

Multi-peaked Gravitational footprints of neutrino mass and lepton symmetry violation

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- 1 Introduction
- 2 High- and low-scale seesaw variants
- 3 Gravitational Waves from FOPT
- 4 Seesaw induced Gravitational Waves
- 5 Conclusions

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Introduction

Stochastic Gravitational Wave (GW) background

- Superposition of unresolved astrophysical sources
- Cosmological events
 - (i) Inflation
 - (ii) Cosmic strings
 - (iii) **Strong cosmological phase transitions (PTs)** →
by expanding and colliding vacuum bubbles of new a phase

GW background as a gravitational probe for New Physics

- Focus on the EW phase transition (EWPT)

Look for graviational footprints of the various variants of the type-I and inverse seesaw mechanism for Majorana neutrinos

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High- and low-scale seesaw variants

Standard type-I

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Yuk}}^{\text{Type-I}} = Y_{\nu} \bar{L} H \nu^c + M \nu^c \nu^c + h.c.$$

- $L = (\nu, l)^{\top}$; ν^c are three SM-singlet RH-neutrinos; M and Y_{ν} are 3×3 matrices
- M explicitly breaks lepton number symmetry $U(1)_L \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2$
- Mass for light neutrinos after EWSB $\langle H \rangle = v_h/\sqrt{2}$

$$m_{\nu}^{\text{Type-I}} = \frac{v_h^2}{2} Y_{\nu}^T M^{-1} Y_{\nu} \quad Y_{\nu} \sim \mathcal{O}(1), \quad M \sim \mathcal{O}(10^{14} \text{ GeV}) \Rightarrow m_{\nu} \sim \mathcal{O}(0.1 \text{ eV})$$

Low-scale variant: Inverse seesaw

- Add two gauge singlet fermion carrying opposite lepton number charge, ν^c and S

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Yuk}}^{\text{Inverse}} = Y_{\nu} \bar{L} H \nu^c + M \nu^c S + \mu S S + \text{h.c.}$$

- **Smallness of neutrino mass linked to the breaking of $U(1)_L \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2$ through the μ -term**

$$m_{\nu}^{\text{Inverse}} = \frac{v_h^2}{2} Y_{\nu}^T M^{T^{-1}} \mu M^{-1} Y_{\nu}$$

Small neutrino masses protected by $U(1)_L$ (restored in the limit $\mu \rightarrow 0$)

Type-I and inverse seesaw with majoron

- Add a complex singlet scalar σ , **the majoron**, with $L(\sigma) = -2$

$$M\nu^c\nu^c \rightarrow Y_\sigma\sigma\nu^c\nu^c \text{ (type-I variant)} \quad \mu SS \rightarrow Y_\sigma\sigma SS \text{ (low-scale inverse variant)}$$

- $\langle\sigma\rangle = v_\sigma/\sqrt{2}$ **spontaneously breaks $U(1)_L \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2$**

$$M \rightarrow Y_\sigma v_\sigma/\sqrt{2} \text{ (type-I variant)} \quad \mu \rightarrow Y_\sigma v_\sigma/\sqrt{2} \text{ (low-scale inverse variant)}$$

Extended scalar sector:

$$V_0 = V_{\text{SM}} + \mu_\sigma^2 \sigma^* \sigma + \lambda_\sigma (\sigma^* \sigma)^2 + \lambda_{h\sigma} H^\dagger H \sigma^* \sigma + \left(\frac{1}{2} \mu_b^2 \sigma^2 + \text{c.c.}\right)$$

- Tiny $U(1)_L$ soft breaking term $\mu_b \sim \mathcal{O}(1 \text{ keV})$
- **Resulting pseudo-Goldstone boson can provide testable dark matter candidate** [Valle et al PRD (1993), PRL (2007); Bazzocchi et al JCAP (2008)]

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Gravitational Waves from FOPT

- Vacuum bubbles nucleated from first order phase transitions (FOPT)
- Three sources of GW production: 1) collision, 2) sound waves and 3) plasma turbulence

$$h^2 \Omega_{\text{GW}} = h^2 \Omega_{\text{col}} + h^2 \Omega_{\text{sw}} + h^2 \Omega_{\text{MHD}}$$

- $h^2 \Omega_{\text{col}}$ dominates for large wall velocities, $v_b \rightarrow 1$

$$h^2 \Omega (f; \alpha, \beta/H, f_{\text{peak}}) \quad f_{\text{peak}} (\alpha, \beta/H, T_n)$$

$\alpha \rightarrow$ released latent heat, $\beta/H \rightarrow$ inverse time scale, $T_n \rightarrow$ nucleation temp.

$$\alpha \propto \frac{1}{T_n^4} \left[V_i - V_f - T \left(\frac{\partial V_i}{\partial T} - \frac{\partial V_f}{\partial T} \right) \right] \quad \frac{\beta}{H} = T_n \frac{\partial}{\partial T} \left(\frac{\hat{S}_3}{T} \right) \Big|_{T_n}$$

- Bubble nucleation takes place when the probability to realize 1 transition per cosmological horizon is equal to one $\Rightarrow \hat{S}_3/T_n = 140$
- Strong transition criterion: $v_h(T_n)/T_n \gtrsim 1 \Rightarrow$ enhances GW production

- Classical motion in Euclidean space described by action \hat{S}_3

$$\hat{S}_3 = 4\pi \int_0^\infty dr r^2 \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{d\hat{\phi}}{dr} \right)^2 + V_{\text{eff}}(\hat{\phi}, T) \right\},$$

- $\hat{\phi} \rightarrow$ solution of the e.o.m. found by the path that minimizes the energy.
- Effective potential: loop and thermal corrections

$$V_{\text{eff}}^{(1)}(\hat{\phi}, T) = V_0 + V_{\text{CW}} + \Delta V^{(1)}(T)$$

- Formalism implemented in `CosmoTransitions` [Wainwright]

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Seesaw induced Gravitational Waves

High scale type-I seesaw with explicit $U(1)_L$ violation ($M\nu^c\nu^c$)

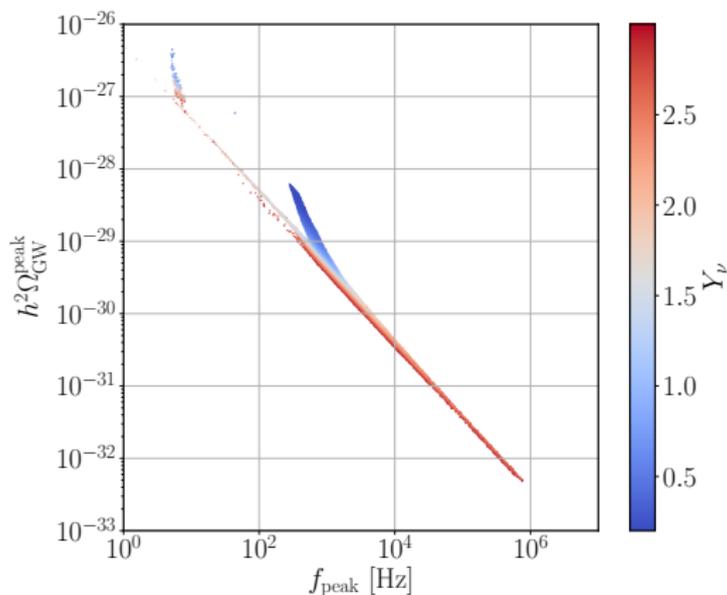
- Heavy isosinglet neutrinos decoupled from EW-scale play no role in the EW phase transition (EWPT) \implies **no FOPT thus no GW signals**

Low-scale inverse seesaw with explicit $U(1)_L$ violation ($M\nu^c S + \mu SS$)

- Singlet neutrinos lie closer to EW scale and coupling to Higgs can be sizeable
- **Thermal contributions from heavy neutrinos induce FOPT**
- **Fermions affect PT only at loop level** \Rightarrow weak FOPT

$v_h(T_n)/T_n \sim \mathcal{O}(0.1)$ even for large Y_ν and up to 30 neutrino species

Y_ν	M/GeV	generations
[0.2, 3.0]	[50, 500]	[3, 30]



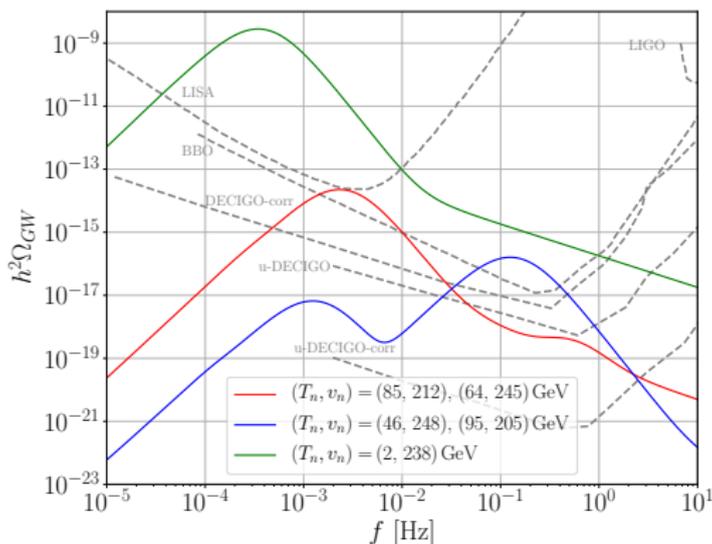
GW signal too weak to be detectable by future gravitational interferometers

Inverse seesaw with majoron: Spontaneous breaking $U(1)_L \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2$

$$M\nu^c\nu^c \rightarrow Y_\sigma\sigma\nu^c\nu^c \text{ (type-I variant)} \quad \mu SS \rightarrow Y_\sigma\sigma SS \text{ (low-scale inverse variant)}$$

New scalar σ responsible for a richer pattern of FOPTs

- Tree-level contributions in V_0 substantially enhance the strength of the PT



- Observable signals including multi-peaked scenarios

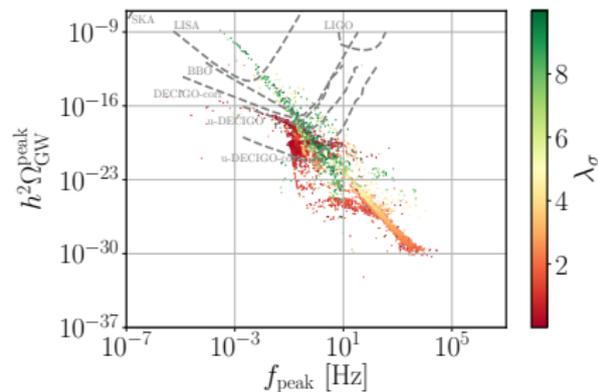
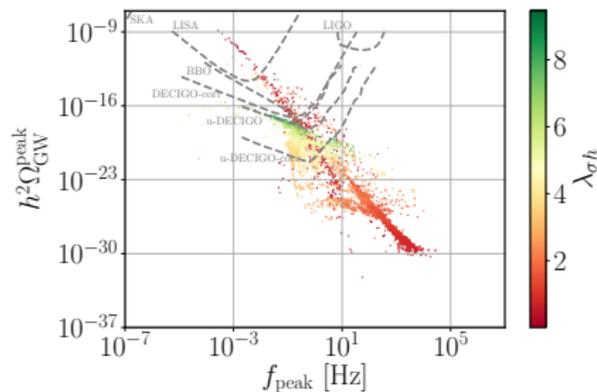
All three scenarios with nearly preserved $U(1)_L$, i.e., $\nu_\sigma(T=0) \sim \mathcal{O}(1 \text{ keV})$

Peak Id	$(v_h^i, v_\sigma^i) \rightarrow (v_h^f, v_\sigma^f)$	α	β/H
Green 1	$(249, 0) \rightarrow (238, 0)$	16.0	715
Red 1	$(0, 70.7) \rightarrow (212, 0)$	8.83×10^{-2}	109
Red 2	$(228, 0) \rightarrow (245, 0)$	6.85×10^{-3}	2.31×10^4
Blue 1	$(0, 98.9) \rightarrow (205, 0)$	5.72×10^{-2}	5.08×10^3
Blue 2	$(239, 0) \rightarrow (248, 0)$	3.73×10^{-3}	86.7

Curve	m_{σ_R}/GeV	$\lambda_{\sigma h}$	λ_σ	M_ν/GeV	Y_σ
Green	68.9	3.56	7.86×10^{-3}	147	4.83
Red	439	7.42	8.48	324	2.71
Blue	378	5.08	1.67	303	0.126

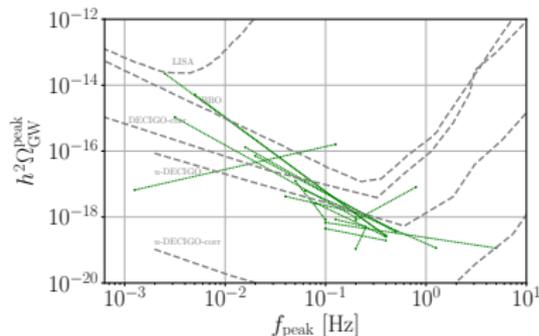
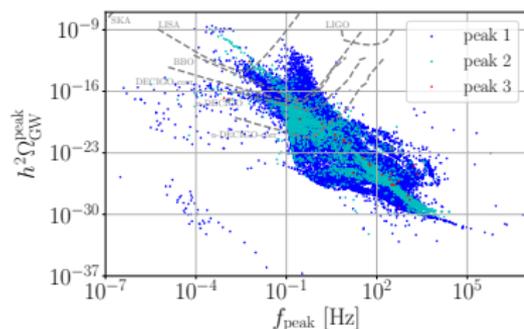
- **Green curve at the reach of LISA:** very strong FOPT with $\nu_n/T_n = 119$
 - > Consistent with invisible Higgs decays LHC bounds [Bonilla, Romão, Valle (2016)]
- **Two-peak scenarios at the reach of DECIGO**
- **Large quartic couplings enhance m/T and facilitate these scenarios:**
 - > **Bosonic $(m/T)^3$ contributions in $\Delta V^{(1)}(T)$ produce potential barriers**

Generic feature for multi-peaked scenarios



- At least one quartic coupling involving σ is sizeable

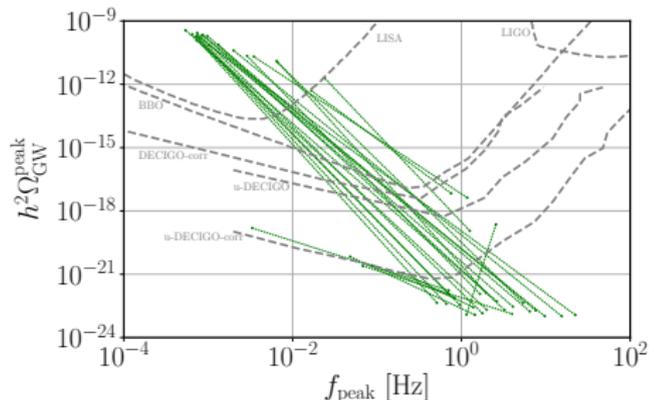
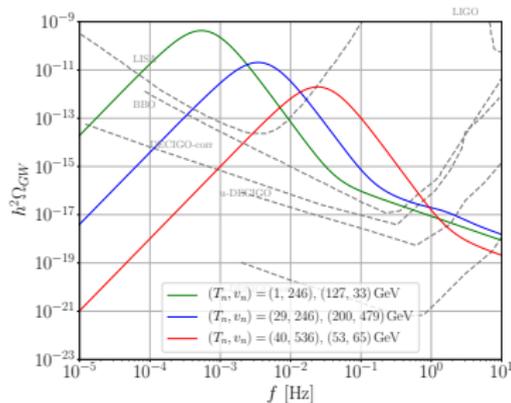
Multi-peak feature is a generic prediction of the inverse seesaw with majoron



- The third peak is typically hard to resolve
- **Multi-peaks due to distinct phase transitions and not competition between GW sources (collision, sound waves, turbulence)**
- Possibility to distinguish/falsify the underlying neutrino mass generation mechanism

Type-I seesaw with majoron

- High scale variant: $Y_\nu \sim \mathcal{O}(1) \Rightarrow M = Y_\sigma v_\sigma / \sqrt{2} \sim \mathcal{O}(10^{14} \text{ GeV})$
 - > For $Y_\sigma \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$ then $v_\sigma \sim \mathcal{O}(10^{14} \text{ GeV}) \Rightarrow$ **no FOPT and no GW**
- Low scale variant: $Y_\nu \sim \mathcal{O}(10^{-6}) \Rightarrow M = Y_\sigma v_\sigma / \sqrt{2} \sim \mathcal{O}(100 \text{ GeV})$
 - > **New states do not decouple and can lead to FOPT and to GW**



Double-peak feature within experimental reach is much rarer

In contrast to inverse seesaw + majoron, one PT is typically much stronger hiding the smaller peak

Curve	m_{h_2}/GeV	λ_h	$\lambda_{\sigma h}$	λ_σ	$\cos \theta$	$\nu_\sigma(T=0)$	M_ν/GeV	Y_σ
Green	83.1	0.0624	0.310	8.16	0.962	30.3	456	2.08
Red	793	0.389	0.594	0.350	0.974	924	90.5	2.59
Blue	334	0.265	0.332	0.243	0.913	449	57.8	2.97

Peak Id	$(\nu_h^i, \nu_\sigma^i) \rightarrow (\nu_h^f, \nu_\sigma^f)$	α	β/H	$f_{\text{peak}}/\text{Hz}$
Green 1	$(0, 45.4) \rightarrow (33.4, 45.1)$	6.39×10^{-4}	2.36×10^4	0.955
Green 2	$(246, 30.8) \rightarrow (246, 29.7)$	6.70	3.50×10^3	5.37×10^{-4}
Red 1	$(0, 967) \rightarrow (64.8, 964)$	1.20×10^{-2}	8.16×10^4	1.26
Red 2	$(213, 935) \rightarrow (536, 750)$	0.249	2.68×10^3	0.0240
Blue 1	$(293, 305) \rightarrow (0, 479)$	1.30×10^{-2}	2.04×10^4	1.17
Blue 2	$(0, 554) \rightarrow (246, 450)$	0.632	574	3.48×10^{-3}

- m_{h_2} : Second CP-even Higgs and $h = \cos \theta h_1 + \sin \theta h_2$
- Consistency with Higgs invisible decays bounds assured

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Conclusions

- 1 Explicit lepton number violation cannot induce strong FOPT thus testable GW signals
- 2 Spontaneous $U(1)_L$ breaking leads to clearer GW footprints
- 3 Both majoron models, type-I seesaw and inverse seesaw, predict testable GW in the 0.1 – 100 mHz frequency range
- 4 **Different seesaw variants lead to distinct GW spectra potentially distinguishable by upcoming experiments**

Multi-messenger era

Gravitational wave physics may shed light on the mystery of neutrino mass generation

Outline

6 Backup slides

Dynamics of phase transitions

- High $T \rightarrow$ classical motion in Euclidean space described by action \hat{S}_3

$$\hat{S}_3 = 4\pi \int_0^\infty dr r^2 \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{d\hat{\phi}}{dr} \right)^2 + V_{\text{eff}}(\hat{\phi}) \right\},$$

- Effective potential: loop and thermal corrections

$$V_{\text{eff}}^{(1)}(\hat{\phi}) = V_{\text{tree}} + V_{\text{CW}} + \Delta V^{(1)}(T)$$

$$V_{\text{CW}} = \sum_i (-1)^{F_i} n_i \frac{m_i^4}{64\pi^2} \left(\log \left[\frac{m_i^2(\hat{\phi}_\alpha)}{\Lambda^2} \right] - c_i \right)$$

$$\Delta V^{(1)}(T) = \frac{T^4}{2\pi^2} \left\{ \sum_b n_b J_B \left[\frac{m_b^2(\hat{\phi}_\alpha)}{T^2} \right] - \sum_f n_f J_F \left[\frac{m_f^2(\hat{\phi}_\alpha)}{T^2} \right] \right\},$$

- $\hat{\phi} \rightarrow$ solution of the e.o.m. found by the path that minimizes the energy.

Nucleation temperature

- Nucleation temperature $T_n \rightarrow$ the PT does effectively occur \rightarrow vacuum bubble nucleation processes
- Satisfies $T_n < T_c$, where T_c is the critical temperature \rightarrow degenerate minima
- Corresponds to probability to realize one transition per cosmological horizon volume equal one

$$\frac{\Gamma}{H^4} \sim 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\hat{S}_3}{T_n} \sim 140$$

- The phase transition rate

$$\Gamma \sim T^4 \left(\frac{\hat{S}_3}{2\pi T} \right)^{3/2} \exp \left(-\hat{S}_3/T \right) .$$

- This formalism is implemented in CosmoTransitions package (Wainwright'12)

The need for a strong first order PT and New Physics

- Observed baryon asymmetry (BA) in the Universe

$$\frac{n_B - n_{\bar{B}}}{s} \sim 10^{-11}$$

- Conditions for dynamical production of the baryon asymmetry **Sakharov'67**
 - B violation
 - C and CP violation
 - Departure from thermal equilibrium \rightarrow **strong 1st-order PT**

Nucleation of expanding broken-phase vacuum bubbles \rightarrow sphaleron suppression

$$\frac{\phi(T_c)}{T_c} \gtrsim 1.1 \quad \rightarrow \quad 1^{\text{st}} \text{ order PT}$$

Standard Model (SM) does not explain the BA \rightarrow **the need to go beyond the SM**

EW phase transition in multi-scalar SM extensions

- The more scalar d.o.f.'s, the more complicated vacuum structure → new possibilities for **strong 1st-order EWPT at tree-level**
- Multi-Higgs SM extensions are very common and originate as e.g. low-energy limits of **Grand-Unified theories**
- Tree-level (strong) EWPT → free energy release is largely amplified → **stronger GW signals**
- Tree-level weak (2nd-order) transitions can become 1st-order ones due to **quantum corrections**
- Certain scenarios exhibit multi-step **successive 1st-order PTs**
- Multi-step transition → multi-peak structures in the induced GW spectrum → potential access by the next generation of **space-based GW interferometers**
- GW signature of multiple EW symmetry breaking steps → a **gravitational probe for New Physics**, yet unreachable at colliders

Backup slides: GW spectrum characteristics

GW signals calculation

(for more details, see Caprini'16; Grojean'07; Leita0'16)

- Using α and β , one computes the bubble-wall velocity ($\approx 0.6-0.8$) and the efficiency coefficient (accounting for the latent heat saturation for runaway bubbles)
- For each of the three contributions (Ω_{col} , Ω_{sw} , Ω_{MHD} terms)

$$GWs \text{ signal} \sim \text{amplitude} \times \text{spectral shape}(f/f_{\text{peak}})$$

where the peak frequency (contains redshift information)

$$f_{\text{peak}} \simeq 16.5 \text{ Hz} \left(\frac{f_n}{H_n} \right) \left(\frac{T_n}{10^8 \text{ GeV}} \right) \left(\frac{100}{g_\star} \right)^{\frac{1}{6}}$$

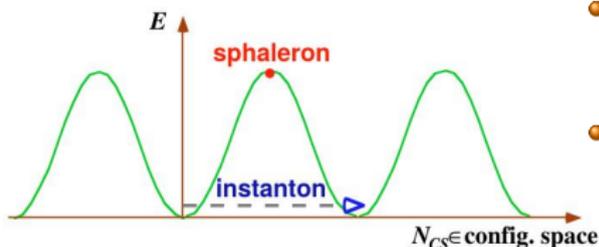
with peak frequency at nucleation time $f_n = \frac{0.62\beta}{1.8 - 0.1v_w + v_w^2}$

- Details of the particle physics model encoded in T_n and α .

Backup slides: The sphaleron solution

Note: from the greek *shpaleros* ($\sigma\varphi\alpha\lambda\epsilon\rho\sigma$): **ready to fall**

- Non-trivial transitions between physically identical but topologically distinct vacua
 - Identified by the Chern-Simons number $N_{CS} \in \mathbb{Z}$
 - Axial $B + L$ anomaly in a SM-like theory yields $\Delta B = N_f \Delta N_{CS}$
 - $B - L$ current is conserved



<http://astr.phys.saga-u.ac.jp/~funakubo/yitp/files/funakubo.pdf>

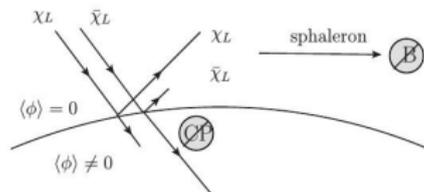
- $T = 0$: **Instanton solution**
 - > Tunnelling prob. $\sim 10^{-170}$ (EW theory)
- $T \neq 0$: **Sphaleron solution** – **thermal jump**
 - > Transition prob. $\sim T^4$
 - > Static saddle-point solution
 - > $N_f = 3 \Rightarrow B \rightarrow 3B$

Backup slides: Sphaleron washout criterion

- First order phase transition:

Nucleation of broken phase vacuum bubbles expanding in the surrounding plasma of unbroken symmetry

- > Particles in the plasma experience the passing bubble
- > Reflection of particles \rightarrow plasma out of equilibrium
- > With CP -violation, matter/anti-matter asymmetry accumulates over time inside the bubble (different reflection coefficients)
- > Sphaleron process (active in unbroken phase) provides
 - B -violation (quantified by sphaleron rate)
 - C -violation (only couples to LH-fermions)



[hep-ph] 1302.6713

Backup slides: Sphaleron washout criterion

If sphaleron process still active after phase transition the system restores equilibrium, $B = 0$, after a time of the order of the Hubble scale.

Broken Phase:

$$\Gamma_{sph} \simeq T^4 e^{-E_{sph}/T}, \quad E_{sph} \simeq \frac{4\pi\phi_c}{g} \Xi, \quad \Xi \simeq 2.8$$

- Γ_{sph} in broken phase needs to be much smaller than Hubble scale

$$\Gamma_{sph} \ll HT^3 \Rightarrow \frac{\phi_c}{T_c} \gtrsim 1.1$$

- Sphaleron processes suppressed in the broken phase
- Avoid washout of generated baryon asymmetry
- EWBG can be realized (in the SM needs 40 GeV Higgs mass)