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Abstract:

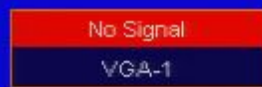




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# THE NATURE OF NATURALNESS

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# PARTICLE PHYSICISTS

SEE THE UNIVERSE AS A SERIES OF  
EFFECTIVE FIELD THEORIES



THAT HAVE A DOMAIN OF VALIDITY  
DETERMINED BY THE ENERGY SCALE

# PARTICLE PHYSICISTS

SEE THE UNIVERSE AS A SERIES OF  
EFFECTIVE FIELD THEORIES



THAT HAVE A DOMAIN OF APPLICABILITY  
DETERMINED BY THE ENERGY SCALE.

EACH FIELD THEORY IS CHARACTERIZED BY THE { FIELD CONTENT, SYMMETRIES  
COUPLINGS

EXPLORED IN TERMS OF A RELATIVISTIC ACTION:

$$S = \int d^4x \mathcal{L}(\phi, \psi, F_{\mu\nu}, R)$$

Diagram illustrating the hierarchy of fields in the Standard Model:

- SCALARS
- FERMIONS
- GAGE FIELD STRENGTH
- RICCI SCALAR

THE RULES TO CONSTRUCT  $\mathbb{Z}$  FOR AN EFT

ARE: • WRITE ALL COMBINATIONS OF FIELDS  
CONSISTENT WITH THE SYMMETRIES

- COEFFICIENTS OF OPERATORS ARE

$$O(\lambda^{4-d}) \quad (d \text{ DIMENSIONAL})$$

THIS IS KNOWN AS A NATURAL EFFECTIVE FIELD THEORY

### EXAMPLE: GED

$$\text{ACTION: } S = \int d^4x \left[ \begin{array}{l} m_e (\bar{\psi}_L \psi_R + \bar{\psi}_R \psi_L) \\ + \bar{\psi}_L \not{\partial} \psi_L + \bar{\psi}_R \not{\partial} \psi_R \\ + F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{l} \text{DIM-3} \\ \text{DIM-4} \\ \text{DIM-4} \end{array} \\ + \frac{F^3}{\Lambda^2} + \frac{(\bar{\psi}\psi)^2}{\Lambda^2} + \dots \quad \text{DIM} \geq 6$$

WHERE THE RANGE OF VALIDITY FOR GED:

$$m_e \lesssim E \lesssim \Lambda$$

$\uparrow$   $m_\mu$  MUON MASS!

BUT THIS LEADS TO A PUZZLE:

NATURAL EFFECTIVE FIELD THEORIES HAVE ALL  
DIMENSIONFUL PARAMETERS SET BY  $\Lambda$ .

$$\text{YET, } m_e \approx 10^{-2} m_\mu = 10^{-2} \Lambda.$$

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SO WE MIGHT WORRY THAT QUANTUM CORRECTIONS  
SHIFT THE MASS OF THE ELECTRON THROUGH  
CUTOFF SCALE PHYSICS

$$m_e \Big|_{\substack{\text{QUANTUM} \\ \text{CORRECTED}}} \stackrel{??}{=} m_e \Big|_{\text{BARE}} + \Lambda$$

IF THIS WERE TRUE, WE WOULD BE UNABLE  
TO SEPARATE SCALES WITHOUT FINE-TUNING  
 $m_e \Big|_{\text{BARE}}$  AGAINST  $\Lambda$ .

ALAS, QED IS SAFE:

$m_e$  DOES NOT RECEIVE LINEAR QUANTUM  
CORRECTIONS  $\propto \Lambda$

PERTURBATIVELY, THE QUANTUM CORRECTIONS



CAUSE THE ELECTRON TO BE MULTIPLICATIVELY  
RENORMALIZED:

$$\frac{d}{d\mu} m_e = m_e \cdot \left( \text{---} \Lambda \right)$$

SO THAT THE LIMIT

$$m_e \rightarrow 0$$

IS A FIXED POINT OF RENORMALIZATION SCALING.

† HOOFT REALIZED THAT THIS WAS NO  
ACCIDENT, NAMELY († HOOFT 1979)

$$m_e \rightarrow 0$$

CORRESPONDS TO AN EFT WITH AN

### ENHANCED SYMMETRY

FOR  $m_e$ , THIS IS  $U(1)_L \times U(1)_R$ : INDEPENDENT  
CHIRAL ROTATIONS OF L- & R-HANDED ELECTRONS

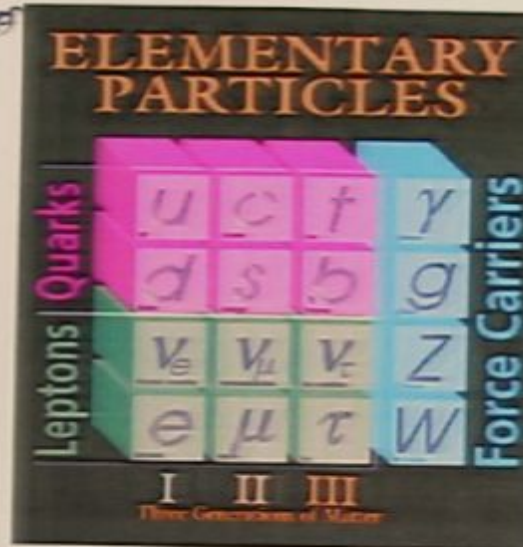
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PARAMETERS OF EFTS WHERE

PARAMETER  $\rightarrow 0$  LEADS TO ENHANCED SYMMETRY

ARE CALLED "TECHNICALLY NATURAL".

THE STANDARD MODEL OF PARTICLE PHYSICS  
IS AN EFFECTIVE FIELD THEORY VALID UP TO THE  
HIGHEST ENERGIES ATTAINED TO DATE.



MOST OF THE PARAMETERS OF THE STANDARD  
MODEL ARE TECHNICALLY NATURAL:

- FERMION MASSES (YUKAWA COUPLINGS)
- GAUGE COUPLINGS
- CKM ELEMENTS

AND ARE THUS NOT STRONGLY SENSITIVE TO CUTOFF  
SCALE PHYSICS.

**BUT**, THERE ARE A HANDFUL OF  
STANDARD MODEL PARAMETERS THAT ARE  
TECHNICALLY UNNATURAL!

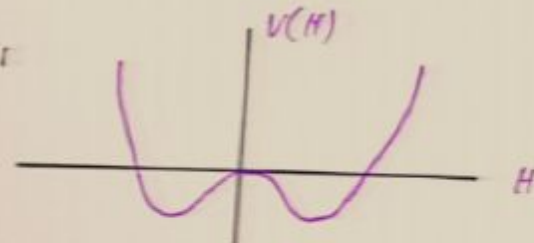
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- $m_H^2$  HIGGS SCALAR (MASS)<sup>2</sup>
  - $\Lambda_{cc}$  COSMOLOGICAL CONSTANT
  - $\theta_{QCD}$  QCD VACUUM ANGLE
-

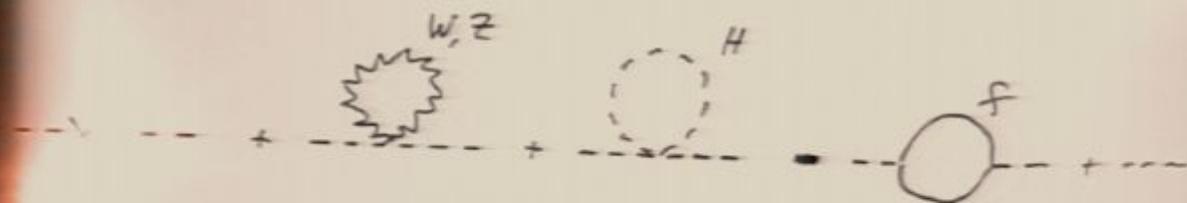
THE HIGGS (MASS)<sup>2</sup> PARAMETER

THE BREAKING OF ELECTROWEAK SYMMETRY IS ACCOMPLISHED WITH A HIGGS SCALAR FIELD w/

POTENTIAL:



WHERE THE SYMMETRY BREAKING SCALE IS DETERMINED BY THE HIGGS  $(\text{MASS})^2$ . QUANTUM CORRECTIONS SHIFT THE HIGGS  $(\text{MASS})^2$ :

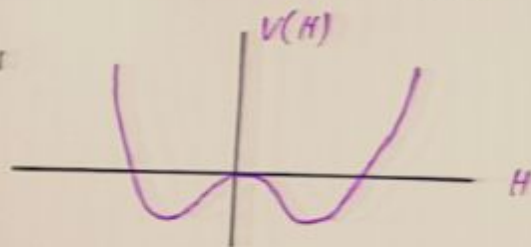


SO THAT THE QUANTUM CORRECTED HIGGS  $(\text{MASS})^2$ :

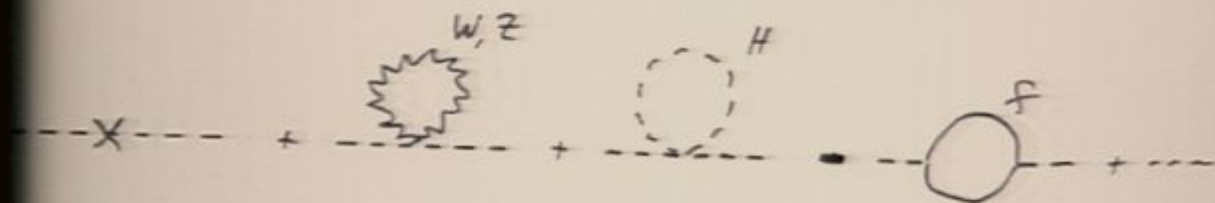
$$m_H^2 \Big|_{\text{QUANTUM CORRECTED}} = m_H^2 \Big|_{\text{BARE}} + \frac{\Lambda^2}{16\pi^2} f(g^2, g'^2, 1, 1, \dots) + \text{HIGHER LOOP CORRECTIONS} \dots$$

ADDITIVE, NOT MULTIPLICATIVELY RENORMALIZED

THE BREAKING OF ELECTROWEAK SYMMETRY IS  
ACCOMPLISHED WITH A HIGGS SCALAR FIELD w/  
POTENTIAL:



WHERE THE SYMMETRY BREAKING SCALE IS  
DETERMINED BY THE HIGGS  $(MASS)^2$ . QUANTUM  
CORRECTIONS SHIFT THE HIGGS  $(MASS)^2$ :



SO THAT THE QUANTUM CORRECTED HIGGS  $(MASS)^2$ :

$$m_H^2 \Big|_{\text{QUANTUM CORRECTED}} = m_H^2 \Big|_{\text{BARE}} + \frac{\Lambda^2}{16\pi^2} f(g^2, g'^2, 1, \lambda^2, \dots) + \text{HIGHER LOOP CORRECTIONS} \dots$$

ADDITIVE, NOT MULTIPLICATIVELY RENORMALIZED

Moreover, there are several indications that the cutoff scale is large  $|\Lambda|^2 \gg |m_H^2|$

- SCALE OF QUANTUM GRAVITY;  $\Lambda \sim M_{Pl} \sim 10^{19} \text{ GeV}$
- NON-OBSERVATION OF  $\frac{GGQL}{\Lambda^2}$ ;  $\Lambda \geq 10^{16} \text{ GeV}$   
PROTON DECAY
- OBSERVATION OF NEUTRINO  $\frac{(LH)^2}{\Lambda}$ ;  $\Lambda \geq 10^{13} \text{ GeV}$   
MASS (ASSUMED NATURAL)

THE STANDARD MODEL SEPARATES THESE MASS SCALES

$$m_\pi^2 \Leftrightarrow \Delta^2$$

ONLY BY FINE-TUNING

[illegible]

NAMES, 1 PART IN  $10^{30}$  !!

MUCH OF THE PAST AND RECENT THEORETICAL EFFORT  
HAS BEEN DEVISING NEW PHYSICS THAT STABILIZES  
THE ELECTROWEAK BREAKING SCALE:

- NEW SYMMETRIES (AND FIELDS)

SUPERSYMMETRY

LARGER GLOBAL SYMMETRIES

⋮

- NEW DYNAMICS

TECHNICOLOR

COMPOSITENESS

⋮

- NEW CUTOFF SCALE

LARGE EXTRA DIMENSIONS

WARPED EXTRA DIMENSIONS

⋮

FORTUNATELY THERE ARE ONGOING AND FUTURE  
EXPERIMENTS THAT WILL FIND OR RULE OUT  
THESE NEW PHYSICS IDEAS.

### THE LARGE HADRON COLLIDER



POISED TO BEGIN IN ABOUT ONE YEAR (!!!)  
WILL REACH COLLISION ENERGIES OF 14 TEV  
THAT SHOULD (AFTER MUCH ANALYSIS AND EFFORT)  
UNCOVER THE PHYSICS BEHIND ELECTROWEAK SYMMETRY  
BREAKING.

# THE COSMOLOGICAL CONSTANT

THE MOST TROUBLING TECHNICALLY UNNATURAL  
PARAMETER IS THE COSMOLOGICAL CONSTANT.

⇒ LONG HISTORY GOING BACK TO BIG AC:



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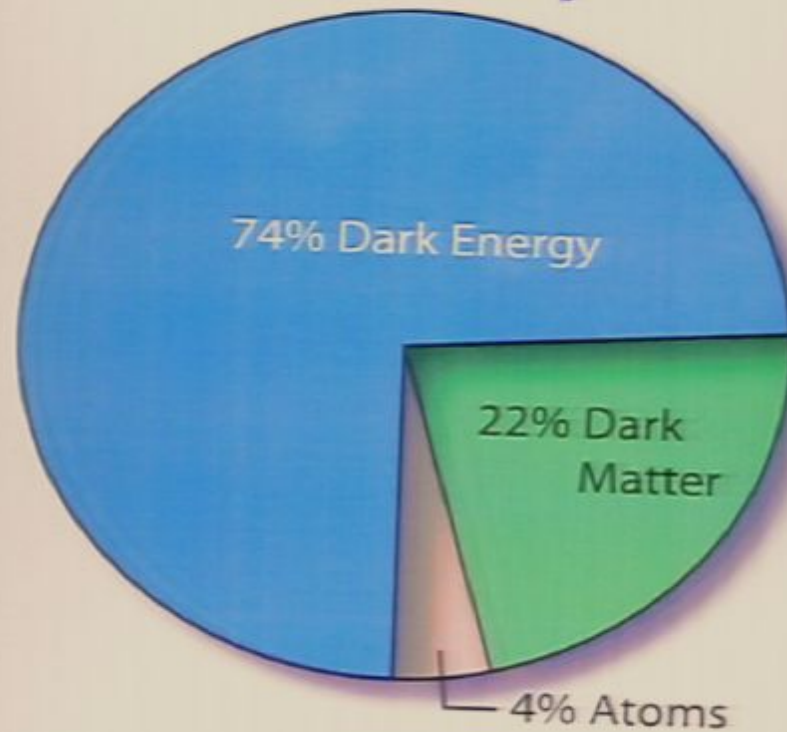


WHO WAS APPARENTLY PARAPHRASED BY KERRY,



“ I ACTUALLY VOTED FOR IT BEFORE I VOTED AGAINST IT ”

TODAY, THE ENERGY BUDGET OF THE  
UNIVERSE IS KNOWN TO BE MADE UP  
DOMINANTLY OF UNKNOWN:



COMBINING WMAP DATA WITH OTHER  
COSMOLOGICAL DATA, EQ OF STATE OF DARK  
ENERGY



IS TOTALLY CONSISTENT WITH A PURE  
COSMOLOGICAL CONSTANT.

WE ARE FACED WITH A MEASUREMENT  
OF THE COSMOLOGICAL CONSTANT

$$\Lambda_{cc} \sim (10^{-3} \text{ eV})^4$$

WHILE THE TECHNICAL UNNATURALNESS OF  
THIS PARAMETER SUGGESTS QUANTUM CORRECTIONS  
DRIVE THIS UP TO:

$$\Lambda_{cc} \sim \Lambda^4 \sim M_{Pl}^4.$$

AND THUS A FINE-TUNING OF

1 PART IN  $10^{120}$  !!!  
...

THE PROBLEM IS EVEN WORSE THAN YOU THINK:

THERE IS NOW COMPELLING EVIDENCE,

$$\Omega_{\text{TOT}} = 1 \quad (\text{to within few \%})$$

$$n = 0.95 \quad (\pm 0.03)$$

THAT THE UNIVERSE UNDERWENT A PERIOD OF

INFLATION

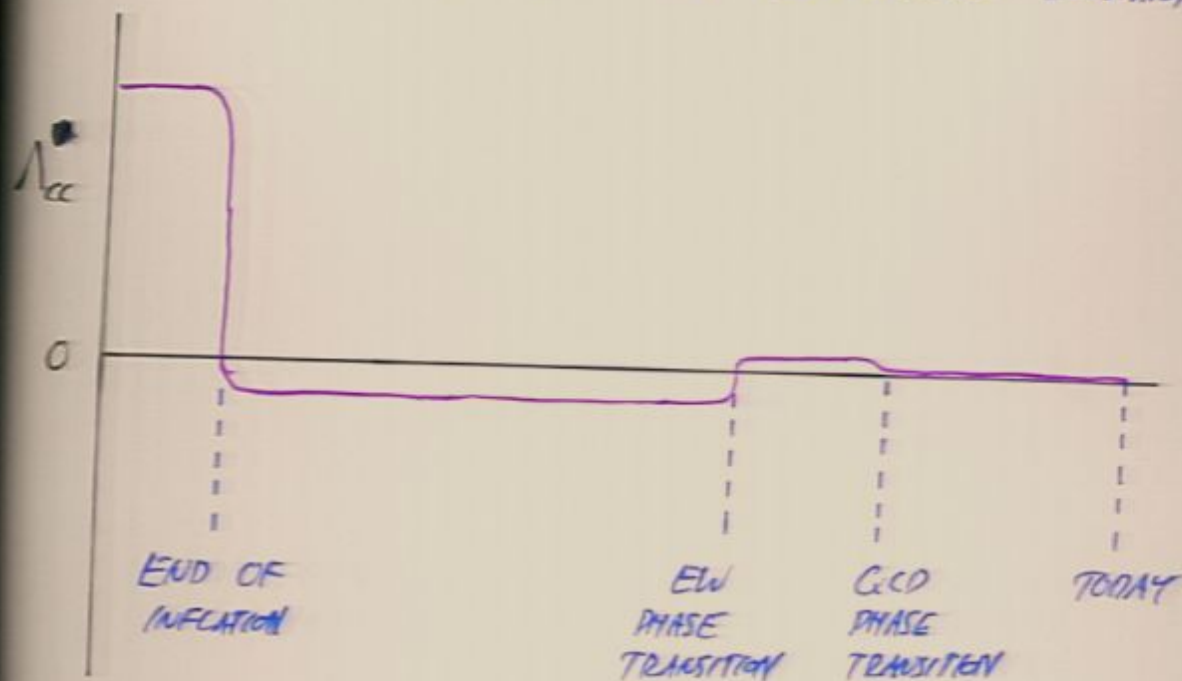
IN WHICH POSITIVE, LARGE VACUUM ENERGY CAUSED  
THE UNIVERSE TO EXPAND EXPONENTIALLY, EXPLAINING  
THE LARGE SCALE HOMOGENEITY & ISOTROPY (e.g. OF THE  
CMB)

---

MOREOVER, AS THE UNIVERSE COOLED IT  
UNDERWENT A SERIES OF PHASE TRANSITIONS  
THAT SHIFTED THE VACUUM ENERGY:

- ELECTROWEAK PHASE TRANSITION
- QCD PHASE TRANSITION

A POSSIBLE TIME-DEPENDENT HISTORY OF THE  
EFFECTIVE SIZE OF THE COSMOLOGICAL CONSTANT:



NOT ONLY DO WE HAVE NO COMPELLING IDEAS  
TO EXPLAIN A SMALL  $\Lambda_{cc}$ , WE DON'T WANT  
A TIME-INDEPENDENT SMALL  $\Lambda_{cc}$  (SINCE -- INFLATION!)

ANTHROPIC NATURALNESS ?

THE ONLY RATIONALE FOR A SMALL  
COSMOLOGICAL CONSTANT THAT APPEARS SUCCESSFUL IS:

- REQUIRE EXISTENCE OF LARGE SCALE  
STRUCTURE IN THE UNIVERSE CAPABLE OF  
SUPPORTING OBSERVERS

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THEN WE GET A BOUND

$$\Lambda_{cc} \lesssim \mathcal{O}(100) \rho_c$$

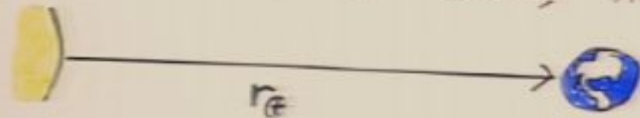
SUCH THAT DENSITY PERTURBATIONS [WEINBERG 1987]  
HAVE TIME TO GROW AND GO NON-LINEAR (COLLAPSE)

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MOREOVER, GIVEN A FLAT PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTION  
EXPECT  $\Lambda_{cc}$  TO BE OF ORDER THE BOUND.  
(WHICH IT IS, TO WITHIN  $10^{-2}$ )

IS AN ANTHROPIC RATIONALE FOR A FUNDAMENTAL  
PARAMETER NATURAL? IS IT SCIENTIFIC?

- CERTAINLY NO ONE WOULD THINK THAT  
OUR EXISTENCE ON EARTH, THAT RELIES ON



CRITICAL DISTANCE TO ALLOW LIQUID WATER,  
IS SURPRISING GIVEN BILLIONS OF STARS &  
GALAXIES

- IF QUANTUM GRAVITY IS REALIZED IN STRING  
THEORY, THERE MAY BE A LANDSCAPE  
OF VACUA TO CHOOSE FROM,  $\sim (10^{500})$

IF THE ... IS TAKEN TO BE

"ANTHROPICALLY NATURAL"

WHAT ABOUT THE OTHER UNNATURAL PARAMETERS?

WE STUDIED THIS QUESTION IN DETAIL,

CONSIDERING THE MOST EXTREME SCENARIO:

### A Universe Without Weak Interactions

Roni Harnik<sup>1</sup>, Graham D. Kribs<sup>2</sup>, and Gilad Perez<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Stanford Linear Accelerator Center, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94309 and  
Physics Department, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305

<sup>2</sup>Department of Physics and Institute of Theoretical Science  
University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403

<sup>3</sup>Theoretical Physics Group, Ernest Orlando Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory,  
University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720

RESULT? FOR A GENERAL EFT, WE SHOWED

THAT EW INTERACTIONS ARE UNNECESSARY, TO

GET A CALCULATED UNIVERSE WITH BBN, LARGE

SCALE STRUCTURE, AND A DARK MATTER FOR BILLIONS OF YEARS,

UP TO 100% OF THE DARK MATTER INTO ISM (IASU)

arXiv:hep-ph/0604027 v1 4 Apr 2006

IF THE  $\Omega_c$  IS TAKEN TO BE

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SCALE STRUCTURE, STARS, STELLAR FUSION FOR BILLIONS OF YEARS,

UP TO IRON CELESTIO, DISPERSE ELEMENTS INTO ISM (IA SU)

arXiv:hep-ph/0604027 v1 4 Apr 2006

## NATURALNESS SCORECARD

|              | ANTHROPIC?        | EFT MECHANISM<br>TO NATURALIZE? |
|--------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| $\phi_{GCD}$ | NO                | YES                             |
| $m_H^2$      | <del>YES</del> NO | YES                             |
| $\Lambda$    | YES               | NO                              |

SO IT APPEARS THAT THE

COSMOLOGICAL CONSTANT PROBLEM

IS QUALITATIVELY DIFFERENT FROM THE  
OTHER TECHNICALLY UNNATURAL PARAMETERS

IS NATURE NATURAL?

ONGOING, EXTREMELY ACTIVE AREA OF RESEARCH  
WITH A REMARKABLE SYNERGY BETWEEN  
THEORY & EXPERIMENT.