



# UK Nuclear Activity

March 2020 Issue 81

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Newsletter archive: <http://npg.dl.ac.uk/OutreachNewsletter/index.html>

Nuclear Physics Public Engagement Website: [NuclearPhysicsForYou](#)

[Nuclear Physics Outreach Poster](#) – order hardcopies from STFC free of charge [here](#)

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## 1. Nuclear Physics Publications for March (also includes missed publications from previous months)

If you are publishing a paper that you think would be of media value please contact [Wendy Ellison](#), STFC Press Officer. She can help with press releases and publicity. If you get in touch with her before publication she can also get material ready in advance for the day of publication.

SciPost Phys. Proc. **3**, 047 (2020)

<https://scipost.org/SciPostPhysProc.3.047>

### **A time-dependent Hartree-Fock study of triple-alpha dynamics**

Paul D. Stevenson, J. L. Willerton

Published 27 February 2020

SciPost Phys. Proc. **3**, 009 (2020)

<https://scipost.org/SciPostPhysProc.3.009>

### **Clustering in $^{18}\text{O}$ - absolute determination of branching ratios via high-resolution particle spectroscopy**

S. Pirrie, C. Wheldon, Tz. Kokalova, J. Bishop, R. Hertenberger, H.-F. Wirth, S. Bailey, N. Curtis, D. Dell'Aquila, Th. Faestermann, D. Mengoni, R. Smith, D. Torresi, A. Turner

Published 24 February 2020

SciPost Phys. Proc. **3**, 010 (2020)

<https://scipost.org/SciPostPhysProc.3.010>

### **Short range nucleon correlations studied with electron and photon probes**

I.J. Douglas MacGregor

Published 24 February 2020

SciPost Phys. Proc. **3**, 026 (2020)

<https://scipost.org/SciPostPhysProc.3.026>

**Study of the hyperon-nucleon interaction via final-state interactions in exclusive reactions**

Nicholas Zachariou, Daniel Watts, Yordanka Ilieva

Published 25 February 2020

SciPost Phys. Proc. **3**, 030 (2020)

<https://scipost.org/SciPostPhysProc.3.030>

**The Hoyle Family: break-up measurements to probe  $\alpha$ -condensation in light nuclei**

Robin Smith, Jack Bishop, Joel Hirst, Tzany Kokalova, Carl Wheldon

Published 26 February 2020

Eur. Phys. J. A **56**, 36 (2020)

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1140/epja/s10050-020-00052-9>

**Study of the  $^{25}\text{Mg}(d,p)^{26}\text{Mg}$  reaction to constrain the  $^{25}\text{Al}(p,\gamma)^{26}\text{Si}$  resonant reaction rates in nova burning conditions**

C. B. Hamill, P. J. Woods, D. Kahl, R. Longland, J. P. Greene, C. Marshall, F. Portillo & K. Setoodehnia

Published 5 February 2020

Eur. Phys. J. A **56**, 65 (2020)

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1140/epja/s10050-020-00071-6>

**Evidence for octupole collectivity in  $^{172}\text{Pt}$**

A. Ertoprak, B. Cederwall, C. Qi, Ö. Aktas, M. Doncel, B. Hadinia, R. Liotta, M. Sandzelius, C. Scholey, K. Andgren, T. Bäck, H. Badran, T. Braunroth, T. Calverley, D. M. Cox, D. M. Cullen, Y. D. Fang, E. Ganioglu, M. Giles, M. B. Gomez Hornillos, T. Grahn, P. T. Greenlees, J. Hilton, D. Hodge, E. Ideguchi, U. Jakobsson, A. Johnson, P. M. Jones, R. Julin, S. Juutinen, S. Ketelhut, A. Khaplanov, M. Kumar Raju, M. Leino, H. Li, H. Liu, S. Matta, V. Modamio, B. S. Nara Singh, M. Niikura, M. Nyman, I. Özgür, R. D. Page, J. Pakarinen, P. Papadakis, J. Partanen, E. S. Paul, C. M. Petrache, P. Peura, P. Rahkila, P. Ruotsalainen, J. Sarén, J. Sorri, S. Stolze, P. Subramaniam, M. J. Taylor, J. Uusitalo, J. J. Valiente-Dobón & R. Wyss

Published 20 February 2020

Nature Physics **16**, 409-412 (2020)

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41567-020-0799-7>

**Measurement of the mass difference and binding energy of the hypertriton and antihypertriton**

The STAR Collaboration

Published 9 March 2020

Phys. Rev. Lett. **124**, 062501

<https://journals.aps.org/prl/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevLett.124.062501>

**Isospin Properties of Nuclear Pair Correlations from the Level Structure of the Self-Conjugate Nucleus  $^{88}\text{Ru}$**

B. Cederwall, X. Liu, Ö. Aktas, A. Ertoprak, W. Zhang, C. Qi, E. Clément, G. de France, D. Ralet, A. Gadea, A. Goasduff, G. Jaworski, I. Kuti, B. M. Nyakó, J. Nyberg, M. Palacz, R. Wadsworth, J. J. Valiente-Dobón, H. Al-Azri, A. Ataç Nyberg, T. Bäck, G. de Angelis, M. Doncel, J. Dudouet, A. Gottardo, M. Jurado, J. Ljungvall, D. Mengoni, D. R. Napoli, C. M. Petrache, D. Sohler, J. Timár, D. Barrientos, P. Bednarczyk, G. Benzoni, B. Birkenbach, A. J. Boston, H. C. Boston, I. Burrows, L. Charles, M. Ciemala, F. C. L. Crespi, D. M. Cullen, P. Désesquelles, C. Domingo-Pardo, J. Eberth, N. Erduran, S. Ertürk, V. González, J. Goupil, H. Hess, T. Huyuk, A. Jungclaus, W. Korten, A. Lemasson, S. Leoni, A. Maj, R. Menegazzo, B. Million, R. M. Perez-Vidal, Zs. Podolyak, A. Pullia, F. Recchia, P. Reiter, F. Saillant, M. D. Salsac, E. Sanchis, J. Simpson, O. Stezowski, Ch. Theisen, and M. Zielińska

Published 12 February 2020

Phys. Rev. Lett. **124**, 092301

<https://journals.aps.org/prl/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevLett.124.092301>

**Scattering Studies with Low-Energy Kaon-Proton Femtoscopy in Proton-Proton Collisions at the LHC**

S. Acharya et al. (A Large Ion Collider Experiment Collaboration)

Published 6 March 2020

Phys. Rev. C **101**, 034308

<https://journals.aps.org/prc/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevC.101.034308>

**Hyperfine anomaly in gold and magnetic moments of  $I^\pi=11/2^-$  gold isomers**

A. E. Barzakh, D. Atanasov, A. N. Andreyev, M. Al Monthery, N. A. Althubiti, B. Andel, S. Antalic, K. Blaum, T. E. Cocolios, J. G. Cubiss, P. Van Duppen, T. Day Goodacre, A. de Roubin, Yu. A. Demidov, G. J. Farooq-Smith, D. V. Fedorov, V. N. Fedosseev, D. A. Fink, L. P. Gaffney, L. Ghys, R. D. Harding, D. T. Joss, F. Herfurth, M. Huyse, N. Imai, M. G. Kozlov, S. Kreim, D. Lunney, K. M. Lynch, V. Manea, B. A. Marsh, Y. Martinez Palenzuela, P. L. Molkanov, D. Neidherr, R. D. Page, M. Rosenbusch, R. E. Rossel, S. Rothe, L. Schweikhard, M. D. Seliverstov, S. Sels, C. Van Beveren, E. Verstraelen, A. Welker, F. Wienholtz, R. N. Wolf, and K. Zuber

Published 20 March 2020

Phys. Rev. C **101**, 031303(R)

<https://journals.aps.org/prc/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevC.101.031303>

**Two-neutron knockout as a probe of the composition of states in  $^{22}\text{Mg}$ ,  $^{23}\text{Al}$ , and  $^{24}\text{Si}$**

B. Longfellow, A. Gade, J. A. Tostevin, E. C. Simpson, B. A. Brown, A. Magilligan, D. Bazin, P. C. Bender, M. Bowry, B. Elman, E. Lunderberg, D. Rhodes, M. Spieker, D. Weisshaar, and S. J. Williams

Published 12 March 2020

Phys. Rev. C **101**, 034309

<https://journals.aps.org/prc/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevC.101.034309>

**Neutron-hole strength in  $N=81$  nuclei**

A. M. Howard, S. J. Freeman, D. K. Sharp, T. Bloxham, J. A. Clark, C. M. Deibel, B. P. Kay, P. D. Parker, J. P. Schiffer, and J. S. Thomas

Published 20 March 2020

Phys. Rev. C **101**, 034314

<https://journals.aps.org/prc/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevC.101.034314>

**Shell structure of the neutron-rich isotopes  $^{69,71,73}\text{Co}$**

T. Lokotko, S. Leblond, J. Lee, P. Doornenbal, A. Obertelli, A. Poves, F. Nowacki, K. Ogata, K. Yoshida, G. Authalet, H. Baba, D. Calvet, F. Châteauneuf, S. Chen, A. Corsi, A. Delbart, J.-M. Gheller, A. Gillibert, T. Isobe, V. Lapoux, M. Matsushita, S. Momiyama, T. Motobayashi, M. Niikura, H. Otsu, C. Péron, A. Peyaud, E. C. Pollacco, J.-Y. Roussé, H. Sakurai, C. Santamaria, Z. Y. Xu, M. Sasano, Y. Shiga, S. Takeuchi, R. Taniuchi, T. Uesaka, H. Wang, V. Werner, F. Browne, L. X. Chung, Zs. Dombradi, S. Franchoo, F. Giaccopo, A. Gottardo, K. Hadynska-Klek, Z. Korkulu, S. Koyama, Y. Kubota, M. Lettmann, C. Louchart, R. Lozeva, K. Matsui, T. Miyazaki, S. Nishimura, L. Olivier, S. Ota, Z. Patel, E. Sahin, C. Shand, P.-A. Söderström, I. Stefan, D. Steppenbeck, T. Sumikama, D. Suzuki, Zs. Vajta, and J. Wu

Published 30 March 2020

Phys. Rev. C **101**, 034911

<https://journals.aps.org/prc/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevC.101.034911>

**Measurements of inclusive jet spectra in pp and central Pb-Pb collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}}=5.02\text{TeV}$**

S. Acharya et al. (ALICE Collaboration)

Published 16 March 2020

Phys. Rev. C **101**, 035207

<https://journals.aps.org/prc/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevC.101.035207>

**Near-threshold  $\pi^-$  photoproduction on the deuteron**

B. Strandberg et al. (PIONS@MAX-lab Collaboration)

Published 16 March 2020

Phys. Rev. C **101**, 035804

<https://journals.aps.org/prc/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevC.101.035804>

**Impact of statistical uncertainties on the composition of the outer crust of a neutron star**

A. Pastore, D. Neill, H. Powell, K. Medler, and C. Barton

Published 16 March 2020

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## 2. News to Report

### a. Results of $d^*$ hexaquark study published

New research led by the University of York at the Crystal Ball at MAMI facility has revealed strong signatures for the existence of a new form of matter - the  $d^*$  hexaquark. The  $d^*$  hexaquark is composed of six light quarks – the same quarks that usually combine in trios to make up protons and neutrons. The experiment searched for the  $d^*$  hexaquarks by impinging an intense gamma ray beam on a liquid deuterium target and measuring the final state proton and neutron from the photodisintegration of the deuterium nuclei. Signatures of the  $d^*$  were observed in the degree of spin polarisation of the outgoing proton and neutron, showing for the first time that both are almost completely polarised at photon energies corresponding to the mass of the  $d^*$ , and in a way that cannot be explained by current conventional theories without the hexaquark. The results provide important new information for the emerging field of multi-quark states and potentially for astrophysics, where the new  $d^*$  degree of freedom has recently been indicated to play an important role in neutron stars and even in new candidates for dark matter. A novel large acceptance neutron spin polarimeter was developed for the measurement, which has potential application for a wide range of facilities.

Phys. Rev. Lett. **124**, 132001 (2020)

<https://journals.aps.org/prl/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevLett.124.132001>

### b. New IOP Nuclear Physics Group officers appointed

The IOP Nuclear Physics Group has appointed a new Chair and Secretary.

David Sharp, an experimental nuclear physicist at the University of Manchester, is the new Chair, and James Benstead, a theoretical nuclear physicist from AWE, is the new Secretary.

David has over 12 years' experience, having started his PhD in 2008. In October 2020 he will be starting as an STFC Ernest Rutherford Fellow. His research focuses on studying the structure of short-lived radioactive nuclei at international accelerator facilities such as CERN. He is also interested in how processes such as nuclear fission proceed in these short-lived systems and developing new techniques to study this. He has also spent time working as a Physicist in industry focusing on detector development. Directly after completion of his studies he worked for Smiths Detection Ltd, before returning to academia to pursue that career path. He is passionate about supporting and developing early career researchers and promoting a culture of equality, diversity and inclusivity within Physics.

James has been at AWE since 2006. During that period he has completed a collaborative PhD at the University of Surrey and spent three years on secondment at a US national lab. He is keen to use his term as Secretary to encourage further links between academia and industry in the nuclear physics field.



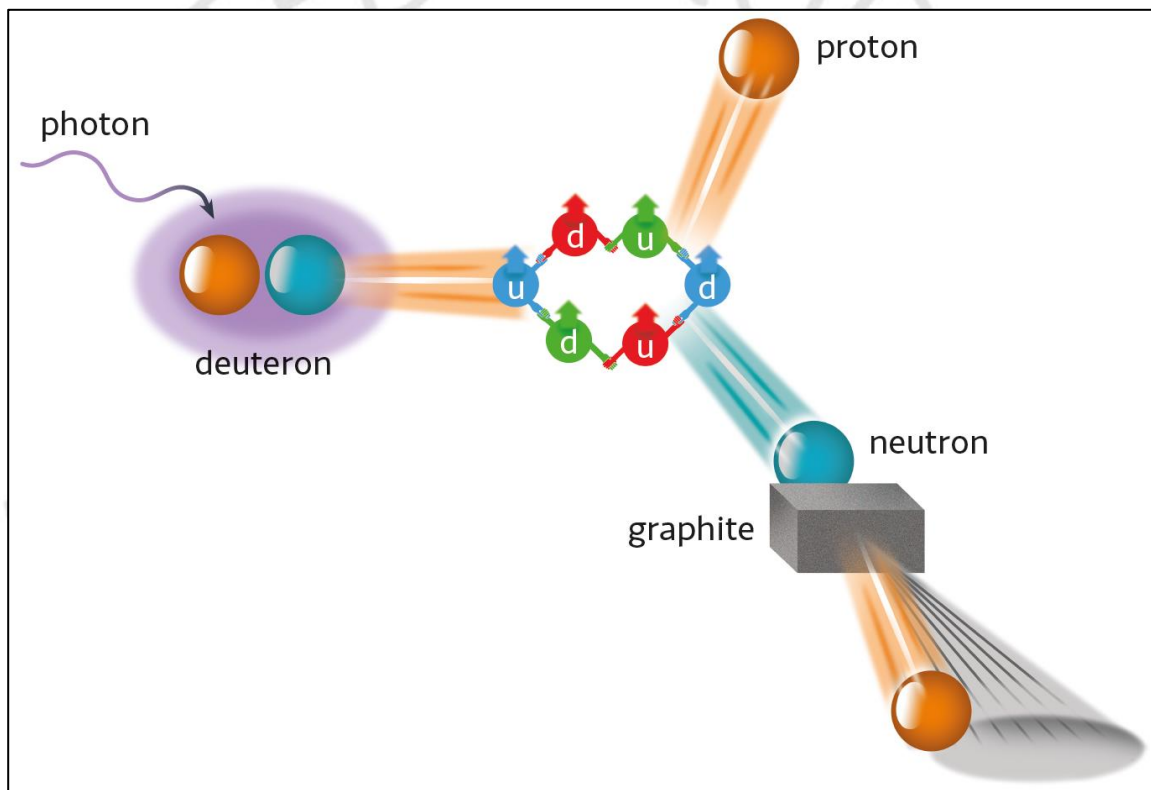


**David Sharp, new Chair of the IOP Nuclear Physics Group**

The outgoing Chair Tzany Kokalova-Wheldon and Secretary Paul Davies are thanked for their excellent work within the group over the past few years.

### **c. Joint IOP NPG/APP/HEPP conference cancelled**

Unfortunately, due to the ongoing Covid-19 outbreak the joint conference of the IOP's Nuclear Physics, Astroparticle Physics, and High Energy Particle Physics groups which was due to have been held 6-9 April in Edinburgh was cancelled.



**Outline of the experimental process used to probe for the d\* hexaquark state in the York-led study**

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### **3. Outreach Activity**

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### **4. Media Interactions**

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