Improved tensor limits from the A=8 fundamental physics program at ANL*

G. Savard^{1,2}, B.P. Burdette¹, M.T. Burkey³, M. Brodeur⁴, J.A.

Clark¹, A.T. Gallant³, T.Y. Hirsh⁵, K.D. Launey⁶, B. Longfellow³,

R. Orford⁷, L. Varriano^{2,1}, G.H. Sargsyan⁶, and N.D. Scielzo³ ¹Argonne National Laboratory, Lemont, USA ²University of Chicago, Chicago, USA

³Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, USA

⁴ University of Notre Dame, South Bend, USA

⁵Soreq Nuclear Research Center, Yavne, Israel

⁶Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, USA and

⁷Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, USA

The beta-decay Paul trap has been used for a series of $\alpha - \beta - \nu$ angular correlation measurements in the beta decay of trapped ⁸Li and ⁸B isotopes. The ions are confined in a linear Paul trap surrounded by an array of four sets of double-sided silicon detectors. These decays follow the sequence ⁸Li (or ⁸B) \rightarrow ⁸Be^{*}+ $\nu + \beta \rightarrow \alpha + \alpha + \nu + \beta$ and the trapped ion sample floating at rest in the center of the detector array provides an ideal configuration for a full reconstruction of the events. Using these systems, new limits on the contribution of an intrinsic tensor component to the electroweak interaction have been determined by measuring the energy difference spectrum of the \hat{I}_{a} particles emitted along the direction of the \hat{I}_{c} particle. In addition, combining the results from both mirror decays allow to set more general limits using the fact that certain corrections change sign in these decays. These results have been recently published in 3 PRLs [1,2,3]. In addition, a new large data set has been obtained with an improved ion trap design that reduces beta scattering contributions by a factor of 4 and should lead to a further improvement on the tensor limits and a direct experimental determination of some of the leading theoretical corrections.

[1] M.T. Burkey et al., PRL 128 (2022) 202502.

[2] G.H. Sargsyan et al., PRL 128 (2022) 202503.

[3] A.T. Gallant et al., PRL 130 (2023) 192502.

^{*}This work was carried out under the auspices of the U.S. Department of Energy, by Argonne National Laboratory under Contract No. DE-AC02-06CH11357 and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory under Contract No. DE-AC52-07NA27344.