

# The Light CP-Even Higgs Boson Mass of the MSSM at Three-Loop Accuracy

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**Abstract.** In this paper we are going to discuss the relevant aspects related to the calculation of the higher order corrections to the lightest CP-even Higgs boson mass of the minimal supersymmetric standard model with real parameters (rMSSM). We have computed these corrections using the Feynman diagrammatic approach with a precision of three-loop in the SUSYQCD sector. The renormalization scheme adopted in this work is based on a variant of dimensional regularization where the so called dimensional reduction is performed in order to preserve supersymmetry to all perturbative orders. The calculation will extend the region of validity of previous studies to the whole parameters space. The emerging loop integrals have been computed by exploiting new proposed approaches based on the dispersion relation techniques for the numerical calculation of three-loop vacuum integrals with arbitrary mass scales.

## 1 Introduction

The analysis of the scale dependent properties of the Higgs sector in the Standard Model (SM) and beyond the SM scenarios (BSM) have been discussed by several authors for the last decade. The currently accepted analysis in the SM was presented in a completely way up to two-loop order in the references [1] and [2]. In these works the triviality, the vacuum stability problem and the hierarchy problem were studied by assuming that no new physics appears up to the Planck scale ( $\Lambda_P$ ) and therefore by assuming an unnatural amount of fine-tuning ( $10^{34}$ ) for the squared Higgs boson mass at the electroweak (EW) scale. In this approach the near-criticality of the Higgs quartic coupling ( $\lambda$ ) and its beta-function is used as a guideline to go beyond the SM. However, there are strong physical arguments to believe that the SM is an effective field theory valid in a limited energy range below  $\Lambda_P$ . These include the dark matter observations, the baryon asymmetry in the universe, the neutrino oscillations, the Yukawa hierarchies in flavour physics, etc. If one insists that the naturalness argument is valid and would represent a real problem of the theory, then one has to conclude that physics beyond the SM has to appear at the TeV scale in the next runs of the LHC or in the coming experiments at future colliders like the ILC. One way to test that is through the comparison between the experimental observations and the theoretical predictions in order to confirm whether the Higgs boson is actually the predicted particle by the SM or is part of an extended model. Any deviation of the experimental results from the SM predictions would suppose a signal of new physics beyond the SM.

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The most popular BSM scenario that may describe these new phenomena is formulated as a supersymmetric extension of the SM, the minimal supersymmetric standard model (MSSM). The MSSM can provide for a solution to the fine-tuning and the hierarchy problem by the existence of new bosonic degrees of freedom that cancel the loop contributions with the unwanted quadratic divergences. Moreover, similar contributions render the effective potential stable, thus the MSSM simultaneously cures the vacuum stability problem. In most of the benchmark scenarios of the MSSM the Higgs boson found at LHC corresponds to the lightest CP-even Higgs boson with a mass  $M_h$  which is not a free input parameter but a prediction coming from the parameters of the theory. The upper bound on its predicted mass at leading order (LO) is given by the Z gauge boson mass,  $M_Z = 91.2$  GeV, leading to the exclusion of the MSSM at current collider experiments. However, higher order quantum corrections to the MSSM Higgs boson mass lead to a considerably large shift in the upper limit towards  $M_h \leq 135$  GeV. Additionally, the expected experimental uncertainty associated to the Higgs boson mass is of the order of 100-200 MeV at the LHC [3] and this value could go even down at the future ILC reaching a roughly value of 50 MeV [4]. At two-loop order the theoretical uncertainty has been estimated to 3-5 GeV [5] and as a consequence, it is mandatory to perform calculations at next-to-next-to-next to leading order (NNNLO) to reduce the theoretical uncertainty to the same order as the experimental accuracy expected at the LHC and ILC colliders. Our goal in this article is take you through the details of the computation of the radiative corrections to  $M_h$  in the rMSSM at this level of accuracy.

## 2 Radiative Corrections to $M_h$ in the MSSM

The Higgs sector of the MSSM have five physical Higgs bosons, three of them are neutral, the others two are charged. In lowest order these are the lightest ( $h$ ) and heavy ( $H$ ) CP-even Higgs bosons, the CP-odd Higgs boson ( $A$ ), and the two charged Higgs bosons ( $H^\pm$ ). At tree level, the Higgs sector can be parametrized in terms of the gauge boson masses ( $M_W$  and  $M_Z$ ), the mass of the CP-odd Higgs boson ( $M_A$ ) and  $\tan\beta = v_2/v_1$ , which is the ratio of the two vacuum expectation values. The masses of the five Higgs boson particles follow as predictions. For the MSSM the status of higher-order corrections to the masses and mixing angles in the neutral Higgs sector is quite advanced and widely studied due to radiative corrections can give large contributions to the values of these parameters. Regarding the corrections to the lightest Higgs boson mass the state of the art is as follows. At one-loop level the full corrections are found in reference [6] with real parameters. The detailed results of a Feynman diagrammatic (FD) calculation of the leading two-loop QCD corrections at order  $O(\alpha\alpha_s)$  can be found in [7], in particular the  $O(\alpha_b\alpha_s)$  [8] and  $O(\alpha_t\alpha_s)$  [9] contributions using the FD approach are known in the limit where the external momentum vanishes and in the MSSM version with complex parameters. In this limit there is an alternative procedure to compute the above corrections, the Effective Potential (EP) approach. The analytical expressions for the two-loop leading-log neutral Higgs boson masses using the MSSM effective potential can be found in [10] and the references therein. A comparison of the corresponding two-loop results in the FD and EP approaches of the mass of the lightest CP-even Higgs boson in the MSSM at  $O(\alpha\alpha_s)$  can be found in [11]. The FD approach has the advantage that it can allow for non-vanishing external momentum, in contrast to the EP method where all contributions are evaluated at zero external momentum. An evaluation of the momentum dependence of the two-loop corrections, including all the terms involving the QCD couplings, in the modified dimensional reduction scheme ( $\overline{DR}$ ) was presented in [12]. The renormalization scheme  $\overline{DR}$  is based on a variant of the dimensional reduction scheme (DRED) where the UV divergences are minimally subtracted [13]. In this scheme all gamma matrices lives in the quasi-four-dimensional space (Q4S) [14] while loop momenta remain in the D-dimensional

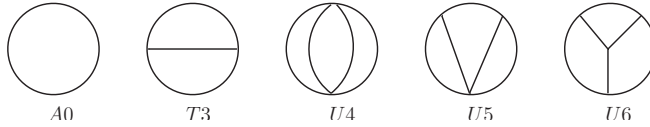


Figure 1: Basis of three-loop vacuum integrals obtained from the IBP reduction with Reduze.

space. This regularization procedure is performed in order to preserve supersymmetry to all perturbative orders. The latest status of the momentum-dependent two-loop corrections was discussed recently in [15, 16] using a hybrid on-shell- $\overline{DR}$  scheme, where  $M_A$  and the tadpoles are renormalized on-shell, whereas the Higgs boson fields and  $\tan\beta$  are renormalized  $\overline{DR}$  and including corrections of  $O(p^2\alpha_t\alpha_s)$ .

### 3 Higgs Boson Mass at Three-loop Accuracy

In this section we are going to discuss our diagrammatic computation of the corrections to  $M_h$  at three-loop accuracy. We restrict the calculation to the supersymmetric quantum chromodynamics (SUSYQCD) sector where the Higgs couples to the top quark or its super-partner. In the perturbative expansion of the Higgs mass, these are the terms of order  $\alpha_s^2\alpha_t$ , where  $\alpha_s$  is the square of the strong coupling constant and  $\alpha_t$  denotes the coupling of the Higgs to the top quark. This is not the first computation of  $M_h$  at this order, there is already the diagrammatic computation performed by Harlander et al. [17], where  $M_h$  was computed at  $O(\alpha_t\alpha_s^2)$ . Their results were expressed in terms of  $\overline{DR}$  parameters for the quark and squark masses and implemented in the computer program H3m for Mathematica. However, the contributions obtained in this work have exploited the methods of asymptotic expansion in order to provide precise approximations in some relevant mass hierarchies. We have gone beyond these approximations and therefore we have avoided perform asymptotic expansions at the integral level in order to obtain a general expression valid for any election of the input masses.

Taking in mind the above statement we have organized our computation as follows. The three-loop radiative correction to  $M_h$  is obtained by evaluating the neutral Higgs boson self-energies ( $\Sigma$ ) and the tadpoles ( $T$ ) for the fields  $h$ ,  $H$  and  $A$  according with the equation

$$\hat{\Sigma}_{hh}^{(3)} = \Sigma_{hh}^{(3)} - Re\left(\Sigma_{AA}^{(3)}\right)\left(s_\alpha s_\beta + c_\alpha c_\beta\right)^2 - \left(\frac{e}{2s_W M_W}\right)\left(\frac{T_h^{(3)}}{\sqrt{2}}C_1 + \frac{T_H^{(3)}}{\sqrt{2}}C_2\right), \quad (1)$$

where the letter sigma with a hat represents the three-loop renormalized correction to  $M_h$ , while  $\Sigma$  and  $T$  are three-loop unrenormalized quantities evaluated at zero external momentum. The coefficients  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are functions of the mixing angles  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  which are responsible for the diagonalization of the bilinear part of the Higgs potential. All the necessary Feynman diagrams and their corresponding amplitudes are generated with FeynArts [18]. In total there are 7738 self-energies and 7180 tadpoles to be evaluated. The generated amplitudes with FeynArts are not regularized. With the help of the Mathematica package FeynCalc [19] we have written a routine that implements the regularization of Feynman integrals by dimensional reduction. Thus, we performed the Dirac and Lorentz algebra over numerators of the integrals in the Q4S space. It is worth to mention that the Q4S algebra for diagrams which contain the cubic vertex quark-squark-gluino requires a special treatment. This vertex introduces the  $\gamma_5$  matrix in the Dirac traces. We have dealt  $\gamma_5$  as an anti-commuting object, which is allowed in our computation because traces with an odd number of  $\gamma_5$  always contain less than four gamma matrices. By other side, sum over Color indices and the Color algebra was done with the help of the package SUNSimplify of FeynCalc. After performing the

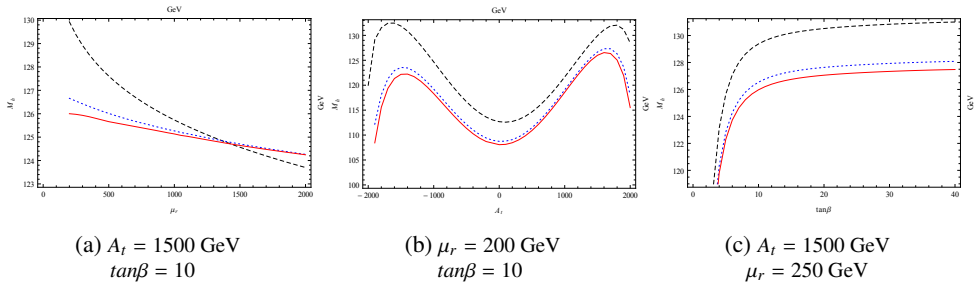


Figure 2: Dependence of  $M_h$  on (a)  $\mu_r$ ; (b)  $A_t$  and (c)  $\tan\beta$ . Black dashed and blue dotted lines are the one- and two-loop predictions of FeynHiggs. The red solid line depicts our three-loop predictions.

algebra of numerators, each amplitude can be expressed as a superposition of a set of scalar integrals which can contain irreducible numerators. We have classified and listed all different scalar integrals that we need in our calculation, in total there are 3525 scalar integrals that we must evaluate. This set of scalar integrals are not independent of each other but related by the integration by parts (IBP) and Lorentz invariance (LI) identities. We have used the IBPs to generate a homogeneous system of linear equations where the scalar integrals are the unknowns. The system can be reduced to a small set of irreducible integrals, the so called Master Integrals. This is something that cannot be done by hand, because there are thousand of equations. Thus, we have used the program Reduze [20], an implementation of the Laporta algorithm, in order to reduce the set of scalar integrals to a superposition of a small set of master integrals. We have found the basis of six master integrals depicted in Figure 1, where each topology can contain at most four different mass scales. The functions A0 and T3 have very well known analytical solutions for any configuration of masses, while the three-loop functions U4, U5 and U6 have an analytical solution just for the cases where there are one or two independent mass scales but when there are three or four independent scales a numerical evaluation of the three-loop vacuum integrals is required.

The analysis of convergence and the numerical evaluation of the integrals which are unknown analytically was performed with the help of the program TVID developed by A. Freitas [21]. TVID uses the discontinuities coming from the one-loop self-energy and the one-loop vertex in four dimensions to produce dispersion relations that are useful in the evaluation of the three-loop vacuum integrals in terms of one- and two-dimensional integral representations. In all cases we have been able to get analytical expressions for the divergent part of the master integrals while the finite part could be numerically evaluated with up to 10 digits of accuracy. It is possible to reach this precision because the numerical integrations are at most 2-dimensional and therefore there is a controlled treatment of any singularities. It is also necessary an additional sub-renormalization procedure due to the presence of non-local divergences in the unrenormalized Higgs self-energies as well as in the Higgs tadpoles. As a consequence, we have to include also diagrams with counter-term insertions in order to remove sub-divergences. At three-loop level we need the renormalization of the gluino mass, the squark masses, the stop mixing angle and the top quark mass at the one-loop order. In addition we need the two-loop counterterms for the stop mixing angle, the stop quark masses and the top quark mass. The necessary expressions for these counterterms can be consulted in the review [22] and references therein.

Once the UV divergences and sub-divergences are renormalized we get a finite correction to  $M_h$ . Using this contribution we have studied the dependence of the Higgs boson mass  $M_h$  on the renormalization scale  $\mu_r$  (Fig. 2a), the soft-breaking parameter  $A_t$  (Fig. 2b) and the input parameter  $\tan\beta$  (Fig. 2c). In Figure 2 we show these dependences for a benchmark scenario where all the squark masses, except the stop mass, have the same value defined to

be  $M_{SUSY} = 1000$  GeV, while we have chosen a value of  $M_{\tilde{g}} = 1500$  GeV for the gluino mass and  $M_t = 173.3$  GeV for the top quark mass. To generate the MSSM Higgs predictions at one and two-loop level we have used the code FeynHiggs [23]. These contributions are represented in the plots of Fig. 2 with the black dashed and blue dotted curves, respectively. Besides, the red solid line represents our three-loop prediction. The three-loop corrections are quite sizeable, amounting a size of about 1 TeV and with negative sign for our election of input parameters. It leads to a more stable dependence of  $M_h$  with the renormalization scale  $\mu_r$  and have a strong dependence on  $\tan\beta$  for small values close to  $\tan\beta = 5$ , while for large values above  $\tan\beta = 20$  the variation of  $M_h$  is marginal.

## 4 Conclusion

Following the Feynman diagrammatic procedure described in the above section, we have obtained a finite expression for the renormalized three-loop correction to the lightest Higgs boson mass. Taking in mind that nowadays in the MSSM is no clear a priori what the hierarchies of the masses will turn out to be, we have avoided the application of asymptotic expansions and we have obtained the correction in terms of a set of three-loop master integrals whose numerical evaluation is possible thanks to the dispersion relation techniques for any arbitrary mass hierarchy. A complete phenomenological analysis of our numerical results will be presented in future works.

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