

PAC studies of isolated small molecules: The Pb nuclear quadrupole moments and further cases

**H. Haas^{1,2}, J. Röder^{1,2}, L. Hemmingsen³, S.P.A. Sauer³, J.G. Correia^{2,4},
J. Schell^{2,5}, V. Amaral¹, D.C. Lupascu⁵, R. Vianden⁶, V. Kellö⁷**

¹ Department of Physics and CICECO, University of Aveiro, 3810-193 Aveiro, Portugal

² EP Division CERN, 1211Geneve-23, Switzerland

³ Department of Chemistry, University of Copenhagen, 2100 Copenhagen, Denmark

² C2TN, DECN, Instituto Superior Técnico, Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal

⁵ Institute for Materials Science and Center for Nanointegration, Duisburg-Essen (CENIDE), University of Duisburg-Essen, 45141 Essen, Germany

⁶ Helmholtz-Institut für Strahlen- und Kernphysik, Universität Bonn, Nussallee 14-16, Bonn, Germany

⁷ Department of Physical and Theoretical Chemistry, Comenius University, 84215 Bratislava, Slovakia

Follow-up of project IS640

Determination of nuclear quadrupole moments

Methods for long-lived (stable) nuclei:

Atomic spectroscopy
Molecular spectroscopy
Muonic / pionic spectroscopy

Methods for short-lived (excited) states:

PAC / PAD spectroscopy **in solids**
Moessbauer spectroscopy **in solids**
Level mixing spectroscopy **in solids**

Experimentally measured:

$$\nu_Q = eQV_{zz}/h$$

Problem:

1-2%

V_{zz} (EFG) has to come from theory!

Theoretical accuracy

10-20%

Link via NMR to get V_{zz} in solids (for stable isotopes with $I > 1/2$)

but

impossible for several elements:

«missing link problem»

What we have done in IS640:

- Measure the quadrupole interaction in some free Cd (and Hg) molecules in the gas state by PAC
- Basic idea: In a linear molecule the EFG (V_{zz}^{mol}) is along the molecular axis
- The rotation axis J is always perpendicular to the molecular axis
- The EFG along J is then, independent of J :

$$V_{zz}^{\text{rot}} = -1/2 V_{zz}^{\text{mol}}$$

- For large J the quantization should be fully along J , leading to a splitting frequency independent of J !

Quantum mechanics

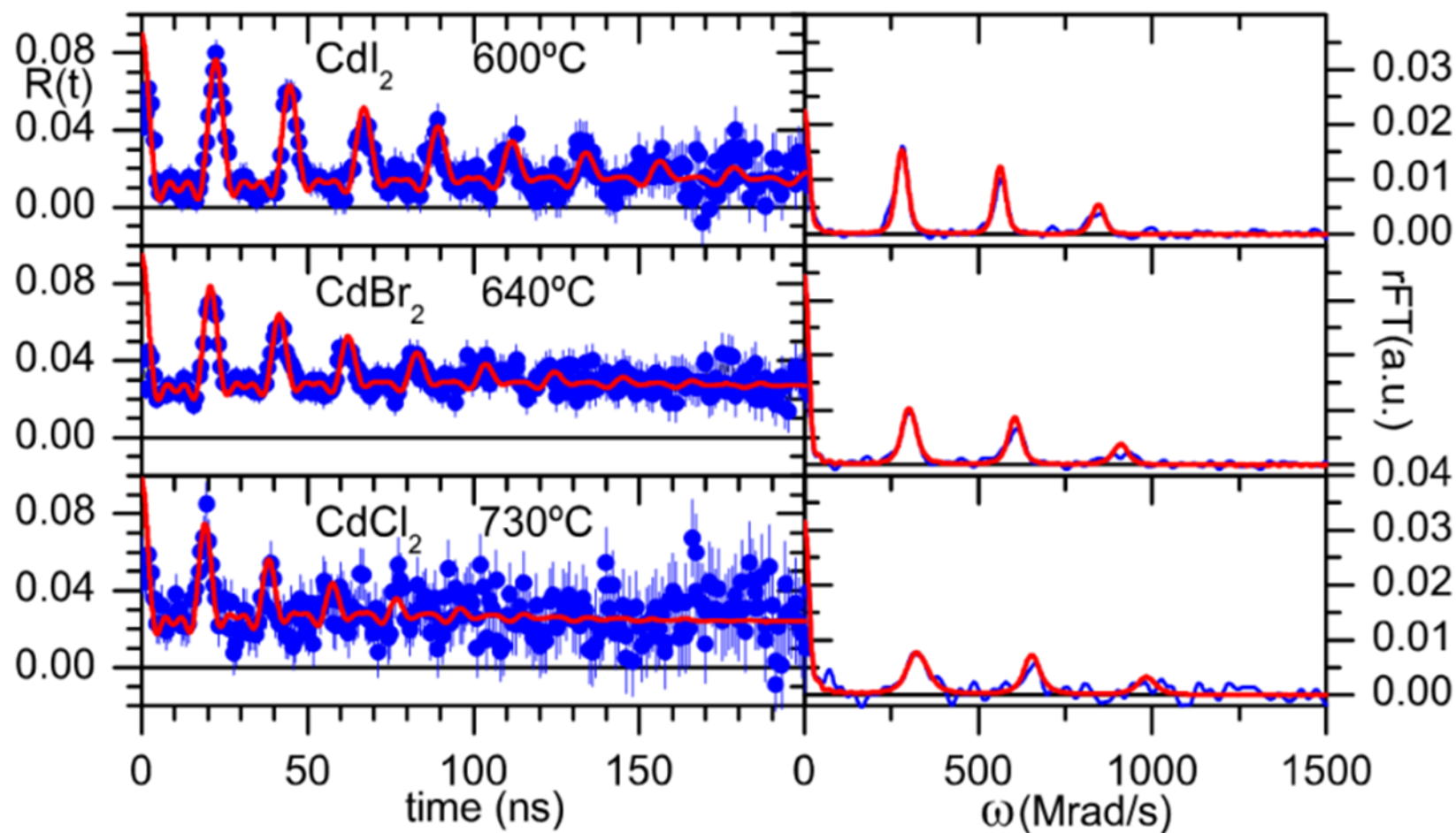
- No J: $\hat{H} = eQV_{zz} \left\{ \frac{3I_z^2 - I(I+1)}{4I(2I-1)} \right\}$
- $R(t) = a_0 + a_1 \cos(w_0 t) + a_2 \cos(2w_0 t) + a_3 \cos(3w_0 t)$
- $w_0 = \frac{6}{4I(2I-1)} \frac{eQV_{zz}}{h}$

Quantum mechanics

- No J: $\hat{H} = eQV_{zz} \left\{ \frac{3I_z^2 - I(I+1)}{4I(2I-1)} \right\}$
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- $w_0 = \frac{6}{4I(2I-1)} \frac{eQV_{zz}}{h}$
- With J: $\hat{H} = eQV_{zz} \left\{ \frac{3(I,J)^2 + 1.5(I,J) - J(J+1)I(I+1)}{J(2J-1)2I(2I-1)} \right\}$
- Casimir formula (1933)

Free Molecule Studies by Perturbed γ - γ Angular Correlation: A New Path to Accurate Nuclear Quadrupole Moments

Heinz Haas[Ⓧ],^{1,2} Jens Röder,^{1,2} Joao G. Correia[Ⓧ],^{3,2} J. Schell[Ⓧ],^{4,2} Abel S. Fenta[Ⓧ],¹ Reiner Vianden,⁵
Emil M. H. Larsen[Ⓧ],⁶ Patrick A. Aggelund,⁶ Rasmus Fromsejer,⁶ Lars B. S. Hemmingsen[Ⓧ],⁶
Stephan P. A. Sauer[Ⓧ],⁶ Doru C. Lupascu,⁴ and Vitor S. Amaral¹



Calibrating the Pb quadrupole moments

Present status:

Q from some 20 PAD / LEMS experiments and V_{zz} from some 25 PAC measurements in solids

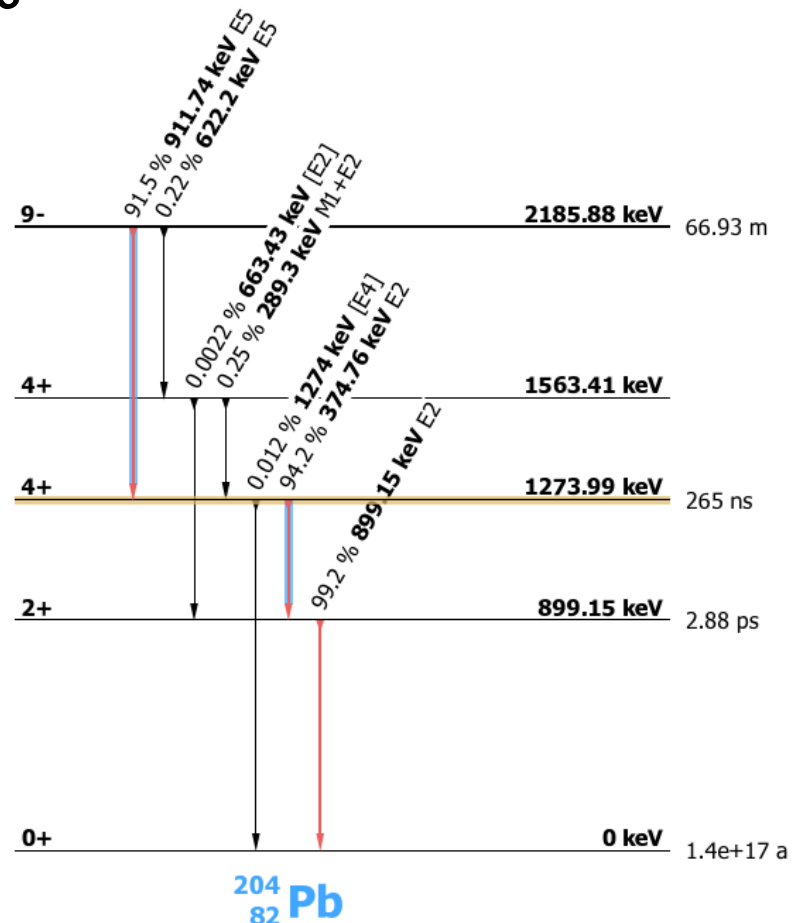
← tied to → **Q of PAC state**

Solution:

Measure v_Q for some simple Pb molecules (PbTe,...) and apply quantum chemistry methods for V_{zz}

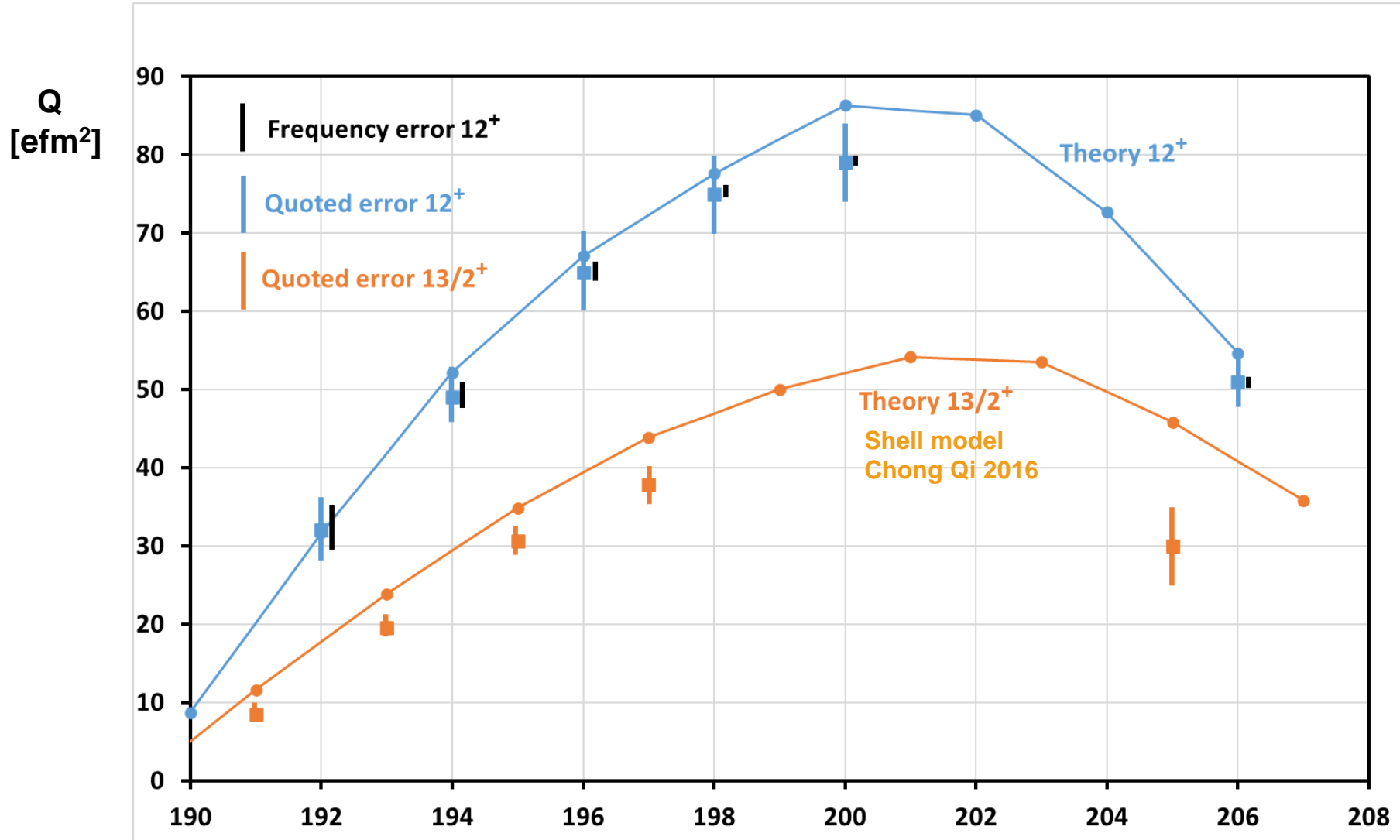
Problems:

high temperatures needed
sample production
counting statistics
higher state spin

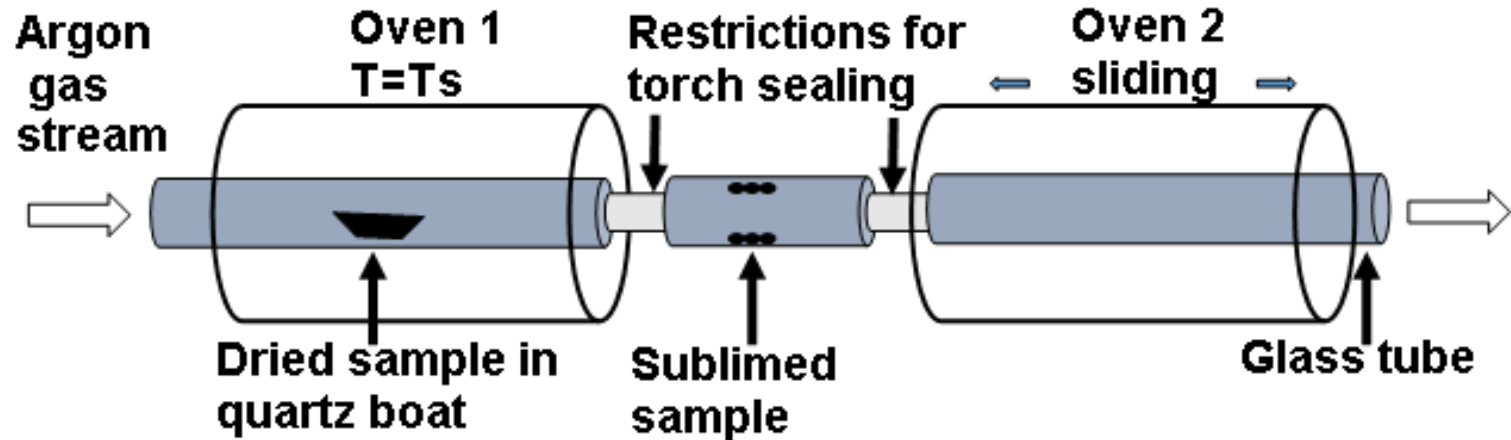


Typical example demonstrating need for accurate Q calibration

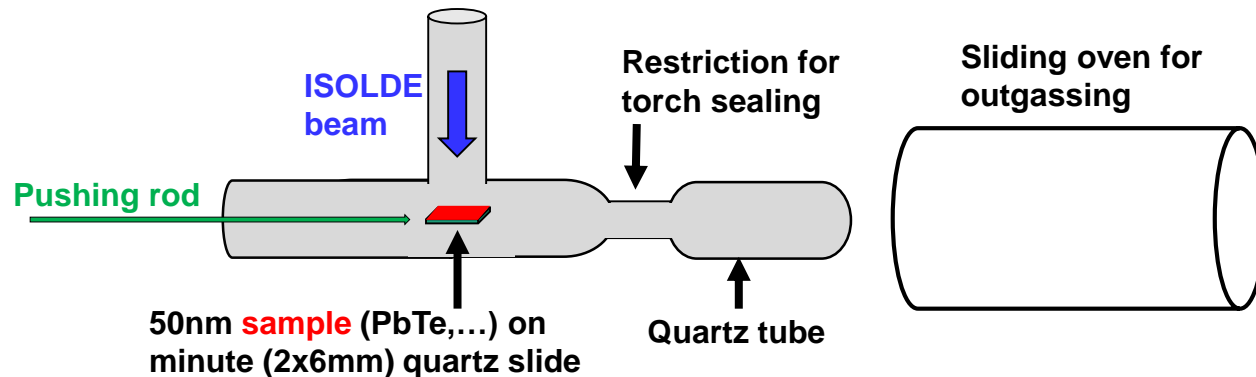
The $i_{13/2}^{-n}$ states in Pb isotopes



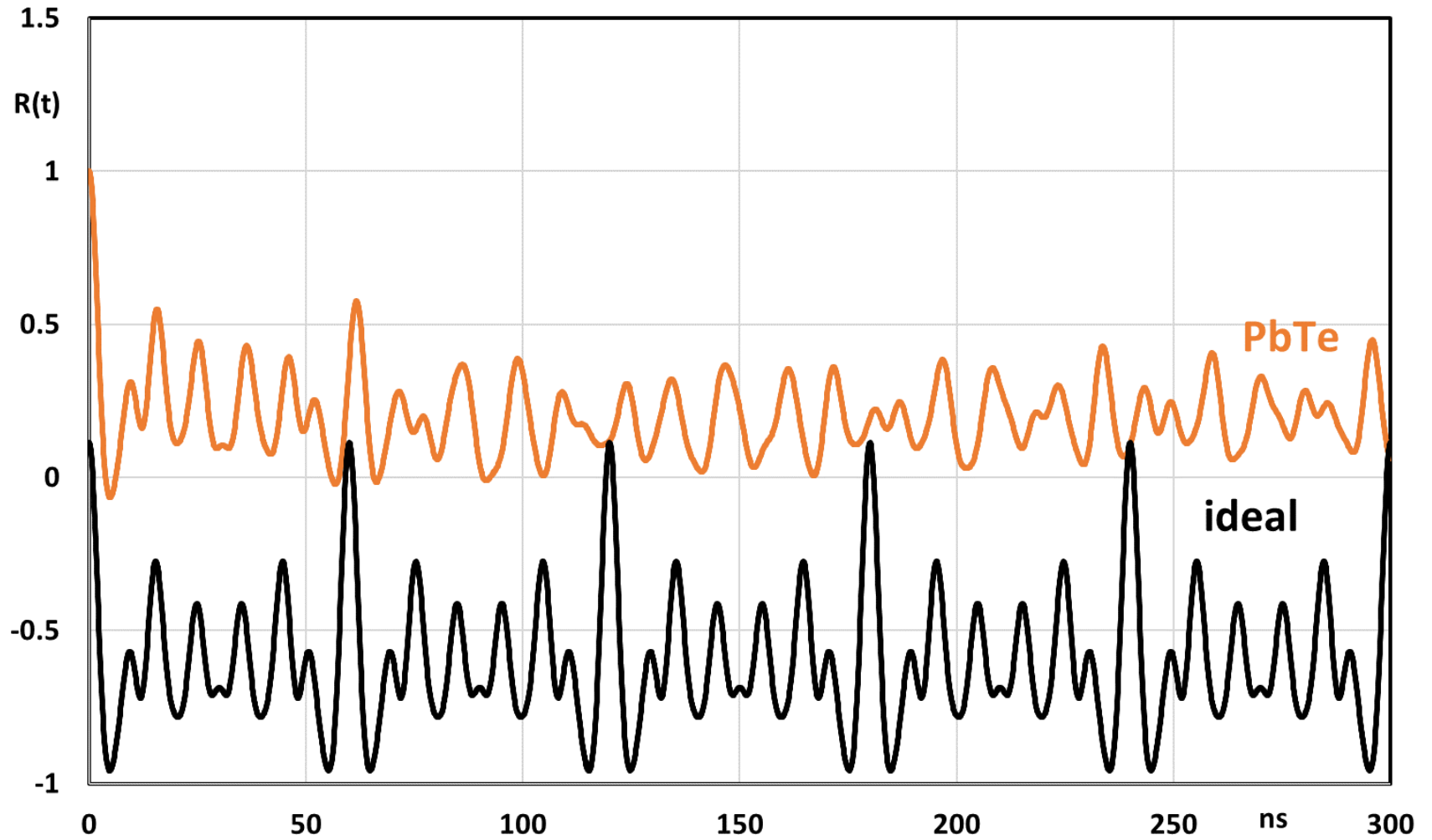
The proven technique



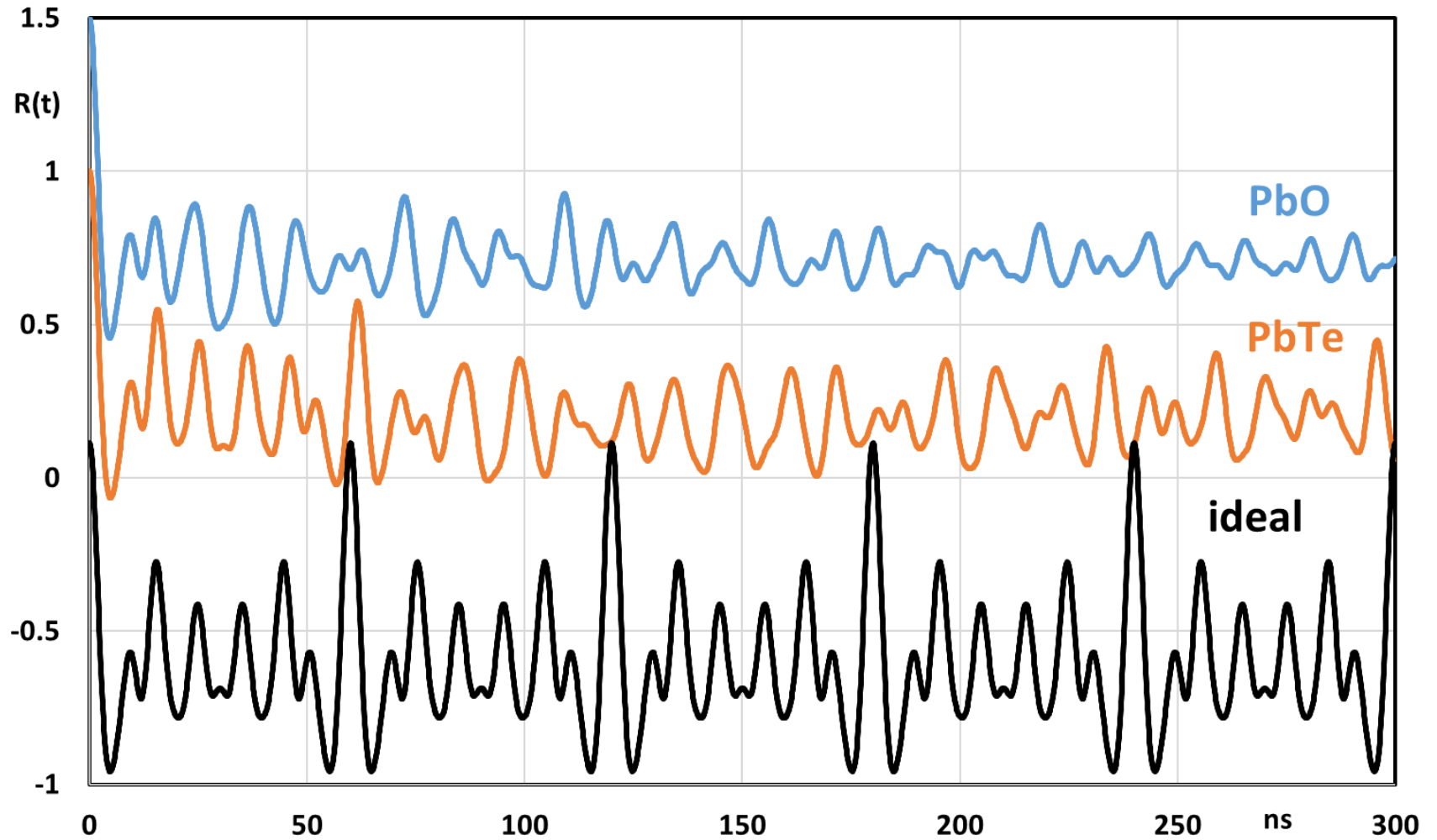
The new high temperature technique



Effect of quantum mechanics, $l=4$



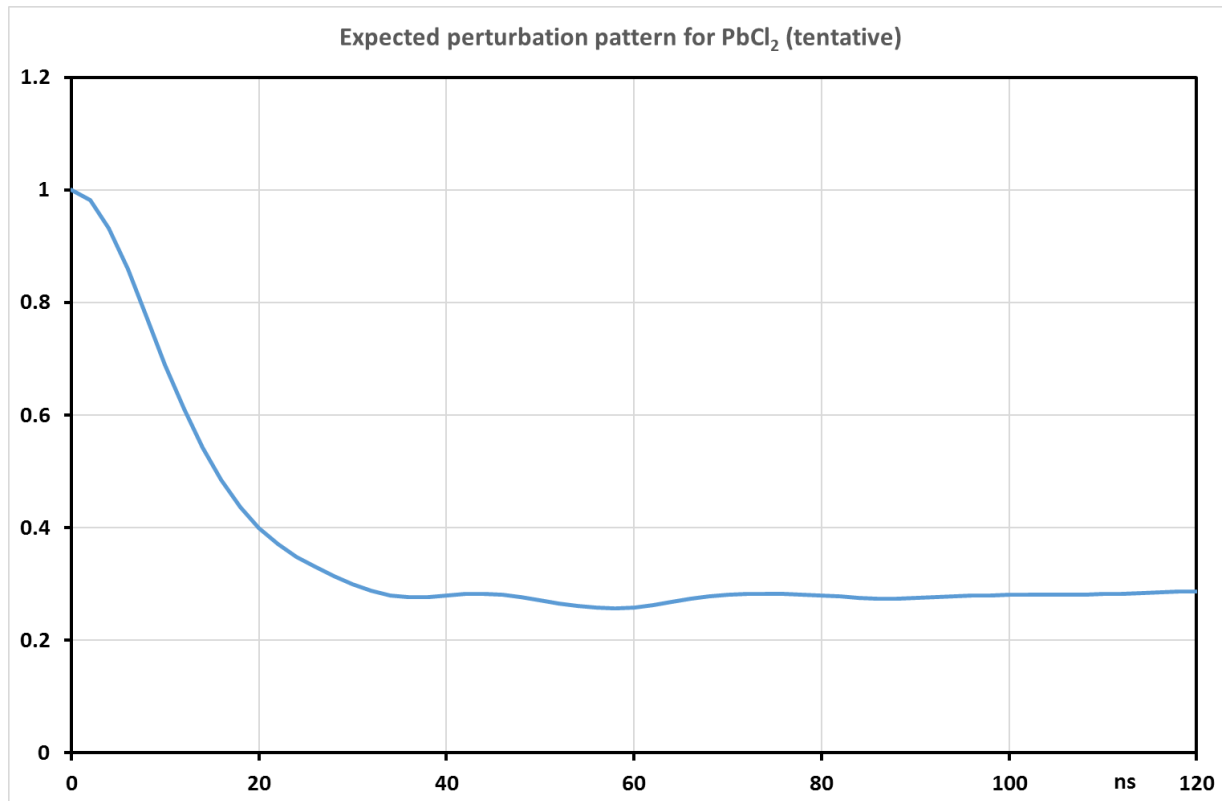
Effect of quantum mechanics, $l=4$



Test case 1: Non-linear molecule $^{204}\text{PbCl}_2$

Special interest: Testing possible application to more cases,
Checking complex treatment of perturbation function

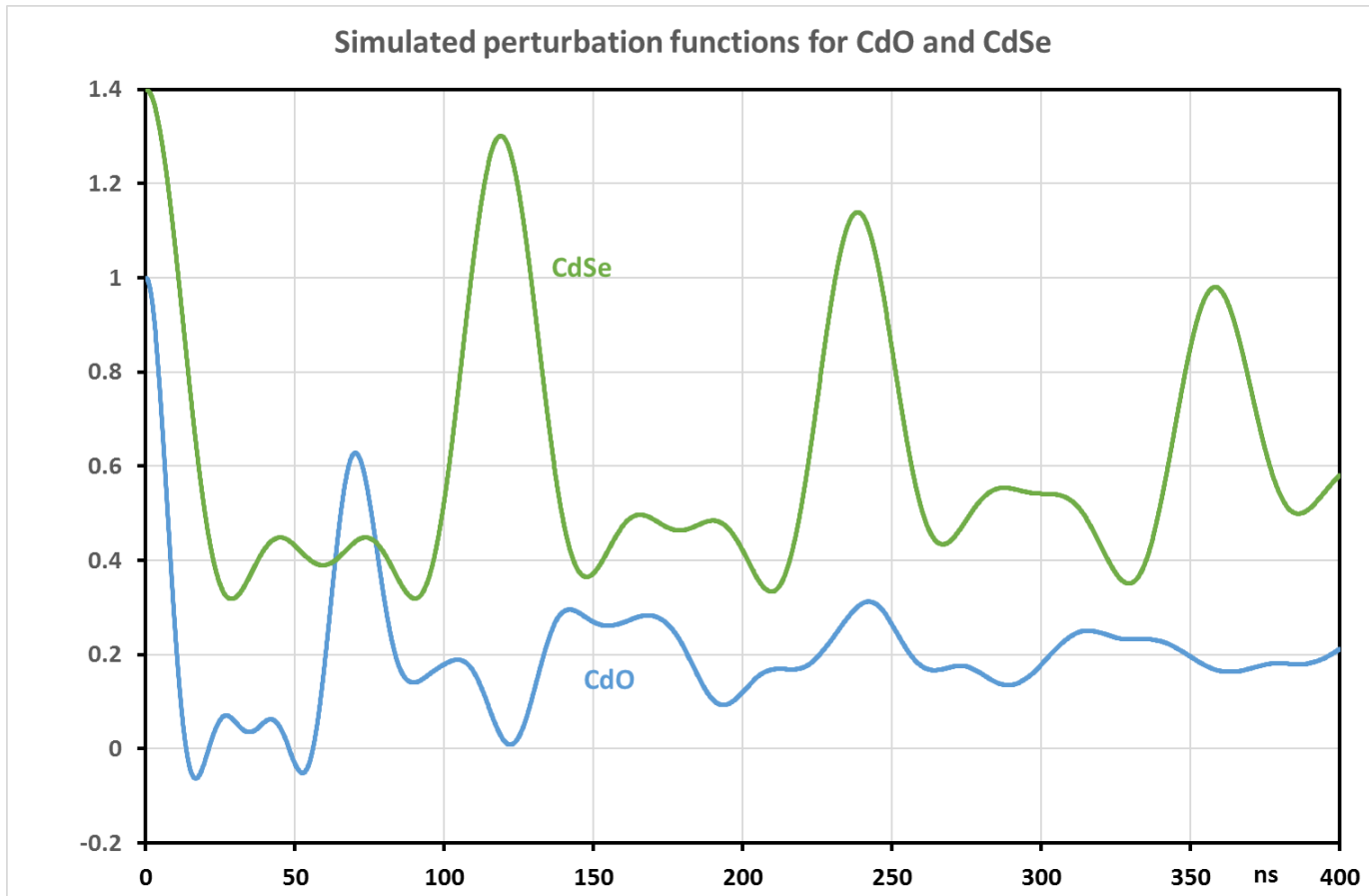
Difficulty: Absence of periodic structure,
Obtaining sufficient statistical accuracy



Test case 2: **Weakly bound molecule** $^{111}\text{CdSe}$

Special interest: Checking quantum chemistry calculation for small EFG,
Testing new sample production method

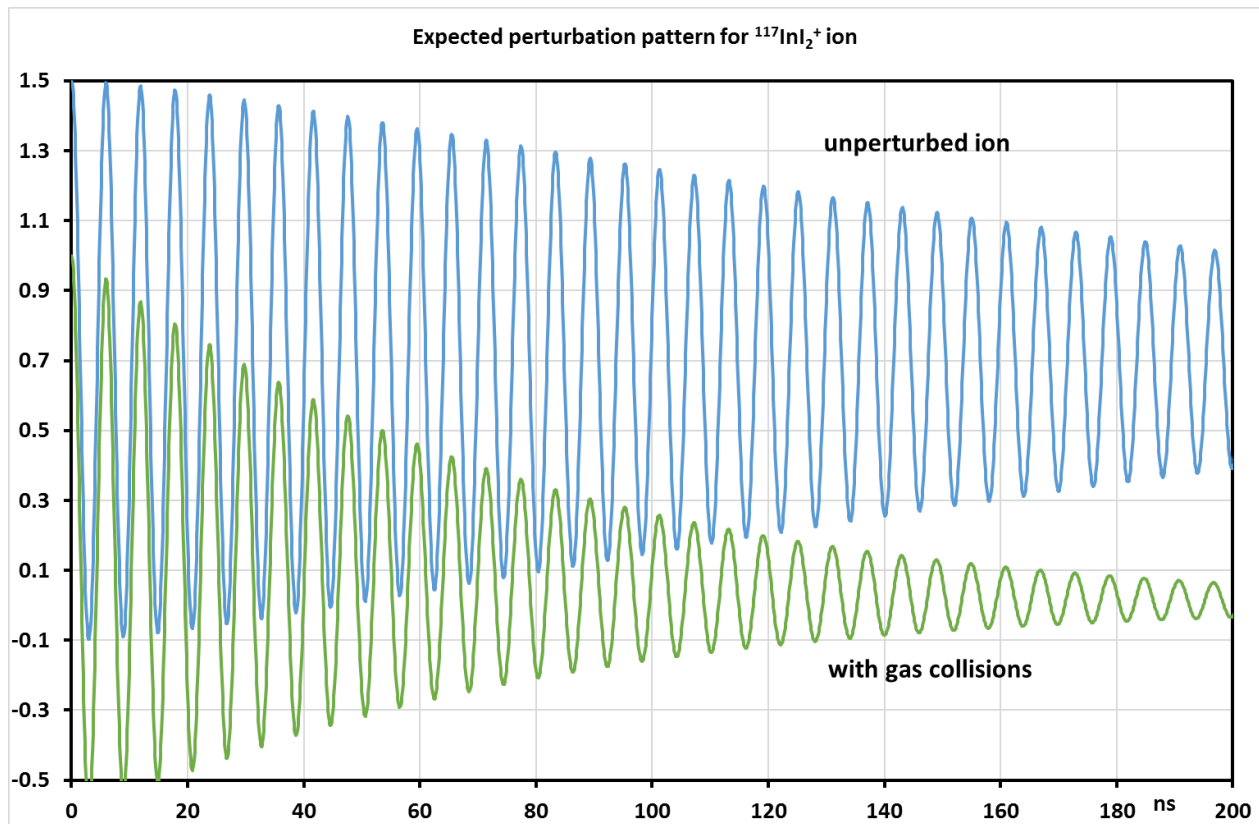
Difficulty: High measuring temperature, low molecule stability



Test case 3: Molecular ion $^{117}\text{InI}_2^+$

Special interest: Checking use for β^- produced ionized molecules, Extending applications to further cases (Sn «missing link»?)

Difficulty: High expected interaction frequency, Treatment of beta-recoil in analysis

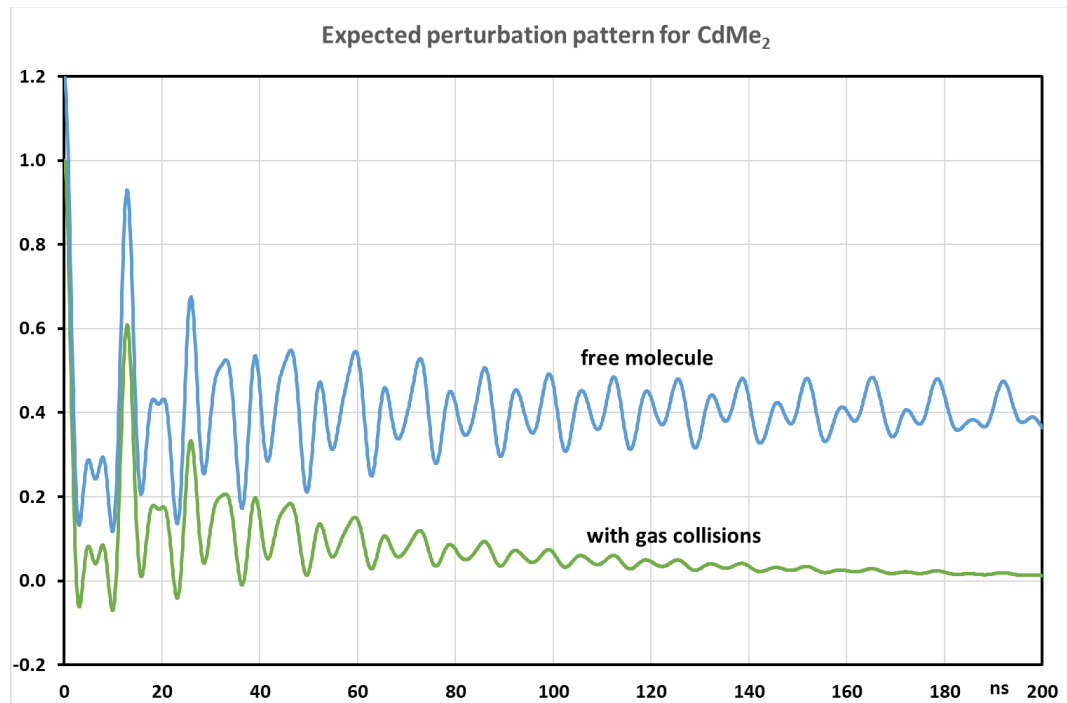


IS640 completion 1: Measuring ^{111}Cd -dimethyl molecule

Special interest: Measuring EFG shift for weakly interacting molecules in solid, checking our published estimate

Measuring quasi-linear molecule

Difficulty: Sample production via chemistry, high interaction frequency



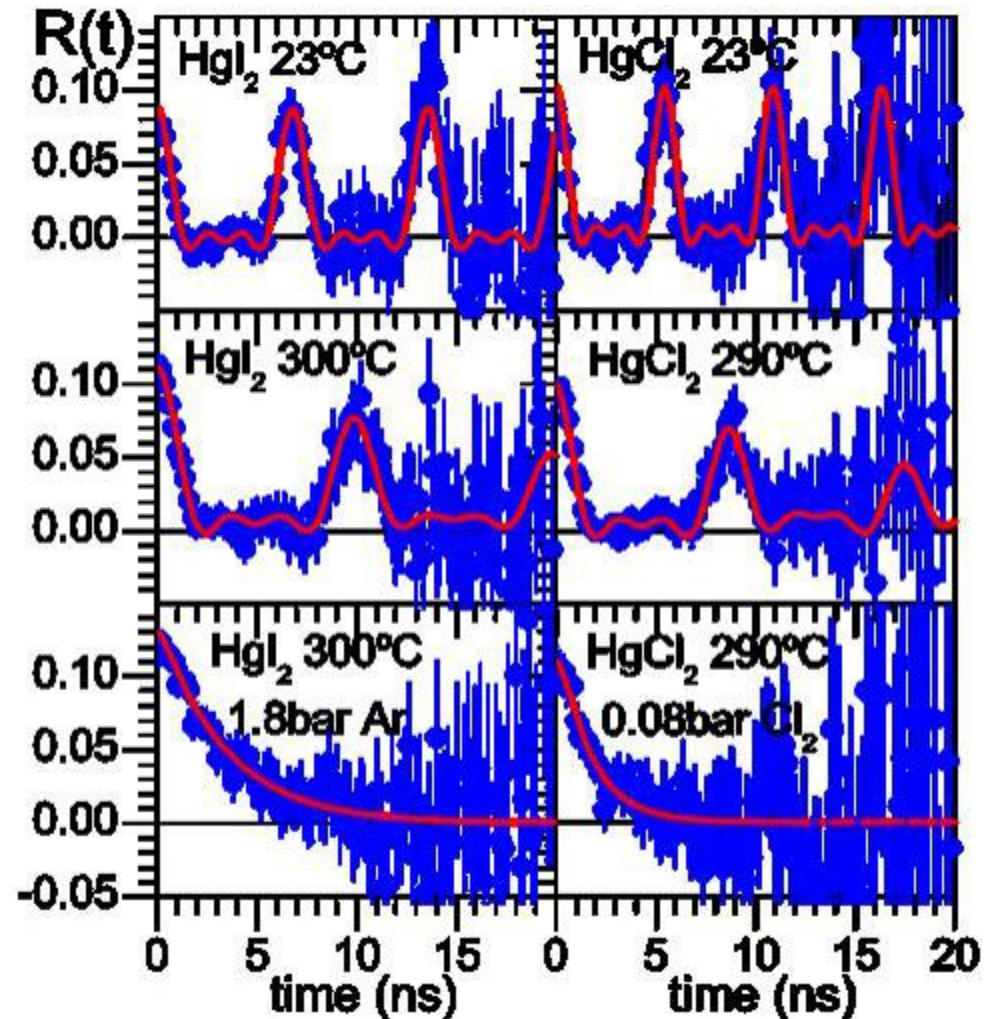
IS640 completion 2: Measuring ^{199}Hg -dibromide molecule

Special interest:

Obtain 2nd case (after HgCl_2)
for shift of EFG in molecular
solid
Testing DFT calculations

Difficulty:

Sample production for volatile
molecule by first formation of
metal deposit and then
reaction with Br_2



Summary

We plan further PAC experiments on free molecules

Primary goal: A precision value for Q of the 4⁺ state in ²⁰⁴Pb

Test of novel applications of the technique:

to non-linear molecules (²⁰⁴PbCl₂)

to unstable molecules (¹¹¹CdSe)

to charged molecules (¹¹⁷InI₂⁺)

Complete IS640 studies of Cd and Hg cases:

Cd-dimethyl

Hg-dibromide

Beam Time Request

Required isotope	Implanted beam	Probe element	Type of experiment	Intensity [at/ μ C]	Target / Ion source	Atoms per sample	n ^o of shifts
^{204m} Pb (67 min)	^{204m} Pb	²⁰⁴ Pb	γ - γ PAC	10 ⁸	UCx/ RILIS	2 x 10 ¹⁰	1 x 4
^{111m} Cd (48 min)	^{111m} Cd	¹¹¹ Cd	γ - γ PAC	10 ⁹	Molten Sn/ VADIS	2 x 10 ¹⁰	2 x 1
¹¹⁷ Cd (150 min)	¹¹⁷ Ag	¹¹⁷ In	γ - γ PAC	10 ⁸	UCx/ RILIS	5 x 10 ¹⁰	1 x 1
^{199m} Hg (43 min)	^{199m} Hg	¹⁹⁹ Hg	γ - γ PAC	10 ⁹	Molten Pb/ VADIS	2 x 10 ¹⁰	1 x 1

Slides for discussion

Problems with previous calibration of Q via B(E2)

1. Assuming pure wavefunctions for 12^+ and 10^+
2. Accuracy of $t_{1/2}$
3. Correction for branch feeding

