The Gildener-Weinberg two-Higgs doublet model at two loops∗

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Abstract

The Gildener-Weinberg two-Higgs doublet model (GW-2HDM) provides a naturally light and aligned Higgs boson, \( H = H(125) \). It has been studied in the one-loop approximation of its effective potential, \( V_1 \). An important consequence is that the masses of the model’s BSM Higgs bosons (\( H', A, H^\pm \)) are bounded by the sum rule:
\[
(M_{H'}^4 + M_A^4 + 2M_{H^\pm}^4)^{1/4} = 540 \text{ GeV}.
\]

Although they are well within reach of the LHC, searches for them have been stymied by large QCD backgrounds. Another consequence is that \( H \) is highly aligned, i.e., \( H-H' \) mixing is small and \( H \) has only Standard Model couplings. A corollary of this alignment is that search modes such as \( H', A \leftrightarrow W^+W^-, ZZ, HZ \) and \( H^\pm \leftrightarrow W^\pm Z, W^\pm H \) are greatly suppressed. To assess the accuracy of the sum rule and Higgs alignment, we study this model in two loops. This calculation is complicated by having many new contributions. We present two formulations of it to calculate the \( H-H' \) mass matrix, its eigenvectors \( H_1, H_2 \), and the mass \( M_{H_2} \) while fixing \( M_{H_1} = 125 \text{ GeV} \). They give similar results, in accord with the one-loop results. Requiring \( M_A = M_{H^\pm} \), we find \( 180 \text{ GeV} \lesssim M_{A,H^\pm} \lesssim 380-425 \text{ GeV} \) and \( 550-700 \text{ GeV} \gtrsim M_{H_2} \gtrsim 125 \text{ GeV} \), with \( M_{H_2} \) decreasing as \( M_{A,H^\pm} \) increase. The corrections to \( H \)-alignment are below \( O(1\%) \). So, the BSM searches above will remain fruitless. Finding the BSM Higgses requires improved sensitivity to their low masses. We discuss two possible searches for this.

∗This paper is dedicated to Kurt Gottfried and Eric Pilon, our friends and collaborators.
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I. Review and Overview

In the Gildener-Weinberg (GW) scheme of electroweak symmetry breaking in multi-Higgs multiplet models, the scalar potential $V_0(\Phi_i)$ of the tree-level Lagrangian consists of only quartic interaction terms $[1]$. Therefore, so long as all particle masses arise from the vacuum expectation values (VEVs) $\langle \phi_i \rangle$ of $\Phi_i$, the theory is classically scale-invariant. This happens if the linear combination of $\Phi_i$ that is the Higgs boson, $H$, is also a Goldstone boson of spontaneous breaking of this scale invariance, the dilaton of a flat minimum of $V_0$ along a ray $0 < \phi < \infty$ in field space.

Because it is such a Goldstone boson, $H$ is the same form of linear combination of scalars as the Goldstone bosons eaten by $W^\pm$ and $Z$; that is, in an $N$-multiplet model,

$$H = \sum_{i=1}^N \langle \phi_i \rangle / \phi \phi_i$$

where $\sqrt{\sum_i \langle \phi_i \rangle^2} = \phi$. This is important: this Higgs boson is perfectly aligned, that is, it has exactly the same couplings to gauge bosons and fermions as the Standard Model (SM) Higgs $[2, 3, 4, 5, 6]$. While it is massless at tree-level, the Higgs gets a mass at the one-loop level of the Coleman-Weinberg effective potential, $V_1$ $[7]$. The renormalization scale in $V_1$ explicitly breaks the scale symmetry of $V_0$, inducing a minimum of $V_0 + V_1$ that picks out a specific value $v$ of $\phi$. This $v$ is identified as the weak scale, 246 GeV, and it sets the scale of all masses in the theory $[7]$. As we review in this section, the one-loop corrections to perfect alignment are very small, typically $\lesssim \mathcal{O}(1\%)$ in amplitude. Thus, the approximate scale symmetry of GW models makes the Higgs naturally light and aligned $[8]$.

This naturalness requires no symmetry other than scale invariance. Therefore, in GW models there are no partners, scalar or fermionic, of the top quark, of the weak bosons, nor of any other particles except for the additional scalars occurring in multi-Higgs multiplet models. Nor are there the vectorial fermions requiring tree-level bare masses. The GW scheme is the only one we know in which the same agent, the Higgs VEV $v$, is responsible

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$^1$For economy of narrative, we are ignoring here the spontaneous breaking of the light quarks’ chiral symmetry that sets the mass scale of the light hadrons.
for electroweak symmetry breaking and for explicit scale symmetry breaking. Hence, the “dilaton scale” $f$ is equal to $v$ \[^9\]. The one sure way to test these models is to search for the additional Higgs scalars \[^10, 11\]. They are exceptionally light, with masses below about 400–550 GeV in one-loop order. We review this calculation below in a two-Higgs-doublet model. This model has three Beyond-Standard-Model Higgs (BSM) bosons, a $CP$-even $H'$, a $CP$-odd $A$ and a singly-charged $H^\pm$ (see the standard Ref. \[^12\] for details).

To evaluate the robustness of the one-loop predictions, we extend their calculation to the two-loop effective potential \[^13\]. This is considerably more complicated than in one loop. Therefore, in Secs. II and III we present two methods of calculating the two-loop contributions to the $CP$-even mass-squared matrix, $M^2_{0,1}$, as a function of BSM Higgs masses $M_A = M_{H^\pm}$ and $M_{H'}$. The two methods give qualitatively similar results and, so, support the low bound on the masses of the new Higgs scalars and our earlier conclusion on the degree of the 125-GeV Higgs boson’s alignment. To our knowledge, two-loop calculations of Gildener-Weinberg multi-Higgs models have not been carried out in this depth. The experimental consequences of our calculations, including the impact of ATLAS and CMS searches relevant to the model’s BSM Higgs bosons, are presented in Sec. IV. Readers interested mainly in these consequences can skip to Sec. IV.

The simplest model employing the GW mechanism is the two-Higgs doublet model (2HDM) proposed by Lee and Pilaftsis in 2012 \[^16\]. The tree-level potential of the two doublets is

\[
V_0(\Phi_1, \Phi_2) = \lambda_1 (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1)^2 + \lambda_2 (\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2)^2 + \lambda_3 (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1)(\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2) + \lambda_4 (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2)(\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_1) + \frac{1}{2} \lambda_5 \left( (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1)^2 + (\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2)^2 \right),
\]

where the doublets are

\[
\Phi_i = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \begin{array}{c} \phi_i^+ \\ \rho_i + i a_i \end{array} \right), \quad i = 1, 2,
\]

and $\rho_i$ and $a_i$ are neutral $CP$-even and odd fields. The five quartic coup-
lings $\lambda_i$ in Eq. (2) are real and $V_0$ is $CP$-invariant. Positivity of $V_0$ requires that $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 > 0$. This potential is consistent with a $Z_2$ symmetry that prevents tree-level flavor-changing interactions among fermions, $\psi$, induced by neutral scalar exchange [17]. We define this $Z_2$ to be

$$\Phi_1 \rightarrow -\Phi_1, \quad \Phi_2 \rightarrow \Phi_2, \quad \psi_L \rightarrow -\psi_L, \quad \psi_{uR} \rightarrow \psi_{uR}, \quad \psi_{dR} \rightarrow \psi_{dR}. \quad (4)$$

This is the usual type-I 2HDM [12], but with $\Phi_1$ and $\Phi_2$ interchanged. The net effect of this is that the experimental upper limit on $\tan \beta = v_2/v_1$ found for this theoretical model [8] is to be compared to experimental upper limits on $\cot \beta$ for this and the other three types of 2HDM’s with natural flavor conservation. We refer to this model as the GW-2HDM. This type-I coupling was imposed on the model in 2018 to make it consistent with precision electroweak measurements at LEP, searches for $t \rightarrow H^+b$ at the Tevatron [18] and the then-current LHC data. The most stringent constraints came from CMS [19] and ATLAS [20] searches for charged Higgs decay into $t\bar{b}$. Consistency with these searches required $\tan \beta < \sim 0.50$ for $180 \text{ GeV} < M_{H^\pm} \lesssim 500 \text{ GeV}$. This limit on $\tan \beta$ was affirmed in Refs. [10, 11].

The trivial minimum of $V_0$ occurs at $\Phi_1 = \Phi_2 = 0$. But a nontrivial flat minimum of $V_0$ can occur on the ray $0 < \phi < \infty$:

$$\Phi_{1\beta} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \phi c_{\beta} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \Phi_{2\beta} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \phi s_{\beta} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (5)$$

where $c_{\beta} = \cos \beta$ and $s_{\beta} = \sin \beta$ and $\beta \neq 0, \pi/2$ is a fixed angle. The tree-level extremal conditions for this ray are

$$\left. \frac{\partial V_0}{\partial \rho_1} \right|_{(\rho_i)} = \phi^3 c_{\beta} \left( \lambda_1 c_{\beta}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \lambda_{345} s_{\beta}^2 \right) = 0, \quad (6)$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial V_0}{\partial \rho_2} \right|_{(\rho_i)} = \phi^3 s_{\beta} \left( \lambda_2 s_{\beta}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \lambda_{345} c_{\beta}^2 \right) = 0,$$

where $\lambda_{345} = \lambda_3 + \lambda_4 + \lambda_5$. It can be proved that $V_0(\Phi_{1\beta}) = 0$ and, in fact, that any such purely quartic potential as well as its first derivative vanish at

3Of course, there is $CP$ violation in the CKM matrix, but that has negligible effect on our study and we ignore it.

4Strictly speaking, in this 2HDM, the VEVs $v_1$ and $v_2$ of $\Phi_1$ and $\Phi_2$ have meaning only after scale invariance is explicitly broken and $\phi$ in Eq. (5) has a specific value.
any extremum \[10\]. These conditions on the quartic couplings,

\[
\lambda_1 = -\frac{1}{2}\lambda_{345}\tan^2\beta, \quad \lambda_2 = -\frac{1}{2}\lambda_{345}\cot^2\beta,
\]

remain true and in force in all orders of the loop expansion for the effective potential \[1\]. This will be important in our subsequent development.

The eigenvectors and eigenvalues of the scalars’ squared “mass” matrices in tree approximation are given by

\[
\begin{pmatrix}
  z \\
  A
\end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix}
  c_\beta & s_\beta \\
  -s_\beta & c_\beta
\end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix}
  a_1 \\
  a_2
\end{pmatrix}, \quad M_z^2 = 0, \quad M_A^2 = -\lambda_5\phi^2;
\]

\[
\begin{pmatrix}
  w^\pm \\
  H^\pm
\end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix}
  c_\beta & s_\beta \\
  -s_\beta & c_\beta
\end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix}
  \phi_1^\pm \\
  \phi_2^\pm
\end{pmatrix}, \quad M_{w^\pm}^2 = 0, \quad M_{H^\pm}^2 = -\frac{1}{2}\lambda_{45}\phi^2;
\]

\[
\begin{pmatrix}
  H \\
  H'
\end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix}
  c_\beta & s_\beta \\
  -s_\beta & c_\beta
\end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix}
  \rho_1 \\
  \rho_2
\end{pmatrix}, \quad M_H^2 = 0, \quad M_{H'}^2 = -\lambda_{345}\phi^2.
\]

(8)

It is important to note that the extremal conditions (6) are equivalent to the vanishing of the Goldstone boson masses, \(M_z\) and \(M_{w^\pm}\). The ray (5) is a (flat) minimum, with \(V_0 = 0\), so long as the \(M^2\) are non-negative, i.e., that \(\lambda_5, \lambda_{45} = \lambda_4 + \lambda_5\) and \(\lambda_{345}\) are negative. The \(CP\)-even scalar \(H\) is the dilaton and, as discussed above, it is the same linear combination of fields as \(z\) and \(w^\pm\) are; i.e., \(H\) is aligned. Alignment will be modified in higher orders, but only slightly.

At this point and for our discussion of this model beyond the tree approximation, it is convenient to use the “aligned basis” of the Higgs fields because, in the GW-2HDM, \(H\) is very nearly aligned and separated from the BSM Higgs fields \(H', A, H^\pm\) through two-loop order in this basis.\(^5\) The aligned basis is:

\[
\Phi = \Phi_1 c_\beta + \Phi_2 s_\beta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix}
  \sqrt{2}w^+ \\
  H + iz
\end{pmatrix},
\]

\[
\Phi' = -\Phi_1 s_\beta + \Phi_2 c_\beta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix}
  \sqrt{2}H^+ \\
  H' + iA
\end{pmatrix}.\]

\(^5\)It is also called the Higgs basis; see Ref. \[12\] and references therein.
On the ray Eq. (5) on which $V_0$ has nontrivial extrema, these fields are
\[ \Phi_\beta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \phi \end{pmatrix}, \quad \Phi'_\beta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \tag{10} \]
The tree-level extremal conditions in this basis are
\[ \left. \frac{\partial V_0}{\partial H} \right|_\langle \rangle = \phi^3 \left[ \lambda_1 c_\beta^4 + \lambda_2 s_\beta^4 + \lambda_3 s_\beta^2 c_\beta^2 \right] = 0, \tag{11} \]
\[ \left. \frac{\partial V_0}{\partial H'} \right|_\langle \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \phi^3 \left[ (2 \lambda_2 s_\beta^2 + \lambda_3 s_\beta^2 c_\beta^2) - (2 \lambda_1 c_\beta^2 + \lambda_3 s_\beta^2) \right] s_\beta c_\beta = 0, \]
where $\langle \rangle$ means that the derivatives are evaluated at $\langle H \rangle = \phi$ while $\langle H' \rangle$ and all other VEVs equal zero. Using Eqs. (11), the tree potential is
\[ V_0 = -2 \lambda_{345} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left( \Phi^\dagger \Phi' + \Phi'^\dagger \Phi \right) + \Phi'^\dagger \Phi' \cot 2 \beta \right]^2 \]
\[ -\lambda_{45} \left[ (\Phi^\dagger \Phi) (\Phi'^\dagger \Phi') - (\Phi^\dagger \Phi') (\Phi'^\dagger \Phi) \right] + \frac{1}{2} \lambda_5 \left[ \Phi^\dagger \Phi' - \Phi'^\dagger \Phi \right]^2 \tag{12} \]
\[ = -\frac{1}{2} \lambda_{345} \left[ H H' + z A + w^+ H^- + H^+ w^- + (H'^2 + A^2 + 2 H^+ H^-) \cot 2 \beta \right]^2 \]
\[ -\frac{1}{2} \lambda_{45} \left[ (H^2 + z^2) H^+ H^- + (H'^2 + A^2) w^+ w^- \right. \]
\[ - (H H' + z A)(w^+ H^- + H^+ w^-) - i (H A - z H')(w^+ H^- - H^+ w^-) \]
\[ -\frac{1}{2} \lambda_5 \left[ H A - z H' + i (w^+ H^- - H^+ w^-) \right]^2. \tag{13} \]
The form of Eq. (13) will be used in Sec. II to define the mass-dependent scalar couplings that appear in the two-loop calculations. The tree-level “mass” matrices of the Higgs bosons are
\[ M^2_{0-} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & M_A^2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{with} \quad M_A^2 = -\lambda_5 \phi^2; \tag{14} \]
\[ M^2_{0+} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & M_{H^+}^2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{with} \quad M_{H^+}^2 = -\frac{1}{2} \lambda_{45} \phi^2; \tag{15} \]
\[ M^2_{0+} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & M_{H^+}^2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{with} \quad M_{H^+}^2 = -\lambda_{345} \phi^2. \tag{16} \]

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6Note that that there are no higher powers of $H, z, w^\pm$ than quadratic in Eq. (12).
7The quotes around “mass” are there because $0 < \phi < \infty$. 

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6
The Coleman-Weinberg effective potential in one-loop order is a sum over the heavy particles in the model \[21, 13, 16\]:

\[ V_1 = \frac{1}{64\pi^2} \sum_n \alpha_n \left( \ln \frac{M_n^2}{\Lambda_{GW}^2} - k_n \right). \]  

(17)

For \( n = (W^\pm, Z, t_L + t^c_R, H', A, H^\pm) \), \( \alpha_n = (6, 3, -12, 1, 1, 2) \) counts the degrees of freedom of particle \( n \) and \( k_n = 5/6 \) for the weak gauge bosons and \( 3/2 \) for the scalars and the top-quark Weyl fermions.\(^8\)

The background-field dependent masses \( M_n^2 \) in Eq. (17) are \[21, 16\]

\[ M_n^2 = \begin{cases} 
M_n^2 \left( 2 \left( \Phi^\dagger \Phi + \Phi'^\dagger \Phi' \right) / \phi^2 \right) = M_n^2 \left( (H^2 + H'^2 + \cdots) / \phi^2 \right), & n \neq t, b \\
M_t^2 \left( 2 \Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1 / (\phi c_\beta) \right)^2 = M_t^2 \left( (H - H' \tan \beta)^2 + \cdots \right) / (\phi)^2 
\end{cases} \]  

(18)

where \( M_n^2 \propto \phi^2 \) is the actual squared mass of particle \( n \) at scale \( \phi \). (We put \( M_b^2 = 0 \) in calculations.) The form of \( M_t^2 \) is dictated by the type-I coupling of fermions to the \( \Phi_1 \) doublet in Eq. (4).\(^9\)

Finally, \( \Lambda_{GW} \) is a renormalization scale that will be fixed relative to the Higgs VEV \( v = 246 \text{ GeV} \) in Eqs. (25–26) below.

Following GW \[1\], extremal conditions and masses are obtained by evaluating derivatives of the effective potential \( V_{\text{eff}} = V_0 + V_1 + V_2 + \cdots \) at \( \langle \rangle \) + possible shifts \( \delta H \) and \( \delta H' \) in the VEVs of \( H \) and \( H' \).\(^10\) We assume that these shifts have a loop expansion, e.g., \( \delta H' = \delta_1 H' + \delta_2 H' + \cdots \). The extremal conditions at one-loop order are \[1\]

\[ \frac{\partial (V_0 + V_1)}{\partial H} \bigg|_{\langle \rangle + \delta_1 H + \delta_1 H'} = 0, \]  

(19)

\[ \frac{\partial (V_0 + V_1)}{\partial H'} \bigg|_{\langle \rangle + \delta_1 H + \delta_1 H'} = 0. \]  

(20)

\(^8\)\( V_1 \) is calculated in the Landau gauge using the MS renormalization scheme.

\(^9\)To avoid the confusion of too much notation, we use the same symbol, e.g. \( H \), for the quantum field of particle \( H \) and for its classical counterpart in the field-dependent masses. Context will dictate which field is being used. However, for clarity in the field-dependent cubic couplings introduced in Sec. IIb, we denote the classical counterpart of field \( H \) by \( H_c \), etc.

\(^10\)The VEVs of the mass eigenstate Higgs bosons, called \( H_1 \) and \( H_2 \) in Eq. (32), will be fixed to \( \langle H_1 \rangle^2 + \langle H_2 \rangle^2 = v^2 = (246.2 \text{ GeV})^2 \). Also see Eq. (47) and the accompanying footnote.
Expanding Eqs. (19,20) to \(O(V_1)\) and using Eq. (16), these conditions become

\[
\frac{\partial V_1}{\partial H} \bigg|_{(H)=v} = \frac{1}{16\pi^2 v} \sum_n \alpha_n M_n^4 \left( \ln \frac{M_n^2}{\Lambda_{GW}^2} + \frac{1}{2} - k_n \right) = 0, \quad (21)
\]

\[
M_{H'}^2 \delta_1 H' - \frac{\alpha_t M_t^4 \tan \beta}{16\pi^2 v} \left( \ln \frac{M_t^2}{\Lambda_{GW}^2} + \frac{1}{2} - k_t \right) = 0, \quad (22)
\]

where the derivative with respect to \(H'\) of the \(n \neq t\) terms in \(V_1\) vanishes because those terms are quadratic in \(H'\). Thus,

\[
\delta_1 H' = -\frac{1}{M_{H'}^2} \left. \frac{\partial V_1}{\partial H'} \right|_{\langle \rangle} = \frac{\alpha_t M_t^4 \tan \beta}{16\pi^2 M_{H'}^2 v} \left( \ln \frac{M_t^2}{\Lambda_{GW}^2} + \frac{1}{2} - k_t \right), \quad (23)
\]

the typical tadpole result \[22\,23\]. Also, because \(\delta_1 H\) is not determined in \(O(V_1)\), we are free to set it. We expect from Eq. (34) below that \(\delta_1 H = O(\delta_1 H' \times \delta_1) = O(V_2)\), where \(\delta_1\) is the one-loop-induced \(H-H'\) mixing angle; therefore, we set

\[
\delta_1 H = 0. \quad (24)
\]

A particular scale \(\phi = v\) appears in Eqs. \[21\,22\] because, for nontrivial extrema with \(\beta \neq 0, \pi/2\), a deeper minimum than the vanishing zeroth-order ones can appear there: \((V_0 + V_1)_{(H)=v} < V_{0\beta} = V_0(0) + V_1(0) = 0\). In that case, Eq. \[21\] is equivalent to a relation between the renormalization scale \(\Lambda_{GW}\) and the Higgs VEV \(v\):

\[
\ln \left( \frac{\Lambda_{GW}^2}{v^2} \right) = A + \frac{1}{B}, \quad (25)
\]

where

\[
A = \sum_n \alpha_n M_n^4 \left( \ln \frac{M_n^2}{v^2} - k_n \right), \quad B = \sum_n \alpha_n M_n^4. \quad (26)
\]

At \(\langle \rangle\), \(M_n^2 = M_n^2\), and the effective potential is

\[
(V_0 + V_1)_{\langle \rangle} = \frac{1}{64\pi^2} \left( A + B \ln \frac{v^2}{\Lambda_{GW}^2} \right) = -\frac{B}{128\pi^2}. \quad (27)
\]

Thus, unless \(B > 0\), this extremum cannot be a minimum because otherwise it has no finite bottom for \(v \to \infty \[1\]. Despite the large negative top-quark term in \(B\), the contribution of the extra Higgs bosons can make it
positive. With the minimum occurring at the particular value $\phi = v$, the scale invariance of the tree approximation is now explicitly broken and the Higgs boson $H$ gets a nonzero mass. Note that all $M_n^2 \propto v^2$ so that the right side of Eq. (25) is a function of only gauge, Higgs-boson and the top-quark Yukawa couplings. The VEVs of $\Phi_1$ and $\Phi_2$ are $v_1 = v \cos \beta$ and $v_2 = v \sin \beta$, with $\tan \beta = v_2/v_1$ as usual in a 2HDM.

The CP-even Higgs mass matrix to $O(V_1)$ in the aligned basis is

$$M^2_{0+} = \left( \begin{array}{cc} (\partial^2 V_1 / \partial H^2) & (\partial^2 (V_0 + V_1) / \partial H \partial H') \\ (\partial^2 (V_0 + V_1) / \partial H \partial H') & (\partial^2 (V_0 + V_1) / \partial H^2) \end{array} \right)_{\langle \rangle + \delta_1 H'},$$

where, again using Eq. (21),

$$M^2_{HH} = \left. \frac{\partial^2 V_1}{\partial H^2} \right|_{\langle \rangle} = \frac{1}{8\pi^2 v^2} \sum_n \alpha_n M^4_n = \frac{B}{8\pi^2 v^2},$$

$$M^2_{HH'} = \left. \frac{\partial^3 V_0}{\partial H \partial H^2} \right|_{\langle \rangle} \delta_1 H' + \left. \frac{\partial^2 V_1}{\partial H \partial H'} \right|_{\langle \rangle} = \frac{2 M^2_{HH'} \delta_1 H'}{v} - 3 \alpha_t M^4_t \tan \beta \left( \ln \frac{M^2_t}{\Lambda^2_{GW}} + \frac{7}{6} - k_t \right)$$

$$= - \frac{\alpha_t M^4_t \tan \beta}{16\pi^2 v^2} \left( \ln \frac{M^2_t}{\Lambda^2_{GW}} + \frac{5}{2} - k_t \right),$$

$$M^2_{HH''} = \left. \frac{\partial^2 V_0}{\partial H^2} \right|_{\langle \rangle} + \left. \frac{\partial^3 V_0}{\partial H^2} \right|_{\langle \rangle} \delta_1 H' + \left. \frac{\partial^2 V_1}{\partial H^2} \right|_{\langle \rangle} = M^2_{HH''} + \frac{6 M^2_{HH}}{v} \cot 2 \delta_1 H'$$

$$+ \frac{\alpha_t M^4_t (3 \tan^2 \beta - 1)}{16\pi^2 v^2} \left( \ln \frac{M^2_t}{\Lambda^2_{GW}} + \frac{1}{2} - k_t \right) + \frac{2 \alpha_t M^4_t \tan^2 \beta}{16\pi^2 v^2}$$

$$= M^2_{HH''} + \frac{\alpha_t M^4_t}{8\pi^2 v^2} \left( \ln \frac{M^2_t}{\Lambda^2_{GW}} + \frac{1}{2} - k_t + \tan^2 \beta \right).$$

The eigenvectors $H_1, H_2$ and eigenvalues of $M^2_{0+}$, with $M^2_{H_1} < M^2_{H_2}$, are

$$H_1 = H \cos \delta_1 - H' \sin \delta_1,$$

$$H_2 = H \sin \delta_1 + H' \cos \delta_1,$$

$$M^2_{H_1} = M^2_{HH} \cos^2 \delta_1 + M^2_{HH'} \sin^2 \delta_1 - 2 M^2_{HH'} \sin \delta_1 \cos \delta_1,$$

$$M^2_{H_2} = M^2_{HH} \sin^2 \delta_1 + M^2_{HH'} \cos^2 \delta_1 + 2 M^2_{HH'} \sin \delta_1 \cos \delta_1.$$
where $\delta_1$ is the $H-H'$ mixing angle $\delta$ in the one-loop approximation to

$$\tan 2\delta = \frac{2M_{H_H'}^2}{M_{H_H'}^2 - M_{H_H}^2} \approx -\frac{\alpha_t M_t^4 \tan \beta}{8\pi^2 v^2 M_{H_H'}^2} \left( \ln \frac{M_t^2}{\Lambda_{GW}^2} + \frac{5}{2} - k_t \right) + \mathcal{O}(V_2).$$

These eigenmasses and the angle $\delta_1$ are displayed for the GW-2HDM in Figs. 1, 2 and will be discussed below.

The one-loop GW-2HDM formula for the Higgs boson’s mass, $M_H = 125$ GeV, is

$$M_H^2 = \frac{B}{8\pi^2 v^2} + \mathcal{O}(V_2) = \frac{1}{8\pi^2 v^2} \left( 6M_W^4 + 3M_Z^4 + M_{H'}^4 + M_A^4 + 2M_{H^\pm}^4 - 12m_t^4 \right).$$

Thus, $B$ is positive, as required so that $(V_0 + V_1)|_{\langle \rangle} < 0$. This constrains the BSM Higgs masses and implies a simple and important sum rule on them:

$$\left( M_{H'}^4 + M_A^4 + 2M_{H^\pm}^4 \right)^{1/4} = 540 \text{ GeV}.$$ 

This sum rule holds in the one-loop approximation of any GW model of electroweak symmetry breaking in which the only weak bosons are $W$ and $Z$ and the only heavy fermion is the top quark. Thus, the larger the Higgs sector, the lighter will be the masses of at least some of the BSM Higgs bosons expected in a GW model. Its importance is that these models predict extra Higgs bosons at surprisingly low masses. In the GW-2HDM, they have conventional decay modes, discussed at length in Refs. [8, 10, 11]. Determining the sum rule’s reliability is a main motivation for extending the calculation of $\mathcal{M}_0^2$ to two loops.

Equations (23) and (29)–(34) a establish a connection between the top quark and Higgs alignment: If it were not for the Glashow-Weinberg constraint on the Higgs couplings to quarks [17] and the top quark’s large mass (hence its appearance in $V_1$), $\delta_1 H'$ and $\delta_1$ would vanish and $\mathcal{M}_0^2$ would be diagonal [11]. This degree of Higgs alignment means that standard techniques of searching for the BSM Higgs bosons $H'$, $A$ and $H^\pm$ via their couplings to $W^+W^-$, $ZZ$ and $W^\pm Z$, both in fusion production and decay and in $H', A \to ZH$ and $H^\pm \to HW^\pm$, will continue to come up empty-handed; see https://twiki.cern.ch/twiki/bin/view/AtlasPublic and https://cms-results.web.cern.ch/cms-results/public-results/publications/
Figure 1: Left: The CP-even Higgs masses: $M_H = 125$ GeV in Eq. (35), $M_{H'}$ from the sum rule Eq. (36), and the eigenvalues $M_{H_1}$ and $M_{H_2}$ from Eq. (33) in the strict one-loop approximation. The masses are plotted vs. $M_A = M_H^\pm$ from 180 GeV to 410.5 GeV where $M_{H'}$ is rapidly approaching zero. Here, $\tan \beta = 0.50$ [8]; only small one-loop masses are sensitive to that choice. Right: A close-up of the endpoint of the tree-level and one-loop masses of the CP-even Higgs bosons.

and the electroweak couplings of the GW-2HDM scalars in Sec. IV, Eq. (68). The rates for these processes are proportional to $\delta_1^2 \sim (\delta_1 H'/v)^2 \lesssim 10^{-3}$ [8] [10]. An equivalent consequence of the top-quark’s connection to alignment is that it is responsible for the one-loop VEV $\delta_1 H'$ acquired by the other CP-even Higgs, $H'$.

The nearly diagonal nature of $\mathcal{M}_{H_1}^2$ — that $M_{H_1}^2 \equiv M_H^2 \cong M_{H'H'}^2$ and $M_{H_2}^2 \cong M_{H'H'}^2$ — is illustrated in Fig. 1 where the mass pairs are plotted versus $M_A = M_H^\pm$. In the left panel, where 180 GeV $\leq M_{H^\pm,A} < 410.5$ GeV, the masses in each pair appear to be on top of other each other. As the sum rule (36) forces $M_{H'} \to 0$ at $M_A = M_{H^\pm} = 410.5$ GeV, the difference in the $H'$ mass pairs due to the top-quark term in $\mathcal{M}_{H'H'}^2$ is seen in the right panel.

Examples of how unimportant the top-quark terms are, except for small
$M_{H',}$ are displayed in Table 1. Note how sensitive $M_{H'}$ and the eigenvalues $M_{H_2}$ are as the endpoint of the sum rule (36) is approached.

| $M_A = M_{H^\pm}$ | $M_{H'}$ | $\delta_1$ | $\delta_1 H'$ | $M_{H_2}$ |
|----------------------|----------|------------|--------------|-----------|
| 375.0                | 400.6    | $0.76 \times 10^{-3}$ | 1.55         | 404.9     |
| 409.8                | 147.6    | $0.31 \times 10^{-2}$ | 12.3         | 160.0     |
| 410.21               | 108.7    | $0.603 \times 10^{-1}$ | 22.9         | 125.2     |

Table 1: Examples of the approach to the breakdown of the validity of the one-loop expansion as the endpoint $M_A = 410.5$ GeV of the sum rule (36) is approached. Masses are in GeV and $\tan \beta = 0.50$.

Reference [16] demonstrated a level repulsion between $M_{H_1}$ and $M_{H_2}$ as $M_{H'} \to 0$. We can reproduce that here by using the full Eq (33) with $\tan \delta_1$ given by using all $O(V_1)$ terms in the first equality of Eq. (34). This gives contributions of $O(V_2)$ which become appreciable to the eigenmasses when $M_{H'} \to 0$. We illustrate this in Fig. 2. In the left panel the angle $|\delta_1|$ is plotted vs. $M_A$. Below $M_A \simeq 380$ GeV the angle is very small, $|\delta_1| \lesssim 10^{-3}$ and it changed sign from negative to positive at $M_A = 315$ GeV. Above $M_A \simeq 380$ GeV, the sum rule starts to force $M_{H'} \to 0$, the denominator $M_{H'H'}^2 - M_{HH'}^2$ in $\tan \delta_1$ decreases rapidly above $M_{H^\pm,A} = 410$ GeV, changing sign at 410.14 GeV. Consequently, $|\delta_1|$ rises rapidly from $\sim 10^{-3}$, passing through $\pi/4$ on its way to $\pi/2$ when $M_{H'} \to 0$. Here, this excursion of the mixing angle is the signal of level repulsion, clearly seen in the right panel. The magnitude of the angle $\delta_1$ and the swapping of the two $CP$-even levels in this region signal the breakdown of the validity of the loop perturbation expansion.

In Sec. IIa we present a formalism for calculating the extremal conditions and the $CP$-even masses of the two-loop effective potential, $V_{\text{eff}} = V_0 + V_1 + V_2$, of the GW-2HDM model. This formalism is the straightforward generalization to two loops of that in Ref. [1]. Still working in the aligned basis, we expand derivatives of $V_{\text{eff}}$ about their zeroth-order VEVs (Eq. (10))

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11 The explanation for this phenomenon in Ref. [8] was incorrect also, but for a different reason.
Figure 2: The magnitude of the one-loop $H-H'$ mixing angle $\delta_1$ (in radians) vs. $M_A = M_{H^\pm}$ at $\tan \beta = 0.50$. Note that $\mathcal{M}_{HH'}^2, \delta_1 \propto \tan \beta$. Left: The full range from $M_{H^\pm,A} = 180$ GeV to the sum rule cutoff at 410.5 GeV. Below $M_{H^\pm,A} = 315$ GeV the numerator $\mathcal{M}_{HH'}^2$, $\delta_1$ change sign at $M_{H^\pm,A} = 315$ GeV. Right: A close-up of masses at the endpoint as $M_{H'} \rightarrow 0$, showing the level repulsion at $M_A = 410.2$ GeV between $M_{H_1}$ and $M_{H_2}$. There, $M_{H_1} \rightarrow M_{H'}$ and $M_{H_2} \rightarrow M_H = 125$ GeV. In this region $\delta_1 \geq \pi/4$ and the validity of the loop perturbation expansion has broken down.

allowing for shifts in the VEV’s of $H$ and $H'$ while keeping their RMS equal to $v$ (see Eq. (47)). In these calculations, we keep terms of at most $O(V_2)$, discarding those that are formally of higher order in the loop expansion. We call this procedure the “perturbative method.”

In Sec. IIb we simplify our calculation considerably by keeping only the all-Higgs-scalar terms in $V_2$. This is quite a good approximation for this method; see Fig. 3. In this section we follow Martin [13] and define the field-dependent triple-scalar couplings needed for these calculations.

Even in this approximation, the two-loop generalization of Eqs. (35, 36) is intractable, so we must resort to a purely numerical scheme to determine
the BSM scalar masses in terms of $M_{H_1}$ and $M_W, M_Z, M_t$. This is done in Secs. IIb,c. The basis of this scheme is that, to $\mathcal{O}(V_2)$, the CP-even mass-squared matrix $\mathcal{M}^2_{0+}$ has positive eigenvalues with $M^2_{H_1}$ close to $(125 \text{ GeV})^2$.

For this, the two-loop extremal conditions are used to determine the corrections to $\Lambda_{GW}$ and the shifts $\delta_2H, \delta_2H'$ in the CP-even Higgs VEVs. This procedure does not guarantee that $\det(\mathcal{M}^2_{0+}) > 0$ for the allowed range of $M_A = M_{H\pm}$ and $M_{H'}$ as it does in $\mathcal{O}(V_1)$. This determinant has terms of $\mathcal{O}(V_4)$, coming from the square of $\mathcal{M}^2_{HH'}$, for example, and they are not small. But it does not contain all fourth-order terms; others will come from the three- and four-loop effective potential.\[12\]

We find two “branches”, $B_1$ and $B_2$, of the $H_2$ mass for $M_{H_1} \approx 125 \text{ GeV}$ and $M_A = M_{H\pm} \geq 180 \text{ GeV}$. In the lower-mass branch, $B_1$, the plot of $M_{H_2}$ vs. $M_A = M_{H\pm}$ is reminiscent of the left panel in Fig. 1. This behavior is not the result of a simple sum rule like Eq. (36), but the cause is much the same: requiring $M_{H_1} = 125 \text{ GeV}$ restricts $M_{H_2}$ to small values for large $M_A = M_{H\pm}$. In this branch, which extends over $180 \leq M_A = M_{H\pm} \lesssim 380 \text{ GeV}$, $M_{H_2}$ starts near 550 GeV, rises to 700 GeV and then drops rapidly to near zero at $M_A^* \approx 380 \text{ GeV}$. From there, branch $B_2$ rises rapidly and grows together indefinitely with the increasing input $M_{H'}$. For reasons we discuss in Sec. IIc, we consider only branch $B_1$ to be physically meaningful.

As in perturbation theory in ordinary quantum mechanics, determining the mass eigenvalues to $\mathcal{O}(V_2)$ requires that we know the eigenvectors $H_1$ and $H_2$ only to $\mathcal{O}(V_1)$. To that extent, what we have already stated about the degree of Higgs alignment — that $H_1$ very nearly has SM couplings and that such processes as $H', A \to W^+W^-, ZZ$ and $HZ$ are greatly suppressed — is still correct. Furthermore, alignment remains strong if we use the $\mathcal{O}(V_1)$ approximation to just the numerator of Eq. (34) for $\tan 2\delta$ (see Eq. (53)).

In Sec. III we follow a different approach to calculating the eigenvalues of $\mathcal{M}^2_{0+}$. It requires that the full two-loop effective potential, $V_0 + V_1 + V_2$, has a stable minimum. The program Amoeba [24] is used to find the regions of $V_{\text{eff}}$ for which $\mathcal{M}^2_{0+}$ is positive-definite. We vary $M_A = M_{H\pm}$ and $M_{H'}$ and require that $M_{H_1}$ or $M_{H_2}$ is equal 125 GeV. Only the solutions with the

\[12\]This seems to be a problem with no end unless successive loop contributions become negligibly small. Another facet of this will occur in Sec. III.
lighter eigenmass $M_{H_1} = 125$ GeV are consistent with LEP and LHC Higgs boson searches. We call this procedure the “amoeba method”. As in Sec. IIc, there are two regions of $M_A = M_{H^\pm}$ for this solution that we also call $B_1$ and $B_2$. Region $B_1$ extends from $M_A \approx 290$ GeV to 425 GeV and $B_2$ from 425 GeV to about 600 GeV. Again, only region $B_1$ is physically meaningful. The behavior of the eigenvalue $M_{H_2}$ is quite similar in the $B_1$ region of both methods as are the transitions between regions $B_1$ and $B_2$.

Finally, in Sec. IV we discuss the experimental implications of our two-loop studies, especially as they refer to the LHC experiments ATLAS and CMS. They are in good agreement with those in our previous papers [8], [10], [11]: The BSM Higgs bosons are well within reach of the LHC today, but their discovery requires much improvement in the rejection of low-energy QCD backgrounds. We discuss two new search modes that have low rates, but also much lower backgrounds. Higgs alignment is respected with experimental violations and the corresponding suppression of many processes enjoyed by the SM Higgs below $\mathcal{O}(1\%)$.

II. The GW-2HDM at two-loops: the perturbative method

Gildener and Weinberg’s one-loop analysis [1] started from Eqs. (19, 20). Because their analysis was intentionally model-independent, its main result was the very general, and very important, Eq. (29) for the Higgs boson’s mass. In the specific GW-2HDM, we can do more and extract other results. The most important ones so far are the sum rule (36) constraining the masses of the model’s BSM Higgs bosons to be light and the degree to which Higgs alignment and the related suppression of BSM couplings to weak boson pairs and to a weak boson plus the SM Higgs $H$. Determining the degrees to which they hold when extended to two loops motivate our present investigation.

We divide the discussion in this section into three parts: (a) The formalism for the extremal conditions and the two-loop contributions to the $CP$-even scalar masses. This includes the generalization to two-loop order of Eq. (25) relating the renormalization scale $\Lambda_{GW}$ to the electroweak VEV $v$.  

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(b) Calculations of $\Lambda_{GW}$ and $M_{0}^{2}$, in the approximation of keeping only the all-scalar terms in $V_{2}$. (c) Determining the allowed ranges of the BSM masses, $M_{A} = M_{H^{\pm}}$ and $M_{H_{2}}$ for $M_{H_{1}} = 125$ GeV, and the degree of Higgs alignment in the GW-2HDM. We refer to this procedure as the “perturbative method” because we discard terms that are formally of higher order than two loops.

IIa. The two-loop formalism

We extend the analysis in Ref. [1] to two-loop order here. The key requirement of this is to retain only those terms that are at most formally of second order in the loop expansion. The aligned basis, Eq. (9), is still the most suitable for this because, as we shall see, the strictly two-loop corrections to Higgs alignment are small. In the CP-conserving GW-2HDM, the only fields that can acquire a VEV are the CP-even $H$ and $H^{'}$. Therefore, through $\mathcal{O}(V_{2})$, and using $\delta_{1}H = 0$, the extremal conditions are obtained from

$$\frac{\partial(V_{0} + V_{1} + V_{2})}{\partial H} \bigg|_{\langle \rangle + \delta_{1}H^{'} + \delta_{2}H^{'} + \delta_{2}H} = 0, \quad (37)$$

$$\frac{\partial(V_{0} + V_{1} + V_{2})}{\partial H'} \bigg|_{\langle \rangle + \delta_{1}H^{'} + \delta_{2}H^{'} + \delta_{2}H} = 0, \quad (38)$$

where, again, $\langle \rangle$ means the tree-level VEVs $\langle H \rangle = v$ and $\langle H^{'} \rangle = 0$. Using the vanishing derivatives of $V_{0}$ in Eqs. (11,16) and $(\partial^{3}V_{0}/\partial H^{3})_{\langle \rangle} = (\partial^{4}V_{0}/\partial H^{4})_{\langle \rangle} = 0$, we get:

$$0 = \frac{\partial(V_{0} + V_{1} + V_{2})}{\partial H} \bigg|_{\langle \rangle + \delta_{1}H^{'} + \delta_{2}H^{'} + \delta_{2}H}$$

$$= \frac{\partial V_{1}}{\partial H} \bigg|_{\langle \rangle} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^{3}V_{0}}{\partial H^{2} \partial H'} \bigg|_{\langle \rangle} (\delta_{1}H')^{2} + \frac{\partial^{2}V_{1}}{\partial H \partial H'} \bigg|_{\langle \rangle} \delta_{1}H' + \frac{\partial V_{2}}{\partial H} \bigg|_{\langle \rangle}$$

$$= \frac{1}{16\pi^{2}v} \sum_{n} \alpha_{n} \frac{M_{n}^{4}}{\Lambda_{GW}^{2}} \left( \ln \frac{M_{n}^{2}}{\Lambda_{GW}^{2}} + \frac{1}{2} - k_{n} \right)$$

$$- \frac{\alpha_{t} M_{t}^{4} \tan \beta \delta_{1}H'}{8\pi^{2}v^{2}} \left( \ln \frac{M_{t}^{2}}{\Lambda_{GW}^{2}} + \frac{3}{2} - k_{t} \right) + \frac{\partial V_{2}}{\partial H} \bigg|_{\langle \rangle} ; \quad (39)$$
\[ 0 = \frac{\partial (V_0 + V_1 + V_2)}{\partial H'} \bigg|_{\langle \rangle + \delta_1 H' + \delta_2 H' + \delta_3 H} \]

\[ = \frac{\partial^2 V_0}{\partial H'^2} \bigg|_{\langle \rangle} \delta_1 H' + \frac{\partial V_1}{\partial H'} \bigg|_{\langle \rangle} \delta_2 H' + \frac{\partial^2 V_1}{\partial H'^2} \bigg|_{\langle \rangle} \delta_1 H' + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^3 V_0}{\partial H'^3} \bigg|_{\langle \rangle} (\delta_1 H')^2 + \frac{\partial V_2}{\partial H'} \bigg|_{\langle \rangle} \]

\[ = \left[ \alpha_t M_t^4 \left( 1 + 3 \tan^2 \beta \right) \left( \ln \frac{M_t^2}{\Lambda_{GW}^2} + \frac{1}{2} - k_t \right) + \alpha_t M_t^4 \frac{\tan^2 \beta}{8\pi^2 v^2} \right. \]

\[ + \frac{1}{16\pi^2 v} \sum_n \alpha_n M_n^4 \left( \ln \frac{M_n^2}{\Lambda_{GW}^2} + \frac{1}{2} - k_n \right) \left. \delta_1 H' + M_n^2 \delta_2 H' + \frac{\partial V_2}{\partial H'} \bigg|_{\langle \rangle} \right] . \quad (40) \]

Here, we used Eq. (13) to calculate the derivatives of \( V_0 \), the definition of the \( \mathcal{O}(V_1) \) shift \( \delta_1 H' \) in the VEV of \( H' \), in Eq. (22), and the following:

\[ \frac{\partial V_1}{\partial H} \bigg|_{\langle \rangle} = \frac{1}{16\pi^2 v} \sum_n \alpha_n M_n^4 \left( \ln \frac{M_n^2}{\Lambda_{GW}^2} + \frac{1}{2} - k_n \right) \quad (41) \]

\[ \frac{\partial^2 V_1}{\partial H \partial H'} \bigg|_{\langle \rangle} = -\frac{3\alpha_t M_t^4 \tan \beta}{16\pi^2 v^2} \left( \ln \frac{M_t^2}{\Lambda_{GW}^2} + \frac{7}{6} - k_t \right) . \quad (42) \]

\[ \frac{\partial^2 V_1}{\partial H'^2} \bigg|_{\langle \rangle} = \frac{\alpha_t M_t^4 \left( 3 \tan^2 \beta - 1 \right)}{16\pi^2 v^2} \left( \ln \frac{M_t^2}{\Lambda_{GW}^2} + \frac{1}{2} - k_t \right) + \frac{2\alpha_t M_t^4 \tan^2 \beta}{16\pi^2 v^2} \]

\[ + \frac{1}{16\pi^2 v} \sum_n \alpha_n M_n^4 \left( \ln \frac{M_n^2}{\Lambda_{GW}^2} + \frac{1}{2} - k_n \right) . \quad (43) \]

Every term on the right side of Eqs. (39,40) is of \( \mathcal{O}(V_2) \) or, sometimes more explicitly, \( \mathcal{O}(\kappa^2) \), where

\[ \kappa = \frac{1}{16\pi^2} . \quad (44) \]

This is because, as stated below Eq. (7), the extremal conditions in each order of the loop expansion of \( V_{\text{eff}} \) are enforced in all orders of the loop expansion [1]. That means, e.g., that the right side of Eq. (41) and the third term in Eq. (43) are \( \mathcal{O}(V_2) \). This will provide an \( \mathcal{O}(V_2) \) correction to \( \Lambda_{GW} \).

The dominant \( \mathcal{O}(\kappa^2) \) corrections to the extremal conditions will come from the derivatives of \( V_2 \) itself with respect to \( H \) and \( H' \). Equation (39) determines the \( \mathcal{O}(V_1) = \mathcal{O}(\kappa) \) correction to \( \Lambda_{GW} \). From now on, we denote the renormalization scale by \( \Lambda_{GW} \) only in terms that are otherwise of \( \mathcal{O}(V_1) \). In those terms, the \( \mathcal{O}(V_1) \) part of \( \Lambda_{GW} \) will produce an \( \mathcal{O}(\kappa^2) \) contribution. In
terms that are already $O(V_2)$, we use the $O(\kappa^0)$ scale $\Lambda_0 = v \exp(\frac{1}{2}(A/B + \frac{1}{2}))$ from Eq. (25). We obtain the following expression for $\Lambda_{GW}$ (in which we still use $M^2_H = (\partial^2 V_1 / \partial H^2)_{\langle} = \sum_n \alpha_n M^4_n / 8\pi^2 v^2$):

$$\Lambda_{GW} = \Lambda_0 \exp \left\{ \frac{2}{M^2_H v} \left[ \frac{\alpha_t M^4_t \tan \beta \delta_1 H'}{8\pi^2 v^2} \left( \log \frac{M^2_t}{\Lambda^2_0} + \frac{3}{2} - k_t \right) - \frac{\partial V_2}{\partial H} \right] \right\}$$

$$\cong \Lambda_0 \left[ 1 + \frac{\alpha_t M^4_t \tan \beta \delta_1 H'}{4\pi^2 v^3 M^2_H} \left( \log \frac{M^2_t}{\Lambda^2_0} + \frac{3}{2} - k_t \right) - \frac{2}{M^2_H v} \frac{\partial V_2}{\partial H} \right]. \ (45)$$

This correction to $\Lambda_0$ is $O(\kappa)$ because $M^2_H = O(\kappa)$.

Equation (40) determines the $O(\kappa^2)$ contribution $\delta_2 H'$ to $\delta H'$:

$$\delta_2 H' = -\frac{1}{M^2_H} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^3 V_0}{\partial H^3} \left( \delta_1 H' \right)^3 + \frac{\partial^2 V_1}{\partial H^2} \right]_\langle \delta_1 H' + \frac{\partial V_2}{\partial H'} \right]_\langle$$

$$= -\frac{1}{M^2_H} \left[ \left( \frac{\alpha_t M^4_t (1 + 3 \tan^2 \beta)}{32\pi^2 v^2} \left( \ln \frac{M^2_t}{\Lambda^2_0} + \frac{1}{2} - k_t \right) + \frac{\alpha_t M^4_t \tan^2 \beta}{8\pi^2 v^2} \right) \delta_1 H' + \frac{\partial V_2}{\partial H'} \right]_\langle. \ (46)$$

The shift $\delta_2 H$ does not appear in Eqs. (39,40). It could do so to $O(V_2)$ only by multiplying $(\partial^2 V_0 / \partial H^2)_{\langle} = 0$ and $(\partial^2 V_0 / \partial H \partial H')_{\langle} = 0$ by $\delta_2 H$. Since it is undetermined, we use it to keep $v$ fixed. That is, we require$^{13}$

$$v^2 = (v + \delta_2 H)^2 + (\delta_1 H' + \delta_2 H')^2 \rightarrow \delta_2 H = -\left( \delta_1 H' \right)^2 / 2v. \quad (47)$$

Now turn to the elements of the $CP$-even squared mass matrix in $O(V_2)$.

With an obvious notation, they are:

$$\left( M_{H_i H_j}^2 \right)_2 = \left( \frac{\partial^2 (V_0 + V_1 + V_2)}{\partial H_i \partial H_j} \right)_{\langle + \delta H + \delta H'}$$

$$= \left. \frac{\partial^2 V_0}{\partial H_i \partial H_j} \right|_{\langle} + \left. \frac{\partial^3 V_0}{\partial H_i \partial H_j \partial H_k} \right|_{\langle} (\delta_1 H_k + \delta_2 H_k) + \left. \frac{\partial^4 V_0}{\partial H_i \partial H_j \partial H_k \partial H_l} \right|_{\langle} \delta_1 H_k \delta_1 H_l$$

$$+ \left. \frac{\partial^2 V_1}{\partial H_i \partial H_j} \right|_{\langle} + \left. \frac{\partial^3 V_1}{\partial H_i \partial H_j \partial H_k} \right|_{\langle} \delta_1 H_k + \frac{\partial^2 V_2}{\partial H_i \partial H_j} \right|_{\langle}. \quad (48)$$

$^{13}$Eq. (47) is correct through $O(V_2)$. 

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Then:

\[
(M_{HH})_2 = M_H^2 + M_H' \left( \frac{\delta_H'}{v} \right)^2 - \frac{3\alpha_s M_t^4}{8\pi^2v^2} \left( \ln \frac{M_t^2}{\Lambda_0^2} + \frac{13}{6} - k_t \right) \frac{\delta_H'}{v} + \frac{\partial^2 V_2}{\partial H'^2} \tag{49}
\]

\[
(M_{HH'})_2 = -\frac{\alpha_t M_t^4}{16\pi^2v^2} \left( \ln \frac{M_t^2}{\Lambda^2_{GW}} + \frac{5}{2} - k_t \right) + \left[ M_H^2 + \frac{3\alpha_s M_t^4(\tan^2 \beta - 1)}{32\pi^2v^2} \left( \ln \frac{M_t^2}{\Lambda_0^2} + \frac{1}{2} - k_t \right) \right] \frac{\delta_H'}{v} - \frac{2}{v} \left( \frac{\partial V_2}{\partial H'} \right) \tag{50}
\]

\[
(M_{HH'})_2 = M_H' + \frac{\alpha_t M_t^4}{8\pi^2v^2} \left( \ln \frac{M_t^2}{\Lambda^2_{GW}} + \frac{1}{2} - k_t + \tan^2 \beta \right) - \left[ \frac{7\alpha_t M_t^4 \tan \beta}{16\pi^2v^2} \left( \ln \frac{M_t^2}{\Lambda_0^2} + \frac{1}{2} - k_t \right) + \frac{\alpha_t M_t^4 \tan \beta(3 + 2 \tan^2 \beta)}{8\pi^2v^2} \right] \frac{\delta_H'}{v}
\]

\[
- \frac{6 \cot 2\beta}{v} \left( \frac{\partial V_2}{\partial H'} \right) \tag{51}
\]

Equation (47) for $\delta_H$ was used in calculating $M_{HH'}^2$.

When determining the eigenmasses $M_{H_1,H_2}^2$ in Eqs. (33) to $O(V_2)$, only the $O(\kappa)$ term in $M_{HH'}^2$ should be kept (using $\Lambda_0$) and then multiplied by $\sin \delta_1 \cos \delta_1 = O(\kappa)$. For the same reason, the term $\sin^2 \delta_1 M_{HH}^2$ in $M_{H_2}^2$ should be dropped. The eigenvalues of $M_{\phi^+}^2$ to $O(V_2)$ are then

\[
M_{H_1}^2 = (M_{HH}^2)_2 \cos^2 \delta_1 + (M_{HH'}^2)_0 \sin^2 \delta_1 - 2 (M_{HH'}^2)_1 \sin \delta_1 \cos \delta_1,
\]

\[
M_{H_2}^2 = (M_{HH'}^2)_2 \cos^2 \delta_1 + 2 (M_{HH'}^2)_1 \sin \delta_1 \cos \delta_1,
\]

where only the $O(V_1)$ part of $\tan 2\delta_1 \approx 2M_{HH'}^2 / M_{HH'}^2$ in Eq. (34) is used. The left side of Fig. 1 shows that these are good approximations.

On the other hand, for the purpose of determining the eigenvectors $H_1$ and $H_2$ and their degree of alignment from the $O(V_2)$ version of Eq. (32), we use $\delta_2$ defined by

\[
\tan 2\delta_2 = \frac{(2M_{HH'}^2)_1}{(M_{HH'}^2)_2 - M_{HH}^2)
\]

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because this approximation is numerically closer to $\delta_1$ than that which results from expanding $\tan 2\delta$ to $O(\kappa^2)$.

IIb. The scalar approximation

There are five general types of contributions to the two-loop potential $V_2$ for the GW-2HDM and similar electroweak models; see Secs. 2 and 4 of Ref. [13] for details of the interactions and the two-loop integrals.

1.) Scalar graphs consisting of “cracked-egg” two-vertex graphs with three scalars emanating from one interaction vertex and propagating to the other (SSS), and “figure-eight” graphs with two separate one-loop graphs (each loop as in $V_1$) stuck together at a single vertex with the appropriate quartic coupling (SS). These contributions arise from the scalar potential $V_0$ in Eq. [13], as described below.

2.) Cracked-egg fermion loops, induced by Yukawa interactions, with a scalar exchanged between the two vertices (FFS); only the top and bottom quarks contribute significantly to the loop integrals.

3.) From the electroweak gauge interactions of the scalars there are cracked-egg scalar loops with an electroweak gauge boson exchanged between the two vertices (SSV) and figure-eight graphs with a scalar loop and a gauge loop (VS). There are also cracked-egg electroweak gauge loops with a scalar exchanged between the vertices (VVS).

4.) Cracked-egg fermion loops with an electroweak boson or QCD gluon exchanged between the two vertices (FFV); again, only $t$ and $b$ quarks contribute substantially.

5.) Pure gauge-boson (including ghosts) cracked-egg and figure-eight loops (gauge).

Of these five types of contributions to $V_2$, the scalar (SSS and SS) graphs are by far the most important because the BSM Higgs masses set their mag-
Figure 3: Ratios to the SSS cracked-egg contribution of the SS figure-eight, SSV, FFS, FFV, VVS, VS figure-eight, and gauge contributions to $V_2$ for $180 \text{ GeV} \leq M_A = M_{H^\pm} \lesssim 380 \text{ GeV}$, the region of branch $B1$ in Fig. 5. The black curve is the sum of the eight ratios. In addition to $V_{SSS}$ and $V_{SS}$, these two-loop potentials are taken from Martin [13].

Therefore, we approximate $V_2$ by its scalar contributions. This approximation is good to about 2% over the entire range of branch $B1$; see Fig. 3.

The SSS couplings descend from the quartic couplings in $V_0$ of Eq. (13) by shifting the scalar quantum fields by their classical counterparts [21].

Following Ref. [13], it is convenient to use real scalar (and electroweak boson) propagating in these loops.

As in $V_1$, the tree-level masses are used for all the scalars, gauge bosons and fermions propagating in these loops.

The cracked-egg scalar graphs are much larger than the figure eights; see also Ref. [25].

The only other cracked-egg graphs with field-dependent couplings are VVS with $V$ an electroweak boson. They descend from the quartic electroweak interactions and are of order a squared electroweak coupling times $H_c$ or $H'_c$. 

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14 As in $V_1$, the tree-level masses are used for all the scalars, gauge bosons and fermions propagating in these loops.

15 The cracked-egg scalar graphs are much larger than the figure eights; see also Ref. [25].

16 The only other cracked-egg graphs with field-dependent couplings are VVS with $V$ an electroweak boson. They descend from the quartic electroweak interactions and are of order a squared electroweak coupling times $H_c$ or $H'_c$. 

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fields for this discussion:

\begin{align*}
R_1 &= H', \ R_2 = A, \ R_3 = h_1, \ R_4 = h_2; \\
R_5 &= H, \ R_6 = z, \ R_7 = w_1, \ R_8 = w_2. \\
A^1_\mu &= W^1_\mu, \ A^2_\mu = W^2_\mu, \ A^3_\mu = Z_\mu, \ A^4_\mu = A_\mu \text{ (the photon).} \tag{54}
\end{align*}

Here, $H^\pm = (h_1 \pm ih_2)/\sqrt{2}$, $w^\pm = (w_1 \pm iw_2)/\sqrt{2}$, and $W^\pm_\mu = (A^1_\mu \pm iA^2_\mu)/\sqrt{2}$. Because our interest in calculating $V_2$ is to see its effect on $M_{H^\pm}$ as we vary $M_A = M_{H^\pm}$ (as the sum rule (36) did in $O(V_1)$) and on the $H-H'$ mixing determining the departure from Higgs alignment, we shift only the two scalar fields that can get a CP-conserving VEV, $H$ and $H'$ \footnote{Strictly speaking, the derivatives with respect to $H$ and $H'$ in Secs. I and IIa were with respect to $H_c$ and $H'_c$, but the results there do not depend on this point; also see footnote 9.}.

\begin{align*}
R_5 &= H \rightarrow R_5 + H_c, \quad R_1 &= H' \rightarrow R_1 + H'_c. \tag{55}
\end{align*}

The cubic-scalar interactions are those that are first order in $H_c$ or $H'_c$ \footnote{The terms quadratic in the classical fields gave rise to the one-loop potential $V_1$ \cite{21}.}.

We indicate these couplings with an overbar, $\overline{\lambda}_{ijk}$, as we did for the field-dependent masses $\overline{M}_n^2$ in Eq. (18).

The scalar interactions used in constructing $V_2$ of the GW-2HDM are then

\begin{equation}
V_S = \frac{1}{6} \overline{\lambda}_{ijk} R_i R_j R_k + \frac{1}{24} \lambda_{ijkl} R_i R_j R_k R_l, \tag{56}
\end{equation}

where repeated indices are summed over and the prefactors of $1/6$ and $1/24$ are choices of convenience made in Ref. \cite{13}. The triple-scalar couplings
consistent with these normalizations are:

\[ \lambda_{111} = 6M_H^2 \cot 2\beta (H_c + 2H'_c \cot 2\beta)/v^2; \]

\[ \lambda_{112} = \lambda_{133} = \lambda_{144} = 2M_H^2 \cot 2\beta (H_c + 2H'_c \cot 2\beta)/v^2; \]

\[ \lambda_{115} = 2M_H^2 (H_c + 3H'_c \cot 2\beta)/v^2, \quad \lambda_{225} = 2(M_H^2 H'_c \cot 2\beta + M_H^2 H_c)/v^2; \]

\[ \lambda_{335} = \lambda_{445} = 2(M_H^2 H'_c \cot 2\beta + M_H^2 H_c)/v^2; \]

\[ \lambda_{155} = 2M_H^2 H'_c/v^2, \quad \lambda_{166} = 2M_H^2 H'_c/v^2, \quad \lambda_{177} = \lambda_{188} = 2M_H^2 H'_c/v^2; \]

\[ \lambda_{126} = (M_H^2 - M_A^2) H_c/v^2, \quad \lambda_{256} = (M_H^2 - M_A^2) H'_c/v^2; \]

\[ \lambda_{137} = \lambda_{148} = ((M_H^2 - M_H^2 H'_c) H_c + 2M_H^2 H'_c \cot 2\beta)/v^2; \]

\[ \lambda_{357} = \lambda_{458} = (M_H^2 - M_H^2 H'_c)/v^2; \]

\[ \lambda_{238} = -\lambda_{247} = (M_A^2 - M_H^2 H_c)/v^2, \quad \lambda_{467} = -\lambda_{368} = (M_A^2 - M_H^2 H'_c)/v^2. \] (57)

In Eq. (56), \( \lambda_{ijk} \) appears six times, \( \lambda_{iij} \) three times, and \( \lambda_{iii} \) once.

The \( \lambda_{ijkl} \) in Eq. (56) are the quartic scalar couplings in Eq. (13). Because of the figure-eight structure of the two-loop graphs to which they contribute (\( V_{SS}^{(2)} \) in Eq. (61) below), only terms with \( \lambda_{iii} \) and \( \lambda_{iijj} \) with \( i \neq j \) in \( V_S \) are used; \( \lambda_{iii} \) contributes to one term in \( V_S \) and \( \lambda_{iijj} \) (with \( i < j \), e.g.) contributes to six terms there. They are:

\[ \lambda_{1122} = \lambda_{1133} = \lambda_{1144} = 4M_H^2 \cot^2 2\beta/v^2; \]
\[ \lambda_{2233} = \lambda_{2244} = \lambda_{3344} = 4M_H^2 \cot^2 2\beta/v^2; \]
\[ \lambda_{1111} = \lambda_{2222} = \lambda_{3333} = \lambda_{4444} = 12M_H^2 \cot^2 2\beta/v^2. \] (58)

The two-loop effective potential in the scalar approximation is given
by \[13\]

\[ V_2 = \kappa^2 \left( V^{(2)}_{SSS} + V^{(2)}_{SS} \right), \]  

(59)

where, in terms of the couplings and field-dependent masses specified above:

\[ V^{(2)}_{SSS} = -\frac{1}{12} \lambda_{ijk} I(M^2_i, M^2_j, M^2_k), \] 

(60)

\[ V^{(2)}_{SS} = \frac{1}{8} \lambda_{ii jj} J(M^2_i, M^2_j). \] 

(61)

All indices on the right are summed over. The loop-integral functions

\[ I(M^2_i, M^2_j, M^2_k) \text{ and } J(M^2_i, M^2_j) \] 

are defined in Ref. \[13\]. They are symmetric

under the interchange of their arguments. Therefore, there are two equal
terms in \( V^{(2)}_{SS} \) with \( \lambda_{ii jj} \) with \( i \neq j \). In using Martin’s formulas for the \( I \)-
integral, and various massless limits of it, it is important to note that the
arguments are ordered as \( M^2_i \leq M^2_j \leq M^2_k \). Martin included in the defini-
tion of these functions all factors associated with the evaluation of Feynman

diagrams, including fermion-loop minus signs\[19\]

IIc. Numerical results for \( H', A, H^\pm \) masses

A glance at Eqs. (49,50,51) for the \( CP \)-even masses will convince the reader
that a simple, useful generalization to \( \mathcal{O}(V_2) \) of the sum rule (36) is out of the
question. This is so even in the approximation of keeping only the all-scalar
graphs. To study the mass \( M_{H_2} \) as a function of the other scalar masses, \( M_A = M_{H^\pm} \) (see footnote 2), \( M_{H'} \) and \( M_{H_1} \), we use the following algorithm:

1.) Increment \( M_A = M_{H^\pm} \) from 180 GeV to 1 TeV. We use \( \tan \beta = 0.50 \) \[8\].

2.) For each value of \( M_A \), increment \( M_{H'} \) from 10 GeV to 1 TeV.

3.) Calculate the \( \mathcal{O}(\kappa) \) renormalization scale \( \Lambda_{GW} \) (Eq. (45)) and the two-

loop shifts in the VEVs of \( H \) and \( H' \).

\[ ^{19} \text{Only particles that become massive at tree level contribute to the figure-eight loop function } J(M^2_i, M^2_j) \text{ so that, e.g., we omitted } \lambda_{1155} \text{ in Eqs. (58).} \]

\[ ^{20} \text{These are the approximate lower bound set by searches for } H^\pm \rightarrow \tau^\pm \nu_\tau, \ c\bar{b} \text{ and } c\bar{s} \text{ at LEP and the LHC and well above the upper bound of } \sim 500 \text{ GeV expected from the one-loop sum rule.} \]
4.) Calculate the $\mathcal{O}(V_2)$ elements $(\mathcal{M}^2_{H_i,H_i})_2$ consistent with the extremal conditions solved for $\Lambda_{GW}$ and $\delta_2 H'$. Then diagonalize them to $\mathcal{O}(\kappa^2)$ using Eq. (52) with $\delta_1$ given by the $\mathcal{O}(V_1)$ approximation to Eq. (34). For comparison, we also calculated the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of $(\mathcal{M}^2_{H_i,H_i})_2$ using the approximate two-loop $H-H'$ mixing angle $\delta_2$ in Eq. (53). This made no discernible difference in the masses and the degree of Higgs alignment.

5.) We select for plotting the $CP$-even eigenmasses satisfying:

(a) The one-loop Higgs mass-squared $M_{H_i}^2 = \sum_n \alpha_n M_n^4 / 8\pi^2 v^2 > 0$.

(b) $(\mathcal{M}^2_{H'_{H'}})_2 > 0$.

(c) $|M_{H_1}^2 - (125 \text{ GeV})^2| \leq 1250 \text{ GeV}^2$.

These conditions always yield positive $M_{H_1,H_2}^2$. For fixed $M_A$, the selections are usually multi-valued, satisfied for several values of $M_{H'}$. We plot the selection having $M_{H_1}$ closest to 125 GeV. We also plot the renormalization scales $\Lambda_0$ and $\Lambda_{GW}$. As noted earlier, this procedure does not guarantee that $\det(\mathcal{M}^2_{0+}) > 0$. In this analysis, $\det(\mathcal{M}^2_{0+}) > 0$ only for $M_A < 260 \text{ GeV}$.

Figure 4 shows $M_{H'}$ vs. $M_A$ on the left and the renormalization scales $\Lambda_0$ and $\Lambda_{GW}$ on the right. There are two branches of each, $B1$ for $M_A < M_A^*(\text{pert.}) \approx 380 \text{ GeV}$ and $B2$ for $M_A > M_A^*(\text{pert.})$. On the left, the values of $M_{H'}$ for which $M_{H_i} \approx 125 \text{ GeV}$ in branch $B1$ start near 550 GeV and then rise approximately linearly with $M_A$ to over 1 TeV. This branch ends abruptly at $M_A^*(\text{pert.})$. Branch $B2$ begins there near $M_{H'} = 0$, rising quickly and then growing linearly with $M_A$ up to $M_A \simeq 750 \text{ GeV}$ and $M_{H'} \simeq 825 \text{ GeV}$ where the data becomes sparse because the algorithm conditions can no longer be satisfied. In branch $B1$ of the right panel, the $\mathcal{O}(\kappa)$ scale $\Lambda_{GW}$ starts below $\Lambda_0$ and grows linearly with $M_A$, becoming almost equal to $\Lambda_0$ at $M_A \approx 260 \text{ GeV}$ for the remainder of $B1$. In branch $B2$, both scales grow linearly with $M_A$ over the range calculated, but with a greater slope for $\Lambda_{GW}$.

Figure 5 shows $M_{H'}$ and the $\mathcal{O}(\kappa^2)$ $CP$-even eigenmasses $M_{H_1,H_2}$ from $M_A = 180 \text{ GeV}$ to 750 GeV in branches $B1$ and $B2$. While $M_{H'}$ and $M_{H_2}$ start together near 550 GeV, $M_{H'}$ grows to above 1 TeV on branch $B1$, $M_{H_2}$ starts at $M_{H'} \approx 550 \text{ GeV}$ and grows to near 700 GeV at $M_A \approx 325 \text{ GeV}$.
Figure 4: Left: The BSM Higgs masses $M_{H'}$ vs. $M_A = M_H^\pm$ with the two-loop Higgs boson mass $M_{H_1}$ fixed near 125 GeV as described in the text. Here and below, $\tan \beta = 0.50$. Right: The renormalization scale $\Lambda_0$ (red) calculated to zero-loop order from Eqs. (25,26) and the one-loop scale $\Lambda_{GW}$ (green) from Eq. (45). The two branches, $B_1$ and $B_2$, of $M_{H'}$ and of the renormalization scales are discussed in the text. The transition between them occurs at $M_A^*(\text{pert.}) \approx 380$ GeV.

It then drops precipitously, falling below $M_{H_1}$ to near zero at $M_A^*(\text{pert.})$. At that point, the $B_2$ branches of $M_{H'}$ and $M_{H_2}$ emerge and grow rapidly together from well below $M_{H_1}$ to about 500 GeV and, then, linearly with and approximately equal to $M_A$ up to about 750 GeV. There is no evidence for a Higgs-like boson below 100 GeV. Also suspicious is the long linear growth with $M_A$ of $M_{H'}$ and $M_{H_2}$ in $B_2$. For these reasons, we regard branch $B_2$ as unphysical.

The behavior of $M_{H_2}$ in branch $B_1$ is similar to its one-loop approximation $\sqrt{(M_{H',H'}^2)_1} \approx M_H^2$ in Fig. 1. That behavior was caused by Eq. (35) for $M_H^2$ and its consequence, the sum rule (36) for the BSM Higgs bosons' masses. That sum rule forced $M_{H'}$ and the $O(V_1)$ eigenmass $M_{H_2}$ to be large when

\footnote{For a more optimistic view, see Ref. [26] and references therein.}
Figure 5: Left: The two-loop CP-even Higgs mass $M_{H_2}$ with $M_{H_1}$ fixed near 125 GeV as described in the text. The input $M_{H'}$ is shown for comparison with $M_{H_2}$. The $B1$–$B2$ transition between the two branches of $M_{H_2}$ vs. $M_A$ occurs at $M_A^*(\text{pert.}) \approx 380$ GeV. Right: A close-up of the $B1$–$B2$ transition region

$M_{A,H^\pm}$ were near the experimental lower bound of 180 GeV for $M_{H^\pm}$ and, then, to plunge to zero when $(M_A^4 + 2M_{H^\pm}^4)^{-1/4} \rightarrow 540$ GeV.

A similar thing is happening here: setting $M_{H_1} \cong 125$ GeV is a strong constraint on the BSM Higgs masses, although its mechanics are less obvious. First, $(M_{HH}^2)_{12}$ in Eq. (49) is dominated by its first and third terms, the one-loop Higgs mass, $M_{H_1}^2 = \sum_n \alpha_n M_n^4 / 8\pi^2 v^2$, and $(\partial V_2 / \partial H)_{\langle \rangle}$. The condition $M_{H_1}^2 > 0$ requires $M_{H_1}^4 + M_A^4 + 2M^4_{H^\pm} > 12M_t^4 \simeq 10^{10}$ GeV$^4$ ($\gg 6M_W^4 + 3M_Z^4$). This favors large BSM masses, and as $M_{A,H^\pm}$ increase, so does $M_{H'}$ which is being forced to be large by the algorithm’s conditions (5b,c). Thus, the $M_{H_1}$ constraint requires $(\partial V_2 / \partial H^2)_{\langle \rangle} < 0$ and increasing in magnitude.

The other feature of Fig. 5 in common with the one-loop masses in Fig. 1 is $M_{H_2}$ falling from its maximum value to near zero at the $B1$–$B2$ transition at $M_A^*(\text{pert.})$. The dominant terms at large BSM masses in Eq. (51) are $M_{H'}^2 > 0$ and the last two, $(-6 \cot 2\beta / v) (\partial V_2 / \partial H')_{\langle \rangle} < 0$ and $(\partial^2 V_2 / \partial H'^2)_{\langle \rangle} > 0$. All
three terms are large and there is a tug-of-war between the latter two which
the negative term wins, driving $M_{H_2} \cong \sqrt{(M_{H_2}^2 + M_{H_1}^2)}$ below 125 GeV — a level
crossing between the two CP-even eigenvalues. This is the same as its behav-
ior in Figs. [1]. Recall that, in that figure and this one, the diagonalization of
$M_0$, was carried out strictly to $O(V_1)$ and $O(V_2)$, respectively, by omitting
or truncating the off-diagonal $M_{HH'}^2$ term.\(^{22}\)

The one and two-loop $H-H'$ mixing angles are negative and nearly equal
to each other, $\delta_1 \cong \delta_2 \cong -0.001$ for $180$ GeV $< M_A < 350$ GeV. Above
350 GeV $\delta_2$ decreases rapidly to $-0.028$ at $M_A \cong M_A^* = 380$ GeV because
the denominator $(M_{H_2}^2 - M_{H_1}^2) \cong M_{H_2}^2 - M_{H_1}^2$ of tan$2\delta_2$ is becoming
smaller as the $B1-B2$ transition is approached; see Fig. 5.

The experimental consequences of the perturbative method are presented
in Sec. IV.

III. The GW-2HDM model at two-loops: the
amoeba method

In this section we use a different method to calculate the eigenmasses and
eigenvectors of the CP-even scalars $H$ and $H'$. The results of this calculation
and the one in Sec. II are similar. The reasons for this and for their differences
will be explained. In this method, the potential $V_{\text{eff}} = V_0 + V_1 + V_2$ for the
GW-2HDM is a function of: tan$\beta = v_2/v_1$, the ratio of the VEVs of the CP-
even components of the complex Higgs doublets $\Phi_2$ and $\Phi_1$; the BSM Higgs
masses $M_A$, $M_{H^\pm}$ and $M_{H'}$;\(^{23}\) the classical fields $H_c$ and $H'_c$ corresponding
to the VEVs of the aligned-basis fields $H$ and $H'$; and the renormalization
scale $\Lambda_{\text{GW}}$.

We fix tan$\beta = 0.50$, the experimental upper limit from the searches by

\(^{22}\)In Sec. III, the same dive of $M_{H_2}$ occurs at the $B1-B2$ transition, but a level repulsion,
not a level crossing, occurs there because the full $M_{HH'}^2$ is included in diagonalizing $M_0^2$ —
as was done in Fig. [2].

\(^{23}\)Recall that the tree-approximation extremal conditions remain in force which, with
tan$\beta$, reduce the number of independent quartic couplings to three, namely, $\lambda_5$, $\lambda_{45}$ and
$\lambda_{345}$. We also remind the reader that an upper limit on tan$\beta$ in this model is a lower limit
on tan$\beta$ in the usual 2HDM’s with natural flavor conservation \([12]\).
CMS [19] and ATLAS [20] for \( gg \rightarrow t\bar{b}H^- \rightarrow t\bar{b}b \) for \( 180 \text{ GeV} < M_{H^\pm} \lesssim 500 \text{ GeV} \). We also adopt the precision electroweak constraint \( M_A = M_{H^\pm} \) [14, 15, 16], and we assume that \( M_{H',A,H^\pm} \lesssim O(1 \text{ TeV}) \), a conservative upper limit suggested by the analyses of Secs. I and II.

The program \textit{Amoeba} [24] is used to minimize \( V_{\text{eff}} \) with respect to \( H_c \) and \( H'_c \) subject to the constraint,

\[
H_c^2 + H'_c^2 = v^2 = (246.2 \text{ GeV})^2, \tag{62}
\]

and with respect to \( \Lambda_{GW} \) [24]. This procedure is carried out for BSM masses below \( 1 \text{ TeV} \). Its outputs are the renormalization scale \( \Lambda_{GW} \), the VEV shift \( H'_c \) (with the corresponding shift in \( H_c \) dictated by Eq. (62)), and the eigenvalues \( M_{H_1,H_2} \) and eigenvectors \( H_1, H_2 \) of the CP-even mass matrix. Minimization of \( V_{\text{eff}} \) requires that \( M_{0^+}^2 \) is a positive-definite matrix. This is not yet enough to realistically fix \( M_{H_1,H_2}, H_1, H_2, \) and \( \Lambda_{GW} \). That happens when we require that one of the CP-even eigenmasses is \( M_H = 125 \text{ GeV} \). We refer to this procedure as the “amoeba method”.

The regions of stability of the one- and two-loop effective potentials for BSM Higgs masses below \( 1 \text{ TeV} \) are shown in Figs. 6. Except for the small top-quark terms in \( V_1 \), the one-loop potential is a function of \( H_c \) and \( H'_c \) only through \( H_c^2 + H'_c^2 = v^2 \) and, so, it is nearly independent of them. This accounts for its large region of stability below \( 1 \text{ TeV} \). The small hole near the origin of this plot occurs because Eq. (35) cannot be satisfied for \( M_H^2 > 0 \) for that region of BSM masses. The cubic and quartic couplings that enter \( V_2 \) constrain the region of stability of the full two-loop potential to \( 300 \text{ GeV} \lesssim M_A = M_{H^\pm} \lesssim 900 \text{ GeV} \) and \( 25 \text{ GeV} \lesssim M_{H'} \lesssim 900 \text{ GeV} \). The mass scale of these ranges is set by \( v = 246 \text{ GeV} \), of course. From now on, we require that \textit{one of the CP-even eigenmasses} \( M_{H_1,H_2} = M_H = 125 \text{ GeV} \). We will see that only the case \( M_{H_1} = 125 \text{ GeV} \) is allowed experimentally.

Most notably, the amoeba method differs from the perturbative one in that \( M_{0^+}^2 \) is required to be positive-definite. Its determinant therefore contains terms of order three and four loops (\( O(\kappa^3) \) and \( O(\kappa^4) \)). Furthermore,

\textsuperscript{24}Because of the constraint (62) this minimization involves two independent parameters, as in the perturbative method.
Figure 6: Left: The region (shown in blue) of $0 < M_A = M_H^\pm < 1450$ GeV and $0 < M_{H'} < 1200$ GeV for which the one-loop effective potential $V_0 + V_1$ has a minimum as described in the text. Right: The Mr. Magoo region (in blue) for which the two-loop potential $V_0 + V_1 + V_2$ has a minimum for the same ranges of $M_A = M_{H^\pm}$ and $M_{H'}$. The Higgs mass $M_{H_1}$ has not been fixed at 125 GeV in these plots.

its eigenvectors and eigenmasses also contain terms of $O(\kappa^3)$ and $O(\kappa^4)$:

$$
\begin{align*}
H_1 &= H \cos \delta - H' \sin \delta, \\
H_2 &= H \sin \delta + H' \cos \delta, \\
M_{H_1}^2 &= M_{H_1}^2 \cos^2 \delta + M_{H_1H_1'}^2 \sin^2 \delta - 2M_{H_1H_1'}^2 \sin \delta \cos \delta, \\
M_{H_2}^2 &= M_{H_2}^2 \sin^2 \delta + M_{H_2H_2'}^2 \cos^2 \delta + 2M_{H_2H_2'}^2 \sin \delta \cos \delta,
\end{align*}
$$

(63)

where, now, the $H–H'$ mixing angle $\delta$ is obtained from the ratio of derivatives with respect to $H_c$ and $H'_c$ of the full two-loop $V_{\text{eff}}$:

$$
\tan 2\delta = \frac{2M_{H,H_c}^2}{M_{H_1H_2'}^2 - M_{H_1H_c}^2}.
$$

(65)

Since $V_{\text{eff}}$ depends on the “tree-level” BSM Higgs masses, $M_A = M_{H^\pm}$ and
$M_{H'}$ in Eq. (8), this procedure also determines the allowed ranges of those masses.

As an application of the amoeba method, one that highlights its difference from the perturbative method of Secs. I and II, we apply it to the one-loop potential $V_0+V_1$, requiring that the lighter eigenvalue of $M_{0+}^2$ equals 125 GeV. The square roots of the elements of the one-loop $M_{0+}^2$ are shown in the left panel of Fig. 7. For $M_A = M_{H^+} \lesssim 410$ GeV, note how small the off-diagonal $\sqrt{|M_{H^+H'^+}|}$ is compared to the diagonal elements. This is the hallmark of Higgs alignment in this approximation of the GW-2HDM, in particular, that $\sqrt{M_{H^+H'^+}} \approx M_{H^+} = 125$ GeV and $\sqrt{M_{H^+H'^+}} \approx M_{H'^+} > 125$ GeV. Also, the BSM masses satisfy the sum rule Eq. (36), which is built into $V_1$. Here, the important difference with the perturbative method is the appearance of the small contribution $\pm 2M_{H^+H'^+} \sin \delta \cos \delta$ in Eqs. (64). This term was excluded in Sec. I because it is $O(\kappa^2)$. It effects the eigenvalues of $M_{0+}^2$ only very near $M_A = 410$ GeV — where the denominator of $\tan 2\delta$ is vanishing. In Fig. 1, the region $M_A > 410.5$ GeV is unphysical because it violates the sum rule, and the curves end there. In the amoeba method, the $\sqrt{M_{H^+H'^+}}$ curves cross at $M_A = 410.5$ GeV and $\sqrt{M_{H^+H'^+}}$ rises approximately linearly while $\sqrt{M_{H^+H'^+}} = 125$ GeV. As in the perturbative method, this region is unphysical; i.e., even in one loop of the amoeba method there are two branches with the transition at the sum-rule cutoff of 410.5 GeV.

Another difference between the two methods is that, in the perturbative one, the two-loop effective potential in $B1$ is very well-approximated by its all-scalar terms with the cracked-egg (SSS) contribution alone accounting for 98% of the total; see Fig. 3. That simplification does not occur in the amoeba method. It appears to be due to the different regimes of BSM Higgs masses $M_A$ and $M_{H'}$ that give acceptable solutions for $M_{H^+,H'^+}$ in the two methods. In the perturbative method, $M_{H'}$ increases from 550 GeV to 700 GeV and then

\footnote{This calculation covered $M_{A,H^+} = 0$ to 600 GeV, endpoints outside the range of the experimental lower bound on $M_{H^+}$ and the one-loop sum rule, but for which $V_{eff}$ has a stable minimum.}\n
\footnote{This is not a level crossing. In fact, the eigenvalues repel each other there as can be seen in Fig. 10 for the two-loop masses.}
Figure 7: The square roots of the elements of $\mathcal{M}_{0+}^2$ in the amoeba method for the one-loop effective potential (left) and the two-loop effective potential (right). The lighter $CP$-even eigenvalue is required to be 125 GeV here.

falls to below 125 GeV for $180 \text{ GeV} < M_A < M_A^{(\text{pert.})} = 380 \text{ GeV}$. In the amoeba method, the ranges are $550 \text{ GeV} > M_{H'} > 125 \text{ GeV}$ for $290 \text{ GeV} < M_A < M_A^{(\text{amo.})} = 425 \text{ GeV}$. We shall see that the region of $V_{\text{eff}}$-stability in which the lighter $CP$-even eigenvalue $M_{H_1} = 125 \text{ GeV}$ will divide into two branches, $B_1$ and $B_2$, with physically acceptable results only in $B_1$ — as in the perturbative method. In $B_1$, the ratios to the cracked-egg all-scalar contribution of several other contributions to the two-loop potential are not very small. The sum of the ratios of the other contributions to SSS is typically 10–50%, with the largest contributions after SSS being SSV, FFV and SS; see Fig. 8. Note that none of these next-largest contributions have field-dependent couplings; see Ref. [13] for details of these potentials.

The left panel of Fig. 9 shows the one- and two-loop renormalization scale $\Lambda_{GW}$ over the ranges of the $\sqrt{\mathcal{M}_{0+}^2}$ in Fig. 7. $M_{H_1} = 125 \text{ GeV}$ is the lighter $CP$-even eigenvalue in both curves. The magnitudes of these renormalization scales are comparable to those of the two-loop scales $\Lambda_0$ and $\Lambda_{GW}$ in the perturbative method (Fig. 4 right panel), their values again being set by
Figure 8: Ratios to the SSS cracked-egg contribution of the SS figure-eight, SSV, FFS, FFV, VVS, VS figure-eight, and gauge contributions to $V_2$ for $290 \text{ GeV} \lesssim M_A = M_{H^\pm} \lesssim M^*_A$ (amoeb.), $425 \text{ GeV}$, the $B_1$-branch region of the left panel of Fig. 10. The black curve is the sum of the eight ratios. $M_{H_1} = 125 \text{ GeV}$ is the lighter $CP$-even eigenvalue here. In addition to $V_{SSS}$ and $V_{SS}$, these two-loop potentials are taken from Martin [13].

$v = 246 \text{ GeV}$. But, while the renormalization scales in the perturbative method are discontinuous at the $B_1$–$B_2$ transition (as is $H_{H'}$), the transitions in the amoeba method are continuous (again, as is $H_{H'}$ in the left panel of Fig. 10), albeit with slight changes of slope.

The right panel of Fig. 9 is more interesting: $H_c \cong 246 \text{ GeV}$ in $B_1 = 290–425 \text{ GeV}$ and decreasing only slightly in $B_2 = 425–600 \text{ GeV}$; $H'_c$ is negligibly small in $B_1$ (alignment again), but jumps to $20 \text{ GeV}$ at the transition and increases with $M_A$ from there up to $M_A = 600 \text{ GeV}$. Stable solutions of $V_{eff}$ are scarce beyond this upper limit of $B_2$.

Finally, we extract the $CP$-even masses and states. The two possibilities for which eigenmass is $125 \text{ GeV}$ are shown in Figs. 10. The masses $M_{H'}$, $M_{H_1}$, $M_{H_2}$ and the complete two-loop $H–H'$ mixing angle $\delta$ are plotted vs. $M_A = 33$.
Figure 9: Left: The renormalization scale $\Lambda_{GW}$ in the one- and 2-loop approximations of the amoeba method. They are plotted over the ranges of the $B_1$ and $B_2$ branches in the left panel of Fig. 10. Note the slight discontinuity in their slopes at the transition between the two branches at 425 GeV. Right: The classical-field shifts $H_c$ and $H'_c$ at the minima of the two-loop $V_{\text{eff}}$ as a function of $M_A = M_{H^\pm}$. The smallness of $H'_c$, especially in branch $B_1$, is a consequence of the requirement that $M^2_{H_cH'_c}$ is small enough that $\det M^0_{0^+} > 0$.

$M_{H^\pm}$ for the regions in which $V_{\text{eff}}$ has a stable minimum.\(^{27}\) Clearly, only the case that $M_{H_1} = 125$ GeV is consistent with light Higgs-boson searches from LEP and LHC. In the left panel, $M_{H_2}$ and $M_{H'}$ decrease from 550 GeV to just above and below $M_{H_1} = 125$ GeV, and they are indistinguishable up to $M_A \cong M^*_A(\text{amoee.}) = 425$ GeV. As the right panel of Fig. 7 and this figure illustrate, this is due to the smallness of $\delta \cong M^2_{H_1H'_1}/(M^2_{H'_1H'_1} - M^2_{H_1H_1})$ for $M_A < M^*_A(\text{amoee.})$. At $M^*_A(\text{amoee.})$, where $\delta$ passes rapidly from near zero to $\pi/4$, there is a level repulsion between $M_{H_2}$ and $M_{H_1}$.\(^{28}\) Beyond that point,

\(^{27}\)When $M_{H_2} = 125$ GeV, it is difficult to obtain a stable minimum of $V_{\text{eff}}$ above $M_A \cong 400$ GeV.

\(^{28}\)This is the same behavior as the one-loop eigenmasses and the $H-H'$ mixing angle in
Figure 10: Left: The BSM Higgs masses for the case that the smaller CP-even eigenmass is $M_{H_1} = 125$ GeV. Also shown (in magenta) is the full two-loop $H-H'$ mixing angle (in degrees) obtained from Eq. (34). Right: The BSM Higgs masses and two-loop $H-H'$ mixing angle when the larger CP-even eigenmass is $M_{H_2} = 125$ GeV.

$M_{H_2}$ rises linearly with $M_A$ and $M_{H'}$ crosses $M_{H_1}$ but remains nearly equal to it. Furthermore, the large value of $\delta$ violates loop perturbation theory. As in the perturbative method for the two-loop potential, there are two branches of $M_{H_2}$, the physical one $B1$ below $M_A^*$ (amoeba) and the unphysical one $B2$ above it.

It is interesting to compare the masses in the perturbative method, Fig. 5, with those here in the amoeba method. The behaviors of $M_{H'}$ in the two methods are radically different, increasing rapidly in both branches with a jump discontinuity at the transition in the first method, while decreasing to $M_{H_1} = 125$ GeV in the second. On the other hand, the behaviors of $M_{H_2}$ in the two methods are strikingly similar. In $B1$, it starts near 550 GeV, its maximum value in the second method, not far below its maximum of 700 GeV in the first one. Then, in both methods, it dives to well below or just below the right panel of Fig. 2.
\( M_{\tilde{H}_1} = 125 \text{ GeV} \) at the \( B1-B2 \) transition. In \( B2 \), \( M_{\tilde{H}_2} \) grows linearly with \( M_A = M_{\tilde{H}^\pm} \) in both methods. In the perturbative method calculation, \( M_A \) runs over the range 180–1100 GeV, but it is clear in Fig. 5 that the criteria for generating \( M_{\tilde{H}_1} \) and \( M_{\tilde{H}_2} \) are difficult to meet above \( M_A = 700 \text{ GeV} \). This is similar to the upper limit \( M_A = 600–700 \text{ GeV} \) in the region of stability of the two-loop potential in Fig. 6.

IV. Experimental consequences for the GW-2HDM in two loops

We have stressed that the only feasible way of testing the GW-2HDM (and similar GW models) in the foreseeable future is to discover or exclude its BSM Higgs bosons \( H_2, A, H^\pm \). As in the one-loop analysis, the overriding features of these bosons are (1) their low masses, well below 1 TeV, and (2) the high degree of alignment of the 125 GeV Higgs boson \( H \) and the related strong suppression of the BSM bosons’ couplings to \( W^+W^-, ZZ, W^\pm Z \) and \( ZH, W^\pm H \). Additional suppression in their production rates is due to the appearance in their Yukawa couplings of \( \tan \beta \approx 0.50 \) for \( M_{H^\pm} \lesssim 500 \text{ GeV} \). This section summarizes the BSM Higgs mass ranges found in our two-loop calculations, their couplings to electroweak gauge bosons and to quarks and leptons, and the searches we believe are likely to reveal, or exclude, the BSM Higgses.

The BSM masses obtained in our two-loop study are qualitatively similar to those found using the simple one-loop sum rule in Eq. (36) and, as we have discussed, for much the same reason, namely, the constraint on these masses from the requirement that \( M_H = 125 \text{ GeV} \). As explained in Sec. I, we require \( M_{H^\pm} \geq 180 \text{ GeV} \) and \( M_A = M_{H^\pm} \). Then, the physical (branch

\footnote{In this section, we use \( H \) and \( H_1 \) interchangeably because, as we saw in the amoeba method, only the lightest \( CP \)-even eigenvalue \( M_{H_1} = 125 \text{ GeV} \) is consistent with Higgs boson searches near and below that mass. We do not use \( H' \) and \( H_2 \) interchangeably because of their very different dependence on \( M_{A,H^\pm} \) in the perturbative method.}

\footnote{Earlier discussions of the BSM Higgs searches for masses in the one-loop approximation are in Refs. \[8, 10, 11\].}
Figure 11: The mass-dependent couplings of the 125-GeV Higgs boson $H$ to quarks, leptons and the $W$ and $Z$ determined by ATLAS \cite{27} and CMS \cite{28} from their full LHC Run 2 data sets. The lower panel in each figure is the ratio of the measured couplings to the Standard Model ones.

$B1)$ BSM mass ranges are (from Figs. 5,10):

\begin{align}
180 \text{ GeV} & \lesssim M_A = M_{H^\pm} \lesssim 380 \text{ GeV}, \\
700 \text{ GeV} & \gtrsim M_{H_2} \gtrsim 125 \text{ GeV} \quad (\text{perturbative method}); \\
290 \text{ GeV} & \lesssim M_A = M_{H^\pm} \lesssim 425 \text{ GeV}, \\
550 \text{ GeV} & \gtrsim M_{H_2} \gtrsim 125 \text{ GeV} \quad (\text{amoeba method}).
\end{align}

These ranges are correlated, with $M_{H_2}$ decreasing as $M_A = M_{H^\pm}$ increase. As in the one-loop analysis, $M_{H_2}$ decreases to unrealistically small values as $M_A = M_{H^\pm}$ increase to their maximum allowed ($M_A^*$) by the method used.

The degree of Higgs alignment is dramatically illustrated in Figs. 11. These are the full Run 2 determinations of the couplings of $H$ to quarks, leptons and weak bosons from ATLAS \cite{27} and CMS \cite{28}. All the measurements are within one standard deviation of the Standard Model prediction. From a theoretical point of view, the 125 GeV Higgs boson is either the lone “Higgs”
of the Standard Model \cite{29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35} or Higgs alignment \cite{2, 3, 4} is verified experimentally.

The allowed and strongly suppressed couplings in the GW-2HDM, are in the interaction $\mathcal{L}_{EW}$ of the Higgs bosons with the electroweak gauge bosons \cite{8}. Having found that the $H-H'$ mixing angle $\delta \lesssim O(10^{-2})$ through two-loop order, an excellent approximation to $\mathcal{L}_{EW}$ is obtained by putting $\sin \delta = 0$, $H = H_1$ and $H' = H_2$:

\[
\mathcal{L}_{EW} = ieH^{-}\overleftrightarrow{\partial}_{\mu}H^{+}(A^{\mu} + Z^{\mu}\cot\theta_{W}) + \frac{e}{\sin 2\theta_{W}}(H_2\overleftrightarrow{\partial}_{\mu}A)Z^{\mu} + \frac{ig}{2}\left(H^{+}\overleftrightarrow{\partial}_{\mu}(H_2 + iA)W^{-\mu} - H^{-}\overleftrightarrow{\partial}_{\mu}(H_2 - iA)W^{+\mu}\right) + H_1 \left(gM_W W^{+\mu}W^{-\mu} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{g^2 + g'^2}M_Z Z^{\mu}Z_{\mu}\right) + \left(H_1^2 + H_2^2 + A^2\right)\left(\frac{1}{8}g^2 W^{+\mu}W^{-\mu} + \frac{1}{8}(g^2 + g'^2)Z^{\mu}Z_{\mu}\right) + H^{+}H^{-}\left(e^2(A_{\mu} + Z_{\mu}\cot2\theta_{W})^2 + \frac{1}{3}g^2 W^{+\mu}W^{-\mu}\right),
\] (68)

where $\tan\theta_{W} = g'/g$ and $e = gg'/\sqrt{g^2 + g'^2}$. The negative results of LHC searches for the 2HDM Higgs bosons $H_2$, $A$ and $H^{\pm}$ are entirely consistent with Eq. (68); see \url{https://twiki.cern.ch/twiki/bin/view/AtlasPublic} and \url{https://cms-results.web.cern.ch/cms-results/public-results/publications}.

Another, less dramatic but possibly important, suppression due to $\tan\beta \lesssim 0.50$ is in the fermions' Yukawa interaction. Because of alignment and our choice in Eq. (4) of the type-I model for the GW-2HDM, all the BSM Higgs couplings to quarks and leptons are proportional to $\tan\beta$.

\[
\mathcal{L}_Y = \frac{\sqrt{2}\tan\beta}{v} \sum_{k,l=1}^{3} \left[H^{+}(\bar{u}_kL V_{kl} m_d d_R - \bar{u}_{kR} m_u V_{kl} d_L + m_{\ell_k} \bar{\nu}_{kL} \ell_{kR} \delta_{kl}) + h.c.\right] - \left(\frac{v + H_1 - H_2\tan\beta}{v}\right) \sum_{k=1}^{3} \left(m_{u_k} \bar{u}_k u_k + m_{d_k} \bar{d}_k d_k + m_{\ell_k} \bar{\nu}_{kL} \ell_{kR}\right) - \frac{iA\tan\beta}{v} \sum_{k=1}^{3} \left(m_{u_k} \bar{u}_k \gamma_5 u_k - m_{d_k} \bar{d}_k \gamma_5 d_k - m_{\ell_k} \bar{\nu}_{kL} \gamma_5 \ell_{kR}\right),
\] (69)
Figure 12: The gluon fusion cross sections for $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV at the LHC for single BSM Higgs production in the alignment limit ($\delta \to 0$) of the GW-2HDM [8]. The dependence on $\tan^2 \beta$ has been scaled out; both charged Higgs states are included in $pp \to \bar{t}bH^-$. 

where $V = U_L^\dagger D_L$ is the CKM matrix. The cross sections for gluon fusion (with $\tan^2 \beta$ scaled out) and for Drell-Yan production of the BSM bosons at the 13 TeV LHC are shown in Figs. 12 and 13. Except at low $M_A = M_{H^\pm}$ or $\tan \beta \lesssim 0.1$, the gluon fusion rates are typically $\gtrsim 100$ times larger than Drell-Yan ones.

Thus, the most common production processes of the BSM scalars in the GW-2HDM are:

\begin{align}
    gg & \to \bar{b}b \to \bar{t}bH^- + \text{c.c.}, \\
    gg & \to t\bar{t} \to H_2, A.
\end{align}

The process (71) may go through a top-quark loop or via on-shell tops with four top quarks in the final state if $M_{H_2}$ or $M_A > 2m_t$; both possibilities are
Figure 13: The Drell-Yan cross sections for $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV at the LHC for production of Higgs pairs in the alignment limit ($\delta \rightarrow 0$) \[8\]. They are independent of $\tan \beta$. $M_{H^\pm} = M_A$ is assumed, with $M_{H_2}$ taken from Eq.(36). The sharp increase at large $M_{H^\pm}$ is due to the rapid decrease of $M_{H_2}$ there. 

discussed below. The rate for the common search mode $gg \rightarrow H_2, A \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ via a top loop is suppressed by $\tan^2 \beta$ as well as having the usual small $\mathcal{O}(\alpha^2)$ branching ratio.

For the two-loop mass ranges in Eqs. (66, 67) the major BSM decay modes are\[^{32}\]

\begin{align*}
H^+ & \rightarrow t\bar{b}; & (72) \\
A & \rightarrow b\bar{b}, \tau^+\tau^-, t\bar{t}; & (73) \\
H_2 & \rightarrow \bar{b}b, \tau^+\tau^-, t\bar{t} \text{ and } ZA, W^\pm H^\mp. & (74)
\end{align*}

Since $M_A = M_{H^\pm}$ must be about 100 GeV greater than $M_{H_2}$ to enable the

\[^{32}\]The assumption $M_{H^\pm} = M_A$ precludes $A \rightarrow W^\pm H^\mp$. 

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decays $H^\pm \to W^\pm H_2$ and $A \to ZH_2$, they are forbidden in the two-loop mass ranges found with the perturbative method. In the amoeba method, these decays are allowed only for $M_{A,H^\pm} = 410-425$ GeV, with rates much smaller than $H^+ \to t\bar{t}$ and $A \to t\bar{t}$.\footnote{In the one-loop approximation, these decays are allowed, but only for $400$ GeV \textless $M_A = M_{H^\pm} \lessgtr 410$ GeV and for $M_{H_2} \gtrsim 450$ GeV \cite{10,11}. The decays $H_2 \to W^\pm H^\mp$ and $ZA$ with two-loop-masses are discussed below.}

We focus on three types of BSM Higgs production and decay:

1.) $gg \to H^\pm t\bar{t} \to t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$ and $gg \to H_2 \to W^\pm H^\mp \to W^\pm t\bar{t}$

There have been five searches for the first process relevant to the mass range of the GW-2HDM \cite{19,20,38,39,40}. The first of these was a CMS search at 8 TeV; the other four used 13 TeV data. Ref. \cite{39} is an ATLAS search using its full Run 2 data set of $139 \text{ fb}^{-1}$. Ref. \cite{40} is a CMS search using $35.9 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ of 13 TeV data taken in 2016; it is distinguished by having looked for the $t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$ final state in the all-jet mode.

The 8 TeV search by CMS \cite{19} was used in Ref. \cite{8} to set the limit $\tan \beta \lesssim 0.50$ for $180 \text{ GeV} < M_{H^\pm} < 500$ GeV. The searches at 13 TeV have not improved on this limit despite the larger data sets and, indeed, they have worse sensitivity at $M_{H^\pm} = 200-500$ GeV than the CMS 8-TeV result. For example, the limit on $\tan \beta$ for $M_{H^\pm} = 200-500$ GeV extracted from the ATLAS 139 fb$^{-1}$ data \cite{39} is $\tan \beta < 1.10 \pm 0.14$.\footnote{The reason for this disappointing outcome is the large $t\bar{t}$ background at low masses and the fact that it increases with collider energy faster than the signal.}

Given the payoff a significant improvement in the limit on $\tan \beta$ at low $M_{H^\pm}$ might have, we strongly urge ATLAS and CMS to find a way to improve the signal efficiency of this search. One possibility may be to use

$$gg \to H_2 \to W^\pm H^\mp.$$ (75)

Since $H^+$ decays to $t\bar{t}$, the final state in this mode, $W^+W^-b\bar{b}$, is the same as the near-threshold process above. But, because it occurs at a higher invariant mass, kinematic cuts taking advantage of
that may provide a better signal-to-background ratio. The $H_2$ decay rate is proportional to $p_W^3$ and, therefore, is sensitive to the available phase space. It quickly becomes dominant when $M_{H_2} \gtrsim 400 \text{ GeV}$ and the $W$ is longitudinally polarized.\footnote{Decays such as this one were discussed in the one-loop approximation of the GW-2HDM in Refs. \cite{10,41,11}.} In the perturbative calculation of the two-loop BSM masses practically the entire allowed range of $M_{H^\pm}$ is covered — from 180 GeV to 365 GeV, with $M_{H_2}$ ranging from 540 GeV up to 700 GeV and back down to 510 GeV. In the amoeba method, the allowed region is restricted to $M_{H^\pm} = 300$–350 GeV, with $M_{H_2} = 525 \text{ GeV}$ down to 450 GeV.\footnote{To our knowledge, this search has not been carried out; nor has one for $H_2 \to ZA \to \ell^+\ell^-t\bar{t}$. This decay has a more restricted allowed range; it is discussed below in item 3.}  

2.) $gg \to A/H_2 \to t\bar{t}$ and $gg \to t\bar{t} \to t\bar{t}A/H_2 \to t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$  

A search by CMS with 35.9 fb$^{-1}$ of data at 13 TeV for $\varphi = A/H_2 \to \ell\ell$ with low mass, 400 < $M_{A/H_2}$ < 750 GeV, is in Ref. \cite{42}. Gluon fusion production proceeds through a top loop, and the principal background is $gg \to \ell\ell$ near threshold. CMS presented model-independent constraints on the “coupling strength” $g_{\varphi t\bar{t}} = \lambda_{\varphi t\bar{t}}/(M_t/v)$ and for width-to-mass ratios $\Gamma_{\varphi}/M_\varphi = 0.5$–25%. In the GW-2HDM, $g_{\varphi t\bar{t}} = \tan \beta$. For the CP-odd case, $\varphi = A$, with 400 GeV < $M_A$ < 500 GeV and all $\Gamma_A/M_A$ considered, the region $\tan \beta < 0.50$ was not excluded.\footnote{The same appears to be true for $\varphi = H_2$ with $\Gamma_{H_2}/M_{H_2} \gtrsim 1\%$.} This is possibly due to an excess at 400 GeV that corresponds to a global (local) significance of 1.9 (3.5 ± 0.3) $\sigma$ for $\Gamma_A/M_A \simeq 4\%$. The CMS paper noted that higher-order electroweak corrections to SM $gg \to t\bar{t}$ threshold production may account for the excess and that further improvement in the theoretical description was needed. 

To ameliorate the effects of interference of the $gg \to A/H_2 \to t\bar{t}$ signal with SM $t\bar{t}$ production, CMS\footnote{For these data sets, the interference with SM four-top production was stated to be negligible. In this approach the experiments searched for a} and ATLAS\footnote{Both experiments used their full Run 2 data sets, 137 fb$^{-1}$ and 139 fb$^{-1}$.} searched for $gg \to t\bar{t}$ with $A/H_2$ radiated from one of the top-quarks and decaying to $t\bar{t}$. For these data sets, the interference with SM four-top production was stated to be negligible.
resonant $t\bar{t}$ excess in the four-top-quark data. They expressed 95% CL upper limits on the signal cross section times $B(A/H_2 \to t\bar{t})$ in terms of the type-II 2HDM of Ref. [12]. In that model, the coupling of $A$ and $H_2$ is proportional $M_t \cot \beta / v$, and the experiments converted the $\sigma \cdot B$ limits into lower limits on $\tan \beta$. In the GW-2HDM, these translate into upper limits on $\tan \beta$. For CMS they are $\tan \beta < 1.6$ (0.7) assuming $M_A = M_{H_2} = 400$ GeV (assuming only $H_2$ with $M_{H_2} = 600$ GeV); for ATLAS, they are $\tan \beta < 1.7$ (0.9) for $M_A = M_{H_2} = 400$ GeV ($M_{H_2} = 600$ GeV). These limits are much weaker than $\tan \beta < 0.50$ from the earlier CMS and ATLAS searches for $gg \rightarrow H^{\pm} t\bar{t}$. On the other hand, these four-top searches for a relatively low-mass $A$ or $H_2$ may benefit substantially from the High Luminosity LHC.

3.) $gg \rightarrow H_2 \rightarrow ZA$

There have been three published searches for $H_2 \rightarrow ZA$ with $ZA \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^- bb$, where $\ell = e$ or $\mu$: [43, 44, 45]. The latter ATLAS search updated the former one with the full Run 2 data set. As with $gg \rightarrow H_2 \rightarrow W^\pm H^\mp$, these $H_2$ decay rates are proportional to $p_Z^3$. They were discussed in the one-loop approximation and two comparisons to the GW-2HDM were presented in Refs. [10, 11]. Two examples were presented, one of which (with $M_{H_2} = 500$ GeV, $M_A = 300$ GeV and $\tan \beta = 0.50$) was excluded at the 95% CL in the newer ATLAS search.

Another approach, without the large $bb$ background, is to use $A \rightarrow t\bar{t}$. In the two-loop perturbative method, the region $M_A = 350$–365 GeV corresponds to $M_{H_2} = 630$ GeV down to 508 GeV and has substantial ($> 20\%$) branching ratios of $H_2 \rightarrow ZA$. In the amoeba method, there is no $M_{H_2} > M_A + 100$ TeV for which $M_A > 2M_t$. It’s worth a try; nothing ventured, nothing gained.

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37 See the note below Eq. (4) in Sec. I.
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