# Towards atomic parity violation in Francium

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#### STUDENT: ANIMA SHARMA

PHD FELLOW UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

ADVISOR: GERALD GWINNER

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University of Manitoba

→ Matt Pearson, Seth Aubin, Gerald Gwinner, Eduardo Gomez, Mukut Kalita, Alexandre Gorelov, John Behr, Luis Orozco, Tim Hucko, Anima Sharma.

### **Towards low energy precision tests**

- Test of fundamental symmetries
  - Atomic-spectroscopy based investigation
- Test the Standard Model (SM)
  - → Investigating the electroweak interaction
- Precise and direct effort to test the Standard Model
  - ➡ Atomic Parity Violation (APV) in Weak Interaction



Q<sub>weak</sub> Collaboration, Nature 557, 207–211 (2018)

### **Atomic Parity Violation**

- ◆  $Z^0$  boson exchange b/w atomic electron and quarks in nucleus → PV atomic Hamiltonian  $H_{PV}$ 
  - $\rightarrow$   $H_{PV}$  mixes atomic S and P states  $\rightarrow$  atomic orbitals lose definite parity

 $< n' S' | H_{PV} | nS > \propto Z^3$ 

- ↔ APV signature: drive  $S \rightarrow S E1$  transition amplitude  $A_{PV}$
- ◆ Problem: Cs 6S → 7S experimental rate  $R_{S \to S} \propto |A_{PV}|^2_{Cs} \approx 10^{-22}$ Way too small to observe
- Solution: Interfere with much large Parity Conserving 'PC' amplitude!
  Tunable
  External static electric field also mixes S and P → PC "Stark" amplitude  $A_{ST}$
- To date best APV test in Cesium (Cs) [1]
  A<sub>PV</sub> measured precisely with fractional uncertainty of 0.35 %
- Idea: larger Z simple alkali structure

 $\rightarrow$  Francium (Fr)  $\rightarrow$  Effect 18× larger than in Cs



Weak Interaction

## **Principles of Stark APV experiment**

#### Transition Rate, R

$$\mathbf{R} \propto |A_{PV} + A_{ST}|^{2}$$

$$\approx |A_{PV}|^{2} + |A_{ST}|^{2} \pm 2 \operatorname{Re} (A_{PV} \cdot A_{ST})$$
Interference term (~ 10<sup>-15</sup>)
$$\operatorname{Interference term (~ 10^{-15})}$$

$$\operatorname{Interference$$

## Francium Trapping Facility (FTF) @ TRIUMF

Why ISAC?

Fr has no stable isotope → need radioactive beam facility

- Why Trap?
  - → not enough Fr production for atomic beam
  - $\rightarrow$  Re-use atoms in a trap
- **\clubsuit** Suspend million of Fr atoms at  $\mu K$  temperature
- **\*** Trap atoms on  $7S_{1/2}$  (F = 5)  $\rightarrow 7P_{3/2}$  (F' = 6) transition
- Precise control of electric and magnetic fields





#### Measurements done so far by Fr group

- Measurement of the 7S 7P<sub>1/2</sub> (D1) isotope shift in <sup>206-213,221</sup>Fr R. Collister et al. Phys. Rev. A 90 052502 (2014)
- Measurement of the  $7P_{1/2}$  hyperfine splitting in a chain of Fr isotopes Zhang et. al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 115 042501 (2015)
- Measurement of the  $7P_{3/2}$  photo ionization cross section *R. Collister et al. Can J. Phys (2017)*
- Two photon 7S 8S spectroscopy: Isotope shift measurements and comparison to ab initio theory M.R. Kalita et al. Phys. Rev. A 97, 042507 (2018)
- \* DC stark shift signal in Fr (2018) Milestone: Observation of the  $\beta$  transition



Capture trap and Science Chamber in Fr lab

#### **Important step: Understand the Stark amplitude**



# Motivation for the $\frac{\alpha}{R}$ measurement

- **\*** To extract the  $E1_{PV}$ , ' $\beta$ ' needs to be known accurately.
- ★  $\beta$  → hard to measure.

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\stackrel{\boldsymbol{\alpha}}{\boldsymbol{\beta}} \text{ measurable} \rightarrow \text{test theory prediction for } \boldsymbol{\beta}.
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 $\Rightarrow \frac{\alpha}{\beta}$  experimental quantity is a good test for atomic PV theory calculations.

- \*  $\beta$  amplitude is m dependent, *α* amplitude is not.
- ✤ Atoms in MOT have unpredictable m level distribution.
- ✤ Need to optically pump atoms in specific | F,  $m_F$  >



#### First Observation of the 7S $\rightarrow$ 8S $\beta$ Stark induced transition

✤About 10<sup>9</sup> - 10<sup>10</sup> times weaker than typical atomic transitions

Have also observed *α* transition
 (× 25 larger)

♦ → Re- measure with optically pumped atoms



First signal of  $\beta$  Stark induced transition

### **Optical Pumping (O.P.)**

Two processes to get population in a single F, m<sub>F</sub> ground state
 a) Transfer of angular momentum to atoms in MOT
 b) Deplete the atoms from unwanted hyperfine level

The creation of atomic ground state polarization is 'Optical Pumping'.
Apply magnetic field to define 'quantization axis'.







### **Detection of Optical Pumping**

- Need to experimentally verify the quality of O.P.
- Resolve Zeeman sublevels by several linewidths by applying a large magnetic field
- Scan the laser over resolved 'm' sublevels and observe the spectra.

#### **Challenges for implementation**

- Several magnetic (B) fields have to be switched On/Off at ~ 100  $\mu s$  scale
- Eddy currents in Chamber walls
- Tight geometrical constraints of O.P. beam implementation in our chamber
- Currently implementing B field control
- Summer 2021: Test O.P. sometime soon



Probe frequency offset (MHz)

[2] The distribution of atoms  $6S_{1/2}$  ( $F = 4, m_F$ ) as measured by probe frequency scan (a) Without O.P. with 30 G (b) w/o O.P. when B = 0 G (c) With O.P. into  $m_F = 0$  with B = 30 G in Cs

#### Summary

- $\clubsuit$  Towards APV  $\rightarrow$  need to spin polarize the atoms.
- Combination of O.P. with cooling and trapping techniques can control internal and external degrees of freedom.
- **\*** To extract  $E1_{PV}$ , ' $\beta$ ' needs to be known precisely.
- \*  $\frac{\alpha}{\beta}$  measurement in Rb and Fr will be a critical step to determine  $\beta$ .



#### Thank you!

## (Back up slide ) Theory



Interference term changes sign on parity reversal
 Quantity of Interest

$$\frac{\Delta R}{R} \propto \frac{A_{PV}}{A_{ST}} \propto \frac{Im(E1_{PV})}{\beta E}$$