

# Massive gravitino decays and the cosmological lithium problem

- 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
- Solutions?

# Massive gravitino decays and the cosmological lithium problem

or

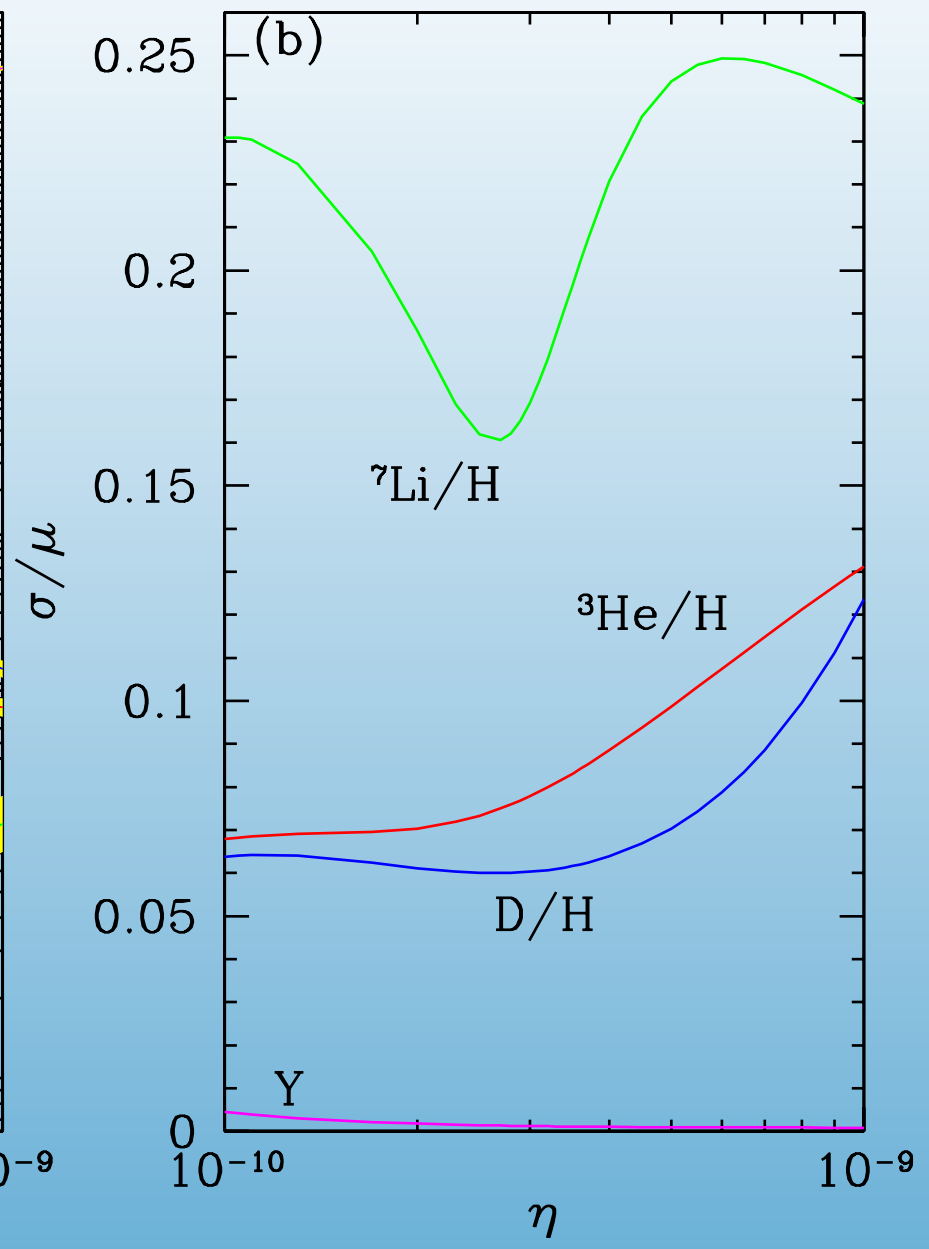
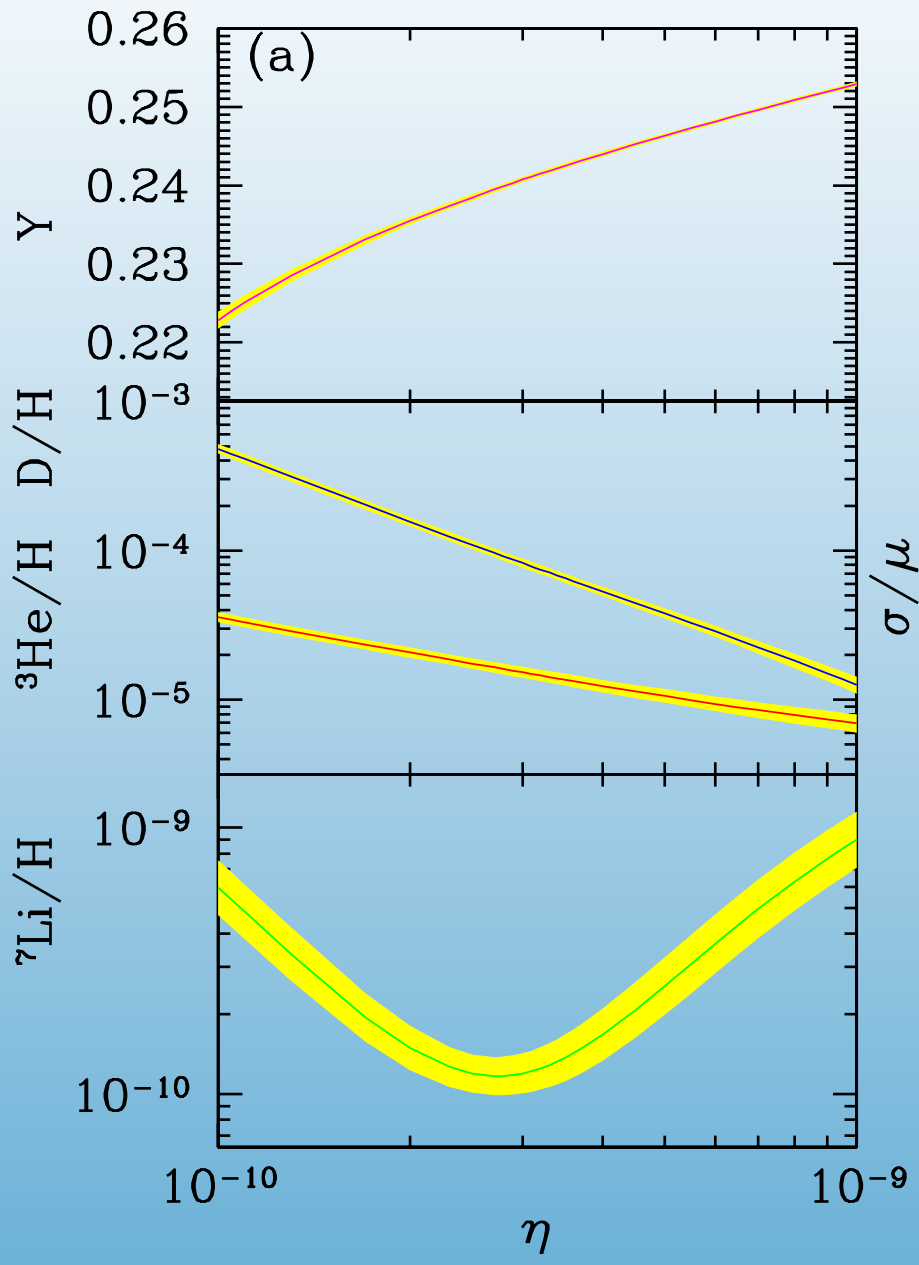
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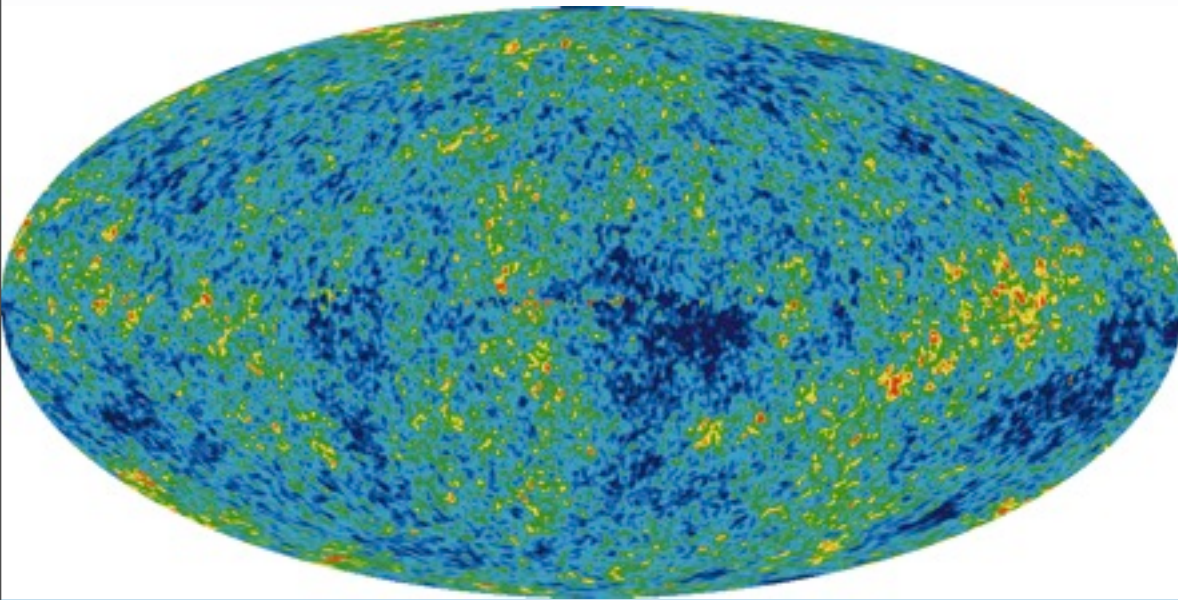
# Massive gravitino decays and the cosmological lithium problem

or

## How to best reconcile Big Bang Nucleosynthesis with Li abundance determinations

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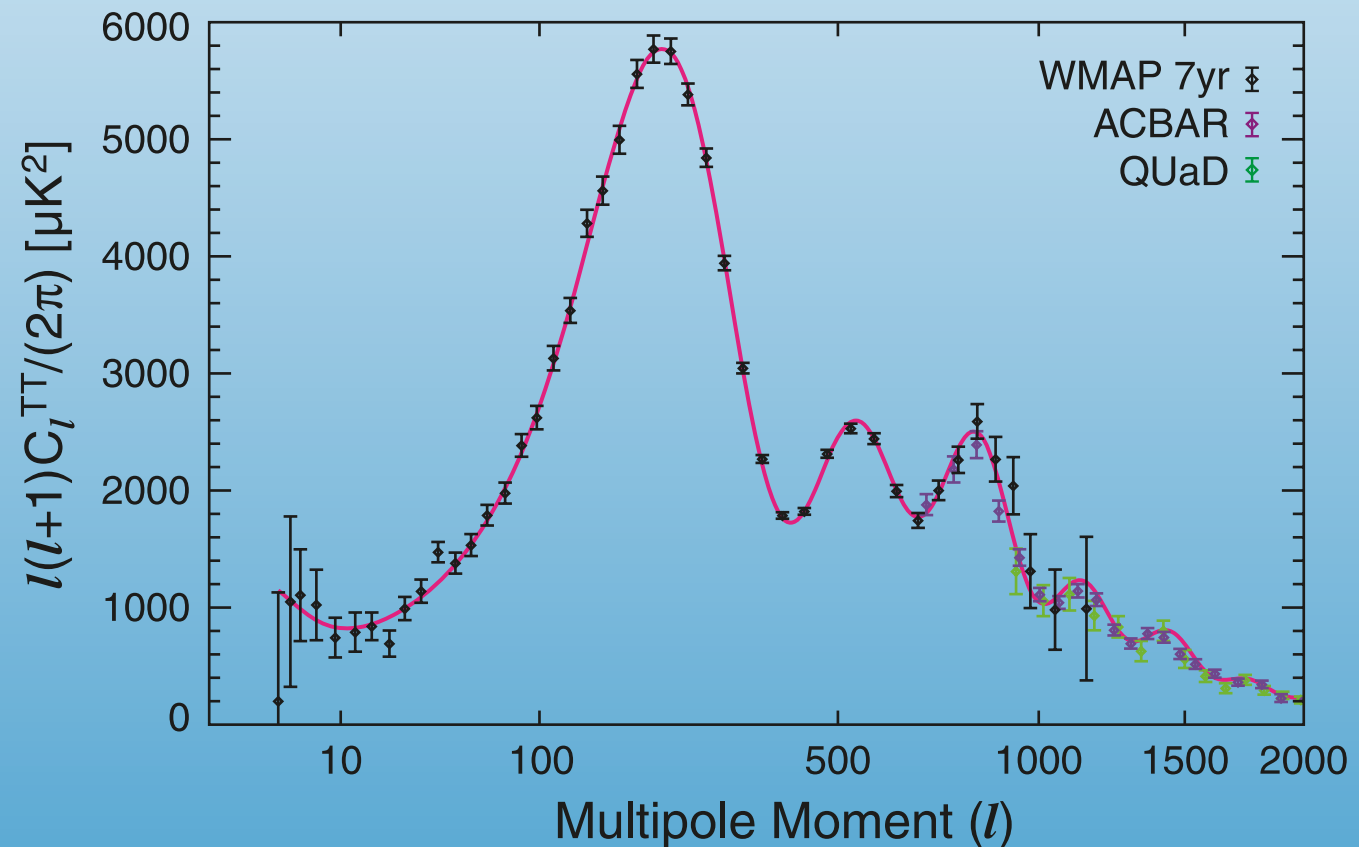


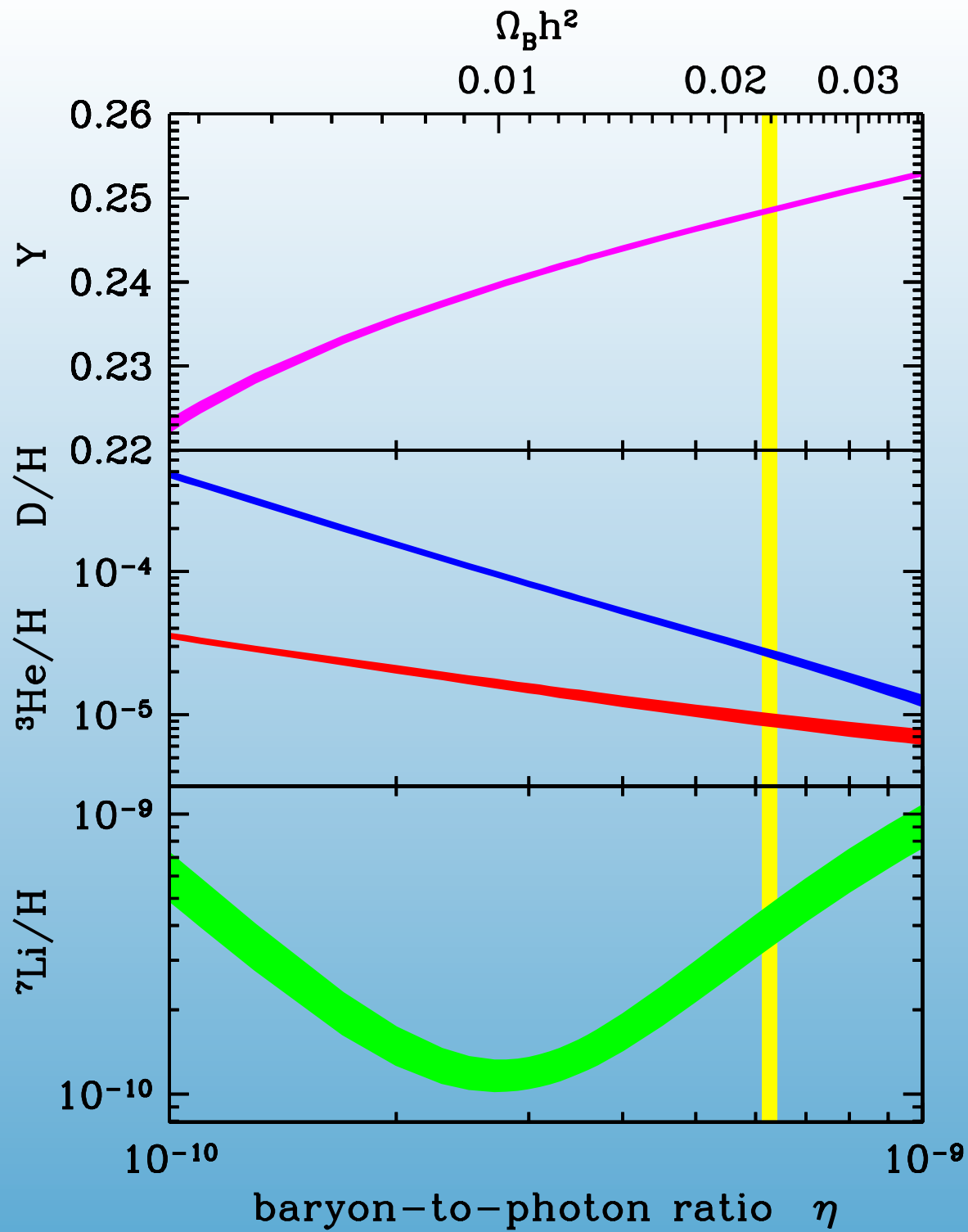


## WMAP best fit

$$\Omega_B h^2 = 0.0226 \pm 0.0005$$

$$\eta_{10} = 6.19 \pm 0.15$$





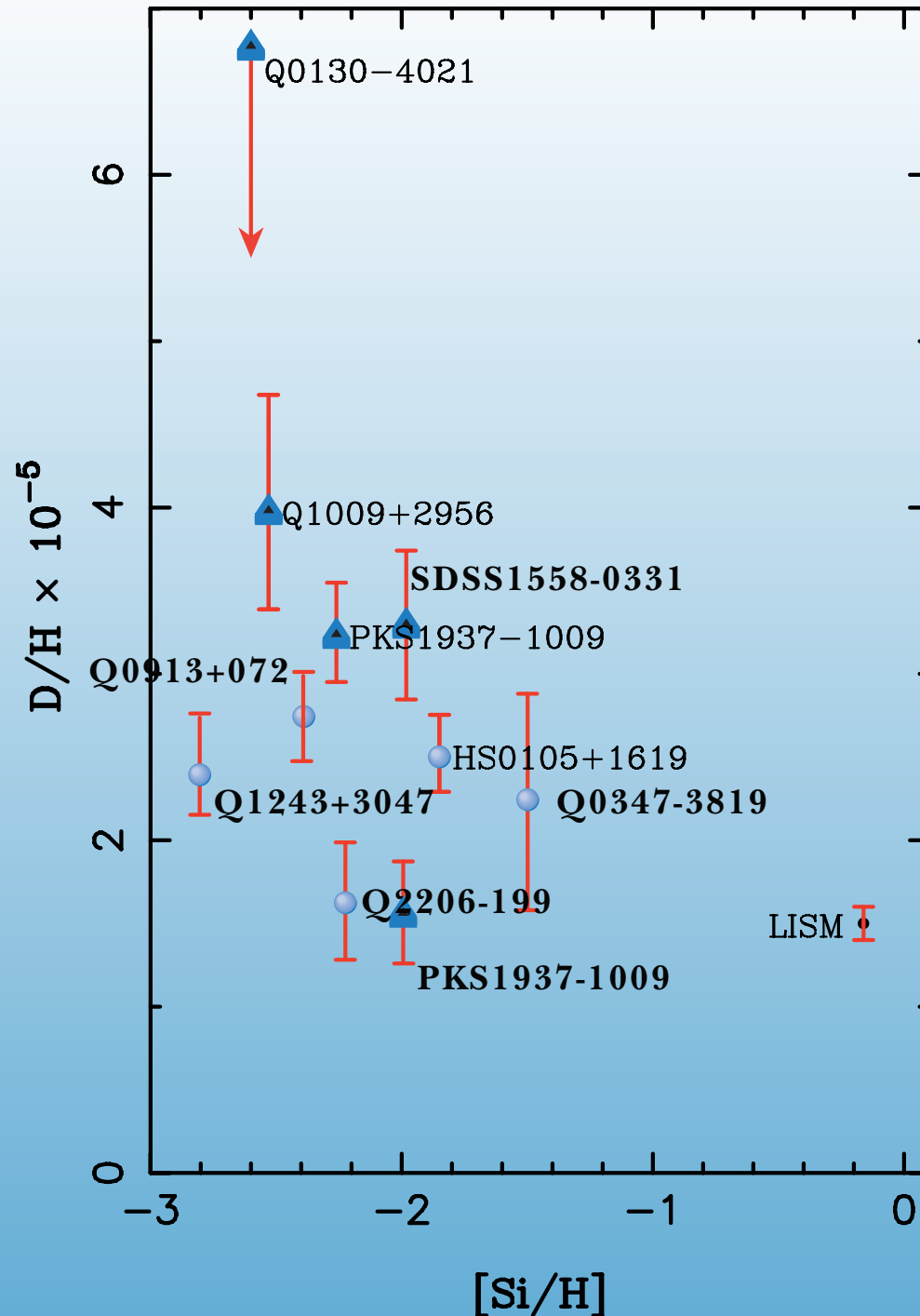
# D/H abundances in Quasar absorption systems

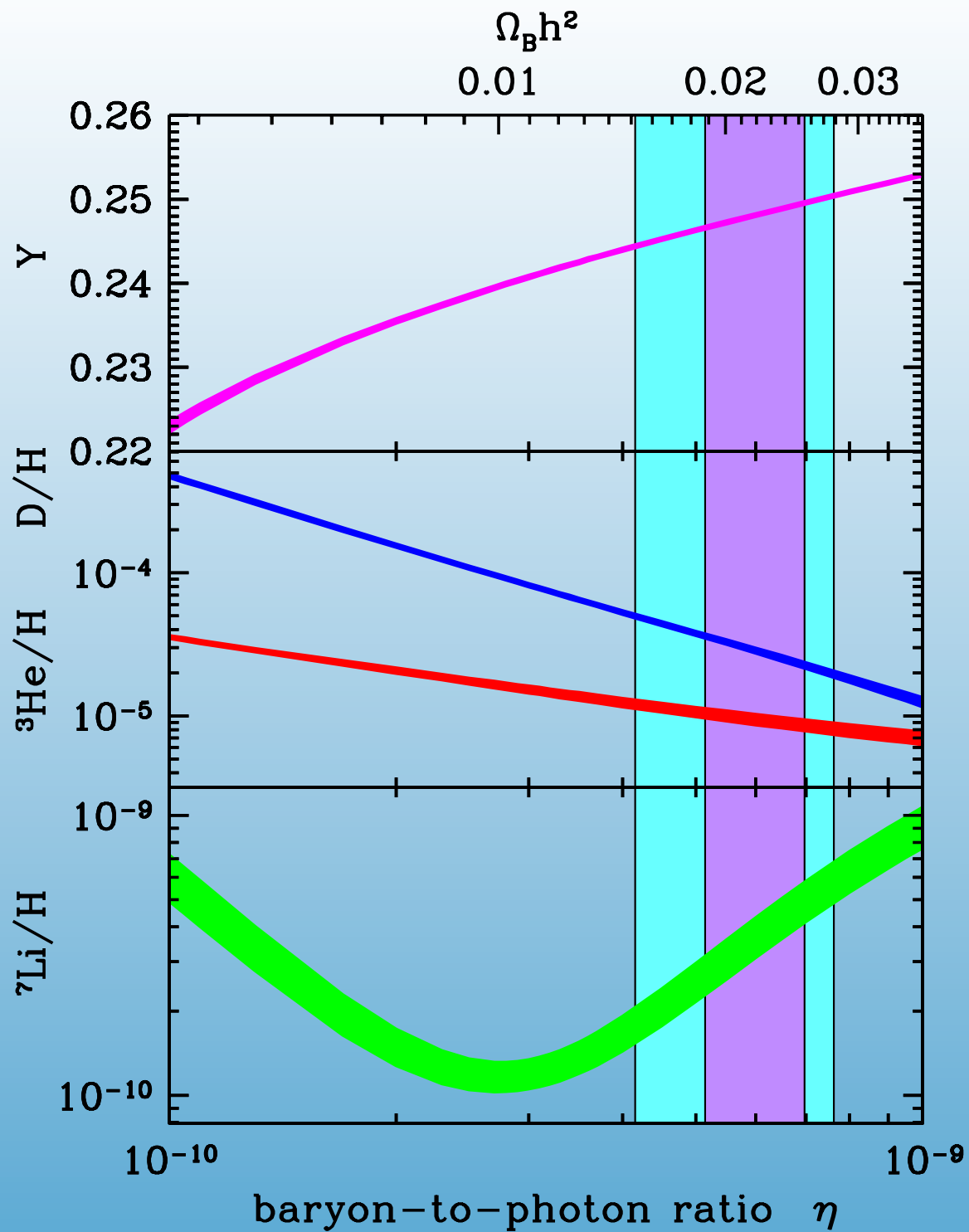
BBN Prediction:

$$10^5 D/H = 2.52 \pm 0.17$$

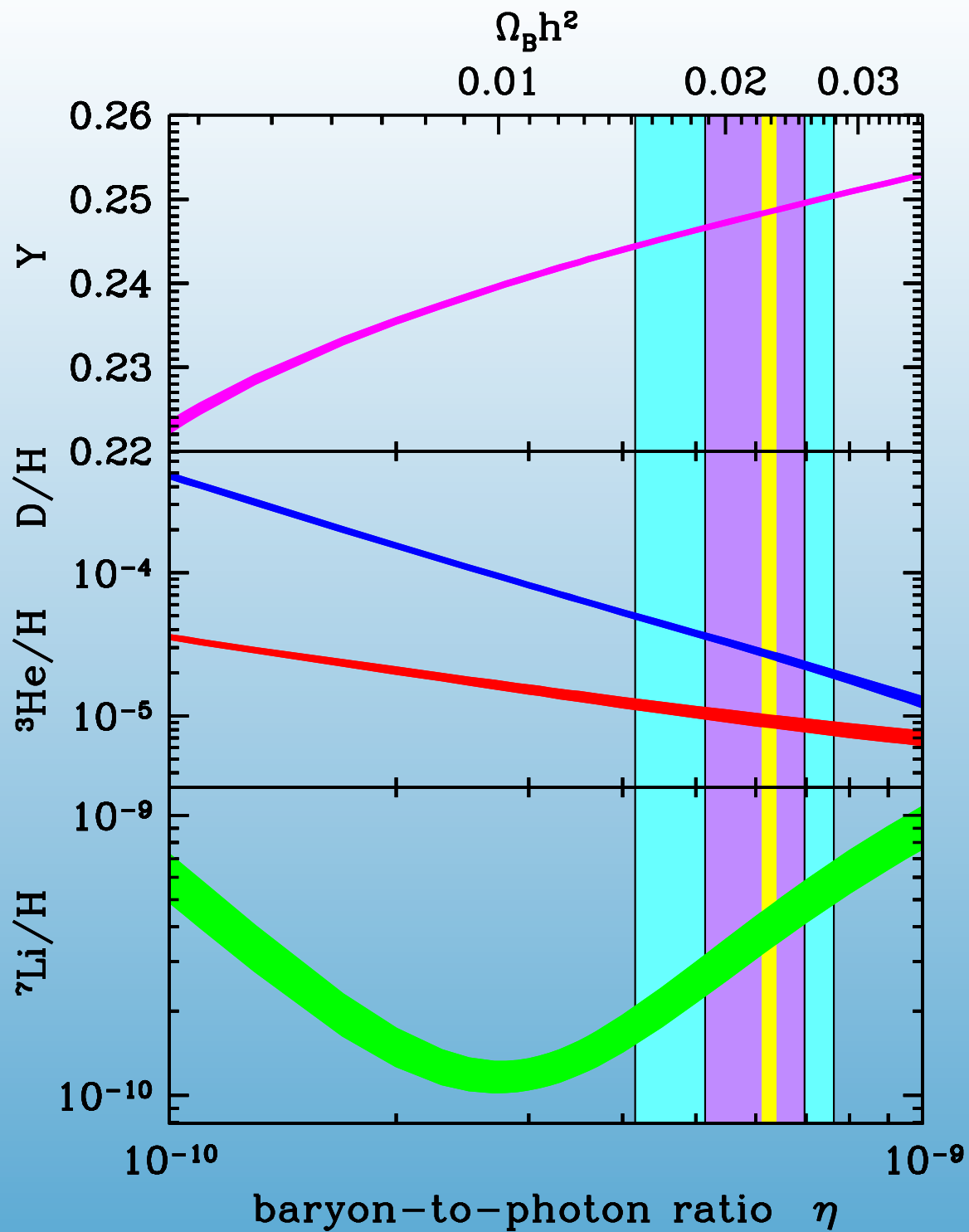
Obs Average:

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



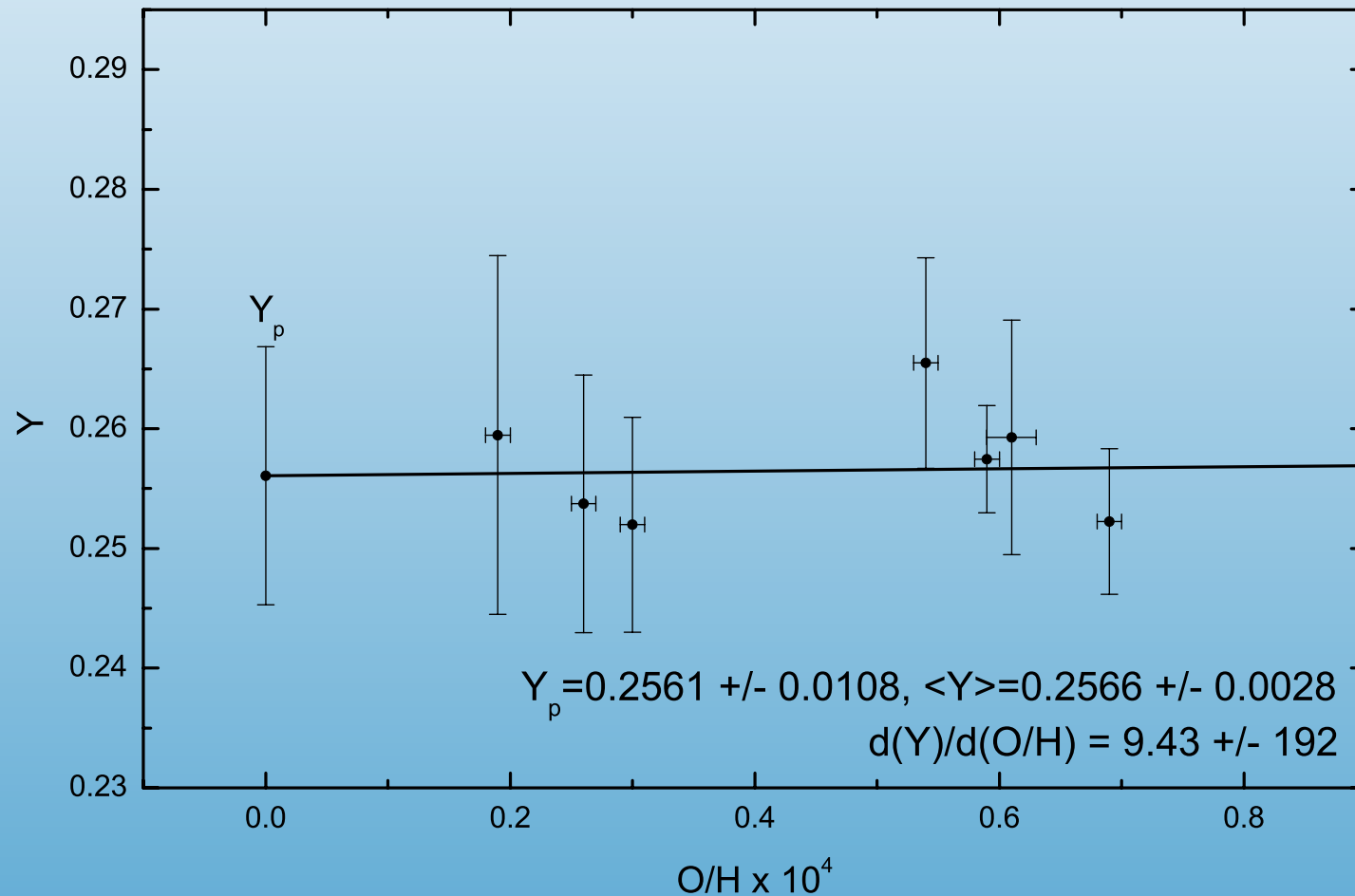






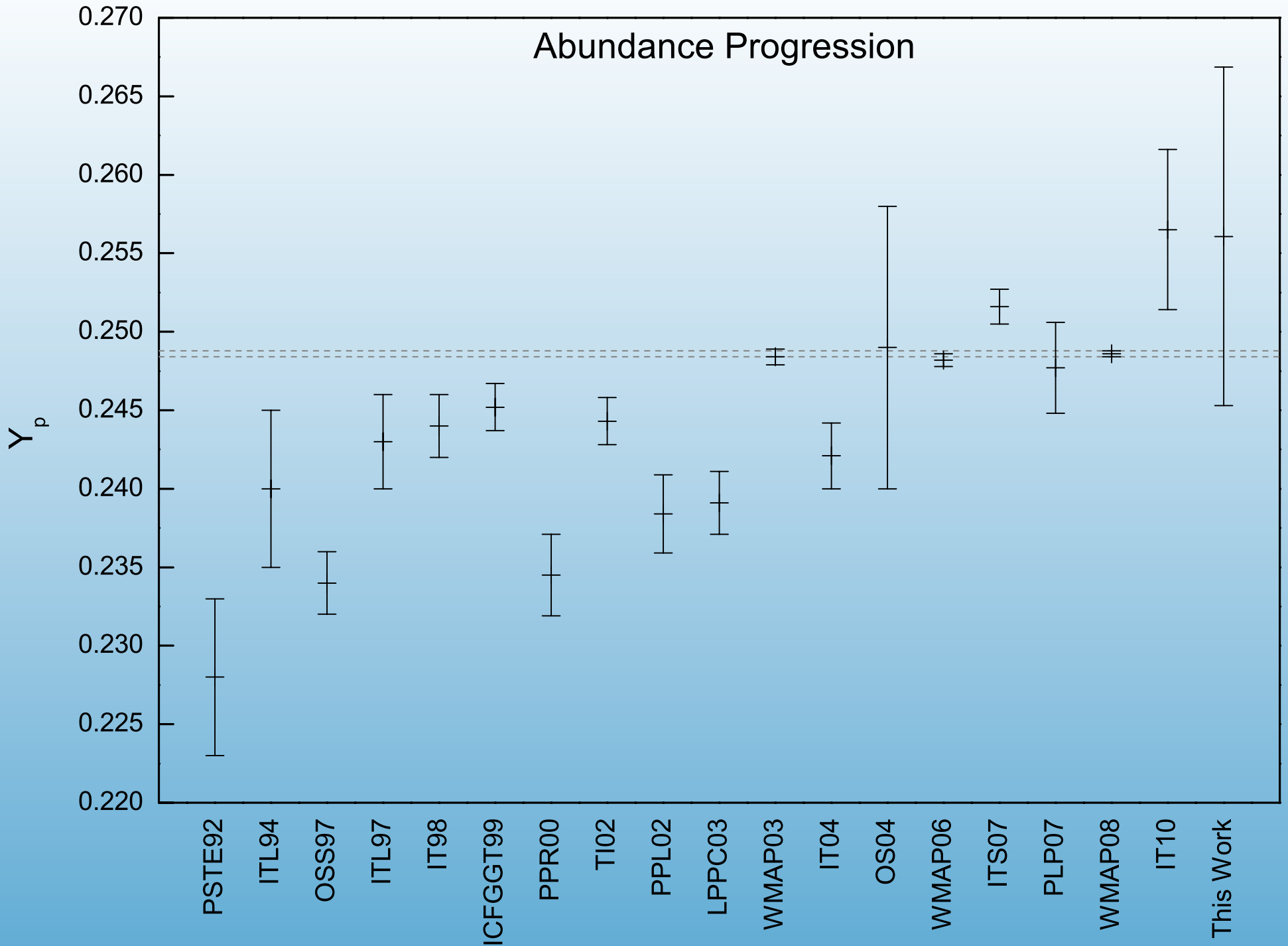
# $^4\text{He}$

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



Aver, Olive, Skillman

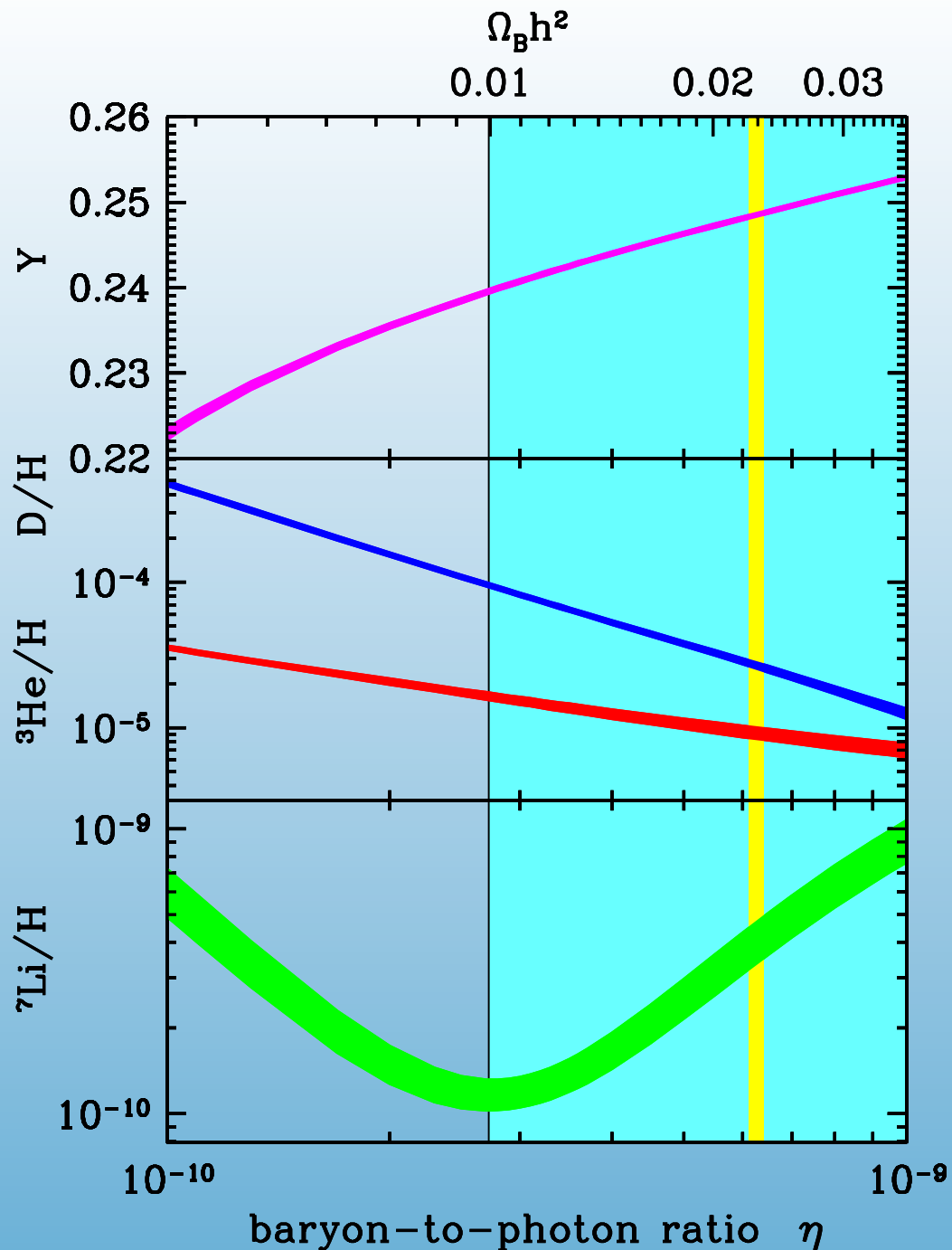
# Abundance Progression



$^4\text{He}$  Prediction:  
 $0.2487 \pm 0.0002$

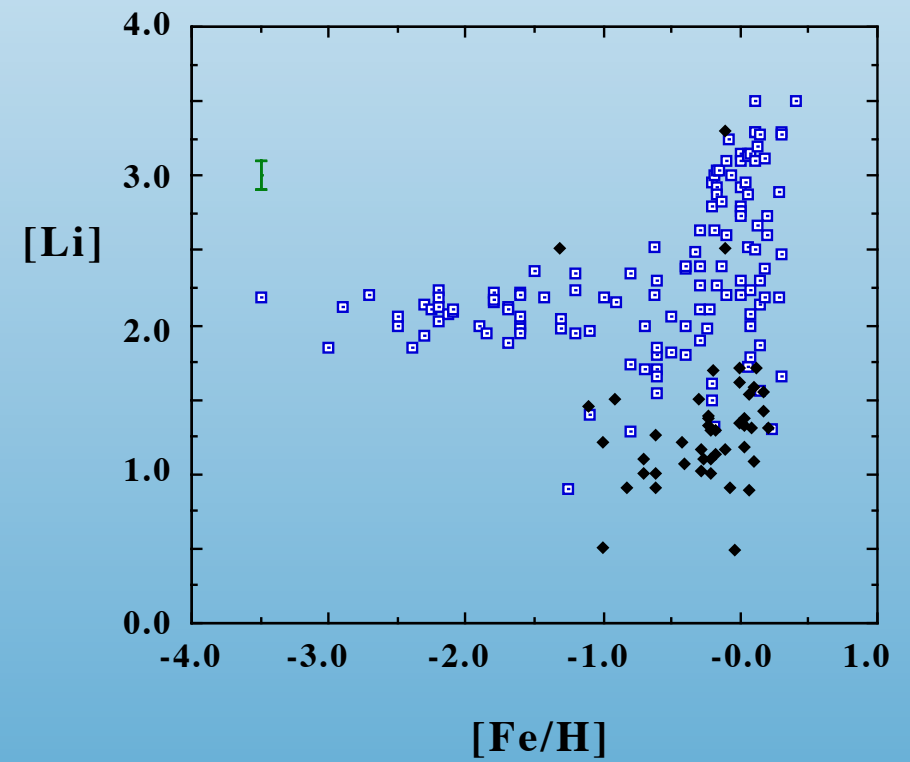
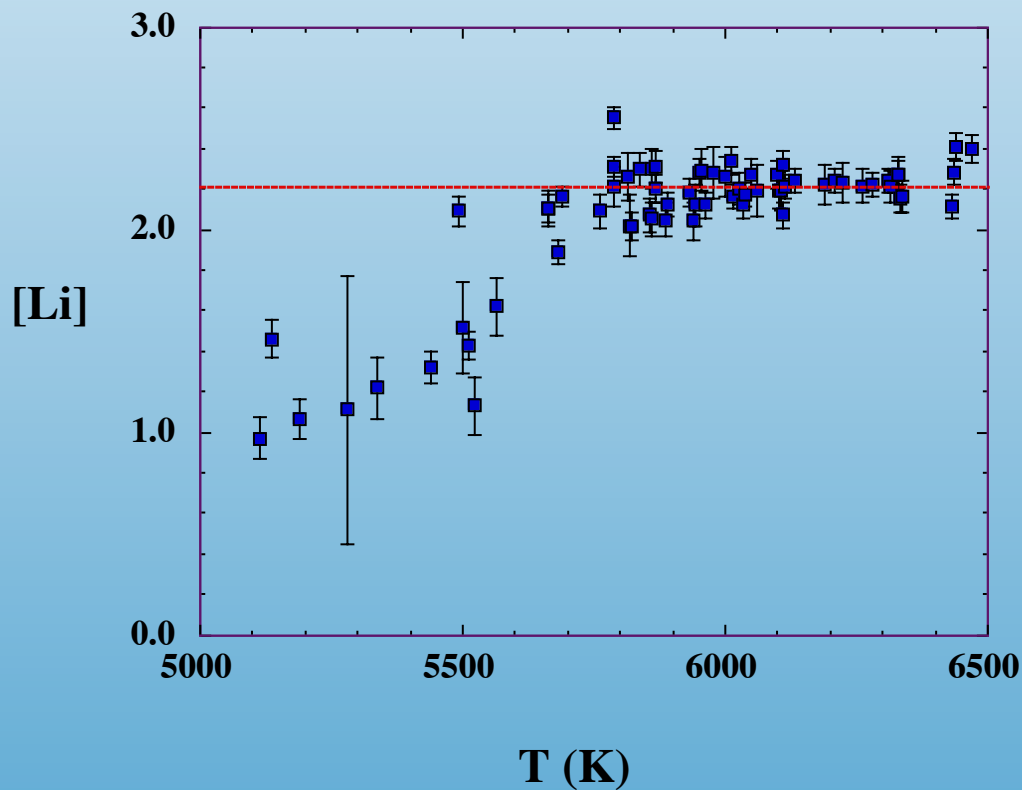
Data: Regression:  
 $0.2561 \pm 0.0108$

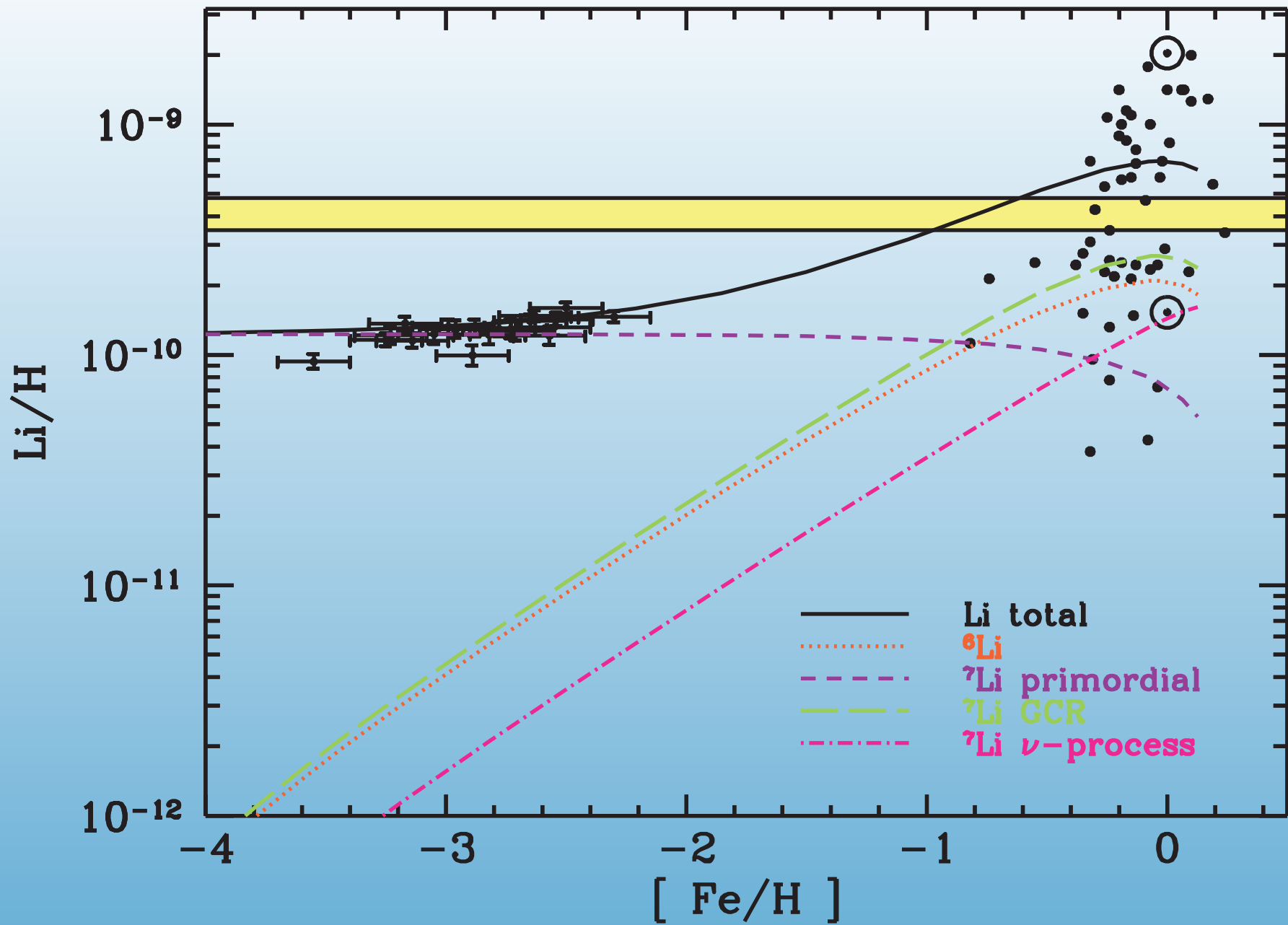
Mean:  
 $0.2566 \pm 0.0028$



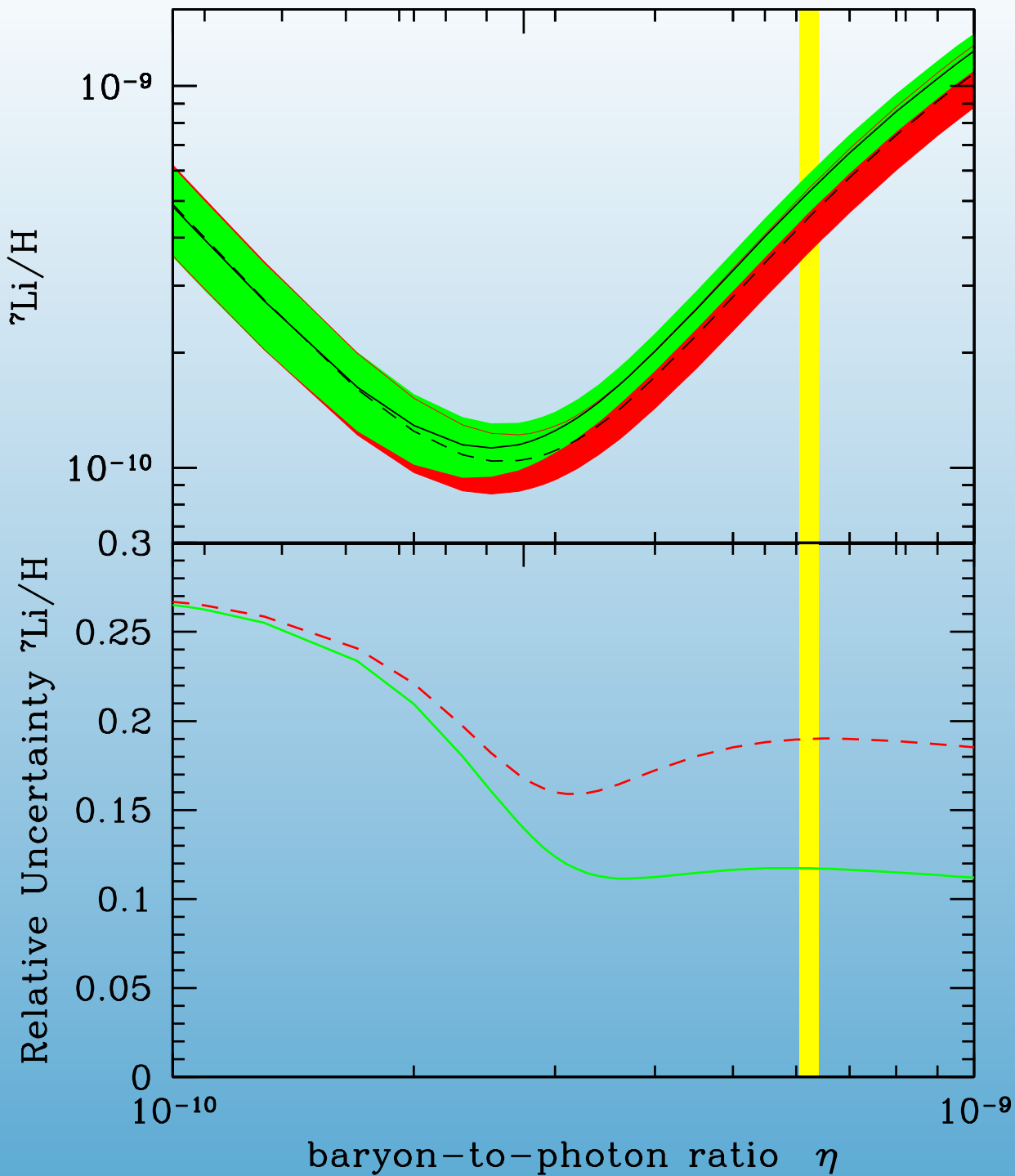
# Li/H

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





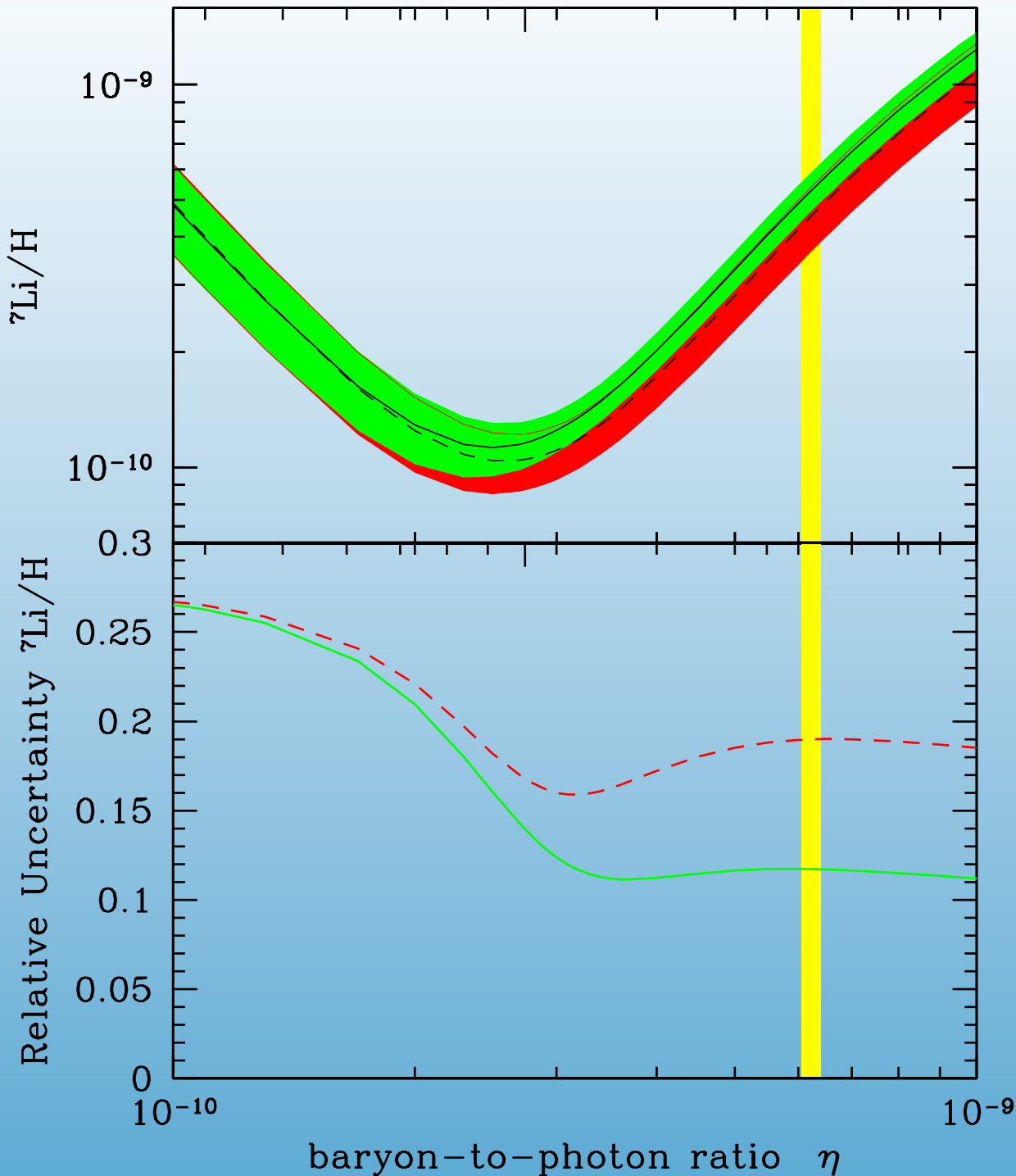
baryon density  $\Omega_b h^2$   
0.01



17% increase in the  
cross section  
 $\Rightarrow$  16% increase in Li

Cyburt, Fields, KAO

baryon density  $\Omega_b h^2$   
0.01



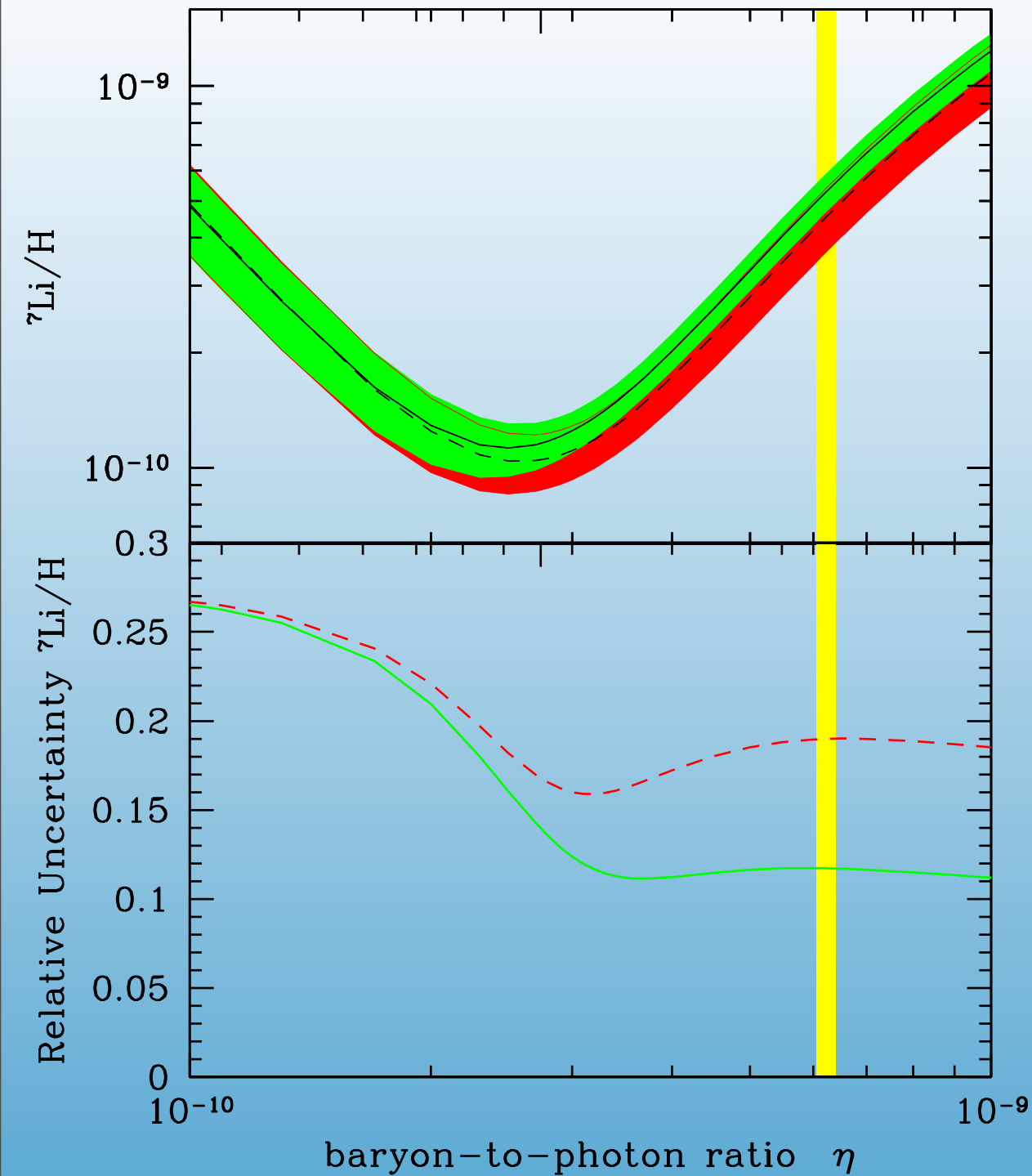
In addition,  
1.5% increase in  $\eta$ ,  
leads to 3% increase  
in Li ( $\text{Li} \sim \eta^{2.12}$ )  
plus another  $\sim 1\%$   
from pn

Net change in Li:  
 $4.26 \times 10^{-10}$  to  
 $5.24 \times 10^{-10}$  or 23%

Cyburt, Fields, KAO



baryon density  $\Omega_b h^2$   
0.01



At the WMAP7 value  
for  $\eta$ :

$\text{Li}/\text{H} =$

$$(5.12^{+0.71}_{-0.62}) \times 10^{-10}$$

Cyburt, Fields, KAO

# Possible sources for the discrepancy

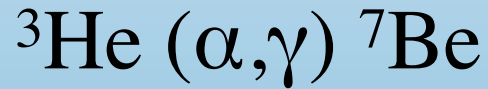
- Nuclear Rates
  - Restricted by solar neutrino flux

Coc et al.  
Cyburt, Fields, KAO

# BBN Li sensitivities

$${}^7\text{Li}/{}^7\text{Li}_0 = \prod_i R_i^{\alpha_i}$$

Key Rates:



Reaction/Parameter	sensitivities ( $\alpha_i$ )
$\eta_{10}/6.14$	+2.04
$n(p, \gamma)d$	+1.31
${}^3\text{He}(\alpha, \gamma){}^7\text{Be}$	+0.95
${}^3\text{He}(d, p){}^4\text{He}$	-0.78
$d(d, n){}^3\text{He}$	+0.72
${}^7\text{Be}(n, p){}^7\text{Li}$	-0.71
Newton's $G_N$	-0.66
$d(p, \gamma){}^3\text{He}$	+0.54
n-decay	+0.49
$N_{\nu,eff}/3.0$	-0.26
${}^3\text{He}(n, p)t$	-0.25
$d(d, p)t$	+0.078
${}^7\text{Li}(p, \alpha){}^4\text{He}$	-0.072
$t(\alpha, \gamma){}^7\text{Li}$	+0.040
$t(d, n){}^4\text{He}$	-0.034
$t(p, \gamma){}^4\text{He}$	+0.019
${}^7\text{Be}(n, \alpha){}^4\text{He}$	-0.014
${}^7\text{Be}(d, p)2{}^4\text{He}$	-0.0087

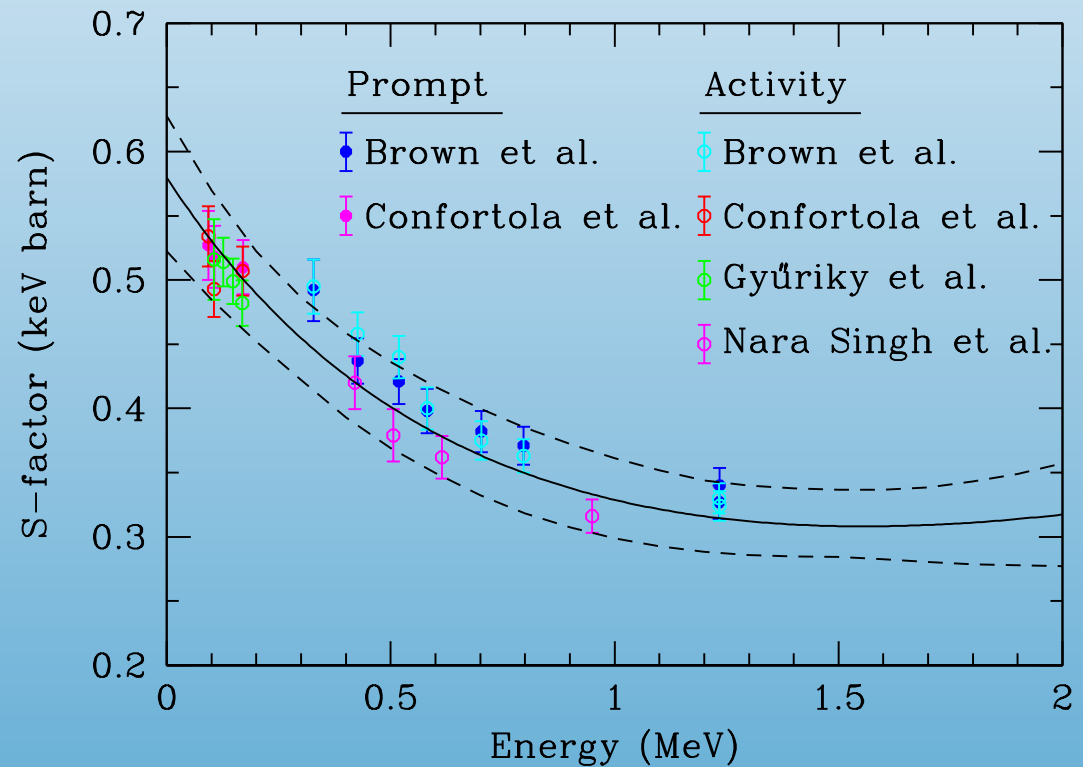
# Require:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} S_{34}^{NEW}(0) &= 0.267 \text{ keVb} \\ \frac{\Delta S_{34}}{S_{34}} &= -0.47 \end{aligned} \right\} \text{ globular cluster Li}$$

or

$$\left. \begin{aligned} S_{34}^{NEW}(0) &= 0.136 \text{ keVb} \\ \frac{\Delta S_{34}}{S_{34}} &= -0.73 \end{aligned} \right\} \text{ halo star Li}$$

New  ${}^3\text{He}(\alpha,\gamma){}^7\text{Be}$  measurements



# Require:

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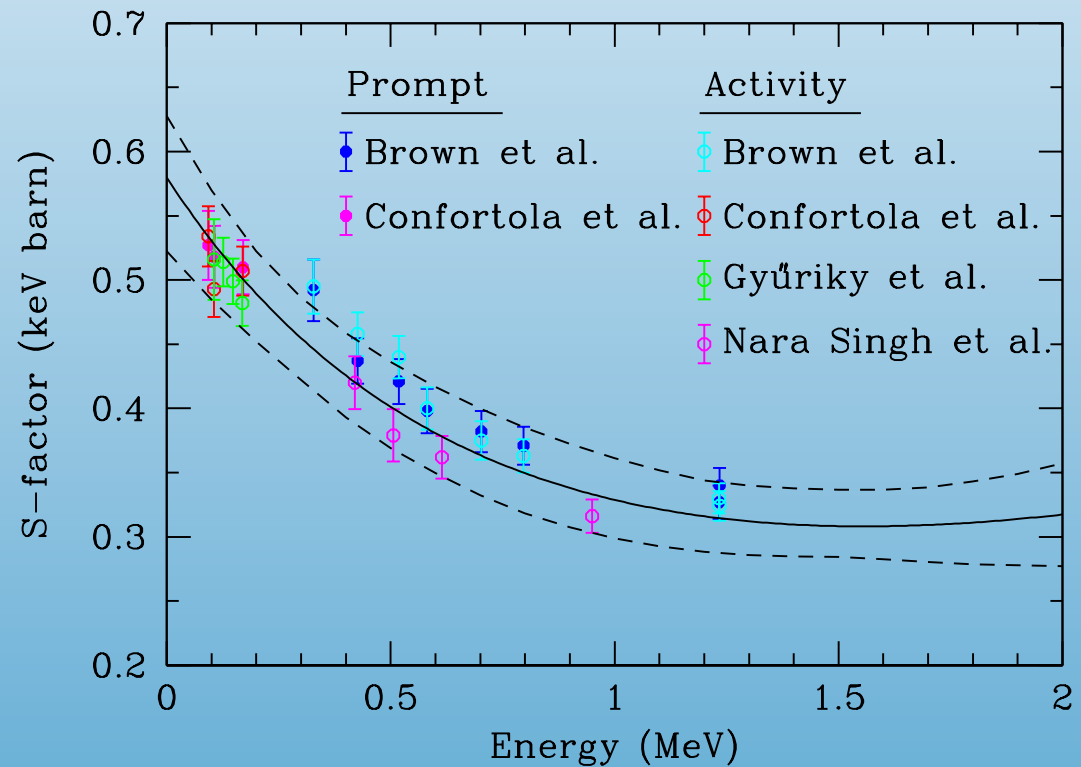
or

$$\left. \begin{aligned} S_{34}^{NEW}(0) &= 0.136 \text{ keVb} \\ \frac{\Delta S_{34}}{S_{34}} &= -0.73 \end{aligned} \right\} \text{ halo star Li}$$

Constrained from solar  
neutrinos

$S_{34} > 0.35 \text{ keV barn}$   
at 95% CL

New  ${}^3\text{He}(\alpha,\gamma){}^7\text{Be}$  measurements



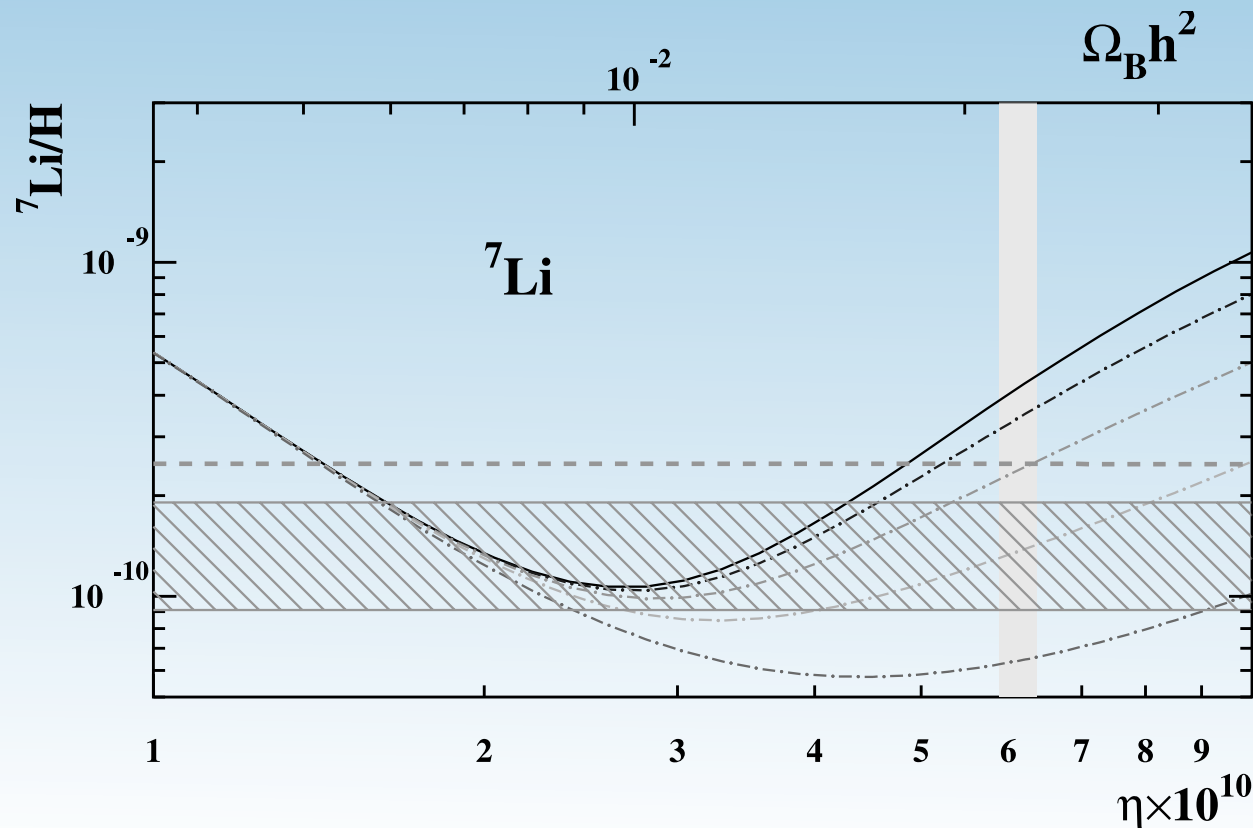
Coc et al. consider large variations of certain rates.

${}^3\text{H} (p,\gamma) {}^4\text{He}$  increase x1000 low  $\eta$  XX

${}^4\text{He} (\alpha,n) {}^7\text{Be}$  small compared with destruction X

${}^7\text{Li} (d,n) {}^2\text{H} + {}^4\text{He}$  increase x100 low  $\eta$  XX

${}^7\text{Be} (d,p) {}^2\text{H} + {}^4\text{He}$  increase >x100 high  $\eta$   $\checkmark$ ? X



# Resonant Reactions

Cyburt, Pospelov

Chakraborty, Fields, Olive

Is there a missing excited state providing a resonant reaction?



If energy released in producing  $C^*$  is

$$Q_C = \Delta({}^7\text{Be}) + \Delta(A) - \Delta(C^{\text{g.s.}})$$

$$\Delta = m - Am_u$$

mass defect

Then the resonant energy is

$$E_{\text{res}} \equiv E_{\text{ex}} - Q_C$$

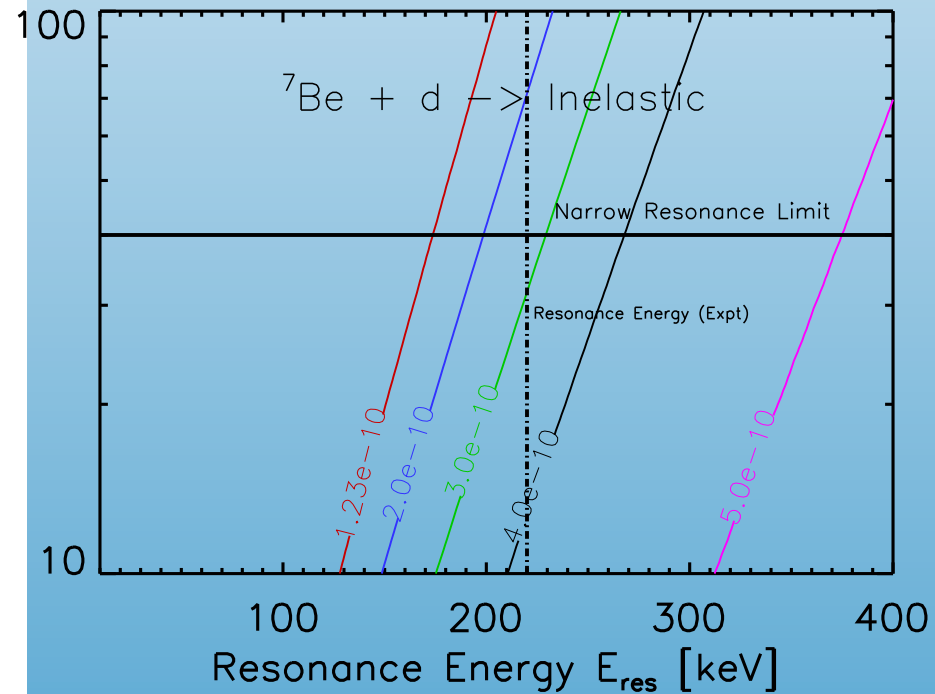
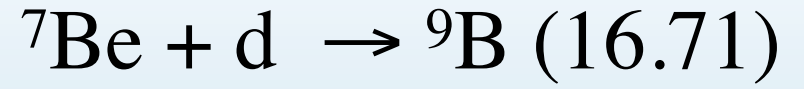
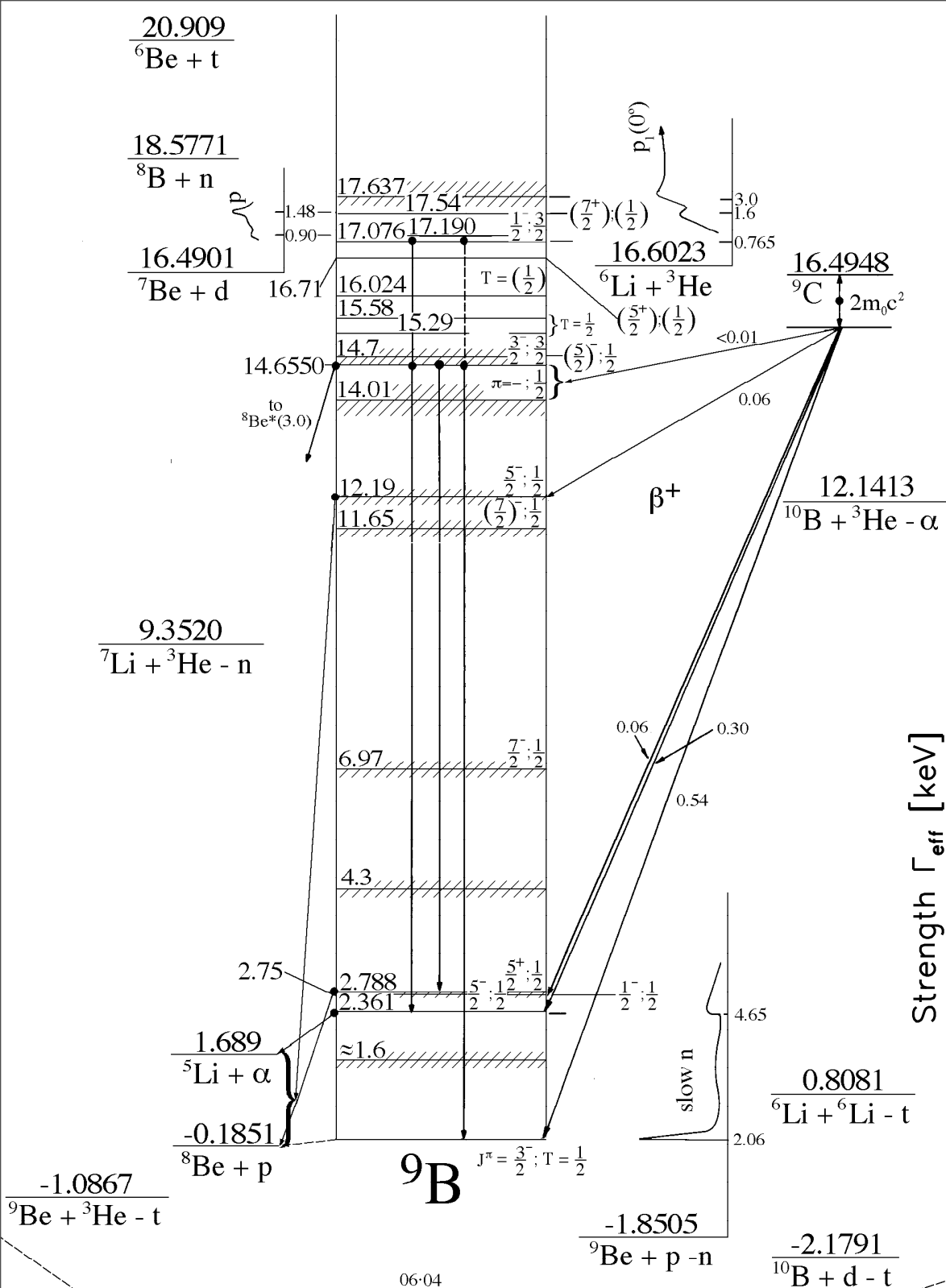
Resonant enhancements will occur if  $|E_{\text{res}}| \lesssim \Gamma_{\text{init}}$

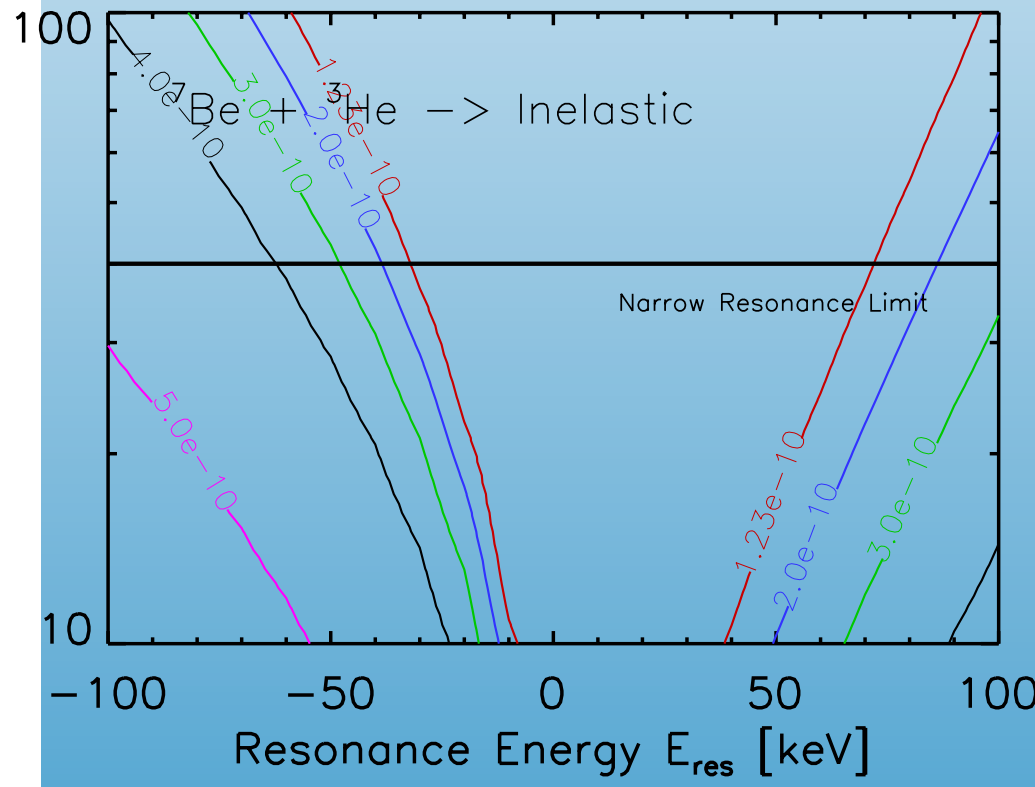
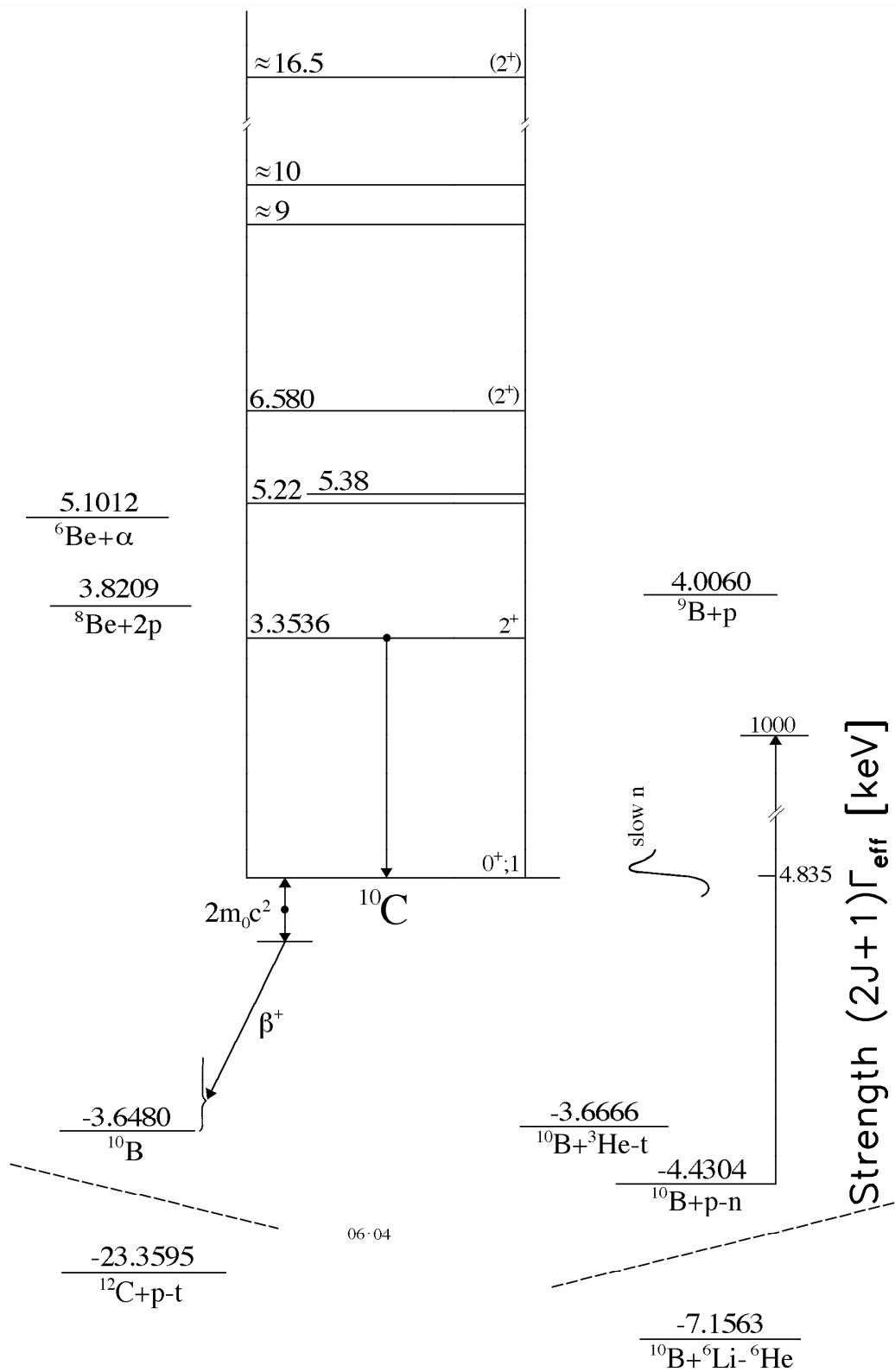
$$\sigma(E) = \frac{\omega}{8\pi\mu E} \frac{\Gamma_{\text{init}}\Gamma_{\text{fin}}}{(E - E_{\text{res}})^2 - (\Gamma_{\text{tot}}/2)^2}$$

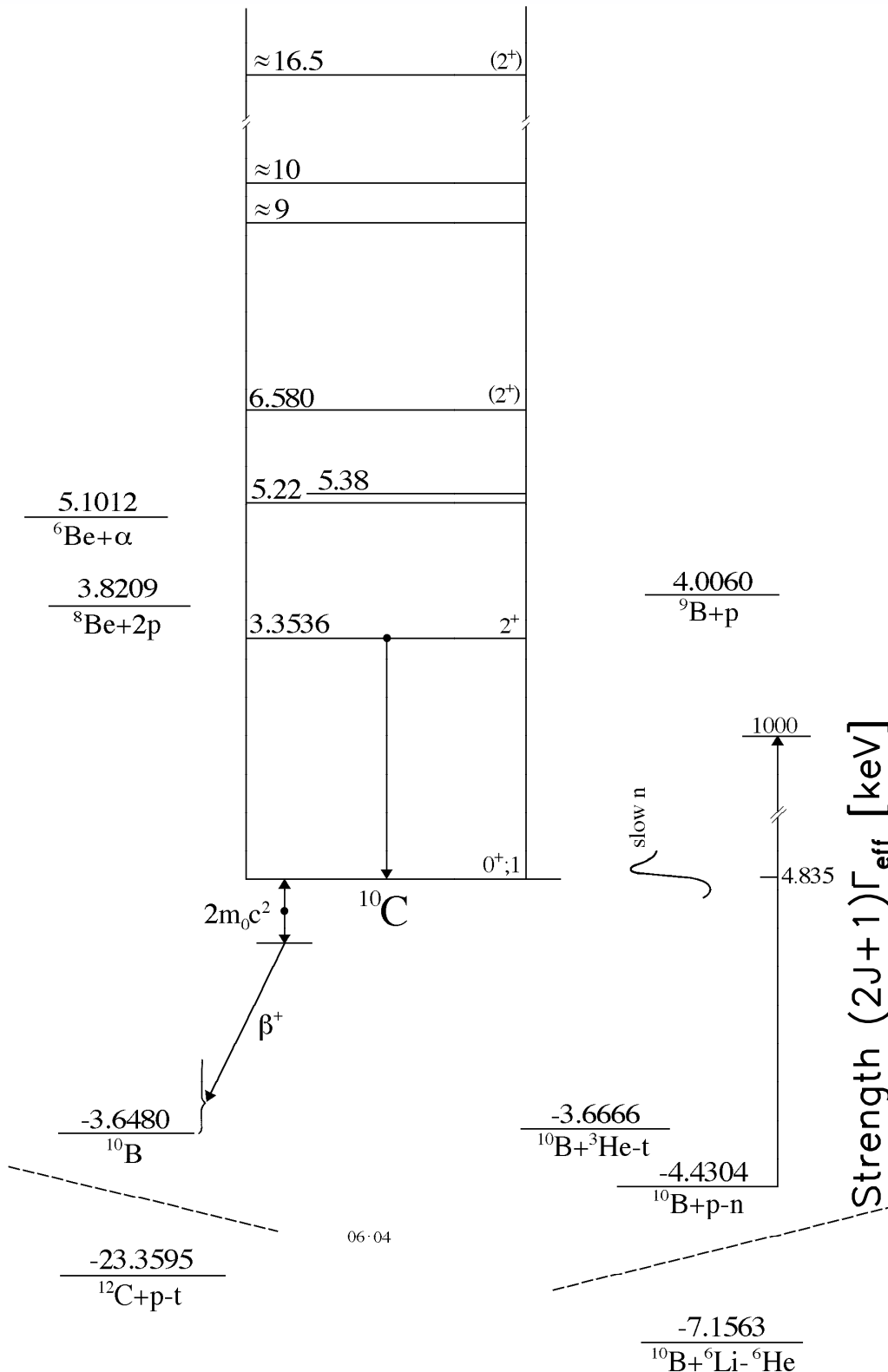
leading to a thermally averaged cross section  
(in the narrow width approximation)

$$\langle\sigma v\rangle = \left(\frac{2\pi}{\mu T}\right)^{3/2} \hbar^2 (\omega \Gamma_{\text{eff}})_{\text{res}} \exp\left(-\frac{E_{\text{res}}}{T}\right)$$



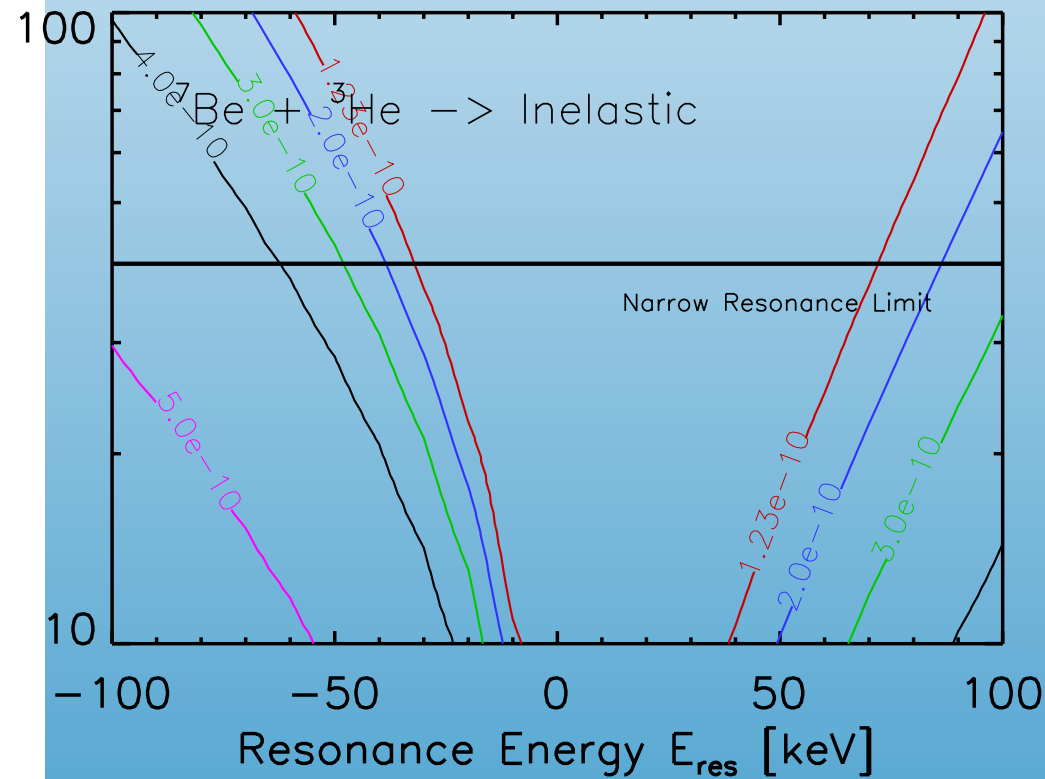






15.0  
 $^7\text{Be} + ^3\text{He}$

eg. if a 1- or 2- excited state of  $^{10}\text{C}$  were near 15.0 MeV .....



# Possible sources for the discrepancy

- Nuclear Rates

- Restricted by solar neutrino flux

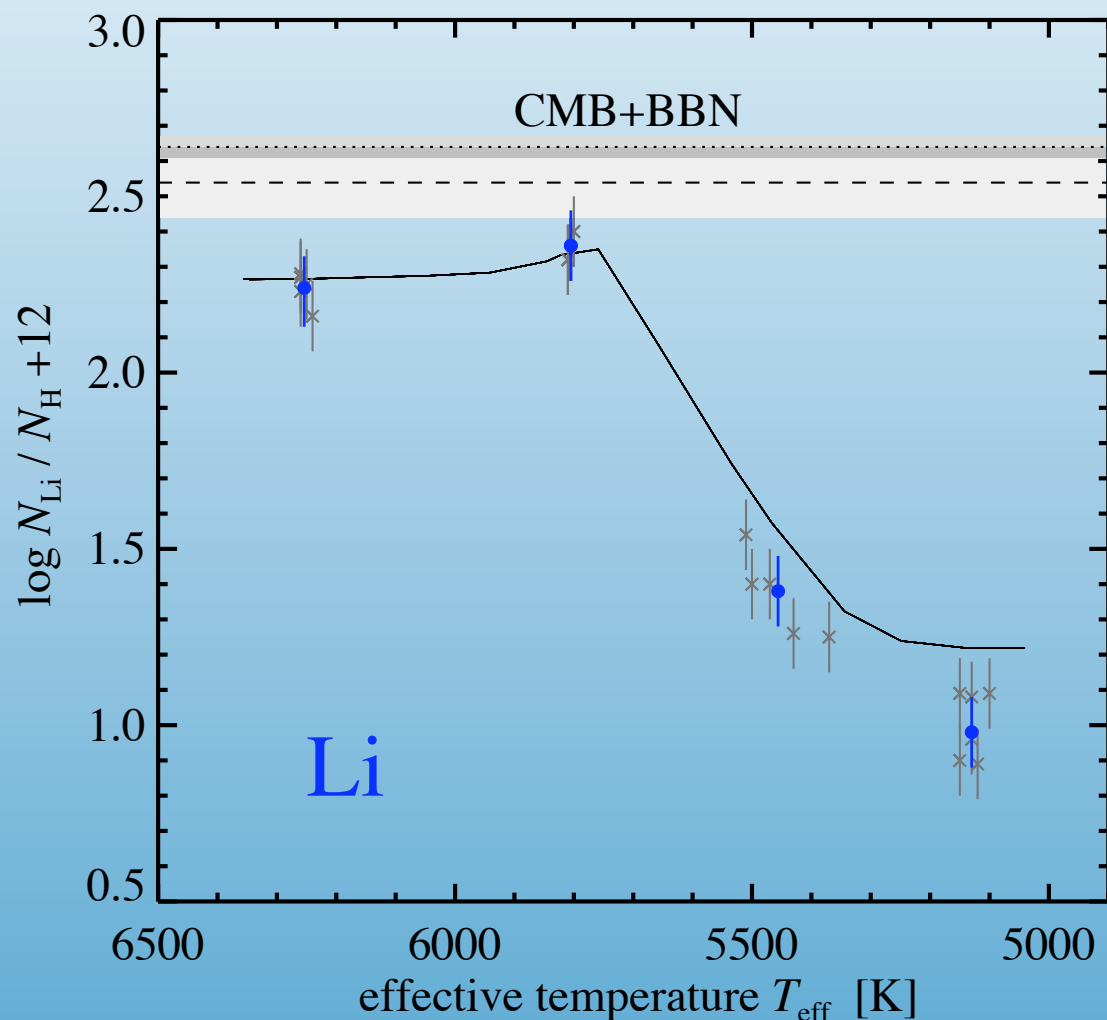
Coc et al.  
Cyburt, Fields, KAO

- Stellar Depletion

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

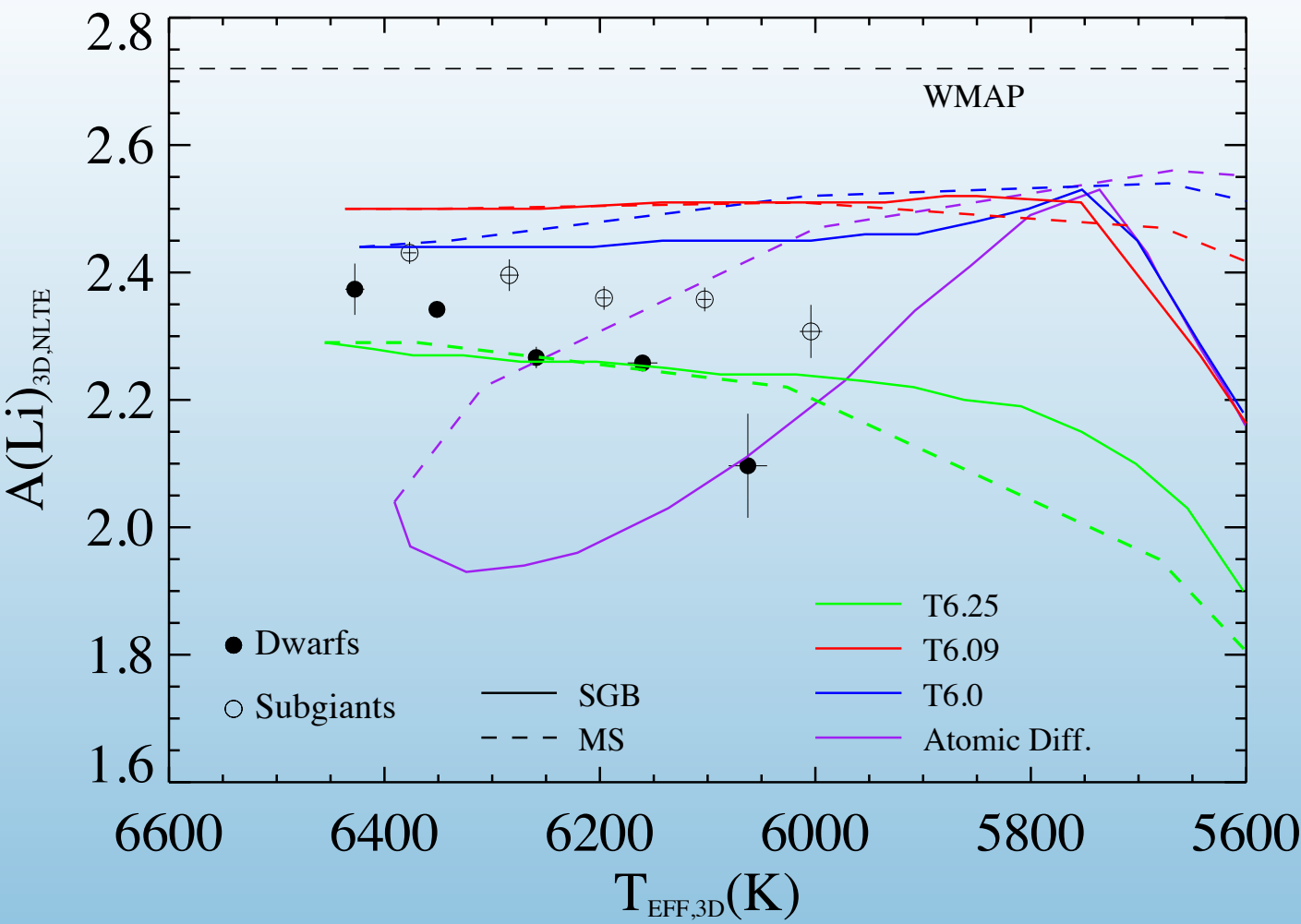
Vauclaire & Charbonnel  
Pinsonneault et al.  
Richard, Michaud, Richer  
Korn et al.

# Stellar Depletion in the Turbulence Model of Korn et al.

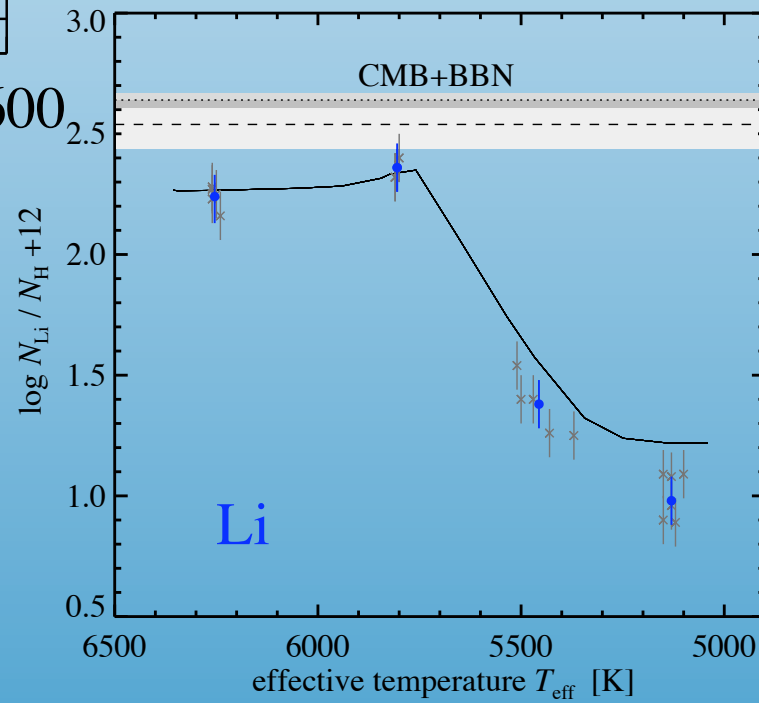


Note new BBN Li result  
pushes primordial value up from  
2.63 to 2.72

But,



from Gonzáles Hernández et al.



# Possible sources for the discrepancy

- Nuclear Rates

Coc et al.  
Cyburt, Fields, KAO

- Restricted by solar neutrino flux

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Vauclaire & Charbonnel

Pinsonneault et al.

Richard, Michaud, Richer

- Stellar parameters

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Coc et al.  
Cyburt, Fields, KAO

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Vauclaire & Charbonnel

Pinsonneault et al.

Richard, Michaud, Richer

- Stellar parameters

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

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



# Claim:

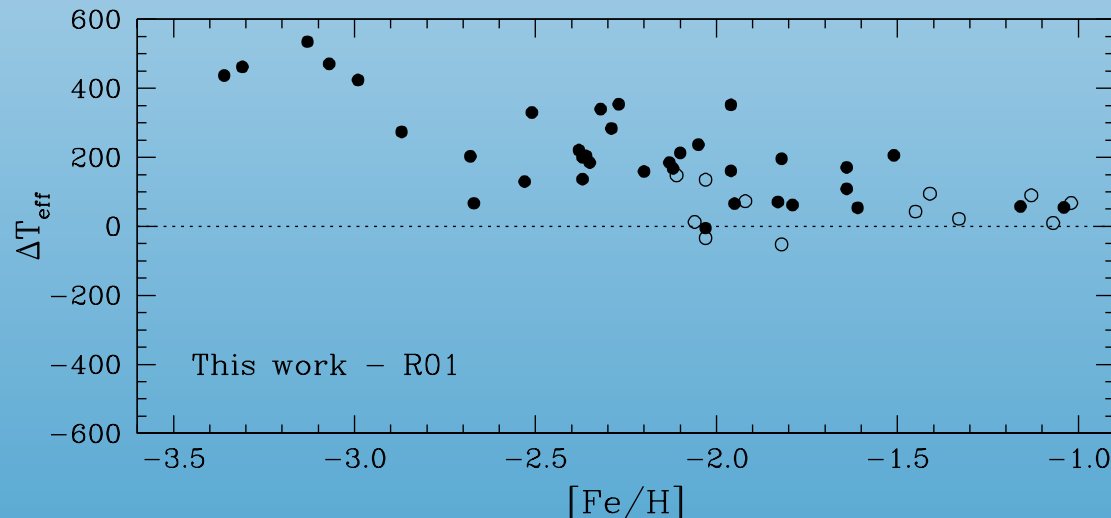
New evaluation of surface temperatures  
in 41 halo stars with systematically higher  
temperatures (100-300 K)

Melendez & Ramirez

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

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

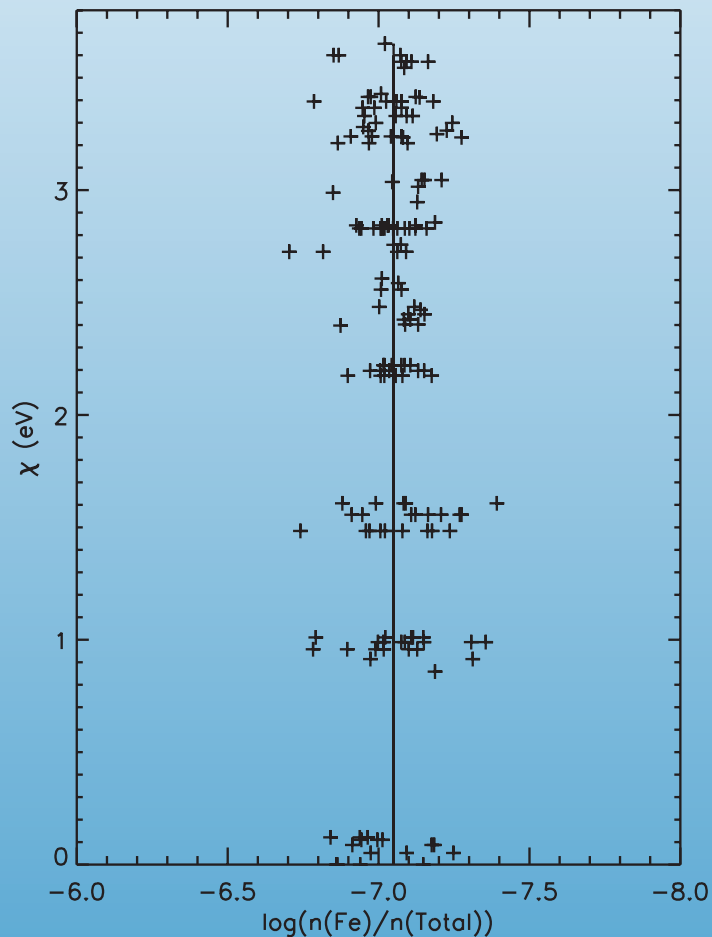
$$\text{BBN Prediction: } 10^{10} \text{Li}/\text{H} = (5.12^{+0.71}_{-0.62}) \times 10^{-10}$$



# Recent dedicated temperature determinations (excitation energy technique)

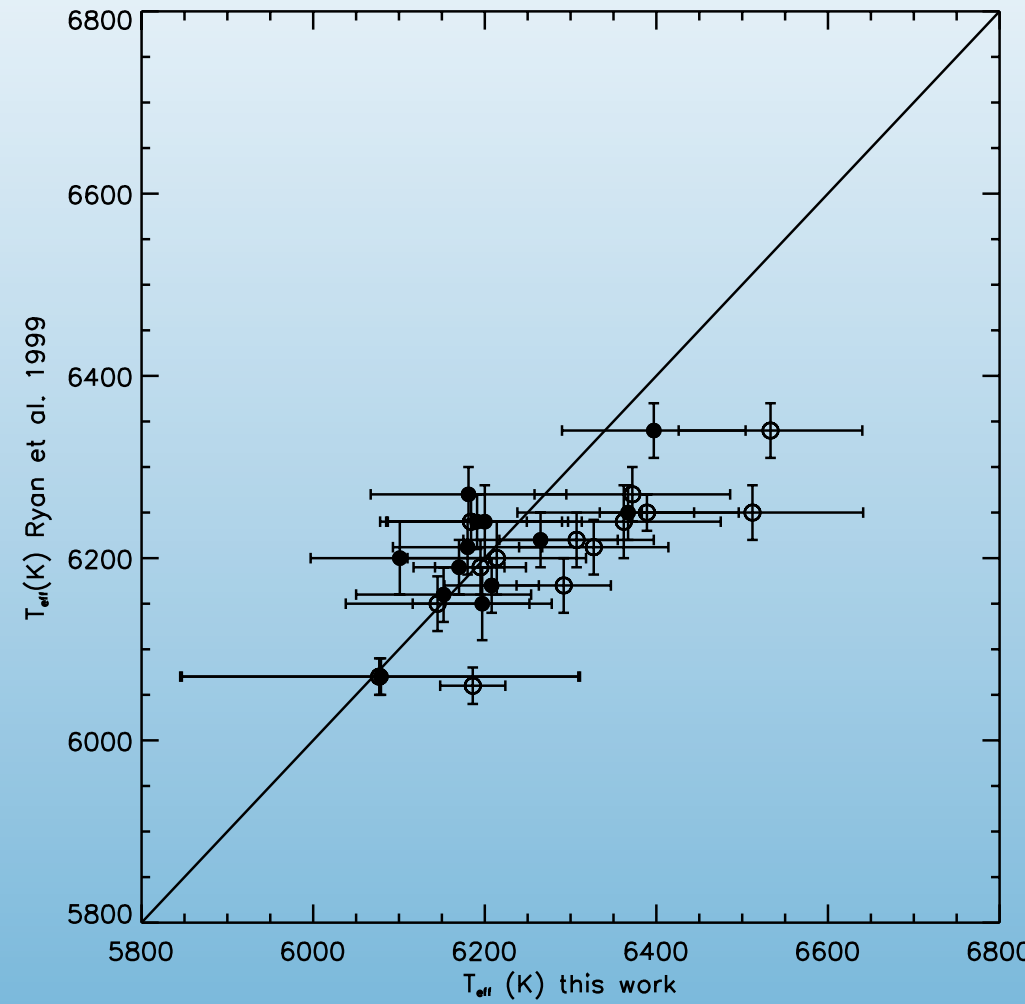
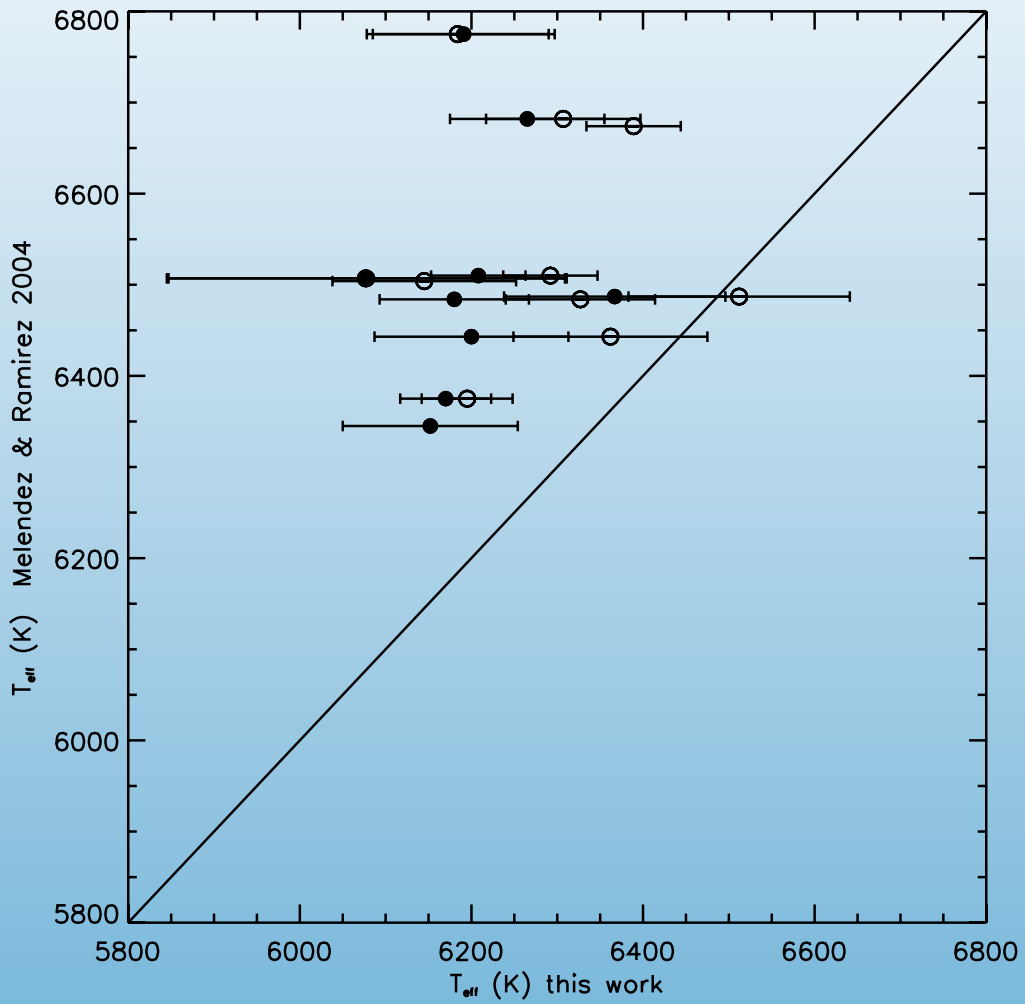
Use Fe I lines:

population of a given state  $\propto \exp(-\chi_i/T)$



Hosford, Ryan, Garcia-Perez, Norris, Olive

# Comparison



# Possible sources for the discrepancy

- Nuclear Rates

- Restricted by solar neutrino flux

Coc et al.  
Cyburt, Fields, KAO

- Stellar parameters

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

- Particle Decays

# Limits on Unstable particles due to Electromagnetic/Hadronic Production and Destruction of Nuclei

3 free parameters

$$\zeta_X = n_X m_X / n_\gamma = m_X Y_X \eta, \quad m_X, \\ \text{and } \tau_X$$

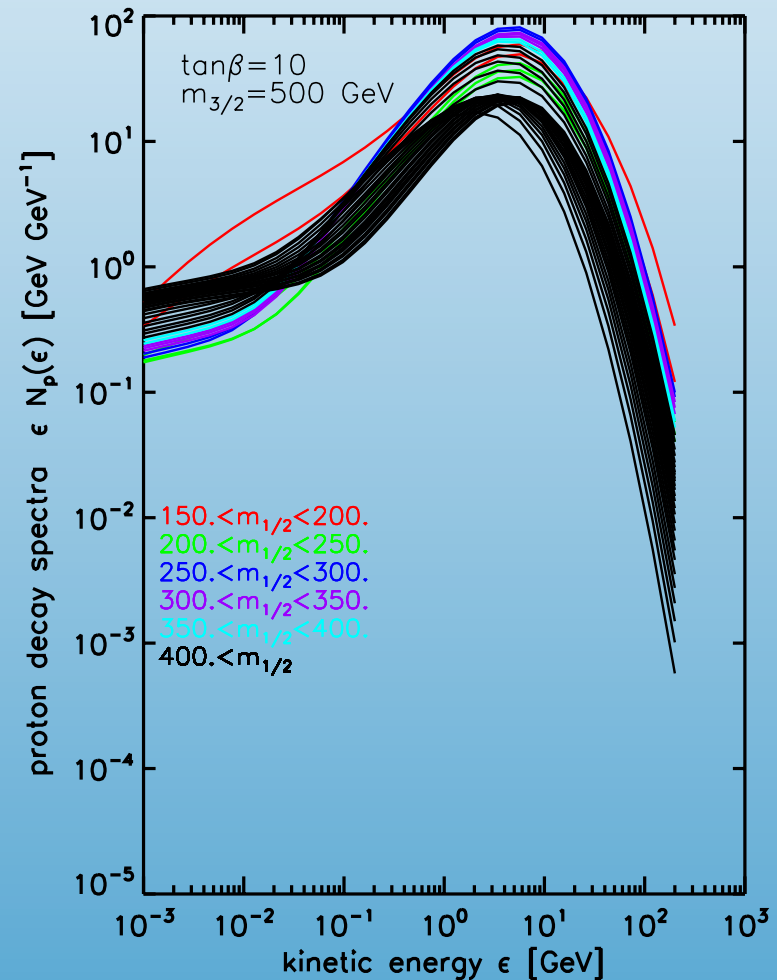
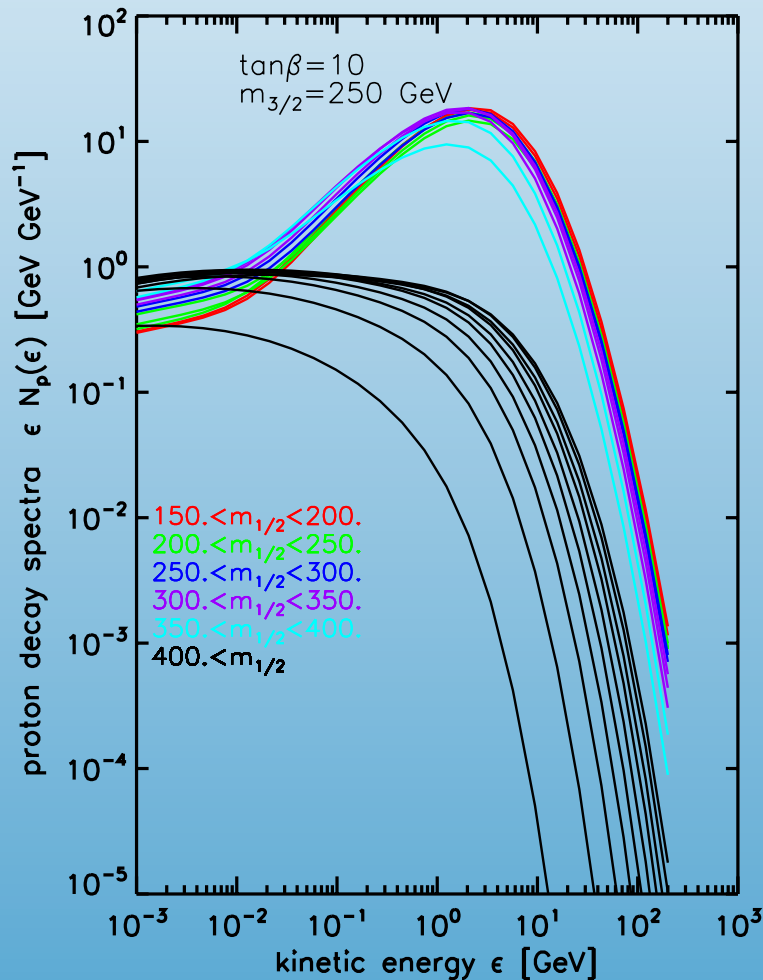
- Start with non-thermal injection spectrum (Pythia)
- Evolve element abundances including thermal (BBN) and non-thermal processes.

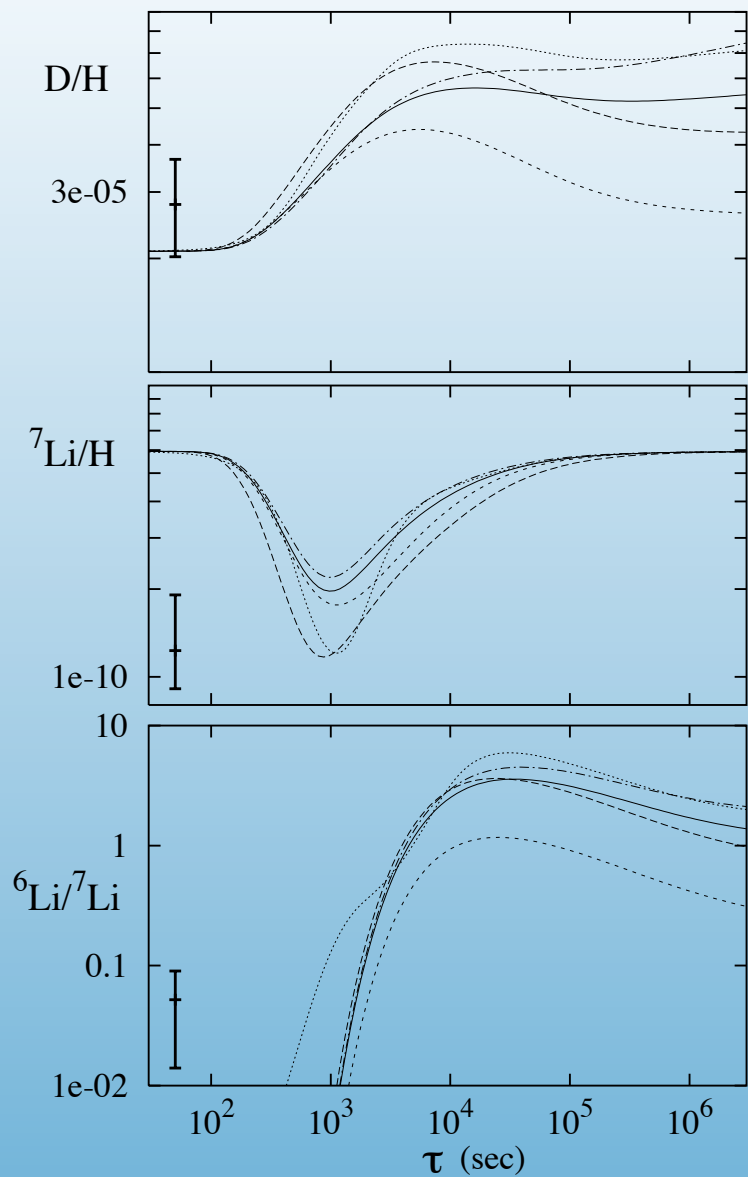
# E.g., Gravitino decay

Cyburt, Ellis, Fields, Luo, Olive, Spanos

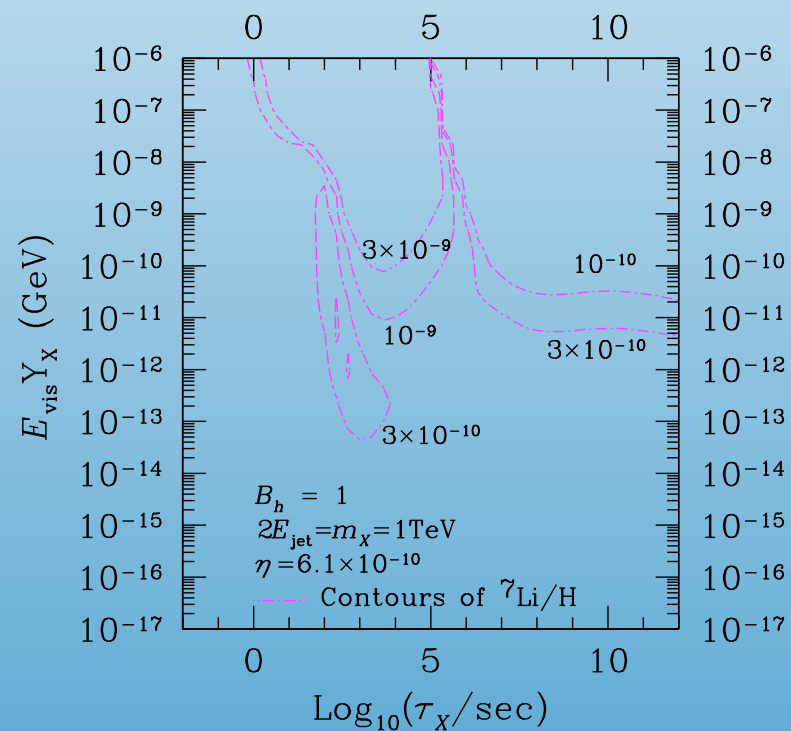
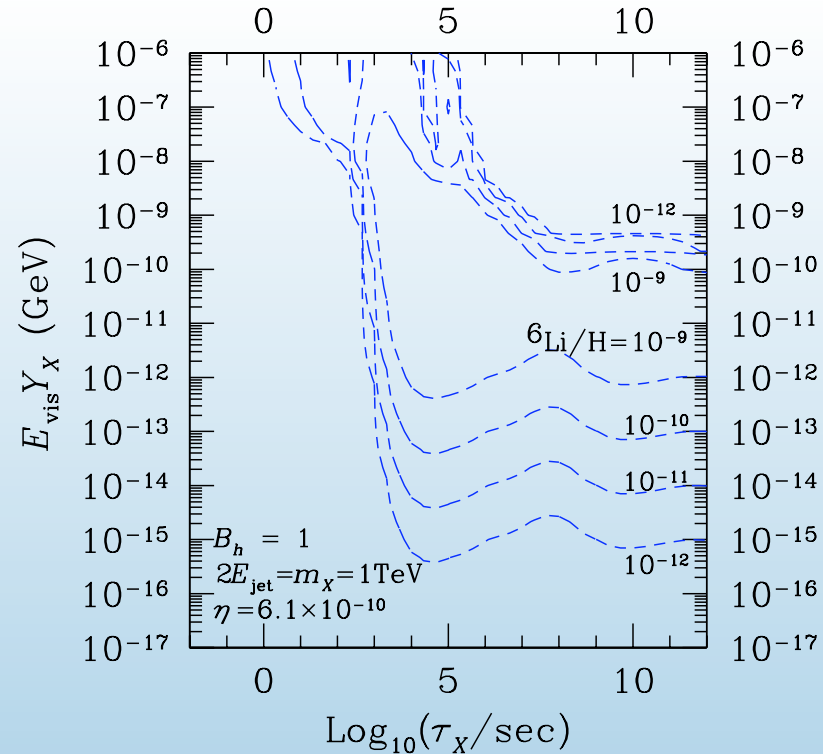
$$\tilde{G} \rightarrow \tilde{f} f, \tilde{G} \rightarrow \tilde{\chi}^+ W^- (H^-), \tilde{G} \rightarrow \tilde{\chi}_i^0 \gamma (Z), \tilde{G} \rightarrow \tilde{\chi}_i^0 H_i^0 \tilde{G} \rightarrow \tilde{g} g.$$

plus relevant 3-body decays

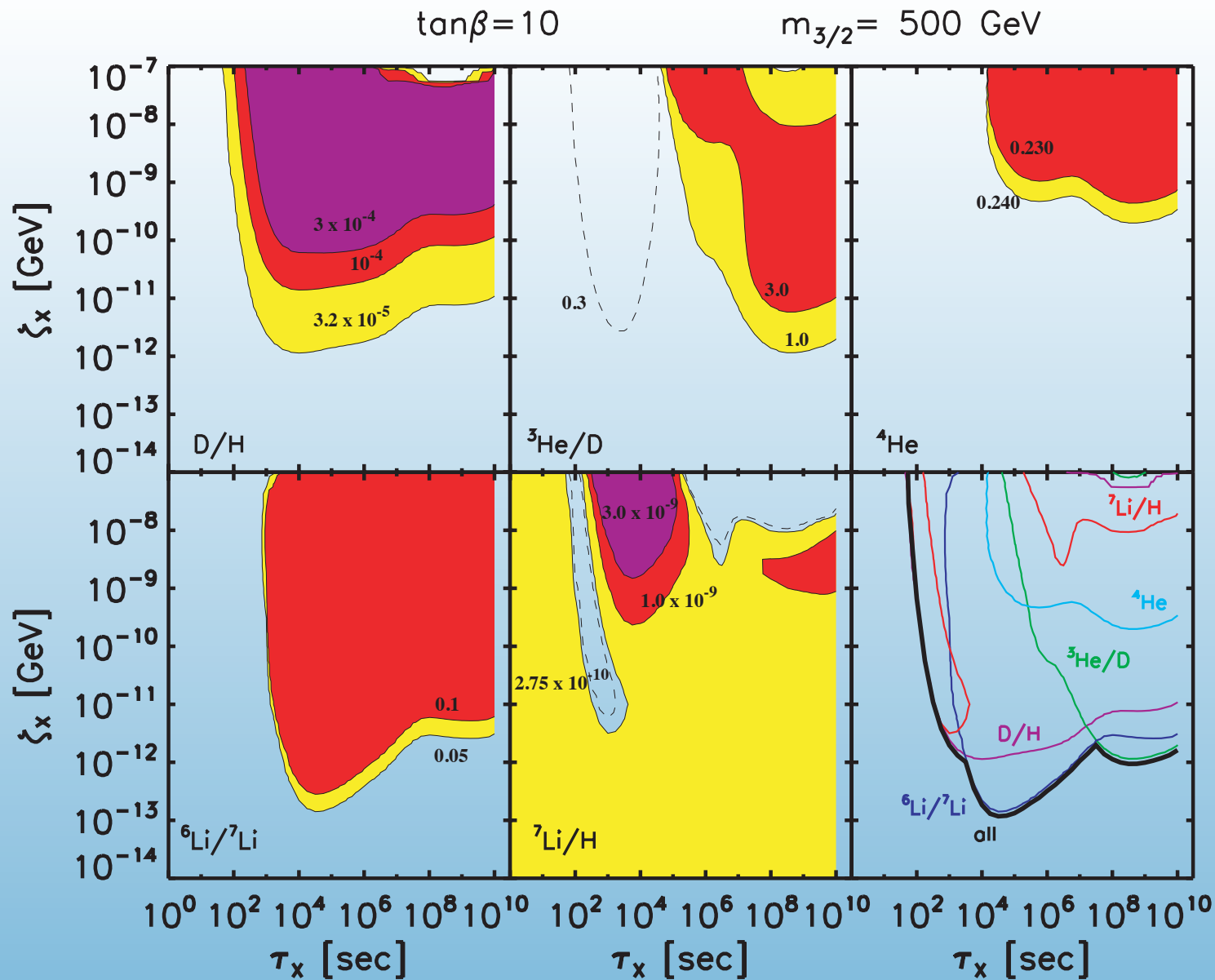




Jedamzik



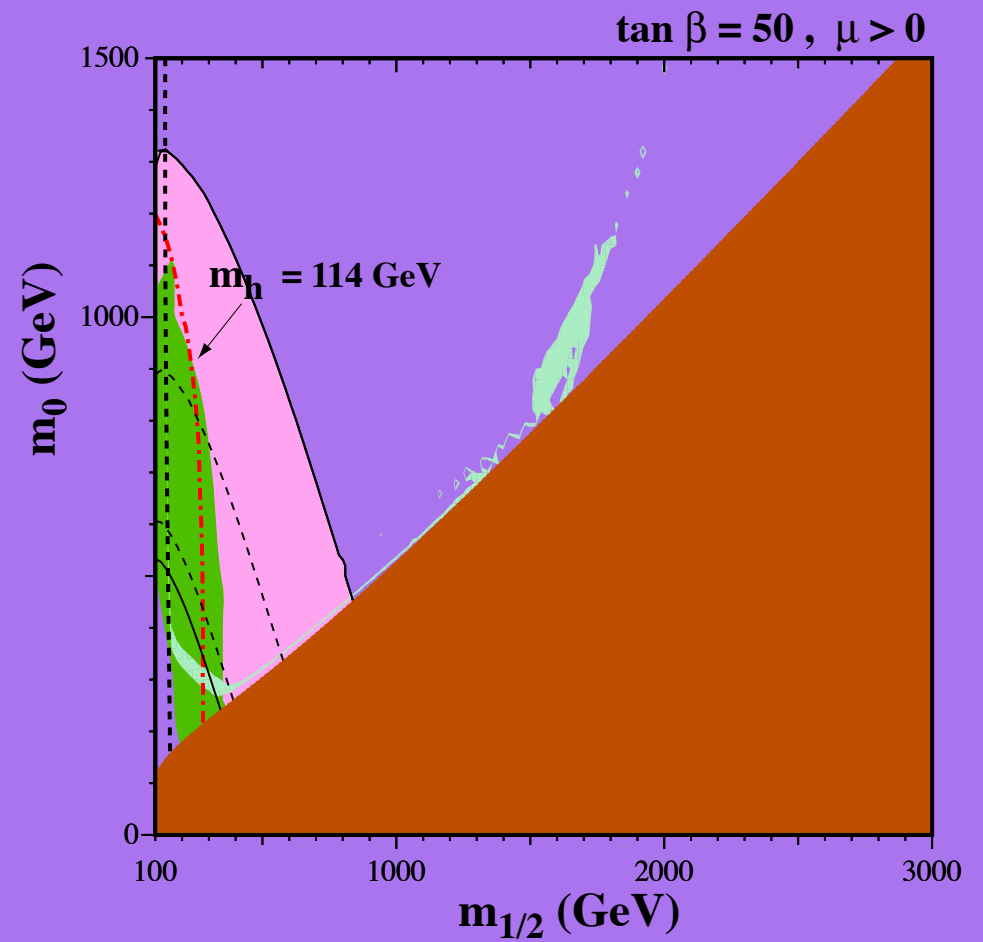
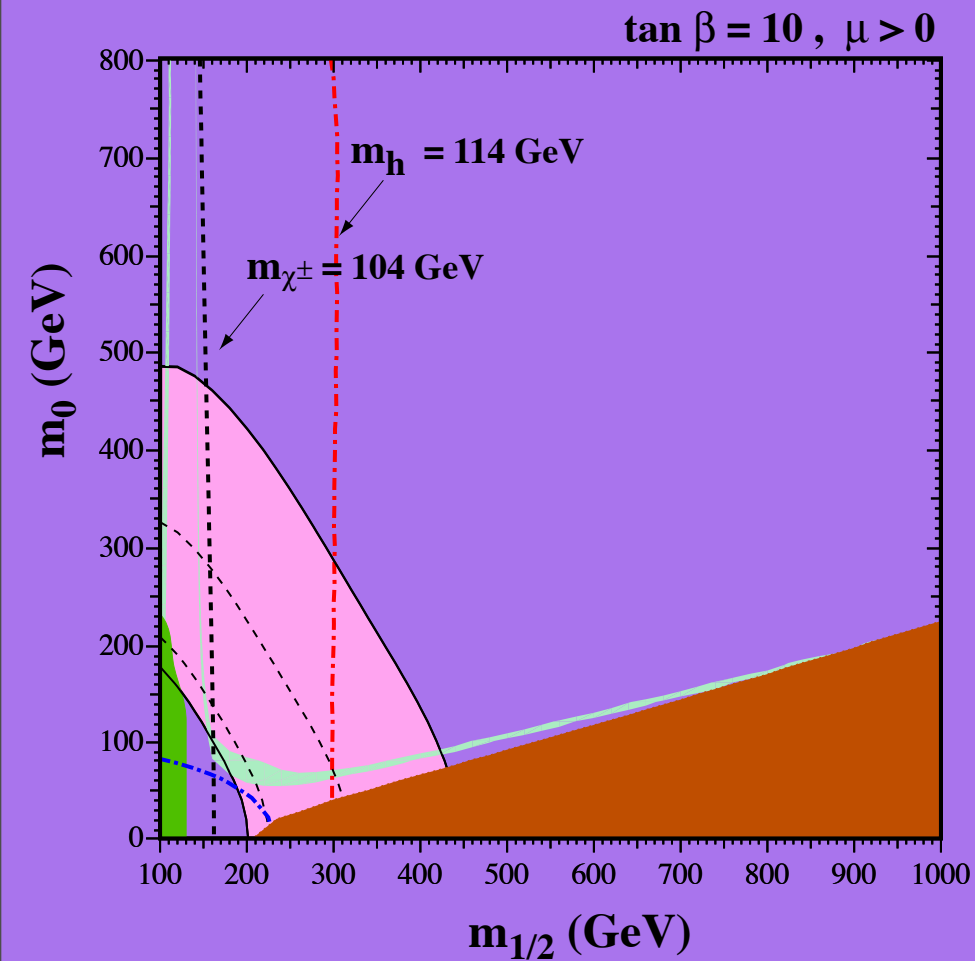
Kawasaki, Kohri, Moroi



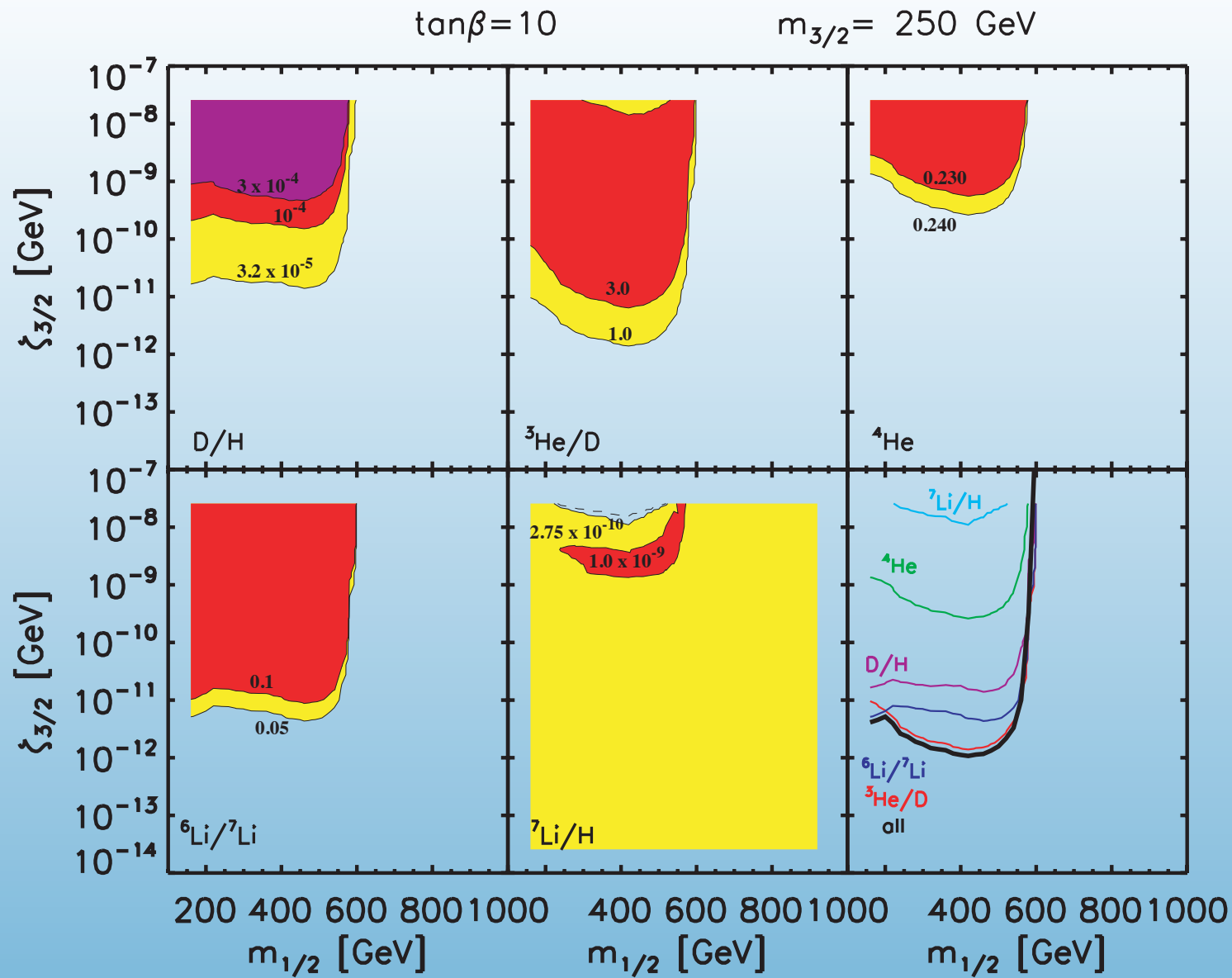
Based on  $m_{1/2} = 300$  GeV,  $\tan \beta = 10$  ;  $B_h \sim 0.2$



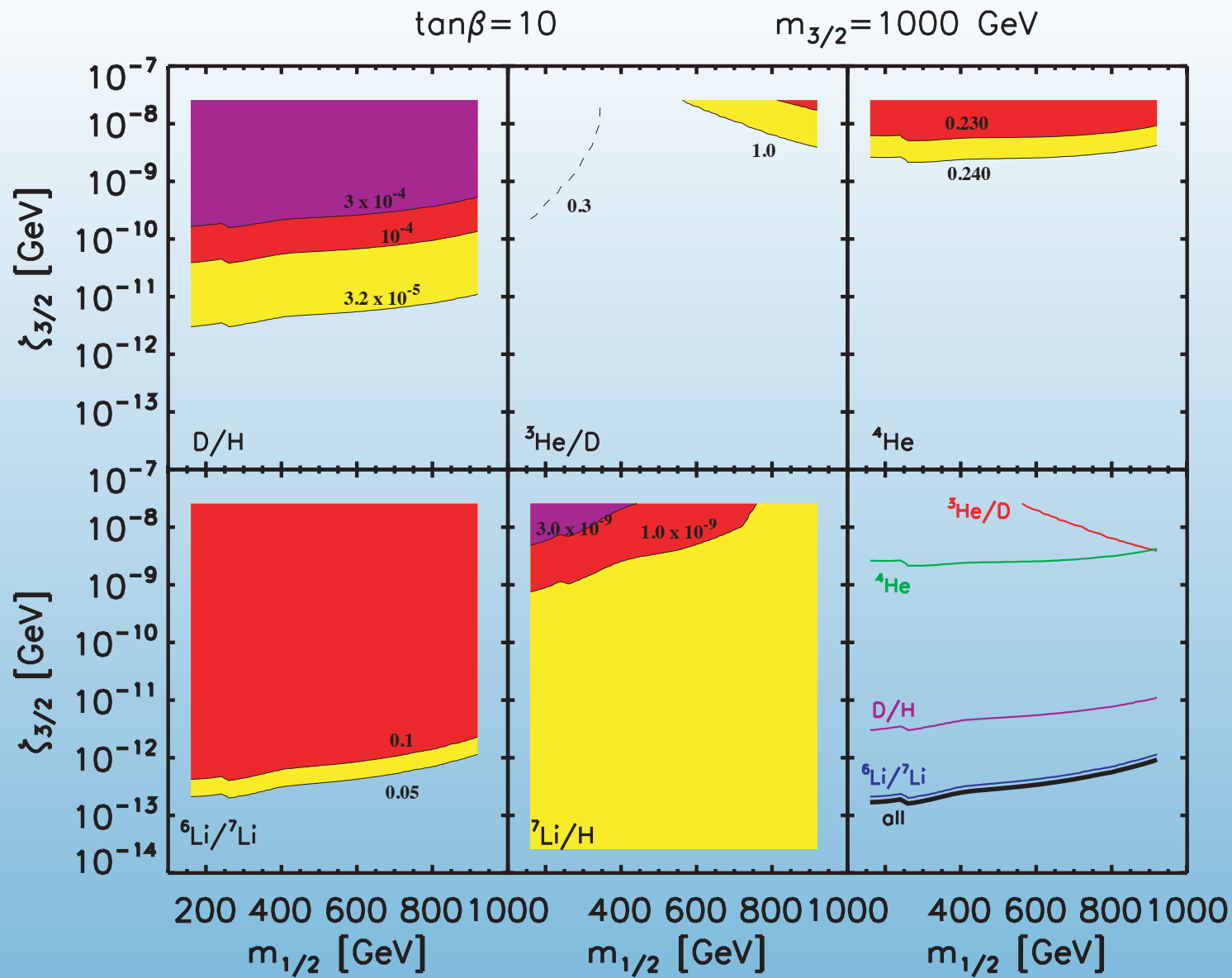
# CMSSM



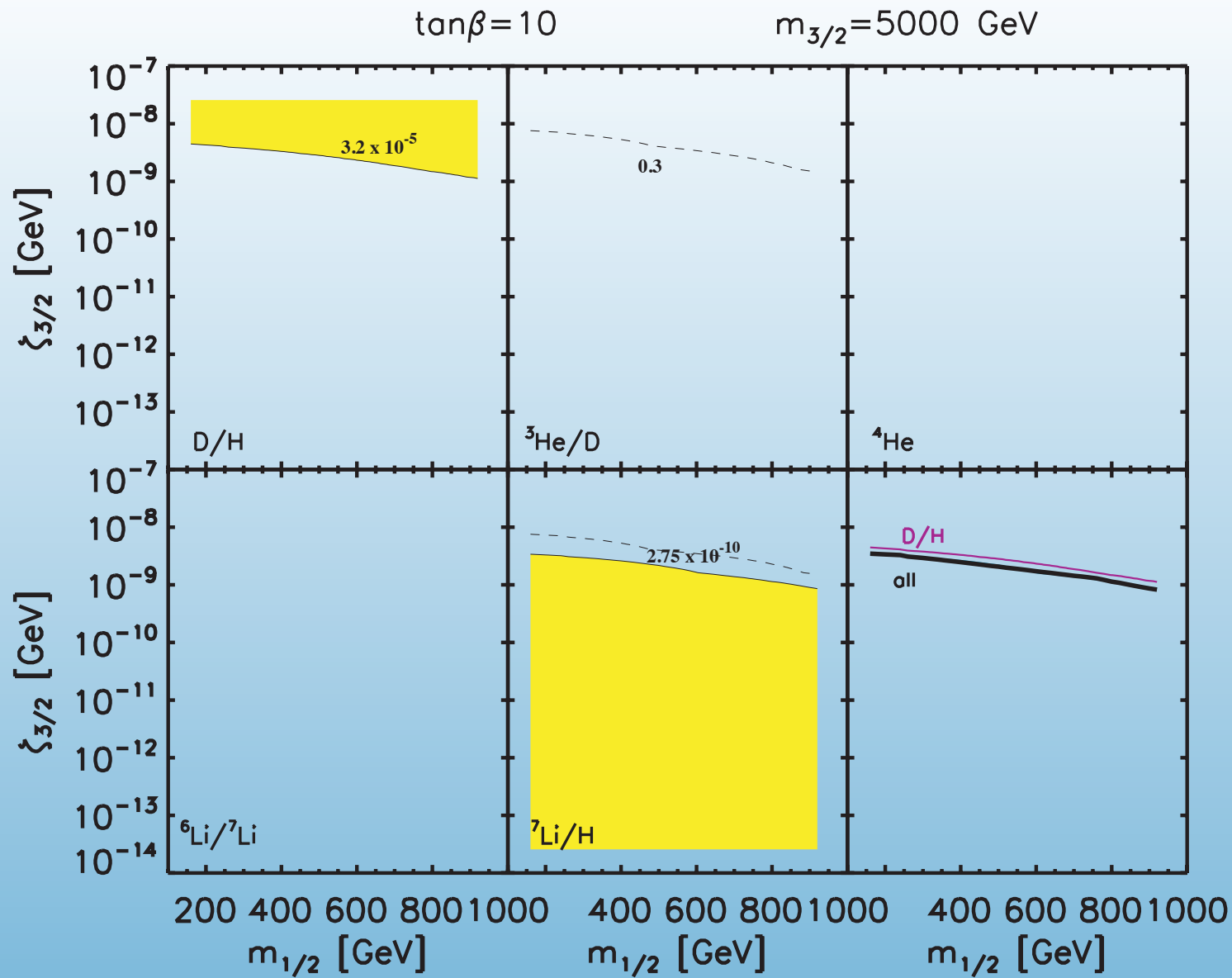
EOSS



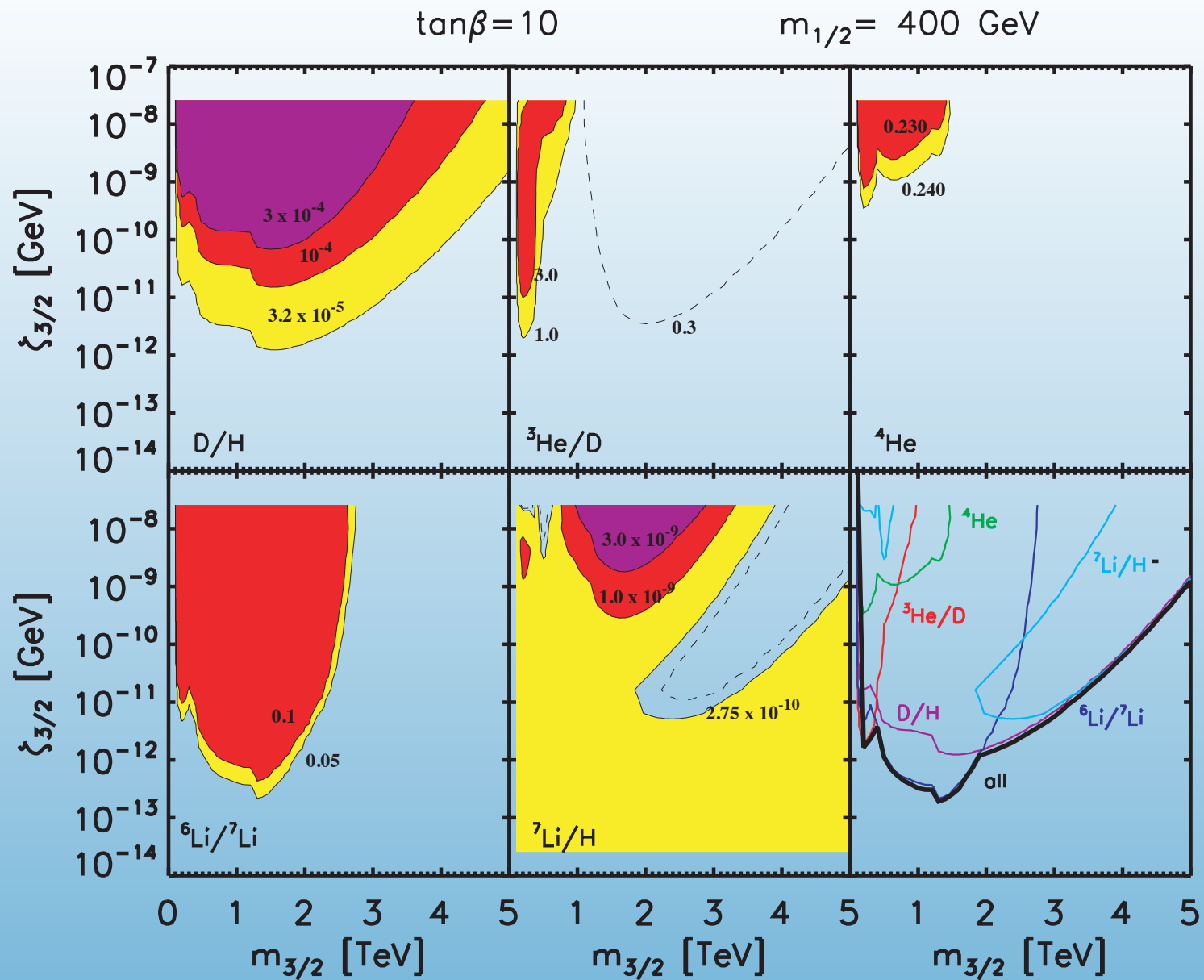
co-annihilation strip,  $\tan \beta = 10$  ;  $m_{3/2} = 250 \text{ GeV}$



co-annihilation strip,  $\tan \beta = 10$  ;  $m_{3/2} = 1000$  GeV



co-annihilation strip,  $\tan \beta = 10$  ;  $m_{3/2} = 5000$  GeV

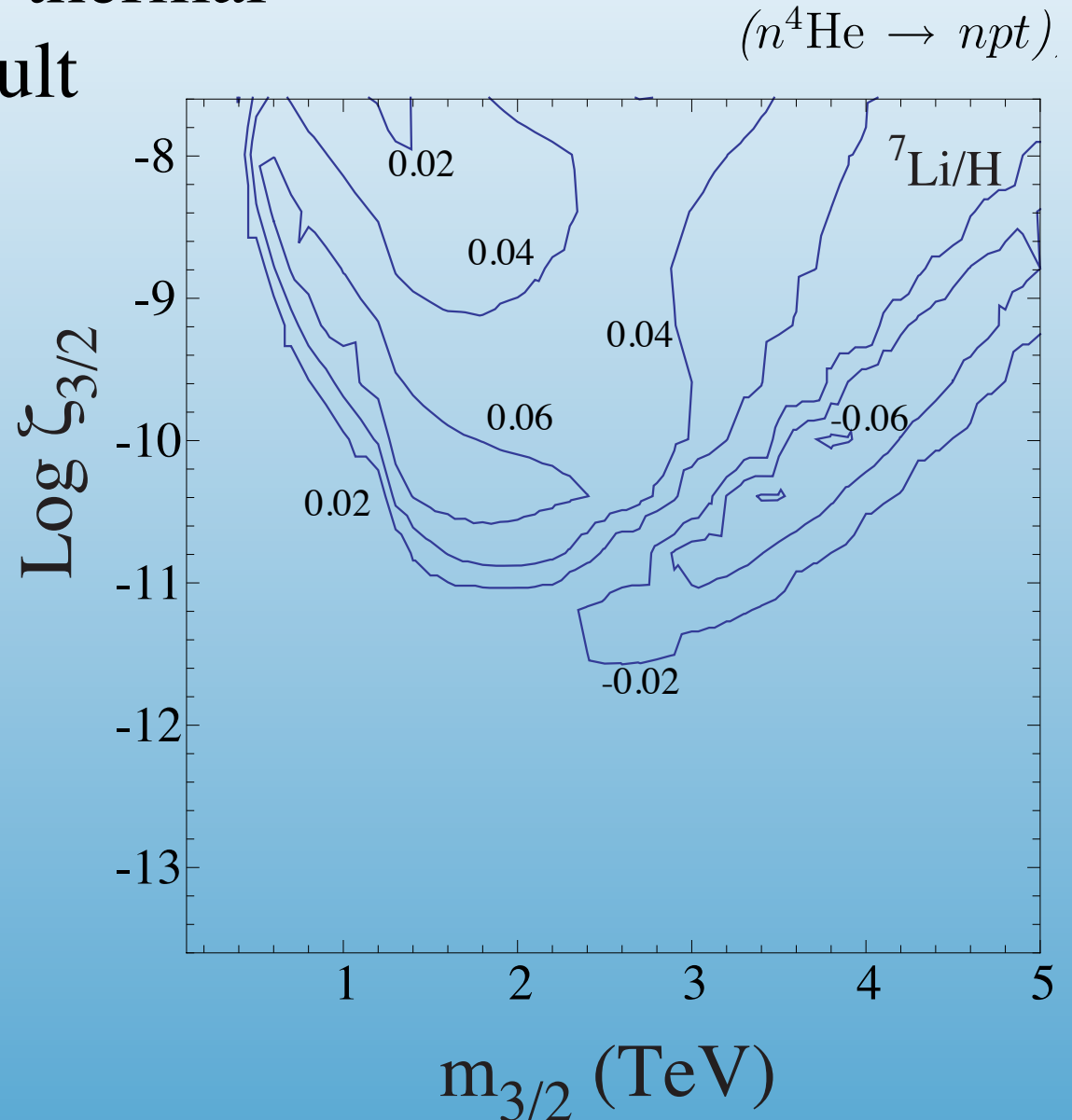


Benchmark point C,  $\tan \beta = 10$  ;  $m_{1/2} = 400$  GeV

# Uncertainties

There are only a few non-thermal rates which affect the result

$p^4\text{He} \rightarrow np^3\text{He}$	20%
$p^4\text{He} \rightarrow ddp$	40%
$p^4\text{He} \rightarrow dnpp$	40%
$t^4\text{He} \rightarrow {}^6\text{Li}n$	20%
${}^3\text{He}^4\text{He} \rightarrow {}^6\text{Li}p$	20%
$n^4\text{He} \rightarrow npt$	20%
$n^4\text{He} \rightarrow ddn$	40%
$n^4\text{He} \rightarrow dnnp$	40%
$p^4\text{He} \rightarrow ppt$	20%
$n^4\text{He} \rightarrow nn^3\text{He}$	20%

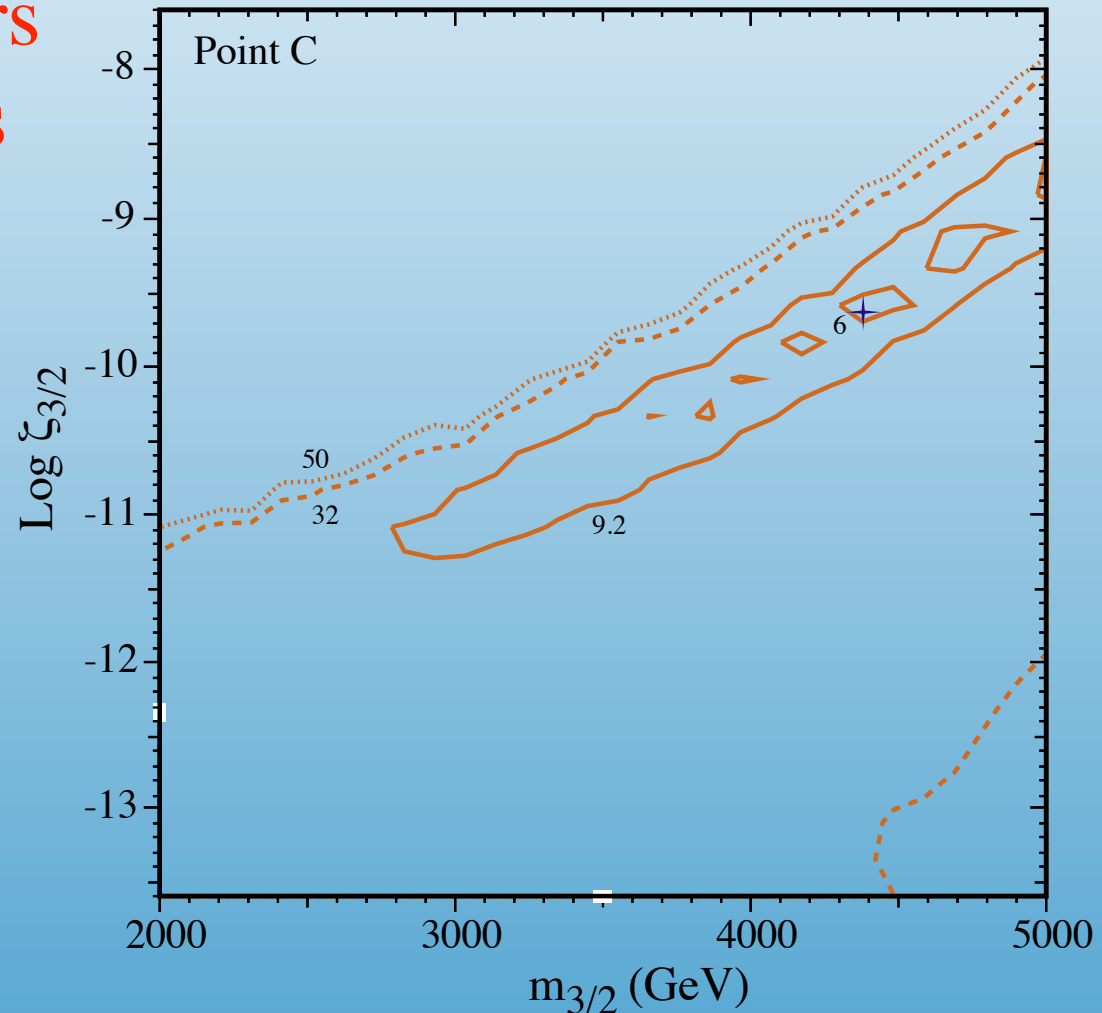


# How well can you do

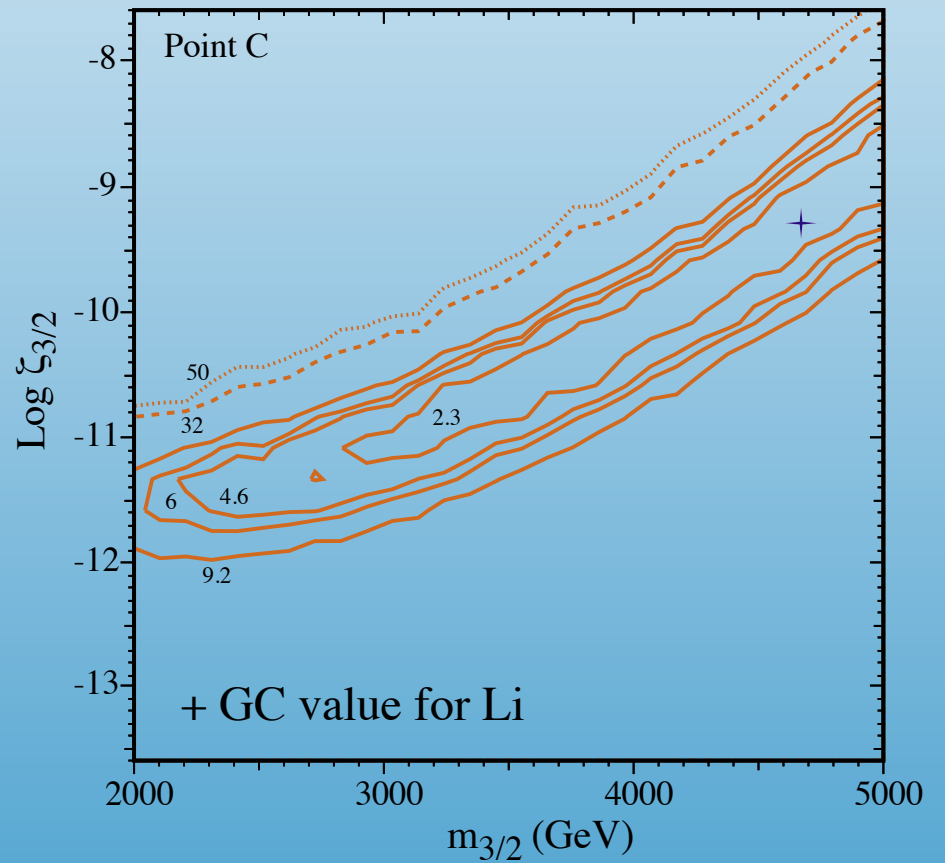
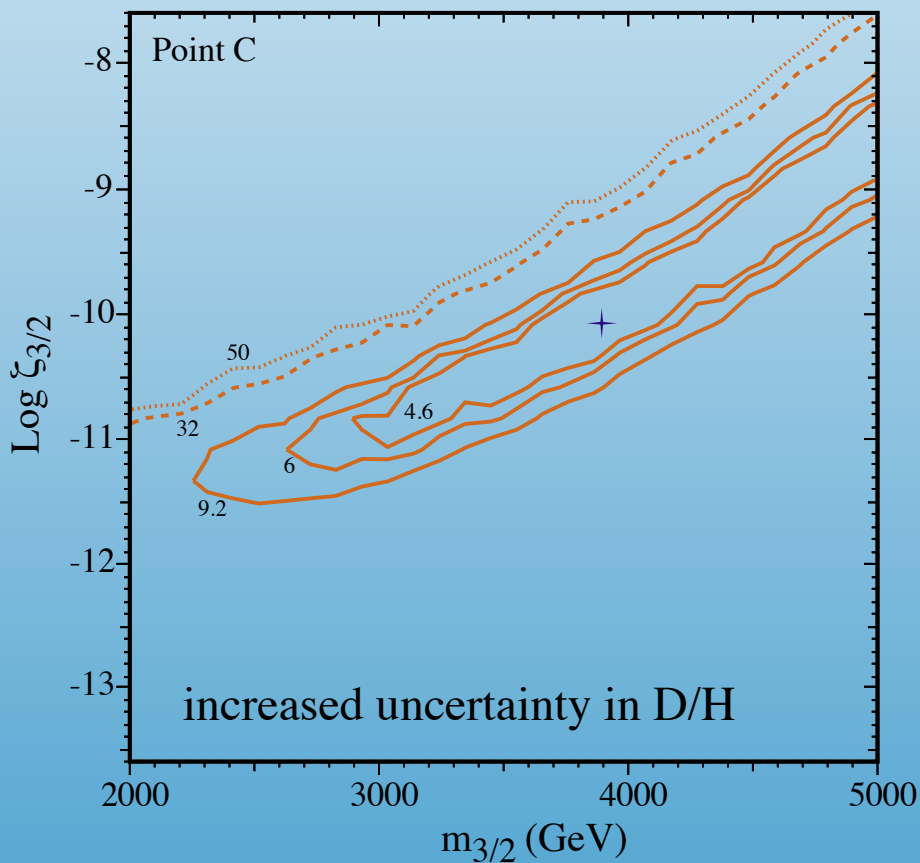
$$\chi^2 \equiv \left( \frac{Y_p - 0.256}{0.011} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\frac{D}{H} - 2.82 \times 10^{-5}}{0.27 \times 10^{-5}} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\frac{{}^7\text{Li}}{H} - 1.23 \times 10^{-10}}{0.71 \times 10^{-10}} \right)^2 + \sum_i s_i^2,$$

SBBN:  $\chi^2 = 31.7$  - field stars

SBBN:  $\chi^2 = 21.8$  - GC stars



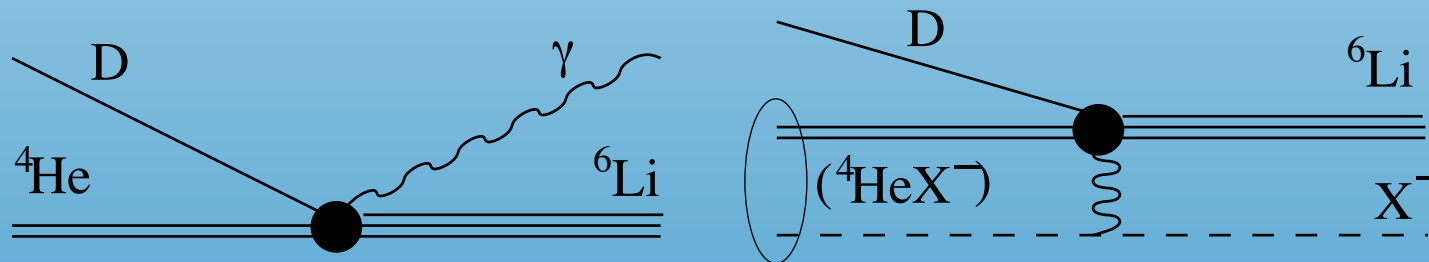
	$m_{3/2}[\text{GeV}]$	$\text{Log}_{10}(\zeta_{3/2}/[\text{GeV}])$	$Y_p$	$\text{D}/\text{H} (\times 10^{-5})$	${}^7\text{Li}/\text{H} (\times 10^{-10})$	$\sum s_i^2$	$\chi^2$
BBN	—	—	0.2487	2.52	5.12	—	31.7
C	4380	-9.69	0.2487	3.15	2.53	0.26	5.5
E	4850	-9.27	0.2487	3.20	2.42	0.29	5.5
L	4380	-9.69	0.2487	3.21	2.37	0.26	5.4
M	4860	-10.29	0.2487	3.23	2.51	1.06	7.0
C	4680	-9.39	0.2487	3.06	2.85	0.08	2.0
M	4850	-10.47	0.2487	3.11	2.97	0.09	2.7
C	3900	-10.05	0.2487	3.56	1.81	0.02	2.8
C	4660	-9.27	0.2487	3.20	2.45	0.16	1.1



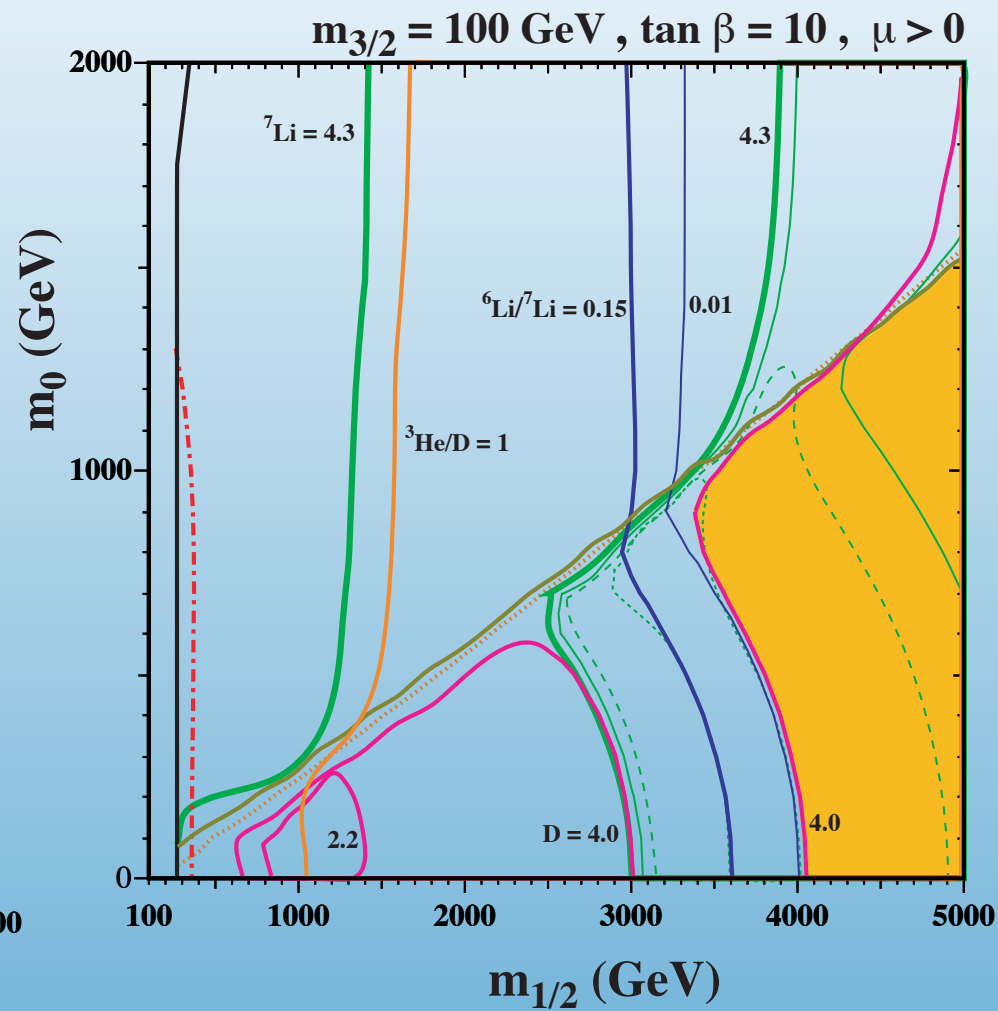
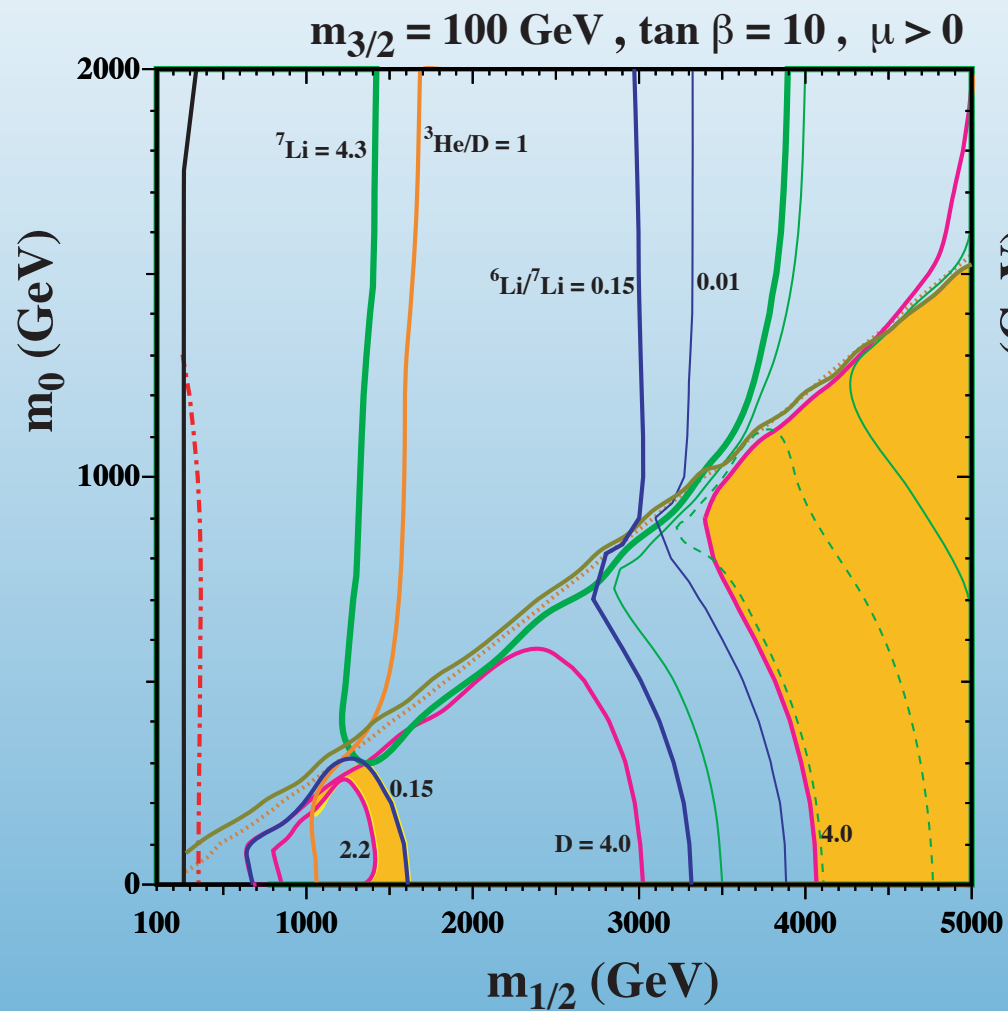


# Effects of Bound States

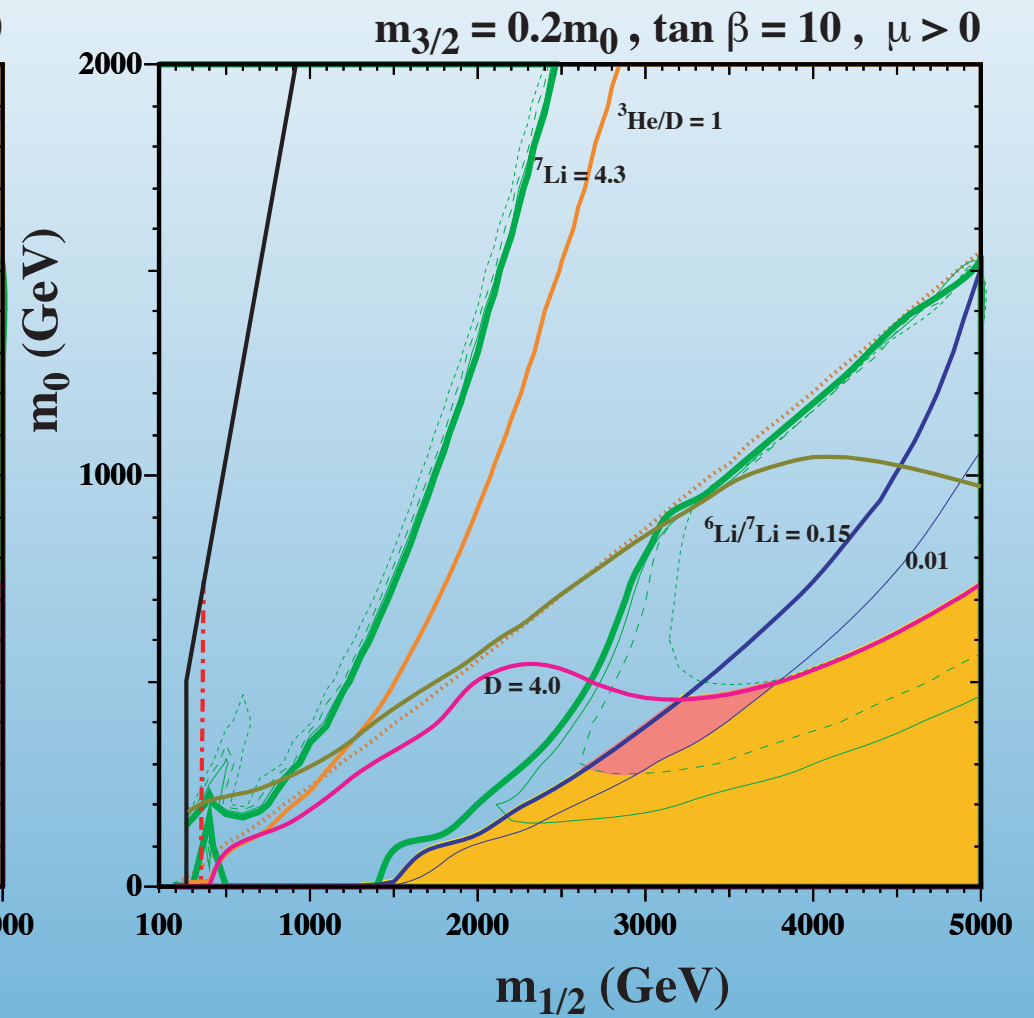
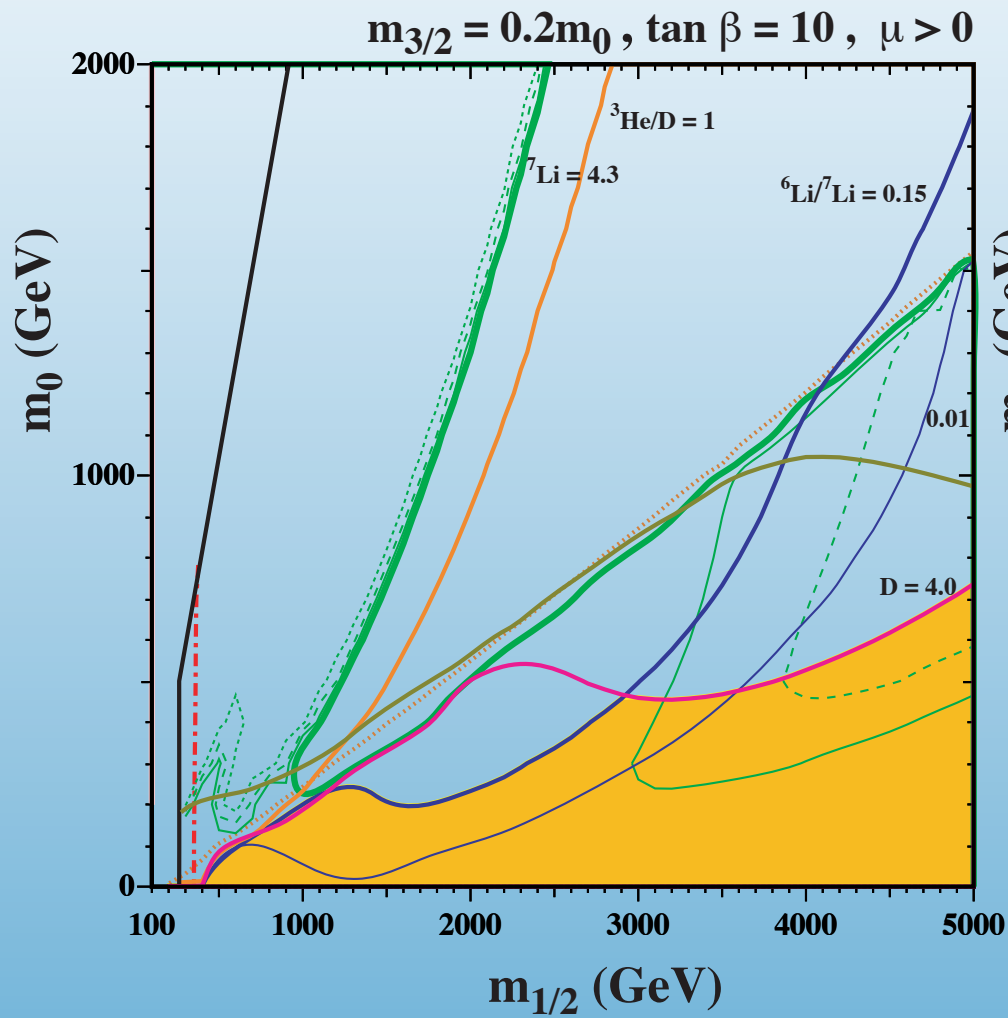
- In SUSY models with a  $\tilde{\tau}$  NLSP, bound states form between  ${}^4\text{He}$  and  $\tilde{\tau}$
- The  ${}^4\text{He} (D, \gamma) {}^6\text{Li}$  reaction is normally highly suppressed (production of low energy  $\gamma$ )
- Bound state reaction is not suppressed



Pospelov



Cyburt, Ellis, Fields, KO, Spanos



Cyburt, Ellis, Fields, KO, Spanos

# Possible sources for the discrepancy

- Stellar parameters

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

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

- Particle Decays

- Variable Constants

# Limits on $\alpha$ from BBN

Contributions to  $Y$  come from  $n/p$  which in turn come from  $\Delta m_N$

Contributions to  $\Delta m_N$ :

Kolb, Perry, & Walker

Campbell & Olive

Bergstrom, Iguri, & Rubinstein

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

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

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

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

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

## 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:  $Q = \Delta m_N, \tau_N, B_D$

Coc, Nunes, Olive, Uzan, Vangioni  
Dmitriev & Flambaum

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

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

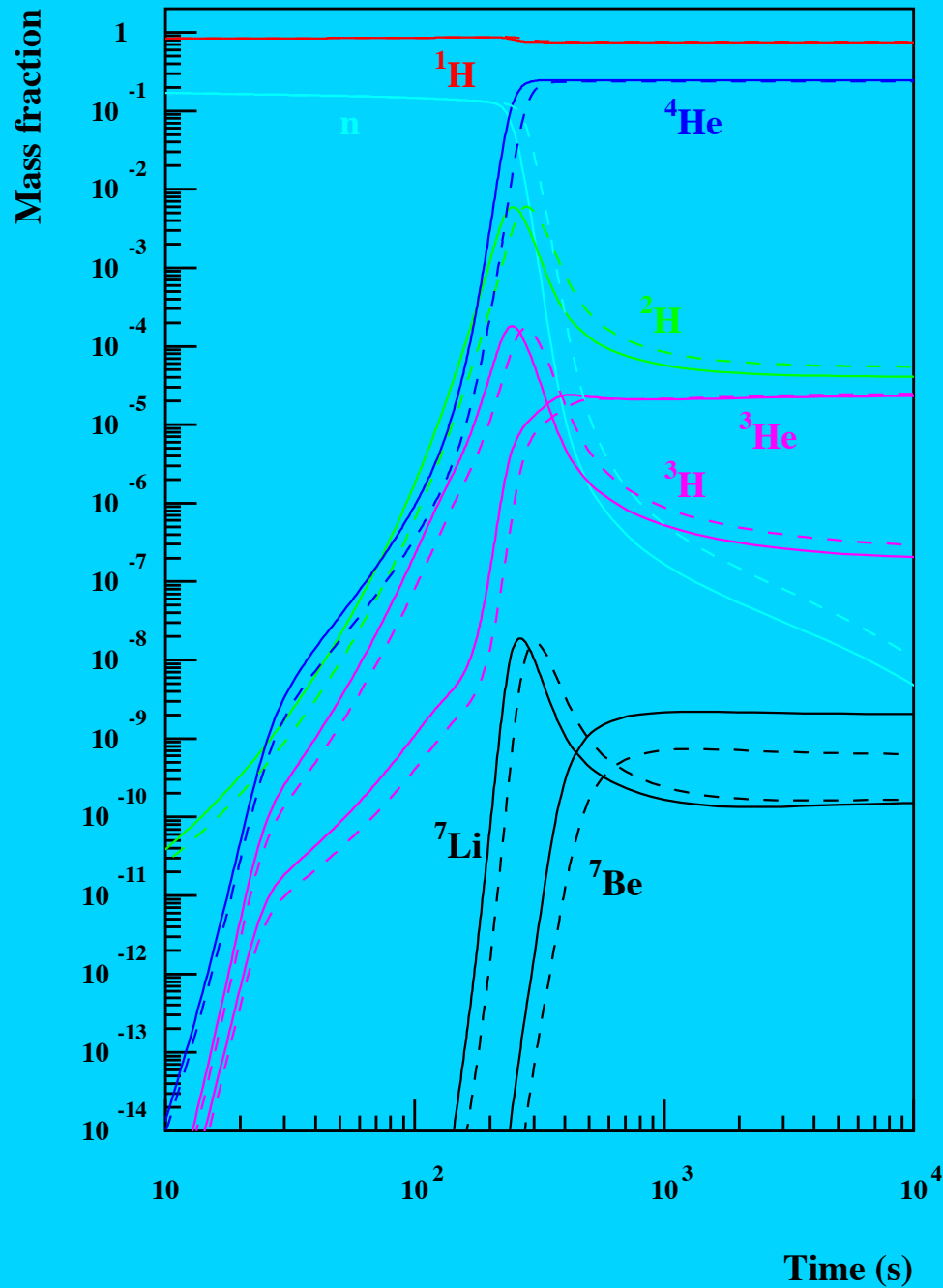
$$\frac{\Delta Q}{Q} = (0.1 + 0.7S - 0.6R) \frac{\Delta \alpha}{\alpha}$$

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

Coc, Nunes, Olive, Uzan, Vangioni  
Dmitriev & Flambaum

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

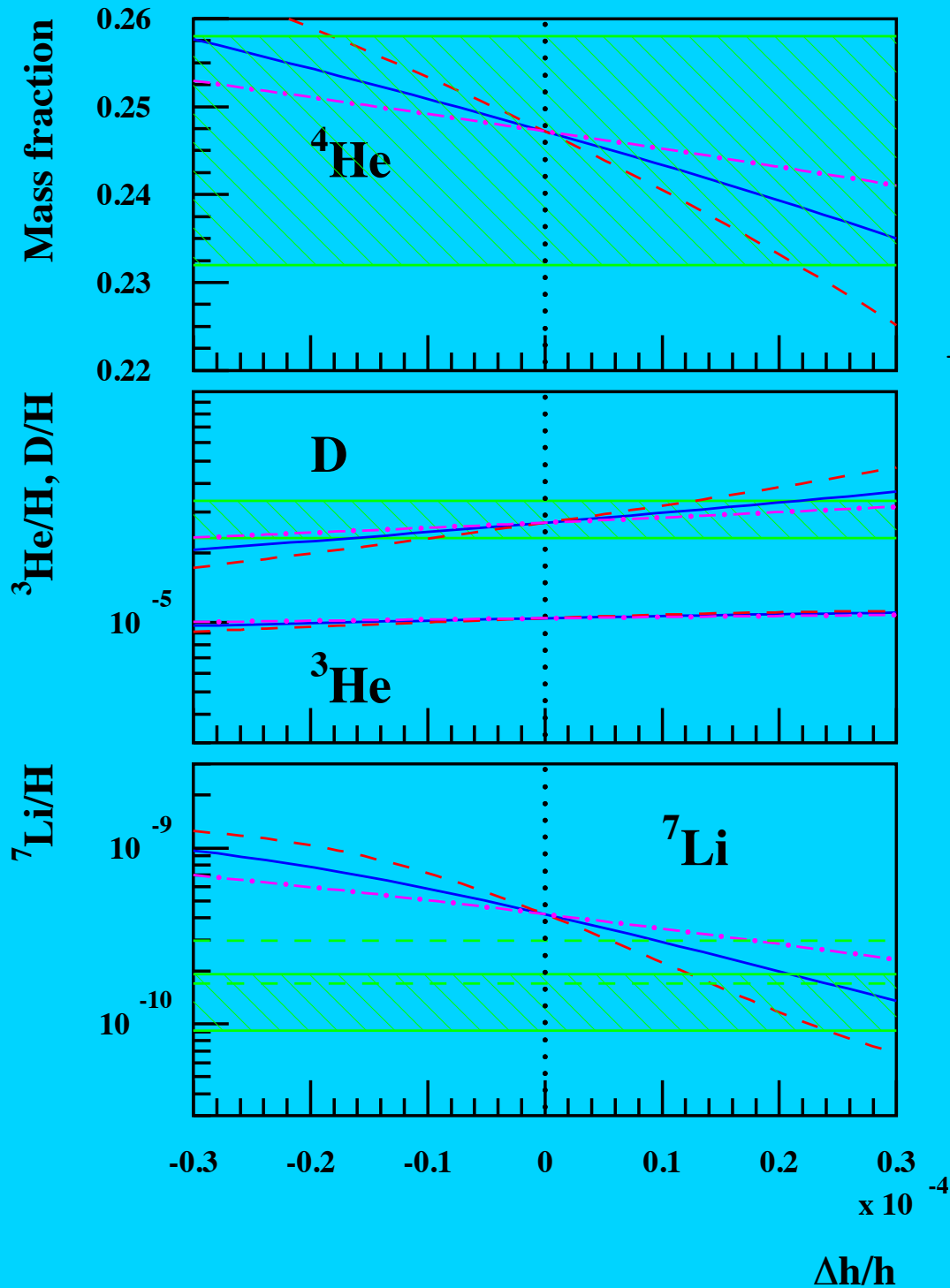
# Effect of variations of $h$ ( $S = 160$ )



Notice effect on  $^7\text{Li}$



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



For  $S = 240, R = 36,$

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

# Summary

- D, He are ok -- issues to be resolved
- Li: Problematic
  - BBN  ${}^7\text{Li}$  high compared to observations
- Important to consider:
  - Nuclear considerations
    - Resonances  ${}^{10}\text{C}$  (15.04) !
  - Depletion (tuned)
  - Li Systematics - T scale - unlikely
  - Particle Decays?
  - Variable Constants???
- ${}^6\text{Li}$ : Another Story