

Higgs Decay $h \rightarrow \mu\tau$ in Minimal Flavor Violation Framework

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Based on

XG He, JT, YJ ZHeng, JHEP 09 (2015) 093 [[arXiv:1507.02673](https://arxiv.org/abs/1507.02673)]

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Outline

- Introduction
- Minimal flavor violation framework
- Lepton-flavor-violating decays of the Higgs boson
- Conclusions

Higgs dilepton decays

- ATLAS & CMS data on the flavor-conserving channels

- $h \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$ $\mathcal{B}(h \rightarrow \mu^- \mu^+) < 1.5 \times 10^{-3}$ and 1.6×10^{-3}

1406.7663
1410.6679

- $h \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^-$ $\sigma/\sigma_{\text{SM}} = 1.44_{-0.37}^{+0.42}$ and 0.91 ± 0.28

ATLAS-CONF-2015-007
1412.8662

- CMS results on the flavor-violating channels

- $\mathcal{B}(h \rightarrow \mu\tau) = \mathcal{B}(h \rightarrow \mu^- \tau^+) + \mathcal{B}(h \rightarrow \mu^+ \tau^-) = (0.84_{-0.37}^{+0.39})\%$

- $\mathcal{B}(h \rightarrow \mu\tau) < 1.51\%$ at 95% CL

1502.07400

- $\mathcal{B}(h \rightarrow e\tau) < 0.7\%$ at 95% CL

CMS PAS HIG-14-040

- $\mathcal{B}(h \rightarrow e\mu) < 0.036\%$ at 95% CL

- ATLAS results $\mathcal{B}(h \rightarrow \mu\tau) = (0.77 \pm 0.62)\%$

- $\mathcal{B}(h \rightarrow \mu\tau) < 1.85\%$ at 95% CL

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- The tentative hint of $h \rightarrow \mu\tau$ would be a clear new physics signal if confirmed in future measurements.

Minimal flavor violation

- The standard model has been successful in describing the current data on flavor-changing neutral currents & CP violation in the quark sector.
- This motivates the hypothesis of minimal flavor violation for quarks: Yukawa couplings are the only sources for the breaking of flavor & CP symmetries.
 - Effective field theory approach with MFV.

Chivukula & Georgi
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Buras *et al.*
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 - Effective field theory approach with MFV.
- It's interesting to extend the MFV notion to the lepton sector
 - which may offer insights into the origin of neutrino mass
 - but there are ambiguities in implementing leptonic MFV.
- We consider an effective MFV scenario involving the seesaw mechanism of type I.

Chivukula & Georgi
Hall & Randall

Buras *et al.*
D'Ambrosio *et al.*

Cirigliano *et al.*

Davidson & Palorini
Gavela *et al.*, 2009
He, Lee, JT, Zheng

.....

Flavor symmetry in type-I seesaw model

- ◆ The kinetic part of the Lagrangian for SM leptons plus 3 right-handed neutrinos

$$\mathcal{L} \supset i\bar{L}_{kL}\not{\partial}L_{kL} + i\bar{\nu}_{kR}\not{\partial}\nu_{kR} + i\bar{E}_{kR}\not{\partial}E_{kR}, \quad k = 1, 2, 3 \text{ summed over}$$

$$L_{jL} = \begin{pmatrix} \nu_{jL} \\ \ell_{jL} \end{pmatrix}, \quad j = 1, 2, 3, \quad (E_1, E_2, E_3) = (\ell_1, \ell_2, \ell_3) = (e, \mu, \tau)$$

- ◆ It's **invariant** under the global flavor rotations

$$L_{jL} \rightarrow (V_L)_{jk}L_{kL}, \quad \nu_{jR} \rightarrow (V_\nu)_{jk}\nu_{kR}, \quad E_{jR} \rightarrow (V_E)_{jk}E_{kR}, \quad V_X \in \text{SU}(3)_X$$

- ◆ The flavor symmetry is explicitly broken by the lepton mass terms

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -(Y_e)_{jk}\bar{L}_{jL}E_{kR}H - (Y_\nu)_{jk}\bar{L}_{jL}\nu_{kR}\tilde{H} - \frac{1}{2}(M_\nu)_{jk}\bar{\nu}_{jR}^c\nu_{kR} + \text{H.c.}$$

$Y_{e,\nu}$ are Yukawa coupling matrices, the Higgs doublet $H = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(h + v) \end{pmatrix}$, $\tilde{H} = i\sigma_2 H^*$

$M_\nu = \mathcal{M} \text{diag}(1, 1, 1)$ is the Majorana mass matrix of the degenerate ν_{kR}

- ◆ \mathcal{L} is formally flavor-symmetric if the Yukawa couplings are spurions transforming as

$$Y_e \rightarrow V_L Y_e V_E^\dagger, \quad Y_\nu \rightarrow V_L Y_\nu \mathcal{O}^T$$

Flavor spurion combinations

- ★ We work in the basis where Y_e are diagonal, $Y_e = \text{diag}(y_e, y_\mu, y_\tau)$, $y_f \equiv \sqrt{2} \frac{m_f}{v}$ and E_k and ν_k refer to the mass eigenstates. Thus

$$L_{j,L} = \begin{pmatrix} (U_{\text{PMNS}})_{jk} \nu_{k,L} \\ E_{j,L} \end{pmatrix}, \quad Y_\nu = \frac{i\sqrt{2}}{v} U_{\text{PMNS}} \hat{m}_\nu^{1/2} O M_\nu^{1/2}$$

Casas & Ibarra

- $\hat{m}_\nu = \text{diag}(m_1, m_2, m_3)$ is the light ν mass matrix, $U_{\text{PMNS}} \hat{m}_\nu U_{\text{PMNS}}^T = -\frac{v^2}{2} Y_\nu M_\nu^{-1} Y_\nu^T$
 O is a complex matrix satisfying $OO^T = \mathbb{1}$

- ★ The Yukawa combinations of interest are

$$\mathbf{A} = Y_\nu Y_\nu^\dagger = \frac{2\mathcal{M}}{v^2} U_{\text{PMNS}} \hat{m}_\nu^{1/2} O O^\dagger \hat{m}_\nu^{1/2} U_{\text{PMNS}}^\dagger, \quad \mathbf{B} = Y_e Y_e^\dagger = \text{diag}(y_e^2, y_\mu^2, y_\tau^2)$$

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- ★ Model-independently, one can construct Δ comprising an infinite number of terms

$$\Delta = \sum_{j,k,l,\dots} \xi_{jkl\dots} \mathbf{A}^j \mathbf{B}^k \mathbf{A}^l \dots \quad \text{with coefficients } |\xi_{jkl\dots}| \leq \mathcal{O}(1)$$

The MFV hypothesis requires $\xi_{jkl\dots}$ to be real so as not to introduce new sources of CP violation beyond those in the Yukawa couplings.

Flavor spurion combinations

- Using the Cayley-Hamilton identity for an invertible 3×3 matrix X

$$X^3 = X^2 \text{Tr}X + \frac{1}{2} X [\text{Tr}X^2 - (\text{Tr}X)^2] + \mathbb{1} \text{Det}X$$

one can resum the infinite series into a finite number of terms

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta = & \xi_1 \mathbb{1} + \xi_2 \mathbf{A} + \xi_3 \mathbf{B} + \xi_4 \mathbf{A}^2 + \xi_5 \mathbf{B}^2 + \xi_6 \mathbf{AB} + \xi_7 \mathbf{BA} + \xi_8 \mathbf{ABA} + \xi_9 \mathbf{BA}^2 \\ & + \xi_{10} \mathbf{BAB} + \xi_{11} \mathbf{AB}^2 + \xi_{12} \mathbf{ABA}^2 + \xi_{13} \mathbf{A}^2 \mathbf{B}^2 + \xi_{14} \mathbf{B}^2 \mathbf{A}^2 + \xi_{15} \mathbf{B}^2 \mathbf{AB} \\ & + \xi_{16} \mathbf{AB}^2 \mathbf{A}^2 + \xi_{17} \mathbf{B}^2 \mathbf{A}^2 \mathbf{B} \end{aligned}$$

Colangelo, Mercolli, Smith

Due to the resummation, the coefficients $\xi_{1,2,\dots,17}$ develop tiny imaginary parts.

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Due to the resummation, the coefficients $\xi_{1,2,\dots,17}$ develop tiny imaginary parts.

$$\mathbf{A} = \frac{2\mathcal{M}}{v^2} U_{\text{PMNS}} \hat{m}_\nu^{1/2} \mathbf{O} \mathbf{O}^\dagger \hat{m}_\nu^{1/2} U_{\text{PMNS}}^\dagger, \quad \mathbf{B} = \text{diag}(y_e^2, y_\mu^2, y_\tau^2)$$

- We entertain the possibility that the largest eigenvalue of \mathbf{A} is $\mathcal{O}(1)$.

Thus all \mathbf{B} terms in Δ can be neglected: $\Delta \simeq \xi_0 \mathbb{1} + \xi_1 \mathbf{A} + \xi_2 \mathbf{A}^2 \simeq \Delta^\dagger$

- Effective dimension-6 MFV operators involving H

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{MFV}} \supset \frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \left(O_{RL}^{(e1)} + O_{RL}^{(e2)} + O_{RL}^{(e3)} + O_{RL}^{(e4)} + O_{LL}^{(1)} + O_{LL}^{(2)} + \text{H.c.} \right) + \dots$$

Λ is the scale of MFV,

$$O_{RL}^{(e1)} = g' \bar{E}_R Y_e^\dagger \Delta_{RL}^{(1)} \sigma_{\rho\omega} H^\dagger L_L B^{\rho\omega}$$

$$O_{RL}^{(e2)} = g \bar{E}_R Y_e^\dagger \Delta_{RL}^{(2)} \sigma_{\rho\omega} H^\dagger \tau_a L_L W_a^{\rho\omega}$$

$$O_{RL}^{(e3)} = (\mathcal{D}^\rho H)^\dagger \bar{E}_R Y_e^\dagger \Delta_{RL}^{(3)} \mathcal{D}_\rho L_L$$

$$O_{LL}^{(1)} = \frac{i}{4} [H^\dagger (\mathcal{D}_\rho H) - (\mathcal{D}_\rho H)^\dagger H] \bar{L}_L \gamma^\rho \Delta_{LL}^{(1)} L_L,$$

$$O_{LL}^{(2)} = \frac{i}{4} [H^\dagger \tau_a (\mathcal{D}_\rho H) - (\mathcal{D}_\rho H)^\dagger \tau_a H] \bar{L}_L \gamma^\rho \tau_a \Delta_{LL}^{(2)} L_L$$

generalized from
D'Ambrosio *et al.*
Cirigliano *et al.*

- $\Delta_{RL}^{(1,2,3)}$ and $\Delta_{LL}^{(1,2)}$ are the same in form as Δ , but have their own coefficients ξ_r

MFV contribution to dilepton Higgs decay

$$\star \mathcal{L}_{\text{MFV}} \supset \frac{O_{RL}^{(e3)}}{\Lambda^2} + \text{H.c.}, \quad O_{RL}^{(e3)} = (\mathcal{D}^\rho H)^\dagger \bar{E}_R Y_e^\dagger \Delta \mathcal{D}_\rho L_L$$

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$$\star \text{Alternative } h \rightarrow \ell \bar{\ell}' \text{ operator: } H^\dagger H \bar{E}_{jR} H^\dagger L_{kL}$$

★ They are related

$$\begin{aligned} O_{RL}^{(e3)} + \text{H.c.} = & \frac{i}{8} \left[H^\dagger \mathcal{D}_\rho H - (\mathcal{D}_\rho H)^\dagger H \right] \left(\bar{L}_L \gamma^\rho \{ \Delta, Y_e Y_e^\dagger \} L_L + 4 \bar{E}_R \gamma^\rho Y_e^\dagger \Delta Y_e E_R \right) \\ & + \frac{i}{8} \left[H^\dagger \tau_a \mathcal{D}_\rho H - (\mathcal{D}_\rho H)^\dagger \tau_a H \right] \bar{L}_L \gamma^\rho \{ \Delta, Y_e Y_e^\dagger \} \tau_a L_L \\ & + \frac{i}{8} \left[H^\dagger \mathcal{D}_\rho H + (\mathcal{D}_\rho H)^\dagger H \right] \bar{L}_L \gamma^\rho [\Delta, Y_e Y_e^\dagger] L_L \\ & + \frac{i}{8} \left[H^\dagger \tau_a \mathcal{D}_\rho H + (\mathcal{D}_\rho H)^\dagger \tau_a H \right] \bar{L}_L \gamma^\rho [\Delta, Y_e Y_e^\dagger] \tau_a L_L \\ & + \frac{1}{8} \left[\left(\frac{4H^\dagger H}{v^2} - 2 \right) m_h^2 \bar{E}_R Y_e^\dagger \Delta H^\dagger L_L + 4 \bar{L}_L Y_e E_R \bar{E}_R Y_e^\dagger \Delta L_L \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \bar{E}_R Y_e^\dagger \Delta \sigma_{\rho\omega} H^\dagger (g' B^{\rho\omega} + g \tau_a W_a^{\rho\omega}) L_L + \text{H.c.} \right] \\ & + (\text{quark terms}) \end{aligned}$$

Yukawa couplings

- ◆ The effective Lagrangian describing $h \rightarrow \ell^- \ell'^+, \ell'^- \ell^+$ for $\ell \neq \ell'$

$$\mathcal{L}_{h\ell\ell'} = -\mathcal{Y}_{\ell\ell'} \bar{\ell} P_R \ell' - \mathcal{Y}_{\ell'\ell} \bar{\ell}' P_R \ell + \text{H.c.}$$

implies the combined rate

$$\Gamma_{h \rightarrow \ell\ell'} = \Gamma_{h \rightarrow \ell\bar{\ell}'} + \Gamma_{h \rightarrow \bar{\ell}\ell'} = \frac{m_h}{8\pi} (|\mathcal{Y}_{\ell\ell'}|^2 + |\mathcal{Y}_{\ell'\ell}|^2)$$

For the flavor-conserving mode $h \rightarrow \ell^- \ell^+$

$$\Gamma_{h \rightarrow \ell\bar{\ell}} = \frac{m_h}{8\pi} |\mathcal{Y}_{\ell\ell}|^2$$

- ◆ The SM and \mathcal{L}_{MFV} contributions to $h \rightarrow E_k^- E_l^+$

$$\mathcal{Y}_{E_k E_l} = \delta_{kl} \mathcal{Y}_{E_k E_k}^{\text{SM}} - \frac{m_{E_l} m_h^2}{2\Lambda^2 v} \Delta_{kl}, \quad \mathcal{Y}_{E_k E_k}^{\text{SM}} = \frac{m_{E_k}}{v}$$

Constraints on Yukawa couplings

• $\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$

$$\mathcal{B}(\mu \rightarrow e\gamma)_{\text{exp}} < 5.7 \times 10^{-13}$$

$$\sqrt{|(\mathcal{Y}_{\mu\mu} + r_\mu)\mathcal{Y}_{\mu e} + 9.19\mathcal{Y}_{\mu\tau}\mathcal{Y}_{\tau e}|^2 + |(\mathcal{Y}_{\mu\mu} + r_\mu)\mathcal{Y}_{e\mu} + 9.19\mathcal{Y}_{e\tau}\mathcal{Y}_{\tau\mu}|^2} < 5.1 \times 10^{-7}$$

$$r_\mu = 0.29$$

• $\tau \rightarrow e\gamma$

$$\mathcal{B}(\tau \rightarrow e\gamma)_{\text{exp}} < 3.3 \times 10^{-8}$$

$$|\mathcal{Y}_{\tau\tau} + r_\tau| \sqrt{|\mathcal{Y}_{\tau e}|^2 + |\mathcal{Y}_{e\tau}|^2} < 5.2 \times 10^{-4}, \quad r_\tau = 0.03$$

• LHC data on $h \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-, \tau^+\tau^-$

$$|\mathcal{Y}_{\mu\mu}/\mathcal{Y}_{\mu\mu}^{\text{SM}}|^2 < 6.5, \quad 0.7 < |\mathcal{Y}_{\tau\tau}/\mathcal{Y}_{\tau\tau}^{\text{SM}}|^2 < 1.8$$

• CMS data on $h \rightarrow \mu\tau$

$$2.0 \times 10^{-3} < \sqrt{|\mathcal{Y}_{\tau\mu}|^2 + |\mathcal{Y}_{\mu\tau}|^2} < 3.3 \times 10^{-3}$$

$$\sqrt{|\mathcal{Y}_{\tau\mu}|^2 + |\mathcal{Y}_{\mu\tau}|^2} < 3.6 \times 10^{-3}$$

Goudelis, Lebedev, Park
Blankenburg, Ellis, Isidori
Harnik, Kopp, Zupan
Dery *et al.*

Numerical exploration

- ★ Consider the MFV scenario with the type-I seesaw mechanism involving 3 heavy right-handed neutrinos, $M_\nu = \mathcal{M} \text{diag}(1, 1, 1)$, so that

$$\Delta = \xi_0 \mathbb{1} + \xi_1 \mathbf{A} + \xi_2 \mathbf{A}^2, \quad \mathbf{A} = Y_\nu Y_\nu^\dagger = \frac{2\mathcal{M}}{v^2} U_{\text{PMNS}} \hat{m}_\nu^{1/2} \mathbf{O} \mathbf{O}^\dagger \hat{m}_\nu^{1/2} U_{\text{PMNS}}^\dagger$$

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- ★ If O in Y_ν is real, $|\mathcal{Y}_{\mu\tau}|$ can only reach $\sim 2 \times 10^{-4} \ll |\mathcal{Y}_{\mu\tau}^{\text{CMS}}| \sim 3 \times 10^{-3}$

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- ★ If \mathbf{O} in Y_ν is real, $|\mathcal{Y}_{\mu\tau}|$ can only reach $\sim 2 \times 10^{-4} \ll |\mathcal{Y}_{\mu\tau}^{\text{CMS}}| \sim 3 \times 10^{-3}$

- ★ To attain $|\mathcal{Y}_{\mu\tau}^{\text{CMS}}|$, a less simple structure of Y_ν is needed, particularly with

a complex \mathbf{O} , so that $\mathbf{O} \mathbf{O}^\dagger = e^{2i\mathbf{R}}$, with $\mathbf{R} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & r_1 & r_2 \\ -r_1 & 0 & r_3 \\ -r_2 & -r_3 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ and $r_{1,2,3}$ real

Dery *et al.*
He, JT, Zheng

Numerical results

	$\frac{\alpha_1}{\pi}$	$\frac{\alpha_2}{\pi}$	r_1	r_2	r_3	$10^5 \xi_1/\Lambda^2$ (GeV ⁻²)	$10^5 \xi_2/\Lambda^2$ (GeV ⁻²)	$10^5 \xi_4/\Lambda^2$ (GeV ⁻²)	$\frac{\mathcal{Y}_{ee}}{\mathcal{Y}_{ee}^{\text{SM}}}$	$\frac{\mathcal{Y}_{\mu\mu}}{\mathcal{Y}_{\mu\mu}^{\text{SM}}}$	$\frac{\mathcal{Y}_{\tau\tau}}{\mathcal{Y}_{\tau\tau}^{\text{SM}}}$	$\frac{ \mathcal{Y}_{e\mu} }{10^{-6}}$	$\frac{ \mathcal{Y}_{e\tau} }{10^{-4}}$	$\frac{ \mathcal{Y}_{\mu\tau} }{10^{-3}}$
NH	0	0	0.81	-1.7	-0.89	-6.3	6.2	5.4	1.5	1.2	0.89	1.7	0.3	3.1
	0	0	-0.86	1.8	-0.92	-7.1	8.7	4.5	1.6	1.2	0.87	2.0	0.4	3.5
	0	0.23	0.74	-0.80	-0.20	4.9	-6.7	-5.9	0.63	0.93	1.3	1.7	2.2	3.2
IH	0	0	0.04	0.63	-0.93	-7.9	8.8	2.6	1.5	1.2	1.1	2.1	2.8	3.2
	0	0	0.02	-0.75	1.1	-5.7	3.8	8.1	1.4	1.1	0.90	2.4	1.3	3.3
	0.79	1.3	-0.61	-0.79	1.4	-5.3	5.0	7.6	1.4	1.0	0.84	1.2	0.4	3.5

Higgs-lepton Yukawa couplings corresponding to sample values of the Majorana phases $\alpha_{1,2}$, the parameters $r_{1,2,3}$ of the complex O matrix, and the coefficients $\xi_{1,2,4}$ in the MFV building block Δ which can yield $|\mathcal{Y}_{\mu\tau}| \gtrsim 3 \times 10^{-3}$. The calculation of the NH (IH) results also relies on the measured neutrino mixing parameters in the case of normal (inverted) hierarchy of neutrino masses.

- $|\mathcal{Y}_{\mu\tau}|/|\mathcal{Y}_{e\tau}| \sim 10$ or more, consistent with CMS results
- The $\mathcal{Y}_{\mu\mu}$ and $\mathcal{Y}_{\tau\tau}$ predictions are testable with future collider data

Further numerical results

• If future searches yield $\mathcal{B}(\mu \rightarrow e\gamma) < 5 \times 10^{-14}$

$$0.5 < \Gamma_{h \rightarrow \mu\bar{\mu}} / \Gamma_{h \rightarrow \mu\bar{\mu}}^{\text{SM}} < 1.5$$

$$0.8 < \Gamma_{h \rightarrow \tau\bar{\tau}} / \Gamma_{h \rightarrow \tau\bar{\tau}}^{\text{SM}} < 1.2$$

	$\frac{\alpha_1}{\pi}$	$\frac{\alpha_2}{\pi}$	r_1	r_2	r_3	$10^5 \xi_1 / \Lambda^2$ (GeV ⁻²)	$10^5 \xi_2 / \Lambda^2$ (GeV ⁻²)	$10^5 \xi_4 / \Lambda^2$ (GeV ⁻²)	$\frac{\mathcal{Y}_{ee}}{\mathcal{Y}_{ee}^{\text{SM}}}$	$\frac{\mathcal{Y}_{\mu\mu}}{\mathcal{Y}_{\mu\mu}^{\text{SM}}}$	$\frac{\mathcal{Y}_{\tau\tau}}{\mathcal{Y}_{\tau\tau}^{\text{SM}}}$	$\frac{ \mathcal{Y}_{e\mu} }{10^{-6}}$	$\frac{ \mathcal{Y}_{e\tau} }{10^{-4}}$	$\frac{ \mathcal{Y}_{\mu\tau} }{10^{-3}}$
NH	0	0	-0.53	0.73	-0.40	6.0	-0.7	-9.5	0.53	0.79	1.1	0.6	0.2	2.7
	0	0.4	0.68	-0.80	-0.15	-5.4	-2.3	12	1.4	1.2	0.93	0.3	0.5	2.6
IH	0	0	0.0	-0.73	1.1	-4.7	-1.9	11	1.4	1.1	0.96	0.5	0.1	2.5
	0.8	1.3	-0.60	-0.81	1.4	-6.5	9.4	1.1	1.5	1.2	1.0	0.1	0.5	2.9

The same as Table I, except the $\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$ and $h \rightarrow \mu\bar{\mu}, \tau\bar{\tau}$ constraints are replaced with their projected future experimental limits, as described in the text.

$$\mathcal{B}(\mu \rightarrow e\gamma) = (1.2-4.4) \times 10^{-14}$$

Flavor-violating dilepton Z decays

$$\begin{aligned}
 \bullet \quad O_{RL}^{(e3)} &= \frac{\Delta_{kl} m_{E_k}}{v} \bar{E}_k P_L \left(\partial_\eta E_l - ie A_\eta E_l + ig_L Z_\eta E_l + \frac{ig}{\sqrt{2}} W_\eta^- \nu_l \right) \partial^\eta h \\
 &+ \frac{\Delta_{kl} g m_{E_k}}{v} \bar{E}_k P_L \left[\frac{iZ^\eta \partial_\eta E_l}{2c_w} - \frac{iW_\eta^- \partial^\eta \nu_l}{\sqrt{2}} + \left(\frac{eA \cdot Z}{2c_w} - \frac{g_L Z^2}{2c_w} + \frac{g}{2} W^+ \cdot W^- \right) E_l \right] (h + v)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$g_L = g(s_w^2 - 1/2)/c_w, \quad c_w = (1 - s_w^2)^{1/2} = gv/(2m_Z)$$

• This leads to the decay rates

$$\Gamma_{Z \rightarrow \mu \bar{e}} = \Gamma_{Z \rightarrow \bar{\mu} e} \simeq \frac{|\Delta_{12} m_\mu|^2 m_Z^5}{192 \Lambda^4 \pi v^2} = \frac{|\mathcal{Y}_{e\mu}|^2 m_Z^5}{48\pi m_h^4}$$

and similarly for $Z \rightarrow e\tau, \mu\tau$. Thus, for, say, $|\mathcal{Y}_{e\mu}| = 2.1 \times 10^{-6}$, $|\mathcal{Y}_{e\tau}| = 2.8 \times 10^{-4}$, and $|\mathcal{Y}_{\mu\tau}| = 0.0032$ from the $\mathcal{Y}_{\ell\ell'}$ results, we get

$$\mathcal{B}(Z \rightarrow e^\pm \mu^\mp) = 6.0 \times 10^{-13}, \quad \mathcal{B}(Z \rightarrow e^\pm \tau^\mp) = 1.1 \times 10^{-8}, \quad \mathcal{B}(Z \rightarrow \mu^\pm \tau^\mp) = 1.4 \times 10^{-6}$$

For comparison, the 95% CL experimental limits from the PDG are

$$\mathcal{B}(Z \rightarrow e^\pm \mu^\mp)_{\text{exp}} < 1.7 \times 10^{-6}, \quad \mathcal{B}(Z \rightarrow e^\pm \tau^\mp)_{\text{exp}} < 9.8 \times 10^{-6}, \quad \mathcal{B}(Z \rightarrow \mu^\pm \tau^\mp)_{\text{exp}} < 1.2 \times 10^{-5}$$

The predicted $\mathcal{B}(Z \rightarrow \mu\tau)$ is below its experimental bound by only less than a factor of 10. Thus, in this scenario $Z \rightarrow \mu\tau$ is potentially more testable than $Z \rightarrow e\mu, e\tau$, and the quest for it can provide a complementary check on \mathcal{L}_{MFV} .

Conclusions

- We have explored the **MFV** hypothesis in the lepton sector and applied it to flavor-violating Higgs-boson processes
- The leptonic **MFV** framework involving the type-I seesaw mechanism can accommodate the recent tentative hint of $h \rightarrow \mu\tau$ from the LHC if the right-handed neutrinos have nontrivial couplings to the Higgs boson.