Published for SISSA by 2 Springer

RECEIVED: February 12, 2023 REVISED: May 18, 2023 ACCEPTED: June 5, 2023 PUBLISHED: June 21, 2023

Positivity bounds on Higgs-Portal dark matter

Seong-Sik Kim,^a Hyun Min Lee^a and Kimiko Yamashita^{a,b}

 ^a Department of Physics, Chung-Ang University, Seoul 06974, Korea
 ^b Department of Physics, Ibaraki University,

Mito 310-8512, Japan

E-mail: sskim.working@gmail.com, hminlee@cau.ac.kr, kimikoy@cau.ac.kr

ABSTRACT: We consider the positivity bounds for WIMP scalar dark matter with effective Higgs-portal couplings up to dimension-8 operators. Taking the superposed states for Standard Model Higgs and scalar dark matter, we show that the part of the parameter space for the effective couplings, otherwise unconstrained by phenomenological bounds, is ruled out by the positivity bounds on the dimension-8 derivative operators. We find that dark matter relic density, direct and indirect detection and LHC constraints are complementary to the positivity bounds in constraining the effective Higgs-portal couplings. In the effective theory obtained from massive graviton or radion, there appears a correlation between dimension-8 operators and other effective Higgs-portal couplings for which the strong constraint from direct detection can be evaded. Nailing down the parameter space mainly by relic density, direct detection and positivity bounds, we find that there are observable cosmic ray signals coming from the dark matter annihilations into a pair of Higgs bosons, WW or ZZ.

KEYWORDS: Effective Field Theories, Models for Dark Matter, Scattering Amplitudes, SMEFT

ARXIV EPRINT: 2302.02879



Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Higgs-portal couplings in EFT	2
	2.1 Graviton-like interactions	3
	2.2 Radion-like interactions	4
3	Positivity bounds on dimension-8 Higgs-portal	6
	3.1 Scattering amplitudes for superposed states	6
	3.2 Positivity bounds	7
4	Phenomenological constraints	11
	4.1 Dark matter relic density	11
	4.2 Direct detection	13
	4.3 Indirect detection	17
	4.4 LHC searches	18
5	Conclusions	20
\mathbf{A}	One-loop corrections to the positivity bounds	20

1 Introduction

Positivity bounds are the general feature of a local Quantum Field Theory (QFT) embeddable into the Ultra-Violet (UV) complete theory [1-3]. We rely on the fundamental principles in QFT such as special relativity, conservation of probability, and causality, which correspond to Lorentz invariance, unitarity, and analyticity of transition amplitudes, respectively. Then, also using the dispersion relation and the optical theorem, we can obtain positivity bounds for the local operators in Effective Field Theory (EFT).

The best bounds on the dimension-8 operators can be obtained from the forward limit of elastic scattering (i.e. t = 0), thanks to the crossing symmetry [4]. There are more bounds obtainable in the other approaches using the superposition of the states and extremal rays than in the elastic scattering approaches [4–10]. It is remarkable that the extremal ray approach may give a chance to expose other bounds, enabling us to connect the region of the Wilson coefficient space bounded by positivity to the UV physics.

In this article, considering the effective theory for the Higgs fields in the Standard Model (SM) and scalar dark matter with Z_2 parity, we derive the positivity bounds on the dimension-8 derivative Higgs-portal couplings from the forward $2 \rightarrow 2$ elastic scattering amplitudes. To this purpose, it is sufficient for us to take the superposed states for Higgs

and scalar dark matter, because it does not rely on a precise form of the UV physics. On top of the positivity bounds, we also impose various phenomenological constraints from dark matter relic density, direct and indirect detection for dark matter, and show the interplay of them with the positivity bounds in constraining the effective Higgs-portal couplings. We discuss the positivity bounds in relation to the effective theory obtained after massive graviton and/or radion are integrated out.

The paper is organized as follows. First, we introduce the general effective interactions for Higgs and scalar dark matter up to dimension-8 operators and show some benchmark UV models where a set of correlated effective interactions is obtained after massive graviton or radion are integrated out. Next, we show the positivity bounds on the dimension-8 Higgs-portal interactions based on the elastic scattering for the superposed states. Then, we consider the dark matter relic density, direct and indirect detection, and Large Hadron Collider (LHC) constraints on the effective Higgs-portal interactions. Finally, conclusions are drawn. There is one appendix dealing with the one-loop corrections to the Higgs-portal dimension-8 operators in the presence of dimension-6 operators.

2 Higgs-portal couplings in EFT

We take the effective Lagrangian for the real scalar dark matter φ and the Higgs doublet H, up to dimension-8 operators, as

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Higgs-portal}} = \mathcal{L}_1 + \mathcal{L}_2 \tag{2.1}$$

with

$$\mathcal{L}_{1} = -\frac{1}{6\Lambda^{4}} \Big(c_{1} m_{\varphi}^{4} \varphi^{4} + 4c_{2} m_{H}^{4} |H|^{4} + 8c_{2}' \lambda_{H} m_{H}^{2} |H|^{6} + 4c_{2}'' \lambda_{H}^{2} |H|^{8} + 4c_{3} m_{\varphi}^{2} m_{H}^{2} \varphi^{2} |H|^{2} + 4c_{3}' \lambda_{H} m_{\varphi}^{2} \varphi^{2} |H|^{4} \Big) + \frac{1}{6\Lambda^{4}} \Big(d_{1} m_{\varphi}^{2} \varphi^{2} (\partial_{\mu} \varphi)^{2} + 4d_{2} m_{H}^{2} |H|^{2} |D_{\mu} H|^{2} + 4d_{2}' \lambda_{H} |H|^{4} |D_{\mu} H|^{2} + 2d_{3} m_{\varphi}^{2} \varphi^{2} |D_{\mu} H|^{2} + 2d_{4} m_{H}^{2} |H|^{2} (\partial_{\mu} \varphi)^{2} + 2d_{4}' \lambda_{H} |H|^{4} (\partial_{\mu} \varphi)^{2} \Big),$$
(2.2)
$$\mathcal{L}_{2} = \frac{C_{H^{2} \varphi^{2}}^{(1)}}{4} O_{H^{2} \varphi^{2}}^{(1)} + \frac{C_{H^{2} \varphi^{2}}^{(2)}}{4} O_{H^{2} \varphi^{2}}^{(2)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\Lambda^4} O_{H^2 \varphi^2} + \frac{1}{\Lambda^4} O_{H^2 \varphi^2} + \frac{1}{\Lambda^4} O_{H^2 \varphi^2} + \frac{1}{\Lambda^4} O_{H^2 \varphi^2} + \frac{1}{\Lambda^4} O_{H^4}^{(1)} + \frac{1}{\Lambda^4} O_{H^4}^{(2)} + \frac{1}{\Lambda^4} O_{H^4}^{(3)} + \frac{1}{\Lambda^4} O_{H^4}^{(3)$$

where $c_{1,2,3}$, $d_{1,2,3,4}$ and primed quantities are dimensionless parameters, and $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)}$, $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}$, $C_{\varphi^4}^{(4)}$ and $C_{H^4}^{(1,2,3)}$ are the Wilson coefficients for the dimension-8 operators containing four derivatives listed in table 1, and Λ is the cutoff scale.

We assume the Z_2 symmetry for the scalar dark matter, so the effective Higgs-portal interactions include only even numbers of scalar dark matter particles. Moreover, the Higgs mass parameter m_H^2 is introduced in the parametrization of the effective Higgs-portal couplings, so it can be rewritten as $m_H^2 = -\lambda_H v^2$ after electroweak symmetry is broken dominantly for the renormalizable Higgs potential.

$O_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)} = (D_{\mu}H^{\dagger}D_{\nu}H)(\partial^{\mu}\varphi\partial^{\nu}\varphi)$	$O^{(2)}_{H^2\varphi^2} = (D_{\mu}H^{\dagger}D^{\mu}H)(\partial_{\nu}\varphi\partial^{\nu}\varphi)$
$O_{\varphi^4} = \partial_\mu \varphi \partial^\mu \varphi \partial_\nu \varphi \partial^\nu \varphi$	
$O_{H^4}^{(1)} = (D_{\mu}H^{\dagger}D_{\nu}H)(D^{\nu}H^{\dagger}D^{\mu}H)$	$O_{H^4}^{(2)} = (D_{\mu}H^{\dagger}D_{\nu}H)(D^{\mu}H^{\dagger}D^{\nu}H)$
$O_{H^4}^{(3)} = (D_{\mu} H^{\dagger} D^{\mu} H) (D_{\nu} H^{\dagger} D^{\nu} H)$	

Table 1. Dimension-8 operators for Higgs and real scalar dark matter.

After electroweak symmetry breaking with $H = (0, v)^T / \sqrt{2}$ and using $m_H^2 = -\lambda_H v^2$, the effective Higgs-portal interactions linear in the Higgs boson h are given by

$$\mathcal{L}_{h,\text{linear}} = \frac{1}{3\Lambda^4} h \Big[2(c_3 - c'_3)\lambda_H v^3 m_{\varphi}^2 \varphi^2 - (d_4 - d'_4)\lambda_H v^3 (\partial_\mu \varphi)^2 \Big],$$
(2.4)

which vanishes for $c'_3 = c_3$ and $d'_4 = d_4$. Then, there is no effective linear Higgs-portal coupling to scalar dark matter, so there is no tree-level contribution to dark matter annihilation or DM-nucleon scattering processes with Higgs exchanges, being consistent with the results for the massive spin-2 particle in refs. [11, 12]. The origin of the effective Higgs-portal couplings will be discussed shortly. Henceforth, we also use the physical Higgs mass, $m_h^2 = 2\lambda_H v^2 = -2m_H^2$, alternatively.

2.1 Graviton-like interactions

The dimension-8 operators as well as the lower dimensional operators in eqs. (2.2) and (2.3) can be originated from the exchanges of a massive spin-2 particle $G_{\mu\nu}$ [13]. Introducing the interactions between a massive spin-2 particle and Higgs/dark matter by the energy-momentum tensors,

$$\mathcal{L}_G = -\frac{c_H}{M} G^{\mu\nu} T^H_{\mu\nu} - \frac{c_\varphi}{M} G^{\mu\nu} T^\varphi_{\mu\nu}$$
(2.5)

where $T^{H}_{\mu\nu}, T^{\varphi}_{\mu\nu}$ are the energy-momentum tensors for Higgs and dark matter, given by

$$T_{\mu\nu}^{H} = (D_{\mu}H)^{\dagger}D_{\nu}H + (D_{\nu}H)^{\dagger}D_{\mu}H - g_{\mu\nu}[g^{\rho\sigma}(D_{\rho}H)^{\dagger}D_{\sigma}H] + g_{\mu\nu}(m_{H}^{2}|H|^{2} + \lambda_{H}|H|^{4}),$$
(2.6)

$$T^{\varphi}_{\mu\nu} = \partial_{\mu}\varphi\partial_{\nu}\varphi - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}(g^{\rho\sigma}\partial_{\rho}\varphi\partial_{\sigma}\varphi) + \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}m^{2}_{\varphi}\varphi^{2}, \qquad (2.7)$$

and c_H, c_{φ} are dimensionless parameters, and M is the suppression scale for the spin-2 interactions. Then, after integrating out the massive spin-2 particle, we obtain the effective Lagrangian for Higgs and scalar dark matter [11, 12], as follows,

$$\mathcal{L}_{G,\text{eff}} = \frac{1}{2m_G^2 M^2} T^{\mu\nu} P_{\mu\nu,\alpha\beta} T^{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{4m_G^2 M^2} \left(2T_{\mu\nu} T^{\mu\nu} - \frac{2}{3} T^2 \right),$$
(2.8)

where $T_{\mu\nu} = c_H T^H_{\mu\nu} + c_{\varphi} T^{\varphi}_{\mu\nu}$, $T = c_H T^H + c_{\varphi} T^{\varphi}$ with $T^H = T^{H,\mu}_{\mu}$, $T^{\varphi} = T^{\varphi,\mu}_{\mu}$, and the polarization tensor for the massive gravition is given by $P_{\mu\nu,\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{2} (g_{\mu\alpha}g_{\nu\beta} + g_{\mu\beta}g_{\nu\alpha} - \frac{2}{3}g_{\mu\nu}g_{\alpha\beta})$. Then, we get the effective dimension-8 operators with the Wilson coefficients,

$$\frac{C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}}{\Lambda^4} = -\frac{1}{3} \frac{C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)}}{\Lambda^4} = -\frac{2c_H c_\varphi}{3m_C^2 M^2},\tag{2.9}$$

and the effective lower dimensional Higgs-portal operators with

$$\frac{c_3^{(\prime)}}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{d_3}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{d_4^{(\prime)}}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{c_H c_{\varphi}}{m_G^2 M^2} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{C_{H^2 \varphi^2}^{(1)}}{\Lambda^4}.$$
(2.10)

Similarly, we can also match the effective self-interactions for Higgs and scalar dark matter due to the spin-2 exchanges, as follows,

$$\frac{C_{\varphi^4}}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{c_{\varphi}^2}{3m_G^2 M^2} = \frac{c_{\varphi}}{6c_H} \frac{C_{H^2 \varphi^2}^{(1)}}{\Lambda^4},$$
(2.11)

$$\frac{C_{H^4}^{(1)}}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{C_{H^4}^{(2)}}{\Lambda^4} = -\frac{3}{2} \frac{C_{H^4}^{(3)}}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{c_H^2}{m_G^2 M^2} = \frac{c_H}{2c_\varphi} \frac{C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)}}{\Lambda^4},$$
(2.12)

$$\frac{c_1}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{d_1}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{c_{\varphi}^2}{m_G^2 M^2} = \frac{c_{\varphi}}{2c_H} \frac{C_{H^2 \varphi^2}^{(1)}}{\Lambda^4},$$
(2.13)

$$\frac{c_2^{(\prime,\prime\prime)}}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{d_2^{(\prime)}}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{c_H^2}{m_G^2 M^2} = \frac{c_H}{2c_\varphi} \frac{C_{H^2\varphi^2}}{\Lambda^4}.$$
(2.14)

In this case, we can find the correlations between the effective couplings for Higgs and scalar dark matter up to dimension-8 operators from the tree-level matching conditions in terms of a single effective portal-coupling, $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)}$, whereas the Higgs and scalar self-interactions are subject to one more parameter, $\frac{c_{\varphi}}{c_H}$, originated from a more fundamental theory.

Consequently, for $c_H c_{\varphi} > 0$, which is the case for the attractive force between Higgs and dark matter, we obtain $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)} = -3C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)} > 0$ for the dimension-8 Higgs-portal couplings at the matching scale of the massive spin-2 particle.

2.2 Radion-like interactions

We now consider another way to match the effective Higgs-portal interactions in the presence of a radion-like scalar particle r [13]. We introduce the interactions between the radion from the extra dimension (or dilaton) and Higgs/matter by the trace of the energy-momentum tensors,

$$\mathcal{L}_r = \frac{c_H^r}{\sqrt{6}M} r T^H + \frac{c_\varphi^r}{\sqrt{6}M} r T^\varphi$$
(2.15)

with radion couplings, c_H^r, c_{φ}^r . Then, integrating out the dilaton-like scalar r, we obtain the effective Lagrangian in the following form,

$$\mathcal{L}_{r,\text{eff}} = \frac{1}{12m_r^2 M^2} T^2$$
(2.16)

with $T = c_H^r T^H + c_{\varphi}^r T^{\varphi}$. Therefore, the Wilson coefficients of the resultant effective dimension-8 operators become

$$C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)} = 0, \quad \frac{C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{c_H^r c_\varphi^r}{3m_r^2 M^2},$$
 (2.17)

 $\langle \alpha \rangle$

and the effective lower dimensional Higgs-portal operators are given by

$$\frac{c_3^{(\prime)}}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{d_3}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{d_4^{(\prime)}}{\Lambda^4} = -\frac{2c_H^r c_{\varphi}^r}{m_r^2 M^2} = -6\frac{C_{H^2 \varphi^2}^{(2)}}{\Lambda^4}.$$
(2.18)

Thus, as for the massive spin-2 particle, for $c'_3 = c_3$ and $d'_4 = d_4$, there is no effective linear Higgs-portal coupling to scalar dark matter.

Similarly, the effective self-interactions for Higgs and dark matter are given by

$$\frac{C_{\varphi^4}}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{(c_{\varphi}^r)^2}{12m_r^2 M^2} = \frac{c_{\varphi}^r}{4c_H^r} \frac{C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}}{\Lambda^4},$$
(2.19)

$$C_{H^4}^{(1)} = C_{H^4}^{(2)} = 0, \quad \frac{C_{H^4}^{(3)}}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{(c_H^r)^2}{3m_r^2 M^2} = \frac{c_H^r}{c_\varphi^r} \frac{C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}}{\Lambda^4}, \tag{2.20}$$

$$\frac{c_1}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{d_1}{\Lambda^4} = -\frac{2(c_{\varphi}^r)^2}{m_r^2 M^2} = -\frac{6c_{\varphi}^r}{c_H^r} \frac{C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}}{\Lambda^4},$$
(2.21)

$$\frac{c_2^{(\prime,\prime\prime)}}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{d_2^{(\prime)}}{\Lambda^4} = -\frac{2(c_H^r)^2}{m_r^2 M^2} = -\frac{6c_H^r}{c_\varphi^r} \frac{C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}}{\Lambda^4}.$$
(2.22)

Consequently, for $c_H^r c_{\varphi}^r > 0$, which is the case for the attractive force between Higgs and dark matter due to the radion, we obtain $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)} > 0$ for the dimension-8 Higgs-portal couplings at the matching scale of the radion.

Summing up both massive spin-2 and radion couplings in eqs. (2.9)-(2.14) and (2.17)-(2.22), we get the effective Higgs-portal interactions,

$$\frac{C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)}}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{2c_H c_{\varphi}}{m_G^2 M^2}, \quad \frac{C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}}{\Lambda^4} = -\frac{2c_H c_{\varphi}}{3m_G^2 M^2} + \frac{c_H^r c_{\varphi}^r}{3m_r^2 M^2}, \tag{2.23}$$

$$\frac{c_3^{(\prime)}}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{d_3}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{d_4^{(\prime)}}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{c_H c_{\varphi}}{m_G^2 M^2} - \frac{2c_H^r c_{\varphi}^r}{m_r^2 M^2} = -\frac{3}{2} \frac{C_{H^2 \varphi^2}^{(1)}}{\Lambda^4} - 6 \frac{C_{H^2 \varphi^2}^{(2)}}{\Lambda^4}, \quad (2.24)$$

and the effective self-interactions,

$$\frac{C_{\varphi^4}}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{c_{\varphi}^2}{3m_G^2 M^2} + \frac{(c_{\varphi}^r)^2}{12m_r^2 M^2},\tag{2.25}$$

$$\frac{C_{H^4}^{(1)}}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{C_{H^4}^{(2)}}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{c_H^2}{m_G^2 M^2}, \quad \frac{C_{H^4}^{(3)}}{\Lambda^4} = -\frac{2c_H^2}{3m_G^2 M^2} + \frac{(c_H^r)^2}{3m_r^2 M^2}, \tag{2.26}$$

$$\frac{c_1}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{d_1}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{c_{\varphi}^2}{m_G^2 M^2} - \frac{2(c_{\varphi}^r)^2}{m_r^2 M^2},$$
(2.27)

$$\frac{c_2^{(\prime,\prime\prime)}}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{d_2^{(\prime)}}{\Lambda^4} = \frac{c_H^2}{m_G^2 M^2} - \frac{2(c_H^r)^2}{m_r^2 M^2} = -3\frac{C_{H^4}^{(1)}}{\Lambda^4} - 6\frac{C_{H^4}^{(3)}}{\Lambda^4}.$$
(2.28)

Here, we note that only the massive spin-2 particle contributes to $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)}$ while both massive spin-2 particle and radion contribute to $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}$. On the other hand, the dimension-4 and dimension-6 Higgs-portal couplings are universally determined in terms of $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)}$ and $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}$ in eq. (2.24), so there is no tree-level contribution to the DM-nucleon scattering, as discussed below eq. (2.4) in the beginning of this section. Moreover, the dimension-4 Higgs portal coupling, $\varphi^2 |H|^2$, is doubly suppressed by $\frac{m_\varphi^2}{\Lambda^2}$ and $\frac{m_H^2}{\Lambda^2}$.

3 Positivity bounds on dimension-8 Higgs-portal

In this article, we derive the positivity bounds on the dimension-8 derivative Higgs-portal couplings for scalar dark matter.

3.1 Scattering amplitudes for superposed states

Briefly speaking, the statement of the positivity bounds is that the second order s-derivative of the amplitudes with poles subtracted must be positive. For the case of the superposed elastic scattering process, $ab \rightarrow ab$, where a and b states are superposition states with coefficients characterized by u and v vectors,

$$|a\rangle = u^{i} |i\rangle, |b\rangle = v^{i} |i\rangle, \qquad (3.1)$$

we get the positivity bounds by

$$u^{i}v^{j}u^{*k}v^{*l}M^{ijkl} \ge 0, (3.2)$$

where i, j, k, l indices run through the number of the states involved in the superposition and

$$M^{ijkl} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2}{ds^2} M(ij \to kl)(s, t = 0) \Big|_{s \to 0}.$$
(3.3)

Here, we assumed that the low-energy poles are subtracted in the scattering amplitude $M(ij \rightarrow kl)$.

In the case of a real scalar dark matter with Higgs-portal couplings, a and b states in $ab \rightarrow ab$ scattering, correspond to

$$|a\rangle = \sum_{i=1}^{4} u_i |\phi_i\rangle + u_5 |\varphi\rangle, \qquad (3.4)$$

$$|b\rangle = \sum_{i=1}^{4} v_i |\phi_i\rangle + v_5 |\varphi\rangle, \qquad (3.5)$$

respectively. Here, φ is the real scalar dark matter field and the SM Higgs doublet H is written in terms of four real scalar fields, $\phi_i (i = 1, 2, 3, 4)$, as follows,

$$H = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} \phi_1 + i\phi_2\\ \phi_3 + i\phi_4 \end{pmatrix}.$$
(3.6)

The effective operators involved in this superposed elastic scattering process are not only Higgs-portal operators for real scalar dark matter given in the first line in table 1, but also operators including the dark matter only (in the second line) and the Higgs doublet only (in the third and fourth lines), respectively. The full operators involved in this superposed elastic scattering process contributing on the positivity bounds are listed in table 1.

Performing the calculations of all the amplitudes involved in the processes by FeynRules, FeynArts and FormCalc [14–16], we find the amplitude for the superposed states,

$$M \equiv u_i v_j u_{*k} v_{*l} M^{ijkl} = (X_1 + Y_1 + Z_1) C_{H^4}^{(2)} + Y_1 C_{H^4}^{(3)} + (X_1 + Y_1) C_{H^4}^{(1)} + (X_2 + Z_2) C_{H^2 \varphi^2}^{(1)} + 2Z_2 C_{H^2 \varphi^2}^{(2)} + 4Y_2 C_{\varphi^4} \ge 0$$
(3.7)

where

$$X_1 = \frac{1}{2}(-u_4v_1 - u_3v_2 + u_2v_3 + u_1v_4)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(-u_3v_1 + u_4v_2 + u_1v_3 - u_2v_4)^2, \quad (3.8)$$

$$Y_1 = (u_1v_1 + u_2v_2 + u_3v_3 + u_4v_4)^2, (3.9)$$

$$Z_1 = (u_2v_1 - u_1v_2 + u_4v_3 - u_3v_4)^2, (3.10)$$

$$X_2 = \frac{1}{2} \left(u_5^2 (v_1^2 + v_2^2 + v_3^2 + v_4^2) + v_5^2 (u_1^2 + u_2^2 + u_3^2 + u_4^2) \right),$$
(3.11)

$$Y_2 = (u_5 v_5)^2, (3.12)$$

$$Z_2 = u_5 v_5 (u_1 v_1 + u_1 v_2 + u_3 v_3 + u_4 v_4). aga{3.13}$$

Here, we took the same combinations for X_1 , Y_1 , and Z_1 as in ref. [9], and the coefficients u_i and v_i are assumed to be real numbers for simplicity, but taking them to be complex numbers does not give rise to additional constraints, thanks to the crossing symmetry of the forward scattering amplitudes [9].

3.2 Positivity bounds

In order to derive the positivity bounds, we now rewrite the amplitude in eq. (3.7) as

$$M = M_1 X_1 + M_2 Y_1 + M_3 Z_1 + M_4 X_2 + M_5 Y_2 + M_6 Z_2 \ge 0$$
(3.14)

where

$$M_{1} = C_{H^{4}}^{(1)} + C_{H^{4}}^{(2)}, \quad M_{2} = C_{H^{4}}^{(1)} + C_{H^{4}}^{(2)} + C_{H^{4}}^{(3)}, \quad M_{3} = C_{H^{4}}^{(2)},$$
$$M_{4} = C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(1)}, \qquad M_{5} = 4C_{\varphi^{4}}, \qquad M_{6} = C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(1)} + 2C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(2)}.$$
(3.15)

As X_i , Y_i , and Z_i (i = 1, 2) are quartic polynomials of u_j and v_j (j = 1 - 5) in eqs. (3.8)–(3.13), we find the ranges for them under which eq. (3.14) is positive semidefinite, as follows,

$$X_1 \ge 0, \quad Y_1 \ge 0, \quad Z_1 \ge 0, \quad Y_2 \ge 0, \quad Z_2 = \pm \sqrt{Y_1 Y_2},$$
 (3.16)

$$X_2 \ge \sqrt{Y_2(2X_1 + Y_1 + Z_1)}.$$
(3.17)

Here, we note that the bounds in eq. (3.16) are obtained simply from their definitions in eqs. (3.8)-(3.10) and eqs. (3.12)-(3.13), and eq. (3.17) can be derived from

$$X_{2}^{2} - Y_{2}(2X_{1} + Y_{1} + Z_{1}) = \frac{1}{4} \left(u_{5}^{2}(v_{1}^{2} + v_{2}^{2} + v_{3}^{2} + v_{4}^{2}) - v_{5}^{2}(u_{1}^{2} + u_{2}^{2} + u_{3}^{2} + u_{4}^{2}) \right)^{2} \ge 0.$$
(3.18)

First of all, taking $M \ge 0$ from the positivity argument, we immediately obtain

$$M_1 \ge 0, \quad M_2 \ge 0, \quad M_3 \ge 0, \quad M_4 \ge 0, \quad M_5 \ge 0.$$
 (3.19)

For example, we obtain $M_1 \ge 0$ by setting $X_1 \ne 0$ and others to zero by $u_1 = 1$, $v_3 = 1$ but other coefficients set to zero. Then, this corresponds to the positivity bound for the elastic forward scattering with $|\phi_1\rangle$ and $|\phi_3\rangle$.

For deriving the other bounds, we should minimize eq. (3.14) in the ranges of eqs. (3.16) and (3.17). When $Y_1 = 0$, we just obtain a trivial result, $M \ge 0$. So, we concentrate on a nonzero Y_1 , i.e., $Y_1 > 0$ from eq. (3.16). Then, the problem becomes to minimize

$$X_1M_1 + Y_1M_2 + Z_1M_3 + X_2M_4 + Y_2M_5 + Z_2M_6 \ (\ge 0), \tag{3.20}$$

subject to

$$X_1 \ge 0, Y_1 > 0, Z_1 \ge 0, X_2 \ge \sqrt{Y_2(2X_1 + Y_1 + Z_1), Y_2 \ge 0, Z_2} = \pm \sqrt{Y_1Y_2}.$$
 (3.21)

Knowing $M_4 \ge 0$ from eq. (3.19), we take $X_2 = \sqrt{Y_2(2X_1 + Y_1 + Z_1)}$ to minimize the amplitude M. Moreover, as $|M_6| \ge 0$, we can take $M_6Z_2 = -\sqrt{Y_1Y_2}|M_6|$. Then, after dividing the amplitude M by Y_1 , the problem (3.20) is now to minimize

$$f(x,y,z) = x^2 M_1 + y^2 M_5 + z^2 M_3 - y \left(|M_6| - \sqrt{2x^2 + z^2 + 1} M_4 \right) + M_2 \ (\ge 0), \tag{3.22}$$

subject to

$$x \ge 0, \quad y \ge 0, \quad z \ge 0, \tag{3.23}$$

where $x = \sqrt{\frac{X_1}{Y_1}}$, $y = \sqrt{\frac{Y_2}{Y_1}}$, and $z = \sqrt{\frac{Z_1}{Y_1}}$. Since $M_1 \ge 0$, $M_3 \ge 0$, and $M_4 \ge 0$ from eq. (3.19), we further take x = z = 0 and now only have to minimize

$$f(0, y, 0) = y^2 M_5 - y(|M_6| - M_4) + M_2 \ (\ge 0), \tag{3.24}$$

for $y \ge 0$. Since f(0, y, 0) has a minimum for $y = \frac{|M_6| - M_4}{2M_5}$, we obtain

$$M_2 - \frac{(|M_6| - M_4)^2}{4M_5} \ge 0, \quad \text{for } |M_6| \ge M_4, \tag{3.25}$$

or

$$M_2 \ge 0, \quad \text{for } |M_6| \le M_4,$$
 (3.26)

from eq. (3.19). Since $M_2 \ge 0$ and $M_5 \ge 0$ from eq. (3.19), the condition in eq. (3.25) is the same as

$$2\sqrt{M_2 M_5} \ge |M_6| - M_4. \tag{3.27}$$

Here, we omitted $|M_6| \ge M_4$ because eq. (3.27) is automatically satisfied for $|M_6| < M_4$.

Bounds	Channels $(1\rangle + 2\rangle \rightarrow 1\rangle + 2\rangle)$
$C_{H^4}^{(1)} + C_{H^4}^{(2)} \ge 0$	$ 1\rangle = \phi_1\rangle , \ 2\rangle = \phi_3\rangle$
$C_{H^4}^{(1)} + C_{H^4}^{(2)} + C_{H^4}^{(3)} \ge 0$	$ 1\rangle = \phi_1\rangle , \ 2\rangle = \phi_1\rangle$
$C_{H^4}^{(2)} \ge 0$	$ 1\rangle = \phi_1\rangle , \ 2\rangle = \phi_2\rangle$
$C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)} \ge 0$	$\ket{1}=\ket{\phi_1},\ \ket{2}=\ket{arphi}$
$C_{\varphi^4} \geq 0$	$ 1 angle = arphi angle , \;\; 2 angle = arphi angle$
$2\sqrt{(C_{H^4}^{(1)} + C_{H^4}^{(2)} + C_{H^4}^{(3)})C_{\varphi^4}}$	$ 1\rangle = 2\sqrt{C_{\varphi^4}} \phi_1\rangle + \sqrt{-(C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)} + C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)})} \varphi\rangle,$
$\geq -\left(C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(1)} + C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(2)}\right)$	2 angle= 1 angle
$2\sqrt{(C_{H^4}^{(1)} + C_{H^4}^{(2)} + C_{H^4}^{(3)})C_{\varphi^4}} \ge C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}$	$ 1\rangle = 2\sqrt{C_{\varphi^4}} \phi_1\rangle + \sqrt{C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}} \varphi\rangle,$
	$\left 2\right\rangle = -2\sqrt{C_{\varphi^{4}}}\left \phi_{1}\right\rangle + \sqrt{C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(2)}}\left \varphi\right\rangle$

 Table 2. Positivity bounds on the left column and the corresponding forward elastic scattering channels on the right column.

Substituting the Wilson coefficients with eq. (3.15) in the positivity conditions in eq. (3.19), we finally arrive at

$$C_{H^4}^{(1)} + C_{H^4}^{(2)} \ge 0, (3.28)$$

$$C_{H^4}^{(1)} + C_{H^4}^{(2)} + C_{H^4}^{(3)} \ge 0, (3.29)$$

$$C_{H^4}^{(2)} \ge 0, \tag{3.30}$$

$$C_{H^2\omega^2}^{(1)} \ge 0, \tag{3.31}$$

$$C_{\varphi^4} \ge 0, \tag{3.32}$$

$$4\sqrt{(C_{H^4}^{(1)} + C_{H^4}^{(2)} + C_{H^4}^{(3)})C_{\varphi^4}} \ge \left|C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)} + 2C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}\right| - C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)}.$$
(3.33)

The corresponding forward elastic scattering channel for each bound is summarized in table 2. Here, for the final two elastic scattering channels, we can divide the positivity condition in eq. (3.33) into the cases, $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)} + 2C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)} \leq 0$ and $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)} + 2C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)} \geq 0$.

Denoting $A \equiv \sqrt{(C_{H^4}^{(1)} + C_{H^4}^{(2)} + C_{H^4}^{(3)})C_{\varphi^4}}$, we can rewrite the positivity condition in eq. (3.33) as $-C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)} - 2A \leq C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)} \leq 2A$. As a result, for $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)} = +1$ and $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)} \geq 0$, it is interesting to find that the positivity condition in eq. (3.33) leads to $A \geq \frac{1}{2}$, which sets the lower bound on the product of the dimension-8 derivative self-interactions for Higgs and scalar dark matter. On the other hand, for $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)} = -1$, we get the positivity condition in eq. (3.33) as $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)} \geq 1 - 2A$. In this case, the dimension-8 self-interactions for Higgs and scalar dark matter can be small, being compatible with the positivity bounds. Therefore, we focus on the case with $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)} < 0$ in the later discussion. In the case with the massive spin-2 particle and the radion in section 2, from eqs. (2.23), (2.25) and (2.26), we can check the positivity bounds, as in the following,

$$C_{H^4}^{(1)} + C_{H^4}^{(2)} = \frac{2c_H^2 \Lambda^4}{m_G^2 M^2} \ge 0, \tag{3.34}$$

$$C_{H^4}^{(1)} + C_{H^4}^{(2)} + C_{H^4}^{(3)} = \frac{4c_H^2 \Lambda^4}{3m_G^2 M^2} + \frac{(c_H^r)^2 \Lambda^4}{3m_r^2 M^2} \ge 0,$$
(3.35)

$$C_{H^4}^{(2)} = \frac{c_H^2 \Lambda^4}{m_G^2 M^2} \ge 0, \tag{3.36}$$

$$C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(1)} = \frac{2c_{H}c_{\varphi}\Lambda^{4}}{m_{G}^{2}M^{2}} \ge 0, \quad \text{for} \quad c_{H}c_{\varphi} \ge 0, \tag{3.37}$$

$$C_{\varphi^4} = \frac{c_{\varphi}^2 \Lambda^4}{3m_G^2 M^2} + \frac{(c_{\varphi}^r)^2 \Lambda^4}{12m_r^2 M^2} \ge 0, \tag{3.38}$$

$$2\sqrt{(C_{H^4}^{(1)} + C_{H^4}^{(2)} + C_{H^4}^{(3)})C_{\varphi^4}} \ge -\left(C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)} + C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}\right) = -\frac{4c_H c_\varphi \Lambda^4}{3m_G^2 M^2} - \frac{c_H^r c_\varphi^r \Lambda^4}{3m_r^2 M^2}, \quad (3.39)$$

$$2\sqrt{(C_{H^4}^{(1)} + C_{H^4}^{(2)} + C_{H^4}^{(3)})C_{\varphi^4}} \ge C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)} = -\frac{2c_H c_\varphi \Lambda^4}{3m_G^2 M^2} + \frac{c_H^r c_\varphi^r \Lambda^4}{3m_r^2 M^2}.$$
(3.40)

First, we note that eqs. (3.34), (3.35), (3.36) and (3.38) are trivially satisfied. Then, as far as $c_H c_{\varphi} \geq 0$, we obtain $C_{H^2 \varphi^2}^{(1)} \geq 0$ in eq. (3.37), and the last two nontrivial conditions in eqs. (3.39) and (3.40) are also satisfied automatically.

Before concluding this section, we also remark the effects of loop corrections on the positivity bounds. In particular, the dimension-6 operators present in the effective theory can also contribute to the Wilson coefficients of the dimension-8 operators at one-loop [10]. Focusing on the Higgs-portal dimension-8 operators, we find that the one-loop corrections give rise to the shifts in the renormalized Wilson coefficients in dimensional regularization, as follows,

$$\hat{C}_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(1)} = C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(1)} + \frac{1}{648\pi^{2}\Lambda^{4}} \left(13(\tilde{d}_{3}^{2} + \tilde{d}_{4}^{2}) + 20\tilde{d}_{3}\tilde{d}_{4} \right) + \frac{1}{108\pi^{2}\Lambda^{4}} (\tilde{d}_{3} + \tilde{d}_{4})^{2} \ln \frac{\mu^{2}}{|s|},$$
(3.41)

$$\hat{C}_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(2)} = C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(2)} - \frac{5}{1296\pi^{2}\Lambda^{4}} (\tilde{d}_{3} + \tilde{d}_{4})^{2} - \frac{1}{432\pi^{2}\Lambda^{4}} (\tilde{d}_{3} + \tilde{d}_{4})^{2} \ln \frac{\mu^{2}}{|s|}$$
(3.42)

where $\tilde{d}_3 \equiv d_3 m_{\varphi}^2$ and $\tilde{d}_4 \equiv d_4 m_H^2$ with d_3, d_4 given in eq. (2.2), μ is the renormalization scale. Here, we took the four-momenta for the four-point vertex to $\varphi(k) - \varphi(k') - H(p) - H^{\dagger}(p')$ where k, k', p are incoming toward the vertex and p' is outgoing from the vertex. We also chose the limit of k = k' and $s = (p + k)^2$ is assumed to be spacelike in the above results for simplicity. Then, the Wilson coefficients for both Higgs-portal dimension-8 operators are corrected due to the Higgs-portal dimension-6 operators, so the positivity bounds for the Higgs-portal dimension-8 operators in eqs. (3.31) and (3.33) are modified by those with



Figure 1. Feynman diagrams for dark matter annihilations due to dimension-6 and dimension-8 operators.

 $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)}, C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}$ being replaced by $\hat{C}_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)}, \hat{C}_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}$, respectively. Thus, for the cutoff scale Λ parametrically larger than the dark matter mass considered in the later discussion, the loop corrections renormalized at $\mu = \Lambda$ give rise to small modifications in the positivity bounds, so it is sufficient to consider the positivity bounds on the dimension-8 operators at tree level as discussed in this section.

We also note that the dimension-6 operators with Higgs fields only can also modify the dimension-8 operators in the SM, but we only have to replace $C_{H^4}^{(1)}, C_{H^4}^{(2)}, C_{H^4}^{(3)}$ by the shifted ones [10].

4 Phenomenological constraints

In this section, we consider various constraints on the effective Higgs-portal couplings from dark matter relic density, direct and indirect detection as well as the LHC bounds. We show the interplay of direct detection, relic density and positivity bounds in constraining the dimension-8 derivative Higgs-portal couplings and the other Higgs-portal couplings.

4.1 Dark matter relic density

In order to determine the relic density by a freeze-out mechanism, we need to consider the annihilation channels for scalar dark matter with the effective Higgs-portal interactions.

For non-derivative Higgs-portal couplings with $c'_3 \neq c_3$ and $d'_4 \neq d_4$ in eq. (2.2), there are tree-level Higgs exchanges for dark matter annihilation as in usual Higgs-portal scenarios, such as $\varphi \varphi \rightarrow f \bar{f}$, VV, hh with f being the SM fermions and V = W, Z. For $c'_3 = c_3$ and $d'_4 = d_4$, the dark matter annihilations, $\varphi \varphi \rightarrow f \bar{f}$, are absent at tree level, whereas derivative Higgs-portal couplings for dark matter annihilation coming from Higgs-portal dim-6 and dim-8 interactions, contribute to the other processes for dark matter annihilation, as shown in figure 1.

The number density for the dark matter n_{φ} is governed by the following Boltzmann equation,

$$\dot{n}_{\varphi} + 3Hn_{\varphi} = -\langle \sigma v_{\rm rel} \rangle_{\rm eff} \left(n_{\varphi}^2 - (n_{\varphi}^{\rm eq})^2 \right), \tag{4.1}$$

where

$$\langle \sigma v_{\rm rel} \rangle_{\rm eff} = 2 \langle \sigma v_{\rm rel} \rangle_{\varphi \varphi \to hh} + 2 \langle \sigma v_{\rm rel} \rangle_{\varphi \varphi \to W^+ W^-} + 2 \langle \sigma v_{\rm rel} \rangle_{\varphi \varphi \to ZZ} + 2 \langle \sigma v_{\rm rel} \rangle_{\varphi \varphi \to f\bar{f}}, \qquad (4.2)$$

 $n_{\varphi}^{\rm eq}$ is the number density in thermal equilibrium, and the annihilation cross sections are given by

$$\langle \sigma v_{\rm rel} \rangle_{\varphi \varphi \to ij} = \frac{|\mathcal{M}_{\varphi \varphi \to ij}|^2}{32\pi m_{\varphi}^2} \sqrt{1 - \frac{m_i^2}{m_{\varphi}^2}}.$$
(4.3)

(1)

Here, (i, j) denotes (h, h), (W^+, W^-) , (Z, Z), (f, \bar{f}) , respectively, m_i is the mass of *i* field, and the *s*-wave contribution is dominant for the annihilation cross sections in the limit $v_{\rm rel} \to 0$. The squared matrix element, $|\mathcal{M}_{\varphi\varphi\to ij}|^2$, includes the symmetric factor for identical particles in initial states (i.e. a dark matter particle pair $\varphi\varphi$) and final states (i.e. *hh* and *ZZ*). Then, we get the squared scattering matrix elements for electroweak final states as

$$|\mathcal{M}_{\varphi\varphi \to hh}|^{2} = \frac{m_{\varphi}^{4}}{9\Lambda^{8}(m_{h}^{2} - 4m_{\varphi}^{2})^{2}} \left[\left(2c_{3} - d_{3} + d_{4} + 3C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(2)} \right) m_{h}^{4} + \left(4c_{3} - 12c_{3}' + 6d_{3} + 2d_{4} - 6d_{4}' - 3C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(1)} - 18C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(2)} \right) m_{h}^{2} m_{\varphi}^{2} + 4 \left(-2d_{3} + 3C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(1)} + 6C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(2)} \right) m_{\varphi}^{4} \right]^{2},$$

$$(4.4)$$

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{M}_{\varphi\varphi \to W^+W^-}|^2 &= \frac{2\pi^2 \alpha^2 m_{\varphi}^4 v^4}{9\Lambda^8 m_W^4 s_W^4} \Big[9(C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)})^2 (m_{\varphi}^2 - m_W^2)^2 - \frac{6C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)}}{m_h^2 - 4m_{\varphi}^2} (m_{\varphi}^2 - m_W^2) (2m_{\varphi}^2 - m_W^2) \\ &\times \Big\{ \Big(2(c_3 - c_3') + d_3 + d_4 - d_4' - 3C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)} \Big) m_h^2 + 4 \Big(-d_3 + 3C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)} \Big) m_{\varphi}^2 \Big\} \\ &+ \frac{1}{(m_h^2 - 4m_{\varphi}^2)^2} (4m_{\varphi}^4 - 4m_{\varphi}^2 m_W^2 + 3m_W^4) \\ &\times \Big\{ \Big(2(c_3 - c_3') + d_3 + d_4 - d_4' - 3C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)} \Big) m_h^2 + 4 \Big(-d_3 + 3C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)} \Big) m_{\varphi}^2 \Big\}^2 \Big], \end{aligned}$$

$$(4.5)$$

$$|\mathcal{M}_{\varphi\varphi\to ZZ}|^2 = \frac{1}{2} |\mathcal{M}_{\varphi\varphi\to W^+W^-}|^2 (m_W \to m_Z, s_W \to s_W c_W) \tag{4.6}$$

where $c_W = \cos \theta_W$, $s_W = \sin \theta_W$, θ_W is the Weinberg angle, α is the fine structure constant, and v is the vacuum expectation value of the SM Higgs field. Moreover, the squared scattering matrix elements for $\varphi \varphi \to f \bar{f}$, with $f \bar{f} = t \bar{t}, b \bar{b}$, are given by

$$|\mathcal{M}_{\varphi\varphi\to f\bar{f}}|^2 = \frac{4m_f^2 m_h^4 m_\varphi^4 (m_\varphi^2 - m_f^2)}{3\Lambda^8 (m_h^2 - 4m_\varphi^2)^2} \cdot \left(2(c_3 - c_3') + d_4 - d_4'\right)^2,\tag{4.7}$$

where $m_f = m_t, m_b$ are top and bottom quark masses.

Consequently, all the annihilation channels in the effective theory approach, if allowed, are dominated by the s-wave in the generic parameter space. This is in contrast with the case with a massive graviton mediator where $\varphi \varphi \rightarrow hh$, $f\bar{f}$ become *d*-wave suppressed and $\varphi \varphi \rightarrow VV$ become also *d*-wave suppressed for the universal couplings of the massive graviton to electroweak bosons in the SM including the gauge kinetic terms [13].

For the universal couplings for dimension-4 and dimension-6 operators, $c_3 = c'_3 = d_3 = d_4 = d'_4 = -3C^{(1)}_{H^2\varphi^2}/2 - 6C^{(2)}_{H^2\varphi^2}$, which is the case with graviton and radion from eq. (2.24), we can simplify the squared matrix elements for $\varphi \varphi \to hh, WW$, as follows,

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{M}_{\varphi\varphi \to hh}|^{2} &= \frac{m_{\varphi}^{4}}{\Lambda^{8}} (m_{h}^{2} + 2m_{\varphi}^{2})^{2} \Big(C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(1)} + 3C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(2)} \Big)^{2}, \end{aligned} \tag{4.8} \\ |\mathcal{M}_{\varphi\varphi \to W^{+}W^{-}}|^{2} &= \frac{2\pi^{2}\alpha^{2}m_{\varphi}^{4}v^{4}}{9\Lambda^{8}m_{W}^{4}s_{W}^{4}} \Big[36(C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(1)} + 3C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(2)})^{2}m_{\varphi}^{4} \\ &\quad - 54(C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(1)} + 2C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(2)})(C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(1)} + 3C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(2)})m_{\varphi}^{2}m_{W}^{2} \\ &\quad + \frac{9}{4} \Big(11(C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(1)})^{2} + 60C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(1)}C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(2)} + 108(C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(2)})^{2} \Big) m_{W}^{4} \Big], \tag{4.8} \end{aligned}$$

and the squared matrix elements for $\varphi \varphi \to f \bar{f}$ vanish. With the graviton only, we can take a further condition, $C_{H^2 \varphi^2}^{(2)} = -C_{H^2 \varphi^2}^{(1)}/3$, from eq. (2.9). In this case, the squared matrix elements for $\varphi \varphi \to hh$ also vanish at s-wave [13], but $\varphi \varphi \to VV$ is s-wave dominant, because

$$|\mathcal{M}_{\varphi\varphi \to W^+W^-}|^2 = \frac{2\pi^2 \alpha^2 m_{\varphi}^4 v^4}{9\Lambda^8 s_W^4} (C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)})^2.$$
(4.10)

Therefore, in the effective theory stemming from the massive graviton, there is no strong bound from indirect detection experiments for either $\varphi \varphi \rightarrow hh$ or $\varphi \varphi \rightarrow f\bar{f}$ [13, 17].

By solving the Boltzmann equation in eq. (4.1), we can obtain the abundance for dark matter in terms of $Y_{\rm DM} = n_{\varphi}/s$ at present, as follows,

$$\Omega_{\rm DM} h^2 = 0.2744 \left(\frac{Y_{\rm DM}}{10^{-11}}\right) \left(\frac{m_{\varphi}}{100 \text{ GeV}}\right).$$
(4.11)

The present abundance for dark matter is approximated [18-20] to

$$Y_{\rm DM} \simeq \sqrt{\frac{45g_*}{\pi g_{*s}^2}} \frac{x_f}{m_{\varphi} M_{\rm pl} \langle \sigma v_{\rm rel} \rangle_{\rm eff}},\tag{4.12}$$

where

$$x_f \simeq \ln y_f - \frac{1}{2} \ln \ln y_f, \qquad y_f = \frac{1}{2\pi^3} \sqrt{\frac{45}{8g_*}} m_\varphi M_{\rm pl} \langle \sigma v_{\rm rel} \rangle_{\rm eff}, \tag{4.13}$$

where $M_{\rm pl} = 1.22 \times 10^{19}$ GeV is the Planck mass, and g_*, g_{*s} are the effective numbers of relativistic degrees of freedom in radiation and entropy, respectively.

4.2 Direct detection

The effective Higgs-portal couplings, c_3 , c'_3 , d_4 , and d'_4 , give rise to the effective interactions between dark matter and quarks through Higgs boson exchanges in the *t*-channel, as follows,

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff},\varphi-q} = -\frac{(2(c_3 - c'_3) - d_4 + d'_4)m_q m_{\varphi}^2}{6\Lambda^4} \varphi^2 \bar{q}q.$$
(4.14)

Then, we obtain the cross section for the spin-independent scattering between dark matter and nucleus, as follows,

$$\sigma_{\varphi-X} = \frac{\mu_N^2}{\pi m_\varphi^2 A^2} \left(Z f_p + (A-Z) f_n \right)^2 \tag{4.15}$$



JHEP06 (2023)124

Figure 2. Upper: parameter space for $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)}$ vs $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}$, satisfying positivity and relic density. We took $A \equiv \sqrt{(C_{H^4}^{(1)} + C_{H^4}^{(2)} + C_{H^4}^{(3)})C_{\varphi^4}} = 0.1$ and $m_{\varphi} = 3m_h(950 \text{ GeV})$ for the left(right) figures. Lower: parameter space for m_{φ} vs $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)}$, satisfying positivity and relic density, for $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)} = -1$. We took $\Lambda = 1(2)$ TeV for the left(right) figures in each panel. The relic density for dark matter is overproduced in orange regions, namely, $\Omega h^2 > 0.12$, and it saturates the observed value along the boundary of the orange region. The positivity bounds in eq. (3.31) are satisfied in green regions. In all the plots, we set $c_3 = d_3 = c'_3 = d_4 = d'_4 = 0$.

where Z, A - Z are the number of protons and neutrons in the detector nucleus, $\mu_X = m_{\varphi} m_X / (m_{\varphi} + m_X)$ is the reduced mass for the DM-nucleus system, and the nucleon form factors are given by

$$f_{p,n} = -\frac{(2(c_3 - c'_3) - d_4 + d'_4)m_{p,n}m_{\varphi}^2}{6\Lambda^4} \left(\sum_{q=u,d,s} f_{Tq}^{p,n} + \frac{2}{9}f_{TG}^{p,n}\right),\tag{4.16}$$

with $f_{TG}^{p,n} = 1 - \sum_{q=u,d,s} f_{Tq}^{p,n}$. Here, f_{Tq}^N is the mass fraction of quark q inside the nucleon N, defined by $\langle N | m_q \bar{q}q | N \rangle = m_N f_{Tq}^N$, and f_{TG}^N is the mass fraction of gluon G the nucleon N, due to heavy quarks. The numerical values are $f_{Tu}^p = 0.0208 \pm 0.0015$ and $f_{Td}^p =$



Figure 3. The same as in figure 2, but with $c_3 = d_3 = c'_3 = d_4 = d'_4 = 2$.

 0.0411 ± 0.0028 for a proton, $f_{T_u}^n = 0.0189 \pm 0.0014$ and $f_{T_d}^n = 0.0451 \pm 0.0027$ for a neutron [21], and $f_{T_s}^{p,n} = 0.043 \pm 0.011$ for both proton and neutron [22].

Taking the universal Higgs-portal couplings for dimension-4 and dimension-6 operators, $c'_3 = c_3$ and $d'_4 = d_4$, the momentum transfer independent part of the direct detection cross section in eq. (4.15) vanishes, so there is no strong bound from the direct detection experiments. The effective theory obtained from graviton and radion respects such universal relations for effective couplings, as shown in eq. (2.24), which could be ensured at the cutoff scale. Of course, in the effective theory where we are agnostic about the origin of the effective couplings, the direct detection can constrain only the combination of the effective low-energy couplings to $2(c_3 - c'_3) = d_4 - d'_4$, from eq. (4.15).

In figure 2, we show the parameter space in $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)}$ and $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}$ in the upper panel and m_{φ} and $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)}$ with $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)} = -1$ in the lower panel, satisfying the relic density for dark matter and positivity bounds. We have fixed $\Lambda = 1, 2$ TeV on left and right figures, respectively, and $m_{\varphi} = 3m_h, 950$ GeV on the left and right figures in the upper panel, respectively. We set dimension-4 and dimension-6 couplings to zero, namely, $c_3 = d_3 = c'_3 = d_4 = d'_4 = 0$,



Figure 4. The same as in figure 2, but with $c_3 = d_3 = c'_3 = d_4 = d'_4 = -1.5C^{(1)}_{H^2\varphi^2} - 6C^{(2)}_{H^2\varphi^2}$ for graviton and radion.

for all the plots in figure 2. The relic density with $\Omega h^2 < 0.12$ is achieved outside the orange regions, so the observed relic density, $\Omega h^2 = 0.12$, is explained along the boundary of the orange region, and the positivity bounds are satisfied in the green regions. The direct detection bounds for dark matter are satisfied for all the plots.

For the plots in the upper panel of figure 2, we also took the combination of the dimension-8 derivative self-interactions for Higgs and dark matter by $A \equiv \sqrt{\left(C_{H^4}^{(1)} + C_{H^4}^{(2)} + C_{H^4}^{(3)}\right)C_{\varphi^4}} = 0.1$. However, for given LHC bounds on the Wilson coefficients of the Higgs self-couplings up to order one discussed in section 4.4, we can also allow for a larger value of A because C_{φ^4} is unconstrained for WIMP-like dark matter, so the positivity bounds are satisfied even for positive values of $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}$ in the upper panel.

In figures 3 and 4, we present the similar results as in figure 2, except with $c_3 = d_3 = c'_3 = d_4 = d'_4 = 2$ for the former case and $c_3 = d_3 = c'_3 = d_4 = d'_4 = -1.5C^{(1)}_{H^2\varphi^2} - 6C^{(2)}_{H^2\varphi^2}$ in the latter case. Dimension-4 and dimension-6 Higgs portal couplings are (un-)correlated



Figure 5. Parameter space for $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)}$ vs $c'_3 = d'_4$. The present relic density for dark matter goes beyond the measured value in orange regions, namely, $\Omega h^2 > 0.12$. The gray regions are excluded by the LZ experiment [23]. The positivity bounds are satisfied in green regions. We took $\Lambda = 1(2)$ TeV and $m_{\varphi} = 3m_h(950 \text{ GeV})$ for the left(right) figure, and $c_3 = d_3 = d_4 = 2$ and $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)} = -1$ for both plots.

to dimension-8 operators in the latter (former) cases, and the latter case can be derived from graviton and radion. Then, in figure 3, the relic density condition shifts the allowed parameter for $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}$ towards more positive values, because the dimension-4 and dimension-6 Higgs portal couplings also contribute to the relic density. On the other hand, in figures 4, the relic density condition makes the allowed parameter space for $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)}$ and $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}$ narrower, due to the correlation between dimension-8 and lower-dimensional Higgs-portal couplings. Therefore, the relic density condition depends crucially on the presence of the dimension-4 and dimension-6 Higgs portal couplings.

In figure 5, we depict the parameter space in $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)}$ and Higgs-portal couplings with $c'_3 = d'_4$, satisfying the relic density and the positivity conditions as well as the direct detection bound from the LUX-ZEPLIN(LZ) experiment [23]. We chose $c_3 = d_3 = d_4 = 2$ and $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)} = -1$ for both plots and $\Lambda = 1, 2$ TeV and $m_{\varphi} = 3m_h, 950$ GeV for the left and right figures, respectively. For relatively light dark matter on left, the consistent parameter space remains close to the universal couplings, $c_3 = d_4 = c'_3 = d'_4$, outside the gray region excluded by the LZ experiment. On the other hand, for heavy dark matter on right, there is still a lot of parameter space left to be compatible with the direct detection bound. We find that the positivity bounds in green are complementary to the bounds from direct detection in gray and relic density in orange in constraining the Higgs-portal effective interactions.

4.3 Indirect detection

Dark matter can annihilate into $f\bar{f}$, VV with V = W, Z or hh without velocity suppression for the generic parameter space of the effective theory approach. In this case, the effective Higgs-portal couplings can be constrained by indirect detection experiments [24, 25] such as Fermi-LAT dwarf galaxies [26], HESS gamma-rays [27], AMS-02 antiprotons [28], and Cosmic Microwave Background measurements [29].



Figure 6. (Left) Feynman diagram for the dark matter production. (Right) Feynman diagram for a signal process with an invisible decay of additional scalar boson. Adapted from figure 1 in [36]. Here, χ corresponds to DM or an invisible particle and H is an additional scalar boson.

On the other hand, for universal effective couplings for dimension-4 and dimension-6 operators, as discussed in the previous subsection, $\varphi \varphi \rightarrow f \bar{f}$ is absent, so the *s*-wave dominant channels, $\varphi \varphi \rightarrow hh, VV$, can be constrained importantly by indirect detection. In particular, the strong bounds from direct detection can be satisfied for $c'_3 = c_4$ and $d_4 = d'_4$, leading to interesting signatures for indirect detection from heavy bosons in the SM. The dark matter annihilation into heavy gauge bosons has been less constrained by indirect searches [30, 31], but it is potentially discoverable by the Milky Way Galactic Center from Fermi-LAT [32] and more data with indirect detection.

If we further impose the correlation between dimension-8 and lower-dimensional Higgsportal couplings as in eq. (2.24) with eq. (2.9), the $\varphi \varphi \to hh$ channel is velocity-suppressed, as discussed below eq. (4.8), whereas the $\varphi \varphi \to VV$ channels are still *s*-wave and they could lead to interesting signatures in cosmic ray observations.

4.4 LHC searches

In this subsection, we discuss the current limits on the dimension-8 operators for Higgs only in the third line of table 1 and discuss the dark matter production at HL-LHC, induced by the dimension-8 Higgs portal operators, i.e, the first line of table 1.

First, the dimension-8 derivative self-couplings for the Higgs are constrained most by the same sign W boson pairs at the LHC to $C_{H^4}^{(2)}/\Lambda^4 = [-7.7, 7.7] \text{ TeV}^{-4}$ and $C_{H^4}^{(3)}/\Lambda^4 = [-21.6, 21.8] \text{ TeV}^{-4}$ at 95% CL [33] (See also the weaker limits from the WZ boson pairs [34]), but there is no limit shown for $C_{H^4}^{(1)}$, although a similar limit is expected. Moreover, the combined WW, WZ, ZZ channels in association with two jets lead to stronger limits, $C_{H^4}^{(2)}/\Lambda^4 = [-2.7, 2.7] \text{ TeV}^{-4}$ and $C_{H^4}^{(3)}/\Lambda^4 = [-3.4, 3.4] \text{ TeV}^{-4}$ at 95% CL [35].

On the other hand, the signal process for DM production in our work is based on

$$pp \to \varphi \varphi jj,$$
 (4.17)

where j = u, d, c, s, b (and their antiparticles). The Feynman diagram for main signal processes is shown in figure 6.

The main background process is

$$pp \to \nu \bar{\nu} j j,$$
 (4.18)

$\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV LHC}, L_{\text{int}} = 139 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	$\sigma^{\text{VBF}} \times B_{\text{inv}} = 0.11 \text{ pb} (m_H = 1 \text{ TeV})$
$\Lambda = 1 \text{ TeV}, \ m_{\varphi} = 375 \text{ GeV}$	cross section from EFT operators
$(C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)}, C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}) = (40, 40)$	0.28 pb
$(C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)}, C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}) = (32, 32)$	0.11 pb
$(C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)}, C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}) = (40, 0)$	0.012 pb
$(C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)}, C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}) = (0, 40)$	0.097 pb

Table 3. Comparison between a cross section at 95 % CL upper limit in figure 14 in [36] (first line) and cross sections from the dimension-8 Higgs portal operators (3rd–6th lines). In the first line, m_H is the mass of a heavy scalar mediator. The mediator decays invisibly with a branching ratio B_{inv} . In the 3rd–6th lines, the DM mass is fixed with 375 GeV ~ $3m_h$ and $\Lambda = 1$ TeV.

where ν ($\bar{\nu}$) is (anti-) neutrino and is summed over three flavors and j not only includes u, d, c, s, b (and their antiparticles) but also gluons. Because there is no interference between the SM background process (4.18) and the signal process (4.17), the cross section is suppressed by C^2/Λ^8 schematically, with C being the Wilson coefficient.

Before discussing the HL-LHC search, we briefly mention the current ATLAS measurement with 139 fb⁻¹ of LHC *pp* collision data at a center-of-mass energy of $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV recorded by ATLAS detector [36]. They considered a signal process of (4.17), but a scalar boson was introduced as a mediator to the DM, as shown on the right plot of figure 6.

The dimension-8 effective operators in our work are regarded as a consequence of integrating out heavy resonances. For a heavy scalar mass of 1 TeV, we take the bounds on dark matter production from the results of figure 14 in ref. [36]. As shown table 3, we set $\Lambda = 1$ TeV and the DM mass $m_{\varphi} = 375$ GeV $\sim 3m_h$, and show that the Wilson coefficients above $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)} = C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)} = 32$ are excluded by the current LHC data. When either of coefficients is turned off, $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}$ can undergo more severe constraints than $C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)}$.

We can translate the mass of a new heavy resonance of $M \ge 1$ TeV to the Wilson coefficients of the dimension-8 operators [37] by

$$\frac{\Lambda}{(|C|)^{1/4}} \ge \frac{1 \text{ TeV}}{\sqrt{g}},\tag{4.19}$$

where C is the Wilson coefficient of a dimension-8 operator and g is the coupling of the heavy resonance. Then, if we take $g = \sqrt{4\pi}$ at maximum and $\Lambda = 1$ TeV, we have $|C| \leq 13$. Thus, C = 40 corresponds to $\Lambda \sim 400 \text{ GeV}$ ($\sim 1 \text{ TeV}/\sqrt{6.3}$) for the normalization |C| = 1, which is slightly smaller than 1 TeV/ $\sqrt{g} \sim 530 \text{ GeV}$ for $g = \sqrt{4\pi} \sim 3.5$, so it might be acceptable to scan up to $|C| \leq 40$ in our EFT analysis.

For the HL-LHC search, we can benefit from different features of a signal from each operator, $O_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)}$ or $O_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}$. They may show different kinematical distributions similarly to refs. [37–39]. The scattering processes, $W^+W^- \to \varphi\varphi$ and $ZZ \to \varphi\varphi$, shows different dependencies on the Mandelstam variables, depending on the operators. Namely, with

 $O_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}$ only, we have the Mandelstam variable *s* and mass dependencies, whereas there is an additional dependency on the Mandelstam variable *t* in the presence of $O_{H^2\omega^2}^{(1)}$.

5 Conclusions

We have presented the positivity bounds on the dimension-8 Higgs-portal interactions for WIMP scalar dark matter by taking the superposed states for Higgs and scalar dark matter. From the results, we showed that the positivity bounds can curb out the part of the parameter space for the effective couplings, otherwise unconstrained by phenomenological consideration, such as dark matter relic density, direct and indirect detection and LHC constraints.

Motivated by the effective theory coming from massive graviton or radion, we worked closely to the parameter space where the universal condition for other effective Higgs-portal couplings is imposed and the strong bounds from direct detection experiments such as the LZ experiment can be avoided. Even in this case, we showed that there are interesting signatures for cosmic ray observations due to the dark matter annihilations into a pair of heavy gauge bosons such as a pair of Higgs bosons, WW or ZZ.

A One-loop corrections to the positivity bounds

In this appendix, we consider the one-loop corrections to the Wilson coefficients for the Higgsportal dimension-8 operators in the presence of dimension-6 operators in the effective theory.

We first consider the dimension-6 Higgs-portal terms with two derivatives introduced in the text, in the following,

$$\mathcal{L}_{\dim -6} = \frac{1}{3\Lambda^4} \left(\tilde{d}_3 \varphi^2 |D_\mu H|^2 + \tilde{d}_4 |H|^2 (\partial_\mu \varphi)^2 \right)$$
(A.1)

with $\tilde{d}_3 \equiv d_3 m_{\varphi}^2$, $\tilde{d}_4 \equiv d_4 m_H^2$. So, the Feynman rule for the Higgs-portal four-point vertex is given by

$$[\varphi(k),\varphi(k'),H(p),H^{\dagger}(p')]_{\dim-6} = \frac{2i}{3\Lambda^4} \Big(\tilde{d}_3(p'\cdot p) - \tilde{d}_4(k\cdot k') \Big)$$
(A.2)

where k, k', p are the incoming momenta into the vertex and p' is the outgoing momentum from the vertex.

On the other hand, we also list the dimension-8 Higgs-portal terms with four derivatives, as follows,

$$\mathcal{L}_{\dim-8} = \frac{C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(1)}}{\Lambda^4} (D_{\mu}H)^{\dagger} (D_{\nu}H) \partial^{\mu}\varphi \partial^{\nu}\varphi + \frac{C_{H^2\varphi^2}^{(2)}}{\Lambda^4} (D_{\mu}H)^{\dagger} (D^{\mu}H) \partial_{\nu}\varphi \partial^{\nu}\varphi.$$
(A.3)

Then, the corresponding Feynman rule is

$$\begin{split} [\varphi(k),\varphi(k'),H(p),H^{\dagger}(p')]_{\dim-8} &= -\frac{iC_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(1)}}{\Lambda^{4}} \Big((p \cdot k')(p' \cdot k) + (p \cdot k)(p' \cdot k') \Big) \\ &- \frac{2iC_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(2)}}{\Lambda^{4}} (p \cdot p')(k \cdot k') \\ &\to \frac{iC_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(1)}}{4\Lambda^{4}} (u^{2} + s^{2}) + \frac{iC_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(2)}}{2\Lambda^{4}} t^{2}. \end{split}$$
(A.4)

Here, in the second arrow, we took the massless limit for which $s = (p+k)^2 = 2p \cdot k = -2p' \cdot k'$, $t = (p-p')^2 = -2p \cdot p' = 2k \cdot k'$ and $u = (p+k')^2 = 2p \cdot k' = -2p' \cdot k$, and the energy conservation, p + k = p' - k'.

The dimension-6 operators in eq. (A.1) give rise to one-loop corrections to the Higgsportal four-point vertex, as follows,

$$\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}_1 + \mathcal{M}_2 \tag{A.5}$$

where

$$\mathcal{M}_1 = \left(\frac{i}{3\Lambda^4}\right)^2 \int \frac{d^4q}{(2\pi)^4} \left[\frac{i}{q^2 - m_{\varphi}^2}\right] \left[\frac{i}{(p+k-q)^2 - m_H^2}\right] \mathcal{N}$$
(A.6)

with

$$\mathcal{N} \equiv 4 \Big(\tilde{d}_3 p \cdot (p+k-q) + \tilde{d}_4(k \cdot q) \Big) \Big(\tilde{d}_3 p' \cdot (p+k-q) - \tilde{d}_4(k' \cdot q) \Big), \tag{A.7}$$

and $\mathcal{M}_2 = \mathcal{M}_1(k \leftrightarrow k').$

Then, using the momentum conservation, p + k = p' - k', we can rewrite the numerator in eq. (A.7) as

$$\mathcal{N} = 4 \Big(\tilde{d}_3 p \cdot (p + k - q) + \tilde{d}_4(k \cdot q) \Big) \Big(\tilde{d}_3 p' \cdot (p' - k' - q) - \tilde{d}_4(k' \cdot q) \Big) \to 4 \Big(\tilde{d}_3 p \cdot (k - q) + \tilde{d}_4(k \cdot q) \Big) \Big(- \tilde{d}_3 p' \cdot (k' + q) - \tilde{d}_4(k' \cdot q) \Big).$$
(A.8)

Here, we took the massless limit for the external states in the arrow, because we are interested in the corrections to the dimension-8 operators.

We first recast the loop momentum integral in the Feynman parametrization and with a shift in the loop momentum by l = q - x(p + k), as follows,

$$\mathcal{M}_1 = \frac{1}{9\Lambda^8} \int_0^1 dx \int \frac{d^4l}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{\mathcal{N}(q = l + x(p+k))}{(l^2 - \Delta)^2}$$
(A.9)

with

$$\Delta = -x(1-x)(p+k)^2 + (1-x)m_{\varphi}^2 + xm_H^2.$$
(A.10)

We note that

$$p \cdot q = p \cdot l + xp \cdot (p+k) \to p \cdot l + xp \cdot k, \tag{A.11}$$

$$k \cdot q = k \cdot l + xk \cdot (p+k) \to k \cdot l + xk \cdot p, \tag{A.12}$$

$$p' \cdot q = p' \cdot l + xp' \cdot (p+k) = p' \cdot l + xp' \cdot (p'-k') \to p' \cdot l - xp' \cdot k',$$
(A.13)

$$k' \cdot q = k' \cdot l + xk' \cdot (p+k) = k' \cdot l + xk' \cdot (p'-k') \to k' \cdot l + xk' \cdot p',$$
(A.14)

where we dropped the mass terms after the arrows. Then, we get

$$\mathcal{N} = 4 \Big(\Big((1-x)\tilde{d}_3 + x\tilde{d}_4 \Big) (p \cdot k) - (\tilde{d}_3 p - \tilde{d}_4 k) \cdot l \Big) \\ \times \Big(\Big(-(1-x)\tilde{d}_3 - x\tilde{d}_4 \Big) (p' \cdot k') - (\tilde{d}_3 p' + \tilde{d}_4 k') \cdot l \Big) \\ \to -4 \Big((1-x)\tilde{d}_3 + x\tilde{d}_4 \Big)^2 (p \cdot k) (p' \cdot k') \\ + 4 \Big((\tilde{d}_3 p - \tilde{d}_4 k) \cdot l \Big) \Big((\tilde{d}_3 p' + \tilde{d}_4 k') \cdot l \Big).$$
(A.15)

Using the non-vanishing loop momentum integrals in dimensional regularization with $d = 4 - \epsilon$,

$$\mu^{4-d} \int \frac{d^d l}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{1}{(l^2 - \Delta)^2} = \frac{i}{(4\pi)^2} \left(\frac{2}{\epsilon} - \gamma + \ln 4\pi - \ln \frac{\Delta}{\mu^2}\right),\tag{A.16}$$

$$\mu^{4-d} \int \frac{d^d l}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{l^{\mu} l^{\nu}}{(l^2 - \Delta)^2} = \frac{ig^{\mu\nu}}{2(4\pi)^2} \Delta \left(\frac{2}{\epsilon} - \gamma + \ln 4\pi - \ln \frac{\Delta}{\mu^2}\right),\tag{A.17}$$

we obtain

$$\mathcal{M}_{1} = \frac{1}{9\Lambda^{8}} \frac{i}{(4\pi)^{2}} \int_{0}^{1} dx \left(\frac{2}{\epsilon} - \gamma + \ln 4\pi - \ln \frac{\Delta}{\mu^{2}}\right) \\ \times \left[-4\left((1-x)\tilde{d}_{3} + x\tilde{d}_{4}\right)^{2}(p \cdot k)(p' \cdot k') + 2\Delta(\tilde{d}_{3}p - \tilde{d}_{4}k) \cdot (\tilde{d}_{3}p' + \tilde{d}_{4}k') \right].$$
(A.18)

Similarly, we also get

$$\mathcal{M}_{2} = \mathcal{M}_{1}(k \leftrightarrow k')$$

$$= \frac{1}{9\Lambda^{8}} \frac{i}{(4\pi)^{2}} \int_{0}^{1} dx \left(\frac{2}{\epsilon} - \gamma + \ln 4\pi - \ln \frac{\Delta(k \to k')}{\mu^{2}}\right)$$

$$\times \left[-4\left((1-x)\tilde{d}_{3} + x\tilde{d}_{4}\right)^{2}(p \cdot k')(p' \cdot k) + 2\Delta(k \to k')(\tilde{d}_{3}p - \tilde{d}_{4}k') \cdot (\tilde{d}_{3}p' + \tilde{d}_{4}k) \right].$$
(A.19)

In order to write the loop corrections in the form of dimension-8 operators, we take

$$-4(p \cdot k)(p' \cdot k') \to s^2, \quad -4(p \cdot k')(p' \cdot k) \to u^2, \tag{A.20}$$

and

$$2\Delta(\tilde{d}_3p - \tilde{d}_4k) \cdot (\tilde{d}_3p' + \tilde{d}_4k') \to -2x(1-x)A$$
 (A.21)

with

$$A = (p+k)^{2} (\tilde{d}_{3}p - \tilde{d}_{4}k) \cdot (\tilde{d}_{3}p' + \tilde{d}_{4}k')$$

= $(p+k)^{2} (\tilde{d}_{3}^{2}(p \cdot p') - \tilde{d}_{4}^{2}(k \cdot k') - \tilde{d}_{3}\tilde{d}_{4}(k \cdot p' - k' \cdot p))$
 $\rightarrow -\frac{1}{2} (\tilde{d}_{3}^{2} + \tilde{d}_{4}^{2})st + \tilde{d}_{3}\tilde{d}_{4}su.$ (A.22)

Similarly, we get

$$2\Delta(k \to k')(\tilde{d}_3 p - \tilde{d}_4 k') \cdot (\tilde{d}_3 p' + \tilde{d}_4 k) \to -2x(1-x)A'$$
(A.23)

with

$$\begin{aligned} A' &= (p+k')^2 (\tilde{d}_3 p - \tilde{d}_4 k') \cdot (\tilde{d}_3 p' + \tilde{d}_4 k) \\ &= (p+k')^2 \Big(\tilde{d}_3^2 (p \cdot p') - \tilde{d}_4^2 (k \cdot k') - \tilde{d}_3 \tilde{d}_4 (k' \cdot p' - k \cdot p) \Big) \\ &\to -\frac{1}{2} (\tilde{d}_3^2 + \tilde{d}_4^2) ut + \tilde{d}_3 \tilde{d}_4 s u. \end{aligned}$$
(A.24)

Here, we ignored the mass terms in Δ .

_

As a result, from eqs. (A.18) and (A.19), the one-loop corrections to the dimension-8 operators are identified, as follows,

$$\mathcal{M}_{1} = \frac{1}{9\Lambda^{8}} \frac{i}{(4\pi)^{2}} \int_{0}^{1} dx \left(\frac{2}{\epsilon} - \gamma + \ln 4\pi - \ln \frac{\left[(1-x)m_{\varphi}^{2} + xm_{H}^{2} - x(1-x)s\right]}{\mu^{2}}\right) \\ \times \left[\left((1-x)\tilde{d}_{3} + x\tilde{d}_{4}\right)^{2}s^{2} + x(1-x)\left((\tilde{d}_{3}^{2} + \tilde{d}_{4}^{2})st - 2\tilde{d}_{3}\tilde{d}_{4}su\right)\right],$$
(A.25)

and

$$\mathcal{M}_{2} = \frac{1}{9\Lambda^{8}} \frac{i}{(4\pi)^{2}} \int_{0}^{1} dx \left(\frac{2}{\epsilon} - \gamma + \ln 4\pi - \ln \frac{\left[(1-x)m_{\varphi}^{2} + xm_{H}^{2} - x(1-x)u\right]}{\mu^{2}}\right) \\ \times \left[\left((1-x)\tilde{d}_{3} + x\tilde{d}_{4}\right)^{2} u^{2} + x(1-x)\left((\tilde{d}_{3}^{2} + \tilde{d}_{4}^{2})ut - 2\tilde{d}_{3}\tilde{d}_{4}su\right)\right].$$
(A.26)

Taking $s\simeq u$ to be space-like and $|s|\gg m_\varphi^2, m_H^2$ and performing the integral for the Feynman parameter, we obtain

$$\mathcal{M}_{1} = \frac{1}{9\Lambda^{8}} \frac{i}{(4\pi)^{2}} \left(\frac{2}{\epsilon} - \gamma + \ln 4\pi + \ln \frac{\mu^{2}}{|s|} \right) \\ \times \left[\frac{1}{3} \left(\tilde{d}_{3}^{2} + \tilde{d}_{4}^{2} + \tilde{d}_{3} \tilde{d}_{4} \right) s^{2} + \frac{1}{6} \left((\tilde{d}_{3}^{2} + \tilde{d}_{4}^{2}) st - 2\tilde{d}_{3} \tilde{d}_{4} su \right) \right] \\ + \frac{1}{9\Lambda^{8}} \frac{i}{(4\pi)^{2}} \left[\left(\frac{13}{18} (\tilde{d}_{3}^{2} + \tilde{d}_{4}^{2}) + \frac{5}{9} \tilde{d}_{3} \tilde{d}_{4} \right) s^{2} + \frac{5}{18} \left((\tilde{d}_{3}^{2} + \tilde{d}_{4}^{2}) st - 2\tilde{d}_{3} \tilde{d}_{4} su \right) \right], \quad (A.27)$$

and

$$\mathcal{M}_{2} = \frac{1}{9\Lambda^{8}} \frac{i}{(4\pi)^{2}} \left(\frac{2}{\epsilon} - \gamma + \ln 4\pi + \ln \frac{\mu^{2}}{|s|}\right) \\ \times \left[\frac{1}{3} \left(\tilde{d}_{3}^{2} + \tilde{d}_{4}^{2} - \tilde{d}_{3}\tilde{d}_{4}\right) u^{2} + \frac{1}{6} \left((\tilde{d}_{3}^{2} + \tilde{d}_{4}^{2})ut - 2\tilde{d}_{3}\tilde{d}_{4}su\right)\right] \\ + \frac{1}{9\Lambda^{8}} \frac{i}{(4\pi)^{2}} \left[\left(\frac{13}{18}(\tilde{d}_{3}^{2} + \tilde{d}_{4}^{2}) + \frac{5}{9}\tilde{d}_{3}\tilde{d}_{4}\right) u^{2} + \frac{5}{18} \left((\tilde{d}_{3}^{2} + \tilde{d}_{4}^{2})ut - 2\tilde{d}_{3}\tilde{d}_{4}su\right) \right].$$
(A.28)

Summing eqs. (A.27) and (A.28), we obtain the full one-loop corrections as

$$\mathcal{M} = \frac{1}{9\Lambda^8} \frac{i}{(4\pi)^2} \left(\frac{2}{\epsilon} - \gamma + \ln 4\pi + \ln \frac{\mu^2}{|s|}\right) \\ \times \left[\frac{1}{3} \left(\tilde{d}_3^2 + \tilde{d}_4^2 + \tilde{d}_3 \tilde{d}_4\right) (s^2 + u^2) + \frac{1}{6} \left((\tilde{d}_3^2 + \tilde{d}_4^2)(s+u)t - 4\tilde{d}_3 \tilde{d}_4 su\right)\right] \\ + \frac{1}{9\Lambda^8} \frac{i}{(4\pi)^2} \left[\left(\frac{13}{18} (\tilde{d}_3^2 + \tilde{d}_4^2) + \frac{5}{9} \tilde{d}_3 \tilde{d}_4\right) (s^2 + u^2) + \frac{5}{18} \left((\tilde{d}_3^2 + \tilde{d}_4^2)(s+u)t - 4\tilde{d}_3 \tilde{d}_4 su\right)\right] \\ = \frac{1}{9\Lambda^8} \frac{i}{(4\pi)^2} \left(\frac{2}{\epsilon} - \gamma + \ln 4\pi + \ln \frac{\mu^2}{|s|}\right) \\ \times \left[\frac{1}{3} (\tilde{d}_3 + \tilde{d}_4)^2 (s^2 + u^2) - \frac{1}{6} (\tilde{d}_3 + \tilde{d}_4)^2 t^2 \right] \\ + \frac{1}{9\Lambda^8} \frac{i}{(4\pi)^2} \left[\left(\frac{13}{18} (\tilde{d}_3^2 + \tilde{d}_4^2) + \frac{10}{9} \tilde{d}_3 \tilde{d}_4\right) (s^2 + u^2) - \frac{5}{18} (\tilde{d}_3 + \tilde{d}_4)^2 t^2 \right].$$
(A.29)

Here, in the second line, we used s+u = -t and $su = \frac{1}{2}(s+u)^2 - \frac{1}{2}s^2 - \frac{1}{2}u^2 = \frac{1}{2}(t^2 - s^2 - u^2)$. Therefore, in $\overline{\text{MS}}$ scheme for which the divergent terms in combination of $\frac{2}{\epsilon} - \gamma + \ln 4\pi$ are subtracted, the dimension-8 operators in eq. (A.3) get renormalized at the renormalization scale μ as

$$\hat{C}_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(1)} = C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(1)} + \frac{1}{9(4\pi)^{2}\Lambda^{4}} \left(\frac{26}{9}(\tilde{d}_{3}^{2} + \tilde{d}_{4}^{2}) + \frac{40}{9}\tilde{d}_{3}\tilde{d}_{4}\right) \\ + \frac{1}{9(4\pi)^{2}\Lambda^{4}} \frac{4}{3}(\tilde{d}_{3} + \tilde{d}_{4})^{2}\ln\frac{\mu^{2}}{|s|},$$

$$\hat{C}_{(2)}^{(2)} = \frac{1}{9(4\pi)^{2}\Lambda^{4}} \frac{5}{3}\tilde{c}_{4}\tilde{c}_{$$

$$\hat{C}_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(2)} = C_{H^{2}\varphi^{2}}^{(2)} - \frac{1}{9(4\pi)^{2}\Lambda^{4}} \frac{5}{9} (\dot{d}_{3} + \dot{d}_{4})^{2} - \frac{1}{9(4\pi)^{2}\Lambda^{4}} \frac{1}{3} (\tilde{d}_{3} + \tilde{d}_{4})^{2} \ln \frac{\mu^{2}}{|s|}.$$
(A.31)

The above results are quoted in the text for the modified positivity bounds.

Acknowledgments

We thank Gauthier Durieux, Michael Trott, Myeonghun Park, and Nicholas L. Rodd, for their valuable comments and discussions. The work is supported in part by Basic Science Research Program through the National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF) funded by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (NRF-2022R1A2C2003567 and NRF-2021R1A4A2001897). The work of KY is supported by Brain Pool program funded by the Ministry of Science and ICT through the National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF-2021H1D3A2A02038697).

Open Access. This article is distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (CC-BY 4.0), which permits any use, distribution and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author(s) and source are credited. SCOAP³ supports the goals of the International Year of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development.

References

- A. Adams et al., Causality, analyticity and an IR obstruction to UV completion, JHEP 10 (2006) 014 [hep-th/0602178] [INSPIRE].
- [2] T.N. Pham and T.N. Truong, Evaluation of the Derivative Quartic Terms of the Meson Chiral Lagrangian From Forward Dispersion Relation, Phys. Rev. D 31 (1985) 3027 [INSPIRE].
- B. Ananthanarayan, D. Toublan and G. Wanders, Consistency of the chiral pion pion scattering amplitudes with axiomatic constraints, Phys. Rev. D 51 (1995) 1093
 [hep-ph/9410302] [INSPIRE].
- [4] C. Zhang, SMEFTs living on the edge: determining the UV theories from positivity and extremality, JHEP 12 (2022) 096 [arXiv:2112.11665] [INSPIRE].
- [5] Q. Bi, C. Zhang and S.-Y. Zhou, Positivity constraints on aQGC: carving out the physical parameter space, JHEP 06 (2019) 137 [arXiv:1902.08977] [INSPIRE].

- [6] G.N. Remmen and N.L. Rodd, Consistency of the Standard Model Effective Field Theory, JHEP 12 (2019) 032 [arXiv:1908.09845] [INSPIRE].
- [7] D. Ghosh, R. Sharma and F. Ullah, Amplitude's positivity vs. subluminality: causality and unitarity constraints on dimension 6 & 8 gluonic operators in the SMEFT, JHEP 02 (2023) 199 [arXiv:2211.01322] [INSPIRE].
- [8] C. Zhang and S.-Y. Zhou, Convex Geometry Perspective on the (Standard Model) Effective Field Theory Space, Phys. Rev. Lett. 125 (2020) 201601 [arXiv:2005.03047] [INSPIRE].
- K. Yamashita, C. Zhang and S.-Y. Zhou, Elastic positivity vs extremal positivity bounds in SMEFT: a case study in transversal electroweak gauge-boson scatterings, JHEP 01 (2021) 095
 [arXiv:2009.04490] [INSPIRE].
- [10] X. Li, Positivity bounds at one-loop level: the Higgs sector, JHEP 05 (2023) 230
 [arXiv:2212.12227] [INSPIRE].
- [11] A. Carrillo-Monteverde et al., Dark Matter Direct Detection from new interactions in models with spin-two mediators, JHEP 06 (2018) 037 [arXiv:1803.02144] [INSPIRE].
- [12] Y.-J. Kang and H.M. Lee, Lightening Gravity-Mediated Dark Matter, Eur. Phys. J. C 80 (2020) 602 [arXiv:2001.04868] [INSPIRE].
- [13] H.M. Lee, M. Park and V. Sanz, Gravity-mediated (or Composite) Dark Matter, Eur. Phys. J. C 74 (2014) 2715 [arXiv:1306.4107] [INSPIRE].
- [14] N.D. Christensen and C. Duhr, FeynRules Feynman rules made easy, Comput. Phys. Commun. 180 (2009) 1614 [arXiv:0806.4194] [INSPIRE].
- [15] A. Alloul et al., FeynRules 2.0 A complete toolbox for tree-level phenomenology, Comput. Phys. Commun. 185 (2014) 2250 [arXiv:1310.1921] [INSPIRE].
- [16] T. Hahn, Generating Feynman diagrams and amplitudes with FeynArts 3, Comput. Phys. Commun. 140 (2001) 418 [hep-ph/0012260] [INSPIRE].
- [17] H.M. Lee, M. Park and V. Sanz, Gravity-mediated (or Composite) Dark Matter Confronts Astrophysical Data, JHEP 05 (2014) 063 [arXiv:1401.5301] [INSPIRE].
- [18] J.M. Cline, K. Kainulainen, P. Scott and C. Weniger, Update on scalar singlet dark matter, *Phys. Rev. D* 88 (2013) 055025 [Erratum ibid. 92 (2015) 039906] [arXiv:1306.4710] [INSPIRE].
- [19] J.M. Cline, TASI Lectures on Early Universe Cosmology: Inflation, Baryogenesis and Dark Matter, PoS TASI2018 (2019) 001 [arXiv:1807.08749] [INSPIRE].
- [20] R.J. Scherrer and M.S. Turner, On the Relic, Cosmic Abundance of Stable Weakly Interacting Massive Particles, Phys. Rev. D 33 (1986) 1585 [Erratum ibid. 34 (1986) 3263] [INSPIRE].
- [21] M. Hoferichter, J. Ruiz de Elvira, B. Kubis and U.-G. Meißner, High-Precision Determination of the Pion-Nucleon σ Term from Roy-Steiner Equations, Phys. Rev. Lett. 115 (2015) 092301 [arXiv:1506.04142] [INSPIRE].
- [22] P. Junnarkar and A. Walker-Loud, Scalar strange content of the nucleon from lattice QCD, Phys. Rev. D 87 (2013) 114510 [arXiv:1301.1114] [INSPIRE].
- [23] LZ collaboration, First Dark Matter Search Results from the LUX-ZEPLIN (LZ) Experiment, arXiv:2207.03764 [INSPIRE].
- [24] S.-M. Choi, Y.-J. Kang and H.M. Lee, Diphoton resonance confronts dark matter, JHEP 07 (2016) 030 [arXiv:1605.04804] [INSPIRE].

- [25] S.-M. Choi, Y.-J. Kang, H.M. Lee and T.-G. Ro, Lepto-Quark Portal Dark Matter, JHEP 10 (2018) 104 [arXiv:1807.06547] [INSPIRE].
- [26] FERMI-LAT collaboration, Searching for Dark Matter Annihilation from Milky Way Dwarf Spheroidal Galaxies with Six Years of Fermi Large Area Telescope Data, Phys. Rev. Lett. 115 (2015) 231301 [arXiv:1503.02641] [INSPIRE].
- [27] H.E.S.S. collaboration, Search for dark matter annihilations towards the inner Galactic halo from 10 years of observations with H.E.S.S, Phys. Rev. Lett. 117 (2016) 111301
 [arXiv:1607.08142] [INSPIRE].
- [28] AMS collaboration, Antiproton Flux, Antiproton-to-Proton Flux Ratio, and Properties of Elementary Particle Fluxes in Primary Cosmic Rays Measured with the Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer on the International Space Station, Phys. Rev. Lett. 117 (2016) 091103 [INSPIRE].
- [29] S.-S. Kim, H.M. Lee and B. Zhu, Models for self-resonant dark matter, JHEP 05 (2022) 148 [arXiv:2202.13717] [INSPIRE].
- [30] FERMI-LAT collaboration, Dark Matter Constraints from Observations of 25 Milky Way Satellite Galaxies with the Fermi Large Area Telescope, Phys. Rev. D 89 (2014) 042001
 [arXiv:1310.0828] [INSPIRE].
- [31] K. Boddy, J. Kumar, D. Marfatia and P. Sandick, Model-independent constraints on dark matter annihilation in dwarf spheroidal galaxies, Phys. Rev. D 97 (2018) 095031
 [arXiv:1802.03826] [INSPIRE].
- [32] K.N. Abazajian et al., Strong constraints on thermal relic dark matter from Fermi-LAT observations of the Galactic Center, Phys. Rev. D 102 (2020) 043012 [arXiv:2003.10416]
 [INSPIRE].
- [33] CMS collaboration, Observation of electroweak production of same-sign W boson pairs in the two jet and two same-sign lepton final state in proton-proton collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV, Phys. Rev. Lett. **120** (2018) 081801 [arXiv:1709.05822] [INSPIRE].
- [34] CMS collaboration, Measurement of electroweak WZ boson production and search for new physics in WZ + two jets events in pp collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$, Phys. Lett. B **795** (2019) 281 [arXiv:1901.04060] [INSPIRE].
- [35] CMS collaboration, Search for anomalous electroweak production of vector boson pairs in association with two jets in proton-proton collisions at 13 TeV, Phys. Lett. B 798 (2019) 134985 [arXiv:1905.07445] [INSPIRE].
- [36] ATLAS collaboration, Search for invisible Higgs-boson decays in events with vector-boson fusion signatures using 139 fb⁻¹ of proton-proton data recorded by the ATLAS experiment, JHEP 08 (2022) 104 [arXiv:2202.07953] [INSPIRE].
- [37] R. Boughezal, Y. Huang and F. Petriello, Exploring the SMEFT at dimension eight with Drell-Yan transverse momentum measurements, Phys. Rev. D 106 (2022) 036020
 [arXiv:2207.01703] [INSPIRE].
- [38] S. Alioli, R. Boughezal, E. Mereghetti and F. Petriello, Novel angular dependence in Drell-Yan lepton production via dimension-8 operators, Phys. Lett. B 809 (2020) 135703
 [arXiv:2003.11615] [INSPIRE].
- [39] X. Li et al., Moments for positivity: using Drell-Yan data to test positivity bounds and reverse-engineer new physics, JHEP **10** (2022) 107 [arXiv:2204.13121] [INSPIRE].