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Helium 3 neutron precision polarimetry CHRISTOPHER MENARD, University of Kentucky, PRECISION POLARIMETRY COLLABORATION — Measuring neutron polarization to a high degree of precision is critical for the next generation of neutron decay correlation experiments. Polarized neutrons are also used in experiments to probe the hadronic weak interaction which contributes a small portion ( $\sim 10-7$ ) of the force between nucleons. Using a beam of cold neutrons at Los Alamos Neutron Science Center (LANSCE), we polarized neutrons and measured their absolute polarization to  $\sim 0.1\%$ . Neutrons were polarized by passing them through a <sup>3</sup>He spin filter, relying on the maximally spin dependent 3He neutron absorption cross section. The neutron polarization can be determined by measuring the wavelength-dependent neutron transmission through the <sup>3</sup>He cell. An independent measurement of the neutron polarization was also obtained by passing the polarized beam through an RF spin flipper and a second polarized <sup>3</sup>He cell, used as an analyzer. To measure the efficiency of the spin flipper, the same measurements were made after reversing the <sup>3</sup>He polarization in the polarizer by using NMR techniques (adiabatic fast passage). We will show the consistency of these two measurements and the resulting precision of neutron polarimetry using these techniques.

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