

# An $SU(8)$ theory of the SM quarks and leptons

an endeavor to the SM flavor puzzle

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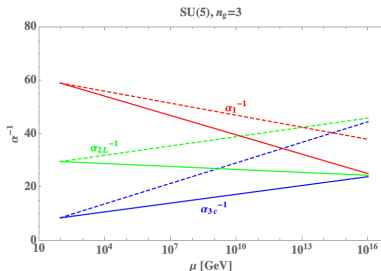
# References

- Early works:
  - a “Towards a Grand Unified Theory of Flavor”, Nucl.Phys.B 156 (1979) 126, Howard Georgi.
  - b “Doubly Lopsided Mass Matrices from Unitary Unification”, Phys. Rev. D 78 (2008) 075001, 0804.1356, Stephen Barr.
- Recent papers:
  - $\alpha$  “The global  $B - L$  symmetry in the flavor-unified  $SU(N)$  theories”, JHEP 04 (2024) 046, 2307.07921, **NC**, Ying-nan Mao, Zhaolong Teng.
  - $\beta$  “The Standard Model quark/lepton masses and the Cabibbo-Kobayashi-Maskawa mixing in an  $SU(8)$  theory”, 2402.10471, **NC**, Ying-nan Mao, Zhaolong Teng.
  - $\gamma$  “The gauge coupling unification in an  $SU(8)$  theory”, *in preparation*, **NC**, Zhanpeng Hou, Ying-nan Mao, Zhaolong Teng.

# Historical Reviews: *minimal* GUTs and the Flavor Puzzle

# Historical reviews

- GUTs were proposed in terms of the minimal gauge group of  $SU(5)$  with  $3 \times [\overline{\mathbf{5}}_{\mathbf{F}} \oplus \mathbf{10}_{\mathbf{F}}]$  by [‘74, Georgi-Glashow] (GG), and  $SO(10)$  with  $3 \times \mathbf{16}_{\mathbf{F}}$  by [‘75, Fritsch-Minkowski]. The main ingredients: (i) gauge symmetries  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{SM}} \equiv SU(3)_c \otimes SU(2)_W \otimes U(1)_Y \subset \mathcal{G}_{\text{GUT}}$ , AF of the QCD [‘73, Gross, Wilczek, Politzer], (ii) the two-generational chiral fermions (with charm quark theorized in ‘70 by Glashow-Iliopoulos-Maiani, and discovered in late ‘74).
- The supersymmetric (susy) extension to the  $SU(5)$  can unify three SM gauge couplings at  $\mu \sim 10^{16}$  GeV [‘81, Dimopoulos-Georgi], with  $\mathcal{O}(1)$  TeV sparticles.



# Historical reviews

- The chiral fermions in  $SU(5)$  are decomposed as

$$\overline{\mathbf{5}}_{\mathbf{F}} = \underbrace{(\overline{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}, +\frac{1}{3})_{\mathbf{F}}}_{d_{R^c}} \oplus \underbrace{(\mathbf{1}, \overline{\mathbf{2}}, -\frac{1}{2})_{\mathbf{F}}}_{\ell_L} \text{ and}$$

$$\mathbf{10}_{\mathbf{F}} = \underbrace{(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{2}, +\frac{1}{6})_{\mathbf{F}}}_{q_L} \oplus \underbrace{(\overline{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{2}{3})_{\mathbf{F}}}_{u_{R^c}} \oplus \underbrace{(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, +1)_{\mathbf{F}}}_{e_{R^c}}.$$

- The susy GG  $SU(5)$  model contains Higgs fields of  $\mathbf{24}_{\mathbf{H}} \oplus \mathbf{5}_{\mathbf{H}} \oplus \overline{\mathbf{5}}_{\mathbf{H}}$ , with the GUT symmetry breaking of  $SU(5) \xrightarrow{\langle \mathbf{24}_{\mathbf{H}} \rangle} \mathcal{G}_{\text{SM}}$ .
- The Yukawa couplings come from the superpotential of

$$W_Y = Y_D \overline{\mathbf{5}}_{\mathbf{F}} \mathbf{10}_{\mathbf{F}} \overline{\mathbf{5}}_{\mathbf{H}} + Y_U \mathbf{10}_{\mathbf{F}} \mathbf{10}_{\mathbf{F}} \mathbf{5}_{\mathbf{H}}. \quad (1)$$

At the EW scale, the Higgs spectrum include two doublets of  $\Phi_u \equiv (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}, +\frac{1}{2})_{\mathbf{H}} \subset \mathbf{5}_{\mathbf{H}}$  and  $\Phi_d \equiv (\mathbf{1}, \overline{\mathbf{2}}, -\frac{1}{2})_{\mathbf{H}} \subset \overline{\mathbf{5}}_{\mathbf{H}}$ .

# Historical reviews

- Besides of the well-acknowledged challenges within the *minimal* GUTs, there are two longstanding problems within the SM that have never been solved with/without the susy extension, which are: (i) the SM flavor puzzle, (ii) the PQ quality problem of the QCD axion.
- The formulation of the QM solved several fundamental puzzles in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century: (i) blackbody radiation [1900, Max Planck], (ii) photoelectric effects [1905, Albert Einstein], (iii) hydrogen spectrum [1913, Niels Bohr], by hypothesizing the quantized energies/angular momenta of particles.
- This talk: the SM flavor puzzle can be addressed by extending the *minimal* SU(5)/SO(10) GUTs to the SU(8) GUT (minimally), with the  $[N, k]_{\mathbf{F}}$  ( $k \geq 3$ ) irreps (to avoid the exotic fermions).

# The flavor puzzle: origin

- The SM flavor puzzle: (i) inter-generational mass hierarchies, (ii) intra-generational mass hierarchies with non-universal splitting patterns, and (iii) the CKM mixing pattern of the quarks and the PMNS mixing pattern of the neutrinos.
- Why/how  $n_g = 3$ ? Both the SM and the *minimal* GUTs admit the simple repetitive structure in terms of their chiral irreducible anomaly-free fermion sets (IRAFFS).

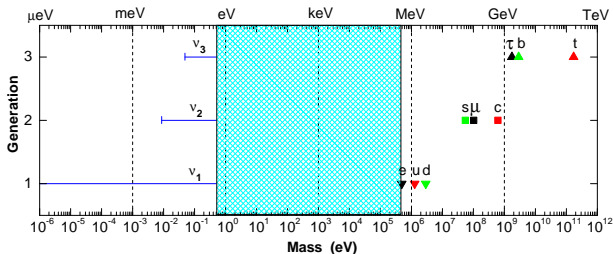


Figure: The SM fermion mass spectrum, 1909.09610, Z.Z. Xing.



# The flavor puzzle: Yukawa couplings

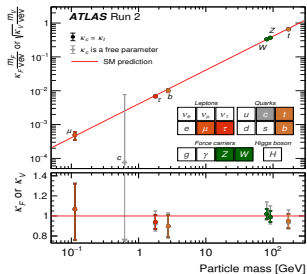


Figure: The LHC measurements of the SM Higgs boson, 2207.00092.

- The flavor puzzle: to look for the origin of the hierarchical Yukawa couplings of the *single* SM Higgs boson  $y_f = \sqrt{2}m_f/v_{EW}$  for all SM quarks/leptons.
- Symmetry dictates interactions [‘80, Chen-Ning Yang].

# The flavor puzzle

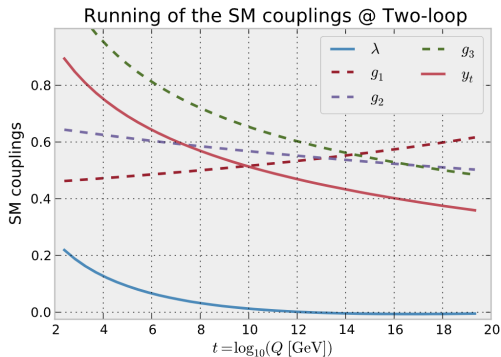


Figure: The RGEs of SM couplings, by PyR@TE.

- The RGEs cannot generate large mass hierarchies [‘78, Froggatt, Nielsen].

# Flavors and Global Symmetries in the $SU(8)$ Theory

# The origin of generations

- The main conjecture: three generations do not repeat but are non-trivially embedded in the UV theories such as the GUT [‘79, Georgi, ‘80, Nanopoulos].
- This was first considered by [‘79, Georgi] based on a unified group of  $SU(N)$ , with the anti-symmetric chiral fermions of

$$\{f_L\}_{SU(N)} = \sum_k n_k [N, k]_{\mathbf{F}}, \quad n_k \in \mathbb{Z}. \quad (2)$$

No exotic fermions in the spectrum with the  $[N, k]_{\mathbf{F}}$ .

- The anomaly-free condition can be expressed in terms of a Diophantine equation

$$\sum_k n_k \text{Anom}([N, k]_{\mathbf{F}}) = 0, \quad (3)$$

$$\text{Anom}([N, k]_{\mathbf{F}}) = \frac{(N - 2k)(N - 3)!}{(N - k - 1)!(k - 1)!}. \quad (4)$$

# Georgi's counting of the SM generations

- To decompose the SU( $N$ ) irreps under the SU(5), e.g.,  $\mathbf{N}_F = (N - 5) \times \mathbf{1}_F \oplus \mathbf{5}_F$ . Decompositions of other irreps can be obtained by tensor products, [79, Georgi].
- All fermion irreps in Eq. (2) can be decomposed into the SU(5) irreps of  $(\mathbf{1}_F, \mathbf{5}_F, \mathbf{10}_F, \overline{\mathbf{10}}_F, \overline{\mathbf{5}}_F)$ , and we denote their multiplicities as  $(\nu_{\mathbf{1}_F}, \nu_{\mathbf{5}_F}, \nu_{\mathbf{10}_F}, \nu_{\overline{\mathbf{10}}_F}, \nu_{\overline{\mathbf{5}}_F})$ .
- Their multiplicities should satisfy  $\nu_{\mathbf{5}_F} + \nu_{\mathbf{10}_F} = \nu_{\overline{\mathbf{5}}_F} + \nu_{\overline{\mathbf{10}}_F}$  from the anomaly-free condition.
- The total SM fermion generations are determined by

$$n_g = \nu_{\overline{\mathbf{5}}_F} - \nu_{\mathbf{5}_F} = \nu_{\mathbf{10}_F} - \nu_{\overline{\mathbf{10}}_F}. \quad (5)$$

# Georgi's counting of the SM generations in GUTs

- The net  $\mathbf{10}_F$ 's from a particular SU( $N$ ) irrep [2209.11446]

$$\nu_{\mathbf{10}_F} [N, k]_F - \nu_{\overline{\mathbf{10}}_F} [N, k]_F = \frac{(N - 2k)(N - 5)!}{(k - 2)! (N - k - 2)!}. \quad (6)$$

- The usual rank-2 GG models can only give  $\nu_{\mathbf{10}_F} [N, 2]_F - \nu_{\overline{\mathbf{10}}_F} [N, 2]_F = 1$ . This means one can only repeat the set of anomaly-free fermion irreps to form multiple generations in rank-2 GG models.
- Alternatively, to embed multiple generations non-trivially in the GUTs, one must consider at least the rank-3 GG models. The leading candidate group must be SU(7), [‘79, Frampton], since the  $[6, 3]_F$  irrep of SU(6) is self-conjugate.
- Note that the non-minimal GUTs are likely to lose the asymptotic freedom (AF), since  $T([N, 2]) \sim N$  and  $T([N, 3]) \sim N^2$ . For the  $n_g = 3$  case, we find that the GUTs with  $\mathcal{G} \geq \text{SU}(9)$  lose the AF.

# Georgi's counting of the SM generations in GUTs

- $SO(2N)$  cannot embed multiple generations non-trivially, e.g., spinor irrep of  $64_{\mathbf{F}}$  in the  $SO(14)$  is decomposed into  $SO(10)$  as

$$64_{\mathbf{F}} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow 2 \times [16_{\mathbf{F}} \oplus \overline{16}_{\mathbf{F}}] , \quad (7)$$

$16_{\mathbf{F}} = 1_{\mathbf{F}} \oplus \overline{5}_{\mathbf{F}} \oplus 10_{\mathbf{F}}$ , and  $\overline{16}_{\mathbf{F}} = 1_{\mathbf{F}} \oplus 5_{\mathbf{F}} \oplus \overline{10}_{\mathbf{F}}$ . One can only obtain  $n_g = 2 - 2 = 0$  at the EW scale.

- The realistic symmetry breaking patterns of the  $SU(N)$  usually do not follow the  $SU(N) \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow SU(5) \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_{\text{SM}}$  one, which is dangerous in terms of the proton decay.  $n_g$  is independent of the symmetry breaking patterns.
- The zeroth stage would better be achieved by the  $SU(N)$  adjoint Higgs field [‘74, L.F.Li] as  $SU(N) \rightarrow SU(k_1)_S \otimes SU(k_2)_W \otimes U(1)_X$ ,  $k_1 = [\frac{N}{2}]$ , since we wish to set the proton decay scale as high as possible. Currently,  $\tau_p \gtrsim 10^{34}$  yr [‘20, SuperK].

# Georgi's counting of the SM generations in GUTs

- Georgi's "third law" of GUT [‘79]: no repetition of a particular irrep of  $SU(N)$ , i.e.,  $n_k = 0$  or  $n_k = 1$  in Eq. (2). The minimal theory is

$$\{f_L\}_{SU(11)} = [11, 4]_{\mathbf{F}} \oplus [11, 8]_{\mathbf{F}} \oplus [11, 9]_{\mathbf{F}} \oplus [11, 10]_{\mathbf{F}} . \quad (8)$$

with  $\dim_{\mathbf{F}} = 561$ .

- My understanding: to prevent the simple repetitions of one generational anomaly-free fermions, such as  $3 \times [\overline{\mathbf{5}}_{\mathbf{F}} \oplus \mathbf{10}_{\mathbf{F}}]$  in an  $SU(5)$  chiral theory. The fermions of  $[\overline{\mathbf{5}}_{\mathbf{F}} \oplus \mathbf{10}_{\mathbf{F}}]$  is a chiral irreducible anomaly-free fermion set (IRAFFS) of the  $SU(5)$ .
- My "third law" [2307.07921]: *only distinctive chiral IRAFFSs without simple repetitions and can lead to  $n_g = 3$  at the EW scale are allowed in an  $SU(N)$  theory.*



# The SU(8) theory

- The SU(8) theory with rank-2 and rank-3 chiral IRAFFSs of

$$\{f_L\}_{\text{SU}(8)}^{n_g=3} = \left[ \overline{\mathbf{8}_F}^\omega \oplus \mathbf{28}_F \right] \oplus \left[ \overline{\mathbf{8}_F}^{\dot{\omega}} \oplus \mathbf{56}_F \right], \quad \dim_{\mathbf{F}} = 156, \\ \omega = (3, \text{IV}, \text{V}, \text{VI}), \quad \dot{\omega} = (\dot{1}, \dot{2}, \text{VII}, \text{IIX}, \text{IX}). \quad (9)$$

Six  $(\mathbf{5}_F, \overline{\mathbf{5}_F})$  pairs, one  $(\mathbf{10}_F, \overline{\mathbf{10}_F})$  pair from the  $\mathbf{56}_F$ , and  $3 \times [\overline{\mathbf{5}_F} \oplus \mathbf{10}_F]_{\text{SM}}$ .

- The Higgs fields and the Yukawa couplings:

$$-\mathcal{L}_Y = Y_B \overline{\mathbf{8}_F}^\omega \mathbf{28}_F \overline{\mathbf{8}_H}_{,\omega} + Y_T \mathbf{28}_F \mathbf{28}_F \mathbf{70}_H \\ + Y_D \overline{\mathbf{8}_F}^{\dot{\omega}} \mathbf{56}_F \overline{\mathbf{28}_H}_{,\dot{\omega}} + \frac{c_4}{M_{\text{pl}}} \mathbf{56}_F \mathbf{56}_F \overline{\mathbf{28}_H}^{\dagger}_{,\dot{\omega}} \mathbf{63}_H + H.c.. \quad (10)$$

NB:  $\mathbf{56}_F \mathbf{56}_F \mathbf{28}_H = 0$  ['08, S. Barr], and one has to use  $d = 5$  operator suppressed by  $1/M_{\text{pl}}$ , with  $M_{\text{pl}} = (8\pi G_N)^{1/2} = 2.4 \times 10^{18}$  GeV.

- Gravity breaks global symmetries.*

# Global symmetries in the SU(8) theory

- The global symmetries of the SU(8) theory:

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\mathcal{G}}_{\text{flavor}} [\text{SU}(8)] &= \left[ \widetilde{\text{SU}}(4)_{\omega} \otimes \tilde{\text{U}}(1)_{T_2} \otimes \tilde{\text{U}}(1)_{\text{PQ}_2} \right] \\ &\otimes \left[ \widetilde{\text{SU}}(5)_{\dot{\omega}} \otimes \tilde{\text{U}}(1)_{T_3} \otimes \tilde{\text{U}}(1)_{\text{PQ}_3} \right], \\ [\text{SU}(8)]^2 \cdot \tilde{\text{U}}(1)_{T_{2,3}} &= 0, \quad [\text{SU}(8)]^2 \cdot \tilde{\text{U}}(1)_{\text{PQ}_{2,3}} \neq 0. \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

Fermions	$\overline{\mathbf{8}}_{\text{F}}^{\Omega=\omega, \dot{\omega}}$	$\mathbf{28}_{\text{F}}$	$\mathbf{56}_{\text{F}}$	
$\tilde{\text{U}}(1)_T$	$-3t$	$+2t$	$+t$	
$\tilde{\text{U}}(1)_{\text{PQ}}$	$p$	$q_2$	$q_3$	
Higgs	$\overline{\mathbf{8}}_{\text{H}, \omega}$	$\overline{\mathbf{28}}_{\text{H}, \dot{\omega}}$	$\mathbf{70}_{\text{H}}$	$\mathbf{63}_{\text{H}}$
$\tilde{\text{U}}(1)_T$	$+t$	$+2t$	$-4t$	$0$
$\tilde{\text{U}}(1)_{\text{PQ}}$	$-(p + q_2)$	$-(p + q_3)$	$-2q_2$	$0$

**Table:** The  $\tilde{\text{U}}(1)_T$  and the  $\tilde{\text{U}}(1)_{\text{PQ}}$  charges,  $p : q_2 \neq -3 : +2$  and  $p : q_3 \neq -3 : +1$ .

# Global symmetries in the SU(8) theory

- The global  $\tilde{U}(1)_T$  symmetries at different stages

$$\text{SU}(8) \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_{441_{X_0}} : \mathcal{T}' = \mathcal{T} - 4t\mathcal{X}_0,$$

$$\mathcal{G}_{441_{X_0}} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_{341_{X_1}} : \mathcal{T}'' = \mathcal{T}' + 8t\mathcal{X}_1,$$

$$\mathcal{G}_{341_{X_1}} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_{331_{X_2}} : \mathcal{T}''' = \mathcal{T}'', \quad \mathcal{G}_{331_{X_2}} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_{\text{SM}} : \mathcal{B} - \mathcal{L} = \mathcal{T}''' . \quad (12)$$

Higgs	$\mathcal{G}_{441} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_{341}$	$\mathcal{G}_{341} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_{331}$	$\mathcal{G}_{331} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_{\text{SM}}$	$\mathcal{G}_{\text{SM}} \rightarrow$ $\text{SU}(3)_c \otimes \text{U}(1)_{\text{EM}}$
$\overline{8}_{\text{H},\omega}$	✓	✓	✓	✓
$28_{\text{H},\dot{\omega}}$	✗	✓	✓	✓
$70_{\text{H}}$	✗	✗	✗	✓

**Table:** The Higgs fields and their symmetry-breaking directions in the SU(8) theory. The ✓ and ✗ represent possible and impossible symmetry breaking directions for a given Higgs field.

# Global symmetries in the SU(8) theory

- Consistent global  $\tilde{U}(1)_{B-L}$  relations of  $(\mathcal{B} - \mathcal{L})(q_L) = \frac{4}{3}t$ ,  $(\mathcal{B} - \mathcal{L})(\ell_L) = -4t$ , and etc.
- The global  $\tilde{U}(1)_{B-L}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{70}_H &\supset (\mathbf{4}, \bar{\mathbf{4}}, +\frac{1}{2})_H \oplus (\bar{\mathbf{4}}, \mathbf{4}, -\frac{1}{2})_H \\
 &\supset \underbrace{(\mathbf{1}, \bar{\mathbf{2}}, +\frac{1}{2})_H}'''_{\mathcal{B}-\mathcal{L}=0} \oplus \underbrace{(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}, -\frac{1}{2})_H}'''_{\mathcal{B}-\mathcal{L}=-8t}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

We conjecture that the  $(\mathbf{1}, \bar{\mathbf{2}}, +\frac{1}{2})_H''' \subset \mathbf{70}_H$  is the only SM Higgs doublet.

- We also find 23 out of 27 left-handed sterile neutrinos  $\tilde{\mathcal{N}}_L^\Omega$  remain massless through the 't Hooft anomaly matching of the global  $\tilde{U}(1)_T$  to  $\tilde{U}(1)_{B-L}$ .

## The SU(8) fermions

SU(8)	$\mathcal{G}_{441}$	$\mathcal{G}_{341}$	$\mathcal{G}_{331}$	$\mathcal{G}_{\text{SM}}$
$8_{\mathbf{F}}^{\Omega}$	$(\bar{4}, \mathbf{1}, +\frac{1}{4})_{\mathbf{F}}^{\Omega}$ $(\mathbf{1}, \bar{4}, -\frac{1}{4})_{\mathbf{F}}^{\Omega}$	$(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}, +\frac{1}{3})_{\mathbf{F}}^{\Omega}$ $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, 0)_{\mathbf{F}}^{\Omega}$ $(\mathbf{1}, \bar{4}, -\frac{1}{4})_{\mathbf{F}}^{\Omega}$	$(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}, +\frac{1}{3})_{\mathbf{F}}^{\Omega}$ $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, 0)_{\mathbf{F}}^{\Omega}$ $(\mathbf{1}, \bar{\mathbf{3}}, -\frac{1}{3})_{\mathbf{F}}^{\Omega}$ $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, 0)_{\mathbf{F}}^{\Omega''}$	$(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}, +\frac{1}{3})_{\mathbf{F}}^{\Omega} : \mathcal{D}_R^{\Omega c}$ $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, 0)_{\mathbf{F}}^{\Omega} : \tilde{\mathcal{N}}_L^{\Omega}$ $(\mathbf{1}, \bar{\mathbf{2}}, -\frac{1}{2})_{\mathbf{F}}^{\Omega} : \mathcal{L}_L^{\Omega} = (\mathcal{E}_L^{\Omega}, -\mathcal{N}_L^{\Omega})^T$ $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, 0)_{\mathbf{F}}^{\Omega'} : \tilde{\mathcal{N}}_L^{\Omega'}$ $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, 0)_{\mathbf{F}}^{\Omega''} : \tilde{\mathcal{N}}_L^{\Omega''}$

SU(8)	$\mathcal{G}_{441}$	$\mathcal{G}_{341}$	$\mathcal{G}_{331}$	$\mathcal{G}_{\text{SM}}$
$28_{\mathbf{F}}$	$(\mathbf{6}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{1}{2})_{\mathbf{F}}$ $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{6}, +\frac{1}{2})_{\mathbf{F}}$ $(\mathbf{4}, \mathbf{4}, 0)_{\mathbf{F}}$	$(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{1}{3})_{\mathbf{F}}$ $(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{2}{3})_{\mathbf{F}}$ $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{6}, +\frac{1}{2})_{\mathbf{F}}$ $(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{4}, -\frac{1}{12})_{\mathbf{F}}$ $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{4}, +\frac{1}{4})_{\mathbf{F}}$	$(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{1}{3})_{\mathbf{F}}$ $(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{2}{3})_{\mathbf{F}}$ $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{3}, +\frac{1}{3})_{\mathbf{F}}$ $(\mathbf{1}, \bar{\mathbf{3}}, +\frac{2}{3})_{\mathbf{F}}$ $(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{3}, 0)_{\mathbf{F}}$ $(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{1}{3})_{\mathbf{F}}''$ $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{3}, +\frac{1}{3})_{\mathbf{F}}''$ $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, 0)_{\mathbf{F}}''$	$(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{1}{3})_{\mathbf{F}} : \mathcal{D}_L$ $(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{2}{3})_{\mathbf{F}} : t_R^c$ $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}, +\frac{1}{2})_{\mathbf{F}} : (\epsilon_R^c, n_R^c)^T$ $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, 0)_{\mathbf{F}} : \tilde{n}_R^c$ $(\mathbf{1}, \bar{\mathbf{2}}, +\frac{1}{2})_{\mathbf{F}} : (n_R^c, -\epsilon_R^c)^T$ $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, +1)_{\mathbf{F}} : \tau_R^c$ $(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{2}, +\frac{1}{6})_{\mathbf{F}} : (t_L, b_L)^T$ $(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{1}{3})_{\mathbf{F}} : \mathcal{D}'_L$ $(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{1}{3})_{\mathbf{F}} : \mathcal{D}''_L$ $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}, +\frac{1}{2})_{\mathbf{F}} : (\epsilon_R^c, n_R^c)^T$ $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, 0)_{\mathbf{F}} : \tilde{n}'_R$ $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, 0)_{\mathbf{F}} : \tilde{n}''_R$

## The SU(8) fermions

SU(8)	$\mathcal{G}_{441}$	$\mathcal{G}_{341}$	$\mathcal{G}_{331}$	$\mathcal{G}_{\text{SM}}$
<b>56<sub>F</sub></b>	$(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{4}, +\frac{3}{4})_{\text{F}}$	$(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{4}, +\frac{3}{4})_{\text{F}}$	$(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{3}, +\frac{2}{3})'_{\text{F}}$	$(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}, +\frac{1}{2})'''_{\text{F}} : (\mathbf{n}'''^c, -\mathbf{e}'''^c)^T$
			$(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, +1)''_{\text{F}}$	$(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, +1)''_{\text{F}} : \mu_R^c$
			$(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{2}{3})'_{\text{F}}$	$(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, +1)''_{\text{F}} : \mathbf{e}_R^c$
	$(\bar{\mathbf{4}}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{3}{4})_{\text{F}}$	$(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{2}{3})'_{\text{F}}$	$(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{2}{3})'_{\text{F}}$	$(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{2}{3})'_{\text{F}} : u_R^c$
			$(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, -1)_{\text{F}}$	$(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, -1)_{\text{F}} : \mathbf{e}_L$
	$(\mathbf{4}, \mathbf{6}, +\frac{1}{4})_{\text{F}}$	$(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{6}, +\frac{1}{6})_{\text{F}}$	$(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{3}, 0)_{\text{F}}$	$(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{2}, +\frac{1}{6})'_{\text{F}} : (c_L, s_L)^T$
			$(\mathbf{3}, \bar{\mathbf{3}}, +\frac{1}{3})_{\text{F}}$	$(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{1}{3})'''_{\text{F}} : \mathcal{D}'_L$
			$(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{2}, +\frac{1}{6})''_{\text{F}}$	$(\mathbf{3}, \bar{\mathbf{2}}, +\frac{1}{6})''_{\text{F}} : (\mathbf{d}_L, -\mathbf{u}_L)^T$
	$(\mathbf{6}, \mathbf{4}, -\frac{1}{4})_{\text{F}}$	$(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{6}, +\frac{1}{2})'_{\text{F}}$	$(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{3}, +\frac{2}{3})_{\text{F}}$	$(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{1}, +\frac{2}{3})_{\text{F}} : \mathcal{U}_L$
			$(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{3}, +\frac{1}{3})'_{\text{F}}$	$(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}, +\frac{1}{2})''''_{\text{F}} : (\mathbf{e}_R'''^c, \mathbf{n}_R'''^c)^T$
			$(\mathbf{1}, \bar{\mathbf{3}}, +\frac{2}{3})''_{\text{F}}$	$(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, 0)''''_{\text{F}} : \tilde{\mathbf{n}}_R'''^c$
		$(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{4}, -\frac{1}{12})'_{\text{F}}$	$(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{4}, -\frac{1}{12})'_{\text{F}}$	$(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{3}, 0)''_{\text{F}}$
$(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{1}{3})''''_{\text{F}}$				$(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, +1)''''_{\text{F}} : e_R^c$
$(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{1}{3})''''_{\text{F}}$				$(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{2}, +\frac{1}{6})''''_{\text{F}} : (\mathbf{u}_L, \mathbf{d}_L)^T$
$(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{4}, -\frac{5}{12})_{\text{F}}$	$(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{4}, -\frac{5}{12})_{\text{F}}$	$(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{3}, -\frac{1}{3})_{\text{F}}$	$(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{1}{3})''''_{\text{F}} : \mathcal{D}''''_L$	
		$(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{2}{3})''''_{\text{F}}$	$(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{1}{3})''''_{\text{F}} : \mathcal{D}''''_L$	
		$(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{2}{3})''''_{\text{F}}$	$(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{2}, -\frac{1}{6})_{\text{F}} : (\mathbf{d}_R^c, \mathbf{u}_R^c)^T$	
			$(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{2}{3})''_{\text{F}}$	$(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{2}{3})''_{\text{F}} : \mathcal{U}_R^c$
			$(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{2}{3})''''_{\text{F}}$	$(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{2}{3})''''_{\text{F}} : c_R^c$

# Symmetry breaking pattern in the SU(8) theory

- The symmetry breaking pattern [‘74, L.F.Li] of  $SU(8) \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_{441} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_{341} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_{331} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_{SM} \rightarrow SU(3)_c \otimes U(1)_{EM}$ .
- The intermediate symmetry breaking stages and massive vectorlike fermions:
  - $0 : SU(8) \xrightarrow{63_H} \mathcal{G}_{441}$ , all fermions remain massless.
  - $1 : \mathcal{G}_{441} \xrightarrow{\overline{8}_{H,IV}} \mathcal{G}_{341}$ , a pair of  $(\mathbf{5}_F, \overline{\mathbf{5}}_F)$ .
  - $2 : \mathcal{G}_{341} \xrightarrow{\overline{8}_{H,V}, \overline{28}_{H,i,VII}} \mathcal{G}_{331}$ , two pairs of  $(\mathbf{5}_F, \overline{\mathbf{5}}_F)$  and a pair of  $(\mathbf{10}_F, \overline{\mathbf{10}}_F)$ .
  - $3 : \mathcal{G}_{331} \xrightarrow{\overline{8}_{H,3,VI}, \overline{28}_{H,\dot{2},IIX}, I\dot{X}} \mathcal{G}_{SM}$ , three pairs of  $(\mathbf{5}_F, \overline{\mathbf{5}}_F)$ .
- Dimensionless parameters

$$\begin{aligned}
 \zeta_1 &\equiv \frac{W_{\overline{\mathbf{4}},IV}}{M_{pl}}, & \zeta_2 &\equiv \frac{w_{\overline{\mathbf{4}},V}}{M_{pl}}, & \dot{\zeta}_2 &\equiv \frac{w_{\overline{\mathbf{4}},i,VII}}{M_{pl}}, \\
 \zeta_3 &\equiv \frac{V_{\overline{\mathbf{3}},3,VI}}{M_{pl}}, & \dot{\zeta}'_3 &\equiv \frac{V'_{\overline{\mathbf{3}},\dot{2},IIX}}{M_{pl}}, & \dot{\zeta}_3 &\equiv \frac{V_{\overline{\mathbf{3}},I\dot{X}}}{M_{pl}}, \\
 \zeta_1 &\gg \zeta_2 \sim \dot{\zeta}_2 \gg \zeta_3 \sim \dot{\zeta}'_3 \sim \dot{\zeta}_3.
 \end{aligned} \tag{14}$$

## Vectorlike fermions in the SU(8) theory

stages	$Q_e = -\frac{1}{3}$	$Q_e = +\frac{2}{3}$	$Q_e = -1$	$Q_e = 0$
$v_{441}$ { $\Omega$ }	$\mathcal{D}$ IV	-	$(e'', n'')$ IV	$\{\check{n}', \check{n}''\}$ {IV', IV''}
$v_{341}$ { $\Omega$ }	$\mathcal{D}, \{\mathcal{D}'', \mathcal{D}''''\}$ {V, VII}	$u, \mathfrak{U}$	$\mathcal{E}, (e, n), (e''''', n''''')$ {V, VII}	$\{\check{n}, \check{n}'''\}$ {V', VII'}
$v_{331}$ { $\Omega$ }	$\{\mathcal{D}', \mathcal{D}''', \mathcal{D}''''\}$ {VI, IIX, IX}	-	$(e', n'), (e''', n'''), (e''''', n''''')$ {VI, IIX, IX}	-

**Table:** The vectorlike fermions at different intermediate symmetry breaking scales in the SU(8) theory.



# The SM Quark/Lepton Masses and the CKM mixing in the $SU(8)$ Theory

# SM fermion masses in the SU(8) theory

- The natural top quark mass from the tree level

$$\begin{aligned}
 Y_{\mathcal{T}} \mathbf{28}_{\mathbf{F}} \mathbf{28}_{\mathbf{F}} \mathbf{70}_{\mathbf{H}} &\supset Y_{\mathcal{T}} (\mathbf{6}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{1}{2})_{\mathbf{F}} \otimes (\mathbf{4}, \mathbf{4}, 0)_{\mathbf{F}} \otimes (\mathbf{4}, \bar{\mathbf{4}}, +\frac{1}{2})_{\mathbf{H}} \\
 &\supset \dots \supset Y_{\mathcal{T}} (\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{2}{3})_{\mathbf{F}} \otimes (\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{2}, +\frac{1}{6})_{\mathbf{F}} \otimes (\mathbf{1}, \bar{\mathbf{2}}, +\frac{1}{2})_{\mathbf{H}}''' \\
 &\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} Y_{\mathcal{T}} t_L t_R^c v_{EW}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

- With the identification of  $(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{2}, +\frac{1}{6})_{\mathbf{F}} \equiv (t_L, b_L)^T$  and  $(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{2}{3})_{\mathbf{F}} \equiv t_R^c$  within the  $\mathbf{28}_{\mathbf{F}}$ , it is straightforward to infer that  $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, +1)_{\mathbf{F}} \equiv \tau_R^c$  also lives in the  $\mathbf{28}_{\mathbf{F}}$ . This explains why do the third-generational SM  $\mathbf{10}_{\mathbf{F}}$  reside in the  $\mathbf{28}_{\mathbf{F}}$ , while the first- and second-generational SM  $\mathbf{10}_{\mathbf{F}}$ 's must reside in the  $\mathbf{56}_{\mathbf{F}}$ .

# SM fermion masses in the SU(8) theory

- To generate other lighter SM fermion masses: the gravitational effects through  $d = 5$  operators, which break the global symmetries in Eq. (11) explicitly.
- The direct Yukawa couplings of  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{F}}^{d=5}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{F}}^{(3,2)} &\equiv \overline{\mathbf{8}_{\mathbf{F}}^{\dot{\omega}}} \mathbf{56}_{\mathbf{F}} \cdot \overline{\mathbf{28}_{\mathbf{H},\dot{\kappa}}}^{\dagger} \cdot \mathbf{70}_{\mathbf{H}}^{\dagger} \\
 \Rightarrow &\left[ \dot{\zeta}_3 (s_L \mathcal{D}_R^{\dot{\omega}c} - \mathcal{E}_L^{\dot{\omega}} \mu_R^c) + \dot{\zeta}'_3 (d_L \mathcal{D}_R^{\dot{\omega}c} - \mathcal{E}_L^{\dot{\omega}} e_R^c) \right] v_{\text{EW}}, \\
 \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{F}}^{(4,1)} &\equiv \mathbf{56}_{\mathbf{F}} \mathbf{56}_{\mathbf{F}} \cdot \overline{\mathbf{28}_{\mathbf{H},\dot{\omega}}} \cdot \mathbf{70}_{\mathbf{H}} \Rightarrow \dot{\zeta}_2 (c_L u_R^c + u_{Lc} e_R^c) v_{\text{EW}}, \\
 \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{F}}^{(5,1)} &\equiv \mathbf{28}_{\mathbf{F}} \mathbf{56}_{\mathbf{F}} \cdot \overline{\mathbf{8}_{\mathbf{H},\omega}} \cdot \mathbf{70}_{\mathbf{H}} \\
 \Rightarrow &[\zeta_1 (u_L t_R^c + t_L u_R^c) + \zeta_2 (c_L t_R^c + t_L c_R^c)] v_{\text{EW}}. \tag{16}
 \end{aligned}$$

- All  $(u, c, t)$  obtain hierarchical masses, while only the  $(s, \mu)$  become massive.

## SM fermion masses in the SU(8) theory

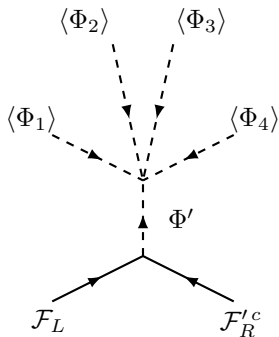


Figure: The indirect Yukawa couplings.

These are achievable through the EWSB components in renormalizable Yukawa couplings of  $\overline{\mathbf{8}_F} \omega \mathbf{28}_F \overline{\mathbf{8}_H} \omega$  and  $\overline{\mathbf{8}_F} \dot{\omega} \mathbf{56}_F \overline{\mathbf{28}_H} \omega$ .

# SM fermion masses in the SU(8) theory

- There are two indirect Yukawa couplings with the irreducible Higgs mixing operators of  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{H}}^{d=5}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{A}}^{d=5} &\equiv \epsilon_{\omega_1 \omega_2 \omega_3 \omega_4} \overline{\mathbf{8}_{\mathbf{H}, \omega_1}}^\dagger \overline{\mathbf{8}_{\mathbf{H}, \omega_2}}^\dagger \overline{\mathbf{8}_{\mathbf{H}, \omega_3}}^\dagger \overline{\mathbf{8}_{\mathbf{H}, \omega_4}}^\dagger \mathbf{70}_{\mathbf{H}}^\dagger, \\ \mathcal{PQ} &= 2(2p + 3q_2) \neq 0, \end{aligned} \quad (17a)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{B}}^{d=5} &\supset (\overline{\mathbf{28}_{\mathbf{H}, i}}^\dagger \overline{\mathbf{28}_{\mathbf{H}, \text{VII}}}) \cdot \overline{\mathbf{28}_{\mathbf{H}, \text{IX}}}^\dagger \overline{\mathbf{28}_{\mathbf{H}, i}}^\dagger \mathbf{70}_{\mathbf{H}}^\dagger, \\ &(\overline{\mathbf{28}_{\mathbf{H}, i}}^\dagger \overline{\mathbf{28}_{\mathbf{H}, \text{VII}}}) \cdot \overline{\mathbf{28}_{\mathbf{H}, \text{IX}}}^\dagger \overline{\mathbf{28}_{\mathbf{H}, 2}}^\dagger \mathbf{70}_{\mathbf{H}}^\dagger, \\ \mathcal{PQ} &= 2(p + q_2 + q_3). \end{aligned} \quad (17b)$$

- Each operator of  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{H}}^{d=5}$ 
  - breaks the global symmetries explicitly;
  - can not be further partitioned into subset of renormalizable operators, among which any of them can be allowed by both the gauge and the global symmetries.

# SM fermion masses in the SU(8) theory

- The  $(u, c, t)$  masses

$$\mathcal{M}_u = \frac{v_{EW}}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & c_5 \zeta_1 / \sqrt{2} \\ c_4 \dot{\zeta}_2 / \sqrt{2} & 0 & c_5 \dot{\zeta}_2 / \sqrt{2} \\ c_5 \zeta_1 / \sqrt{2} & c_5 \zeta_2 / \sqrt{2} & Y_{\mathcal{T}} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (18)$$

- The  $(d, s, b)$  masses

$$\mathcal{M}_d \approx \frac{v_{EW}}{4} \begin{pmatrix} (2c_3 + Y_{\mathcal{D}} d_{\mathcal{D}}) \dot{\zeta}_3' & (2c_3 + Y_{\mathcal{D}} d_{\mathcal{D}} \Delta_2) \dot{\zeta}_3' & 0 \\ (2c_3 + Y_{\mathcal{D}} d_{\mathcal{D}} \Delta_1') \dot{\zeta}_3 & (2c_3 + Y_{\mathcal{D}} d_{\mathcal{D}} \zeta_{23}^{-2}) \dot{\zeta}_3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & Y_{\mathcal{B}} d_{\mathcal{D}} \zeta_{23}^{-1} \zeta_1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (19)$$

The charged lepton masses are  $\mathcal{M}_\ell = (\mathcal{M}_d)^T$ .

- Natural fermion mass textures by following the gravity-induced  $d = 5$  operators.

# SM fermion masses in the SU(8) theory

- The  $(u, c, t)$  masses

$$m_u \approx c_4 \frac{\zeta_2^2}{\sqrt{2}\zeta_1} v_{EW}, \quad m_c \approx c_5^2 \frac{\zeta_1^2}{\sqrt{2}Y_{\mathcal{T}}} v_{EW}, \quad m_t \approx \frac{Y_{\mathcal{T}}}{\sqrt{2}} v_{EW}. \quad (20)$$

- The  $(d, s, b)$  and  $(e, \mu, \tau)$  masses

$$m_d = m_e \approx \frac{c_3 \dot{\zeta}_3}{2} |\tan \lambda| v_{EW}, \quad m_s = m_\mu \approx \frac{1}{4} (2c_3 + Y_{\mathcal{D}} d_{\mathcal{B}} \zeta_{23}^{-2}) \dot{\zeta}_3 v_{EW},$$

$$m_b = m_\tau \approx Y_{\mathcal{B}} \frac{d_{\mathcal{A}} \zeta_1 \zeta_2}{4\zeta_3} v_{EW}. \quad (21)$$

- The CKM mixing:

$$\hat{V}_{\text{CKM}} \Big|_{\text{SU}(8)} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 1 - \lambda^2/2 & \lambda & \frac{c_5}{Y_{\mathcal{T}}} \zeta_2 \\ -\lambda & 1 - \lambda^2/2 & -\frac{c_5}{Y_{\mathcal{T}}} \zeta_1 \\ -\frac{c_5}{Y_{\mathcal{T}}} (\lambda \zeta_1 + \zeta_2) & -\frac{c_5}{Y_{\mathcal{T}}} \zeta_1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (22)$$

## SM fermion masses in the SU(8) theory: benchmark

$\zeta_1$	$\zeta_2$	$\zeta_3$	$Y_{\mathcal{D}}$	$Y_{\mathcal{B}}$	$Y_{\mathcal{T}}$
$6.0 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-5}$	0.5	0.5	0.8
$c_3$	$c_4$	$c_5$	$d_{\mathcal{A}}$	$d_{\mathcal{B}}$	$\lambda$
1.0	0.2	1.0	0.01	0.01	0.22
$m_u$	$m_c$	$m_t$	$m_d = m_e$	$m_s = m_\mu$	$m_b = m_\tau$
$1.6 \times 10^{-3}$	0.6	139.2	$0.5 \times 10^{-3}$	$6.4 \times 10^{-2}$	1.5
$ V_{ud} $	$ V_{us} $	$ V_{ub} $			
0.98	0.22	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$			
$ V_{cd} $	$ V_{cs} $	$ V_{cb} $			
0.22	0.98	$7.5 \times 10^{-2}$			
$ V_{td} $	$ V_{ts} $	$ V_{tb} $			
0.019	$7.5 \times 10^{-2}$	1			

**Table:** The parameters of the SU(8) benchmark point and the predicted SM quark/lepton masses (in unit of GeV) as well as the CKM mixings.



# Summary

# Summary

- We propose an  $SU(8)$  theory to address the SM flavor puzzle. Different generations transform differently in the UV-complete theory and their repetitive structure only emerge in the IR, which lead to the flavor non-universality of SM quarks/leptons.
- Our construction relaxes Georgi's "third law" in 1979, and we avoid the repetitions of one IRAFFS. The global symmetries based on the chiral IRAFFSs are vital to: (i) determine one single SM Higgs doublet through the non-anomalous  $\widetilde{U}(1)_{B-L}$  symmetry, (ii) count the massless left-handed sterile neutrinos precisely through the 't Hooft anomaly matching, (iii) organize the  $d = 5$  operators for the SM fermion mass (mixing) terms.
- The symmetry-breaking pattern of the  $SU(8)$  theory is described, and all light SM fermion masses besides of the top quark are due to the inevitable gravitational effects that break the emergent global symmetries explicitly.

# Summary and Outlook

- Crucial assumptions: (i) the VEV assignments of three intermediate symmetry-breaking scales in Eq. (14), (ii) the SM flavor IDs in the  $\mathbf{28_F}$  and  $\mathbf{56_F}$ , and (iii) the  $d = 5$  operators of direct and indirect Yukawa couplings containing the SM Higgs doublet.
- Main results: all SM quark/lepton masses, as well as the CKM mixing pattern can be quantitatively recovered with  $\mathcal{O}(0.1) - \mathcal{O}(1)$  direct Yukawa couplings and  $\mathcal{O}(0.01)$  Higgs mixing coefficients.
- All SM quark/leptons are flavor non-universal under the extended strong/weak symmetries, while the SM neutrinos  $\nu_L \in \overline{\mathbf{8_F}}^\Omega$  are flavor universal.
- The degenerate  $m_{d^i} = m_{\ell^i}$  will be further probed based on the RGEs of  $\frac{dm_f(\mu)}{d \log \mu} \equiv \gamma_{m_f} m_f(\mu)$ ,  $\gamma_{m_f}(\alpha^\Upsilon) = \frac{\alpha^\Upsilon}{4\pi} \gamma_0(\mathcal{R}_f^\Upsilon)$ .
- The gauge coupling unification? The alternative symmetry breaking patterns? SUSY extensions? Proton lifetime?