

1 Modern Physics Letters A  
 2 Vol. 21, No. 4 (2006) 1{4  
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5 **DIMINISHED UPPER BOUNDS ON THE UNIFICATION MASS  
 SCALES FOR HEAVY HIGGS BOSON MASSES**

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Received 23 December 2005

11 We consider dominant three-, four- and ve-loop contributions to  $\lambda$ , the quartic scalar  
 12 coupling-constant's  $\beta$ -function in the Standard Model. We find that these terms acceler-  
 13 ate the evolution of  $\lambda$  to nonperturbative values, thereby lowering the unification bound  
 14 for which scalar-couplings are still perturbative. We also find that these higher order  
 15 contributions imply a substantial lowering of  $\lambda$  itself before the anticipated onset of  
 nonperturbative physics in the Higgs sector.

The dominant running coupling constants of the standard model evolve with  $\mu$ , the  
 renormalization scale, according to two-loop renormalization group equations

$$\frac{d}{d\ln\mu} = \frac{1}{16\pi^2} \left\{ 4g^2 + 12gh + \frac{81}{36h^2} - \frac{g^4}{100} \right\} + \frac{27}{10}g^2 + \frac{27}{4}g^2 - \frac{26}{(16\pi^2)^2} \left\{ -\frac{26}{3}g^2h + 3gh^2 \right\} + 180h^2 + 192h^3$$



Diminished Upper Bounds on the Unification Mass Scales for Heavy Higgs Boson Masses 3

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1  $Y < 0.084$  ( $\alpha < 13.3$ ). Hence  $\alpha_{\max} = 13.3$  is an *upper bound* on the value of  $\alpha$  for  
3 which perturbative Higgs sector physics may still be possible, in that four- and five-  
loop terms in (8) are equal. The evolution of the coupling constant  $\alpha$  should also be  
5 inclusive of the three-, four- and five-loop terms of Eq. (8), as in the middle curve,  
since such terms are comparable when  $\alpha_{\max} = 13.3$ . When we augment Eq. (1) with  
these three- and five-loop terms in Eq. (8), and impose the additional requirement that  
the upper bound on  $\alpha$  for perturbative