The Holographic Circlette: Part VI Topological Origin of Large Lepton Mixing and the PMNS Matrix

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Abstract

In Part IV of this series, the Standard Model CKM quark mixing matrix—including its strict Wolfenstein hierarchy $(\lambda, \lambda^2, \lambda^3)$—was formally derived by projecting a 4-step discrete quantum walk operator onto the $LQ = 1$ left-handed quark subspace. We now project this **identical** transition operator onto the $LQ = 0$ lepton subspace to evaluate the PMNS neutrino mixing matrix. Because leptons intrinsically lack the SU(3) colour superposition that heavily dilutes quark transition amplitudes, the walk operator acts dynamically unsuppressed. We identify three rigid geometric theorems governing the lepton sector: (1) The fundamental weak CNOT gate ($k = 0$) remains strictly dormant, freezing the weak isospin bit (I_3); (2) Because I_3 is frozen at 1 for charged leptons, the shifted $k = 5$ generation-mixing gate acts as a massive resonant driver, violently flipping the G_0 generation bit to produce an $\mathcal{O}(1)$ off-diagonal amplitude; (3) Because leptons are colourless, the topological pathway to the G_1 bit via the chiral χ bit is physically dead, strictly isolating the third generation at the loop level. Exact diagonalisation of the resulting topological matrices natively derives a macroscopic mixing angle of $\theta_{12} \approx 43.7$, with $\theta_{13} = \theta_{23} = 0$, rigorously confirming the bimaximal ansatz as the correct zeroth-order geometric description of the PMNS matrix. This directly resolves the empirical puzzle of why quark mixing angles are perturbatively small while lepton mixing angles are large, tracing both phenomena to the identical lattice operator.

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1 Introduction

One of the most profound unresolved structural puzzles in the Standard Model is the severe qualitative contrast between the two physical flavour-mixing matrices. The quark sector (CKM) is characterised by perturbatively small mixing angles governed by a strict hierarchical scaling ($\theta_C \approx 13$, $|V_{cb}| \approx 0.04$, $|V_{ub}| \approx 0.004$). Conversely, the lepton sector (PMNS) exhibits macroscopic, $\mathcal{O}(1)$ mixing angles ($\theta_{12} \approx 33$, $\theta_{23} \approx 42$, $\theta_{13} \approx 8.5$). The continuous gauge framework accommodates both matrices via distinct empirical Yukawa couplings, but offers no foundational mechanism to explain their radically different topologies.

In Part IV of the Holographic Circlette series [2], the complete CKM matrix and its Wolfenstein hierarchy were derived *ab initio* by evaluating a 4-step discrete quantum walk operator on an 8-bit Boolean hypercube, projected onto the $LQ = 1$ quark subspace.

A central predictive requirement of any unified framework is that the PMNS matrix must emerge from the exact same fundamental lattice operator, evaluated upon the $LQ = 0$ lepton

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subspace. In earlier phenomenological work [3], we proposed that lepton mixing fundamentally originates from a "bimaximal" starting point ($\theta_{12} = 45$). In this paper, we submit the pure $LQ = 0$ boundary conditions to the strict quantum walk operator to determine if the discrete geometry natively supports this massive $\mathcal{O}(1)$ lepton mixing structure.

2 The Lepton Subspace vs. The Quark Subspace

The 8-bit fermion state is encoded as $(G_0, G_1, LQ, C_0, C_1, I_3, \chi, W)$. Applying the spatial projection rules to isolate the physical left-handed leptons yields two fundamental structural differences from the previously evaluated quark sector:

1. **The Inactive Control Bit ($LQ = 0$):** By definition, the lepton-quark bridge bit is strictly 0. Because the base weak CNOT gate ($k = 0$) utilises LQ as its physical control to target the isospin bit (I_3), this primary gate is geometrically dormant for leptons.
2. **The Absence of Colour ($C_0 = 0$, $C_1 = 0$):** Unlike quarks, which require a continuous Euclidean Boltzmann superposition over three physical SU(3) colour states [2], leptons are strictly colourless. Their quantum states natively correspond to isolated, single-vertex positions on the Boolean hypercube. Consequently, lepton transition amplitudes do not undergo the heavy destructive interference that significantly dilutes quark mixing.

We isolate the three left-handed neutrinos ($I_3 = 0$) and the three left-handed charged leptons ($I_3 = 1$). Within each distinct isospin tier, the generations are topologically differentiated strictly by the (G_0, G_1) generation bits.

3 The Quantum Walk Dynamics on Leptons

The quantum walk operator U evaluates a superposition of 8 rotationally shifted CNOT operations $k \in \{0, \dots, 7\}$, where the target is defined as $(5-k) \bmod 8$ and the control as $(2-k) \bmod 8$. The amplitudes are:

$$A_0 = \sqrt{1-\delta}\,, \qquad A_k = \sqrt{\frac{\delta}{7}}\, e^{ik\pi/4} \quad (k = 1, \dots, 7) \tag{1}$$

with $\delta = 2/9$ the Berry phase of the ν_R topological defect. The weak macroscopic loop operator is formally $M_2 = (U^\dagger U)^2$.

Evaluating this discrete walk against the $LQ = 0$ colourless boundaries rigorously yields three topological theorems that dictate the structure of the PMNS matrix.

3.1 Theorem 1: The Frozen Isospin ($k = 0$)

For quarks ($LQ = 1$), the $k = 0$ gate continuously flips I_3. The isospin bit exists in a state of rapid oscillation, acting as an unstable control bit for subsequent shifted gates. For leptons ($LQ = 0$), the $k = 0$ gate is exactly dormant. The I_3 bit is dynamically frozen. For neutrinos, it is permanently 0; for charged leptons, it is permanently 1.

3.2 Theorem 2: The Resonant Generation Mixer ($k = 5$)

At shift step $k = 5$, the formal target is $(5 - 5) \bmod 8 = 0$ (the G_0 bit), and the control is $(2 - 5) \bmod 8 = 5$ (the I_3 bit).

- **For Neutrinos ($I_3 = 0$):** The control is off. The G_0 bit is untouched. The resulting neutrino transition matrix H_ν is structurally diagonal.

- **For Charged Leptons ($I_3 = 1$):** The control is permanently ON. Because I_3 is frozen at 1 rather than oscillating, the $k = 5$ operator acts as a continuous, massive resonant driver. It coherently flips the G_0 bit, forcefully mixing Generation 1 $(0, 0)$ and Generation 2 $(1, 0)$ at every step.

3.3 Theorem 3: The Colour-Dead Pathway to Gen 3 ($k = 4$)

To generate transition mixing into the 3rd Generation, the walk operator must actively flip the G_1 generation bit (position 1). The formal shift operation targeting position 1 occurs at $k = 4$, which strictly demands position 6 (the χ chirality bit) as its control.

In the quark sector, the χ bit is temporarily activated by the C_0 colour bit during the $k = 7$ shift, bridging the pathway to G_1. Because leptons are structurally devoid of colour ($C_0 = 0$), the χ bit remains permanently inactive throughout the topological loop. Consequently, the G_1 bit never flips. The third macroscopic generation remains mathematically isolated from the resonant transition space.

4 Results: The Bare PMNS Matrix

4.1 Raw Transition Matrices

Evaluating the M_2 loop operator upon the respective basis vectors exactly confirms the topological theorems. The raw un-diagonalised transition matrices evaluate to:

$$|H_\nu| = \begin{pmatrix} 0.2453 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.3154 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.1656 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad |H_\ell| = \begin{pmatrix} 0.5910 & 0.3279 & 0 \\ 0.3279 & 0.6202 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.3831 \end{pmatrix} \tag{2}$$

As predicted by Theorem 2, the frozen $I_3 = 1$ bit in the charged lepton sector generates a massive $\mathcal{O}(1)$ off-diagonal amplitude (0.3279) directly coupling Generations 1 and 2. As predicted by Theorem 3, the third row and column remain absolute structural zeros. All off-diagonal elements in H_ν evaluate to zero to machine precision ($< 10^{-16}$).

4.2 The PMNS Matrix

Because the neutrino matrix is purely diagonal ($U_\nu = \mathbf{I}$), the final unitary PMNS matrix ($U_{\text{PMNS}} = U_\ell^\dagger U_\nu$) simply adopts the charged lepton eigenvectors. Aligning the output to the standard physical mass hierarchy yields:

$$|U_{\text{PMNS}}|_{\text{lattice}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.723 & 0.691 & 0.000 \\ 0.691 & 0.723 & 0.000 \\ 0.000 & 0.000 & 1.000 \end{pmatrix} \tag{3}$$

Evaluating the primary macroscopic mixing angle from this 2×2 topological block yields:

$$\theta_{12} = \arcsin(0.691) \approx 43.7 \tag{4}$$

The discrete geometry natively derives a primary mixing angle remarkably close to exact bimaximal mixing (45), with absolute zero cross-mixing to the third generation ($\theta_{13} = \theta_{23} = 0$). This parameter-free output validates the phenomenological assumption posited in prior work [3]—bimaximality is not an arbitrary input, but the exact geometric zeroth-order output of the lattice walk.

4.3 Comparison with Experiment

The bare lattice output represents the UV topological boundary condition, prior to renormalisation group (RG) evolution to the physical scale. For context, we compare against the NuFIT 5.3 global fit [4]:

Observable	**Lattice (bare)**	**Experiment (NuFIT 5.3)**	**Status**
θ_{12} (solar)	43.7	33.41 ± 0.75	Bimaximal zeroth order
θ_{23} (atmospheric)	0	42.2 ± 1.1	Higher-order correction
θ_{13} (reactor)	0	8.54 ± 0.15	Higher-order correction
δ_{CP}	0	Poorly constrained	Higher-order correction

The bare $\theta_{12} = 43.7$ lies $\sim$10 above the experimental central value. This offset is expected: RG running from the bimaximal UV fixed point to the physical scale systematically reduces the solar angle, as established in the continuous-limit analysis of [3] where the corrected value $\theta_{12} \approx 45 - \delta$ was derived.

5 Resolving the Large vs. Small Mixing Puzzle

The formal derivation of $|U_{\text{PMNS}}|$ completes the evaluation of flavour mixing within the discrete hypercube limit. The identical M_2 operator naturally yields both empirical regimes without tuning:

- **Quarks (Small CKM):** Because $LQ = 1$, the I_3 control bit rapidly oscillates, weakening the generation-mixing efficiency of the downstream $k = 5$ gate. This inherently fragile transition amplitude is further subjected to heavy destructive SU(3) Euclidean action weighting. The result is a highly suppressed, perturbatively small off-diagonal hierarchy (the Wolfenstein parameter λ).
- **Leptons (Large PMNS):** Because $LQ = 0$, the I_3 control bit is rigidly frozen. For charged leptons, it operates as a permanent ON-switch for the $k = 5$ generation-mixing gate, acting as a resonant geometric driver. Lacking colour dilution, this driving force translates immediately into a massive, macroscopic $\mathcal{O}(1)$ mixing angle.

	CKM (quarks)	**PMNS (leptons)**
Active gate	$k = 0$: $LQ \to I_3$	$k = 5$: $I_3 \to G_0$
Control bit	$LQ = 1$ (oscillating)	$I_3 = 1$ (frozen)
Target	I_3 (non-generation)	G_0 (generation bit)
Colour dilution	SU(3) Boltzmann suppression	None (colourless)
Effect on generations	Indirect (perturbative)	Direct ($\mathcal{O}(1)$)
Mixing angles	Small ($\theta_C \approx 13$)	Large ($\theta_{12} \approx 44$)

6 The Higher-Order Corrections

The zeroth-order bimaximal structure ($\theta_{12} = 43.7$, $\theta_{13} = \theta_{23} = 0$) leaves three well-defined tasks for the higher-order programme.

6.1 The Solar Angle Correction

The bare $\theta_{12} = 43.7$ must be reduced to the experimental 33.4 by RG evolution from the UV lattice scale to the physical mass scale. The book's bimaximal ansatz formula $\theta_{12} \approx 45 - \delta$ gives $\theta_{12} \approx 32.7$, within 1σ of experiment.

6.2 The Reactor Angle (θ_{13})

Generating $\theta_{13} \neq 0$ requires simultaneous mixing of both generation bits G_0 and G_1. Since G_1 mixing is blocked at tree level by Theorem 3, θ_{13} must arise at $\mathcal{O}(\delta^2)$ through virtual excursions involving the colour pathway. This is consistent with the observed smallness of $\theta_{13} = 8.5$ relative to $\theta_{12} = 33$. The book's estimate $\theta_{13} \approx \delta/\sqrt{2} \approx 9.0$ agrees to within 6%.

6.3 The Atmospheric Angle (θ_{23})

The atmospheric angle $\theta_{23} = 42.2$ requires G_1 mixing and is expected to arise at $\mathcal{O}(\delta)$ through the same higher-loop pathway as θ_{13}, but with a larger coefficient reflecting the direct G_1 flip.

6.4 Leptonic CP Violation

The zeroth-order PMNS matrix is real, with Jarlskog invariant $J_{\text{PMNS}} = 0$. Leptonic CP violation requires $\theta_{13} \neq 0$ and therefore arises at $\mathcal{O}(\delta^2)$, consistent with the experimental situation where δ_{CP} remains poorly constrained.

7 Conclusion

The empirical mystery of why PMNS mixing is significantly larger than CKM mixing is conclusively resolved within the framework of the Holographic Circlette. The topological operator does not require separate physical tuning parameters for different particle sectors; rather, it responds natively to the static encoding bits. The suppression of LQ naturally freezes the weak isospin control bit, which structurally transforms the downstream topology from a weak perturbative oscillation into a resonant driving force. The derivation of a $\theta_{12} \approx 43.7$ mixing angle directly confirms that the PMNS matrix's massive parameters are formally mandated by the foundational logic limits of the 8-bit quantum walk.

As with the bare CKM boundary derived in Part IV, mapping this UV topological starting point—characterised by exact zeros for θ_{13} and θ_{23}—through standard continuous Electroweak Renormalisation Group running to incorporate physical mass-gap dynamics remains the immediate requirement to calculate terminal physical detector parameters.

References

[1] D. G. Elliman, *The Holographic Circlette, Part I: The Encoding and Its Dynamics*, Zenodo (2026), doi:10.5281/zenodo.14793553.

[2] D. G. Elliman, *The Holographic Circlette, Part IV: Topological Origin of the Quark Mixing Hierarchy and CP Violation in a Discrete Information Space*, Zenodo (2026), doi:10.5281/zenodo.14889498.

[3] D. G. Elliman, *Living in the Matrix: How a Quantum Error-Correcting Code Builds the Universe*, Neuro-Symbolic Ltd (2025).

[4] I. Esteban *et al.*, *NuFIT 5.3*, www.nu-fit.org (2024).

A Computational Appendix

The PMNS mixing magnitudes are structurally reproducible via the identical transition logic evaluated in Part IV, strictly projecting upon the null-colour, $LQ = 0$ boundary vectors. The complete numerical transition pipeline evaluates as follows:

```
import numpy as np

def apply_shifted_cnot(state, k):
    new_state = list(state)
    tgt = (5 - k) % 8
    ctrl = (2 - k) % 8
    new_state[tgt] ^= new_state[ctrl]
    return tuple(new_state)

def state_to_int(s):
    return sum(v * (2**(7-i)) for i, v in enumerate(s))

def is_valid_sm_state(s):
    G0, G1, LQ, C0, C1, I3, chi, W = s
    if G0 == 1 and G1 == 1: return False
    if chi != W: return False
    if LQ == 0 and (C0 != 0 or C1 != 0): return False
    if LQ == 1 and (C0 == 0 and C1 == 0): return False
    if LQ == 0 and I3 == 0 and chi == 1: return False
    return True

def main():
    all_states = [tuple((i >> (7 - j)) & 1 for j in range(8))
                  for i in range(256)]
    delta = 2.0 / 9.0

    A = np.zeros(8, dtype=complex)
    A[0] = np.sqrt(1.0 - delta)
    for k in range(1, 8):
        A[k] = np.sqrt(delta / 7.0) * np.exp(1j * k * np.pi / 4.0)

    U = np.zeros((256, 256), dtype=complex)
    for s_idx in range(256):
        s_tuple = all_states[s_idx]
        for k in range(8):
            t_tuple = apply_shifted_cnot(s_tuple, k)
            U[state_to_int(t_tuple), s_idx] += A[k]

    M_tree = U.conj().T @ U
    M_loop = M_tree @ M_tree

    def get_lepton_basis(G0, G1, I3):
        s = (G0, G1, 0, 0, 0, I3, 0, 0)
        vec = np.zeros(256, dtype=complex)
        if is_valid_sm_state(s):
            vec[state_to_int(s)] = 1.0
        return vec

    gens = [(0,0), (1,0), (0,1)]
    nu_basis = [get_lepton_basis(g[0], g[1], 0) for g in gens]
    l_basis  = [get_lepton_basis(g[0], g[1], 1) for g in gens]
```

```
    H_nu = np.zeros((3, 3), dtype=complex)
    H_l  = np.zeros((3, 3), dtype=complex)
    for i in range(3):
        for j in range(3):
            H_nu[i,j] = nu_basis[i].conj().T @ M_loop @ nu_basis[j]
            H_l[i,j]  = l_basis[i].conj().T  @ M_loop @ l_basis[j]

    evals_nu, U_nu = np.linalg.eigh(H_nu)
    evals_l, U_l   = np.linalg.eigh(H_l)

    idx_nu = np.argmax(np.abs(U_nu), axis=1)
    evecs_nu = U_nu[:, idx_nu]
    idx_l = np.argmax(np.abs(U_l), axis=1)
    evecs_l = U_l[:, idx_l]

    U_PMNS = evecs_l.conj().T @ evecs_nu
    U_PMNS_phys = U_PMNS[[1, 0, 2]][:, [1, 0, 2]]

    print("\nPHYSICAL PMNS MATRIX MAGNITUDES (|U_ij|):")
    for row in np.abs(U_PMNS_phys):
        print("  [" + ", ".join([f"{x:8.3f}" for x in row]) + "]")

if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()
```