

The peculiarities of reduction and doping of vanadium oxides probed by TDPAC spectroscopy at ISOLDE

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Local contacts: J. Schell, J. G. M. Correia

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⁸ Centro de Ciencias e Tecnologias Nucleares (CCTN), IST, Universidade de Lisboa, **Portugal**

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IS652 S1, Ep1:

Influence of valence of doping element on local electronic and crystal structure in vanadium oxides: Time-Differential Perturbed Angular Correlations spectroscopy at ISOLDE

Interest to vanadia is driven by its applications. Doping allows to tune the properties. **New wave of battery-research** ($\text{Zn}^{2+}/\text{H}_2\text{O}$):

“Water-Lubricated Intercalation in $\text{V}_2\text{O}_5 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$ for High-Capacity and High-Rate Aqueous Rechargeable Zinc Batteries”, [Yan et al. Adv. Mater. 1703725: 1-6](#)

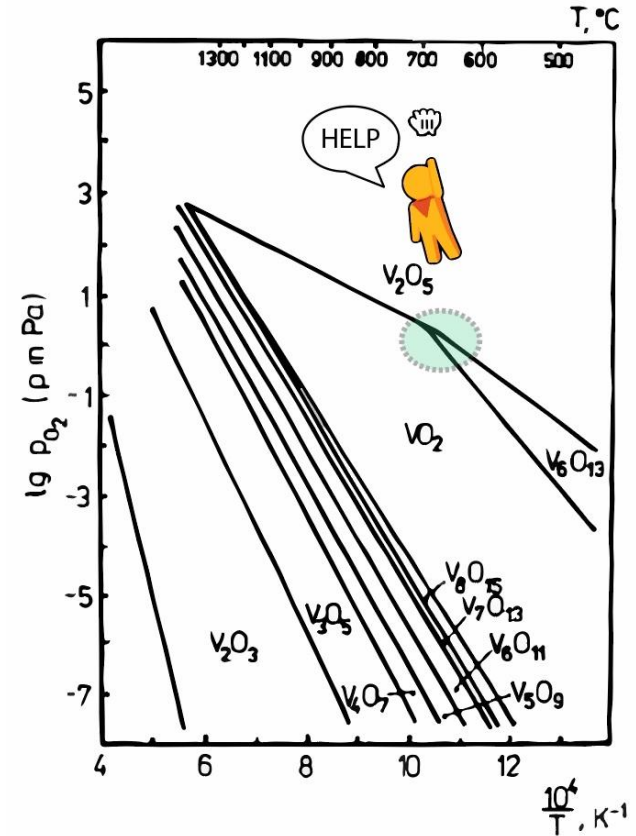
Nov 2017 [IF: 25.809] Citations: 276

“Freestanding graphene/ VO_2 composite films for highly stable aqueous Zn-ion batteries with superior rate performance”, [Dai et al. Energy Storage Mater. 17 p. 143](#)

Feb 2019 [IF: 15.97] Citations: 74

A TDPAC + DFT study of dopant environment in V_2O_5 and VO_2 was proposed, it implied variation of dopant element and concentration

Available probe parents comprised ^{181}Hf , ^{111}In (IPEN) and $^{111\text{m}}\text{Cd}$ (ISOLDE)



[Haber et al. Appl. Catal. A Gen 157 \(1997\) p. 6](#)



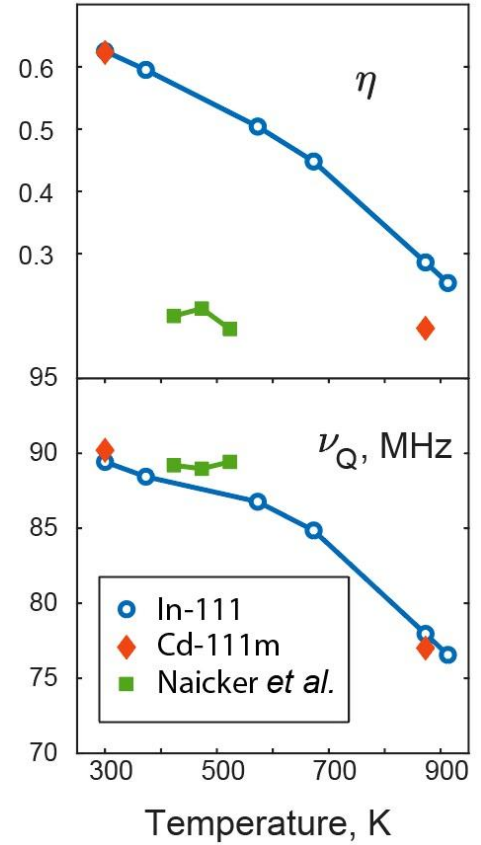
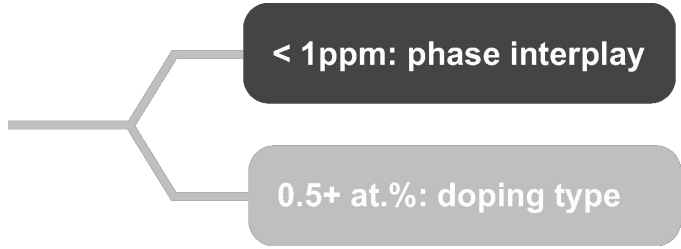
< 1ppm: phase interplay

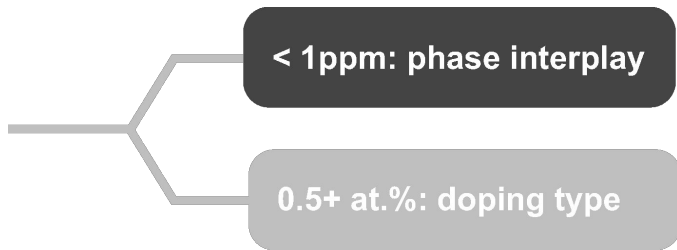
0.5+ at. %: doping type



< 1ppm: phase interplay

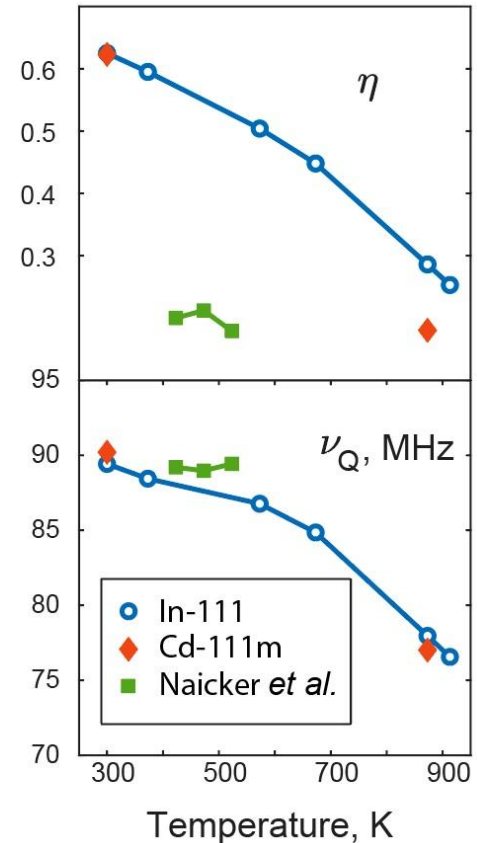
0.5+ at. %: doping type

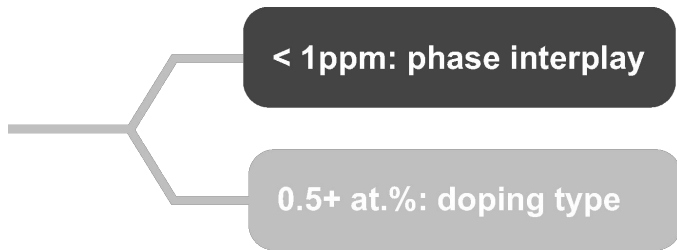




Observations:

- Relaxation threshold near 823K
- Annealing in air, O₂, N₂ hinders relaxation
- Dynamic evacuation catalyzes relaxation
- Monochromatic interaction after relaxation
- Smooth reversible transition with temperature similar to that observed for other compounds, e. g. TiO₂





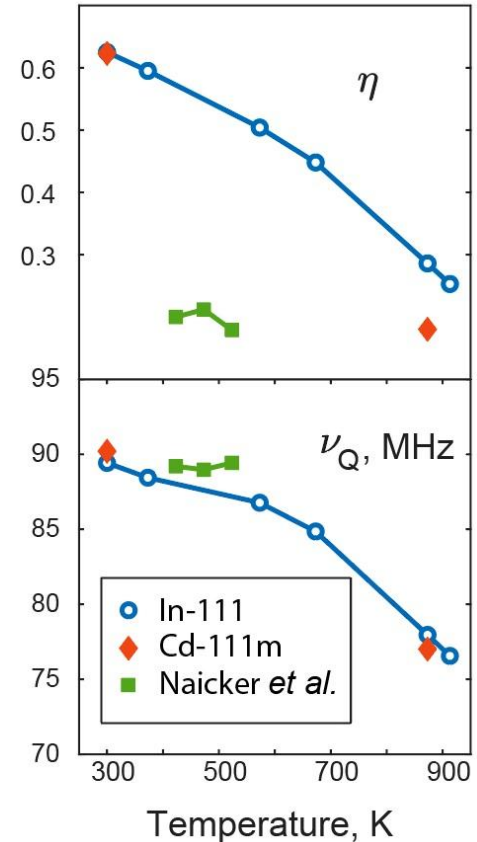
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Working hypothesis:

Probe at V⁴⁺ site in formed VO₂
 Transition: *m*-VO₂ → *t*-VO₂



< 1ppm: phase interplay

0.5+ at. %: doping type

Objectives:

Eliminate the ambiguity concerning the observed site

Thus, elucidate the peculiarities of charge density distribution in the vicinity of the dopant

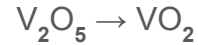
Thus, contribute to the understanding of reduction mechanism in vanadium oxides



Problem statement extended to:

What is the mechanism of reduction in V_2O_5 ?

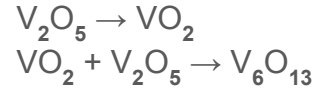
- **Topotactic**



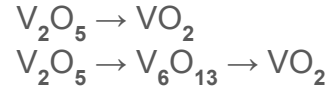
- **Consecutive**

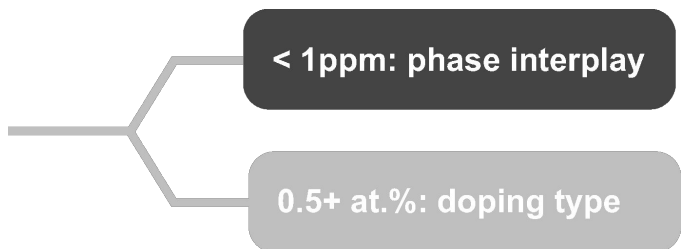


- **Comproportionation**



- **Competitive**





Objectives:

Eliminate the ambiguity concerning the observed site

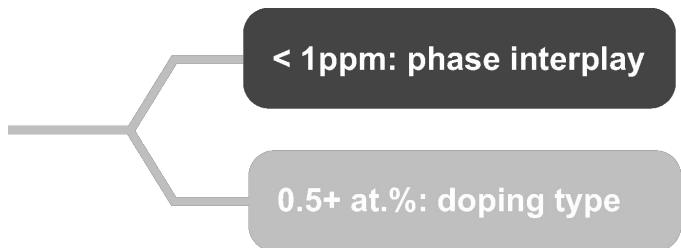
Thus, elucidate the peculiarities of charge density distribution in the vicinity of the dopant

Thus, contribute to the understanding of reduction mechanism in vanadium oxides

Approach:

- TDPAC measurements with ^{111m}Cd at intermediate temperatures:
473 - 873K
- Adapt the samples to enhance reduction*:
 - Thin films
 - Porous V_2O_5
- Include V_6O_{13} blend to sample list
- Proceed with complementary DFT*

*in progress at home institution, infrastructure available



Objectives:

Eliminate the ambiguity concerning the observed site

Thus, elucidate the peculiarities of charge density distribution in the vicinity of the dopant (❖)

Thus, contribute to the understanding of the reduction mechanism in vanadium oxides

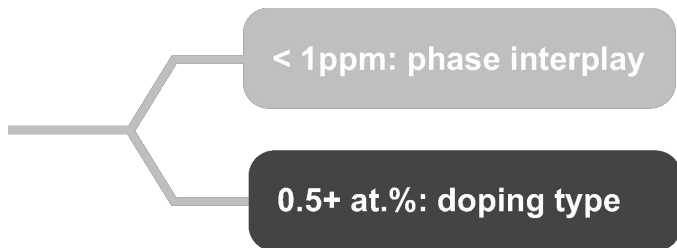
Argumentation:

- **Why TDPAC?**
 - XRD can be insensitive to parasitic phases at low concentrations; texture of V_2O_5 and oxygen deficiency induced defects add uncertainty to XRD analysis
 - ND (used to probe the reduction of other compounds) is useless for vanadium
 - Hyperfine methods allow the mapping of the local environment (❖)
- **Why ISOLDE?**
 - Catalytic effect of implantation induced defects on transition was detected
 - Cd as a vacancy trap
 - In contrast to ^{111}In with associated aftereffect, $^{111\text{m}}\text{Cd}$ may endow TDPAC spectra with info on **relaxation dynamics in intermediate temperature range** - of interest in reduction mechanism studies



< 1ppm: phase interplay

0.5+ at. %: doping type



Tested synthesis routes:

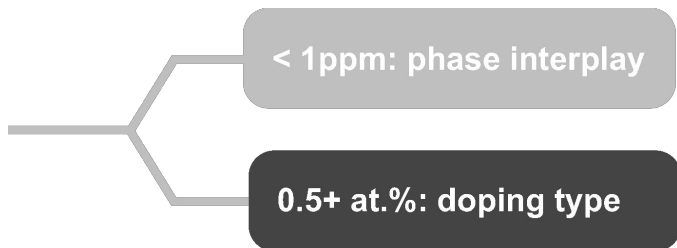
- Coprecipitation
- Solid state reaction route
- Hydrothermal synthesis
- Sol-gel
- Electric arc fusion of metallic vanadium and cadmium

TDPAC with ^{111}In at home institution:

	Cd atomic fraction	site 1			site 2			site 3		
		ν_Q , MHz	η	δ , %	ν_Q , MHz	η	δ , %	ν_Q , MHz	η	δ , %
XRD limitation	< 0.01	118.647	1	7.3	109.331	0.3621	6.24	138.852	0.2892	55.02
	0.05	117.873	0.949	2.65	108.581	0.3802	1.19			
	0.1	116.851	0.9442	0.93	106.602	0.4431	22.17			



substitution?



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substitution?
formation of vanadates

< 1ppm: phase interplay

0.5+ at. %: doping type

Pyrovanadate ($\text{Cd}_2\text{V}_2\text{O}_7$)

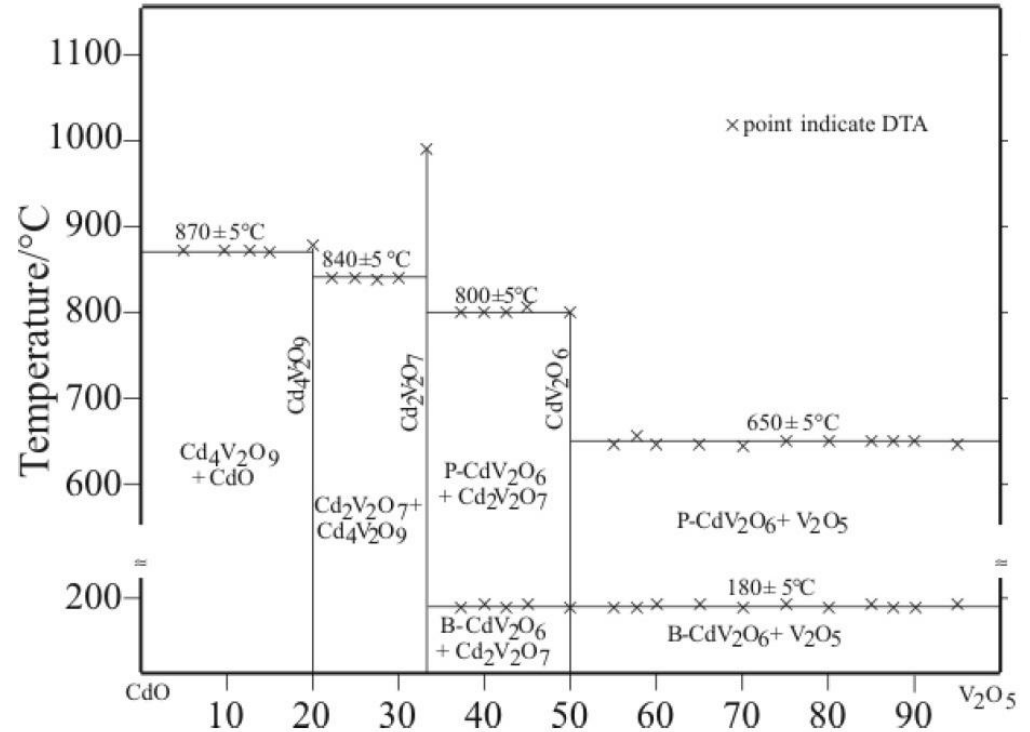
Metavanadate (CdV_2O_6)

Metavanadate phase transition

$\beta\text{-CdV}_2\text{O}_6 \rightarrow \alpha\text{-CdV}_2\text{O}_6$

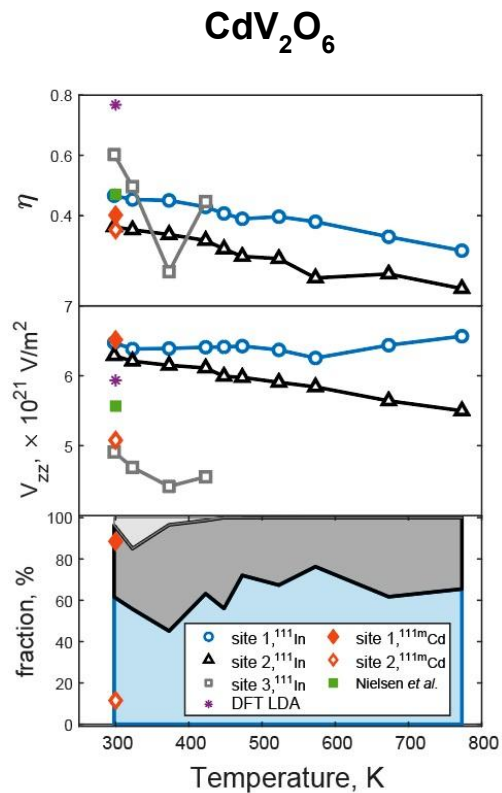
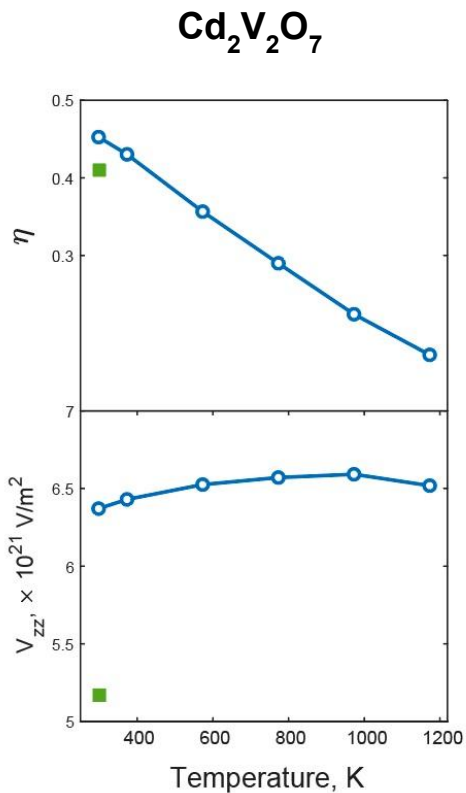
at $\sim 473\text{K}$

Cadmium vanadates



< 1ppm: phase interplay

0.5+ at. %: doping type



< 1ppm: phase interplay

0.5+ at. %: doping type

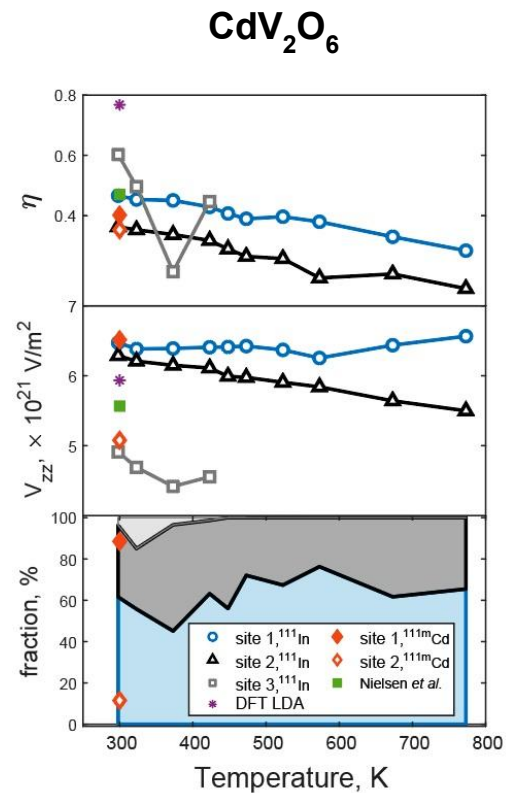
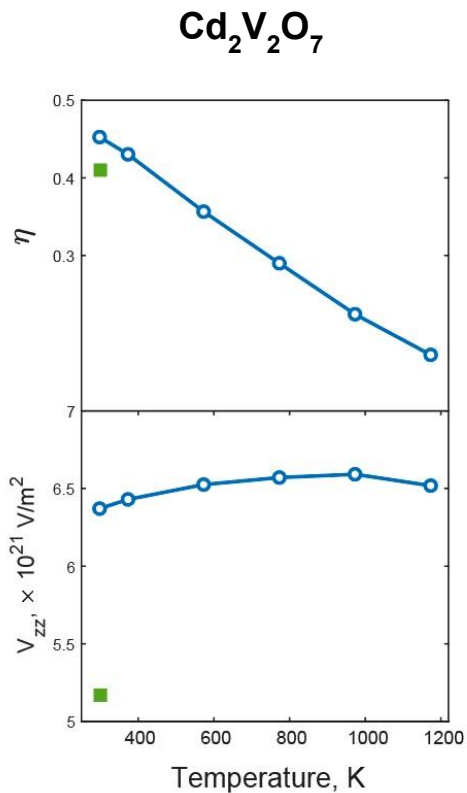
Objectives:

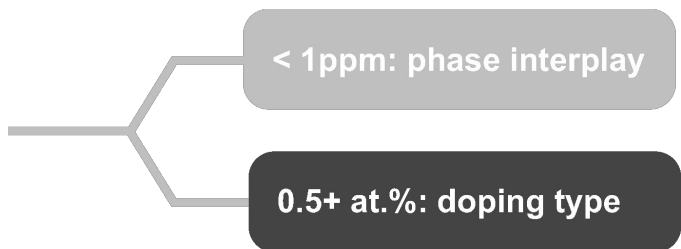
Identification of the well-defined sites

Thus, getting details on phase transition in cadmium metavanadate* and evolution of local environment with temperature

Thus, final classification of the doping

*to our knowledge, pioneer TDPAC and first transition mapping with hyperfine techniques in these compounds





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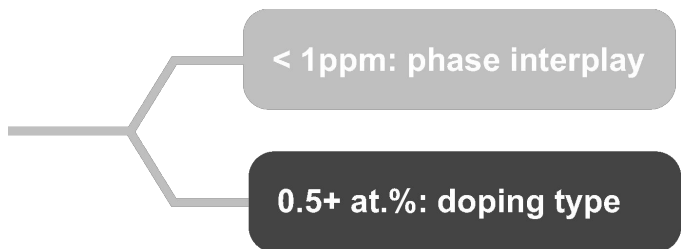
*to our knowledge, pioneer TDPAC and first transition mapping with hyperfine techniques in these compounds

Approach:

- TDPAC measurements of CdV_2O_6 with $^{111\text{m}}\text{Cd}$ probe at temperatures > RT: **300K+^{**}**
- $^{111\text{m}}\text{Cd}$ TDPAC of $\text{Cd}_2\text{V}_2\text{O}_7$: **RT+^{**}**
- Fine fitting of dynamic interactions if any
- Full control over structure with XRD and other conventional methods[†]
- Full DFT analysis:
 $\beta\text{-CdV}_2\text{O}_6$, $\alpha\text{-CdV}_2\text{O}_6$, $\text{Cd}_2\text{V}_2\text{O}_7$

^{**} 1023K+ range not explored

[†] the scope of equipment available at home institution was recently extended to Raman+SPM platform



Objectives:

Identification of the well-defined sites

Thus, getting details on phase transition in cadmium metavanadate* and evolution of local environment with temperature

Thus, final classification of the doping

*to our knowledge, pioneer TDPAC and first transition mapping with hyperfine techniques in these compounds

Argumentation:

- **Why vanadates?**

Non-stoichiometric: interlayer expansion in Zn-batteries, “Expanded hydrated vanadate for high-performance aqueous zinc-ion batteries”, [Liu et al. Energy Environ. Sci. 12 2273 2019 \[IF: 33.25\] Citations: 54](#)

Stoichiometric: Essential components of vanadium slag processing. Understanding intrinsic properties \Rightarrow increase in the effectiveness of vanadium leaching and reduction of its environmental impact

- **Importance of ^{111m}Cd probe**

- Native element of cadmium vanadates
- No aftereffect
- Can express site selectivity different from ^{111}In

- **^{111m}Cd source: implantation vs. irradiation**

- $^{52}\text{V} \rightarrow ^{52}\text{Cr} \Rightarrow$ sample contamination
- Safety issues after irradiation \Rightarrow sample deactivation

Reduction mechanism

Alternative samples
Intermediate compoundsInformation on relaxation dynamics
Catalytic effect on reduction**Objectives**Unambiguous interaction identification
Insights on local environment of Cd**Road map**TDPAC with Cd-111m in extended temperature range
Complementary DFT**TDPAC with Cd-111m**

No aftereffect

Evolution of local environment
in metavanadate
Determination of doping typeComplementary conventional methods
of structure analysisNative ion
Alternative site selectivity

Perspectives

Uncertainty of reduction mechanism, local environment issues, formation of oxoanions, etc, are actual questions not only for vanadium. We assume that the series extends to other oxides, including molybdenia and tungstenia.

Beam request

Required Isotope	Implanted beam	Probe element	Type of experiment	Approx. Intensity (at/ μC)	Target/ion source	Required atoms per sample	# of shifts
$^{111\text{m}}\text{Cd}$ (48m)	^{111}Cd	^{111}Cd	TDPAC	10^8	Sn target; VD 5 ion source	2×10^{10}	4
^{117}Cd (2.49h)	^{117}Ag	^{117}In	TDPAC	10^8	UC target; RILIS (Ag) ion source	5×10^{10}	2
Total # of shifts							6

TAC meeting: complementary measurements \Rightarrow flexibility. Beam sharing with other groups possible, short-time beam use possible

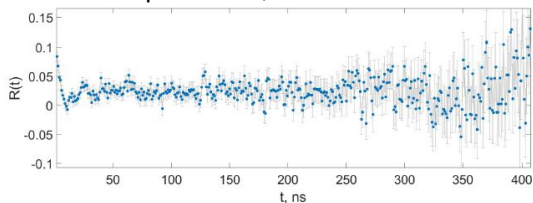
Supplementary Information

Examples of data obtained with ^{111}mCd

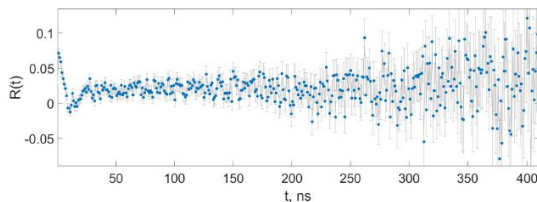
Vanadia series

Starting point: bulk (polycrystalline) V_2O_5

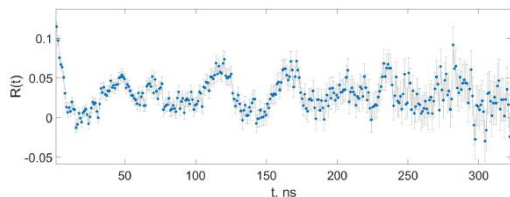
Sol-gel synthesized, annealed in air after implantation, TDPAC at RT



Annealed with 5-5-5 route at 500C, measured at RT

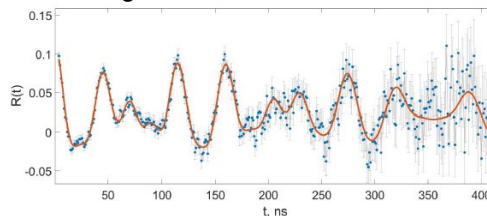


Annealed with 5-5-5 route at 570C, measured at RT



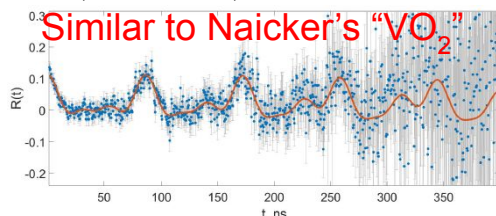
Note: 5-5-5 = 5 mins air + 5mins vacuum + 5 mins dynamic vacuum

Pure, commercial, measured at RT after annealing with 5-5-5 route at 570C



Site #	f, %	ν_Q , MHz	η	δ
Site 1	8.4736	83.3258	0.5445	0.0680
Site 2	91.5354	90.2028	0.6230	0.0215

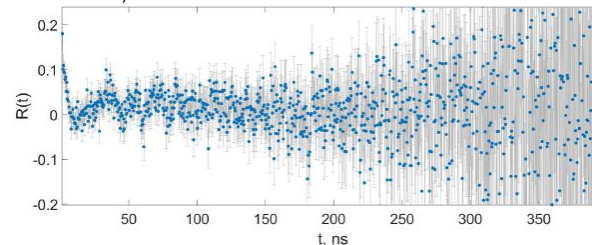
Pure, commercial, measured at 600C



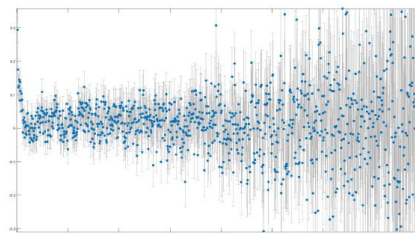
Site #	f, %	ν_Q , MHz	η	δ
Site 1	100	77.0161	0.1802	0

Couldn't get it with In-111!

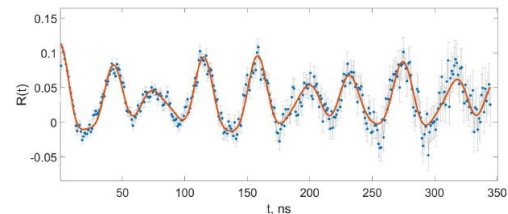
Pure, measurement at 300C in air



Sol-gel measurement at 300C in air



Incident UV



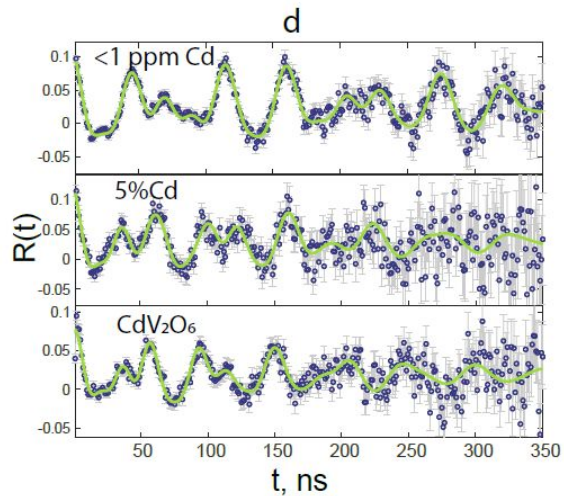
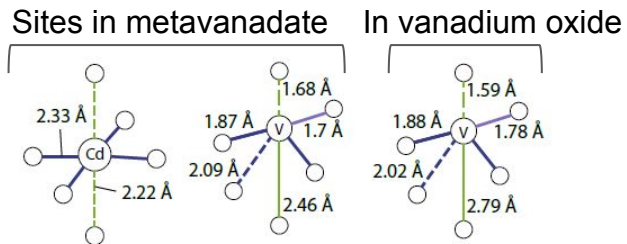
Site #	f, %	ν_Q , MHz	η	δ
Site 1	15.6655	92.6806	0.7006	0
Site 2	58.3614	90.2508	0.6119	0
Site 3	25.9731	96.5650	0.9999	0.0224

Time invested in the adjustment of the post-implantation treatment necessary to reach probe relaxation

Examples of data obtained with ^{111m}Cd

“Vanadates” series

Nearest oxygen shells



Previous findings: vanadia with TDPAC by Naicker *et al.*

! In V_2O_5 , loss of physically absorbed water: **100C**, loss of structural water: **340C**

Naicker1993 and Naicker thesis, experimental details:

Probe: In-111 implanted at IONAS

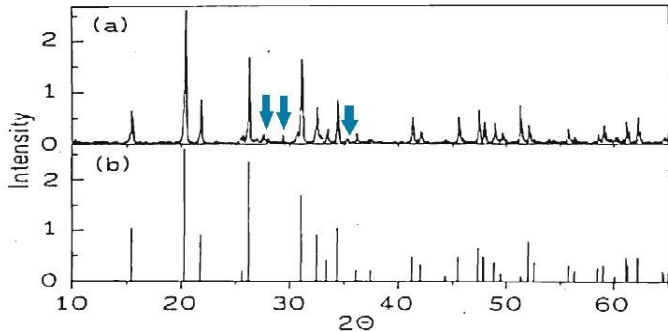
[phases attributed to V_2O_5]

Sample [V_2O_5] annealed in vacuum at 870K for 1h:

$\nu_Q = 88.1$ MHz, $\eta = 0.62$ (f (fraction) \uparrow with T)

Sample [V_2O_5] annealed in air, 870K? for 0.5h:

$\nu_Q = 91.4$ MHz, $\eta = 0.61$ (smaller f, f \downarrow with T)

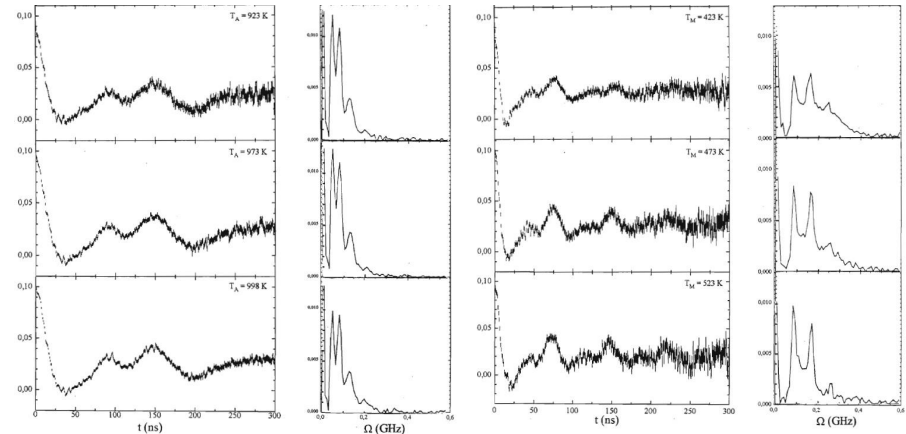


Sample [VO_2], measured at RT after annealing in vacuum in a sequence 923, 973K

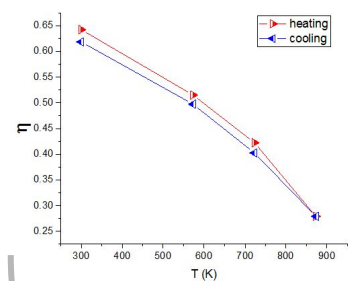
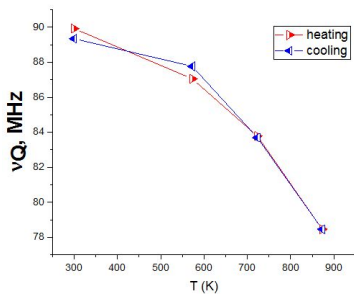
$\nu_Q = 43.79$ MHz, $\eta = 0.329$ [attributed by Naicker to monoclinic? VO_2]

Sample [VO_2], measured at 423K after implantation (in lower vacuum):

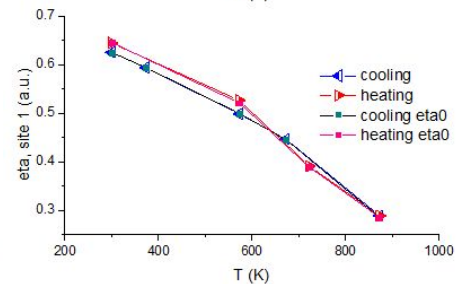
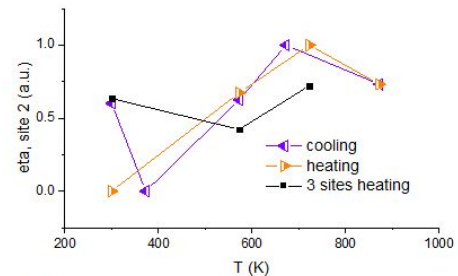
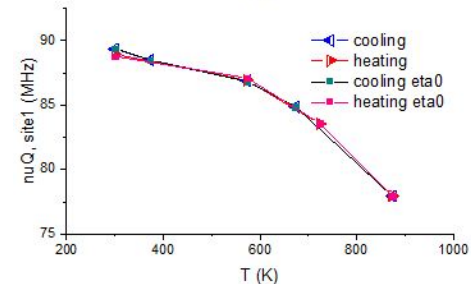
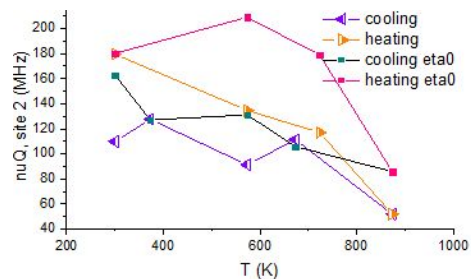
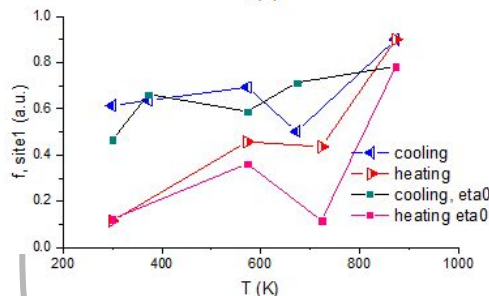
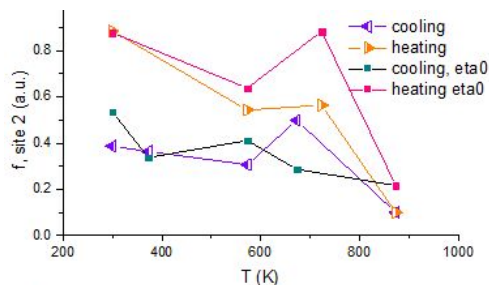
$\nu_Q = 89.15$ MHz, $\eta = 0.22$ [attributed by Naicker to rutile VO_2]



The **reversibility** of the transition in initially divanadium pentoxide probed with In-111:



1 site fit



2 sites fit

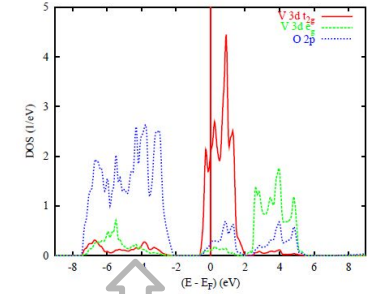
The TDPAC spectra were taken after pre-annealing in vacuum and consequent probe relaxation!

Preliminary DFT results:

For Cd metavanadate in β -phase, obtained with Wien2k (APW+lo)

Method	Site	Vzz, 10^{21} V/m ²	eta	nuQ, MHz, V-51	nuQ, MHz, Cd-111	[Vzz(Cd)-Vzz(V)]/Vzz(Cd)
PBE, triclinic	Cd1	-28.41736	0.45079		-569.8476366	
	V1	6.55704	0.74418	7.624465116	131.4870117	
	V2	10.97877	0.342	12.76601163	220.1550791	
PBE, monoclinic	Cd1	-6.00173	0.93851		-120.3514913	0.2778165629
	V1	4.33435	0.66119		86.91585368	
WC, monoclinic	Cd1	5.93722	0.89003		119.0578852	0.2017594093
	V1	4.73933	0.75448	5.510848837	95.03683662	
LDA, monoclinic	Cd1	5.93436	0.7679		119.0005342	0.1438857771
	V1	5.08049	0.86838	5.907546512	101.8780499	

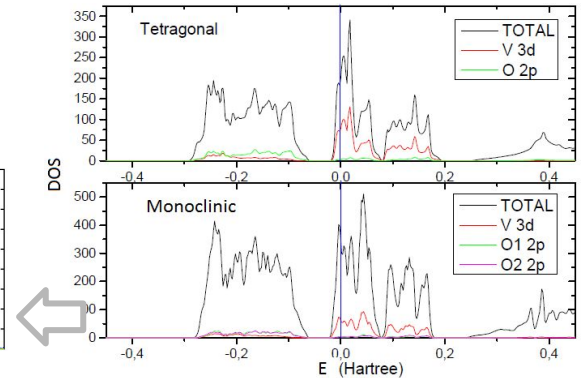
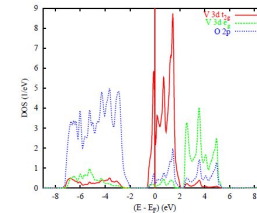
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For VO₂, DOS ok, but generally unsatisfactory results for EFG obtained with the Elk code (LAPW+lo)

Sample	eta	Vzz, 10^{21} V/m ²	Vzz ext, 10^{21} V/m ²
t-VO ₂	0.48	3.39	0.3941860465
m-VO ₂	0.96	2.01	0.2337209302

Next step - Hubbard term?



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