

BSM theories of neutrino masses

Seesaw (Type-I/II/III), ν MSM, radiative mass models, GUTs ...

The standard model and the missing ν_R

The SM fermions

$\begin{bmatrix} u_L \\ d_L \end{bmatrix}$	$\begin{matrix} u_R \\ d_R \end{matrix}$
$\begin{bmatrix} \nu_L \\ e_L \end{bmatrix}$	$\begin{matrix} \square \\ e_R \end{matrix}$

- In the SM, every fermion has $L \leftrightarrow R$, except for ν
- Why not add ν_R here?
 - Historically, absent due to massless neutrinos

Now, ν -osc \Rightarrow masses \Rightarrow natural extension: adding ν_R .

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Yukawa}} = y_e H^\dagger L e_R + y_e \tilde{H}^\dagger L \nu_R$$

$$\rightarrow m_e e_L e_R + m \nu_L \nu_R$$

So, in principle, neutrinos could obtain masses like other fermions ...
 However, there is something non-trivial compared to other fermions

ν_R is not charged in $SU(3)_c \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$

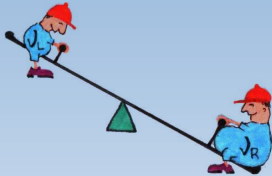
So ...

$$\mathcal{L} \rightarrow \mathcal{L} + M \nu_R \nu_R$$

The seesaw mechanism

So ...

$$\mathcal{L} \rightarrow \mathcal{L} + M\nu_R\nu_R + m\nu_L\nu_R \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathcal{L}_{\text{mass}} = [\nu_L, \nu_R] \begin{bmatrix} 0 & m \\ m & M \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \nu_L \\ \nu_R \end{bmatrix}$$



↓ diagonalize the matrix

↓ get the light mass eigenvalue

(the other mass eig. $\approx M$)

The seesaw relation

$$m_\nu = \frac{m^2}{M}$$

- Compared to other SM fermion masses, we have the extra M term.
- It's OK to have M here, if it's heavy.
 - Heavy $M \rightarrow$ light m_ν
 - Heavy M favored by GUTs and other theories.

The underlying philosophy: If you cannot forbid it, let it grow!

The seesaw scale

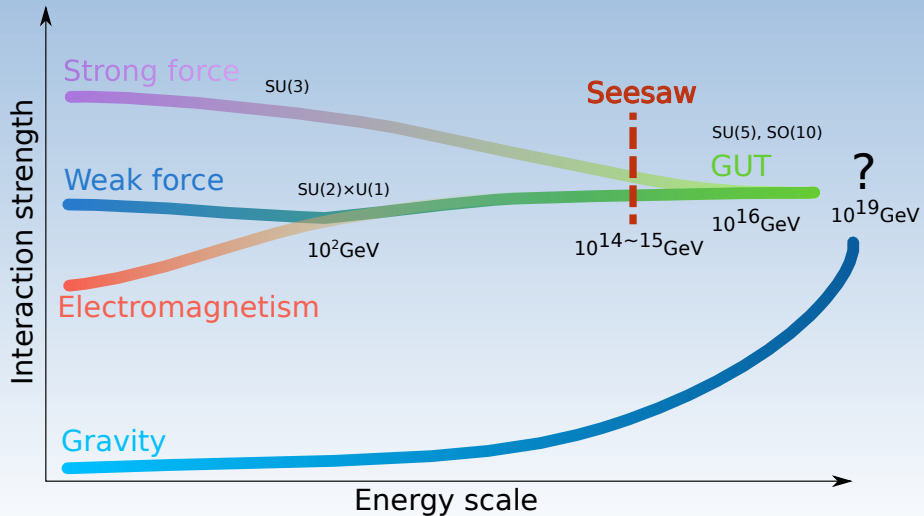
The seesaw relation

$$m_\nu = \frac{m^2}{M}$$

For $m_\nu \sim 0.1 \text{ eV}$ and $m \sim 100 \text{ GeV}$

$$\longrightarrow M \sim 10^{14} \text{ GeV}$$

known as the seesaw scale



Weyl/Dirac/Majorana spinors and Majorana masses

$$m_e e_L e_R + m \nu_L \nu_R \text{ or } m_e e_L^\dagger e_R + m \nu_L^\dagger \nu_R ?$$

I'm using the Weyl spinor notation:

Two-component spinor techniques and Feynman rules for quantum field theory and supersymmetry #1

Herbi K. Dreiner (Bonn U.), Howard E. Haber (UC, Santa Cruz), Stephen P. Martin (Northern Illinois U. and Fermilab) (Dec, 2008)

Published in: *Phys.Rept.* 494 (2010) 1-196 • e-Print: [0812.1594](https://arxiv.org/abs/0812.1594) [hep-ph]

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a must-read in our neutrino group

$SO(3, 1) \sim SU(2) \times SU(2)$, simplest non-trivial rep: $(\frac{1}{2}, 0)$ and $(0, \frac{1}{2})$.

Lorentz invariants
 $\chi\chi = \chi^a \chi_a, \chi_a^\dagger \chi^{\dot{a}}$
 $\chi\xi = \xi\chi, \dots$

\downarrow
 χ, ξ, \dots \downarrow
 $\chi^\dagger, \xi^\dagger, \dots$

Dirac spinor

$$\Psi = \begin{bmatrix} \chi \\ \xi^\dagger \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\bar{\Psi} = \Psi^\dagger \gamma^0 = (\xi^\dagger, \chi)$$

Charge conj. $\Psi^c = \begin{bmatrix} \xi \\ \chi^\dagger \end{bmatrix}$

mass: $m\bar{\Psi}\Psi = m\chi\xi + \text{h.c.}$

Majorana spinor

$$\Psi = \begin{bmatrix} \chi \\ \chi^\dagger \end{bmatrix} \text{ i.e., half d.o.f}$$

Charge conj. $\Psi^c = \begin{bmatrix} \chi \\ \chi^\dagger \end{bmatrix} = \Psi$

mass: $m\bar{\Psi}\Psi = m\chi\chi + \text{h.c.}$

which is why you often hear "Majorana fermions are their own antiparticles"

Weyl/Dirac/Majorana spinors and Majorana masses

- Weyl spinors $(\chi, \chi^\dagger, \xi, \dots)$:
 - the most fundamental building block
 - conceptually and formally simple: $m_{\chi\xi}, m_{\chi\chi}, \dots$,
 - but not popular in Feynman diagram calculations
 - though I do know some people use it to compute everything
- Dirac spinors $\Psi = (\chi, \xi^\dagger)$:
 - familiar to everybody;
 - convenient in calculations;
 - * in particular, in calculation tools (FeynCalc/Package X, ...)
- Majorana spinors $\Psi = (\chi, \chi^\dagger)$:
 - inherit the above convenience;
 - * practically useful to deal with $m_{\chi\chi}$
 - but, quite often, conceptually misleading to those who lack the knowledge of χ .
 - E.g., “Majorana neutrinos \rightarrow particle=antiparticle” in conflict with “solar neutrino/reactor antineutrino”?

Note

Majorana spinors are only computational techniques!

The Majorana paradox

We often say “If neutrinos are Majorana, they are their own antiparticles”.
But why in actual experiments, neutrinos \neq antineutrinos?

E.g.,
IBD-based detectors only detect electron antineutrinos,
unable to detect solar neutrinos.

Reactors produce antineutrinos

T2K switches between neutrino and antineutrino modes

Answer:

Saying “Majorana neutrinos” itself is misleading.

What would you call them if (ν_L, ν_R) have the following mass matrices?

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & \times \\ \times & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \times & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \times & 0 \\ 0 & \times \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon & \times \\ \times & \epsilon \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \times \\ \times & \times \end{bmatrix}$$

Dirac? Majorana? Hybrid? Pseudo-Dirac?

The way to avoid confusion

Majorana neutrinos ✗

Majorana masses ✓

The ν MSM, dark matter and baryon asymmetry of the universe

Takehiko Asaka (IPT, Lausanne), Mikhail Shaposhnikov (IPT, Lausanne)

May, 2005

16 pages

Published in: *Phys.Lett.B* 620 (2005) 17-26

e-Print: [hep-ph/0505013](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/0505013) [hep-ph]

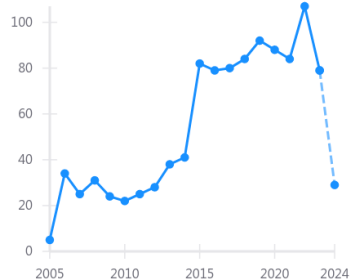
DOI: [10.1016/j.physletb.2005.06.020](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.physletb.2005.06.020)

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Citations per year



Abstract:

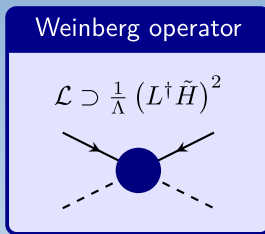
We show that the extension of the standard model by three right-handed neutrinos with masses smaller than the electroweak scale (the ν MSM) can explain simultaneously dark matter and baryon asymmetry of the universe and be consistent with the experiments on neutrino oscillations. Several constraints on the parameters of the ν MSM are derived.

Due to its success, many people believe this is the necessary step (final step?) to go beyond the SM.

- Essentially the seesaw model
 - or, we could say: ν MSM \subset the seesaw model
- Main difference: ν_R below the EW scale
 - one of them is particularly light (keV) \rightarrow dark matter
 - * in general, unstable; but $\text{keV} \rightarrow \tau_{\nu_R} \gg \tau_{\text{universe}}$.

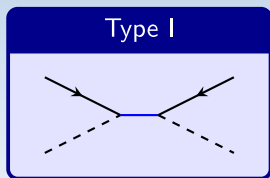
Weinberg operator and Type-I/II/III seesaw

In fact, without introducing new particles to the SM, it is also possible to generate neutrino masses, if you give up renormalizability.

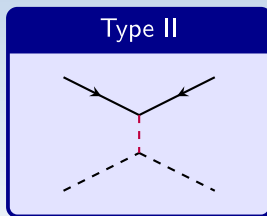


Higgs VEV $\langle H \rangle \sim v$, so $m_\nu \sim \frac{v^2}{\Lambda}$
 $m_\nu \sim 0.1 \text{ eV} \rightarrow \Lambda \sim 10^{14} \text{ GeV}$

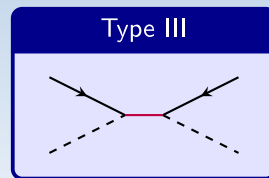
UV completions at tree level: three ways to open up the effective vertices:



introducing ν_R
 $SU(2)_L$ singlet fermion



$\Delta = (\Delta^{\pm\pm}, \Delta^\pm, \Delta^0)$
 $SU(2)_L$ triplet scalar

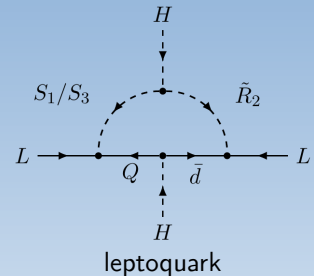
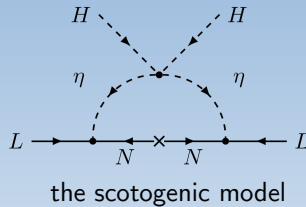
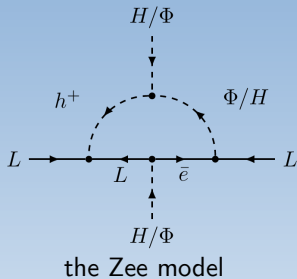


$N = (N^{\pm\pm}, N^\pm, N^0)$
 $SU(2)_L$ triplet fermion

A brief note on radiative neutrino mass models

Basic idea: neutrino masses don't have to be a tree-level effect. They could be a loop effect.

see 1706.08524 for a review



More comments on the scotogenic model:

- by E. Ma [hep-ph/0601225], ~ 1.5 k citations, the simplest model $\supset \nu$ mass + stable DM
- All new particles $\sim Z_2$ or $U(1)_{\text{dark}}$, \Rightarrow the stability of DM.
- scoto (Greek word) \approx darkness. “scotogenic” \approx “created from darkness”

Majorana masses and $0\nu\beta\beta$

Very common: most models \Rightarrow the Weinberg operator

... which always gives neutrinos Majorana masses

How do we test this?

Searching for lepton-number-violating (LNV) processes.

The most promising approach: neutrinoless double beta decay ($0\nu\beta\beta$).

$$(A, Z) \rightarrow (A, Z + 2) + 2e^{-}$$

