

Charge Breaking Minima in the NMSSM

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Based on [arXiv:1703.05329](https://arxiv.org/abs/1703.05329)
with M. E. Krauss & F. Staub



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Motivation

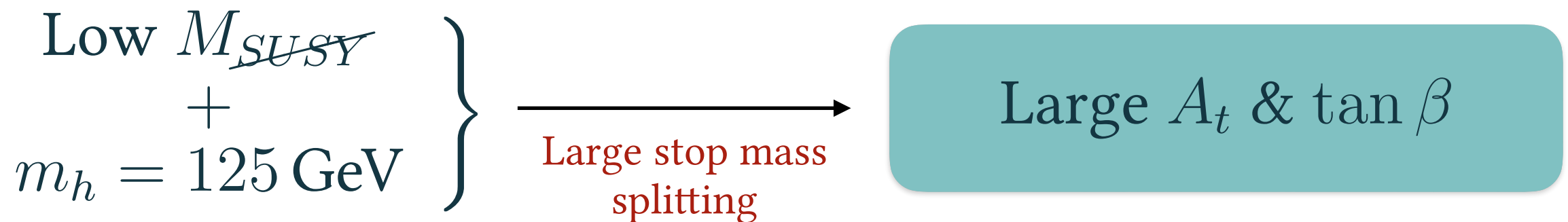
When the MSSM simply isn't enough

Stability of the electroweak vacuum disfavors low-scale supersymmetry breaking in the MSSM

Hollik (2016)

Camargo-Molina, Garbrecht, O'Leary, Porod, Staub (2014)

and many more....



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Toy Example: consider a D-flat direction
with stop VEVs: $v_u = v_{\tilde{t}_L^r} = v_{\tilde{t}_R^r}$

$$V_{\text{tree}} \propto (\text{soft-mass})^2 v_X^2 + A_t v_X^3 + |Y_t|^2 v_X^4$$

Drives minima
away from origin

Warning:
Approach is
overly
simplistic

Two Higgs Doublet Models

What are the physical VEVs?

CP-even and -odd scalar fields

$$H_u^0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [v_u e^{i\varphi_u} + \dots]$$

$$H_d^0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [v_d e^{i\varphi_d} + \dots]$$

$$H_u^+ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [v_p e^{i\varphi_p} + \dots]$$

$$H_d^- = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [v_m e^{i\varphi_m} + \dots]$$

Charged Higgs fields

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Eliminate VEVs through:

(i) $SU(2)_L$ Rotation

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Can remove either

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Charged Higgs fields

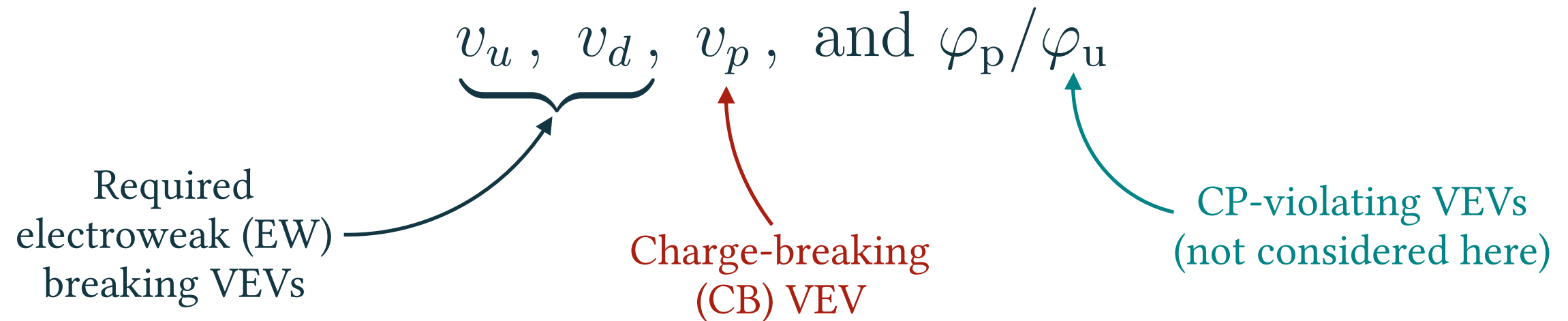
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Physical VEVs: v_u , v_d , v_p , and φ_p/φ_u

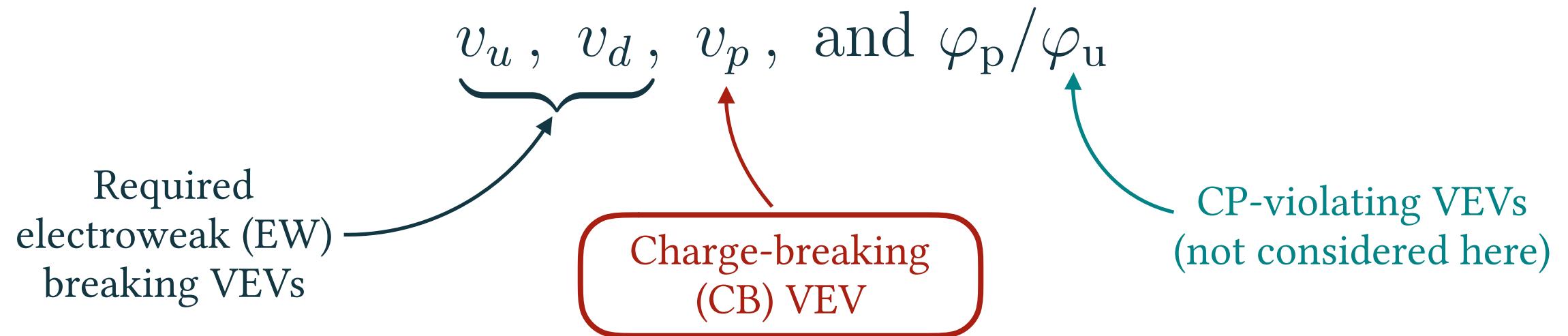
Two Higgs Doublet Models

Possible symmetry breaking minima



Two Higgs Doublet Models

Possible symmetry breaking minima



Shown in THDMs:

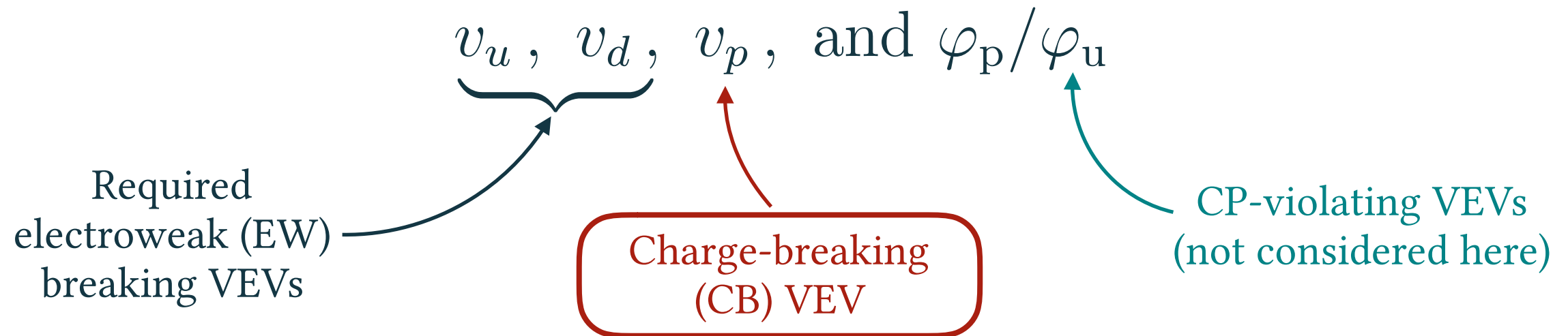
Barroso, Ferreira, Santos (2014 & 2015)

$$V_{\text{tree}}^{\text{CB}} - V_{\text{tree}}^{\text{EW}} > 0 \quad \Rightarrow$$

If an electroweak breaking vacuum exists then any possible charge-breaking vacuum will always be shallower

Two Higgs Doublet Models

Possible symmetry breaking minima



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Does not hold for further extended Higgs sectors

What about the NMSSM?

The role of the singlet

$$W_{\text{NMSSM}} = \lambda \hat{S} \hat{H}_u \hat{H}_d + \frac{1}{3} \kappa \hat{S}^3 + W_Y$$

 New F-term tree-level contributions to Higgs mass

MSSM vacuum structure plus:

$$\langle S \rangle = \frac{v_S}{\sqrt{2}} \quad \Longrightarrow \quad \mu_{\text{eff}} = \frac{\lambda v_S}{\sqrt{2}}$$

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problem ameliorated?

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But also new soft-terms in the game

$$-V_{\text{soft}} = \left(\overset{T_\lambda = \lambda A_\lambda}{T_\lambda H_u H_d S} + \frac{1}{3} \overset{T_\kappa = \kappa A_\kappa}{T_\kappa S^3} + \text{h.c.} \right) + m_S^2 |S|^2 + \dots$$

New non-trivial vacuum
stability constraints

Ellwanger, Rausch de Traubenberg, Savoy (1997)
Ellwanger, Hugonie (1999)
Kanehata, Kobayashi, Konishi, Seto, Shimomura (2011)
Kobayashi, Shimomura, Takahashi (2012)
Agashe, Cui, Franceschini (2012)
Beuria, Chattopadhyay, Datta, Dey (2016)

Charge-breaking VEVs

Determining coexisting vacua

Large A-terms not required: neglect stop & sbottom VEVs

Here we consider 5 VEVs: v_u, v_d, v_S, v_p, v_m

Similar analysis appeared yesterday:
Beuria, Datta (2017)

can rotate this
VEV away



Charge-breaking VEVs

Determining coexisting vacua

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Quick Recap:

1. Minimise potential w.r.t desired EW VEVs: v_u, v_d, v_S

Allows soft-masses to
be eliminated for other
input parameters

$m_{H_u}^2, m_{H_d}^2, m_S^2$
 $(\mu_{\text{eff}})_{\text{min}}, \tan \beta_{\text{min}}, v_{\text{min}}$



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2. Re-minimise potential now w.r.t *all* VEVs

Determines all additional minima that *coexist*
with desired EW-breaking minimum

Tree-Level Potential

A first glance

$$\Delta V = V_{\text{tree}} - V_{\text{tree}}|_{v_m=v_p=0}$$

$\tan \beta \rightarrow 1$
 $v_m \rightarrow 0$

$$= \frac{1}{32} v_p^2 \left(g_2^2 (2v_d^2 - 2v^2 + v_p^2 + 2v_u^2) - 16\mu_{\text{eff}}^2 + 8\lambda^2 v_S^2 \right. \\ \left. + g_1^2 (v_p^2 - 2v_d^2 + 2v_u^2) + 8m_{H^+}^2 \right)$$

Expect deeper CB minima

Tree-Level Potential

F-flat directions

F-flat direction including CB VEVs: $v_m = v_u$, $v_p = v_d$, $v_S = 0$

Note: no *F*-flat directions when excluding CB VEVs

$$V(x_{\min}^{\text{CB}}) = -\frac{(-4A_\lambda\lambda\mu_{\text{eff}} + 4\mu_{\text{eff}}^2(\lambda - \kappa) + \lambda^3v^2)^2}{8g_2^2\lambda^2}$$

$$x^{\text{CB}} = \sqrt{v_d^2 + v_u^2 + v_m^2 + v_p^2}$$

Condition for positive mass squared of charged Higgs:

$$0 < \frac{1}{4}v^2 (g_2^2 - 2\lambda^2) + 2\frac{\kappa}{\lambda}\mu_{\text{eff}}^2 + 2\mu_{\text{eff}}A_\lambda$$

CB minima occur for:

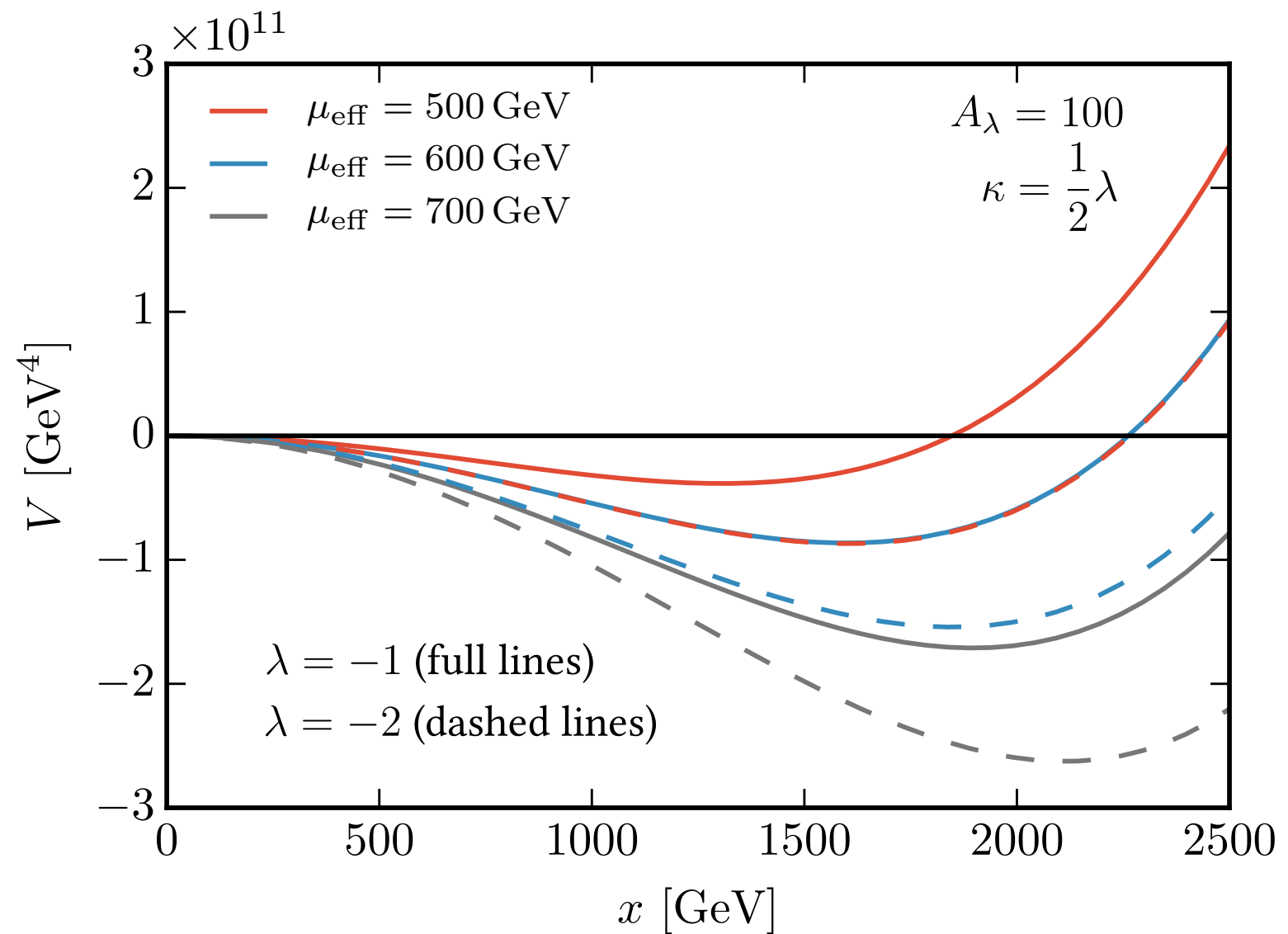
- $|\lambda|$ and $|\mu_{\text{eff}}|$ are large
- $|\kappa/\lambda| < 1$ with $\text{sign}(\kappa) = \text{sign}(\lambda)$
- $|A_\lambda/\mu_{\text{eff}}| < 1$
- $\text{sign}(A_\kappa) = -\text{sign}(\mu_{\text{eff}})$

Tree-Level Potential

F-flat directions

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Increasing μ_{eff} increases depth but drives minima further away

$$x \text{ [GeV]} = \sqrt{v_d^2 + v_u^2 + v_m^2 + v_p^2}$$

Tree-Level Potential

Other directions

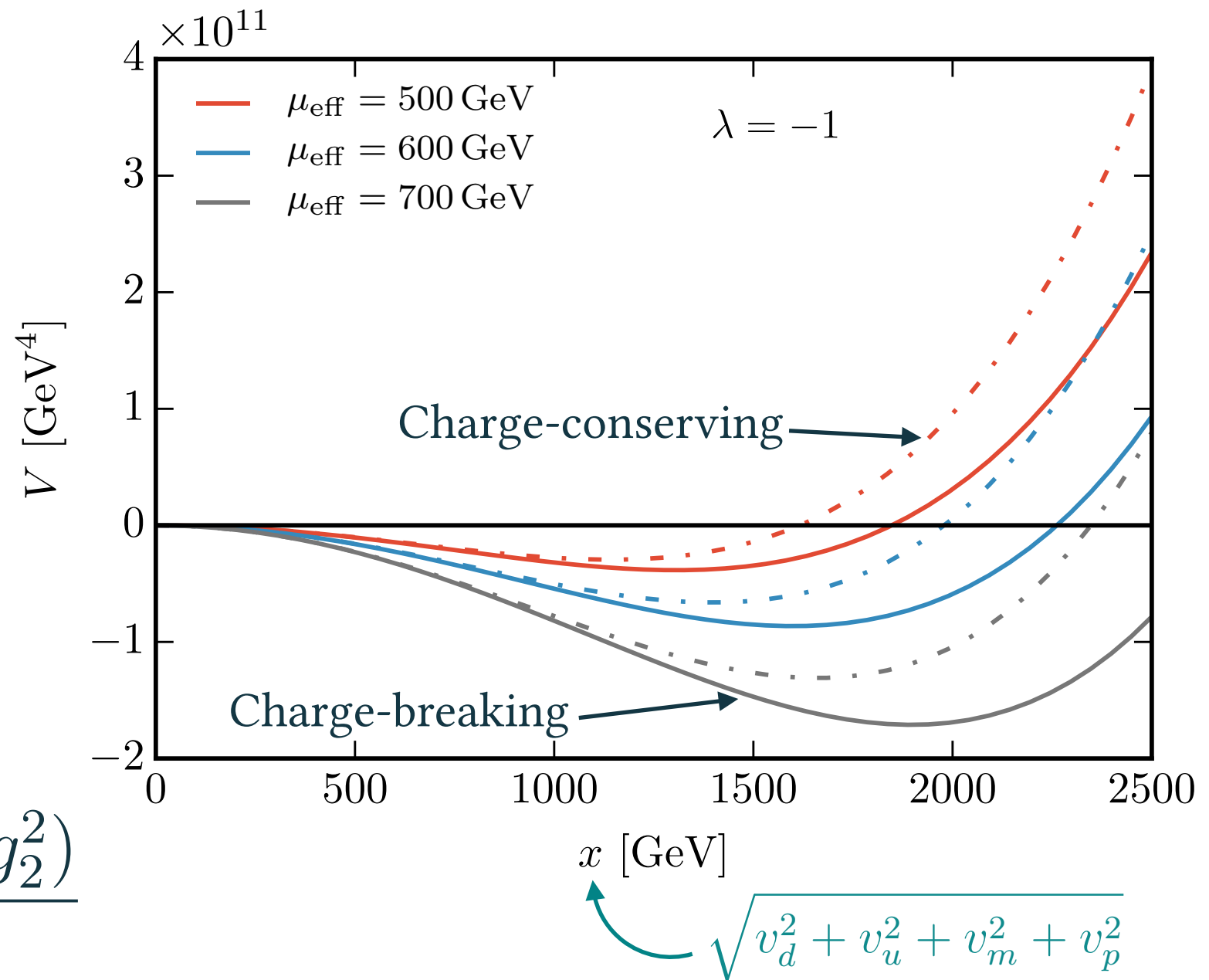
Another important direction in field space:

$$v_u = v_m = v_p = v_S = 0$$

$$v_d \equiv x^{\text{CC}} \neq 0$$

Deeper by a factor: $\frac{(g_1^2 + g_2^2)}{g_2^2}$

Further away by a factor: $\frac{\sqrt{g_1^2 + g_2^2}}{g_2}$



Numerical Results

Methodology

Considering all minima and directions in field space requires a numerical approach

SARAH

Consider two models:
3 VEV (only neutral)
4 VEV (one charged)

SPheno

Consider the following parameter space:
(no A -terms in the sfermion sectors)

- $\tan \beta \in [1, 4]$
- $\lambda \in [-2, 2]$
- $\kappa \in [-2, 2]$
- $A_\lambda \in [-5, 5] \text{ TeV}$
- $A_\kappa \in [-5, 5] \text{ TeV}$
- $\mu_{\text{eff}} \in [-2, 2] \text{ TeV}$

Vevacious

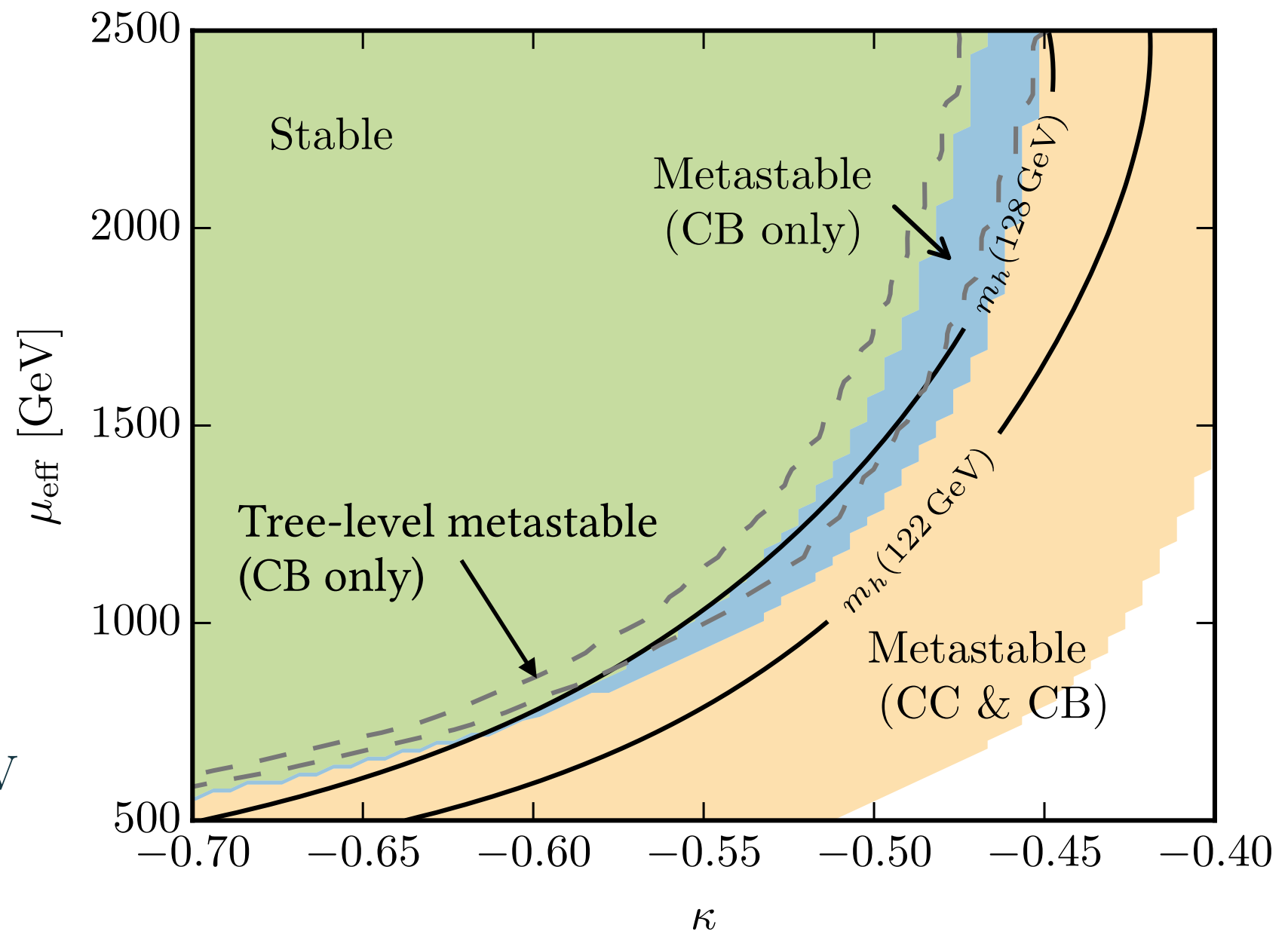
- Determines all tree-level minima
- Minima of one-loop eff. potential found by allowing tree-level minima to roll
- CosmoTransitions used to calculate tunnelling rate to the panic vacuum

Must check *all* minima!

Numerical Results

Stable versus metastable vacua

Strips of parameter space where not including CB minima gives wrong result

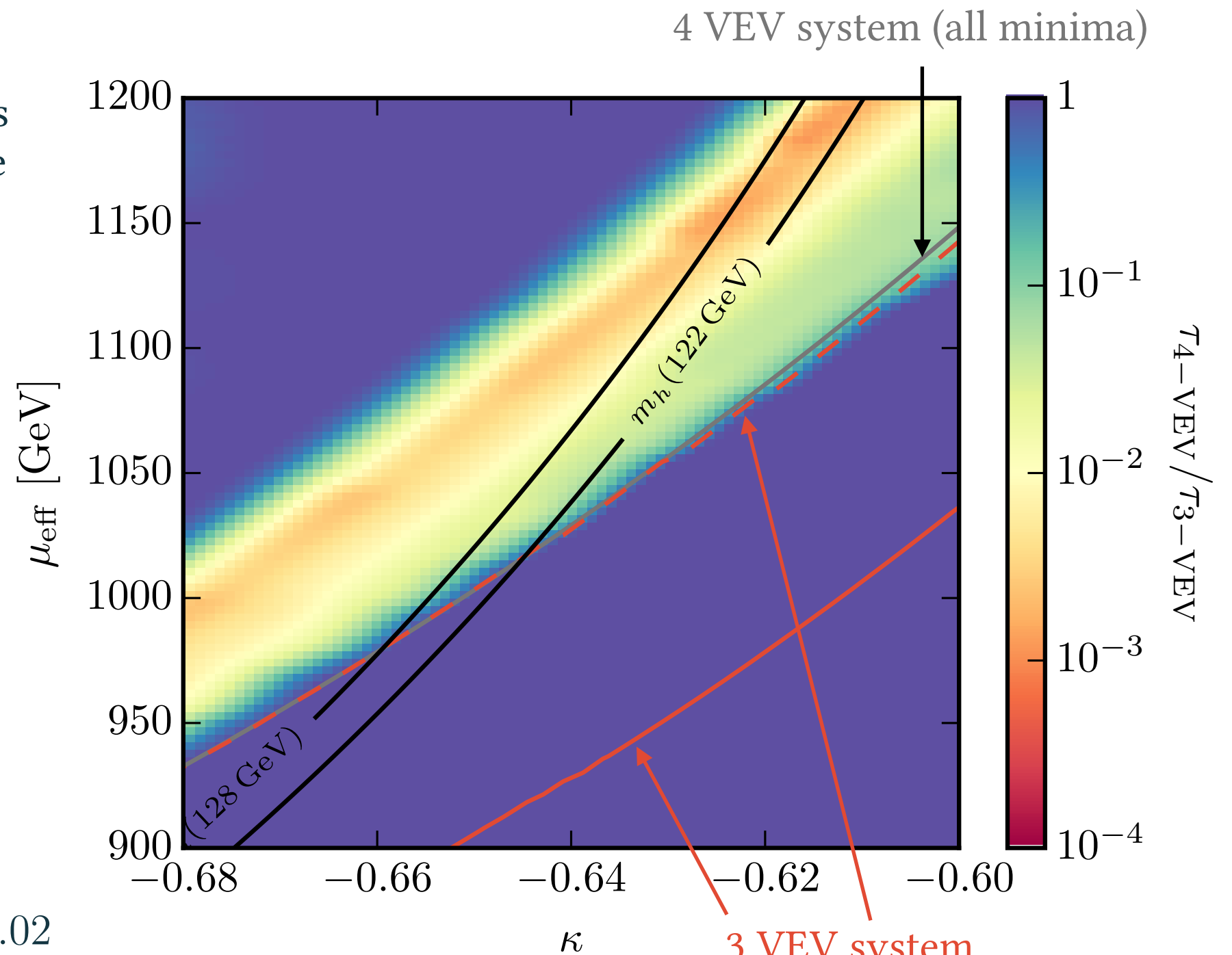


Here $\lambda = -0.68$, $\tan \beta = 1.02$
 $A_\kappa = -700 \text{ GeV}$, $A_\lambda = -300 \text{ GeV}$

Numerical Results

Long-lived versus short-lived vacua

Regions *below* red/grey lines have lifetimes below the age of the universe



Here $\lambda = -0.81$, $\tan \beta = 1.02$

$A_\kappa = -1400 \text{ GeV}$, $A_\lambda = -580 \text{ GeV}$

3 VEV system
panic vacuum (solid)
all minima (dashed)

Conclusion

1. If you want a stable EW vacuum in your BSM model:

Charge-breaking VEVs are important!

Conclusion

1. If you want a stable EW vacuum in your BSM model:

Charge-breaking VEVs are important!

2. If you are content with a metastable EW vacuum:

Charge-breaking VEVs are
phenomenologically uninteresting

Caveats:

- thermal tunnelling neglected
- checked order 50,000 points
- not considered sfermion VEVs
- CosmoTransitions does not always find optimum tunnelling path