

Baryogenesis from the weak scale to the GUT scale

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We review the current status of baryogenesis with emphasis on electroweak baryogenesis and leptogenesis. The first detailed studies were carried out for $SU(5)$ GUT models where CP-violating decays of leptoquarks generate a baryon asymmetry. These GUT models were excluded by the discovery of unsuppressed, $B+L$ violating sphaleron processes at high temperatures. Yet a new possibility emerged, electroweak baryogenesis. Here sphaleron processes generate a baryon asymmetry during a strongly first-order phase transition. This mechanism has been studied in detail in many extensions of the Standard Model. However, constraints from the LHC and from low-energy precision experiments exclude most of the known models, leaving composite Higgs models of electroweak symmetry breaking as an interesting possibility. Sphaleron processes are also the basis of leptogenesis, where CP-violating decays of heavy right-handed neutrinos generate a lepton asymmetry which is partially converted to a baryon asymmetry. This mechanism is closely related to the one of GUT baryogenesis, and simple estimates based on GUT models can explain the order of magnitude of the observed baryon-to-photon ratio. In the one-flavour approximation an upper bound on the light neutrino masses has been derived which is consistent with the cosmological upper bound on the sum of neutrino masses. For quasi-degenerate right-handed neutrinos the leptogenesis temperature can be lowered from the GUT scale down to the weak scale, and CP-violating oscillations of GeV sterile neutrinos can also lead to successful leptogenesis. Significant progress has been made in developing a full field theoretical description of thermal leptogenesis, which demonstrated that interactions with gauge bosons of the thermal plasma play a crucial role. Finally, we discuss recent ideas how the seesaw mechanism and $B-L$ breaking at the GUT scale can be probed by gravitational waves.

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I. INTRODUCTION

The current theory of particle physics, the Standard Model (SM), is a low-energy effective theory, valid at the Fermi scale of weak interactions, $\Lambda_{EW} \sim 100$ GeV. Theoretical ideas beyond the SM extend up to the scale of grand unified theories (GUTs), $\Lambda_{GUT} \sim 10^{15}$ GeV, possibly including new gauge interactions at intermediate scales and supersymmetry. Once quantum gravity effects are relevant, also the Planck scale and the string scale enter. At the LHC, the SM has been tested up to TeV energies, with no hints for new particles and interactions. So far the only evidence for physics beyond the

SM are non-zero neutrino masses which are deduced from neutrino oscillations, and which can be explained by extensions of the SM ranging from the weak scale to the GUT scale. Moreover, there is evidence for dark matter and dark energy which, however, might have a purely gravitational origin.

During the past 40 years impressive progress has been made in early-universe cosmology, closely related to particle physics. This led to a standard model of cosmology with the key elements inflation, baryogenesis, dark matter and dark energy. However, the associated energy scales are very uncertain. The energy density during the inflationary phase can range from the scale of strong interactions to the GUT scale, dark matter particles are considered with masses between 10^{-22} eV and 10^{18} GeV, dark energy may just be a cosmological constant constrained by anthropic considerations and also the energy scale of baryogenesis can vary between the scale of strong interactions and the GUT scale.

This review is concerned with a single number, the ratio of the number density of baryons to photons in the universe, which has been measured most precisely in the cosmic microwave background (CMB) (Akrami *et al.*, 2018),

$$\eta_B \equiv \frac{n_B}{n_\gamma} = (6.12 \pm 0.04) \times 10^{-10}, \quad (1)$$

being consistent with the most recent analysis of primordial nucleosynthesis (except for the ‘lithium problem’) (Fields *et al.*, 2020). Since the existence of antimatter in the universe is excluded by the diffuse γ -ray background (Cohen *et al.*, 1998), the ratio η_B is also a measure of the matter-antimatter asymmetry,

$$\frac{n_B - n_{\bar{B}}}{n_\gamma} = \frac{n_B}{n_\gamma} = \eta_B. \quad (2)$$

From the seminal work of Sakharov (Sakharov, 1967) we know that the baryon asymmetry can be generated by physical processes and that it is related to the violation of CP, the product of charge conjugation (C) and space reflection (P), and to baryon-number violation in the fundamental theory.

Our knowledge about the early universe rests on only a few numbers: the abundances of light elements (explained by nucleosynthesis), amplitude, scalar spectral index and upper bound on the tensor-to-scalar ratio of primordial density fluctuations (determined by the CMB) and the contributions of dark energy, matter and baryonic matter to the energy density of the universe which, normalized to the critical energy $\rho_c = 3H_0^2/(8\pi G)$, read¹:

$\Omega_\Lambda = 0.6847 \pm 0.0073$, $\Omega_m h^2 = 0.1428 \pm 0.0011$, $\Omega_b h^2 = 0.02233 \pm 0.00015$ (Aghanim *et al.*, 2018). One can always make a theory for a single number like η_B . Hence, in order to make progress, it is important to develop a consistent picture of the evolution of the universe, which correlates the few available numbers, in the framework of a theoretically consistent extension of the Standard Model. In the review we shall emphasize this point of view, following the work of Sakharov.

This review focuses on electroweak baryogenesis (EWBG) (Kuzmin *et al.*, 1985) which is tied to the Higgs sector of electroweak symmetry breaking, and on leptogenesis (Fukugita and Yanagida, 1986) which is closely related to neutrino physics. An attractive feature of EWBG is that in principle all ingredients are already contained in the SM. However, our knowledge of the electroweak theory implies that a more complicated Higgs sector is needed for EWBG, and the stringent constraints from the LHC and low-energy precision experiments have led to extended models where scales of electroweak symmetry breaking are considered up to 100 TeV. On the other hand, leptogenesis originally started out at the GUT scale. But the desire to probe the mechanism at current colliders led to the construction of models where the energy scale of leptogenesis is lowered down to the weak scale. A further interesting mechanism is Affleck-Dine baryogenesis (Affleck and Dine, 1985), which makes use of the coherent motion of scalar fields in extensions of the SM with low-energy supersymmetry. In the absence of any hints for supersymmetry at the LHC we will not further discuss the Affleck-Dine mechanism in this review.

In the following, we first recall the theoretical foundations of baryogenesis in Section II: Sakharov’s conditions, sphaleron processes and some elements of thermodynamics in an expanding universe. We then move on to electroweak baryogenesis in Section III. We first review the electroweak phase transition and the charge transport mechanism, and we then illustrate the current status of the field with a number of representative examples, corresponding to weakly coupled as well as strongly coupled models of electroweak symmetry breaking. Section IV deals with leptogenesis. After recalling basics of lepton-number violation and kinetic equations, we consider thermal leptogenesis at different energy scales and also leptogenesis from sterile-neutrino oscillations. We then describe interesting recent progress towards a complete description of the nonequilibrium process of leptogenesis on the basis of thermal field theory. Finally, we discuss an example where by correlating inflation, leptogenesis and dark matter one arrives at a prediction for primordial gravitational waves emitted from a cosmic string network. After a brief discussion of other models of baryogenesis in Section V, we present summary and outlook in Section VI. Different aspects of the theoretical work on baryogenesis over 50 years have previ-

¹ The Hubble parameter is determined as $H_0 = (67.36 \pm 0.54) \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1} \equiv h \times 100 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$ (Aghanim *et al.*, 2018); in a flat universe, as predicted by inflation, one has $\Omega_\Lambda + \Omega_m = 1$.

ously been described in a number of comprehensive reviews, see, for example (Buchmuller *et al.*, 2005b; Dine and Kusenko, 2003; Kolb and Turner, 1990; Rubakov and Shaposhnikov, 1996).

II. THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS

A. Sakharov's conditions for baryogenesis

A. Sakharov (Sakharov, 1967) wrote his famous paper on baryogenesis two years after the discovery of CP violation in K^0 -decays (Christenson *et al.*, 1964) and one year after the discovery of the cosmic microwave background (Penzias and Wilson, 1965) that had been predicted as remnant of a hot phase in the early universe 20 years earlier (Gamow, 1946).

Sakharov's paper contains three necessary conditions for the generation of a matter-antimatter asymmetry from microscopic processes:

- (1) Baryon-number violation. Clearly, if baryon number were conserved an initial state of the universe with baryon number $B = 0$ could not evolve into a state with $B \neq 0$. As we know today, an inflationary phase of the early universe does not allow an initial condition $B \neq 0$.
- (2) C and CP violation. If the fundamental interactions were invariant under charge conjugation (C) and the product of parity and charge conjugation (CP) the reaction rate for two processes, related by the exchange of particles and antiparticles, would be the same. Hence, no baryon asymmetry could be generated.
- (3) Departure from thermal equilibrium. Sakharov considered an initial state of the universe at high temperature. Thermal equilibrium would then mean that the system is stationary, so an initially vanishing baryon number would always be zero. A departure from thermal equilibrium defines an arrow of time. In a non-thermal system this can be provided by the time evolution of scalar fields, as in Affleck-Dine baryogenesis.

Sakharov considered a concrete model for baryogenesis. He proposed as the origin for the baryon and lepton asymmetry the CP-violating decays of 'maximons', hypothetical neutral spin-zero particles with mass of order the Planck mass $M_P \sim 10^{19}$ GeV. Their existence leads to a departure from thermal equilibrium already at an initial temperature $T_i \sim M_P$, where a small matter-antimatter asymmetry is then generated. The CP violation in maximon decays is related to the CP violation in K^0 -decays, one of the motivations for Sakharov's work, and an unavoidable consequence of this model is that protons are unstable and decay. The proton lifetime is predicted to

be $\tau_p > 10^{50}$ years, much longer than in grand unified theories.

Grand Unified Theories (GUTs) played an important role in the development of realistic models of baryogenesis (Dimopoulos and Susskind, 1978; Toussaint *et al.*, 1979; Weinberg, 1979; Yoshimura, 1978). These theories naturally provide heavy particles, scalar and vector lept-quarks, whose decays violate baryon and lepton number and can therefore be the source of a baryon asymmetry. However, the simplest GUT models based on SU(5) conserve $B-L$, the difference of baryon and lepton number. Hence, lept-quark decays can only create a $B+L$ asymmetry, with a vanishing asymmetry for $B-L$. As emphasized by Kuzmin, Rubakov and Shaposhnikov (Kuzmin *et al.*, 1985), at temperatures above the electroweak phase transition $B+L$ violating sphaleron processes are in thermal equilibrium. Hence, any non-zero $B+L$ asymmetry is washed out. The simplest GUT beyond SU(5) is based on SO(10), which includes right-handed neutrinos and a $B-L$ gauge boson. With $B-L$ broken at the GUT scale, right-handed neutrinos with masses below the GUT scale are ideal agents for generating a $B-L$ asymmetry, and therefore a baryon asymmetry, again because of the sphaleron processes. This is the leptogenesis mechanism proposed by Fukugita and Yanagida (Fukugita and Yanagida, 1986).

Electroweak baryogenesis is a process far from thermal equilibrium, with a strongly first-order phase transition, nucleation and propagation of bubbles, CP-violating scatterings on the wall separating broken and unbroken phase, and a crucial change of the sphaleron rate across the wall. On the contrary, leptogenesis is a process close to thermal equilibrium, the departure being a deviation of the density of the right-handed neutrinos their the equilibrium distribution. Hence, the time evolution of the nonequilibrium process is well under control and a full quantum field theoretical treatment is possible. Successful electroweak baryogenesis imposes constraints on masses and couplings of Higgs bosons, whereas successful leptogenesis is connected with properties of neutrinos.

B. Sphaleron processes

In the Standard Model both baryon and lepton number are conserved according to the classical equations of motion. However, quantum effects give rise to the chiral anomaly and violate baryon number conservation ('t Hooft, 1976),

$$\partial_\mu J_B^\mu = \frac{n_F}{32\pi^2} g^2 F_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{F}^{a\mu\nu}, \quad (3)$$

where $n_F = 3$ is the number of families, $F_{\mu\nu}^a$ is the weak SU(2) field strength and $\tilde{F}^{a\mu\nu} \equiv (1/2)\varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} F_{\rho\sigma}^a$. In (3) we have neglected the U(1) hypercharge gauge field contribution (see below). The same relation holds for the

lepton number current J_L^μ , so that $B - L$ is conserved in the Standard Model.

The change of baryon number is thus linked to the dynamics of gauge fields,

$$B(t) - B(0) = n_f Q(t), \quad (4)$$

with

$$Q(t) \equiv \int_0^t \int d^3x \frac{g^2}{32\pi^2} F_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{F}^{a\mu\nu}. \quad (5)$$

Due to the coupling constants in Eq. (5), a change of baryon number of order unity must be accompanied by a large gauge field. In particular, such processes do not show up in a weak-coupling expansion and are non-perturbative in nature.

Baryon number changing processes are closely connected to the topology of the $SU(2)$ gauge plus Higgs fields. To see this, note that the integrand of Eq. (5) can be written as a total derivative $\partial_\mu K^\mu$, with

$$K^\mu = \frac{1}{32\pi^2} \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} g^2 \left(F_{\nu\rho}^a A_\sigma^a - \frac{1}{3} g \varepsilon^{abc} A_\nu^a A_\rho^b A_\sigma^c \right). \quad (6)$$

An abelian gauge field requires non-zero field strength to obtain non-vanishing K^μ . This is not the case for the non-Abelian field due to the second term in Eq. (6). If one can neglect the integral $\int d^3x \nabla \cdot \mathbf{K}$, e.g. with periodic boundary conditions or if $\mathbf{K}$ vanishes at spatial infinity, then

$$Q(t) = N_{CS}(t) - N_{CS}(0), \quad (7)$$

with

$$N_{CS} = \int d^3x K^0. \quad (8)$$

In the vacuum, the Higgs field can be chosen to be constant and at the minimum of its potential A_μ is a pure gauge. In $A_0^a = 0$ gauge, N_{CS} is the gauge field winding number which is an integer. It is invariant under ‘small’ gauge transformations, i.e., gauge transformations continuously connected to the identity. To change N_{CS} by ± 1 , one has to go over the energy barrier. Fig. 1 shows the the minimal static energy of the gauge-Higgs fields as a function of N_{CS} (Akiba *et al.*, 1990). The minima of the energy differ by large gauge transformations and all describe the vacuum state. A vacuum-to-vacuum transition along this path would change baryon and lepton number by a multiple of n_f (’t Hooft, 1976). The barrier is given by a static solution to the equations of motion, the so-called sphaleron (Klinkhamer and Manton, 1984), which has half integer N_{CS} , and an energy of order m_W/α_W , $\alpha_W = g^2/(4\pi)$. Thus at low energies an N_{CS} changing transition can only occur via tunneling. The amplitude of such a process is proportional to $\exp(-16\pi^2/g^2)$ which is tiny and has no observable consequences.

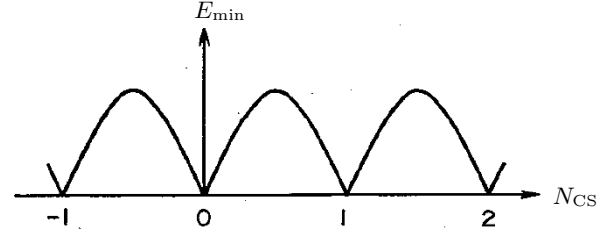


FIG. 1 Minimal field energy for given value of the Chern-Simons number N_{CS} (figure from (Akiba *et al.*, 1990)). The energy approaches the minima with non-zero slope (Akiba *et al.*, 1988).

However at high temperatures there can be thermal fluctuations which take the system over the sphaleron barrier. Then baryon number is no longer conserved, and the value of B will relax to its equilibrium value B_{eq} .² For sufficiently small deviation from equilibrium, this is determined by a linear equation (without Hubble expansion)

$$\frac{d}{dt} B = -\gamma(B - B_{eq}). \quad (9)$$

The dissipation rate γ only depends on the temperature and on the value of conserved charges like $B - L$. Furthermore, at a first-order electroweak phase transition it depends on whether one is in the symmetric or in the broken phase. When the dissipation rate γ is larger than the Hubble parameter, baryon number is in equilibrium.

The dissipation rate γ can be related to the properties of thermal fluctuations of baryon number around its equilibrium value B_{eq} : if $B - B_{eq}$ has made a fluctuation to a non-zero value, this will tend to zero at the rate γ . Therefore the time dependent correlation function of the fluctuation reads

$$\langle [B(t) - B_{eq}][B(0) - B_{eq}] \rangle = \langle [B - B_{eq}]^2 \rangle e^{-\gamma|t|}, \quad (10)$$

which implies

$$\langle [B(t) - B(0)]^2 \rangle = 2\langle [B - B_{eq}]^2 \rangle (1 - e^{-\gamma|t|}). \quad (11)$$

For $t \ll \gamma^{-1}$ this approximately grows linearly with time

$$\langle [B(t) - B(0)]^2 \rangle \simeq 2\langle [B - B_{eq}]^2 \rangle \gamma|t|. \quad (12)$$

The mean square fluctuation on the right-hand side is determined by equilibrium thermodynamics, and is proportional to the volume of the system V . It has to be evaluated at fixed $B - L$. The leading order computation is straightforward but requires some care (Khlebnikov and Shaposhnikov, 1996). In the temperature range between

² When $B - L$ is non-zero, B_{eq} does not vanish.

the electroweak transition and the equilibration temperature of the right-handed electron Yukawa interaction it takes the value

$$\langle [B - B_{\text{eq}}]^2 \rangle = VT^3 \frac{2n_f(5n_f + 3N_s)}{3(22n_f + 13N_s)}, \quad (13)$$

where N_s is the number of Higgs doublets. At lower temperatures one has to take into account a non-zero Higgs expectation value, and at higher temperature there are additional conserved charges, which reduces the size of the fluctuation (Rubakov and Shaposhnikov, 1996).

Due to Eq. (3) the left-hand-side Eq. (12) is determined by the dynamics of gauge fields,

$$\langle [B(t) - B(0)]^2 \rangle = n_f^2 \langle Q^2(t) \rangle. \quad (14)$$

For Eqs. (12) and (14) to be consistent, Q in Eq. (7) must satisfy

$$\langle Q^2(t) \rangle = \Gamma_{\text{sph}} V |t|. \quad (15)$$

This can be easily visualised with the help of Fig. 1. Most of the time the system sits near one of the minima, but every once in a while there is a thermal fluctuation which lets it hop to a neighbouring one. This gives rise to a random walk leading to the behavior (15). Γ_{sph} , the number of transitions per unit time and unit volume, is known as the Chern-Simons diffusion rate or sphaleron rate. It can be estimated as

$$\Gamma_{\text{sph}} \sim t_{\text{tr}}^{-1} \ell^{-3}, \quad (16)$$

where t_{tr} is the time of a single transition, and ℓ is the spatial size of the corresponding field configuration. The U(1)-hypercharge gauge field does not contribute to the diffusive behavior (15), so we may neglect it here.

The linear growth with time can only be valid on time scales large compared to t_{tr} . On the other hand, it can only be valid on time scales small compared to γ^{-1} . If there is time window in which Eqs. (12) and (15) are both valid, which will be checked a posteriori, then one can match the two expressions to determine γ , which gives

$$\gamma = \frac{n_f^2 \Gamma_{\text{sph}} V}{2 \langle [B - B_{\text{eq}}]^2 \rangle}. \quad (17)$$

Using $\langle [B - B_{\text{eq}}]^2 \rangle \sim VT^3$ one can therefore estimate $\gamma t_{\text{tr}} \sim (\ell T)^{-3}$. Hence, the window exists if the size of the relevant field configurations is large compared to T^{-1} .

At low temperatures the N_{CS} -changing transitions still proceed through tunneling. The probability for thermal transitions over the sphaleron barrier is proportional to $\exp(-E_{\text{sph}}/T)$ (Kuzmin *et al.*, 1985). They become dominant when $E_{\text{sph}}/T \lesssim 1/g^2$. The energy and the size of a sphaleron are of order $E_{\text{sph}} \sim v/g$ and $\ell_{\text{sph}} \sim 1/(gv)$, respectively. Therefore, the size of the sphaleron is larger

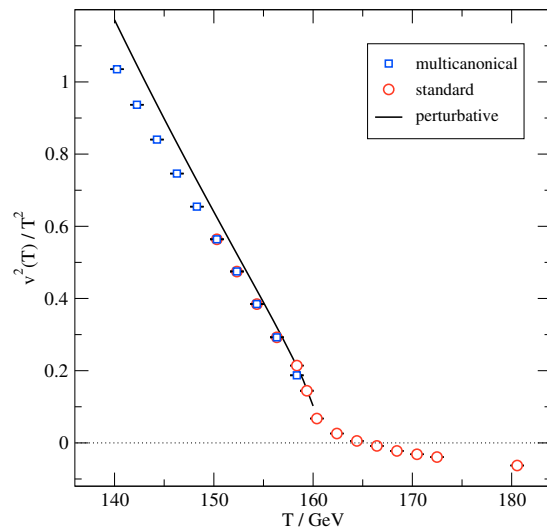


FIG. 2 Higgs expectation value squared versus temperature in the Standard Model (from (D’Onofrio *et al.*, 2014)). The observable $v^2 = 2\langle\phi^\dagger\phi\rangle$ can become negative, because is ultraviolet divergent and is additively renormalized.

than T^{-1} when the thermal activation dominates, and the assumptions leading to Eq. (17) are valid in this case. For field configurations with $k \sim \ell^{-1} \lesssim T$, the occupation number, given by the Bose-Einstein distribution, is large, $f_B(k) \simeq T/k \gtrsim 1$, so that such fields can be treated classically.

The Higgs expectation value decreases with increasing temperature (see Fig. 2 and Sec. II.C). Therefore the exponential suppression already disappears near the electroweak phase transition or crossover. The prefactor of the exponential corresponds to a one-loop computation of the fluctuations around the sphaleron contribution. The bosonic part was computed in (Arnold *et al.*, 1997), the fermionic contributions were obtained in (Moore, 1996).

In the symmetric phase the Higgs expectation value vanishes, and there is no sphaleron solution.³ The length scale for N_{CS} changing field configurations can now be easily estimated. When the energy of a field configuration is dominated by the electroweak magnetic field $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{D} \times \mathbf{A}$, it can be estimated as

$$E \sim \ell^3 \mathbf{B}^2 \sim \ell \mathbf{A}^2. \quad (18)$$

Using $\mathbf{E} \sim \mathbf{A}/t_{\text{tr}}$, the change of Chern-Simons number is then given by

$$Q \sim g^2 t_{\text{tr}} \ell^3 \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B} \sim g^2 \ell^2 \mathbf{A}^2. \quad (19)$$

If we require $Q \sim 1$, and $E \lesssim T$ to avoid Boltzmann suppression, we obtain $\ell \gtrsim (g^2 T)^{-1}$. But $(g^2 T)^{-1}$ is the

³ Nevertheless, Γ_{sph} in the symmetric phase is usually referred to as hot sphaleron rate.

length scale beyond which static non-Abelian magnetic fields are screened. Time dependent fields are screened on even shorter length scales. Therefore the relevant length scale for N_{CS} changing transitions in the symmetric phase is (Arnold and McLerran, 1987)

$$\ell \sim \frac{1}{g^2 T} . \quad (20)$$

The corresponding gauge field is of order $\mathbf{A} \sim gT$. Therefore both terms in the covariant derivative $\mathbf{D} - ig\mathbf{A}$ are of the same order of magnitude, and the second term can not be treated as a perturbation. This leads to the breakdown of finite temperature perturbation theory at this scale (Linde, 1980). Standard Euclidean (imaginary time) lattice methods are not capable of computing real time dynamics. However, since the relevant fields have large occupation numbers they can be approximated as classical fields, and Γ_{sph} can be computed by solving classical field equations of motion (Ambjorn *et al.*, 1991), where some care is needed to use the correct equations of motion.

The time evolution of the fields responsible for the sphaleron transitions is influenced by plasma effects (Arnold and McLerran, 1987; Arnold *et al.*, 1997). The time-dependent gauge field has non-vanishing electric field $\mathbf{E}$, which induces a current because the plasma is a good conductor. The relevant charges are the weak SU(2) gauge charges. The current is carried mostly by particles with hard momenta of order T which are not described by classical fields. Therefore the classical field equations are not appropriate for computing Γ_{sph} . However, one can use effective classical equations of motion which should properly include the effect of the high momentum particles. If the mean free path of the particles is small compared to the length scale of interest $(g^2 T)^{-1}$, the current can be written as $\sigma \mathbf{E}$ with a conductivity of SU(2) charges σ .⁴

$$\sigma = \frac{4\pi}{3} \frac{m_D^2}{Ng^2 T \log(1/g)} \sim \frac{T}{\log(1/g)} , \quad (21)$$

with $N = 2$ for SU(2). In $A_0 = 0$ gauge $\mathbf{E} = -\dot{\mathbf{A}}$. Therefore the current gives rise to a damping term in the equation of motion for $\mathbf{A}$. Estimating $\mathbf{D} \times \mathbf{B} \sim \sigma \mathbf{E}$ gives

$$t_{tr} \sim \sigma \ell^2 \sim [g^4 \log(1/g) T]^{-1} , \quad (22)$$

which is much larger than ℓ . Thus the gauge field is strongly damped, and one can neglect $\dot{\mathbf{E}}$ in the equation of motion which becomes (Bodeker, 1998)

$$\mathbf{D} \times \mathbf{B} = \sigma \mathbf{E} + \boldsymbol{\zeta} . \quad (23)$$

⁴ In QCD the analogous quantity is called color conductivity.

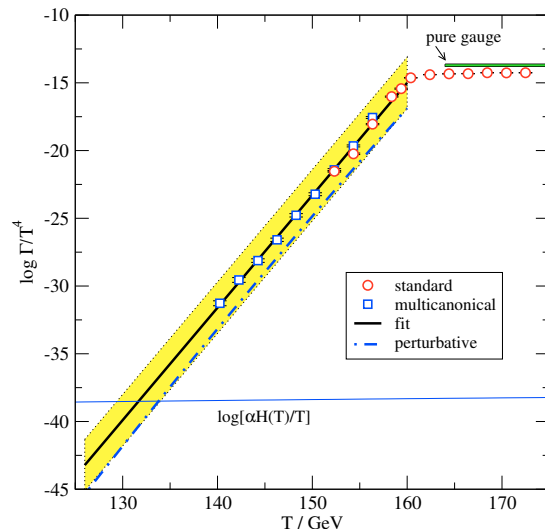


FIG. 3 The Standard Model sphaleron rate computed on the lattice and the fit to the broken phase rate, Eq. (26), shown with a shaded error band (D’Onofrio *et al.*, 2014), and compared with perturbative results (Burnier *et al.*, 2006). Pure gauge refers to the rate in hot SU(2) gauge theory. The sphalerons freeze out when Γ crosses the appropriately scaled Hubble parameter, shown with the almost horizontal line.

$\boldsymbol{\zeta}$ is also part of current of high-momentum particles. It is due to thermal fluctuations of all field modes with momenta larger than $g^2 T$, and it is a white noise with

$$\langle \zeta^{ia}(x) \zeta^{jb}(x') \rangle = 2T \sigma \delta^{ij} \delta^{ab} \delta(x - x') , \quad (24)$$

so that Eq. (23) is a Langevin equation. Then the estimate (16) gives

$$\Gamma_{sph} = \kappa g^{10} \log(1/g) T^4 . \quad (25)$$

The numerical coefficient κ was computed by solving Eq. (23) on a spatial lattice and determining Γ_{sph} from Eq. (15).

The mean free path of hard particles is short compared to ℓ only by a relative factor $\log(1/g)$. Thus beyond logarithmic accuracy, the current is not simply a local conductivity times the electric field. To go beyond this approximation one has to solve the coupled equations for the gauge fields and the high-momentum particles. Here also fields with $\mathbf{k} \sim gT$ are important because they mediate the scattering of the high-momentum particles, which is small angle scattering that changes the charge of the particles. For these modes one can not neglect the term $\dot{\mathbf{E}}$, which leads to ultraviolet divergences in the simulation prohibiting a continuum limit (Bodeker *et al.*, 1995).

The current knowledge of the sphaleron rate in the Standard Model is summarized in Fig. 3. In the temperature range $130 < T/\text{GeV} < 159$ it can be parametrized

as (D’Onofrio *et al.*, 2014)

$$\log(\Gamma_{\text{sph}}/T^4) = (0.83 \pm 0.01) \frac{T}{\text{GeV}} - (147.7 \pm 1.9) , \quad (26)$$

which is the fit shown in Fig. 3. The rate computed on the lattice is larger than perturbative results (Burnier *et al.*, 2006), but consistent within errors. The corresponding values of the Higgs expectation value are depicted in Fig. 2.

In the symmetric phase the rate (divided by T^4) is approximately constant, and can be written as

$$\Gamma_{\text{Symm.}}/T^4 = (8.0 \pm 1.3) \times 10^{-7} \approx (18 \pm 3) \alpha_W^5 , \quad (27)$$

where, in the last form, factors of $\ln \alpha_W$ have been absorbed in the numerical constant. In pure SU(2) gauge theory the rate is $\Gamma \approx (25 \pm 2) \alpha_W^5 T^4$ (Moore, 2000a; Moore *et al.*, 1998). A difference in the numerical results was also observed in Ref. (Moore, 2000c) and can be attributed to the Higgs field. At very high temperatures, the sphaleron rate again becomes smaller than the Hubble parameter, which happens at $T \gtrsim 10^{12}$ GeV (Rubakov and Shaposhnikov, 1996).

In theories with an extended Higgs sector, it is not obvious how to determine the freeze-out condition from the SM results, because the sphaleron solution can be different. In the symmetric phase this is somewhat easier. New particles interacting with the SU(2) gauge fields would increase the Debye mass m_D appearing in Eq. (21), thus decreasing the hot sphaleron rate. On the other hand, new particles would increase the Hubble parameter. Therefore the SM freeze-out temperature is an upper bound for the temperature below which $\gamma > H$.

C. Baryon and lepton asymmetries

Quarks, leptons and Higgs bosons interact via Yukawa and gauge couplings and, in addition, via the nonperturbative sphaleron processes. In the temperature range $100 \text{ GeV} < T < 10^{12} \text{ GeV}$, which is of interest for baryogenesis, gauge interactions, including the sphaleron interactions, are in equilibrium, i.e., their rate is larger than the Hubble expansion rate. On the other hand, Yukawa interactions are in equilibrium only in a more restricted temperature range that depends on the strength of the Yukawa couplings. Thus in different temperature ranges there are different sets of charges that are conserved, which leads to ‘flavour effects’ to be discussed in Sec. IV.C.2. The corresponding partition function can be written as

$$Z(\mu, T, V) = \text{Tr} \exp \left\{ \beta \left(\sum_i \mu_i Q_i - H \right) \right\} , \quad (28)$$

where $\beta = 1/T$, and H is the Hamiltonian. For each of the quark, lepton and Higgs fields, there is an associated

chemical potential μ_i , the corresponding charge operator is denoted by Q_i . In the Standard Model, with one Higgs doublet ϕ and n_f families one has $5n_f + 1$ chemical potentials μ_i .⁵

The processes which are in thermal equilibrium, the so-called spectator processes, yield constraints between the various chemical potentials (Harvey and Turner, 1990). The N_{CS} -changing transitions (see Sec. II.B) change baryon and lepton numbers in each family by the same amount. They affect only the left-handed fermion fields, so that

$$\sum_i (3\mu_{qi} + \mu_{li}) = 0 . \quad (29)$$

One also has to take the SU(3) Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD) sphaleron processes into account (Mohapatra and Zhang, 1992). They change the chiral quark number (number of right-handed minus number of left-handed quarks) for each quark flavor by the same amount, so that

$$\sum_i (2\mu_{qi} - \mu_{ui} - \mu_{di}) = 0 . \quad (30)$$

The Yukawa interactions which are in equilibrium yield relations between the chemical potentials of left-handed and right-handed fermions and the Higgs,

$$-\mu_{qi} + \mu_{dj} = \mu_{qi} - \mu_{uj} = -\mu_{li} + \mu_{ei} = \mu_\phi . \quad (31)$$

The remaining independent chemical potentials are subject to another condition, valid at all temperatures, which arises from the requirement that the total hypercharge of the plasma vanishes.

In a weakly coupled plasma, the asymmetry between particle and antiparticle number densities is given by

$$n_i - n_{\bar{i}} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial \mu_i} \frac{T}{V} \ln Z(\mu, T, V) . \quad (32)$$

When computing the derivative in Eq. (32), all μ_i have to be treated as independent. For massless particles one obtains

$$n_i - n_{\bar{i}} = \frac{g_i T^3}{6} \begin{cases} \beta \mu_i + \mathcal{O}((\beta \mu_i)^3) , & \text{fermions} , \\ 2\beta \mu_i + \mathcal{O}((\beta \mu_i)^3) , & \text{bosons} , \end{cases} \quad (33)$$

where g_i denotes the number of internal degrees of freedom. The following analysis is based on these relations for $\beta \mu_i \ll 1$.

Using Eq. (33) and the known hypercharges one can write the condition for hypercharge neutrality as

$$\sum_i (\mu_{qi} + 2\mu_{ui} - \mu_{di} - \mu_{li} - \mu_{ei}) = 2\mu_\phi . \quad (34)$$

⁵ In addition to the Higgs doublet, the two left-handed doublets q_i and ℓ_i and the three right-handed singlets u_i , d_i , and e_i of each family each have an independent chemical potential.

Using Eq. (33), the baryon number density and the lepton number densities can be expressed in terms of the chemical potentials,

$$n_B = \frac{T^2}{6} \sum_i (2\mu_{qi} + \mu_{ui} + \mu_{di}) , \quad (35)$$

$$n_{L_i} = \frac{T^2}{6} (2\mu_{li} + \mu_{ei}) \quad (36)$$

Consider now temperatures at which all Yukawa interactions are in equilibrium which is the case for $T < 85$ TeV (Bodeker and Schroder, 2019a), but still above the electroweak transition. Then quark chemical potentials are family-independent, $\mu_{qi} = \mu_q$, $\mu_{ui} = \mu_u$, $\mu_{di} = \mu_d$, and the asymmetries $L_i - B/n_f$ are conserved. For simplicity, we assume that they are all equal, so that the lepton chemical potentials are family-independent as well, $\mu_{li} = \mu_l$, $\mu_{ei} = \mu_e$. Using the sphaleron relation and the hypercharge constraint, one can express all chemical potentials, and therefore all asymmetries, in terms of a single chemical potential that may be chosen to be μ_l ,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\mu_e}{\mu_l} &= \frac{2n_f + 3}{6n_f + 3}, \quad \frac{\mu_d}{\mu_l} = -\frac{6n_f + 1}{6n_f + 3}, \quad \frac{\mu_u}{\mu_l} = \frac{2n_f - 1}{6n_f + 3}, \\ \frac{\mu_q}{\mu_l} &= -\frac{1}{3}, \quad \frac{\mu_\phi}{\mu_l} = -\frac{4n_f}{6n_f + 3}. \end{aligned} \quad (37)$$

The corresponding baryon and lepton asymmetries are

$$B = -\frac{4n_f}{3}\mu_l, \quad L = \frac{14n_f^2 + 9n_f}{6n_f + 3}\mu_l. \quad (38)$$

This yields the important connection between the B , $B-L$ and L asymmetries (Khlebnikov and Shaposhnikov, 1988)

$$B = c_s(B-L), \quad L = (c_s - 1)(B-L), \quad (39)$$

where $c_s = (8n_f + 4)/(22n_f + 13)$. Near the electroweak transition the ratio $B/(B-L)$ is a function of $\langle\phi\rangle/T$ (Laine and Shaposhnikov, 2000).

The relations (39) between B -, $B-L$ - and L -number suggest that $B-L$ violation is needed in order to generate a B asymmetry.⁶ Because the $B-L$ current has no anomaly, the value of $B-L$ at time t_f , where the leptogenesis process is completed, determines the value of the baryon asymmetry today,

$$B(t_0) = c_s(B-L)(t_f). \quad (40)$$

On the other hand, during the leptogenesis process the strength of $(B-L)$ -, and therefore L -violating interactions can only be weak. Otherwise, because of Eq. (39), they would wash out any baryon asymmetry. As we shall see in the following, the interplay between these conflicting conditions leads to important constraints on the properties of neutrinos.

III. ELECTROWEAK BARYOGENESIS

Electroweak baryogenesis is a sophisticated nonequilibrium process at the electroweak phase transition (Cohen *et al.*, 1993). We first describe the nature of the phase transition and the basic idea of the charge transport mechanism. We then illustrate the status of electroweak baryogenesis by some representative examples, corresponding to a weakly as well as a strongly interacting Higgs sector. Special emphasis is placed on constraints from the LHC as well as recent upper bounds on the electron electric dipole moment.

A. Electroweak phase transition

At zero temperature electroweak symmetry is broken by the vacuum expectation value of the Higgs field ϕ , giving mass to the electroweak gauge bosons and to fermions. At high temperature the Higgs expectation value vanishes. The symmetry which is broken by the expectation value is a gauge symmetry, and not a symmetry transforming physical states. Therefore it is not guaranteed that there is a phase transition associated with the vanishing of $\langle\phi\rangle$. Nevertheless, it is common nomenclature to speak about a symmetry broken and a symmetric phase.

The expectation value of ϕ is obtained by minimizing the effective potential V_{eff} which can be defined as $V_{\text{eff}}(\phi) \equiv -P(\phi)$, where $P(\phi)$ is the pressure in the presence of a constant classical value ϕ of the Higgs field. It includes the tree-level Higgs potential V_{tree} . To first approximation it is given by the difference of V_{tree} and the pressure of an ideal gas P_{ideal} . When the temperature is much bigger than the particle mass M , the pressure of an ideal gas is, according to standard thermodynamics,

$$P_{\text{ideal}} = T^4 \left(a - b \frac{M^2}{T^2} + c \frac{M^3}{T^3} + O(M^4/T^4) \right), \quad (41)$$

with positive constants a , b . The $O(M^2/T^2)$ contribution is negative because a non-zero mass reduces the momentum of a particle with a given energy and thus the pressure. If the particle masses are proportional to the value of the Higgs field, then smaller ϕ leads to larger pressure. Then a phase with smaller ϕ will push out one with larger value of the Higgs, so that the Higgs expectation value becomes zero. Therefore at high temperature

⁶ In the case of Dirac neutrinos, which have extremely small Yukawa couplings, one can construct leptogenesis models where an asymmetry of lepton doublets is accompanied by an asymmetry of right-handed neutrinos such that the total L -number is conserved and the $(B-L)$ -asymmetry vanishes (Dick *et al.*, 2000).

electroweak symmetry is unbroken.⁷ The region where this happens can be expected to be of order of the weak gauge boson mass.

Beyond the ideal gas approximation one can compute the effective potential as follows. One integrates out all field modes with non-zero momentum in the imaginary-time path integral,

$$e^{-\beta V V_{\text{eff}}(\phi)} = \int' \mathcal{D}\Phi \exp \{-S_E[\phi]\} , \quad (42)$$

with the Euclidean, or imaginary-time action ($t = -i\tau$)

$$S_E = - \int_0^\beta d\tau \int d^3x \mathcal{L} . \quad (43)$$

Φ denotes the set of all fields of our system, and the prime indicates that the integration over the zero-momentum modes ϕ is omitted. The partition function $Z = \exp(\beta V P)$ is then obtained by integrating (42) over ϕ . This is done in the saddle point approximation, which gives the minimum condition for $V_{\text{eff}}(\phi)$. In the one-loop approximation Eq. (42) gives $-V_{\text{eff}}$ as difference of P_{ideal} and the $T = 0$ contribution (Coleman and Weinberg, 1973).⁸

For illustration, consider first the case of a single real scalar field with the Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \phi \partial^\mu \phi - V_{\text{tree}}(\phi) \quad (44)$$

and the potential

$$V_{\text{tree}}(\phi) = \frac{\mu^2}{2} \phi^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4} \phi^4 , \quad (45)$$

with $\mu^2 < 0$, so that the minima of the potential are at $\phi = \pm v = \pm \sqrt{-\mu^2/\lambda}$, spontaneously breaking the symmetry under $\phi \rightarrow -\phi$. Now the mass of a particle in the ‘background’ of a zero-mode is $M^2(\phi) = V''_{\text{tree}}(\phi) = \mu^2 + 3\lambda\phi^2$. Then Eq. (41) gives

$$V_{\text{eff}}(\phi) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\mu^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4} T^2 \right) \phi^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4} \phi^4 + O(M^3/T) , \quad (46)$$

where we have omitted the ϕ -independent terms. At finite temperature there is a positive contribution $\lambda T^2/4$ to the coefficient of the quadratic term, the so-called thermal mass (squared). It drives the expectation value to smaller values. When $T \gg 2\sqrt{-\mu^2/\lambda}$, the expectation value vanishes and the symmetry is restored.

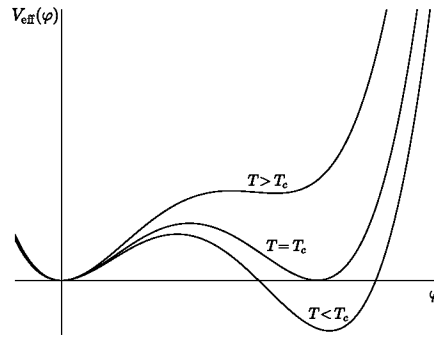


FIG. 4 Effective potential giving rise to a first order phase transition. The value at $\phi = 0$ is subtracted.

One may worry that at small ϕ , with decreasing temperature, $M^2(\phi)$ becomes zero and eventually negative, so that the $O(M^3/T)$ term in Eq. (46) would give an imaginary part to the effective potential. However, it turns out that the loop-expansion parameter is $\lambda T/M$ (Arnold and Espinosa, 1993). Therefore perturbation theory breaks down when M becomes too small, and is thus not reliable to determine the details of the phase transition. It is, in fact, second order, and the value of ϕ changes continuously from zero above the critical temperature T_c to a non-zero value below T_c .

Next consider the SM with one Higgs doublet ϕ . The tree-level potential is written as in Eq. (45) with $\phi = \sqrt{2}\phi^\dagger\phi$. Now all SM species contribute to the pressure and thus to V_{eff} . There is a qualitatively new effect compared to the previous example. Since the electroweak gauge bosons obtain their mass from the Higgs field and have no tree level mass term, they contribute with $M^2 \sim g^2\phi^\dagger\phi$ in Eq. (41). Then the M^3/T term in Eq. (41) gives rise to a cubic term in the effective potential,⁹

$$V_{\text{eff}}(\phi) = \frac{A}{2} (T^2 - T_b^2) \phi^2 - \frac{B}{3} \phi^3 + \frac{\lambda}{4} \phi^4 + \dots \quad (47)$$

This potential would give a first-order phase transition as illustrated in Fig. 4. At the critical temperature T_c there are two degenerate minima. $T_b \equiv \sqrt{-\mu^2/A}$ is the temperature below which the potential barrier vanishes and the local minimum at $\phi = 0$ disappears.

In the SM B is very small. Therefore the symmetry breaking minimum ϕ_c is small, and so is the effective gauge boson mass M . The loop-expansion parameter

⁷ There are models where some mass decreases when some scalar field is increased. In this case it is possible that a symmetry gets broken at high temperature (Weinberg, 1974).

⁸ The effective potential defined through (42) is gauge-fixing dependent. Physical quantities, like the pressure, and thus the value of V_{eff} at the minima are gauge-fixing independent.

⁹ The longitudinal gauge boson receive a thermal mass, more precisely the static screening mass, or Debye mass so that they do not contribute to the cubic term. For simplicity, the resulting contribution is not shown in (47).

g^2T/M is again large so that perturbation theory cannot be trusted. Using non-perturbative methods it was shown that in the SM there is no electroweak phase transition but a smooth crossover (Buchmuller and Philipsen, 1995; Csikor *et al.*, 1999; Kajantie *et al.*, 1996). The Higgs expectation value changes continuously with temperature as shown in Fig. 2.

Electroweak baryogenesis requires a strongly first-order phase transition. This is only possible in extensions of the SM. Since large field values imply large $M^2(\phi)$, the effective potential can be computed perturbatively. However, one may not be able to use the high-temperature expansion described above, in which case even the one-loop effective potential can not be written in a simple analytic form.

Since the high-temperature phase is meta-stable as long as there is a potential barrier separating the two minima, the universe supercools to $T < T_c$ (cf. Fig. 4). Bubbles of the symmetry broken phase form through thermal fluctuations with a probability which can be computed using a saddle-point approximation in statistical mechanics (Langer, 1969). The probability to form a bubble per time and volume is then $A \exp(-S_3/T)$, where S_3 is the 3-dimensional action that yields the bubble solution (Linde, 1981). It is the free energy of a static configuration representing a barrier between the metastable state and a state with a bubble of the low temperature phase, similar to the sphaleron barrier (cf. Sec. II.B). The temperature-dependent prefactor A is due to fluctuations around the saddle point and can be computed perturbatively. Non-perturbative lattice computations of the nucleation rate find that perturbation theory slightly underestimates the strength of the phase transition, while overestimating the amount of supercooling by a factor two (Moore and Rummukainen, 2001).

Roughly, the bubbles nucleate when the nucleation rate equals H^4 , that is when one bubble nucleates per Hubble-volume and -time.¹⁰ Since around the electroweak scale $H \sim T^2/M_{\text{Pl}} \sim 10^{-17}T$, the rate is extremely small. Once formed, the bubbles expand and begin to fill the entire universe with the low-temperature phase. Important parameters of this process are the velocity v_w of the wall separating the two phases and their thickness ℓ_w defined in the wall frame. The bubble wall velocity is determined by the pressure difference between the two phases. The pressure consists of the vacuum contribution, i.e., $-V_{\text{eff}}|_{T=0}$, and the pressure due to the plasma. When a particle mass depends on the value of the Higgs field it changes while the particle passes the wall. Therefore there is a momentum transfer to the wall giving a contribution to the pressure. This includes a large contribution due to the magnetic scale gauge fields

(see Sec. II.B) which are suppressed in the symmetry broken phase and get pushed out by the wall (Moore, 2000b). At the critical temperature the pressure difference between the two phases vanishes. The system is static and in thermal equilibrium. Below T_c , the wall moves into the low-temperature phase, the time dependence prevents the particle distribution from equilibration, and one has to deal with a non-equilibrium problem. One has to solve a set of Boltzmann equations which turns out to be difficult. The wall velocity is quite model dependent, it can vary from $v_w \ll 1$ to $v_w \sim 1$. For the SM¹¹ it was found that $v_w \sim 0.4$, and $\ell_w T \sim 25$ (Moore and Prokopec, 1995), while in the MSSM $v_w \lesssim 0.1$ (John and Schmidt, 2001). Often times the wall velocity is treated as a free parameter. A relatively simple case are ultra-relativistic bubbles with $\gamma_w \gg 1$ (Bodeker and Moore, 2009). The reason is that the wall passes so fast, that the particle start scattering only when the wall has passed already. There are models in which based on this analysis the bubble wall can speed up indefinitely. However, additional radiation off the particles passing the wall leads to a speed limit (Bodeker and Moore, 2017; Hoche *et al.*, 2020). Nevertheless, one expects large v_w , for example in the SM model extension by one singlet discussed in Sec. III.C (Bodeker and Moore, 2009).

B. Charge transport mechanism

When a bubble wall sweeps through the plasma, it separates particle species when they have different interactions with the scalar field. It mostly affects particles and their antiparticles in the same way. This causes the pressure on the wall discussed in Sec. III.A. In addition, there can be CP-violating interactions which separate particles and antiparticles and particles with different helicities. Electroweak sphalerons affect only left-handed fermion fields. Furthermore, the sphaleron rate also varies across the wall. This way a baryon asymmetry can be generated (for a review of charge transport, see (Konstandin, 2013)).

One distinguishes the thin wall limit $\ell_w \sim T^{-1}$ and the thick wall limit $\ell_w \gg T^{-1}$ i.e., that the de Broglie wavelength of a typical particle T^{-1} is small compared to or of similar size as the wall thickness. In the former case, the particle-wall interaction is described by quantum reflection and transmission (Joyce *et al.*, 1996a). In the thick wall case and at weak coupling, the action on the particles can be described as a semi-classical force (Joyce *et al.*, 1996b), which depends on the spin $s = \lambda \text{sign}(p_z)$ where λ is the helicity (Cline *et al.*, 2000). Consider a

¹⁰ For a more precise criterion, see e.g. (Bodeker and Moore, 2009).

¹¹ Assuming a small Higgs mass $m_H < 90$ GeV.

single fermion with complex mass $m = |m| \exp(i\theta)$ and

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{mass}} = -\bar{\psi}_L m \psi_R - \bar{\psi}_R m^* \psi_L, \quad (48)$$

which depends on the position inside the wall. Such a term can be due to interactions with varying scalar fields like in Eq. (57) in combination with the Yukawa interaction, or also due to varying Yukawa couplings (Bruggisser *et al.*, 2017). The resulting force on the fermions in the wall frame (see Fig. 5) can be written as¹²

$$F_z = -\frac{(|m|^2)'}{2E} + s \left[\frac{(|m|^2 \theta')'}{2EE_z} - \frac{|m|^2 (|m|^2)' \theta'}{4E^3 E_z} \right] \quad (49)$$

with $E = (\mathbf{p}^2 + |m|^2)^{1/2}$, $E_z = (p_z^2 + |m|^2)^{1/2}$, and $s = \pm 1$ for spin (as defined in the frame where the momentum transverse to the wall vanishes) in $\pm z$ direction. The prime denotes a derivative with respect to z . The spin-dependent term is second order in derivatives and drags particles with different spins in opposite directions. Eq. (49) holds for all four states of the fermion.

For ultrarelativistic particles the helicity of the particles is equal to the chirality of the corresponding fields. The chirality densities are therefore approximated by the helicity densities. The force is inserted into the Boltzmann equation, together with the collision terms describing particle scattering. For vanishing wall velocity the plasma is in local thermal equilibrium. Thus for small wall velocity one can make a fluid ansatz, writing the phase space densities as local equilibrium distributions with slowly varying chemical potentials, plus small perturbations δf_i , representing deviations from kinetic equilibrium (Joyce *et al.*, 1996b). Then one takes moments of the Boltzmann equations, i.e., integrates over momentum with weights 1 and p_z/E . The integrals of $(p_z/E) \delta f_i$ represent corrections δv_i to the local fluid velocity. One obtains a network of coupled differential equations for δv_i and μ_i . One must also include the effect of the weak and strong sphalerons. The slowest interaction is the weak sphaleron transitions. Therefore the equations for the chemical potentials can be computed assuming baryon number conservation, and finally the baryon asymmetry is computed from them. The resulting asymmetry is directly proportional to the weak sphaleron rate in the symmetric phase. While most works assumed small wall velocity and expanded in v_w , recently baryogenesis with large $v_w \sim 1$ was studied (Cline and Kainulainen, 2020). It was found, contrary to common lore, that baryogenesis with v_w larger than the speed of sound is possible, and that the generated asymmetry smoothly decreases with increasing v_w .

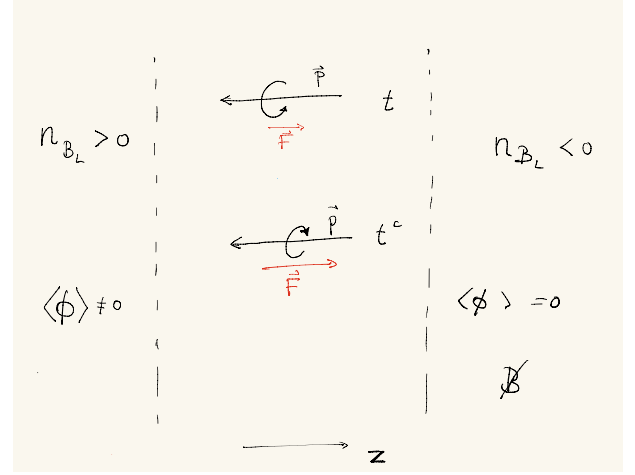


FIG. 5 Sketch of the bubble wall (between the dashed lines), in the rest frame of the wall. More particles are crossing the wall to the from right to left. The force on tops with spin in $+z$ direction is smaller than the force on anti-tops with spin in $-z$ direction.

The baryogenesis process is sketched in Fig. 5 with top quarks as an example. In the rest frame of the plasma the wall moves into the symmetric ($\langle \phi \rangle = 0$) phase, pushing the particles to the right. The force on tops with negative helicity is smaller than the force on anti-tops with positive helicity. Therefore tops with negative helicity accumulate behind the wall, resulting in $n_{B_L} > 0$, while anti-tops with positive helicity accumulate in the front of it, which leads to $n_{B_L} < 0$. Here B_L is the baryon number carried by the left-chiral fields only. For n_{B_R} one obtains the opposite signs: Tops with positive helicity accumulate in front of the wall, while antitops with negative helicity accumulate behind it, so that the total baryon number density is still zero. But then electroweak sphalerons, which only act on left-chiral fields, decrease $|n_{B_L}|$ in front of the wall, which then leads to a net baryon asymmetry $B > 0$. An important effect is diffusion, because the charge separation happens inside the wall, while the conversion to baryon number happens outside. Larger wall velocities suppress the diffusion, leading so smaller baryon asymmetry. Furthermore, a larger wall thickness leads to a smaller asymmetry. The B -dissipation rate in Eq. (9) has to be small enough in the broken phase so that a baryon asymmetry is not washed out immediately after it was created. During the entire process $B - L$ is unchanged because it is conserved by the sphaleron processes. Therefore the produced lepton asymmetry is of the same order of magnitude as the baryon asymmetry. If a larger lepton asymmetry would be observed, this would rule out electroweak baryogenesis as the sole origin of the baryon asymmetry of the universe.

¹² The force was computed using the Dirac equation the WKB approximation (Fromme and Huber, 2007) and from quantum field theory using Kadanoff-Baym equations (Prokopec *et al.*, 2004).

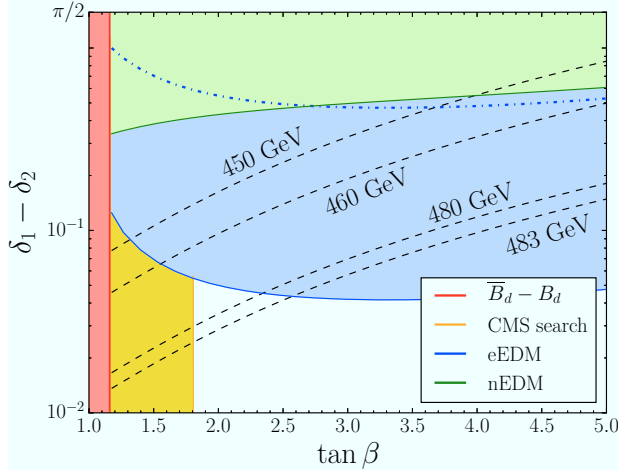


FIG. 6 EDM constraints for parameter benchmarks corresponding to different heavy-Higgs-boson masses in the Type II 2HDM. The black dashed lines indicate the minimum CP-violating phase necessary for successful baryogenesis, with $m_{H^0} = 200$ GeV and varying $m_{A^0} = m_{H^\pm}$. The blue line denotes the upper bound from the ACME (2014) bound. From (Dorsch *et al.*, 2017).

C. Perturbative models

In the SM the electroweak transition is just a smooth crossover but simple extensions allow for a strongly first-order phase transition. The first example to try is the two-Higgs-doublet model (2HDM) which has been extensively studied in the literature (for a review and references, see, for example (Branco *et al.*, 2012b)). In (Dorsch *et al.*, 2017) models of Type II have been studied, where leptons and down-type quarks couple to the Higgs doublet Φ_1 while up-type quarks couple to the second Higgs doublet Φ_2 . The corresponding $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -symmetry is softly broken by a complex mass term μ^2 and the scalar potential reads

$$V_{\text{tree}}(\Phi_1, \Phi_2) = -\mu_1^2 \Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1 - \mu_2^2 \Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2 - \frac{1}{2} \left(\mu^2 \Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2 + \text{H.c.} \right) + \frac{\lambda_1}{2} \left(\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1 \right)^2 + \frac{\lambda_2}{2} \left(\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2 \right)^2 + \lambda_3 \left(\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_1 \right) \left(\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_2 \right) + \lambda_4 \left(\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2 \right) \left(\Phi_2^\dagger \Phi_1 \right) + \frac{1}{2} \left[\lambda_5 \left(\Phi_1^\dagger \Phi_2 \right)^2 + \text{h.c.} \right]. \quad (50)$$

In addition to μ^2 the quartic coupling λ_5 can be complex which leads to the complex vacuum expectation values

$$\langle \Phi_1 \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v \cos \beta \end{pmatrix}, \quad \langle \Phi_2 \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v \sin \beta e^{i\theta} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (51)$$

In addition to the observed Higgs boson h^0 , the model contains four heavy Higgs boson, H^0 , A^0 and $H^\pm$. There

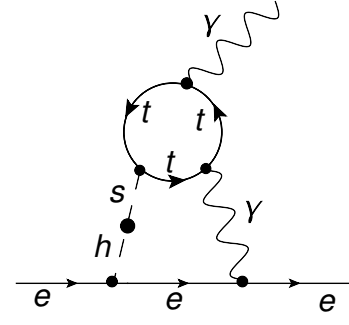


FIG. 7 Large contribution to the electron EDM from top loop and singlet-doublet mixing. From (Espinoza *et al.*, 2012).

are two field-redefinition-invariant phases that can be written as

$$\delta_1 = \text{Arg}[(\mu^2)^2 \lambda_5^*], \quad \delta_2 = \text{Arg}(v_1 v_2^* \mu^2 \lambda_5^*). \quad (52)$$

For a sufficiently strong first-order phase transition, large quartic couplings are required. However, the perturbativity bound $|\lambda_i| \lesssim 2\pi$ and tree-level unitarity can be satisfied as well as constraints from flavour observables and the LHC. An interesting aspect of the model is that, due to the large quartic scalar couplings, a gravitational wave (GW) signal is predicted which would be observable at LISA¹³.

An attractive feature of electroweak baryogenesis models is also the connection between the CP violation needed for baryogenesis and low-energy precision measurements. Particularly stringent are the upper bounds on the electron dipole moment (EDM) obtained by the ACME experiment (Andreev *et al.*, 2018; Baron *et al.*, 2014):

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ACME (2014)} : \quad |d_e| &< 8.7 \times 10^{-29} \text{ e} \cdot \text{cm}, \\ \text{ACME (2018)} : \quad |d_e| &< 1.1 \times 10^{-29} \text{ e} \cdot \text{cm}. \end{aligned} \quad (53)$$

The ACME bound from 2013 is shown in Fig. 6. It is consistent with all theoretical and phenomenological constraints on the described model. However, the remaining parameter space is excluded by the ACME bound from 2018 which is stronger by about one order of magnitude.

For many years electroweak baryogenesis has also been studied in supersymmetric 2HDM models (MSSM). In this case the quartic scalar couplings are determined by gauge couplings. These models are now excluded due to the lower bounds on superparticle masses obtained at the LHC (Cline, 2018).

As an alternative to 2HDM models one can also consider a Higgs sector with one SU(2)-doublet Higgs Φ and

¹³ There is an extensive literature on GWs from first-order phase transitions which lead to signals in the sensitivity range of LISA (Caprini *et al.*, 2020; Schmitz, 2020).

an additional light SM-singlet s , which is partially motivated by composite Higgs models. Electroweak baryogenesis for such a setup has been studied in (Espinosa *et al.*, 2012) (see also (Carena *et al.*, 2019a; Cline and Kainulainen, 2013)). The renormalizable part of the effective scalar potential reads

$$V_{\text{tree}} = V^{\text{even}} + V^{\text{odd}} , \quad (54)$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} V^{\text{even}} &= -\mu_h^2 |\Phi|^2 + \lambda_h |\Phi|^4 \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2} \mu_s^2 s^2 + \frac{1}{4} \lambda_s s^4 + \frac{1}{2} \lambda_m s^2 |\Phi|^2 , \\ V^{\text{odd}} &= \frac{1}{2} \mu_m s |\Phi|^2 + \mu_1^3 s + \frac{1}{3} \mu_3 s^3 . \end{aligned} \quad (55)$$

The SU(2) doublet Φ contains the physical Higgs scalar h . The potential V^{even} is invariant with respect to the $\mathbb{Z}_2$ symmetry

$$s \rightarrow -s , \quad (56)$$

which is softly broken by the potential V^{odd} . The vacuum expectation value of H implies mass mixing between s and h .

An appropriate choice of quartic couplings and mass parameters leads to a strongly first-order phase transition accompanied by baryogenesis. The required CP violation is provided by a dimension-5 operator (see Fig. 7),

$$\mathcal{L}_{tHs} = \frac{s}{f} \Phi \bar{q}_{L3} (a + ib\gamma_5) t_R + \text{h.c.} , \quad (57)$$

which couples the top-quark to the scalars Φ and s . During the phase transition both scalars acquire an expectation value and the profile of s provides the CP-violating top-quark scatterings. The compositeness scale has to be low, $f/b \sim 1$ TeV, so that strongly interacting resonances would be expected in the LHC range. For the light singlet s a mass is predicted comparable to the Higgs mass.

The mass mixing between h and s also generates an electron EDM (see Fig. 7). The analysis in (Espinosa *et al.*, 2012) has been carried out assuming the upper bound

$$d_e < 1.05 \times 10^{-27} \text{ e} \cdot \text{cm} . \quad (58)$$

Again the improvement of this bound by two orders of magnitude by the ACME experiment (53) excludes the model in its original form. A possible way out is to tune the parameters of the model such that a two-step phase transition occurs, with $s \neq 0$ during baryogenesis and $s = 0$ in the zero-temperature vacuum (Kurup and Perelstein, 2017). At zero temperature the $\mathbb{Z}_2$ symmetry is then unbroken and the contribution to the electron EDM vanishes. Choosing $m_s > m_h/2$, the Higgs-boson decay

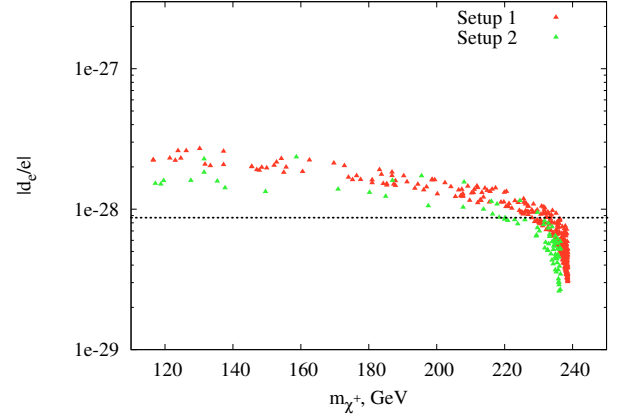


FIG. 8 Electron EDM versus the lightest chargino mass in the Split NMSSM for two parameter sets. The dotted line denotes the upper bound $d_e < 8.7 \times 10^{-29} \text{ e} \cdot \text{cm}$. From (Demidov *et al.*, 2016).

width is unchanged, and one obtains a ‘nightmare scenario’ that is very difficult to test at the LHC (Curtin *et al.*, 2014). For EWBG a new source of CP violation is needed, for instance, CP violation in a dark sector, which is transferred to the visible sector via a new light vector boson (Carena *et al.*, 2019b). However, such a construction eliminates one of the main motivations for electroweak baryogenesis, the connection between CP violation measurable at low energies and the matter-antimatter asymmetry.

One may wonder whether EWBG can be more easily realized in models with more scalar fields. An interesting example is the split Next-to-Minimal Supersymmetric Standard Model (sNMSSM) (Demidov *et al.*, 2016), which contains two Higgs doublets, H_u and H_d , and an additional singlet N . The corresponding superpotential reads

$$W = \lambda N H_u H_d + \frac{1}{3} k N^3 + \mu H_u H_d + r N . \quad (59)$$

Scalar quarks and leptons are removed from the low-energy spectrum but gauginos have electroweak-scale masses. The dominant role in EWBG is played by scattering of charginos. At one-loop order they also lead to an EDM for the electron. According to the analysis in (Demidov *et al.*, 2016), a strongly first-order phase transition and EWBG are compatible with the ΛCDM (2014) bound on the electron EDM. Fig. 8 shows the electron EDM as function of the lightest chargino mass for two parameter benchmarks. However, as the figure demonstrates, the stronger ΛCDM (2018) bound again excludes this model.

The connection between EWBG and electron EDM has also been analyzed in a setup with the same particle content as the sNMSSM but without the relations between the Yukawa couplings implied by supersymmetry

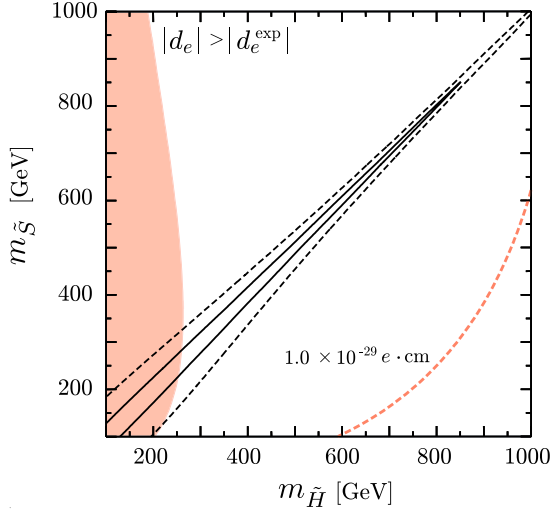


FIG. 9 Contours of $\eta_B/\eta_B^{\text{observed}} = 1$ (full lines), 0.1 (dashed lines) in the $(m_{\tilde{H}}, m_{\tilde{S}})$ plane. The orange area is excluded by the ACME (2014) bound. The orange dashed line corresponds to the anticipated sensitivity $|d_e| = 1.0 \times 10^{-29} e \cdot \text{cm}$ that essentially agrees with the ACME (2018) bound. From (Fuyuto *et al.*, 2016).

(Fuyuto *et al.*, 2016). As in the singlet-doublet model, a strongly first-order phase transition is possible, and EWBG is driven by higgsino and singlino scatterings with masses $m_{\tilde{H}}$ and $m_{\tilde{S}}$, respectively. At two-loop order an electron EDM is generated which depends on the higgsino masses. In Fig. 9 a region of successful EWBG is shown in the $(m_{\tilde{H}}, m_{\tilde{S}})$ plane for representative higgsino couplings. The orange area on the left is excluded by the ACME (2014) bound, leaving a large range of viable higgsino and singlino masses. However, the ACME (2018) bound again excludes this region. The electron EDM receives contributions from two graphs which have charged and neutral gauge bosons in the loop, respectively. Fine-tuning couplings, the contributions can cancel each other which would, however, eliminate the connection between low-energy CP violation and EWBG.

D. Strongly interacting models

So far we have considered EWBG in perturbatively defined renormalizable extensions of the SM. However, it is also possible that the observed Higgs boson is a light state in a strongly interacting sector of dynamical electroweak symmetry breaking, which would qualitatively change the electroweak phase transition as well as EWBG. The light Higgs boson could emerge from the spontaneous breaking of a global symmetry, such as $\text{SO}(5) \rightarrow \text{SO}(4)$, together with a dilaton as pseudo-Nambu-Goldstone boson from broken conformal symmetry in a strongly coupled hypercolour theory with partial compositeness (for a review, see, for example (Panico and Wulzer, 2016)).

In such a framework EWBG has been studied in (Bruggisser *et al.*, 2018a,b), based on an effective Lagrangian with a minimal set of couplings and masses (Chala *et al.*, 2017; Giudice *et al.*, 2007). The analysis is based on the effective potential for the Higgs h and the dilaton χ ,

$$V_{\text{eff}}[h, \chi] = \left(\frac{g_\chi}{g_*} \chi \right)^4 \left(\alpha \sin^2 \left(\frac{h}{f} \right) + \beta \sin^4 \left(\frac{h}{f} \right) \right) + V_\chi(\chi) + \Delta V_T(h, \chi), \quad (60)$$

where

$$\alpha[y] = c_\alpha \sum_{i=1}^{N_f} g_*^2 \frac{N_c y_i^2[\chi]}{(4\pi)^2}, \quad y_i[\chi] \simeq y_{0,i} \left(\frac{\chi}{\chi_0} \right)^{\gamma_i}, \quad (61)$$

$$\beta[y] = c_\beta \sum_{i=1}^{N_f} g_*^2 \frac{N_c y_i^2[\chi]}{(4\pi)^2} \left(\frac{y}{g_*} \right)^{p_\beta}.$$

The functions $y_i[\chi]$ connect left- and right-handed fermions, $N_c = 3$ is the number of QCD colours, N_f is the number of quark flavours, γ_i are anomalous dimensions, $f = 0.8 \text{ TeV}$ is the value of the condensate breaking $\text{SO}(5)$, and g_* and g_χ are the couplings of heavy resonances and dilaton, respectively. The effective potential is approximately invariant w.r.t. scale transformations and shifts of h , up to soft breaking terms contained in V_χ , finite-temperature corrections in ΔV_T and the effect of non-zero anomalous dimensions γ_i . The underlying strongly interacting theory has N hypercolours. Heavy resonances have masses $m_* = g_* f$, with $g_* = 4\pi/\sqrt{N}$. The dilaton mass is $m_\chi = g_\chi f$ where the coupling depends on the composite structure of the dilaton,

$$g_\chi = \frac{4\pi}{N} \text{ (glueball-like)}, \quad g_\chi = \frac{4\pi}{\sqrt{N}} \text{ (meson-like)}. \quad (62)$$

At high temperatures both, Higgs and dilaton expectation values vanish, and the free energy is determined by the number of hypercolours,

$$F|_{\chi=0} \simeq -\frac{\pi^2 N^2}{8} T^4. \quad (63)$$

Fig. 10 shows a sketch of the free energy together with the zero-temperature dilaton potential. Around the critical temperature

$$T_c \simeq 2 \left(\frac{g_*^2}{4\pi g_\chi N} \right)^{1/2} (2\gamma_\epsilon c_\chi)^{1/4} f \quad (64)$$

the confinement and symmetry breaking phase transitions take place which, due to the approximate conformal symmetry, can be strongly first-order. EWBG takes place by the scattering of quarks at the bubble wall, where the CP violation is enhanced by the varying Yukawa couplings (Bruggisser *et al.*, 2018a), leading to successful baryogenesis.

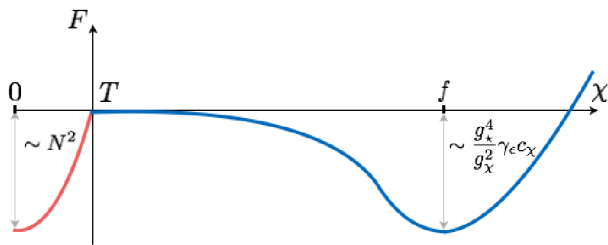


FIG. 10 Schematic shape of the free energy as function of the dilaton expectation value χ . Red: hot region with $g_\chi\chi \lesssim T$. Blue: cold region with $g_\chi\chi \gtrsim T$. From (Bruggisser *et al.*, 2018b).

The CP-violating imaginary parts of quark-Yukawa couplings lead to an electron EDM. Hence, the experimental EDM bounds constrain the viable parameter space of the model. Fig. 11 shows contours of constant imaginary part for the top quark in case of a glueball-like dilaton as well as a meson-like dilaton. The most stringent bounds from the ACME experiment read

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ACME (2014)} : \text{Im}[\delta\lambda_t] &\lesssim 2 \cdot 10^{-2}, \\ \text{ACME (2018)} : \text{Im}[\delta\lambda_t] &\lesssim 2 \cdot 10^{-3}. \end{aligned} \quad (65)$$

For a large number of hypercolours, $N = 12$, corresponding to resonance masses $m_* \gtrsim 3$ TeV, a meson-like (glueball-like) dilaton has to be heavier than 200 GeV (400 GeV). Both scenarios can therefore be probed at the LHC.

The strong constraints from the LHC and the electron EDM give rise to the question whether EWBG can be decoupled from low-energy physics. Extending the scalar sector of the theory, it is indeed possible to break the electroweak symmetry at a scale much higher than the Fermi scale (Baldea and Servant, 2018; Glioti *et al.*, 2019; Meade and Ramani, 2019). In this way, CP violation in EWBG is decoupled from low-energy CP violation. On the other hand, the need to connect the high-scale vacuum expectation value to the Fermi scale requires additional light scalars which are in reach of the LHC. Similarly, additional light singlet fermions can lead to electroweak symmetry non-restoration at high temperatures. This can significantly relax the upper bound from successful baryogenesis on a light dilaton in composite Higgs models (Matsedonsky and Servant, 2020).

E. Summary: electroweak baryogenesis

Electroweak baryogenesis is an appealing idea since it would allow to connect the cosmological matter-antimatter asymmetry with physics at the LHC and, moreover, with gravitational waves. The electroweak phase transition and sphaleron processes are by now well understood. Since in the Standard Model the phase transition is a smooth crossover, extensions such as

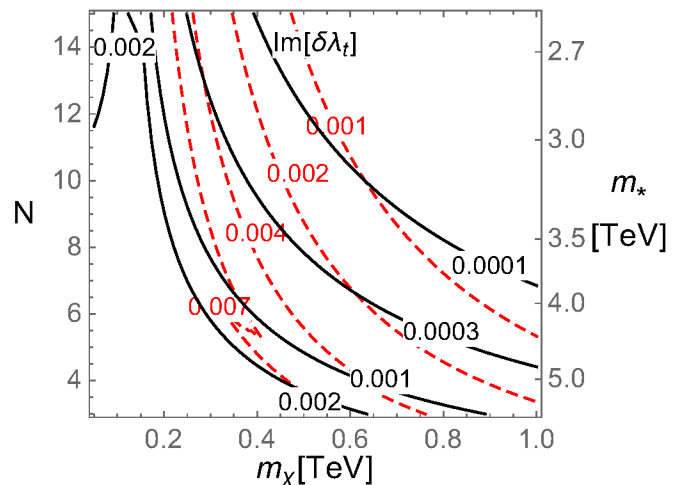


FIG. 11 Contours of the CP-violating imaginary part of the top-Yukawa coupling in the (m_χ, m_*) plane. The dashed lines correspond to a meson-like dilaton, the full lines to a glueball-like dilaton. From (Bruggisser *et al.*, 2018b).

two-Higgs-doublet models or doublet-singlet models are needed for electroweak baryogenesis. Results from the LHC strongly constrain such models. Moreover, recent stringent upper bounds on the electron electric dipole moment exclude most of the known models. This led to the construction of models, where CP violation in baryogenesis and low-energy CP violation are decoupled, and the electroweak phase transition takes place at temperatures well above a TeV. On the other hand, in strongly coupled composite Higgs models electroweak baryogenesis is still possible, compatible with all constraints from the LHC and low-energy precision experiments. This underlines the importance to search for new heavy resonances and deviations from SM predictions for Higgs couplings in the next run of the LHC.

IV. LEPTOGENESIS

In this section we first give an elementary introduction to the basics of leptogenesis, namely lepton-number violation and kinetic equations. We then review thermal leptogenesis at the GUT scale as well as the weak scale. Sterile-neutrino oscillations even allow leptogenesis at GeV energies. Subsequently, we discuss recent progress towards a full quantum field theoretical description of leptogenesis. GUT-scale leptogenesis is closely related to neutrino masses and mixings and, on the cosmological side, to inflation and gravitational waves.

A. Lepton-number violation

The Standard Model (SM) contains only left-handed neutrinos, and $B-L$ is a conserved global symmetry. Hence, in the SM neutrinos are massless. However, neutrino oscillations show evidence for non-zero neutrino masses. These can be accounted for by introducing right-handed neutrinos that can have Yukawa couplings with left-handed neutrinos. After electroweak symmetry breaking these couplings lead to $B-L$ conserving Dirac neutrino mass terms. As SM singlets, right-handed neutrinos can have Majorana mass terms whose size is not constrained by the electroweak scale. In the case of three right-handed neutrinos, the global $B-L$ symmetry can be gauged such that the Majorana masses result from the spontaneous breaking of $B-L$. As in the SM, all masses are then generated by the spontaneous breaking of local symmetries, which is the natural picture in theories that unify strong and electroweak interactions. Since no $B-L$ gauge boson has been observed so far, the scale of $B-L$ breaking must be significantly larger than the electroweak scale. This leads to the seesaw mechanism (Gell-Mann *et al.*, 1979; Minkowski, 1977; Yanagida, 1979) as a natural explanation of the smallness of the observed neutrino mass scale, which is a key element of leptogenesis.

Let us now consider an extension of the Standard Model with three right-handed neutrinos, whose masses and couplings are described by the Lagrangian (sum over i, j),

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{l}_{Li} i \not{D} l_{Li} + \bar{e}_{Ri} i \not{D} e_{Ri} + \bar{\nu}_{Ri} i \not{D} \nu_{Ri} \quad (66)$$

$$- (h_{ij}^e \bar{e}_{Rj} l_{Li} \tilde{\phi} + h_{ij}^\nu \bar{\nu}_{Rj} l_{Li} \phi + \frac{1}{2} M_{ij} \bar{\nu}_{Rj} \nu_{Ri}^c + \text{h.c.}),$$

where $\not{D}$ denotes SM covariant derivatives, $\nu_R^c = C \bar{\nu}_R^T$, C is the charge conjugation matrix and $\tilde{\phi} = i\sigma_2 \phi^*$. The vacuum expectation value of the Higgs field, $\langle \phi \rangle = v_{EW}$, generates Dirac mass terms $m_e = h^e v_{EW}$ and $m_D = h^\nu v_{EW}$ for charged leptons and neutrinos, respectively. Integrating out the heavy neutrinos ν_R , the light-neutrino Majorana mass matrix becomes

$$m_\nu = -m_D \frac{1}{M} m_D^T. \quad (67)$$

The symmetric mass matrix is diagonalized by a unitary matrix V ,

$$V^T m_\nu V = \begin{pmatrix} m_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & m_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & m_3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (68)$$

where m_1, m_2 and m_3 are the three mass eigenvalues. In the following we shall mostly consider the case of normal ordering (NO), where $m_1 < m_2 < m_3$. A recent global analysis finds for the largest and smallest splitting

(Esteban *et al.*, 2019):

$$m_{\text{atm}} \equiv \sqrt{|m_3^2 - m_1^2|} = (49.9 \pm 0.3) \text{ meV}, \quad (69)$$

$$m_{\text{sol}} \equiv \sqrt{|m_2^2 - m_1^2|} = (8.6 \pm 0.1) \text{ meV}.$$

The Majorana mass matrix M can be chosen diagonal, such that the light and heavy Majorana neutrino mass eigenstates are

$$\nu \simeq V_\nu^T \nu_L + \nu_L^c V_\nu^*, \quad N \simeq \nu_R + \nu_R^c. \quad (70)$$

In a basis where the charged lepton matrix m_e and the Majorana mass matrix M are diagonal, V is the PMNS-matrix in the leptonic charged current.

Treating in the Lagrangian (66) the Yukawa coupling h^ν and the Majorana masses M as free parameters, nothing can be said about the values of the light neutrino masses. Hence, it is remarkable that the right order of magnitude is naturally obtained in GUT models. The running of the SM gauge couplings points to a unification scale $\Lambda_{\text{GUT}} \sim 10^{15} \text{ GeV}$. At this scale the GUT group containing $U(1)_{B-L}$ is spontaneously broken and large Majorana masses are generated, $M \propto v_{B-L} \sim 10^{15} \text{ GeV}$. As in the SM, all masses are now caused by spontaneous symmetry breaking. With Yukawa couplings in the neutrino sector having a similar pattern as for quarks and charged leptons, the largest values being $\mathcal{O}(1)$, one obtains for the largest light neutrino mass,

$$m_3 \sim \frac{v_{EW}^2}{v_{B-L}} \sim 0.01 \text{ eV}, \quad (71)$$

in perfect agreement with the measured value m_{atm} .

The tree-level decay width of the heavy Majorana neutrino N_i reads

$$\Gamma_{N_i}^0 = \Gamma^0(N_i \rightarrow l\phi) + \Gamma^0(N \rightarrow \bar{l}\bar{\phi}) = \frac{1}{8\pi} (h^{\nu\dagger} h^\nu)_{ii} M_i, \quad (72)$$

and the CP asymmetry in the decay is defined as

$$\varepsilon_i = \frac{\Gamma(N_i \rightarrow l\phi) - \Gamma(N \rightarrow \bar{l}\bar{\phi})}{\Gamma(N_i \rightarrow l\phi) + \Gamma(N \rightarrow \bar{l}\bar{\phi})}. \quad (73)$$

We will often be interested in the case of hierarchical Majorana masses, $M_{2,3} \gg M_1 \equiv M$. One can then integrate out N_2 and N_3 , which yields an effective Lagrangian for $N_1 \equiv N$,

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} \bar{N} i \not{D} N - h_{i1}^\nu N^T C l_{Li} \phi - \frac{1}{2} M N^T C N \quad (74)$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} \eta_{ij} l_{Li}^T \phi C l_{Lj} \phi + \text{h.c.},$$

where η is the dimension-5 coupling

$$\eta_{ij} = \sum_{k=2,3} h_{ik}^\nu \frac{1}{M_k} h_{kj}^{\nu T}. \quad (75)$$

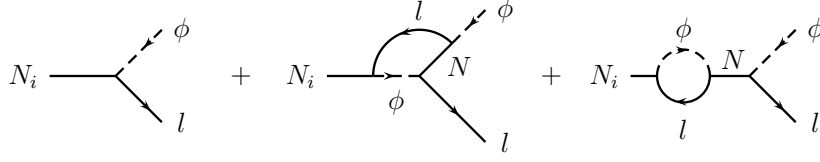


FIG. 12 Tree-level and one-loop diagrams contributing to heavy neutrino decays

Using this effective Lagrangian has the advantage that vertex- and self-energy contributions to the CP asymmetry in the heavy neutrino decay are obtained from a single Feynman diagram (see Section IV.F).

A non-vanishing CP asymmetry in N_i decays arises at one-loop order. From the graphs shown in Fig. 12 one obtains (Covi *et al.*, 1996; Flanz *et al.*, 1995),

$$\varepsilon_i = -\frac{1}{8\pi} \sum_{i \neq k} \frac{\text{Im}(h^{\nu\dagger} h^\nu)_{ik}^2}{(h^{\nu\dagger} h^\nu)_{ii}} F\left(\frac{M_k^2}{M_i^2}\right). \quad (76)$$

In the case of hierarchical heavy neutrinos one obtains

$$F\left(\frac{M_k^2}{M_i^2}\right) \simeq -\frac{3}{2} \frac{M_i}{M_k}, \quad (77)$$

and the CP asymmetry can be written as

$$\varepsilon_i = -\frac{3}{16\pi} \frac{M_i}{v_{\text{EW}}^2 (h^{\nu\dagger} h^\nu)_{ii}} \text{Im}(h^{\nu\dagger} m_\nu h^{\nu*})_{ii}. \quad (78)$$

For small mass differences, $|M_i - M_k| \ll M_i + M_k$, the CP asymmetry is dominated by the self-energy contribution¹⁴ in Fig. 12 and enhanced (Covi *et al.*, 1996),

$$F\left(\frac{M_k^2}{M_i^2}\right) \simeq -\frac{M_i M_k}{M_k^2 - M_i^2}. \quad (79)$$

Once mass differences become of the order of the decay widths, one reaches a resonance regime (Covi and Roulet, 1997; Pilaftsis, 1997) where resummations are necessary.

So far we have considered the seesaw mechanism with right-handed neutrinos, often referred to as type-I seesaw. Alternatively, light neutrino masses can result from couplings to heavy SU(2) triplet fields (Lazarides *et al.*, 1981; Mohapatra and Senjanovic, 1980, 1981; Wetterich, 1981), which is referred to as type-II seesaw. In this case the complete light-neutrino mass matrix reads

$$m_\nu = -m_D \frac{1}{M} m_D^T + m_\nu^{\text{triplet}}. \quad (80)$$

Such matrices are obtained in left-right symmetric extensions of the Standard Model (for a review, see, for example (Mohapatra and Smirnov, 2006)). Furthermore, one can consider the exchange of heavy SU(2) triplet fermions, which is referred to as type-III seesaw (Foot *et al.*, 1989).

In addition to the Majorana mass matrix M also the charged lepton mass matrix $m_e = h^e v_{\text{EW}}$ can be chosen diagonal and real without loss of generality. The Dirac neutrino mass matrix m_D is then a general complex matrix with 9 complex parameters and therefore 9 possible CP-violating phases. Three of these phases can be absorbed into the lepton doublets l_L and hence 6 CP-violating phases remain physical. These are known as high-energy phases and the CP asymmetries ε_i in N_i decays depend on these phases. The light neutrino mass matrix is symmetric, with 6 complex parameters. As before, three of the phases can be absorbed into the lepton doublets l_L , so that 3 phases are physical: the Dirac phase δ that is measured in neutrino oscillations, and two Majorana phases $\alpha_{1,2}$ that affect the rate for neutrinoless double- β decay (Bilenky *et al.*, 1980; Schechter and Valle, 1980). There is no direct link between the high-energy and the low-energy CP-violating phases, but interesting connections exist in particular models (Branco *et al.*, 2012a).

B. Kinetic equations

Leptogenesis is an intricate nonequilibrium process in the hot plasma in the early universe which involves decays, inverse decays and scatterings of heavy Majorana neutrinos N , left-handed leptons l and $\bar{l}$, complex Higgs scalars ϕ and $\bar{\phi}$, gauge boson, and quarks. The key element are the weakly coupled heavy Majorana neutrinos. In the expanding universe they first reach thermal equilibrium and then fall out of thermal equilibrium, such that CP- and lepton-number violating processes lead to a lepton asymmetry and, via sphaleron processes, also to a baryon asymmetry.

The main ingredients of the nonequilibrium process can be understood by considering a simple set of Boltzmann equations, neglecting the differences between Bose-Einstein and Fermi-Dirac distribution functions, as in classical GUT baryogenesis (Harvey *et al.*, 1982; Kolb and Turner, 1990; Kolb and Wolfram, 1980). Relativis-

¹⁴ The self-energy part in Fig. 12 is part of the inverse heavy-neutrino propagator matrix. Unstable particles are defined as poles in S-matrix elements of stable particles whose residues yield their couplings. Such a procedure confirms the results (77) and (79) to leading order in the couplings (Buchmuller and Plumacher, 1998).

tic corrections and a full quantum field theoretical treatment will be discussed in Section IV.F. For simplicity, we restrict ourselves in the following to hierarchical heavy neutrinos where the lightest one (N) with mass M dominates leptogenesis. We also sum over lepton flavours in N decays (one-flavour approximation).

Let us assume that at large temperatures $T \gg M$, the heavy neutrinos are in thermal equilibrium, i.e.,

$$n_N = \frac{3}{4} n_\gamma, \quad (81)$$

where n_γ is the photon number density, and the factor $3/4$ reflects the difference of Bose and Fermi statistics. The heavy neutrinos decay at a temperature T_d which is determined by $\Gamma_N \sim H(T_d)$, where Γ_N and H are decay width and Hubble parameter, respectively. For weakly coupled heavy neutrinos, T_d is significantly smaller than M and the number density $n_N(T_d)$ exceeds the equilibrium number density. This departure from thermal equilibrium, together with the CP violating partial decay widths (see Eq. (73)), leads to the lepton asymmetry

$$\frac{n_l - n_{\bar{l}}}{n_\gamma} = \varepsilon \frac{n_N}{n_\gamma} = \frac{3}{4} \varepsilon. \quad (82)$$

More realistically, one has to include inverse decays $l\phi, \bar{l}\bar{\phi} \rightarrow N$ in the calculation of the asymmetry. In general, the time evolution of a system is governed by reaction densities, the number of reactions $a + b + \dots \rightarrow c + d + \dots$ per time and volume,

$$\gamma(a + b + \dots \rightarrow c + d + \dots) = \int d\Phi f_a(p_a) f_b(p_b) \dots |\mathcal{M}(a + b + \dots \rightarrow c + d + \dots)|^2, \quad (83)$$

where in first approximation $\mathcal{M}$ is a zero-temperature S-matrix element and

$$d\Phi = \frac{d^3 p_a}{(2\pi)^3 2E_a} \dots (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p_a + \dots - p_c - \dots) \quad (84)$$

is the phase space volume element. Important thermal and quantum corrections to Eq. (83) will be discussed in Section IV.F.

It turns out that in the considered scenario, kinetic equilibrium is a good approximation. In this case the distribution functions differ from the corresponding equilibrium distribution functions just by the normalization,

$$f_a(p) = \frac{n_a}{n_a^{\text{eq}}} f_a^{\text{eq}}(p), \quad (85)$$

and reaction densities are proportional to equilibrium reaction densities, e.g.,

$$\gamma(N \rightarrow l\phi) = \frac{n_N}{n_N^{\text{eq}}} \gamma^{\text{eq}}(N \rightarrow l\phi). \quad (86)$$

Decays (D) and inverse decays (ID)

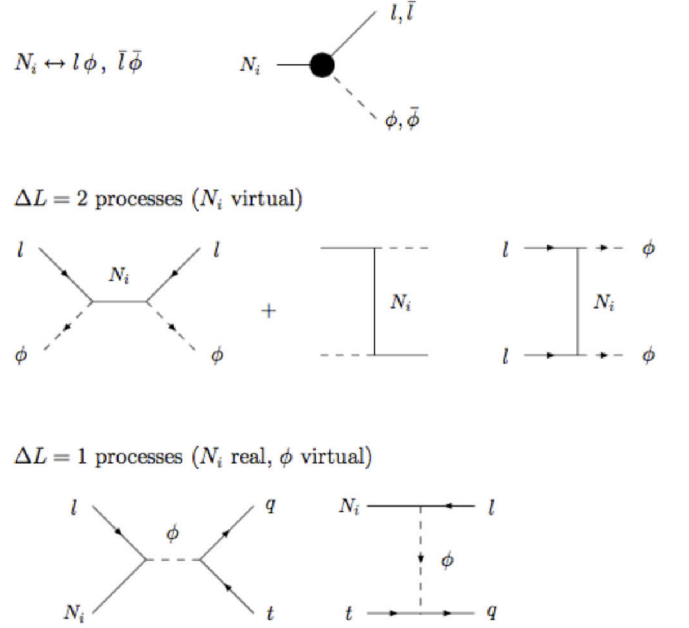


FIG. 13 Decays and inverse decays of heavy neutrinos, $\Delta L = 2$ processes with virtual intermediate heavy neutrinos, and $\Delta L = 1$ scattering processes.

Taking the expansion of the universe into account, one then obtains for the change of the heavy neutrino number density with time,

$$\dot{n}_N + 3Hn_N = -\frac{n_N}{n_N^{\text{eq}}} (\gamma^{\text{eq}}(N \rightarrow l\phi) + \gamma^{\text{eq}}(N \rightarrow \bar{l}\bar{\phi})) + \gamma^{\text{eq}}(l\phi \rightarrow N) + \gamma^{\text{eq}}(\bar{l}\bar{\phi} \rightarrow N). \quad (87)$$

The reaction densities for neutrino decays into CP-conjugate final states differ by the CP asymmetry ε ,

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma^{\text{eq}}(N \rightarrow l\phi) &= \frac{1 + \varepsilon}{2} \gamma_N, \\ \gamma^{\text{eq}}(N \rightarrow \bar{l}\bar{\phi}) &= \frac{1 - \varepsilon}{2} \gamma_N, \end{aligned} \quad (88)$$

and reaction densities for decays and inverse decays are related by CPT invariance,

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma^{\text{eq}}(\bar{l}\bar{\phi} \rightarrow N) &= \gamma^{\text{eq}}(N \rightarrow l\phi), \\ \gamma^{\text{eq}}(l\phi \rightarrow N) &= \gamma^{\text{eq}}(N \rightarrow \bar{l}\bar{\phi}). \end{aligned} \quad (89)$$

Together with Eq. (87), this yields the kinetic equation for the heavy neutrino number density,

$$\dot{n}_N + 3Hn_N = -\left(\frac{n_N}{n_N^{\text{eq}}} - 1\right) \gamma_N. \quad (90)$$

Integrating Eq. (90) yields the time dependence of the N -number density which is determined by the expansion of the universe and the departure from thermal equilibrium.

The lepton asymmetry is generated by heavy neutrino decays and inverse decays as well as $2 \rightarrow 2$ processes (see FIG. 13), with reaction densities such as

$$\gamma(l\phi \rightarrow \bar{l}\bar{\phi}) = \int d\Phi f_l(p_1) f_\phi(p_2) |\hat{\mathcal{M}}(l\phi \rightarrow \bar{l}\bar{\phi})|^2. \quad (91)$$

Here $\hat{\mathcal{M}}$ is the matrix element for $l\phi \rightarrow \bar{l}\bar{\phi}$, from which the contribution of N as real intermediate state (RIS) has been subtracted, since this is already accounted for by decays and inverse decays. Neglecting the effects of Fermi and Bose statistics the distribution functions can be approximated as

$$f_{l,\phi}(p) = \frac{n_{l,\phi}}{n_{l,\phi}^{\text{eq}}} f_{l,\phi}^{\text{eq}}(p) \simeq \frac{n_{l,\phi}}{n_{l,\phi}^{\text{eq}}} e^{-\beta(E(p)-\mu_{l,\phi})}, \quad (92)$$

where μ_l and μ_ϕ are the chemical potentials of lepton and Higgs, respectively. The change of the lepton number density with time is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{n}_l + 3Hn_l = & \frac{n_N}{n_N^{\text{eq}}} \gamma^{\text{eq}}(N \rightarrow l\phi) - \frac{n_l}{n_l^{\text{eq}}} \gamma^{\text{eq}}(l\phi \rightarrow N) \\ & + \frac{n_{\bar{l}}}{n_{\bar{l}}^{\text{eq}}} \gamma^{\text{eq}}(\bar{l}\bar{\phi} \rightarrow l\phi) - \frac{n_l}{n_l^{\text{eq}}} \gamma^{\text{eq}}(l\phi \rightarrow N). \end{aligned} \quad (93)$$

The corresponding equation for $n_{\bar{l}}$ is obtained by interchanging l, ϕ and $\bar{l}, \bar{\phi}$. An important property of the decay and scattering processes in the plasma is the unitarity of the zero-temperature S-matrix,

$$\sum_i (|\mathcal{M}(l\phi \rightarrow i)|^2 - |\mathcal{M}(i \rightarrow l\phi)|^2) = 0. \quad (94)$$

For $i = l'\phi', \bar{l}\bar{\phi}$, with $E_l + E_\phi = E_{l'} + E_{\phi'} = E_{\bar{l}} + E_{\bar{\phi}}$, this implies¹⁵,

$$\sum_{l\phi, \bar{l}\bar{\phi}} (|\mathcal{M}(l\phi \rightarrow \bar{l}\bar{\phi})|^2 - |\mathcal{M}(\bar{l}\bar{\phi} \rightarrow l\phi)|^2) = 0. \quad (95)$$

Expressing the lepton number densities in terms of the $B-L$ number density¹⁶,

$$n_l = n_l^{\text{eq}} - \frac{1}{2}n_{B-L}, \quad n_{\bar{l}} = n_l^{\text{eq}} + \frac{1}{2}n_{B-L}, \quad (96)$$

one obtains from Eqs. (93) and (95) the kinetic equation for the $B-L$ density,

$$\dot{n}_{B-L} + 3Hn_{B-L} = -\varepsilon \left(\frac{n_N}{n_N^{\text{eq}}} - 1 \right) \gamma_N - \frac{1}{2} \frac{n_{B-L}}{n_l^{\text{eq}}} \gamma_N. \quad (97)$$

The generation of the $B-L$ asymmetry is driven by the departure of the heavy neutrinos from equilibrium and the CP asymmetry ε , and inverse decays also cause a washout of an existing $B-L$ asymmetry. Note that only the reaction density for N decays enters in Eq. (97), the reaction density for the two-to-two process in Eq. (93) drops out.

An important part of the $B-L$ washout are the $\Delta L = 2$ processes¹⁷ $ll \rightarrow \phi\phi$ and $l\phi \rightarrow \bar{l}\bar{\phi}$ with RIS subtracted reaction densities

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_{\text{sub}}^{\text{eq}}(l\phi \rightarrow \bar{l}\bar{\phi}) &= \gamma_{\Delta L=2,+} + \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon\gamma_N, \\ \gamma_{\text{sub}}^{\text{eq}}(\bar{l}\bar{\phi} \rightarrow l\phi) &= \gamma_{\Delta L=2,+} - \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon\gamma_N, \\ \gamma^{\text{eq}}(ll \rightarrow \bar{\phi}\bar{\phi}) &= \gamma^{\text{eq}}(\bar{l}\bar{l} \rightarrow \phi\phi) = \gamma_{\Delta L=2,t}. \end{aligned} \quad (98)$$

Including the $\Delta L = 2$ washout processes, the kinetic equation for the $B-L$ asymmetry becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{n}_{B-L} + 3Hn_{B-L} = & -\varepsilon \left(\frac{n_N}{n_N^{\text{eq}}} - 1 \right) \gamma_N \\ & - \frac{n_{B-L}}{n_l^{\text{eq}}} \left(\frac{1}{2}\gamma_N + \gamma_{\Delta L=2} \right), \end{aligned} \quad (99)$$

where $\gamma_{\Delta L=2} = 2\gamma_{\Delta L=2,+} + 2\gamma_{\Delta L=2,t}$. Note that the full Boltzmann equation for the number density n_{B-L} also depends on the number densities of charged leptons, quarks and Higgs, which satisfy their own Boltzmann equations. The corresponding chemical potentials are all coupled by the sphaleron processes. A discussion of such ‘spectator processes’ can be found in Refs. (Buchmuller and Plumacher, 2001; Garbrecht and Schwaller, 2014; Nardi *et al.*, 2006a), see Sec. IV.F. They can affect the final $B-L$ asymmetry by a factor $\mathcal{O}(1)$.

Early studies of leptogenesis were partly motivated by trying to find alternatives to electroweak baryogenesis, which did not seem to produce a big enough asymmetry. Several extensions of the Standard Model with hierarchical heavy neutrino masses were found which could explain the observed value of the baryon asymmetry (Gherghetta and Jungman, 1993; Langacker *et al.*, 1986; Luty, 1992). At this time models with keV-scale light neutrinos were still considered. After washout processes were correctly taken into account, it was realized that for hierarchical mass matrices inspired by SO(10) GUTs neutrino masses below 1 eV were favoured (Buchmuller and Plumacher, 1996). Subsequently, atmospheric neutrino oscillations were discovered, which led to a strongly

¹⁵ This also holds for the RIS subtracted matrix elements.

¹⁶ For simplicity, we here neglect sphaleron processes. Otherwise, the connection between L and $B-L$ is given by Eq. (39). Neglecting sphaleron processes and the temperature-dependent effect of Yukawa couplings amounts to neglect spectator processes. Boltzmann equations including spectator processes can be found in Ref. (Buchmuller and Plumacher, 2001).

¹⁷ Here the RIS subtraction is a delicate issue. The original, widely used prescription given in (Harvey *et al.*, 1982; Kolb and Wolfram, 1980) turned out to be incorrect, as observed in (Giudice *et al.*, 2004). A detailed discussion can be found in Appendix A of (Buchmuller *et al.*, 2005a).

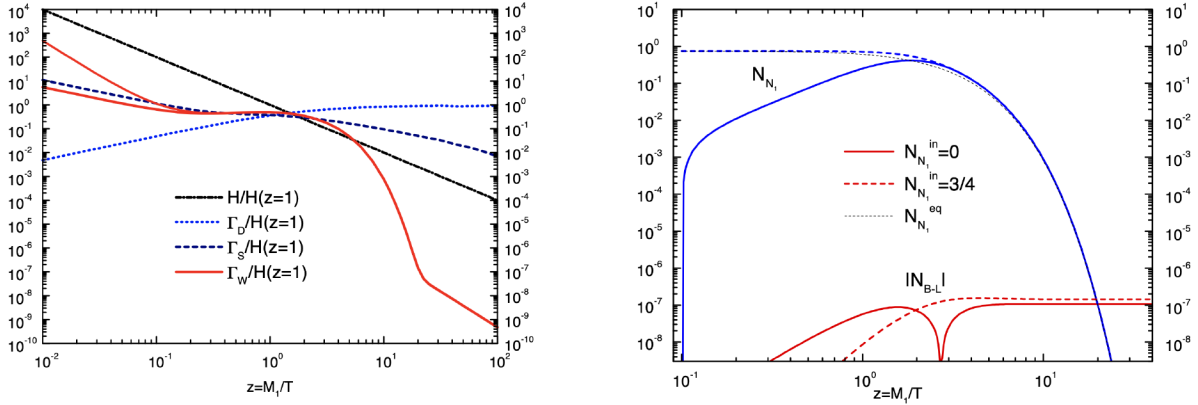


FIG. 14 Left: Decay, scattering and washout rates normalized to the Hubble parameter at $z = 1$, compared with the Hubble parameter $H(z)$; the two branches of Γ_W at $z \ll 1$ represent approximate upper and lower bounds. Right: evolution of N_1 abundance and $B-L$ asymmetry for both thermal and zero initial abundance. Neutrino parameters: $M_1 = 10^{10}$ GeV, $\tilde{m}_1 = 10^{-3}$ GeV, $\bar{m} = 0.05$ GeV. From (Buchmüller *et al.*, 2002b).

rising interest in leptogenesis and a large number of interesting models (for reviews and references, see, for example (Altarelli and Feruglio, 2010; Mohapatra and Smirnov, 2006)). The minimal seesaw model for leptogenesis contains two right-handed neutrinos (Frampton *et al.*, 2002). This class of models has recently been reviewed in Ref. (Xing and Zhao, 2020).

C. Thermal leptogenesis

1. One-flavour approximation

In order to understand the nonequilibrium process of thermal leptogenesis one has to compare the reaction rates per particle with the Hubble parameter as function of temperature or, more conveniently, $z = M/T$. The decay and washout rates are obtained by dividing the reaction densities by the relevant equilibrium number densities,

$$\Gamma_N = \frac{1}{n_N^{\text{eq}}} \gamma_N, \quad \Gamma_W = \frac{1}{n_l^{\text{eq}}} \left(\frac{1}{2} \gamma_N + \gamma_{\Delta L=2} \right). \quad (100)$$

At low temperatures, $z > 1$, decays and inverse decays dominate N production and $B-L$ washout, whereas at high temperatures, $z < 1$, $2 \rightarrow 2$ scatterings with rate Γ_S are equally important (see Fig. 13, and Sec. IV.F for details). All rates have to be evaluated as functions of z by performing a thermal average over the corresponding matrix elements (Biondini *et al.*, 2018; Luty, 1992; Plumacher, 1997). They are compared with the Hubble parameter in the left panel of Fig. 14. For $z < 1$, all processes are out of thermal equilibrium, $\Gamma_{D,W,S} < H$. Around $z \sim 1$, the various processes come into thermal equilibrium. Heavy neutrinos now decay, and since their number density slightly exceeds the equilibrium number density, a $B-L$ asymmetry is generated in these decays. As long as washout processes are in equilibrium,

the asymmetry is partly washed out again. At $z > 1$, N production is kinematically suppressed, eventually the washout processes get out of equilibrium at some z_L , and the $B-L$ asymmetry is frozen in.

In the kinetic equations Eqs. (90) and (99) the Hubble parameter appears. It is convenient to separate the time dependence of the leptogenesis process from the expansion of the universe. This can be achieved by considering the ratio of a number density n_X to the entropy density, $Y_X = n_X/s$, or the product of n_X and the comoving volume occupied by one particle, for instance a photon, i.e., $N_X = 2n_X/n_\gamma$, at some time before the onset of leptogenesis. For the Standard Model in the high-temperature phase, assuming one relativistic heavy neutrino species, one has $s = 217\pi^4/(90\zeta(3))n_\gamma$ (Kolb and Turner, 1990), and therefore

$$Y_X(z) = \frac{45\zeta(3)}{217\pi^4} N_X(z), \quad z < 1. \quad (101)$$

Changing variables and defining the rescaled reaction rates $D = \Gamma_N/(Hz)$ and $W = \Gamma_W/(Hz)$ the kinetic equations (90) and (99) take the simple form

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dN_N}{dz} &= -D(N_N - N_N^{\text{eq}}), \\ \frac{dN_{B-L}}{dz} &= -\varepsilon D(N_N - N_N^{\text{eq}}) - W N_{B-L}. \end{aligned} \quad (102)$$

The maximal $B-L$ asymmetry to which leptogenesis can lead is determined by the CP asymmetry in N decays out of equilibrium, as described by Eq. (82). The coupling of the heavy neutrinos to the thermal bath implies a suppression of the final asymmetry $N_{B-L}^f = N_{B-L}(z \gg 1)$, which is conveniently expressed in terms of an efficiency factor κ (Barbieri *et al.*, 2000),

$$N_{B-L}^f = -\frac{3}{4} \varepsilon \kappa_f, \quad (103)$$

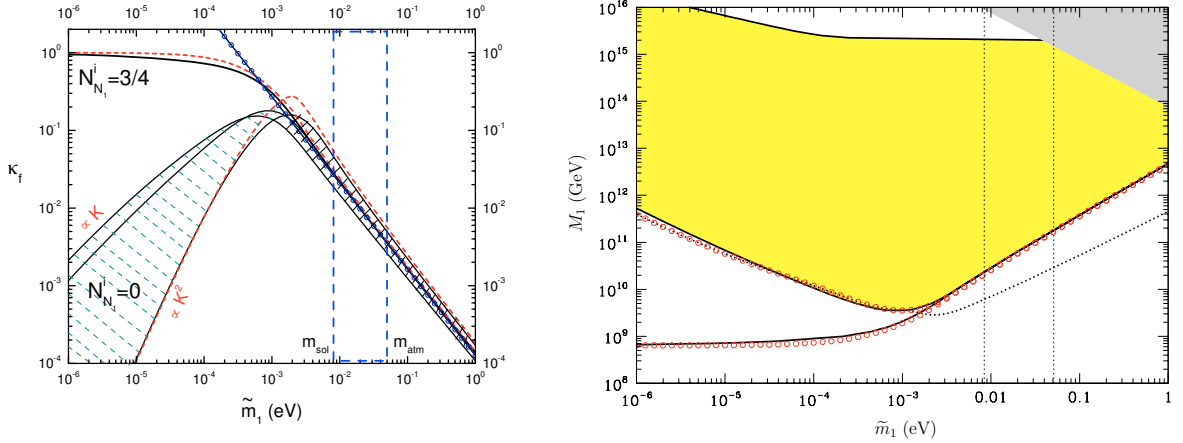


FIG. 15 Left: Efficiency factor κ_f as function of the effective neutrino mass $\tilde{m}_1$; the hatched region represents the theoretical uncertainty due to $\Delta L = 1$ scattering processes, the dashed lines indicate analytical results and the circled line is a power-law fit. Right: Upper and lower bounds on the heavy neutrino mass M_1 (the weaker lower bound corresponds to thermal initial conditions); the dotted line is a lower bound on the initial temperature T_i ; the gray triangle is excluded by theoretical consistency and the circled lines represent analytical results. In both panels the vertical lines indicate the range $(m_{\text{sol}}, m_{\text{atm}})$ (see text). From (Buchmuller *et al.*, 2005a).

where the factor $3/4$ is due to Fermi statistics. During the evolution of the universe the $B-L$ asymmetry in a comoving volume element remains constant whereas the number of photons increases. The measured baryon-to-photon ratio at recombination is then given by

$$\eta_B = \frac{n_B}{n_\gamma} = \frac{3}{4} \frac{c_s}{f} \varepsilon \kappa_f \simeq \eta_B \simeq 0.96 \times 10^{-2} \varepsilon \kappa_f. \quad (104)$$

Here c_s is the fraction of $B-L$ asymmetry converted into a baryon asymmetry by sphaleron processes, and the dilution factor f is the increase of the number of photons in a comoving volume element. In the Standard Model with one heavy neutrino one has $c_s = 28/79$ and $f = 2387/86$.

In the left panel of Fig. 14 decay and washout rates are depicted for a representative choice of neutrino masses, and the right panel shows solutions of the kinetic equations (102) for the same mass parameters and two different choices of initial conditions, namely thermal and zero initial N abundance. For thermal initial abundance the number N_N always exceeds the equilibrium value N_N^{eq} , and the asymmetry $|N_{B-L}|$ continuously increases towards its final value. For zero initial abundance $N_N - N_N^{\text{eq}}$ is first negative. It changes sign just above $z = 1$ where also $|N_{B-L}|$ passes through zero. For the chosen neutrino mass parameters the final $B-L$ asymmetry is almost independent of the initial condition. The value of the baryon-to-photon ratio $\eta_B \sim 0.01 N_{B-L}^{\text{f}}$ is in agreement with observation.

The generated $B-L$ asymmetry strongly depends on neutrino parameters, and it is highly remarkable that for masses and mixings consistent with neutrino oscil-

lations the observed baryon-to-photon ratio is naturally obtained. The robustness of the leptogenesis mechanism is largely due to the fact that for neutrino masses below 0.1 eV the $B-L$ asymmetry is essentially determined just by decays and inverse decays. The heavy neutrinos decay at $z > 1$, such that scattering processes are unimportant, and for small neutrino masses also $\Delta L = 2$ washout processes are suppressed (Buchmuller *et al.*, 2005a). Moreover, relativistic corrections are small. In the case where a summation of the lepton flavours in the final state is performed, the efficiency factor only depends on $\tilde{m}_1$ and $M\bar{m}^2$, where the effective light neutrino mass $\tilde{m}_1$ and the absolute neutrino mass scale $\bar{m}$ are defined as

$$\tilde{m}_1 = \frac{(h^{\nu\dagger} h^\nu)_{11} v_{\text{EW}}^2}{M_1}, \quad \bar{m} = \sqrt{m_1^2 + m_2^2 + m_3^2}. \quad (105)$$

For $\bar{m} \lesssim 0.1$ eV and $M \lesssim 10^{14}$ GeV, the efficiency factor κ_f only depends on $\tilde{m}_1$. As the left panel of Fig. 15 illustrates, there are two regimes, with ‘weak’ and ‘strong’ washout, corresponding to

$$\tilde{m}_1 < m_*, \quad \tilde{m}_1 > m_*, \quad (106)$$

respectively, where m_* is the equilibrium neutrino mass,

$$m_* = \frac{16\pi^{5/2} \sqrt{g_*}}{3\sqrt{5}} \frac{v^2}{M_{\text{P}}} \simeq 1.08 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}. \quad (107)$$

The ratio $\tilde{m}_1/m_* = \Gamma_D(z = \infty)/H(z = 1) \equiv K$ has previously been introduced in GUT baryogenesis (Kolb and Wolfram, 1980). In the weak washout regime $\kappa_f(\tilde{m}_1)$ strongly depends on the initial conditions (thermal vs

zero initial abundance) and on the rate for $\Delta L = 1$ scattering processes (hatched area in Fig. 15). On the contrary, in the strong washout regime the efficiency factor is universal, with an uncertainty of about 50%,

$$\kappa_f = (2 \pm 1) \times 10^{-2} \left(\frac{0.01 \text{ eV}}{\tilde{m}_1} \right)^{1.1 \pm 0.1}. \quad (108)$$

Moreover, the dependence of the final $B-L$ asymmetry on some other initial $B-L$ asymmetry, independent of leptogenesis, is significantly suppressed in the strong washout regime. It is very remarkable that the neutrino mass range indicated by solar and atmospheric neutrinos lies inside the strong washout regime where the generated $B-L$ asymmetry is essentially determined by decays and inverse decays and therefore largely independent of initial conditions and theoretical uncertainties.

In the case of hierarchical heavy neutrinos the maximal CP asymmetry in N decays reads (Davidson and Ibarra, 2002; Hamaguchi *et al.*, 2002)

$$\varepsilon_{\max} = \frac{3}{16\pi} \frac{M m_{\text{atm}}}{v^2} \simeq 10^{-6} \left(\frac{M}{10^{10} \text{ GeV}} \right). \quad (109)$$

Knowing the maximal efficiency factor, this implies a lower bound on the smallest heavy neutrino mass M . From Fig. 15 one reads off $\kappa^{\max} \sim 1$ and $\kappa^{\max} \sim 0.1$ for thermal and zero initial abundance, respectively. A baryon-to-photon ratio $\eta_B \sim 10^{-9}$ then requires a heavy neutrino mass $M \gtrsim 10^8 \text{ GeV}$ and $M \gtrsim 10^9 \text{ GeV}$ for the two different initial conditions, respectively. The precise dependence of the lower bound on $\tilde{m}_1$ is shown in the right panel of Fig 15.

The $\Delta L = 2$ washout term leads to an upper bound on heavy neutrino masses and also to an important upper bound on the light neutrino masses (Buchmuller *et al.*, 2002a). An analysis of the solution of the kinetic equations (102) shows that in the strong washout regime, which is defined by $\tilde{m}_1 \gtrsim m_*$, the $B-L$ asymmetry is produced close to $z_B(\tilde{m}_1) \sim 2m_*/(\tilde{m}_1 \kappa_f(\tilde{m}_1))$, and the complete efficiency factor is given by

$$\bar{\kappa}_f(\tilde{m}_1, M \bar{m}^2) \simeq \kappa_f(\tilde{m}_1) \exp \left[-\frac{\omega}{z_B} \left(\frac{M}{10^{10} \text{ GeV}} \right) \left(\frac{\bar{m}}{\text{eV}} \right)^2 \right], \quad (110)$$

where $\omega \simeq 0.2$. Clearly, for too large values of M and $\bar{m}$, the generated $B-L$ asymmetry is too small compared to observation. A quantitative analysis yields for M the upper bound shown in Fig. 15, and for the light neutrino masses one finds $m_i < 0.12 \text{ eV}$. Assuming $\tilde{m}_1 = \mathcal{O}(m_i)$, successful leptogenesis then implies for the light neutrinos the optimal mass window

$$10^{-3} \text{ eV} \lesssim m_i \lesssim 0.1 \text{ eV}. \quad (111)$$

It is very remarkable that the cosmological bound on the sum of neutrino masses (Aghanim *et al.*, 2018), which

became more and more stringent during the past two decades, is consistent with this mass window. Note, however, that the upper bound on the light neutrino masses only holds in type-I seesaw models. In type-II models, where a triplet contribution appears in the neutrino mass matrix, as in left-right symmetric models, the direct connection between neutrino masses and leptogenesis is lost (Antusch and King, 2004; Hambye and Senjanovic, 2004).

The maximal CP asymmetry (109), and therefore the lower bound on the heavy neutrino mass M_1 , depends on the measured value of m_{atm} . What can one say without knowing the result from atmospheric neutrino oscillations? In this case the Planck mass and the Fermi scale still yield the neutrino mass scale m_* (see Eq. (107)), which determines the normalization of $\tilde{m}_1$ in the efficiency factor κ_f (108). From the full efficiency factor (110) one can then determine the maximal baryon asymmetry as function of $\tilde{m}_1$ and m_3 , which is reached at $\tilde{m}_1 \simeq 2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}$, i.e., in the strong washout regime (Buchmuller *et al.*, 2004). This leads to the upper and lower bounds $m_3 \lesssim 250 \text{ eV}$ and $M_1 \gtrsim 2 \times 10^6 \text{ GeV}$, respectively.

It is remarkable that in GUTs with hierarchical heavy right-handed neutrinos, $M_1 \ll M_2 \ll M_3 \sim v_{B-L} \sim 10^{15} \text{ GeV}$, a simple estimate yields the right order of magnitude for the baryon-to-photon ratio (Buchmuller and Plumacher, 1996; Buchmuller and Yanagida, 1999). To understand this, consider the CP asymmetry ε_1 as given in Eq. (78), assume normal ordering and keep the largest contribution proportional to the light neutrino mass m_3 . With $h_{i1}^\nu / \sqrt{(h^{\nu\dagger} h^\nu)_{11}} \propto \delta_{i3}$, and using Eq. (71), one obtains

$$\varepsilon_1 \sim 0.1 \frac{m_3 M_1}{v_{\text{EW}}^2} \sim 0.1 \frac{M_1}{M_3}. \quad (112)$$

For a heavy neutrino mass hierarchy similar to the hierarchies in the quark and charged lepton sectors, i.e., $M_1/M_3 \sim 10^{-5} \dots 10^{-4}$, and an efficiency factor $\kappa_f \sim 10^{-2} \dots 10^{-1}$, the baryon-to-photon ratio is given by (see Eq. (104)),

$$\eta_B \sim 10^{-2} \varepsilon_1 \kappa_f \sim 10^{-10} \dots 10^{-8}, \quad (113)$$

in agreement with observation.

The $\Delta L = 2$ washout terms play a crucial role in obtaining upper bounds on light and heavy neutrino masses. Correspondingly, a discovery of lepton-number violating di-lepton events at the LHC could be used to falsify leptogenesis since the production cross section of these events is directly related to a $\Delta L = 2$ washout term which, if large enough, would erase any baryon asymmetry. This has been demonstrated in the context of left-right symmetric models (Frere *et al.*, 2009) as well as in a model-independent approach (Deppisch *et al.*, 2014).

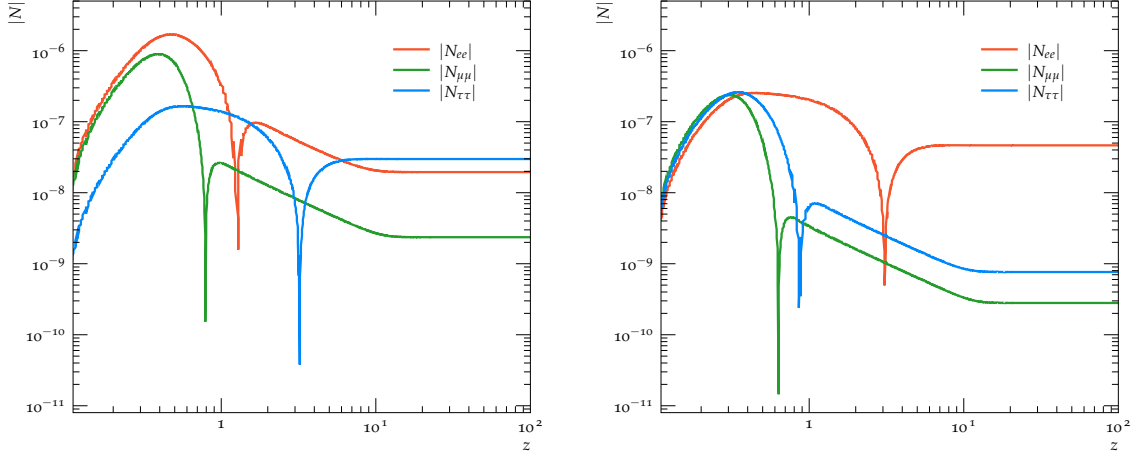


FIG. 16 Evolution of the $B-L$ asymmetry for each lepton flavour as function of $z = M_1/T$ for two sets of neutrino masses and phases (left: S_2 , right: S_3) listed in Table I. From (Moffat *et al.*, 2018).

2. Flavour effects

So far we have discussed leptogenesis in the ‘one-flavour approximation’, where one sums over lepton flavours in the final state. This approximation is only valid at very high temperatures where lepton-Higgs interactions in the thermal plasma can be neglected. In general, flavour effects can have an important impact on leptogenesis (Abada *et al.*, 2006; Barbieri *et al.*, 2000; Blanchet *et al.*, 2007; Endoh *et al.*, 2004; Nardi *et al.*, 2006b).

Let us first consider the simplest case where the lightest heavy neutrino $N_1 \equiv N$ couples to a particular combination of lepton flavours given by the Yukawa couplings h_{i1}^ν (see Eq. (74)),

$$|l_1\rangle = \sum_{i=e,\mu,\tau} C_{1i} |l_i\rangle, \quad C_{1i} = \frac{h_{i1}^\nu}{\sqrt{(h^{\nu\dagger} h^\nu)_{11}}}. \quad (114)$$

As the universe expands, Hubble parameter and Yukawa rates decrease as $H \sim T^2/M_P$ and $\Gamma_Y \sim g_Y^2 T$, respectively. Hence, with $g_\tau \sim 5 \times 10^{-3}$, left- and right-handed τ -neutrinos are in thermal equilibrium for temperatures below the temperature T_τ , where

$$\Gamma_\tau(T_\tau) \sim \frac{g_\tau^2}{4\pi} T_\tau \sim 10^{-6} T_\tau \sim H(T_\tau), \quad (115)$$

which implies $T_\tau \sim 10^{12}$ GeV. Below T_τ interactions with τ leptons in the thermal bath destroy the coherence of the lepton state produced in N decay. Hence, one has to consider Boltzmann equations for the components parallel and orthogonal to τ separately. With

$$p_\tau = |C_{1\tau}|^2, \quad p_{\tau^\perp} = 1 - |C_{1\tau}|^2, \quad \langle \tau | \tau^\perp \rangle = 0, \quad (116)$$

	$\delta(^{\circ})$	m_1 (eV)	M_1 (GeV)	M_2 (GeV)	M_3 (GeV)
S_2	88.26	0.079	$10^{6.5}$	10^7	$10^{7.5}$
S_3	31.71	0.114	$10^{6.5}$	$10^{7.2}$	$10^{7.9}$

TABLE I Two sets of neutrino masses and phases consistent with the observed $B-L$ asymmetry (only 5 out of 14 parameters are listed). From (Moffat *et al.*, 2018).

one obtains

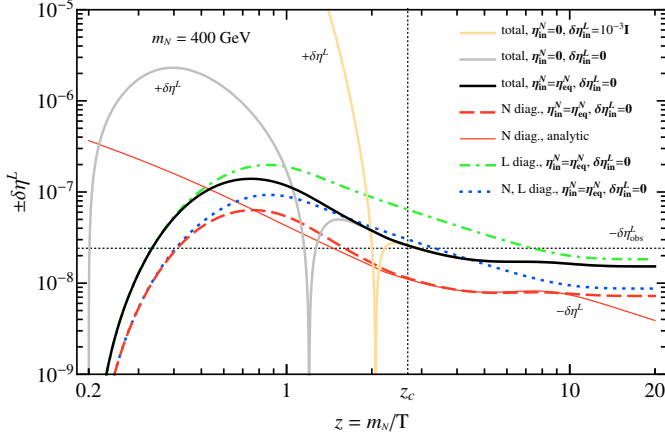
$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dN_N}{dz} &= -D(N_N - N_N^{\text{eq}}), \\ \frac{dN_{\tau\tau}}{dz} &= \varepsilon_{\tau\tau} D(N_N - N_N^{\text{eq}}) - p_\tau W N_{\tau\tau}, \\ \frac{dN_{\tau^\perp\tau^\perp}}{dz} &= \varepsilon_{\tau^\perp\tau^\perp} D(N_N - N_N^{\text{eq}}) - p_{\tau^\perp} W N_{\tau^\perp\tau^\perp}. \end{aligned} \quad (117)$$

For the produced $B-L$ asymmetry these equations yield the flavour structure

$$\begin{aligned} N_{B-L} &\propto \left(\frac{\varepsilon_{\tau\tau}}{p_{\tau\tau}} + \frac{\varepsilon_{\tau^\perp\tau^\perp}}{p_{\tau^\perp\tau^\perp}} \right) \\ &\propto \varepsilon_{\tau\tau} \left(\frac{1}{p_{\tau\tau}} - \frac{1}{1 - p_{\tau\tau}} \right). \end{aligned} \quad (118)$$

A complete expression for $B-L$ asymmetry in the two-flavour regime is given in Ref. (Blanchet and Di Bari, 2009). For temperatures far below T_τ all three lepton flavours have to be taken into account. Instead of Eqs. (117) one then obtains an involved system of Boltzmann equations or, depending on the temperature regime, of kinetic equations for the lepton density matrix (Blanchet *et al.*, 2013).

Flavour effects, together with tuning of the parameters of the seesaw mass matrix, can be used to lower the leptogenesis temperature significantly below $T \sim 10^{10}$ GeV,



Parameter	Value
m_N	400 GeV
c	2×10^{-7}
$\frac{\Delta M_1}{m_N}$	-3×10^{-5}
$\frac{\Delta M_2}{m_N}$	$(-1.21 + 0.10 i) \times 10^{-9}$
a	$(4.93 - 2.32 i) \times 10^{-3}$
b	$(8.04 - 3.79 i) \times 10^{-3}$
ϵ_e	$5.73 i \times 10^{-8}$
ϵ_μ	$4.30 i \times 10^{-7}$
ϵ_τ	$6.39 i \times 10^{-7}$

FIG. 17 Lepton asymmetry η^L , with $L = L_\tau$, computed in a density matrix formalism for different initial conditions (full lines), compared to η^L obtained in a flavour-diagonal approximation (dashed lines). The model parameters are specified in the table. From (Bhupal Dev *et al.*, 2015).

which was considered in the previous section (Blanchet and Di Bari, 2009). Recently, a detailed study of this type has been carried out in (Moffat *et al.*, 2018) where masses and mixings of all three light and heavy Majorana neutrinos were taken into account. A code to solve these Boltzmann equations has been published in Ref. (Granelli *et al.*, 2020). Two sets of neutrino parameters, fitted to measured neutrino parameters and to the observed baryon asymmetry, are shown in Table I. The two sets S_2 and S_3 correspond to normal hierarchy for the light neutrinos and to a mild mass hierarchy for heavy neutrinos. Mixing angles and mass ratios of the light neutrinos are essentially fixed by observation. In both cases the smallest neutrino mass lies in the mass window (111) whereas Dirac phase and Majorana phases vary significantly. Correspondingly, the flavour dependence of the $B-L$ asymmetry is very different in the two cases. The dependence on the mixing parameters of the heavy neutrinos is not listed. An important aspect of the flavour effects is the mass scale of the heavy neutrinos which lies significantly below the lower bound derived in the one-flavour approximation.

It is interesting to compare the evolution of the $B-L$ asymmetry in Fig. 16 with the one shown in Fig. 14, where M_1 , the smallest heavy neutrino mass, is three orders of magnitude larger than in the parameter sets S_2 , S_3 . In Fig. 14 the generated asymmetry before thermal equilibrium of N_1 is about the same as the final $B-L$ asymmetry, whereas in Fig. 16 there is a difference by about one order of magnitude. The flavour composition of the $B-L$ asymmetry is significantly different for S_2 and S_3 . Such a behaviour can occur due to cancellations between positive and negative contributions to the asymmetry around $z \approx 1$, as discussed in Ref. (Buchmuller *et al.*, 2005a). Moreover, fine tuning between tree-

level contributions and one-loop corrections to the light neutrino mass matrix is needed. On the whole the total $B-L$ asymmetry is rather sensitive to fine tuning of parameters, which is the price one pays for lowering the heavy neutrino mass scale compared to the simple one-flavour approximation, allowing for a low reheating temperature.

A particularly important aspect of the flavour dependence of leptogenesis is the effect on upper and lower bounds on light neutrino masses. It is clear that the effect can be significant, but so far it has not been possible to obtain a complete picture in a model independent way. According to current estimates, it is possible to relax upper and lower bounds in Eq. (111) by about one order of magnitude, barring fine tuning (Blanchet and Di Bari, 2012; Davidson *et al.*, 2008; Dev *et al.*, 2018b). Moreover, spectator effects have to be taken into account (Buchmuller and Plumacher, 2001; Garbrecht and Schwaller, 2014; Nardi *et al.*, 2006a).

Our discussion of flavour effects has been limited to the case where leptogenesis is dominated by the lightest heavy neutrino N_1 . An interesting alternative is dominance by the next-to-lightest heavy neutrino N_2 (Di Bari, 2005; Vives, 2006). More possibilities are reviewed in (Dev *et al.*, 2018b). The treatment of flavour effects based on Kadanoff-Baym equations (Beneke *et al.*, 2011) will be described in Section IV.F.

3. Resonant leptogenesis

The standard temperature scale of thermal leptogenesis, $T \gtrsim 10^{10}$ GeV, can be significantly lowered by flavour effects. A much more dramatic effect occurs when mass differences between the heavy neutrinos are comparable to the heavy neutrino decay widths, a case referred to as

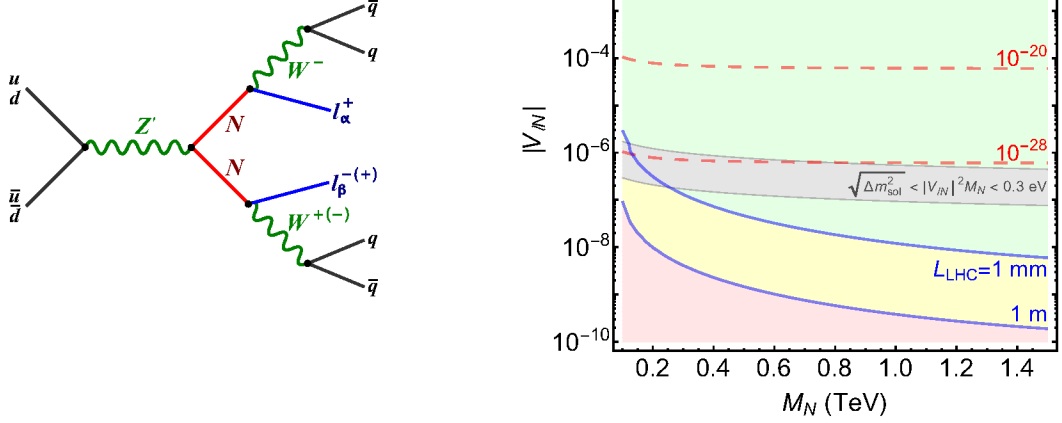


FIG. 18 Left: Heavy neutrino pair production and decay in an extension of the Standard Model with additional Z' boson. Right: Contours in the plane of neutrino mixing $|V_N|$ and neutrino mass m_N ; the dashed red lines correspond to different branching ratios $\text{BR}(\mu \rightarrow e\gamma)$, the blue lines correspond to two distances between displaced vertices at the LHC. From (Deppisch *et al.*, 2015).

resonant leptogenesis (Pilaftsis and Underwood, 2004). In this case leptogenesis temperatures of order TeV are possible which implies the intriguing possibility to test thermal leptogenesis at high-energy colliders (Pilaftsis and Underwood, 2005). Such models can be realized in extensions of the Standard Model where the quasi-degeneracy of the heavy neutrinos is a consequence of approximate symmetries, as for instance in supersymmetric models where soft supersymmetry breaking terms can be much smaller than the heavy neutrino mass terms (see, for example (Chen and Mahanthappa, 2004; D'Ambrosio *et al.*, 2003; Grossman *et al.*, 2003; Hambye *et al.*, 2004)).

The formalism to treat this resonant regime has been developed in resummed perturbation theory (Pilaftsis and Underwood, 2004), on the basis of Kadanoff-Baym equations (Garny *et al.*, 2013) and using a density matrix formalism (Bhupal Dev *et al.*, 2015) (for a review, see (Dev *et al.*, 2018a)). In resummed perturbation theory one computes the decay rates of heavy neutrinos N_α to leptons l and Higgs,

$$\Gamma_{\alpha l} = \Gamma(N_\alpha \rightarrow l\phi), \quad \Gamma_{\alpha l}^C = \Gamma(N_\alpha \rightarrow \bar{l}\bar{\phi}), \quad (119)$$

in terms of resummed Yukawa couplings $\bar{\mathbf{h}}_{l\alpha}^\nu$ (Pilaftsis and Underwood, 2004). The CP asymmetries are defined as usual,

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_{\alpha l} &\equiv \frac{\Gamma_{\alpha l} - \Gamma_{\alpha l}^C}{\sum_{l=e,\mu,\tau} (\Gamma_{\alpha l} + \Gamma_{\alpha l}^C)} \\ &= \frac{|\bar{\mathbf{h}}_{l\alpha}^\nu|^2 - |\bar{\mathbf{h}}_{l\alpha}^{\nu C}|^2}{(\bar{\mathbf{h}}^{\nu\dagger} \bar{\mathbf{h}}^\nu)_{\alpha\alpha} + (\bar{\mathbf{h}}^{\nu C\dagger} \bar{\mathbf{h}}^{\nu C})_{\alpha\alpha}}. \end{aligned} \quad (120)$$

For quasi-degenerate heavy neutrinos they show the typical resonant enhancement, and for two heavy neutrinos one has obtained the result¹⁸ (Pilaftsis and Underwood, 2004)

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_{\alpha l} &\approx \frac{\text{Im}[(\mathbf{h}_{\alpha l}^{\nu\dagger} \mathbf{h}_{l\beta}^\nu) (\mathbf{h}^{\nu\dagger} \mathbf{h}^\nu)_{\alpha\beta}]}{(\mathbf{h}^{\nu\dagger} \mathbf{h}^\nu)_{\alpha\alpha} (\mathbf{h}^{\nu\dagger} \mathbf{h}^\nu)_{\beta\beta}} \\ &\times \frac{(m_{N_\alpha}^2 - m_{N_\beta}^2) m_{N_\alpha} \Gamma_{N_\beta}^{(0)}}{(m_{N_\alpha}^2 - m_{N_\beta}^2)^2 + m_{N_\alpha}^2 \Gamma_{N_\beta}^{(0)2}}. \end{aligned} \quad (121)$$

A numerical example is shown in Fig. 17. The lepton asymmetry is all in the τ flavour. It is remarkable that the mass of the three heavy neutrinos can be lowered down to $m_N = 400$ GeV. The prize is the extreme fine tuning of mass differences, $\Delta M_1/m_N \sim 10^{-5}$ and $\Delta M_2/m_N \sim 10^{-9}$. As in the case discussed in the previous section (see Fig. 16), the final asymmetry $|\delta^L|$ is much smaller than the asymmetry $|\delta^L|$ before the equilibrium of the heavy neutrinos, indicating the sensitivity with respect to fine tuning of parameters.

Some special parameter region of resonant leptogenesis can be probed at the LHC (Deppisch *et al.*, 2015). At zero temperature the four real degrees of freedom of the complex doublet ϕ become the physical Higgs H and the longitudinal components of W - and Z -bosons. The heavy

¹⁸ The calculation of the CP asymmetry in the resonance regime is subtle. For a thorough discussion see, for example (Anisimov *et al.*, 2006; Brdar *et al.*, 2019; Garny *et al.*, 2013).

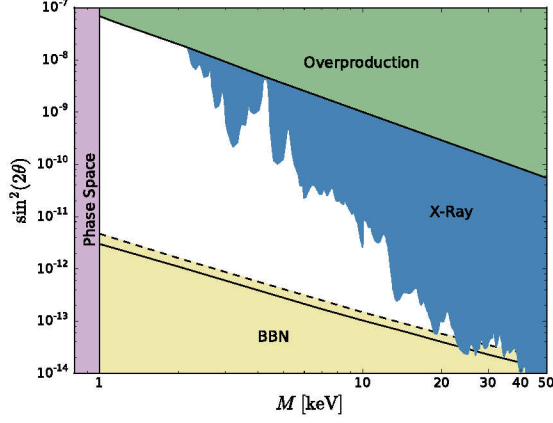


FIG. 19 Constraints on N_1 mass and mixing. The colored regions are excluded. Big bang nucleosynthesis (BBN) puts an upper limit on the lepton asymmetry. The BBN limit given by the solid black line holds if all of the input lepton asymmetry is only in the muon flavor. The dashed line corresponds to the BBN limit if the lepton asymmetry is split equally onto all three flavors. Additional constraints (not shown) come from structure formation (Schneider, 2016). From (Bodeker and Klaus, 2020).

neutrinos can decay into these bosons and leptons with decay rates related to Eq. (119),

$$\Gamma_{\alpha l} = \Gamma(N_\alpha \rightarrow l_L^- + W^+) + \Gamma(N_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_{lL} + Z, H). \quad (122)$$

Heavy neutrino pair production with sizable cross section is possible in extensions of the Standard Model with an additional $U(1)$ gauge group and a corresponding Z' gauge boson. The produced heavy neutrinos then decay into $l_L^\pm W^\mp$ or $\nu_{lL} Z, H$. This leads to interesting like-sign and opposite-sign di-lepton events (see Fig. 18). The decay amplitude is proportional to the light-heavy neutrino mixing, $|V_{lN}| \sim \sqrt{m_\nu/m_N} = \mathcal{O}(10^{-6})$. Such long-lived heavy neutrinos lead to displaced vertices in the range $L_{\text{LHC}} \sim 1 \text{ mm} \dots 1 \text{ m}$, which are in the reach of LHC (see Fig. 18).

D. Sterile-neutrino oscillations

Thermal leptogenesis with out-of-equilibrium decays of heavy Majorana (sterile) neutrinos can work down to masses around the electroweak scale once the CP asymmetries in their decays are resonantly enhanced. Leptogenesis with even lighter sterile neutrinos that have masses $\mathcal{O}(\text{GeV})$ is possible via CP-violating oscillations among sterile neutrinos (Akhmedov *et al.*, 1998). In this scenario the neutrino Yukawa couplings are so small that at least one sterile neutrino flavor never reaches thermal equilibrium before sphaleron freeze-out. Recently it was demonstrated that the regimes of resonant leptogenesis and of leptogenesis through oscillations are in fact con-

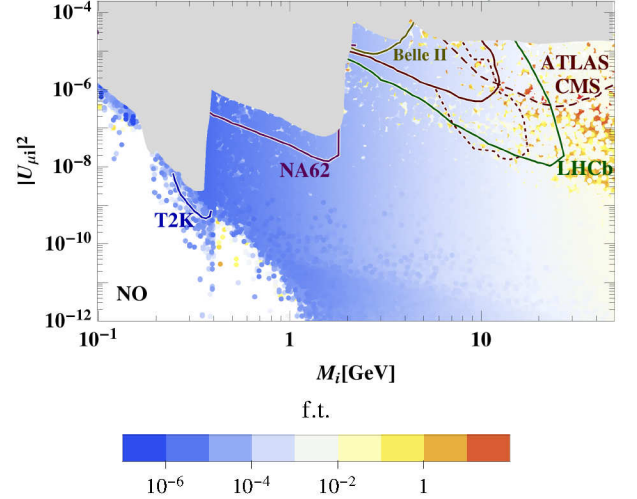


FIG. 20 Mixing $U_{\mu i}^2$ of heavy neutrinos N_i with leptons l_μ as function of the heavy neutrino mass M_i . The grey region is excluded by direct searches of heavy neutral leptons and the lines show the expected sensitivities for the ongoing experiments T2K, NA62, Belle II, LHCb, ATLAS and CMS. The parameter f.t. measures the amount of fine tuning for Yukawa couplings needed for successful leptogenesis. From (Abada *et al.*, 2019).

nected and allow for a unified description (Klaric *et al.*, 2020).

The time evolution is described by kinetic equations for the matrix of sterile-neutrino phase space densities ρ_N (Sigl and Raffelt, 1993), oftentimes referred to as density matrix (Asaka *et al.*, 2005; Canetti *et al.*, 2013a,b), (without Hubble expansion)

$$i \frac{d\rho_N}{dt} = [H, \rho_N] - \frac{i}{2} \{ \Gamma_N, \rho_N - \rho^{\text{eq}} \} + \frac{i}{2} \mu_\alpha \tilde{\Gamma}_N^\alpha, \quad (123)$$

$$i \frac{d\rho_{\bar{N}}}{dt} = [H^*, \rho_{\bar{N}}] - \frac{i}{2} \{ \Gamma_N^*, \rho_{\bar{N}} - \rho^{\text{eq}} \} - \frac{i}{2} \mu_\alpha \tilde{\Gamma}_N^{\alpha*}, \quad (124)$$

and the chemical potentials μ_α for $B/3 - L_\alpha$,

$$i \frac{d\mu_\alpha}{dt} = -i \Gamma_L^\alpha \mu_\alpha + i \text{tr} \left[\tilde{\Gamma}_L^\alpha (\rho_N - \rho^{\text{eq}}) \right] - i \text{tr} \left[\tilde{\Gamma}_L^{\alpha*} (\rho_{\bar{N}} - \rho^{\text{eq}}) \right]. \quad (125)$$

The SM particles are assumed to be in kinetic equilibrium. ρ^{eq} is the equilibrium density matrix, ρ_N and $\rho_{\bar{N}}$ correspond to ‘particles’ and ‘antiparticles’ defined in terms of the N_i helicities, H is the dispersive part of the finite-temperature effective Hamiltonian, $\Gamma_N, \Gamma_L^\alpha$, and $\tilde{\Gamma}_L^\alpha$ are rates accounting for various scattering processes (see Sec. IV.F), and $\alpha = e, \mu, \tau$ labels the lepton flavour. The equations describe thermal sterile neutrino production, oscillations, freeze-out and decay, and have been refined and extended in Refs. (Bodeker and Schroder, 2019b; Ghiglieri and Laine, 2017). Above the sphaleron freeze-out temperature $T_{\text{EW}} \sim 130 \text{ GeV}$, a lepton asymmetry,

Grand unification	GUT-scale leptogenesis
fermion representations of SM	connection between B and L in GUTs
gauge coupling unification (large GUT scale)	small neutrino masses (GUT-scale seesaw)
proton decay	Majorana neutrinos
relations between Yukawa couplings	relation between B and L asymmetries
proton decay branching ratios	neutrino masses and mixings

TABLE II Comparison between qualitative and quantitative aspects of GUTs and leptogenesis, respectively.

partially concerted to a baryon asymmetry, is generated in CP violating oscillations of the sterile neutrinos which are thermally produced but do not all equilibrate. With decreasing temperature the oscillations become more and more rapid. Eventually the off-diagonal elements of the density matrix effectively vanish in the mass basis, and the oscillations come to an end. Below T_{EW} the baryon asymmetry is frozen, while lepton number still continues to evolve.

A much studied scenario is an extension of the SM by three sterile neutrinos where the two heavier ones, $N_{2,3}$ can generate the baryon asymmetry, and the lightest, N_1 is available as a dark matter candidate (the ν MSM). It is remarkable that such a minimal extension might indeed account for neutrino oscillations, baryogenesis and dark matter (Asaka *et al.*, 2005; Asaka and Shaposhnikov, 2005). The observed baryon asymmetry requires lepton chemical potentials $\mu_\alpha/T \sim 10^{-10}$ at $T \sim T_{EW}$. Below T_{EW} , the sphaleron processes are ineffective, so that a change of the lepton chemical potential no longer affects the baryon asymmetry. Eventually, N_2 and N_3 decay and thereby increase the lepton asymmetry. Now large lepton chemical potentials are needed to generate, resonantly amplified, the observed amount of dark matter, $\mu_\alpha/T \gtrsim 8 \cdot 10^{-6}$ at $T \sim 100$ MeV. The mass of the lightest sterile neutrino N_1 providing dark matter has a mass in the range $1 \text{ keV} < M_1 \lesssim 50 \text{ keV}$ and tiny mixings, $10^{-13} \lesssim \sin^2(2\theta_{\alpha 1}) \lesssim 10^{-7}$, in order to survive until today. Various constraints are shown in Fig. 19). Moreover, the scenario predicts that the lightest neutrino mass effectively vanishes, $m_1 \simeq 0$. This scenario requires a very high mass degeneracy of the heavier sterile neutrinos, (Canetti *et al.*, 2013a,b)

$$|M_2 - M_3|/|M_2 + M_3| \sim 10^{-11}. \quad (126)$$

Still, it is an intriguing possibility that the predicted monochromatic X-ray line produced by N_1 dark matter decays corresponds to an unidentified observed X-ray line around 3.5 keV (Boyarsky *et al.*, 2014; Bulbul *et al.*, 2014). This identification has been challenged by blank-sky observations (Dessert *et al.*, 2020) but is still under discussion (Boyarsky *et al.*, 2020).

The extreme fine tuning of the masses in Eq. (126) is no longer needed if one does not require the generation of lepton asymmetry for the resonant production of N_1 .

When processes connecting active and sterile neutrinos with different helicities are taken into account one finds that a 10% splitting is sufficient (Antusch *et al.*, 2018).

Models with three GeV-scale sterile neutrinos (Drewes and Garbrecht, 2013), none of which contribute to the dark matter, have a rich phenomenology. Depending on the parameters, there can be resonant enhancement due to medium effects. In this case only $\mathcal{O}(1)$ tuning for sterile neutrino masses and mixings is required (Abada *et al.*, 2019). Some results of a parameter scan are shown in a mixing-mass plane for sterile neutrinos in Fig. 20, where $U_{\alpha i} \equiv \theta_{\alpha i} = (m_D M_M^{-1})_{\alpha i}$. There successful leptogenesis is possible with sterile neutrino masses in the range (0.1, 50) GeV.¹⁹ It is encouraging that mixings and masses with successful leptogenesis can be probed by a number of ongoing experiments. Further possibilities to test GeV-scale leptogenesis are discussed in Ref. (Chun *et al.*, 2018).

E. Leptogenesis - piece of a puzzle

In its original version leptogenesis was based on a GUT-scale seesaw mechanism with hierarchical heavy Majorana neutrinos. Since their masses are far above collider energies one may wonder whether GUT-scale leptogenesis is at all experimentally testable. In the following we therefore collect some current hints and conceivable future evidence for leptogenesis at the GUT scale.

It is instructive to compare possible tests for leptogenesis and GUTs. Intriguing hints for grand unification are the fact that quarks and leptons form complete representations of SU(5), the simplest simple group containing the Standard Model gauge group. Moreover, the gauge couplings of strong and electroweak interactions unify at a large energy scale (GUT scale), approximately without supersymmetry, and rather precisely with supersymmetry. A generic prediction of GUTs is proton decay. Relations between Yukawa couplings are model dependent. Together with proton decay branching ratios they

¹⁹ For larger masses the sterile neutrinos would be non-relativistic at T_{EW} , in which case the computational method of (Abada *et al.*, 2019) does not apply.

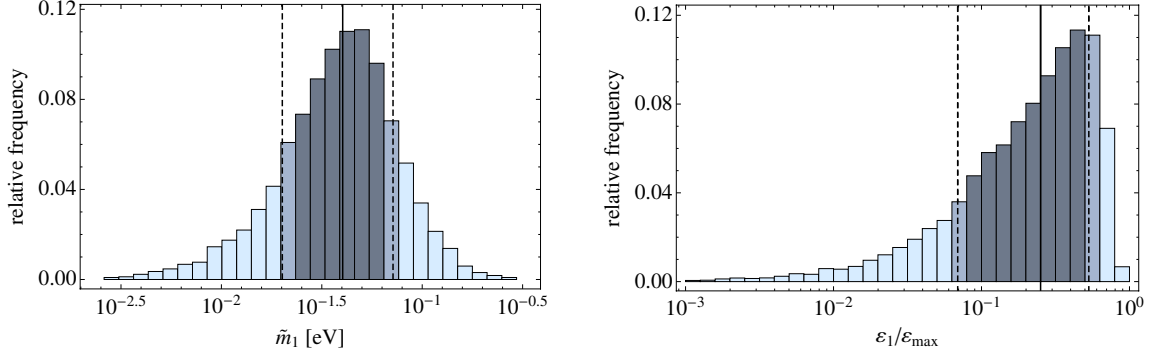


FIG. 21 Relative frequency for the leptogenesis parameters $\tilde{m}_1$ (left) and ε_1 (right). The solid lines denote the position of the median and the dashed lines are the boundaries of the 68% confidence region. From (Buchmuller *et al.*, 2012a).

contain important information about the theory at the GUT scale.

In a similar way there are qualitative and quantitative hints for GUT-scale leptogenesis (see Table II). Interactions in GUTs change baryon and lepton number, and the spontaneous breaking of $B-L$ can generate large Majorana masses for right-handed neutrinos, the basis of leptogenesis. If Yukawa couplings in the neutrino sector are similar to Yukawa coupling for quarks and charged leptons, the seesaw formula (67) automatically yields the right order of magnitude of the neutrino mass scale in terms of Fermi scale $v_{EW} \sim 100$ GeV and the GUT scale $v_{GUT} \sim 10^{15}$ GeV,

$$m_\nu \sim \frac{v_{EW}^2}{v_{GUT}} \sim 10^{-2} \text{ eV}. \quad (127)$$

A generic prediction of leptogenesis is that also light neutrinos are Majorana fermions, which can be probed in neutrino-less double β -decay. Moreover, GUTs connect Yukawa matrices in the neutrino sector with those in the charged lepton and quark sectors. This leads to predictions for neutrino masses and mixings and to relations among the phases which yield the CP violation necessary for leptogenesis.

As an example, consider a pattern of Dirac neutrino and charged lepton mass matrices which can be obtained in the context of a Froggatt-Nielsen (FN) U(1) flavour symmetry (Irges *et al.*, 1998; Sato and Yanagida, 1998),

$$m_\nu \sim \frac{v_{EW}^2 \sin^2 \beta}{v_{B-L}} \eta^{2a} \begin{pmatrix} \eta^2 & \eta & \eta \\ \eta & 1 & 1 \\ \eta & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (128)$$

$$m_e \sim v_{EW} \cos \beta \eta^a \begin{pmatrix} \eta^3 & \eta^2 & \eta \\ \eta^2 & \eta & 1 \\ \eta^2 & \eta & 1 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (129)$$

The model has two Higgs doublets, H_u and H_d , which replace ϕ and $\tilde{\phi}$ in Eq. (66), respectively, and

$v_{EW} = \sqrt{\langle H_u \rangle^2 + \langle H_d \rangle^2}$. The vacuum expectation value $v_{B-L} \sim v_{GUT}$ breaks $B-L$, and $\tan \beta = \langle H_u \rangle / \langle H_d \rangle$. $\eta = 1/\sqrt{300}$ is the hierarchy parameter of the FN model, and a and $a+1$ are the FN charges of the 5^* -plets in an SU(5) GUT model (Buchmuller and Yanagida, 1999). m_ν is determined by the seesaw formula (67) where the FN charges of the right-handed neutrinos drop out. $\mathcal{O}(1)$ factors in the mass matrices remain unspecified in an FN model.

In order to find out whether a certain pattern of mass matrices can describe the measured data it is instructive to treat $\mathcal{O}(1)$ parameters as random numbers and to perform a statistical analysis (Hall *et al.*, 2000; Sato and Yanagida, 2000; Vissani, 2001). A detailed study taking the two measured neutrino mass-squared differences and two mixing angles as input was performed in (Buchmuller *et al.*, 2012a). The parameter scan leads to a prediction for the ‘most likely’ values of the third mixing angle and for phases of the light-neutrino mass matrix. Choosing $\tan \beta \in [1, 60]$, with $\sin \beta \in [1/\sqrt{2}, 1)$, the parameter $a \in [0, 1]$ is fixed by the normalization of m_e . The effective $B-L$ breaking scale $\bar{v}_{B-L} = v_{B-L}/(\sin^2 \beta \eta^{2a})$ is determined by the normalization of m_ν and peaks at $\bar{v}_{B-L} = 1 \times 10^{15}$ GeV, i.e., close to the GUT scale. The most interesting quantities for leptogenesis are the effective light neutrino mass $\tilde{m}_1$ (see Eq. (105)), the CP asymmetry ε_1 (see Eq. (76)) and the absolute neutrino mass scale $\bar{m}$ (see Eq. (105)) or, equivalently, m_1 . The statistical analysis (see Fig. 21) implies normal hierarchy with the neutrino masses

$$m_1 = 2.2_{-1.4}^{+1.7} \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}, \quad \tilde{m}_1 = 4.0_{-2.0}^{+3.1} \times 10^{-2} \text{ eV}, \quad (130)$$

and the CP asymmetry

$$\frac{\varepsilon_1}{\varepsilon_{\max}} = 0.25_{-0.18}^{+0.28}, \quad (131)$$

where the maximal CP asymmetry $\varepsilon_{\max}$ is given in Eq. (109). Note that the values for m_1 and $\tilde{m}_1$ lie inside the neutrino mass window (111). From Eqs. (104), (108),

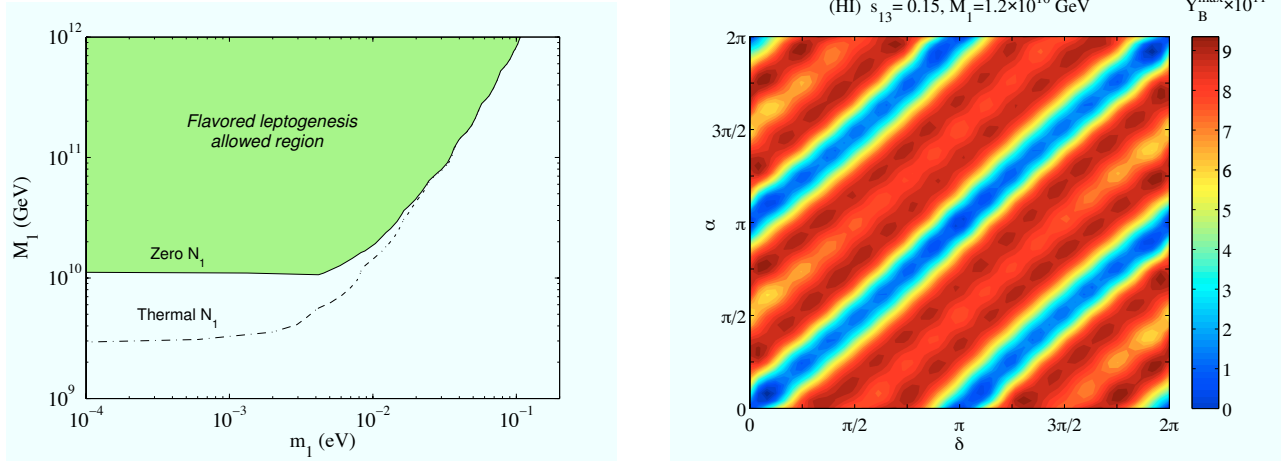


FIG. 22 Left: Region of successful flavoured leptogenesis in the (m_1, M_1) plane for zero and thermal initial N_1 abundance. Right: Correlation between Dirac phase and Majorana phase yielding maximal baryon asymmetry (normal hierarchy). From (Branco *et al.*, 2007).

(130) and (131) one obtains a lower bound on the mass of N_1 , $M_1/\sin^2\beta \gtrsim 3 \times 10^{11}$ GeV, in accord with Fig. 15. Hence, an SU(5) GUT model that successfully describes the light neutrino masses also naturally explains the observed matter-antimatter asymmetry.

Neutrinoless double-beta decay is sensitive to the effective mass m_{ee} for which one obtains $m_{ee} = 1.5_{-0.8}^{+0.9} \times 10^{-3}$ eV. Cosmological observations measure the sum of neutrino masses, determined as $m_{\text{tot}} = 6.0_{-0.3}^{+0.3} \times 10^{-2}$ eV. Similar statistical analyses have been carried out by several groups, see, for example (Altarelli *et al.*, 2012; Lu and Murayama, 2014). If the condition $\det(m_\nu) = 0$ is imposed on the light neutrino mass matrix, the statistical analysis is also sensitive on the leptonic Dirac phase δ_L (Kaneta *et al.*, 2017).

An important ingredient of leptogenesis are the CP-violating phases in the neutrino mass matrices (Branco *et al.*, 2012a; Hagedorn *et al.*, 2018). Three low-energy phases appear in the light-neutrino mass matrix, the Dirac phase δ and the two Majorana phases α , β . At present there is evidence for the Dirac neutrino phase, $\delta \approx 3\pi/2$ (Abe *et al.*, 2020), and the observation of neutrinoless double-beta decay would constrain the Majorana phases α and β . In the one-flavour approximation, phases beyond the measurable low-energy phases are needed to obtain a non-vanishing CP asymmetry ε_1 . It is therefore interesting that flavour effects can yield a non-zero CP asymmetry even for vanishing high-energy phases (Blanchet and Di Bari, 2007; Branco *et al.*, 2007; Nardi *et al.*, 2006b; Pascoli *et al.*, 2007). This effect has been studied in the two-flavour regime 10^9 GeV $< M_1 < 10^{12}$ GeV in Ref. (Branco *et al.*, 2007), assuming that CP violation arises just from the left-handed neutrino sector. Successful leptogenesis is obtained for 10^{10} GeV $< M_1 < 10^{12}$ GeV and $m_1 < 0.1$ eV (see

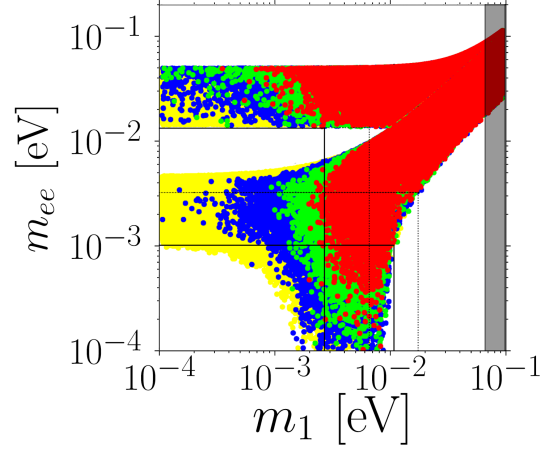


FIG. 23 Scatter plot in the (m_1, m_{ee}) -plane where the washout of large initial asymmetries is required, $N_{B-L}^i = 0.1$ (red), 0.01(green), 0.001(blue); the vertical lines indicate the values of m_1 in the three cases beyond which 99% of the scatter points are found. From (Di Bari *et al.*, 2014).

Fig. 22, left panel), and a relation between Dirac phase and one Majorana phase can be read off from the right panel of Fig. 22. It is quite conceivable that in some GUT models CP violation can be restricted to the left-handed neutrino sector, which could establish a connection between low-energy phases and leptogenesis.

The absolute neutrino mass scale plays an important role for washout processes. In the one-flavour approximation it was shown that the generated lepton asymmetry becomes rather insensitive to an initial lepton asymmetry of different origin for light neutrino masses in the strong washout regime, $m_i \gtrsim 10^{-3}$ eV (Buchmüller *et al.*, 2003). However, this lower bound on

neutrino masses is sensitive to flavour processes. In a range of parameter space where the asymmetry generation is dominated by N_2 and washout processes by N_1 , respectively, this has been analyzed in (Di Bari *et al.*, 2014). Some results of a parameter scan are shown for the (m_1, m_{ee}) -plane in Fig. 23. Large initial asymmetries, $N_{B-L}^i = 0.1$ (red), 0.01(green), 0.001(blue), can be erased for $m_1 \gtrsim 10$ meV. This has to be compared with cosmological bounds on m_{tot} . A combined analysis of CMB and Lyman-alpha data yields the upper bound $m_{\text{tot}} < 0.12$ eV (Palanque-Delabrouille *et al.*, 2015), which is consistent²⁰ with recent Planck data combined with lensing and BAO data (Aghanim *et al.*, 2018). A measurement of a total neutrino mass $m_{\text{tot}} \sim 100$ meV with an uncertainty of ~ 10 meV is challenging, but it would have a strong impact on our understanding of leptogenesis.

The connection between leptogenesis and GUT models has been studied in many explicit models. For examples and references, see (Altarelli and Feruglio, 2010; Mohapatra and Smirnov, 2006).

F. Towards a theory of leptogenesis

Thermal leptogenesis is a nonequilibrium process taking place in an expanding universe with decreasing temperature. Traditionally it has been treated using a set of Boltzmann equations containing S -matrix elements which assume scattering in vacuum rather than in a hot plasma. Quantum interference plays a key role in generating the asymmetry, and it is important to understand whether and how this is affected by the presence of the plasma. Furthermore, the role of gauge interactions has long been unclear, and it turned out that they can be quite important.

Fortunately, leptogenesis is relatively simple compared to electroweak baryogenesis since

- (1) It is homogeneous.
- (2) Very few degrees of freedom are involved. Therefore most degrees of freedom are in thermal equilibrium.
- (3) The neutrino Yukawa couplings are very small. Therefore there is at least one very good set of expansion parameters, allowing for well controlled perturbative approximations.

Then, given the model, the values of the parameters, and the initial condition one can systematically compute the produced asymmetry in a controlled perturbative expansion.

1. Effective kinetic equations

In the limit of vanishing neutrino Yukawa couplings h_{ij}^ν some key quantities, such as $B - L$ and the phase space density of sterile neutrinos are covariantly conserved. Since the h_{ij}^ν are very small, these quantities change very slowly. On the other hand, many SM interactions, the so-called spectator processes, are very fast, leading to a hierarchy of time scales. Furthermore, the bulk of the degrees of freedom of the system participates in the spectator processes, giving rise to a well defined temperature.

The time evolution of the slowly changing quantities is determined by classical equations. When their values are sufficiently close to their equilibrium values the equations are linear. Since the time evolution is slow, only first time derivatives appear.²¹ The coefficients in the equations only depend on the temperature and can be written in terms of real time correlation functions evaluated at finite temperature, so that all medium effects are included. For weak coupling these coefficients can be systematically calculated in perturbation theory.

For illustration, consider the simple case that by the time the baryon asymmetry is produced, the temperature is much smaller than the mass of the lightest sterile neutrino $N \equiv N_1$. Then the sterile neutrinos are non-relativistic, and their motion can be neglected. Furthermore, assume $M_i \gg M_1$ for the other sterile neutrinos, so that their density can be neglected. Finally assume that the temperature is so high that none of the charged lepton Yukawa interactions are fast. Then the only slow quantities are the density of the lightest sterile neutrino n_N and $B - L$, and the non-equilibrium system is described by the effective kinetic equations (Bodeker and Wormann, 2014)

$$\dot{n}_N + 3Hn_N = -\Gamma_N (n_N - n_N^{\text{eq}}) + \Gamma_{N,B-L} n_{B-L}, \quad (132)$$

$$\dot{n}_{B-L} + 3Hn_{B-L} = \Gamma_{B-L,N} (n_N - n_N^{\text{eq}}) - \Gamma_{B-L} n_{B-L}. \quad (133)$$

while the rest of the degrees of freedom is determined by the temperature T . The coefficients Γ_i only depend on T . Note that Eqs. (132), (133) have the same form as Eqs. (90) and (99). However, to arrive at Eqs. (132), (133), no Boltzmann equation or S -matrix was used, the only ingredient was the separation of time scales. Correspondingly, Eqs. (132), (133) are valid to all orders in

²⁰ Note, however, that based on CMB, BAO, lensing and galaxy counts also evidence for a non-vanishing total neutrino mass has been claimed, $m_{\text{tot}} = (0.320 \pm 0.081)$ eV (Battye and Moss, 2014). This result is in tension with leptogenesis.

²¹ A restriction to first order in derivatives is first approximation in an expansion in derivatives. The corresponding expansion parameter is the ratio $\Gamma/\omega_{\text{spec}}$, where Γ is a typical rate at which the slow variables are changing. Such corrections may be important in leptogenesis through oscillations (Abada *et al.*, 2019).

the SM coupling, and the coefficients include the effect of all possible processes.

While describing the simplest possible case, Eqs. (132), (133) already display the general structure of all kinetic equations describing leptogenesis. In general, the sterile neutrinos must be described by phase space densities, depending not only on time but also on momentum. This is because relativistic effects can be important, and because the rates which change the momenta of sterile neutrinos are parametrically of the same size as for the change of number densities, so that one can not always assume kinetic equilibrium. Another generalization is that the densities turn into flavour-space matrices of densities, and that the spin of the sterile neutrinos has to be accounted for as well.

The rate coefficients can be computed as follows. Even in thermal equilibrium, physical quantities fluctuate around their equilibrium values, and the fluctuations of slowly varying variables are described by the same kinetic equations as the deviations from equilibrium.²² Therefore one can compute unequal time correlation functions of slow variables using the effective kinetic equations. By matching the result to the same correlation function computed in quantum field theory at frequencies $\Gamma_i \ll \omega \ll \omega_{\text{spec}}$ one can relate the Γ_i to correlation functions of SM operators evaluated at finite temperature (Bodeker and Laine, 2014).²³ The most important correlation function which one encounters is the two-point spectral function of the operator to which the sterile neutrinos couple in (see Eq. (66)),

$$\tilde{\rho}_i(p) \equiv \frac{1}{3} \int d^4x e^{ip \cdot x} \left\langle \left\{ (\phi^\dagger l_i)(x), (\bar{l}_i \phi)(0) \right\} \right\rangle, \quad (134)$$

where the expectation value is taken in an equilibrium ensemble of Standard Model fields only. For example, the $\Delta L = 1$ washout rate in the one-flavour regime can be written as (Bodeker and Laine, 2014)

$$\Gamma_{B-L} = |h^\nu|^2 \mathcal{W} \Xi^{-1} \quad (135)$$

with

$$\mathcal{W} = - \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{f'_F(E_1)}{2E_1} \text{tr} \left\{ \not{p} [\tilde{\rho}(p) + \tilde{\rho}(-p)] \right\} \quad (136)$$

where $p^0 = E_1$. Furthermore,

$$\Xi \equiv \frac{1}{TV} \langle (B - L)^2 \rangle \quad (137)$$

²² The only difference is that the equations for the fluctuations contain a noise term representing the fluctuations of the fast variables (see §118 of Ref. (Landau and Lifshitz, 1980)).

²³ The condition $\omega \gg \Gamma_i$ ensures that one does not need to resum neutrino Yukawa interactions.

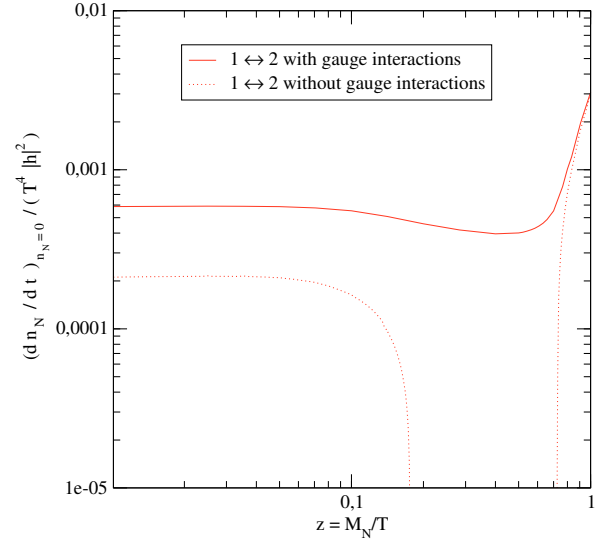


FIG. 24 Number of produced Majorana neutrino per unit time and unit volume as function of the temperature for $M_N = 10^7$ GeV. The dotted curve is the result with thermal masses included but without any soft gauge interactions. The full line includes an arbitrary number of soft gauge interactions as shown in Fig. 25. From (Anisimov *et al.*, 2011b).

is the $B - L$ susceptibility. Its value depends on which reactions are fast, i.e., which spectator processes are active. At very high temperatures $T \gg 10^{13}$, where only SM gauge interactions and the top Yukawa interactions are fast, the leading order susceptibility is $\Xi = T^2/4$. Eq. 135 illustrates the general structure of the rates which consist of a spectral function, which is a real-time dependent quantity, and an inverse susceptibility, which is determined by equilibrium thermodynamics. It can be compared with Eq. (100). When SM interactions are neglected, $\mathcal{W}$ is proportional to the rate γ_N . Furthermore, Ξ is then proportional to $\int d^3p f_F(1 - f_F)$ where f_F is the Fermi distribution function. Approximating this by Boltzmann statistics, Ξ is proportional to n_l^{eq} .

The rate Γ_N in Eq. (132) contains the same spectral function as Γ_{B-L} (Bodeker *et al.*, 2016; Laine and Schroder, 2012). In fact, for leptogenesis through sterile-neutrino oscillations, all coefficients in the kinetic equations can be written in terms of the spectral function in Eq. (134) (Bodeker and Schroder, 2019b; Ghiglieri and Laine, 2017).

When computing the rates Γ_i in perturbation theory, one has to distinguish several temperature regimes. The non-relativistic case $T \ll M_1$ is mostly relevant for thermal leptogenesis in the strong-washout regime, while leptogenesis through oscillations proceeds entirely in the ultra-relativistic regime $T \gtrsim M_1/g_{\text{SM}}$, where g_{SM} denotes a combination of electroweak gauge and top Yukawa coupling.

When $T \lesssim M_1$ at leading order in the couplings the

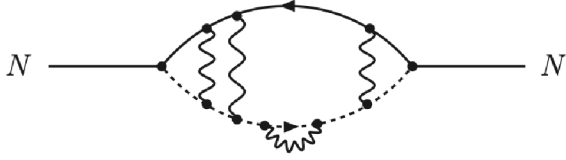


FIG. 25 Self-energy diagram with soft gauge bosons for Majorana neutrino N , whose imaginary part contributes to leading order to the N -production rate. From (Anisimov *et al.*, 2011b).

rates are determined by decays and inverse decays. In addition to these $\Delta L = 1$ processes, for the washout rate Γ_{B-L} one has to take into account $\Delta L = 2$ processes, even though these are $\mathcal{O}((h^\nu)^4)$, and thus appear to be highly suppressed. Nevertheless they play a crucial role at late times when $T \ll M_{N_1}$: Then the $\Delta L = 1$ rate is Boltzmann suppressed with $\exp(-M_N/T)$, while the $\Delta L = 2$ rate is only power-suppressed, so that it eventually dominates at low T .²⁴ Since it plays a role only at $T \ll M_1$, it can be obtained by integrating out the sterile neutrinos. Then it is not determined by the correlator in Eq. (134), but instead by the two-point function of the operator in Eq. (74 which contains two Higgs and two lepton fields (Sangel, 2016-08-22).

For $T \gtrsim M_1$ Eq. (132) is replaced by an equation for the phase space density with a momentum dependent Γ_N ,²⁵

$$\dot{f}_N + 3H\mathbf{p} \cdot \frac{\partial f_N}{\partial \mathbf{p}} = -\Gamma_N(\mathbf{p})(f_N - f_N^{\text{eq}}) + \dots \quad (138)$$

On the other hand, the asymmetry is still described by a space density because it is carried by SM particles which are kept in kinetic equilibrium by the fast gauge interactions,

$$\dot{n}_{B-L} + 3Hn_{B-L} = \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \Gamma_{B-L,N}(\mathbf{p})(f_N - f_N^{\text{eq}}) + \dots \quad (139)$$

In the ultra-relativistic regime plasma effects have a profound influence on the rates, and gauge interactions are dominant. While at $T \lesssim M_1$ the $2 \rightarrow 2$ scatterings are higher order, the (inverse) decays are phase space suppressed when $T \gg M_1$. Without taking into account thermal masses, the $2 \rightarrow 2$ scatterings would be dominant as can be seen in Fig. 14 (left). However when the thermal masses of the SM particles are

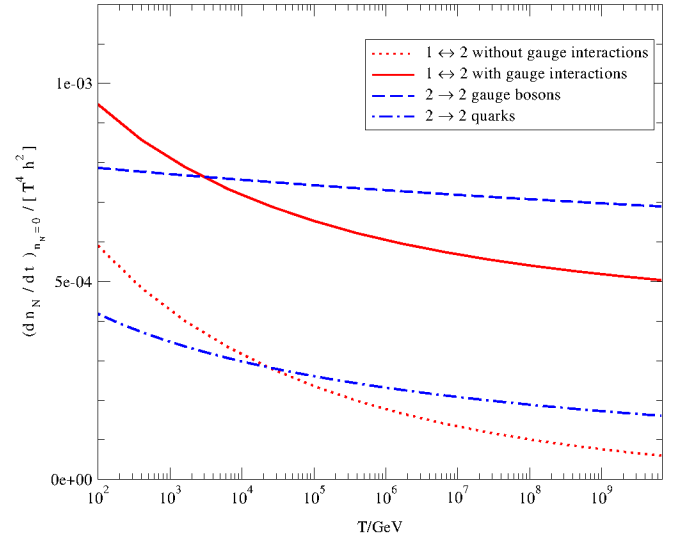


FIG. 26 Number of produced massless Majorana neutrino per unit time and unit volume as function of the temperature. All leading order contributions are shown. $1 \leftrightarrow 2$ are the (inverse) decay processes without and with multiple scattering mediated by soft gauge bosons displayed in Fig. 24. The $2 \rightarrow 2$ scattering contributions involving gauge bosons are of similar size and dominate at high T , while the top quark scattering is always subdominant. From (Besak and Bodeker, 2012).

included, both types of processes contribute at leading order.²⁶ The resulting production rate at vanishing density, $(dn_N/dt)_{n_N=0} = 2(2\pi)^{-3} \int d^3p \Gamma_N(\mathbf{p}) f_N^{\text{eq}}$, is shown in Fig. 24 (dotted line). At high temperatures the rate is due to Higgs decays which are made possible by the large thermal Higgs mass. For small sterile neutrino mass this could be the main source of the baryon asymmetry (Hambye and Teresi, 2016). Additional multiple interactions mediated by soft gauge bosons turn out to be of crucial importance and have to be resummed (Landau-Pomeranchuk-Migdal (LPM) resummation) (see Fig. 25), giving rise to the full curve in Fig. 24 (Anisimov *et al.*, 2011b).²⁷ The same results in the limit $T \gg M_1$ are shown in Fig. 26, together with the $2 \rightarrow 2$ scattering rates. The LPM resummed (inverse) decays and the $2 \rightarrow 2$ give similar contributions, the latter dominate at higher temperatures. The contributions involving gauge bosons increase the total rate by almost an order of magnitude compared to the top quark scattering shown in Fig. 14.

²⁴ This causes the kink of Γ_W in Fig. 14 (left).

²⁵ Eqs. (123)-(125) are obtained by the simplifying assumption that the sterile neutrinos are in kinetic equilibrium, even though they only interact through their slow Yukawa interaction. The full momentum dependence is treated in (Asaka *et al.*, 2012).

²⁶ Except for scalar particles, thermal masses are not uniquely defined. The ones which are relevant here are the so-called asymptotic masses, valid for momenta of order T .

²⁷ Note, that after the summation of soft gauge bosons spurious gaps disappear which are caused by kinematical thresholds due to thermal masses. Such gaps are present in the treatment of thermal corrections in (Giudice *et al.*, 2004).

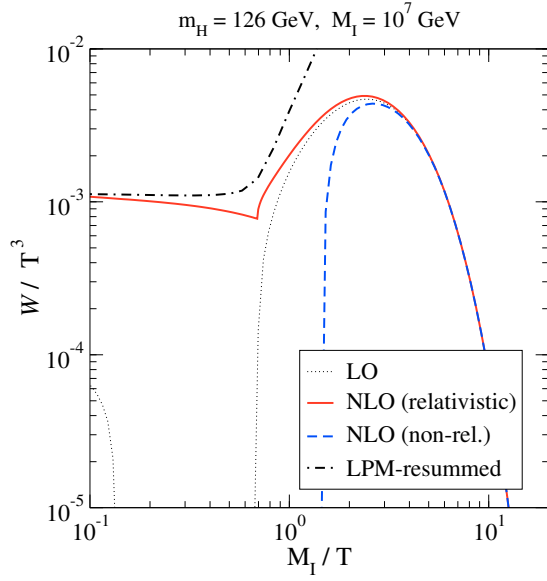


FIG. 27 The function $\mathcal{W}$ appearing in the washout rate in Eq. (135). Shown are the LO result including thermal masses (dotted line); the relativistic NLO result the NLO result in the non-relativistic approximation (dashed line). Also shown is the LO LPM-resummed result valid in the ultrarelativistic regime $M_I \lesssim gT$ (dash-dotted line). From (Bodeker and Laine, 2014).

Since all rates for leptogenesis can be written in terms of finite-temperature correlation functions one can systematically compute higher-order SM corrections, of which there are two types. The first are corrections to the susceptibilities, which are related the chemical potentials to the asymmetry densities. These are relatively simple to compute because they are thermodynamic quantities involving no time dependence. The corrections to the susceptibilities already start at order g_{SM} , and are less than 30% (Bodeker and Laine, 2014; Bodeker and Sangel, 2015). The occurrence of odd powers of the coupling is typical for infrared effects in thermal field theory, and in this case are due to soft Higgs exchange. The second type are corrections to spectral functions like in Eq. (134) which are of order g_{SM}^2 . These are more difficult to compute since they are real-time correlation functions. For the non-relativistic limit where Eqs. (132), (133) hold, the rates Γ_N and the washout rate have been computed at order g_{SM}^2 in a high-temperature expansion (Bodeker and Laine, 2014; Laine and Schroder, 2012; Salvio *et al.*, 2011). The most interesting one $\Gamma_{B-L,N}$ which is responsible for the asymmetry is also the most difficult one to calculate, it is related to the three-point function of the operators appearing in Eq. (134) (Bodeker and Sangel, 2017), rather than the two-point function. In the region where the high-temperature expansion is applicable, the corrections are a few percent. The NLO production rate was computed in the relativistic regime $T \sim M_1$ in

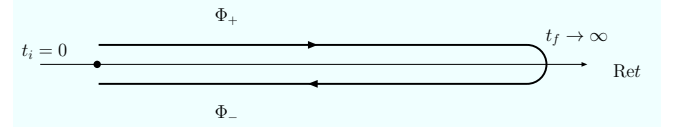


FIG. 28 Path in the complex time plane for nonequilibrium Green's functions.

(Laine, 2013), and to the washout rate (Bodeker and Laine, 2014), see Fig. 27.

In the strong washout regime (see Eq. (106) the relativistic corrections and the radiative corrections to Γ_N affect the produced baryon asymmetry at the level of a few per cent (Bodeker and Wormann, 2014). The corrections to the $\Delta L = 1$ washout rate Γ_{B-L} , to the asymmetry rate $\Gamma_{B-L,N}$, and to the $\Delta L = 2$ washout rate (Sangel, 2016-08-22) were not included in this analysis, but they are of similar size as the corrections to Γ_N , and are not expected to lead to larger corrections to the produced asymmetry.

2. Kadanoff-Baym equations

Leptogenesis involves quantum interferences in a crucial manner, so that the standard approach by means of classical Boltzmann equations may appear problematic. Using the Schwinger-Keldysh, or closed-time-path formalism (Keldysh, 1964; Schwinger, 1961), a full quantum field-theoretical treatment of leptogenesis can be based on Green's functions (Buchmuller and Fredenhagen, 2000). In the Schwinger-Keldysh formalism one considers Green's functions Δ on a complex time contour starting at some initial time t_i (see Fig. 28). They satisfy Schwinger-Dyson equations with self-energies Π_C ,

$$(\square_1 + m^2)\Delta_C(x_1, x_2) + \int_C d^4x' \Pi_C(x_1, x') \Delta_C(x', x_2) = -i\delta_C(x_1 - x_2). \quad (140)$$

It is convenient to consider two particular correlation functions, the spectral functions Δ^- , which contain information about the system, and the statistical propagators Δ^+ , which depends on the initial state at time t_i ,

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta^+(x_1, x_2) &= \frac{1}{2} \langle \{\Phi(x_1), \Phi(x_2)\} \rangle, \\ \Delta^-(x_1, x_2) &= i \langle [\Phi(x_1), \Phi(x_2)] \rangle. \end{aligned} \quad (141)$$

These correlation functions satisfy the Kadanoff-Baym

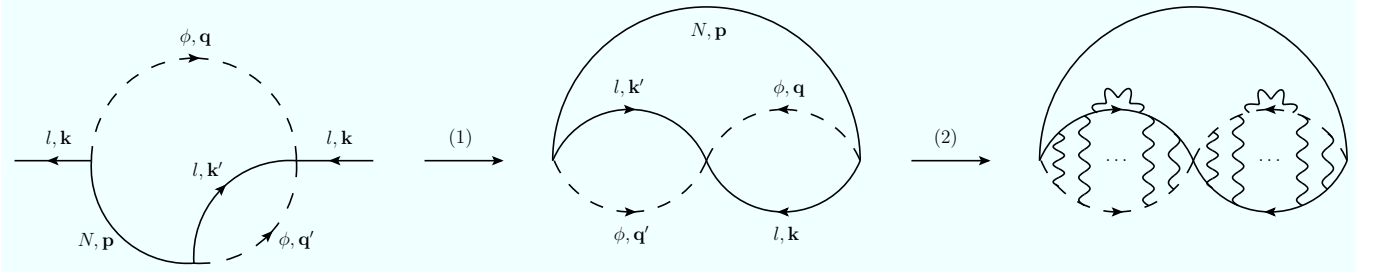


FIG. 29 Transformation of the lepton self-energy diagram to a ‘cylinder’ diagram amenable to resummation. From (Depta *et al.*, 2020).

equations (Baym and Kadanoff, 1961; Berges, 2004)

$$\begin{aligned}\square_{1,\mathbf{q}}\Delta_{\mathbf{q}}^-(t_1, t_2) &= - \int_{t_2}^{t_1} dt' \Pi_{\mathbf{q}}^-(t_1, t') \Delta_{\mathbf{q}}^-(t', t_2) , \\ \square_{1,\mathbf{q}}\Delta_{\mathbf{q}}^+(t_1, t_2) &= - \int_{t_i}^{t_1} dt' \Pi_{\mathbf{q}}^-(t_1, t') \Delta_{\mathbf{q}}^+(t', t_2) \quad (142) \\ &\quad + \int_{t_i}^{t_2} dt' \Pi_{\mathbf{q}}^+(t_1, t') \Delta_{\mathbf{q}}^-(t', t_2) ,\end{aligned}$$

where we have assumed spatial homogeneity and $\square_{1,\mathbf{q}} = (\partial_{t_1}^2 + m^2 + \mathbf{q}^2)$ is the d’Alembert operator for a particular momentum mode $\mathbf{q}$.

For leptogenesis one has to consider two Green’s functions, $S_{Lij}^\pm(x, x')$ for the lepton doublets, where i, j denote lepton flavour, and $G^\pm(x, x')$ for the heavy Majorana neutrino. The lepton current is given by

$$j_{ij}^\mu(x) = -\text{tr}[\gamma^\mu S_{Lij}^+(x, x)]|_{x' \rightarrow x} . \quad (143)$$

The nonequilibrium leptogenesis process is a transition from some initial state to a final state with non-zero chemical potential in thermal equilibrium. To compare results from Boltzmann equations and Kadanoff-Baym equations, a simplified case has been considered in Ref. (Anisimov *et al.*, 2010), focussing on the CP-violating source term for the asymmetry and ignoring washout terms and Hubble expansion. This corresponds to evaluating the initial lepton asymmetry, generated until the heavy neutrino reaches thermal equilibrium, starting from zero initial abundance. Since we consider a spatially homogeneous system, it is convenient to perform a Fourier expansion. For a momentum mode $\mathbf{k}$ diagonal elements of the charge density matrix can be interpreted as differences of phase space distribution functions for leptons and anti-leptons,

$$L_{kii}(t, t) = -\text{tr}[\gamma_0 S_{Lkij}^+(t, t)] = f_i(t, k) - f_{\bar{i}}(t, k) . \quad (144)$$

Note that, contrary to a system in thermal equilibrium, the distribution functions are time dependent.

The calculation of the asymmetry starts from a Green’s function for the heavy neutrino that interpolates between

a free Greens’ function and an equilibrium Green’s function (Anisimov *et al.*, 2009). The lepton asymmetry is then obtained from two-loop diagram (Anisimov *et al.*, 2011a) on the left in Fig. IV.F.2. In this calculation the effect of soft gauge boson exchange turns out to be of crucial importance. For the production of heavy neutrinos they have already been included in (Anisimov *et al.*, 2011b) (see Figs. 25 and 24). For the CP asymmetry their effect has been estimated by introducing phenomenological thermal widths (Anisimov *et al.*, 2011a). Recently, the summation over soft gauge bosons could also be completed for the CP asymmetry (Depta *et al.*, 2020). The strategy for calculating the lepton asymmetry is illustrated in Fig. IV.F.2. Integrating over lepton momenta corresponds to closing the external lepton line, and summation of the gauge-boson interactions leads to the double-blob diagram in Fig. IV.F.2. The corresponding expression for the lepton asymmetry has been evaluated using a combination of analytical and numerical techniques. The result takes the form

$$n_{L,ii}(t) = \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} L_{kii}(t, t) = -\varepsilon_{ii} F(T) \frac{1}{\Gamma} (1 - e^{-\Gamma t}) , \quad (145)$$

where Γ is the thermal N decay width and $F(T)$ is given as a complicated momentum integral. The results for Boltzmann equations and Kadanoff-Baym equations with thermal widths have the same form, with different functions $F(T)$ (Anisimov *et al.*, 2011a). The generated asymmetries are compared in Fig. 30 for the different cases. The generated final lepton asymmetries differ by factors $\mathcal{O}(1)$.

At first sight, the simple time dependence of the asymmetry (145) may appear surprising. However, it is easily understood as consequence of the effective kinetic equations (132), (133) for distribution functions. For constant temperature, the equation for n_N has the solution $n_N(t) = n_N^{\text{eq}}(1 - \exp(-\Gamma t))$ (Anisimov *et al.*, 2010) and, neglecting washout effects, the solution for n_{B-L} simply inherits this time dependence. Viewed in this way, solving Kadanoff-Baym equations appears as a way to calculate coefficients in effective kinetic equations.

The Kadanoff-Baym equations have also been used

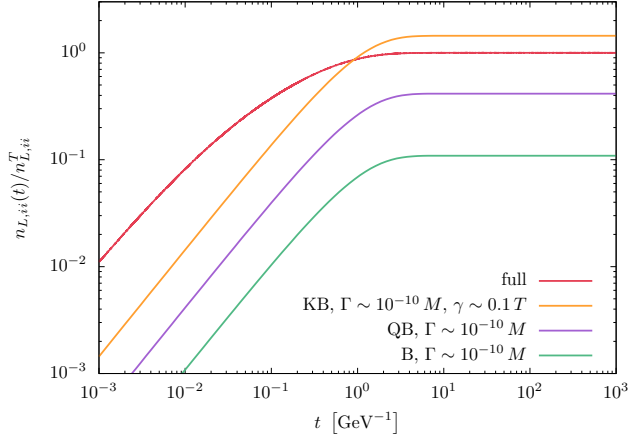


FIG. 30 Comparison of the Kadanoff-Baym computation including LPM resummed gauge interactions (full) with Kadanoff-Baym equations containing thermal widths (KB), and with Boltzmann equations containing (inverse) sterile-neutrino decays using classical statistics (B), and quantum statistics (QB). The mass of the lightest heavy neutrino is 10^{10} GeV, the temperature is constant at 10^{11} GeV. This corresponds to the ultra-relativistic regime $T \gtrsim M/g_{\text{SM}}$ discussed above. From (Depta *et al.*, 2020).

to obtain effective equations of motion. This way corrections to the CP-violating parameter were obtained (Garny *et al.*, 2009, 2010) and the leading order asymmetry rate in the relativistic regime $T \sim M_1$ was computed (Beneke *et al.*, 2010). When lepton Yukawa interaction rates are of similar size as the Hubble parameter, these also have to be included in the network of kinetic equations, and the lepton asymmetries are described by matrices in flavour space that can account for the unflavoured as well as the fully flavoured regime (Beneke *et al.*, 2011). The case of resonant leptogenesis was considered in Ref. (De Simone and Riotto, 2007) and an approximate analytical solution was given in Ref. (Garny *et al.*, 2013). Leptogenesis through oscillations (Sec. IV.D) was treated in (Drewes and Garbrecht, 2013).

G. Leptogenesis, inflation and gravitational waves

Some evidence for GUT-scale leptogenesis may be obtained via the constraints which GUTs impose on neutrino masses and mixings and which influence the size of the lepton asymmetry. Similarly, leptogenesis is part of the early cosmological evolution and thereby related to the other two main puzzles in cosmology, dark matter and inflation. To work out these connections quantitatively is important to obtain a coherent and convincing picture of the early universe.

In this respect it is interesting that, complementary to

thermal leptogenesis, also nonthermal leptogenesis can be responsible for the baryon asymmetry of the universe. Here the thermal production of heavy neutrinos is replaced by some nonthermal production, such as inflaton decays (Asaka *et al.*, 1999, 2000; Hahn-Woernle and Plumacher, 2009; Lazarides and Shafi, 1991). In supersymmetric theories the reheating temperature is bounded from above by the requirement to avoid overproduction of gravitinos. If the gravitino is the lightest superparticle (LSP), it can be stable and form dark matter. Otherwise, LSP dark matter can be produced in gravitino decays (Gherghetta *et al.*, 1999). An exciting possibility is that GUT-scale leptogenesis might be directly probed by primordial gravitational waves (GWs). GWs from inflation can have a characteristic kink in their spectrum indicating the change from an early matter dominated phase to the radiation dominated phase and in this way allow for a measurement of the reheating temperature (Nakayama *et al.*, 2008a,b) which is related to the energy scale of nonthermal leptogenesis. In general, however, the GW signal from inflation is too small to be observed any time soon. It is therefore important that GWs from cosmic strings can lead to a signal much stronger than the one from inflation (Buchmuller *et al.*, 2013b).

Such a cosmic-string network can form after the spontaneous breaking of a $U(1)$ symmetry (Hindmarsh, 2011), and the resulting GW spectrum has been evaluated for Abelian Higgs strings (Figueroa *et al.*, 2020, 2013) as well as Nambu Goto strings (Damour and Vilenkin, 2001; Kuroyanagi *et al.*, 2012; Siemens *et al.*, 2007). If a GUT group is broken to the product of a $U(1)$ factor and the SM gauge group without matter parity, the theory contains magnetic monopoles in addition to strings (Leblond *et al.*, 2009; Martin and Vilenkin, 1997; Vilenkin, 1982), and the string network becomes unstable. Recently, it has been pointed out that GWs from a metastable network of cosmic strings are quite a generic prediction of the seesaw mechanism (Dror *et al.*, 2020), and it has been shown that if $U(1)_{B-L}$ breaking is combined with hybrid inflation, a GW signal is predicted that is already observable by LIGO (Buchmuller *et al.*, 2019). In the following we shall illustrate the connection between leptogenesis and GWs by using cosmological $B-L$ breaking as an example (Buchmuller *et al.*, 2013a, 2012c).

The decay of a false vacuum of unbroken $B-L$ is an intriguing mechanism to generate the initial conditions of the hot early universe. With $B-L$ broken close to the GUT scale, the false-vacuum phase yields hybrid inflation (Linde, 1994) and ends in tachyonic preheating (Felder *et al.*, 2001) (see Fig. 31, left panel). After tachyonic preheating the evolution can be described by a system of Boltzmann equations. Decays of the $B-L$ breaking Higgs field and thermal processes produce an abundance of heavy (s)neutrinos whose decays generate the entropy of the hot early universe, the baryon asymmetry via leptogenesis, and dark matter in the form of the lightest su-

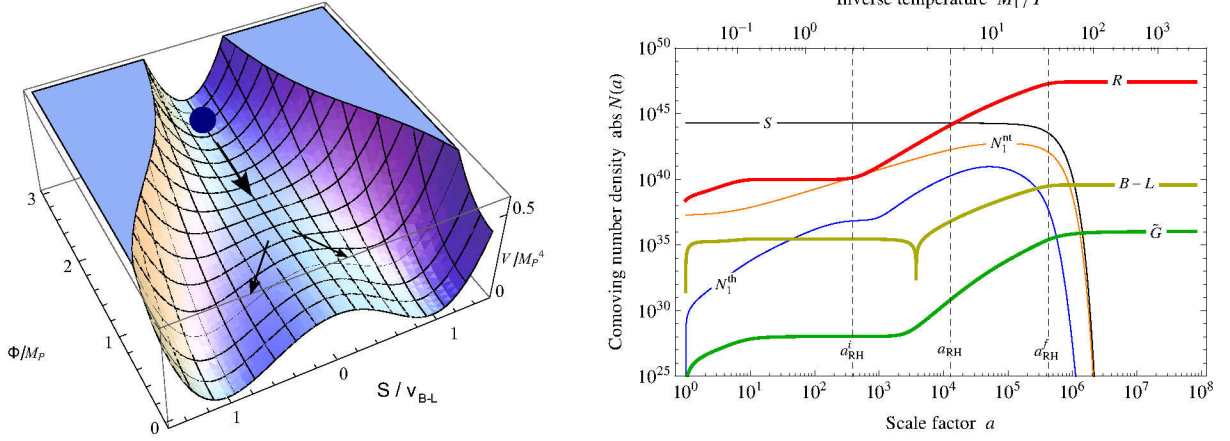


FIG. 31 Left: Hybrid inflation. The time evolution of the inflaton field Φ leads to a tachyonic mass of the waterfall field S which triggers a rapid transition to a phase with spontaneously broken $B-L$ symmetry. Right: Comoving number densities of the particles of the $B-L$ Higgs sector (S), the thermal and nonthermal (s)neutrinos ($N_1^{\text{th}}, N_1^{\text{nt}}$), the MSSM radiation (R), the gravitinos ($\tilde{G}$) and the $B-L$ asymmetry. Obtained by solving the Boltzmann equations for $v_{B-L} = 5 \times 10^{15}$ GeV, $M_1 = 5.4 \times 10^{10}$ GeV and $\tilde{m}_1 = 4.0 \times 10^{-2}$ eV. From (Buchmuller *et al.*, 2013a).

perparticle (Ellis *et al.*, 1984) (see Fig. 31, right panel).

The considered model is an extension of the supersymmetric Standard Model (MSSM) with three right-handed neutrinos that realizes spontaneous $U(1)_{B-L}$ breaking in the simplest possible way by using three SM-singlet chiral superfields, Φ , S_1 and S_2 (Fayet, 1975),

$$W = W_{\text{MSSM}} + h_{ij}^\nu \mathbf{5}_i^* n_j^c H_u + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} h_i^n n_i^c n_i^c S_1 + \lambda \Phi \left(\frac{v_{B-L}^2}{2} - S_1 S_2 \right) + W_0. \quad (146)$$

In unitary gauge, $S_{1,2} = S/\sqrt{2}$ correspond to the physical $B-L$ Higgs field, Φ plays the role of the inflaton and the constant W_0 is tuned to obtain vanishing vacuum energy; n_i^c contain the charge conjugates of the right-handed neutrinos, the SM leptons belong to the $SU(5)$ multiplets $\mathbf{5}^* = (d^c, \ell)$ and $\mathbf{10} = (q, u^c, e^c)$, and the two Higgs doublets are part of the $\mathbf{5}$ - and $\mathbf{5}^*$ -plets H_u and H_d , respectively. Quark and lepton Yukawa couplings are described in the usual way by W_{MSSM} . The flavour structure is chosen according to (Buchmuller and Yanagida, 1999) and has already been described in Section IV.E.

The $B-L$ breaking part of W is precisely the superpotential of F-term hybrid inflation (FHI) (Copeland *et al.*, 1994; Dvali *et al.*, 1994). It was widely believed that FHI could not account for the correct scalar spectral index of the CMB power spectrum but the analyses in (Bastero-Gil *et al.*, 2007; Buchmuller *et al.*, 2014; Nakayama *et al.*, 2010; Rehman *et al.*, 2010) showed that FHI is viable once the effect of supersymmetry (SUSY) breaking on the inflaton potential is taken into account. With an (almost) vanishing cosmological constant, SUSY breaking generates a constant term $W_0 \sim m_{3/2} M_{\text{Pl}}$ which leads to a

linear term proportional to $m_{3/2}$ in the inflaton potential (Buchmuller *et al.*, 2000). FHI now becomes a two-field model of inflation which can account for the measured scalar spectral index (Buchmuller *et al.*, 2014). The parameter range consistent with leptogenesis, inflation and neutralino DM, produced in gravitino decays, has been analyzed in (Buchmuller *et al.*, 2019). The result is shown in Fig. 32. For given values of $\tilde{m}_1$ and $m_{3/2}$, successful hybrid inflation selects a point in the $v_{B-L}-T_{\text{rh}}$ plane. The gray shading in Fig. 32 indicates the region where leptogenesis falls short of explaining the observed baryon asymmetry. Gravitino masses of $\mathcal{O}(1)$ TeV or larger point to a neutralino LSP, which is produced thermally as well as nonthermally in gravitino decays (Buchmuller *et al.*, 2012b). Gravitinos are in turn generated in decays of the $B-L$ Higgs field as well as from the thermal bath (for a discussion and references, see (Jeong and Takahashi, 2013)). Taking into account that gravitinos must decay early enough to preserve big bang nucleosynthesis (BBN) (Kawasaki *et al.*, 2018), as well as the LEP bound on charginos $m_{\text{LSP}} \gtrsim 100$ GeV (Tanabashi *et al.*, 2018), a higgsino or wino LSP can account for the observed DM relic density in the green-shaded region of Fig. 32. It is highly nontrivial that neutralino DM and leptogenesis can be successfully realized in the same parameter region. In summary, the viable parameter region of the described model is given by $v_{B-L} \simeq 3.0 \dots 5.8 \times 10^{15}$ GeV and $m_{3/2} \simeq 10$ TeV $\dots$ 10 PeV.

The considered flavour model corresponds to an embedding of $G_{\text{SM}} \times U(1)_{B-L}$ into the gauge group $SU(5) \times U(1)_{B-L}$, and the superpotential (146) is invariant under $G_{\text{SM}} \times \mathbb{Z}_2$. This leads to the production of stable cosmic strings in the $U(1)_{B-L}$ phase transition (Dror *et al.*, 2020). However, the model can also be embedded into

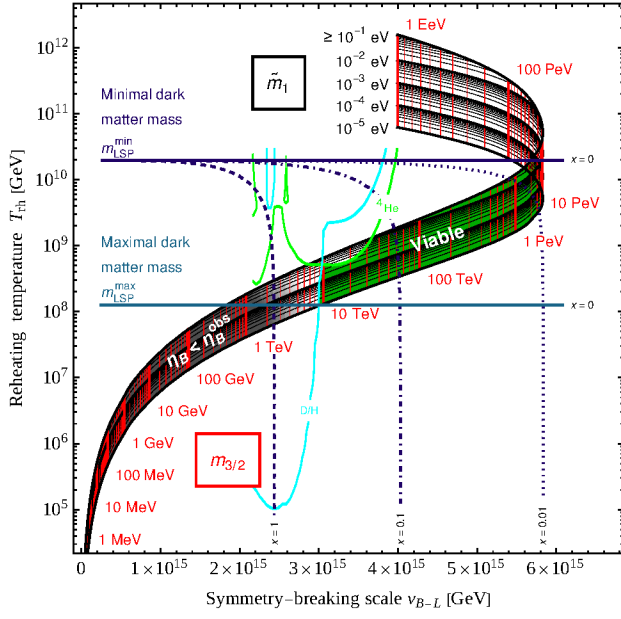


FIG. 32 Viable parameter space (green) for hybrid inflation, leptogenesis, neutralino DM, and big bang nucleosynthesis. Hybrid inflation and the dynamics of reheating correlate the parameters v_{B-L} , T_{rh} , $m_{3/2}$ and $\tilde{m}_1$ (black curves). Successful leptogenesis occurs outside the gray-shaded region. Neutralino DM is viable in the green region, corresponding to a higgsino (wino) with mass $100 \leq m_{LSP}/\text{GeV} \leq 1060$ (2680). From (Buchmuller *et al.*, 2019).

SO(10) (Asaka, 2003). This is achieved by the replacement in Eq. (146)

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} h_i^n n_i^c n_i^c S_1 \rightarrow \frac{1}{M_*} h_i^n n_i^c n_i^c S_1 S_1, \quad (147)$$

where the mass scale M_* is larger than the GUT scale. The heavy neutrino masses are now $M_i \propto v_{B-L}^2/M_*$. For M_* close to v_{B-L} , this replacement is accompanied by a rescaling of the $\mathcal{O}(1)$ factors of the flavour model. S_1 and S_2 become part of a $\mathbf{16}^*$ and $\mathbf{16}$, respectively, and a further $\mathbf{16}^* + \mathbf{16}$ pair together with a $\mathbf{10}$ is introduced to achieve an embedding of quarks and leptons that only respects SU(5) but not SO(10) (Nomura and Yanagida, 1999).

For the new superpotential, the final unbroken group is G_{SM} , and there can be no stable strings (Dror *et al.*, 2020). In the sequence of symmetry breakings (see also (Leblond *et al.*, 2009))

$$\text{SO}(10) \rightarrow G_{SM} \times \text{U}(1)_{B-L} \rightarrow G_{SM}, \quad (148)$$

the first step produces monopoles, while the second step produces cosmic strings. If cosmic inflation occurs after GUT but before $B-L$ breaking, any initial monopole population is diluted away. Cosmic strings can then

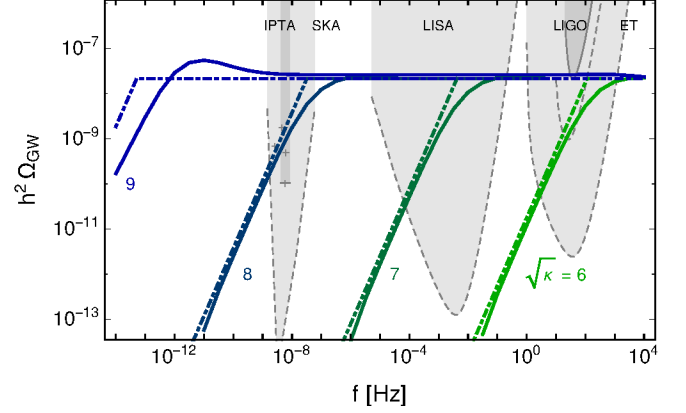


FIG. 33 GW spectrum for $G\mu = 2 \times 10^{-7}$. Different values of $\sqrt{\kappa}$ are indicated in different colors; the blue curve corresponds to a cosmic-string network surviving until today. The dot-dashed lines depict an analytical estimate. The (lighter) gray-shaded areas indicate the sensitivities of (planned) experiments SKA (Smits *et al.*, 2009), LISA (Audley *et al.*, 2017), LIGO (Abbott *et al.*, 2019) and ET (Maggiore *et al.*, 2020), the crosses within the SKA band indicate constraints by the IPTA (Verbiest *et al.*, 2016). From (Buchmuller *et al.*, 2019).

only decay via the Schwinger production of monopole-antimonopole pairs, leading to a metastable cosmic-string network. In this case, the decay rate per string unit length is (Leblond *et al.*, 2009; Monin and Voloshin, 2008, 2010)

$$\Gamma_d = \frac{\mu}{2\pi} \exp(-\pi\kappa), \quad (149)$$

with $\kappa = m^2/\mu$ denoting the ratio between the monopole mass $m \sim v_{GUT}$ and the cosmic-string tension μ . In Abelian field theories, one has $\mu = 2\pi B(\beta)v_{B-L}^2$ with $\beta = \lambda/(8g^2)$ and $B(\beta) = 2.4/\ln(2/\beta)$ for $\beta < 0.01$ (Hindmarsh, 2011). For an appropriate choice of $v_{B-L} < v_{GUT}$, the cosmic strings are sufficiently long-lived to give interesting GWs signatures but decay before emitting low-frequency GWs that are strongly constrained by pulsar timing arrays.

The network of cosmic strings formed during the $B-L$ phase transition acts as a source of GWs (Buchmuller *et al.*, 2013b). Modeling the evolution and GW emission of a cosmic-string network is a challenging task, resulting in several competing models in the literature, see (Auclair *et al.*, 2020) and references therein for a comprehensive review. Moreover, for metastable strings, the GW production from fast-moving monopoles requires further investigation (Leblond *et al.*, 2009; Vilenkin, 1982). The analysis in (Buchmuller *et al.*, 2019) has been based on the BOS model (Blanco-Pillado *et al.*, 2014) and for the first time the GW spectrum has been calculated for a

metastable string network. The GW spectrum reads

$$\Omega_{\text{GW}}(f) = \partial \rho_{\text{GW}}(f) / \rho_c \partial \ln f, \quad (150)$$

where ρ_{GW} and ρ_c are GW energy density and critical energy density, respectively. The spectrum is characterized by a plateau (Auclair *et al.*, 2020),

$$\Omega_{\text{GW}}^{\text{plateau}} \simeq 8.04 \Omega_r \left(\frac{G\mu}{\Gamma} \right)^{1/2}, \quad (151)$$

where $\Gamma \simeq 50$ parametrizes the cosmic-string decay rate into GWs and Ω_r is the energy density in radiation relative to the critical energy density, and a turnover point at small frequencies²⁸,

$$f_* \simeq 3.0 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz } e^{-\pi\kappa/4} \left(\frac{10^{-7}}{G\mu} \right)^{1/2}. \quad (152)$$

Fig. 33 shows the GW spectrum obtained by a numerical evaluation as well as the analytical estimate

$$\Omega_{\text{GW}}(f) = \Omega_{\text{GW}}^{\text{plateau}} \min \left[(f/f_*)^{3/2}, 1 \right]. \quad (153)$$

The shaded regions indicate the power-law-integrated sensitivity curves of current and planned experiments (Thrane and Romano, 2013). For $G\mu = 2 \times 10^{-7}$, the constraint from the European Pulsar Timing Array (EPTA) (Shannon *et al.*, 2015) enforces $\sqrt{\kappa} \lesssim 8$. In the case of a mild hierarchy between the GUT and $B-L$ scales, $m/v_{B-L} \gtrsim 6$, primordial GWs will be tested already with LIGO!

The general framework behind the described model — inflation ending in a GUT-scale phase transition in combination with leptogenesis and dark matter in a SUSY extension of the SM — provides a testable framework for the physics of the early universe. A characteristic feature of this framework is a stochastic background of gravitational waves emitted by metastable cosmic strings.

Probing leptogenesis with gravitational waves is an intriguing possibility and theoretical work on this subject is just beginning. For recent work, see (Blasi *et al.*, 2020; King *et al.*, 2020).

H. Summary: leptogenesis

Thermal leptogenesis is by now well understood. It is closely related to neutrino masses, and simple estimates, based on GUT models, yield the right order of

magnitude for the observed matter-antimatter asymmetry. In the one-flavour approximation successful leptogenesis leads to a preferred mass window for the light neutrinos, consistent with the cosmological upper bound on the sum of neutrino masses, and to a lower bound on the heavy Majorana neutrino masses. Taking flavour effects into account, the qualitative picture remains valid, but quantitatively the neutrino mass bounds are relaxed. For quasi-degenerate heavy neutrinos the temperature scale of leptogenesis can be lowered down to the weak scale. CP-violating oscillations of sterile neutrinos can lead to successful leptogenesis even for GeV neutrino masses.

Significant progress has been made on the way towards a full description of leptogenesis on the basis of thermal field theory. This has been possible because leptogenesis is a homogeneous process, involving only few dynamical degrees of freedom with small couplings to a large thermal bath. Effective kinetic equations have been derived, which take the form of ordinary Boltzmann equations whose kernels can be systematically calculated in terms of spectral functions of SM correlation functions. Relativistic and off-shell effects are included in Kadanoff-Baym equations which have also been used to calculate the generated lepton asymmetry. In the field theoretical treatment interactions with gauge bosons of the thermal bath turn out to be crucial and have to be resummed. Using these techniques, for the first time an estimate of the theoretical error of traditional calculations based on Boltzmann equations has been obtained, which turns out to be factor $\mathcal{O}(1)$.

An intriguing new development is the possibility to probe high-scale leptogenesis with gravitational waves. This includes the seesaw mechanism and a high scale of $B-L$ breaking. Theoretical work on this very interesting topic is just beginning, and it is conceivable that a gravitational wave signal for $B-L$ breaking is observed already at LIGO.

V. OTHER MODELS

In this section we briefly mention some alternative proposals for baryogenesis which could not be described in detail in the main sections of the review, with emphasis on the possible effects of light pseudoscalar particles.

An interesting idea is ‘spontaneous baryogenesis’ (Cohen and Kaplan, 1987, 1988) where an arrow of time is singled out not by a departure from thermal equilibrium, but by the motion of a light pseudo-Goldstone boson of a spontaneously broken approximate global $U(1)_B$ baryon symmetry. Baryon-number violating interactions can be in thermal equilibrium, and the observed baryon asymmetry can be generated for a sufficiently large $U(1)_B$ breaking scale. A related mechanism makes use of axion oscillations in the presence of rapid lepton-number violating processes in thermal plasma, which can be pro-

²⁸ The precise value of the turnover point depends on the definition. A larger frequency f_* has been obtained in Ref. (Gouttenoire *et al.*, 2019)

vided by the exchange of heavy Majorana neutrinos at high reheating temperatures (Kusenko *et al.*, 2015). Recently, it was pointed out that spontaneous baryogenesis is a rather general phenomenon in the presence of axion-like particles, and that already their coupling to gluons is enough to generate a baryon asymmetry (Domcke *et al.*, 2020).

Baryogenesis is also possible in a cold electroweak phase transition (Tranberg and Smit, 2003). A sudden change of the Higgs mass term at zero temperature leads to a spinodal instability of the Higgs field, and during the subsequent tachyonic preheating a non-zero Chern-Simons number can be generated, with a corresponding baryon asymmetry. A cold electroweak transition can occur once the Higgs field is coupled to a dilaton, which can lead to a delayed electroweak phase transition at the QCD scale (Servant, 2014). The CP violation needed for baryogenesis can then be provided by a displaced axion field, whose relaxation after the QCD phase transition subsequently solves the strong CP problem. An axion, solving the strong CP problem and providing dark matter, can also be combined with the spontaneous breaking of lepton number, leptogenesis and Higgs inflation in a non-supersymmetric extension of the Standard Model (Ballesteros *et al.*, 2017). The Affleck-Dine mechanism of baryogenesis can be realized without supersymmetry by means of a complex Nambu-Goldstone boson carrying baryon number, which can occur for a spontaneously broken appropriate global symmetry (Harigaya, 2019). The role of the AD field can also be played by a charged Peccei-Quinn field containing the QCD axion as a phase (Co and Harigaya, 2020). A further possibility for baryogenesis is B-meson oscillations in an extension of the Standard Model with exotic B-meson decays. The required reheating temperature can be as low as 100 MeV (Nelson and Xiao, 2019).

In string compactifications one expects moduli fields in the effective low-energy theory, whose mass depends on the mechanism and energy scale of supersymmetry breaking. If they are sufficiently heavy, they can reheat the universe to a temperature of order 100 MeV, so that nucleosynthesis is not affected. In their decays they can generate the matter-antimatter asymmetry as well as cold dark matter as higgsinos or winos. Since matter and dark matter have the same origin, the similarity of their energy densities can be naturally explained (Kitano *et al.*, 2008).

So far the curvature of space-time has played no role in the considered models of baryogenesis. However, the Ricci scalar of a gravitational background can play the role of the axion in spontaneous baryogenesis, and its coupling to the baryon-number current can be the source of a baryon asymmetry, which is referred to as gravitational baryogenesis (Davoudiasl *et al.*, 2004). In the Standard Model with heavy right-handed neutrinos and CP-violating couplings, which was considered for ther-

mal leptogenesis in Section IV.C, loop-corrections lead to a low-energy effective action where the gravitational field couples to the current of left-handed neutrinos, such that neutrinos and anti-neutrinos propagate differently in space-time (McDonald and Shore, 2015). In a quantitative analysis it has been demonstrated that this effect can indeed account for the observed baryon asymmetry (McDonald and Shore, 2020).

VI. SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK

The current paradigm of the early universe includes inflation at an early stage. Hence, the observed matter-antimatter asymmetry cannot be imposed as an initial condition but it has to be dynamically generated after inflation. This makes baryogenesis an unavoidable topic. Moreover, fifty years after Sakharov's paper, baryogenesis has also become an interesting story that is connected to all developments of physics beyond the Standard Model during the past forty years, including grand unification, dynamical electroweak symmetry breaking, low-energy supersymmetry and neutrino masses.

The first important step in the theory of baryogenesis was made in the context of SU(5) GUT models which naturally provide heavy particles, leptiquarks, whose CP-violating delayed decays can lead to a baryon asymmetry. This process was quantitatively understood based on Boltzmann equations. In these detailed studies it also became clear that leptiquarks are not ideal agents of baryogenesis since they have SM gauge interactions which tend to keep them in thermal equilibrium.

The second important step was the discovery of the nonperturbative connection between baryon number and lepton number in the SM, and the associated, unsuppressed, sphaleron processes at high temperatures. This implied that $B+L$ is in equilibrium above the electroweak phase transition, which ruled out baryogenesis in SU(5) GUT models. However, a new interesting possibility emerged, electroweak baryogenesis, the possibility to generate the baryon asymmetry during a strongly first-order electroweak phase transition. In principle, the presence of all necessary ingredients already in the SM is an appealing feature, yet the electroweak transition turned out to be just a smooth crossover so that the necessary departure from thermal equilibrium can not be realized. This is different in extensions of the SM with additional Higgs doublets or singlets, where a strongly first-order phase transition is possible. Such models have been extensively studied over 30 years, without and with supersymmetry. In view of the results from the LHC and due to stringent upper bounds on the electric dipole moment of the electron, today EWBG appears unlikely in weakly coupled Higgs models. On the other hand, EWBG is still viable in composite Higgs models of electroweak symmetry breaking. This emphasizes the importance to search

at the LHC for new resonances with TeV masses and for strong interactions of the light Higgs boson.

Sphaleron processes also led to leptogenesis as a new mechanism of baryogenesis. Contrary to leptokuarks, right-handed neutrinos are ideal agents of baryogenesis since they do not have SM gauge interactions. Their CP-violating decays lead to a $B-L$ asymmetry that is not washed out. Right-handed neutrinos are predicted by grand unified theories with gauge groups larger than $SU(5)$, such as $SO(10)$. In GUT models the pattern of Yukawa couplings in the neutrino sector is similar to quark and charged lepton Yukawa couplings. It is remarkable, that with $B-L$ broken at the GUT scale, this leads automatically to the right order of magnitude for neutrino masses and the baryon asymmetry. However, this success of leptogenesis is not model independent. Rescaling right-handed neutrino masses and neutrino Yukawa couplings, successful leptogenesis is also possible at much lower scales, down to GeV energies. The corresponding sterile neutrinos can be directly searched for at LHC, by the NA62 experiment, at Belle II and at T2K. On the contrary, tests of GUT-scale leptogenesis will remain indirect. The determination of the absolute neutrino mass scale and CP-violating phases in the neutrino sector are particularly important. A new intriguing possibility is to probe the seesaw mechanism and $B-L$ breaking at the GUT scale by primordial gravitational waves.

Two open questions in particle physics will be crucial for the further development of the theory of baryogenesis: First, the discovery of a strongly interacting Higgs sector would open up new possibilities for electroweak baryogenesis. Second, the discovery of supersymmetry would renew the interest in Affleck-Dine baryogenesis and would strongly constrain leptogenesis via the properties of the gravitino. Of course, there can always be surprises. The discovery of GeV sterile neutrinos or axions could significantly change our current view of baryogenesis.

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