

# The Higgs potential in type II seesaw

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# The Higgs Potential in the Type II Seesaw Model

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## Abstract

The Standard Model Higgs sector, extended by one weak gauge triplet of scalar fields with a very small vacuum expectation value, is a very promising setting to account for neutrino masses through the so-called type II seesaw. In this paper we consider the general renormalizable doublet/triplet Higgs potential of this model. We perform a detailed study of its main dynamical features that depend on five dimensionless couplings and one mass parameter after spontaneous symmetry breaking, and highlight the implications for the Higgs phenomenology. In particular, we determine *i*) the complete set of tree-level unitarity constraints on the couplings of the potential and *ii*) the exact tree-level all directions boundedness from below constraints on these couplings. When combined, these constraints delineate precisely the theoretically allowed parameter space domain within our perturbative approximation. Among the seven physical Higgs states of this model, the mass of the lighter (heavier)  $CP_{\text{even}}$  state  $h^0$  ( $H^0$ ) will always satisfy a theoretical upper (lower) bound that is reached for a critical value  $\mu_c$  of  $\mu$  (the mass parameter controlling triple couplings among the doublet/triplet Higgses). Saturating the unitarity constraints we find an upper bound  $m_{h^0} < \mathcal{O}(500 - 700 \text{ GeV})$ , while the upper bound for the remaining Higgses lies in the several tens of TeV. However, the actual masses can be much lighter. We identify two regimes corresponding to  $\mu \geq \mu_c$  and  $\mu < \mu_c$ . In the first regime the Higgs sector is typically very heavy and only  $h^0$  which becomes SM-like could be accessible to the LHC. In contrast, in the second regime, somewhat overlooked in the literature, most of the Higgs sector is light, and in particular the heaviest state  $H^0$  becomes SM-like, the lighter states being (doubly) charged,  $CP_{\text{odd}}$  or a decoupled  $CP_{\text{even}}$ , possibly leading to a distinctive phenomenology at the colliders.

\*corresponding author

# Outline

Introductory motivations

The model

Electroweak symmetry breaking

Dynamical constraints

Unitarity constraints

Boundedness from below

Higgs mass bounds

phenomenological implications

## Introductory motivations

are there hints for physics beyond the Standard Model?

- ▶ Naturalness or hierarchy problems are often overstated
- ▶ Dark matter!
- ▶ Neutrino masses? No and Yes

No: *simply add a  $\nu_R$  and a standard Yukawa coupling*  $\rightarrow$   
*Dirac mass* + perhaps a Majorana mass

- $\rightarrow$  mysterious... SM **singlet** only gravitationally coupled !?
- $\rightarrow$  more elegant (but not necessary!),  $\nu_R$  charged under some GUT group... e.g. spinorial rep. of  $SO(10)$
- $\rightarrow$  seesaw mechanisms

In this talk we will have in mind the type II seesaw  $\rightarrow$   
neutrinos masses without an extra  $\nu_R$

$$\mathcal{L}_{Yukawa} \supset Y_\nu L^T C \otimes i\sigma_2 \Delta L$$

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## The model

This sector consists of the standard Higgs weak doublet  $H$  and a colorless scalar field  $\Delta$  transforming as a triplet under the  $SU(2)_L$  gauge group with hypercharge  $Y_\Delta = 2$ :

$H \sim (1, 2, 1)$  and  $\Delta \sim (1, 3, 2)$  under  $SU(3)_c \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$ .

$$Q = I_3 + \frac{Y}{2}$$

$$\Delta = \begin{pmatrix} \delta^+/\sqrt{2} & \delta^{++} \\ \delta^0 & -\delta^+/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad H = \begin{pmatrix} \phi^+ \\ \phi^0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathcal{L} = (D_\mu H)^\dagger (D^\mu H) + \text{Tr}(D_\mu \Delta)^\dagger (D^\mu \Delta) - V(H, \Delta) + \mathcal{L}_{\text{Yukawa}} + \dots$$

$$\begin{aligned} V(H, \Delta) = & -m_H^2 H^\dagger H + M_\Delta^2 \text{Tr}(\Delta^\dagger \Delta) + [\mu(H^T i\sigma_2 \Delta^\dagger H) + \text{h.c.}] \\ & + \frac{\lambda}{4}(H^\dagger H)^2 + \lambda_1(H^\dagger H) \text{Tr}(\Delta^\dagger \Delta) \\ & + \lambda_2(\text{Tr} \Delta^\dagger \Delta)^2 + \lambda_3 \text{Tr}(\Delta^\dagger \Delta)^2 \\ & + \lambda_4 H^\dagger \Delta \Delta^\dagger H \end{aligned}$$

## Electroweak symmetry breaking

$$\langle \Delta \rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ v_t/\sqrt{2} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \langle H \rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v_d/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

one finds after minimization of the potential the following necessary conditions:

$$M_{\Delta}^2 = \frac{2\mu v_d^2 - \sqrt{2}(\lambda_1 + \lambda_4)v_d^2 v_t - 2\sqrt{2}(\lambda_2 + \lambda_3)v_t^3}{2\sqrt{2}v_t}$$

$$m_H^2 = \frac{\lambda v_d^2}{4} - \sqrt{2}\mu v_t + \frac{(\lambda_1 + \lambda_4)}{2}v_t^2$$

8 parameters  $\longrightarrow$  7 parameters with  $v \equiv \sqrt{v_d^2 + 2v_t^2} = 246\text{GeV}$

## Electroweak symmetry breaking

→ 10 scalar states: 7 massive physical Higgses,  $h^0, H^0, A^0, H^\pm, H^{\pm\pm}$  and 3 Goldstone bosons

$$m_{H^{\pm\pm}}^2 = \frac{\sqrt{2}\mu v_d^2 - \lambda_4 v_d^2 v_t - 2\lambda_3 v_t^3}{2v_t}$$

$$m_{H^\pm}^2 = \frac{(v_d^2 + 2v_t^2)[2\sqrt{2}\mu - \lambda_4 v_t]}{4v_t}$$

$$m_A^2 = \frac{\mu(v_d^2 + 4v_t^2)}{\sqrt{2}v_t}$$

$$m_{h^0, H^0}^2 = \frac{1}{2}[A + C \mp \sqrt{(A - C)^2 + 4B^2}]$$

$$A = \frac{\lambda}{2} v_d^2, \quad B = v_d[-\sqrt{2}\mu + (\lambda_1 + \lambda_4)v_t], \quad C = \frac{\sqrt{2}\mu v_d^2 + 4(\lambda_2 + \lambda_3)v_t^3}{2v_t}$$

→ three mixing angles  $\alpha, \beta, \beta'$ .

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## Dynamical constraints

- ▶ tree-level unitarity constraints from scalar and gauge boson scattering
- ▶ conditions for a bounded from below potential
- ▶ absence of charge breaking minima?
- ▶ metastable gauge symmetric vacuum?
- ▶ tachyonless states
- ▶ spontaneous CP violation?

Higgs spectrum ?

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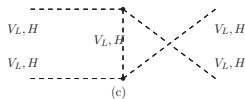
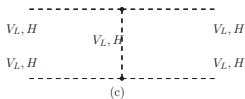
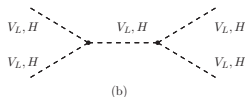
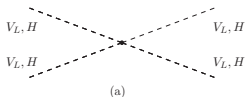
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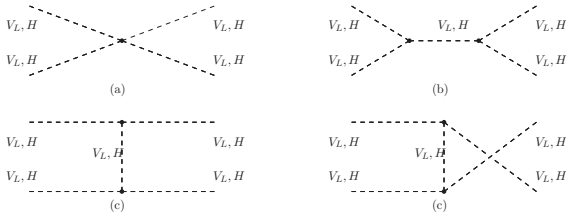


a  $27 \times 27$   $S$  matrix composed of 5 submatrices  $\mathcal{M}_1(6 \times 6)$ ,  $\mathcal{M}_2(7 \times 7)$ ,  $\mathcal{M}_3(2 \times 2)$ ,  $\mathcal{M}_4(8 \times 8)$ , and  $\mathcal{M}_5(4 \times 4)$

partial wave analyses  $\rightarrow |a_0| \leq 1$

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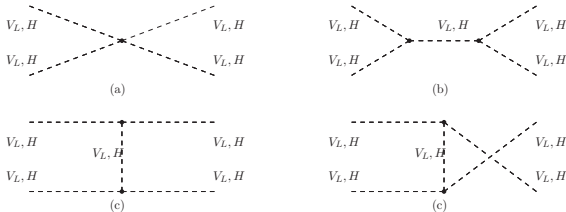


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## Dynamical constraints

### Tree-level unitarity:

$$|\lambda_1 + \lambda_4| \leq \kappa\pi \quad (1)$$

$$|\lambda_1| \leq \kappa\pi \quad (2)$$

$$|2\lambda_1 + 3\lambda_4| \leq 2\kappa\pi \quad (3)$$

$$|\lambda| \leq 2\kappa\pi \quad (4)$$

$$|\lambda_2| \leq \frac{\kappa}{2}\pi \quad (5)$$

$$|\lambda_2 + \lambda_3| \leq \frac{\kappa}{2}\pi \quad (6)$$

$$|\lambda + 4\lambda_2 + 8\lambda_3 \pm \sqrt{(\lambda - 4\lambda_2 - 8\lambda_3)^2 + 16\lambda_4^2}| \leq 4\kappa\pi \quad (7)$$

$$|3\lambda + 16\lambda_2 + 12\lambda_3 \pm \sqrt{(3\lambda - 16\lambda_2 - 12\lambda_3)^2 + 24(2\lambda_1 + \lambda_4)^2}| \leq 4\kappa\pi \quad (8)$$

$$|2\lambda_1 - \lambda_4| \leq 2\kappa\pi \quad (9)$$

$$|3\lambda_2 + \lambda_3 \pm \sqrt{(\lambda_2 + \lambda_3)^2 + 4\lambda_3^2}| \leq \kappa\pi \quad (10)$$



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## Dynamical constraints

### Tree-level Boundedness From Below:

- ▶ Keep only the quartic operators

$$V^{(4)}(H, \Delta) = \frac{\lambda}{4}(H^\dagger H)^2 + \lambda_1(H^\dagger H)\text{Tr}(\Delta^\dagger \Delta) + \lambda_2(\text{Tr}\Delta^\dagger \Delta)^2 \\ + \lambda_3\text{Tr}(\Delta^\dagger \Delta)^2 + \lambda_4 H^\dagger \Delta \Delta^\dagger H$$

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## Dynamical constraints

### Tree-level Boundedness From Below:

In the literature one finds only very partial answers;  
e.g. field space directions where only the electrically neutral components are non vanishing

$$V_0^{(4)} = \frac{\lambda}{4} |\phi^0|^2 + (\lambda_2 + \lambda_3) |\delta^0|^2 + (\lambda_1 + \lambda_4) |\phi^0|^2 |\delta^0|^2$$

lead to the sufficient and necessary conditions

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda &> 0 \\ \lambda_2 + \lambda_3 &> 0 \\ \lambda_1 + \lambda_4 + \sqrt{\lambda(\lambda_2 + \lambda_3)} &> 0\end{aligned}$$

→ it becomes more complicated in other directions!

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In the literature one finds only very partial answers;  
e.g. field space directions where only the electrically neutral components are non vanishing

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e.g. of a 3-field direction  $(\phi^+, \delta^0, \delta^{++})$ :

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(up to gauge transformations) with as many different conditions

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Tree-level Boundedness From Below: The most general solution

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$$\forall \zeta \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1], \forall \xi \in [0, 1]$$

$$\lambda \geq 0 \tag{11}$$

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## Dynamical constraints

combining all constraints  $\rightarrow$

$$0 \leq \lambda \leq \frac{2}{3}\kappa\pi$$

$$\lambda_2 + \lambda_3 \geq 0 \quad \& \quad \lambda_2 + \frac{\lambda_3}{2} \geq 0$$

$$\lambda_2 + 2\lambda_3 \leq \frac{\kappa}{2}\pi$$

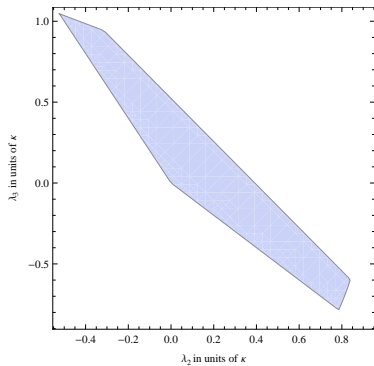
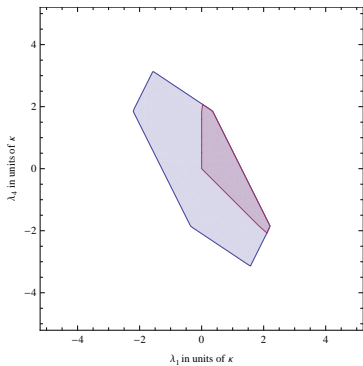
$$4\lambda_2 + 3\lambda_3 \leq \frac{\kappa}{2}\pi$$

$$\lambda_2 - 2\lambda_3 - \sqrt{(\lambda_2 - \frac{\kappa}{2}\pi)(9\lambda_2 - \frac{5}{2}\kappa\pi)} \leq \frac{\kappa}{2}\pi$$

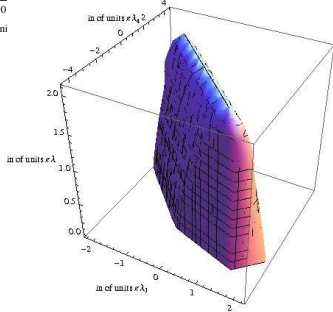
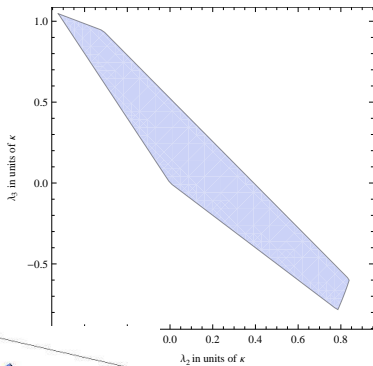
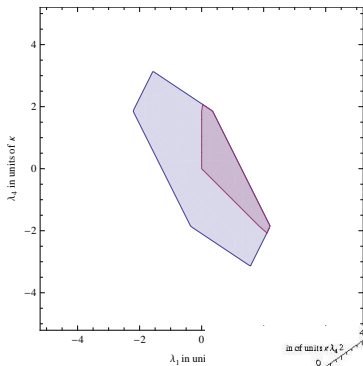
$$|\lambda_4| \leq \min \sqrt{(\lambda \pm 2\kappa\pi)(\lambda_2 + 2\lambda_3 \pm \frac{\kappa}{2}\pi)}$$

$$|2\lambda_1 + \lambda_4| \leq \sqrt{2(\lambda - \frac{2}{3}\kappa\pi)(4\lambda_2 + 3\lambda_3 - \frac{\kappa}{2}\pi)}$$

# Dynamical constraints

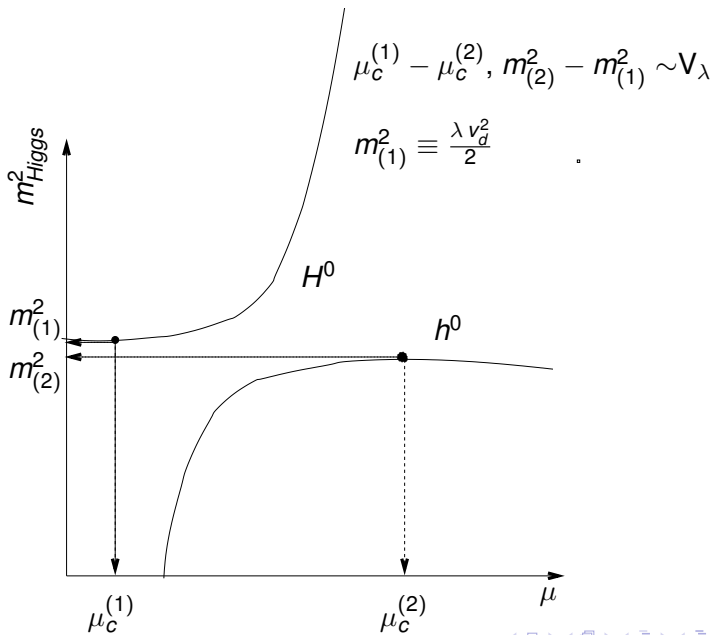


# Dynamical constraints



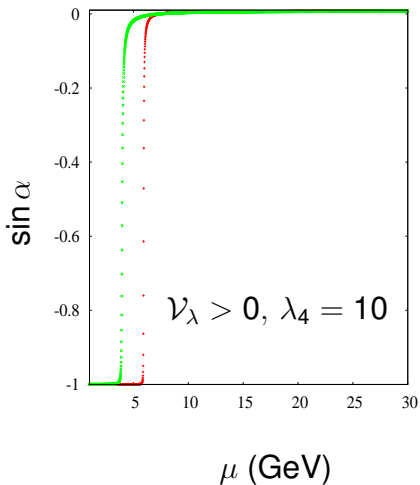
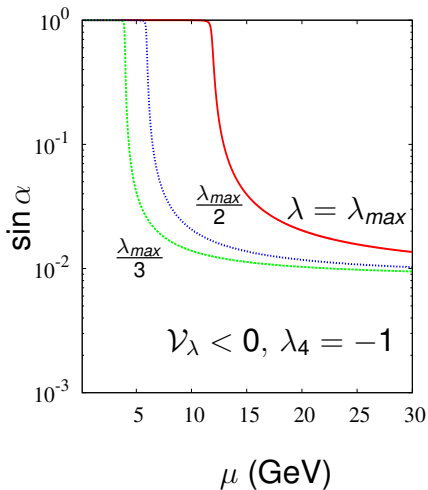


# Higgs mass bounds



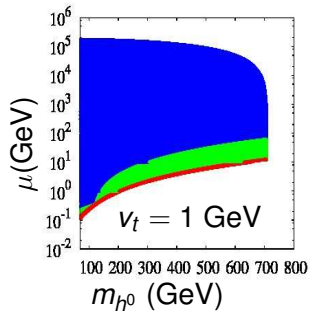
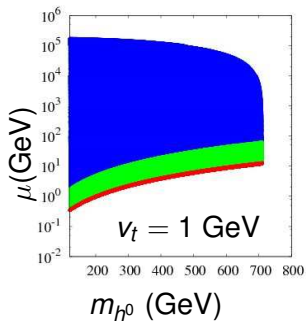
## phenomenological implications

$$h^0 = \cos \alpha h + \sin \alpha \xi^0, \quad H^0 = -\sin \alpha h + \cos \alpha \xi^0$$



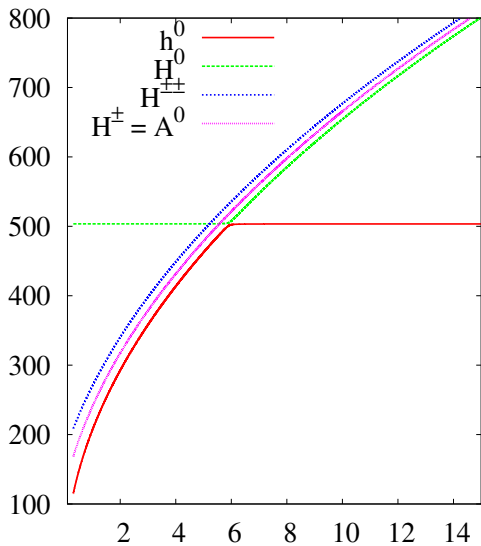
$$v_t = 1 \text{ GeV}, \lambda_{max} = 16\pi/3, \lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = 0.1, \lambda_1 = 0.5$$

## phenomenological implications



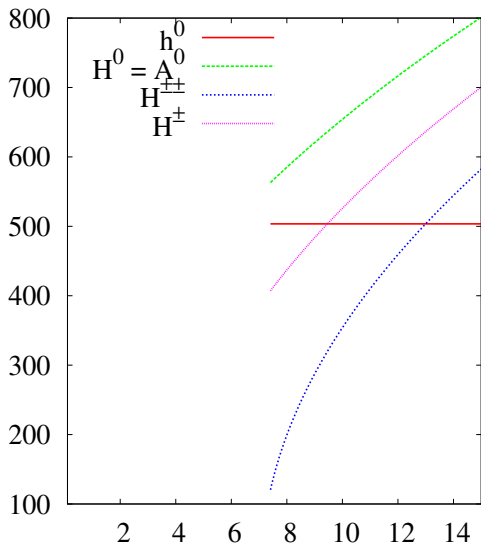
$10^{-1} \leq |\sin \alpha| \leq 1$  (red),  $10^{-2} \leq |\sin \alpha| \leq 10^{-1}$  (green),  $10^{-3} \leq |\sin \alpha| \leq 10^{-2}$  (blue)

## phenomenological implications



$$\mathcal{V}_\lambda < 0, \lambda_4 = -1$$

## phenomenological implications



$$\mathcal{V}_\lambda > 0, \lambda_4 = 10$$

## Preliminary conclusions

- ▶ an  $SU(2)$  triplet Higgs extension of the SM could be motivated by small neutrino masses
- ▶ the doublet-triplet Higgs sector has by itself a very rich structure and phenomenology
- ▶ a very good handle on theoretical constraints (in contrast with two-Higgs doublet models for instance)
- ▶ theoretical lower (upper) bounds in the CP-even sector
- ▶ high  $\mu$  regimes, all non-SM Higgses decouple quickly
- ▶ low  $\mu$  regimes, the SM-like Higgs is the heaviest ( $H_0$ )!  
 $h^0$  decouples quickly; not necessarily the lightest Higgs!  
distinctive  $H^{\pm\pm}$  phenomenology ?
- ▶ exclusions from existing bounds? precision tests?  
model-dependence?