

N- \bar{N} Oscillation: An Overview

R. N. Mohapatra

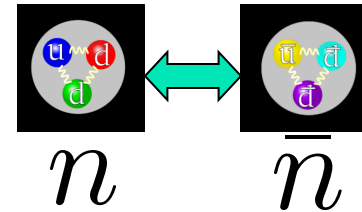


INT NNbar workshop, Seattle
October, 2017



What is N- \bar{N} oscillation?

- Neutrons in vacuum and low magnetic field spontaneously converting to anti-neutrons.



(Baryogenesis \rightarrow Kuzmin'70; SU(5) \rightarrow Glashow'79; neutrino mass \rightarrow Mohapatra and Marshak'80)

- Key parameter describing this is: $\delta m_{n\bar{n}}$ which denotes the mixing strength between n and \bar{n}
- $\delta m_{n\bar{n}} = 0$ in the standard model.
- Hence, a sensitive probe of physics beyond SM!



Early History

- **Kuzmin'70**: motivated by Sakharov's suggestion of baryogenesis. Paper in Russian.

Cp violation and baryon asymmetry of the universe (In Russian)

V.A. Kuzmin (Lebedev Inst.). 1970. 3 pp.

Published in **Pisma Zh.Eksp.Teor.Fiz.** 12 (1970) 335-337

- **Glashow'79**: SU(5) with {15}-dim. Multiplet.

The Future of Elementary Particle Physics

S.L. Glashow (Harvard U.). Aug 1979. 40 pp.

Published in **NATO Sci.Ser.B** 61 (1980) 687



NN-bar from neutrino mass

- **RNM, Marshak'80:** From neutrino Majorana mass to neutron oscillation

Local B-L Symmetry of Electroweak Interactions, Majorana Neutrinos and Neutron Oscillations

Rabindra N. Mohapatra, R.E. Marshak (Virginia Tech.). Jan 1980. 10 pp.

Published in **Phys.Rev.Lett.** 44 (1980) 1316-1319, Erratum: **Phys.Rev.Lett.** 44 (1980) 1643

VPI-HEP-80/1

- Left-right (1974-75) → Seesaw (1979)
 - Electric charge formula in LR (1979)
 - NN-bar (1980)

Left-Right model:

- Gauge group: $SU(2)_L \otimes SU(2)_R \otimes U(1)_{B-L}$

- Fermions

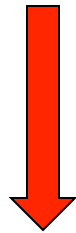
$$\begin{pmatrix} u_L \\ d_L \end{pmatrix} \stackrel{P}{\Leftrightarrow} \begin{pmatrix} u_R \\ d_R \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} \nu_L \\ e_L \end{pmatrix} \stackrel{P}{\Leftrightarrow} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_R \\ e_R \end{pmatrix}$$

$$L = \frac{g}{2} [\vec{J}_L^\mu \cdot \vec{W}_{\mu L} + \vec{J}_R^\mu \cdot \vec{W}_{\mu R}]$$

- Parity is spontaneously broken symmetry: $M_{W_R} \gg M_{W_L}$ (Pati, Salam'74; Mohapatra, Pati'74;'74; Senjanovic, Mohapatra'75)

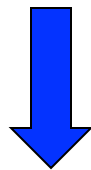
Breaking of LR and type I seesaw

$$SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R \times U(1)_{B-L}$$

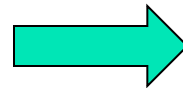


$$v_R \quad (\Delta L=2) \quad M_N = f v_R$$

$$SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$$

 κ

$$U(1)_{em}$$



$$M_{\nu, N} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & h\kappa \\ h\kappa & f v_R \end{pmatrix}$$

(Mohapatra, Senjanovic'79)

■ Seesaw formula

$$m_\nu \simeq - \frac{(h\kappa)^2}{M_N}$$

Parity breaking as origin of Majorana Neutrino mass

- Electric charge formula in LR (*contrast this with SM*)

$$Q = I_{3L} + I_{3R} + \frac{B - L}{2}$$

- Above EW scale,

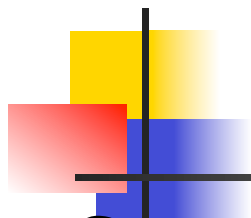
$$\Delta Q = \Delta I_{3L} = 0 \rightarrow \Delta I_{3R} = -\frac{1}{2} \Delta L$$

- Parity breaking \rightarrow Majorana nu (RNM, Marshak'80)

- Small neutrino mass is why Weak Int. V-A

From Majorana neutrinos to neutron oscillation

- If there is no change in lepton number i.e. $\Delta L = 0$, the electric charge equation implies that
$$\Delta B = 2\Delta I_{3R} = 2$$
- $\Delta B = 2$ is n-n-bar oscillation
- Obvious framework is left-right with quark lepton unification based on $SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R \times SU(4)_c$

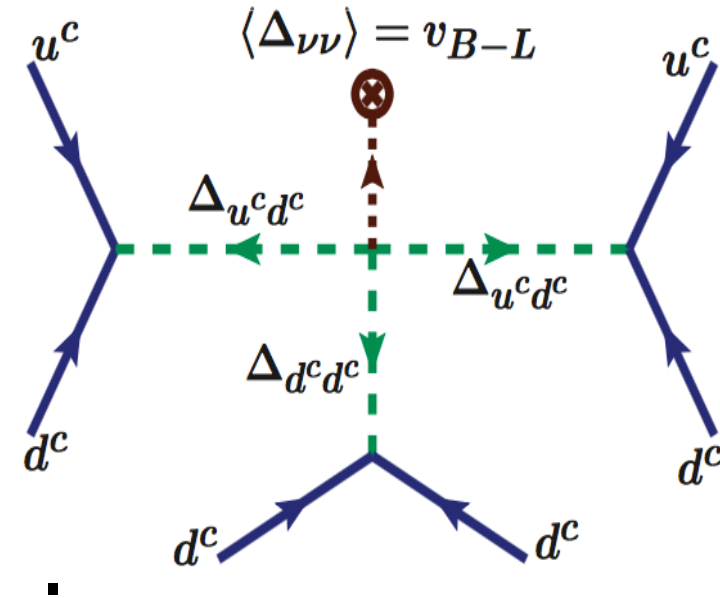


$$\Delta L = 2 \longrightarrow \Delta B = 2$$

- Seesaw Higgs field $\Delta_{\nu_R \nu_R}$ has SU(4) partners Δ_{qq} in Q-L unified models

- $\langle \Delta_{\nu_R \nu_R} \rangle$ leads to operator $u^c d^c d^c u^c d^c d^c$

$$\longrightarrow G_{\Delta B=2} = \frac{\lambda f^3 v_{BL}}{M_{\Delta}^6}$$



- Observable $n - \bar{n}$ for TeV M_{Δ} (Mohapatra, Marshak'80)

How big can $\delta m_{n\bar{n}}$ be?

- Since it can lead nuclei to decay, from what we know about nuclear instability, we conclude that it must be less than

$$\delta m_{n\bar{n}} \leq \sqrt{\Gamma_{nucl} m_n} \leq 10^{-23} \text{ eV}$$

- $G_{\Delta B=2} = \frac{\lambda f^3 v_{BL}}{M_{\Delta}^6}$ in this range for $M_{\Delta} \sim \text{TeV}$

- Probes TeV scale new physics of B and L-violation- different from GUTs

Can such small values of B-violation be searched?



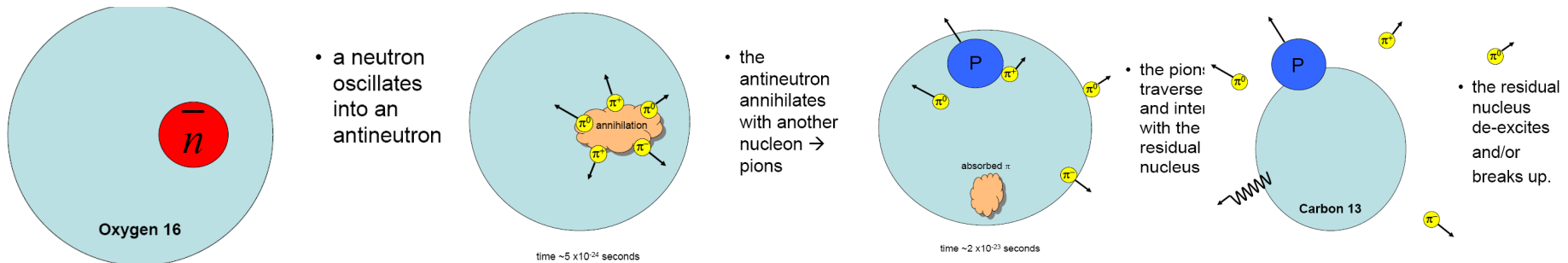
- Two ways:

(i) Oscillation inside a nucleus leading to B-violating nuclear decays

(ii) Oscillation of a free neutron beam from a reactor or spallation source

Nuclear search for NNbar

■ Important to figure out the nuclear effects:



time 10^{33} years

$$\tau_{Nuc} = R \tau_{n\bar{n}}^2 \quad R \simeq 5 \times 10^{22} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$\tau_{n\bar{n}} \geq 3.45 \times 10^8 \text{ sec.}$$

time $\ll 1 \times 10^{-8}$ seconds

(Chetyrkin, Kazarnovsky; Kuzmin, Shaposnikov'81; Dover, Gal, Richards; Alberico et al.; Kopeliovich et al; Richards talk; Expt. Super-K; Soudan, SNO)

$$\delta m_{n\bar{n}} \leq \sqrt{\Gamma_{nucl} m_n} \leq 10^{-23} \text{ eV}$$



Free neutron Oscillation

- Two state quantum mechanics:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} n \\ \bar{n} \end{pmatrix} = \mathcal{H} \begin{pmatrix} n \\ \bar{n} \end{pmatrix}; \quad \mathcal{H} = \begin{pmatrix} M_1 & \delta m \\ \delta m & M_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$P_{n-\bar{n}} = \frac{4\delta m^2}{\Delta M^2 + 4\delta m^2} \sin^2 \left(\sqrt{\Delta M^2 + 4\delta m^2} t / 2 \right)$$

- ΔM due to Earth B-field 10^{-11} eV $\gg \delta m_{n\bar{n}}$
- So, can this expt ever be done?

Earth Magnetic field and free $N-\bar{N}$ Osc.

place. Unfortunately, the effect is very difficult to observe. The small $\Delta B = 2$ mass splitting is generally masked by the magnetic mass splitting between N and \bar{N} , which amounts to 10^{-11} eV/gauss.

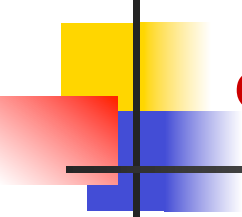
S. L. Glashow'79

in the presence of matter or external magnetic fields, the detection of such oscillations, at the present time, seems improbable. Kuo,Love'80

the earth is not shielded, $\Delta Mt \gg 1$ and Eq. (13) applies. On the other hand, if the earth's magnetic field is "degaussed" by a factor of 10^3 or more, Eq. (14) applies and the experiment becomes quite favorable. The

Marshak, RNM' Phys. Lett B (80); Cowsik, Nussinov'80

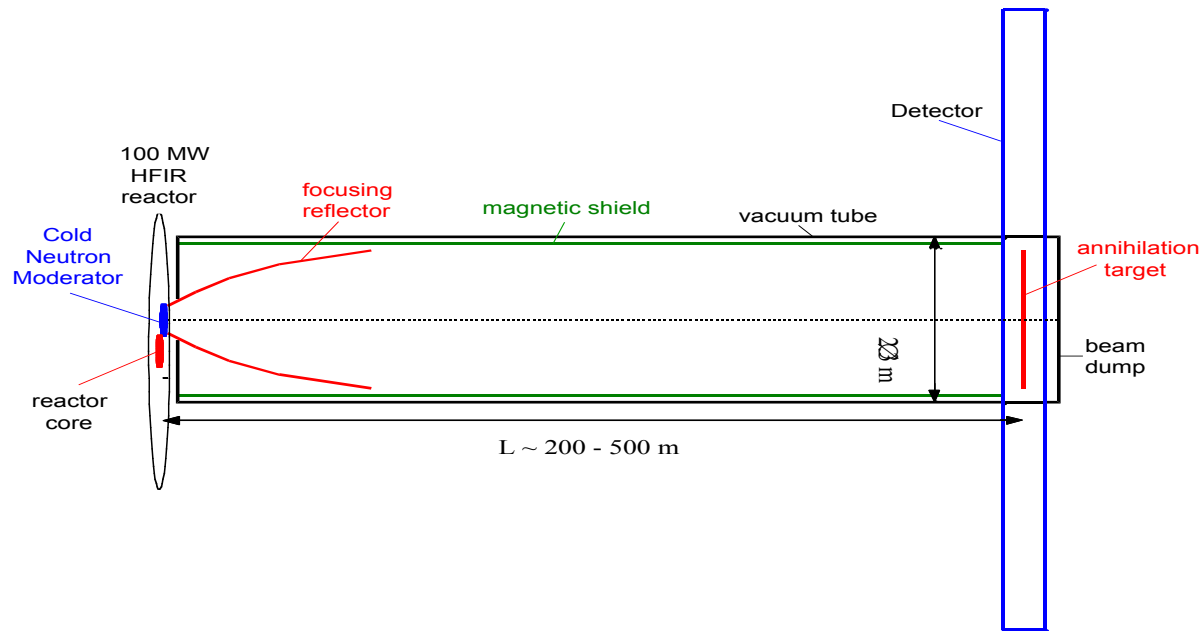
To search for neutron oscillation, degauss the Earth magnetic field to Nano-Tesla level! $\Delta M \approx 0$



Damping due to residual atoms/molecules in pipe

- Effect of residual atmosphere on NNbar rate;
- Use Feinberg-Weinberg-Lindblad equation
- (Talks by Kamyshkov, Kerbikov)

Experimental search for free neutron oscillation



- Horizontal set up+ degaussing → ILL
- New proposal for ESS; (Frost, Young, Milstead talks)

Experimental search and results from ILL group

- Define free oscillation time $\tau_{n\bar{n}} = \frac{\hbar}{\delta m_{n\bar{n}}}$
 - When $\Delta M \approx 0$ probability of transition: $P_{n \rightarrow \bar{n}} \approx \left(\frac{t}{\tau_{n\bar{n}}} \right)^2$
 - Figure of merit: # of \bar{n} = flux of n $P_{n\bar{n}}$ (running time)
 - Current direct search limit **ILL** $\tau > 8.6 \times 10^7$ sec
(Baldo-ceolin, Dubbers, Fidecaro et al'94)
- $\delta m_{n\bar{n}} < 7 \times 10^{-33}$ GeV constrains new physics !!

Precursor to a proposal

arXiv:1410:1100; Phys.Rep.

Neutron-Antineutron Oscillations: Theoretical Status and Experimental Prospects

D. G. Phillips II^{n,w}, W. M. Snow^{d,*}, K. Babu^q, S. Banerjee^t, D. V. Baxter^d,
Z. Berezhiani^{h,x}, M. Bergevin^y, S. Bhattacharya^t, G. Brooijmans^b, L.
Castellanos^{ae}, M-C. Chen^z, C. E. Coppola^{af}, R. Cowsik^{ah}, J. A. Crabtree^p,
P. Das^{ag}, E. B. Dees^{n,w}, A. Dolgov^{f,o,aa}, P. D. Ferguson^p, M. Frost^{af}, T.
Gabriel^{af}, A. Gal^s, F. Gallmeier^p, K. Ganezer^a, E. Golubeva^e, G. Greene^{af},
B. Hartfiel^a, A. Hawari^m, L. Heilbronn^{ae}, C. Johnson^d, Y. Kamyshev^{af}, B.
Kerbikov^{f,j}, M. Kitaguchi^k, B. Z. Kopeliovich^{ad}, V. B. Kopeliovich^e, V. A.
Kuzmin^e, C-Y. Liu^d, P. McGaugheyⁱ, M. Mockoⁱ, R. Mohapatra^{ab}, N.
Mokhov^c, G. Muhrerⁱ, H. P. Mumm^l, L. Okun^f, R. W. Pattie Jr.^{n,w}, C.
Quigg^c, E. Ramberg^c, A. Ray^{ag}, A. Roy^g, A. Ruggles^{ae}, U. Sarkar^r, A.
Saundersⁱ, A. P. Serebrov^u, H. M. Shimizu^k, R. Shrock^v, A. K. Sikdar^{ag}, S.
Sjueⁱ, S. Striganov^c, L. W. Townsend^{ae}, R. Tschirhart^c, A. Vainshtein^{ac}, R.
Van Kooten^d, Z. Wangⁱ, A. R. Young^{n,w}

**Construction started in 2014
to be completed by 2019**



ESS

Richard Hall-Wilton
December 2013

What scale of new physics does $N\bar{n}$ probe ?

Operator responsible for $N\bar{n}$ without susy:

$$O_{\Delta B=2} = \frac{1}{M_{eff}^5} u^c d^c d^c u^c d^c d^c$$

Note M^5 suppression

$$\delta m_{n\bar{n}} = G_{\Delta B=2} \langle n | O_{\Delta B=2} | \bar{n} \rangle \sim G_{\Delta B=2} \Lambda^6$$

Quarks to neutrons (Rao, Shrock'82; Buchoff et al. Lattice; Wagman et al. Bijnens, Kofoed)

$$\tau_{n-\bar{n}} = \hbar / \delta m_{n-\bar{n}} \sim M^5 / \Lambda^6 \rightarrow \tau_{n\bar{n}} \sim 10^8 \text{ s. } M \sim 10 \text{ TeVs}$$

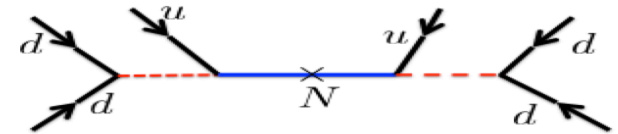
★ *Observation of $N\bar{n}$ will open a totally new landscape of physics at TeV scale + new view of parity !*

New particles near TeV and scale reach of NNbar

- If there are “diquark” scalars $\Delta_{u^c u^c}$ near TeV, new operators appear: $\frac{\Delta_{u^c u^c} d^c d^c d^c}{M^3}$; mass reach goes up to 10^9 GeV.
- Happens in some susy models (Dutta, Mimura, RNM'06; PRL)
- If instead $\Delta_{u^c d^c}$ is near a TeV, scale goes up to 10^{15} GeV. $\mathcal{O} = \frac{1}{M} d^c d^c \Delta_{u^c d^c} \Delta_{u^c d^c}$

From $N\bar{N}$ to heavy baryon oscillation

- Extend the SM by adding adding RH neutrinos N +color triplet $(3, 1, 2/3)$



$$\mathcal{L}_I = \frac{\lambda_{ai}\lambda'_{jk}}{M_\chi^2} N_a u_{R,i} d_{R,j} d_{R,k} + \text{H.c.}$$

(Babu, RNM, Nasri'08; Dev, RNM'15; Davoudiasl, Zhang'15)

- $\Lambda - \bar{\Lambda}, B_H - \bar{B}_H$ oscillation; $pp \rightarrow KK$ decay

(Goity, Sher; Kuzmin; Glashow)

- Recent discussion in connection with baryogenesis: (Aitkin, Mckeen, Nelson'17)



Large Extra dimensions, GUTs and observable $N\bar{N}$

- Flavor geography and B-violation due to TeV scale for new physics

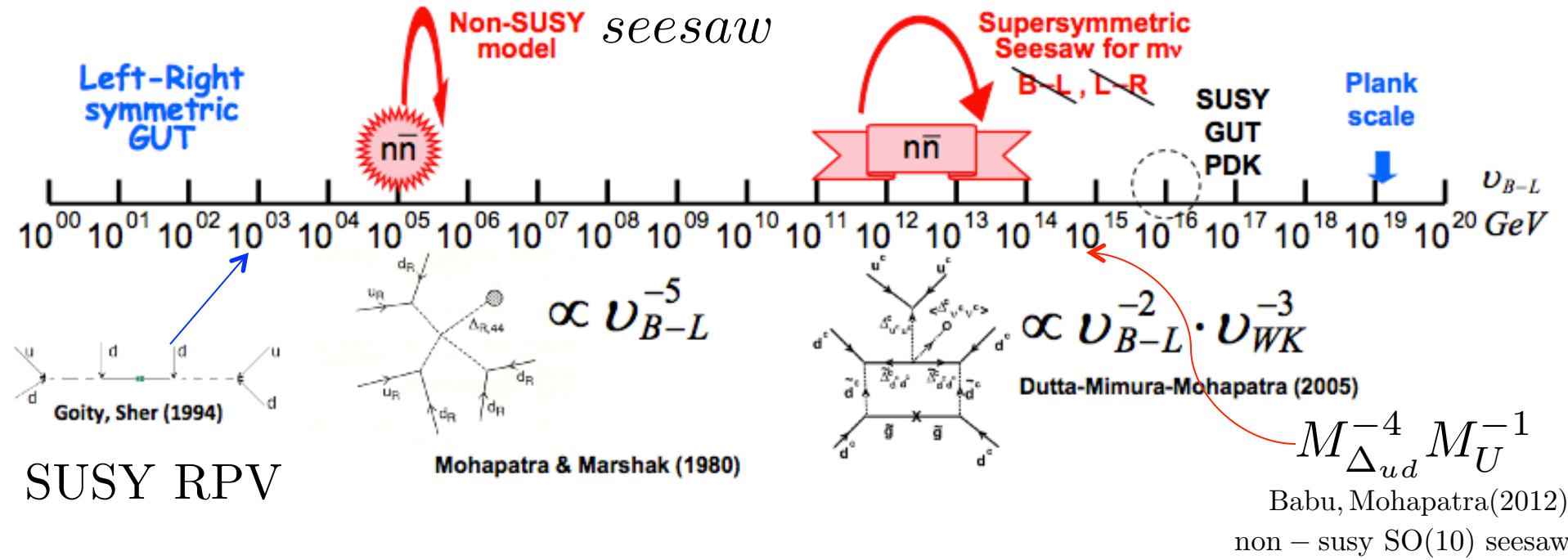
(Nussinov, Shrock; Winslow, Ng; Dvali, Gobadadze;..)

- Grand unified theories for neutrino mass

(Babu, RNM'12; Awasthi, Parida, Sahu'14)

- TeV scale B-violating theories: (Arnold, Fornal, Wise; Gu and Sarkar)

$N\bar{N}$ and BSM Physics



(Fig. Courtesy of Yuri Kamyshkov)

(Babu, Shrock's talk)



NNbar as a probe of other BSM physics

- Probing new CP violation:

(Berezhiani, Vainshtein; Fujukawa, Turneau; Gardner, Yan; Nelson, Mckeen)

- Lorentz violation (Babu, RNM'14)

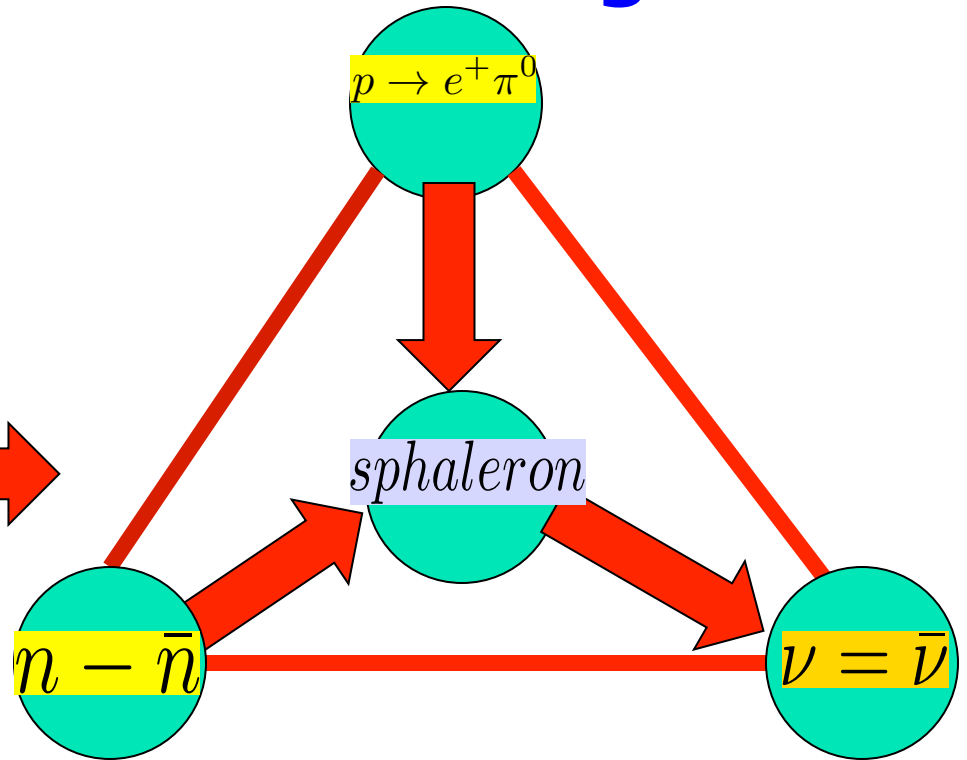
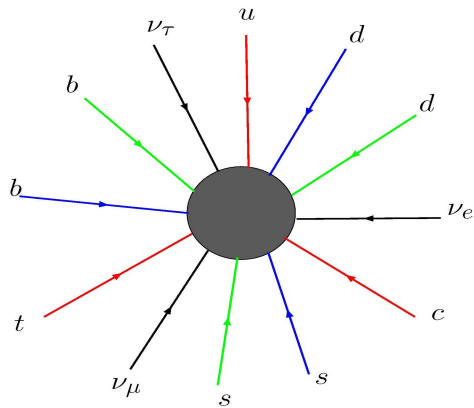
- Nature long range B-L force: (Babu, RNM'16; Adazzi, Berezhiani, Kamyshev'16)

From NNbar to Majorana neutrino via sphalerons

Sphaleron Op. rewrite

B-L Triangle:

$$\underbrace{QQQQQQ}_{n - \bar{n}} \quad \underbrace{QQQL}_{p \rightarrow e^+ \pi^0} \quad \underbrace{LL}_{m_\nu}$$



p-decay+nn-bar → Neutrino Majorana (Babu, RNM'14)

Impact of $NN\bar{b}$ on baryogenesis scenarios

- If neutron oscillation is observed \rightarrow strength of $\Delta B = 2$ operator is $\sim 10^{-28} - 10^{-31} \text{ GeV}^{-5}$; \rightarrow this process is in equilibrium till $T \sim$ few TeVs.
- Any higher scale generated baryons (e.g. leptogenesis) get erased.
- New ways to generate baryons must be sought.

(Talks by Babu, Chen, Dev, Nelson, Zhang)

POST-SPHALERON BARYOGENESIS

(Babu, RNM, Nasri'07; Babu's talk)

Assume real scalar or pseudoscalar field with higher dim effective coupling to SM fermions:

e.g.
$$\mathcal{L}_I = \frac{\lambda}{M^6} S u^c d^c d^c u^c d^c d^c + h.c.$$

$$\rightarrow S \rightarrow 6q, 6\bar{q}$$

Has $\Delta B = \pm 2$: new CPV $n_B - n_{\bar{B}} \neq 0$



BASIC SCENARIO OUTLINE

- Assume $M = 10 \text{ TeV}$ and $M_S = 2 \text{ TeV}$;

- $T_* \gg M_S$ but $T_* < M$, $\Gamma_S \leq H$

- \rightarrow S stops decaying and keeps “floating”.

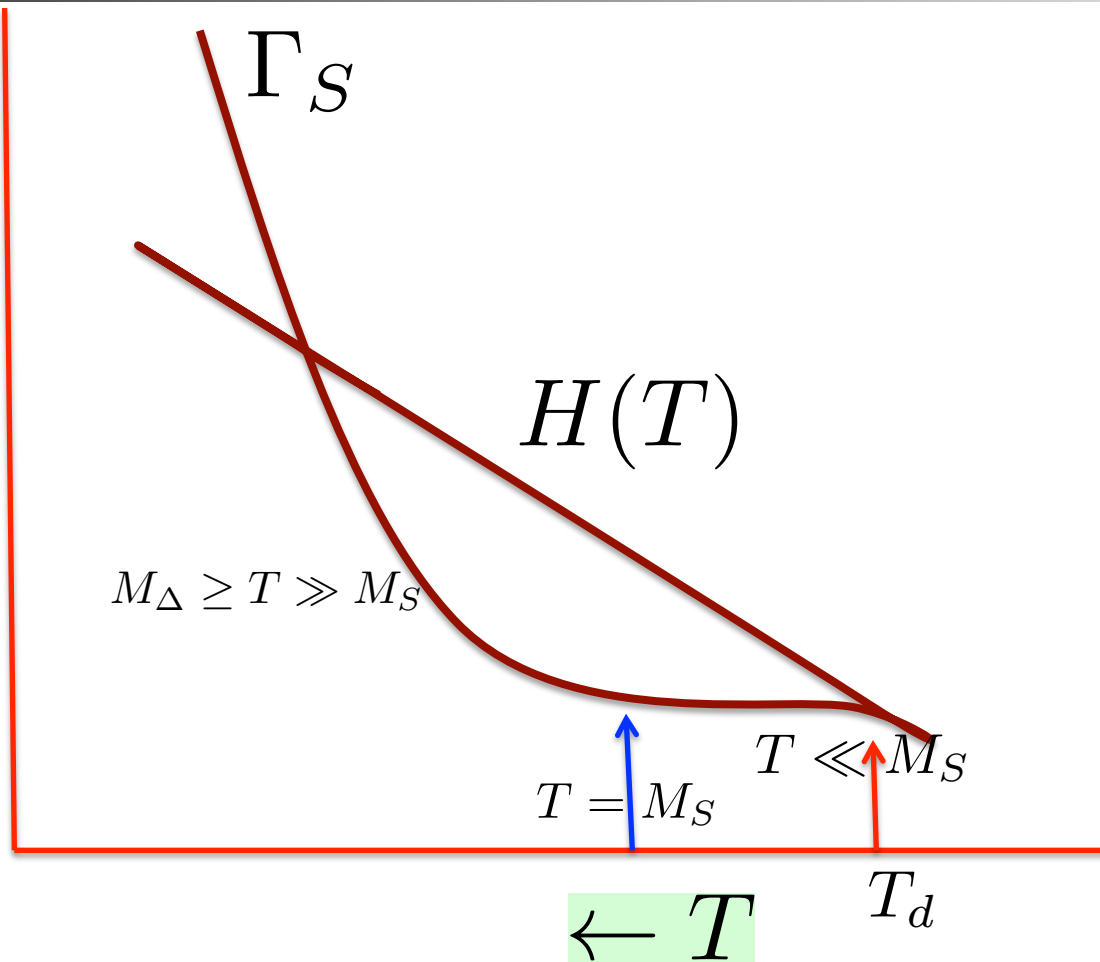
$$\Gamma_S = H \quad \text{at} \quad T = T_d$$

- At $T \ll M_S$, again

$$T_d \leq T_{sphleron}^* \sim 100 \text{ GeV}$$

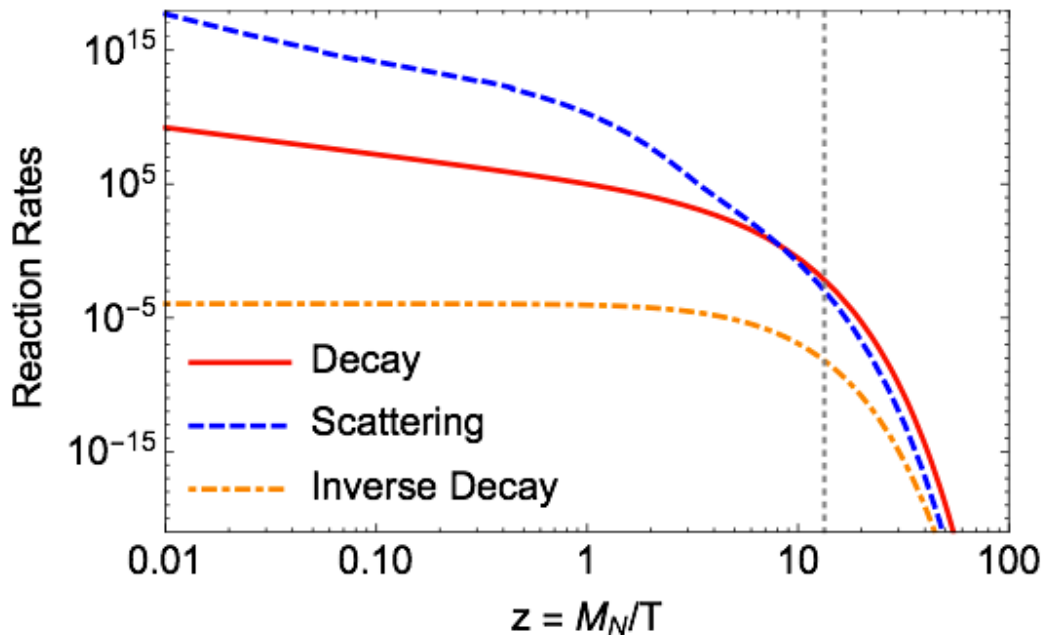
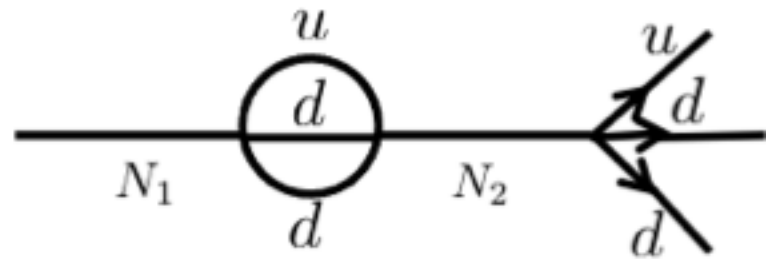
- This decay produces baryon asymmetry:

DECAY AND DECOUPLING



Resonant baryogenesis in SM extended $N \rightarrow 3q$ model

Alternative scenario:



Dev, RNM'15; Davoudiasl, Zhang'15



GENERIC IMPLICATIONS:

- Both scenarios are intimately connected to N - N -bar oscillation.
- The UV complete theory for PSB, having $S \rightarrow 6q$ or $N \rightarrow 3q$ **require new colored scalars** with TeV mass which can be searched for at LHC. Current collider limits \sim TeV. Synergy between Energy-Intensity frontier.
- Also they lead to new FCNC effects- small deviations from SM can provide useful hints.

Mirror Universe dark and NN' Osc.: in brief

- Exact mirror sym. duplicate of SM

visible sector	mirror sector
$SU(2)_L \times U(1)_{I_{3R}}$ $\times U(1)_{B-L}$	$SU(2)_L \times U(1)_{I_{3R}}$ $\times U(1)_{B-L}$
$W, Z, \gamma, \text{ gluons}$ $\begin{pmatrix} u_L \\ d_L \end{pmatrix}$ u_R, d_R $\begin{pmatrix} \nu_L \\ e_L \end{pmatrix}$ e_R Higgs H_1, H_2, Δ_L	$W, Z, \gamma, \text{ gluons}$ $\begin{pmatrix} u_L \\ d_L \end{pmatrix}$ ν_R, d_R $\begin{pmatrix} \nu_L \\ e_L \end{pmatrix}$ e_R H_1, Δ_L
$\leftarrow P \rightarrow$	



Important point: No new coupling parameters

- Asymmetric inflation to avoid BBN (Bereziani, Dolgov, Mohapatra'96)

Dark baryons and N-N' oscillation

- Symmetric vs asymmetric mirror models
- Complete spectral degeneracy in sym. models
- There is a dark N' with same mass as N.
- They could oscillate: (Bento, Berezhiani'25; Berezhiani's talk)

$$\mathcal{O}_9^{\text{mix}} \sim \frac{1}{\mathcal{M}^5} (udd)(u'd'd')$$

- Current limits: $\tau_{nn'} \geq 448 \text{ sec.}$
- Planned expts: (Kamyshkov, Bouchard, Kirch talks)



Some questions

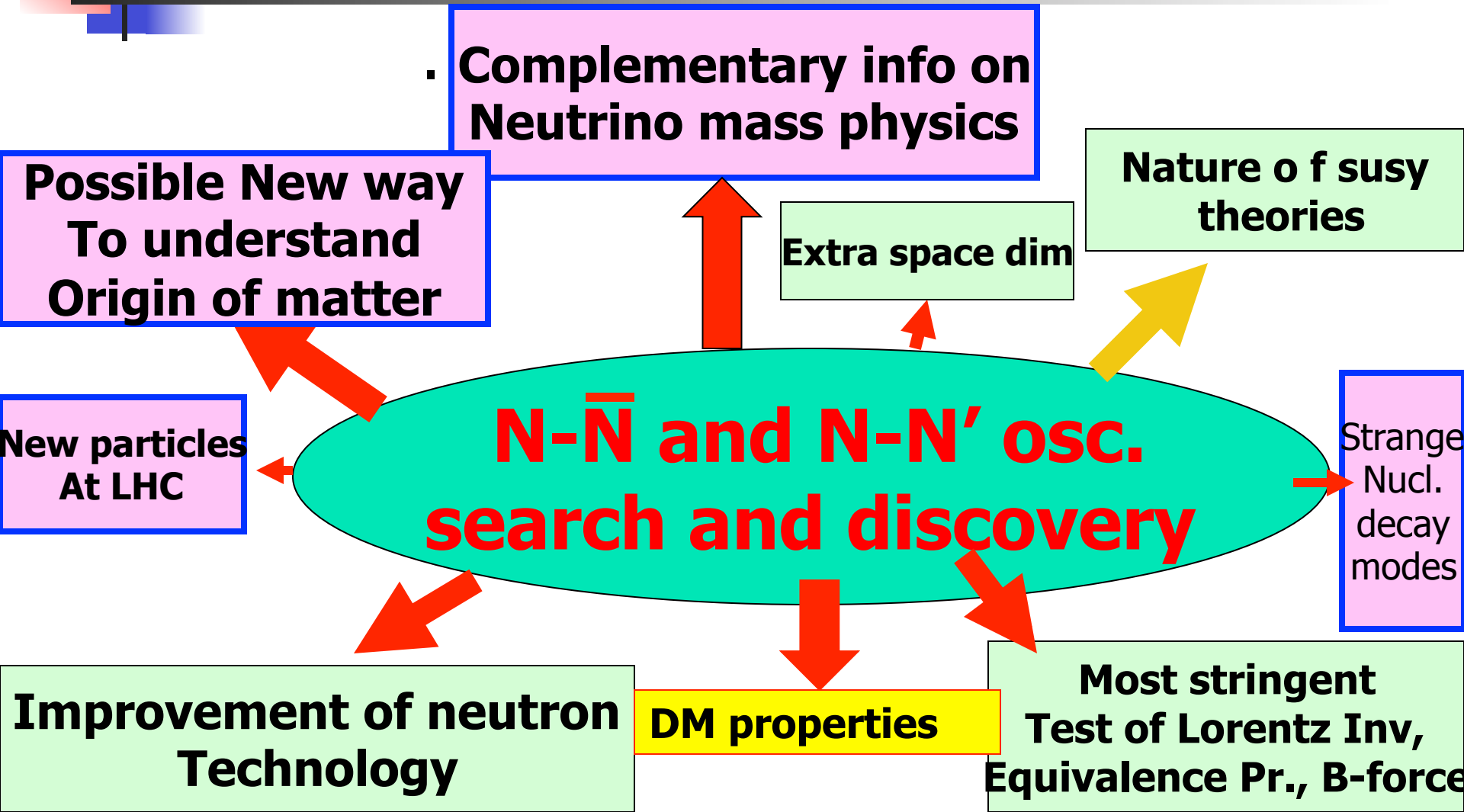
- For nn' oscillation to be observed $\frac{\Delta m}{m} \leq 10^{-24}$ GeV but $T' \sim T/2 \rightarrow$ P-breaking at high scale which will induce different Yukawas from RGE which can lead to $\frac{\Delta m}{m}$ much larger **making nn' unobservable** (exceptional cases: RNM, Nussinov'17)
- **If nn' is to be observable, issues with n' as DM**
 - the DM must be H' , He' - does it satisfy the bullet cluster bound for $\sigma_{H'H'} \leq 10^{-24} \text{cm}^2$ (expected value $\sim 10^{-16} \text{cm}^2$) (RNM, Nussinov'17)



Some questions: contd

- Observable $NN' \rightarrow T_{\text{reheat}} < 300 \text{ GeV}$ to be consistent with BBN limits on N_{eff} .
- No such limit for $NN\text{-bar}$ case.
- Low inflation reheat

Neutron oscillation can elucidate a whole range of physics beyond SM





Thank you for your attention !