

The Electroweak Standard Model

facilitating precision physics at LHC and beyond

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Lecture 2



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QED as a role model

- QED as quantized gauge field theory of dynamical fields A^μ and ψ
↪ minimal coupling photon field with charged fermions (matter)

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QED}} = -\frac{1}{4}F^{\mu\nu}F_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2\xi}(\partial_\mu A^\mu)^2 + \bar{\psi}(i\not{D} + qeA - m)\psi$$

- QED is a renormalizable QFT
↪ all UV divergences absorbed into field/parameter renormalizations

the road ahead

- lift gauge symmetry to construction principle for weak & strong forces
↪ $SU(2)$ and $SU(3)$ symmetries
- however, while QED is parity conserving, the weak force is not
↪ charged weak interaction maximally parity violating
[\[Wu experiment 1956; Nobel price Lee, Yang 1957\]](#)
↪ need to consider chiral fermions

Towards EW SM: chiral fermions

- consider massless Dirac fermion ψ satisfying $i\not{\partial}\psi = 0$
 \rightsquigarrow based on $\{\gamma_5, \gamma^\mu\} = 0$ it then also holds $i\not{\partial}\gamma_5\psi = 0$
- define superpositions $\psi_{R/L}$ of definite chirality ($\gamma_5\psi_{R/L} = \pm\psi_{R/L}$)

$$\psi_L = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \gamma_5)\psi = P_L\psi$$

and

$$\psi_R = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \gamma_5)\psi = P_R\psi$$

- Lagrangian for chiral fermions (using $P_L P_R = P_R P_L = 0$, $P_{R/L}^2 = P_{R/L}$)

$$\mathcal{L} = i\bar{\psi}\not{\partial}\psi = i\bar{\psi}_L\not{\partial}\psi_L + i\bar{\psi}_R\not{\partial}\psi_R$$

\rightsquigarrow exhibits invariance under *global* phase trafo $\psi_{L/R} \rightarrow \exp(i\alpha_{L/R})\psi_{L/R}$

$$\partial_\mu J_{L/R}^\mu = 0 \quad \text{with} \quad J_{L/R}^\mu = \bar{\psi}_{L/R}\gamma^\mu\psi_{L/R}$$

- however, mass term breaks chiral symmetry

$$m\bar{\psi}\psi = m\bar{\psi}_L\psi_R + m\bar{\psi}_R\psi_L$$

\rightsquigarrow breaks $SU(2)_L$ gauge invariance, need different source for mass term

Towards EW SM: non-abelian gauge symmetry I

- consider doublet of fermions and a unitary transformation U

$$\Psi = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1 \\ \psi_2 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \Psi' = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1 \\ \psi_2 \end{pmatrix} \equiv U\Psi$$

with

$$UU^\dagger = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha^* & \gamma^* \\ \beta^* & \delta^* \end{pmatrix} = \mathbb{1}_{2 \times 2}$$

\rightsquigarrow 4 constraints for 4 complex elements: leaves 4 real parameters α_i

\rightsquigarrow employ traceless, hermitian Pauli matrices τ_i with: $[\tau_i, \tau_j] = 2\epsilon_{ijk}\tau_k$

$$\begin{aligned} U &= \exp(i\alpha_0 \mathbb{1}_{2 \times 2} + i\alpha_1 \tau_1 + i\alpha_2 \tau_2 + i\alpha_3 \tau_3) \\ &= \exp(i\alpha_0) \exp(i\alpha_1 \tau_1 + i\alpha_2 \tau_2 + i\alpha_3 \tau_3) \end{aligned}$$

- define *unit-determinant* matrices $V = \exp(-i\alpha_0)U$

$$\det(V) = \exp(i\text{Tr}(\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\tau})) = \exp(0) = 1$$

$$V = \exp(i\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\tau}) \approx \mathbb{1}_{2 \times 2} + i\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\tau} + \mathcal{O}(\vec{\alpha}^2) \in SU(2)$$

\rightsquigarrow note, $V_1 V_2 \neq V_2 V_1$, **$SU(2)$ is non-abelian**

Towards EW SM: non-abelian gauge symmetry II

- consider small *local* $SU(2)$ transformation, i.e. $\alpha_i = \alpha_i(x) = \frac{g}{2}\omega_i(x)$

$$\Psi = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1 \\ \psi_2 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \Psi' = \left(\mathbb{1}_{2 \times 2} + i \frac{g}{2} \vec{\omega} \cdot \vec{\tau} \right) \Psi$$

- as for QED minimal coupling to vector fields $W_1^\mu, W_2^\mu, W_3^\mu$

$$D^\mu = \partial^\mu + i \frac{g}{2} \vec{W}^\mu \cdot \vec{\tau}$$

- for *covariant derivative* it has to hold

$$D^\mu \Psi \rightarrow D'^\mu \Psi' = \left(\mathbb{1}_{2 \times 2} + i \frac{g}{2} \vec{\omega} \cdot \vec{\tau} \right) D^\mu \Psi$$

\rightsquigarrow dictates gauge transformation of fields W_i^μ

$$\vec{W}'^\mu = \vec{W}^\mu - \partial^\mu \vec{\omega} - g \vec{\omega} \times \vec{W}^\mu$$

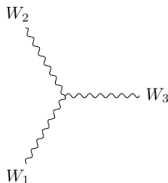
- gauge invariant kinetic terms for the vector fields

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{SU(2)}^{\text{gauge}} &= -\frac{1}{4} G_i^{\mu\nu} G_{i,\mu\nu} \\ G_i^{\mu\nu} &= \partial^\mu W_i^\nu - \partial^\nu W_i^\mu - g \epsilon_{ijk} W_j^\mu W_k^\nu \end{aligned}$$

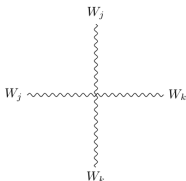
Towards EW SM: non-abelian gauge symmetry III

- $\mathcal{L}_{SU(2)}^{\text{gauge}}$ contributes to W_i^μ propagator and gives rise to self interactions

$$V_{W_i W_j W_k} = -\frac{1}{2} g \epsilon_{ijk} (\partial^\mu W_i^\nu - \partial^\nu W_i^\mu) W_{j,\mu} W_{k,\nu}$$



$$V_{W_j W_k W_l W_m} = -\frac{1}{4} g^2 \epsilon_{ijk} \epsilon_{ilm} W_j^\mu W_k^\nu W_{l,\mu} W_{m,\nu}$$



Towards EW SM: weak interactions

- represent two charge states of lh lepton/quark species as $SU(2)$ doublet
- describe weak interaction by $SU(2)$ gauge theory: **weak isospin** $I_w = \frac{1}{2}$

$$\Psi_L^l \equiv P_L \Psi^l = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_{\nu_e} \\ \psi_e \end{pmatrix}_L, \quad \Psi_L^q = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_u \\ \psi_d \end{pmatrix}_L, \quad \Psi_L \rightarrow \exp\left(ig \frac{1}{2} \vec{\omega} \cdot \vec{\tau}\right) \Psi_L$$

- right-handed fermions have $I_w = 0$, invariant under isospin trafo

$$\psi_{e,R} \rightarrow \exp(0) \psi_{e,R} = \psi_{e,R}$$

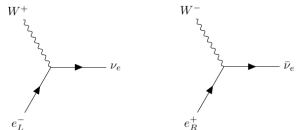
- interaction via minimal coupling (fermion mass term forbidden)

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} \subset \frac{g}{2} \bar{\Psi}_L^l \gamma^\mu \vec{W}_\mu \cdot \vec{\tau} \Psi_L^l = \frac{g}{4} \bar{\Psi}^l \gamma^\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \vec{W}_\mu \cdot \vec{\tau} \Psi^l$$

with

$$\vec{W}_\mu \cdot \vec{\tau} = \begin{pmatrix} W_3^\mu & W_1^\mu - iW_2^\mu \\ W_1^\mu + iW_2^\mu & -W_3^\mu \end{pmatrix}$$

defining $W^{\mu,\pm} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(W_1^\mu \mp iW_2^\mu)$



The Glashow, Weinberg, Salam theory (1961-1968)

- unifying electro-magnetic and weak interactions
- electroweak symmetry given by $SU(2)_L \otimes U(1)_Y$, weak hypercharge Y

$$Y_w = 2(q_f - I_{w,3})$$

particle			q_f	$I_{w,3}$	Y_w	
$\nu_{e,L}$	$\nu_{\mu,L}$	$\nu_{\tau,L}$	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	-1	} Ψ_L^l
e_L	μ_L	τ_L	-1	$-\frac{1}{2}$	-1	
$\bar{\nu}_{e,R}$	$\bar{\nu}_{\mu,R}$	$\bar{\nu}_{\tau,R}$	0	0	0	} Ψ_L^q
e_R	μ_R	τ_R	-1	0	-2	
u_L	c_L	t_L	$+\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	} Ψ_L^q
d_L	s_L	b_L	$-\frac{1}{3}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	
u_R	c_R	t_R	$+\frac{2}{3}$	0	$\frac{4}{3}$	
d_R	s_R	b_R	$-\frac{1}{3}$	0	$-\frac{2}{3}$	

discard right-handed
neutrinos in SM

- weak isospin singlets of three fermion generations

$$\psi_R \in \{e_R, \mu_R, \tau_R, u_R, c_R, t_R, d_R, s_R, b_R\}$$

The Electroweak Standard Model Lagrangian

- kinetic terms for the gauge fields

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{EW}}^{\text{gauge}} = \mathcal{L}_{SU(2)_L}^{\text{gauge}} + \mathcal{L}_{U(1)_Y}^{\text{gauge}} = -\frac{1}{4}G_i^{\mu\nu}G_{i,\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{4}B^{\mu\nu}B_{\mu\nu}$$

- kinetic terms for leptons and quarks & minimal coupling to gauge fields

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{EW}}^{\text{matter}} = \sum_{\Psi_L} \bar{\Psi}_L i \not{D} \Psi_L + \sum_{\psi_R} \bar{\psi}_R i \not{D} \psi_R$$

with the covariant derivatives for left-/right-chiral fermions

$$\begin{aligned} D_\mu \psi_R &= \left(\partial_\mu + i \frac{g_1}{2} Y_w B_\mu \right) \psi_R \\ D_\mu \Psi_L &= \left(\mathbb{1}_{2 \times 2} \left(\partial_\mu + i \frac{g_1}{2} Y_w B_\mu \right) + i \frac{g_2}{2} \vec{W}_\mu \cdot \vec{\tau} \right) \Psi_L \end{aligned}$$

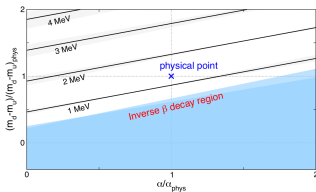
- GWS Lagrangian exhibits exact $SU(2)_L \otimes U(1)_Y$ symmetry
however, fermion & boson mass terms would break gauge invariance

Interlude: the fate of symmetries I

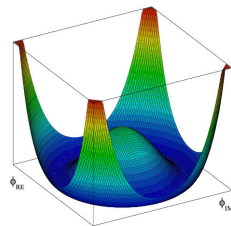
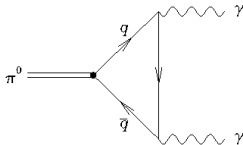
the various ways of symmetry breaking

- **explicit** breaking by (small) terms that are not invariant
 \rightsquigarrow for example proton/neutron isospin broken by finite quark masses
- symmetry of classical theory might have an **anomaly** at quantum level
 \rightsquigarrow global axial $U(1)$ symmetry broken, $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ decay
- symmetry might be **hidden**: Lagrangian invariant, but ground state not
 \rightsquigarrow symmetry not manifest in the spectrum of physical states
 \rightsquigarrow e.g. via vacuum expectation value of scalar field(s): Higgs-mechanism

$$m_n - m_p = 1.51(16)(23) \text{ MeV}$$



[Borsanyi et al. Science 347 (2015) 1452]



Interlude: the fate of symmetries II

hidden symmetry

- let Q be symmetry charge from Noether theorem, global vacuum state trafo

$$|0\rangle \rightarrow e^{i\alpha Q}|0\rangle, \text{ invariance, i.e. } e^{i\alpha Q}|0\rangle = |0\rangle \forall \alpha, \text{ implies } Q|0\rangle = 0$$

\rightsquigarrow vacuum is unique, symmetry manifest

- assume new state $|\alpha\rangle$ is reached, i.e. $Q|0\rangle \neq 0$, however, $\dot{Q} = i[H, Q] = 0$

$$H|\alpha\rangle = He^{i\alpha Q}|0\rangle = e^{i\alpha Q}H|0\rangle = e^{i\alpha Q}E_0|0\rangle = E_0|\alpha\rangle \forall \alpha$$

\rightsquigarrow continuous symmetry results in family of degenerate ground states

- what's the meaning of states obtained from continuous symmetry trafo?
 - excitations about ground state get quantized, interpreted as particles
 - minimal excitation given by particle's mass
 - \rightsquigarrow zero energy excitations correspond to massless particles

Goldstone's theorem (1961): for a continuous symmetry of the Lagrangian, that is not a symmetry of the vacuum, there must exist one or more massless bosons, called Goldstone bosons

The Higgs mechanism

- add minimal scalar sector to the GWS theory to arrange for mass terms
 \rightsquigarrow complex $SU(2)$ doublet of weak hypercharge $Y_w = +1$

$$\Phi = \begin{pmatrix} \varphi_1 \\ \varphi_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

- kinetic terms, potential and couplings to the $SU(2)_L \otimes U(1)_Y$ gauge fields

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{HG}} = (D^\mu \Phi)^\dagger (D_\mu \Phi) - V(\Phi)$$

$$D^\mu \Phi = \left(\mathbb{1}_{2 \times 2} \left(\partial_\mu + i \frac{g_1}{2} Y_w B_\mu \right) + i \frac{g_2}{2} \vec{W}_\mu \cdot \vec{\tau} \right) \Phi$$

$$V(\Phi) = -\mu^2 \Phi^\dagger \Phi + \lambda (\Phi^\dagger \Phi)^2 \quad \text{with} \quad \mu^2, \lambda \in \mathbb{R} > 0$$

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- Yukawa interactions with fermion fields (here for 1st generation)

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{HF}} = -f_u \bar{\Psi}_L^u \tilde{\Phi} u_R - f_d \bar{\Psi}_L^d \Phi d_R - f_e \bar{\Psi}_L^e \Phi e_R + h.c.$$

with $\tilde{\Phi} = i\tau_2 \Phi^*$ (charge conjugate to Φ), $f_{u,d,e}$ arbitrary coupling constants

The Higgs mechanism: fermion masses

- consider electron contribution for definiteness

$$f_e \bar{\Psi}_L^e \Phi e_R + h.c. = f_e \bar{\nu}_{e,L} \varphi_1 e_R - f_e \bar{e}_L \varphi_2 e_R + h.c.$$

\rightsquigarrow provides electron mass for $\langle \Phi \rangle_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}$ with $f_e v/\sqrt{2} \equiv m_e$

$\rightsquigarrow \varphi_2$ neutral ($Q = 0$), φ_1 carries positive charge ($Q = +1$)

- $\langle \Phi \rangle_0$ vacuum expectation value of Higgs field Φ

\rightsquigarrow non-trivial minimum of potential picked (SSB)

$$\frac{dV}{d\Phi^\dagger} = \Phi(-\mu^2 + 2\lambda\Phi^\dagger\Phi) \stackrel{!}{=} 0 \rightsquigarrow \langle \Phi^\dagger\Phi \rangle_0 = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\mu^2}{\lambda}} \equiv \frac{v^2}{2}$$

- $SU(2)_L \otimes U(1)_Y$ symmetry hidden by non-trivial vacuum state $\langle \Phi \rangle_0$

$\rightsquigarrow \tau_1, \tau_2$ and $\tau_3 - \frac{1}{2}Y_w$ generators broken, i.e. $e^{i\alpha\tau_1} \langle \Phi \rangle_0 \neq \langle \Phi \rangle_0$ etc

\rightsquigarrow only linear combination $Q = \tau_3 + \frac{1}{2}Y_w$ preserves vacuum state (cf. p7)

$$SU(2)_L \otimes U(1)_Y \xrightarrow{\text{SSB}} U(1)_Q + 3 \text{ Goldstone bosons}$$

The Higgs mechanism: gauge boson masses

- vector field masses from minimal coupling terms ($\partial_\mu \langle \Phi \rangle_0 = 0$)

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{\text{HG}}(\langle \Phi \rangle_0) &= \left(\frac{vg_2}{2}\right)^2 W_\mu^+ W^{-,\mu} \\ &\quad + \frac{v^2}{8} (W_{3,\mu}, B_\mu) \begin{pmatrix} g_2^2 & -g_1 g_2 \\ -g_1 g_2 & g_1^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} W_3^\mu \\ B^\mu \end{pmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

- 2nd term diagonalizes for basis states rotated by Weinberg angle θ_W

$$\begin{aligned}Z_\mu &= \cos \theta_W W_\mu^3 - \sin \theta_W B_\mu \\ A_\mu &= \sin \theta_W W_\mu^3 + \cos \theta_W B_\mu\end{aligned} \quad \text{with} \quad \tan \theta_W = \frac{g_1}{g_2}$$

- can read-off masses for the $U(1)_Q$ photon (A_μ), the Z^0 and W^\pm

$$M_\gamma = 0, \quad M_W = \frac{v}{2} g_2, \quad M_Z = \frac{v}{2} \sqrt{g_1^2 + g_2^2}$$

- note, the W^\pm -to- Z^0 mass ratio fixed by

$$\frac{M_W}{M_Z} = \cos \theta_W$$

The Higgs mechanism: gauge boson fermion interactions

- the interactions of the gauge bosons with fermionic matter become

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{EW}}^{\text{matter}} = \sum_f \bar{\psi}_f i \not{D} \psi_f + \frac{g_2}{2\sqrt{2}} (J_\mu^+ W^{-,\mu} + h.c.) + \frac{g_2}{2 \cos \theta_W} J_\mu^Z Z^\mu + e J_\mu^{\text{em}} A^\mu$$

with the currents given by

$$J_\mu^+ = \sum_{l \in \{e, \mu, \tau\}} \bar{\psi}_{\nu_l} \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \psi_l + (\bar{\psi}_u, \bar{\psi}_c, \bar{\psi}_t) \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5) V_{\text{CKM}} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_d \\ \psi_s \\ \psi_b \end{pmatrix}$$

with $V_{\text{CKM}} = \begin{pmatrix} V_{ud} & V_{us} & V_{ub} \\ V_{cd} & V_{cs} & V_{cb} \\ V_{td} & V_{ts} & V_{tb} \end{pmatrix}$ Cabibbo–Kobayashi–Maskawa matrix

$$J_\mu^Z = \sum_f \bar{\psi}_f \gamma_\mu (v_f - a_f \gamma_5) \psi_f \quad \text{with} \quad v_f = I_{w,3} - 2q_f \sin^2 \theta_W, \quad a_f = I_{w,3}$$

$$J_\mu^{\text{em}} = \sum_f q_f \bar{\psi}_f \gamma_\mu \psi_f$$

The Higgs mechanism: ... and finally the Higgs boson

- consider excitations of the Higgs field above the ground state
- in unitary gauge, i.e. $\Phi \rightarrow \exp(i\alpha_i\tau_i)\Phi$, the Higgs doublet reads

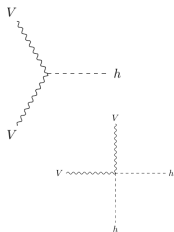
$$\Phi(x) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{v+h(x)}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}$$

\rightsquigarrow note, Ψ_L and \vec{W}^μ transform accordingly

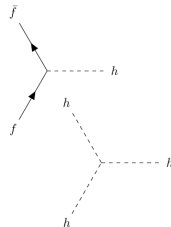
- mass for the Higgs boson from potential $V(\Phi)$

$$M_h = \sqrt{2}\mu = v\sqrt{2\lambda}$$

- \mathcal{L}_{HG} and \mathcal{L}_{FG} induce kinetic and interaction terms for Higgs boson h



$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{WWh} &= \frac{g_2}{4} W^{-,\mu} W_\mu^+ (2vh + h^2) \\ \mathcal{L}_{ZZh} &= \frac{\sqrt{g_1^2 + g_2^2}}{8} Z^\mu Z_\mu (2vh + h^2) \\ \mathcal{L}_{hhh} &= \lambda(vh^3 + h^4) \\ \mathcal{L}_{f\bar{f}h} &= -\frac{m_f}{v} h \bar{\psi}_f \psi_f \end{aligned}$$



Summary lecture II

- EW Standard Model gauge group $SU(2)_L \otimes U(1)_Y$
 - ↪ non-trivial ground state for $SU(2)$ scalar field doublet (SSB)
 - ↪ gauge symmetry hidden in the spectrum of the theory
 - ↪ finite masses for matter fermions and W^\pm , Z^0 bosons
- strong interaction modelled by $SU(3)_c$ color symmetry
 - ↪ parity conserving, massless gauge bosons – the gluons

