<u>Gino Isidori</u> [University of Zürich]

Lecture 1: Introduction to flavor physics

Lecture 2: Meson mixing, rare decays, universality tests

Lecture 3: Flavor physics beyond the SM

The MFV hypothesis
 Flavor non-universal interactions
 Flavor deconstruction
 Future prospects
 Conclusions





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The MFV hypothesis



The MFV hypothesis

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:

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



	Bounds on Λ (TeV)		Bounds on c_{ij} ($\Lambda = 1$ 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}





The MFV hypothesis

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

- <u>Flavor symmetry:</u> $U(3)^5 = SU(3)_Q \times SU(3)_U \times SU(3)_D \times ...$ accidental global symm. of the SM gauge sector \rightarrow promoted to fundamental symm. of EFT
- <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 be the unique breaking terms of this flavor symmetry



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

The MFV hypothesis

Since the global flavor symmetry <u>is already broken within the SM</u>, it is not consistent to impose it as an exact symmetry beyond the SM (*fine-tuned hypothesis, not invariant under quantum corrections*)

However, we can promote this symmetry to be an exact symmetry, treating *(formally)* the Yukawa matrices as the vacuum expectation values of appropriate auxiliary fields *(spurion technique)*:

E.g.:
$$Y_D \sim (3,1,\overline{3}) \& Y_U \sim (3,\overline{3},1) \text{ under } \operatorname{SU}(3)_{Q_L} \times \operatorname{SU}(3)_{U_R} \times \operatorname{SU}(3)_{D_R}$$

$$\mathscr{L}_{\operatorname{Yukawa}} = \overline{Q}_L Y_D D_R \phi + \overline{Q}_L Y_U U_R \phi_c + \overline{L}_L Y_L e_R \phi + \text{h.c.}$$

$$(\overline{3},1,1) \land (1,1,3)$$

$$(1,1,1) = \text{invariant}$$

The MFV hypothesis

Basic idea: Yukawa coupling generated at some heavy (*unaccessible*) energy scale \rightarrow Y = only sources of flavor breaking accessible at low energies



SMEFT with MFV

Typical FCNC dim.-6 operator:

 $\overline{Q}_{L}^{i}(Y_{U}Y_{U}^{+})_{ij}\gamma_{\mu}Q_{L}^{j}\overline{L}_{L}^{i}\gamma^{\mu}L_{L}^{i}$ (3,3,1) $(\bar{3},3,1)$ (1,1,1)

 $\overline{Q}_{L}^{i}(Y_{U}Y_{U}^{+})_{ii}\gamma_{\mu}Q_{L}^{j}\overline{L}_{L}^{i}\gamma^{\mu}L_{L}^{i}$

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Typical FCNC

dim.-6 operator:



 $(3,\overline{3},1) \underbrace{(3,\overline{3},1)}_{(1,1,1)} (\overline{3},3,1)$ We know that $(Y_U Y_U^+)_{ij} \approx y_t^2 V_{3i}^* V_{3j}$ \downarrow $V^+ \times \operatorname{diag}(y_u^2, y_c^2, y_t^2) \times V$ $\approx V^+ \times \operatorname{diag}(0, 0, y_t^2) \times V$

Hence we achieve the same suppression of the leading SM amplitude

The MFV hypothesis

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SMEFT with MFV

Phenomenological implications:

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

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

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

The MFV hypothesis

Basic idea: Yukawa coupling generated at some heavy (*unaccessible*) energy scale \rightarrow Y = only sources of flavor breaking accessible at low energies

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

...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 also become clear that:

- MFV is becoming less and less effective in addressing the hierarchy problem given increasing strong bounds on universal New Physics from the LHC
- There are alternatives symmetry + symmetry-breaking assumptions achieving the same "protection" of flavor-changing processes

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Flavor non-universal interactions

To better appreciate the change of perspective, let's consider the following analogy:

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



we would conclude that these two particles are "<u>identical copies</u>" <u>but for their mass</u> ...

Flavor non-universal interactions

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we would conclude that these two particles are "<u>identical copies</u>" <u>but for their mass</u> ...

This is exactly the same (*potentially misleading*) argument we use to infer flavor universality in the SM...



These 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>

Flavor non-universal interactions

A further useful analogy is the chiral structure of long-range forces.

In the low-energy limit of the SM (= $QED \times QCD$) we observe perfect universality of LH and RH gauge couplings. However, we know this is a low-energy artifact:



In a similar fashion, the <u>flavor</u> universality of <u>all SM gauge interactions</u> could be a low-energy artifact...

An efficient paradigm to address <u>both</u> flavor puzzles (I+II), & *possibly* the Higgs hierarchy, is a *multi-scale* UV with *flavor non-universal* interactions



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

1st & 2nd generations have small masses (+ small coupling to NP) because these are generated by new flavor non-universal dynamics at heavier scales



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Effective organizing principle for the flavor structure of the SMEFT

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Flavor non-universal interactions: SMEFT bounds in the U(2)⁵ limit

In the 1st lecture we have seen that

$$\mathscr{L}_{\text{SM-EFT}} = \mathscr{L}_{\text{gauge}}(A_{a}, \psi_{i}) + \mathscr{L}_{\text{Higgs}}(H, A_{a}, \psi_{i}) + \sum_{d,i} \frac{c_{i}^{[d]}}{\Lambda^{d-4}}O_{i}^{d\geq 5}(H, A_{a}, \psi_{i})$$

Number of indpendent couplings (a) d=6:

- No flavor symmetry \longrightarrow 2499
- Exact $U(3)^5$ 47





E.g.:

$$\overline{Q}_{L}^{3} \gamma_{\mu} Q_{L}^{3} \overline{L}_{L}^{3} \gamma^{\mu} L_{L}^{3} \qquad \overline{Q}_{L}^{i} \gamma_{\mu} Q_{L}^{i} \overline{L}_{L}^{3} \gamma^{\mu} L_{L}^{3} \qquad i = 1,2$$

$$\overline{Q}_{L}^{-1} \gamma_{\mu} Q_{L}^{-2} \overline{L}_{L}^{-3} \gamma^{\mu} L_{L}^{-3}$$

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Flavor deconstruction

Flavor deconstruction

Going beyond the EFT approach, a consistent way to construct a multi-scale theory with flavor non-universal interactions is via a "*flavor deconstruction*" of the SM gauge symmetries:



Flavor deconstruction

Going beyond the EFT approach, a consistent way to construct a multi-scale theory with flavor non-universal interactions is via a "*flavor deconstruction*" of the SM gauge symmetries:

E.g.:
$$SU(3)_c \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y^{[3]} \times U(1)_Y^{[12]} \xrightarrow{\langle \Sigma \rangle} SU(3)_c \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$$



Flavor deconstruction



Flavor deconstruction



Flavor deconstruction

Energy - And	non-universality among all families	non-universality among the first two fa "frozen" at high scales <i>recision</i>	milies a <i>tests</i>
$\Lambda_{3,\mathrm{H}}$ –	non-universality of 3 rd family vs. light families [1 st , 2 nd]	$G^{[3]} \times G^{[12]} \longrightarrow U^{(2)^5} \text{ emerge as accident symmetry} \\ \downarrow \langle \Sigma \rangle$	ital on tests
$\Lambda_{\rm EW}$	universality of long-range forces	$G^{[123]} \leq G^{[SM]}$ diagonal subgroup $Y_U \sim \begin{pmatrix} <10^{-2} \\ <10^{-1} \\ \hline \end{pmatrix}$	
		"imprint" of the scale hierarchy in the Yukawa couplings	

Flavor deconstruction

Energy - A	non-universality among all families		non-universality among the first two families "frozen" at high scales
Λ _{3,H} -	non-universality of 3 rd family vs. light families [1 st , 2 nd]	$G^{[3]} \times G^{[12]}$	J → U(2) ⁵ emerge as accidental symmetry ✓ precision tests
$\Lambda_{\rm EW}$	universality of long-range forces	◆ G ^[123]	N.B.: The symmetry-breaking pattern $G^{[A]} \times G^{[B]} \rightarrow G^{[A+B]}$ is very general (no need to tune the potential) \rightarrow flavor universality emerges "naturally" at low energies

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Flavor deconstruction: quark-lepton unification for the 3rd generation

All possible options have been classified (not many consistent choices). A particularly interesting one is allowing quark-lepton unification a la Pati-Salam for the 3rd generation

 $\frac{\mathrm{SU}(4)^{[3]} \times \mathrm{SU}(3)^{[12]} \times \mathrm{G}_{\mathrm{EW}}}{|}$ $SU(3) \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_V$

Fermions

in SU(4):



Explain charge quantization

$$SU(4) \sim \begin{bmatrix} SU(3)_{C} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & LQ \\ LQ & \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{3} & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{B-L} generator$$

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Flavor deconstruction: quark-lepton unification for the 3rd generation

All possible options have been classified (*not many consistent choices*). A particularly interesting one is allowing quark-lepton unification a la Pati-Salam for the 3rd generation

 $SU(4)^{[3]} \times SU(3)^{[12]} \times G_{EW}$ \downarrow $SU(3) \times SU(2)_{L} \times U(1)_{Y}$



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Flavor deconstruction: quark-lepton unification for the 3rd generation

All possible options have been classified (*not many consistent choices*). A particularly interesting one is allowing quark-lepton unification a la Pati-Salam for the 3rd generation



Flavor deconstruction: back to B-physics data

Remember the two "anomalies" we discussed yesterday...



and don't forget all the caveats...

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Flavor deconstruction: back to B-physics data



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Flavor deconstruction: back to B-physics data



G. Isidori – *Flavor Physics* (3rd Lecture)

Flavor deconstruction: back to B-physics data



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]



IJ

 v_{τ}

 v_{τ}

b

Implications & future prospects

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



Belle II physics highlights

EPS, 24 Aug 2023

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