

# DKPI Indian Summer School - lecture III



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## Summary from lecture 2

- Established the basic properties of DM (stability, neutrality, cold, collision- and dissipationless, “size”)
- The Boltzmann equation governs the time evolution of the distribution function. It is put to great use for the calculation of the relic abundance of dark matter (classification of dark matter particles follows by inquiring their by their abundance in the early universe)
- WIMPS regulate their abundance through the equation

$$\frac{dn_\chi}{dt} + 3\frac{\dot{a}}{a}n_\chi = -\sum_X \langle \sigma_{\chi\bar{\chi} \rightarrow X\bar{X}} v \rangle [n_\chi^2 - (n_\chi^{\text{eq}})^2]$$

- WIMPs are the primary target for direct detection experiments, that are entering a decisive phase until they touch the irreducible “neutrino floor”.

# Plan of the lectures

## *Lecture 1*

- Fundamentals of standard cosmology
- Gravitational evidence for Dark Matter

## *Lecture 2*

- Basic properties of Dark Matter
- The Boltzmann equation and its applications for the early Universe
- WIMP Dark Matter
- Direct Detection of WIMPs

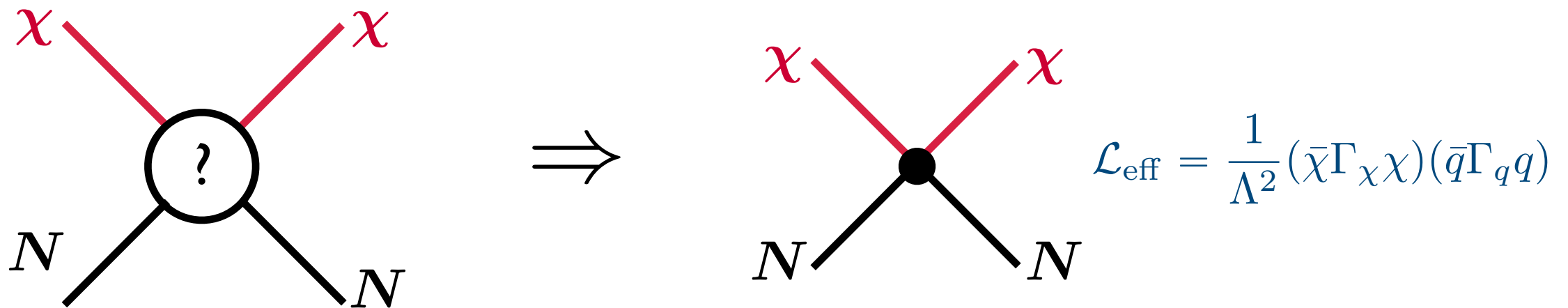
## *Lecture 3*

- Effective operator approach
- Mediators - force carriers between the hidden and observable sector
- An alternative to the WIMP miracle
- The origin of chemistry - Big Bang Nucleosynthesis

# Effective Operators in direct detection

see, in particular,  
Fan, Reece, Wang (2010)  
Fitzpatrick et al. (2013)

- Effective operator approach between DM  $\chi$  and nucleons  $N$  often holds as  $|q_{\max}| \sim O(100 \text{ MeV})$



- For example, fermionic DM

	S	P	V	A	T	AT
$\Gamma_{\chi,q}$	1	$\gamma^5$	$\gamma^\mu$	$\gamma^\mu \gamma^5$	$\sigma^{\mu\nu}$	$\sigma^{\mu\nu} \gamma^5$

Non-relativistic limit (on tree level):

$S \times S$  or  $V \times V$  coherent, spin-independent scattering

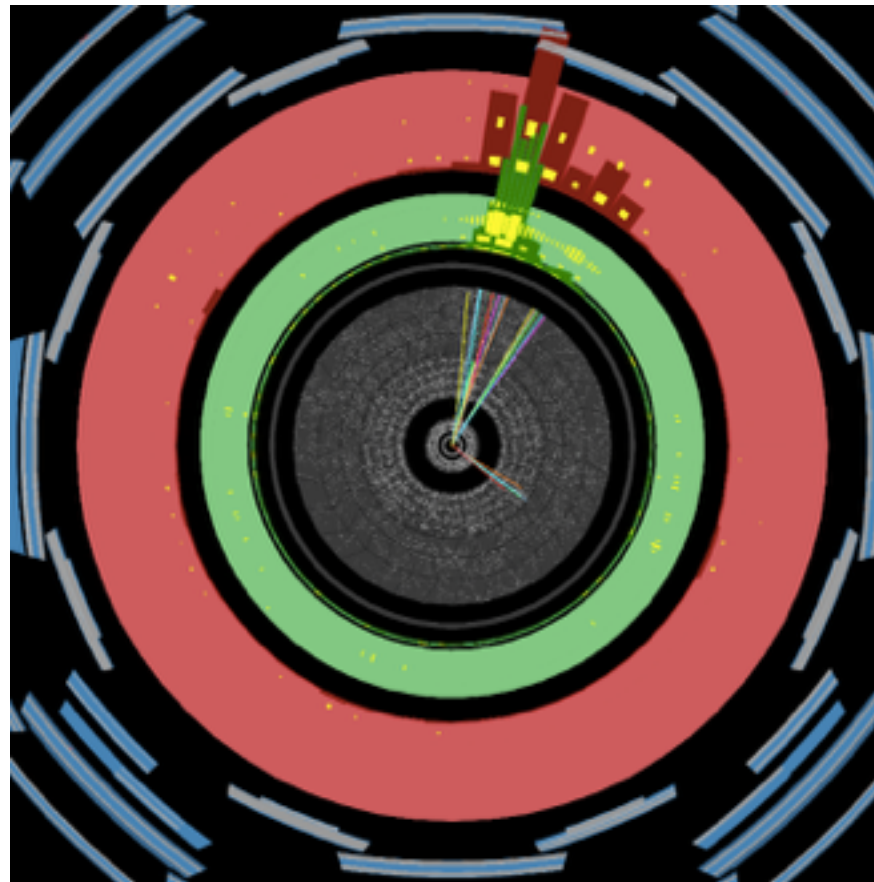
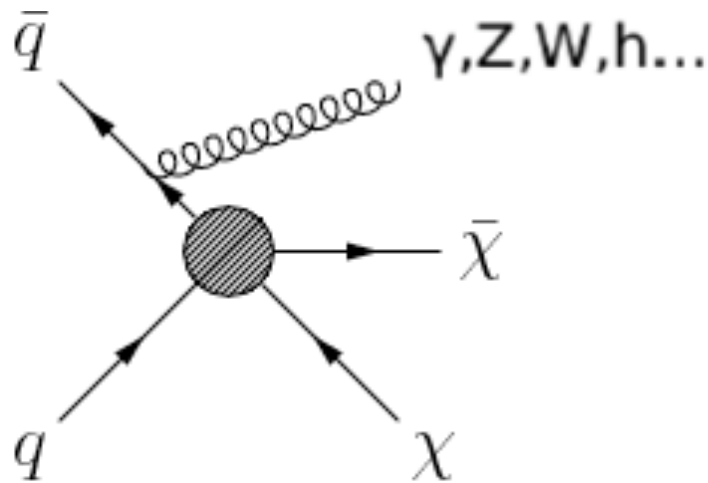
$A \times A$  or  $T \times T$  spin-dependent, coupling to the unpaired nucleon

other combinations are suppressed by  $v^2, \mathbf{q}^2/m_N^2 \sim 10^{-6}$

# Dark Matter at the LHC

- Effective theory in which only the DM and SM fields appear (=contact) provide the simplest parameterization of new physics

=> mono-jet/photon/W/Z + missing momentum



Name	Operator	Coefficient
D1	$\bar{\chi}\chi\bar{q}q$	$m_q/M_*^3$
D2	$\bar{\chi}\gamma^5\chi\bar{q}q$	$im_q/M_*^3$
D3	$\bar{\chi}\chi\bar{q}\gamma^5q$	$im_q/M_*^3$
D4	$\bar{\chi}\gamma^5\chi\bar{q}\gamma^5q$	$m_q/M_*^3$
D5	$\bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\chi\bar{q}\gamma_\mu q$	$1/M_*^2$
D6	$\bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\gamma^5\chi\bar{q}\gamma_\mu q$	$1/M_*^2$
D7	$\bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\chi\bar{q}\gamma_\mu\gamma^5q$	$1/M_*^2$
D8	$\bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\gamma^5\chi\bar{q}\gamma_\mu\gamma^5q$	$1/M_*^2$
D9	$\bar{\chi}\sigma^{\mu\nu}\chi\bar{q}\sigma_{\mu\nu}q$	$1/M_*^2$
D10	$\bar{\chi}\sigma_{\mu\nu}\gamma^5\chi\bar{q}\sigma_{\alpha\beta}q$	$i/M_*^2$
D11	$\bar{\chi}\chi G_{\mu\nu}G^{\mu\nu}$	$\alpha_s/4M_*^3$
D12	$\bar{\chi}\gamma^5\chi G_{\mu\nu}G^{\mu\nu}$	$i\alpha_s/4M_*^3$
D13	$\bar{\chi}\chi G_{\mu\nu}\tilde{G}^{\mu\nu}$	$i\alpha_s/4M_*^3$
D14	$\bar{\chi}\gamma^5\chi G_{\mu\nu}\tilde{G}^{\mu\nu}$	$\alpha_s/4M_*^3$

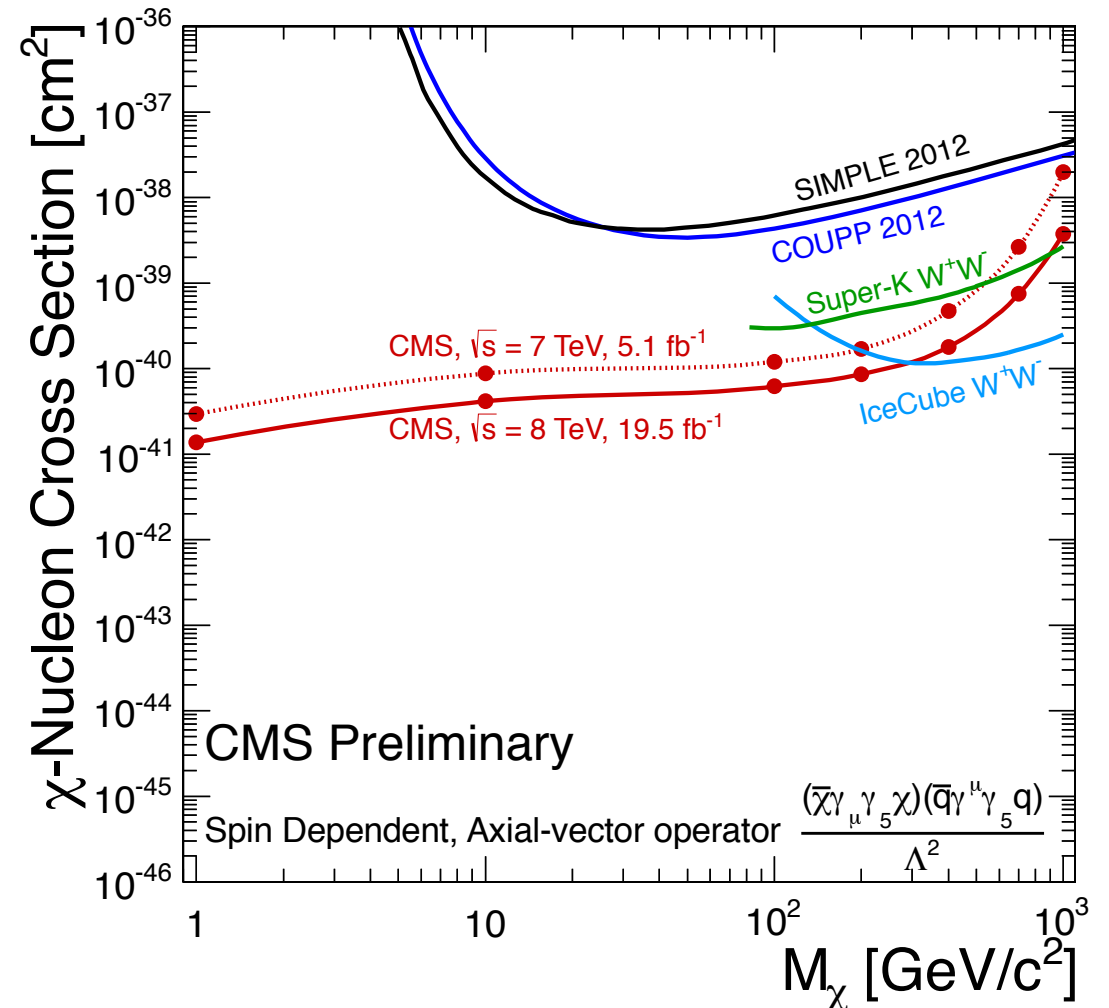
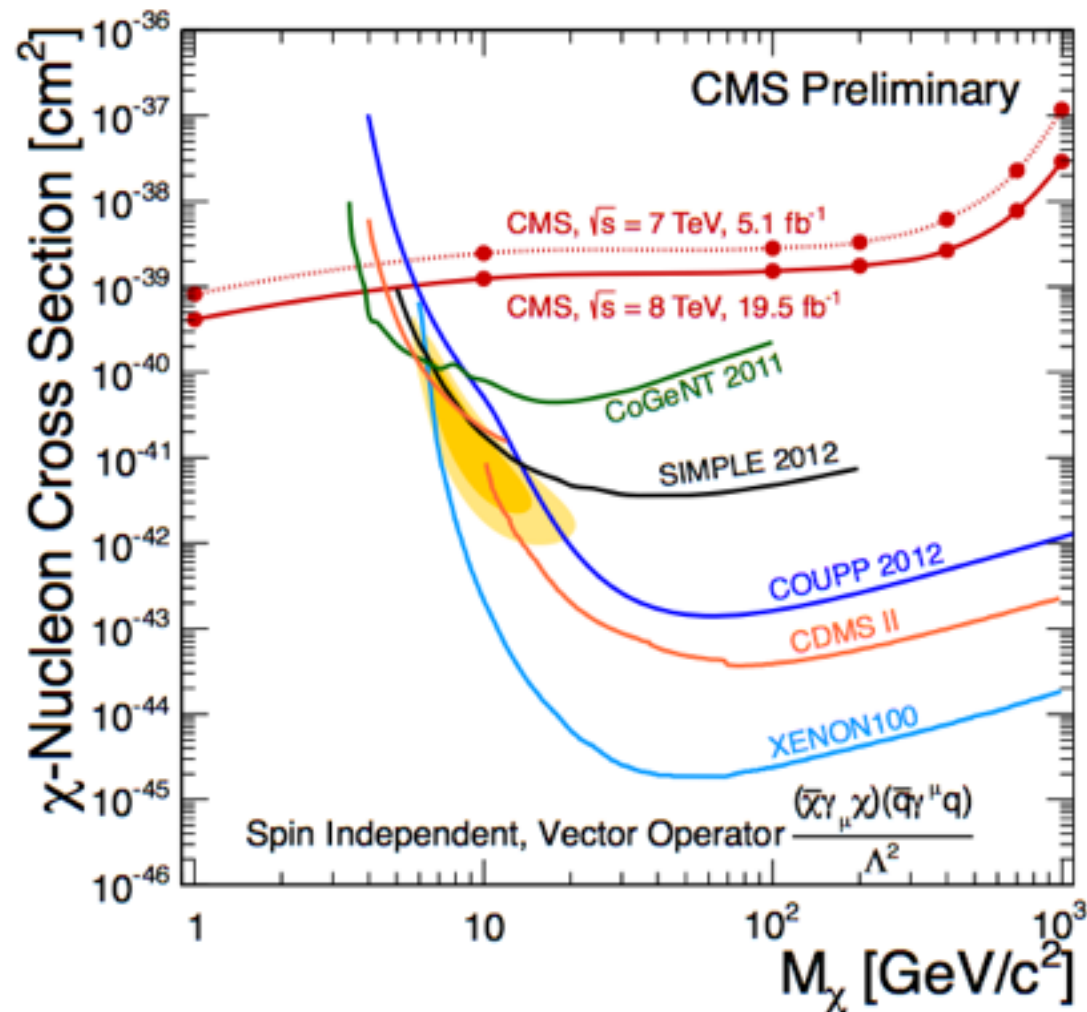
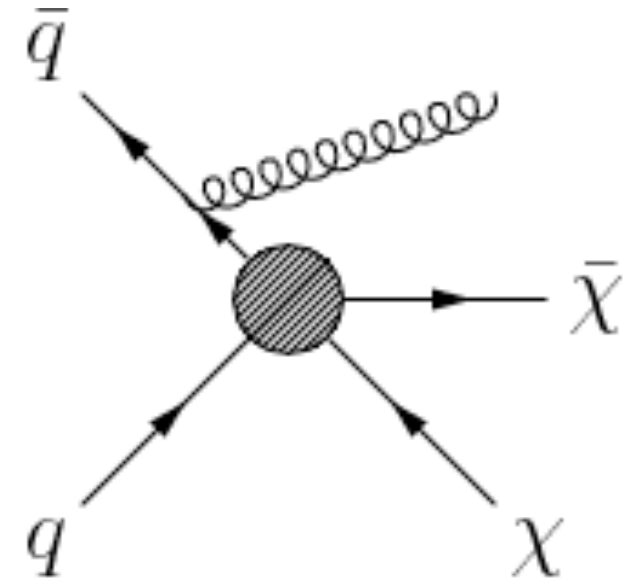
e.g. Goodman et al 2010



# DM at the LHC

LHC does exquisitely well for

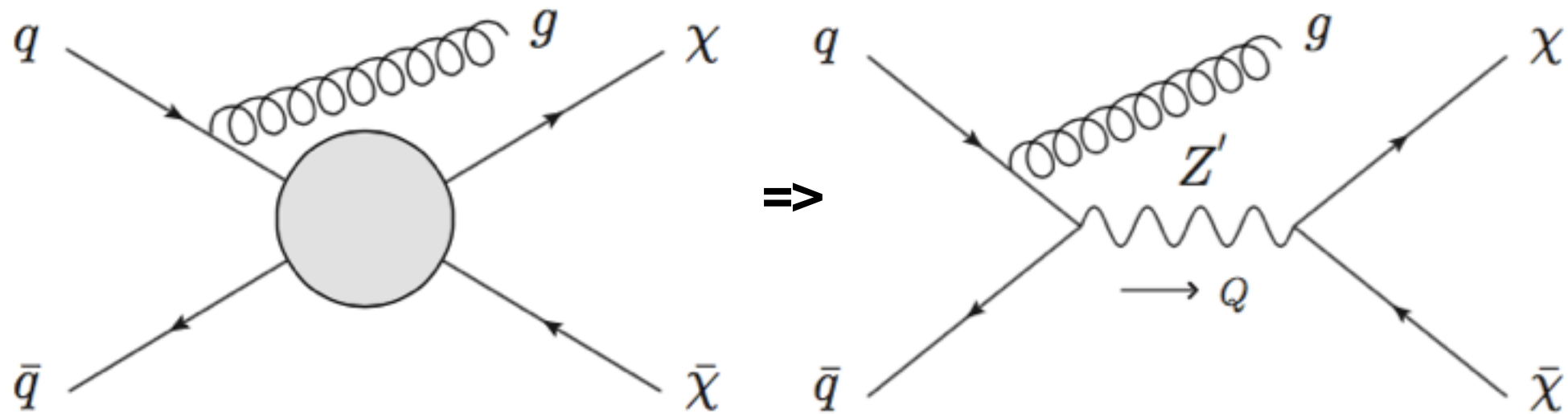
- low WIMP masses  $m_\chi \lesssim 10 \text{ GeV}$
- operators that are velocity suppressed in direct detection



(same data-set as at EPS 2015)

# DM at the LHC

Effective field theory approach breaks down, once  $q^2 \simeq m_{\text{mediator}}^2$



$$\frac{g_q g_\chi}{Q^2 - m_{\text{med}}^2} \approx -\frac{g_q g_\chi}{m_{\text{med}}^2}$$

 $\Rightarrow$ 

$$\frac{g_q g_\chi}{Q^2 - m_{\text{med}}^2} \approx \frac{g_q g_\chi}{Q^2}$$

$$\Lambda \equiv \frac{m_{\text{med}}}{\sqrt{g_q g_\chi}} \quad \text{contact interaction}$$

$$\langle Q^2 \rangle^{1/2} \gtrsim 500 \text{ GeV} \quad @ \text{ 8TeV LHC}$$

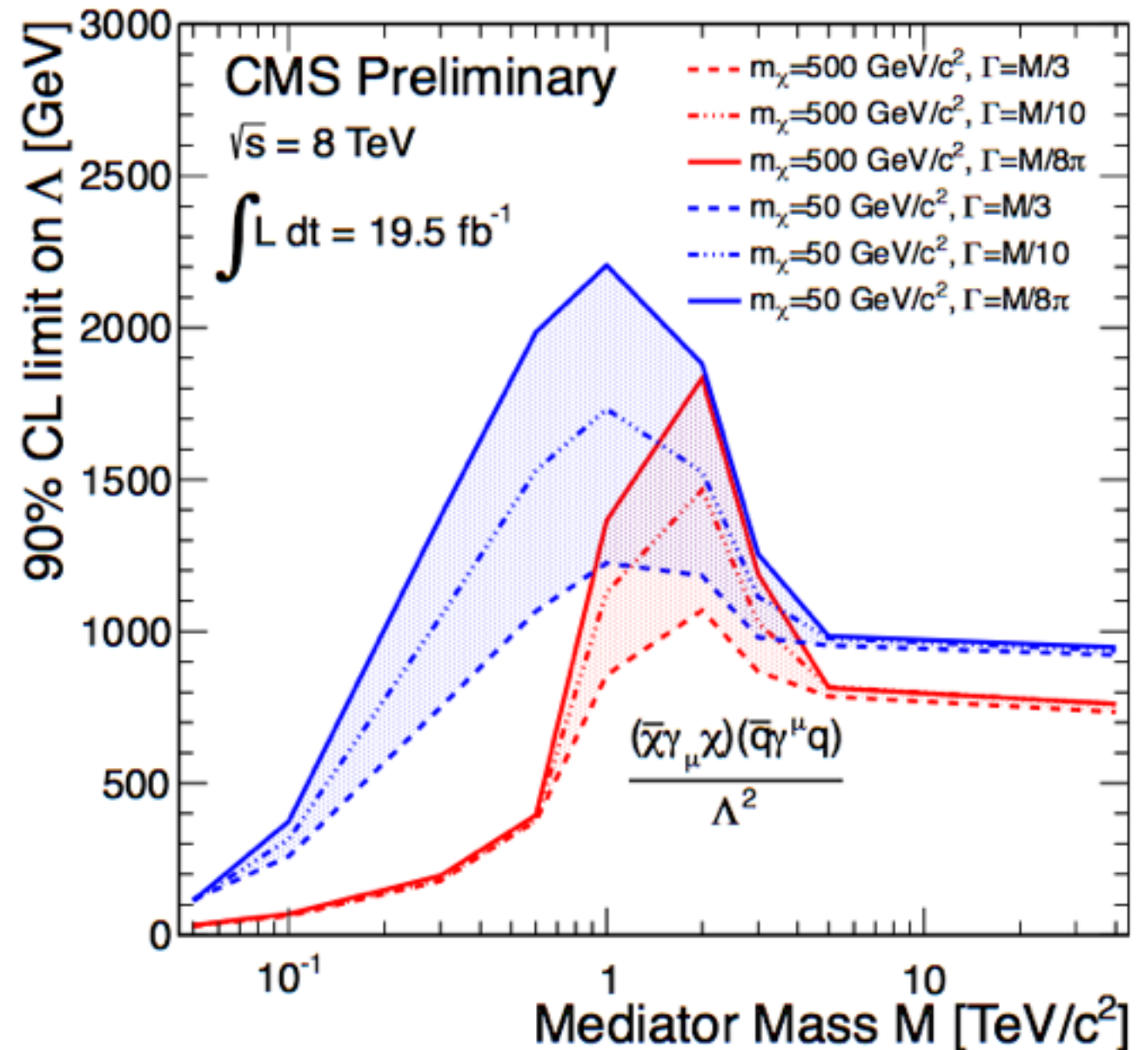
# Beyond effective operators

=> results can be cast as a limit on the contact interaction scale  $\Lambda$

LHC limits are stringent for contact operators, but can go away completely for light mediators!

=> accessible UV content can be caught in “*simplified models*” with content **SM + DM + mediator**

e.g. arXiv:1507.0096





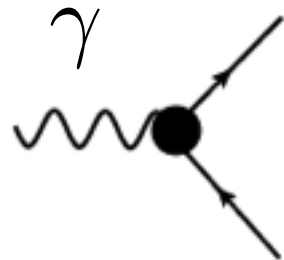
# What are the force carriers/mediators?



## Photon:

milli-charged DM; neutral DM interacting via EM form factors

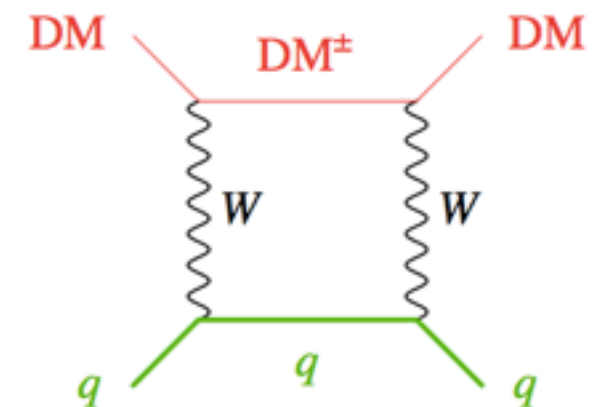
... Kouvaris (2013);  
Ho, Scherrer (2013);  
Weiner, Yavin (2013)...



## EW-bosons:

DM in electroweak multiplets

Cirelli, Fornengo, Strumia (2007)



## Higgs boson:

Inert Higgs, Higgs portal models, SUSY

Deshpande, Ma (1978);  
Silveira, Zee (1985);  
McDonald (1993);  
Burgess, Pospelov, ter Veldhuis (2000)

...

## New physics mediators

squarks, SUSY gauginos, dark photons...  
(whatever you can think of)

# The role of the Higgs - I

- Neutralinos of SUSY stabilized by R-parity as DM

Bino, Wino

$$\mathcal{M}_\chi = \begin{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} M_1 & 0 \\ 0 & M_2 \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} -m_Z c_\beta s_W & m_Z s_\beta s_W \\ m_Z c_\beta c_W & -m_Z s_\beta c_W \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} -m_Z c_\beta s_W & m_Z c_\beta c_W \\ m_Z s_\beta s_W & -m_Z s_\beta c_W \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 0 & -\mu \\ -\mu & 0 \end{matrix} \end{pmatrix}$$

Higgsinos

Expectation we had:  $M_{1,2}, \mu \sim \mathcal{O}(100 \text{ GeV}) \Rightarrow$  substantial mixing

Non-observation of SUSY at LHC pushes mass scales  $\Rightarrow$  diagonal dominance of

$\chi$  Majorana  $\Rightarrow \cancel{(\bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \chi)(\bar{n} \gamma_\mu n)} \Rightarrow$  spin-spin or scalar exchange at LO

$\Rightarrow$  Higgs exchange contributes to SI

# Original expectations

The “weakly” interacting 100 GeV WIMPs are long excluded

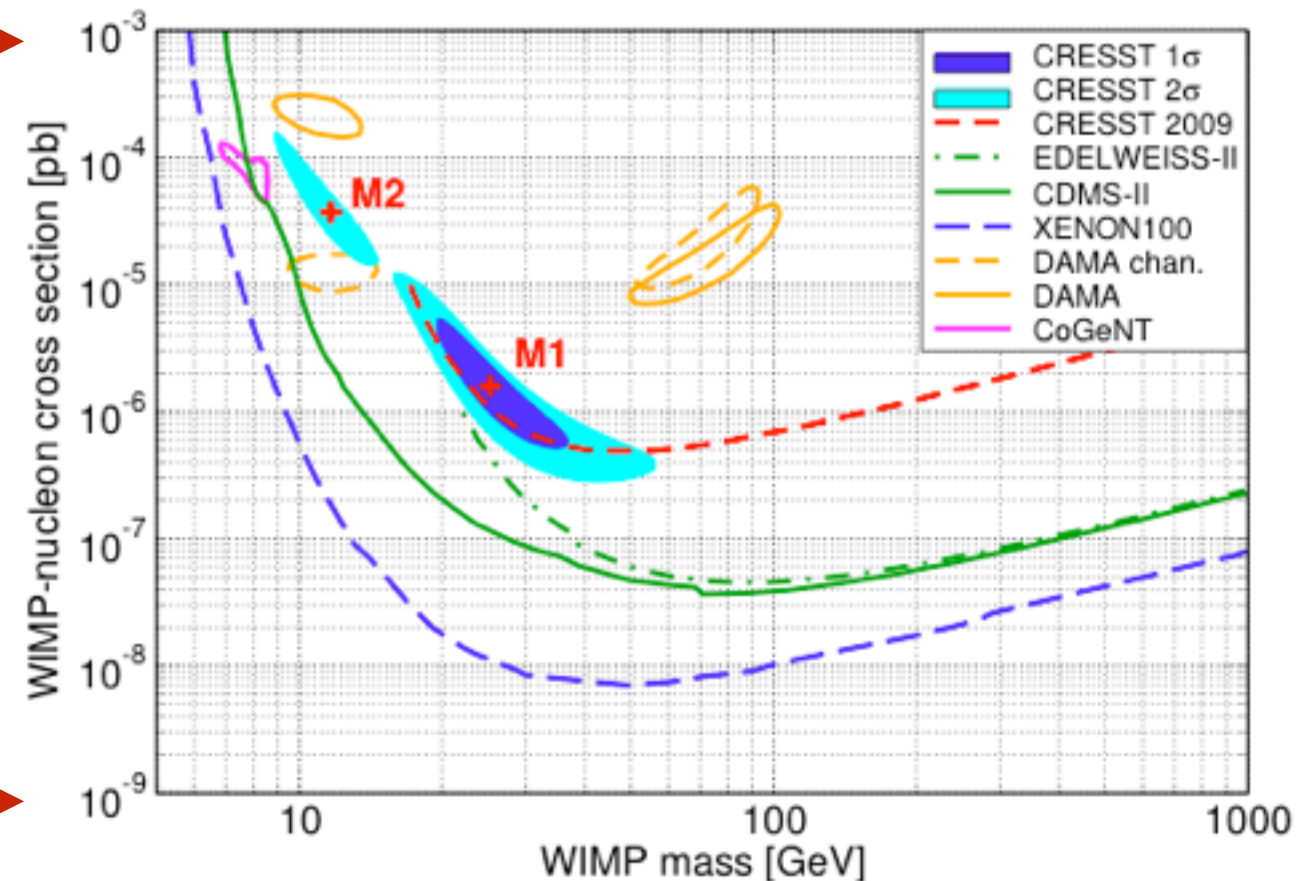


Z-mediated cross section

$$\sigma_n \sim 10^{-3} \text{ pb}$$

*Higgs-mediated* interactions are being probed right now!

$$\sigma_n \sim 10^{-(9-10)} \text{ pb}$$



NB: direct detection may never completely exclude neutralino:

*pure* neutralino (wino, bino, higgsino) has suppressed higgs couplings  $h^\dagger \tilde{h} \tilde{w}$   $h^\dagger \tilde{h} \tilde{b}$   
 pure wino/bino does not couple to Z  
*cancelations* in couplings to Z and Higgs

# The role of the Higgs - II

- “Higgs Portal“

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = -\lambda S^2 (H^\dagger H)$$

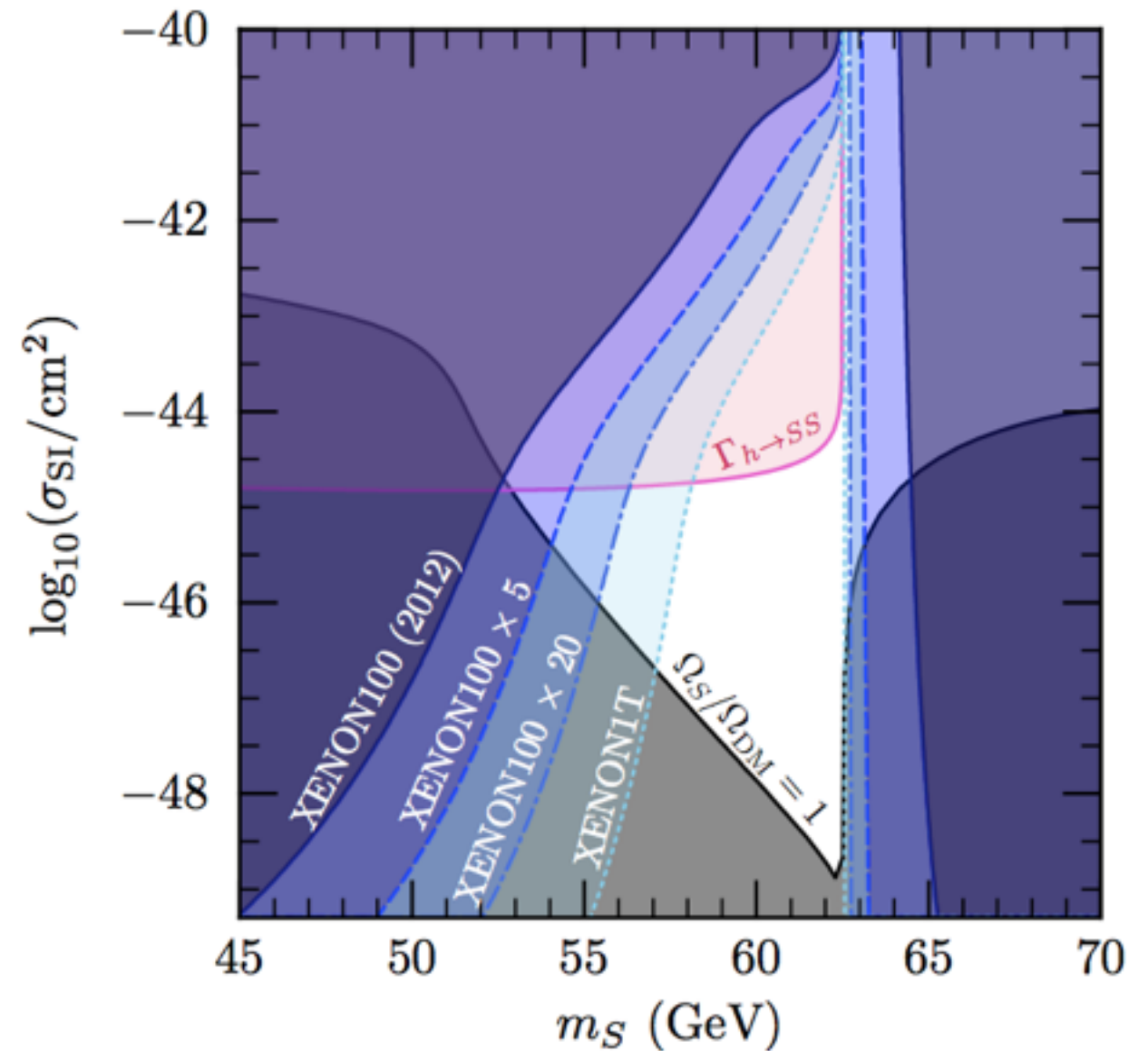
=> relic abundance via annihilation through H

=> direct detection via  $\langle n | m_q \bar{q}q | n \rangle$   
H-nucleon coupling

- LHC results slain DM models with  $m_{\text{DM}} \lesssim 60 \text{ GeV}$

Higgs decays invisibly into DM

=> *light-DM models run out of SM mediators*



e.g. Cline et al. (2013)

# Light Dark Matter

## Relic Abundance issues

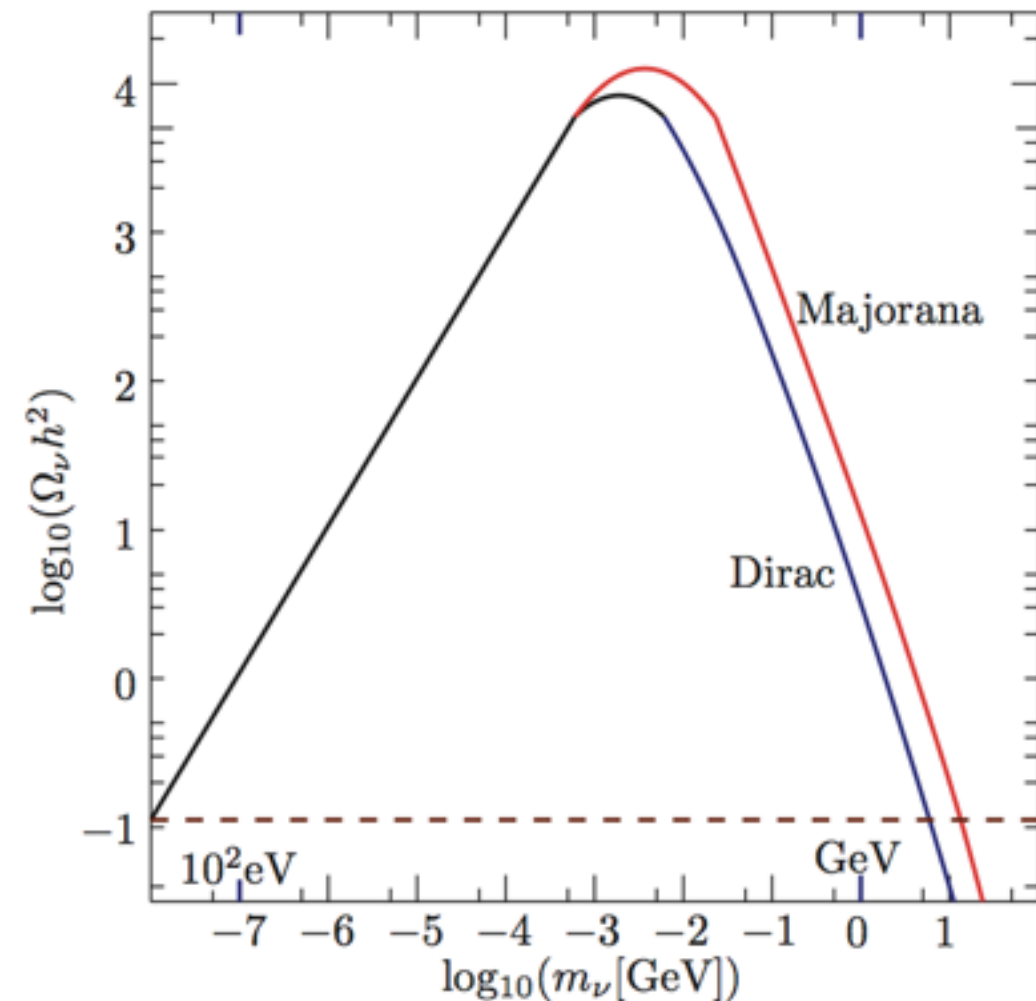
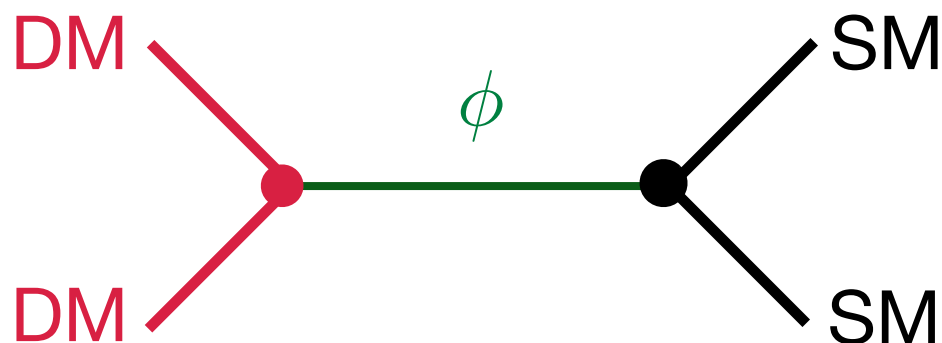
Lee-Weinberg bound:

Annihilation of a heavy neutrino through SM mediators excludes masses below  $\sim$  few GeV

$$\langle \sigma v \rangle \sim G_F^2 m_\nu^2 / 2\pi$$

*A way out are new, light mediators*

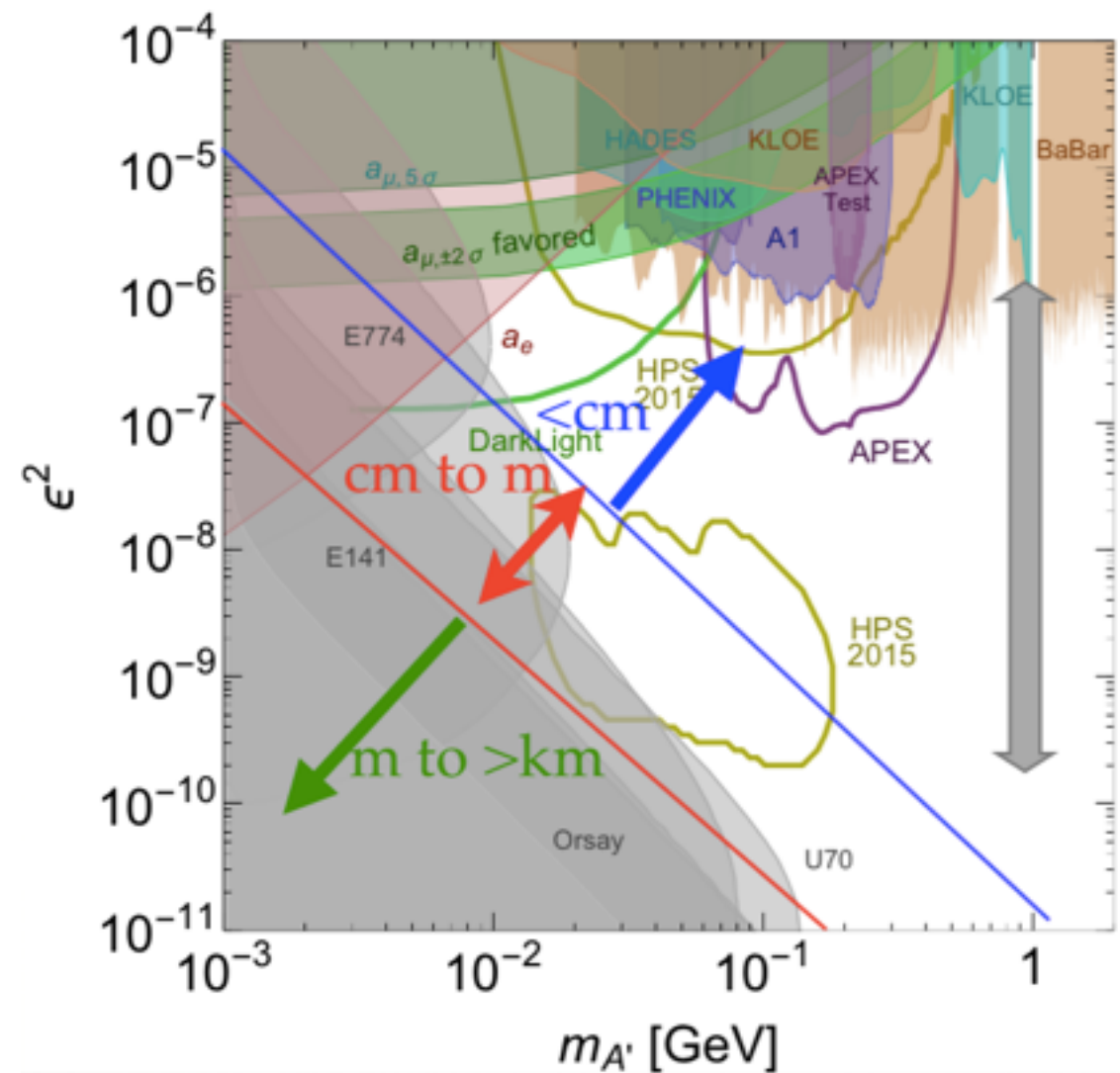
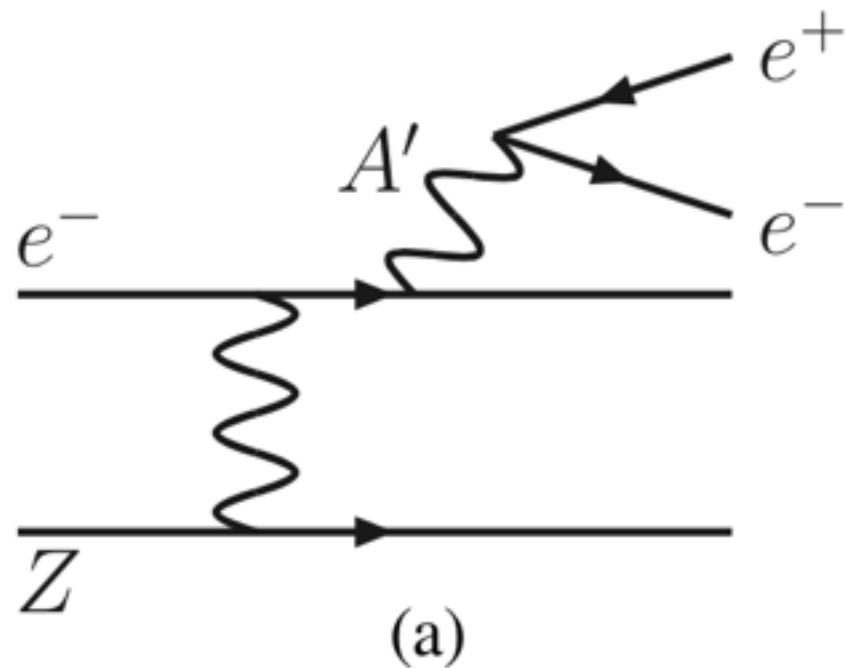
$$G_F \rightarrow g^2 / m_\phi^2$$





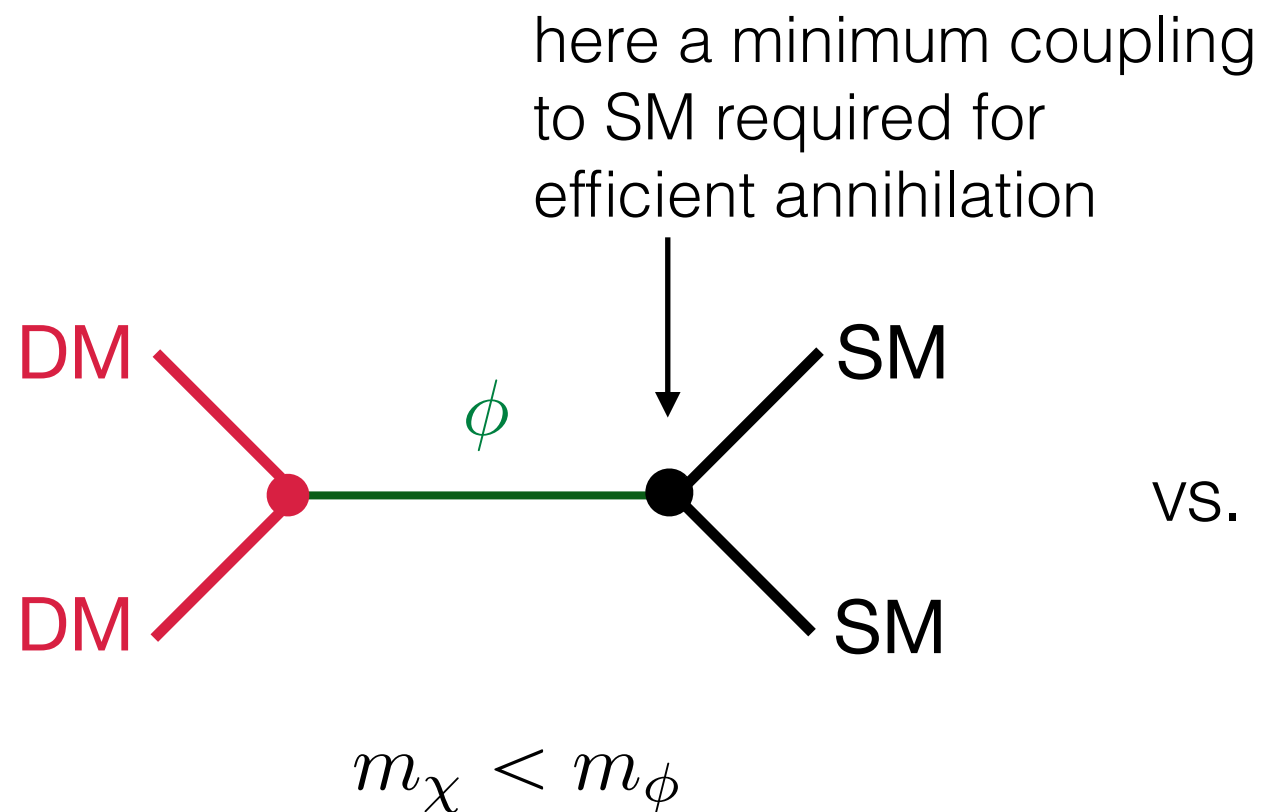
# Light Dark Matter - light mediators

The search for light mediators has become a field of its own “intensity frontier”

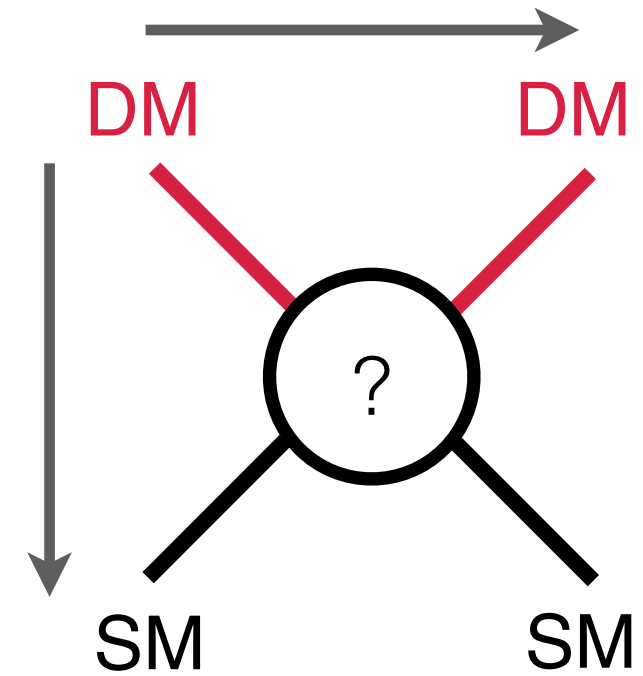
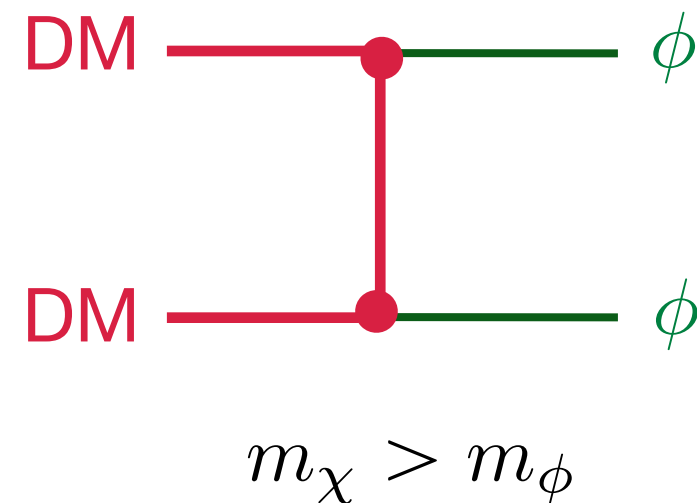


Light mediators, “force carriers of the hidden sector”, make a frequent occurrence. They are a minimal extension, make models “work”, and they open up new phenomenological signatures.

# Do light mediators imply an enhanced direct detection rate?



vs.



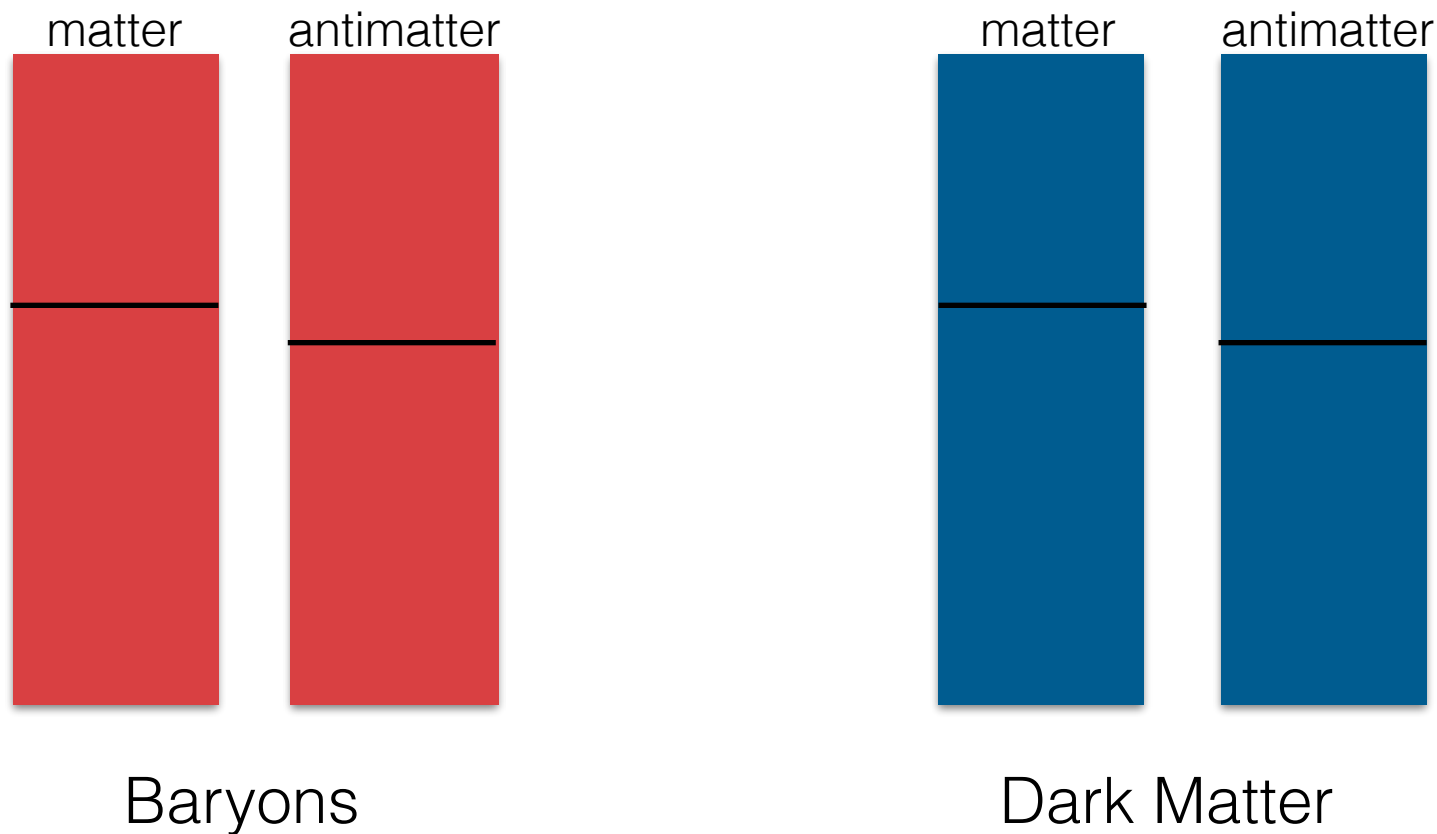
The right situation can completely elude direct detection, because couplings to SM can be small, “cascade annihilation”. So, it depends...

# An alternative to the WIMP miracle

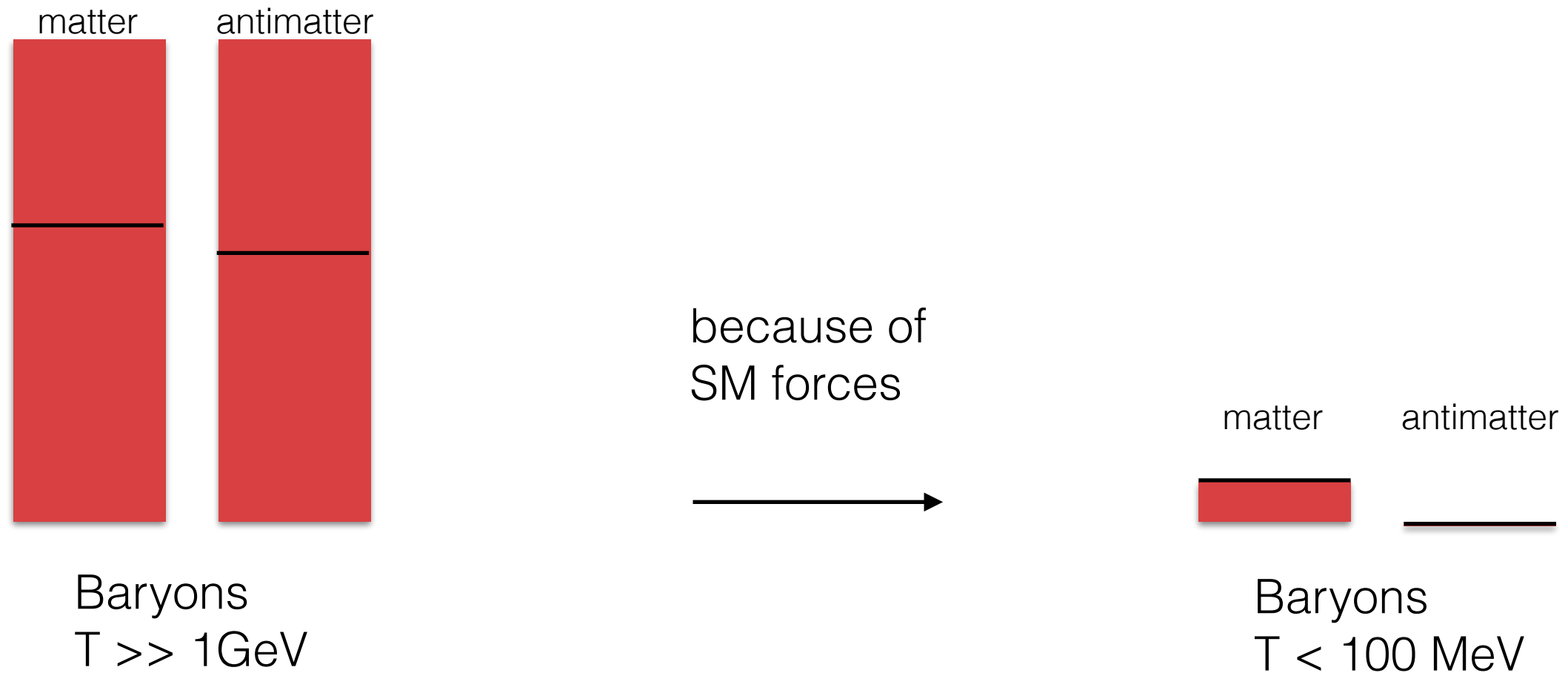
$$\Omega_{dm} \simeq 5\Omega_b$$

—  
Why?

Maybe because dark matter carries a chemical potential  
(i.e. a matter-antimatter asymmetry)

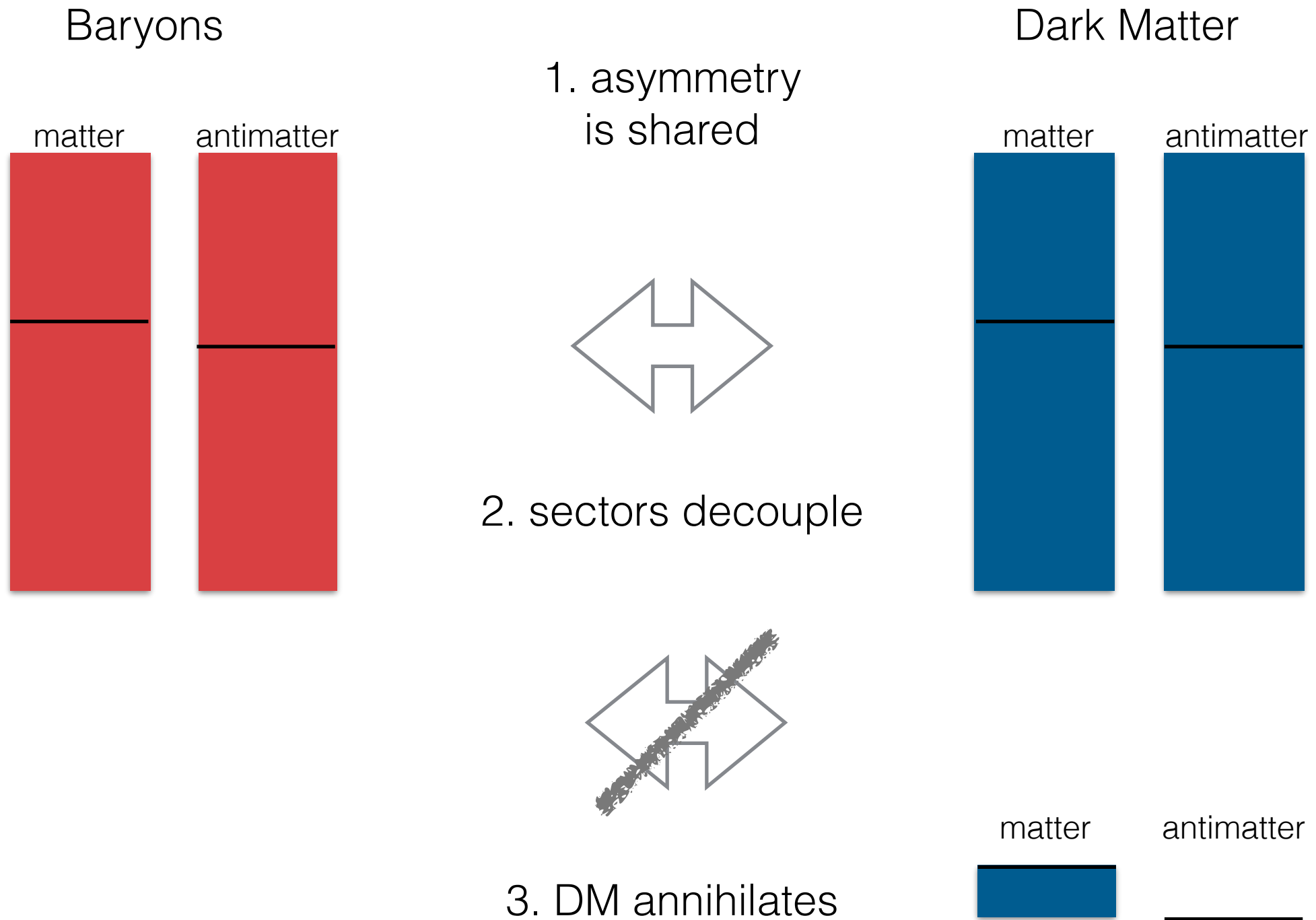


# An alternative to the WIMP miracle



Without a chemical potential of baryons, we would be living in a Universe with  $n_b/n_\gamma = 10^{-18}$  and not  $n_b/n_\gamma = 10^{-10}$

# An alternative to the WIMP miracle



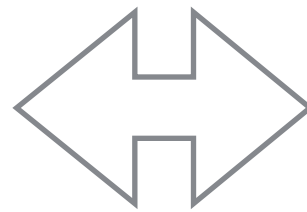
=> abundance is set by the chemical potential



# An alternative to the WIMP miracle - asymmetric DM

$$n_\chi - n_{\bar{\chi}} \sim n_B - n_{\bar{B}}$$

1. asymmetry  
is shared



Use sphalerons, or  
higher dimensional operators

$$\mathcal{O}_{B-L} = u^c d^c d^c, \quad q l d^c, \quad l l e^c, \quad l H_u$$

$$\mathcal{O}_D = X^n$$

$$W = \frac{\mathcal{O}_D \mathcal{O}_{B-L}}{M^{m+n-3}}$$

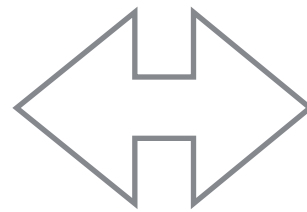
Dark Matter



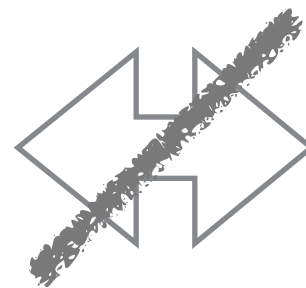
# An alternative to the WIMP miracle - asymmetric DM

$$n_\chi - n_{\bar{\chi}} \sim n_B - n_{\bar{B}}$$

1. asymmetry  
is shared



2. sectors decouple



3. DM annihilates

Dark Matter



$$\rho_{\text{DM}}/\rho_B \simeq 5$$

$$m_\chi \sim 5m_B \simeq 5 \text{ GeV}$$

# An alternative to the WIMP miracle - asymmetric DM

Relic density determined by chemical potential.

Annihilation must be efficient enough to remove the symmetric abundance:

EW scale mediators don't work, required couplings are excluded by LHC.

$$\sigma_{ann}v = \frac{g_d^2 g_f^2 m_X^2}{\pi m_M^4} \simeq 10^{-26} \text{ cm}^3/\text{s} \left(\frac{g_d g_f}{0.25}\right)^2 \left(\frac{10 \text{ GeV}}{m_X}\right)^2 \left(\frac{200 \text{ GeV}}{m_M}\right)^4$$

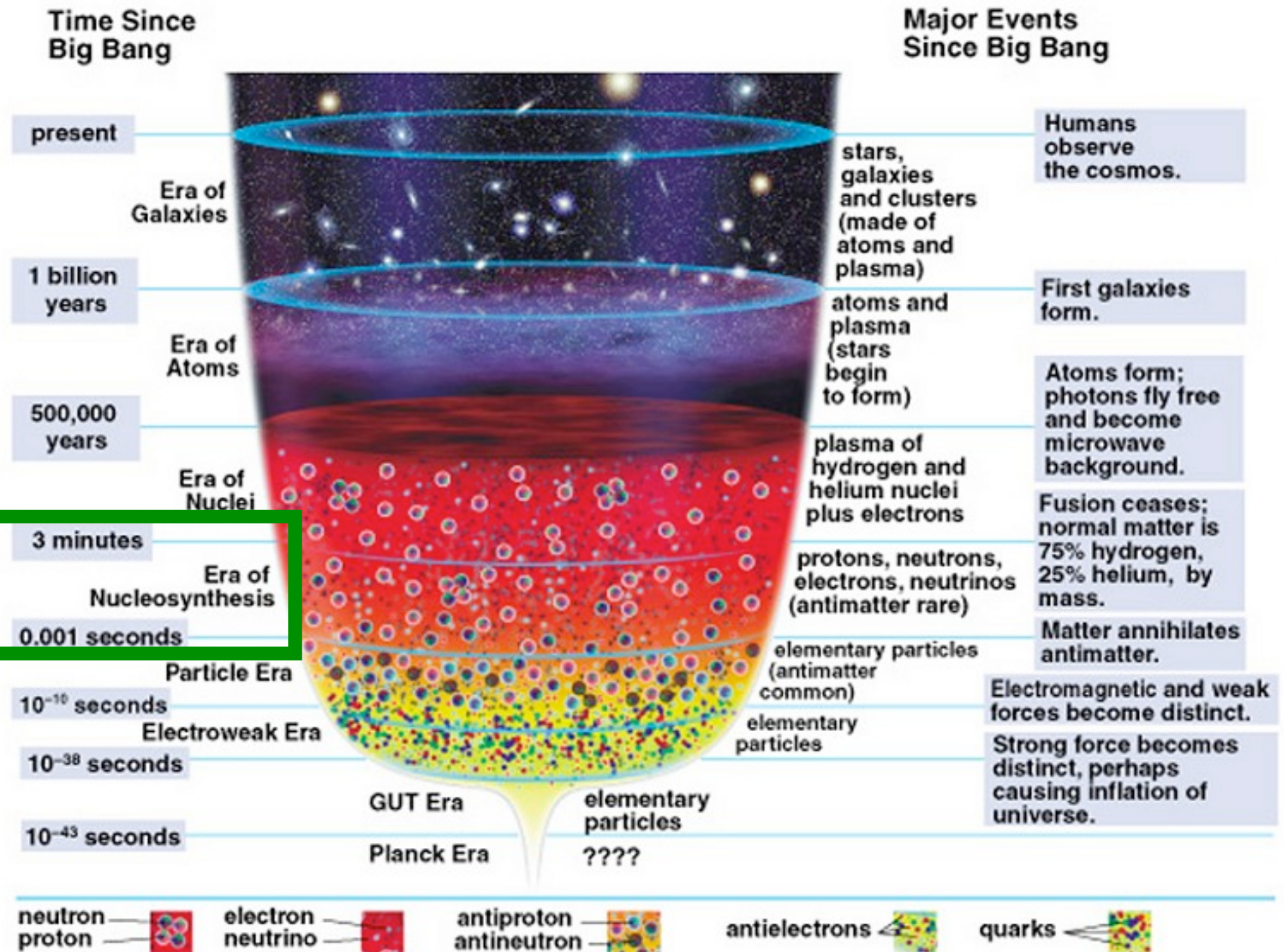
Again, relic abundance typically relies on new, light mediators that enhance annihilation cross section.

Note: Indirect detection prospects / astro-constraints depend on the residual abundance of anti-DM after freeze out! The symmetric component does not annihilate.

Detection prospects are built on the interaction that annihilates the symmetric component (model dependent.)

# The origin of chemistry

Primordial Nucleosynthesis



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# The origin of chemistry

hydrogen 1 <b>H</b> 1.0079	beryllium 4 <b>Be</b> 9.0122											boron 5 <b>B</b> 10.811	carbon 6 <b>C</b> 12.011	nitrogen 7 <b>N</b> 14.007	oxygen 8 <b>O</b> 15.999	fluorine 9 <b>F</b> 18.998	helium 2 <b>He</b> 4.0026	neon 10 <b>Ne</b> 20.180
lithium 3 <b>Li</b> 6.941	beryllium 4 <b>Be</b> 9.0122											aluminum 13 <b>Al</b> 26.982	silicon 14 <b>Si</b> 28.086	phosphorus 15 <b>P</b> 30.974	sulfur 16 <b>S</b> 32.065	chlorine 17 <b>Cl</b> 35.453	argon 18 <b>Ar</b> 39.948	
sodium 11 <b>Na</b> 22.990	magnesium 12 <b>Mg</b> 24.305	scandium 21 <b>Sc</b> 44.956	titanium 22 <b>Ti</b> 47.867	vanadium 23 <b>V</b> 50.942	chromium 24 <b>Cr</b> 51.996	manganese 25 <b>Mn</b> 54.938	iron 26 <b>Fe</b> 55.845	cobalt 27 <b>Co</b> 58.933	nickel 28 <b>Ni</b> 58.693	copper 29 <b>Cu</b> 63.546	zinc 30 <b>Zn</b> 65.39	gallium 31 <b>Ga</b> 69.723	germanium 32 <b>Ge</b> 72.61	arsenic 33 <b>As</b> 74.922	selenium 34 <b>Se</b> 78.96	bromine 35 <b>Br</b> 79.904	krypton 36 <b>Kr</b> 83.80	
potassium 19 <b>K</b> 39.098	calcium 20 <b>Ca</b> 40.078	yttrium 39 <b>Y</b> 88.906	zirconium 40 <b>Zr</b> 91.224	niobium 41 <b>Nb</b> 92.906	molybdenum 42 <b>Mo</b> 95.94	technetium 43 <b>Tc</b> [98]	ruthenium 44 <b>Ru</b> 101.07	rhodium 45 <b>Rh</b> 102.91	palladium 46 <b>Pd</b> 106.42	silver 47 <b>Ag</b> 107.87	cadmium 48 <b>Cd</b> 112.41	indium 49 <b>In</b> 114.82	tin 50 <b>Sn</b> 118.71	antimony 51 <b>Sb</b> 121.76	tellurium 52 <b>Te</b> 127.60	iodine 53 <b>I</b> 126.90	xenon 54 <b>Xe</b> 131.29	
rubidium 37 <b>Rb</b> 85.468	strontium 38 <b>Sr</b> 87.62	lanthanum 57-70 *	lutetium 71 <b>Lu</b> 174.97	hafnium 72 <b>Hf</b> 178.49	tantalum 73 <b>Ta</b> 180.95	tungsten 74 <b>W</b> 183.84	rhenium 75 <b>Re</b> 186.21	osmium 76 <b>Os</b> 190.23	iridium 77 <b>Ir</b> 192.22	platinum 78 <b>Pt</b> 195.08	gold 79 <b>Au</b> 196.97	mercury 80 <b>Hg</b> 200.59	thallium 81 <b>Tl</b> 204.38	lead 82 <b>Pb</b> 207.2	bismuth 83 <b>Bi</b> 208.98	polonium 84 <b>Po</b> [209]	astatine 85 <b>At</b> [210]	radon 86 <b>Rn</b> [222]
caesium 55 <b>Cs</b> 132.91	barium 56 <b>Ba</b> 137.33		lawrencium 103 <b>Lr</b> [262]	rutherfordium 104 <b>Rf</b> [261]	dubnium 105 <b>Db</b> [262]	seaborgium 106 <b>Sg</b> [266]	bohrium 107 <b>Bh</b> [264]	hassium 108 <b>Hs</b> [269]	meitnerium 109 <b>Mt</b> [268]	ununnium 110 <b>Uun</b> [271]	ununium 111 <b>Uuu</b> [272]	unubium 112 <b>Uub</b> [277]		ununquadium 114 <b>Uuq</b> [289]				
francium 87 <b>Fr</b> [223]	radium 88 <b>Ra</b> [226]	89-102 * *																

\* Lanthanide series

lanthanum 57 <b>La</b> 138.91	cerium 58 <b>Ce</b> 140.12	praseodymium 59 <b>Pr</b> 140.91	neodymium 60 <b>Nd</b> 144.24	promethium 61 <b>Pm</b> [145]	samarium 62 <b>Sm</b> 150.36	europium 63 <b>Eu</b> 151.96	gadolinium 64 <b>Gd</b> 157.25	terbium 65 <b>Tb</b> 158.93	dysprosium 66 <b>Dy</b> 162.50	holmium 67 <b>Ho</b> 164.93	erbium 68 <b>Er</b> 167.26	thulium 69 <b>Tm</b> 168.93	ytterbium 70 <b>Yb</b> 173.04
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\*\* Actinide series

actinium 89 <b>Ac</b> [227]	thorium 90 <b>Th</b> 232.04	protactinium 91 <b>Pa</b> 231.04	uranium 92 <b>U</b> 238.03	neptunium 93 <b>Np</b> [237]	plutonium 94 <b>Pu</b> [244]	americium 95 <b>Am</b> [243]	curium 96 <b>Cm</b> [247]	berkelium 97 <b>Bk</b> [247]	californium 98 <b>Cf</b> [251]	einsteinium 99 <b>Es</b> [252]	fermium 100 <b>Fm</b> [257]	mendelevium 101 <b>Md</b> [258]	nobelium 102 <b>No</b> [259]
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# Big Bang Nucleosynthesis (BBN) - A pillar of modern cosmology

- recent progress primarily clarifies state of the Universe at  $z = \text{few}$  (Galaxy surveys, SN,...) and exposes relevant physics at recombination  $z = 1000$
- light element formation happens at  $z = 10^9$  ; direct window into the early Universe at  $t=1\text{sec}$
- qualitative agreement between  $z = 0 \div 10^3$  and  $z = 10^9$  tells us that early Universe was governed by the same physical laws and contained similar particle content  
=> invaluable piece that helps to establish the standard cosmological model
- BBN can react sensitively on departures from General Relativity and the Standard Model of particle physics => **a toolbox to test new physics**

# The Universe at a redshift of a billion

Basic assumptions for “Standard BBN”

- Universe is flat, spatially homogeneous and isotropic and dominated by radiation => General Relativity:

$$H \equiv \frac{\dot{a}}{a} = \sqrt{8\pi G_N \rho/3} \simeq \frac{1}{2t}$$

- Universe was “hot” enough  $T|_{\text{init}} \gg \Delta m_{np} = 1.293 \text{ MeV}$

$$(n_n \simeq n_p)|_{T \gg \Delta m_{np}} = \frac{1}{2} n_b$$

- Particle content & their interactions given by the SM

$$\frac{n_b}{s}(t_{\text{BBN}}) = \frac{n_b}{s}(t_{\text{CMB}}). \quad \Rightarrow \text{“parameter free theory”}$$

# The Universe at a redshift of a billion

Excellent approximations

- tight kinetic coupling of nucleons/nuclei to the radiation field  
=> nucleons/nuclei are approximately thermally distributed

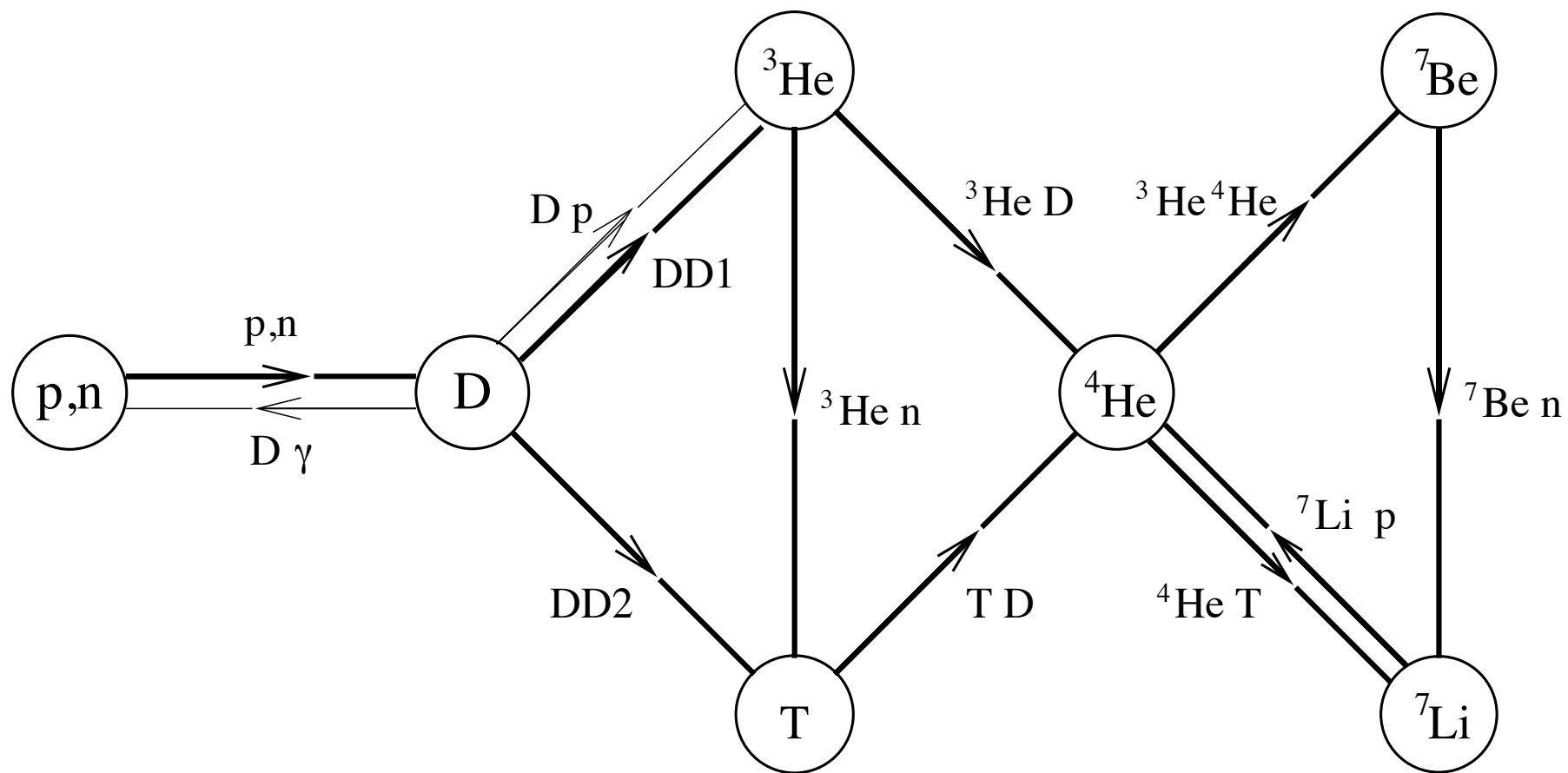
$$\Gamma(E, T) = n v \times \sigma \quad \rightarrow \quad \Gamma(T) = n \langle \sigma v \rangle$$

=> their abundances are found by solving the coupled set of **integrated** Boltzmann equations

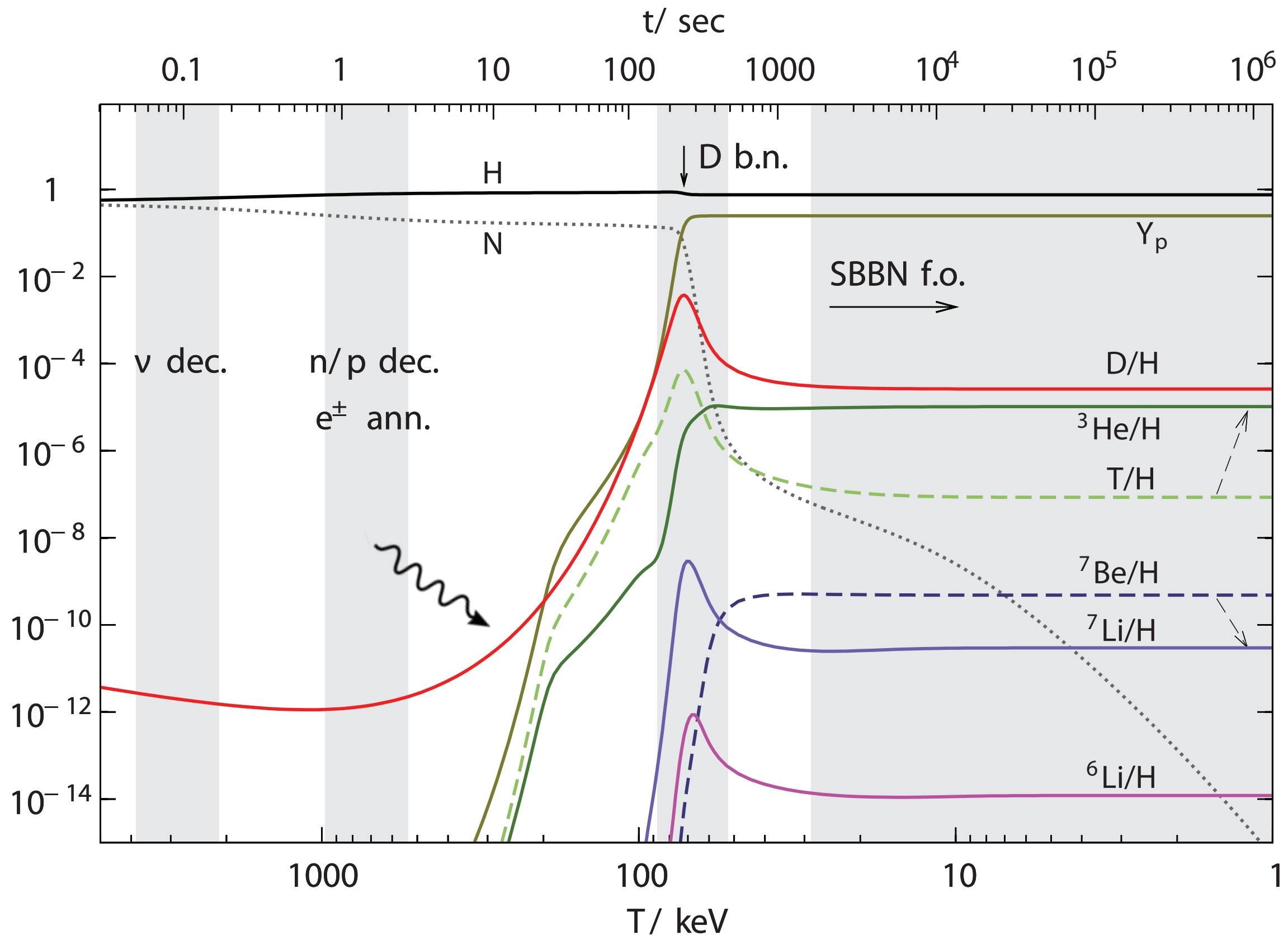
$$\frac{dn_3}{dt} + 3Hn_3 = n_1 n_2 \langle \sigma_{1+2 \rightarrow 3+X} v \rangle - n_3 \Gamma_{\text{des},3}$$

# The Universe at a redshift of a billion

Nuclear reaction network



# The Universe at a redshift of a billion

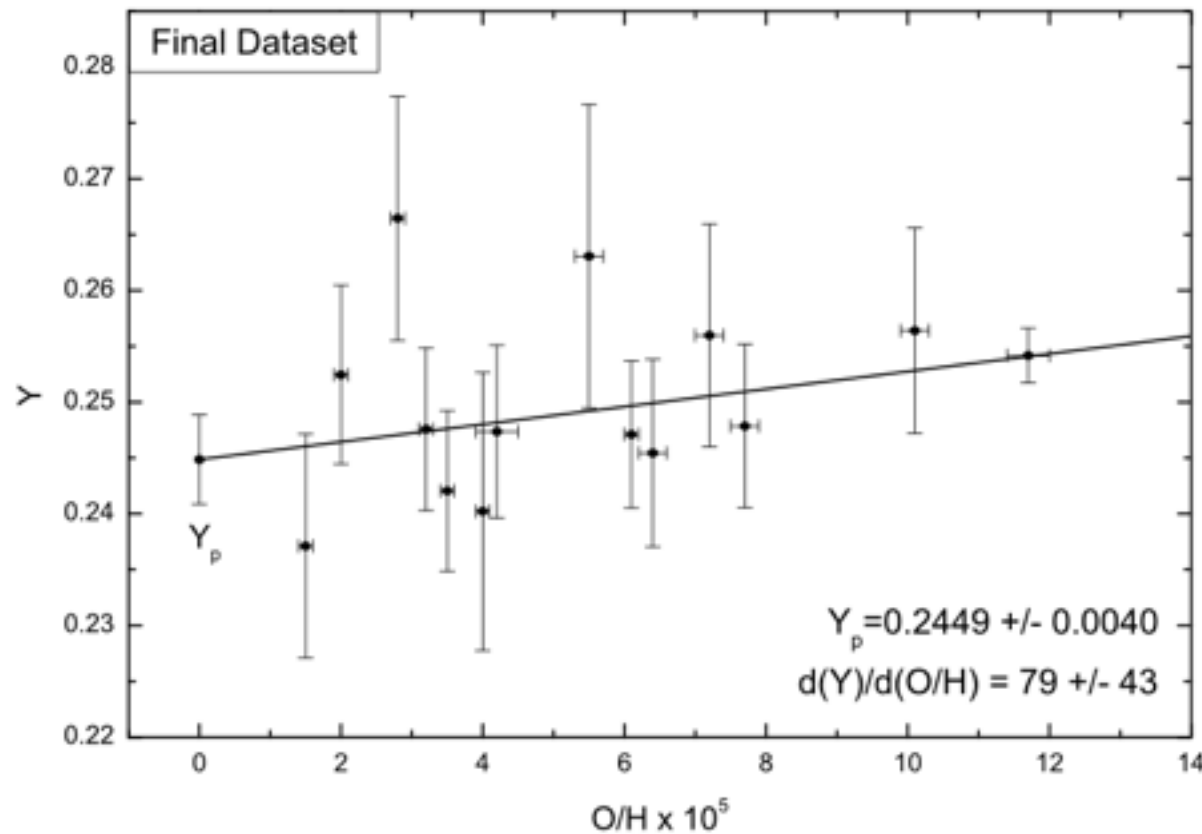




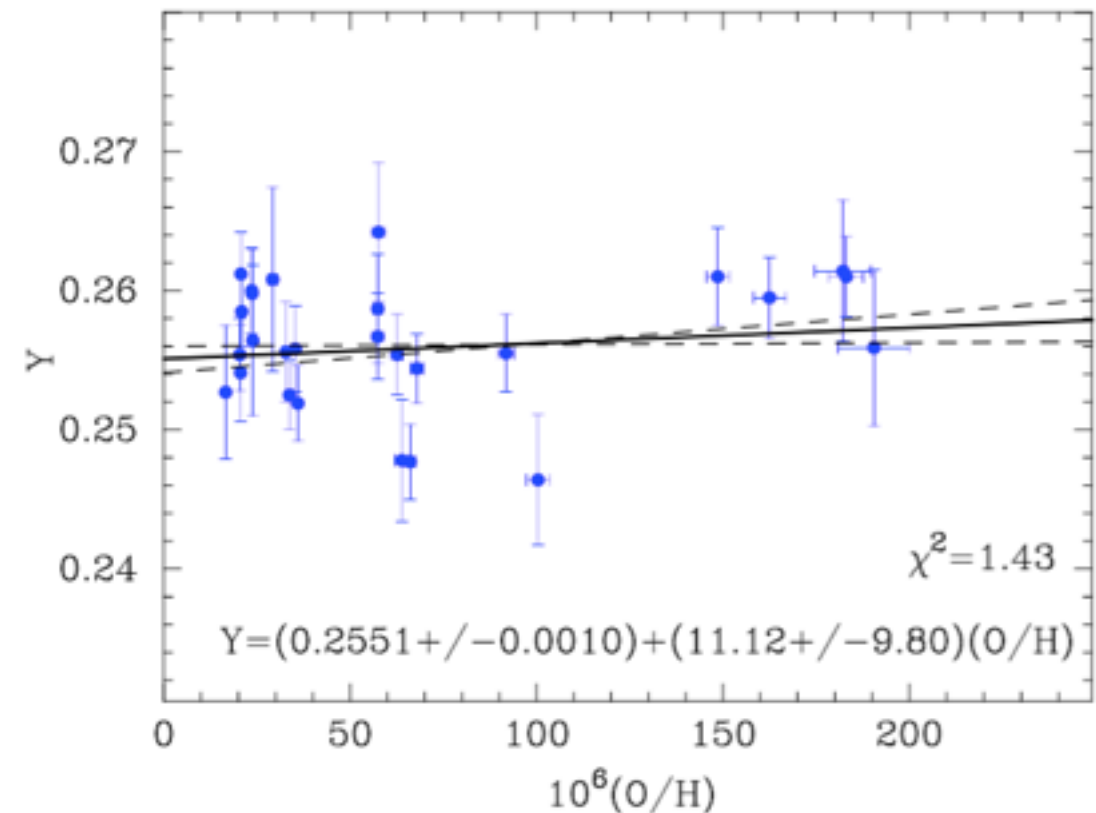
# Light element observations

Helium mass fraction  $Y_p \simeq 25\%$

Aver et al 2015



Izotov et al 2014

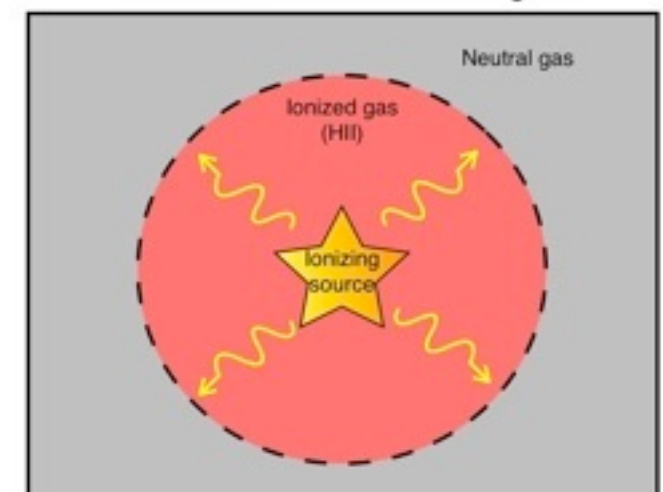


Helium gets illuminated in HII (ionized hydrogen) regions

=> emission lines

now claim few %-level accuracy (systematics limited)

Schematic of an Idealized HII Region



# Light element observations

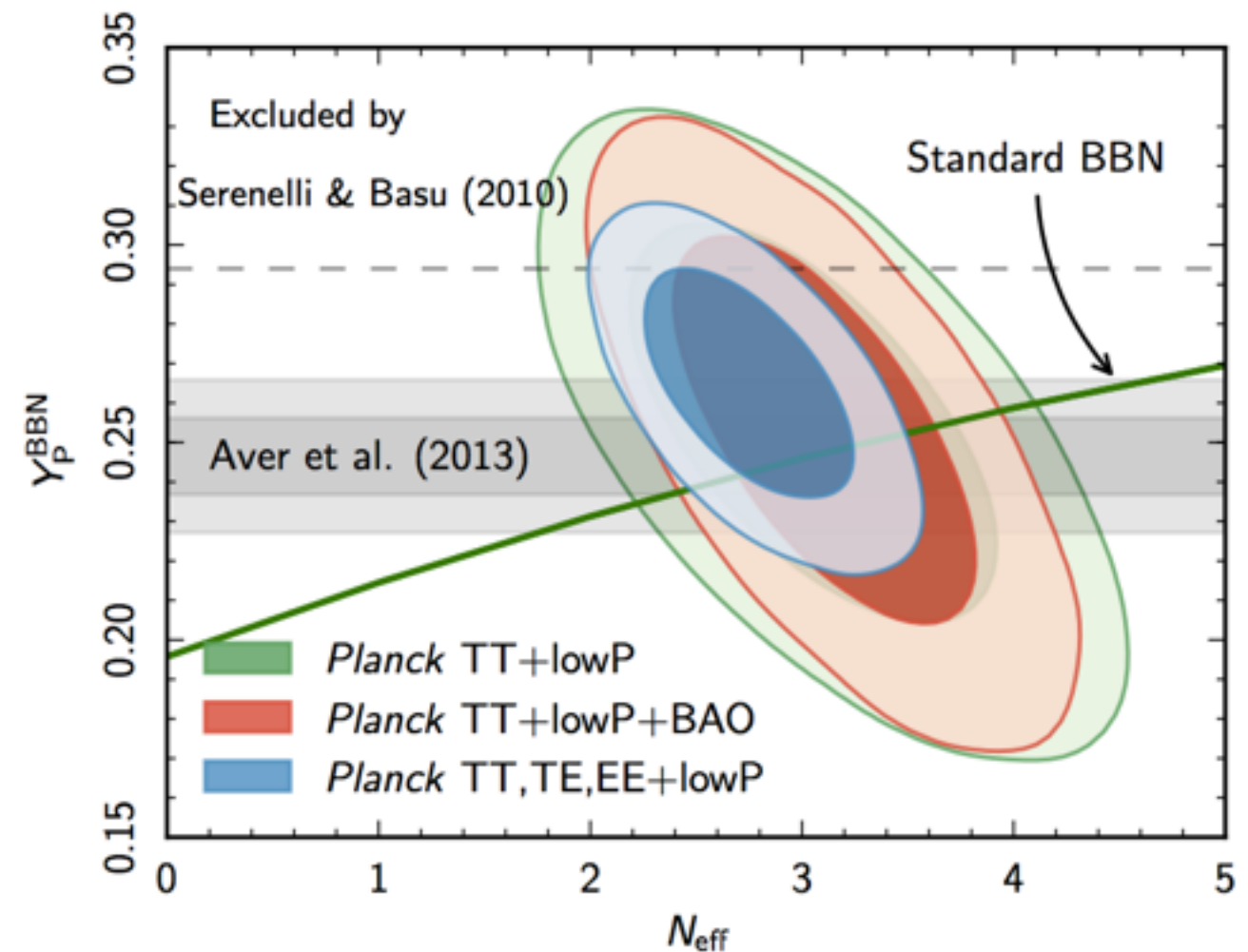
## Helium @ $z=1000$

Planck 2015

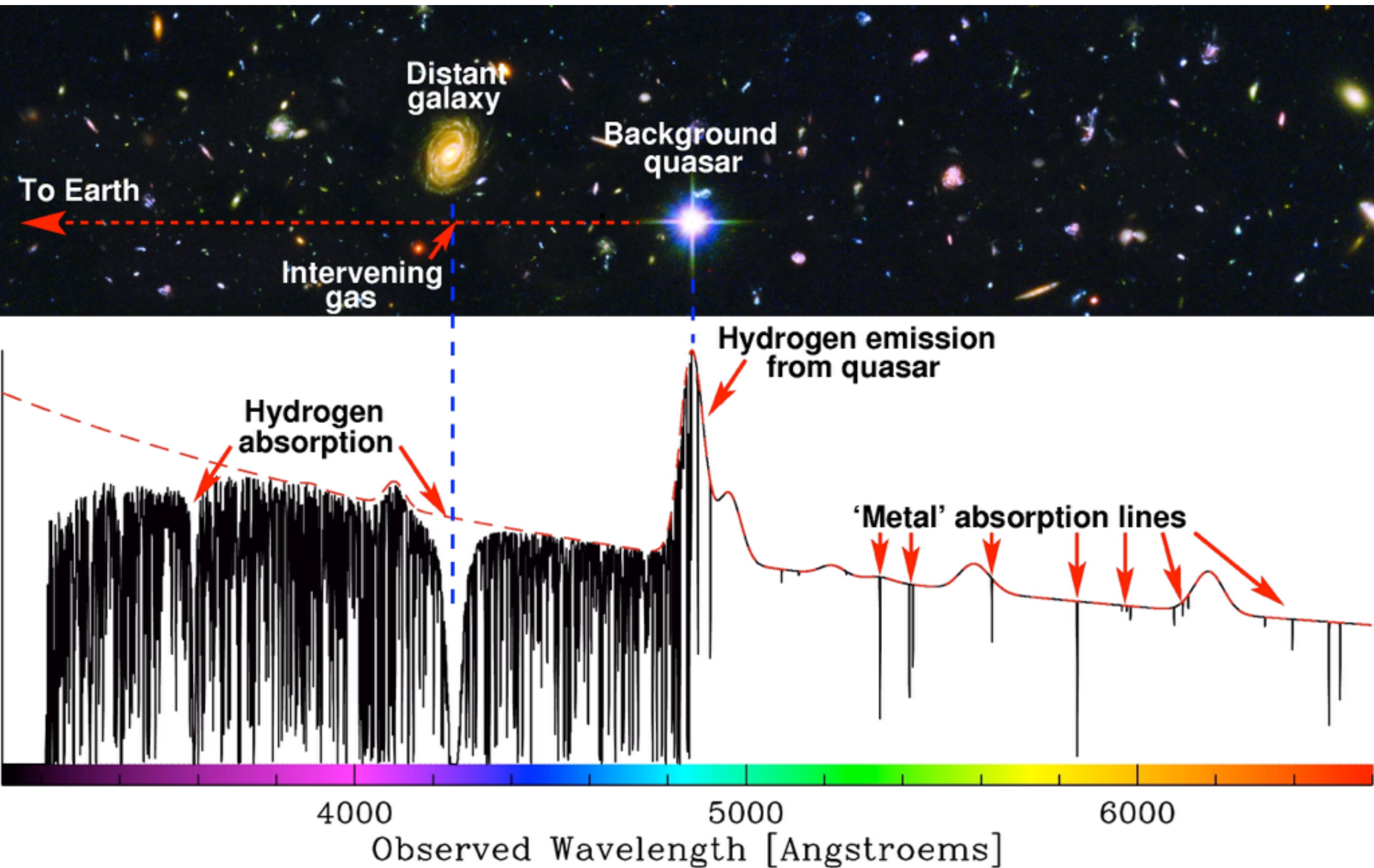
- *true primordial detection* of Helium in the CMB
- Helium recombines before H, affecting the free electron fraction

=> affects redshift of last scattering and Silk damping tail

CMB only detection of Helium yields 10% level uncertainty (high- $l$  polarization data will yield improvement)



# Light element observations Deuterium $D/H \approx 10^{-5}$

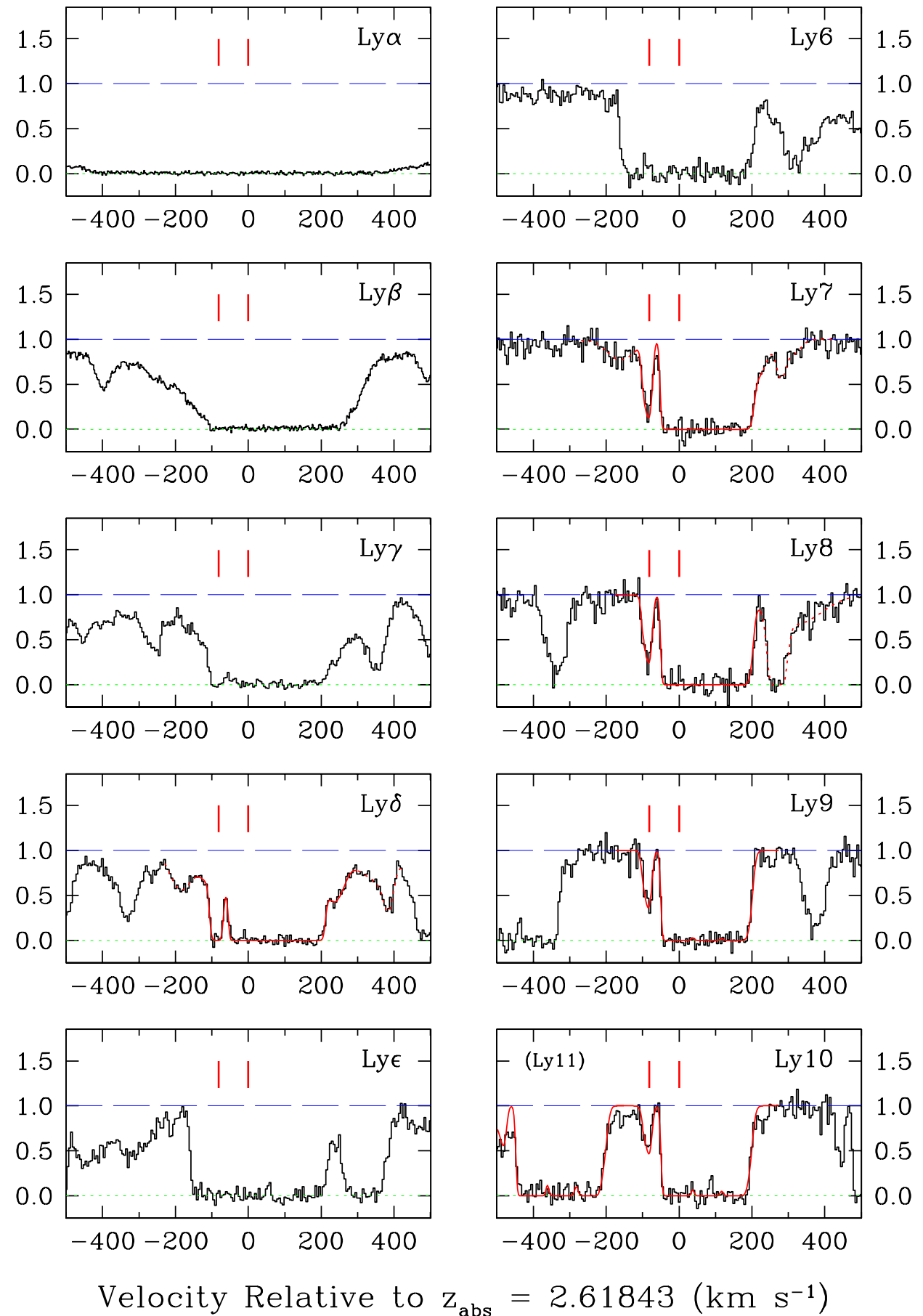




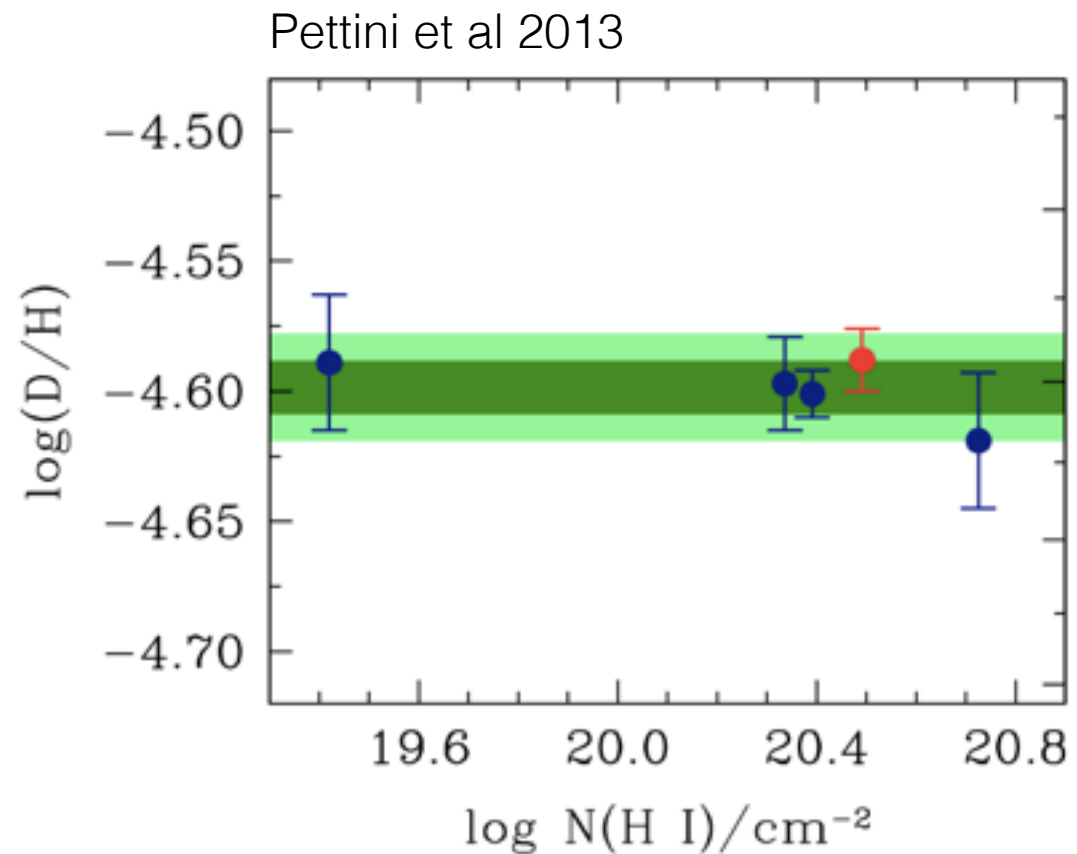
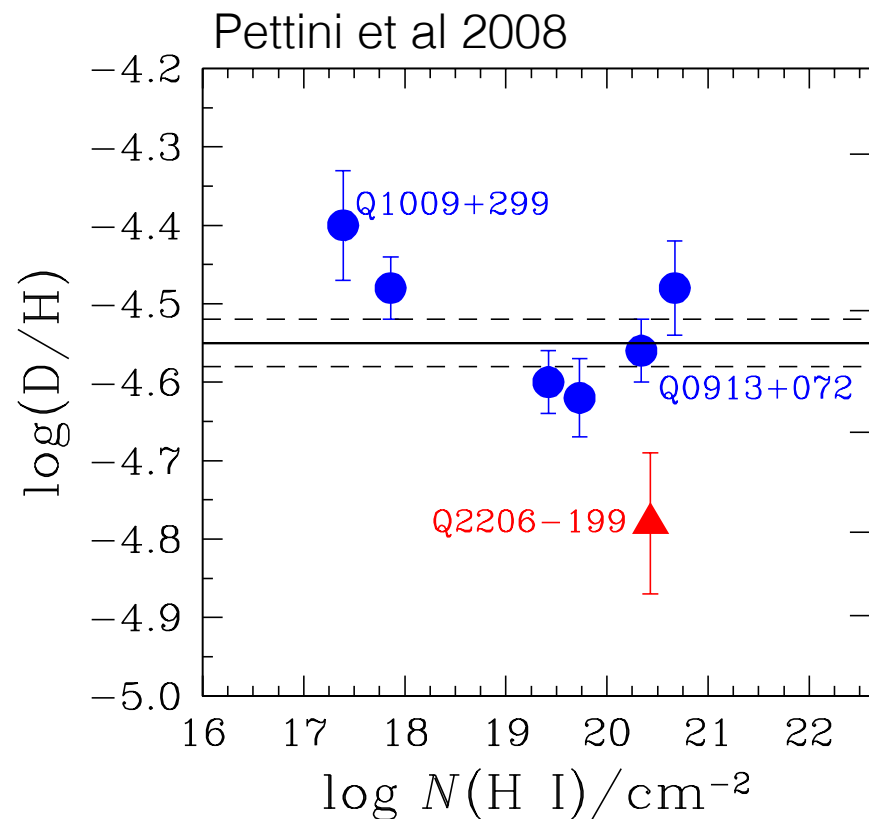
# Light element observations

## Deuterium $D/H \simeq 10^{-5}$

- no known astrophysical sources (monotonic)
- ISM measurements (FUSE) show dispersion in the local gas D-absorption on dust grains?
- high-z QSO systems are the way to go
  - => metal poor Ly-alpha systems have > 98% of primordial D
  - => measured through the isotopic shift from H



## Light element observations

Deuterium  $D/H \simeq 10^{-5}$ 

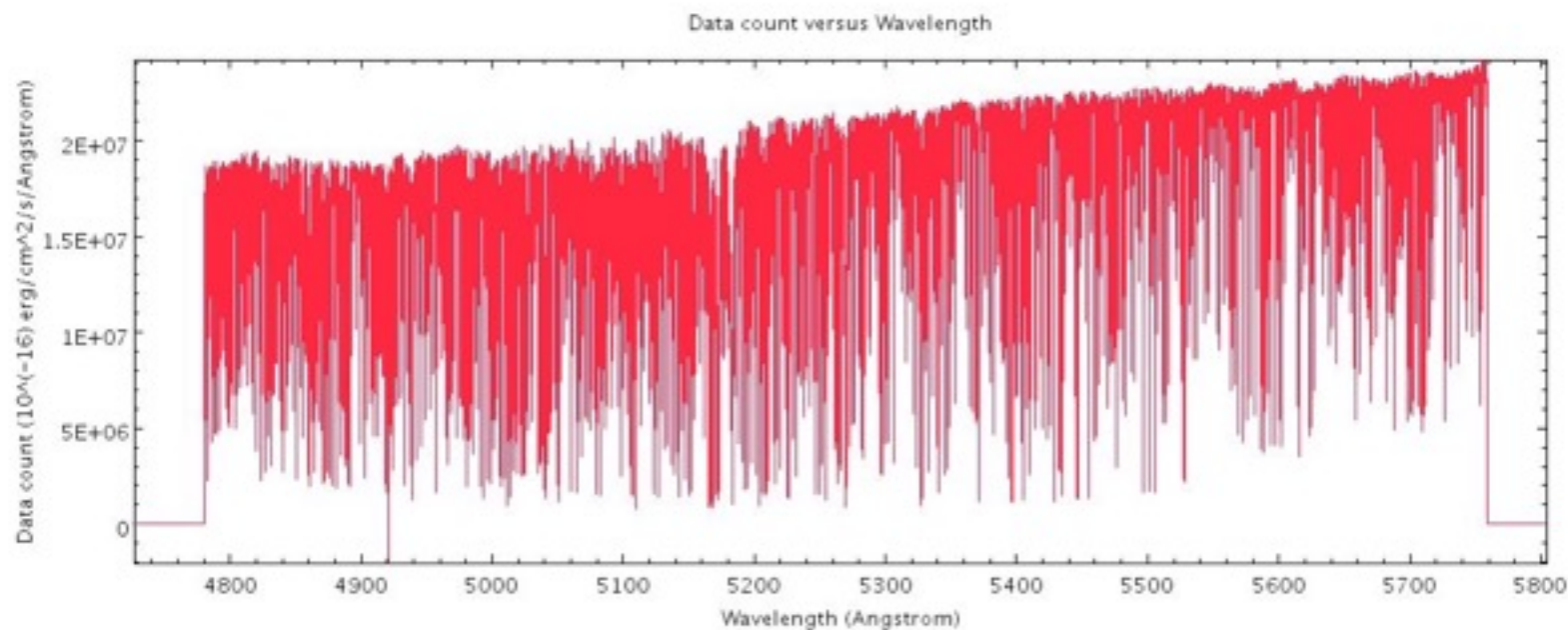
$$(D/H)_p = (2.81 \pm 0.21) \times 10^{-5}$$

$$(D/H)_p = (2.53 \pm 0.04) \times 10^{-5}$$

=> drastic improvement of the error bar by factor 5 in a few years  
Now D/H at %-precision!

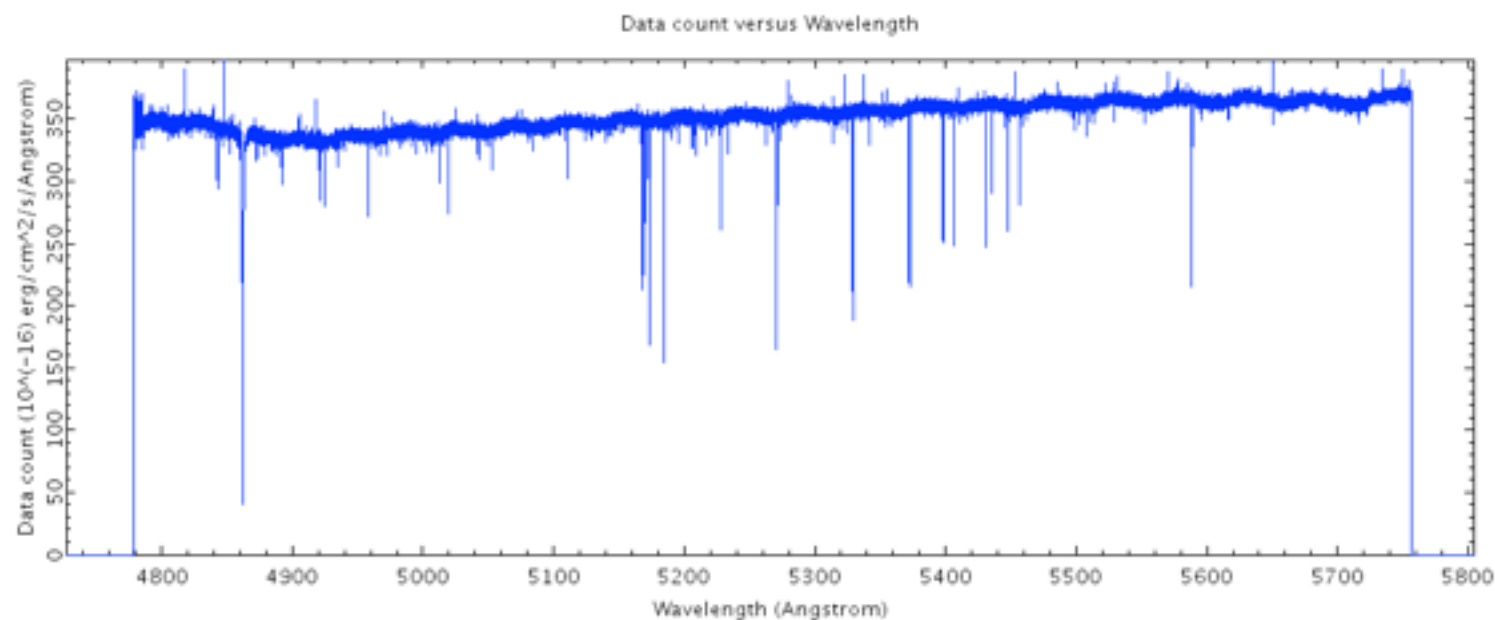
# Lithium observations

- can be observed in atmospheres of stars
- metallicity traces age => stars (formed) at lowest metallicities are thought to represent the chemical composition of the pre-galactic gas he formulas again!



HD 124897  
 $[Fe/H] = -0.5$  light

Spectra obtained with applet  
 "SPLAT" [<http://star-www.dur.ac.uk/>]



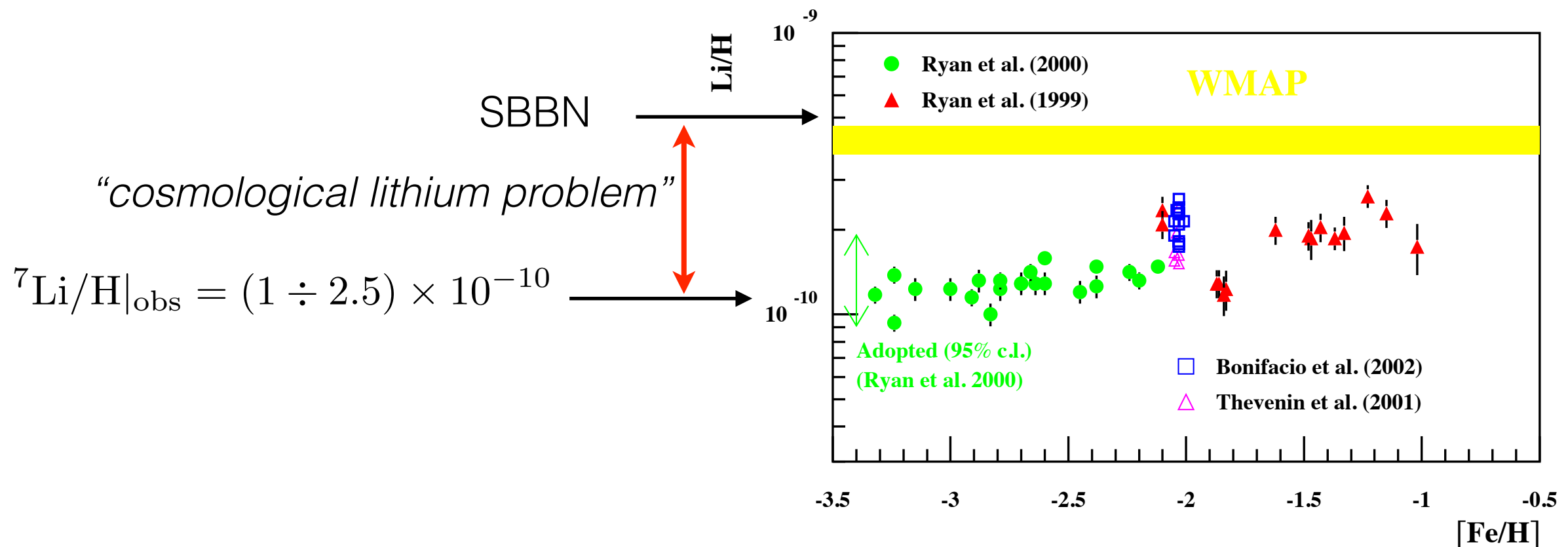
CD-38-245  
 $[Fe/H] = -4$



# Lithium observations



- can be observed in atmospheres of stars
- metallicity traces age => stars (formed) at lowest metallicities are thought to represent the chemical composition of the pre-galactic gas
- Li shows plateau structure with small scatter at lowest metallicities: “Spite plateau” (1982) => points towards primordial origin

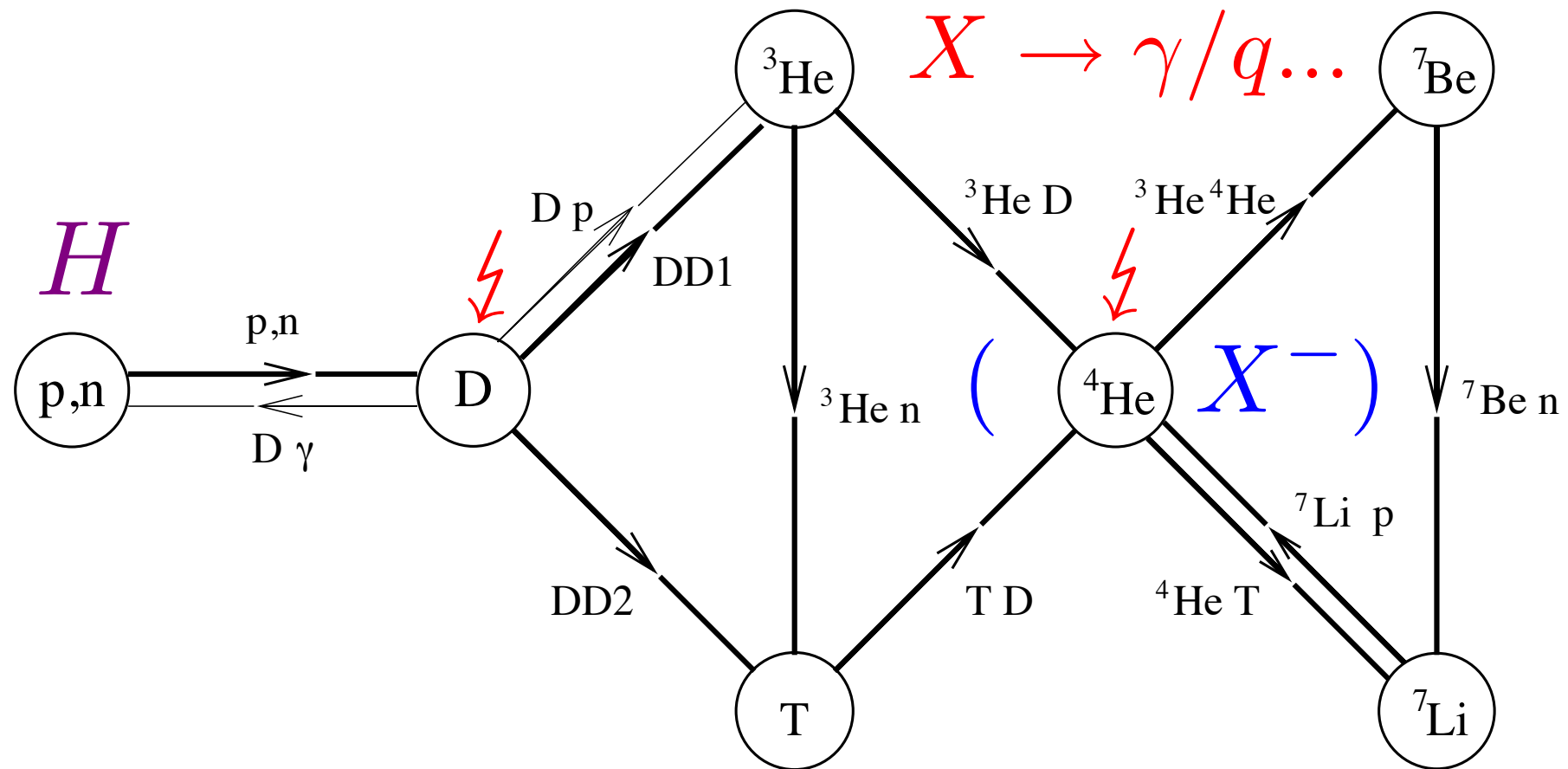


Coc et al 2004

# SBBN take-home message

- Light element predictions from helium to lithium span roughly 9 orders of magnitude in number
- **Impressive** agreement with observations of D and He
- *One quantitative problem*: Lithium abundance is high by a factor of 3-5, with high statistical significance
- Nuclear physics lithium solution is ruled out; solution may be of astrophysical origin but could also signal **new physics operative during BBN**

# Beyond SBBN



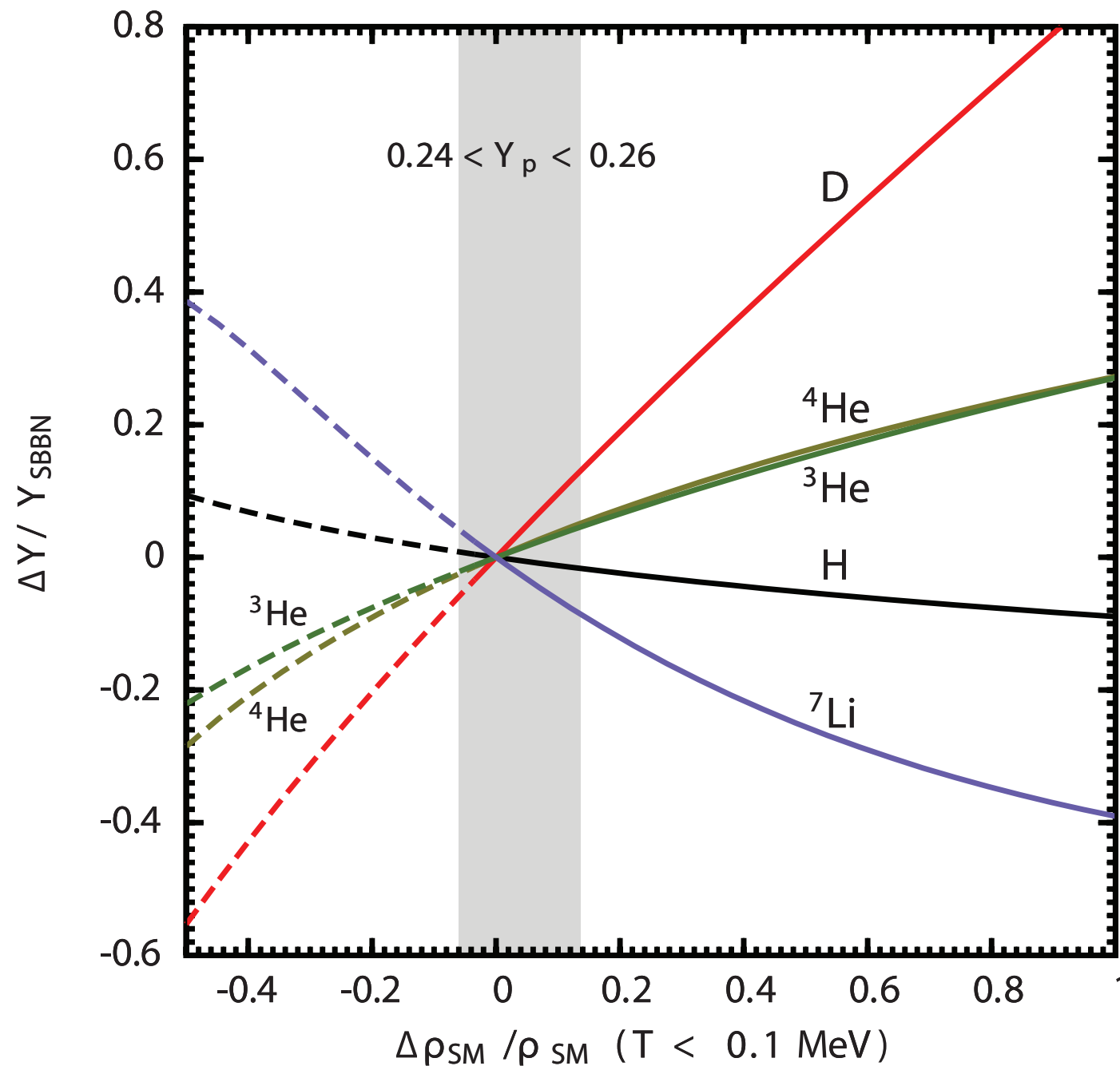
Change in timing

non-equilibrium BBN

catalyzed BBN

# Change in timing

$$H_{\text{SBBN}} \rightarrow H = H_{\text{SBBN}} \sqrt{1 + \rho_{\text{dr}} / \rho_{\text{SM}}}$$



$$N_{\text{eff}} = 3.15 \pm 0.23$$

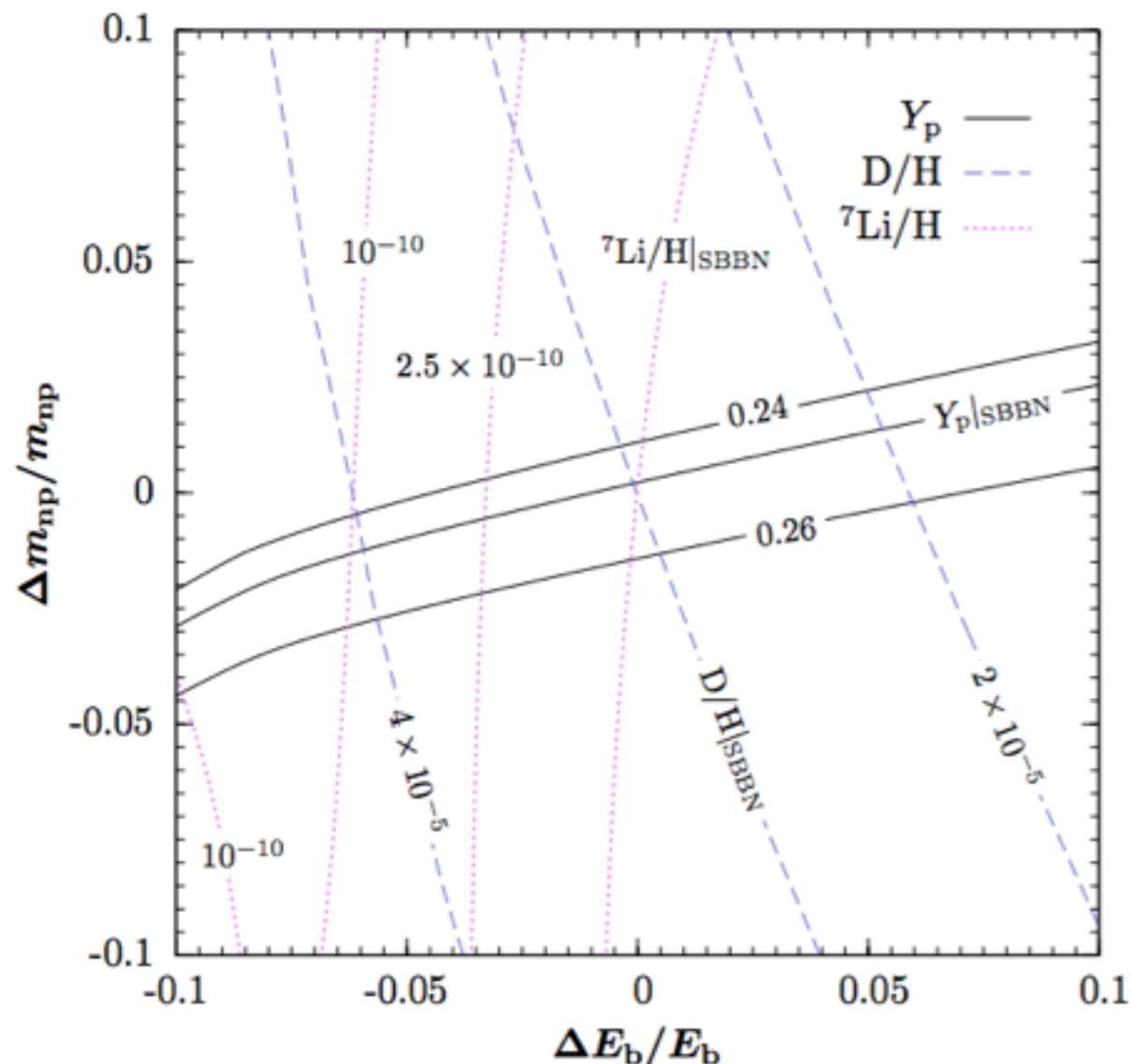
Planck 2015

# Time evolution of fundamental constants

A time evolution of, e.g.  $\frac{\langle\phi\rangle}{M} F_{\mu\nu}^2$  or  $\frac{\langle\phi\rangle}{M} m_q \bar{q}q$

=> yields changes in  $m_q$ , electric charge,  $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$ , Higgs vacuum expectation value....

=> induce changes in the reaction rates, nuclear binding, and the position of resonances



BBN: exponential sensitivity on

$\Delta m_{np}$  determines n/p freeze out

$E_d$  determines end of the D-bottleneck

# Non-equilibrium BBN Energy injection

- energy release during SBBN (mass conversion into nuclear binding energy)

$\sim 2 \text{ MeV/nucleon} \Rightarrow$  marginal effect at  $z = 1$  billion

- most prominent class: decays of **long-lived particles X**

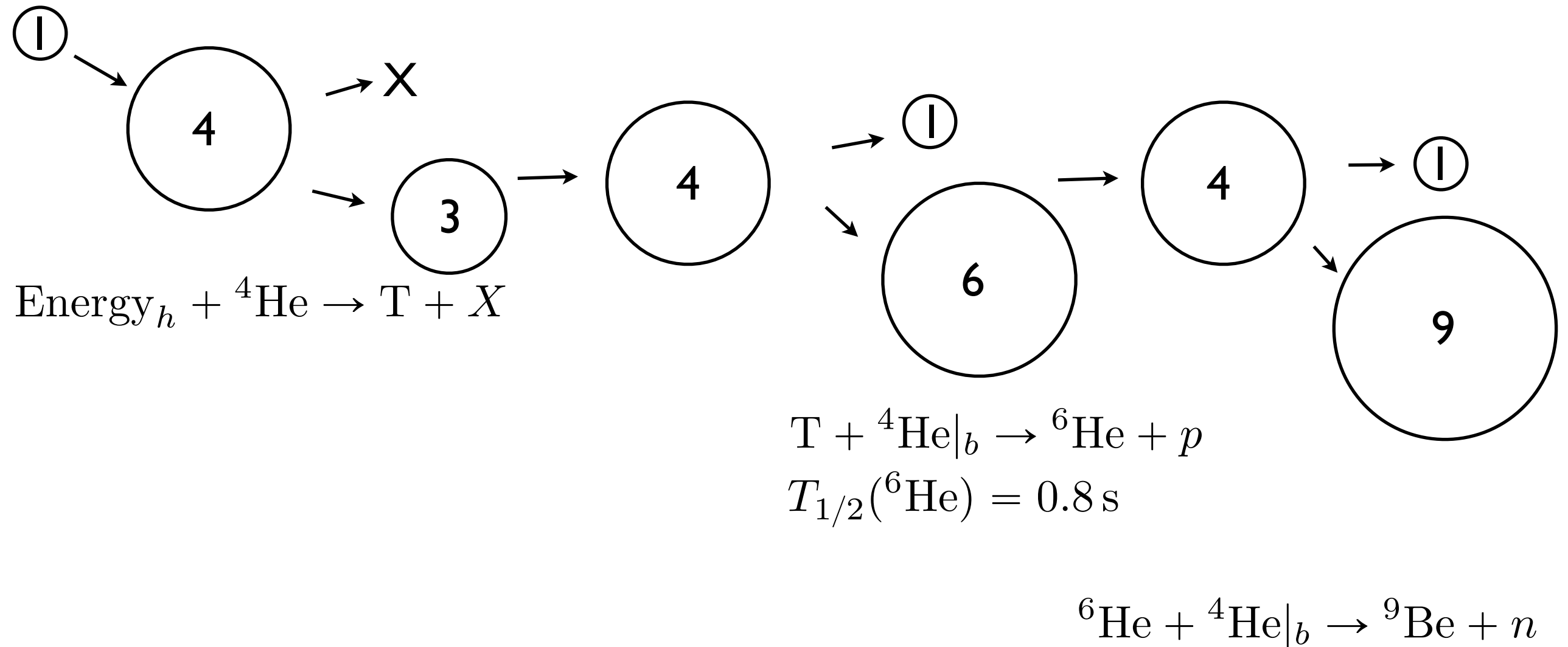
$\Rightarrow$  previous works focused on  $m_X = \mathcal{O}(100 \text{ GeV})$ , e.g.  $\tilde{G} \rightarrow SM + \tilde{\chi}^0$

Dimopoulos 1988; ....; Kawasaki et al 2004; Jedamzik 2006; Cyburt et al 2009

$\Rightarrow$  yield electromagnetic and hadronic showers which dissociated light elements

$\Rightarrow$  drastic departures from the equilibrium picture

# non-equilibrium BBN



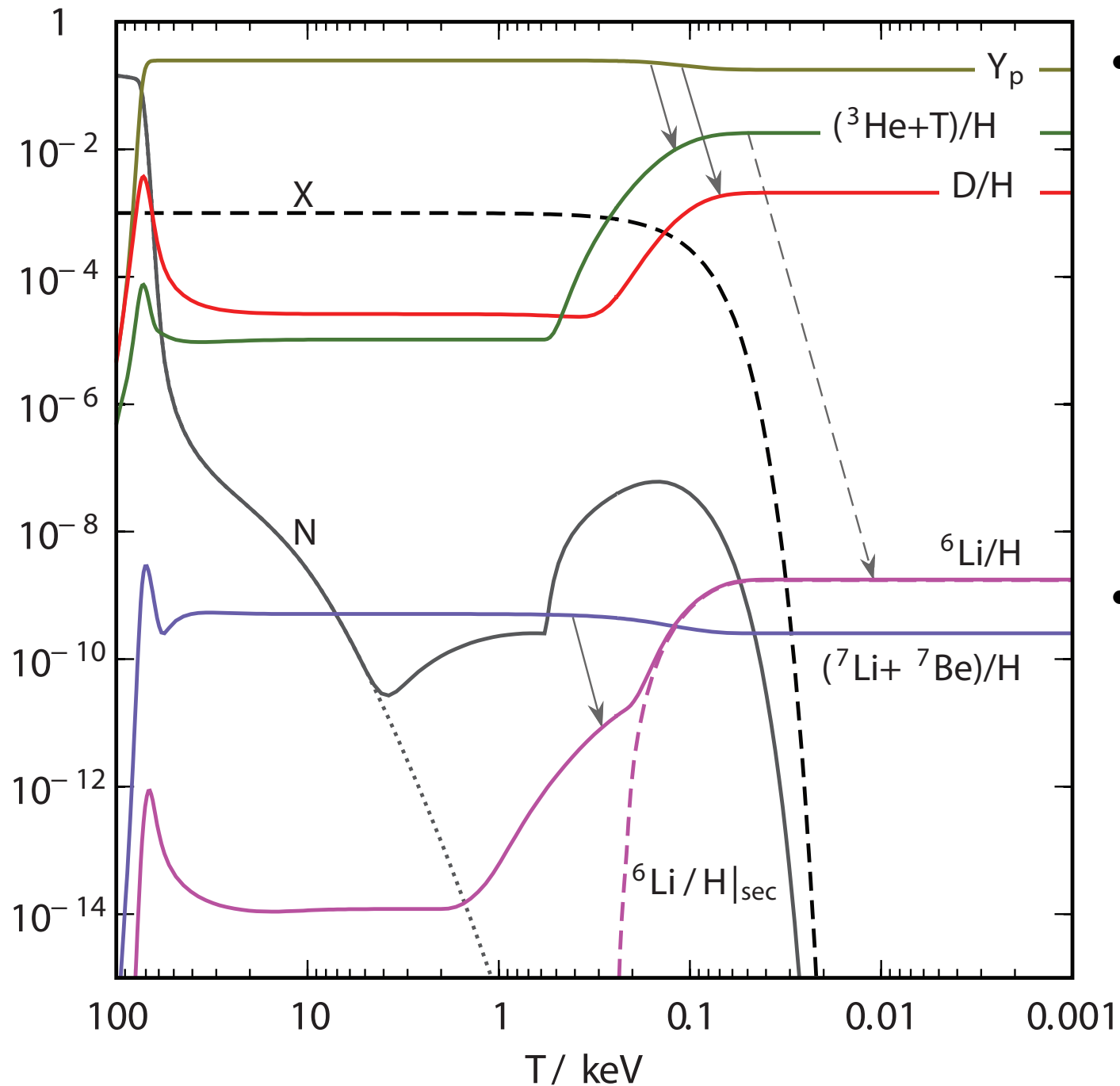
Pospelov, JP, 2010

Beryllium becomes the BBN “calorimeter”;  
its abundance is constrained from observations in stars



# Non-equilibrium BBN

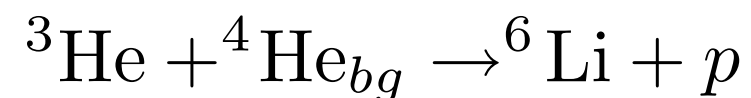
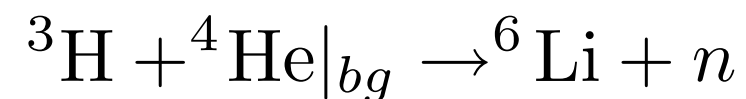
Electromagnetic  
energy injection  
( $t > 10^6$  sec)



- photons in EM-cascade below  $e^\pm$  threshold are not efficiently dissipated

=> spallation of nuclei

- Important secondary effect:



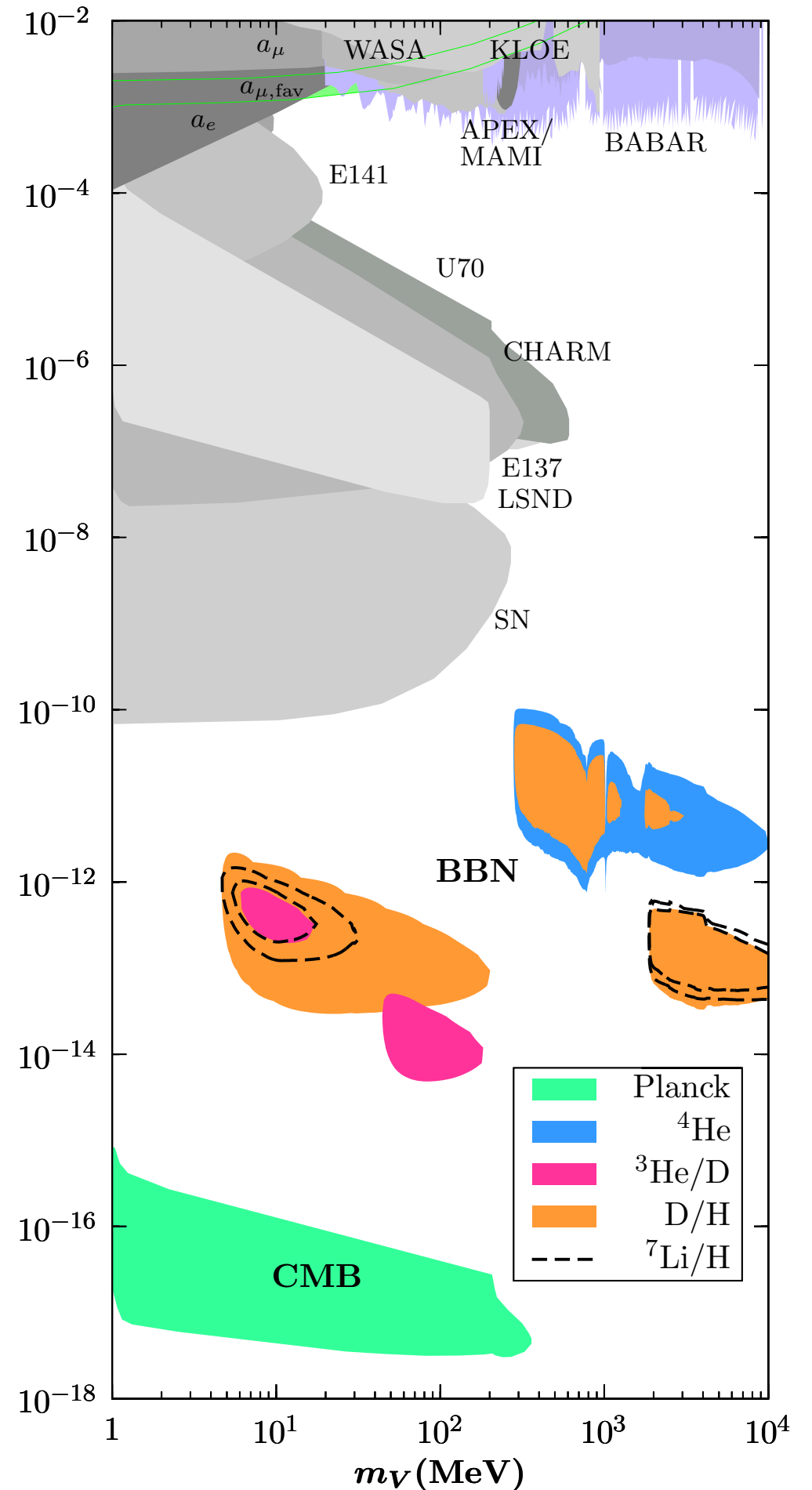
# An application to Dark Photons

Cosmology becomes the only test for very feeble couplings to SM

$$\alpha' = (\kappa e)^2 / (4\pi)$$

$10^{-22} \xrightarrow{\kappa}$

$10^{-36} \xrightarrow{\kappa}$



# Summary

- Organizational principle of new physics in terms of effective operators in direct detection and at the collider; approach has its limitation, when mediator goes on-shell
- With the Higgs discovery, many models fell on July 4, 2012. A minimal extension of the dark sector by a new mediator opens up many new possibilities of phenomenology (e.g. intensity frontier)
- DM may carry a chemical potential (asymmetric DM) => alternative to the WIMP miracle
- Nucleosynthesis is one of the pillars the standard cosmological rests on; its sensitivity to new physics makes BBN a valuable tool to test BSM physics => every model of new physics has to pass this cosmological consistency test.

Thank you — and keep up the good work!