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Biological applications of Perturbed Angular Correlations of γ -rays spectroscopy

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Perturbed Angular Correlation of γ -rays (PAC) spectroscopy is a techinque routinely used in solid state physics. However, it has also proved to be a method that allows for studies of biological systems, such as local structure at metal ion binding sites, dynamics of protein folding or protein–protein interactions. In the present work we have selected some of the biological applications that we find particularly interesting. We will show how, with the use of PAC and NMR spectroscopy, we can monitor the time scale of dynamics at the metal ion binding site. Furthermore, we will present data on heavy metal ions binding to proteins and finally, we will illustrate some interesting examples of in vivo studies.

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