Towards the HEFT-hedron: the complete set of positivity bounds on longitudinal gauge-Higgs scattering at NLO

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- More than a decade has passed since Higgs boson Discovery
- No new particles seen in LHC ! New Physics soon or far in the future?
- One of the second se
- O Motivates us to understand the new Physics effects by utilizing standard EFT techniques to Standard Model(SM).
- S EFT Lagrangian built out of higher dimensional operators O_i s with coupling c_i s,

$$\mathcal{L}_{EFT} = \mathcal{L}_{SM} + \sum_{i} rac{\mathcal{C}_{i}}{\Lambda^{[\mathcal{O}_{i}]-4}} \mathcal{O}_{i}$$

6 Experimental goal: To constrain the space of the Wilson coefficients (WC), c_i s.

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A. Adams et al. '06

Positivity bounds

$$\begin{split} M(s_*) &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{C_1} \frac{ds' M(s')}{(s'-s_*)} = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{C_2} \frac{ds' M(s')}{(s'-s_*)} \\ \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial s_*^2} M(s_*) &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{C_2} \frac{ds' M(s')}{(s'-s_*)^3} \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{4m^2}^{\infty} ds' \operatorname{Im} M(s') \left(\frac{1}{(s'-s_*)^3} + \frac{1}{(s'+s_*-4m^2)^3}\right) > 0 \end{split}$$

Optical theorem: Im $M(s) = \sqrt{s(s - 4m^2)}\sigma_T(s)$

$$\frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial^2}{\partial s^2}M(s,t)|_{t\to 0}=c>0$$

Constrains WCs of irrelevant operators of EFTs that give rise to at least s^2 growth in $\mathcal{M}(s, t \to 0)$.

Froissart-Martin Bound: $\lim_{s\to\infty} |\mathcal{M}(s, t \to 0)|/s^2 = 0$



Figure: Analytic structure of $\mathcal{M}(s)$ in complex *s* plane.



Figure: Positivity constraints puts theoretical priors in the space of WCs

Positivity Bounds on Dim-8 SMEFT operators



Figure: Positivity Bounds on WCs of SMEFT Dim-8 operators. Fig courtesy: Q. Bi et al. (2019)

- Positivity constraints for Dim-8 SMEFT operators are well studied.
- For Dim-8 bosonic SMEFT operators including aQGCs see Remmen, Rodd'19; Q. Bi, Zhang, Zhou'19, Zhang, Zhou'19, D. Ghosh et al.'22.
- For Dim-8 fermionic SMEFT operators see Remmen, Rodd'20.

Positivity bounds on HEFT

 In this work, we explore positivity constraints on space of WCs of HEFT operators contributing to longitudinal gauge-Higgs scattering process such as the following processes,

 $V_L V_L \rightarrow V_L V_L$, $V_L V_L \rightarrow hh$, $V_L V_L \rightarrow V_L h$, $hh \rightarrow hV_L$ and $hh \rightarrow hh (V \in \{W^{\pm}, Z\})$.

Most general parametrization of s² piece of these amplitudes given by HEFT, not SMEFT!



Figure: SMEFT \subset HEFT for a given order of EFT expansion.

For UV perspective: Ref. Falkowski, Rattazzi '19; Alonso, Jenkins, Manohar '15, '16; Cohen, Craig, Lu, Sutherland '20

OS						
$\mathcal{O}_{S,0}$	$\left[\left(D_{\mu} H \right)^{\dagger} \left(D_{\nu} H \right) \right] \left[\left(D^{\mu} H \right)^{\dagger} \left(D^{\nu} H \right) \right]$	+				
$\mathcal{O}_{S,1}$	$\left[(D_{\mu} H)^{\dagger} D^{\mu} H \right]^2$	+				
0 _{5,2}	$\left[(D_{\mu} H)^{\dagger} (D_{\nu} H) \right] \left[(D^{\nu} H)^{\dagger} (D^{\mu} H) \right]$	+				

Table: List of SMEFT dim-8 operators.

- In SMEFT at Dim-8, only 3 operators contribute to s²-piece of gauge-Higgs scattering process.
- HEFT lagrangian contains 15 operators that give rise to s² pieces. (identified using Goldstone boson equivalence theorem.)
- These HEFT operators are more important than SMEFT as they already appear at NLO.

Туре	⊖ UhD ⁴	СР
VVVV	$\langle V_{\mu} V^{\mu} \rangle^2$	+
VVVV	$\langle \mathbf{V}_{\mu}\mathbf{V}_{\nu}\rangle\langle \mathbf{V}^{\mu}\mathbf{V}^{\nu}\rangle$	+
VVVV	$\langle \mathbf{T} \mathbf{V}_{\mu} \rangle \langle \mathbf{T} \mathbf{V}_{\nu} \rangle \langle \mathbf{V}^{\mu} \mathbf{V}^{\nu} \rangle$	+
VVVV	$\langle \mathbf{T} \mathbf{V}_{\mu} \rangle \langle \mathbf{T} \mathbf{V}^{\mu} \rangle \langle \mathbf{V}^{\nu} \mathbf{V}_{\nu} \rangle$	+
VVVV	$(\langle TV_{\mu} \rangle \langle TV^{\mu} \rangle)^2$	+
VVVh	$\langle \mathbf{V}_{\mu} \mathbf{V}^{\mu} \rangle \langle \mathbf{T} \mathbf{V}_{\nu} \rangle \frac{D^{\nu} h}{v}$	-
VVVh	$\langle \mathbf{V}_{\mu}\mathbf{V}_{\nu}\rangle\langle\mathbf{T}\mathbf{V}^{\mu}\rangle\frac{D^{\nu}h}{v}$	-
VVVh	$\langle TV_{\mu} \rangle \langle TV^{\mu} \rangle \langle TV_{\nu} \rangle \frac{D^{\nu} h}{v}$	-
VVVh	$i\langle \mathbf{T}\mathbf{V}_{\mu}\mathbf{V}_{\nu}\rangle\langle \mathbf{T}\mathbf{V}^{\mu}\rangle\frac{D^{\nu}h}{v}$	+
VVhh	$\langle \mathbf{V}_{\mu}\mathbf{V}^{\mu}\rangle \frac{hD^{\mu}D^{\nu}h}{v^{2}}$	+
VVhh	$\langle \mathbf{V}_{\mu}\mathbf{V}^{\mu}\rangle \frac{D_{\nu}hD^{\nu}h}{v^{2}}$	+
VVhh	$\langle \mathbf{T} \mathbf{V}_{\mu} \rangle \langle \mathbf{T} \mathbf{V}_{\nu} \rangle \frac{h D^{\mu} D^{\nu} h}{v^2}$	+
VVhh	$\langle \mathbf{T} \mathbf{V}_{\mu} \rangle \langle \mathbf{T} \mathbf{V}^{\mu} \rangle \frac{D_{\nu} h D^{\nu} h}{v^2}$	+
Vhhh	$\langle TV_{\mu} \rangle \frac{h D^{\nu} h D_{\nu} D^{\mu} h}{v^3}$	_
hhhh	$\frac{1}{v^4} h^2 (D_\mu D_\nu h) (D^\mu D^\nu h)$	+

Table: List of HEFT operators at NLO giving rise to s^2 growth.

- We will obtain positivity constraints on 15-dimensional space of these WCs.
- Dim-8 SMEFT is a 3-dimensional sub-space.
- Gauge-Higgs scattering is the only process that can grow as s^2 in HEFT at NLO.
- This is the complete set operators that are subject to positivity bounds.

Туре	⊖ UhD ⁴	СР
VVVV	$\langle V_{\mu} V^{\mu} \rangle^2$	+
VVVV	$\langle \mathbf{V}_{\mu}\mathbf{V}_{\nu}\rangle\langle \mathbf{V}^{\mu}\mathbf{V}^{\nu}\rangle$	+
VVVV	$\langle \mathbf{T} \mathbf{V}_{\mu} \rangle \langle \mathbf{T} \mathbf{V}_{\nu} \rangle \langle \mathbf{V}^{\mu} \mathbf{V}^{\nu} \rangle$	+
VVVV	$\langle \mathbf{T} \mathbf{V}_{\mu} \rangle \langle \mathbf{T} \mathbf{V}^{\mu} \rangle \langle \mathbf{V}^{\nu} \mathbf{V}_{\nu} \rangle$	+
VVVV	$(\langle TV_{\mu} \rangle \langle TV^{\mu} \rangle)^2$	+
VVVh	$\langle \mathbf{V}_{\mu} \mathbf{V}^{\mu} \rangle \langle \mathbf{T} \mathbf{V}_{\nu} \rangle \frac{D^{\nu} h}{v}$	-
VVVh	$\langle \mathbf{V}_{\mu}\mathbf{V}_{\nu}\rangle\langle\mathbf{T}\mathbf{V}^{\mu}\rangle\frac{D^{\nu}h}{v}$	-
VVVh	$\langle \mathbf{T} \mathbf{V}_{\mu} \rangle \langle \mathbf{T} \mathbf{V}^{\mu} \rangle \langle \mathbf{T} \mathbf{V}_{\nu} \rangle \frac{D^{\nu} h}{v}$	-
VVVh	$i\langle \mathbf{T}\mathbf{V}_{\mu}\mathbf{V}_{\nu}\rangle\langle \mathbf{T}\mathbf{V}^{\mu}\rangle\frac{D^{\nu}h}{v}$	+
VVhh	$\langle \mathbf{V}_{\mu}\mathbf{V}^{\mu}\rangle \frac{hD^{\mu}D^{\nu}h}{v^{2}}$	+
VVhh	$\langle \mathbf{V}_{\mu}\mathbf{V}^{\mu}\rangle \frac{D_{\nu}hD^{\nu}h}{v^{2}}$	+
VVhh	$\langle \mathbf{T} \mathbf{V}_{\mu} \rangle \langle \mathbf{T} \mathbf{V}_{\nu} \rangle \frac{h D^{\mu} D^{\nu} h}{v^2}$	+
VVhh	$\langle \mathbf{T} \mathbf{V}_{\mu} \rangle \langle \mathbf{T} \mathbf{V}^{\mu} \rangle \frac{D_{\nu} h D^{\nu} h}{v^2}$	+
Vhhh	$\langle TV_{\mu} \rangle \frac{h D^{\nu} h D_{\nu} D^{\mu} h}{v^3}$	-
hhhh	$\frac{1}{4}h^2(D_\mu D_\nu h)(D^\mu D^\nu h)$	+

Table: List of HEFT operators at NLO giving rise to s^2 growth.

Anomalous Couplings

- These 15 HEFT operators can be mapped to the following 15 anomalous couplings.
- So, constraints derived on WCs of 15 HEFT operators can be translated to space of these 15 anomalous couplings.¹

$$\begin{split} \Delta \mathcal{L}_{QGC} &= g^2 c_{\theta_W}^2 \left[\delta g_{ZZ1}^Q Z^\mu Z^\nu W_\mu^- W_\nu^+ - \delta g_{ZZ2}^Q Z^\mu Z_\mu W^{-\nu} W_\nu^+ \right] \\ &+ \frac{g^2}{2} \left[\delta g_{WW1}^Q W^{-\mu} W^{+\nu} W_\mu^- W_\nu^+ - \delta g_{WW2}^Q \left(W^{-\mu} W_\mu^+ \right)^2 \right] + \frac{g^2}{4 c_{\theta_W}^4} h_{ZZ}^Q (Z^\mu Z_\mu)^2 \\ \Delta \mathcal{L}_{(\partial h)^2 V^2} &\supset g_{Z1}^{hh} \frac{g^2}{c_{\theta_W}^2} \frac{(\partial_\nu h)^2 Z_\mu Z^\mu}{v^2} + g_{Z1}^{hh} \frac{g^2}{c_{\theta_W}^2} \frac{\partial_\mu h \partial_\nu h}{2v^2} Z^\mu Z^\nu + g_{W1}^{hh} g^2 \frac{(\partial_\nu h)^2}{v^2} W^{+\mu} W_\mu^- \\ &+ g_{W2}^{hh} g^2 \frac{\partial_\mu h \partial_\nu h}{2v^2} (W^{+\mu} W^{-\nu} + h.c.) \\ \Delta \mathcal{L}^{hV^3} &\supset i g_{W1}^{\partial hV^3} \frac{g^3}{2c_{\theta_W}} \frac{\partial_\mu h}{v} Z_\nu \left(W_\mu^+ W^{-\nu} - h.c. \right) + g_{W2}^{\partial hV^3} \frac{g^3}{2c_{\theta_W}^3} \frac{\partial_\mu h}{v} Z_\nu (W_\mu^+ W^{-\nu} + h.c.) \\ &+ g_{W3}^{\partial hV^3} \frac{g^3}{2c_{\theta_W}} \frac{\partial_\mu h}{v} Z_\mu W_\mu^+ W^{-\mu} + g_Z^{\partial hV^3} \frac{g^3}{2c_{\theta_W}^3} \frac{\partial_\mu h}{v} Z_\mu Z_\nu Z^\nu \\ \Delta \mathcal{L}^{h^3 V} &= g^{\partial h^3 V} \frac{g}{2c_{\theta_W} v^3} \partial_\nu h \partial^\nu h \partial_\mu h Z^\mu, \qquad \Delta \mathcal{L}^{(\partial h)^4} = \frac{g^{(\partial h)^4}}{v^4}, \partial_\mu h \partial^\mu h \partial_\nu h \partial^\nu \end{split}$$

¹also TGCs.

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Positivity bounds on HEFT at NLO

- We calculate contributions from HEFT operators at NLO to longitudinal gauge-Higgs scattering amplitude.
- We present coefficients of s^2 terms

in these amplitudes using the following matrix equation.

<i>к</i> –	$v^4 \partial^2 \mathcal{M}_{ijkl}(s)$	$t, t \rightarrow 0$	<u>))</u>											VV	Vh			
$\kappa_{ijkl} =$	$2 \partial s^2$	2	$\phi_1 \phi_1$	$\phi_1\phi_2$	$\phi_1\phi_3$	$\phi_2 \phi_1$	$\phi_2 \phi_2$	$\phi_2\phi_3$	$\phi_3\phi_1$	$\phi_3\phi_2$	$\phi_3\phi_3$	$\phi_1 h$	$\phi_2 h$	$\phi_3 h$	$h\phi_1$	$h\phi_2$	$h\phi_3$	hh
		$\phi_1\phi_1$	a_1	0	0	0	a_2	0	0	0	a_3	0	0	a_9	0	0	a_9	a_{12}
		$\phi_1\phi_2$	0	a_4	0	a_2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	$-a_{16}$	0	0	a_{16}	0
		$\phi_1\phi_3$	0	0	a_6	0	0	CP)	a_3	0	0	a_{10}	0	0	a_9	a_{16}	0	0
		$\phi_2 \phi_1$	0	a_2	0	a_4	al of	0	0	0	0	0	0	a_{16}	0	0	$-a_{16}$	0
		$\phi_2\phi_2$	a_2	0	0	02	a_1	0	0	0	a_3	0	0	a_9	0	0	a_9	a_{12}
		$\phi_2\phi_3$	0	0	0	10	0	a_6	0	a_3	0	0	a_{10}	0	$-a_{16}$	a_9	0	0
		$\phi_3\phi_1$	0	0 🔨	a_3	0	0	0	a_6	0	0	a_9	a_{16}	0	a_{10}	0	0	0
		$\phi_3\phi_2$	0	0	0	0	0	a_3	0	a_6	0	$-a_{16}$	a_9	0	0	a_{10}	0	0
		$\phi_3\phi_3$	a_3	0	0	0	a_3	0	0	0	a_5	0	0	a_7	0	0	a_7	a_8
		$\phi_1 h$	0	0	a_{10}	0	0	0	a_9	$-a_{16}$	0	a_{14}	0	0	a_{12}	0	0	0
	WWW	$\phi_2 h$	0	0	0	0	0	a_{10}	a_{16}	a_9	0	0	a_{14}	0	0	a_{12}	0	0
	v v v 1	ϕ_{3h}	a_9	$-a_{16}$	0	a_{16}	a_9	0	0	0	a_7	0	0	a_{13}	0	0	a_{15}	a_{11}
		$h\phi_1$	0	0,	a_9	0	0	$-a_{16}$	a_{10}	0	0	a_{12}	0	0	a_{14}	0	0	0
		$h\phi_2$	0	0	a_{16}	0	0	a_9	0	a_{10}	0	0/	a_{12}	0	0	a_{14}	0	10
		$h\phi_3$	a_9	a_{16}	0	$-a_{16}$	a_9	0	0	0	a_7	Ø	0	a_{15}	0	0	a12	a_{11}
		hh	a_{12}	0	0	0	a_{12}	Q	0	0	a_8	0	0	a_{11}	4 0	0	A11	a_{15}
											_/					/	h	hh
										V	Vh	h			Vhh	h′		

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Positivity bounds on HEFT operators at NLO

To derive the positivity constraints we utilize the following, $\frac{\alpha_i \beta_j \alpha_k^* \beta_l^* \mathcal{K}_{ijkl} > 0 \quad \text{for } \forall \alpha, \beta$

See for example Remmen and Rodd'19,'20.

We extract positivity constraints on the WCs from the positive-definiteness of the matrix,

$$(\gamma_{\beta})_{ij} = \beta_j \beta_l^* \mathcal{K}_{ijkl} \succ 0 \text{ for } \forall \beta$$

For example, with, $\beta_2, \beta_3 = 0$, a 2×2 principle sub-matrix of γ_β is given by,



Positive definiteness of this matrix, gives us the following constraints,

$$a_1, a_6, a_{11}, a_{13} > 0$$

$$4a_7^2 < \left(\sqrt{a_6 a_{11}} + \sqrt{a_1 a_{13}}\right)^2$$

In particular, if the WCs of the RHS is zero, then the WCs of LHS must vanish.

Positivity bounds on HEFT operators at NLO

First set of positivity constraints: Some specific linear combinations of WCs of CP-even operators should have a definite sign.

Second set of positivity constraints: magnitudes of some WCs - including all CP-violating ones - must be smaller than product of CP-even WCs.



Using correlations between SMEFT couplings the constraints can be projected into the 3D SMEFT parameter space, reproducing the well-known bounds on SMEFT WCs¹.

Magnitude of WCs of all CP-odd operators are bounded by CP-even WCs. a_i s are linear combinations of WCs, c_i s.

$$\begin{split} a_1 &= 16(c_1+c_2) \quad a_2 = 4(2c_1+c_2) \quad a_3 = 8c_1+2c_2+c_3+4c_4 \\ a_4 &= 8c_2 \quad a_5 = 16(c_1+c_2) + 8(c_3+c_4) + 4c_5 \quad a_6 = 2(4c_2+c_3) \\ a_7 &= c_6+c_7/2 \quad a_8 = 2c_{11} \quad a_9 = c_7 \quad a_{10} = -c_8/4 \quad a_{11} = -2c_{10} \\ a_{12} &= 2(c_6+c_7+c_9/2) \quad a_{13} = -(2c_{10}+c_{12}) \quad a_{14} = (2c_{11}+c_{13}) \\ a_{15} &= -c_{14}/2 \quad a_{16} = 4c_{15} \end{split}$$

¹Remmen and Rodd'2019 and Q.Bi et al.'20.

DC, S.Chattopadhyay, R.S.Gupta (in prep)

Positivity bounds on HEFT operators at NLO

First set of positivity constraints: Se Some specific linear combinations ma of WCs of CP-even operators all should have a definite sign. sm

Second set of positivity constraints: magnitudes of some WCs - including all CP-violating ones - must be smaller than product of CP-even WCs.



Only $\approx 5\%$ of EFT parameter space are consistent with this bounds.

 $\approx 20\%$ of 5D EFT parameter space for aQGCs within exp bounds are valid.

 a_i s are linear combinations of WCs, c_i s.

$$\begin{array}{l} a_1 = 16(c_1+c_2) \quad a_2 = 4(2c_1+c_2) \quad a_3 = 8c_1+2c_2+c_3+4c_4 \\ a_4 = 8c_2 \quad a_5 = 16(c_1+c_2)+8(c_3+c_4)+4c_5 \quad a_6 = 2(4c_2+c_3) \\ a_7 = c_6+c_7/2 \quad a_8 = 2c_{11} \quad a_9 = c_7 \quad a_{10} = -c_8/4 \quad a_{11} = -2c_{10} \\ a_{12} = 2 \left(c_6+c_7+c_9/2\right) \quad a_{13} = -\left(2c_{10}+c_{12}\right) \quad a_{14} = \left(2c_{11}+c_{13}\right) \\ a_{15} = -c_{14}/2 \quad a_{16} = 4c_{15} \end{array}$$

¹Remmen and Rodd'2019 and Q.Bi et al.'20.

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Capping the positivity cone



$${}^{1}\mathrm{Im}\mathcal{M}_{ijkl}^{UV}(\mu, t) = 16\pi \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (2l+1)P_{l}\left(1+\frac{2t}{\mu}\right)\rho_{l}^{ijkl}(\mu)$$

Ref: Q.Chen et al.'23

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Capping the positivity cone



Bounds for VVVV Processes (aQGCs)





- Experimental Bounds: Based on Eboli et al. (2024). Process: $pp \rightarrow VVjj$ (VBS).
- Positivity Bounds: Exclude significant regions of the EFT parameter space.
- Capping Bounds: Found to be stronger than experimental limits for certain *c*_i values.
- Can obtain SMEFT bounds by projecting to SMEFT planes (dashed lines).





 Exp bounds on WCs for *VV* → *VV* and *VV* → *hh* processes provide indirect constraints on WCs for *VV* → *Vh* processes.

 $\begin{array}{l} \textit{Vhhh}: \ |c_{14}| < 0.0356 \\ \textit{hhhh}: \ 0 < c_{15} < 0.0066 \\ \textit{for } \Lambda = 2.4 \ \textrm{TeV} \end{array}$

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- Poincare invariance + locality + causality + unitarity leads to positivity constraints and reduces allowed IR-parameter space significantly.
- we explore positivity constraints on space of WCs of HEFT operators contributing to longitudinal gauge-Higgs scattering process such as the following processes,

 $V_L V_L \rightarrow V_L V_L$, $V_L V_L \rightarrow hh$, $V_L V_L \rightarrow V_L h$, $hh \rightarrow hV_L$ and $hh \rightarrow hh (V \in \{W^{\pm}, Z\})$.

- *HEFT* \supset *SMEFT*, thus our bounds are more general than SMEFT.
- We derive positivity constraints on 15-D space of WCs of HEFT operators that contributes to these process.
 ~ 20% of (5-dim) EFT parameter space for aOGCs within the Exp. bounds is

 \approx 20% of (5-dim) EFT parameter space for aQGCs within the Exp. bounds is valid.

• Utilizing null constraints and unitarity, we cap the positivity cone, obtaining double-sided bounds on these 15 WCs.

In some cases, these bounds are tighter than the current experimental limits.