

# Non-accelerator probes of light bosons

## The ${}^8\text{Be}$ anomaly & a Protophobic $5^{\text{th}}$ -force

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# Collaboration



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based on

- Phys.Rev.Lett. 117 (2016) no.7, 071803 ,arXiv:1604.07411
- Phys.Rev. D95 (2017) no.3, 035017, arXiv:1608.03591

# Motivation - Complementarity

## New Forces:

- Dark Matter  $\subset$  Dark sectors
- GUTs & EWSB
- $\nu$ 's and  $B - L$
- light weakly coupled NP



**New Forces**  
**light bosons**

## Complementary to colliders $\Rightarrow$ Low-Energy

## Hints ?

- $(g - 2)_\mu$

**MeV-scale: Nuclear Physics**

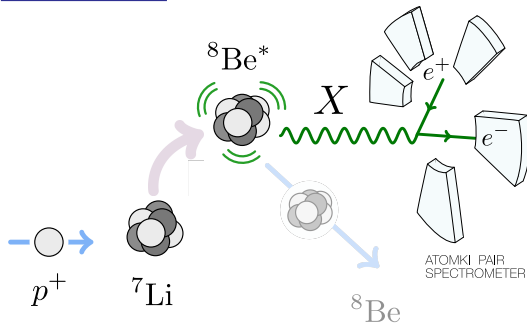
- Proton radius talk by Richard Hill

{ Treiman, Wilczek (1978)  
Donnelly, Freedman, Lytel, Peccei, Schwartz (1978)  
Savage, McKeown, Filippone, Mitchell (1986)

- KTeV:  $\pi^0 \rightarrow e^+ e^-$  { Khan Schmitt & Tait, arXiv:0712.0007  
Khan Krnjaic, & Tait, arXiv:1609.09072

# The Atomki Experiment

## Schematics



by F. Tanedo

Nuclear Reaction:  $p^+ + {}^7\text{Li} \rightarrow {}^8\text{Be}^*$   
 $\Delta E_p \sim 10\text{keV}$ ,  $\Delta\theta_{ee} \sim 2^\circ$  (design)

EM transition:  ${}^8\text{Be}^* \rightarrow e^+e^- + {}^8\text{Be}$

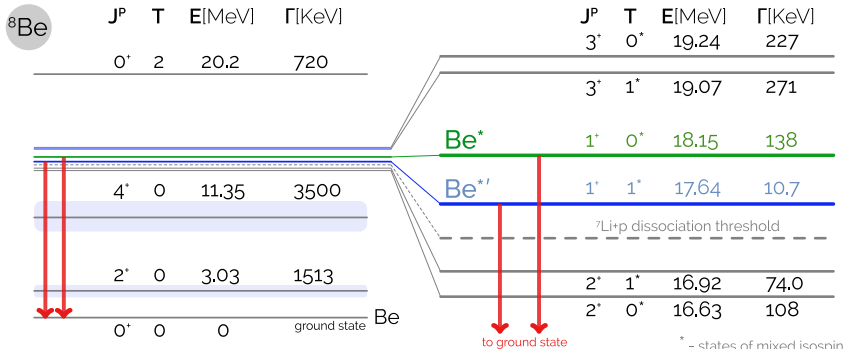
## Experiment



Gulyás et al; NIM A808, 2016, 21-26

# Nuclear Structure of $^8\text{Be}$

$^8\text{Be}$ : one of the largest  $\gamma$  emission of all nuclei



by F. Tanedo based on Tilley et al.(2004)

## $^8\text{Be}^*$ decays

- $\text{Br}(p^+ + ^7\text{Li}) \approx 100\%$
- $\text{Br}(^8\text{Be} + \gamma) \approx 1.4 \times 10^{-5}$
- $\text{Br}(^8\text{Be} + e^+e^-) \approx 3.9 \times 10^{-3} \text{ Br}(^8\text{Be} + \gamma)$

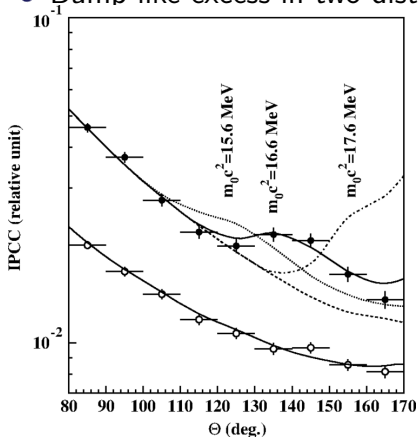
## $^8\text{Be}^*$ structure

- $J^P$  doublets are  $T$ -admixture
- $\mathcal{O}(20 \text{ MeV})$   $E1$ -states with large  $\Gamma$

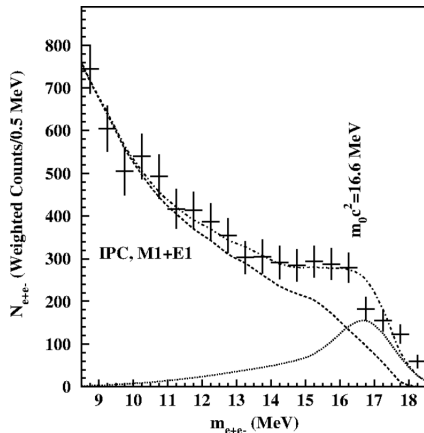
# The Atomki Result

## • Bump-like excess in two distributions

from Krasznahorkay et al.



$$\theta_{ee}^{\text{Excess}} \gtrsim 140^\circ$$



$$m_{ee} \approx 17 \text{ MeV}$$

Excess statistical significance  $6.8\sigma$  —  $1.07\chi^2/\text{d.o.f}$

# The Atomki Result

- bump, not smooth excess, not a “last bin” effect
- excess in  $\theta_{ee}$  and  $m_{ee}$  agree
- M1: 18.15 MeV ✓      17.64 MeV ✗
- checks:  
 $|y < \frac{1}{2}|$ ,  $E_{ee} > 18$  MeV,  $E_p$ -scan, E1-contam, bkgs
- Excess statistical significance  $6.8\sigma$  —  $1.07\chi^2/\text{d.o.f}$  favors intermediate boson

# Interpretations

- Nuclear Physics Theory - New Phenomena ? talk by Xilin Zhang  
⇒ Cannot account for  $^8\text{Be}$  signal Zhang & Miller arXiv:1703.04588 [nuc-th]
- Unknown Systematic Effect ?  
⇒ other nuclear transition fit predictions
- Today: New Physics  $\implies$  X-boson

can be verified in  
upcoming & future experiments



# The $X$ -properties

- $m_X = 16.7 \pm 0.35(\text{stat}) \pm 0.5(\text{sys})$  MeV

- $\frac{\Gamma(^8\text{Be}^* \rightarrow ^8\text{Be}+X)}{\Gamma(^8\text{Be}^* \rightarrow ^8\text{Be}+\gamma)} = 5.8 \times 10^{-6} \quad \frac{\Gamma(^8\text{Be}^{*'} \rightarrow ^8\text{Be}+X)}{\Gamma(^8\text{Be}^{*'} \rightarrow ^8\text{Be}+\gamma)} \approx 0$

- $X$  must be an **iso-scalar**

- $X$  is a **boson**, but is it a

- Scalar,  $J^\pi = 0^+$  forbidden by  $J^P$  conservation
- Pseudo-Scalar,  $J^\pi = 0^-$  Ellwanger & Morreti, arXiv:1609.01669
- Vector,  $J^\pi = 1^-$
- Pseudo-Vector,  $J^\pi = 1^+$  talk by Jonathan Kozaczuk

# Scalar ?

Spin and Parity in the decay

$$J^\pi(^8\text{Be}) = 0^+ \quad \Leftarrow \quad J^\pi(^8\text{Be}^*) = 1^+ \quad \Rightarrow \quad J^\pi(\text{X}) = 0^+$$

Total angular momentum conservation

$$J = L + S \longrightarrow L_{\text{final}} = 1$$

Then

$$P_{\text{initial}} = (+) \neq (-) = (+)(+)(-)^{L=1} = P_{\text{final}}$$

A Scalar is forbidden by parity

# Vectors

Is  $X$  a Dark Photon,  $A'$ , kinetically mixing with  $U(1)_{EM}$

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}F^{\mu\nu}F_{\mu\nu} - \frac{\epsilon}{2}F'^{\mu\nu}F_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{4}F'^{\mu\nu}F'_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}m_{A'}^2 A'_\mu A'^\mu \implies \mathcal{L}_{int} \supset \epsilon A'_\mu J_{EM}^\mu$$

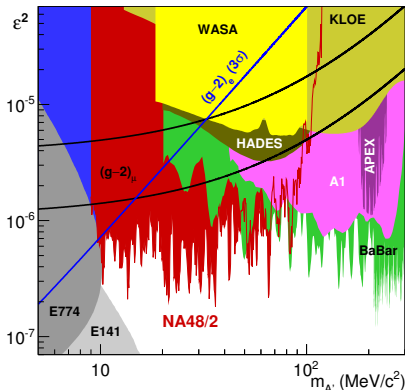
NA48/2 search for

$$\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma(X \rightarrow e^+e^-):$$

$$\epsilon < (8 - 12) \times 10^{-4}$$

No account for  $(g-2)_\mu$

Holdom Phys. Lett. B166 (1986) 196



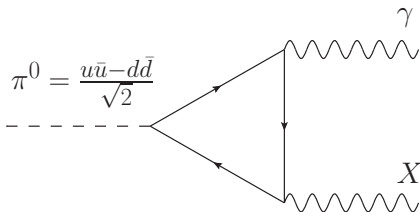
from NA48/2, arxiv:1504.00607

# A Way Around $\implies$ Protophobia

Assume

$$\mathcal{L}_{int} \supset X_\mu J_X^\mu \quad J_X^\mu = e \sum_f \epsilon_f \bar{\psi}_f \gamma^\mu \psi_f$$

Main bound  $\Gamma(\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma(X \rightarrow e^+e^-)) \propto \text{Tr}(Q^{EM} Q^X)$



$$\text{BR}(\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma X) \approx \frac{1}{9} (2\epsilon_u + \epsilon_d)^2$$

Disappears for

$$2\epsilon_u \approx -\epsilon_d \implies \epsilon_p = 0$$

# Nuclear $\implies$ Particle: EFT approach

Following Petrov and Blechman

$$\mathcal{L}_{int} \supset \sum \frac{\mathcal{O}_d}{\Lambda^{d-4}},$$

- $\mathcal{O}$ s contain fields  ${}^8\text{Be}^*_\mu$ ,  ${}^8\text{Be}$ ,  $X_\mu$ ,  $A_\mu$ , derivatives  $\partial_\mu$ , and  $\epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}$
- $\mathcal{O}$ s have definite **spin** & **parity**.
- expansion validity  $\frac{r}{\lambda} \approx \frac{6 \text{ MeV}}{100 \text{ MeV}} \ll 1$

$$\Gamma({}^8\text{Be}^* \rightarrow {}^8\text{Be} V) = \frac{1}{3} \frac{|\vec{k}_V|}{8\pi m_{8\text{Be}^*}^2} |\langle {}^8\text{Be} V | \mathcal{L}_{int} | {}^8\text{Be}^* \rangle|_{\text{spins}}^2$$

# EFT $\Leftrightarrow$ Microscopic Theory: Vectors

$$\underline{V = \gamma, \quad X}$$

EFT:

At LO, the **single** operator

$$\mathcal{L}_{int}^V = \frac{e \epsilon_V}{\Lambda_V} {}^8\text{Be} G_{\mu\nu} F_{\rho\sigma}^V \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}$$

with  $G_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu^8\text{Be}_\nu^* - \partial_\nu^8\text{Be}_\mu^*$

Note, EOMs:  $\begin{cases} \partial^\mu F_{\mu\nu} = 0 \\ \partial^\mu {}^8\text{Be}_\mu^* = 0 \end{cases}$  Then

$$\Gamma_V \propto \frac{e^2 \epsilon_V^2}{\Lambda_V^2} |\vec{k}_X|^3$$

Microscopic:

$$\mathcal{L}_{int} \supset V_\mu J_V^\mu$$

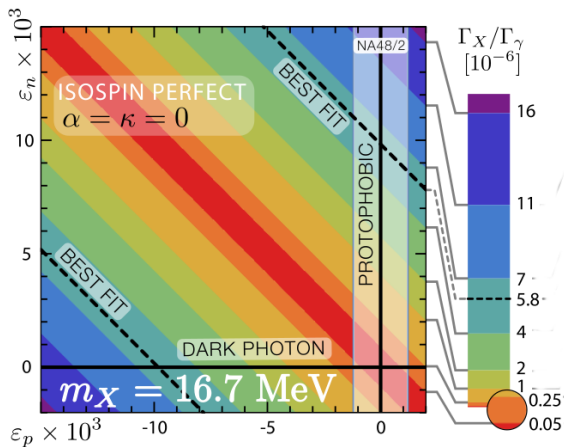
$$J_V^\mu = e \sum_f \epsilon_f \bar{\psi}_f \gamma^\mu \psi_f$$

decompose into:  $J_0^\mu, J_1^\mu$

# IsoSpin Conserving Scenario

## Naively

- ${}^8\text{Be}^*$  : isosinglet
- ${}^8\text{Be}^{*'} : \text{isovector}$
- $H_{\text{int}}^{\text{Nuc}}$  preserves isospin



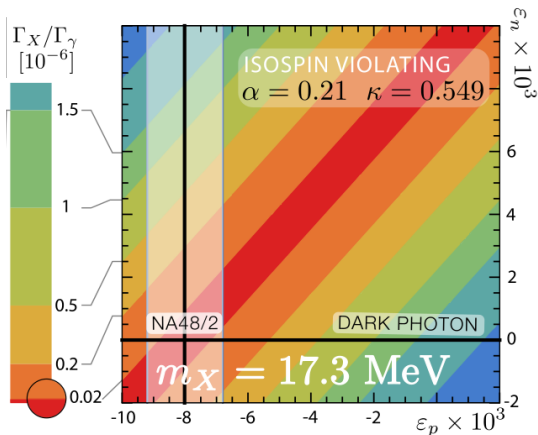
$$\frac{\Gamma_X}{\Gamma_\gamma} = (\epsilon_p + \epsilon_n)^2 \frac{|\vec{k}_X|^3}{|\vec{k}_\gamma|^3} = 5.8 \times 10^{-6}$$

$$\begin{cases} \epsilon_p + \epsilon_n = 0.01 & \text{or} \\ \epsilon_u + \epsilon_d = 3.3 \times 10^{-3} \end{cases}$$

# IsoSpin Violating Scenario

## In reality

- ${}^8\text{Be}^*$  &  ${}^8\text{Be}^{**}$  : iso-admixes
- $H_{\text{int}}^{\text{Nuc}} \supset \textit{isospin}$
- $m_\chi \gtrsim 17 \text{ MeV} \Rightarrow$  lower rates  
(allow  $\times 10$  smaller)



## Nuclear Physics input:

Pastore et al.  
Phys.Rev. C90 (2014) no.2, 024321

$$\begin{cases} \epsilon_n = (2 - 10) \times 10^{-3} < 2.5 \times 10^{-2} \\ \epsilon_p \leq 1.2 \times 10^{-3} \end{cases}$$

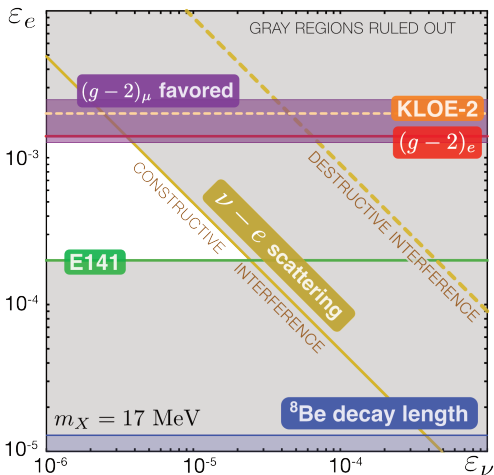
Barbieri & Ericson 1975  
n-Pb scattering



# Lepton Sector Constraints

At  $m_X = 17$  MeV

- $(g-2)_e$   
 $|\epsilon_e| < 1.4 \times 10^{-3}$
- KLOE2  $e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma X, X \rightarrow e^+e^-$   
 $|\epsilon_e| < 2 \times 10^{-3}$
- TEXONO:  $\nu - e$  scat.  
 $\begin{cases} \sqrt{|\epsilon_e \epsilon_\nu|} < 7 \times 10^{-5} (\text{const.}) \\ \sqrt{|\epsilon_e \epsilon_\nu|} < 3 \times 10^{-4} (\text{dest.}) \end{cases}$
- prompt decay  $\leq 1$  cm  
 $|\epsilon_e| \geq 1.3 \times 10^{-5}$
- Beam dumps  $\begin{cases} |\epsilon_e| > 2 \times 10^{-4} \\ |\epsilon_e| < 10^{-8} \end{cases}$



# Model Building - The benchmark

$$\epsilon_n = \epsilon_u + 2\epsilon_d = (2 - 10) \times 10^{-3}$$

$$\epsilon_p = \epsilon_d + 2\epsilon_u < 1.2 \times 10^{-3}$$

$$2 \times 10^{-4} \leq |\epsilon_e| \leq 1.4 \times 10^{-3} \quad (g - 2)_\mu \text{ explained}$$

$$\sqrt{|\epsilon_e \epsilon_\nu|} < 7 \times 10^{-5} (\text{const.})$$

$$\sqrt{|\epsilon_e \epsilon_\nu|} < 3 \times 10^{-4} (\text{dest.})$$

# Model Building

- gauge a global symmetry:  $U(1)_B$ , & kinetic mix.  $\gamma - X$

$$\epsilon_\psi = \epsilon_B Q_\psi^B + \epsilon Q_\psi^{EM}$$

$\implies$

$$\begin{cases} \epsilon_p = \epsilon_B + \epsilon \\ \epsilon_n = \epsilon_B \\ \epsilon_e = \epsilon_n - \epsilon_p \\ \epsilon_\nu = 0 \end{cases}$$

- $Q^{eff} \approx Q - B$  in the protophobic limit
- For  $(\epsilon_p, \epsilon_n) \approx (0.001, 0.002)$  &  $\epsilon_\mu \approx \epsilon_e$  partially accounts for  $(g-2)_\mu$  with mild  $\mathcal{O}(\%10)$  fine-tuning
- no  $\nu$  coupling - strongest constraint, and no  $X \rightarrow inv$

# The $U(1)_B$ Model

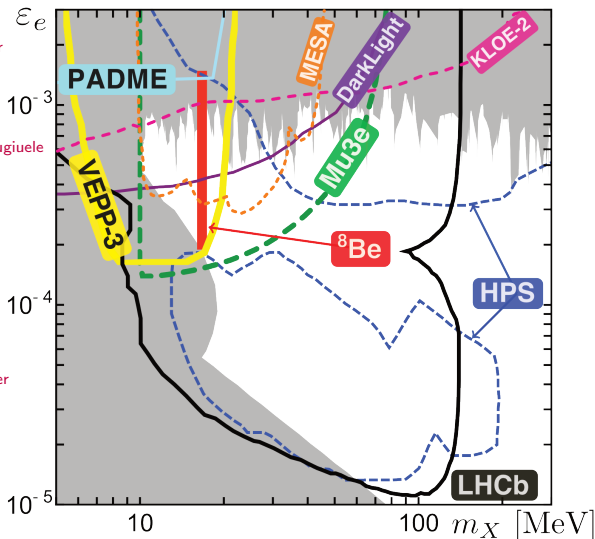
- cancel anomalies:  $\implies$  Add matter

Wise et. al (2013), Fileviez Perez et. al (2013, 2014), Duerr et.al (2015)

- Constraints: LHC & LEP, Oblique Params. ,  $h \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  decays
- Prospects: B-charged vector-like set of "leptons"  $\Rightarrow$  DM
- $U(1)_B$  SSB by  $\langle S_B \rangle \approx 10 \text{ GeV} \frac{0.002}{|\epsilon_B|}$  (unlike TeV models)

# Promising Outlook to Verify/Exclude $^8\text{Be}$ result

- $^{10}\text{B}$  : 19.3 MeV
- $^{10}\text{Be}$  : 17.79 MeV
- $^4\text{He} > 23$  MeV *Leach & Brodeur*
- ATOMKI - new detector
- talk by Raphael Lang
- Isotope shift - talk by Claudia Frugiuiele
- PADME - talk by Mauro Raggi
- HPS - talk by Omar Moreno
- LHCb - talk by Philip Ilten
- SHIP talk by Antonia di Crescenzo
- SeaQuest talk by Ming Liu
- DarkLight talk by Michael Kohl
- MMAPS (vis) talk by J. Alexander
- TUNL (HIGS facility  $\gamma$  Nuc)
- UK VdG
- TREK@JPARC  $K^+$  decays
- BESIII
- LHC - prob UV



# Conclusions

- Big problems need solutions: Dark Matter (sector), GUT & EWSB, particle quantum numbers
- $6.8\sigma$  significance result ( $1.07 \chi^2/dof$ ) favors intermediate particle,  
a new boson  $X$ , at  $m_X \approx 17$  MeV
- NOT a dark photon, but could easily emerge from DM & GUT considerations.
- could account for additional anomalies like  $(g - 2)_\mu$ , KTEV
- upcoming and future experiment are sensitive to  $X$ , and to Dark Sector particles at the EW scale.

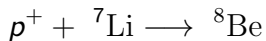
# Thank You

# Backup Slides



# ATOMKI Setup

- Van de Graaff accelerator  $\rightarrow$   $p^+$  beam , resolution  $\mathcal{O}(100 \text{ keV})$   
 $\rightarrow$  generate known nuclear excited states **on-resonance**
- Relevant Nuclear Reactions

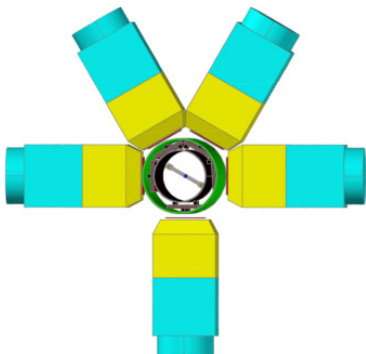


$$E_p^{kin} = 1.03 \text{ MeV} \rightarrow {}^8\text{Be}^* (18.15 \text{ MeV})$$

$$E_p^{kin} = 0.441 \text{ MeV} \rightarrow {}^8\text{Be}^{*'} (17.64 \text{ MeV})$$

# ATOMKI Setup

- plastic scintillator  $\Delta E - E$  setup, position using: MWPC
  - 5 Telescope circular array, high efficiency  $\approx 7 \times 10^{-3}$
  - large  $\theta_{ee}$  coverage
  - $\max(E_{ee}) \approx 18$  MeV
  - $\Delta\theta = 2^\circ$  (design)
  - $\Delta\theta = 6^\circ$ , beam position on target, calibration



from Gulyás et al; NIM A808, 2016, 21-26

# New Boson, $X$ , Interpretation

Why a new boson ? Why  $m_X \approx 17$  MeV

- $P_X(m_X \approx 17 \text{ MeV}) = 6.35 \text{ MeV}$
- $\theta_{ee}^{min} = \text{ArcCos} \left( \frac{P_X^2 - m_X^2 + 4m_e^2}{P_X^2 - m_X^2 - 4m_e^2} \right) \approx 140^\circ$
- $m_{ee}$  shows a bump at  $m_{ee} \approx m_X$

# Skepticism

A (non-exhaustive) list of reasons to doubt

- Background sources ?  $\gamma$ s, Cosmic  $\mu$ s
- Nuclear interference effects
- Claims of various excess in  ${}^8\text{Be}$  in the past (de Boer et al.)
- The  $\text{Be}^{*'}$  state @ 17.64 MeV

# Tackling Skepticism 1 - Backgrounds

## Dealing with backgrounds

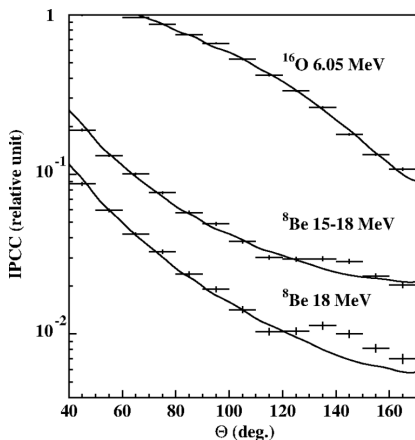
- $\gamma$ s - mainly from target area scattering ( $\gamma$ -conversion),
  - suppressed by target design
  - reject using coincidence requirements in detectors
  - the effect does not appear in the 17.64 MeV state
  - the effect does not appear off-resonance
- cosmic  $\mu$ s
  - shape estimated from off-time.
  - scale: comparing and  $E_{ee} > 20$  MeV during run to off-time
- Target composition  $LiF_2$ ,  $LiO_2$  known and understood

# Tackling Skepticism 1 - Backgrounds

## Verification and Cuts

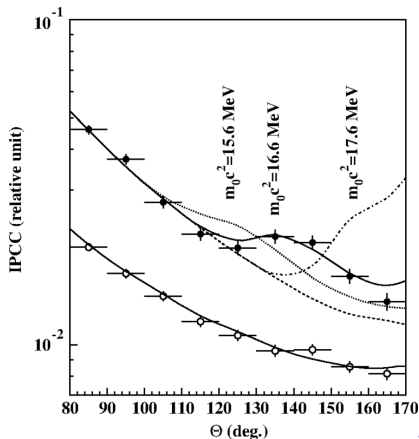
Gate threshold:

$$E_{ee} \geq 18 \text{ MeV}$$



symmetric spectra:

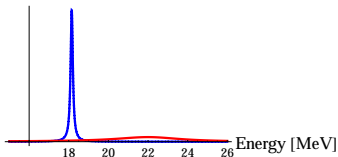
$$|y| = \left| \frac{E_{e+}^{\text{kin}} - E_{e-}^{\text{kin}}}{E_{e+}^{\text{kin}} + E_{e-}^{\text{kin}}} \right| \leq 0.5$$



# Tackling Skepticism 2 - Interference Effects

## E1 - M1

- Non-Resonant production



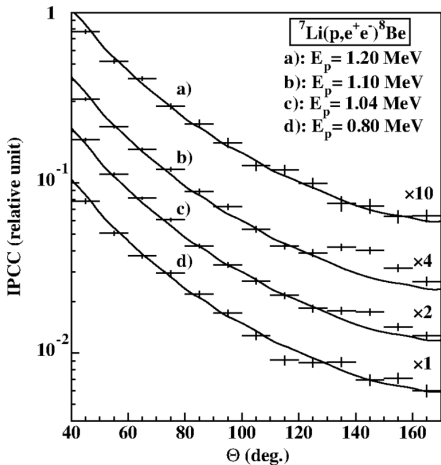
M1 + 0.23E1 composition

- known  $\gamma$ -FB-anisotropy can affect  $\Theta_{ee}$  (detector position)

Mainsbridge, Nucl. Phys. 21, 1 (1960)

Zahnnow, et al. Z. Phys. A 351, 229 (1995)

Goldring, Proc. Phys. Soc. 66, 341 (1953)



from Krasznahorkay et al.

Excess statistical significance  $6.8\sigma$  at  $E_p^{kin} = 1.1$  MeV

# Tackling Skepticism 3 - Past Experience

## Too many past excesses

- de Boer et al.
  - 9 MeV in  $M1$ -transition in  ${}^8\text{Be}^{*}$
  - 12 MeV boson in  $M1$ -transition in  ${}^8\text{Be}^{*}$
  - $E1$ -transition  ${}^{12}\text{C}$  and
  
- Krasznahorkay et al.: 13 MeV

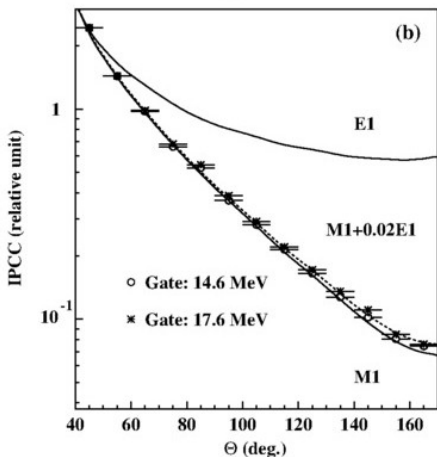
## Persuasive Arguments

- Better angular acceptance - large  $\theta_{ee}$  coverage
  
- Accounting for interference effects



# Tackling Skepticism 4 - 17.64 MeV

The  $e^+e^-$  spectrum of the  $^8\text{Be}^{*'}$  **does not** exhibit an excess



from Krasznahorkay et al.

Matches  $M1 + 0.02E1$  composition  
(and excludes past excess claims)

# Tackling Skepticism 4 - 17.64 MeV

- Angular systematic error  $\Delta\theta = 6^\circ \rightarrow \Delta m_{\text{syst}} = 0.5$   
In total

$$m_X = (16.7 \pm 0.35(\text{stat}) \pm 0.5(\text{syst})) \text{ MeV}$$

Consistent with  $m_X = 17.55 \text{ MeV}$  at  $1\sigma$

Phase-Space suppressed decay

Comparing  $\gamma$  &  $X$ :  $\epsilon_\gamma = 1$

$$\frac{\Gamma(^8\text{Be}^* \rightarrow ^8\text{Be} + X)}{\Gamma(^8\text{Be}^* \rightarrow ^8\text{Be} + \gamma)} = \epsilon_X^2 \frac{\Lambda_X^2}{\Lambda_\gamma^2} \frac{|\vec{k}_X|^3}{|\vec{k}_\gamma|^3} = 5.8 \times 10^{-6}$$

But what are the  $\Lambda$ s ?

Compare known results

$$\Gamma(^8\text{Be} \rightarrow ^8\text{Be} + \gamma) \implies \Lambda_\gamma \approx 2 \text{ GeV}$$

But how to disentangle  $\epsilon_X$  and  $\Lambda_X$

# Currents and Amplitudes

Conserved isospin limit  $\implies$  **isospin doublet**

$$N = \begin{pmatrix} p \\ n \end{pmatrix}$$

The **isosinglet** and **isovector** currents are

$$J_0^\mu = \bar{N} \gamma^\mu N = J_p^\mu + J_n^\mu \quad J_1^\mu = \bar{N} \gamma^\mu T^3 N = J_p^\mu - J_n^\mu$$

The EM current is

$$J_{EM} = e J_p^\mu = \frac{e}{2} (J_0^\mu + J_1^\mu)$$

while X couples to

$$\begin{aligned} J_X^\mu &= e_{EM} \epsilon_p J_p^\mu + e_{EM} \epsilon_n J_n^\mu \\ &= \frac{e_{EM}}{2} (\epsilon_p + \epsilon_n) J_0^\mu + \frac{e_{EM}}{2} (\epsilon_p - \epsilon_n) J_1^\mu \end{aligned}$$

# Currents and Amplitudes

So that

$$\begin{aligned}\langle {}^8\text{Be} | \mathbf{J}_{\text{EM}}^\mu | {}^8\text{Be}^* \rangle &= \frac{e}{2} \langle {}^8\text{Be} | \mathbf{J}_0^\mu | {}^8\text{Be}^* \rangle + \frac{e}{2} \langle {}^8\text{Be} | \mathbf{J}_1^\mu | {}^8\text{Be}^* \rangle \\ \langle {}^8\text{Be} | \mathbf{J}_X^\mu | {}^8\text{Be}^* \rangle &= \frac{e}{2} (\epsilon_p + \epsilon_n) \langle {}^8\text{Be} | \mathbf{J}_0^\mu | {}^8\text{Be}^* \rangle + \frac{e}{2} (\epsilon_p - \epsilon_n) \langle {}^8\text{Be} | \mathbf{J}_1^\mu | {}^8\text{Be}^* \rangle\end{aligned}$$

In the limit that  ${}^8\text{Be}^*$  is pure isosinglet

$$\langle {}^8\text{Be} | \mathbf{J}_1^\mu | {}^8\text{Be}^* \rangle = 0$$

Hence

$$\Lambda_X = \Lambda_\gamma$$

# Rates

Then

$$\frac{\Gamma(^8\text{Be}^* \rightarrow ^8\text{Be} + \text{X})}{\Gamma(^8\text{Be}^* \rightarrow ^8\text{Be} + \gamma)} = (\epsilon_p + \epsilon_n)^2 \frac{|\vec{k}_X|^3}{|\vec{k}_\gamma|^3} = 5.8 \times 10^{-6}$$

with  $|\vec{k}_X| = 6.35 \text{ MeV}$ ,  $|\vec{k}_\gamma| = 18.15 \text{ MeV}$

$$\epsilon_p + \epsilon_n = 0.01$$

or

$$\epsilon_u + \epsilon_d = 3.3 \times 10^{-3}$$

# Rates - Isospin Mixing & Violation

- States are **isospin admixtures**

$$\begin{cases} |{}^8\text{Be}^* \rangle = \beta|0\rangle - \alpha|1\rangle \\ |{}^8\text{Be}^{*\prime} \rangle = \alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle \end{cases} \quad \alpha^2 + \beta^2 = 1$$

- take into account **isospin breaking**,  $\Delta T = 1$  supriion

$$\langle {}^8\text{Be} | \mathbf{J}_{EM}^\mu | {}^8\text{Be}^* \rangle \propto \beta M1_{T=0} - \alpha M1_{T=1} + \kappa \beta M1_{T=1}$$

$$\langle {}^8\text{Be} | \mathbf{J}_X^\mu | {}^8\text{Be}^* \rangle \propto (\epsilon_p + \epsilon_n) \beta M1_{T=0} + (\epsilon_p - \epsilon_n) (-\alpha M1_{T=1} + \kappa \beta M1_{T=1})$$

with

$$M1_{T=0} = 0.014(1)\mu_N \quad M1_{T=1} = 0.767(9)\mu_N$$

# Rates - Isospin Mixing & Violation

One finds

$$\frac{\Gamma_X}{\Gamma_\gamma} = \left| \frac{(\epsilon_p + \epsilon_n)\beta M1_{T=0} + (\epsilon_p - \epsilon_n)(-\alpha M1_{T=1} + \kappa\beta M1_{T=1})}{\beta M1_{T=0} - \alpha M1_{T=1} + \kappa\beta M1_{T=1}} \right|^2 \frac{|\vec{k}_X|^3}{|\vec{k}_\gamma|^3}$$



# Anomalous Nucleon Magnetic Moments

Our theory is microscopic

$$J_X^\mu X_\mu = e (\epsilon_u \bar{u} \gamma^\mu u + \epsilon_d \bar{d} \gamma^\mu d + \dots) X_\mu$$

Can be mapped to Nucleon level  $N = \begin{pmatrix} p \\ n \end{pmatrix}$  " = "  $\begin{pmatrix} 2u + d' \\ 2d + u \end{pmatrix}$

$$\epsilon_p = 2\epsilon_u + \epsilon_d \quad \epsilon_n = 2\epsilon_d + \epsilon_u$$

$J_X$  - vector current. Decomposed to vector current

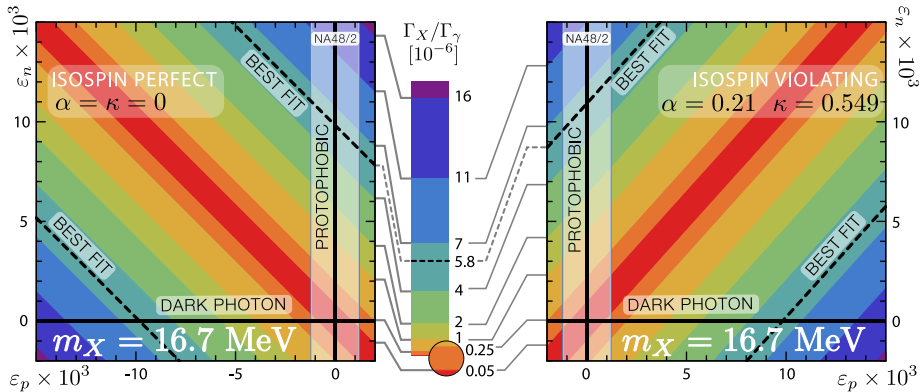
$$\begin{cases} J_0^\mu = \bar{N} \gamma^\mu N = J_p^\mu + J_n^\mu = J_u^\mu + J_d^\mu & \text{isosinglet} \\ J_1^\mu = \bar{N} \gamma^\mu T^3 N = J_p^\mu - J_n^\mu = J_u^\mu - J_d^\mu & \text{isovector} \end{cases}$$

For the rate we calculate

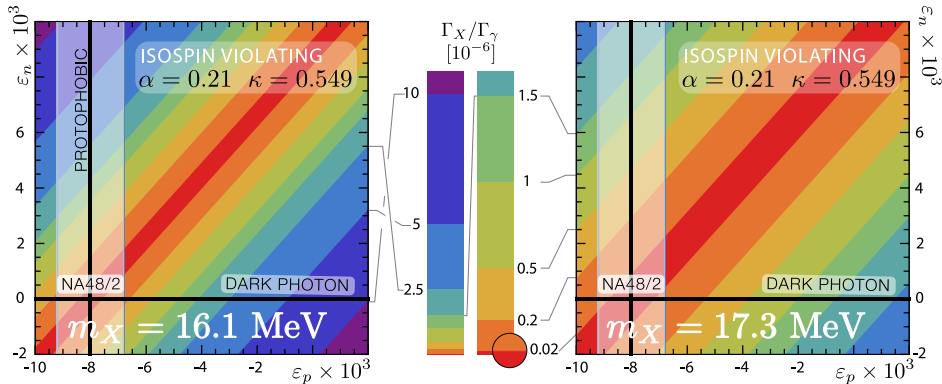
$$\langle {}^8\text{Be} | J_X^\mu | {}^8\text{Be}^* \rangle \Leftrightarrow \langle {}^8\text{Be} | M1 | {}^8\text{Be}^* \rangle$$

where **M1** include all Nuclear & Nucleon level effects, including magnetic moments - which are QCD dominated !

# Plots



# Plots



# Pseudo-Scalar (ALP)

Same approach

$$J^\pi(^8\text{Be}) = 0^+ \quad \Leftarrow \quad J^\pi(^8\text{Be}^*) = 1^+ \quad \Rightarrow \quad J^\pi(X) = 0^-$$

Parity conserving:  $P_{\text{initial}} = (+) = (+) = (+)(-)(-)^{L=1} = P_{\text{final}}$

ALP searches **exclude**:

$$10^{-18} \text{ GeV}^{-1} < g_{X\gamma\gamma} < 10^{-1} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$$

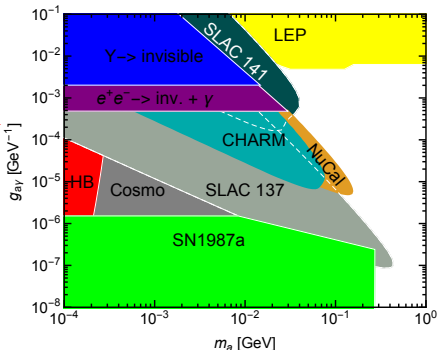
Döbrich et al. arXiv:1512.03069

Hewett et al., arXiv:1205.2671

Recently Ellwanger & Morreti, arXiv:1609.01669

$g_{Xee} \Rightarrow$  Decay in Dump

no constraint



from Döbrich et al.

# Other Vector Avenues

- pure  $B - L$ :

$$g_{B-L} \Big|_{m \sim 17 \text{ MeV}} < 2 \times 10^{-5} \implies \text{cannot account for signal}$$

- **Axial vectors** - avoid  $\pi^0$  decay bounds (Sutherland-Veltman)  
worry about
  - Matching to nuclear theory
  - Atomic Parity Violation constraints
  - enhanced contributions to constrained observables  
cf  $\phi \rightarrow \eta X$  and  $(g - 2)_\ell$

# The $U(1)_{B-L}$ Model

$$\epsilon_\psi = \epsilon_{B-L} Q_\psi^{B-L} + \epsilon Q_\psi^{EM} \implies$$

$$\begin{cases} \epsilon_p = \epsilon_{B-L} + \epsilon \\ \epsilon_n = \epsilon_{B-L} \\ \epsilon_e = -\epsilon_p \\ \epsilon_\nu = -\epsilon_n \end{cases}$$

- Q-(B-L) in protophobic limit
- Anomaly free with  $\nu_{RS}$ .
- For  $(\epsilon_p, |\epsilon_n|) \approx (< 0.001, 0.002 - 0.008)$  fits  ${}^8\text{Be}$  and  $\pi^0$  constraint. Nontrivial  $\epsilon_e$  in the correct range. &  $\epsilon_\mu \approx \epsilon_e$  (and also account for  $(g-2)_\mu$ ).
- $\epsilon_\nu$  too large  $\implies \nu$ -neutralization.
- $\langle h_X \rangle \approx 14 \text{ GeV} \frac{0.002}{|\epsilon_{B-L}|}$  breaks  $U(1)_{B-L}$  and generates:  
 $m_X, m_\nu^{\text{Majorana}}, \nu - \nu_D$ -mixing

# Related Work

- 1 Can nuclear physics explain the anomaly observed in the internal pair production in the Beryllium-8 nucleus? Xilin Zhang, Gerald A. Miller. arXiv:1703.04588 [nucl-th]
- 2 Light Axial Vectors, Nuclear Transitions, and the  $88\text{Be}$  Anomaly By J. Kozaczuk, D. E. Morrissey, S.R. Stroberg. arXiv:1612.01525 [hep-ph]
- 3 Light Weakly Coupled Axial Forces: Models, Constraints, and Projections By Yonatan Kahn, Gordan Krnjaic, Siddharth Mishra-Sharma, Tim M. P. Tait. arXiv:1609.09072 [hep-ph].
- 4 The 17 MeV Anomaly in Beryllium Decays and  $U(1)$  Portal to Dark Matter By Chian-Shu Chen, Guey-Lin Lin, Yen-Hsun Lin, Fanrong Xu. arXiv:1609.07198 [hep-ph].
- 5 Possible Explanation of the Electron Positron Anomaly at 17 MeV in  $^8\text{Be}$  Transitions Through a Light Pseudoscalar By Ulrich Ellwanger, Stefano Moretti. arXiv:1609.01669 [hep-ph].
- 6 The Protophobic Light Vector Boson as a Mediator to the Dark Sector By Teppei Kitahara, Yasuhiro Yamamoto. arXiv:1609.01605 [hep-ph].
- 7 The 17 MeV Anomaly in Beryllium Decays and  $U(1)$  Portal to Dark Matter By Chian-Shu Chen, Guey-Lin Lin, Yen-Hsun Lin, Fanrong Xu. arXiv:1609.07198 [hep-ph].
- 8 The new interaction suggested by the anomalous  $^8\text{Be}$  transition sets a rigorous constraint on the mass range of dark matter By Lian-Bao Jia, Xue-Qian Li. arXiv:1608.05443 [hep-ph].
- 9  $X(16.7)$  as the Solution of NuTeV Anomaly By Yi Liang, Long-Bin Chen, Cong-Feng Qiao. arXiv:1607.08309 [hep-ph].
- 10 Neutrinophilic nonstandard interactions By Yasaman Farzan, Julian Heeck. arXiv:1607.07616 [hep-ph]. 10.1103/PhysRevD.94.053010. Phys.Rev. D94 (2016) no.5, 053010.
- 11  $X(16.7)$  Production in Electron-Positron Collision By Long-Bin Chen, Yi Liang, Cong-Feng Qiao. arXiv:1607.03970 [hep-ph].
- 12 Realistic model for a fifth force explaining anomaly in  $^8\text{Be}^* \rightarrow ^8\text{Be} e^+ e^-$  Decay By Pei-Hong Gu, Xiao-Gang He. arXiv:1606.05171 [hep-ph].

## Observation of Anomalous Internal Pair Creation in $^8\text{Be}$ : A Possible Indication of a Light, Neutral Boson

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Electron-positron angular correlations were measured for the isovector magnetic dipole 17.6 MeV ( $J^\pi = 1^+, T = 1$ ) state  $\rightarrow$  ground state ( $J^\pi = 0^+, T = 0$ ) and the isoscalar magnetic dipole 18.15 MeV ( $J^\pi = 1^+, T = 0$ ) state  $\rightarrow$  ground state transitions in  $^8\text{Be}$ . Significant enhancement relative to the internal pair creation was observed at large angles in the angular correlation for the isoscalar transition with a confidence level of  $> 5\sigma$ . This observation could possibly be due to nuclear reaction interference effects or might indicate that, in an intermediate step, a neutral isoscalar particle with a mass of  $16.70 \pm 0.35(\text{stat}) \pm 0.5(\text{syst}) \text{ MeV}/c^2$  and  $J^\pi = 1^+$  was created.

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