

# Ultracold molecules - a testbed for physics beyond the Standard Model

Adam Koza<sup>1</sup>, Alessio Ciamei<sup>2,3</sup>, Michał Tomza<sup>1</sup> †

<sup>1</sup>Faculty of Physics, University of Warsaw, Pasteura 5, 02-093 Warsaw, Poland

<sup>2</sup>Istituto Nazionale di Ottica del Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (CNR-INO), 50019 Sesto Fiorentino, Italy

<sup>3</sup>European Laboratory for Non-Linear Spectroscopy (LENS), Università di Firenze, 50019 Sesto Fiorentino, Italy

†corresponding author's email: [michal.tomza@fuw.edu.pl](mailto:michal.tomza@fuw.edu.pl)

The Standard Model of Particle Physics (SM) provides a good description of matter, radiation, and their interactions. Unfortunately, there are still open questions in science where SM cannot accurately describe observed phenomena such as the matter-antimatter imbalance. A promising approach to uncovering physics beyond the SM is to identify novel sources of combined charge and parity ( $CP$ ) violation. The presence of  $\mathcal{P}$ ,  $\mathcal{T}$ -odd forces and permanent electric dipole moments of elementary particles may induce a non-zero molecular dipole moment of the entire system, leading to subtle shifts in the molecule's energy structure [1]. In this work, we propose a new class of molecular systems – ultracold high-spin  $\Sigma$ -state polar molecules, such as YbCr and RaCr – as sensitive platforms to study  $CP$  violation in the hadronic and leptonic sectors. We theoretically modeled the formation of these molecules from ultracold high-spin spherically symmetric atoms with closed-shell atoms. We found that these systems can be easily polarized due to the presence of  $\Omega$  doubling and used for precision measurements. We analyzed their molecular properties using relativistic *ab initio* quantum chemical methods. We carefully investigated enhancement factors describing the sensitivity of molecules to the  $CP$ -odd nuclear magnetic quadrupole moment, electron electric dipole moment and electron-nucleon scalar-pseudoscalar interactions [2]. Possibility of the formation of YbCr [3] or RaCr in ultracold temperatures makes them great for high-precision experiments due to enhanced sensitivity of an experiment. In this manner, we want to pave the way for a new class of very promising systems for the next generation of SM-physics searches at the low-energy frontier.

## Acknowledgments

We gratefully acknowledge the European Union (ERC, 101042989 – QuantMol), the National Science Centre, Poland, within Preludium (Grant No. 2024/53/N/ST2/03814) and the PL-Grid Infrastructure (Grant No. PLG/2023/016115)

## References

- [1] D. Demille, N.R. Hutzler, A.M.Rey and T. Zelevinsky, *Nature* **20**, 741–749 (2024).
- [2] A.M. Koza, A. Ciamei and M.Tomza *in preparation* (2025).
- [3] M. D. Frye, P. Zuchowski and M.Tomza *Physical Review Research* **6**, 023254 (2024).