



# Precision neutron beta-decay experiments for ANNI beamline at ESS

*"Workshop on Research & Innovation. Polish contribution to ESS",  
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# Outline

- ❑ Why study the free neutron?
- ❑ EFT – “communication protocol” between “**ENERGY**” and “**PRECISION**” frontiers
- ❑ Neutron  $\beta$ -decay in SM
- ❑ Precision SM parameters  $V_{ud}$  and  $\lambda$
- ❑ Search for BSM with neutron  $\beta$ -decay
- ❑ ANNI beamline
- ❑ Summary

# Why study the free neutron?

## □ Main goal of Particle Physics:

*Establish consistent picture of Nature's fundamental interactions*

### ▪ High Energy PP:

- Operates at TeV scale ( $10^{12}$  eV)  $\Rightarrow$  study of 2<sup>nd</sup> (s, c,  $\mu$ ,  $\nu_\mu$ ) and 3<sup>rd</sup> (b, t,  $\tau$ ,  $\nu_\tau$ ) particle families

**“ENERGY front”**

### ▪ Low Energy PP (e.g. with slow neutrons):

- Operates at neV scale ( $10^{-9}$  eV)  $\Rightarrow$  study of 1<sup>st</sup> (u, d, e,  $\nu_e$ ) particle family
- Reveals respectable sensitivity:
  - Energy:  $\Delta E/E \sim 10^{-11} \div 10^{-13}$  ( $\Delta E \sim 10^{-23}$  eV)
  - Momentum:  $\Delta p/p \sim 10^{-10} \div 10^{-11}$
  - Spin polarization:  $\Delta s/s \sim 10^{-7}$

**“PRECISION  
(intensity) front”**

- *Fundamental neutron physics provides more than **20** observables reach in information which is difficult to achieve (or not achievable at all) in other fields of Particle Physics*

# EFT approach in $\beta$ -decay

- For experiments at energy significantly lower than BSM scale ( $\Lambda_i$ ):

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \sum \frac{1}{\Lambda_i^2} \mathcal{L}_i \approx \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \sum \alpha_i \mathcal{O}_i^{(6)}$$

$\mathcal{O}_i^{(6)}$  – dimension-6 operators

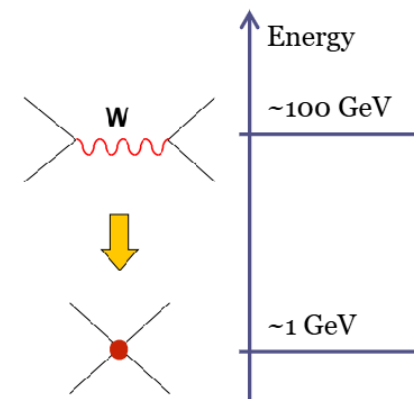
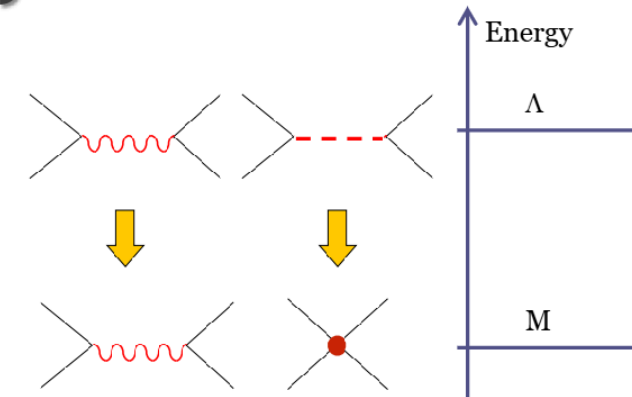
$\alpha_i$  – *Wilson coefficients*  $\alpha_i = \Lambda^2 f_i(g_{\text{BSM}}, M_{\text{BSM}})$

Observables for  $E \ll \Lambda$ :

$$\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}_0 \left( 1 + \frac{\mathcal{O}(M)}{\Lambda} + \frac{\mathcal{O}(M^2, E^2, ME)}{\Lambda^2} + \dots \right)$$

- Semi-leptonic processes, partonic level, exchanged W-boson is heavy  
– SM interaction Lagrangian takes the contact (V-A)×(V-A) form

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} = -\frac{G_F V_{ud}}{\sqrt{2}} \bar{e} \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_e \cdot \bar{u} \gamma^\mu (1 - \gamma_5) d$$



## EFT approach in $\beta$ -decay (cont.)

### □ Model independent EFT parameters

V. Cirigliano et al., Nucl. Phys. B 830 (2010)

T. Bhattacharya et al., Phys. Rev. D 85 (2012)

V. Cirigliano et al., JHEP 1302 (2013)

M. Gonzalez-Alonso et al., Ann. Phys. 525 (2013)

M. Gonzalez-Alonso et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 112 (2014)

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = & -\frac{G_F V_{ud}}{\sqrt{2}} [ (1 + \epsilon_L) \bar{e} \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_e \cdot \bar{u} \gamma^\mu (1 - \gamma_5) d \\ & + \tilde{\epsilon}_L \bar{e} \gamma_\mu (1 + \gamma_5) \nu_e \cdot \bar{u} \gamma^\mu (1 - \gamma_5) d \\ & + \epsilon_R \bar{e} \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_e \cdot \bar{u} \gamma^\mu (1 + \gamma_5) d \\ & + \tilde{\epsilon}_R \bar{e} \gamma_\mu (1 + \gamma_5) \nu_e \cdot \bar{u} \gamma^\mu (1 + \gamma_5) d \\ & + \epsilon_S \bar{e} (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_e \cdot \bar{u} d + \tilde{\epsilon}_S \bar{e} (1 + \gamma_5) \nu_e \cdot \bar{u} d \\ & - \epsilon_P \bar{e} (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_e \cdot \bar{u} \gamma_5 d - \tilde{\epsilon}_P \bar{e} (1 + \gamma_5) \nu_e \cdot \bar{u} \gamma_5 d \\ & + \epsilon_T \bar{e} \sigma_{\mu\nu} (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_e \cdot \bar{u} \sigma^{\mu\nu} (1 - \gamma_5) d \\ & + \tilde{\epsilon}_T \bar{e} \sigma_{\mu\nu} (1 + \gamma_5) \nu_e \cdot \bar{u} \sigma^{\mu\nu} (1 + \gamma_5) d ] + \text{h.c.} .\end{aligned}$$

Wilson coefficients

### □ Valid also for $\pi^\pm \rightarrow \pi^0 e^\pm \nu$

### □ Low-energy simplifications:

- Neglect RH neutrinos:  $\tilde{\epsilon}_{L,R,S,P,T} = 0$

- Pseudo-scalar contribution (non-relativistic limit):  $\epsilon_P = 0$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = & -\frac{G_F V_{ud}}{\sqrt{2}} [1 + \text{Re}(\epsilon_L + \epsilon_R)] \times \\ & \times \{ \bar{e} \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_e \cdot \bar{u} \gamma^\mu [1 - (1 - 2\epsilon_R) \gamma_5] d \\ & + \epsilon_S \bar{e} (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_e \cdot \bar{u} d \\ & + \epsilon_T \bar{e} \sigma_{\mu\nu} (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_e \cdot \bar{u} \sigma^{\mu\nu} (1 - \gamma_5) d \} + \text{h.c.}\end{aligned}$$

## Nucleon-level effective couplings

- Recent global fits to constrain Wilson coefficients:

Falkowski, González-Alonso, Naviliat-Cuncic, "Comprehensive analysis of beta decays within and beyond the Standard Model", *J. High Energ. Phys.* **2021**, 126 (2021), [arXiv:2010.13797](https://arxiv.org/abs/2010.13797)

- Effective nucleon-level couplings can be expressed in parton-level parameters:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \overline{C}_V &= g_V (1 + \epsilon_L + \epsilon_R + \tilde{\epsilon}_L + \tilde{\epsilon}_R) & \overline{C}_S &= g_S (\epsilon_S + \tilde{\epsilon}_S) \\
 \overline{C}'_V &= g_V (1 + \epsilon_L + \epsilon_R - \tilde{\epsilon}_L - \tilde{\epsilon}_R) & \overline{C}'_S &= g_S (\epsilon_S - \tilde{\epsilon}_S) \\
 \overline{C}_A &= -g_A (1 + \epsilon_L - \epsilon_R - \tilde{\epsilon}_L + \tilde{\epsilon}_R) & \overline{C}_P &= g_P (\epsilon_P - \tilde{\epsilon}_P) \\
 \overline{C}'_A &= -g_A (1 + \epsilon_L - \epsilon_R + \tilde{\epsilon}_L - \tilde{\epsilon}_R) & \overline{C}'_P &= g_P (\epsilon_P + \tilde{\epsilon}_P) \\
 & & \overline{C}_T &= 4 g_T (\epsilon_T + \tilde{\epsilon}_T) \\
 & & \overline{C}'_T &= 4 g_T (\epsilon_T - \tilde{\epsilon}_T)
 \end{aligned}$$

- Form factors are the key ingredients for translation of hadron-level coupling constants to parton-level parameters

# Neutron $\beta$ -decay in Standard Model

- Neutron  $\beta$  decay can establish only 2 SM parameters:

$$H = \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} V_{ud} \bar{p} \left\{ \gamma_\mu (1 + \lambda \gamma_5) + \frac{\mu_p - \mu_n}{2m_p} \sigma_{\mu\nu} q^\nu \right\} n \bar{e} \gamma^\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_e$$

$V_{ud}$  – CKM matrix element  
 $\lambda \equiv \frac{g_A}{g_V}$  – axial-to-vector coupling constant ratio

- Can be extracted from:

- Neutron lifetime (total decay rate):

$$\tau_n^{-1} = \frac{G_F^2 m_e^2}{2\pi^3} |V_{ud}|^2 f (1 + \delta_R) (1 + \Delta_R) (1 + 3\lambda^2)$$

$f$  – phase space factor  
 $\delta_R$  – radiative correction (model independent)  
 $\Delta_R$  – radiative correction (model dependent)

- $\lambda$  (independently) from **Correlation coefficients** (parametrization of the differential decay rate):

$$V_{ud} = \left( \frac{5099.34 \text{ s}}{\tau_n (1 + 3\lambda^2) (1 + \Delta_R)} \right)^{1/2}$$

## Neutron $\beta$ -decay correlations

- For decay of polarized neutrons (polarization  $\langle \mathbf{J} \rangle / J$ ):

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2\Gamma}{dE_e d\Omega_e d\Omega_\nu} \sim & 1 + \mathbf{a} \frac{\mathbf{p}}{E_e} \cdot \frac{\mathbf{q}}{E_\nu} + \mathbf{b} \frac{m_e}{E_e} + \frac{\langle \mathbf{J} \rangle}{J} \cdot \left[ \mathbf{A} \frac{\mathbf{p}}{E_e} + \mathbf{B} \frac{\mathbf{q}}{E_\nu} + \mathbf{D} \frac{\mathbf{p}}{E_e} \times \frac{\mathbf{q}}{E_\nu} \right] + \dots \\ & + \sigma \cdot \left[ \mathbf{G} \frac{\mathbf{p}}{E_e} + \mathbf{H} \frac{\mathbf{q}}{E_\nu} + \mathbf{K} \frac{\mathbf{p}}{E_e + m_e} \frac{\mathbf{p}}{E_e} \cdot \frac{\mathbf{q}}{E_\nu} + \mathbf{L} \frac{\mathbf{p}}{E_e} \times \frac{\mathbf{q}}{E_\nu} + \mathbf{N} \frac{\langle \mathbf{J} \rangle}{J} \right] \\ & + \sigma \cdot \left[ \mathbf{Q} \frac{\mathbf{p}}{E_e + m_e} \frac{\langle \mathbf{J} \rangle}{J} \cdot \frac{\mathbf{p}}{E_e} + \mathbf{R} \frac{\langle \mathbf{J} \rangle}{J} \times \frac{\mathbf{p}}{E_e} + \mathbf{S} \frac{\langle \mathbf{J} \rangle}{J} \frac{\mathbf{p}}{E_e} \cdot \frac{\mathbf{q}}{E_\nu} + \mathbf{T} \frac{\mathbf{p}}{E_e} \frac{\langle \mathbf{J} \rangle}{J} \cdot \frac{\mathbf{q}}{E_\nu} \right] \\ & + \sigma \cdot \left[ \mathbf{U} \frac{\mathbf{q}}{E_\nu} \frac{\langle \mathbf{J} \rangle}{J} \cdot \frac{\mathbf{p}}{E_e} + \mathbf{V} \frac{\mathbf{q}}{E_\nu} \times \frac{\langle \mathbf{J} \rangle}{J} + \mathbf{W} \frac{\mathbf{p}}{E_e + m_e} \frac{\langle \mathbf{J} \rangle}{J} \frac{\mathbf{p}}{E_e} \times \frac{\mathbf{q}}{E_\nu} \right] \end{aligned}$$

$\mathbf{p}$  – electron momentum

$\mathbf{q}$  – neutrino momentum

$\sigma$  – electron spin sensing direction

J.D. Jackson et al., Phys. Rev. 106, 517 (1957); J.D. Jackson et al., Nucl. Phys. 4, 206 (1957); M.E. Ebel et al., Nucl. Phys. 4, 213 (1957)

- Coefficients  $\mathbf{a}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}$ , ...,  $\mathbf{W}$  are functions of  $\lambda$  (and not of  $V_{ud}$ )
- Including proton polarization, there are 51 correlations (C.-Y. Seng, Phys. Rev. D **109**, 073007 (2024))
- Form highly over-constrained system of observables ideal for reliable consistency checks)

# CKM Unitarity

- $V_{ud}$  is highly important; departure from the SM value suggest physics BSM

$$|V_{ud}|^2 + |V_{us}|^2 + |V_{ub}|^2 = 1 + \text{BSM}$$

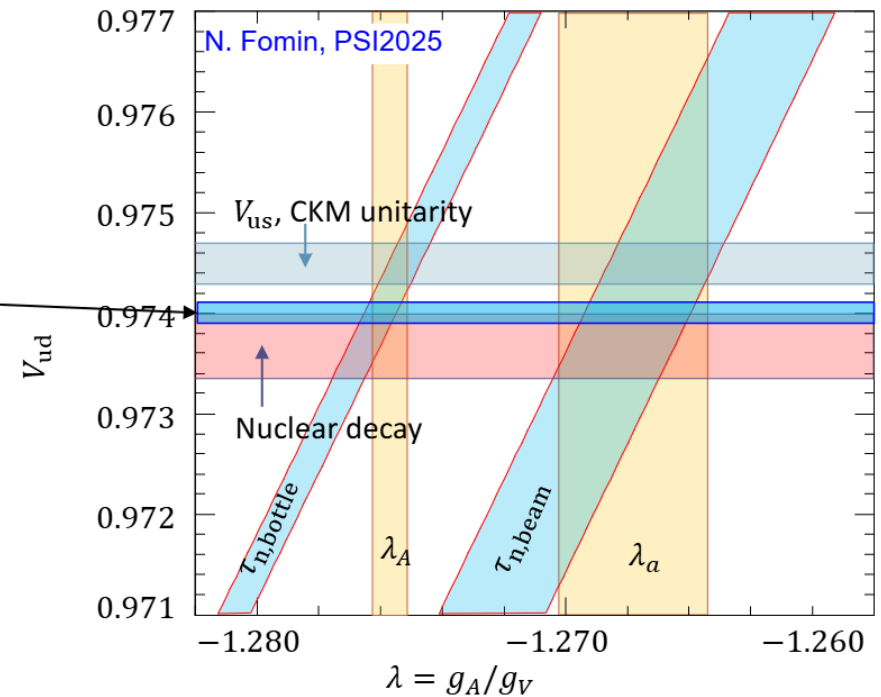
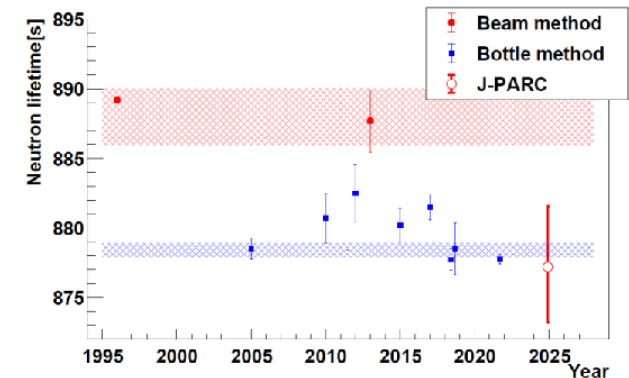
- At precision of  $10^{-4}$  covers the scale of BSM up to 10 TeV. Presently:

$$|V_{ud}|^2 + |V_{us}|^2 + |V_{ub}|^2 = 0.9985(5) \neq 1$$

$$V_{ud}^{n,best} = 0.97402(13)_{\text{theory}}(20)_{\tau}(35)_{\lambda}$$

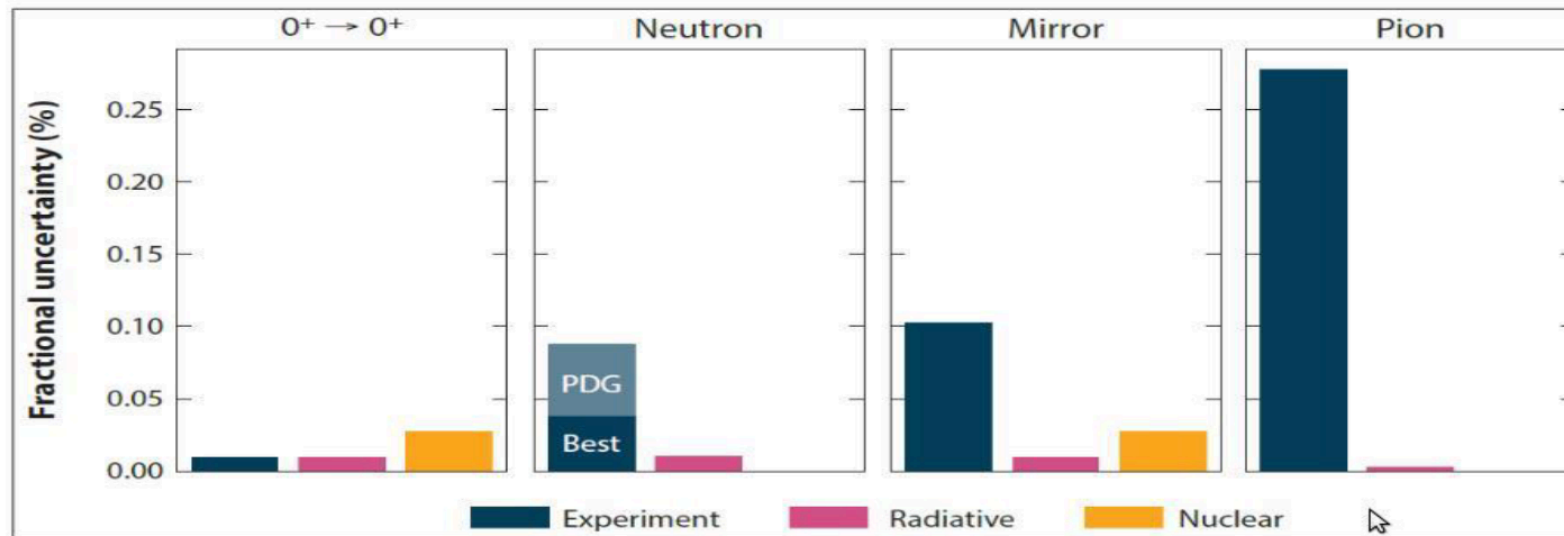
Cirigliano et al., Phys. Rev. D 108, 053003 (2023)

- Why not enter  $10^{-5}$  regime ?
- Presently, correlations are limiting !



### E. importance of the **neutron**

if current **best values** for lifetime and  $\lambda = g_A/g_V$  (from beta asymmetry) are used,  
 $V_{ud}$  value from neutron has **similar precision as from pure Fermi decays!**



**This is within reach in the coming 5 to 10 years !**

See the many talks on the neutron half-life and  $a$ - and  $A$ -correlation parameters !!  
 and e.g. D. Dubbers, B. Märkisch, Ann. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci. 71 (2021) 139

(Courtesy of B. Maerkisch)

# Neutron $\beta$ -decay correlations

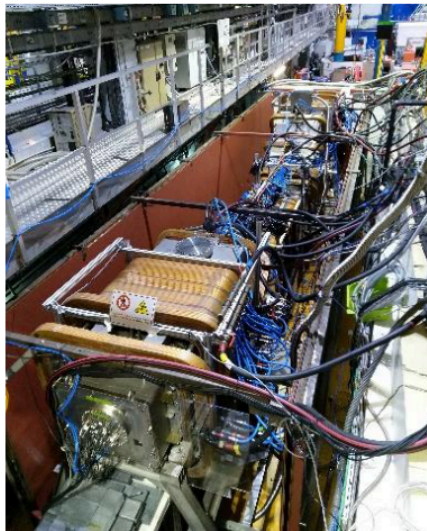
- ❑ Two approaches:
  - (A) Phase space integrating, electric and magnetic filters (strong magnetic field)
  - (B) Event-by-event decay kinematics reconstruction (very weak magnetic field)
- ❑ From class A experiments, for immediate implementation on the ANNI beamline at ESS are:

## PERKEO III

Beta-Asymmetry  $A$

Fierz-Term  $b$

Proton-Asymmetry  $C$



## PERC

Beta-Asymmetry  $A$

Fierz-Term  $b$

(Proton-Asymmetry  $C$ )

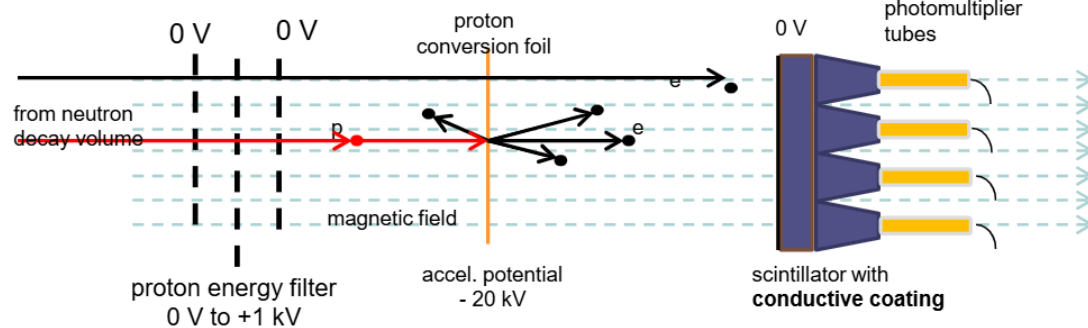


- ❑ Evolution of *ongoing* research. Existing instruments.
- ❑ Profit from time-structure. Require highest neutron polarization and lowest backgrounds.

# PERKEO III: Proton Asymmetry C

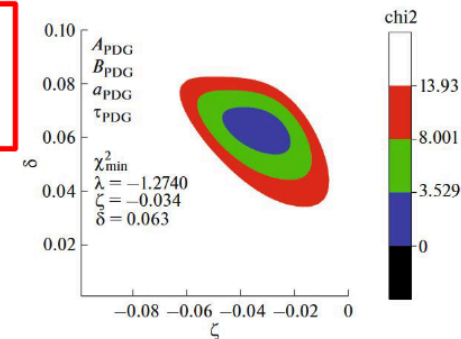
(Courtesy of B. Maerkisch)

Detection concept: Coincident detection of electron and proton with integrated proton energy determination:



$$C = -4x_c \frac{\lambda}{1 + 3\lambda^2} = x_c(A + B)$$

A. Serebrov *et al.*, Phys. Part. Nucl. Lett. 22, 229–235 (2025)

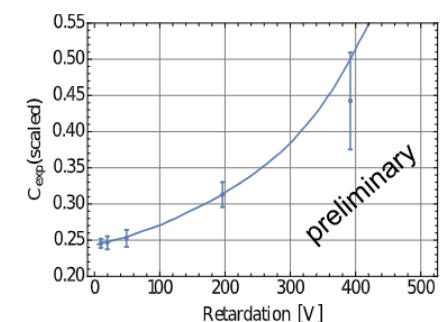
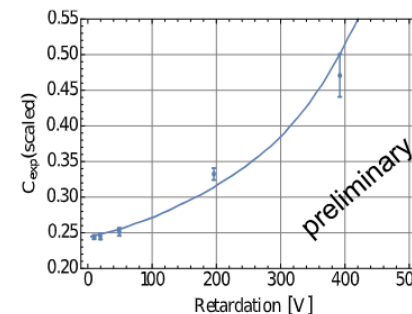


Latest analysis indicates the existence of right-handed currents (and possibly scalar and tensor interactions).

Demonstration of this concept at ILL in 2014/15 with O(1%) precision.

Theses C. Roick (TUM), L. Raffelt (TUM/HD), M. Klopff (TUM), A. Hollering (TUM)

With conversion foils of the required size developed at NCSU, the currently only published result by PERKEO II could be improved at ESS by an *order of magnitude*.



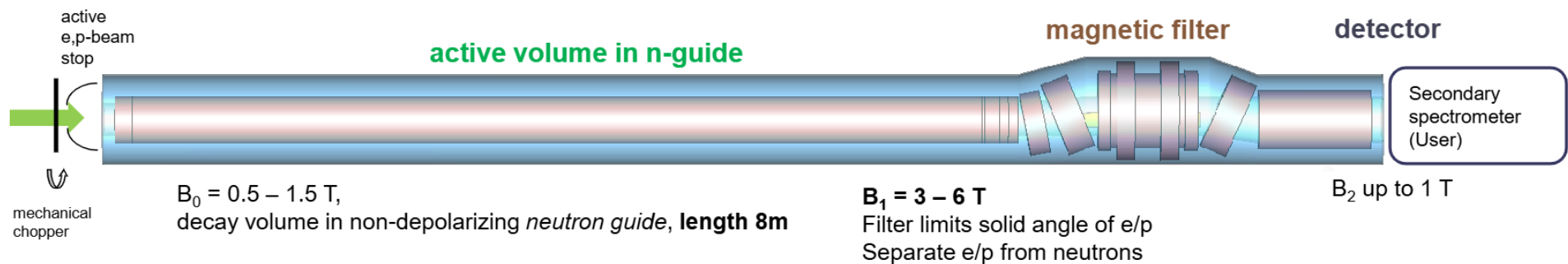
# PERC: Phase Space Integration

(Courtesy of B. Maerkisch)

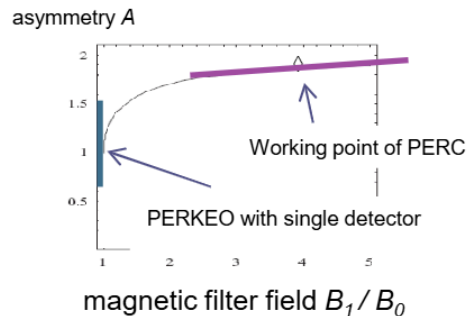
PERC's asymmetric layout with magnetic filter improves systematics

Strong field ensures high phase space density, small detector size, excellent S/B

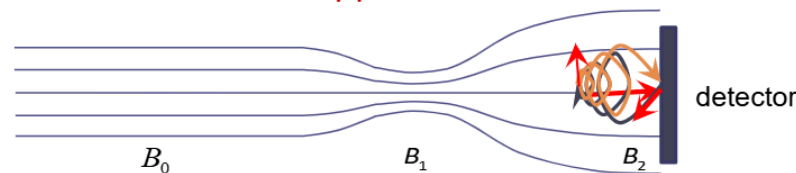
Observable decay rate enhanced by two orders of magnitude: length and decay **inside neutron guide**



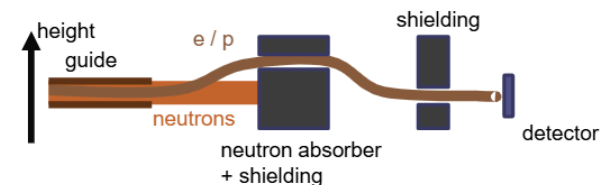
Phase space cut:  
magnetic field influence



Electron backscatter strongly  
suppressed



Main detector shielded from background

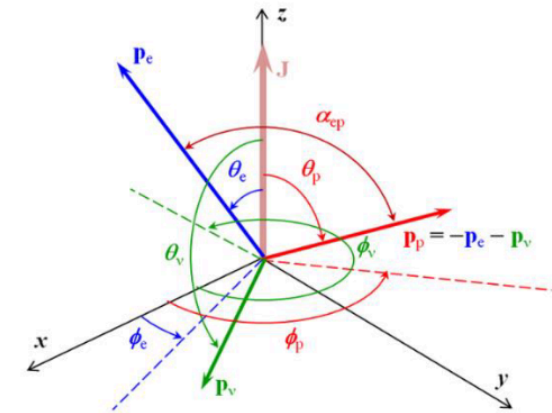


Dubbers *et al.*, Nucl. Instr. Meth. A 596, 238-247 (2008)

# BRAND – exploring transverse polarization of electrons

□ If only transverse electron polarization can be observed:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2\Gamma}{d\Omega_e d\Omega_\nu} \sim & 1 + \mathbf{a} \frac{\mathbf{p}}{E_e} \cdot \frac{\mathbf{q}}{E_\nu} + \mathbf{b} \frac{m_e}{E_e} + \frac{\langle \mathbf{J} \rangle}{J} \cdot \left[ \mathbf{A} \frac{\mathbf{p}}{E_e} + \mathbf{B} \frac{\mathbf{q}}{E_\nu} + \mathbf{D} \frac{\mathbf{p}}{E_e} \times \frac{\mathbf{q}}{E_\nu} \right] \\ & + \boldsymbol{\sigma}_\perp \cdot \left[ \mathbf{H} \frac{\mathbf{q}}{E_\nu} + \mathbf{L} \frac{\mathbf{p}}{E_e} \times \frac{\mathbf{q}}{E_\nu} + \mathbf{N} \frac{\langle \mathbf{J} \rangle}{J} + \mathbf{R} \frac{\langle \mathbf{J} \rangle}{J} \times \frac{\mathbf{p}}{E_e} \right] \\ & + \boldsymbol{\sigma}_\perp \cdot \left[ \mathbf{S} \frac{\langle \mathbf{J} \rangle}{J} \frac{\mathbf{p}}{E_e} \cdot \frac{\mathbf{q}}{E_\nu} + \mathbf{U} \frac{\mathbf{q}}{E_\nu} \frac{\langle \mathbf{J} \rangle}{J} \cdot \frac{\mathbf{p}}{E_e} + \mathbf{V} \frac{\mathbf{q}}{E_\nu} \times \frac{\langle \mathbf{J} \rangle}{J} \right] \end{aligned}$$



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□ All correlation coefficients can be expressed as **combinations** of real and imaginary parts of exotic (**scalar** and **tensor**) couplings:

$$X = X_{\text{SM}} + X_{\text{FSI}} + c_{\text{Re}S} \text{Re}\mathbf{S} + c_{\text{Re}T} \text{Re}\mathbf{T} + c_{\text{Im}S} \text{Im}\mathbf{S} + c_{\text{Im}T} \text{Im}\mathbf{T}$$

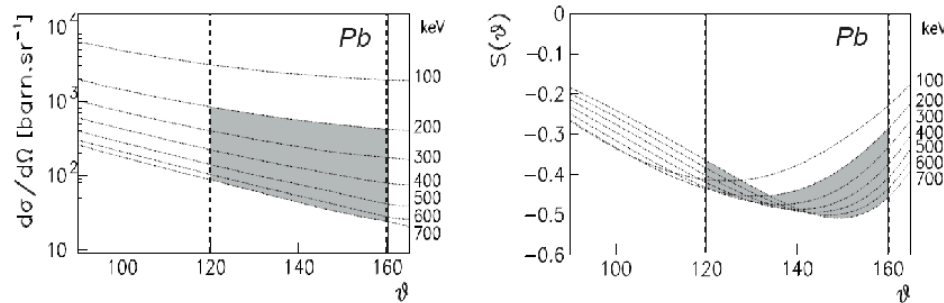
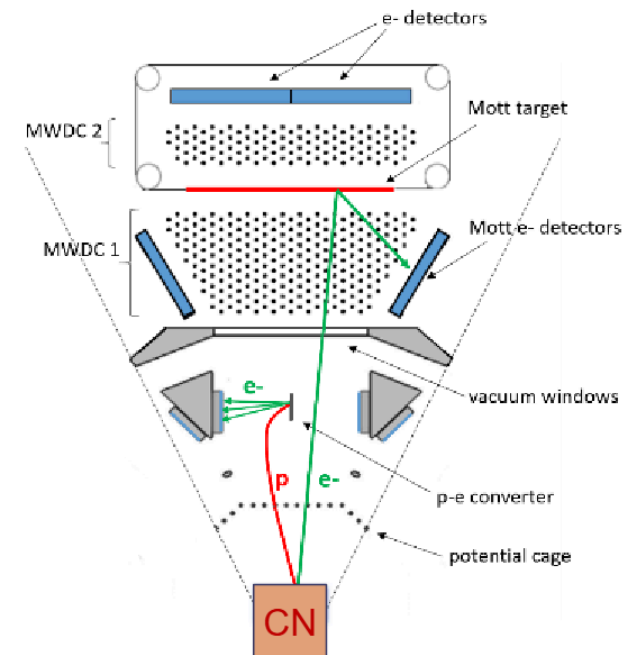
$$\mathbf{S}' = \frac{C_S + C_{S'}}{C_V}, \quad \mathbf{T}' = \frac{C_T + C_{T'}}{C_A}, \quad c_{\text{Re}S}, c_{\text{Re}T}, c_{\text{Im}S}, c_{\text{Im}T} - \text{functions of } \lambda = C_A/C_V \text{ and kinematical quantities}$$

|              | SM ( $\lambda$ ) | FSI ( $\lambda$ ) | $c(\text{Re}S)$ | $c(\text{Re}T)$ | $c(\text{Im}S)$ | $c(\text{Im}T)$ |
|--------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| $\mathbf{H}$ | +0.0609          | 0                 | -0.1714         | +0.2762         | 0               | 0               |
| $\mathbf{L}$ | 0                | -0.0004           | 0               | 0               | +0.1714         | -0.2762         |
| $\mathbf{N}$ | +0.0681          | 0                 | -0.2176         | +0.3348         | 0               | 0               |
| $\mathbf{R}$ | 0                | +0.0005           | 0               | 0               | -0.2176         | +0.3348         |
| $\mathbf{S}$ | 0                | -0.0018           | +0.2176         | -0.2176         | 0               | 0               |
| $\mathbf{U}$ | 0                | 0                 | -0.2176         | +0.2176         | 0               | 0               |
| $\mathbf{V}$ | 0                | 0                 | 0               | 0               | -0.2176         | +0.2172         |

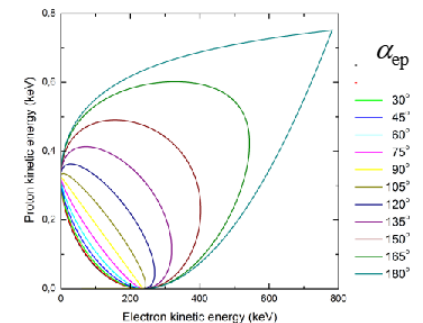
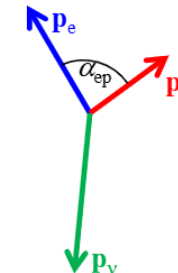
# BRAND – exploring transverse polarization of electrons

❑ Class B experiment (Low magnetic field, event-by-event kinematics reconstruction):

- Complementary to phase space integrating experiments using charged decay product separators (PERKEO, PERC,...)
- Measure decay electrons, protons and  $e$ - $p$  coincidences
- Electron tracking in hexagonal, low  $Z$ , low pressure MWDC
- $p$ - $e$  conversion followed by secondary  $e$  detection in plastic scintillator (ToF, position)
- Reconstruction of electron and proton momenta
- Decay vertex reconstruction
- Electron spin analysis by Mott scattering (vertex reconstruction)



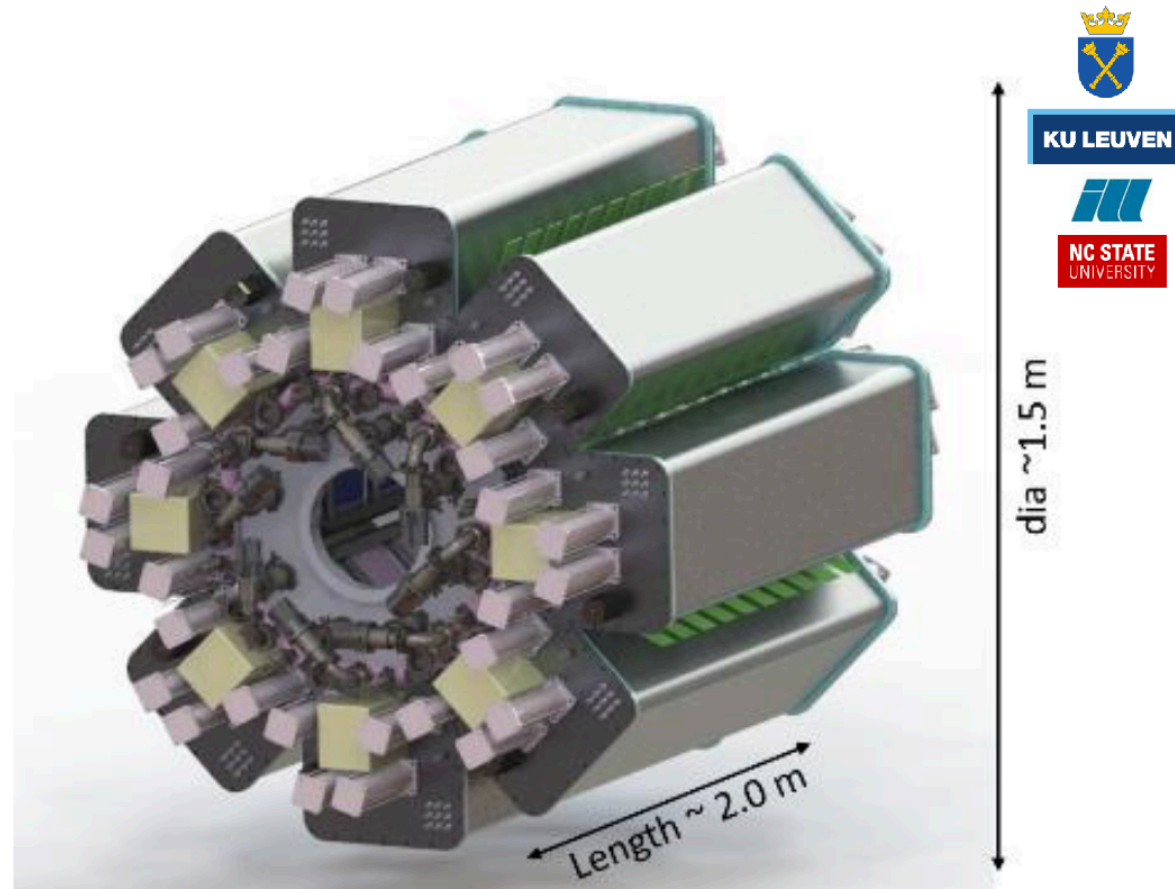
- Analyzing power caused by spin-orbit force
- Parity and time reversal conserving (electromagnetic process)
- Sensitive **exclusively** to the **transverse polarization**



# BRAND – exploring transverse polarization of electrons

- ❑ BRAND will focus on the transverse electron polarization related coefficients ***H, L, N, R, S, U, V***.
- ❑ Simultaneously, will measure with high statistics “classical” coefficients ***a, A, B, D*** (Fierz term ***b*** will be accessible, too).
- ❑ Gradual improvement of experimental accuracy (statistical & systematic uncertainty):
 

|                    |               |                    |               |                    |               |                    |
|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| $4 \times 10^{-3}$ | $\rightarrow$ | $2 \times 10^{-3}$ | $\rightarrow$ | $1 \times 10^{-3}$ | $\rightarrow$ | $5 \times 10^{-4}$ |
| nTRV (PSI)         |               | BRAND I (ILL)      |               | BRAND II (ILL)     |               | BRAND III (ESS)    |
- ❑ Demonstration phase at ILL – ongoing



# BRAND – exploring transverse polarization of electrons

## ❑ Cold neutron beam requirements:

- Intensive (high flux density leading to at least  $5 \times 10^4$  decays/s/m in fiducial volume)
- Maximum fiducial volume:  $6 \times 6 \times 200 \text{ cm}^3$
- Highly parallel (low divergence)
- Highly polarized ( $P > 99.5\%$ )
- Pulsed
- Low background

## ❑ Assuming $5 \times 10^4$ decays/s in fiducial volume and 2 years of data taking:

- $10^{12}$  direct electrons (coefficient **A**)
- $3 \times 10^{11}$  protons in coincidence with direct electrons (coefficients **a**, **B**, **D**)
- $3 \times 10^8$  Mott scattered electrons (coefficient **N**, **R**)
- $10^8$  Mott protons in coincidence with Mott-scattered electrons (coefficients **H**, **L**, **S**, **U**, **V**)



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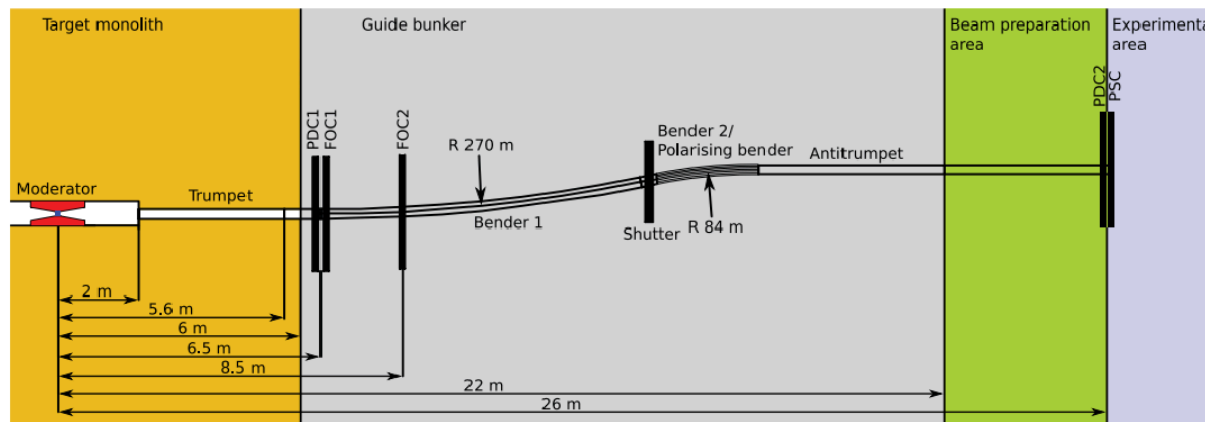
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## Basic requirements for precision neutron $\beta$ -decay experiments

- ❑ In a cold neutron beam, only about  $10^6$  neutrons decay per second over 1 m flight path; Specific acceptance of an experiment may reduce this by 1-2 orders of magnitude.
- ❑ All other beam neutrons are potential source of background.
- ❑ Low background beam line design is the must.
- ❑ Pulsed beams are essential:
  - In PERKEO III and PERC, the pulsed neutron beam eliminates or controls leading sources of systematic errors like (i) edge effects, (ii) magnetic mirror effect, (iii) separation of signal and background in time.
  - In BRAND, a pulsed beam is vital to exclude the direct gamma-induced background radiation.
- ❑ Neutron polarization analysis:
  - Precision  $\beta$ -decay experiments **require highest possible polarization**; at the envisaged precision level of  $O(10^{-5})$ , a 1% deviation from 1 leads to a  $O(10^3)$   $\sigma$  correction.
  - Polarizer with 99.7% polarization ([A. K. Petoukhov, et al., Rev. Sci. Instrum. 94 \(2\): 023304 \(2023\)](#)).
  - Polarization analysis with  $O(10^{-5})$  precision ([C. Klauser, et al., J. Phys.: Conf. Ser. 340, 012011 \(2012\)](#)).
  - Neutron guide with  $O(10^{-5})$  spin preservation ([J. M. Gómez-Guzmán, et al., Nucl. Instr. Meth. A 1080, 170795 \(2025\), arXiv:2503.22561](#))

# ANNI – A pulsed cold neutron beam facility for particle physics at the ESS

T. Soldner, H. Abele, G. Konrad, B. Märkisch, F. Piegsa, U. Schmidt, C. Theroine, P. Torres Sánchez: EPJ Web Conf. 219, 10003 (2019)

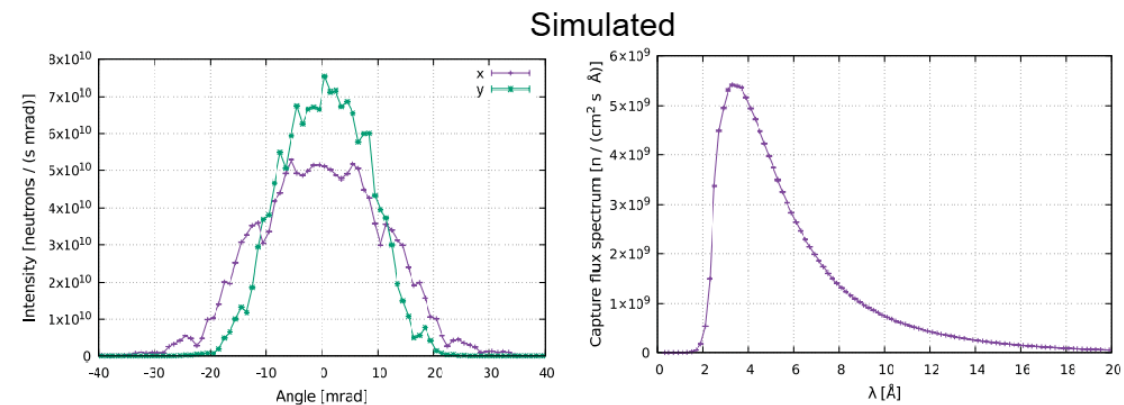


| Element                       | Dist<br>[m] | Rad<br>[m] | Len<br>[m] | X-section<br>[cm <sup>2</sup> ]       | NOC | <i>m</i> value   | $\gamma^*$<br>[mrad] | $\lambda^*$<br>[Å] |
|-------------------------------|-------------|------------|------------|---------------------------------------|-----|------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Trumpet                       | 2.0         | $\infty$   | 3.6        | $9 \times 6 \rightarrow 13 \times 6$  | 1   | LR: 3.5, TB: 3.0 |                      |                    |
| Straight 1                    | 5.6         | $\infty$   | 0.9        | $13 \times 6$                         | 1   | 3.0              |                      |                    |
| Bender 1                      | 6.5         | 270        | 8.0        | $13 \times 6$                         | 2   | LRT: 3.0, B: 3.5 | 14.7                 | 2.44               |
| Straight 2                    | 14.5        | $\infty$   | 0.4        | $13 \times 6$                         | 2   | 3.0              |                      |                    |
| Bender 2 or Polarising bender | 6.5         | -84        | 2.5        | $13 \times 6$                         | 6   | LRB: 3.0, T: 3.5 | 14.7                 | 2.44               |
| Antitrumpet                   | 17.4        | $\infty$   | 4.6        | $13 \times 6 \rightarrow 11 \times 7$ | 1   | LR: 3.5, TB: 3.0 |                      |                    |

Side view of the ANNI beam line (schematic). The vertical scale is stretched by a factor of 4 for better readability.

## Expected performance (avr. over $11 \times 7$ cm<sup>2</sup>)

- Full spectrum capture flux density:  
 **$2.5 \times 10^{10}$  n/(cm<sup>2</sup>s)**
- Polarization losses:
  - Moderate polarization: factor 2
  - Highest polarization: factor 4



# Neutron decay correlation coefficients at ANNI beamline – projected sensitivity

100 days at 5 MW ESS power

| Proposed experiment | Measurement                         | Quantity                                                         | Last measured         | Current value / limit                      | Statistical uncertainty (1 $\sigma$ ) @ANNI [100 days] |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
|                     | $n \rightarrow p + e + \bar{\nu}_e$ |                                                                  |                       |                                            |                                                        |
| ep/n                | $A$                                 | Beta asymmetry                                                   | PERKEO III@PF1B [276] | $-0.11985 \pm 0.00017 \pm 0.00012$         | $1 \times 10^{-5}$                                     |
| ep/n                | $C$                                 | Proton asymmetry                                                 | PERKEO II@PF1B [316]  | $-0.2377 \pm 0.0010 \pm 0.0024$            | $1 \times 10^{-4}$                                     |
| ep/n                | $a$                                 | $e\text{-}\bar{\nu}_e$ correlation from $p$ recoil spectrum      | aSPECT@PF1B [278]     | $-0.10430 \pm 0.00084$                     | $1 \times 10^{-4}$                                     |
| ep/n                | $b$                                 | Fierz interference from beta asymmetry                           | PERKEO III@PF1B [277] | $0.017 \pm 0.020 \pm 0.003$                | $6 \times 10^{-4}$                                     |
| CRES                | $b$                                 | Fierz interference from beta spectrum                            | UCNA@UCN-LANL [408]   | $0.067 \pm 0.005^{+0.090}_{-0.061}$        | $1 \times 10^{-4}$                                     |
| BRAND               | $a$                                 | $e\text{-}\bar{\nu}_e$ correlation from $e\text{-}p$ correlation | aCORN@NG-C [322]      | $-0.10758 \pm 0.00136 \pm 0.00148$         | $5 \times 10^{-5}$                                     |
| BRAND               | $B$                                 | Neutrino asymmetry                                               | PERKEO II@PF1B [315]  | $0.9802 \pm 0.0034 \pm 0.0036$             | $5 \times 10^{-5}$                                     |
| BRAND               | $D$                                 | Triple correlation $D$                                           | emiT@NG-6 [318]       | $(-0.94 \pm 1.89 \pm 0.97) \times 10^{-4}$ | $5 \times 10^{-5}$                                     |
| BRAND               | $R$                                 | Triple correlation $R$                                           | nTRV@FUNSPIN [299]    | $(4 \pm 12 \pm 5) \times 10^{-3}$          | $1 \times 10^{-3}$                                     |
| BRAND               | $N$                                 | $\sigma_{\pi}\sigma_{e,\perp}$ Correlation                       | nTRV@FUNSPIN [299]    | $0.067 \pm 0.011 \pm 0.004$                | $1 \times 10^{-3}$                                     |
| BRAND               | $H, L, S, U, V$                     | Other correlations with $\sigma_{e,\perp}$                       | unmeasured            | unmeasured                                 | $1 \times 10^{-3}$                                     |

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# Summary

- ❑ World-leading neutron  $\beta$ -decay program proposed for ESS including:
  - Nucleon axial coupling with a precision entering level  $10^{-5}$ .
  - $V_{ud}$  and CKM unitarity test.
  - New effective BSM couplings (scalar, tensor, RH currents ...)
- ❑ Evolution of existing and in construction instruments (PERKEO III, PERC, BRAND...).
- ❑ No compromise on the dedicated beam line should be undertaken; further optimization of ANNI proposal is possible:
  - World-leading intensity in a pulsed beam with low divergence.
  - Excellent background conditions.
  - Highly polarized beam.

Backup slides

# BRAND – exploring transverse polarization of electrons

## □ Benefits from pulsed cold neutron beam & space requirements:

- Pulsed operation (time-of-flight) provides additional means for controlling and suppressing backgrounds (mainly upstream gamma)
- Complete experiment including auxiliary equipment and a distant beam stop (at least 4 m away from detectors) can be accommodated in a 10 m long beam section.



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