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SCHOOL ON PHYSICS AT LHC: "EXPECTING LHC"  
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***Higgs bosons searches at LHC  
Part I***

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# The Higgs at the LHC

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- The Higgs boson in the Standard Model
  1. The Higgs mechanism in the SM
  2. Constraints on the Higgs mass
  3. SM Higgs decays
    - The SM Higgs at the LHC
    - The Higgs boson in SUSY theories
    - The SUSY Higgs bosons at the LHC

# 1. The Higgs mechanism in the SM

[only a slide: more details in the lectures of U. Baur and M. Mangano]

The SM is based on a local gauge symmetry: invariance under

$$G_{\text{SM}} \equiv SU(3)_C \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$$

- The group  $SU(3)_C$  describes the strong force:

- interaction between  $q, q, q$  mediated by 8 gluons,

- asymptotic freedom: the interaction is “weak” at high energy.

- $SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$  describes the electroweak interaction:

- between the three families of quarks and leptons

$$\mathbf{L} = \begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ e^- \end{pmatrix}_L, e^-_R; \mathbf{Q} = \begin{pmatrix} u \\ d \end{pmatrix}_L, u_R, d_R \times 3 \text{ generations}$$

- mediated by the  $\tilde{W}_\mu$  (isospin) and  $B_\mu$  (hypercharge) gauge bosons.

- Lagrangian simple: with fields strengths and covariant derivatives

$$\mathbf{W}_{\mu\nu}^a = \partial_\mu \mathbf{W}_\nu^a - \partial_\nu \mathbf{W}_\mu^a + g_2 \epsilon^{abc} \mathbf{W}_\mu^b \mathbf{W}_\nu^c, \mathbf{B}_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu \mathbf{B}_\nu - \partial_\nu \mathbf{B}_\mu$$

$$\mathbf{D}_\mu \psi = \left( \partial_\mu - ig \mathbf{T}^a \mathbf{W}_\mu^a - ig' \frac{Y}{2} \mathbf{B}_\mu \right) \psi, \mathbf{T}^a = \frac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{\tau}^a$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} = -\frac{1}{4} \mathbf{W}_{\mu\nu}^a \mathbf{W}_a^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{4} \mathbf{B}_{\mu\nu} \mathbf{B}^{\mu\nu} + \bar{\mathbf{F}}_{\text{Li}} i \mathbf{D}_\mu \gamma^\mu \mathbf{F}_{\text{Li}} + \bar{\mathbf{f}}_{\text{Ri}} i \mathbf{D}_\mu \gamma^\mu \mathbf{f}_{\text{Ri}}$$

# 1. The Higgs in the SM: the potential

But if gauge boson and fermion masses are put by hand in  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}}$

$\frac{1}{2}M_V^2 V^\mu V_\mu$  and/or  $m_f \bar{f}_L f_R$  terms: breaking of gauge symmetry.

We need a less “brutal” way to generate particle masses in the SM.

In the SM, for the mechanism of spontaneous EW symmetry breaking,

$\Rightarrow$  introduce a doublet of complex scalar fields

$$\Phi = \begin{pmatrix} \phi^+ \\ \phi^0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ with } Y_\Phi = +1$$

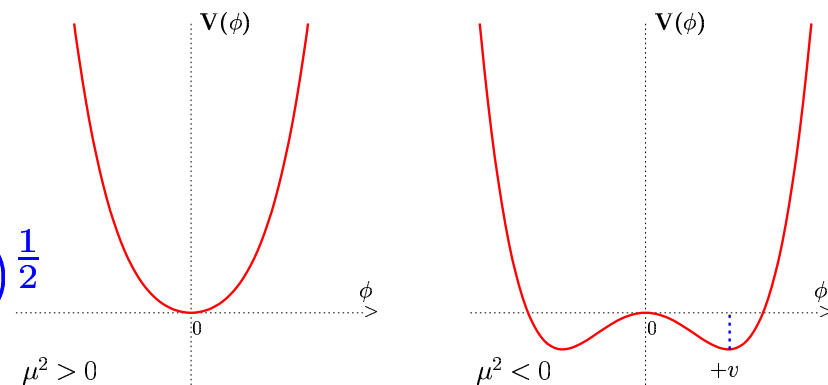
with a Lagrangian that is invariant under  $SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$

$$\mathcal{L}_S = (\mathbf{D}^\mu \Phi)^\dagger (\mathbf{D}_\mu \Phi) - \mu^2 \Phi^\dagger \Phi - \lambda (\Phi^\dagger \Phi)^2$$

$\mu^2 > 0$ : 4 scalar particles.

$\mu^2 < 0$ :  $\Phi$  develops a vev:

$$\langle 0 | \Phi | 0 \rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}, \quad v = \left( -\frac{\mu^2}{\lambda} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$



# 1. The Higgs in the SM: the physical fields

To obtain the physical states, write  $\mathcal{L}_S$  with the true vacuum:

- Write  $\Phi$  in terms of four fields  $\theta_{1,2,3}(\mathbf{x})$  and  $H(\mathbf{x})$  at 1st order:

$$\Phi(\mathbf{x}) = e^{i\theta_a(\mathbf{x})\tau^a(\mathbf{x})/v} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v+H(\mathbf{x}) \end{pmatrix} \simeq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} \theta_2+i\theta_1 \\ v+H-i\theta_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Make a gauge transformation on  $\Phi$  to go to the unitary gauge:

$$\Phi(\mathbf{x}) \rightarrow e^{-i\theta_a(\mathbf{x})\tau^a(\mathbf{x})} \Phi(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v+H(\mathbf{x}) \end{pmatrix}$$

- Then fully develop the term  $|\mathbf{D}_\mu \Phi|^2$  of the Lagrangian  $\mathcal{L}_S$ :

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathbf{D}_\mu \Phi|^2 &= \left| \left( \partial_\mu - i g_1 \frac{\tau_a}{2} \mathbf{W}_\mu^a - i \frac{g_2}{2} \mathbf{B}_\mu \right) \Phi \right|^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left| \begin{pmatrix} \partial_\mu - \frac{i}{2} (g_2 \mathbf{W}_\mu^3 + g_1 \mathbf{B}_\mu) & -\frac{i g_2}{2} (\mathbf{W}_\mu^1 - i \mathbf{W}_\mu^2) \\ -\frac{i g_2}{2} (\mathbf{W}_\mu^1 + i \mathbf{W}_\mu^2) & \partial_\mu + \frac{i}{2} (g_2 \mathbf{W}_\mu^3 - g_1 \mathbf{B}_\mu) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v+H \end{pmatrix} \right|^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu H)^2 + \frac{1}{8} g_2^2 (v+H)^2 |\mathbf{W}_\mu^1 + i \mathbf{W}_\mu^2|^2 + \frac{1}{8} (v+H)^2 |g_2 \mathbf{W}_\mu^3 - g_1 \mathbf{B}_\mu|^2 \end{aligned}$$

- Define the new fields  $\mathbf{W}_\mu^\pm$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_\mu$  [ $\mathbf{A}_\mu$  is the orthogonal of  $\mathbf{Z}_\mu$ ]:

$$\mathbf{W}^\pm = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\mathbf{W}_\mu^1 \mp \mathbf{W}_\mu^2), \quad \mathbf{Z}_\mu = \frac{g_2 \mathbf{W}_\mu^3 - g_1 \mathbf{B}_\mu}{\sqrt{g_2^2 + g_1^2}}, \quad \mathbf{A}_\mu = \frac{g_2 \mathbf{W}_\mu^3 + g_1 \mathbf{B}_\mu}{\sqrt{g_2^2 + g_1^2}}$$

$$\sin^2 \theta_W \equiv g_2 / \sqrt{g_2^2 + g_1^2} = e / g_2$$

# 1. The Higgs in the SM: the masses

- And pick up the terms which are bilinear in the fields  $W^\pm, Z, A$ :

$$M_W^2 W_\mu^+ W^{-\mu} + \frac{1}{2} M_Z^2 Z_\mu Z^\mu + \frac{1}{2} M_A^2 A_\mu A^\mu$$

⇒ 3 degrees of freedom for  $W_L^\pm, Z_L$  and thus  $M_{W^\pm}, M_Z$ :

$$M_W = \frac{1}{2} v g_2, \quad M_Z = \frac{1}{2} v \sqrt{g_2^2 + g_1^2}, \quad M_A = 0,$$

with the value of the vev given by:  $v = 1/(\sqrt{2} G_F)^{1/2} \sim 246 \text{ GeV}$ .

⇒ The photon stays massless,  $U(1)_{\text{QED}}$  is preserved.

- For fermion masses, use same doublet field  $\Phi$  and its conjugate field

$\tilde{\Phi} = i\tau_2 \Phi^*$  and introduce  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{Yuk}}$  which is invariant under  $SU(2) \times U(1)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\text{Yuk}} &= -f_e (\bar{e}, \bar{\nu})_L \Phi e_R - f_d (\bar{u}, \bar{d})_L \Phi d_R - f_u (\bar{u}, \bar{d})_L \tilde{\Phi} u_R + \dots \\ &= -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} f_e (\bar{\nu}_e, \bar{e}_L) \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v+H \end{pmatrix} e_R \dots = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (v+H) \bar{e}_L e_R \dots \\ &\Rightarrow m_e = \frac{f_e v}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad m_u = \frac{f_u v}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad m_d = \frac{f_d v}{\sqrt{2}} \end{aligned}$$

With same  $\Phi$ , we have generated gauge boson and fermion masses, while preserving  $SU(2) \times U(1)$  gauge symmetry (which is now hidden)!

What about the residual degree of freedom?

# 1. The Higgs in the SM: the Higgs boson

It will correspond to the physical spin-zero scalar Higgs particle,  $H$ .

The kinetic part of  $H$  field,  $\frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu H)^2$ , comes from  $|D_\mu \Phi|^2$  term.

Mass and self-interaction part from  $V(\Phi) = \mu^2 \Phi^\dagger \Phi + \lambda(\Phi^\dagger \Phi)^2$ :

$$V = \frac{\mu^2}{2}(\mathbf{0}, v + H) \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v+H \end{pmatrix} + \frac{\lambda}{2} |(\mathbf{0}, v + H) \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v+H \end{pmatrix}|^2$$

Doing the exercise you find that the Lagrangian containing  $H$  is,

$$\mathcal{L}_H = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu H)(\partial^\mu H) - V = \frac{1}{2}(\partial^\mu H)^2 - \lambda v^2 H^2 - \lambda v H^3 - \frac{\lambda}{4} H^4$$

The Higgs boson mass is given by:  $M_H^2 = 2\lambda v^2 = -2\mu^2$ .

The Higgs triple and quartic self-interaction vertices are:

$$g_{H^3} = 3i M_H^2/v, \quad g_{H^4} = 3i M_H^2/v^2$$

What about the Higgs boson couplings to gauge bosons and fermions?

They were almost derived previously, when we calculated the masses:

$$\mathcal{L}_{M_V} \sim M_V^2(1 + H/v)^2, \quad \mathcal{L}_{m_f} \sim -m_f(1 + H/v)$$

$$\Rightarrow g_{Hff} = im_f/v, \quad g_{HVV} = -2iM_V^2/v, \quad g_{HHVV} = -2iM_V^2/v^2$$

Since  $v$  is known, the only free parameter in the SM is  $M_H$  or  $\lambda$ .

# 1. The Higgs in the SM: the Goldstone bosons

Propagators of gauge and Goldstone bosons in a general  $\zeta$  gauge:

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \begin{array}{c} \text{wavy line} \\ \longrightarrow q \end{array} \quad \frac{-i}{q^2 - M_V^2 + i\epsilon} \left[ g_{\mu\nu} + (\zeta - 1) \frac{q_\mu q_\nu}{q^2 - \zeta M_V^2} \right] \quad \begin{array}{l} \zeta = \infty: \text{Landau gauge} \\ \zeta = 1: \text{'t Hooft-Feynman} \end{array} \\
 \omega^\pm, \omega^0 : \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{dashed line} \\ \longrightarrow q \end{array} \quad \frac{-i}{q^2 - \zeta M_V^2 + i\epsilon}
 \end{array}$$

- In unitary gauge, Goldstones do not propagate and gauge bosons have usual propagators of massive spin-1 particles (old IVB theory).
  - At very high energies,  $s \gg M_V^2$ , an approximation is  $M_V \sim 0$ . The  $V_L$  components of  $V$  can be replaced by the Goldstones,  $V_L \rightarrow \omega$ .
  - In fact, **the electroweak equivalence theorem** tells that at high energies, massive vector bosons are equivalent to Goldstones. In  $VV$  scattering e.g.  $A(V_L^1 \dots V_L^n \rightarrow V_L^1 \dots V_L^{n'}) = (i)^n (-i)^{n'} A(w^1 \dots w^n \rightarrow w^1 \dots w^{n'})$
- Thus, we simply replace  $V$  by  $w$  in the scalar potential and use  $w$ :

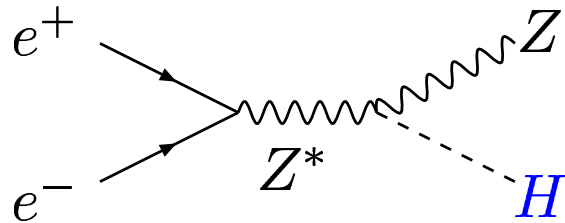
$$V = \frac{M_H^2}{2v} (\mathbf{H}^2 + w_0^2 + 2w^+ w^-) \mathbf{H} + \frac{M_H^2}{8v^2} (\mathbf{H}^2 + w_0^2 + 2w^+ w^-)^2$$



# 2. Constraints on $M_H$

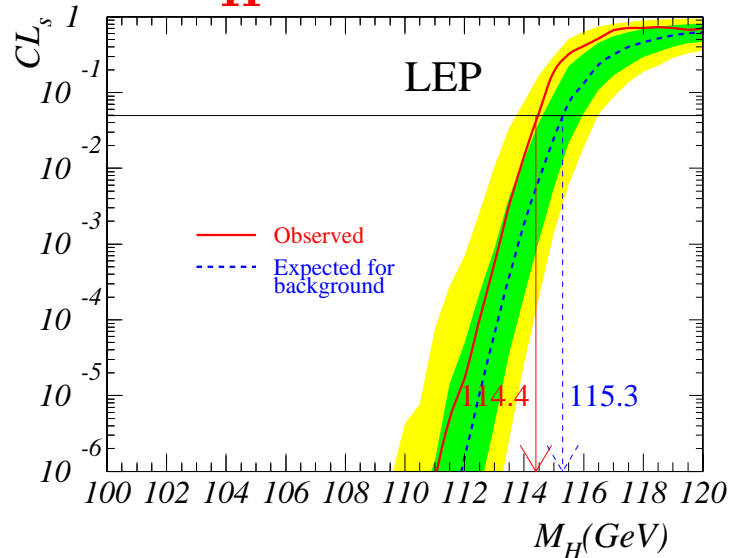
**Direct searches at LEP:**

H looked for in  $e^+e^- \rightarrow ZH$



We have a limit at 95% CL:

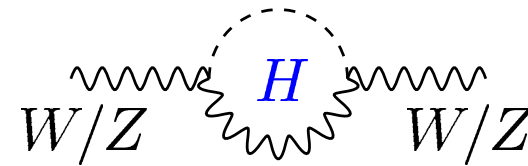
**$M_H > 114.4$  GeV**



**(1.7 $\sigma$  excess at  $M_H \sim 116$  GeV)**

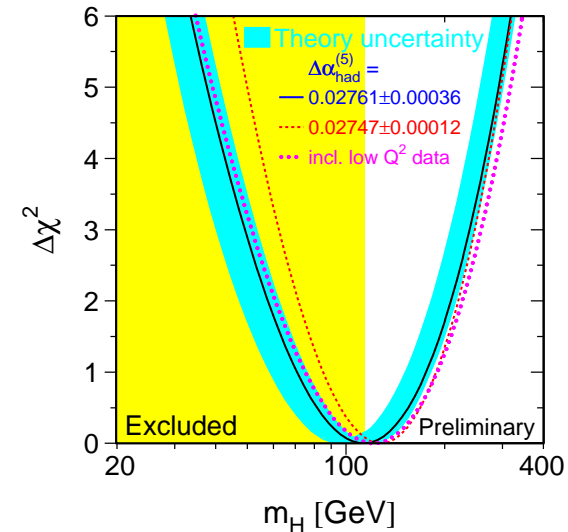
**Indirect searches:**

H contributes to RC to W/Z masses:



Fit the EW precision measurements:

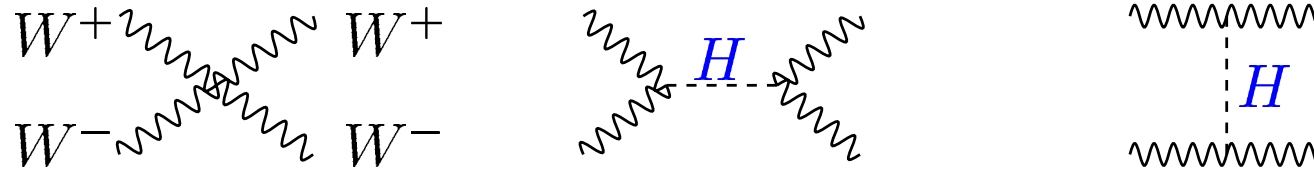
we obtain  $M_H = 85^{+39}_{-28}$  GeV, or



**$M_H \lesssim 200$  GeV at 95% CL**

## 2. Constraints on $M_H$ : perturbative unitarity

Scattering of massive gauge bosons  $V_L V_L \rightarrow V_L V_L$  at high-energy



Because  $w$  interactions increase with energy ( $q^\mu$  terms in  $V$  propagator),  
 $s \gg M_W^2 \Rightarrow \sigma(w^+ w^- \rightarrow w^+ w^-) \propto s: \Rightarrow$  **unitarity violation possible!**

Decomposition into partial waves and choose  $J=0$  for  $s \gg M_W^2$ :

$$a_0 = -\frac{M_H^2}{8\pi v^2} \left[ 1 + \frac{M_H^2}{s - M_H^2} + \frac{M_H^2}{s} \log \left( 1 + \frac{s}{M_H^2} \right) \right]$$

For unitarity to be fulfilled, we need the condition  $|\text{Re}(a_0)| < 1/2$ .

At high energies,  $s \gg M_H, M_W$ , we have:  $a_0 \xrightarrow{s \gg M_H^2} -\frac{M_H^2}{8\pi v^2}$

$$\text{unitarity} \Rightarrow M_H \lesssim 870 \text{ GeV} \quad (M_H \lesssim 710 \text{ GeV})$$

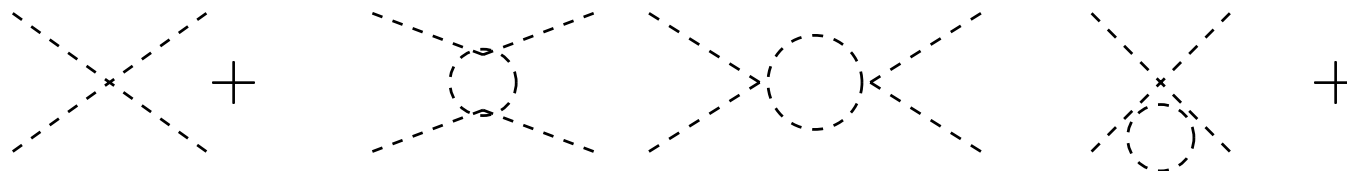
For a very heavy or no Higgs boson, we have:  $a_0 \xrightarrow{s \ll M_H^2} -\frac{s}{32\pi v^2}$

$$\text{unitarity} \Rightarrow \sqrt{s} \lesssim 1.7 \text{ TeV} \quad (\sqrt{s} \lesssim 1.2 \text{ TeV})$$

**Otherwise (strong?) New Physics should appear to restore unitarity.**

## 2. Constraints on $M_H$ : triviality

The quartic coupling of the Higgs boson  $\lambda (\propto M_H^2)$  increases with energy.



The RGE evolution of  $\lambda$  with  $Q^2$  and its solution are given by:

$$\frac{d\lambda(Q^2)}{dQ^2} = \frac{3}{4\pi^2} \lambda^2(Q^2) \Rightarrow \lambda(Q^2) = \lambda(v^2) \left[ 1 - \frac{3}{4\pi^2} \lambda(v^2) \log \frac{Q^2}{v^2} \right]^{-1}$$

- If  $Q^2 \ll v^2$ ,  $\lambda(Q^2) \rightarrow 0_+$ : the theory is said to be trivial (no int.).
- If  $Q^2 \gg v^2$ ,  $\lambda(Q^2) \rightarrow \infty$ : Landau pole at  $Q = v \exp \left( \frac{4\pi^2 v^2}{M_H^2} \right)$ .

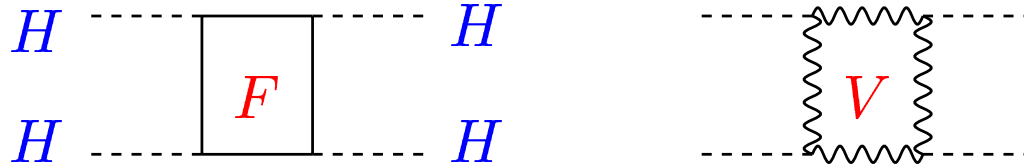
The SM is valid only at scales before  $\lambda$  becomes infinite:

$$\text{If } \Lambda_C = M_H, \lambda \lesssim 4\pi \Rightarrow M_H \lesssim 650 \text{ GeV}$$

(Comparable to results obtained with simulations on the lattice!)

## 2. Constraints on $M_H$ : vacuum stability

The top quark and gauge bosons also contribute to the evolution of  $\lambda$ .



The RGE evolution of the coupling at one-loop is given by

$$\lambda(Q^2) = \lambda(v^2) + \frac{1}{16\pi^2} \left[ -12 \frac{m_t^4}{v^4} + \frac{3}{16} (2g_2^4 + (g_2^2 + g_1^2)^2) \right] \log \frac{Q^2}{v^2}$$

If  $\lambda$  is small ( $H$  is light), top loops might lead to  $\lambda(0) < \lambda(v)$ :

$v$  is not the minimum of the potential and the EW vacuum is unstable.

$\Rightarrow$  Impose that the coupling  $\lambda$  stays always positive:

$$\lambda(Q^2) > 0 \Rightarrow M_H^2 > \frac{v^2}{8\pi^2} \left[ -12 \frac{m_t^4}{v^4} + \frac{3}{16} (2g_2^4 + (g_2^2 + g_1^2)^2) \right] \log \frac{Q^2}{v^2}$$

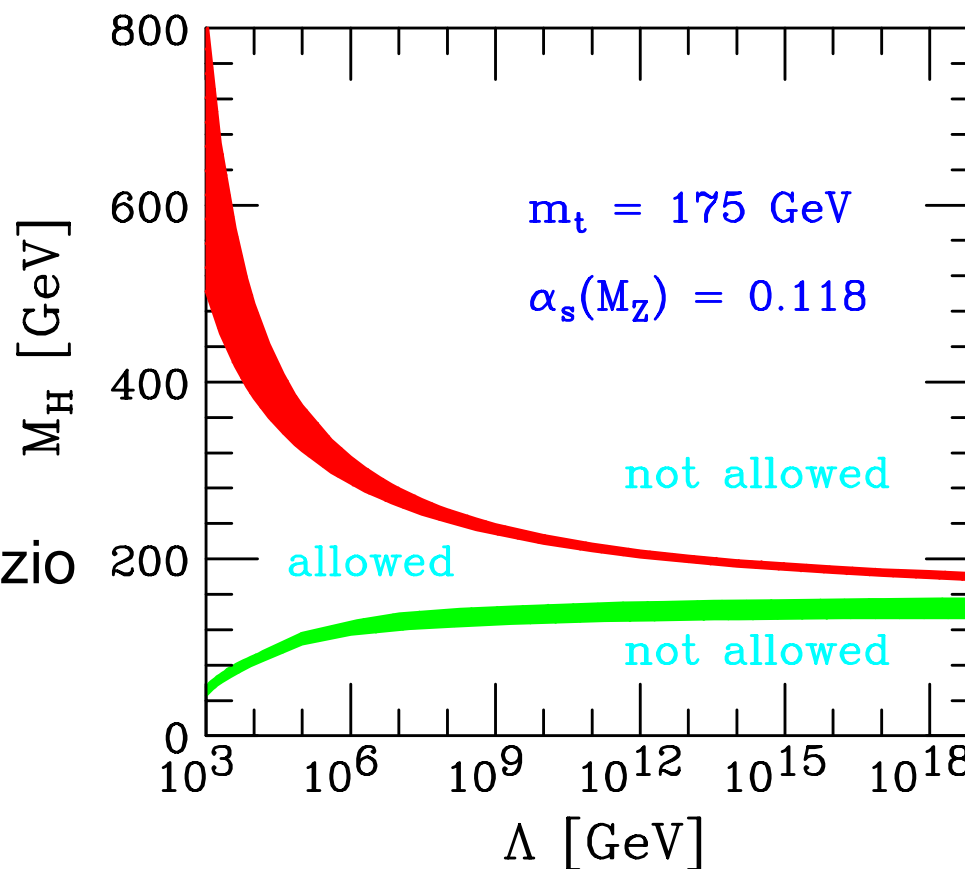
**Very strong constraint:  $Q = \Lambda_C \sim 1 \text{ TeV} \Rightarrow M_H \gtrsim 70 \text{ GeV}$**

## 2. Constraints on $M_H$ : triviality+stability

Combine the two constraints and include all possible effects:

- corrections at two loops
- theoretical errors
- experimental errors
- other refinements . . .

Cabibbo, Maiani, Parisi, Petronzio  
Hambye, Riesselmann



$$\Lambda_C \sim 10^3 \text{ GeV} \Rightarrow 70 \text{ GeV} \lesssim M_H \lesssim 700 \text{ GeV}$$

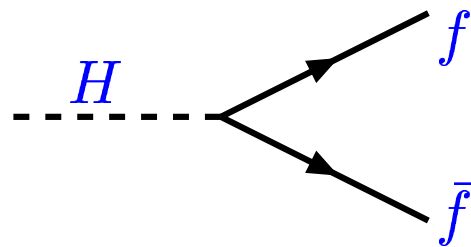
$$\Lambda_C \sim 10^{16} \text{ GeV} \Rightarrow 130 \text{ GeV} \lesssim M_H \lesssim 180 \text{ GeV}$$

# 3. Higgs decays

Higgs couplings proportional to particle masses: once  $M_H$  is fixed,

- the profile of the Higgs boson is determined and its decays fixed,
- the Higgs has tendency to decay into heaviest available particle.

**Higgs decays into fermions:**



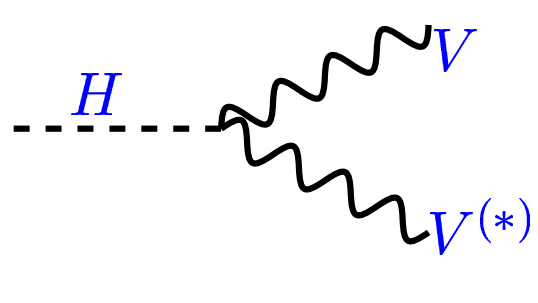
$$\Gamma_{\text{Born}}(\text{H} \rightarrow f\bar{f}) = \frac{G_\mu N_c}{4\sqrt{2}\pi} M_H m_f^2 \beta_f^3$$

$$\beta_f = \sqrt{1 - 4m_f^2/M_H^2} : f \text{ velocity}$$

$$N_c = \text{color number}$$

- Only  $b\bar{b}$ ,  $c\bar{c}$ ,  $\tau^+\tau^-$ ,  $\mu^+\mu^-$  for  $M_H < 350 \text{ GeV}$ , also  $t\bar{t}$  beyond.
- $\Gamma \propto \beta^3$ : H is CP-even scalar particle ( $\propto \beta$  for pseudoscalar H).
- Decay width grows as  $M_H$ : moderate growth....
- QCD RC:  $\Gamma \propto \Gamma_0 \left[1 - \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \log \frac{M_H^2}{m_q^2}\right] \Rightarrow$  very large: absorbed/summed using running masses at scale  $M_H$  :  $m_b(M_H^2) \sim \frac{2}{3} m_b^{\text{pole}} \sim 3 \text{ GeV}$ .
- Include also direct QCD corrections (3 loops) and EW (one-loop).

### 3. Higgs decays: decays into gauge bosons



$$\Gamma(H \rightarrow VV) = \frac{G_\mu M_H^3}{16\sqrt{2}\pi} \delta_V \beta_V (1 - 4x + 12x^2)$$

$$x = M_V^2/M_H^2, \beta_V = \sqrt{1 - 4x}$$

$$\delta_W = 2, \delta_Z = 1$$

- For a very heavy Higgs boson:

$$\Gamma(H \rightarrow WW) = 2 \times \Gamma(H \rightarrow ZZ); \Rightarrow \text{BR}(WW) \sim \frac{2}{3}, \text{BR}(ZZ) \sim$$

$$\Gamma(H \rightarrow WW + ZZ) \propto \frac{1}{2} \frac{M_H^3}{(1 \text{ TeV})^3} \text{ because of contributions of } V_L:$$

heavy Higgs is obese: width very large, comparable to  $M_H$  at 1 TeV.

EW radiative corrections from scalars large because  $\propto \lambda = \frac{M_H^2}{2v^2}$ .

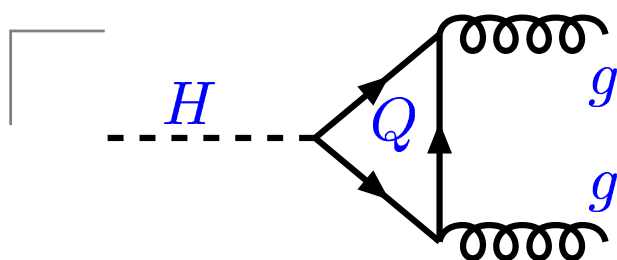
- For a light Higgs boson:

$M_H < 2M_V$ : possibility of off-shell V decays,  $H \rightarrow VV^* \rightarrow Vff\bar{f}$ .

Virtuality and addition EW cplg compensated by large  $g_{HV V}$  vs  $g_{Hbb}$ .

In fact: for  $M_H \gtrsim 130 \text{ GeV}$ ,  $H \rightarrow WW^*$  dominates over  $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$

### 3. Higgs decays: decays into gluons



$$\Gamma(H \rightarrow gg) = \frac{G_\mu \alpha_s^2 M_H^3}{36 \sqrt{2} \pi^3} \left| \frac{3}{4} \sum_Q A_{1/2}^H(\tau_Q) \right|^2$$

$$A_{1/2}^H(\tau) = 2[\tau + (\tau - 1)f(\tau)] \tau^{-2}$$

$$f(\tau) = \arcsin^2 \sqrt{\tau} \text{ for } \tau = M_H^2/4m_Q^2 \leq 1$$

- **Gluons massless and Higgs has no color: must be a loop decay.**
- **For  $m_Q \rightarrow \infty, \tau_Q \sim 0 \Rightarrow A_{1/2} = \frac{4}{3} = \text{constant}$  and  $\Gamma$  is finite!**

**Width counts the number of strong inter. particles coupling to Higgs!**

- **In SM: only top quark loop relevant, b-loop contribution  $\lesssim 5\%$ .**
- **Loop decay but QCD and top couplings: comparable to  $cc, \tau\tau$ .**
- **Approximation  $m_Q \rightarrow \infty/\tau_Q = 1$  valid for  $M_H \lesssim 2m_t = 350 \text{ GeV}$ .**

**Good approximation in decay: include only t-loop with  $m_Q \rightarrow \infty$ . But:**

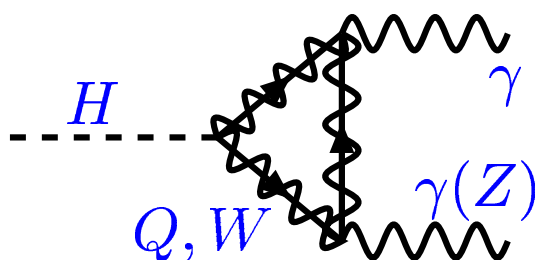
- **Very large QCD RC: the two- and three-loops have to be included:**

$$\Gamma = \Gamma_0 \left[ 1 + 18 \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} + 156 \frac{\alpha_s^2}{\pi^2} \right] \sim \Gamma_0 [1 + 0.7 + 0.3] \sim 2\Gamma_0$$

- **Reverse process  $gg \rightarrow H$  very important for Higgs production in pp!**



### 3. Higgs decays: decays into photons



$$\Gamma = \frac{G_\mu \alpha^2 M_H^3}{128 \sqrt{2} \pi^3} \left| \sum_f N_c e_f^2 A_{\frac{1}{2}}^H(\tau_f) + A_1^H(\tau_W) \right|^2$$

$$A_{\frac{1}{2}}^H(\tau) = 2[\tau + (\tau - 1)f(\tau)] \tau^{-2}$$

$$A_1^H(\tau) = -[2\tau^2 + 3\tau + 3(2\tau - 1)f(\tau)] \tau^{-2}$$

- Photon massless and Higgs has no charge: must be a loop decay.
- In SM: only W-loop and top-loop are relevant (b-loop too small).
- For  $m_i \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow A_{1/2} = \frac{4}{3}$  and  $A_1 = -7$ : W loop dominating!  
(approximation  $\tau_W \rightarrow 0$  valid only for  $M_H \lesssim 2M_W$ : relevant here!).

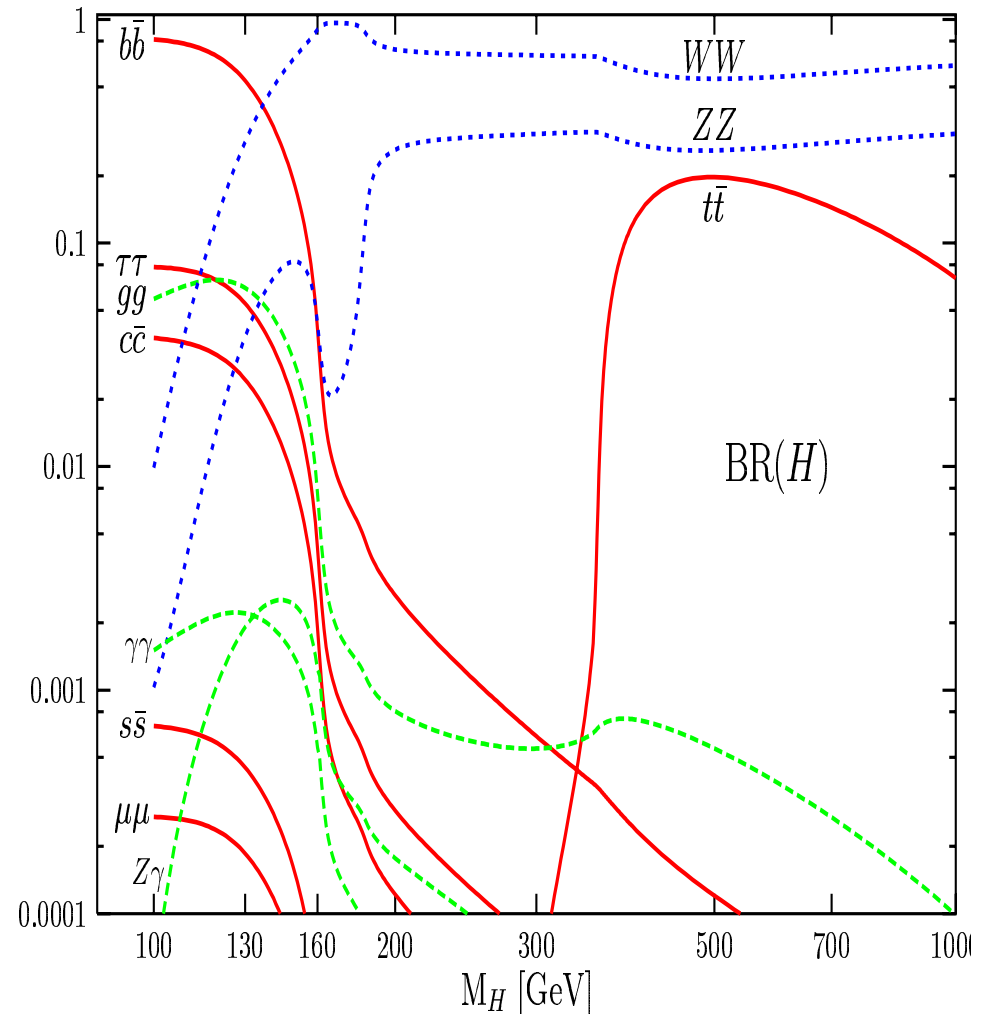
$\gamma\gamma$  width counts the number of charged particles coupling to Higgs!

- Loop decay but EW couplings: very small compared to  $H \rightarrow gg$ .
- Rather small QCD (and EW) corrections: only of order  $\frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \sim 5\%$ .
- Reverse process  $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow H$  important for H production in  $\gamma\gamma$ .
- Same discussions hold qualitatively for loop decay  $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$ .

### 3. Higgs decays: branching ratios

Branching ratios:  $BR(H \rightarrow X) \equiv \frac{\Gamma(H \rightarrow X)}{\Gamma(H \rightarrow \text{all})}$

- 'Low mass range',  $M_H \lesssim 130$  GeV:
  - $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  dominant, BR = 60–90%
  - $H \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-$ ,  $c\bar{c}$ ,  $gg$  BR= a few %
  - $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma, \gamma Z$ , BR = a few permille.
- 'High mass range',  $M_H \gtrsim 130$  GeV:
  - $H \rightarrow WW^*, ZZ^*$  up to  $\gtrsim 2M_W$
  - $H \rightarrow WW, ZZ$  above (BR  $\rightarrow \frac{2}{3}, \frac{1}{3}$ )
  - $H \rightarrow t\bar{t}$  for high  $M_H$ ; BR  $\lesssim 20\%$ .
- Total Higgs decay width:
  - $\mathcal{O}(\text{MeV})$  for  $M_H \sim 100$  GeV (small)
  - $\mathcal{O}(\text{TeV})$  for  $M_H \sim 1$  TeV (obese).



### 3. Higgs decays: total width

$$\text{Total decay width: } \Gamma_H \equiv \sum_X \Gamma(H \rightarrow X)$$

- 'Low mass range',  $M_H \lesssim 130 \text{ GeV}$ :

- $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  dominant, BR = 60–90%

- $H \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-, c\bar{c}, gg$  BR = a few %

- $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma, \gamma Z$ , BR = a few permille.

- 'High mass range',  $M_H \gtrsim 130 \text{ GeV}$ :

- $H \rightarrow WW^*, ZZ^*$  up to  $\gtrsim 2M_W$

- $H \rightarrow WW, ZZ$  above (BR  $\rightarrow \frac{2}{3}, \frac{1}{3}$ )

- $H \rightarrow t\bar{t}$  for high  $M_H$ ; BR  $\lesssim 20\%$ .

- Total Higgs decay width:

- $\mathcal{O}(\text{MeV})$  for  $M_H \sim 100 \text{ GeV}$  (small)

- $\mathcal{O}(\text{TeV})$  for  $M_H \sim 1 \text{ TeV}$  (obese).

