

# Strong First-Order Phase Transitions, Models and Probes

Peisi Huang

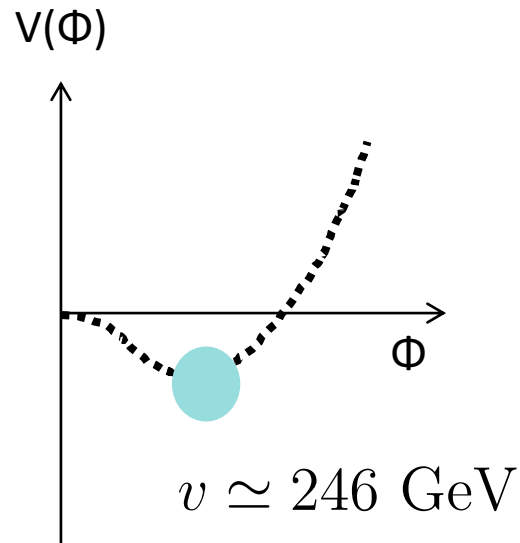
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

High Energy Physics Seminar, Oklahoma State University

Apr 1, 2021

# What do we *really* know about the Higgs?

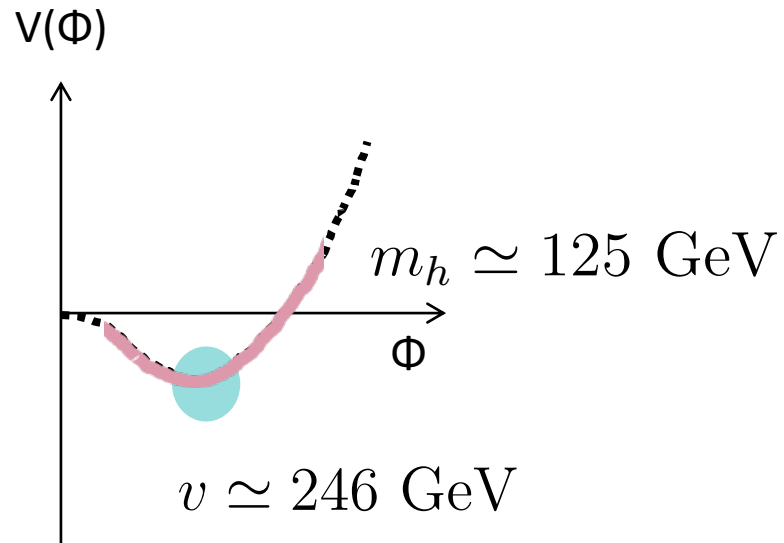
- We have discovered the Higgs boson and measured its properties with precisions.
- However, we know very little about the Higgs potential.



vev, measured from  $G_F$

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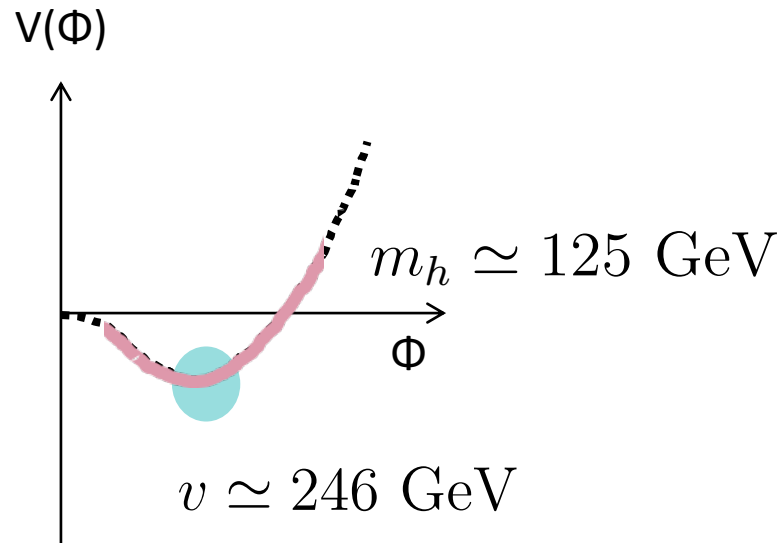


vev, measured from  $G_F$

Higgs mass measured at the LHC

# What do we *really* know about the Higgs?

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Completely specify the Higgs potential in the SM, but **NOT** directly measured

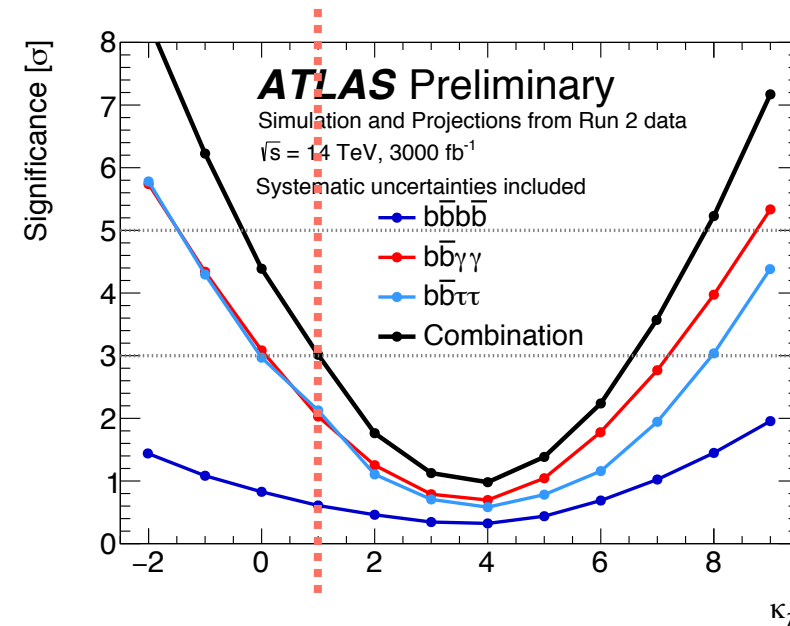
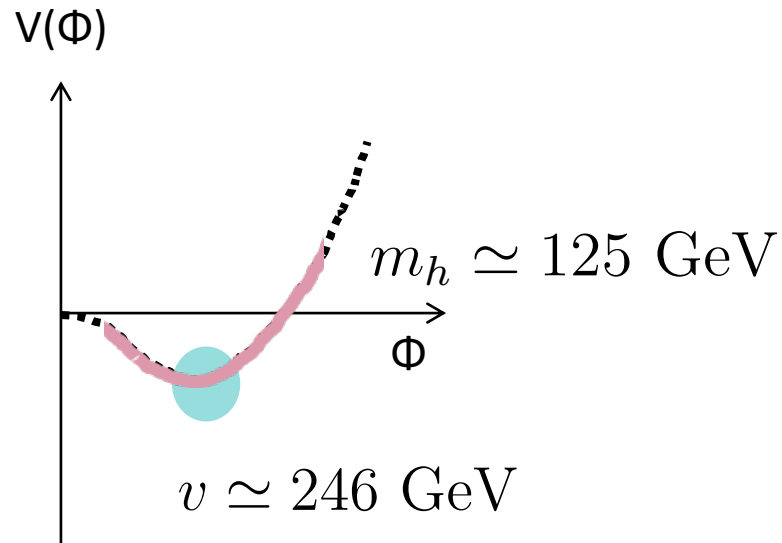
$$V = -\mu^2 H^\dagger H + \lambda_h (H^\dagger H)^2$$

$$\mu^2 = m_h^2/2 \simeq (88\text{GeV})^2$$

$$\lambda_h = m_h^2/2v^2 \simeq 0.13$$

# What do we *really* know about the Higgs?

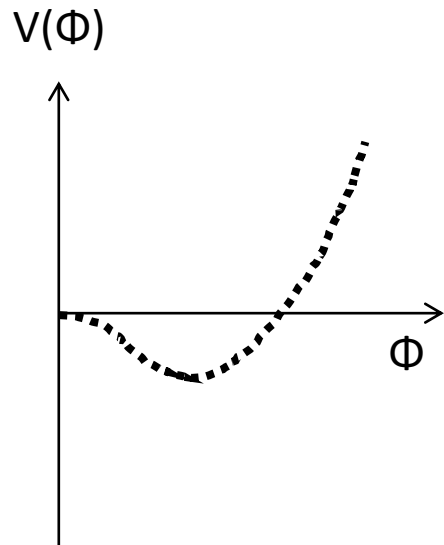
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- However, we know very little about the Higgs potential.



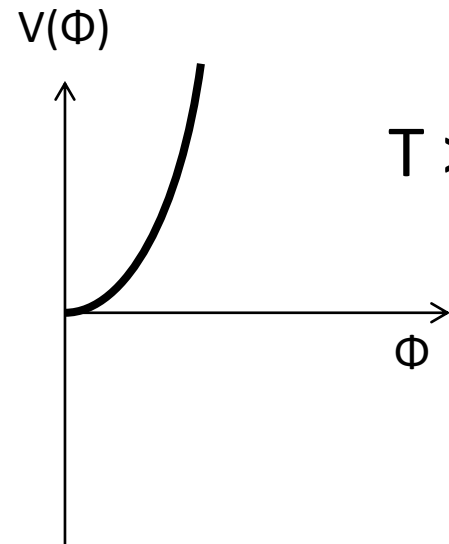

Self coupling, Limited sensitivity at HL-LHC

# What do we *want* to know about the Higgs?

- The shape of the Higgs potential is closely related to the electroweak phase transition.



$T=0$  ?



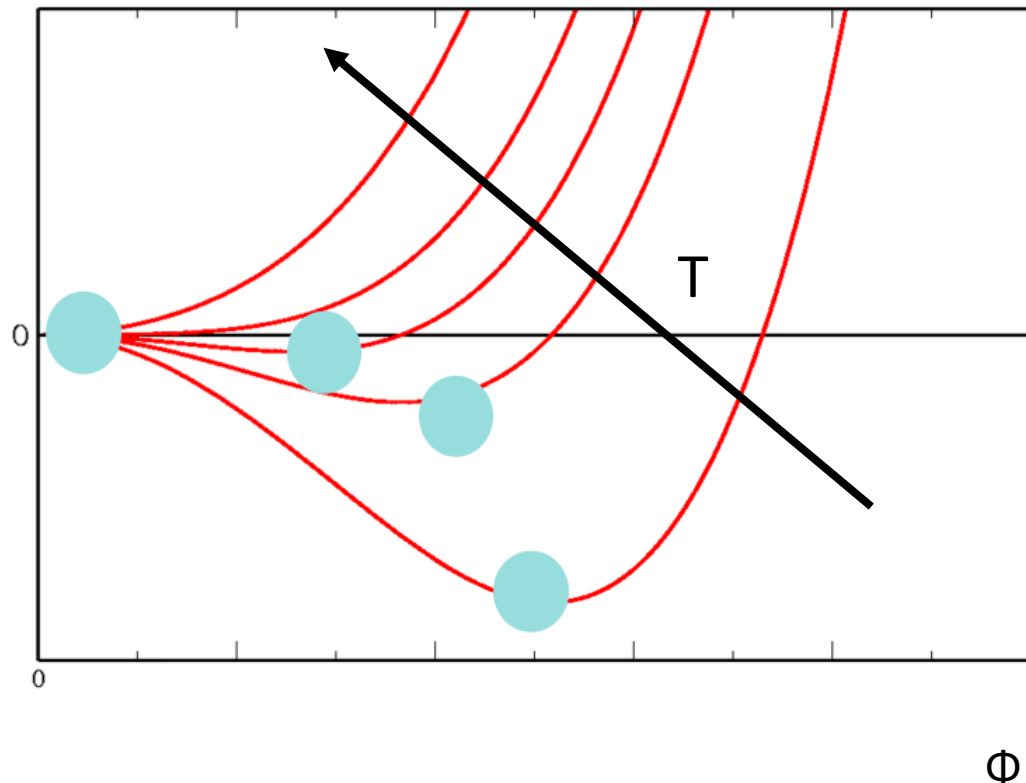
$T \gg 100 \text{ GeV}$

Know nothing beyond  $v$ , and  $m_h$

EW symmetry restored

# Electroweak Phase Transitions

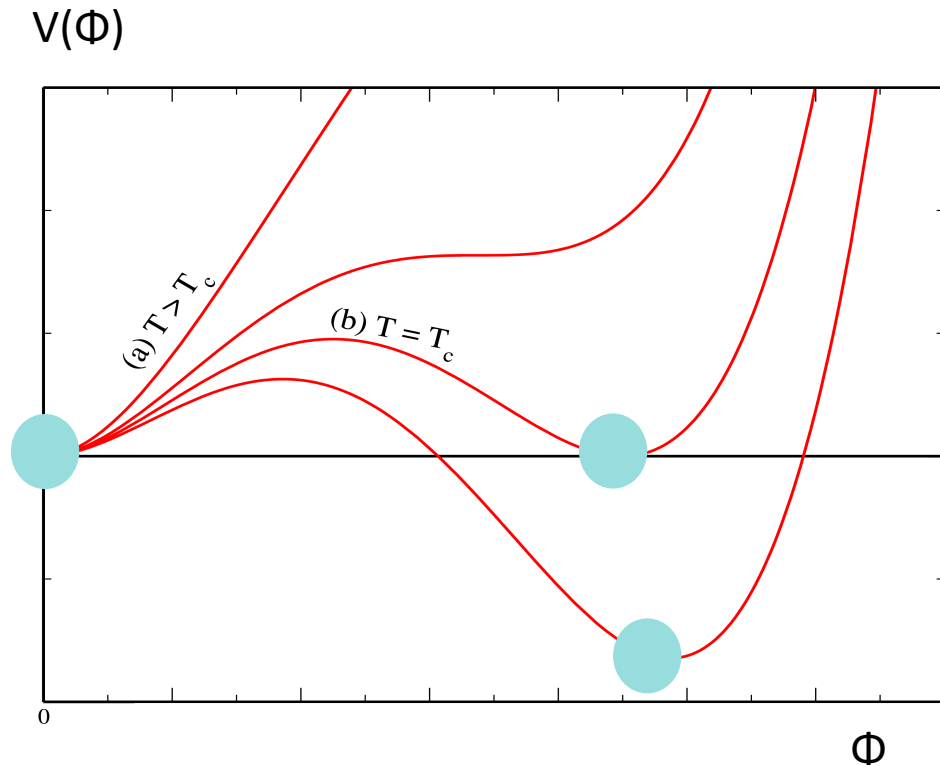
$V(\Phi)$



- First Order?

- In the SM, the EW symmetry is broken by a smooth cross over.
- $v(T)$  changes smoothly
- No energy barrier; no bubbles;
- no cosmological relics

# Electroweak Phase Transitions



- First Order Phase Transition
- $v$  is discontinuous
- $V_{\text{eff}}$  has a barrier, bubbles nucleated
- Possibly interesting cosmological relics!

New physics to generate a barrier



# Outline

## How can we probe the new physics?

- Gravitational waves
- Colliders

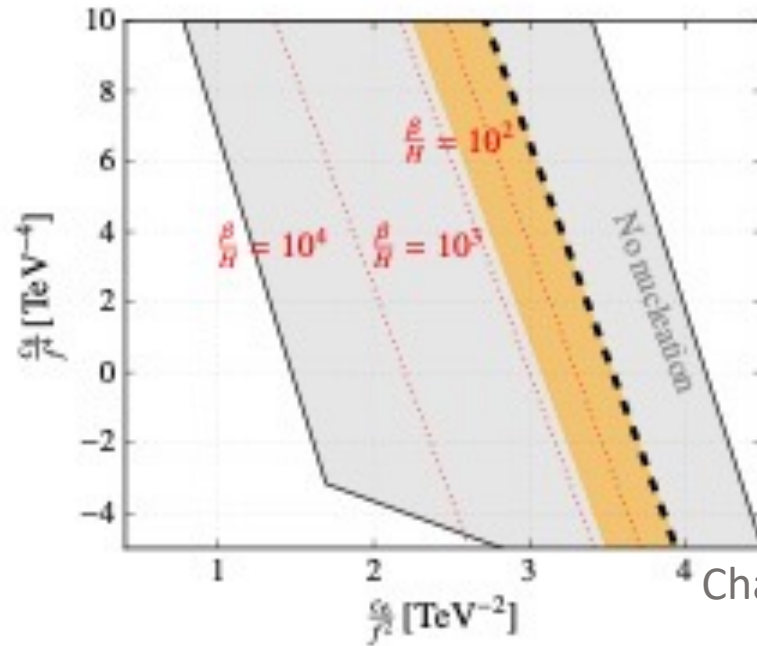
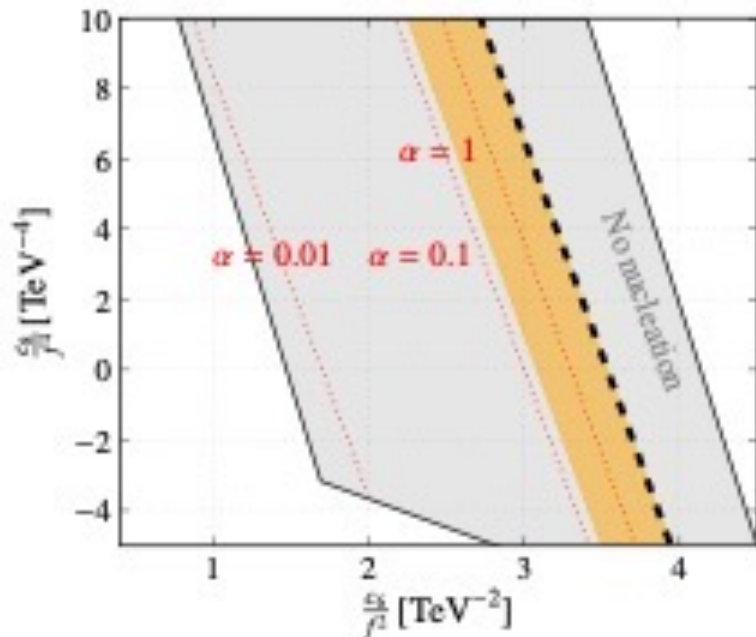
## What kind of models?

- Other model-dependent probes of the new physics?

# Outline

## How can we probe the new physics?

- Gravitational waves



# Outline

## How can we probe the new physics?

- Gravitational waves
- Colliders

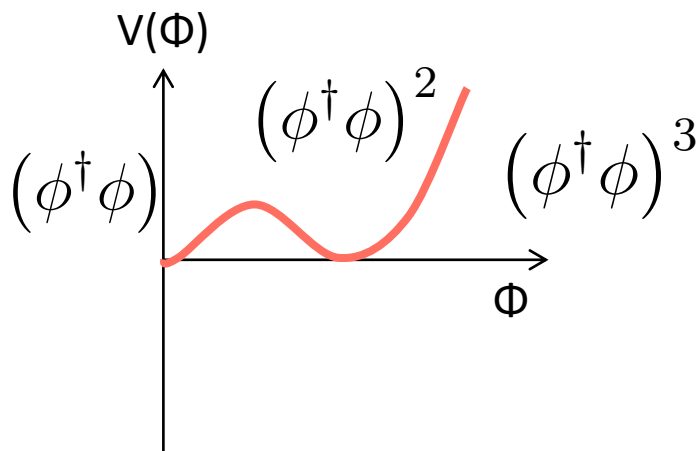
## What kind of models?

- Other model-dependent probes of the new physics?

Probes?

# Generate the Barrier

$$V(\phi, T) = \frac{m^2 + a_0 T^2}{2} (\phi^\dagger \phi) + \frac{\lambda}{4} (\phi^\dagger \phi)^2 + \frac{c_6}{8\Lambda^2} (\phi^\dagger \phi)^3$$



$$\lambda_3 = \left. \frac{\partial^3 V}{\partial \phi^3} \right|_{\phi=v} = \frac{3m_h^2}{v} \left( 1 + \frac{2c_6 v^4}{m_h^2 \Lambda^2} \right)$$

Critical temperature

$$T_c^2 = \frac{3c_6}{4\Lambda^2 a_0} (v^2 - v_c^2) \left( v^2 - \frac{v_c^2}{3} \right).$$

vev at  $T_c$

$$(\phi_c^\dagger \phi_c) = v_c^2 = -\frac{\lambda \Lambda^2}{c_6}.$$

Requiring first order phase transition

$$\frac{5}{3} \lambda_3^{SM} < \lambda_3 < 3 \lambda_3^{SM}$$

# Generate the Barrier – Adding Higher-dim Operators

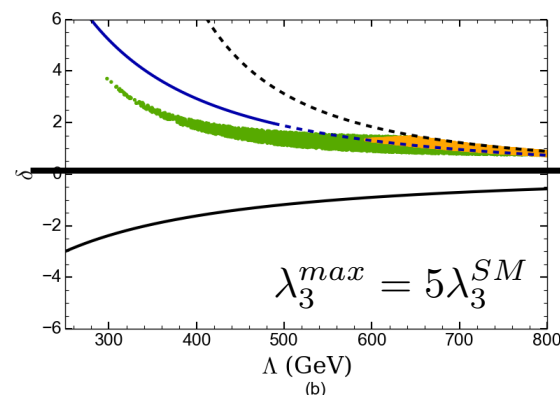
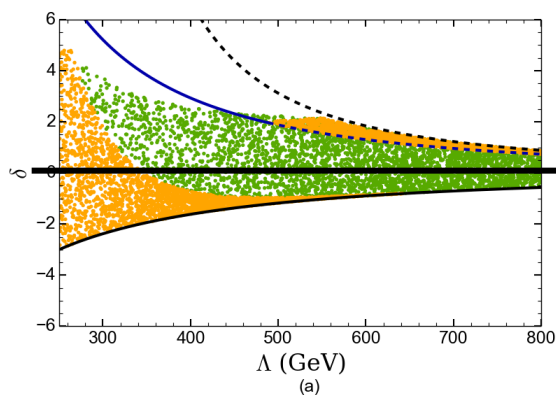
$$V(\phi, 0) = \frac{m^2}{2}(\phi^\dagger\phi) + \frac{\lambda}{4}(\phi^\dagger\phi)^2 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{c_{2n+4}}{2^{(n+2)}\Lambda^{2n}}(\phi^\dagger\phi)^{n+2}$$

$$\delta = \frac{\lambda_3}{\lambda_3^{SM}} - 1$$

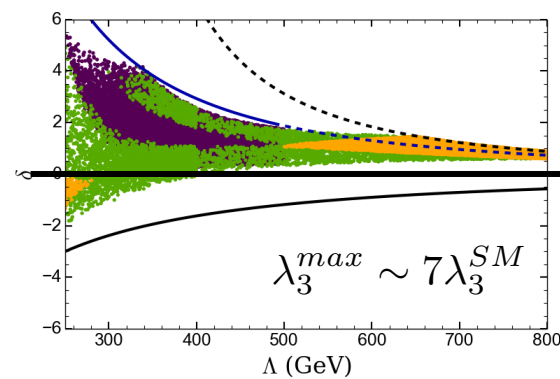
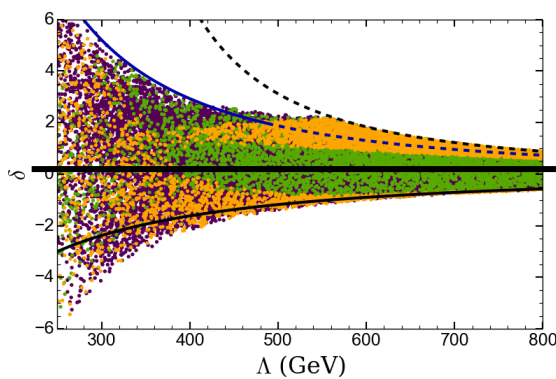
General results

First order Phase Transition

$(\phi^\dagger\phi)^4$



$(\phi^\dagger\phi)^5$



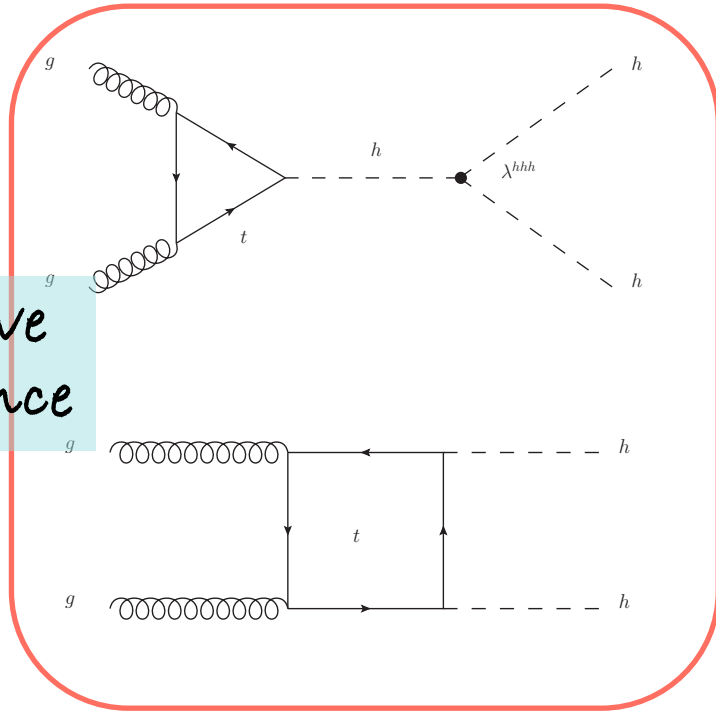
○ First order PTs tend to be associated with enhancements in the trilinear coupling, while suppressions tend to be associated with second order PTs.

○ The trilinear coupling could deviate significantly from its SM value in the region consistent with a first order EWPT.

Color coding are for different hierarchies of the coefficients.

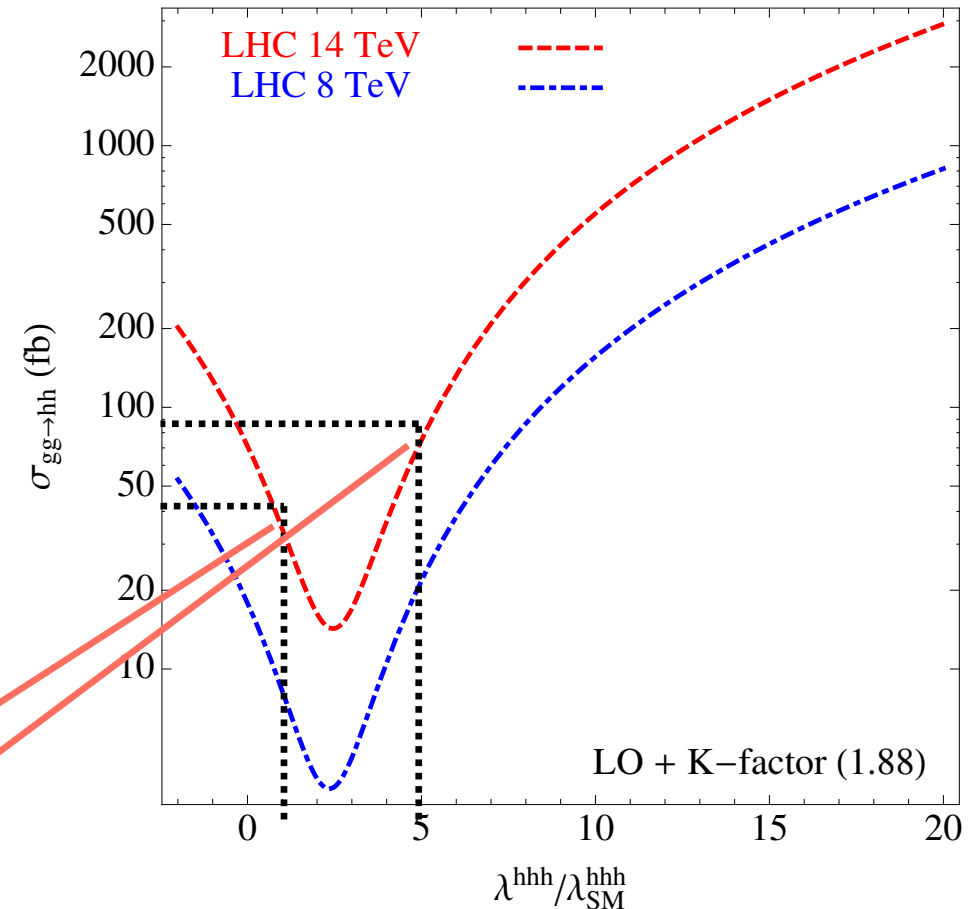
# Collider Probes – Double Higgs Production

destructive interference



At NNLO, 14 TeV,

- $\lambda^3 = \lambda_{SM}^3 \sigma(pp \rightarrow hh) = 40 \text{ fb}$
- $\lambda^3 = 5\lambda_{SM}^3 \sigma(pp \rightarrow hh) = 100 \text{ fb}$



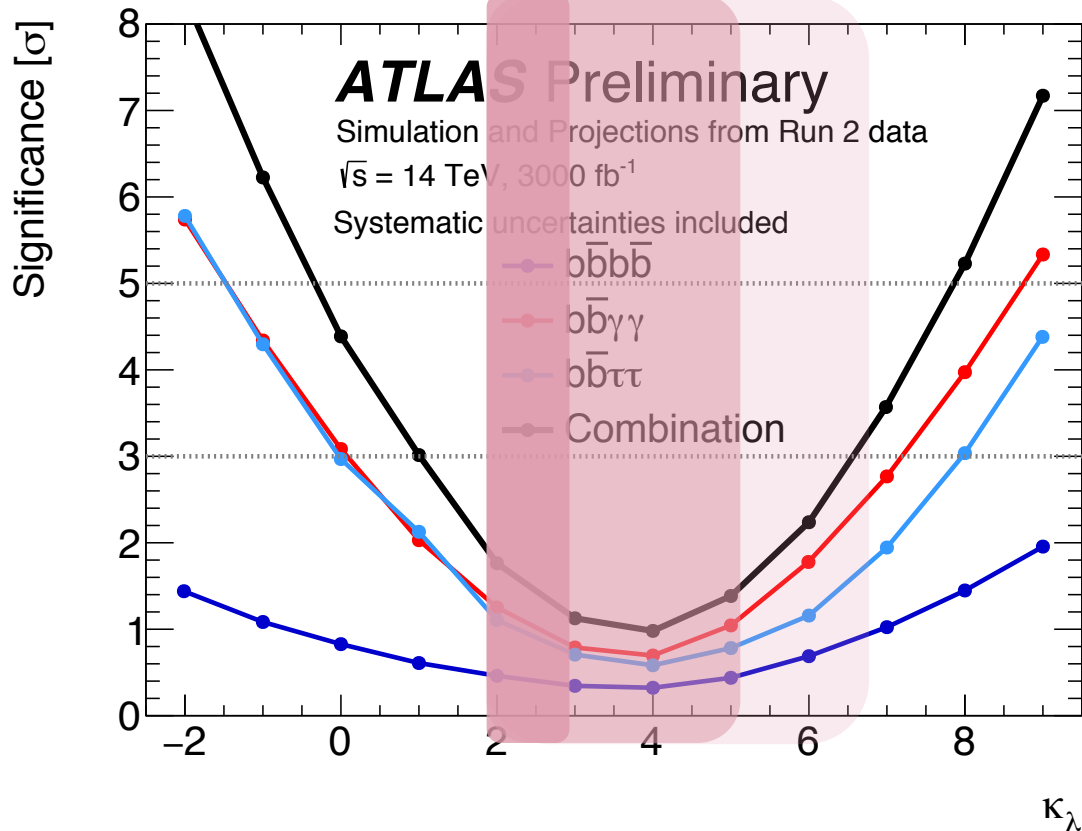
# Collider Probes – Double Higgs Production

$$V(\phi, T) = \frac{m^2 + a_0 T^2}{2} (\phi^\dagger \phi) + \frac{\lambda}{4} (\phi^\dagger \phi)^2 + \frac{c_6}{8\Lambda^2} (\phi^\dagger \phi)^3$$

$$\frac{5}{3} < \kappa_\lambda < 3$$

$$V(\phi, 0) = \frac{m^2}{2} (\phi^\dagger \phi) + \frac{\lambda}{4} (\phi^\dagger \phi)^2 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{c_{2n+4}}{2^{(n+2)} \Lambda^{2n}} (\phi^\dagger \phi)^{n+2}$$

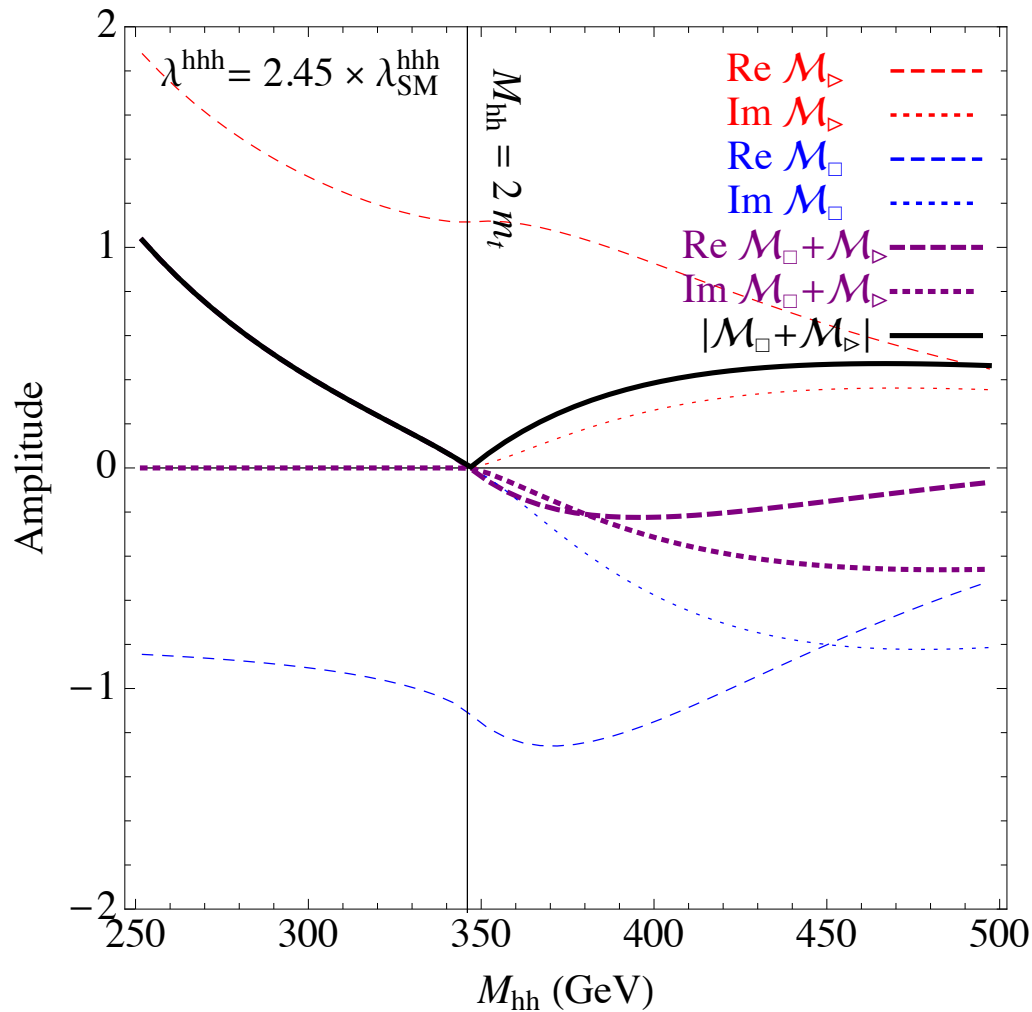
$$\lambda_3^{max} \sim 7\lambda_3^{SM}$$



The LHC has a very limited sensitivity in the region where the EWPT can be strongly-first-order.



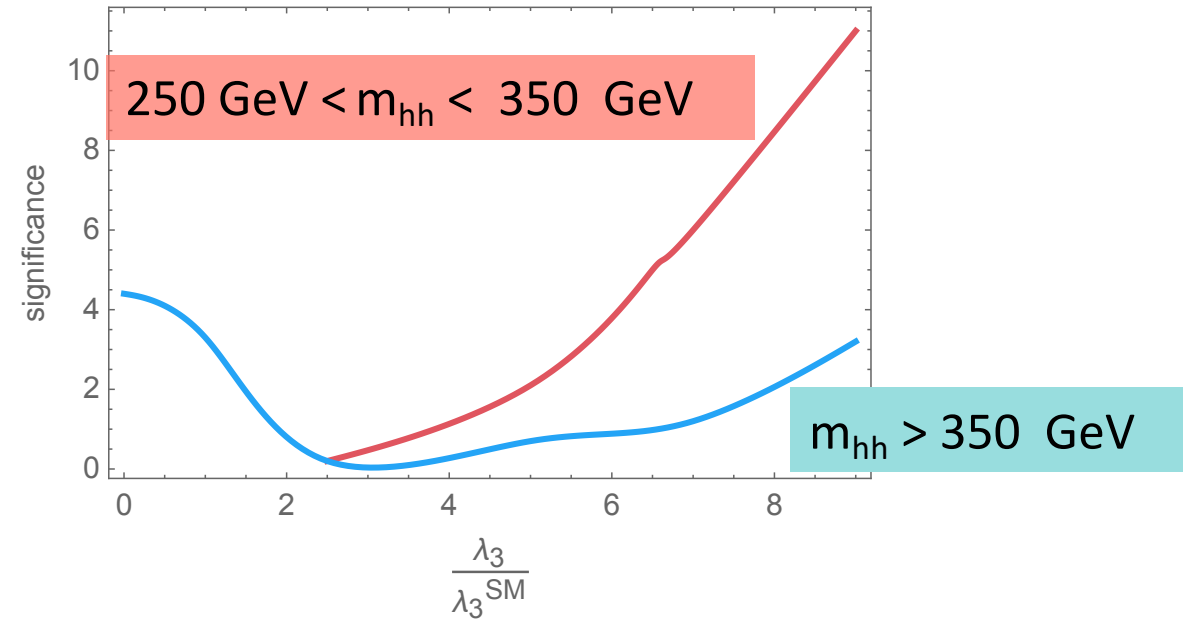
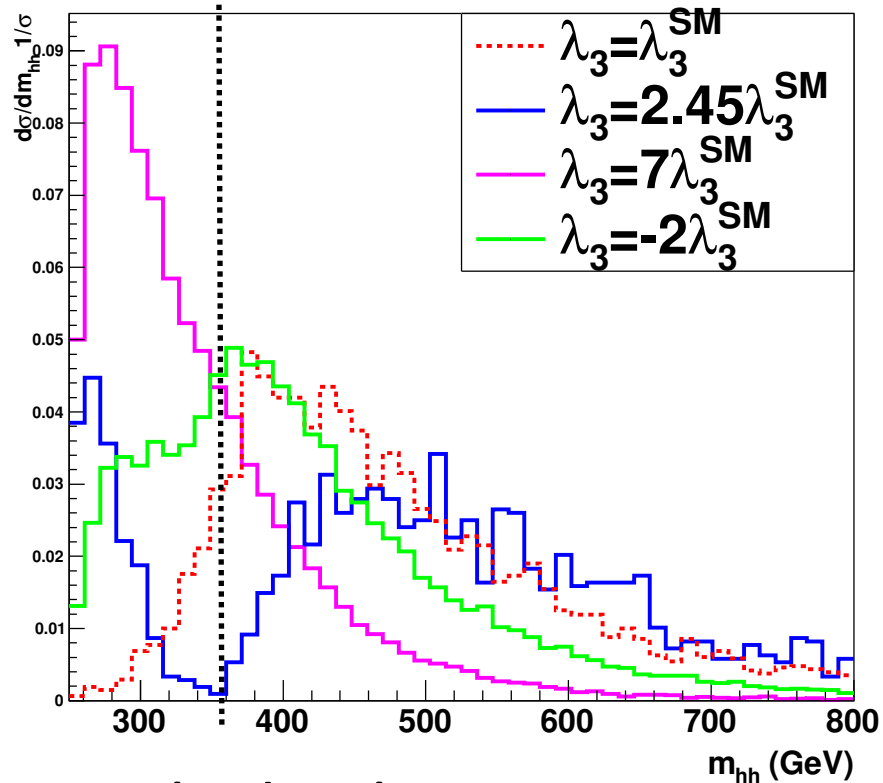
# Limited sensitivity with large $\lambda_3$



- The destructive interference occurs between the real part of the triangle and the box diagrams
- Above the  $t\bar{t}$  threshold, the amplitudes develop imaginary parts, the cancellation does not occur
- When  $\lambda_3$  increases, the amplitudes increase more below the  $t\bar{t}$  threshold than above the threshold
- $m_{hh}$  shifts to smaller value for large  $\lambda_3$

# Limited sensitivity with large $\lambda_3$

14 TeV and 3000 fb<sup>-1</sup>



**Big Improvement for New Physics!**

SM: peaked at large invariant mass. A cut of  $m_{hh} > 2m_{top}$  or something equivalent is currently used in both experimental and phenomenology studies.

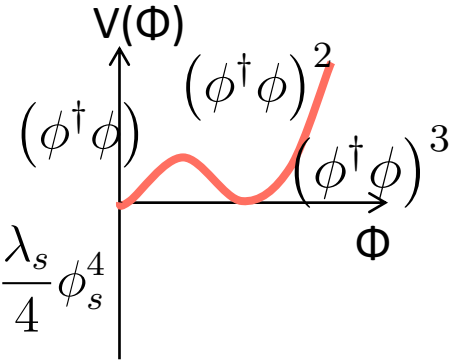
$\lambda_3 > 3\lambda_3^{SM}$ ,  $m_{hh}$  distribution is much softer than the SM case

## How can we probe the new physics?

- Gravitational waves
- Collider
  - The trilinear coupling deviates significantly from the SM
  - Need to change the  $m_{hh}$  cut

Models

# Heavy Scalar Singlet



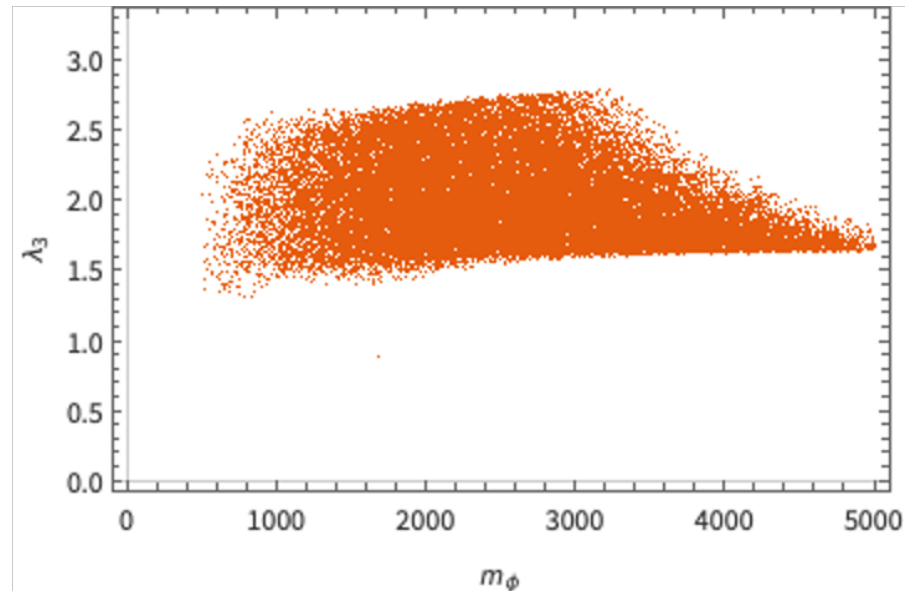
$$V(\phi_h, \phi_s, T) = \frac{m_0^2 + a_0 T^2}{2} \phi_h^2 + \frac{\lambda_h}{4} \phi_h^4 + a_{hs} \phi_s \phi_h^2 + \frac{\lambda_{hs}}{2} \phi_s^2 \phi_h^2 + t_s \phi_s + \frac{m_s^2}{2} \phi_s^2 + \frac{a_s}{3} \phi_s^3 + \frac{\lambda_s}{4} \phi_s^4$$

Integrate out the singlet,

$$y = v^2/m_s^2, \quad V_{eff}(H, T) = \frac{m_0^2 + a_0 T^2}{2} H^2 + \left( \frac{\lambda_h}{4} - \frac{z}{2y} - \frac{2m^2 z}{3v^2} \right) H^4 + \left( \frac{8z^2 - 4yz\lambda_h + 3yz\lambda_{hs}}{6v^2 y} \right) H^6.$$

$$z = \frac{(am_s^2 - t\lambda_{hs})^2 v^2}{m_s^8}$$

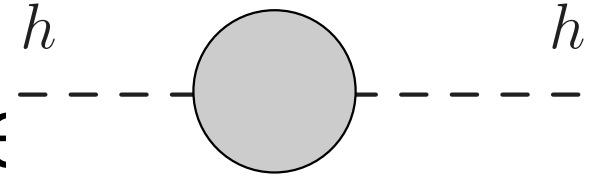
- Collider probes/constraints
  - Higgs signal strength
  - Resonance decaying to vector bosons and Higgs bosons
  - Electroweak precision observables



PH, A. Joglekar, B. Li, and C. Wagner, arxiv:1512.00068

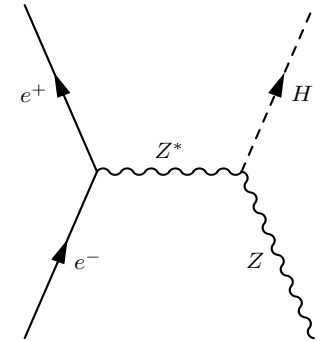
PH, A. Hooper, and C. Wagner, work in progress

# Heavy Scalar Singlet, Lepton Collider



The singlet kinetic term modifies the wave function of the physical and therefore shifts all Higgs couplings universally

$$\frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu\phi_s)(\partial^\mu\phi_s) \approx \frac{2a_{hs}^2}{m_s^4}(\Phi^\dagger\partial_\mu\Phi + \text{h.c.})^2 \left[1 + O(\lambda_{hs}\Phi^\dagger\Phi/m_s^2)\right]$$

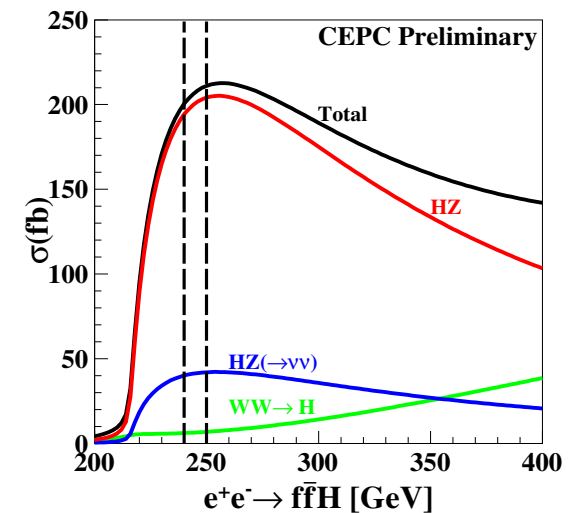


HL-LHC expects to measure the Higgs couplings to percent level.  $O(2-10\%)$

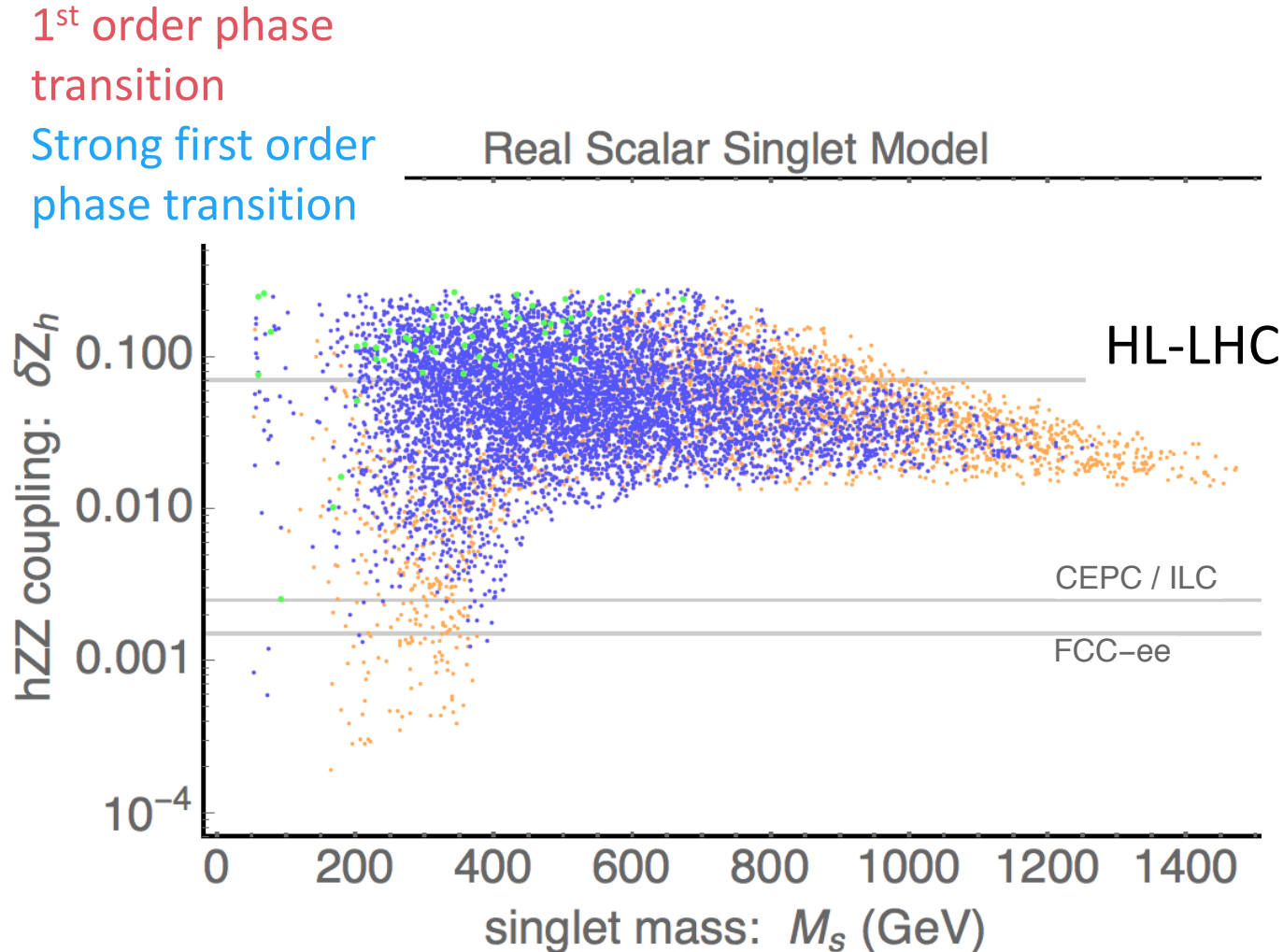
hZZ coupling can be measured to high precisions with lepton colliders.

hZZ coupling can be probed by the Higgsstrahlung process  
 Large production cross section around 240 GeV to 250 GeV  $\sim 200$  fb

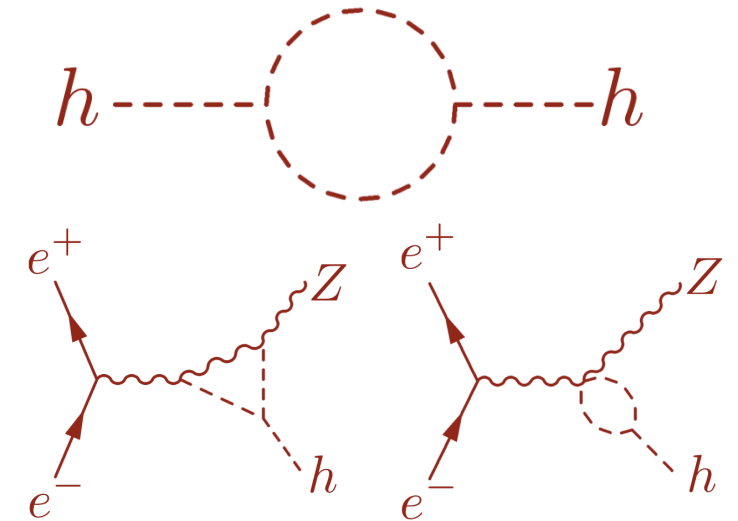
Expect **0.25%** precision in hZZ coupling at future lepton colliders!



# Heavy Scalar Singlet, Lepton Colliders, GWs



PH, A. Long, L.T. Wang, arXiv:1608.06619



Current constraints: Higgs signal strength

HL-LHC can start to probe the hZZ coupling to percent level

Next generation lepton colliders can basically cover the whole region

# Scalar Doublets

$$\begin{aligned}
 V = & \frac{1}{2}m_0^2\phi_h^2 + \frac{\lambda_h}{4}\phi_h^4 \\
 & + m_Q^2(|\tilde{u}|^2 + |\tilde{d}|^2) + m_U^2|\tilde{U}|^2 + \lambda_Q(|\tilde{u}|^2 + |\tilde{d}|^2)^2 + \lambda_U(|\tilde{U}|^2) \\
 & + \lambda_{QU}(|\tilde{u}|^2 + |\tilde{d}|^2)|\tilde{U}|^2 + \frac{\lambda_{hU}}{2}\phi_h^2|\tilde{U}|^2 \\
 & + \frac{\lambda_{hQ}}{2}(|\tilde{u}|^2 + |\tilde{d}|^2)\phi_h^2 + \frac{\lambda'_{hQ}}{2}|\tilde{u}|^2\phi_h^2 + \frac{\lambda''_{hQ}}{2}|\tilde{d}|^2\phi_h^2 \\
 & + \left[ \frac{a_{hQU}}{\sqrt{2}}\tilde{u}\phi_h\tilde{U}^* + \text{h.c.} \right].
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\tilde{Q} \sim (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}, 1/3) \times 3 \text{ flavor}$$

$$\tilde{U} \sim (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, 4/3) \times 3 \text{ flavor}$$

For simplicity, consider

$$\langle \tilde{Q} \rangle = (0, 0) \quad \text{and} \quad \langle \tilde{U} \rangle = 0$$

$$\lambda_Q = \lambda_U = \lambda_{QU} = \lambda_{hU} = \lambda_{hQ} = \lambda'_{hQ} = \lambda''_{hQ} \equiv \lambda$$

$$M_{\tilde{t}}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} m_Q^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\lambda_{hQ} + \lambda'_{hQ})v^2 & \frac{a_{hQU}v}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{a_{hQU}v}{\sqrt{2}} & m_U^2 + \frac{1}{2}\lambda_{hU}v^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$m_{\tilde{b}}^2 = m_Q^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\lambda_{hQ} + \lambda''_{hQ})v^2$$

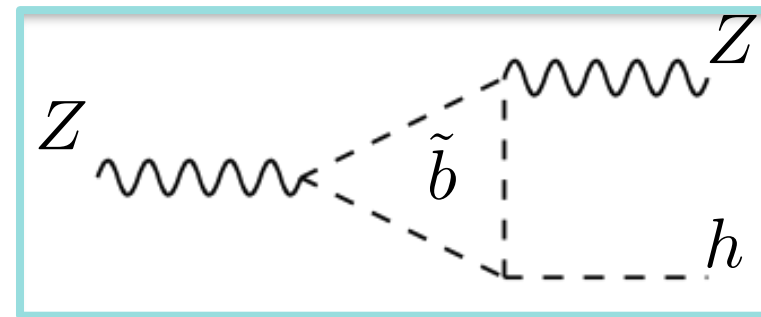
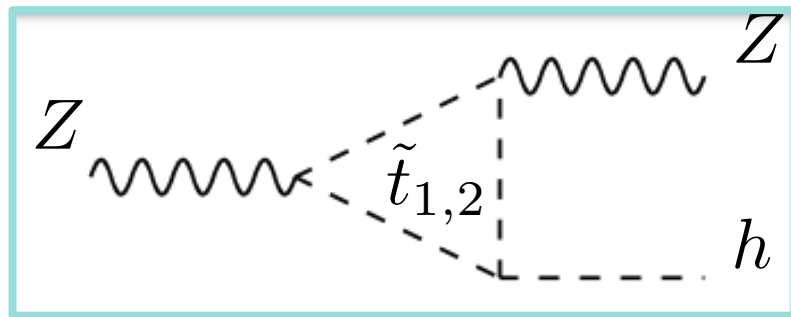


# Scalar Doublets, Collider Probes

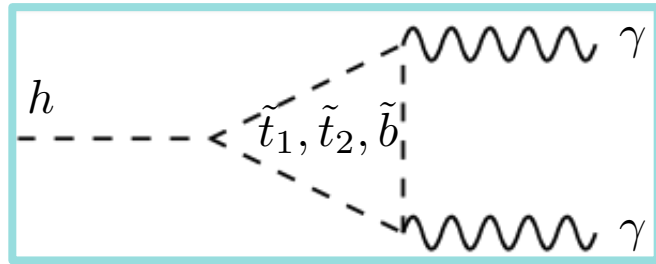
Modified hZZ couplings,

$$\delta Z_h = 3 \sum_{i,j=1}^2 \frac{|g_{h\tilde{t}_i\tilde{t}_j}|^2 v^2}{32\pi^2} I(m_h^2; m_{\tilde{t}_i}^2, m_{\tilde{t}_j}^2) + 3 \frac{|g_{h\tilde{b}\tilde{b}}|^2 v^2}{32\pi^2} I(m_h^2; m_{\tilde{b}}^2, m_{\tilde{b}}^2)$$

Fan, Reece, Wang. 2014



# Scalar Doublet, Modified di-photon coupling



$$\Gamma_{h \rightarrow \gamma\gamma} = G_F \alpha^2 \frac{M_h^3}{128\sqrt{2}\pi^3} \left| A_W + A_t + A_{\tilde{t}} + A_{\tilde{b}} \right|^2$$

$$A_W = F_1(M_h^2/4M_W^2)$$

$$A_t = \frac{4}{3} F_{1/2}(M_h^2/4M_t^2)$$

$$A_{\tilde{t}} = \sum_{i=1,2} 3 \left( \frac{2}{3} \right)^2 g_{h\tilde{t}_i\tilde{t}_i} \frac{v^2}{M_{\tilde{t}_i}^2} F_0(M_h^2/4M_{\tilde{t}_i}^2)$$

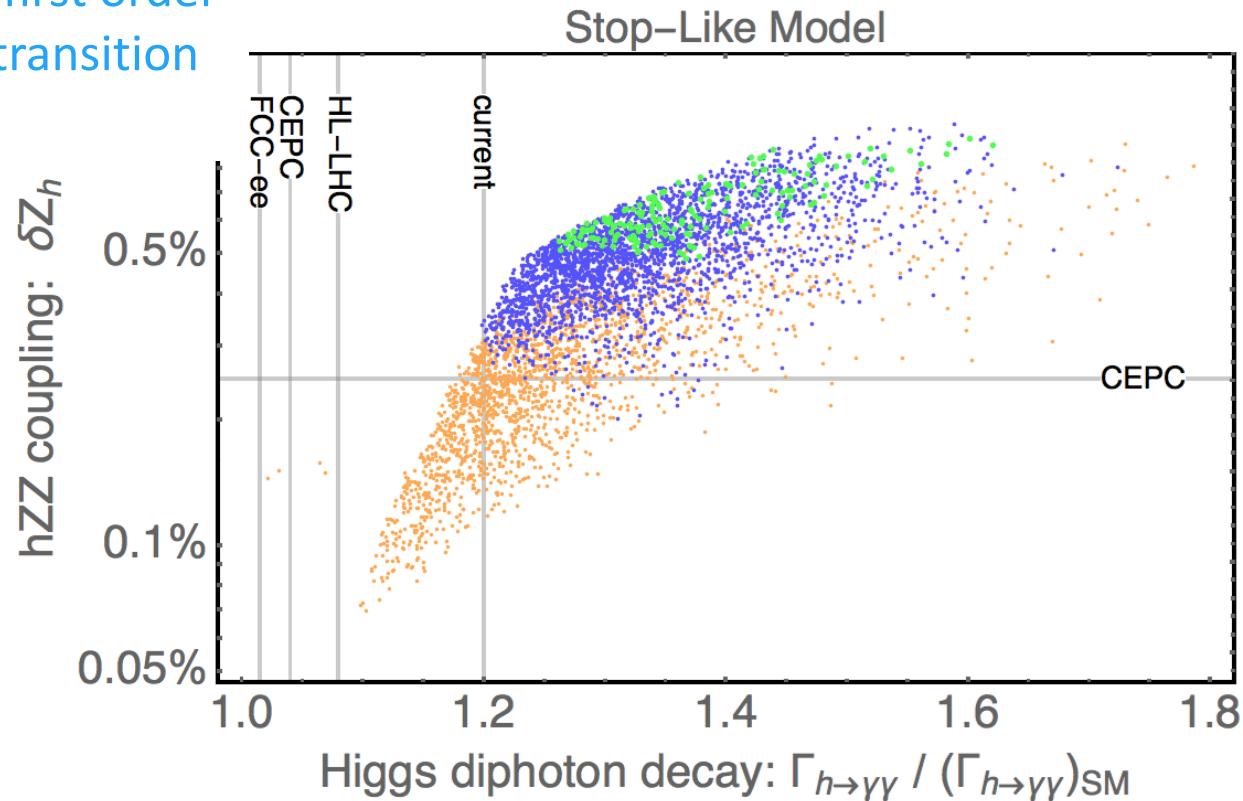
$$A_{\tilde{b}} = -3 \left( \frac{1}{3} \right)^2 g_{h\tilde{b}\tilde{b}} \frac{v^2}{M_{\tilde{b}}^2} F_0(M_h^2/4M_{\tilde{b}}^2)$$

# Scalar Doublets

1<sup>st</sup> order phase transition

Strong first order phase transition

Lisa



In the region where the EWPT is strongly first-order,  $hZZ$  and Higgs diphoton couplings deviate significantly from the SM. Will be fully tested by HL-LHC.

Fermions?

# Integrating out new fermions?

Take a general vector-like fermion model,

$$\mathcal{L}_{VLL} = \bar{L}(i\gamma_\mu D_L^\mu - m_L)L + \bar{E}'(i\gamma_\mu D_E^\mu - m_E)E' + \bar{N}'(i\gamma_\mu D_N^\mu - m_N)N' \\ - \left[ \bar{L} H (y_{EL} \mathbb{P}_L + y_{ER} \mathbb{P}_R) E' + \bar{L} \tilde{H} (y_{NL} \mathbb{P}_L + y_{NR} \mathbb{P}_R) N' + \text{h.c.} \right],$$

$$L_{L,R} = \begin{pmatrix} N \\ E \end{pmatrix}_{L,R} \sim (1, 2, Y), \quad N'_{L,R} \sim (1, 1, Y + \frac{1}{2}), \quad E'_{L,R} \sim (1, 1, Y - \frac{1}{2}),$$

$$16\pi^2 \mathcal{L}_H^{\text{CP}} \supset + \left( -\frac{4}{3} + 2 \log \frac{\mu^2}{m^2} \right) (|y_N|^2 + |y_E|^2) |D_\mu H|^2 \\ - \left( 1 + 3 \log \frac{\mu^2}{m^2} \right) (|y_N|^2 + |y_E|^2) m^2 |H|^2 \\ + \left( \frac{16}{3} + 2 \log \frac{\mu^2}{m^2} \right) (|y_N|^4 + |y_E|^4) |H|^4, \\ - \frac{2(|y_N|^6 + |y_E|^6)}{15m^2} \mathcal{O}_6$$

Does not have the barrier we want as in the singlet extension.

A. Angelescu, PH 2006.16532

S. Ellis, J. Quevillon, P. Vuong, T. You, and Z. Zhang 2006.16260

# Possible to have a barrier from fermions?

Low T, scalars and fermions contribute equally

$$- \frac{T^2 m^2(\phi)}{2\pi^2} K_2(m(\phi)/T) + \mathcal{O}(T^2 m(\phi)^2 e^{-2m(\phi)/T})$$

Consider the possibility of generating a barrier through fermions

# A Minimal Vector-Like Lepton (VLL) Model

- Fermion models for strong first order phase transitions?
  - **Strong couplings** to the Higgs!
- To avoid large **mixing** between the VLLs and SM leptons, and large contributions to the **T** parameter, we add

$$L_{L,R} = \begin{pmatrix} N \\ E \end{pmatrix}_{L,R} \sim (1, 2)_{-1/2}, \quad N'_{L,R} \sim (1, 1)_0, \quad E'_{L,R} \sim (1, 1)_{-1}$$

- The most general Lagrangian is,

$$\begin{aligned} -\mathcal{L}_{VLL} = & y_{N_R} \bar{L}_L \tilde{H} N'_R + y_{N_L} \bar{N}'_L \tilde{H}^\dagger L_R + y_{E_R} \bar{L}_L H E'_R + y_{E_L} \bar{E}'_L H^\dagger L_R \\ & + m_L \bar{L}_L L_R + m_N \bar{N}'_L N'_R + m_E \bar{E}'_L E'_R + \text{h.c.} , \end{aligned}$$

# A Minimal Vector-Like Lepton (VLL) Model

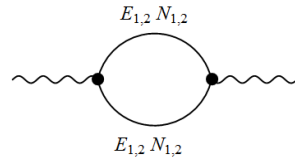
$$\begin{aligned}
 -\mathcal{L}_{VLL} = & y_{N_R} \bar{L}_L \tilde{H} N'_R + y_{N_L} \bar{N}'_L \tilde{H}^\dagger L_R + y_{E_R} \bar{L}_L H E'_R + y_{E_L} \bar{E}'_L H^\dagger L_R \\
 & + m_L \bar{L}_L L_R + m_N \bar{N}'_L N'_R + m_E \bar{E}'_L E'_R + \text{h.c.} ,
 \end{aligned}$$

- 2 neutral and 2 charged VLLs
- Ranges of the parameters considered,

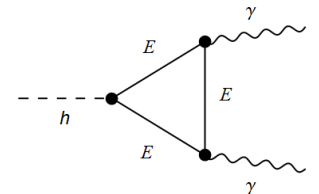
$$m_L, m_N, m_E \in [500, 1500] \text{ GeV}, \quad y_{N_{L,R}}, y_{E_{L,R}} \in [2, \sqrt{4\pi}].$$

- Constraints:

- S & T parameters



- Diphoton signal strength,  $0.71 < \mu_{\gamma\gamma} < 1.29$  ATLAS, 1802.04146
- Masses of the lighter states,  $m_{E_1} > 100 \text{ GeV}$  and  $m_{N_1} > 90 \text{ GeV}$

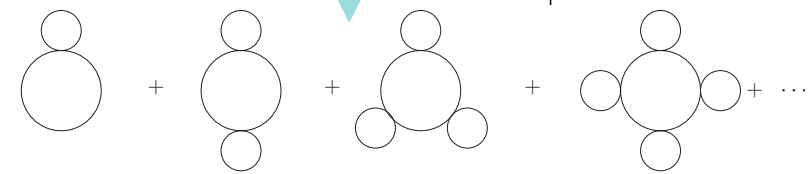
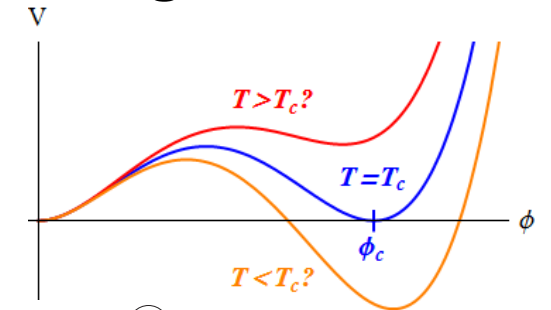




# Thermal Evolution of the Effective Potential

- For each surviving point, calculate the phase transition strength,  $\xi = \phi_c/T_c$

$$V(\phi, T) = V_{tree}^{SM}(\phi) + V_{1-loop}^{SM}(\phi, T) + V_{1-loop}^{VLL}(\phi, T) + V_{Daisy}(\phi, T)$$



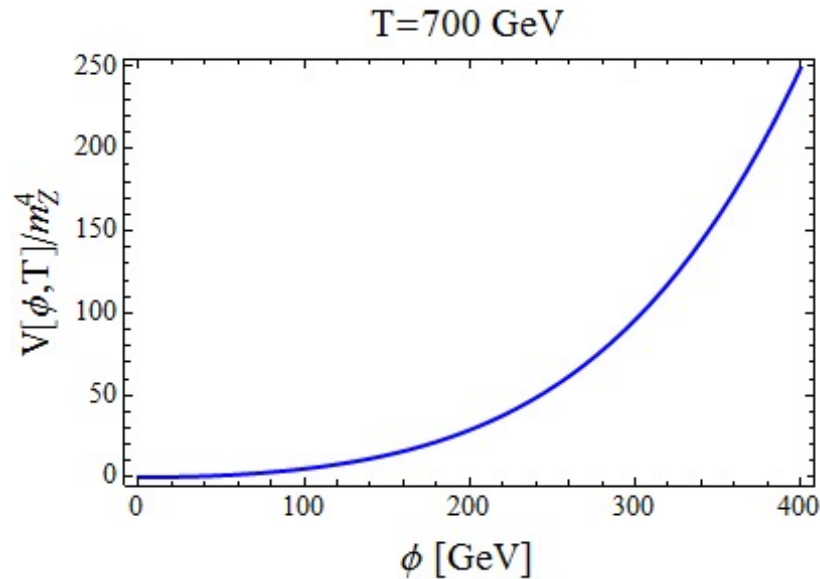
- Benchmark A,

$$y_{N_L} \simeq 3.40, \quad y_{N_R} \simeq 3.49, \quad y_{E_L} \simeq 3.34, \quad y_{E_R} \simeq 3.46,$$

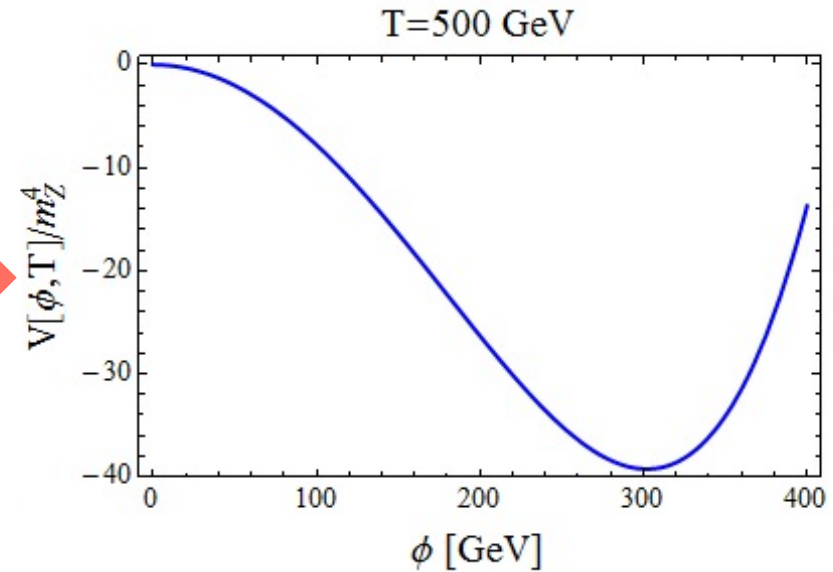
$$m_L \simeq 1.06 \text{ TeV}, \quad m_N \simeq 0.94 \text{ TeV}, \quad m_E \simeq 1.34 \text{ TeV}.$$

$$\mu_{\gamma\gamma} = 1.28, \quad \Delta\chi^2(S, T) = 1.33, \quad m_{N_1} = 400 \text{ GeV}, \quad m_{E_1} = 592 \text{ GeV}.$$

# Thermal Evolution of the Effective Potential



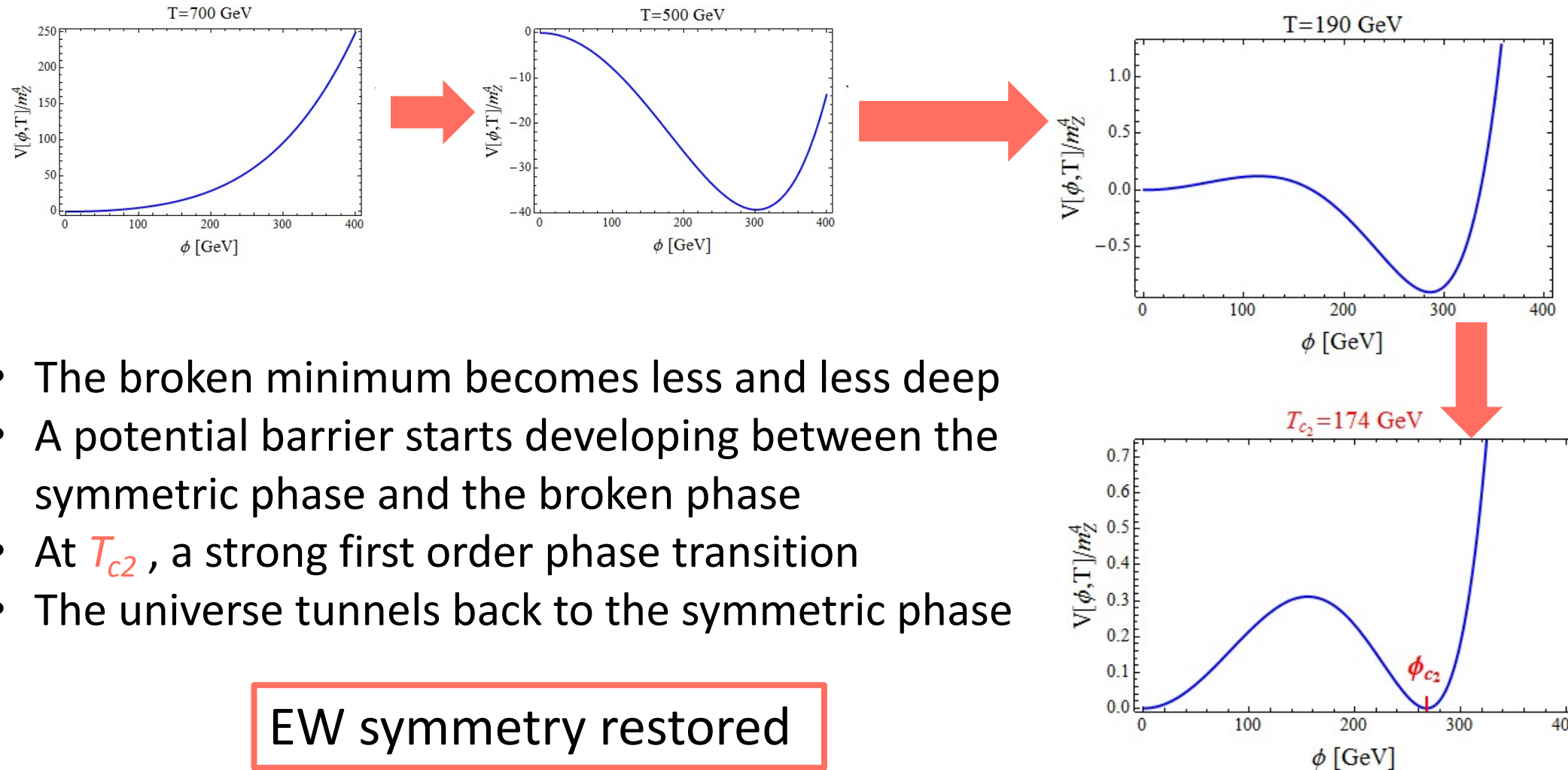
Cross over



Early universe, symmetric

EWSB

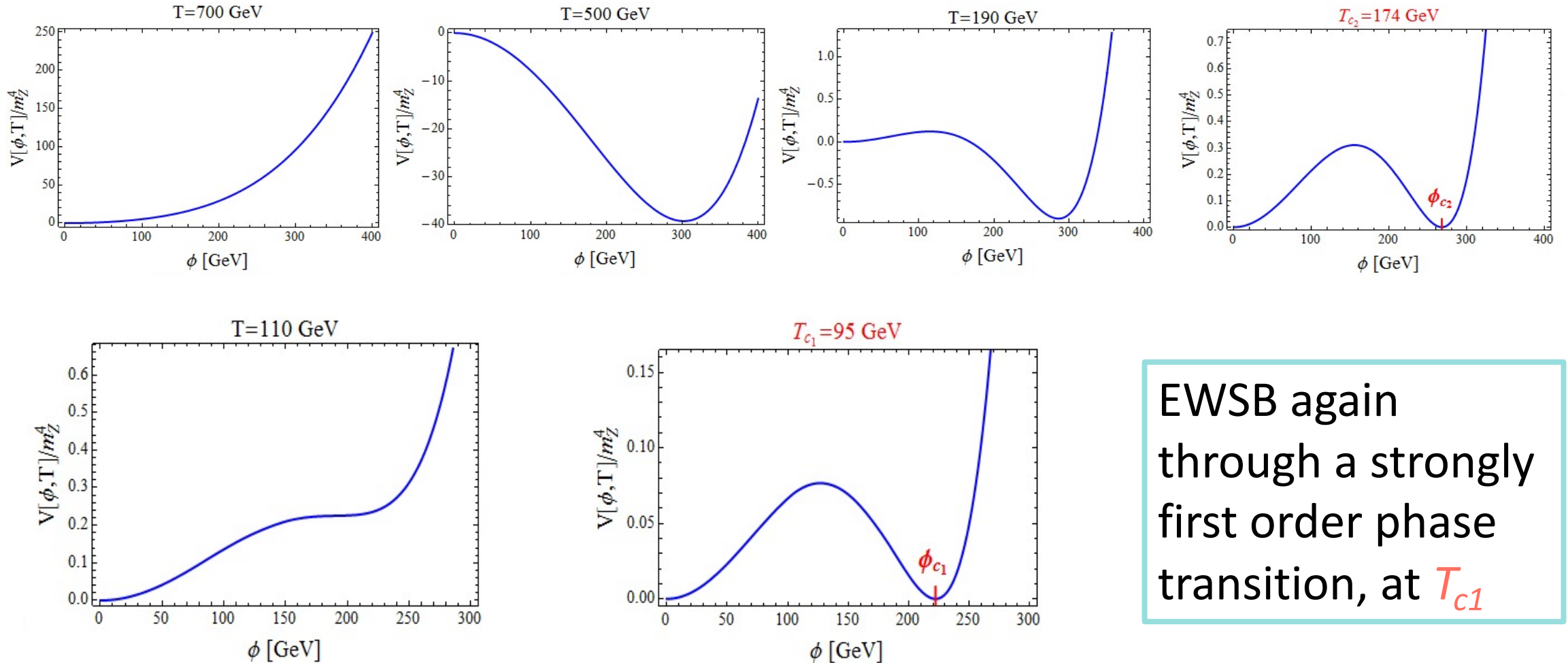
# Thermal Evolution of the Effective Potential



- The broken minimum becomes less and less deep
- A potential barrier starts developing between the symmetric phase and the broken phase
- At  $T_{c_2}$ , a strong first order phase transition
- The universe tunnels back to the symmetric phase

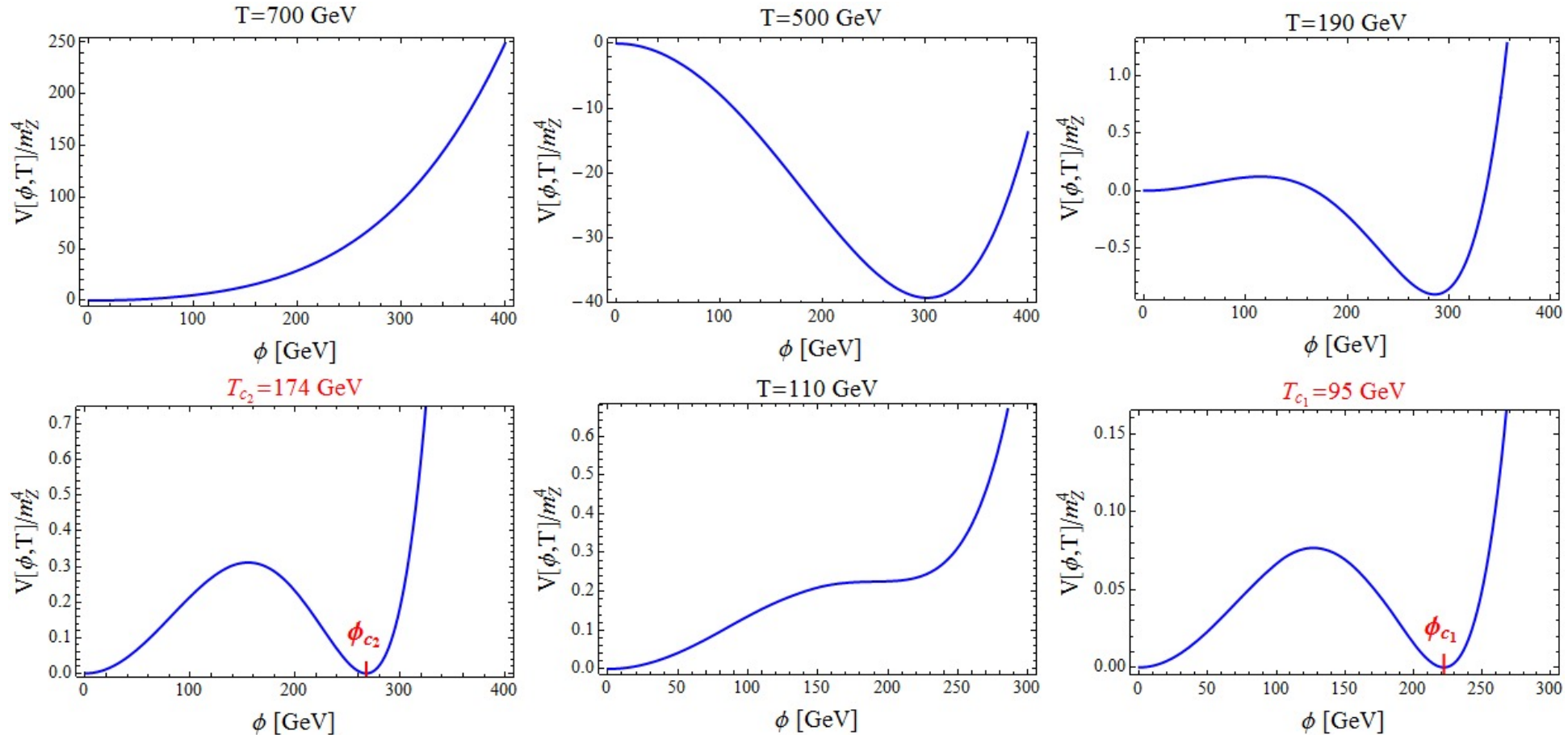
**EW symmetry restored**

# Thermal Evolution of the Effective Potential



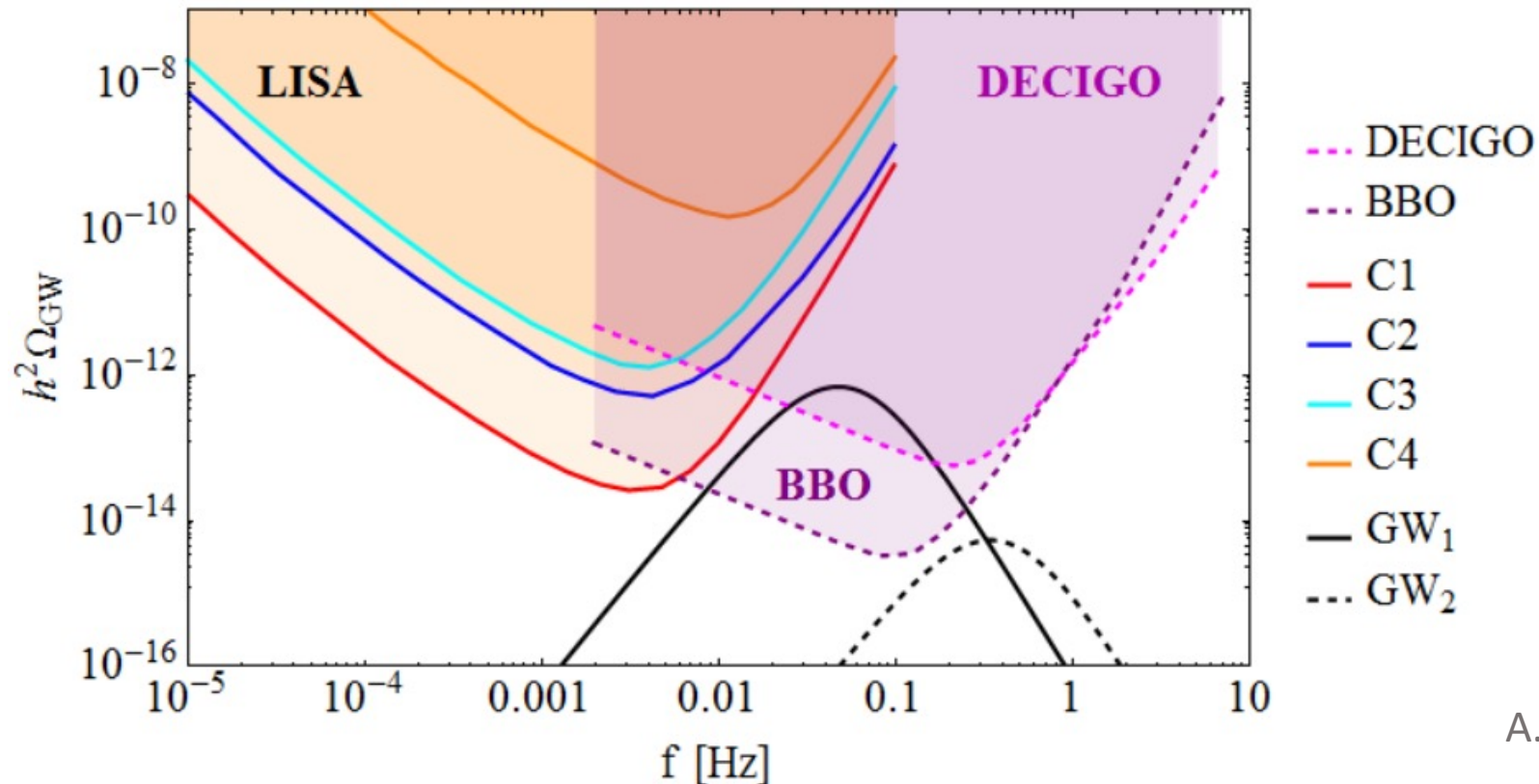
EWSB again  
through a strongly  
first order phase  
transition, at  $T_{c1}$

# Thermal Evolution of the Effective Potential



Responsible for the BAU

# Signatures – Gravitational Waves



A. Angelescu, PH. 2018

- Peak frequency beyond Lisa ( $f \sim 0.01 - 1$  Hz is typical for VLL models)
- DECIGO, BBO, and AION are sensitive to the later phase transition
- The earlier one is too weak.

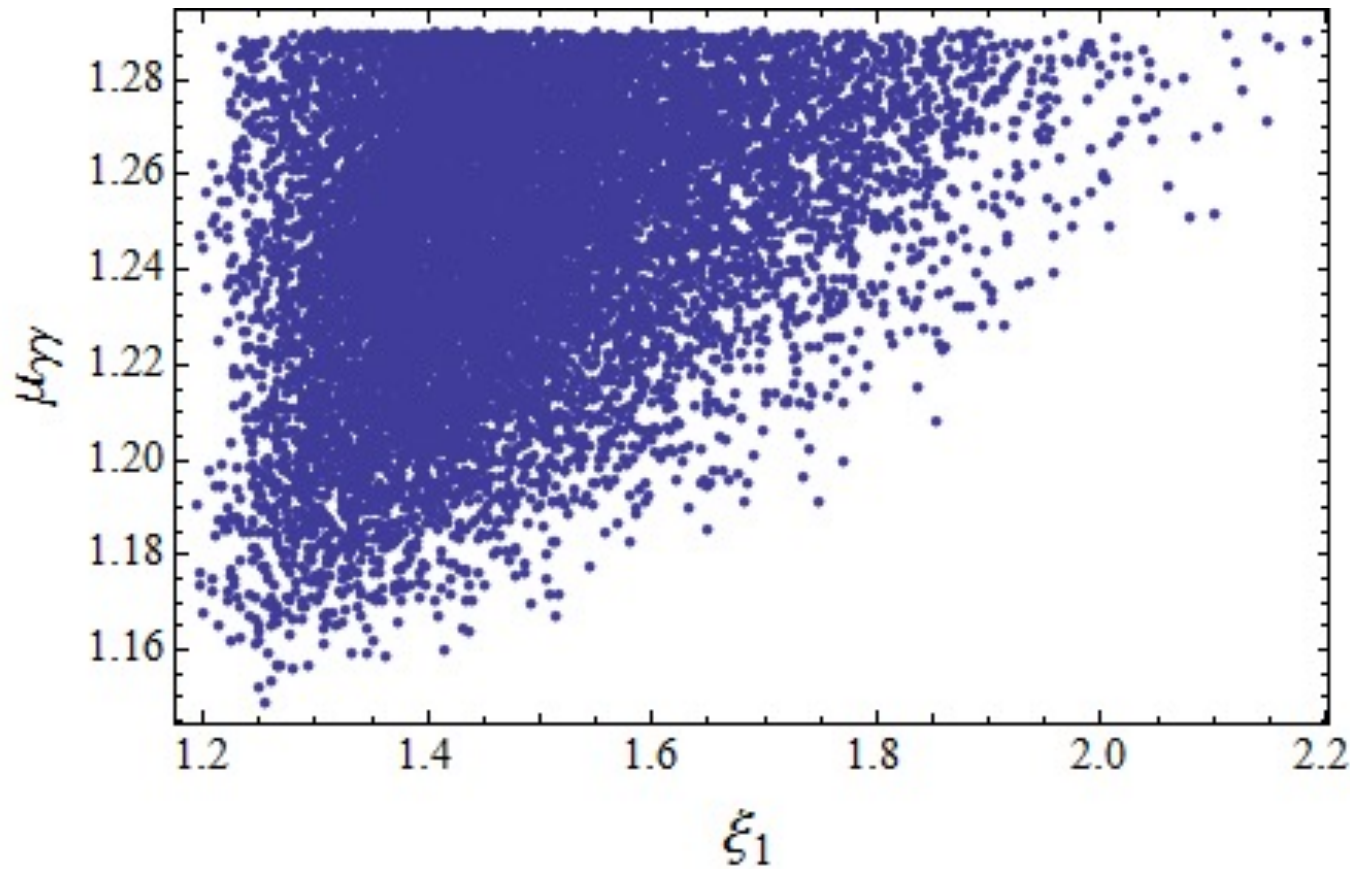
# Signatures – Colliders, Direct Production

- $N_1$  can not be dark matter candidate – some mixing required.

$$-\mathcal{L}_{\text{mix}} = y_1 \bar{L}_L H \tau_R + y_2 \bar{L}_L^3 H E'_R + \text{h.c.},$$

- From  $W\tau\nu$  and  $Z\tau\tau$  measurements, take  $y_1 = y_2 = 0.05$
- The **SM fermion + VLL** production is suppressed by the mixing
- The dominant production mode is the **pair production** of VLLs, the typical production cross section is around **0.1 to 0.4 fb**.
- Direct searches at the LHC very challenging.

# Signatures – Colliders, Indirect Searches

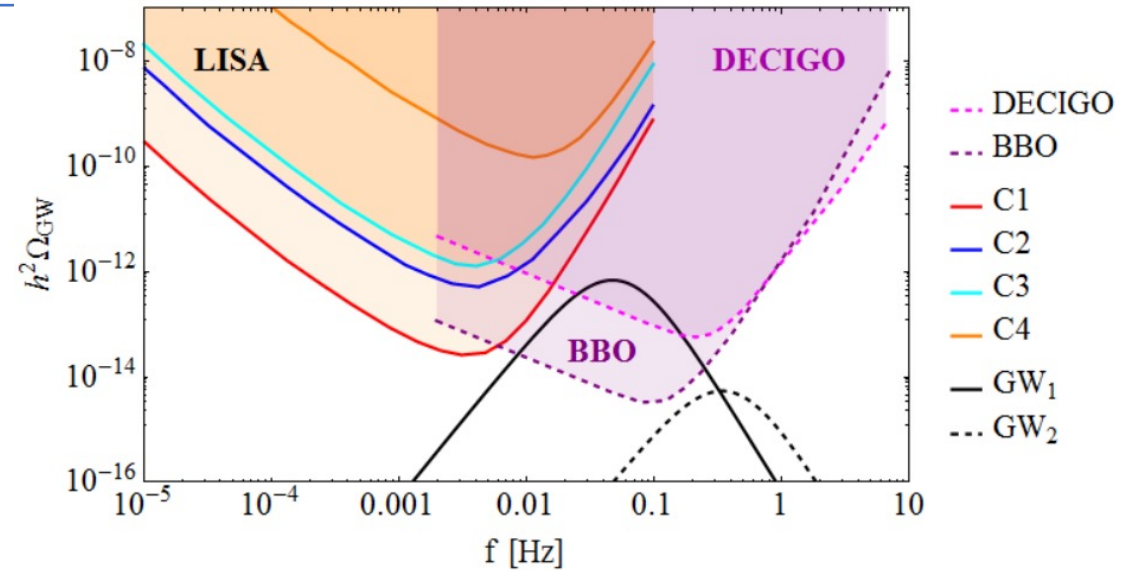
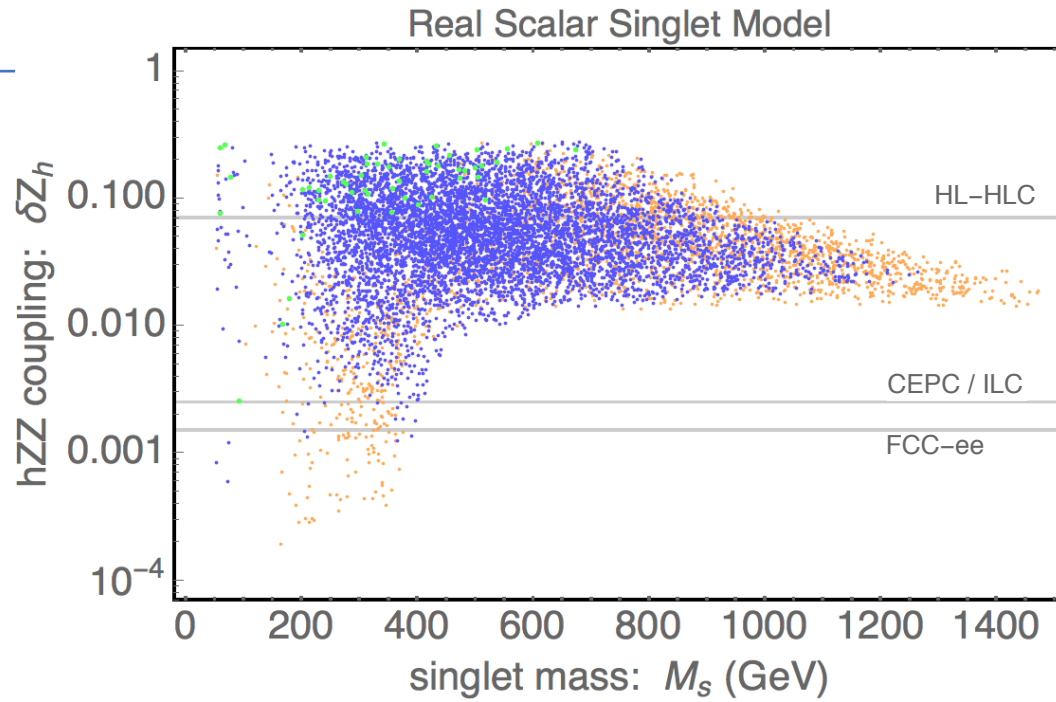


- At least 15% enhancement for the **diphoton** signal.
- Will be fully tested at the HL-LHC.



# Conclusion

How can we probe the new physics?



# Conclusion

## What kinds of models ?

- Scalar Singlets
- Scalar Doublets
- Fermions
- Many More!

