

Big bang nucleosynthesis as a probe of new physics

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Abstract: The remarkable agreement between the observed light-element abundances and the predictions of big bang nucleosynthesis (BBN) makes BBN a powerful probe of physics beyond the Standard Model (BSM). In this talk, I will present the BBN constraints on a specific BSM particle, the Majoron, and discuss its cosmological implications. I will also highlight the caveats of the standard BBN scenario in light of the long-standing cosmological lithium problem and briefly outline a possible solution.

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