Research Article **Sources of FCNC in** $SU(3)_C \otimes SU(3)_L \otimes U(1)_X$ **Models**

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There are different models which are based on the gauge symmetry $SU(3)_C \otimes SU(3)_L \otimes U(1)_X$ (331), and some of them include exotic particles, and others are constructed without any exotic charges assigned to the fermionic spectrum. Each model build-up on 331 symmetry has its own interesting properties according to the representations of the gauge group used for the fermionic spectrum, that is, the main reason to explore and identify the possible sources of flavor changing neutral currents and lepton flavor violation at tree level.

1. Introduction

The standard model (SM) [1–3] has been successful to describe leptons, quarks, and their interactions. But in any case, the SM leaves open questions concerning to the electroweak symmetry breaking sector of the model, as well as the particle content of the model: why there are three generations of quarks and leptons? These questions, among others, are the motivation to consider the SM as one important attempt to understand the elementary particles of nature and their interactions but not to consider the SM as the ultimate theory of nature. A common alternative to look for new physics beyond the SM is enlarging the gauge symmetry group, one of these alternatives is the gauge symmetry $SU(3)_C \times SU(3)_L \times U(1)_X$ (331) [4–11]. There are many motivations for this new gauge symmetry group, one of them is that there are some of models are based on 331 symmetry that explain why the family number must be three. This result is obtained from the anomaly-free condition which is satisfied when equal number of triplets and antitriplets (taking into account the $SU(3)_C$) are present and requiring the sum of all fermion charges to vanish, but even that each generation is anomalous and the anomaly cancellation is given for three generations or multiply of three. Other motivation is concerned with the feature that $\sin^2\theta_W$ in this model should be less than

1/4, it is related to the ratio of the coupling constants g' and g of $U(1)_X$ and $SU(3)_{L'}$

$$\left(\frac{g'}{g}\right)^2 = \frac{\sin^2\theta_W}{1 - 4\sin^2\theta_W},\tag{1.1}$$

in this model, there is an energy scale at which the perturbative character is lost, and the energy scale is found using the condition $\sin^2 \theta_W = 1/4$ and it is order of ~ 4 TeV [12].

On the other hand, in the breaking symmetry of the 331 gauge symmetry to the gauge group of the SM and then to the $U(1)_Q$, some new bosons appear such as a new neutral Z' boson which is heavier than the SM gauge bosons and in all the 331 models it can mediate flavor changing process at tree level. In contrast, in the framework of the SM it is well known that flavor changing neutral currents (FCNC) are strongly suppressed, because they appear only at one loop level. Therefore, these FCNC processes can help to put stringent bounds on the parameter space of these kind of models [13–20]. Our aim in this work is to review the possible models that can be built on the basis of extended gauge symmetry 331 and identify the different sources of FCNC in the quark sector as well as the lepton sector.

2. 331 Models

The gauge group to be consider is $SU(3)_C \otimes SU(3)_L \otimes U(1)_X$. Left-handed particles are into $SU(3)_L$ triplets, there are the usual quarks and leptons plus new exotic particles, and the anomaly-free condition constrains the allowed fermion representations (3 or 3^{*}) and the quantum numbers. To describe the particle content of the model and to identify specific types of 331 models is important and so is how defined the electric charge operator, which can be written as a linear combination of the diagonal generators of the group

$$Q = T_3 + \beta T_8 + X, \tag{2.1}$$

where β is a parameter that characterizes the specific particle structure. The parameter β can be chosen $\beta = \pm \sqrt{3}$ or $\beta = \pm 1/\sqrt{3}$, obtaining 331 models with exotic electric charges or 331 models without exotic electric charges, and by exotic charges we mean charges different from those that appear in the SM framework.

Since each lepton family has three states, taking massless neutrinos, they can be arranged into $SU(3)_L$ antitriplets $\psi_i^T = (l_i^-, -\nu_i, l_i^+)$, where *i* is a family index. The first two components corresponds to the ordinary electroweak doublet. This model corresponds to $\beta = \sqrt{3}$ [4–11] for the charge operator in (2.1). Therefore each lepton family will be in the $(1,3^*)_0$ representation of $SU(3)_C \otimes SU(3)_L \otimes U(1)_X$. With these assumptions, there are no new leptons in the 331 model, and all three lepton families are treated identically. In contrast, one of the three quark families transform differently from the other two which is required to anomaly cancellation. Anomaly cancellation requires that two families of quarks transform as triplets $(3,3)_{-1/3}$, and the third one transforms as an antitriplet $(3,3^*)_{2/3}$. The right-handed spectrum is put in singlets in the usual way $(3^*, 1)_{-2/3, 1/3, 4/3}$ for the first two families and $(3^*, 1)_{-5/3, -2/3, 1/3}$ for the third one. It is worth to notice that in general the assumption that one quark family is transforming differently to the other two families is a general condition in the framework of 331 models, and it is generally assumed that the unique generation corresponds to the third generation, and then, it could explain the heavy top quark mass.

In the gauge sector, five new gauge bosons beyond the SM are found. The new gauge bosons form a complex $SU(2)_L$ doublet of dileptons (Y^{++}, Y^{+}) with hypercharge 3 and a singlet W^8_{μ} . The gauge boson W^8_{μ} mixes with the gauge boson X from the $U(1)_X$ to form the hypercharge B_{μ} boson and a new neutral Z'_{μ} boson.

In order to break the symmetry spontaneously, four Higgs multiplets are necessary. Three triplets in representations $(1,3)_1$, $(1,3)_0$, and $(1,3)_{-1}$ for the breaking of $SU(2) \times U(1)$ in order to give masses to all quarks, and a sextet $(1,6)_0$ is required for the lepton masses [4–11].

In this first model [4–11], there are new sources of FCNC processes at tree level coming from the new Z' boson in the quark sector, because the families are treated differently. Also, at one loop level appears new contributions coming from the charged bileptons and the charged scalar sector [21–26]. In this model, there are FCNC in the lepton sector, and they are mediated by the charged bileptons [21–26].

A possible variation of this original model is to consider a new lepton assignment using a heavy lepton E^+ instead of the e^c and adding e^c and E^- as singlets [27]. With this model, it is easy to generate small neutrino masses and lepton number violation can occur and one property of this model version is that bileptons only couple standard to exotic leptons [27].

On the other hand, it is possible to obtain models based on the gauge 331 symmetry but without new exotic charges for the fermions. One version of that is the model proposed by Özer [28], where it is introduced a right-handed neutrino. A systematic study of these kind of models was done in [29, 30]. According to the β value in (2.1), it is possible to get six different set of fermions and the fermion structure in order to avoid the quiral anomalies producing different 331 models. The fermion sets are four lepton sets and two quark sets.

The first set of leptons is

$$L_{1} = \begin{pmatrix} \nu_{i} \\ e_{i}^{-} \\ E_{i}^{-} \end{pmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} e_{i}^{+} \\ (1,3)_{-2/3} \end{vmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e_{i}^{+} \\ (1,1)_{1} \end{vmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} E_{i}^{+} \\ (1,1)_{1} \end{pmatrix} (2.2)$$

using i = 1, 2, 3 as the family index and e_i, d_i , and u_i are the SM fermions and E_i, D_i , and U_i are the exotic ones.

The second set is

$$L_{2} = \begin{pmatrix} e_{i}^{-} \\ v_{i} \\ N_{i}^{0} \end{pmatrix} | e_{i}^{+}$$

$$(1, 3^{*})_{-1/3} | (1, 1)_{1},$$

$$(2.3)$$

where there is a neutral exotic particle. For the third leptonic set,

$$L_{3} = \begin{pmatrix} e_{i}^{-} \\ \nu_{i} \\ N_{1}^{0} \end{pmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} E_{i}^{-} \\ N_{2}^{0} \\ N_{3}^{0} \end{pmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} N_{4}^{0} \\ E_{i}^{+} \\ e_{i}^{+} \end{pmatrix}$$
(2.4)
$$(1, 3^{*})_{-1/3} \begin{vmatrix} (1, 3^{*})_{-1/3} \\ (1, 3^{*})_{-1/3} \end{vmatrix}$$

Anomalies	L_1	L_2	L_3	L_4	Q_1	Q_2
$SU(3)_{c}^{2}U(1)_{X}$	0	0	0	0	0	0
$SU(3)_{L}^{2}U(1)_{X}$	-2/3	-1/3	0	-1	1	0
$\operatorname{grav}^2 U(1)_X$	0	0	0	0	0	0
$U(1)_{X}^{3}$	10/9	8/9	6/9	12/9	-12/9	-6/9

Table 1: Anomalies for the six fermion sets.

where there is a charged exotic particle and four new exotic neutral ones. Finally, for the forth set

$$L_{4} = \begin{pmatrix} \nu_{i} \\ e_{i}^{-} \\ E_{1i}^{-} \end{pmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} E_{2i}^{-} \\ N_{1}^{0} \\ N_{2}^{0} \end{pmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} N_{3}^{0} \\ E_{2i}^{-} \\ E_{3i}^{-} \end{pmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} e_{i}^{+} \\ E_{1i}^{+} \end{vmatrix} = E_{1i}^{+} = E_{1i}^{+}$$

$$(2.5)$$

with three exotic charged particles and three neutral.

Now, the quark sets are

$$Q_{1} = \begin{pmatrix} d_{i} \\ u_{i} \\ U_{i} \end{pmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} d_{i} \\ (3,3^{*})_{1/3} \end{vmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u_{i} \\ (3,1)_{1/3} \end{vmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u_{i} \\ (3,1)_{-2/3} \end{vmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} U_{i} \\ (3,1)_{-2/3} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} Q_{2} = \begin{pmatrix} u_{i} \\ d_{i} \\ D_{i} \end{pmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} u_{i} \\ (3,1)_{-2/3} \end{vmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d_{i} \\ (3,1)_{1/3} \end{vmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} D_{i} \\ (3,1)_{1/3} \end{pmatrix} (2.7)$$

The anomaly contribution for each set is presented in Table 1.

On the basis of Table 1, it is possible to build up many models asking for the anomaly free condition. There are two one family models and eight three family models, referring to how cancel out the anomalies if it is needed one family or the three families. There are two one family models composed by the sets $Q_2 + L_3$ and $Q_1 + L_4$. These models were studied in [29–31] and their relation with the grand unified theories established. For the three family models, there are the combinations $3L_2 + Q_1 + 2Q_2$, $3L_1 + 2Q_1 + Q_2$, $2(Q_2 + L_3) + (Q_1 + L_4)$ and $2(Q_1 + L_4) + (Q_2 + L_3)$, and there are other two models particularly interesting, because they treat the three family leptons completely different, they are the combinations $L_1 + L_2 + L_3 + Q_1 + 2Q_2$ and $L_1 + L_2 + L_4 + 2Q_1 + Q_2$ [31, 32].

In the gauge sector, there are 17 gauge bosons, one gauge boson B^{μ} associated to $U(1)_X$, eight gluons associated to $S(3)_c$ and eight gauge fields from the $SU(3)_L$. The gauge bosons

associated with $SU(3)_L$ transform according to the adjoint representation of the group, and they can be written as

$$\mathbf{W}_{\mu} = W_{\mu}^{a} \frac{\lambda^{a}}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} W_{\mu}^{3} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} W_{\mu}^{8} & \sqrt{2} W_{\mu}^{+} & \sqrt{2} K_{1\mu} \\ \sqrt{2} W_{\mu}^{-} & -W_{\mu}^{3} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} W_{\mu}^{8} & \sqrt{2} \overline{K}_{2\mu} \\ \sqrt{2} \overline{K}_{1\mu} & \sqrt{2} K_{2\mu} & -\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} W_{\mu}^{8} \end{pmatrix},$$
(2.8)

where λ^a are the Gell-Mann matrices, and the electric charges of K_1 and K_2 are given by $Q_1 = 1/2 + \sqrt{3}\beta/2$ and $Q_2 = 1/2 - \sqrt{3}\beta/2$, respectively.

In general, it is convenient to rotate the neutral gauge bosons W^3_{μ} , W^8_{μ} and B_{μ} into new states A_{μ} , Z_{μ} , and Z'_{μ} , given by

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{\mu} \\ Z_{\mu} \\ Z'_{\mu} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} S_{W} & \beta S_{W} & C_{W} \sqrt{1 - \beta^{2} T_{W}^{2}} \\ C_{W} & -\beta S_{W} T_{W} & -S_{W} \sqrt{1 - \beta^{2} T_{W}^{2}} \\ 0 & -\sqrt{1 - \beta^{2} T_{W}^{2}} & \beta T_{W} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} W_{\mu}^{3} \\ W_{\mu}^{8} \\ B_{\mu} \end{pmatrix},$$
(2.9)

where the angle θ_W is defined by $T_W = \tan \theta_W = g' / \sqrt{g^2 + \beta^2 g'^2}$, g, g' being the coupling constants associated to the groups $SU(3)_L$ and $U(1)_X$, respectively, ($S_W = \sin \theta_W$, etc.). In the new basis, A_μ (the photon) is the gauge boson corresponding to the generator Q, while Z_μ can be identified with the SM Z boson. As in the SM, the extended electroweak symmetry is spontaneously broken in 331 models by the presence of elementary scalars having nonzero vacuum expectation values [33–37]. The symmetry breakdown follows a hierarchy

$$SU(3)_L \otimes U(1)_X \xrightarrow{V} SU(2)_L \otimes U(1)_Y \xrightarrow{v} U(1)_Q,$$
 (2.10)

in which two VEV scales *V* and *v*, with $V \gg v$, are introduced. The photon is kept as the only massless gauge boson, while the remaining neutral gauge bosons get mixed. In this way, *Z* and *Z'* turn out to be only approximate mass eigenstates.

3. FCNC in 331 Models

First of all, the extension of the gauge group which embedded the SM group implies a new neutral gauge Z' boson, which in general in all the 331 models presented generates FCNC at tree-level. This fact is that because in 331 models it is not possible to accommodate all the SM spectrum in multiplets with the same quantum numbers; therefore, the Z' couplings are not universal for all the fermions, and that is the origin of a new source of FCNC. Particularly, to treat in a different manner the third generation, as is usually assumed, to the other two generations produces FCNC contributions. This property is common to all the 331 models in the quark sector. It is worth to mention that even in the left-handed couplings of the standard fermions to the Z neutral boson appear FCNC at tree level through the mixing of Z - Z' and also coming from the mixing between the standard quarks and the exotic ones included in

each case. Moreover, the mixing between neutral gauge bosons should take into account the gauge bosons which transform according to the adjoint representation of the $SU(3)_L$, some noted K^{\pm} and K^0 gauge bosons for the charged sector and neutral sector (they are related to $K_{1,2}$). In order to notice these effects clearly, the Lagrangian for the new Z' boson with a β arbitrary is the following:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}^{Z'} &= -\frac{g'}{2T_W} Z^{\mu'} \bigg[\sum_{m=1}^2 \overline{D_m^0} \gamma_\mu \bigg(\frac{P_L}{\sqrt{3}} + \frac{T_W^2 \beta}{3} (P_L - 2P_R) \bigg) D_m^0 \\ &+ \overline{D_3^0} \gamma_\mu \bigg(-\frac{P_L}{\sqrt{3}} + \frac{T_W^2 \beta}{3} (P_L - 2P_R) \bigg) D_3^0 + \sum_{m=1}^2 \overline{U_m^0} \gamma_\mu \bigg(\frac{P_L}{\sqrt{3}} + \frac{T_W^2 \beta}{3} (P_L + 4P_R) \bigg) \\ &\times U_m^0 + \overline{U_3^0} \gamma_\mu \bigg(-\frac{P_L}{\sqrt{3}} + \frac{T_W^2 \beta}{3} (P_L + 4P_R) \bigg) U_3^0 + \overline{L^0} \gamma_\mu \bigg(-\frac{P_L}{\sqrt{3}} - T_W^2 \beta (P_L + 2P_R) \bigg) \\ &\times L^0 + \overline{\nu^0} \gamma_\mu \bigg(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} - T_W^2 \beta \bigg) P_L \nu^0 + \sum_{m=1}^2 \overline{J^0}_m \gamma_\mu \bigg(-\frac{2P_L}{\sqrt{3}} + T_W^2 \bigg(\frac{1}{3} + \frac{3\beta}{\sqrt{3}} \bigg) \bigg) J_m^0 \\ &+ \overline{J_3^0} \gamma_\mu \bigg(-\frac{2P_L}{\sqrt{3}} + T_W^2 \bigg(\frac{1}{3} - \frac{3\beta}{\sqrt{3}} \bigg) (P_L - P_R) \bigg) J_3^0 \\ &+ \overline{E^0} \gamma_\mu \bigg(\frac{2P_L}{\sqrt{3}} + T_W^2 \bigg(-\frac{1}{3} - \frac{3\beta}{\sqrt{3}} \bigg) \times (-P_L + P_R) \bigg) E^0 \bigg], \end{aligned}$$

where $D^0 = (d_1^0 \ d_2^0 \ d_3^0)^T$, $U^0 = (u_1^0 \ u_2^0 \ u_3^0)^T$, $L^0 = (e_1^0 \ e_2^0 \ e_3^0)^T$, $E^0 = (E_1^0 \ E_2^0 \ E_3^0)^T$, and the exotic quarks j_i^0 with electric charges are given by $q_{J_1} = Q_{J_2} = 1/6 + \sqrt{3}\beta/2$ and $q_{J_3} = 1/6 - \sqrt{3}\beta/2$. There is explicitly shown the no universal couplings between the quarks D_i , U_i and the Z' boson, and it is because one family is in the 3 representation, while the other two are in the 3^{*} (or vice versa). As a consequence, the FCNCs arise once the fields U_i and D_i are rotated to the mass eigenstates. The number of extra fermions up-quark type or downquark type depends on the parameter β , for $\beta = -1/\sqrt{3}$ will have $N_U = 1$ and $N_D = 2$ and for $\beta = 1/\sqrt{3}$ will have $N_U = 2$ and $N_D = 1$. Therefore, there is not only FCNC at tree level through the Z' boson, but also the usual Z boson due to the mix of these new exotic quarks with the ordinary ones. To notice this, for the case of $\beta = +1/\sqrt{3}$, the following definitions are useful $U_0^T = (u_1^0, u_2^0, u_3^0, T_1^0, T_2^0)$, $D_0^T = (d_1^0, d_2^0, d_3^0, B_1^0)$, $E_0^T = (e^0, \mu^0, \tau^0, E_1^0, E_2^0, E_3^0)$, and $N_0^T = (v_e^0, v_\mu^0, v_\eta^0)$. Meanwhile, for the case $\beta = -1/\sqrt{3}$, the definitions are $U_0^T = (u_1^0, u_2^0, u_3^0, T_1^0)$, $D_0^T = (d_1^0, d_2^0, d_3^0, B_1^0, B_2^0)$, $E_0^T = (e^0, \mu^0, \tau^0)$, and $N_0^T = (v_e^0, v_\mu^0, v_\tau^0, N_1^0, N_2^0, N_3^0)$. With this vector notation, the Lagrangian for neutral currents is

$$\mathcal{L}_{\rm NC} = \sum_{\Psi} - \frac{g Z^{\mu}}{2 C_W} \Big\{ \overline{\Psi^0} \gamma_{\mu} \epsilon_{\Psi_{(L)}}^{(1)} P_L \Psi^0 + \overline{\Psi^0} \gamma_{\mu} \epsilon_{\Psi_{(R)}}^{(1)} P_R \Psi^0 \Big\} - \frac{g' Z'^{\mu}}{2 \sqrt{3} S_W C_W} \Big\{ \overline{\Psi^0} \gamma_{\mu} \epsilon_{\Psi_{(L)}}^{(2)} P_L \Psi^0 + \overline{\Psi^0} \gamma_{\mu} \epsilon_{\Psi_{(R)}}^{(2)} P_R \Psi^0 \Big\} - \frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} \Big\{ \overline{\Psi^0} \gamma_{\mu} \epsilon_{\Psi_{(L)}}^{(3)} P_L \Psi^0 \operatorname{Re} K^{\mu} + i \overline{\Psi^0} \gamma_{\mu} \epsilon_{\Psi_{(L)}}^{(4)} P_L \Psi^0 \operatorname{Im} K^{\mu} \Big\},$$
(3.2)

where the sum is over U_0 , D_0 , E_0 , and N_0 . The couplings $\epsilon_{\Psi_{(L,R)}}^{(1,2)}$ depends on the parameter β . With $\beta = \pm 1/\sqrt{3}$, the Z^0 interaction is

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{\mathcal{U}_{(L)}}^{(1)} &= \left(C_{W}^{2} - \frac{S_{W}^{2}}{3} \right) \mathbf{1}_{(3+N_{U}^{\pm})\times(3+N_{U}^{\pm})} - \begin{pmatrix} 0_{(3\times3)} \\ \mathbf{1}_{(N_{U}^{\pm}\times N_{U}^{\pm})} \end{pmatrix}, \\ \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{\mathcal{U}_{(R)}}^{(1)} &= -\left(\frac{4S_{W}^{2}}{3} \right) \mathbf{1}_{(3+N_{U}^{\pm})\times(3+N_{U}^{\pm})}, \\ \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{\mathfrak{D}_{(L)}}^{(1)} &= \left(-C_{W}^{2} - \frac{S_{W}^{2}}{3} \right) \mathbf{1}_{(3+N_{D}^{\pm})\times(3+N_{D}^{\pm})} + \begin{pmatrix} 0_{(3\times3)} \\ \mathbf{1}_{(N_{D}^{\pm}\times N_{D}^{\pm})} \end{pmatrix}, \\ \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{\mathfrak{D}_{(R)}}^{(1)} &= + \left(\frac{2S_{W}^{2}}{3} \right) \mathbf{1}_{(3+N_{D}^{\pm})\times(3+N_{D}^{\pm})}, \end{aligned}$$
(3.3)

where the no universality of the left handed quarks is clear, while the right-handed couplings drive for $\epsilon_{\mathcal{U},\mathfrak{D}_{(R)}}^{(1)}$ are universals.

In a similar way for the $Z^{'0}$ boson, the couplings are

$$\begin{split} \epsilon_{\mathcal{U}_{(L)}}^{(2)} &= \left(C_{W}^{2} \pm \frac{S_{W}^{2}}{3} \right) \mathbf{1}_{(3+N_{U}^{\pm}) \times (3+N_{U}^{\pm})} - 2C_{W}^{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0_{(2\times 2)} \\ \mathbf{1}_{(N_{T}^{\pm}+1) \times (N_{T}^{\pm}+1)} \end{pmatrix} \\ &+ \left(C_{W}^{2} \mp 2C_{W}^{2} \pm S_{W}^{2} \right) \begin{pmatrix} 0_{(3\times 3)} \\ \mathbf{1}_{(N_{U}^{\pm} \times N_{U}^{\pm})} \end{pmatrix}, \\ \epsilon_{\mathcal{U}_{(R)}}^{(2)} &= \pm \frac{4S_{W}^{2}}{3} \mathbf{1}_{(3+N_{U}^{\pm}) \times (3+N_{U}^{\pm})}, \\ \epsilon_{\mathfrak{D}_{(L)}}^{(2)} &= \left(C_{W}^{2} \pm \frac{S_{W}^{2}}{3} \right) \mathbf{1}_{(3+N_{D}^{\pm}) \times (3+N_{D}^{\pm})} - 2C_{W}^{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0_{(2\times 2)} \\ \mathbf{1}_{(N_{D}^{\pm}+1) \times (N_{D}^{\pm}+1)} \end{pmatrix} \\ &+ \left(C_{W}^{2} \pm 2C_{W}^{2} \mp S_{W}^{2} \right) \begin{pmatrix} 0_{(3\times 3)} \\ \mathbf{1}_{(N_{D}^{\pm} \times N_{D}^{\pm})} \end{pmatrix}, \\ \epsilon_{\mathfrak{D}_{(R)}}^{(2)} &= \mp \left(\frac{2S_{W}^{2}}{3} \right) \mathbf{1}_{(3+N_{D}^{\pm}) \times (3+N_{D}^{\pm})}. \end{split}$$

$$(3.4)$$

At this point, it is important to mention that the couplings in (3.2)–(3.4) are in the interaction basis, thus to obtain the mass eigenstates, it is necessary to get the rotation matrices which diagonalize the mass matrices in the Yukawa sector. Therefore, the mass eigenstates *U* and *D* are defined by

$$U_{L}^{0} = V_{L}^{u} U_{L}, \qquad D_{L}^{0} = V_{L}^{d} D_{L}, \qquad (3.5)$$

with matrices V_L of dimensions $(3 + N_U^{\pm}) \times (3 + N_U^{\pm})$ and $(3 + N_D^{\pm}) \times (3 + N_D^{\pm})$, respectively. It is useful to write the matrices $V_L^{u,d}$ as

$$V_{L}^{u} = \begin{pmatrix} V_{0}^{u}{}_{(3\times3)} & V_{X}^{u}{}_{(3\times N_{U}^{\pm})} \\ V_{Y}^{u}{}_{(N_{U}^{\pm}\times3)} & V_{U}{}_{(N_{U}^{\pm}\times N_{U}^{\pm})} \end{pmatrix}, \qquad V_{L}^{d} = \begin{pmatrix} V_{0}^{d}{}_{(3\times3)} & V_{X}^{d}{}_{(3\times N_{D}^{\pm})} \\ V_{Y}^{d}{}_{(N_{D}^{\pm}\times3)} & V_{D}{}_{(N_{D}^{\pm}\times N_{D}^{\pm})} \end{pmatrix},$$
(3.6)

using submatrices in such a way that $V_{\text{CKM}} = V_0^{u\dagger}V_0^d$ and in general the CKM matrix is not unitary.

In addition, the models include new gauge bosons K_{μ} which coupled to the left handed fermions, the couplings in (3.2) for the K_2^{μ} boson when $\beta = 1/\sqrt{3}$ are

And when $\beta = -1/\sqrt{3}$ for the K_1^{μ} boson, they are

It is often assumed that the vacuum expectation values of the scalar fields are real, and this assumption implies that there is not any spontaneous CP symmetry breaking. In that case, the state Im *K* decouples and therefore turn into an exact mass eigenstate. However, the bosons Z^{μ} , $Z^{'\mu}$ and $\sqrt{2}$ Re *K* mix, and it is possible to get the mass basis (Z_1 , Z_2 , and Z_3)

through an orthogonal matrix which depends on the vacuum expectation values of the Higgs bosons,

$$\begin{pmatrix} Z \\ Z' \\ \sqrt{2} \operatorname{Re} K \end{pmatrix} = R \begin{pmatrix} Z_1 \\ Z_2 \\ Z_3 \end{pmatrix},$$
(3.9)

and therefore, the Lagrangian can be rewritten as

$$\mathcal{L}_{\rm NC} = -\sum_{\Psi=\mathcal{U},\mathfrak{D}} \left[Q_{\Psi} \overline{\Psi} \gamma^{\mu} \Psi A_{\mu} + \sum_{j,k=1}^{3} g_{j} \overline{\Psi} \gamma^{\mu} \left(E_{\Psi_{L}}^{(j)} P_{L} + E_{\Psi_{R}}^{(j)} P_{R} \right) \Psi R_{jk} Z_{k\mu} + i \frac{g}{2} \overline{\Psi} \gamma^{\mu} \left(E_{\Psi_{L}}^{(4)} P_{L} + E_{\Psi_{R}}^{(4)} P_{R} \right) \Psi \sqrt{2} \operatorname{Im} K_{\mu} \right],$$
(3.10)

where Q_{Ψ} is the electric charge and the coupling constants g_i are

$$g_1 = \frac{g}{2C_W}, \qquad g_2 = \frac{g'}{2\sqrt{3}S_W C_W} = \frac{g}{2\sqrt{3}C_W \sqrt{C_W^2 - \beta^2 S_W^2}}, \qquad g_3 = \frac{g}{2},$$
 (3.11)

and the matrices $E_{\Psi_{LR}}^{(i)}$ are given by

$$E_{\Psi_L}^{(i)} = V_L^{\Psi\dagger} \epsilon_{\Psi_L}^{(i)} V_L^{\Psi}, \qquad E_{\Psi_R}^{(i)} = V_R^{\Psi\dagger} \epsilon_{\Psi_R}^{(i)} V_R^{\Psi} = \epsilon_{\Psi_R}^{(i)}.$$
(3.12)

Finally, about the sources of FCNC in the framework of the 331 models, they are two models which are very interesting, because they have some special properties from the phenomenological point of view. They are the models build up with the fermionic sets $L_1 + L_2 + L_3 + Q_1 + 2Q_2$ and $L_1 + L_2 + L_4 + 2Q_1 + Q_2$. They not only differentiate the quark generations, doing one family specially different, but they also do in the leptonic sector. These models will have the usual FCNC at tree level in 331 models in the quark sector through the Z' boson but also they present FCNC in the leptonic sector through the scalar fields and through the Z' boson [32]. To notice the new sources of FCNC arising in these models, the neutral current Lagrangian is going to be obtained. First of all, the spectrum should be specified

$$\ell_{1L} = \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ e_1^- \\ E_1^- \end{pmatrix}_L, \qquad \ell_{mL} = \begin{pmatrix} e_m^- \\ \nu_m \\ N_k^0 \end{pmatrix}_L, \qquad \ell_{5L} = \begin{pmatrix} E_2^- \\ N_3^0 \\ N_4^0 \end{pmatrix}_L, \qquad \ell_{4L} = \begin{pmatrix} N_5^0 \\ E_2^+ \\ e_3^+ \end{pmatrix}_L, \qquad (3.13)$$

where m = 2,3, k = 1,2 and note that one of the leptonic triplets is in the adjoint representation respect to the other two then FCNC at tree level will arise through the Z' boson. Using vector notation, the neutral current Lagrangian in this case is

$$\mathcal{L}_{\rm NC} = \sum_{\Psi} \Biggl[A_{\mu} \Biggl\{ \overline{\Psi^{0}} \gamma_{\mu} \epsilon^{A}_{\Psi_{(L)}} P_{L} \Psi^{0} + \overline{\Psi^{0}} \gamma_{\mu} \epsilon^{A}_{\Psi_{(R)}} P_{R} \Psi^{0} \Biggr\} + \frac{g Z^{\mu}}{2C_{W}} \Biggl\{ \overline{\Psi^{0}} \gamma_{\mu} \epsilon^{Z}_{\Psi_{(L)}} P_{L} \Psi^{0} + \overline{\Psi^{0}} \gamma_{\mu} \epsilon^{Z}_{\Psi_{(R)}} P_{R} \Psi^{0} \Biggr\} + \frac{g' Z'^{\mu}}{2\sqrt{3}S_{W}C_{W}} \Biggl\{ \overline{\Psi^{0}} \gamma_{\mu} \epsilon^{Z'}_{\Psi_{(L)}} P_{L} \Psi^{0} + \overline{\Psi^{0}} \gamma_{\mu} \epsilon^{Z'}_{\Psi_{(R)}} P_{R} \Psi^{0} \Biggr\} \Biggr].$$
(3.14)

Defining the vector $E^T = (e_1^-, e_2^-, e_3^-, E_1^-, E_2^-)$, the couplings are

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_{E_{(L)}}^{A} &= gS_{W}I_{5\times 5}, \qquad \epsilon_{\mathcal{E}_{(R)}}^{A} = gS_{W}I_{5\times 5}, \\ \epsilon_{E_{(L)}}^{Z} &= \frac{g}{2C_{W}}\mathrm{Diag}\Big(C_{2W}, C_{2W}, C_{2W}, -2S_{W}^{2}, C_{2W}\Big), \\ \epsilon_{E_{(R)}}^{Z} &= \frac{g}{2C_{W}}\mathrm{Diag}\Big(-2S_{W}^{2}, -2S_{W}^{2}, -2S_{W}^{2}, -2S_{W}^{2}, C_{2W}\Big), \\ \epsilon_{E_{(L)}}^{Z'} &= \frac{g'}{2\sqrt{3}S_{W}C_{W}}\mathrm{Diag}(1, -C_{2W}, -C_{2W}, -C_{2W}, -C_{2W}), \\ \epsilon_{E_{(R)}}^{Z'} &= \frac{g'}{2\sqrt{3}S_{W}C_{W}}\mathrm{Diag}\Big(2S_{W}^{2}, 2S_{W}^{2}, -C_{2W}, 2S_{W}^{2}, 1\Big), \end{aligned}$$
(3.15)

where $C_{2W} = \cos(2\theta_W)$, and it is worthwhile to point out that the right handed couplings are not universal, and it is a new feature of this model. Usually, in the framework of the 331 models, only the left-handed couplings are not universal, but the right-handed are universal as it was shown in (3.1).

For the neutral sector, $N^T = (v_1^0, v_2^0, v_3^0, N_1^0, N_2^0, N_3^0, N_4^0)$ is defined, and the left-handed couplings are

4. Summary

One of the most intriguing options to consider physics beyond the SM consists of extending the gauge symmetry group to $SU(3)_C \times SU(3)_L \times U(1)_X$. There are many models which are based on the 331 symmetry, and one intriguing feature of these models is the presence of FCNC at tree level, but the source of that new interactions is not unique and depends on how the model is built up. In the Pleitez-Frampton model, the first one proposed, it was

established the presence of FCNC at tree level coming from the new Z' boson and due to the different assignment of the quark representation for one of the quark families; doing the left-handed couplings between quarks and the Z' boson not universal. On the other hand, it is possible to build up models on the basis of 331 symmetry contrary to the Pleitez-Frampton model without any exotic charges for the new particles in the spectrum. These kind of models correspond to a $\beta = \pm 1/\sqrt{3}$ in the electric charge operator (2.1). These models include new exotic up-quark type and down-quark type which are going to mix with the standard quarks. In one version appears five up quark type and four down quark type, and another version include four-up quark type and five-down quark type; also, these models include extra charged leptons in one case and neutral leptons in the other one. The mixing obtained is a source of FCNC at tree level when the quark fields are written in the mass basis. There are also a new source of FCNC which is coming from the mixing in the gauge sector between the bosons (A, Z, Z', K). The mixing in this sector is usually reduced to the mixing between Z and Z'. If we consider the mixing between the quarks and the mixing (Z, Z'), then the FCNC interactions appear through the Z and the Z' mediation. In the leptonic sector, something similar is going to happen. Finally, there are models which not only treat different the quark families but the leptonic families too. One of these models is presented and the neutral current Lagrangian obtained, and one interesting new and additional feature is the nonuniversal couplings in the right-handed sector through the Z and Z' bosons. This new contributions to the FCNC processes could help to relax the bounds obtained on the Z' Boson mass.

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