

# Diagonal reflection symmetries and universal four-zero texture\*

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**Abstract:** In this paper, we consider a set of new symmetries in the SM: *diagonal reflection* symmetries  $Rm_{u,v}^* R = m_{u,v}, m_{d,e}^* = m_{d,e}$  with  $R = \text{diag}(-1, 1, 1)$ . These generalized  $CP$  symmetries predict the Majorana phases to be  $\alpha_{2,3}/2 \sim 0$  or  $\pi/2$ . Realization of diagonal reflection symmetries implies a broken chiral  $U(1)_{PQ}$  symmetry only for the first generation. The axion scale is suggested to be  $\langle \theta_{u,d} \rangle \sim \Lambda_{\text{GUT}} \sqrt{m_{u,d} m_{c,s}}/\nu \sim 10^{12}$  [GeV]. By combining the symmetries with the four-zero texture, the mass eigenvalues and mixing matrices of quarks and leptons are reproduced well. This scheme predicts the normal hierarchy, the Dirac phase  $\delta_{CP} \simeq 203^\circ$ , and  $|m_1| \simeq 2.5$  or  $6.2$  [meV]. In this scheme, the type-I seesaw mechanism and a given neutrino Yukawa matrix  $Y_\nu$  completely determine the structure of the right-handed neutrino mass  $M_R$ . A  $u-\nu$  unification predicts the mass eigenvalues to be  $(M_{R1}, M_{R2}, M_{R3}) = (O(10^5), O(10^9), O(10^{14}))$  [GeV].

**Keywords:**  $\mu-\tau$  reflection symmetry, four-zero texture, generalized  $CP$  symmetry

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## I. INTRODUCTION

The discovery of the neutrino oscillation [1, 2] proved the finite mass and mixing of neutrinos. To explain the peculiar mixing pattern, many flavor structures based on some symmetry, such as four-zero texture [3-13], democratic texture [14-33],  $\mu-\tau$  symmetry [34-55], and  $\mu-\tau$  reflection symmetry [56-78], have been studied. However, these symmetries often have large corrections of symmetry breaking on the order of  $\sim O(0.1)$ . Among them,  $\mu-\tau$  reflection symmetries for quarks and leptons have been recently discussed [79].

In this paper, we consider a set of new symmetries with the accuracy of  $\simeq O(2,3\%)$  in the Standard Model (SM), i.e., diagonal reflection symmetries for quarks and leptons. The previous study of  $\mu-\tau$  reflection symmetries are translated to forms  $Rm_{u,v}^* R = m_{u,v}, m_{d,e}^* = m_{d,e}$  with  $R = \text{diag}(-1, 1, 1)$  by a redefinition of fermion fields. We call such a symmetry *diagonal reflection* because it is a diagonal remnant of  $\mu-\tau$  reflection symmetry after deduction of  $\mu-\tau$  symmetry. Each of them is just a generalized  $CP$  (GCP) symmetry [80-99] and no longer a  $\mu-\tau$  reflection.

The form of the symmetries suggests that the flavored  $CP$  violation only comes from a chiral symmetry breaking of the first generation. As a justification of diagonal

reflection symmetries and a zero texture  $(m_f)_{11} = 0$ , simultaneous breaking of a chiral  $U(1)_{PQ}$  [100] and a generalized  $CP$  symmetry is discussed in a specific two Higgs doublet model (2HDM). As a result, an invisible (flavored) axion [101-108] (a *flaxion* [109] or *axiflavor* [110]) appears in conjunction with solving the strong  $CP$  problem [111]. The axion scale is suggested to be  $\langle \theta_{u,d} \rangle \sim \Lambda_{\text{GUT}} \sqrt{m_{u,d} m_{c,s}}/\nu \sim 10^{12}$  [GeV]. This value can produce the dark matter abundance  $\Omega_a h^2 \sim 0.2$  and is very intriguing. It is also applicable to a solution of the strong  $CP$  problem using the discrete symmetry  $P$  [112, 113] or  $CP$  [114] because the diagonal reflection symmetries can reconcile the CKM phase  $\delta_{\text{CKM}}$  and  $\theta_{\text{QED}}^{\text{tree}} = \text{ArgDet}[m_u m_d] = 0$  without Hermiticity or mirror fermions [115].

An additional assumption  $(m_\nu)_{13} = 0$  (which can be justified by Eq. (38) in the left-right symmetric models [116-118]) realizes diagonal reflection with universal four-zero texture, which restricts fermion mass matrices to have only four parameters. This scheme provides proper masses, mixing, and  $CP$  phases of quarks and leptons. It predicts the Dirac phase  $\delta_{CP} \simeq 203^\circ$ , the Majorana phases  $(\alpha_2, \alpha_3) \simeq (11.3^\circ, 7.54^\circ)$  up to  $180^\circ$ , the normal mass hierarchy, and the lightest neutrino mass  $|m_1| \simeq 2.5$  or  $6.2$  [meV].

The main purpose of this paper is to constrain the mass matrix of right-handed neutrinos  $M_R$  using the diag-

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onal reflection symmetries, the four-zero texture, and the type-I seesaw mechanism [119-122]. The matrix  $M_R$  also exhibits diagonal reflection symmetry with a four-zero texture because four-zero textures are type-I seesaw invariant [4, 6]. For a given neutrino Yukawa matrix  $Y_\nu$ , the texture of  $M_R$  is completely determined by the seesaw mechanism in this scheme. A  $u-\nu$  unification predicts the mass eigenvalues to be  $(M_{R1}, M_{R2}, M_{R3}) = (O(10^5), O(10^9), O(10^{14}))$  [GeV].

Quantum corrections hardly break these symmetries because couplings of the first generation are very small. A qualitative analysis shows that the symmetries are retained as approximate ones under the renormalization group equations of the SM.

This paper is organized as follows. The next section gives the definition of diagonal reflection symmetries. Sec. III discusses a realization of diagonal reflection symmetries and implications regarding the strong  $CP$  problem. Sec. IV presents an analysis of physical parameters and universal four-zero texture. In Sec. V, we discuss stability under quantum corrections. The final section is devoted to a summary.

## II. DIAGONAL REFLECTION SYMMETRIES

To start, we show a new set of symmetries. The mass matrices of the SM fermions  $f = u, d, e$ , and neutrinos  $\nu_L$  are defined by

$$\mathcal{L} \ni \sum_f -\bar{f}_L m_{fij}^{BM} f_{Rj} - \bar{\nu}_L m_{\nu ij}^{BM} \nu_{Lj}^c + \text{h.c.} \quad (1)$$

Here, we assume Hermitian  $m_f^{BM}$  and complex-symmetric  $m_\nu^{BM}$ , which can produce successful mass eigenvalues and mixing matrices  $V_{CKM}$  and  $U_{MNS}$  [79];

$$m_u^{BM} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\frac{C_u}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{C_u}{\sqrt{2}} \\ -\frac{C_u}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{\tilde{B}_u}{2} + \frac{A_u}{2} & \frac{\tilde{B}_u}{2} - \frac{A_u}{2} - iB_u \\ -\frac{C_u}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{\tilde{B}_u}{2} - \frac{A_u}{2} + iB_u & \frac{\tilde{B}_u}{2} + \frac{A_u}{2} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2)$$

$$m_d^{BM} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{iC_d}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{iC_d}{\sqrt{2}} \\ -\frac{iC_d}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{\tilde{B}_d}{2} + \frac{A_d}{2} & \frac{\tilde{B}_d}{2} - \frac{A_d}{2} - iB_d \\ -\frac{iC_d}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{\tilde{B}_d}{2} - \frac{A_d}{2} + iB_d & \frac{\tilde{B}_d}{2} + \frac{A_d}{2} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (3)$$

and

$$m_\nu^{BM} = \begin{pmatrix} -a_\nu & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(b_\nu - ic_\nu) & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(b_\nu + ic_\nu) \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(b_\nu - ic_\nu) & \frac{f_\nu}{2} - \frac{d_\nu}{2} + ie_\nu & -\frac{f_\nu}{2} - \frac{d_\nu}{2} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(b_\nu + ic_\nu) & -\frac{f_\nu}{2} - \frac{d_\nu}{2} & \frac{f_\nu}{2} - \frac{d_\nu}{2} - ie_\nu \end{pmatrix}, \quad (4)$$

$$m_e^{BM} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{iC_e}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{iC_e}{\sqrt{2}} \\ -\frac{iC_e}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{\tilde{B}_e}{2} + \frac{A_e}{2} & \frac{\tilde{B}_e}{2} - \frac{A_e}{2} - iB_e \\ -\frac{iC_e}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{\tilde{B}_e}{2} - \frac{A_e}{2} + iB_e & \frac{\tilde{B}_e}{2} + \frac{A_e}{2} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (5)$$

The Hermiticity of Yukawa matrices is justified by the parity symmetry in the left-right symmetric models [116-118]. These matrices (2)-(5) separately satisfy  $\mu-\tau$  reflection symmetries [56, 57]:

$$\begin{aligned} T_u (m_{u,\nu}^{BM})^* T_u &= m_{u,\nu}^{BM}, \\ T_d (m_{d,e}^{BM})^* T_d &= m_{d,e}^{BM}, \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

where

$$T_u = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad T_d = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (7)$$

In general, a Hermitian or complex-symmetric matrix with a  $\mu-\tau$  reflection symmetry has six parameters. Eq. (4) is a general complex-symmetric matrix which satisfies Eq. (6). Eq. (2), Eq. (3), and Eq. (5) have four parameters with two additional constraints,  $(m_f)_{11} = 0$  and  $(m_f)_{12} = (m_f)_{13}$ .

A simultaneous redefinition of all fermion fields  $f' = U_{BM} f$  and  $\nu' = U_{BM} \nu$  by the following bi-maximal transformation  $U_{BM}$ ,

$$m_f \equiv U_{BM} m_f^{BM} U_{BM}^\dagger, \quad m_\nu \equiv U_{BM} m_\nu^{BM} U_{BM}^T,$$

$$U_{BM} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (8)$$

leads to Hermitian four-zero textures [3] and a symmetric neutrino mass;

$$\begin{aligned}
 m_u &= \begin{pmatrix} i & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & C_u & 0 \\ C_u & \tilde{B}_u & B_u \\ 0 & B_u & A_u \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -i & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \\
 m_d &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & C_d & 0 \\ C_d & \tilde{B}_d & B_d \\ 0 & B_d & A_d \end{pmatrix}, \\
 m_\nu &= \begin{pmatrix} -i & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_\nu & b_\nu & c_\nu \\ b_\nu & d_\nu & e_\nu \\ c_\nu & e_\nu & f_\nu \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -i & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \\
 m_e &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & C_e & 0 \\ C_e & \tilde{B}_e & B_e \\ 0 & B_e & A_e \end{pmatrix}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

Here,  $a_\nu \sim f_\nu$  and  $A_f \sim C_f$  are real parameters that satisfy  $A_f > \tilde{B}_f > B_f \gg C_f$ . In this basis, the assumptions are deformed to be  $(Y_f)_{11}, (Y_f)_{13}, (Y_f)_{31} = 0$  for  $f = u, d, e$ . We will partially discuss a justification of the texture later. Note that a  $\mu - \tau$  reflection symmetry is not imposed on  $m_\nu$  (10).

In this basis of the four-zero texture, the  $\mu - \tau$  reflection symmetries (6) are rewritten as

$$U_{BM} T_{u,d} U_{BM}^\dagger m_{u,d}^* U_{BM}^* T_{u,d} U_{BM}^\dagger = m_{u,d}. \tag{11}$$

Surprisingly,

$$-U_{BM}^* T_u U_{BM}^\dagger = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \equiv R, \tag{12}$$

$$U_{BM}^* T_d U_{BM}^\dagger = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = 1_3. \tag{13}$$

Then, the  $\mu - \tau$  reflection symmetries in the four-zero basis are transformed into

$$R m_{u,\nu}^* R = m_{u,\nu}, \quad m_{d,e}^* = m_{d,e}. \tag{14}$$

Hermitian or symmetric mass matrices that satisfy Eq. (14) are given by

$$\begin{aligned}
 m_u &= \begin{pmatrix} a_u & ib_u & ic_u \\ -ib_u & d_u & e_u \\ -ic_u & e_u & f_u \end{pmatrix}, \quad m_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} a_\nu & ib_\nu & ic_\nu \\ ib_\nu & d_\nu & e_\nu \\ ic_\nu & e_\nu & f_\nu \end{pmatrix}, \\
 m_{d,e} &= \begin{pmatrix} a_{d,e} & b_{d,e} & c_{d,e} \\ b_{d,e} & d_{d,e} & e_{d,e} \\ c_{d,e} & e_{d,e} & f_{d,e} \end{pmatrix},
 \end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

with real parameters  $a_f \sim f_f$ . The mass matrices (9)-(10) certainly satisfy these conditions. We call such a symmetry *diagonal reflection* because it is a diagonal rem-

nant of  $\mu - \tau$  reflection symmetry after deduction of  $\mu - \tau$  symmetry. Each of them is just a generalized *CP* symmetry [81, 83-85, 87] and no longer a  $\mu - \tau$  reflection. The textures (9) are discussed for quarks and CKM matrices in many studies ([9] and references therein). However, we cannot find a report that indicates the existence of GCP symmetries.

The latest calculation shows an example of Yukawa matrices compatible with all the flavor data of quarks [13]:

$$Y_u^0 \simeq \frac{0.9m_t \sqrt{2}}{v} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0.0002i & 0 \\ -0.0002i & 0.10 & 0.31 e^{\pm 0.02\pi} \\ 0 & 0.31 e^{\mp 0.02\pi} & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \tag{16}$$

$$Y_d^0 \simeq \frac{0.9m_b \sqrt{2}}{v} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0.005 & 0 \\ 0.005 & 0.13 & 0.31 e^{\mp 0.02\pi} \\ 0 & 0.31 e^{\pm 0.02\pi} & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \tag{17}$$

where  $v = 246$  [GeV] is the vacuum expectation value (vev) of the SM Higgs field. The textures (9) agree with (16) and (17) with an accuracy of  $O(2,3 \%)$ . Breaking effects come from the phases of the 23 element  $B_{u,d} e^{i\varphi_{u,d}}$ , where  $\varphi_{u,d} \sim \pm 0.02\pi$ .

Because the conditions (14) depend on a basis, they are changed by further redefinitions of fermion fields (the weak basis transformations [123, 124]). For example, rephasing of quark fields  $Q = q, u, d$

$$Q' = P_Q^\dagger Q, \quad P_Q = \text{diag}(e^{i\phi_Q}, 1, 1), \tag{18}$$

leads to *CP*-violating quark masses  $\tilde{m}_{u,d}$ ;

$$\tilde{m}_u = P_q^\dagger m_u P_u = \begin{pmatrix} a_u & ie^{-i\phi_q} b_u & ie^{-i\phi_q} c_u \\ -ie^{i\phi_q} b_u & d_u & e_u \\ -ie^{i\phi_q} c_u & e_u & f_u \end{pmatrix}, \tag{19}$$

$$\tilde{m}_d = P_q^\dagger m_d P_d = \begin{pmatrix} a_d & e^{-i\phi_q} b_d & e^{-i\phi_q} c_d \\ e^{i\phi_q} b_d & d_d & e_d \\ e^{i\phi_q} c_d & e_d & f_d \end{pmatrix}. \tag{20}$$

In this case, using the following equivalent transformation

$$\begin{aligned}
 R_{q,u} &\equiv P_{q,u} R P_{q,u} = \begin{pmatrix} -e^{2i\phi_{q,u}} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \\
 \tilde{R}_{q,d} &\equiv P_{q,d} 1_3 P_{q,d} = \begin{pmatrix} +e^{2i\phi_{q,d}} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},
 \end{aligned} \tag{21}$$

deforms the diagonal reflection symmetries (14) as

$$R_q^\dagger \tilde{m}_u^* R_u = \tilde{m}_u, \quad \tilde{R}_q^\dagger \tilde{m}_d^* \tilde{R}_d = \tilde{m}_d. \quad (22)$$

In this basis, the Hermiticity of the quark masses is lost, as shown in Eqs. (19) and (20). The symmetries in Eq. (6), Eq. (14), and Eq. (22) are all equivalent under re-definitions of fermion fields.

### III. REALIZATION OF THE SYMMETRIES

The  $\mu - \tau$  reflection symmetry is often realized as a remnant of a larger flavor symmetry, such as  $A_4, Z_2 \times Z_2, U(1)_{L_\mu - L_\tau}$  [56-78]. The origin of four-zero texture is also discussed in the  $S_{3L} \times S_{3R}$  model [125-128]. Thus, in this section, we concentrate on a realization of the diagonal reflection symmetries. Because Eq. (6) or Eq. (14) imposes two independent GCP symmetries, the underlying  $CP$  should be broken separately in the up- and down-sector [88].

To this end, the following  $U(1)_{PQ} \times Z_2$  flavor symmetry and a GCP symmetry are imposed on the 2HDM. A similar model-building and its UV completion can be found in [129-131].

- $Z_2^{\text{NFC}}$ : It realizes the natural flavor conservation (NFC) [132] and prohibits flavor changing neutral currents (FCNCs) by two Higgs doublets.

- $U(1)_{PQ}$ : A chiral (PQ) symmetry [100] that prohibits the mass of the first generation<sup>1)</sup>. It is a kind of flavored PQ symmetry [105-108].

- $CP$ : A generalized  $CP$  symmetry that restricts phases of Yukawa couplings. As an alternative, the driving field method [133] is utilized to generate the relative phases.

Two SM singlet flavon fields  $\theta_{u,d}$  are introduced to the 2HDM. These flavons have nontrivial charges under the  $U(1)_{PQ}$  and  $CP$  symmetries. Simultaneous breaking of these symmetries by vevs of  $\theta_{u,d}$  provokes CPV only for the first generation. The charge assignment of fields is presented in Table 1.

Under the  $U(1)_{PQ}$  symmetry, only the first-generation has nontrivial charges as

$$q_{1L} \rightarrow e^{-i\alpha} q_{1L}, \quad u_{1R} \rightarrow e^{i\alpha} u_{1R}, \quad d_{1R} \rightarrow e^{i\alpha} d_{1R}, \quad (23)$$

$$l_{1L} \rightarrow e^{-i\alpha} l_{1L}, \quad \nu_{1R} \rightarrow e^{i\alpha} \nu_{1R}, \quad e_{1R} \rightarrow e^{i\alpha} e_{1R}. \quad (24)$$

The bilinear terms  $\bar{q}_{Li} u_{Rj}, \bar{q}_{Li} d_{Rj}, \bar{l}_{Li} \nu_{Rj}$  and  $\bar{l}_{Li} e_{Rj}$  (associated with Yukawa interactions) are transformed under  $U(1)_{PQ}$  as

**Table 1.** Charge assignments of the SM fermions and scalar fields under gauge and flavor symmetries.

	$SU(2)_L$	$U(1)_Y$	$Z_2^{\text{NFC}}$	$U(1)_{PQ}$	$CP$
$q_{Li}$	2	1/6	1	-1,0,0	1
$u_{Ri}$	1	2/3	1	1,0,0	1
$d_{Ri}$	1	-1/3	-1	1,0,0	1
$l_{Li}$	2	-1/2	1	-1,0,0	1
$\nu_{Ri}$	1	0	1	1,0,0	1
$e_{Ri}$	1	-1	-1	1,0,0	1
$H_u$	2	-1/2	1	0	1
$H_d$	2	1/2	-1	0	1
$\theta_u$	1	1	1	-1	+i
$\theta_d$	1	1	-1	-1	-i

$$\left( \begin{array}{c|cc} e^{2i\alpha} & e^{i\alpha} & e^{i\alpha} \\ \hline e^{i\alpha} & 1 & 1 \\ e^{i\alpha} & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right). \quad (25)$$

Under these discrete symmetries, the most general Yukawa interactions are written as

$$-\mathcal{L} \ni \bar{q}_L \left( \tilde{Y}_u^0 + \frac{\theta_u}{\Lambda} \tilde{Y}_u^1 + \frac{\theta_u^2}{\Lambda^2} \tilde{Y}_u^2 + \frac{\theta_d^2}{\Lambda^2} \tilde{Y}_u'^2 \right) u_R H_u \quad (26)$$

$$+ \bar{q}_L \left( \tilde{Y}_d^0 + \frac{\theta_d}{\Lambda} \tilde{Y}_d^1 + \frac{\theta_u \theta_d}{\Lambda^2} \tilde{Y}_d^2 \right) d_R H_d + \text{h.c.}, \quad (27)$$

where  $\Lambda$  is a cut-off scale. An analogous formula holds in the lepton sector. The Yukawa matrices are parameterized as

$$\tilde{Y}_{u,d}^0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \tilde{d}_{u,d} & \tilde{c}_{u,d} \\ 0 & \tilde{b}_{u,d} & \tilde{a}_{u,d} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \tilde{Y}_{u,d}^1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \tilde{e}_{u,d} & \tilde{f}_{u,d} \\ \tilde{g}_{u,d} & 0 & 0 \\ \tilde{h}_{u,d} & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (28)$$

and  $\tilde{Y}_f^2$  have only an 11 matrix element, which has a small influence. These Yukawa matrices satisfy the condition

$$(\tilde{Y}_{u,d}^0)_{ij} (\tilde{Y}_{u,d}^1)_{ij} = 0 \quad (\text{no sum}), \quad (29)$$

similar to consistency conditions of general parity (or  $CP$ ) and flavor symmetry [80, 81].

The generalized  $CP$  invariance

$$\theta_u^* = +i\theta_u, \quad \theta_d^* = -i\theta_d, \quad \phi^* = \phi \quad \text{for other fields} \quad (30)$$

1) A discrete symmetry larger than  $Z_3$  is also a possible choice.

restricts relative complex phases of the matrix elements as

$$(\tilde{Y}_{u,d}^0)^* = \tilde{Y}_{u,d}^0, \quad \tilde{Y}_u^1 = e^{i\pi/4} |\tilde{Y}_u^1|, \quad \tilde{Y}_d^1 = e^{-i\pi/4} |\tilde{Y}_d^1|. \quad (31)$$

Next, we investigate the transformation properties of the Higgs potential. The potential can be written as

$$V = V^1(H_u, H_d) + V^2(H_{u,d}, \theta_{u,d}) + V^3(\theta_u, \theta_d). \quad (32)$$

$V^1$  is obviously real because the GCP is the canonical  $CP$  for the Higgs doublets  $H_{u,d}$ . Among bi-linear terms comprising  $\theta_u$  and  $\theta_d$ , only  $\theta_u^* \theta_u$  and  $\theta_d^* \theta_d$  are invariant under

$U(1)_{\text{PQ}} \times Z_2^{\text{NFC}}$  (both  $\theta_u^* \theta_d$  and its complex conjugate  $\theta_d^* \theta_u$  have charge  $-1$  under  $Z_2^{\text{NFC}}$  and  $-1$  under  $CP$ ). Then,  $V_2$  has only real terms because  $\theta_u^* \theta_u$  and  $\theta_d^* \theta_d$  have trivial  $CP$  charges. Finally, quartic terms made from the flavons should be a combination between  $\{|\theta_u|^2, |\theta_d^2|\}$  or  $\{\theta_u^* \theta_d, \theta_d^* \theta_u\}$ , such as  $|\theta_u|^2 |\theta_d^2|$  or  $\theta_u^* \theta_d \theta_d^* \theta_u$ . Because these terms have trivial charges under  $CP$ ,  $V_3$  is GCP invariant, so the whole Higgs potential  $V$  is invariant under  $CP$ . Therefore, in this basis,  $CP$  phases are localized only in the first generation of Yukawa matrices. Real vevs of the flavon fields  $\langle \theta_{u,d} \rangle$  provokes a spontaneous symmetry breaking (SSB) of  $U(1)_{\text{PQ}}, Z_2^{\text{NFC}}$ , and  $CP$ .

As a result, the vevs  $\langle \theta_{u,d} \rangle$  produce the following textures

$$Y_{u,d} = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{Y}_{u,d}^0 + \frac{\langle \theta_{u,d} \rangle}{\Lambda} \tilde{Y}_{u,d}^1 + \frac{\langle \theta_{u,d} \rangle^2}{\Lambda^2} \tilde{Y}_{u,d}^2 \\ \tilde{Y}_{u,d}^0 + \frac{\langle \theta_{u,d} \rangle}{\Lambda} \tilde{Y}_{u,d}^1 + \frac{\langle \theta_{u,d} \rangle^2}{\Lambda^2} \tilde{Y}_{u,d}^2 \\ \tilde{Y}_{u,d}^0 + \frac{\langle \theta_{u,d} \rangle}{\Lambda} \tilde{Y}_{u,d}^1 + \frac{\langle \theta_{u,d} \rangle^2}{\Lambda^2} \tilde{Y}_{u,d}^2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} O \frac{\langle \theta_{u,d} \rangle^2}{\Lambda^2} & \tilde{z} \frac{\langle \theta_{u,d} \rangle}{\Lambda} e^{i\varphi_{u,d}} & \tilde{f} \frac{\langle \theta_{u,d} \rangle}{\Lambda} e^{i\varphi_{u,d}} \\ \tilde{g} \frac{\langle \theta_{u,d} \rangle}{\Lambda} e^{i\varphi_{u,d}} & \tilde{d}_{u,d} & \tilde{c}_{u,d} \\ \tilde{h} \frac{\langle \theta_{u,d} \rangle}{\Lambda} e^{i\varphi_{u,d}} & \tilde{b}_{u,d} & \tilde{a}_{u,d} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (33)$$

where

$$\varphi_u = +\pi/4, \quad \varphi_d = -\pi/4. \quad (34)$$

These vevs can be estimated from the best fit values for  $Y_{u,d}$  (16) and (17) as

$$\frac{\langle \theta_u \rangle}{\Lambda} |\tilde{Y}_u^1| \simeq \frac{\sqrt{2m_u m_c}}{v \sin \beta} \simeq \frac{3 \times 10^{-4}}{\sin \beta}, \quad (35)$$

$$\frac{\langle \theta_d \rangle}{\Lambda} |\tilde{Y}_d^1| \simeq \frac{\sqrt{2m_d m_s}}{v \cos \beta} \simeq \frac{1 \times 10^{-4}}{\cos \beta}, \quad (36)$$

where  $\langle H_u^0 \rangle \equiv v \sin \beta / \sqrt{2}$ ,  $\langle H_d^0 \rangle \equiv v \cos \beta / \sqrt{2}$  with  $\langle H_u^0 \rangle^2 + \langle H_d^0 \rangle^2 = v^2/2$ . The small 11 matrix elements in Eq. (33) are generated from  $\tilde{Y}_f^2$ . In many cases, they are negligible compared with the Yukawa eigenvalues of the first generation:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\langle \theta_{u,d} \rangle^2}{\Lambda^2} &\simeq \frac{10^{-8} (\times \tan^2 \beta)}{|\tilde{Y}_{u,d}^1|^2} \lesssim (y_u, y_d) \\ &\simeq \left( \frac{m_u}{v \sin \beta}, \frac{m_d}{v \cos \beta} \right) \simeq (10^{-5}, 10^{-5} \tan \beta). \end{aligned} \quad (37)$$

Therefore, Eqs. (33) and (34) satisfy the diagonal reflection symmetries (22) with  $\phi_u = 3\pi/4$ ,  $\phi_q = -\phi_d = \pi/4$ , and  $(m_f)_{11} \simeq 0$ .

In this construction, Eqs. (16) and (17) stand for  $\tilde{Y}_u^0 \simeq \tilde{Y}_d^0$  and  $\tilde{Y}_u^1 \sim \tilde{Y}_d^1$ . This indicates the existence of  $u-d$

unification, such as the left-right symmetric model. Moreover, with a  $u-d$  unified relation  $\tilde{Y}_u^1 = \tilde{Y}_d^1$  (in the other basis of  $CP$  phases), simultaneous rotation of 2-3 generations by a real orthogonal matrix  $O_{23}$  can realize zero textures

$$(Y_u)_{13} = (Y_d)_{13} = (Y_u)_{31} = (Y_d)_{31} = 0. \quad (38)$$

Then, the four-zero textures with the diagonal reflection symmetries appear. Note that  $O_{23}$  is commutative with the diagonal reflection symmetries because it satisfies  $RO_{23}^* R = O_{23}$ .

Realization of four-zero texture in the left-right symmetric model, such as a model in [13], seems to lead to a more concise model. We leave this for future work.

### A. Implications for the strong $CP$ problem

As a related issue, the strong  $CP$  problem is considered [111]. This is a fine-tuning problem of  $\bar{\theta} = \theta_{\text{QCD}} + \theta_{\text{QFD}}$ , a sum of the QCD  $\theta$ -term  $\theta_{\text{QCD}}$  and its fermionic contribution  $\theta_{\text{QFD}} = \text{Arg Det}[m_u m_d]$  [134].

Although  $Y_{u,d}$  in Eq. (33) are not Hermitian matrices,  $\theta_{\text{QFD}}^{\text{tree}} = 0$  holds because they satisfy

$$\phi_u + \phi_d - 2\phi_q = 0. \quad (39)$$

Under condition (39), mass matrices generally have two more free parameters (for example,  $\phi_q$  and  $\phi_u + \phi_d$ ). Then, the diagonal reflection symmetries can have a similar feature (for  $\theta_{\text{QFD}}$ ) to the discrete symmetry  $P$  [112,

113] or  $CP$  [114] in a solution of the strong  $CP$  problem. Moreover,  $\bar{\theta}$  is dynamically retained at zero by a flavored axion [105-110] (*flaxion* [109] or *axiflavor* [110]) that associates with the SSB of  $U(1)_{PQ}$ . If the cut-off scale  $\Lambda$  is taken to be the GUT scale  $\Lambda_{\text{GUT}} \simeq 10^{16}$  [GeV], Eqs. (35) and (36) suggest that

$$\langle \theta_{u,d} \rangle \sim \Lambda_{\text{GUT}} \frac{\sqrt{m_{u,d} m_{c,s}}}{v} \sim 10^{12} [\text{GeV}]. \quad (40)$$

This is consistent with phenomenological constraints [109] and predicts the axion mass  $m_a \simeq 10^{-6}$  [eV] and the dark matter abundance  $\Omega_a h^2 \sim 0.2$ . These chiral and GCP symmetries may shed light on the strong  $CP$  problem and the origin of the  $CP$  violation.

#### IV. PHYSICAL PARAMETERS

Next, let us consider predictions of mass eigenvalues and mixings. Because the four-zero texture can reproduce quark masses and the CKM matrix [13], we focus on the lepton sector. Derivation of these physical parameters has been performed in a previous study [79]. In this paper, a precise determination of the Majorana phases is added.

Diagonalizing the mass matrices  $m_f^{\text{diag}} = U_{L_f}^\dagger m_f U_{R_f}$ , one obtains an approximate form of the MNS matrix;

$$U_{\text{MNS}} = U_{L_e}^\dagger U_{L_\nu} \simeq V_e^T \begin{pmatrix} -i & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} V_\nu, \quad (41)$$

where  $V_\nu$  is an real orthogonal matrix ( $V_\nu^* = V_\nu$ ) and

$$V_e \simeq \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{r_e} & \sqrt{1-r_e} \\ 0 & -\sqrt{1-r_e} & \sqrt{r_e} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\sqrt{\frac{m_e}{m_\mu}} & 0 \\ \sqrt{\frac{m_e}{m_\mu}} & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (42)$$

with  $r_e \equiv A_e/m_\tau$ .

The PDG parametrization is written as

$$U^{\text{PDG}} = \begin{pmatrix} c_{12}c_{13} & s_{12}c_{13} & s_{13}e^{i\alpha_2} \\ s_{12}c_{23}c_{12}s_{23}s_{13}e^{i\alpha_2} & c_{12}c_{23}s_{12}s_{23}s_{13}e^{i\alpha_2} & s_{23}c_{13} \\ s_{12}s_{23}c_{12}c_{23}s_{13}e^{i\alpha_2} & c_{12}s_{23}s_{12}c_{23}s_{13}e^{i\alpha_2} & c_{23}c_{13} \end{pmatrix} \times \text{diag}(1, e^{i\alpha_2/2}, e^{i\alpha_3/2}), \quad (43)$$

where  $c_{ij} \equiv \cos \theta_{ij}^{\text{PDG}}$ ,  $s_{ij} \equiv \sin \theta_{ij}^{\text{PDG}}$ ,  $\delta_{CP}$  is the Dirac phase, and  $\alpha_2, \alpha_3$  are the Majorana phases. The mixing angles

and mass differences of the latest global fit [135]

$$\theta_{23}^{\text{PDG}} = 49.7^\circ, \quad \theta_{12}^{\text{PDG}} = 33.82^\circ, \quad \theta_{13}^{\text{PDG}} = 8.61^\circ, \quad (44)$$

$$\Delta m_{21}^2 = 73.9 [\text{meV}^2], \quad \Delta m_{31}^2 = 2525 [\text{meV}^2], \quad (45)$$

determines the Dirac phase in the PDG parameterization  $\delta_{CP}$  as

$$\sin \delta_{CP} = -0.390 \simeq \sqrt{\frac{m_e}{m_\mu}} \frac{c_{13}s_{23}}{s_{13}}, \quad \delta_{CP} \simeq 203^\circ. \quad (46)$$

This is very close to the best fit for the normal hierarchy (NH)  $\delta_{CP}/^\circ = 217_{-28}^{+40}$  [135].

Next, we proceed to a discussion of the Majorana phases. The  $\mu-\tau$  reflection symmetry restrict the Majorana phases to be  $\alpha_{2,3}/2 = n\pi/2$  ( $n=0,1$ ) [73]. The non-trivial phase  $\pi/2$  comes from negative mass eigenvalues [73, 75]. However, the  $\mu-\tau$  reflection symmetries (6) no longer retain this property. The Majorana phases are located on truly  $CP$ -violating values. The phases are calculated by the rephasing invariants [136-138].

$$I_1 = (U_{\text{MNS}})_{12}^2 (U_{\text{MNS}})_{11}^{*2} = \frac{1}{4} \sin^2 2\theta_{12}^{\text{PDG}} \cos^4 \theta_{13}^{\text{PDG}} (\cos \alpha_2 + i \sin \alpha_2), \quad (47)$$

$$I_2 = (U_{\text{MNS}})_{13}^2 (U_{\text{MNS}})_{11}^{*2} = \frac{1}{4} \sin^2 2\theta_{13}^{\text{PDG}} \cos^2 \theta_{12}^{\text{PDG}} (\cos \alpha'_3 + i \sin \alpha'_3), \quad (48)$$

where  $\alpha'_3 \equiv \alpha_3 - 2\delta_{CP}$ . Substitution of Eq. (41) into Eqs. (47) and (48) yields the following results;

$$\alpha_2^0 \simeq 11.3^\circ, \quad \alpha_3^0 \simeq 7.54^\circ. \quad (49)$$

As a cross-check, we substituted these results to the PDG parameterization (43) and confirmed that the same mixing matrix (41) were reproduced.

Because Eqs. (41) and (49) do not count contribution from a negative eigenvalue, we parameterize these effects as

$$m_2 = e^{i\beta_2} |m_2|, \quad m_3 = e^{i\beta_3} |m_3|, \quad \beta_{2,3} = 0 \text{ or } \pi. \quad (50)$$

The whole Majorana phases are found to be

$$(\alpha_2, \alpha_3) = (\alpha_2^0 + \beta_2, \alpha_3^0 + \beta_3) = (11.3^\circ \text{ or } 191.3^\circ, 7.54^\circ \text{ or } 187.54^\circ). \quad (51)$$

Including the Majorana phases, one can reconstruct the neutrino mass matrix  $m_\nu$  as

$$m_\nu = V_e U_{\text{MNS}} \begin{pmatrix} m_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & m_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & m_3 \end{pmatrix} U_{\text{MNS}}^T V_e^T. \quad (52)$$

Moreover, if universal texture  $(m_f)_{11} = 0$  for  $f = u, d, \nu, e$  [38] and small 2-3 mixing of  $V_e$  is assumed, we can determine the lightest neutrino mass  $m_1$  from the condition of the texture

$$m_1 = \frac{-e^{i\alpha_2}|m_2|s_{12}^2 - e^{i\alpha_3}|m_3|t_{13}^2}{c_{12}^2}, \quad (53)$$

where  $t_{13} \equiv s_{13}/c_{13}$ . The numerical values of the mass are found to be

$$|m_1| = 6.20[\text{meV}] \text{ for } (\beta_2, \beta_3) = (0, 0) \text{ or } (\pi, \pi), \quad (54)$$

$$= 2.54[\text{meV}] \text{ for } (\beta_2, \beta_3) = (0, \pi) \text{ or } (\pi, 0), \quad (55)$$

for the NH case. For the inverted mass hierarchy, the solutions do not have real values and thus contradict the diagonal reflection.

In a previous study [79], the effective mass  $m_{ee}$  of the double beta decay was also evaluated as

$$|m_{ee}| = \left| \sum_{i=1}^3 m_i U_{ei}^2 \right| \quad (56)$$

$$= 0.17[\text{meV}] \text{ for } (\beta_2, \beta_3) = (0, 0) \text{ or } (\pi, \pi), \quad (57)$$

$$= 1.24[\text{meV}] \text{ for } (\beta_2, \beta_3) = (0, \pi) \text{ or } (\pi, 0). \quad (58)$$

### A. Universal four-zero texture

Here, we show a universal four-zero texture compatible with neutrino mixing parameters. An additional assumption in this paper is  $(m_\nu)_{13} = 0$ . This assumption can be justified similar to Eq. (38) in the left-right symmetric models. This constraint realizes the universal four-zero texture and determines the mixing parameter  $r_e = A_e/m_\tau$  in Eq. (42).

The mass matrix  $m_\nu$  (52) is a matrix function of  $\alpha_2, \alpha_3, m_1$ , and  $r_e$ . Solving an equation  $(m_\nu)_{13} = 0$ , we find two solutions for universal four-zero texture. The first solution with a large  $r_e \simeq 0.996$  and its mass eigenvalues are found to be

$$m_{\nu 0} \simeq \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -8.86i & 0 \\ -8.86i & 29.3 & 26.4 \\ 0 & 26.4 & 14.6 \end{pmatrix} [\text{meV}]$$

for  $(\alpha_2, \alpha_3) = (\pi, 0)$ , (59)

$$(m_1, m_2, m_3) = (2.54, -8.96, 50.3)[\text{meV}]. \quad (60)$$

Indeed, the Majorana phases  $\beta_2 = \pi, \beta_3 = 0$  are realized. In this basis, the charged lepton mass matrix also shows the four-zero texture

$$m_e \simeq \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -7.058 & 0 \\ -7.058 & 107.873 & 96.12 \\ 0 & 96.12 & 1740 \end{pmatrix} [\text{MeV}]$$

for  $(m_e^{\text{diag}})_{11} < 0, (m_e^{\text{diag}})_{22} > 0$ , (61)

$$\simeq \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 7.058 & 0 \\ 7.058 & -95.898 & 108.1 \\ 0 & 108.1 & 1740 \end{pmatrix} [\text{MeV}]$$

for  $(m_e^{\text{diag}})_{11} > 0, (m_e^{\text{diag}})_{22} < 0$ . (62)

The second solution has a small  $r_e \simeq 0.0024$ ;

$$\tilde{m}_{\nu 0} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 10.5i & 0 \\ 10.5i & 24.9 & -22.0 \\ 0 & -22.0 & 30.1 \end{pmatrix} [\text{meV}]$$

for  $(\alpha_2, \alpha_3) = (0, 0)$ , (63)

$$(m_1, m_2, m_3) = (-6.20, 10.6, 50.6)[\text{meV}]. \quad (64)$$

This solution results in  $(m_e)_{22} \simeq m_\tau$  and seems to be somewhat unnatural. However, it may relate large 22 and 23 elements of quarks Eqs. (16) and (17) by a grand unified theory (GUT).

The right-handed neutrino mass matrix  $M_R$  can be reconstructed from the type-I seesaw mechanism [119-122] with some GUT relations. A  $u-\nu$  unification, such as in the Pati-Salam GUT [116], can determine  $Y_\nu$  from Eq. (16) as

$$Y_\nu = Y_u \simeq \frac{0.9m_t \sqrt{2}}{v} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0.0002i & 0 \\ -0.0002i & 0.10 & 0.31 \\ 0 & 0.31 & 1 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (65)$$

From Eqs. (59) and (65),  $M_R$  also displays a four-zero texture because the four-zero texture is seesaw invariant [4, 6],

$$M_R = \frac{v^2}{2} Y_\nu m_{\nu 0}^{-1} Y_\nu^T \quad (66)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1.08i \times 10^8 & 0 \\ -1.08i \times 10^8 & 1.26 \times 10^{14} & 4.07 \times 10^{14} \\ 0 & 4.07 \times 10^{14} & 1.32 \times 10^{15} \end{pmatrix} [\text{GeV}]. \quad (67)$$

Evidently,  $M_R$  also satisfies diagonal reflection symmetry (14),

$$RM_R^* R = M_R. \quad (68)$$

Therefore, all the fermion masses respect the diagonal reflection symmetry with a four-zero texture.

The eigenvalues of  $M_R$  are found to be

$$(M_{R1}, M_{R2}, M_{R3}) \\ = (2.86 \times 10^6, 3.73 \times 10^9, 1.44 \times 10^{15}) [\text{GeV}]. \quad (69)$$

The Yukawa matrices  $Y_\nu$  (65) are evaluated at  $m_Z$  scale. Other renormalized values of quark masses will lead to smaller eigenvalues of  $M_R$ . For example,  $Y_\nu$  is determined in other Pati–Salam GUT

$$Y_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} i & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & C_\nu & 0 \\ C_\nu & \tilde{B}_\nu & B_\nu \\ 0 & B_\nu & A_\nu \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -i & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (70)$$

with  $A_\nu = A_u, C_\nu = C_u$  and the Georgi–Jarlskog relation  $B_\nu = -3B_u, \tilde{B}_\nu = -3\tilde{B}_u$  [139]. Quark masses at the GUT scale  $\Lambda_{\text{GUT}} = 2 \times 10^{16}$  [GeV] [140]

$$m_u = 0.48 [\text{MeV}], m_c = 0.235 [\text{GeV}], m_t = 74 [\text{GeV}], \quad (71)$$

lead to smaller eigenvalues

$$(M_{R1}, M_{R2}, M_{R3}) \\ = (9.18 \times 10^4, 1.77 \times 10^9, 3.02 \times 10^{14}) [\text{GeV}]. \quad (72)$$

The precise eigenvalues will be obtained by solving renormalization group equations.

The mass matrix  $M_R$  is constrained by the diagonal reflection symmetries, the universal four-zero texture, and the type-I seesaw mechanism. This scheme enhances the predictivity of leptogenesis [141]. Large  $CP$  violation

in  $M_R$  (and  $m_\nu$ ) is desirable.

Because the mass matrix  $M_R$  has strong hierarchy  $M_R \sim Y_u^T Y_u$ , the lightest mass eigenvalue  $M_{R1}$  is too small [142, 143] for naive thermal leptogenesis. However, leptogenesis may be achieved by the decay of the second lightest neutrino  $\nu_{R2}$  [144] with the maximal Majorana phase  $\alpha_2/2 \sim \pi/2$ .

## V. QUANTUM CORRECTIONS

Here, we show the stability of the symmetries against quantum corrections. Because quantum corrections are very small for the first generation, the symmetries (14) are retained as approximate ones.

The diagonal reflection symmetries are not invariant under the renormalization group equations (RGEs) of the SM. RGEs of quarks at one-loop order are given by [145],

$$16\pi^2 \frac{dY_u}{dt} = [\alpha_u + C_u^u (Y_u Y_u^\dagger) + C_u^d (Y_d Y_d^\dagger)] Y_u, \quad (73)$$

$$16\pi^2 \frac{dY_d}{dt} = [\alpha_d + C_d^u (Y_u Y_u^\dagger) + C_d^d (Y_d Y_d^\dagger)] Y_d, \quad (74)$$

where  $t = \ln(\mu)/m_Z$ ,  $\mu$  is an arbitrary renormalization scale,  $\alpha_f$  are flavor independent contributions from the gauge and Higgs bosons. The coefficients  $C_f^f$  are given by

$$C_u^d = C_d^u = -3/2, \\ C_u^u + C_d^d = 3/2. \quad (75)$$

Similar equations hold in the lepton sector.

It has been pointed out that the four-zero texture and its CKM phase are approximately RGE invariant [13, 146]. The same statement holds for the diagonal reflection. Some of the best fit values (16) and (17) can be roughly written as

$$Y_u \approx \frac{\sqrt{2}}{v} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i\sqrt{m_u m_c} & 0 \\ -i\sqrt{m_u m_c} & O(m_t) & O(m_t) \\ 0 & O(m_t) & O(m_t) \end{pmatrix}, \quad (76)$$

$$Y_d \approx \frac{\sqrt{2}}{v} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \sqrt{m_d m_s} & 0 \\ \sqrt{m_d m_s} & O(m_b) & O(m_b) \\ 0 & O(m_b) & O(m_b) \end{pmatrix}. \quad (77)$$

A term in Eq. (74) can be reconstructed as

$$Y_u Y_u^\dagger Y_d = \begin{pmatrix} 1.17 \times 10^{-9}i & 2.34 \times 10^{-12} + 2.56 \times 10^{-7}i & 7.99 \times 10^{-7}i \\ 6.22 \times 10^{-6} & 0.00140 - 1.17 \times 10^{-9}i & 0.00438 \\ 2.00 \times 10^{-5} & 0.00450 - 3.63 \times 10^{-9}i & 0.0141 \end{pmatrix} \quad (78)$$



$$\simeq \begin{pmatrix} iC_u \tilde{B}_u C_d & iC_u (B_u B_d + \tilde{B}_u \tilde{B}_d) & iC_u (B_u A_d + \tilde{B}_u B_d) \\ (B_u B_u + \tilde{B}_u \tilde{B}_u) C_d & O(B_u A_u B_d) - i\tilde{B}_u C_u C_d & O(B_u A_u A_d) \\ (A_u B_u + B_u \tilde{B}_u) C_d & O(A_u A_u B_d) - iB_u C_u C_d & O(A_u A_u A_d) \end{pmatrix}. \quad (79)$$

In Eq. (79), several terms at the leading order are represented. Matrix elements of the first row and column (specifically,  $(1, i)$  and  $(j, 1)$  elements) of the term  $Y_u Y_u^\dagger Y_d$  are insignificant. This is due to the smallness of  $|(m_{u,d})_{12}| = |C_{u,d}| \simeq \sqrt{m_{u,d} m_{c,s}}$  (or the chiral symmetry of the first generation  $U(1)_{\text{PQ}}$ ). Furthermore, the influence of complex phases of  $(2, 2), (2, 3), (3, 2)$  and  $(3, 3)$  elements are also negligible because they are the second-order corrections of the small parameters  $C_{u,d}$ .

Because the flavor dependent terms in Eqs. (73) and (74) have a similar structure, flavor dependent contributions hardly change the couplings of the first generation. This statement holds without the four-zero texture as long as couplings in the first row and column of the Yukawa matrices are sufficiently small. Therefore, the diagonal reflection symmetries with these properties are approximately RGE invariant and inherit flavor structures at a high energy scale.

## VI. SUMMARY

In this paper, we considered a set of new symmetries in the SM: *diagonal reflection* symmetries.  $\mu - \tau$  reflection symmetries from a previous study are deformed to  $R m_{u,\nu}^* R = m_{u,\nu}$ ,  $m_{d,e}^* = m_{d,e}$  with  $R = \text{diag}(-1, 1, 1)$  by a redefinition of fermion fields. They can constrain the Majorana phases to be  $\alpha_{2,3}/2 \sim 0$  or  $\pi/2$  and enhance the predictivity of leptogenesis.

The form of the symmetries suggests that the flavored  $CP$  violation only comes from a chiral symmetry breaking of the first generation. As a justification of diagonal

reflection symmetries and a zero texture  $(m_f)_{11} = 0$ , simultaneous breaking of a chiral  $U(1)_{\text{PQ}}$  and a generalized  $CP$  symmetry is discussed in a specific 2HDM. As a result, a flavored axion appears in conjunction with solving the strong  $CP$  problem. The axion scale is suggested to be  $\langle \theta_{u,d} \rangle \sim \Lambda_{\text{GUT}} \sqrt{m_{u,d} m_{c,s}} / v \sim 10^{12}$  [GeV]. This value can produce the dark matter abundance  $\Omega_a h^2 \sim 0.2$  and is very intriguing. They can be also applicable to a solution of the strong  $CP$  problem by discrete symmetry of  $P$  or  $CP$  because the symmetries can reconcile the CKM phase  $\delta_{\text{CKM}}$  and  $\theta_{\text{QFD}}^{\text{tree}} = \text{ArgDet}[m_u m_d] = 0$  without Hermiticity or mirror fermions.

By combining the symmetries with the four-zero texture, the mass eigenvalues and mixing matrices of quarks and leptons are well reproduced. This scheme predicts the normal hierarchy, the Dirac phase  $\delta_{CP} \simeq 203^\circ$ , and  $|m_1| \simeq 2.5$  or  $6.2$  [meV].

The type-I seesaw mechanism results in the mass matrix of the right-handed neutrinos  $M_R$ , which exhibits diagonal reflection symmetries with a four-zero texture. The matrix  $M_R$  is completely determined by a given  $Y_\nu$  and the type-I seesaw mechanism. A  $u - \nu$  unification predicts that the mass matrix  $M_R$  has a strong hierarchy  $M_R \sim Y_u^T Y_u$ .

The symmetries are approximately stable under the renormalization of SM. This statement holds without the four-zero texture as long as couplings in the first row and column of the Yukawa matrices are sufficiently small. Then, they can possess information on a high energy scale.

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