

FLAVOUR WITH LARGER IRREPS

([Phys.Rev.D 113 \(2026\) 1, 015025](#) w/ H. Banks, G. Crawford, M. McCullough)

Dave Sutherland

16th March 2026 — **Moriond EW 2026**

THE SM HAS A BROKEN $SU(3)^5$ FLAVOUR SYMMETRY

The SM has a broken $SU(3)_Q \times SU(3)_u \times SU(3)_d \times SU(3)_L \times SU(3)_e$ symmetry.

$$\mathcal{L} = i\bar{Q}^i \not{D}Q^i + i\bar{u}^i \not{D}u^i + [\text{sim. for } d, L, e] \\ - [y_u]_{ij} \bar{Q}^i \tilde{H}u^j + \text{h.c.} + [\text{sim. for } y_d, y_e]$$

The **kinetic terms** are invariant under $Q^i \rightarrow U_Q^{ij}Q^j$, $u^i \rightarrow U_u^{ij}u^j$, ...

The **Yukawas** break these symmetries – their components are *charged* under $SU(3)^5$. E.g. $y_u \sim \mathbf{3}_Q \otimes \bar{\mathbf{3}}_u$.

What if flavour breaking comes from a higher irrep of $SU(3)^5$?

REVIEW: MINIMAL FLAVOUR VIOLATION (MFV)

Flavour breaking from Yukawas, charged under $SU(3)^5$. E.g. $y_u \sim \mathbf{3}_Q \otimes \bar{\mathbf{3}}_u$.

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}}[y_u, y_d, y_e] + \mathcal{L}_{\text{BSM}}[y_u, y_d, y_e] \xrightarrow{\text{low } E} \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}}[y_u, y_d, y_e] + \mathcal{L}_{\text{SMEFT}}[y_u, y_d, y_e]$$

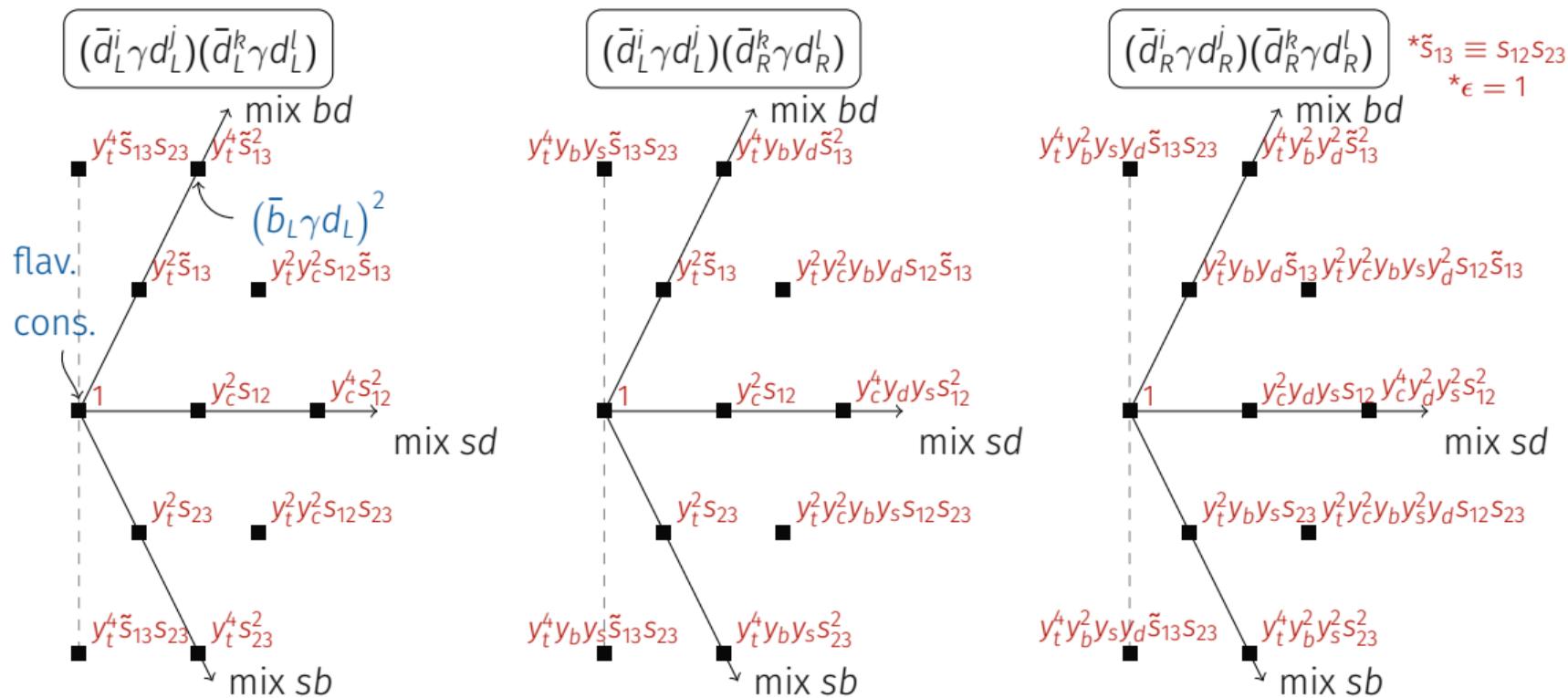
Responsible for flavour in SM and BSM/SMEFT sectors.

Flavour breaking suppressed by powers of Yukawas, e.g.,

$$\mathcal{L} \supset [y_u]_{ij} \bar{Q}^i \tilde{H} U^j + \left(\delta_{ij} \delta_{kl} + \epsilon^2 [y_u y_u^\dagger]_{ij} \delta_{kl} + \epsilon^2 \delta_{ij} [y_d^\dagger y_d]_{kl} + \dots \right) \frac{\bar{Q}^i \gamma^\mu Q^j d^k \gamma_\mu d^l}{\Lambda_{\text{BSM}}^2}$$

(D'Ambrosio, Giudice, Isidori, and Strumia 2002)

MFV PATTERN IN DOWN BASIS



Every flavour violating direction suppressed, less so for left-handed sb.

REVIEW: FROGGATT-NIELSEN (FN)

Flavour breaking from flavon ϕ , unit charge under $U(1)$.

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}}[\phi] + \mathcal{L}_{\text{BSM/SMEFT}}[\phi]$$

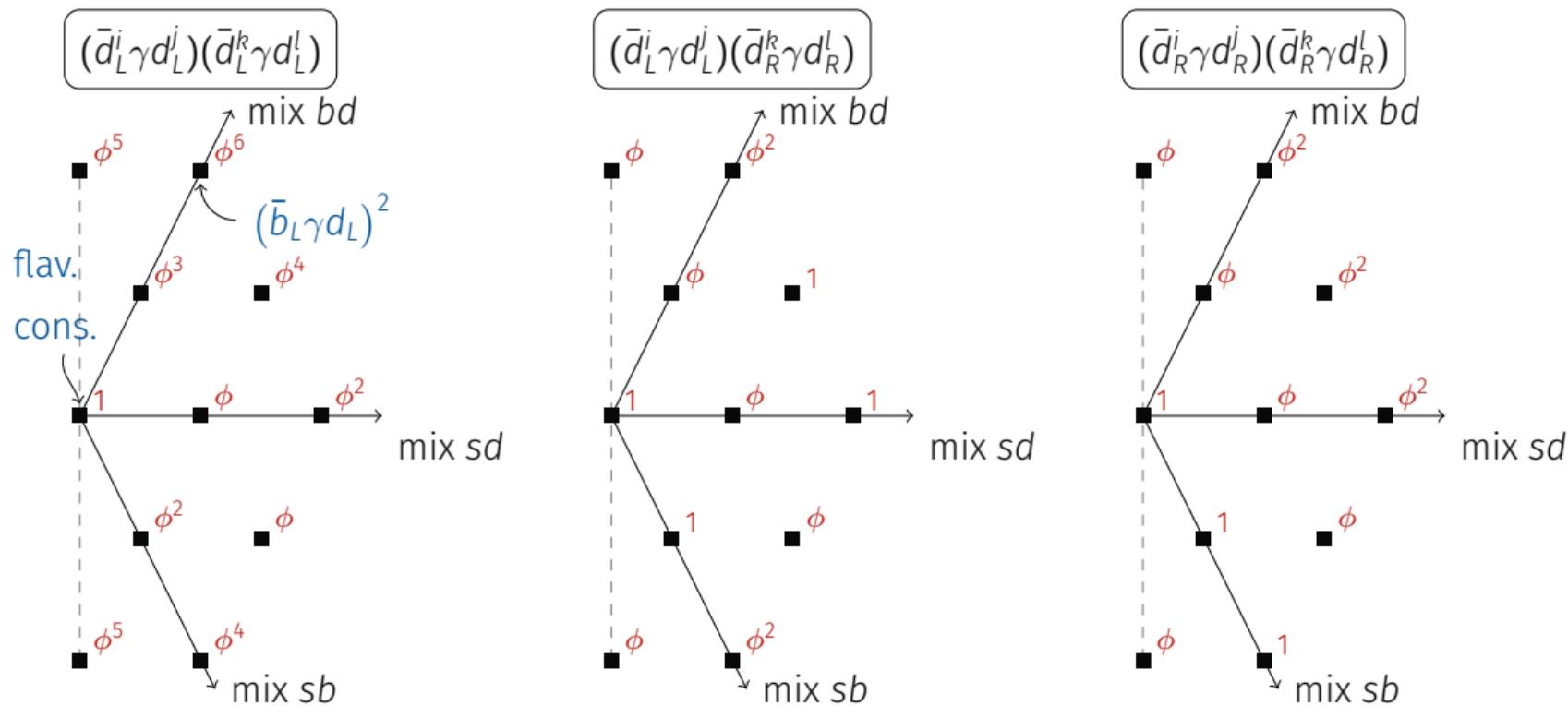
Individual generations also charged under $U(1)$. [Example in brackets]

$$Q^i = \begin{pmatrix} Q^1 [+3] \\ Q^2 [+2] \\ Q^3 [+0] \end{pmatrix}; \quad u^i = \begin{pmatrix} u^1 [-3] \\ u^2 [-1] \\ u^3 [+0] \end{pmatrix}; \quad d^i = \begin{pmatrix} d^1 [-3] \\ d^2 [-2] \\ d^3 [-2] \end{pmatrix}$$

Suppresses Yukawa entries and BSM/SMEFT, e.g.

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \bar{Q}^i \begin{pmatrix} \phi^6 & \phi^4 & \phi^3 \\ \phi^5 & \phi^3 & \phi^2 \\ \phi^3 & \phi^1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \tilde{H} u^j + \phi \frac{\bar{Q}^1 \gamma^\mu Q^2 \bar{d}^3 \gamma_\mu d^2}{\Lambda_{\text{BSM}}^2}$$

FN PATTERN IN DOWN BASIS



Unsuppressed flavour violating directions! (Direction depends on charges.)

OUR IDEA: LARGER-IRREP MFV/NON-ABELIAN FN

Flavour breaking from \mathcal{Y} , larger irrep of $SU(3)^5$. E.g. $\mathcal{Y}_u \sim \mathbf{6}_Q \otimes \bar{\mathbf{6}}_u$.

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}}[\mathcal{Y}_u, \mathcal{Y}_d, \mathcal{Y}_e] + \mathcal{L}_{\text{BSM/SMEFT}}[\mathcal{Y}_u, \mathcal{Y}_d, \mathcal{Y}_e]$$

Powers of \mathcal{Y} build both Yukawas and BSM/SMEFT

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} \supset & \left([\mathcal{Y}_u^2 \bar{\mathcal{Y}}_u]_{ij} + \epsilon [\mathcal{Y}_u^4]_{ij} + \epsilon [\mathcal{Y}_u \bar{\mathcal{Y}}_u^3]_{ij} + \dots \right) \bar{Q}^i \tilde{H} u^j \\ & + (\delta_{ij} \delta_{kl} + \epsilon^2 [\mathcal{Y}_u \bar{\mathcal{Y}}_u]_{ij} \delta_{kl} + \dots) \frac{\bar{Q}^i \gamma^\mu Q^j d^k \gamma_\mu d^l}{\Lambda_{\text{BSM}}^2} \end{aligned}$$

TWO EXAMPLE WAYS TO GENERATE YUKAWA STRUCTURE

$$y \sim \mathcal{Y}^2 \bar{\mathcal{Y}} + \epsilon (\mathcal{Y}^4 + \mathcal{Y} \bar{\mathcal{Y}}^3) + O(\epsilon^2)$$

$$y \sim \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 11 & 12 & 13 & 22 & 23 & 33 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 11 \\ 12 \\ 13 \\ 22 \\ 23 \\ 33 \end{matrix} & \begin{pmatrix} & & & & & \\ & 1 & & & & \\ & & & & & 1 \\ & & & 1 & & 1 \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

$$y \sim \begin{pmatrix} \epsilon & \epsilon & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \epsilon \\ 0 & \epsilon & 1 \end{pmatrix} + O(\epsilon^2)$$

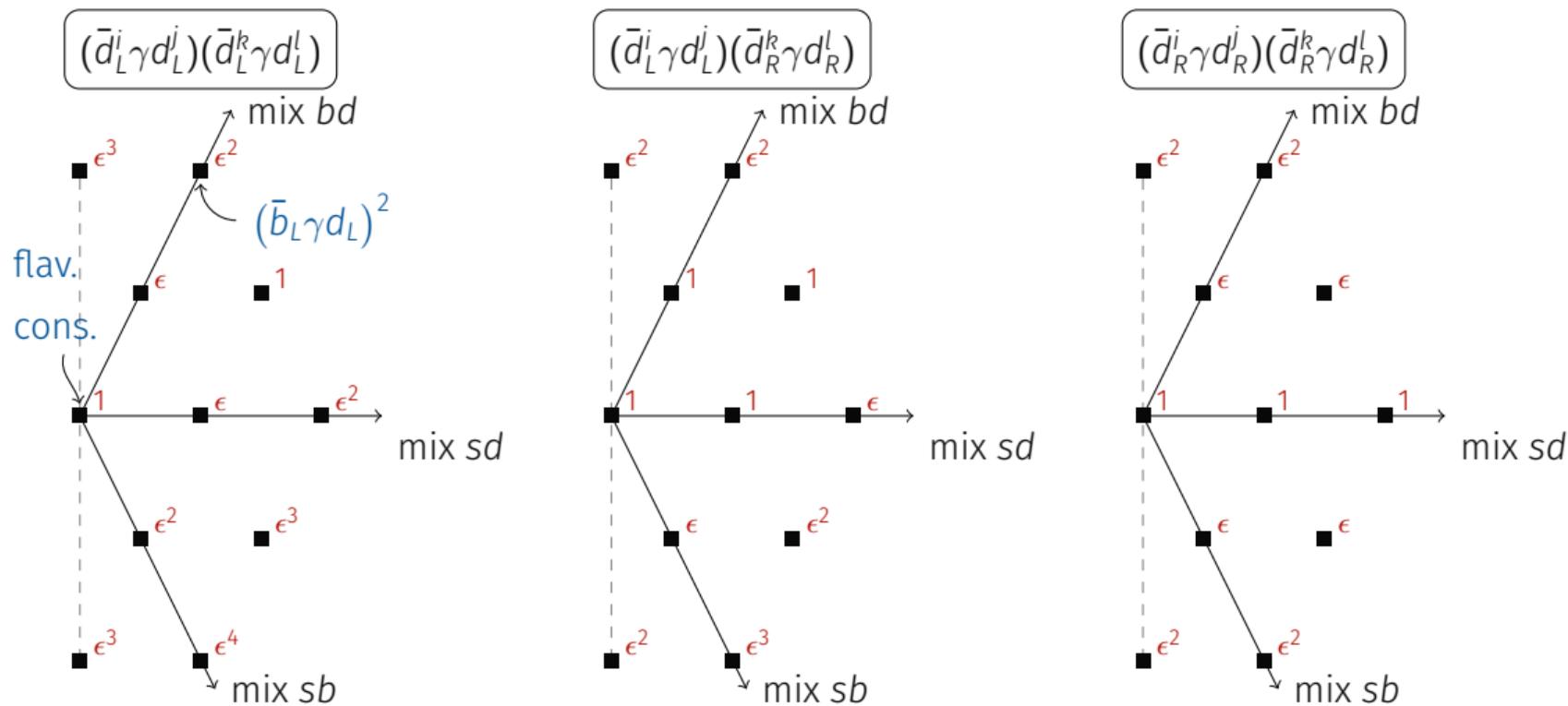
masses $\sim \epsilon^2, \epsilon, 1$

$$y \sim \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 11 & 12 & 13 & 22 & 23 & 33 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 11 \\ 12 \\ 13 \\ 22 \\ 23 \\ 33 \end{matrix} & \begin{pmatrix} & & & & & \\ & 1 & & & & \\ & & \delta & & & \\ & & & & & 1 \\ & & & & 1 & \\ & & & & & 1 \\ & & & & & & \delta \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

$$y \sim \begin{pmatrix} \delta^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \delta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + O(\epsilon)$$

masses $\sim \delta^2, \delta, 1$

PATTERN IN DOWN BASIS



Unsuppressed flavour violating directions! (Direction depends on charges.)

Minimally,

$$\mathcal{L} = -[y_e]_{ij} \bar{L}^i H e^j + \frac{c_{ij}}{\Lambda} (HL^i)(HL^j) + \text{h.c.}$$

where $y_e \sim \mathbf{3}_L \times \bar{\mathbf{3}}_e$ and $c \sim \mathbf{6}_L \times \mathbf{1}_e$. $\Lambda \approx 10^{11}$ TeV.

But if flavour comes from $\mathcal{Y}_e \sim \mathbf{6}_L \times \bar{\mathbf{6}}_e$ and $\mathcal{S} \sim \mathbf{1}_L \times \mathbf{21}_e$

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{\Lambda^2} [\mathcal{Y}_e^2 \bar{\mathcal{Y}}_e]_{ij} \bar{L}^i H e^j + \frac{[\mathcal{Y}_e \mathcal{S}^4]_{ij}}{\Lambda^6} (HL^i)(HL^j) + \text{h.c.}$$

and Λ (also \mathcal{Y}_e and \mathcal{S}) could be TeV scale!

What if the sole source of flavour, \mathcal{Y} , is in a non-minimal irrep of $SU(3)^5$?

- 'Accidental' mass hierarchy from $O(1)$ elements of \mathcal{Y} .
- Different correlations between SM and BSM flavour patterns
- Different BSM scales

Theoretically, lots of model space to explore.

Experimentally, different correlations motivate a broad flavour programme.

THANK YOU

BACKUP

If $\mathcal{Y}_u, \mathcal{Y}_d$ have form on slide 7(left), then need hierarchical rotation to diagonalise

$$U_q^L = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{O}(\epsilon_q) & \mathcal{O}(1) & \mathcal{O}(\epsilon_q^2) \\ \mathcal{O}(1) & \mathcal{O}(\epsilon_q) & \mathcal{O}(\epsilon_q) \\ \mathcal{O}(\epsilon_q) & \mathcal{O}(\epsilon_q^2) & \mathcal{O}(1) \end{pmatrix}$$

Gives hierarchical CKM with wrong hierarchy!

$$V_{\text{CKM}} = U_u^L (U_d^L)^\dagger = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{O}(1) & \mathcal{O}(\epsilon) & \mathcal{O}(\epsilon) \\ \mathcal{O}(\epsilon) & \mathcal{O}(1) & \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2) \\ \mathcal{O}(\epsilon) & \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2) & \mathcal{O}(1) \end{pmatrix},$$

POWER COUNTING

UV model: on top of $\mathcal{Y} \sim \mathbf{6}_Q \otimes \bar{\mathbf{6}}_u$, add

- Higgs-like scalar F in $\mathbf{3}_Q \times \bar{\mathbf{3}}_u$, and a $\mathbf{2}_{-\frac{1}{2}}$ of $SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$
- neutral scalar \mathcal{X} in $\mathbf{3}_Q \times \bar{\mathbf{3}}_u$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{scalar pot}} = \tilde{y} \bar{Q} F u + \lambda F H \mathcal{X}^2 + \lambda' F H \mathcal{X} \mathcal{Y} + \mu \bar{H} \bar{F} \mathcal{X} + A \mathcal{X}^3 + A' \mathcal{Y}^3 + A'' \mathcal{X}^2 \mathcal{Y} + B \bar{\mathcal{X}}^2 \mathcal{Y}^2 + B' \mathcal{X}^2 \bar{\mathcal{X}} \bar{\mathcal{Y}} + B'' \mathcal{X} \mathcal{Y} \bar{\mathcal{Y}}^2 + C \bar{F} \bar{\mathcal{X}} \bar{\mathcal{Y}} + \text{h.c.} + \text{cross quartics}$$

Integrating out \mathcal{X} and F

$$y = \tilde{y} \frac{(B'')^* \mu}{M_{\mathcal{X}}^2 M_F^2} \mathcal{Y}^2 \bar{\mathcal{Y}}; \quad y_\epsilon = \tilde{y} \frac{B'' (\lambda')^*}{M_{\mathcal{X}}^2 M_F^2} \mathcal{Y} \bar{\mathcal{Y}}^3.$$

y is $O(1)$ and y_ϵ small if all couplings large except \mathbb{Z}_2 breaking λ' .

ALTERNATIVE WAY TO GENERATE YUKAWA STRUCTURE

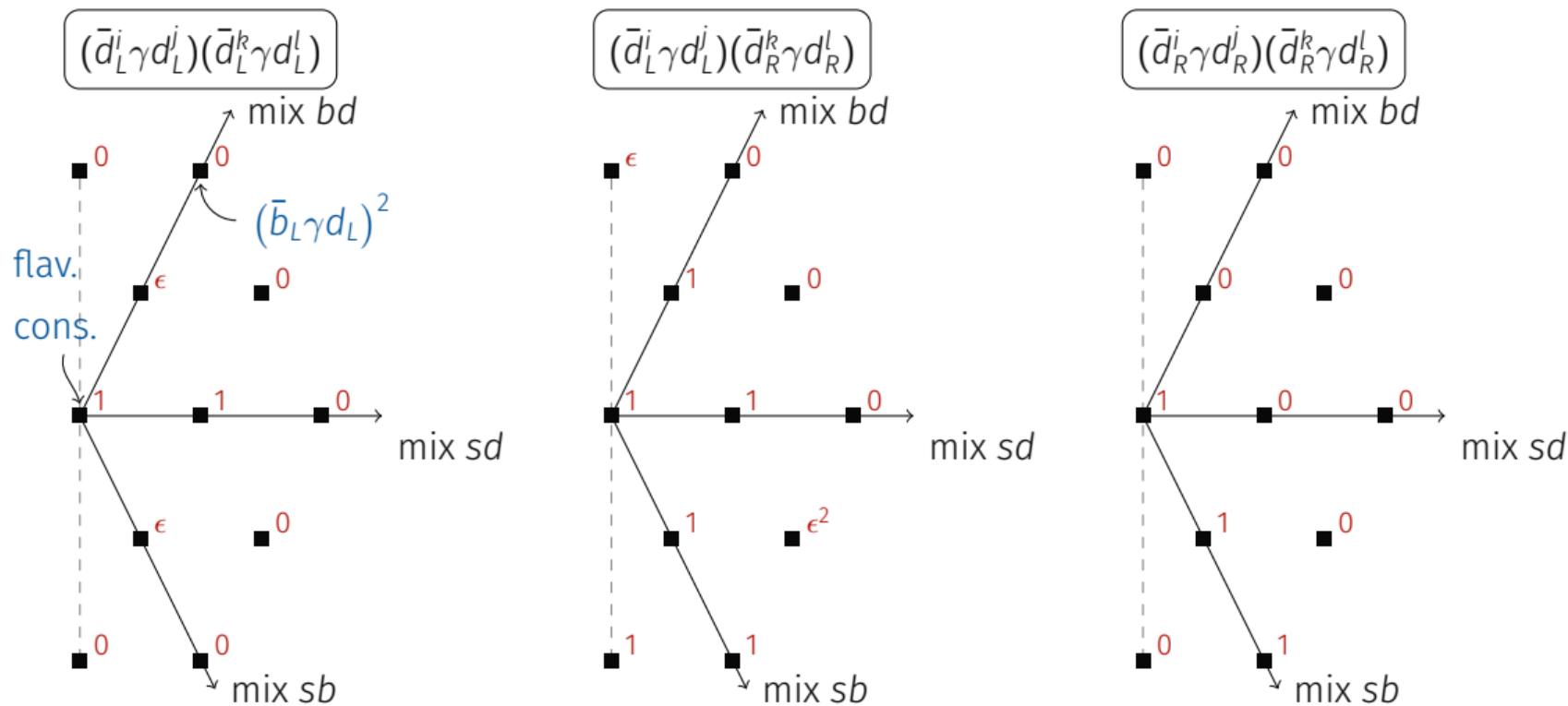
$$y \sim \mathcal{Y}^2 \bar{\mathcal{Y}} + \epsilon (\mathcal{Y}^4 + \mathcal{Y} \bar{\mathcal{Y}}^3) + O(\epsilon^2)$$

$$y \sim \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 11 & 12 & 13 & 22 & 23 & 33 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 11 \\ 12 \\ 13 \\ 22 \\ 23 \\ 33 \end{matrix} & \begin{pmatrix} & & & & & \\ & 1 & 1 & & & \\ & & 1 & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & 1 & \\ & & & & & \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

$$y \sim \begin{pmatrix} \epsilon & \epsilon & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \epsilon \\ 0 & \epsilon & 1 \end{pmatrix} + O(\epsilon^2)$$

$$\text{masses} \sim \epsilon^2, \epsilon, 1$$

ALTERNATIVE PATTERN IN DOWN BASIS



Zeros may be filled in beginning at $O(\epsilon^2)$

-  D'Ambrosio, G. et al. (2002). “Minimal flavor violation: An Effective field theory approach”. In: *Nucl. Phys. B* 645, pp. 155–187. DOI: [10.1016/S0550-3213\(02\)00836-2](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0550-3213(02)00836-2). arXiv: [hep-ph/0207036](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/0207036).
-  Froggatt, C. D. and Holger Bech Nielsen (1979). “Hierarchy of Quark Masses, Cabibbo Angles and CP Violation”. In: *Nucl. Phys. B* 147, pp. 277–298. DOI: [10.1016/0550-3213\(79\)90316-X](https://doi.org/10.1016/0550-3213(79)90316-X).