GUT implications from neutrino mass

Carl H. Albright

Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, Batavia, IL 60510

Abstract

An overview is given of the experimental neutrino mixing results and types of neutrino models proposed, with special attention to the general features of various GUT models involving intra-family symmetries and horizontal flavor symmetries. Many of the features are then illustrated by a specific $SO(10)$ SUSY GUT model formulated by S.M. Barr and the author which can explain all four types of solar neutrino mixing solutions by various choices of the right-handed Majorana mass matrix. The quantitative nature of the model’s large mixing angle solution is used to compare the reaches of a neutrino super beam and a neutrino factory for determining the small $U_{e3}$ mixing matrix element.

Key words: GUT models; neutrino oscillations

1 Introduction

1.1 Summary of neutrino mass and mixing data

With $\Delta m^2_{ij} \equiv m_i^2 - m_j^2$ and $U_{\ell i}$, one of the Maki-Nakagawa-Sakata (MNS) neutrino mixing matrix elements [1], the following information is known.

- Atmospheric Neutrinos
  Interpretation of the data heavily favors $\nu_\mu \leftrightarrow \nu_\tau$ over $\nu_\mu \leftrightarrow \nu_{\text{sterile}}$ oscillations [2] with oscillation parameters

  $\Delta m^2_{32} \simeq 3.2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2,$

  $\sin^2 2\theta_{\text{atm}} = 4|U_{\mu 3}|^2|U_{\tau 3}|^2 = 1.000,$ ( $> 0.89$ @ 90% c.l.) (1)

- Solar Neutrinos
  Here the data favors $\nu_e \leftrightarrow \nu_\mu$, $\nu_\tau$ oscillations over $\nu_e \leftrightarrow \nu_{\text{sterile}}$ oscillations, but four solar mixing solutions were possible as reported by Gonzalez-Garcia

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2 electronic address: albright@fnal.gov
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at last year’s Osaka HEP International Conference (3); i.e., the small mixing angle (SMA), the large mixing angle (LMA), and the (LOW) MSW (4) solutions, together with the quasi-vacuum (QVO) solution. In the (3 active, 0 sterile) neutrino framework, the best-fit mixing solutions obtained with $\sin^2 2\theta_{sol} = 4|U_{e1}|^2|U_{e2}|^2$ were:

- **SMA** : $\Delta m_{21}^2 \simeq 5.0 \times 10^{-6}$ eV$^2$,
  $\sin^2 2\theta_{sol} \simeq 0.0024$, $\tan^2 \theta \simeq 0.0006$;
- **LMA** : $\Delta m_{21}^2 \simeq 3.2 \times 10^{-5}$ eV$^2$,
  $\sin^2 2\theta_{sol} \simeq 0.75$, $\tan^2 \theta \simeq 0.33$;
- **LOW** : $\Delta m_{21}^2 \simeq 1.0 \times 10^{-7}$ eV$^2$,
  $\sin^2 2\theta_{sol} \simeq 0.96$, $\tan^2 \theta \simeq 0.67$;
- **QVO** : $\Delta m_{21}^2 \simeq 8.6 \times 10^{-10}$ eV$^2$,
  $\sin^2 2\theta_{sol} \simeq 0.96$, $\tan^2 \theta \simeq 1.5$.

A new analysis by the Super-Kamiokande collaboration based on 1258 days of data (5) now indicates that the LMA region is strongly preferred over the other regions with the best-fit point given by

- **LMA** : $\Delta m_{21}^2 \simeq 7 \times 10^{-5}$ eV$^2$,
  $\sin^2 2\theta_{sol} \simeq 0.87$, $\tan^2 \theta \simeq 0.47$.

With just three active neutrinos and maximal atmospheric mixing, to a good approximation one can simplify the general MNS mixing matrix to read

$$U_{MNS} \simeq \begin{pmatrix} \frac{c_{12}}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{s_{12}}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ -\frac{s_{12}}{\sqrt{2}} c_{12} & \frac{c_{12}}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{s_{12}}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{c_{12}}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix},$$

(4)

where the mass eigenstates are given in terms of the flavor states by

- $\nu_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\nu_\mu + \nu_\tau)$,
- $\nu_2 = \nu_e s_{12} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\nu_\mu - \nu_\tau) c_{12}$,
- $\nu_1 = \nu_e c_{12} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\nu_\mu - \nu_\tau) s_{12}$.

(5)

In the LMA case with the latest data given above, one then finds

$$U_{MNS}^{(LMA)} \simeq \begin{pmatrix} 0.825 & 0.565 & 0 \\ -0.400 & 0.583 & 0.707 \\ 0.583 & -0.400 & 0.707 \end{pmatrix},$$

(6)
Note that with maximal atmospheric mixing, unitarity forces $\theta_{13} = 0^\circ$; in fact, a primary physics goal of a neutrino factory is to determine $U_{e3}$ and its departure from zero. While solar neutrino mixing is close to maximal, strictly maximal mixing is presently excluded at the 95% c.l. If this persists, it may result in a severe test for models to predict the deviation from maximal mixing.

1.2 Types of neutrino models

The general neutrino mass matrix in a basis with $n_L$ left-handed fields and $n_R = n_L^c$ right-handed or left-handed conjugate fields has the complex symmetric form

$$M_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} M_L & N^T \\ N & M_R \end{pmatrix},$$

where $M_L$ is the left-handed Majorana mass matrix, $N$ and $N^T$ the Dirac mass matrix and its transpose, and $M_R$ is the right-handed Majorana mass matrix. Models which appear in the literature\(^4\) can generally be placed into three classes as follows:

- **Models with only left-handed neutrinos present**
  Models of this type are variations of the Zee model\(^7\), where ultralight neutrinos arise from non-renormalizable contributions involving some undetermined high mass scale. Lepton number is violated by two units, or an $L = -2$ isovector Higgs field is introduced. The combination $L' \equiv L_e - L_\mu - L_\tau$ is often taken to be conserved.

- **Models with both left- and right-handed neutrinos present**
  With $M_L = 0$, the seesaw mechanism yields ultralight neutrino masses provided the right-handed masses are in the range of $10^5 - 10^{15}$ GeV. Such masses are naturally obtained in GUT models with $\Lambda_{GUT} = 2 \times 10^{16}$ GeV.

- **Models with neutrinos in higher dimensions**
  Right-handed neutrinos which are singlets under all gauge symmetries can enter the bulk with many Kalusa-Klein states present. With large extra dimensions and the compactification scale much lower than the string scale, a modified seesaw mechanism can generate ultralight neutrino masses\(^8\).

2 Features of various GUT models

Restricting our attention to the second class of models, we note the intra-family symmetry specified by a GUT model provides a unified treatment of quarks and leptons as (some) quarks and leptons are placed in the same multiplets. For example, the representation content of three familiar GUTs is listed below:

\(^4\) More complete surveys can be found in \((\text{[reference]})\).
Sterile neutrinos can appear non-trivially in $E_6$ or as isolated singlets in $SU(5)$ or $SO(10)$.

On the other hand, a specified horizontal flavor symmetry enables one to connect comparable flavors in different families which allows a mass hierarchy to exist among the families. The flavor symmetry may be discrete, such as $Z_2$, $S_3$, $Z_2 \times Z_2$ etc., and results in multiplicative quantum numbers. A continuous flavor symmetry, such as $U(1)$, $U(2)$, $SU(3)$ etc., results in additive quantum numbers and may be global or local (and possibly anomalous).

With a GUT family symmetry, some or all of the flavor bases are related for the up and down quark, charged lepton and neutrino Dirac mass matrices, hereafter denoted by $U$, $D$, $L$, and $N$. As such, the Yukawa interactions in GUT models are typically not diagonal in flavor space. Contrast this with models with no grand unification, where the quark and lepton sectors can be treated independently and some matrices can be arbitrarily assumed diagonal.

In unbroken $SU(5)$, $L = D^T$, but $N$ and $D$ are unrelated, while the right-handed Majorana mass matrix, $M_R$ may or may not exist. This tends to provide a lot of freedom for the model builder as different flavor charges can be assigned to each $10$, $\bar{5}$ and $1$ in the same family.

In unbroken $SO(10)$, $U = D = L = N$ as all left-handed quarks and leptons belonging to the same family have the same flavor charge, while $M_R$ exists and is independent of the others due to its different Higgs VEV structure. With $SU(5)$ and $SO(10)$ broken at the GUT scale, and the Higgs fields as well as the fermion fields carrying horizontal flavor quantum numbers, a rather complex set of mass matrix textures can emerge.

In $E_6$ eleven extra states are present in each fundamental $27$ which must be made heavy, aside possibly from 1 or 2 light sterile neutrinos per family.
3 Symmetry breaking in $SO(10)$

Now restricting our attention to $SO(10)$, we note that to break $SO(10)$ to the SM, the rank must be reduced from 5 to 4 typically along one of the chains:

$$SO(10) \rightarrow SU(5) \times U(1) \rightarrow SU(5) \rightarrow SM,$$

$$SO(10) \rightarrow SU(4) \times SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R$$

$$\rightarrow SU(3) \times SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R \rightarrow SM$$

Among the possible $SO(10)$ Higgs VEVs in the first breaking chain at the GUT scale are:

$\langle 45_H \rangle$ which can point in the $I_{3R}$, $Y$ or $B-L$ direction, but these do not reduce the rank;

$\langle 1(16_H) \rangle$ which breaks $SO(10) \rightarrow SU(5)$ by reducing the rank;

$\langle 45_H \rangle_{B-L} + \langle 1(16_H) \rangle$ which breaks $SO(10) \rightarrow SM$.

As for the electroweak Higgs doublets, they can appear in the 5 and $\overline{5}$ representations of $SU(5)$ and will break $SM \rightarrow SU(3)_c \times U(1)_{em}$ at the electroweak scale, provided they remain light while the Higgs color triplets get massive at $\Lambda_{GUT}$. This is known as the doublet-triplet splitting problem. In the standard procedure, the 5 and $\overline{5}$ are placed in the same $10_H$ of $SO(10)$ enabling Yukawa coupling unification with $\tan \beta \simeq 55$. However, another possibility is to place the 5 in the $10_H$ while the $\overline{5}$ belongs to a linear combination of the $10_H$ and a $16_H$. This enables Yukawa unification with $1 \lesssim \tan \beta \lesssim 55$. In any case, only two Higgs doublets can survive down to the electroweak scale for proper gauge coupling unification with $\sin^2 \theta_W \sim 0.2315$.

GUT models then differ by their choice of unification group, symmetry-breaking schemes and assigned flavor symmetries. Among $SO(10)$ GUT models, the following flavor symmetries appear in the literature:

$$U(1) \quad \text{Babu, Pati, Wilczek (9)}$$

$$U(1) \times Z_2 \times Z_2 \quad \text{Albright, Babu, Barr (10)}$$

$$SU(2) \times Z_2 \times Z_2 \times Z_2 \quad \text{Chen, Mahanthappa (11)}$$

$$U(2) \times U(1)^n \quad \text{Blazek, Raby, Toby (12)}$$

$$SU(3) \quad \text{Berezhiani, Rossi (13)}$$

All rely on the seesaw mechanism [14], $M_\nu = -N^T M_R N$, to obtain the light effective LH Majorana mass matrix, but $M_R$ may be generated with a $\langle 1(126_H) \rangle$ or a pair of $\langle 1(10_H) \rangle$'s. With $U_{MNS} = U_L^T U_\nu$, all models generate the maximal atmospheric $\nu_\mu - \nu_\tau$ mixing either by a special feature of $N$, a special feature of
or the combined effect of $N$ and $M_R$ in the seesaw mechanism. Most models easily accommodate the SMA solar solution, while some can accommodate the QVO or LOW solution as well. However, most have great difficulty with, or find it impossible to explain, the LMA solution, since fine tuning is required. This is especially true of models which require special features of $N$ and/or $M_R$ to get maximal atmospheric mixing.

4 **SO(10) SUSY GUT model with $U(1) \times Z_2 \times Z_2$ flavor symmetry**

We now illustrate a model, developed in collaboration with S.M. Barr (15), which is particularly useful in that it is quantitatively predictive, can explain the LMA solution, and can be used to assess the need for a neutrino factory.

It is based on a minimum set of Higgs fields which solves the doublet-triplet splitting problem with just one $45_H$ whose VEV points in the $B-L$ direction and has no higher rank representations. Two pairs of $16_H, \overline{16}_H$'s stabilize the solution (16). Several Higgs in the $10_H$ representations together with Higgs singlets are also present. The combination of VEVs, $\langle 45_H \rangle_{B-L}, \langle 1(16_H) \rangle$ and $\langle 1(\overline{16}_H) \rangle$ break $SO(10)$ to the SM. The electroweak VEVs arise from $v_u = \langle 5(10_H) \rangle$ and $v_d = \langle \overline{5}(10_H) \rangle \cos \gamma + \langle \overline{5}(16_H) \rangle \sin \gamma$, while the combination orthogonal to $v_d$ gets massive at the GUT scale. The Higgs superpotential in this model exhibits the $U(1) \times Z_2 \times Z_2$ flavor symmetry.

In addition, matter superfields appear in the following representations: $16_1, 16_2, 16_3; 16, \overline{16}, 16', \overline{16}', 10_1, 10_2,$ and 1's, where all but the $16_i, i = 1, 2, 3$ get superheavy and are integrated out.

The Dirac mass matrices are found to be

$$
U = \begin{pmatrix} \eta & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \epsilon/3 \\ 0 & -\epsilon/3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} M_U, \quad D = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \delta & \delta'e^{i\phi} \\ \delta & 0 & \sigma + \epsilon/3 \\ \delta'e^{i\phi} & -\epsilon/3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} M_D, 
$$

$$
N = \begin{pmatrix} \eta & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\epsilon \\ 0 & \epsilon & 1 \end{pmatrix} M_U, \quad L = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \delta & \delta'e^{i\phi} \\ \delta & 0 & -\epsilon \\ \delta'e^{i\phi} & \sigma + \epsilon & 1 \end{pmatrix} M_D, \tag{8}
$$

where

$$M_U \simeq 113 \text{ GeV}, \quad M_D \simeq 1 \text{ GeV},$$

$$\sigma = 1.78, \quad \epsilon = 0.145,$$

$$\delta = 0.0086, \quad \delta' = 0.0079,$$

$$\phi = 54^\circ, \quad \eta = 8 \times 10^{-6} \tag{9}$$

are input parameters defined at the GUT scale to fit the low scale observables after evolution downward from $\Lambda_{GUT}$. 


The above textures were obtained by imposing the Georgi-Jarlskog relations \( \Lambda_{GUT} \) at \( m_s^0 \simeq m_\mu^0/3 \), \( m_d^0 \simeq 3m_e^0 \) with Yukawa coupling unification holding for \( \tan \beta \sim 5 \). The matrix element contributions can be neatly understood in terms of Froggatt-Nielsen diagrams. In particular, “1’s” are obtained from the \( 16_3 \cdot 16_3 \cdot 10_H \) vertices; the “\( \epsilon \)” terms are obtained from diagrams exhibiting the \( \langle 45_H \rangle_{B-L} \) suppression; while the “\( \sigma \)” terms arise from the \( 16_2 \cdot 16_H \cdot 16'_H \cdot 16_3 \) effective operator which contributes only to \( D \) and \( L \) in the lop-sided fashion indicated. The other entries arise from more complex diagrams.

All nine quark and charged lepton masses plus the three CKM angles and CP phase are well-fitted with the eight input parameters. The vertex of the CKM unitary triangle occurs at the center of the presently allowed region with \( \sin 2\beta \simeq 0.65 \). The Hermitian matrices \( U^{\dagger}U \), \( D^{\dagger}D \), and \( N^{\dagger}N \) are diagonalized with small left-handed rotations, while \( L^{\dagger}L \) is diagonalized by a large left-handed rotation. This neatly accounts for the fact that \( V_{cb} = (U^{\dagger}_L U_D)_{cb} \) is small, while \( U_{\mu 3} = (U^{\dagger}_L U_\nu)_{\mu 3} \) is large for any reasonable \( M_R \).

Since the solar and atmospheric mixings are essentially decoupled in the model, the structure of the right-handed Majorana mass matrix determines the type of \( \nu_e \leftrightarrow \nu_\mu, \nu_\tau \) solar neutrino mixing.

- The **SMA Solar Neutrino Solution** can be obtained with

\[
M_R = \begin{pmatrix}
  C & 0 & 0 \\
  0 & Be^2 & 0 \\
  0 & 0 & 1
\end{pmatrix} \Lambda_R
\]

and \( B = -1.9 \), \( C = 5 \times 10^{-8} \), \( \Lambda_R = 1.2 \times 10^{14} \) GeV; for small mixing in the 1-2 sector of the matrices arises since \( N \) and \( L \) are nearly diagonal there.

- The **QVO Solar Neutrino Solution** can be obtained with

\[
M_R = \begin{pmatrix}
  0 & A\epsilon^3 & 0 \\
  A\epsilon^3 & 0 & 0 \\
  0 & 0 & 1
\end{pmatrix} \Lambda_R
\]

and \( A = 0.05 \), \( \Lambda_R = 2.4 \times 10^{14} \) GeV, which leads to a pair of pseudo-Dirac neutrinos.

- The **LMA Solar Neutrino Solution**, unlike the others, requires fine-tuning for \( M_R \) and a nearly hierarchical texture:

\[
M_R = \begin{pmatrix}
  c^2\eta^2 & -b\epsilon\eta & a\eta \\
  -b\epsilon\eta & \epsilon^2 & -\epsilon \\
  a\eta & -\epsilon & 1
\end{pmatrix} \Lambda_R
\]

in terms of parameters \( \epsilon \) and \( \eta \) introduced in the Dirac sector. Note that the 2-3 subsector has zero determinant and is closely related to that of \( N \), as can also be understood in terms of Froggatt-Nielsen diagrams.
With $a = 1$, $b = c = 2$ and $\Lambda_R = 2.5 \times 10^{14}$ GeV, by the seesaw mechanism the light neutrino mass matrix becomes

$$ M_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\epsilon & 0 \\ -\epsilon & 2\epsilon & 0 \\ 0 & 2\epsilon & 1 \end{pmatrix} \frac{M_U^2}{\Lambda_R} \quad (13) $$

with three texture zeros, which leads to

$$ M_1 = M_2 = 2.8 \times 10^8 \text{ GeV}, \quad M_3 = 2.5 \times 10^{14} \text{ GeV}, $$

$$ \Delta m^2_{32} = 3.2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2, \quad \sin^2 2\theta_{\text{atm}} = 0.994, $$

$$ \Delta m^2_{21} = 6.5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2, \quad \sin^2 2\theta_{\text{sol}} = 0.88, $$

$$ U_{e3} = -0.014, \quad \sin^2 2\theta_{\text{react}} = 0.0008, \quad (14) $$

which compares favorably with the present S-K best-fit point in the LMA region cited in the introduction. Note also that $\sin^2 2\theta_{\text{atm}}$ is extremely close to maximal. In fact, the whole presently-allowed LMA region can be covered with $1.0 \lesssim a \lesssim 2.5$, $1.8 \lesssim b = c \lesssim 5.2$ as shown in Fig. 1, where contours of constant $\sin^2 2\theta_{12}$ and $\sin^2 2\theta_{13}$ are plotted. From this Figure, the advantage of a neutrino factory over a superbeam facility is apparent for this model. Other plots of similar interest have been obtained by the author in collaboration with S. Geer [19].

Fig. 1. Input parameter space with $b = c$ vs. $a$ in the right-handed Majorana mass matrix for the LMA solution. Contours of constant $\sin^2 2\theta_{12}$ and $\sin^2 2\theta_{13}$ are indicated with the reaches of a neutrino superbeam and that for a neutrino factory highlighted. Only the thin sliver around $\sin^2 2\theta_{13} = 0$ corresponding to maximal atmospheric neutrino mixing is inaccessible to a neutrino factory.
5 Summary

We have seen that SO(10) SUSY GUT models can explain the observed atmospheric and solar neutrino oscillation data within the (3 active, 0 sterile) neutrino framework. Unfortunately, there is no strong preference for any particular solar neutrino solution, though the SMA, QVO and LOW solutions are easiest to obtain, with the LMA solution requiring fine-tuning. In the model described, that fine-tuning can be understood in terms of Froggatt-Nielsen diagrams. Finally we noted that a neutrino factory is essentially required, in order to determine $U_{e3}$ for the present fully-allowed LMA region.

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