Flavor Models with Sterile Neutrinos

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Contents:

- Sterile neutrinos in ν -osc. and $0\nu\beta\beta$ decays
- Mechanisms for light sterile neutrino masses
- Flavor symmetry with sterile neutrinos
- Realization in seesaw models

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Neutrinos are massless in the SM as a result of the model's simple structure:

- --- $SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$ gauge symmetry and Lorentz invariance; Fundamentals of the model, mandatory for its consistency as a QFT.
- Economical particle content: No right-handed neutrinos --- a Dirac mass term is not allowed. Only one Higgs doublet --- a Majorana mass term is not allowed.
 Renormalizability:

No dimension \geq 5 operators --- a Majorana mass term is forbidden.



Neutrinos are Majorana particles

 $\nu_{\rm R}$ + Majorana & Dirac masses + seesaw Natural description of the smallness of v-masses Integrate out righthanded neutrinos

$$\mathscr{D} = \mathscr{D}_{SM} + \left\{ Y \overline{l}_{L} v_{R} \tilde{\phi} + \left[\frac{1}{2} M_{R} \overline{v}_{R} v_{R}^{C} \right] + h.c. \right\}$$

$$-iY^{T} \frac{\not P + M_{R}}{p^{2} - M_{R}^{2}} Y \left(\varepsilon_{cd} \varepsilon_{ba} + \varepsilon_{ca} \varepsilon_{bd}\right) P_{L} = i\kappa \left(\varepsilon_{cd} \varepsilon_{ba} + \varepsilon_{ca} \varepsilon_{bd}\right) P_{L}$$

$$p^{2} << M_{R}^{2} \Rightarrow Y^{T} M_{R}^{-1} Y = \mathcal{K} \Rightarrow m_{V} = -m_{D}^{T} M_{R}^{-1} m_{D}$$

Typical choice of the seesaw scale: $M_{\rm R} \sim \Lambda_{\rm GUT} \gg \Lambda_{\rm EW} \& M_{\rm D} \sim \Lambda_{\rm EW}$



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Alternatively, electroweak ($M_R \sim \Lambda_{EW}$) scale or eV scale seesaw ($M_R \sim eV$) could also be nature



Typical choice of the seesaw scale: $M_{\rm R} \sim \Lambda_{\rm GUT} \gg \Lambda_{\rm EW} \& M_{\rm D} \sim \Lambda_{\rm EW}$ Alternatively, electroweak $(M_{\rm R} \sim \Lambda_{\rm EW})$ scale or eV scale seesaw $(M_{\rm R} \sim eV)$ could also be nature sterile neutrinos: $\mathcal{V}_{\rm S}$



$$4 \times 4$$
 case: $U = R_{34}\tilde{R}_{24}\tilde{R}_{14}R_{23}\tilde{R}_{13}R_{12}P$

$$\begin{aligned} R_{34} &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c_{34} & s_{34} \\ 0 & 0 & -s_{34} & c_{34} \end{pmatrix} \qquad \tilde{R}_{14} = \begin{pmatrix} c_{14} & 0 & 0 & s_{14} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -s_{14} & 0 & 0 & c_{14} \end{pmatrix} \\ P &= \text{diag} \left(1, \ e^{i\alpha/2}, \ e^{i(\beta/2 + \delta_{13})}, \ e^{i(\gamma/2 + \delta_{14})} \right) \end{aligned}$$

six mixing angles + 3 Dirac phases +3 Majorana phases

5 × 5 case:
$$U = \tilde{R}_{25}R_{34}R_{25}\tilde{R}_{24}R_{23}\tilde{R}_{15}\tilde{R}_{14}\tilde{R}_{13}R_{12}P$$

Mass spectrum of five neutrinos



Mass spectrum of five neutrinos



Best-fit and estimated 2σ values of the sterile neutrino parameters. Kopp, Maltoni, Schwetz, 1103.4570

	parameter	$\Delta m^2_{41} \; [\mathrm{eV}]$	$ U_{e4} ^2$	$\Delta m_{51}^2 \; [\mathrm{eV}]$	$ U_{e5} ^2$
3+1/1+3	best-fit	1.78	0.023		
	2σ	1.61 - 2.01	0.006 - 0.040		
3+2/2+3	best-fit	0.47	0.016	0.87	0.019
	2σ	0.42 - 0.52	0.004 - 0.029	0.77 – 0.97	0.005 - 0.033
1 + 3 + 1	best-fit	0.47	0.017	0.87	0.020
	2σ	0.42 - 0.52	0.004 - 0.029	0.77 - 0.97	0.005 - 0.035

Short-baseline neutrino oscillations: 3+2/2+3 vs. 1+3+1



Constraints from cosmology CMB J. Hamann et al, arXiv:1006.5276 0.8 0.6 **n+3 BBN** $m_{\rm s}~({\rm eV})$ 0.4 1.0 $\omega_{b}^{+2}H^{+4}He$ $--\cdot \omega_{b}^{+2}H_{low}^{+4}He$ 0.2 $^{2}\text{H}+^{4}\text{He}$ likelihood 0.0 • $\omega_{b} + Y^{CMB} + {}^{2}H + {}^{4}He$ 2 3 5 0 1 4 $N_{\mathbf{s}}$ 0.8 3+n 0.6 $m_{\nu}~(\mathrm{eV})$ 0.0L 0.0 0.4 3.0 4.0 1.0 2.0 5.0 N_{eff} 0.2 G. Mangano, P. Serpico, arXiv:1103.1261 0.0 0 1 2 3 5 4 $N_{\mathbf{s}}$

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Neutrino-less double beta decay

$$\langle m_{ee} \rangle_{(1+3)\nu} \simeq \left| c_{14}^2 \langle m_{ee} \rangle_{3\nu} + s_{14}^2 \sqrt{\Delta m_{41}^2} e^{i\gamma} \right|$$

1+3, Normal, SN

1+3, Inverted, SI



The allowed ranges in the $\langle m_{ee} \rangle - m_{\text{light}}$ parameter space 12

Neutrino-less double beta decay

$$\langle m_{ee} \rangle_{(3+1)\nu} \simeq \sqrt{\Delta m_{41}^2} \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 2\theta_{12}} \sin^2 \alpha/2$$



3+1, Inverted, IS



The allowed ranges in the $\langle m_{ee} \rangle - m_{\text{light}}$ parameter space ¹³

How to realize eV-scale v_R

talk by Mavromatos

Extra dimension theories (Kusenko, Takahashi, Yanagida, 10)

- Splitting between the SM brane and a hidden brane
- Effects of right-handed neutrinos are exponenally suppressed since they are located on the hidden brane

$$S = \int d^4x \, dy \, M \left(i \bar{\Psi} \Gamma^A \partial_A \Psi + m \bar{\Psi} \Psi \right)$$

zero mode with an exponential profile in the bulk

$$\Psi_R^{(0)}(y,x) = \sqrt{\frac{2m}{e^{2m\ell} - 1}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{M}} e^{my} \psi_R^{(4D)}(x)$$

How to realize eV-scale $\nu_{\rm R}$

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- Splitting between the SM brane and a hidden brane
- Effects of right-handed neutrinos are exponenally suppressed since they are located on the hidden brane

$$S = \int d^{4}x \, dy \left\{ M \left(i \bar{\Psi}_{iR}^{(0)} \Gamma^{A} \partial_{A} \Psi_{iR}^{(0)} + m_{i} \bar{\Psi}_{iR}^{(0)} \Psi_{iR}^{(0)} \right) + \delta(y) \left(\frac{\kappa_{i}}{2} v_{\mathrm{B}-\mathrm{L}} \bar{\Psi}_{iR}^{(0)c} \Psi_{iR}^{(0)} + \tilde{\lambda}_{i\alpha} \bar{\Psi}_{iR}^{(0)} L_{\alpha} \phi + \mathrm{h.c.} \right) \right\}$$

$$M_{Ri} = \kappa_{i} v_{\mathrm{B}-\mathrm{L}} \frac{2m_{i}}{M(e^{2m_{i}\ell} - 1)} \qquad \lambda_{i\alpha} = \frac{\tilde{\lambda}_{i\alpha}}{\sqrt{M}} \sqrt{\frac{2m_{i}}{e^{2m_{i}\ell} - 1}} = \tilde{\lambda}_{i\alpha} \sqrt{\frac{M_{Ri}}{\kappa_{i} v_{\mathrm{B}-\mathrm{L}}}}$$

$$\left((m_{\nu})_{\alpha\beta} = \left(\sum_{i} \frac{1}{\kappa_{i}} \tilde{\lambda}_{i\alpha} \tilde{\lambda}_{i\beta} \right) \frac{\langle \phi^{0} \rangle^{2}}{v_{\mathrm{B}-\mathrm{L}}} \right)$$
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How to realize eV-scale $\nu_{\rm R}$

Extra dimension theories (Kusenko, Takahashi, Yanagida, **10**)

- Splitting between the SM brane and a hidden brane
- Effects of right-handed neutrinos are exponenally suppressed since they are located on the hidden brane

$$M_{Ri} = \kappa_i v_{\mathrm{B-L}} \frac{2m_i}{M(e^{2m_i\ell} - 1)} \quad (m_\nu)_{\alpha\beta} = \left(\sum_i \frac{1}{\kappa_i} \tilde{\lambda}_{i\alpha} \tilde{\lambda}_{i\beta}\right) \frac{\langle \phi^0 \rangle^2}{v_{\mathrm{B-L}}}$$

Flavor symmetries (Lindner, Merle, Niro, 10)

$$\mathcal{M}_{\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & m_{L}^{e\mu} & m_{L}^{e\tau} & m_{D}^{e1} & 0 & 0 \\ m_{L}^{e\mu} & 0 & 0 & 0 & m_{D}^{\mu2} & m_{D}^{\mu3} \\ m_{L}^{e\tau} & 0 & 0 & 0 & m_{D}^{\tau2} & m_{D}^{\tau3} \\ \hline m_{D}^{e1} & 0 & 0 & 0 & M_{R}^{12} & M_{R}^{13} \\ 0 & m_{D}^{\mu2} & m_{D}^{\tau2} & M_{R}^{12} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & m_{D}^{\mu3} & m_{D}^{\tau3} & M_{R}^{13} & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

two heavy + one massless right-handed neutrinos

light sterile

How to realize eV-scale v_R

Froggatt-Nielsen mechanism

- Fermion flavors are differently charged under a $U(1)_{FN}$ symmetry
- Their masses receive a suppression factor $M \to M\lambda^F$ $(\lambda = \frac{\langle \phi \rangle}{\Lambda} < 1)$



• Neutrino masses are not affected by the FN charges



v_s in flavor symmetry models: A_4 + FN mechanism

Field	L	e^{c}	μ^c	$ au^c$	$h_{u,d}$	φ	φ'	ξ	$ u_s $
$\mathrm{SU}(2)_L$	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1
A_4	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> "	<u>1</u> ′	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
Z_3	ω	ω^2	ω^2	ω^2	1	1	ω	ω	1
$\mathrm{U}(1)_{FN}$	_	3	1	0	—	_	_	_	6

Barry, Rodejohann, **HZ**, JHEP07(2011)091

\mathcal{V}_{S} in flavor symmetry models: A_4 + FN mechanism

Field

$$L$$
 e^c
 μ^c
 τ^c
 $h_{u,d}$
 φ
 φ'
 ξ
 ν_s
 $SU(2)_L$
 2
 1
 1
 1
 2
 1
 1
 1

 A_4
 $\frac{3}{2}$
 $\frac{1}{1}$
 $\frac{1'}{1}$
 $\frac{1}{2}$
 $\frac{3}{2}$
 $\frac{1}{2}$
 $\frac{1}{2}$
 Z_3
 ω
 ω^2
 ω^2
 ω^2
 1
 1
 ω
 ω
 1
 $U(1)_{FN}$
 3
 1
 0
 6

Barry, Rodejohann, **HZ**, JHEP07(2011)091

$$\mathcal{L}_{Y} = \frac{y_{e}}{\Lambda} e^{c}(\varphi L)h_{d} + \frac{y_{\mu}}{\Lambda} \mu^{c}(\varphi L)'h_{d} + \frac{y_{\tau}}{\Lambda} \tau^{c}(\varphi L)''h_{d} + \frac{x_{a}}{\Lambda^{2}} \xi(Lh_{u}Lh_{u}) + \frac{x_{d}}{\Lambda^{2}} (\varphi'Lh_{u}Lh_{u}) + h.c. + \dots \mathcal{L}_{Y_{s}} = \frac{x_{e}}{\Lambda^{2}} \xi(\varphi'Lh_{u})\nu_{s} + \frac{x_{f}}{\Lambda^{2}} (\varphi'\varphi'Lh_{u})\nu_{s} + m_{s}\nu_{s}^{c}\nu_{s}^{c} + h.c$$

\mathcal{V}_{S} in flavor symmetry models: A_4 + FN mechanism

Field
 L

$$e^c$$
 μ^c
 τ^c
 $h_{u,d}$
 φ
 φ'
 ξ
 ν_s
 $SU(2)_L$
 2
 1
 1
 1
 2
 1
 1
 1

 A_4
 $\frac{3}{2}$
 $\frac{1}{1}$
 $\frac{1''}{1}$
 $\frac{1}{2}$
 $\frac{3}{2}$
 $\frac{1}{2}$
 $\frac{1}{2}$
 Z_3
 ω
 ω^2
 ω^2
 ω^2
 1
 1
 ω
 ω
 1

 $U(1)_{FN}$
 -
 3
 1
 0
 -
 -
 -
 6

$$\mathcal{L}_{Y} = \frac{y_{e}}{\Lambda} e^{c} (\varphi L) h_{d} + \frac{y_{\mu}}{\Lambda} \mu^{c} (\varphi L)' h_{d} + \frac{y_{\tau}}{\Lambda} \tau^{c} (\varphi L)'' h_{d} + \frac{x_{a}}{\Lambda^{2}} \xi (Lh_{u} Lh_{u}) + \frac{x_{d}}{\Lambda^{2}} (\varphi' Lh_{u} Lh_{u}) + h.c. + \dots \mathcal{L}_{Y_{s}} = \frac{x_{e}}{\Lambda^{2}} \xi (\varphi' Lh_{u}) \nu_{s} + \frac{x_{f}}{\Lambda^{2}} (\varphi' \varphi' Lh_{u}) \nu_{s} + m_{s} \nu_{s}^{c} \nu_{s}^{c} + h.c.$$

Assuming the flavon VEV alignments $\langle \xi \rangle = u$ $\langle \varphi \rangle = (v, 0, 0)$ $\langle \varphi' \rangle = (v', v', v')$ $M_{\nu}^{4 \times 4} = \begin{pmatrix} a + \frac{2d}{3} - \frac{d}{3} & -\frac{a}{3} & e \\ & \frac{2d}{3} & a - \frac{d}{3} & e \\ & & \frac{2d}{3} & e \\ & & & \frac{2d}{3} & e \\ & & & & m_s \end{pmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} a = 2x_a \frac{uv_a^2}{\Lambda^2} \\ d = 2x_d \frac{v'v_a^2}{\Lambda^2} \\ e = \sqrt{2}x_e \frac{uv'v_a}{\Lambda^2} \end{vmatrix}$ active and sterile neutrino masses

$$m_1 = a + d$$
, $m_2 = a - \frac{3e^2}{m_s}$, $m_3 = -a + d$, $m_4 = m_s + \frac{3e^2}{m_s}$

Numerical example: assuming Yukawa couplings are of order 1 and $\lambda = 10^{-1.5} \approx 0.03$

$$\begin{split} m_s &\simeq 10^{0.5} \left(\frac{\lambda}{10^{-1.5}}\right)^{12} \left(\frac{v}{10^{11} \,\text{GeV}}\right)^2 \left(\frac{10^{12.5} \,\text{GeV}}{\Lambda}\right) \text{eV} \\ a &\sim d \simeq 0.1 \left(\frac{u}{10^{11} \,\text{GeV}}\right) \left(\frac{v_u}{10^2 \,\text{GeV}}\right)^2 \left(\frac{10^{12.5} \,\text{GeV}}{\Lambda}\right)^2 \text{eV}, \\ e &\simeq 0.1 \left(\frac{\lambda}{10^{-1.5}}\right)^6 \left(\frac{u}{10^{11} \,\text{GeV}}\right) \left(\frac{v'}{10^{11} \,\text{GeV}}\right) \left(\frac{v_u}{10^{22} \,\text{GeV}}\right) \left(\frac{10^{12.5} \,\text{GeV}}{\Lambda}\right)^2 \text{eV} \end{split}$$

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- Charged-lepton mass hierarchy: different FN changes of e_R , μ_R , τ_R
- Extension to the 3+2 case: simply add more singlet neutrinos

$$U \simeq \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & 0 & 0\\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0\\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{e}{m_s} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{e}{m_s} \\ 0 & -\frac{\sqrt{3e^2}}{m_s} & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\frac{\sqrt{3e^2}}{2m_s^2} & 0 & 0\\ 0 & -\frac{\sqrt{3e^2}}{2m_s^2} & 0 & 0\\ 0 & -\frac{\sqrt{3e^2}}{2m_s^2} & 0 & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{3e^2}{2m_s^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$U \simeq \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & 0 & 0\\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0\\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{e}{m_s} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{e}{m_s} \\ 0 & -\frac{\sqrt{3e^2}}{m_s} & 0 & 0\\ 0 & -\frac{\sqrt{3e^2}}{2m_s^2} & 0 & 0\\ 0 & -\frac{\sqrt{3e^2}}{2m_s^2} & 0 & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{3e^2}{2m_s^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

Exact tri-bimaximal mixing pattern



Exact tri-bimaximal mixing pattern + sterile neutrino corrections



Exact tri-bimaximal mixing pattern + sterile neutrino corrections

$$\sin^2 \theta_{12} = \frac{|U_{e2}|^2}{1 - |U_{e4}|^2} \simeq \frac{1}{3} \left[1 - 2 \left(\frac{e}{m_s} \right)^2 \right],$$
$$\sin^2 \theta_{23} = \frac{|U_{\mu3}|^2 (1 - |U_{e4}|^2)}{1 - |U_{e4}|^2 - |U_{\mu4}|^2} \simeq \frac{1}{2} \left[1 + \left(\frac{e}{m_s} \right)^2 \right]$$

 $\sin^2 \theta_{14} \simeq \sin^2 \theta_{24} \simeq \sin^2 \theta_{34} \simeq \left(\frac{e}{m_s}\right)^2 \simeq \frac{1}{2}(1 - 3\sin^2 \theta_{12}) \simeq 2\sin^2 \theta_{23} - 1$

$$U \simeq \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & 0 & 0\\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0\\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{e}{m_s} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{e}{m_s} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{e}{m_s} \\ 0 & -\frac{\sqrt{3}e}{m_s} & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\frac{\sqrt{3}e^2}{2m_s^2} & 0 & 0\\ 0 & -\frac{\sqrt{3}e^2}{2m_s^2} & 0 & 0\\ 0 & -\frac{\sqrt{3}e^2}{2m_s^2} & 0 & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{3e^2}{2m_s^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

Exact tri-bimaximal mixing pattern + sterile neutrino corrections

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$$\sin^2 \theta_{14} \simeq \sin^2 \theta_{24} \simeq \sin^2 \theta_{34} \simeq \left(\left(\frac{e}{m_s} \right)^2 \right) \simeq \frac{1}{2} (1 - 3\sin^2 \theta_{12}) \simeq 2\sin^2 \theta_{23} - 1$$

Connections between mixing angles



Light sterile neutrinos in seesaw models sterile neutrinos from type-I seesaw Model A: three eV-scale sterile neutrinos. No neutrinoless double beta decay More tension with cosmology Model B: 1eV + 1keV + 1heavy sterile neutrinos *Neutrinoless double beta decay Need to understand the mass splitting* Candidate for keV WDM Model C: 1eV + 2heavy (>GeV) sterile neutrinos *Neutrinoless double beta decay* Successful leptogenesis Model D: 1keV + 2heavy (>GeV) sterile neutrinos (νMSM) Both baryon asymmetry and Warm Dark Matter puzzles can be solved Failed in explaining the reactor anomaly

The model: SM + three right-handed neutrinos + one singlet S

$$-\mathcal{L}_m = \overline{\nu_L} M_D \nu_R + \overline{S^c} M_S \nu_R + \frac{1}{2} \overline{\nu_R^c} M_R \nu_R + \text{h.c.}$$

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	(0	M_D	0
$M_{\nu}^{7\times7} =$		M_D^T	M_R	M_S^T
		0	M_S	0 /

The full 7×7 neutrino mass matrix if of rank 6, and therefore, one active neutrino is massless.

$$m_{\nu} \simeq M_D M_R^{-1} M_S^T \left(M_S M_R^{-1} M_S^T \right)^{-1} M_S \left(M_R^{-1} \right)^T M_D^T - M_D M_R^{-1} M_D^T m_s \simeq -M_S M_R^{-1} M_S^T$$

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 $\begin{array}{cccc} M_D \sim 100 \; {\rm GeV}; & & & & \\ M_S \sim 500 \; {\rm GeV}; & M_R \sim 2 \times 10^{14} {\rm GeV} & & & & \\ \end{array} \begin{array}{cccc} & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & &$

- No need to artificially insert small mass scales and tiny Yukawa couplings for light neutrino masses.
- Thermal leptogenesis works.
- Only one singlet *S* is allowed (minimal extension).

The model: SM + three right-handed neutrinos + one singlet S

$$-\mathcal{L}_m = \overline{\nu_L} M_D \nu_R + \overline{S^c} M_S \nu_R + \frac{1}{2} \overline{\nu_R^c} M_R \nu_R + \text{h.c.}$$

	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & M_D & 0 \end{pmatrix}$	•	The full 7×7 neutrino mass matrix
$M_{\nu}^{7\times7} =$	$M_D^T M_R M_S^T$		if of rank 6, and therefore, one
	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & M_S & 0 \end{pmatrix}$	/	active neutrino is massless.

$$m_{\nu} \simeq M_D M_R^{-1} M_S^T \left(M_S M_R^{-1} M_S^T \right)^{-1} M_S \left(M_R^{-1} \right)^T M_D^T - M_D M_R^{-1} M_D^T m_s \simeq -M_S M_R^{-1} M_S^T$$

A similar idea was used with a sterile state of mass $\sim 10^{-3} \,\text{eV}$ introduced in order to explain the solar neutrino problem (Chun, Joshipura, Smirnov, **95**)

Summary

- 1. The presence of light sterile neutrinos could significantly change both the short-baseline neutrino oscillation experiments and the effective mass measured in neutrino-less double beta decays.
- 2. We found that light sterile neutrinos can be naturally embedded into flavor symmetry models, e.g., A_4 . In general, the admixture between active and sterile neutrinos leads to the deviation from the exact constant (e.g., tri-bimaximal) mixing pattern.
- 3. A minimal extended type-I seesaw model is presented, in which, without the need of introducing tiny Yukawa couplings, the smallness of sterile neutrino masses is ascribed to the existence of heavy singlet neutrinos, whereas the mixing between active and sterile neutrinos could still be sizable.

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Thanks