

# GAUGE-INVARIANT SPECTRUM IN THE WEAK SECTOR OF THE STANDARD MODEL

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## I. Motivation & Background

- ◇ Gauge-invariant formulation of Higgs theories
- ◇ The Fröhlich-Morchio-Strocchi mechanism
- ◇ Spectrum of the weak SM

## II. Gauge-invariant spectrum from lattice calculations

- ◇ SU(2) scalar-fermion-gauge system as a proxy to the weak sector of the SM
- ◇ Gauge-invariant bound states on the lattice
- ◇ First preliminary results and conclusions

## Motivation & Background

Gauge-invariant spectrum from lattice calculations

# Perturbative approach

- ▷ Consider an SU(2) gauge-scalar theory with Brout-Englert-Higgs (BEH) effect

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}W_{\mu\nu}^a W^{a,\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} (D_\mu \phi)^\dagger (D^\mu \phi) + \lambda (\phi^\dagger \phi - v^2)^2$$

- ▷ Classical minimum at  $\phi^\dagger \phi = v^2$
- ▷ Introduce shift with fluctuations around the minimum

$$\phi(x) = \langle \phi(x) \rangle + \varphi(x) = vN + \varphi(x)$$

- ▷ Inserting this into  $\mathcal{L}$  results in a mass term for the gauge bosons with  $m_W \propto v$

## This construction is gauge-dependent

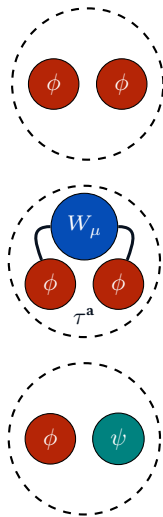
- ! There are gauges in which  $\langle \phi(x) \rangle = 0$  and gauge bosons remain massless
- ! Elementary fields cannot be treated as physical degrees of freedom

# Gauge-invariant approach

- ▷ In perturbation theory, elementary fields are treated as asymptotic states, although they are not gauge-invariant
- ▷ Asymptotic states must be described by **gauge-invariant composite objects**, i.e., bound-state operators<sup>†</sup>
- ▷ One needs to construct gauge-invariant objects with the same global quantum numbers as the elementary fields
  - ◇ Gauge-invariant scalar:  $\phi(x) \rightarrow (\phi^\dagger \phi)(x)$
  - ◇ Gauge-invariant vector boson:  $W_\mu^a(x) \rightarrow (\tau^a \phi^\dagger D_\mu \phi)(x)$
  - ◇ Gauge-invariant left-handed fermion:  $\psi(x) \rightarrow (\phi^\dagger \psi)(x)$

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<sup>†</sup>Inherently non-perturbative methods are required to obtain physical quantities



## Open questions

- Why does perturbation theory reproduce the physical spectrum of the weak SM?
- Are there any differences between the two approaches?

▷ Answers for both questions lie in a **gauge-invariant formulation** of quantum field theories → Fröhlich-Morchio-Strocchi (FMS) mechanism

Fröhlich, Morchio, Strocchi, Phys. Lett. B97 (1980)

Fröhlich, Morchio, Strocchi, Nucl. Phys. B190 (1981)

▷ Example: consider the scalar bound state  $\mathcal{O}_{0+}(x) = \phi^\dagger(x)\phi(x)$

- ◇ Rewrite the propagator using  $\phi(x) = vN + \varphi(x)$  and  $h(x) = \text{Re}\{N^\dagger\phi(x)\}$

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_{0+}(x) \mathcal{O}_{0+}^\dagger(y) \rangle = \text{const} + 4v^2 \langle h(x) h^\dagger(y) \rangle_{\text{tl}} + \langle h(x) h^\dagger(y) \rangle_{\text{tl}}^2 + \mathcal{O}(g^2, \dots)$$

- ◇ Mass pole of bound state coincides (to first order) with the mass pole of the elementary correlator  $\langle h(x) h^\dagger(y) \rangle$

Maas, Sondenheimer, Phys. Rev. D 102 (2020), 2009.06671

Dudal *et al.*, Eur. Phys. J. C 81 (2020), 2008.07813

# Spectrum of the weak SM

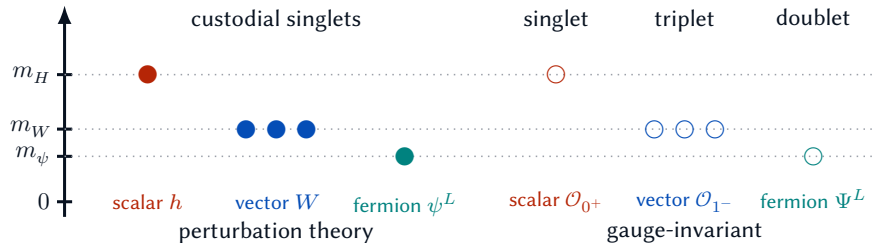
- ▷ FMS mechanism predicts a **one-to-one mapping** between gauge-dependent and gauge-invariant states and explains why perturbation theory is successful

- ▷ A similar construction for the vector boson shows agreement as well

Dudal *et al.*, Eur. Phys. J. C 81 (2020), 2008.07813

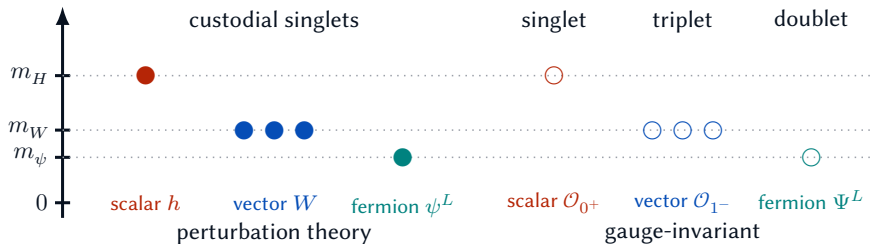
- ▷ Confirmed by lattice calculations

Maas, Mufti, JHEP 1404 (2014), 1312.4873



# Spectrum of the weak SM

- ▷ Left-handed fermions are not gauge-invariant  $\rightarrow$  construct bound state  $\Psi^L = \phi^\dagger \psi^L$
- ▷ Employ the **FMS mechanism**:  $\langle \Psi^L(x) \bar{\Psi}^L(y) \rangle = v^2 |N|^2 \langle \psi^L(x) \bar{\psi}^L(y) \rangle + \mathcal{O}(\varphi)$   
Fröhlich, Morchio, Strocchi, Phys. Lett. B97 (1980)  
Fröhlich, Morchio, Strocchi, Nucl. Phys. B190 (1981)
- ▷ Has been confirmed for vectorial leptons on the lattice  
Afferrante *et al.*, SciPost Phys. 10 (2021), 2011.02301



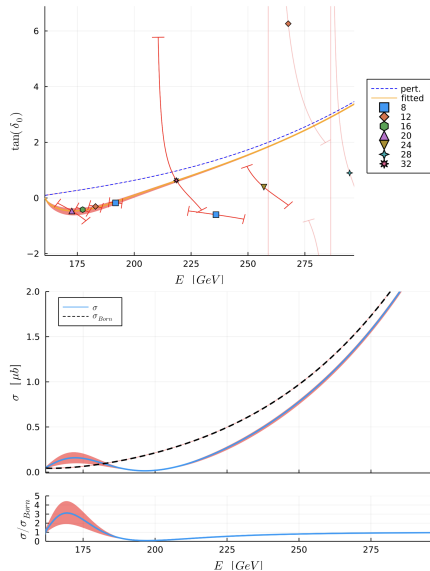


# Deviations at higher orders

- ▷ Differences between perturbation theory and a gauge-invariant approach have been identified for **vector boson scattering** (VBS)

Jenny, Maas, Riederer, Phys. Rev. D 105 (2022), 2204.02756

- ▷ Experimentally, it is easier to access **fermions**
  - ◇ Search for signatures related to the bound state structure of observables
  - ◇ Determine phase shifts for, e.g.,  $e^+e^-$  scattering
  - ◇ Determine the substructure of bound states via quasi-PDFs and form factors
- ▷ Are these signatures measurable?



# Why bother?

- ▷ Deepen understanding of QFT
  - ◇ Learn more about the fundamental field-theoretical effects related to gauge invariance
  - ◇ What if the FMS mechanism is not the answer?
- ▷ Implications for future experiments
  - ◇ Set baseline for future measurements
  - ◇ Avoid false positive regarding new physics
- ▷ Phenomenological implications
  - ◇ The weak sector of the SM is special, since  $SU(2)_w \rightarrow SU(2)_c$
  - ◇ Model building should focus on custodial (global) group

## Motivation & Background

Gauge-invariant spectrum from lattice calculations

# SU(2) scalar-fermion-gauge theory

## Two generations of leptons

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L} = & -\frac{1}{4}W_{\mu\nu}^a W^{a,\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2}\text{tr} \left[ (D_\mu X)^\dagger (D^\mu X) \right] - \frac{\lambda}{4} (\text{tr} [X^\dagger X] - v^2)^2 \\ & + \sum_g \bar{\psi}_g^L i \not{D} \psi_g^L + \sum_f \bar{\chi}_f^R i \not{\partial} \chi_f^R - \sum_f \sum_g y_{f,g} \left[ (\bar{\psi}_g^L X)_{f,g} \chi_f^R + \bar{\chi}_f^R (X^\dagger \psi_g^L)_{f,g} \right]\end{aligned}$$

- ▷ Matrix-valued field  $X$  which contains the components of the usual scalar doublet  $\phi$
- ▷ Two generations of left-handed Weyl spinors gauged under the weak interaction

$$\psi_{g=1}^L = (\nu_e^L \quad e^L)^\top \quad \psi_{g=2}^L = (\nu_\mu^L \quad \mu^L)^\top$$

- ▷ Four flavors of ungauged right-handed Weyl spinors  $\chi_f^R = (\nu_e^R \quad e^R \quad \nu_\mu^R \quad \mu^R)^\top_f$
- ▷ Symmetries for  $y_{f,g} = 0$ : local  $\text{SU}(2)_w$  & global  $\text{SU}(2)_c$ ,  $\text{SU}(2)_{\text{Lg}}$ ,  $\text{SU}(4)_{\text{Rf}}$

# Lattice setup

- ▷ Chiral nature of the weak gauge theory poses conceptual problems
- ▷ SM-like proxy that replaces the Weyl fermions by Dirac spinors
- ▷ Same symmetries with additional possibility to break generation/flavor symmetry explicitly
- ▷ Does not interfere with FMS predictions

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L} = & -\frac{1}{4}W_{\mu\nu}^a W^{a,\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2}\text{tr} \left[ (D_\mu X)^\dagger (D^\mu X) \right] - \frac{\lambda}{4} (\text{tr} [X^\dagger X] - v^2)^2 \\ & + \sum_g \bar{\psi}_g (i\not{D} - m_{\psi_g}) \psi_g + \sum_f \bar{\chi}_f (i\not{D} - m_{\chi_f}) \chi_f \\ & - \sum_f \sum_g y_{f,g} \left[ (\bar{\psi}_L X)_{f,g} \chi_f + \bar{\chi}_f (X^\dagger \psi_L)_{f,g} \right]\end{aligned}$$

## First calculations

- Yukawa couplings  $y_{f,g} = 0 \longrightarrow \chi_f$  decouple and symmetries are intact
- Two degenerate generations  $m_{\psi_1} = m_{\psi_2}$

# Bound states

▷ Scalar singlet:  $\mathcal{O}_{0+}(x) = \text{tr} [X^\dagger(x) X(x)]$

▷ Vector triplet:  $\mathcal{O}_{1-}^{\mathbf{a},\mu}(x) = \text{tr} \left[ \tau^{\mathbf{a}} \frac{X^\dagger(x)}{\sqrt{\det X^\dagger(x)}} U^\mu(x) \frac{X(x+e_\mu)}{\sqrt{\det X(x+e_\mu)}} \right]$

Maas, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 106 (2019), 1712.04721

▷ Fermion bound state:  $\Psi_{\alpha,\mathbf{i}}^L(x) = (X^\dagger)_{\mathbf{i}}^i(x) \psi_{\alpha,i}^L(x)$

◇  $\mathbf{i}$  ... custodial index,  $i$  ... gauge index,  $\alpha$  ... Dirac index

◇ Correlator constructed by Wick contraction and a trace in the Dirac structure

$$M_{\mathbf{ij}}(x|y) = (X^\dagger)_{\mathbf{i}}^i(x) (D^{-1})_{ij}(x|y) (X)_{\mathbf{j}}^j(y)$$

Afferrante *et al.*, SciPost Phys. 10 (2021), 2011.02301

## Simulation details

- Hybrid Monte Carlo (HMC) algorithm with dynamical Wilson fermions
- Publicly available **HiRep** simulation code

Debbio, Patella, Pica, Phys. Rev. D 81 (2010), 0805.2058

Hansen *et al.*, EPJ Web Conf. 175 (2018), 1710.10831

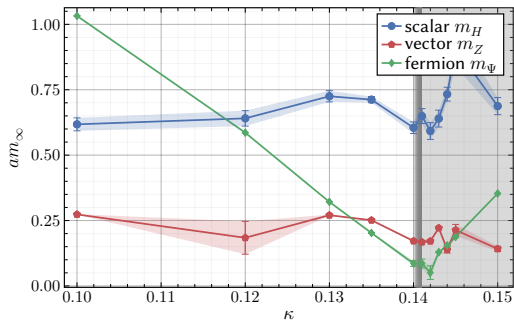
# Exploring the parameter space

- ▷ 7 parameter sets for small lattice sizes ( $L = 8, 10, 12$ )
  - ◇ 2 sets with stable Higgs, 1 set with heavy Higgs & 1 set with Higgs resonance  
Jenny, Maas, Riederer, Phys. Rev. D 105 (2022), 2204.02756
  - ◇ 1 SM-like set  
Wurtz, Lewis, Phys. Rev. D 88 (2013), 1307.1492
  - ◇ 1 set to compare with quenched results  
Afferrante *et al.*, SciPost Phys. 10 (2021), 2011.02301
  - ◇ 1 set in QCD-like domain  
Maas, Mufti, JHEP 1404 (2014), 1312.4873
- ▷ **Basic idea:** start with given parameter sets and increase the fermion hopping parameter  $\kappa$

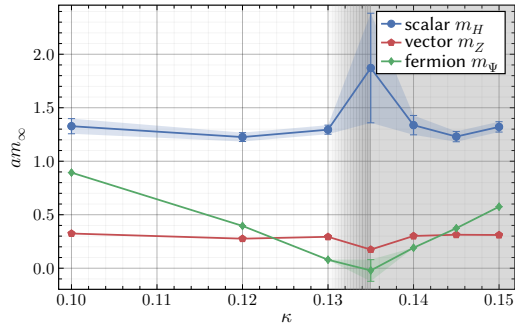
Disclaimer: **preliminary results!**

# Exploring the parameter space

Set #2 with stable Higgs



Set #4 with Higgs resonance

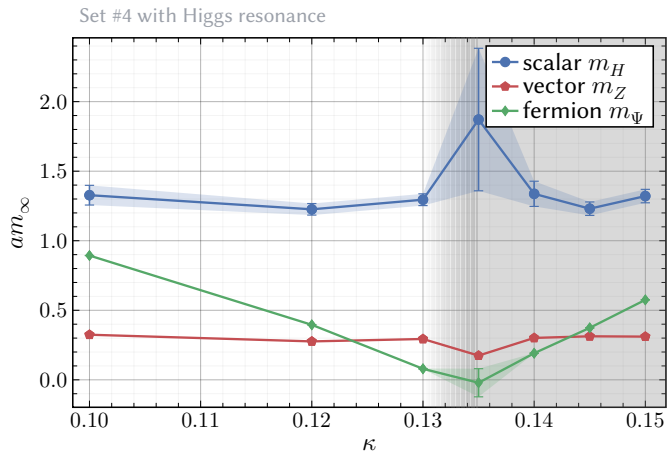


## First conclusions

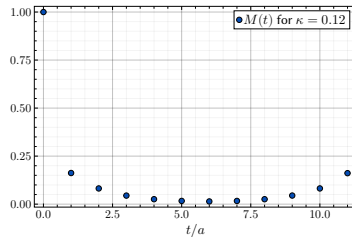
- ! Gauge-invariant bound states are accessible with decent statistics
- ! We are able to control the system via the fermion mass without changing the overall dynamics of the gauge-scalar subsystem



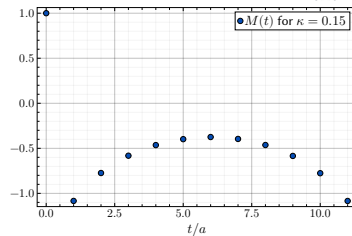
# Phase transition



Physical phase ( $\kappa < \kappa_{\text{crit}}$ )



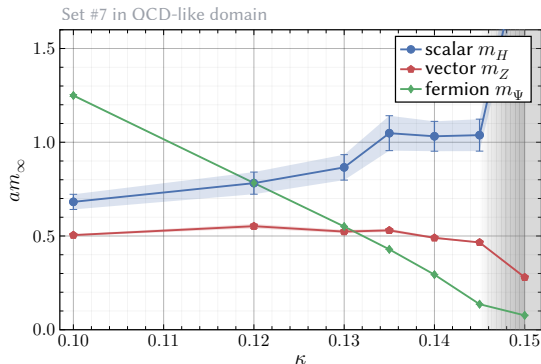
Unphysical phase ( $\kappa > \kappa_{\text{crit}}$ )



# Simulation points for scattering analysis

▷ Five points of interest to simulate various scenarios

- ◇  $m_\psi \approx 1.25m_H$
- ◇  $2m_\psi \approx 1.25m_H$
- ◇  $2m_\psi \approx 0.9m_H$
- ◇  $2m_\psi \approx (m_H + m_Z)/2$
- ◇  $2m_\psi \approx 0.9m_Z$



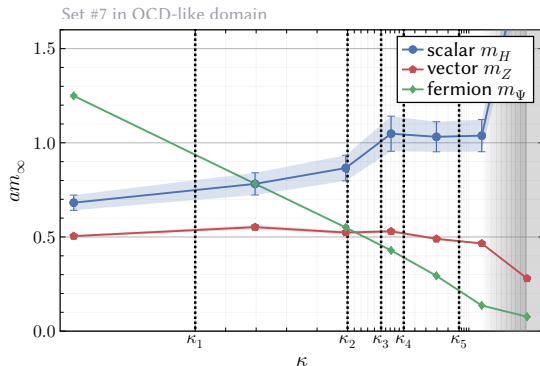
## First conclusions

- ! We are able to access all points of interest due to the dynamics of  $m_H$  and  $m_Z$
- ! Unphysical phase transition can (most likely) be avoided

# Simulation points for scattering analysis

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## First conclusions

- ! We are able to access all points of interest due to the dynamics of  $m_H$  and  $m_Z$
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# Summary

- ▷ Simulation of a proxy theory to the weak sector of the SM in a fully gauge-invariant setup
  - ◇ Gauge-invariant equivalent to the Higgs, Z boson & weakly charged leptons
- ▷ Dynamics of the system are consistent for various parameter sets
  - ◇ The gauge-scalar dynamics persist with the introduction of fermions and the system can be fully controlled by varying the fermion mass
  - ◇ We have found a good proxy theory to describe the weak SM via lattice calculations
- ▷ First steps towards testing the FMS mechanism via lepton scattering
  - ◇ Suitable simulation points are found and accessible with decent statistics
  - ◇ Issues with an unphysical phase transition can (most likely) be avoided

## Next steps

- Continue simulations with larger lattices and confirm points of interest
- Start data production for subsequent scattering analysis

# Backup slides

- ▷ Weak sector of the SM special, since  $SU(2)_w \rightarrow SU(2)_c$
- ▷ GUT theories: gauge group can be larger than custodial group
- ▷ For example,  $SU(n)$  with  $n > 2$  with one fundamental scalar
- ▷ Contradiction in vector channel
  - ◇ Perturbation theory:  $2(n-1) + 1$  massive and  $n(n-2)$  massless gauge bosons
  - ◇ FMS: only one massive state

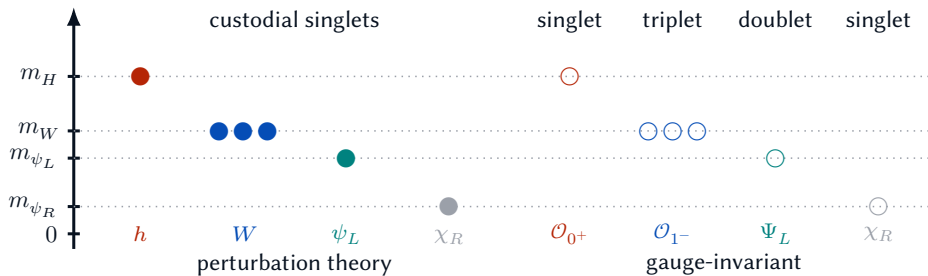
Maas, Sondenheimer, Törek, Ann. Phys. 402 (2019), 1709.07477

- ▷ For  $SU(3)$ , lattice supports FMS predictions

Maas, Törek, Phys. Rev. D 95 (2017), 1607.05860

Maas, Törek, Ann. Phys. 397 (2018), 1804.04453

# Complete picture



# Hybrid Monte Carlo (HMC) algorithm

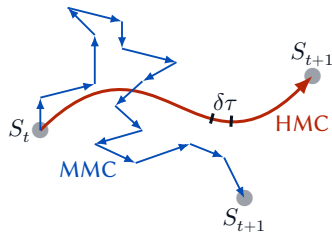
- ▷ Molecular dynamics algorithm with Gaussian distributed conjugate momenta and a Metropolis accept step
- ▷ Dirac operator enters quadratically by rewriting  $\det\{DD^\dagger\}$  as an integral over pseudo-fermion fields
- ▷ Can only simulate an even number of fermions (no sign problem) → **two degenerate generations of fermions**
- ▷ Rational HMC: assuming  $\det\{D\}$  is positive definite, the HMC algorithm can be generalized to an arbitrary number of fermion species

Gattringer, Lang, Quantum chromodynamics on the lattice (2010)

- ▷ Publicly available **HiRep** simulation code

Debbio, Patella, Pica, Phys. Rev. D 81 (2010), 0805.2058

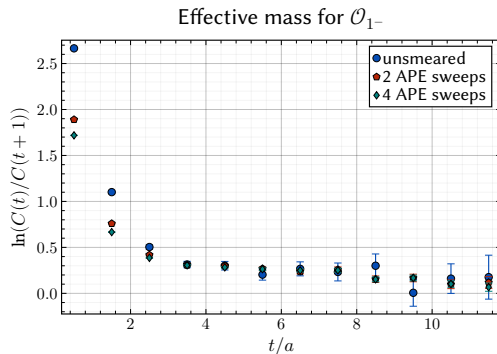
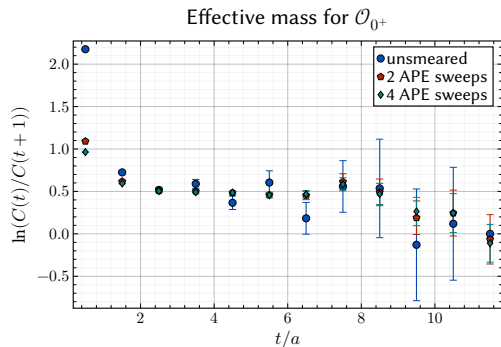
Hansen *et al.*, EPJ Web Conf. 175 (2018), 1710.10831





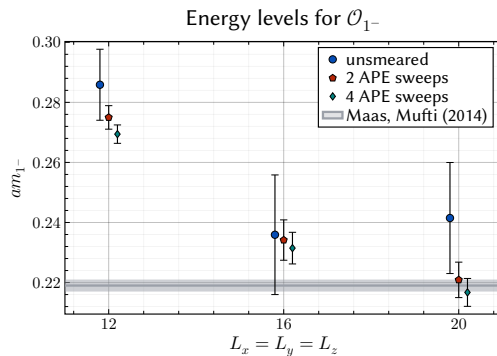
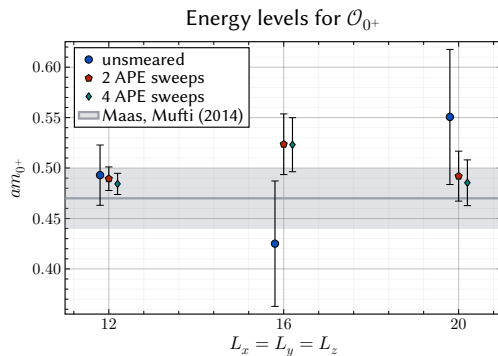
## Numerical challenges

- Inversion of Dirac operator is expensive
- Strong statistical fluctuations in the bosonic channels



# Gauge-scalar theory

- ▷ Does HMC work for gauge-scalar theories in the Higgs-like domain?
- ▷ Comparison to Maas, Mufti, JHEP 1404 (2014), 1312.4873



# Fermion bound state

- ▷  $M_{ij}$  has to be proportional to SU(2) group element

$$(M_{ji})^\dagger M_{jk} \propto \delta_{ik}$$

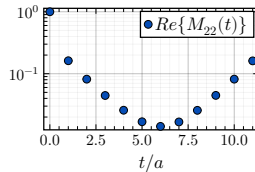
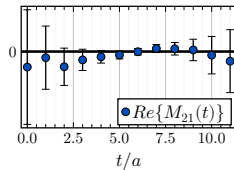
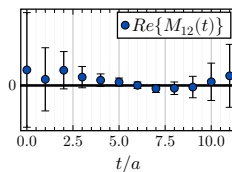
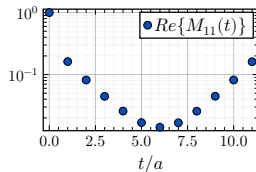
- ▷ Mass matrix can be written as

$$M_{ij} = c\delta_{ij} + i\tilde{M}_{ij} \quad c \in \mathbb{R}$$

- ▷  $\tilde{M}_{ij}$  has direction in custodial space, but no direction is preferred

⇒  $\langle \tilde{M}_{ij} \rangle$  has to vanish

⇒  $\langle M_{ij} \rangle$  has to be real



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