

When did decoupling occur?

- Saha equation: Collisional ionization rate = Recombination rate

$$\frac{N_{H^+}}{N_{H^0}} = \frac{4}{N_e} \left(\frac{2\pi m_e k T}{h^2} \right)^{3/2} e^{-\Delta E / kT} \quad (8.8)$$

- Solve for $\frac{N_{H^+}}{N_{H^0}} = 1$, using $T = \frac{T_0}{R}$, $N_e \sim \frac{\rho_c}{m_H} \frac{1}{R^3}$ = electron density
 - $R \sim 7.2 \times 10^{-4}$
 - $T \sim 3800 \text{ K}$

- Taking composition and radiative transfer into account:

$$\begin{array}{ll} T_{dec} = 2970 \text{ K} & z_{dec} = 1089 \\ R_{dec} = 9 \times 10^{-4} & t_{dec} = 118,000 \text{ yrs.} \end{array}$$

Decoupling also called “**re**combination”

The Radiation Era

Energy density (integrated over wavelength):

$$u_{\text{rad}} = \frac{4\sigma T^4}{c} = aT^4 \quad \text{See [CO pg. 234]}$$

$$\rho_{\text{rad}} = \frac{u_{\text{rad}}}{c^2} = \frac{aT^4}{c^2} = \frac{\rho_{\text{rad},0}}{R^4}$$

$$\rho_{\text{matter}} = \frac{\rho_{\text{matter},0}}{R^3}$$

$$\frac{\rho_{\text{rad}}}{\rho_{\text{matter}}} \propto \frac{1}{R}$$

$\rho_{\text{matter}} = \rho_{\text{rad}}$ at

$$R = \frac{a T_0^4}{\rho_0 c^2} = \frac{8\pi G a T_0^4}{3H_0^2 c^2 \Omega_0} \sim 2.5 \times 10^5 \Omega_0^{-1} h^{-2}$$

$$z = \frac{1}{R} - 1 \sim 4 \times 10^9 \Omega_0 h^2$$

$$\text{when } T = \frac{T_0}{R} \sim 1.1 \times 10^5 \Omega_0 h^2 \text{ K}$$

Knowing $R(t)$ as function of $t \rightarrow$ Age of U ~ 3200 yrs
for $\Omega_0 = 1, h = 0.71$

During the Radiation Era:

$$\left[\left(\frac{1}{R} \frac{dR}{dt} \right)^2 - \frac{8}{3} \pi G \rho_{\text{RAD}} \right] R^2 = -kc^2 \quad \uparrow k \sim 0$$

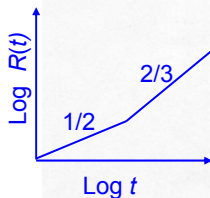
$$\left(\frac{1}{R} \frac{dR}{dt} \right)^2 = \frac{8}{3} \pi G \frac{\rho_{\text{RAD},0}}{R^4}$$

$$\left(\frac{dR}{dt} \right)^2 \propto \frac{1}{R^2}$$

$$R dR \propto dt$$

$$R \propto t^{1/2}$$

instead of $R \propto t^{2/3}$
in matter era.



$$\text{also, } T_0 = RT \Rightarrow T \propto t^{-1/2}$$

Terminology...

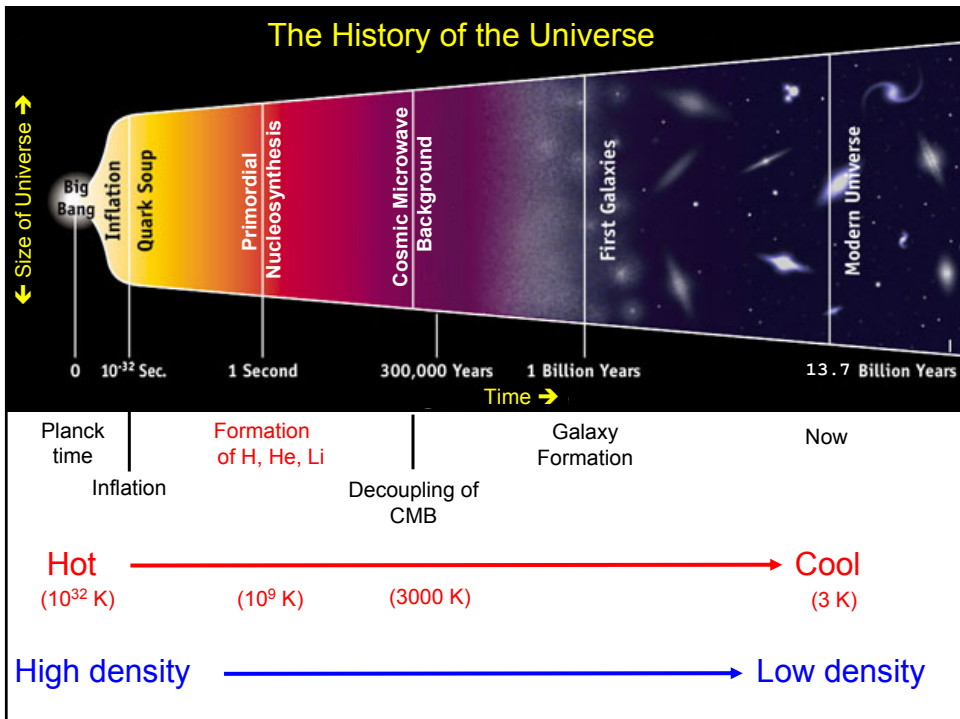
$$\left(\left(\frac{1}{R} \frac{dR}{dt} \right)^2 - \frac{8}{3} \pi G \rho \right) R^2 = -kc^2$$

$$\left(\left(\frac{1}{R} \frac{dR}{dt} \right)^2 - \frac{8}{3} \pi G (\rho_{matter} + \rho_{rel}) \right) R^2 = -kc^2$$

CO call it $\rho_{relativistic}$
= photons + neutrinos

$$\rho_{rel} = \frac{u_{rel}}{c^2}$$

$$\Omega_{rel}(t) = \frac{\rho_{rel}(t)}{\rho_{crit}(t)}$$



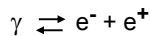
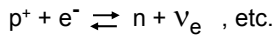
Primordial Nucleosynthesis

Radiation era

$$R(t) \propto t^{1/2}$$

$$T(t) \propto t^{-1/2}$$

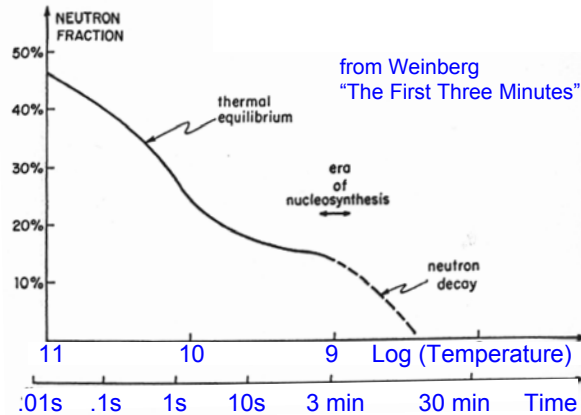
$$t = 10^{-4} \text{ s}, T = 10^{12} \text{ K}$$



Statistical equilibrium

$$\frac{n_n}{n_p} = e^{-\Delta E / kT}$$

$$n_p = e^{-1.5 \times 10^{10} K / T}$$



$$t \sim 1 \text{ s}, T = 10^{10} \text{ K}$$

Neutrons freeze out

- redshifting of neutrinos.
- lower γ energies

$$\frac{n_n}{n_p} = 0.223$$

Subsequent β decays $\rightarrow \frac{n_n}{n_p} \approx 0.176$

Primordial Nucleosynthesis

Big-Bang Nucleosynthesis Reaction Network [CO Fig. 29.13]

He/H = Y

He production

~ all neutrons used up in ^4He

\rightarrow Mass fraction of ^4He / total

$$= \frac{2n_n}{n_n + n_p} \approx 0.299$$

Confirms Big Bang!

H II regions & galaxies

Problem: Stars make He + metals. So extrapolate to $Z = 0$.

Old = 0.24

Latest = 0.228

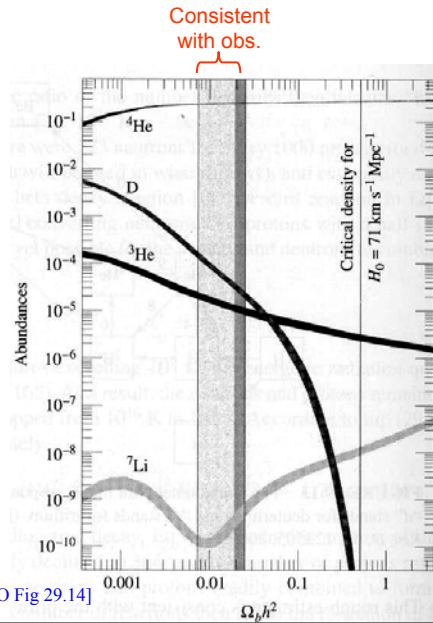
Metallicity $Z \rightarrow$ (from C/H, N/H, O/H etc.)

Measuring Baryonic Matter Density – Version I

- $^4\text{He}/\text{total}$ \rightarrow doesn't depend on details
- But trace element abundances depend **strongly** on $\rho_{\text{BARYON}}(t), T(t)$
 - $\rightarrow \rho_{\text{B},0}$ from $RT = \text{constant}$,
 - $\rho = \rho_0/R^3 \propto \rho_0 T^3$

Baryons:
 Particles made of 3 quarks
 = protons, neutrons, + ...
 = "normal matter"

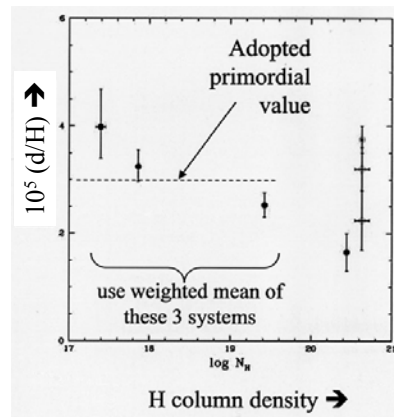
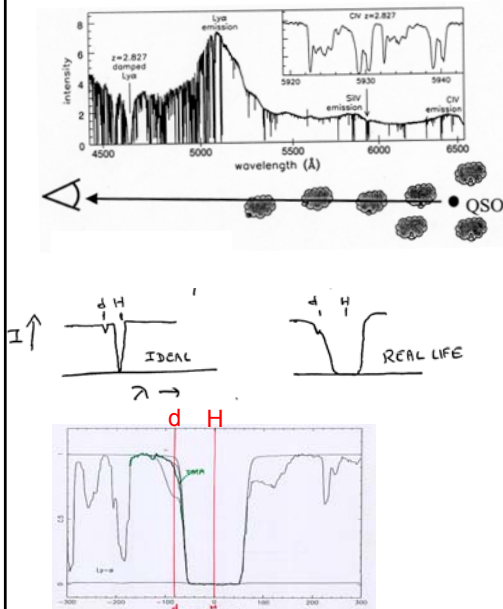
A Problem: d, ^3He , ^7Li easily destroyed in stars. How to measure primordial values?



[CO Fig 29.14]

Example: the Primordial Deuterium Abundance

$\text{Ly}\alpha$ forest absorbers.



Ω_{Baryons}

- d, ${}^7\text{Li}$, ${}^3\text{He}$ →

$$\Omega_{\text{B}} = \frac{\rho_{\text{B},0}}{\rho_{\text{c},0}} = 0.02 - 0.05$$

- Luminous baryonic matter:

$$\Omega_{\text{LUM}} \sim 0.005$$

(x-ray emission from hot gas filling galaxy clusters).

→ most baryonic matter is in Ly α forest clouds.

- But better determination now from CMB fluctuations (WMAP)

$$\Omega_{\text{B}} = 0.044$$

CO Reading

[27.1] The Extragalactic Distance Scale.

[27.2] The Expansion of the Universe.

[29.1] Newtonian Cosmology

[29.2] The Cosmic Microwave Background

[17] General Relativity & Black Holes ← **WE ARE HERE!**

[29.3] Relativistic Cosmology

Important to read through Chapter 17 (Relativity) before I start lecturing on it.

Pay particular attention to 17.2 “Intervals & Geodesics”

- What is a metric?
- The Schwarzschild metric (= non-rotating black hole)
- “The orbit of a satellite” (somewhat flakey example)

I will present additional material assuming that you have read at least 17.2.