

# Big Bang Nucleosynthesis-Post Planck

- BBN and the WMAP/Planck determination of  $\eta$ ,  $\Omega_B h^2$
- Observations and Comparison with Theory
  - D/H   -  $^4\text{He}$    -  $^7\text{Li}$
- Impact of new cross section measurements
- Neutrinos
- Constraints on BSM physics
- The Future (CMB-S4)

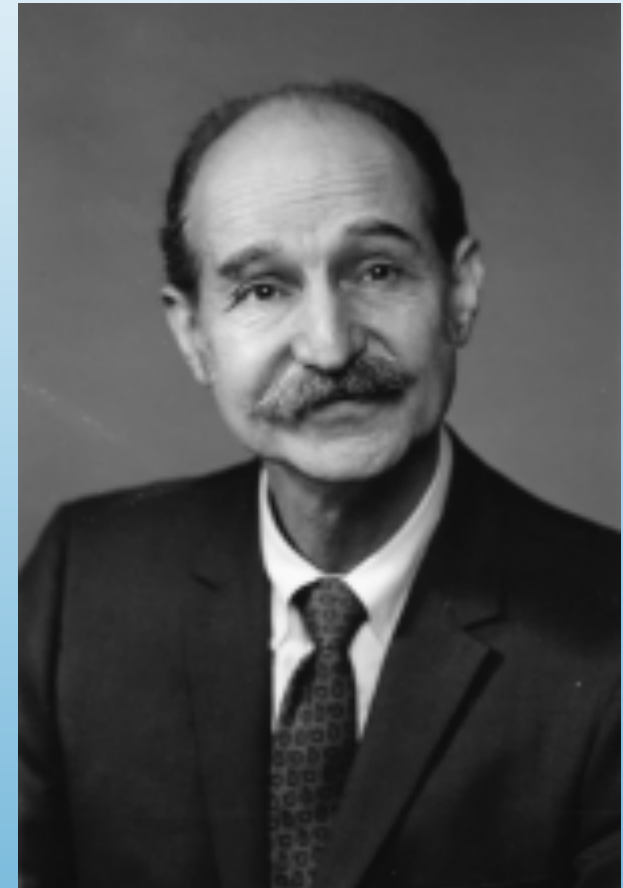
It all started with:



George Gamow



Ralph Alpher



Robert Herman



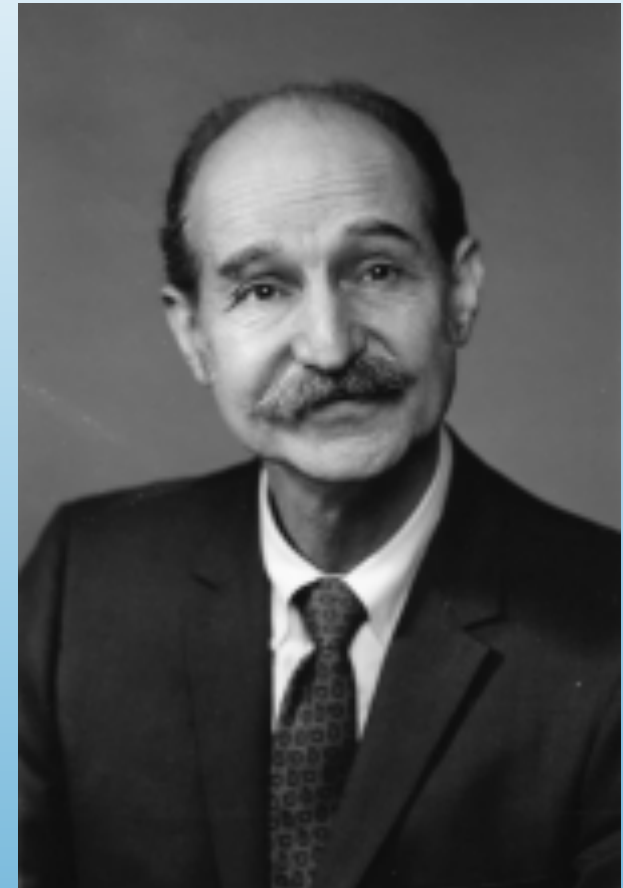
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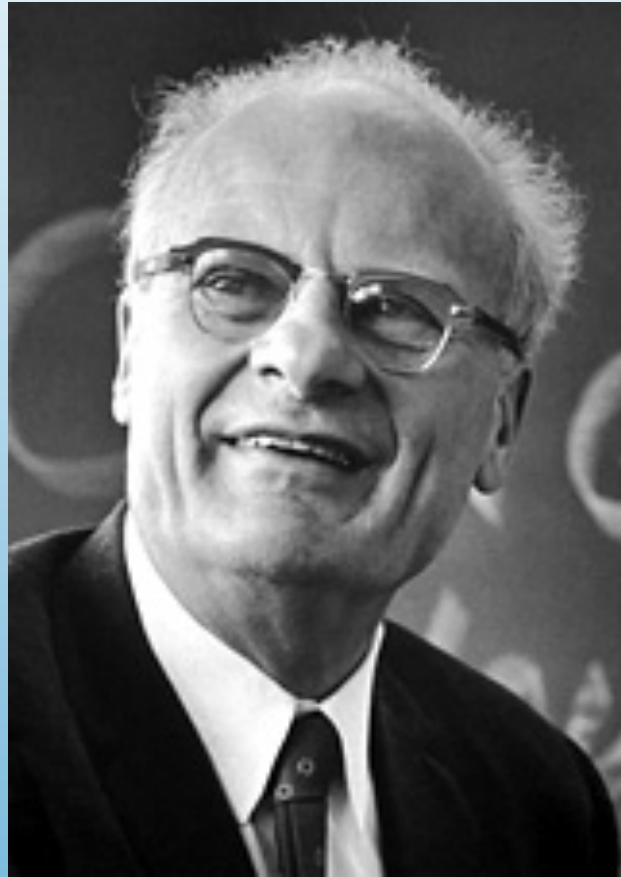


Robert Herman

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Ralph Alpher



Hans Bethe



George Gamow

# Letters to the Editor

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***P**UBLICATION of brief reports of important discoveries in physics may be secured by addressing them to this department. The closing date for this department is five weeks prior to the date of issue. No proof will be sent to the authors. The Board of Editors does not hold itself responsible for the opinions expressed by the correspondents. Communications should not exceed 600 words in length.*

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## The Origin of Chemical Elements

R. A. ALPHER\*

*Applied Physics Laboratory, The Johns Hopkins University,  
Silver Spring, Maryland*

AND

H. BETHE

*Cornell University, Ithaca, New York*

AND

G. GAMOW

*The George Washington University, Washington, D. C.*

February 18, 1948

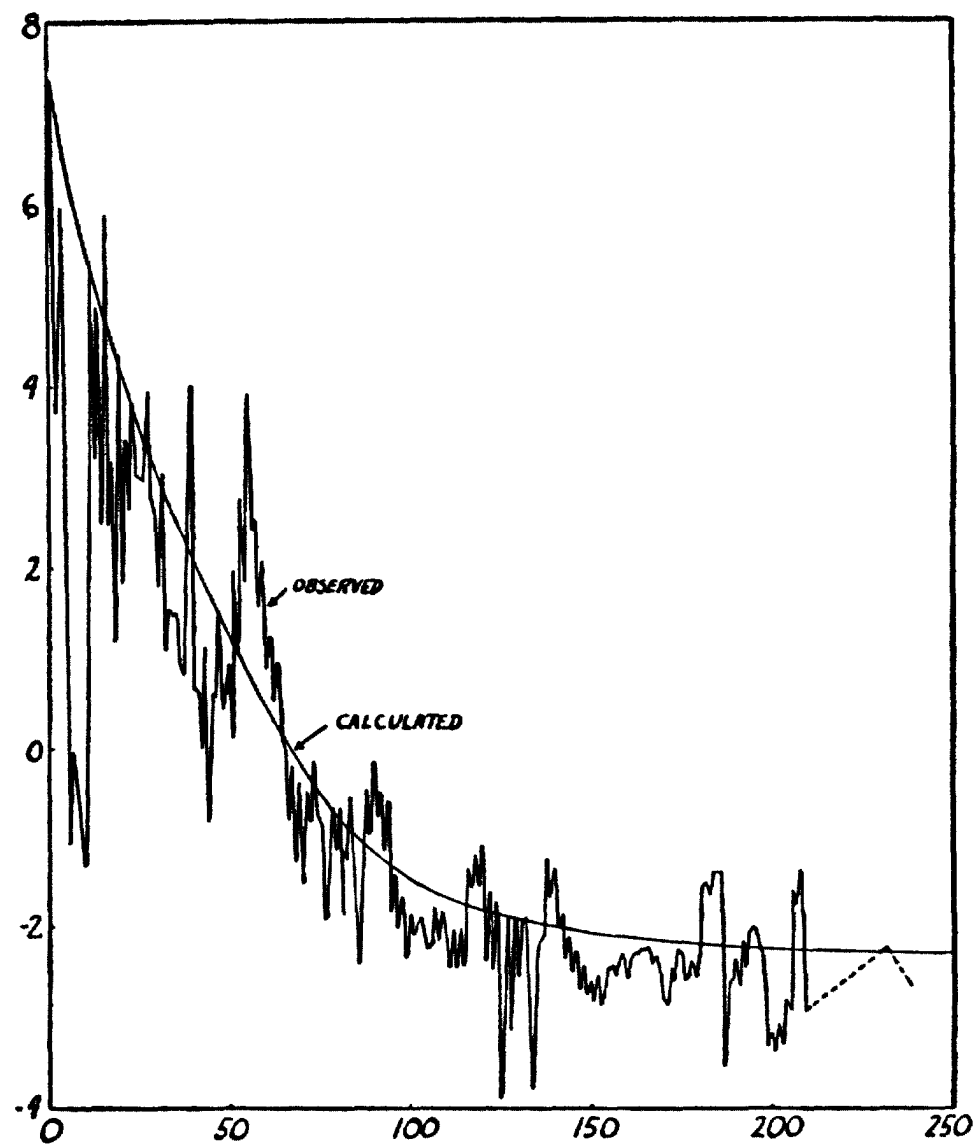
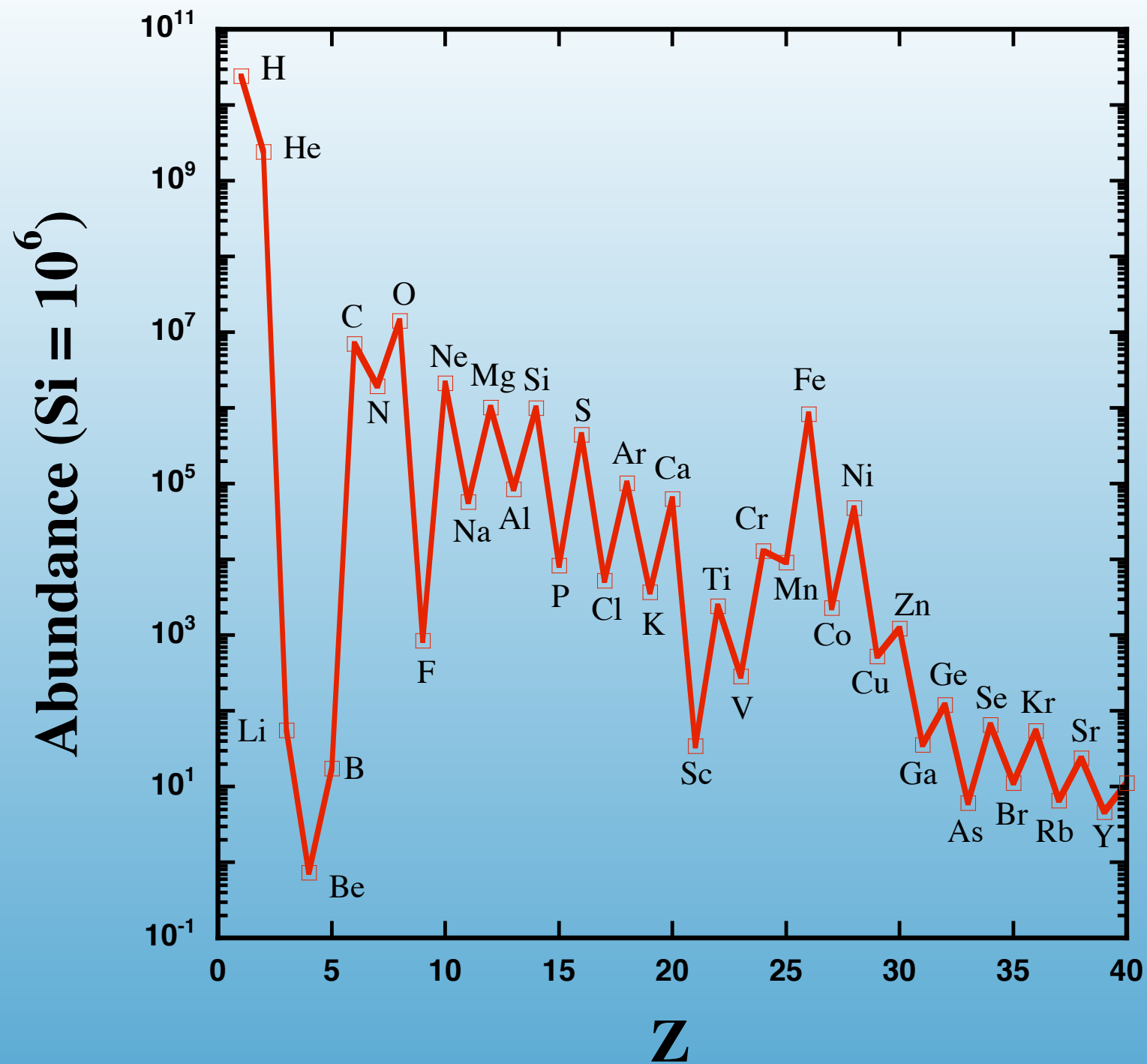


FIG. 1.

Log of relative abundance  
Atomic weight



# Historical Perspective

Intimate connection with CMB

Alpher  
Herman  
Gamow

Conditions for BBN:

Require  $T > 100 \text{ keV} \Rightarrow t < 200 \text{ s}$

$$\sigma v(p + n \rightarrow D + \gamma) \approx 5 \times 10^{-20} \text{ cm}^3/\text{s}$$

$$\Rightarrow n_B \sim 1/\sigma v t \sim 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

Today:

$$n_{B0} \sim 10^{-7} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

and

$$n_B \sim R^{-3} \sim T^3$$

Predicts the CMB temperature

$$T_o = (n_{B0} / n_B)^{1/3} T_{\text{BBN}} \sim 10 \text{ K}$$

# Remarks on the Evolution of the Expanding Universe\*,†

RALPH A. ALPHER AND ROBERT C. HERMAN

*Applied Physics Laboratory, The Johns Hopkins University, Silver Spring, Maryland*

(Received December 27, 1948)

Because of Eq. (4) a knowledge of  $\rho_m'$  and  $\rho_r'$  during the element forming period together with  $\rho_{m''}$  fixes a value for  $\rho_{r''}$ , the present radiation density, which is perhaps the least well-known quantity.

In accordance with Eq. (4), the specification of  $\rho_{m''}$ ,  $\rho_m'$ , and  $\rho_r'$  fixes the present density of radiation,  $\rho_{r''}$ . In fact, we find that the value of  $\rho_{r''}$  consistent with Eq. (4) is

$$\rho_{r''} \cong 10^{-32} \text{ g/cm}^3, \quad (12d)$$

which corresponds to a temperature now of the order of 5°K. This mean temperature for the universe is to be interpreted as the background temperature which would result from the universal expansion alone. However, the thermal energy resulting from the nuclear energy production in stars would increase this value.

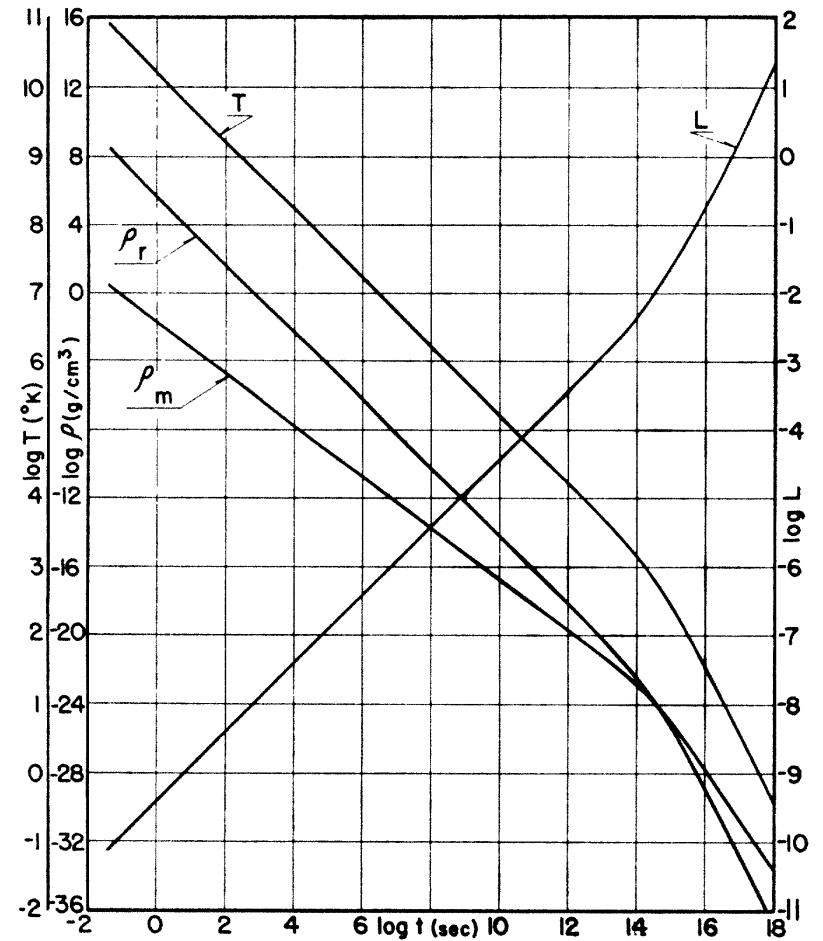


FIG. 1. The time dependence of the proper distance  $L$ , the densities of matter and radiation,  $\rho_m$ , and  $\rho_r$ , as well as the temperature,  $T$ , are shown for the case where  $\rho_{m''} \cong 10^{-30} \text{ g/cm}^3$ ,  $\rho_{r''} \cong 10^{-32} \text{ g/cm}^3$ ,  $\rho_m' \cong 10^{-6} \text{ g/cm}^3$ , and  $\rho_r' \cong 1 \text{ g/cm}^3$ . [See Eq. (12).]



# Remarks on the Evolution of the Expanding Universe\*,†

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Because of Eq. (4) a knowledge of  $\rho_m'$  and  $\rho_r'$  during the element forming period fixes a value for  $\rho_r''$ , the density, which is perhaps the quantity.

In order to study how sensitive this model is to the choice of densities, we have considered the following additional set of density values which satisfy Eq. (4):

$$\begin{aligned}\rho_m' &\cong 1.78 \times 10^{-4} \text{ g/cm}^3, \\ \rho_r' &\cong 1 \text{ g/cm}^3, \\ \rho_m'' &\cong 10^{-30} \text{ g/cm}^3, \\ \rho_r'' &\cong 10^{-35} \text{ g/cm}^3.\end{aligned}\tag{15}$$

In accordance with Eq. (4) and  $\rho_m''$ ,  $\rho_m'$ , and  $\rho_r'$  fixes the present density,  $\rho_r''$ . In fact, we find that consistent with Eq. (4) is

$$\rho_r'' \cong 10^{-32} \text{ g/cm}^3, \tag{12d}$$

which corresponds to a temperature now of the order of 5°K. This mean temperature for the universe is to be interpreted as the background temperature which would result from the universal expansion alone. However, the thermal energy resulting from the nuclear energy production in stars would increase this value.

The value obtained for  $\rho_r''$  in this case corresponds to a present mean temperature of about 1°K. The

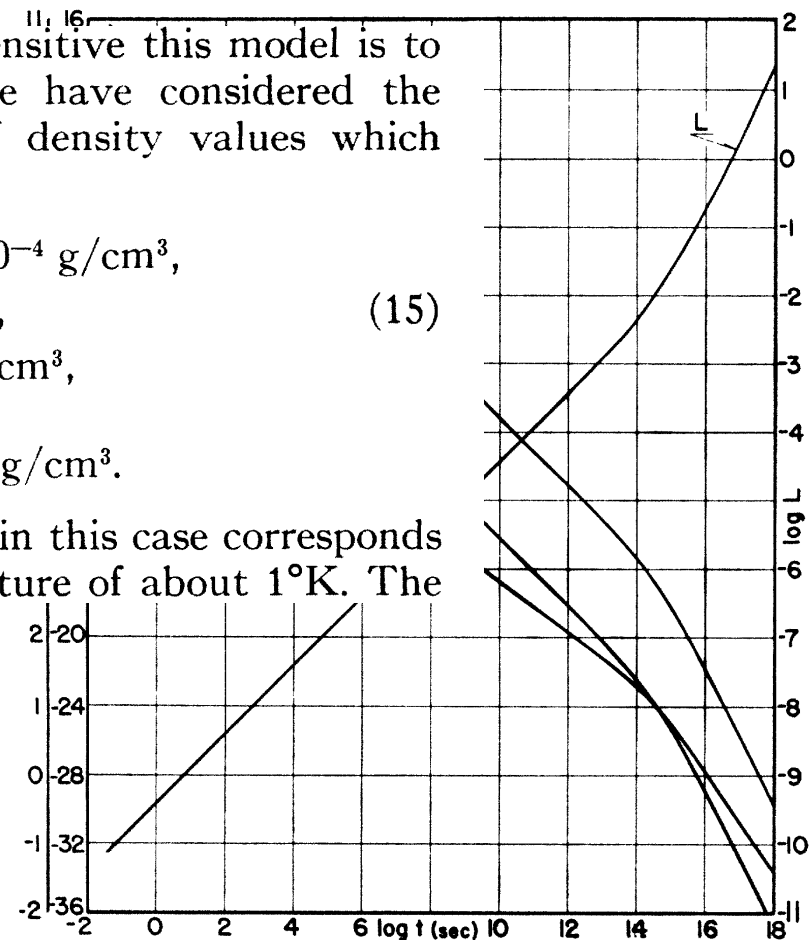
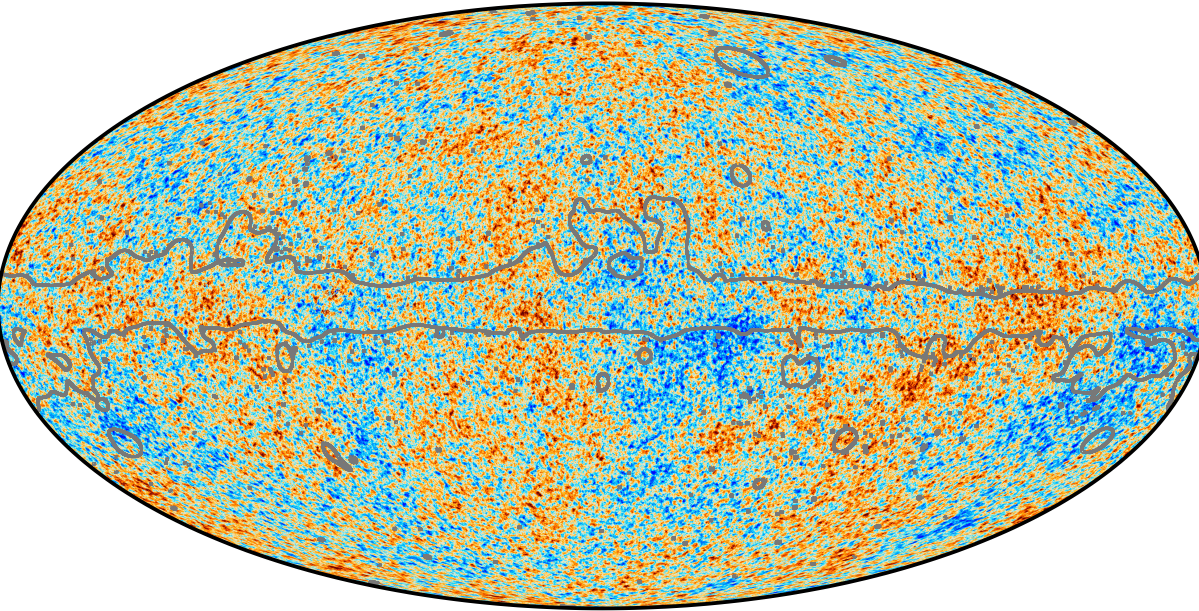


FIG. 1. The time dependence of the proper distance  $L$ , the densities of matter and radiation,  $\rho_m$ , and  $\rho_r$ , as well as the temperature,  $T$ , are shown for the case where  $\rho_m'' \cong 10^{-30} \text{ g/cm}^3$ ,  $\rho_r'' \cong 10^{-32} \text{ g/cm}^3$ ,  $\rho_m' \cong 10^{-6} \text{ g/cm}^3$ , and  $\rho_r' \cong 1 \text{ g/cm}^3$ . [See Eq. (12).]



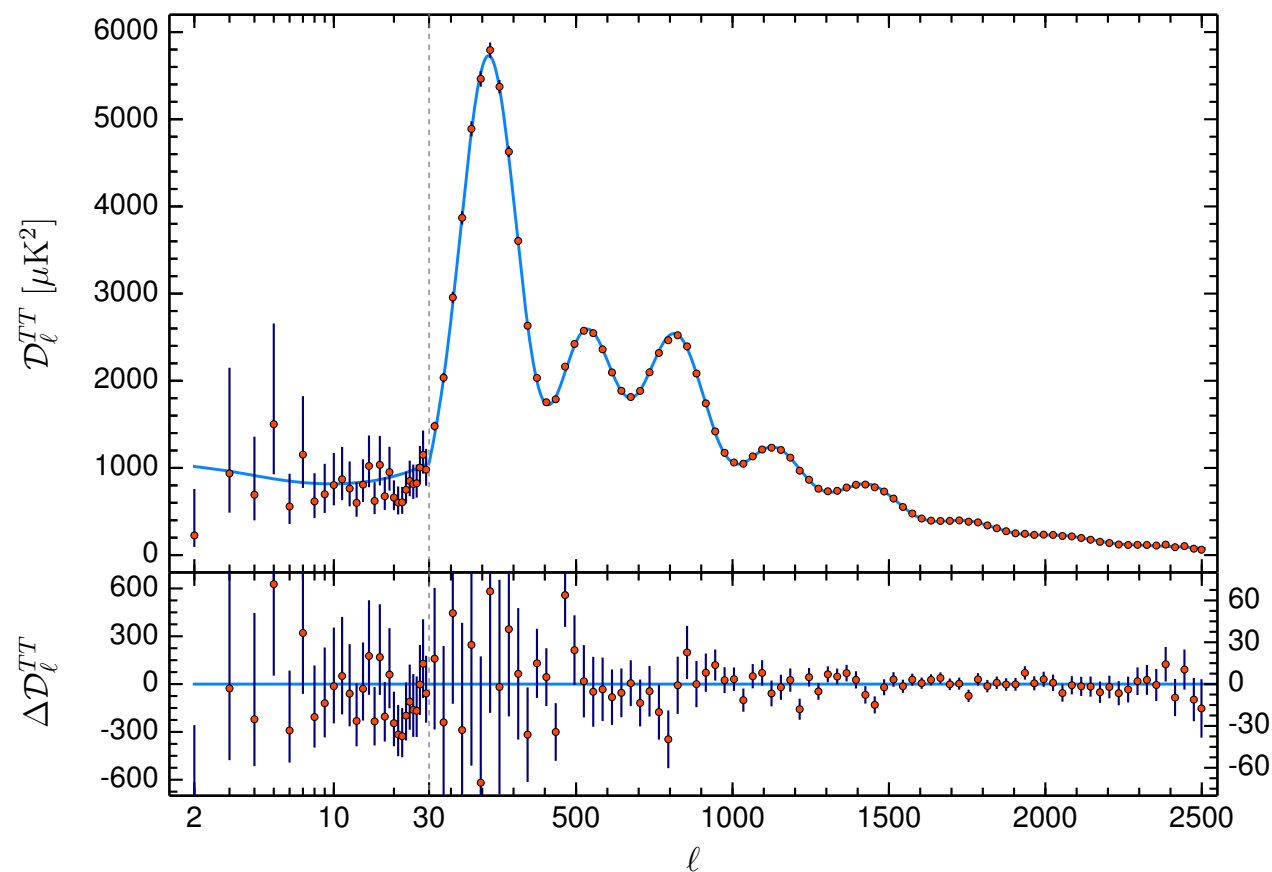


-300  300  $\mu\text{K}$

Planck best fit

$$\Omega_B h^2 = 0.02237 \pm 0.00015$$

$$\eta_{10} = 6.12 \pm 0.04$$



# Conditions in the Early Universe:

$$T \gtrsim 1 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\rho = \frac{\pi^2}{30} \left( 2 + \frac{7}{2} + \frac{7}{4} N_\nu \right) T^4$$

$$\eta = n_B/n_\gamma \sim 10^{-10}$$

$\beta$ -Equilibrium maintained by weak interactions

Freeze-out at  $\sim 1 \text{ MeV}$  determined by the competition of expansion rate  $H \sim T^2/M_p$  and the weak interaction rate  $\Gamma \sim G_F^2 T^5$

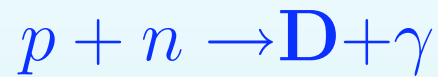
$$n + e^+ \leftrightarrow p + \bar{\nu}_e$$

$$n + \nu_e \leftrightarrow p + e^-$$

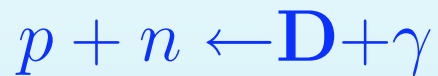
$$n \leftrightarrow p + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e$$

At freezeout  $n/p$  fixed modulo free neutron decay,  $(n/p) \simeq 1/6 \rightarrow 1/7$

# Nucleosynthesis Delayed (Deuterium Bottleneck)



$$\Gamma_p \sim n_B \sigma$$



$$\Gamma_d \sim n_\gamma \sigma e^{-E_B/T}$$

Nucleosynthesis begins when  $\Gamma_p \sim \Gamma_d$

$$\frac{n_\gamma}{n_B} e^{-E_B/T} \sim 1 \quad @ \quad T \sim 0.1 \text{ MeV}$$

All neutrons  $\rightarrow$   ${}^4\text{He}$

$$Y_p = \frac{2(n/p)}{1 + (n/p)} \simeq 25\%$$

Remainder:

$\mathbf{D}$ ,  ${}^3\text{He} \sim 10^{-5}$  and  ${}^7\text{Li} \sim 10^{-10}$  by number

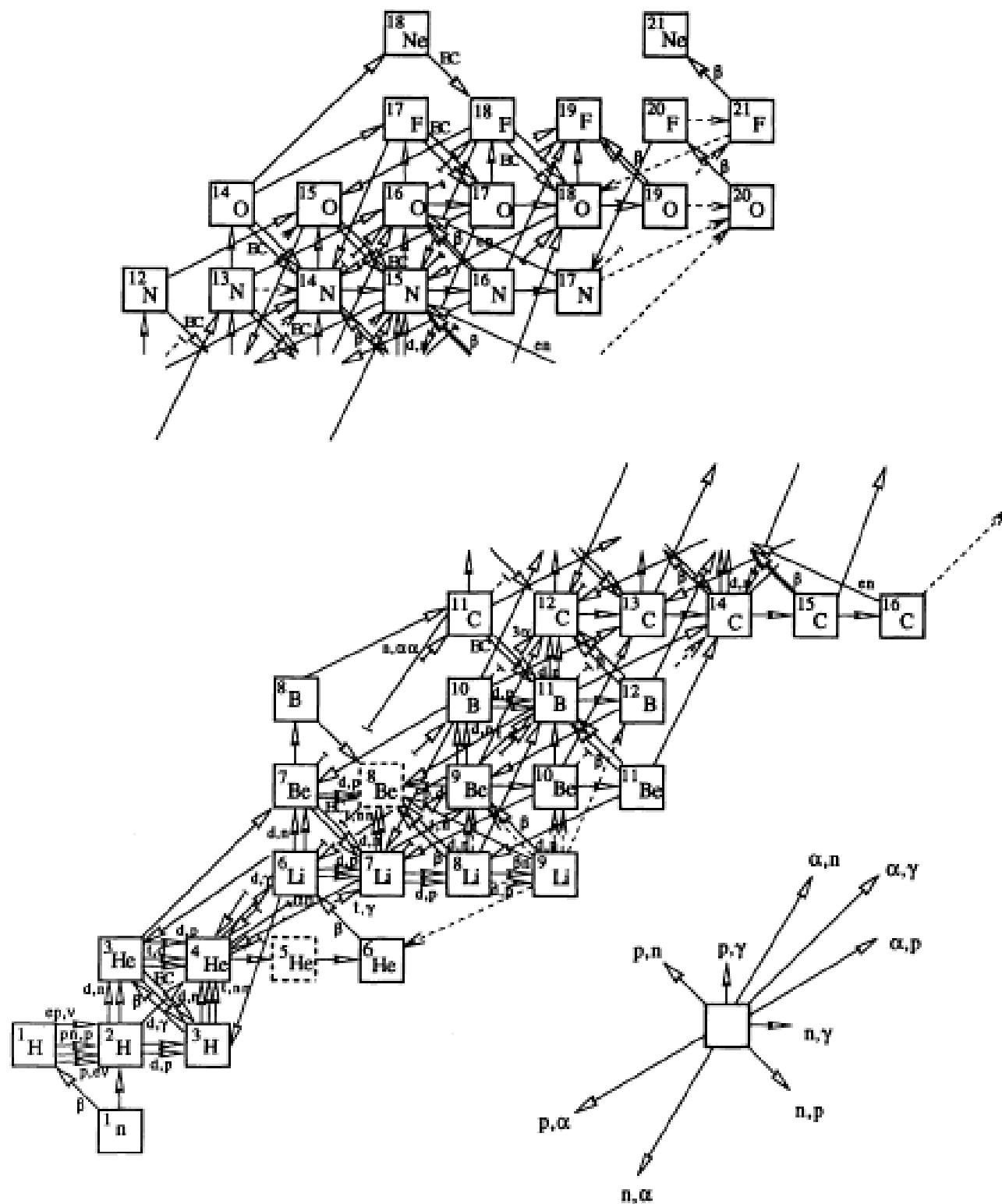
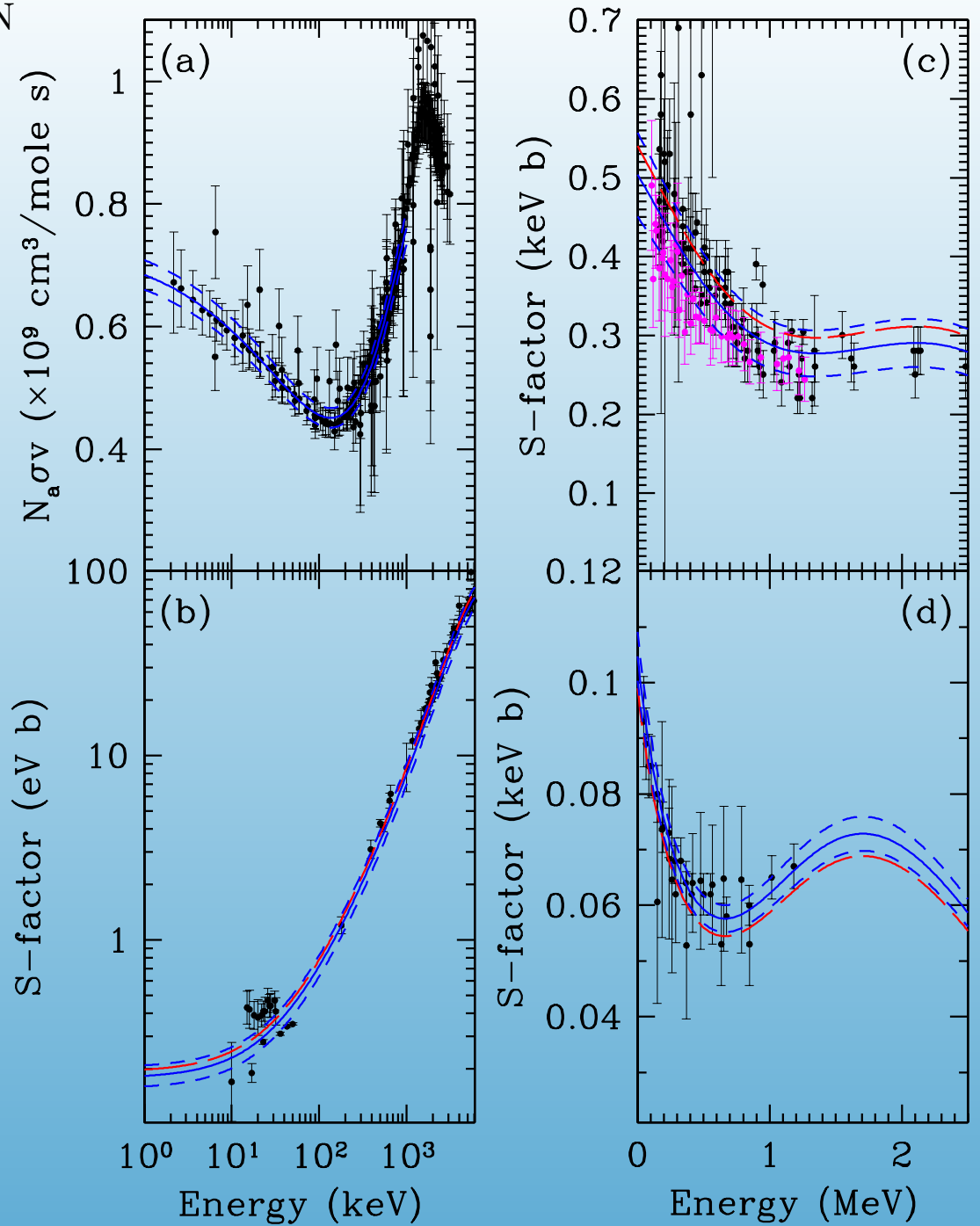


FIG. 1.—Reaction network used in the code. Estimated reactions are shown with dashed lines.

Table 1: Key Nuclear Reactions for BBN

Source	Reactions
NACRE	$d(p, \gamma)^3\text{He}$ (b)
	$d(d, n)^3\text{He}$
	$d(d, p)t$
	$t(d, n)^4\text{He}$
	$t(\alpha, \gamma)^7\text{Li}$ (d)
	$^3\text{He}(\alpha, \gamma)^7\text{Be}$ (c)
SKM	$^7\text{Li}(p, \alpha)^4\text{He}$
	$p(n, \gamma)d$
	$^3\text{He}(d, p)^4\text{He}$
This work	$^7\text{Be}(n, p)^7\text{Li}$ (See below)
	$^3\text{He}(n, p)t$ (a)
PDG	$\tau_n$

NACRE  
Cyburt, Fields, KAO  
Nollett & Burles  
Coc et al.



BBN could not explain the abundances (or patterns) of all the elements.

⇒ growth of stellar nucleosynthesis

But,

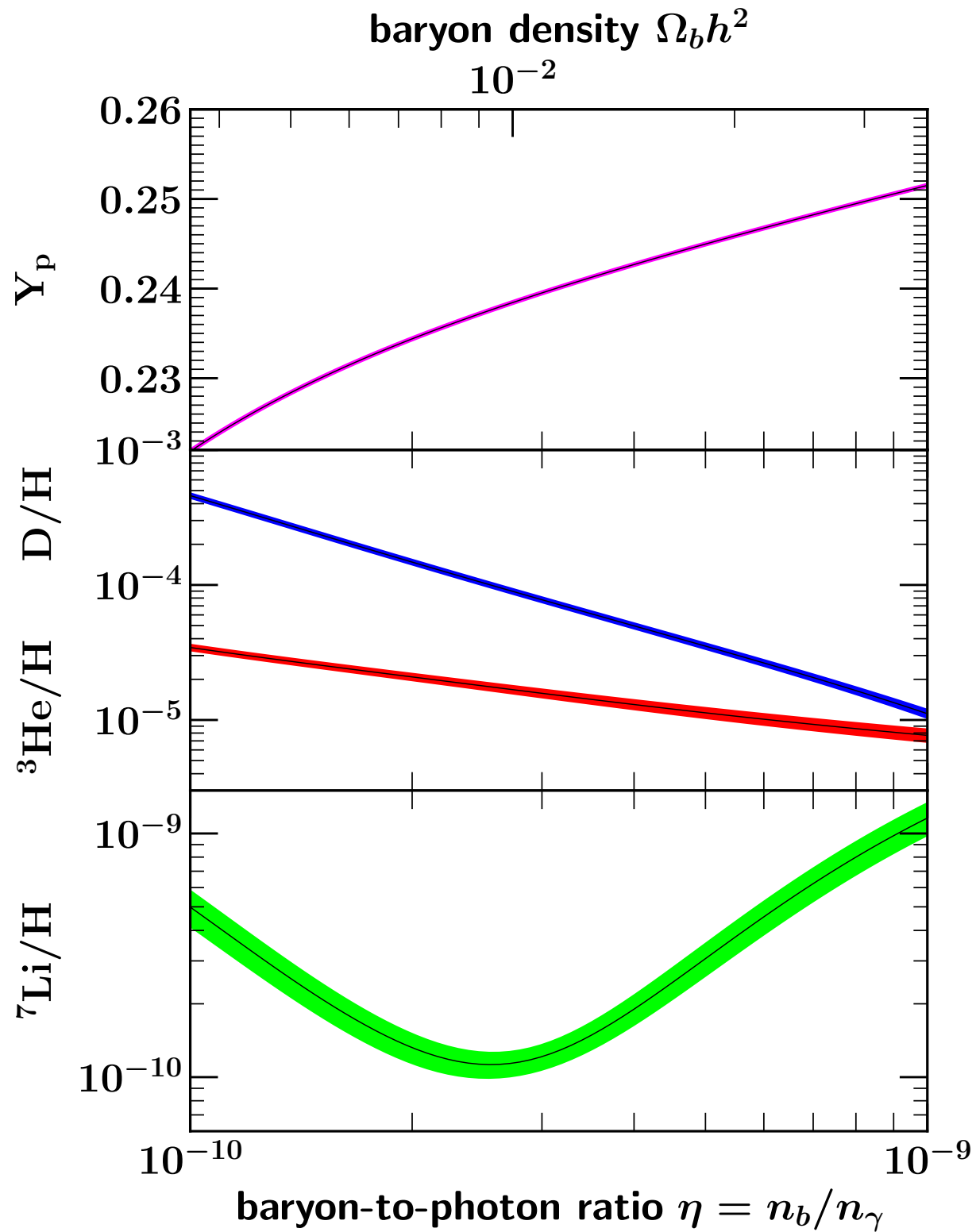
Questions persisted:

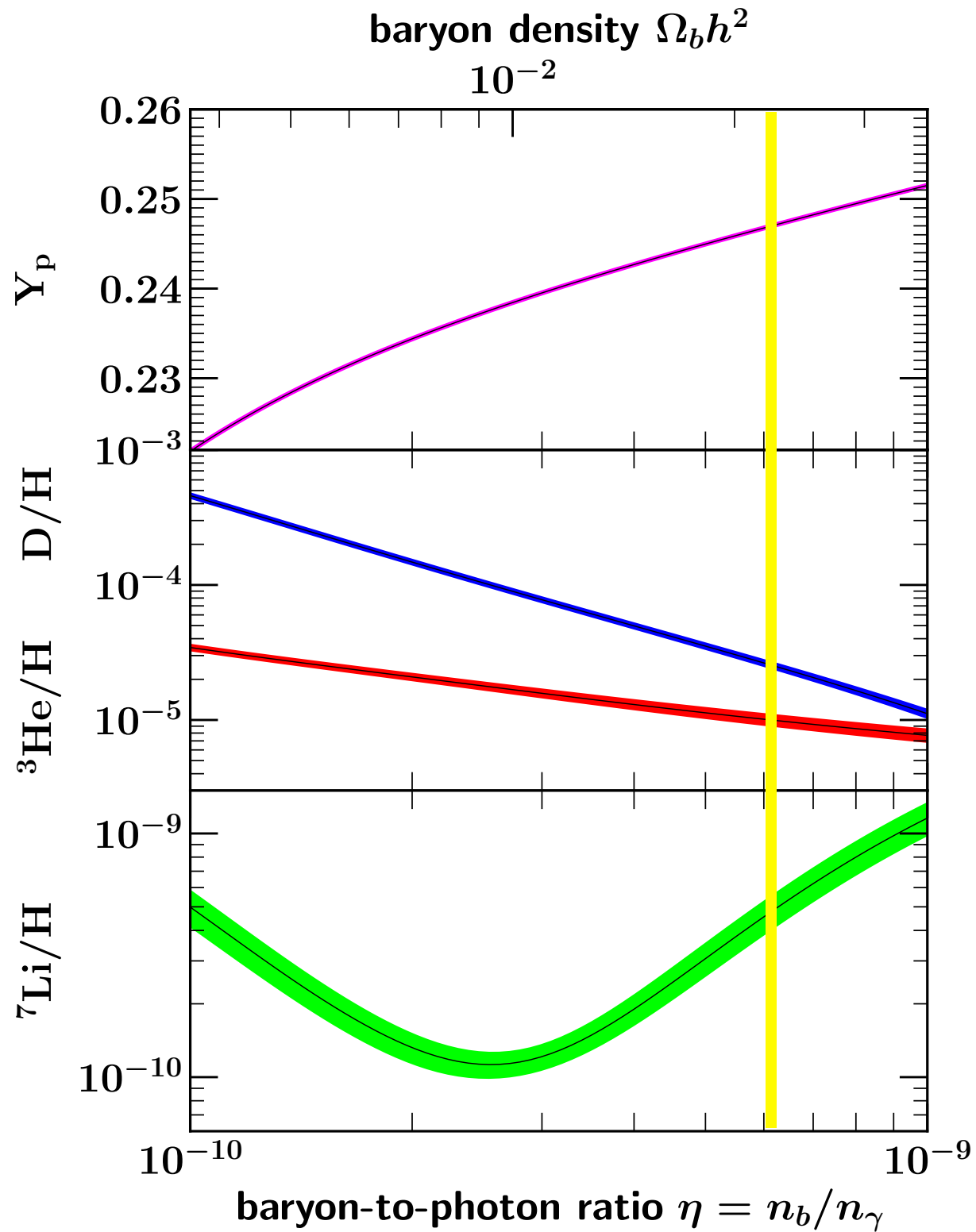
25% (by mass) of  $^4\text{He}$  ?  
D?

Resurgence:

BBN could successfully account for the abundance of

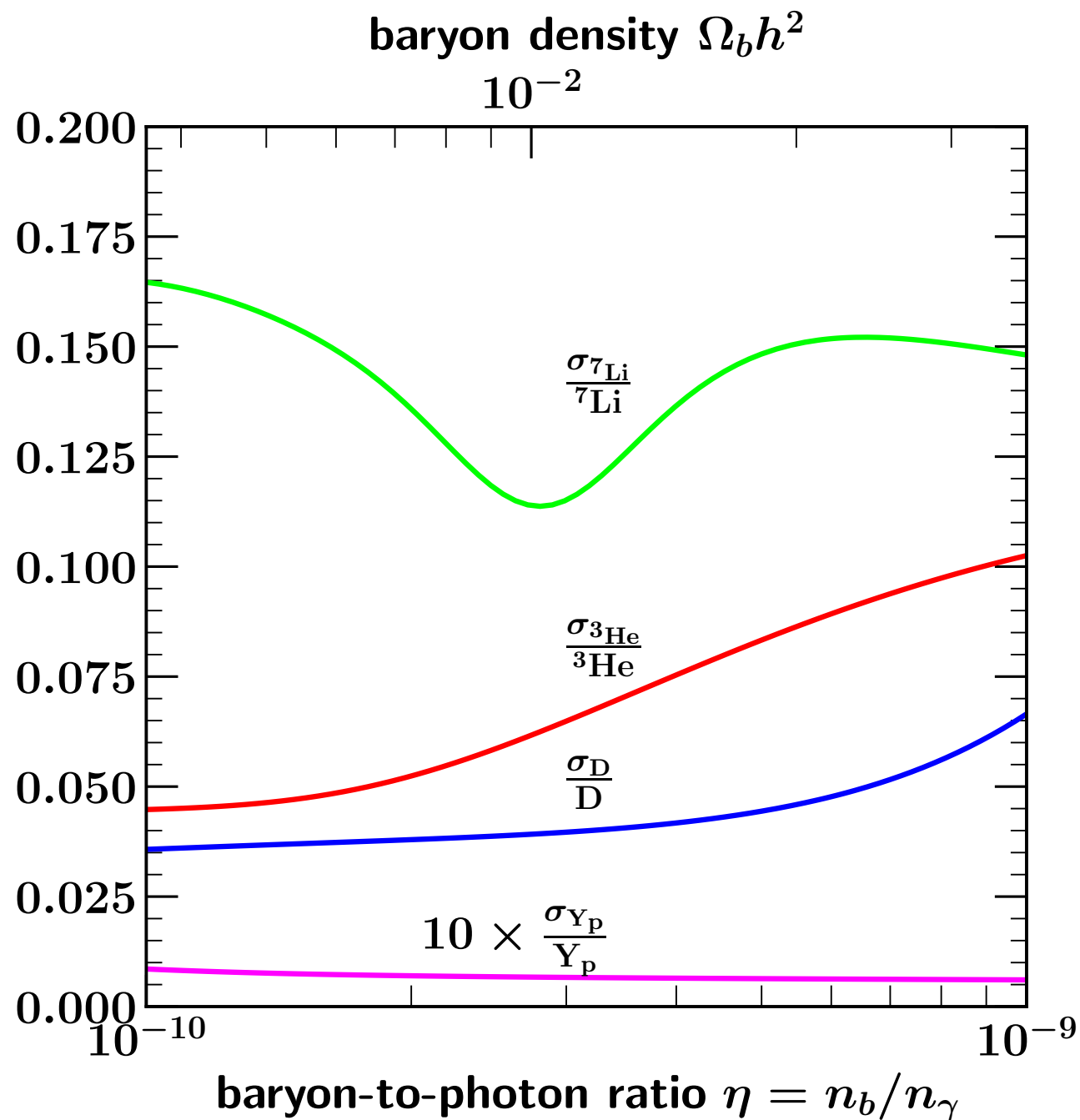
D,  $^3\text{He}$ ,  $^4\text{He}$ ,  $^7\text{Li}$ .







# Uncertainties



# Observations

- Production of the Light Elements: D,  $^3\text{He}$ ,  $^4\text{He}$ ,  $^7\text{Li}$ 
  - $^4\text{He}$  observed in extragalactic HII regions:  
abundance by mass = 25%
  - $^7\text{Li}$  observed in the atmospheres of dwarf halo stars:  
abundance by number =  $10^{-10}$
  - D observed in quasar absorption systems (and locally):  
abundance by number =  $3 \times 10^{-5}$
  - $^3\text{He}$  in solar wind, in meteorites, and in the ISM:  
abundance by number =  $10^{-5}$

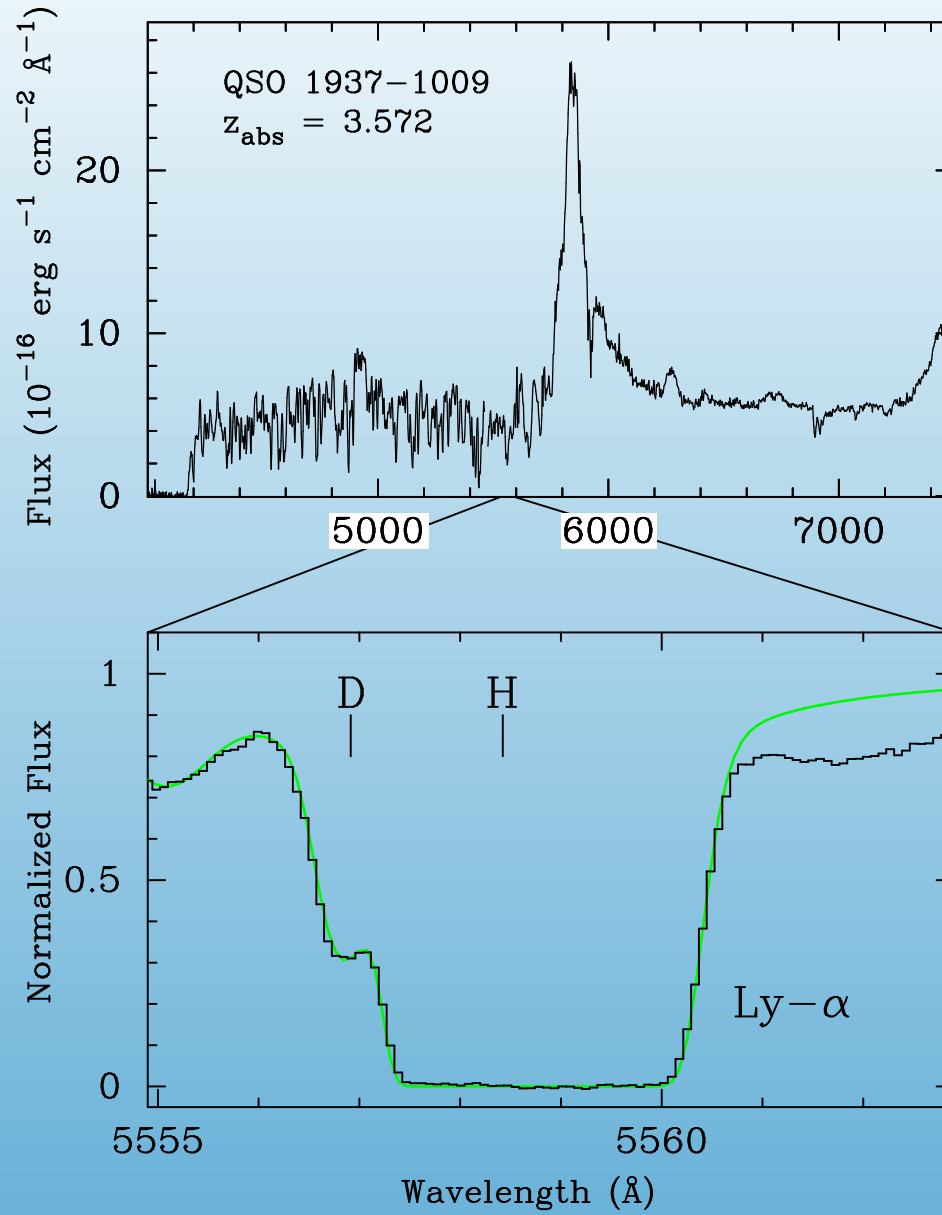
# D/H

- All Observed D is Primordial!
- Observed in the ISM and inferred from meteoritic samples (also HD in Jupiter)
- D/H observed in Quasar Absorption systems

**Table 3.** PRECISION D/H MEASURES CONSIDERED IN THIS PAPER

QSO	$z_{\text{em}}$	$z_{\text{abs}}$	$\log_{10} N(\text{H I})/\text{cm}^{-2}$	$[\text{O}/\text{H}]^{\text{a}}$	$\log_{10} N(\text{D I})/N(\text{H I})$
HS 0105+1619	2.652	2.53651	$19.426 \pm 0.006$	$-1.771 \pm 0.021$	$-4.589 \pm 0.026$
Q0913+072	2.785	2.61829	$20.312 \pm 0.008$	$-2.416 \pm 0.011$	$-4.597 \pm 0.018$
Q1243+307	2.558	2.52564	$19.761 \pm 0.026$	$-2.769 \pm 0.028$	$-4.622 \pm 0.015$
SDSS J1358+0349	2.894	2.85305	$20.524 \pm 0.006$	$-2.804 \pm 0.015$	$-4.582 \pm 0.012$
SDSS J1358+6522	3.173	3.06726	$20.495 \pm 0.008$	$-2.335 \pm 0.022$	$-4.588 \pm 0.012$
SDSS J1419+0829	3.030	3.04973	$20.392 \pm 0.003$	$-1.922 \pm 0.010$	$-4.601 \pm 0.009$
SDSS J1558-0031	2.823	2.70242	$20.75 \pm 0.03$	$-1.650 \pm 0.040$	$-4.619 \pm 0.026$

<sup>a</sup>We adopt the solar value  $\log_{10} (\text{O}/\text{H}) + 12 = 8.69$  ([Asplund et al. 2009](#)).



# D/H abundances in Quasar absorption systems

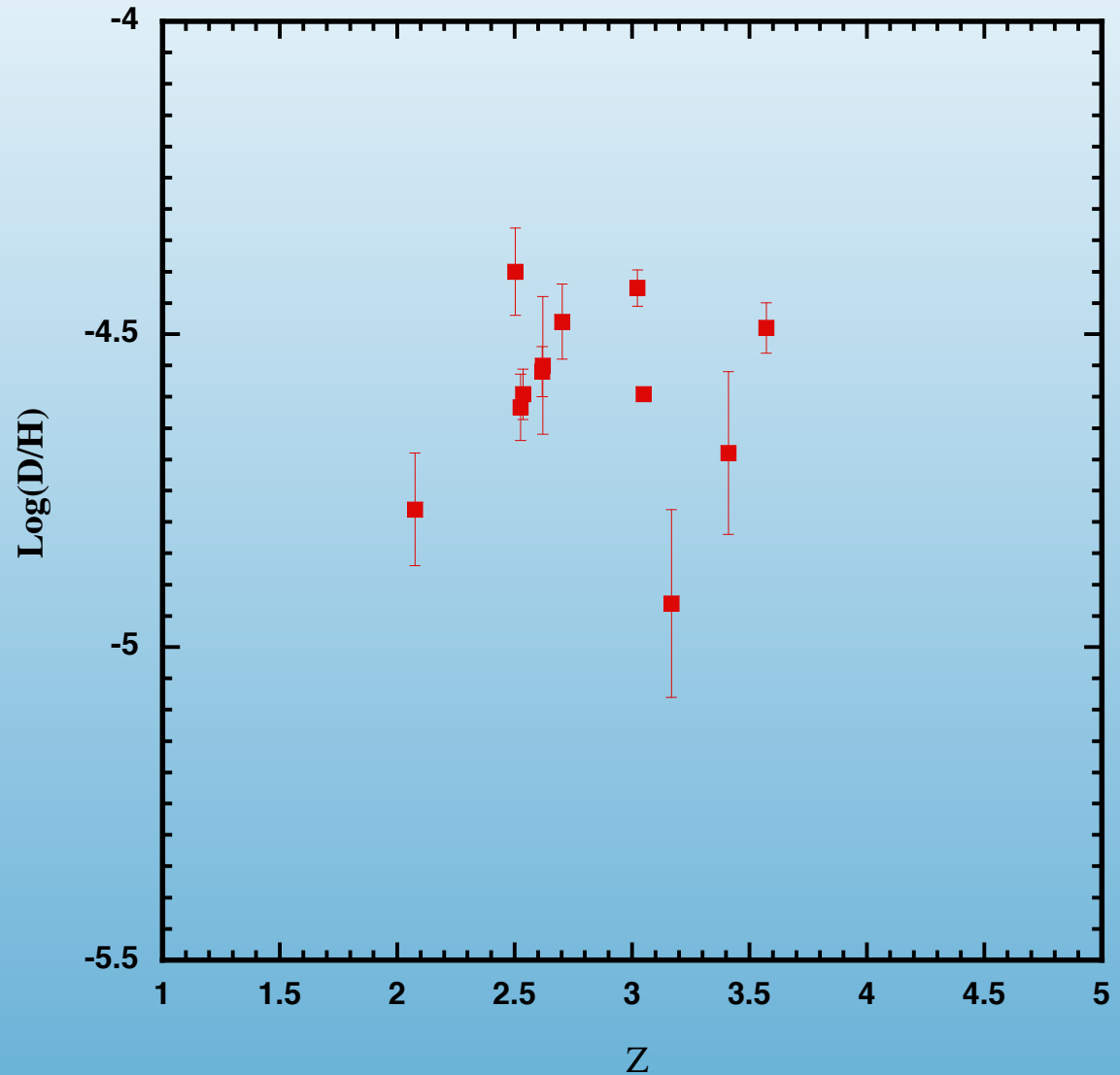
BBN Prediction:

$$10^5 \text{ D/H} = 2.58 \pm 0.13$$

Obs Average:

$$10^5 \text{ D/H} = 3.01 \pm 0.21$$

(0.68 sample variance)



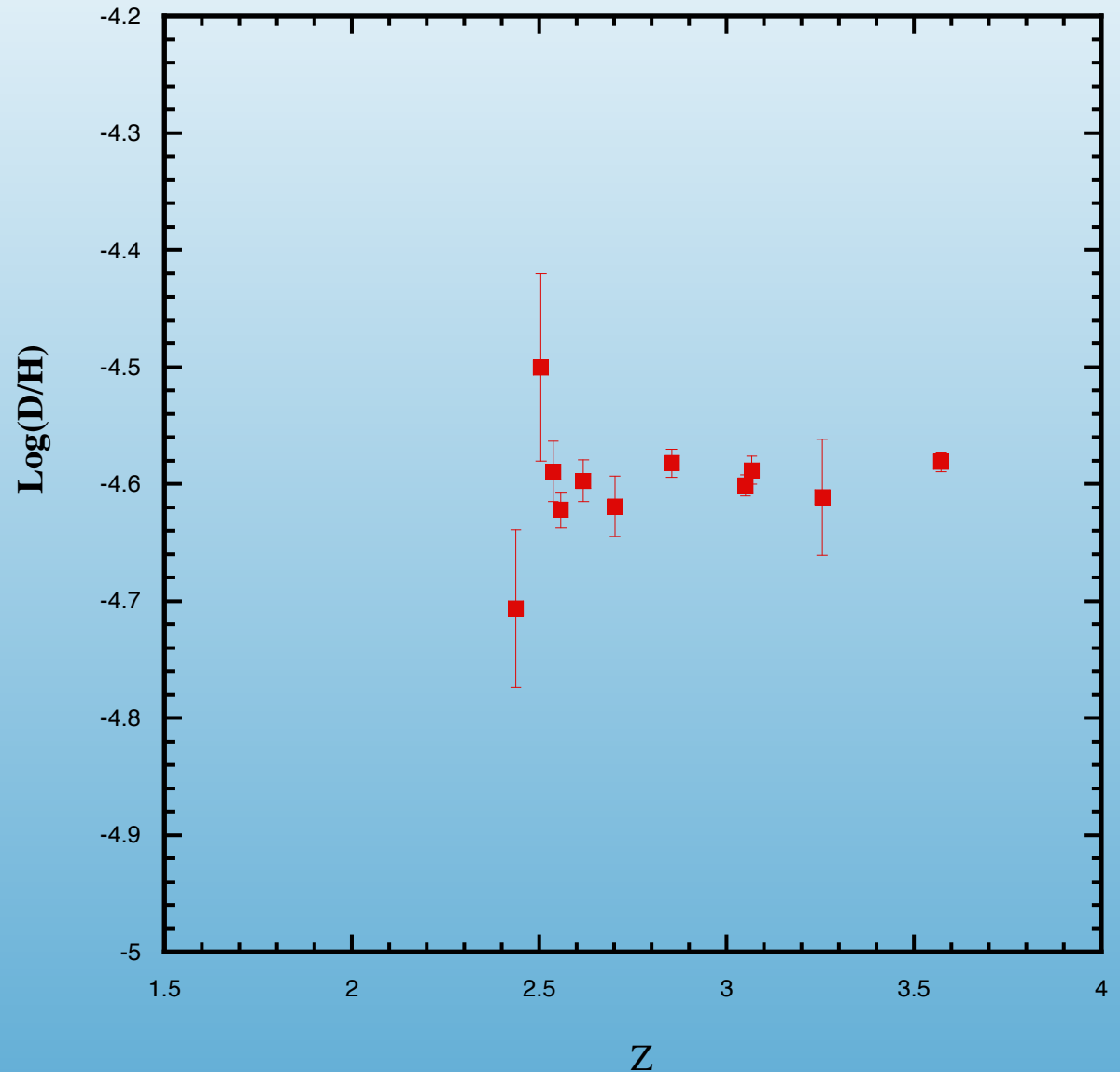
# Updated D/H abundances in Quasar absorption systems

BBN Prediction:

$$10^5 \text{ D/H} = 2.51 \pm 0.11$$

Obs Average:

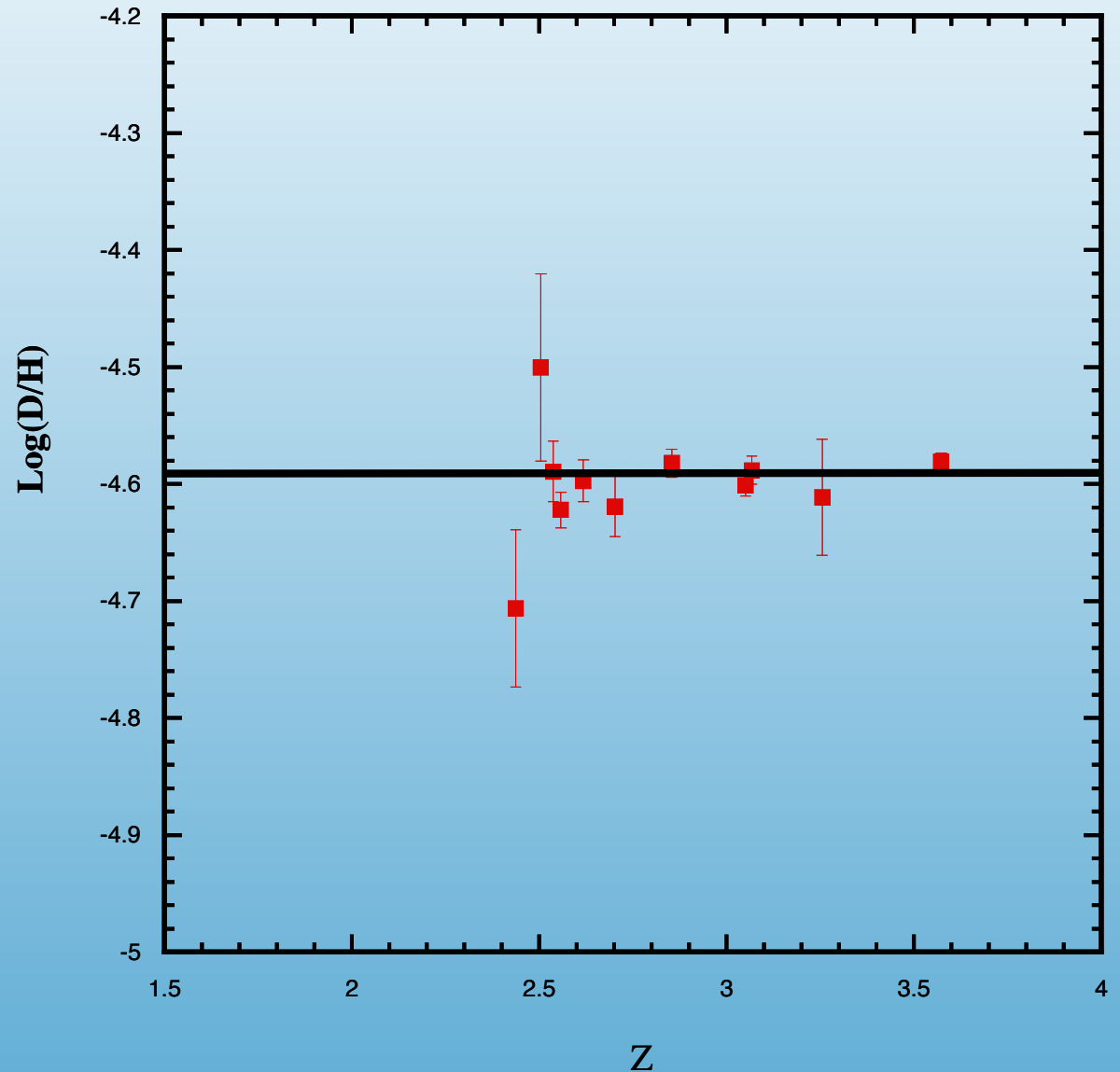
$$10^5 \text{ D/H} = 2.55 \pm 0.03$$

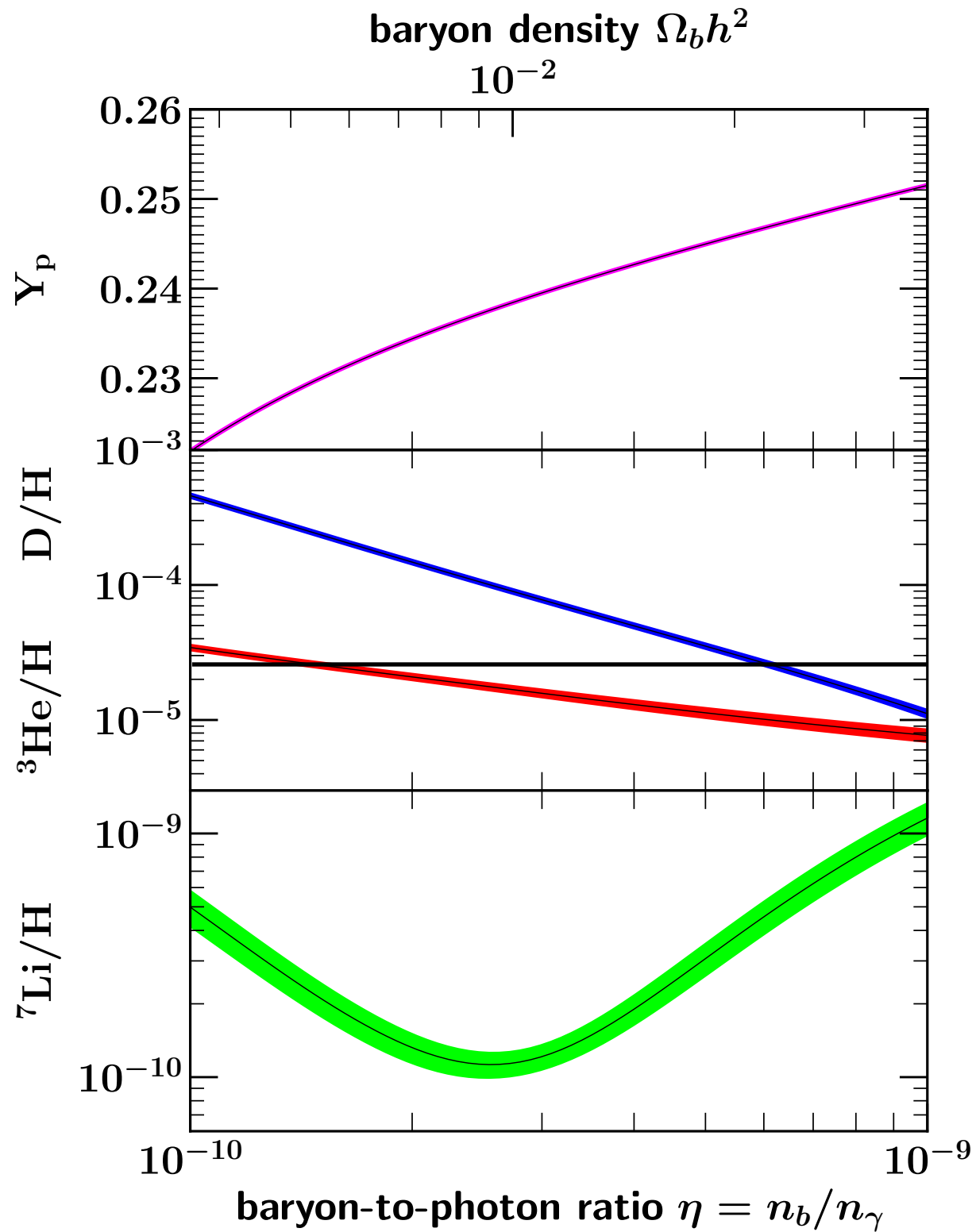


# Updated D/H abundances in Quasar absorption systems

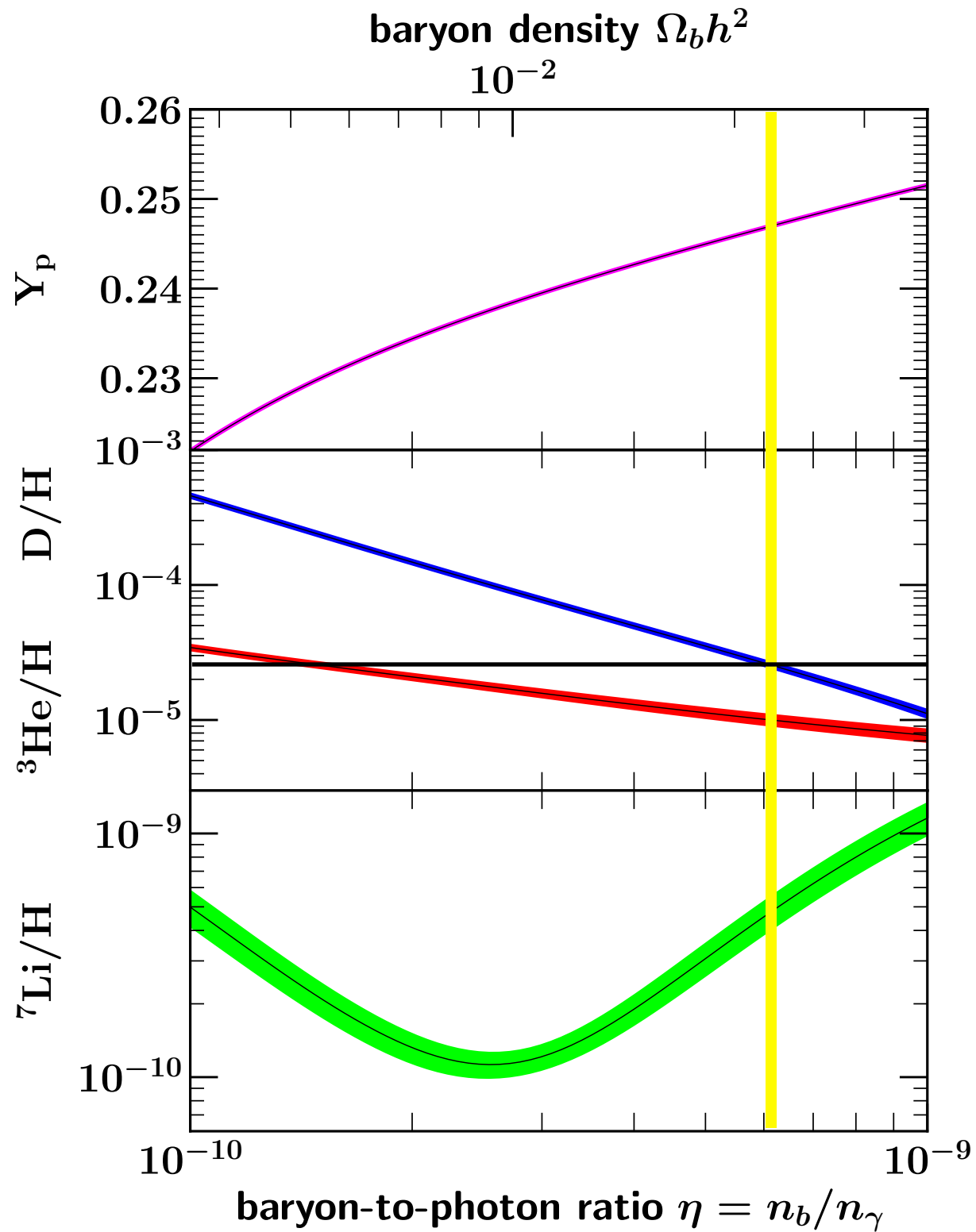
BBN Prediction:  
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Obs Average:  
 $10^5 \text{ D/H} = 2.55 \pm 0.03$





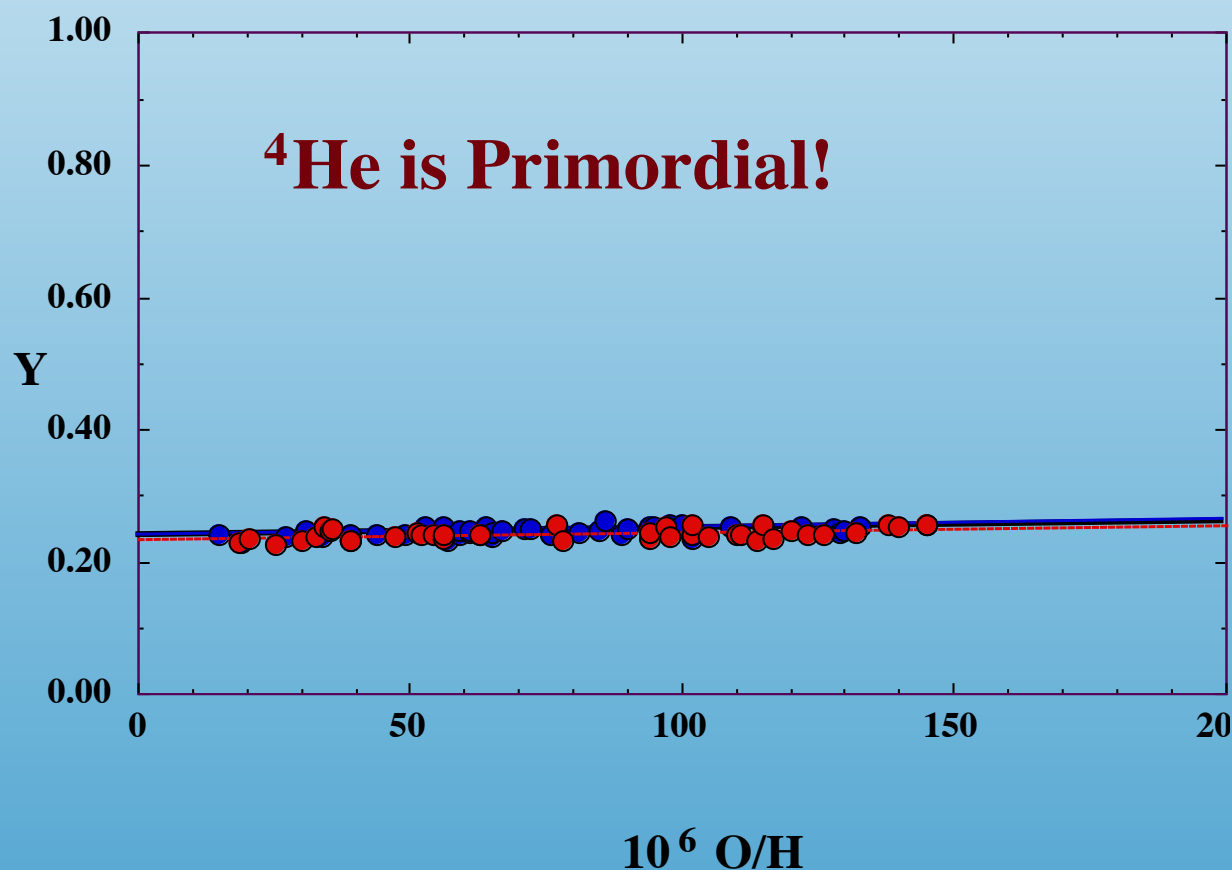


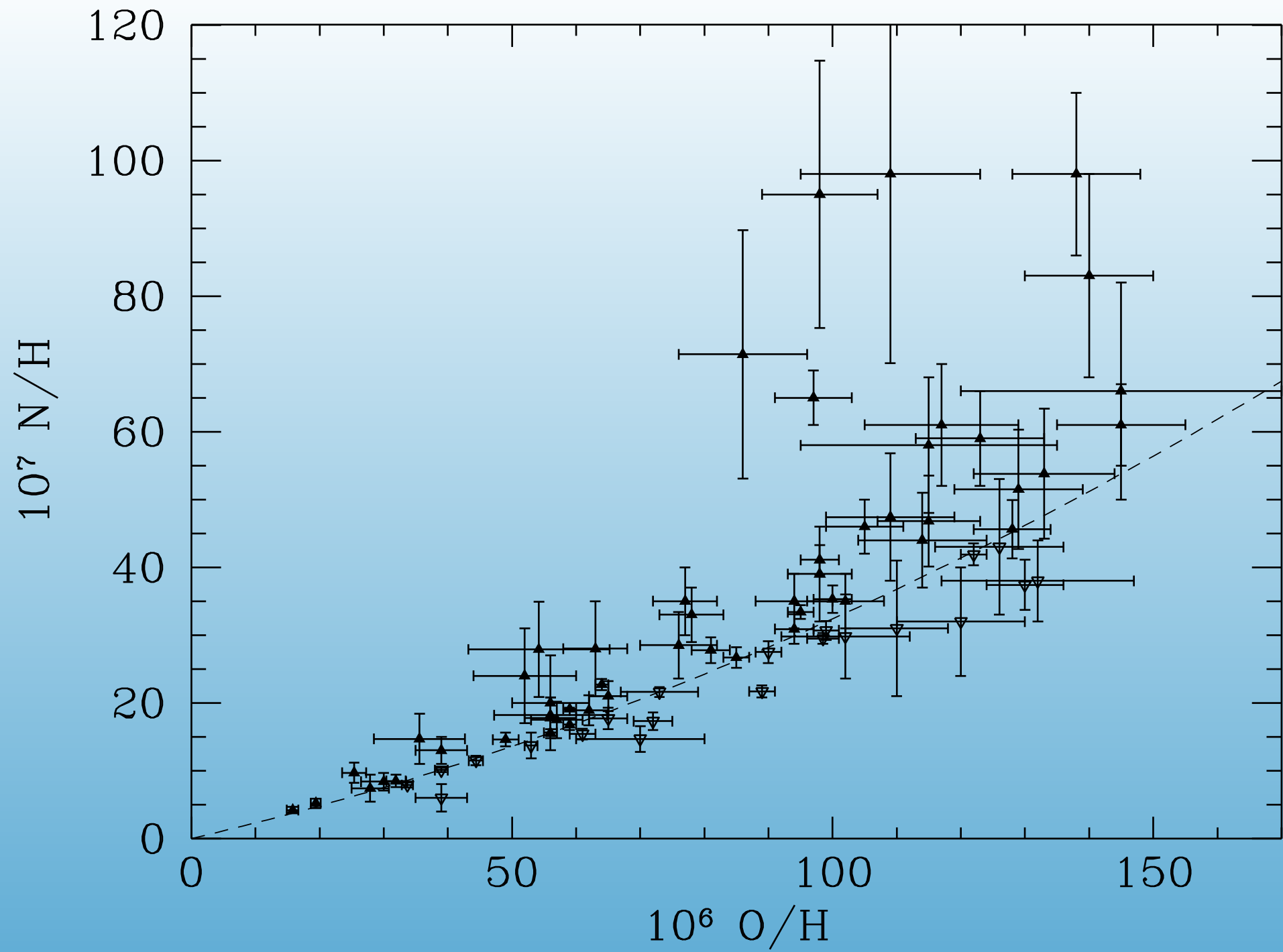


# $^4\text{He}$

Measured in low metallicity extragalactic HII regions ( $\sim 100$ ) together with O/H and N/H

$$Y_P = Y(\text{O/H} \rightarrow 0)$$





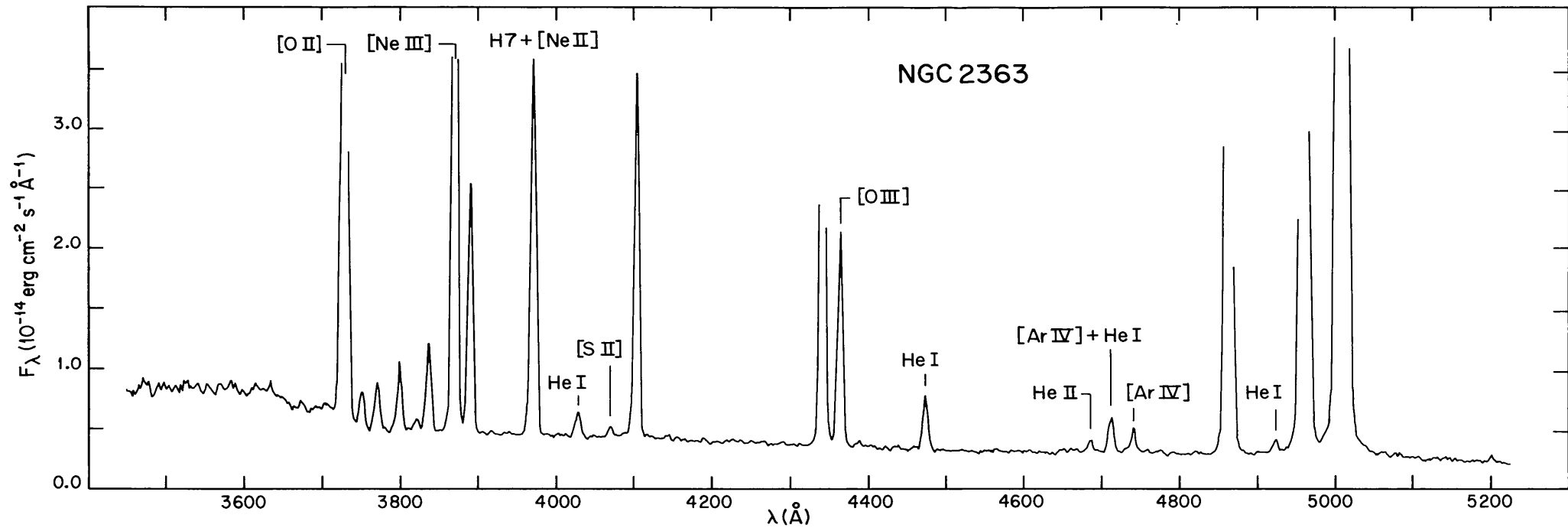


Fig. 1. Low dispersion blue spectrogram of NGC 2363, showing the faintest lines measured

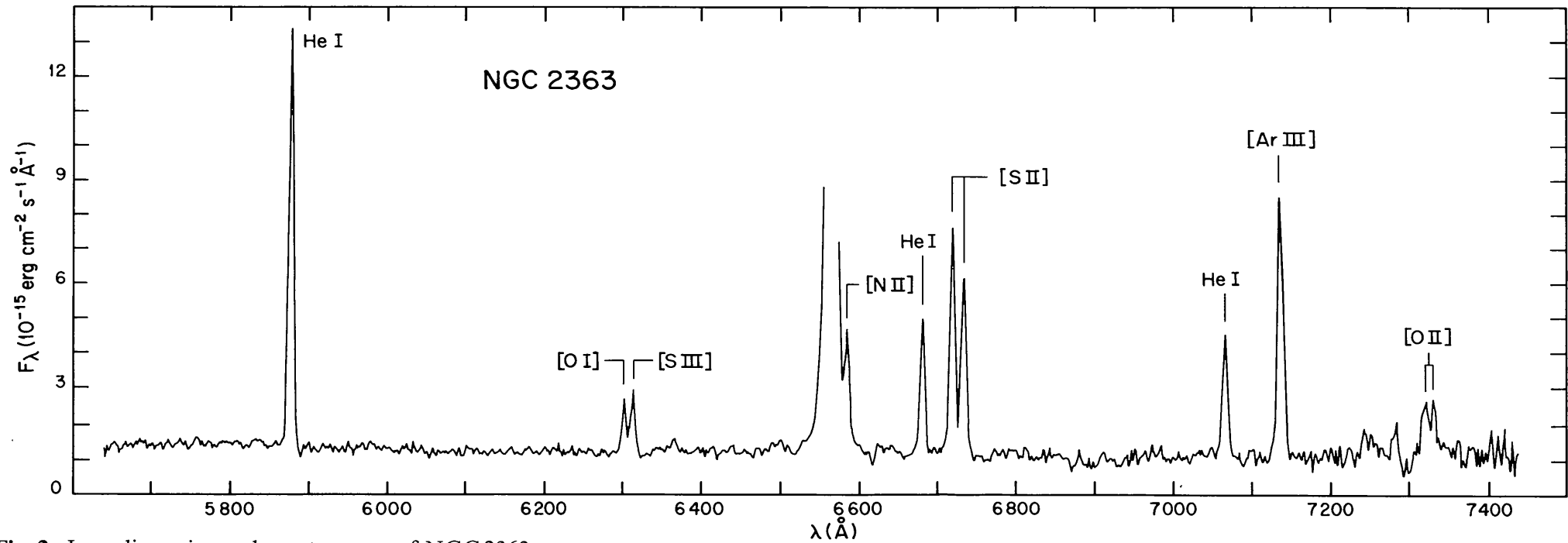


Fig. 2. Low dispersion red spectrogram of NGC 2363

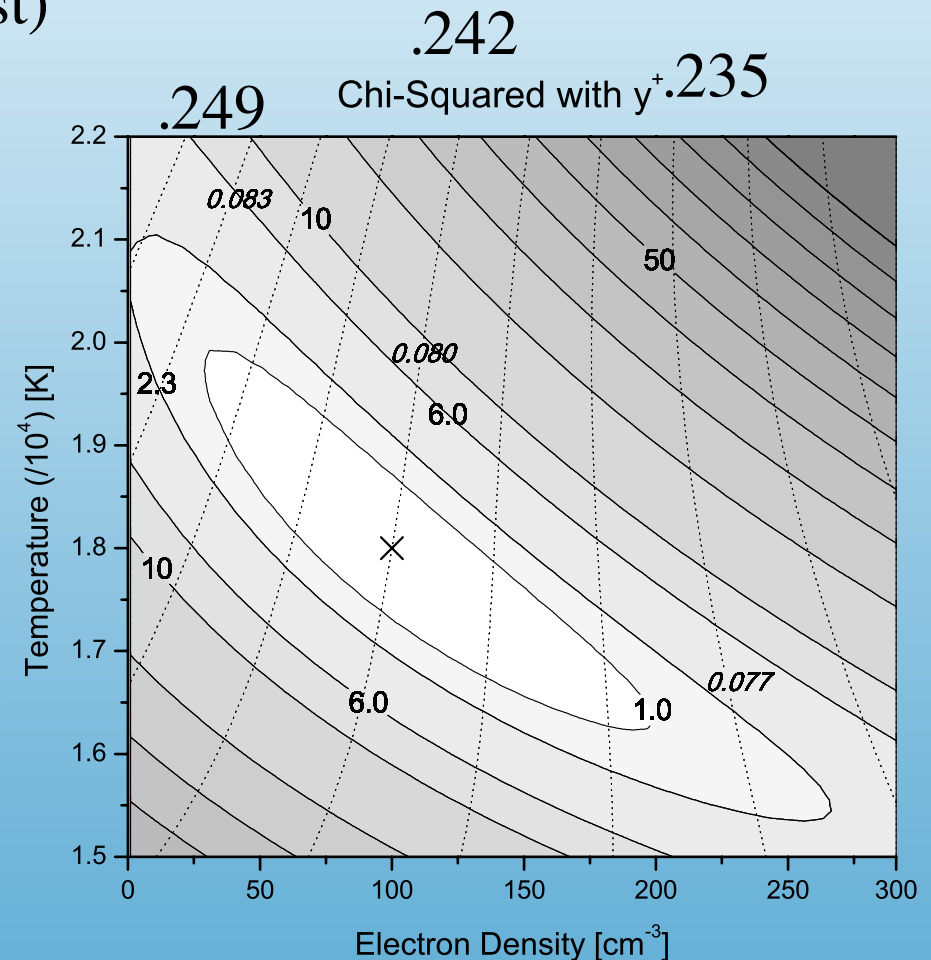
# Results for He dominated by systematic effects

- Interstellar Redding (scattered by dust)
- Underlying Stellar Absorption
- Radiative Transfer
- Collisional Corrections

MCMC statistical techniques have proven effective in parameter estimation

$$\frac{F(\lambda)}{F(H\beta)} = y^+ \frac{E(\lambda)}{E(H\beta)} \frac{\frac{W(H\beta) + a_H(H\beta)}{W(H\beta)}}{\frac{W(\lambda) + a_{He}(\lambda)}{W(\lambda)}} f_\tau(\lambda) \frac{1 + \frac{C}{R}(\lambda)}{1 + \frac{C}{R}(H\beta)} 10^{-f(\lambda)C(H\beta)}$$

$$(y^+, n_e, a_{He}, \tau, T, C(H\beta), a_H, \xi)$$



Aver, Olive, Skillman

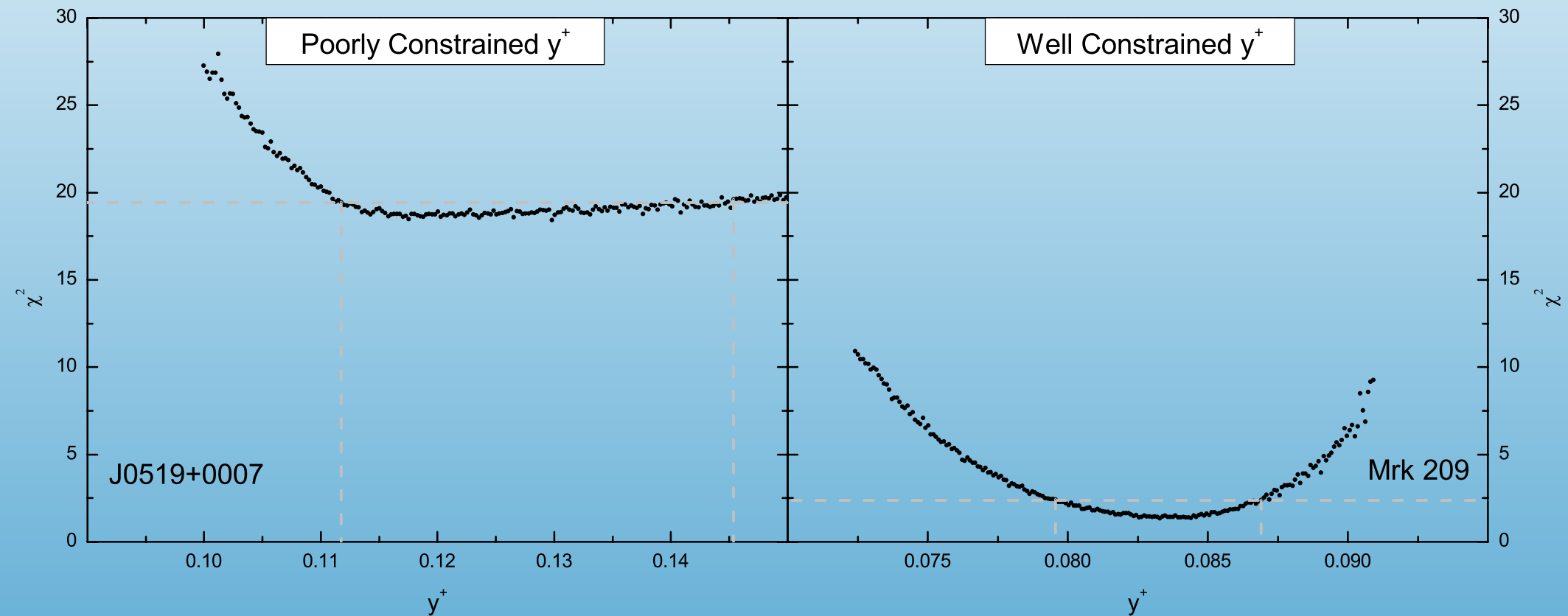
# Results for He dominated by systematic effects

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{\lambda} \frac{\left( \frac{F(\lambda)}{F(H\beta)} - \frac{F(\lambda)}{F(H\beta)}_{\text{meas}} \right)^2}{\sigma(\lambda)^2}$$

9-10 observables

$(y^+, n_e, a_{He}, \tau, T, C(H\beta), a_H, \xi)$

8 parameters



$$\frac{F(\lambda)}{F(H\beta)} = y^+ \frac{E(\lambda)}{E(H\beta)} \frac{\frac{W(H\beta) + a_H(H\beta)}{W(H\beta)}}{\frac{W(\lambda) + a_{He}(\lambda)}{W(\lambda)}} f_{\tau}(\lambda) \frac{1 + \frac{C}{R}(\lambda)}{1 + \frac{C}{R}(H\beta)} 10^{-f(\lambda)C(H\beta)}$$

Aver, Olive, Skillman

# Improvements

New emissivities

Aver, Olive, Porter, Skillman  
2013

Adding new He line

Izotov, Thuan, Guseva

7 He, 3 H lines to fit 8 parameters

Aver, Olive, Skillman  
2015

Adding new H and He lines

Aver, Berg, Olive, Pogge,  
Salzer, Skillman  
2021

Add 2 He, and 9 H lines (H9-12, and P8-12)

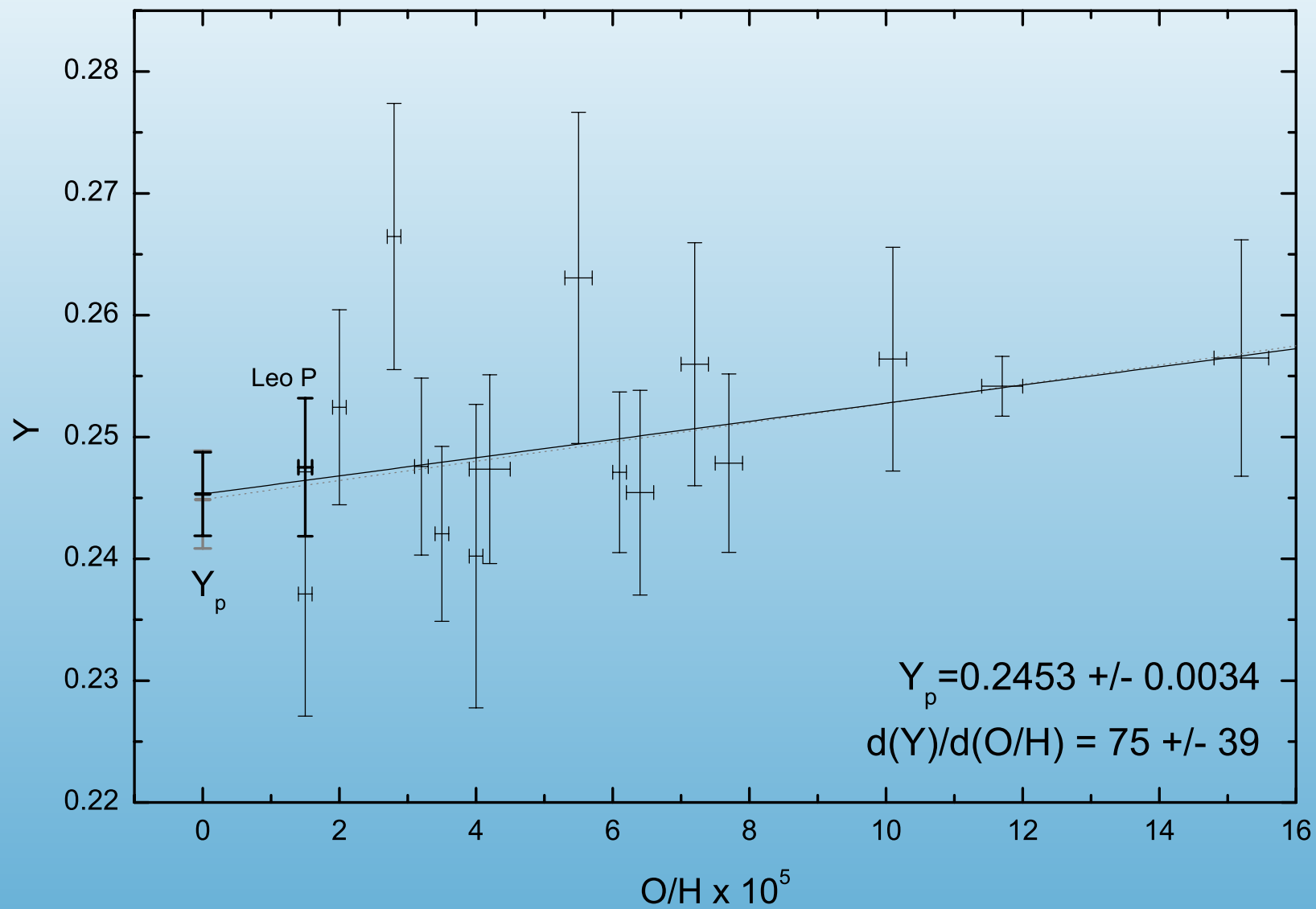
For a total of 21 observables to fit 9 parameters ( $a_p$  added).

# Applied to Leo P

Aver, Berg, Olive, Pogge,  
Salzer, Skillman

	Skillman et al. [66]	This Work	
Emission lines	9	21	
Free Parameters	8	9	
d.o.f.	1	12	
95% CL $\chi^2$	3.84	21.03	13.7 for 68%
He <sup>+</sup> /H <sup>+</sup>	$0.0837^{+0.0084}_{-0.0062}$	$0.0823^{+0.0025}_{-0.0018}$	
n <sub>e</sub> [cm <sup>-3</sup> ]	$1^{+206}_{-1}$	$39^{+12}_{-12}$	
a <sub>He</sub> [Å]	$0.50^{+0.42}_{-0.42}$	$0.42^{+0.11}_{-0.15}$	
τ	$0.00^{+0.66}_{-0.00}$	$0.00^{+0.13}_{-0.00}$	
T <sub>e</sub> [K]	$17,060^{+1900}_{-2900}$	$17,400^{+1200}_{-1400}$	
C(Hβ)	$0.10^{+0.03}_{-0.07}$	$0.10^{+0.02}_{-0.02}$	
a <sub>H</sub> [Å]	$0.94^{+1.44}_{-0.94}$	$0.51^{+0.17}_{-0.18}$	
a <sub>P</sub> [Å]	-	$0.00^{+0.52}_{-0.00}$	
ξ × 10 <sup>4</sup>	$0^{+156}_{-0}$	$0^{+7}_{-0}$	
χ <sup>2</sup>	3.3	15.3	
p-value	7%	23%	
O/H × 10 <sup>5</sup>	1.5 ± 0.1	1.5 ± 0.1	
Y	0.2509 ± 0.0184	0.2475 ± 0.0057	

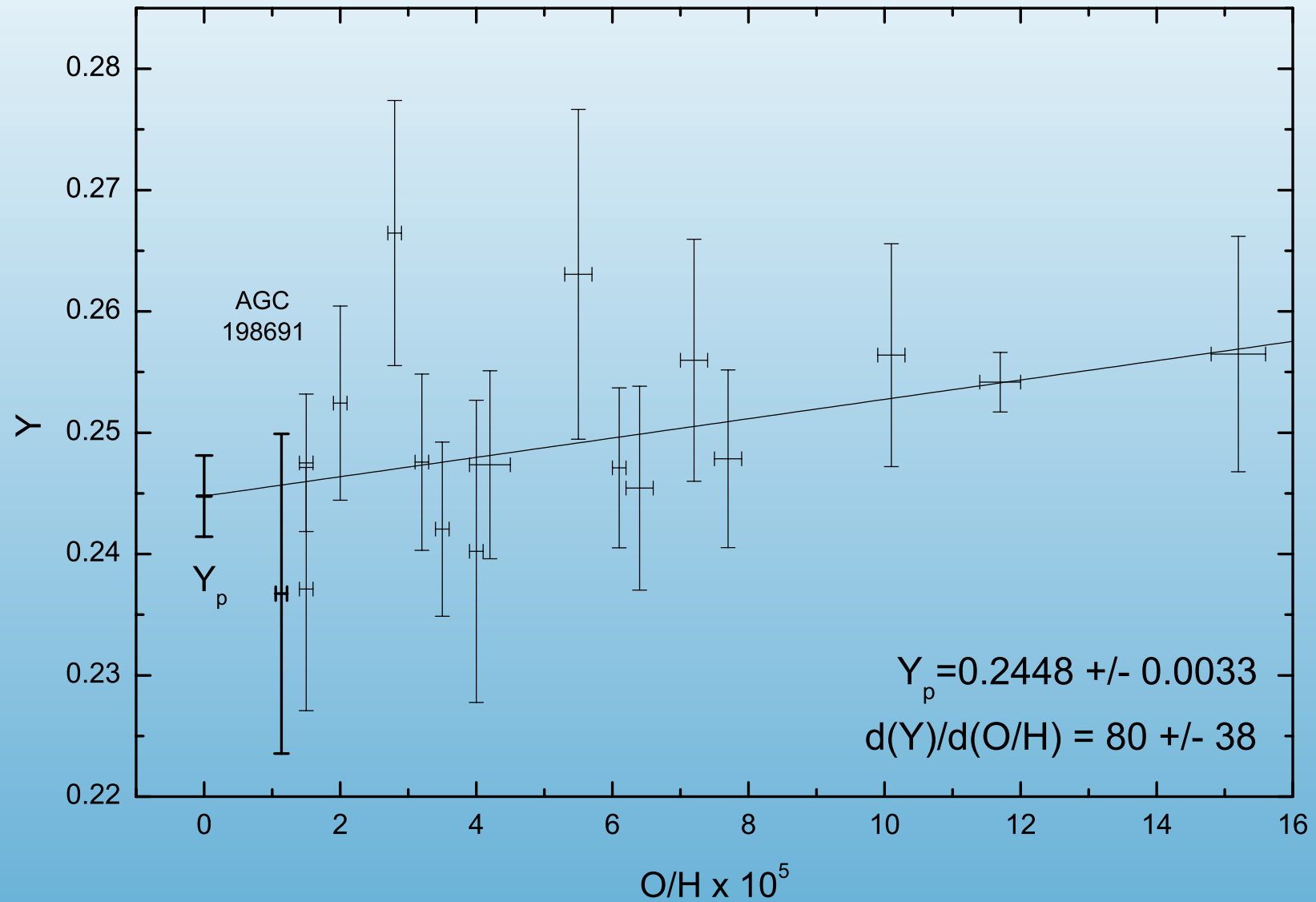




prior:  $Y_P = .2449 \pm 0.0040$

Aver, Berg, Olive, Pogge,  
Salzer, Skillman

Most recent addition: AGC 198691 (2021)

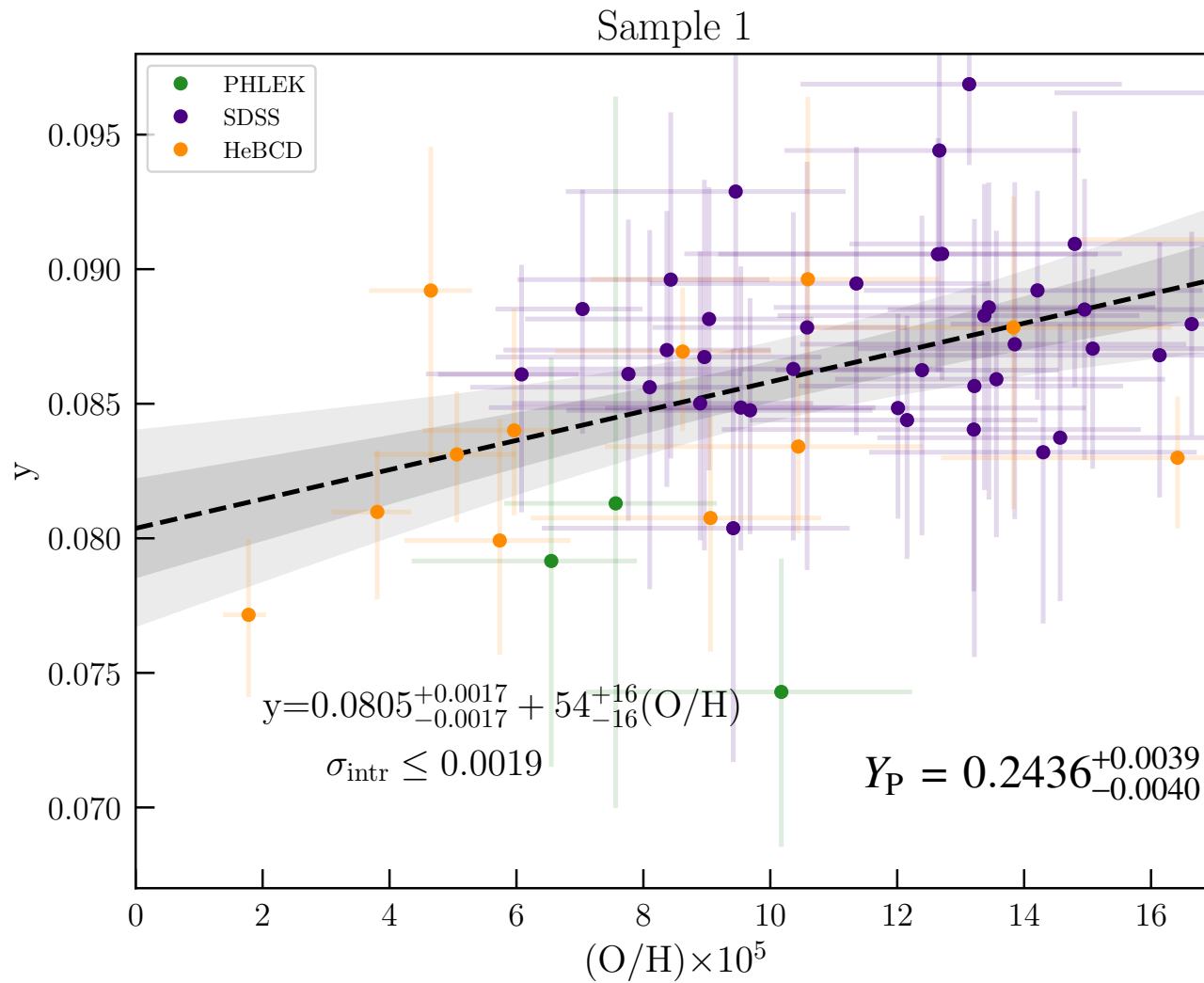


prior:  $Y_P = .2453 \pm 0.0034$

Aver, Berg, Hirschauer, Olive,  
Pogge, Rogers,  
Salzer, Skillman

# PHLEK (+SDSS) data

Hsyu, Cooke, Prochaska, Bolte



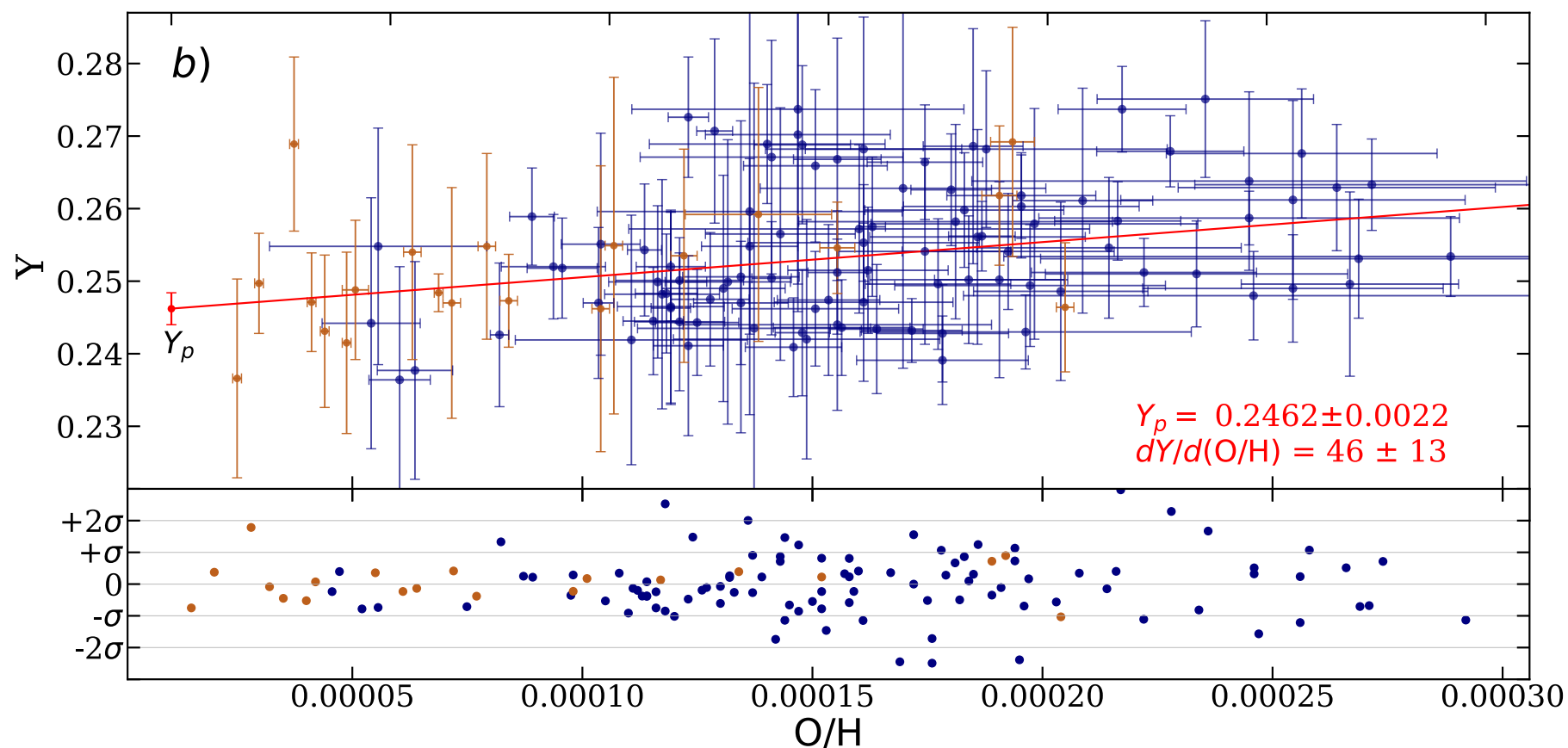
cf. Aver et al.

$Y_{\text{p}} = 0.2448 \pm 0.0033$

$d(Y)/d(\text{O}/\text{H}) = 80 \pm 38$

# Adding higher metallicity regions from SDSS data

Kurichin, Kislitsyn, Klimenko  
Balashev, Ivanchik



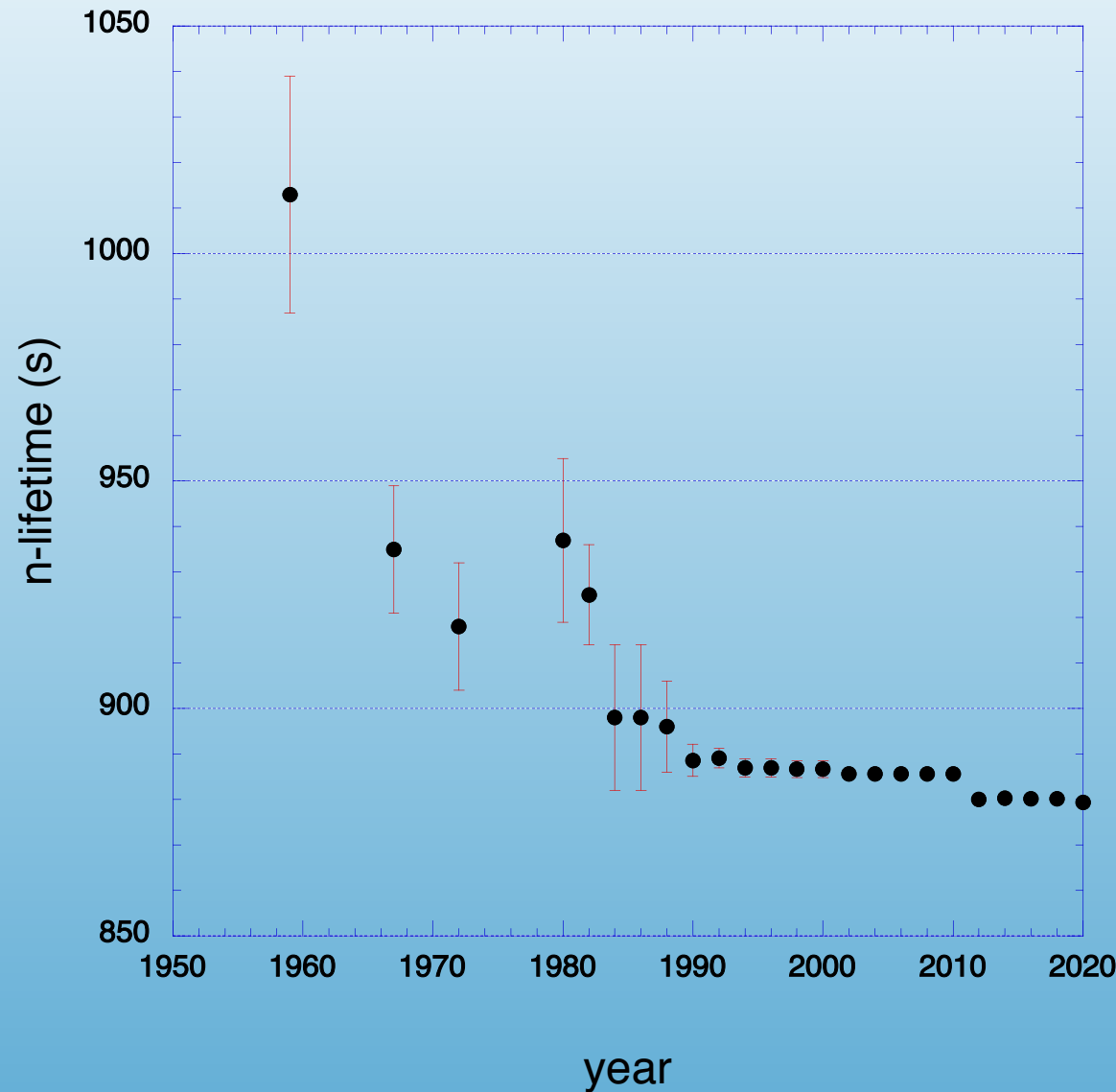
cf. Aver et al.  $Y_p = 0.2448 \pm 0.0033$   
 $d(Y)/d(O/H) = 80 \pm 38$

# Neutron Lifetime

$$\tau = 885.7 \rightarrow Y = .2481$$

$$\tau = 880.2 \rightarrow Y = .2470$$

$$\tau = 879.4 \rightarrow Y = .2468$$

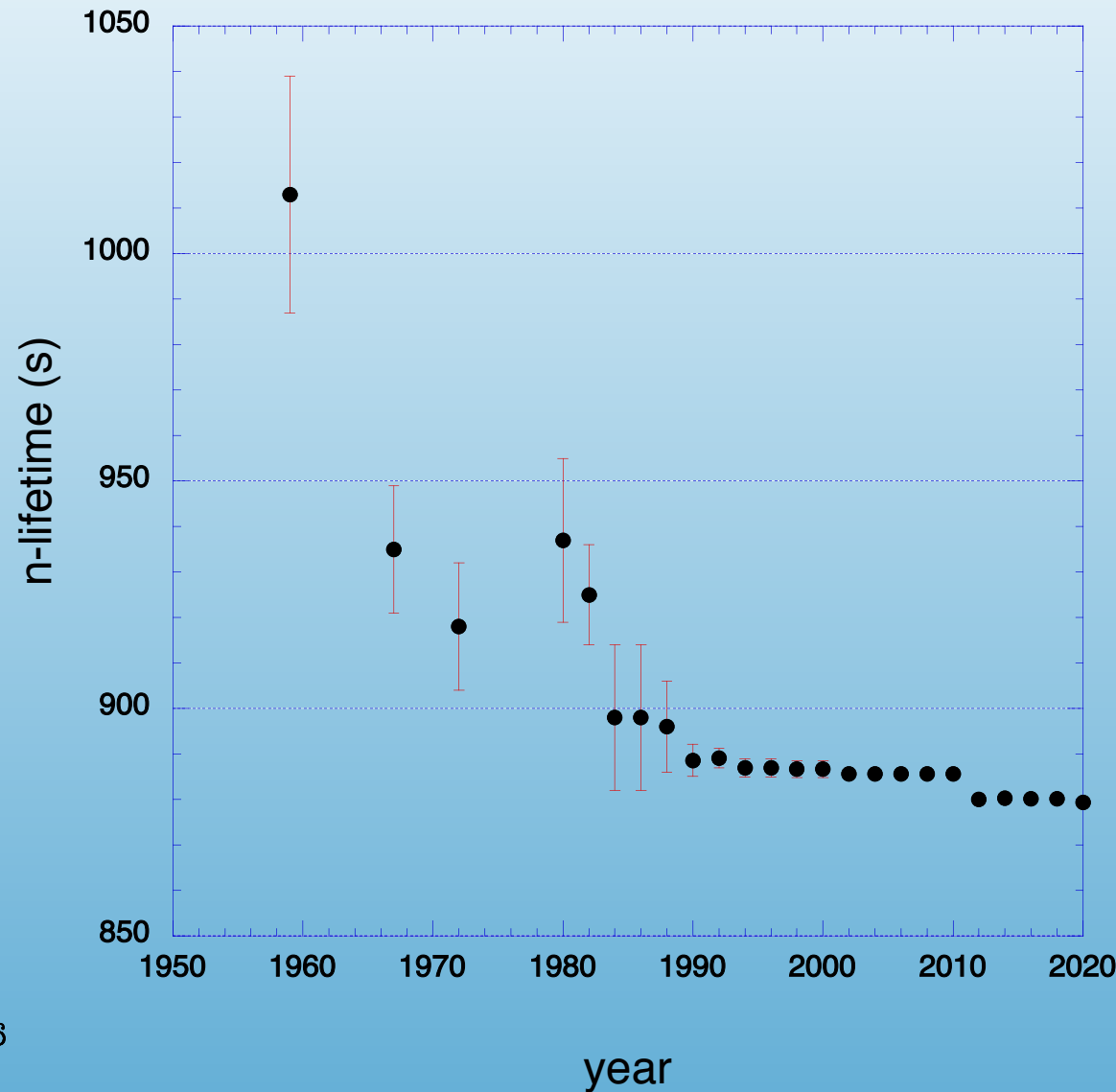
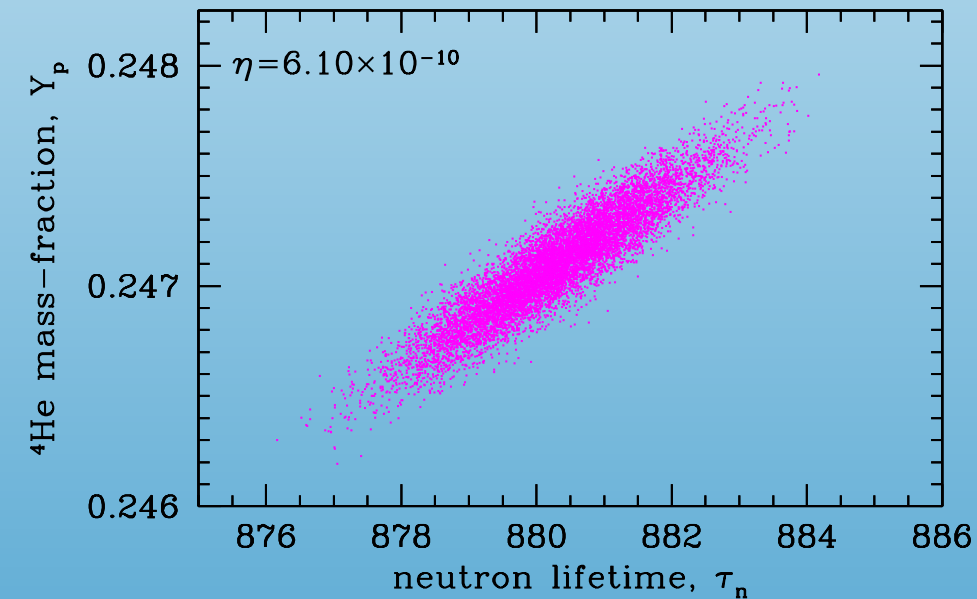


# Neutron Lifetime

$$\tau = 885.7 \rightarrow Y = .2481$$

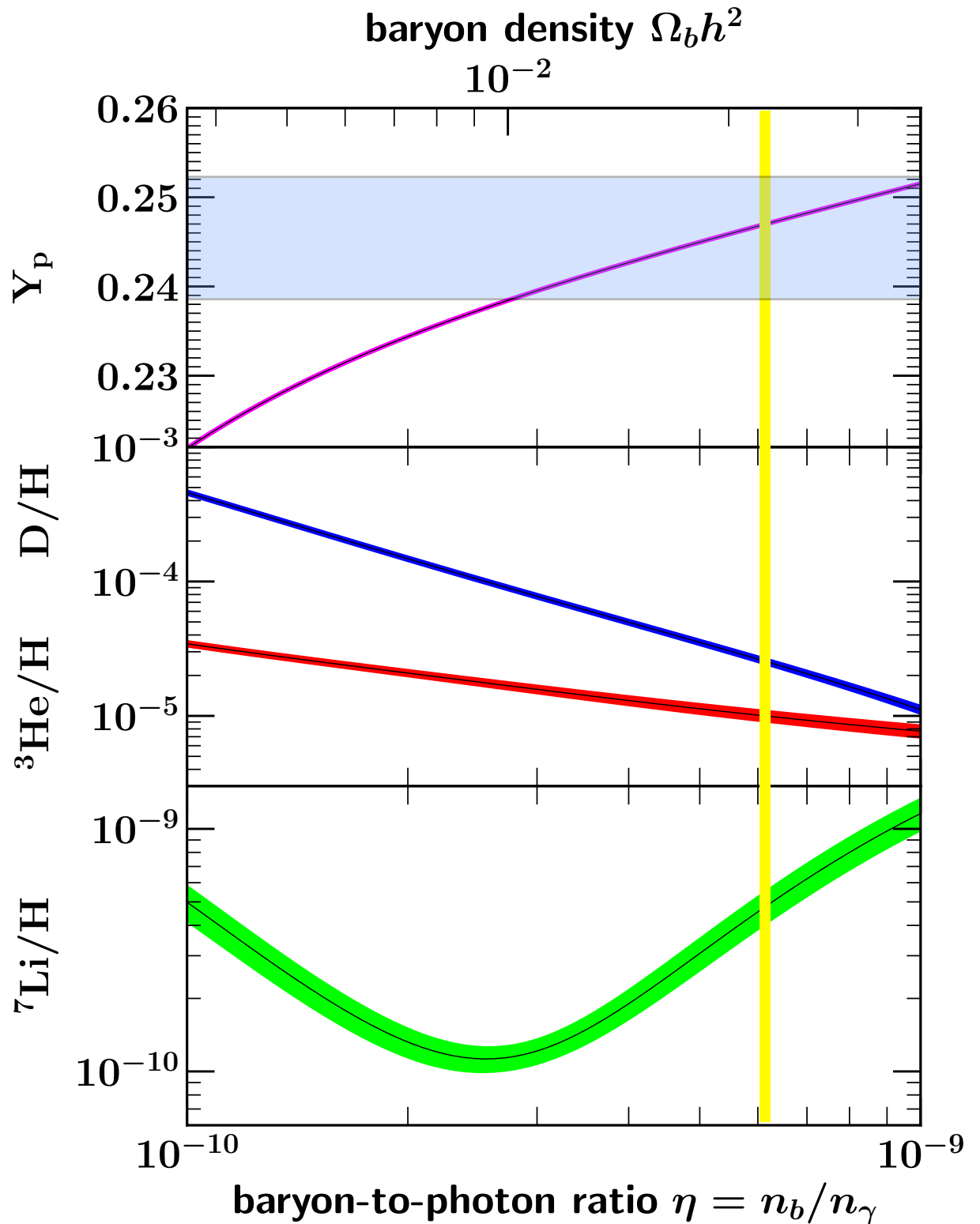
$$\tau = 880.2 \rightarrow Y = .2470$$

$$\tau = 879.4 \rightarrow Y = .2468$$



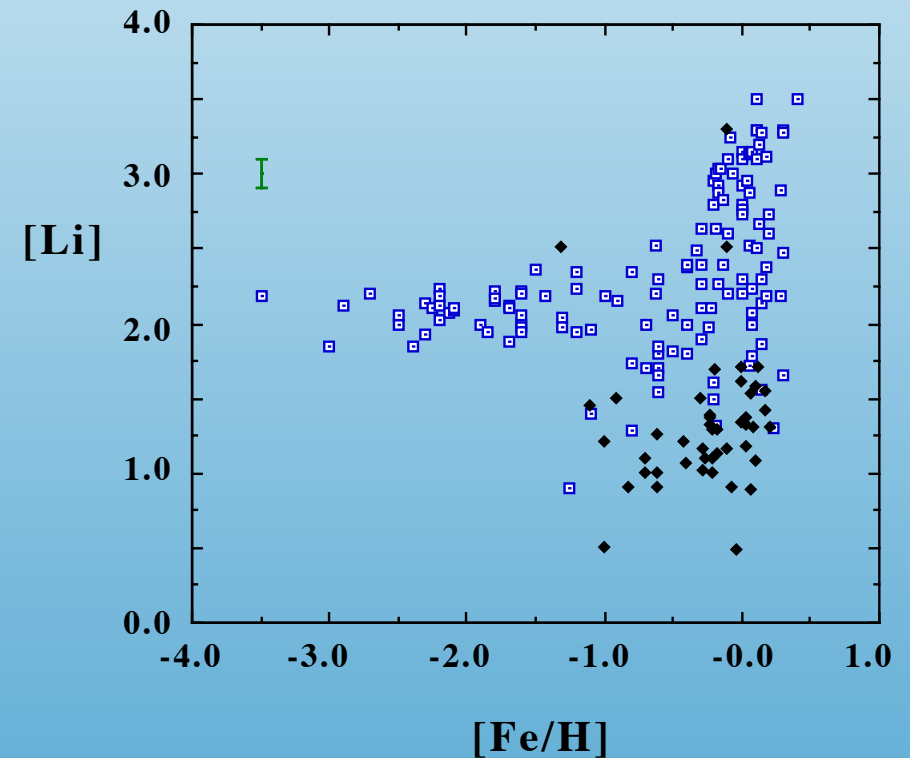
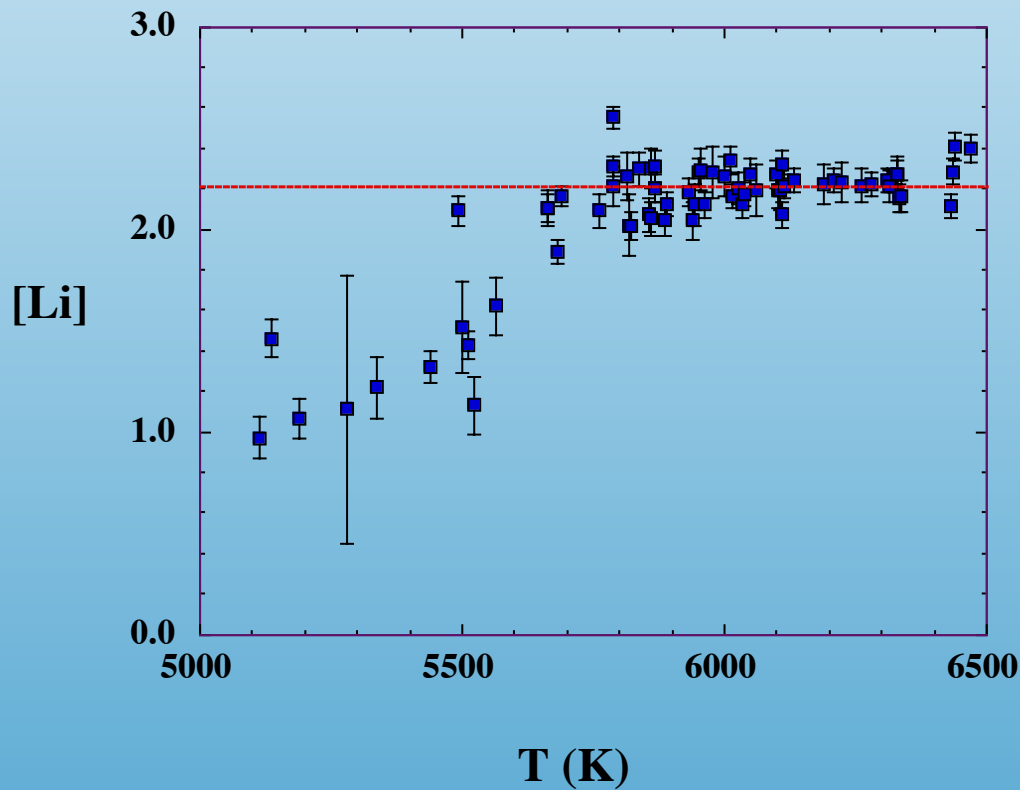
$^4\text{He}$  Prediction:  
 $0.2469 \pm 0.0002$

Data: Regression:  
 $0.2448 \pm 0.0033$

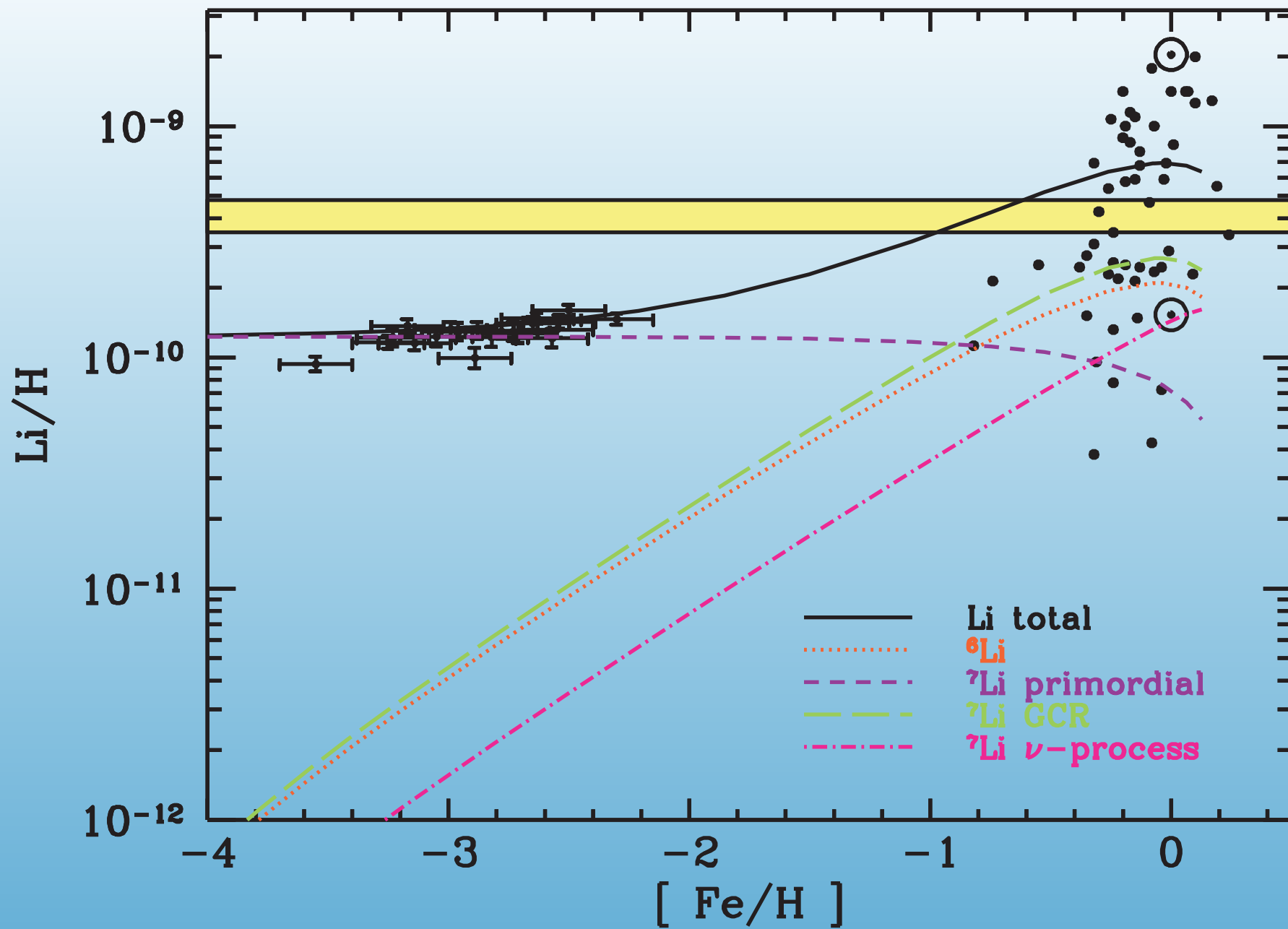


# Li/H

Measured in low metallicity dwarf halo stars  
(over 100 observed)







# Possible sources for the discrepancy

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- Nuclear Rates

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- Nuclear Rates

- Restricted by solar neutrino flux

Coc et al.  
Cyburt, Fields, KAO  
Boyd, et al.

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- Others:  ${}^7\text{Be}(n,\alpha){}^4\text{He}$ ,  ${}^7\text{Be}(d,p){}^4\text{He}{}^4\text{He}$

Coc et al.

Cyburt, Fields, KAO

Boyd, et al.

n-TOF;

Hou et al.

Kawabata et al.

Lamia et al.

Rigal et al.

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Cyburt, Pospelov  
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n-TOF;  
Hou et al.  
Kawabata et al.  
Lamia et al.  
Rigal et al.

- Resonant reactions

- ${}^7\text{Be} + {}^3\text{He} \rightarrow {}^{10}\text{C}$

Cyburt, Pospelov  
Chakraborty, Fields, Olive  
Broggini, Canton, Fiorentini, Villante



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Cyburt, Fields, KAO  
Boyd, et al.

n-TOF;  
Hou et al.  
Kawabata et al.  
Lamia et al.  
Rigal et al.

- Resonant reactions

- ${}^7\text{Be} + {}^3\text{He} \rightarrow {}^{10}\text{C}$
- Resonance at 15 MeV not seen by experiment

Cyburt, Pospelov  
Chakraborty, Fields, Olive  
Broggini, Canton, Fiorentini, Villante

# Possible sources for the discrepancy

- Stellar Depletion

- lack of dispersion in the data,  ${}^6\text{Li}$  abundance
- standard models ( $< .05$  dex), models (0.2 - 0.4 dex)

Vauclaire & Charbonnel

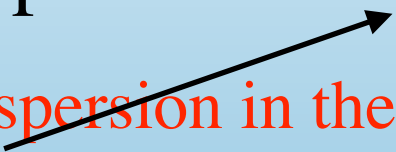
Pinsonneault et al.

Richard, Michaud, Richer

Korn et al.

Fu et al.

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- 

Vauclaire & Charbonnel


Pinsonneault et al.

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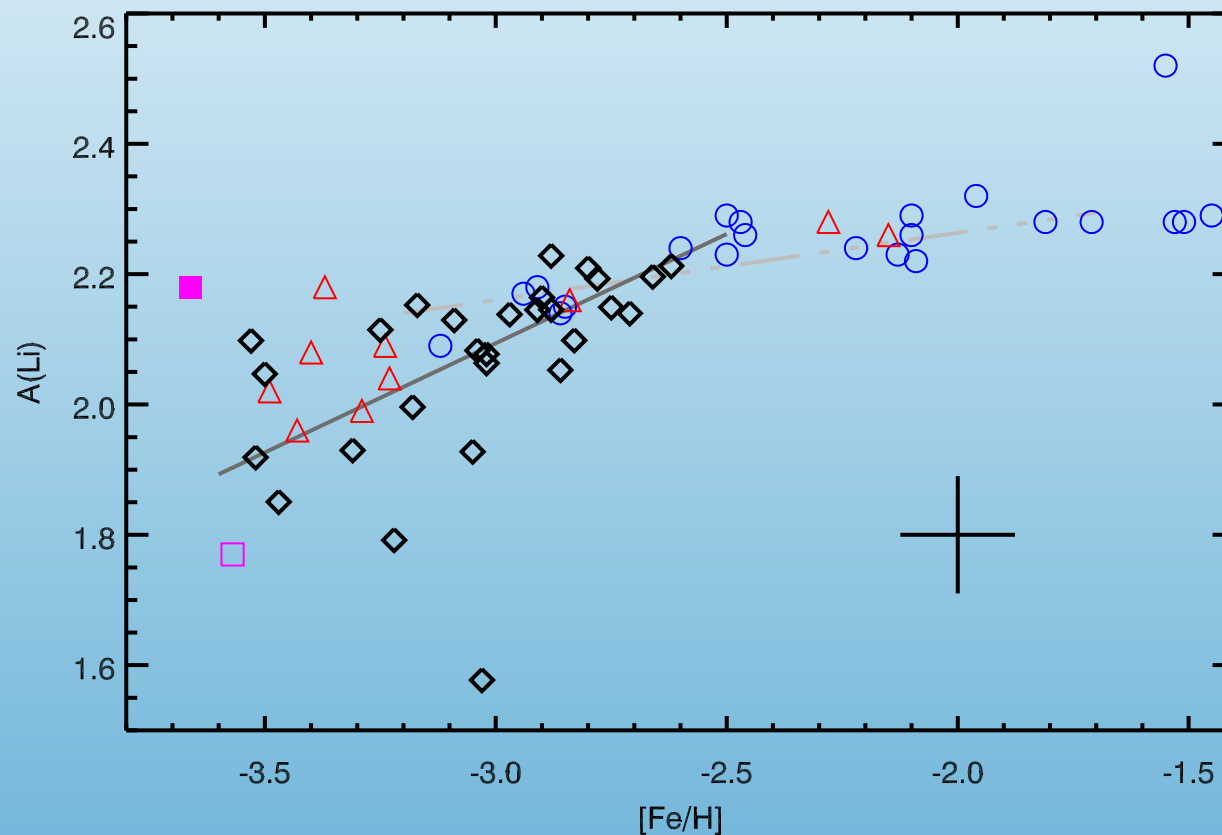
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- unclear!      unclear!
- 
- Two black arrows originate from the list items. The first arrow starts under 'lack of dispersion in the data,
- ${}^6\text{Li}$
- abundance' and points to the first 'unclear!'. The second arrow starts under 'models (0.2 - 0.4 dex)' and points to the second 'unclear!'.

Vauclaire & Charbonnel  
Pinsonneault et al.  
Richard, Michaud, Richer  
Korn et al.  
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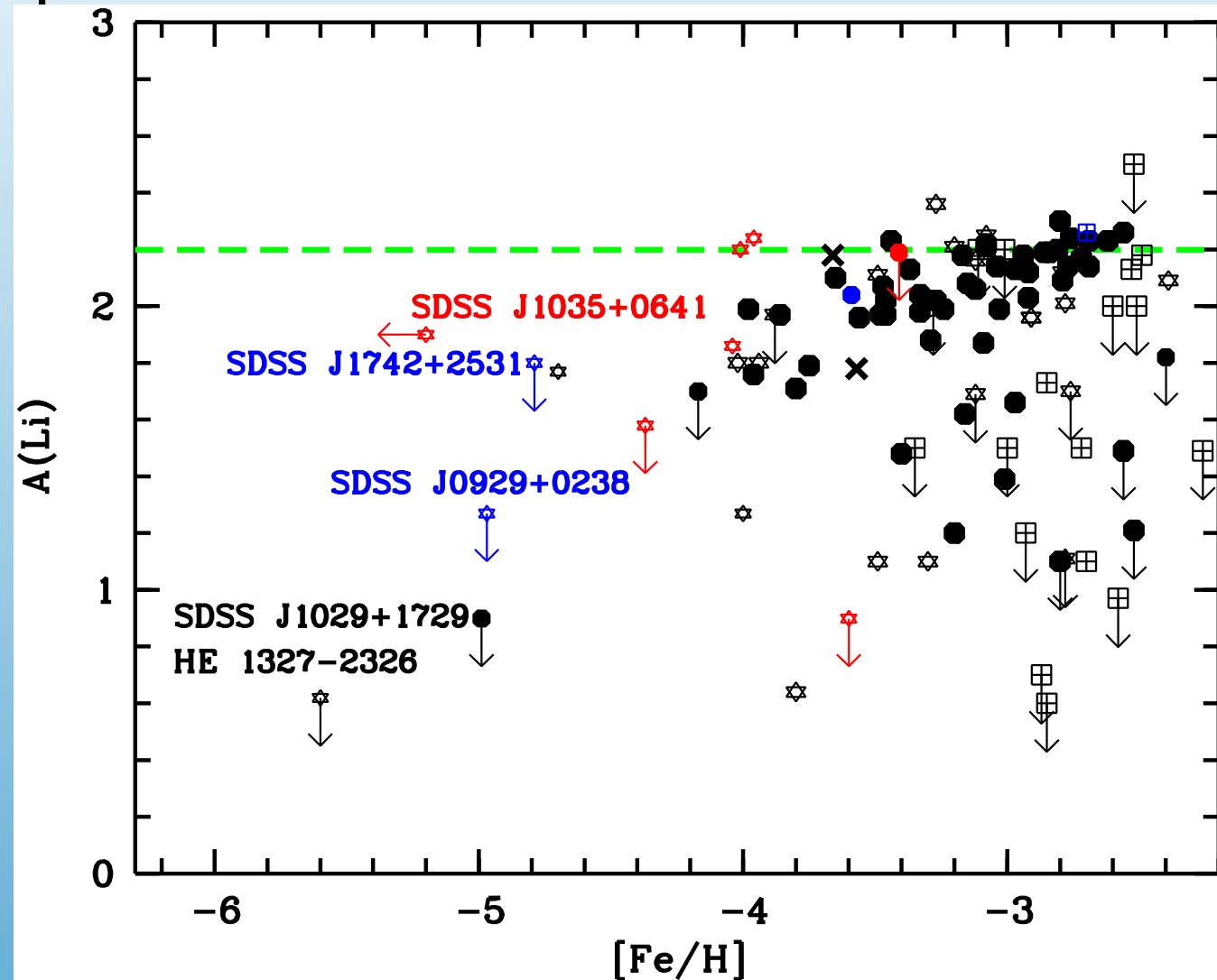
# Broken Spite plateau

Note  
significant  
dispersion



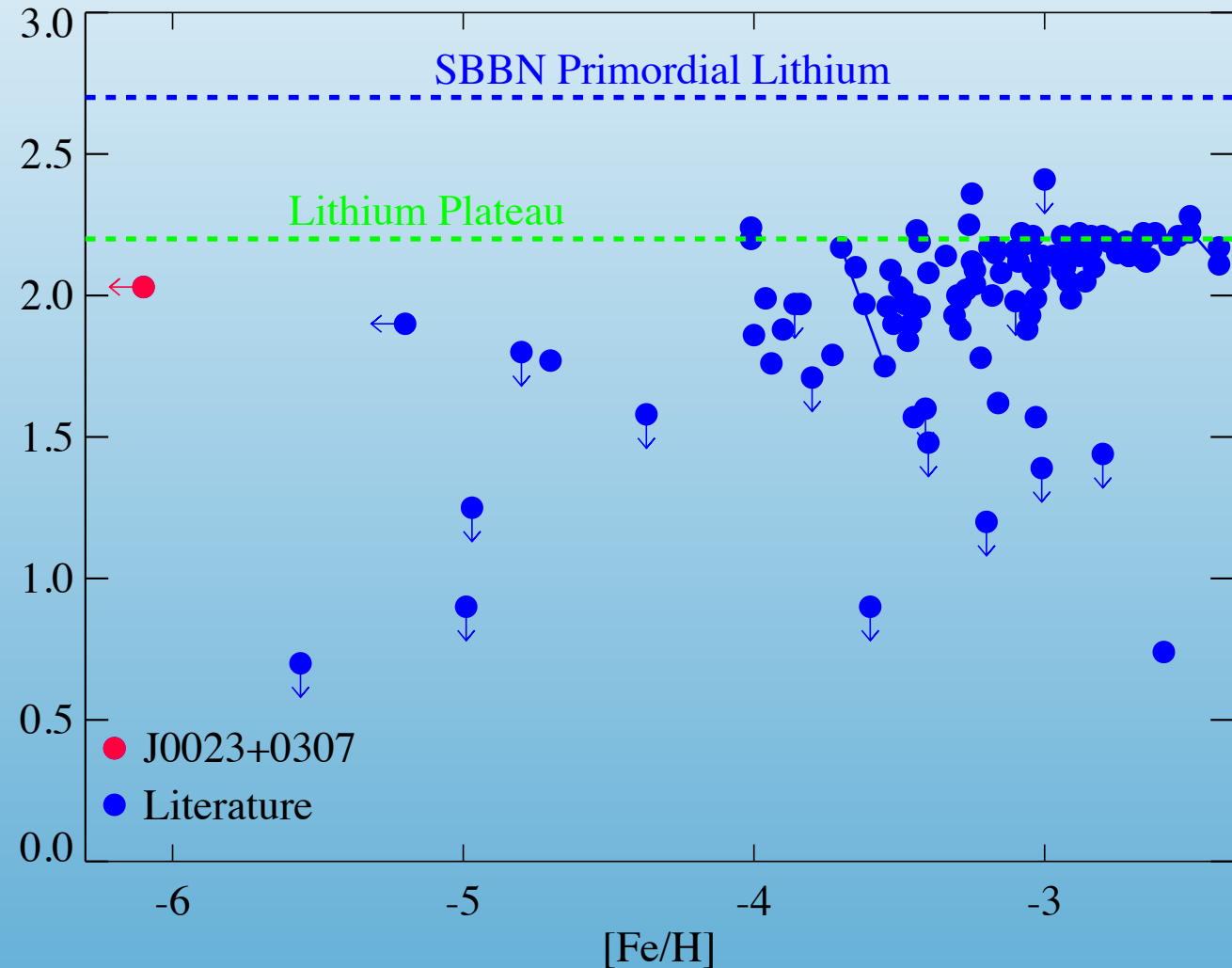
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# Broken Spite plateau

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Aguado et al. (2019)

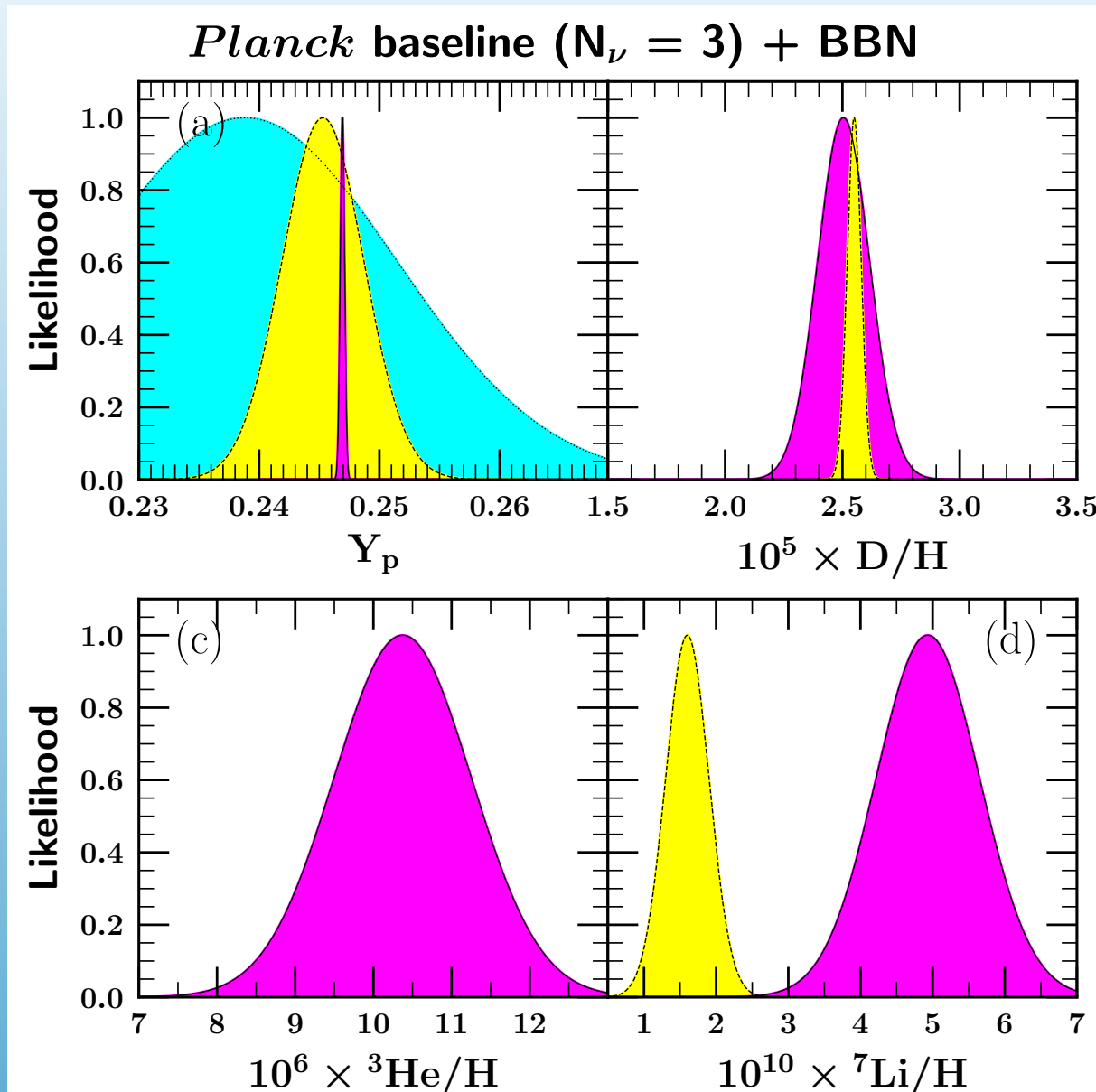
# Other possible sources for the discrepancy

- Stellar parameters
- Decaying Particles
- Axion Cooling
- Variable Constants



# BBN and the CMB

Monte-Carlo approach combining BBN rates, observations and CMB



$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{OBS}}(X) \quad \text{Yellow}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{CMB}}(Y_p) \propto \int \mathcal{L}_{\text{CMB}}(\eta, Y_p) d\eta.$$

Cyan

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{CMB-BBN}}(X_i) \propto$$

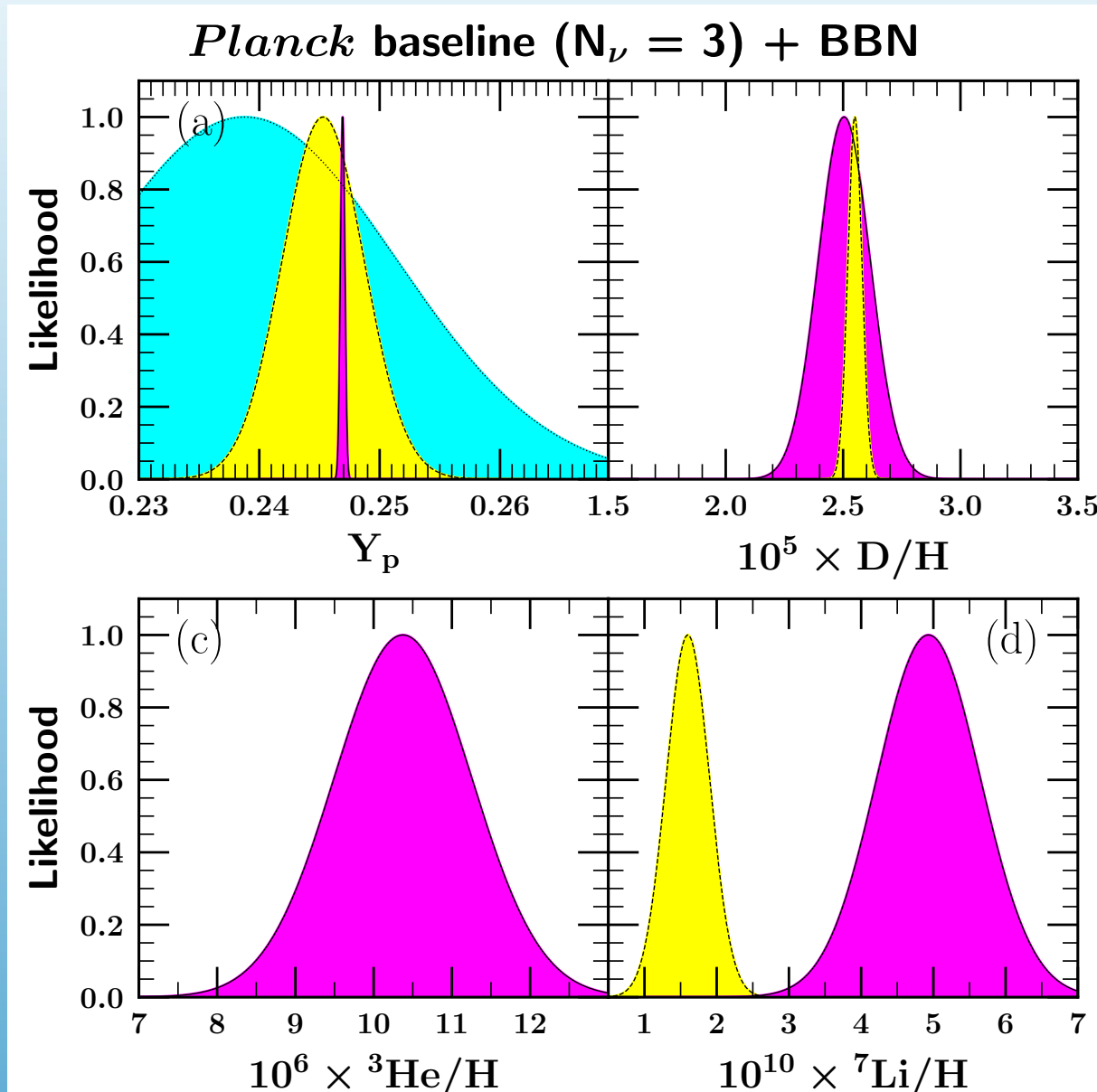
$$\int \mathcal{L}_{\text{CMB}}(\eta, Y_p) \mathcal{L}_{\text{BBN}}(\eta; X_i) d\eta$$

Purple

Fields, Olive, Yeh, Young

# BBN and the CMB

Monte-Carlo approach combining BBN rates, observations and CMB

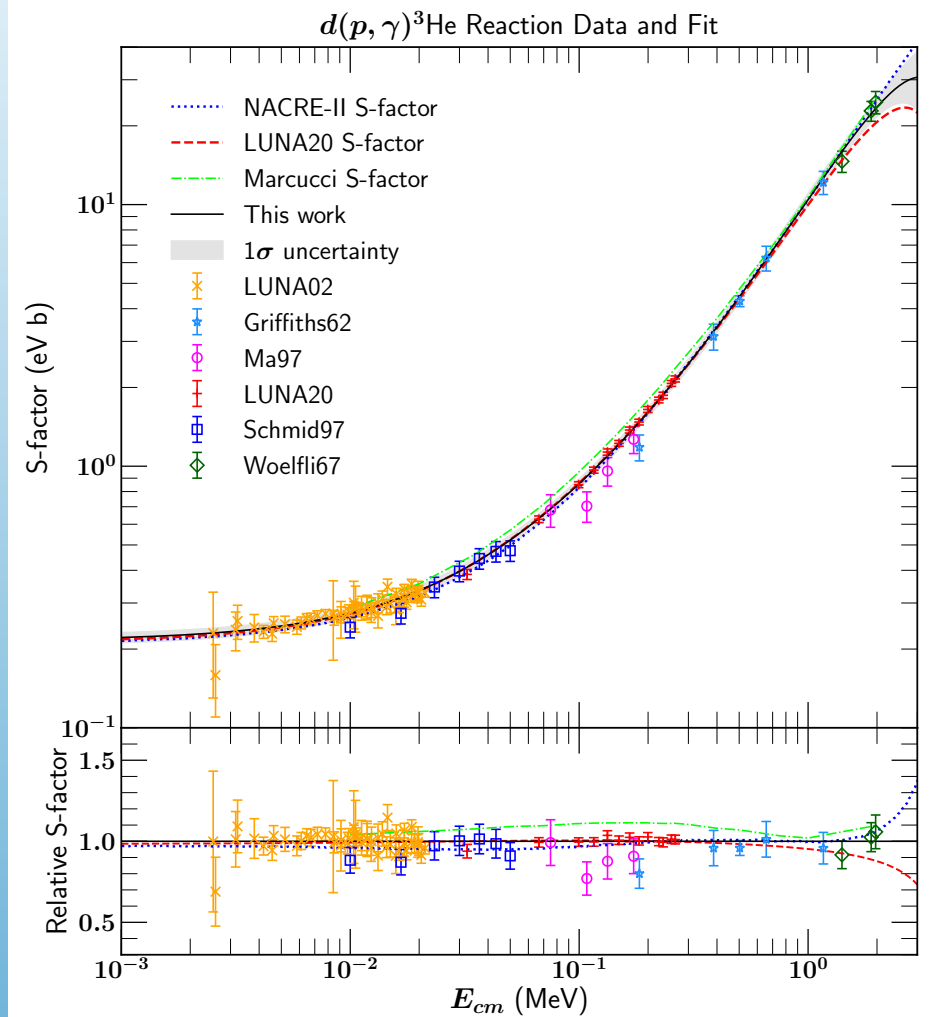
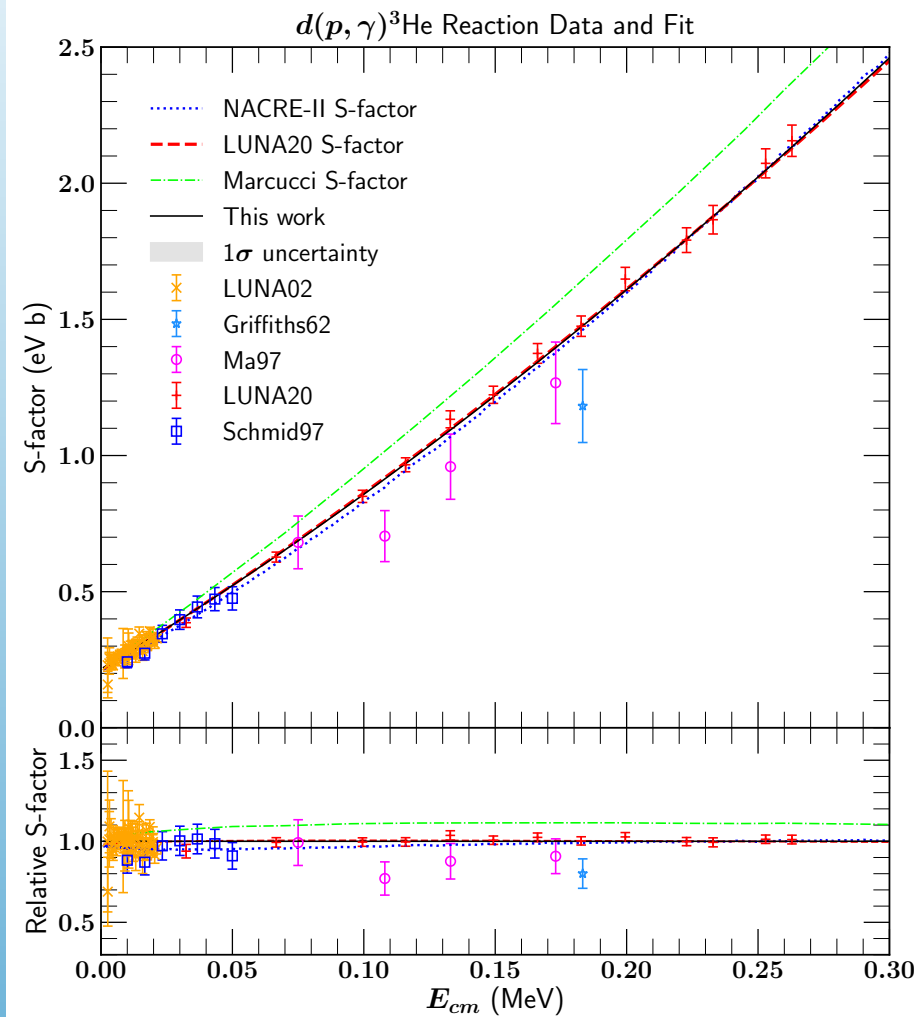


$$\begin{aligned}
 Y_p &= 0.24693 \pm 0.00018 & (0.24693) \\
 D/H &= (2.51 \pm 0.11) \times 10^{-5} & (2.50 \times 10^{-5}) \\
 {}^3\text{He}/\text{H} &= (10.4 \pm 0.88) \times 10^{-6} & (10.4 \times 10^{-6}) \\
 {}^7\text{Li}/\text{H} &= (4.94 \pm 0.72) \times 10^{-10} & (4.93 \times 10^{-10})
 \end{aligned}$$

Fields, Olive, Yeh, Young

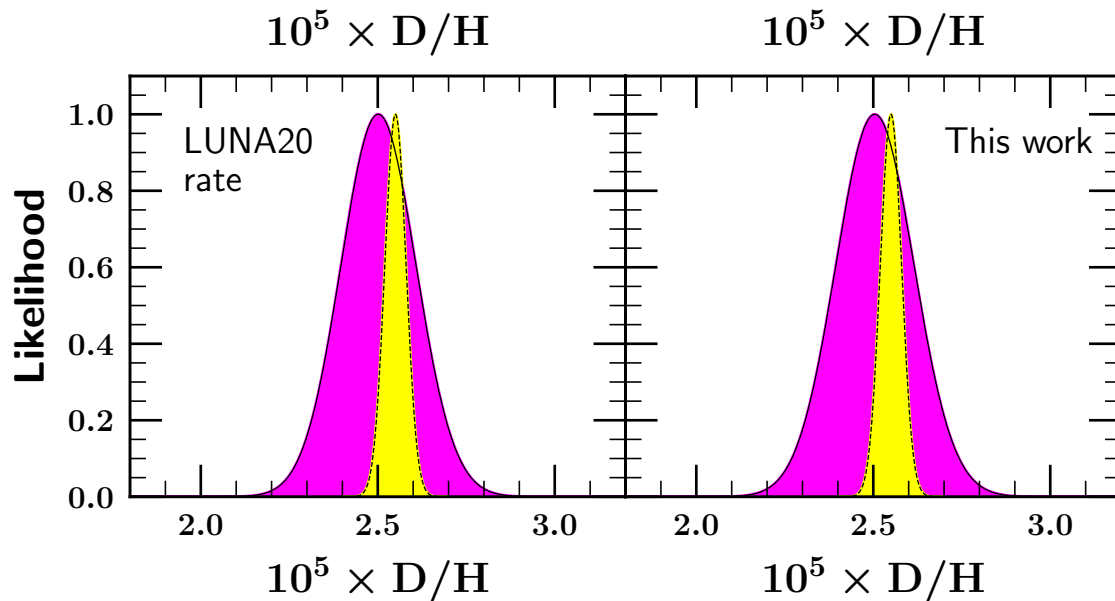
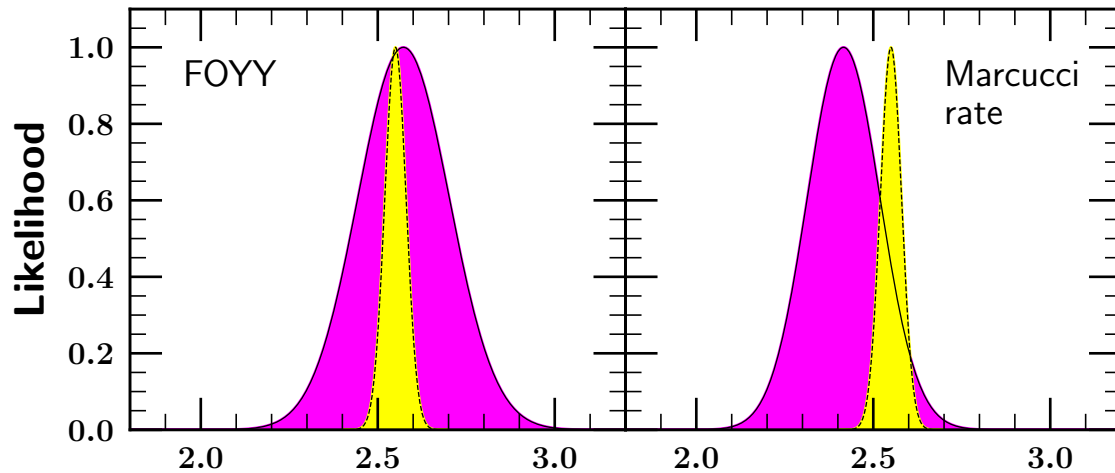
# New cross section measurement

LUNA



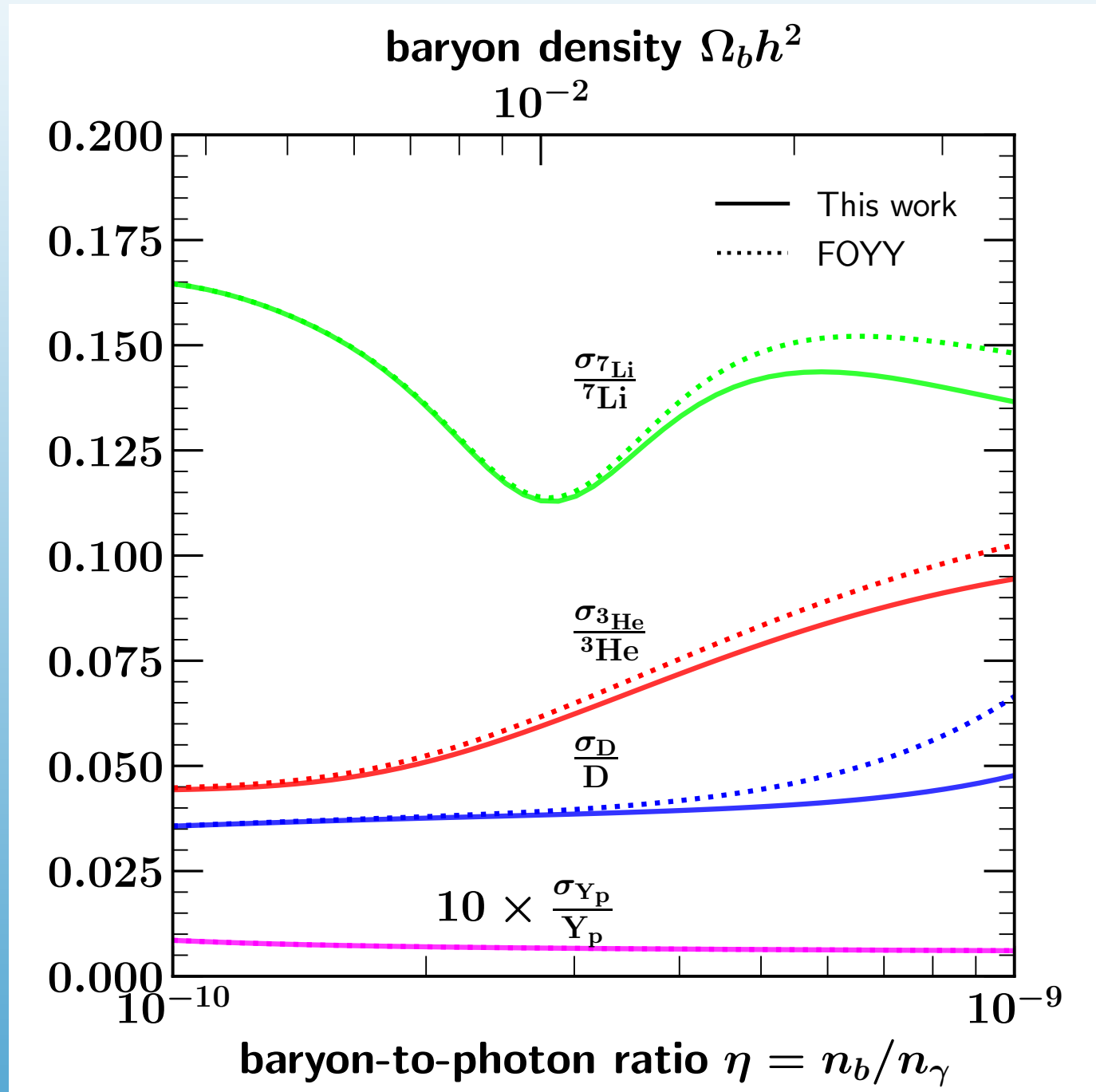
Yeh, Olive, Fields

# *Planck* ( $N_\nu = 3$ ) + BBN



$d(p, \gamma)^3\text{He}$ rate	mean $D/H \times 10^5$	peak $D/H \times 10^5$
FOYY [19]	$2.574 \pm 0.129$	2.572
Theory [43]	$2.417 \pm 0.103$	2.416
LUNA20 [47]	$2.503 \pm 0.106$	2.502
This Work	$2.506 \pm 0.110$	2.504

# Uncertainties



# BBN and the CMB

## Convolved Likelihoods

From Planck:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{CMB}}(\eta, Y_p)$$

$$\omega_b = 0.022305 \pm 0.000225$$

$$Y_p = 0.25003 \pm 0.01367$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{NCMB}}(\eta, Y_p, N_\nu)$$

$$\omega_b = 0.022212 \pm 0.000242$$

$$N_{\text{eff}} = 2.7542 \pm 0.3064$$

$$Y_p = 0.26116 \pm 0.01812$$

Cyburt, Fields, Olive, Yeh

From Planck 2018:

$$\omega_b^{\text{CMB}} = 0.022298 \pm 0.000200$$

$$Y_p = 0.239 \pm 0.013$$

$$\omega_b^{\text{CMB}} = 0.022242 \pm 0.000221$$

$$Y_{p,\text{CMB}} = 0.247 \pm 0.018$$

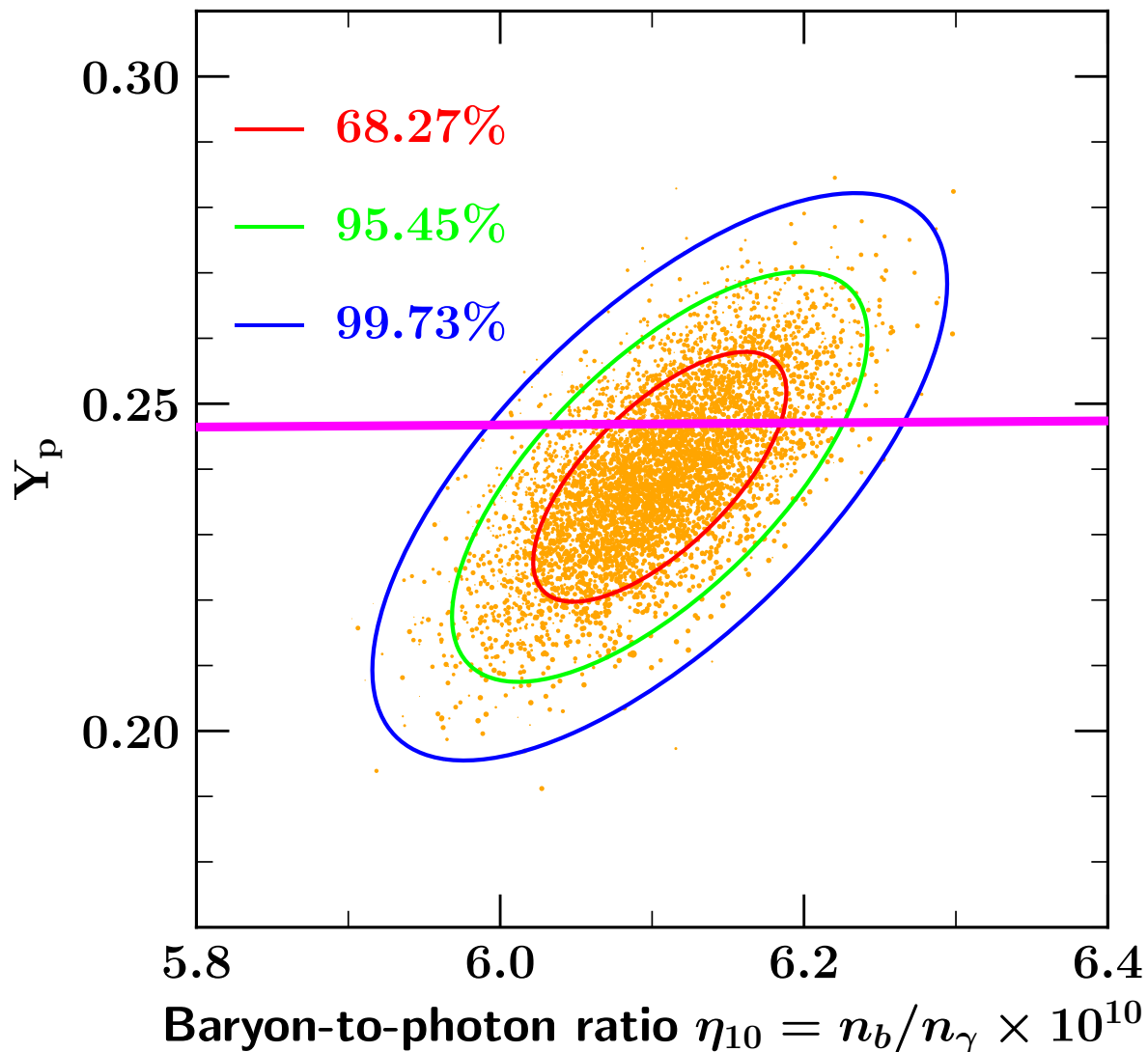
$$N_{\text{eff}} = 2.841 \pm 0.298$$

Fields, Olive, Yeh, Young

# BBN and the CMB

$$N_v = 3$$

CMB only determination  
of  $\eta$  and  $Y_p$



$3\sigma$  BBN Prediction

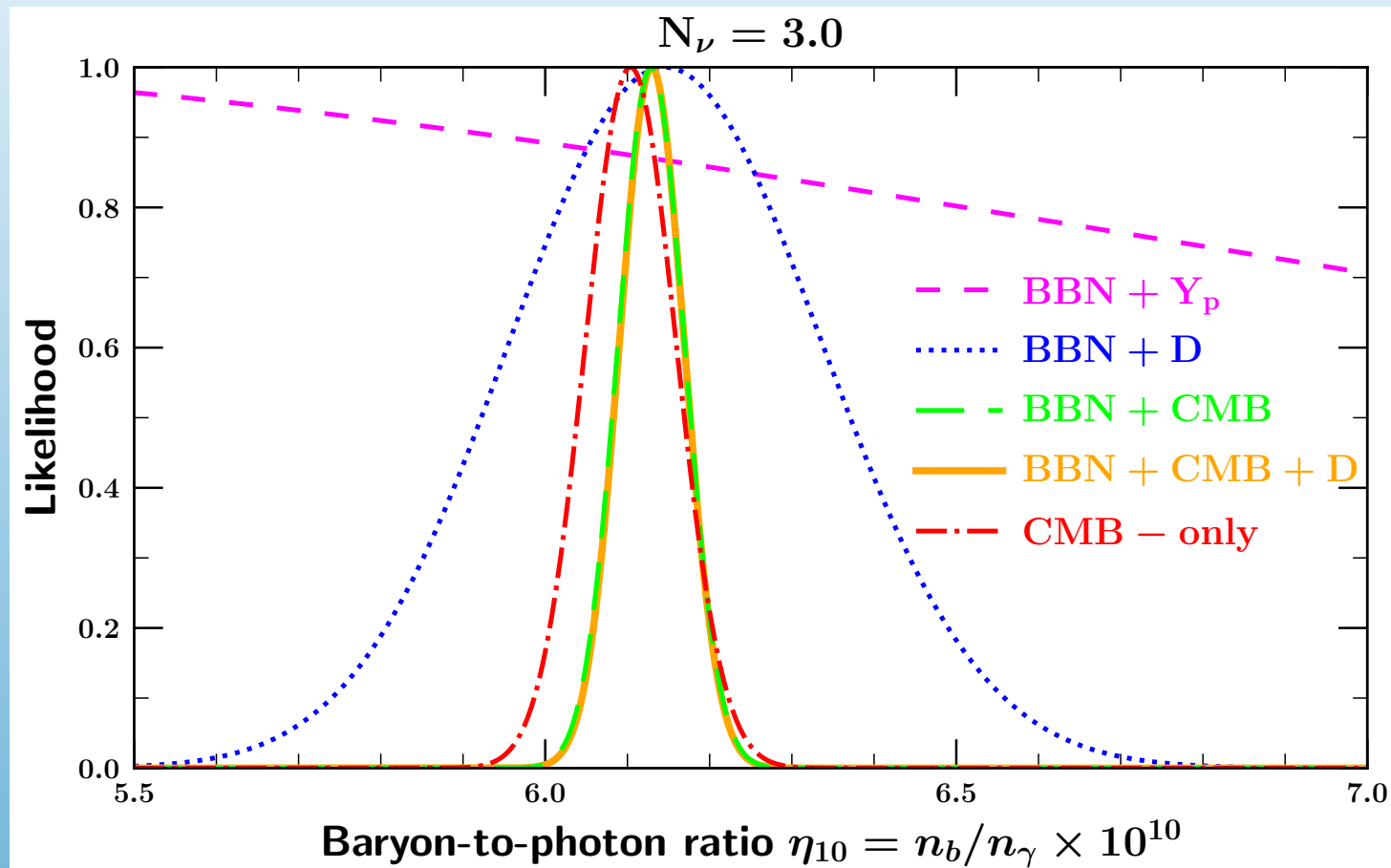
Fields, Olive, Yeh, Young

# BBN and the CMB

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{CMB}}(\eta) \propto \int \mathcal{L}_{\text{CMB}}(\eta, Y_p) dY_p.$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{CMB-BBN}}(\eta) \propto \int \mathcal{L}_{\text{CMB}}(\eta, Y_p) \mathcal{L}_{\text{BBN}}(\eta; Y_p) dY_p$$

Convolved Likelihoods



Determination of  $\eta$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{BBN-OBS}}(\eta) \propto \int \mathcal{L}_{\text{BBN}}(\eta; X_i) \mathcal{L}_{\text{OBS}}(X_i) dX_i$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{CMB-BBN-OBS}}(\eta) \propto \int \mathcal{L}_{\text{CMB}}(\eta, Y_p) \mathcal{L}_{\text{BBN}}(\eta; X_i) \mathcal{L}_{\text{OBS}}(X_i) \prod_i dX_i$$

Fields, Olive, Yeh, Young



# BBN and the CMB

Convolved Likelihoods

Results for  $\eta$

Constraints Used	mean $\eta_{10}$	peak $\eta_{10}$
CMB-only	$6.104 \pm 0.055$	6.104
BBN+ $Y_p$	$6.741^{+1.220}_{-3.524}$	4.920
BBN+D	$6.148 \pm 0.191$	6.145
BBN+ $Y_p$ +D	$6.143 \pm 0.190$	6.140
CMB+BBN	$6.129 \pm 0.041$	6.129
CMB+BBN+ $Y_p$	$6.128 \pm 0.041$	6.128
CMB+BBN+D	$6.130 \pm 0.040$	6.129
CMB+BBN+ $Y_p$ +D	$6.129 \pm 0.040$	6.129

Fields, Olive, Yeh, Young

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CMB+BBN+ $Y_p$ +D	$6.129 \pm 0.040$	6.129

$d(p, \gamma)^3\text{He}$ rate	mean $\eta_{10}$	peak $\eta_{10}$
FOYY [19]	$6.129 \pm 0.040$	6.129
Theory [43]	$6.113 \pm 0.039$	6.113
LUNA20 [47]	$6.123 \pm 0.039$	6.123
This Work	$6.123 \pm 0.039$	6.123

Fields, Olive, Yeh, Young

# Limits on Particle Properties

$$G_F^2 T^5 \sim \Gamma_{\text{wk}}(T_f) = H(T_f) \sim G_N^{1/2} T^2,$$

$$H^2 = \frac{8\pi}{3} G_N \rho$$

$$\rho = \frac{\pi^2}{30} \left( 2 + \frac{7}{2} + \frac{7}{4} N_\nu \right) T^4,$$

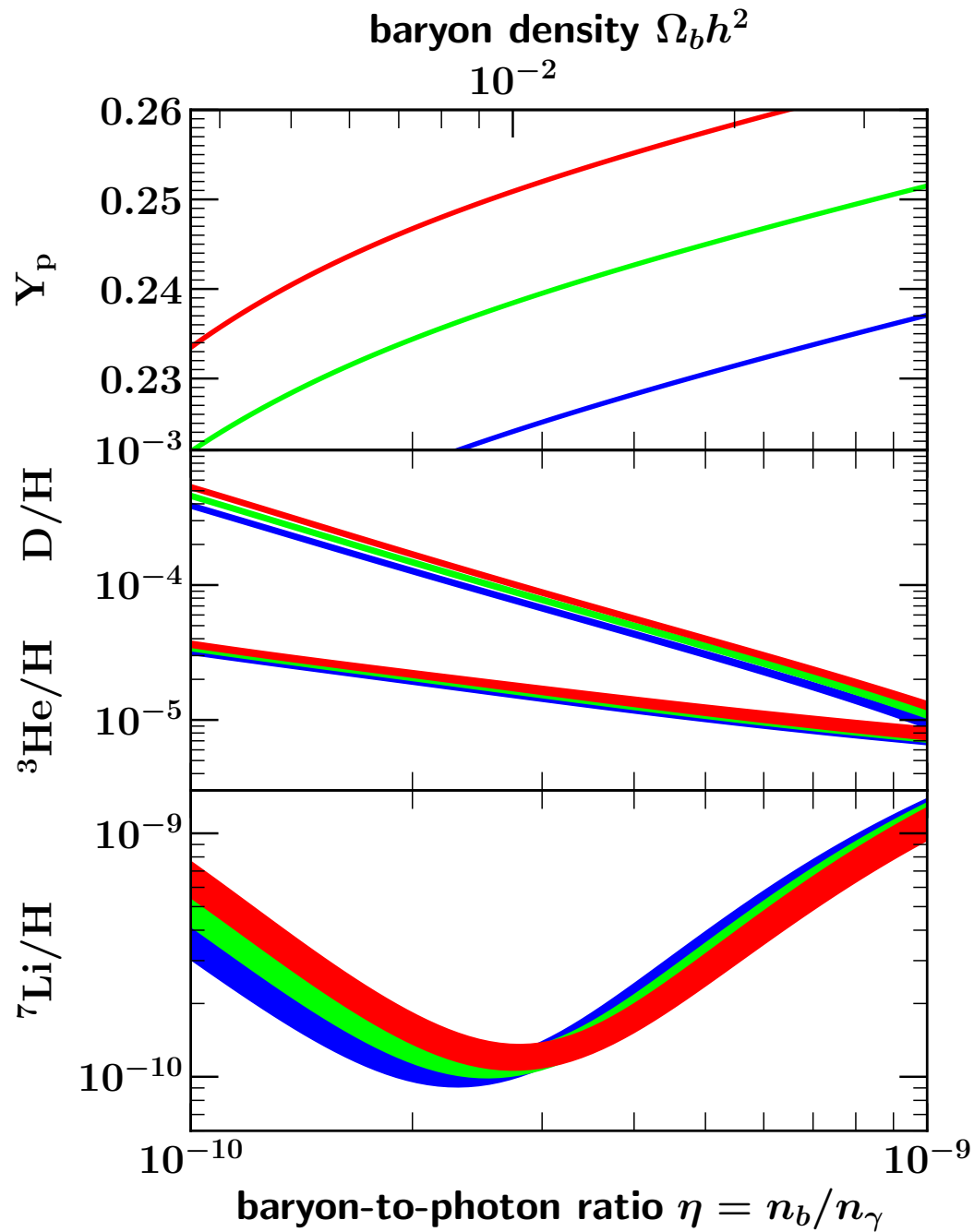
$$\frac{n}{p} \sim e^{-\Delta m/T}$$

$$Y \sim \frac{2(n/p)}{1 + (n/p)}$$

- **BBN Concordance rests on balance between interaction rates and expansion rate.**
- **Allows one to set constraints on:**
  - Particle Types
  - Particle Interactions
  - Particle Masses
  - Fundamental Parameters:  $G_N$ ,  $G_F$ ,  $\alpha$

e.g.  $\frac{\Delta\alpha}{\alpha} < \text{few} \times 10^{-4}$

# BBN and the CMB



Sensitivity to  $N_v$

Fields, Olive, Yeh, Young

# What does $N > 3$ mean?

Today,

$$\rho_{rad} = \frac{\pi^2}{30} \left( 2 + \frac{7}{4} N_\nu \left( \frac{T_\nu}{T_\gamma} \right)^4 \right) T_\gamma^4$$

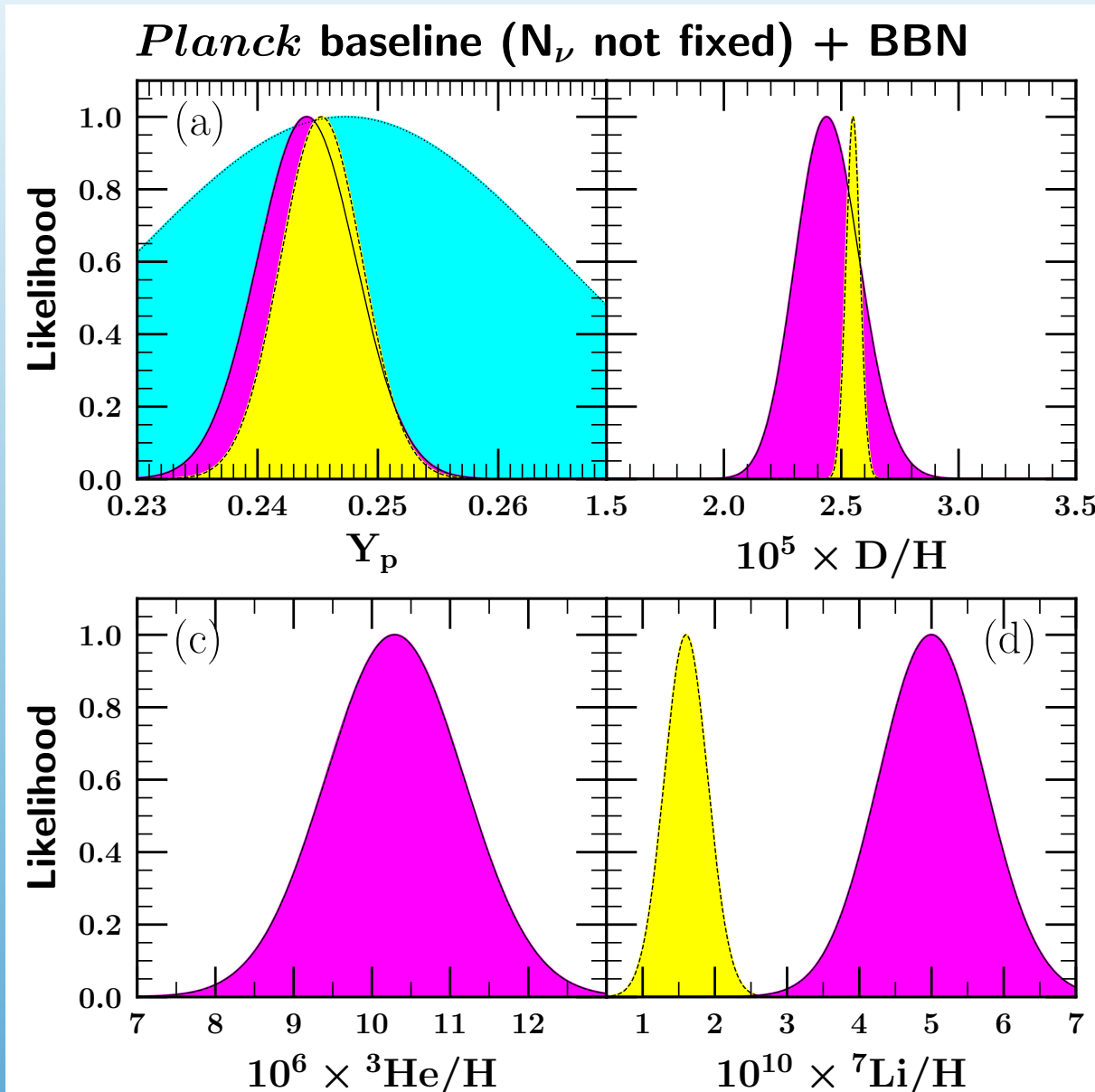
$$= \frac{\pi^2}{30} \left( 2 + \frac{21}{4} \left( \frac{4}{11} \right)^{4/3} + \frac{7}{4} \Delta N \left( \frac{T_{\Delta N}}{T_\gamma} \right)^4 \right) T_\gamma^4$$

Scalars:  $\Delta N = 4/7$

Dirac Fermion:  
 $\Delta N = 2$

# BBN and the CMB

Monte-Carlo approach combining BBN rates, observations and CMB



$\mathcal{L}_{\text{OBS}}(X)$  Yellow

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{NCMB}}(\eta) \propto \int \mathcal{L}_{\text{NCMB}}(\eta, Y_p, N_\nu) dY_p dN_\nu,$$

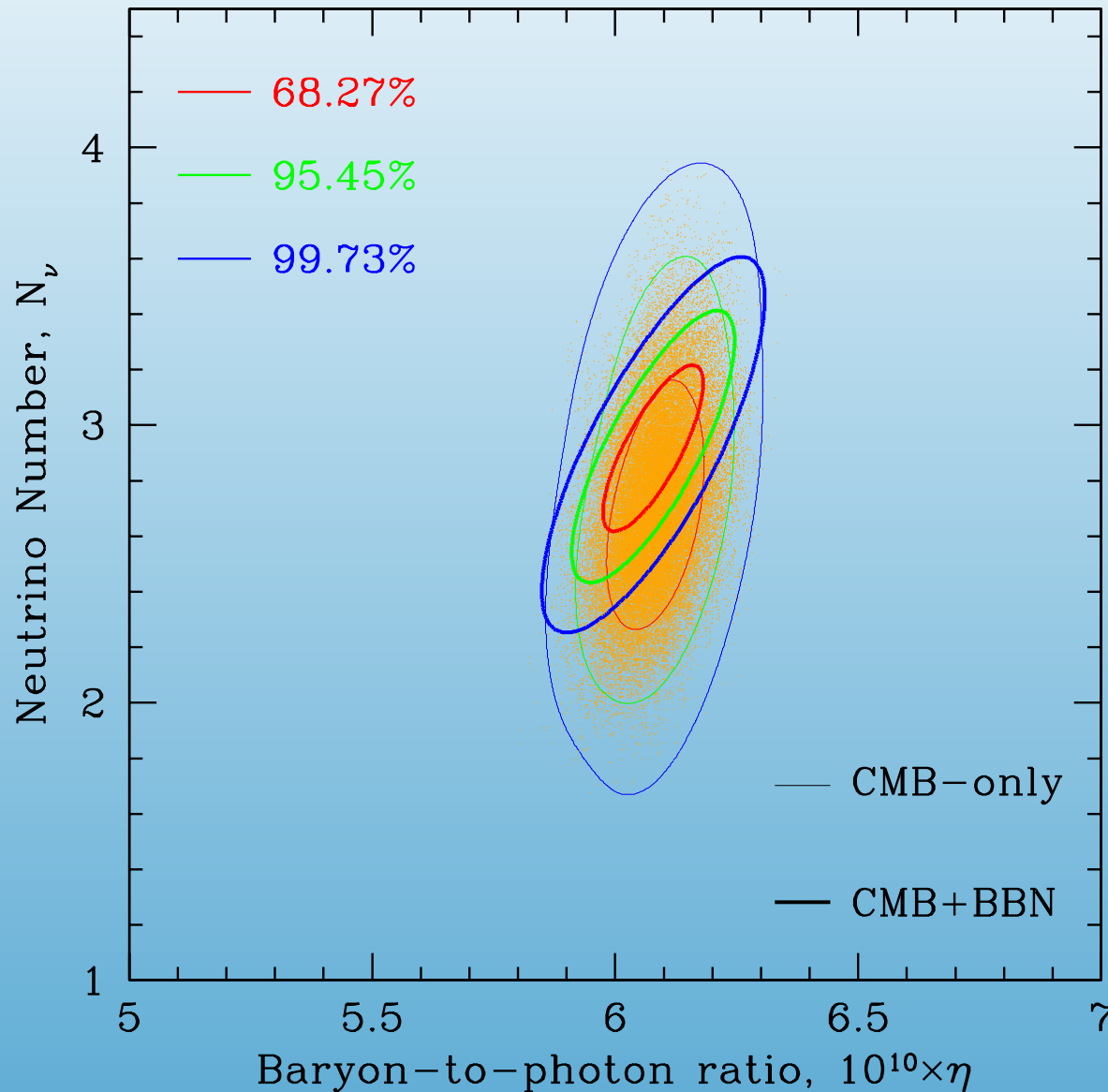
Cyan

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{NCMB-NBBN}}(\eta) \propto \int \mathcal{L}_{\text{NCMB}}(\eta, Y_p, N_\nu) \mathcal{L}_{\text{NBBN}}(\eta, N_\nu; X_i) dY_p dN_\nu,$$

Purple

Fields, Olive, Yeh, Young

# BBN and the CMB



CMB only determination  
of  $\eta$  and  $N_\nu$

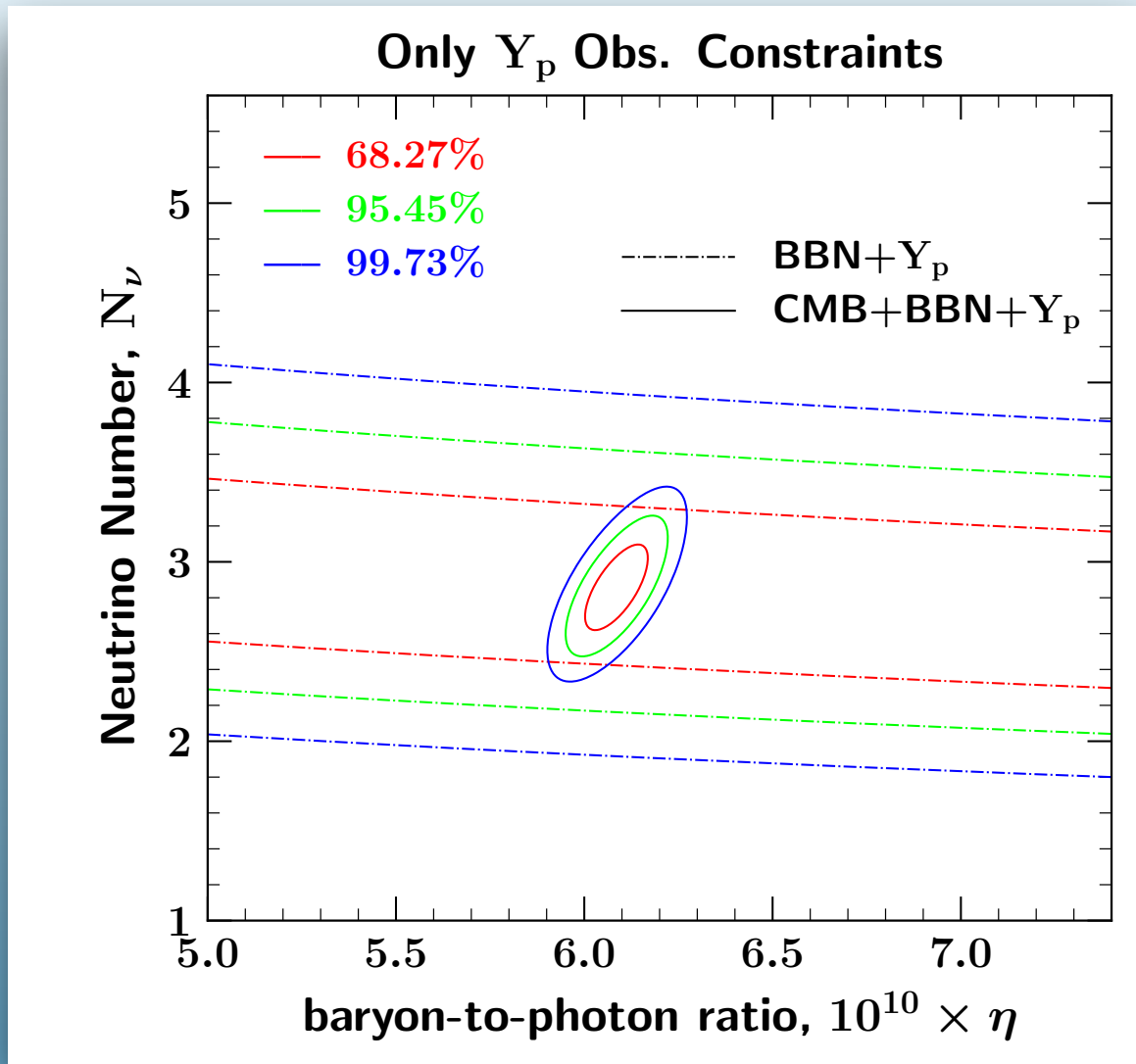
$$\omega_b^{\text{CMB}} = 0.022242 \pm 0.000221$$

$$Y_{p,\text{CMB}} = 0.247 \pm 0.018$$

$$N_{\text{eff}} = 2.841 \pm 0.298$$

Cyburt, Fields, Olive, Yeh

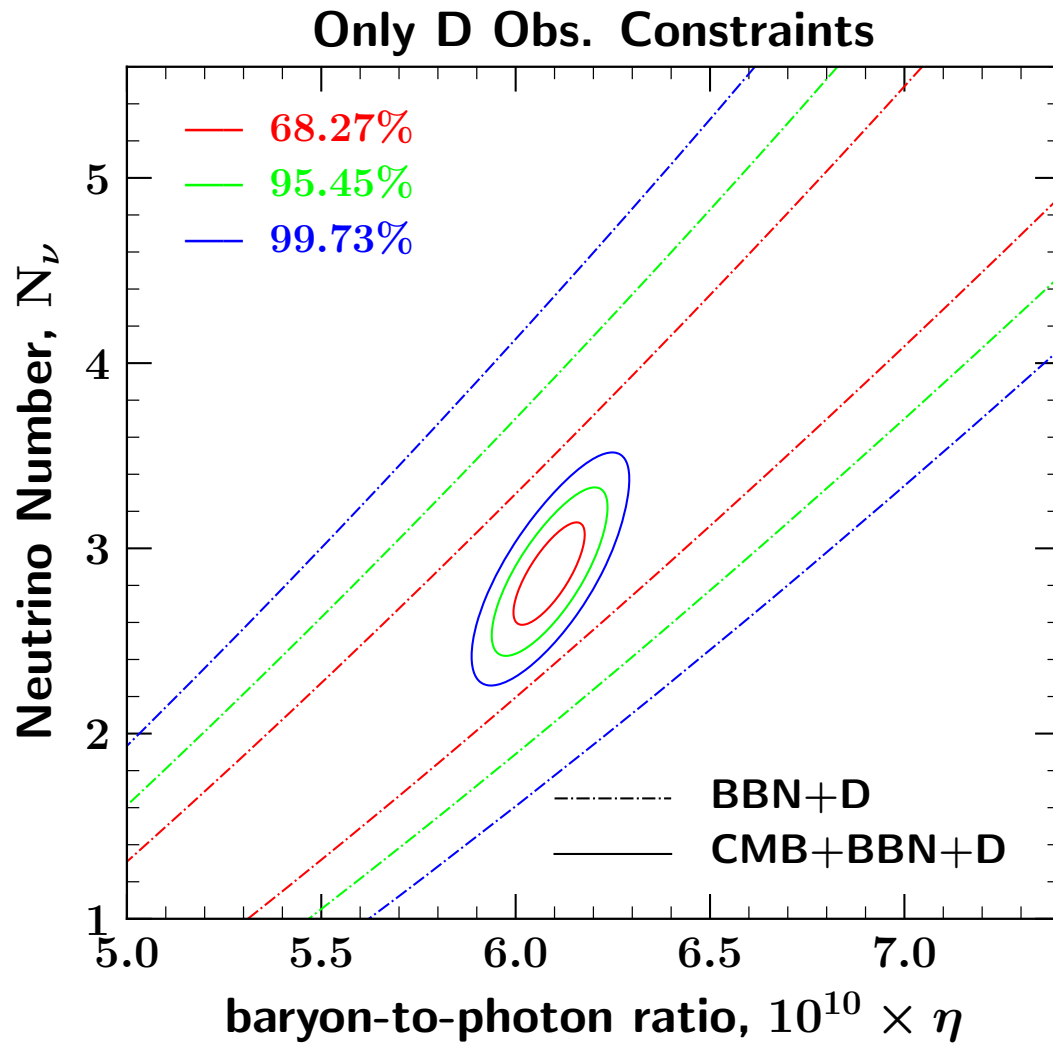
# BBN and the CMB



CMB and BBN determination  
of  $\eta$  and  $N_\nu$

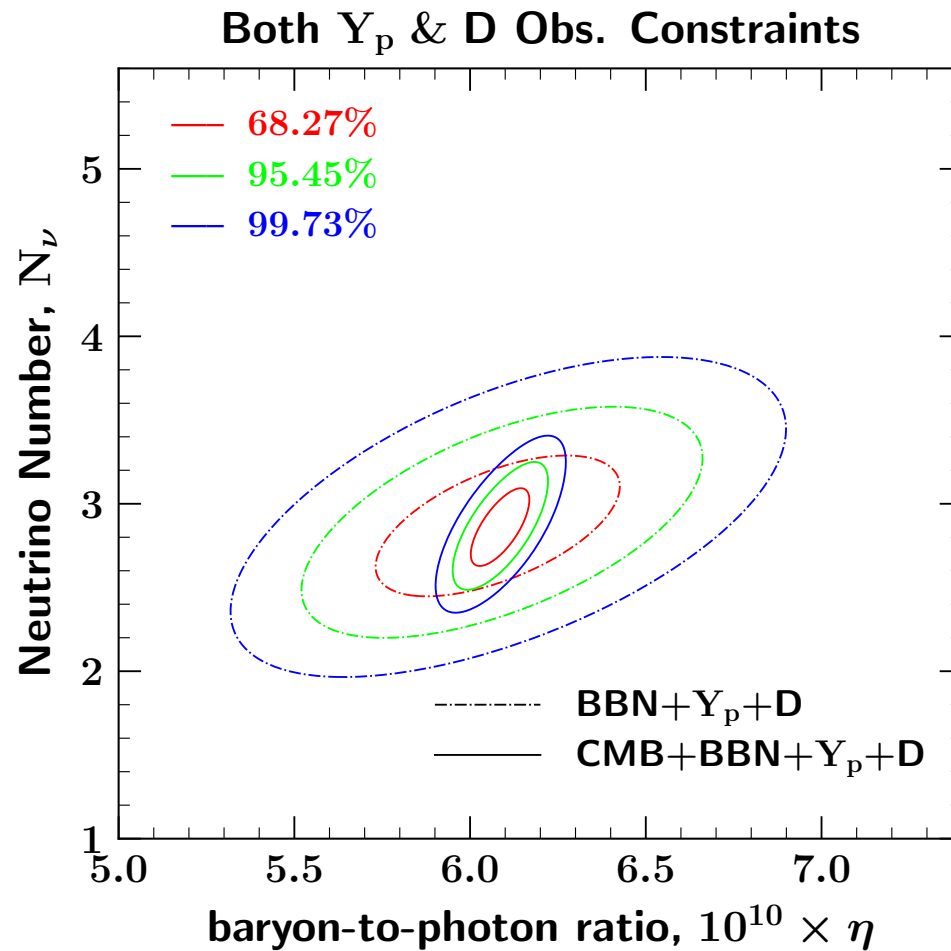


# BBN and the CMB



CMB and BBN determination  
of  $\eta$  and  $N_\nu$

# BBN and the CMB



CMB and BBN determination  
of  $\eta$  and  $N_\nu$

# BBN and the CMB

Convolved Likelihoods

Results for  $\eta$  ( $N_\nu$ )

Constraints Used	mean $\eta_{10}$	peak $\eta_{10}$	mean $N_\nu$	peak $N_\nu$
CMB-only	$6.090 \pm 0.061$	6.090	$2.799 \pm 0.294$	2.763
BBN+ $Y_p$ +D	$6.084 \pm 0.230$	6.075	$2.878 \pm 0.278$	2.861
CMB+BBN	$6.088 \pm 0.060$	6.088	$2.830 \pm 0.189$	2.825
CMB+BBN+ $Y_p$	$6.090 \pm 0.055$	6.090	$2.838 \pm 0.158$	2.833
CMB+BBN+D	$6.088 \pm 0.060$	6.089	$2.838 \pm 0.182$	2.833
CMB+BBN+ $Y_p$ +D	$6.090 \pm 0.055$	6.090	$2.843 \pm 0.154$	2.839

Fields, Olive, Yeh, Young

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$N_\nu < 3.15$  (95% CL)

Fields, Olive, Yeh, Young

# BBN and the CMB

Convolved Likelihoods

Results for  $\eta$  ( $N_\nu$ )

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updated $Y_P$ [19, 29]	$6.093 \pm 0.054$	6.093	$2.855 \pm 0.146$	2.851
Theory [43]	$6.092 \pm 0.054$	6.092	$2.918 \pm 0.144$	2.915
LUNA20 [47]	$6.092 \pm 0.054$	6.093	$2.883 \pm 0.144$	2.879
This Work	$6.092 \pm 0.054$	6.093	$2.880 \pm 0.144$	2.876

Yeh, Olive, Fields

# BBN and the CMB

Convolved Likelihoods

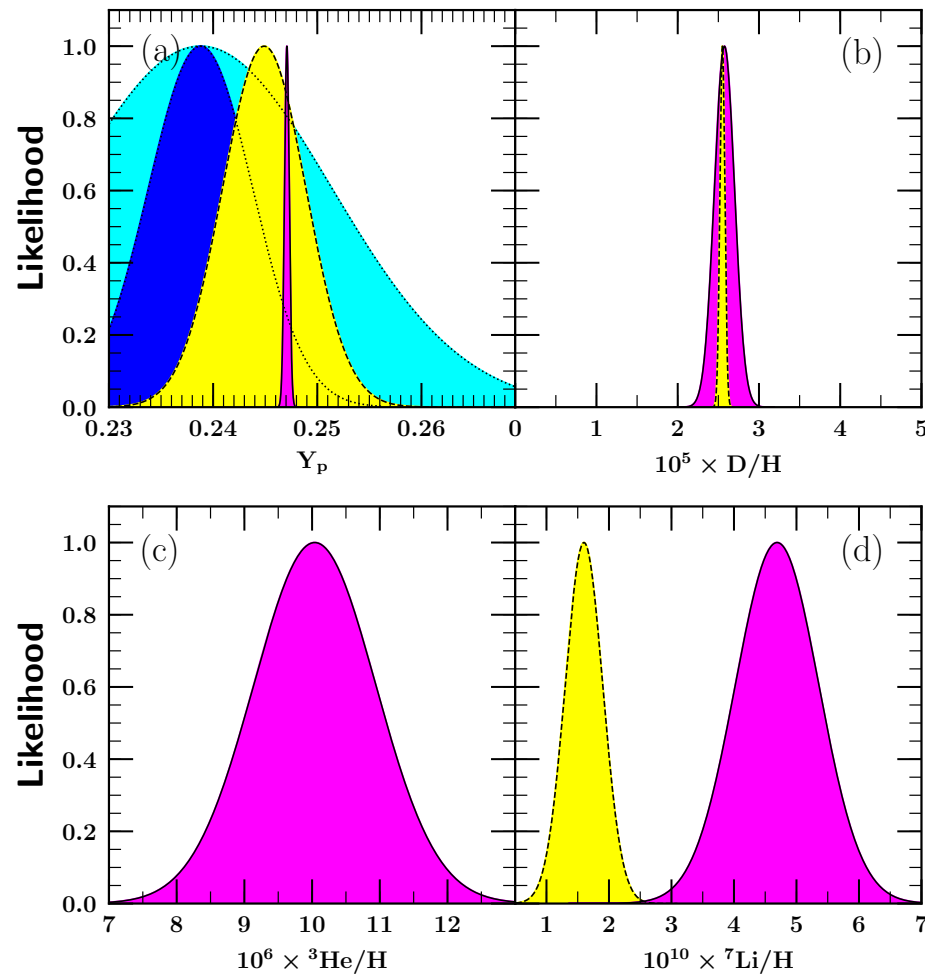
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$N_\nu < 3.17$  (95% CL)

Yeh, Olive, Fields

# BBN and the CMB



CMB-S4 promises significantly improved BBN parameters

$$\sigma_{\text{S4}}(Y_p) \simeq 0.005$$

K. N. Abazajian *et al.* [CMB-S4 Collaboration]

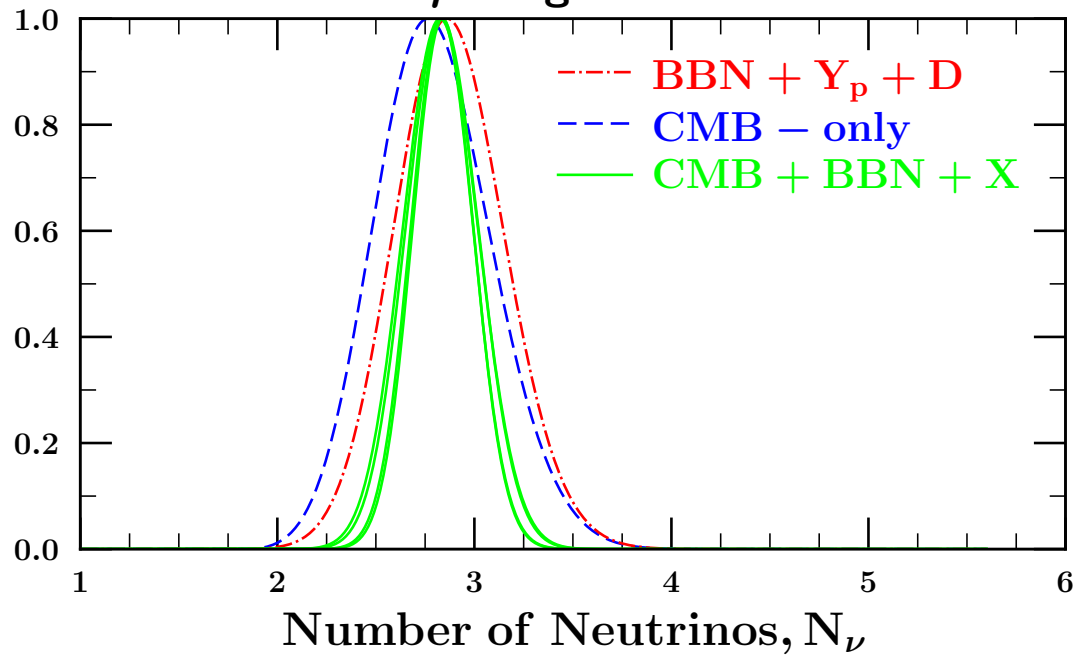
CMB-S4:

$$\sigma_{\text{S4}}(N_{\text{eff}}) \simeq 0.09$$

Fields, Olive, Yeh, Young

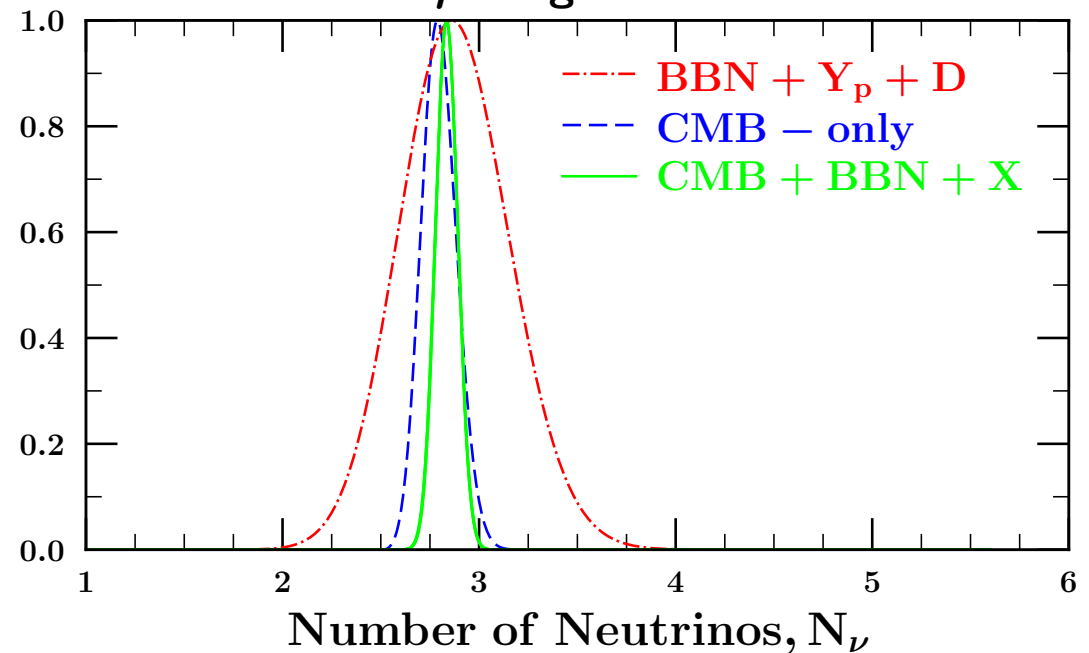
# BBN and the CMB

$\eta$ -marginalized



Planck 2018

$\eta$ -marginalized



CMB-S4 uncertainty



# Summary

- BBN and CMB are in excellent agreement wrt D and He
- Li: Problematic
  - BBN  ${}^7\text{Li}$  high compared to observations
- Wish list:
  - New cross sections measurements for  $D(D,p)$  and  $D(D,n)$
  - New high precision measurements of He
- Standard Model ( $N_v = 3$ ) is looking good!