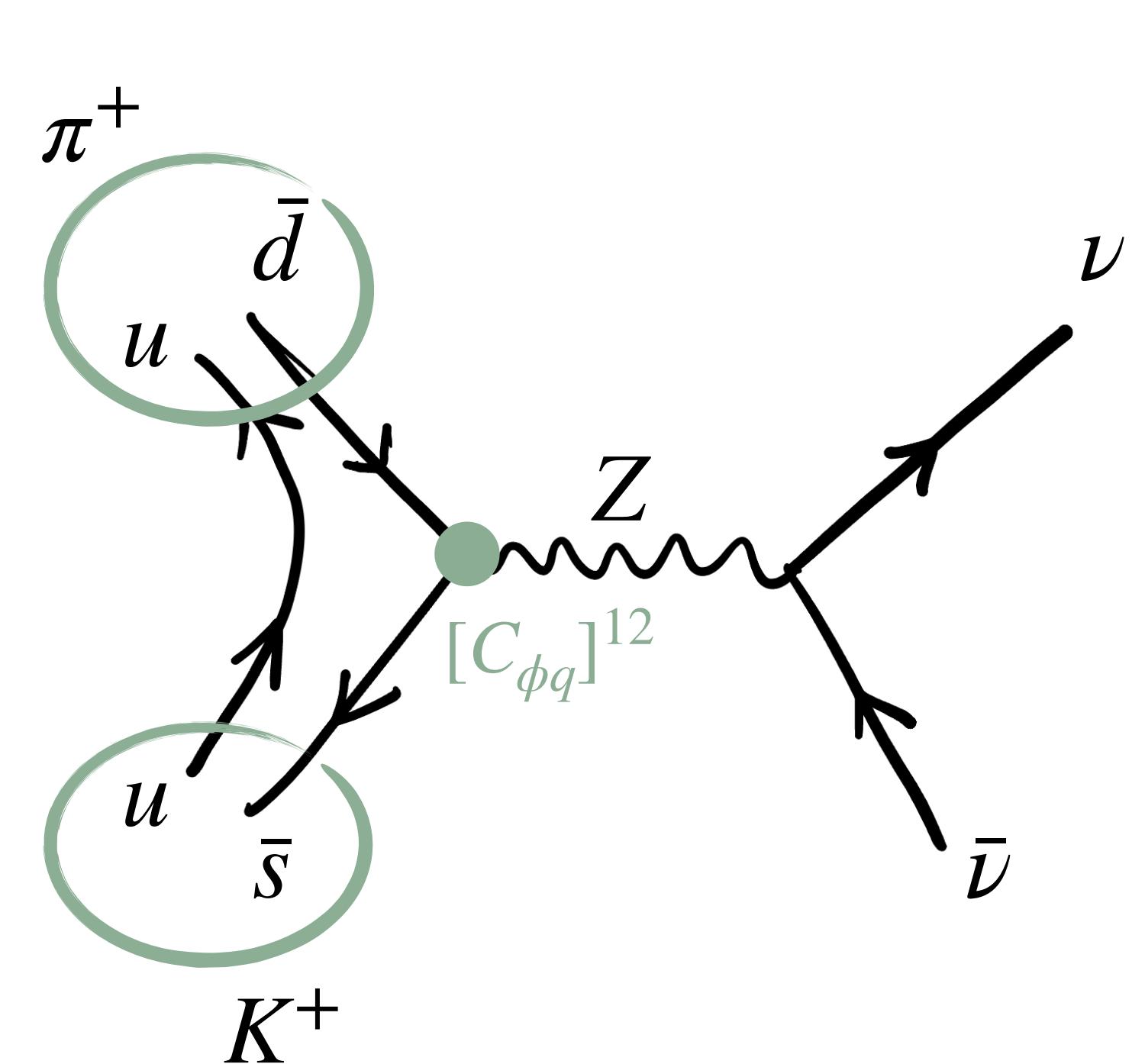
but also  $[C_{\phi q_L}]^{ij} \sim \frac{v^2 \lambda_{q_L}^i \lambda_{q_L}^j}{M_{Q_1}^2}$  and  $[C_{\phi q_R}]^{ij} \sim \frac{v^2 \lambda_{q_R}^i \lambda_{q_R}^j}{M_{Q_2}^2}$

$[\mathcal{O}_{\phi u}]^{rp}$	$(i\phi^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu \phi)(\bar{u}_R^r \gamma^\mu u_R^p)$	$[\mathcal{O}_{\phi d}]^{rp}$	$(i\phi^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu \phi)(\bar{d}_R^r \gamma^\mu d_R^p)$
$[\mathcal{O}_{\phi q}]^{(1)}[rp]$	$(i\phi^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu \phi)(\bar{q}_L^r \gamma^\mu q_L^p)$	$[\mathcal{O}_{\phi q}]^{(3)}[rp]$	$(i\phi^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu^I \phi)(\bar{q}_L^r \gamma^\mu \sigma^I q_L^p)$

Example:  $Q_1 \sim (3,2)_{1/6}$  with  $-\mathcal{L} \supset [\lambda_{Q_1}^d]_i \bar{Q}_1 \phi d_R^i$

$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$ : constrains  $M_{Q_1} > 128 \times \sqrt{|[\lambda_{Q_1}^d]_1| |[\lambda_{Q_1}^2]_2|}$  TeV  
 (no chance to observe contributions to light Yukawas)

New states have to couple to **only one** family!



# Flavor transitions

Even then, states which match to  $\mathcal{O}_{\phi q}^{(3)}$  modify  $W$  interactions:

$$\delta g_W^{ii} \sim v^2 [C_{\phi q}^{(3)}]^{ii} \sim \frac{v^2 |\lambda_Q|_i^2}{M_{Q_1}^2}$$

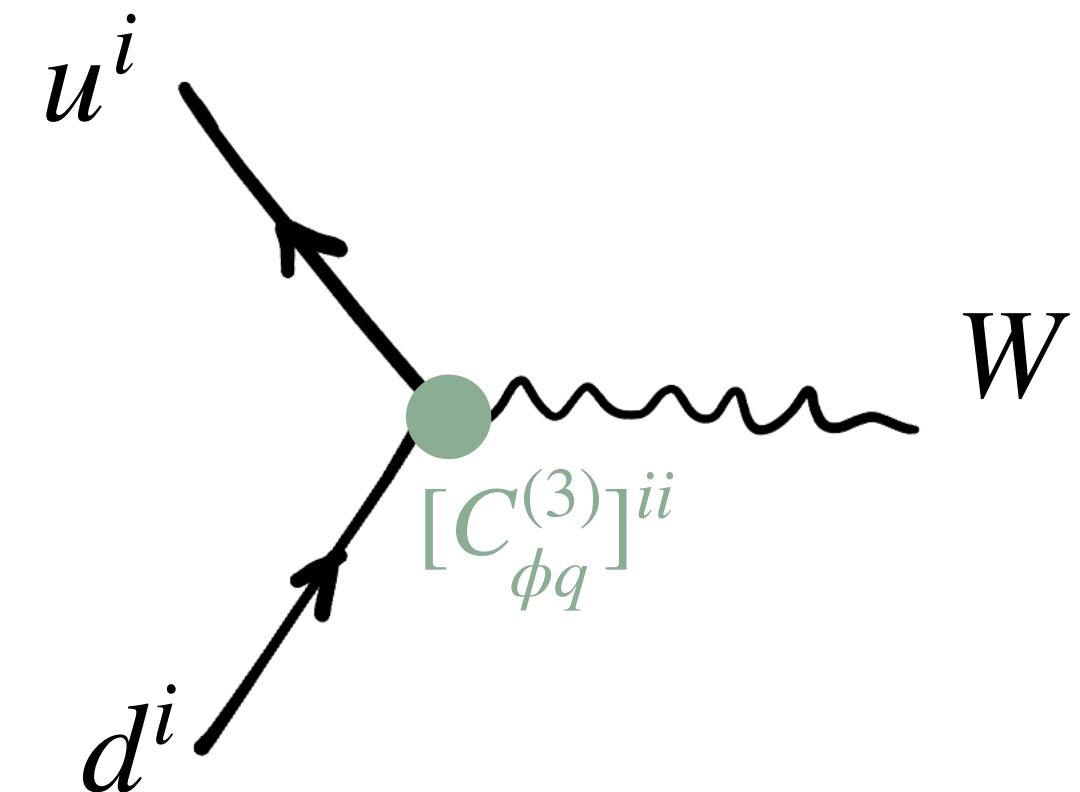
which manifest as unitarity violation of the CKM matrix

$$S_{ii} = |V_{i1}|^2 + |V_{i2}|^2 + |V_{i3}|^2 = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{SM} \\ 1 \pm \frac{v^2 |\lambda_Q|_i^2}{M_{Q_1}^2}, & \text{NP} \end{cases}$$

Exp:  $S_{11} = 0.9984 \pm 0.0007$ , first row unitarity (PDG: [Phys. Rev. D 110 no. 3, \(2024\) 030001](#))

$$M_\Psi > 3.2 \times |[\lambda_\Psi]_1| \text{ TeV}, \quad \Psi = U, D,$$

$$M_\Psi > 1.6 \times |[\lambda_\Psi]_1| \text{ TeV}, \quad \Psi = T_1, T_2$$



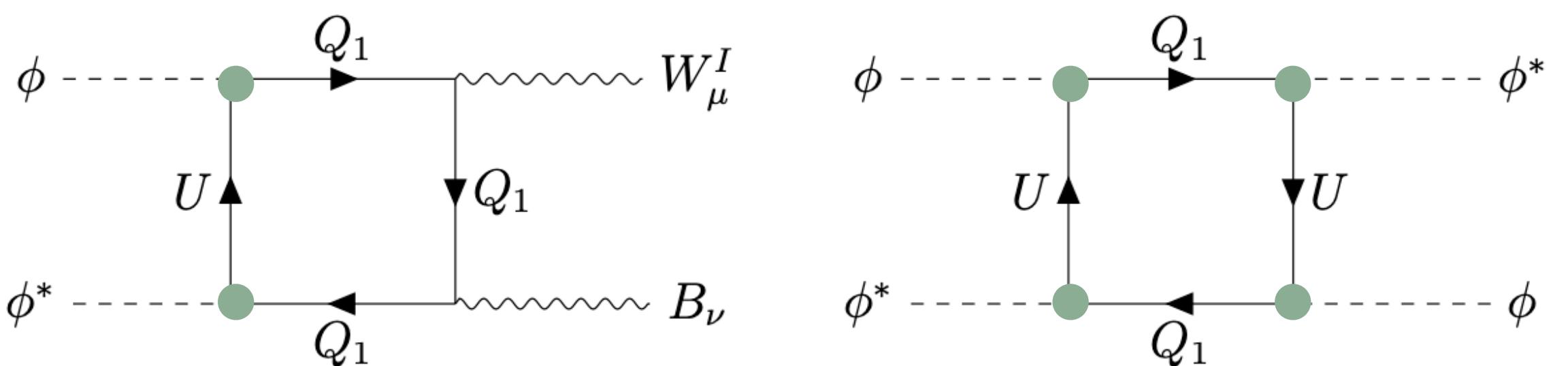
# Electroweak processes

Observable	Definition	Observable	Definition
$\Gamma_Z$	$\sum_f \Gamma(Z \rightarrow f\bar{f})$	$R_{uc}$	$\frac{\Gamma(Z \rightarrow u\bar{u}) + \Gamma(Z \rightarrow c\bar{c})}{2 \sum_q \Gamma(Z \rightarrow q\bar{q})}$
$\sigma_{\text{had}}$	$\frac{12\pi}{m_Z} \frac{\Gamma(Z \rightarrow e^+ e^-) \Gamma(Z \rightarrow q\bar{q})}{\Gamma_Z^2}$	$m_W$	$m_W$
$R_f$	$\frac{\Gamma(Z \rightarrow f\bar{f})}{\sum_q \Gamma(Z \rightarrow q\bar{q})}$	$\Gamma_W$	$\sum_{f_1, f_2} \Gamma(W \rightarrow f_1 f_2)$
$A_f$	$\frac{\Gamma(Z \rightarrow f_L \bar{f}_L) - \Gamma(Z \rightarrow f_R \bar{f}_R)}{\Gamma(Z \rightarrow f\bar{f})}$	$\text{BR}(W \rightarrow \ell\nu)$	$\frac{\Gamma(W \rightarrow \ell\nu)}{\Gamma_W}$
$A_{\text{FB}}^{0,\ell}$	$\frac{3}{4} A_e A_\ell$	$R_{W_c}$	$\frac{\Gamma(W \rightarrow cs)}{\Gamma(W \rightarrow ud) + \Gamma(W \rightarrow cs)}$
$A_c^{\text{FB}}$	$\frac{3}{4} A_e A_c$	$A_b^{\text{FB}}$	$\frac{3}{4} A_e A_b$

$$\delta m_W = -\frac{v^2 g_2^2}{4(g_2^2 - g_1^2)} \mathcal{C}_{\phi D} - \frac{v^2 g_1 g_2}{g_2^2 - g_1^2} \mathcal{C}_{\phi WB}$$

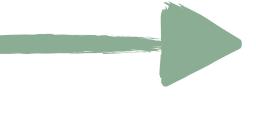
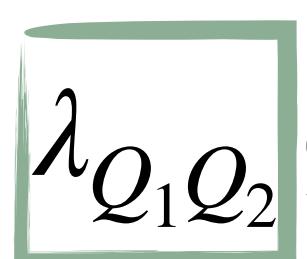
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$$\chi^2_{\text{EWPO}} = \sum_{ij} [O_{i,\text{exp}} - O_{i,\text{th}}] (\sigma^{-2})_{ij} [O_{j,\text{exp}} - O_{j,\text{th}}]$$



$$-\mathcal{L} \supset \lambda_{q_L} Q_1 \phi q_L + \lambda_{q_R} Q_2 \phi q_R + \boxed{\lambda_{Q_1 Q_2}} Q_1 \phi Q_2$$

Crucial as sensitive to  
VLQ-VLQ-Higgs coupling


 $C_{q\phi} \sim \frac{v^2 \lambda_{q_L} \lambda_{q_R} \lambda_{Q_1 Q_2}}{M_{Q_1} M_{Q_2}}$ 



# Higgs physics

Enhanced light Yukawa couplings affect the Higgs production ( $pp \rightarrow h$ ):

$$\sigma = [48.68 + 2.83 \cdot 10^4 v^2 \mathcal{C}_{\phi G} + (8.52 \kappa_u^2 + 2.71 \kappa_d^2) \cdot 10^{-6} + 2.53 \cdot 10^{-3} \kappa_s^2 + 0.25 \kappa_c^2] \text{ pb}$$

and decays:

$$\Gamma_h^{\text{SMEFT}} \supset \sum_q \kappa_q^2 \Gamma_q^{\text{SM}}$$

We perform the fit using the signal strengths:

$$\mu_i = \frac{\sigma \cdot \text{BR}_i}{\sigma^{\text{SM}} \cdot \text{BR}_i^{\text{SM}}}$$

$$i = W^+W^-, ZZ, b\bar{b}, \tau^+\tau^-, \mu^+\mu^-, \gamma\gamma$$

Decay Channel $i$	$\text{BR}_i^{\text{SM}}$	$\mu_i^{\text{exp}}$
$h \rightarrow WW$	22.00%	$0.97 \pm 0.09$
$h \rightarrow ZZ$	2.71%	$0.97 \pm 0.12$
$h \rightarrow b\bar{b}$	57.63%	$1.05 \pm 0.22$
$h \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-$	6.21%	$0.85 \pm 0.10$
$h \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$	0.0216%	$1.21 \pm 0.44$
$h \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$	0.227%	$1.13 \pm 0.09$

# Constructing the fit

$$\chi^2_{\text{TOT}} = \chi^2_{\text{EWPO}} + \chi^2_{\text{Higgs}} + \boxed{\chi^2_{\text{Flav}}} \quad \rightarrow$$

and  $\Lambda = 1.6 \text{ TeV}$

E.g. Model 1 with the first family couplings:

$$\chi^2_{\text{Flav}} = 3.84 \left( \frac{3.2 |\lambda_U|_1}{1.6} \right)^2$$

implements the CKM unitarity violation constraint.

$$-\mathcal{L} \supset \boxed{\lambda_{q_L}} Q_1 \phi q_L + \boxed{\lambda_{q_R}} Q_2 \phi q_R + \boxed{\lambda_{Q_1 Q_2}} Q_1 \phi Q_2 \quad \rightarrow \quad C_{q\phi} \sim \frac{v^2}{\Lambda^2} \times \lambda_{q_L} \lambda_{q_R} \lambda_{Q_1 Q_2}$$

We present the results for the allowed regions in the  $\lambda_{q_L} - \lambda_{q_R}$  plane:

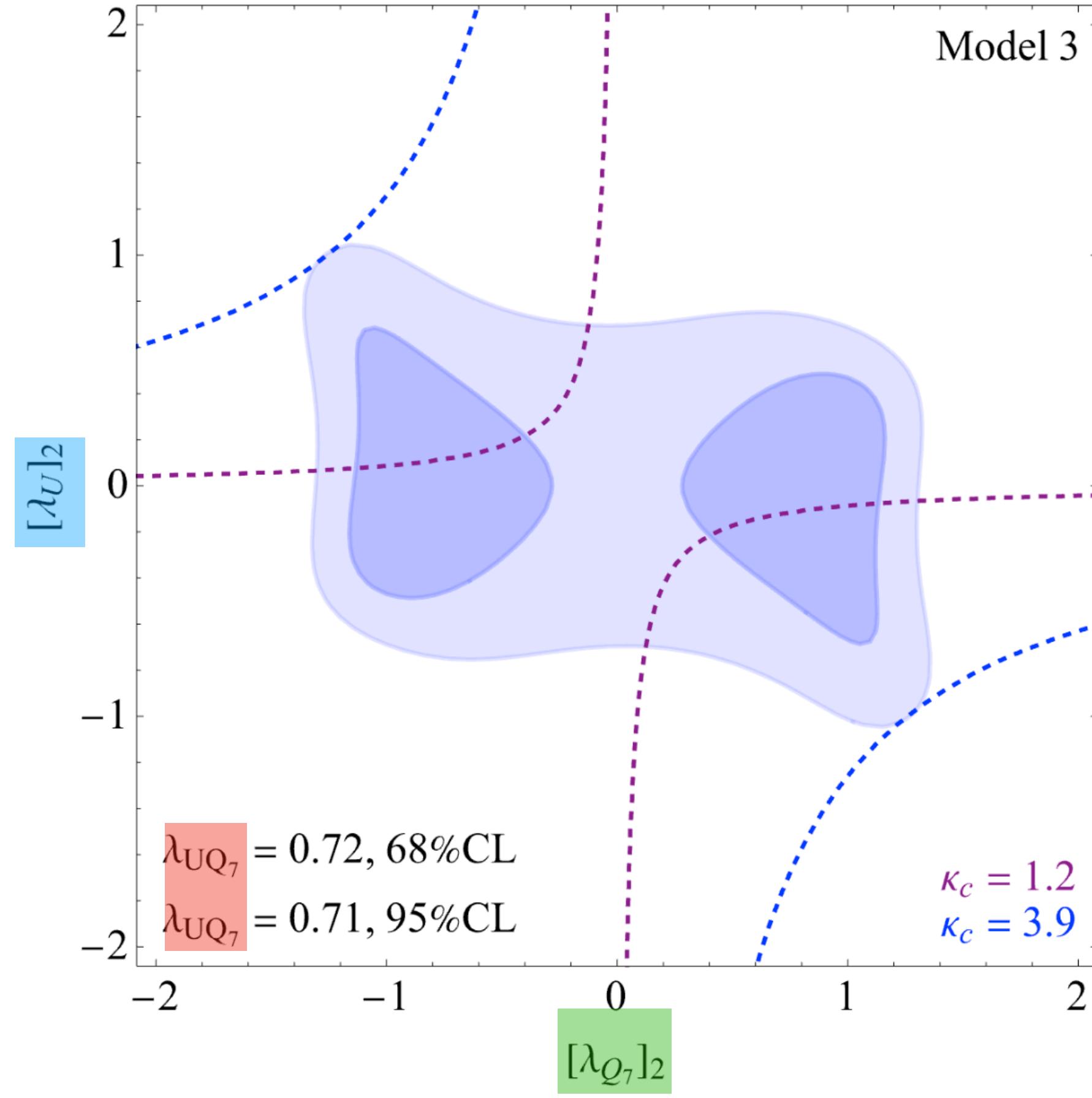
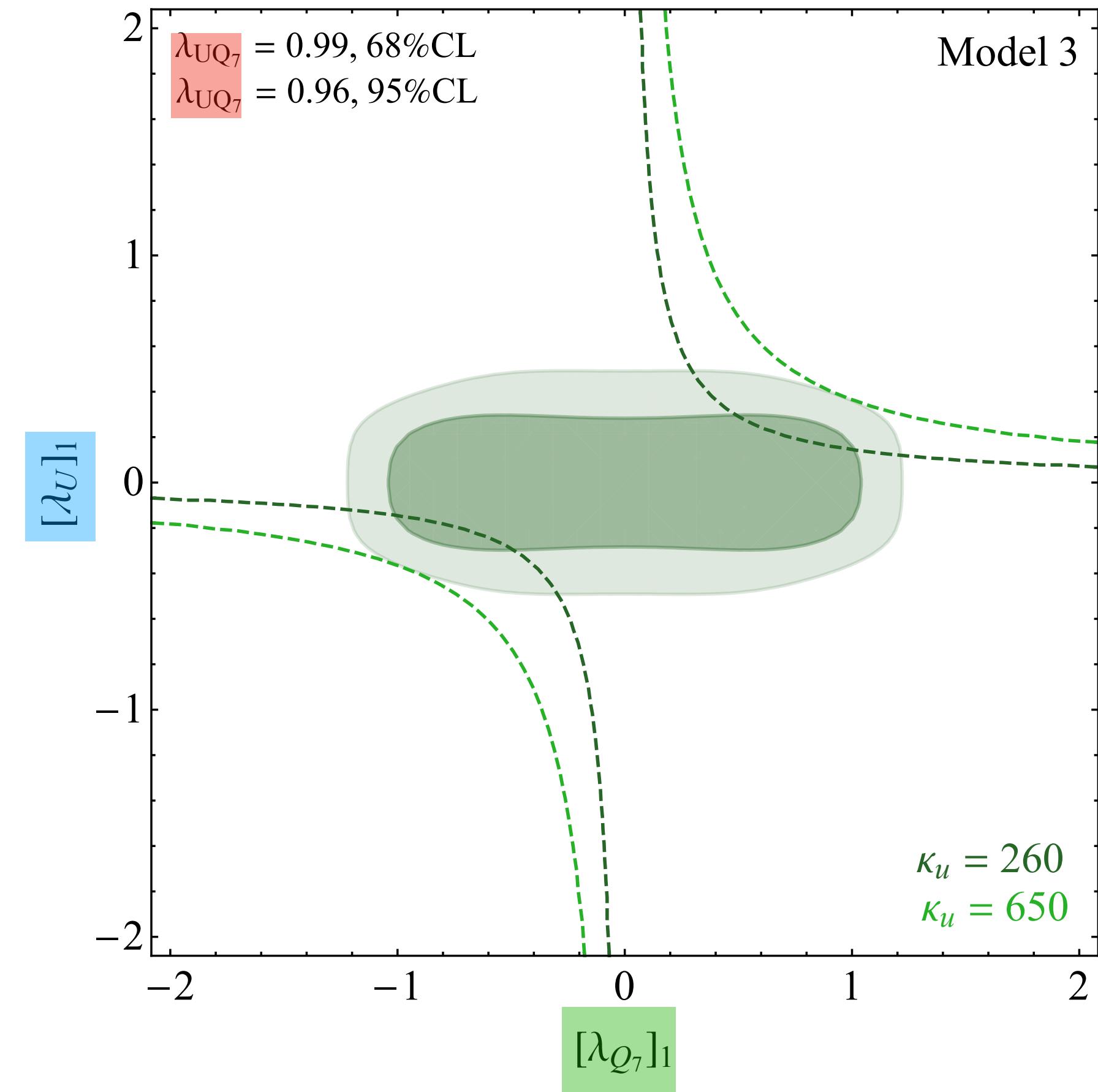
$$\boxed{\chi^2_{\text{TOT}}(\lambda_{q_L}, \lambda_{q_R}) < \chi^2_{\text{TOT}}(\lambda_{q_L}, \lambda_{q_R})|_{\min} + \chi^2(95\% \text{ CL})}$$

While the coupling  $\lambda_{Q_1 Q_2}$  is chosen to maximise  $\kappa_q$  under the condition:

$$\boxed{\chi^2_{\text{TOT}}(\lambda_{q_L}, \lambda_{q_R}, \lambda_{Q_1 Q_2}) < \chi^2_{\text{TOT}}(\lambda_{q_L}, \lambda_{q_R}, \lambda_{Q_1 Q_2})|_{\min} + \chi^2(95\% \text{ CL})}$$

# Results

Example Model 3:  $-\mathcal{L}_3^{\text{int}} = \lambda_U \overline{U}_R \tilde{\phi}^\dagger q_L + \lambda_{Q_7} \overline{Q}_7 L \phi u_R + \lambda_{UQ_7} \overline{U} \phi^\dagger Q_7 + \text{h.c.}$



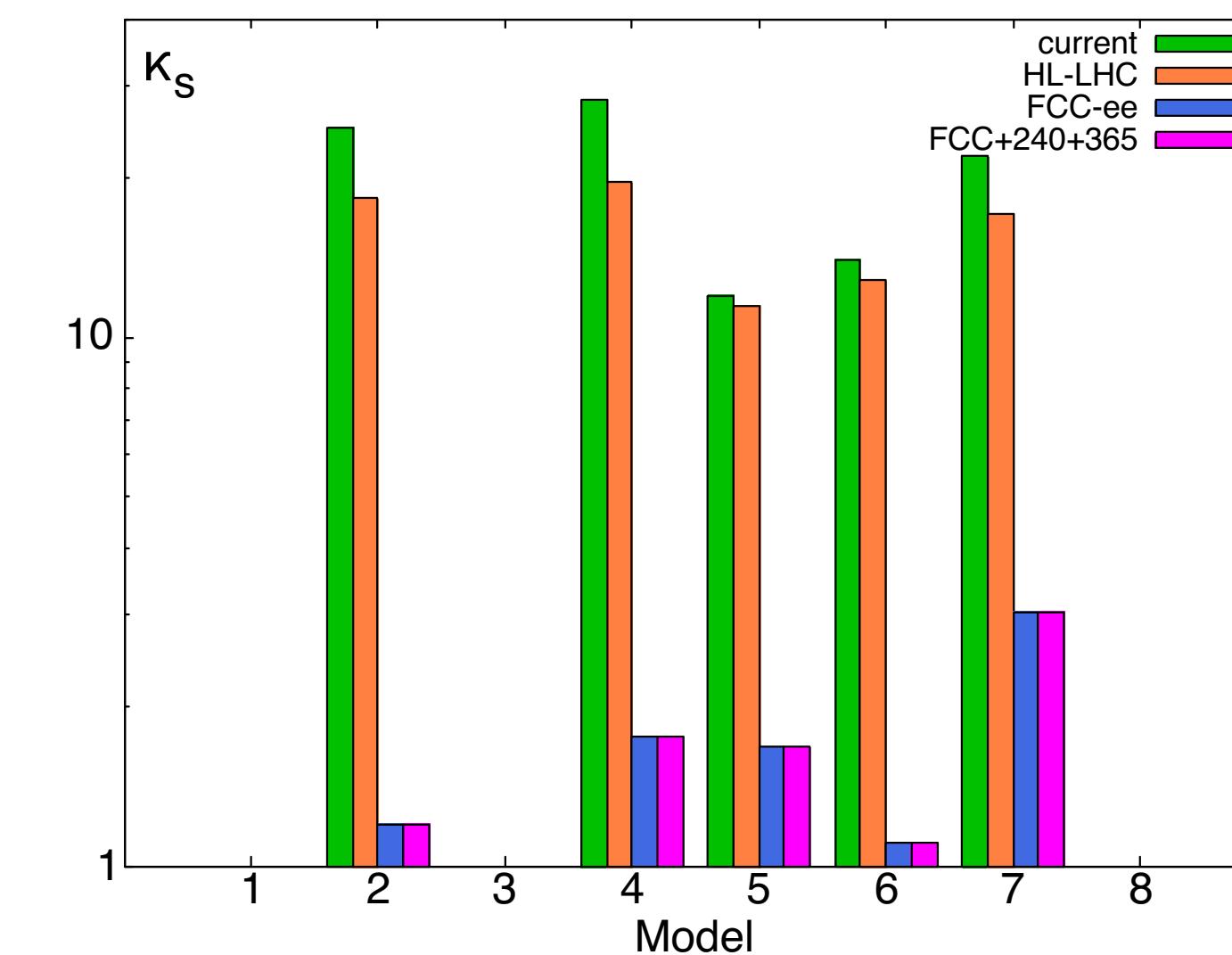
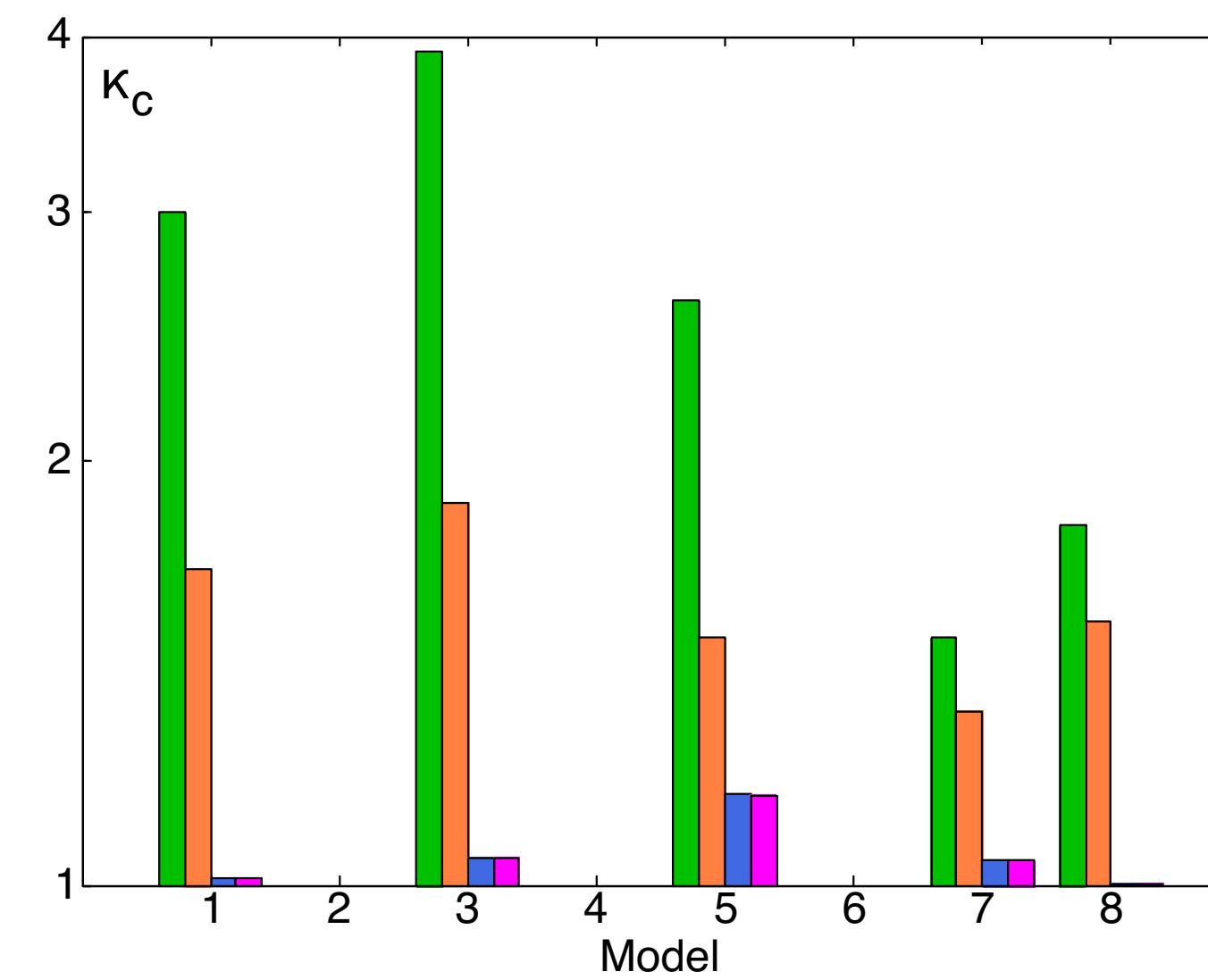
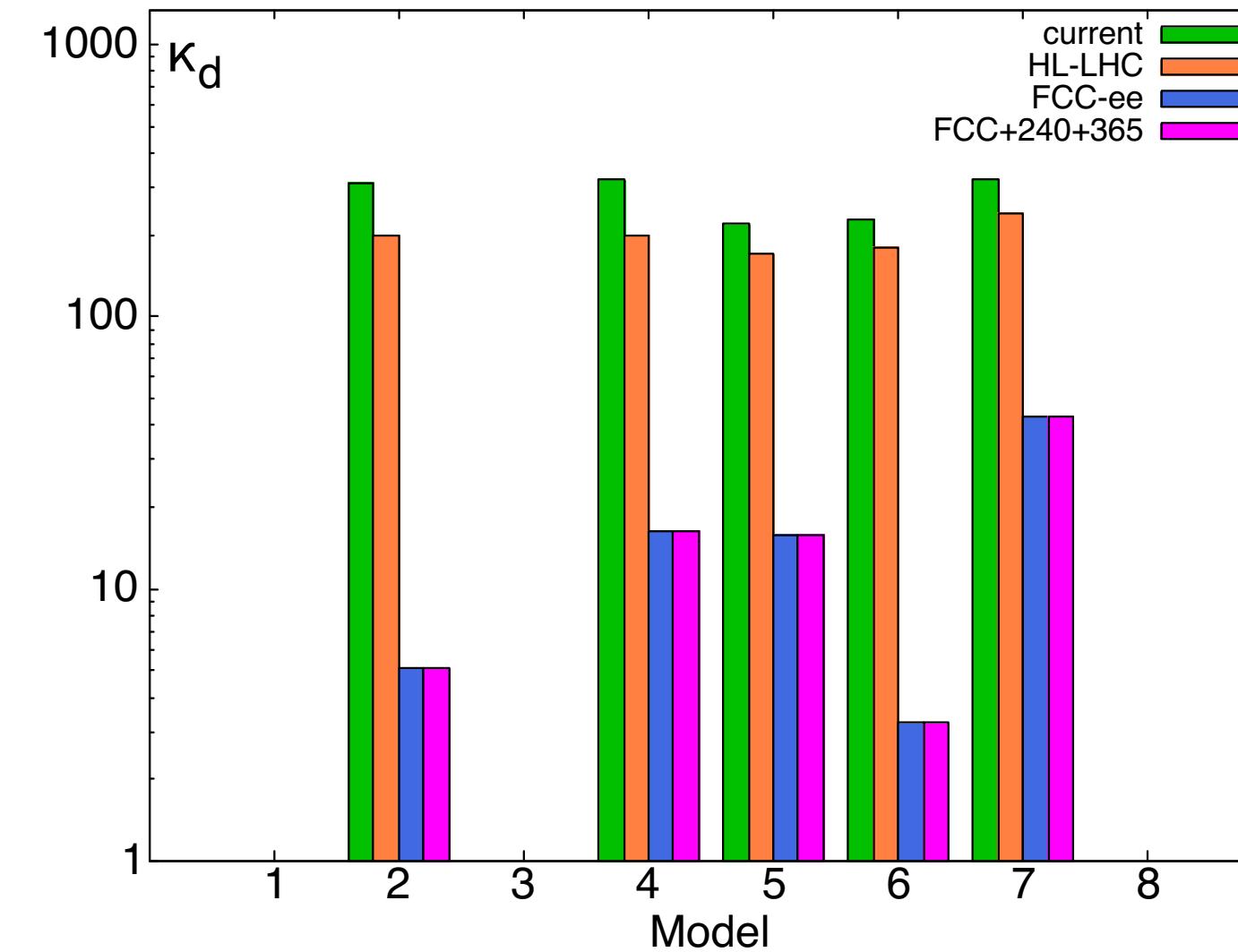
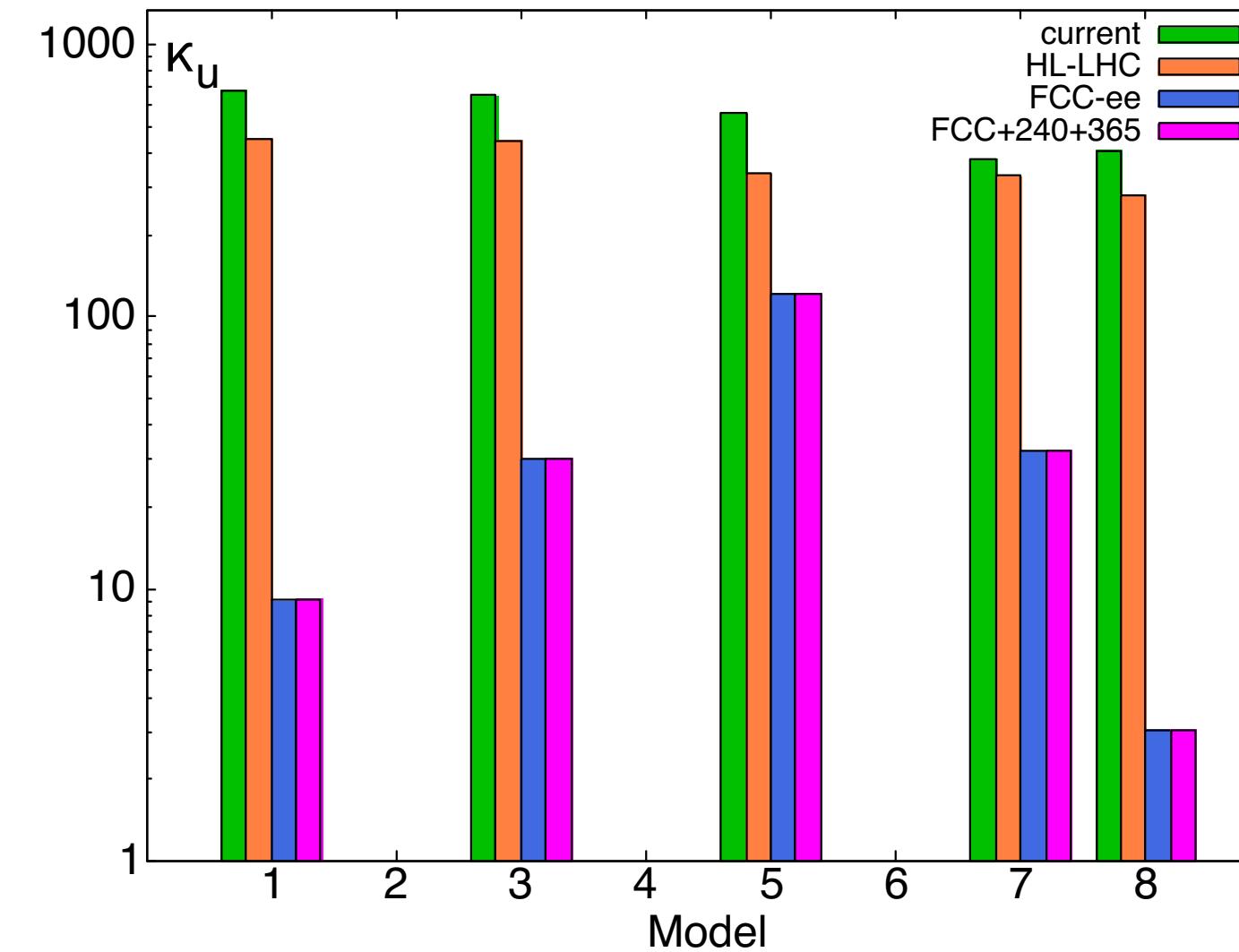
# Results

Allowed coupling modifiers for other models:

	Mod.1	Mod.2	Mod.3	Mod.4	Mod.5	Mod.6	Mod.7	Mod.8
$\kappa_u$								
Current	680	-	650	-	940	-	380	410
$\kappa_d$								
Current	-	310	-	320	220	230	360	-
$\kappa_c$								
Current	3.0	-	3.9	-	2.6	-	1.5	1.8
$\kappa_s$								
Current	-	25	-	28	12	14	14	-

cf.  $|\kappa_u| < 260$ ,  $|\kappa_d| < 156$ ,  $|\kappa_c| < 1.2$ ,  $|\kappa_s| < 13$  at HL-LHC @ 95%CL

# Projections



G. Bernardi et al., “The Future Circular Collider: a Summary for the US 2021 Snowmass Process”: [arXiv:2203.06520](https://arxiv.org/abs/2203.06520)

J. De Blas, G. Durieux, C. Grojean, J. Gu, and A. Paul, “On the future of Higgs, electroweak and diboson measurements at lepton colliders”: [arXiv:1907.04311](https://arxiv.org/abs/1907.04311)

$$|\kappa_c| < \mathcal{O}(1.04)$$

$$|\kappa_s| < \mathcal{O}(1.8)$$

$$|\kappa_u| < \mathcal{O}(10)$$

$$|\kappa_d| < \mathcal{O}(20)$$

FCC-ee

current	
HL-LHC	
FCC-ee	
FCC+240+365	

# Conclusions

1. Enhanced light Yukawa couplings are possible.

$$\kappa_u \sim \mathcal{O}(600), \kappa_d \sim \mathcal{O}(300), \kappa_s \sim \mathcal{O}(20), \kappa_c \sim \mathcal{O}(3)$$

(Vector-like fermions are everywhere in BSM - not so difficult to imagine these scenarios)

2. Continue with experimental effort.

(Models exist such that the light Yukawa measurements are their best probe)

3. Non-trivial interplay between the light quark Yukawa enhancements and limits on other operators in an EFT.

(The possibility of largely enhanced light quark Yukawa couplings should be taken into account when performing fits to data)