Abstract Submitted for the APR18 Meeting of The American Physical Society

Detection systematics in the Nab experiment¹ LEAH BROUS-SARD, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, NAB COLLABORATION — The Nab experiment will perform precise measurements of neutron beta decay correlations to test our understanding of the electroweak interaction and look for hints of new physics missing from the Standard Model. The electron anti-neutrino correlation a is reconstructed from the decay proton's time of flight and decay electron's energy, and the Fierz interference term b is extracted by precisely measuring the shape of the beta spectrum. Reaching Nab's goal precision requires accurately characterizing systematics such as mechanisms for energy loss of the electrons and differences in the measured timing of the electron and proton events. Precision characterization of these effects can also be applied to a recent measurement of the beta spectrum of 45 Ca or other nuclei using these detectors. This presentation will include an update on the detection system development and recent studies, a discussion of the detection systematics and their impact on the decay correlation measurements, and an overview of plans for their characterization.

¹This research was sponsored by the LDRD program [project 8215] of ORNL, managed by UT-Battelle, LLC, and the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Science, Office of Nuclear Physics, contract DE-AC05-00OR2272.

Leah Broussard Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Date submitted: 12 Jan 2018 Electronic form version 1.4