

# Scale invariance and the electroweak symmetry breaking

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**with R. Foot, K.L. McDonald and R. R. Volkas:**

**Phys. Lett. B655 (2007)156-161**

**Phys. Rev. D76 (2007) 075014**

**Phys. Rev. D77 (2008) 035006**

**Phys. Rev. D82 (2010) 035005**

**Phys. Rev. D84 (2011) 075010**

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# Motivation

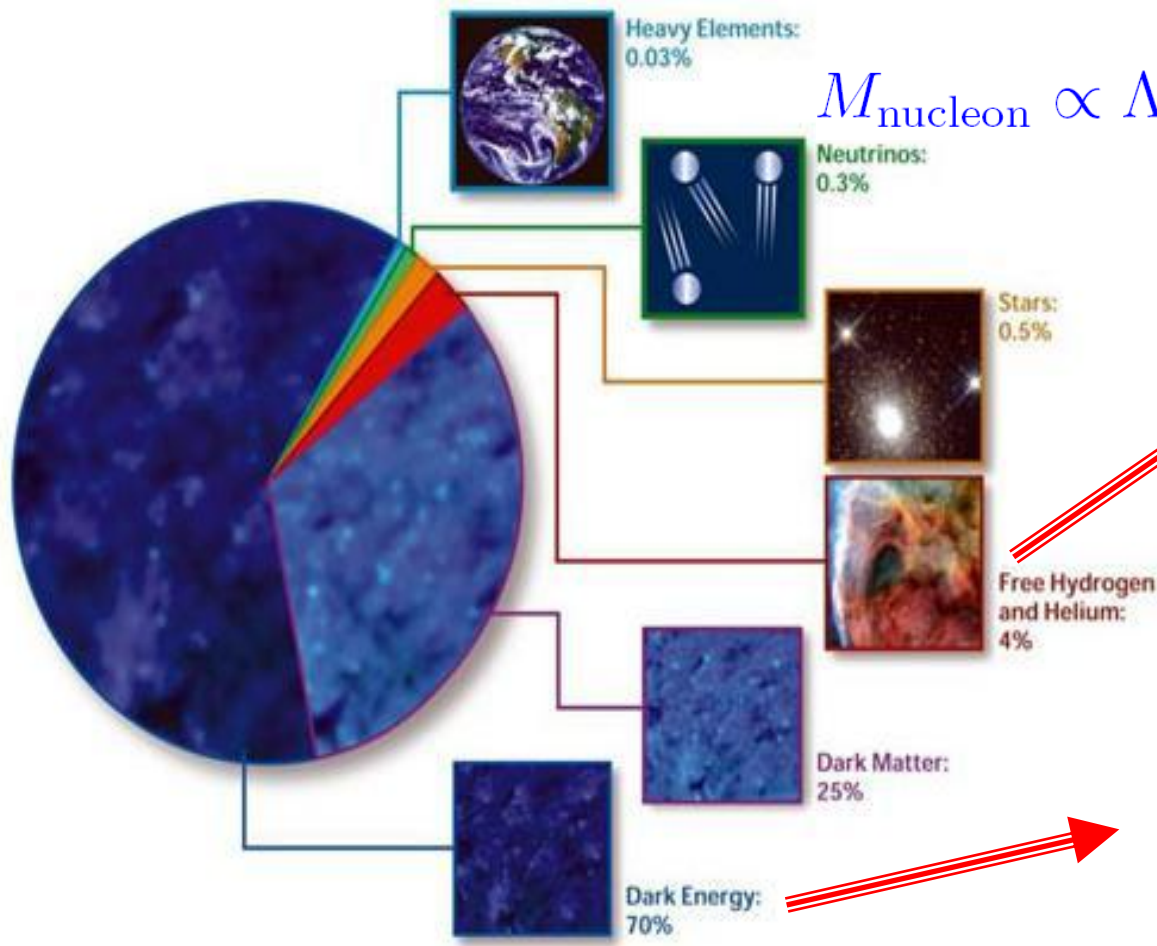
- Scale invariance is a global symmetry under rescaling of coordinates and fields according to their canonical dimensions

$$x_\mu \rightarrow tx_\mu, \quad S(x) \rightarrow tS(tx), \quad V_\mu(x) \rightarrow tV_\mu(tx), \quad F(x) \rightarrow t^{3/2}F(tx)$$

- Scale invariance is typically an anomalous symmetry, that is, in most of the physically relevant theories it is an **exact symmetry of the classical action** [ $\sim \mathcal{O}(\hbar^0)$ ] and is **broken by quantum corrections** [ $\sim \mathcal{O}(\hbar)$ ].
- If the scale invariance is not an exact symmetry of the full theory why does it matter?

# Motivation

Precedent in Nature: The mass of the visible matter is essentially emerges from the quantum dynamics of (nearly) scale-invariant strong interactions



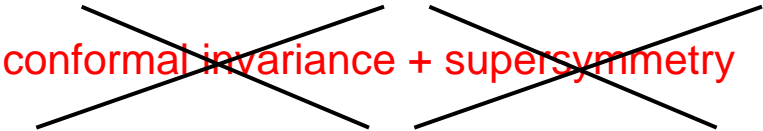
$$M_{\text{nucleon}} \propto \Lambda_{\text{QCD}} \implies \Lambda_{\text{QCD}} \approx \mu e^{\frac{2\pi}{b\alpha_s(\mu)}}$$

(dimensional transmutation)

$$\Lambda_{\text{exp}} = 10^{-120} \Lambda_{\text{theor}}$$

(vac. fluc. of quantum fields)

# Motivation

- It is conceivable to think that all the masses are generated quantum mechanically through the mechanism of dimensional transmutation in classically scale invariant theories.
- Non-perturbative scenarios – **technicolour models and alike**. However, typically predict (super)heavy Higgs boson, incompatible with the LHC discovery of a Higgs-like particle of mass  $m_h \approx 125.5 \text{ GeV}$  announced at this conference.
- Dimensional transmutation is a generic phenomenon which exist in perturbative theories as well [S.R. Coleman and E.J. Weinberg, 1973].
- Classical scale invariance maybe a low-energy remnant of a fundamental theory. E.g., in string theory:  


conformal invariance + supersymmetry
- **Classical scale invariance resolves the problem of quadratic “divergences”**

# Scale invariance and quadratic “divergences”

- Wilsonian effective theory with cut-off scale  $\Lambda$ :

$$Z_\Lambda[J_S] = \int DS \exp \left( i \int d^4x [\mathcal{L}_\Lambda + J_S S] \right)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_\Lambda = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu S)^2 - \frac{1}{2}m^2(\Lambda)S^2 - \frac{\lambda(\Lambda)}{4}S^4 + \dots$$

- Compute quantum corrections:

$$m_R^2(\mu) = m^2(\Lambda) + \frac{3\lambda}{16\pi^2} \left[ \Lambda^2 - m^2(\Lambda) \log(\Lambda^2/\mu^2) \right]$$

- Thus, a light scalar,

$$m_R^2 \ll \Lambda^2$$

is “unnatural” (hierarchy problem)

# Scale invariance and quadratic “divergences”

- Suppose the underline theory is scale-invariant:

$$Z[J_S, J_H] = \int [DS DH] \exp \left( i \int d^4x [\mathcal{L} + J_S S + J_H H] \right)$$

$$\mathcal{L}[tS, tH] = t^4 \mathcal{L}[S, H]$$

- Then

$$m_R^2(\Lambda) = 0 = m^2(\Lambda) + \frac{3\lambda}{16\pi^2} \Lambda^2$$

is a natural **renormalization condition** which is imposed due to the absence of a mass parameter in the scale-invariant bare Lagrangian [Foot, A.K., Volkas; Meissner, Nicolai, 2007].

- (Anomalous) Ward-Takahashi identity [W.A. Bardeen, 1995]:

$$T_\mu^\mu = \sum_i \beta_i(\lambda) \mathcal{O}_i$$

- Masses are generated from spontaneous breaking of scale invariance through the mechanism of **dimensional transmutation**.

# Scale-invariance: how does it work?

## A. Classical (tree-level) approximation

- Scale invariance is an exact global symmetry.

$$x_\mu \rightarrow tx_\mu, \quad S(x) \rightarrow tS(tx), \quad V_\mu(x) \rightarrow tV_\mu(tx), \quad F(x) \rightarrow t^{3/2}F(tx)$$

- Scale-invariant classical potential 
$$V_0(S_i) = \sum_{i,j,k,l} \lambda_{ijkl} S_i S_j S_k S_l$$

- Hyper-spherical parameterization:

$$S_i(x) = r(x) \cos \theta_i(x) \prod_{k=1}^{i-1} \sin \theta_k(x) \quad V_0(r, \theta_i) = r^4 f(\lambda_{ijkl}, \theta_i)$$

- VEV equation:

$$\left. \frac{\partial V_0}{\partial r} \right|_{r=\langle r \rangle, \theta_i=\langle \theta_i \rangle} = 0 \implies f(\lambda_{ijkl}, \langle \theta_i \rangle) = 0, \langle r \rangle \neq 0$$

a.  $r(x)$  is massless (Goldstone theor.):  $m_r^2 \equiv \left. \frac{d^2 V_0}{dr^2} \right|_{r=\langle r \rangle, \theta_i=\langle \theta_i \rangle} = 12 \langle r \rangle^2 f(\lambda_{ijkl}, \langle \theta_i \rangle) = 0$

b. Cosmological const. is zero:  $\Lambda_0 \equiv V_0(\langle r \rangle, \langle \theta_i \rangle) = \langle r \rangle^4 f(\lambda_{ijkl}, \langle \theta_i \rangle) = 0$

# Scale-invariance: how does it work?

## B. Quantum corrections

- Scale invariance is not an exact symmetry in quantum world. E.g., quantum corrections modify the scalar potential [S.R. Coleman and E.J. Weinberg, 1973]:

$$V = A(g_a(\mu), m_x(\mu), \theta_i(\mu), \mu) r^4(\mu) + B(g_a(\mu), m_x(\mu), \theta_i(\mu), \mu) r^4(\mu) \log \left( \frac{r^2(\mu)}{\mu^2} \right) \\ + C(g_a(\mu), m_x(\mu), \theta_i(\mu), \mu) r^4(\mu) \left[ \log \left( \frac{r^2(\mu)}{\mu^2} \right) \right]^2 + \dots$$

- $\mu$  is an arbitrary renormalization scale; physics does not depend on  $\mu$ , that is,

$$\mu \frac{dV}{d\mu} \equiv \left( \mu \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} + \sum_a \beta_a \frac{\partial}{\partial g_a} + \sum_x \gamma_x \frac{\partial}{\partial m_x} - \gamma_r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} - \sum_i \gamma_i \theta_i \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_i} \right) V = 0$$

- Take  $\mu = \langle r \rangle$ , then RG equations are:

$$B(\mu = \langle r \rangle) = \frac{1}{2} \mu \frac{\partial A}{\partial \mu} \Big|_{\mu=\langle r \rangle}, \\ C(\mu = \langle r \rangle) = \frac{1}{4} \mu \frac{\partial B}{\partial \mu} \Big|_{\mu=\langle r \rangle}$$



# Scale-invariance: how does it work?

## B. Quantum corrections

- The VEV equation:

$$\frac{dV}{dr} = 0 \Rightarrow A(\mu = \langle r \rangle) + 2B(\mu = \langle r \rangle) = 0,$$

determines  $\langle r \rangle$  in terms of running dimensional coupling(s) (dimensional transmutation)

- PGB dilaton mass:

$$m_r^2 = (2B + 8C)\langle r \rangle^2$$

Evidently, the vacuum stability requires:  $B + 4C \geq 0$

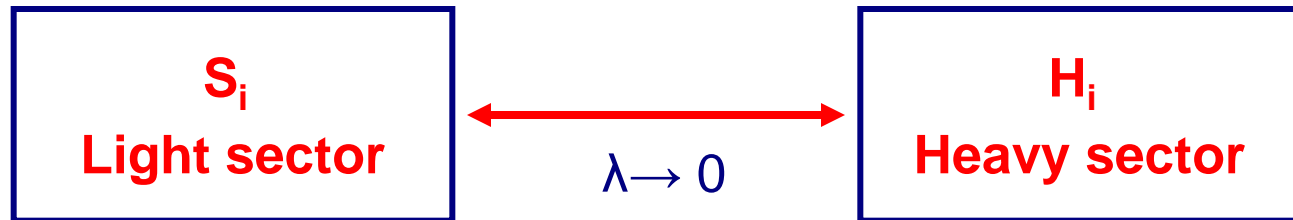
- Cosmological constant:  $\Lambda = -2B\langle r \rangle^4$
- Perturbative series:

$$A \approx A^{(0)} = f(\lambda_{ijkl}, \theta_i), \quad B \approx B^{(1)} = \frac{1}{64\pi^2 \langle r \rangle^4} [3\text{Tr}m_V^4 + \text{Tr}m_S^4 - 4\text{Tr}m_F^4],$$

$$C \approx C^{(2)} = \frac{1}{64\pi^2 \langle r \rangle^4} [3\text{Tr}m_V^4 \gamma_V + \text{Tr}m_S^4 \gamma_S - 4\text{Tr}m_F^4 \gamma_F]$$

# Scale-invariance: how does it work?

- $\langle r \rangle$  -- defines the overall scale in the theory
- Hierarchies of scales are defined by  $\langle \theta_i \rangle = \phi_i(\lambda)$
- Mass hierarchies in the scale-invariant theories can be maintained only through the **hierarchies in dimensionless couplings**. These hierarchies are technically natural if decoupling limit can be achieved. This is a limit, when heavy sector fields completely decouple from the light sector fields when certain couplings are taken to zero [R. Foot, A. K., K.L. McDonald, R.R. Volkas, Phys. Rev. D77 (2008) 035006; R. Foot, A. K., R.R. Volkas, Phys. Rev. D82 (2010) 035005].



# Scale-invariant models

- Scale-invariant Standard Model [S.R. Coleman and E.J. Weinberg, 1973]:

$$\phi(x) = \frac{r(x)}{\sqrt{2}} e^{i\pi^a(x)\tau^a}, \quad V_0 = \frac{\lambda}{2} (\phi^\dagger \phi)^2 = \frac{\lambda}{8} r^4$$

- Higgs is the PGB dilaton:

$$m_h^2 \approx \frac{1}{8\pi^2 v_{\text{EW}}^2} [6m_W^4 + 3m_Z^4 - 12m_t^4] < 0$$

No electroweak symmetry breaking in the scale-invariant SM

- Successful EWSB in scale-invariant theories requires extension of the bosonic sector of the Standard Model.

R. Hempfling *Phys. Lett.* B379 (1996) 153;

W.-F. Chang *et al.* *Phys.Rev.* D75 (2007) 115016;

K.A. Meissner *et al.* *Phys.Lett.* B648 (2007) 312

T. Hambye *et al.* *Phys.Lett.* B659 (2008) 651;

S. Iso *et al.* *Phys.Lett.* B676 (2009) 81;

M. Holthausen *et al.* *Phys.Rev.* D82 (2010) 055002; L.Alexander-Nunneley *et al.* *JHEP* 1009 (2010) 021; ...

# Scale-invariant models

- **Minimal scale-invariant Standard Model** [R. Foot, A. K., R.R. Volkas, Phys. Lett. B655 (2007)156-161]:

$$V_0 = \frac{\lambda_1}{2} (\phi^\dagger \phi)^2 + \frac{\lambda_2}{4} S^4 + \frac{\lambda_3}{2} (\phi^\dagger \phi) S^2 = \frac{r^4}{8} (\lambda_1 \cos^4 \theta + 2\lambda_2 \sin^4 \theta + 2\lambda_3 \sin \theta \cos \theta)$$

- Demanding cancellation of the cosmological constant the dilaton mass is generated at 2-loop. A light dilaton is a generic prediction of such class of models [R. Foot, A. K., arXiv:1112.0607].

$$V_{\min} = -2B = 0 \implies m_r^2 = 8C \langle r \rangle^2$$

$$m_r \approx 7 - 10 \text{ GeV}$$

- Higgs mass prediction:  $m_h \approx 12^{1/4} m_t \approx 300 \text{ GeV}$

**Excluded by LHC**

# Dark matter: Scale-invariant mirror world

- Scale-invariant scalar potentials are automatically invariant under discrete  $Z_2$  symmetry. If  $Z_2$  is unbroken some heavy scalar states are stable and can play the role of dark matter.
- However, some recent experiments (DAMA/LIBRA, CoGeNT) provide evidence for light (7-15 GeV) dark matter particles. The best explanation of these experiments is provided by the mirror dark matter models [R. Foot, H. Lew and R. R. Volkas, Phys. Lett. B272, (1991) 67; R. Foot, Phys. Rev. D 78 (2008) 043529; Phys. Lett. B692 (2010)].
- Scale-invariant mirror world models are discussed in: R. Foot, A.K. and R. R. Volkas Phys. Lett. B655 (2007)156-161; Phys. Rev. D82 (2010) 035005 and R. Foot, A. K., arXiv:1112.0607. Extended scalar sector has further motivation due to the mirror symmetry doubling.
- Higgs sector, besides the light dilaton, contains two neutral Higgs scalars:

$$m_H = (24m_t^4 - m_h^4)^{1/4} \approx 355 \text{ GeV}$$

# Neutrino masses in scale-invariant models

- Different possibilities of neutrino mass generation is discussed in R. Foot, A. K., K.L. McDonald, R.R. Volkas, Phys. Rev. D76 (2007) 075014.
- One particular model contains extra electroweak triplet scalar particle  $\Delta$ (type II see-saw) [R. Foot, A. K., arXiv:1112.0607]:

$$m_{\Delta} = (2m_t^4 - m_h^4/6)^{1/4} \approx 190 \text{ GeV}$$

# Conclusions

- Scale invariance: all mass scales have purely quantum mechanical origin.
- Very simple models with classical scale invariance are capable to resolve the hierarchy problem without introducing supersymmetry and/or other exotics. Some of the predictions are testable at LHC and/or future linear collider
- Electroweak scale invariant models with vanishing CC generically predict a light dilaton.
- Realistic scale-invariant models require extended bosonic sector with masses correlated with the masses of the Higgs boson and the top quark.
- Hopefully, some of the features of scale-invariant theories described in this talk will be observed at LHC.