



# Using DFT to Determine Muon Probe States (with an emphasis on molecular systems)

Francis Pratt

ISIS Muon Group

# Outline of Lecture

- 1) Finding muon sites (single molecule or crystal)
- 2) Muon coupling at these sites (dipolar and contact hyperfine interactions)
- 3) Quantum (zero-point) and thermal motion of the muon
- 4) Molecular dynamics via ALC
- 5) Electron dynamics via LF relaxation
- 6) Electronic order
- 7) Large systems
- 8) Disordered systems

Workshop N: hands-on session with CalcALC, MuFinder and DipoleCalc

# Finding Muon Sites

Muon AIRSS approach: generate a set of random starting position  
relax the structures for the set  
organise the results into groups of sites  
evaluate magnetic properties (hyperfine parameters)

Molecular systems: use knowledge of chemical bonding for Mu addition  
relax structures using fast semi-empirical methods,  
e.g. PM3 or DFTB+ (these are based on training set data)

Note that the training sets for the semi-empirical methods rely on molecular structures and energetics, not the distribution of spin density

DFT should be used for determining reliable electronic structure properties at the relaxed geometries provided by the semi-empirical methods

# Coupling of the Muon to Electronic Spins

Isotropic Fermi contact hyperfine coupling:

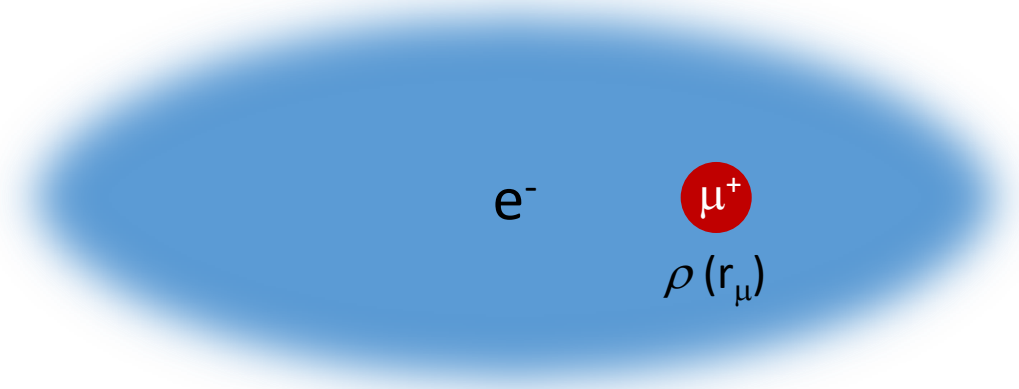
$$A = \frac{2\mu_0}{3} \gamma_\mu \gamma_e \rho(\mathbf{r}_\mu)$$

$$\rho(r_\mu) = \rho_\uparrow(r_\mu) - \rho_\downarrow(r_\mu)$$

$e^-$

$\mu^+$

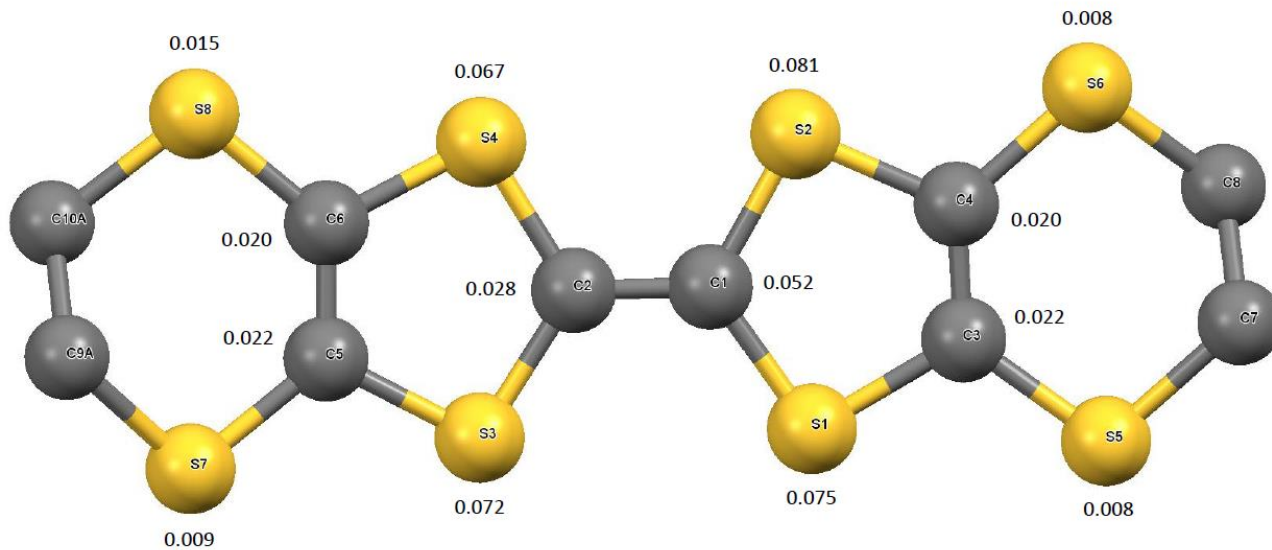
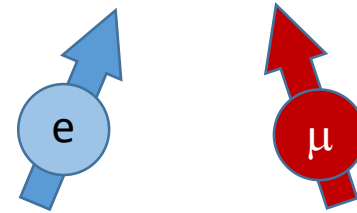
$\rho(r_\mu)$



# Coupling of the Muon to Electronic Spins

Magnetic dipolar coupling:

$$\mathbf{B}_{\text{dip}}(\mathbf{r}_\mu) = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \sum_i \frac{3(\mathbf{m}_i \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}}_{i\mu})\hat{\mathbf{r}}_{i\mu} - \mathbf{m}_i}{|\mathbf{r}_\mu - \mathbf{r}_i|^3}$$



# Coupling of the Muon to Electronic Spins

Full hyperfine tensor description gives both the Fermi contact term and the dipolar interaction:

$$\text{Hyperfine tensor} = \begin{pmatrix} A & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & A & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & A \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} D_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -D_1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -D_1/2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & D_2/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -D_2/2 \end{pmatrix}$$

isotropic                      axial dipolar                      non-axial dipolar

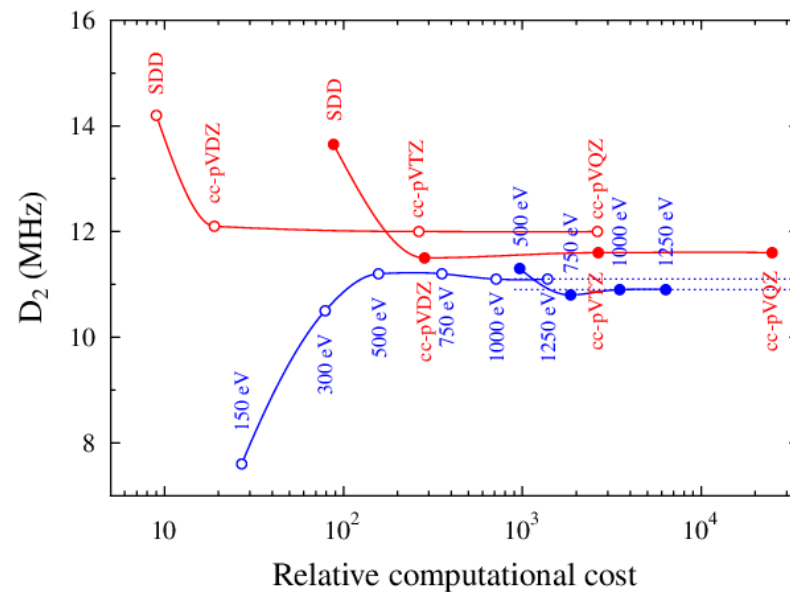
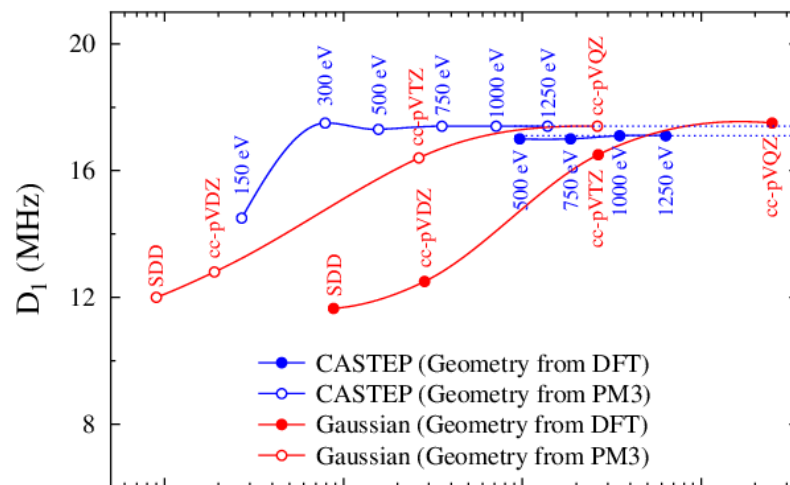
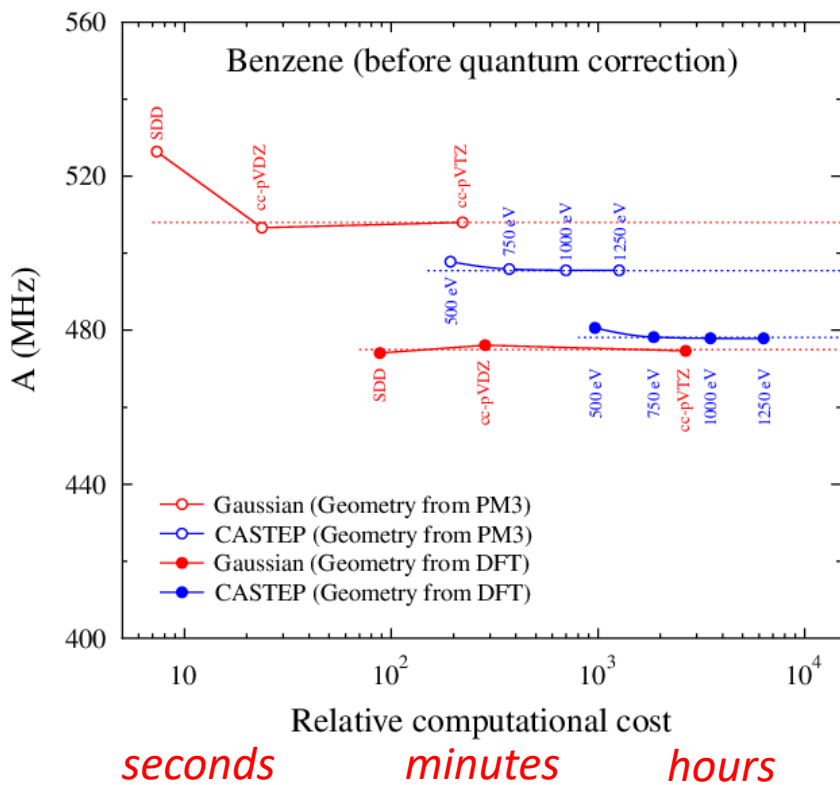
$D_1$  and  $D_2$  represent a delocalised distribution of spin density  
e.g. as found in a molecular radical

Setting  $A = 0$  and  $D_2 = 0$  reverts to the familiar axial dipolar interaction with a point spin

# Finding Muon Sites

What size of basis set do I need?

How long will the calculations take?



Here we have  $N = 13$  for benzene+Mu

Computation times are expected to scale as  $N^3$  or  $N^2 \ln N$

# Finding Muon Sites

Some currently recommended methods:

	Single Molecule	Periodic Crystal
Semi-empirical method	Hartree-Fock: PM3-PM7 (available in Gaussian)	DFTB+
DFT Code:	Gaussian	CASTEP, Quantum Espresso etc.
Basis set:	cc-pVDZ or larger	Plane waves + ultrasoft pseudopotentials
Functional:	Hybrid functional B3LYP	Generalised Gradient Approximation (PBE)

## Hybrid approach

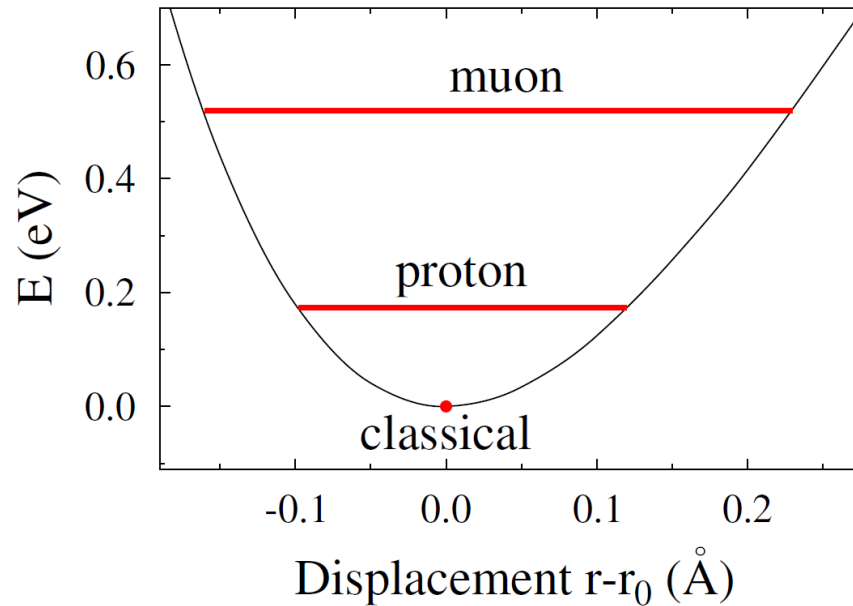
Use a semi-empirical method for relaxing the structure followed by a single point DFT calculation for accurate determination of the spin distribution and hyperfine tensor

*Much faster than using full DFT for the structural relaxation*



# Quantum Effects: Zero-point Motion

DFT finds the muon sites at the classical potential minima  $E = 0$



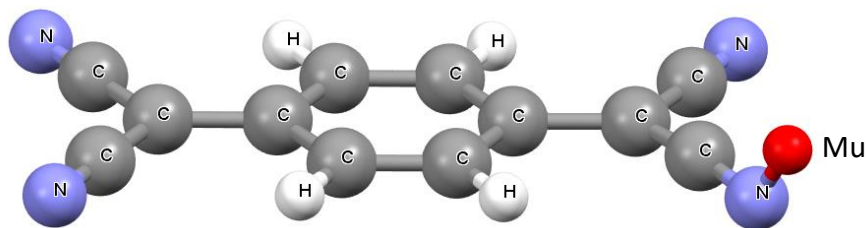
The muon shows strong quantum fluctuations around the classical minimum

For a quantum harmonic oscillator with frequency  $\omega$  the quantum zero point energy is  $\hbar\omega/2$

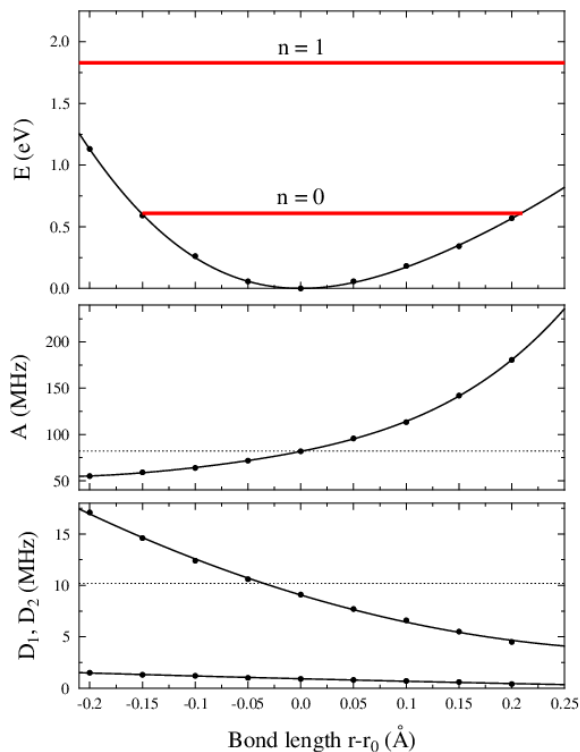
Since  $\omega \propto m^{-1/2}$  the muon ZPE is 3 times larger than that of a proton in the same potential

# Effect of Site ZP Motion on Hyperfine Parameters

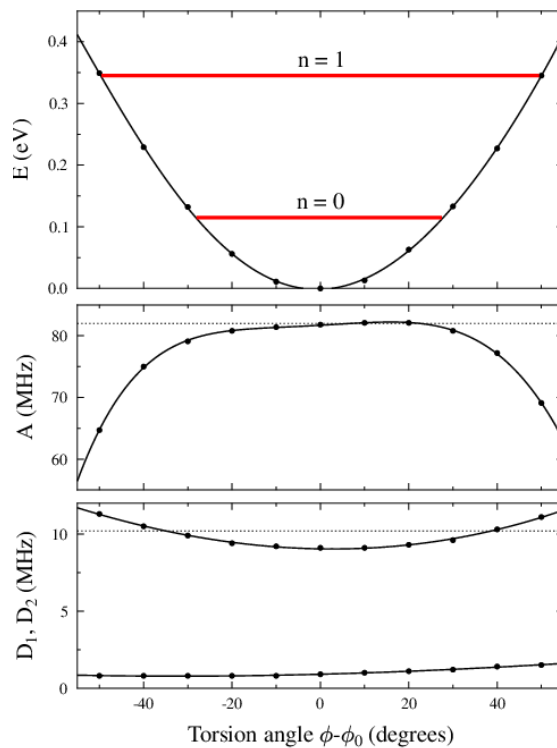
Example of TCNQ



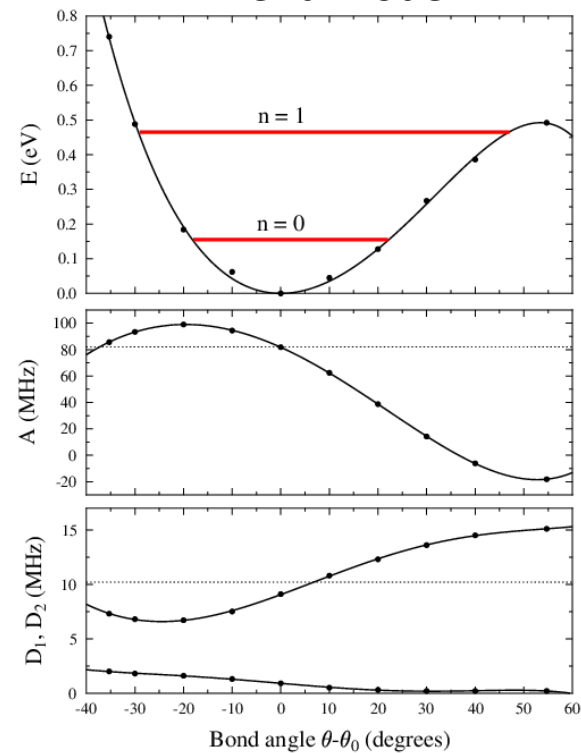
Stretch mode



Torsion mode

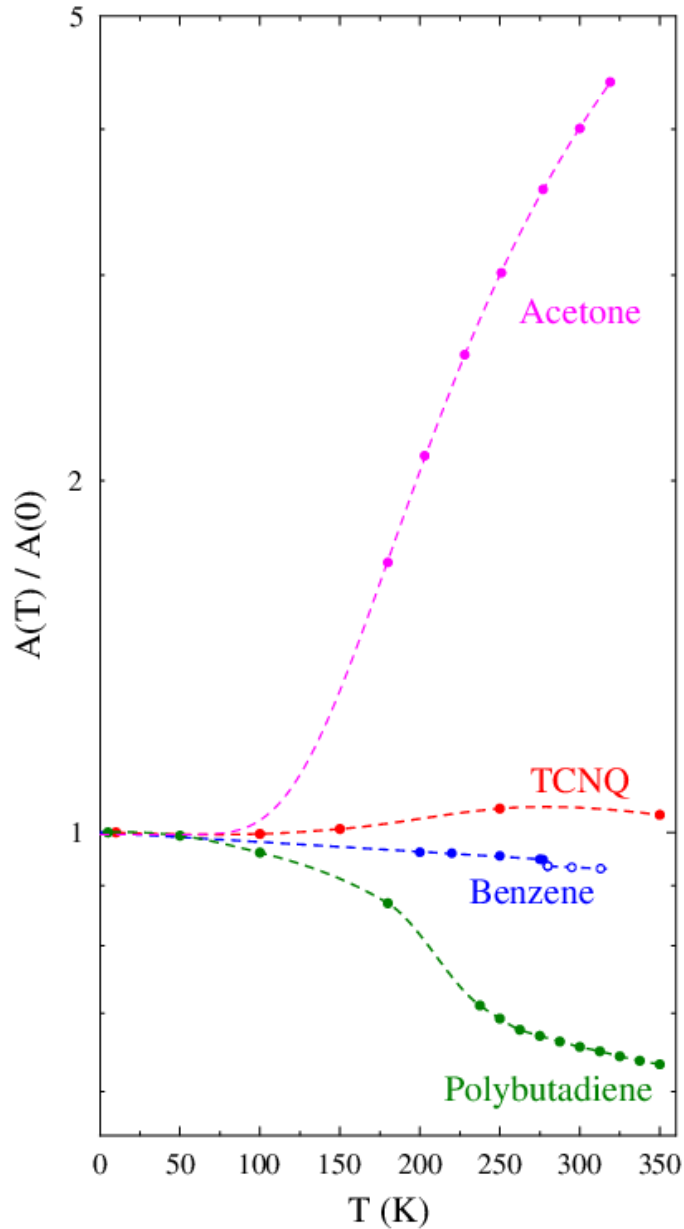


Bend mode

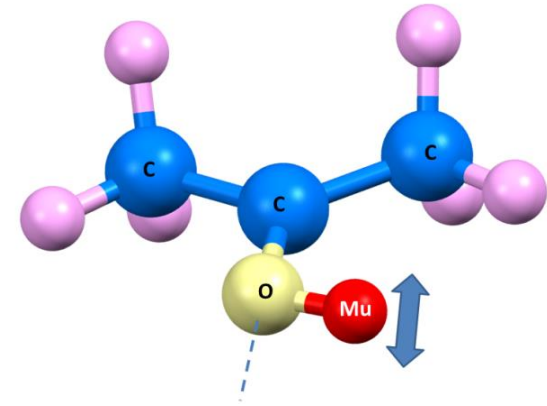


Combined quantum factor from the three modes: 1.10 for  $A$  and 1.15 for  $D_1$

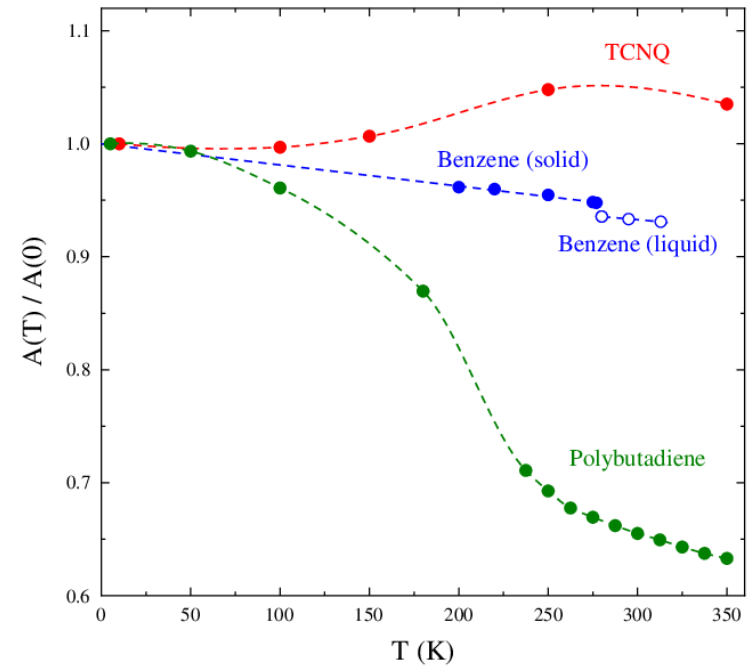
# Thermal Effects



Acetone

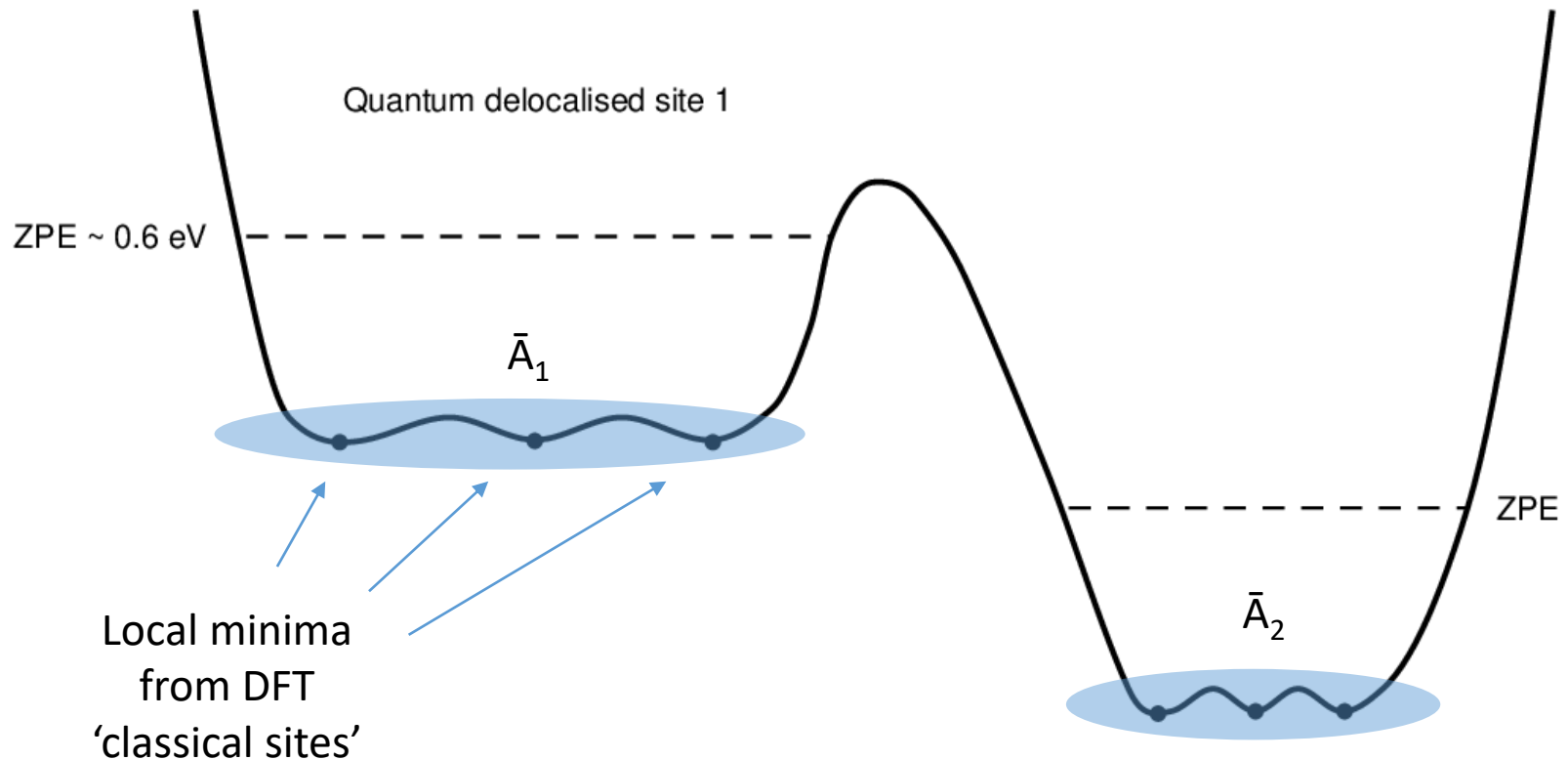


The hyperfine coupling  $A$  is strongly dependent on the orientation of the O-Mu bond compared to the C plane



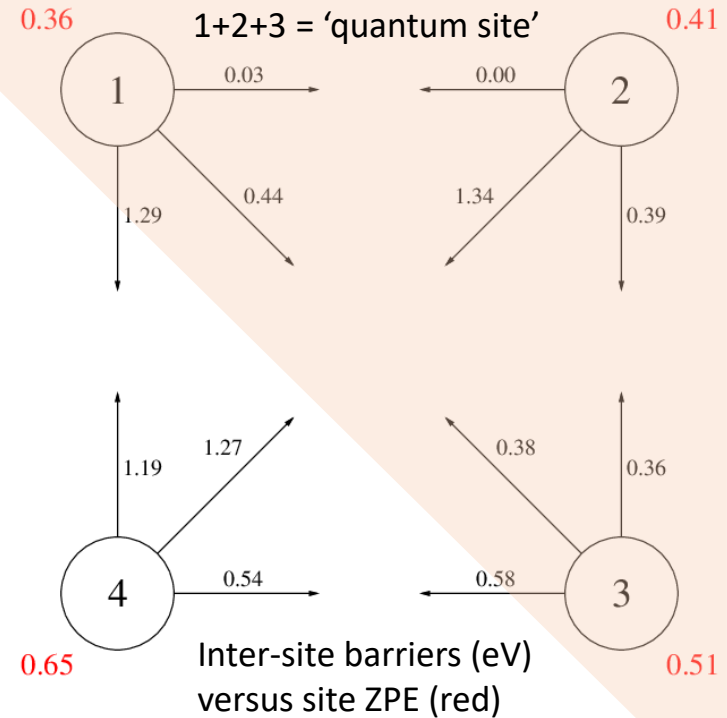
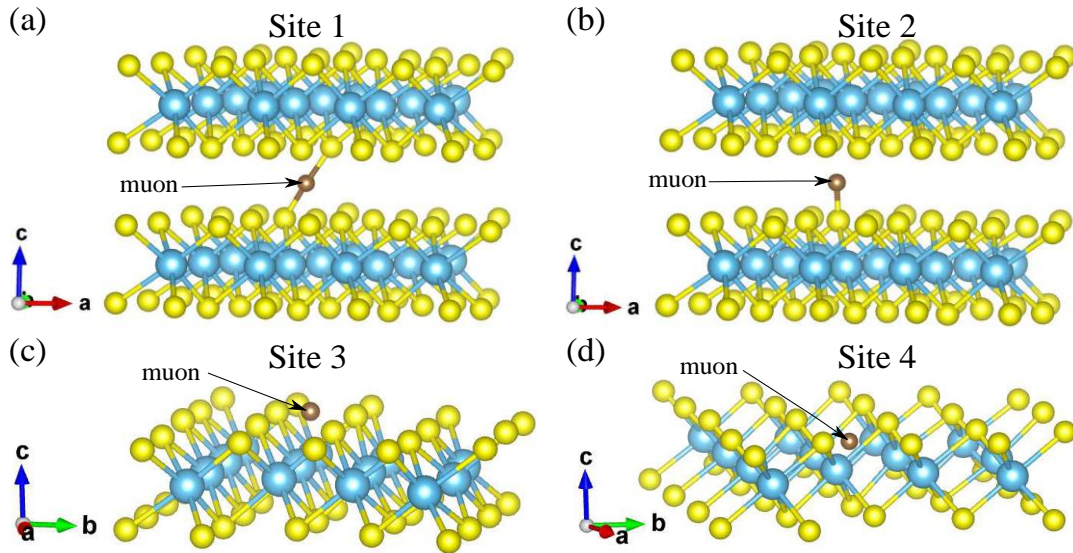
# Quantum Delocalisation between Sites

Not just local site quantum correction to consider, also possibility of longer range quantum motion when  $ZPE >$  energy barrier between classical sites



# Quantum Delocalisation: Example of 1T-TaS<sub>2</sub>

CASTEP DFT finds four sites: inter-site barriers and ZP energies are calculated



Site Type	Energy (eV)	Fraction (%)	Average hyperfine coupling (MHz)
1 (interlayer)	0.03	34	6.25
2 (interlayer)	0.06	12	7.60
3 (S layer)	0.09	47	7.70
4 (Ta layer)	0.13	7	-0.92
Site-weighted RMS average			6.61
Average over sites 1-3			7.16

Full 'quantum site' is coupled to two TaS<sub>2</sub> layers. No *ab* plane delocalisation since barriers are > 1eV

# Quantum Tunnelling

For spatially close sites with ZPE only a little lower than the inter-site barrier

## Muon Tunnelling versus Proton Tunnelling

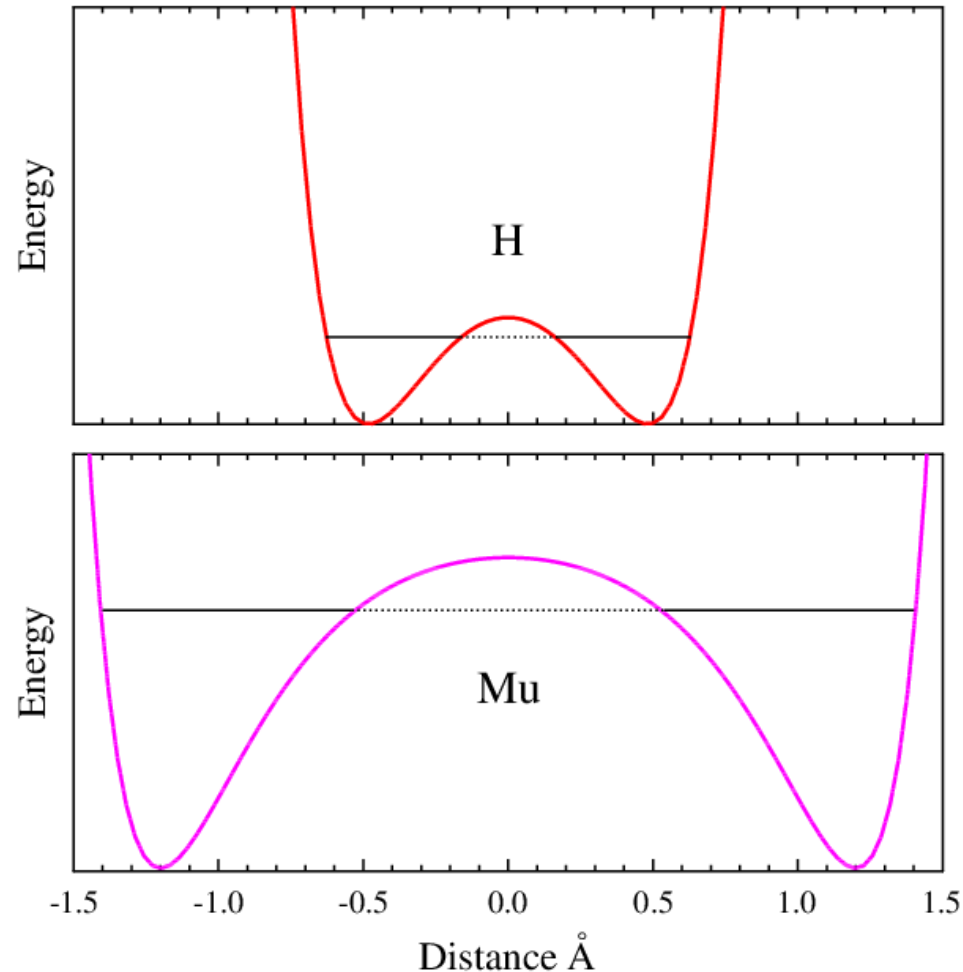
Transmission coefficient for a particle with mass  $m$  and energy  $E$  tunnelling through potential barrier  $V(x)$ :

$$T(E) = e^{-2 \int_{x_1}^{x_2} dx \sqrt{\frac{2m}{\hbar^2} [V(x) - E]}}$$

We have 1/9 mass for Mu versus H:

- ⇒ larger ZPE (hence smaller  $V(x) - E$ )
- ⇒ faster tunnelling rate
- ⇒ longer tunnelling range

e.g.  $\sim 2.5 \text{ \AA}$  (Mu) versus  $\sim 1 \text{ \AA}$  (H)



Example: solid benzene and methyl-substituted benzenes

# Molecular Dynamics via ALC

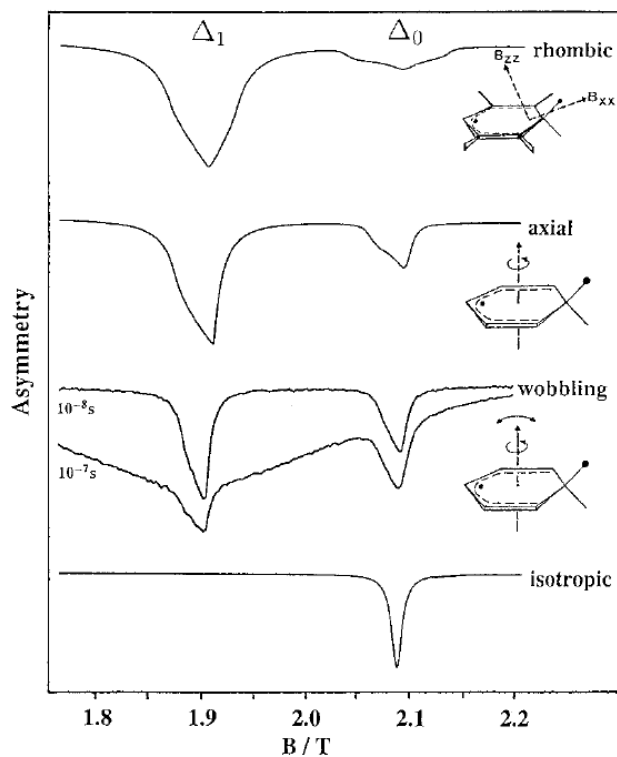
$\Delta_0$  resonances: muon-nuclear flip-flop (the only resonances found in liquids)

$\Delta_1$  resonances: muon flip (usually dominant in solids, need finite dipolar terms)

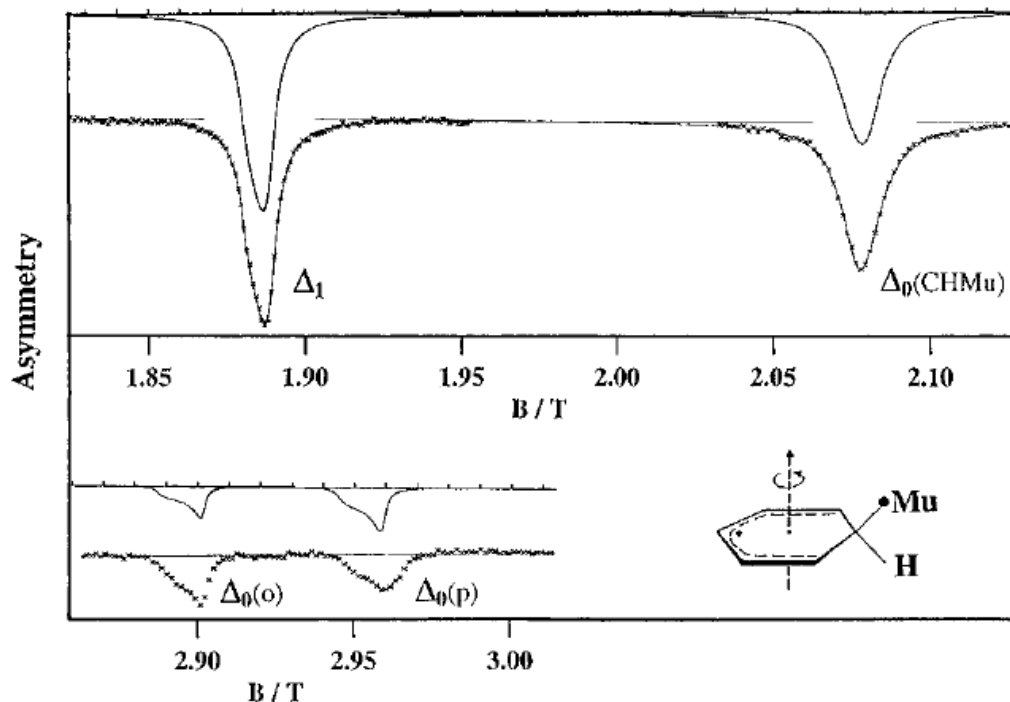
Molecular rotation averages the hyperfine tensor changing in the ALC line shape

e.g. Dynamics of benzene in a zeolite

## Calculations

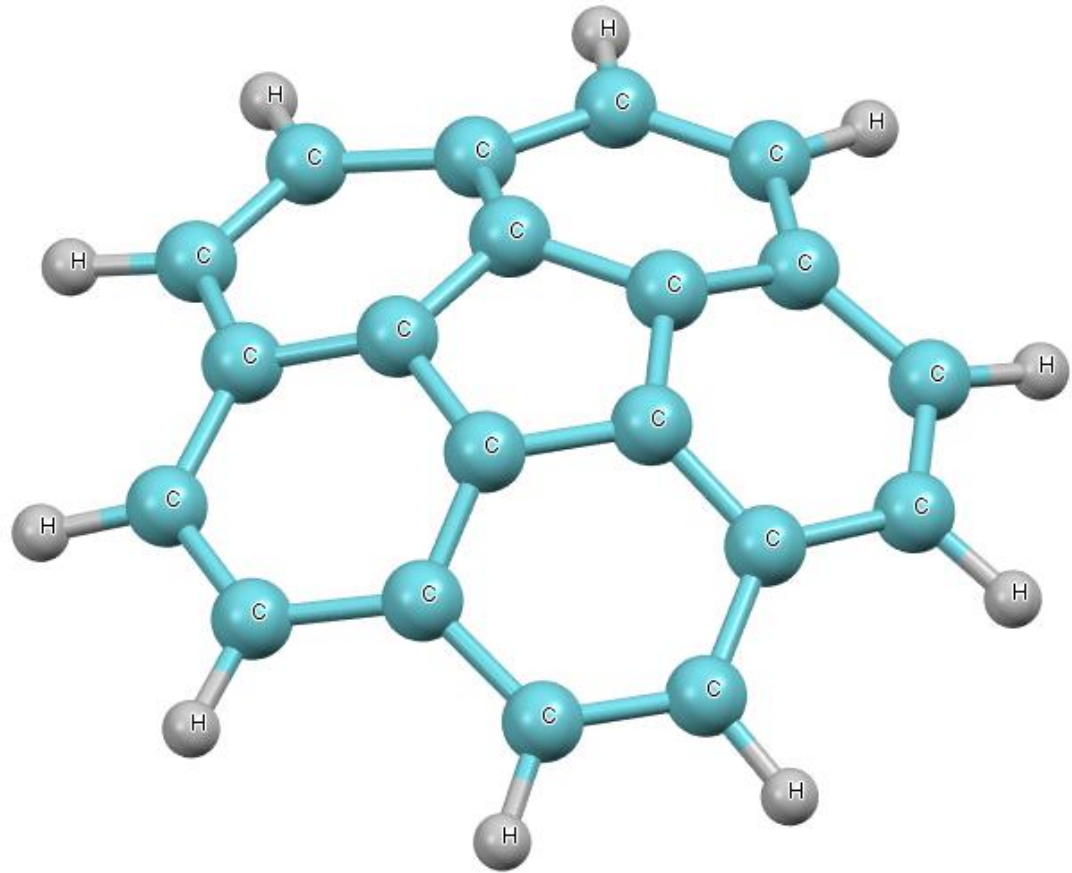
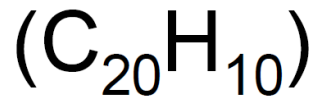
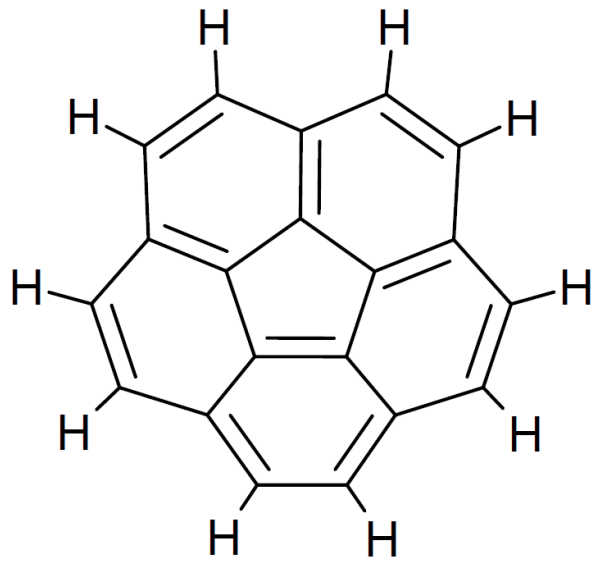


## Experimental



# Molecular Dynamics via ALC

Corannulene as a potential hydrogen storage medium (Mattia Gaboardi)

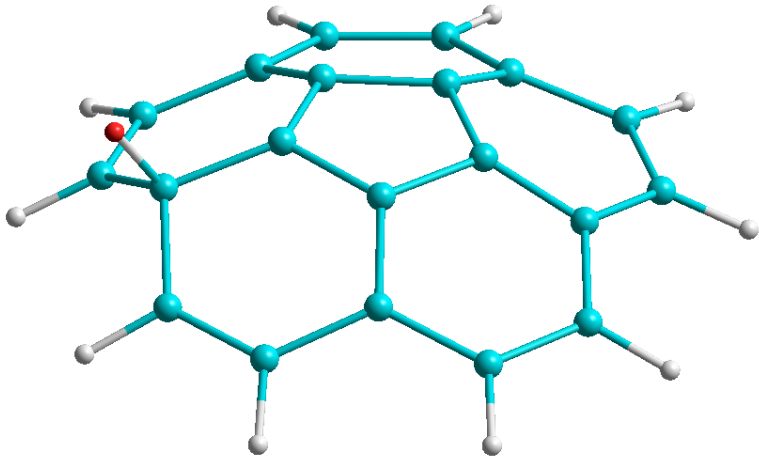




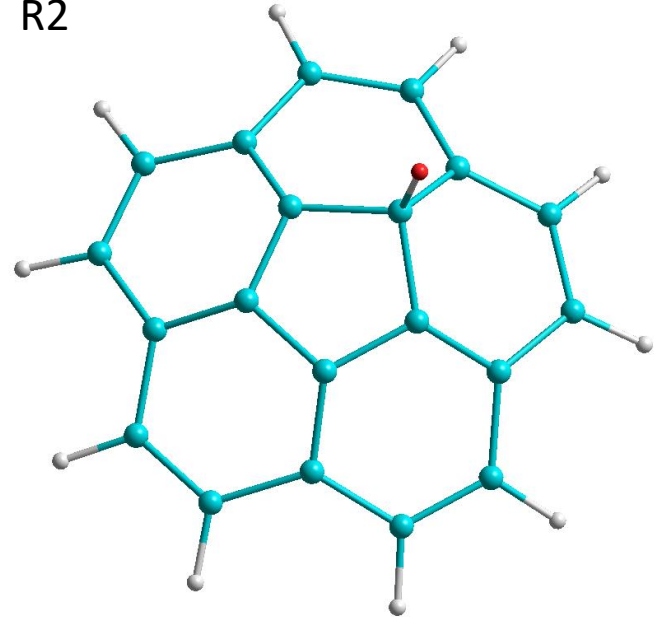
# Molecular Dynamics via ALC

Four distinct muon addition sites on the molecule

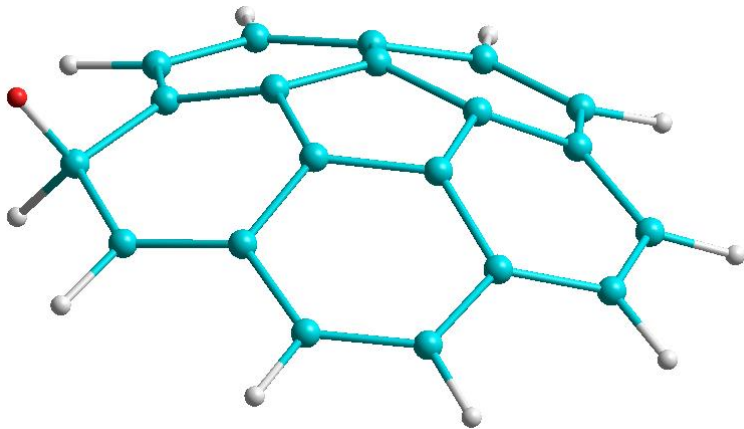
R1



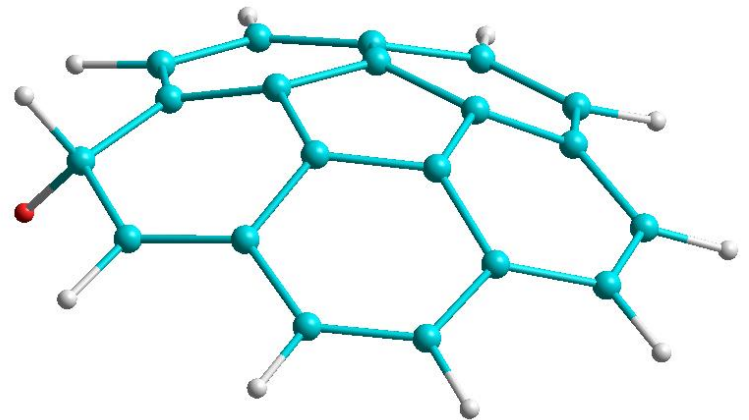
R2



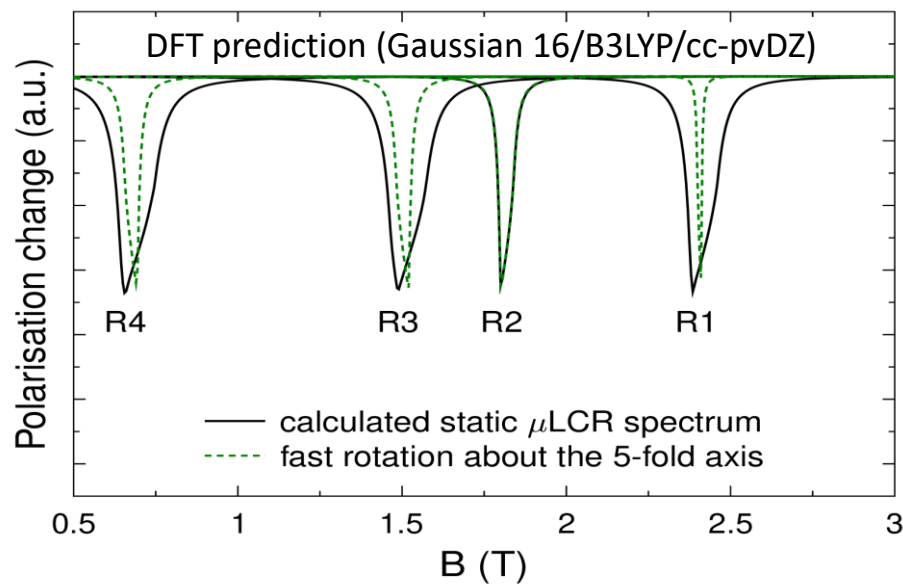
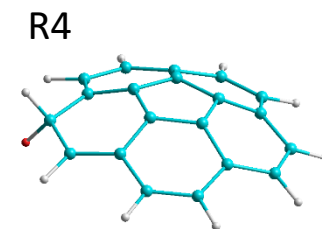
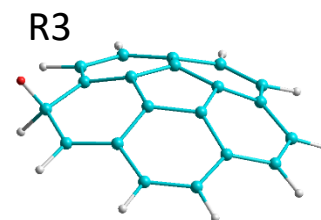
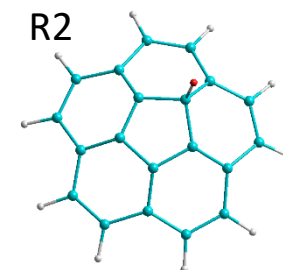
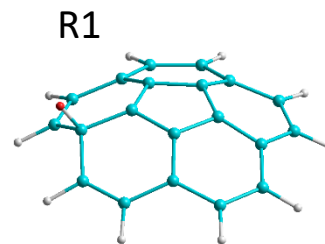
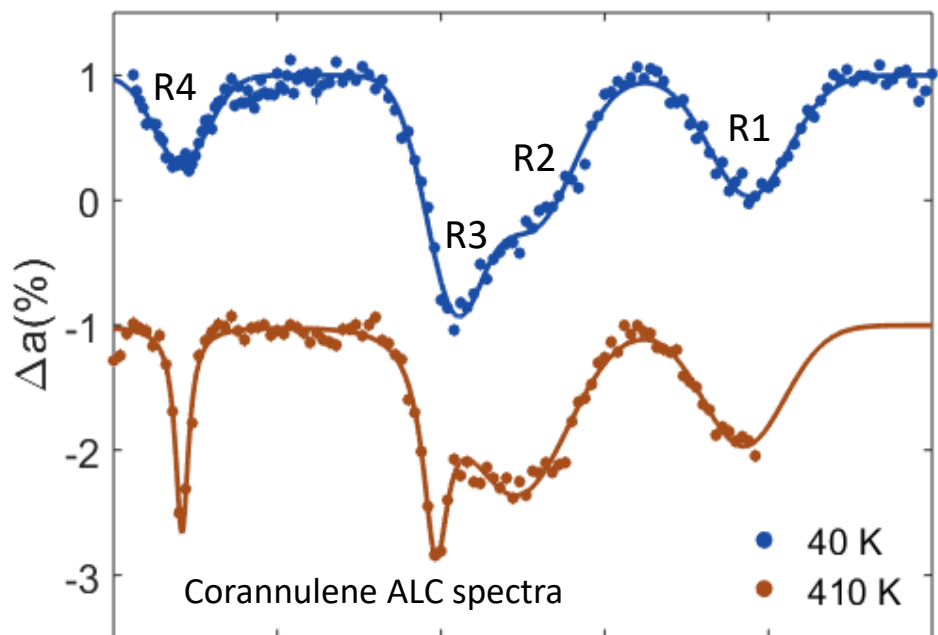
R3



R4



# Molecular Dynamics via ALC



	40 K		410 K		DFT					
	$A_{\mu}^{(i)}$	$\Delta$	$A_{\mu}^{(i)}$	$\Delta$	$A_{\mu}^{(i)}$	$D_1$	$D_2$	$\theta$	$E$	$D^{rot}$
R1	665(15)	39	660(50)	40	655	14.1	2.5	116	0.67	-2.0
R2	484(53)	41	472(21)	49	494	7.1	0.6	8	0.17	6.9
R3	419(23)	28	404(7)	13	411	17.3	6.5	113	0	-6.7
R4	192(12)	27	193(4)	7	186	17.5	4.0	129	0	-6.7

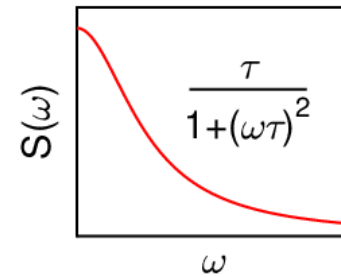
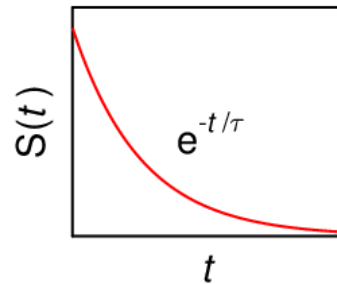
Different Mu/H dynamics at R3 and R4

# Electron Dynamics

LF relaxation scales with spectral density function  $S(\omega)$  which is the FT of  $S(t)$

$$\lambda(B) \propto A^2 S(\omega), \quad \omega \propto B$$

e.g. localised  
fluctuations  
( $d = 0$ )



## Spectral Density of Fluctuations from Anisotropic Diffusive Motion

$$S(t) = \phi(2D_1 t) \phi(2D_2 t) \phi(2D_3 t) \quad \text{with } \phi(x) = e^{-x} I_0(x)$$

At long  $t$ :  $S(t) \propto t^{-m}$  ( $m=d/2$ ,  $d$ =dimension)

Spectral density:  $S(\omega) \propto \omega^{m-1}$  ( $0 < d < 2$ , low  $\omega$ )

$d = 1$        $S(t) \propto t^{-1/2}$        $S(\omega) \propto (D_{1D}\omega)^{-1/2}$

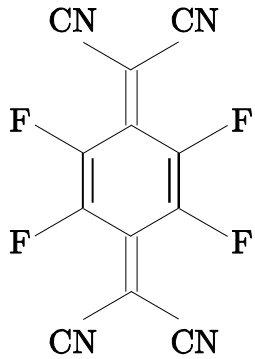
$d = 2$        $S(t) \propto t^{-1}$        $S(\omega) \propto \ln(D_{2D}/\omega)$

$d = 3$       similar to  $d = 0$

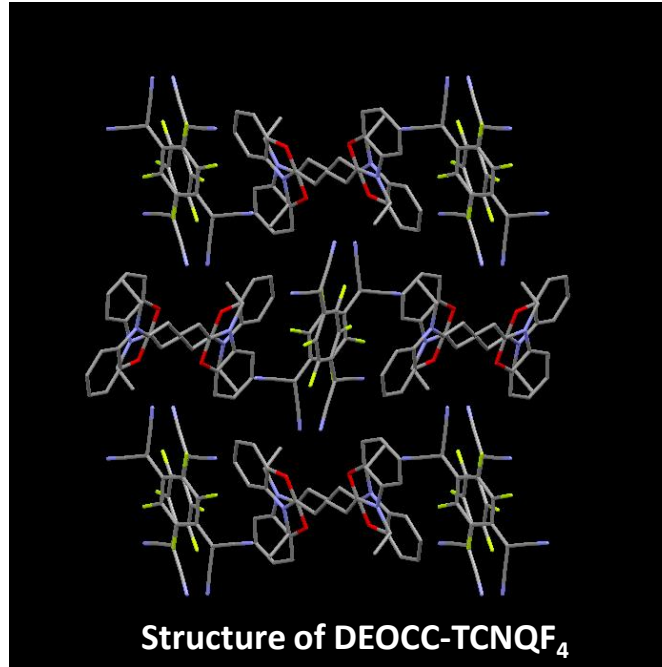
# Electron Dynamics in a Spin Chain

An ideal  $S=1/2$  1DHAF: DeOCC-TCNQF<sub>4</sub>

Molecular radical providing the  $S=1/2$  Heisenberg spins

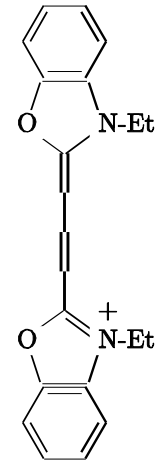


TCNQF<sub>4</sub>



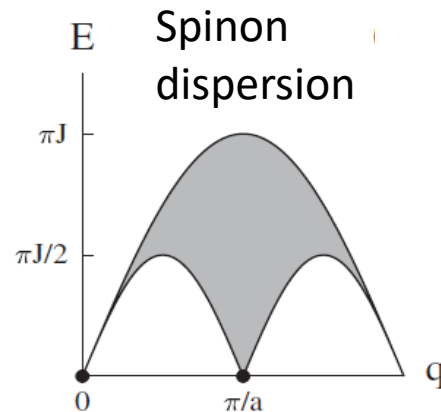
Structure of DEOCC-TCNQF<sub>4</sub>

Cyanine dye molecule providing the bulky diamagnetic spacers



DEOCC<sup>+</sup>

Spinon diffusion in a 1D Quantum Magnet:

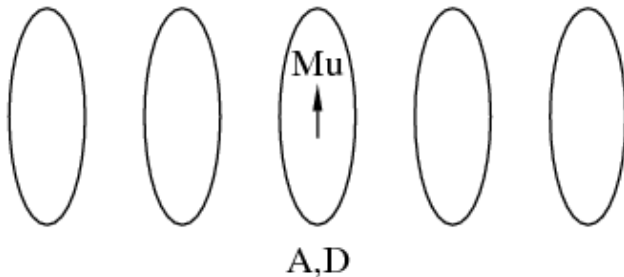


# Electron Dynamics in Spin Chain

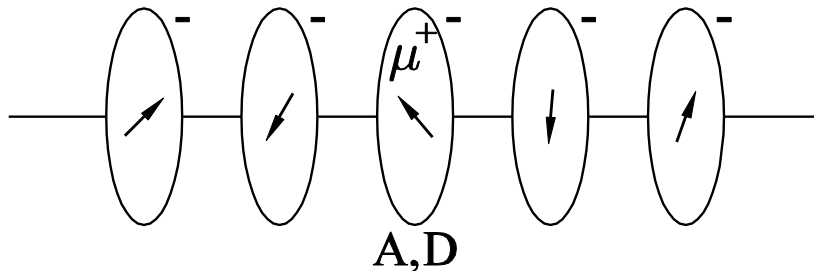
Since  $\lambda(B) \propto A^2 S(\omega)$ , we need a value for A

ALC on neutral TFNQF<sub>4</sub> conveniently gives experimental values for the hyperfine coupling parameters A and D<sub>1</sub>

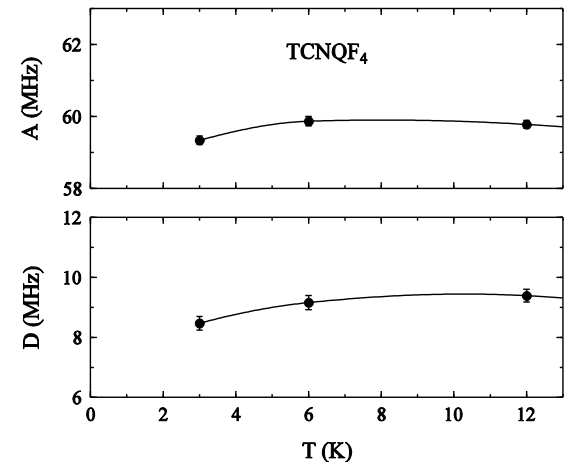
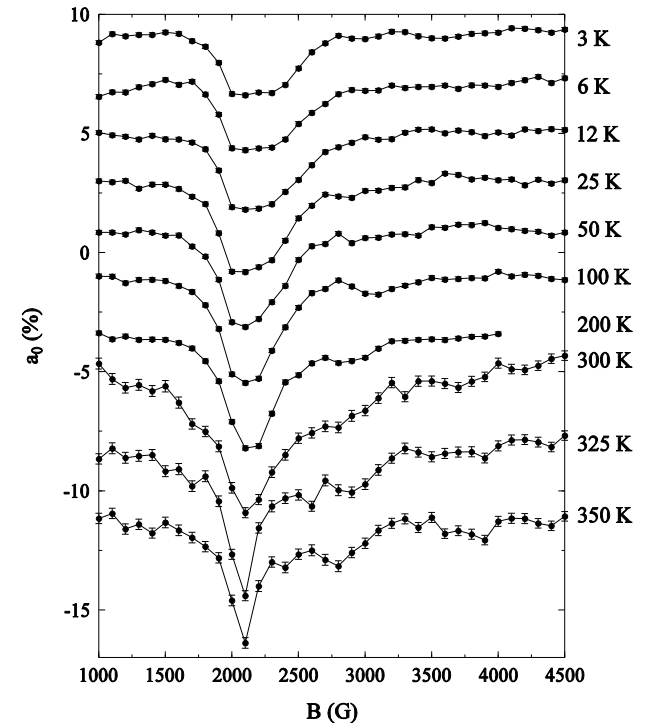
Luckily the muoniated radical in neutral Mu<sup>•</sup>-TCNQF<sub>4</sub> (that we can easily measure with ALC)



is exactly equivalent to the  $\mu^+$  (Mu<sup>+</sup>) probe state in our ionic salt: Mu<sup>+</sup>-(TCNQF<sub>4</sub>)<sup>-</sup>

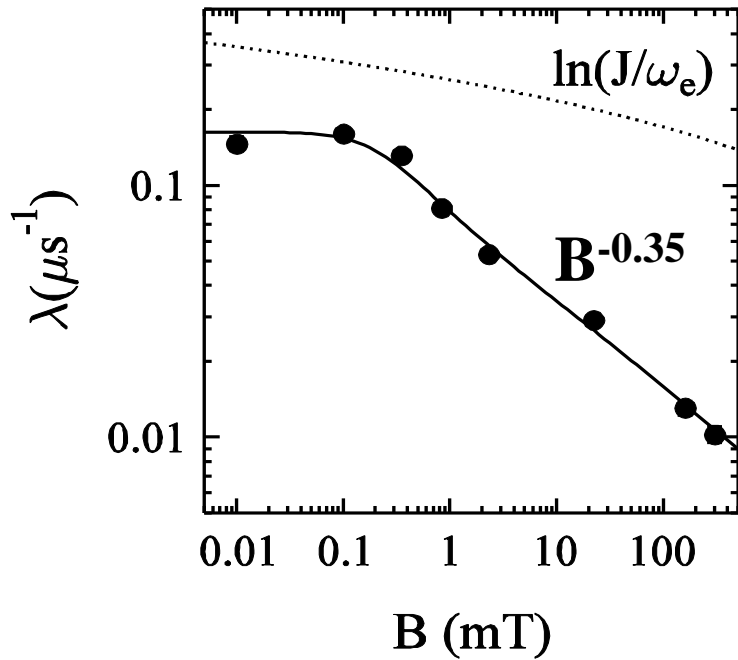


ALC of neutral TCNQ<sub>4</sub>

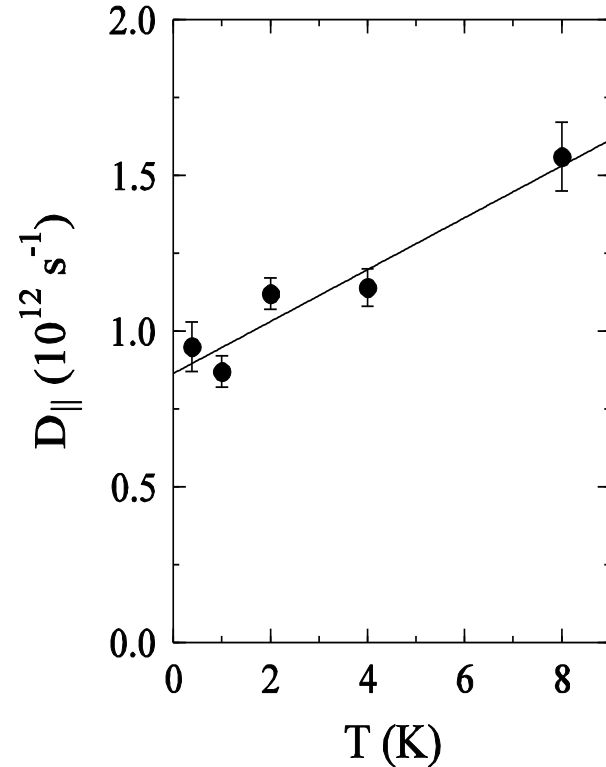


# Electron Dynamics in a Spin Chain

LF Relaxation Rate



On-chain Diffusion Rate



N.B. absolute value of  $D_{||}$  depends on the *fourth power* of the hyperfine coupling  $A$

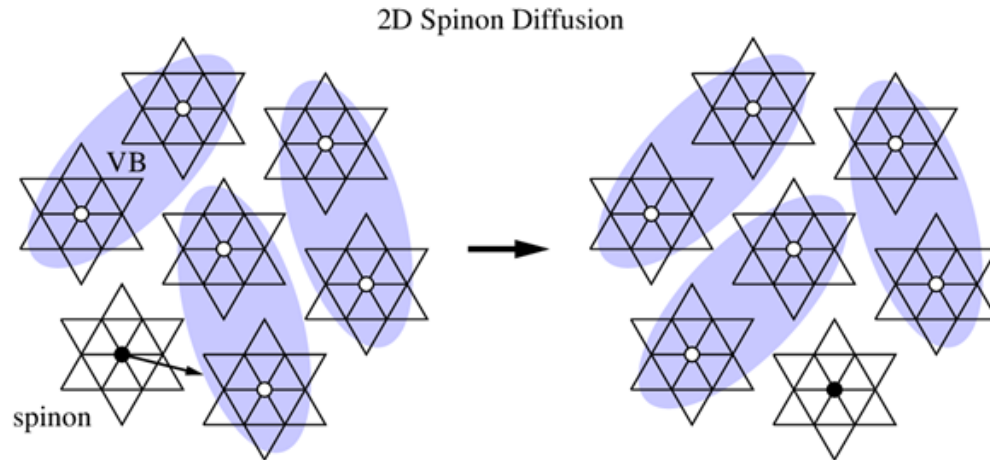
Hopping time  $D_{||}^{-1}$  is  $\sim 1$  ps at low  $T$

Compare with: Spinon transit time  $(2/\pi)/J \sim 0.3$  ps  
 Classical diffusion time  $(2/\pi)^{1/2}/J \sim 0.3$  ps

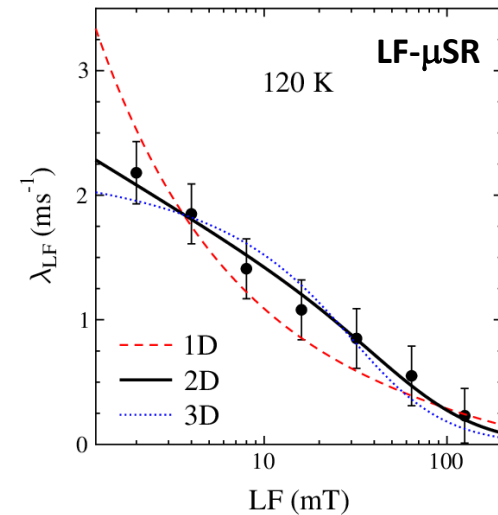
# Electron Dynamics in a Layered Quantum Magnet

2D Quantum Magnet: spinon diffusion in the spin liquid 1T-TaS<sub>2</sub>

Star-of-David  $S = 1/2$  'molecule' formed by CDW distortion



2D spinon diffusion from LF- $\mu$ SR



No related ALC resonances are available here to determine the HFC

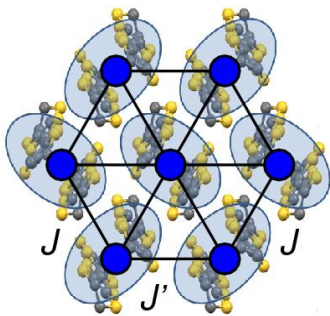
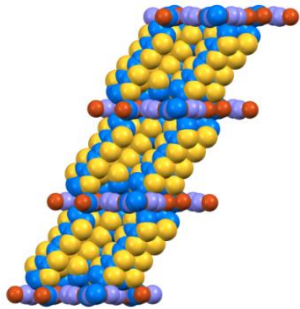
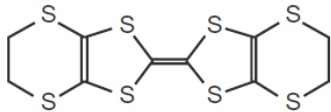
We have to rely on the DFT calculations alone to calibrate the measurements

The values estimated from DFT site analysis in this case are  $A = 7(1)$  MHz and  $D_1 = D_2 = 0$

# Static Electronic Order

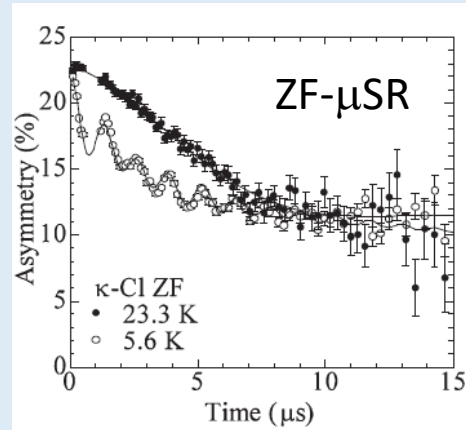
$\kappa$ -(ET)<sub>2</sub>X family:  
magnets,  
superconductors  
and spin liquids

ET molecule:

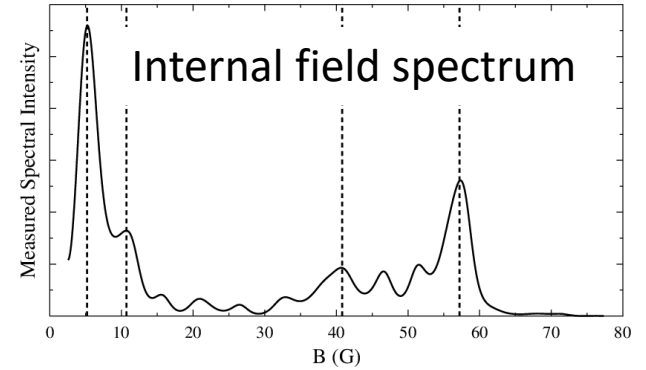


$J = 250$  K

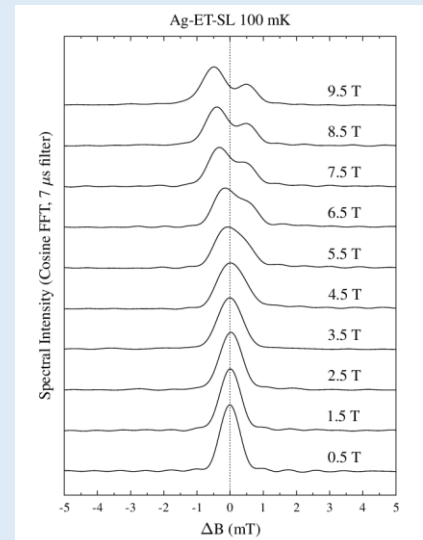
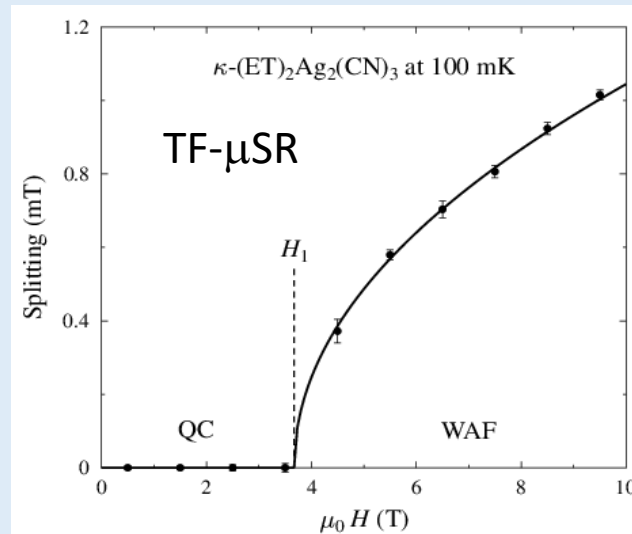
## Antiferromagnet ( $X = \text{Cu}[\text{N}(\text{CN})_2]\text{Cl}$ )



*M. Ito et al, JPSJ 84,053703 (2015)*



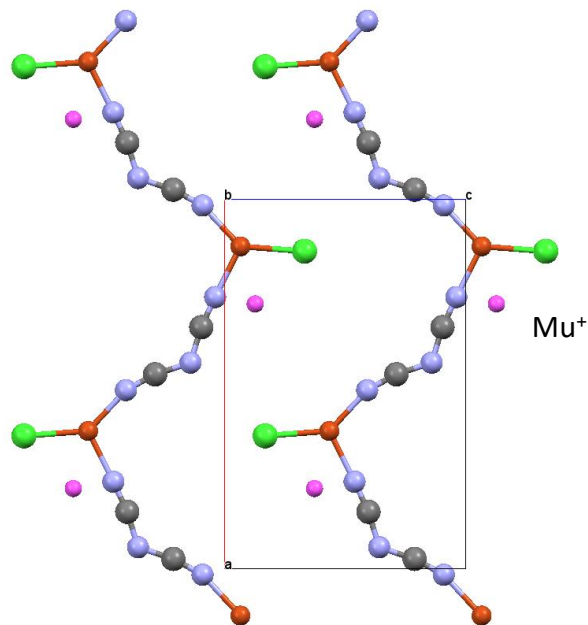
## Quantum Spin Liquid ( $X = \text{Cu}_2(\text{CN})_3$ and $X = \text{Ag}_2(\text{CN})_3$ )



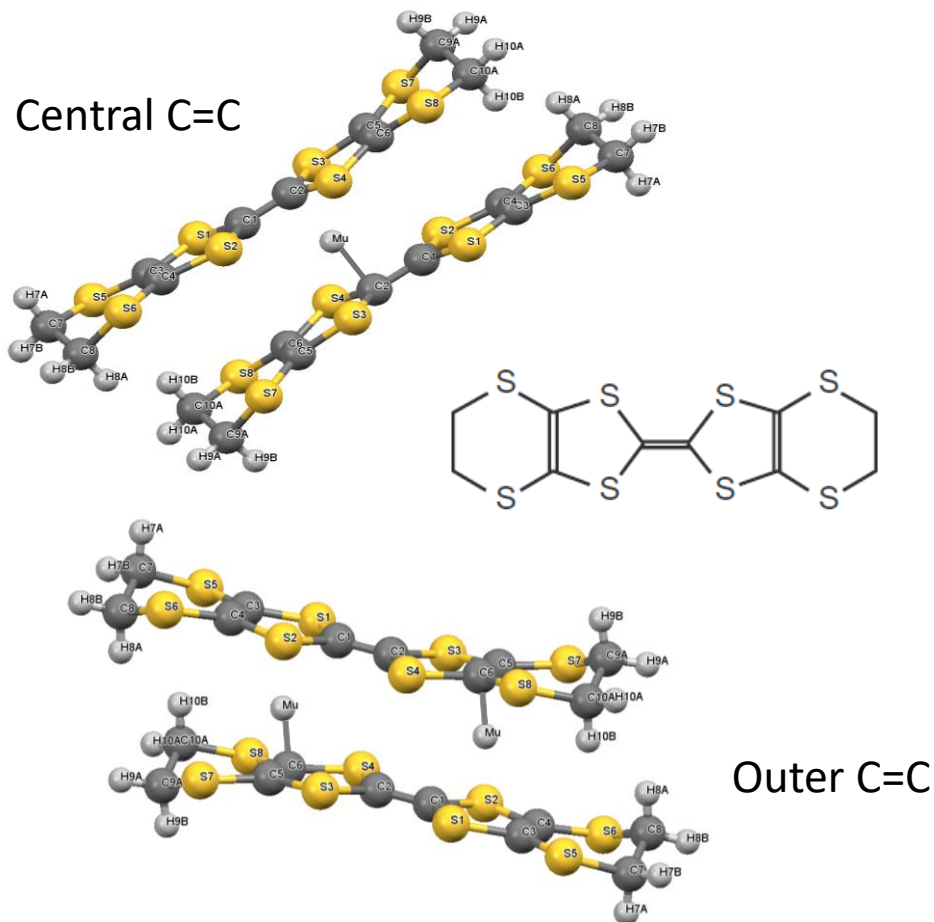


# Static Electronic Order

CASTEP plane-wave DFT for the AF case of  $X=\text{CuN}(\text{CN})_2\text{Cl}$



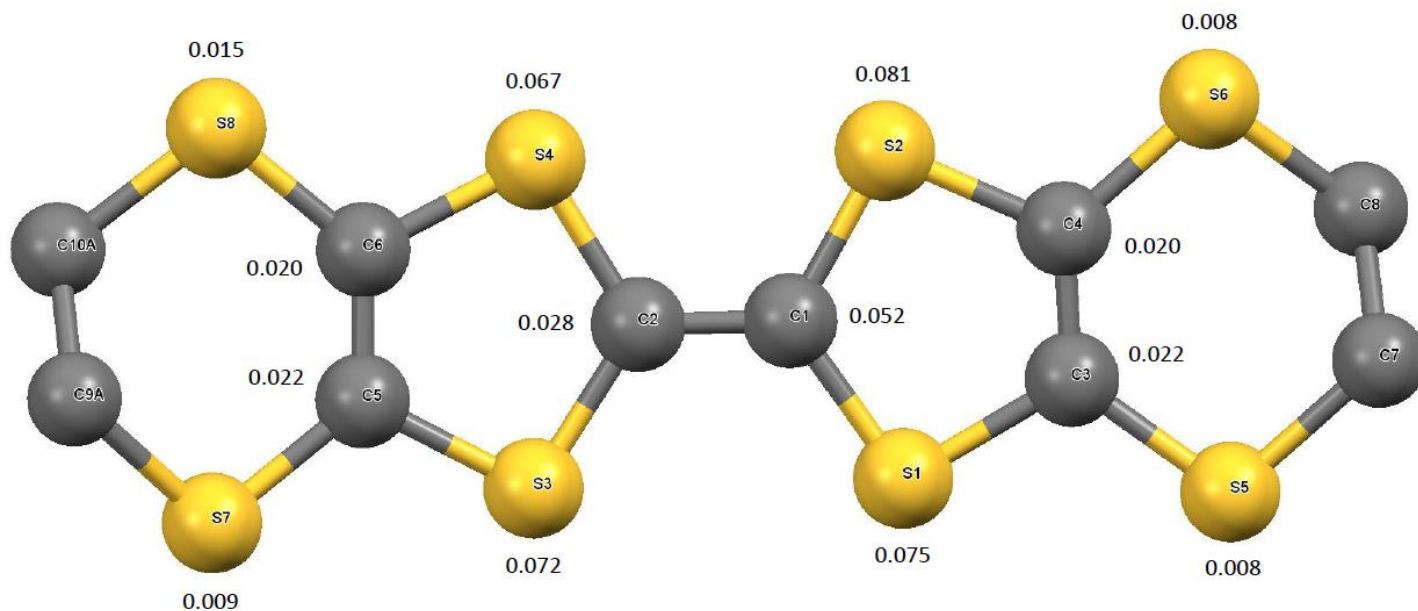
$\text{Mu}^+$  (bare  $\mu^+$ ) sites located  
in the anion layer  
(diamagnetic probe states)



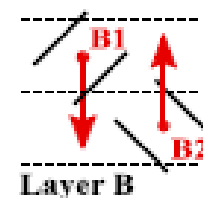
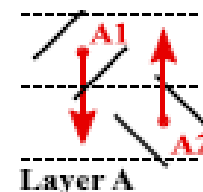
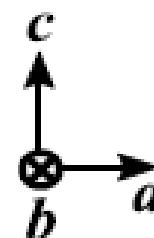
Mu addition sites in the ET layer  
 $(\text{ET})_2^{\bullet+} + \text{Mu}^{\bullet} \rightarrow (\text{ET})_2\text{Mu}$  (singlet)  
(diamagnetic probe states)

# Static Electronic Order

The spin distribution calculated for a single  $(\text{ET})_2^+$  dimer using Gaussian DFT (B3LYP/cc-pVDZ) shows significant spin on 14 sites



Spin structure of the ordered state in ZF with the magnetic cell containing 8 ET molecules

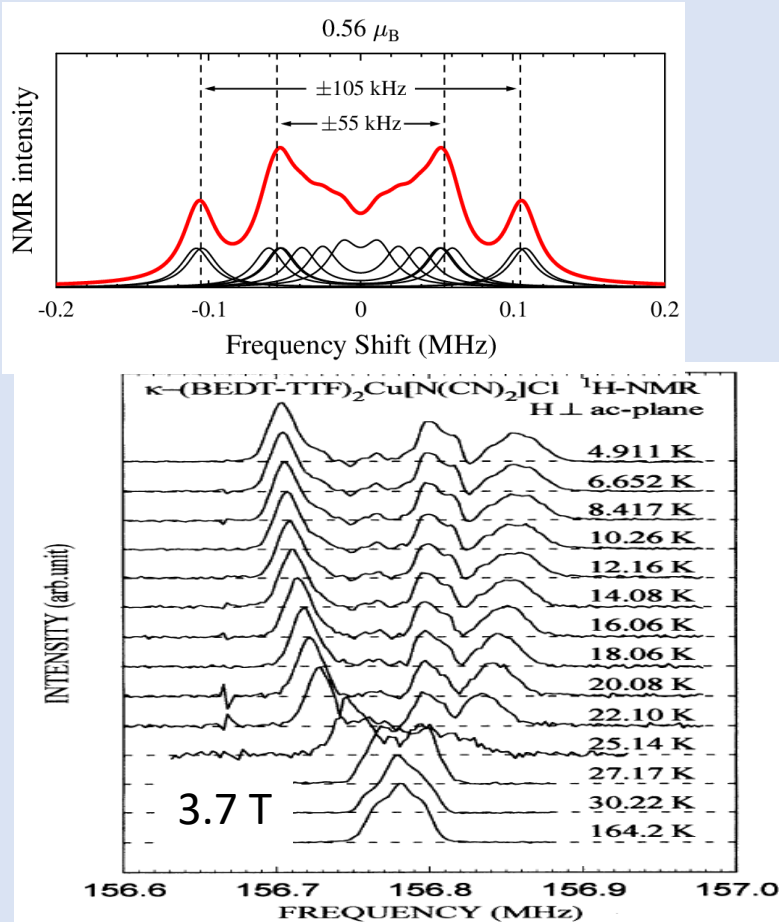


Dipolar field calculation requires  $14 \times 8 = 112$  spin elements in the magnetic cell for collinear order and 336 spin elements for the  $120^\circ$  structure (the DipoleCalc program can be used here)

# Static Electronic Order

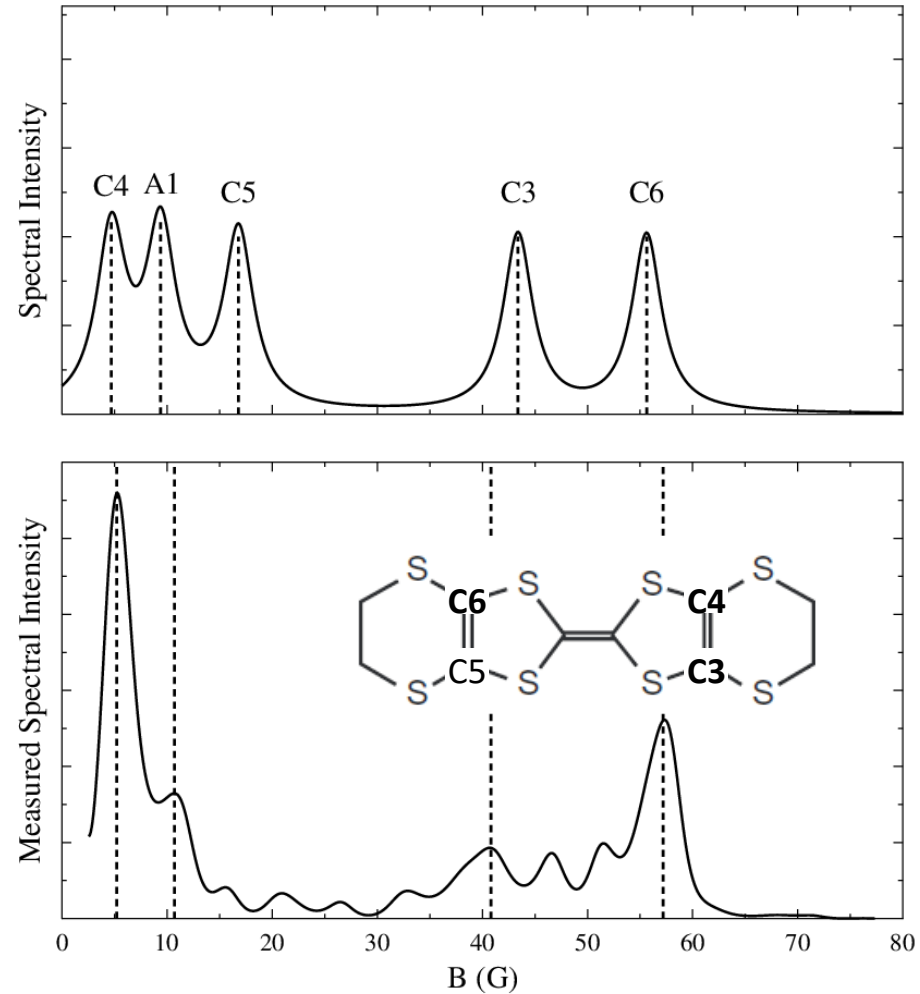
## Proton NMR

Testing the Gaussian-DFT spin distribution against the published  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum



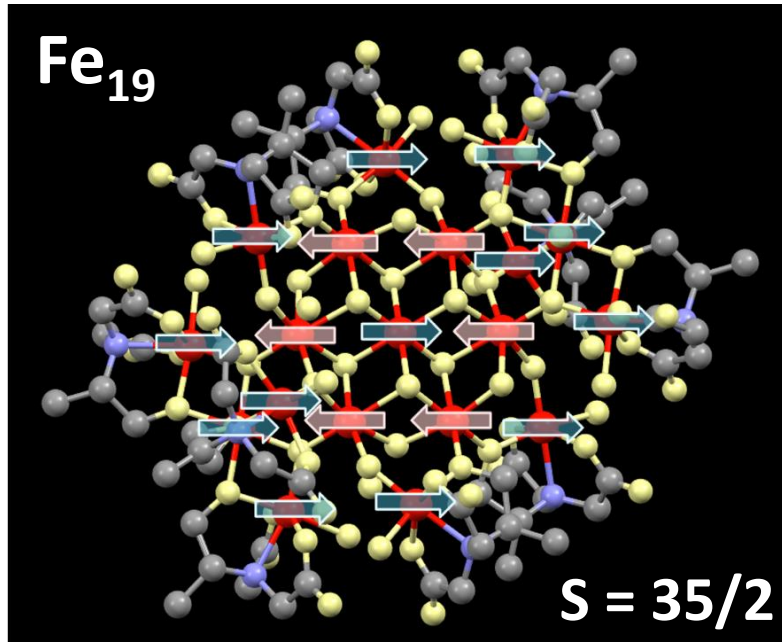
K. Miyagawa et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 75, 1174 (1995)

## ZF $\mu$ SR



Calculated internal fields for  $m = 0.68 \mu_B$  match well to the spectrum obtained from the measured ZF- $\mu$ SR data with addition at *outer C=C sites* plus an *anion layer site*

# Large Systems: Complex Unit Cell



Switch to a site distribution approach

Random sites calculation for reference

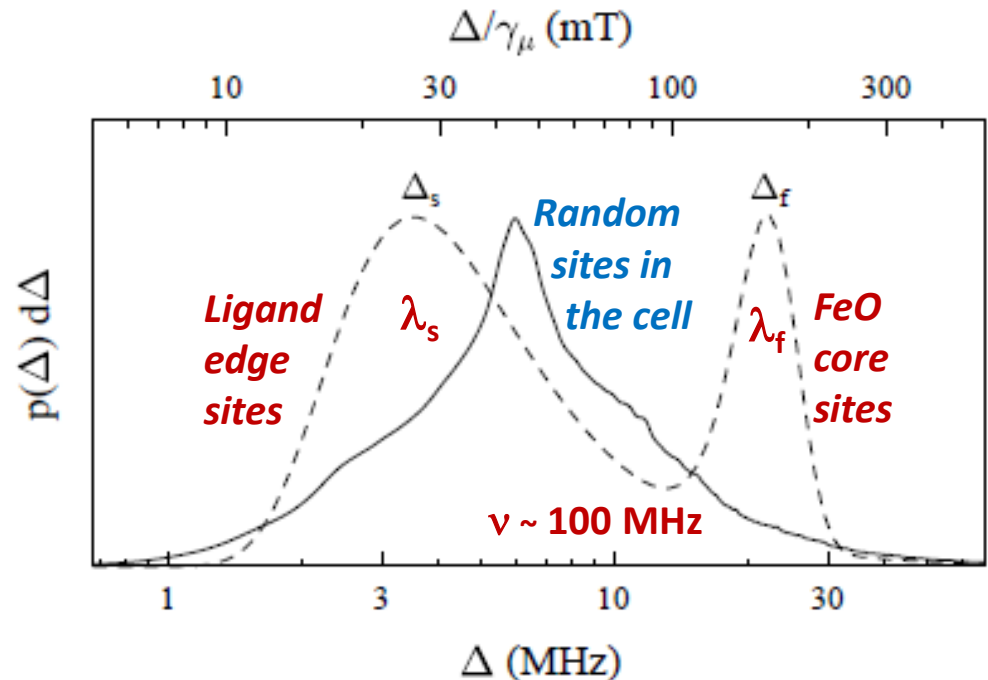
ZF- $\mu$ SR sees a two-lorentzian relaxation:  
local coupling  $\Delta$  has bimodal distribution

The two distribution peaks are assigned  
to ligand edge sites and FeO core sites

Fe<sub>19</sub> nanodisc molecular magnet ( $T_N = 1.2$  K)

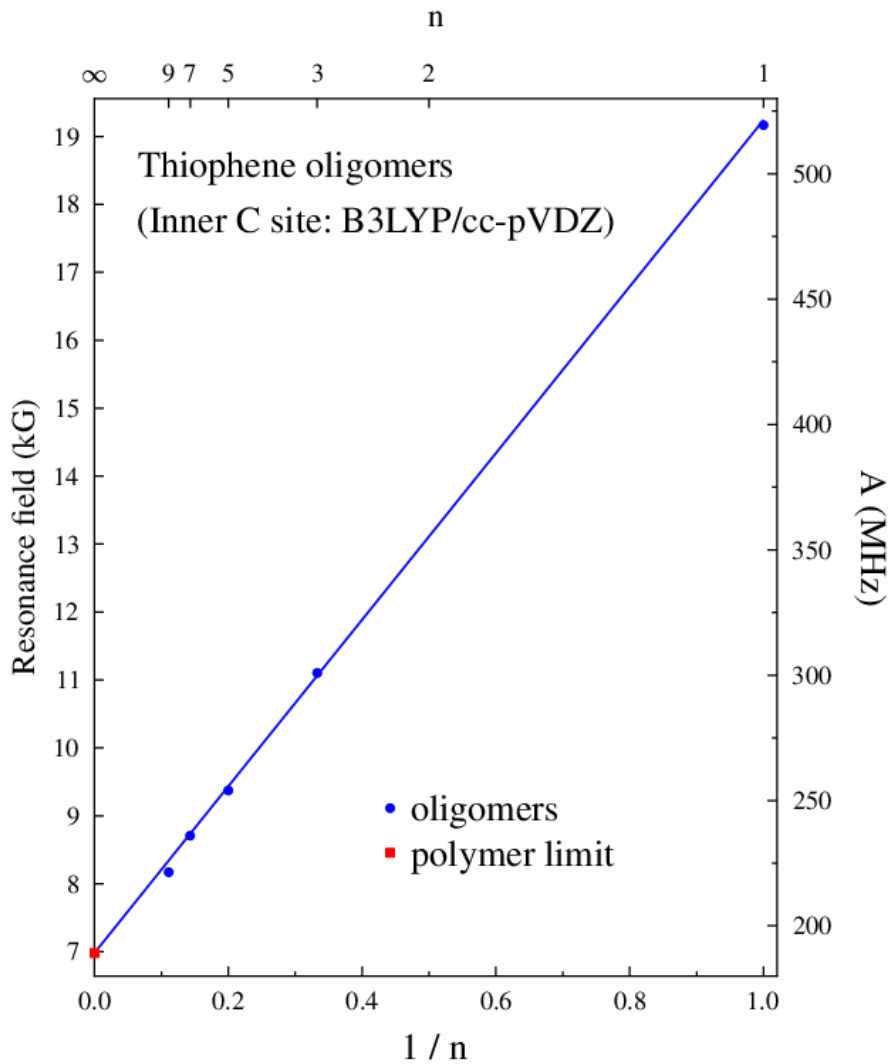
Magnetic cell has 1580 atoms and 78 Fe spins

Much too large for the usual discrete sites  
approach!

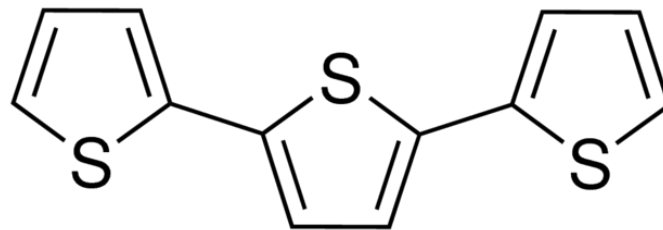


# Large Systems: Polythiophene via Oligomers

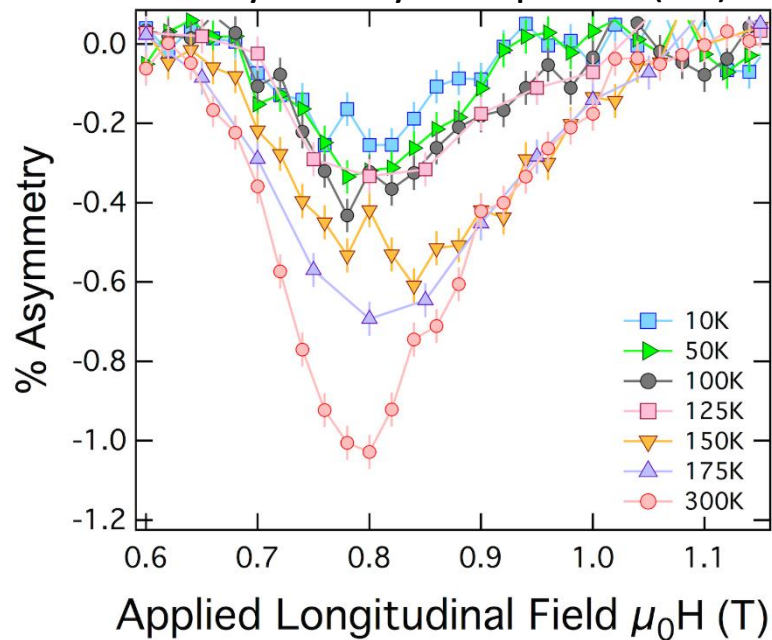
Gaussian DFT prediction of  $\Delta_1$  ALC



thiophene oligomer (n = 3)

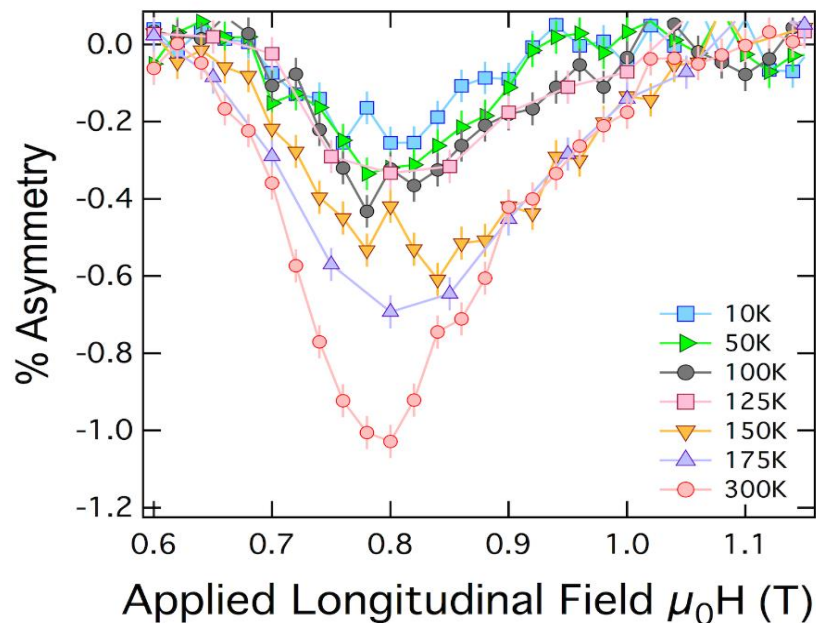
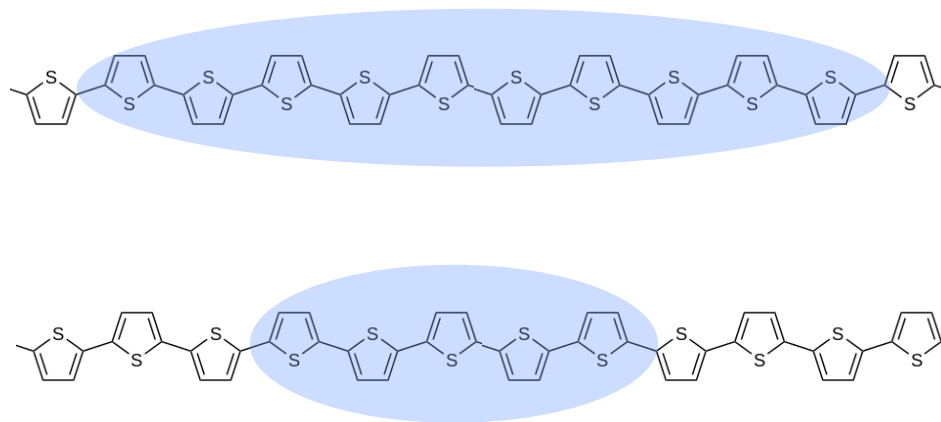
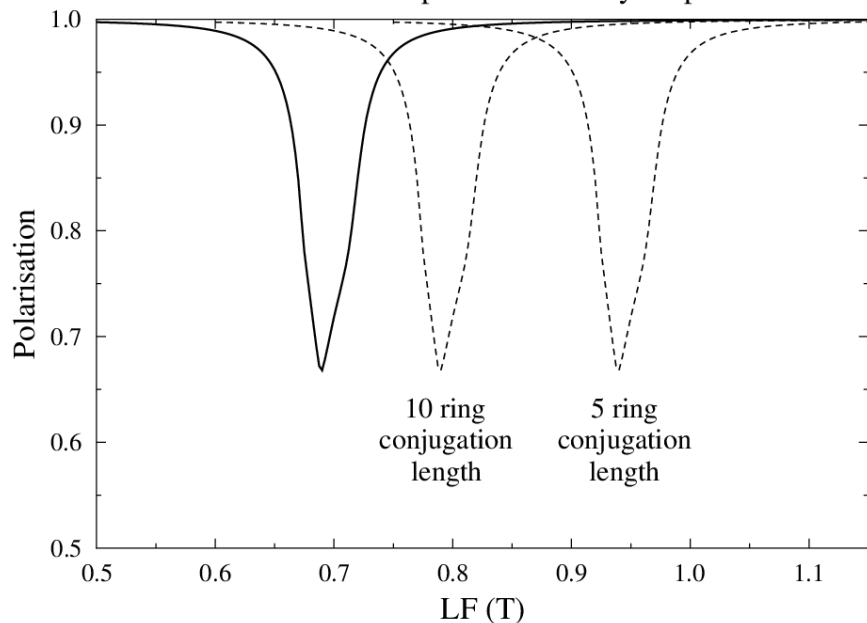


Poly-3-hexyl-thiophene (RR)



# Effect of Disorder

Predicted ALC Spectrum for Polythiophene



The broad ALC spectrum shows the range of  $\pi$ -electron conjugation lengths in the polymer

# Larger Systems: Possible Future Directions

Linear-scaling methods:

$N$ -scaling rather than  $N^3$ -scaling

e.g. the ONETEP project

(based on intelligent truncation of overlap integrals and efficient use of sparse matrix methods)

Multiscale methods:

Use full DFT in a local region around the muon

Use simpler methods such as Molecular Mechanics in the more distant regions

# Status Summary

- Rapid progress has been made recently in site calculation methods
- Efficient and practical methods for simulating ALC spectra in molecular systems
- Both single molecules and periodic crystal systems can be covered
- Methods developed for dealing with the quantum delocalisation effects
- Various user tools are now available to assist with managing the site calculations
- Technique development is still required for some areas



# Workshop (N): CalcALC

Takes a molecule and calculates muoniated radical states and their corresponding ALC spectra

(uses Gaussian DFT on SCARF for the calculation, can also work with results from CASTEP, the ALC spectra are calculated using the Python library of James Lord's Quantum program)

The screenshot displays the CalcALC software interface with several windows open:

- CalcALC: Muon ALC, QLCR and LF decoupling for molecular systems using SCARF (1.21 01/08/19)**: Shows the molecule setup for benzene. The table below lists the atoms and their coordinates.
- Hyperfine Parameters from the DFT Output**: Shows the Muon site quantum/calibration/thermal factors and a table of hyperfine parameters.
- Setup DFT**: Shows the DFT method (B3LYP) and basis set (cc-pVDZ).
- Table of Radicals Contributing to the ALC Spectra**: Shows a table of radicals contributing to the ALC spectra.
- Benzenes in Zeolite (static)**: Shows the ALC spectrum for benzene in zeolite (static).
- Fast rotation about the z axis**: Shows the ALC spectrum for benzene in zeolite with fast rotation about the z axis.
- 0000001 (Unknown) - Mercury**: Shows a 3D ball-and-stick model of the benzene molecule.

Site	Atom	x	y	z	Bonds to
1	C	0.793	0.560	-0.436	2 6 12
2	C	-0.342	1.245	-0.015	1 3 7
3	C	-1.476	0.540	0.373	2 4 8
4	C	-1.474	-0.851	0.343	3 5 9
5	C	-0.338	-1.536	-0.076	4 6 10
6	C	0.795	-0.831	-0.466	1 5 11
7	H	-0.343	2.339	0.010	2
8	H	-2.370	1.079	0.703	3
9	H	-2.367	-1.407	0.648	4
10	H	-0.336	-2.631	-0.097	5
11	H	1.689	-1.370		
12	H	1.685	1.116		

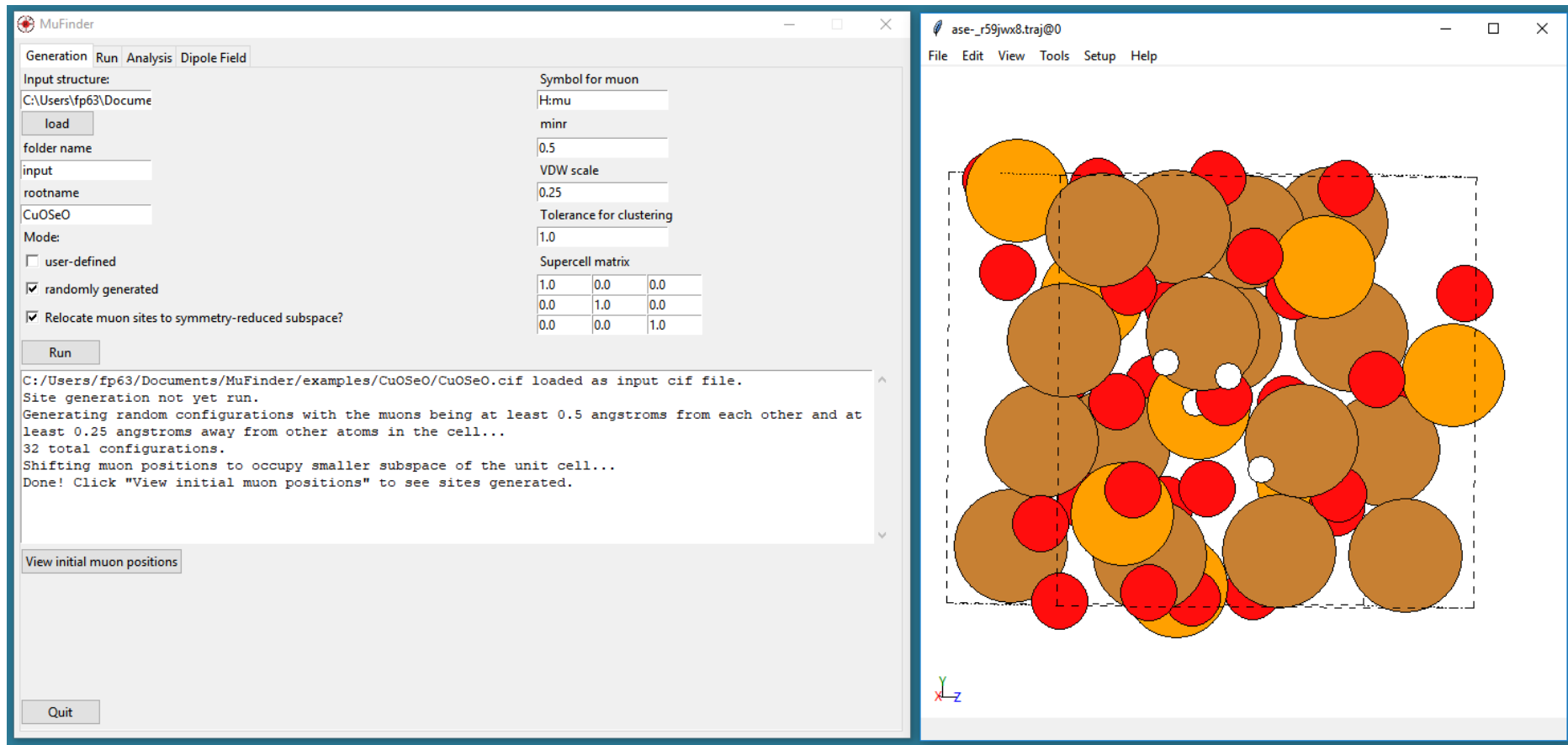
Site number	Atom	Spin density	A (MHz)	D1 (MHz)	D2 (MHz)	DeltaM=1 (G)	DeltaM=0 (G)	Liquid FWHM (G)	Decoupling (G)	NQCC (MHz)	$\eta$
13	Mu	0.06234	514.7	12.8	12.1	18997					
12	H	0.06245	126.8	4.0	3.8		20750	121.1	45.2		
8	H	0.00704	10.4	5.1	2.4		27035	17.2	3.7		
10	H	0.00704	10.4	5.1	2.4		27035	17.2	3.7		
							29167	25.0	10.4		

Group #	Label	Mu/nucleus	Site number
1	ipso	Mu	13
		H	12
2	ortho	Mu	13
		H	11
		H	7
3	para	Mu	13
		H	9
4	meta	Mu	13
		H	8
		H	10
5	Delta_1	Mu	13

# Workshop (N): MuFinder

Takes a crystal structure and calculates a set of stable muon sites using CASTEP on SCARF

Explores the dipolar fields at these sites for a magnetically ordered state



The image displays two windows from the MuFinder software. The left window is the main control panel, and the right window shows a 3D visualization of the results.

**MuFinder Control Panel:**

- Buttons: Generation, Run, Analysis, Dipole Field
- Input structure: C:\Users\fp63\Docume
- load button
- folder name: input
- rootname: CuOSeO
- Mode:  user-defined,  randomly generated,  Relocate muon sites to symmetry-reduced subspace?
- Run button
- Symbol for muon: Hmu
- minr: 0.5
- VDW scale: 0.25
- Tolerance for clustering: 1.0
- Supercell matrix:

1.0	0.0	0.0
0.0	1.0	0.0
0.0	0.0	1.0
- Log output:

```
C:/Users/fp63/Documents/MuFinder/examples/CuOSeO/CuOSeO.cif loaded as input cif file.
Site generation not yet run.
Generating random configurations with the muons being at least 0.5 angstroms from each other and at
least 0.25 angstroms away from other atoms in the cell...
32 total configurations.
Shifting muon positions to occupy smaller subspace of the unit cell...
Done! Click "View initial muon positions" to see sites generated.
```
- View initial muon positions button
- Quit button

**3D Visualization Window:**

- File Edit View Tools Setup Help
- 3D model showing a crystal structure with muon sites (red and yellow spheres) and a dashed box indicating the unit cell.
- Coordinate axes (x, y, z) are visible at the bottom left.

# Workshop (N): DipoleCalc

Takes the sites determined by DFT and explores the dipolar fields in ordered magnetic states (includes features developed for treating muons in complex molecular magnetic systems and also has the ability to simulate incommensurate SDW systems such as MnSi)

The image displays two software windows. The left window is 'DipoleCalc: Dipolar Field Distribution for an Ordered Array of Electronic Spins', version 2.7 (13/07/19). It features a control panel on the left with options for 'Structure', 'Cell' (Simple, FC, BC, Other), 'Spin at Origin of Sublattice-1' (Single spin, Double spin, No spin), 'Examine Test Point' (cell, abs), 'Sampling and Demagnetization Factor' (Cutoff [Å], Grid [Å], Demag N), and 'Parameters for Field Histogram' (B min, B max, B bin, B cutoff). The main area is a grid of 20 sublattices (1-20), each with input fields for Origin, Moment gS, and Spin Dir. Below the grid are sections for '2D Scan of Defined Plane', '3D Scan of Full Unit Cell', and 'Field Distribution from Incommensurate SDW'. The right window is 'kappa-(ET)2Cu[N(CN)2]Cl-100K (Pnma) - Mercury', showing a 3D ball-and-stick model of the crystal structure with a coordinate system (x, y, z) and various view controls. A note at the bottom of the right window reads: 'Press the left mouse button and move the mouse to rotate the structure'.