

# The BIG questions

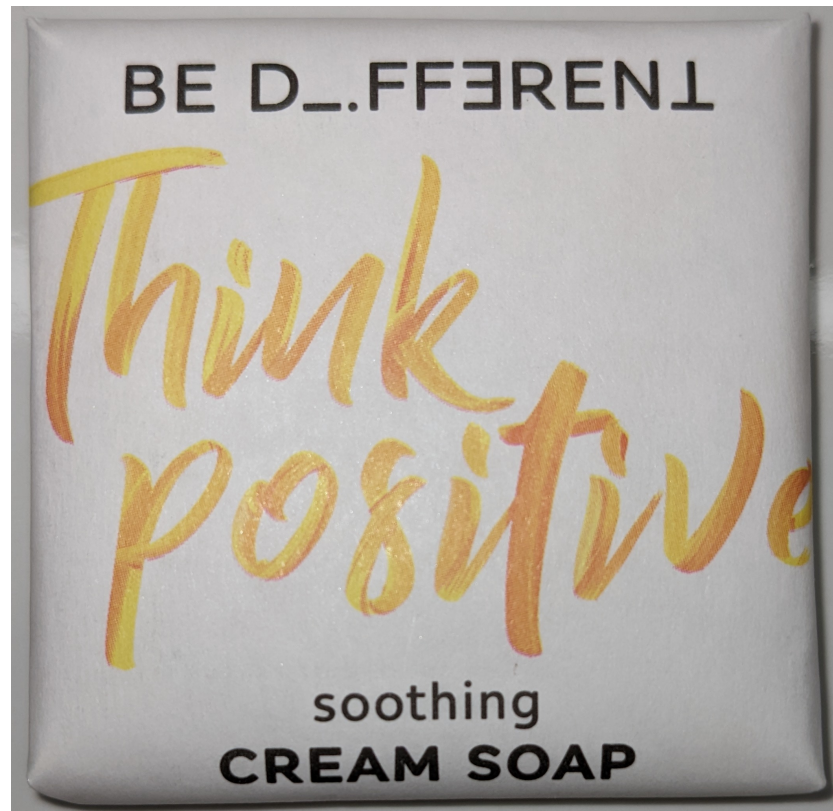
Spring 2022

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Boston University

Q: Will it rain on our  
excursion on  
Wednesday ??



Q: who was so nice to put  
these in our rooms?



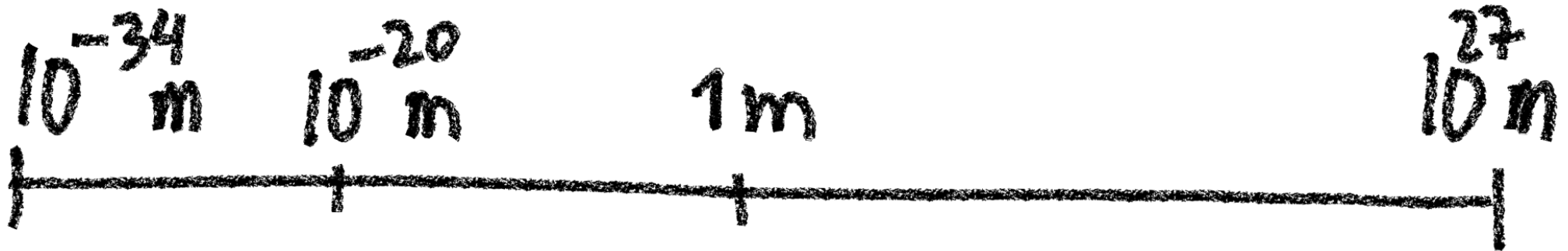
# 3 stories

- BSM physics & naturalness
- Dark matter
- $H_0$  crisis



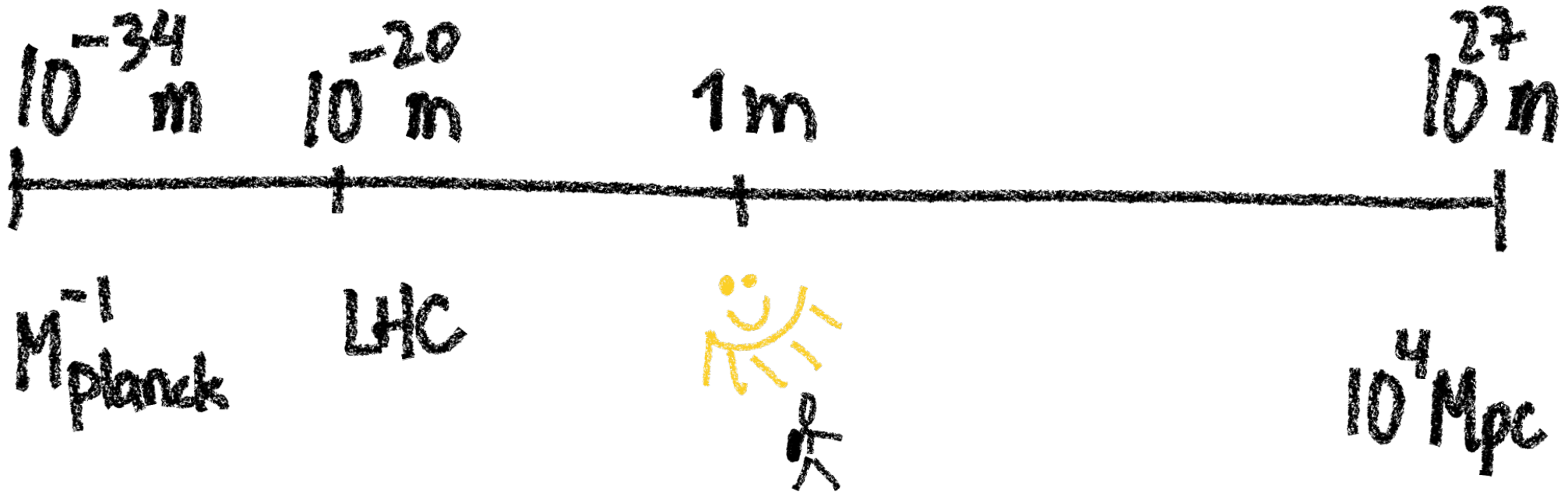
# Particle physics + Cosmology

shortest and longest distances



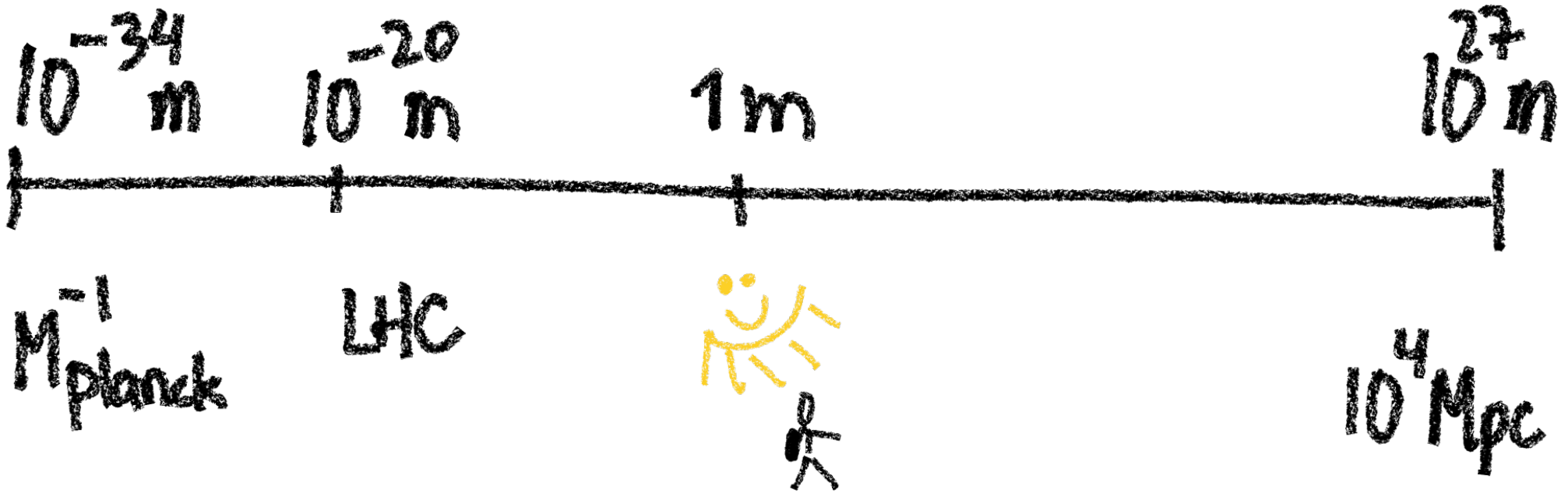
# Particle physics + Cosmology

shortest and longest distances



# Particle physics + Cosmology

"Nano, Bio, Geo, Astro"



# largest fundamental particle mass

● mass  $m$

~ Compton wave length  $\lambda = \hbar/m$

○ Schwarzschild radius  $r = G_N m$

want  $r < \lambda$  (otherwise our particle is a classical black hole)

$$\Rightarrow m < \sqrt{G_N^{-1}} \equiv M_{\text{planck}}$$

# Shortest distance



probe distance  $l$  requires energy  $E > \frac{1}{2}e$



concentrated energy has b.h. horizon  $r = G_N E$



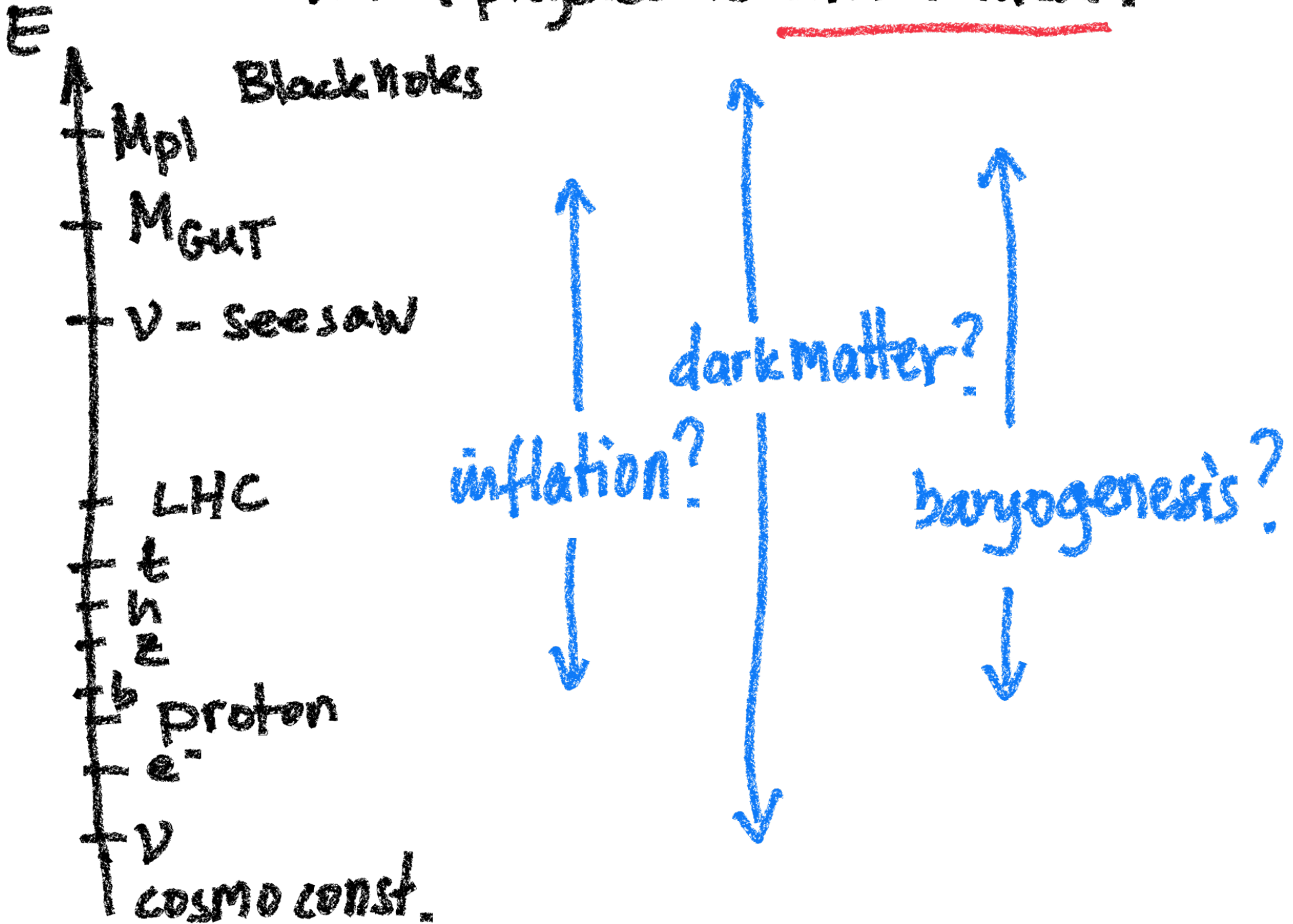
to not form a b.h. we must have

$$r < l$$

$$\Rightarrow l > \sqrt{G_N} \equiv l_{\text{planck}}$$



# Fundamental physics is hierarchical!



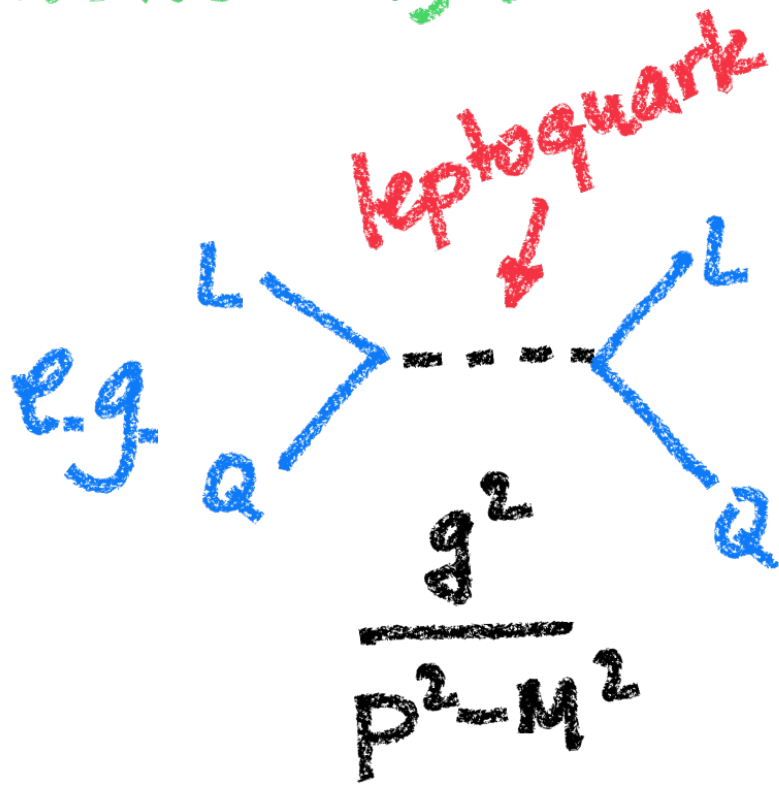
What generates these hierarchies?

- $m_p \sim \Lambda_{\text{QCD}} \sim M_{\text{pl}} e^{-\int \frac{d\alpha}{\beta(\alpha)}}$

dimensional transmutation!

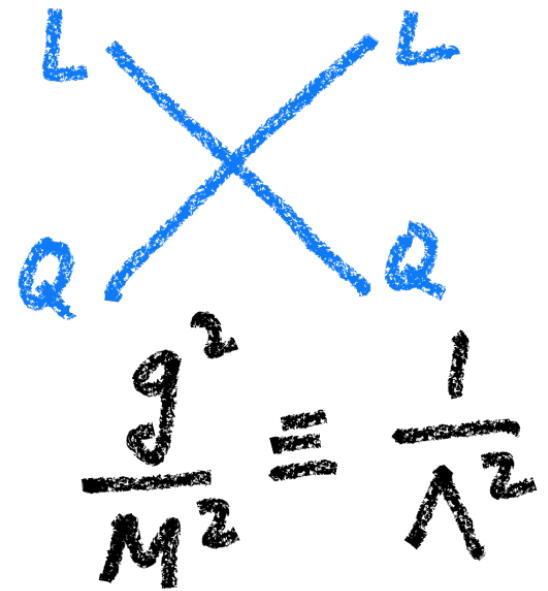
- $m_{\text{weak}}?$  don't know, hierarchy problem

Strategy: write effective Lagrangian  
with high scale physics integrated out



$p \ll M$

→



write all allowed couplings of SM fields and  
measure coefficients in experiments

systematically... order terms by mass dimension

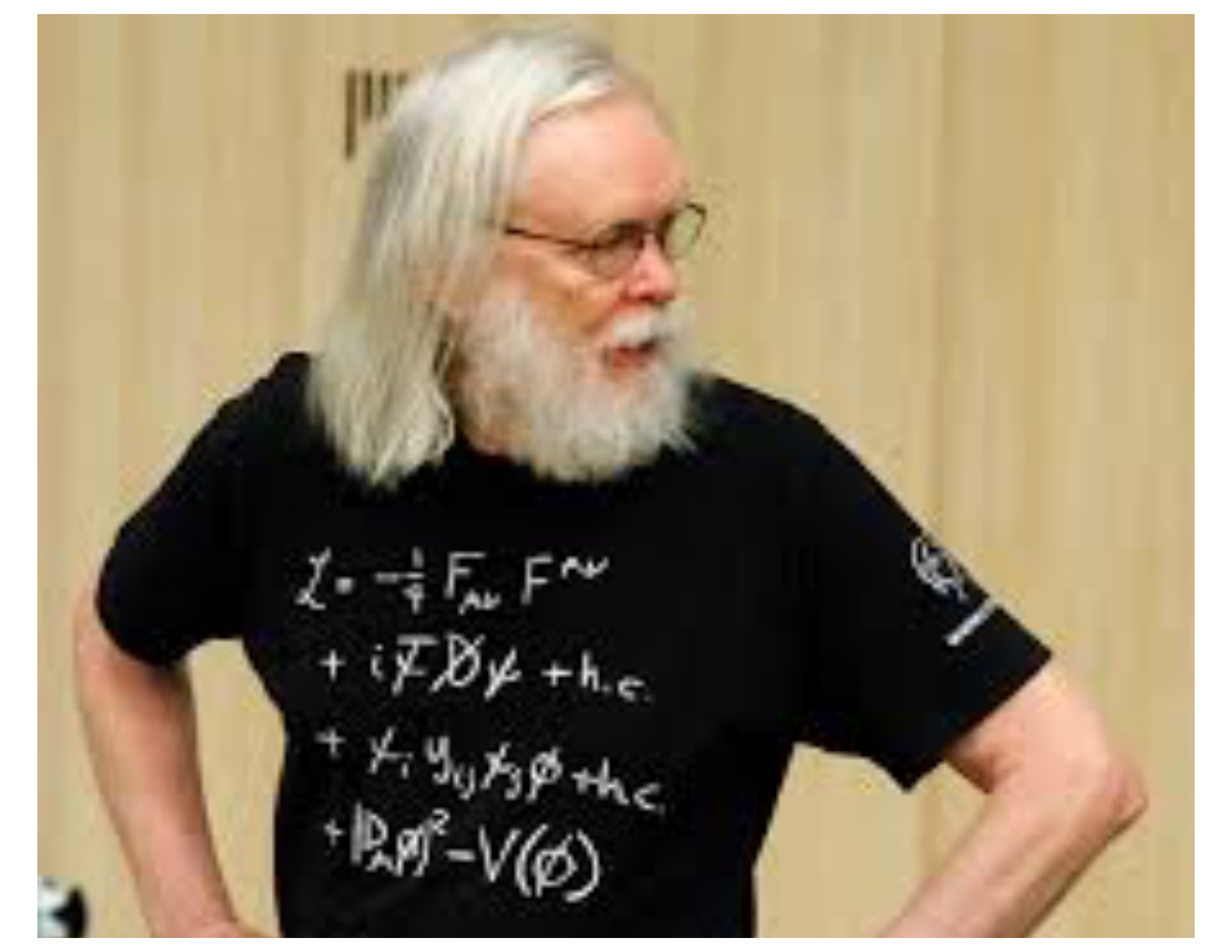
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = \Lambda^4 + \Lambda^2 H^\dagger H + \lambda (H^\dagger H)^2 + \underbrace{\mathcal{L}_{\text{kinetic}}^{\text{SM}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{Yukawa}}^{\text{SM}}}_{\text{dim 4, coefficients dimensionless}} \leftarrow \text{the SM}$$

dim 5  $+$   $\frac{(L_\mu H)^2}{\Lambda}$

dim 6  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} + \frac{H^\dagger D_\mu H H^\dagger D^\mu H}{\Lambda^2} + \frac{H^\dagger D_\mu H \bar{e}_R \gamma^\mu e_R}{\Lambda^2} + \frac{H^\dagger \sigma^a H W_{\mu\nu}^a B^{\mu\nu}}{\Lambda^2} \\ + \frac{H^\dagger H B_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu}}{\Lambda^2} + \frac{H^\dagger H W_{\mu\nu}^a W_a^{\mu\nu}}{\Lambda^2} + \dots \end{array} \right.$   $> 80$  more at dimension 6

$+ \text{dim} > 6$





The image shows a man with long white hair and a full white beard, wearing glasses and a black t-shirt. The t-shirt features a list of mathematical terms in white ink, representing a Lagrangian density. The terms are arranged vertically and include a kinetic term for a gauge field, a fermion kinetic term, a Yukawa interaction, and a scalar field kinetic and potential term.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} = & -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} \\ & + i\bar{\psi} \not{D} \psi + \text{h.c.} \\ & + \bar{\psi}_i y_{ij} \psi_j \phi + \text{h.c.} \\ & + \frac{1}{2} (D_\mu \phi)^\dagger (D^\mu \phi) - V(\phi) \end{aligned}$$



Example:

$$\frac{H^\dagger D_\mu H H^\dagger D^\mu H}{\Lambda^2}$$

$\partial_\mu + ig Z_\mu$   $v+h$

four Higgs scattering! ✗

but also ...  $\underbrace{g^2 v^2}_{m_z^2} \frac{v^2}{\Lambda^2} Z_\mu Z^\mu$  ... a Z mass correction

$$\frac{\delta m_z^2}{m_z^2} \approx \frac{v^2}{\Lambda^2} \quad v = 246 \text{ GeV}$$

no shift in W-mass  $\Rightarrow m_W = m_Z \cos\theta$  violated

$$\frac{\delta m_z^2}{m_z^2} = \frac{v^2}{\Lambda^2}$$

Experimental precision:  $\frac{\delta m_w}{m_w} \sim 2.4 \cdot 10^{-4}$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{v^2}{2\Lambda^2} \lesssim 2.4 \cdot 10^{-4}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Lambda \gtrsim v \cdot 46 \approx 11 \text{ TeV}$$

indirect precision test probes 11 TeV!

$\left\{ \Lambda = \frac{M_{Z'}}{g'} \right.$ , "typical"  $Z'$   $g' \sim \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}$  dropped in calculation  
 $\Rightarrow M_{Z'} \gtrsim 3 \text{ TeV}$  similar to direct limits  $\left. \right\}$

$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}}$  has  $\infty$  number of undetermined coefficients

• useful as expansion  $\frac{\partial_\mu \partial^\mu}{\Lambda^2} \rightarrow \frac{p^2}{\Lambda^2} \ll 1$

• also  $\frac{v^2}{\Lambda^2}$

•  $\delta m_Z$

•  $\frac{H^\dagger \partial_\mu H \bar{e}_R \gamma^\mu e_R}{\Lambda^2} \rightarrow g \frac{v^2}{\Lambda^2} \bar{e}_R \cancel{Z}_\mu \gamma^\mu e_R$



$$\frac{\delta g}{g} \sim \frac{v^2}{\Lambda^2} \Rightarrow \Lambda \gtrsim \text{few TeV} \quad (\text{LEP})$$



## back to Effective SM

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = \Lambda^4 + \Lambda^2 H^\dagger H + \mathcal{L}_4 + \frac{\mathcal{L}_5}{\Lambda} + \frac{\mathcal{L}_6}{\Lambda^2} + \dots$$

- expansion in  $1/\Lambda$ , valid when  $p, m_{\text{SM}}, v \ll \Lambda$

- $\Lambda \sim$  scale of NP

- coefficients free parameters, determined by experiment.

If UV physics known, calculate coeffs in terms of UV parameters

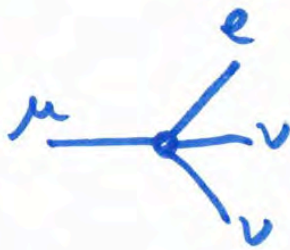


Assume a non-zero coeff in  $\mathcal{L}_6$  measured  $\Rightarrow \Lambda$  known

$\Rightarrow$  guarantee of new physics

$$\Lambda \sim \frac{M}{g} \Rightarrow M \sim g\Lambda \leq 4\pi\Lambda \quad \text{upper bound!}$$

- Historical example: muon decay



$$\frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \sim \frac{1}{(200 \text{ GeV})^2}$$

Nature was nice:  $M_W = 80 \text{ GeV}$ ,  $g < 1$



# current situation:

• neutrino mass  $(LH)^2/\Lambda$        $m_\nu \sim \frac{v^2}{\Lambda} \sim 0.1 \text{ eV}$

$\Rightarrow \Lambda \sim 10^{14} \text{ GeV} \Rightarrow M \lesssim 10^{15} \text{ GeV}$

(or neutrino is Dirac  $LH\nu_R$ )

• gravity  $g_{\mu\nu} \frac{\partial^\mu H^\dagger \partial^\nu H}{M_{\text{pl}}}$        $\Lambda \sim M_{\text{pl}}$  new physics @  $M_{\text{pl}}$   
    ↑  
    graviton

• B physics  $R_{K^{(*)}}$  ??       $\Lambda \approx 30 \text{ TeV}$

⇒ currently no direct evidence for a low  
NP scale ☹

indirect? Naturalness

# Naive Naturalness

contributions to  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}}$  from NP at mass scale  $\Lambda$

$$\mathcal{L} \sim C_4 \Lambda^4 + C_2 \Lambda^2 H^\dagger H + C_{01} \begin{pmatrix} t \\ b \end{pmatrix}_L H t_R + C_{02} \begin{pmatrix} \nu \\ e \end{pmatrix}_L \tilde{H} e_R + \dots$$
$$+ \dots + C_{-2} \frac{(H^\dagger D_\mu D^\mu H)^2}{\Lambda^2} + \dots$$

with  $\Lambda$  scale of NP,  $C_i$  numbers of order 1 ?

Note if there are multiple NP scales  $\Lambda$  then

$C_{-2}$  terms dominated by the lowest scale

$C_2, C_4$  " " " " highest "

$C_0$  contributions from all scales

# Experimental values?

•  $C_{-2}$  no solid evidence for NP nearby

•  $C_0$   $\lambda_H \sim g_1 \sim g_2 \sim g_3 \sim \lambda_{\text{top}} \sim O(1)$  ← natural

$$\lambda_b \sim \lambda_c \sim \lambda_s \sim 10^{-2}$$

$$\lambda_s \sim \lambda_\mu \sim 10^{-3}$$

$$\lambda_u \sim \lambda_d \sim 10^{-5}$$

$$\lambda_e \sim 10^{-6}$$

unnatural  
"flavor problem"

$$\theta_{\text{QCD}} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}$$

$$\theta < 10^{-10}$$

← strong CP problem

•  $C_2$   $m_H^2 H^\dagger H$   $m_H \ll \Lambda \sim M_{\text{pl}}$  ← EW hierarchy problem

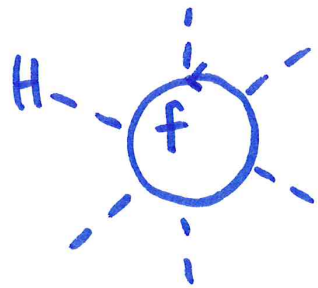
•  $C_4$   $c_4 \Lambda^4 \sim 10^{-120} M_{\text{pl}}^4$  ← CC problem



$C_2$  &  $C_4$  most interesting because sensitive to highest scales,  
most problematic! are they actually generated?

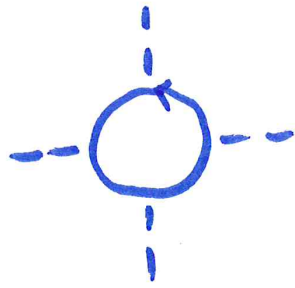
Trees? No  $\frac{1}{p^2 - M^2} \rightarrow \frac{1}{M^2} + \frac{p^2}{M^4} + \dots$

Loops? Yes



$$\frac{\lambda^6}{16\pi^2} \frac{(H^\dagger H)^3}{M^2}$$

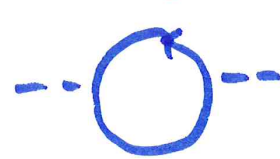
$C_{-2}$



$$\frac{\lambda^4}{16\pi^2} \log \frac{M}{\Lambda} (H^\dagger H)^2$$

$C_0$

after regulating and subtracting cut-off



$$\frac{\lambda^2}{16\pi^2} M^2 H^\dagger H$$

$C_2$



$$\frac{1}{16\pi^2} M^4$$

$C_4$



- ignore  $c_4 \Delta^4 \longrightarrow$  anthropics? (Weinberg)
- $m_H^2 H^\dagger H$  contributions from any NP with coupling to H

$$-\overset{\lambda}{\text{---}} \textcircled{\text{NP}} \overset{\lambda}{\text{---}} - \sum_{\text{NP}} \#_i \frac{\lambda_i^2}{16\pi^2} M_i^2 \sim \text{largest scale in theory } M_{\text{pl}}^2$$

$$m_H^2 = m_{H,\text{base}}^2 + \sum \# \frac{\lambda^2}{16\pi^2} M^2 \stackrel{\text{exp.}}{=} (125 \text{ GeV})^2$$

$\Rightarrow$  extreme fine-tuning (conspiracy)

# Solutions ?

- ignore the problem

- Higgs is composite at scales above  $m_H$



Hydrogen is a scalar, it's mass is not renormalized by UV physics

- symmetries, technical naturalness

# Symmetries $\rightarrow$ technical naturalness

idea:

$$\text{---} \textcircled{\text{NP}} \text{---} = \sum \#_i \frac{\lambda_i^2}{16\pi^2} (M_i^2 - (M_i^2 + \delta M_i^2))$$

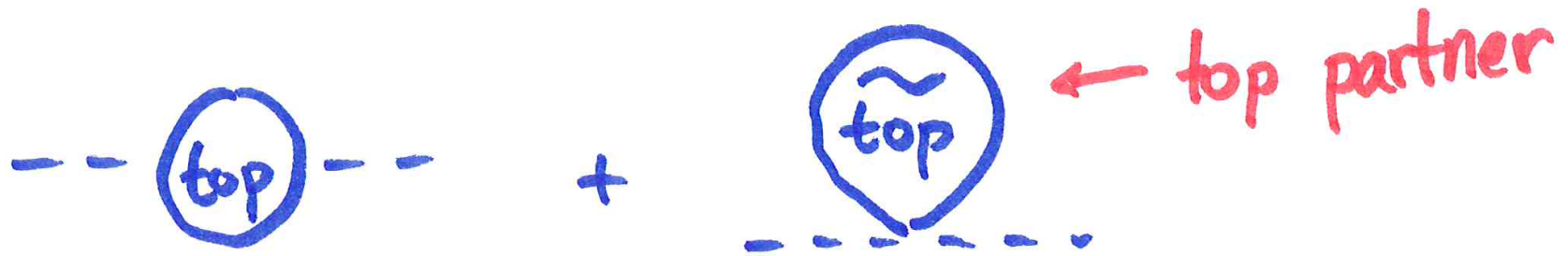
$$\approx \sum \delta M_i^2$$

partners related by symmetry

natural if  $\delta M_i \lesssim \frac{4\pi}{\lambda_i} m_{\text{Higgs}}$

$\Rightarrow$  predict partners with relations between couplings & masses

most important example ( $\lambda_{\text{top}} \approx 1$ )



$$m_{\tilde{\text{top}}} \lesssim 4\pi m_{\text{Higgs}} \approx \text{TeV}$$

Aside ... why are there no large NP contributions to the electron mass?

SM:  $e_R, (\nu_e)_L$   $\xrightarrow{e} \textcircled{\text{NP}} \xrightarrow{e} ?$

Dirac  $m_{UV} e_R^\dagger e_L$

not gauge invariant

Majorana  $m_{UV} e_R e_R$

" "

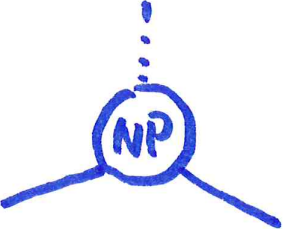
$e_R^\dagger e_R$

not Lorentz invariant



$e^-$  mass requires Higgs doublet

$$\lambda_e (\bar{\nu} \ e)_L^\dagger H e_R \Rightarrow m_e = \lambda_e v \quad \leftarrow 10^{-6}$$

1.  $\lambda_e$  dimensionless ( $C_0$ )  $\Rightarrow$    $\propto \log(m_{uv})$   
at worst
2.  $\lambda_e$  is "technically natural" in SM

't Hooft: small parameter is technically natural if setting it to zero leads to a new symmetry of  $\mathcal{L}$ .



# $e^-$ chiral symmetry

$$e_R \rightarrow e^{i\theta} e_R, \text{ all other fields invariant}$$

check: $e_R^\dagger \not\propto e_R$	$\lambda_e (\bar{e})_L^c H e_R$
invariant	not invariant

$\lambda_e$  is only parameter which breaks  $e_R$  chiral symmetry

$\Rightarrow$  if all other couplings in  $\mathcal{L}_{SM} + \mathcal{L}_{NP}$  preserve C.S.

then any loop correction to  $\lambda_e$  is proportional to  $\lambda_e$

$\Rightarrow$  at worst  $\delta\lambda_e \sim \lambda_e \frac{g^2}{16\pi^2} \log \frac{m_{UV}}{m_{weak}} \lesssim \lambda_e$  ← technical naturalness

## $e^-$ lessons:

1.  $e^-$ -mass forbidden in SM,  $\lambda_e$  is dimensionless  
 $\Rightarrow$  not dominated by highest scales

2.  $\lambda_e$  is protected by chiral symmetry  $e_R \rightarrow e^{i\theta} e_R$   
"technically natural."

$\Rightarrow \lambda_e \sim 10^{-6}$  is preserved by NP corrections

$\Rightarrow \lambda_e \sim 10^{-6}$  might be determined in far UV ☹️ for LHC

is  $m_H^2$  "technically natural"? (in the SM)

$$m_H^2 H^\dagger H$$

Lorentz + gauge + "chiral" invariant

↖  $H \rightarrow e^{i\theta} H$

⇒ no enhancement when  $m_H^2 \rightarrow 0$

⇒ Higgs mass not protected when SM coupled to physics at large scales

$$\delta m_H^2 (\dots 0 \dots) \propto m_{UV}^2$$

can we extend the SM to make  $m_H^2$  natural?  
↑  
technically

i.e. extend SM such that  $m_H^2 \rightarrow 0$  gives rise to  
a new symmetry.

[ one example: SUSY      SM  $\rightarrow$  MSSM

$m_H^2 \rightarrow 0$  restores SUSY. ]



# Little Higgs theories (shift symmetry)

Aside  $\gamma$ : how is the photon mass protected?

$m_\gamma^2 A_\mu A^\mu$  not gauge invariant  $A_\mu \rightarrow A_\mu + \partial_\mu \theta$

$\Rightarrow m_\gamma^2 = 0$  is technically natural because shift symmetry appears when  $m_\gamma \rightarrow 0$ .

check: photon couplings  $\bar{\Psi} (\partial_\mu + iA_\mu) \gamma^\mu \Psi$  are invariant

$$\Psi \rightarrow e^{-i\theta} \Psi, \quad A_\mu \rightarrow A_\mu + \partial_\mu \theta$$



extend the SM to implement shift symmetry

$$H \rightarrow H + \zeta \quad \leftarrow \text{constant}$$

- $m_H^2 H^\dagger H$  not invariant 😊
- also forbids  $\begin{pmatrix} t \\ b \end{pmatrix}_L^\dagger H t_R$  😞

only  $\partial_\mu H$  couplings allowed. Scalars with shift symmetry arise as Nambu Goldstone bosons from spontaneous breaking of global symmetries

# Simplest little Higgs

implement a global symmetry into the SM such that top yukawa is allowed but H is pseudo-NGB such that  $m_H^2$  is technically natural.

Simplest example  $SU(3)_{\text{global}} \rightarrow SU(2)$

little Higgs example in 5 steps ...

Cohen: hep-ph/0105239  
Review: hep-ph/0502182

# 1. Scalar field theory with $SU(3)$ (global)

triplet  $\phi = \begin{pmatrix} \phi_1 \\ \phi_2 \\ \phi_3 \end{pmatrix}$

$SU(3)$ :  $\phi \rightarrow U\phi \equiv e^{i\zeta} \phi$ ,  $\zeta = \zeta^a T^a$

*3x3 Hermitian*

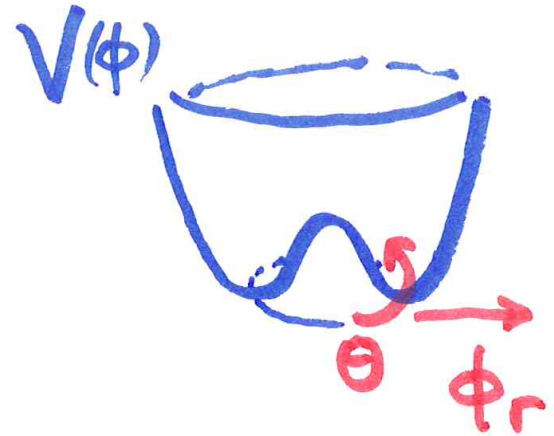
$\phi^\dagger \phi \rightarrow \phi^\dagger \underbrace{U^\dagger U}_{=1} \phi$  invariant!

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{L} = \partial_\mu \phi^\dagger \partial^\mu \phi - V(\phi^\dagger \phi)$  is  $SU(3)$  invariant

## 2. spontaneous breaking, Nambu-Goldstone bosons

$$V(\phi^\dagger\phi) = \lambda (\phi^\dagger\phi - f^2)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle \phi^\dagger\phi \rangle = f^2 \text{ or } \langle \phi \rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ f \end{pmatrix} \left. \vphantom{\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ f \end{pmatrix}} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{SU(2)} \\ \text{unbroken} \end{array}$$



"polar" coordinates:  $\phi = e^{i\theta/f} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ f + \phi_r \end{pmatrix}$

$\uparrow$  massless  $\leftarrow$  heavy

$$\text{SU(3): } \phi \rightarrow e^{i\zeta} e^{i\theta/f} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ f \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \theta \rightarrow \theta + \zeta$$

If  $\mathcal{L}$  preserves SU(3), then  $\theta \rightarrow \theta + \zeta$  is symmetry.

$\Rightarrow$  no  $m^2\theta^2$  mass!



3. Where is the Higgs doublet  $H$ ?

$$\phi = e^{i\theta/f} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ f \end{pmatrix} \quad \theta = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & \vdots & H \\ 0 & 0 & \vdots & \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \\ H^\dagger & \vdots & \vdots & \theta_0 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow \text{there}$$

$$\phi \approx \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ f \end{pmatrix} + i \begin{pmatrix} H \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \dots \leftarrow \text{doublet under unbroken } SU(2) \rightarrow SU(2)_{\text{weak}}!$$

$$\partial_\mu \phi^\dagger \partial^\mu \phi \rightarrow \partial_\mu H^\dagger \partial^\mu H + \dots$$

$$V(\phi^\dagger \phi) \rightarrow H \text{ independent}$$

$\Rightarrow$  theory of "Higgs" doublet with no mass, no potential.  
a Nambu Goldstone boson.



# 4. SU(3) and the top Yukawa coupling

top yukawa:  $\lambda \begin{pmatrix} t \\ b \end{pmatrix}_L^\dagger H t_R$

want SU(3):  $\lambda \begin{pmatrix} t \\ b \\ T \end{pmatrix}_L^\dagger \phi t_{R1} + \tilde{f} T_L^\dagger t_{R2}$

breaks SU(3)  
"softly"

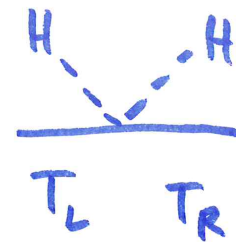
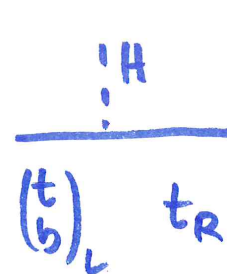
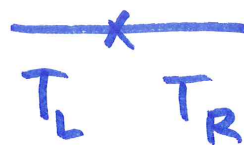
expanding...

$$\phi = \begin{pmatrix} t \\ b \\ T \end{pmatrix} + i \begin{pmatrix} H \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} - \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ H+H \\ f \end{pmatrix} t_{\dots}$$

$$\lambda f T_L^\dagger (t_{R1} + t_{R2}) + i \lambda \begin{pmatrix} t \\ b \end{pmatrix}_L^\dagger H t_{R1} - \frac{1}{2} \lambda \frac{H+H}{f} T_L^\dagger t_{R1} \dots$$

↑  $T_R$ 
↑  $T_R, t_R$

↑ T-mass
↑  $\lambda_t$



# 5. Higgs mass corrections from top + T

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \text{H} \text{---} \lambda \text{---} \text{O} \text{---} \lambda \text{---} \text{H} \quad \sim \frac{\lambda^2}{16\pi^2} (\Lambda^2 + m_t^2) \\
 \text{---} \lambda f \text{---} \text{O} \text{---} \text{T} \\
 \text{---} \lambda f \text{---} \text{---} \quad \sim -\frac{\lambda^2}{16\pi^2} (\Lambda^2 + m_T^2)
 \end{array}
 \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{l} \text{H} \text{---} \lambda \text{---} \text{O} \text{---} \lambda \text{---} \text{H} \\ \text{---} \lambda f \text{---} \text{O} \text{---} \text{T} \\ \text{---} \lambda f \text{---} \text{---} \end{array}} \right\} \delta m_H^2 = -6 \frac{\lambda_t^2}{16\pi^2} (m_T^2 - m_t^2)$$

$\Rightarrow$  natural for  $m_T \sim \lambda f \lesssim \frac{4\pi}{\sqrt{6}} m_h \sim \text{TeV}$

# A full little Higgs theory has

$$m_H^2 \sim m_{H_{\text{bare}}}^2 - \frac{\lambda_t}{16\pi^2} (m_T^2 - m_t^2) + \frac{g^2}{16\pi^2} (m_{W'}^2 - m_W^2) + \frac{\lambda^2}{16\pi^2} (m_{H'}^2 - m_H^2) \dots$$

T      t                  W'      W                  H'      H  
↓      ↓                  ↓      ↓                  ↓      ↓

partners with biggest couplings give biggest corrections

⇒ need to be lightest

$$10\% \text{ tuning} \Rightarrow \left. \begin{array}{l} m_T \lesssim \text{TeV} \\ m_{W'} \lesssim 2\text{TeV} \\ m_{H'} \lesssim 5\text{TeV} \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{already} \\ \text{ruled out by LHC} \end{array}$$

# SM effective Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L} \sim \Lambda^2 H^\dagger H + \dots \lambda_e (\nu)_L^\dagger H e_R + \dots$$

↑  
not natural  
for  $m_H^2 \ll M_{NP}$

⇒ NP must be  
"close by" ( $\sim \text{TeV}$ )

↑  
unnaturally small couplings  
 $\lambda_e \sim 10^{-6}$  are technically  
natural

⇒ NP corrections  
 $\delta\lambda_e \propto \lambda_e$ , small

$$\frac{\mathcal{L}_6}{\Lambda^2} + \dots$$

↑  
probe NP  
with precision  
measurements