

Title: Big Bang Nucleosynthesis: Concordance of Theory and Observations

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URL: <http://pirsa.org/08060037>

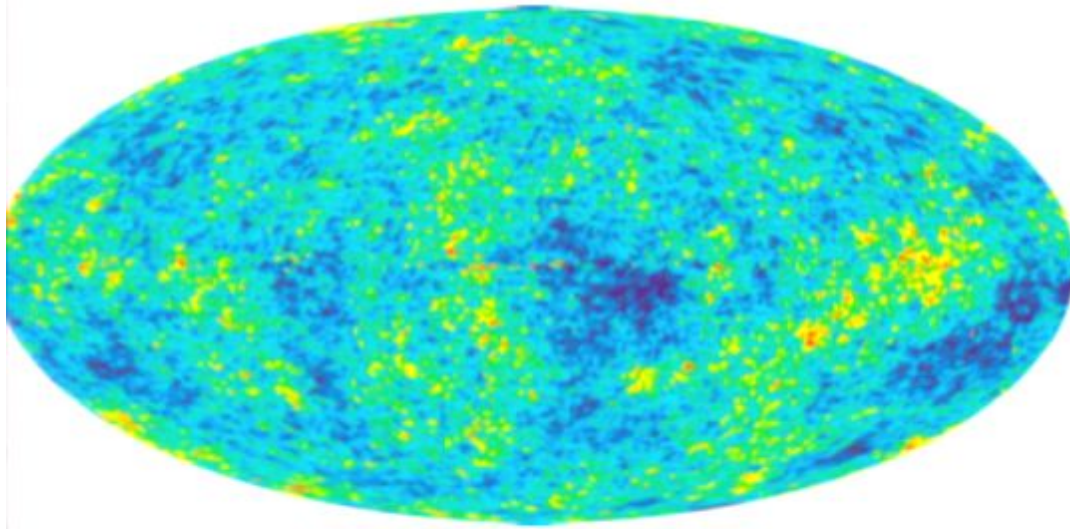
Abstract:

# Big Bang Nucleosynthesis: Concordance of Theory and Observations

- BBN and the WMAP determination of  $\eta$ ,  $\Omega_B h^2$
- Observations and Comparison with Theory
  - D/H -  $^4\text{He}$  -  $^7\text{Li}$
- The Li Problem
- Cosmic-ray nucleosynthesis
  - $^{6,7}\text{Li}$  - BeB

# Big Bang Nucleosynthesis: Concordance of Theory and Observations

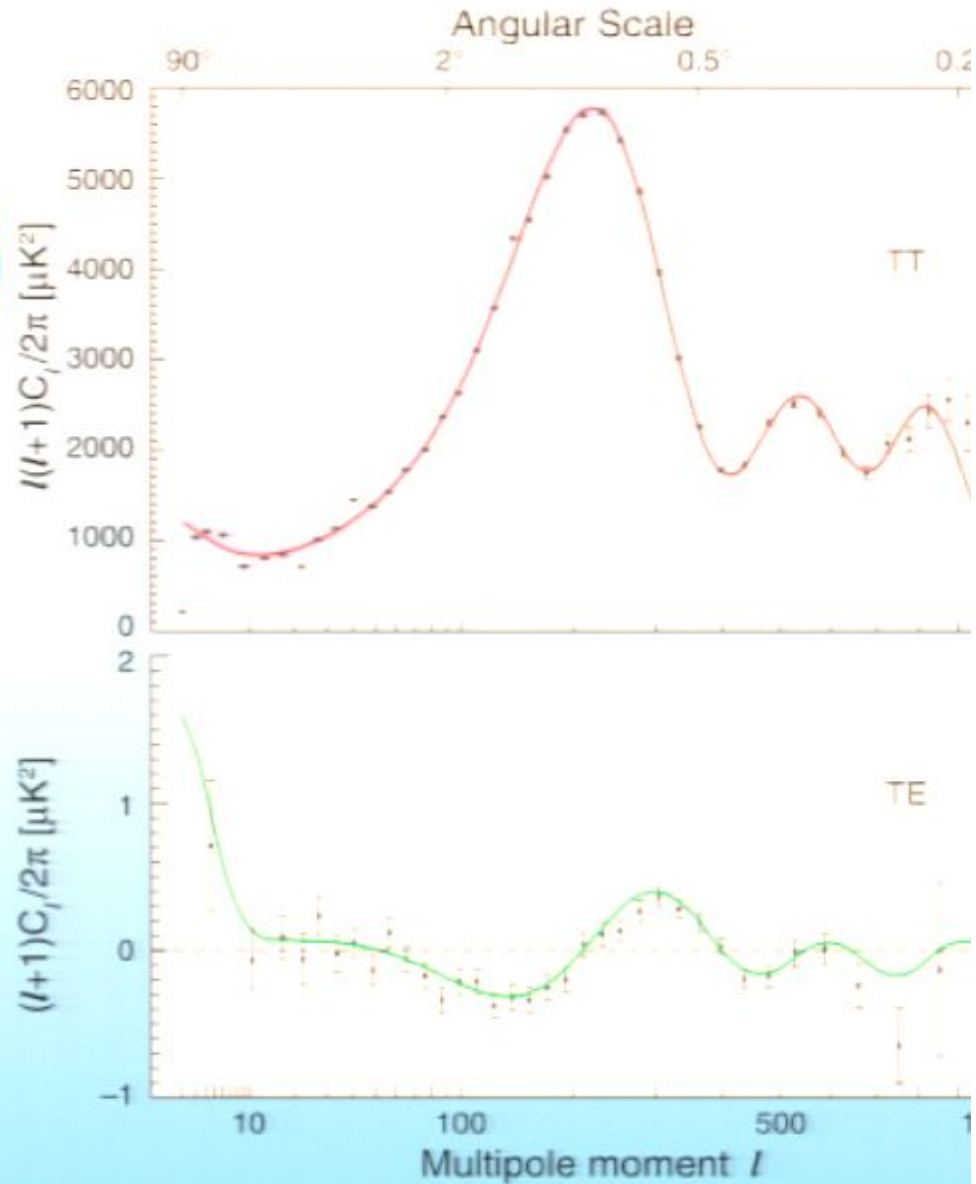
- BBN and the WMAP determination of  $\eta$ ,  $\Omega_B h^2$
- Observations and Comparison with Theory
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WMAP best fit

$$\Omega_B h^2 = 0.0227 \pm 0.0006$$

$$\eta_{10} = 6.22 \pm 0.16$$



## Conditions in the Early Universe:

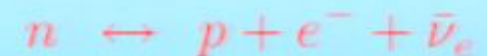
$$T \gtrsim 1 \text{ MeV}$$

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

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

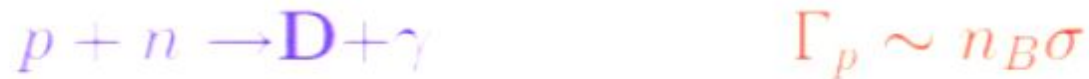
$\beta$ -Equilibrium maintained by weak interactions

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  $\Gamma \sim G_F^2 T^5$



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

# Nucleosynthesis Delayed (Deuterium Bottleneck)



Nucleosynthesis begins when  $\Gamma_p \sim \Gamma_d$

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

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

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

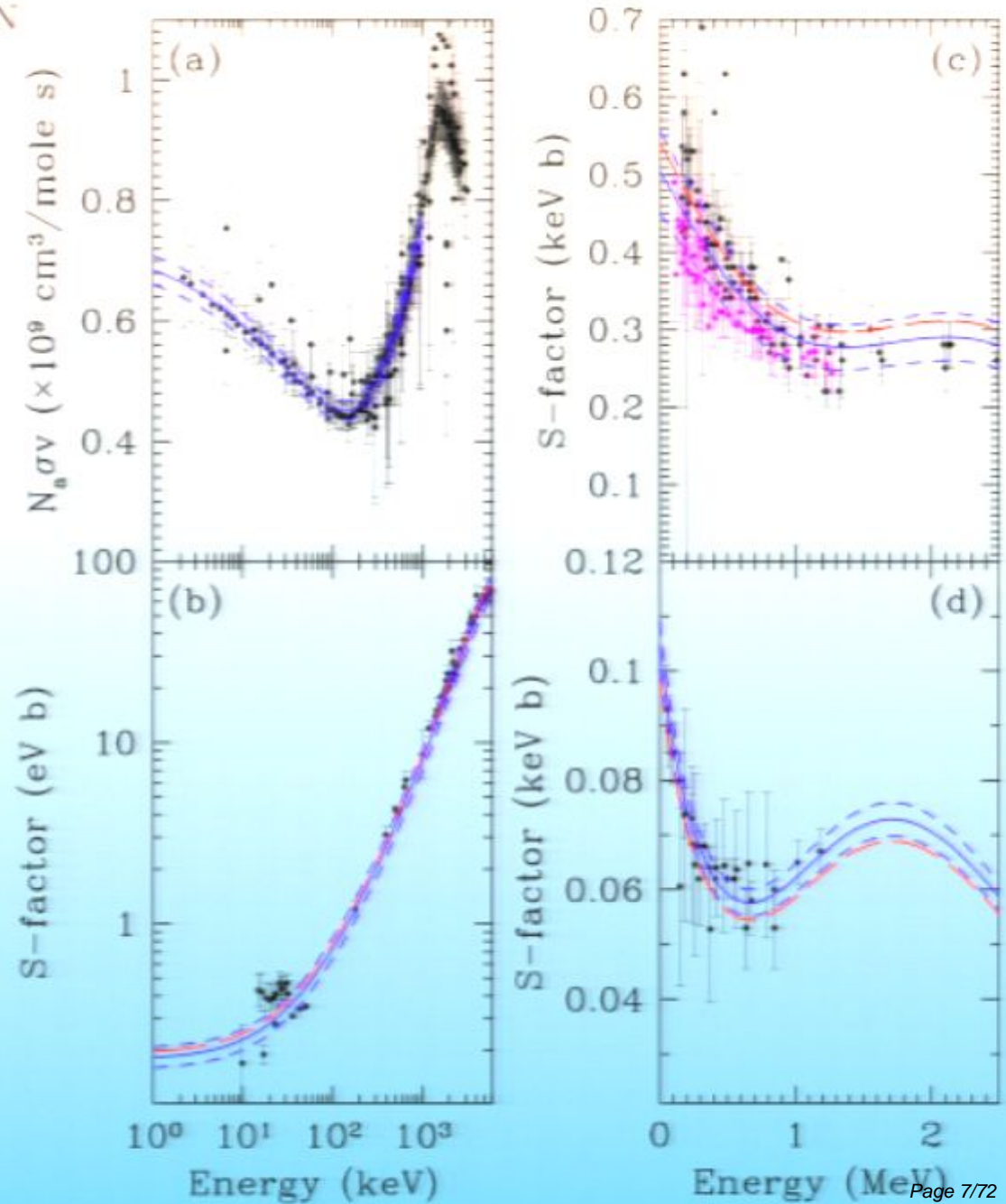
Remainder:

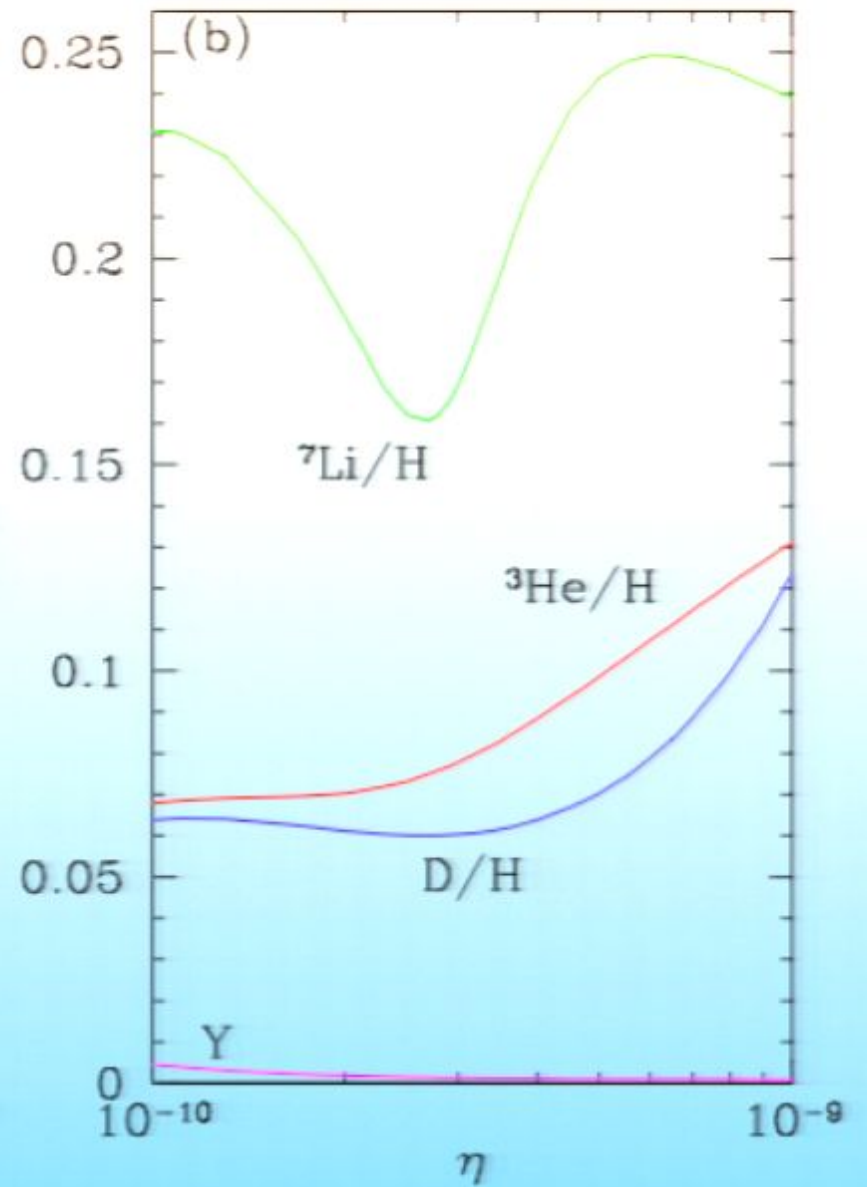
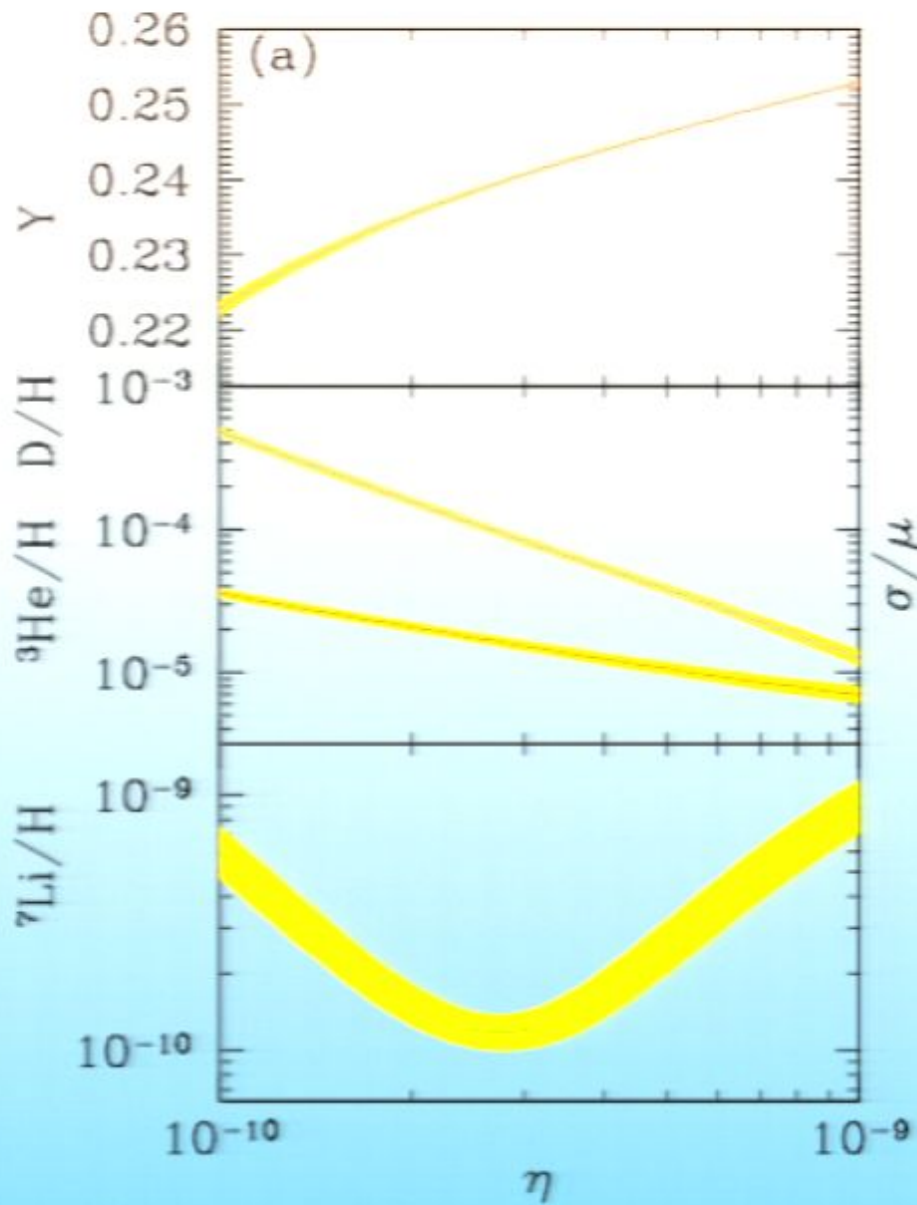
$\text{D}$ ,  ${}^3\text{He} \sim 10^{-5}$  and  ${}^7\text{Li} \sim 10^{-10}$  by number

Table 1: Key Nuclear Reactions for BBN

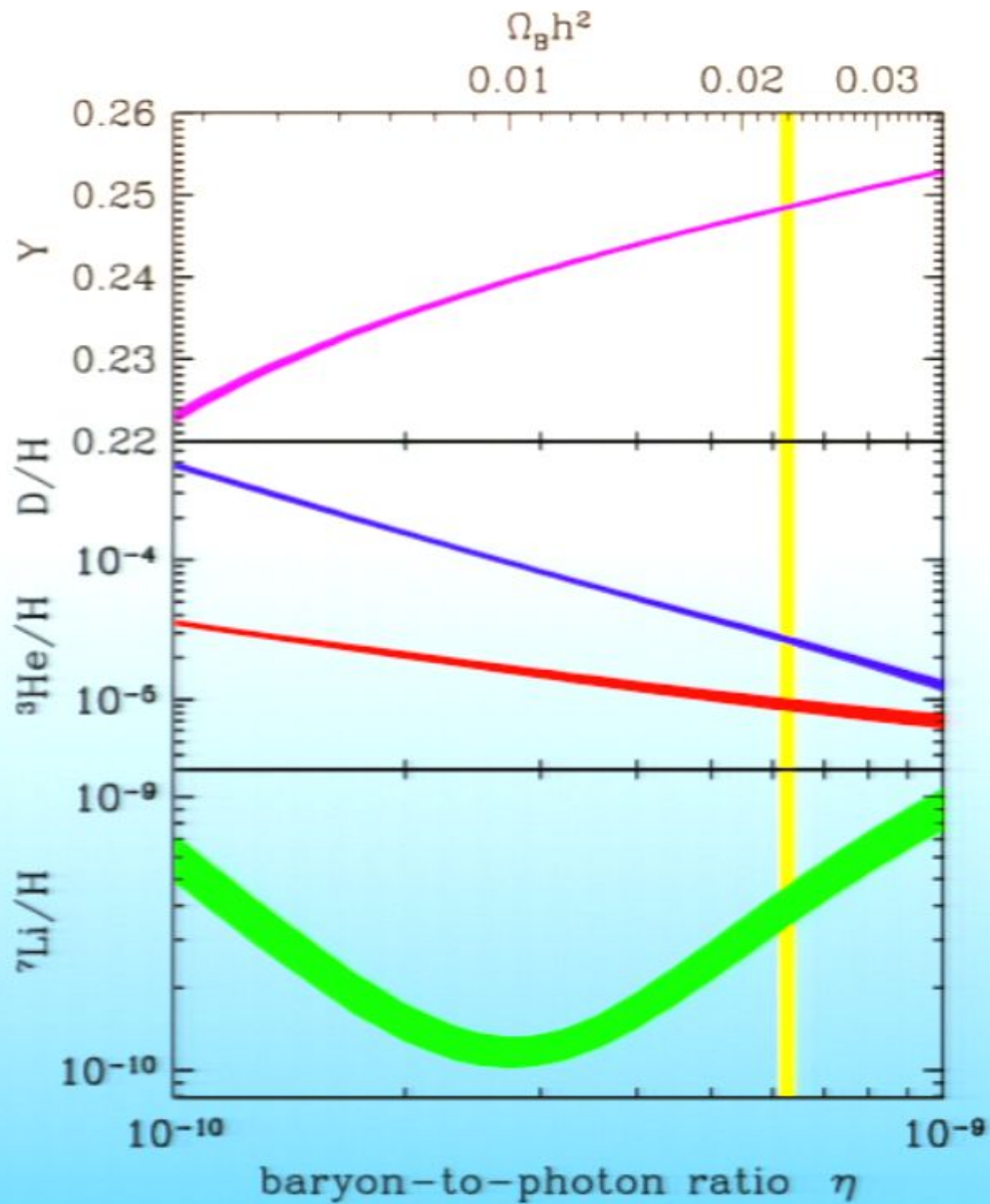
Source	Reactions	
NACRE	$d(p, \gamma)^3\text{He}$	(b)
	$d(d, n)^3\text{He}$	
	$d(d, p)t$	
	$t(d, n)^4\text{He}$	
SKM	$t(\alpha, \gamma)^7\text{Li}$	(d)
	$^3\text{He}(\alpha, \gamma)^7\text{Be}$	(c)
This work	$^7\text{Li}(p, \alpha)^4\text{He}$	
	$p(n, \gamma)d$	
	$^3\text{He}(d, p)^4\text{He}$	
PDG	$^7\text{Be}(n,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

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









# Big Bang Nucleosynthesis

- 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

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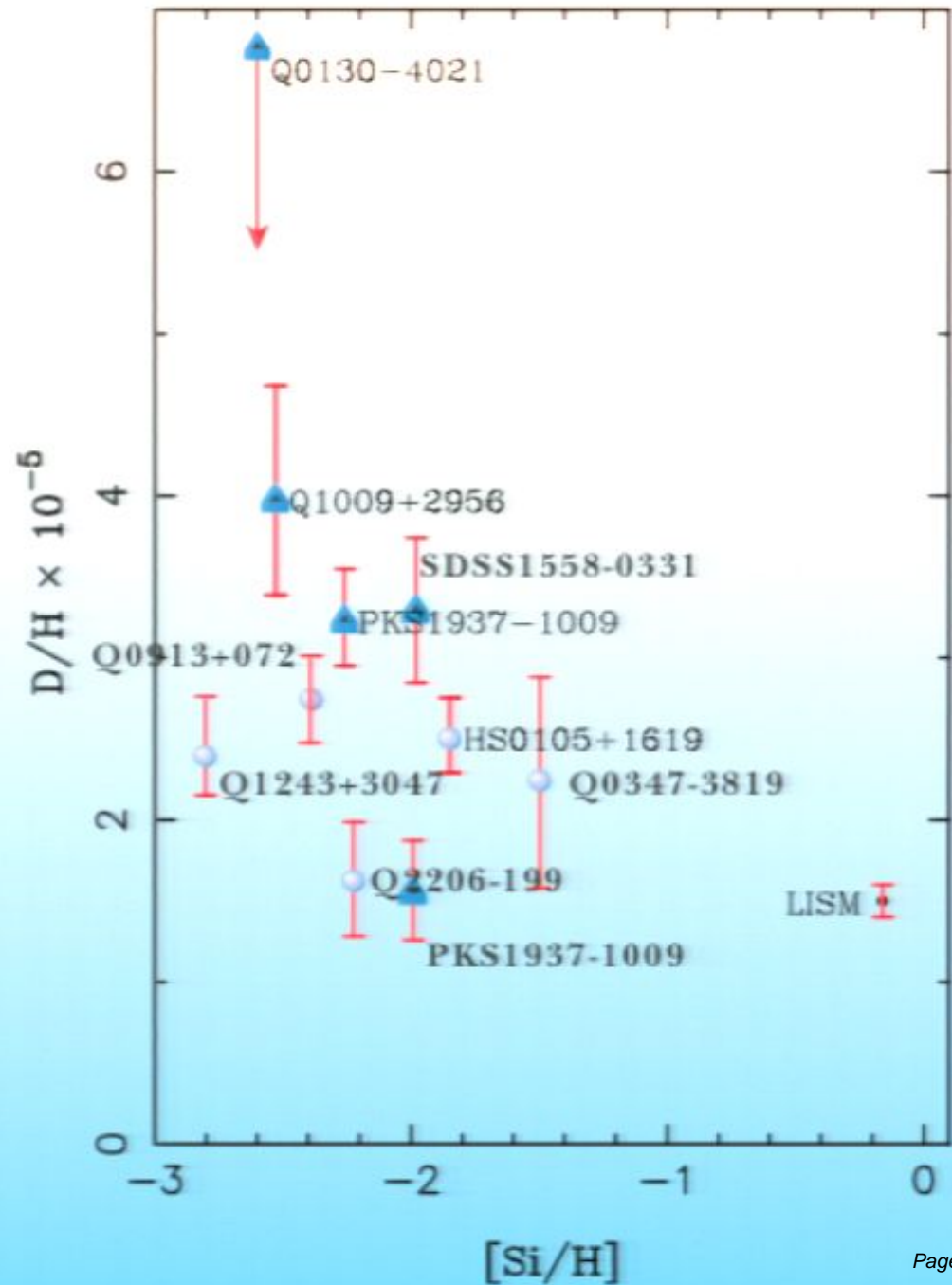
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- D/H observed in Quasar Absorption systems

QSO	$z_{em}$	$z_{abs}$	$\log N(\text{H I})$ ( $\text{cm}^{-2}$ )	$[\text{O}/\text{H}]^b$	$\log (\text{D}/\text{H})$
HS 0105 + 1619	2.640	2.53600	$19.42 \pm 0.01$	-1.70	$-4.60 \pm 0.04$
Q0913 + 072	2.785	2.61843	$20.34 \pm 0.04$	-2.37	$-4.56 \pm 0.04$
Q1009 + 299	2.640	2.50357	$17.39 \pm 0.06$	$< -0.67^c$	$-4.40 \pm 0.07$
Q1243 + 307	2.558	2.52566	$19.73 \pm 0.04$	-2.76	$-4.62 \pm 0.05$
SDSS J155810.16 - 003120.0	2.823	2.70262	$20.67 \pm 0.05$	-1.47	$-4.48 \pm 0.06$
Q1937 - 101	3.787	3.57220	$17.86 \pm 0.02$	$< -0.9$	$-4.48 \pm 0.04$
Q2206 - 199	2.559	2.07624	$20.43 \pm 0.04$	-2.04	$-4.78 \pm 0.09$

# D/H abundances in Quasar absorption systems





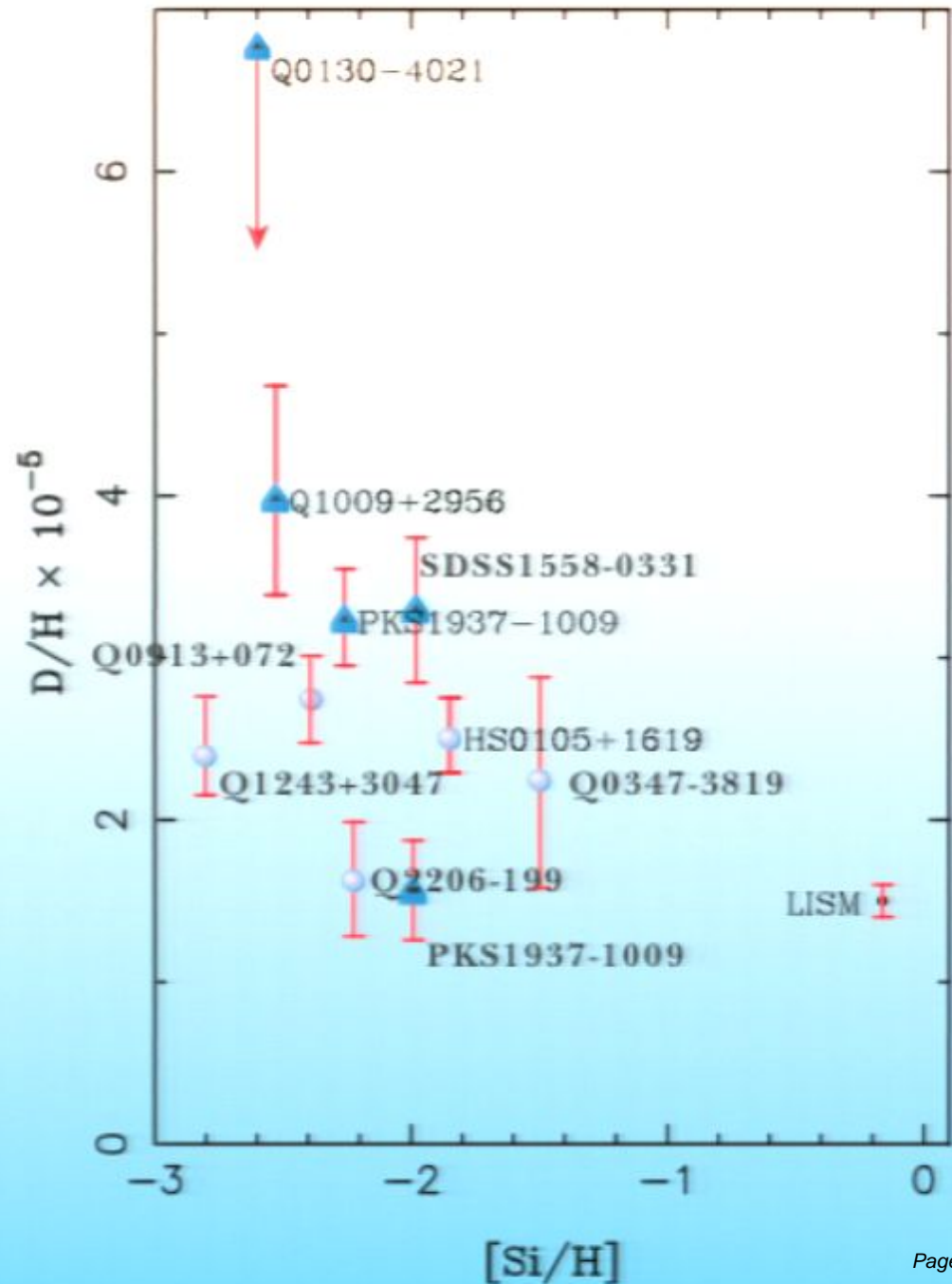
# D/H abundances in Quasar absorption systems

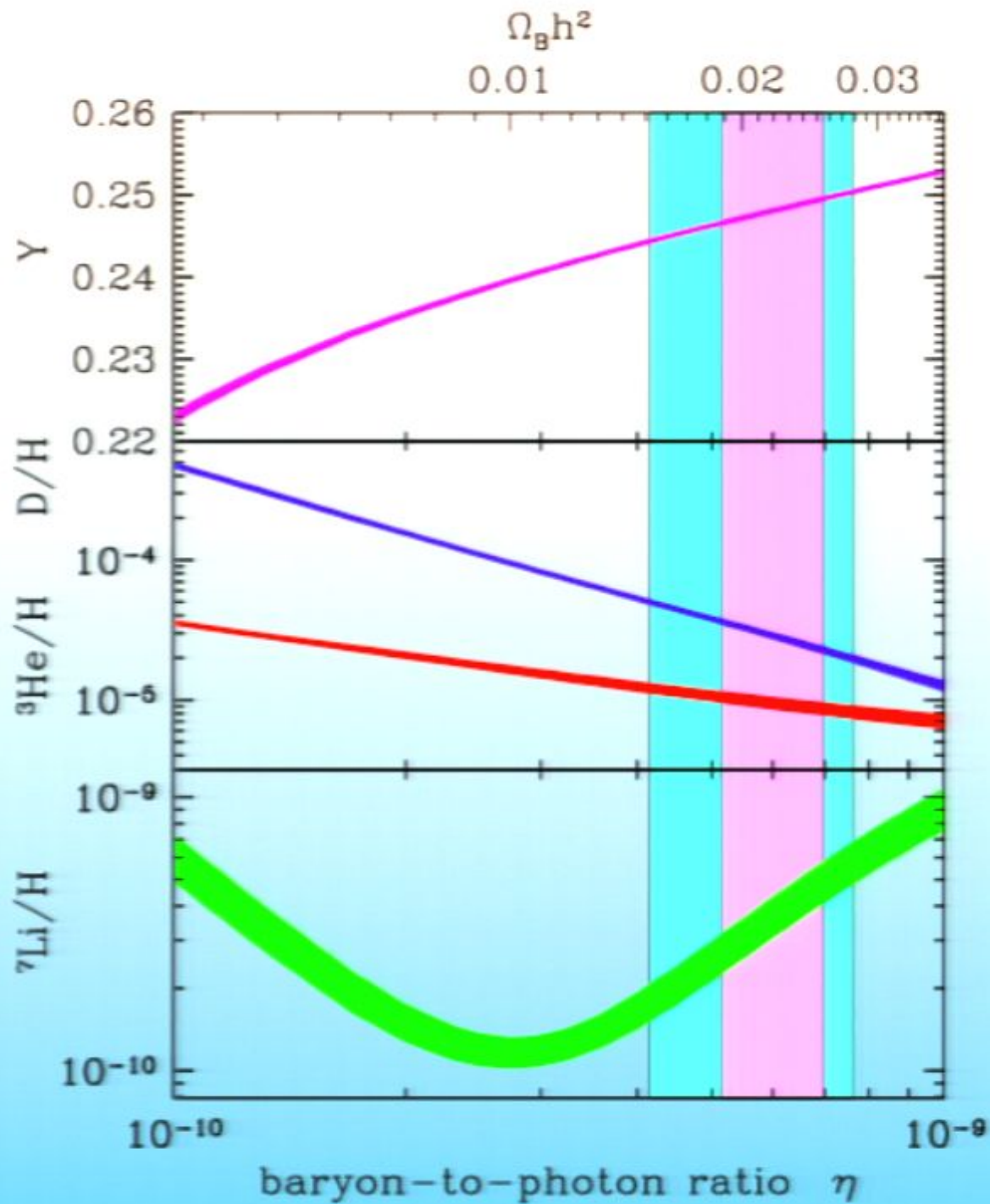
BBN Prediction:

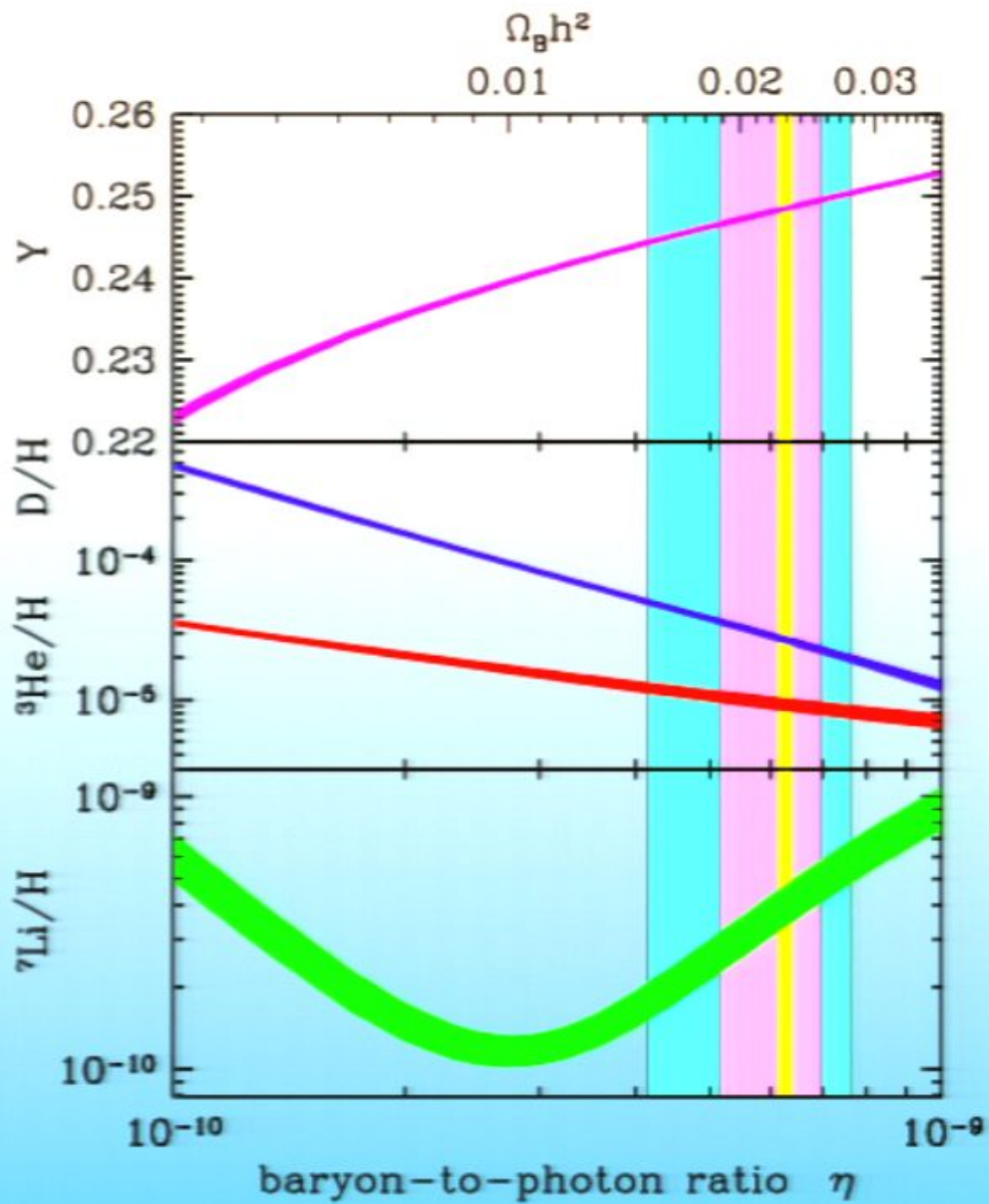
$$10^5 D/H = 2.74^{+0.26}_{-0.16}$$

Obs Average:

$$10^5 D/H = 2.82 \pm 0.21$$



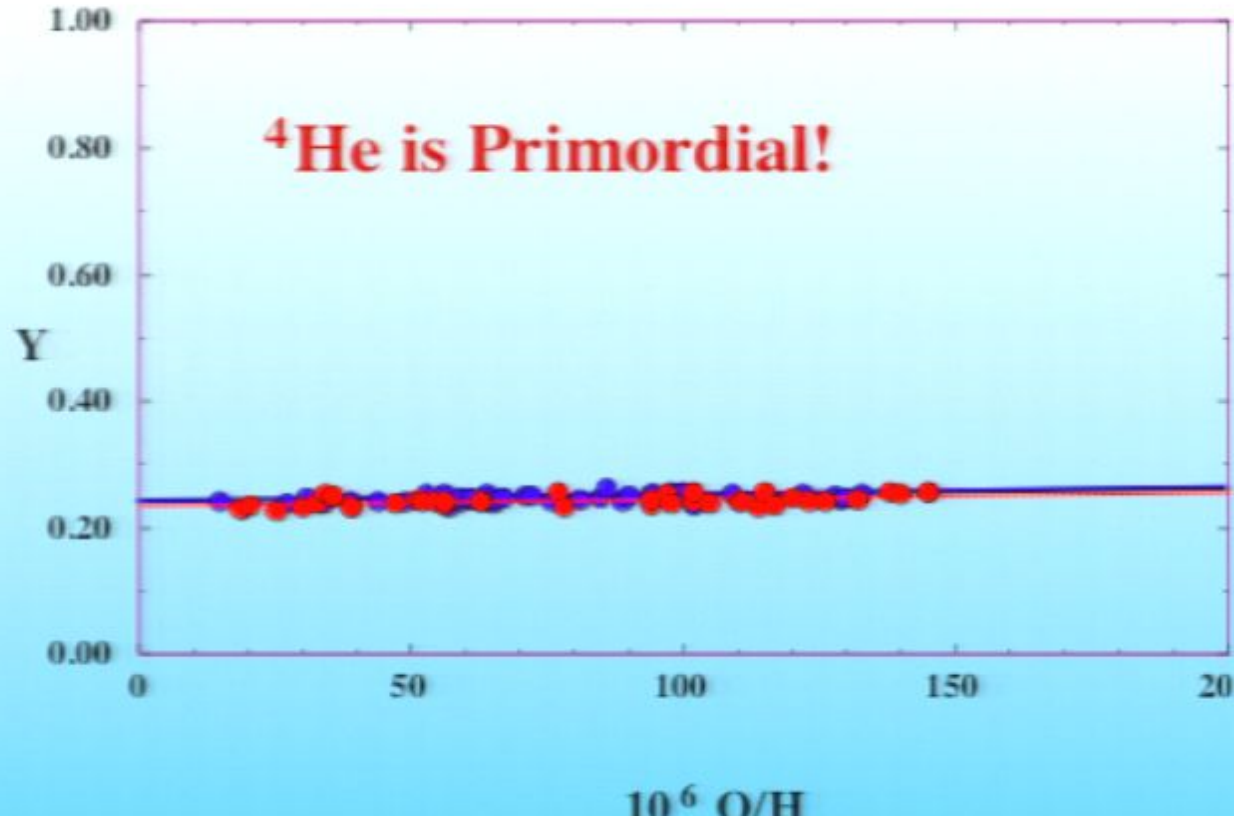


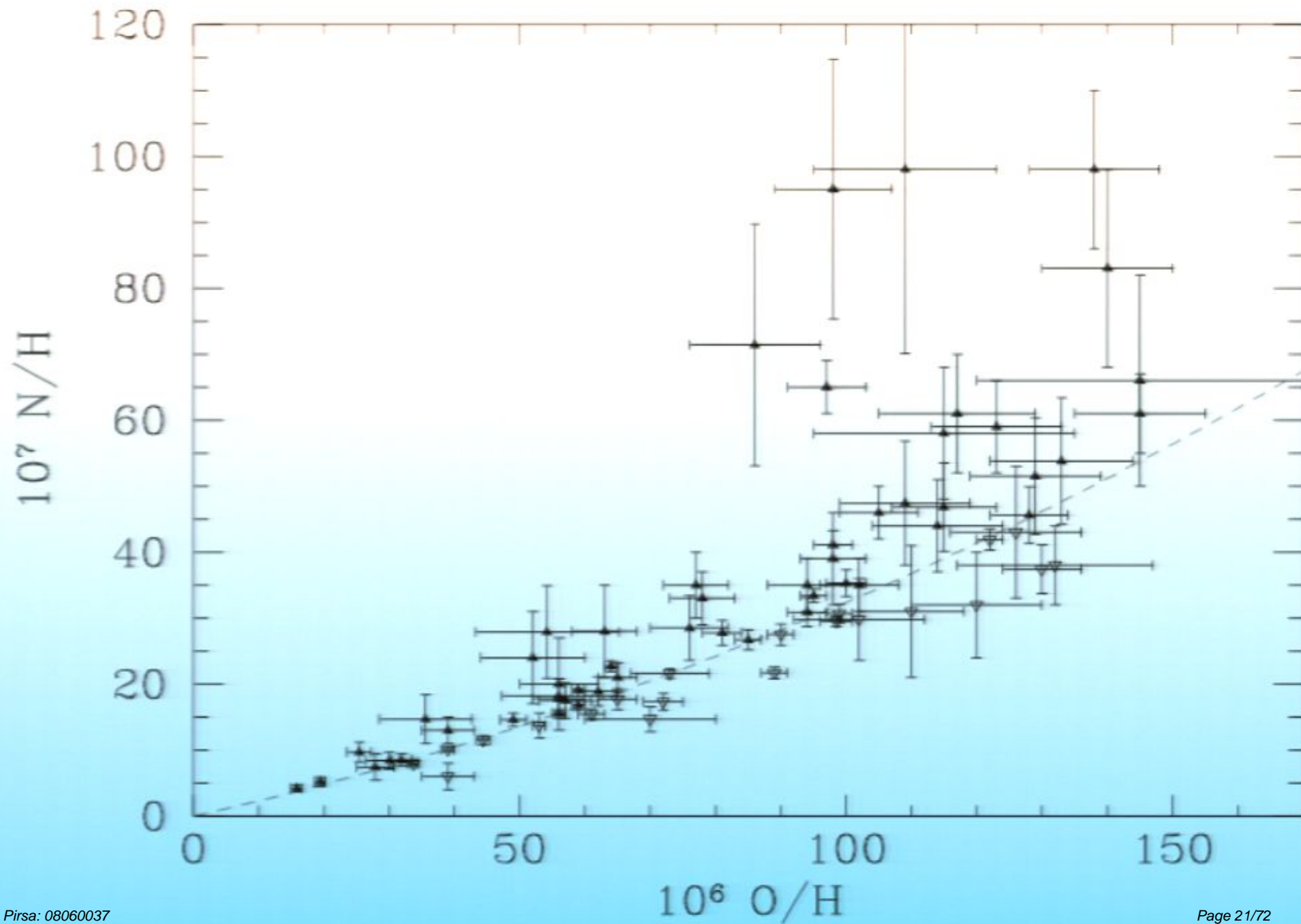


# $^4\text{He}$

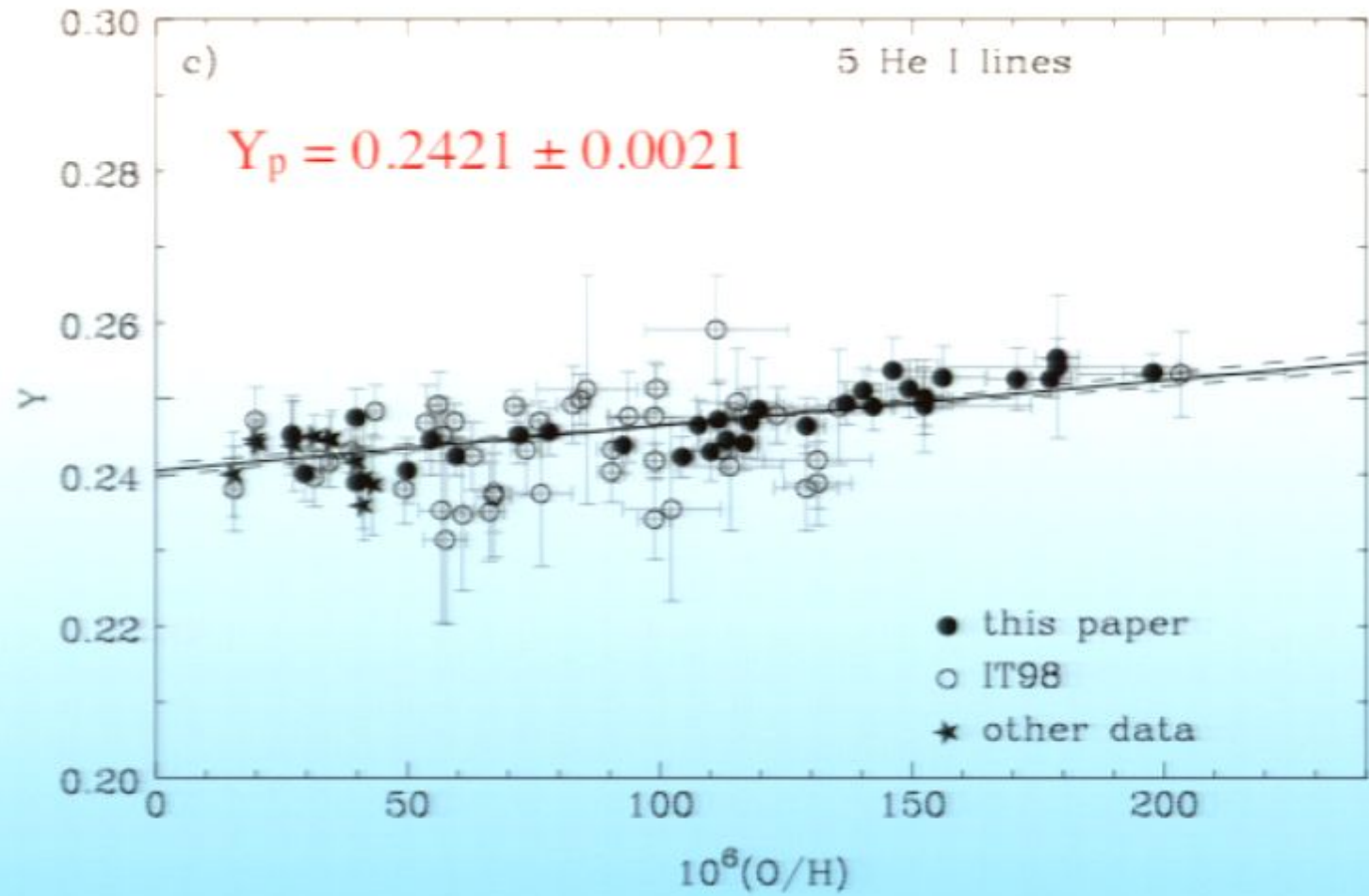
Measured in low metallicity extragalactic HII regions ( $\sim 100$ ) together with O/H and N/H

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



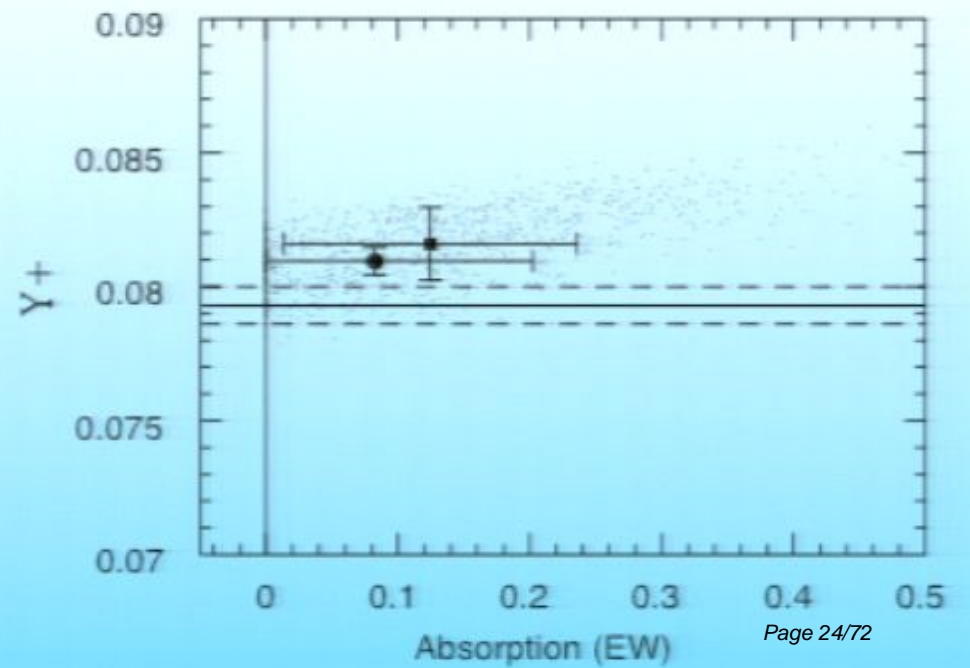
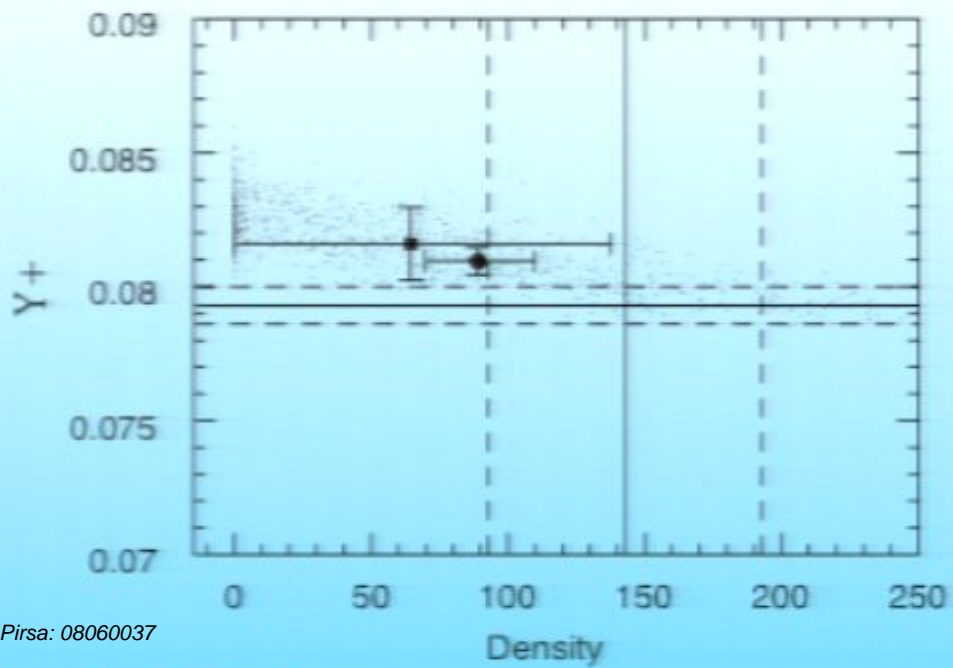
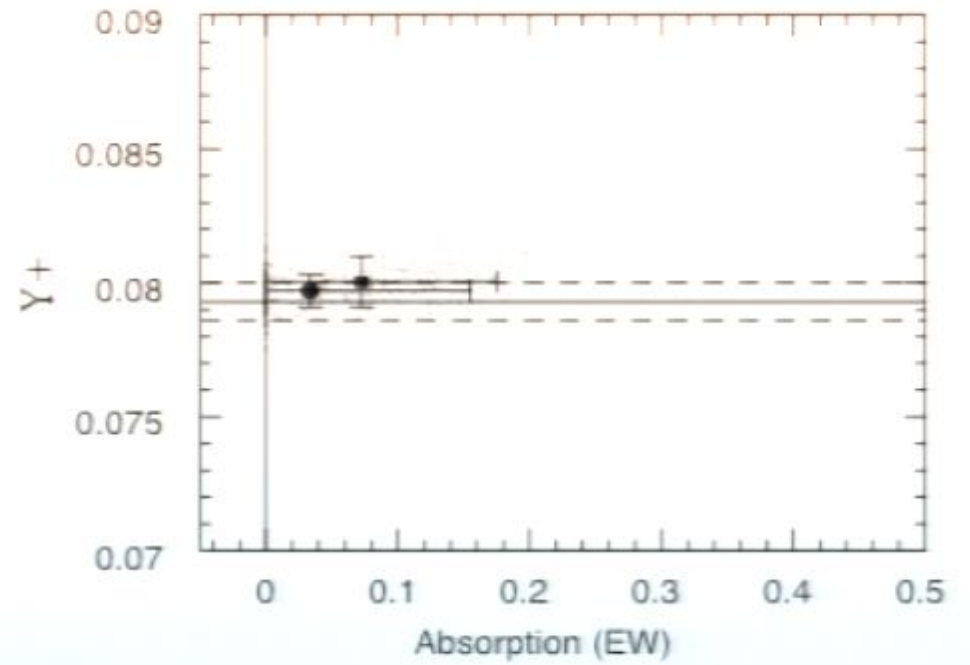
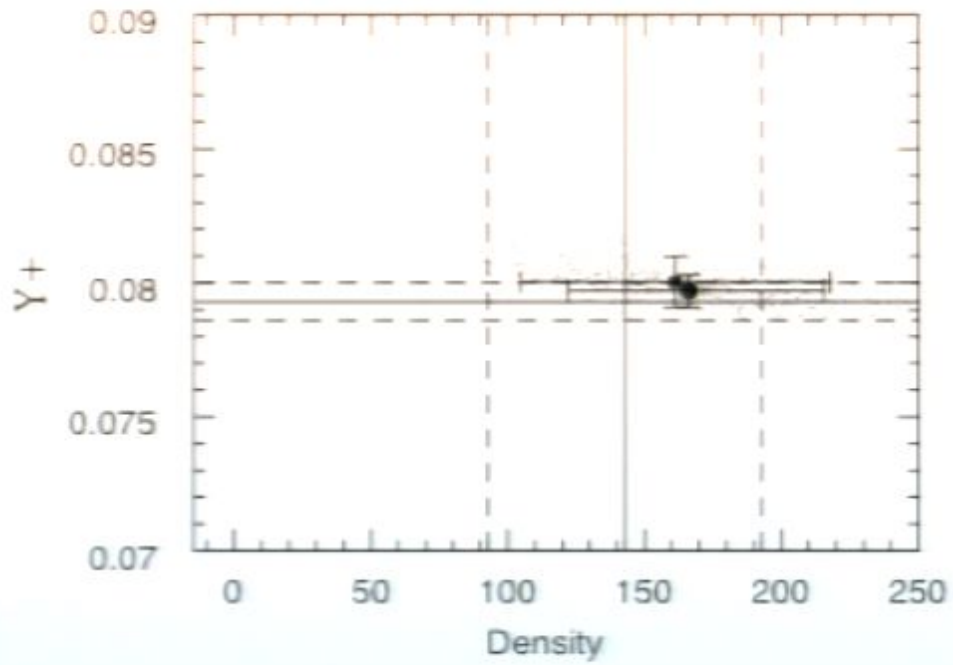


# ${}^4\text{He}$

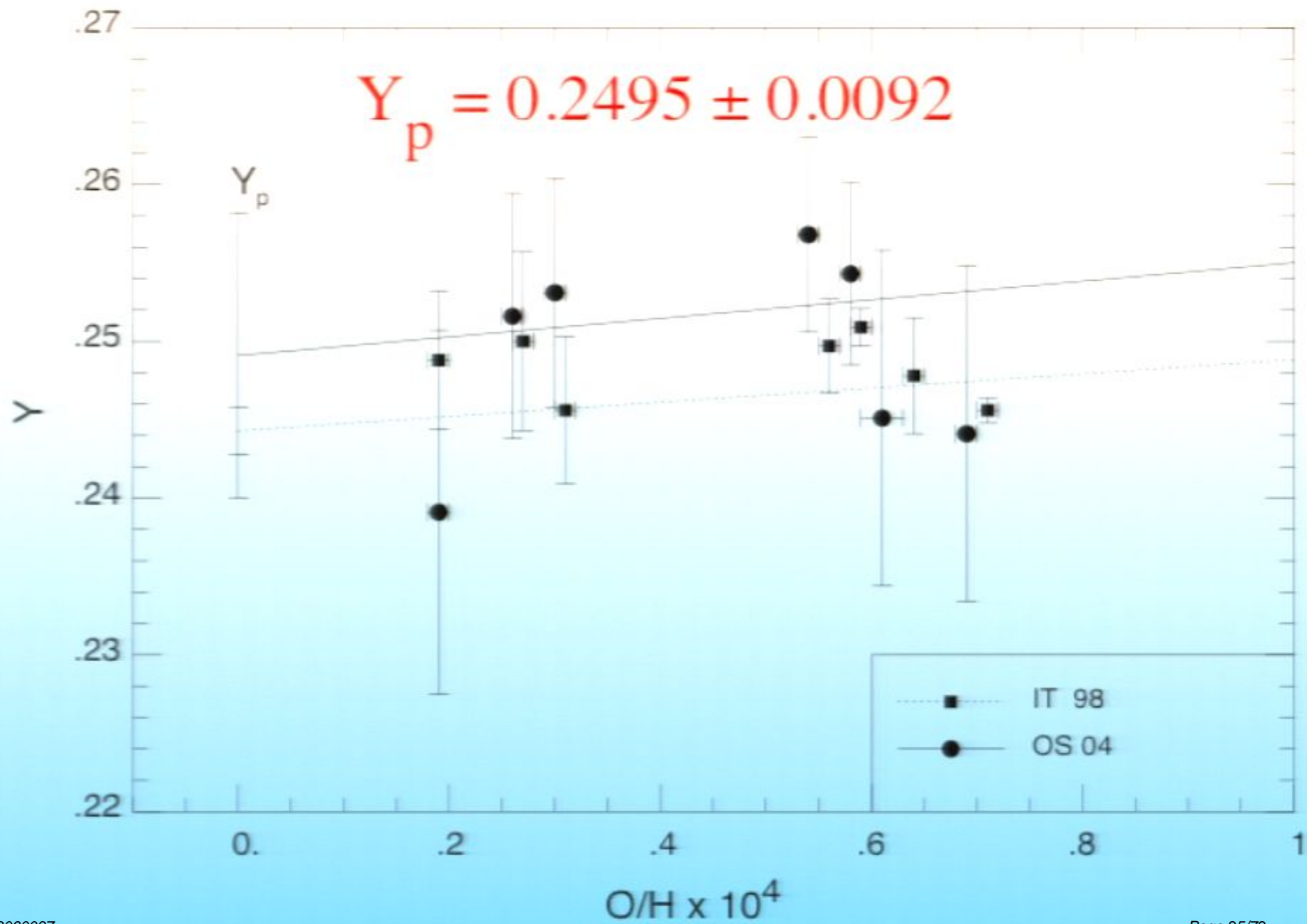


## Method:

- Intensity and Eq. Width for H and He
- Determine H reddening and underlying absorption
- Use 6 He emission lines to determine physical parameters:
  - density, optical depth, temperature, underlying He absorption,  $^4\text{He}$  abundance
- Severe degeneracies revealed by Monte Carlo analysis







## Self-consistent H and He

- Determine H and He properties from 9 lines (6 He and 3 H) using MC
- (Preliminary) no new degeneracies but previous degeneracies remain.

Aver, Olive, Skillman

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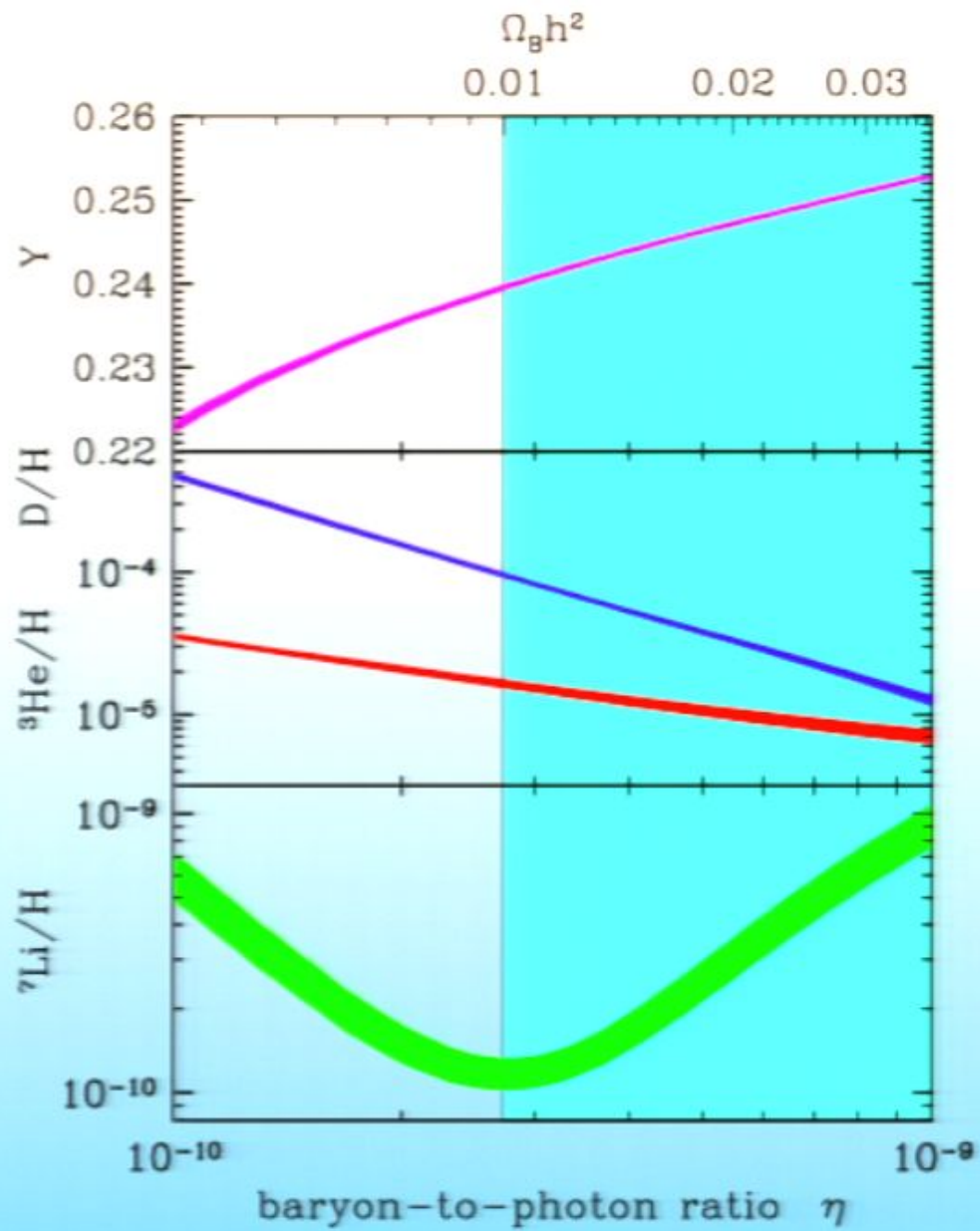
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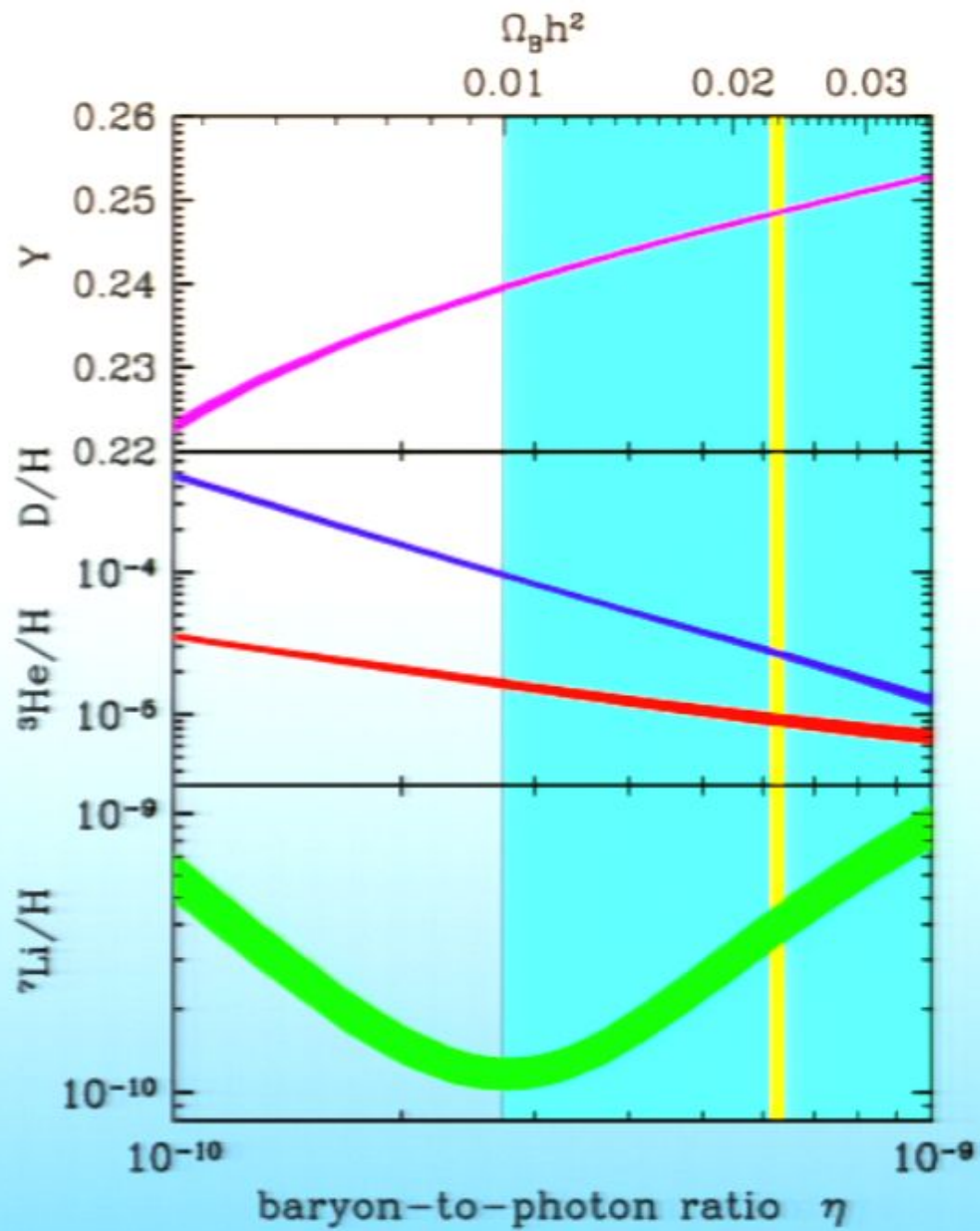
Aver, Olive, Skillman

${}^4\text{He}$  Prediction:  $0.2484 \pm 0.0005$

Data: Regression:  $0.2495 \pm 0.0092$

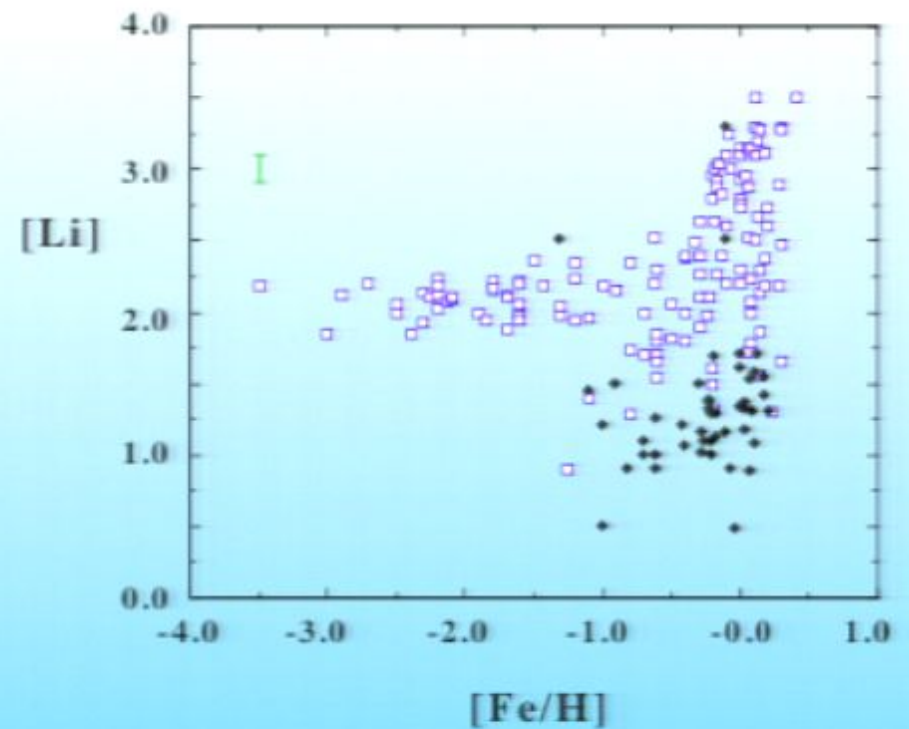
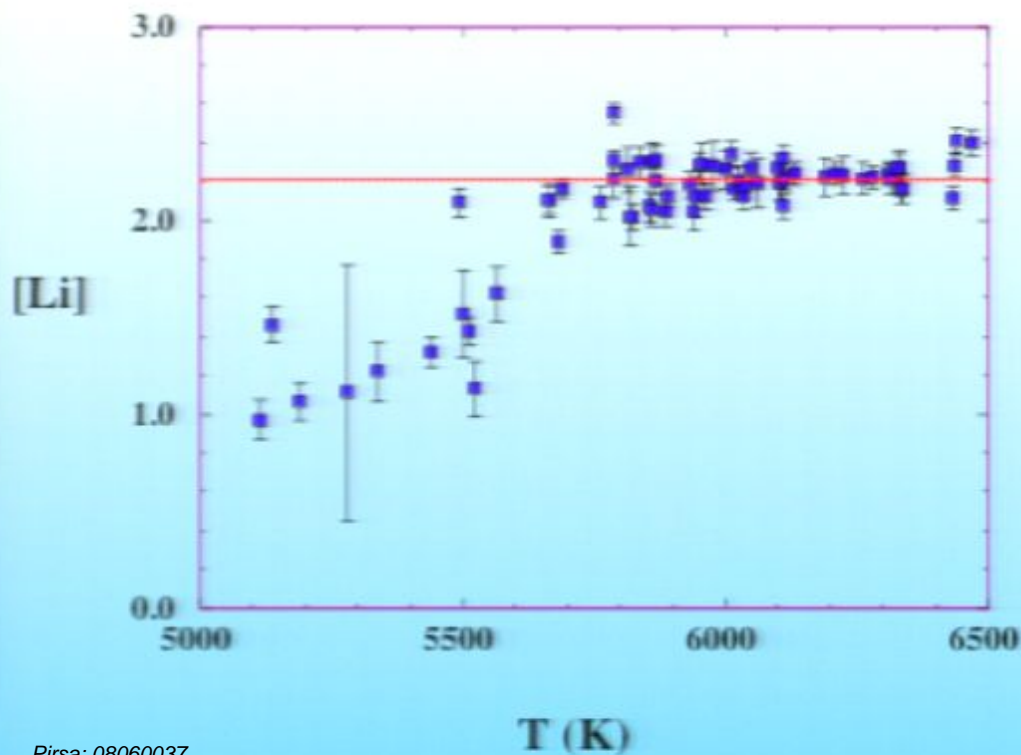
Mean:  $0.2520 \pm 0.0030$





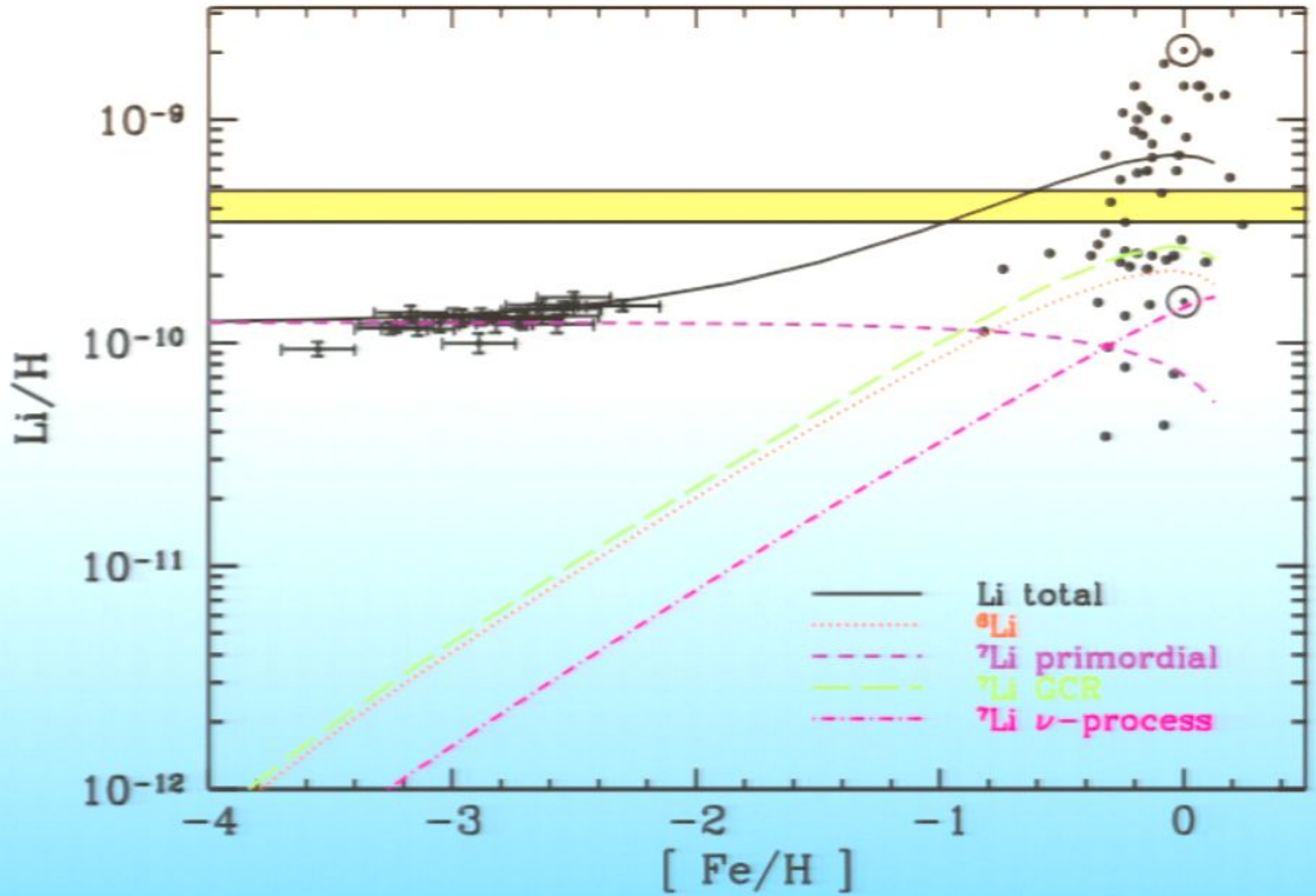
# Li/H

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



# Li Woes

- Observations based on
  - “old”:  $\text{Li}/\text{H} = 1.2 \times 10^{-10}$  Spite & Spite +
  - Balmer:  $\text{Li}/\text{H} = 1.7 \times 10^{-10}$  Molaro, Primas & Bonifacio
  - IRFM:  $\text{Li}/\text{H} = 1.6 \times 10^{-10}$  Bonifacio & Molaro
  - IRFM:  $\text{Li}/\text{H} = 1.2 \times 10^{-10}$  Ryan, Beers, KAO, Fields, Norris
  - $\text{H}\alpha$  (globular cluster):  $\text{Li}/\text{H} = 2.2 \times 10^{-10}$  Bonifacio et al.
  - $\text{H}\alpha$  (globular cluster):  $\text{Li}/\text{H} = 2.3 \times 10^{-10}$  Bonifacio
  - $\lambda 6104$ :  $\text{Li}/\text{H} \sim 3.2 \times 10^{-10}$  Ford et al.
- Li depends on  $T$ ,  $\ln g$ ,  $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}]$ , depletion, post BBN-processing, ...



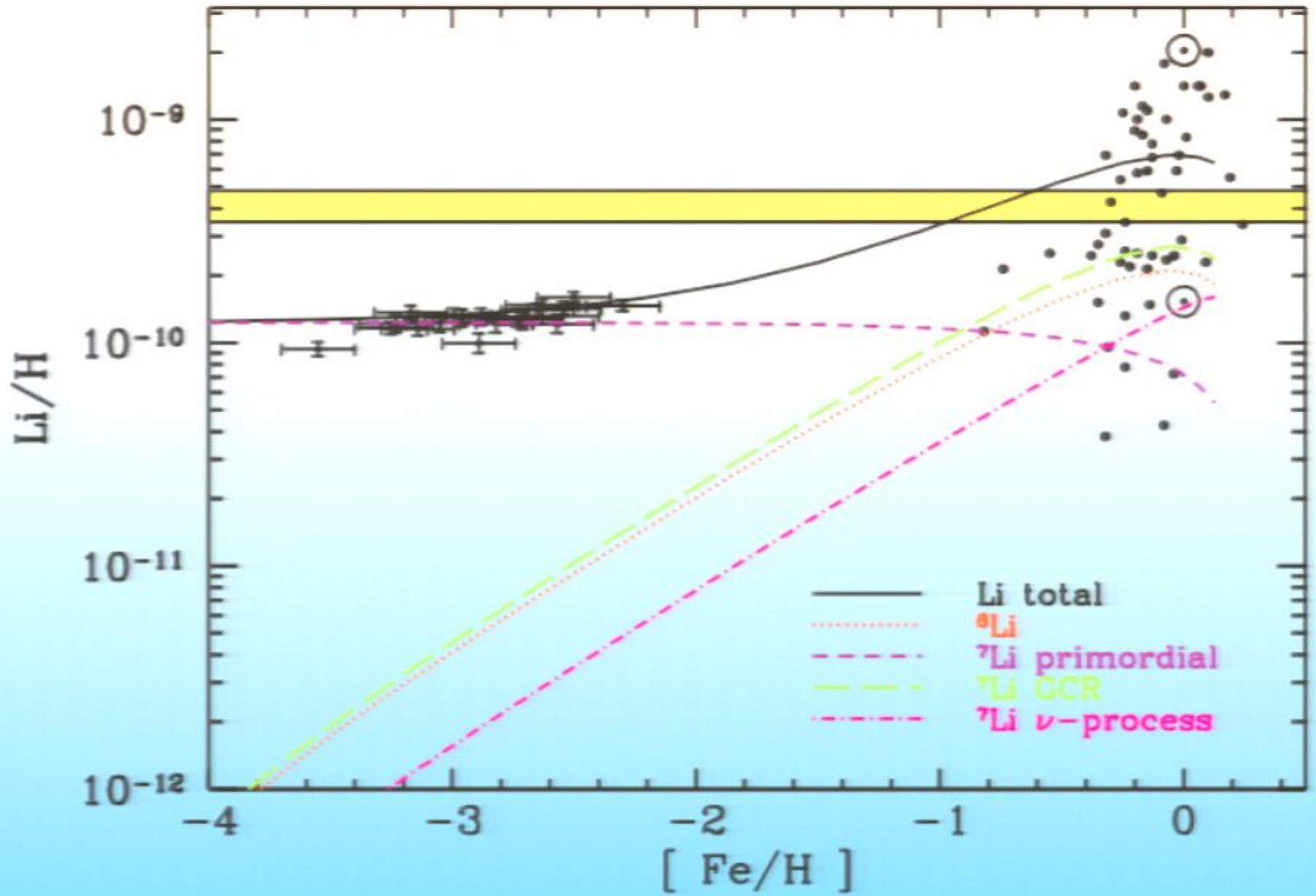


# Possible sources for the discrepancy

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- Nuclear Rates
  - Restricted by solar neutrino flux
- Stellar parameters



# Reappraising the Spite Lithium Plateau: Extremely Thin and Marginally Consistent with WMAP

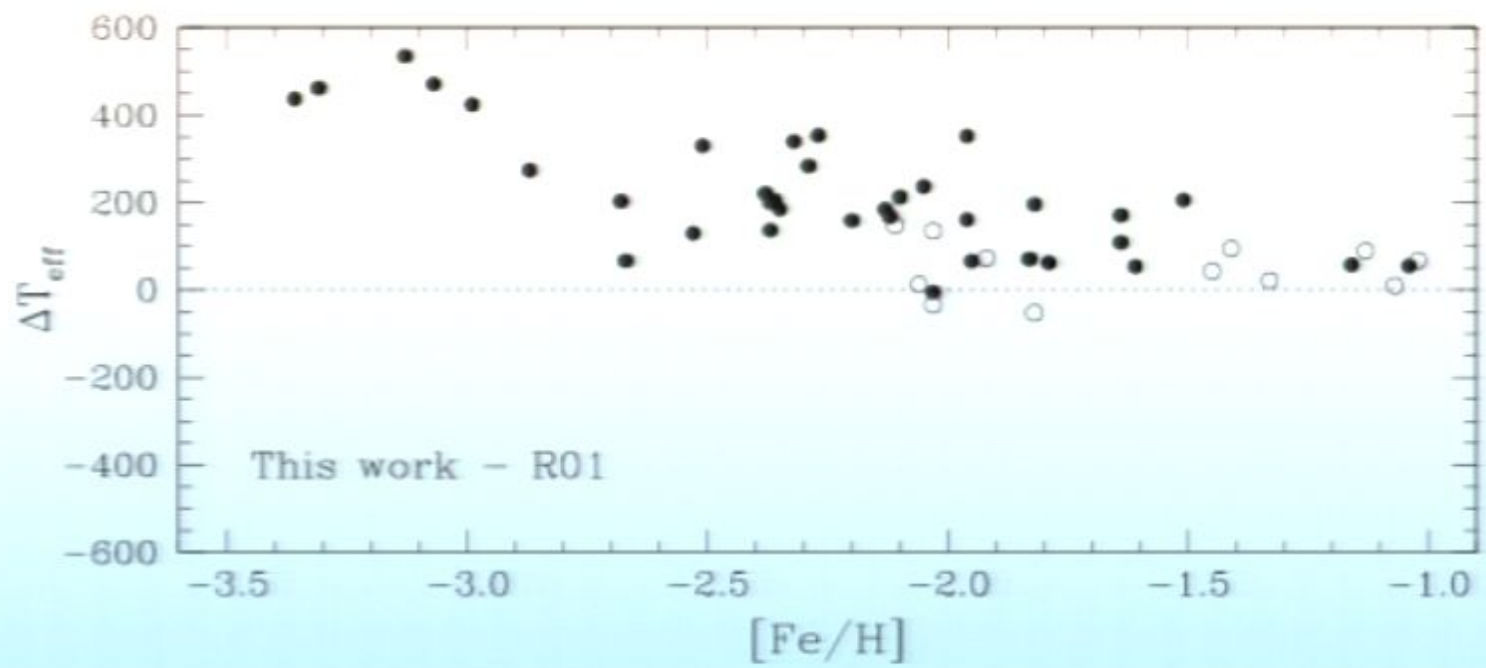
Jorge Meléndez<sup>1</sup> and Iván Ramírez<sup>2</sup>

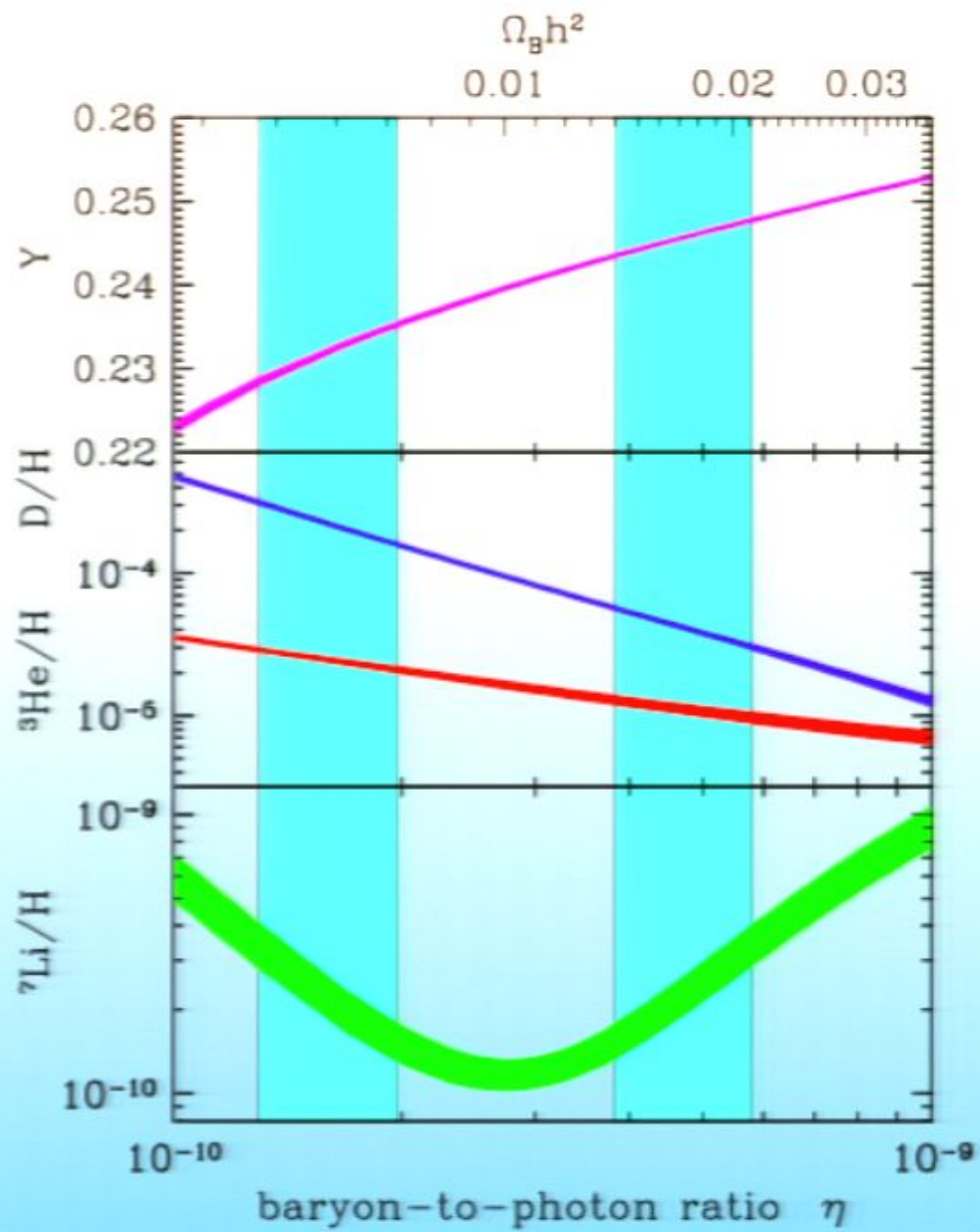
New evaluation of surface temperatures  
in 41 halo stars with systematically higher  
temperatures (100-300 K)

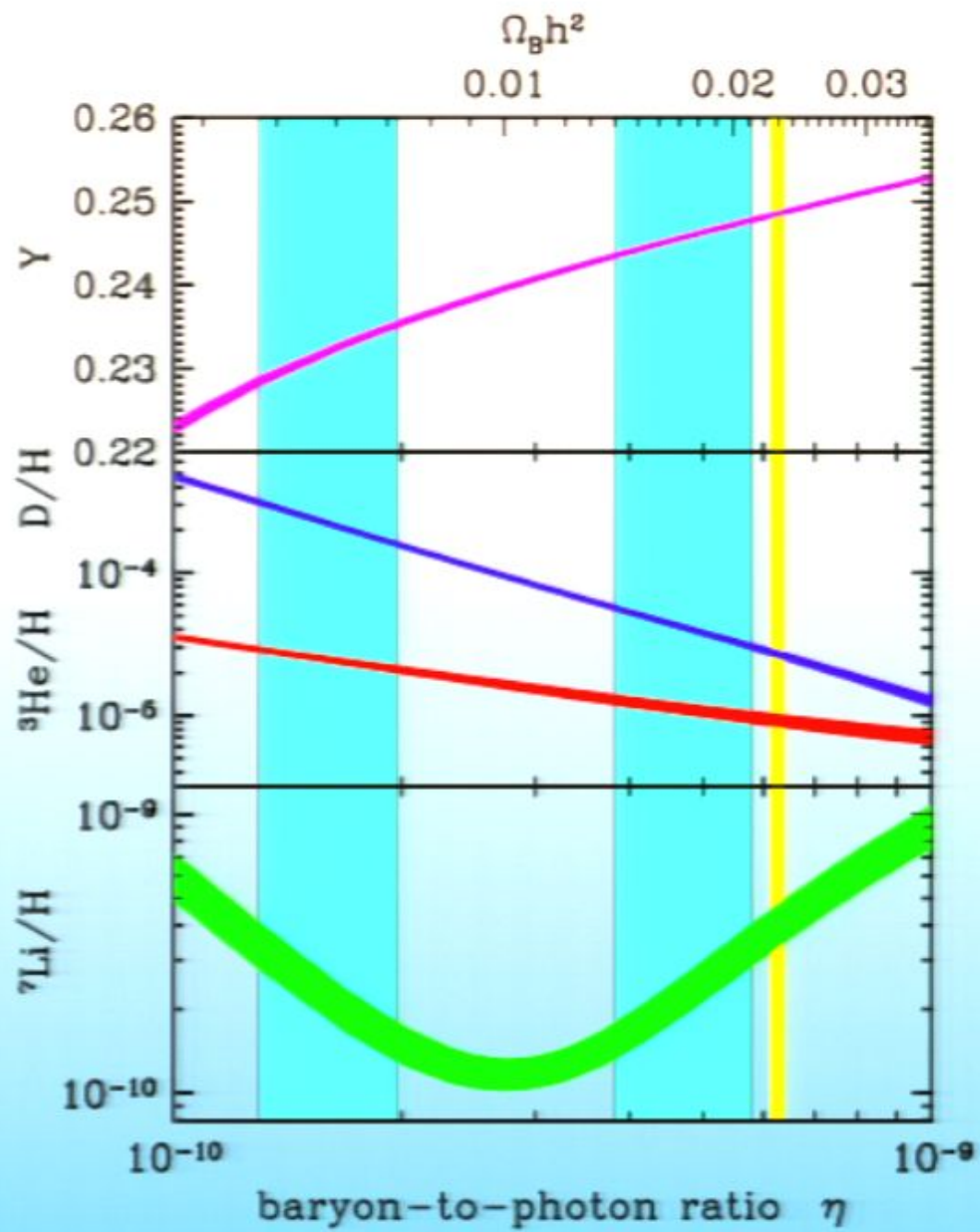
$$[\text{Li}] = 2.37 \pm 0.1$$

$$\text{Li}/\text{H} = 2.34 \pm 0.54 \times 10^{-10}$$

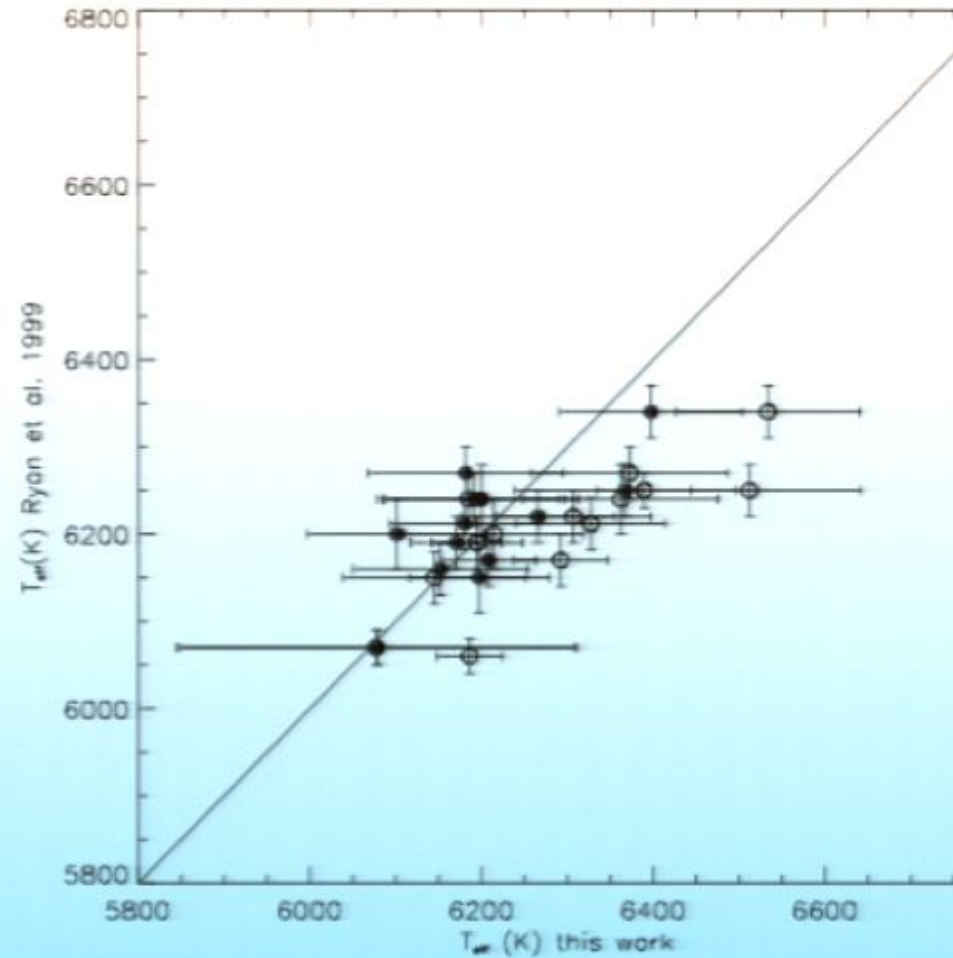
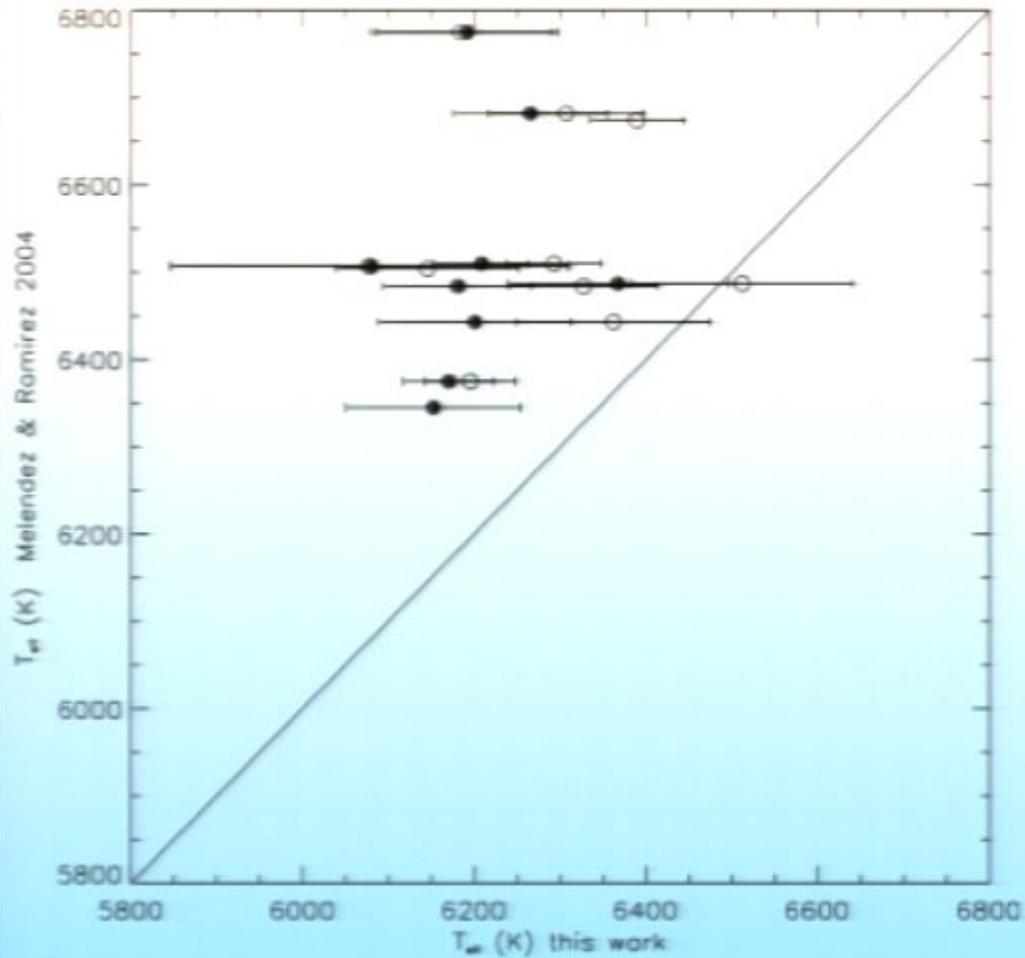
$$\text{BBN Prediction: } 10^{10} \text{ Li}/\text{H} = 4.26^{+0.73}_{-0.60}$$



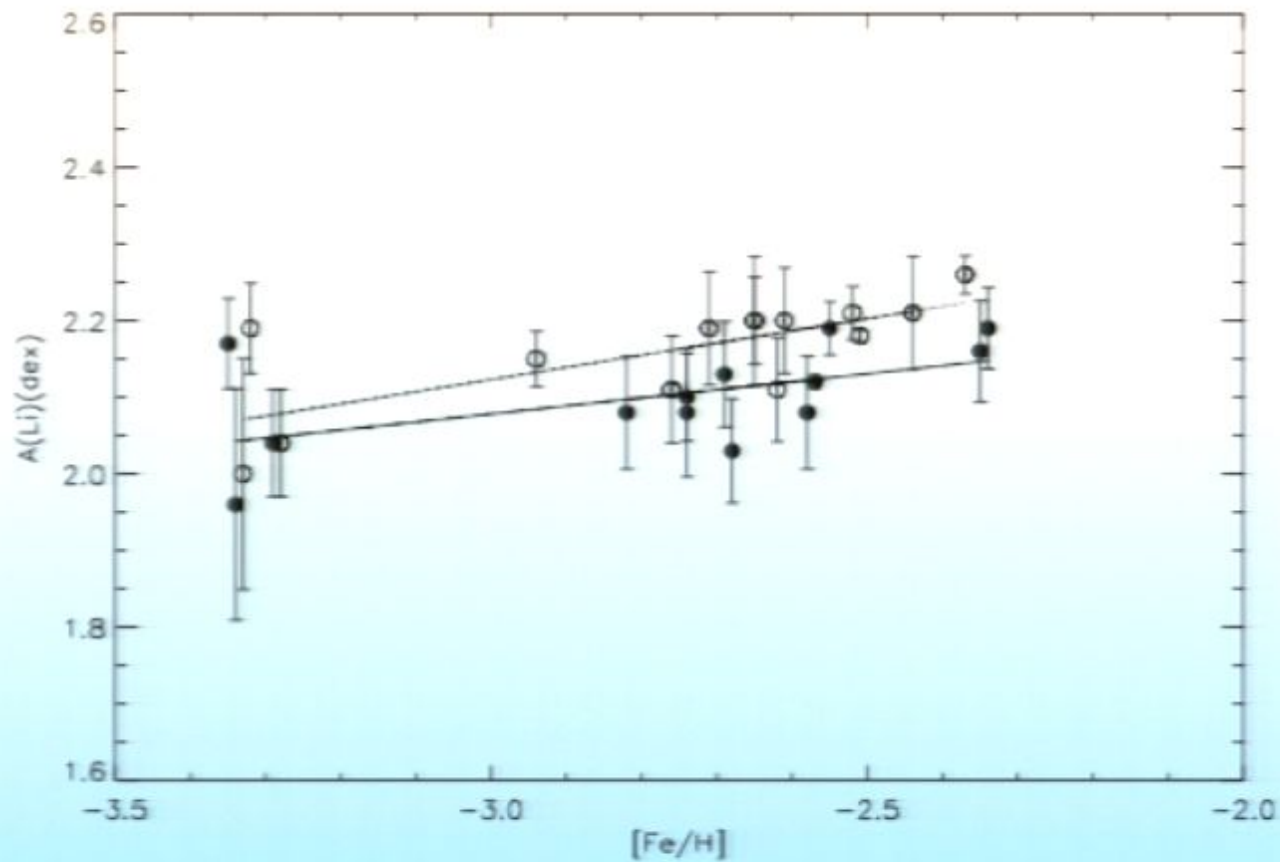




# Recent dedicated temperature determinations (excitation energy technique)



# Resulting Li:



# Possible sources for the discrepancy

- Nuclear Rates
  - Restricted by solar neutrino flux

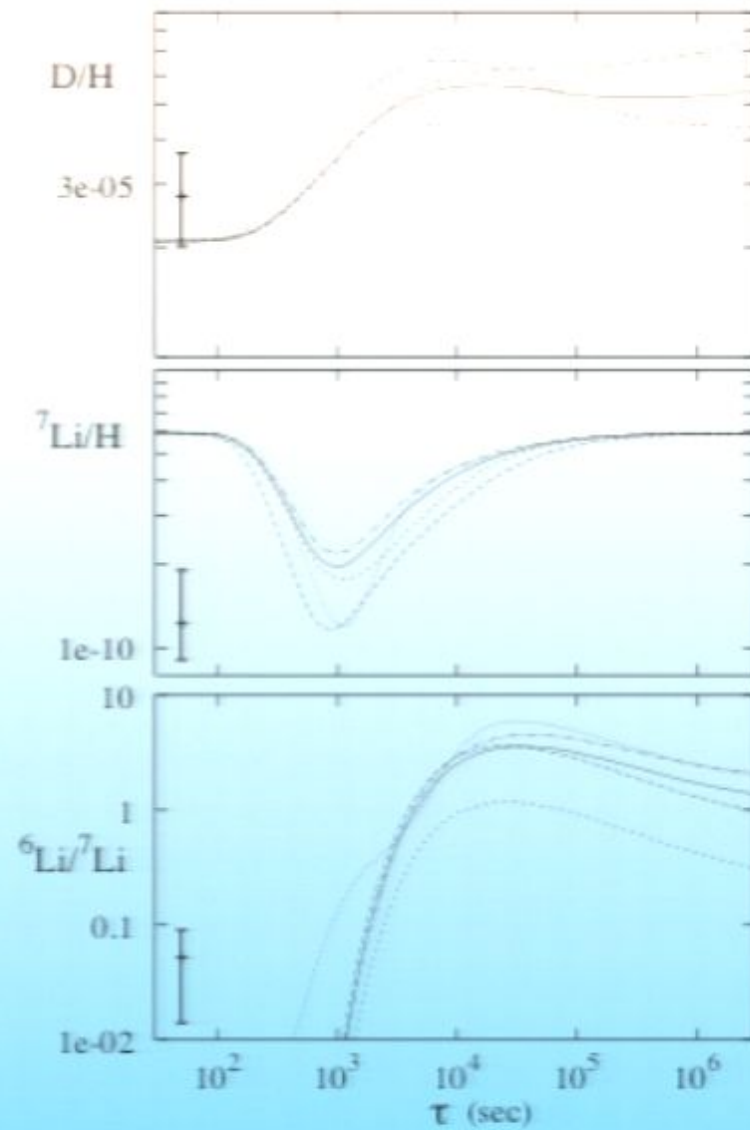
- Stellar parameters

$$\frac{dLi}{d \ln q} = \frac{.09}{.5}$$

$$\frac{dLi}{dT} = \frac{.08}{100K}$$

- Particle Decays

# Solution 1: Particle Decays





# Possible sources for the discrepancy

- Nuclear Rates
  - Restricted by solar neutrino flux

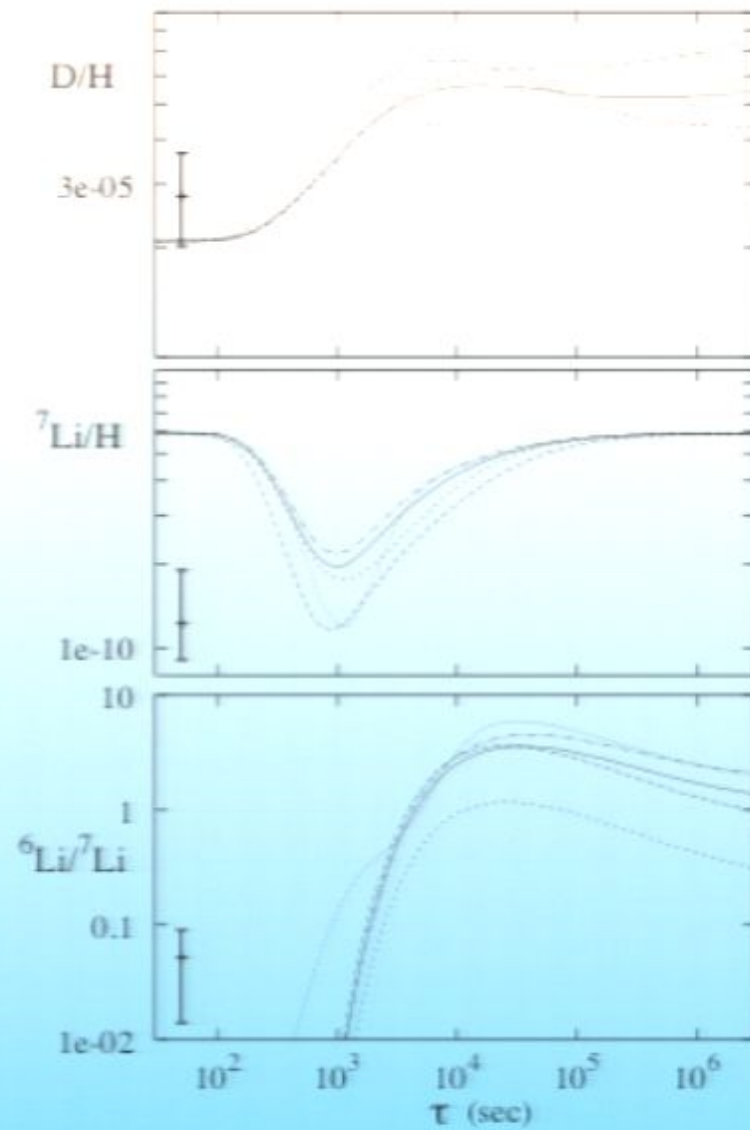
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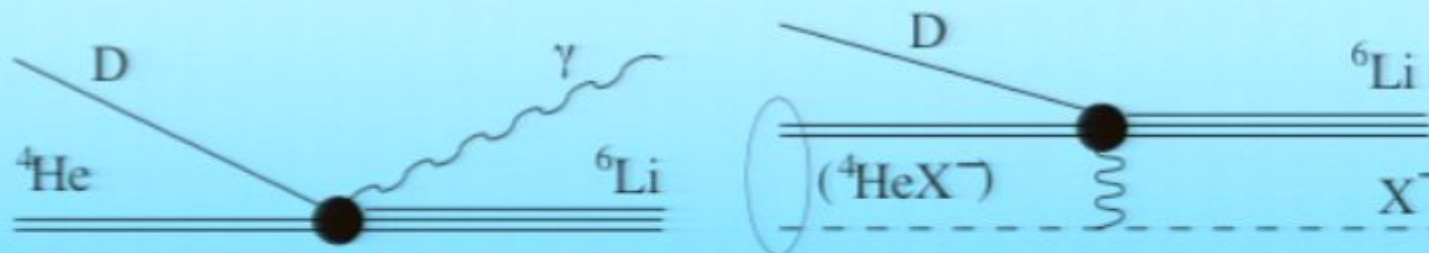
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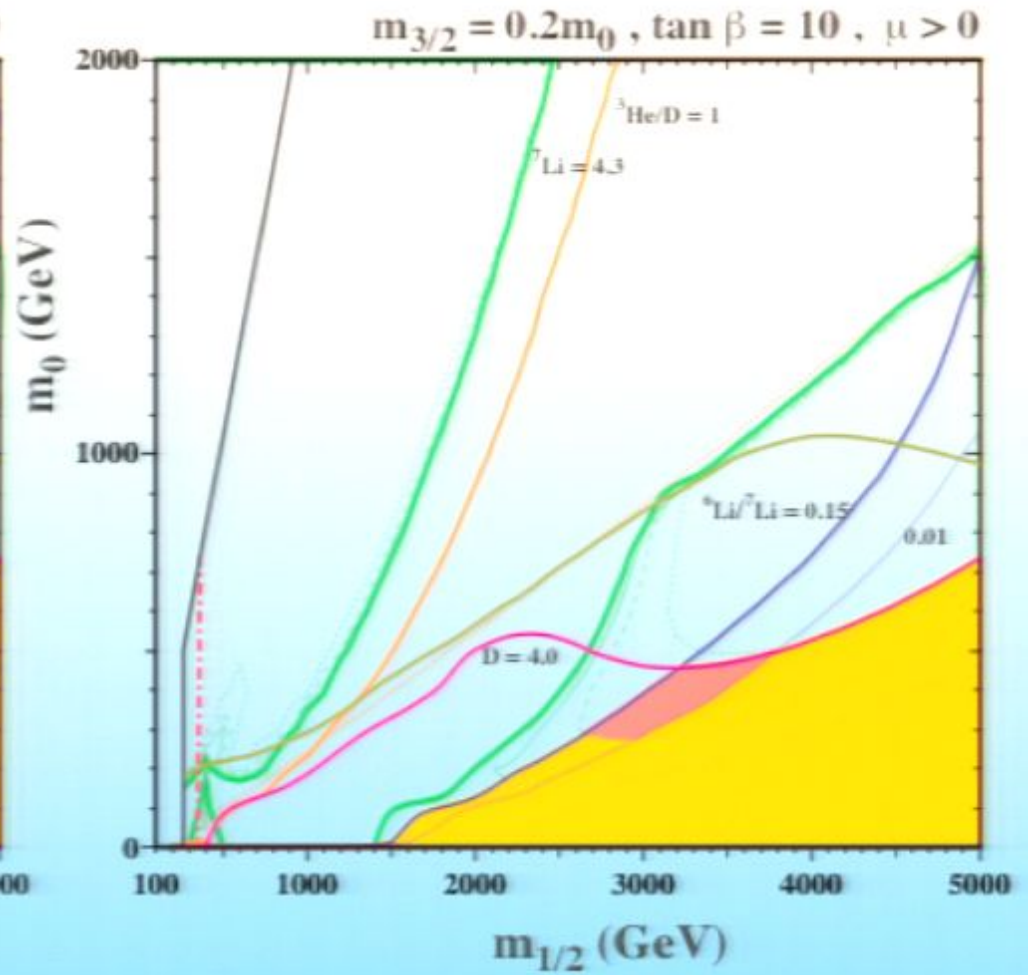
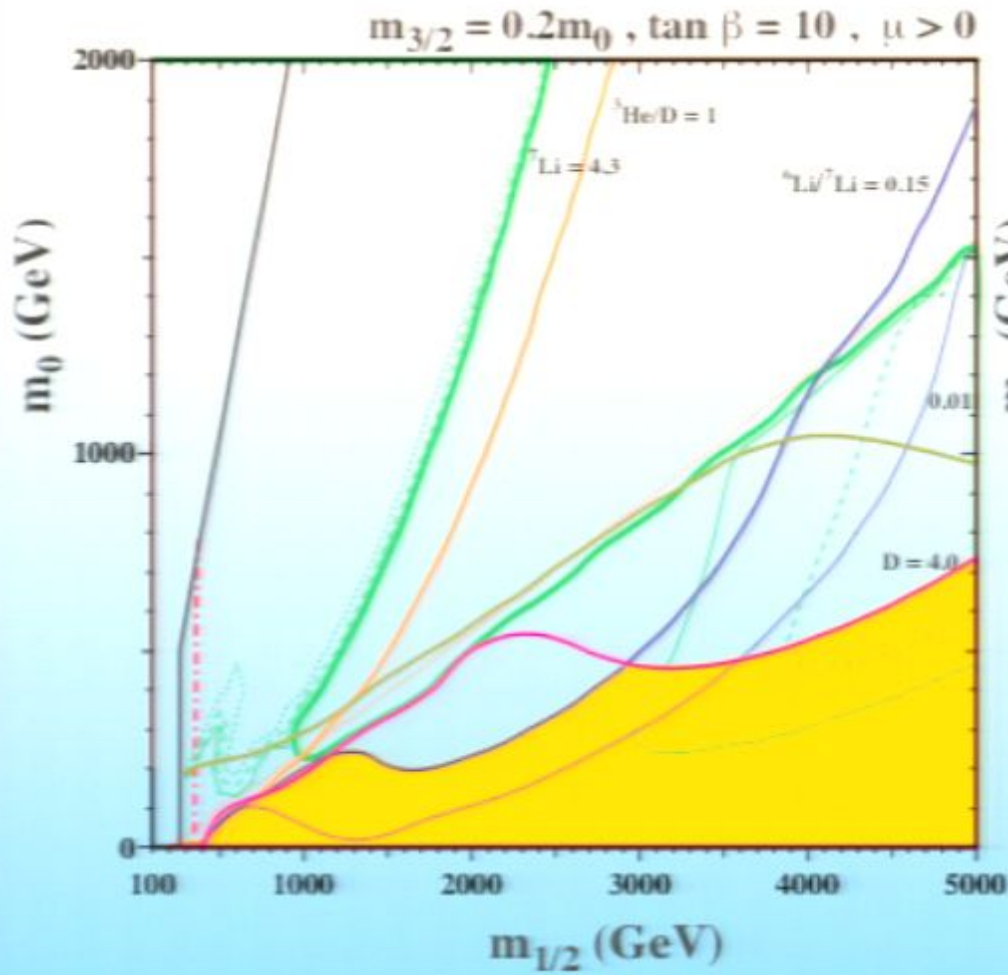
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## Effects of Bound States

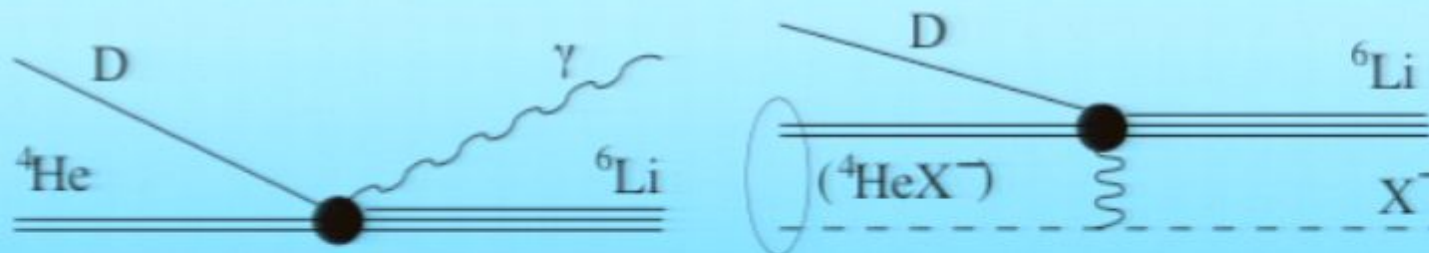
- In SUSY models with a  $\tilde{\tau}$  NLSP, bound states form between  ${}^4\text{He}$  and  $\tilde{\tau}$
- The  ${}^4\text{He} (D, \gamma) {}^6\text{Li}$  reaction is normally highly suppressed (production of low energy  $\gamma$ )
- Bound state reaction is not suppressed

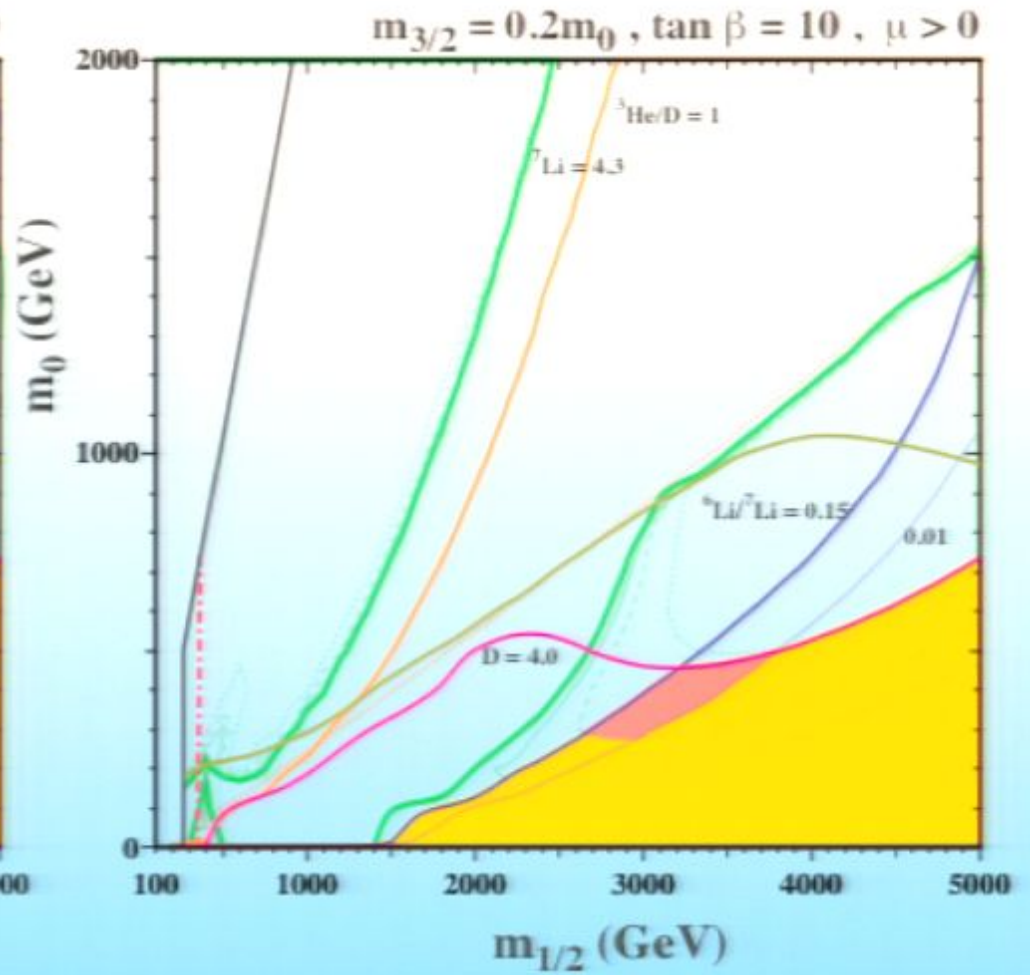
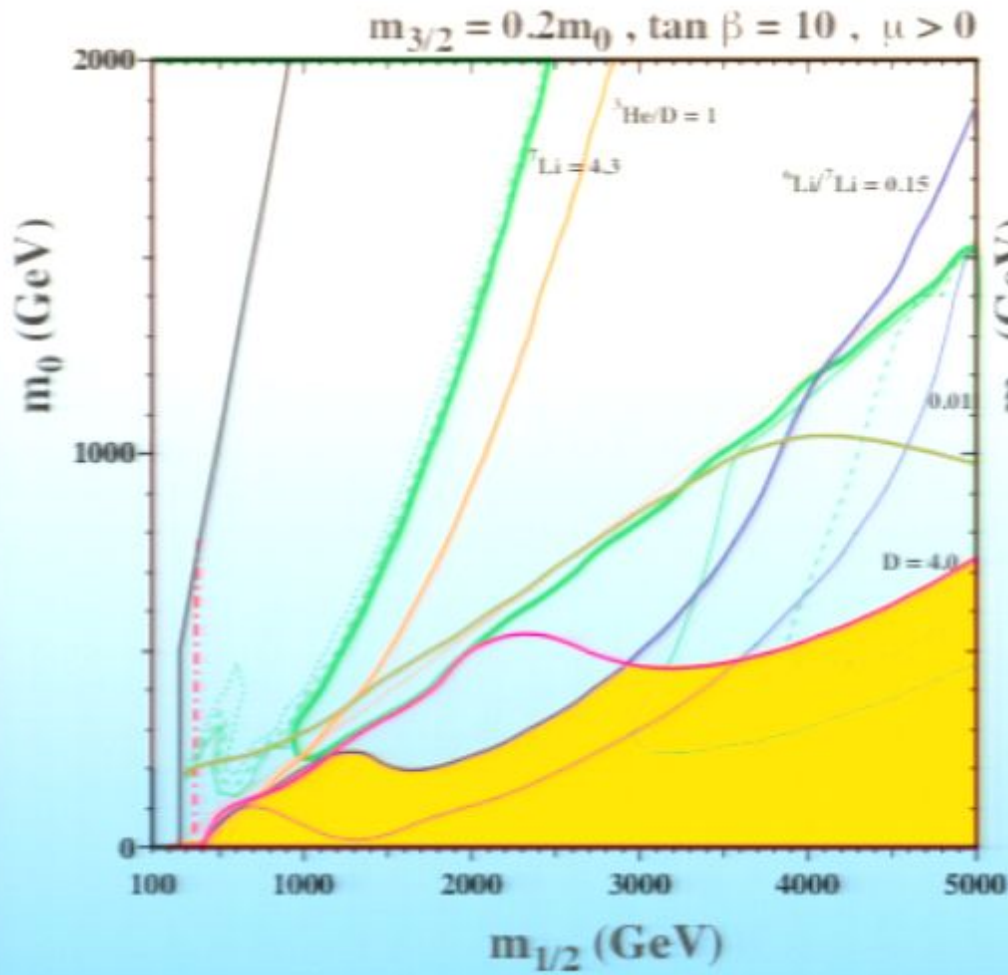




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# Possible sources for the discrepancy

- Stellar parameters

$$\frac{dLi}{d \ln g} = \frac{.09}{.5} \quad \frac{dLi}{dT} = \frac{.08}{100K}$$

- Particle Decays

- Variable Constants

How could varying  $\alpha$  affect BBN?

$$G_F^2 T^5 \sim \Gamma(T_f) \sim H(T_f) \sim \sqrt{G_N N} T_f^2$$

Recall in equilibrium,

$$\frac{n}{p} \sim e^{-\Delta m/T} \quad \text{fixed at freezeout}$$

Helium abundance,

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



Approach:

Consider possible variation of Yukawa,  $h$ ,  
or fine-structure constant,  $\alpha$

Include dependence of  $\Lambda$  on  $\alpha$ ; of  $\nu$  on  $h$ , etc.

Consider effects on:  $Q = \Delta m_N, \tau_N, B_D$

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Consider possible variation of Yukawa,  $h$ ,  
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Include dependence of  $\Lambda$  on  $\alpha$ ; of  $v$  on  $h$ , etc.

Consider effects on:  $Q = \Delta m_N$ ,  $\tau_N$ ,  $B_D$

and with  $\frac{\Delta h}{h} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\Delta \alpha_U}{\alpha_U}$

$$\frac{\Delta B_D}{B_D} = -[6.5(1+S) - 18R] \frac{\Delta \alpha}{\alpha}$$

$$\frac{\Delta Q}{Q} = (0.1 + 0.7S - 0.6R) \frac{\Delta \alpha}{\alpha}$$

$$\frac{\Delta \tau_n}{\tau_n} = -[0.2 + 2S - 3.8R] \frac{\Delta \alpha}{\alpha},$$

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Consider effects on:  $Q = \Delta m_N$ ,  $\tau_N$ ,  $B_D$

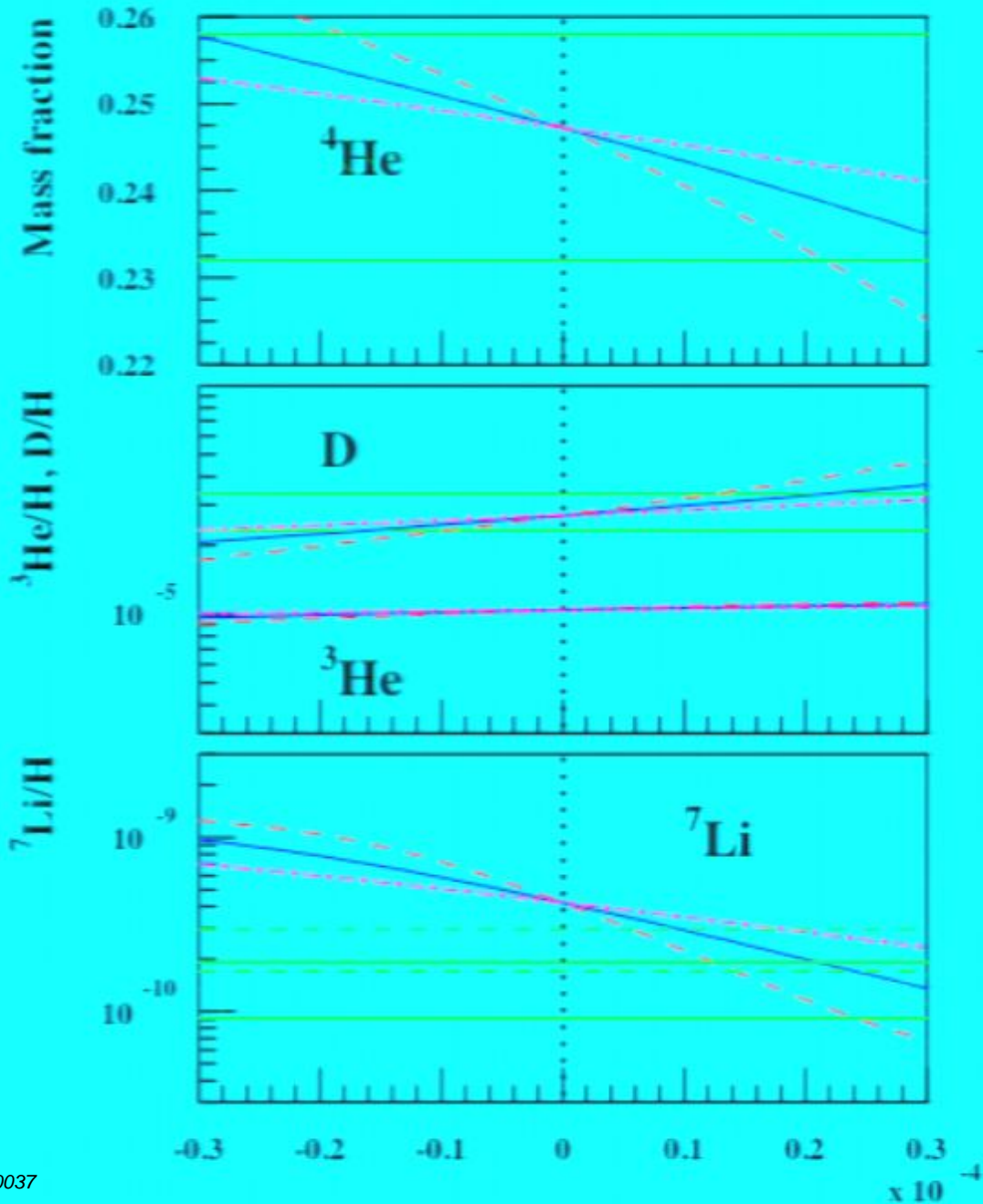
and with 
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$$\frac{\Delta B_D}{B_D} = -[6.5(1 + S) - 18R] \frac{\Delta \alpha}{\alpha}$$

$$\frac{\Delta Q}{Q} = (0.1 + 0.7S - 0.6R) \frac{\Delta \alpha}{\alpha}$$

$$\frac{\Delta \tau_n}{\tau_n} = -[0.2 + 2S - 3.8R] \frac{\Delta \alpha}{\alpha},$$

$S = 240, R = 0, 36, 60, \Delta\alpha/\alpha = 2\Delta h/h$



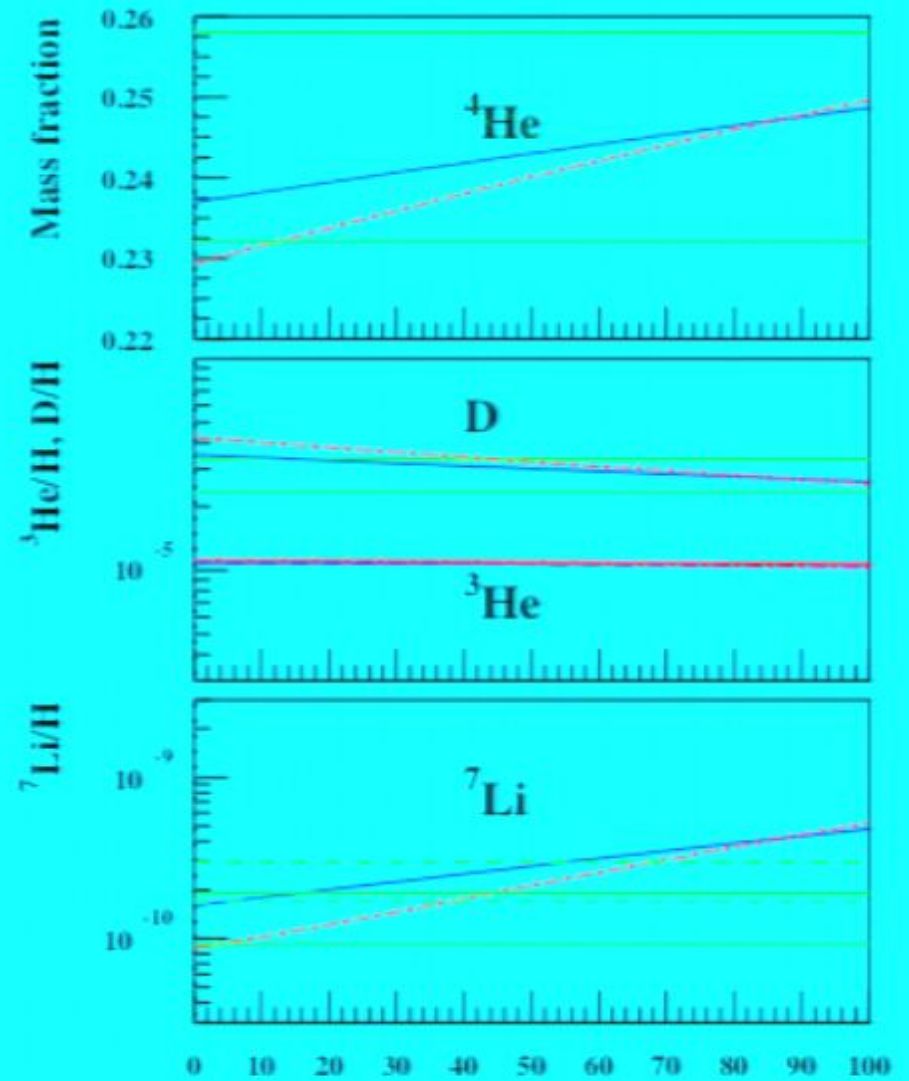
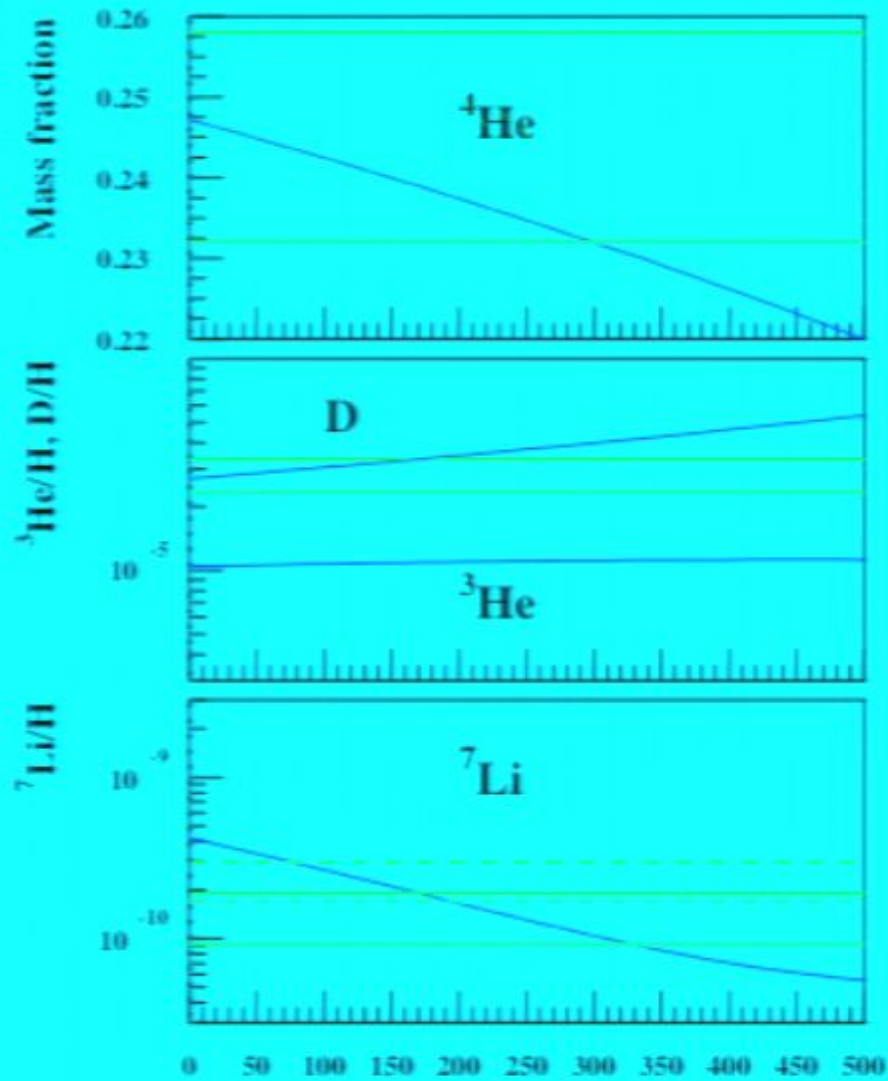
For  $S = 240, R = 36,$

$$-1.6 \times 10^{-5} < \frac{\Delta h}{h} < 2.1 \times 10^{-5}$$

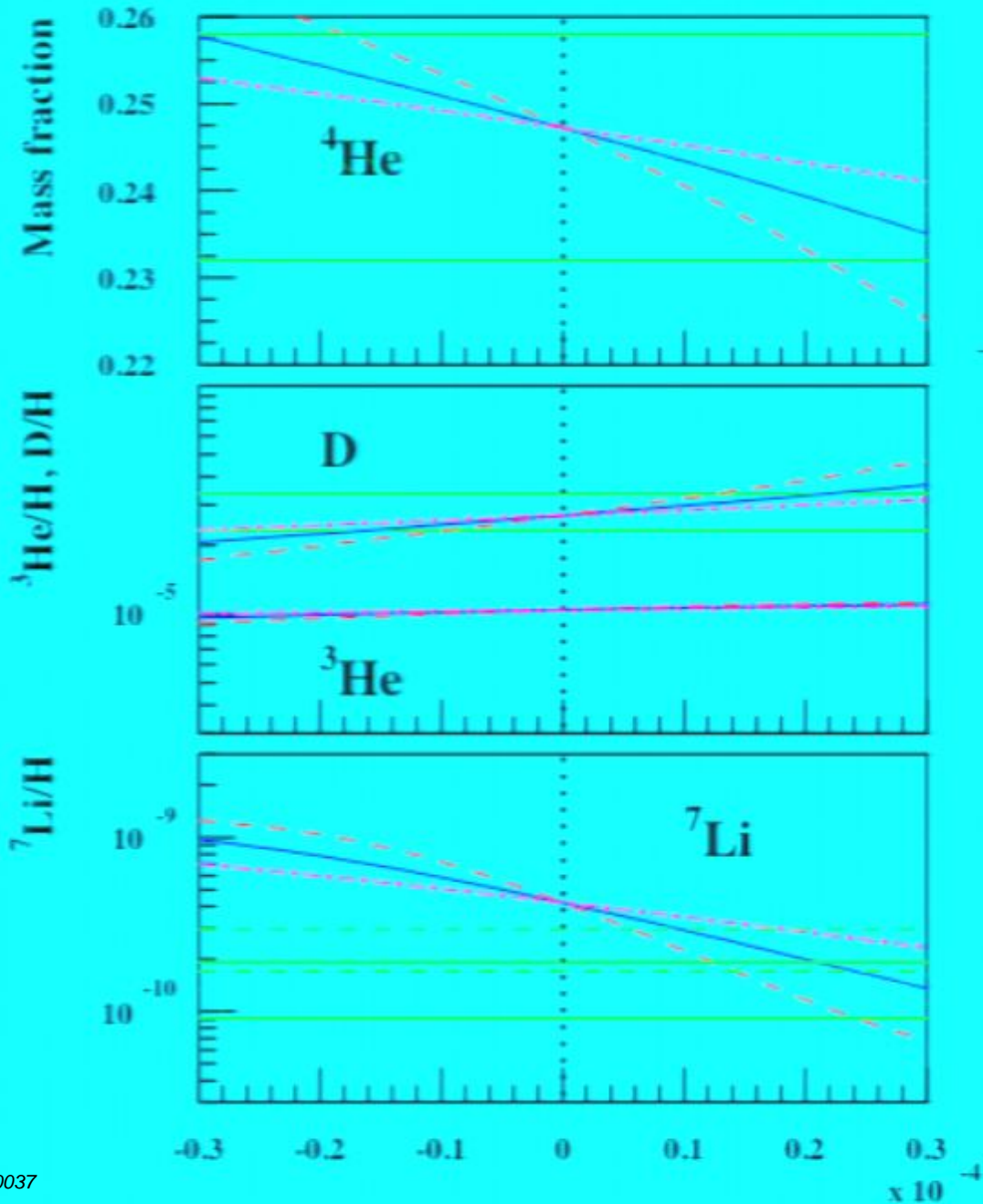
Finally,

$$\Delta h/h = 1.5 \times 10^{-5}$$

$$\Delta\alpha/\alpha = 2\Delta h/h, S = 240.$$



$S = 240, R = 0, 36, 60, \Delta\alpha/\alpha = 2\Delta h/h$



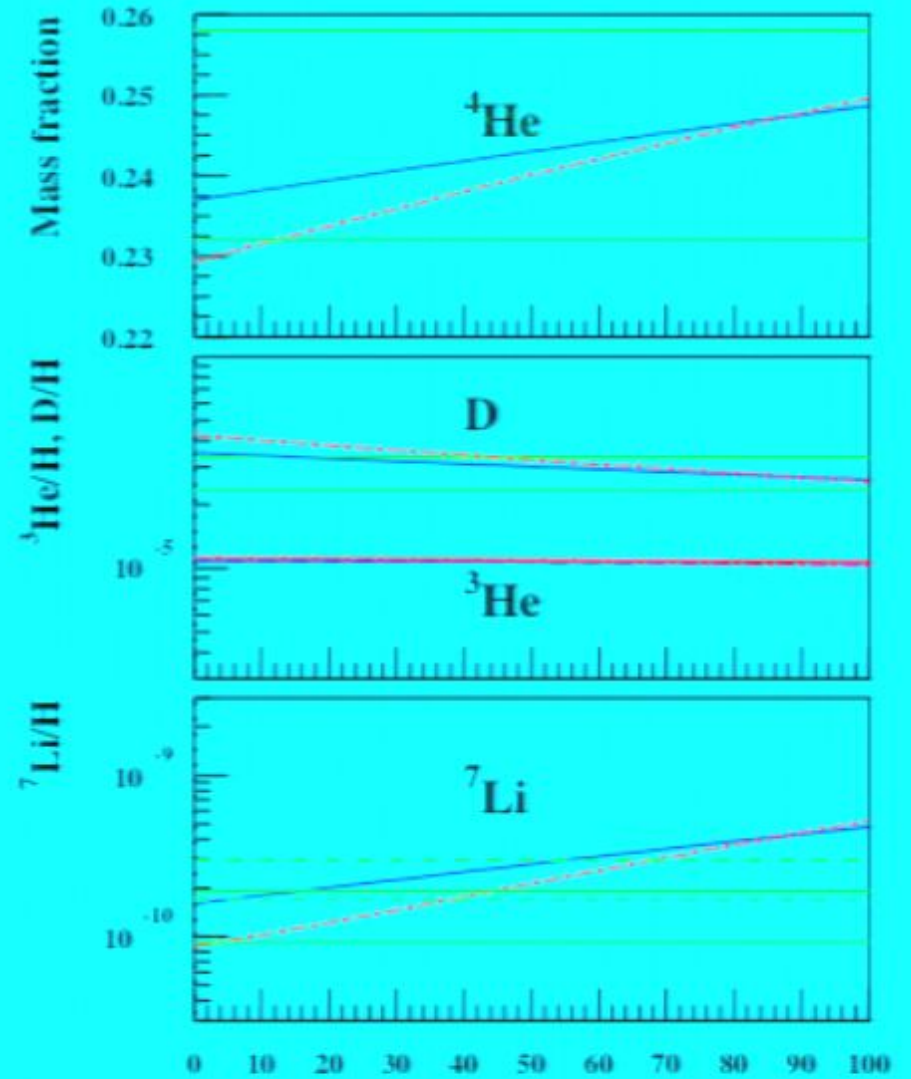
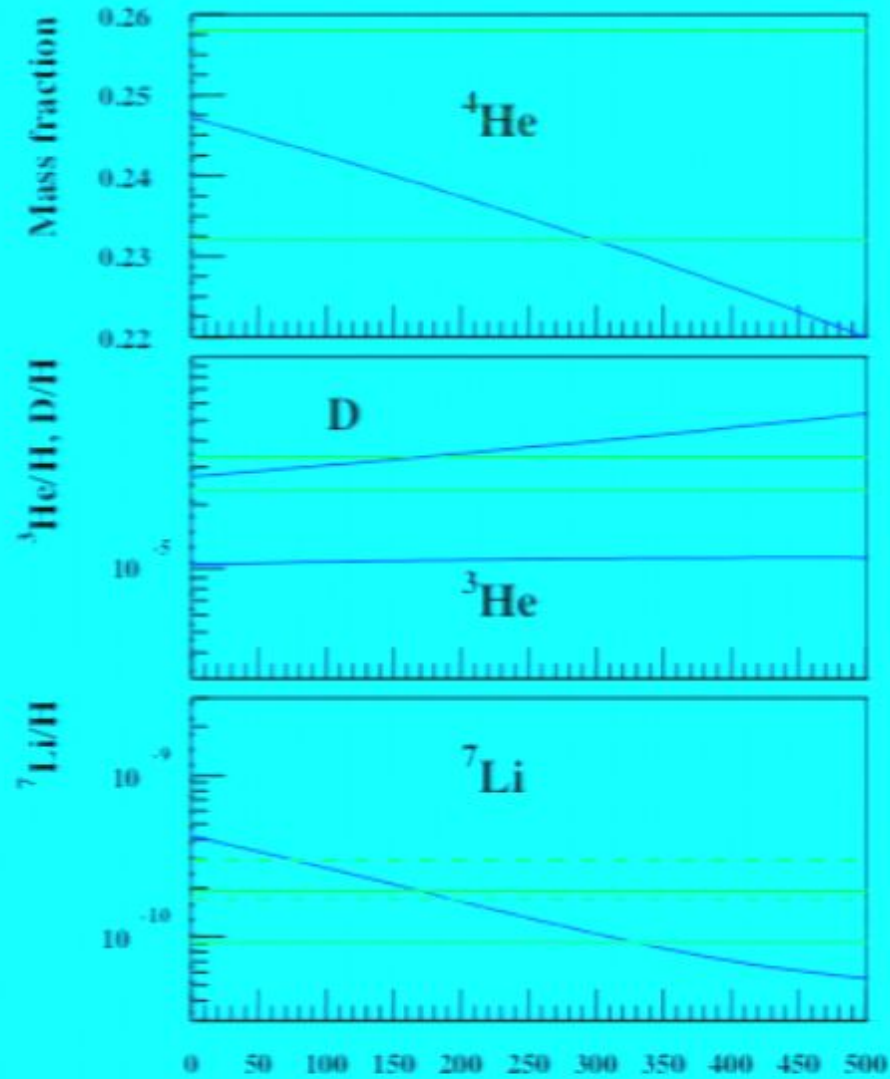
For  $S = 240, R = 36,$

$$-1.6 \times 10^{-5} < \frac{\Delta h}{h} < 2.1 \times 10^{-5}$$

Finally,

$$\Delta h/h = 1.5 \times 10^{-5}$$

$$\Delta\alpha/\alpha = 2\Delta h/h, S = 240.$$





# ${}^6\text{LiBeB}$

For  $\eta_{10} \approx 6$

$${}^6\text{Li}/\text{H} \approx 10^{-14}$$

$${}^9\text{Be}/\text{H} \approx 0.5 - 5 \times 10^{-19}$$

$${}^{10}\text{B}/\text{H} \approx 2 \times 10^{-20}$$

$${}^{11}\text{B}/\text{H} \approx 3 \times 10^{-16}$$

Far Below the observed values in Pop II stars

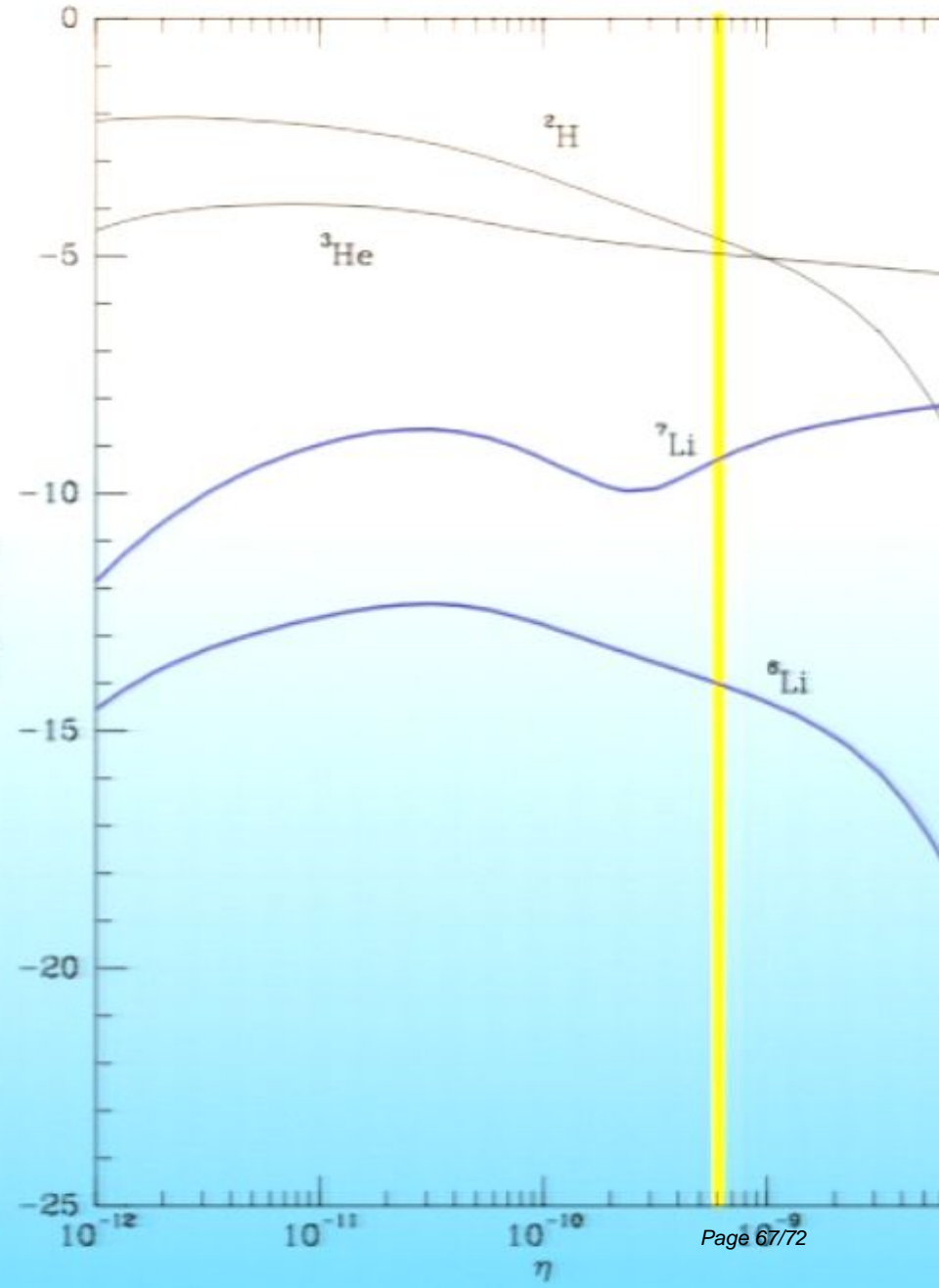
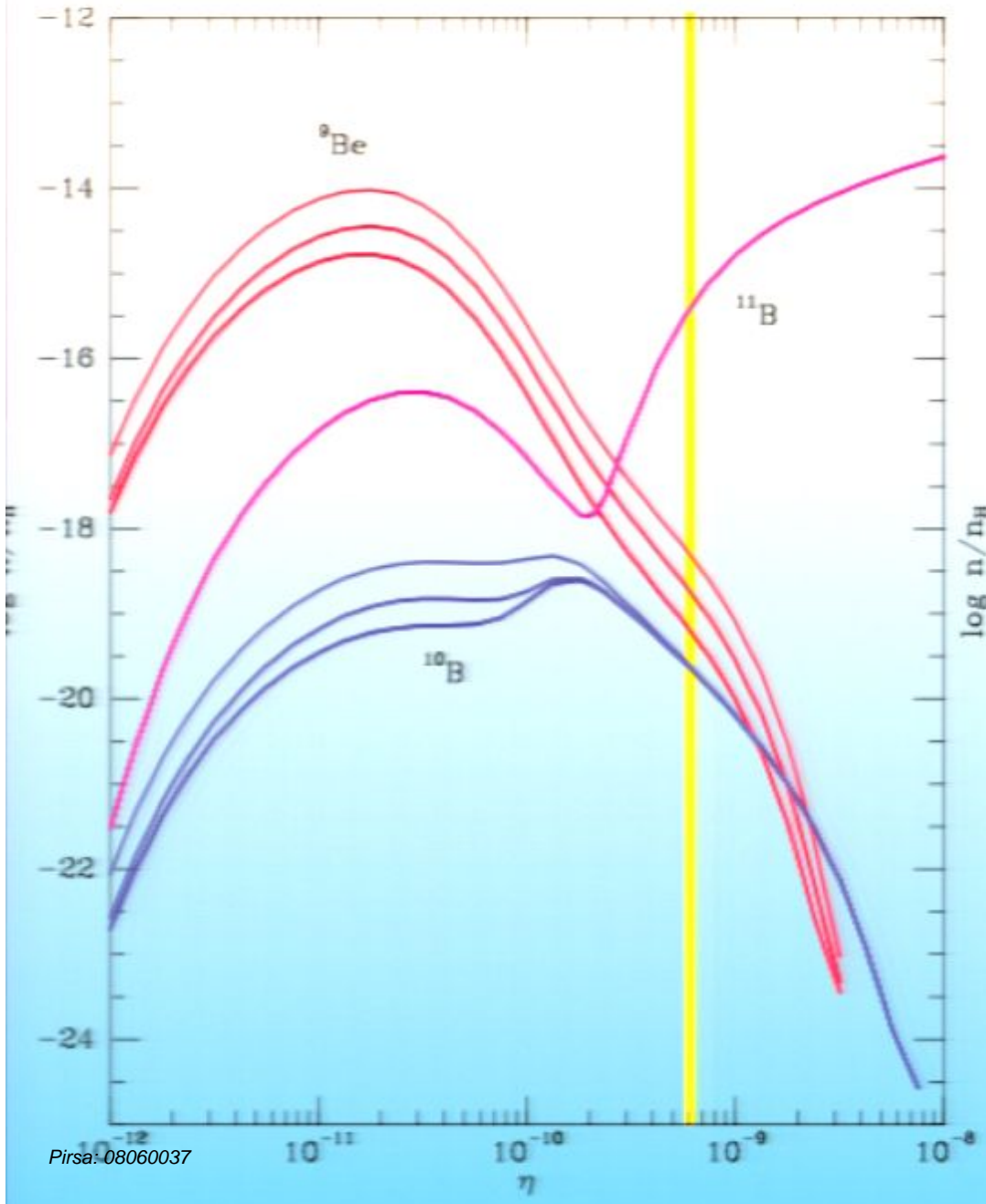
$${}^6\text{Li}/\text{H} \approx \text{few} \times 10^{-12}$$

$${}^9\text{Be}/\text{H} \sim 1 - 10 \times 10^{-13} \quad \text{B}/\text{H} \sim 1 - 10 \times 10^{-12}$$

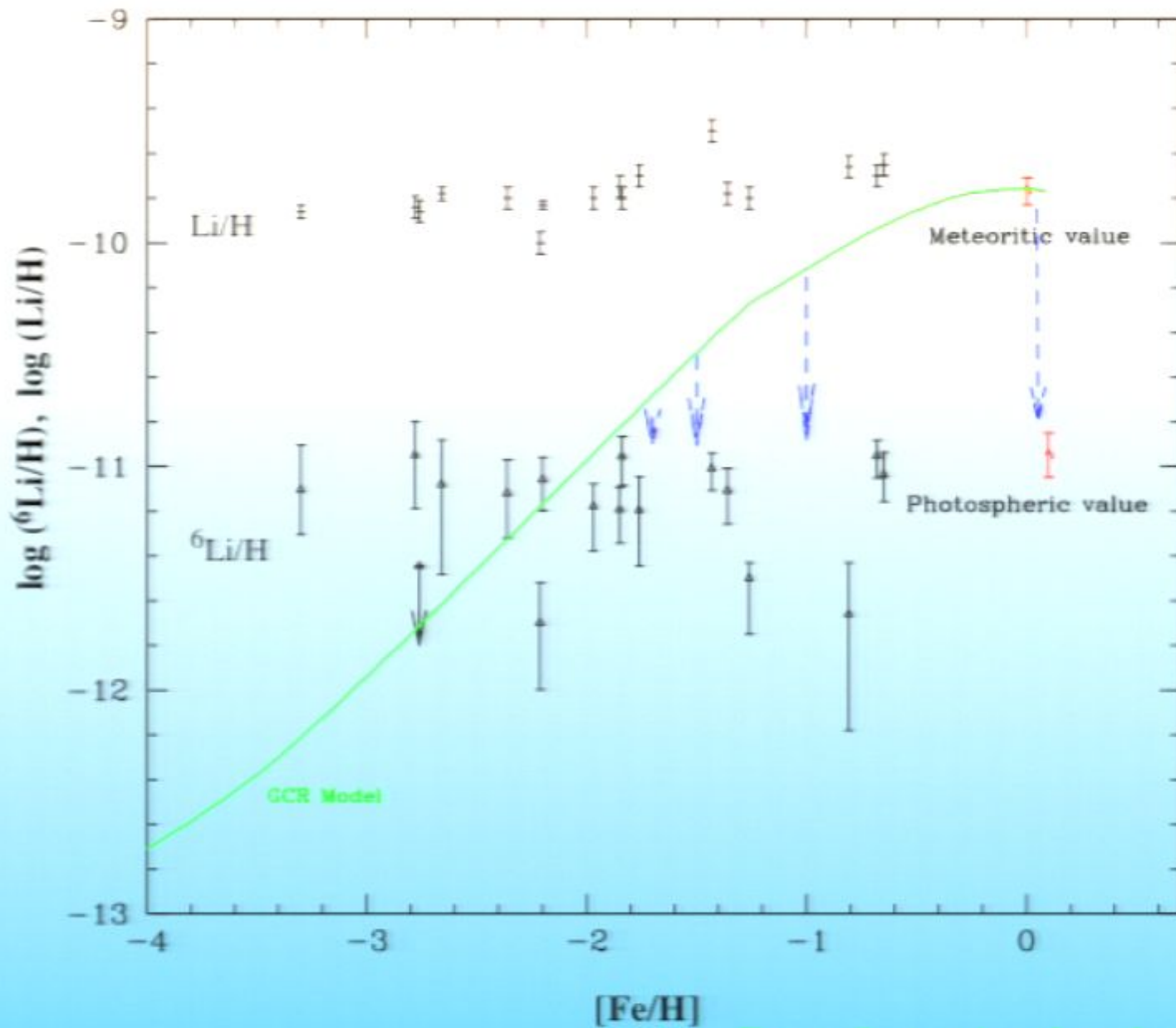
These are not BBN produced.

## Summary

- D, He are ok -- issues to be resolved
- Li: 2 Problems
  - BBN  ${}^7\text{Li}$  high compared to observations
  - BBN  ${}^6\text{Li}$  low compared to observations  
 ${}^6\text{Li}$  plateau?
- Important to consider:
  - Depletion
  - Li Systematics - T scale
  - Particle Decays?
  - Variable Constants?
  - PreGalactic production of  ${}^6\text{Li}$  (and BeB)



## Problem 2: There appears to be a ${}^6\text{Li}$ plateau

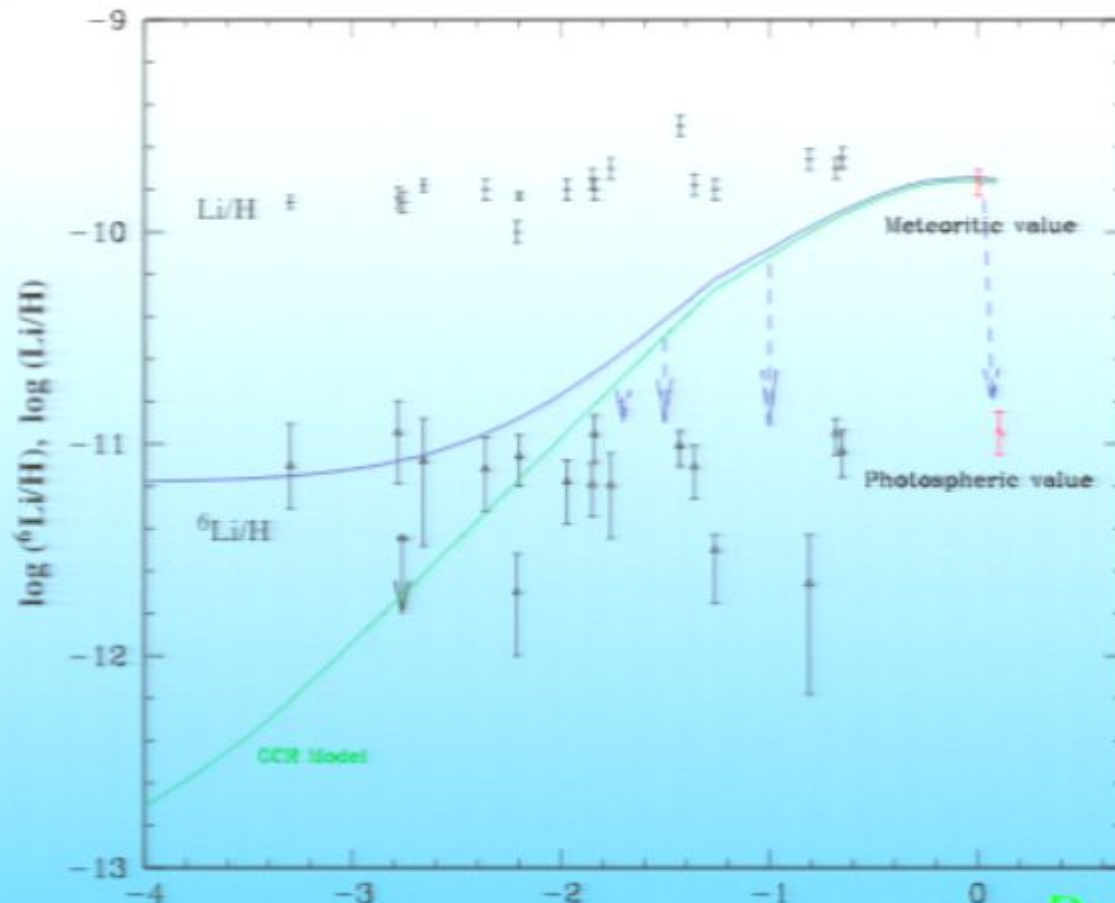


# Summary

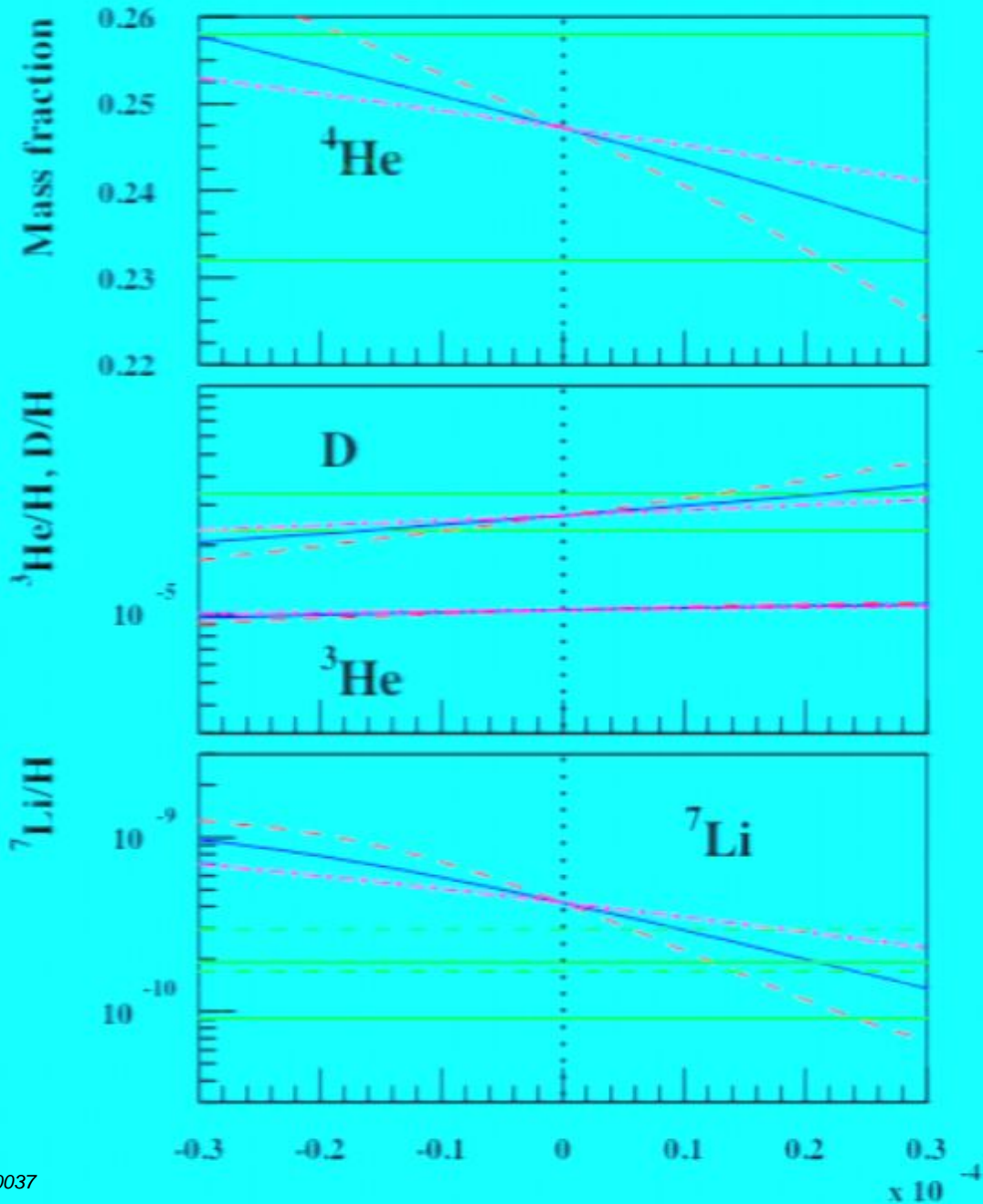
- D, He are ok -- issues to be resolved
- Li: 2 Problems
  - BBN  ${}^7\text{Li}$  high compared to observations
  - BBN  ${}^6\text{Li}$  low compared to observations  
 ${}^6\text{Li}$  plateau?
- Important to consider:
  - Depletion
  - Li Systematics - T scale
  - Particle Decays?
  - Variable Constants?
  - PreGalactic production of  ${}^6\text{Li}$  (and BeB)

# Possible Solution: Cosmological Cosmic Rays (to problem two only)

- Cosmic Chemical Evolution
- Early Reionization and Massive Stars
- Cosmic Ray Production and Propagation in an expanding Universe



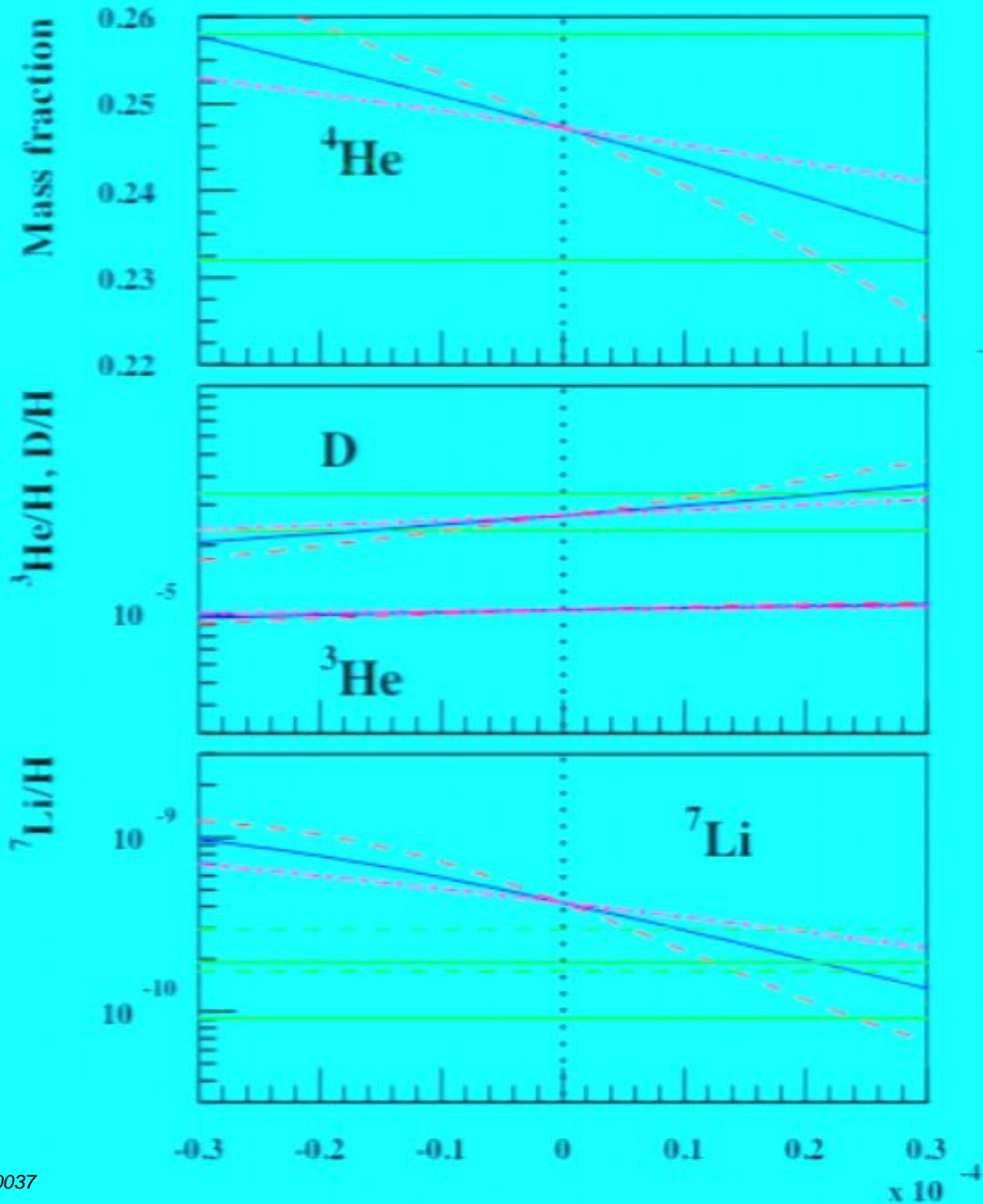
$S = 240, R = 0, 36, 60, \Delta\alpha/\alpha = 2\Delta h/h$



For  $S = 240, R = 36,$

$$-1.6 \times 10^{-5} < \frac{\Delta h}{h} < 2.1 \times 10^{-5}$$

$S = 240, R = 0, 36, 60, \Delta\alpha/\alpha = 2\Delta h/h$



For  $S = 240, R = 36,$

$$-1.6 \times 10^{-5} < \frac{\Delta h}{h} < 2.1 \times 10^{-5}$$