

# Charting the Vacuum Landscape in SUSY Benchmark Scenarios

relies on: JHEP 1903 (2019) 109 with J. Wittbrodt  
and G. Weiglein  
and JHEP 08 (2016) 126 and PLB 752 (2016) 7-12

Wolfgang Gregor Hollik



IAP & TTP @ KIT  
KIT-Centrum für Elementarteilchen- und Astroteilchenphysik (KCETA)

3 December 2020 | IFT Seminar | Madrid

## The Standard Model (In)Stability

$$V_{\text{SM}} = -\mu^2 H^\dagger H + \lambda (H^\dagger H)^2$$

- large field values:  $V \sim \lambda (H^\dagger H)^2$
- RGE:  $\lambda \rightarrow \lambda(Q)$ , where  $Q \sim H$
- $\lambda \rightarrow 0$  around  $Q \sim 10^{10}$  GeV, new minimum beyond  $M_{\text{Planck}}$

## The Standard Model (In)Stability

$$V_{\text{SM}} = -\mu^2 H^\dagger H + \lambda (H^\dagger H)^2$$

- large field values:  $V \sim \lambda (H^\dagger H)^2$
- RGE:  $\lambda \rightarrow \lambda(Q)$ , where  $Q \sim H$
- $\lambda \rightarrow 0$  around  $Q \sim 10^{10}$  GeV, new minimum beyond  $M_{\text{Planck}}$

## The MSSM: less simple

$$V_{\text{MSSM}} = V_F + V_{\text{soft}} + V_D$$

with (only 3rd generation squarks and Higgses)

$$\begin{aligned} V_{\text{soft}} = & m_{H_d}^2 |h_d|^2 + m_{H_u}^2 |h_u|^2 - (B_\mu h_d \cdot h_u + \text{h. c.}) \\ & + \tilde{t}_L^* \tilde{m}_Q^2 \tilde{t}_L + \tilde{t}_R^* \tilde{m}_t^2 \tilde{t}_R + \tilde{b}_L^* \tilde{m}_Q^2 \tilde{b}_L + \tilde{b}_R^* \tilde{m}_b \tilde{b}_R \\ & + (A_t h_u \tilde{t}_L^* \tilde{t}_R + A_b h_d \tilde{b}_L^* \tilde{b}_R + \text{h. c.}) \end{aligned}$$

## A multi-scalar theory

- 2 Higgs doublets
  - $2 \times 6$  scalar quarks,  $6 + 3$  scalar leptons
  - 12 colored and  $18 + 2$  charged directions
  - charged Higgs directions “safe” [Casas et al. 1996]
  - SM Higgs potential:  $SO(4)$  symmetry
- 
- large couplings to Higgs doublets ( $y_t$  and  $y_b$  comparably large)
  - large stop contribution ( $X_t, A_t$ ) to light Higgs mass needed
  - SUSY threshold corrections for  $m_b$  influence  $y_b$

## A multi-scalar theory

- 2 Higgs doublets
- $2 \times 6$  scalar quarks,  $6 + 3$  scalar leptons
- 12 colored and  $18 + 2$  charged directions
- charged Higgs directions “safe”
- SM Higgs potential:  $SO(4)$  symmetry

[Casas et al. 1996]

- large couplings to Higgs doublets ( $y_t$  and  $y_b$  comparably large)
- large stop contribution ( $X_t, A_t$ ) to light Higgs mass needed
- SUSY threshold corrections for  $m_b$  influence  $y_b$

## An analytic solution?

## A multi-scalar theory

- 2 Higgs doublets
- $2 \times 6$  scalar quarks,  $6 + 3$  scalar leptons
- 12 colored and  $18 + 2$  charged directions
- charged Higgs directions “safe”
- SM Higgs potential:  $SO(4)$  symmetry

[Casas et al. 1996]

- large couplings to Higgs doublets ( $y_t$  and  $y_b$  comparably large)
- large stop contribution ( $X_t, A_t$ ) to light Higgs mass needed
- SUSY threshold corrections for  $m_b$  influence  $y_b$

## An analytic solution?

**impossible!**

## A multi-scalar theory

- 2 Higgs doublets
- $2 \times 6$  scalar quarks,  $6 + 3$  scalar leptons
- 12 colored and  $18 + 2$  charged directions
- charged Higgs directions “safe”
- SM Higgs potential:  $SO(4)$  symmetry

[Casas et al. 1996]

- large couplings to Higgs doublets ( $y_t$  and  $y_b$  comparably large)
- large stop contribution ( $X_t, A_t$ ) to light Higgs mass needed
- SUSY threshold corrections for  $m_b$  influence  $y_b$

## An analytic solution?

**impossible!**

*only approximative*

$$\begin{aligned}
 V_{\tilde{q},h} = & \tilde{t}_L^* (\tilde{m}_L^2 + |y_t h_2|^2) \tilde{t}_L + \tilde{t}_R^* (\tilde{m}_t^2 + |y_t h_2|^2) \tilde{t}_R \\
 & + \tilde{b}_L^* (\tilde{m}_L^2 + |y_b h_1|^2) \tilde{b}_L + \tilde{b}_R^* (\tilde{m}_b^2 + |y_b h_1|^2) \tilde{b}_R \\
 & - [\tilde{t}_L^* (\mu^* y_t h_1^* - A_t h_2) \tilde{t}_R + \text{h.c.}] \\
 & - [\tilde{b}_L^* (\mu^* y_b h_2^* - A_b h_1) \tilde{b}_R + \text{h.c.}] \\
 & + |y_t|^2 |\tilde{t}_L|^2 |\tilde{t}_R|^2 + |y_b|^2 |\tilde{b}_L|^2 |\tilde{b}_R|^2 \\
 & + \frac{g_1^2}{8} \left( |h_2|^2 - |h_1|^2 + \frac{1}{3} |\tilde{b}_L|^2 + \frac{2}{3} |\tilde{b}_R|^2 + \frac{1}{3} |\tilde{t}_L|^2 - \frac{4}{3} |\tilde{t}_R|^2 \right)^2 \\
 & + \frac{g_2^2}{8} (|h_2|^2 - |h_1|^2 + |\tilde{b}_L|^2 - |\tilde{t}_L|^2)^2 \\
 & + \frac{g_3^2}{8} (|\tilde{t}_L|^2 - |\tilde{t}_R|^2 + |\tilde{b}_L|^2 - |\tilde{b}_R|^2)^2 \\
 & + (m_{h_2}^2 + |\mu|^2) |h_2|^2 + (m_{h_1}^2 + |\mu|^2) |h_1|^2 - 2 \text{Re}(B_\mu h_1 h_2).
 \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 V_{\tilde{q},h} = & \tilde{t}_L^* (\tilde{m}_L^2 + |y_t h_2|^2) \tilde{t}_L + \tilde{t}_R^* (\tilde{m}_t^2 + |y_t h_2|^2) \tilde{t}_R \\
 & + \tilde{b}_L^* (\tilde{m}_L^2 + |y_b h_1|^2) \tilde{b}_L + \tilde{b}_R^* (\tilde{m}_b^2 + |y_b h_1|^2) \tilde{b}_R \\
 & - [\tilde{t}_L^* (\mu^* y_t h_1^* - A_t h_2) \tilde{t}_R + \text{h.c.}] \\
 & - [\tilde{b}_L^* (\mu^* y_b h_2^* - A_b h_1) \tilde{b}_R + \text{h.c.}] \\
 & + |y_t|^2 |\tilde{t}_L|^2 |\tilde{t}_R|^2 + |y_b|^2 |\tilde{b}_L|^2 |\tilde{b}_R|^2 \\
 & + \frac{g_1^2}{8} \left( |h_2|^2 - |h_1|^2 + \frac{1}{3} |\tilde{b}_L|^2 + \frac{2}{3} |\tilde{b}_R|^2 + \frac{1}{3} |\tilde{t}_L|^2 - \frac{4}{3} |\tilde{t}_R|^2 \right)^2 \\
 & + \frac{g_2^2}{8} (|h_2|^2 - |h_1|^2 + |\tilde{b}_L|^2 - |\tilde{t}_L|^2)^2 \\
 & + \frac{g_3^2}{8} (|\tilde{t}_L|^2 - |\tilde{t}_R|^2 + |\tilde{b}_L|^2 - |\tilde{b}_R|^2)^2 \\
 & + (m_{h_2}^2 + |\mu|^2) |h_2|^2 + (m_{h_1}^2 + |\mu|^2) |h_1|^2 - 2 \text{Re}(B_\mu h_1 h_2).
 \end{aligned}$$

$$|\tilde{t}_L| = |\tilde{t}_R| = |\tilde{t}|, \quad |\tilde{b}_L| = |\tilde{b}_R| = |\tilde{b}|$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 V_{\tilde{q},h} = & \tilde{t}^* (\tilde{m}_L^2 + |y_t h_2|^2) \tilde{t} + \tilde{t}^* (\tilde{m}_t^2 + |y_t h_2|^2) \tilde{t} \\
 & + \tilde{b}^* (\tilde{m}_L^2 + |y_b h_1|^2) \tilde{b} + \tilde{b}^* (\tilde{m}_b^2 + |y_b h_1|^2) \tilde{b} \\
 & - [\tilde{t}^* (\mu^* y_t h_1^* - A_t h_2) \tilde{t} + \text{h.c.}] \\
 & - [\tilde{b}^* (\mu^* y_b h_2^* - A_b h_1) \tilde{b} + \text{h.c.}] \\
 & + |y_t|^2 |\tilde{t}|^2 |\tilde{t}|^2 + |y_b|^2 |\tilde{b}|^2 |\tilde{b}|^2 \\
 & + \frac{g_1^2}{8} \left( |h_2|^2 - |h_1|^2 + |\tilde{b}|^2 - |\tilde{t}|^2 \right)^2 \\
 & + \frac{g_2^2}{8} (|h_2|^2 - |h_1|^2 + |\tilde{b}|^2 - |\tilde{t}|^2)^2 \\
 & + (m_{h_2}^2 + |\mu|^2) |h_2|^2 + (m_{h_1}^2 + |\mu|^2) |h_1|^2 - 2 \text{Re}(B_\mu h_1 h_2).
 \end{aligned}$$

$$|\tilde{t}_L| = |\tilde{t}_R| = |\tilde{t}|, \quad |\tilde{b}_L| = |\tilde{b}_R| = |\tilde{b}|$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 V_{\tilde{q},h} = & \tilde{t}^* (\tilde{m}_L^2 + |y_t h_2|^2) \tilde{t} + \tilde{t}^* (\tilde{m}_t^2 + |y_t h_2|^2) \tilde{t} \\
 & + \tilde{b}^* (\tilde{m}_L^2 + |y_b h_1|^2) \tilde{b} + \tilde{b}^* (\tilde{m}_b^2 + |y_b h_1|^2) \tilde{b} \\
 & - [\tilde{t}^* (\mu^* y_t h_1^* - A_t h_2) \tilde{t} + \text{h.c.}] \\
 & - [\tilde{b}^* (\mu^* y_b h_2^* - A_b h_1) \tilde{b} + \text{h.c.}] \\
 & + |y_t|^2 |\tilde{t}|^2 |\tilde{t}|^2 + |y_b|^2 |\tilde{b}|^2 |\tilde{b}|^2 \\
 & + \frac{g_1^2}{8} \left( |h_2|^2 - |h_1|^2 + |\tilde{b}|^2 - |\tilde{t}|^2 \right)^2 \\
 & + \frac{g_2^2}{8} (|h_2|^2 - |h_1|^2 + |\tilde{b}|^2 - |\tilde{t}|^2)^2 \\
 & + (m_{h_2}^2 + |\mu|^2) |h_2|^2 + (m_{h_1}^2 + |\mu|^2) |h_1|^2 - 2 \text{Re}(B_\mu h_1 h_2).
 \end{aligned}$$

$$|\tilde{t}_L| = |\tilde{t}_R| = |\tilde{t}|, |\tilde{b}_L| = |\tilde{b}_R| = |\tilde{b}|; |\tilde{b}| = |h_1| = |\phi_1|, |\tilde{t}| = |h_2| = |\phi_2|$$

## The tree-level scalar potential

$$\begin{aligned} V_{\tilde{q},h} = & \phi_2^* (\tilde{m}_L^2 + |y_t \phi_2|^2) \phi_2 + \phi_2^* (\tilde{m}_t^2 + |y_t \phi_2|^2) \phi_2 \\ & + \phi_1^* (\tilde{m}_L^2 + |y_b \phi_1|^2) \phi_1 + \phi_1^* (\tilde{m}_b^2 + |y_b \phi_1|^2) \phi_1 \\ & - [\phi_2^* (\mu^* y_t \phi_1^* - A_t \phi_2) \phi_2 + \text{h.c.}] \\ & - [\phi_1^* (\mu^* y_b \phi_2^* - A_b \phi_1) \phi_1 + \text{h.c.}] \\ & + |y_t|^2 |\phi_2|^2 |\phi_2|^2 + |y_b|^2 |\phi_1|^2 |\phi_1|^2 \\ & + (m_{h_2}^2 + |\mu|^2) |\phi_2|^2 + (m_{h_1}^2 + |\mu|^2) |\phi_1|^2 - 2 \text{Re}(B_\mu \phi_1 \phi_2). \end{aligned}$$

$$|\tilde{t}_L| = |\tilde{t}_R| = |\tilde{t}|, |\tilde{b}_L| = |\tilde{b}_R| = |\tilde{b}|; |\tilde{b}| = |h_1| = |\phi_1|, |\tilde{t}| = |h_2| = |\phi_2|$$

# The tree-level scalar potential

$$V_{\tilde{q},h} = \phi_2^* (\tilde{m}_L^2 + |y_t \phi_2|^2) \phi_2 + \phi_2^* (\tilde{m}_t^2 + |y_t \phi_2|^2) \phi_2$$

$$- [\phi_2^* ( -A_t \phi_2) \phi_2 + \text{h.c.}]$$

$$+ |y_t|^2 |\phi_2|^2 |\phi_2|^2$$

$$+ (m_{h_2}^2 + |\mu|^2) |\phi_2|^2$$

$$|\tilde{t}_L| = |\tilde{t}_R| = |\tilde{t}|, |\tilde{b}_L| = |\tilde{b}_R| = |\tilde{b}|; \quad |\tilde{b}| = |h_1| = |\phi_1|, |\tilde{t}| = |h_2| = |\phi_2|$$

Minimize the potential

$$V(\phi) = m^2 \phi^2 - A\phi^3 + \lambda\phi^4,$$

with  $m^2 = m_{h_2}^2 + |\mu|^2 + \tilde{m}_L^2 + \tilde{m}_t^2$ ,  $A = -A_t$  and  $\lambda = 3y_t^2$ .

Minimize the potential

$$V(\phi) = m^2 \phi^2 - A\phi^3 + \lambda \phi^4,$$

with  $m^2 = m_{h_2}^2 + |\mu|^2 + \tilde{m}_L^2 + \tilde{m}_t^2$ ,  $A = -A_t$  and  $\lambda = 3y_t^2$ .

Answer:

$$\phi_0 = 0, \quad \phi_{\pm} = \frac{3A \pm \sqrt{9A^2 - 32\lambda m^2}}{8\lambda}.$$

Condition to be safe from non-standard (i.e. non-trivial) minima:

$$V(\phi_{\pm}) > 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad m^2 > \frac{A^2}{4\lambda}$$

Minimize the potential

$$V(\phi) = m^2 \phi^2 - A\phi^3 + \lambda \phi^4,$$

with  $m^2 = m_{h_2}^2 + |\mu|^2 + \tilde{m}_L^2 + \tilde{m}_t^2$ ,  $A = -A_t$  and  $\lambda = 3y_t^2$ .

Answer:

$$\phi_0 = 0, \quad \phi_{\pm} = \frac{3A \pm \sqrt{9A^2 - 32\lambda m^2}}{8\lambda}.$$

Condition to be safe from non-standard (i.e. non-trivial) minima:

$$V(\phi_{\pm}) > 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad m^2 > \frac{A^2}{4\lambda}$$

Well-known constraints

[Gunion, Haber, Sher '88]

$$|A_t|^2 < 3y_t^2 (m_{h_2}^2 + |\mu|^2 + \tilde{m}_L^2 + \tilde{m}_t^2)$$

$$|A_b|^2 < 3y_b^2 (m_{h_1}^2 + |\mu|^2 + \tilde{m}_L^2 + \tilde{m}_b^2)$$

for the limiting cases  $|\tilde{t}_L| = |\tilde{t}_R| = |h_2|$  and  $|\tilde{b}_L| = |\tilde{b}_R| = |h_1|$ !



## Problem already known for a while

- problem noticed [Frere, Jones, Raby '83]
- “A-parameter bounds” [Gunion, Haber, Sher '87]
- classification of dangerous directions [Casas, Lleyda, Muñoz '96]
- including flavor violation [Casas and Dimopoulos '96]

## Stability $\neq$ no Instability $\Rightarrow$ Metastability

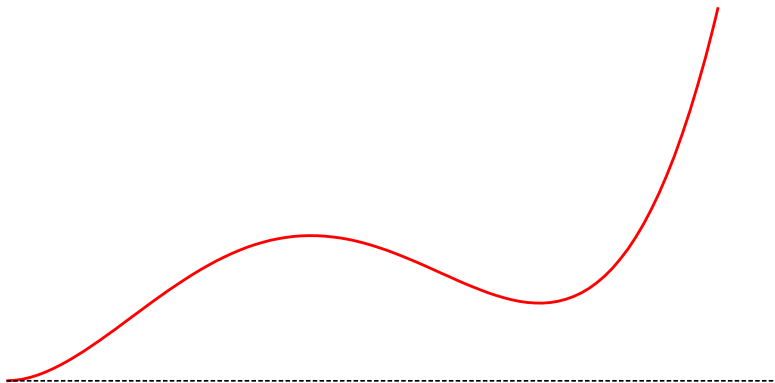
Vacuum tunneling [Kusenko, Langacker '96; Blinov, Morissey '13]

## A tool

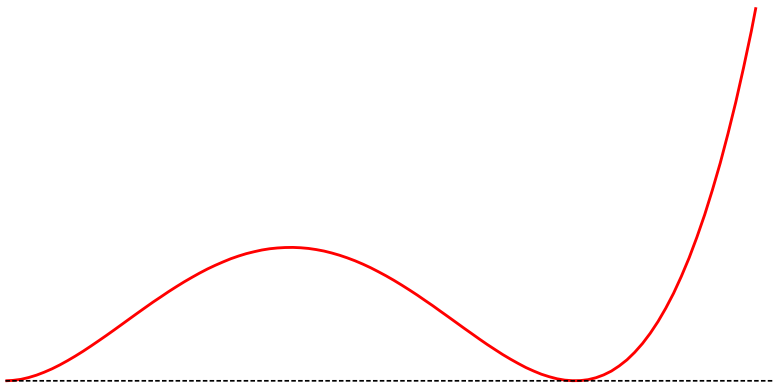
VeVacious [Camargo-Molina, O'Leary, Porod, Staub '13]

- finds all (?) tree-level minima
- minimizes scalar potential in the vicinity at one loop
- calculates bounce action / tunneling times [CosmoTransitions]

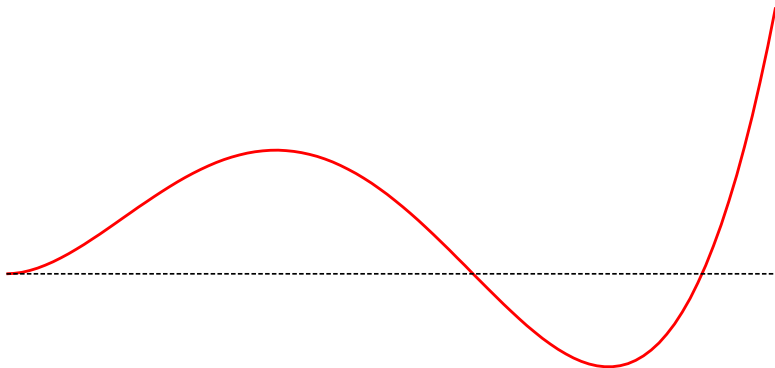
$$A^2 < 4\lambda m^2$$



$$A^2 = 4\lambda m^2$$



$$A^2 > 4\lambda m^2$$



# A simple view of a complicated object

$$h_2 = \phi, \quad |\tilde{t}| = \alpha|\phi|, \quad h_1 = \eta\phi, \quad |\tilde{b}| = \beta|\phi|$$

$$\begin{aligned} V_\phi = & (m_{h_2}^2 + \eta^2 m_{h_1}^2 + (1 + \eta^2)\mu^2 - 2B_\mu\eta \\ & + (\alpha^2 + \beta^2)\tilde{m}_L^2 + \alpha^2\tilde{m}_t^2 + \beta^2\tilde{m}_b^2)\phi^2 \\ & - 2(\alpha^2(\mu y_t \eta - A_t) + \beta^2(\mu y_t - \eta A_b))\phi^3 + (\alpha^2 y_t^2 + \beta^4 y_b^2)\phi^4 \\ & + \left( \frac{g_1^2 + g_2^2}{8}(1 - \eta^2 + \beta^2 - \alpha^2)^2 + 2\alpha^2 y_t^2 + 2\beta^2 y_b^2 \right)\phi^4 \\ \equiv & M^2(\eta, \alpha, \beta)\phi^2 - \mathcal{A}(\eta, \alpha, \beta)\phi^3 + \lambda(\eta, \alpha, \beta)\phi^4, \end{aligned}$$

# A simple view of a complicated object

$$h_2 = \phi, \quad |\tilde{t}| = \alpha|\phi|, \quad h_1 = \eta\phi, \quad |\tilde{b}| = \beta|\phi|$$

$$\begin{aligned} V_\phi = & (m_{h_2}^2 + \eta^2 m_{h_1}^2 + (1 + \eta^2)\mu^2 - 2B_\mu\eta \\ & + (\alpha^2 + \beta^2)\tilde{m}_L^2 + \alpha^2\tilde{m}_t^2 + \beta^2\tilde{m}_b^2)\phi^2 \\ & - 2(\alpha^2(\mu y_t \eta - A_t) + \beta^2(\mu y_t - \eta A_b))\phi^3 + (\alpha^2 y_t^2 + \beta^4 y_b^2)\phi^4 \\ & + \left( \frac{g_1^2 + g_2^2}{8}(1 - \eta^2 + \beta^2 - \alpha^2)^2 + 2\alpha^2 y_t^2 + 2\beta^2 y_b^2 \right)\phi^4 \\ \equiv & M^2(\eta, \alpha, \beta)\phi^2 - \mathcal{A}(\eta, \alpha, \beta)\phi^3 + \lambda(\eta, \alpha, \beta)\phi^4, \end{aligned}$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} M^2 = & m_{h_2}^2 + \eta^2 m_{h_1}^2 + (1 + \eta^2)\mu^2 - 2B_\mu\eta \\ & + (\alpha^2 + \beta^2)\tilde{m}_L^2 + \alpha^2\tilde{m}_t^2 + \beta^2\tilde{m}_b^2, \\ \mathcal{A} = & 2\alpha^2\eta\mu y_t - 2\alpha^2 A_t + 2\beta^2\mu y_b - 2\eta\beta^2 A_b, \\ \lambda = & \frac{g_1^2 + g_2^2}{8}(1 - \eta^2 + \beta^2 - \alpha^2)^2 \\ & + (2 + \alpha^2)\alpha^2 y_t^2 + (2\eta^2 + \beta^2)\beta^2 y_b^2. \end{aligned}$$

[Gunion, Haber, Sher '88; Casas, Lleyda, Muñoz '96]

## The same but different ("A-parameter bounds")

$$A^2 < 4\lambda M^2$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$4 \min_{\{\eta, \alpha, \beta\}} \lambda(\eta, \alpha, \beta) M^2(\eta, \alpha, \beta) > \max_{\{\eta, \alpha, \beta\}} (A(\eta, \alpha, \beta))^2$$

$$h_u = \tilde{b}, h_d^0 = 0$$

[WGH'15]

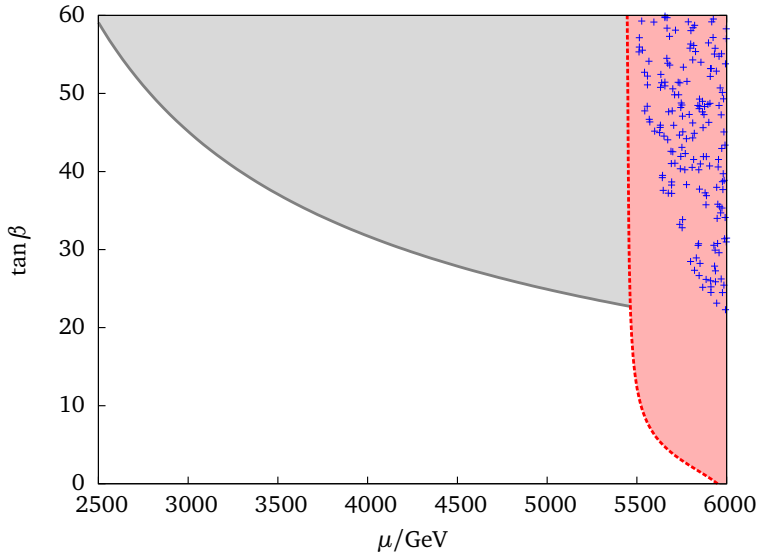
$$m_{H_u}^2 + \mu^2 + \tilde{m}_Q^2 + \tilde{m}_b^2 > \frac{(\mu y_b)^2}{y_b^2 + (g_1^2 + g_2^2)/2}$$

$$|h_d|^2 = |h_u|^2 + |\tilde{b}|^2, \tilde{b} = \alpha h_u$$

[WGH'15]

$$m_{11}^2(1 + \alpha^2) + m_{22}^2 \pm 2m_{12}^2 \sqrt{1 + \alpha^2} + \alpha^2(\tilde{m}_Q^2 + \tilde{m}_b^2) > \frac{4\mu^2 \alpha^2}{2 + 3\alpha^2}$$

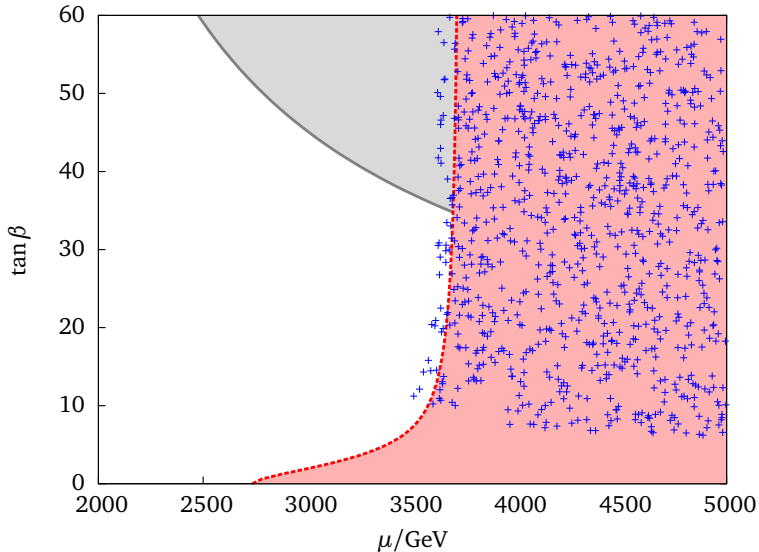
[WGH: PLB752 7 (2016)]



CCB sbottom vev,  $h_d = -\sqrt{|h_u|^2 + |\tilde{b}|^2}$

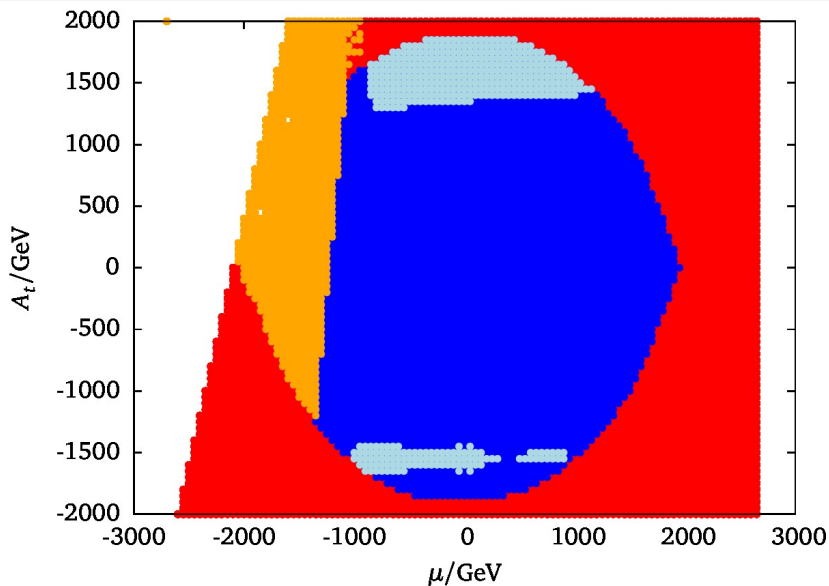


[WGH: PLB752 7 (2016)]

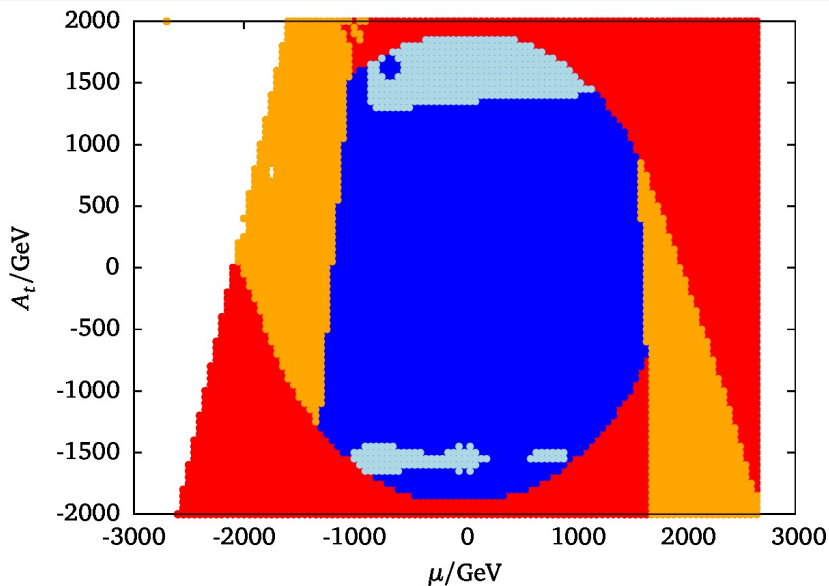


CCB sbottom vev,  $h_d = +\sqrt{|h_u|^2 + |\tilde{b}|^2}$

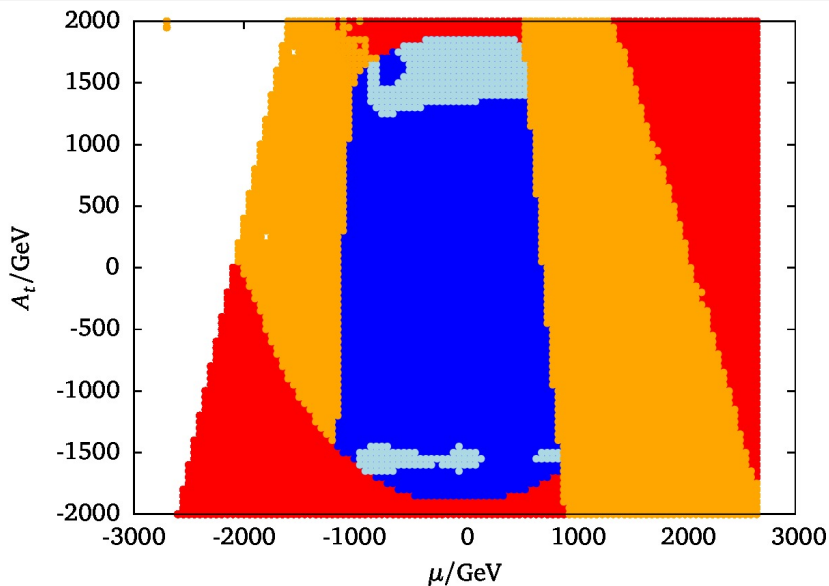
- one field direction is not enough
- one type of vevs is not enough
- choice of trilinear couplings (both  $\mu$  and  $A_{t,b}$ ) crucial
- numerical minimization
- Don't underestimate bottom Yukawa corrections!



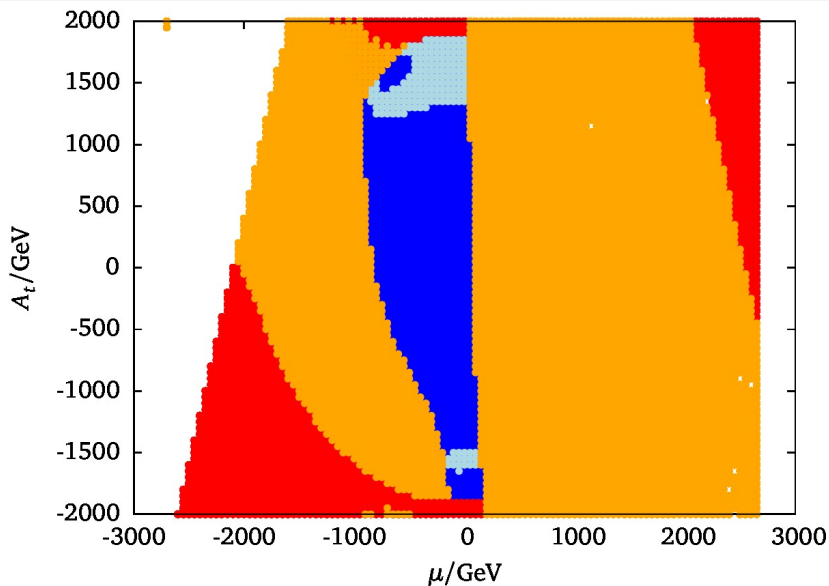
[WGH 2016]



[WGH 2016]



[WGH 2016]



[WGH 2016]

## simple considerations (not stress tested!)

- assume  $M_{\text{SUSY}} = 1 \text{ TeV}$
- needs certainly large  $A_t$  to get  $m_{h^0}$  right
- near criticality

## The MSSM is still alive!

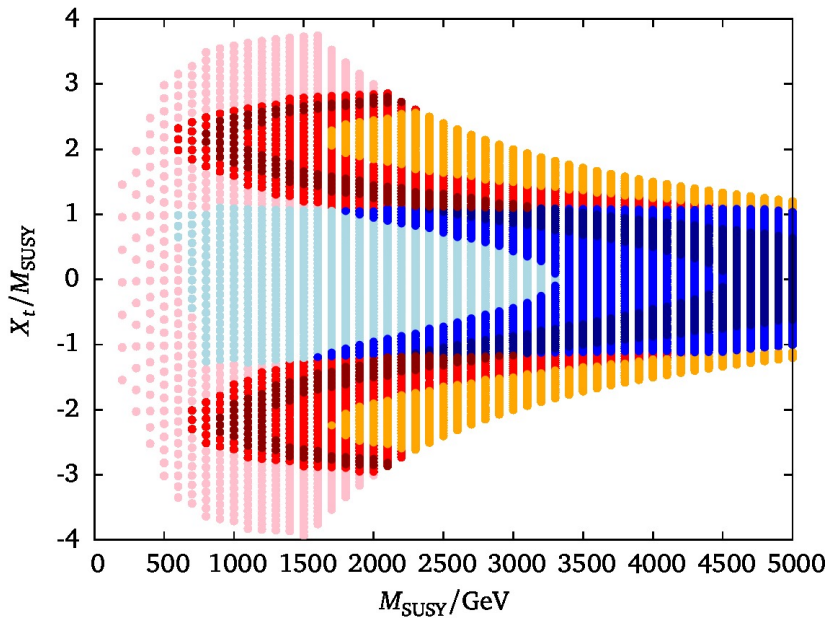
status quo 2016

Some observations:

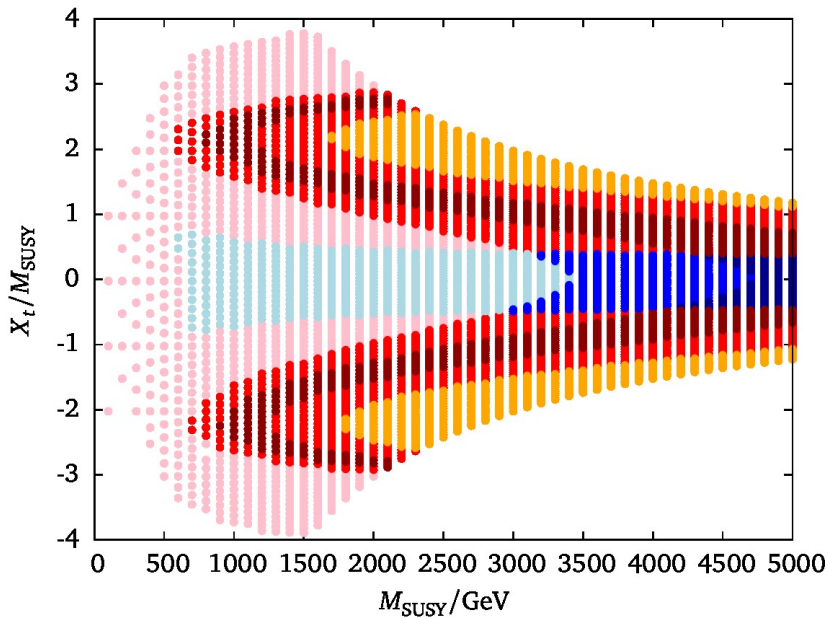
- constraints get weaker with increasing  $M_{\text{SUSY}}$
- crucial:  $X_t/M_{\text{SUSY}}$   $X_t = A_t/y_t - \mu \cot \beta$
- estimate:  $X_t/M_{\text{SUSY}} \lesssim 1$  (modifications possible, see next)
- $\mu$  negative opens up space: reduces  $X_t$  compared to  $A_t$

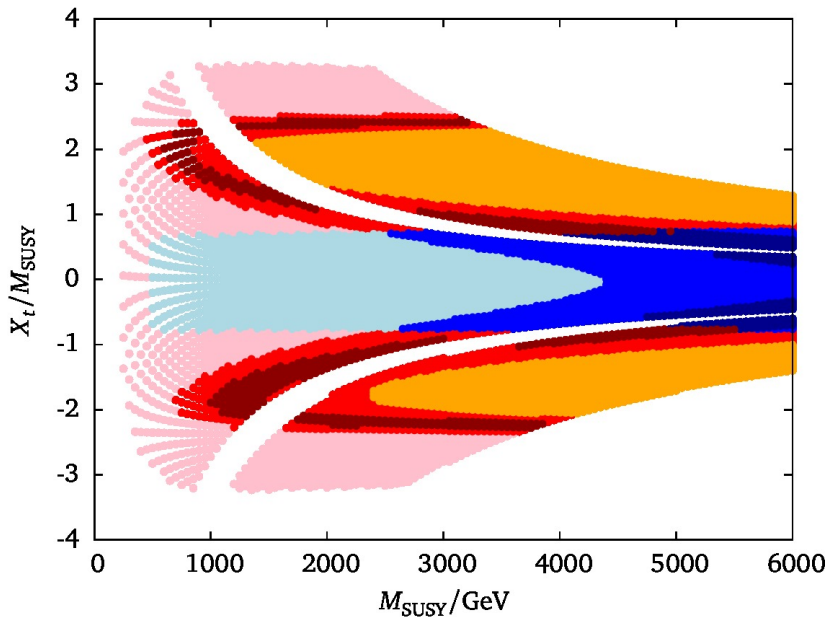
**Higgs mass band easier to catch for  $M_{\text{SUSY}} \gtrsim 2 \text{ TeV}$**

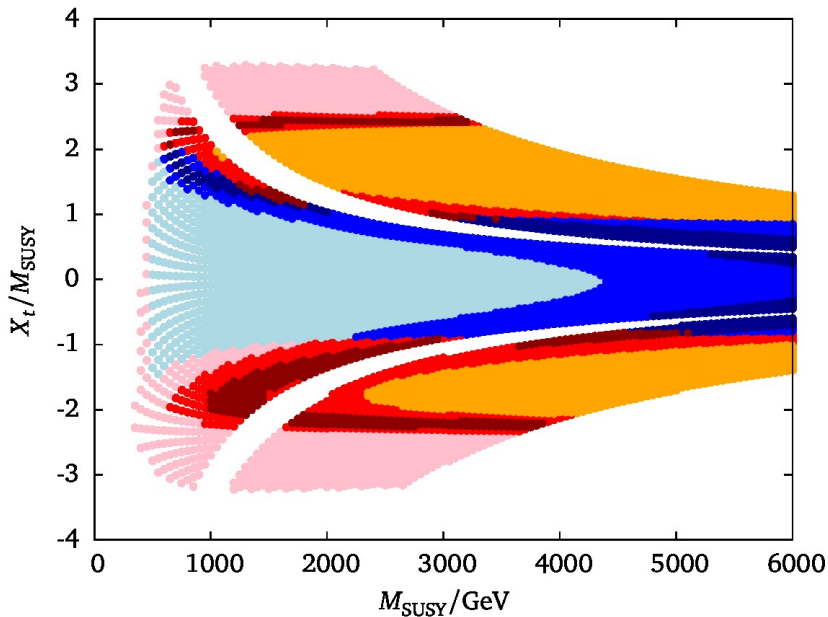
see next slides, compilation with SPheno and FeynHiggs











# A comment on metastability and quantum tunneling

## Cosmological stability

bounce action

$$B \gtrsim 400$$

↔ life-time longer than age of the universe

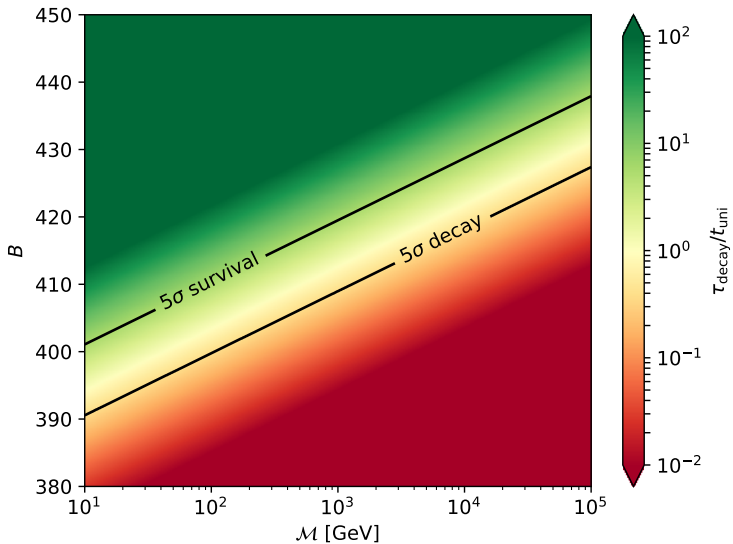
## Decay probability (per unit volume)

$$\frac{\Gamma}{V} = Ae^{-B/\hbar}$$

[Coleman '77]

## Death and doom

- value of  $B$  crucially depends on field space path
- multifield spaces: reduction to single field space (!)
- *independent* of SUSY parameter choice



## A general $n$ scalar potential

$$V(\vec{\phi}) = \lambda_{abcd} \phi_a \phi_b \phi_c \phi_d + A_{abc} \phi_a \phi_b \phi_c + m_{ab}^2 \phi_a \phi_b + t_a \phi_a + c$$

- includes up to  $3^n$  stationary points
- initial vacuum at  $\vec{\phi} = \vec{\phi}_v$

$$\left. \frac{\partial V}{\partial \phi_a} \right|_{\vec{\phi} = \vec{\phi}_v} = 0$$

## Expanding around the vacuum

- $\vec{\phi} = \vec{\phi}_v + \vec{\varphi}$ , with  $\vec{\varphi} = (\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n)^T$

$$V(\vec{\varphi}) = \lambda'_{abcd} \varphi_a \varphi_b \varphi_c \varphi_d + A'_{abc} \varphi_a \varphi_b \varphi_c + m_{ab}'^2 \varphi_a \varphi_b$$

- rewrite  $\vec{\varphi} \rightarrow \varphi \hat{\varphi}$  with unit vector  $\hat{\varphi}$ ,  $\varphi = \sqrt{\varphi_1^2 + \dots + \varphi_n^2}$

$$V(\varphi, \hat{\varphi}) = \lambda(\hat{\varphi}) \varphi^4 - A(\hat{\varphi}) \varphi^3 + m^2(\hat{\varphi}) \varphi^2$$

## A general $n$ scalar potential

$$V(\vec{\phi}) = \lambda_{abcd} \phi_a \phi_b \phi_c \phi_d + A_{abc} \phi_a \phi_b \phi_c + m_{ab}^2 \phi_a \phi_b + t_a \phi_a + c$$

- includes up to  $3^n$  stationary points
- initial vacuum at  $\vec{\phi} = \vec{\phi}_v$

$$\left. \frac{\partial V}{\partial \phi_a} \right|_{\vec{\phi}=\vec{\phi}_v} = 0$$

## A semi-analytic approximation

A quartic potential:

$$V(\phi) = \lambda \phi^4 - A^2 \phi^3 + m^2 \phi^2$$

$$B = \frac{\pi^2}{3\lambda} (2 - \delta)^{-3} (13.832 \delta - 10.819 \delta^2 + 2.0765 \delta^3)$$

with

$$\delta = \frac{8\lambda m^2}{A^2}$$

[Adams 1993]



## Reduction to a single real scalar field

$$\phi \rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \operatorname{Re}(\phi) + \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} \operatorname{Im}(\phi)$$

- $\varphi$  is canonically normalised after expanding  $\vec{\varphi} = \varphi \hat{\varphi}$
- EW vacuum is given by

$$\operatorname{Re}(h_u^0) = v \sin \beta, \quad \operatorname{Re}(h_d^0) = v \cos \beta$$

where  $v = \sqrt{v_u^2 + v_d^2} \approx 246 \text{ GeV}$  is the SM Higgs vev

## Unfeasible to vary all real scalar degrees of freedom simultaneously $\hookrightarrow$ selection of fields

$$\begin{aligned} & \{ \operatorname{Re}(h_u^0), \operatorname{Re}(h_d^0), \operatorname{Re}(\tilde{t}_L), \operatorname{Re}(\tilde{t}_R), \operatorname{Re}(\tilde{b}_L), \operatorname{Re}(\tilde{b}_R) \} \\ & \{ \operatorname{Re}(h_u^0), \operatorname{Re}(h_d^0), \operatorname{Re}(\tilde{t}_L), \operatorname{Re}(\tilde{t}_R), \operatorname{Re}(\tilde{\tau}_L), \operatorname{Re}(\tilde{\tau}_R) \} \\ & \{ \operatorname{Re}(h_u^0), \operatorname{Re}(h_d^0), \operatorname{Re}(\tilde{b}_L), \operatorname{Re}(\tilde{b}_R), \operatorname{Re}(\tilde{\tau}_L), \operatorname{Re}(\tilde{\tau}_R) \} \end{aligned}$$

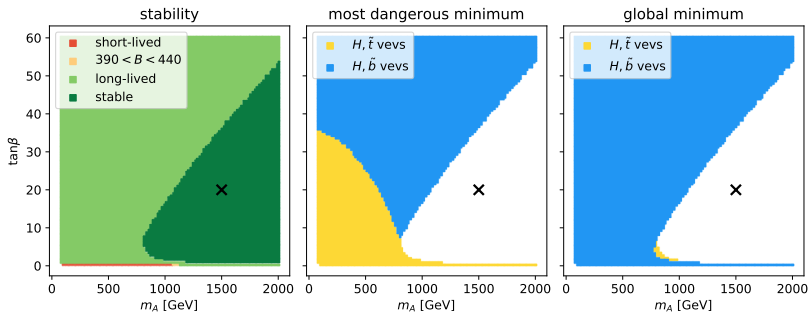
Benchmark scenario  $M_h^{125}$ 

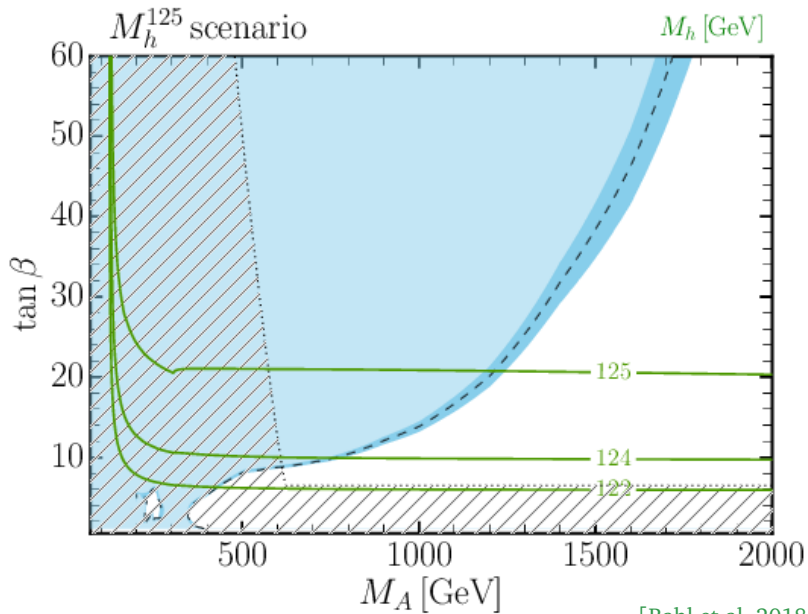
[Bahl et al. 2018]

$$m_{Q_3} = m_{U_3} = m_{D_3} = 1.5 \text{ TeV}, \quad m_{L_3} = m_{E_3} = 2 \text{ TeV}, \quad \mu = 1 \text{ TeV},$$

$$X_t = A_t - \frac{\mu}{\tan \beta} = 2.8 \text{ TeV}, \quad A_b = A_\tau = A_t,$$

$$M_1 = M_2 = 1 \text{ TeV}, \quad M_3 = 2.5 \text{ TeV}$$





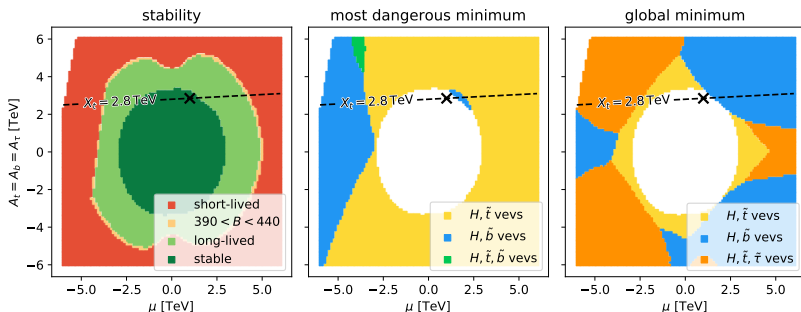
[Bahl et al. 2018]

## An absolutely stable and experimentally allowed point

$$\tan\beta = 20$$

$$m_A = 1500 \text{ GeV}$$

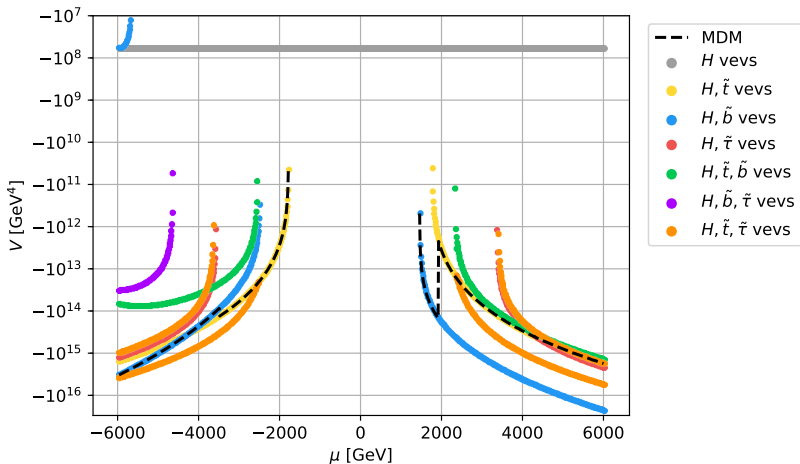
$$A \equiv A_t = A_b = A_\tau$$



- tachyonic sbottom masses upper left corner
- caveat: still limited numbers of fields included!

How is the “most dangerous minimum” (MDM) defined?

Go along the dashed line with  $X_t = 2.8$  TeV



## A vast set of constraints

$$A_t^2 + 3\mu^2 < (m_{\tilde{t}_R}^2 + m_{\tilde{t}_L}^2) \cdot \begin{cases} 3 & \text{stable,} \\ 7.5 & \text{long-lived.} \end{cases}$$

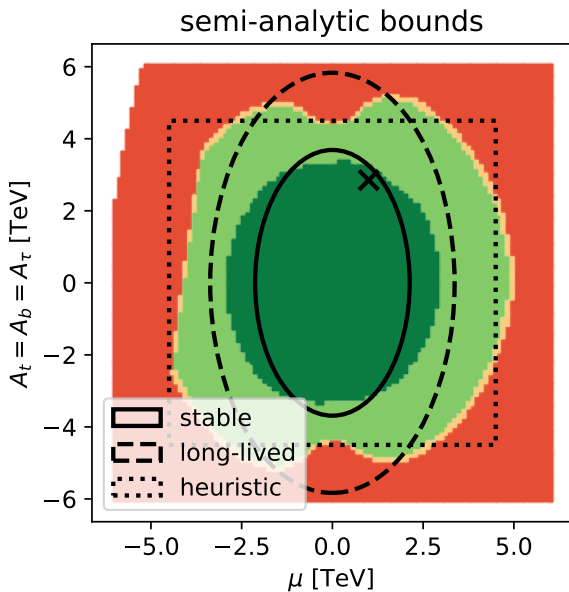
[Casas, Lleyda, Muñoz 1996, Kusenko, Langacker, Segre 1996]

Furthermore, a “heuristic” bound of

$$\frac{\max(A_{\tilde{t}, \tilde{b}}, \mu)}{\min(m_{Q_3, U_3})} \lesssim 3$$

exists. [Bechtle, Haber, Heinemeyer, Stefaniak, Stål, Weiglein, Zeune 2016]

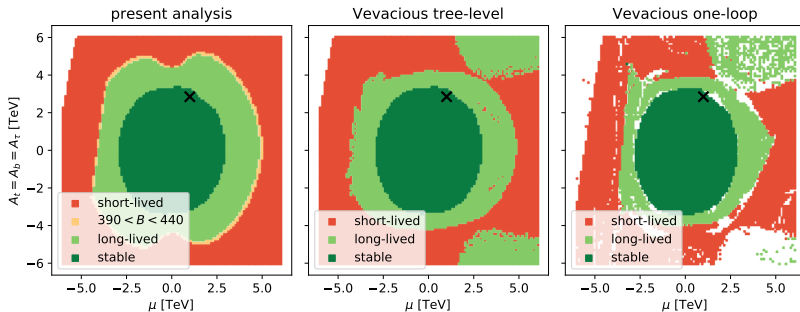
- vacuum tunneling weakens the “traditional” constraint
- metastable vacuum vs. absolute minimum
- quick and dirty versus sophisticated and precise (i. e. slow)  
 $\hookrightarrow$  needs numerical evaluation!



- inclusion of one-loop effective potential
- thermal corrections
- quantum tunneling by CosmoTransitions [Wainwright 2011]

Vevacious

[Camargo-Molina, O'Leary, Prood, Staub 2013]



[WGH, Weiglein, Wittbrodt 2019]



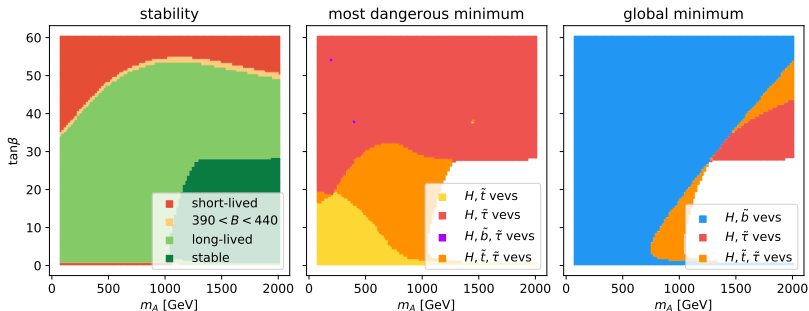
Benchmark scenario  $M_h^{125}(\tilde{\tau})$ : light stau

[Bahl et al. 2018]

$$m_{Q_3} = m_{U_3} = m_{D_3} = 1.5 \text{ TeV}, \quad m_{L_3} = m_{E_3} = 350 \text{ GeV}, \quad \mu = 1 \text{ TeV},$$

$$X_t = A_t - \frac{\mu}{\tan \beta} = 2.8 \text{ TeV}, \quad A_b = A_t, \quad A_\tau = 800 \text{ GeV},$$

$$M_1 = M_2 = 1 \text{ TeV}, \quad M_3 = 2.5 \text{ TeV}$$

large  $\tan \beta$  values: short-lived

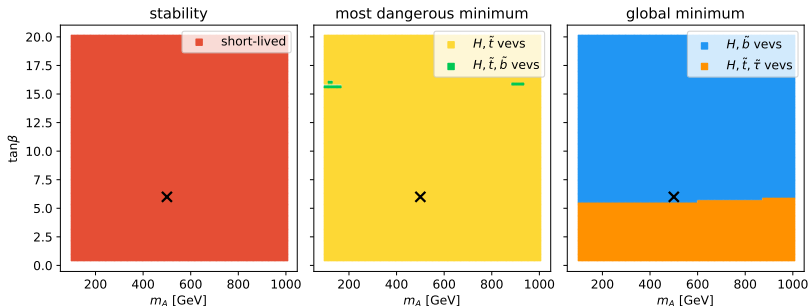
Benchmark scenario  $M_h^{125}$  (alignment)

[Bahl et al. 2018]

$$m_{Q_3} = m_{U_3} = m_{D_3} = 2.5 \text{ TeV}, \quad m_{L_3} = m_{E_3} = 2 \text{ TeV},$$

$$\mu = 7.5 \text{ TeV}, \quad A_t = A_b = A_\tau = 6.25 \text{ TeV},$$

$$M_1 = 500 \text{ GeV}, \quad M_2 = 1 \text{ TeV}, \quad M_3 = 2.5 \text{ TeV}$$



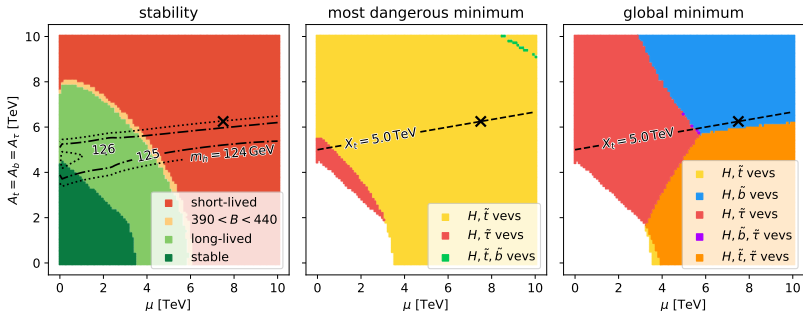
Benchmark scenario  $M_h^{125}$  (alignment)

[Bahl et al. 2018]

$$m_{Q_3} = m_{U_3} = m_{D_3} = 2.5 \text{ TeV}, \quad m_{L_3} = m_{E_3} = 2 \text{ TeV},$$

$$\mu = 7.5 \text{ TeV}, \quad A_t = A_b = A_\tau = 6.25 \text{ TeV},$$

$$M_1 = 500 \text{ GeV}, \quad M_2 = 1 \text{ TeV}, \quad M_3 = 2.5 \text{ TeV}$$



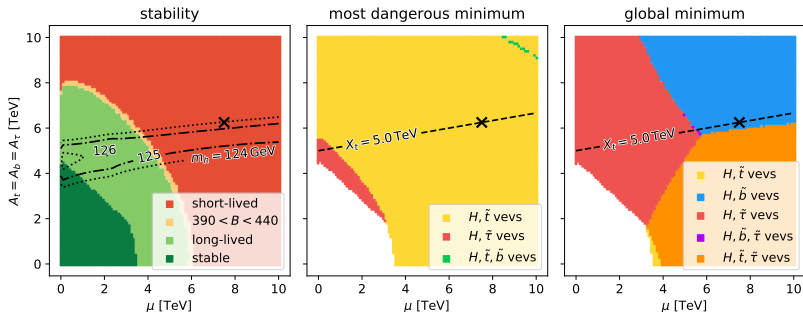
Benchmark scenario  $M_h^{125}$  (alignment)

[Bahl et al. 2018]

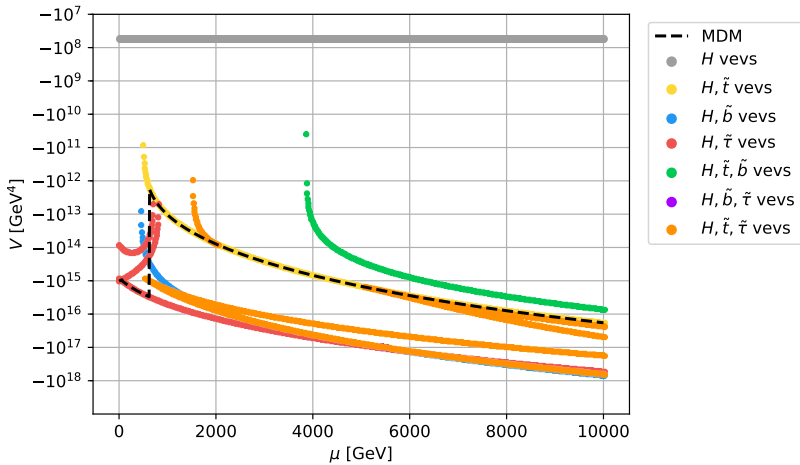
$$m_{Q_3} = m_{U_3} = m_{D_3} = 2.5 \text{ TeV}, \quad m_{L_3} = m_{E_3} = 2 \text{ TeV},$$

$$\mu = 7.5 \text{ TeV}, \quad A_t = A_b = A_\tau = 6.25 \text{ TeV},$$

$$M_1 = 500 \text{ GeV}, \quad M_2 = 1 \text{ TeV}, \quad M_3 = 2.5 \text{ TeV}$$



$$\mu = 7.5 \text{ TeV} \rightarrow 4 \text{ TeV} \quad \text{and} \quad A = 6.25 \text{ TeV} \rightarrow 5 \text{ TeV}$$

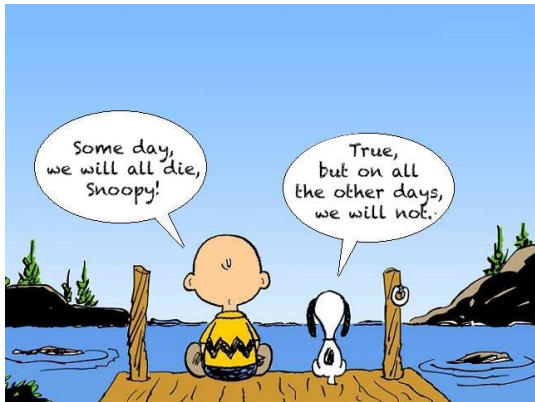


## A new tool

[J. Wittbrodt, <https://gitlab.com/jonaswittbrodt/EVADE>]

- c++-11 library
  - finds *all* minima via homotopy continuation:  
HOM4PS and/or Bertini (for details see documentation)
  - up to six different fields/vevs: **tree-level only**
  - new models via Mathematica
  - vacuum tunneling approximation: **tree-level only**
  - crucial(!): degenerate minima may have different lifetime
  - finds “*most dangerous*” minimum
- 
- tested against VeVacious: numerically more stable
  - no significant difference between tree level and one loop
  - “only” tree-level implementation in EVADE (sufficient. . .)
  - one-loop tunneling inconsistent [Andreassen et al. 2016/17]

- severe constraints from vacuum (meta)stability in SUSY
- fast and numerically stable approach (EVADE)
- global minimum not the “most dangerous” one
- tree-level analysis sufficient (in comparison with 1-loop)



Backup

Slides



False vacuum decay

## The bounce solution

[Coleman 1977]

$$\frac{d^2 \phi}{d\rho^2} + \frac{3}{\phi} \frac{d\phi}{d\rho} = \frac{\partial U}{\partial \phi}$$

with boundary conditions

$$\phi(\infty) = \phi_v, \quad \left. \frac{d\phi}{d\rho} \right|_{\rho=0} = 0$$

$U$  is the euclidean scalar potential,  $\rho$  is a spacetime variable and  $\phi_v$  is the location of the metastable minimum.

The bounce action  $B$  is the stationary point of the euclidean action given by the integral

$$B = 2\pi^2 \int_0^\infty \rho^3 d\rho \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{d}{d\rho} \phi_B(\rho) \right)^2 + U(\phi_B(\rho)) \right]$$

## Decay rate of the metastable vacuum

$$\frac{\Gamma}{V_S} = K e^{-B} \quad \text{per spatial volume } V_S$$

## What does it mean?

Coefficient  $K$  barely calculable. Rough estimate: dimensionful parameter,  $[K] = \text{GeV}^4$ , typical scale  $\mathcal{M}$  of the theory

$$K = \mathcal{M}^4$$

- compare vacuum decay time  $\tau_{\text{decay}}$  with age of universe  $t_{\text{uni}}$

$$\frac{\tau_{\text{decay}}}{t_{\text{uni}}} = \left( \frac{\Gamma}{V_S} \right)^{-\frac{1}{4}} \frac{1}{t_{\text{uni}}} = \frac{1}{t_{\text{uni}} \mathcal{M}} e^{B/4}$$

- highly sensitive to  $B$ , only mildly sensitive to  $\mathcal{M}$

$$P = \exp\left(-\frac{\Gamma}{V_S} \tilde{V}_{\text{light-cone}}\right) = \exp(-\mathcal{M}^4 \tilde{V}_{\text{light-cone}} e^{-B})$$

- (spacetime) volume of the past light-cone

$$\tilde{V}_{\text{light-cone}} \sim 0.15/H_0^4$$

- $H_0$  is the current value of the Hubble parameter

### Error estimate

Vary scale  $\mathcal{M} \in [10 \text{ GeV}, 100 \text{ TeV}]$ : shift less than 10% in  $B$ .

- $B > 440$  long-lived
- $B < 390$  short-lived
- $390 < B < 440$  uncertainty on the stability threshold

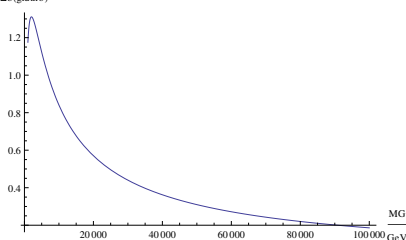
Yukawa coupling not given directly by the mass

$$y_b = \frac{m_b}{v_d(1 + \Delta_b)}$$

$$\Delta_b^{\text{gluino}} = \frac{2\alpha_s}{3\pi} \mu M_{\tilde{G}} \tan \beta C_0(\tilde{m}_{\tilde{b}_1}, \tilde{m}_{\tilde{b}_2}, M_{\tilde{G}}),$$

$$\Delta_b^{\text{higgsino}} = \frac{Y_t^2}{16\pi^2} \mu A_t \tan \beta C_0(\tilde{m}_{\tilde{t}_1}, \tilde{m}_{\tilde{t}_2}, \mu).$$

$\Delta b(\text{gluino})$



$\Delta b(\text{higgsino})$

