

When the Higgs was proposed, Weinberg and Salam showed that the required mass of the vector bosons and of the fermions can be acquired by the interaction with the  $H$  field. The potential of this field is:

$$V(\varphi) = -\mu^2|\varphi|^2 + \lambda(|\varphi|^2)^2 \quad (1)$$

The minimum of the potential is obtained by setting to zero the first derivative with respect to  $\varphi$  of the potential:

$$0 = -2\mu^2\varphi + 4\lambda\varphi|\varphi|^2 \implies |\varphi|^2 = \frac{\mu^2}{2\lambda} \quad (2)$$

If we compute the  $H$  field vacuum expectation value, we find:

$$v = \sqrt{2} \langle |\varphi| \rangle = \frac{\mu}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \quad (3)$$

It is different from zero and it spontaneously breaks the  $SU(2) \times U(1)$  gauge symmetry. In the theory we need to introduce two coupling constants,  $g$  and  $g'$ , related to the two gauge groups. Putting all together the previous facts, it is possible to show that:

- One of the 4 bosons of theory remains massless and it is the photon.
- Two bosons are charged with mass, namely:

$$M_W = g \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}} \quad (4)$$

- One boson is neutral and massive, with mass:

$$M_{Z^0} = \sqrt{g'^2 + g^2} \frac{v}{2} \quad (5)$$

- If we define the Weinberg angle  $\theta_W$ , we have:

$$\tan \theta_W = \frac{g'}{g} \quad (6)$$

- It holds:

$$M_W = M_Z \cos \theta_W \quad (7)$$

$$e = g \sin \theta_W = g' \cos \theta_W \quad (8)$$

$W^\pm$  and  $Z^0$  bosons couple to quarks and leptons. In order to describe these couplings two quantum numbers are needed: the **weak isospin**  $I$  and the **hypercharge**  $Y$ . The electric charge is then related to these quantities by:

$$Q = I_3 + \frac{Y}{2} \quad (9)$$

Experimentally, we see that left-handed particles couple to  $W^\pm$  bosons, but right-handed particles have not this behaviour. Quarks and leptons are grouped:

- Left-handed  $\implies$  doublet  $\implies I = \frac{1}{2}$
- Right-handed  $\implies$  singlet  $\implies I = 0$

Therefore the correct representation is:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_L \\ e_L^- \end{pmatrix}, e_R^- \quad \begin{pmatrix} u_L \\ d_L \end{pmatrix}, u_R, d_R \quad (10)$$

## 0.1 Experimental electroweak tests

TODO

**Lecture 14.**  
Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup>  
April, 2020.  
Compiled: Tuesday  
28<sup>th</sup> April, 2020.