

1. Explicit symmetry breaking and pseudo-Goldstone bosons

a) $E=0$:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_0 &= \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \phi_i \partial^\mu \phi_i + \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \phi_2 \partial^\mu \phi_2 + \frac{\mu^2}{2} ((\phi_1)^2 + (\phi_2)^2) - \frac{\lambda}{4} ((\phi_1)^2 + (\phi_2)^2)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \phi_i \partial^\mu \phi_i + \frac{\mu^2}{2} \phi_i \phi_i - \frac{\lambda}{4} (\phi_i \phi_i)^2, \quad i=1,2 \end{aligned}$$

- The symmetry group of the Lagrangian is $SO(2)$ (If we consider discrete symmetries). The action of $SO(2)$ over the fields ϕ_i is given by.

$$\phi_i \rightarrow R_{ij} \phi_j,$$

where $R_{ij} \in SO(2)$. Rewriting ϕ_i as $\begin{pmatrix} \phi_1 \\ \phi_2 \end{pmatrix}$, the transformation is

$$\begin{pmatrix} \phi_1 \\ \phi_2 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \phi'_1 \\ \phi'_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \alpha & \sin \alpha \\ \sin \alpha & \cos \alpha \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \phi_1 \\ \phi_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

for $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$. Notice that $\phi_i \phi_i = \phi'_i \phi'_i \Rightarrow \mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}'$

- Ground states: we now proceed to minimize the potential.

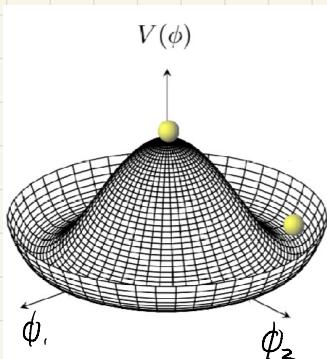
$$V(\phi_i) = -\frac{\mu^2}{2} \phi_i \phi_i + \frac{\lambda}{4} (\phi_i \phi_i)^2.$$

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial \phi_i} = 0 \rightarrow -\mu^2 \phi_i + \lambda (\phi_i \phi_j) \phi_j = 0$$

$(-\mu^2 + \lambda \phi_j \phi_j) \phi_i = 0$, Note: $\phi_i = 0$ is a local maximum of V .

$$\lambda \phi_j \phi_j = \mu^2$$

$$\phi_i \phi_i = \frac{\mu^2}{\lambda} = V^2$$



The ground states correspond to constant field configurations $\phi_i(x) = \phi_i$ such that $\phi_i \phi_i = V^2$, where $V = \frac{\mu}{\sqrt{\lambda}}$

•) Noether currents:

Lets choose a ground state ϕ_i and perform an infinitesimal transformation, (i.e. $\alpha \ll 1$)

$$\phi_1' = \cos \alpha \phi_1 + \sin \alpha \phi_2 = \phi_1 + \alpha \phi_2 + O(\alpha^2)$$

$$\phi_2' = -\sin \alpha \phi_1 + \cos \alpha \phi_2 = \phi_2 - \alpha \phi_1 + O(\alpha^2)$$

↓

$$\delta \phi_1 = \alpha \phi_2$$

$$\delta \phi_2 = -\alpha \phi_1$$

The Noether currents, j^μ , is given by:

$$\alpha j^\mu = \frac{\delta \mathcal{L}}{\delta \partial_\mu \phi_i} \delta \phi_i$$

$$\rightarrow \alpha j_\mu = (\partial_\mu \phi_1)(\alpha \phi_2) + (\partial_\mu \phi_2)(-\alpha \phi_1)$$

$$j_\mu = \phi_2 \partial_\mu \phi_1 - \phi_1 \partial_\mu \phi_2 = -\phi_1 \overleftrightarrow{\partial}_\mu \phi_2$$

•) Nambu-Goldstone boson:

$SU(2)$ has one generator and the condition $\phi_i \phi_i = V^2$ breaks $SU(2)$ invariance, thus there is one Nambu-Goldstone boson.

Lets consider the ground state $\phi_i = S_{i2} V$, and expand ϕ_i around it: $\phi_i = h_i$, and $\phi_2 = V + h_2$. The Lagrangian, after this field redefinition, becomes:

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu h_i \partial_\mu h_i + \frac{\mu^2}{2} (h_i^2 + h_2^2 + 2h_2 V + V^2) - \frac{\lambda}{4} (h_i^2 + h_2^2 + 2h_2 V + V^2)^2$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu h_i \partial_\mu h_i + (h_i^2 + h_2^2 + 2h_2 V + V^2) \left(\underbrace{\frac{\mu^2}{2}}_{= \lambda V^2/2} - \frac{\lambda}{4} (h_i^2 + h_2^2 + 2h_2 V + V^2) - \frac{\lambda}{4} V^2 \right)$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu h_i \partial_\mu h_i + (h_1^2 + h_2^2 + 2h_2 v + v^2) \frac{\lambda}{4} (v^2 - (h_1^2 + h_2^2 + 2h_2 v))$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu h_i \partial_\mu h_i - \frac{\lambda}{4} (h_1^2 + h_2^2 + 2h_2 v)^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4} v^4$$

Notice h_1 is massless. It corresponds to the Goldstone mode (around $\phi_i = \delta_{ij} \phi_0$, i.e. up to linear order)

Remark: The solution above is valid for any other ground state we choose, e.g. $\phi_i = R_{iz} v$, with $R_{ij} \in SO(2)$, and the expansion around the ground state given by

$$\phi_i = R_{iz} (h_j + \delta_{iz} v) = R_{iz} h_j + R_{iz} v.$$

This parametrization is useful to study the spectrum of perturbations around a given ground state.

However, a more general parametrization, similar to the one discussed in PS2, can be used in this problem:

Let's define the following complex field:

$$\bar{\Phi} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\phi_1 + i \phi_2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \bar{\Phi}^* \bar{\Phi} = \frac{1}{2} (\phi_1^2 + \phi_2^2) = \frac{1}{2} \phi_1 \phi_2$$

The Lagrangian \mathcal{L}_0 is rewritten in terms of $\bar{\Phi}$ as:

$$\mathcal{L}_0 = \partial_\mu \bar{\Phi}^* \partial_\mu \bar{\Phi} + \mu^2 \bar{\Phi}^* \bar{\Phi} - \lambda (\bar{\Phi}^* \bar{\Phi})^2,$$

and rewriting $\bar{\Phi}$ as $\bar{\Phi}(x) = (v + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} h(x)) e^{i \theta(x)/v}$,

the Lagrangian becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_0 = & \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu h \partial_\mu h + \left(1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{h}{v}\right)^2 \partial_\mu \theta \partial_\mu \theta \\ & + \mu^2 \left(v + \frac{h}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^2 - \lambda \left(v + \frac{h}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^4 \end{aligned}$$

↳ θ is massless and corresponds to the Nambu-Goldstone

mode. This parametrization is independent of the ground state we choose, and is useful for discussing the Higgs phenomenon, as we saw in PS2.

b) We consider now $\epsilon \neq 0$.

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \phi_i \partial_\mu \phi_i + \frac{\mu^2}{2} \phi_i \phi_i - \frac{\lambda}{4} (\phi_i \phi_i)^2 + \epsilon U(\phi_i)$$

The $SU(2)$ -symmetry is explicitly broken, as U depends non-trivially on the field ϕ_i .

Let's first determine the ground state(s). We consider constant field configuration ϕ_1 and ϕ_2 which minimize now the potential

$$V' \equiv V(\phi_i) - \epsilon U(\phi_i)$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi_i} [V(\phi_i) - \epsilon U(\phi_i)]$$

$$0 = -\mu^2 \phi_i + \lambda(\phi_j \phi_j) \phi_i - \epsilon \delta_{ij} U'$$

$$0 = (-\mu^2 + \lambda \phi_j \phi_j) \phi_i - \epsilon U' \delta_{ij}$$

We get
two equations:

$$\begin{cases} 0 = (-\mu^2 + \lambda \phi_j \phi_j) \phi_1 - \epsilon U'(\phi_1) & (i) \\ 0 = (-\mu^2 + \lambda \phi_j \phi_j) \phi_2 - \epsilon U'(\phi_2) & (ii) \end{cases}$$

Solutions to (i) and (ii) will minimize V' if the mass matrix $M_{i,j}^2$ is positive definite. The components $M_{i,j}^2$ are given by:

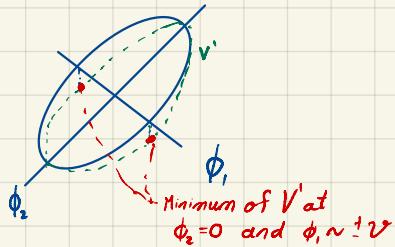
$$\begin{aligned} M_{ij}^2 &= \frac{\partial^2 V - \epsilon \partial^2 U}{\partial \phi_i \partial \phi_j} \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi_i} \left(-\mu^2 \phi_j + \lambda (\phi_k \phi_k) \phi_j - \epsilon \delta_{ij} U' \right) \\ &= -\mu^2 \delta_{ij} + 2\lambda \phi_i \phi_j + \lambda (\phi_k \phi_k) \delta_{ij} - \epsilon \delta_{ij} \delta_{ij} U'' \end{aligned}$$

From (ii), and depending on \mathcal{U} , there are two cases: $\phi_2 = 0$ or $\phi_1, \phi_2 = v^2$

Case 1: $\phi_2 = 0 \Rightarrow$ Then (i) becomes an equation for ϕ_1 ,

E.g.

$$\mathcal{U}(\phi_1) = \frac{\mu \phi_1^2}{2}$$



$$0 = (-\mu^2 + \lambda \phi_1^2) \phi_1 - \epsilon \mathcal{U}'(\phi_1) \quad (\star)$$

and m^2 becomes:

$$m^2 = \begin{pmatrix} -\mu^2 + 3\lambda v^2 - \epsilon \mathcal{U}'' & 0 \\ 0 & -\mu^2 + \lambda v^2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} m_1^2 & 0 \\ 0 & m_2^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Now for $|\epsilon| \ll 1$, we notice that the ground state is at $\phi_1 \sim \pm v$. Let's expand (\star) around $\pm v$, with $\phi_1 \equiv \phi_{\pm} \equiv \pm v + \epsilon h_{\pm}$

$$\hookrightarrow 0 = (-\mu^2 + \lambda(\pm v + \epsilon h_{\pm})^2)(\pm v + \epsilon h_{\pm}) - \epsilon \mathcal{U}'(\pm v + \epsilon h_{\pm})$$

$$0 = \lambda(\pm 2v \epsilon h_{\pm})(\pm v) - \epsilon \mathcal{U}'(\pm v) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2)$$

$$2\lambda v^2 h_{\pm} = \mathcal{U}'(\pm v) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon) \Rightarrow h_{\pm} = \frac{\mathcal{U}'(\pm v)}{2\lambda v^2}$$

$$\boxed{\phi_{\pm} = \pm v + \frac{\epsilon v}{2\lambda v^2} \mathcal{U}'(\pm v) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2)}$$

Also:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \phi_{\pm}^2 = v^2 + \frac{\epsilon v}{\mu^2} \mathcal{U}'(v_{\pm}) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2) \\ \epsilon \mathcal{U}''(\phi_{\pm}) = \epsilon \mathcal{U}''(v) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2) \end{array} \right.$$

Thus, up to $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon)$, we get

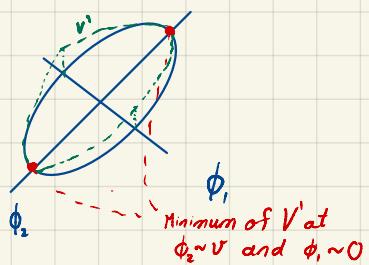
$$\begin{aligned} m_1^2 &= -\mu^2 + 3\lambda v^2 + \frac{3\lambda}{2} \epsilon \frac{v}{\mu^2} \mathcal{U}'(v_{\pm}) - \epsilon \mathcal{U}''(v_{\pm}) \\ &= 2\mu^2 + \epsilon \left(\frac{3}{2} \frac{\sqrt{\lambda}}{\mu} \mathcal{U}'(v_{\pm}) - \mathcal{U}''(v_{\pm}) \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$m_2^2 = -\mu^2 + \lambda v^2 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\epsilon v}{\mu^2} \mathcal{U}'(v)$$

$m_2^2 = \epsilon \frac{\sqrt{\lambda}}{2} \mu \mathcal{U}'(v) \rightarrow \phi_2$ is the 'pseudo-Goldstone boson'

Case 2: $\phi_2 \neq 0 \Rightarrow \mu^2 = \lambda \phi_i \phi_i$

c.g. $U(\phi_i) = -\frac{\mu^2}{2} \phi_i^2$



$$\phi_i \phi_i = v^2 = \frac{\mu^2}{\lambda}$$

$$(i) \Rightarrow O = -\varepsilon U'(\phi_i)$$

$$O = -\varepsilon U'(\phi_i)$$

$$\Rightarrow \phi_2 \approx v$$

Note: In general one can perform a rotation $\phi_i' = R_{ij} \phi_j$, s.t. a minimum of V is near $\phi_i' = \delta_{ii} v$

The mass matrix in this case is

$$M_{ij}^2 = -\mu^2 \delta_{ij} + 2\lambda \phi_i \phi_j + \underbrace{2\lambda (\phi_k \phi_k) \delta_{ij}}_{= \mu^2} - \varepsilon \delta_{ii} \delta_{jj} U''$$

$$M_{ij}^2 = 2\lambda \phi_i \phi_j - \varepsilon \delta_{ii} \delta_{jj} U''$$

Similar to

$$M^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 2\lambda \phi_1 \phi_1 - \varepsilon U'' & 2\lambda \phi_1 \phi_2 \\ 2\lambda \phi_2 \phi_1 & 2\lambda \phi_2 \phi_2 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\sim} \begin{pmatrix} m_1^2 & 0 \\ 0 & m_2^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \det M = 4\lambda^2 \phi_1^2 \phi_2^2 - 2\lambda \phi_1 \phi_2 \varepsilon U'' - 4\lambda^2 \phi_1^2 \phi_2^2 = m_1^2 m_2^2 \\ \text{tr } M = \underbrace{4\lambda \phi_1 \phi_2}_{= 4\lambda v^2} - \varepsilon U'' = 4\mu^2 - \varepsilon U'' = m_1^2 + m_2^2 \end{array} \right.$$

$$\Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} -2\lambda \phi_2^2 \varepsilon U'' = m_1^2 m_2^2 \\ 4\mu^2 - \varepsilon U'' = m_1^2 + m_2^2 \end{array} \right.$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \phi_2 = v + O(\varepsilon) \\ \phi_1 = O(\varepsilon) \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} -2\mu^2 \varepsilon U'' = m_1^2 m_2^2 + O(\varepsilon^2) \\ 4\mu^2 - \varepsilon U'' = m_1^2 + m_2^2 + O(\varepsilon^2) \end{array} \right.$$

Up to $O(\varepsilon)$, we get:

$$4\mu^2 - \varepsilon U'' = m_1^2 - \frac{2\varepsilon \mu^2 U''}{m_1^2}$$

$$0 = m_1^4 - m_1^2 (4\mu^2 - \varepsilon U'') - 2\varepsilon \mu^2 U''$$

$$m_{\pm}^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left[(4\mu^2 - \epsilon U'') \pm \sqrt{(4\mu^2 - \epsilon U'')^2 + 8\epsilon \mu^2 U''} \right]$$

We get the masses:

$$m_1^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left(4\mu^2 - \epsilon U'' - \sqrt{16\mu^4 + \epsilon^2 U''^2} \right)$$

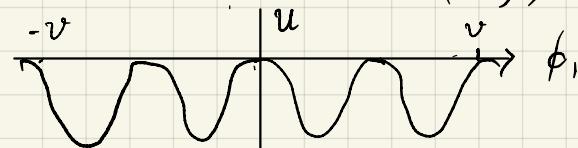
$$m_1^2 = -\frac{1}{2} \epsilon U'' + O(\epsilon^2), \text{ Note: } U'' < 0 \text{ at the minimum of } V.$$

$$m_2^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left(4\mu^2 - \epsilon U'' + \sqrt{16\mu^4 + \epsilon^2 U''^2} \right)$$

$$m_2^2 = 2\mu^2 - \frac{1}{2} \epsilon U'' + O(\epsilon^2)$$

In this case, ϕ_1 corresponds to the "pseudo Goldstone mode"

Conclusion: Which case, (i) or (ii), one should consider depends on the explicit form of U , and it might happen that it has several minima and both cases are relevant. E.g. $U(\phi_1) = -\mu^2 \sin^2(n\pi \frac{\phi_1}{v})$.



In any case, there are two massive modes, of masses

$$m_s = 2\mu^2 + O(\epsilon),$$

$$m_p = O(\epsilon),$$

corresponding to a scalar and a pseudo Goldstone boson, respectively.

2. Higgs phenomenon in $SU(2) \times U(1)$

a) Vacuum Manifold:

$$\text{Let's Minimize } V(H) = \lambda \left(H^\dagger H - \frac{v^2}{2} \right)^2$$

Note that $V(H) \geq 0$, thus if $V(H)=0$, then H is at the minimum of V .

$$V(H)=0 \Rightarrow H^\dagger H - \frac{v^2}{2} = 0$$

$$H^\dagger H = \frac{v^2}{2}$$

Then, the constant field configurations $H(x)=H$, such that $H^\dagger H = \frac{v^2}{2}$, minimize the potential. The set of all such configurations, up to gauge transformations, is the vacuum manifold:

$$\mathcal{M} = \left\{ H = \begin{pmatrix} H_1 \\ H_2 \end{pmatrix} \mid H_i \in \mathbb{C}, H^\dagger H = \frac{v^2}{2} \right\} / G$$

where $G = SU(2) \times U(1)$. (Note: H and H' are equivalent if there is a gauge transformation $g \in G$, such that $H' = gH$.)

Remark: Since we want to minimize the total energy, W_n^a and B_n are pure gauge configurations. For simplicity we set them $W_n^{a(v)} = B_n^{(v)} = 0$. Let's choose a ground state, namely $H^{(v)} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}$ (Known as unitary gauge). An unbroken generator, Q , is a Hermitian matrix such that

$$Q H^{(v)} = 0 \quad (\text{equivalently } e^{i\theta Q} H^{(v)} = H^{(v)})$$

For our specific choice (unitary gauge), with $Q = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$:

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\Rightarrow c=d=0$, and from Hermiticity $a=1$, $c=0$ (setting

$$\text{Tr}[Q,Q]=2) \Rightarrow Q = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = T^3 + Y$$

$$\text{where } T^3 = \frac{\sigma^3}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad Y = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus, we see there is only one unbroken generator and correspondingly an unbroken subgroup $U(1)_Q$

b) Let's now write the potential around $H^{(v)}$:

$$H = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v+h \end{pmatrix}$$

$$H^\dagger H = \frac{1}{2} (v+h)^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow V(H) &= \lambda / (H^\dagger H - \frac{v^2}{2})^2 \\ &= \lambda (vh + \frac{h^2}{2})^2 \\ &= \underbrace{\lambda v^2 h^2}_{m_h^2} + \lambda vh^3 + \underbrace{\lambda h^4}_{\frac{m_h^2}{2} h^2} \\ &= \frac{m_h^2}{2} h^2 \rightarrow m_h = \sqrt{2\lambda} v \end{aligned}$$

$$V(h) = \frac{m_h^2}{2} h^2 + \frac{m_h^2}{2v} h^3 + \frac{m_h^2}{8v^2} h^4$$

$$\begin{aligned} c) \quad D_\mu H &= \partial_\mu H + \left[-i \frac{g}{2} W_\mu^1 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} - i \frac{g}{2} W_\mu^2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{ig}{2} W_\mu^3 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} - i \frac{g}{2} B_\mu \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right] H \end{aligned}$$

$$\hookrightarrow D_1 H = \left(-\frac{ig}{2\sqrt{2}} (W_\mu^1 - iW_\mu^2)(v+h) \right. \\ \left. - \frac{i}{2\sqrt{2}} (g^1 B_\mu - g^3 W_\mu^3)(v+h) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \partial_\mu h \right)$$

Let's introduce W_μ^\pm, Z_μ and A_μ :

$$W_\mu^\pm = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (W_\mu^1 \mp iW_\mu^2)$$

$$Z_\mu = \frac{1}{\sqrt{g^2 + g'^2}} (g^1 W_\mu^3 - g^3 B_\mu)$$

$$A_\mu = \frac{1}{\sqrt{g^2 + g'^2}} (g^1 B_\mu + g^3 A_\mu^3)$$

In terms of W_μ^+ , Z^μ and A_μ , the covariant derivative is now

$$\hookrightarrow D_\mu H = \left(-\frac{igv}{2} W_\mu^+ \right) + \left(-\frac{igW_\mu^+ h}{2\sqrt{2}} \right) + \left(\frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} \partial_\mu h + \frac{i\sqrt{g^2 + g'^2}}{2\sqrt{2}} v Z \right)$$

and the kinetic term becomes (to the quadratic part)

$$[(D_\mu H)^+ (D^\mu H)]^{(2)} = \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu h \partial^\mu h + \frac{g^2 v^2}{2} W_\mu^+ W^\mu_- + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{(g^2 + g'^2)v^2}{4} \right) Z_\mu^2$$

From the above, we conclude that W_μ^+ , W_μ^- and Z acquire masses m_{W^\pm} and m_Z , respectively.

d)

$$m_h = \sqrt{2\lambda} v$$

$$m_{W^\pm} = \frac{g}{2} v$$

$$m_Z = \frac{\sqrt{g^2 + g'^2}}{2} v$$

$$m_A = 0$$

We conclude by summarizing the symmetry breaking pattern:

$$SU(2) \times U(1) \longrightarrow U(1)_Q$$

$$(3 \text{ generators}) \quad (1 \text{ generator}) \longrightarrow 1 \text{ generator } A_\mu \rightarrow \text{It remains massless}$$

+ 3 would be Nambu-Goldstone Bosons.

\hookrightarrow They end up being eaten by

$$W_\mu^+, W_\mu^- \text{ and } Z_\mu$$