SU(3) $\times$ SO(10) in 6d

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Abstract

We discuss a simple and elegant SU(3) $\times$ SO(10) family unified gauge theory in 6d compactified on a torus with the orbifold $T_2/Z_2^k$ and supplemented by a $Z_6 \times Z_3$ discrete symmetry. The orbifold boundary conditions generate all the desired SU(3) breaking vacuum alignments, including the (0,1,−1) and (1,3,−1) alignments of the Littlest Seesaw model for atmospheric and solar neutrino mixing, as well as the usual SO(10) breaking with doublet-triplet splitting. The absence of driving and messenger fields considerably simplifies the field content of the model. It naturally explains why there are three families of quarks and leptons, and accounts for all their masses, mixing angles and CP phases via rather elegant looking Yukawa and Majorana matrices in the theory basis. The resulting model controls proton decay and allows successful Leptogenesis.

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1 Introduction

The Standard Model (SM) does not explain the existence of either the three families of quarks and leptons or the three gauge forces. The quest for unification of the three forces led to the original proposal of SU(5) Grand Unified Theory (GUT) \cite{1}, while the discovery of neutrino mass and mixing motivates an SO(10) GUT. Gauge coupling unification (in a single step) provides the traditional motivation for TeV scale supersymmetry (SUSY) \cite{2,3}, which, although so far elusive at the LHC, may yet eventually be discovered in the future.

The explanation of the three families of quarks and leptons is less clear and there have been various proposals put forwards. One idea is to extend the GUT symmetry to large groups which can accommodate three families such as SU(8) or O(16). Another approach is to introduce a commuting family symmetry such as SU(3) or one of its subgroups. If the three families of quarks and leptons are unified into a triplet of an SU(3) gauged family symmetry, this could provide a reason for the origin of the three families which would be analogous to the three colours of quarks in QCD.

Attempts have been made to formulate an SU(3) × SO(10) gauge theory which includes the unification of the three families and the three gauge forces, although not within a single gauge group \cite{4}. Similar models with discrete subgroups of SU(3) such as A₄ or S₄ \cite{5} have also been combined with GUTs \cite{6–9}. The problem is that the most ambitious such complete theories also require additional sectors to achieve the desired vacuum alignments and to break the gauge symmetry to the SM with doublet-triplet Higgs splitting, leading to somewhat involved models \cite{8–11}.

There is a top-down motivation for considering such models coming from string theory formulated in extra dimensions. For example $E₈ \times E₈$ heterotic string theory can accommodate SU(3) × SO(10). Many of the complications of doublet-triplet splitting are avoided by assuming the existence of extra dimensions \cite{12}. For example, extra dimensional models have been constructed based on combining A₄ or S₄ with SU(5) \cite{13–16}. In such theories, the discrete Family Symmetry could have a dynamical origin as a result of the compactification of a 6d theory down to 4d \cite{14–16,18–21}. The connection of such orbifold compactifications to string theory has been discussed in \cite{22}.

In this paper we discuss a simple and elegant SU(3) × SO(10) family unified gauge theory in 6d compactified on a torus with the orbifold $T^2/Z_2^3$ and supplemented by a $Z_6 \times Z_3$ discrete symmetry. The orbifold boundary conditions generate all the desired SU(3) breaking vacuum expectation values (VEVs) including the (0, 1, −1) and (1, 3, −1) vacuum alignments (CSD3) of the Littlest Seesaw model \cite{23,25} for atmospheric and solar neutrino mixing, as well as the usual SO(10) breaking with doublet-triplet splitting. The absence of driving and messenger fields considerably simplifies the field content of the model. It naturally explains why there are three families of quarks and leptons, and accounts for all their masses, mixing angles and CP phases via rather elegant looking Yukawa and Majorana matrices in the theory basis. The resulting model controls proton decay and allows successful Leptogenesis.

The layout of the remainder of the paper is as follows. In sec. 2 we present the details
of the orbifold and boundary conditions. In sec. 3 we show the full field content of the model and how it behaves in the extra dimensions. In sec. 4 we show how the SU(3) breaking vacuum alignments are fixed through boundary conditions. In sec. 5 the effective Yukawa terms of the model, the fermion mass matrices and a numerical fit are presented. In sec. 6 we show how proton decay is controlled. In sec. 7 we show how the Baryon Asymmetry of the Universe (BAU) can be obtained through Leptogenesis in our model. Sect. 8 concludes the paper. In Appendix A we discuss the implications of an alternative SU(3) breaking vacuum alignment (1, 0, 2) (CSD2) [26].

2 Orbifolding

We assume as gauge symmetry SU(3) × SO(10). We also assume that the spacetime is the 6d manifold \( \mathcal{M} = \mathbb{R}^4 \times T^2 \), where the torus is defined by

\[
(x_5, x_6) = (x_5 + 2\pi R_1, x_6), \\
(x_5, x_6) = (x_5, x_6 + 2\pi R_2). 
\]

We will use interchangeably the complex notation

\[ z = x_5 + i x_6, \]

where, for simplicity in this notation, we will absorb the dimension so that \( R_1 = R_2 = 1 \).

The extra dimensions are actually orbifolded so that they are \( T^2/\mathbb{Z}_2^3 \). The orbifolding leaves 4 invariant 4d branes

\[ z_i = 0, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{i}{2}, \frac{1+i}{2}. \]

We locate one \( \mathbb{Z}_2 \) boundary condition on the branes

\[ \mathbb{Z}_2 : \hat{z}_i = -\hat{z}_i, \quad \text{where} \quad \hat{z}_i = z + z_i, \]

where each boundary condition is defined by a matrix \( P_i \) that satisfies \( P_i^2 = I \) and \( i = 0, 1/2, i/2 \). We aim that these boundary conditions break the gauge symmetry into the MSSM.

The boundary conditions are chosen to be

\[
P_0 = \mathbb{I}_{10} \otimes SU, \\
P_{1/2} = P_{PS} \otimes T_{13}, \\
P_{i/2} = P_{GG} \otimes T_1, 
\]

where

\[ P_{GG} = \text{diag}(1, 1, 1, 1) \otimes \sigma_2, \quad P_{PS} = \text{diag}(-1, -1, -1, 1) \otimes \sigma_0, \]

and

\[ SU = \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad T_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad T_{13} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \]
The above $P_{GG}$ boundary condition, when applied to an $SO(10)$ adjoint, breaks the gauge group to $SU(5) \times U(1)_X$. To see this explicitly, we may write the adjoint, which is a $10 \times 10$ antisymmetric real matrix (with 45 components), in terms of $5 \times 5$ sub-matrices which transform as
\[
P_{GG} \begin{pmatrix} A & A_5 \\ -A_5^\dagger & A' \end{pmatrix} P_{GG} = \begin{pmatrix} A' & A_5^\dagger \\ -A_5 & A \end{pmatrix},
\]
where we may see that the $A_5$ submatrix is preserved, provided it is hermitian. This is a $5 \times 5$ submatrix, with 25 components, that correspond to the generators of $SU(5) \times U(1)_X$.

The above boundary condition $P_{PS}$, when applied to an $SO(10)$ adjoint, breaks the gauge group to the Pati-Salam gauge group. To see this, we rotate to an equivalent basis via a matrix $R$ that satisfies
\[
R P_{PS} R = R \text{diag}(-\mathbb{I}_{3\times 3}, \mathbb{I}_{2\times 2}, -\mathbb{I}_{3\times 3}, \mathbb{I}_{2\times 2}) R = \text{diag}(-\mathbb{I}_{6\times 6}, \mathbb{I}_{4\times 4}),
\]
Then we may write the $SO(10)$ adjoint in terms of $6 \times 6$ and $4 \times 4$ matrices which transform as
\[
P_{PS} \begin{pmatrix} A_{6\times 6} & A_{6\times 4} \\ -A_{6\times 4}^\dagger & A_{4\times 4} \end{pmatrix} P_{PS} = \begin{pmatrix} A_{6\times 6} & -A_{6\times 4} \\ A_{6\times 4}^\dagger & A_{4\times 4} \end{pmatrix},
\]
so that the antisymmetric real matrices $A_{6\times 6}, A_{4\times 4}$ are preserved. These matrices generate $SO(6) \times SO(4)$ which is isomorphic to the Pati-Salam group.

To summarise, each boundary condition breaks the symmetry
\[
P_{GG} : \quad SO(10) \rightarrow SU(5) \times U(1)_X, \\
P_{PS} : \quad SO(10) \rightarrow SU(4) \times SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R, \\
T_1 : \quad SU(3)_F \rightarrow SU(2)_F \times U(1)_F, \\
T_{13} : \quad SU(3)_F \rightarrow U(1)_F \times U(1)_{F'}, \\
SU : \quad SU(3)_F \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2, \\
\mathbb{I} : \quad \mathcal{N} = 2 \rightarrow \mathcal{N} = 1 \text{ SUSY}.
\]
Together they break $SO(10) \times SU(3)_F \rightarrow SU(3)_C \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y \times U(1)_X$ with simple SUSY. The flavour symmetry $SU(3)_F$ is completely broken.

### 3 Field content

The field content of the model is listed in table [1]. They contain the SM fermions, Higgses, flavons and GUT breaking fields. We remark that only spinorial, fundamental and adjoint representations are used. The field content is rather simple, especially when compared to 4d models which aim to be as complete as this one [9,11,16,29], due to the absence of driving and messenger fields in the present model. Note that, in addition, there may be other spectator fields (not shown) which play no part in the model construction but are there to cancel anomalies, e.g. additional 3 representations which any full string theory construction would automatically provide.
| Field  | Representation | Localization |
|--------|----------------|--------------|
| $\psi$ | $\bar{3}$ | $16$ | $0$ | $0$ | $P_0$ | $P_{1/2}$ | $P_{1/2}$ |
| $H_{10}^u$ | $1$ | $10$ | $0$ | $0$ | +1 | +1 | +1 |
| $H_{10}^d$ | $1$ | $10$ | $2$ | $0$ | +1 | +1 | -1 |
| $H_{76}$ | $1$ | $\bar{16}$ | $0$ | $0$ | +1 | +1 | -1 |
| $H_{16}$ | $1$ | $16$ | $0$ | $0$ | +1 | +1 | -1 |
| $H_{16}^{X,Y}$ | $1$ | $45$ | $0$ | $1$ | +1 | +1 | +1 |
| $H_{16}^{Y,Z}$ | $1$ | $45$ | $2$ | $1$ | +1 | +1 | +1 |
| $\phi_1$ | $3$ | $1$ | $2$ | $1$ | +1 | +1 |
| $\phi_2$ | $3$ | $1$ | $0$ | $1$ | +1 | +1 |
| $\phi_3$ | $3$ | $1$ | $3$ | $1$ | +1 | +1 |

Table 1: The simple field content used in constructing the model, including matter, Higgs and flavon superfields.

The superfield $\psi$ contains all the SM fermions. We choose it to be located equally on all of the 4d branes,

$$\psi(x, z) = \psi(x) \left( \delta^2(z) + \delta^2(z - 1/2) + \delta^2(z - i/2) + \delta^2(z - 1/2 - i/2) \right), \quad (12)$$

which is consistent with the remnant $D_4$ symmetry of the orbifold [21], as well as the underlying $SU(3)$ gauge symmetry.

This is the only field fixed on the 4d branes, and as a consequence is not subject to any boundary conditions. On the other hand, the flavons are constrained to lie on different 5d branes so that they comply with different boundary conditions. This is explained further in section [4].

### 3.1 Bulk Superfieds

All the fields labeled as $H$ obtain a VEV and propagate through the bulk. They are flavour singlet so that they only feel the $P_{GG}$, $P_{PS}$ boundary conditions.

The $H_{u,d}$ are $SO(10)$ fundamentals. They have both positive parity under the condition $P_{PS}$. As can be seen from eq. [6] this condition projects out the triplets, solving the doublet-triplet splitting and leaving only the two doublets in each one. They have opposite parities under the $P_{GG}$ which breaks $SO(10)$ into $SU(5) \times U(1)$. The positive parity projects out the 5 inside the 10, while the negative parity projects out the 5. With both conditions, only one doublet is left massless inside each $H_{u,d}$, which would be the MSSM $h_{u,d}$ respectively. There are no more light doublets which allows for standard gauge coupling unification.

We assume that the $H_{16}^{Y,Z}$ field develops a GUT scale VEV in the singlet $N$ direction in order to break the $U(1)_X$ gauge group, which survives after the rank preserving orbifolding,
and hence allow RHN Majorana masses. This assumption is at least consistent since the \( H_{16} \) propagates through the bulk and complies with the boundary conditions. The field \( H_{45} \), with the same boundary conditions, is included in order to allow renormalizable masses at the GUT scale for all components of the \( H_{16} \).

The \( H_{45} \) gets a VEV that supplies the difference between charged leptons and down quarks. It propagates in the bulk and its VEV must comply with the boundary conditions. This reduces the alignment possibilities from 45 to 13. From those 13, the ones in the \( SU(3), SU(2) \) generators would break the SM. The VEV can be aligned in a linear combination of the generators \( U(1)_X, U(1)_Y \). We don’t assume any specific choice, other than all the \( \langle H_{45}^{X,Y,W,Z} \rangle \) are different.

We assume that the VEVs \( \langle H_{45}^{X,Y,W,Z} \rangle, \langle H_{16} \rangle, \langle \phi_{1,2,3} \rangle \) are driven radiatively at a large scale \( \lesssim \Lambda \sim M_{GUT} \) [27].

## 4 Flavon alignment

The model has only 3 flavons that propagate in different 5d branes

\[
\begin{align*}
\phi_1 &= \phi_1(x, x_5) \delta(x_6), \\
\phi_2 &= \phi_2(x, x_6) \delta(x_5), \\
\phi_3 &= \phi_3(x, x_5) \delta(x_5 + x_6 - 1/2),
\end{align*}
\]

which can be seen in the figure [1]. Each flavon propagates in an extra dimensional line and must comply with the boundary conditions

\[
\langle \phi_a \rangle = P_i \langle \phi_a \rangle.
\]

These fix completely the flavon VEV alignment.

We obtain the so called CSD3 flavon alignment [10, 23, 28, 29]. This alignment seems to happen more naturally with the discrete flavour symmetry \( S_4 \) [38]. Inspired by this, we choose one \( \mathbb{Z}_2 \) boundary condition be the matrix

\[
SU = \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix}
-1 & 2 & 2 \\
2 & 2 & -1 \\
2 & -1 & 2
\end{pmatrix}.
\]

The flavons \( \phi_{1,2} \) must be invariant under the \( SU \) matrix, since they have positive parity. This forces their VEVs to be

\[
\langle \phi_{1,2} \rangle \sim \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ 2a - b \end{pmatrix},
\]

\textsuperscript{3}The positive parity under \( P_{GG} \) would project out the \( \overline{10} \), 1 components of the \( H_{10} \), while the negative one would project out the 5. The positive \( P_{PS} \) parity would project out the left fields and the negative parity would project out the right fields. The chosen parities for \( H_{10} \) hence leave as possible light modes the corresponding right fields inside the \( \overline{10}, 1 \). These would correspond to the SM \( N, u, e \) superfields and the VEV must be aligned with one of them. This can always be rotated to be in the \( N \) direction.
Figure 1: The 5d branes where each flavon propagate. The effective extra dimensional space is the space inside the red triangle. The Flavons propagate through the boundary.

with arbitrary $a, b$.

The VEV $\langle \phi_1 \rangle$ is invariant under $SU$ and $T_{13}$, which forces $b = 3a$ and the VEV is aligned as
\[
\langle \phi_1 \rangle = v_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}.
\] (17)

The VEV $\langle \phi_2 \rangle$ is invariant under $SU$ and $T_1$, which forces $a = 0$ and the VEV is aligned as
\[
\langle \phi_2 \rangle = v_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}.
\] (18)

The VEV $\langle \phi_3 \rangle$ is invariant under $T_1$ and $T_{13}$, which forces the first and third entry to vanish, so it is aligned as
\[
\langle \phi_3 \rangle = v_3 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.
\] (19)

This way, all the flavon VEVs are aligned completely through orbifolding, without the need for any superpotential. The vacuum alignments above are known collectively as CSD3. An alternative vacuum alignment known as CSD2 is discussed in Appendix A.
5 Yukawa terms

The effective 4d Yukawa terms allowed by the symmetries are

\[
W_Y \sim \frac{H_{10}^u(\psi\phi_1)(\psi\phi_1)}{\Lambda^3} H_{45}^{X,Y} + \frac{H_{10}^u(\psi\phi_2)(\psi\phi_2)}{\Lambda^3} H_{45}^{W,Z} + \frac{H_{10}^u(\psi\phi_3)(\psi\phi_3)}{\Lambda^3} H_{45}^{W,Z} \\
+ \frac{H_{10}^d(\psi\phi_1)(\psi\phi_2)}{\Lambda^3} H_{45}^{W,Z} + \frac{H_{10}^d(\psi\phi_2)(\psi\phi_2)}{\Lambda^3} H_{45}^{X,Y} + \frac{H_{10}^d(\psi\phi_3)(\psi\phi_3)}{\Lambda^3} H_{45}^{X,Y} \\
+ \frac{H_{16}H_{16}(\psi\phi_1)(\psi\phi_1)}{\Lambda^4} H_{45}^{X,Y} + \frac{H_{16}H_{16}(\psi\phi_2)(\psi\phi_2)}{\Lambda^4} H_{45}^{W,Z} + \frac{H_{16}H_{16}(\psi\phi_3)(\psi\phi_3)}{\Lambda^4} H_{45}^{W,Z}.
\]

(20)

This superpotential is responsible for all quark and lepton (including neutrino) masses and mixings. We shall assume that the flavon VEVs are driven to be hierarchical \(v_1 \ll v_2 \ll v_3\) in order to account for the charged fermion mass hierarchy.

We note that the terms involving \(H_u, H_{16}\) each consist of a sum of flavon squared terms. The terms involving \(H_d\) have a mixed term \(\phi_1\phi_2\). Since we assume \(v_1 \ll v_2 \ll v_3\), this will be responsible for the milder hierarchy in the down sector than the up sector.

All the terms are coupled to two different \(H_{45}\) with different dimensionless couplings. The VEVs of the \(H_{45}\) treats quarks and leptons differently and we can choose these different couplings to obtain different masses for the charged leptons and down quarks [29].

In 6d the superpotential must be dimension 5 while a chiral superfield has dimension 2. Any superpotential with interaction terms is non renormalizable anyway. There are next order terms that would be of \(O(\phi^8/\Lambda^8)\) and therefore negligible.

5.1 Fit friendly matrices

The fermion mass matrices’s structure is determined by the flavons \(M_{ij} \sim \sum_{a,b} \langle \phi_i^a \phi_j^b \rangle\).

We make the redefinition

\[
\psi \rightarrow (\psi_1, \psi_3, -\psi_2)^T.
\]

(21)
We now introduce convenient low energy parameters that effectively come from eq. 20, using CSD3 vacuum alignments, in terms of which the SM fermion mass matrices are

\[
M_e/v_d = y_1^e e^{i\eta} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 1 & 4 & 6 \end{pmatrix} + y_2^e \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + y_3^e e^{i\eta'} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},
\]

\[
M_d/v_d = y_1^d e^{i\eta} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 1 & 4 & 6 \end{pmatrix} + y_2^d \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + y_3^d e^{i\eta'} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},
\]

\[
M_u/v_u = y_1^u e^{i\eta} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 3 & 9 \end{pmatrix} + y_2^u \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + y_3^u e^{i\eta'} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},
\]

\[
M'_\nu_D/v_u = y_1^\nu e^{i\eta} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 3 & 9 \end{pmatrix} + y_2^\nu \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + y_3^\nu e^{i\eta'} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},
\]

\[
M_R^\nu = \tilde{M}_{R1}^\nu e^{i\eta} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 3 & 9 \end{pmatrix} + \tilde{M}_{R2}^\nu \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \tilde{M}_{R3}^\nu e^{i\eta'} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},
\]

\[
m^\nu = \mu_1 e^{i\eta} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 3 & 9 \end{pmatrix} + \mu_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \mu_3 e^{i\eta'} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},
\]

where we distinguish the different neutrino mass matrices as $M'_D$ (the Dirac mass matrix), $M_R^\nu$ (the heavy right-handed neutrino Majorana mass matrix) and $m^\nu$ (the light effective left-handed Majorana mass matrix after the seesaw mechanism). Note that the parameters $\tilde{M}_{Ri}^\nu$ (denoted by tildes) differ from the eigenvalues of $M_R^\nu$ which are later written as $M_{Ri}^\nu$ (without tildes).

We assume that $\langle H_{45}^{XYWZ} \rangle$ are in general complex so that, together with the $\langle \phi_i \rangle$ they break CP. Due to the amount of dimensionless constants that couple to each $H_{45}$, we can obtain a free phase in each mass matrix.

The left handed neutrino small masses, $m^\nu$, are generated through the usual seesaw mechanism. Due to the $M'_D$, $M_R^\nu$ mass matrices being rank 1 and with the same structure, the $m^\nu$ has the same structure with

\[
\mu_i = \frac{(y_i^\nu v_u)^2}{M_{Ri}^\nu},
\]

Furthermore $\eta_{\nu} = 2\eta_D - \eta_R$, which also applies for the primed phases. Note that $\mu_i$ are not equal to the light neutrino mass eigenstates, where the latter are the eigenvalues of the matrix $m^\nu$ written as $m_i$.

At low energies, there are 12 real parameter (9 dimensionless and 3 neutrino masses), and 8 phases.

We assume the hierarchy between families arise from the flavon VEVs being hierarchical, for example with the values

\[
v_3 \sim \Lambda, \quad v_2 \sim 10^{-1}\Lambda, \quad v_1 \sim 10^{-3}\Lambda,
\]

\[
\Lambda \sim M_{GUT} \sim \langle H_{45} \rangle \sim \langle H_{45} \rangle,
\]

\[
8
\]
which would yield the following natural values for the parameters

\[
y_1^{u,\nu} \sim 10^{-6}, \ y_1^{d} \sim 10^{-4}, \ y_2^{u,\nu,d,e} \sim 10^{-2}, \ y_1^{u,\nu,d,e} \sim 1,
\]

\[
\tilde{M}_{R1} \sim 10^{10} \text{ GeV}, \ \tilde{M}_{R2}^{\nu} \sim 10^{14} \text{ GeV}, \ \tilde{M}_{R3}^{\nu} \sim 10^{16} \text{ GeV},
\]

and hence \( \mu_1 \sim 1 \mu\text{eV}, \ \mu_2 \sim 10 \text{ meV}, \ \mu_3 \sim 1 \text{ eV}. \) (25)

Concluding, we have 20 low energy parameters to generate the 20 flavour parameters (22 counting Majorana phases).

### 5.2 Threshold Corrections

We have to run the SM Yukawa couplings to the GUT scale, where we do the fit. Since our model does not say anything about SUSY breaking can parametrize its unknown contributions to the running through the threshold corrections [31]

\[
y_{MSSM}^{u,c,t} \simeq y_{SM}^{u,c,t} \csc \beta, \quad y_{MSSM}^{d,s} \simeq (1 + \bar{\eta}_q)^{-1} y_{SM}^{d,s} \sec \beta, \quad y_{MSSM}^{b} \simeq (1 + \bar{\eta}_b)^{-1} y_{SM}^{b} \sec \beta, \quad y_{MSSM}^{e,\mu} \simeq (1 + \bar{\eta}_\ell)^{-1} y_{SM}^{e,\mu} \sec \beta, \quad y_{MSSM}^{\tau} \simeq y_{MSSM}^{\tau} \sec \beta.
\] (26)

The CKM parameters receive the contributions

\[
\theta_{q,MSSM}^{i3} \simeq \frac{1 + \bar{\eta}_b}{1 + \bar{\eta}_q} \theta_{q,SM}^{i3}, \quad \theta_{q,MSSM}^{12} \simeq \theta_{12,SM}^{q}, \quad \delta_{q,MSSM} \simeq \delta_{q,SM}.
\] (27)

SUSY threshold corrections to the neutrino sector are negligible [31][40].

We will be assuming

\[
\tan \beta = 10, \quad \bar{\eta}_b = -0.9, \quad \bar{\eta}_q = 0.4, \quad \bar{\eta}_\ell = 0,
\] (28)

since the values \( \bar{\eta}_{b,q} \) improve significantly the numerical fit.

The \( \eta_b \) parameter is needed to be somewhat large and the leading contributions come from loops either sbottoms and gluinos or stops and higgsinos that add up to [39]

\[
\bar{\eta}_b \simeq \frac{\tan \beta}{16\pi^2} \left( \frac{8}{3} g_3^2 \frac{m_{\tilde{g}} \mu}{m_0^2} + \lambda_2^2 \frac{A_t}{m_0^2} \right),
\] (29)

where \( m_0 \) denotes the squark masses, \( g_3 \) the strong coupling, \( m_{\tilde{g}} \) the gluino mass and \( A_t \) the SUSY softly breaking trilinear coupling involving the stops. We see that a large contribution can be achieved when

\[
m_{\tilde{g}}, \mu, A_t > m_0, \quad \tan \beta \gtrsim 10.
\] (30)

The parameter \( \bar{\eta}_q \) has a similar expression

\[
\bar{\eta}_q \simeq \frac{\tan \beta}{16\pi^2} \left( \frac{8}{3} g_3^2 \frac{m_{\tilde{g}} \mu}{m_0^2} \right),
\] (31)
but without the contribution of the trilinear coupling. This makes it natural to be smaller but the same order of magnitude. Finally the parameter

$$\bar{\eta}_l \simeq \frac{\tan \beta}{16\pi^2} \left( \frac{8}{3} g_2^2 \frac{m_{W} \mu}{2 m_0^2} \right),$$

only receives contributions from Winos and Binos and therefore expected to be smaller and negligible.

5.3 Numerical Fit

We perform a numerical fit to the flavour observables at the GUT scale. The running of the neutrino parameters is negligible [40].

The numerical fit uses the 12 real parameters, 8 phases and the 2 large threshold corrections, so that we have 22 free real parameters. As an example, we select $\tan \beta = 10$, although a good fit can be obtained with $5 < \tan \beta < 50$. With the setup just mentioned, we can obtain a perfect fit with a $\chi^2 \approx 0$. We have 22 flavour parameters at low energies: 6 quark masses, 3 charged lepton masses, 3 light neutrino masses, 4 CKM parameters and 6 PMNS parameters with Majorana masses. We therefore have 22 real parameters in the model for 22 observables (although 3 of them $m_1, \alpha_{21}, \alpha_{31}$ are not yet measured).

The fit turns out to be quite insensitive to many of the input phases, with the underlying CSD3 structure being largely responsible for the success of the model as in [9–11,16,29]. To illustrate this, we consider a benchmark point with

$$\eta_d = \eta'_d = \eta_e = \eta'_e = 0, \quad \eta_u = \eta'_u, \quad \eta_{\nu} = \eta'_{\nu},$$

which reduces the number of input phases to two. In addition, motivated by the $Z_6 \times Z_3$ symmetry, which could play a role in how CP is broken as in [9], we require that these remaining two phases be a multiple of the 18th roots of unity. A benchmark point conforming to the above requirements is given in table 2. The table also shows a fit related to the alternative vacuum alignment discussed in appendix A.

The necessary parameters of the model to obtain this fit are listed in table 3. We can compare these values to the expected natural ones in eq. 24 and see that all the dimensionless coupling constants have natural values. The $\mu_{1,3}$ are not near from their natural value.

We showed that we can fit the 22 low energy flavour parameters with 14 real parameters and 8 input phases. However, as the benchmark point illustrates, although there are 8 free phases, the results are particularly sensitive to them, and they may take restricted values such as zero or a particular root of unity, maintaining a good fit to the observables.
### Observable | Data | Model best fit
|---|---|---|
| $\theta_{12}^\circ$ | 33.62 | 33.75 |
| $\theta_{13}^\circ$ | 8.54 | 8.50 |
| $\theta_{23}^\circ$ | 47.20 | 46.27 |
| $\delta^\circ$ | 234 | 126 |
| $y_e / 10^{-6}$ | 2.05 | 2.06 |
| $y_\mu / 10^{-4}$ | 4.34 | 4.36 |
| $y_\tau / 10^{-3}$ | 7.20 | 7.23 |
| $\Delta m_{21}^2 / (10^{-5} \text{eV}^2)$ | 7.51 | 7.43 |
| $\Delta m_{31}^2 / (10^{-3} \text{eV}^2)$ | 2.52 | 2.49 |
| $m_1 / \text{meV}$ | 2.37 | 2.87 |
| $m_2 / \text{meV}$ | 8.94 | 8.95 |
| $m_3 / \text{meV}$ | 49.97 | 49.95 |
| $\sum m_i / \text{meV}$ | < 230 | 61.28 |
| $\alpha_{21}^\circ$ | 118 | 347 |
| $\alpha_{31}^\circ$ | 286 | 129 |
| $m_{\beta\beta} / \text{meV}$ | < 61-165 | 1.48 |
| $\chi^2$ | 4.99 | 5.23 |

Table 2: Flavour observables from experiments compared to the predictions of the model discussed in the main text, based on CSD3 vacuum alignment, as well as for an alternative CSD2 vacuum alignment discussed in Appendix A. The quark masses, charged lepton masses and CKM parameters come from [31]. The neutrino observables come from [32]. The fits have been performed using the Mixing Parameter Tools (MPT) package. The SUSY breaking threshold corrections are assumed to be: $\tan \beta = 10$, $\bar{\eta}_b = -0.9$, $\bar{\eta}_l = 0.4$, $\bar{\eta}_t = 0$.

### 6 Proton decay

One of the main signatures of GUTs is proton decay. However, it has not been observed and its lifetime is constrained to be \[^{35}\]

$$\tau_p > 10^{29} \text{yrs.}$$

In usual GUTs, the main source for proton decay comes from the new heavy gauge bosons and the color triplets accompanying the Higgs doublets. The triplets are heavy, at the compactification scale, due to the orbifold boundary conditions \[^{12}\]. So are the extra gauge bosons. We identify the compactification scale with $\Lambda \sim M_{\text{GUT}} \sim 2 \times 10^{16} \text{GeV}$, so that the model predicts the proton lifetime to be the same as in usual SO(10) 4d models.
Table 3: Model parameters to generate the fit in table 2 for CSD3.

| Parameter | Value |
|-----------|-------|
| $y_u^1 / 10^{-6}$ | 2.84 |
| $y_u^2 / 10^{-2}$ | 0.14 |
| $y_u^3$ | -0.52 |
| $y_d^1 / 10^{-4}$ | -1.55 |
| $y_d^2 / 10^{-3}$ | -0.32 |
| $y_d^3$ | 0.54 |
| $y_e^1 / 10^{-4}$ | 3.14 |
| $y_e^2 / 10^{-2}$ | 0.41 |
| $y_e^3 / 10^{-1}$ | 0.66 |
| $\mu_1 / \text{meV}$ | 2.07 |
| $\mu_2 / \text{meV}$ | 31.09 |
| $\mu_3 / \text{meV}$ | 1.89 |

with $\tau_p \sim 10^{29} - 10^{30} \text{ yrs}$, \hspace{1cm} (35)

so that the model barely meets the experimental constraints.

The fact that the compactification scale is so high makes the KK mode contributions to proton decay at least 3 orders of magnitude smaller than the usual sources $^{[37]}$. These contributions, though small, could eventually provide specific signatures for extra dimensional GUTs.

There could also be extra contributions to proton decay coming from the extra fields specific to our model. Due to the symmetries of the model the largest contributions would come from the terms

$$\psi \psi \psi \langle H_{W,Z}^{W,Z} \rangle^3 \langle H_{X,Y}^{X,Y} \rangle^3 \Lambda_p^7,$$ \hspace{1cm} (36)

where $\Lambda_p$ is the scale where these term is generated. To comply with the observed proton decay constraints we must have $^{[36]}$

$$\frac{\langle H_{W,Z}^{W,Z} \rangle^3 \langle H_{X,Y}^{X,Y} \rangle^3 M_P^2}{\Lambda_p^7} < 3 \times 10^9 \text{ GeV}, \quad \Lambda_p > 6 \times 10^{17} \text{ GeV},$$ \hspace{1cm} (37)

which is a natural value for this scale. Since this term requires flavour contractions into representations that are not in the original field content, we may expect it to be larger than $\Lambda$.

7 Leptogenesis

We have seen that the values for $\mu_i$ in this model are not exactly natural. However these quantities appear after the seesaw and relate to $y', M_R$ as shown in eq. $^{[23]}$.

If we assume that the heavy RHN mass eigenvalues have the expected natural values, of the same order of magnitude as the parameters in eq. $^{[25]}$

$$M'_{R1} \sim 10^{10} \text{ GeV}, \quad M'_{R2} \sim 10^{14} \text{ GeV}, \quad M'_{R3} \sim 10^{16} \text{ GeV},$$ \hspace{1cm} (38)

this would imply that

$$y'_1 \sim 10^{-4}, \quad y'_2 \sim 10^{-2}, \quad y'_3 \sim 10^{-1},$$ \hspace{1cm} (39)
which is just one order of magnitude away from the natural values for $y_3^\nu$ and two orders of magnitude for $y_1^\nu$. These values are effectively free in our model and we can tune them to be so without any problem.

Assuming the natural values for $M_\nu^R_1$ and the deviated ones for $y_\nu^R$ requires a fine tuning of 1 in 100. However having exactly these values can explain the Baryon Asymmetry of the Universe (BAU) through Leptogenesis.

Leptogenesis generates the BAU through CP violating decay of the lightest RHN into neutrinos generating a lepton asymmetry, then transformed into baryon asymmetry through non perturbative sphaleron processes [33].

Leptogenesis has already been studied with matrices in the CSD3 alignment [24,34]. The result ultimately depends on the phase $\eta$ which we identify with the leptogenesis phase. With the phase in our fit, to generate the observed BAU the RHN masses must be

$$10^9 < M_\nu^{R_1} < 10^{11}, \quad 10^{11} < M_\nu^{R_2} < 10^{13}, \quad M_\nu^{R_3} \sim M_{GUT},$$

(40)

which are the natural order of magnitude values for the RHN mass parameters as seen in eq. 25. Therefore, if we assume the tuning to obtain the $y_\nu^R$ as in eq. 39, our model generates the observed BAU through Leptogenesis.

8 Conclusion

We have discussed a simple and elegant $SU(3) \times SO(10)$ family unified gauge theory in 6d compactified on a torus with the orbifold $T^2/Z_2^3$ and supplemented by a $Z_6 \times Z_3$ discrete symmetry. The orbifold boundary conditions break the symmetry down to $SU(3)_C \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y \times U(1)_X$, achieving doublet - triplet splitting and leaving only the light Higgs doublets of the MSSM, with the gauge coupling unification scale of order the compactification scale $\Lambda \sim M_{GUT}$. The $U(1)_X$ is broken by a $H_{16}$ field which develops a GUT scale VEV in the singlet $N$ direction, thereby allowing Majorana masses. Below the GUT scale we then have just the MSSM field content, together with right-handed neutrino masses.

An important and new feature of our model is that the orbifold boundary conditions generate all the desired $SU(3)$ breaking vacuum alignments, such as the $(0,1,-1)$ and $(1,3,-1)$ alignments, without having to introduce an additional superpotential with extra driving fields. The absence of driving and messenger fields considerably simplifies the field content of the model which requires only twelve superfield multiplets, which is remarkably economical for a complete Flavoured GUT. Having a gauged $SU(3)$, the model naturally explains why there are three families of quarks and leptons.

The model quantitatively accounts for all quark and lepton (including neutrino) masses, mixing angles and CP phases via rather elegant looking Yukawa and Majorana matrices in the theory basis. Although the model involves 14 independent real parameters and 8 phases to fix 22 flavour observables, we have shown that the successful fit is mainly due to the vacuum alignments, and is insensitive to the precise value of many of the phases. To illustrate this we have considered a benchmark point with a restricted set of phases,
and shown that it can achieve a good fit to the observables, with $\chi^2 = 5$, where most of the real parameters take natural $O(1)$ values. However we do not discuss how the large hierarchical flavon VEVs, responsible for the charged fermion mass hierarchies, are driven.

Finally we remark that the resulting model controls proton decay, with a proton lifetime close to the current limits. In addition it allows successful Leptogenesis.

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A CSD2 vacuum alignment

In this appendix we discuss an alternative vacuum alignment (CSD2) \cite{26}, which can lead to a good fit when combined with $SO(10)$ \cite{11}.

If we keep all the same model setup but instead of the matrix $T_{13}$ in the condition $P_{1/2}$ we use the matrix

$$T_2 = \begin{pmatrix}
1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & -1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1
\end{pmatrix},$$

(41)

we can obtain the so called CSD2 alignment.

In this case, the VEV $\langle \phi_1 \rangle$ is invariant under $SU$ and $T_2$, which forces $b = 0$ and the VEV is aligned as

$$\langle \phi_1 \rangle \sim \begin{pmatrix}
1 \\
0 \\
2
\end{pmatrix}.$$  

(42)

The VEV $\langle \phi_2 \rangle$ remains unchanged

$$\langle \phi_2 \rangle \sim \begin{pmatrix}
0 \\
1 \\
-1
\end{pmatrix}. $$  

(43)

The VEV $\langle \phi_3 \rangle$ is invariant under $T_1$ and $T_2$, which forces the first and second entry to vanish, so it is aligned as

$$\langle \phi_3 \rangle \sim \begin{pmatrix}
0 \\
0 \\
1
\end{pmatrix}.$$  

(44)
These are the 3 VEVs that generate the CSD2 alignment and they have also been achieved through orbifold boundary conditions only.

### A.1 CSD2 fit friendly masses

As we just, with small changes to the model, we can obtain the CSD2 alignment. With this alignment the redefinition in eq. 21 wouldn’t need the swap in the last two entries and it would be

$$
\psi \rightarrow (\psi_1, -\psi_2, \psi_3)^T
$$

Using the CSD2 alignment, the SM fermion mass matrices, in terms of the low energy parameters, are

\begin{align*}
M^e/v_d &= y^e_1 e^{i \eta^e} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} + y^e_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + y^e_3 e^{i \eta^e} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \\
M^d/v_d &= y^d_1 e^{i \eta^d} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} + y^d_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + y^d_3 e^{i \eta^d} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \\
M^u/v_u &= y^u_1 e^{i \eta^u} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix} + y^u_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + y^u_3 e^{i \eta^u} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \\
M^\nu_D/v_u &= y^\nu_D e^{i \eta^\nu_D} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix} + y^\nu_D e^{i \eta^\nu_D} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + y^\nu_D e^{i \eta^\nu_D} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \\
M^\nu_R &= \tilde{M}^\nu_R e^{i \eta^\nu_R} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix} + \tilde{M}^\nu_R e^{i \eta^\nu_R} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \tilde{M}^\nu_R e^{i \eta^\nu_R} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \\
m_\nu &= \mu_1 e^{i \eta^\nu} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix} + \mu_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \mu_3 e^{i \eta^\nu} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},
\end{align*}

where all the previous discussion also applies.

### A.2 Numerical fit

Again, with the CSD2 alignment we can obtain a perfect fit with \( \chi^2 \approx 0 \). However we will also make the arbitrary assumptions to show the predictivity of this setup

\[ \eta_d = \eta'_d = \eta_e = \eta'_e = 0, \quad \eta_u = \eta'_u, \]

where we have one less condition than in the CSD3. This brings the amount of physical phases to 3, where one extra phase is needed with respect to CSD3.

In table 2 we have already shown that we can obtain a good fit in this setup. The necessary parameters for this fit are shown in the table 4.
Again we can see that this setup is as natural as the CSD3 one discussed in the main text.

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