Big Bang Nucleosynthesis and Constraints on the Variation of Fundamental Couplings

- BBN and the WMAP determination of  $\eta$ ,  $\Omega_B h^2$
- Observations and Comparison with Theory  $\frac{1}{7}$

 $- D/H - {}^{4}He - {}^{7}Li$ 

- Cosmic-ray nucleosynthesis - <sup>6,7</sup>L - BeB
- Variations of Fundamental parameters
- Sensitivity to BBN

-  $\Delta m_N$  -  $\tau_n$   $B_D$ 



#### **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 ~ 1 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)

 $p+n \rightarrow \mathbf{D} + \gamma \qquad \qquad \Gamma_p \sim n_B \sigma$ 

 $p + n \leftarrow \mathbf{D} + \gamma$   $\Gamma_d \sim n_\gamma \sigma e^{-E_B/T}$ 

Nucleosynthesis begins when  $\Gamma_p \sim \Gamma_d$ 

 $\frac{n_{\gamma}}{n_B}e^{-E_B/T} \sim 1 \qquad \textcircled{0} T \sim 0.1 \text{ MeV}$ 

All neutrons  $\rightarrow {}^{4}$ He  $Y_{p} = \frac{2(n/p)}{1 + (n/p)} \simeq 25\%$ 

**Remainder:** 

D, <sup>3</sup>He  $\sim 10^{-5}$  and <sup>7</sup>Li  $\sim 10^{-10}$  by number







## Big Bang Nucleosynthesis

- Production of the Light Elements: D, <sup>3</sup>He, <sup>4</sup>He, <sup>7</sup>Li
  - <sup>4</sup>He observed in extragalctic HII regions: abundance by mass = 25%
  - <sup>7</sup>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 =  $3 \times 10^{-5}$
  - <sup>3</sup>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

D/H abundances in Quasar apsorption systems



# D/H

- D/H observed in Quasar Absorption systems
- Is the dispersion real?
- Is there a correlation with  $\alpha/H$ ?
- Is there a correlation with density?

Evidence for evolution?

Fields, et al.





# Measured in low metallicity extragalactic HII regions (~100) together with O/H and N/H

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



10<sup>6</sup> O/H



•  $0.228 \pm 0.005$ Pagel etal **S** II densities •  $0.244 \pm 0.002$ Izotov etal "self consistent" •  $0.238 \pm 0.002$ Fields & KAO **S** II densities •  $0.234 \pm 0.003$ Peimbert etal "self consistent" (the latter is based on a single careful measurement of  $Y = 0.240 \pm 0.002$  for the SMC at [O/H] = -.8) •  $0.2384 \pm 0.0025$ Peimbert etal "self consistent" •  $0.2421 \pm 0.0021$ Izotov etal "self consistent" •  $0.2491 \pm 0.0091$ KAO & Skillman "self consistent" There is clearly some underlying systematics which must be sorted out!

## <sup>4</sup>He



**Izotov & Thuan** 

### Method:

- Intensity and Eq. Width for H and He
- Determine H reddening and underlying absorption
- Use 6 He emission lines to determine physical parameters:
  - denisty, optical depth, temperature, underlying He absorption, <sup>4</sup>He abundance
- Severe degeneracies revealed by Monte Carlo anaysis



KAO + Skillman





## Li/H

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



## Li Woes

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



## Possible sources for the discrepancy

- Stellar Depletion
  - lack of dispersion in the data, <sup>6</sup>Li abundance
  - standard models (< .05 dex), models (0.2 0.4 dex)
- Nuclear Rates
  - Restricted by solar neutrino flux

Vauclaire & Charbonnel Pinsonneault et al. Richard, Michaud, Richer

Coc et al. Cyburt, Fields, KAO

• Stellar parameters

 $\frac{dLi}{dlng} = \frac{.09}{.5} \qquad \qquad \frac{dLi}{dT} = \frac{.08}{100K}$ 

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• Particle Decays

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

Jorge Meléndez<br/>1 and Iván  $\rm Ramírez^2$ 

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

> $[Li] = 2.37 \pm 0.1$ Li/H = 2.34 ± 0.54 x 10<sup>-10</sup>





### <sup>6</sup>LiBeB

For  $\eta_{10} \approx 6$ 

 ${}^{6}\text{Li/H} \approx 10^{-14}$   ${}^{9}\text{Be/H} \approx 0.5 - 5 \times 10^{-19}$   ${}^{10}\text{B/H} \approx 2 \times 10^{-20}$  ${}^{11}\text{B/H} \approx 3 \times 10^{-16}$ 

Far Below the observed values in Pop II stars

<sup>6</sup>Li/H  $\approx$  few  $\times 10^{-12}$ <sup>9</sup>Be/H  $\sim 1 - 10 \times 10^{-13}$  B/H  $\sim 1 - 10 \times 10^{-12}$ These are not BBN produced.

GCR Nucleosynthesis



## 6Li

In the happy but not too distant past:

<sup>6</sup>Li (@ [Fe/H] ~ 
$$-2.3$$
):  
HD 84937: <sup>6</sup>Li/Li = 0.054 ± 0.011  
BD 26°3578: <sup>6</sup>Li/Li = 0.05 ± 0.03

SLN

Hobbs & Thorburn

Cayrel etal

cf. BBN abundance of about  ${}^{6}\text{Li/H} = 10^{-14}$ or  ${}^{6}\text{Li/Li} < 10^{-4}$ 

### These data nicely accounted for by Galactic Cosmic Ray Nucleosynthesis



Problem 2: There appears to be a <sup>6</sup>Li plateau



ta from Asplund et al and In



GCRN production of Be and B including primary and secondary sources

## 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



### Summary

- D, He are ok -- issues to be resolved
- Li: 2 Problems
  - BBN <sup>7</sup>Li high compared to observations
  - BBN <sup>6</sup>Li low compared to observations
     <sup>6</sup>Li plateau?
- Important to consider:
  - Depletion
  - Li Systematics T scale
  - Particle Decays?
  - PreGalactic production of <sup>6</sup>Li
  - Tie in to Be and B production

## How does a Fundamental Constant Change?

$$\mathcal{L} \sim \phi R$$
  $\langle \phi \rangle = \frac{1}{16\pi G_N} = \frac{M_P^2}{16\pi}$ 

$$\mathcal{L} \sim \phi F^2$$
  $\langle \phi \rangle = \frac{1}{4e^2} = \frac{1}{16\pi\alpha}$ 

Does this ever happen?

e.g. JBD Theory  $S = \int d^4x \sqrt{g} \left[ \phi R - \frac{\omega}{\phi} \partial_{\mu} \phi \partial^{\mu} \phi + \mathcal{L}_m \right]$ 

with a conformal rescaling,

$$\begin{split} S &= \int d^4x \sqrt{\overline{g}} \left[ \overline{R} - (\omega + \frac{3}{2}) \frac{(\partial_\mu \phi)^2}{\phi^2} \right. \\ &\left. - \frac{1}{2} \frac{(\partial_\mu y)^2}{\phi} - \frac{V(y)}{\phi^2} - \frac{\overline{\Psi} \mathcal{D} \Psi}{\phi^{3/2}} \right. \\ &\left. - \frac{m \overline{\Psi} \Psi}{\phi^2} - \frac{1}{4e^2} F^2 + \frac{\Lambda}{\phi^2} \right] \end{split}$$

now,  $M_p(G_N)$ , and  $\alpha$  are fixed but particle masses scale with  $\phi$ ,

 $m \sim 1/\phi^{1/2}$ 

the same is true for the Higgs expectation value,

$$G_F \sim \frac{1}{v^2} \sim 1/\phi$$



#### Keck/HIRES data



Murphy et al.

#### Newer Data\* VLT/UVES



Chand et al.

\*Recently revised by Murphy etal to

$$\frac{\delta\alpha}{\alpha} = (-0.44 \pm 0.16) \times 10^{-5}$$

Also from quasar absorption systems: Using molecular rotation lines (which depend on  $\mu = m_p/m_e$ )



## Limits on the variations of $\alpha$

- Cosmology
  - BBN
  - CMB
- The Oklo Reactor
- Meteoritic abundances
- Atomic clocks

**BBN** Concordance

- Concordance rests on balance between interaction rates and expansion rate.
- Allows one to set constraints on:
  - Particle Types
  - Particle Interactions
  - Particle Masses
  - Fundamental Parameters



Cyburt, Fields, KAO

#### 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,

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

fixed at freezeout

Helium abundance,

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

If  $T_f$  is higher, (n/p) is higher, and Y is higher

Contributions to  $\Delta Y$ : Kolb, Perry, and Walker Campbell and Olive Bergstrom, Iguri, and Rubenstein

$$\frac{\Delta Y}{Y} \simeq \frac{1}{1+n/p} \frac{\Delta(n/p)}{(n/p)}$$

$$\frac{\Delta(n/p)}{(n/p)} \simeq \frac{\Delta m_N}{T_f} \left(\frac{\Delta T_f}{T_f} - \frac{\Delta^2 m_N}{\Delta m_N}\right)$$

**Contributions to**  $\Delta m_N$ :

$$\Delta m_N \sim a\alpha_{em}\Lambda_{QCD} + bv$$

electromagnetic weak -0.8 MeV 2.1 MeV

Changes in  $\alpha$ ,  $\Lambda_{QCD}$ , and/or vall induce changes in  $\Delta m_N$  and hence Y

#### Limits:

#### Campbell & Olive see also Ichikawa & Kawaski Nollett & Lopez

$$\frac{\Delta Y}{Y} \lesssim \frac{\pm 0.012}{0.24} = \pm 0.05$$

$$\frac{\Delta(n/p)}{(n/p)} \simeq \frac{\Delta m_N}{T_f} \left(\frac{\Delta T_f}{T_f} - \frac{\Delta^2 m_N}{\Delta m_N}\right)$$

If the dominant contribution from  $\Delta \alpha$  is in  $\Delta m_N$  then:

$$\frac{\Delta Y}{Y} \simeq \frac{\Delta^2 m_N}{\Delta m_N} \sim \frac{\Delta \alpha}{\alpha} < 0.05$$

If  $\Delta \alpha$  arises in a more complete theory the effect may be greatly enhanced:

$$\frac{\Delta Y}{Y} \simeq O(100) \frac{\Delta \alpha}{\alpha}$$
 and  $\frac{\Delta \alpha}{\alpha} < \mathbf{few} \times 10^{-4}$ 

#### Approach:

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

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

Consider effects on:  $Q = \Delta m_{N_1} \tau_{N_2} B_D$ 

Coc, Nunes, Olive, Uzan, Vangioni

Quantities of importance for BBN

•  $Q = \Delta m_N$  nucleon mass difference

$$Q \equiv m_n - m_p = a \,\alpha \,\Lambda + (h_d - h_u) \,v \,,$$

$$\frac{\Delta Q}{Q} = -0.6 \left[ \frac{\Delta \alpha}{\alpha} + \frac{\Delta \Lambda}{\Lambda} \right] + 1.6 \left[ \frac{\Delta (h_d - y_u)}{h_d - h_u} + \frac{\Delta v}{v} \right]$$

• τ<sub>n</sub> neutron lifetime

$$\tau_n^{-1} = \frac{1}{60} \frac{1+3 g_A^2}{2\pi^3} G_F^2 m_e^5 \left[ \sqrt{q^2 - 1} (2q^4 - 9q^2 - 8) + 15 \ln(q + \sqrt{q^2 - 1}) \right], \qquad ($$

$$\frac{\Delta \tau_n}{\tau_n} = -4.8 \frac{\Delta v}{v} + 1.5 \frac{\Delta h_e}{h_e} - 10.4 \frac{\Delta (h_d - h_u)}{h_d - h_u} + 3.8 \left(\frac{\Delta \alpha}{\alpha} + \frac{\Delta \Lambda}{\Lambda}\right).$$

Neutron Lifetime Measurement

Used:  $\tau_n = 885.7 \pm 0.8$  (RPP world average)

There was a new determination  $878.5 \pm 0.7 \pm 0.3$  (Serebrov et al.)

 $\Rightarrow$  lower <sup>4</sup>He



**WMAP** 

Mathews et al.

• B<sub>D</sub> binding energy of deuterium

Using a potential model,

**Dimitriev & Flambaum** 

$$\frac{\Delta B_D}{B_D} = -48 \frac{\Delta m_\sigma}{m_\sigma} + 50 \frac{\Delta m_\omega}{m_\omega} + 6 \frac{\Delta m_N}{m_N}$$

and the dependence on  $\Lambda$ , by dimensional grounds,

$$\Delta B_D/B_D = 8 \Delta \Lambda/\Lambda.$$

But there is also a dependence on quark masses.

#### Spin-independent Neutralino-p cross section

The scalar cross section  $\sigma_3 = \frac{4m_r^2}{\pi} \left[ Zf_p + (A - Z)f_n \right]^2$ 

where 
$$\frac{f_p}{m_p} = \sum_{q=u,d,s} f_{Tq}^{(p)} \frac{\alpha_{3q}}{m_q} + \frac{2}{27} f_{TG}^{(p)} \sum_{c,b,t} \frac{\alpha_{3q}}{m_q}$$

and

$$m_p f_{Tq}^{(p)} \equiv \langle p | m_q \bar{q} q | p \rangle \equiv m_q B_q$$

determined by 
$$\sigma_{\pi N} \equiv \Sigma = \frac{1}{2}(m_u + m_d)(B_u + B_d)$$

will take:

 $\Sigma = 45 \text{ GeV} \text{ or } 64 \text{ GeV}$ 

Strangeness contribution  $y = 2B_s/(B_u + B_d)$ 

with  $\Sigma(1-y) = 36 \pm 7$  MeV

and 
$$z \equiv \frac{B_u - B_s}{B_d - B_s} = \frac{m_{\Xi^0} + m_{\Xi^-} - m_p - m_n}{m_{\Sigma^+} + m_{\Sigma^-} - m_p - m_n} = 1.49$$

giving 
$$\frac{\Delta m_N}{m_N} = \left(\frac{m_s B_s}{m_N}\right) \frac{\Delta m_s}{m_s} \simeq 0.19 \frac{\Delta m_s}{m_s}$$

and 
$$\frac{\Delta m_N}{m_N} \simeq 0.052 \frac{\Delta m_q}{m_q}.$$

This implies that

$$\frac{\Delta m_p}{m_p} \simeq \frac{\Delta \Lambda}{\Lambda} + 0.24 \left(\frac{\Delta h}{h} + \frac{\Delta v}{v}\right)$$

## Repeat calculation for contribution of quark masses to $\sigma$ and $\omega$

**Dimitriev & Flambaum** 

$$\frac{\Delta B_D}{B_D} = 8 \frac{\Delta \Lambda}{\Lambda} - 17 \left(\frac{\Delta v}{v} + \frac{\Delta h_s}{h_s}\right)$$

contributions from u and d are negliglible

Alternative:

Use dependence from pion mass

$$\frac{\Delta B_D}{B_D} = -r \frac{\Delta m_{\pi}}{m_{\pi}} \qquad r = 6-10$$

Beane & Savage Yoo & Scherrer

$$\frac{\Delta B_D}{B_D} = \frac{-r}{2} \left(\frac{\Delta \Lambda}{\Lambda} + \frac{\Delta v}{v} + \frac{\Delta h}{h}\right)$$

#### **Coupled Variations**

Campbell and Olive Langacker, Segre, and Strassler Dent and Fairbairn Calmet and Fritzsch Damour, Piazza, and Veneziano

#### Recall,

$$\begin{aligned} \chi_s(M_{UV}^2) &\equiv \frac{g_s^2(M_{UV}^2)}{4\pi} = \frac{4\pi}{b_3 \ln(M_{UV}^2/\Lambda^2)} \\ \Lambda &= \mu \left(\frac{m_c m_b m_t}{\mu^3}\right)^{2/27} \exp\left(-\frac{2\pi}{9\alpha_s(\mu)}\right) \\ \frac{\Delta\Lambda}{\Lambda} &= R \frac{\Delta\alpha}{\alpha} + \frac{2}{27} \left(3\frac{\Delta v}{v} + \frac{\Delta h_c}{h_c} + \frac{\Delta h_b}{h_b} + \frac{\Delta h_t}{h_t}\right) \end{aligned}$$

 $R \sim 30$ , but very model dependent

Dine et al.

#### Net sensitivities due to $\Lambda$

$$\frac{\Delta B_D}{B_D} = -15\left(\frac{\Delta v}{v} + \frac{\Delta h}{h}\right) + 8R\frac{\Delta\alpha}{\alpha},$$
$$\frac{\Delta Q}{Q} = 1.5\left(\frac{\Delta v}{v} + \frac{\Delta h}{h}\right) - 0.6(1+R)\frac{\Delta\alpha}{\alpha},$$
$$\frac{\Delta\tau_n}{\tau_n} = -4\frac{\Delta v}{v} - 8\frac{\Delta h}{h} + 3.8(1+R)\frac{\Delta\alpha}{\alpha}.$$

Fermion Masses:

$$m_f \propto h_f v ~~G_F \propto 1/v^2$$

#### Also expect variations in Yukawas,

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

But in theories with radiative electroweak symmetry breaking

$$v \sim M_P \exp(-2\pi c/\alpha_t)$$

Thus small changes in  $h_t$ will induce large changes in v

$$\frac{\Delta v}{v} \sim 80 \frac{\Delta \alpha_U}{\alpha_U}$$

Define another sensitivity parameter

$$\frac{\Delta v}{v} \equiv S \, \frac{\Delta h}{h} \,,$$

#### related SUSY finetuning parameters

$$\Delta = \sqrt{\sum_{i} \Delta_{i}^{2}}, \quad \Delta_{i} \equiv \frac{\partial \ln m_{W}}{\partial \ln a_{i}}$$





With,  $\Delta \sim 100 - 400$  (1000),  $\Delta_t \sim 80 - 250$  (500) Putting both relations together:

$$\frac{\Delta B_D}{B_D} = -15(1+S)\frac{\Delta h}{h} + 8R\frac{\Delta \alpha}{\alpha}$$
$$\frac{\Delta Q}{Q} = 1.5(1+S)\frac{\Delta h}{h} - 0.6(1+R)\frac{\Delta \alpha}{\alpha},$$
$$\frac{\Delta \tau_n}{\tau_n} = -(8+4S)\frac{\Delta h}{h} + 3.8(1+R)\frac{\Delta \alpha}{\alpha}.$$

$$\frac{\Delta B_D}{B_D} = -0.6r(1+S)\frac{\Delta h}{h} - 0.5rR\frac{\Delta \alpha}{\alpha} \qquad \text{from } m_{\pi}$$

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

$$\frac{\Delta B_D}{B_D} = -[7.6(1+S) - 8R] \frac{\Delta \alpha}{\alpha}$$
$$\frac{\Delta Q}{Q} = (0.1 + 0.7S - 0.6R) \frac{\Delta \alpha}{\alpha}$$
$$\frac{\Delta \tau_n}{\tau_n} = -[0.2 + 2S - 3.8R] \frac{\Delta \alpha}{\alpha},$$

 $\Delta h/h = 0$  and  $1.5 \times 10^{-5}$ 

#### Effect of variations of h (S = 160)

Mass fraction



#### Notice effect on 7Li



 $\mathbf{m}_{\mathrm{e}}, \mathbf{B}_{\mathrm{D}}, \mathbf{Q}_{\mathrm{np}}$  and  $\boldsymbol{\tau}_{\mathrm{n}}$  variations





S = 80, 160, 320,  $\Delta \alpha / \alpha = 0$ 



For S = 160,

$$-1.2 \times 10^{-3} < \frac{\Delta h}{h} < 1.6 \times 10^{-5}.$$

S = 160, R = 0, 36, 60,  $\Delta \alpha / \alpha = 2 \Delta h / h$ 



For S = 160, R = 36,

$$-1.8 \times 10^{-5} < \frac{\Delta h}{h} < 2.1 \times 10^{-5}$$
,

#### Finally,



 $\Delta \alpha / \alpha = 2 \Delta \mathbf{h} / \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{S} = 160.$ 



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## Summary

- While possible, there are many constraints on the variations of α
- BBN constraints (when coupled variations are considered) are of order 10<sup>-5</sup>
- Solution to <sup>7</sup>Li problem?