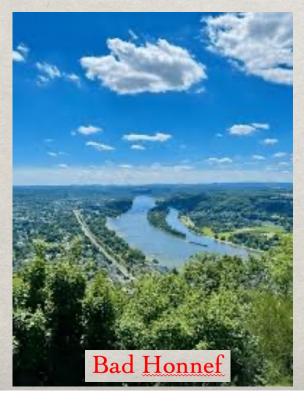
PHYSICS BEYOND THE SM

UNDER THE HIGGS LAMPPOST

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Herbstschule of High Energy Physics 2025 Bad Honnef, Sept. 8 – 11, 2025





In summary: SM solidly established

$$\mathcal{L} \propto \mu^2 H^2 - \lambda H^4 + \sum c_i \mathcal{O}_i(\text{BSM})$$

"Higgs isn't everything. It's the only thing."

M. E. Peskin Lepton-Photon 2025

Questions that we need the answers

- 1. Nature of EW Superconductivity: BCS?
- 2. Large hierarchy problem: the next scale?
- 3. Nature of EW phase transition?
- 4. Flavor physics: fermion mixing/neutrino mass*
- 5. Dark matter*: WIMP & Higgs portal?
- 6. Matter antimatter asymmetry*: baryogenesis
- 7.

All demands new physics BSM!

- 1. The Quest for the SM & Beyond
- 2. A Strongly-coupled EW Sector
- 3. A Weakly-coupled Extension
- 4. Flavors of Matter Fields

A LESSON FROM QCD

QCD coupling runs logarithmically between vastly separated scales:

$$\alpha_s(\Lambda^2) \approx \frac{\pi}{2\ln(\Lambda^2/\Lambda_{QCD}^2)}$$
 e.g. $\Lambda_{QCD} \approx \Lambda \ e^{-\frac{\pi}{4\alpha_s(\Lambda^2)}}$

Barbieri-Giudice fine-tune measure rather high:

$$\frac{\partial \ln \left(\Lambda_{QCD}/M_{Pl}\right)}{\partial \ln \alpha_s} \approx \ln (M_{Pl}/\Lambda_{QCD}) \approx 100!$$
 1%-level fine tune!

but we understand it: dimensional transmutation.

Below Λ_{QCD} , QCD becomes strongly interacting and forms condensate: $\langle \bar{q}_L q_R + \bar{q}_R q_L \rangle \sim f_\pi^3$

LR chiral symmetry is spontaneously broken to iso-spin:

$$-\frac{1}{4}G_{\mu\nu}^{a}G_{a}^{\mu\nu} - \sum_{u,d}(\bar{q}_{L}\gamma^{\mu}D_{\mu}q_{L} + \bar{q}_{R}\gamma^{\mu}D_{\mu}q_{R})$$

$$SU(2)_{L} \otimes SU(2)_{R} \Rightarrow SU(2)_{V}, \text{thus } U_{L} = U_{R}.$$

 \rightarrow 3 Nambu-Goldstone bosons: π^+ , π^- , π^0 (u, d bound states)

In the non-linear realization of the Chiral symmetry, the Lagrangian for the Goldstone bosons $\pi^{+,-,0}$

$$\phi = \frac{f_{\pi}}{\sqrt{2}} \exp(i\vec{\tau} \cdot \vec{\pi}/f_{\pi}) \equiv \frac{f_{\pi}}{\sqrt{2}} U, \quad \mathcal{L} = \frac{f_{\pi}^2}{4} Tr(\partial^{\mu} U \partial_{\mu} U)$$

- Derivative coupling \rightarrow shift symmetry $\pi \rightarrow \pi + const.$
- Pseudo Nambu-Goldstone bosons π^+ , π^- , π^0 acquire their masses from explicit symmetry breaking: QED, $m_{u,d}$
- There is a rich hadronic spectrum with dynamical mass $m \sim 4 \pi f_{\pi} \sim 1$ GeV, typically $\Gamma \geq 20\%$ m: $m(f_0) \sim 0.4$ -1.2 GeV, $\Gamma \sim 0.6$ 1.0 GeV! $m(\rho^{\pm,0}) \sim 0.77$ GeV, $\Gamma \sim 0.15$ GeV
- After confinement by QCD dynamics, the composite states (hadrons) may be described perturbatively,
 e.g., by the chiral perturbation theory.

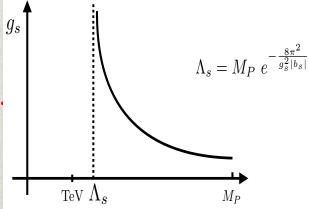
FROM QCD TO TECHNICOLOR

QCD strong dynamics breaks the chiral symmetry as well as the SU(2)_L gauge symmetry, therefore:

$$M_{(W,Z)} \sim O(g f_{\pi})$$

Weinberg, Susskind, '80

Technicolor: A lesson from QCD $SU(N_{TC})$ gauge theory, TC fermions Q=U,D, EWSB by TC-fermion condendation at Λ_{TC} : $v\sim \langle \overline{Q_L}Q_R\rangle^{1/3}\sim 246$ GeV.



3 Nambu-Goldstone bosons in the non-linear realization of the gauge symmetry:

$$U = \exp\{i\omega^{i}\tau^{i}/v\}, \quad D_{\mu}U = \partial_{\mu}U + igW_{\mu}^{i}\frac{\tau^{i}}{2}U - ig'UB_{\mu}\frac{\tau^{3}}{2}$$
$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{v^{2}}{2}[D^{\mu}U^{\dagger}D_{\mu}U] \to \frac{v^{2}}{4}(\sum_{i}g^{2}W_{i}^{2} + g'^{2}B^{2})$$

 $M_{(W,Z)} = g v/2$, plus some TC hadrons $M \sim 4 \pi v$

Extended Technicolor for fermions masses

Gauge boson masses are easy to generate (EWSB), But fermion masses are header.

 G_{ETC} gauge theory, ETC fermions: U,D,...,u,d...

TC-fermion condensate, SM fermion mass generated:

$$m_f \sim \langle \overline{Q_L} Q_R \rangle / \Lambda_{ETC}^2 \sim \Lambda_{TC}^3 / \Lambda_{ETC}^2$$
.

Flavor is the show-stopper:

On the one hand: small FCNC: $\frac{1}{\Lambda_{ETC}} < \frac{1}{10^3 \text{ TeV}}$.

On the other hand, heavy quark $m_c \sim 1~{
m GeV} \Rightarrow \Lambda_{ETC} < 30 imes \frac{\Lambda_{TC}}{1~{
m TeV}}$

⇒ Non-QCD like: Walking TC

TC gauge coupling running very slowly.

 $\langle \overline{Q_L} Q_R \rangle$ almost constant over $\Lambda_{TC} - \Lambda_{ETC}$.

 $\langle \overline{Q_L} Q_R \rangle_{ETC}$ enhanced by 100–1000.

Overall on TC / Extended TC:

- $\sqrt{}$ theory natural: Λ_{TC} dynamical. $\Lambda_{TC} \approx \Lambda \exp(-\frac{1}{2\alpha_{TC}}) \approx 4\pi v$. $\sqrt{}$ predicts new strong dynamics at the TeV scale: π_T , η_T , ρ_T , ω_T ...
 - x Tension with EW precision measurements
 - x Tension with LHC direct searches
 - x Difficult to generate fermion mass hierarchy (ETC)
 - x AND, hard to have the Higgs boson light

The existence of a light, weakly coupled Higgs boson carries important message (!) for our understanding & theoretical formulation for & beyond the SM.

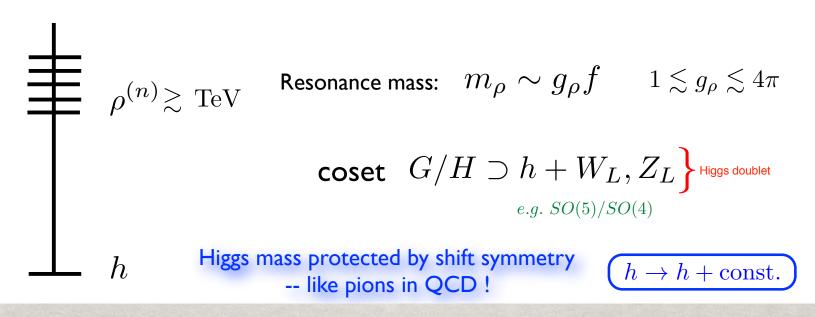
"Why I would be very sad if a Higgs boson were discovered" by Howard Georgi, 1993 (Perspectives on Higgs physics, p.337-342)

THE COMPOSITE HIGGS

§ H. Georgi and David B Kaplan, 1984.

The Higgs boson may be a Nambu-Goldstone boson: Like W^{\pm}_{L} , Z_{L} ; unlike dynamical states f_{0} , $\rho^{\pm,0}_{TC}$, ω_{TC} etc.

Global symmetry, G spontaneously broken to subgroup, H at scale, f

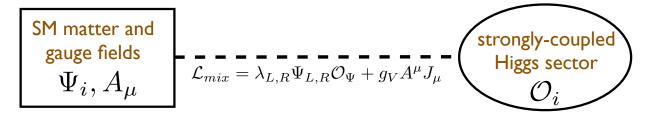


Nambu-Goldstone bosons remain massless, and thus "naturally light".

The global symmetry G must also be explicitly broken to generate the Higgs potential and thus mh

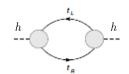
Global symmetry broken by mixing with elementary sector

[Contino, Nomura, Pomarol '03; Agashe, Contino, Pomarol '04]



Higgs potential:
$$V(h) = -\mu_h^2 |H|^2 + \lambda_h |H|^4$$





where
$$\mu_h^2\sim rac{g_{SM}^2}{16\pi^2}g_
ho^2f^2$$
 $\lambda_h\sim rac{g_{SM}^2}{16\pi^2}g_
ho^2$ [gsm = SM gauge or Yukawa coupling]

$$\lambda_h \sim \frac{g_{SM}^2}{16\pi^2} g_\rho^2$$

EWSB:
$$\left(\langle H \rangle = \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}}\right)$$

EWSB:
$$v^2 = \frac{\mu_h^2}{\lambda_h}$$



$$f \sim v$$

Higgs mass:
$$m_h^2 = 2\lambda_h v^2 \simeq \frac{N_c}{\pi^2} m_t^2 g_T^2$$



$$g_T \sim 1.3$$

i.e. light top partners (= fermionic resonances)

 $m_T \sim g_T f$

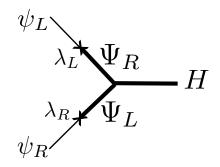
Bonus feature:

Partial compositeness

$$\left(\mathcal{L} = \lambda_L \psi_L \mathcal{O}_R + \lambda_R \psi_R \mathcal{O}_L\right)$$

Explains the fermion mass hierarchy [Kaplan 91;TG, Pomarol 00]

$$m_f \sim \lambda_L \lambda_R v$$
 where $\lambda_{L,R} \sim \left(rac{\Lambda}{\Lambda_{UV}}
ight)^{\dim\,\mathcal{O}_{L,R}-rac{5}{2}}$



Light fermions are mostly elementary



 $\dim \mathcal{O}_{L.R} > \frac{5}{2}$

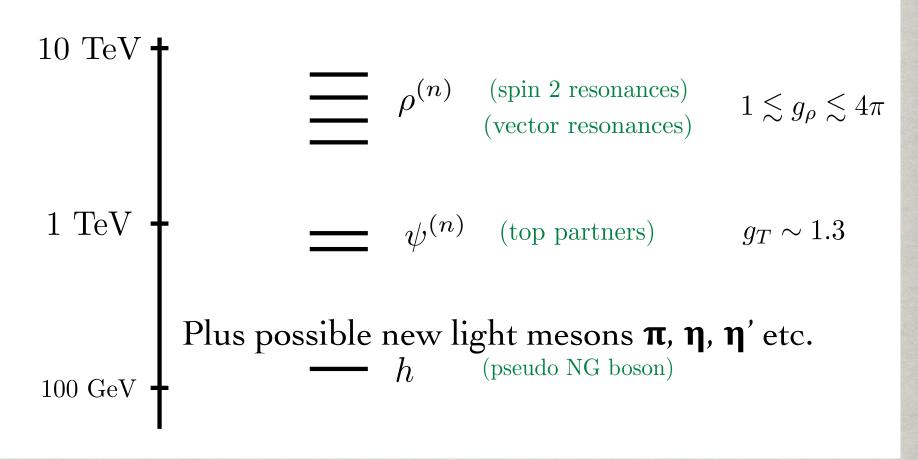
• Top quark is mostly composite!



dim $\mathcal{O}_{L,R} \sim \frac{5}{2}$

A "Natural" Composite Higgs spectrum:

$$750~{\rm GeV} \lesssim f \lesssim 1~{\rm TeV}$$



THE LITTLEST HIGGS MODEL

*Arkani-Hamed, Cohen, Katz, Nelson, hep-ph/0206021.

A specific realization: SU(5) Non-linear σ -model*

The gauged non-linear σ -model:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\Sigma} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{f^2}{4} \text{Tr} |\mathcal{D}_{\mu} \Sigma|^2, \qquad \Sigma = e^{2i\Pi/f} \Sigma_0,$$



(Ann Nelson, 1958-2019)

where f is the condensate scale (the Goldstone-boson decay constant); Σ , Σ_0 , Π are 5×5 matrices.

A subgroup is gauged:

$$G_1 \otimes G_2 = [SU(2) \otimes U(1)]_1 \otimes [SU(2) \otimes U(1)]_2$$

with the co-variant derivative

$$\mathcal{D}_{\mu}\Sigma = \partial_{\mu}\Sigma - i\sum_{j=1}^{2} \left[g_{j}W_{j}^{a}(Q_{j}^{a}\Sigma + \Sigma Q_{j}^{a\top}) + g_{j}'B_{j}(Y_{j}\Sigma + \Sigma Y_{j}^{\top}) \right]$$

The spontaneous symmetry breaking by

Global: $SU(5) \Rightarrow SO(5)$, leading to 14 Goldstone bosons;

Gauged: $[SU(2) \otimes U(1)]_1 \otimes [SU(2) \otimes U(1)]_2 \Rightarrow SU(2)_L \otimes U(1)_Y$

The fate of the Goldstone bosons

$$\begin{array}{c|c} \mathbf{1}_0\oplus \mathbf{3}_0 & \text{Longitudinal modes of } Z_H,W_H^\pm,A_H \\ \mathbf{2}_{\pm\frac{1}{2}} & h \text{ doublet} \\ \mathbf{3}_{\pm1} & \phi \text{ triplet} \end{array}$$

Introduce a vector-like pair of colored fermions

Basically,
$$ilde t: (3_c,1_L)_{Y_i} \quad \text{and} \quad ilde t'^c: (3_c,1_L)_{-Y_i}.$$
 $t_3 o t_L, \; ilde t o T_L, \; u_3'^c o t_R, \; ilde t'^c o T_R.$

Quadratic divergences cancelled at one-loop level by new states:*

$$W, Z, B \leftrightarrow W_H, Z_H, B_H; \quad t \leftrightarrow T; \quad H \leftrightarrow \Phi.$$
 (cancellation among same spin states!)

EWSB & the Higgs mass

The effective Higgs potential is written as

$$V = \lambda_{\phi^2} f^2 \mathrm{Tr}(\phi^\dagger \phi) + i \lambda_{h\phi h} f \left(h \phi^\dagger h^T - h^* \phi h^\dagger \right) - \mu^2 h h^\dagger + \lambda_{h^4} (h h^\dagger)^2$$

In terms of fundamental parameters:

$$\lambda_{\phi^{2}} = \frac{a}{2} \left[\frac{g^{2}}{s^{2}c^{2}} + \frac{g'^{2}}{s'^{2}c'^{2}} \right] + 8a'\lambda_{1}^{2},$$

$$\lambda_{h\phi h} = -\frac{a}{4} \left[g^{2} \frac{(c^{2} - s^{2})}{s^{2}c^{2}} + g'^{2} \frac{(c'^{2} - s'^{2})}{s'^{2}c'^{2}} \right] + 4a'\lambda_{1}^{2},$$

$$\lambda_{h^{4}} = \frac{a}{8} \left[\frac{g^{2}}{s^{2}c^{2}} + \frac{g'^{2}}{s'^{2}c'^{2}} \right] + 2a'\lambda_{1}^{2} = \frac{1}{4}\lambda_{\phi^{2}}.$$

$$m_{H}^{2} = 2\mu^{2} \sim v^{2} \lesssim a_{1-\log p} \frac{f^{2}}{16\pi^{2}} + a_{2-\log p} \frac{f^{2}}{16\pi^{2}}$$

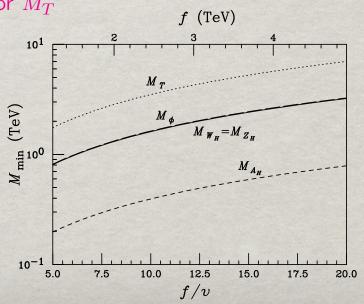
→ The quadratic divergence is then cancelled at one loop level, the logarithmically contribution to the Higgs mass square

$$m_h^2 \sim 6 \frac{\lambda_t^2 m_T^2}{8\pi^2} \log \frac{\Lambda^2}{m_T^2}$$
 $m_h = 125 \text{ GeV} \rightarrow m_T < 1 \text{TeV}$

Independent model parameters

$$\tan\theta = \frac{s}{c} = \frac{g_2}{g_1} \quad \text{New } SU(2) \text{ gauge coupling } \\ \text{ (or equivalently mixing angle } \theta) \quad \text{Heavy particles } \\ A_H \quad m_z^2 s_W^2 \frac{f^2}{5s'^2 c'^2 v^2} \\ \text{tan } \theta' = \frac{s'}{c'} = \frac{g'_2}{g'_1} \quad \text{New } U(1) \text{ gauge coupling } \\ \text{ (or equivalently mixing angle } \theta') \quad Z_H \quad m_W^2 \frac{f^2}{s^2 c^2 v^2} \\ f \quad \text{Symmetry breaking scale } \mathcal{O} \text{ (TeV)} \quad W_H \quad m_W^2 \frac{f^2}{s^2 c^2 v^2} \\ v' \quad \text{Triplet } \phi \text{ vacuum expectation value, } \\ v'/v \lesssim v/4f \quad \theta^0, \pm, \pm \pm \quad \frac{2m_H^2 f^2}{v^2} \frac{1}{1-(4v'f/v^2)^2} \\ m_H \quad \text{Regular SM Higgs mass} \quad T \quad \sqrt{\lambda_1^2 + \lambda_2^2} f \\ \text{Heavy vector top mass, we trade } \lambda_2 \text{ for } M_T$$

- → Leads to rich phenomenology:
- New particle searches
- Precision EW physics
- Flavor / neutrino physics



HOWEVER, precision electroweak, flavor constraints

$$\frac{s}{16\pi^2v^2}H^{\dagger}\tau^aHB^{\mu\nu}W_{a\mu\nu}$$

$$S = \frac{s}{2\pi} \sim \frac{m_W^2}{m_\rho^2}$$

EWPT:
$$\frac{s}{16\pi^2 v^2} H^\dagger \tau^a H B^{\mu\nu} W_{a\mu\nu} \qquad S = \frac{s}{2\pi} \sim \frac{m_W^2}{m_\rho^2} \qquad \Longrightarrow \quad f \gtrsim \frac{2.5 \text{ TeV}}{g_\rho}$$

$$\frac{-t}{16\pi^2 v^2} ((D^{\mu} H)^{\dagger} H) (H^{\dagger} D_{\mu} H) \qquad T = \frac{t}{8\pi e^2} \sim \frac{v^2}{f^2} \qquad \Longrightarrow \quad f \gtrsim 5.5 \text{ TeV}$$

$$T = \frac{t}{8\pi e^2} \sim \frac{v^2}{f^2}$$



e.g. FCNC
$$\epsilon_q^i \epsilon_q^j \epsilon_q^k \epsilon_q^l \frac{g_\rho^2}{m_\rho^2} \bar{q}^i q^j \bar{q}^k q^l$$
 $\epsilon_q^i \sim \frac{g_i}{g_\rho}$ \Rightarrow $f \gtrsim 10 \, {
m TeV}$

$$\epsilon_q^i \sim \frac{g_i}{g_\rho}$$

$$f \gtrsim 10 \, {
m TeV}$$

[Bellazzini, Csaki, Serra 1401.2457] [Panico, Wulzer 1506.01961]



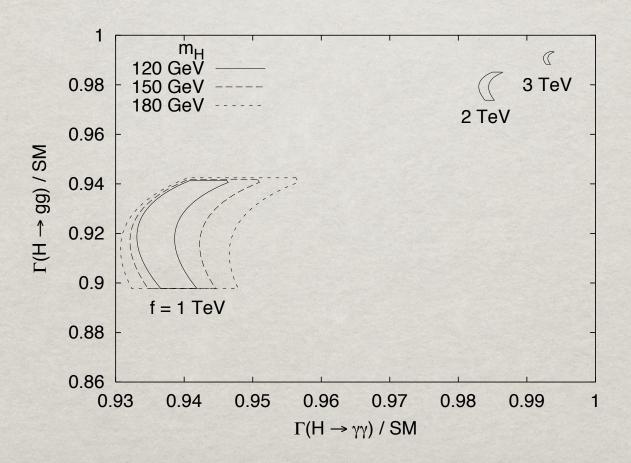
"Little" hierarchy

Tension partly alleviated by complicating minimal models

e.g. custodial symmetry, flavor, symmetry, twin parity....

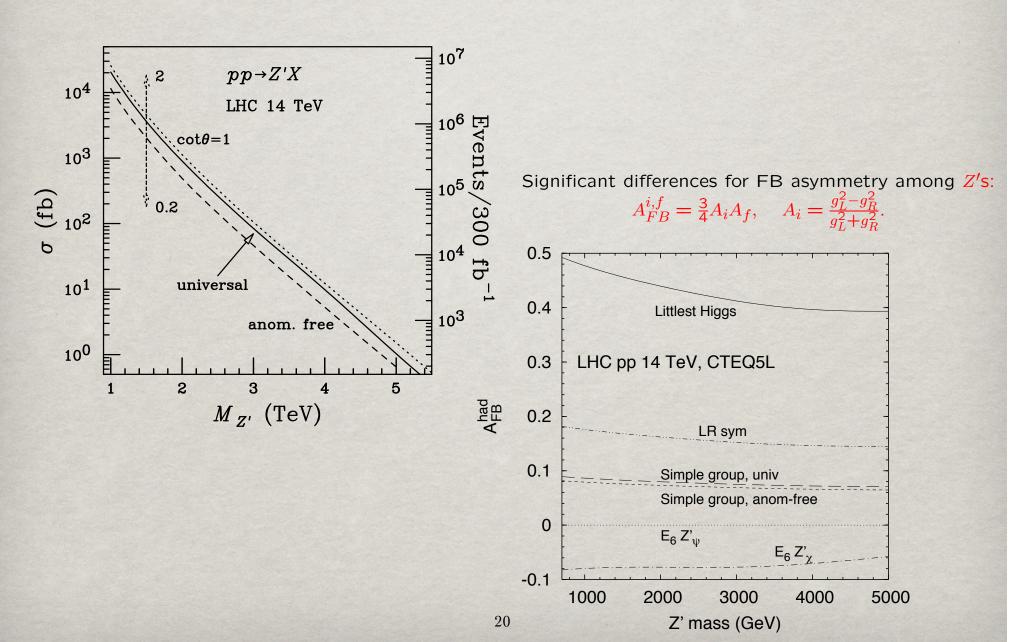
Precision Higgs coupling constraints

• T affects $H \to gg$ • $W_H^\pm, \ T$ affect $H \to \gamma\gamma$ Correlation between $H \to gg$ and $H \to \gamma\gamma$:



New gauge bosons: easiest signals

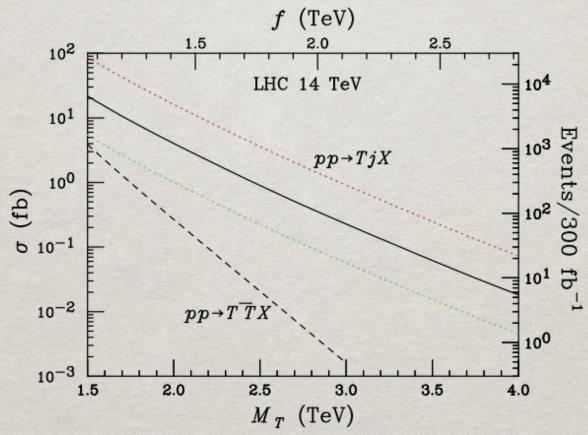
• Z_H versus Z'

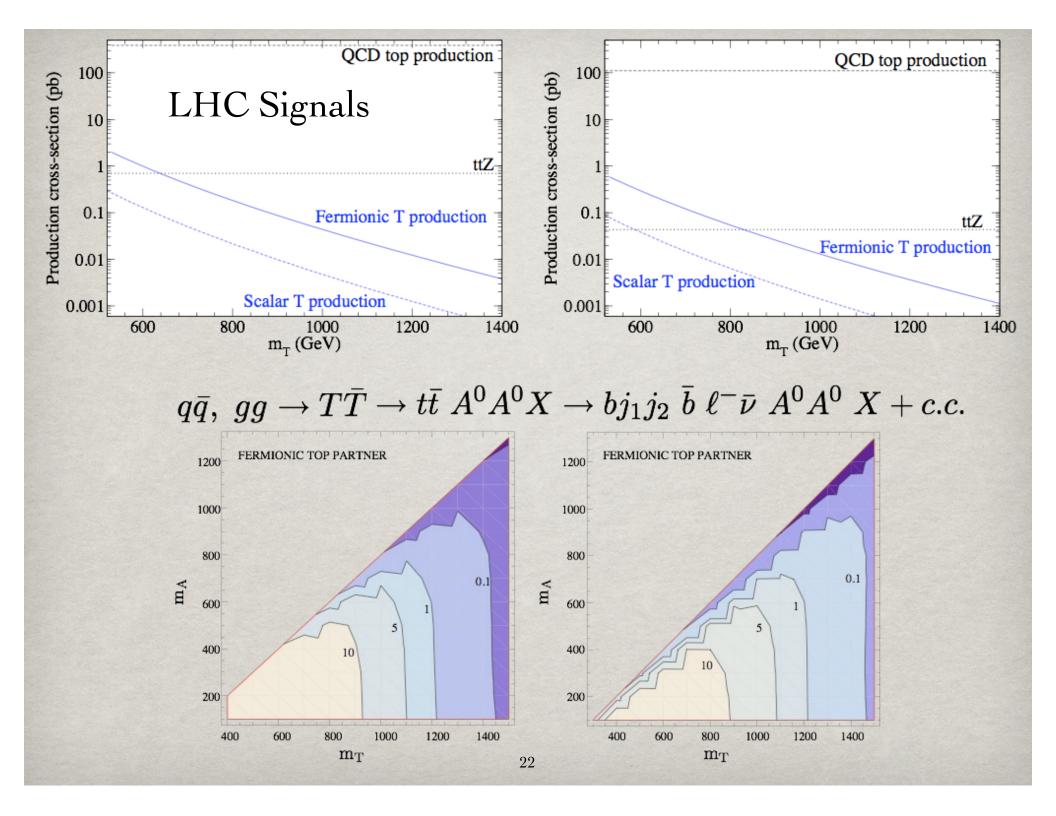


Most wanted: T production:

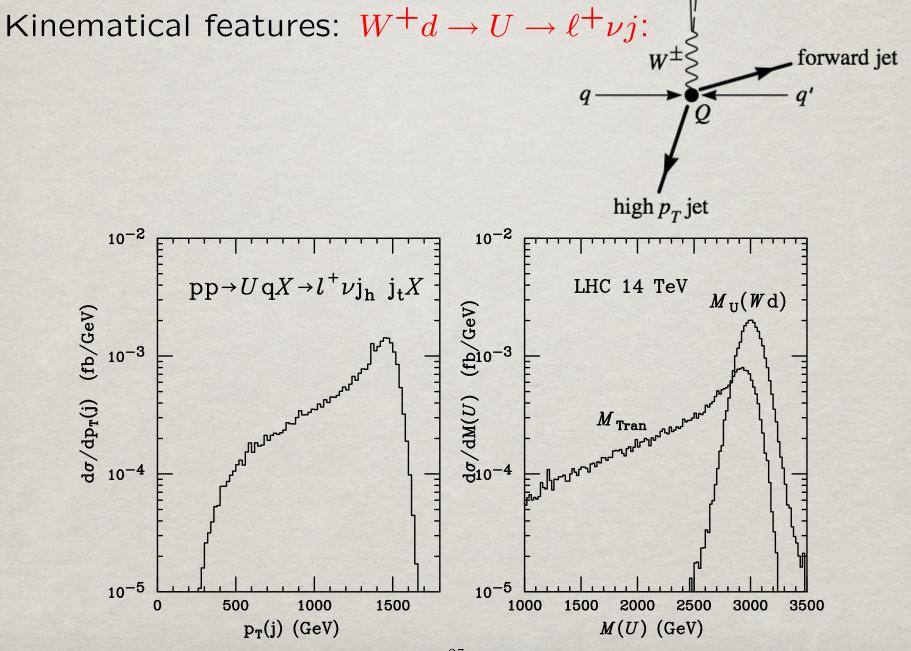
 $gg o T ar{T}$ phase-space suppression; qb o q'T via t-channel $W_L b o T$.

$$J^{+\mu} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[c_L \bar{t}_L \gamma^{\mu} b_L + s_L \bar{T}_L \gamma^{\mu} b_L \right] \qquad s_L \simeq \frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_2} \frac{m_t}{M_T}.$$

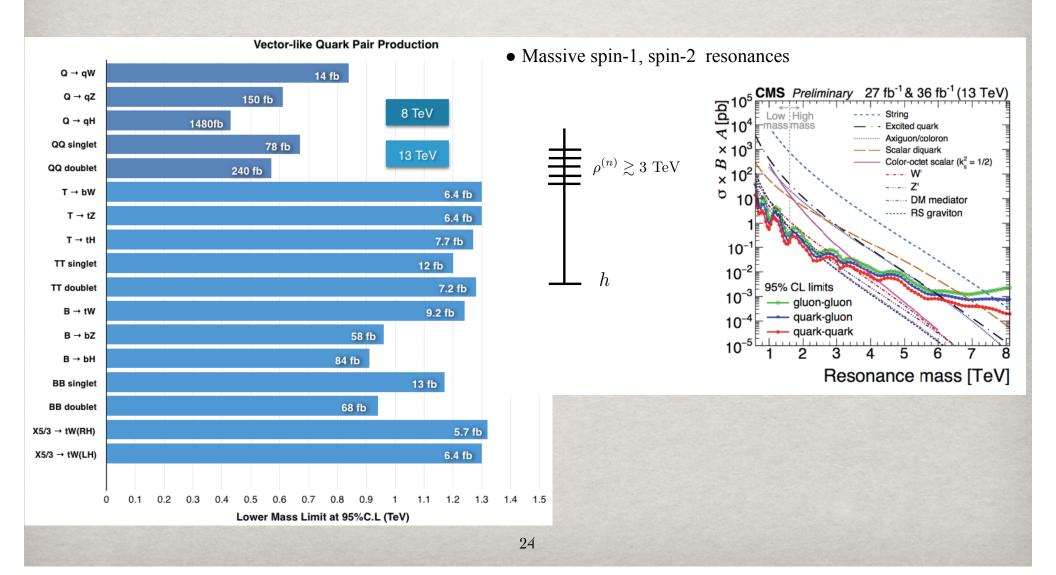




Single T production:



LHC bound update: Vector-Like-Quark & Di-jet resonances



Testing the Higgs "compositeness"

Historically,

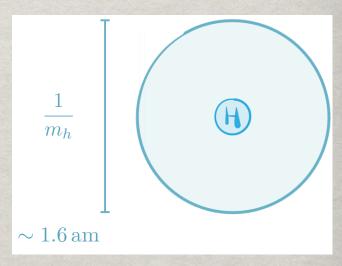
- Rutherford (1919) discovered & named the "proton": "the 1st (in Greek)" → the most elementary element.
- Otto Stern (1933) discovered the "anomalous" magnetic moment $\mu_{\rm p} \sim 2.8 \; \mu_{\rm N} \rightarrow$ not Dirac-like
- Robert Hofstadter (1960) discovered the proton form factor

 → spatial charge distribution.
- DIS at SLAC (1969) ... that's all history

Lesson:

If the composite scale is not accessible,

- Look for "anomalous coupling" ~ E²
- Probe the form factor at high Q²



Higgs Boson Form Factor at top:

$$V_{ttH}(p^{\mu}, \bar{p}^{\mu}) = \frac{\sqrt{2}m_t}{v} \Gamma\left(p^2/\Lambda_c^2, \bar{p}^2/\Lambda_c^2, q^2/\Lambda_c^2\right)$$

Current 95%CL bound from the LHC Higgs signal:

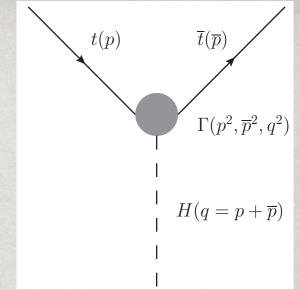
$$|\Gamma\left(m_h^2/\Lambda^2\right)^2 - 1| < 0.1$$

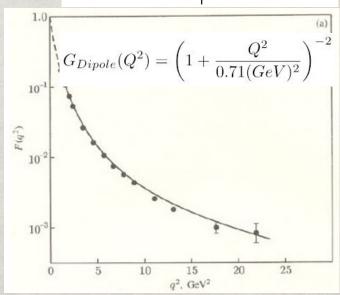
Nucleon form factor:

$$\Gamma\left(q^2/\Lambda_c^2\right) = \frac{1}{\left(1 + q^2/\Lambda_c^2\right)^n}$$

n=2 → "Dipole FF"

Leading to a suppressed ttH But enhanced $gg \rightarrow ZZ$ signal!

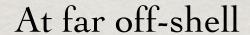




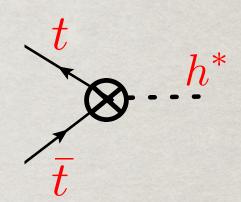
HL-LHC: $\Lambda_c \sim 0.8 \text{ TeV } @ 2\sigma$

HE-LHC: $\Lambda_c \sim 3.3 \text{ TeV } @ 2\sigma$; 2.1 TeV @ 5σ .

Other tests at high scales

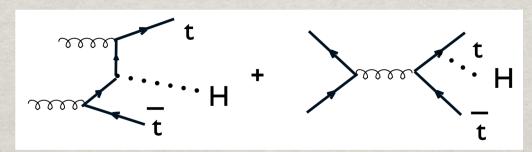


$$\sigma_{\rm on} \propto \frac{g_i^2(m_h^2)g_f^2(m_h^2)}{m_h\Gamma_h}$$
 and $\sigma_{\rm off} \propto \frac{g_i^2(Q^2)g_f^2(Q^2)}{Q^2}$



include other decay modes, like ZZ, WW ...

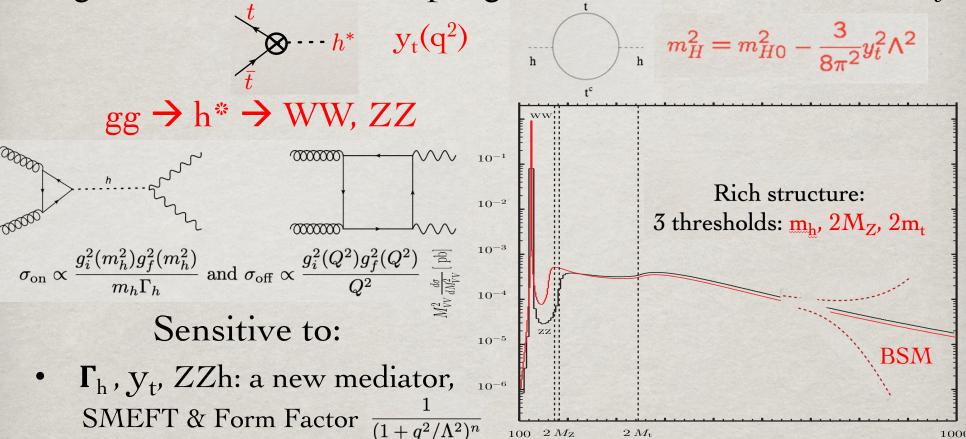
At high pT



Event rate for gg > tth comparable to gg > h at high pT at high energy colliders

(1). Higgs coupling @ high scales:

Largest & most-wanted coupling: the "naturalness" & vacuum stability



CMS/ATLAS: arXiv:2202.06923; 2304.01532

- $3.6\sigma/3.3\sigma$ observation for off-shell Higgs signal
- SM width bound: 3.2^{+2.4}_{-1.7} / 4.5^{+3.3}_{-2.5} MeV

Frederic Deloit, Monday plenary Jahid Hossain, Wed Higgs session 2

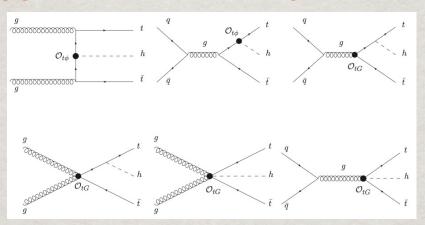
1000

 $2 M_{t}$

 M_{VV} [GeV]

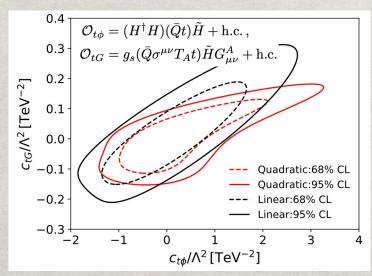
D. Goncalves, TH, S. Mukhopadhyay, arXiv:1710.02149 (PRL, 2017); arXiv:1803.09751; D. Goncalves, TH. I. Leung, H. Qin, arXiv:2012.05272; R. Abraham, D. Goncalves, TH, S.C.I. Leung, H. Qin, arXiv:2012.05272.

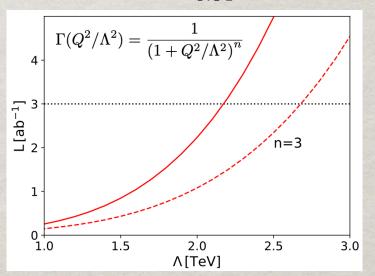
tth coupling @ high scales: gg, qq \rightarrow tth @ high p_T(h)



The current LHC sensitivity:

$$\kappa_t = 0.35^{+0.36}_{-0.34} \quad \text{(ATLAS)}$$





HL-LHC @ 3 ab-1

R. Abraham, D. Goncalves, TH, S.C.I. Leung, H. Qin, arXiv:2106.00018.

THE RANDALL-SUNDRUM MODEL

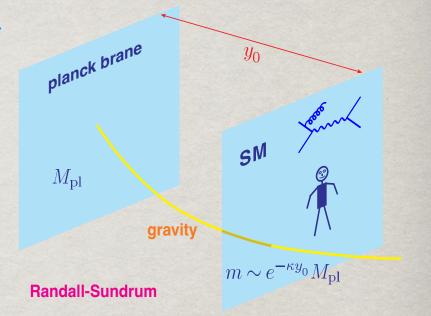
*L. Randall, R. Sundrum, hep-th/9905221.

Warped Extra Dimensions

$$ds^{2} = e^{2A(y)} \eta_{\mu\nu} dx^{\mu} dx^{\nu} - dy^{2},$$

where the "warp" factor A(y) = -ky, with k the curvature scale in the 5^{th} -dim.

The extra dimension y is "warped".

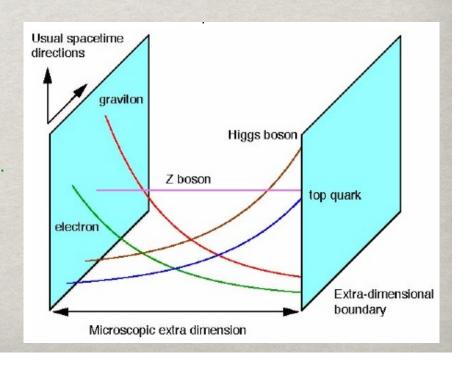


ullet Mass hierarchy M_{pl}/M_{EW} generated on the two branes:

$$v = e^{-ky_0} M_{pl}.$$

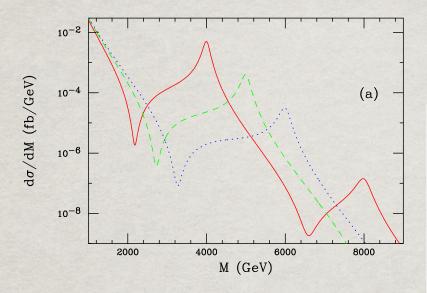
To get $v \approx$ 246 GeV, need $ky_0 \approx$ 40. the "size" of extra-dim: $y_0 \sim (10-100) \ l_{pl}$.

• TeV KK resonances: $M_{KK}\sim e^{-ky_0}M_{pl}$: $G_{KK},~g_{KK},~A_{KK},...,f_{KK}...,~$ with 1/TeV couplings.

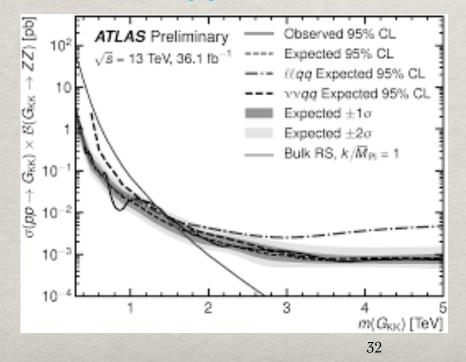


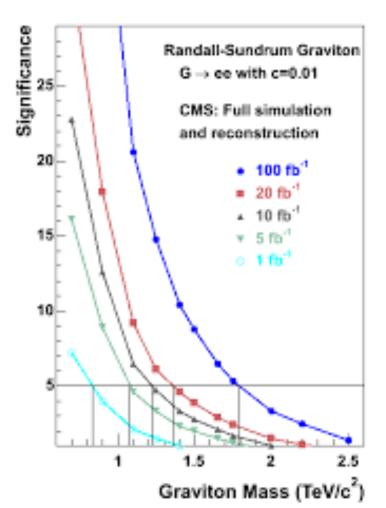
Resonant production at the LHC:

Kaluza-Klein states



[‡]Davoudiasl, Hewett, Rizzo, hep-ph/9911262.



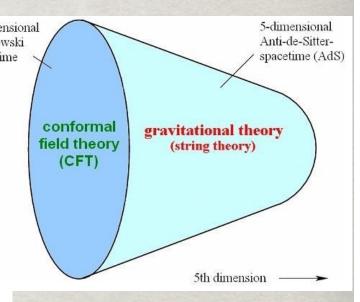


THE ADS-CFT CORRESPONDENCE

5d AdS theory \iff 4d strongly interacting walking TC!

$$S_{Full} = \int dx_4 dx_5 \; \mathcal{L}_{Full} \quad rac{1}{g_4^2} = \int dx_5 \; \mathcal{O}_5 \; rac{ ext{4-dimensior}}{ ext{spacetime}}$$

Combined with the AdS/CFT conjecture, this is a very attractive idea, dual to TC.



Weakly coupled physics lives on UV brane. Strongly coupled physics lives on IR brane, model as CFT.

Expect composite nature of Higgs, top. No evidence so far.

Overall for strong EW scenarios:

- Strong gauge dynamics is "natural", solving the large hierarchy problem, owing to the dimensional transmutation (QCD-like)
- The Higgs boson can be "naturally light", as a pseudo-Goldstone boson: $m_H^2 \sim \frac{f^2}{(4\pi)^2} \sim \frac{m_t^2 M_T^2}{f^2}$.
- Predict rich physics near TeV: T, W_H, Z_H , H^{++} , ρ , η ...
- The no-observation of those pushes f, M_T high, creating the "little hierarchy problem".

The Jury is still out ...

- 1. The Quest for the SM & Beyond
- 2. A Strongly-coupled EW Sector
- 3. A Weakly-coupled Extension
- 4. Flavors of Matter Fields