

# High dimensional seesaw for tiny neutrino masses

## 中微子微小质量的高量纲跷跷板机制

廖益

南开大学物理学院 北京大学高能物理中心

based on

PLB694, PLB698, JHEP1106

1. Introduction
2. Higher-dimensional mass operators
3. One example: cascade seesaw
4. Conclusion

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Experimental facts on neutrinos

- Precision data –

3 active, almost massless neutrinos interact as assigned in SM

- Oscillation data –

neutrinos have mass, with differences

$$\Delta m_{21}^2 \sim 7.6 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2, \quad |\Delta m_{31}^2| \sim 2.4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$$

and leptons mix in CC weak interactions

$$\sin^2 \theta_{12} \sim 0.32, \quad \sin^2 \theta_{23} \sim 0.50, \quad \theta_{13} \neq 0.$$

- $\beta$  decays, cosmological arguments, ... –

neutrinos have sub-eV mass; at least 2 out of 3 are massive

*Why are neutrinos so light?*

## 1.2 Weinberg operator: SM as EFT

- Within SM

SM contains only LH neutrinos – Only Majorana  $\nu$  mass could be possible

But gauge symmetries of SM do *not* allow such a mass –

$\Rightarrow m_\nu \neq 0$  calls for phys beyond SM

### Trivial extension:

adding RH  $\nu$  to form massive Dirac  $\nu$  as we do for charged fermions –

must tolerate tiny Yukawa coupling less than  $10^{-11}$

- SM as EFT

We can only see SM particles at low energies below certain scale  $\Lambda$ .

Weinberg (1980): SM gau. symmetries allow a dim-5,  $L$ -violating operator

$$\frac{\lambda}{\Lambda} \mathcal{O}_5 + \text{h.c.}, \quad \mathcal{O}_5 = \left( \overline{F_L^C} \epsilon H \right) \left( H^T \epsilon F_L \right) \quad \begin{array}{l} H : \text{ Higgs doublet} \\ F_L : \text{ LH lepton doublet} \end{array}$$
$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \frac{\lambda v^2}{\Lambda} \overline{\nu_L^C} \nu_L + \text{h.c. via } \langle H^0 \rangle = \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}}$$

### 1.3 Conventional seesaws

Weinberg operator  $\mathcal{O}_5$  for  $m_\nu$  is **unique**.

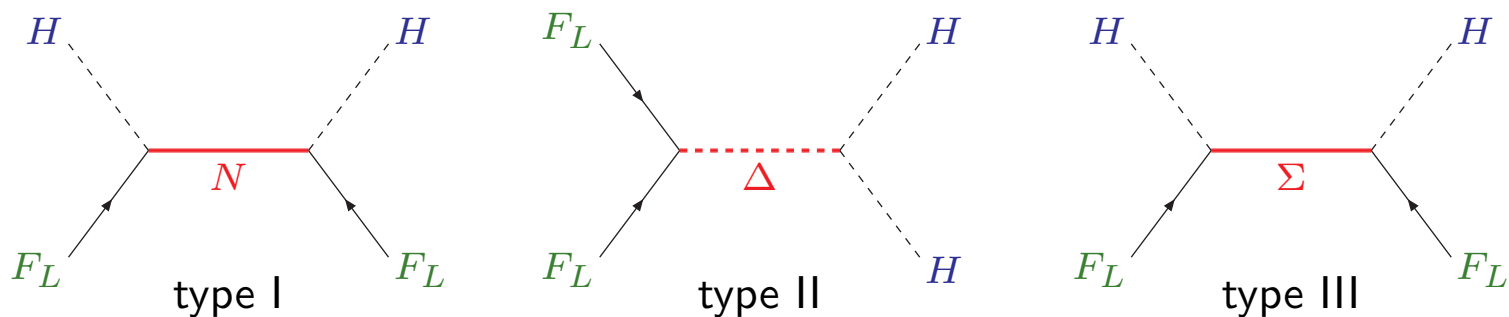
Ma (1998): From a purely group theor. analysis for  $SU(2)_L \otimes U(1)_Y$ :

$$F_L = (\mathbf{2}, -1), \quad H = (\mathbf{2}, +1)$$

there are **3 and only 3 apparently different** realizations of  $\mathcal{O}_5$  at tree level.

They may hint at **3 different origins** from an underlying theory –

- (1)  $F_L \otimes H$  as a (fermion) singlet: type I seesaw by adding fermion singlets
- (2)  $F_L \otimes F_L$  as a (scalar) triplet: type II seesaw by adding scalar triplets
- (3)  $F_L \otimes H$  as a (fermion) triplet: type III seesaw by adding fermion triplets



Back to  $\mathcal{O}_5$ :

for example, for  $v \sim 250$  GeV,  $\lambda \sim 1$ ,  $m_\nu \sim 0.1$  eV requires

$$\Lambda \sim 10^{15} \text{ GeV}$$

Dilemma:

$m_\nu$  tends to demand extremely **large**  $\Lambda$ , while

accessibility to new phys responsible for  $m_\nu$  relies on a **not-too-high**  $\Lambda$

*What to do with this tension?*

What kind of underlying phys for  $m_\nu$  would possibly be detectable?

## 1.4 Beyond conventional seesaws

Goal: lower  $\Lambda$

### Basic approaches

- $m_\nu$  induced radiatively:  
one loop (Zee '80),  
two loops (Zee '85, Babu '88),  
three loops (Krauss et al '03), ...

Usually amounts to higher-dim operators with additional small factors

Global symmetries usually required to forbid lower-loop contri.

- $m_\nu$  induced at tree level from higher-dim operators

Fields in higher-dim reps required to forbid lower-dim operators

Global symmetries not necessary

### Summary

- For realistic pheno,  $m_\nu$  should be induced from higher-dim operators
- What are higher-dim neutrino mass operators?
- How to realize them in underlying theories?

## 2. Higher-dimensional mass operators

### 2.1 SM as low energy effective theory PLB694

Relevant fields are all  $SU(2)_L$  doublets with hypercharge in parentheses:

$$F_L (-1), H (+1).$$

Mass operator unique at every higher dimension:

$$\mathcal{O}_{2n+5} = \left( \overline{F_L^C} \epsilon H \right) \left( H^T \epsilon F_L \right) \left( H^\dagger H \right)^n$$

inducing a neutrino mass upon  $\langle H^0 \rangle = v/\sqrt{2}$ :

$$\mathcal{O}_{2n+5} : m_\nu \sim \frac{\lambda v^2}{\Lambda} \left( \frac{v^2}{\Lambda^2} \right)^n$$

- accommodates tiny  $m_\nu$  for an appropriate  $n$  without requiring tiny  $\lambda$  or huge  $\Lambda$
- operator with smallest possible  $n$  dominates

Key: Young tableau,  $\mathbf{2}$  of  $SU(2)$  is pseudoreal.

## 2.2 Two-Higgs doublet model (2HDM) as low energy effective theory [PLB698](#)

- 2 Higgs doublets arise naturally in extended models, e.g., SUSY models
- phenomenologically viable:  $\rho = 1$ , FCNC suppressed in type I and II models

Relevant fields are all  $SU(2)_L$  doublets with hypercharge in parentheses:

$$F_L (-1), H_1 (+1), H_2 (-1).$$

3 operators at **dim-5**, e.g.,

$$T_5 = \overline{F_L^C} \epsilon H_1 H_2^\dagger F_L.$$

12 operators at **dim-7**, e.g.,

$$T_7^1 = \overline{F_L^C} \epsilon H_1 H_1^T \epsilon F_L H_2^\dagger H_2.$$

33 operators at **dim-9**, e.g.,

$$X_9^4 = \overline{F_L^C} \epsilon H_1 H_2^\dagger F_L H_1^\dagger H_2 H_2^\dagger H_1.$$

More possible operators at higher dims.

They induce  $m_\nu$  upon  $\langle H_{1,2}^0 \rangle = v_{1,2}/\sqrt{2}$ .



- The phys responsible for mass operators may also induce lepton-number violating interactions ( $\Delta L = 2$ ) with gauge bosons.

Such operators started at **dim-7**. A few examples:

$$J^2 = \left( (D_\mu \overline{F_L^C}) \epsilon H_1 \right) \left( (D^\mu F_L) \epsilon H_1 \right) \text{ 14 operators in total}$$

$$M(B) = \left( \overline{F_L^C} \epsilon H_1 \right) \sigma^{\mu\nu} \left( F_L \epsilon \tilde{H}_2 \right) B_{\mu\nu} \text{ 10 operators in total}$$

Phenomenology:

Upon SSB, there are the terms

$$J_{xy}^2 = \frac{1}{2} g_2^2 v_1^2 \overline{\ell_{Lx}^C} \ell_{Ly} W^{+\mu} W_\mu^+ + \dots \text{ neutrinoless 'double beta' decays}$$

$$M(B)_{xy} = \frac{1}{4} v_1 v_2^* \left( \sin \theta_W Z_{\mu\nu} - \cos \theta_W A_{\mu\nu} \right) \overline{\nu_{Lx}^C} \sigma^{\mu\nu} \nu_{Ly}$$

transition dipole interactions for Majorana  $\nu$

Systematic analysis of all related processes are possible with effective operators.

### 3. One example: cascade seesaw

**Goal:** lowest-dim operators with a given set of fields that give  $m_\nu$  upon SSB

Require fields in high-dim rep to push operators to higher dim

$L$  must be broken to get seesaw mass

#### 3.1 Basic considerations

- Gauge fields irrelevant; restrict to new fermion and scalar fields
- With new scalars alone,  $F_L$  must be in a state of  $I = 1, Y = -2$ :  $\overline{F_L^C} F_L$   
 $\Rightarrow$  type II seesaw
- With new fermions alone, they must couple  $F_L$  to  $H$  and thus  $I = 0, 1; Y = 0, \pm 2$ .  
 $\Rightarrow Y = 0$ : type I and III seesaws  
 $Y = \pm 2$ : mix leptons, but not change # of massless/massive modes

**Conclusion** - need both new fermions and scalars to go beyond conventional seesaws

Assume one new scalar  $\Phi$  and one new fermion  $\Sigma$

Assume without losing generality  $Y_\Phi \geq 0$ ,  $Y_\Sigma \geq 0$ .

Restrictions on their quantum numbers

(1)  $(I_\Sigma, Y_\Sigma) \neq (0, 0), (1, 0)$ ;  $(I_\Phi, Y_\Phi) \neq (1, 2)$ , to avoid conventional seesaws.

$(I_\Sigma, Y_\Sigma) \neq (0, 2)$ , to avoid trivial mixing.

(2)  $|I_\Sigma - I_\Phi| = \frac{1}{2}$  to couple  $(\Phi, \Sigma, F_L)$ .

(3)  $I_\Sigma, Y_\Sigma/2$  are integral (half-integral) while  $I_\Phi, Y_\Phi/2$  are half-integral (integral), with  $Y_\Sigma/2 \leq I_\Sigma, Y_\Phi/2 \leq I_\Phi$  to incorporate neutral members.

(4) Neutrality in  $Y$  allows:

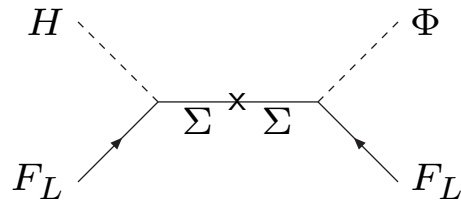
(4a)  $Y_\Sigma + Y_\Phi = 1$  for  $(F_L \Sigma \Phi)$

(4b)  $Y_\Sigma - Y_\Phi = 1$  for  $(F_L \Sigma \Phi^\dagger)$

(4c)  $Y_\Sigma - Y_\Phi = -1$  for  $(F_L \Sigma^C \Phi)$

(5)  $L$  must be broken.

### 3.2 Simplest case: both $H$ and $\Phi$ couple to $(F_L, \Sigma)$

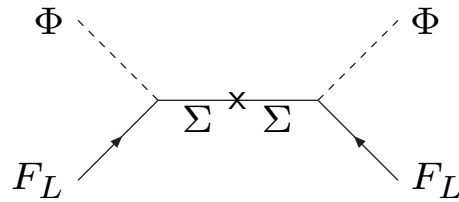


- Couple  $(H, \Sigma, F_L)$ : 4 options for  $(I_\Sigma, Y_\Sigma)$  –  
2 correspond to type I and III seesaws, 1 to trivial mixing,  
1 remaining:  $(I_\Sigma, Y_\Sigma) = (1, 2)$  with  $(F_L \Sigma H^\dagger)$ .

- Then  $I_\Phi = 1/2, 3/2$ : 4 options for  $(I_\Phi, Y_\Phi)$  –  
 $Y_\Phi = 1$ : not possible to break  $L$   
 $Y_\Phi = 0$ : not possible for Yukawa coupling  
1 remaining:  $(I_\Phi, Y_\Phi) = (3/2, 3)$  with  $(F_L \Sigma^C \Phi)$ .

This is the [model in arXiv: 0905.2710](#) – dim-7 neutrino mass operator

### 3.3 Next simplest/more symmetric case: only $\Phi$ couples to $(F_L, \Sigma)$



- $(I_\Sigma, Y_\Sigma) = (0, 0), (1, 0), (0, 2), (1, 2)$  are excluded to avoid coupling  $(\Sigma, F_L, H)$

- Options for coupling  $(\Sigma, F_L, \Phi)$  –

$(4b+4c)$  not possible;  $(4a+4b)$  not break  $L$

remaining  $(4a+4c)$ :  $Y_\Sigma = 0, Y_\Phi = 1$

$\Rightarrow I_\Sigma$  integral and  $I_\Phi$  half-integral

$\Rightarrow I_\Sigma \geq 2$  to avoid type III, and then  $I_\Phi \geq 3/2$

**minimal choice:**  $(I_\Sigma, Y_\Sigma) = (2, 0), (I_\Phi, Y_\Phi) = (3/2, 1)$

**Simpler than** the [model in arXiv:0911.1374](#) – **dim-9** neutrino mass operator

$m_\nu$  is induced from Yukawa coupling and  $\langle \Phi \rangle \neq 0$

Seesaw operates with heavy  $\Sigma$  and small  $\langle \Phi \rangle$

Issue: naturally small  $\langle \Phi \rangle$

$$V \supset -\mu_H^2 H^\dagger H + \lambda_H (H^\dagger H)^2 + \mu_\Phi^2 \Phi^\dagger \Phi - \left[ \kappa (\Phi \tilde{H} H \tilde{H})_0 + \text{h.c.} \right] \quad \tilde{H} \equiv \epsilon H^*$$

- $\kappa = 0$ : small  $\langle \Phi \rangle$  by fine-tuning parameters  $\Rightarrow$  unnatural and occurrence of Majoron  $\Rightarrow$  not acceptable
- $\kappa$  term explicitly breaks  $L \Rightarrow \kappa$  naturally small:

$$\langle H^0 \rangle \approx \sqrt{\frac{\mu_H^2}{2\lambda_H}}, \quad \langle \Phi^0 \rangle \approx \kappa^* \frac{\langle H^0 \rangle^3}{\mu_\Phi^2}, \quad m_\Phi^2 \approx \mu_\Phi^2$$

Other terms in  $V$ : small corrections to VEV.

$m_\nu$  from dim-9 operator  $\mathcal{O}_9$

$$-\mathcal{L}_{\text{Yuk+mass}} = m_\Sigma \bar{\Sigma} \Sigma + \left[ y_{ij} \overline{F_{Li}} H f_{Rj} + x_j (\overline{F_{Lj}^C} \Phi \Sigma)_0 + z_j (\bar{\Sigma} \Phi F_{Lj})_0 + \text{h.c.} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow (m_\nu)_{jk} \sim (x_j z_k + x_k z_j) \frac{\langle \Phi^0 \rangle^2}{m_\Sigma} \sim (x_j z_k + x_k z_j) \langle H^0 \rangle \kappa^{*2} \frac{\langle H^0 \rangle^5}{m_\Sigma m_\Phi^4}$$

### 3.4 Generalization of next-simplest case to higher dimensions

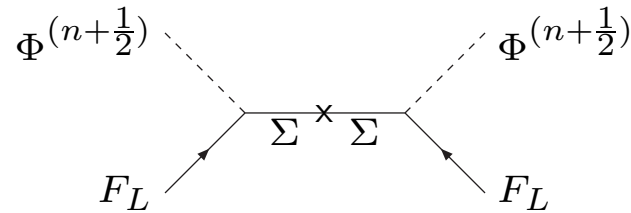
New fields:

Single fermion field  $\Sigma$  of  $(I, Y) = (n + 1, 0)$  with integral  $n \geq 1$

A sequence of scalar fields  $\Phi^{(m+\frac{1}{2})}$  of  $(I, Y) = (m + 1/2, 1)$  with  $1 \leq m \leq n$

Consequences:

- Only  $\Phi^{(n+\frac{1}{2})}$  can Yukawa couple to  $(\Sigma, F_L)$  due to  $SU(2)_L$  invariance:



- Only  $\Phi^{(\frac{3}{2})}$  can **directly** develop a naturally small VEV, while  $\Phi^{(n+\frac{1}{2})}$  develops a naturally small VEV by **cascading seesaw** – see below
- $m_\nu$  is induced from a **dim-(5 + 4n)** operator.
- No global sym is imposed to realize the above.

## Small $\langle \Phi^{(n+\frac{1}{2})} \rangle$ by cascading seesaw

largest contri. to  $\langle \Phi^{(n+\frac{1}{2})} \rangle \leftrightarrow$  lowest-dim operator for  $m_\nu \leftrightarrow$  leading contri. to  $m_\nu$

- With  $n + 1$  multiplets of scalars that share the same  $Y$  but have  $I = 1/2, 3/2, \dots, n + 1/2$ , there are **many terms in  $V$**

But **most of them** only provide couplings, mixing and mass splitting suppressed by VEV's – **not of our concern**

- $L$  must be explicitly broken.

Since  $L$  is necessarily violated by  $\kappa(\Phi^{(3/2)}\tilde{H}H\tilde{H})_0$  to induce  $\langle \Phi^{(3/2)} \rangle \neq 0$ , only need consider  $L$ -conserving terms for all others, that transmit VEV from  $\langle \Phi^{(3/2)} \rangle \neq 0$  towards  $\langle \Phi^{(n+1/2)} \rangle \neq 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 V^{(n+\frac{1}{2})} \supset & -\mu_H^2 H^\dagger H + \lambda_H (H^\dagger H)^2 \quad \Phi^{(\frac{1}{2})} \equiv H, \quad \lambda_{(1)} \equiv \kappa \\
 & + \sum_{k=1}^n \mu_{(k)}^2 \Phi^{(k+\frac{1}{2})\dagger} \Phi^{(k+\frac{1}{2})} - \sum_{k=1}^n \left[ \lambda_{(k)} (\Phi^{(k+\frac{1}{2})} \tilde{\Phi}^{(k-\frac{1}{2})} H \tilde{H})_0 + \text{h.c.} \right],
 \end{aligned}$$

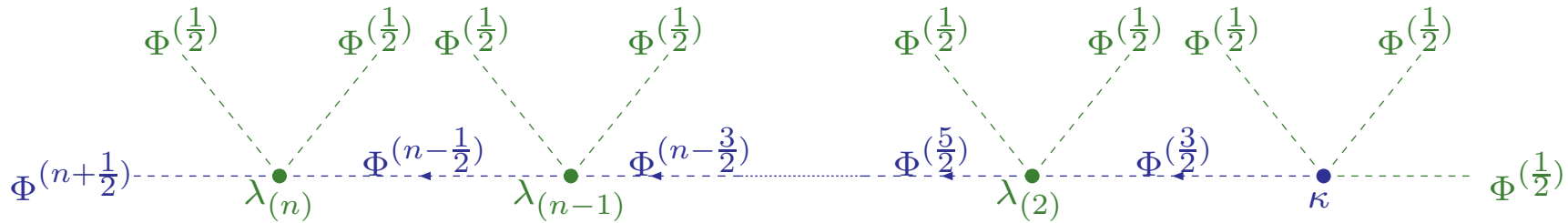


Leading term of VEV's:

$$\langle \Phi_0^{(k+\frac{1}{2})} \rangle = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2k+1}} \frac{|\langle H_0 \rangle|^2}{\mu_{(k)}^2} \lambda_{(k)}^* \langle \Phi_0^{(k-\frac{1}{2})} \rangle, \quad n \geq k \geq 1,$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle \Phi_0^{(n+\frac{1}{2})} \rangle = \langle H_0 \rangle |\langle H_0 \rangle|^{2n} \prod_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2k+1}} \frac{\lambda_{(k)}^*}{\mu_{(k)}^2}.$$

In diagrams



The first cascade is suppressed by  $L$ -violation.

Remaining cascades are suppressed by heavy scalar masses.

## Seesaw neutrino mass

$$\begin{aligned}
 m_{jk}^\nu &= (x_j z_k + x_k z_j) \frac{1}{m_\Sigma} (-1)^n \frac{1}{2(2n+3)} \left( \langle \Phi_0^{(n+\frac{1}{2})} \rangle \right)^2 \\
 &= (-1)^n (x_j z_k + x_k z_j) \frac{1}{m_\Sigma} \frac{1}{2(2n+3)} \langle H_0 \rangle^2 |\langle H_0 \rangle|^{4n} \left( \prod_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2k+1}} \frac{\lambda_{(k)}^*}{\mu_{(k)}^2} \right)^2
 \end{aligned}$$

- suppressed by  $(4n+1)$  powers of heavy scales  
and one power of small  $L$ -violating coupling

$\Leftrightarrow$  mass operator of dimension  $(4n+5)$

- One neutrino massless at tree level. Other two massive in either hierarchy.
- Order of magnitude estimate:

ignore Clebsch-Gordan coeffi.

$$x \sim z, m_\Sigma \sim \mu_{(k)} \sim M, \lambda_{(k)} \sim \lambda \text{ (for } k > 1)$$

$$\Rightarrow m \sim x^2 \lambda^{2(n-1)} \kappa^2 \langle H_0 \rangle^{2+4n} M^{-1-4n}$$

For example, with  $x \sim 10^{-2}$ ,  $\lambda \sim 10^{-1}$ ,  $\kappa \sim 10^{-3}$ ,  $\langle H_0 \rangle \sim 174$  GeV

$m \sim 0.1$  eV requires  $M \sim 490$  GeV at  $n = 1$ ,  $M \sim 190$  GeV at  $n = 2$

## 4. Conclusion

- Conventional seesaws for neutrino mass imply that underlying physics is generally hard to access.
- There are two basic approaches to effectively lower new physics scale.
- By employing one new fermion multiplet and a sequence of new scalars which develop VEV's via cascading seesaw.

⇒ Neutrino mass operators first appear at  $\text{dim}-(5 + 4n)$ .

Tiny neutrino mass is induced without requiring too small couplings or a too high scale.

Underlying physics can possibly be explored at high-energy colliders and in low-energy precision measurements – work in progress.

谢谢!