



Probing Atomic Parity Violation by  
way of Forbidden transitions in  
Optically Trapped Francium

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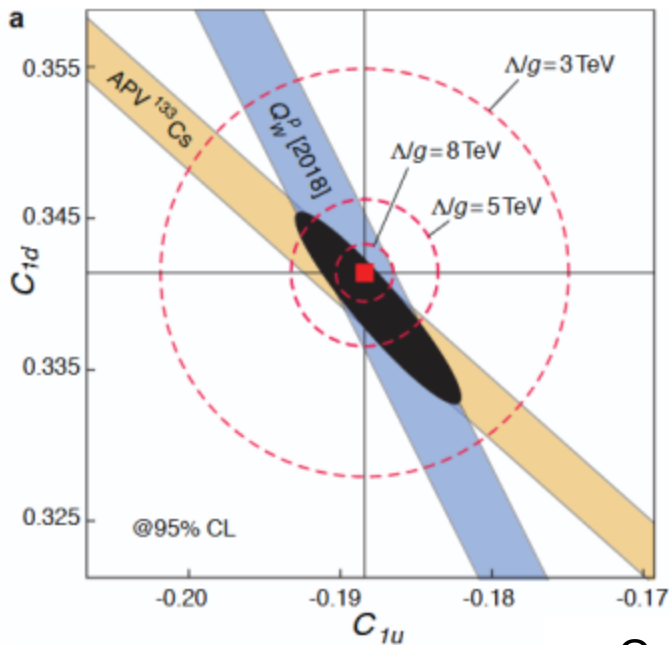
TRIUMF

NNPSS 2026, 07/03/2026

# Why Parity Violation?

$$H_{PV} = \frac{G}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \underbrace{\frac{Q_W}{2} \gamma_5}_{\text{Nuclear Spin Independent (Dominant)}} + (\eta_{\text{axial}} + \eta_{\text{hf}} + \eta_{\text{NAM}}) \underbrace{\mathbf{l} \cdot \boldsymbol{\alpha}}_{\text{Nuclear Spin Dependent}} \right) \underbrace{\rho(\mathbf{r})}_{\text{Nuclear Distribution}}$$

D. Androic et al., Nature 557, 207 (2018).



$$Q_W = (2Z + N)Q_{Wu} + (Z + 2N)Q_{Wd}$$

$$C_{1u} = -\frac{1}{2}Q_{Wu} \quad C_{1d} = -\frac{1}{2}Q_{Wd}$$

# Why Francium?


Heavy

$$Q_W \propto N$$

$$\gamma_5 \propto Z^2$$

Therefore

$$H_{\text{NSI}} \propto Z^3$$

$$H_{\text{NSI}} = \frac{G}{2\sqrt{2}} Q_W \gamma_5 \rho(r)$$


Francium gives ~18x enhancement effect to PV than cesium

Alkali

Single valence electron makes atomic calculation simpler

Laser Trappable

Isotope	Half Life	I	Advantage
Fr <sub>211</sub>	3.1 min	9/2 <sup>-</sup>	Fast Decay Chain
Fr <sub>223</sub>	22 min	3/2 <sup>-</sup>	Octupole Deformation

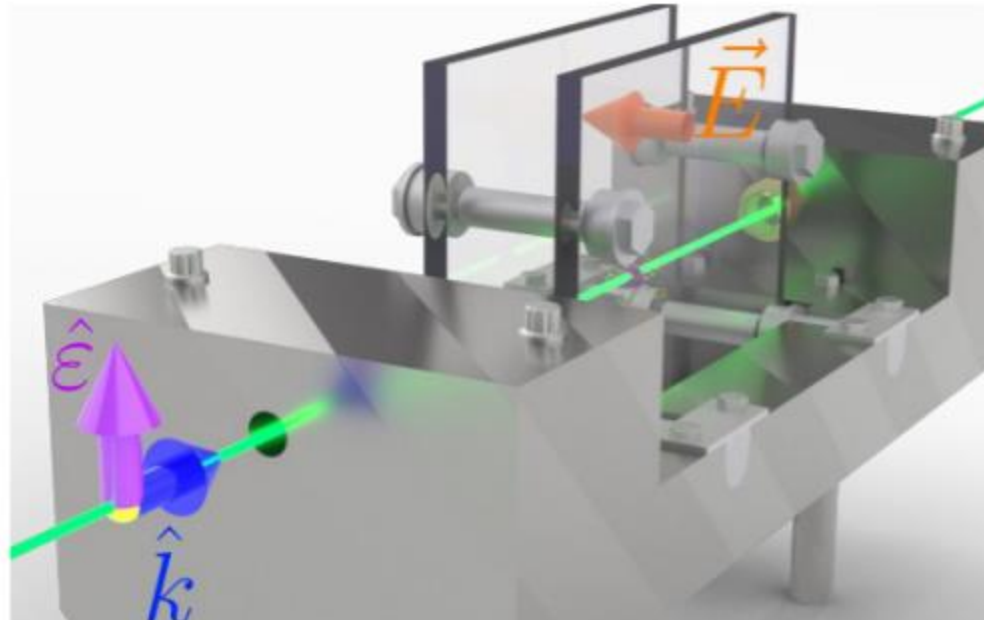
# Why Stark Interference?

$$A_{\text{Stark}} = \alpha \mathbf{E}_S \cdot \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \delta_{Fm, F'm'} + i\beta (\mathbf{E}_S \times \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) \cdot \langle F'm' | \boldsymbol{\sigma} | Fm \rangle$$

$$A_{\text{PV}} = i \text{Im}(E1_{\text{PV}}) \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \cdot \langle F'm' | \boldsymbol{\sigma} | Fm \rangle$$

$$R_{ns-(n+1)s} = \frac{2}{c\varepsilon_0\hbar^2} \tau | |A_{\text{stark}} + A_{\text{PV}} + A_{\text{M1}}|^2$$

$A_{\text{stark}} A_{\text{PV}}$   
reverses sign  
with  $\mathbf{E}_S$ !



$$A \propto f$$

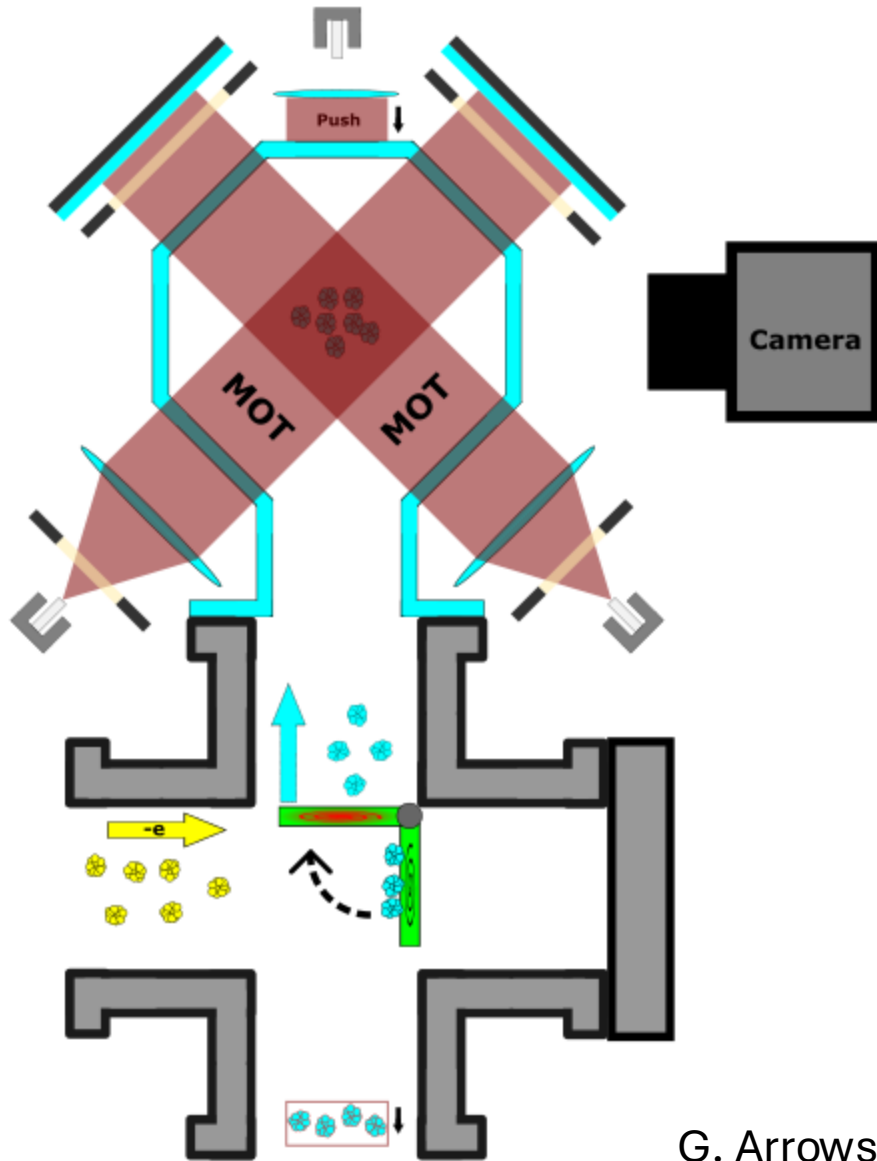
$$f_{E1} \approx 1$$

$$f_{\text{Stark}} \approx 10^{-10}$$

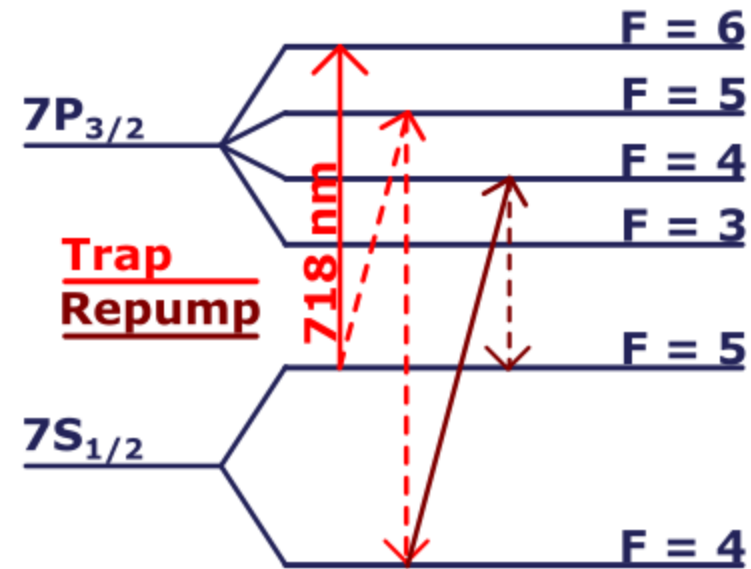
$$f_{\text{M1}} \approx 10^{-13}$$

$$f_{\text{PV}} \approx 10^{-21}$$

# Francium Neutralization and Capture



Laser	Power	Transition
Trap	105 mW	$7S_{1/2} \rightarrow 7P_{3/2}$ F=5 $\rightarrow$ F=6
Repump	75 mW	$7S_{1/2} \rightarrow 7P_{3/2}$ F=4 $\rightarrow$ F=4
Push	330 $\mu$ W	$7S_{1/2} \rightarrow 7P_{3/2}$ F=5 $\rightarrow$ F=6



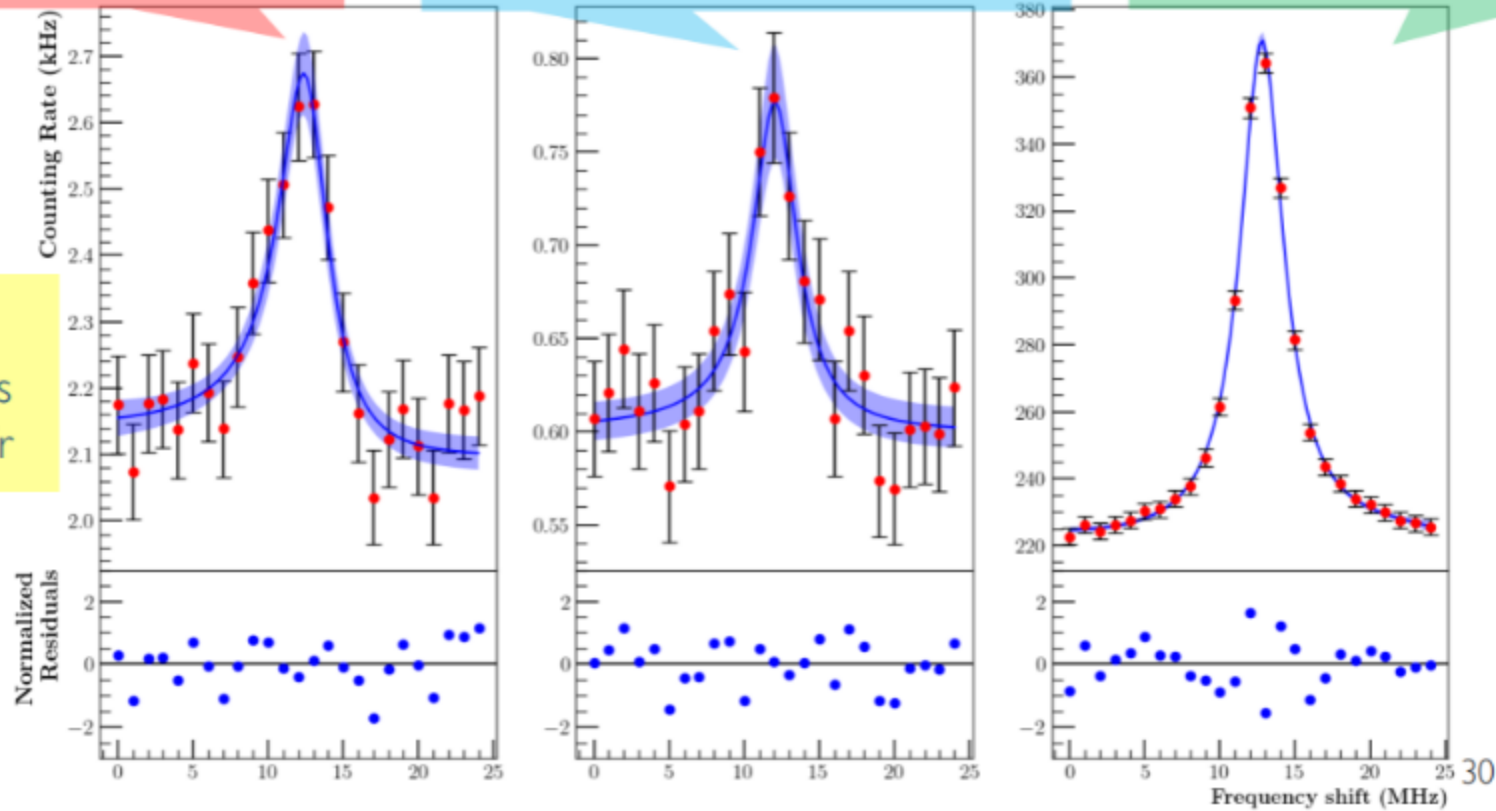
# Signal Enhancement

2018: First observation of  $\beta$  at  $E=6123$  V/cm, SNR  $\sim 0.4$ .

2021: First observation of M1 using PBC, SNR  $\sim 0.23$ . M1  $\sim 2647\times$  smaller than  $\beta$  at  $E=6123$  V/cm

2023: M1 using PBC and burst, SNR  $\sim 9.2$  a 40-fold improvement

7s-8s transitions using  $^{211}\text{Fr}$



# M1/ $\beta$ Measurement

$$R_{ns-(n+1)s} = \frac{2}{c\epsilon_0\hbar^2} \tau | |A_{\text{stark}} + A_{\text{PV}} + A_{\text{M1}}|^2$$

$A_{\text{stark}}^2$   
 $A_{\text{stark}}A_{\text{PV}}$   
 $A_{\text{M1}}^2$

Have to know well! ———→  $A_{\text{M1}}^2$

$$A_{\text{M1}} = M1_{\text{rel}} + (F - F') M1_{\text{hf}}$$

With  $\epsilon \perp \mathbf{E}_s$ ,  $R_{7s \rightarrow 8s} \propto \beta^2 E^2 + (M1_{\text{rel}} \pm M1_{\text{hf}})^2$  For  $\Delta F = \pm 1$

Value	Theory	Source
$\beta$	$74.3(7)a_0^3$	[1]
$M1_{\text{hf}}$	$-3.45 E-5 \frac{\mu_B}{C}$	[2]
$M1_{\text{rel}}$	$137.4 E-5$	[1]

- True Value of  $\beta$  dependent on laser power, atom number, etc.

- Solution: Determine M1/ $\beta$  for  $\Delta F = \pm 1$ , use theoretical values of  $M1_{\text{hf}}$  and  $\beta$  as a check

[1] Phys. Rev. A 60, 4476 (1999)

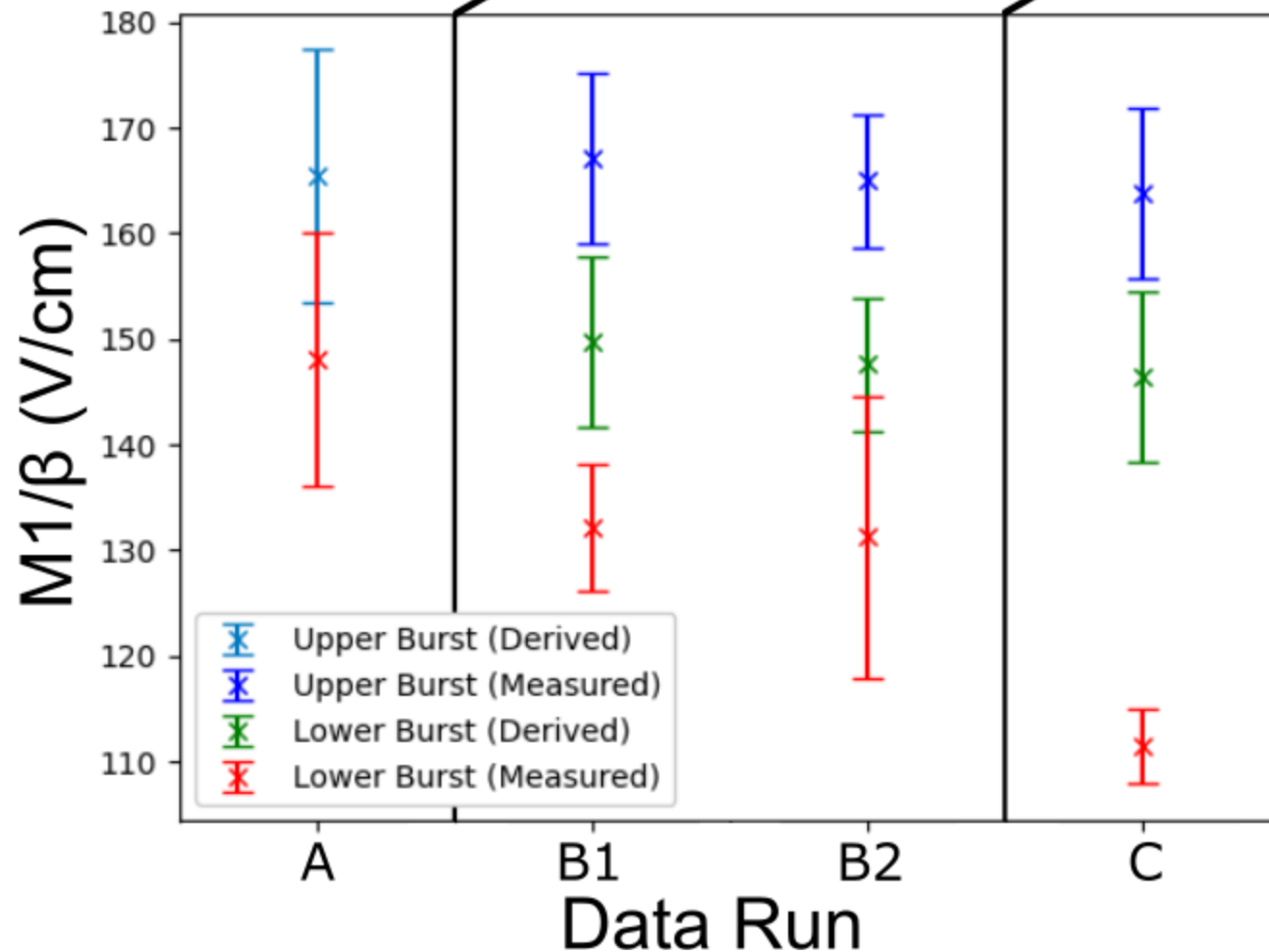
[2] J. Phys. France 49, 2037-2044 (1988)

# M1/β (Preliminary!) Results

## M1/β Measurements

Burst Cycling Introduced

Blue light sidebands introduced



$$\left(\frac{M1}{\beta}\right)_{LB} - \left(\frac{M1}{\beta}\right)_{UB} = \frac{2M1_{hf}}{\beta}$$

$$\left(\frac{M1}{\beta}\right)_{LB} + \left(\frac{M1}{\beta}\right)_{UB} = \frac{2M1_{rel}}{\beta}$$

- Upper burst remains steady
- Lower burst requires additional study
- Data taken in 2026 still under analysis



Thank you for your attention!

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