

# Ch. 10

# Big Bang Nucleosynthesis

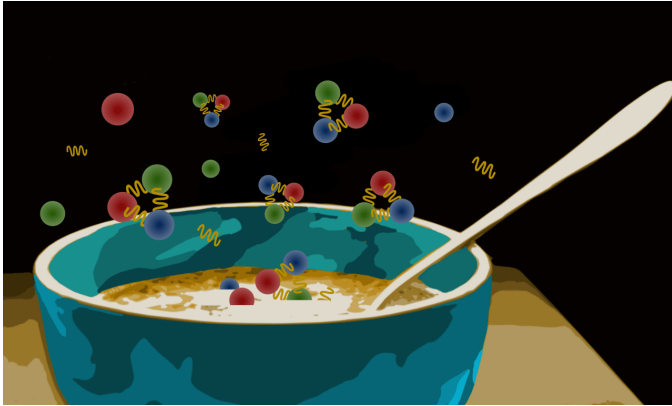
Young Ju

Physics Seminar II

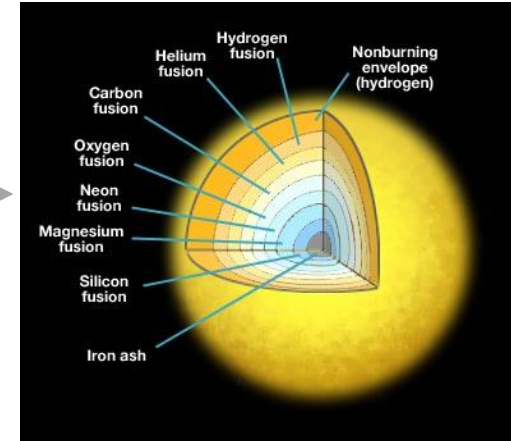
(Book: Astroparticle Physics, Claus Grupen)

<https://astronomy.com/magazine/news/2021/01/the-beginning-to-the-end-of-the-universe-the-emergence-of-matter>

# Big Bang Nucleosynthesis



- Early universe
- Hot soup of quark



- Late universe
- Nuclear fusion

?

Where are **Light elements** came from?

# Big Bang Nucleosynthesis

- The process that protons and neutrons produce important particles

Deuterium(<sup>2</sup>**H**), Helium-4(<sup>4</sup>**He**), lithium-7(<sup>7</sup>**Li**), Beryllium-7(<sup>7</sup>**Be**)

- Time :  $10^{-2}$  sec ~ several minute
- Temperature : 10 ~  $10^{-1}$  MeV

# Start of the BBN era

- *Baryogenesis* : anti-proton and anti-neutron is annihilated at  $T \sim 20 \text{ MeV}$
- $T = 10 \text{ MeV}$ ,  $t \sim 0.007$
- Relativistic particles are in thermal equilibrium



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# Start of the BBN era

- *baryon-number conservation*

- Neutron and proton reaction :  $nv_e \leftrightarrow pe^-$   
 $ne^+ \leftrightarrow p\bar{\nu}_e$

- Question : Is this reaction in the thermal equilibrium as time goes?



# Neutron-proton ratio

- Let's check the reaction rate and expansion rate of the universe

1. Reaction rate :  $\Gamma = n \langle \sigma v \rangle \xrightarrow{\text{approximation}} \Gamma (v_e n \rightarrow e^- p) \approx G_F^2 T^5$

2. Expansion rate :

Density  $\rho = \frac{\pi^2}{30} g_* T^4$

Friedmann eq  $\frac{\dot{R}^2}{R^2} = \frac{8\pi}{3} G \rho$

Planck mass  $G = 1/m_{\text{Pl}}^2$

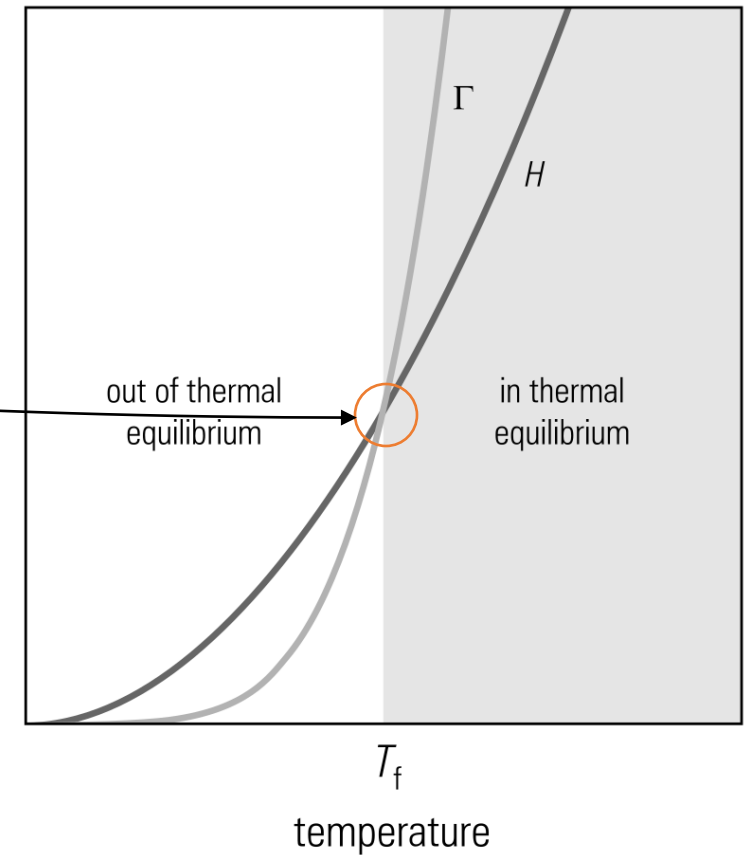
$$\Rightarrow H = \sqrt{\frac{8\pi^3 g_*}{90} \frac{T^2}{m_{\text{Pl}}^2}} \approx 1.66 \sqrt{g_*} \frac{T^2}{m_{\text{Pl}}}$$

# Neutron-proton ratio

- Decoupling or freeze-out temperature(  $T_f$  )

$$\Gamma = H$$

- $T_f \approx 0.7 \text{ MeV}$
- $t \sim 1.5 \text{ sec}$





# Neutrino decoupling

- Neutrinos interact with electron and positron

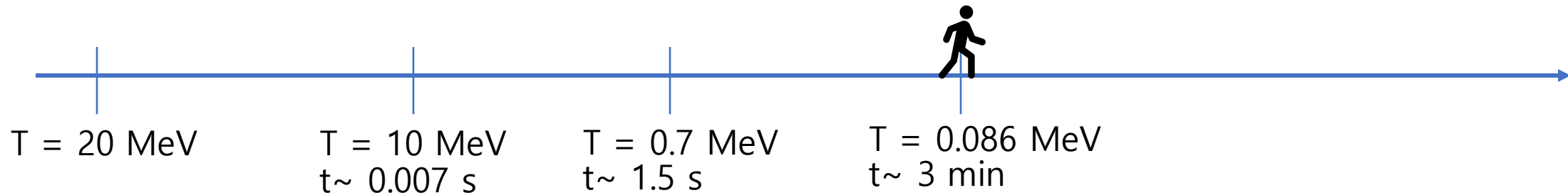
$$e^{-} + e^{+} \longleftrightarrow \nu_e + \bar{\nu}_e$$

- $T \sim 0.7\text{MeV}$  : All neutrino flavours are decoupled from other particles
- Cosmic neutrino background radiation ( $T_\nu \approx 1.95\text{ K}$ )



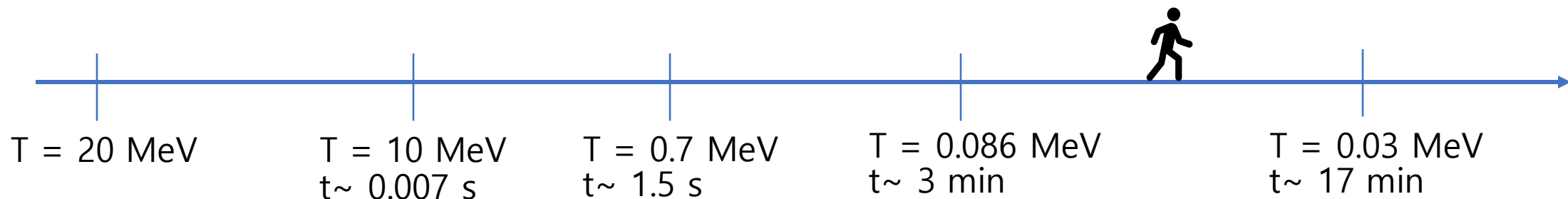
# Synthesis of Light Nuclei (Deuterium)

- Deuterium reaction :  $p n \rightarrow d \gamma$
- *Deuterium bottleneck* : suppressed by photon
- $T = 0.086 \text{ MeV}$ ,  $t \sim 3 \text{ min}$

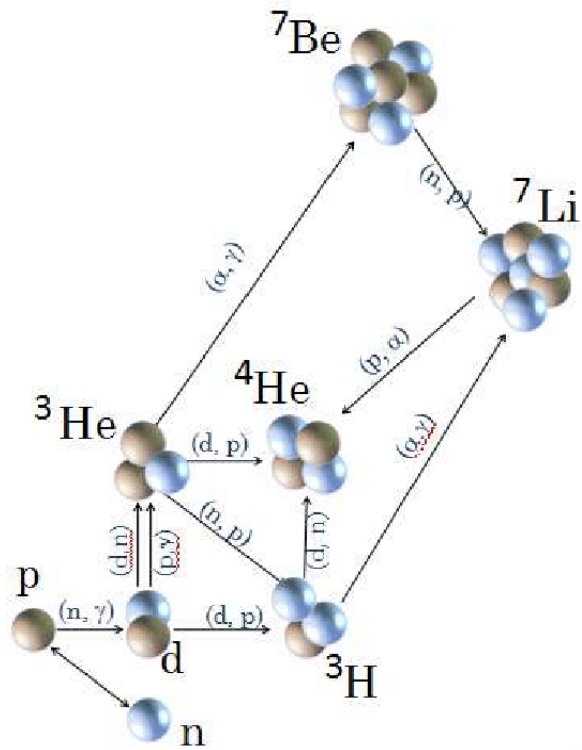


# Synthesis of Light Nuclei ( $^4\text{He}$ )

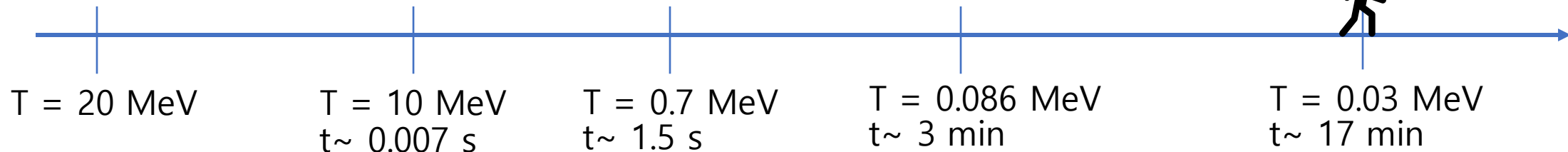
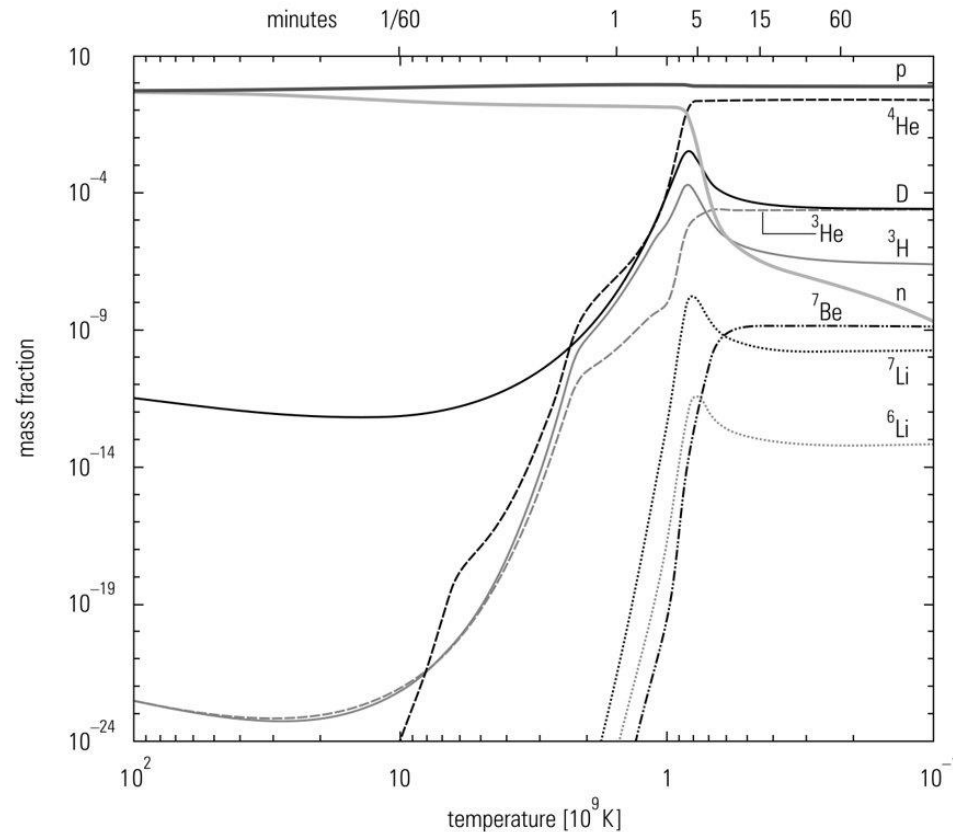
- The Helium-4 reaction :  
$$d + p \rightarrow {}^3\text{He} + \gamma$$
$$d + {}^3\text{He} \rightarrow {}^4\text{He} + p$$
- Helium-4 mass fraction (  $Y_P$  )  $\sim 0.23$
- After BBN the quarter of mass is He



# Synthesis of Light Nuclei - Summary



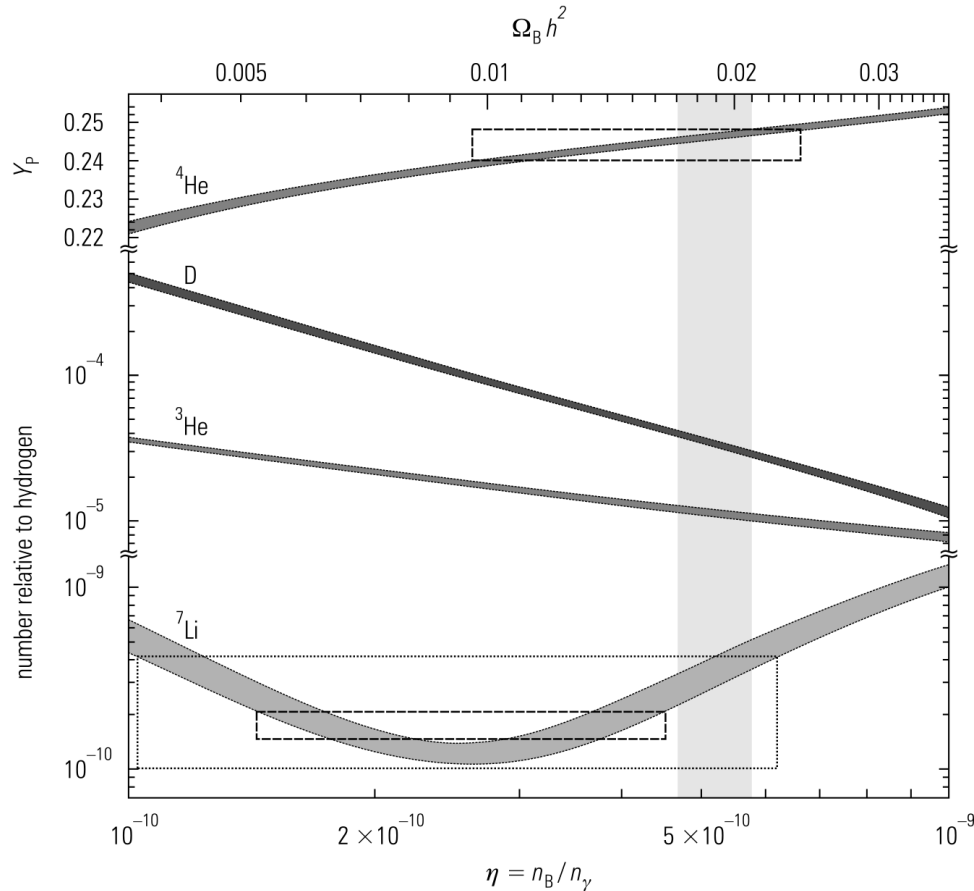
Riou et al., IJMP, 2017



# Observation evidences of BBN

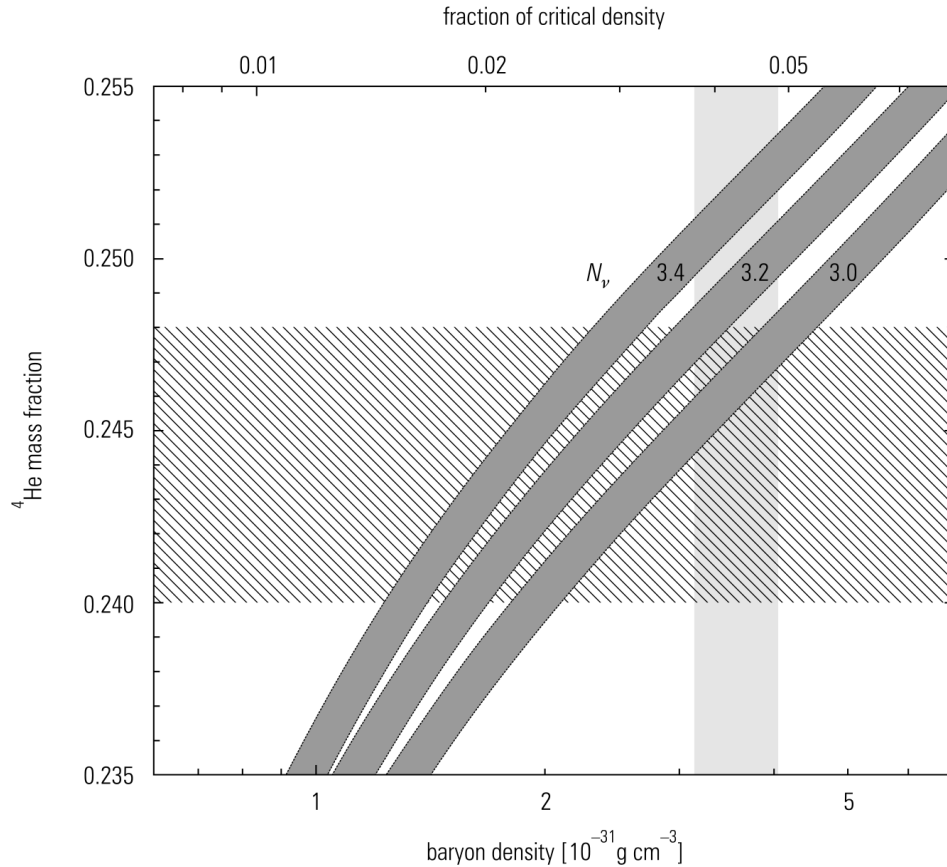
- Observation of primordial abundances of light elements
  1. **Helium-4** : Find region of hot ionized gas from metal poor galaxies  
 $Y_P \sim 0.238$
  2. **Deuterium** : Find gas cloud at high redshift  
 $D/H = (3.40 \pm 0.25) \times 10^{-5}$
  3. **Lithium-7** : Find hot metal-poor star from galactic halo  
 $n_{7\text{Li}}/n_H = 1.23 \times 10^{-10}$
  4. **Helium-3** is difficult

# Observation evidences of BBN



- Baryon-photon ratio :  $\eta = (5.1 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{-10}$
- 1. Deuterium : measurement of D/H gives accurate baryon-photon ratio
- Baryon density :  $\Omega_b = \frac{\rho_b}{\rho_c}$   
these value measured by CMB observation
- $\Omega_b = 0.044 \pm 0.004$

# Constraints on the number of neutrino families



- Is there any other generation of neutrino?
- No..., It is excluded by experiments