

Abstract Submitted
for the DNP13 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

Status of the UCNA Experiment DAVID PHILLIPS, North Carolina State University, UCNA COLLABORATION COLLABORATION — The UCNA experiment at the Los Alamos Neutron Science Center (LANSCE) is the only experiment to ever perform a measurement of the neutron β -decay asymmetry parameter $A(E)$ using ultracold neutrons (UCN). UCN are produced from a pulsed spallation solid deuterium source coupled to the 800 MeV proton beam at LANSCE. The UCN spin states are selected via a 7 T polarizing field and an adiabatic fast passage spin flipper. The polarized UCN are then transported to a 1 T $2\times 2\pi$ spectrometer where the emitted electrons are measured from a sample with density of order ~ 1 UCN/cm³ (since 2008 running). In the Standard Model, the leading order value of $A(E)$, A_0 , is a function of the axial-vector to vector coupling ratio $\lambda \equiv g_A/g_V$, providing complementary data to the physics probed by measurements of the neutron lifetime τ_n . When taken together with τ_n , measurements of the beta decay asymmetry permit a nuclear structure independent determination of the CKM matrix element V_{ud} . This talk presents an overview of the UCNA experiment, the analysis status of our 2011/2012 & 2012/2013 datasets, and the path forward.

David Phillips
North Carolina State University

Date submitted: 29 Jun 2013

Electronic form version 1.4