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Renormalization of the neutrino mass matrix

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ABSTRACT

In terms of a rephasing invariant parametrization, the set of renormalization group equations (RGE) for Dirac neutrino parameters can be cast in a compact and simple form. These equations exhibit manifest symmetry under flavor permutations. We obtain both exact and approximate RGE invariants, in addition to some approximate solutions and examples of numerical solutions.

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1. Introduction

Despite the tremendous progress made recently regarding the intrinsic properties of the neutrinos, much remains to be learned. For instance, it is not known whether the neutrinos are Dirac or Majorana particles. The pattern of masses and mixing parameters is also a mystery. Within the framework of the standard model (SM), it is well-established that these parameters are functions of the energy scale, and are governed by the renormalization group equations (RGE). Indeed, the evolution of the gauge couplings (e.g., asymptotic freedom and gauge coupling unification) has been very successfully applied to particle physics, forming an essential part of the foundation of the standard model. One would expect similar considerations to apply to the Higgs couplings (i.e., the mass matrices). In addition, these effects are indispensable toward a theoretical understanding of the mass matrices. Unfortunately, to this date existing results are usually numerical in nature and not very general. The main difficulty lies in the complexity of the RGE for these parameters. While the RGE in terms of the mass matrices are reasonably simple, these matrices contain a large number of unphysical degrees of freedom, and the RGE for physical variables are very complicated indeed. For instance, the mixing matrix is rephasing invariant, which is characteristic of the mixing of quantum states, for which the phase of an individual state vector is unobservable. To extract the physical parameters, one may proceed by fixing some phases. This is similar to “fixing a gauge” in gauge theories. Thus, in the standard parametrization, one sets four phases in the mixing matrix (those of V_{11} , V_{12} , V_{23} , V_{33}) to vanish, arriving at three angles and a phase. When applied to the

analysis of the RGE, one is enforcing this “gauge” at every energy scale. The lack of a theoretical rationale for this choice, we believe, contributes to the complexity of the RGE, when expressed in terms of the standard parameters.

In this work we investigate the one-loop RGE evolution of Dirac neutrinos, using a rephasing invariant parametrization introduced earlier. What characterizes this parametrization is its symmetry structure under flavor permutations. Indeed, we establish a set of RGE which exhibits a simple structure with built-in permutation symmetry. This set of equations is not as formidable as the one written in terms of the standard parametrization. Its solutions are studied both analytically and numerically. We found a RGE invariant, in addition to obtaining some approximate solutions. Numerical examples are also presented.

This work is organized as follows. In Section 2, we briefly introduce the rephasing invariant parametrization that will be used in this work. Their properties are also discussed. In Section 3, we obtain the RGE in a compact and simple form. From these we derive both exact and approximate RGE invariants in Section 4. In Section 5, we further obtain approximate solutions of the RGE and provide some numerical examples. We then summarize the work in Section 6.

2. Rephasing invariant parametrization and its properties

The rephasing invariant combinations of elements V_{ij} for the neutrino mixing matrix V (with $\det V = +1$) can be constructed by the product [1–5]

$$\Gamma_{ijk} = V_{1i}V_{2j}V_{3k} = R_{ijk} - iJ, \quad (1)$$

where the common imaginary part is identified with the Jarlskog invariant [6], and the real parts are defined as

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$$(R_{123}, R_{231}, R_{312}; R_{132}, R_{213}, R_{321}) \\ = (x_1, x_2, x_3; y_1, y_2, y_3). \quad (2)$$

The (x_i, y_j) variables are constrained by two conditions:

$$\det V = (x_1 + x_2 + x_3) - (y_1 + y_2 + y_3) = 1, \quad (3)$$

$$(x_1x_2 + x_2x_3 + x_3x_1) - (y_1y_2 + y_2y_3 + y_3y_1) = 0, \quad (4)$$

and they are related to the Jarlskog invariant,

$$J^2 = x_1x_2x_3 - y_1y_2y_3. \quad (5)$$

In addition, the (x_i, y_j) variables are bounded by ± 1 : $-1 \geq (x_i, y_j) \geq +1$, with $x_i \geq y_j$ for any pair of (i, j) .

It is convenient to write $|V_{ij}|^2$ in a matrix form with elements $x_i - y_j$:

$$W = [|V_{\alpha i}|^2] = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 - y_1 & x_2 - y_2 & x_3 - y_3 \\ x_3 - y_2 & x_1 - y_3 & x_2 - y_1 \\ x_2 - y_3 & x_3 - y_1 & x_1 - y_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (6)$$

The matrix of the cofactors of W , denoted as w with $w^T W = (\det W)I$, is given by

$$w = [|V_{\alpha i}|^2] = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 + y_1 & x_2 + y_2 & x_3 + y_3 \\ x_3 + y_2 & x_1 + y_3 & x_2 + y_1 \\ x_2 + y_3 & x_3 + y_1 & x_1 + y_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (7)$$

The elements of w are also bounded, $-1 \geq w_{\alpha i} \geq +1$, and

$$\sum_i w_{\alpha i} = \sum_{\alpha} w_{\alpha i} = \det W, \quad (8)$$

$$\det W = \sum x_i^2 - \sum y_j^2 = \sum x_i + \sum y_j. \quad (9)$$

Note that the constraint equations, Eq. (3) and Eq. (4), have been used here. The relations between this (x_i, y_j) parametrization and the standard ones, θ_{12} , θ_{23} , θ_{13} , and the Dirac CP phase δ are shown in Appendix A.

One may further obtain useful expressions of the rephasing invariant combination formed by products of four mixing elements [6],

$$\pi_{ij}^{\alpha\beta} = V_{\alpha i} V_{\beta j} V_{\alpha j}^* V_{\beta i}^*, \quad (10)$$

which can be reduced to

$$\pi_{ij}^{\alpha\beta} = |V_{\alpha i}|^2 |V_{\beta j}|^2 - \sum_{\gamma k} \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \epsilon_{ijk} V_{\alpha i} V_{\beta j} V_{\gamma k} \\ = |V_{\alpha j}|^2 |V_{\beta i}|^2 + \sum_{\gamma k} \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \epsilon_{ijk} V_{\alpha j}^* V_{\beta i}^* V_{\gamma k}, \quad (11)$$

where the second term in either expression is one of the Γ 's (Γ^* 's) defined in Eq. (1).

In addition, the combination of five elements can be written in the following form:

$$\Xi_{\alpha i} = V_{\alpha j} V_{\alpha k} V_{\alpha i}^* V_{\beta i} V_{\gamma i} \\ = (y_m y_n - x_b x_c) + iJ(1 - |V_{\alpha i}|^2). \quad (12)$$

Here if $|V_{\alpha i}|^2 = x_a - y_l$, then $b \neq c \neq a$, $m \neq n \neq l$. This means that if one takes the α th row and the i th column, complex conjugates the vertex ($V_{\alpha i}^*$), then the product is rephasing invariant and has a well-defined imaginary part. Certain intriguing properties of Ξ are shown also in Appendix A.

3. RGEs for the neutrino parameters

The RGE for the Hermitian matrix $M \equiv Y_\nu^\dagger Y_\nu$, where Y_ν is the neutrino Yukawa coupling matrix, is given by (see, e.g., [7–13])

$$16\pi^2 \frac{dM}{dt} = \alpha M + P^\dagger M + MP \quad (13)$$

at the one-loop level. Here, α is real and model-independent, $P = CY_l^\dagger Y_l + C'Y_\nu^\dagger Y_\nu$, with model-dependent coefficients C and C' , and Y_l is the charged lepton Yukawa matrix. Following [7–13], we will ignore the term $C'Y_\nu^\dagger Y_\nu$ so that

$$P = CY_l^\dagger Y_l. \quad (14)$$

Equation (13) is very simple in form. However, since M contains a number of unphysical parameters, it is necessary to extract its physical parts. To this end we may choose the basis where Y_l is diagonal, for all energy scales. One is left then to diagonalize M by the mixing matrix V :

$$M = V[\text{diag}(h_1^2, h_2^2, h_3^2)]V^\dagger, \quad (15)$$

where h_i^2 are the eigenvalues of M . Further, one needs to separate the physical, rephasing invariant, parts of V . To do this we will follow the procedure of [7–12] but regroup the equations for rephasing invariant variables at the end.

The evolution of the mixing matrix V satisfies the relation,

$$dV/dt = VT, \quad (16)$$

here the matrix T is anti-Hermitian. One may define $\mathcal{D} = 16\pi^2 \frac{d}{dt}$ with $t = \ln(\mu/M_W)$, and compares the diagonal elements of $\mathcal{D}(V[\text{diag}(h_1^2, h_2^2, h_3^2)]V^\dagger)$ with that of $\mathcal{D}M$ to obtain

$$\mathcal{D}h_i^2 = h_i^2[\alpha + 2C(|V_{1i}|^2 f_1^2 + |V_{2i}|^2 f_2^2 + |V_{3i}|^2 f_3^2)], \quad (17)$$

where f_i^2 are the eigenvalues of the matrix $Y_l^\dagger Y_l$, and the C' terms have been ignored. From the off-diagonal elements, we obtain the expression of T_{ij} :

$$T_{ij} = -H_{ij}P'_{ij}/(16\pi^2), \quad (18)$$

with $P' = V^\dagger P V$ and

$$H_{ij} = \frac{h_i^2 + h_j^2}{h_i^2 - h_j^2}. \quad (19)$$

To derive the RGE for neutrino mixing parameters, we may start with

$$\mathcal{D}\Gamma_{ijk} = \mathcal{D}(V_{1i}V_{2j}V_{3k}) \\ = (\mathcal{D}V_{1i})V_{2j}V_{3k} + V_{1i}(\mathcal{D}V_{2j})V_{3k} + V_{1i}V_{2j}(\mathcal{D}V_{3k}). \quad (20)$$

By using Eq. (16), Eq. (18), and Eq. (19), one reaches the following form,

$$\mathcal{D}\Gamma_{ijk} = -[(\sum_{l \neq i} V_{1l}H_{li}P'_{li})V_{2j}V_{3k} + V_{1i}(\sum_{l \neq j} V_{2l}H_{lj}P'_{lj})V_{3k} \\ + V_{1i}V_{2j}(\sum_{l \neq k} V_{3l}H_{lk}P'_{lk})]. \quad (21)$$

The real part of $\mathcal{D}\Gamma_{ijk}$ gives rise to $\mathcal{D}x_i$ and $\mathcal{D}y_i$ in the following matrix forms:

$$\mathcal{D}x_i = -C[\Delta f^2][A_i][H]^T, \quad (22)$$

$$\mathcal{D}y_i = -C[\Delta f^2][A'_i][H]^T, \quad (23)$$

Table 1The explicit expressions of the matrix $[S_{ij}]$. Here $\Lambda_{\gamma k}$ is defined in Eq. (30).

$$\begin{aligned}
S_{11} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \Lambda_{22} & -\Lambda_{23} \\ 0 & -\Lambda_{32} & \Lambda_{33} \end{pmatrix}, & S_{12} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -\Lambda_{21} & 0 & \Lambda_{23} \\ \Lambda_{31} & 0 & -\Lambda_{33} \end{pmatrix}, & S_{13} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \Lambda_{21} & -\Lambda_{22} & 0 \\ -\Lambda_{31} & \Lambda_{32} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\
S_{21} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\Lambda_{12} & \Lambda_{13} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \Lambda_{32} & -\Lambda_{33} \end{pmatrix}, & S_{22} &= \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda_{11} & 0 & -\Lambda_{13} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -\Lambda_{31} & 0 & \Lambda_{33} \end{pmatrix}, & S_{23} &= \begin{pmatrix} -\Lambda_{11} & \Lambda_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \Lambda_{31} & -\Lambda_{32} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\
S_{31} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \Lambda_{12} & -\Lambda_{13} \\ 0 & -\Lambda_{22} & \Lambda_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, & S_{32} &= \begin{pmatrix} -\Lambda_{11} & 0 & \Lambda_{13} \\ \Lambda_{21} & 0 & -\Lambda_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, & S_{33} &= \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda_{11} & -\Lambda_{12} & 0 \\ -\Lambda_{21} & \Lambda_{22} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}
\end{aligned}$$

Table 2The explicit expressions of the matrices $[Z_i]$, $[Z'_i]$, and two equivalent forms of $[Z_0]$.

$$\begin{aligned}
Z_1 &= \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \Lambda_{22} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \Lambda_{33} \end{pmatrix}, & Z_2 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \Lambda_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \Lambda_{23} \\ \Lambda_{31} & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, & Z_3 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & \Lambda_{13} \\ \Lambda_{21} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \Lambda_{32} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\
Z'_1 &= \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \Lambda_{23} \\ 0 & \Lambda_{32} & 0 \end{pmatrix}, & Z'_2 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \Lambda_{12} & 0 \\ \Lambda_{21} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \Lambda_{33} \end{pmatrix}, & Z'_3 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & \Lambda_{13} \\ 0 & \Lambda_{22} & 0 \\ \Lambda_{31} & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\
[Z_0] &= \begin{pmatrix} (1 - |V_{11}|^2)\Lambda_{11} & (1 - |V_{12}|^2)\Lambda_{12} & (1 - |V_{13}|^2)\Lambda_{13} \\ (1 - |V_{21}|^2)\Lambda_{21} & (1 - |V_{22}|^2)\Lambda_{22} & (1 - |V_{23}|^2)\Lambda_{23} \\ (1 - |V_{31}|^2)\Lambda_{31} & (1 - |V_{32}|^2)\Lambda_{32} & (1 - |V_{33}|^2)\Lambda_{33} \end{pmatrix} \\
&= \begin{pmatrix} x_2x_3 + y_2y_3 & x_1x_3 + y_1y_3 & x_1x_2 + y_1y_2 \\ x_1x_2 + y_1y_3 & x_2x_3 + y_1y_2 & x_1x_3 + y_2y_3 \\ x_1x_3 + y_1y_2 & x_1x_2 + y_2y_3 & x_2x_3 + y_1y_3 \end{pmatrix}
\end{aligned}$$

where we define

$$[\Delta f^2] = [\Delta f_{23}^2, \Delta f_{31}^2, \Delta f_{12}^2], \quad (24)$$

$$[H] = [H_{23}, H_{31}, H_{12}]. \quad (25)$$

Here $\Delta f_{ij}^2 = f_i^2 - f_j^2$. We have taken over the results of Ref. [19], which are also valid for the Dirac neutrino problem. Thus, the matrices $[A_i]$ and $[A'_i]$ are given in Table II of Ref. [19], and are reproduced here as Table 3 in Appendix B. Note that, to compensate for the usual convention of the neutrino mixing matrix, whereby it corresponds to the conjugate of that for the quarks, we have adapted the results of Ref. [19] by making the correspondences charged leptons \leftrightarrow u-type quarks and neutrinos \leftrightarrow d-type quarks. In addition, the imaginary part of $\mathcal{D}\Gamma_{ijk}$ leads to

$$\mathcal{D} \ln J^2 = -2C[\Delta f^2][w][H]^T \quad (26)$$

It should be noted that, since $\sum \Delta f_{ij}^2 = 0$, the evolution equations are invariant when a constant is added to any column of $[A_i]$ or $[A'_i]$. For instance,

$$A_i \rightarrow A_i + \begin{pmatrix} \delta_1 & \delta_2 & \delta_3 \\ \delta_1 & \delta_2 & \delta_3 \\ \delta_1 & \delta_2 & \delta_3 \end{pmatrix} \quad (27)$$

leaves Eq. (22) invariant.

It turns out that we may recast Eqs. (22) and (23) into a more symmetrical and suggestive form. To do that we start with Eq. (10) and separate its real and imaginary parts, for $\alpha \neq \beta \neq \gamma$, $i \neq j \neq k$,

$$\pi_{ij}^{\alpha\beta} \equiv \pi_{\gamma k} = \Lambda_{\gamma k} + iJ. \quad (28)$$

Since $\text{Re}(\pi_{ij}^{\alpha\beta})$ takes the following forms,

$$\text{Re}(\pi_{ij}^{\alpha\beta}) = |V_{\alpha i}|^2 |V_{\beta j}|^2 - x_a = |V_{\beta i}|^2 |V_{\alpha j}|^2 + y_b, \quad (29)$$

we have

$$\Lambda_{\gamma k} = \frac{1}{2}(|V_{\alpha i}|^2 |V_{\beta j}|^2 + |V_{\alpha j}|^2 |V_{\beta i}|^2 - |V_{\gamma k}|^2). \quad (30)$$

In terms of the (x, y) variables, we find

$$\Lambda_{\gamma k} = x_a y_j + x_b x_c - y_j(y_k + y_l), \quad (31)$$

where (x_a, y_j) comes from $|V_{\gamma k}|^2 = x_a - y_j$, and $a \neq b \neq c$, $j \neq k \neq l$. Another useful identity is

$$W_{\gamma k} \Lambda_{\gamma k} = J^2 + x_a y_j \quad (\text{no sum}). \quad (32)$$

Using Eqs. (27) and (31), we may simplify the matrices $[A_i] - [A'_i]$. And, with Eqs. (22) and (23), we find

$$\mathcal{D}W_{ij} = -2C[\Delta f^2][S_{ij}][H]^T. \quad (33)$$

By expressing (x, y) in terms of W_{ij} , we further obtain

$$\mathcal{D}x_i = -C[\Delta f^2](2[Z_i] - [Z_0])[H]^T, \quad (34)$$

$$\mathcal{D}y_i = -C[\Delta f^2](2[Z'_i] - [Z_0])[H]^T. \quad (35)$$

Here, $[S_{ij}]$ are given in Table 1, while $[Z_i]$, $[Z'_i]$, and $[Z_0]$ are presented in Table 2. Note that there are two equivalent forms of $[Z_0]$, by using Eqs. (27) and (32).

To exhibit the structure of these equations, let's write down explicitly the evolution equation of x_1 , e.g.,

$$\mathcal{D}x_1 = -C[\Delta f^2] \left[2 \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \Lambda_{22} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \Lambda_{33} \end{pmatrix} - [Z_0] \right] [H]^T. \quad (36)$$

Also, for $|V_{11}|^2$,

$$\mathcal{D}|V_{11}|^2 = -2C[\Delta f^2] \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \Lambda_{22} & -\Lambda_{23} \\ 0 & -\Lambda_{32} & \Lambda_{33} \end{pmatrix} [H]^T. \quad (37)$$

The simple forms of these evolution equations mirror the permutation patterns contained in the definitions of (x_i, y_j) , such as $x_1 = \text{Re}(\Gamma_{123}) = \text{Re}(V_{11}V_{22}V_{33})$. It is also noticeable that $\Lambda_{\alpha i}$, which are the real parts of the Jarlskog variables, $\pi_{jk}^{\beta\gamma}$ (Eq. (28)), and are directly measurable in neutrino oscillation experiments,

play such a prominent role in these evolution equations. An instructive comparison can be made to the two flavor problem. Here, the familiar 2×2 (real) mixing matrix can be parametrized as $x = C_\theta^2$, $y = -S_\theta^2$ and $\Lambda = (V_{11}V_{12}V_{21}V_{22}) = -C_\theta^2 S_\theta^2$. Let us adapt the results (for Majorana neutrinos) of Ref. [14]. With real mass matrices (and $m \rightarrow m^2$), Eq. (29) in Ref. [14] becomes

$$\frac{dC_\theta^2}{dt} = \frac{dx}{dt} = -\chi S_{2\theta}^2 \frac{m_2^2 + m_1^2}{m_2^2 - m_1^2} = (\Delta f_{21}^2) \Lambda H_{21}. \quad (38)$$

Thus, there is a clear lineage between Eqs. (34)–(35) and the two flavor RGE. It is interesting, and somewhat surprising, that, allowing for the effects of permutation, the two flavor RGE act simply like building blocks for the three flavor RGE.

With the above alternative expressions, we may verify that

$$\mathcal{D}(x_1 + x_2 + x_3) = (y_1 + y_2 + y_3), \quad (39)$$

$$\mathcal{D}(x_1 x_2 + x_2 x_3 + x_3 x_1) - \mathcal{D}(y_1 y_2 + y_2 y_3 + y_3 y_1) = 0, \quad (40)$$

and

$$\mathcal{D}J^2 = \mathcal{D}(x_1 x_2 x_3 - y_1 y_2 y_3). \quad (41)$$

For completeness, we also present the evolution equations for the elements of the cofactor matrix $[w]$:

$$\mathcal{D}w_{ij} = -2C[\Delta f^2][G_{ij}][H]^T, \quad (42)$$

where we have used $w_{\gamma k} = |V_{\alpha i}|^2 |V_{\beta j}|^2 - |V_{\alpha j}|^2 |V_{\beta i}|^2$ to obtain the matrix $[G_{ij}]$. They are listed explicitly in Table 4 of Appendix B.

4. The RGE invariants

RGE describe the evolution of a multitude of variables as functions of a single parameter, t . As such one might find combinations of physical variables which become independent of t . These RGE invariant prescribe correlations among physical variables and can serve as powerful constraints on possible theories at high energy. They have also drawn certain attention in recent literature [14–18]). To search for neutrino RGE invariants using our parametrization, and to further pave the way for the analytic, approximate solutions for W_{ij} , we first define the neutrino mass ratio $r_{ij} = m_i/m_j$, where $m_i = h_i v/\sqrt{2}$, $v \simeq 246$ GeV. Note that

$$\sinh^2 \ln r_{ij} = \frac{1}{4} \frac{(m_i^2 - m_j^2)^2}{m_i^2 m_j^2}, \quad (43)$$

$$\mathcal{D}(\sinh^2 \ln r_{ij}) = \frac{1}{4} \frac{m_i^4 - m_j^4}{m_i^2 m_j^2} (\mathcal{D} \ln m_i^2 - \mathcal{D} \ln m_j^2), \quad (44)$$

and

$$\mathcal{D}[\ln(\sinh^2 \ln r_{ij})] = \frac{m_i^2 + m_j^2}{m_i^2 - m_j^2} (\mathcal{D} \ln m_i^2 - \mathcal{D} \ln m_j^2). \quad (45)$$

This leads to

$$\Sigma_{ij} \mathcal{D}[\ln(\sinh^2 \ln r_{ij})] = 2C[\Delta f^2][w][H]^T. \quad (46)$$

Combining this result with the expression of $\mathcal{D} \ln J^2$, we find that

$$\mathcal{D}[\ln(J^2(\sinh^2 \ln r_{12})(\sinh^2 \ln r_{23})(\sinh^2 \ln r_{31}))] = 0, \quad (47)$$

i.e., $J^2(\Pi_{ij} \sinh^2 \ln r_{ij})$ is a RGE invariant.

Furthermore, one notes that any quantity that is identical to J^2 also gives rise to an invariant when multiplied by $\Pi_{ij} \sinh^2 \ln r_{ij}$ in

Eq. (47). With the expression of $\Lambda_{\gamma k}$ in Eq. (30), it is straightforward to write down nine different forms of $J^2 = \pi_{\gamma k}^2 - \Lambda_{\gamma k}^2$, which correspond to nine different combinations of (γ, k) ,

$$J^2 = \pi_{\gamma k}^2 - \Lambda_{\gamma k}^2 = |V_{\alpha i}|^2 |V_{\beta j}|^2 |V_{\alpha j}|^2 |V_{\beta i}|^2 - \Lambda_{\gamma k}^2. \quad (48)$$

This leads to nine RGE invariants which consist of $|V_{ij}|^2$ and the mass ratios $\ln r_{ij}^2$:

$$(|V_{\alpha i}|^2 |V_{\beta j}|^2 |V_{\alpha j}|^2 |V_{\beta i}|^2 - \Lambda_{\gamma k}^2)(\sinh \ln r_{21}^2)(\sinh \ln r_{32}^2) \times (\sinh \ln r_{13}^2) = \text{constant} \quad (49)$$

We may also study approximate solutions of Eqs. (26), (33). Consider the familiar case of hierarchy, $f_3^2 \gg (f_2^2, f_1^2)$, $[\Delta f^2] \cong f_3^2[-1, +1, 0]$. Then

$$\frac{1}{2C} \mathcal{D} \ln J^2 \cong [(w_{11} - w_{21}), (w_{12} - w_{22}), (w_{13} - w_{32})][H]^T = [(|V_{33}|^2 - |V_{32}|^2), (|V_{31}|^2 - |V_{33}|^2), (|V_{32}|^2 - |V_{31}|^2)][H]^T. \quad (50)$$

Under the same approximation, we find, e.g.,

$$\frac{1}{2C} \mathcal{D} \ln |V_{31}|^2 \cong \frac{f_3^2}{|V_{31}|^2} [1, -1, 0] \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \Lambda_{12} & -\Lambda_{13} \\ 0 & -\Lambda_{22} & \Lambda_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} [H]^T = f_3^2 [0, -|V_{33}|^2, |V_{32}|^2][H]^T, \quad (51)$$

where we used the relations $\Lambda_{12} + \Lambda_{22} = -|V_{31}|^2 |V_{33}|^2$ and $\Lambda_{13} + \Lambda_{23} = -|V_{31}|^2 |V_{32}|^2$. Together with similar results for $\mathcal{D} \ln |V_{22}|^2$ and $\mathcal{D} \ln |V_{33}|^2$, we find the following approximate RGE invariant:

$$J^2/(|V_{31}|^2 |V_{32}|^2 |V_{33}|^2) \cong \text{invariant}, f_3^2 \gg (f_2^2, f_1^2). \quad (52)$$

The approximate solutions, Eqs. (50), (51), are actually quite accurate as long as the hierarchy used is not upended by renormalization.

Furthermore, if the neutrino masses satisfy the hierarchical condition: $H_{ij} \gg H_{jk}, H_{ki}$, then

$$\frac{d \ln J^2}{dt} + \frac{d \ln(\sinh^2 \ln r_{ij})}{dt} \simeq 0 \quad (53)$$

and the approximate invariant follows:

$$J^2(\sinh^2 \ln r_{ij}) = \text{constant}. \quad (54)$$

Since $H_{12} \gg H_{23}, H_{31}$ in general, we may write

$$J^2(\sinh^2 \ln r_{12}) = \text{constant}. \quad (55)$$

5. Approximate solutions

Even though complete analytical solutions to the coupled RGE are unavailable, certain approximations to the RGE may lead us to solutions that are surprisingly simple. We first consider a hierarchical scenario for the charged leptons, $f_3^2 \gg f_2^2, f_1^2$, which yields

$$[\Delta f_{23}^2, \Delta f_{31}^2, \Delta f_{12}^2] \approx f_3^2[-1, 1, 0]. \quad (56)$$

In addition, we have

$$[H_{23}, H_{31}, H_{12}] \approx [-1, 1, -1] \quad (57)$$

if the neutrino masses are hierarchical: $h_3^2 \gg h_2^2 \gg h_1^2$. Substituting Eqs. (56) and (57) in Eq. (33) results in the following simple forms:

$$C' \mathcal{D}W_{11} = -(\Lambda_{22} + \Lambda_{23}) = W_{11}W_{31}, \quad (58)$$

$$C' \mathcal{D}W_{12} = -\Lambda_{21} + \Lambda_{23}, \quad (59)$$

$$C' \mathcal{D}W_{13} = \Lambda_{21} + \Lambda_{22} = -W_{13}W_{33}, \quad (60)$$

$$C' \mathcal{D}W_{21} = -(\Lambda_{12} + \Lambda_{13}) = W_{21}W_{31}, \quad (61)$$

$$C' \mathcal{D}W_{22} = -\Lambda_{11} + \Lambda_{13}, \quad (62)$$

$$C' \mathcal{D}W_{23} = \Lambda_{11} + \Lambda_{12} = -W_{23}W_{33}, \quad (63)$$

$$C' \mathcal{D}W_{31} = \Lambda_{12} + \Lambda_{22} + \Lambda_{13} + \Lambda_{23} = -W_{31}(1 - W_{31}), \quad (64)$$

$$C' \mathcal{D}W_{32} = (\Lambda_{11} + \Lambda_{21}) - (\Lambda_{13} + \Lambda_{23}) = W_{32}(W_{31} - W_{33}), \quad (65)$$

$$C' \mathcal{D}W_{33} = -(\Lambda_{11} + \Lambda_{21}) - (\Lambda_{12} + \Lambda_{22}) = W_{33}(1 - W_{33}), \quad (66)$$

where $C' = 1/(2Cf_3^2)$. One observes that the six quantities, $\mathcal{D} \ln W_{11}$, $\mathcal{D} \ln W_{13}$, $\mathcal{D} \ln W_{21}$, $\mathcal{D} \ln W_{23}$, $\mathcal{D} \ln W_{31}$, and $\mathcal{D} \ln W_{33}$ depend only on W_{31} and W_{33} . It is also seen that the following two relations hold:

$$\mathcal{D} \ln W_{13} = \mathcal{D} \ln W_{23}, \quad (67)$$

$$\mathcal{D} \ln W_{11} = \mathcal{D} \ln W_{21}. \quad (68)$$

One notes that Eq. (64) has an approximate, analytic solution for a range of t -values inside which $f_3^2 \approx \text{constant}$ is a good approximation:

$$W_{31} \cong \frac{1}{(a_{31}^{-1} - 1)e^{(t-t_0)/C''} + 1}, \quad (69)$$

where $C'' = 16\pi^2 C'$, and a_{ij} is the initial value of W_{ij} at $t = t_0$. Similarly, we can solve for W_{33} from Eq. (66):

$$W_{33} \cong \frac{1}{(a_{33}^{-1} - 1)e^{-(t-t_0)/C''} + 1}. \quad (70)$$

With the explicit expressions for W_{31} in Eq. (69), we may rewrite Eq. (58) as:

$$C' \ln W_{11} = \int \frac{dt}{(a_{31}^{-1} - 1)e^{-(t-t_0)/C''} + 1}, \quad (71)$$

which can be solved for W_{11} :

$$W_{11} \cong \frac{a_{11}}{(1 - a_{31}) + a_{31}e^{-(t-t_0)/C''}}. \quad (72)$$

Similarly, W_{13} can be solved by using the explicit solution of W_{33} in Eq. (70),

$$W_{13} \cong \frac{a_{13}}{(1 - a_{33}) + a_{33}e^{(t-t_0)/C''}}. \quad (73)$$

The rest of W_{ij} can be obtained directly by using $\sum_i W_{ij} = 1$ and $\sum_j W_{ij} = 1$.

A confidence builder for these approximate solutions is the numerical solutions of RGE with initial conditions incorporating the approximations in Eqs. (56) and (57). Note that to assess the general nature of the RGE, it seems more appropriate to start from a point with fast evolution, so that most changes may be accomplished in its neighborhood, with minor corrections afterwards. The low energy physics values are close to a fixed point of the RGE, and it is crucial to study how they are approached from the high energy values. However, without detailed knowledge of the initial values at high energy in the scope of theoretical framework, it is difficult to assign a suitable region of initial parameter space that yields all the measured values as the RGE evolve down to the low energy.

At high energy, either hierarchical or near degenerate masses and mixing parameters are both motivated by various models [20].

For the purpose of illustration, we simply assume $C = -3/2$ in analogy to the quark RGE and adopt the following initial input parameters at high energy:

- $f_3^2 = 10^{-4}$, $f_2^2 = 10^{-2}$, and $f_1^2 = 1$ are adopted for calculating the approximate solutions, which will be compared with the full solution using the same values of f_3^2 as the initial input at $t_0 = 30$.
- The neutrino masses at $t_0 = 30$ are taken to be hierarchical: $h_3^2 \gg h_2^2 \gg h_1^2$, which leads to Eq. (57).
- It is found that (x_i, y_j) for neutrinos only evolve slightly from their respective initial values. We therefore adopt $[x_1, x_2; y_1, y_2] = [(1/3) - \epsilon, (1/6) - \epsilon; (-1/3) + \epsilon, (-1/6) + \epsilon]$ with $\epsilon = 0.01$ as the input at $t_0 = 30$ so as to yield reasonable mixing parameters at low energy.

With the above inputs, we present examples of approximate and full numerical solutions for $|V_{11}|^2$ and $|V_{13}|^2$ in Fig. 1, and summarize the results in the following.

- The approximate solutions agree well with the full solutions for small f_3^2 . However, deviation begins to enlarge for larger f_3^2 , e.g., when $f_3^2 \sim 1$.
- Although the quark mixing elements can evolve quite significantly from high energy [19], the neutrino mixing parameters (x_i and y_i) only evolve slightly and thus the elements $W_{ij} = |V_{ij}|^2$ do not evolve much from the initial values. This general behavior is in agreement with the expectation of recent study (see, e.g., Ref. [21]).
- Note that with the chosen input values, some of the parameters do not evolve to the observed values at low energies. It appears that the RGE evolution may be sensitive to the initial parameters and that fine-tuning may be required.

Finally, it is worthwhile to mention that the RGE for $W_{ij} = |V_{ij}|^2$ may also be simplified into different forms if f_i^2 remain hierarchical: $[\Delta f^2] \approx f_3^2[-1, 1, 0]$, while a pair of h_i^2 's are now nearly degenerate: $h_3^2 \geq h_2^2 \approx h_1^2$. It leads to

$$[H] \approx \left(\frac{h_1^2 + h_2^2}{h_1^2 - h_2^2} \right) [0, 0, 1] = H_{12}[0, 0, 1]. \quad (74)$$

In this case, we obtain the following simple forms for $\mathcal{D}W_{ij}$:

$$\bar{C} \mathcal{D}W_{11} = -\Lambda_{23}, \quad (75)$$

$$\bar{C} \mathcal{D}W_{12} = \Lambda_{23}, \quad (76)$$

$$\bar{C} \mathcal{D}W_{13} = 0, \quad (77)$$

$$\bar{C} \mathcal{D}W_{21} = -\Lambda_{13}, \quad (78)$$

$$\bar{C} \mathcal{D}W_{22} = \Lambda_{13}, \quad (79)$$

$$\bar{C} \mathcal{D}W_{23} = 0, \quad (80)$$

$$\bar{C} \mathcal{D}W_{31} = \Lambda_{13} + \Lambda_{23}, \quad (81)$$

$$\bar{C} \mathcal{D}W_{32} = -(\Lambda_{13} + \Lambda_{23}), \quad (82)$$

$$\bar{C} \mathcal{D}W_{33} = 0, \quad (83)$$

where $\bar{C} = C'/H_{12}$.

The RGE (Eq. (34)–(35)) are valid for a class of theories that are similar to the SM. The examples that we presented also show that these equations have simple approximate solutions under various sets of input parameters. In the search of theories beyond the standard model, they should be helpful to identify those that can yield viable sets of physical parameters at low energies.

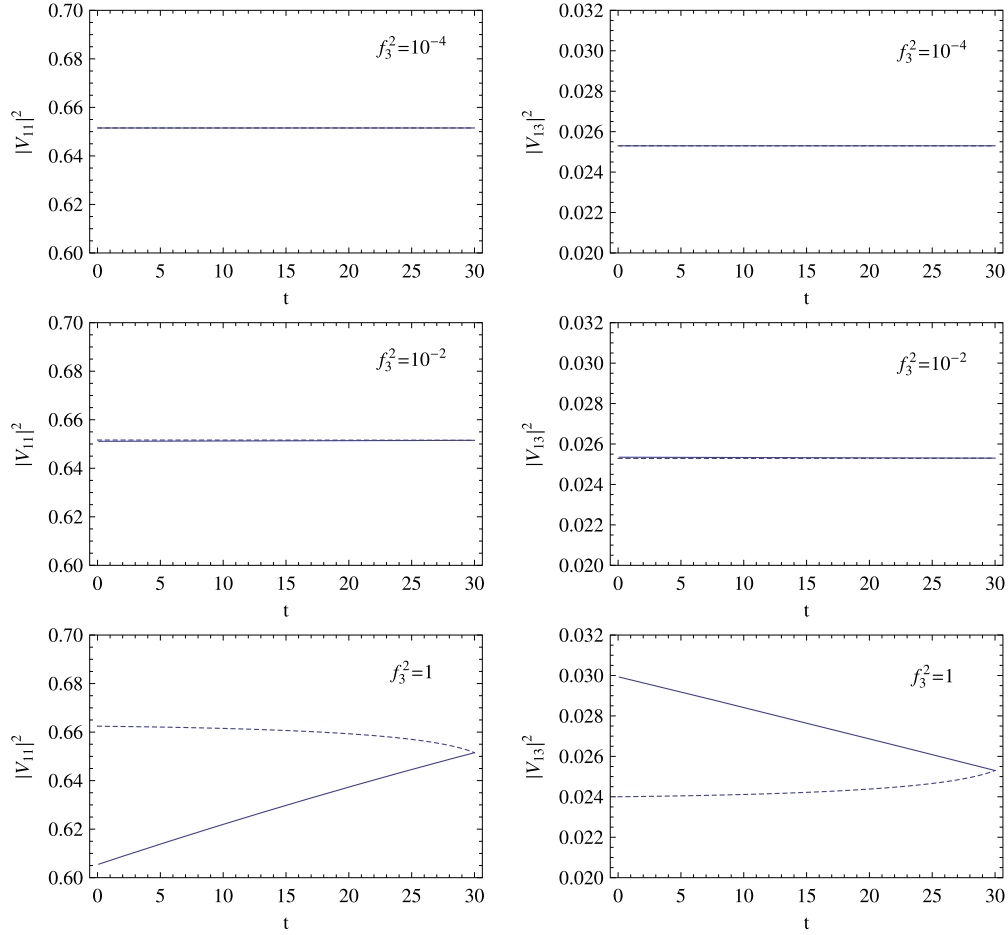


Fig. 1. Evolution of $|V_{11}|^2$ (left column) and $|V_{13}|^2$ (right column) from high to low energies. The approximate solutions (solid) are evaluated using constant f_3^2 : $f_3^2 = 10^{-4}$, $f_3^2 = 10^{-2}$, and $f_3^2 = 1$. The full solutions (dashed) are also plotted with the initial values, $f_3^2 = 10^{-4}$, $f_3^2 = 10^{-2}$, and $f_3^2 = 1$ at $t_0 = 30$.

6. Conclusion

One of the most important questions in the study of neutrinos is an assessment of the RGE evolution of neutrino masses and mixing. In contrast to the corresponding problem for gauge couplings, owing to the complexity of the RGE, the evolution of the neutrino parameters is rather poorly understood. It is thus not easy to analyze models at high energies which may start with a variety of mass and/or mixing patterns. We studied the one-loop RGE of Dirac neutrinos, using a rephasing invariant parametrization introduced earlier. Because of the symmetry structure (under flavor permutation) of this parametrizations, it is found that the resulting equations (Eqs. (26), (33), (34), (35)) can be arranged into a highly symmetric matrix form, which can facilitate both theoretical and numerical studies of the solutions. In particular, they should provide a useful guide in the search of extensions of the SM. We obtained a RGE invariant, as well as some approximate solutions. In addition, some numerical results are presented.

Work is in progress to generalize our results to the case of Majorana neutrinos, as well as the evolution of the quark mass matrices. We hope to present these studies in a future publication.

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Appendix A

We first briefly outline the connection between the (x, y) parametrization and the standard one in the following. It can be verified that the mixing angles of the standard parametrization: $s_{12}^2 \equiv \sin^2 \theta_{12}$, $s_{23}^2 \equiv \sin^2 \theta_{23}$, and $s_{13}^2 \equiv \sin^2 \theta_{13}$ are related to the (x_i, y_j) parameters,

$$s_{12}^2 = 1 / (1 + \frac{x_1 - y_1}{x_2 - y_2}), \quad (\text{A.1})$$

$$s_{23}^2 = 1 / (1 + \frac{x_1 - y_2}{x_2 - y_1}), \quad (\text{A.2})$$

$$s_{13}^2 = x_3 - y_3. \quad (\text{A.3})$$

On the other hand, one may also show that, with $c_{ij} \equiv \cos \theta_{ij}$ and $K \equiv s_{12} c_{12} s_{13} c_{13}^2 s_{23} c_{23}$,

$$J = K \sin \varphi$$

$$x_1 = c_{12}^2 c_{13}^2 c_{23}^2 - K \cos \delta$$

$$x_2 = s_{12}^2 c_{13}^2 s_{23}^2 - K \cos \delta$$

$$x_3 = s_{12}^2 s_{13}^2 c_{23}^2 + c_{12}^2 s_{13}^2 s_{23}^2 + \frac{1 + s_{13}^2}{1 - s_{13}^2} K \cos \delta$$

$$y_1 = -c_{12}^2 c_{13}^2 s_{23}^2 - K \cos \delta$$

$$y_2 = -s_{12}^2 c_{13}^2 c_{23}^2 - K \cos \delta$$

Table 3
The explicit expressions of the matrices $[A_i]$ and $[A'_i]$.

$[A_i]$	$[A'_i]$
$[A_1] = \begin{pmatrix} 2x_1y_1 & x_1x_2 + y_2y_3 & x_1x_3 + y_2y_3 \\ x_1x_3 + y_1y_2 & 2x_1y_3 & x_1x_2 + y_1y_2 \\ x_1x_2 + y_1y_3 & x_1x_3 + y_1y_3 & 2x_1y_2 \end{pmatrix}$	$[A'_1] = \begin{pmatrix} 2x_1y_1 & x_2x_3 + y_1y_2 & x_2x_3 + y_1y_3 \\ x_1x_3 + y_1y_2 & x_1x_3 + y_1y_3 & 2x_2y_1 \\ x_1x_2 + y_1y_3 & 2x_3y_1 & x_1x_2 + y_1y_2 \end{pmatrix}$
$[A_2] = \begin{pmatrix} x_1x_2 + y_1y_3 & 2x_2y_2 & x_2x_3 + y_1y_3 \\ x_2x_3 + y_2y_3 & x_1x_2 + y_2y_3 & 2x_2y_1 \\ 2x_2y_3 & x_2x_3 + y_1y_2 & x_1x_2 + y_1y_2 \end{pmatrix}$	$[A'_2] = \begin{pmatrix} x_1x_3 + y_1y_2 & 2x_2y_2 & x_1x_3 + y_2y_3 \\ 2x_3y_2 & x_1x_2 + y_2y_3 & x_1x_2 + y_1y_2 \\ x_2x_3 + y_2y_3 & x_2x_3 + y_1y_2 & 2x_1y_2 \end{pmatrix}$
$[A_3] = \begin{pmatrix} x_1x_3 + y_1y_2 & x_2x_3 + y_1y_2 & 2x_3y_3 \\ 2x_3y_2 & x_1x_3 + y_1y_3 & x_2x_3 + y_1y_3 \\ x_2x_3 + y_2y_3 & 2x_3y_1 & x_1x_3 + y_2y_3 \end{pmatrix}$	$[A'_3] = \begin{pmatrix} x_1x_2 + y_1y_3 & x_1x_2 + y_2y_3 & 2x_3y_3 \\ x_2x_3 + y_2y_3 & 2x_1y_3 & x_2x_3 + y_1y_3 \\ 2x_2y_3 & x_1x_3 + y_1y_3 & x_1x_3 + y_2y_3 \end{pmatrix}$

Table 4
The explicit expressions of the matrix $[G_{ij}]$. Here $\Lambda_{\gamma k}$ is defined in Eq. (30).

$G_{11} = \begin{pmatrix} -\Lambda_{11}(1 + V_{11} ^2) & \Lambda_{12}(1 - V_{12} ^2) & \Lambda_{13}(1 - V_{13} ^2) \\ \Lambda_{21}(1 - V_{21} ^2) & -\Lambda_{22} V_{22} ^2 & -\Lambda_{23} V_{23} ^2 \\ \Lambda_{31}(1 - V_{31} ^2) & -\Lambda_{32} V_{32} ^2 & -\Lambda_{33} V_{33} ^2 \end{pmatrix}$
$G_{12} = \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda_{11}(1 - V_{11} ^2) & -\Lambda_{12}(1 + V_{12} ^2) & \Lambda_{13}(1 - V_{13} ^2) \\ -\Lambda_{21} V_{21} ^2 & \Lambda_{22}(1 - V_{22} ^2) & -\Lambda_{23} V_{23} ^2 \\ -\Lambda_{31} V_{31} ^2 & \Lambda_{32}(1 - V_{32} ^2) & -\Lambda_{33} V_{33} ^2 \end{pmatrix}$
$G_{13} = \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda_{11}(1 - V_{11} ^2) & \Lambda_{12}(1 - V_{12} ^2) & -\Lambda_{13}(1 + V_{13} ^2) \\ -\Lambda_{21} V_{21} ^2 & -\Lambda_{22} V_{22} ^2 & \Lambda_{23}(1 - V_{23} ^2) \\ -\Lambda_{31} V_{31} ^2 & -\Lambda_{32} V_{32} ^2 & \Lambda_{33}(1 - V_{33} ^2) \end{pmatrix}$
$G_{21} = \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda_{11}(1 - V_{11} ^2) & -\Lambda_{12} V_{12} ^2 & -\Lambda_{13} V_{13} ^2 \\ -\Lambda_{21}(1 + V_{21} ^2) & \Lambda_{22}(1 - V_{22} ^2) & \Lambda_{23}(1 - V_{23} ^2) \\ \Lambda_{31}(1 - V_{31} ^2) & -\Lambda_{32} V_{32} ^2 & -\Lambda_{33} V_{33} ^2 \end{pmatrix}$
$G_{22} = \begin{pmatrix} -\Lambda_{11} V_{11} ^2 & \Lambda_{12}(1 - V_{12} ^2) & -\Lambda_{13} V_{13} ^2 \\ \Lambda_{21}(1 - V_{21} ^2) & -\Lambda_{22}(1 + V_{22} ^2) & \Lambda_{23}(1 - V_{23} ^2) \\ -\Lambda_{31} V_{31} ^2 & \Lambda_{32}(1 - V_{32} ^2) & -\Lambda_{33} V_{33} ^2 \end{pmatrix}$
$G_{23} = \begin{pmatrix} -\Lambda_{11} V_{11} ^2 & -\Lambda_{12} V_{12} ^2 & \Lambda_{13}(1 - V_{13} ^2) \\ \Lambda_{21}(1 - V_{21} ^2) & \Lambda_{22}(1 - V_{22} ^2) & -\Lambda_{23}(1 + V_{23} ^2) \\ -\Lambda_{31} V_{31} ^2 & -\Lambda_{32} V_{32} ^2 & \Lambda_{33}(1 - V_{33} ^2) \end{pmatrix}$
$G_{31} = \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda_{11}(1 - V_{11} ^2) & -\Lambda_{12} V_{12} ^2 & -\Lambda_{13} V_{13} ^2 \\ \Lambda_{21}(1 - V_{21} ^2) & -\Lambda_{22} V_{22} ^2 & -\Lambda_{23} V_{23} ^2 \\ -\Lambda_{31}(1 + V_{31} ^2) & \Lambda_{32}(1 - V_{32} ^2) & \Lambda_{33}(1 - V_{33} ^2) \end{pmatrix}$
$G_{32} = \begin{pmatrix} -\Lambda_{11} V_{11} ^2 & \Lambda_{12}(1 - V_{12} ^2) & -\Lambda_{13} V_{13} ^2 \\ -\Lambda_{21} V_{21} ^2 & \Lambda_{22}(1 - V_{22} ^2) & -\Lambda_{23} V_{23} ^2 \\ -\Lambda_{31}(1 - V_{31} ^2) & -\Lambda_{32}(1 + V_{32} ^2) & \Lambda_{33}(1 - V_{33} ^2) \end{pmatrix}$
$G_{33} = \begin{pmatrix} -\Lambda_{11} V_{11} ^2 & -\Lambda_{12} V_{12} ^2 & \Lambda_{13} V_{13} ^2 \\ -\Lambda_{21} V_{21} ^2 & -\Lambda_{22} V_{22} ^2 & \Lambda_{23}(1 - V_{23} ^2) \\ \Lambda_{31}(1 + V_{31} ^2) & -\Lambda_{32}(1 - V_{32} ^2) & -\Lambda_{33}(1 + V_{33} ^2) \end{pmatrix}$

$$y_3 = -s_{12}^2 s_{13}^2 s_{23}^2 - c_{12}^2 s_{13}^2 c_{23}^2 + \frac{1 + s_{13}^2}{1 - s_{13}^2} K \cos \delta, \quad (\text{A.4})$$

where δ is the Dirac CP phase in the standard parametrization. Note that $\Xi_{13} = Ke^{i\delta}(1 - |V_{13}|^2)$. Thus, the phase δ can be identified as the phase of the rephasing invariant quantity Ξ_{13} .

In addition, we list some interesting properties of Ξ in the following. A straightforward calculation shows that

$$\sum_{\alpha} \Xi_{\alpha i} = \sum_i \Xi_{\alpha i} = 2iJ. \quad (\text{A.5})$$

One may consider the matrix $[\Xi]$ and its cofactor matrix $[\xi]$,

$$[\Xi] = \begin{pmatrix} \Xi_{e1} & \Xi_{e2} & \Xi_{e3} \\ \Xi_{\mu1} & \Xi_{\mu2} & \Xi_{\mu3} \\ \Xi_{\tau1} & \Xi_{\tau2} & \Xi_{\tau3} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (\text{A.6})$$

$$[\xi] = \begin{pmatrix} \xi_{e1} & \xi_{e2} & \xi_{e3} \\ \xi_{\mu1} & \xi_{\mu2} & \xi_{\mu3} \\ \xi_{\tau1} & \xi_{\tau2} & \xi_{\tau3} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (\text{A.7})$$

From Eq. (A.5), we see that the matrices $[\Xi]$ and $[\xi]$ have similar properties as the pair W and w . In particular,

$$\det[\Xi] = 2iJ \sum_{\alpha} \xi_{\alpha i} = 2iJ \sum_i \xi_{\alpha i}. \quad (\text{A.8})$$

One may also find the relations between $\Xi_{\alpha i}$ and $\pi_{\gamma k} \equiv \pi_{ij}^{\alpha\beta}$, e.g.,

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_{e1} &= \Xi_{\tau 2} - (x_1 - iJ)W_{\tau 2} \\ &= \Xi_{\mu 3} - (x_1 - iJ)W_{\mu 3} \\ &= -\Xi_{\tau 3}^* + (y_1 + iJ)W_{\tau 3} \\ &= -\Xi_{\mu 2}^* + (y_1 + iJ)W_{\mu 2}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.9})$$

Appendix B

The explicit matrix forms of $[A_i]$ and $[A'_i]$ in Eqs. (22) and (23) are shown in Table 3, and that for G_{ij} in Eqs. (42) is shown in Table 4.

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