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The MSSM without gluinos; an effective field theory for the stop sector

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Abstract In this article we study the MSSM with stops and Higgs scalars much lighter than gluinos and squarks of the first two generations. In this setup, one should use an effective field theory with partial supersymmetry in which the gluino and heavy squarks are integrated out in order to connect SUSY parameters (given at a high scale) to observables in the stop sector. In the construction of this effective theory, valid below the gluino mass scale, we take into account \( O(\alpha_3) \) and \( O(Y^2_{t,b}) \) effects and calculate the matching as well as the renormalization group evolution. As a result, the running of the parameters for the stop sector is modified with respect to the full MSSM and SUSY relations between parameters are broken. We show that for some couplings sizable numerical differences exist between the effective field theory approach and the naive calculation based on the MSSM running.

1 Introduction

There are several theoretical arguments for a light stop in supersymmetric theories. Foremost, in natural supersymmetry (SUSY) light stops are required to cancel the quadratic divergence of the Higgs mass originating from the self-energy involving a top quark, while the other supersymmetric partners can be much heavier [1, 2] due to the smaller couplings to the Higgs. Moreover, the renormalization group equations (RGE) of the minimal supersymmetric standard model (MSSM) generically drive the bilinear mass term parameters of the third generation squarks to lower values (compared to the first two generations) due to their non-negligible Yukawa couplings [3–8].

Although the measured Higgs mass of around 125 GeV [9, 10] prefers rather heavy (around the TeV scale) [11–13] rather than light stops in the MSSM, this is not necessarily the case in the NMSSM [14], in \( \lambda \)SUSY models [15], models with light sneutrinos [16] or in supersymmetric models with additional D-term [17] or F-term [18] contributions to the scalar potential. Also large (or even maximal [19–21]) stop mixing angles help to get the right Higgs mass with rather light stops.

LHC searches for top squarks (using simplified models) set a lower bound on its mass of around \( m_{\tilde{t}_1} = 300 \) GeV, which however heavily depends on the neutralino mass. Depending on the stop and the neutralino mass, different decay modes are studied. For the decay channel \( \tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow t \tilde{\chi}^0_1 \) [22–24], the limits are quite stringent, even though for light neutralinos very light stops cannot be excluded due to the high \( t\bar{t} \)-background [25]. The three-body decay \( \tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow Wb\tilde{\chi}^0_1 \) was analyzed theoretically in [26] and experimentally in [27]. Finally the decay \( \tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow c \tilde{\chi}^0_1 \) and the less important four-body decay \( \tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow \tilde{\chi}^0_1 d, f \tilde{f}' \) are treated in [28–30] and constraints were derived by the ATLAS collaboration from the monojet analysis in [31]. Some bounds can be avoided in kinematic boundary regions or once non-minimal flavor violation is included. However, recently efforts of closing these gaps have been made [32–35] and stops should in general not be lighter than 300 GeV. Nevertheless, the mass bound for the stop is still weaker than the strong bounds on the squark masses of the first two generations and also on the gluino mass [36, 37]. For sbottom quarks LHC searches suggest masses of above 800 GeV [38, 39]. The bounds on sparticles with EW interactions only are much less stringent [40–44]. For example, in the case of heavy winos the Higgsino mass parameter \( \mu \) has only to be larger than 350 GeV [45]. It can be shown, however, that by changing the assumptions on the composition of charginos and neutralinos, collider limits can get even further weakened [46–49]. For the Higgs bosons, dif-
ferent fits [50–58] suggest an alignment limit, in which the lightest CP-even Higgs boson takes the role of the SM Higgs. Collider limits on non-SM Higgs bosons for large values of tan β suggest that CP-odd Higgs bosons should be heavier than 800 GeV [59,60].

If the gluino (or the squarks of the first two generations [2,61]) is much heavier than the stops, an effective theory (EFT) with partial SUSY must be constructed in which the gluino (squarks) is integrated out [62–64]. Such a hierarchy can for example be achieved for MSSM-like models in a Scherk–Schwarz breaking scenario [65–68]. The construction of the effective theory for the stop sector is the goal of this article. Assuming a common large mass of order \( M \) for the gluino and the squarks of the first two generations, we compute the matching condition between the full MSSM and the effective theory, including one-loop contributions which are enhanced by powers of \( \tan \beta \). The supersymmetric relations between \( \beta \)-terms and gauge interactions, and the dot denotes the contraction of \( SU(2) \) indices as discussed in [62,69–76] mainly for the gaugino–matter couplings.

This article is structured as follows: In the next section we establish our effective theory for the stop sector and calculate the matching as well as the running of the relevant parameters at order \( \alpha_3 = g_3^2/(4\pi) \), \( Y_f^2 \) and \( Y_f^2 \) (neglecting \( O(g_3^2) \), \( O(g_2^2) \) and Higgs self-coupling effects). This section is followed by a numerical analysis in Sect. 3. Finally we conclude in Sect. 4.

2 The effective theory for the stop sector

The aim of this section is to construct the effective theory for the MSSM stop sector, including \( O(\alpha_3, Y_{t,b}^2) \) and enhanced effects. As noted before, we assume that the gluino and the squarks of the first two generations are much heavier, with masses of the order \( M \), than the stops, the Higgs scalars and the Higgsinos. The left-handed sbottom is also assumed to be light such that it remains in the effective theory, forming an \( SU(2) \) multiplet with the left-handed stop. However, we assume that the right-handed sbottom is heavy, with the mass of the order \( M \). Therefore, we consider the following effective Lagrangian which is valid below the scale \( M \):

\[
\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = \mathcal{L}_K - m_{\tilde{t}_R}^2 H_u^\dagger H_u - m_{\tilde{b}_R}^2 H_d^\dagger H_d - V (H_u, H_d)
\]

\[+m_{12}^2 H_d^\dagger H_u - \bar{\mu} H_u \cdot \bar{H}_D + (\text{h.c.})\]

\[+m_{12}^2 H_u H_u - \tilde{\mu} H_d \cdot \tilde{H}_D + (\text{h.c.})\]

\[+m_{12}^2 H_d H_d - \bar{\lambda}_3 (\tilde{q}_{\tilde{l}}^\dagger \tilde{q}_{\tilde{l}} H_u) - \lambda_3^L (\tilde{q}_{\tilde{l}}^L H_u) - \lambda_3^R (\tilde{q}_{\tilde{l}}^R H_u)(H_u^\dagger \tilde{q}_{\tilde{l}})\]

with partial supersymmetry. Here \( \mathcal{L}_K \) denotes the kinetic terms and gauge interactions, and \( V (H_u, H_d) \) denotes the quartic couplings of the Higgs doublets (\( H_u, H_d \)). For the interactions involving four squarks, the \( SU(3) \) color indices are contracted within the parentheses. Similarly, the \( SU(2) \) indices in the two-squark–two-Higgs interactions are contracted within the parentheses. \( i, j \) are the \( SU(2) \) indices and the dot denotes the contraction of \( SU(2) \) indices as \( A \cdot B = A_1 B_2 - A_2 B_1 \). For simplicity, we also assume that the electroweak gauginos and sleptons are heavy. However, since we neglect \( O(g_3^2) \), \( O(g_2^2) \) effects in the following, relaxing this assumption would leave our RGs unchanged. We also ignore the non-holomorphic Higgs–quark couplings \( \tilde{t}_R H_d^\dagger \tilde{q}_{3L} \) and \( \tilde{b}_R H_u^\dagger \tilde{q}_{3L} \), which are induced at the loop level [77–84].

2.1 Tree-level matching

At the matching scale \( M \) the Lagrangian of Eq. (1) has to be compared to the one of the full MSSM (see for example [85–88]) which originates from the superpotential

\[W = Y_t T^c Q \cdot H_u + Y_b B^c H_d \cdot Q + \mu H_u \cdot H_d, \]

the soft SUSY breaking terms

\[V_{\text{soft}} = m_{\tilde{q}_{\tilde{l}}}^2 \tilde{q}_{\tilde{l}}^\dagger \tilde{q}_{\tilde{l}} + m_{\tilde{t}_R}^2 \tilde{t}_R^\dagger \tilde{t}_R + m_{\tilde{b}_R}^2 \tilde{b}_R^\dagger \tilde{b}_R\]

\[+m_{12}^2 H_u^\dagger H_u + m_{12}^2 \tilde{b}_R^\dagger \tilde{b}_R\]

\[+A_i \tilde{t}_R^\dagger \tilde{q}_{3L} \cdot H_u + A_b \tilde{b}_R^\dagger H_d \cdot \tilde{q}_{3L}\]

\[+m_{12}^2 H_d H_d \cdot H_u + (\text{h.c.}), \]

and the \( D \) terms

\[V_D = \frac{g_2^2}{2} (\tilde{q}_{\tilde{l}}^\dagger T^A \tilde{q}_{\tilde{l}} - \tilde{t}_R^\dagger T^A \tilde{t}_R - \tilde{b}_R^\dagger T^A \tilde{b}_R)^2, \]

where \( T^A \) are the generators of \( SU(3) \) in the fundamental representation.

The matching conditions for the bilinear terms and the trilinear couplings are

\[\tilde{Y}_t = Y_t, \quad \tilde{Y}_b = Y_b, \quad \tilde{Y}_{q_{3L}} = Y_{q_{3L}}.\]
\( \tilde{Y}_{t,R} = Y_t, \quad \tilde{Y}_{b,R} = Y_b, \quad \tilde{A}_t = A_t, \)
\[ (5) \]
\( \tilde{m}_2 = m_H^2 + \mu^2, \)
\[ (6) \]
\( \tilde{m}_1^2 = m_{H^0}^2 + \mu^2, \)
\[ (7) \]

The couplings between squarks and Higgs bosons are generated by F- and D-terms in the MSSM Lagrangian. At the scale \( M \), they are given by
\[ \lambda_1^u = Y_t^2, \quad \lambda_2^u = -Y_t^2, \quad \lambda_3^u = Y_t^2, \]  
\[ (8) \]
\[ \lambda_1^d = Y_b^2, \quad \lambda_2^d = -Y_b^2, \quad \lambda_3^d = 0, \]  
\[ (9) \]
\[ \lambda_4 = -\frac{1}{2} g_3^2, \quad \lambda_5 = \frac{1}{4} g_3^2, \quad \lambda_6 = \frac{1}{6} g_3^2, \]  
\[ (10) \]
\[ \lambda_7 = -\frac{1}{2} g_3^2 + Y_t^2, \quad \lambda_8 = \frac{1}{6} g_3^2, \]  
\[ (11) \]
keeping only Yukawa couplings and \( g_3 \).

### 2.2 One-loop matching

For the matching, we need to include the one-loop effects enhanced by powers of \( M \) since their contributions may be comparable to the tree level ones shown in the previous subsection. They can only appear in bilinear and trilinear terms, as seen by dimensional analysis. The bilinear terms receive the following shifts at the matching scale \( \mu_R = M \):
\[ \Delta \tilde{m}_2^2 = 0, \]
\[ \Delta \tilde{m}_1^2 = -\frac{3}{16 \pi^2} (Y_b^2 m_{b,R}^2 + A_{b,R}^2) \left( 1 - \log \left( \frac{m_{b,R}^2}{M^2} \right) \right), \]  
\[ (12) \]
\[ \Delta \tilde{m}_2^2 = -\frac{1}{16 \pi^2} (Y_b^2 m_{b,R}^2 + A_{b,R}^2) \left( 1 - \log \left( \frac{m_{b,R}^2}{M^2} \right) \right) + \frac{\alpha_3 C_F}{\pi} m_R^2 \left( 1 - \log \left( \frac{m_R^2}{M^2} \right) \right), \]  
\[ (13) \]
\[ \Delta \tilde{m}_1^2 = \frac{\alpha_3 C_F}{\pi} m_R^2 \left( 1 - \log \left( \frac{m_R^2}{M^2} \right) \right), \]  
\[ (14) \]
\[ \Delta \tilde{m}_{12}^2 = -\frac{3 A_{b,R} Y_b}{16 \pi^2} \left( 1 - \log \left( \frac{m_{b,R}^2}{M^2} \right) \right), \]  
\[ (15) \]
\[ \Delta \tilde{m}_1 = 0. \]  
\[ (16) \]

For the trilinear term the shift reads
\[ \Delta \tilde{A}_t = -\frac{A_b Y_t Y_b}{16 \pi^2} \left( 1 - \log \left( \frac{m_{b,R}^2}{M^2} \right) \right), \]
\[ -\frac{\alpha_3 C_F}{\pi} m_R Y_t \left( 1 - \log \left( \frac{m_R^2}{M^2} \right) \right), \]
\[ (17) \]
\[ \Delta \tilde{\mu}_t = 0. \]  
\[ (18) \]

All the other parameters relevant for the stop sector are dimensionless and therefore do not receive any \( M \) enhanced corrections.

### 2.3 Renormalization group evolution

The running of the full MSSM parameters [3–7] is known at the two-loop level \([8, 89–92]\). Here we give the one-loop beta functions to \( \mathcal{O}(\alpha_3, Y_{t,b}^2) \) for the parameters of our effective theory in Eq. (1). The corresponding results for the full MSSM are summarized in the appendix. For the strong coupling constant we have \((t \equiv \log \mu_R, \text{where} \mu_R \text{denotes the renormalization scale})\)
\[ 16 \pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} \tilde{g}_3 = \left( -7 + \frac{1}{2} \right) \tilde{g}_3^3, \]  
\[ (19) \]
where the first term on the right hand side is the SM contribution. The effective quark–quark–Higgs Yukawa couplings evolve according to
\[ 16 \pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} \tilde{Y}_t = \tilde{Y}_t \left[ -8 \tilde{g}_3^2 + \frac{9}{2} Y_t^2 + \frac{1}{2} Y_b^2 + \tilde{Y}_{t,R} + \frac{1}{2} \tilde{Y}_{t,q_{3L}} \right], \]  
\[ (20) \]
\[ 16 \pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} \tilde{Y}_b = \tilde{Y}_b \left[ -8 \tilde{g}_3^2 + \frac{1}{2} Y_t^2 + \frac{9}{2} Y_b^2 + \tilde{Y}_{b,R} + \frac{1}{2} \tilde{Y}_{b,q_{3L}} \right], \]  
\[ (21) \]
while the evolution of the ones entering the Higgsino–quark–squark vertex is determined by
\[ 16 \pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} \tilde{Y}_{t,q_{3L}} = \tilde{Y}_{t,q_{3L}} \left[ -4 \tilde{g}_3^2 + \frac{3}{2} Y_t^2 + \frac{7}{2} Y_b^2 + \frac{7}{2} \tilde{Y}_{t,R} + \frac{3}{2} \tilde{Y}_{t,q_{3L}} \right], \]  
\[ (22) \]
\[ 16 \pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} \tilde{Y}_{b,q_{3L}} = \tilde{Y}_{b,q_{3L}} \left[ -4 \tilde{g}_3^2 + \frac{3}{2} Y_t^2 + \frac{7}{2} Y_b^2 + \frac{7}{2} \tilde{Y}_{b,R} + \frac{3}{2} \tilde{Y}_{b,q_{3L}} \right], \]  
\[ (24) \]
For the Higgs mass parameters we find
\[ 16 \pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} \tilde{m}_2^2 = 6 \tilde{Y}_t^2 \tilde{m}_2^2 + 6 \left( \lambda_1^u + \lambda_2^u \right) \tilde{m}_2^2 \]  
+ 6 \lambda_3^u \tilde{m}_2^2 + 6 \tilde{A}_t^2, \]  
\[ (25) \]
\[ 16 \pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} \tilde{m}_1^2 = 6 \tilde{Y}_b^2 \tilde{m}_1^2 + 6 \left( \lambda_1^d + \lambda_2^d \right) \tilde{m}_1^2 \]  
+ 6 \lambda_3^d \tilde{m}_1^2 + 6 \tilde{A}_t^2, \]  
\[ (26) \]
\[ 16 \pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} \tilde{m}_{12}^2 = 3 \left( \tilde{Y}_t^2 + \tilde{Y}_b^2 \right) \tilde{m}_{12}^2 + 6 \tilde{\mu}_t \tilde{A}_t, \]  
\[ (27) \]
and for the bilinear squark mass terms
\[
16\pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} \tilde{m}_Q^2 = \left[-8\tilde{g}_3^2 + 2\tilde{Y}_{ir}^2 + 2\tilde{Y}_{br}^2 + 28\lambda_4 + 20\lambda_5\right]\tilde{m}_Q^2 \\
+ (6\lambda_6 + 2\lambda_7)\tilde{m}_Q^2 \\
+ (4\lambda_6^2 + 2\lambda_7^2)\tilde{m}_Q^2 + (4\lambda_6^2 + 2\lambda_7^2)\tilde{m}_Q^2 \\
+ 2(\tilde{A}_t^2 + \tilde{m}_t^2) - 4(\tilde{Y}_{ir}^2 + \tilde{Y}_{br}^2)\mu_t^2. 
\tag{28}
\]

16\pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} \tilde{m}_I^2 = \left[-8\tilde{g}_3^2 + 4\tilde{Y}_{qil}^2 + 16\lambda_5\right]\tilde{m}_I^2 \\
+ (12\lambda_6 + 4\lambda_7)\tilde{m}_I^2 \\
+ 4\lambda_6^2\tilde{m}_I^2 + 4\lambda_7^2\tilde{m}_I^2 + 4(\tilde{A}_t^2 + \tilde{m}_t^2) \\
- 8\tilde{Y}_{qil}^2\tilde{m}_I^2. 
\tag{29}

The Higgsino mass in the effective theory evolves as
\[
16\pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} \tilde{\mu} = 3\left(\tilde{Y}_{qil}^2 + \tilde{Y}_{ir}^2 + \tilde{Y}_{br}^2\right)\tilde{\mu}, 
\tag{30}
\]
and the effective trilinear $Hq\bar{q}$ coupling as
\[
16\pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} \tilde{A}_t = \tilde{A}_t[-8\tilde{g}_3^2 + 2\tilde{Y}_{qil}^2 + \tilde{Y}_{ir}^2 + \tilde{Y}_{br}^2 + 3\tilde{Y}_t^2 \\
+ 2\lambda_6 + 2\lambda_7 + 2\lambda_8 + 6\lambda_6]. 
\tag{31}
\]

16\pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} \tilde{\mu}_t = \tilde{\mu}_t[-8\tilde{g}_3^2 + 2\tilde{Y}_{qil}^2 + \tilde{Y}_{ir}^2 + \tilde{Y}_{br}^2 + 3\tilde{Y}_t^2 \\
+ 2\lambda_6 + 2\lambda_7 + 2\lambda_8 + 6\lambda_6]. 
\tag{32}

Finally for the quartic $HHq\bar{q}$ and $q\bar{q}q\bar{q}$ couplings one obtains
\[
16\pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} \lambda_1^u = 4(\lambda_4^u)^2 + 2(\lambda_5^u)^2 + 28\lambda_6^u\lambda_4 + 20\lambda_7^u\lambda_5 \\
+ 12\lambda_4^u\lambda_6 + 4\lambda_5^u\lambda_6 + 6\lambda_6^u\lambda_6 \\
+ 2\lambda_7^u\lambda_7 + (-8\tilde{g}_3^2 + 6\tilde{Y}_t^2 + 2\tilde{Y}_{ir}^2 + 2\tilde{Y}_{br}^2)\lambda_1^u \\
- 4\tilde{Y}_{qil}^2\tilde{Y}_t^2, 
\tag{33}
\]

16\pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} \lambda_2^u = 8\lambda_4^u\lambda_2^u + 4(\lambda_3^u)^2 + 4\lambda_5^u\lambda_4 + 12\lambda_5^u\lambda_5 \\
+ (-8\tilde{g}_3^2 + 6\tilde{Y}_t^2 + 2\tilde{Y}_{ir}^2 + 2\tilde{Y}_{br}^2)\lambda_2^u, 
\tag{34}
\]

16\pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} \lambda_3^u = 12\lambda_4^u\lambda_6 + 6\lambda_5^u\lambda_6 + 4\lambda_6^u\lambda_7 + 2\lambda_7^u\lambda_7 \\
+ 4(\lambda_3^u)^2 + 16\lambda_4^u\lambda_8 \\
+ (-8\tilde{g}_3^2 + 6\tilde{Y}_t^2 + 4\tilde{Y}_{qil}^2)\lambda_3^u - 4\tilde{Y}_{qil}^2\tilde{Y}_t^2, 
\tag{35}
\]

16\pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} \lambda_1^d = 4(\lambda_4^d)^2 + 2(\lambda_5^d)^2 + 28\lambda_6^d\lambda_4 + 20\lambda_7^d\lambda_5 \\
+ 12\lambda_4^d\lambda_6 + 4\lambda_5^d\lambda_6 + 6\lambda_6^d\lambda_6 \\
+ 2\lambda_7^d\lambda_7 + (-8\tilde{g}_3^2 + 6\tilde{Y}_t^2 + 2\tilde{Y}_{ir}^2 + 2\tilde{Y}_{br}^2)\lambda_1^d \\
- 4\tilde{Y}_{qil}^2\tilde{Y}_t^2, 
\tag{36}
\]

16\pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} \lambda_2^d = 8\lambda_4^d\lambda_2^d + 4(\lambda_3^d)^2 + 4\lambda_5^d\lambda_4 + 12\lambda_5^d\lambda_5 \\
+ (-8\tilde{g}_3^2 + 6\tilde{Y}_t^2 + 2\tilde{Y}_{ir}^2 + 2\tilde{Y}_{br}^2)\lambda_2^d. 
\tag{37}

Note that in all equations above we assumed real parameters. However, all formula can easily be generalized to the complex case by simply replacing a square by the absolute value squared.

By integrating these RGEs from $M$ to the stop mass scale $m_t$, we obtain the $O(\alpha_3, Y_{t,b})$ contributions enhanced by log($M/m_t$).

### 2.4 Stop masses

In the effective theory, the stop mass matrix in the $(\tilde{t}_L, \tilde{t}_R)$ basis reads
\[
\Delta\tilde{m}_t^2 = \begin{pmatrix}
\tilde{m}_Q^2 + v_u\tilde{Y}_{uL}^2 + v_d\tilde{Y}_{dL}^2 + v_u\tilde{A}_t^2 - v_d\tilde{\mu}_t^2 \\
\tilde{m}_I^2 + v_u\tilde{Y}_{uL}^2 + v_d\tilde{Y}_{dL}^2
\end{pmatrix},
\tag{44}
\]
where \( v_u, d = \langle H_u, d \rangle \) are the vacuum expectation values of the Higgs scalars. By diagonalizing this matrix one obtains the stop masses and the stop mixing angle, both in the \( \overline{\text{MS}} \) scheme. These masses are closely related to the left-handed sbottom mass,

\[
M_{\tilde{b}_L}^2 = M_0^2 + v^2_u (\lambda_1^u + \lambda_2^u) + v^2_d \lambda_4^d, \tag{45}
\]

by \( SU(2) \) gauge symmetry.

### 3 Numerical analysis

From the previous analysis, we can see that, by integrating out the gluino and the squarks of the first two generations, parameters which were originally related via SUSY in the full MSSM, do not evolve anymore in the same way in the EFT. Let us illustrate this effect with two examples where striking differences between the EFT approach and

- The top Yukawa coupling \( Y_t \)

In the full MSSM, the Yukawa coupling \( Y_t \) of the superpotential enters top–top-Higgs, stop–stop-Higgs couplings as well as stop–squark–Higgsino couplings in the same way. However, in the EFT these couplings are independent quantities and they evolve differently below the scale \( M \). This is depicted in Fig. 1, where the evolution of \( Y_t \) line shows the projected evolution of \( \lambda_8 \) for the boundary condition \( \lambda_8(M) = \frac{1}{6}g_3^2 \) with the naive RGE of the full MSSM. Note that above the scale \( M \) SUSY is restored, \( \lambda_8 = \frac{1}{6}g_3^2 \) and evolves like \( g_3^2 \) in the full MSSM
in the naive approach using MSSM RGE is compared to those of $Y_1$, $Y_{q_3 L}$, $Y_{t_R}$ and $Y_{t_R}$ $\equiv \tilde{\mu}/\tilde{\mu}$ in the EFT. When the values of $Y_1$ and $Y_t$ are determined at the stop mass scale to give the SM running top mass, their values at the scale $M$ are quite different. Note that these couplings are dimensionless and therefore do not depend on the choice of the parameters for $\tilde{m}_t$, $\tilde{m}_0$ and $\tilde{A}_t$.

- The quartic coupling of right-handed stops $\lambda_8$

In the full MSSM the quartic coupling of right-handed stops $\lambda_8$ is given by $\frac{1}{2} g_3^2$ by SUSY relation and evidently also evolves in the same way as $\frac{1}{2} g_3^2$. However, in the EFT $\lambda_8$ and $\tilde{g}_3^2$ follow different RGEs below the scale $M$, as seen in Fig. 2. The relative difference at the scale $m_t$ amounts to roughly 30%. Again, since $\lambda_8$ has no mass dimension, its running does not depend on $\tilde{m}_t$, $\tilde{m}_0$ and $\tilde{A}_t$.

Among the quartic scalar couplings $\lambda_{1-8}$, the running of $\lambda_8$ in the EFT exhibits the largest deviation from the one in the full theory. This is due to symmetry factors, leading to large coefficients of the box diagrams and self-couplings which are responsible for a change in sign on the $g_3^2$-dependence. The deviations of the other couplings $\lambda_{1-7}$ from the ones in the full theory are either positive or negative, but are smaller than 20% for our parameter set. We therefore do not show the figures of their running here.

4 Conclusions

In this article, we constructed an effective theory of the stop sector obtained from the full MSSM by integrating out the first and second generation of squarks and the gluino (which we assume to have a common mass of the order $M$). We computed the matching effects for the dimensionful quantities which are enhanced by powers of $M$ at $O(\alpha_3, Y^2_{t,b})$. In addition, we obtained the complete $O(\alpha_3, Y^2_{t,b})$ RGEs of the couplings within the EFT. In the numerical analysis we highlighted that couplings which are related via SUSY identities within the full MSSM have different RGEs within the EFT, which can lead to sizable differences. We illustrated this effect for the top Yukawa couplings and the quartic coupling of right-handed stops, finding differences up to 30% between the EFT and the naive approach. Such deviations could play a role in a future test of the stop–stop or stop-Higgs interactions which also enter the calculation of the Higgs mass.

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Appendix

RGEs of the full MSSM

Here we recall the RGEs of the parameters in the full MSSM, again taking into account $O(\alpha_3)$ and $O(Y^2_{t,b})$ effects. We have

$$16\pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} g_3 = -3g_3^3,$$  \hspace{1cm} (46)

$$16\pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} Y_t = Y_t \left[ -\frac{16}{3} g_3^2 + 6Y_t^2 + Y_b^2 \right],$$  \hspace{1cm} (47)

$$16\pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} Y_b = Y_b \left[ -\frac{16}{3} g_3^2 + Y_t^2 + 6Y_b^2 \right],$$  \hspace{1cm} (48)

$$16\pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} m_{H_d} = 6(Y_t^2 (m_{H_d}^2 + m_{\tilde{Q}}^2 + m_{\tilde{\tau}}^2) + A_t^2),$$  \hspace{1cm} (49)

$$16\pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} m_{H_u} = 6(Y_b^2 (m_{H_d}^2 + m_{\tilde{\tau}}^2 + m_{b_R}^2) + A_b^2),$$  \hspace{1cm} (50)

$$16\pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} m_{H_d}^2 = 3(Y_t^2 + Y_b^2) m_{H_d}^2 + 6(Y_t A_t + Y_b A_b) \mu,$$  \hspace{1cm} (51)

$$16\pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} m_{\tilde{Q}}^2 = -\frac{32}{3} g_3^2 m_{\tilde{Q}}^2 + 2Y_t^2 (m_{Q}^2 + m_{H_u}^2 + m_{\tilde{\tau}}^2) + 2Y_b^2 (m_{\tilde{\tau}}^2 + m_{H_d}^2 + m_{b_R}^2) + 2(A_t^2 + A_b^2),$$  \hspace{1cm} (52)

$$16\pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} m_{\tilde{t}}^2 = -\frac{32}{3} g_3^2 m_{\tilde{t}}^2 + 4Y_t^2 (m_{\tilde{Q}}^2 + m_{\tilde{\tau}}^2 + m_{H_u}^2) + 4A_t^2,$$  \hspace{1cm} (53)

$$16\pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} m_{\tilde{b}}^2 = -\frac{32}{3} g_3^2 m_{\tilde{b}}^2 + 4Y_b^2 (m_{\tilde{\tau}}^2 + m_{H_d}^2 + m_{b_R}^2) + 4A_b^2,$$  \hspace{1cm} (54)

$$16\pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} \mu = 3(Y_t + Y_b) \mu,$$  \hspace{1cm} (55)

$$16\pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} A_t = A_t \left[ -\frac{16}{3} g_3^2 + 18Y_t^2 + Y_b^2 \right] + 2Y_t Y_b A_b + \frac{32}{3} g_3^2 \tilde{\mu}_t,$$  \hspace{1cm} (56)

$$16\pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} A_b = A_b \left[ -\frac{16}{3} g_3^2 + Y_t^2 + 18Y_b^2 \right] + 2Y_t Y_b A_t + \frac{32}{3} g_3^2 \tilde{\mu}_b,$$  \hspace{1cm} (57)

$$16\pi^2 \frac{d}{dt} \tilde{m}_g = -6g_3^2 \tilde{m}_g.$$  \hspace{1cm} (58)

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