Flavor Physics: old problems and recent hopes

Gino Isidori [University of Zürich]

- Introduction
- ► The flavor problem(s)
- The LFU anomalies
- EFT considerations on the anomalies
- Model-building considerations
- Speculations on UV completions
- Conclusions

University of

Zurich

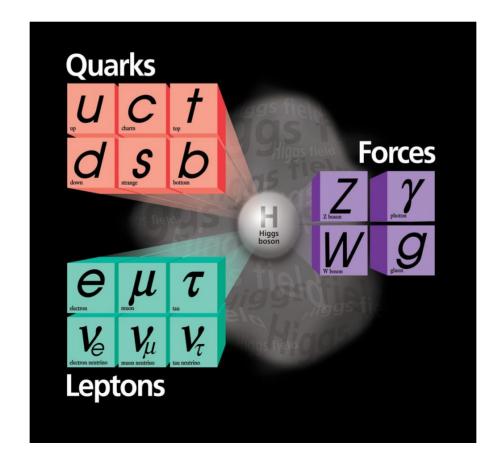




European Research Council Established by the European Commission

The Standard Model (SM) is a remarkably simple Quantum Field Theory (QFT) that describes well (*almost...*) all microscopic phenomena that we observe in Nature

$$\mathscr{L}_{SM} = \mathscr{L}_{gauge}(\psi_i, A_a) + \mathscr{L}_{Higgs}(H, A_a, \psi_i)$$

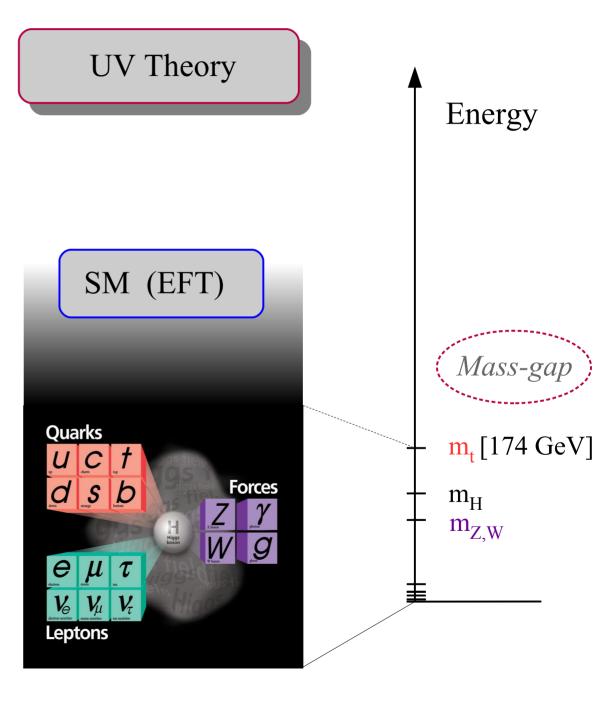


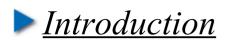
As for any QFT, we believe the SM is only an Effective Field Theory (EFT), i.e. the low energy limit of a more complete theory with more degrees of fredom

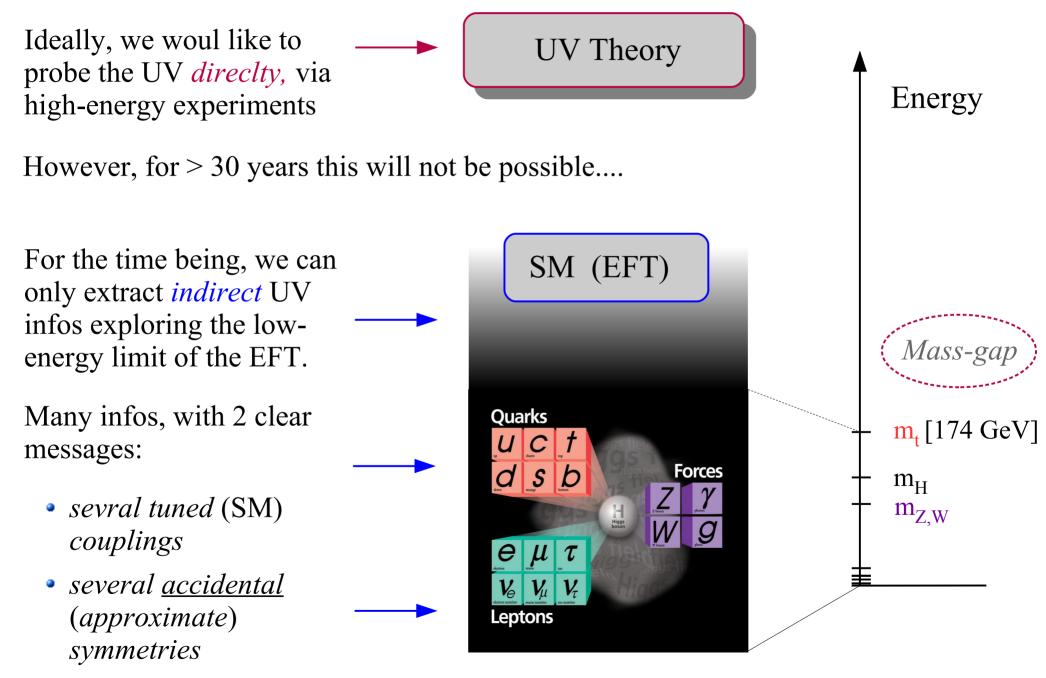
$$\mathscr{L}_{\text{SM-EFT}} = \mathscr{L}_{\text{gauge}} + \mathscr{L}_{\text{Higgs}} + \dots$$

We identified the *long-range* properties of this EFT, but we struggle to underatand

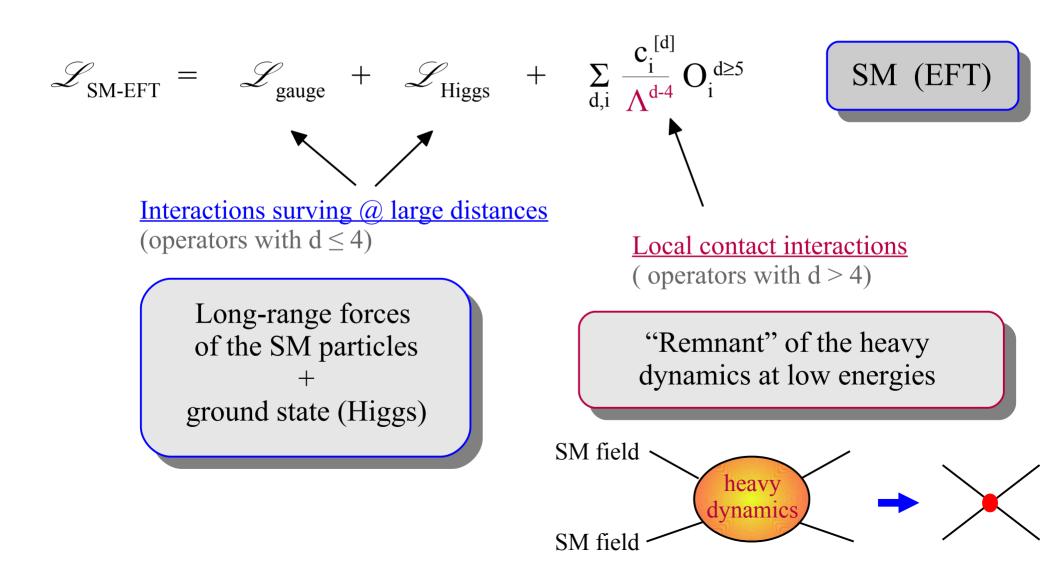
- *the nature of short-distance dynamics*
- why such peculiar structure emerges at low-energies



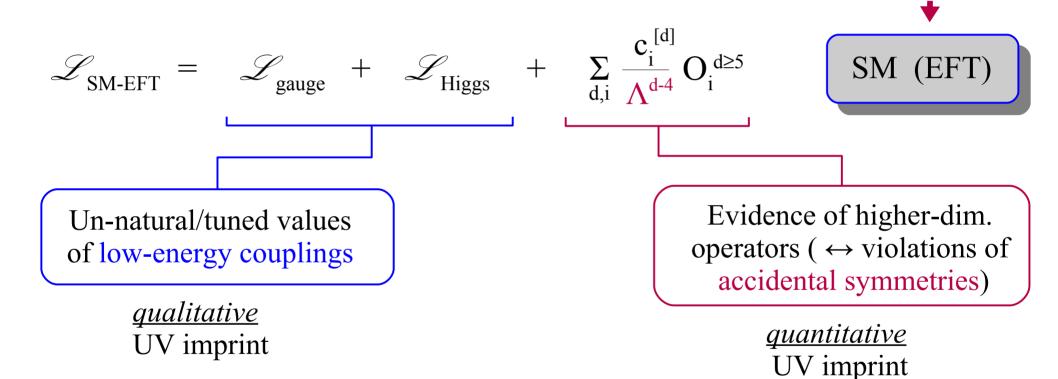




A closer look to the "SM-EFT":

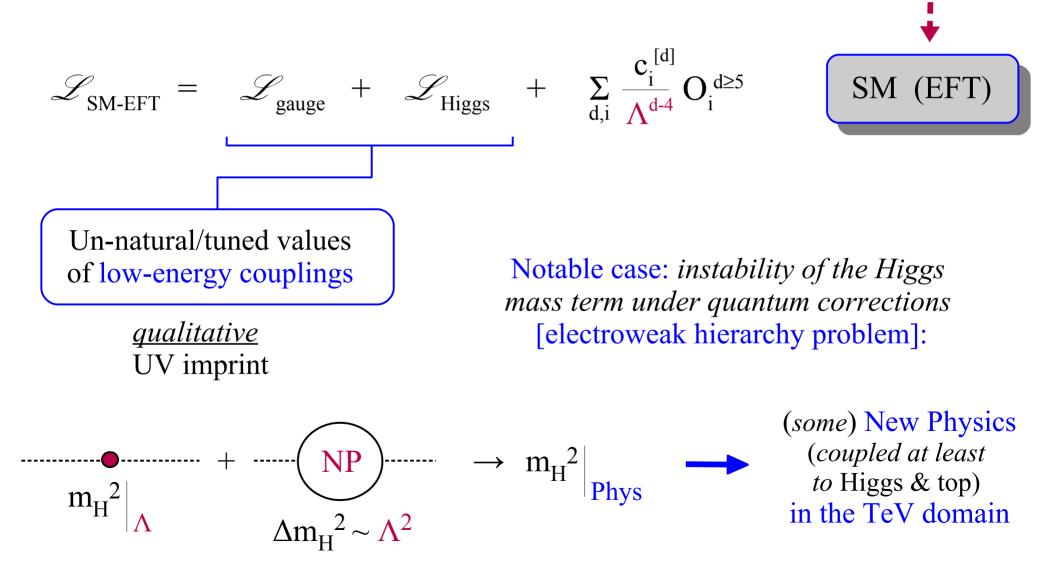


The (indirect) imprints of the UV dynamics manifest themselves in two distict ways:



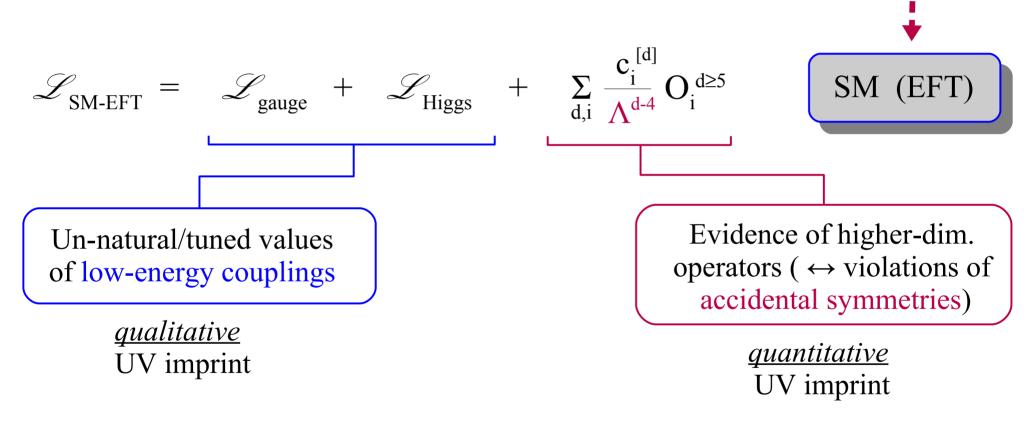
UV Theory

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UV Theory

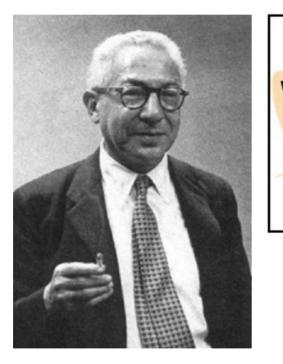
The (indirect) imprints of the UV dynamics manifest themselves in two distict ways:



Flavour physics

is telling us <u>much more on both these aspects !</u> (and might tell us even more in the near future...) UV Theory

The Flavor Problem(s)

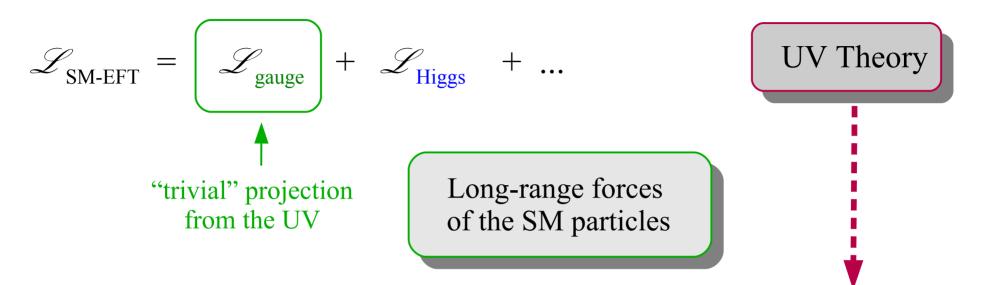




Isidor Issac Rabi

(1898—1988)

The Flavor Problem(s)

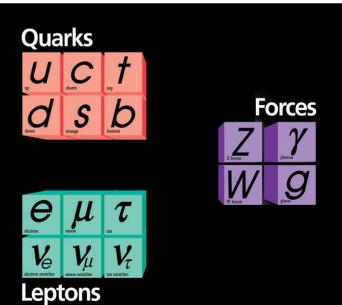


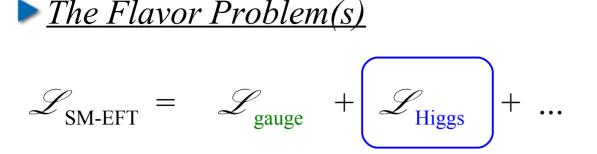
Structure fully dictated by

- Number of light fields
- Their charges under long-range interactions

It contains only "natural" O(1) couplings

Three <u>identical replica</u> of the basic fermion family \Rightarrow huge <u>flavor-degeneracy</u> [U(3)⁵ symmetry]

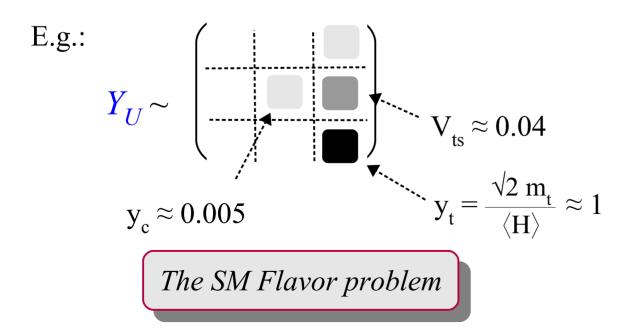


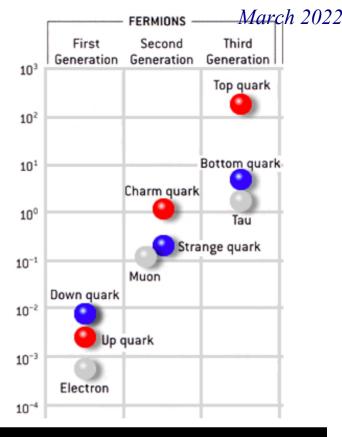


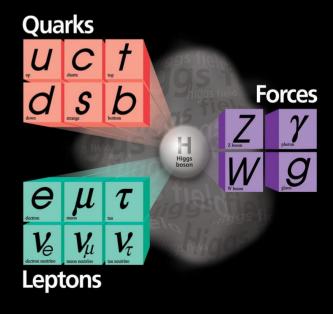
Within the SM, the flavor-degeneracy is broken only by the Yukawa interaction:

 $\mathbf{y}_{ij} \psi_i \psi_j \mathbf{H} \rightarrow \mathbf{m}_{ij} \psi_i \psi_j$

The Yukawa couplings have a peculiar hierarchical structure which <u>does not appear to be accidental</u>:

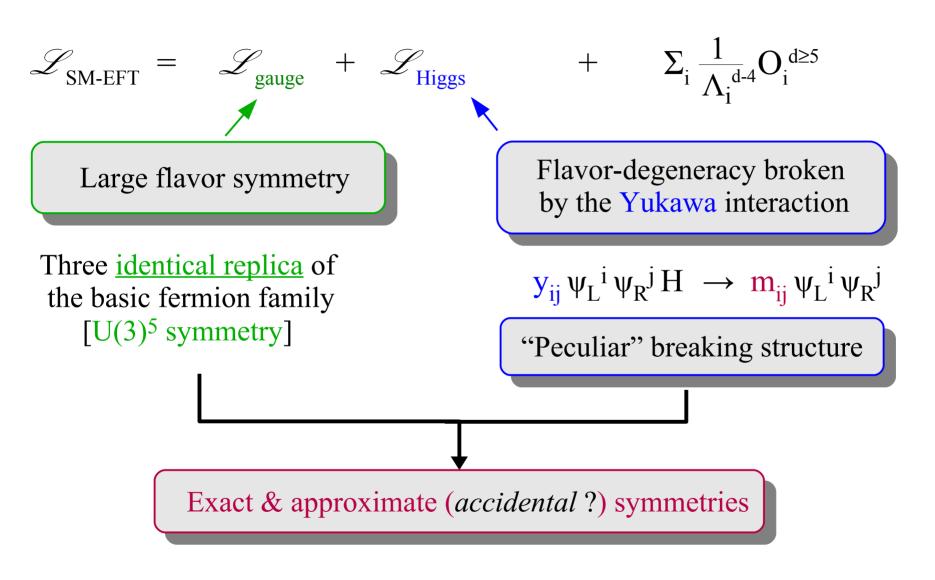




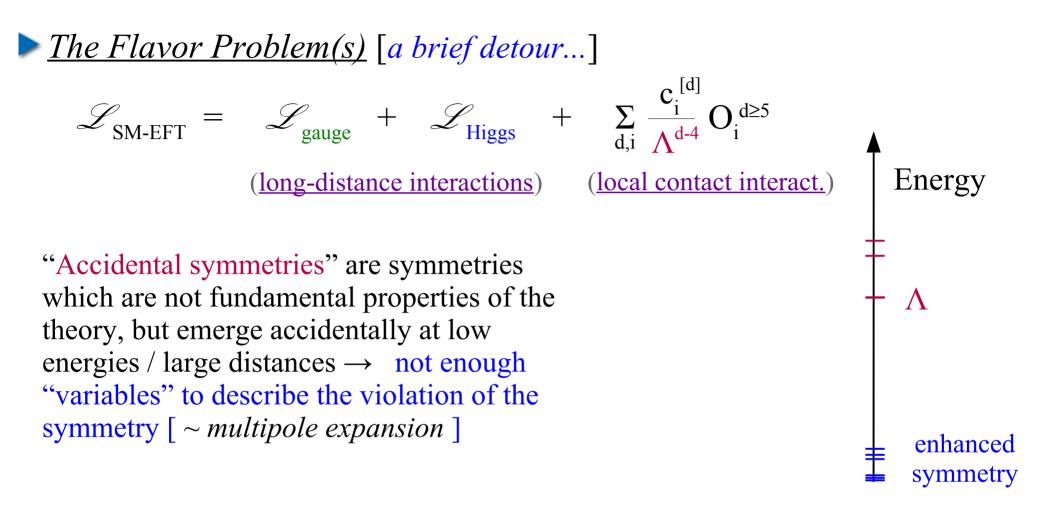


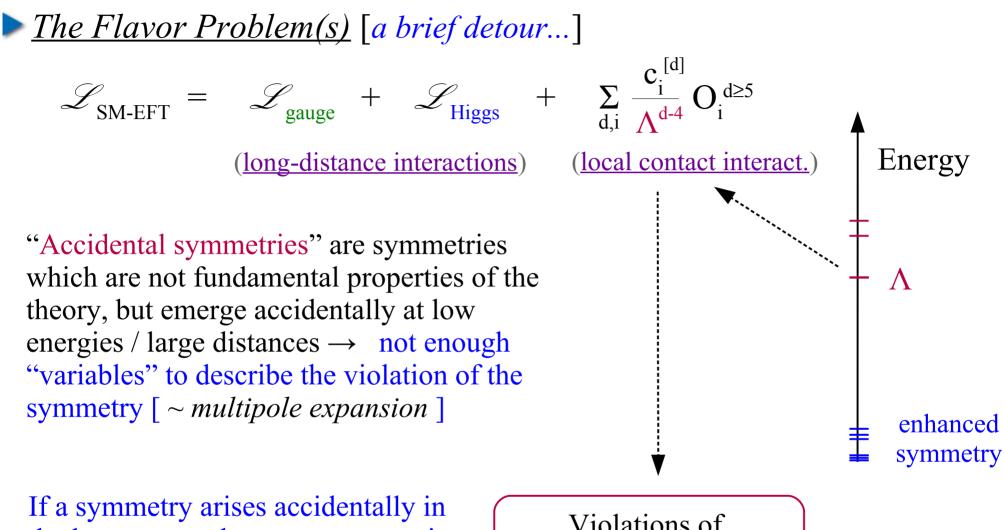
The Flavor Problem(s)

Eg:

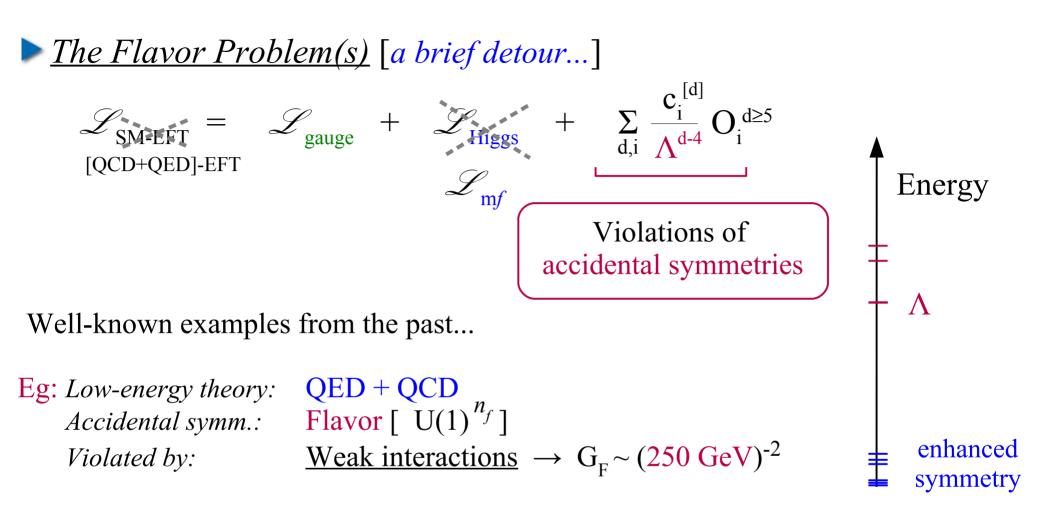


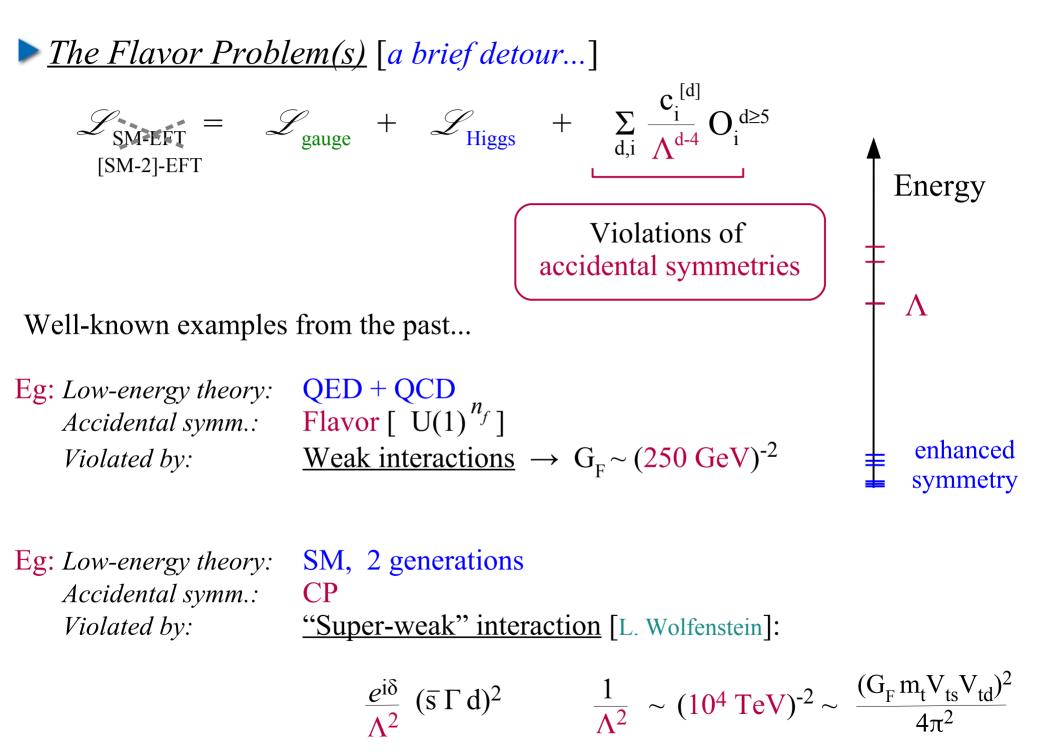
- $U(1)_{L_e} \times U(1)_{L_{\mu}} \times U(1)_{L_{\mu}} = (individual) \text{ Lepton Flavor } [exact symmetry]$
- $m_u \approx m_d \approx 0 \rightarrow \text{Isospin symmetry } [approximate symmetry]$

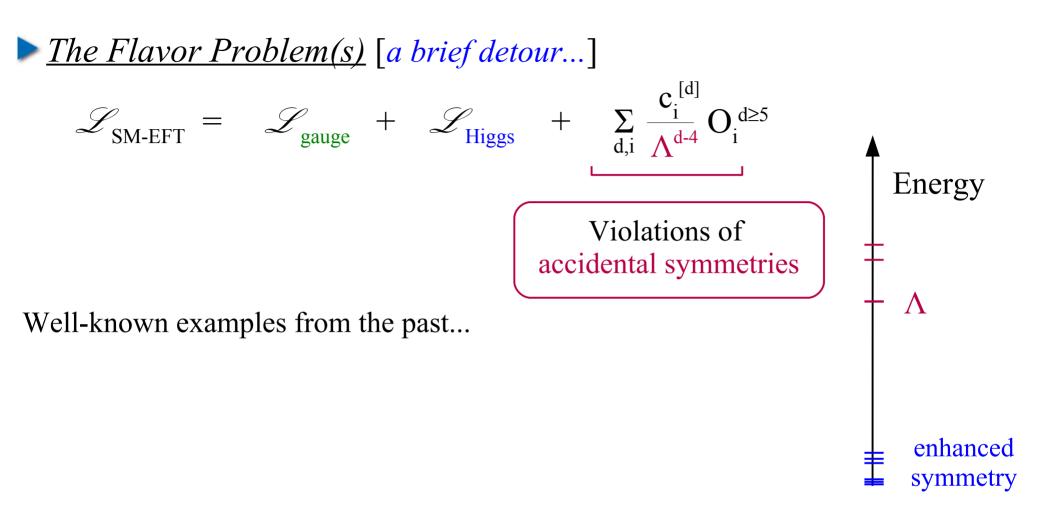




the low-energy theory, we expect it to be violated by higher dim. ops Violations of accidental symmetries







...the violations of Lepton Flavor Universality recently reported by experiments (B-physics *anomalies*) belong to this category

The Flavor Problem(s)

$$\mathscr{L}_{\text{SM-EFT}} = \mathscr{L}_{\text{gauge}} + \mathscr{L}_{\text{Higgs}} + \sum_{d,i} \frac{C_i}{\Lambda^{d-4}} O_i^{d \ge 5}$$

In principle, we could expect many violations of the accidental symmetries from the heavy dynamics $\rightarrow new \ flavor$ violating effects

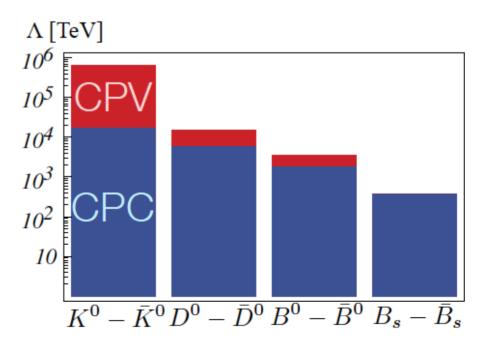
However, beside the B-physics anomalies we observe none

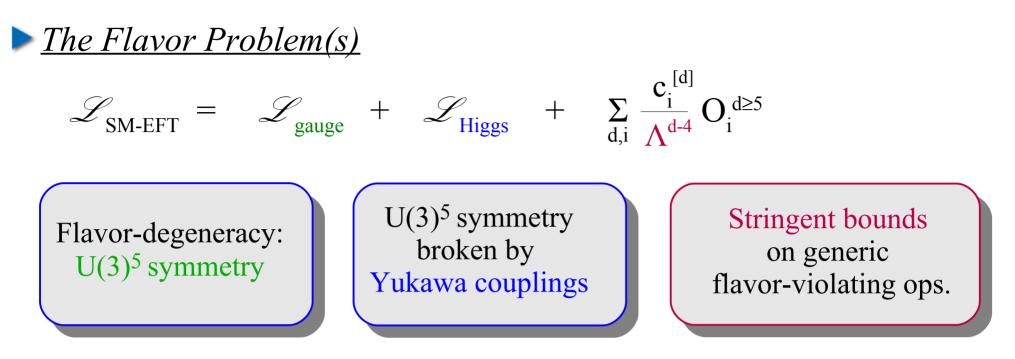
<u>Stringent bounds</u> on the scale of possible new <u>flavor non-universal</u> <u>interactions</u>

The NP Flavor problem

E.g.:
$$\frac{1}{\Lambda^2} (\psi_i \psi_j)^2$$

c [d]

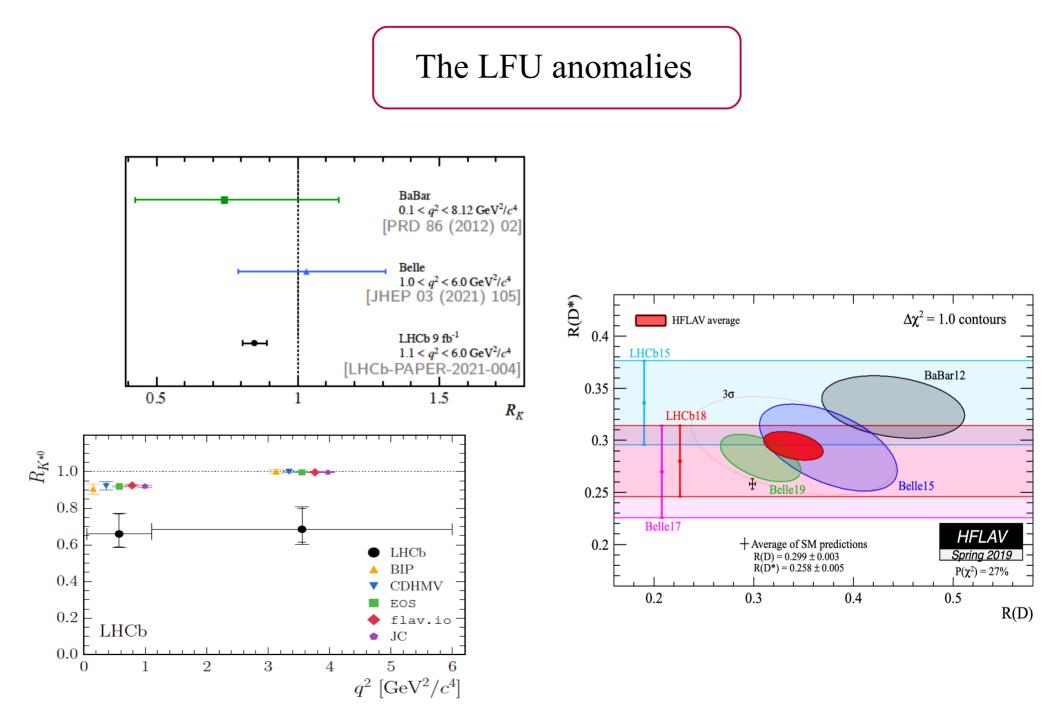




The big questions in flavor physics:

- Are <u>all</u> the the accidental flavor symmetries of the SM broken in the other sectors of the SM-EFT ?
- Can we make sense of the tight NP bounds from flavorviolating processes and still hope to see NP signals somwhere? And in case where?

Recent data start to provide some aswers...



The LFU anomalies

Since 2013 results in semi-leptonic B decays started to exhibit tensions with the SM predictions connected to a possible violation of Lepton Flavor Universality

More precisely, we seem to observe a <u>different behavior</u> (*beside pure* kinematical effects) of different lepton species in the following processes:

- $b \rightarrow s l^+l^-$ (neutral currents): μvs. e
- b \rightarrow c *lv* (charged currents): τ vs. light leptons (μ , e)

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N.B: LFU is an <u>accidental symmetry</u> of the SM Lagrangian in the limit where we neglect the lepton Yukawa couplings.

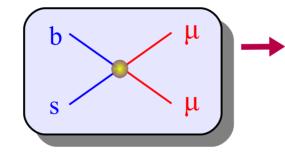
LFU is <u>badly broken</u> in the Yukawa sector: $y_e \sim 3 \times 10^{-6}$, $y_{\mu} \sim 3 \times 10^{-4}$, $y_{\tau} \sim 10^{-2}$

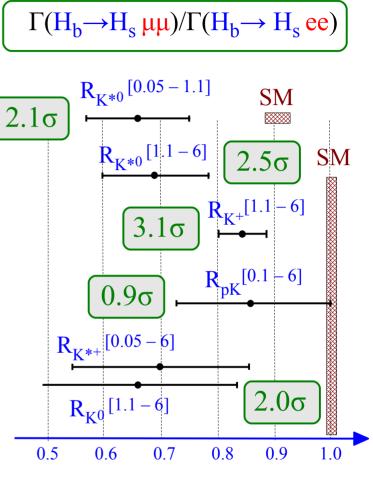
but all the lepton Yukawa couplings are small compared to SM gauge couplings, giving rise to the (*approximate*) universality of decay amplitudes which differ only by the different lepton species involved

<u>The LFU anomalies</u>

• $b \rightarrow s l^+l^-$ (neutral currents): μ vs. e

<u>High significance</u>: several observables pointing to the same coherent picture [several new results in 2021]



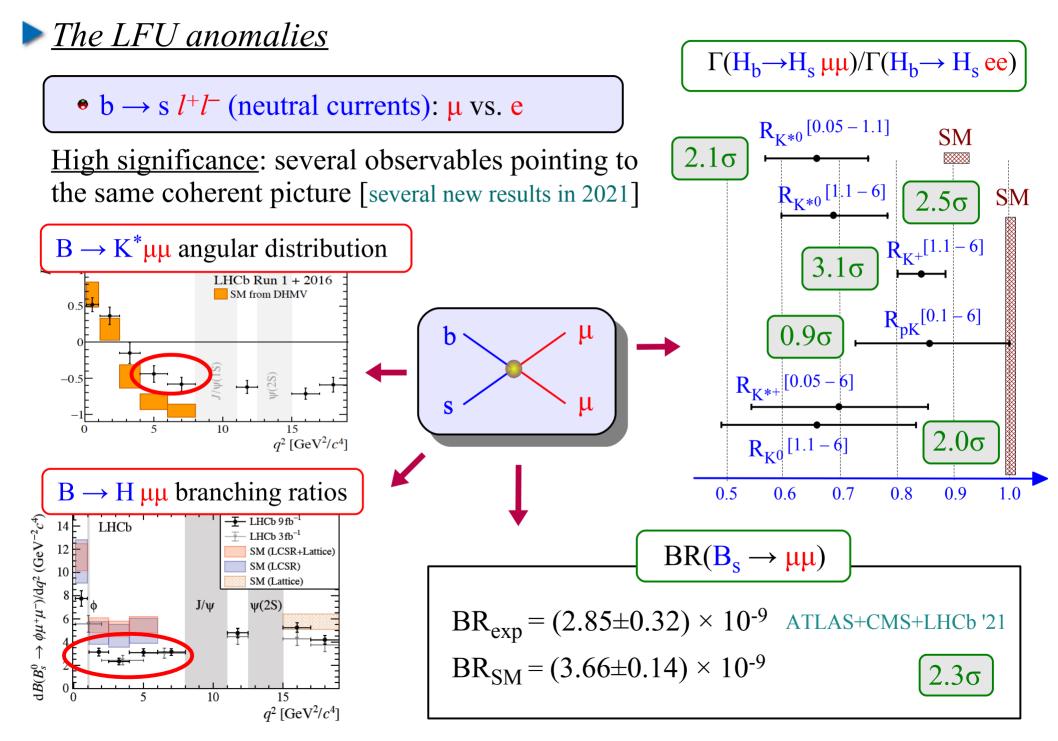


LFU ratios [LHCb – Autumn 2021]

SM

1.0

The LFU anomalies $\Gamma(H_b \rightarrow H_s \mu\mu) / \Gamma(H_b \rightarrow H_s ee)$ • b \rightarrow s l^+l^- (neutral currents): μ vs. e $R_{K^{*0}}[0.05-1.1]$ SM 2.1σ High significance: several observables pointing to $R_{K^{*0}}[1.1-6]$ the same coherent picture [several new results in 2021] 2.5σ $\mathbf{R}_{K^+}[1.1 - 6]$ 3.1σ $R_{pK}^{[0.1-6]}$ 0.9σ μ $R_{K^{*+}}^{[0.05-6]}$ $R_{K^0}[1.1-6]$ 2.0σ 0.5 0.6 0.7 0.8 0.9 $BR(B_s \rightarrow \mu\mu)$ $BR_{exp} = (2.85 \pm 0.32) \times 10^{-9}$ ATLAS+CMS+LHCb '21 $BR_{SM} = (3.66 \pm 0.14) \times 10^{-9}$ 2.30 2.3σ



March 2022

<u>The LFU anomalies</u>

• b \rightarrow s l^+l^- (neutral currents): μ vs. e

 $b \rightarrow s l^+l^-$ transitions are forbidden at the tree level within the SM.

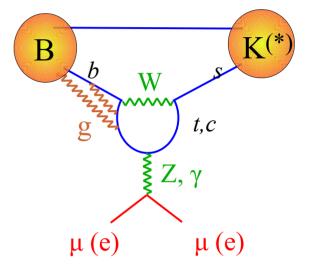
Depending on the $q^2 = m^2 ll$ range, they are dominated by

- short distance dynamics
 → precisely calculable, more sensitive to NP
- long-distance dynamics

 → moderate/large theory erorrs, small/no sensitivity to NP

N.B: long-distance dynamics is lepton-flavor universal

- <u>cannot</u> generate $C_i^{\mu} \neq C_i^{e}$
- <u>does not afect</u> $C_{10}^{\mu,e}$

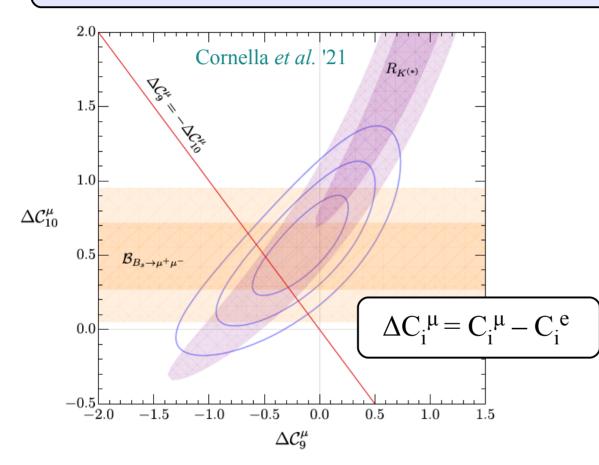


Leading short-distance effective operators:

```
\mathcal{O}_{10}^{\ell} = (\bar{s}_L \gamma_\mu b_L) (\bar{\ell} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \ell)\mathcal{O}_9^{\ell} = (\bar{s}_L \gamma_\mu b_L) (\bar{\ell} \gamma^\mu \ell)
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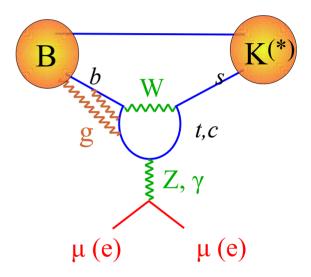
The LFU anomalies





Conservative fit using "clean obs." only

5.0 σ significance of NP hypothesis $\Delta C_{9}^{\mu} = -\Delta C_{10}^{\mu}$ vs. SM Beyond tree level in SM:



Leading short-distance effective operators:

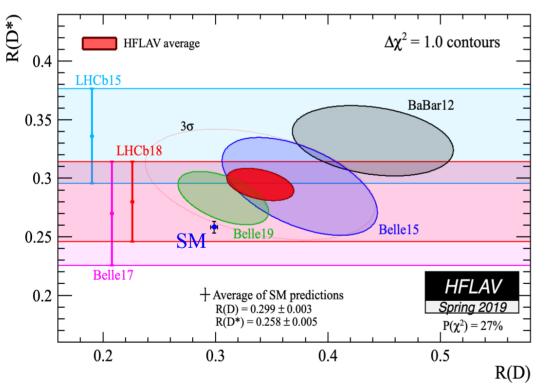
$$\mathcal{O}_{10}^{\ell} = (\bar{s}_L \gamma_\mu b_L) (\bar{\ell} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \ell)$$
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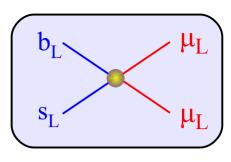
The LFU anomalies Lepton-universal shift to C_9 (sensitive to charm re-scattering) • b \rightarrow s l^+l^- (neutral currents): μ vs. e 0.52.0Cornella et al. '21 $R_{K^{(*)}}$ 1.5SM 0.0 CHE 1.0 $\Delta C_9^U = -0.5$ ΔC_{10}^{μ} 0.5 $\mathcal{B}_{B_s \to \mu^+ \mu^-}$ other $b \to s \mu^+ \mu^-$ -1.0observables 0.0 $R_{K^{(*)}} + \mathcal{B}_{B_* \to \mu^+ \mu^-}$ $\begin{array}{c} -0.5 \ -2.0 \end{array}$ -1.5 -1.5-0.50.0 0.51.0-1.5-0.5-1.01.5-1.00.0 0.51.0 ΔC_{q}^{μ} $\Delta \mathcal{C}_{9}^{\mu} = -\Delta \mathcal{C}_{10}^{\mu}$ Alguero et al. '19 Ciuchini et al. '20 best estimate of charm <u>Conservative fit</u> using "clean obs." only $>> 5\sigma$ Li-Sheng et al. '21 contribution Altmanshofer & Stangl '21 significance of NP hypothesis 5.0σ 4.3σ global significance of NP $\Delta C_0^{\mu} = -\Delta C_{10}^{\mu}$ vs. SM GI, Lancierini (very conserv. estimate) Owen, Serra '21

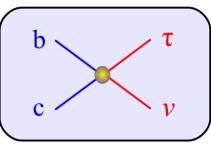
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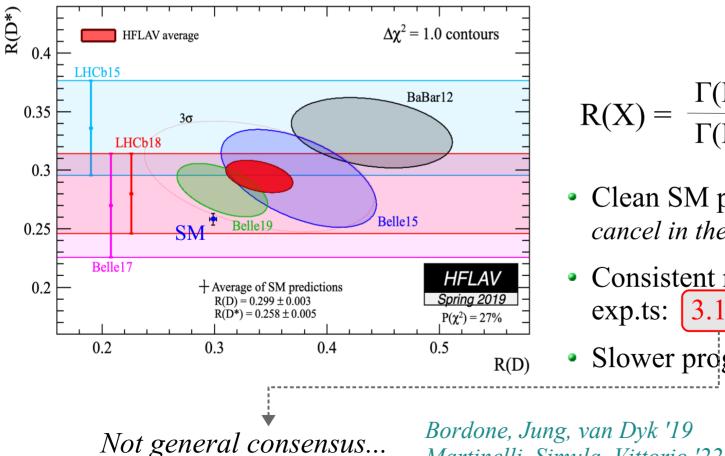
$$R(X) = \frac{\Gamma(B \to X \tau v)}{\Gamma(B \to X l v)} X = D \text{ or } D^*$$

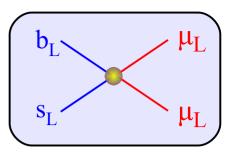
- Clean SM predictions (*uncertainties cancel in the ratios*)
- Consistent results by 3 different exp.ts: 3.1σ excess over SM
- Slower progress

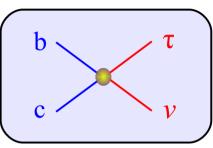
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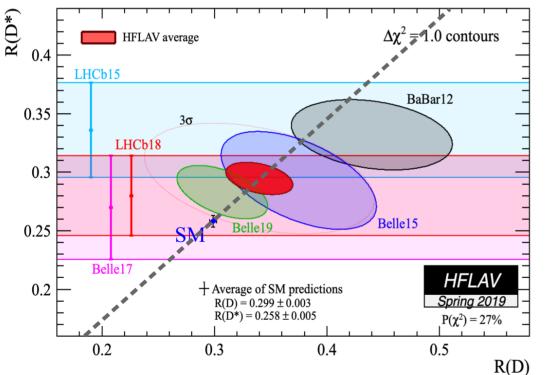
Slower progress

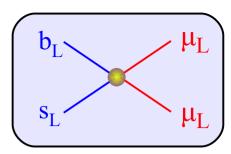
 $\sim 4\sigma$ Martinelli, Simula, Vittorio '22 $\sim 2\sigma$

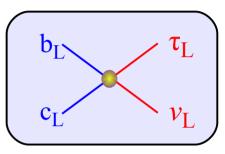
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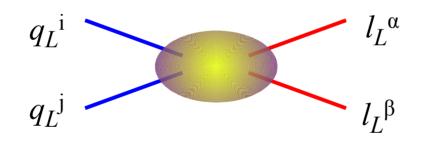




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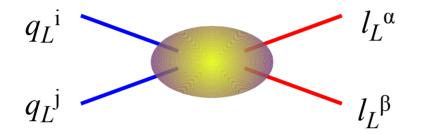
- Clean SM predictions (*uncertainties cancel in the ratios*)
- Consistent results by 3 different exp.ts: 3.1σ excess over SM
- Slower progress
- <u>Large NP effect</u> competing with tree-level SM amplitude
- Left-handed NP amplitude describe well data (*but other options still possible*)

EFT considerations on the LFU anomalies



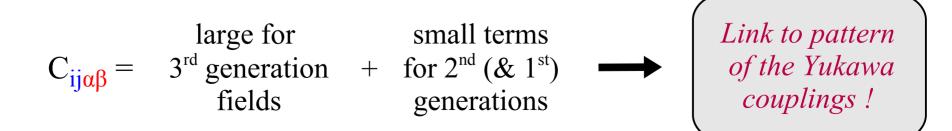
<u>EFT considerations</u>

- Anomalies are seen only in semi-leptonic (quark×lepton) operators
- We definitely need non-vanishing <u>left-handed</u> current-current operators although other contributions are also possible



Bhattacharya *et al.* '14 Alonso, Grinstein, Camalich '15 Greljo, GI, Marzocca '15 (+many others...)

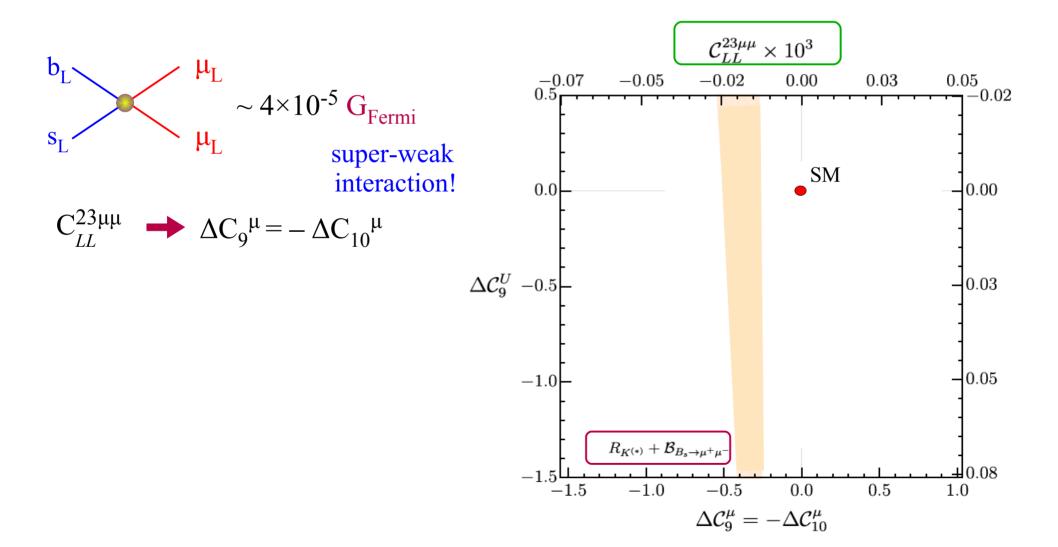
- Large coupl. [compete with SM tree-level] in $b(3^{rd}) c(2^{nd}) \rightarrow \tau(3^{rd}) v_{\tau}(3^{rd})$
- Small coupl. [compete with SM loop-level] in $b(3^{rd}) s(2^{nd}) \rightarrow \mu(2^{rd}) \mu(2^{rd})$



EFT considerations

Data point to (short-distance) NP effects in operators of the type

$$\mathcal{O}_{LL}^{ij\alpha\beta} = (\bar{q}_L^i \gamma_\mu \ell_L^\alpha) (\bar{\ell}_L^\beta \gamma_\mu q_L^j)$$

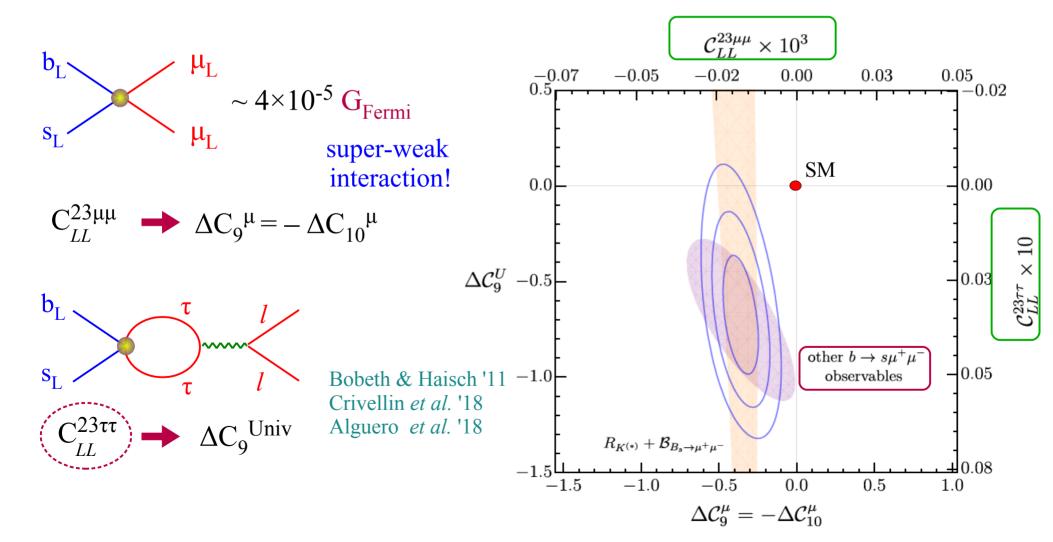


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• O(10⁻¹) suppress. for each 2^{nd} gen. l_L

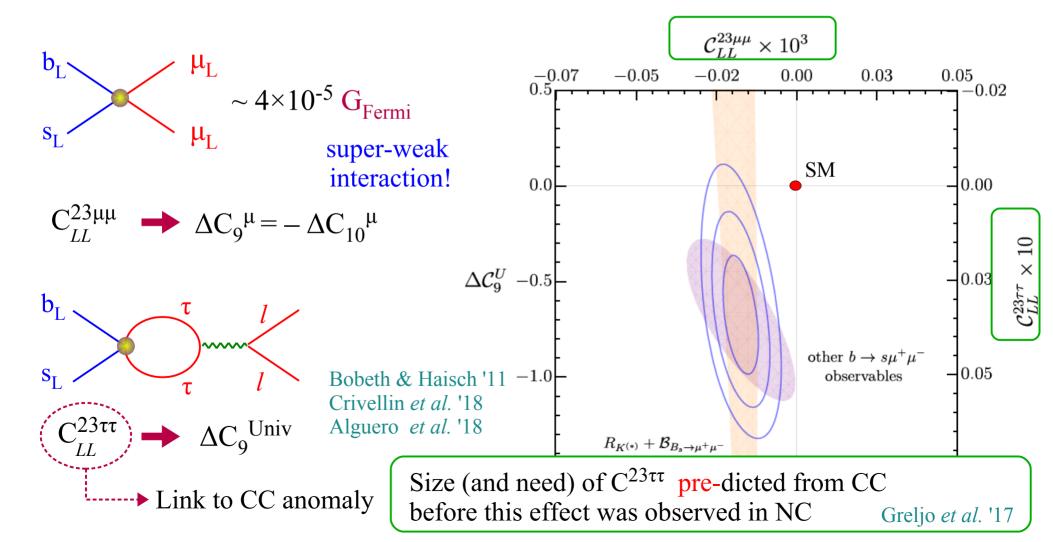


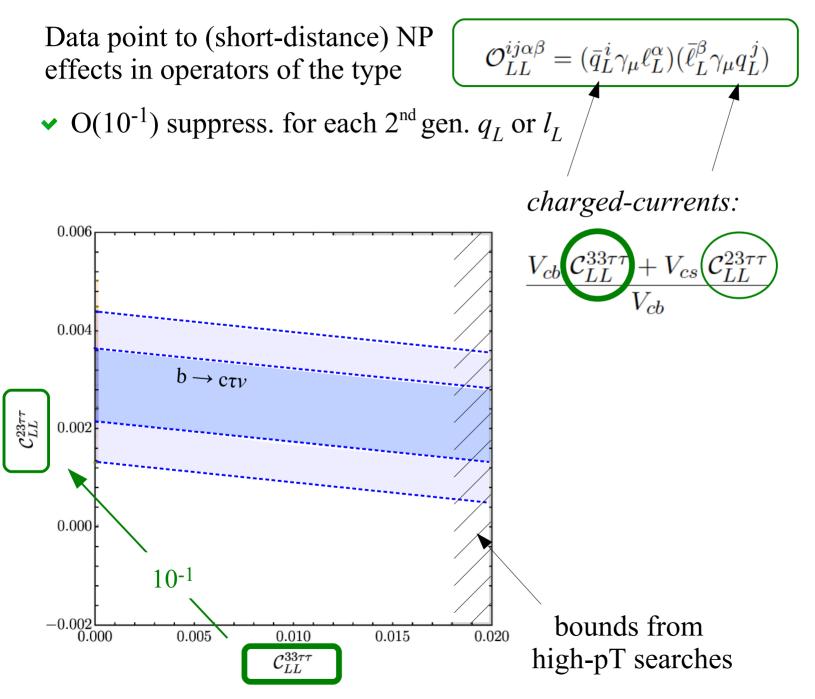
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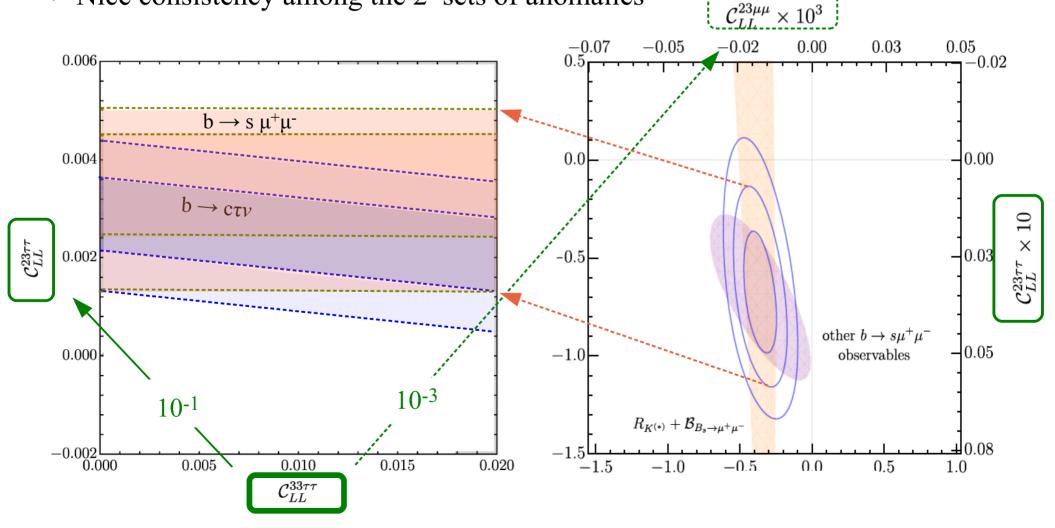


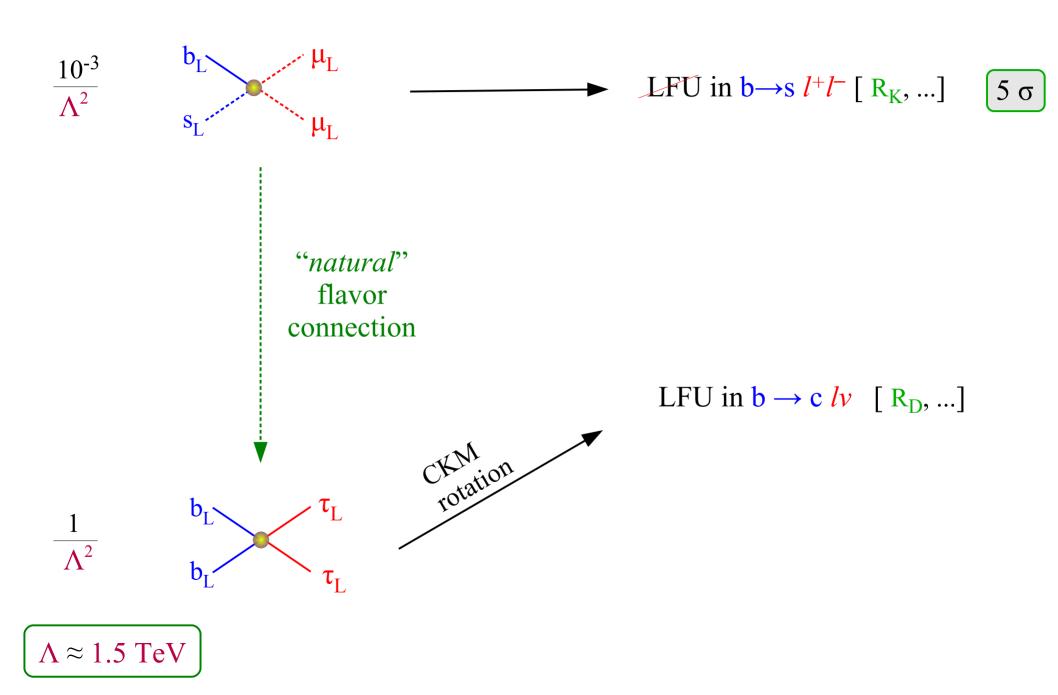


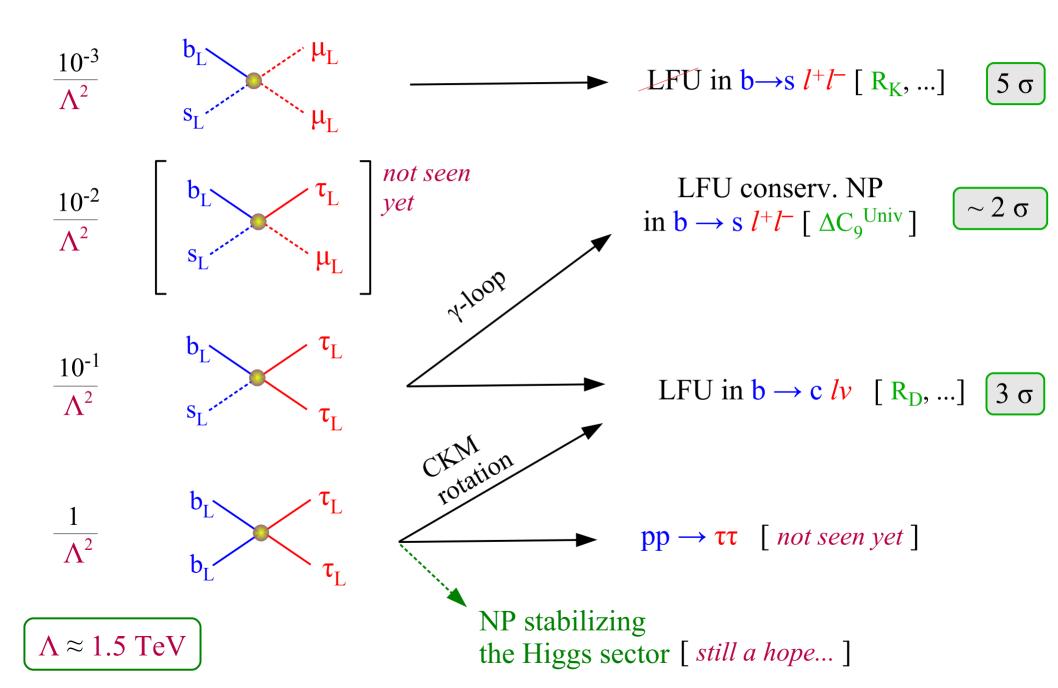
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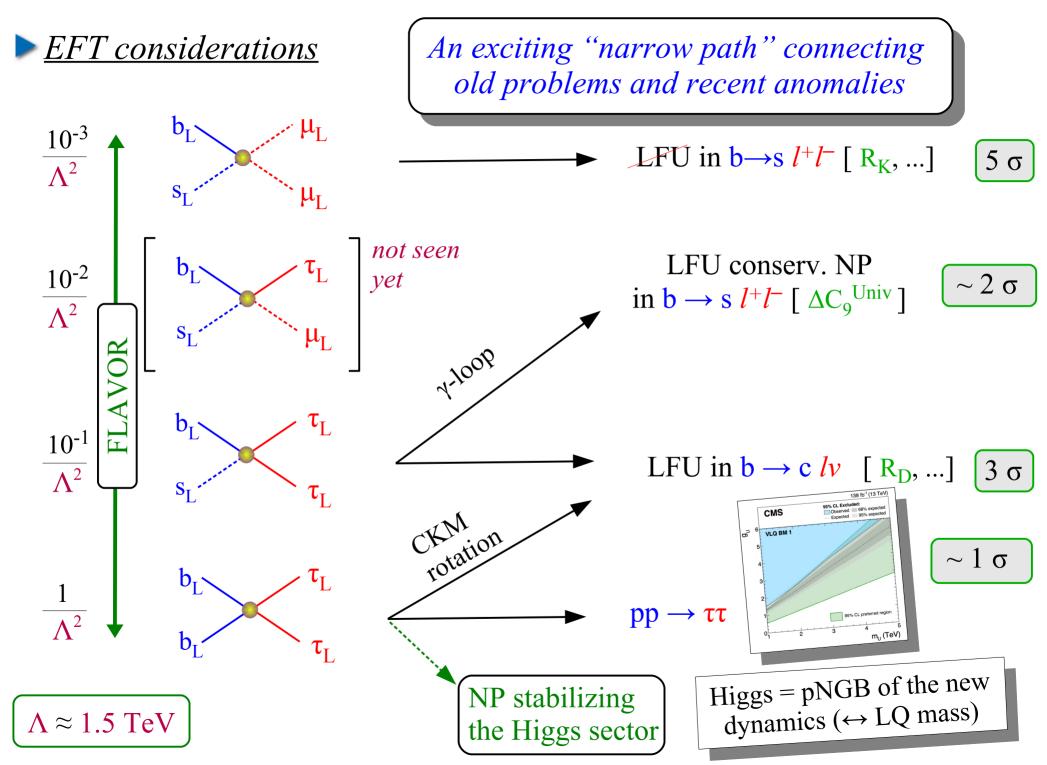
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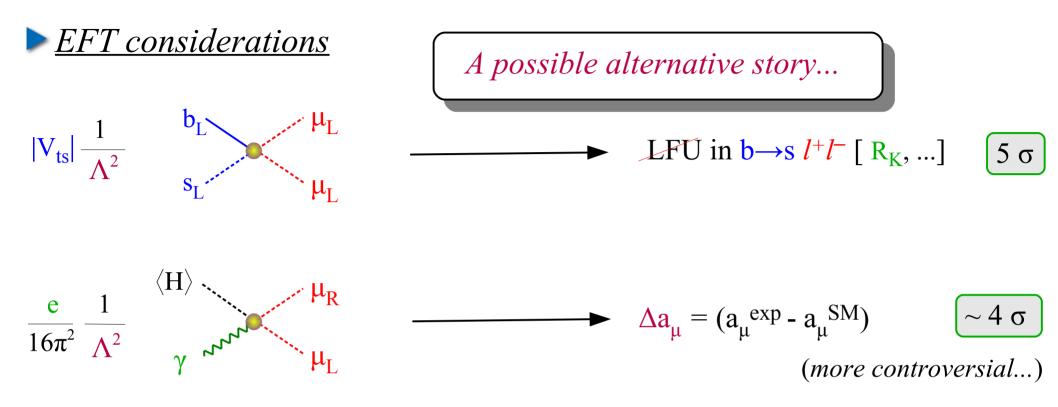
- O(10⁻¹) suppress. for each 2^{nd} gen. q_L or l_L
- Nice consistency among the 2 sets of anomalies $\int_{C^{23\mu\mu}}$





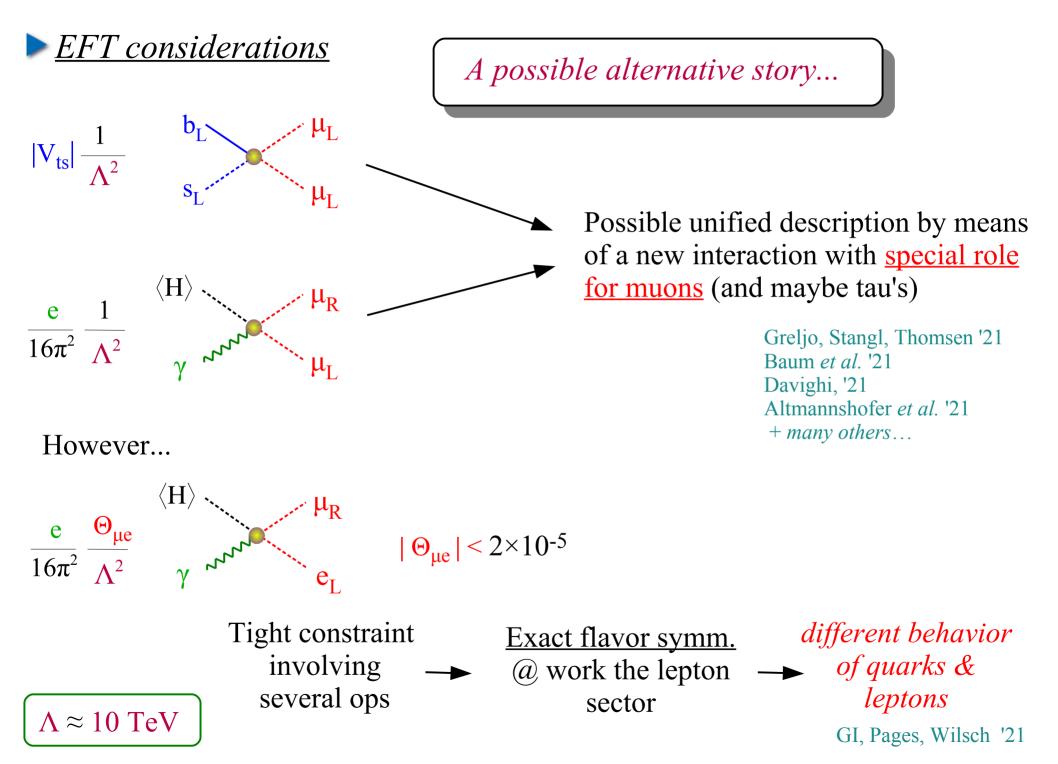






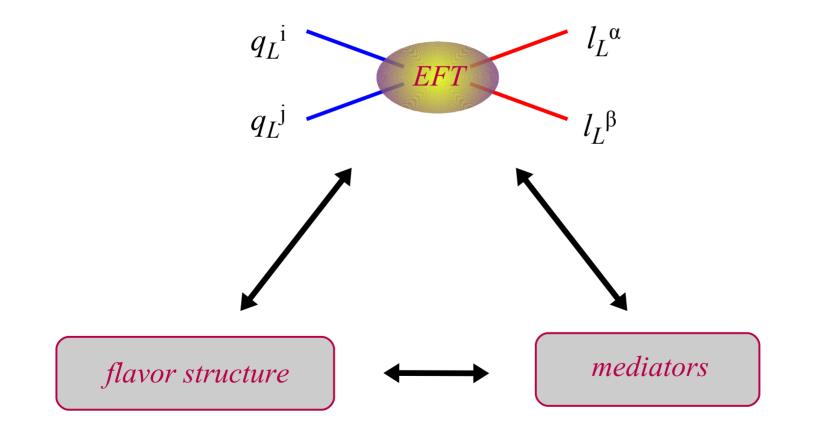
Ignoring the (less convincing) CC anomaly other paths are certainly possible...



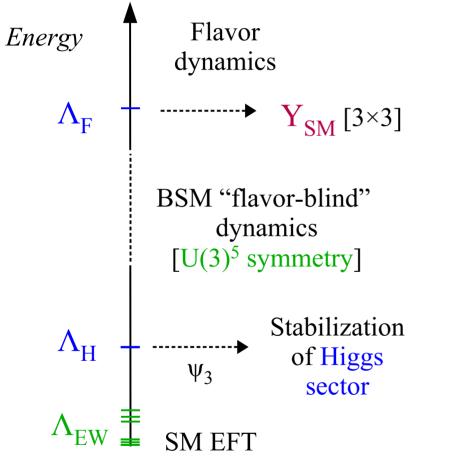




To move from the EFT toward more complete/ambitious models, we need to address two general aspects: the *flavor structure* of the underlying theory, and the nature of the possible *mediators*



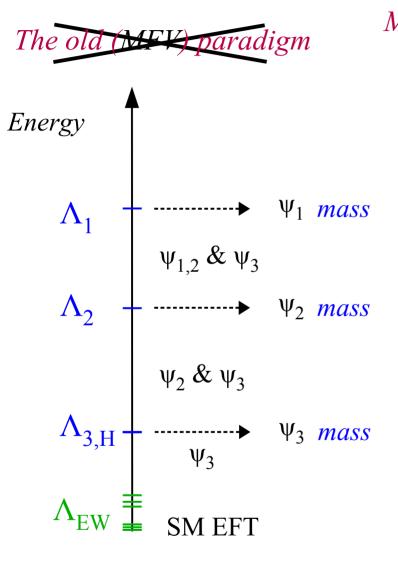
The old (Minimal Flavor Violation) paradigm:



Main idea:

- Concentrate on the Higgs hierarchy problem
- Postpone (ignore) the flavor problem

3 gen. = "identical copies" up to high energies



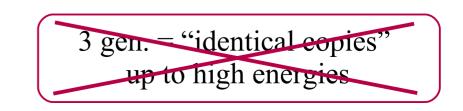
Multi-scale picture @ origin of flavor:

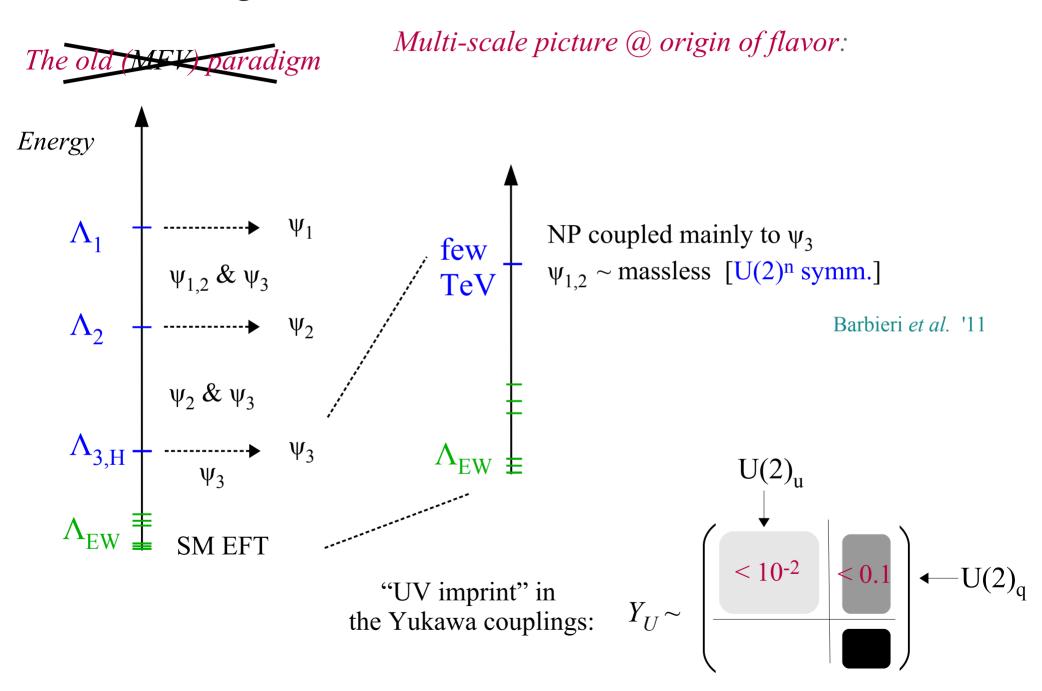
Bordone *et al.* '17 Allwicher, GI, Thomsen '20 Barbieri '21

Panico & Pomarol '16 E Dvali & Shifman '00

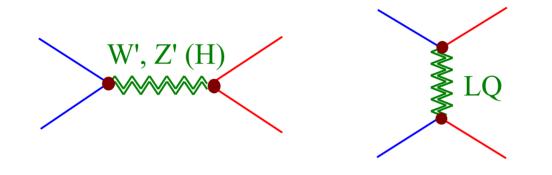
Main idea:

- Flavor non-universal interactions already at the TeV scale:
- 1st & 2nd gen. have small masses because they are coupled to NP at heavier scales





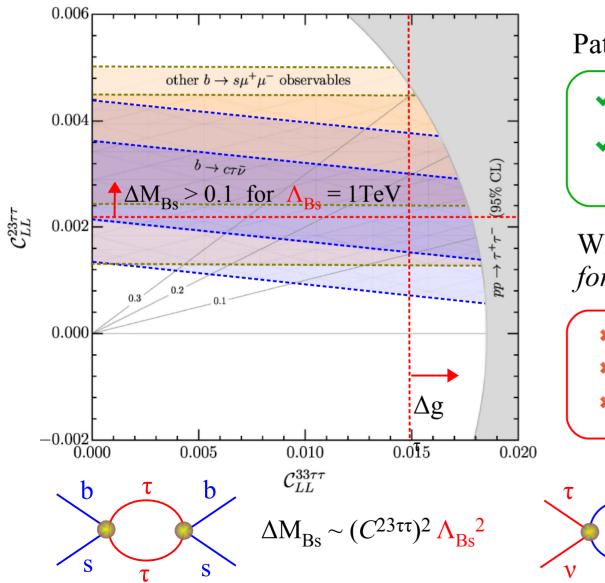
Which mediators can generate the effective operators required for by the EFT fit? If we restrict the attention to tree-level mediators, not many possibilities...



March 2022

Model-building considerations

Which mediators can generate the effective operators required for by the EFT fit? If we restrict the attention to tree-level mediators, not many possibilities...



Pattern emerging from data:

• O(10⁻¹) for each 2^{nd} gen. q_L or l_L

 Nice consistency among the two sets of anomalies

What we do <u>not</u> see (*seem to call for an additional loop suppression*):

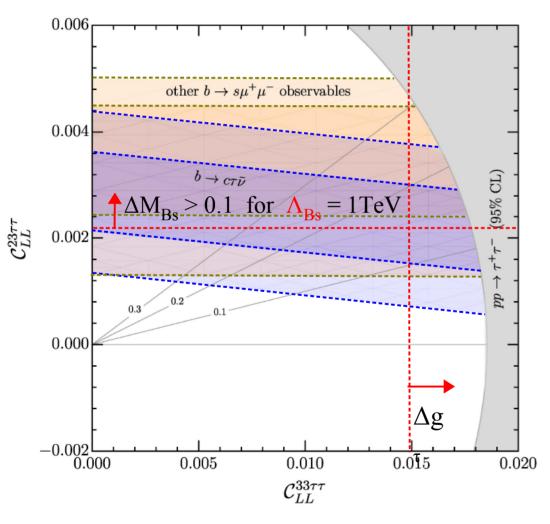
- ***** Four-quarks ($\Delta F=2$)
- ***** Four-leptons ($\tau \rightarrow \mu v v$)
- * Semi-leptonic $O^{(1-3)}$ (b \rightarrow svv)

 $\Delta g_{\tau} \sim (C^{33\tau\tau}) \log(\Lambda/m_{\star})$

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Model-building considerations

Which mediators can generate the effective operators required for by the EFT fit? If we restrict the attention to tree-level mediators, not many possibilities...



Pattern emerging from data:

• O(10⁻¹) for each 2^{nd} gen. q_L or l_L

 Nice consistency among the two sets of anomalies

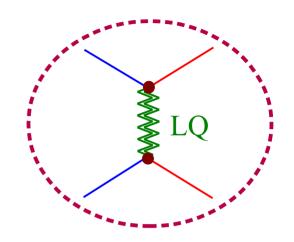
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- ***** Four-quarks ($\Delta F=2$)
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Leptoquarks

Model-building considerations

"Renaissance" of LQ models (*to explain the anomalies, but not only*...):



Scalar LQ as PNG
 Gripaios, '10
 Gripaios, Nardecchia, Renner, '14
 Marzocca '18

• Scalar LQ from GUTs & R SUSY

Hiller & Schmaltz, '14; Becirevic *et al.* '16, Fajfer *et al.* '15-'17; Dorsner *et al.* '17; Crivellin *et al.* '17; Altmannshofer *et al.* '17 Trifinopoulos '18, Becirevic *et al.* '18 + ...

 Vector LQ in GUT gauge models

> Assad *et al.* '17 Di Luzio *et al.* '17 Bordone et *al.* '17 Heeck & Teresi '18 + ...

 Vector LQ as techni-fermion resonances Barbieri *et al.* '15;

Buttazzo *et al.* '16, Barbieri, Murphy, Senia, '17 + ... • LQ as Kaluza-Klein excit.

Megias, Quiros, Salas '17 Megias, Panico, Pujolas, Quiros '17 Blanke, Crivellin, '18 + ...

	Model	<i>R</i> _{<i>K</i>^(*)}	<i>R</i> _{<i>D</i>(*)}	$R_{K^{(*)}} \& R_{D^{(*)}}$
	$S_1 = (3, 1)_{-1/3}$	×	✓	×
Scalars	$R_2 = (3, 2)_{7/6}$	×	\checkmark	×
S	$\widetilde{R}_2 = (3, 2)_{1/6}$	×	×	×
	$S_3 = (3, 3)_{-1/3}$	\checkmark	×	×
Vector	$U_1 = (3, 1)_{2/3}$	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark
Ve($ {}^{_{\!$	\checkmark	×	×

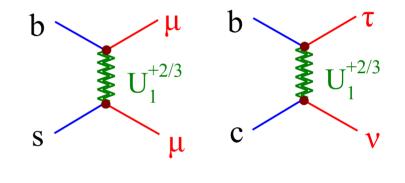
Which LQ explains which anomaly?

Angelescu, Becirevic, DAF, Sumensari [1808.08179]

Barbieri, GI, Pattori, Senia '15

- mediator: U_1
- → <u>UV completion</u>: SU(4)

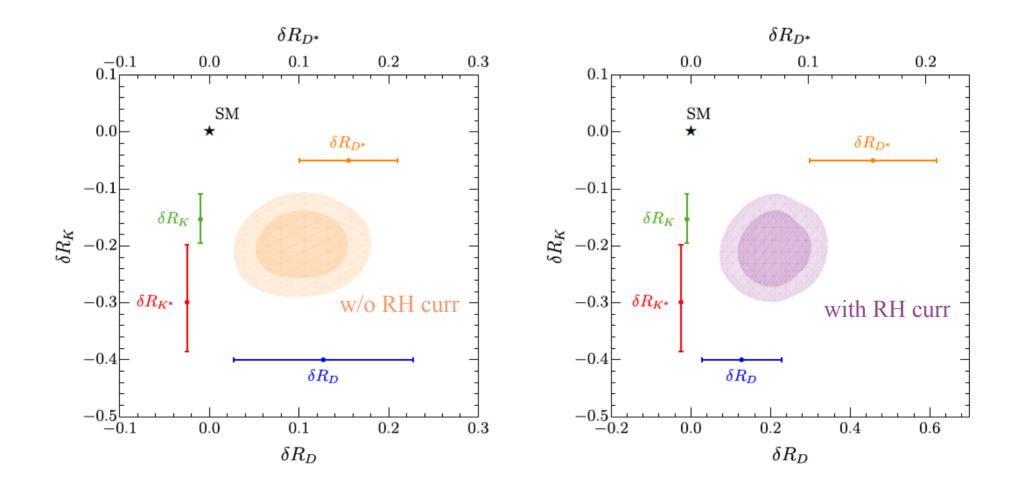
LQ of the Pati-Salam gauge group: $SU(4) \times SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R$



Considering the U_1 only

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{g_U}{\sqrt{2}} U_1^{\mu} \left[\beta_{i\alpha}^L (\bar{q}_L^i \gamma_{\mu} \mathcal{C}_L^{\alpha}) - \beta_{i\alpha}^R (\bar{d}_R^i \gamma_{\mu} e_R^{\alpha}) \right] + \mathrm{h.c.}$$

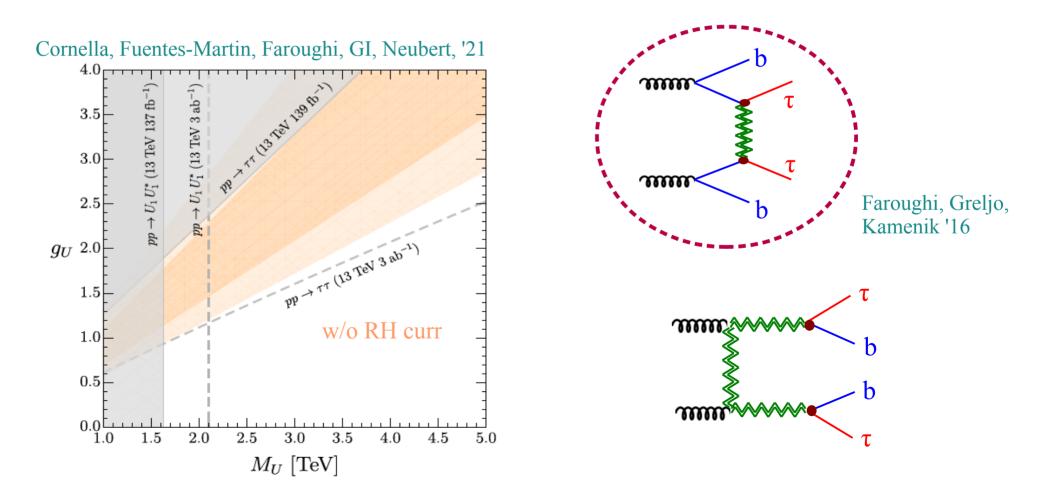
 \rightarrow excellent description of all available <u>low-energy data [*beyond tree-level*...]:</u>

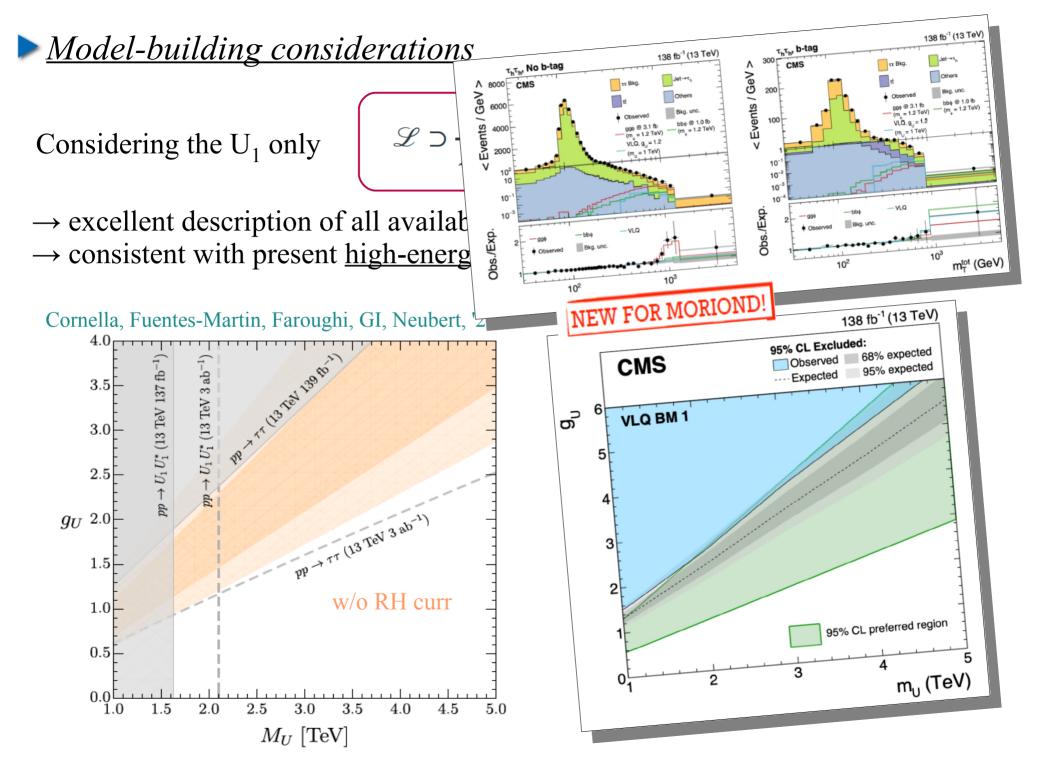


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 \rightarrow excellent description of all available low-energy data \rightarrow consistent with present <u>high-energy data</u> \rightarrow *signals within the reach of HL-LHC*:





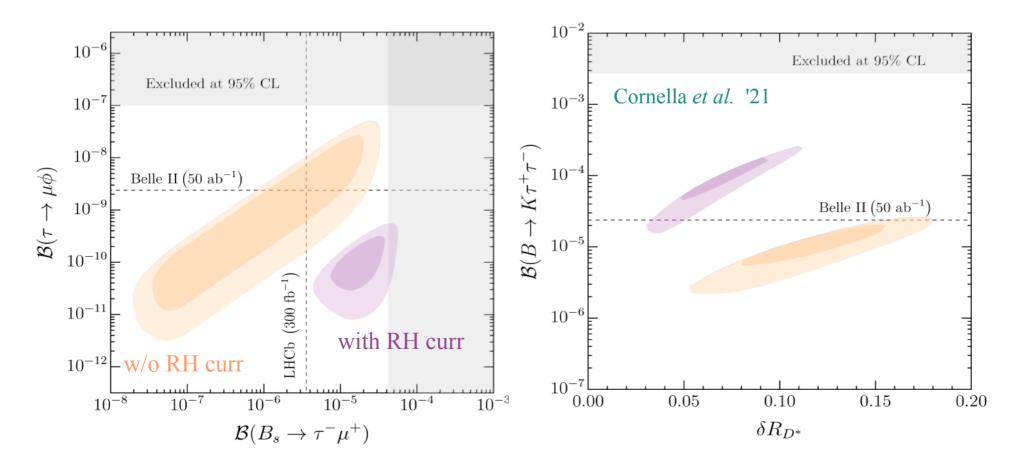
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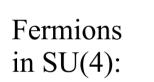
 \rightarrow interesting implications also for future low-energy searches:

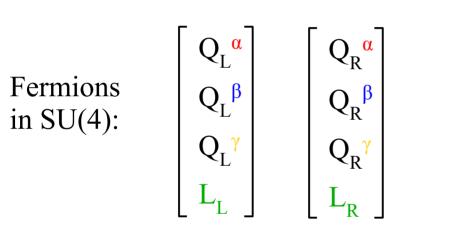




First observation: the Pati & Salam group, proposed in the 70's to unify quarks & leptons predicts the <u>only massive LQ</u> that is a good mediator for <u>both</u> anomalies:

Pati-Salam group: $SU(4) \times SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R$





Main Pati-Salam idea: Lepton number as "the 4th color"

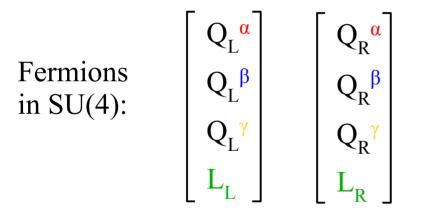
The massive LQ $[U_1]$ arise from the breaking SU(4) \rightarrow SU(3)_C×U(1)_{B-L}

$$SU(4) \sim \begin{bmatrix} SU(3)_C & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & LQ \\ LQ & \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{3} & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

First observation: the Pati & Salam group, proposed in the 70's to unify quarks & leptons predicts the <u>only massive LQ</u> that is a good mediator for <u>both</u> anomalies:

Heeck, Teresi, '18

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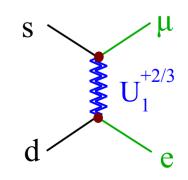


Main Pati-Salam idea: Lepton number as "the 4th color"

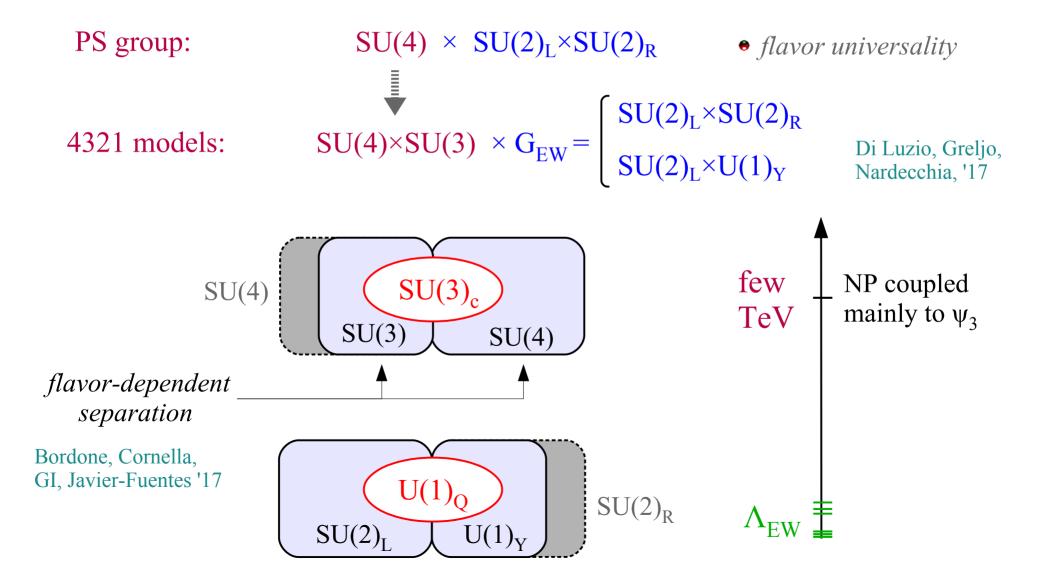
The massive LQ $[U_1]$ arise from the breaking SU(4) \rightarrow SU(3)_C×U(1)_{B-L}

The problem of the "original PS model" are the strong bounds on the LQ couplings to $1^{st} \& 2^{nd}$ generations [e.g. M > 200 TeV from $K_L \rightarrow \mu e$]

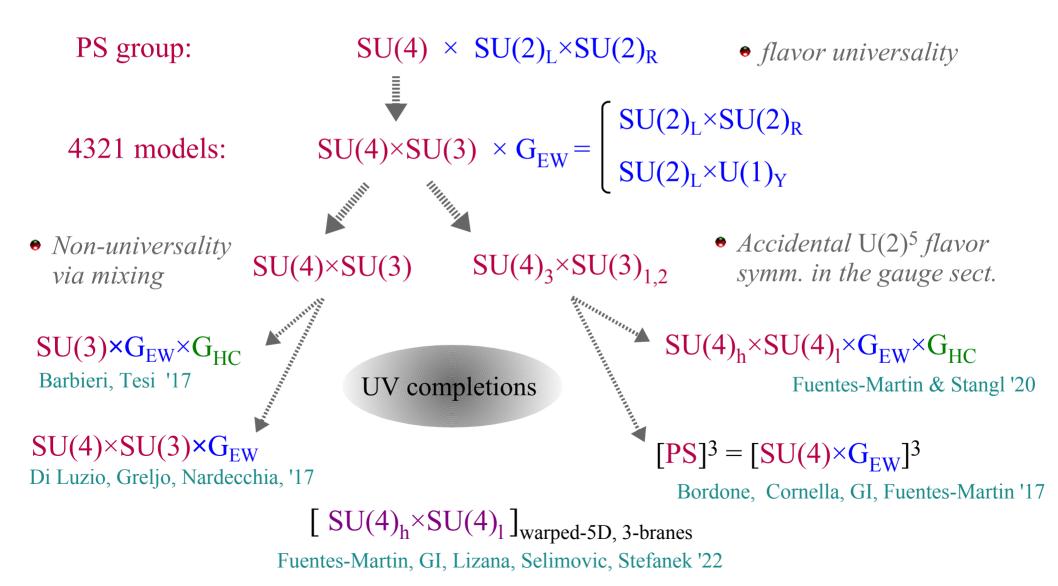
Attempts to solve this problem simply adding
extra fermions or scalarsCalibbi, Crivellin, Li, '17;
Fornal, Gadam, Grinstein, '18



Second observation: we can "protect" the light families charging under SU(4) only the 3rd gen. or, more generally, "separating" the universal SU(3) component



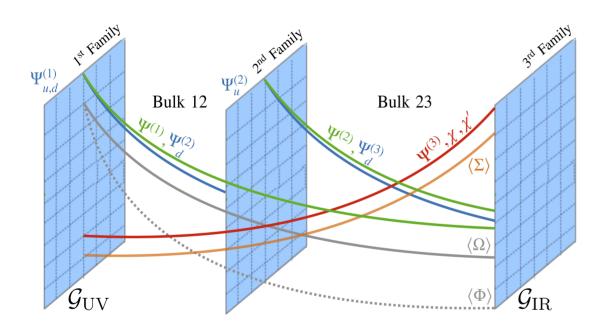
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March 2022

Speculations on UV completions

An ambitious attempt to construct a *full theory of flavor* has been obtained embedding (a variation of the) Pati-Salam gauge group into an extra-dimensional construction:



Flavor ↔ special position (*topological defect*) in an extra (compact) space-like dimension

Dvali & Shifman, '00

Higgs and SU(4)-breaking fields with oppositely-peaked profiles, leading to the desired flavor pattern for masses & anomalies

Bordone, Cornella, GI, Javier-Fuentes '17

* Anarchic neutrino masses via inverse see-saw mechanism

Fuentes-Martin, GI, Pages, Stefanek '22

* "Holographic" (pNGB) Higgs from appropriate choice of bulk/brane gauge symm. [$G_{bulk-23} = SU(4)_3 \times SU(3)_{1,2} \times U(1) \times SO(5)$ $G_{IR} = SU(3)_c \times U(1)_{B-L} \times SO(4)$]

> Fuentes-Martin, Stangl '20 Fuentes-Martin, GI, Lizana, Selimovic, Stefanek '22

Speculations on UV completions

In most *PS-extended models* collider and low-energy pheno are controlled by the effective 4321 gauge group that rules TeV-scale dynamics

Despite the apparent complexity, the construction is highly constrained

Renormalizable structure achieved with vector-like fermions

	Field	SU(4)	SU(3)'	$SU(2)_L$	U(1)'
	$q_L^{\prime i}$	1	3	2	1/6
	$u_R^{\prime i}$	1	3	1	2/3
	$\begin{array}{c} q_L^{\prime i} \\ u_R^{\prime i} \\ d_R^{\prime i} \\ \ell_L^{\prime i} \\ e_R^{\prime i} \\ \psi_L^{\prime i} \\ \psi_L^{\prime i} \\ \psi_d^{\prime i} \\ \chi_R^{i} \end{array}$	1	3	1	2/3 -1/3 -1/2 -1
	$\ell_L'^i$	1	1	2	-1/2
	$e_R'^i$	1	1	1	-1
	ψ_L'	4	1	2	0
	$\psi_{m{u}}^{\prime}$	4	1	1	1/2
	ψ'_d	4	1	1	$1/2 \\ -1/2$
→	χ^i_L	4	1	2	0
	χ^i_R	4	1	2	0
	H_1	1	1	2	1/2
	H_{15}	15	1	2	1/2
	Ω_1	$ar{4}$	1	1	-1/2
	Ω_3	$ar{4}$	3	1	1/2 - 1/2 - 1/2 1/6
	Ω_{15}	15	1	1	0

- Positive features the EFT reproduced
- Calculability of $\Delta F=2$ processes
- Precise predictions for high-pT data

consistent with present data

$$SU(4)_{3} \times SU(3)_{1+2} \times [SU(2)_{L} \times U(1)']$$

$$\psi_{3} \qquad \psi_{1,2}$$
Di Luzio, Greljo,
Nardecchia, '17
$$\rightarrow LQ [U_{1}] + Z' + G'$$

$$SM$$

March 2022

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Speculations on UV completions

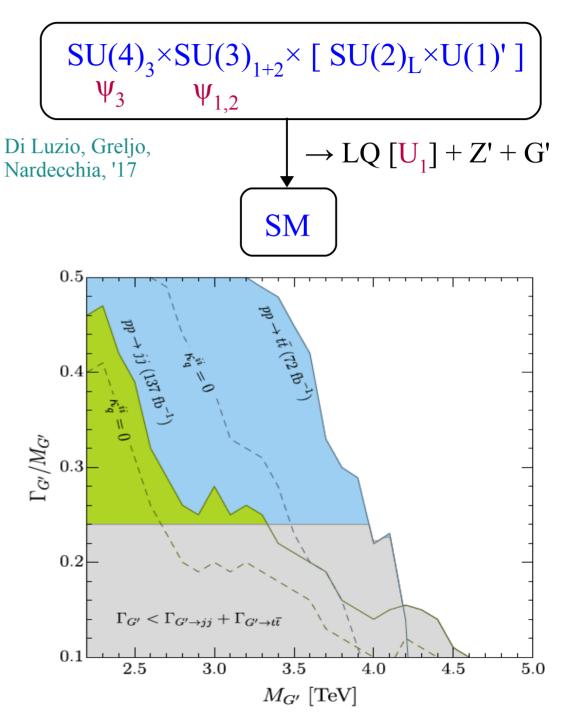
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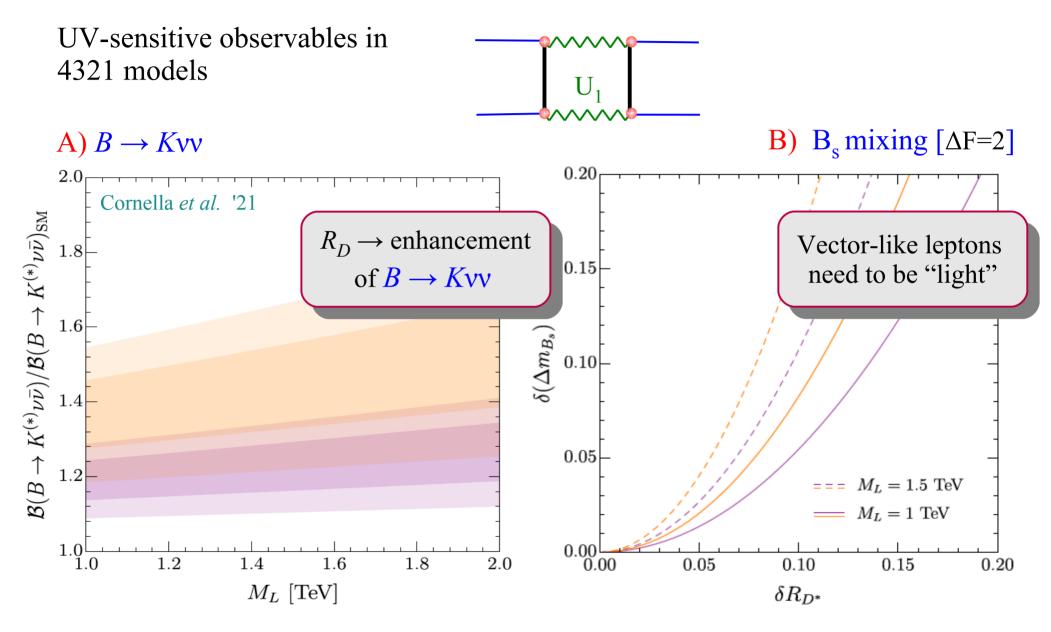
New striking collider signature:

G' ("*coloron*") = heavy color octet, coupled mainly to 3^{rd} generation quarks

 \rightarrow strongest constraint on the scale of the model from pp $\rightarrow t \bar{t}$

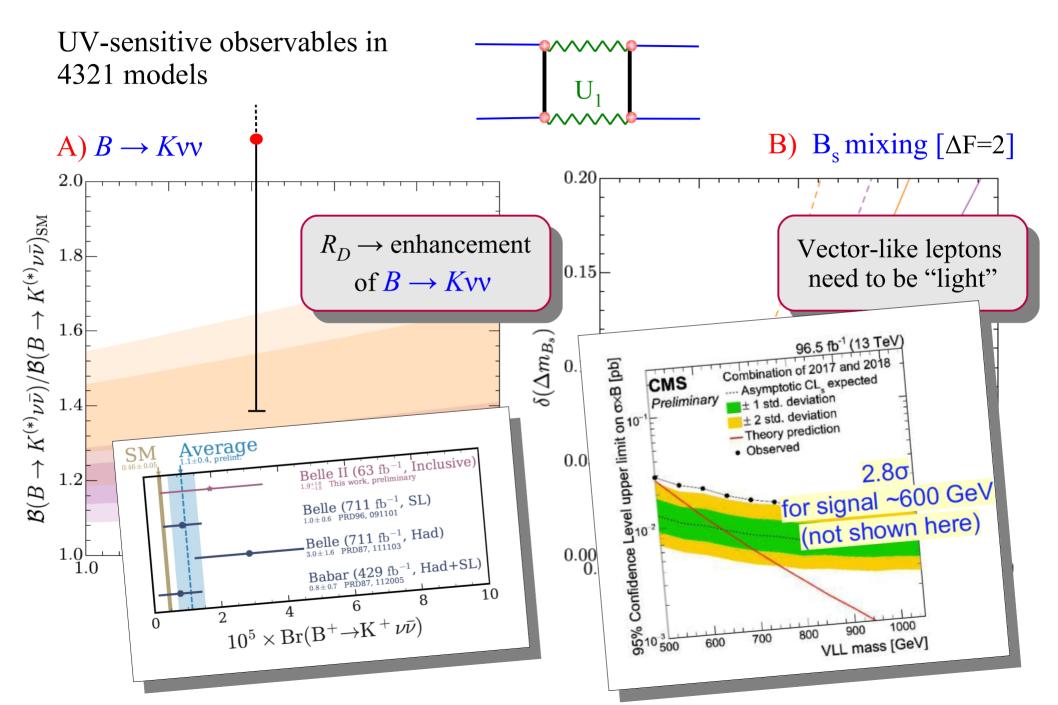






Fuentes-Martin, GI, Konig, Selimovic, '20

Di Luzio, Fuentes-Martin, Greljo, Nardecchia, Renner '18



Conclusions

- Flavor is an essential ingredient to understand the structure of the SMEFT. This statement, which we deduce already by the SM Yukawa structure, is reinforced by the recent anomalies in B physics
- The statistical significance of the LFU anomalies is growing: in the $b \rightarrow sll$ system, the chance this is a pure statistical fluctuation is marginal.
- <u>If combined</u>, the two sets of anomalies point to non-trivial flavor dynamics around the TeV scale, involving mainly the 3^{rd} family \rightarrow connection to the origin of flavor [multi-scale picture at the origin of flavor hierarchies]
- <u>No contradiction</u> with existing low- & high-energy data, <u>but new non-</u><u>standard effects should emerge soon</u> in both these areas

Very interesting (near-by!) future...

(both on the exp., the pheno, and the model-building point of view)