

Light states in multi-Higgs potentials with multiple vacua

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One slide take-away summary

[If quartic couplings obey perturbativity constraints]

- n HDMs with CP invariant potential and SCPV:

there are *at least 2 neutral* and *1 charged* scalars, in addition to “the Higgs”, which are *light*, i.e. with masses not much larger than the EW scale $v_{EW} \sim 246$ GeV.

Miró, MN & Queiroz  PRD111 (2025)












Camacho, Miró, MN, Tobarra & Queiroz  arXiv:2605.15270

- General 2HDM:



if the potential has *two* spontaneous symmetry breaking *minima*, then *all* the scalars (*1 charged* and *3 neutral*, including “the Higgs”) are *light*.

Camacho, Miró, MN & Tobarra  arXiv:2606.02710

Motivation – Generic

- *Theoretical* arguments to constrain masses of (new) particles:
vacuum stability, triviality, perturbativity, ...
[short of *experimental* evidence]
 - Weinberg  PRL36 (1976)
 - Politzer & Wolfram  PLB82 (1979)
 - Cabibbo, Maiani, Parisi & Petronzio  NPB158 (1979)
 - Dashen & Neuberger  PRL50 (1983)
 - Callaway  NPB233 (1984)
- Perturbative unitarity, high energy scattering of bosons
 - Lee, Quigg & Thacker  PRL38 (1977),  PRD16 (1977)
 - also Dicus & Mathur  PRD7 (1973)
 - Langacker & Weldon  PRL52 (1984)
 - Weldon  PLB146 (1984)
- 2HDMs
 - Ginzburg & Ivanov  PRD72 (2005)
 - + many more

Motivation – Specific

- Real 2HDM (i.e. CP invariant potential*) with SCPV:
masses of all the scalars *bounded*
MN, Botella & Branco  EPJC79 (2019)
MN  PRD102 (2020)
- The point: stationarity conditions allow to trade *all 3 quadratic* couplings in the potential for *quartics* \times v_{evs}^2 ,
which are bounded.
- Common situation when symmetry requirements allow few quadratic couplings.
- When there is an overabundance of quadratic couplings with respect to stationarity conditions, is a decoupling regime available? (Except for “the Higgs”)

Invariant under $\Phi \mapsto \Phi^$.

Outline

1 Real n HDM with SCPV

- 2HDM prelude
- Setup
- Numerical exercise
- Analysis

2 General 2HDM

- Setup
- Numerical exercise
- Analysis
- *Bonus

Real 2HDM with SCPV – Prelude

Scalar potential for 2 $SU(2)_L$ doublets with $\frac{1}{2}$ hypercharge

$$\mathcal{V}(\Phi_1, \Phi_2) = \mathcal{V}_2(\Phi_1, \Phi_2) + \mathcal{V}_4(\Phi_1, \Phi_2),$$

$$\mathcal{V}_2(\Phi_1, \Phi_2) = \mu_1^2 \Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1 + \mu_2^2 \Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2 + \mu_{12}^2 [\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2 + \Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_1]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{V}_4(\Phi_1, \Phi_2) = & \lambda_1 (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1)^2 + \lambda_2 (\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2)^2 + \lambda_3 (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1) (\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2) + \lambda_4 (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2) (\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_1) \\ & + \lambda_5 [(\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2)^2 + (\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_1)^2] \\ & + (\lambda_6 \Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1 + \lambda_7 \Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2) [\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2 + \Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_1] \end{aligned}$$

with all quadratic $\mu_1^2, \mu_2^2, \mu_{12}^2$ and quartic parameters $\lambda_{1,\dots,7}$ real
 \Rightarrow invariant under $CP: \Phi_a \mapsto \Phi_a^*$.

Real 2HDM with SCPV – Prelude

Standard procedure

- Expand

$$\Phi_a = \frac{e^{i\theta_a}}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{2}C_a^+ \\ v_a + R_a + iI_a \end{pmatrix}, \quad \langle \Phi_a \rangle = \frac{e^{i\theta_a} v_a}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Compute $V(v_a, \theta_a) = \mathcal{V}(\langle \Phi_a \rangle)$ and stationarity conditions.
- Compute mass terms

$$-\mathcal{L}_{\text{Mass}} = \vec{C}^\dagger M_\pm^2 \vec{C} + \frac{1}{2} \vec{N}^T M_0^2 \vec{N}, \quad -\mathcal{L}_{\text{Mass}} \subset \mathcal{V},$$

where

$$\vec{C}^\dagger = (C_1^+, C_2^+), \quad \vec{N}^T = (R_1, R_2, I_1, I_2)$$

Real 2HDM with SCPV – Prelude

Mass matrices

$$(M_{\pm}^2)_{a,b} = \left[\frac{\partial^2 \mathcal{V}}{\partial C_a^+ \partial C_b^-} \right],$$

$$(M_0^2)_{a,b} = \left[\frac{\partial^2 \mathcal{V}}{\partial R_a \partial R_b} \right], \quad (M_0^2)_{n+a,n+b} = \left[\frac{\partial^2 \mathcal{V}}{\partial I_a \partial I_b} \right],$$

$$(M_0^2)_{a,n+b} = (M_0^2)_{n+b,a} = \left[\frac{\partial^2 \mathcal{V}}{\partial R_a \partial I_b} \right]$$

[f]: f evaluated at vanishing fields $C_a^{\pm}, R_a, I_a \rightarrow 0$

Real 2HDM with SCPV – Prelude

Stationarity conditions, $V(v_1, v_2, \theta) = \mathcal{V}(\langle\langle\Phi_1\rangle\rangle, \langle\langle\Phi_2\rangle\rangle)$,

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_{v_1} V = & \mu_1^2 v_1 + \mu_{12}^2 v_2 \cos \theta + \lambda_1 v_1^3 + \frac{1}{2}(\lambda_3 + \lambda_4) v_1 v_2^2 \\ & + \lambda_5 v_1 v_2^2 \cos 2\theta + \frac{3}{2} \lambda_6 v_1^2 v_2 \cos \theta + \frac{1}{2} \lambda_7 v_2^3 \cos \theta = 0\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_{v_2} V = & \mu_2^2 v_2 + \mu_{12}^2 v_1 \cos \theta + \lambda_2 v_2^3 + \frac{1}{2}(\lambda_3 + \lambda_4) v_1^2 v_2 \\ & + \lambda_5 v_1^2 v_2 \cos 2\theta + \frac{1}{2} \lambda_6 v_1^3 \cos \theta + \frac{3}{2} \lambda_7 v_1 v_2^2 \cos \theta = 0\end{aligned}$$

$$\partial_\theta V = -\mu_{12}^2 v_1 v_2 \sin \theta - \lambda_5 v_1^2 v_2^2 \sin 2\theta - \frac{1}{2}(\lambda_6 v_1^2 + \lambda_7 v_2^2) v_1 v_2 \sin \theta = 0$$

N.B. $\theta = \theta_2 - \theta_1$ is the only physical, CP violating, vacuum phase

Real 2HDM with SCPV – Prelude

- Spontaneous CP Violation, from $\partial_\theta V = 0$

$$\cos \theta = -\frac{1}{4\lambda_5 v_1 v_2} [2\mu_{12}^2 + \lambda_6 v_1^2 + \lambda_7 v_2^2] \neq \pm 1$$

- Express quadratic parameters as quartics $\times 2$ powers of v_1, v_2 :
 μ_{12}^2 with $\partial_\theta V = 0$, then μ_1^2 with $\partial_{v_1} V = 0$, and μ_2^2 with $\partial_{v_2} V = 0$.
 - Quartic parameters bounded by perturbativity considerations
 \Rightarrow bounds on quadratic parameters $\sim \mathcal{O}(1)v_{EW}^2$.
- \Rightarrow all mass² matrix elements bounded $< \mathcal{O}(1)v_{EW}^2$,
that is, all physical scalars are *light*.
- The crux: we have 3 quadratic parameters and 3 stationarity conditions.

Now, from 2HDM to n HDM.

Real n HDM with SCPV – Setup

Real n HDM scalar potential

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{V}(\Phi_a) = & \sum_{a=1}^n \mu_a^2 \Phi_a^\dagger \Phi_a + \sum_{a=1}^{n-1} \sum_{b=a+1}^n \mu_{ab}^2 \mathcal{H}_{ab} + \sum_{a=1}^n \lambda_a (\Phi_a^\dagger \Phi_a)^2 \\
 & + \sum_{a=1}^{n-1} \sum_{b=a+1}^n \lambda_{a,b} (\Phi_a^\dagger \Phi_a) (\Phi_b^\dagger \Phi_b) + \sum_{a=1}^n \sum_{b=1}^{n-1} \sum_{c=b+1}^n \lambda_{a,bc} (\Phi_a^\dagger \Phi_a) \mathcal{H}_{bc} \\
 & + \sum_{a=1}^{n-1} \sum_{b=a+1}^n \sum_{c=1}^{n-1} \sum_{d=c+1}^n \left| \lambda_{ab,cd} \mathcal{H}_{ab} \mathcal{H}_{cd} \right|_{(a,b) \leq (c,d)} \\
 & + \sum_{a=1}^{n-1} \sum_{b=a+1}^n \sum_{c=1}^{n-1} \sum_{d=c+1}^n \left| \lambda_{ab,cd}^{\mathcal{A}} \mathcal{A}_{ab} \mathcal{A}_{cd} \right|_{(a,b) \leq (c,d)}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{H}_{ab} = \frac{1}{2} (\Phi_a^\dagger \Phi_b + \Phi_b^\dagger \Phi_a) \quad \mathcal{A}_{ab} = \frac{1}{2} (\Phi_a^\dagger \Phi_b - \Phi_b^\dagger \Phi_a)$$

With μ_a^2 , μ_{ab}^2 , λ_a , $\lambda_{a,b}$, $\lambda_{a,bc}$, $\lambda_{ab,cd}$, $\lambda_{ab,cd}^{\mathcal{A}}$ real, CP invariant.

Real n HDM with SCPV – Setup

- Quadratic couplings, $n \mu_a^2 + n(n-1)/2 \mu_{ab}^2$: $n(n+1)/2$.
- Stationarity conditions: $2n-1$.
- Omitting Goldstones, $n-1$ charged and $2n-1$ neutral scalars.

n	2	3	4	5	6	7
$n(n+1)/2$	3	6	10	15	21	28
$2n-1$	3	5	7	9	11	13
$(n-1)(n-2)/2$	0	1	3	6	10	15

- Number of **quadratic** couplings
in excess of the number of stationarity conditions.
- **Can they make all (new) scalar masses $\gg v_{EW}$?**

Real n HDM with SCPV – Setup

Standard procedure (again)

- Expand fields around vacuum.
- Compute $V(v_a, \theta_a) = \mathcal{V}(\langle \Phi_a \rangle)$ and stationarity conditions.
- Mass terms

$$-\mathcal{L}_{\text{Mass}} = \vec{C}^\dagger M_\pm^2 \vec{C} + \frac{1}{2} \vec{N}^T M_0^2 \vec{N}, \quad -\mathcal{L}_{\text{Mass}} \subset \mathcal{V},$$

where now

$$\vec{C}^\dagger = (C_1^+, \dots, C_n^+), \quad \vec{N}^T = (R_1, \dots, R_n, I_1, \dots, I_n)$$

- M_\pm^2 hermitian $n \times n$ matrix,
- M_0^2 real symmetric $2n \times 2n$ matrix.

Real n HDM with SCPV – Setup

Stationarity conditions (focus on quadratics)

$$\partial_{\theta_1} V = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{b=2}^n \mu_{1b}^2 s_{1b} v_1 v_b + \text{Quartics}$$

$$\partial_{\theta_j} V = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a=1}^{j-1} \mu_{aj}^2 s_{aj} v_a v_j - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{b=j+1}^n \mu_{jb}^2 s_{jb} v_j v_b + \text{Quartics}$$

$$\partial_{\theta_n} V = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a=1}^{n-1} \mu_{an}^2 s_{an} v_a v_n + \text{Quartics}$$

$$\text{N.B. } \sum_{j=1}^n \partial_{\theta_j} V = 0$$

where $c_{ab} = \cos(\theta_a - \theta_b)$, $s_{ab} = \sin(\theta_a - \theta_b)$.

We can, for example, trade all μ_{1j}^2 for other quadratics and quartics.

Real n HDM with SCPV – Setup

Stationarity conditions (focus on quadratics)

$$\partial_{v_1} V = \mu_1^2 v_1 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{b=2}^n \mu_{1b}^2 c_{1b} v_b + \text{Quartics}$$

$$\partial_{v_j} V = \mu_j^2 v_j + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a=1}^{j-1} \mu_{aj}^2 c_{aj} v_a + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{b=j+1}^n \mu_{jb}^2 c_{jb} v_b + \text{Quartics}$$

$$\partial_{v_n} V = \mu_n^2 v_n + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a=1}^{n-1} \mu_{an}^2 c_{an} v_a + \text{Quartics}$$

Trade all μ_j^2 for other quadratics and quartics.

\Rightarrow All $n \mu_a^2$'s and all $n-1 \mu_{1j}^2$ quadratics removed, we are left with

$(n-1)(n-2)/2$ quadratics μ_{ab}^2 , $a \geq 2$, $b > a$.

Next: illustrative numerical exercises.

Real n HDM with SCPV – Numerical exercise

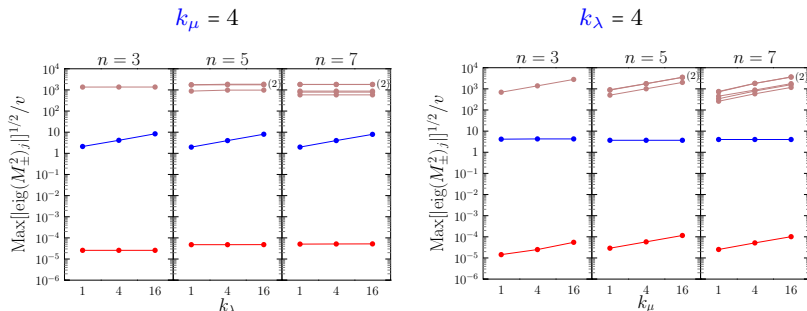
Numerical exercises

- Random $\mu_{ab}^2 \in [-1; +1] \times k_\mu \times 10^{10} \text{ GeV}^2$ ($a \geq 2, b > a$).
- Random $\lambda_a, \lambda_{a,b}, \lambda_{a,bc}, \lambda_{ab,cd}, \lambda_{ab,cd}^A \in [-1; +1] \times k_\lambda$.
- Random v_a with $v_1^2 + \dots + v_n^2 \equiv v^2 = v_{EW}^2 \simeq 246^2 \text{ GeV}^2$.
- Random $\theta_a \in [-\pi; +\pi]$.
- Discard cases in which the stationarity conditions yield quadratics outside $[-1; +1] \times k_\mu \times 10^{10} \text{ GeV}^2$.
- Compute the resulting “mass² matrices”.
- Order eigenvalues according to their absolute values.
- No requirement on positivity of the eigenvalues (local minimum).
- No requirement on boundedness from below of the potential*.
- Repeat and keep the largest value of each |eigenvalue|.
- Results in the following plots.

*No need to sound the alarm because of the absence of these two requirements

Real n HDM with SCPV – Numerical exercise

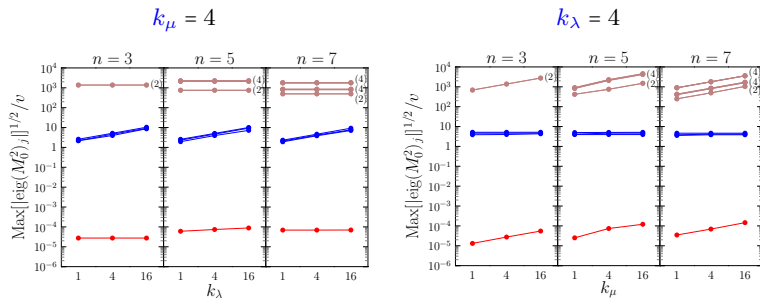
Charged mass matrix



- Numerical zero: would-be Goldstone.
- One light state, sensitive to k_λ , insensitive to k_μ .
- $n - 2$ heavy states, insensitive to k_λ , sensitive to k_μ .

Real n HDM with SCPV – Numerical exercise

Neutral mass matrix



- Numerical zero: would-be Goldstone.
- Three light states, sensitive to k_λ , insensitive to k_μ .
- $2n - 4$ heavy states, insensitive to k_λ , sensitive to k_μ .

Real n HDM with SCPV – Numerical exercise

Recap

- As expected, massless **would-be Goldstones**.
- As expected, **heavy states**, insensitive to k_λ , sensitive to k_μ .
- Unexpected, **light $\mathcal{O}(v_{EW})$ states**,
sensitive to k_λ , insensitive to k_μ .
How can they ignore $\mu_{ab}^2 \gg v_{EW}^2$?

Real n HDM with SCPV – Analysis

Short of analytic black sorcery[☆],

how do we make sense of these results?

- Consider the limit where all the quartic couplings are negligible:

$$\mathcal{V}(\Phi_a) \rightarrow \mathcal{V}_2(\Phi_a) = \sum_{a=1}^n \mu_a^2 \Phi_a^\dagger \Phi_a + \sum_{a=1}^{n-1} \sum_{b=a+1}^n \mu_{ab}^2 \mathcal{H}_{ab}$$

- The key: focus on *null eigenvectors* of the mass matrices?
(since they ignore $\mu_{ab}^2 \gg v^2$)
- Then, treat quartic couplings as a perturbation.

[☆]Obtain the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the mass matrices for generic n

Real n HDM with SCPV – Analysis

Stationarity conditions with no quartics

$$\partial_{\theta_1} V_2 = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{b=2}^n \mu_{1b}^2 s_{1b} v_1 v_b$$

$$\partial_{\theta_j} V_2 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a=1}^{j-1} \mu_{aj}^2 s_{aj} v_a v_j - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{b=j+1}^n \mu_{jb}^2 s_{jb} v_j v_b$$

$$\partial_{\theta_n} V_2 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a=1}^{n-1} \mu_{an}^2 s_{an} v_a v_n \quad \text{N.B. } \sum_{j=1}^n \partial_{\theta_j} V = 0$$

$$\partial_{v_1} V_2 = \mu_1^2 v_1 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{b=2}^n \mu_{1b}^2 c_{1b} v_b$$

$$\partial_{v_j} V_2 = \mu_j^2 v_j + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a=1}^{j-1} \mu_{aj}^2 c_{aj} v_a + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{b=j+1}^n \mu_{jb}^2 c_{jb} v_b$$

$$\partial_{v_n} V_2 = \mu_n^2 v_n + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a=1}^{n-1} \mu_{an}^2 c_{an} v_a$$

Real n HDM with SCPV – Analysis

Mass terms

$$V_2(\Phi_a)|_{\dim=2} = \sum_{a=1}^n \mu_a^2 \left(C_a^- C_a^+ + \frac{1}{2} [R_a^2 + I_a^2] \right) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a=1}^{n-1} \sum_{b=a+1}^n \mu_{ab}^2 \begin{pmatrix} c_{ab} [C_a^- C_b^+ + C_b^- C_a^+] - i s_{ab} [C_a^- C_b^+ - C_b^- C_a^+] \\ c_{ab} [R_a R_b + I_a I_b] + s_{ab} [R_a I_b - R_b I_a] \end{pmatrix}$$

$$V_2(\Phi_a)|_{\dim=2} = (C_1^- \dots C_n^-) M_{\pm}^2 \begin{pmatrix} C_1^+ \\ \vdots \\ C_n^+ \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{2} (R_1 \dots R_n \ I_1 \dots I_n) M_0^2 \begin{pmatrix} R_1 \\ \vdots \\ R_n \\ I_1 \\ \vdots \\ I_n \end{pmatrix}$$

Real n HDM with SCPV – Analysis

Mass matrices, $\theta_{ab} \equiv \theta_a - \theta_b$

$$M_{\pm}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_1^2 & \frac{1}{2}e^{i\theta_{12}}\mu_{12}^2 & \dots & \dots & \frac{1}{2}e^{i\theta_{1n}}\mu_{1n}^2 \\ \frac{1}{2}e^{-i\theta_{12}}\mu_{12}^2 & \mu_2^2 & \dots & \dots & \frac{1}{2}e^{i\theta_{2n}}\mu_{2n}^2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & & & \vdots \\ \frac{1}{2}e^{-i\theta_{1n}}\mu_{1n}^2 & \frac{1}{2}e^{-i\theta_{2n}}\mu_{2n}^2 & \dots & \frac{1}{2}e^{-i\theta_{n-1n}}\mu_{n-1n}^2 & \mu_n^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$M_0^2 = \begin{pmatrix} \text{Re}(M_{\pm}^2) & \text{Im}(M_{\pm}^2) \\ -\text{Im}(M_{\pm}^2) & \text{Re}(M_{\pm}^2) \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{cases} \text{Re}(M_{\pm}^2)^T = \text{Re}(M_{\pm}^2) \\ \text{Im}(M_{\pm}^2)^T = -\text{Im}(M_{\pm}^2) \end{cases}$$

Null eigenvector $\vec{u} \in \mathbb{C}^n$ of M_{\pm}^2

$$M_{\pm}^2 \vec{u} = \vec{0}_n$$

Real n HDM with SCPV – Analysis

One can read $M_{\pm}^2 \vec{u} = \vec{0}_n$ as

$$\begin{aligned} (\operatorname{Re}(M_{\pm}^2) + i\operatorname{Im}(M_{\pm}^2)) (\operatorname{Re}(\vec{u}) + i\operatorname{Im}(\vec{u})) = \\ \operatorname{Re}(M_{\pm}^2) \operatorname{Re}(\vec{u}) - \operatorname{Im}(M_{\pm}^2) \operatorname{Im}(\vec{u}) \\ + i(\operatorname{Im}(M_{\pm}^2) \operatorname{Re}(\vec{u}) + \operatorname{Re}(M_{\pm}^2) \operatorname{Im}(\vec{u})) = \vec{0}_n \end{aligned}$$

that is

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{Re}(M_{\pm}^2) \operatorname{Re}(\vec{u}) - \operatorname{Im}(M_{\pm}^2) \operatorname{Im}(\vec{u}) &= \vec{0}_n \\ \operatorname{Im}(M_{\pm}^2) \operatorname{Re}(\vec{u}) + \operatorname{Re}(M_{\pm}^2) \operatorname{Im}(\vec{u}) &= \vec{0}_n \end{aligned}$$

which means

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} \operatorname{Re}(M_{\pm}^2) & \operatorname{Im}(M_{\pm}^2) \\ -\operatorname{Im}(M_{\pm}^2) & \operatorname{Re}(M_{\pm}^2) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \operatorname{Re}(\vec{u}) \\ -\operatorname{Im}(\vec{u}) \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} \vec{0}_n \\ \vec{0}_n \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} \operatorname{Re}(M_{\pm}^2) & \operatorname{Im}(M_{\pm}^2) \\ -\operatorname{Im}(M_{\pm}^2) & \operatorname{Re}(M_{\pm}^2) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \operatorname{Im}(\vec{u}) \\ \operatorname{Re}(\vec{u}) \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} \vec{0}_n \\ \vec{0}_n \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Real n HDM with SCPV – Analysis

- If there is a null eigenvector $\vec{u} \in \mathbb{C}^n$ of M_{\pm}^2
 \Rightarrow two null eigenvectors $\begin{pmatrix} \text{Re}(\vec{u}) \\ -\text{Im}(\vec{u}) \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \text{Im}(\vec{u}) \\ \text{Re}(\vec{u}) \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{2n}$ of M_0^2
- The first null eigenvector $\begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{pmatrix}$ of M_{\pm}^2 ,
 corresponds to the charged Goldstone since

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mu_1^2 & \frac{1}{2} e^{i\theta_{12}} \mu_{12}^2 & \dots & \dots & \frac{1}{2} e^{i\theta_{1n}} \mu_{1n}^2 \\ \frac{1}{2} e^{-i\theta_{12}} \mu_{12}^2 & \mu_2^2 & \dots & \dots & \frac{1}{2} e^{i\theta_{2n}} \mu_{2n}^2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \mu_{n-1}^2 & \frac{1}{2} e^{i\theta_{n-1n}} \mu_{n-1n}^2 \\ \frac{1}{2} e^{-i\theta_{1n}} \mu_{1n}^2 & \frac{1}{2} e^{-i\theta_{2n}} \mu_{2n}^2 & \dots & \frac{1}{2} e^{-i\theta_{n-1n}} \mu_{n-1n}^2 & \mu_n^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_{n-1} \\ v_n \end{pmatrix} =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mu_1^2 v_1 + \frac{1}{2} e^{i\theta_{12}} \mu_{12}^2 v_2 + \dots + \frac{1}{2} e^{i\theta_{1n}} \mu_{1n}^2 v_n \\ \vdots \\ \frac{1}{2} e^{-i\theta_{12}} \mu_{12}^2 v_1 + \dots + \frac{1}{2} e^{-i\theta_{12}} \mu_{1j-1}^2 v_{j-1} + \mu_j^2 v_j + \frac{1}{2} e^{i\theta_{jj+1}} \mu_{jj+1}^2 v_{j+1} + \dots + \frac{1}{2} e^{i\theta_{jn}} \mu_{2n}^2 v_n \\ \vdots \\ \frac{1}{2} e^{-i\theta_{1n}} \mu_{1n}^2 v_1 + \frac{1}{2} e^{-i\theta_{2n}} \mu_{2n}^2 v_2 + \dots + \frac{1}{2} e^{-i\theta_{n-1n}} \mu_{n-1n}^2 v_{n-1} + \mu_n^2 v_n \end{pmatrix}$$

Real n HDM with SCPV – Analysis

That is

$$M_{\pm}^2 \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \partial_{v_1} V_2 - \frac{i}{v_1} \partial_{\theta_1} V_2 \\ \vdots \\ \partial_{v_j} V_2 - \frac{i}{v_j} \partial_{\theta_j} V_2 \\ \vdots \\ \partial_{v_n} V_2 - \frac{i}{v_n} \partial_{\theta_n} V_2 \end{pmatrix} = \vec{0}_n$$

- In the neutral sector it gives the neutral Goldstone and “the Higgs”

$$\vec{r}_G^T = (\vec{0}_n, v_1, \dots, v_n), \quad \vec{r}_h^T = (v_1, \dots, v_n, \vec{0}_n)$$

Real n HDM with SCPV – Analysis

- There is *another* null eigenvector

$$\vec{c}_0^T = (e^{i2\theta_1} v_1, \dots, e^{i2\theta_j} v_j, \dots, e^{i2\theta_n} v_n)$$

- Explicitly

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mu_1^2 & \frac{1}{2} e^{i\theta_{12}} \mu_{12}^2 & \dots & \dots & \frac{1}{2} e^{i\theta_{1n}} \mu_{1n}^2 \\ \frac{1}{2} e^{-i\theta_{12}} \mu_{12}^2 & \mu_2^2 & \dots & \dots & \frac{1}{2} e^{i\theta_{2n}} \mu_{2n}^2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \mu_{n-1}^2 & \frac{1}{2} e^{i\theta_{n-1n}} \mu_{n-1n}^2 \\ \frac{1}{2} e^{-i\theta_{1n}} \mu_{1n}^2 & \frac{1}{2} e^{-i\theta_{2n}} \mu_{2n}^2 & \dots & \frac{1}{2} e^{-i\theta_{n-1n}} \mu_{n-1n}^2 & \mu_n^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e^{i2\theta_1} v_1 \\ e^{i2\theta_2} v_2 \\ \vdots \\ e^{i2\theta_{n-1}} v_{n-1} \\ e^{i2\theta_n} v_n \end{pmatrix}$$

$$M_{\pm}^2 \vec{c}_0 = \begin{pmatrix} e^{i2\theta_1} (\partial_{v_1} V_2 + \frac{i}{v_1} \partial_{\theta_1} V_2) \\ \vdots \\ e^{i2\theta_j} (\partial_{v_j} V_2 + \frac{i}{v_j} \partial_{\theta_j} V_2) \\ \vdots \\ e^{i2\theta_n} (\partial_{v_n} V_2 + \frac{i}{v_n} \partial_{\theta_n} V_2) \end{pmatrix} = \vec{0}_n \quad \checkmark$$

Real n HDM with SCPV – Analysis

Null eigenvectors of mass matrices with no quartics in \mathcal{V}

- Charged

$$\begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} e^{i2\theta_1} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ e^{i2\theta_n} v_n \end{pmatrix}$$

- Neutral

$$\begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \cos 2\theta_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \cos 2\theta_n \\ -v_1 \sin 2\theta_1 \\ \vdots \\ -v_n \sin 2\theta_n \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \sin 2\theta_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \sin 2\theta_n \\ v_1 \cos 2\theta_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \cos 2\theta_n \end{pmatrix}$$

- Not orthogonal! But no problem, one can always orthonormalize

Real n HDM with SCPV – Analysis

Why is there a second null eigenvector? (With no quartics)

- Important observation: the CP conjugate vevs $\langle \Phi_a^* \rangle = \langle \Phi_a \rangle^*$ give a *different* candidate vacuum!
- With no quartics, *both* vacua give null eigenvectors of M_{\pm}^2 and M_0^2 computed around the chosen vacuum.

“Quartics restored”

- The first null eigenvector gives the charged and neutral would-be Goldstones + “the Higgs”.
- The second null eigenvector gives 1 charged and 2 neutral states with masses² $\sim \mathcal{O}((\lambda' s) v^2)$.
- This is in full agreement with the numerical results!
- **Key ingredient:**
the existence of a **second minimum** of the potential.

General 2HDM – Setup

Scalar potential

$$\mathcal{V}(\Phi_1, \Phi_2) = \mathcal{V}_2(\Phi_1, \Phi_2) + \mathcal{V}_4(\Phi_1, \Phi_2),$$

$$\mathcal{V}_2(\Phi_1, \Phi_2) = \mu_1^2 \Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1 + \mu_2^2 \Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2 + \mu_{12}^2 \Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2 + \mu_{12}^{2*} \Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{V}_4(\Phi_1, \Phi_2) &= \lambda_1 (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1)^2 + \lambda_2 (\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2)^2 + \lambda_3 (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1)(\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2) + \lambda_4 (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2)(\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_1) \\ &\quad + \lambda_5 (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2)^2 + \lambda_5^* (\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_1)^2 \\ &\quad + (\lambda_6 \Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2 + \lambda_6^* \Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_1)(\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1) + (\lambda_7 \Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2 + \lambda_7^* \Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_1)(\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2) \end{aligned}$$

with real $\mu_1^2, \mu_2^2, \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3, \lambda_4$, and complex $\mu_{12}^2, \lambda_5, \lambda_6, \lambda_7$.

Compute $V(v_1, v_2, \theta) = \mathcal{V}(\langle \Phi_1 \rangle, \langle \Phi_2 \rangle)$.

More (real) quadratic parameters than stationarity conditions.

General 2HDM – Setup

Stationarity conditions (one last time...),

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_{v_1} V = & \mu_1^2 v_1 + \operatorname{Re}(\mu_{12}^2 e^{i\theta}) v_2 + \lambda_1 v_1^3 + \frac{1}{2}(\lambda_3 + \lambda_4) v_1 v_2^2 \\ & + \operatorname{Re}(\lambda_5 e^{i2\theta}) v_1 v_2^2 + \frac{3}{2} \operatorname{Re}(\lambda_6 e^{i\theta}) v_1^2 v_2 + \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Re}(\lambda_7 e^{i\theta}) v_2^3 = 0\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_{v_2} V = & \mu_2^2 v_2 + \operatorname{Re}(\mu_{12}^2 e^{i\theta}) v_1 + \lambda_2 v_2^3 + \frac{1}{2}(\lambda_3 + \lambda_4) v_1^2 v_2 \\ & + \operatorname{Re}(\lambda_5 e^{i2\theta}) v_1^2 v_2 + \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Re}(\lambda_6 e^{i\theta}) v_1^3 + \frac{3}{2} \operatorname{Re}(\lambda_7 e^{i\theta}) v_1 v_2^2 = 0\end{aligned}$$

$$\partial_\theta V = -\operatorname{Im}(\mu_{12}^2 e^{i\theta}) v_1 v_2 - \operatorname{Im}(\lambda_5 e^{i2\theta}) v_1^2 v_2^2 - \operatorname{Im}((\lambda_6 v_1^2 + \lambda_7 v_2^2) e^{i\theta}) \frac{v_1 v_2}{2} = 0$$

General 2HDM – Setup

- Physical scalars, **charged**

$$(C_1^-, C_2^-)^T = U (G^-, H^-)^T \quad U^\dagger M_{\pm}^2 U = \text{Diag}(0, M_{H^\pm}^2)$$

with $U \in U(2)$ (rotation into the “Higgs basis”)

$$\begin{aligned} M_{H^\pm}^2 &= \mu_1^2 + \mu_2^2 + \lambda_1 v_1^2 + \lambda_2 v_2^2 + \frac{1}{2} \lambda_3 v^2 + \text{Re}((\lambda_6 + \lambda_7)e^{i\theta}) v_1 v_2 \\ &= \frac{v^2}{2v_1 v_2 \sin \theta} \text{Im} (2\mu_{12}^2 + 2(\lambda_5 - \lambda_4)e^{i\theta} v_1 v_2 + (\lambda_6 v_1^2 + \lambda_7 v_2^2)e^{i\theta}) \end{aligned}$$

General 2HDM – Setup

- Physical scalars, **neutral**

$$\begin{aligned}(\mathbf{R}_1, \mathbf{R}_2, \mathbf{I}_1, \mathbf{I}_2)^T &= O (G^0, h, H_1^0, H_2^0)^T \\ O^T M_0^2 O &= \text{Diag}(0, m_h^2, M_{H_1^0}^2, M_{H_2^0}^2)\end{aligned}$$

with real $O \in O(4)$

- We choose $m_h^2 \leq M_{H_1^0}^2 \leq M_{H_2^0}^2$, with h “the Higgs”.
- Sum of masses, $\text{Tr} \{M_0^2\}$,

$$\begin{aligned}m_h^2 + M_{H_1^0}^2 + M_{H_2^0}^2 &= \\2(\mu_1^2 + \mu_2^2) + 4(\lambda_1 v_1^2 + \lambda_2 v_2^2) + (\lambda_3 + \lambda_4)v^2 + 4\text{Re}((\lambda_6 + \lambda_7)e^{i\theta})v_1 v_2\end{aligned}$$

- If we can have $\mu_1^2 + \mu_2^2 \gg v_{\text{EW}}^2$,
there is a decoupling regime for the new scalars.

General 2HDM – Numerical exercise

Simple numerical exercise

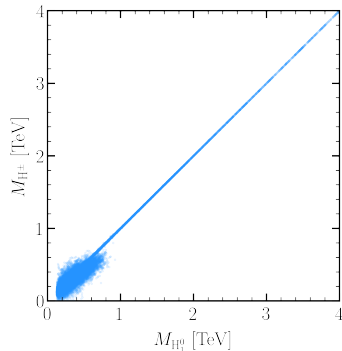
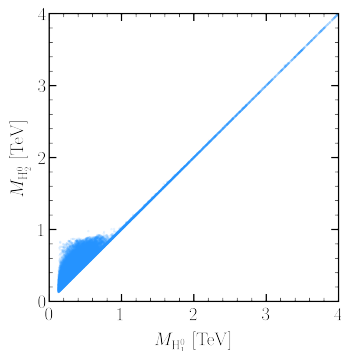
- Generate random values of λ 's, ensure boundedness from below.
- Generate random values of μ^2 's.
- Minimize repeatedly $V(v_1, v_2, \theta)$ with random starting points. Remove repeated minima.
- Reject if there is no spontaneous symmetry breaking.
- We are left with potentials with either **one** or **two minima** (as vacuum, we take the deepest).

In agreement with [Ivanov](#) [PRD75](#) (2007), [PRD77](#) (2008)

- Parameter redefinitions to set
 - (i) $v^2 = v_1^2 + v_2^2 = v_{EW}^2$ and
 - (ii) mass of the lightest neutral state = m_h .
- Apply perturbative unitarity constraints on the quartic parameters.
- Plot masses for both cases, **one** or **two minima**, separately.

General 2HDM – Numerical exercise

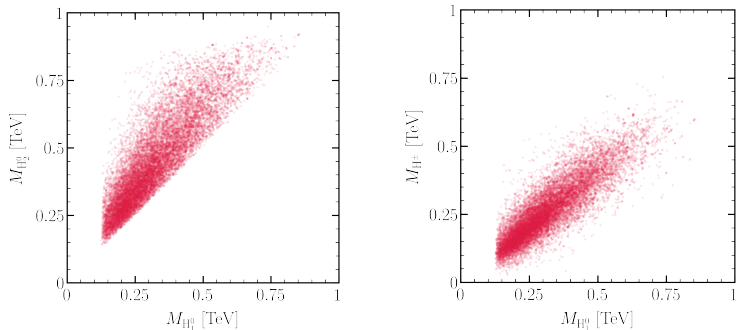
Masses of the new scalars, potentials with **one minimum**



- Decoupling regime feasible, where all new scalars have (degenerate) masses > 1 TeV.

General 2HDM – Numerical exercise

Masses of the new scalars, potentials with **two minima**



- **No decoupling regime**, all new scalars with masses < 1 TeV!

General 2HDM – Analysis

Making sense of the results for **two minima**

- There are **two minima** with vevs $\{v_1, v_2 e^{i\theta}\}$ and $\{v'_1, v'_2 e^{i\theta'}\}$.
- Stationarity conditions fulfilled by $\{v_1, v_2, \theta\}$ and $\{v'_1, v'_2, \theta'\}$.
- Take for example $\partial_\theta V = 0$,

$$-\text{Im}\left(\mu_{12}^2 e^{i\theta}\right) v_1 v_2 - \text{Im}\left(\lambda_5 e^{i2\theta}\right) v_1^2 v_2^2 - \text{Im}\left((\lambda_6 v_1^2 + \lambda_7 v_2^2) e^{i\theta}\right) \frac{v_1 v_2}{2} = 0$$

$$-\text{Im}\left(\mu_{12}^2 e^{i\theta'}\right) v'_1 v'_2 - \text{Im}\left(\lambda_5 e^{i2\theta'}\right) v_1'^2 v_2'^2 - \text{Im}\left((\lambda_6 v_1'^2 + \lambda_7 v_2'^2) e^{i\theta'}\right) \frac{v'_1 v'_2}{2} = 0$$

Assume $v_1 v_2 \neq 0$, $v'_1 v'_2 \neq 0$ (OK in a generic $\{\Phi_1, \Phi_2\}$ basis)

General 2HDM – Analysis

Making sense of the results for **two minima**

- $\text{Im}(\mu_{12}^2)$ is not free anymore!

$$\text{Re}(\mu_{12}^2) = \frac{1}{\sin(\theta' - \theta)} ([E] \cos \theta' - [E'] \cos \theta)$$

$$\text{Im}(\mu_{12}^2) = \frac{1}{\sin(\theta' - \theta)} ([E'] \sin \theta - [E] \sin \theta')$$

$$\text{with } [E] = \text{Im}(\lambda_5 e^{i2\theta}) v_1 v_2 + \frac{1}{2} \text{Im}((\lambda_6 v_1^2 + \lambda_7 v_2^2) e^{i\theta})$$

$$[E'] = \text{Im}(\lambda_5 e^{i2\theta'}) v'_1 v'_2 + \frac{1}{2} \text{Im}((\lambda_6 v_1'^2 + \lambda_7 v_2'^2) e^{i\theta'})$$

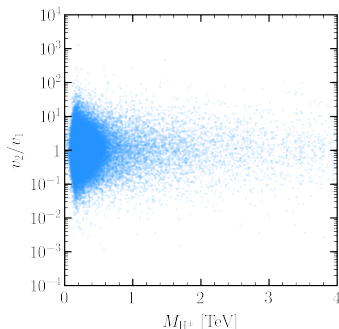
- *All* quadratic parameters are now *bounded* by perturbativity requirements on the λ 's, **the whole spectrum is bounded!**

General 2HDM – Bonus

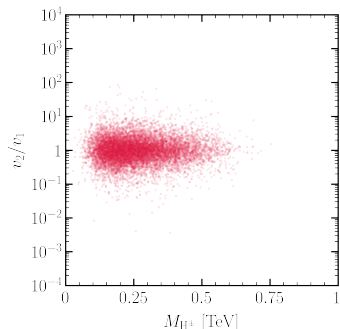
- It is clear that “Masses > 1 TeV”
⇒ potential with a single minimum.
- Can one say something for “Masses < 1 TeV”?
- Masses are of no help, what about other quantities,
for example v_2/v_1 ?

General 2HDM – Bonus

v_2/v_1 vs. M_{H^\pm} , generic basis



Potentials with **one minimum**



Potentials with **two minima**

- Not interesting, but expected: v_2/v_1 has no physical meaning, one can rotate the $\{\Phi_1, \Phi_2\}$ basis and v_2/v_1 changes accordingly.

General 2HDM – Bonus

- Not the end of the story, there is a *particular* basis...
- Introduce $(\Phi_1^\dagger, \Phi_2^\dagger) = (\Phi_1'^\dagger, \Phi_2'^\dagger) \mathcal{U}^\dagger$, $\mathcal{U} \in U(2)$, such that

$$\mathcal{V}_2 = (\Phi_1^\dagger \quad \Phi_2^\dagger) \begin{pmatrix} \mu_1^2 & \mu_{12}^2 \\ \mu_{12}^{2*} & \mu_2^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Phi_1 \\ \Phi_2 \end{pmatrix} = (\Phi_1'^\dagger \quad \Phi_2'^\dagger) \begin{pmatrix} \mu_{d1}^2 & 0 \\ 0 & \mu_{d2}^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Phi_1' \\ \Phi_2' \end{pmatrix}$$

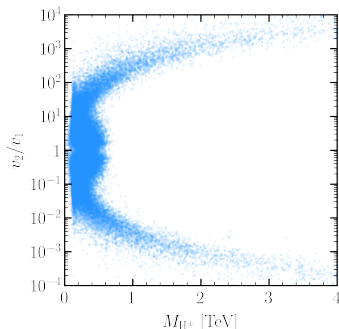
that is, diagonalize the hermitian matrix of quadratic parameters to obtain the real eigenvalues

$$\mu_{d1,2}^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left(\mu_1^2 + \mu_2^2 \pm \sqrt{(\mu_1^2 - \mu_2^2)^2 + 4|\mu_{12}^2|^2} \right)$$

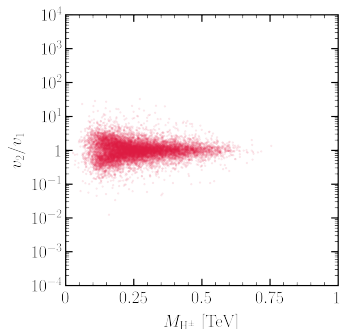
and the rotation \mathcal{U} , and now represent v_2'/v_1' vs. M_{H^\pm} .

General 2HDM – Bonus

v_2/v_1 vs. M_{H^\pm} , *particular* basis



Potentials with **one minimum**



Potentials with *two minima*

- Decoupling requires very large or very small values of v_2/v_1 .
- For $10^{-2} < \frac{v_2}{v_1} < 10^2$, still no clue,
but for $\frac{v_2}{v_1} < 10^{-2}$ or $\frac{v_2}{v_1} > 10^2$, the potential has **one minimum**.

General 2HDM – Bonus conundrum

- In the *particular* basis there are just **2** quadratic parameters, are they fixed through the **3** stationarity conditions and thus the decoupling regime *cannot* arise?

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_{v_1} V &= \mu_{d1}^2 v_1 + \lambda_1 v_1^3 + \frac{1}{2}(\lambda_3 + \lambda_4)v_1 v_2^2 \\ &\quad + \operatorname{Re}(\lambda_5 e^{i2\theta}) v_1 v_2^2 + \frac{3}{2}\operatorname{Re}(\lambda_6 e^{i\theta}) v_1^2 v_2 + \frac{1}{2}\operatorname{Re}(\lambda_7 e^{i\theta}) v_2^3 = 0\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_{v_2} V &= \mu_{d2}^2 v_2 + \lambda_2 v_2^3 + \frac{1}{2}(\lambda_3 + \lambda_4)v_1^2 v_2 \\ &\quad + \operatorname{Re}(\lambda_5 e^{i2\theta}) v_1^2 v_2 + \frac{1}{2}\operatorname{Re}(\lambda_6 e^{i\theta}) v_1^3 + \frac{3}{2}\operatorname{Re}(\lambda_7 e^{i\theta}) v_1 v_2^2 = 0\end{aligned}$$

$$\partial_{\theta} V = -\operatorname{Im}(\lambda_5 e^{i2\theta}) v_1^2 v_2^2 - \operatorname{Im}((\lambda_6 v_1^2 + \lambda_7 v_2^2)e^{i\theta}) \frac{v_1 v_2}{2} = 0$$

General 2HDM – Bonus conundrum

- μ_{d1}^2 and μ_{d2}^2 absent from $\partial_\theta V = 0$,
but still 2 equations for 2 parameters.
- Notice that μ_{d1}^2 and μ_{d2}^2 appear multiplied by **vevs**:
one can have either $\mu_{d1}^2 \gg v_{EW}^2$ or $\mu_{d2}^2 \gg v_{EW}^2$ (not both),
provided $v_1 \ll v_{EW}$ or $v_2 \ll v_{EW}$ (not both),
exactly as the plot shows!

Conclusions

- In both the **real n HDM with SCPV** and the **general 2HDM**
 - There is an “overabundance” of free quadratic couplings in \mathcal{V} , stationarity conditions cannot remove them all.
 - One could have expected that besides “the Higgs” (+ Goldstones), all scalars could have large masses.

That is not the case

- In the **real n HDM** (at least)
 - one charged and two new neutral scalars have $\mathcal{O}(v_{EW})$ masses
 - Analysis in the absence of quartic couplings, with *two* null eigenvectors corresponding to would-be Goldstones of the two CP conjugate minima.
 - Reintroducing quartic couplings, zero masses lifted (except for the would-be Goldstones).

Conclusions

- In the general 2HDM
the charged and the two new neutral
have $\mathcal{O}(v_{EW})$ masses if the potential has two minima.
 - Analysis directly in terms of stationarity conditions
involving both minima.
- General 2HDM Bonus
 - Besides the decoupling regime, particular basis with diagonal quadratic parameters can help telling apart **one** vs. **two** minima through v_2/v_1 .
 - Potential conundrum: 2 quadratic parameters in diagonal basis vs. 2 stationarity conditions, and yet decoupling possible \Rightarrow hierarchy of vevs.

ευχαριστώ!

Thank you!

Comments, questions ?

Backup

Backup – Real n HDM with SCPV – Setup

Real n HDM scalar potential, $V(v_a, \theta_a) = V(\langle \Phi_a \rangle)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 4V(v_a, \theta_a) = & 2 \sum_{a=1}^n \mu_a^2 v_a^2 + 2 \sum_{a=1}^{n-1} \sum_{b=a+1}^n \mu_{ab}^2 c_{ab} v_a v_b + \sum_{a=1}^n \lambda_a v_a^4 \\
 & + \sum_{a=1}^{n-1} \sum_{b=a+1}^n \lambda_{a,b} v_a^2 v_b^2 + \sum_{a=1}^n \sum_{b=1}^{n-1} \sum_{c=b+1}^n \lambda_{a,bc} c_{bc} v_a^2 v_b v_c \\
 & + \sum_{a=1}^{n-1} \sum_{b=a+1}^n \sum_{c=1}^{n-1} \sum_{d=c+1}^n \left| \lambda_{ab,cd} c_{ab} c_{cd} v_a v_b v_c v_d \right|_{(a,b) \leq (c,d)} \\
 & + \sum_{a=1}^{n-1} \sum_{b=a+1}^n \sum_{c=1}^{n-1} \sum_{d=c+1}^n \left| \lambda_{ab,cd}^A s_{ab} s_{cd} v_a v_b v_c v_d \right|_{(a,b) \leq (c,d)}
 \end{aligned}$$

Backup – General 2HDM – Numerical exercise

Parameter redefinitions to set good vev and Higgs mass.

- After minimizing a given potential V with the minimum at $\langle \Phi_1 \rangle = \frac{v_{1,0}}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$, $\langle \Phi_2 \rangle = \frac{v_{2,0} e^{i\theta_0}}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$, rescale

$$\mu_a^2, \mu_{ab}^2 \mapsto \frac{v_{EW}^2}{v_0^2} \mu_a^2, \mu_{ab}^2, \quad v_0^2 \equiv v_{1,0}^2 + v_{2,0}^2$$

- Compute the mass matrices. With m_0^2 the smallest non-vanishing eigenvalue of M_0^2 , rescale

$$\mu_a^2, \mu_{ab}^2, \lambda_x \mapsto \frac{m_h^2}{m_0^2} \mu_a^2, \mu_{ab}^2, \lambda_x$$