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Lecture 2: Rare decays & flavor physics beyond the SM

- The MFV hypothesis
- Flavor non-universal interactions
- ▶ LFU tests in b→clv transitions
- ▶ Rare b \rightarrow s*ll* decays
- Speculations on present data: from EFT to the UV
- Future prospects
- Conclusions





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The big questions in flavor physics:

- Do we understand the origin of the approximate residual flavor symmetries giving rise to hierarchical Yukawa couplings ?
- Can we make sense of the tight NP bounds from flavor-violating processes and still hope to see NP signals somewhere? And in case where?



NP flavor

puzzle



2023 CERN-Fermilab HCP Summer School

The MFV hypothesis



<u>The MFV hypothesis</u>

Current data show no significant deviations from the SM (at the 5%-30% level, depending on the specific amplitude) on $\Delta F = 2$ observables (mass differences and CP-violating phases) \rightarrow strong bounds on possible BSM contributions:

$$M(B_{d}-\overline{B}_{d}) \sim \frac{(y_{t}^{2}V_{tb}^{*}V_{td})^{2}}{16\pi^{2}m_{t}^{2}} + c_{NP}\frac{1}{\Lambda^{2}}$$



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	Bounds on Λ (TeV)		Bounds on c_{ij} ($\Lambda = 1 \text{ TeV}$)		
Operator	Re	Im	Re	Im	Observables
$(\bar{s}_L \gamma^\mu d_L)^2$	9.8×10^2	1.6×10^{4}	9.0×10^{-7}	3.4×10^{-9}	$\Delta m_K; \varepsilon_K$
$(\bar{s}_R d_L)(\bar{s}_L d_R)$	1.8×10^4	3.2×10^5	6.9×10^{-9}	2.6×10^{-11}	$\Delta m_K; \varepsilon_K$
$(\bar{c}_L \gamma^\mu u_L)^2$	1.2×10^{3}	2.9×10^{3}	5.6×10^{-7}	1.0×10^{-7}	$\Delta m_D; q/p , \phi_D$
$(\bar{c}_R u_L)(\bar{c}_L u_R)$	6.2×10^{3}	1.5×10^{4}	5.7×10^{-8}	1.1×10^{-8}	$\Delta m_D; q/p , \phi_D$
$(\bar{b}_L \gamma^\mu d_L)^2$	5.1×10^2	9.3×10^2	3.3×10^{-6}	1.0×10^{-6}	$\Delta m_{B_d}; S_{B_d \to \psi K}$
$(\bar{b}_R d_L)(\bar{b}_L d_R)$	1.9×10^{3}	3.6×10^{3}	5.6×10^{-7}	1.7×10^{-7}	$\Delta m_{B_d}; S_{B_d \to \psi K}$
$(\bar{b}_L \gamma^{\mu} s_L)^2$	1.1×10^2	1.1×10^2	7.6×10^{-5}	7.6×10^{-5}	Δm_{B_s}
$(\bar{b}_R s_L)(\bar{b}_L s_R)$	3.7×10^2	3.7×10^2	1.3×10^{-5}	1.3×10^{-5}	Δm_{B_s}





<u>The MFV hypothesis</u>

The MFV hypothesis is the strongest assumption we can make to impose hierarchical structures also on physics beyond the SM:

- Flavor symmetry: U(3)⁵ = SU(3)_Q×SU(3)_U×SU(3)_D×... (accidental) global symm. of the SM gauge sector → promoted to basic symm. of the eff. theory
- <u>Symmetry-breaking terms:</u>

 $Y_D \sim 3_Q \times \overline{3}_D \qquad Y_U \sim 3_Q \times \overline{3}_U$

SM Yukawa couplings \rightarrow promoted to unique breaking terms of the flavor symmetry

E.g.:
$$\mathscr{L}_{Yukawa} = \overline{Q}_L Y_D \overline{D}_R H + ...$$

 $\overline{3}_Q 3_Q \times \overline{3}_D 3_D \rightarrow \text{invariant}$



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<u>MFV hypothesis</u>: *Yukawa couplings = unique sources of flavor symmetry breaking*

Automatic GIM & CKM suppression as in the SM [bounds on NP effective scale of effective operators lowered to ~ TeV]

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The MFV hypothesis

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While this idea can be implemented in explicit NP models (*i.e. gauge-mediated SUSY breaking*) is far from being general...

"flavor anarchy" MFV

...and it does not address the SM flavor problem (\rightarrow no justification for the observed hierarchies of the SM Yukawa couplings): it is only a (consistent) way to postpone the issue.

In the last few years it has become clear that there is an interesting alternative, able to address both flavor problems at the same time.

Flavor non-universal interactions



Flavor non-universal interactions

Suppose we could test matter only with long wave-length photons...



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That's exactly the same (misleading) argument we use to infer flavor symmetries..

γ, g, W, Z	•		
$SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1)$	e	μ	τ

The three (families) of particles seems to be "<u>identical copies</u>" <u>but for their mass</u> ...

The SM quantum numbers of the three families could be an "accidental" <u>low-energy</u> <u>property</u>: the different families may well have a very different behavior at high energies, as <u>signaled by their different mass</u>

All <u>flavor symmetries</u> could well be only accidental low-energy properties [such as isospin or SU(3) in QCD].

Flavor non-universal interactions

Following this general idea \rightarrow alternative paradigm to address <u>both</u> flavor puzzles via a <u>multi-scale</u> theory with <u>flavor non-universal</u> interactions



Dvali & Shifman '00 Panico & Pomarol '16 ... Bordone *et al.* '17 Allwicher, GI, Thomsen '20 Barbieri '21 Davighi & G.I. '23

Basic idea:

- 1st & 2nd generations have small masses (+ small coupling to NP) because these are generated by new dynamics at heavier scales
- *"flavor deconstruction*" of the SM gauge symmetry → flavor hierarchies emerge as accidental symmetries



Flavor non-universal interactions

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* "*flavor deconstruction*" of the SM gauge symmetries:



✓ This symmetry-breaking pattern is very general (*no need to tune couplings or potential*) → flavor universality emerges "naturally" at low energies

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✓ Charging the Higgs under $G_{SM}^{[3]}$ → only Yukawa of the third generation are allowed → "solution" of the SM flavor problem

$$\overline{\psi}_{L}^{[3]}Y\psi_{R}^{[3]}H^{[3]} \qquad \overline{\psi}_{L}^{[2]}Y\psi_{R}^{[3]}H^{[3]}$$

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- ✓ Charging the Higgs under $G_{SM}^{[3]}$ → only Yukawa of the third generation are allowed → "solution" of the SM flavor problem
- ✓ $G_{SM}^{[12]}$ symmetry → accidental U(2)ⁿ flavor symmetry → protection of flavor-changing processes as effective as in MFV

Flavor non-universal interactions

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Effective organizing principle for the flavor structure of the SMEFT

MFV vs. flavor non-universal interactions

As a general rule, within MFV:

• deviations from the SM are small (usually at most few %) and "universal" with respect to the quark-flavor, relative to the SM:

$$A[q_i \rightarrow q_j + \mathbf{X}]_{MFV} = A[q_i \rightarrow q_j + \mathbf{X}]_{SM} \left| 1 + c_{NP} \frac{m_W^2}{\Lambda^2} \right|$$

 deviations from the SM in semi-leptonic processes are expected to respect Lepton Flavor Universality (→ *lepton flavor plays no relevant role*)

On the contrary, within the $U(2)^n$ multi-scale framework:

- deviations are larger (relative to SM) in processes involving more 3^{rd} generation fermions (\rightarrow *prominent role of B physics*)
- Sizable violations of Lepton Flavor Universality can be expected, especially in processes involving τ and/or v_{τ}

LFU tests in $b \rightarrow c lv$ *transitions*



\triangleright <u>LFU tests in b \rightarrow clv transitions</u>

One of the most interesting test of LFU [3rd gen. quarks & leptons involved] can be performed in charged-current $b \rightarrow c$ transitions is via the ratios

$$R_{12}(H_c) = \frac{\Gamma(B \to H_c \ell_1 \nu_1)}{\Gamma(B \to H_c \ell_2 \nu_2)}$$
$$H_c = D, D^*,$$



We are not able to compute very precisely, <u>separately</u>, numerators and denominators in these ratios because of hadronic uncertainties...

E.g.:
$$A(B \rightarrow D\ell v)_{SM} = G_{eff} V_{cb} < D | \overline{b}_L \gamma_\mu c_L | B > \overline{\ell} \gamma^\mu v$$

 $f_+(q^2) (p_B + p_D)_\mu + f_-(q^2) (p_B - p_D)_\mu$

But these uncertainties cancels (to a large extent) in the ratios

\triangleright *LFU tests in b* \rightarrow *clv transitions*

Exp. status of of Lepton Flavor Universality tests in $b \rightarrow c$ transitions [τ vs. light leptons (μ , e)]:



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Exp. status of of Lepton Flavor Universality tests in $b \rightarrow c$ transitions [τ vs. light leptons (μ , e)]:



• SM prediction quite solid: hadronic uncertainties cancel (*to large extent*) in the ratio and deviations from 1 in *R*(X) expected only from phase-space differences

• Consistent results by 3 different exps. \rightarrow

$$\sim 3\sigma$$
 excess over SM

Rare
$$b \rightarrow s \ ll \ decays$$



 $\blacktriangleright Rare \ b \rightarrow s \ ll \ decays$

 $b \rightarrow s l^+l^-$ transitions are Flavor Channing Neutral Current amplitudes

- No SM tree-level contribution
- Strong suppression within the SM because of CKM hierarchy
- Hadronic uncertainties more subtle with respect to charged-current decays



The strong suppression within the SM implies a natural <u>high sensitivity to physics beyond the SM</u>.

On the experimental side, having two charged leptons in the final state allows us to access several kinematical distributions (*di-lepton spectra, angular distributions, ...*) in both exclusive & inclusive modes. \rightarrow *lectures by Y. Amhis*

On the theoretical, these processes involves different energy scales & necessitate a careful treatment.

$\triangleright \underline{Rare \ b} \rightarrow \underline{s \ ll \ decays}$

In order to describe these processes within the SM (& beyond) we use a 3-step procedure which allows us to separate the different scales involved:

1st step: Construction of an effective Lagrangian at the electroweak scale integrating out all the heavy fields around m_W (including the heavy SM fields)



- The interesting short-distance info (sensitive to NP) is encoded in the C_i(M_W) (*initial conditions*) of the <u>Wilson coefficients</u> of the FCNC operators (especially C₉ & C₁₀)
- In generic extensions of the SM, the basis of FCNC operators can be larger

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2nd step: Evolution of \mathscr{L}_{eff} down to low scales using RGE

$$\mathscr{L}_{eff} = \Sigma_{i} C_{i}(M_{W}) Q_{i} \longrightarrow \mathscr{L}_{eff} = \Sigma_{i} C_{i}(\mu \sim m_{b}) Q_{i}$$

Potential dilution of the interesting short-distance information:

Mixing of the four-quark Q_i into the FCNC Q_i [perturbative long-distance contribution]



- <u>Small</u> in the case of the <u>Z penguin</u> (Q₁₀) because of the heavy Z mass (top-quark dominance \rightarrow fully dominated by short distances)
- <u>Large</u> for most other operators; however, the effect can be computed with high accuracy

 $\blacktriangleright Rare \ b \rightarrow s \ ll \ decays$

3rd step: Evaluation of the hadronic matrix elements

 $A(B \to f) = \Sigma_{i} C_{i}(\mu) \langle f | Q_{i} | B \rangle (\mu) \qquad [\mu \sim m_{b}]$

- Hadronic uncertainty due to form factors (as in all exclusive decays)
- Irreducible th. error due to long-distance effects not included in f.f. (*charm* threshold → particularly large close to <u>c</u> resonances)



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Despite the difficulties of estimating precisely long-distance dynamics, there are two properties which are very simple/clean:

- cannot induce LFU breaking terms (\rightarrow LFU ratios "clean")
- cannot induce axial-current contributions ($\rightarrow B_s \rightarrow \mu \mu$ "clean")

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For other observables the situation is more complex:

- as a general rule, differential distributions helps to disentangle shortvs. long-distance effects [long-distance "flat" in $q^2 = m_{ll}^2$]
- in the near future, with the help of high-statistics data, we should be able to disentangle "QCD pollution" from short-distance dynamics

$\triangleright \underline{Rare \ b \rightarrow s \ ll \ decays}$

Since about 10 years, data on different modes & different $b \rightarrow sll$ observables indicate tensions with respect to the SM predictions.

Most of the effects are well described by a (*lepton-universal*) shift in C_9

 $\mathcal{O}_9^\ell = (\bar{s}_L \gamma_\mu b_L) (\bar{\ell} \gamma^\mu \ell)$

- Possible contamination from SM longdistance (not favored by the q² distrib.)
- Conservative attempts to <u>compute</u> the effect agree on $\sim 3\sigma$ deviation



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Possible explanation connected to CC (hence 3rd family LFU violation):





$\triangleright \underline{Rare \ b \rightarrow s \ ll \ decays}$

Till ~ 1 year ago, a tiny but very interesting effect was also observed in the "clean" observables: LFU ratios [μ vs. e] & BR(B_s $\rightarrow \mu\mu$)

- Both deviations compatible with a single non-universal left-handed operator: $Q_{0}^{(\mu)} Q_{10}^{(\mu)}$
- High significance when combined



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- high overall significance loss for NP hypotheses
- modest implications for NP coupled mainly to 3rd gen.



Speculations on present data: from EFT to the UV

[an illustration of how model-building works...]



G. Isidori – Flavor Physics Theory (2nd Lecture)

Speculations on present data: from EFT...



G. Isidori – Flavor Physics Theory (2nd Lecture)

Speculations on present data: from EFT...



Speculations on present data: from EFT to the UV

Which mediators can generate the effective semileptonic operators required by EFT analysis? Not many possibilities...



Leptoquarks (both scalar and vectors) have a <u>strong advantage</u>: only semileptonic operators at the tree-level (no four-quark operators \rightarrow strong bounds from meson-antimeson mixing)

Speculations on present data: from EFT to the UV

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Simplest option: LQ of the Pati-Salam gauge group: $SU(4) \times SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R$



Speculations on present data: from EFT to the UV



Implications & future prospects



"It doesn't matter how beautiful your theory is, it doesn't matter how smart you are. If it doesn't agree with experiment, it's wrong." [Feynman]

Implications & future prospects

If the ideas I sketched before are correct (*even only in part...*), we can expect several interesting new phenomena, at both <u>low</u> and <u>high</u> energies

I The U_1 exchange @ <u>high-energies</u>

[very general, directly connected to the EFT analysis]



Implications & future prospects

Aurelio Juste [Moriond EW'23]



Implications & future prospects

I The U_1 exchange @ <u>high-energies</u>

[very general, directly connected to the EFT analysis]



Implications & future prospects

II General predictions of U₁ exchange @ <u>low-energies</u>
[UV insensitive observables, closely connected to the EFT analysis]



T

 v_{τ}

 \mathcal{V}_{τ}

b

<u>Implications & future prospects</u>

III Specific predictions of the complete model (a) <u>low-energies</u> [UV sensitive observables]



Belle II physics highlights

EPS, 24 Aug 2023 Sasha Glazov, on behalf of Belle II

Implications & future prospects

III Specific predictions of the complete model (a) <u>low-energies</u> [UV sensitive observables]



Evidence for $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \overline{\nu}$ decay with a branching fraction 2.8 σ above the standard model

Implications & future prospects

III Specific predictions of the complete model (a) <u>low-energies</u> [UV sensitive observables] also beyond B-physics...





Conclusions

- Flavor physics represents one the most intriguing aspects of the SM and, at the same time, a great opportunity to investigate physics beyond the SM.
- The apparently strong bounds on NP scales derived by flavor observables might be a "mirage": motivated models are compatible with new degrees of freedom in the TeV domain
- The idea of a *multi-scale construction at the origin of the flavor hierarchies* has several appealing aspects:
 - it addresses both "flavor problems"
 - is compatible with present data (*even favored by some "anomalies*")
 - is compatible with motivated UV completions of the SM
 - it implies that <u>new non-standard effects should emerge soon</u>
- The models and the observables I discussed are explicit examples (*by no means exhaustive...*) that illustrate well the general statement that precision flavor physics is a key element to make progress in the field