

## $SU(3)_C \times SU(3)_L \times U(1)_X$ Gauge Symmetry and Fermion Mass Hierarchy

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A model based on  $SU(3)_C \times SU(3)_L \times U(1)_X$  gauge symmetry (331) is presented. One of the main features of the 331-models is their ability to explain the number of fermion generations. Our model utilizes 3 scalar triplets to give all the fermions a mass at tree-level. The scalar sector also enables the Froggatt-Nielsen mechanism, which is one of the best known ways of generating the fermion mass hierarchy. Our model thus explains the number of generations and the fermion mass hierarchy simultaneously.