

Abstract Submitted  
for the HAW09 Meeting of  
The American Physical Society

**Double-beta decay  $Q$  values of  $^{130}\text{Te}$ ,  $^{128}\text{Te}$ , and  $^{120}\text{Te}$** <sup>1</sup> S.A. CALDWELL, N.D. SCIELZO, G. SAVARD, J.A. CLARK, J. VAN SCHELT, C.M. DEIBEL, J. FALLIS, S. GULICK, D. LASCAR, A.F. LEVAND, G. LI, J. MINTZ, E.B. NORMAN, K.S. SHARMA, M. STERNBERG, T. SUN — Using the Canadian Penning Trap mass spectrometer we have measured  $Q$  values for the double-beta decay processes with parent nuclei  $^{120}\text{Te}$ ,  $^{128}\text{Te}$ ,  $^{130}\text{Te}$ . These measurements are relevant to the search for neutrinoless double-beta decay ( $0\nu\beta\beta$ ) at the COURE/CUORICINO experiment. If observed,  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay would imply that the electron neutrino is a massive Majorana particle and that lepton number is not universally conserved in nature. We provide our results and a discussion of their implications.

<sup>1</sup>This work has been supported by grants from NSERC, Canada, and by the U.S. DOE, Nuclear Physics Division, under Contract No. DE-AC0206CH11357.

Shane Caldwell  
University of Chicago, Argonne National Lab

Date submitted: 02 Jul 2009

Electronic form version 1.4