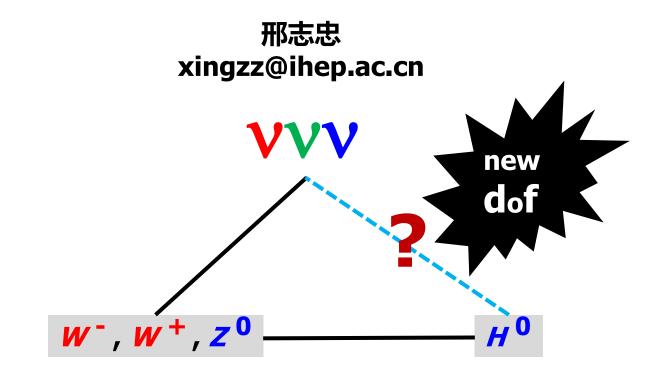
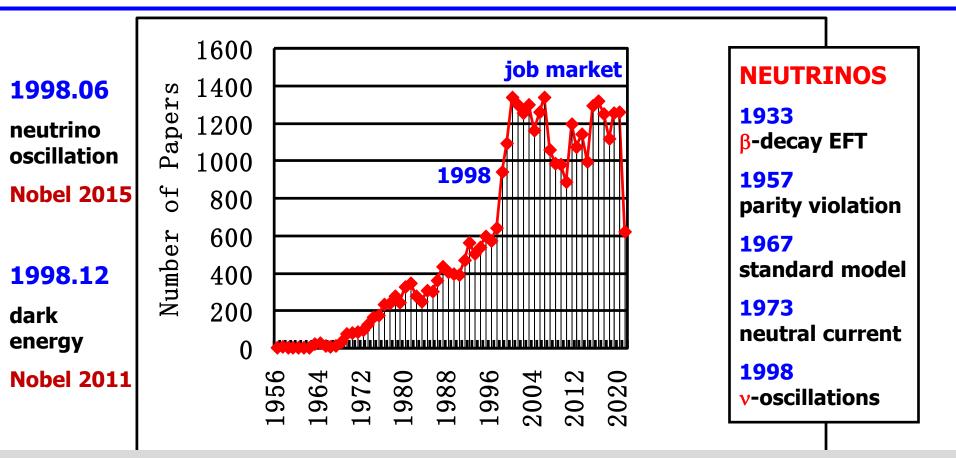
Neutrino masses and Yukawa interactions



第十五届TeV物理工作组学术研讨会,2021年7月19日—21日,友谊宾馆

Preliminary statistics: 65 years of v-physics



INSPIRE: find title **NEUTRINO** and date **XX**

> 28 000 Papers

Personal observations

★ In 2008, 10 years after 1998, all the v-theorists and their PhD students were busy with publishing something. Today the situation has changed a lot.

★ But there has been no breakthrough yet, just as predicted by Sheldon Glashow on 11 Nov. 2005 at Expert's Restaurant of IHEP. The key issue is that we have no idea about the flavor structures, even though *most* of the flavor parameters have so far been measured in a variety of experiments.





★ In the lack of a powerful *top-down* guiding principle, most of us are following a *bottom-up* way according to our *own* tastes.

Although nature commences with reason and ends in experience, it is necessary for us to do the opposite, i.e. to commence with experience and from this to proceed to investigate the reason—Leonard de Vinci

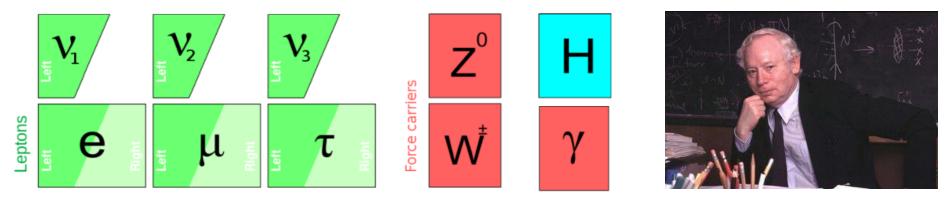
OUTLINE

Part A — Some general remarks: From Weinberg 1967 to Weinberg 2020

Part B — Two specific examples: On neutrino EFT and modular symmetry

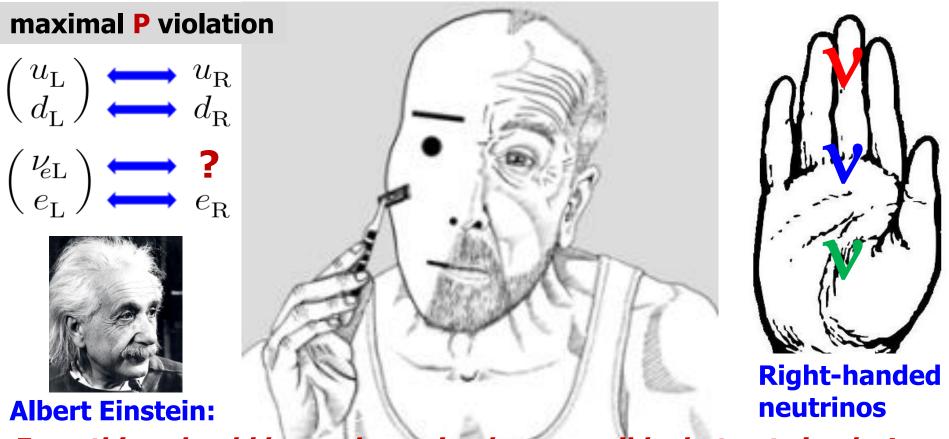
In October 1967, Steven Weinberg proposed a model of leptons.

- its theoretical ingredients are perfect!
- —— its particle content looks very strange: it has no quark flavors, no neutrino masses, no flavor mixing and no CP violation.



My style is usually not to propose specific models that will lead to specific experimental predictions, but rather to interpret in a broad way what is going on and make very general remarks, like with the development of the point of view associated with effective field theory ---- Weinberg 2021@CERN Courier

The wrong use of Occam's razor!



Everything should be made as simple as possible, but not simpler!

A broken flavor democracy?

- The right-handed neutrino fields may have big self-interaction couplings (lepton number violation), or a Majorana mass term
- In this case the two neutrino sectors have a huge mass gap, implying a flavor democracy between them.

$$-\mathcal{L}_{\nu+N} = \overline{\nu_{\mathrm{L}}} M_{\mathrm{D}} N_{\mathrm{R}} + \frac{1}{2} \overline{(N_{\mathrm{R}})^{c}} M_{\mathrm{R}} N_{\mathrm{R}} + \text{h.c.} = \frac{1}{2} \overline{[\nu_{\mathrm{L}} \ (N_{\mathrm{R}})^{c}]} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & M_{\mathrm{D}} \\ M_{\mathrm{D}}^{T} & M_{\mathrm{R}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} (\nu_{\mathrm{L}})^{c} \\ N_{\mathrm{R}} \end{bmatrix} + \text{h.c.}$$

A new understanding of the *type-I* seesaw mechanism: small neutrino masses originate from the Yukawa interactions which break the flavor democracy.

$$\frac{1}{4} \overline{[\nu_{\mathrm{L}} \quad (N_{\mathrm{R}})^{c}]} \begin{bmatrix} M_{\mathrm{D}} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{1} \\ -\mathbf{1} & -\mathbf{1} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{1} & -\mathbf{1} \\ \mathbf{1} & -\mathbf{1} \end{pmatrix} M_{\mathrm{D}}^{T} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} (\nu_{\mathrm{L}})^{c} \\ N_{\mathrm{R}} \end{bmatrix}$$

 $\frac{1}{4} \overline{[\nu_{\rm L} \ (N_{\rm R})^c]} M_{\rm R} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{1} \\ \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} (\nu_{\rm L})^c \\ N_{\rm R} \end{bmatrix}$

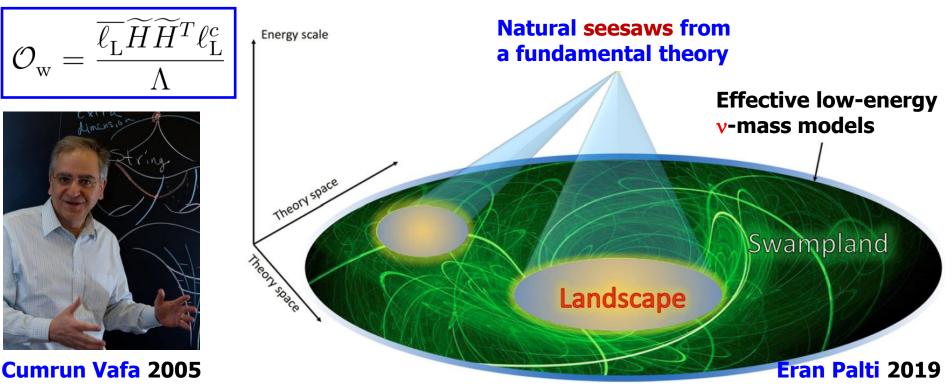
Yukawa interactions: $\overline{\ell_{\rm L}} Y_{\nu} \widetilde{H} N_{\rm R} \longrightarrow M_{\rm D} = Y_{\nu} \langle H \rangle$ 6

The type-I seesaw is in the landscape

 $M_{\nu} \simeq -M_{\mathrm{D}} M_{\mathrm{R}}^{-1} M_{\mathrm{D}}^{T} = -\langle H \rangle^{2} Y_{\nu} M_{\mathrm{R}}^{-1} Y_{\nu}^{T}$

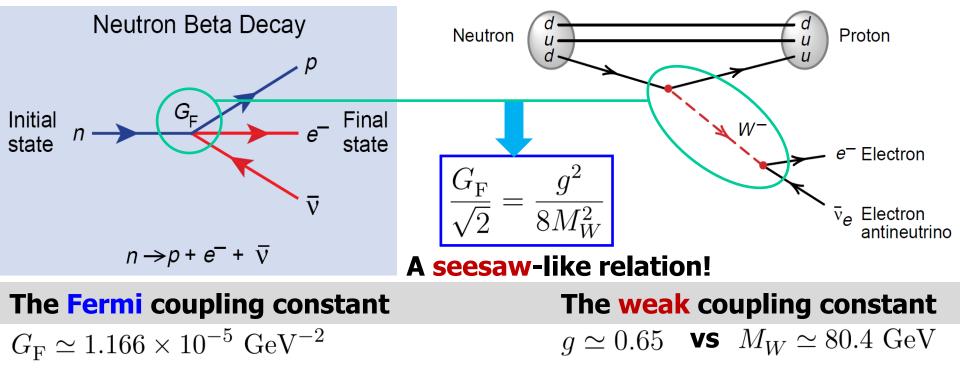
P. Minkowski 1977, T. Yanagida 1979...

This **seesaw** picture is well consistent with the spirit of Weinberg's EFT with a unique d=5 operator (1979).



This was historically true

From Fermi's EFT for beta decays to Weinberg's SM, neutrinos did play a role!



This is the weak charged-current (gauge) interactions in which the neutrinos participate. How about the neutrino Yukawa interactions?

Majorana nature and exact seesaw

Diagonalize the 6×6 Majorana neutrino mass matrix by a 6×6 unitary matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} U & R \\ S & U' \end{pmatrix}^{\dagger} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & M_{\mathrm{D}} \\ M_{\mathrm{D}}^{T} & M_{\mathrm{R}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} U & R \\ S & U' \end{pmatrix}^{*} = \begin{pmatrix} D_{\nu} & 0 \\ 0 & D_{N} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$D_{\nu} \equiv \mathrm{Diag}\{m_{1}, m_{2}, m_{3}\}, D_{N} \equiv \mathrm{Diag}\{M_{1}, M_{2}, M_{3}\}$$

$$\overline{(N_{\mathrm{R}})^{c}} M_{\mathrm{D}}^{T}(\nu_{\mathrm{L}})^{c} = \left[(N_{\mathrm{R}})^{T} \mathcal{C} M_{\mathrm{D}}^{T} \mathcal{C} \overline{\nu_{\mathrm{L}}}^{T}\right]^{T} = \overline{\nu_{\mathrm{L}}} M_{\mathrm{D}} N_{\mathrm{R}}$$

$$Majorana mass states: \qquad \begin{pmatrix} \nu_{1} \\ \nu_{2} \\ N_{1} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\nu' = \begin{bmatrix} \nu'_{\mathrm{L}} \\ (N'_{\mathrm{R}})^{c} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} (\nu'_{\mathrm{L}})^{c} \\ N'_{\mathrm{R}} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \nu_{1} \\ \nu_{2} \\ N_{3} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$N_{1} \\ N_{2} \\ N_{3} \end{pmatrix}$$

The exact *seesaw* relation between light and heavy Majorana neutrinos

Three flavor states are linear combinations of six mass states (LFV):

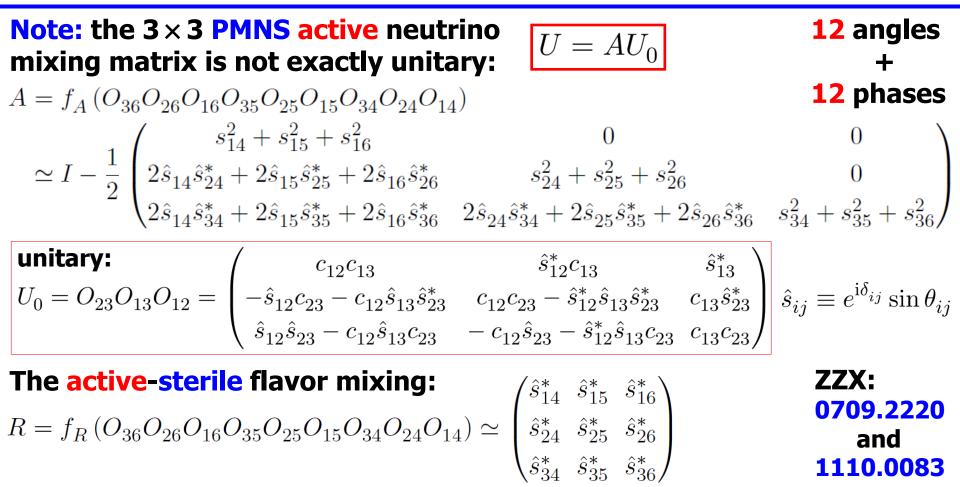
$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu \\ \nu_\tau \end{pmatrix}_{\mathbf{L}} = U \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \\ \nu_3 \end{pmatrix}_{\mathbf{L}} + R \begin{pmatrix} N_1 \\ N_2 \\ N_3 \end{pmatrix}_{\mathbf{L}}$$

 $UD_{\nu}U^{T} = -RD_{N}R^{T}$



 $+ RR^{\dagger}$

The Euler-like parametrization of everything 10



An exact factorization of *R*

The **active-sterile** flavor mixing matrix can be exactly expressed as follows:

weak part × strong perturbative part × strong non-perturbative part

The undetermined part is the unknown complex orthogonal matrix: $OO^T = I$

The Casas-Ibarra parametrization (2001):

$$M_{\nu} \simeq -M_{\rm D} M_{\rm R}^{-1} M_{\rm D}^{T} = -\langle H \rangle^{2} Y_{\nu} M_{\rm R}^{-1} Y_{\nu}^{T} \quad ||$$

$$Y_{\nu} \simeq \frac{\mathrm{i}}{\langle H \rangle} U_0 \sqrt{D_{\nu}} \, O \sqrt{D_N}$$

★ This approximate seesaw only contains the dim-5 operator's contributions.
 ★ It is the dim-6 operator that violates the PMNS unitarity (Abada et al, 2007).

But a factorization has little to do with dynamics 12

at the age

of 87

★ Weinberg's conjecture (2020): only the 3rd family of fermions have the tree level Yukawa interactions, and the others gain their masses via loops.

PHYSICAL REVIEW D 101, 035020 (2020)

Models of lepton and quark masses

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A class of models is considered in which the masses only of the third generation of quarks and leptons arise in the tree approximation, while masses for the second and first generations are produced respectively by one-loop and two-loop radiative corrections. So far, for various reasons, these models are not realistic.

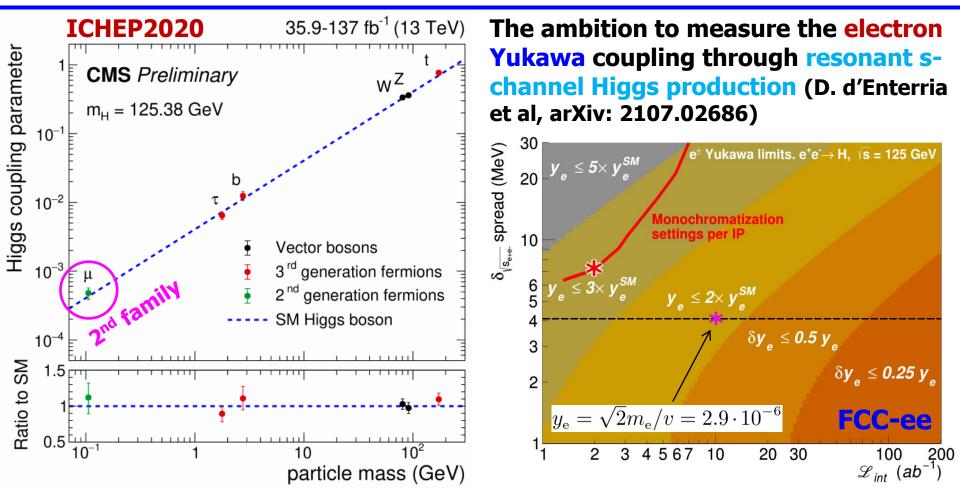
Different opinions:

★ Fermion masses: primarily stem from tree-level Yukawa interactions in SM.
 ★ Flavor mixing: a mismatch between the Yukawa and CC gauge interactions, should originate at the same time as fermion masses.

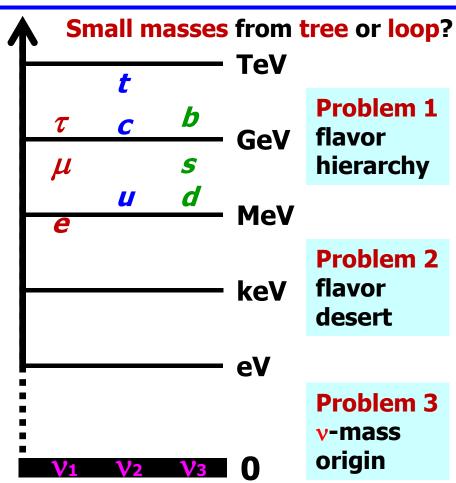


Yes, we seem to be on the right track

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Hierarchical fermion mass spectrum



Example: tree-level nearest-neighbor interactions to generate tiny masses.



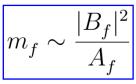


S. Weinberg H. Fritzsch F. Wilczek + A. Zee 1977

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A seesaw mass relation for the lightest fermion $m_f \sim \frac{|B_f|^2}{A_f}$

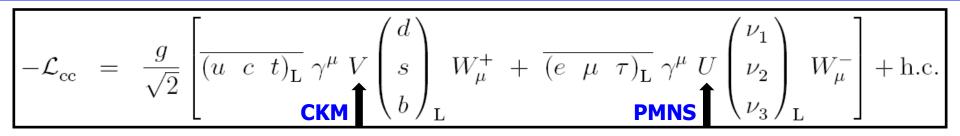
 $M_f = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & B_f \\ B_f^* & A_f \end{pmatrix}$ with $|B_f| \ll A_f$

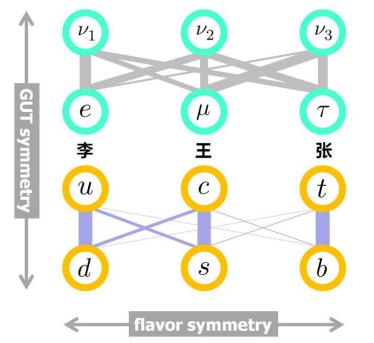


The Fritzsch texture / double seesaw

 $M_f = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & C_f & 0 \\ C_f^* & 0 & B_f \\ 0 & B_f^* & A_f \end{pmatrix}$

More challenges are from flavor mixing





• I. Esteban et al (2007.14792):

	$(0.801 \rightarrow 0.845)$	$0.513 \to 0.579$ $0.471 \to 0.689$	$0.143 \rightarrow 0.155 \big\rangle$
U =	$0.234 \rightarrow 0.500$	$0.471 \to 0.689$ $0.477 \to 0.694$	$0.637 \rightarrow 0.776$
	$0.271 \rightarrow 0.525$	$0.477 \rightarrow 0.694$	$0.613 \rightarrow 0.756 \big/$

Models: a constant matrix + corrections.

Particle Data Group (2020):

 $V = \begin{pmatrix} 0.97401 \pm 0.00011 & 0.22650 \pm 0.00048 \\ 0.22636 \pm 0.00048 & 0.97320 \pm 0.00011 \\ 0.00854^{+0.00023}_{-0.00016} & 0.03978^{+0.00082}_{-0.00060} \end{pmatrix}$

 $\begin{array}{c} 0.00361\substack{+0.00011\\-0.00009}\\ 0.04053\substack{+0.00083\\-0.00061}\\ 0.999172\substack{+0.00024\\-0.000035}\end{array}$

Models: the **identity** matrix + corrections.

OUTLINE

Part A — Some general remarks: From Weinberg 1967 to Weinberg 2020

Part B — Two specific examples: On neutrino EFTs and modular symmetry V

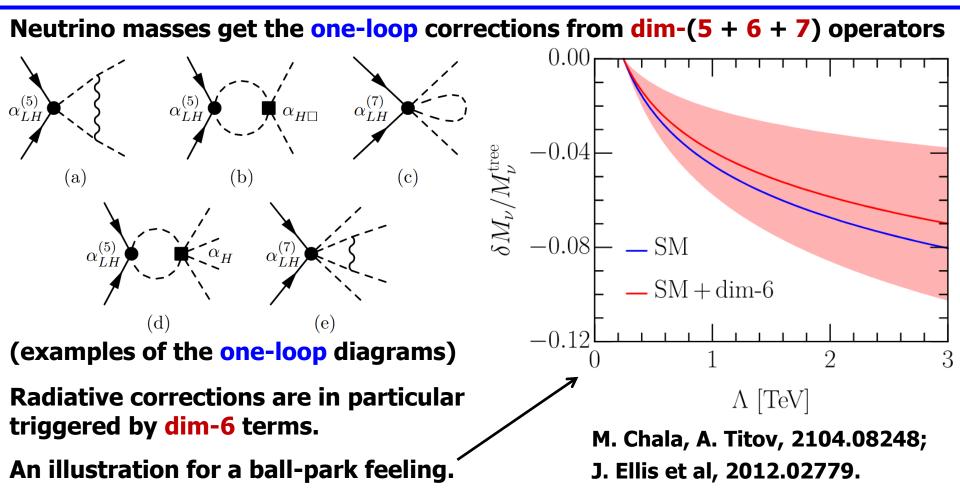
Neutrino masses in the SMEFT (tree level) 17

- The *SMEFT* is built with the SM degrees of freedom and the SM gauge symmetry $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{SM} + \sum_{d=5}^{\infty} \sum_{i=1}^{n_d} \left(\frac{1}{\Lambda^{d-4}} C_i^{(d)} \mathcal{O}_i^{(d)} + \text{h.c.} \right)$
- Dimension-5: the unique Weinberg operator for v-masses (S. Weinberg 1979) Dimension-6: W. Buchmuller, D. Wyler, 1986; B. Grzadkowski et al, 2010; ... Dimension-7: L. Lehman, 2014; Y. Liao, X.D. Ma, 2016; ... Dimension-8: C.W. Murphy, 2020; H.L. Li et al, 2020; ... Dimension-9: Y. Liao, X.D. Ma, 2020; H.L. Li et al, 2020, 2021; ...
- **Even (odd)** dimensional operators if (B-L)/2 is even (odd) (A. Kobach 2016).
- For a given mass dimension (2n + 5), there is only a unique operator that can give neutrino masses at the tree level (F. Bonnet et al, 2009; Y. Liao, 2011):

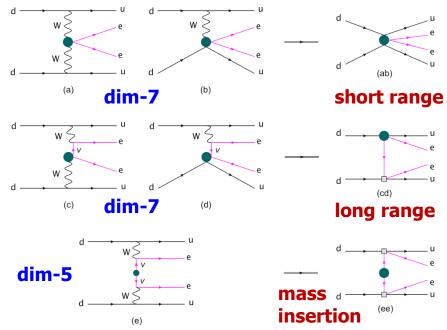
$$\mathcal{O}_{LH}^{(2n+5)} = \overline{\ell_{\rm L}} \widetilde{H} \widetilde{H}^T \ell_{\rm L}^c \left(H^{\dagger} H\right)^n \implies M_{\nu}^{\rm tree} = -\frac{v^2}{\Lambda} \left(\alpha_{LH}^{(5)} + \alpha_{LH}^{(7)} \frac{v^2}{2\Lambda^2}\right) \text{ (up to dim-7)}$$

Neutrino masses in the SMEFT (one loop)

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Neutrinoless double-beta decay: apart from the **dim-5 Weinberg** operator, the next contribution is from the **dim-7** operators:



V. Cirigliano et al, 2017; 2018; M. Horoi, A. Neacsu, 1706.05391; Y. Liao, X.D. Ma, 2019; ...

Some other aspects:

Lepton flavor violation in the SMEFT

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A. Crivellin, S. Najjari, J. Rosiek, 2014;
S. Davidson, 2016;
A. Crivellin et al, 2017;
S. Davidson, 2021;
M. Ardu, S. Davidson, 2103.07212; ...

The SMEFT extended with sterile v's

F. del Aguila et al, 2009; S. Bhattacharya, J. Wudka, 2016; Y. Liao, X.D. Ma, 2017; A. Datta et al, 2021; B. H.L. Li et al, 2105.09329; ...

Neutrino EFT

v-EFT is defined as an EFT after integrating out heavy degrees of freedom in a given ultraviolet neutrino model, e.g., the type-I seesaw model.

The type-I seesaw with three right-handed neutrinos:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\rm UV} = \mathcal{L}_{\rm SM} + \overline{N_{\rm R}} \mathrm{i} \partial N_{\rm R} - \left(\frac{1}{2} \overline{N_{\rm R}^c} M N_{\rm R} + \overline{\ell_{\rm L}} Y_{\nu} \widetilde{H} N_{\rm R} + \mathrm{h.c.}\right)$$

Integrate out heavy degrees of freedom at the tree level up to dim-6 operator

In the minimal unitarity violation scheme which contains the above tree-level operators, *unitarity violation* of the PMNS matrix can be well constrained by current experimental data on precision EW measurements and LFV processes (S. Antusch et al, 2006; S. Antusch, O. Fischer, 2014; M. Blennow et al, 2017; ...)

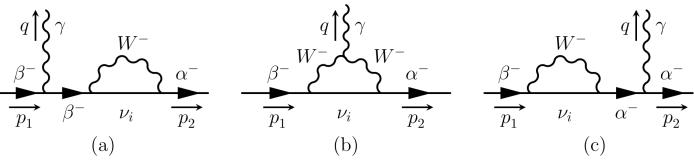
A self-consistent calculation of $\mu \rightarrow e + \gamma$ (1) 21

After SSB, the effective Lagrangian with tree-level dim-5 and dim-6 operators

$$\mathcal{L}_{\rm EFT}^{\rm tree} \supset \overline{\nu_{\rm L}} \mathrm{i} \partial \!\!\!/ \nu_{\rm L} - \left(\overline{l_{\rm L}} M_l l_{\rm R} + \frac{1}{2} \overline{\nu_{\rm L}} \widehat{M}_{\nu} \nu_{\rm L}^{\rm c} + \mathrm{h.c.} \right) + \left(\frac{g_2}{\sqrt{2}} \overline{l_{\rm L}} \gamma^{\mu} U \nu_{\rm L} W_{\mu}^{-} + \mathrm{h.c.} \right)$$

$$U = (1 - \frac{1}{2}RR^{\dagger})U_0$$

contributing to the LFV decays like $\mu \rightarrow e + \gamma$ via the one-loop $R = \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}}Y_{\nu}M^{-1}$ diagrams (a)—(c) in the unitary gauge:



T.P. Cheng, L.F. Li, 1980; A. Ilakovac, A. Pilaftsis, 1995; R. Alonso et al, 2013; Z.Z. Xing, D. Zhang, 2020.

The amplitude of diagrams (a)—(c) is

 $i\mathcal{M}_{abc} = \frac{-ieg_2^2}{2(4\pi)^2 M_W^2} \sum_{i=1}^3 U_{\alpha i} U_{\beta i}^* \left(-\frac{5}{6} + \frac{m_i^2}{4M_W^2} \right) \left[\epsilon_{\mu}^* \overline{u} \left(p_2 \right) i\sigma^{\mu\nu} q_{\nu} \left(m_{\alpha} P_{\rm L} + m_{\beta} P_{\rm R} \right) u \left(p_1 \right) \right]$

a result *inconsistent* with that obtained in the full type-I seesaw model.

A self-consistent calculation of $\mu \rightarrow e + \gamma$ (2) 22

The reason is the missing of contributions from one-loop matching operators: $\mathcal{L}_{\text{loop}}^{(6)} \supset \frac{\left(Y_{\nu}M^{-2}Y_{\nu}^{\dagger}Y_{l}\right)_{\alpha\beta}}{24\left(4\pi\right)^{2}} \left[g_{1}\left(\overline{\ell_{\alpha L}}\sigma_{\mu\nu}E_{\beta R}\right)HB^{\mu\nu} + 5g_{2}\left(\overline{\ell_{\alpha L}}\sigma_{\mu\nu}E_{\beta R}\right)\tau^{I}HW^{I\mu\nu}\right] + \text{h.c.}$ $SSB - \frac{eg_2^2}{12 \left(4\pi\right)^2 M_W^2} \overline{l_L} \sigma_{\mu\nu} R R^{\dagger} M_l l_R F^{\mu\nu} + \text{h.c.}$ contributing directly via diagram (d): (D. Zhang, S. Zhou, 2102.04954) (a) (b)(c)(d) The total amplitude turns out to be $i\mathcal{M}_{tot} = \frac{-ieg_2^2}{2(4\pi)^2 M_W^2} \left[\sum_{i=1}^3 U_{\alpha i} U_{\beta i}^* \left(-\frac{5}{6} + \frac{m_i^2}{4M_W^2} \right) - \frac{1}{3} \left(R R^\dagger \right)_{\alpha\beta} \right] \left[\epsilon_{\mu}^* \overline{u} \left(p_2 \right) i \sigma^{\mu\nu} q_{\nu} \left(m_{\alpha} P_{\rm L} + m_{\beta} P_{\rm R} \right) u \left(p_1 \right) \right]$

This result is *consistent* with the full type-I seesaw picture — a good thing!

Flavor symmetry is a powerful guiding principle for *neutrino* model building?

- —— in principle, no problem.
- —— in practice, a lot to pay.

 $S_3, S_4, A_4, A_5, U(1)_F, SU(2)_F, modular,$

★ Froggatt-Nielsen mechanism (1979) Example (T. Kobayashi, ZZX, 1997):

$$M'_{\mathrm{u}} \sim \langle H_2 \rangle \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \epsilon_{\mathrm{u}}^3 & 0\\ \epsilon_{\mathrm{u}}^3 & \epsilon_{\mathrm{u}}^2 & \epsilon_{\mathrm{u}}^2\\ 0 & \epsilon_{\mathrm{u}}^2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad M'_{\mathrm{d}} \sim \langle H_1 \rangle \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^3 & 0\\ \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^3 & \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^2 & \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^2\\ 0 & \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

CKM = identity matrix + perturbations Hierarchy of masses and flavor mixing

- Abelian or non-Abelian
- continuous or discrete
- 🐥 local or global
- broken spontaneously or explicitly
- flavons; assignments; how to break?
 - ★ Discrete flavor symmetries (1978—) Example (K.S. Babu, X.G. He, 2005):

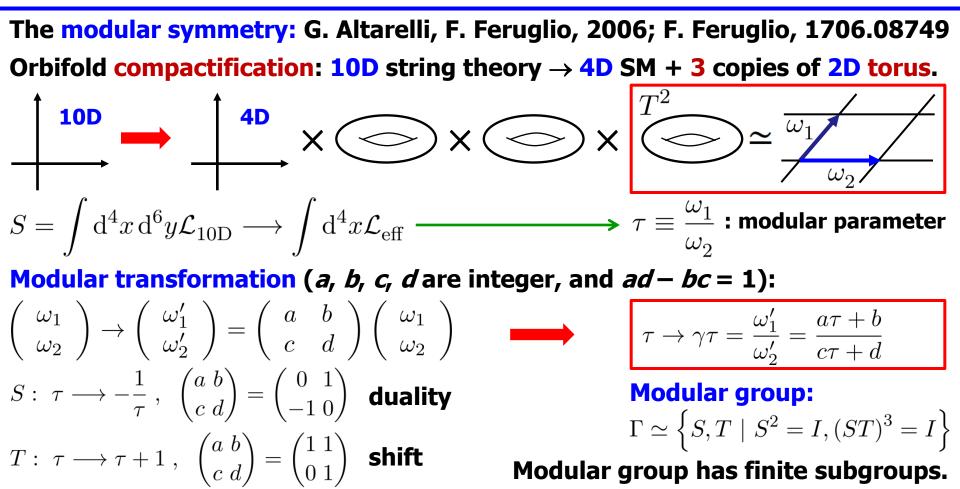
$$M_{l} = \sqrt{3} v U_{\omega} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_{l} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_{l}' & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda_{l}'' \end{pmatrix}, \quad M_{\nu} \simeq -\frac{\lambda_{\nu}^{2} v_{\phi}^{2}}{M} \begin{pmatrix} \xi & 0 & -\zeta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\zeta & 0 & \xi \end{pmatrix}$$

PMNS = constant matrix + corrections Specific constant flavor mixing pattern

New development: modular flavor symmetry with its own advantages + disadvantages

New progress: modular symmetry

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Modular invariance as flavor symmetry

The quotient group of modular group and its principal congruence subgroups:

$$\Gamma_N \simeq \left\{ S, T \mid S^2 = I, (ST)^3 = I, T^N = I \right\} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \Gamma_2 \simeq S_3, \ \Gamma_3 \simeq A_4, \ \Gamma_4 \simeq S_4, \ \Gamma_5 \simeq A_5$$

modulus τ_{r} , and a Yukawa coupling depends on τ_{r} .

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$$Y^{(2k)}_{\mathbf{r}}(\gamma\tau) = (c\tau+d)^{2k}\,\rho_{\mathbf{r}}(\gamma)\,Y^{(2k)}_{\mathbf{r}}(\tau), \ \, \gamma\in\overline{\Gamma}\equiv\Gamma/Z_2$$

$$\mathcal{W}(\tau,\chi) \longrightarrow \mathcal{W}(\tau,\chi) = \sum_{n} \sum_{\{I_1,\cdots,I_n\}} Y_{I_1\cdots I_n}(\tau) \chi^{(I_1)} \dots \chi^{(I_n)}$$

Under modular transformation the superpotential is invariant:

 $Y_{I_1 \cdots I_n}(\tau) \longrightarrow (c\tau + \underline{d})^{k_Y} \rho_Y(\gamma) Y_{I_1 \cdots I_n}(\tau) \longleftarrow \text{The Modular form of Yukawa couplings.}$

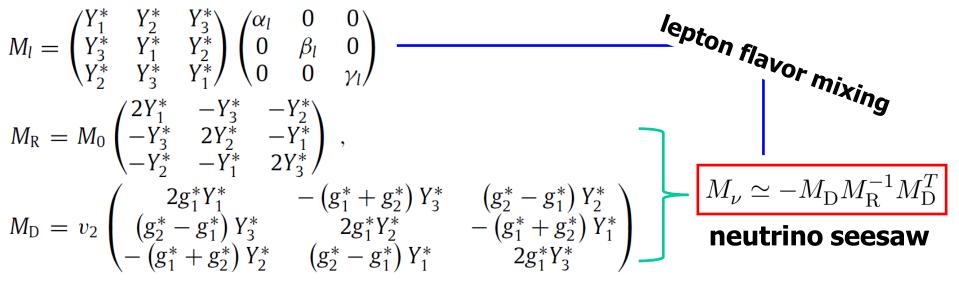
Example: modular A4 (1)

For the modular group $\Gamma_3 \simeq A_4$ with weight 2 and Dedekind η -function, $Y_1(\tau) = \frac{i}{2\pi} \left[\frac{\dot{\eta}(\tau/3)}{\eta(\tau/3)} + \frac{\dot{\eta}(\tau/3 + 1/3)}{\eta(\tau/3 + 1/3)} + \frac{\dot{\eta}(\tau/3 + 2/3)}{\eta(\tau/3 + 2/3)} - 27 \frac{\dot{\eta}(3\tau)}{\eta(3\tau)} \right] = 1 + 12q + 36q^2 + 12q^3 + \cdots,$ $Y_2(\tau) = \frac{-i}{\pi} \left[\frac{\dot{\eta}(\tau/3)}{\eta(\tau/3)} + \omega^2 \frac{\dot{\eta}(\tau/3 + 1/3)}{\eta(\tau/3 + 1/3)} + \omega \frac{\dot{\eta}(\tau/3 + 2/3)}{\eta(\tau/3 + 2/3)} \right] = -6q^{1/3} \left(1 + 7q + 8q^2 + \cdots \right),$ $Y_3(\tau) = \frac{-i}{\pi} \left[\frac{\dot{\eta}(\tau/3)}{\eta(\tau/3)} + \omega \frac{\dot{\eta}(\tau/3 + 1/3)}{\eta(\tau/3 + 1/3)} + \omega^2 \frac{\dot{\eta}(\tau/3 + 2/3)}{\eta(\tau/3 + 2/3)} \right] = -18q^{2/3} \left(1 + 2q + 5q^2 + \cdots \right),$

where $\eta(-1/\tau) = \eta(\tau)\sqrt{-i\tau}$, $\eta(\tau+1) = \eta(\tau)\exp(i\pi/12)$, $q = \exp(i2\pi\tau)$, $\omega = \exp(i2\pi/3)$

- An explicit model in MSSM (T. Kobayashi et al, 2018): $\ell_{L} = (\ell_{eL}, \ell_{\mu L}, \ell_{\tau L})^{T} \sim \underline{3}, \quad N_{R} = (N_{eR}, N_{\mu R}, N_{\tau R})^{T} \sim \underline{3}, \quad E_{eR} \sim \underline{1}, \quad E_{\mu R} \sim \underline{1}'', \quad E_{\tau R} \sim \underline{1}';$ $H_{1} \sim \underline{1}, \quad H_{2} \sim \underline{1}, \quad Y(\tau) \sim \underline{3},$
- $\mathcal{W}_{\text{lepton}} = \alpha_l \left(E_{eR} \right)_{\underline{1}} \left(H_1 \right)_{\underline{1}} \left[\ell_L Y(\tau) \right]_{\underline{1}} + \beta_l \left(E_{\mu R} \right)_{\underline{1}''} \left(H_1 \right)_{\underline{1}} \left[\ell_L Y(\tau) \right]_{\underline{1}'} + \gamma_l \left(E_{\tau R} \right)_{\underline{1}'} \left(H_1 \right)_{\underline{1}} \left[\ell_L Y(\tau) \right]_{\underline{1}''} \\ + g_1 \left(N_R \right)_{\underline{3}} \left(H_2 \right)_{\underline{1}} \cdot \left[\ell_L Y(\tau) \right]_{\underline{3}_S} + g_2 \left(N_R \right)_{\underline{3}} \left(H_2 \right)_{\underline{1}} \cdot \left[\ell_L Y(\tau) \right]_{\underline{3}_A} \\ + M_0 \left(N_R N_R \right)_{\underline{3}_S} \cdot \left[Y(\tau) \right]_{\underline{3}} . \qquad \text{no flavons}$

After spontaneous gauge symmetry breaking, one is left with flavor textures:



Comment A: physical meaning of the complex modular parameter τ is unclear.

Comment B: the flavor textures are not transparent at all, and the number of free parameters is still unsatisfactory. A careful numerical fitting is needed.

Comment C: no good reason for the strong mass hierarchy of charged leptons

Recent development (an incomplete list)

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A hot direction: a lot of papers have been published in the past four years.

- **Topic 1: lepton and quark flavor issues**
- Modular S3: Kobayashi et al, 2018, 2019;
- Modular A4: Criado, Feruglio, 2018; Kobayashi et al, 2018; Okada, Tanimoto, 2019; Ding et al, 2019; Zhang, 2020; Wang, 2020; King, King, 2020; ...
- Modular S4: Penedo, Petcov, 2019; Kobayashi et al, 2020; Wang, Zhou, 2020; Zhang, Zhou, 2021; ...
- Modular A5: Novichkov et al, 2019; Ding et al, 2019; Criado et al, 2020; ...

Topic 2: multiple modular symmetries

Varzielas et al, 2020; King, Zhou, 2020, King,Zhou, 2021; ... **Topic 3: double covering of** Γ **N**

Modular A4': Liu, Ding, 2019; Lu et al, 2020

Modular S4': Novichkov et al, 2021; Liu et al, 2021; ...

Modular A5': Wang, Yu, Zhou, 2021; Yao et al, 2021; ...

Topic 4: fixed points + residual symmetry

Novichkov et al, 2019; Ding et al, 2019; Varzielas et al, 2020; Feruglio et al, 2021; Okada, Tanimoto, 2021; Wang, Zhou, 2021

Topic 5: modular symmetry and gCP

Novichkov et al, 2019; Baul et al, 2019; ...

Other topics: GUT, top-down approach, ...

Summary

★ In the coming 20 years, precision tests of fundamental Yukawa interactions of charged fermions remain a big challenge at the energy frontier.

★ The **trivial** neutrino **Yukawa** interactions (i.e., *Dirac* neutrinos) would make an experimental test impossible. This possibility is theoretically unnatural.

★ The Majorana nature of neutrinos is so appealing, and the seesaw picture is consistent with the spirit of Weinberg's EFT and thus in the landscape.

★ The modular symmetry, different from the conventional flavor symmetry in several aspects (modulus parameter versus CG coefficients, ...), offers a new string + SUSY possibility to look at the neutrino Yukawa interactions.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION