

# **EDMs: complementary experiments and theory connections**

Monday, 4 March 2024 - Friday, 8 March 2024

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## **Book of Abstracts**



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## Registration

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## Welcome

**Author:** Ubirajara van Kolck<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *IJCLab Orsay & University of Arizona*

**Corresponding Authors:** degenkolb@physi.uni-heidelberg.de, vankolck@ijclab.in2p3.fr

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## Global analysis of CP-violation in atoms, molecules and role of medium-heavy systems

**Corresponding Author:** konstantin.gaul@staff.uni-marburg.de

4

## Nonperturbative physics, chiral symmetry and EDM observables

**Corresponding Author:** pospelov@umn.edu

5

## SMEFT and Global Analysis

**Corresponding Author:** plehn@uni-heidelberg.de

6

## Electron EDM measurements with molecules: current status and future perspectives

**Corresponding Author:** m.tarbutt@imperial.ac.uk

7

## **Toward a measurement of nuclear Magnetic Quadrupole Moment (nMQM) using quantum logically controlled molecular ions**

**Corresponding Author:** yan.zhou@unlv.edu

8

## **Searching for the EDM of $^{199}\text{Hg}$ with ultracold atoms**

9

## **Effective interactions for mean-field and beyond-mean-field calculations**

**Corresponding Author:** bennaceur@ipnl.in2p3.fr

10

## **An update on lattice QCD results on the EDM (CANCELLED)**

**Corresponding Author:** shindler@physik.rwth-aachen.de

11

## **Proof of principle experiment for dipole moments of charm baryons at LHC**

**Corresponding Author:** sara.cesare@unimi.it

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## **The role of theory uncertainties in global analysis of EDMs**

**Corresponding Author:** elmer@thphys.uni-heidelberg.de

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## **The Radium-Fluoride Ion Catcher Instrument - A path towards offline eEDM experiments with RaF**

**Corresponding Author:** mreiter@ed.ac.uk

Molecules have proven to be powerful laboratories to explore unknown aspects of the fundamental forces of nature and to search for physics beyond the standard model. By choosing molecules containing radioactive isotopes with different spins and nuclear deformation one can explore aspects of the strong and weak forces even further and reach unparalleled enhancement of symmetry-violating

properties. Among many others, Radium-monofluoride (RaF) has been proposed as a potent candidate. However, the production of radioactive molecules in general has proven to be challenging and availability of molecular radioactive ion beams has been identified as a bottleneck for future research. Particularly as suitable radioactive partner species have to be produced at large scale online beam facilities, preventing decentralized experiments at universities or smaller laboratories.

In this contribution we will introduce the Radium-Fluoride Ion Catcher Instrument (RAFICI) which will allow the production of  $^{224}\text{RaF}$  ions by harvesting  $^{224}\text{Ra}$  ions from the nuclear decay of a  $^{228}\text{Th}$  sample within a gas filled stopping cell. The scheme was successfully tested at the FRS Ion Catcher at GSI and first offline production of  $^{224}\text{RaF}$  ions could be shown via gas phase reactions of the nuclear recoil daughters with  $\text{SF}_6$  inside an RFQ ion trap. Further, several other radioactive molecules, such as  $^{216}\text{PoF}$  and  $^{212}\text{PbF}$ ,  $^{212}\text{PoOH}$  were produced and could be studied. The envisioned RAFICI device, currently under development at the University of Edinburgh, will offer experiments with radioactive molecules to be performed in low background / low noise environments away from large radioactive beam facilities.

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## **An experimental overview of the neutron EDM**

**Corresponding Author:** svirinak@ill.fr

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## **Nuclear EFTs**

**Corresponding Author:** vankolck@ijclab.in2p3.fr

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## **Toward an improved measurement of the $^{129}\text{Xe}$ EDM**

**Corresponding Author:** allmendinger@physi.uni-heidelberg.de

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## **Calculation of the Nuclear Schiff moment from DFT**

**Corresponding Author:** markus.kortelainen@jyu.fi

18

## **Measurement of the electric dipole moment of $^{171}\text{Yb}$ atoms in an optical dipole trap**

**Corresponding Author:** txia1@ustc.edu.cn

19

**New Physics in the muon dipole moments****Corresponding Author:** andreas.crivellin@psi.ch

20

**Toward an improved measurement of the muon EDM****Corresponding Author:** diego.sanz-becerra@psi.ch

21

**Spectroscopy of radioactive molecules relevant to EDM research****Corresponding Author:** m.athkak@cern.ch

22

**Radioactive molecules studies at ISOLDE-CERN****Corresponding Author:** gerda.neyens@kuleuven.be

23

**The PHYDES activity: BaF in para-hydrogen for EDM studies****Corresponding Author:** marco.guarise@fe.infn.it

24

**Probing the electron-EDM using slow and trapped molecules****Corresponding Author:** s.hoekstra@rug.nl

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**Measurement of dipole moments of Lambda baryon at LHCb****Corresponding Author:** giorgia.tonani@mi.infn.it

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## **Table top nuclear facility for molecular spectroscopy**

**Corresponding Author:** kieran.flanagan-2@manchester.ac.uk

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## **The n2EDM experiment at PSI**

**Corresponding Author:** pmullan@phys.ethz.ch

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## **New facilities and neutron production, opportunities**

**Corresponding Authors:** degenkolb@physi.uni-heidelberg.de, valentina.santoro@ess.eu