

Introduction to the Standard Model

Exercises 12

Deadline: Monday 11 July 2016 (12 am)
at Dr. Giudice's office (KP 301) and Ms Sonja Esch (KP 310)

Topics covered: Symmetry breaking, Higgs field, Glashow-Weinberg-Salam model.

1. (2.0 P) The usual $SU(2)_W \times U(1)_Y$ scalar potential for the standard model is of the form:

$$V(\phi) = -\mu^2 \phi^\dagger \phi + \lambda (\phi^\dagger \phi)^2 ,$$

with

$$\phi = \begin{pmatrix} \phi^+ \\ \phi^0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \phi_1 \\ \phi_2 \end{pmatrix} .$$

- (a) In principle, one can also have an $SU(2)_W \times U(1)_Y$ quartic invariant of the form:

$$V_1(\phi) = \lambda_1 \sum_a (\phi^\dagger \tau_a \phi) (\phi^\dagger \tau_a \phi) .$$

Show that this quartic term can be reduced to that in $V(\phi)$.

- (b) Show that another quartic term:

$$V_2(\phi) = \lambda_2 \sum_{a,b} (\phi^\dagger \tau_a \tau_b \phi) (\phi^\dagger \tau_a \tau_b \phi)$$

is also reducible to that in $V(\phi)$.

Hint: you need to use the relation

$$\sum_a (\tau_a)_{ij} (\tau_a)_{kl} = 2 \left(\delta_{jk} \delta_{il} - \frac{1}{2} \delta_{ij} \delta_{kl} \right) .$$

2. (1.0 P) Suppose that the fermion mass matrix in the basis of left-handed and right-handed fields is hermitian:

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi}_L^i M_{ij} \psi_R^j + h.c., \quad M^\dagger = M .$$

In general, the eigenvalues of M obtained from unitary transformation are not always positive:

$$UMU^\dagger = M_d = \text{diag}(m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n) ,$$

where m_i can be negative as well as positive. Show that one can choose an appropriate biunitary transformation to diagonalise M so that all diagonal elements are non-negative.

(A biunitary transformation, of a matrix A , is given by UAV^\dagger where both U and V are unitary).

3. (1.0 P) Explain the meaning of the upper labels of the components of the Higgs doublet:

$$\phi = \begin{pmatrix} \phi^+ \\ \phi^0 \end{pmatrix} .$$

4. (1.0 P) Show that an arbitrary value of the Higgs field ϕ of length $|\phi|=v/2$ can be transformed to

$$\phi \rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v \end{pmatrix} .$$

by an $SU(2)$ transformation.

5. (5.0 P) Derive the mass term for the Higgs scalar $h(x)$ and the gauge fields $W_\mu^a(x)$ and $Z_\mu(x)$ from the Higgs Lagrangian assuming the Higgs mechanism:

$$\mathcal{L} = (D_\mu \phi)^\dagger (D^\mu \phi) + m^2 \phi^\dagger \phi - \lambda (\phi^\dagger \phi)^2 , \quad D_\mu = \partial_\mu - i \frac{g}{2} W_\mu^a \sigma^a - i \frac{g'}{2} B_\mu ,$$

where σ^a are the Pauli matrices.

Define $v = \frac{m}{\sqrt{\lambda}}$, $\phi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v + h(x) \end{pmatrix}$, $Z_\mu = \frac{g W_\mu^3 - g' B_\mu}{\sqrt{g^2 + g'^2}}$, $A_\mu = \frac{g' W_\mu^3 + g B_\mu}{\sqrt{g^2 + g'^2}}$.