SINGLE TOP PRODUCTION VIA FLAVOR VIOLATION 2HDM

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NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR BEYOND-THE-STANDARD-MODEL SEARCHES AT EIC JULY 2025





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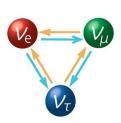




Motivation

Flavor Violation

Evidence for neutrino mixing, possibly non-universality for weak leptonic couplings.



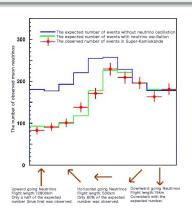


Figure: neutrino mixing- flavor violation



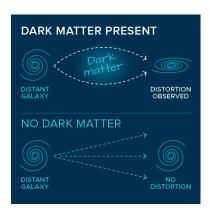




Motivation

BSM - DM candidates

Dark Matter



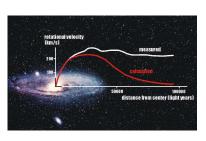


Figure: DM evidence

Figure: Gravitational Lensing.

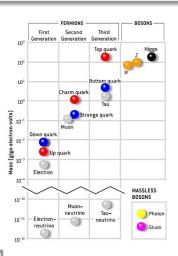




Motivation

BSM - scalar sector

Particle spectrum, possible more scalar particles



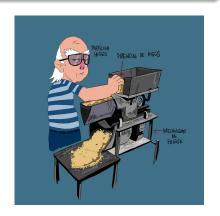


Figure: Higgs mechanism (Mexican view)





Figure: Particle spectrum.

The SM scalar sector

SM Higgs doublet

$$\Phi = \begin{pmatrix} \phi^+ \\ \phi^0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Higgs Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L}_H = (D_\mu \Phi)^\dagger (D^\mu \Phi) - V(\Phi) \tag{1}$$

Once a vev is chosen $\langle 0|\Phi|0\rangle=v\neq0$ the EW symmetry is broken:

- * Gauge bosons acquire mass from the kinetic term.
- * Fermions acquire mass through the Yukawa couplings.
- * The Higgs mass is obtained from the Higgs potential after EW SSB.





A minimal extension of the SM which allows for flavor changing neutral currents at the level of the Lagrangian is provided by the 2HDM-III, with Flavour Violation (FV) at Leading Order (LO). Multi-Higgs models additional scalar spectrum. Extending the scalar sector more than one Higgs leads to increasing the scalar spectrum of particles:

$$\bullet$$
 SM $\to h^0$

• 2HDM
$$\to h^0, H^0, A^0, H^{\pm}$$





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- SM $\rightarrow h^0$
- 2HDM $\to h^0, H^0, A^0, H^{\pm}$





Two complex SU(2) Higgs doublets:

$$\Phi_1 = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\phi_1 - i\chi_1) \\ -\phi_1^- \end{pmatrix}, \quad \Phi_2 = \begin{pmatrix} \phi_2^+ \\ v_2 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\phi_2 + i\chi_2) \end{pmatrix}$$

physical Higgs particle spectrum 5:

$$\phi_i$$
 , $\ CP=1 \to {\rm two}$ scalar fields: h^0, H^0 , χ_i , $\ CP=-1 \to {\rm one}$ pseudo scalar fields: $A^0.$

and

$$\phi^{\pm}$$
, \rightarrow two charged fields: H^{\pm}





SSB: Assuming the scalar fields to develop nonzero vacuum expectation values that break $SU(2)_{\cal L}$

$$\langle \Phi_1 \rangle = v_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \langle \Phi_2 \rangle = v_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$
 (2)

Defining: $\tan \beta = \frac{v_2}{v_1}$ and $v = (v_1^2 + v_2^2)^{1/2} \approx 246 \; GeV$.

The Lagrangian density describing the dynamics with two doubles would be:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\Phi_1,\Phi_2} = (D^{\mu}\Phi_1)^{\dagger}(D_{\mu}\Phi_1) + (D^{\mu}\Phi_2)^{\dagger}(D_{\mu}\Phi_2) - V(\Phi_1,\Phi_2)$$
 (3)





CP conserving Higgs potential

$$\begin{split} V(\Phi_1,\Phi_2) &= \mu_1^2 \Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1 + \mu_2^2 \Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2 - (\mu_{12}^2 \Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2 + h.c.) \\ &+ \lambda_1 (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1)^2 + \lambda_2 (\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2)^2 + \lambda_3 (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1) (\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2) \\ &+ \lambda_4 (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2) (\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_1) + \frac{1}{2} [\lambda_5 (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2)^2 \\ &+ [\lambda_6 (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1) + \lambda_7 (\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2)] (\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2) + h.c.] \end{split}$$





The interaction with Fermions is given through the Yukawa Lagrangian:

$$L_Y^q = Y_1^u \overline{Q}_L' \tilde{\Phi}_1 u_R' + Y_2^u \overline{Q}_L' \tilde{\Phi}_2 u_R' + Y_1^d \overline{Q}_L' \Phi_1 d_R' + Y_2^d \overline{Q}_L' \Phi_2 d_R' + h.c.,$$

$$(4)$$

where $\tilde{\Phi}_{1,2}=i\sigma_2\Phi_{1,2}^*$ and σ_2 is the Pauli matrix. The charged leptonic sector has a similar form to the one of the d-type quark, and is obtained from the latter by replacing $d_i\to l_i$, including the masses. After spontaneous symmetry breaking, each of the two doublets acquire vacuum expectation values (vevs), $v_{1,2}$.





After SSB, the second derivative of the potential yields the following form of the mass matrices:

$$M_f = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(v_1 Y_1^f + v_2 Y_2^f), \quad f = u, d, l.$$
 (5)

In the physical basis, M_f is diagonal but not necessary are each of the two Yukawa matrices. In order to diagonalize analytically, we reduce the possible 3×3 flavor fermion mass matrices by a proposed *ansatz* with a hierarchical structure, which is based on a textures form (zero for some flavor mixing elements guided by experimental data).

$$Y_{k} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & C_{k} & 0 \\ C_{k}^{*} & \tilde{B}_{k} & B_{k} \\ 0 & B_{k}^{*} & A_{k} \end{pmatrix}$$
 (6)

with k=1,2 then $|A_k|\gg |\tilde{B}_k|, |B_k|, |C_k|$





The femions mass matrices can be diagonalized through a similarity transformation

$$\begin{split} \bar{M}_{u}^{diag} &= V_{L}^{u} M_{u} V_{R}^{u\dagger}, \\ \bar{M}_{d}^{diag} &= V_{L}^{d} M_{d} V_{R}^{d\dagger}, \\ \bar{M}_{l}^{diag} &= O_{L}^{l} M_{l} O_{R}^{l\dagger}. \end{split} \tag{7}$$

Yields the CKM matrix: $V_{CKM} = V_L^u V_L^{d\dagger}$, and

$$\tilde{Y}_{1,2}^q = V_L^q Y_{1,2}^q V_R^{q\dagger} \quad \text{and} \qquad \tilde{Y}_{1,2}^l = O_L^l Y_{1,2}^l O_R^{l\dagger}, \tag{8}$$

Here q = u, b.





We further note the following relation between the two Yukawa matrices for each fermion type:

$$\tilde{Y}_1^d = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{v \cos \beta} \bar{M}_d - \tan \beta \tilde{Y}_2^d, \tag{9}$$

$$\tilde{Y}_1^l = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{v \cos \beta} \bar{M}_l - \tan \beta \tilde{Y}_2^l, \tag{10}$$

$$\tilde{Y}_2^u = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{v \sin \beta} \bar{M}_u - \cot \beta \tilde{Y}_1^u. \tag{11}$$

Having an extra Higgs scalar doublet in the 2HDM, requires the use of α is the rotation angle for CP-even physical neutral Higgs bosons h^0 and H^0 states, and β is the angle associated with the Goldstone states basis, $\tan\beta=v_2/v_1$





In the physical basis, omitting Goldstone contributions, we have for the fermions couplings with neutral scalars:

$$\mathcal{L}_{Y}^{q} = \frac{g}{2} \left\{ \bar{u}_{i} \left[\left(\frac{m_{u_{i}}}{m_{W}} \right) \frac{\cos \alpha}{\sin \beta} \delta_{ij} - \frac{\sqrt{2} \cos(\alpha - \beta)}{g \sin \beta} (\tilde{Y}_{1}^{u})_{ij} \right] u_{j} h^{0} \right. \\
+ \bar{d}_{i} \left[-\left(\frac{m_{d_{i}}}{m_{W}} \right) \frac{\sin \alpha}{\cos \beta} \delta_{ij} + \frac{\sqrt{2} \cos(\alpha - \beta)}{g \cos \beta} (\tilde{Y}_{2}^{d})_{ij} \right] d_{j} h^{0} \\
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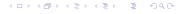


- The leptonic part is obtained by replacing $d_i \rightarrow l_i$.
- We apply the Cheng-Sher ansatz to reproduce the mass hierarchy of the Fermions Then, the Yukawa matrix elements would be as

$$\left(\tilde{Y}_{2}^{d,l}\right)_{ij} = \frac{\sqrt{m_{i}^{d,l}m_{j}^{d,l}}}{v}\tilde{\chi}_{ij}^{d,l},
\left(\tilde{Y}_{1}^{u,\nu_{l}}\right)_{ij} = \frac{\sqrt{m_{i}^{u,\nu_{l}}m_{j}^{u,\nu_{l}}}}{v}\tilde{\chi}_{ij}^{u,\nu_{l}}.$$
(13)

- The Yukawa couplings can be described in terms of dimensionless parameters $\tilde{\chi}_{ij}$ which could have a complex phase. In particular negative $\tilde{\chi}_{ij}$ are possible, as the matrices are Hermitian.
- The values for these parameters could be set experimentally.
- We see that for h^0 to be the SM-like Higgs (no flavor violation at LO), one needs to set $\alpha-\beta\sim\pi/2$ as the decoupling limit





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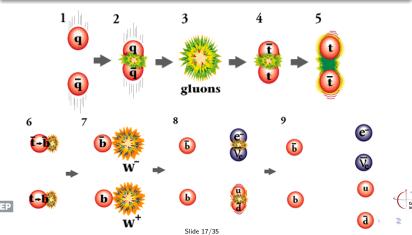




Top quark production

top production

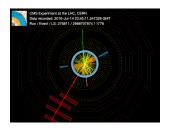
The production of a pair of top or anti-top quarks at the LHC, as SM. BSM possible production from a potential transition of a charm quark into a top quark via a t-channel exchange of a flavor violating Higgs boson.

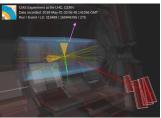


Top anti-top, toponium state?

top detection

The LHC has produced top quarks.





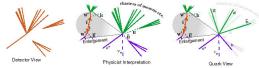


Figure: Quark top experimental detection.[CMS]





Flavor violating process could have both leptonic and quark FCNC through a t-channel exchanging of an extended neutral Higgs boson.

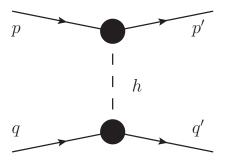


Figure: The t-channel top production.

The final state fermions are either two top quarks (hadron-hadron collisions) or a lepton in combination with a top quark or chatm-quark U UPA (lepton-hadron collisions).



- For the Large Hadron Collider, incoming fermions are both up and charm quarks and anti-quarks, where contributions due up (anti-) quarks are strongly suppressed in comparison to the charm contribution due to their masses, with the suppression factor of the order of 2.4×10^{-4} , even if the enhancement due to parton distribution functions is taken into account.
- We will therefore study for hadron-hadron colliders the processes

$$c(p) + c(k) \to t(p') + t(k'),$$

which allow to constrain the flavor violating coupling between charm and top quarks in the Higgs sector.

For lepton-hadron reactions we will explore

$$l(p) + c(k) \rightarrow l'(p') + t(k'),$$

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where l could be either an electron or a muon (μIC) and l' a muon or a tau.



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Color averaged scattering amplitude is identical for quark-quark and quark-lepton scattering and reads:

$$|\mathcal{M}|^{2}(ab \to a'b') = \frac{g^{4}}{64}C_{aa'}(\alpha,\beta)C_{bb'}(\alpha,\beta) \cdot \frac{m_{a}m_{b}m_{a'}m_{b'}}{m_{W}^{4}} \times \frac{\left[t - (m_{a} - m_{a'})^{2}\right]\left[t - (m_{b} - m_{b'})^{2}\right]}{(t - m_{h}^{2})^{2}}, \tag{15}$$

where quark and lepton masses are neglected against the top mass, whenever both are summed up.

We defined the flavor violation couplings for leptonic (or b-type quarks) and t-type quark, respectively as:

$$C_{aa'}(\alpha,\beta) = \frac{\cos^2(\alpha-\beta)}{\cos^2(\beta)} |\tilde{\chi}_{ll'}|^2, \quad C_{bb'}(\alpha,\beta) = \frac{\cos^2(\alpha-\beta)}{\sin^2(\beta)} |\tilde{\chi}_{qq'}|^2.$$
(16)





Cross section for t-channel

Having discussed the structure of the couplings, we are able to construct now the analytical hadronic cross-sections, which read

$$\sum_{f=t,\bar{t}} \sigma(pl \to fl') = \frac{1}{16\pi} \int_{x_{min}}^{1} dx \int_{t^{-}}^{t^{+}} dt \left[\frac{|\mathcal{M}|^{2}(lc \to l't)}{(xs)^{2}} \cdot f_{c}(x,\mu_{F}) \right]$$

$$\frac{|\mathcal{M}|^{2}(l\bar{c} \to l'\bar{t})}{(xs)^{2}} \cdot f_{\bar{c}}(x,\mu_{F})$$

$$(17)$$

for the case of lepton-hadron scattering the center-of-mass energy squared as $\hat{s}=xs$, with $x_{min}=\frac{(m_{l'}+m_t)^2}{s}\approx\frac{m_t^2}{s}$,





The decoupling limit

- The couplings of the SM-like Higgs boson h with the gauge bosons are proportional to $\sin(\beta-\alpha)$, whereas for the heavier H the couplings are proportional to $\cos(\beta-\alpha)$.
- \bullet Considering now the additional Yukawa couplings, coming from 2HDM-III given in the next table

• The latter means that the contributions from heavier Higgs boson H will be reduced in the limit of $\cos(\beta-\alpha)\to 0$.





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| Process | SM | MSSM | THDM-III |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--|
| $h^0 \rightarrow u_i \bar{u}_j$ | $m_{u_i}\delta_{ij}$ | $\frac{m_{u_i} \cos \alpha}{\sin \beta} \delta_{ij}$ | $ [m_{u_i} \frac{\cos \alpha}{\sin \beta} \delta_{ij} - \frac{\cos(\alpha - \beta)}{\sqrt{2} \sin \beta} \sqrt{m_{u_i} m_{u_j}} \tilde{\chi}_{ij}^u] $ |
| $h^0 \rightarrow d_i \bar{d}_j$ | $m_{d_i} \delta_{ij}$ | $\frac{m_{d_i} \sin \alpha}{\cos \beta} \delta_{ij}$ | $\left[-m_{d_i} \frac{\sin \alpha}{\cos \beta} \delta_{ij} + \frac{\cos(\alpha - \beta)}{\sqrt{2} \cos \beta} \sqrt{m_{d_i} m_{d_j}} \tilde{\chi}_{ij}^d \right]$ |
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| $A^0 \to u_i \bar{u}_j$ | - | $-m_{u_i} \cot \beta \delta_{ij}$ | $[-m_{u_i}\cot\beta\delta_{ij} + \frac{\sqrt{m_{u_i}m_{u_j}}}{\sqrt{2}\sin\beta}\tilde{\chi}^u_{ij}]$ |
| $A^0 \to d_i \bar{d}_j$ | - | $-m_{d_i} \tan \beta \delta_{ij}$ | $[-m_{d_i} \tan \beta \delta_{ij} + \frac{\sqrt{m_{d_i} m_{d_j}}}{\sqrt{2} \cos \beta} \tilde{\chi}_{ij}^d]$ |

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| $H^0 \rightarrow u_i \bar{u}_j$ | - | $\frac{m_{u_i}\sin\alpha}{\sin\beta}\delta_{ij}$ | $ [m_{u_i} \frac{\sin \alpha}{\sin \beta} \delta_{ij} - \frac{\sin(\alpha - \beta)}{\sqrt{2} \sin \beta} \sqrt{m_{u_i} m_{u_j}} \tilde{\chi}_{ij}^u] $ |
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| $A^0 \to u_i \bar{u}_j$ | - | $-m_{u_i} \cot \beta \delta_{ij}$ | $[-m_{u_i}\cot\beta\delta_{ij} + \frac{\sqrt{m_{u_i}m_{u_j}}}{\sqrt{2}\sin\beta}\tilde{\chi}^u_{ij}]$ |
| $A^0 \to d_i \bar{d}_j$ | - | $-m_{d_i} \tan \beta \delta_{ij}$ | $[-m_{d_i} \tan \beta \delta_{ij} + \frac{\sqrt{m_{d_i} m_{d_j}}}{\sqrt{2} \cos \beta} \tilde{\chi}_{ij}^d]$ |

• The latter means that the contributions from heavier Higgs boson H will be reduced in the limit of $\cos(\beta-\alpha)\to 0$.





Results FV in a pp collider

To estimate the impact of an evaluation of already collected $13~{\rm TeV}$ data as well as the operation of the LHC in the high luminosity mode, we estimate a possible to be established lower limit as

$$\sigma_{max}(x \, \mathsf{TeV}) = \sigma_{max}(7 \, \mathsf{TeV}) * \frac{\mathsf{L}(7 \, \mathsf{TeV})}{\mathsf{L}(x \, \mathsf{TeV})}, \tag{18}$$

where $L(x \, \text{TeV})$ is the luminosity of the experiment at a given center of mass energy, $x \, \text{TeV}$, see [ATLAS:2022hro,Workman:2022ynf].

| \sqrt{s} | luminosity | estimated bound |
|-------------|-----------------------------|--|
| 13 TeV | $140.1 \; \mathrm{fb^{-1}}$ | $\frac{\cos(\alpha - \beta)}{\sin \beta} \tilde{\chi}_{23}^q < 3.93$ |
| 14 TeV (HL) | $3000 \; { m fb}^{-1}$ | $\frac{\cos(\alpha - \beta)}{\sin \beta} \tilde{\chi}_{23}^q < 2.60$ |

Table: Bounds to be derived from an analysis of the so far collected $13~{\rm TeV}$ data as well as data to be collected during the high luminosity mode of the LHC





Results FV in a pp collider

Enhancement for the scattering cross section would be for low $\tan \beta \sim \mathcal{O}(10^{-2})$ and for $\cos(\alpha - \beta) \sim 1$, giving $\sigma(pp \to tt(\overline{tt})X)$ up to $\sim \mathcal{O}(10)pb$.

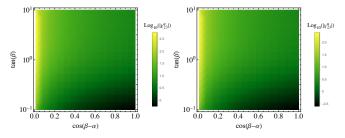


Figure: Projected excluded values for processes $\sigma(pp \to tt, \overline{tt}) < 1.7$ pb, with $|\chi^u_{23}|$ for a given value of $\tan\beta$ and $\cos(\beta-\alpha)$ for 13 TeV (with $140.1~{\rm fb}^{-1}$, [ATLAS:2022hro]) and for the high luminosity LHC at 14 TeV (with $3000~{\rm fb}^{-1}$, [ATLAS:2022hsp])





Restriction on FV quarks coupling

Considering experimental bounds for the FV parameter.

- The searches for top FCNC at the LHC, from CMS have searched a limit on the flavor violating branching fraction $Br(t\to ch)<0.56\%$
- From ATLAS we have a recent updated result from $Br(t \rightarrow ch) < 0.094\%$
- Using the ATLAS results to bound the free FV parameter $\tilde{\chi}^u_{23}$ of the model we find

$$\left(\frac{\cos(\beta - \alpha)\chi_{23}^u}{\sin\beta}\right) < 0.06 \quad \text{for} \quad Br(t \to ch) < 9.4 \times 10^{-4}$$





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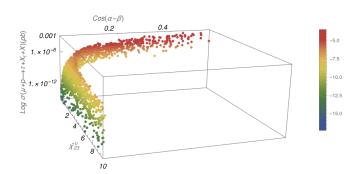
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Results FV in a ep collider

We show the restriction from $\mathcal{BR}(t \to ch)$ for the double FV process $\sigma(ep \to ltX)$, considering the wide range of free parameters $\tilde{\chi}^u_{ij} \in [0.1, 10], \, \cos(\beta - \alpha) \in [0, 1]$, with center of mass energies $\sqrt{s} \in [1.3, 6.5]$ TeV.







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CLFV single top quark production at LHeC

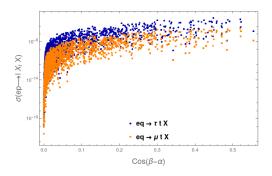


Figure: The total cross section for ep t-channel FCNC top production via DIS dependence with $\cos(\alpha-\beta)$. Comparing two leptonic processes: $ec \to \tau(\mu) + t$, blue (orange). With a scan for the center of mass energy as $\sqrt{s} \in [1.3, 3.5]$ TeV and taking $|\tilde{\chi}_{ij}^l| = 1$ and $|\tilde{\chi}_{23}^u| = 0.2$, applying the ATLAS updated restriction on top FV decay to the neutral Higgs boson.





FV single tau production at EIC

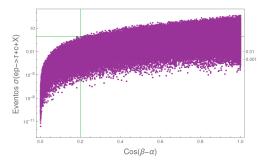


Figure: The number of events for ep t-channel FCNC tau production via DIS, with $\cos(\alpha-\beta)$ dependence. With a scan for the center of mass energy as $\sqrt{s} \in [1.3, 3.5]$ TeV , applying the ATLAS updated restriction on top FV decay to the neutral Higgs boson. The decoupling limit further restricts the possible observation of the process.





Flavor Violation restrictions from experimental data.

| Exp. Bound | Parameter Restriction |
|---|--|
| $\mathcal{B}r(t\to ch) < 9.4\times 10^{-4}$ | $\left \frac{\cos(\beta - \alpha)\chi_{23}^u}{\sin \beta} \right < 0.06$ |
| $\mathcal{B}r(h\to e\mu)<4.4\times 10^{-5}$ | $\left \frac{\cos(\beta - \alpha)\chi_{12}^l}{\cos \beta} \right < 3.75$ |
| $\mathcal{B}r(h\to e\tau)<2\times 10^{-3}$ | $\left \frac{\cos(\beta - \alpha)\chi_{13}^l}{\cos \beta} \right < 6.17$ |
| $\mathcal{B}r(h\to\mu\tau)<1.5\times10^{-3}$ | $\left \frac{\cos(\beta - \alpha)\chi_{23}^l}{\cos \beta} \right < 0.14$ |
| $\mathcal{B}r(h \to \mu\mu) = (2.6 \pm 1.5) \times 10^{-4}$ | $4.21 \le \left \frac{-\sqrt{2}\sin\alpha + \cos(\beta - \alpha)\chi_{22}^{l}}{\cos\beta} \right \le 7.30$ |

Table: Restrictions from the experimental bounds on the values of model parameters.





FV top production at LHeC with experimental bounds

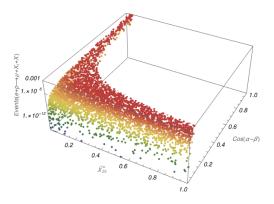


Figure: The number of events drops drastically when we consider the FV experimental bounds for ep t-channel top production via DIS. We show $|\tilde{\chi}^u_{23}|$ and $\cos(\beta-\alpha)$ allowed.





Summary

- The cross section $\sigma(pp \to tt(\overline{tt})X)$ enhancement, up to $\sim \mathcal{O}(10)pb$, would be for low $\tan \beta \sim \mathcal{O}(10^{-2})$ and for high $\cos(\alpha \beta) \sim 1$.
- The decoupling limit conditions for 2HDM-III will imply reduced values for $\cos(\alpha-\beta)\sim 0$ and also for the flavor violation parameter $\tilde{\chi}^u_{23}\sim 0$. While the former value reduces the cross section in general, the last condition gives higher possible values for the top quark production cross section, under these conditions.
- We find that cross-sections for $\sigma(ep \to ltX)$ are small, and its observation would be challenging, while muon collider cross section, $\sigma(\mu p \to \tau t X)$, is enhanced by two orders of magnitude when we consider a CLFV, tau involved.
- Considering the CLFV experimental data restrictions, would further reduce the chances for an exotic FV process observation in current colliders; nevertheless is worth noting that the model would survive in a reduced parameter space.





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Once Again...

Really appreciate your comments

THANK YOU!





Results FV in a ep collider

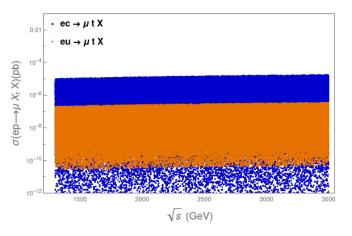


Figure: The contribution from each quark, u(orange), c(blue), to the total cross section of the process $eq \to \mu t$, where q stands for u,c. Considering the values of the parameters as $\tan \beta \in [1,50], \cos(\beta-\alpha) \in [0,1]$ and



For the LHeC, single top quark production via charged-current DIS is dominant in all the top quark production channels. Only for SM processes we can implement them in CalcHEP to calculate the possible top production within the SM as background, see table 3.

| process | $\sigma(pb)$ | uncertainty $(\%)$ |
|--|--------------|--------------------|
| $ep \rightarrow e + 1jet$ | 42.6 | 0.00846 |
| $ep \rightarrow e + 2jet$ | 8.876 | 0.0566 |
| $ep \rightarrow e + 2jet + t$ | 0.1702 | 0.8305 |
| $ep \to \nu_e + W^- + 1jet \to \nu_e + \mu + \bar{\nu}_\mu + 1jet$ | 2.87 | 0.03053 |

Table: Total cross section at LHeC ($\sqrt{s}=1.296 TeV$) for SM background processes regarding the tree level single top production through t-channel. The jets include the top quarks.



