

The Higgs particle

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Gauge theory

Gauge principle:

- equation of motion is invariant under local phase transformation
- there exists an external field (interaction) which receives a compensating transformation

→ the gauge bosons have to be massless

Example: electro-magnetic interaction with massless photon

Dirac equation with interaction:

$$(i \gamma^\mu D_\mu - m) \psi(x) = 0$$

$$D_\mu = \partial_\mu + i q A_\mu(x)$$

Gauge theory

$$(i \gamma^\mu D_\mu - m) \psi(x) = 0$$

→ equation is invariant under local phase transformation

Coupled transformation:

$$\psi(x) \rightarrow \psi'(x) = e^{iq\rho(x)} \psi(x)$$

$$A_\mu(x) \rightarrow A'_\mu(x) = A_\mu(x) - \partial_\mu \rho(x)$$

Lagrangian for massive spin-1 field:

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4} F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} M^2 A^\mu A_\mu$$

→ for \mathcal{L}_{photon} to be invariant the mass M has to be zero

$$\mathcal{L}_{photon} = -\frac{1}{4} F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}$$

Gauge theory

But: consider weak interaction

- very small range of interaction
- there for: heavy gauge bosons Z^0 , W^\pm

→ problem of gauge boson mass

Idea:

- treat weak interaction with infinite range
- introduce background field which screens range

→ the gauge bosons receive a mass

Note: no loss of gauge invariance

Additional formalism

relativistic energy-momentum relationship: $E^2 = p^2 + m^2$

Note: $\square := \partial_\mu \partial^\mu$

Klein-Gordon equation:

$$(\square + m^2) \phi(x) = 0$$

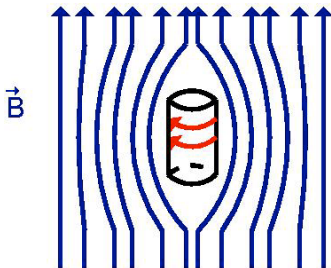
→ equation of motion for spin-0 field with mass m

Klein-Gordon Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu \phi)(\partial^\mu \phi) - \frac{1}{2}m^2 \phi^2$$

Superconductor

Consider: Meissner-Ochsenfeld effect



- static B field causes currents j_S in a superconductor
- below a critical temperature T_C screening currents generate counter-field
- counter-field compensates external static B field

Superconductor

→ allowed density of electrons in the same state cannot cause counter-fields

Explanation of M.-O. effect by postulated equation:

$$\text{London eq.: } \nabla \times j = -\frac{q^2 n_c}{m_c} B$$

BCS theory: at low temperatures electrons can form a bound state due to the interaction with the lattice

→ Cooper-pairs: two electrons with opposite spin and momentum form a bosonic state (spin 0)

→ macroscopic occupancy of single state possible

n_c : density, $q = 2e$, $m_c = 2m_e$

Superconductor - insertion 1

Find simultaneously solution of:

$$\text{I: } \square A^\mu = j^\mu \quad \text{inhom. Maxwell eq. with } \partial_\mu A^\mu = 0$$

$$\text{II: } (\square + m^2) A^\mu = 0$$

Static version of equations:

$$\text{I: } \nabla^2 A = -j$$

$$\text{II: } \nabla^2 A = +m^2 A$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{aligned} j &= -m^2 A & | \cdot \nabla \times \\ \nabla \times j &= -m^2 B & \quad (\star) \end{aligned}$$

Superconductor - insertion 2

Look at 4. static Maxwell equation:

$$\nabla \times B = j \quad | \cdot \nabla \times$$

$$\nabla \times (\nabla \times B) = \nabla(\nabla \cdot B) - \nabla^2 B = -\nabla^2 B$$

$$\nabla \times j = -m^2 B$$

$$\nabla^2 B = m^2 B$$

→ equation looks like the B field has a mass

Superconductor

Compare the London eq. with eq. (★)

$$\text{London eq.: } \nabla \times \mathbf{j} = -\frac{q^2 n_c}{m_c} \mathbf{B}$$

$$(\star): \quad \nabla \times \mathbf{j} = -m^2 \mathbf{B}$$

→ it is possible to calculate the effective mass of the photon
 n_c : density, $q = 2e$, $m_c = 2m_e$

Superconductor - result

Cooper pairs:

- below T_C all Cooper pairs are in the same ground state
- Cooper pairs mediate the "supra" current
- Cooper pairs form a scalar background-field
- photons get an effective mass in matter

Point:

If we were not aware of this background-field
→ we conclude that photons are massive

⇒ Question: Is there a background-field which gives mass
to Z^0 , W^\pm

Mass generation in the vacuum

Vacuum in QFT:

Vacuum expectation value $\langle \phi_0 \rangle \approx$ ground of the system

Consider: Higgs (background)-field as free spin-0 particles $\phi(x)$

$$(\square + m^2) \phi(x) = 0$$

construct the current:

$$j^\mu = iq[\phi^*(\partial^\mu \phi) - (\partial^\mu \phi)^* \phi]$$

Introduce interaction with photon field:

$$D^\mu = \partial^\mu + iqA^\mu$$

$$j^\mu = iq[\phi^*(\partial^\mu \phi) - (\partial^\mu \phi)^* \phi] - 2q^2 A^\mu |\phi|^2$$

Mass generation in the vacuum

2 cases for the vacuum:

$$I : \quad \phi_0 = 0 \rightarrow \text{vacuum current: } j_0^\mu = 0$$

$$II : \quad \phi_0 = \text{const.} \rightarrow \text{vacuum current: } j_0^\mu = -2q^2 A^\mu |\phi_0|^2$$

Define the mass of A^μ :

$$m = q \sqrt{2} |\phi_0|$$

$$\square A^\mu = j_0^\mu \quad \rightarrow \quad \text{K.G. : } (\square + m^2) A^\mu = 0$$

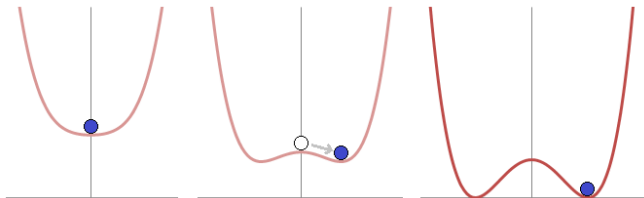
\Rightarrow mass generation only possible for $\phi_0 \neq 0$

Spontaneous symmetry breaking

Spontaneous symmetry breaking:

- basic equation of a system have a certain symmetry
- symmetry does not exist in the ground state
- non vanishing ground state: $\phi_0 = \text{const.}$

Requirement for $\phi_0 = \text{const.}$: self-interacting Higgs field



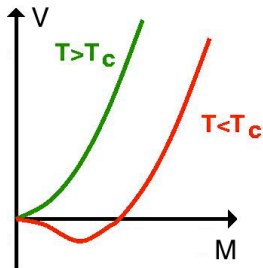
Spontaneous symmetry breaking

Example: superconductor

- all Cooper pairs are correlated (same phase, same c.o.m. momentum)
- current j^μ is invariant under phase transformation
- ground state is a specific choice of phase (not invariant)

Spontaneous symmetry breaking

Example: ferro-magnet



$V = \alpha M^2 + \beta M^4$, M : magnetisation

I : $T > T_C : \alpha > 0$ groundstate: $M = 0$

II : $T < T_C : \alpha < 0$ groundstate: $M \neq 0$

$M \neq 0$: preferred direction of spins (no rotational symmetry)

Higgs potential - wine bottle potential

Analog: potential with non vanishing ground state:

$$V(\phi) = -\mu^2 |\phi|^2 + \lambda^2 |\phi|^4, \quad \phi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [\phi_1(x) + i \phi_2(x)]$$

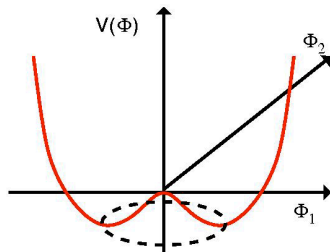
$\phi(x)$ scalar field

Minimum of V :

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial \phi} \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

$$\phi_1^2 + \phi_2^2 = \frac{\mu^2}{2\lambda^2}$$

$$\rightarrow |\phi_0| = \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad v = \frac{\mu}{\lambda}$$



The Higgs mechanism

System has a $U(1)$ symmetry: $\phi \rightarrow \phi' = e^{i\alpha}\phi$

Lagrangian is given by:

$$\mathcal{L} = (\partial_\mu \phi)(\partial^\mu \phi)^* - V(\phi)$$

→ \mathcal{L} is invariant under phase transformations

Goldstone theorem:

- \mathcal{L} has an exact continuous global symmetry
 - this symmetry is not present in the ground state
- the theory contains massless particles
- massless particles = Goldstone bosons

The Higgs mechanism

- \mathcal{L} has $U(1)$ symmetry
 - symmetry breaks down in ground state (no symmetry group)
- theorem predicts 1 Goldstone boson

Rewrite ϕ by oscillations around ground state:

$$\phi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}[v + \eta(x) + i\xi(x)]$$

$\eta(x)$: radial direction

$\xi(x)$: azimuthal direction

The Higgs mechanism

Insert in potential:

$$V(\phi) = \mu^2 \eta^2 - \frac{1}{4} \mu^2 v^2 + \dots$$

Insert in Lagrangian:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} &= (\partial_\mu \phi)(\partial^\mu \phi)^* - V(\phi) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu \eta)(\partial^\mu \eta) - \mu^2 \eta^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu \xi)(\partial^\mu \xi) + \dots \end{aligned}$$

→ one "real" mass term in \mathcal{L}

$$\mathcal{L}_{mass} = -\mu^2 \eta^2 = -\frac{1}{2} m_\eta^2 \eta^2$$

$$m_\eta = \sqrt{2} \mu, \quad m_\xi = 0$$

→ ξ is Goldstone boson

The Higgs mechanism - gauge theory

Make the theory gauge invariant: $D_\mu = \partial_\mu + iqA_\mu$

$$\mathcal{L} = (D_\mu \phi)(D^\mu \phi)^* - V(\phi) - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}$$

Use expansion: $\phi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}[v + \eta(x) + i\xi(x)]$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} = & \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu \eta)(\partial^\mu \eta) - \mu^2 \eta^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu \xi)(\partial^\mu \xi) - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} \\ & + \frac{1}{2} q^2 v^2 A_\mu A^\mu + q v A_\mu (\partial^\mu \xi) \end{aligned}$$

What about the last two terms?

The Higgs mechanism - gauge theory

\mathcal{L} is gauge invariant:

$$\phi(x) \rightarrow \phi'(x) = e^{iq\rho(x)} \phi(x)$$

$$A_\mu(x) \rightarrow A'_\mu(x) = A_\mu(x) - \partial_\mu \rho(x)$$

Perfect choice:

$$\rho(x) = -\frac{1}{qv} \xi(x)$$

Insert ϕ' , A'_μ in \mathcal{L} :

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu \eta)(\partial^\mu \eta) - \mu^2 \eta^2 - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} q^2 v^2 A'_\mu A'^\mu + \dots$$

gauge theory eliminated the Goldstone Boson $\Rightarrow \xi$ has vanished

A_μ became massive $m_A = qv$

The Higgs mechanism - result

Counting degrees of freedom:

→ before interaction

- 1 dof: η field $m_\eta = \sqrt{2}\mu$
- 1 dof: ξ field $m_\xi = 0$ (Goldstone boson)
- 2 dof: A_μ field $m_A = 0$ (2 transverse dof.)

→ after gauge

- 1 dof: η field $m_\eta = \sqrt{2}\mu$ ("Higgs")
- 3 dof: A_μ field $m_A = qv$ (+1 longitudinal dof.)

massive photon field A_μ , $m_A = qv$ given by Higgs vacuum expectation value

The Higgs mechanism in $U(1)_Y \otimes SU(2)_L$

$$U(1)_Y \otimes SU(2)_L: \quad \mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_F + \mathcal{L}_{FB} + \mathcal{L}_B + \mathcal{L}_H + \mathcal{L}_{HB} + \mathcal{L}_{HF}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_H + \mathcal{L}_{HB} &= (D^\mu \Phi)^\dagger (D_\mu \Phi) - V(\Phi^\dagger \Phi) \\ D_\mu &= \partial_\mu + \frac{1}{2} ig' Y B_\mu(x) + \frac{1}{2} ig \vec{\tau} \vec{W}_\mu(x) \end{aligned}$$

- \mathcal{L} is gauge invariant (elimination of GB)
- coupling constant: $g \approx e$

simplest Higgs structure to give mass to Z^0 , W^\pm is a doublet:

$$\Phi = \begin{pmatrix} \phi^+ \\ \phi^0 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} \phi_1 + i\phi_2 \\ \phi_3 + i\phi_4 \end{pmatrix}$$

ϕ is complex scalar $SU(2)_L$ doublet: 4 dof. (after gauge 1 dof.)

weak isospin $I(\Phi) = \frac{1}{2}: \quad I_3 = \pm \frac{1}{2}$

The Higgs mechanism in $U(1)_Y \otimes SU(2)_L$

groundstate: $\langle \Phi \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v \end{pmatrix}$, v real

gauge bosons \vec{W}_μ, B_μ can be mapped to exchange bosons

$$W^\pm \rightarrow W_\mu^\pm = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(W_\mu^1 \mp i W_\mu^2)$$

$$Z^0 \rightarrow Z_\mu = -B_\mu \sin \theta_w + W_\mu^3 \cos \theta_w$$

$$\text{Photon} \rightarrow A_\mu = B_\mu \cos \theta_w + W_\mu^3 \sin \theta_w$$

- W^\pm mass eigenstates with $m_W = \frac{g v}{2}$
- Z^0 with $m_Z = \frac{m_W}{\cos \theta_w}$
- A_μ with $m_A = 0$

scalar Higgs boson: $m_{\text{Higgs}} = \sqrt{2}\mu = \sqrt{2}\lambda v$

Limits on the Higgs boson mass

the vacuum expectation value is already determined:

$$m_W = \frac{g v}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{g^2}{8m_W^2}$$

$$G_F = 1,16639 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ GeV}^{-2}$$

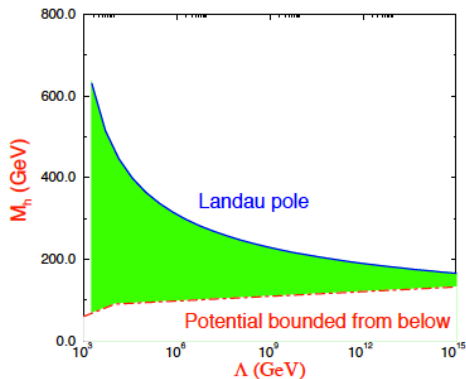
$$\frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{1}{2v^2} \quad \rightarrow \quad v = 246 \text{ GeV}$$

$$m_{\text{Higgs}} = \sqrt{2} \lambda v$$

- lower bound: $v \rightarrow$ reference scale
- upper bound: self-coupling of Higgs: $V(\phi) \propto \lambda^2 \phi^4$
 require finite coupling: $\frac{1}{\lambda(\Lambda)} > 0$

$$\lambda^2 = \frac{m_H^2}{2v^2} \quad \xrightarrow{\text{large scale } \Lambda} \quad m_H < \frac{8\pi^2 v^2}{3 \log(\Lambda^2/v^2)}$$

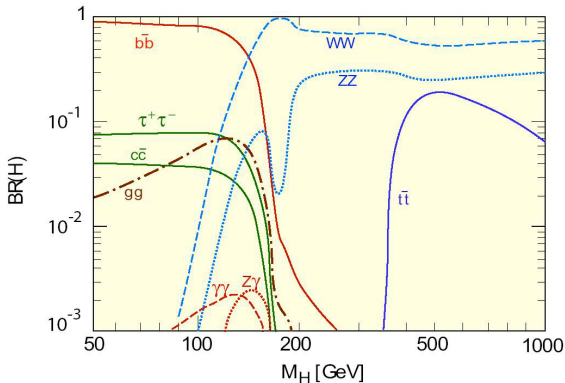
Limits on the Higgs boson mass



- no new physics before 10^{16} GeV: $m_H < 160$ GeV
- Landau pole: forbidden region (coupling is finite)
- for 3 TeV: $m_H < 600$ GeV

Branching Ratios

branching ratios of allowed Higgs decays as a function of m_H

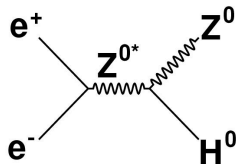


Higgs tends to decay into the heaviest particle

→ constraints on m_H : no decay into $t\bar{t}$

Higgs search at LEP (e^+e^- – collider)

dominant Higgs production process at LEP2: radiation off a Z^0

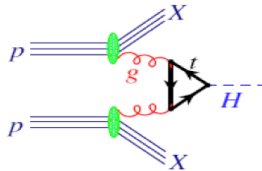


- $\sqrt{s} > m_H + m_Z$
- dominant decay: $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$
- additional kinematic constraint for fermion pair from Z^0 :
 $m_{inv}(f\bar{f}) = m_Z$ (background suppression)
- background: $e^+e^- \rightarrow W^+W^-, Z^0Z^0, f\bar{f}f\bar{f}$

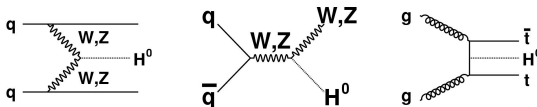
mass range exclusion LEP2: $m_H > 114.4\text{GeV}$ (95%)

Higgs production at LHC

Atlas detector: proton-proton collisions, $\sqrt{s} = 8\text{TeV}$ (2012)



- dominant production processes for the Higgs boson: gg fusion
- Higgs does not couple to massless gluons (quark loop)



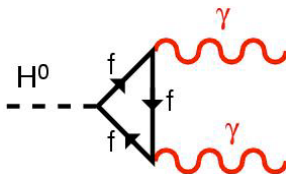
Direct Higgs searches at LHC

important experimentally mass range:

$$114.4 \text{ GeV} \leq m_H \leq 130 \text{ GeV}$$

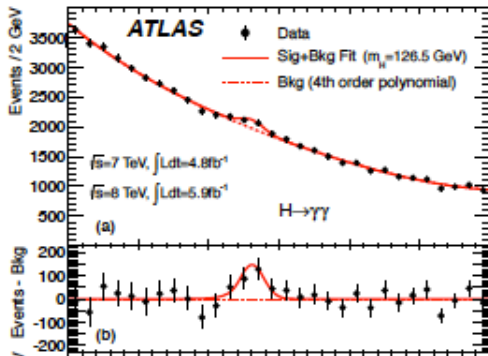
- lower bound from LEP 2 (95 % CL)
- kinematically forbidden: $H \rightarrow ZZ$, $H \rightarrow WW$

$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ Higgs decays via fermion loop



other decays: $H \rightarrow ZZ^* \rightarrow 4l$, $H \rightarrow WW^* \rightarrow e\nu\mu\nu$,

Direct Higgs searches at LHC

distribution for invariant mass of $\gamma\gamma$ 

$$m_H = 126.0 \pm 0.4(\text{stat}) \pm 0.4(\text{sys}) \text{ GeV}$$

Matter and energy of the universe



- mass of atoms 4%
- dark matter 23%
- dark energy 73%

Proportion of Higgs mass

estimate the proportion of the "Higgs mass" of the universe

→ use proton or neutron mass

Quark content of proton

- $p = |uud\rangle$
- $m_p \approx 1000 \text{ MeV}$
- bare quark mass $\approx 13 \text{ MeV}$

→ Higgs field causes 1.3 % mass of the universe

Note: 99 % are caused by the strong interaction between quarks

Thank you for your attention

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