

# GRAVITATIONAL WAVES FROM SUPERCOOLED PHASE TRANSITIONS IN CONFORMAL MAJORON MODELS

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Extended Scalar Sectors from All Angles- CERN - 22 October 2024



The SM is a tremendously successful theory that explains “boringly” well most its predictions!

However, it fails to...

- Explain neutrino masses
- Explain dark matter
- Explain CP violation and matter/anti-matter asymmetry
- Explain the observed flavour structure - Flavour puzzles
- Suffers from the Higgs mass *hierarchy problem*

Check A. Trautner talk on Custodial Naturalness

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However, it fails to...

Extended **scalar sectors** and new **gauge symmetries** can assist in solving these problems

• Explain neutrino masses

First Order Phase Transitions - FOPTs

• Explain dark matter

Stochastic **Gravitational-Wave Background** - SGWB

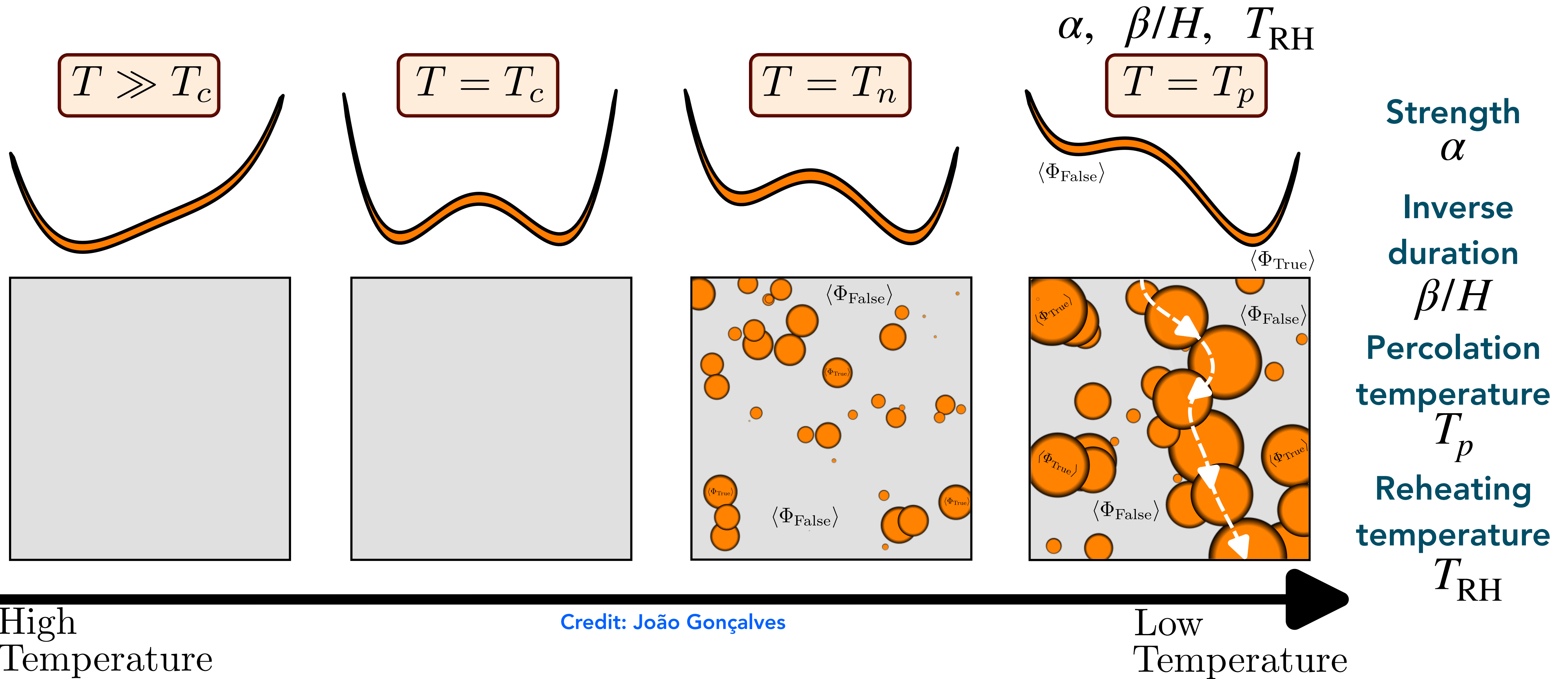
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• Explain the observed flavour structure - Flavour puzzles

• Suffers from the Higgs mass *hierarchy problem*

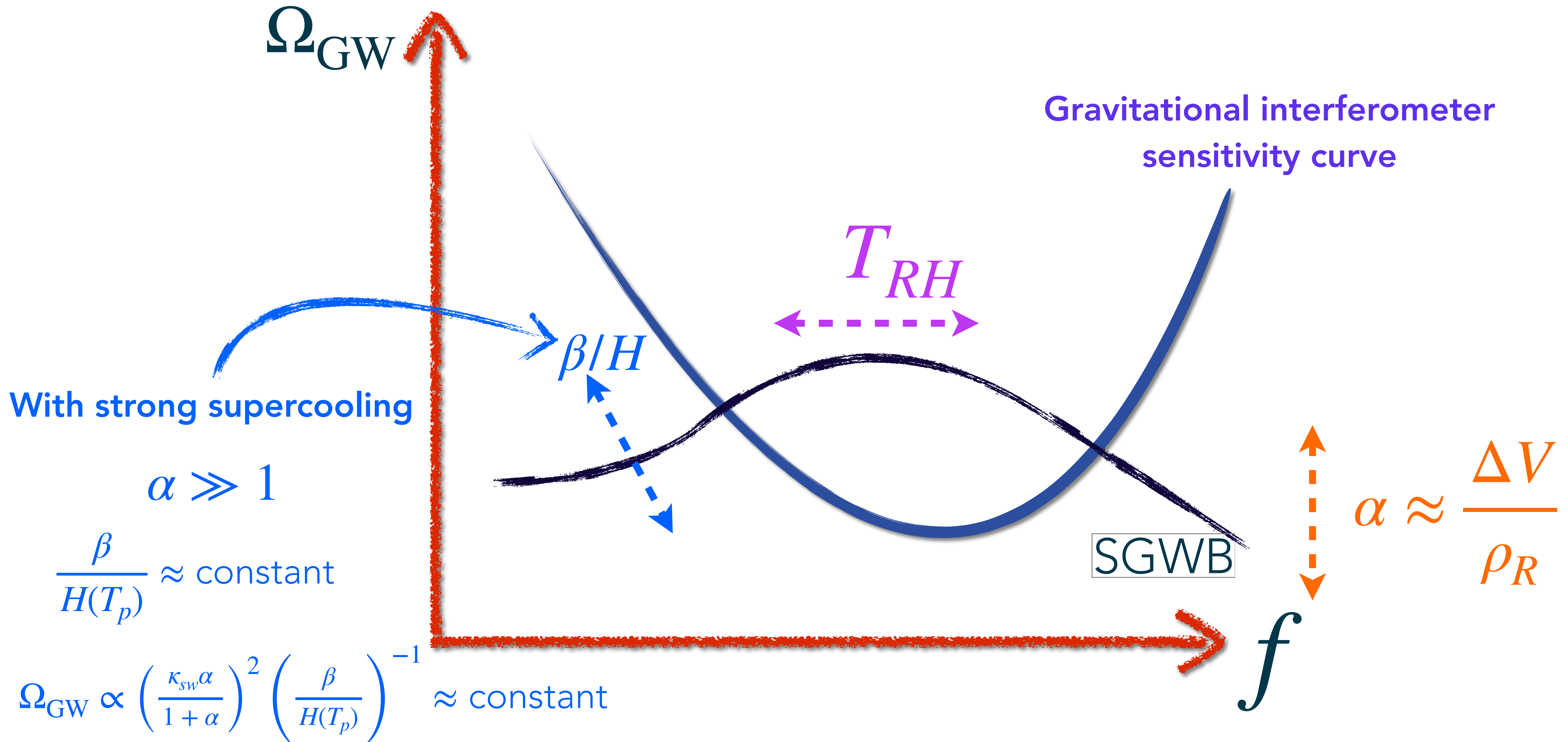
Check A. Trautner talk on Custodial Naturalness

# First order phase transition (FOPT) (Illustration)



Credit: João Gonçalves

# Effect of the thermodynamic parameters on the SGWB



# Case study: Classical scale invariant U(1)' models that explain neutrino oscillation data

Field	U(1)'
$Q$	$\frac{1}{3}x_{\mathcal{H}} + \frac{1}{6}x_{\sigma}$
$u_R$	$\frac{4}{3}x_{\mathcal{H}} + \frac{1}{6}x_{\sigma}$
$d_R$	$-\frac{2}{3}x_{\mathcal{H}} + \frac{1}{6}x_{\sigma}$
$L$	$-x_{\mathcal{H}} - \frac{1}{2}x_{\sigma}$
$e_R$	$-2x_{\mathcal{H}} - \frac{1}{2}x_{\sigma}$
$\mathcal{H}$	$x_{\mathcal{H}}$
$\nu_R$	$-\frac{1}{2}x_{\sigma}$
$\sigma$	$x_{\sigma}$

## Classical scale symmetry (CSS)

$$x \rightarrow x' = \rho x$$

$$\Phi \rightarrow \Phi' = \rho^a \Phi$$

$$a = -1 \quad \text{for bosons}$$

$$a = -3/2 \quad \text{for fermions}$$

## Neutrino masses and mixing via type-I seesaw with Majoron $\sigma$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\nu} = y_{\nu}^{ij} \bar{N}_i \mathcal{H} L_j + y_{\sigma}^{ij} \bar{N}_i^c N_j \sigma + \text{h.c.}$$

$$M_N \approx \frac{v_{\sigma}}{\sqrt{2}} \mathbf{y}_{\sigma} \quad \mathbf{m}_{\nu} \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{v^2}{v_{\sigma}} \mathbf{y}_{\nu}^T \mathbf{y}_{\sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{y}_{\nu}$$

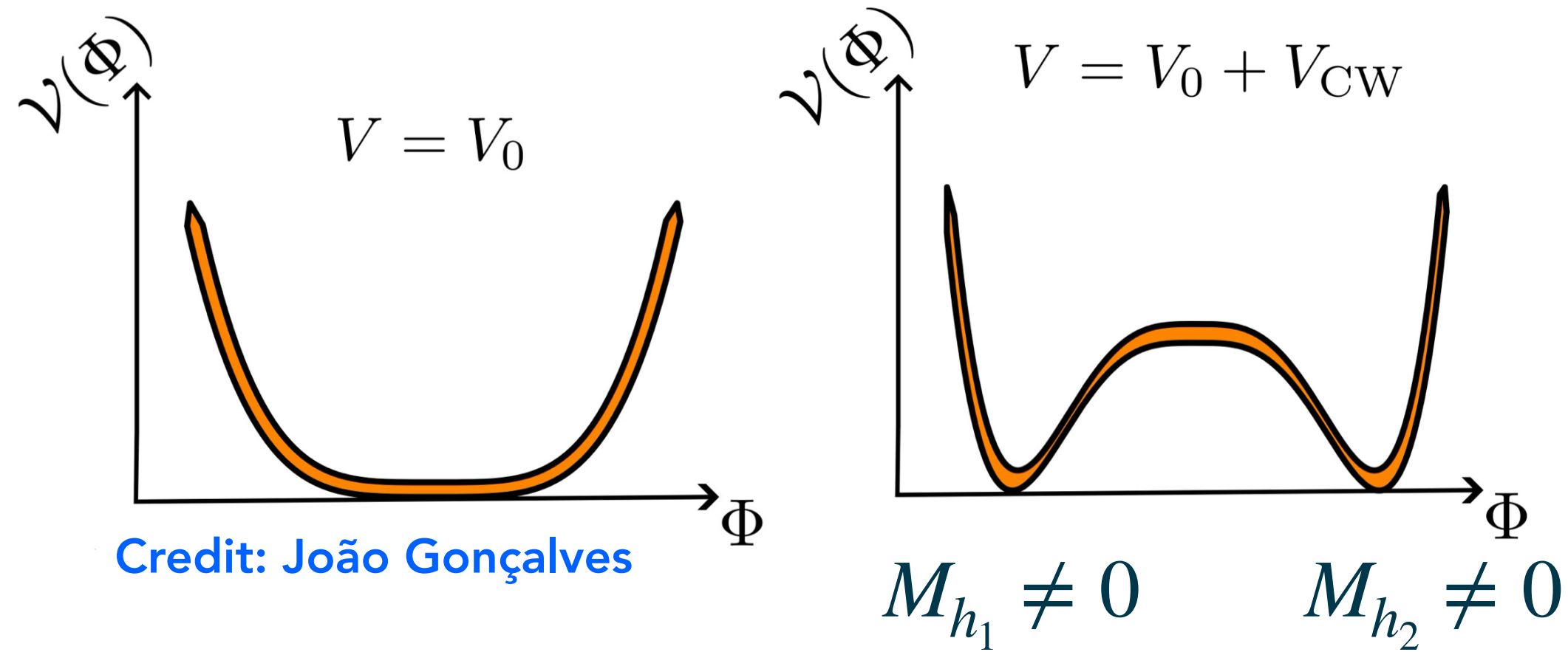
$$V_0(\mathcal{H}, \sigma) = \lambda_h (\mathcal{H}^{\dagger} \mathcal{H})^2 + \lambda_{\sigma} (\sigma^{\dagger} \sigma)^2 + \lambda_{\sigma h} (\mathcal{H}^{\dagger} \mathcal{H}) (\sigma^{\dagger} \sigma)$$

$$M_{h_1}^{(0)} \neq 0 \quad M_{h_2}^{(0)} = 0$$



New CP-even Higgs as a **Pseudo-Goldstone of CSS** denoted as **scalon** in 1976 by Gildener and Weinberg

E. Gildener and S. Weinberg, *Symmetry Breaking and Scalar Bosons*, *Phys. Rev. D* **13** (1976) 3333.



$$0 = \lambda_h v^3 + \frac{1}{2} \lambda_{\sigma h} v v_\sigma^2 + \left. \frac{\partial V_{CW}}{\partial \phi_h} \right|_{\phi_h=v, \phi_\sigma=v_\sigma},$$

$$0 = \lambda_\sigma v_\sigma^3 + \frac{1}{2} \lambda_{\sigma h} v^2 v_\sigma + \left. \frac{\partial V_{CW}}{\partial \phi_\sigma} \right|_{\phi_h=v, \phi_\sigma=v_\sigma}$$

Credit: João Gonçalves

[S. R. Coleman, E. J. Weinberg, Physical.Rev. D7 (1973) 1888]

## Advantages:

1. Dynamical symmetry breaking
2. Only **1** free parameter in the scalar sector  $M_{h_2}$
3. Only **1+2** free parameters in the gauge sector  $g_L$  and the charges  $x_\sigma, x_H$
4. Only **3** free parameter in neutrino sector  $[y_\sigma]_{ii}$  taken as diagonal
5. Rich SGWB predictions due to strongly supercooled FOPTs  $\implies h^2 \Omega_{GW}$  is large

## Just a few technicalities

$M_{h_2}$ (GeV)	$g_L$	$x_{\mathcal{H}}$	$x_{\sigma}$	$(\mathbf{y}_{\sigma})_{ii}$	$\lambda_{\sigma}, \lambda_{\sigma h}$	$\lambda_h, v_{\sigma}$	$M_{Z'}$
$[150, 10^{18}]$	$[0.20, 1.0]$	$[-2, 2]$	$[0, 5]$	$[10^{-16}, 1]$	<b>Derived from inputs</b>		



$$V(\phi_{\sigma}, T) = V_0(\phi_{\sigma}) + V_{\text{CW}}(\phi_{\sigma}) + V_T(\phi_{\sigma}, T) + V_{\text{Daisy}}(\phi_{\sigma}, T)$$

### Thermal corrections

### RG improved potential

$$\lambda \rightarrow \lambda(t)$$

$$\phi \rightarrow \frac{\phi^2}{2} \exp \left\{ \int_0^t dt \gamma(\lambda(t)) \right\}$$

$$t = \log(\mu/M_Z)$$

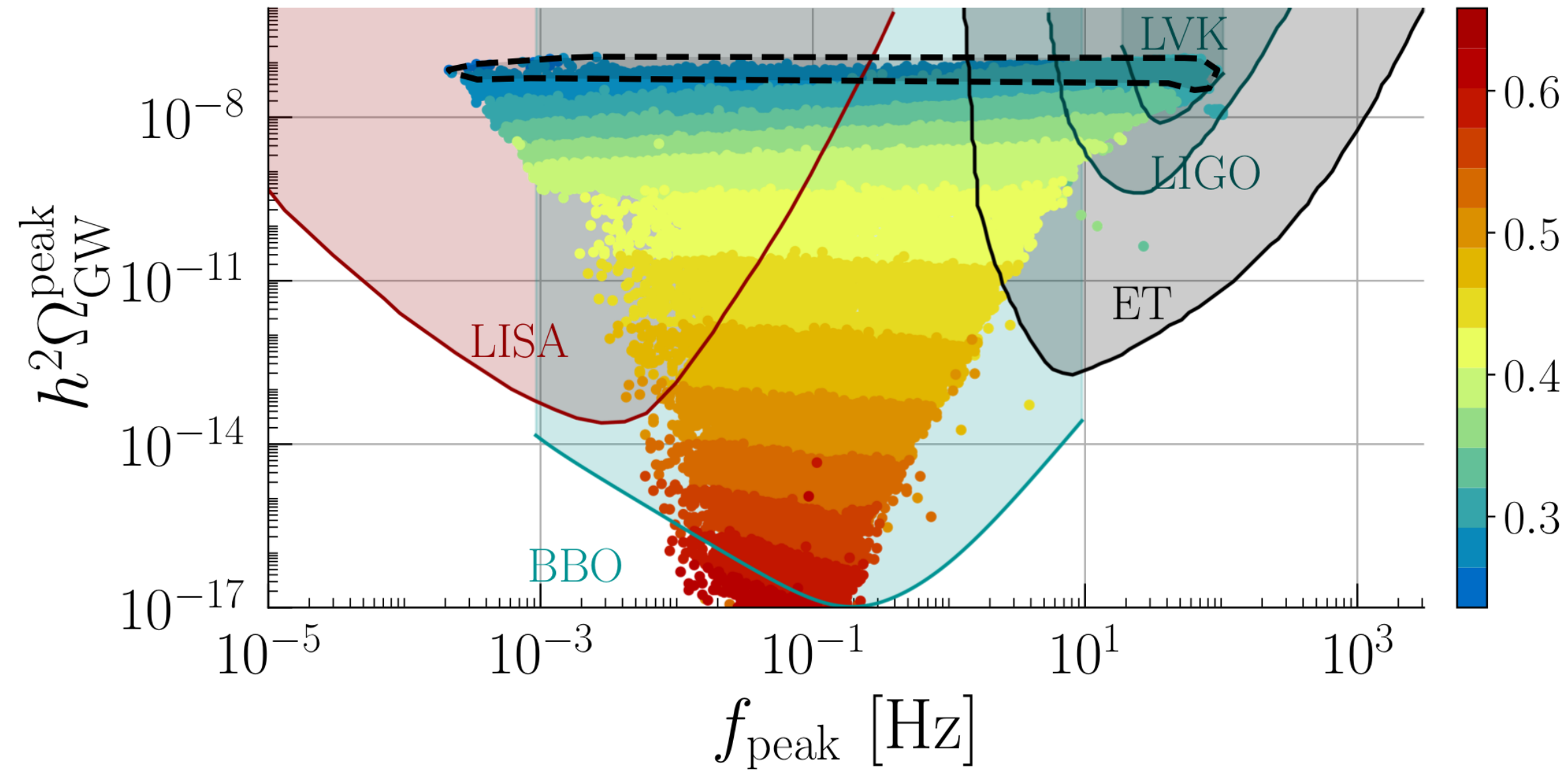
$$V_T(\phi_{\sigma}, T) = \frac{T^4}{2\pi^2} \sum_i n_i J_i \left( \frac{M^2(\phi_{\sigma})}{T^2} \right) \quad J_{F,B}(y^2) = \int_0^{\infty} dx x^2 \log \left( 1 \pm e^{-\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}} \right)$$

$$V_{\text{Daisy}}(\phi_{\sigma}, T) = -\frac{T}{2\pi} \sum_i n_i \left[ (M(\phi_{\sigma}) + \Pi(T))^3 - M^3(\phi_{\sigma}) \right]$$

Use CosmoTransitions for phase tracing and bounce solution

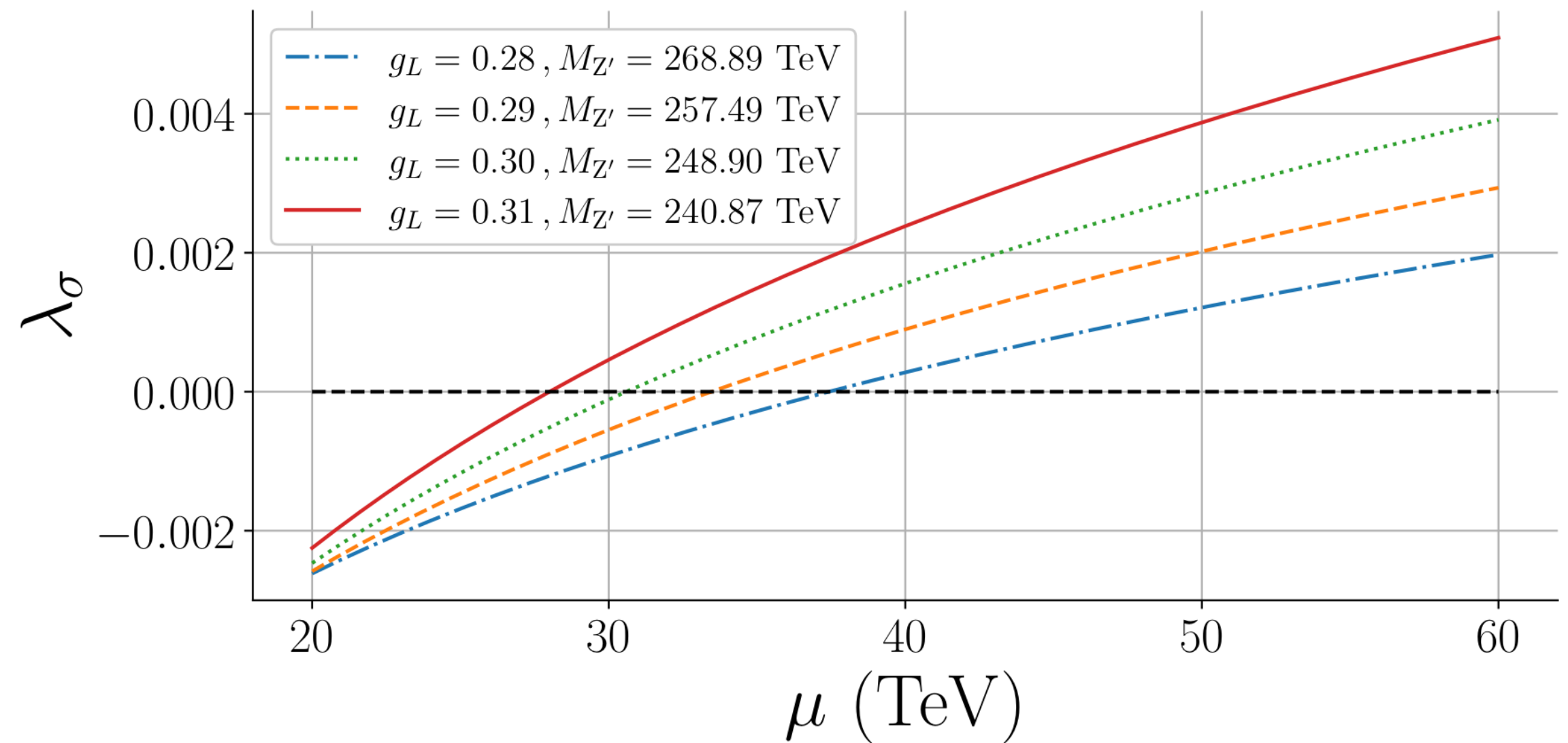
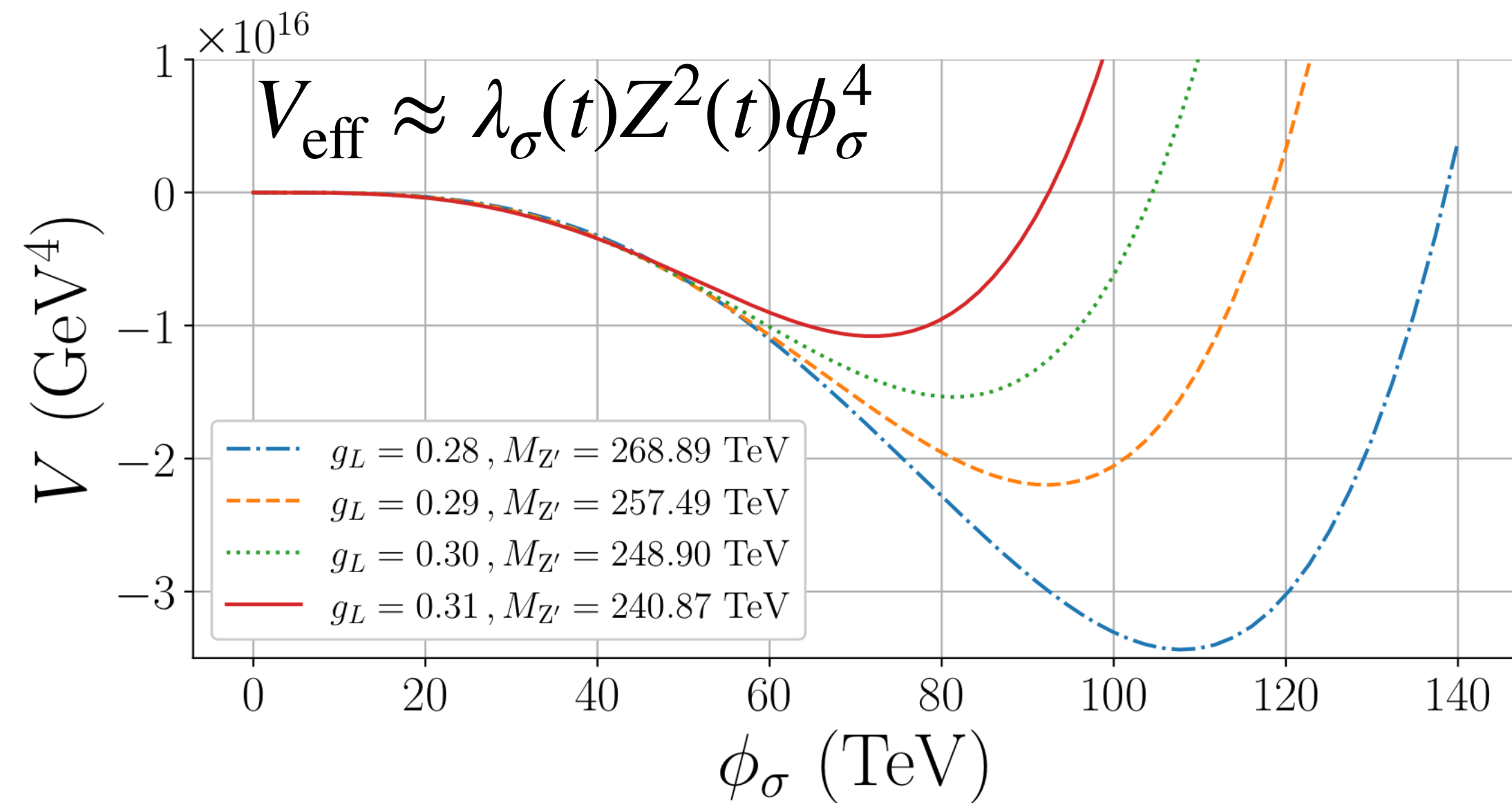


# SGWB predictions: The $U(1)_{B-L}$ case $x_\sigma = 2$ and $x_H = 0$

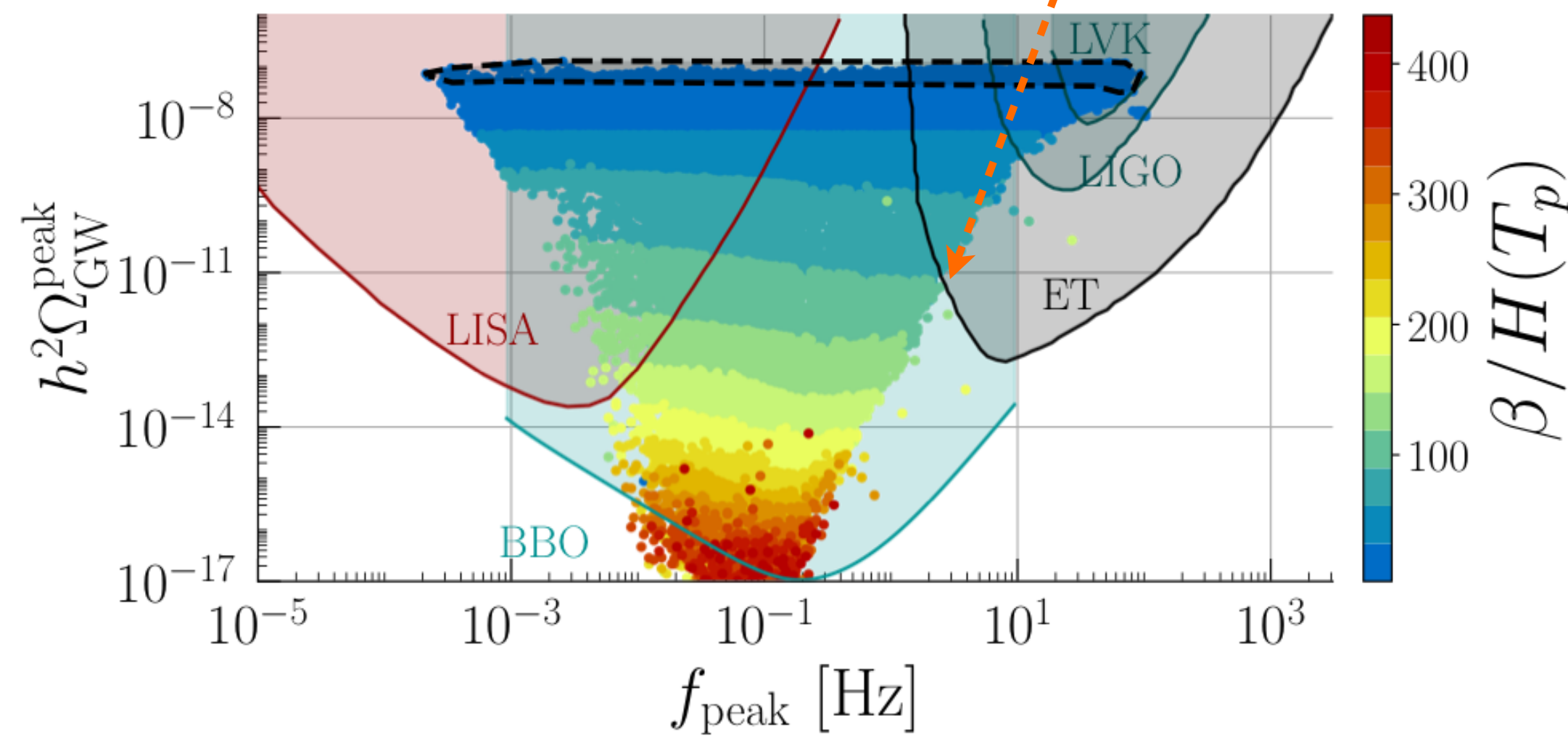
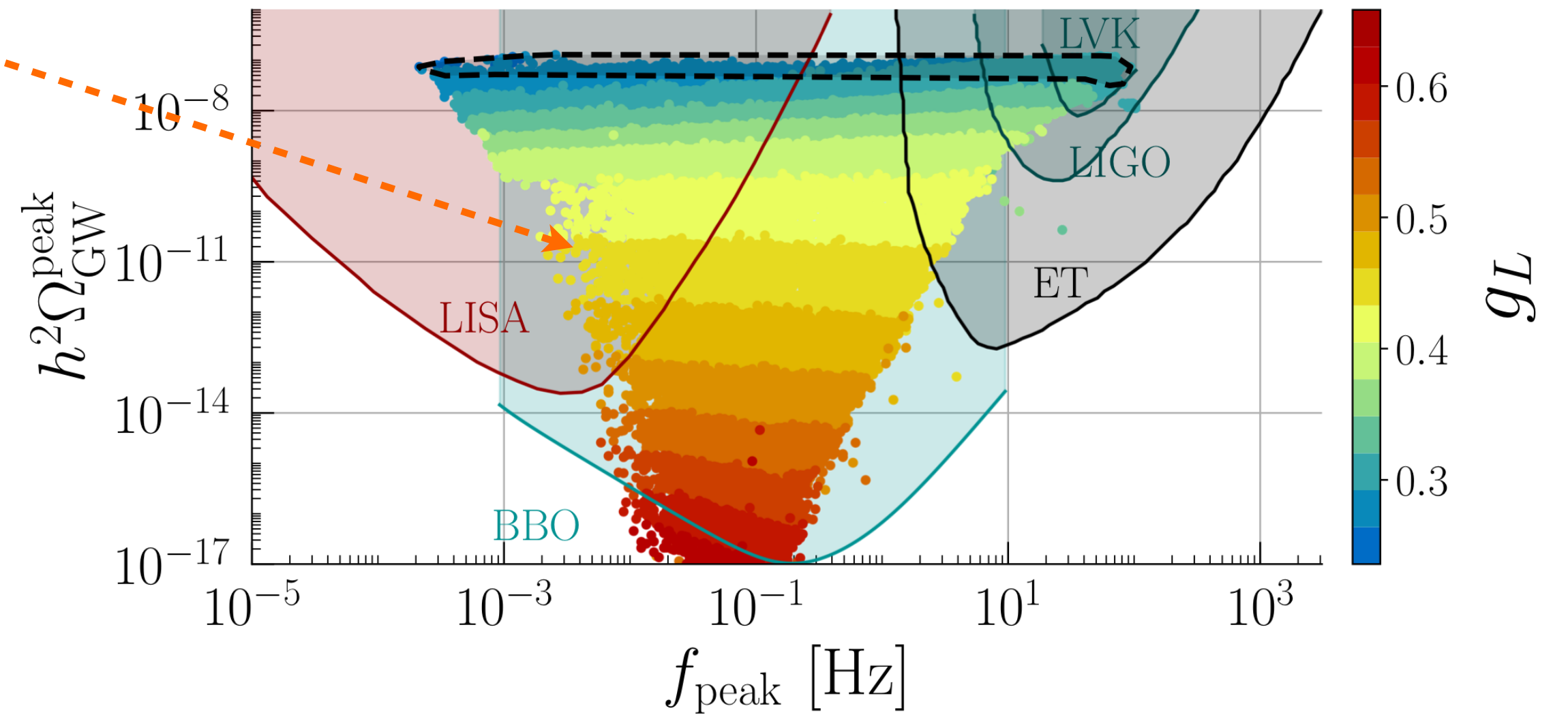
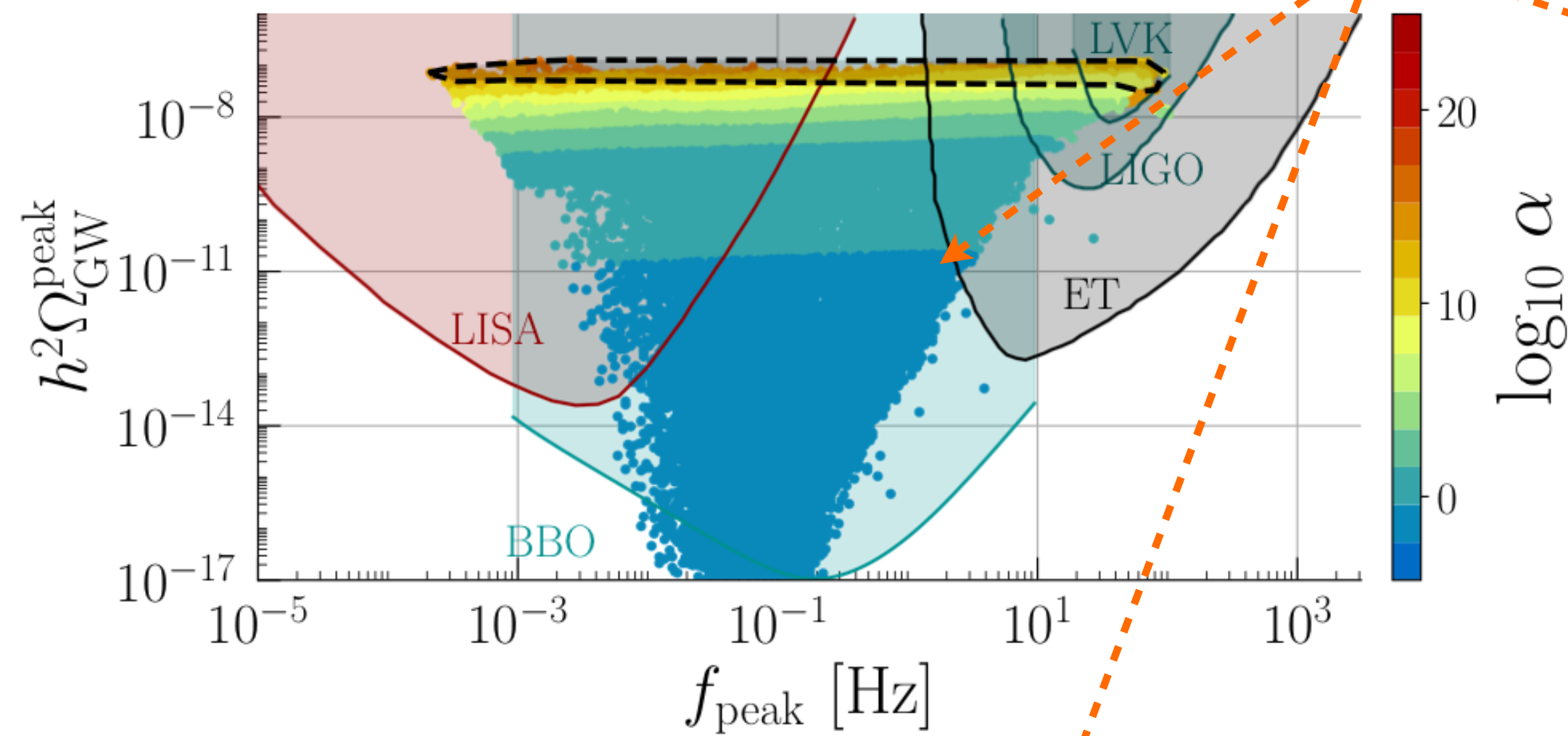


Gauge coupling controls the peak amplitude

Larger  $h^2 \Omega_{\text{GW}}^{\text{peak}}$  for smaller  $g_L$  due to slower running  $16\pi^2 \beta_{\lambda_\sigma} = 3g_L^4 x_\sigma^4 + \dots$



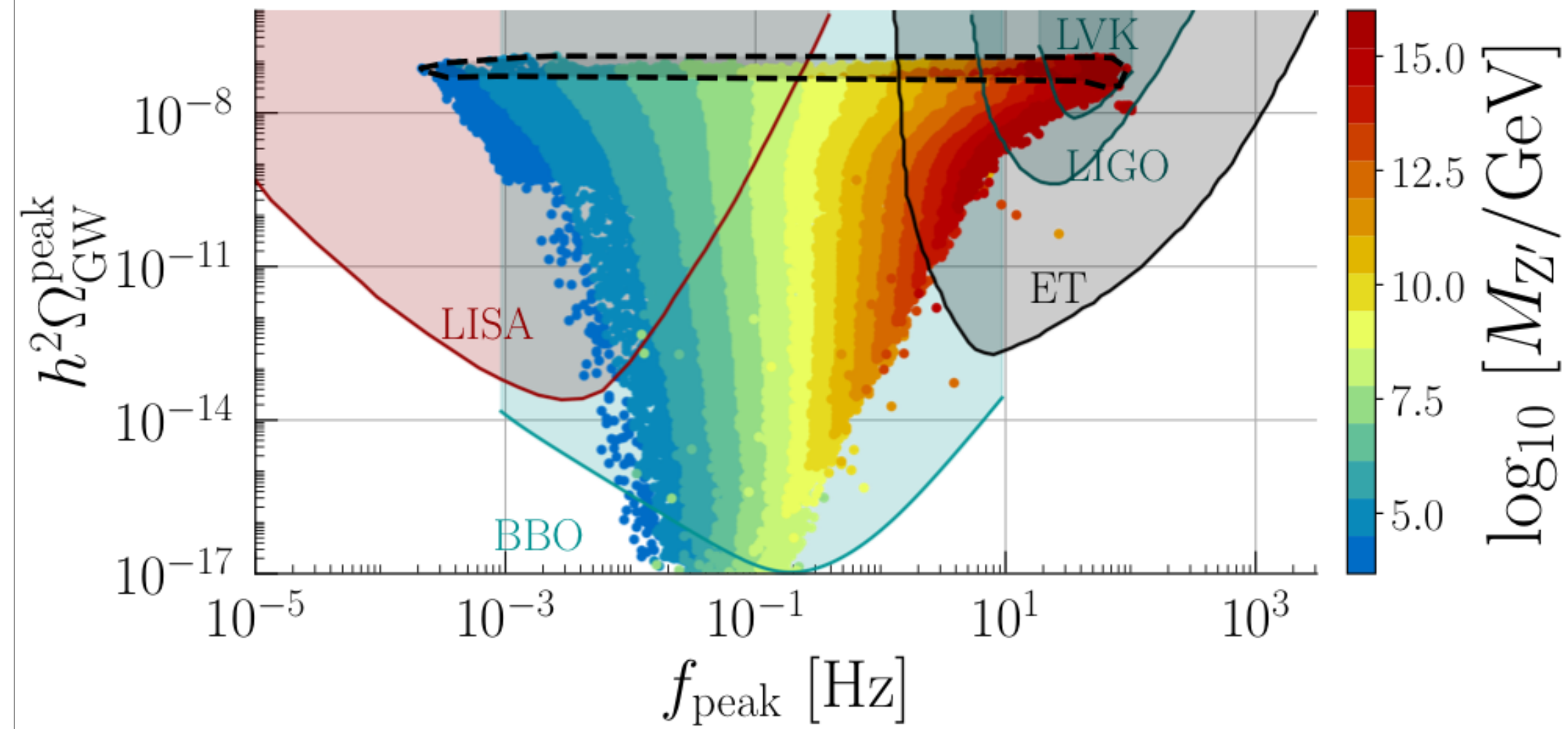
Strong supercooled FOPTs with  $\alpha > 10$  and  $\beta/H \sim \mathcal{O}(10 - 100)$  for  $0.26 \lesssim g_L \lesssim 0.42$



LVK data already setting constraints

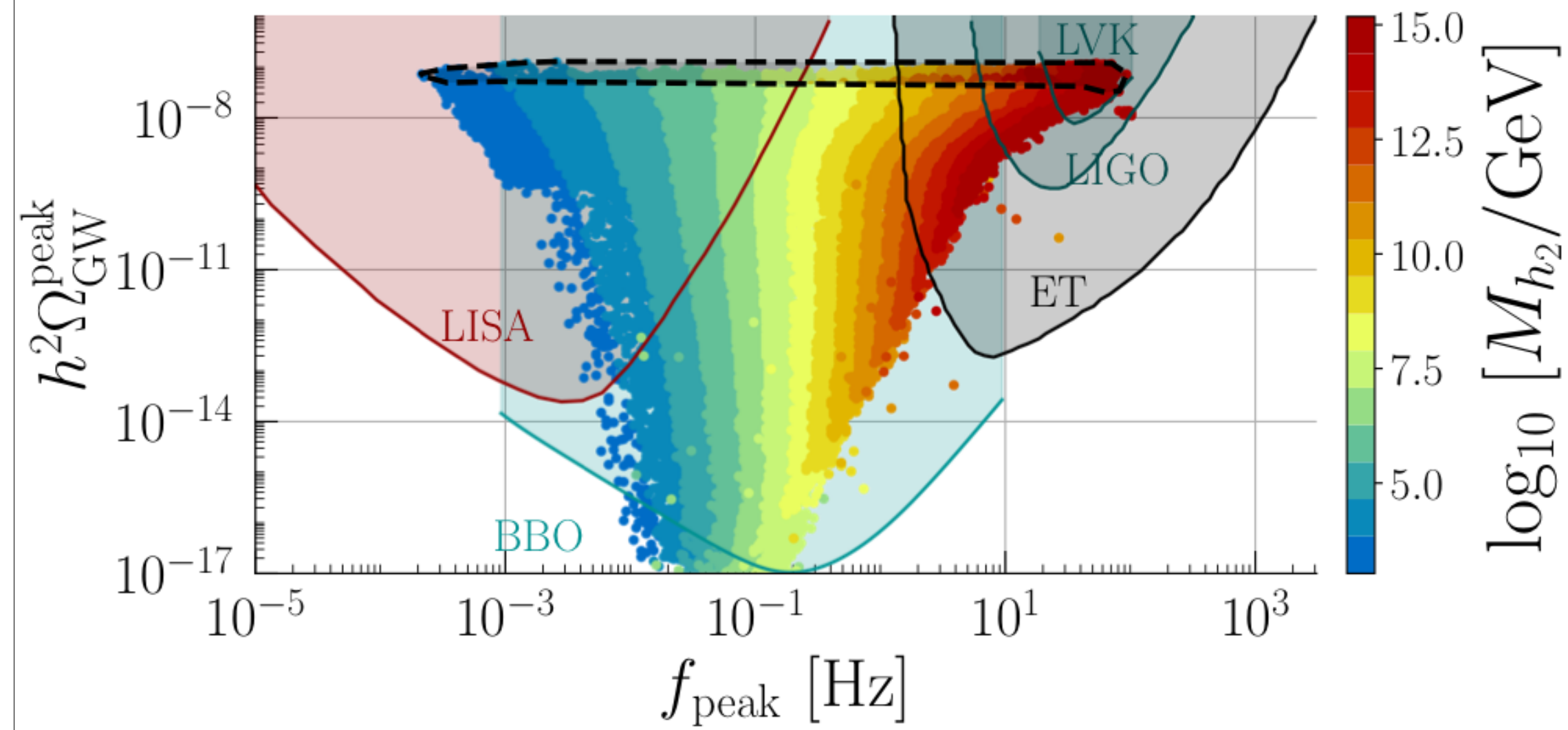
$\beta/H$  dependency flattens out with strong supercooling

Inside dashed contour the volume of false vacuum near  $T_p$  is not decreasing but only at  $T < T_p$



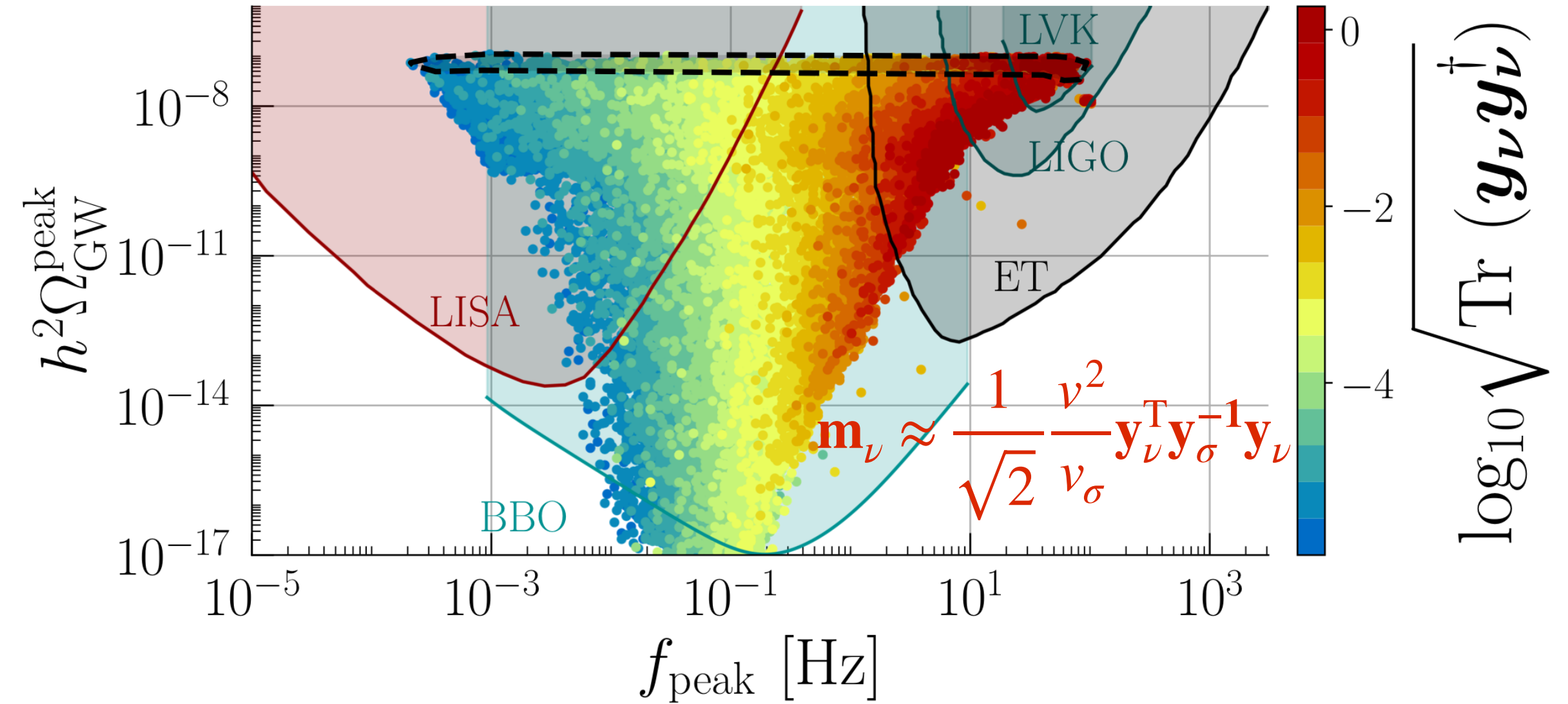
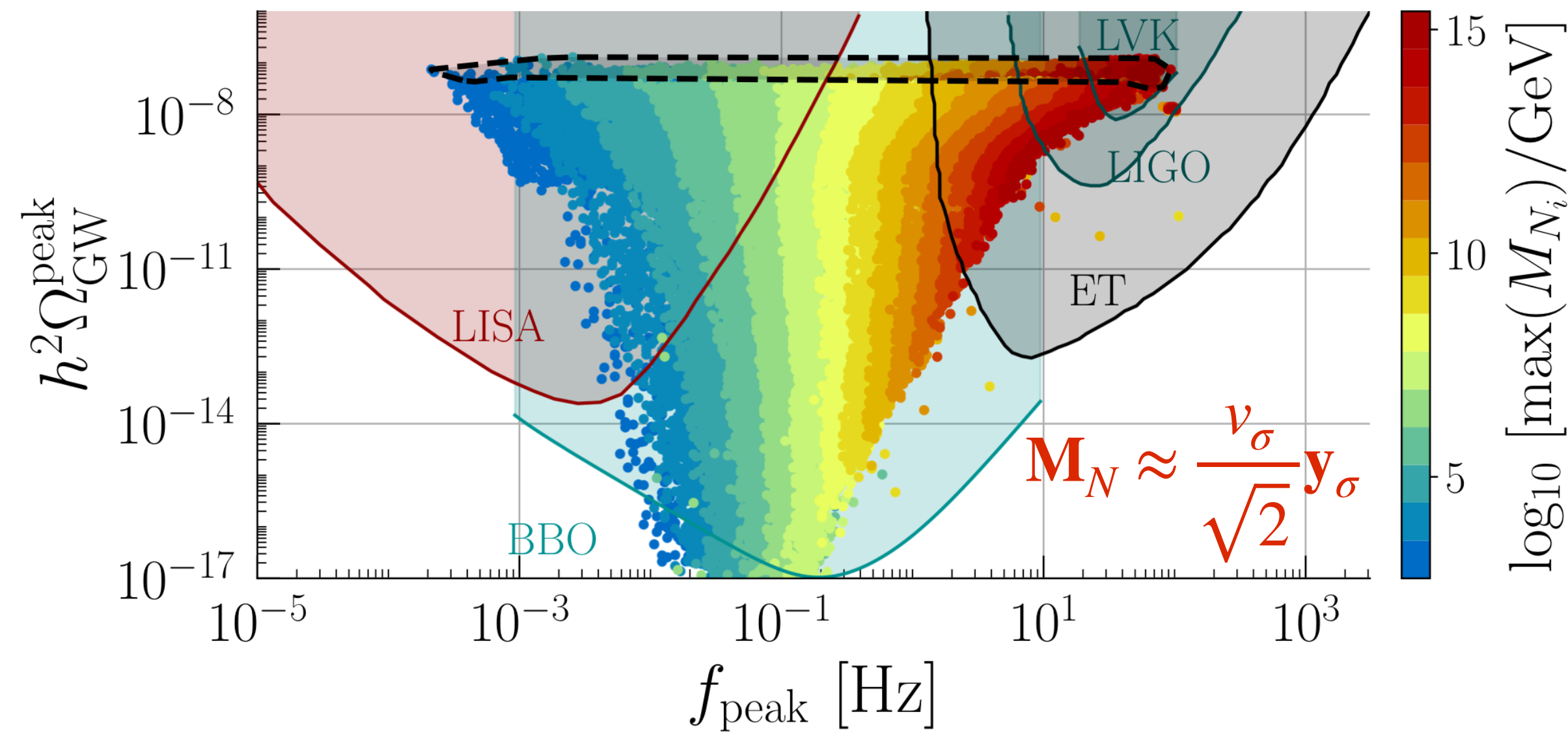
**Peak frequency controlled by the mass scale**

$Z'$  is always  $\approx 1$  order of magnitude heavier than  $h_2 \rightarrow$  pseudo-Goldstone of CSS breaking



**LVK can already constrain  $M_{h_2} \sim 10^{15}$  GeV and  $M_{Z'} \sim 10^{16}$  GeV for  $g_L \approx 0.3$  and in classical conformal  $U(1)_{B-L}$  models**

# Neutrino sector



**Require thermal equilibrium of  $N_i$  with SM before onset of the FOPT:**  $\frac{(y_\nu y_\nu^\dagger)_{ii} v^2}{5T_c m_{eq}} > 1$  with  $m_{eq} \approx 1.1 \text{ meV} \sqrt{g^*/g_*^{\text{SM}}}$   
 [Di Bari, Marfatia, Zhou, 2106.00025]

**1. At LISA frequencies seesaw scale in  $10^4 \lesssim M_N/\text{GeV} \lesssim 10^8$  with  $10^{-6} \lesssim y_\nu \lesssim 10^{-3}$**

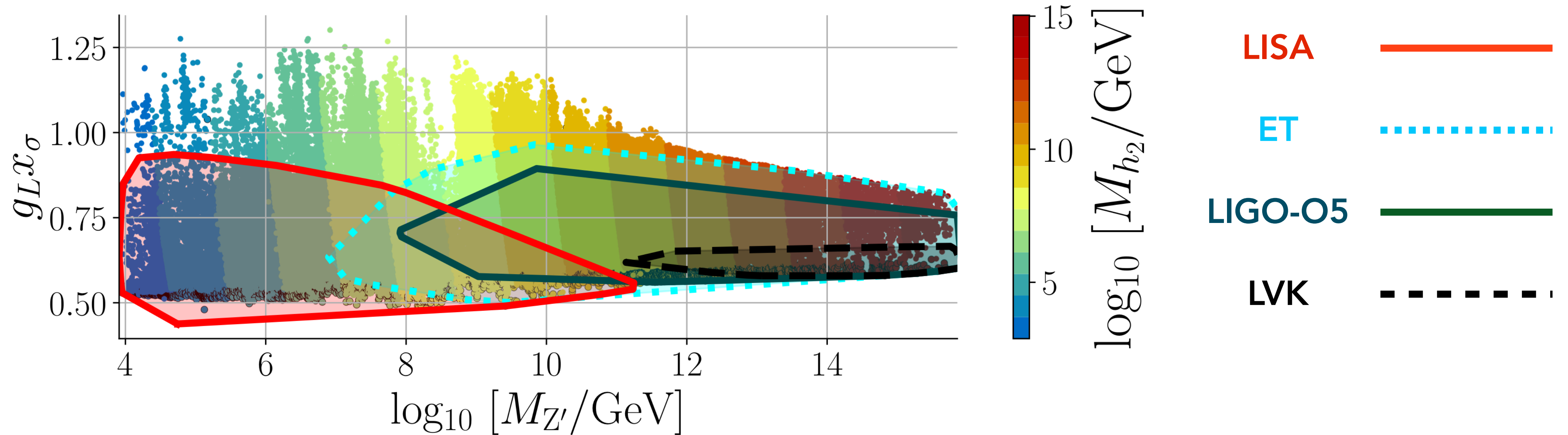
**2. At LIGO and ET frequencies seesaw scale in  $10^9 \lesssim M_N/\text{GeV} \lesssim 10^{15}$  with  $10^{-2} \lesssim y_\nu \lesssim 1$**

**LVK can already constrain  $M_N \sim 10^{15} \text{ GeV}$  for  $y_\sigma \sim 0.1$  and  $y_\nu \sim 1$  in classical conformal  $U(1)_{B-L}$  models with type-I seesaw**

# Testing supercooling with SGWB in generic U(1)' models

$$\text{SNR} = \sqrt{\mathcal{T} \int df \frac{h^2 \Omega_{\text{GW}}(f)}{h^2 \Omega_{\text{Sens}}(f)}}$$

Used  $\mathcal{T} = 4$  years exposure and required SNR  $> 10$  for observable SGWB



LVK excluded a region with  $10^{11} \text{ GeV} \lesssim 10 M_{h_2} \sim M_{Z'} < 10^{16} \text{ GeV}$  with  $g_L x_\sigma \sim 0.6$

LISA+ET+LIGO can cover the entire mass range  $M_{h_2} > 1 \text{ TeV}$ ,  $M_{Z'} > 10 \text{ TeV}$  with  $0.5 \lesssim g_L x_\sigma \lesssim 0.8$

# Conclusions

1. Current and near future GW interferometers (LISA+ET+LIGO) can:
  - (i) Test the presence of strong supercooling with  $\alpha \gtrsim 10$  in generic CSS U(1)' models
  - (ii) Put constraints on the seesaw scale as well as on gauge  $g_L x_\sigma$  and Yukawa  $y_\sigma$  and  $y_\nu$  couplings in the presence of supercooled FOPTs
  - (iii) LVK data is already constraining this class of models for masses above  $10^{11}$  GeV,  $g_L x_\sigma \approx 0.6$ ,  $y_\nu \sim 1$  and  $y_\sigma \sim 0.1$
2. Presence of right-handed neutrinos is crucial for SGWB observables at high frequencies
3. Overall, LISA+ET+LIGO can either rule out most of the parameter space challenging the hypothesis of supercooled FOPTs and CSS, or lead to a groundbreaking discovery

# MY FAVOURITE DARK MATTER MODEL

14–17 Apr 2025  
Portugal  
Europe/Lisbon timezone



Overview

Timetable

Registration

Participant List

Rui Santos

✉ [rasantos@fc.ul.pt](mailto:rasantos@fc.ul.pt)



## Goal of the meeting

Dark matter is a long outstanding problem in modern astrophysics and one of the biggest mysteries physicists are currently struggling to understand. Its presence throughout the Universe is inferred by its

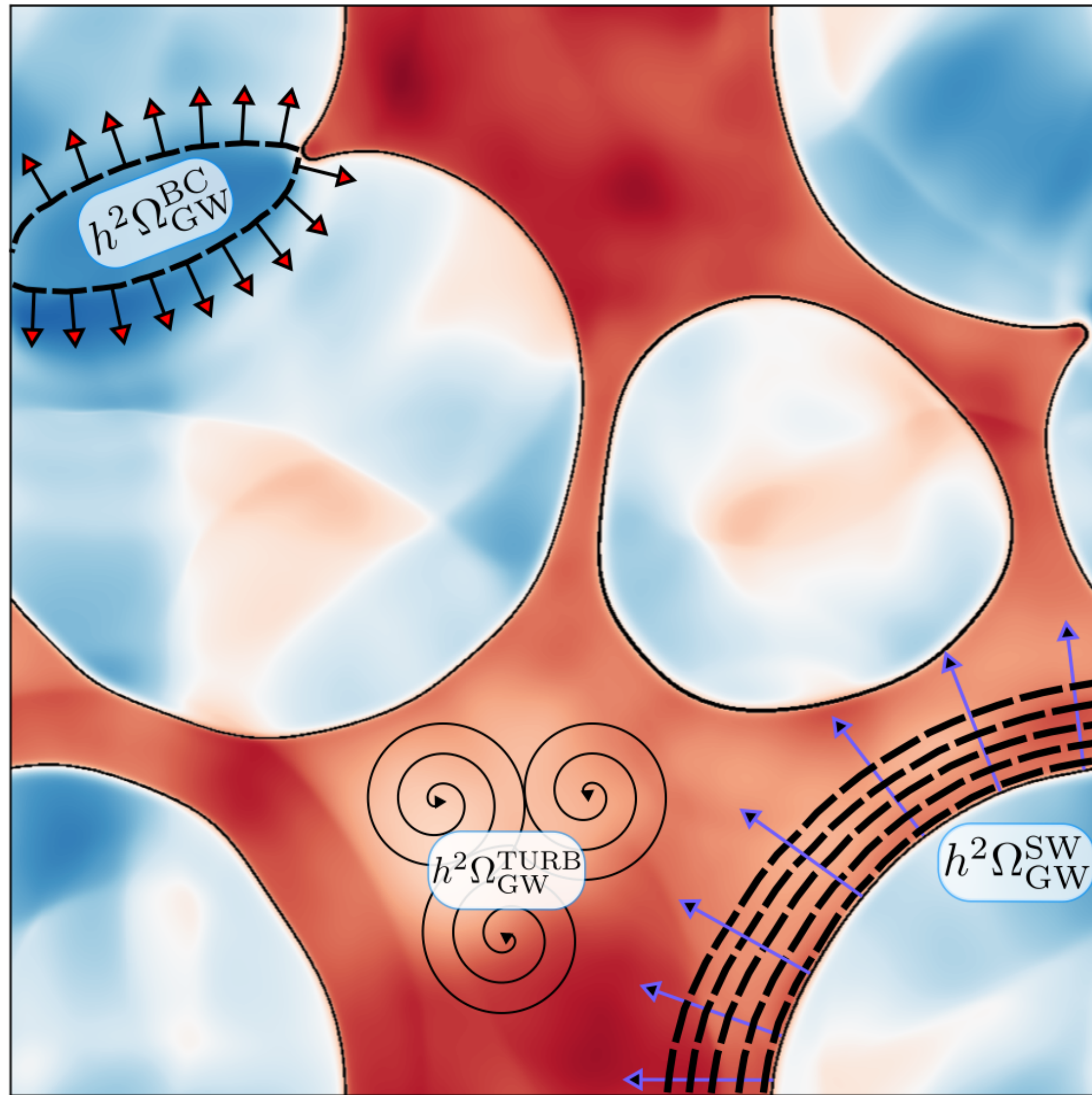
<https://indico.cern.ch/event/1346673/overview>

An aerial photograph of a university campus. The campus features several large, multi-story brick buildings with flat roofs. In the foreground, there is a large parking lot filled with cars, a road with a roundabout, and some green spaces with trees. In the background, a large body of water, possibly a bay or a large lake, stretches across the horizon under a clear blue sky. The text "THANK YOU" is overlaid in the center of the image in a large, white, sans-serif font.

THANK YOU



# Sources of SGWB



1. **Bubble collisions:** Can become efficient with supercooling for extreme  $\alpha \gg \gg 1$
2. **Sound waves:** Dominant in most cases due to friction
3. **Magnetohydrodynamics turbulence:** highly uncertain and subdominant at the peak (at least for now...)

Latest SGWB templates taken from LISA CosWG

[C. Caprini, et al., 2403.03723]

Adapted from *Phys.Rev.Lett.* 125 (2020) 2, 021302

## 5. Rich SGWB predictions due to strongly supercooled FOPTs $\implies h^2\Omega_{\text{GW}}$ is large

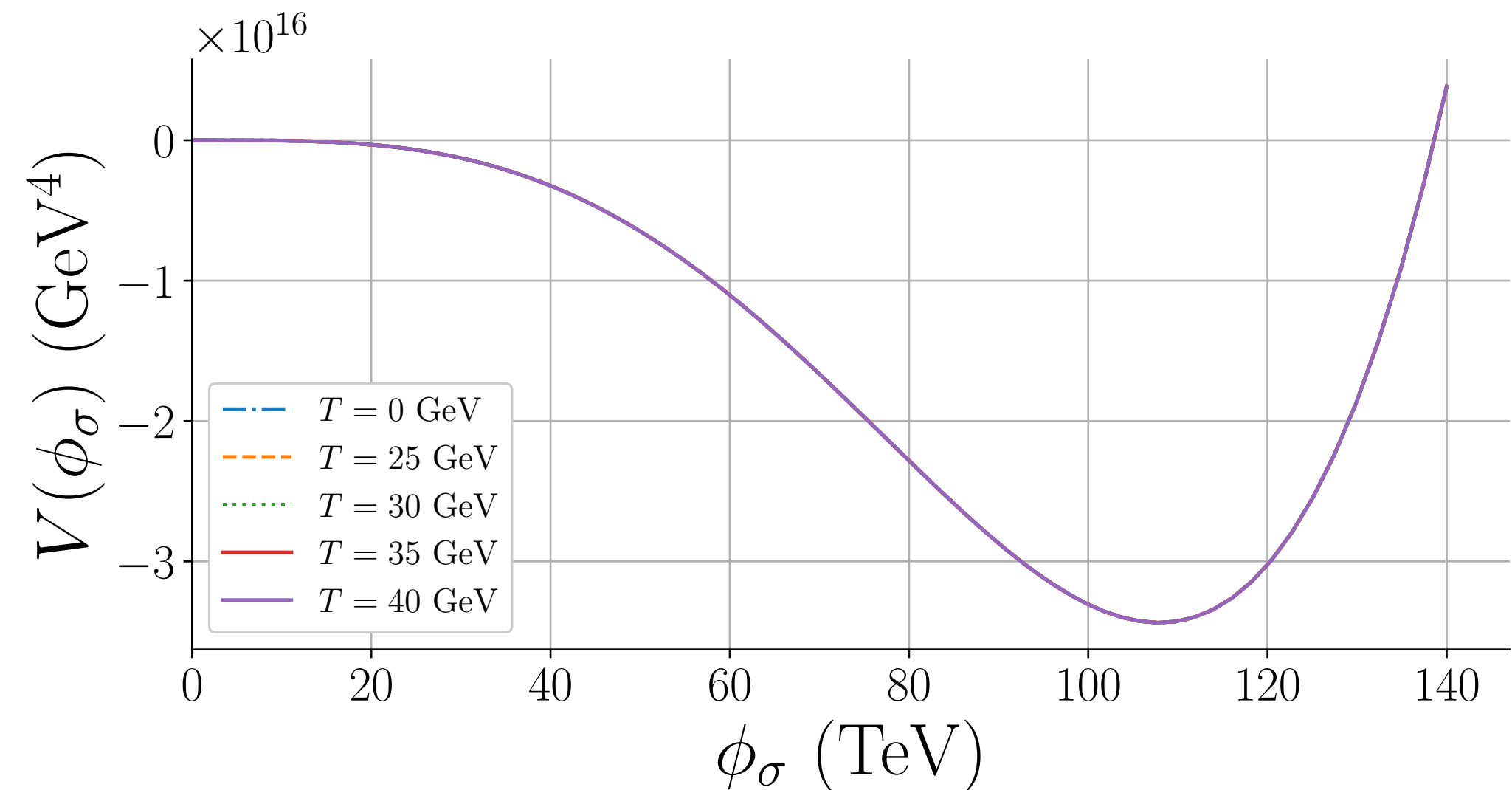
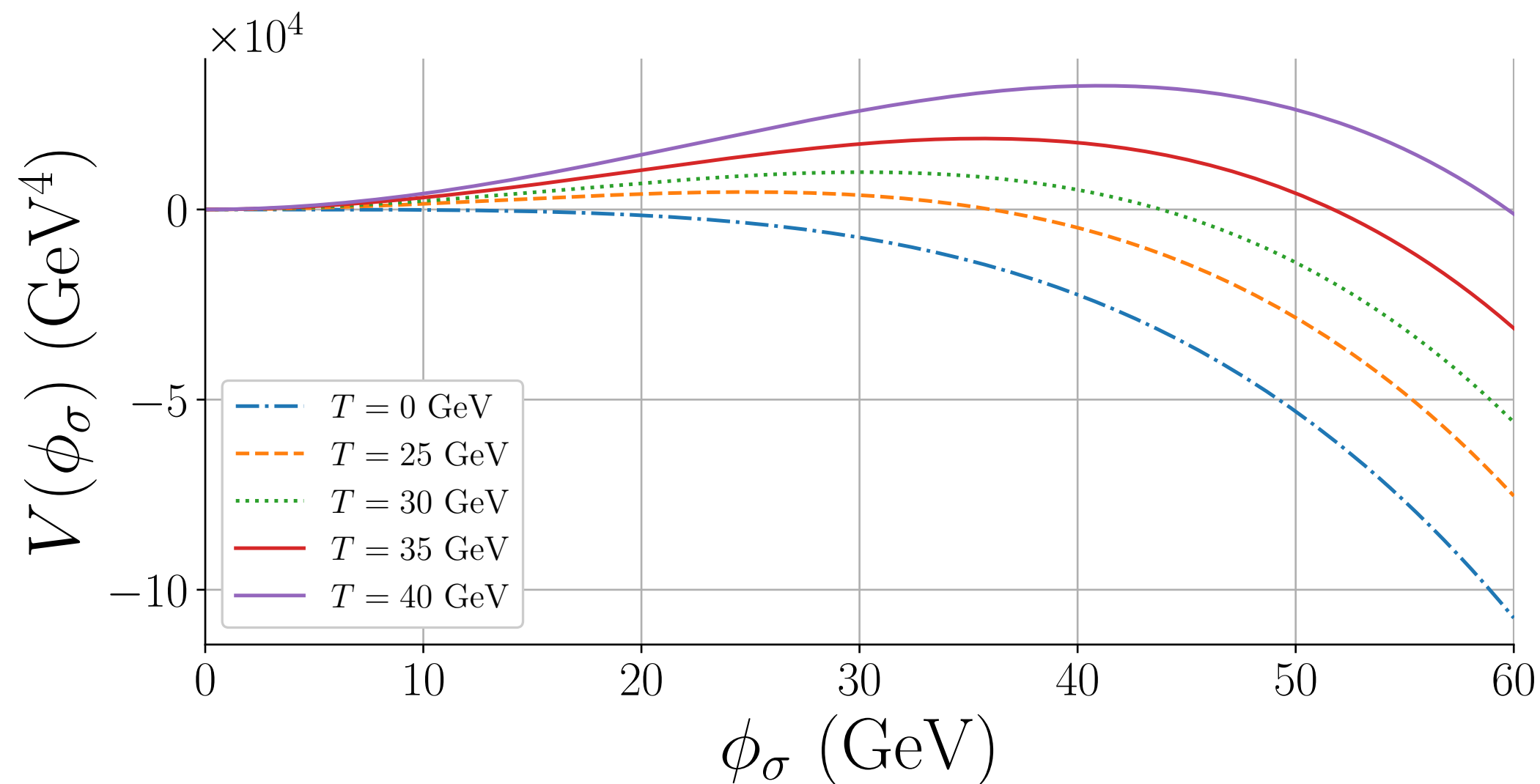
$$V_{\text{eff}}^{\text{HT}} = \phi_\sigma^4 \left( -\frac{g_L^4}{2\pi^2} - \frac{g_L^3}{2\sqrt{2}\pi} + \frac{\lambda_\sigma}{4} + \frac{\ln 2 \left( \left[ \sum_{i=1}^3 [\mathbf{y}_\sigma^4]_{ii} \right] \right)}{32\pi^2} \right) - \phi_\sigma^3 \frac{4g_L^3 T}{3\pi} + \phi_\sigma^2 \left( \frac{g_L^2 T^2}{2} - \frac{g_L^3 T^2}{\sqrt{2}\pi} + \frac{T^2}{48} \sum_{i=1}^3 [\mathbf{y}_\sigma^2]_{ii} \right)$$

5.1) Negative cubic term generated at finite T

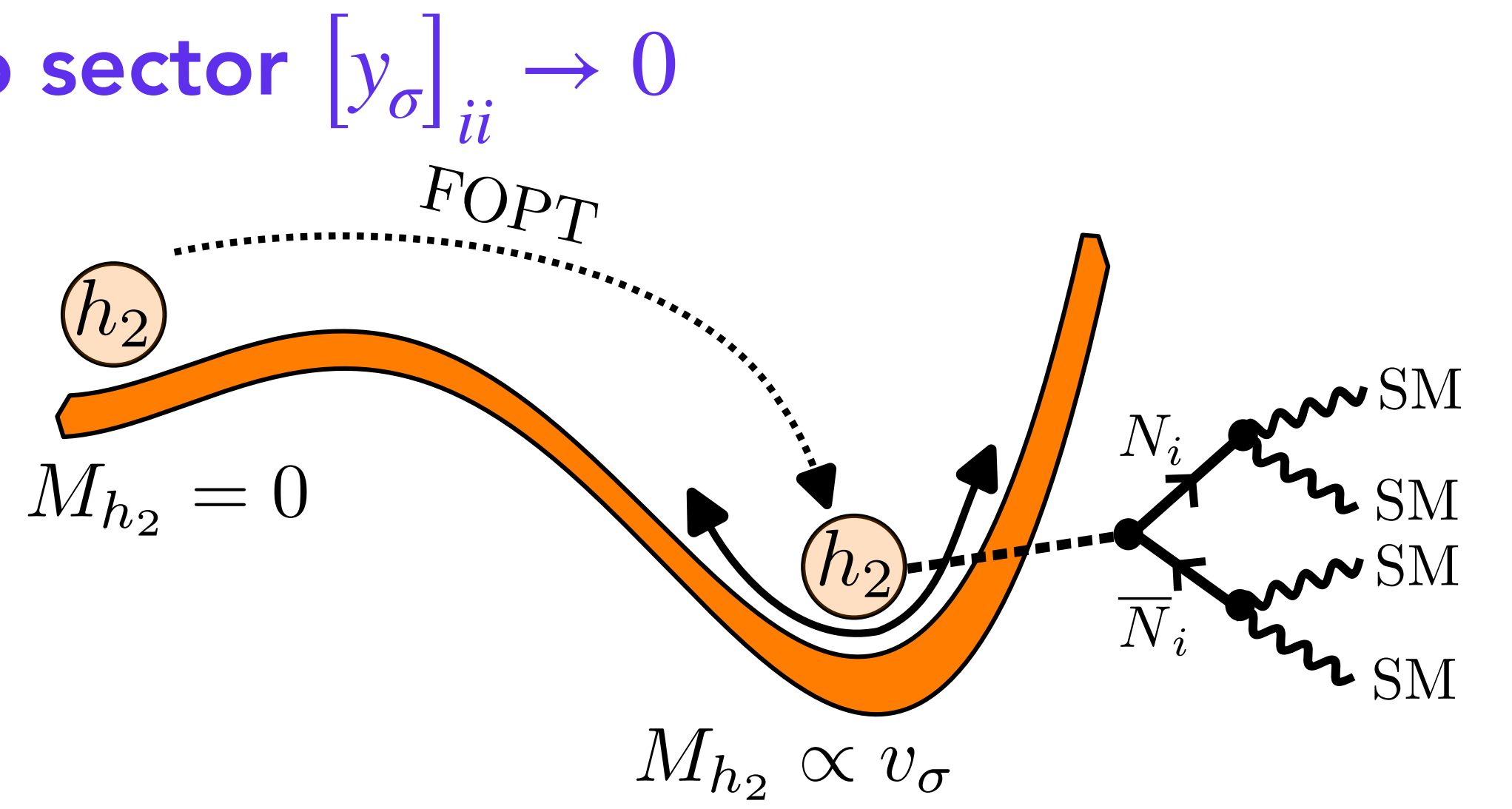
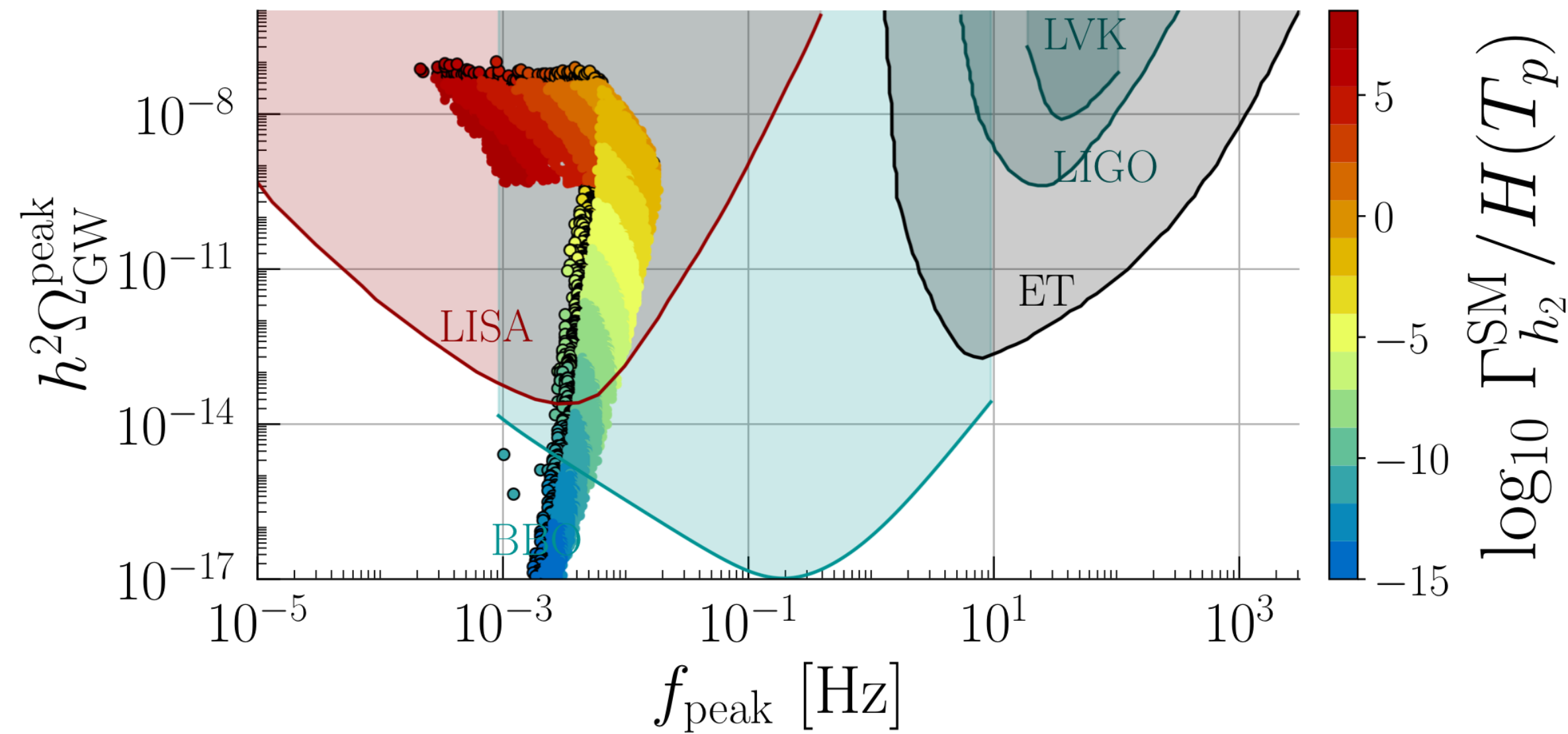
5.2) Potential barrier persists as the Universe **supercools** down to  $T \rightarrow 0$

5.3)  $\Delta V$  is maximized  $\implies \alpha \approx \frac{\Delta V}{\rho_R} \gg 1$

5.4) Long lasting FOPT  $\beta/H \sim \mathcal{O}(10 - 100)$



# What if we remove neutrino sector $[y_\sigma]_{ii} \rightarrow 0$



$$\Gamma_{h_2} = \Gamma_{h_2 \rightarrow p_{\text{SM}} p_{\text{SM}}^*} + \Gamma_{h_2 \rightarrow \bar{N}_i N_i} \Gamma_{N_i \rightarrow p_{\text{SM}} p_{\text{SM}}^*}$$

Checked using MadGraph

No SGWB predictions at high frequencies — LIGO, ET

Heavy Higgs decay to SM highly suppressed by portal

coupling  $\lambda_{\sigma h} \sim \frac{v^2}{v_\sigma^2}$  for  $M_{h_2} \gtrsim 100 \text{ TeV}$

SGWB at LIGO/ET can be seen as a strong hint for the presence of the neutrino sector in this class of models

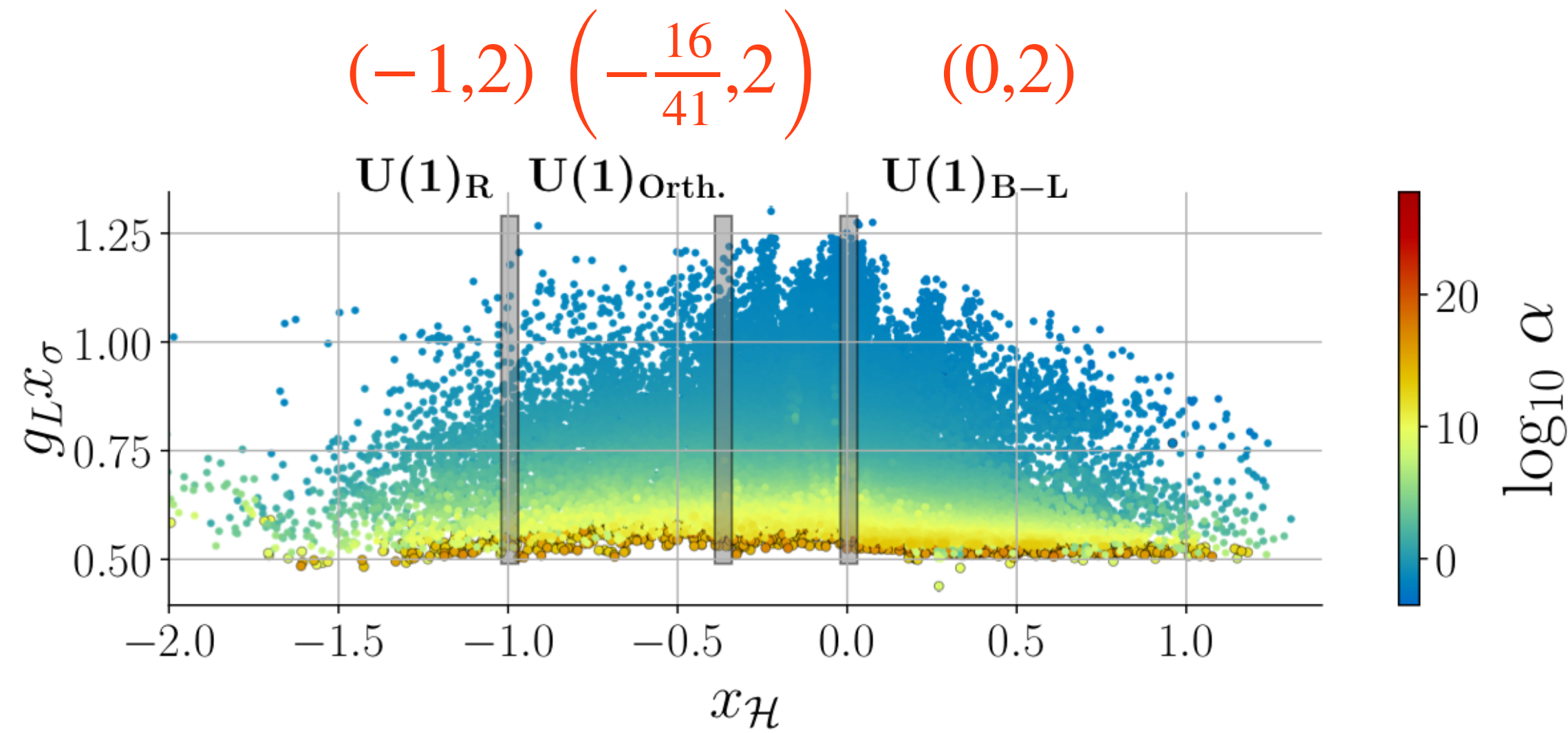
Early matter domination if  $\Gamma_{h_2} < H(T_p) \implies$  SUPPRESSION of SGWB

$$h^2 \Omega_{\text{SW}}^{\text{peak}} \propto \left( \frac{\kappa_{\text{sw}} \alpha}{1 + \alpha} \right)^2 \left( \frac{\beta}{H(T_p)} \right)^{-1} \left( \frac{\Gamma_{h_2}}{H(T_p)} \right)^{2/3}$$

$$f_{\text{peak}} \propto \left( \frac{\beta}{H(T_p)} \right) \left( \frac{T_{\text{RH}}}{\text{GeV}} \right) \left( \frac{\Gamma_{h_2}}{H(T_p)} \right)^{-1/3}$$

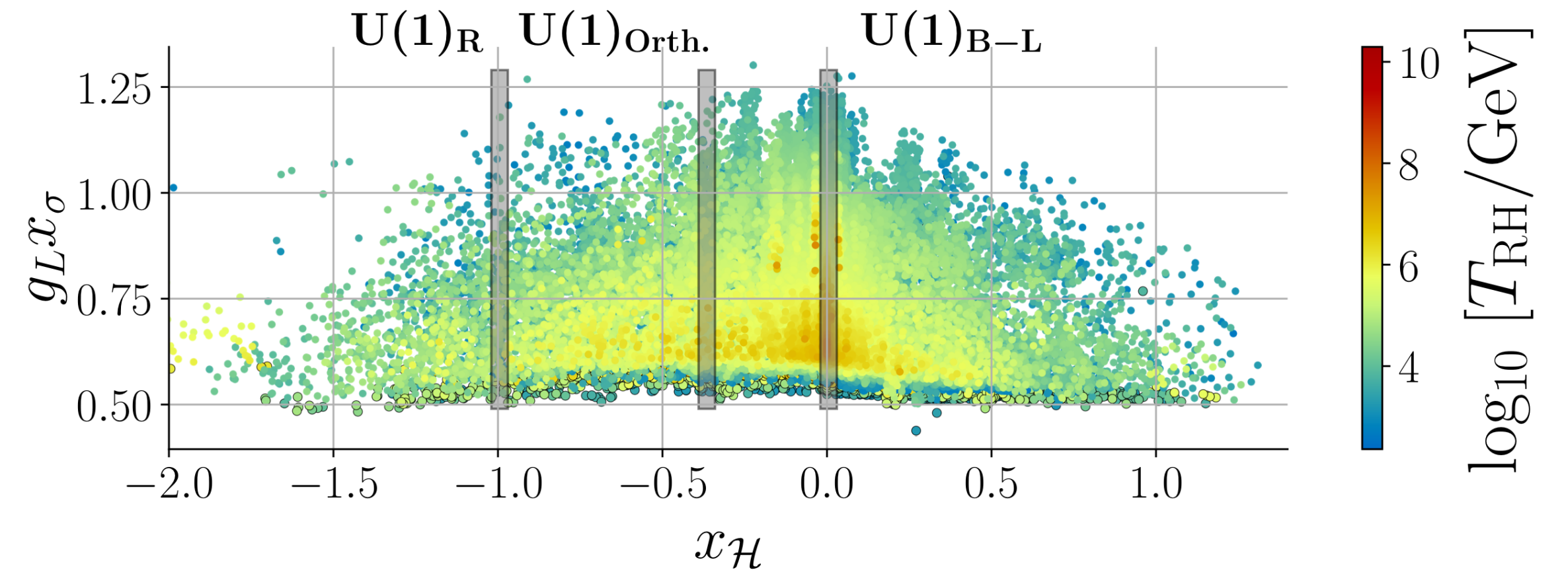
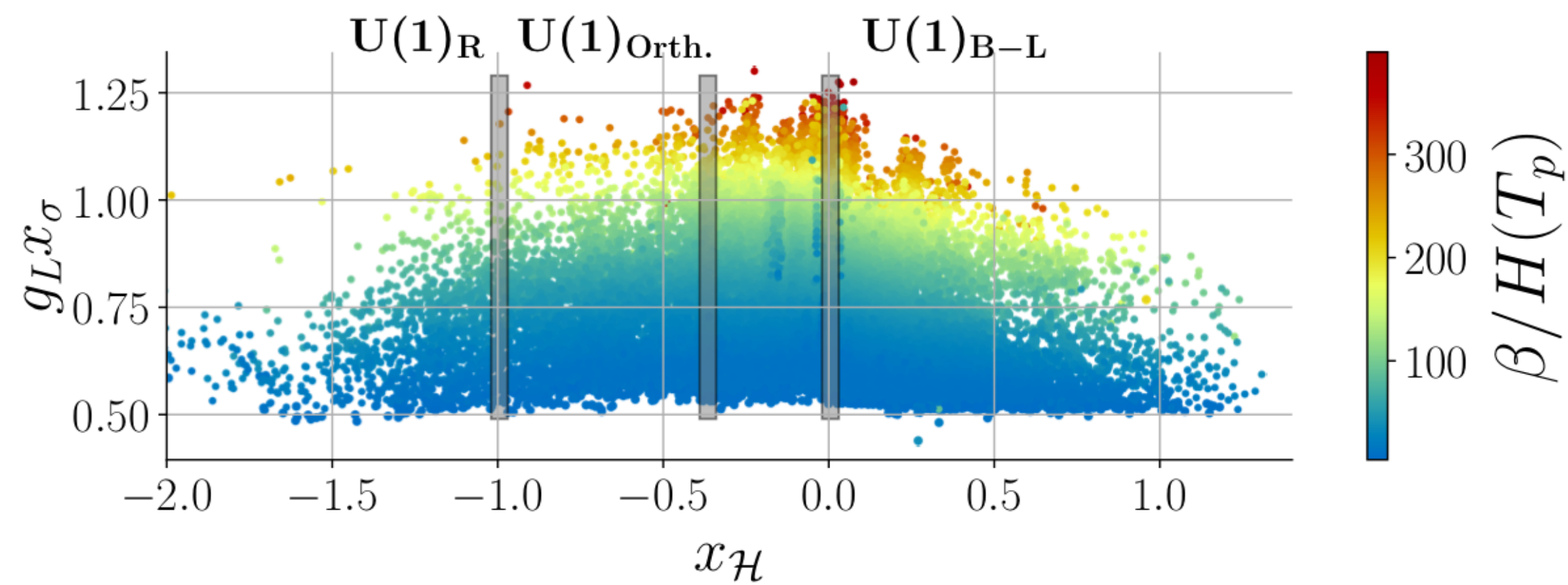
$$T_{\text{RH}} \approx T_p (1 + \alpha)^{1/4} \left( \frac{\Gamma_{h_2}}{H(T_p)} \right)^{1/2} \quad T_c > T_{\text{RH}} \gg T_n > T_p$$

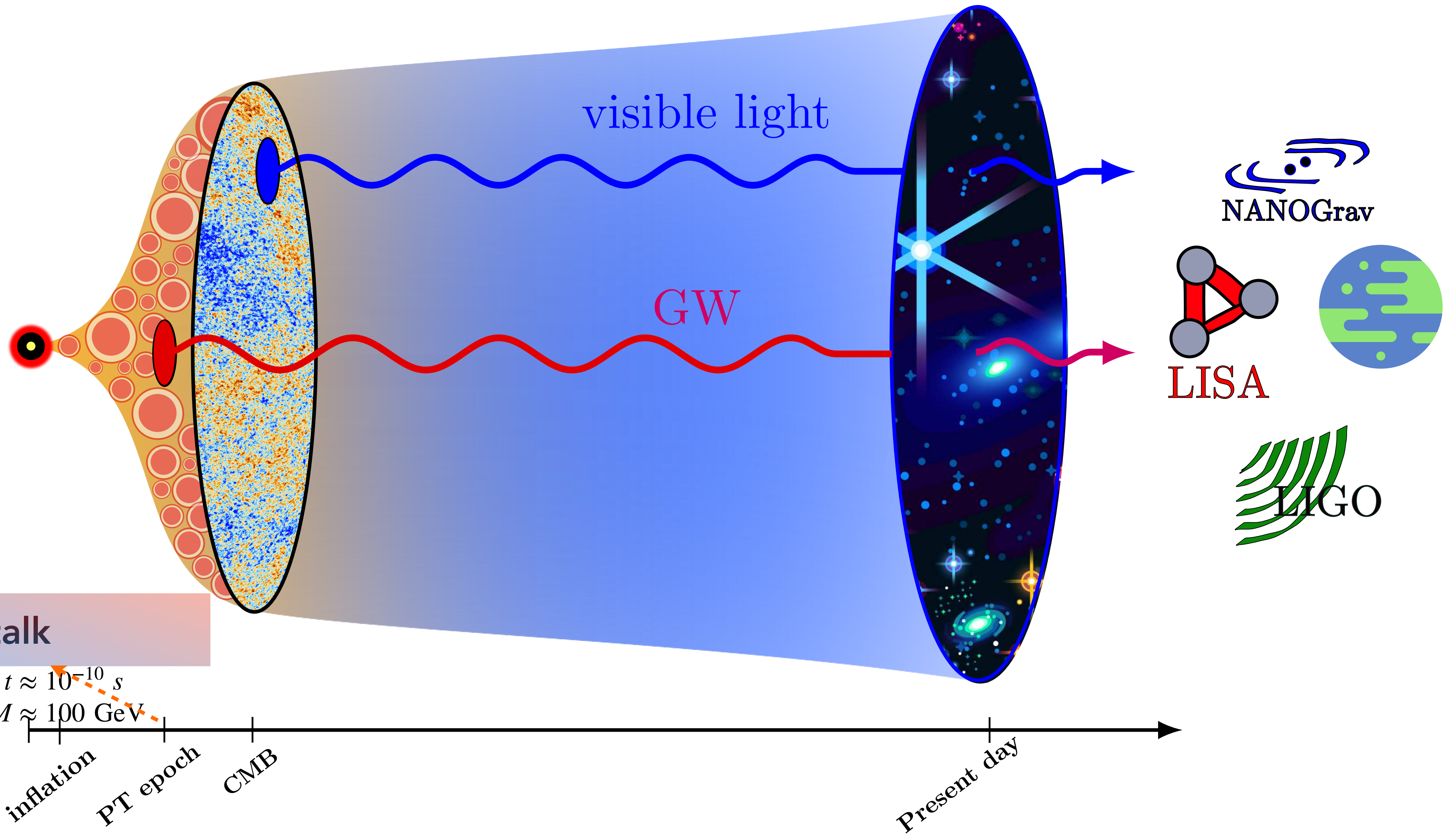
# SGWB predictions for generic $U(1)'$ with charges $(x_H, x_\sigma)$



Thermodynamic parameters weakly dependent on  $x_H$

Higher temperatures preferred near the B-L model  $\leftarrow$  larger charges imply Landau poles at lower scales





## From thermodynamic to SGWB geometric parameters

$$h^2 \Omega_{\text{SW}}^{\text{peak}} \propto \left( \frac{\kappa_{\text{sw}} \alpha}{1 + \alpha} \right)^2 \left( \frac{\beta}{H(T_p)} \right)^{-1} \left( \frac{\Gamma_{h_2}}{H(T_p)} \right)^{2/3}$$

$$h^2 \Omega_{\text{BC}}^{\text{peak}} \propto \left( \frac{\kappa_{\text{bc}} \alpha}{1 + \alpha} \right)^2 \left( \frac{\beta}{H(T_p)} \right)^{-2} \left( \frac{\Gamma_{h_2}}{H(T_p)} \right)^{2/3}$$

$$f_{\text{peak}} \propto \left( \frac{\beta}{H(T_p)} \right) \left( \frac{T_{\text{RH}}}{\text{GeV}} \right) \left( \frac{\Gamma_{h_2}}{H(T_p)} \right)^{-1/3}$$

$$T_{\text{RH}} \approx T_p (1 + \alpha)^{1/4} \left( \frac{\Gamma_{h_2}}{H(T_p)} \right)^{1/2}$$

$$T_c > T_{\text{RH}} \gg T_n > T_p$$

Early matter domination if  $\Gamma_{h_2} < H(T_p) \implies$  SUPPRESSION of SGWB

Take  $\frac{\Gamma_{h_2}}{H(T_p)} = 1$  if radiation domination *i.e.*  $\Gamma_{h_2} > H(T_p)$

# The role of the neutrino sector I

When  $y_\sigma \gtrsim g_L$  they start to compete:

1. At large field values/frequencies:

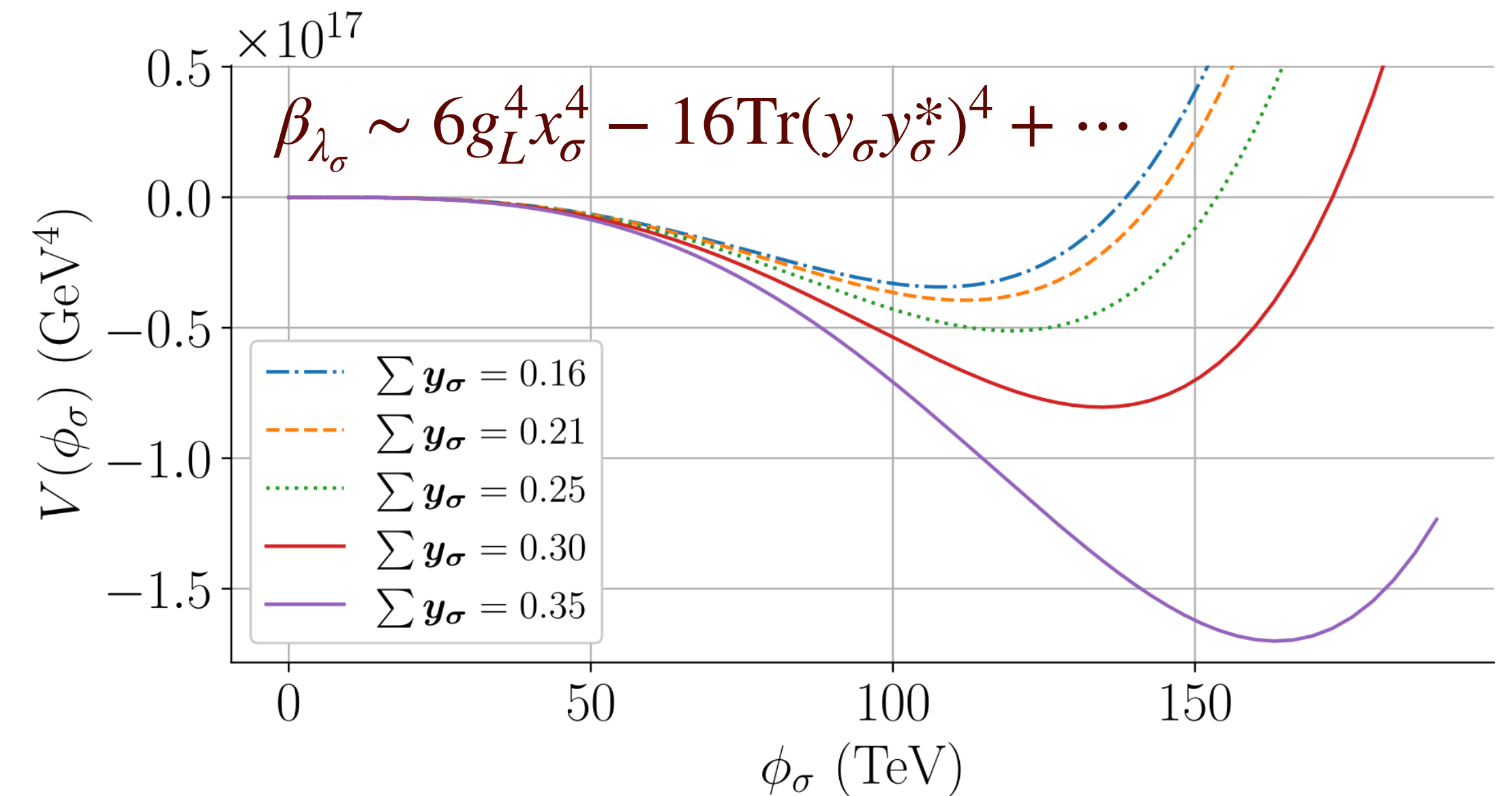
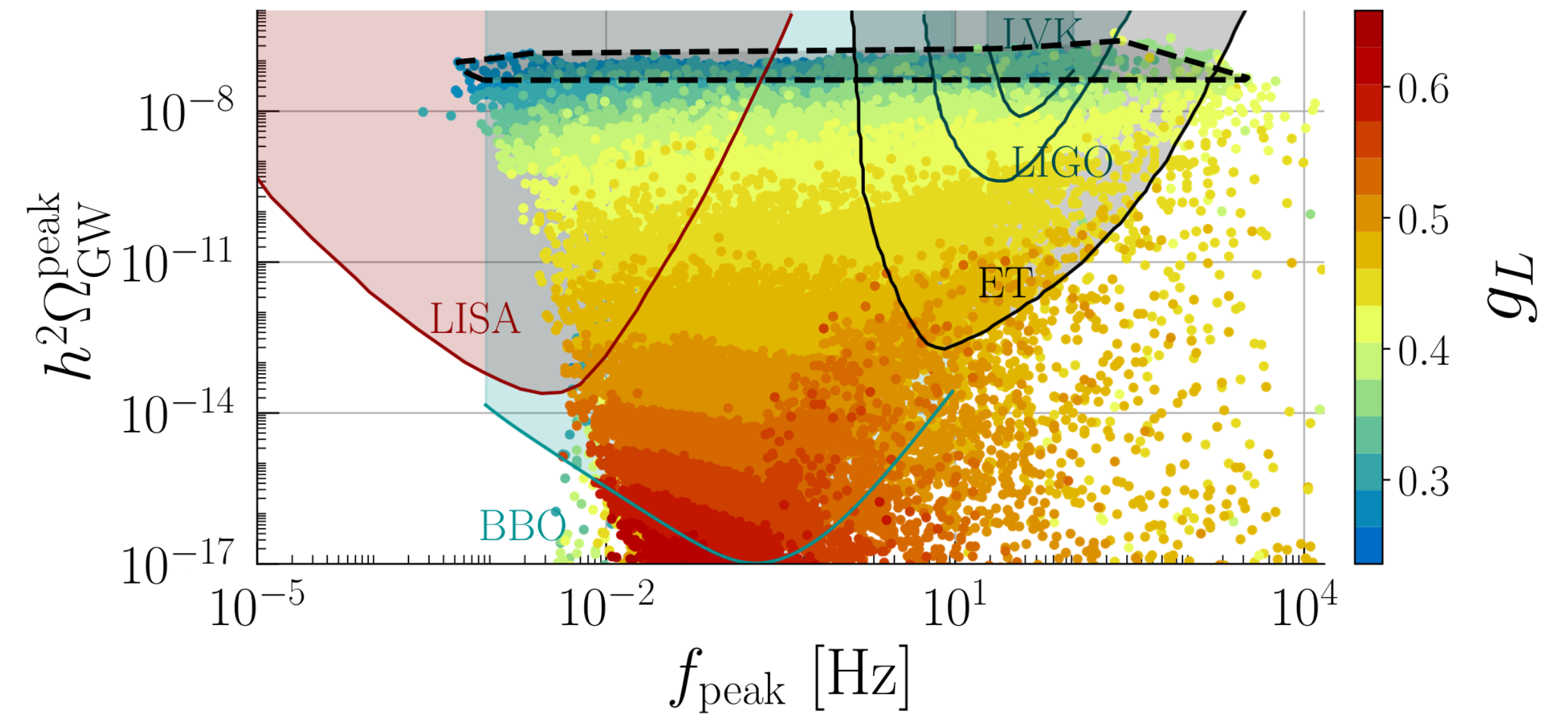
A. Opposite sign in  $\beta_{\lambda_\sigma}$  slows down RG running with sign flip at larger  $\phi_\sigma$

B. For fixed  $g_L$  minimum gets deeper, thus  $\Delta V$  is larger  $\Rightarrow$  larger  $h^2\Omega_{\text{GW}}^{\text{peak}}$

2. This effect competes with  $V_{\text{min}}$  where large  $\text{Tr}(y_\sigma)$  increases  $\Delta V \Rightarrow$  smaller

$h^2\Omega_{\text{GW}}^{\text{peak}}$

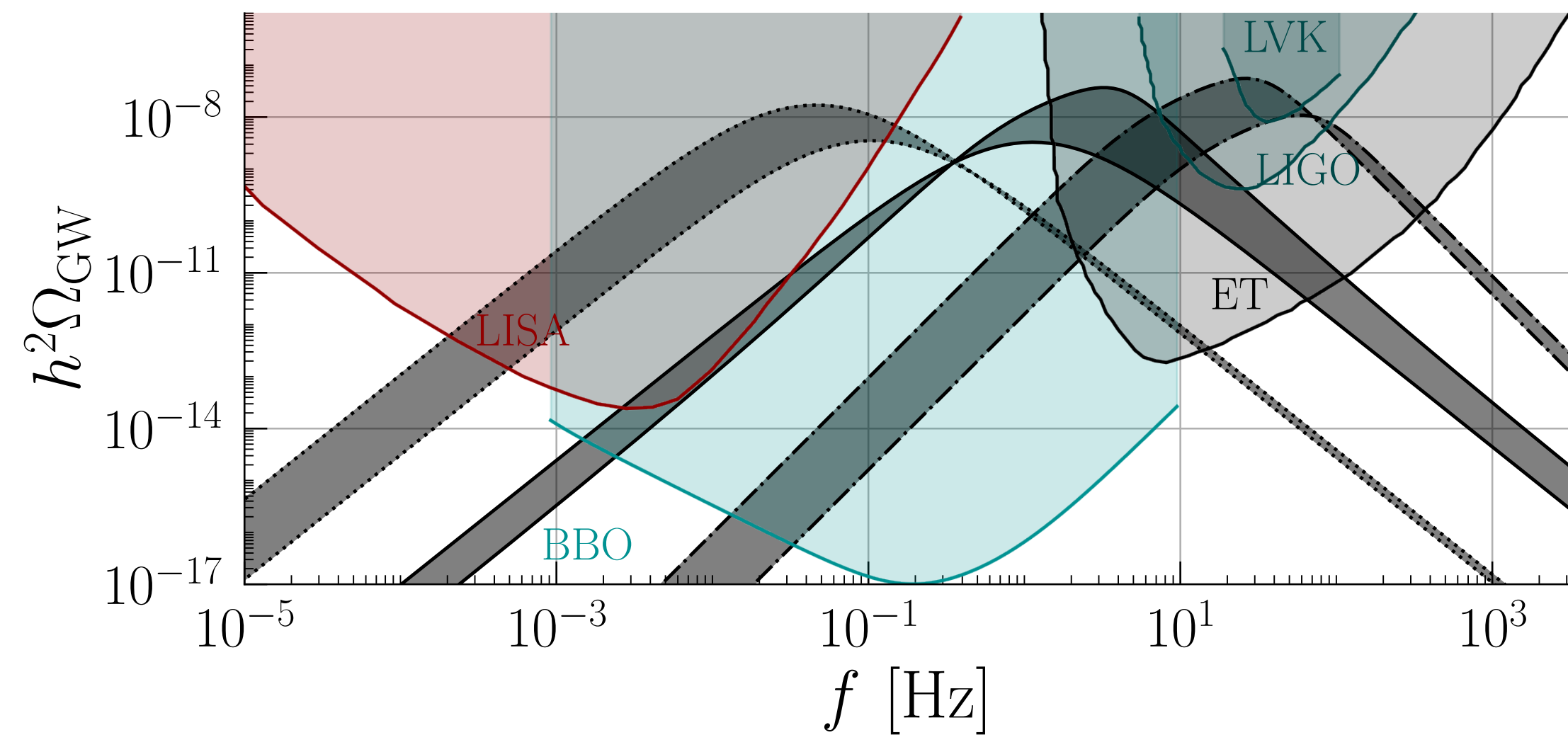
$$V_{\text{min}} = \frac{v_\sigma^4}{256\pi^2} \left( -96g_L^4 + \sum_{i=1}^3 [y_\sigma^4]_{ii} \right)$$



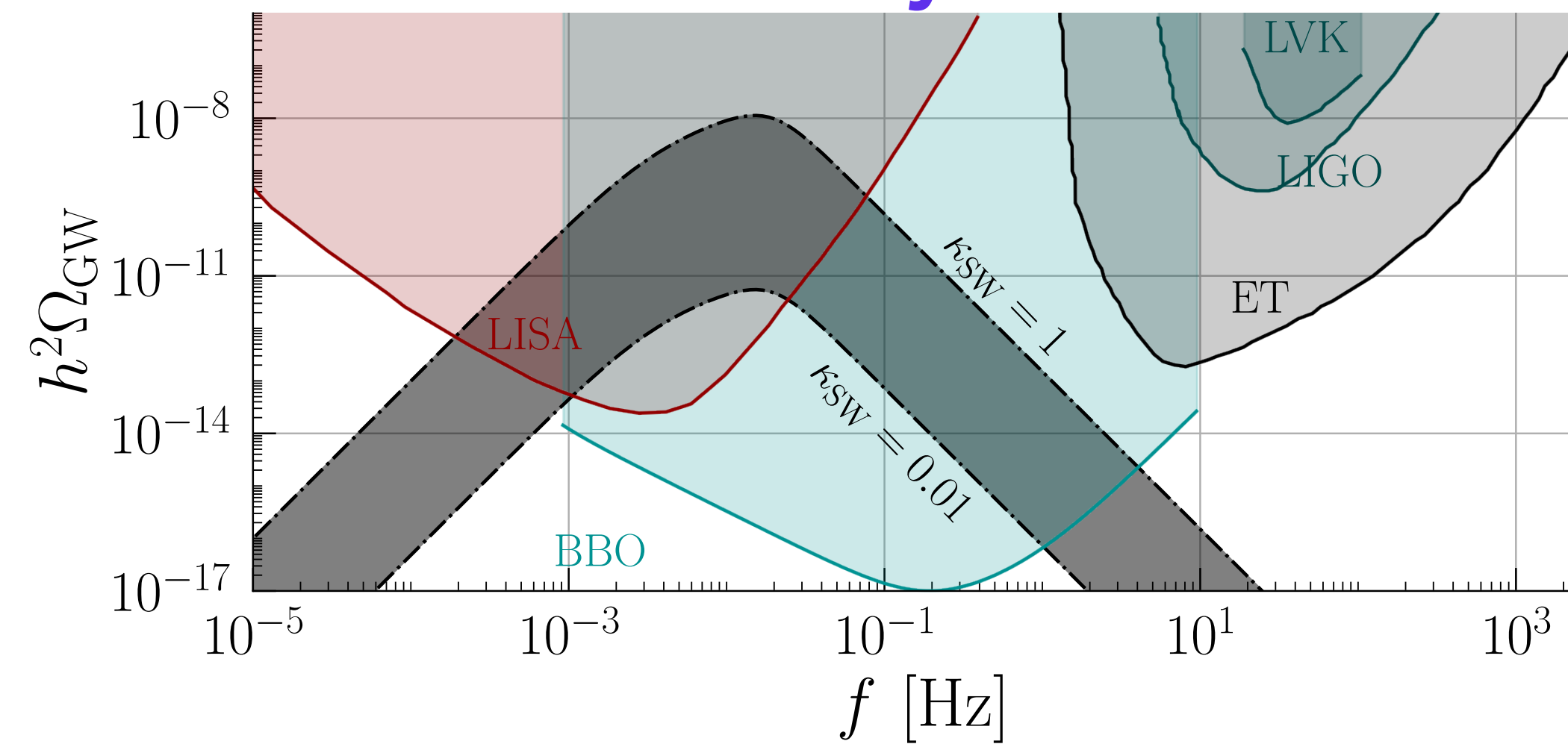
# Sources of uncertainty



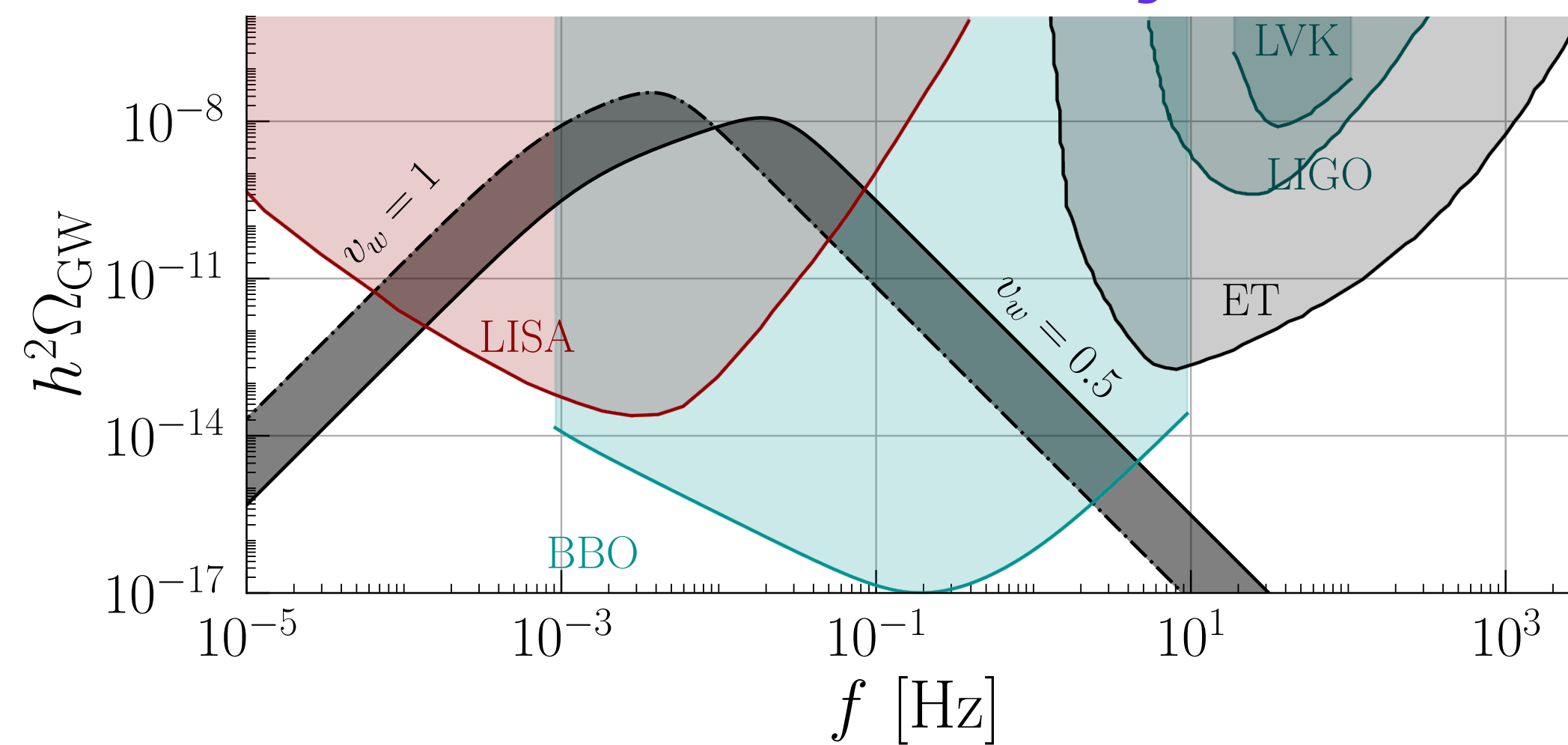
## Bubble radius distribution



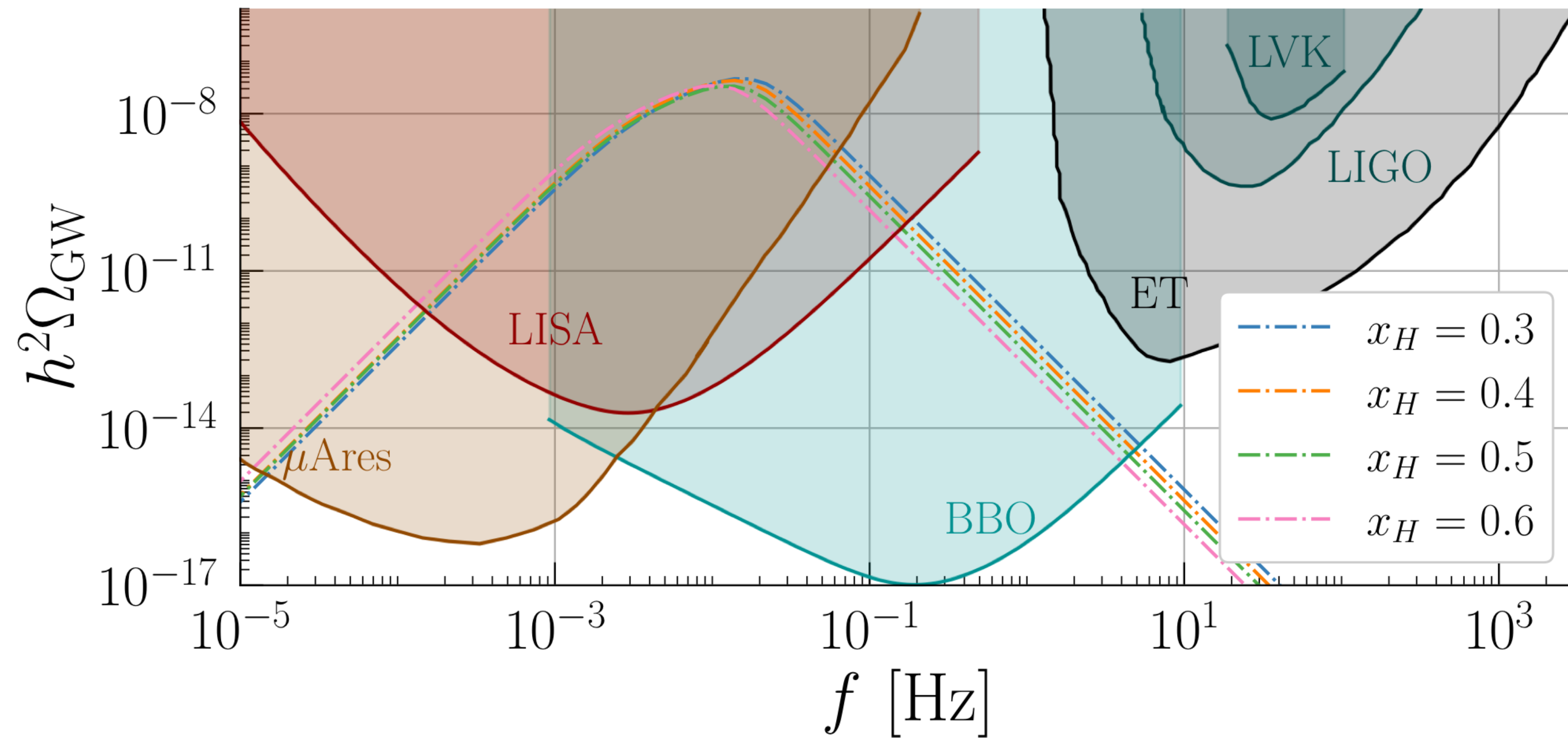
## Efficiency factors



## Wall velocity



# SGWB predictions for generic $U(1)'$ with charges $(x_H, x_\sigma)$



Different models for fixed  $g_L x_\sigma$  have little impact, overshadowed by current uncertainties

$x_H$  enters the scalar potential via  $V_{CW}$  and  $\beta$ -functions

# Dimensional reduction

# Improved calculation with dimensional reduction

Theoretical predictions are not robust as they strongly depend on the transition temperature

$$h^2\Omega_{\text{GW}} \propto \frac{(\Delta V)^2}{T_*^8}$$

- Why large uncertainties?

$$m_{\text{eff}}^2 = (m^2 + a_{1\text{-loop}} T^2) \ll m^2$$

Large theoretical errors at the phase transition

$$b_{2\text{-loop}} T^2 \approx m_{\text{eff}}^2$$

$$\mu \frac{d}{d \log \mu} m_{\text{eff}}^2 \approx m_{\text{eff}}^2$$

Large scale dependency

$$\log(T^2/m_{\text{eff}}^2) \gg 1$$

Large logs

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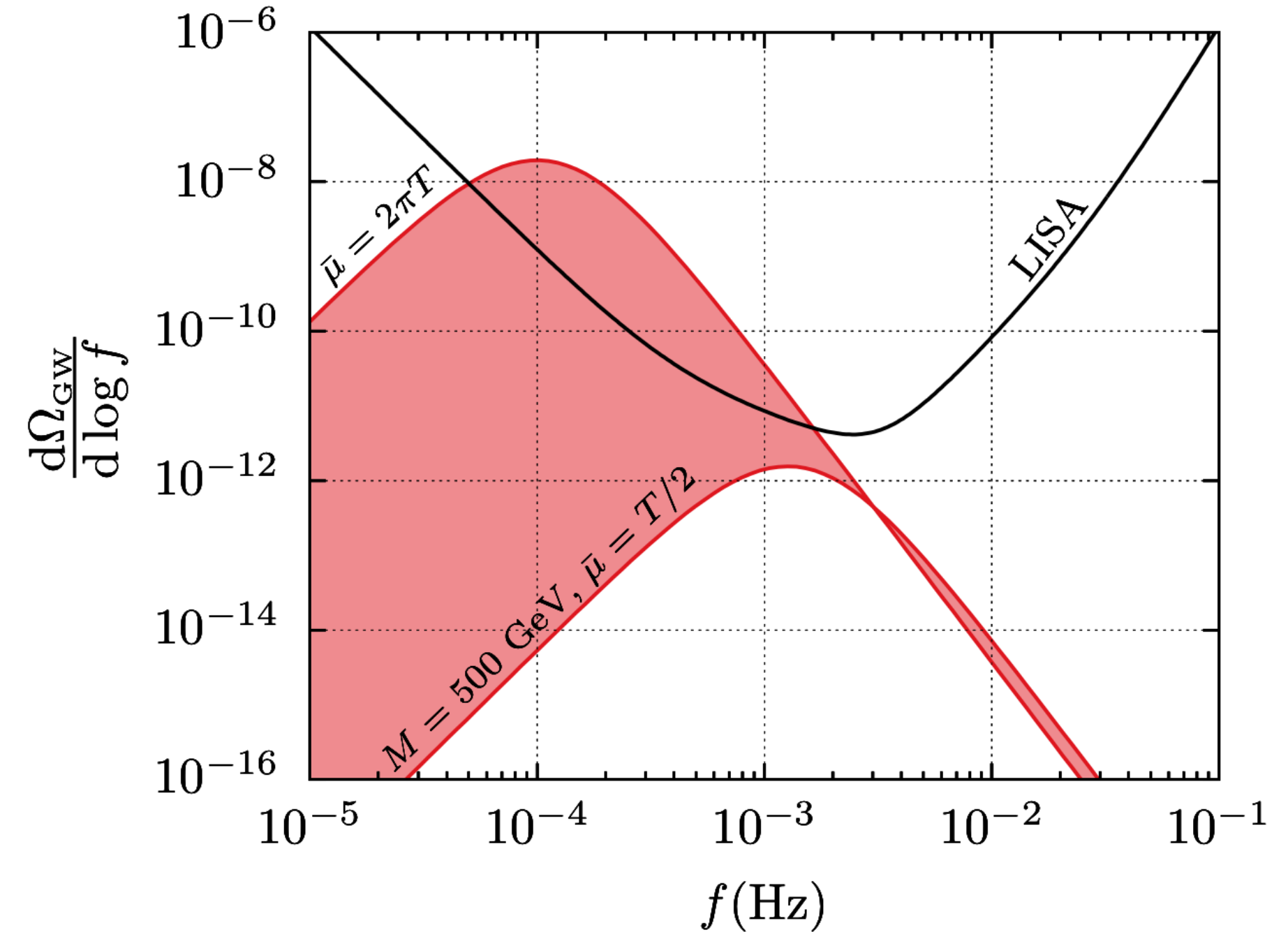
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Large scale dependency

$$\log(T^2/m_{\text{eff}}^2) \gg 1$$

Large logs



[Image credit: P. Schicho]

# Improved calculation with dimensional reduction

**Huge** higher order corrections  $\longrightarrow$  Use an effective field theory

[Kajantie et al 9508379, Gould et al 2104.04399]

$$\log(T^2/m_{\text{eff}}^2) \rightarrow \log(T^2/\mu^2) + \log(\mu^2/m_{\text{eff}}^2)$$

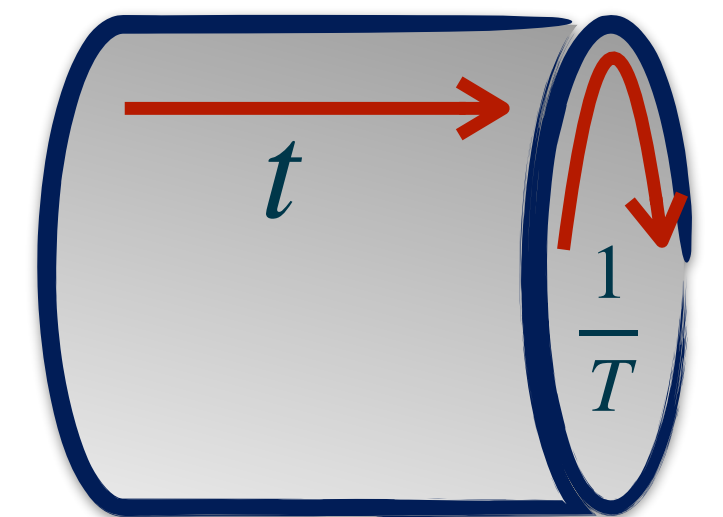
Match at  $\mu \sim T$

RG-evolution in the EFT

- In **thermal equilibrium** heavy “particles” show up as an infinite tower of Matsubara (static) modes:

$$\partial_\mu \phi(x) \partial^\mu \phi(x) \rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \phi(\vec{x}) \cdot \vec{\nabla} \phi(\vec{x}) + \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} (2\pi n T)^2 \phi(\vec{x})^2$$

Integrate out heavy particles



- No time dependence**

# Improved calculation with dimensional reduction

In practice: write down the most general 3d-spacial Lagrangian and match the couplings

$$\frac{1}{2}m^2\phi^2 + \frac{1}{4}\lambda\phi^4 \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}m_{3d}^2(T, m, \lambda)\phi^2 + \frac{1}{4}\lambda_{3d}(T, m, \lambda)\phi^4 \longrightarrow \text{Only valid at high-T}$$

$$\phi \rightarrow \frac{\phi}{\sqrt{T}}$$

$$V_{4d} = TV_{3d}$$

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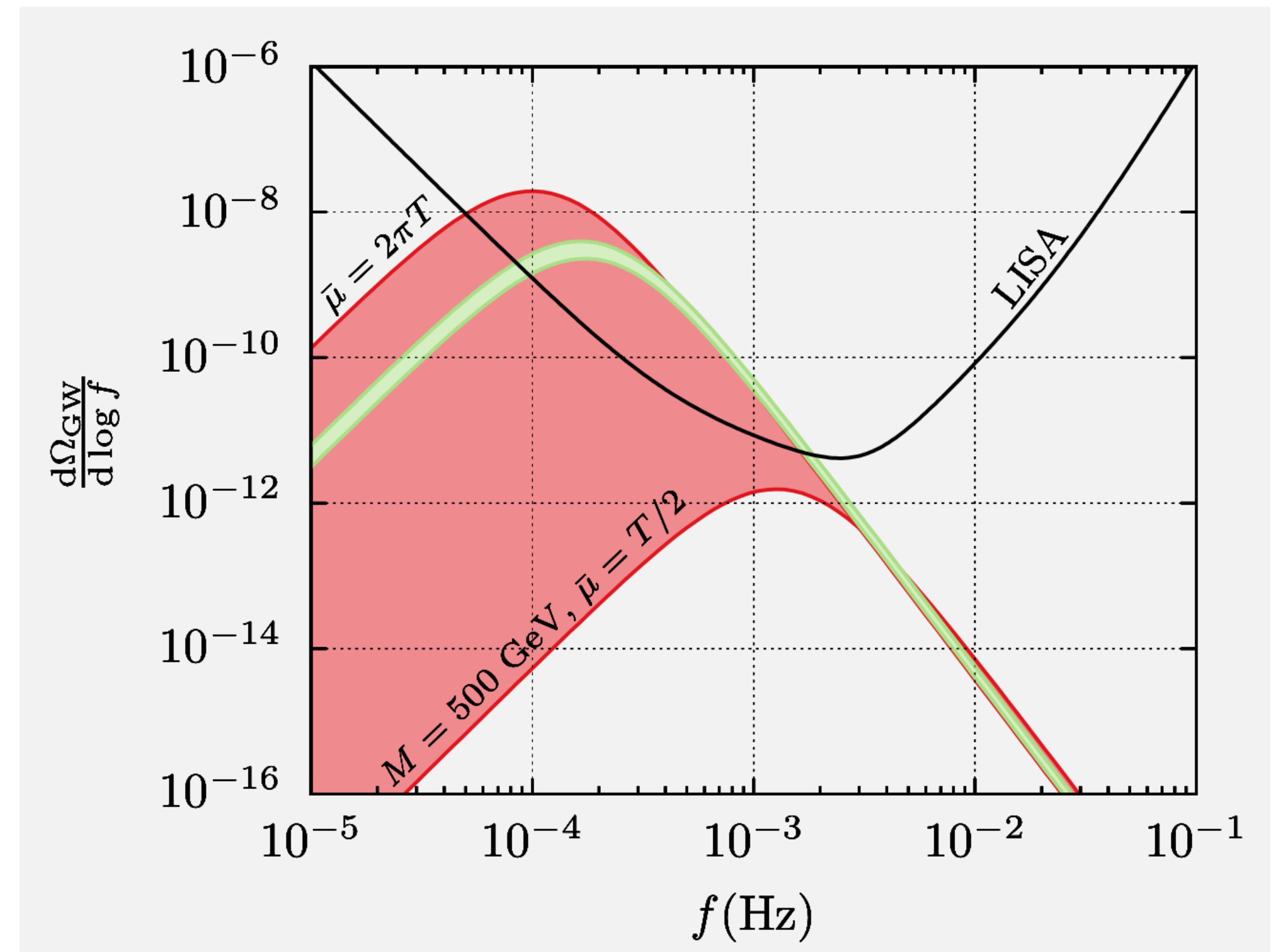
$$\frac{1}{2}m^2\phi^2 + \frac{1}{4}\lambda\phi^4 \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}m_{3d}^2(T, m, \lambda)\phi^2 + \frac{1}{4}\lambda_{3d}(T, m, \lambda)\phi^4$$

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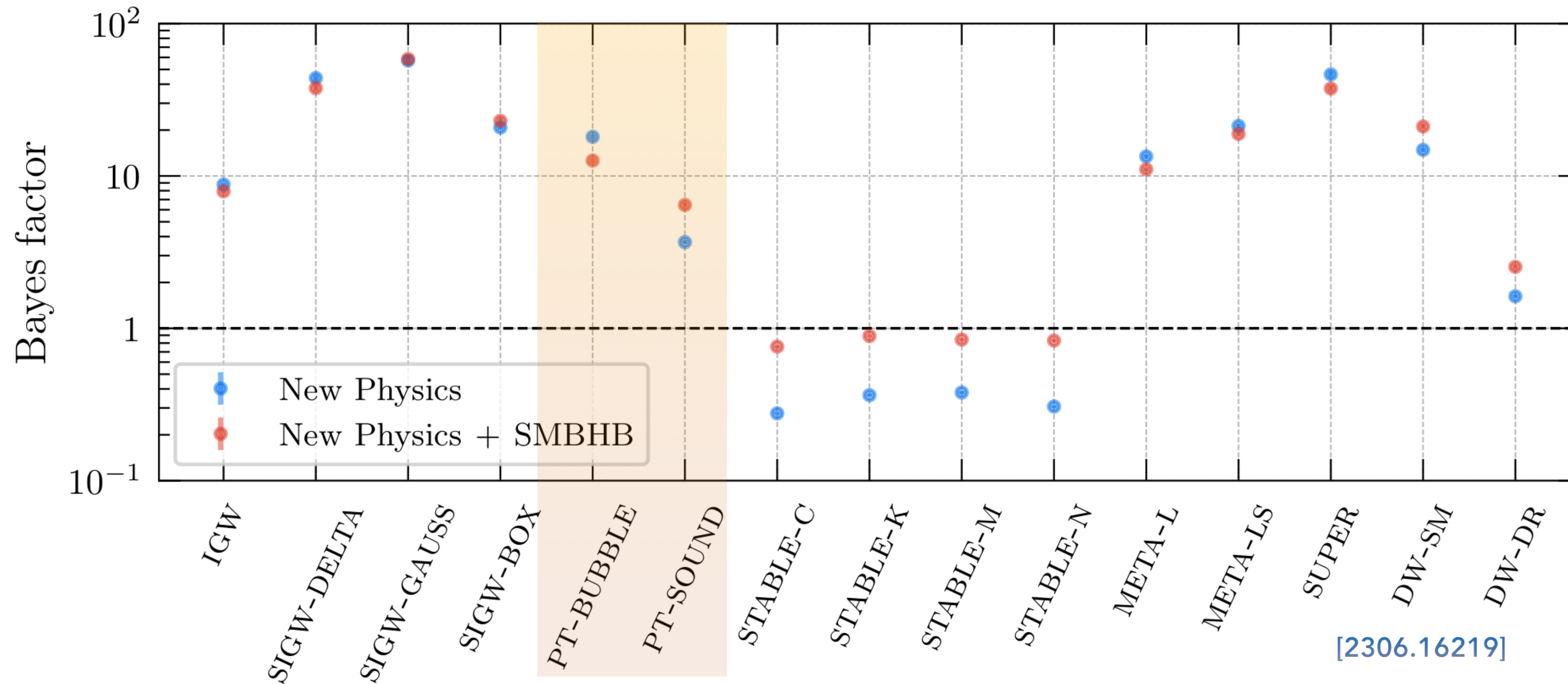
- Procedure automatised in DRAlgo

[A. Ekstedt et al, Comput. Phys. Commun 288 (2023)  
108725, 2205.08815]



[Image credit: P. Schicho]





**A SGWB detection can represent the first direct measurement of the Universe prior to the BBN era, a breakthrough comparable to the discovery of the CMB**