

# Lepton-Flavored Dark Matter with Minimal Flavor Violation

Jusak Tandean  
National Taiwan University

CJ Lee & JT, [arXiv:1410.6803](https://arxiv.org/abs/1410.6803)

The 4th KIAS Workshop on Particle Physics and Cosmology  
Seoul, Korea

31 October 2014

## *Outline*

- Introduction
  - minimal flavor violation
- Lepton-flavored scalar DM with MFV
- Constraints
- Implications for flavor-violating Higgs decay
- Conclusions

## *Minimal flavor violation*

- The standard model (SM) has been successful in describing data on flavor-changing neutral currents and  $CP$  violation in the quark sector.
- This motivates the formulation of the principle of **minimal flavor violation** for quarks: **Yukawa couplings** are the only sources for the breaking of flavor and  $CP$  symmetries.

Chivukula & Georgi  
Hall & Randall  
Buras *et al.*  
D'Ambrosio *et al.*

## *Minimal flavor violation*

- The standard model (SM) has been successful in describing data on flavor-changing neutral currents and  $CP$  violation in the quark sector.
- This motivates the formulation of the principle of **minimal flavor violation** for quarks: **Yukawa couplings** are the only sources for the breaking of flavor and  $CP$  symmetries.  
Chivukula & Georgi  
Hall & Randall  
Buras *et al.*  
D'Ambrosio *et al.*
- It is interesting to extend the **MFV** principle to the lepton sector
  - which may help pin down the origin of **neutrino** mass  
Cirigliano *et al.*
  - although there are ambiguities in implementing leptonic **MFV**.
- Another major mystery is the identity of the constituents of dark matter.

## Minimal flavor violation

- The standard model (SM) has been successful in describing data on flavor-changing neutral currents and  $CP$  violation in the quark sector.
- This motivates the formulation of the principle of **minimal flavor violation** for quarks: **Yukawa couplings** are the only sources for the breaking of flavor and  $CP$  symmetries.  
Chivukula & Georgi  
Hall & Randall  
Buras *et al.*  
D'Ambrosio *et al.*
- It is interesting to extend the **MFV** principle to the lepton sector
  - which may help pin down the origin of **neutrino** mass  
Cirigliano *et al.*
  - although there are ambiguities in implementing leptonic **MFV**.
- Another major mystery is the identity of the constituents of dark matter.
- It is then also of interest to explore scenarios that address the **neutrino** and DM puzzles simultaneously.
- We do this with lepton-flavored scalar DM
  - in analogy to quark-flavored DM with **MFV**.  
Batell, Pradler, Spannowsky  
Batell, Lin, Wang

## Kinetic terms of SM fermions plus three RH neutrinos

- The kinetic Lagrangian of quarks and leptons, including 3 right-handed neutrinos,

$$\mathcal{L}_K = i\bar{Q}_{jL}\not{\partial}Q_{jL} + i\bar{U}_{jR}\not{\partial}U_{jR} + i\bar{D}_{jR}\not{\partial}D_{jR} + i\bar{L}_{jL}\not{\partial}L_{jL} + i\bar{\nu}_{jR}\not{\partial}\nu_{jR} + i\bar{E}_{jR}\not{\partial}E_{jR}$$

where  $j = 1, 2, 3$  are summed over,  $Q_{jL} = \begin{pmatrix} U_{jL} \\ D_{jL} \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $L_{jL} = \begin{pmatrix} \nu_{jL} \\ \ell_{jL} \end{pmatrix}$

$$(U_1, U_2, U_3) = (u, c, t), \quad (D_1, D_2, D_3) = (d, s, b), \quad (E_1, E_2, E_3) = (\ell_1, \ell_2, \ell_3) = (e, \mu, \tau)$$

- This is invariant under the global flavor rotations

$$Q_L = \begin{pmatrix} Q_{1L} \\ Q_{2L} \\ Q_{3L} \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}_Q Q_L, \quad U_R = \begin{pmatrix} U_{1R} \\ U_{2R} \\ U_{3R} \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}_U U_R, \quad D_R = \begin{pmatrix} D_{1R} \\ D_{2R} \\ D_{3R} \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}_D D_R$$

$$L_L = \begin{pmatrix} L_{1L} \\ L_{2L} \\ L_{3L} \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}_L L_L, \quad \nu_R = \begin{pmatrix} \nu_{1R} \\ \nu_{2R} \\ \nu_{3R} \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}_\nu \nu_R, \quad E_R = \begin{pmatrix} E_{1R} \\ E_{2R} \\ E_{3R} \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}_E E_R$$

where  $\mathcal{V}_X \in U(3)_X$

- Thus the kinetic terms are symmetric under the global group

$$U(3)_Q \times U(3)_U \times U(3)_D \times U(3)_L \times U(3)_\nu \times U(3)_E.$$

## Mass terms of SM fermions plus three RH neutrinos

- ★ The Lagrangian responsible for fermion masses

$$\mathcal{L}_m = -\bar{Q}_{k,L} (Y_u)_{kl} U_{l,R} \tilde{H} - \bar{Q}_{k,L} (Y_d)_{kl} D_{l,R} H \\ - \bar{L}_{k,L} (Y_\nu)_{kl} \nu_{l,R} \tilde{H} - \bar{L}_{k,L} (Y_e)_{kl} E_{l,R} H - \frac{1}{2} \bar{\nu}_{k,R}^c (M_\nu)_{kl} \nu_{l,R} + \text{H.c.}$$

where  $k, l = 1, 2, 3$  are summed over,  $Y_{u,d,\nu,e}$  are Yukawa coupling matrices,  $M_\nu$  is the Majorana mass matrix of the right-handed neutrinos,

and  $H$  is the Higgs doublet  $H = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(h + v) \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\tilde{H} = i\sigma_2 H^*$

- ★ These mass terms explicitly break the global flavor group

$$\text{U}(3)_Q \times \text{U}(3)_U \times \text{U}(3)_D \times \text{U}(3)_L \times \text{U}(3)_\nu \times \text{U}(3)_E.$$

- ★ The idea of minimal flavor violation presupposes that all flavor- and  $CP$ -violating interactions are linked to the known structure of Yukawa couplings. D'Ambrosio *et al.*

- ★ Accordingly, new effective interactions which violate flavor and  $CP$  symmetries must respect the symmetry properties of the Yukawa couplings.

## Lepton MFV in SM plus 3 RH neutrinos

- ★ If neutrinos are Dirac fermions, the Majorana mass terms are absent,  $M_\nu = 0$ .
- ★ Then the MFV hypothesis implies that the lepton Lagrangian is formally invariant under the global group  $U(3)_L \times U(3)_\nu \times U(3)_E = G_\ell \times U(1)_L \times U(1)_\nu \times U(1)_E$

where  $G_\ell = SU(3)_L \times SU(3)_\nu \times SU(3)_E$ .

D'Ambrosio *et al.*, 2002  
Cirigliano *et al.*, 2005

- ★ Then  $L_{k,L}$ ,  $\nu_{k,R}$ , and  $E_{k,R}$  transform as fundamental representations of  $G_\ell$

$$L_L \rightarrow V_L L_L, \quad \nu_R \rightarrow V_\nu \nu_R, \quad E_R \rightarrow V_E E_R, \quad V_{L,\nu,E} \in SU(3)$$

and the Yukawa couplings are taken to be spurions transforming as

$$Y_\nu \rightarrow V_L Y_\nu V_\nu^\dagger, \quad Y_e \rightarrow V_L Y_e V_E^\dagger$$

- ★ We work in the basis where  $Y_e$  is diagonal,  $Y_e = \sqrt{2} \text{diag}(m_e, m_\mu, m_\tau)/v$

and  $\nu_{k,L}$ ,  $\nu_{k,R}$ ,  $E_{k,L}$ , and  $E_{k,R}$  refer to the mass eigenstates.

$$\text{Hence } L_{k,L} = \begin{pmatrix} (U_{\text{PMNS}})_{kl} \nu_{l,L} \\ E_{k,L} \end{pmatrix}, \quad Y_\nu = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{v} U_{\text{PMNS}} \hat{m}_\nu$$

$\hat{m}_\nu = \text{diag}(m_1, m_2, m_3)$  with  $m_{1,2,3}$  being the light neutrino eigenmasses.



## Lepton MFV with Majorana neutrinos

\* If neutrinos are Majorana fermions, generally  $M_\nu \neq 0$ .

\* For  $M_\nu \gg M_D = vY_\nu/\sqrt{2}$  the seesaw mechanism is activated involving the  $6 \times 6$  neutrino mass matrix  $\mathbf{M} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & M_D \\ M_D^T & M_\nu \end{pmatrix}$  in the  $(U_{\text{PMNS}}^* \nu_L^c, \nu_R)^T$  basis.

\* The resulting matrix of light neutrino masses is

$$m_\nu = -\frac{v^2}{2} Y_\nu M_\nu^{-1} Y_\nu^T = U_{\text{PMNS}} \hat{m}_\nu U_{\text{PMNS}}^T$$

now  $U_{\text{PMNS}}$  containing  $P = \text{diag}(e^{i\alpha_1/2}, e^{i\alpha_2/2}, 1)$  multiplied from the right,  $\alpha_{1,2}$  being the Majorana phases.

\* Thus  $Y_\nu$  needs to be modified, and one can instead take  $Y_\nu$  to be

$$Y_\nu = \frac{i\sqrt{2}}{v} U_{\text{PMNS}} \hat{m}_\nu^{1/2} O M_\nu^{1/2}$$

Casas & Ibarra

where  $O$  satisfies  $OO^T = \mathbb{1}$  and  $M_\nu = \text{diag}(M_1, M_2, M_3)$ .

## Lagrangians beyond SM with MFV built-in

- To have new interactions, one inserts  $Y_{\nu,e}^{(\dagger)}$  and their products among SM and new fields to form operators invariant under  $G_\ell = \text{SU}(3)_L \times \text{SU}(3)_\nu \times \text{SU}(3)_E$  and singlet under the SM gauge group.
- Of interest here are  $\mathbf{A} = Y_\nu Y_\nu^\dagger$  and  $\mathbf{B} = Y_e Y_e^\dagger$
- Assuming neutrinos to be Majorana fermions, we take  $\nu_{k,R}$  to be degenerate, with  $M_\nu = \mathcal{M}\mathbf{1}$ , and  $O$  real.

Hence  $\mathbf{A} = Y_\nu Y_\nu^\dagger = \frac{2}{v^2} \mathcal{M} U_{\text{PMNS}} \hat{m}_\nu U_{\text{PMNS}}^\dagger$  with  $\hat{m}_\nu = \text{diag}(m_1, m_2, m_3)$

## Lepton-flavored scalar triplet

★ SM-gauge-singlet scalar  $G_\ell$ -triplet  $\tilde{s} = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{s}_1 \\ \tilde{s}_2 \\ \tilde{s}_3 \end{pmatrix} \sim (3, 1, 1)$

where  $G_\ell = \text{SU}(3)_L \times \text{SU}(3)_\nu \times \text{SU}(3)_E$

★ For DM stability, invoke a  $Z_2$  symmetry:  $\tilde{s} \rightarrow -\tilde{s}$

★ Scalar potential in renormalizable Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{V} = \mu_H^2 H^\dagger H + \tilde{s}^\dagger \mu_s^2 \tilde{s} + \lambda_H (H^\dagger H)^2 + 2 H^\dagger H \tilde{s}^\dagger \Delta_{HS} \tilde{s} + (\tilde{s}^\dagger \Delta_{SS} \tilde{s})^2$$

$$\supset \tilde{s}^\dagger \left( \mu_{s0}^2 \mathbb{1} + \mu_{s1}^2 \mathbf{A} + \mu_{s2}^2 \mathbf{A}^2 \right) \tilde{s} + 2 H^\dagger H \tilde{s}^\dagger \left( \lambda_{s0} \mathbb{1} + \lambda_{s1} \mathbf{A} + \lambda_{s2} \mathbf{A}^2 \right) \tilde{s}$$

with  $\mathbf{A} = Y_\nu Y_\nu^\dagger$  assumed to have elements  $\gg$  than those of  $\mathbf{B} = Y_e Y_e^\dagger$

and the Higgs doublet  $H = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(h + v) \end{pmatrix}$

★ Since  $\mathbf{A}$  is Hermitian,  $\mathbf{A} = \mathcal{U} \text{diag}(\hat{\mathbf{A}}_1, \hat{\mathbf{A}}_2, \hat{\mathbf{A}}_3) \mathcal{U}^\dagger$  where  $\mathcal{U}$  is a unitary matrix

★ In terms of mass eigenstates  $S = \begin{pmatrix} S_1 \\ S_2 \\ S_3 \end{pmatrix} = \mathcal{U}^\dagger \tilde{s}$

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -m_{S_k}^2 S_k^* S_k - \lambda_k (h^2 + 2hv) S_k^* S_k - (\lambda'_k S_k^* S_k)^2$$

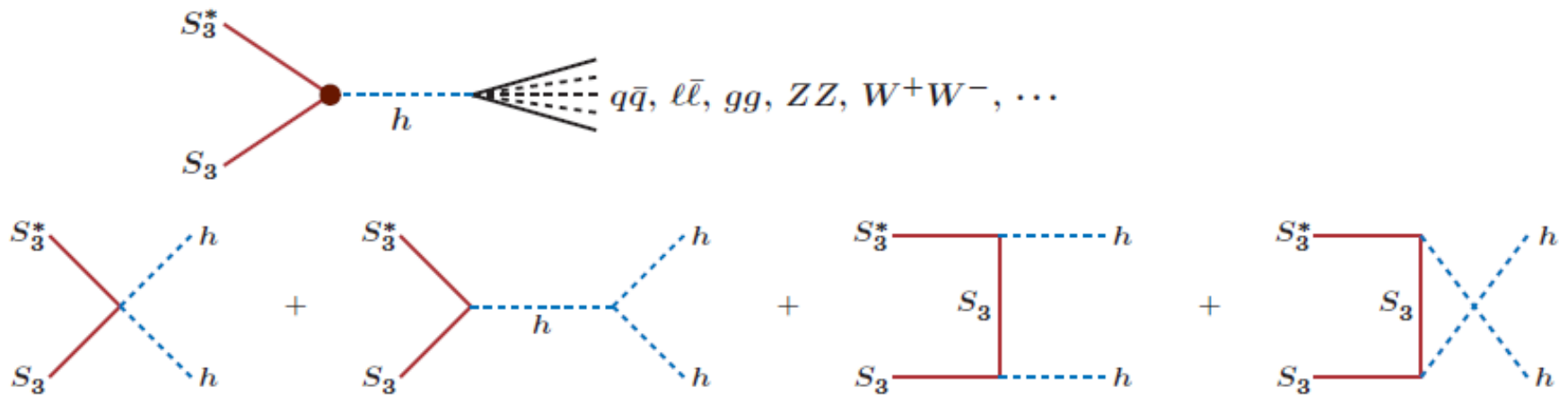
where  $m_{S_k}^2 = \mu_k^2 + \lambda_k v^2$ ,  $\mu_k^2 = \mu_{s0}^2 + \mu_{s1}^2 \hat{\mathbf{A}}_k + \mu_{s2}^2 \hat{\mathbf{A}}_k^2$ ,  $\lambda_k = \lambda_{s0} + \lambda_{s1} \hat{\mathbf{A}}_k + \lambda_{s2} \hat{\mathbf{A}}_k^2$

## DM relic density & annihilation

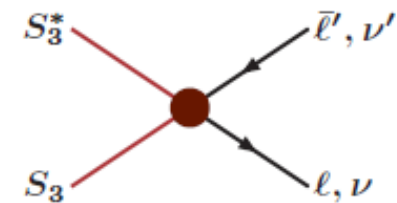
★ Relic density  $\Omega_{\hat{h}}^2 = \frac{2.14 \times 10^9 x_f / \text{GeV}}{\sqrt{g_*} m_{\text{Pl}} (\hat{a} + 3\hat{b}/x_f)}$ ,  $x_f = \ln \frac{0.038 m_{S_3} m_{\text{Pl}} (\hat{a} + 6\hat{b}/x_f)}{\sqrt{g_*} x_f}$

where  $\sigma_{\text{ann}} v_{\text{rel}}^2 = \hat{a} + \hat{b}v_{\text{rel}}$  is the rate of  $S_3^* S_3$  annihilation into SM particles.

★ Annihilation diagrams with  $h$ - $\tilde{s}$  renormalizable couplings



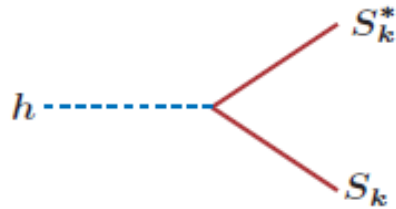
★ Annihilation diagrams with lepton- $\tilde{s}$  effective couplings



## Higgs experiment & DM direct search constraints

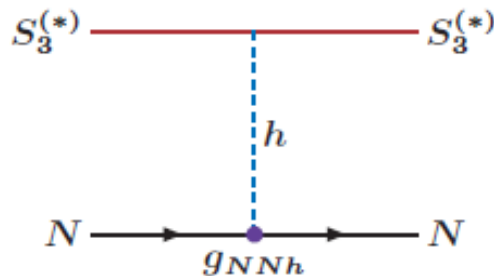
- If  $2m_{S_k} < m_h$ , the  $hS_k$  couplings must satisfy the limit on the branching ratio  $\mathcal{B}(h \rightarrow \text{invisible/exotic}) < 19\%$  from collider data.

Falkowski, Riva, Urbano  
Giardino *et al.*  
Belanger *et al.*  
Cheung, Lee, Tseng



$$\mathcal{B}(h \rightarrow SS) = \frac{\sum_k \Gamma_{h \rightarrow S_k^* S_k}}{\Gamma_h^{\text{SM}} + \sum_k \Gamma_{h \rightarrow S_k^* S_k}}, \quad \Gamma_{h \rightarrow S_k^* S_k} = \frac{\lambda_3^2 v^2}{4\pi m_h} \sqrt{1 - \frac{4m_{S_k}^2}{m_h^2}}, \quad m_h = 125.1 \text{ GeV}, \quad \Gamma_h^{\text{SM}} = 4.08 \text{ MeV}$$

- DM direct search constraints apply only to the  $hS_3$  coupling,  $\lambda_3$ .



$$\sigma_{\text{el}}^N = \frac{\lambda_3^2 g_{NNh}^2 v^2 m_N^2}{\pi (m_{S_3} + m_N)^2 m_h^4}$$

## Results for $\lambda_3$

- We assume the neutrino mass inverted hierarchy with  $m_3 = 0$ , require the largest eigenvalue of  $\mathbf{A}$  to have a size of 1, and pick  $\mu_{s0}^2 + \lambda_{s0}v^2 = \mu_{s1}^2 + \lambda_{s1}v^2 = \mu_{s2}^2 + \lambda_{s2}v^2$

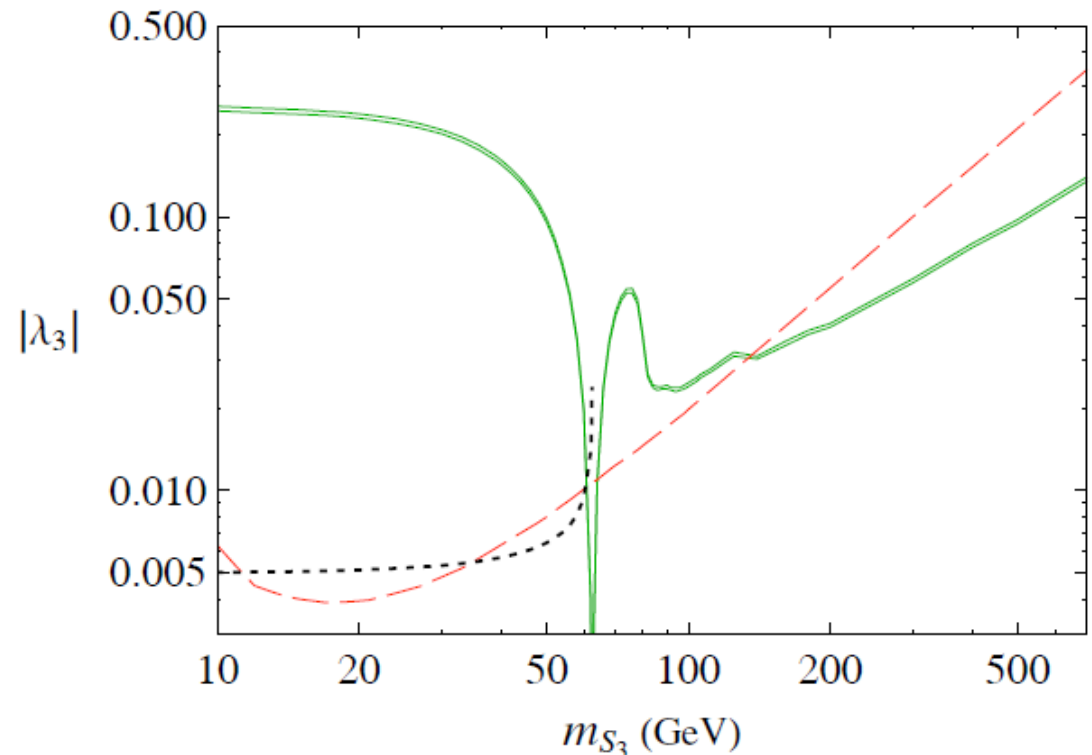
for

$$m_{S_k}^2 = \mu_{s0}^2 + \lambda_{s0}v^2 + \frac{2(\mu_{s1}^2 + \lambda_{s1}v^2)\mathcal{M}m_k}{v^2} + \frac{4(\mu_{s2}^2 + \lambda_{s2}v^2)\mathcal{M}^2m_k^2}{v^4}$$

- Values of  $|\lambda_3|$  satisfying the relic constraint (green solid curve) compared with upper limits on  $|\lambda_3|$  from Higgs invisible/exotic decay data (dotted black curve) and from LUX (red dashed curve).

PDG 2014  $\Omega_{\tilde{h}}^2 = 0.1198 \pm 0.0026$

Hence the  $\lambda_3$  contribution to the relic density is small for  $m_{S_k} < O(100 \text{ GeV})$  except near  $m_h/2$ .



## *Effective dimension-six lepton-S couplings*

- ▶ Effective dimension-6 operators satisfying the MFV requirement and coupling SM leptons to  $\tilde{s}$

$$\mathcal{L}' = \frac{C_{bdkl}^L}{\Lambda^2} O_{bdkl}^L + \frac{C_{bdkl}^R}{\Lambda^2} O_{bdkl}^R + \left( \frac{C_{bdkl}^{LR}}{\Lambda^2} O_{bdkl}^{LR} + \text{H.c.} \right)$$

$b, d, k, l = 1, 2, 3$  are summed over,

$$C_{bdkl}^L = (\Delta_{LL})_{bd}(\Delta_{SS})_{kl} + (\Delta_{LS})_{bl}(\Delta_{SL})_{kd} + (\Delta_{LS})_{kd}(\Delta_{SL})_{bl}, \quad O_{bdkl}^L = i\bar{L}_{b,L}\gamma^\rho L_{d,L}\tilde{s}_k^*\overleftrightarrow{\partial}_\rho\tilde{s}_l$$

$$C_{bdkl}^R = \delta_{bd}(\Delta'_{SS})_{kl}, \quad O_{bdkl}^R = i\bar{E}_{b,R}\gamma^\rho E_{d,R}\tilde{s}_k^*\overleftrightarrow{\partial}_\rho\tilde{s}_l$$

$$C_{bdkl}^{LR} = (\Delta_{LY}Y_e)_{bd}(\Delta''_{SS})_{kl} + (\Delta'_{LS})_{bl}(\Delta_{SY}Y_e)_{kd}, \quad O_{bdkl}^{LR} = \bar{L}_{b,L}E_{d,R}\tilde{s}_k^*\tilde{s}_l H$$

The mass scale  $\Lambda$  characterizes the underlying heavy new physics.

- ▶ Assume  $\Delta = \xi_1 \mathbb{1} + \xi_2 \mathbf{A} + \xi_4 \mathbf{A}^2$



## Effective dimension-six lepton-S couplings

- ▶ Effective dimension-6 operators satisfying the MFV requirement and coupling SM leptons to  $\tilde{s}$

$$\mathcal{L}' = \frac{C_{bdkl}^L}{\Lambda^2} O_{bdkl}^L + \frac{C_{bdkl}^R}{\Lambda^2} O_{bdkl}^R + \left( \frac{C_{bdkl}^{LR}}{\Lambda^2} O_{bdkl}^{LR} + \text{H.c.} \right)$$

$b, d, k, l = 1, 2, 3$  are summed over,

$$C_{bdkl}^L = (\Delta_{LL})_{bd}(\Delta_{SS})_{kl} + (\Delta_{LS})_{bl}(\Delta_{SL})_{kd} + (\Delta_{LS})_{kd}(\Delta_{SL})_{bl}, \quad O_{bdkl}^L = i\bar{L}_{b,L}\gamma^\rho L_{d,L}\tilde{s}_k^*\overleftrightarrow{\partial}_\rho\tilde{s}_l$$

$$C_{bdkl}^R = \delta_{bd}(\Delta'_{SS})_{kl}, \quad O_{bdkl}^R = i\bar{E}_{b,R}\gamma^\rho E_{d,R}\tilde{s}_k^*\overleftrightarrow{\partial}_\rho\tilde{s}_l$$

$$C_{bdkl}^{LR} = (\Delta_{LY}Y_e)_{bd}(\Delta''_{SS})_{kl} + (\Delta'_{LS})_{bl}(\Delta_{SY}Y_e)_{kd}, \quad O_{bdkl}^{LR} = \bar{L}_{b,L}E_{d,R}\tilde{s}_k^*\tilde{s}_l H$$

The mass scale  $\Lambda$  characterizes the underlying heavy new physics.

- ▶ Assume  $\Delta = \xi_1 \mathbb{1} + \xi_2 \mathbf{A} + \xi_4 \mathbf{A}^2$

- ▶ For simplicity, take

$$C_{bdkl}^{LR} = \frac{\sqrt{2}\kappa_{LR}m_{\ell_d}}{v}\delta_{bl}\delta_{dk},$$

$$C_{bdkl}^L = 2\kappa_L\delta_{bl}\delta_{dk},$$

$$C_{bdkl}^R = \kappa_R\delta_{bd}\delta_{kl}$$



## *Effective couplings satisfying relic data*

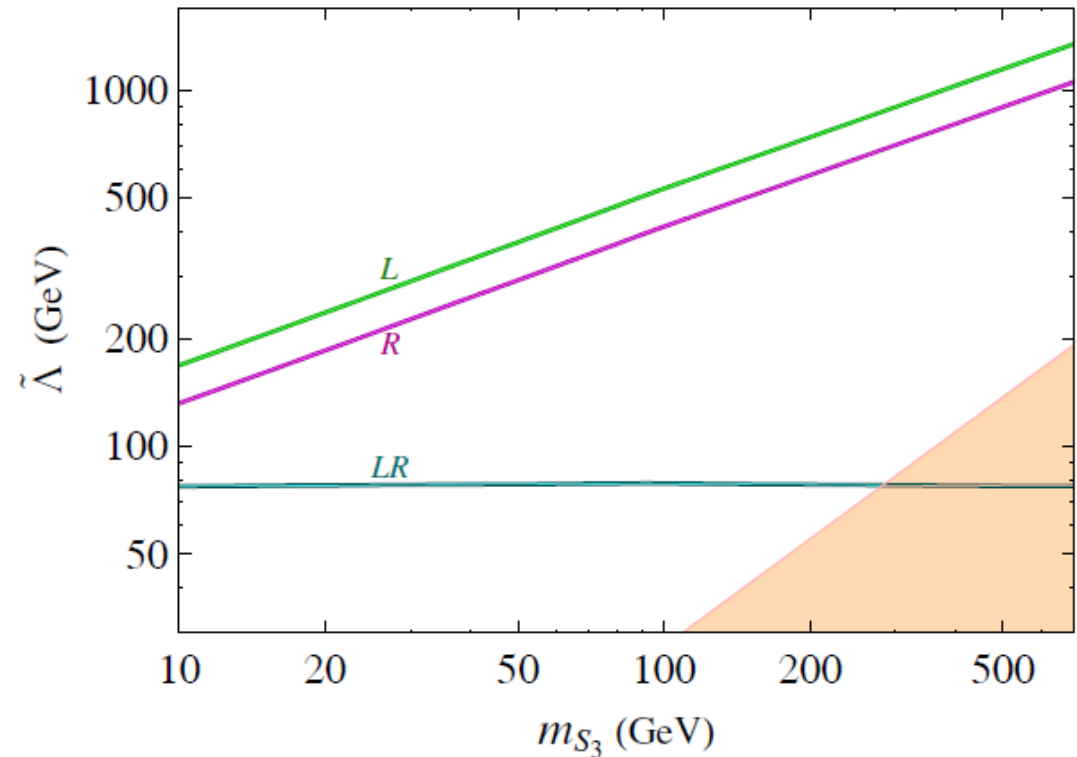
- The effective dimension-six operators ( $O^L$ ,  $O^R$ , and  $O^{LR}$ ) contribute to  $S_3$  annihilations into  $\ell_1\ell_2$  and (for  $O^{L,R}$ )  $\nu_1\nu_2$  pairs.
- They need to be consistent with the observed relic abundance.

PDG 2014  $\Omega_{\tilde{\nu}} h^2 = 0.1198 \pm 0.0026$

## Effective lepton- $S$ couplings satisfying relic data

- The effective dimension-six operators ( $O^L$ ,  $O^R$ , and  $O^{LR}$ ) contribute to  $S_3$  annihilations into  $l_1 l_2$  and (for  $O^{L,R}$ )  $\nu_1 \nu_2$  pairs.
- They need to be consistent with the observed relic abundance.

PDG 2014  $\Omega \bar{h}^2 = 0.1198 \pm 0.0026$

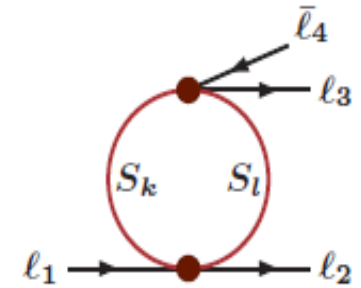


- In the orange region, corresponding to  $2\pi\Lambda/|\kappa|^{1/2} < m_{S_2}$ , the effective theory description breaks down.

Goodman *et al.*

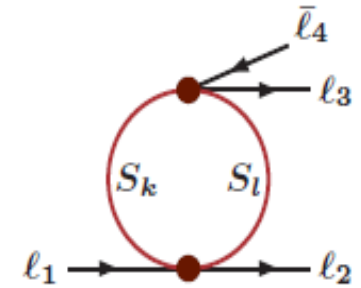
## Constraints from flavor-changing lepton decays

- The effective dimension-six  $l'lSS$  couplings can also induce, at one loop, flavor-changing lepton decays  $l_1 \rightarrow l_2 l_3 l_4$



## Constraints from flavor-changing lepton decays

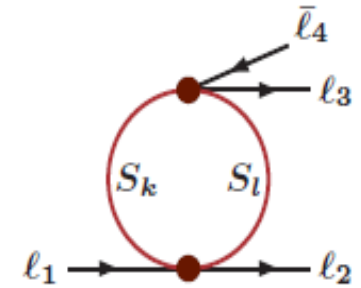
- The effective dimension-six  $l'lSS$  couplings can also induce, at one loop, flavor-changing lepton decays  $l_1 \rightarrow l_2 l_3 l_4$



- The  $K_{LR}$  contributions consistent with the relic density data are well above the lower limit inferred from experimental bounds on these decays.

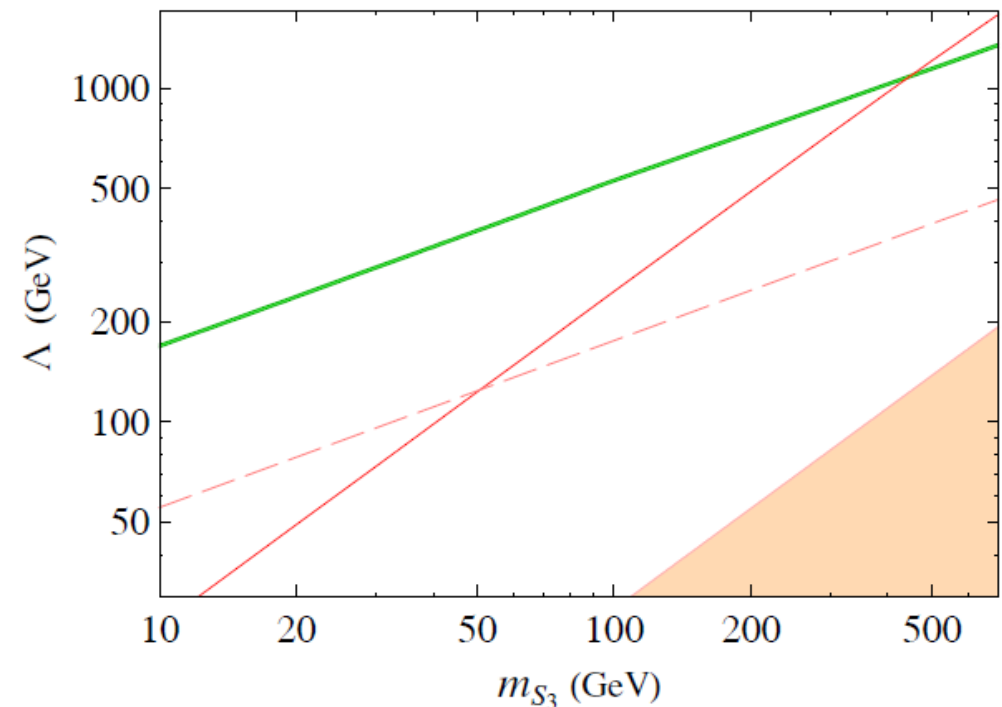
## Constraints from flavor-changing lepton decays

- The effective dimension-six  $l'lSS$  couplings can also induce, at one loop, flavor-changing lepton decays  $l_1 \rightarrow l_2 l_3 l_4$



- The  $K_{LR}$  contributions consistent with the relic density data are well above the lower limit inferred from experimental bounds on these decays.
- But the corresponding  $K_L$  contributions are in conflict with the flavor-violating decay data if  $m_{S_k} > 500$  GeV.

- The red solid curve indicates the lower limit from  $\mathcal{B}(\mu \rightarrow 3e)$  data.



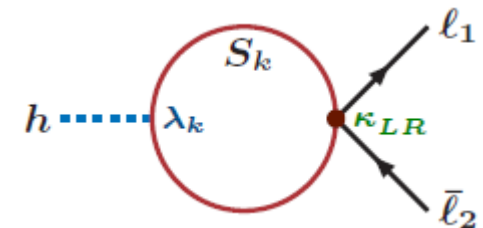
## Potential implications for $h \rightarrow \mu \tau$

- CMS recently observed a slight excess of  $h \rightarrow \mu \tau$  at  $2.5\sigma$ 
  - If a signal,  $\mathcal{B}(h \rightarrow \mu \tau) = (0.89_{-0.37}^{+0.40})\%$
  - If a statistical fluctuation,  $\mathcal{B}(h \rightarrow \mu \tau) < 1.57\%$  at 95% CL.
- Other data from ATLAS & CMS, respectively:
  - $h \rightarrow \tau \tau$   $\sigma/\sigma_{\text{SM}} = 1.42_{-0.38}^{+0.44}$  and  $0.91 \pm 0.27$
  - $\mathcal{B}(h \rightarrow \mu \bar{\mu}) < 1.5 \times 10^{-3}$  and  $1.6 \times 10^{-3}$

## Potential implications for $h \rightarrow \mu \tau$

- CMS recently observed a slight excess of  $h \rightarrow \mu \tau$  at  $2.5\sigma$ 
  - If a signal,  $\mathcal{B}(h \rightarrow \mu \tau) = (0.89_{-0.37}^{+0.40})\%$
  - If a statistical fluctuation,  $\mathcal{B}(h \rightarrow \mu \tau) < 1.57\%$  at 95% CL.
- Other data from ATLAS & CMS, respectively:
  - $h \rightarrow \tau \tau$   $\sigma/\sigma_{\text{SM}} = 1.42_{-0.38}^{+0.44}$  and  $0.91 \pm 0.27$
  - $\mathcal{B}(h \rightarrow \mu \bar{\mu}) < 1.5 \times 10^{-3}$  and  $1.6 \times 10^{-3}$

- At one loop,  $S_k$  can contribute to  $h \rightarrow \mu \tau$  mainly via



## Potential implications for $h \rightarrow \mu \tau$

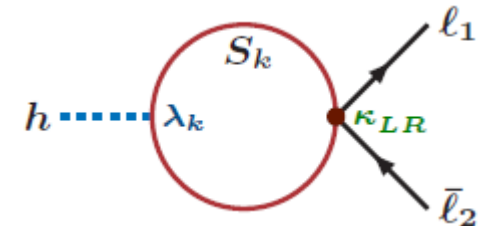
● CMS recently observed a slight excess of  $h \rightarrow \mu \tau$  at  $2.5\sigma$

- If a signal,  $\mathcal{B}(h \rightarrow \mu \tau) = (0.89_{-0.37}^{+0.40})\%$
- If a statistical fluctuation,  $\mathcal{B}(h \rightarrow \mu \tau) < 1.57\%$  at 95% CL.

● Other data from ATLAS & CMS, respectively:

- $h \rightarrow \tau \tau$   $\sigma/\sigma_{\text{SM}} = 1.42_{-0.38}^{+0.44}$  and  $0.91 \pm 0.27$
- $\mathcal{B}(h \rightarrow \mu \bar{\mu}) < 1.5 \times 10^{-3}$  and  $1.6 \times 10^{-3}$

● At one loop,  $S_k$  can contribute to  $h \rightarrow \mu \tau$  mainly via



● The  $S_k$  contribution yields

- $0.52\% < \mathcal{B}(h \rightarrow \mu \tau) < 0.79\%$  with  $-\lambda_{1,2} \sim 2.4 - 7.2$  and  $\lambda_3 \sim 0$  if  $\kappa_{LR} = 1$  and  $(m_{S_k}, \Lambda) \sim (70-200, 78)$  GeV.
- $1.6 < \Gamma_{h \rightarrow \tau \bar{\tau}} / \Gamma_{h \rightarrow \tau \bar{\tau}}^{\text{SM}} < 1.8$
- $\mathcal{B}(\tau \rightarrow \mu \gamma)$  over 30 times below its experimental limit.



## Conclusions

- We have explored scalar DM that is a member of a lepton flavor triplet within the framework of **leptonic minimal flavor violation**.
- The theory includes the type-I seesaw mechanism and has a  $Z_2$  symmetry added to stabilize the DM candidate.
- The new scalars couple to SM particles via renormalizable interactions and to leptons through effective dimension-6 operators.
- We considered constraints on the scalars from the Higgs data, observed relic density, DM direct detection experiments, and searches for flavor-violating charged-lepton decays. The allowed parameter space can be probed further with future data.
- The new scalar interactions can roughly account for the CMS tentative hint of  $h \rightarrow \mu \tau$ .