

The Higgs as a pseudo-Goldstone boson

①

Recall: the SM Higgs Lagrangian can be written as

$$\mathcal{L}_H = \frac{1}{4} \text{Tr} [(D_\mu \Sigma)^\dagger D^\mu \Sigma] + \frac{m^2}{2} \text{Tr} [\Sigma^\dagger \Sigma] - \frac{\lambda}{4} \text{Tr} [\Sigma^\dagger \Sigma]^2,$$

with $\Sigma = (h+v)U$, $U = \exp\left(i \frac{\sigma^a \pi^a}{v}\right)$

π^a are the Nambu-Goldstone bosons of the $SO(4) \rightarrow SO(3)$ breaking (or $SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R \rightarrow SU(2)_{L+R}$) \rightsquigarrow longitudinal polarisations of the massive W and Z bosons.

$$\Sigma \rightarrow g_L \cdot \Sigma \cdot g_R^\dagger, \quad g_{L,R} = \exp\left(i \frac{\alpha_{L,R}^a \sigma^a}{2}\right)$$

the Goldstone fields transform non-linearly under the full $SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R$:

$$\pi^a \rightarrow \pi^a + \frac{v}{2} (\alpha_L^a - \alpha_R^a)$$

Higgs v.e.v. $\langle \Sigma \rangle = v \cdot \mathbb{1}$

EW symmetry breaking in the Higgs sector is a global $SO(4) \rightarrow SO(3)$...

The "custodial" $SO(4)$ symmetry is explicitly violated by the gauge coupling g' and the Yukawa couplings $y_u^i \neq y_d^i$.

In the limit $g' \rightarrow 0$, $m_W = m_Z$, and the π^a transform as triplets of the unbroken $SO(3)$.

(an additional term $\text{Tr} [\Sigma^\dagger D_\mu \Sigma \sigma_3]^2$ preserves the gauge $SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$ but violates $SU(2)_{L+R}$, and is excluded from the Lagrangian... its presence would violate the relation $m_W = m_Z \sin \theta_w$ which is experimentally verified)

At energies $E \lesssim m_h$, the Higgs particle h can be removed from the effective Lagrangian. EW symmetry breaking can be described without introducing a Higgs boson: non-linear sigma-model

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Higgs}} = \frac{v^2}{4} \text{Tr} [D_\mu U^\dagger D^\mu U] + \bar{q}_L^i U \begin{pmatrix} y_{ij}^u u_R^j \\ y_{ij}^d d_R^j \end{pmatrix}$$

↙ ↘

= chiral Lagrangian of QCD ↪ quark masses

(actually the QCD condensate breaks EW symmetry, and gives a mass $m_W = g f_\pi / 2 \approx 29 \text{ MeV}$ to the vector bosons)

Pion scattering: $\mathcal{L}_{\text{Higgs}} \supset \frac{1}{v^2} (\pi \partial_\mu \pi)^2$ four-pion interactions
 (non-derivative interactions are forbidden by the shift symmetry $\pi \rightarrow \pi + v\alpha$ of the Goldstone bosons)

$$A(\pi^+ \pi^- \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-) = \begin{array}{c} \pi^+ \quad \pi^+ \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \times \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \pi^- \quad \pi^- \end{array} = \frac{s+t}{v^2} \approx \frac{E^2}{v^2}$$

four-pion scattering amplitude grows with energy \Rightarrow at some point the tree-level amplitude will violate the unitarity bound $|A|^2 \leq \text{Im} A$

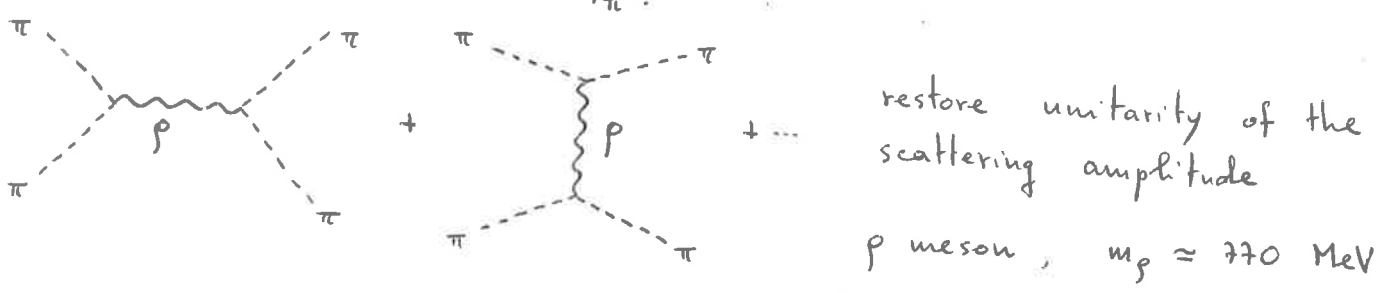
Unitarity can be restored by higher-order contributions

$$\begin{array}{c} \pi \quad \pi \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \text{loop} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \pi \quad \pi \end{array} \approx \frac{s^2}{v^4} \frac{1}{16\pi^2} \log(s/\mu^2) \times N_\pi$$

↖ # of Goldstone bosons

\Rightarrow perturbativity is lost when $A_{\text{tree}} \approx A_{\text{loop}}$, $E \approx 4\pi v / \sqrt{N_\pi}$

This happens in QCD, where strongly coupled resonances appear at energies below $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}} \approx 4\pi f_\pi$.



In the SM, perturbative unitarity is maintained by the exchange of a Higgs boson.

$$\mathcal{L}_{int} = \frac{1}{4} (h^2 + 2vh) \text{Tr} [D_\mu U^\dagger D^\mu U]$$

$$A(\pi\pi \rightarrow \pi\pi) = \text{diagrams} = \frac{1}{v^2} \left[s+t - \frac{s^2}{s-m_h^2} - \frac{t^2}{t-m_h^2} \right] = \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{m_h^2}{E^2}\right) \xrightarrow{E \rightarrow \infty} 0$$

Consider the EW Chiral Lagrangian with the addition of a scalar degree of freedom, with generic couplings to the Goldstones:

$$\mathcal{L}_h = \frac{v^2}{4} \text{Tr} [D_\mu U^\dagger D^\mu U] \left\{ 1 + 2a \frac{h}{v} + b \frac{h^2}{v^2} + \dots \right\} + \bar{q}_L U \gamma q_R \left\{ 1 + c \frac{h}{v} + \dots \right\}$$

$$A(\pi\pi \rightarrow \pi\pi) = \frac{1}{v^2} \left[s+t - a^2 \left(\frac{s^2}{s-m_h^2} + \frac{t^2}{t-m_h^2} \right) \right] \approx \frac{s+t}{v^2} (1-a^2) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{m_h^2}{E^2}\right)$$

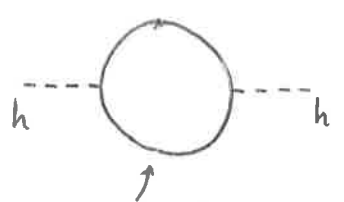
Perturbativity is lost at a scale $\Lambda \approx 4\pi v / \sqrt{1-a^2}$

- $a = 0$: Higgs boson does not participate in EWSB ($\Lambda \approx 4\pi v$)
- $a = 1$: Standard Model, (h, π^a) form a $SU(2)_L$ doublet, $\Lambda \rightarrow \infty$. (the theory is renormalisable!)

For generic $a \neq 1$, the Higgs is part of a sector which becomes strongly interacting at a scale $\Lambda > 4\pi v$: composite Higgs

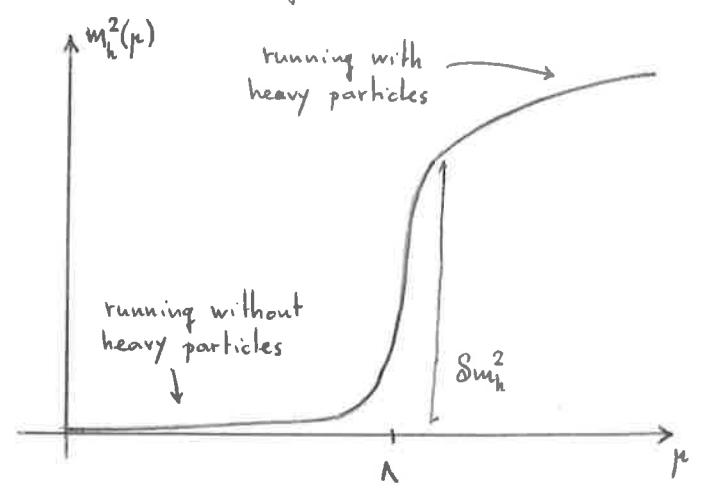
Other composite (ρ -like) resonances complete the unitarisation of the theory below Λ .

Hierarchy problem: the mass of a scalar field gets radiative corrections $\propto \Lambda^2$



loop of particles with mass $M \approx \Lambda$, and coupling g_*

$$\Delta m_h^2 \approx \frac{1}{16\pi^2} g_*^2 \Lambda^2$$



$$m_h^2 (\mu = m_h) = m_h^2 (\mu = \Lambda) + \Delta m_h^2$$

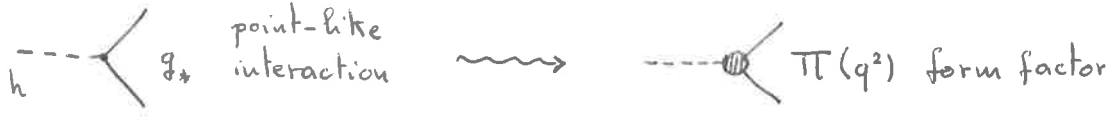
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 $(125 \text{ GeV})^2$ $\propto \Lambda^2$

Quadratic sensitivity of m_h^2 on the scale of new physics: if Λ is large, a very precise cancellation has to take place between Δm_h^2 and $m_h^2(\Lambda)$: fine-tuning

There is no symmetry that enforces $m_h \approx 0 \Rightarrow$ renormalisation is not multiplicative, $\Delta m_h^2 \not\propto m_h^2$
 (fermions \rightarrow chiral symmetry; vectors \rightarrow gauge symmetry)

In general: corrections for any threshold Λ coupled to the Higgs.

Composite Higgs: no contribution above the compositeness scale Λ_{comp} .
 (the Higgs is not a physical degree of freedom at energies $E > \Lambda_{\text{comp}}$.)



$\Pi(q^2) \rightarrow 0$ for $q^2 \gg \Lambda^2 \Rightarrow$ loop integral is cut-off at Λ

Hierarchy problem is solved if Λ is close to $4\pi v$.

Experimental constraints:

- other composite states expected below Λ (like in QCD)
- modification of Higgs couplings (experimentally $a \approx 1 \pm 20\% \dots$)
- modification of other SM amplitudes (e.g. vector bosons, EW precision tests)

\rightarrow Higgs boson is naturally lighter than other composite states if it is a Nambu-Goldstone boson of some extended symmetry breaking

$$\begin{matrix} G & \longrightarrow & H \\ \text{U1} & & \text{U1} \\ \text{SO(4)} & & \text{SO(3)} \end{matrix} \quad ; \quad \# \text{ of Goldstones} = \dim(G) - \dim(H)$$

G/H coset should contain at least the EW $\text{SO(4)}/\text{SO(3)}$ Goldstone bosons + 1 broken generator \rightsquigarrow Higgs.

Shift symmetry of the Goldstones $h \rightarrow h + \alpha$ forbids any potential $V(h)$ including the mass term $m_h = 0$: light Higgs!

Minimal Composite Higgs Model

(5)

$$SO(5) \rightarrow SO(4) \quad \dim(SO(N)) = \frac{N(N-1)}{2} \Rightarrow 10 - 6 = 4 \text{ Goldstones}$$

(4 components of the Higgs field)

The Goldstone bosons transform as a 4-plet of the unbroken $SO(4)$ ✓

$$(H_1, H_2, H_3, H_4) = H$$

$$\Sigma = \exp\left(\frac{it^a H^a}{f}\right) \Sigma_0, \quad \Sigma_0 \equiv (0, 0, 0, 0, 1)$$

(arbitrary, identifies the $SO(4) \subset SO(5)$)

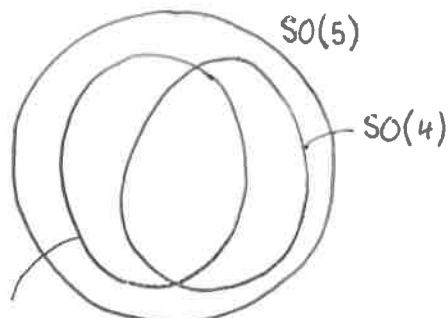
t^a generators of $SO(5)/SO(4)$

f scale of the $SO(5) \rightarrow SO(4)$ breaking

$$\Sigma = \left(\underbrace{\sin \frac{H}{f} \cdot \hat{H}}_{\text{SM Higgs}}, \cos \frac{H}{f} \right), \quad \text{with } \hat{H} \equiv \frac{H_i}{H}, \quad H \equiv \sqrt{H_1^2 + H_2^2 + H_3^2 + H_4^2}$$

If $H=0 \rightarrow$ SM global $SO(4) \equiv$ unbroken $SO(4) \subset SO(5)$

If H has a v.e.v. \rightarrow misalignment between the unbroken $SO(4) \subset SO(5)$ and the SM $SO(4)$... rotation angle v/f .



$$SO(4) \cong SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R \subseteq SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$$

One can easily estimate the Higgs couplings to vector bosons from the Chiral Lagr.

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{f^2}{4} \text{Tr} [D_\mu \Sigma^\dagger D^\mu \Sigma] \cong \frac{f^2}{4} g^2 \sum_{a,b=1}^4 W_\mu^a W_\mu^b \text{Tr} [\Sigma^\dagger t^a t^b \Sigma] = \frac{1}{2} \frac{g^2 f^2}{4} W_\mu^a W_\mu^a \sin^2 \frac{H}{f}$$

H gets a v.e.v. : $H = \langle H \rangle + h$

$$\sin^2 \frac{\langle H \rangle + h}{f} = \left(\sin \frac{\langle H \rangle}{f} \cos \frac{h}{f} + \cos \frac{\langle H \rangle}{f} \sin \frac{h}{f} \right)^2$$

$$= \sin^2 \frac{\langle H \rangle}{f} + 2 \sin \frac{\langle H \rangle}{f} \cos \frac{\langle H \rangle}{f} \times \frac{h}{f} + \left(1 - 2 \sin^2 \frac{\langle H \rangle}{f} \right) \times \frac{h^2}{f^2} + \dots$$

↪ mass of vector bosons $m_W^2 = \frac{g^2 f^2}{4} \sin^2 \frac{\langle H \rangle}{f} \Rightarrow \boxed{v^2 = f^2 \sin^2 \frac{\langle H \rangle}{f}}$

Higgs couplings : $v^2 \left\{ 1 + 2a \frac{h}{v} + b \frac{h^2}{v^2} + \dots \right\}$

$f^2 = 2 \sin \frac{\langle H \rangle}{f} \cos \frac{\langle H \rangle}{f} \cdot \frac{h}{f} = 2v \sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{f^2}} h$ define $\xi \equiv \frac{v^2}{f^2} = \sin^2 \frac{\langle H \rangle}{f}$

$a = \sqrt{1 - \xi}$, similarly $b = 1 - 2\xi$

$\lim_{f \rightarrow \infty} \xi = 0$, and $a, b \xrightarrow{f \rightarrow \infty} 1$ (decoupling limit = SM) $\Lambda = 4\pi v / \sqrt{\xi} = 4\pi f$

ElectroWeak Precision Tests

Quadratic action for gauge fields (including effects from integrating out strongly interacting physics)

$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\eta_{\mu\nu} - \frac{q_\mu q_\nu}{q^2} \right) \left\{ \Pi_{00}(q^2) B_\mu B_\nu + \Pi_{33}(q^2) W_\mu^3 W_\nu^3 + 2\Pi_{30}(q^2) W_\mu^3 B_\nu + 2\Pi_{WW}(q^2) W_\mu^+ W_\nu^- \right\}$

expansion in q^2 : $\Pi(q^2) = \Pi(0) + q^2 \Pi'(0) + \dots$

- massless photon $\Rightarrow \Pi_{xy}(0) = \Pi_{yz}(0) = 0$ (2 conditions)
- $\Pi'_{WW}(0)$ and $\Pi'_{00}(0)$ fixed by gauge couplings
($\Pi'_{WW}(0) = \Pi'_{00}(0) = 1$ if gauge action normalised to $-\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}$)
- $\Pi_{WW}(0) = m_W^2 \rightarrow$ fixed by v.e.v. , or G_F .

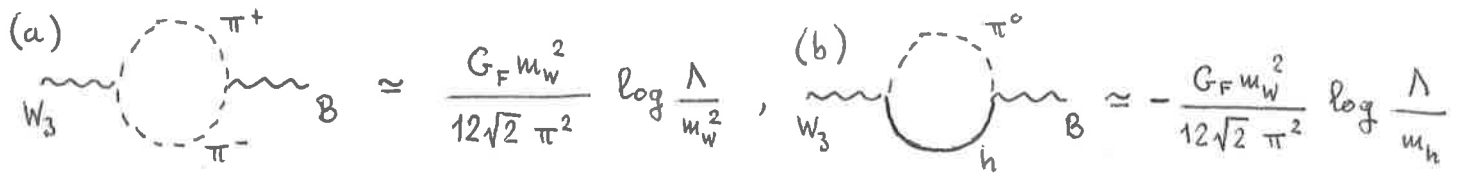
\Rightarrow 3 independent quantities

$\hat{S} \equiv \frac{g}{g'} \Pi'_{30}(0)$ $\hat{U} \equiv \Pi'_{33}(0) - \Pi'_{WW}(0)$ $\hat{T} \equiv \frac{\Pi_{33}(0) - \Pi_{WW}(0)}{m_W^2}$

In the SM no further counterterm is present \Rightarrow finite quantities

Example : \hat{T} measures the breaking of custodial $SU(2)_{L+R}$ (different vacuum polarisations for W_μ^\pm and W_μ^3) \rightarrow finite contributions $\propto y_t$ and g' ...

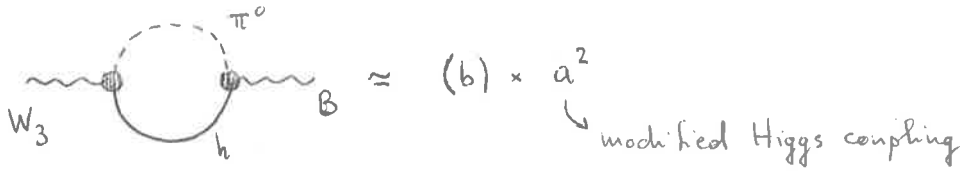
Example : \hat{S} parameter in the SM



$\Rightarrow \hat{S}_{SM} = \frac{G_F m_W^2}{12\sqrt{2} \pi^2} \log(m_h/m_W)$

\hat{S} parameter in composite Higgs :

(7)



$$\Rightarrow \hat{S} = (a) + (b) \times a^2 = \hat{S}_{SM} + (a^2 - 1) \times (b) = \hat{S}_{SM} + \frac{G_F m_W^2}{12\sqrt{2}\pi^2} (1 - a^2) \log \frac{\Lambda}{m_W^2}$$

Dependence on the cut-off is reintroduced, proportional to $1 - a^2 \dots$
(similarly for $\hat{T} \dots$)

Minimal Composite Higgs : vacuum polarisations can be written in $SO(5)$ -invariant way

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\gamma_{\mu\nu} - \frac{q_\mu q_\nu}{q^2} \right) \left\{ \hat{\Pi}_B(q^2) B_\mu B_\nu + \hat{\Pi}_W(q^2) W_\mu^a W_\nu^a + \tilde{\Pi}_1(q^2) \left[W_\mu^a W_\nu^b \text{Tr} [\Sigma^\dagger \sigma^a \sigma^b \Sigma] + \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. + 2W_\mu^a B_\nu \text{Tr} [\Sigma^\dagger \sigma^a \sigma^3 \Sigma] + B_\mu B_\nu \text{Tr} [\Sigma^\dagger \Sigma] \right] \right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\gamma_{\mu\nu} - \frac{q_\mu q_\nu}{q^2} \right) \left\{ \left(\hat{\Pi}_B(q^2) + \tilde{\Pi}_1(q^2) \sin^2 \frac{H}{f} \right) B_\mu B_\nu + \left(\hat{\Pi}_W(q^2) + \tilde{\Pi}_1(q^2) \sin^2 \frac{H}{f} \right) W_\mu^a W_\nu^a \right. \\ &\quad \left. + 2 \tilde{\Pi}_1(q^2) \sin^2 \frac{H}{f} (\hat{H}^\dagger \sigma^a \gamma H) W_\mu^a B_\nu \right\} \end{aligned}$$

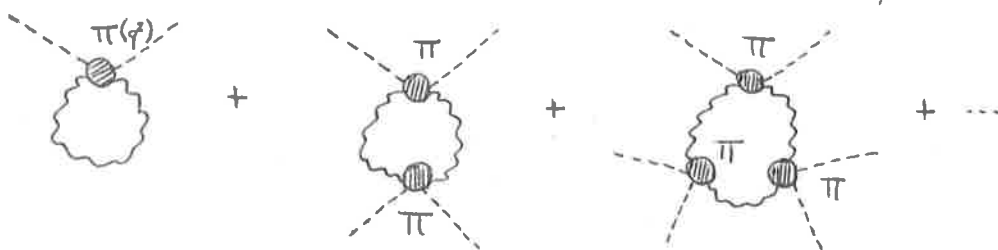
$\hat{\Pi}_{B,W}(q^2)$ come from UV effects due to strong interactions (composite resonances)
($\hat{\Pi}_B(0) = \hat{\Pi}_W(0)$ at leading order, if custodial symmetry is preserved)

$\tilde{\Pi}_1(q^2)$ comes from the Nambu-Goldstone bosons (fluctuations around Σ_0)

Higgs potential

If $SO(5)$ symmetry is exact, $V(h) \equiv 0$, and $m_h = 0$.

The SM couplings explicitly violate the $SO(5)$ symmetry \Rightarrow they induce a non-vanishing Higgs mass and potential @ loop level.



from loop
of gauge fields

Coleman - Weinberg potential :

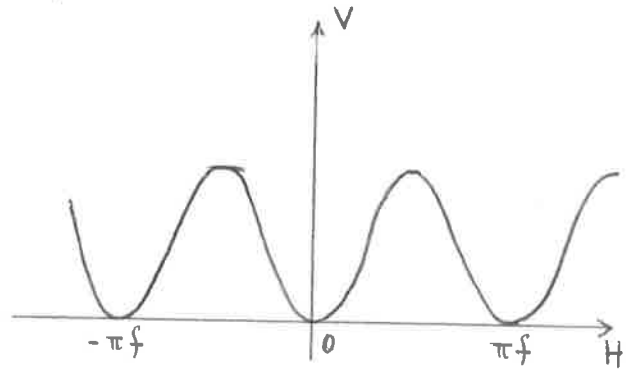
$$V(H) \propto \int \frac{d^4 q}{(2\pi)^4} \log \left(\hat{\Pi}_W(q^2) + \tilde{\Pi}_1(q^2) \sin^2 \frac{H}{f} \right) \quad \text{resumming all the W-loops}$$

$V(H)$ is finite because the form factors $\Pi(q^2) \xrightarrow{q^2 \rightarrow \infty} 0$ "fast enough"

$$V(H) \propto \text{const.} + \int \frac{d^4 q}{(2\pi)^4} \log \left(1 + \frac{\tilde{\Pi}_1(q^2)}{\hat{\Pi}_W(q^2)} \sin^2 \frac{H}{f} \right)$$

$$\approx \text{const.} + \alpha_1 \sin^2 \frac{H}{f} + \alpha_2 \sin^4 \frac{H}{f} + \dots$$

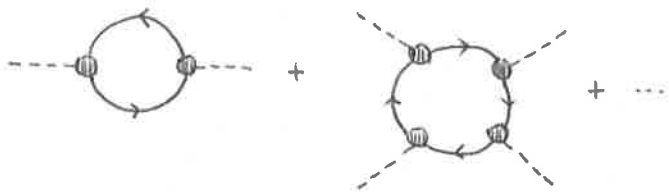
from form factors



V is a function of $\sin^2 H/f$
 \Rightarrow can not break EW symmetry with $v \ll f$
 (problem ~~of~~ of vacuum misalignment)

A tuning with a different contribution to the potential is needed

Example : loops of top quark can give the right contribution



$$V(H) = \alpha \cos \frac{H}{f} - \beta \sin^2 \frac{H}{f} \quad (\alpha, \beta \text{ from strong dynamics})$$

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial H} = \frac{1}{f} \left[-\alpha \sin \frac{H}{f} - 2\beta \sin \frac{H}{f} \cos \frac{H}{f} \right] = 0 \iff \alpha + 2\beta \cos \frac{\langle H \rangle}{f} = 0$$

$$\xi \equiv \frac{v^2}{f^2} = \sin^2 \frac{\langle H \rangle}{f} = 1 - \cos^2 \frac{\langle H \rangle}{f} = 1 - \left(\frac{\alpha}{2\beta} \right)^2 \ll 1$$

tuning $\alpha \approx 2\beta$ to have $v \ll f$

larger $f \rightarrow$ larger tuning (SM is recovered for $f \rightarrow \infty$)

References

- Contino, arXiv: 1005.4269
- Barbieri, arXiv: 0706.0684 (Ch.4: EWPT)
- Panico, Wulzer, arXiv: 1506.01961
- Georgi, Kaplan, PLB 136 (1984) 183, and PLB 145 (1984) 216. (pseudo-Goldstone Higgs)
- Agashe, Contino, Pomarol, hep-ph/0412089 (Minimal Composite Higgs)