

# Probing scalar and tensor interactions at the TeV scale

Emanuele Mereghetti

EF04 Topical Group Community Meeting,  
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# Snowmass2021 - Letter of Interest

## *Probing Scalar and Tensor Interactions at the TeV Scale*

### Topical Groups:

- (EF04) EW Physics: EW Precision Physics and constraining new physics
- (EF05) QCD and strong interactions: Precision QCD
- (EF09) BSM: More general explorations
- (EF10) BSM: Dark Matter at colliders
- (RF02) BSM: Weak decays of strange and light quarks
- (RF03) Fundamental Physics in Small Experiments
- (TF02) Effective field theory techniques
- (TF05) Lattice gauge theory
- (TF06) Theory techniques for precision physics
- (CompF2) Theoretical Calculations and Simulation

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Collaboration: Precision Neutron Decay Matrix Elements (PNDME) and Nucleon Matrix Elements (NME)

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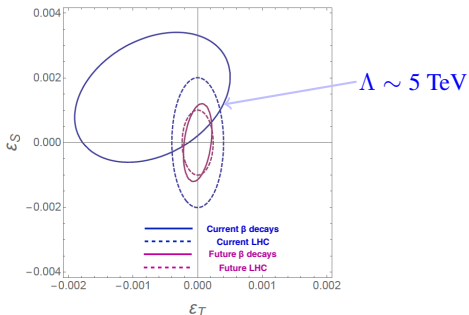
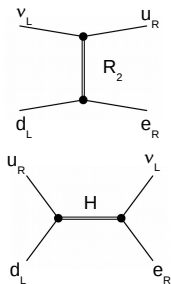
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[link to LOI](#)

## Introduction

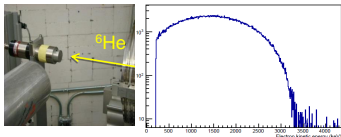


$$\mathcal{L}_{CC} = -\frac{G_F^{(0)} V_{ud}}{\sqrt{2}} \left[ \epsilon_S \bar{e}(1 - \gamma_5)\nu_\ell \cdot \bar{u}d + \epsilon_T \bar{e}\sigma_{\mu\nu}(1 - \gamma_5)\nu_\ell \cdot \bar{u}\sigma^{\mu\nu}(1 - \gamma_5)d \right].$$

- no charged-current scalar or tensor interactions in SM
- ... but they arise in several BSM models (leptoquarks, charged Higgs, ...)
- probe scalar and tensor interactions up to  $\Lambda \gtrsim 10$  TeV

collider, neutron and nuclear  $\beta$  decays  
& improvement in lattice QCD and nuclear theory

# High Precision Spectroscopy Experiments to Probe for Exotic Couplings



46 MeV/nucleon  
after degrader

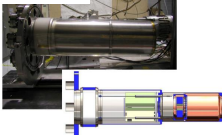
(Naviliat group)

Implantation into scintillators at NSCL

First Prototype Silicon Detector



Nab and UCNB



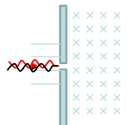
Si detector spectroscopy  
In magnetic spectrometers

+  
Energy dependence  
of  $\tilde{a}_{\beta\nu}$  for pure Fermi  
decays (TAMU)

R×B  
spectrometer

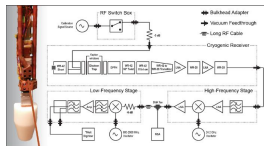


Magnetic  
spectrometer



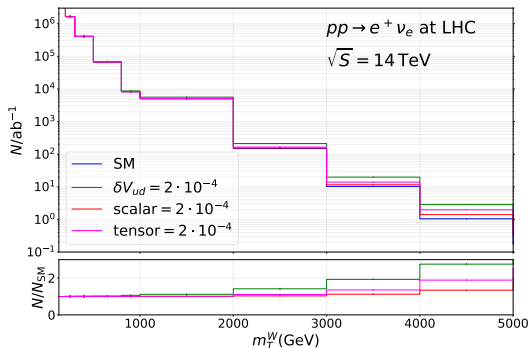
Magnetic spectroscopy at PERC

Cyclotron Resonance Spectroscopy on  
 ${}^6\text{He}$  at UW (Garcia)



$$b(1 + 3g_A^2) = g_S \epsilon_S + 3g_A g_T \epsilon_T$$

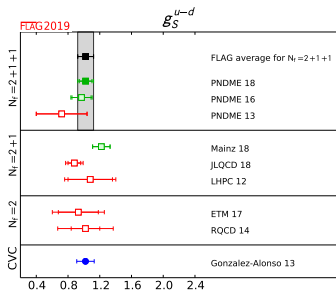
## Scalar and tensor interactions at colliders



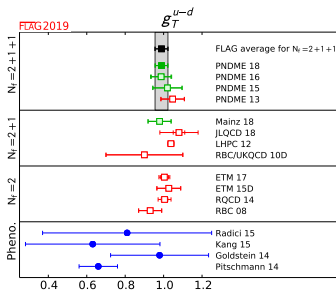
- high-luminosity LHC will reach  $\epsilon_{S,T} \sim 10^{-4}$ ,  $\Lambda \sim 20 \text{ TeV}$
- angular distributions provide smoking-gun observables

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dm^2 dy d\Omega} = \frac{d\sigma_{\text{SM}}}{dm^2 dy d\Omega} + |f_S(m, \Omega, y)\epsilon_S + f_T(m, \Omega, y)\epsilon_T|^2$$

need to consistently add dimension-eight operators!



$$\langle p | \bar{u}d | n \rangle$$



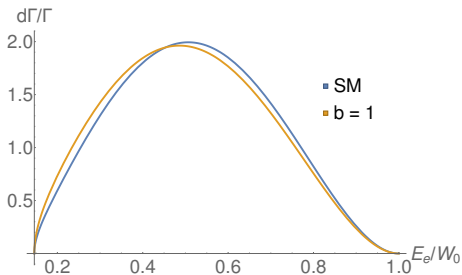
$$\langle p | \bar{u} \sigma^{\mu\nu} d | n \rangle$$

- interpretation of neutron decay requires hadronization of weak currents
- great LQCD progress in last ten years

from order-of-magnitude to  $\delta g_T = \mathcal{O}(5\%)$ ,  $\delta g_S = \mathcal{O}(10\%)$

- reduce by a factor of 2 in 2-3 years,  $< 1\%$  in next ten years

## Nuclear physics



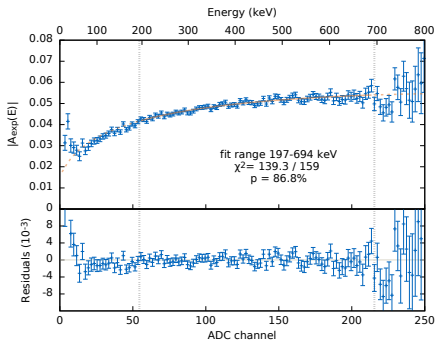
$$\frac{d\Gamma}{d\varepsilon} = f(W_0) \sqrt{1 - \frac{\mu_e^2}{\varepsilon^2}} \varepsilon^2 (1 - \varepsilon)^2 \mathcal{M}_{GT}^2 \left\{ 1 + b \frac{\mu_e}{\varepsilon} + \frac{2}{3} \frac{W_0}{m_N} \left( 1 - 2\varepsilon - \frac{\mu_e^2}{\varepsilon} \right) \mathcal{M}_M + \dots \right\}$$

- Fierce interference term  $b$  in the  $\beta$  spectrum induced by S/T interactions
- need control over SM background at the  $10^{-4}$  level
- first *ab initio* calculations of recoil corrections to  $\beta$  spectrum of  ${}^6\text{He}$





## Neutron decay experiments



$$b(1 + 3g_A^2) = g_S e_S + 3g_A g_T \epsilon_T$$

$$-0.018 < b < 0.052$$

H. Saul *et al.*, '19  
PERKEO III

- first % level bounds on the neutron Fierz interference term via  $\beta$  asymmetry

PERKEO III, UCNA

$$A_{\text{exp}}(E_e) = \frac{N^\uparrow(E_e) - N^\downarrow(E_e)}{N^\uparrow(E_e) + N^\downarrow(E_e)} = \frac{v(E_e)A(\lambda)P_n M}{2c \left(1 + b \frac{m_e}{E_e}\right)},$$

- Nab experiment @ Oak Ridge aims at  $\delta b \sim 10^{-3}$ ,  
with measurement of decay spectrum of unpolarized neutrons