Flavour constraints on multi-Higgs-doublet models: Yukawa alignment

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In multi-Higgs-doublet models, the alignment in flavour space of all Yukawa matrices coupling to a given right-handed fermion guarantees the absence of tree-level flavour-changing neutral couplings, while introducing new sources of CP violation. With N Higgs doublets (and no right-handed neutrinos) the Yukawa Lagrangian is characterized by the fermion masses, the CKM quark mixing matrix and 3(N-1) complex couplings. Quantum corrections break the alignment, generating a minimal-flavour-violation structure with flavour-blind phases. The aligned multi-Higgs-doublet models lead to a rich and viable phenomenology with an interesting hierarchy of flavour-changing neutral current effects, suppressing them in light-quark systems while allowing potentially relevant signals in heavy-quark transitions.

1. MULTI-HIGGS-DOUBLET MODELS

While the $SU(2)_L \otimes U(1)_Y \to U(1)_{\rm em}$ structure of spontaneous symmetry breaking is well understood, its explicit implementation in the electroweak theory is still an open question. The simplest modification of the Standard Model (SM) Higgs mechanism consists in incorporating additional scalar doublets, respecting the custodial symmetry, which can easily satisfy the electroweak precision tests. This leads to a rich spectrum of neutral and charged scalars, providing a broad range of dynamical possibilities with very interesting phenomenological implications.

In their most general version, multi-Higgs-doublet models lead to neutral Yukawa couplings which are non-diagonal in flavour. These unwanted flavour-changing neutral current (FCNC) interactions represent a major shortcoming and have lead to a variety of different implementations, where ad hoc dynamical restrictions are enforced in order to guarantee the suppression of FCNCs at the experimentally required level.

The most general N-Higgs-doublet Yukawa Lagrangian takes the form

$$\mathcal{L}_{Y} = -\sum_{a=1}^{N} \left\{ \bar{Q}'_{L} \left(\mathcal{Y}_{d}^{(a)'} \phi_{a} \, d'_{R} + \mathcal{Y}_{u}^{(a)'} \tilde{\phi}_{a} \, u'_{R} \right) + L'_{L} \, \mathcal{Y}_{l}^{(a)'} \phi_{a} \, l'_{R} \right\} + \text{h.c.},$$
 (1)

where $\phi_a(x)$ are the $Y=\frac{1}{2}$ scalar doublets, $\tilde{\phi}_a(x)\equiv i\tau_2\,\phi_a^*$ their charge-conjugate fields, Q_L' and L_L' denote the left-handed quark and lepton doublets and d_R' , u_R' and u_R' the corresponding right-handed fermion singlets. For simplicity, we don't consider right-handed neutrinos, although they could be easily incorporated. All fermionic fields are written as N_G -dimensional flavour vectors; the couplings $\mathcal{Y}_f^{(a)'}$ (f=d,u,l) are $N_G\times N_G$ complex matrices in flavour space.

The neutral components of the scalar doublets acquire vacuum expectation values $\langle 0 | \phi_a^T(x) | 0 \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (0, v_a e^{i\theta_a})$. Without loss of generality, we can enforce $\theta_1 = 0$ through an appropriate $U(1)_Y$ transformation. It is convenient to perform a global SU(N) transformation in the space of scalar fields, so that only one doublet acquires non-zero vacuum expectation value $v \equiv (v_1^2 + \dots + v_N^2)^{1/2}$. This defines the so-called Higgs basis, with the doublets parametrized as

$$\begin{split} &\Phi_1 \,=\, \left[\begin{array}{c} G^+ \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(v + S_1 + i\,G^0\right) \end{array}\right]\,,\\ &\Phi_a \,=\, \left[\begin{array}{c} H_a^+ \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(S_a + iP_a\right) \end{array}\right] \qquad (a=2,\cdots,N)\,. \end{split}$$

The Goldstone fields $G^{\pm}(x)$ and $G^{0}(x)$ get isolated as components of Φ_{1} . The physical charged (neutral) mass eigenstates are linear combina-

tions of the fields H_a^{\pm} (S_a and P_a).

In the Higgs basis $[\mathcal{Y}_f^{(a)'}\phi_a = Y_f^{(a)'}\Phi_a \text{ in } (1)]$, the fermion masses originate from the Φ_1 couplings, $M_f' \equiv Y_f^{(1)'}v/\sqrt{2}$. In general, one cannot diagonalize simultaneously all Yukawa matrices. Therefore, in the fermion mass-eigenstate basis (d, u, l, ν) , with diagonal mass matrices M_f , the matrices $Y_f^{(a)}$ with $a \neq 1$ remain non-diagonal giving rise to FCNC interactions.

2. YUKAWA ALIGNMENT

The unwanted non-diagonal neutral couplings can be eliminated requiring the alignment in flavour space of the Yukawa matrices [1]:

$$Y_{d,l}^{(a)'} = \varsigma_{d,l}^{(a)} Y_{d,l}^{(1)'} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{v} \varsigma_{d,l}^{(a)} M'_{d,l},$$

$$Y_{u}^{(a)'} = \varsigma_{u}^{(a)*} Y_{u}^{(1)'} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{v} \varsigma_{u}^{(a)*} M'_{u},$$
(2)

with $\varsigma_f^{(1)}=1.$ In terms of fermion mass eigenstates, \mathcal{L}_Y takes then the form:

$$\mathcal{L}_{Y} = -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{v} \sum_{a=2}^{N} H_{a}^{+} \left\{ \varsigma_{d}^{(a)} \, \bar{u}_{L} V M_{d} d_{R} - \varsigma_{u}^{(a)} \, \bar{u}_{R} M_{u}^{\dagger} V d_{L} + \varsigma_{l}^{(a)} \, \bar{\nu}_{L} M_{l} \, l_{R} \right\}$$

$$-\frac{1}{v} \sum_{a=2}^{N} \left[S_{a} + i P_{a} \right] \left\{ \varsigma_{d}^{(a)} \, \bar{d}_{L} M_{d} d_{R} + \varsigma_{l}^{(a)} \, \bar{l}_{L} M_{l} l_{R} \right\}$$

$$-\frac{1}{v} \sum_{a=2}^{N} \left[S_{a} - i P_{a} \right] \varsigma_{u}^{(a)*} \, \bar{u}_{L} M_{u} u_{R}$$

$$-\sum_{a=2} \bar{f}_{L} M_{f} f_{R} \left\{ 1 + \frac{1}{v} \, S_{1} \right\} + \text{h.c.}$$
(3)

The flavour alignment results in a very specific structure, with all fermion-scalar interactions being proportional to the corresponding fermion masses. The only source of flavour-changing phenomena is the Cabibbo-Kobayashi-Maskawa (CKM) quark mixing matrix V, appearing in the W^{\pm} and H_a^{\pm} interactions. Flavour mixing does not occur in the lepton sector, because of the absence of right-handed neutrinos. The Yukawa Lagrangian is fully characterized in terms of the 3(N-1) complex parameters $\varsigma_f^{(a)}$ $(a \neq 1)$, which

Table 1 CP-conserving \mathcal{Z}_2 models $(\tan \beta \equiv v_2/v_1)$ [1].

Model	ς_d	ς_u	ς_l
Type I	$\cot \beta$	$\cot \beta$	$\cot \beta$
Type II	$-\tan\beta$	$\cot \beta$	$-\tan \beta$
Type X	$\cot \beta$	$\cot \beta$	$-\tan \beta$
Type Y	$-\tan\beta$	$\cot \beta$	$\cot eta$
Inert	0	0	0

provide new sources of CP violation without treelevel FCNCs.

2.1. The aligned two-Higgs-doublet model

With N=2 one obtains the aligned two-Higgs-doublet model (A2HDM) [1], which contains one charged scalar field $H^{\pm}(x)$ and three neutral mass eigenstates $\varphi_i^0(x) = \{h(x), H(x), A(x)\}$, related through an orthogonal transformation with the original fields $S_i = \{S_1(x), S_2(x), P_2(x)\}$: $\varphi_i^0(x) = \mathcal{R}_{ij}S_j(x)$. The Yukawa Lagrangian is parametrized in terms of the three complex couplings $\varsigma_f^{(2)} \equiv \varsigma_f$, which encode all possible freedom allowed by the alignment conditions. Their flavour-blind phases provide an explicit counterexample to the widespread assumption that in two-Higgs-doublet models (2HDMs) without tree-level FCNCs all CP-violating phenomena should originate from the CKM matrix.

In terms of mass eigenstates,

$$\mathcal{L}_{Y}^{^{\text{A2HDM}}} = -\sum_{f} \bar{f}_{L} M_{f} f_{R} \left\{ 1 + \frac{1}{v} \sum_{\varphi_{i}^{0}} y_{f}^{\varphi_{i}^{0}} \varphi_{i}^{0} \right\}$$
$$-\frac{\sqrt{2}}{v} H^{+} \left\{ \varsigma_{d} \bar{u}_{L} V M_{d} d_{R} - \varsigma_{u} \bar{u}_{R} M_{u}^{\dagger} V d_{L} + \varsigma_{l} \bar{\nu}_{L} M_{l} l_{R} \right\} + \text{h.c.}, \tag{4}$$

with
$$y_{d,l}^{\varphi_i^0} = \mathcal{R}_{i1} + (\mathcal{R}_{i2} + i \mathcal{R}_{i3}) \varsigma_{d,l}$$
 and $y_u^{\varphi_i^0} = \mathcal{R}_{i1} + (\mathcal{R}_{i2} - i \mathcal{R}_{i3}) \varsigma_u^*$.

FCNCs are usually avoided imposing appropriately chosen discrete \mathbb{Z}_2 symmetries such that only one scalar doublet couples to a given type of right-handed fermion field [2]. The resulting (CP-conserving) models are recovered for the particular values of ς_f indicated in Table 1.

3. QUANTUM CORRECTIONS

Higher-order corrections induce a misalignment of the Yukawa matrices, generating small FCNC effects suppressed by the corresponding loop factors. The possible flavour-changing interactions are enforced to satisfy the flavour symmetries of the model and, therefore, are tightly constrained by the special aligned structure of the starting tree-level Lagrangian [1]. The aligned multi-Higgs-doublet Lagrangian remains invariant under the following flavour-dependent phase transformations of the fermion mass eigenstates $(f = d, u, l, \nu, X = L, R)$ [1,3]:

$$f_X^i(x) \to e^{i\alpha_i^{f,X}} f_X^i(x) \qquad (\alpha_i^{\nu,L} = \alpha_i^{l,L}),$$

$$V_{ij} \to e^{i\alpha_i^{u,L}} V_{ij} e^{-i\alpha_j^{d,L}},$$

$$M_{f,ij} \to e^{i\alpha_i^{f,L}} M_{f,ij} e^{-i\alpha_j^{f,R}}.$$
(5)

Owing to this symmetry, lepton-flavour-violating neutral couplings are identically zero to all orders in perturbation theory, while in the quark sector the CKM mixing matrix remains the only possible source of flavour-changing transitions. The only allowed FCNC local operators have the form [1,3]

$$\mathcal{O}_{u}^{n,m} = \bar{u}_{L}V(M_{d}M_{d}^{\dagger})^{n}V^{\dagger}(M_{u}M_{u}^{\dagger})^{m}M_{u}u_{R},$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{d}^{n,m} = \bar{d}_{L}V^{\dagger}(M_{u}M_{u}^{\dagger})^{n}V(M_{d}M_{d}^{\dagger})^{m}M_{d}d_{R}, \quad (6)$$

or similar structures with additional factors of V, V^{\dagger} and quark mass matrices.

Quantum corrections have been analyzed at the one-loop level within the A2HDM. Using the renormalization-group equations [4,5], one finds that the only induced FCNC structures are [3]

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{FCNC}} = \frac{C(\mu)}{4\pi^2 v^3} \left(1 + \varsigma_u^* \varsigma_d \right) \sum_i \varphi_i^0(x)$$

$$\times \left\{ \left(\mathcal{R}_{i2} + i \, \mathcal{R}_{i3} \right) \left(\varsigma_d - \varsigma_u \right) \, \mathcal{O}_d^{1,0} \right. \tag{7}$$

$$\left. - \left(\mathcal{R}_{i2} - i \, \mathcal{R}_{i3} \right) \left(\varsigma_d^* - \varsigma_u^* \right) \, \mathcal{O}_u^{1,0} \right\} + \text{h.c.},$$

with $C(\mu) = C(\mu_0) - \log(\mu/\mu_0)$. These FCNC terms vanish identically when $\varsigma_d = \varsigma_u$ (\mathcal{Z}_2 models of type I, X and Inert) or $\varsigma_d = -1/\varsigma_u^*$ (types II and Y), as they should, since the alignment conditions remain stable under renormalization when they are protected by a \mathcal{Z}_2 symmetry [5]. The

leptonic coupling ς_l does not induce any FCNC interaction, independently of its value; the usually adopted \mathcal{Z}_2 symmetries are unnecessary in the lepton sector.

In the general case, even if one assumes the alignment to be exact at some high-energy scale μ_0 , a non-zero value for $C(\mu)$ is generated when running to a different scale. An approximate numerical solution to the renormalization-group equations has been recently obtained [6], in agreement with (7). The induced FCNC effects are well below the present experimental bounds.

3.1. Minimal flavour violation

The phenomenological success of the SM has triggered the interest on the so-called Minimal Flavour Violation (MFV) scenarios, where all flavour dynamics and CP violation is assumed to originate in the CKM matrix [7,8,9,10]. At the quantum level the aligned multi-Higgs-doublet model generates an explicit MFV structure [1,3], but allowing at the same time for new (flavour-blind) CP-violating phases [11].

For vanishing Yukawa couplings the SM has an $SU(N_G)^5$ symmetry under flavour transformations of Q_L , u_R , d_R , L_L and l_R . The whole Lagrangian can be made formally invariant under this symmetry if the Yukawa matrices are promoted to flavour spurions transforming in the appropriate way [10]. Writing all possible higher-dimension invariant operators in terms of the physical fields and the Yukawa spurions, one gets then the allowed MFV structures.

MFV within the context of the type II 2HDM $(\mathcal{Y}_d^{(2)'} = \mathcal{Y}_u^{(1)'} = 0)$ was discussed in [10], in terms of the spurions $\mathcal{Y}_d^{(1)'}$ and $\mathcal{Y}_u^{(2)'}$, and flavourblind phases have been recently added to the resulting structure in [12]. These references perform a perturbative expansion around the usual $U(1)_{PQ}$ symmetry limit (type II) and look for $\tan \beta$ -enhanced effects. Since the aligned model does not assume any starting ad-hoc symmetry, it leads to a more general MFV framework with $\tan \beta$ substituted by the dimension 6(N-1) parameter space spanned by the couplings $\varsigma_f^{(a)}$. While giving rise to a much richer phenomenology, it implies an interesting hierarchy of FCNC

effects, avoiding the stringent experimental constraints for light-quark systems and allowing at the same time for potentially relevant signals in heavy-quark transitions [3]. Notice that in the general case, without $U(1)_{PQ}$ or \mathcal{Z}_2 symmetries, $\tan \beta$ does not have any physical meaning because it can be changed at will through SU(2) field redefinitions in the scalar space; the physics needs to be described through the (scalar-basis independent) parameters $\varsigma_f^{(a)}$.

The spurion formalism is very transparent in the Higgs basis. Imposing the following transformation properties under $SU(N_G)^5$,

$$Y_d^{(1)} \sim (N_G, 1, \bar{N}_G, 1, 1),$$

$$Y_u^{(1)} \sim (N_G, \bar{N}_G, 1, 1, 1),$$

$$Y_l^{(1)} \sim (1, 1, 1, N_G, \bar{N}_G),$$
(8)

the aligned Yukawa Lagrangian is invariant under the full flavour symmetry. The operators in Eq. (6) are just the neutral components of the invariant structures

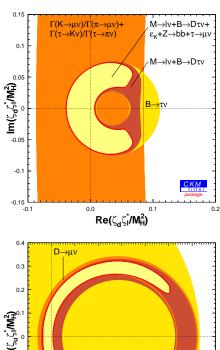
$$\bar{Q}'_{L} \left(Y_{d}^{(1)'} Y_{d}^{(1)'\dagger} \right)^{n} \left(Y_{u}^{(1)'} Y_{u}^{(1)'\dagger} \right)^{m} Y_{u}^{(1)'} u'_{R},
\bar{Q}'_{L} \left(Y_{u}^{(1)'} Y_{u}^{(1)'\dagger} \right)^{n} \left(Y_{d}^{(1)'} Y_{d}^{(1)'\dagger} \right)^{m} Y_{d}^{(1)'} d'_{R}.$$
(9)

A similar MFV structure in the leptonic sector [13] could be obtained by including non-zero neutrino masses through ν_R fields or dimension-5 operators [14].

4. A2HDM PHENOMENOLOGY

The built-in flavour symmetries protect very efficiently the aligned model from unwanted effects, allowing it to easily satisfy the experimental constraints. A thorough phenomenological analysis of the A2HDM is under way. The charged-current sector has been studied recently [3], focusing on observables where the H^{\pm} contribution can be expected to be the dominant new-physics effect and theoretical uncertainties can be controlled.

Leptonic and semileptonic decays are sensitive to tree-level H^{\pm} -exchange contributions, but the fermion-mass suppression of the Yukawa couplings implies rather weak constraints on the ς_f parameters. The best direct bound on the leptonic coupling, obtained from leptonic tau decays,



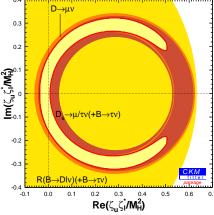


Figure 1. Constraints on $\varsigma_d \varsigma_l^* / M_{H^{\pm}}^2$ (up) and $\varsigma_u \varsigma_l^* / M_{H^{\pm}}^2$ (down) from leptonic and semileptonic decays. The inner yellow areas show the combined allowed regions at 95% CL [3].

is $|\varsigma_l|/M_{H^\pm} \leq 0.40~{\rm GeV}^{-1}$ (95% CL). Semileptonic decays provide information on the products $\varsigma_{u,d}^*\varsigma_l/M_{H^\pm}^2$; the best limits are obviously obtained from $B \to \tau \nu$, $D \to \mu \nu$ and $D_s \to (\tau,\mu)\nu$. The combined constraints from a global analysis of semileptonic processes are shown in Fig. 1.

More stringent bounds are obtained from loopinduced transitions involving virtual top-quark contributions, where the H^{\pm} corrections are enhanced by the top mass. Direct limits on $|\varsigma_u|$ can be derived from $Z \to b\bar{b}$, $B^0-\bar{B}^0$ mixing and the CP-violating parameter ϵ_K . The last observable

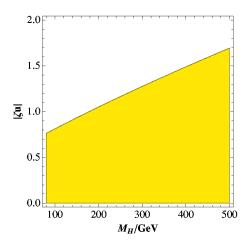
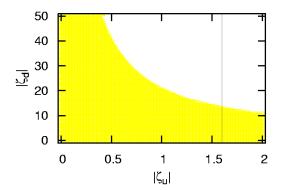


Figure 2. 95% CL constraints from ϵ_K [3].

provides the strongest limits, which are shown in Fig. 2. Together with the tau-decay constraint on $|\varsigma_l|/M_{H^\pm}$, this gives the limit $|\varsigma_u\varsigma_l^*|/M_{H^\pm}^2 < 0.005~{\rm GeV}^{-2}$, which is much stronger than the information extracted from the global fit to leptonic and semileptonic decays.

The radiative decay $\bar{B} \to X_s \gamma$ provides another important source of information. The H^{\pm} contributions modify the Wilson coefficients of the low-energy SM operators with two terms of similar size: $C_i^{\text{eff}} = C_{i,SM} + |\varsigma_u|^2 C_{i,uu} - (\varsigma_u^* \varsigma_d) C_{i,ud}$. Their combined effect can be quite different depending on the value of the relative phase $\varphi \equiv$ $\arg(\varsigma_u^*\varsigma_d)$. This results in rather weak limits on $|\varsigma_{u,d}|$ because a destructive interference can be adjusted through the phase φ . Scanning φ in the whole range from 0 to 2π and taking $M_{H^{\pm}} \in [80, 500] \text{ GeV}$, one obtains the constraints shown in Fig. 3 (upper plot). One finds roughly $|\varsigma_d||\varsigma_u| < 20$ (95% CL). Much stronger bounds are obtained at fixed values of φ . This is shown in the lower plot, where ς_u and ς_d have been assumed to be real (i.e. $\varphi = 0$ or π); couplings of different sign are then excluded, except at very small values, while a broad region of large equal-sign couplings is allowed, reflecting again the possibility of a destructive interference.

In the type II and Y 2HDMs, where $\varsigma_u \varsigma_d = -1$,



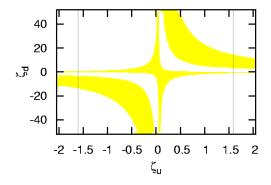


Figure 3. $\bar{B} \to X_s \gamma$ limits on $\varsigma_{u,d}$ (95% CL) [3], for complex (upper plot) and real (lower plot) couplings. The black lines indicate the upper limit on $|\varsigma_u|$ from ϵ_K .

the decay $\bar{B} \to X_s \gamma$ provides a very strong lower bound on the charged scalar mass, $M_{H^\pm} > 277~{\rm GeV}$ (95% CL), due to the constructive interference of the two contributing amplitudes [3]. This bound disappears in the more general A2HDM, but a strong correlation among the allowed ranges for M_{H^\pm} and $\varsigma_{u,d}$ remains.

Another important observable is the CP rate asymmetry,

$$a_{CP} = \frac{BR(\bar{B} \to X_s \gamma) - BR(B \to X_{\bar{s}} \gamma)}{BR(\bar{B} \to X_s \gamma) + BR(B \to X_{\bar{s}} \gamma)}, \quad (10)$$

which is very small in the SM. Once the constraints from the branching ratio are implemented, the A2HDM predicts an asymmetry

smaller than the present experimental bounds. A sizable Yukawa phase φ could generate values of a_{CP} large enough to be relevant for future high-precision experiments. However, a NNLO analysis of the theoretical prediction appears to be needed to reduce the presently large theoretical uncertainties and fully exploit such a measurement [3].

While including as limiting cases all known \mathcal{Z}_2 models, the A2HDM provides new sources of CP violation through the ς_f phases. Their compatibility with all presently measured observables and the possibility of generating sizeable CP-violation signals, within the reach of future experiments, are obviously important questions that need to be investigated. Since Yukawa couplings are proportional to the corresponding fermion masses, FCNCs and CP-violation effects are suppressed in light-quark systems while potentially relevant signals could show up in heavy-quark transitions. This tree-level pattern is reproduced in the FCNC operators (6), generated at one loop. Owing to their CKM and mass-matrix factors, the most relevant terms are the $\bar{s}b$ and $\bar{c}t$ operators. The top quark and the B_s^0 - \bar{B}_s^0 meson system appear then to be promising candidates in the search for interesting effects. For instance, a sizeable B_s^0 mixing phase could be generated either through H^{\pm} contributions to the mixing amplitude or through neutral $\varphi_i^0(x)$ exchanges involving the FCNC oneloop operators in (7) [3].

The presence of flavour-blind phases could induce electric dipole moments (EDMs) at a measurable level [15]. Direct one-loop contributions to the light-quark EDMs are strongly suppressed by the light quark masses and/or CKM factors. However, this suppression is no longer present in some two-loop contributions to the T-odd 3-gluon operator $\tilde{G}_{\mu\nu}G^{\mu\alpha}G^{\nu}_{\alpha}$, induced by scalar exchanges within a heavy-quark loop [16,17]. For values of $\mathrm{Im}(\varsigma_u^*\varsigma_d)$ of O(1), the predicted neutron EDM could be close to the present experimental upper bound and within reach of future high-precision measurements [18]. A detailed analysis of EDMs within the A2HDM is in progress.

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