



Wednesday, March 11th 2020, 11:00 a.m.
CFEL Seminar room (2nd floor, 99)

Akbar Salam

Department of Chemistry, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC 27109, USA

Many-Body Resonance Energy Transfer: A QED Theory

A major success of the theory of molecular quantum electrodynamics (QED) [1,2] is its ability to rigorously treat both radiation-matter and inter-particle interactions. An example of the latter that is to be presented in this seminar is resonance energy transfer (RET) [3] between an excited donor species and a ground state acceptor molecule separated by a distance R . Migration of energy occurs via the propagation of a single virtual photon. A diagrammatic perturbation theory calculation of the Fermi golden rule exchange rate for oriented and isotropic systems is reviewed first. It is shown how R^{-6} radiationless (Förster) and R^{-2} radiative transfer emerges from the general result as near- and far-zone asymptotic limits, respectively. Theory is extended by including the effect that one or two additional passive, polarizable molecules have in relaying energy between donor and acceptor [4-7]. Insight is gained into exchange of energy taking place in a medium by comparing the present formulation of a many-body theory that explicitly accounts for direct and indirect transfer mechanisms with macroscopic treatments of an environment.

- [1] A. Salam, *Molecular Quantum Electrodynamics*, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 2010.
- [2] D. L. Andrews, G. A. Jones, A. Salam and R. G. Woolley, *J. Chem. Phys.* **148**, 040901 (2018).
- [3] A. Salam, *Atoms* **6**, 56 (2018).
- [4] A. Salam, *J. Chem. Phys.* **136**, 014509 (2012).
- [5] A. Salam, *J. Phys. Chem. A* **123**, 2853 (2019).
- [6] A. Salam, *J. Chem. Phys.* **151**, 244119 (2019).
- [7] J. S. Ford, A. Salam and G. A. Jones, *J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* **10**, 5654 (2019).

Host: Michael Ruggenthaler, Angel Rubio

