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

Exotic BBN



Ryan et al.

Possible sources for the discrepancy

- Nuclear Rates
 - Restricted by solar neutrino flux
 - Role of resonances

• Stellar Depletion

Discussed by Coc

Discussed by Richard, Korn, Lind

• Stellar parameters

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

Discussed by Ryan

Possible sources for the discrepancy

• Stellar Depletion

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• Stellar parameters

dLi	09	dLi _	.08
dlng	5	$\overline{dT} =$	100K

Discussed by Ryan

• Particle Decays

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

3 free parameters

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta_X &= n_X \, m_X / n \gamma = m_X \, Y_X \, \eta, \quad m_X \, , \\ & \text{and} \, \tau_X \end{aligned}$$

•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

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

plus relevant 3-body decays







Jedamzik



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



CMSSM



Gravitino Decays and Li



Cyburt, Ellis, Fields, Luo, Olive, Spanos



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



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



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

Uncertainties

There are only a few non-thermal $(n^4 \text{He} \rightarrow npt)$ rates which affect the result -8 ⁷Li/H 0.02 $p^4 \text{He} \rightarrow n p^3 \text{He}$ 20% $p^4 \text{He} \rightarrow ddp$ 40%0.04 $p^4 \text{He} \rightarrow dnpp$ 40%-9 Log ζ_{3/2} 0.04 $t^4 \text{He} \rightarrow {}^6 \text{Li}n$ 20%-0.06 0.06 $^{3}\text{He}^{4}\text{He} \rightarrow ^{6}\text{Li}p$ 20% $n^4 \text{He} \rightarrow npt$ 20%0.02 $n^4 \text{He} \rightarrow ddn$ 40%-11 $n^4 \text{He} \rightarrow dnnp$ 40% $p^4 \text{He} \rightarrow ppt$ 20%-0.02 $n^4 \text{He} \rightarrow nn^3 \text{He}$ 20%-12 -13 3 2 4 5 $m_{3/2}$

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*

NGC 6397 appears to have a higher Li content than field stars of the same metallicity. This needs to be confirmed by a homogeneous analysis of field stars, with the same models and methods. This may or may not be related to the fact that this cluster is nitrogen rich, compared to field stars of the same metallicity (Pasquini et al. 2008).

* from Gonzales Hernandez et al.



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





General feature of "fixing" Li: Increased D/H



Cyburt, Ellis, Fields, Luo, Olive, Spanos Olive, Petitjean, Vangioni, Silk

Evolution of D, Li



With post BBN processing of Li, D/H reproduces upper end of absorption data - dispersion due to in situ chemical destruction

Effects of Bound States

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



OV



Cyburt, Ellis, Fields, KO, Spanos



Cyburt, Ellis, Fields, KO, Spanos

A ⁶Li Plateau?

Observers may not see one, but theorist do predict one!



Axion Condensation

•Axion dark matter forms a Bose-Einstein condensate through gravitational self-interactions.

Interactions between cold axion fluid cool photon gas:

$$\eta_{10,\text{BBN}} = \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{3/4} \eta_{10,\text{WMAP}} = 4.57 \pm 0.11$$

 \Rightarrow Li/H ~ 2 x 10⁻¹⁰ but D/H ~ 4.5 x 10⁻⁵

Erken, Sikivie, Tam, Yang

Possible sources for the discrepancy

• Stellar parameters

dLi	.09	dLi	.08
\overline{dlng} -	5	$\overline{dT} =$	$=\overline{100K}$

Discussed by Ryan

• Particle Decays

• Variable Constants

How could varying α 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

Limits on α from BBN

Contributions to Y come from n/p which in turn come from Δm_N

Contributions to Δm_N :

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

Kolb, Perry, & Walker Campbell & Olive Bergstrom, Iguri, & Rubinstein

Changes in α , Λ_{QCD} , and/or vall induce changes in Δm_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:

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

Coupled Variations

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

Recall,

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

 $R \sim 30$, but very model dependent

Dine et al.

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

$$\frac{\Delta v}{v} \sim 80 \frac{\Delta \alpha_U}{\alpha_U} \qquad \frac{\Delta v}{v} = S \frac{\Delta \alpha}{\alpha}$$

Approach:

Consider possible variation of Yukawa, h, or fine-structure constant, α

Include dependence of Λ on α ; of v on h, etc.

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

Effect of variations of h (S = 160)

Mass fraction



Notice effect on ⁷Li

Coc, Nunes, Olive, Uzan, Vangioni

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



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

Finally,

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

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



Summary

- D, He are ok -- issues to be resolved
- Li: Problematic
 - BBN ⁷Li high compared to observations
- 'Exotic Solutions':
 - Particle Decays?
 - Axion Condensate??
 - Variable Constants???