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The Yukawa sector in Grand Unified Theories

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Neutrinos and Flavour: a stairway to New Physics
Pisa, 2025-04-02

Outline

(1) An introduction to **Grand Unified Theories** (GUTs)

- unification of SM forces
- matter unification (at least partial)
- proton decay

(2) Yukawa sector in GUTs:

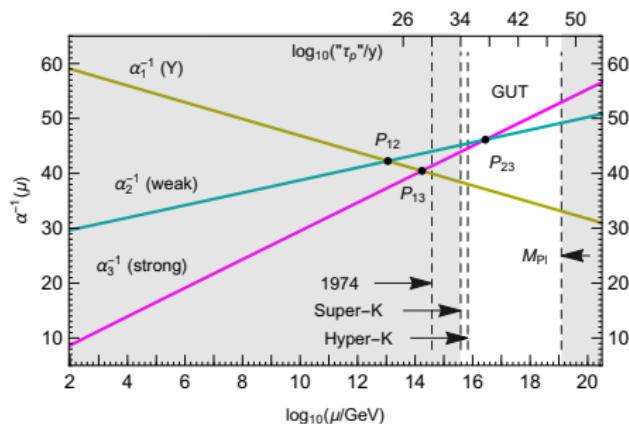
charged and neutrino sectors in minimal setups of

- SU(5) GUT
- SO(10) GUT
- some alternatives

Grand Unified Theories (GUTs) — Motivation

- Do SM gauge couplings unify at a high scale?

Shown: 2-loop RGE in SM:



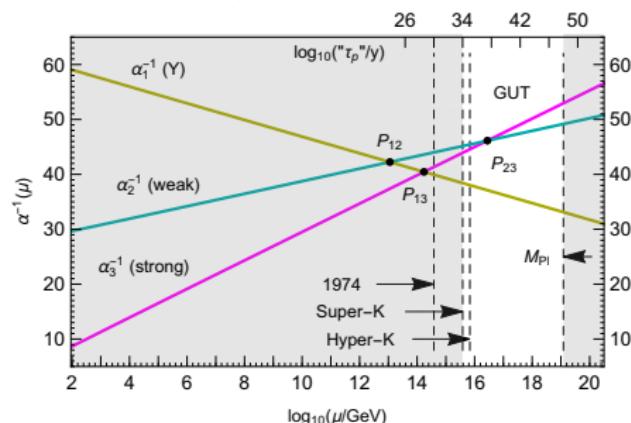
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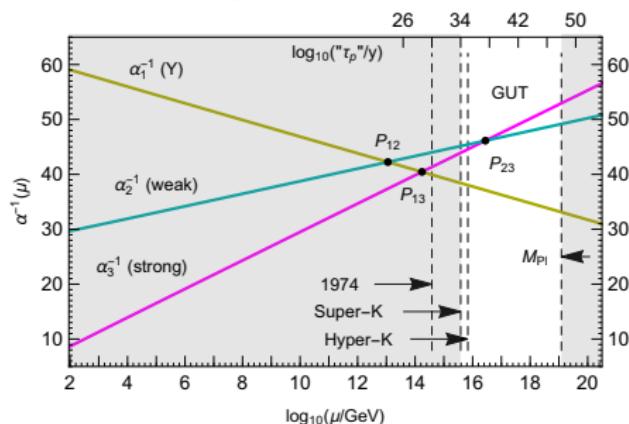
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→ Classification of simple groups:

- Infinite families:
 $SU(n), \quad SO(n), \quad Sp(2n)$
- Exceptional groups:
 $G_2, \quad F_4, \quad E_6, \quad E_7, \quad E_8$

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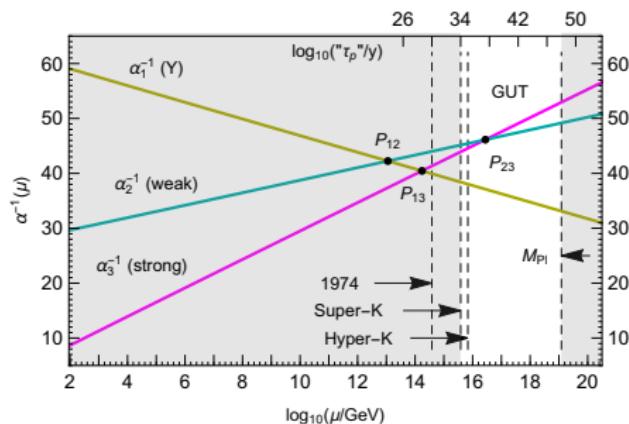
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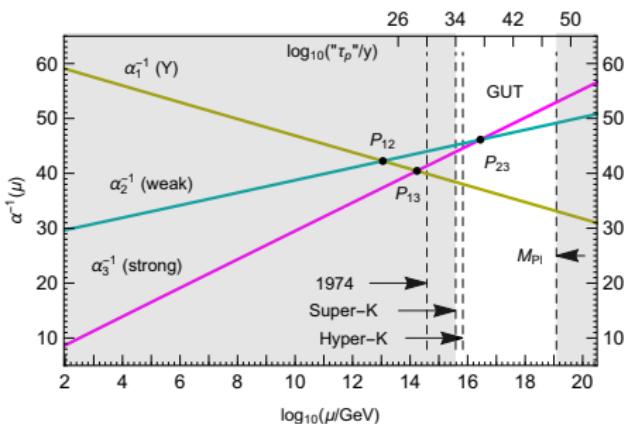
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Minimal choices for unified group:

$$SU(5) \subset SO(10) \subset E_6$$

GUTs — fermions

- SM fermions: 3 families of

$$Q \sim (\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{2}, +\frac{1}{6}), \quad u^c \sim (\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{2}{3}), \quad d^c \sim (\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}, +\frac{1}{3}), \quad (1)$$

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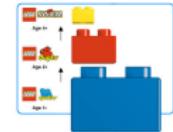
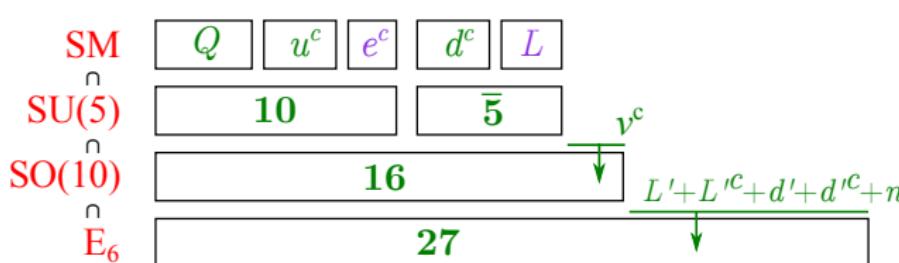
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- General embedding into GUT: SM chiral content, anomaly free



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$$\mathcal{O}_{RL} := (\textcolor{green}{d}\textcolor{blue}{u})(\textcolor{purple}{Q}\textcolor{blue}{L}), \quad (4)$$

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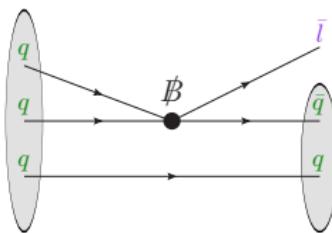
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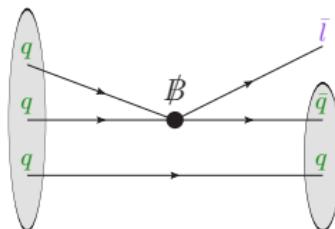
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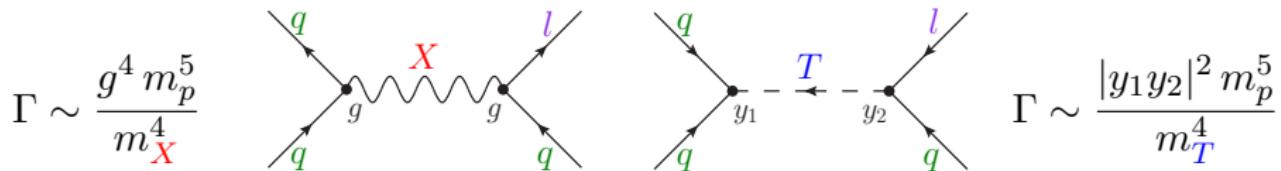


Lower bounds from Super-K (examples)

channel	$\tau/\mathcal{B} [y]$	dominant in
$p \rightarrow \pi^0 e^+$	$2.4 \cdot 10^{34}$	[2] non-SUSY GUT
$p \rightarrow \pi^0 \mu^+$	$1.6 \cdot 10^{34}$	[2]
$p \rightarrow K^+ \bar{\nu}$	$5.9 \cdot 10^{33}$	[3] SUSY GUT

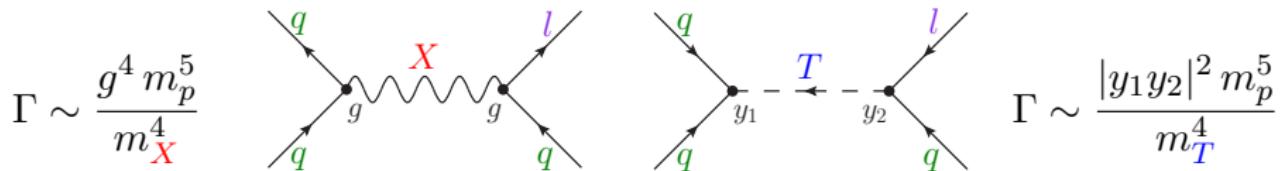
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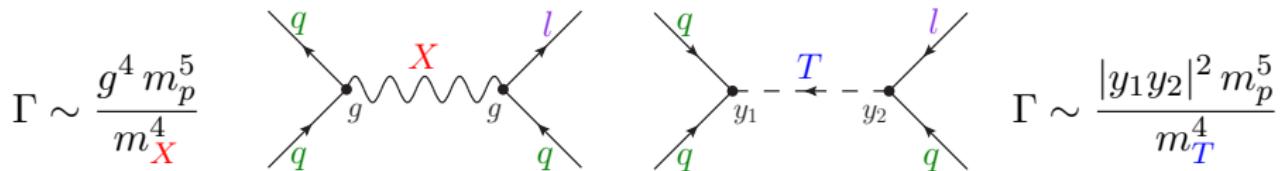
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Irreps: $(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{2}, -\frac{5}{6}), (\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{2}, +\frac{1}{6})$; $(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{1}{3}), (\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{4}{3}), (\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{3}, -\frac{1}{3})$

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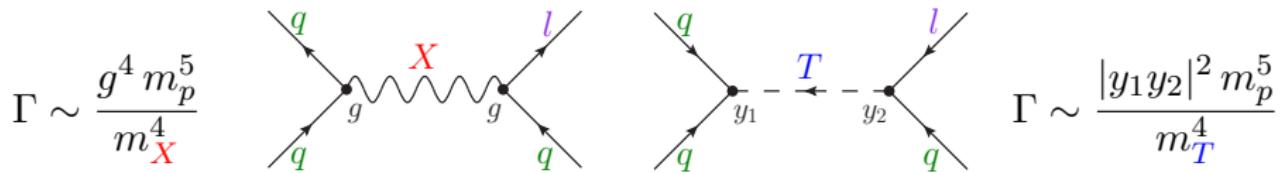
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- Decomposition of **SU(5)** gauge bosons:

$$\mathbf{24} = (\mathbf{8}, \mathbf{1}, 0) \oplus (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{3}, 0) \oplus (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, 0) \oplus \overbrace{(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{2}, -\frac{5}{6})}^X \mathbb{C} \quad (8)$$

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- Unified group $G \supset \text{SU}(5) \Rightarrow$ proton decays in any GUT (via X)

→ In non-SUSY: **gauge mediation** usually dominates

$$g \approx 0.5 \quad \Rightarrow \quad m_X \gtrsim 10^{15.4} \text{ GeV} \quad (9)$$

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- This presentation: focus just on **Yukawa sector** in GUTs ...

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- **Problem:** $M_{\mathbf{d}} = M_{\mathbf{e}}^T$ at M_{GUT} not a good fit for today's precision!

Yukawa sector in $SU(5)$ — part 2

- Extend scalars to $\mathbf{5}_1 \oplus \mathbf{5}_2$?
→ 2nd copy doesn't help ...

$$M_{\textcolor{violet}{d}} = M_{\textcolor{violet}{e}}^T = Y_{5_1} \textcolor{blue}{v}_1^* + Y_{5_2} \textcolor{blue}{v}_2^* \quad (12)$$

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- Extend scalars to $\mathbf{5}_1 \oplus \mathbf{5}_2$?
 \rightarrow 2nd copy doesn't help ...
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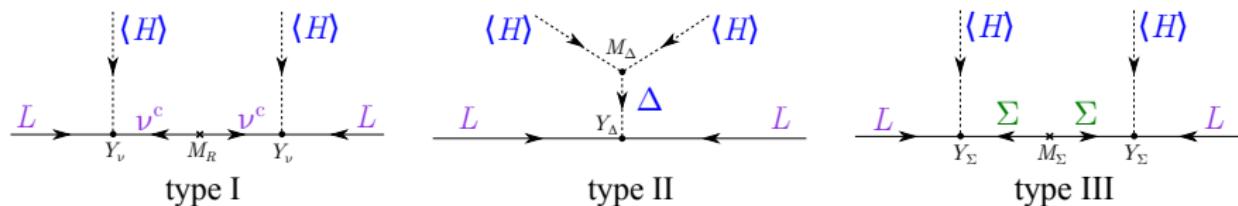
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Neutrinos and see-saw

- ν masses in SMEFT: L operator $LLHH$ (if ν Majorana)

Neutrinos and see-saw

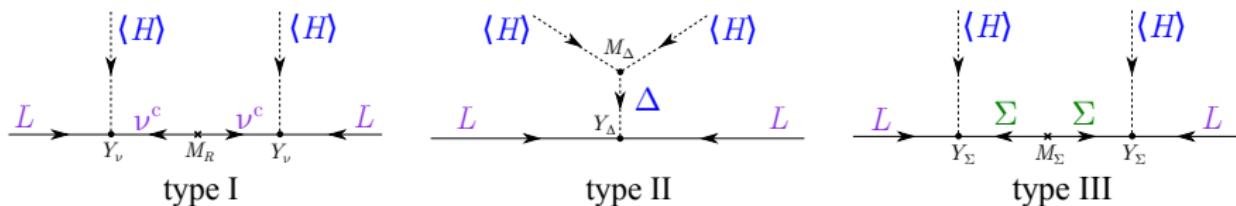
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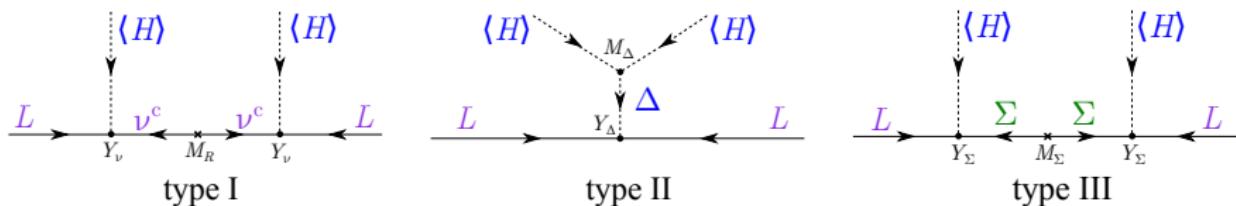


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- In GUT context:
 - Typically need a new scale below M_{GUT}
 - ν^c in **16** of $SO(10)$ (and **27** of E_6) \rightarrow automatically a theory of ν mass

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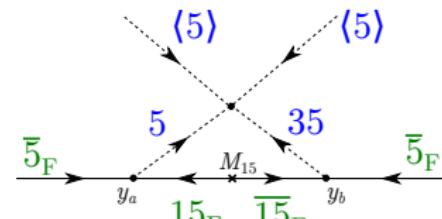
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- Usually **omit** Y'_{10}, Y'_{120} : forbidden by SUSY or PQ symmetry [10, 11] (to make the fit more predictive)

Yukawa sector in SO(10) GUT — predictions

- Predictions at GUT scale [12]:

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- Mass matrix of active neutrinos ($\overline{\textbf{126}}$ needed):

$$M_{\nu} = \underbrace{-M_{\nu}^D M_R^{-1} M_{\nu}^{D\top}}_{\text{type I}} + \underbrace{M_L}_{\text{type II}} \quad (30)$$

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expressions at M_{GUT} $\xrightarrow{\text{RGE}} \chi^2$ at M_Z (masses, CKM, PMNS, λ , g_i)

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- (3) $\mathbf{10}_R \oplus \mathbf{120}_R \oplus \overline{\mathbf{126}}$: minimal in number of parameters [19]

Yukawa sector in SO(10) GUT — fits

- Performing the fit:
expressions at M_{GUT} $\xrightarrow{\text{RGE}}$ χ^2 at M_Z (masses, CKM, PMNS, λ , g_i)
- Which fits work? [after θ_{13}^ν measurement in 2012]
 - (1) $\mathbf{10}_C \oplus \overline{\mathbf{126}}$ with PQ/SUSY: predictive [13, 14, 15, 16, 17]
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- General features and considerations:
 - (a) (Y) and [Y] with PQ: no good [18, 14] ($\mathbf{10}_C \oplus \mathbf{120}_C$ or $\mathbf{120}_C \oplus \overline{\mathbf{126}}$)
 - (b) **Normal hierarchy** of ν highly preferred over inverted hierarchy
 - (c) See-saw: **type I** usually dominates over type II
 - (d) **Predictions** for ν -observables: m_{ν_i} , CP phases (Dirac and Majorana)
 - (e) **Precision**: consideration of full model, EFT tower needed [20, 21, 22]

Yukawa sector in GUTs — various alternatives

- E_6 GUT: fermions in $3 \times \mathbf{27}_F$ [23, 24, 25]
 - Analogy with $SO(10)$: $\mathbf{27}_F \supset \mathbf{16}_F$, $\mathbf{27} \supset \mathbf{10}_{\mathbb{C}}$, $\mathbf{351} \supset \mathbf{120}_{\mathbb{C}}$, $\mathbf{351}' \supset \mathbf{126}$
 - M_d , M_e with vector-like states, M_{ν} has $3 \times (\nu_L \oplus 2 \times \nu_R \oplus (\nu \oplus \bar{\nu}))$
 - $SO(10)$ -like fit possible (no mix with vector-like), general one not yet done

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- **SUSY GUT**: unification with one step G , but ambiguities from SUSY
 - threshold corrections to Yukawa couplings at M_{SUSY}
 - if single operator dominance (in each family) and e.g. mSUGRA: SUSY spectrum predicted (a few TeV), see e.g. [29, 30, 31, 32]

Final thoughts and outlook

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 - (1a) **unification** of SM forces
 - (1b) “smoking gun” prediction: **proton decay**
 - (1c) but also: structural constraints on **Yukawa sector**

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Thank you for your attention!

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