$P = 0.01$ probing unification with precision $P = 0.01$ physics

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We propose a novel approach of probing grand unification through precise measurements on the Higgs Yukawa couplings at the LHC. This idea is well motivated by the appearance of effective operators not suppressed by the mass scale of unification M_{U} in realistic models of unification with the minimal structure of Yukawa sector. Such operators modify the Higgs Yukawa couplings in correlated patterns at scale M_{U} that hold up to higher-order corrections. The coherences reveal a feature that, the deviation of tau Yukawa coupling relative to its standard model value at the weak scale is the largest one among the third-generation Yukawa couplings. This feature, if verified by the future LHC, can serve as a hint of unification.

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I. INTRODUCTION <u>I. I. I. II. I. I. I. II. I</u>

The Higgs Yukawa couplings to the standard model (SM) fermions such as top [\[1\]](#page-4-0), bottom [\[2\]](#page-4-1), and tau [\[3\]](#page-4-2) have been verified at the LHC. With upcoming data at the future LHC [\[4\]](#page-4-3) or ILC [\[5\]](#page-4-4) and CEPC-SPPC [\[6\]](#page-4-5) in preparation, we will enter into an era of precision measurements on the Higgs, which may shed light on the fundamental laws underlying the electroweak symmetry breaking. While the minimal version of supersymmetry is not satisfactory such as in explaining the observed Higgs mass, it is still on the short list of frameworks that address some well-known big questions such as the hierarchy problem.

Although supersymmetry is advocated to solve the hierarchy problem, there are limited tools to probe the underlying grand unification theory (GUT) behind supersymmetry, as the unification scale M_{U} is far larger than the weak scale. Until now, proton decay is the most important tool to directly detect unification (For a review on unification and proton decay, see Ref. [\[7\].](#page-4-6)). Nevertheless, a large amount of models easily evade the Super-Kamiokande limits [\[8,9\]](#page-4-7) on the proton decay by adjusting the value of M_{U} in the mass range 10^{15-17} GeV according to the dependence of proton decay lifetime on M_{U} , i.e., $\tau_p \sim 1/M_{\rm U}^4$. A delay of update on those experimental limits has postponed our exploration along this line.

In this work, we propose a novel method of probing the grand unified theory (GUT) through precision measurements on the Higgs Yukawa couplings. Similar to high-dimensional operators that lead to proton decay through interactions between the GUT-scale states and the SM fermions, there are analogies which modify the Higgs Yukawa couplings due to interactions between GUT-scale states ϕ and the Higgs doublets:

$$
W_{\text{eff}} \simeq \int d^2\theta \left[(y_u^i + \epsilon_u^i) Q_i \bar{u}_i H_u + (y_d^i + \epsilon_d^i) Q_i \bar{d}_i H_d + (y_e^i + \epsilon_e^i) L_i \bar{e}_i H_d + \cdots \right],
$$
\n(1)

where i is the generation index, y_f refer to the SM values of Yukawa couplings at the weak scale with $f = \{u, d, e\}$, and the corrections at the weak scale are denoted by ϵ^i . What we have neglected in Eq. [\(1\)](#page-0-1) are higher-order effective operators suppressed by power laws of $1/M_U$. We will show that (a) ϵ^i terms are less than unity but not suppressed by $1/M_{\mathrm{U}}$ for

$$
\epsilon^i \sim \frac{\langle \phi \rangle}{M_{\rm U}},\tag{2}
$$

with $\langle \phi \rangle \sim M_U$ referring to the vacuum expectation value (vev) of SM singlet responsible for breaking the GUT gauge group. (b) All of ϵ^{i} terms are always correlated in specific patterns rather than independent parameters. (c) The coherences lead to specific patterns of derivations in the Higgs Yukawa couplings from their SM reference values, which may be verified by the future LHC in certain parameter ranges.

II. MINIMAL YUKAWA SECTOR

Let us begin our study with a briefly review on the realistic models of unification with the minimal Yukawa

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sectors. For the $SU(5)$ unification, the Higgs fields in the minimal Yukawa sector are composed of a 5, a $\bar{5}$ and a $\overline{45}$. The $\overline{45}$ [\[10\]](#page-4-8) is added to the Yukawa sector in order to adjust the lepton and down quark Yukawa couplings at the scale $M_{\rm U}$. Under this Yukawa structure, the Yukawa couplings at scale M_U are given by,

$$
y_{u}^{i} = \frac{v_{u}^{5}}{v_{u}} Y_{u}^{ij},
$$

\n
$$
y_{d}^{i} = \frac{v_{d}^{5}}{v_{d}} Y_{d}^{ij} + \frac{v_{d}^{45}}{v_{d}} Y_{45}^{ij},
$$

\n
$$
y_{e}^{i} = \frac{v_{d}^{5}}{v_{d}} Y_{d}^{ij} - 3 \frac{v_{d}^{45}}{v_{d}} Y_{45}^{ij},
$$
\n(3)

where v_u^5 , $v_d^{\bar{5}}$ and $v_d^{\bar{45}}$ refers to the vevs of doublets in 5, $\bar{5}$ and $\overline{45}$, respectively; $v_u = v \sin \beta$, $v_d = v \cos \beta$, with $v = 174$ GeV; and Y_u , Y_d and Y_{45} are 3×3 matrixes in generation space, with $i, j = 1-3$. We recall that with $m_{45} \sim M_{\rm H}$, the proton decay mediated by the component fields in $\overline{45}$ is small. What matters [\[11\]](#page-4-9) in this Yukawa sector is the generation of a small vev v_d^{45} , compared to a large mass m_{45} .

For the $SO(10)$ unification, the minimal Yukawa sector [\[12\]](#page-4-10) is composed of a 10 and an $\overline{126}$. The purpose of $\overline{126}$ [\[13\]](#page-4-11) closely follows from that of 45 in the $SU(5)$. The Yukawa couplings at scale M_U read as,

$$
y_u^i = \frac{v_u^{10}}{v_u} Y_{10}^{ij} + \frac{v_u^{\overline{126}}}{v_u} Y_{126}^{ij}, \qquad y_d^i = \frac{v_d^{10}}{v_d} Y_{10}^{ij} + \frac{v_d^{\overline{126}}}{v_d} Y_{126}^{ij},
$$

$$
y_e^i = \frac{v_d^{10}}{v_d} Y_{10}^{ij} - 3 \frac{v_d^{126}}{v_d} Y_{126}^{ij}, \qquad y_\nu^i = \frac{v_u^{10}}{v_u} Y_{10}^{ij} - 3 \frac{v_u^{126}}{v_u} Y_{126}^{ij},
$$

(4)

where $v_{u,d}^{10}$ and $v_{u,d}^{126}$ refers to the vevs of doublets in 10 and $\overline{126}$, respectively, and y_y is the neutrino Yukawa coupling. Similar to $\overline{45}$, for $m_{126} \sim M_{\rm U}$ the proton decay due to component fields of $\overline{126}$ is small.

Fitting the values of Yukawa couplings at scale M_{U} to their SM values at the scale m_Z in terms of the renormalization group equations (RGEs), one can fix all of the input parameters in Eq. [\(3\)](#page-1-0) or Eq. [\(4\).](#page-1-1)

III. UNSUPPRESSED EFFECTIVE OPERATORS

It is well known that we will obtain the effective operators [\[14,15\]](#page-4-12) which contribute to Eq. [\(1\)](#page-0-1) after one integrates out heavy freedoms with characteristic mass scale *M*. One is also aware of that the ability of testing those effective operators dramatically declines as the value of M increases. In the situation $M \sim M_{\rm U}$, the effects on SM observables due to those operators are supposed to be tiny (e.g., τ_p), unless they are not suppressed by power laws of $1/M_{\rm U}$. We will show that there are indeed unsuppressed effective operators in Eq. [\(1\)](#page-0-1) by integrating out the heavy Higgs field 45 or 126 in the minimal Yukawa structure as discussed in the preceding section.

We show in the *left* plot of Fig. [1](#page-2-0) the generation of the effective operator

(I):
$$
\delta W_{\text{eff}} \sim \int d^2 \theta \frac{Y_{45}^{ij}}{m_{45}} \phi(75) \bar{H}(\bar{5}) \psi_i(\bar{5}) \psi_j(10),
$$
 (5)

after integrating out the vectorlike Higgs fields 45 in the minimal Yukawa sector.¹ Here, a SM singlet with nonzero vev in the 75-dimensional Higgs plays the role of ϕ in Eq. [\(2\).](#page-0-3) The nonzero vev that can be obtained e.g., through a self-interaction in the GUT-scale superpotential W ⊃ ϕ^3 (75) spontaneously breaks the SU(5) gauge group into the SM gauge group. Afterwards, it gives rise to the effective operator in Eq. [\(5\)](#page-1-2) through the interaction W ⊃ $\phi(75)H(\overline{5})H(45)$ consistent with the SU(5).
Substituting $\phi(75)$ with yev $\langle \phi(75) \rangle$ in Eq.

Substituting $\phi(75)$ with vev $\langle \phi(75) \rangle$ in Eq. [\(5\)](#page-1-2), one finds the coefficients in Eq. [\(1\)](#page-0-1)

(I):
$$
\epsilon_d^{ij} \simeq \epsilon_e^{ij} \simeq \epsilon Y_{45}^{ij} \frac{v_d^{\bar{5}}}{v_d}
$$
, (6)

where the overall scale $\epsilon = \langle \phi(75) \rangle / M_{\rm U}$, with $M_{\rm U}$ referring to the effective vectorlike (VL) mass m_{45} . For simplicity, all Yukawa coefficients in the vertexes of the Feynman diagram are absorbed into ϵ . We observe an important coherence $\epsilon_d^{ij} \simeq \epsilon_e^{ij}$ in Eq. [\(6\),](#page-1-3) which is a result of the $SU(5)$ embedding and independent of GUT-scale parameters such as ϵ , Y_{45} and the ratio of two vevs. This coherence can be a key to reveal the $SU(5)$ unification through the precision measurements on relevant Higgs Yukawa couplings.

Similarly, we can analysis the Feynman diagrams in the *middle* and *right* plots of Fig. [1](#page-2-0) respective to the $SO(10)$,

(II):
$$
\delta W_{\text{eff}} \sim \int d^2 \theta \frac{Y_{126}^{ij}}{m_{126}} \phi(210) H(10) \psi_i(16) \psi_j(16),
$$

(III): $\delta W_{\text{eff}} \sim \int d^2 \theta \frac{Y_{126}^{ij}}{m_{126}} \phi(210) \bar{H}(\overline{126}) \psi_i(16) \psi_j(16),$ (7)

where the vectorlike Higgs is 126 instead of 45, ϕ is 210 instead of 75, and a 16 supermultiplet represents a whole generation of SM fermions. Similarly to 75 in the $SU(5)$, the singlet vev of 210 in the $SO(10)$ can be obtained through self-interaction $W \supset \phi^3(210)$. The type-II and type-III effective operator in Eq. [\(7\)](#page-1-4) are then mediated

¹In this minimal Yukawa sector, fine tuning is required in order to keep the Higgs doublets light.

FIG. 1. Supergraphs for effective operators unsuppressed by the scale M_U in Eq. [\(1\)](#page-0-1) in the case of SU(5) (left) and SO(10) (middle, right) with the minimal Yukawa sector, where crossings refer to the effective vectorlike mass insertions. In each diagram, inserting ϕ with a number of *n* into the internal line of propagator yields high-order contributions multiplied by ϵ^n .

by the interaction $W \supset \phi(210)H(10)H(126)$ and $W \supset$ $\phi(210)H(126)H(\overline{126})$ consistent with the SO(10), respectively.

Unlike in the $SU(5)$, in this minimal Yukawa sector the light Higgs doublets can be dynamically obtained as in the benchmark model studied below. From Eq. [\(7\)](#page-1-4), we have

(II):
$$
e_u^i \simeq e_v^i = \epsilon Y_{126}^i \frac{v_u^{10}}{v_u}, \qquad e_d^i \simeq e_e^i \simeq \epsilon Y_{126}^i \frac{v_d^{10}}{v_d};
$$

\n(III): $e_u^i \simeq -\frac{\epsilon_v^i}{3} = \epsilon Y_{126}^i \frac{v_u^{126}}{v_u}, \qquad e_d^i \simeq -\frac{\epsilon_e^i}{3} \simeq \epsilon Y_{126}^i \frac{v_d^{126}}{v_d},$
\n(8)

where $\epsilon = \langle \phi(210) \rangle / M_{\text{U}}$, with M_{U} referring to the effective VL mass m_{126} . Similar to the coherence in Eq. [\(6\)](#page-1-3), we observe two new types of coherences in Eq. [\(8\)](#page-2-1) that result from the $SO(10)$ embedding.

One may ask how general the coherence(s) can be in the two classes of models with the minimal Yukawa sector. The key factor is the SM singlets within high dimensional representations of GUT group behind the sector which controls the behavior of GUT breaking. If the singlet vev in 75- (210-) dimensional Higgs uniquely breaks the $SU(5)$ $(SO(10))$, the type-I (II -III) coherence(s) will hold up to higher-order corrections, as illustrated in Fig. [1](#page-2-0). Example in this situation include the well known the 75-dimensional Higgs used as an economic solution to the doublet-triplet problem [\[16\].](#page-4-13) Moreover, we expect the coherence(s) still valid even in the case where multiple singlet vevs collectively break the GUT group but compared to 75 or 210 the others are subdominant. Examples in this case include a benchmark model discussed below. Finally, the validity of these coherences may be likely even for a subdominant singlet vev of 75 or 210 when the analogies similar to the effective operators in Fig. [1](#page-2-0) due to the dominant vevs are produced at higher-loop orders.

IV. PRECISION MEASUREMENTS

Either in Eq. [\(6\)](#page-1-3) or Eq. [\(8\)](#page-2-1), the corrections to Higgs Yukawa couplings dominate the next-leading order contributions, as long as the Yukawa sector is minimal and ϵ is less than unity. Their impacts at the scale m_Z rely on the magnitudes of orders of these corrections. In individual situation, there are small hierarchies among the matrix elements of Y_{45}^{ij} or Y_{126}^{ij} [\[12\],](#page-4-10) which arise from the SM fermion mass hierarchies. As a result, the largest effects always occur in the third-generation Yukawa couplings y_a $(\alpha = t, b, \tau)$. Since precision measurements on Yukawa couplings y_α are prior to the first two generations at the LHC, we will mainly focus on y_α as what follows.

Given an explicit ϵ , the weak-scale effects on y_α can be derived as follows. First, one uses the central values [\[17\]](#page-4-14) of SM observables at the scale m_Z to determine all input parameters at the scale M_U through the RGEs from m_Z to $M_{\rm U}$. During this process, one has to deal with various intermediate effective theories. Second, we add correlated ϵ -corrections to y_α at the scale M_U , then perform the renormalization group equations (RGEs) reversely from the scale M_U to m_Z , which gives rise to the dependences of δy_α on ϵ at the scale m_Z . During the RGEs, there are certain uncertainties similar to proton decay.²

For the ϵ terms in explicit models, there is a lack of "complete" fit to the $SU(5)$ model with the minimal Yukawa sector in the literature. The "completeness" means that all SM fermion masses and mixings are addressed, with important constraints such as proton decay taken into account. Otherwise, the theoretical uncertainty is too large to invalidate the RGE analysis. For earlier studies on this model, see, e.g., Refs. [\[18,19\].](#page-4-15) On the contrary, there are extensive studies on the $SO(10)$ model with the minimal Yukawa sector. We will use the latest results in Ref. [\[12\]](#page-4-10), while earlier studies can be found, e.g., in Refs. [\[20](#page-4-16)–23].

The benchmark $SO(10)$ model is composed of following effective theories for various RG scales μ : (i) the SM for $\mu < m_Z$; (ii) SM with gauginos for $m_Z < \mu < 1$ TeV; (iii) the split-supersymmetry for 1 TeV $< \mu < 10^2$ TeV; (iv) the complete MSSM for 10^2 TeV $\lt \mu \lt m_{\nu_P}$, where m_{ν_R} denotes the right-hand neutrino mass threshold; and finally (v) the MSSM with extended gauge group $U(1)_{B-L}$

²Compared to proton decay, the theoretical uncertainties in our approach are theoretically improved in the sense that the dimensionless parameters δy_{α} are logarithm- rather than power-law dependent on mass scales such as $M_{\rm U}$.

FIG. 2. Deviations of Yukawa couplings y_t (dotted blue), y_b (dotted green), and y_τ (dotted red) relative to their SM expectation values in the case of type-II corrections $\epsilon = \epsilon_t / r = \epsilon_b = \epsilon_\tau$ (left) and the type-III corrections $\epsilon = -\epsilon_t / (r \cdot s) = \epsilon_b = -\epsilon_\tau / 3$ (right), respectively. The vertical thick and dashed lines refer to LHC limits [\[4\]](#page-4-3) with luminosity 300 fb⁻¹ and 3000 fb⁻¹, respectively, where the references of colors are the same as the points. We have chosen the SM expectation values at the scale m_Z in ref. [\[17\],](#page-4-14) $M_{\rm U} = 2 \times 10^{16}$ GeV, and tan $\beta = 10$. Deviations larger than 10% from the SM expectation values are not shown, some of which have been already disfavored by the LHC data [\[1](#page-4-0)–3]. See text for details.

for $m_{\nu_R} < \mu < M_U$. Compared to the SU(5), there are more intermediate RGE steps in this model. Here, a few comments are in order. First, for simplicity M_{U} that relies on the scalar vevs of 210 (together with 54) is fixed to be 2×10^{16} GeV. Second, the right-hand neutrino mass m_{ν_p} which is determined by the vev of 126 [\[21\]](#page-4-17) is in the mass range 10^{12-13} GeV, where the uncertainty in m_{ν_R} is mainly related to the uncertainties in the neutrino masses and mixings [\[24\]](#page-4-18) through seesaw mechanism. Third, the splitting soft mass spectrum, which is actually independent of GUT-breaking sector, is chosen in order to avoid the constraint from proton decay [\[25\]](#page-4-19). Finally, identifying the whole RG trajectory between m_Z and M_U fixes the magnitudes of ϵ terms at the scale M_U and further δy_α in terms of RG running. The uncertainties in δy_α in this model arise from the uncertainty in the explicit value of m_{ν_R} and the threshold corrections at various intermediate mass scales. For instance, the threshold correction to δy_a between two intermediate scales μ_i and μ_{i+1} is obtained by integrating the RGEs, which is of form $Cy_{\alpha} \log(\mu_{i+1}/\mu_i)/(16\pi^2)$, with C a function of gauge or Yukawa couplings.

Let us turn to the numerical calculation of δy_a . The *left* plot in Fig. [2](#page-3-0) shows the values of δy_α in the case of type-II correction in Eq. [\(8\)](#page-2-1), with $r = (v_u^{10}/v_u) \cdot (v_d^{10}/v_d)^{-1} = 8.73$
[12] Since no public code is available for this benchmark [\[12\]](#page-4-10). Since no public code is available for this benchmark model, similar to Ref. [\[12\]](#page-4-10) we did the numerical analysis based on the one-loop RGEs of the SM [\[26,27\],](#page-4-20) the split supersymmetry and the MSSM [\[28\]](#page-5-0). In this plot, it is clear that the parameter ranges $|\epsilon| \ge 0.2$ and $0.1 \le |\epsilon| \le 0.2$ can be tested through δy_b and δy_τ by the LHC with luminosity 300 fb⁻¹ and 3000 fb⁻¹, respectively. Compared to y_b and y_{τ} , y_t receives smallest correction but faces largest experimental uncertainties [\[4,29\].](#page-4-3) According to the estimates on the uncertainties above, we expect that the theoretical uncertainty to δy_a is at most of order ~1–3%.

We perform similar analysis in the *right* plot in Fig. [2](#page-3-0), which shows the values of δy_a in the case of type-III correction in Eq. [\(8\),](#page-2-1) with $s = (v_u^{\overline{126}}/v_d^{\overline{126}}) \cdot (v_d^{10}/v_u^{10})$ [\[12\]](#page-4-10). Compared to type II, where ϵ_t is the largest input value due to the enhancement factor r , ϵ_{τ} is the largest input value in the case of type III. In this case, one expects larger value of δy_{τ} , which indicates that the same LHC limits can reach smaller parameter region $|\epsilon| \sim 0.01-0.02$, as shown in the figure. The parameter region $|\epsilon| \ge 0.02$ can be fully covered by the LHC limit with luminosity 300 fb⁻¹. Whenever the corrections to δy_a are roughly of same order, the magnitude of δy_τ at the scale m_Z is always the largest.

Apart from modifying y_α , the *e*-corrections also contribute to off-diagonal elements of $y_{u,d}$ that lead to flavor violation. They appear even though ϵ^{ij} is diagonal at the scale M_{U} because of RGE effects [\[30\]](#page-5-1). In the context of type-II two Higgs doublets as we study here, the most stringent constraint in the parameter region with moderate or large tan β arises from BR $(B_{s,d} \to \mu^+\mu^-)$. A partial reason for it is that they are enhanced by the factor tan β , unlike in the other cases such as $Br(t \rightarrow u_i h)(u_i = \{u, c\})$ that are suppressed by $\cos^2(\alpha - \beta)$. Because of the feature above, BR $(B_{s,d} \to \mu^+\mu^-)$ is actually more sensitive to parameters tan β and the neutral Higgs boson mass rather than the deviations of a few percent level in the Yukawa couplings in Fig. [2.](#page-3-0) Typically, the ϵ corrections only yield a deviation of order ∼0.13% relative to the SM prediction $BR(B_s \to \mu^+ \mu^-)_{SM} = 3.26 \times 10^{-9}$ for $\tan \beta = 10$ and $m_A = m_H = 1$ TeV, which is consistent with the LHCb limits BR $(B_s \to \mu^+\mu^-)_{\rm exp} = (2.8^{+0.7}_{-0.6}) \times 10^{-9}$ [\[31,32\].](#page-5-2)

V. CONCLUSIONS

Unification is an important theoretical idea of new physics beyond SM. Yet, there are limited ways in testing it except proton decay experiment in the last a few decades. Unfortunately, the advance along this line is delayed due to the experimental status. In this work, we have proposed a novel approach of probing unification through precision measurements on the Higgs Yukawa couplings especially of the third generation.

This proposal is supported by three observations. The first observation is the appearance of unsuppressed effective operators through integrating out the heavy Higgs freedom 45 or 126 in conventional $SU(5)$ or $SO(10)$ models with the minimal Yukawa sector, respectively. The second observation is that the corrections to y_α at the scale $M_{\rm U}$ are in three specific patterns, as a result of either $SU(5)$ or $SO(10)$ embedding. Lastly, the deviations to y_{α} at the scale m_z can be verified by the future LHC limits (see Fig. [2](#page-3-0)), although there are subject to certain uncertainties in the RG trajectory between the scales m_Z and M_{U} .

Our analysis shows that as a result of coherences, a large deviation in y_{τ} but small in y_t and y_b can serve as a hint of conventional realistic models of unification with the minimal Yukawa sector.

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