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# Flavor physics

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# General remarks

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- Please ask questions
- I will tell you things that you know. But if you do not know them, ask...
- Do your “homeworks”
- I will cover only the main ideas. For details look at reviews and books
- Some references
  - Y. Nir, hep-ph/0510413
  - Branco, Lavoura, and Silva, CP violation (book)
  - Y. Grossman, arXiv:1006.3534

# Outline

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## 1. First lecture

- The SM (or how we built models)
- The flavor sector of the SM

## 2. Second lecture

- Meson mixing and decays
- CP violation

## 3. Third lecture

- Measurements of CP violation
- The big picture (how all this related to HEP...)

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# What is HEP?

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Very simple question

$$\mathcal{L} = ?$$

# What is HEP

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Very simple question

$$\mathcal{L} = ?$$

Not a very simple answer

# Basics of model building

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$$\mathcal{L} = ?$$

Axioms of physics

1. Gauge symmetry
2. representations of the fermions and scalars (irreps)
3. SSB (relations between parameters)

Then  $\mathcal{L}$  is the *most general* normalizable one

# Remarks

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- We impose Lorentz symmetry (in a way it is a local symmetry)
- We assume QFT (that is, quantum mechanics is also an axiom)
- We do not impose global symmetries. They are “accidental,” that is, they are there only because we do not write NR terms
- The basic fields are two components Weyl spinors
- A model has a finite number of parameters. In principle, they need to be measured and only after that the model can be tested

# A working example: the SM

- Symmetry:  $SU(3)_C \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$
- irreps: 3 copies of QUDLE fermions

$$\begin{array}{lll} Q_L(3, 2)_{1/6} & U_R(3, 1)_{2/3} & D_R(3, 1)_{-1/3} \\ L_L(1, 2)_{-1/2} & E_R(1, 1)_{-1} & \end{array}$$

- SSB: one scalar

$$\phi(1, 2)_{+1/2} \quad \langle \phi \rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y \rightarrow U(1)_{EM}$$

- This model has a  $U(1)_B \times U(1)_e \times U(1)_\mu \times U(1)_\tau$  global symmetry

# Then Nature is given by...

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the most general  $\mathcal{L}$

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{kin} + \mathcal{L}_{Higgs} + \mathcal{L}_{Yukawa}$$

- Kinetic terms give rise to the gauge interactions.
  - The Gauge interactions are universal (better emphasis that!)
  - 3 parameters,  $g$ ,  $g'$  and  $g_s$
  - In the SM only LH fields participate in the weak interaction
- The Higgs part gives the vev and the Higgs mass. 2 parameters. I will not discuss this part
- Yukawa terms:  $H\bar{\psi}_L\psi_R$ . This is where flavor is. 13 parameters

# Yukawa terms

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$$Y_{ij}^L (\bar{L}_L)_i \phi (E_R)_j + Y_{ij}^D (\bar{Q}_L)_i \phi (D_R)_j + Y_{ij}^U (\bar{Q}_L)_i \tilde{\phi} (U_R)_j$$

- The Yukawa matrix,  $Y_{ij}^F$ , is a general complex matrix
- After the Higgs acquires a vev, the Yukawa terms give masses to the fermions. Also, after the breaking we can talk about  $U_L$  and  $D_L$ , not about  $Q_L$
- If  $Y$  is not diagonal, flavor is not conserved (soon we will go over the subtleties here)
- If  $Y$  carries a phase,  $CP$  is violated (soon we will understand).  $C$  and  $P$  is violated to start with

# CP violation

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A simple “hand wave” argument of why CP violation is given by a phase

- It is all in the  $+h.c.$  term

$$Y_{ij} (\bar{Q}_L)_i \phi (D_R)_j + Y_{ji}^* (\bar{D}_R)_j \phi^\dagger (Q_L)_i$$

- Under CP

$$Y_{ij} (\bar{D}_R)_j \phi^\dagger (Q_L)_i + Y_{ji}^* (\bar{Q}_L)_j \phi (D_R)_i$$

- CP is conserved if  $Y_{ij} = Y_{ij}^*$
- Not a full proof, since there is still a basis choice...

# The CKM matrix

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It is all about moving between bases...

- We can diagonalize the Yukawa matrices

$$Y_{diag} = V_L Y V_R^\dagger, \quad V_L, V_R \text{ are unitary}$$

- The mass basis is defined as the one with  $Y$  diagonal, and this is when

$$(d_L)_i \rightarrow (V_L)_{ij} (d_L)_j, \quad (d_R)_i \rightarrow (V_R)_{ij} (d_R)_j$$

- The couplings to the photon is not modified by this rotation

$$\mathcal{L}_\gamma \sim \bar{d}_i \delta_{ij} d_i \rightarrow \bar{d}_i V \delta_{ij} V^\dagger d \sim \bar{d}_i \delta_{ij} d_i$$

# CKM, $W$ couplings

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- For the  $W$  the rotation to the mass basis is important

$$\mathcal{L}_W \sim \bar{u}_L^i \delta_{ij} d_L^j \rightarrow \bar{u}_i V_L^U \delta_{ij} V_L^{D\dagger} d \sim \bar{u}_i V_{CKM} d_i$$

where

$$V_{CKM} = V_L^U V_L^{D\dagger}$$

- The point is that we cannot have  $Y_U$ ,  $Y_D$  and the couplings to the  $W$  diagonal at the same basis
- In the mass basis the  $W$  interaction change flavor, that is flavor is not conserved

# CKM: Remarks

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$$V_{CKM} = V_L^U V_L^{D\dagger}$$

- $V_{CKM}$  is unitary
- The CKM matrix violates flavor only in charge current interactions, for example, in transition from  $u$  to  $d$

$$V_{us} \bar{u} s W^+,$$

- In the lepton sector without RH neutrinos  $V = 1$  since  $V_L^\nu$  is arbitrary. This is in general the case with degenerate fermions
- When we add neutrino masses the picture is the same as for quarks. Yet, for leptons it is usually not the best to work in the mass basis

# FCNC

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FCNC=Flavor Changing Neutral Current

- Very important concept in flavor physics
- Important: Diagonal couplings vs universal couplings

# FCNC

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In the SM there is no FCNC at tree level. Very nice since in Nature FCNC are highly suppressed

- Historically,  $K \rightarrow \mu\nu$  vs  $K_L \rightarrow \mu\mu$
- The suppression was also seen in charm and  $B$
- In the SM we have four neutral bosons,  $g, \gamma, Z, h$ . Their couplings are diagonal
- The reasons why they are diagonal, and what it takes to have FCNC, is not always trivial
- Of course we have FCNC at one loop (two charged current interactions give a neutral one)

# Photon and gluon tree level FCNC

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- For exact gauge interactions the couplings are always diagonal. It is part of the kinetic term

$$\partial_\mu \delta_{ij} \rightarrow (\partial_\mu + i q_\mu) \delta_{ij}$$

Symmetries are nice...

# Higgs tree level FCNC

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- The Higgs is a possible source of FCNC. With one Higgs doublet, the mass matrix is align with the Yukawa

$$\mathcal{L}_m \sim Y v \bar{d}_L d_R \quad \mathcal{L}_{int} \sim Y H \bar{d}_L d_R$$

- With two doublets we have tree level FCNC

$$\mathcal{L}_m \sim \bar{d}_L (Y_1 v_1 + Y_2 v_2) d_R \quad \mathcal{L}_{int} \sim H_1 \bar{d}_L Y_1 d_R$$

- There are “ways” to avoid it, by imposing extra symmetries

# Z exchange FCNC

- For broken gauge symmetry there is no FCNC when:  
“All the fields with the same irreps if the unbroken symmetry also have the same irreps in the broken part”
- In the SM the  $Z$  coupling is diagonal since all  $q = -1/3$   
RH quarks are  $(3, 1)_{-1/3}$  under  $SU(2) \times U(1)$
- What we have in the couplings is

$$\bar{d}_i (T_3)_{ij} d_j \rightarrow \bar{d} V (T_3)_{ij} V^\dagger d_j, \quad VT_3V^\dagger \propto I \text{ if } T_3 \propto I$$

- Adding quarks of different irreps generate tree level FCNC  $Z$  couplings
- It is the same for new neutral gauge bosons (usually denoted by  $Z'$ )

# A little conclusion

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- In the SM flavor is the issue of the 3 generations of quarks
- Flavor is violated by the charged current weak interactions only
- There is no FCNC at tree level. Not trivial, and very important
- All flavor violation is from the CKM matrix

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# Parameter counting

# How many parameters we have?

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How many parameters are physical?

- “Unphysical” parameters are those that can be set to zero by a basis rotation
- General theorem

$$N(\text{Phys}) = N(\text{tot}) - N(\text{broken})$$

- $N(\text{Phys})$ , number of physical parameters
- $N(\text{tot})$ , total number of parameters
- $N(\text{broken})$ , number of broken generators
- Without the new terms the global symmetry is large, and the new terms break part of it. It is the breaking that can be “used” to find a better basis

# Example: Zeeman effect

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A hydrogen atom with weak magnetic field

- The magnetic field add one new physical parameter,  $B$

$$V(r) = \frac{-e^2}{r} + B\hat{z}$$

- But there are 3 total parameters

$$V(r) = \frac{-e^2}{r} + B_x\hat{x} + B_y\hat{y} + B_z\hat{z}$$

- The magnetic field break the symmetry  $SO(3) \rightarrow SO(2)$
- 2 broken generators, can be “used” to define the  $z$  axis

$$N(\text{Phys}) = N(\text{tot}) - N(\text{broken}) \quad \Rightarrow \quad 1 = 3 - 2$$