The 26th International Conference on High Resolution Molecular Spectroscopy
Prague, Czech Republic, August 31st-September 4th, 2020
http://www.chem.uni-wuppertal.de/conference/

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1ST CIRCULAR: January 2020

The conference will be held in Prague-Dejvice [close to Vítězné Náměstí with the Metro (subway/underground) station Dejvická], in the campus of the University of Chemistry and Technology (UCT) and the Czech Technical University (CTU) in Prague. The local organization will be undertaken in a collaboration between the University of Chemical Technology Prague, the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic (represented by the J. Heyrovský Institute of Physical Chemistry), the Czech Technical University in Prague, Charles University, and the Ioannes Marcus Marci Spectroscopic Society.
The meeting begins on Monday, August 31st in the morning and ends on Friday, September 4th at lunchtime. You will typically arrive in Prague on Sunday, August 30th in the afternoon/evening.

Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic, is a first-rank European cultural centre. It is not only a historical city with an extensive legacy of gothic and baroque cultural treasures, but also a modern metropolis with an infrastructure prepared to welcome several millions of visitors per year (see http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prague).

Scientific program

There will be 10 plenary lectures delivered by:

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cecilia Ceccarelli</td>
<td>Institut de Planétologie et d’Astrophysique de Grenoble</td>
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<td>Julia Lehman</td>
<td>University of Leeds</td>
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<td>David A. Long</td>
<td>National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD</td>
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<td>Halima Mouhib</td>
<td>University Gustave Eiffel, IFSTTAR/Université Paris-Est</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jessica Porterfield</td>
<td>Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, Cambridge, MA</td>
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<td>Trevor Sears</td>
<td>Stony Brook University, NY</td>
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<td>Timothy C. Steimle</td>
<td>Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ</td>
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<td>Geronimo Villanueva</td>
<td>NASA - Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD</td>
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<td>Yunjie Xu</td>
<td>University of Alberta, Edmonton</td>
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<td>Kaoru Yamanouchi</td>
<td>The University of Tokyo</td>
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The ceremonial Ioannes Marcus Marci Session, held under the auspices of Lord Mayor City of Prague, will take place in a historic lecture hall in the city centre.

PRAHA2020 constitutes the golden jubilee of the biennial PRAHA conferences, the first one being held 50 years ago in 1970. Simultaneously, 2020 marks the 50th anniversary of the publication of the pioneering, influential paper by J. T. Hougen, P. R. Bunker, and J. W. C. Johns [HBJ]; "The vibration-rotation problem in triatomic molecules allowing for a large-amplitude bending vibration," Journal of Molecular Spectroscopy 34 (1970) 136 – 172]. To celebrate these events, Per Jensen will organize a special mini-symposium entitled "50 years of Hougen-Bunker-Johns" featuring P. R. Bunker, Sergei N. Yurchenko, and Per Jensen as keynote speakers. Scientific (oral) contributions to this symposium on the subject of large-amplitude vibrations of molecules, treated with HBJ theory or other methods, are very much encouraged. Jon Hougen, who attended nearly all of the Prague series’ meetings and indeed also spoke at its last conference, BILBAO2018, sadly passed away in January 2019. "Reminiscence" talks, reflecting Jon’s immense contributions to high-resolution molecular spectroscopy as well as the important role he played at the PRAHA meetings and sharing anecdotes about Jon are also welcome at the mini-symposium.
Scientific contributions, which will be presented as contributed lectures and posters, are invited – but are not limited - to the fields of:

- Observation, measurement, and analysis of high resolution rotational, vibrational, or electronic spectra of molecules (radicals, ions, complexes, clusters, ...) in the gas phase or in matrices.
- Experimental techniques for observing such spectra.
- Theory assisting the prediction, simulation, and interpretation of them.
- Applications in related fields such as the physics and chemistry of the atmospheres of planets and cool stars, the physics and chemistry of the interstellar medium, chemical kinetics, biologically important molecules in the gas phase or in matrices, combustion, cold molecules, metrology, etc.
- Terahertz Spectroscopy

We especially encourage students to submit their contributions as oral presentations.

**Accommodation**

Single and double rooms are available in student dormitories (different categories standard and economy) near the conference site. If you prefer to stay in a hotel, we will attempt to provide rooms. In order make reservation for the desired category, let us know in the [preregistration form](https://forms.gle/3nUhvu3MxdEwMopRA). Be aware that these hotels may be located some distance from the conference site. Meals will be available at the student cafeteria. During the conference there will be a reception, a chamber concert and excursions for accompanying persons etc.

**Important dates**

**2nd circular meeting information:**

March 2020.

**Deadline for final registration and submission of abstracts:**

May 1st 2020.

**Deadline for final reservation of accommodations:**

June 1st 2020.

**3rd circular with meeting information and directions:**

June 2020.
Fees

Registration fee 11000 CZK (6500 CZK students and accompanying persons), accommodation - 5 nights including breakfast in a standard single/double room 5000/7000 CZK (2750/4250 CZK economy single/double dormitory room), and meal package 3600 CZK (2200 CZK lunches only).

Please let us know your accommodation preferences in the preregistration form at https://forms.gle/3nUhvu3MxdEwMopRA. If you request Hotel accommodation, you should contact the local organizing committee for negotiated room rates before final registration. More precise information will also be given in the second circular with the final registration form. In February 2020, 100 CZK (Czech crowns, Kč) is approximately equivalent to 3.92 EUR (€)

WWW server

The conference has a home page on the World Wide Web providing up-to-date information. Start browsing at

http://www.chem.uni-wuppertal.de/conference/

This page will be used to provide up-to-date information.

Preregistration

You should preregister (i.e., signal your intent to participate in the conference and/or request the second circular) before March 1st 2020.

We would much prefer you to use the on-line form for preregistration:

![Pre-Registration Praha2020](https://forms.gle/3nUhvu3MxdEwMopRA)

The on-line form is not only convenient for you, it also is the easiest way for us to process your data. If for some reason you cannot use the on-line registration process, you should use the ASCII preregistration form prereg2020.txt which you can download from our ftp server at http://www.chem.uni-wuppertal.de/conference/ftpserv.html. Fill-in the form using an ASCII-editor and e-mail the completed prereg2020.txt ASCII file to:
You can also print out and fill-in the ASCII form to send it by postal service to

PRAHA2020, c/o Professor Štěpán Urban
University of Chemistry and Technology
Technická 5, CZ-16628 Praha 6
Czech Republic

Alternatively, you can fax the completed form to

+420 220 444 352.

For further information please feel free to contact:

Pavla Pouzarová, conference secretary
University of Chemistry and Technology
Technická 5, CZ-16628 Praha 6
Czech Republic

Pavla.Pouzarova@vscht.cz

However, please use the on-line form for preregistration if at all possible.

PLEASE NOTE THAT PREREGISTRATION DOES NOT REPLACE REGISTRATION! TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CONFERENCE, YOU SHOULD REGISTER USING THE REGISTRATION FORM THAT YOU WILL RECEIVE TOGETHER WITH THE SECOND CIRCULAR. THE REGISTRATION FORM MUST BE FILLED IN, SIGNED AND MAILED OR FAXED TO THE PRAGUE CONFERENCE ADDRESS.

PRAHA internet archive

The “International Conferences on High Resolution Molecular Spectroscopy”, also known as the “Prague meetings” or “PRAHA meetings”, have been taking place every even year since 1970. We have now collected a significant amount of material from all the PRAHA-series conferences. The historical material is available at the conference website, and we give here the link to it:

http://www.chem.uni-wuppertal.de/conference/archives/PRAHA_archive.pdf

The PRAHA internet archive is now relatively complete. It contains the programs, with all available abstracts, from all meetings in the series (No abstracts were collected for the first meeting in 1970). Also, there are at least a few photographs from each of the meetings. However, there are very few pictures from the 1988, 1990, 1994, and 1996 meetings, and rather few pictures from the 1992, 1998, and 2000 meetings. If you have photographs that are not on the site already, we would be very grateful for them. Please scan them and send the resulting files to praha@uni-wuppertal.de together with a short note to jensen@uni-wuppertal.de announcing the arrival of the picture files. We will include them in these photo galleries even though it may take a while until we get around to doing so!