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An effective interpretation of electric dipole moments

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Permanent electric dipole moments (EDMs) are sensitive probes of CP violation beyond the Standard Model. EDM experiments typically involve complicated systems such as hadrons, nuclei, and atoms. I will discuss an effective field theory framework in which EDM measurements can be interpreted in terms of more fundamental concepts. As an example, I illustrate how EDM measurements set strong constraints on CP violation in the Higgs sector. I argue that hadronic and nuclear uncertainties limit the power of EDM searches and discuss strategies that can improve this situation in order get the most out of the rich experimental program.

Summary

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