

# QSO's lines of sight

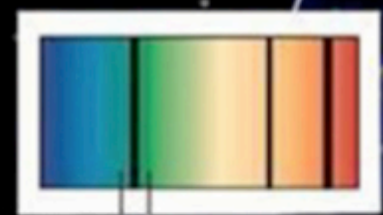
Paolo Molaro  
INAF- OAT



A



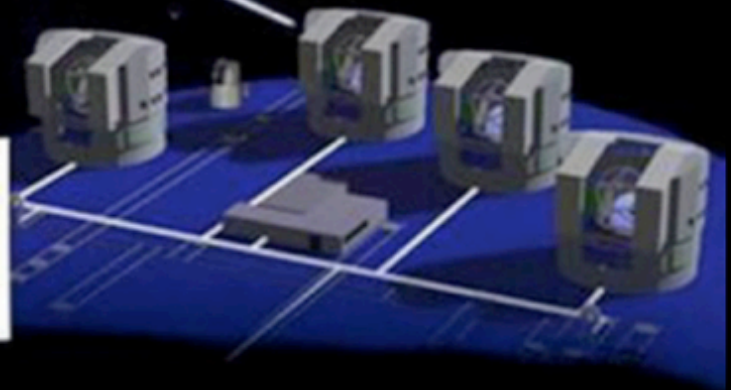
B



C



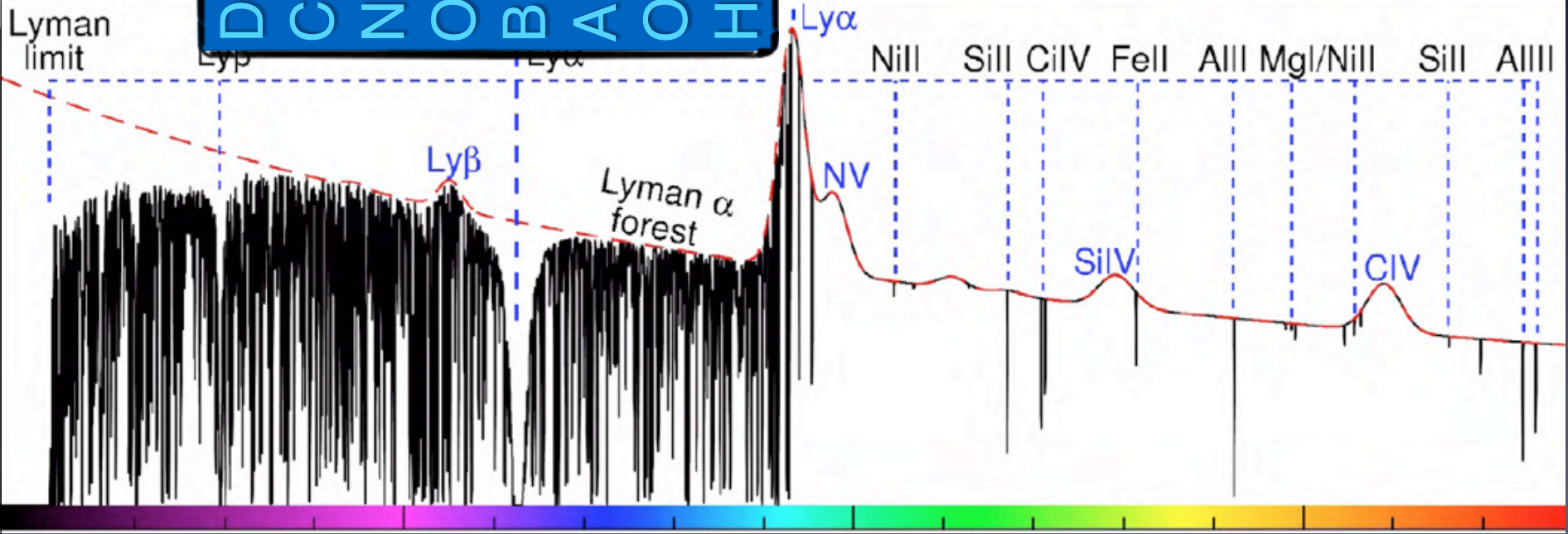
D



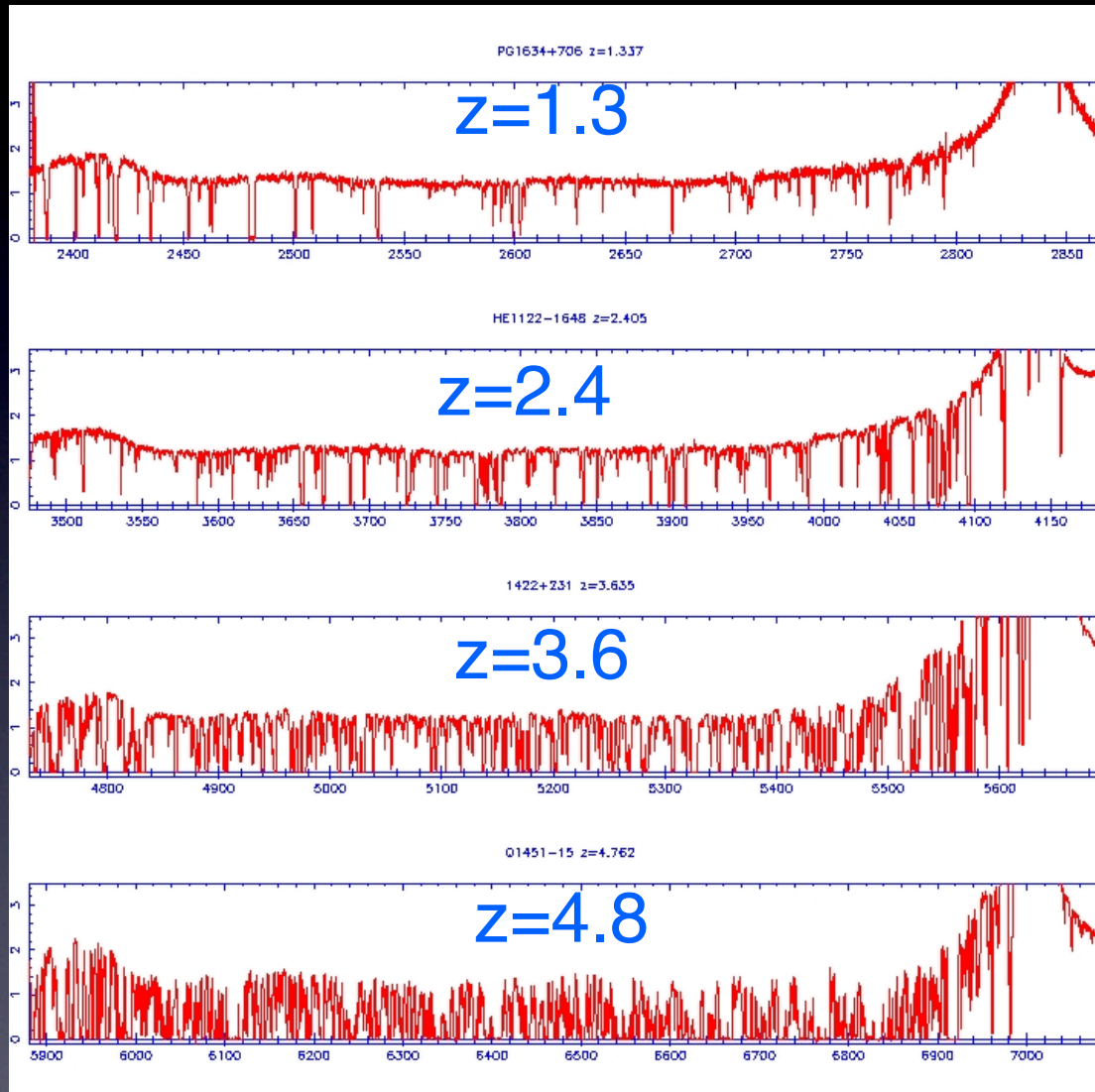
game for all wavelengths

To Earth

Deuterium  
CII 1036, 1335  
NI 1200, 1134  
OI 1302, 1039, 988, 976,  
BII 1362  
Arl 1048, 1066  
OVI 1031.9, 1037.6  
H2 950-1100



# Digging inside the Ly $\alpha$ forest



for elements with transitions in the Ly- $\alpha$  forest better go at the lower redshift:  $\sim 2.5$



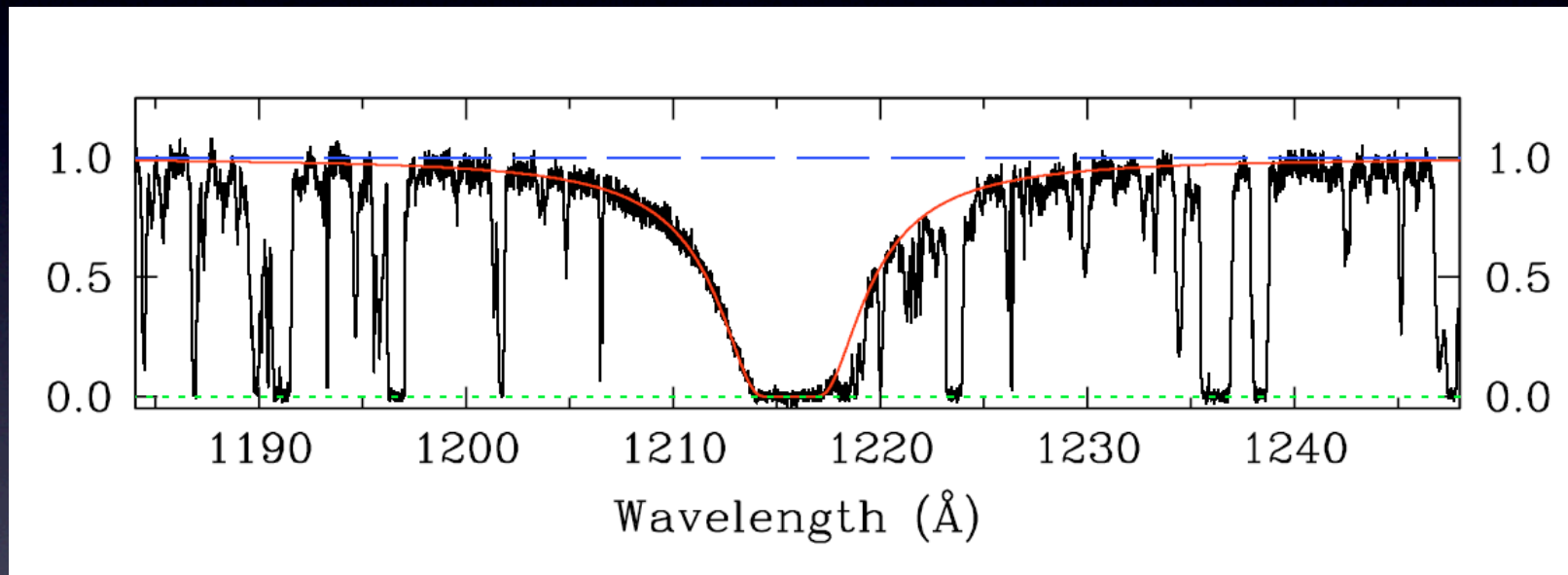
Why the 3000-4000 Å region is important?

- Deuterium
- CNO
- Other interesting elements (S, B, Ar, OVI)
- Molecular gas: H<sub>2</sub>, HD, CO



# Damped galaxies

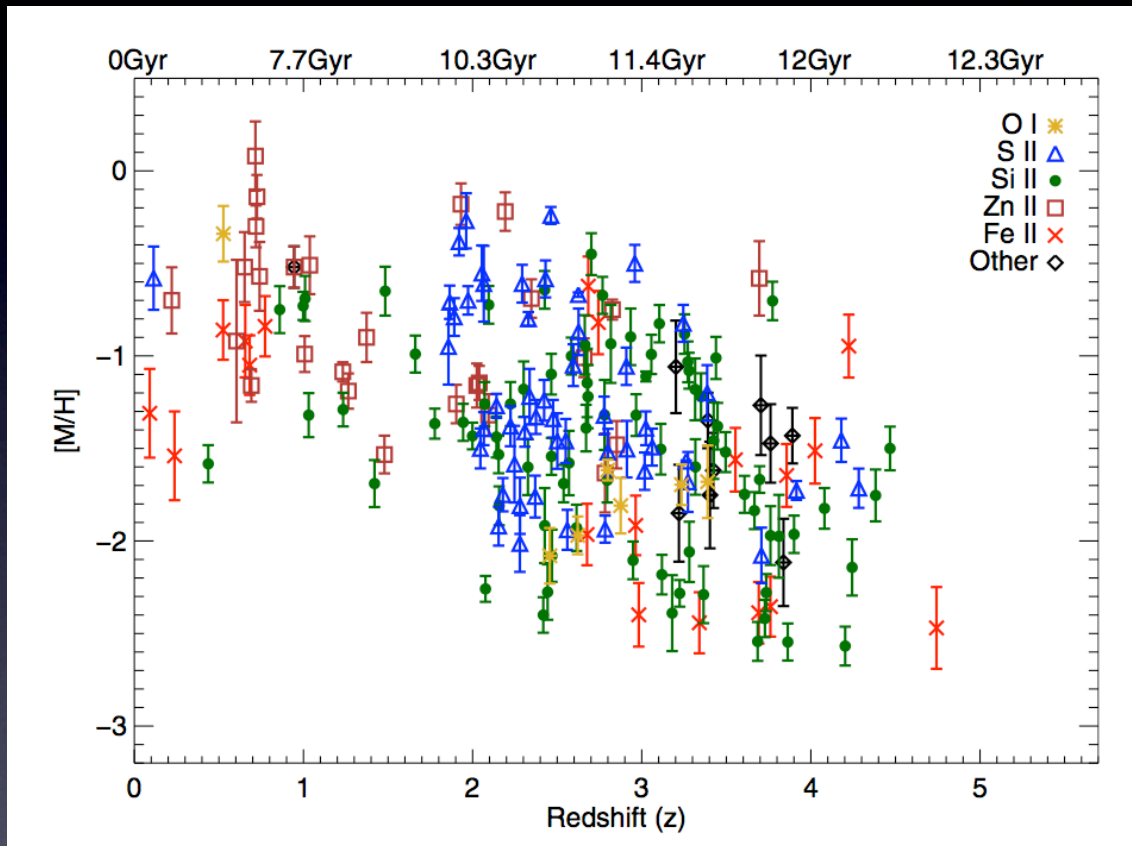
Definition:  $N(\text{HI}) > 10^{20.3}$  atoms  $\text{cm}^{-2}$



Ly  $\alpha$  absorption profile with damping wings

Optically thick to ionizing radiation

# Accurate abundances throughout the whole universe (unbiased with respect to Luminosity or Mass)



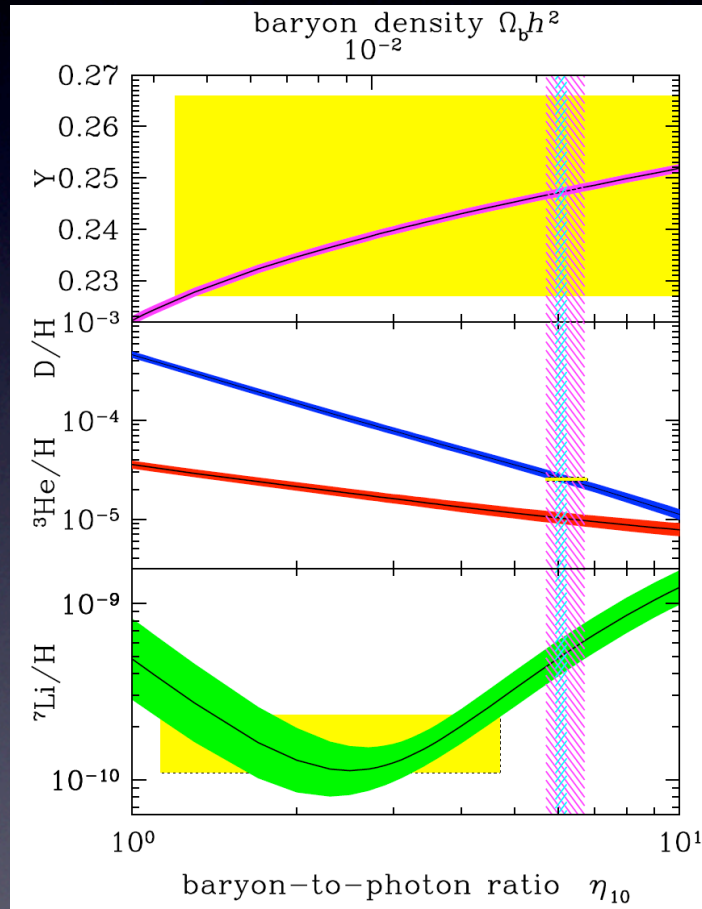
Rafelski et al 2002

metal-poor DLAs as probes of early stellar nucleosynthesis



# Deuterium: the best “baryometer”

## BBN

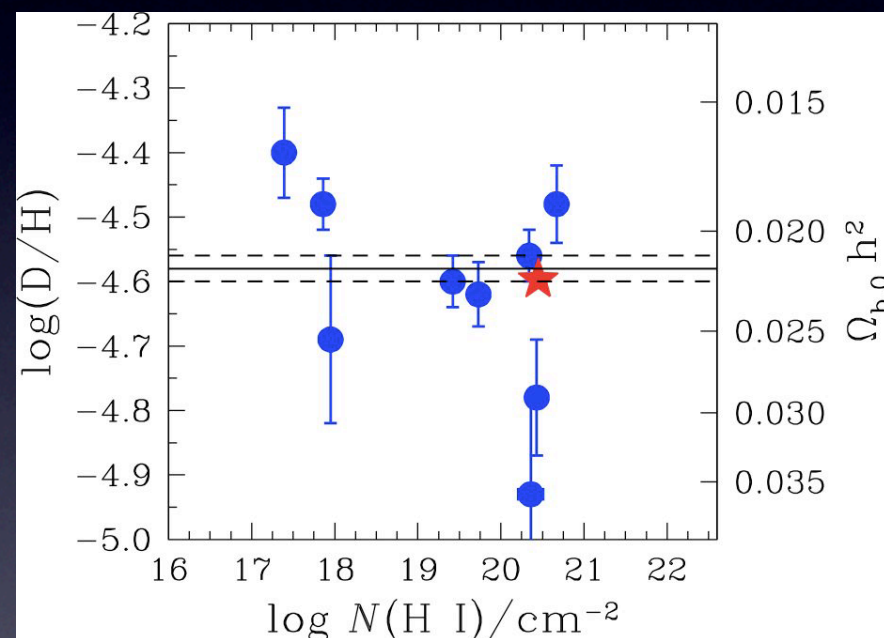
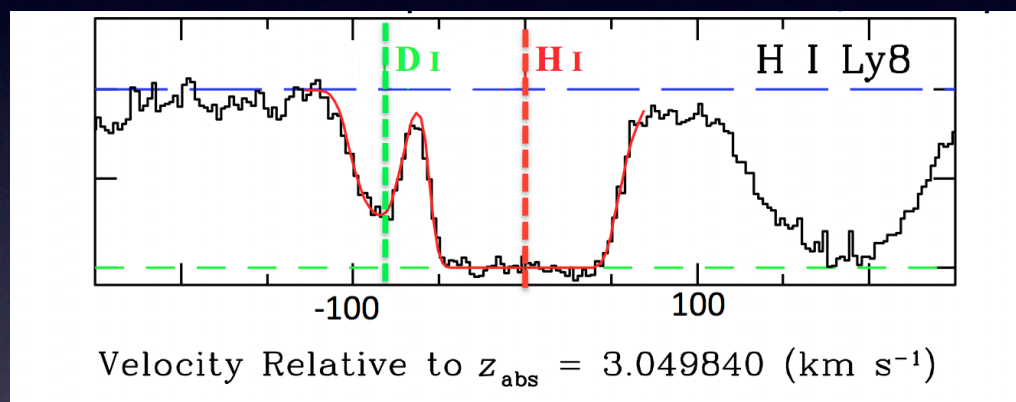


D not sensitive to expansion rate

BB only astronomical source

Brian et al 2013

~ 12 measurements with Keck-HIRES and VLT-UVES



Why is there an excess dispersion in D/H measures?



# D/H in DLA

J1358+6522

$z = 3.067$ ,  $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] = -2.84$

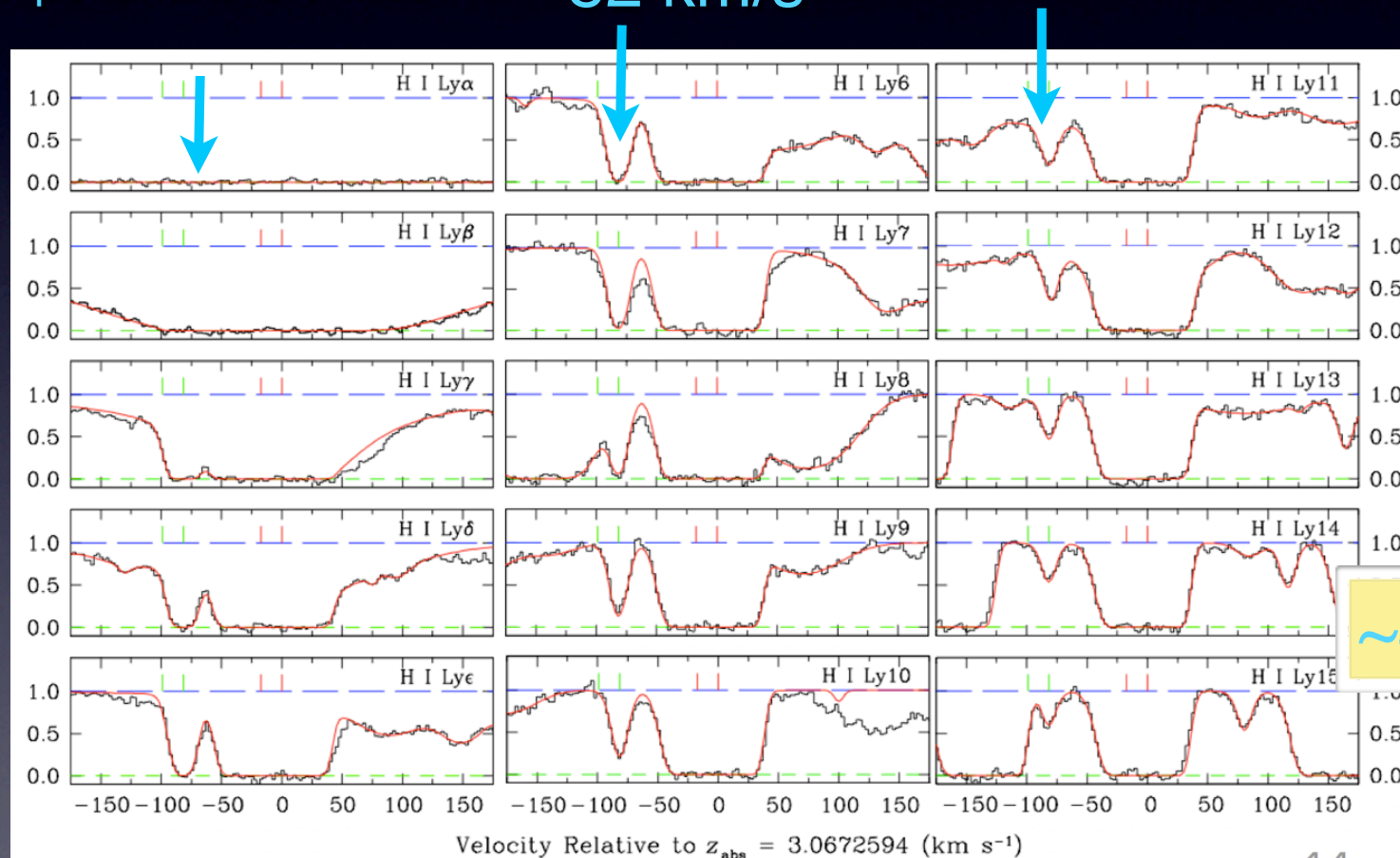
keck-HIRES

13 resolved DI absorption lines!

Cooke et al (2013) arxiv 1308.3240

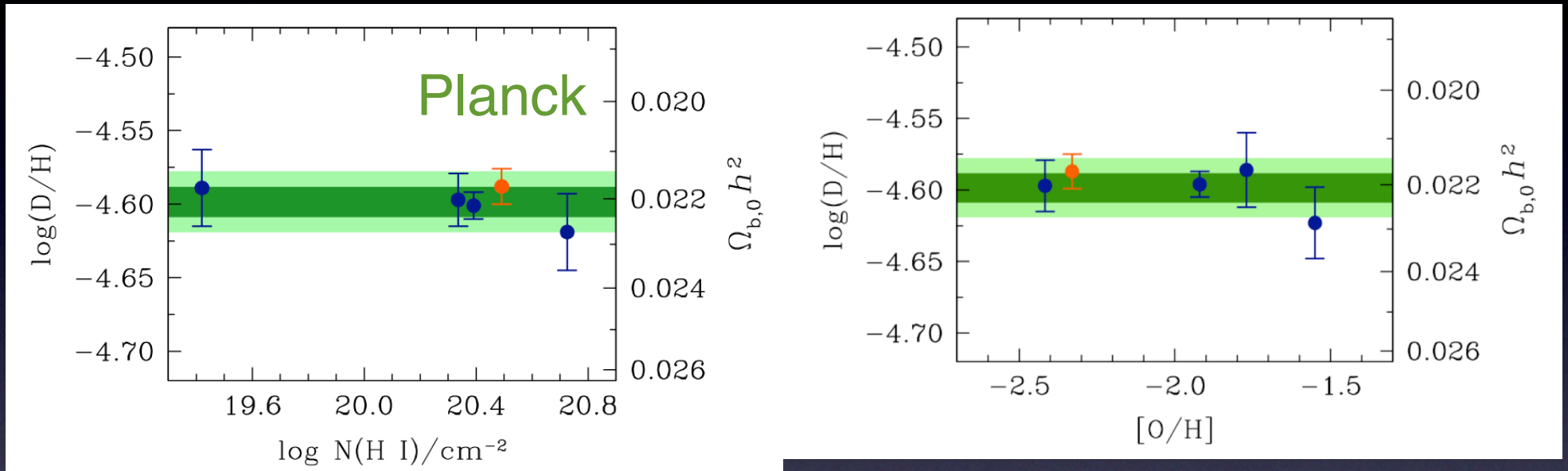
Two components  $b=8-9$  km/s

-82 km/s



# Precision sample of D/H

sub-sample of the best 5 systems with several DI resolved  
i.e. less contamination by Lyman- $\alpha$  forest



Cooke et al (2013)  
arxiv 1308.3240

coherent analysis



No dispersion!

Blind analysis

$$(D/H)_{\text{DLA}} = (25.3 \pm 0.4) \text{ ppm}$$

1.6%!



# BBN & CMB

## BBN

$$(D/H)_p = 2.55 \times 10^{-5} (6/\eta_D)^{1.6} \times (1 \pm 0.03)$$

$$\eta_D = \eta_{10} - 6(S - 1) + 5\xi/4$$

$$\eta_{10} = 273.9 \Omega_{b,0} h^2,$$

$$S = [1 + 7(N_{\text{eff}} - 3.046)/43]^{1/2}$$

$$100 \Omega_{b,0} h^2 = 2.202 \pm 0.019_{\text{ran}} \pm 0.041_{\text{sys}}$$

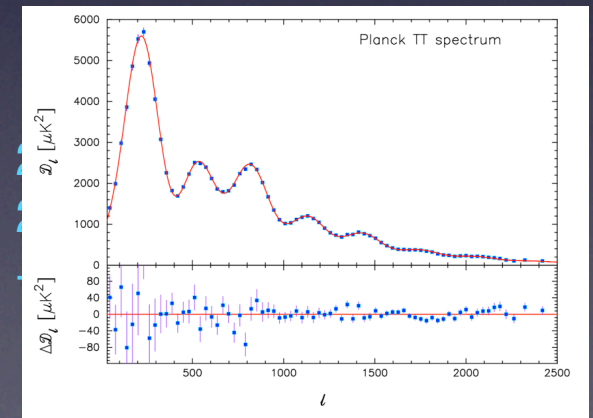
sys comes from nuclear cross sections

## CMB

$$100 \Omega_{b,0} h^2 = 2.218 \pm 0.026$$

Planck collaboration XVI arXiv:1303.5076

D/H +BBN agrees with CMB-Planck

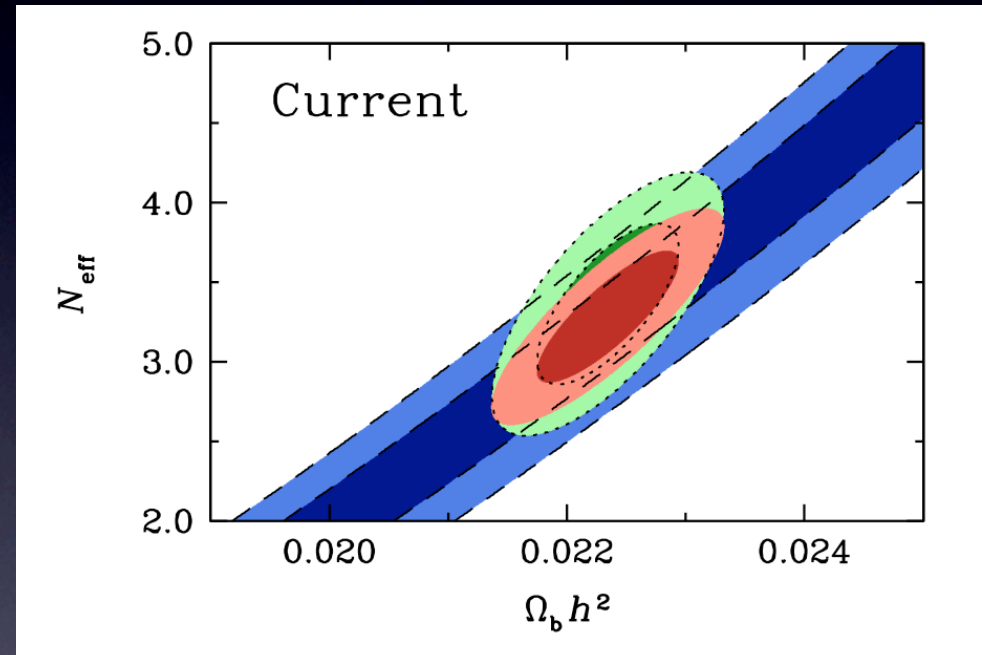
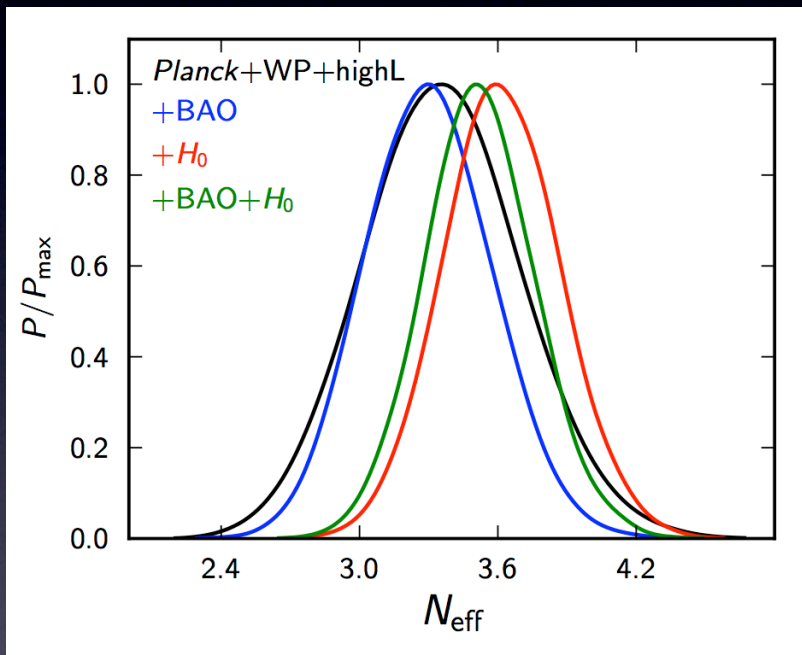


# $N_{\text{eff}} = \nu_e, \nu_\mu, \nu_\tau, +\dots?$

(assuming consistency)

## CMB

## joint CMB + BBN



Planck:  $N_{\text{eff}} = 3.36 \pm 0.34$   
( Planck +WP+ highL)

$$N_{\text{eff}} = 3.28 \pm 0.28$$

no evidence for new physics beyond the SM!



# C,N,O abundances in the UV-Optical region

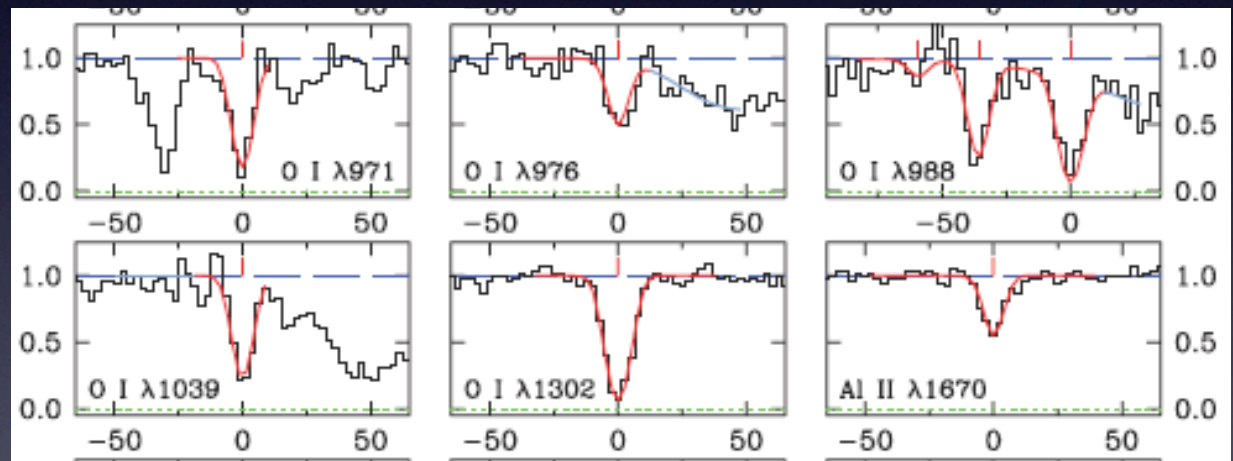
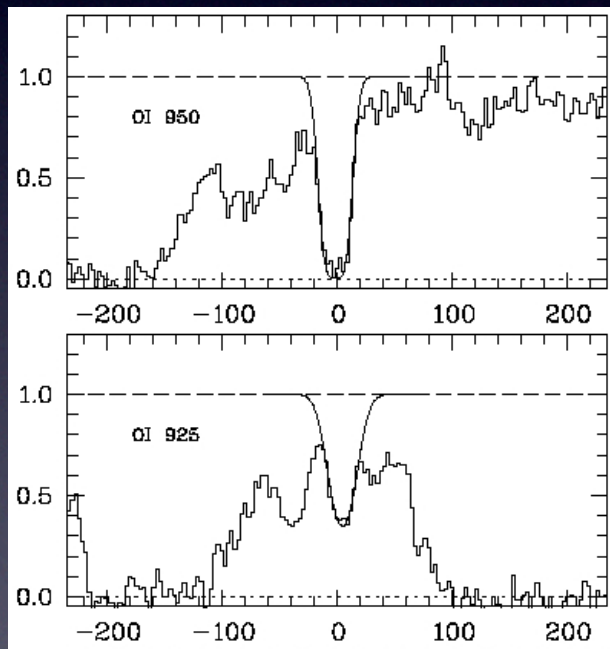


# OXYGEN

Outside the Ly $\alpha$  forest: OI 1302 A: saturated (1355 A: too weak)  $\Rightarrow$  metal poor DLA  
Inside the Ly $\alpha$  forest: OI 1039, 988, 976, 971, 948, 925 A

[O/H]=-1.7

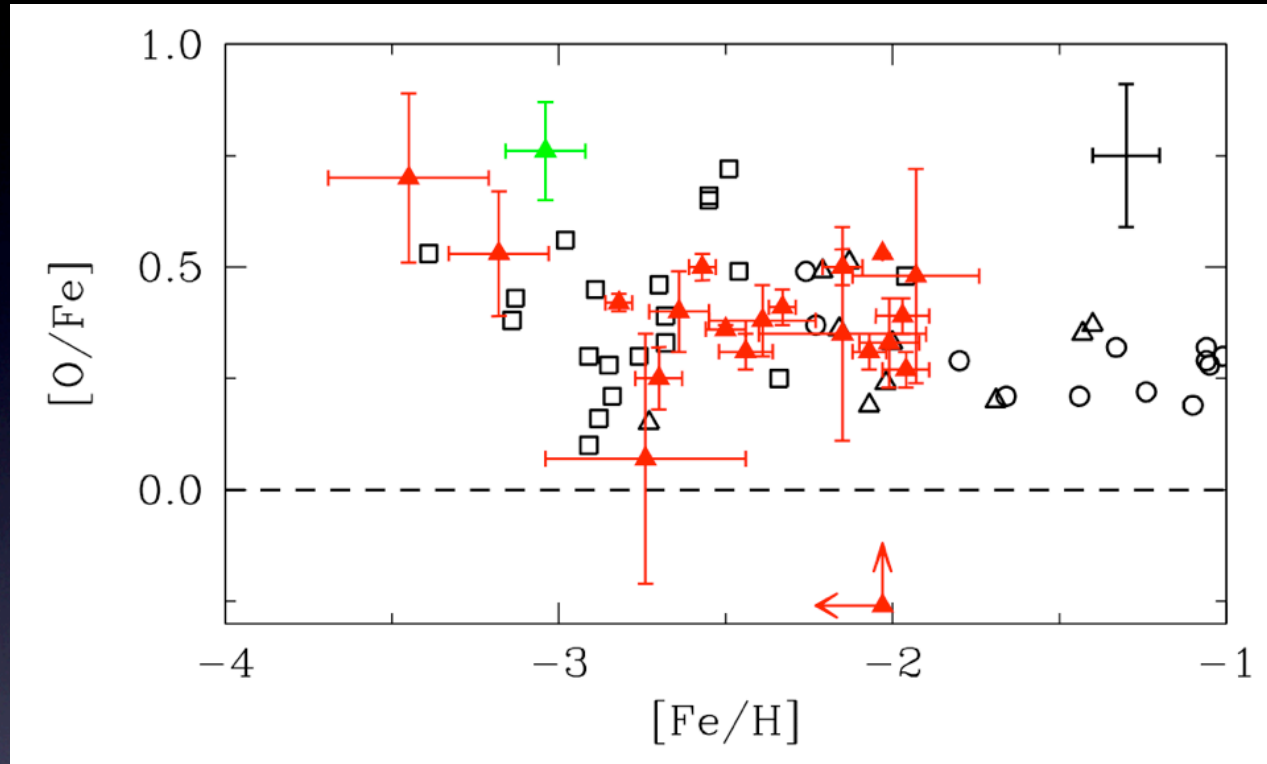
[O/H]=-2.3



Cooke et al 2011, 2012

First measurements of O/H in the DLA  
 $z=3.39$  Q0000-26 PM et al. 2000

- Nissen et al. (2002) A&A, 390, 235
- △ Garcia-Perez et al. (2006) A&A, 451, 621
- Cayrel et al. (2004) A&A, 416, 1117



DLA ~ HALO STARS ??

But what is  $[O/Fe]$  in halo stars?

cfr talk of Bonifacio

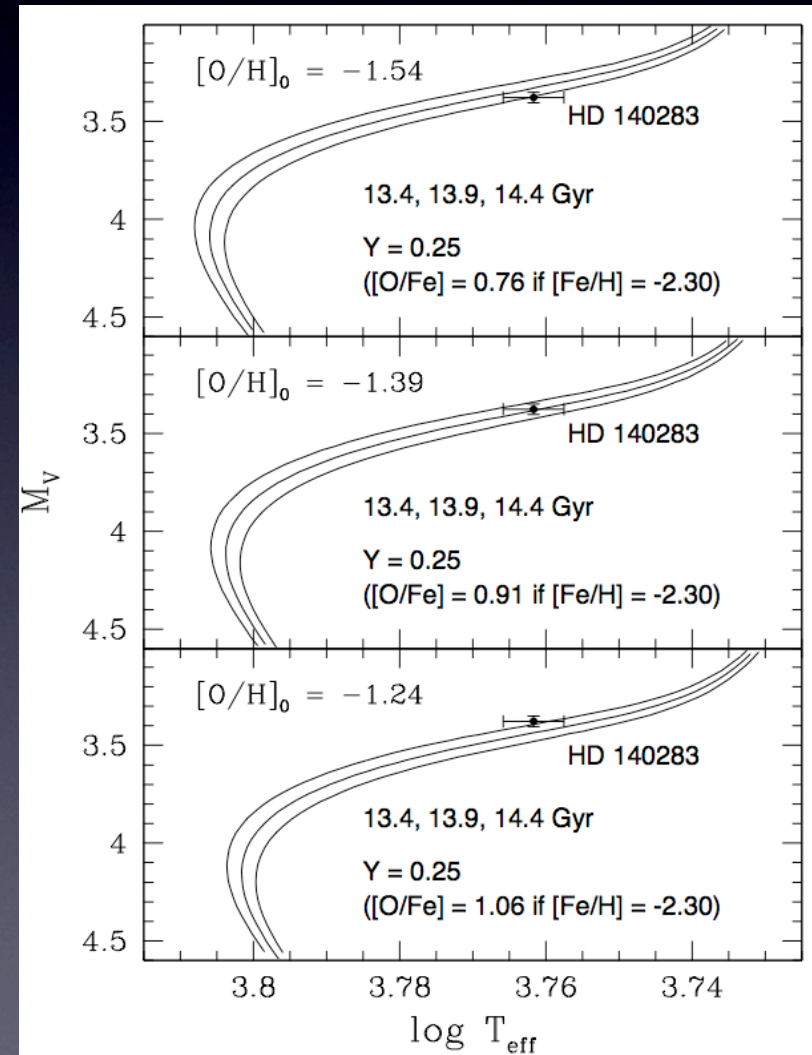
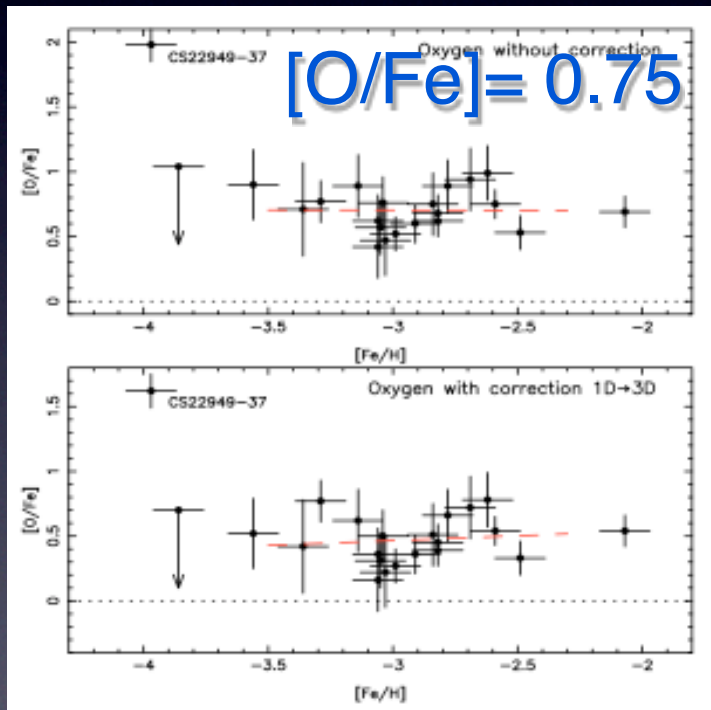
# The Oxygen problem

Bond et al 2013

- OH UV 3D (+ non-LTE?)
- OI 7770Å 3D + nonLTE
- OH IR 3D (+ non-LTE?)
- [OI]6300Å 3D?

Trigonometric parallax with FGS of HST

$[O/Fe] > 0.8$

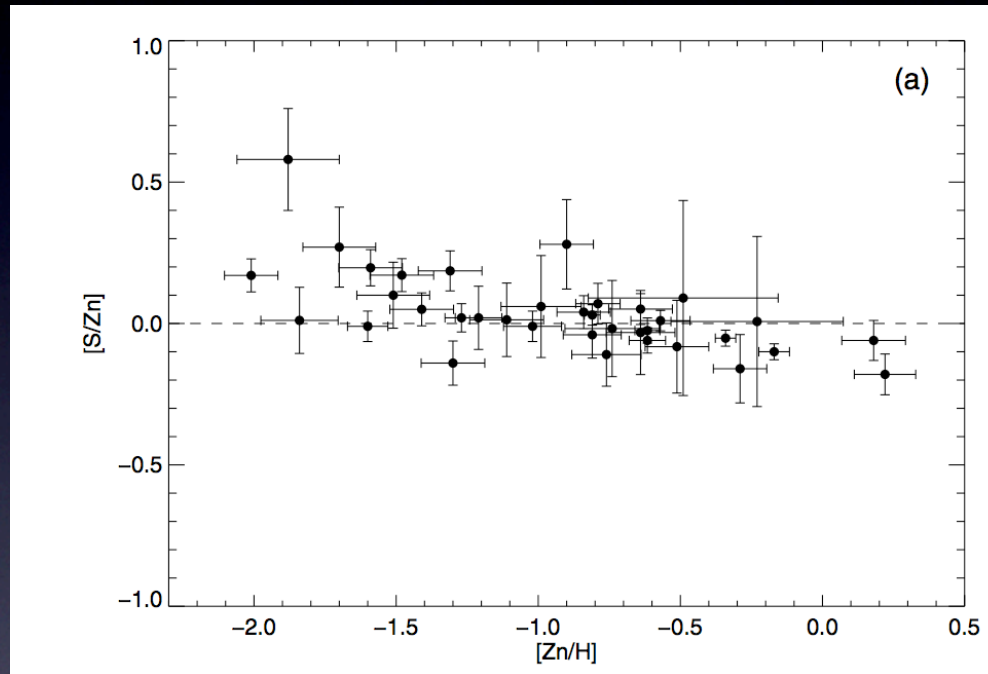




# Sulphur

Proxy of O (non-refractory,  $\alpha$ -element)

SII 1250.584, 1253.811, 1259.519 A



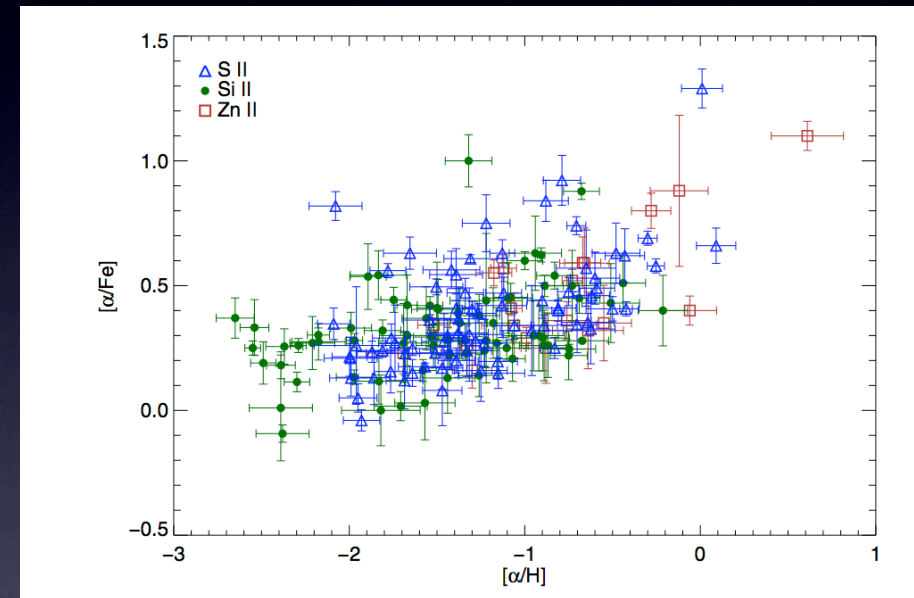
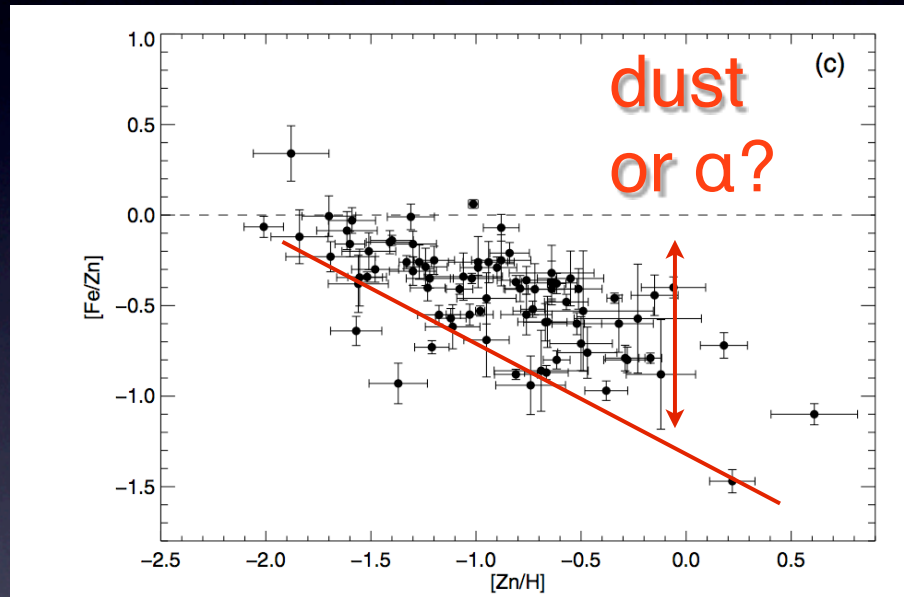
Rafelski et al 2012

What is the behavior of Zn?

Zn behaves as an  $\alpha$ -element  $\rightarrow$  DLA are  $\alpha$ -enhanced.

Zn traces Fe (as in stars)  $\rightarrow$  DLA are not  $\alpha$ -enhanced

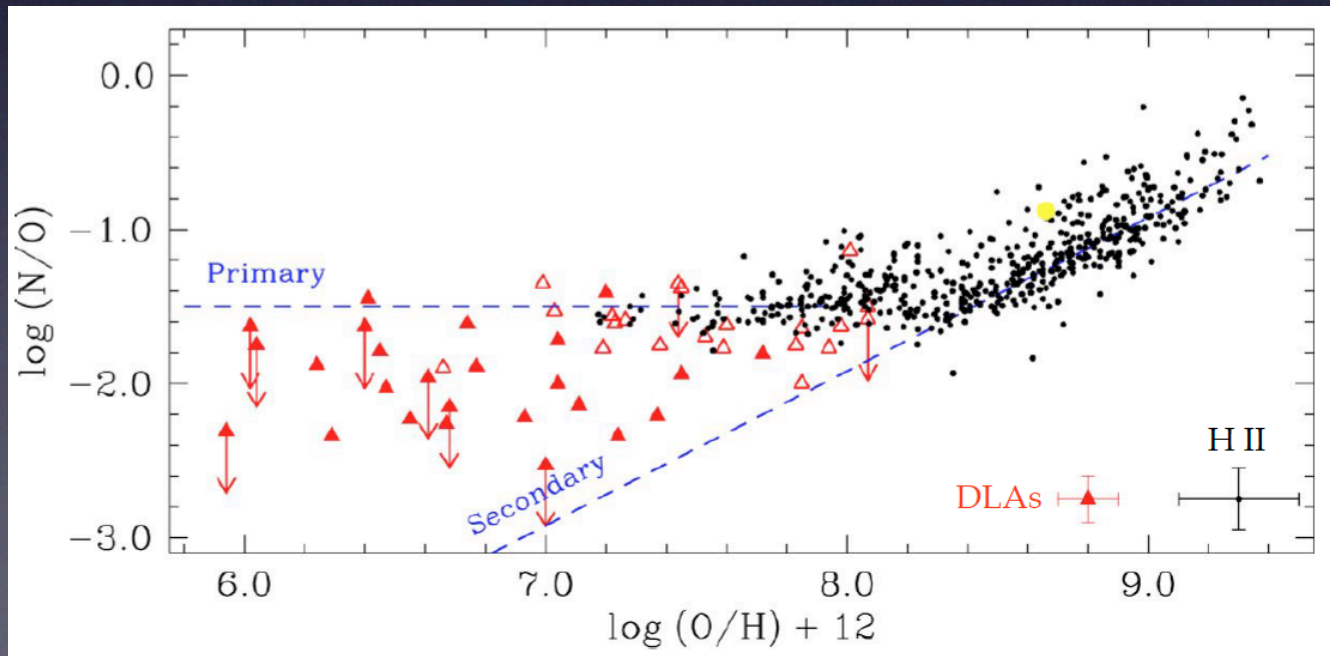
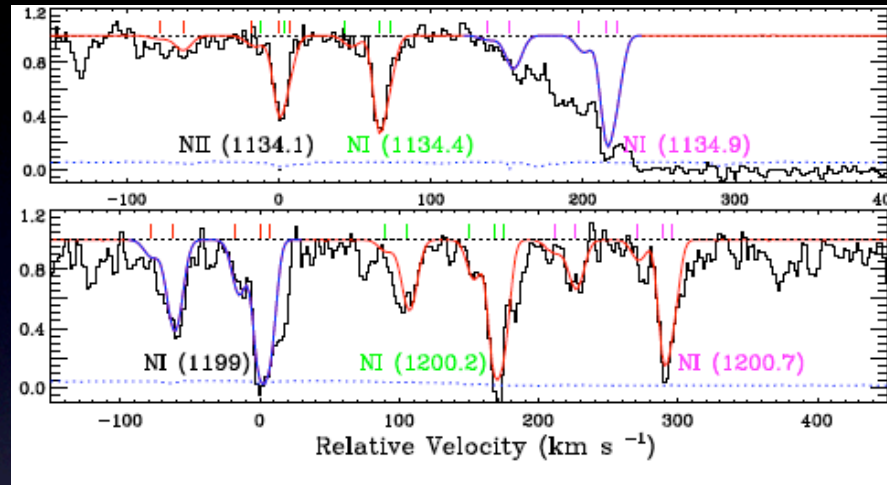
# What is the behavior of Zn?



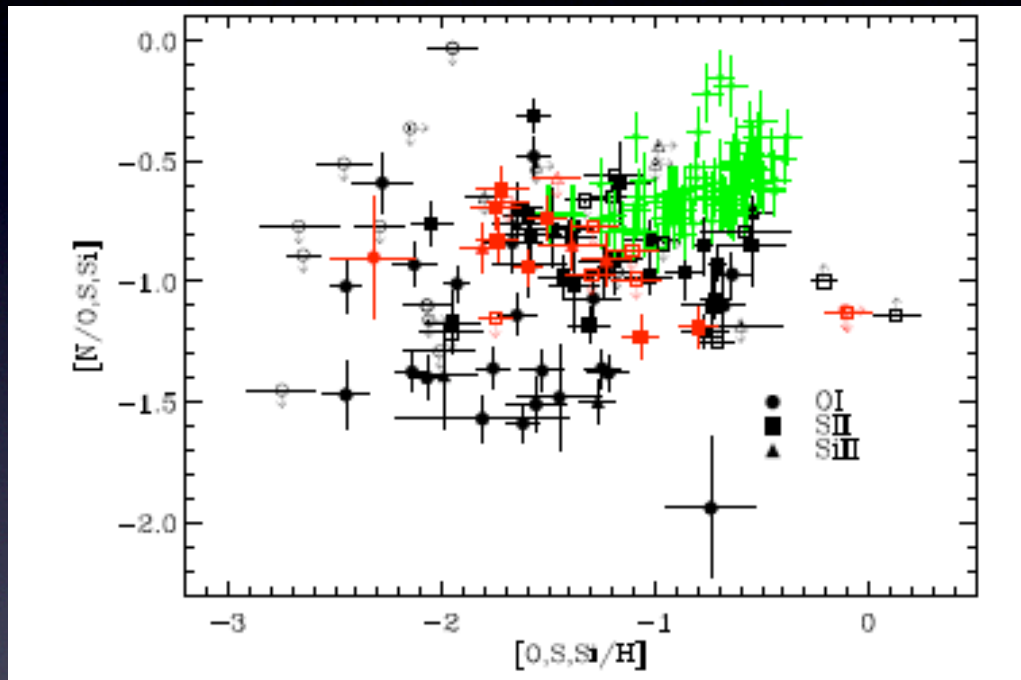
at low metallicity several [ $\alpha$ /Fe]  $\sim$  0, i.e. solar  
 $\alpha$ -enhancement of  $\sim$  0.3

# Nitrogen

6 NI transitions in the forest:  
NII 1134.1 1134.4 1134.9 Å  
NI 1199.0 1200.2 1200.7 Å

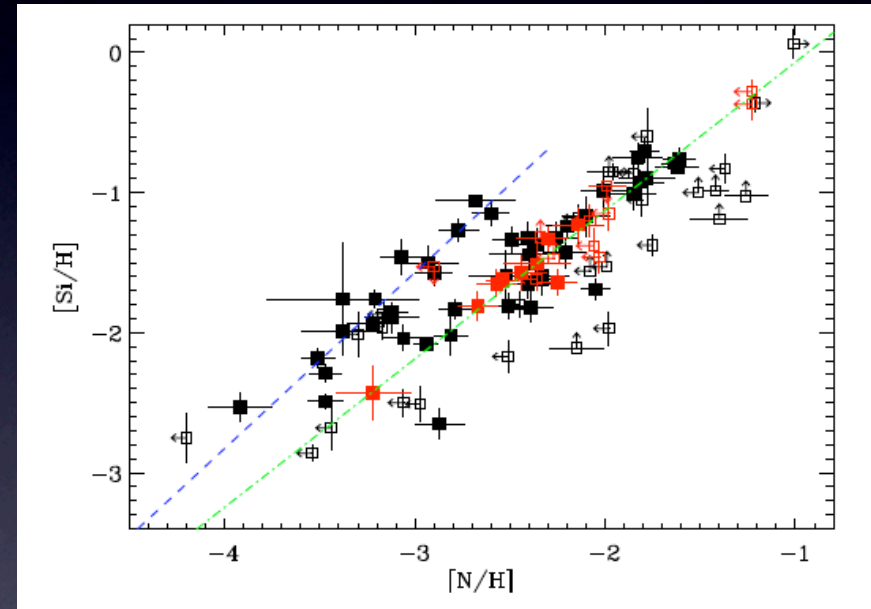
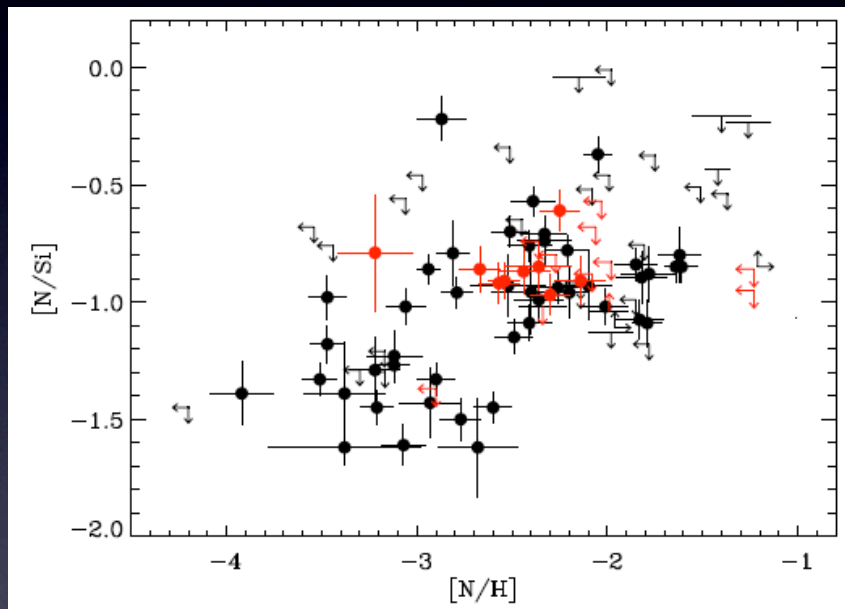






- Large spread
- $[N/\alpha] \ll$  than HII (and Galactic stars)
- Bimodal?

# Bimodal distribution of N?

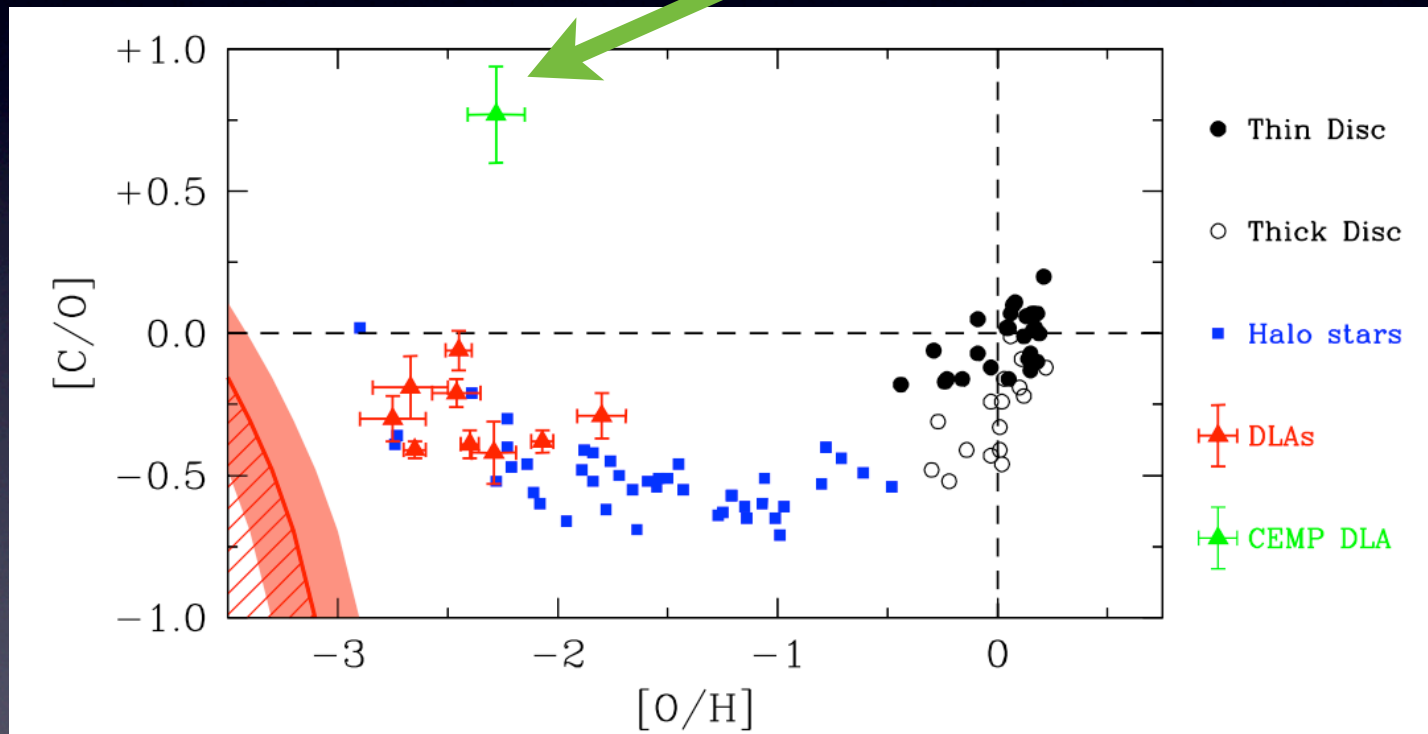


different nucleosynthesis processes for N at low  $[Fe/H]$ ?

# Carbon

CII 1036 and 1334 A lines are strongly saturated  
→ very metal poor DLA ( $\sim [\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -2.5$ )

C-rich DLA Cooke et al 2011, 2012



- CEMP: stars  $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -2$  with  $[\text{C}/\text{Fe}] > +1.0$ , fraction  $> 30\%$
- 1 (2?) DLA  $\sim$  CEMP  $[\text{C}/\text{Fe}] = 1.5$  and  $[\text{C}/\text{Fe}] = 0.6$  Why?

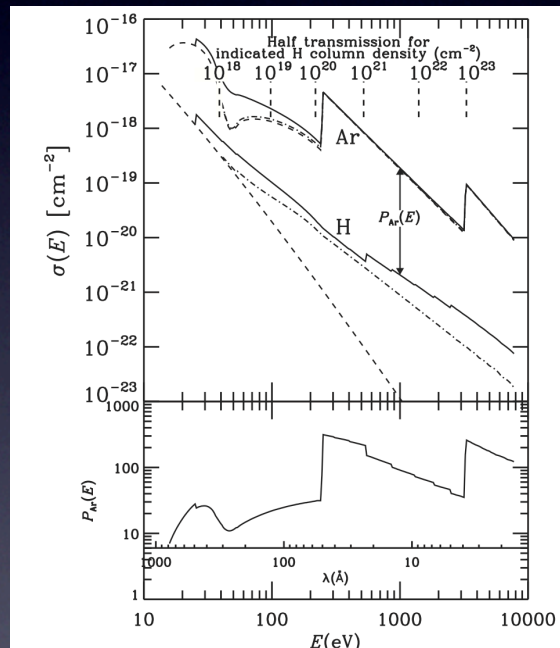


# Argon

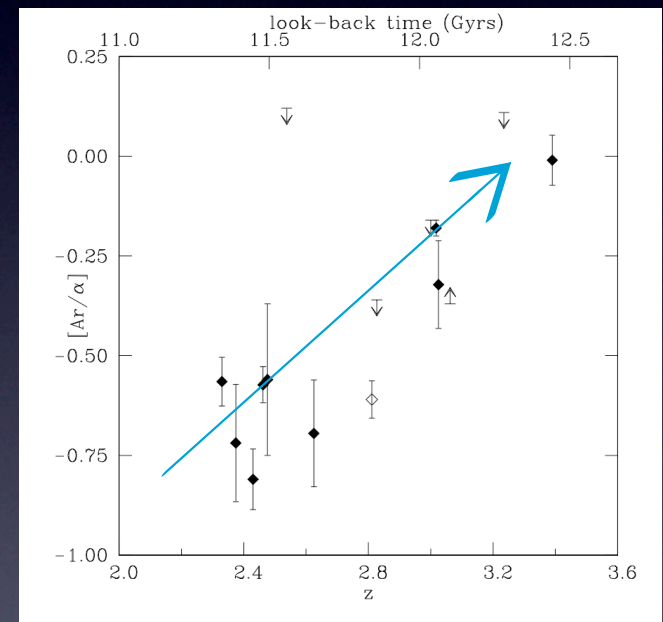
- ➔ ArI 1048, 1066 Å
- ➔  $\alpha$ -element (not measured in stars)
- ➔ non-refractory
- ➔ IP= 15.76 eV,
- ➔ photoionization cross section  $\gg$  HI

MW:  $[\text{Ar}/\text{O}] = -0.43 \pm 0.11$   
 Jenkins 2013

DLA:  $[\text{Ar}/\alpha] \sim -0.8 - 0$



is varying with  $z$ ?

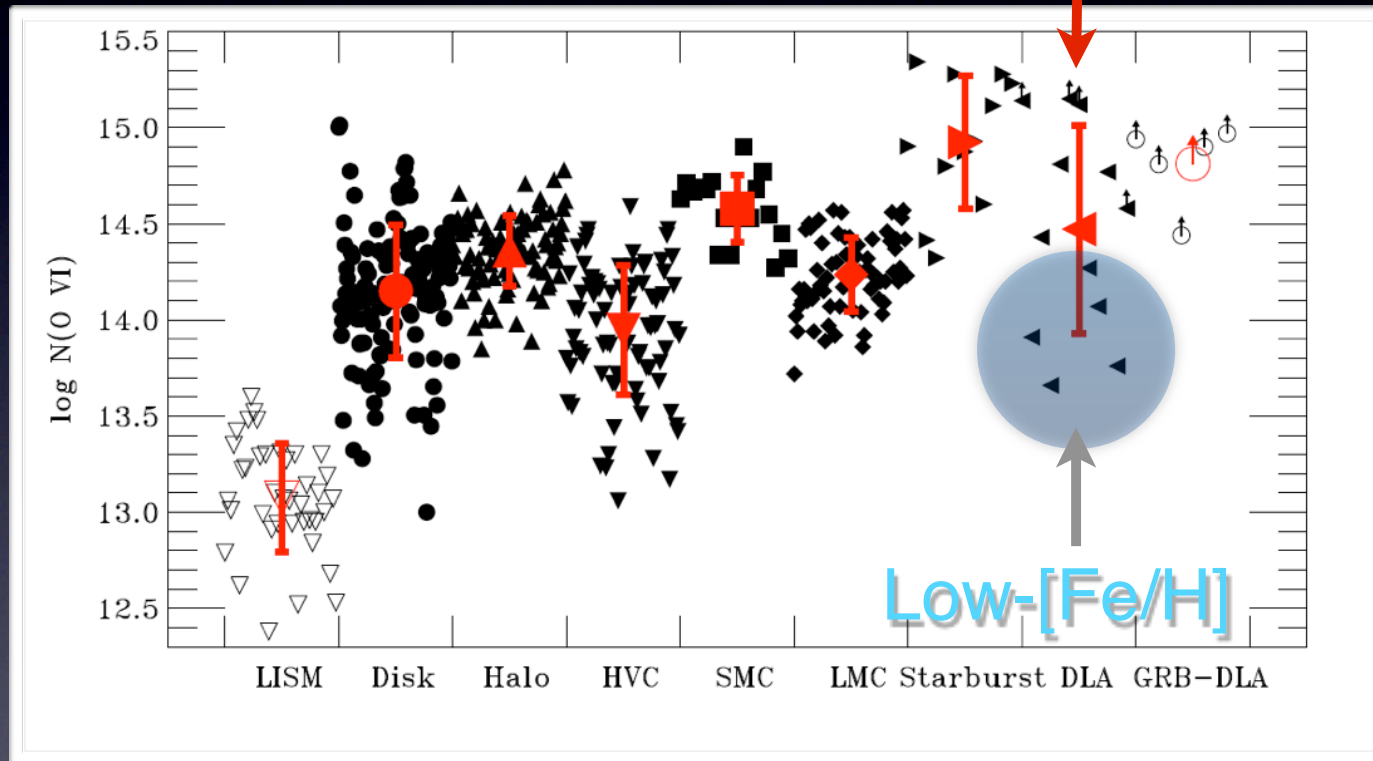


Vladilo et al 2003

photoionized by local soft Xrays or UV background ( $z < 3$ ?)

# OVI

OVI 1031.9, 1037.6  $\text{PI}=113. \text{ eV}$

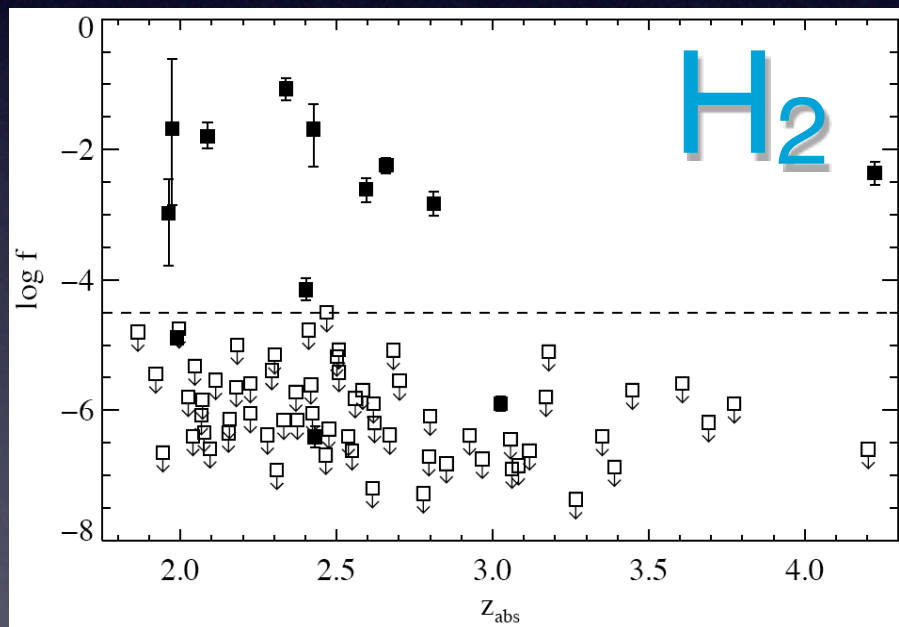


Fox 2011

Collisional ionization in cooling coronal plasma  $\sim 10^5 - 10^6 \text{K}$   
Different velocities from the cool gas

# Molecular gas

- $\text{H}_2$  ( $\sim 20$  detections); HD (6 detections)



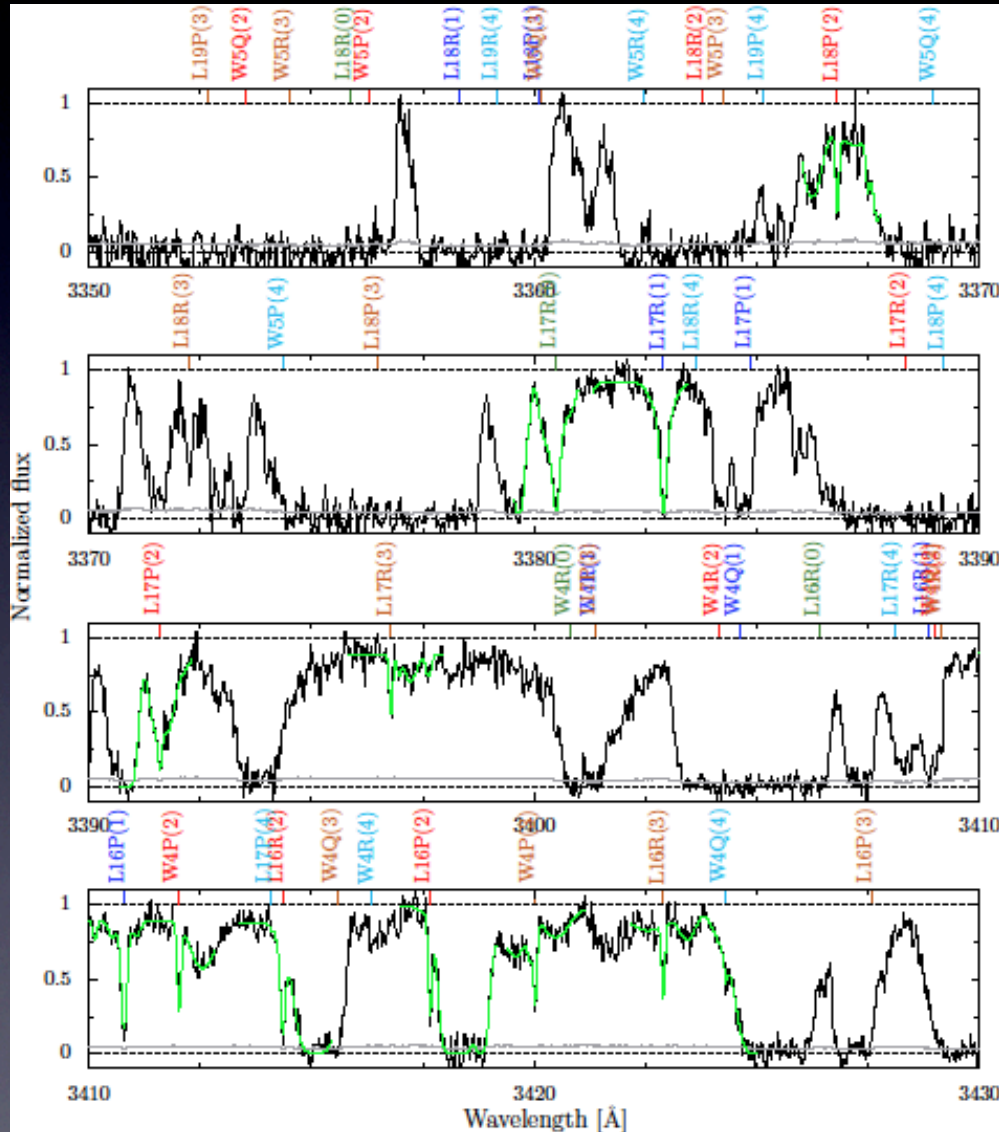
Noterdaeme et al  
2008

peak of systems at  $z \sim 2.5$  (related to dust)



# H<sub>2</sub> at z~2.66

## B 0642-5038



Lyman Werner  
rovibronic  
transitions  
950-1100 Å

~ 10% DLA

correlated with dust

Bagdonaite (2013)

# Importance of molecules

## Constrain the physical state of the gas

- ➔ Temperature:  $\sim 100$  K
- ➔ density:  $n(\text{H}) \sim 50\text{-}60 \text{ cm}^{-3}$
- ➔ sizes:  $\sim \text{pc}$
- ➔ Radiation fields: MW or lower

## Models of primeval galaxies

- ➔ filling factor of molecular gas
- ➔ connection between dust and molecules

## Cosmology & Fundamental Physics

- ➔ Variability of  $M_p/M_e$
- ➔ Measure of  $T(z)$

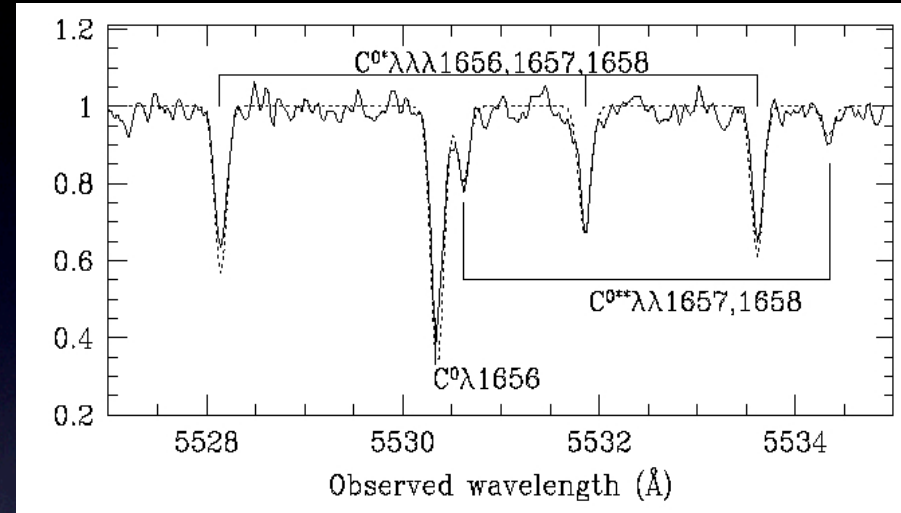


# Probing $T_{\text{CMB}}(z)$

In the cool gas C I\* or C II\* are observed

The population of fine-structure levels of the ground state of C I\* or C II\* depends on (Bachall Wolfe 1968):

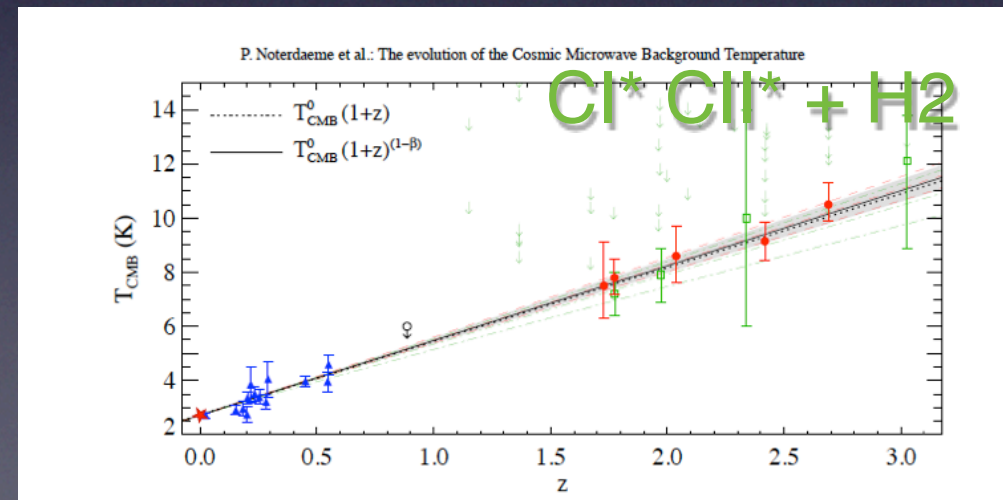
- Collisional excitation
- UV pumping plus cascades
- CMB radiation



H2 provides simultaneous determination of local density, kinetic temperature and UV radiation

=> determination of  $T_{\text{CMB}}$

Srianand et al. 2001, Nature, 408, 931,  
PM et al 2002

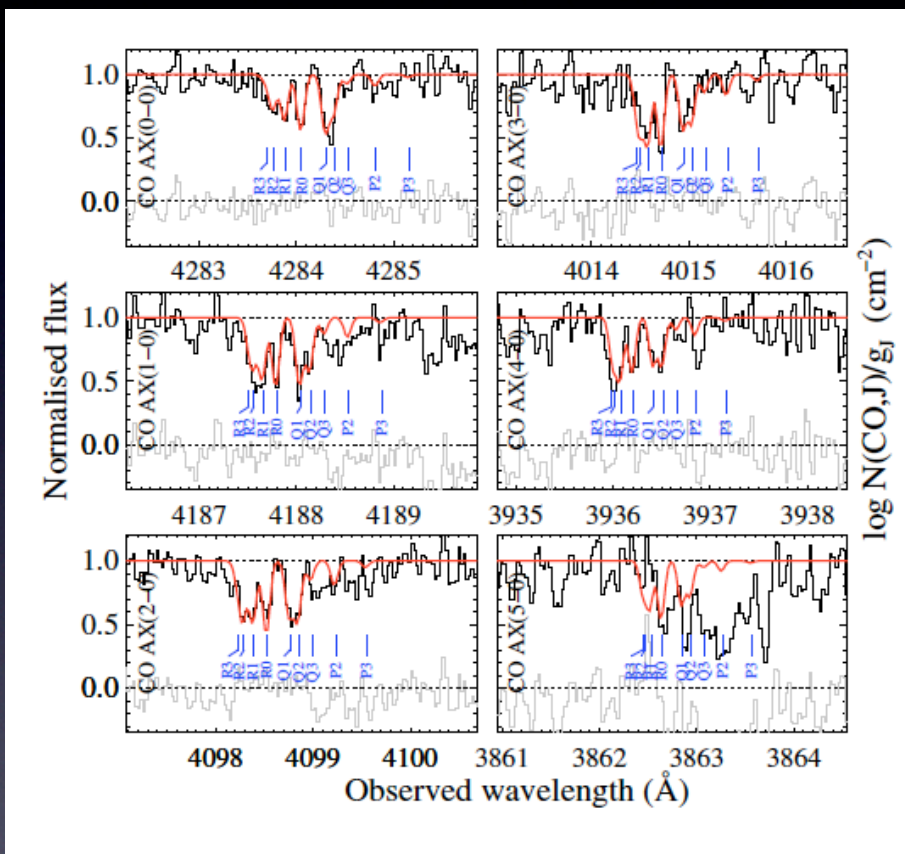




# CO

## J1705+354

CO 2nd molecule more abundant in the universe  
A-X band at  $\sim 1300\text{-}500 \text{ \AA}$



Q1439+113 at  $z = 2.42$

Q1604+220 at  $z = 1.64$

J1237+064 at  $z = 2.69$

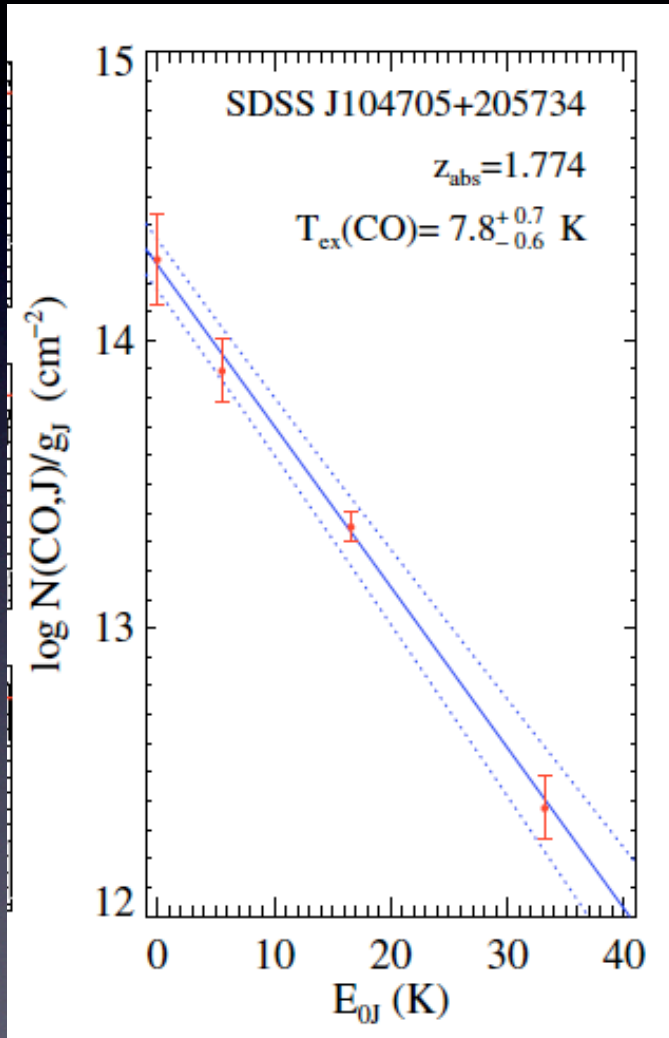
J0857+18 at  $z = 1.73$

J1047+205 at  $z = 1.77$

J1705+354 at  $z = 2.04$

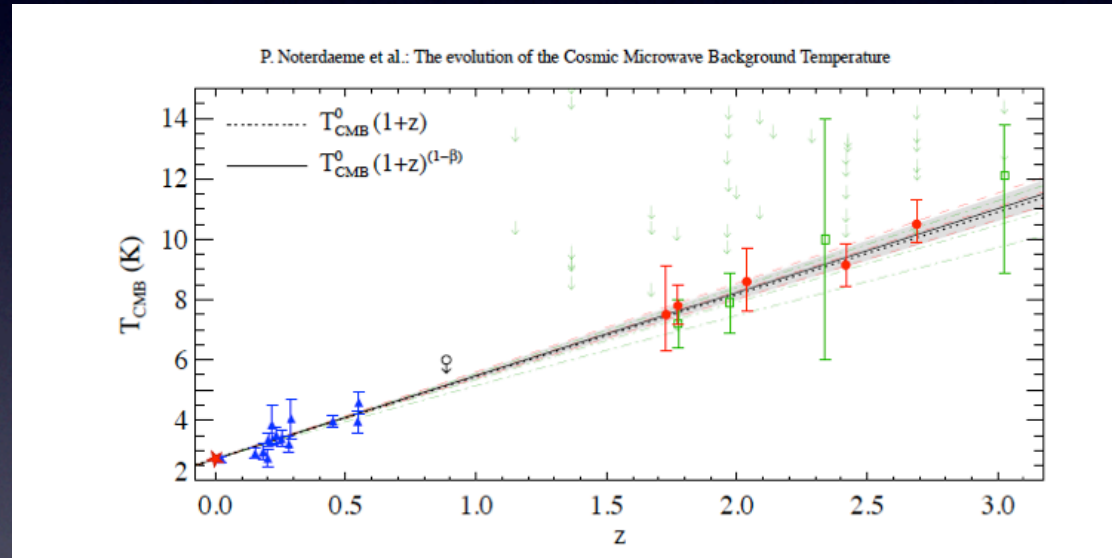
# CO levels depend uniquely from CMB photons

## AX(0-0)-AX(4-0) band



Noterdaeme et al 2010

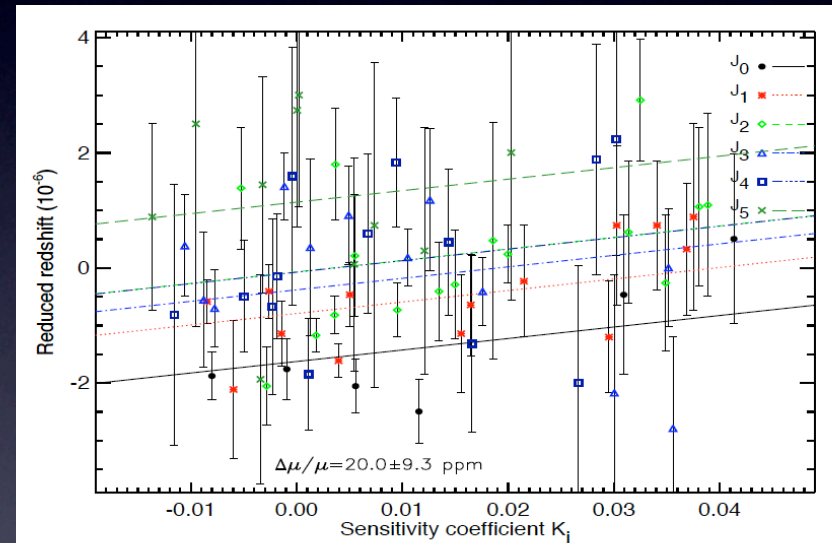
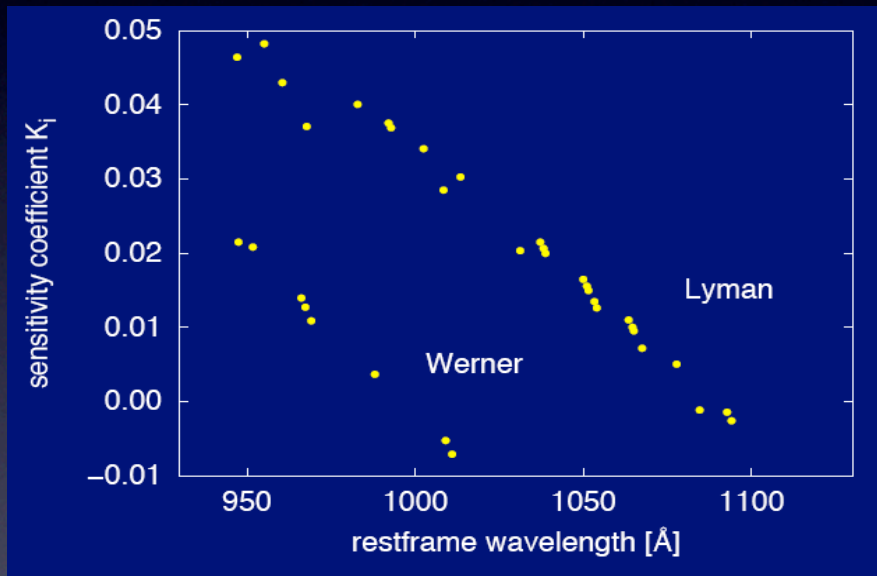
CO



Constraint to non adiabatic expansion (.e. decaying DE)

$$\mu = M_p/M_e$$

- electron-vibro-rotational transitions have different dependence from the reduced mass.



$$\lambda_{\text{obs}} = \lambda_{\text{rest}} (1+z_{\text{abs}})(1+K_i \Delta\mu/\mu)$$

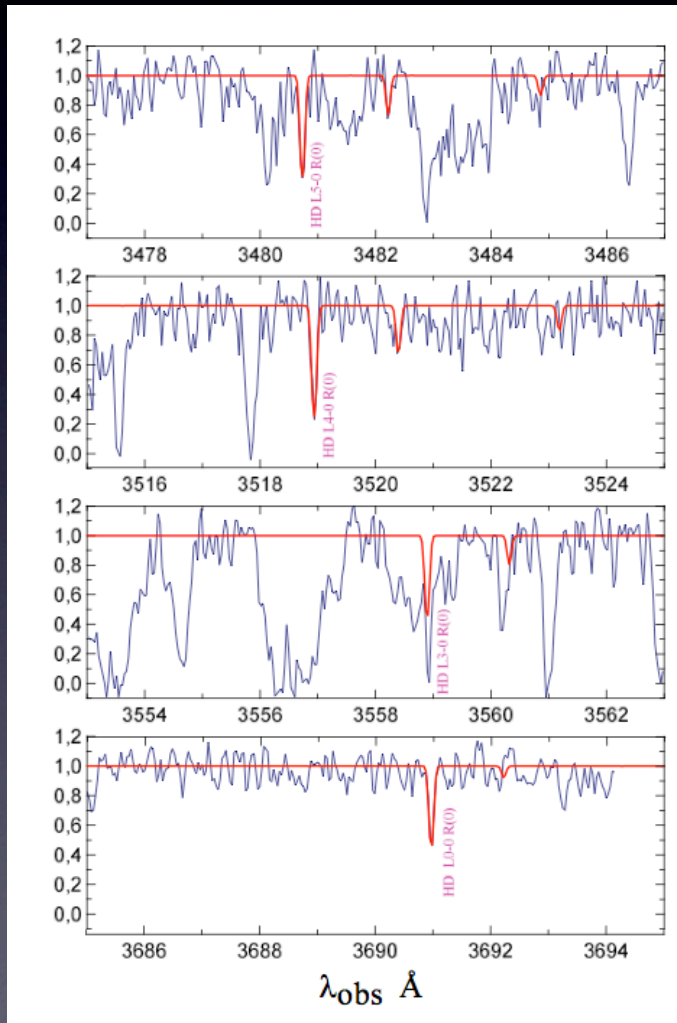
weighted mean of 7 H<sub>2</sub> :  $\langle \Delta\mu/\mu \rangle = 3.4 \pm 2.7 \text{ ppm}$



# Deuterate Hydrogen

Q1232+082 zabs=2.3

6 detections



Q1232+082 Varshalovich et al 2001

J1439+1117 Srianand et al 2008

J2123-0500 Tumilson et al 2010

0812+32 Balashev et al 2010

Q1331+170 Balashev et al 2010

J1237+064 Noterdaeme et al 2010

$N(\text{HD})/2(N(\text{H}_2)) \sim 10\text{-}80 \text{ ppm}$

in the MK  $\sim 1 \text{ ppm}$

$(\text{D}/\text{H})_p = 25 \text{ ppm}$

puzzling behaviour-unexplained!

# Conclusions

3000-4000 Å: the last frontier for QSO's absorption line systems (DLA with  $2 < z < 3$ )

- ➔ D/H to follow the highest members of the Ly series to compute the baryonic density; constrain Nv families; probe new physics.
- ➔ C/H in DLAs to understand why only few DLAs are CEMP (relics of first stars)
- ➔ N/H to confirm its unique behaviour and possibly a new nucleosynthetic process
- ➔ O/H to understand if DLA are as  $\alpha$ -enhanced as the halo stars
- ➔ Ar/O to study the local and EGB soft-X (<4-5 Ry) components
- ➔ H<sub>2</sub> to study the molecular gas within DLAs, to put bounds to the variability of fundamental constants (M<sub>p</sub>/M<sub>e</sub>), CO to measure the CMBT (z) (but R~ 100000 is desirable).