Contribution ID: 119 Type: Talk

Experimental search for an electric dipole moment of the neutron

Thursday 28 August 2014 16:30 (20 minutes)

Experimental search for an electric dipole moment of the neutron

The existence of a permanent non-zero electric dipole moment of the neutron (nEDM) would be unambiguous evidence for a violation of time reversal symmetry (T). The Standard Model (SM) contribution to the nEDM is of order $10^{\circ}(-32)$ ecm while the current experimental limit is $dn < 2.9 * 10^{\circ}(-26)$ ecm. The search for an nEDM is one of the most sensitive experiments searching for physics beyond the SM (BSM) and any improvement of the current experimental limit will constrain BSM models. There are many efforts worldwide to search for an nEDM with high sensitivity; I will present the ongoing nEDM experiment at Paul Scherrer Institut (Switzerland) in which the Ramsey technique of separated oscillatory fields is applied to the stored ultracold neutrons with the potential to observe or rule out an nEDM at the level of $10^{\circ}(-27)$ e*cm in the coming years.

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Session Classification: Tests of symmetries and conservation laws

Track Classification: 9) Tests of symmetries and conservation laws