

# Cosmology with inverse phase transition

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QUARKS online Workshop  
**Quantum Gravity and Cosmology**  
(dedicated to A.D. Sakharov's centennial)

talk is based on 2104.13772  
and ongoing work by E.Babichev, D.G., S.Ramazanov and A.Vikman

# The talk in brief

- Take any model where a symmetry is broken in the VERY early Universe but later it gets restored
- In the late Universe no problems with goldstones, topological defects, etc
- imprints like gravitational waves (GW) can be left...
- at phase transitions many particles can be produced, including dark matter (DM)
- GW signal (e.g.  $f_{GW}$ ) and DM parameters (e.g.  $M$ ) are related

# Cosmic transitions in the Standard Model

Crossovers (if temperature was high enough)

- Electroweak (EW) transition
- confinement (QCD)

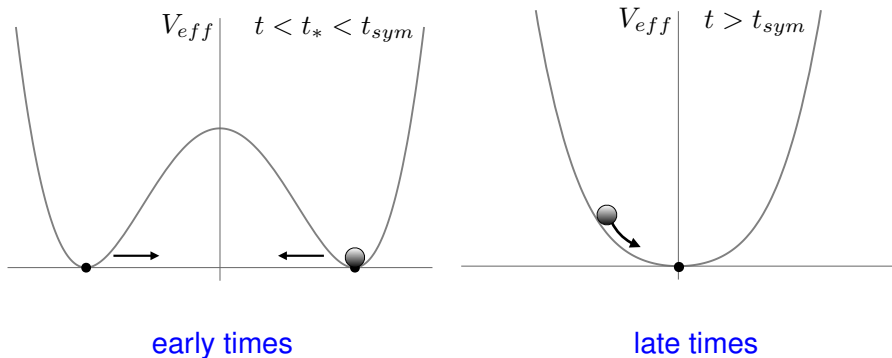
No any observables

# Cosmic transitions in beyond the SM

- axions, black holes, etc at QCD
- 1st order EW phase transition with extended Higgs sector
- GUT-like phase transitions:
  - heavy stable (dangerous) stuff: topological defects
  - light particles (dangerous): goldstone bosons

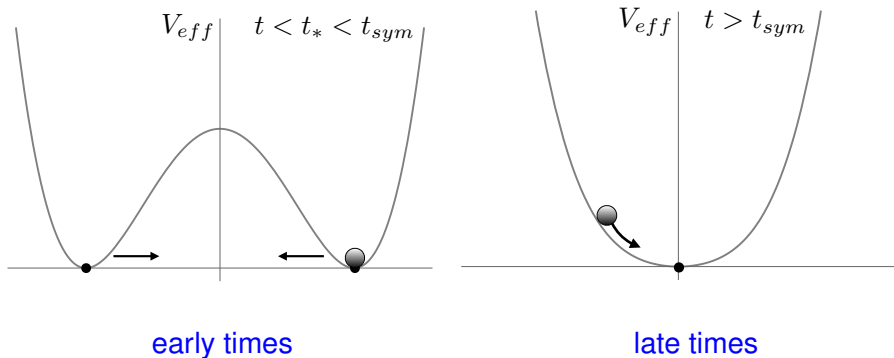
Symmetry is spontaneously broken at  $T = 0$

# Inverse phase transition



It can be thermal or non-thermal

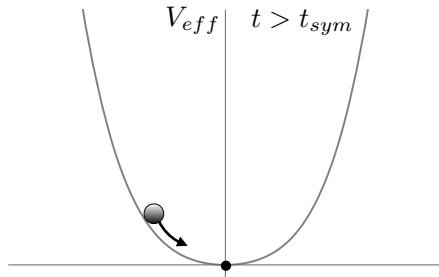
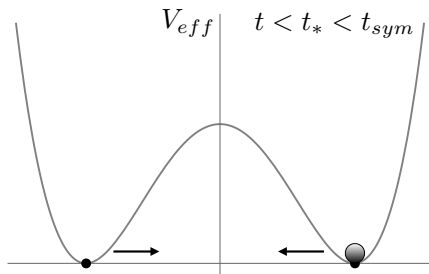
# Inverse phase transition



$$V_{eff}(\chi) = \frac{M^2 \chi^2}{2} + \frac{\lambda \chi^4}{4} - \frac{g^2 \chi^2 \phi^\dagger \phi}{2}.$$

provided  $\beta \equiv \lambda/g^4 > 1/\lambda_\phi > 1$

Phase transition in the plasma:  $\langle \phi^\dagger \phi \rangle \propto T^2$ ,  $g \ll 1$



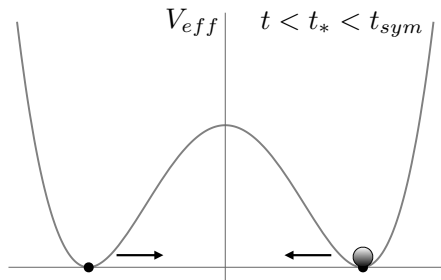
eff potential for  $\chi$

$T$ -dependent mass term

$$V_{eff} = \frac{M^2 \chi^2}{2} + \frac{\lambda \cdot (\chi^2 - \eta^2(T))^2}{4},$$

$$\eta^2(T) \approx \frac{Ng^2 T^2}{12\lambda}$$

# Thermal transition: Domain Walls for $Z_2$



$$T_i \simeq \sqrt{\frac{100}{g_*(T_i)} \frac{\sqrt{N} g M_{Pl}}{10}}$$

$T$ -dependent tension

$$\sigma_{wall} = \frac{2\sqrt{2\lambda}\eta^3(T)}{3}$$

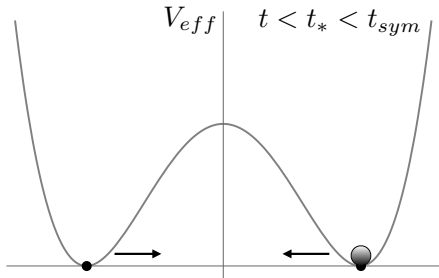
Broken symmetry when  $M < M_{th} \sim \sqrt{\lambda}\eta$

DWs formation starts after:  $M_{th} \sim \sqrt{\lambda}\eta(T) \gtrsim H(T)$

$$V_{eff} = \frac{M^2\chi^2}{2} + \frac{\lambda \cdot (\chi^2 - \eta^2(T))^2}{4}, \quad \eta^2(T) \approx \frac{Ng^2 T^2}{12\lambda}$$



# Domain Walls evolution



$$T_i \simeq \sqrt{\frac{100}{g_*(T_i)} \frac{\sqrt{N} g M_{Pl}}{10}}$$

$T$ -dependent tension

$$\sigma_{wall} = \frac{2\sqrt{2\lambda}\eta^3(T)}{3}$$

Entering scaling regime: a few DWs per horizon

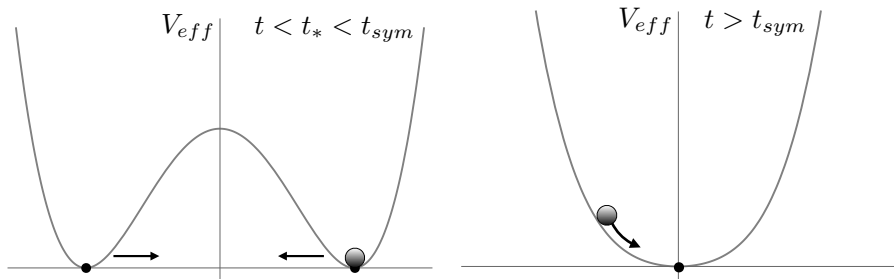
W.Press, B.Ryden, D.Spergel (1989)

$$M_{wall} \sim \sigma_{wall} \times l_H^2, \quad \rho_{DW} \sim \frac{M_{wall}}{l_H^3} \sim \sigma_{wall} H$$

At RD-satge

$$\frac{\rho_{wall}}{\rho_{rad}} \sim \frac{N^2}{30g_*(T)\beta} \cdot \frac{T}{T_i} < 1$$

# Domain Walls evolution with decreasing temperature

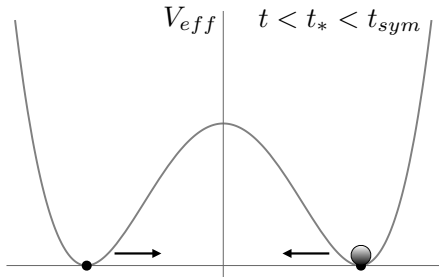


$$\sigma_{wall} = \frac{2\sqrt{2\lambda}\eta^3(T)}{3} \propto T^3 \rightarrow 0$$

DWs disappear...

but leave imprints in gravitational waves !!

# GW production by Domain Walls



$$P \sim \frac{\ddot{Q}_{ij}^2}{M_{Pl}^2}, \quad |Q_{ij}| \sim M_{wall} \times l_H^2$$

GW energy density

$$\rho_{gw} \sim \frac{P \cdot t}{l_H^3} \sim \frac{\sigma_{wall}^2}{M_{Pl}^2} \propto T^6$$

In the scaling regime we use simulations

T.Hiramatsu, M.Kawasaki, K.Saikawa (2014)

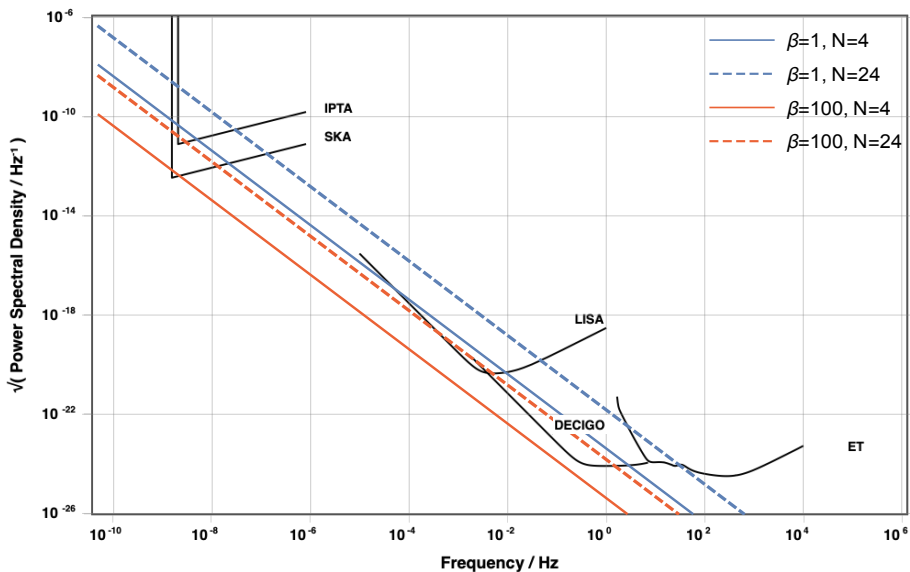
$$\Omega_{gw}(t_i) \approx \frac{\lambda \tilde{\epsilon}_{gw} \mathcal{A}^2 \eta_i^6}{27\pi H_i^2 M_{Pl}^4} \rightarrow \Omega_{gw}(t_0) \approx \frac{4 \cdot 10^{-14} \cdot N^4}{\beta^2} \cdot \left( \frac{100}{g_*(T_i)} \right)^{7/3}$$

fractional energy density per log-frequency at peak

$$f_{gw}(t_i) \simeq H_i / (2\pi)$$

$$f_{gw} \equiv f_{gw}(t_0) \simeq 60 \text{ Hz} \cdot \sqrt{N} \cdot \frac{g}{10^{-8}} \cdot \left( \frac{100}{g_*(T_i)} \right)^{1/3}$$

Power spectral density  $S_h$ :  $\Omega_{gw}(t_0)H_0^2 \equiv S_h 2\pi^2 f_{gw}^3 / 3$



# GW signal reflects the early-time dynamics

Why is it interesting... ?

with  $Z_2$ -symmetry...  $\chi$  can form Dark Matter component

Testing DM model with GW signal !!

# Three options for the DM production, recall $g \ll 1$

- Thermal production in plasma: freeze-out

$$\langle \sigma_{\chi\chi \rightarrow \phi\phi} v \rangle \simeq \frac{Ng^4}{8\pi E^2}, \quad \Omega_\chi \simeq \frac{3 \times 10^{-11} \text{ GeV}^{-2}}{\langle \sigma_{\chi\chi \rightarrow \phi\phi} v \rangle} \rightarrow g \approx \frac{2 \cdot 10^{-2}}{N^{1/4}} \sqrt{\frac{M}{\text{GeV}}}$$

requires thermalization and sufficiently large coupling  $g$

- Non-thermal production in plasma: freeze-in

$$\frac{dn_\chi}{dt} + 3Hn_\chi \approx \sum_i \langle \sigma_{\phi_i \phi_i \rightarrow \chi\chi} v \rangle \cdot n_{\phi_i, eq}^2, \quad \Omega_\chi \propto M \cdot n_\chi, \quad \rightarrow g \approx \frac{5 \cdot 10^{-6}}{N^{1/4}}$$

assuming  $M \gtrsim m_\phi$

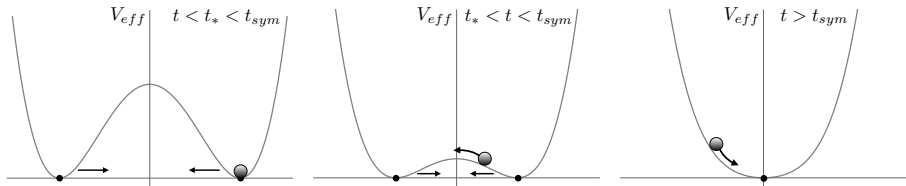
- Production by starting the scalar field oscillations: a variant of vacuum misalignment

$$\rho_\chi(t) \simeq \frac{M^2 \chi_*^2}{2} \cdot \left( \frac{a_*}{a(t)} \right)^3.$$

stop field tracking the vacuum...

# Initiating oscillations: departure from tracking

$$\langle \chi \rangle = \pm \sqrt{\eta^2(T) - \frac{M^2}{\lambda}} \quad \eta^2(T) \approx \frac{Ng^2 T^2}{12\lambda}$$



Departure from adiabaticity as  $T \searrow$

$$M_{eff}^2 \approx 2\lambda \langle \chi \rangle^2, \quad \left| \frac{\dot{M}_{eff}}{M_{eff}^2} \right| \ll 1 \quad \rightarrow \quad \left| \frac{\dot{M}_{eff}}{M_{eff}^2} \right| \simeq 1 \quad \text{at} \quad \chi_* \simeq \frac{(2M^2 H_*)^{1/3}}{\sqrt{2\lambda}}.$$

$$\Omega_\chi = \Omega_{DM} \quad \rightarrow \quad M \simeq 15 \text{ eV} \cdot \frac{\beta^{3/5}}{\sqrt{N}} \cdot \left( \frac{g}{10^{-8}} \right)^{7/5} \cdot \left( \frac{g_*(T_*)}{100} \right)^{2/5},$$

The mechanism is generic, e.g.

a stage with

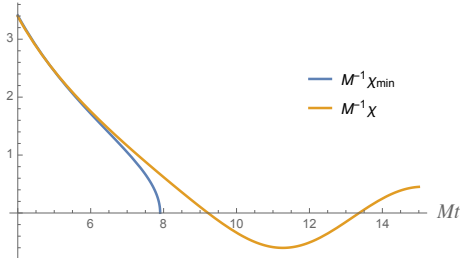
E.Babichev,D.G.,S.Ramazanov (2020)

$$p = w\rho, \quad R = -3 \cdot (1 - 3w) \cdot H^2$$

DM with selfcoupling

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{(\partial_\mu \chi)^2}{2} - \frac{M^2 \chi^2}{2} - \frac{\lambda \chi^4}{4} - \frac{\zeta}{2} \cdot \chi^2 \cdot R$$

$\chi$  is in the false vacuum at large  $H$



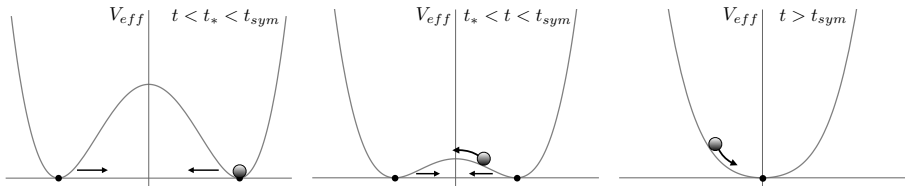
at  $-\zeta R(t_*) \simeq M^2$  it changes  
and  $\chi$  starts to oscillate  
gravitational misalignment

$$\rho_{DM}(t_*) = \frac{M^2 \cdot \chi_*^2}{2} \simeq \frac{(M^5 H_*)^2}{4\lambda}$$



# Initiating oscillations: departure from tracking

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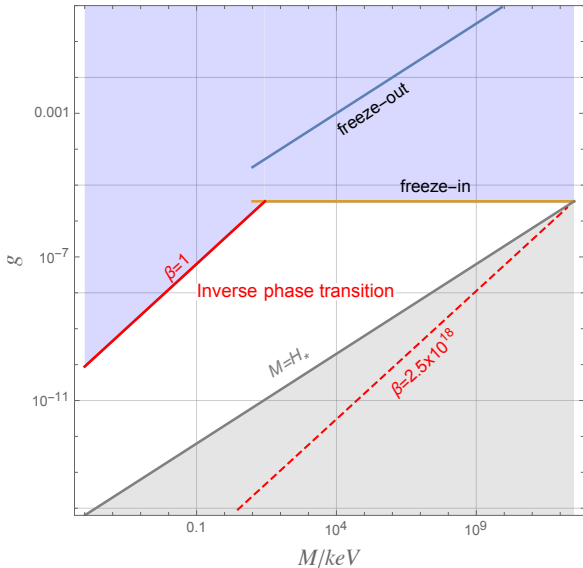


Departure from adiabaticity as  $T \searrow$

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## Dark Matter



model potential:

$$\frac{M^2 \chi^2}{2} + \frac{\lambda \chi^4}{4} - \frac{g^2 \chi^2 \phi^\dagger \phi}{2}$$

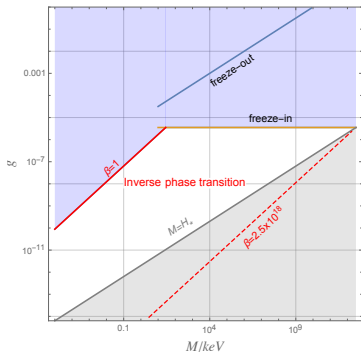
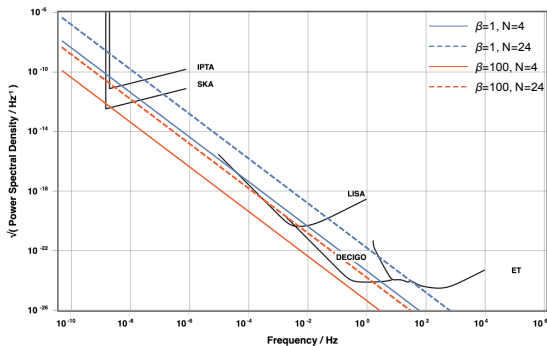
vacuum stability:

$$\beta \equiv \frac{\lambda}{g^4} > 1$$

beginning of oscillations:

$$M > H_* \equiv H(t_*)$$

# Gravitational Wave probe of Dark Matter



$$f_{gw}(t_0) \simeq 60 \text{ Hz} \cdot \sqrt{N} \cdot \frac{g}{10^{-8}} \cdot \left( \frac{100}{g_*(T_i)} \right)^{1/3}$$

$$\Omega_{gw}(t_0) \approx \frac{4 \cdot 10^{-14} \cdot N^4}{\beta^2} \cdot \left( \frac{100}{g_*(T_i)} \right)^{7/3}$$

$$M \simeq 15 \text{ eV} \cdot \frac{\beta^{3/5}}{N^{6/5}} \cdot \left( \frac{\sqrt{N}g}{10^{-8}} \right)^{7/5} \cdot \left( \frac{g_*(T_*)}{100} \right)^{2/5}$$

# Summary

- Inverse phase transitions in the early Universe have imprints in Gravitational Waves
- Inverse phase transitions may have other impacts on cosmology, like Dark Matter production
- GW signals can help to check for other impacts (e.g. Dark Matter)

It's a generic setup,  
however, there are issues to be addressed in each particular model, e.g.:

- DW: relaxation to the scaling solution
- GW: numerical results exist for constant tensions only
- DM: initial conditions (symmetric state, no isocurvature modes, onset of oscillations)
- $\phi$  should not spoil cosmology
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