

# Parity violation in molecular systems

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Pierre Asselin (Paris)

Thérèse Huet (Lille)

# What is Life ?

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# DOROTHY L.

# SAYERS

WITH ROBERT EUSTACE

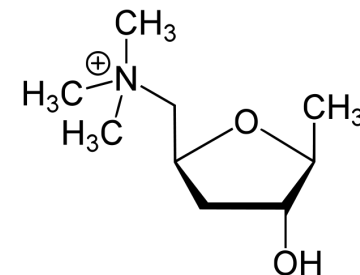


## THE DOCUMENTS IN THE CASE

"One of the greatest mystery story writers"

*"At present — chemically speaking — the nearest definition I can produce is that it is a **kind of bias** — a lopsidedness, so to speak."*

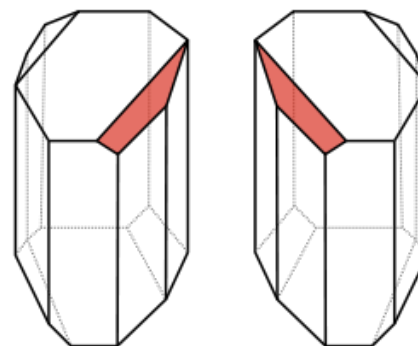
*"Up to the present, it is only a living substance that has found the trick of transforming a symmetric, optically active compound. At the moment Life appeared on this planet, something happened to the molecular structure of things. They got a **twist**, which nobody has succeeded in reproducing mechanically - at least, not without an exercise of deliberate selective intelligence, which is also, as I suppose you'll allow, a manifestation of Life."*



## Pasteur and the universal chiral force



Louis Pasteur manually separated left- and right-handed crystals of chemically synthesized tartaric acid and showed that they were optically active, rotating the plane of light the opposite way.



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*L'univers est un ensemble dissymétrique, et je suis persuadé que la vie, telle qu'elle se manifeste à nous, est fonction de la dissymétrie de l'univers ou des conséquences qu'elle entraîne.*

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### **Biomolecular homochirality:**

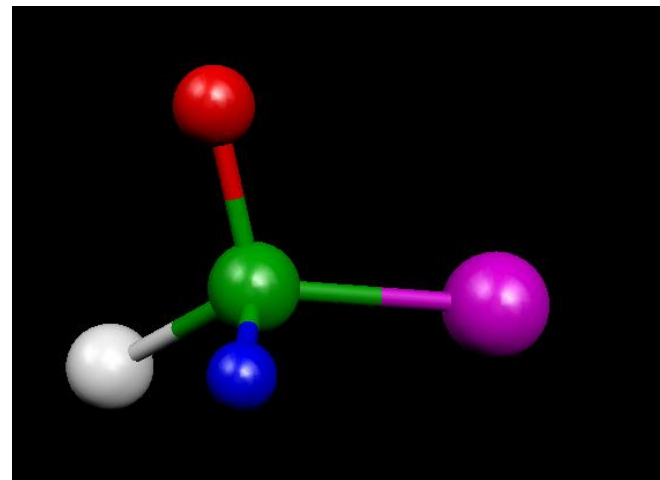
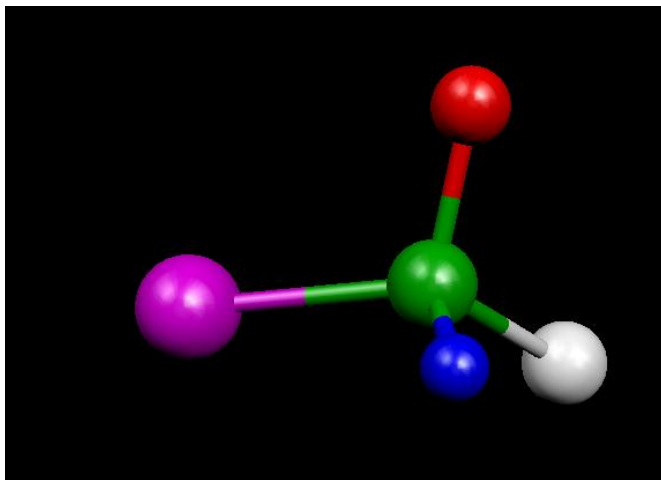
Life on earth has many homochiral features, e.g. amino acids and sugars consist (almost) exclusively of the L- and the D-form, respectively.

# Chiral molecules

The word chirality (handedness) was introduced by Lord Kelvin (1873).

The first paper in chemistry using the word chirality dates from 1962:

Carl Djerassi, Ruth Records, E. Bunnenberg, Kurt Mislow and Albert Moscovitz, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 84 (1962) 870



Enantiomers of chiral molecules are related by the parity operation

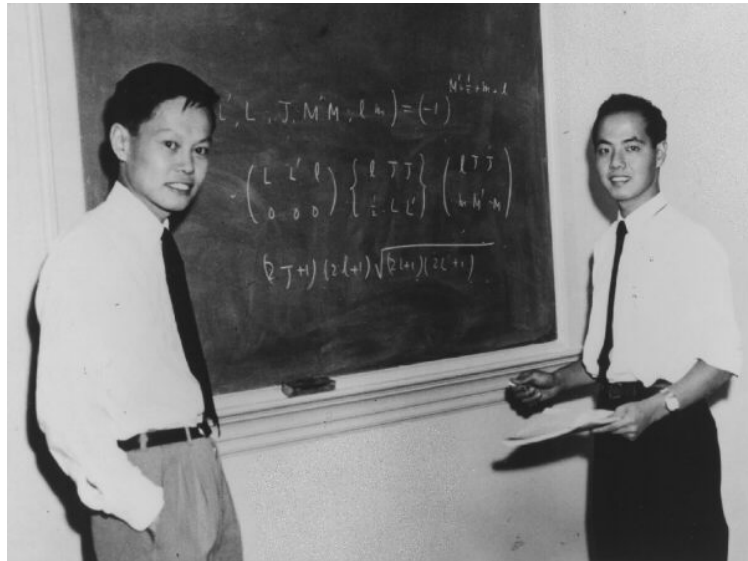
$$\hat{P}\Psi_L = \Psi_R$$

The Hamiltonian of (electromagnetic) quantum chemistry commutes with the parity operator

$$[\hat{H}, \hat{P}] = 0$$

and so the enantiomers are degenerate.

# Parity violation in weak interactions



In 1956 Lee and Yang suggested that parity may not be conserved in processes involving the weak force

PHYSICAL REVIEW VOLUME 104, NUMBER 1 OCTOBER 1, 1956

## Question of Parity Conservation in Weak Interactions\*

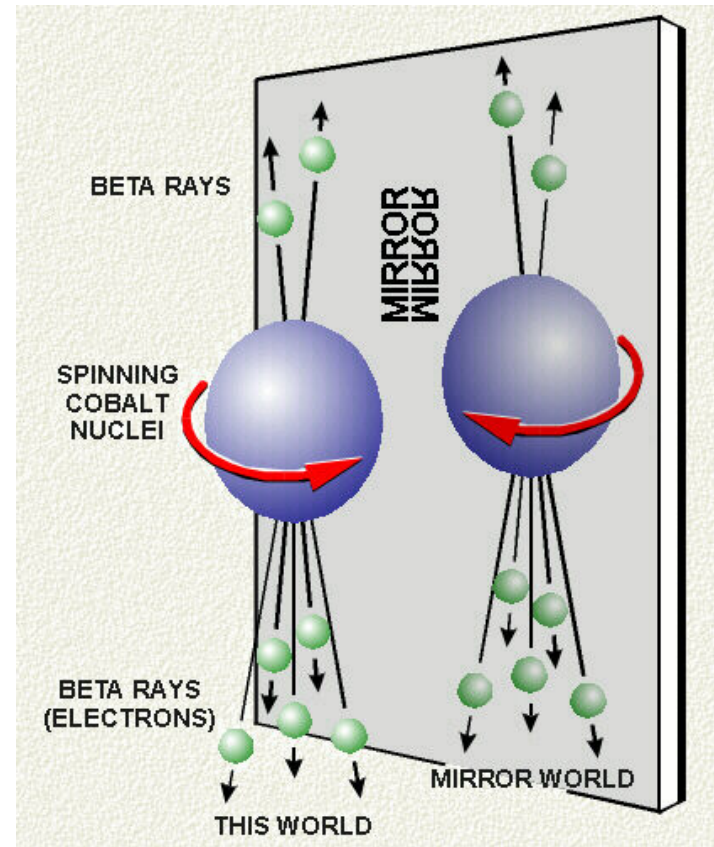
T. D. LEE, *Columbia University, New York, New York*

AND

C. N. YANG, † *Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York*

(Received June 22, 1956)

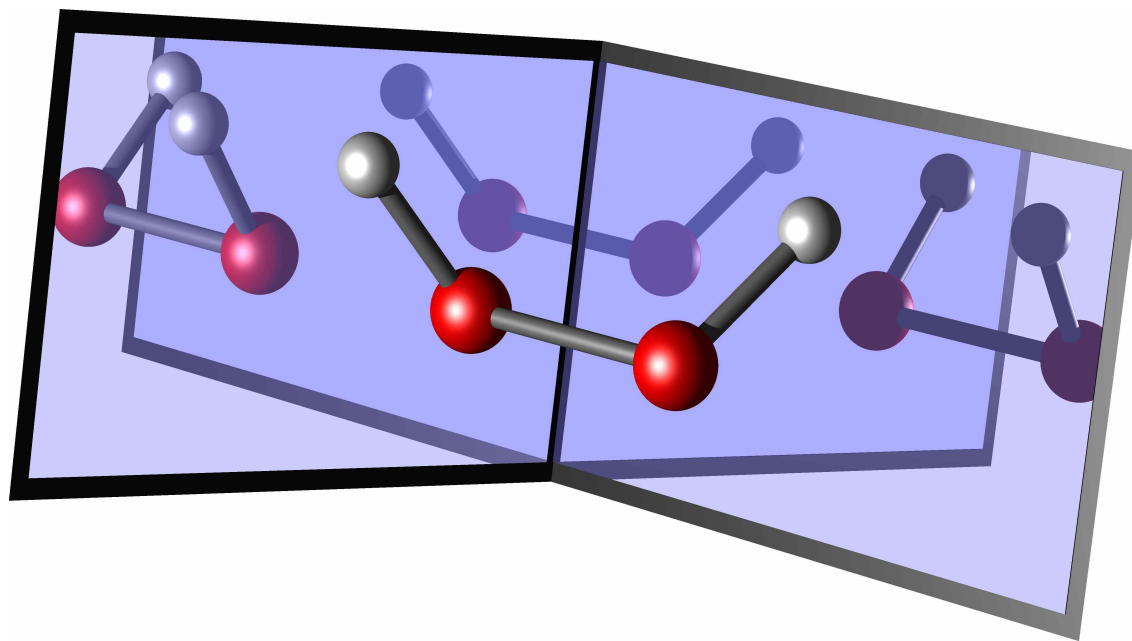
The question of parity conservation in  $\beta$  decays and in hyperon and meson decays is examined. Possible experiments are suggested which might test parity conservation in these interactions.



In 1957 Wu and co-workers observed parity violation in the  $\beta$ -decay of the  $^{60}\text{Co}$  nucleus.

# Parity-violation in molecular systems

M.Quack, Ang. Chem. Int. Ed. **41**(2002) 4618, J. K. Laerdahl and P. Schwerdtfeger, Phys. Rev. A **60** (1999) 4439



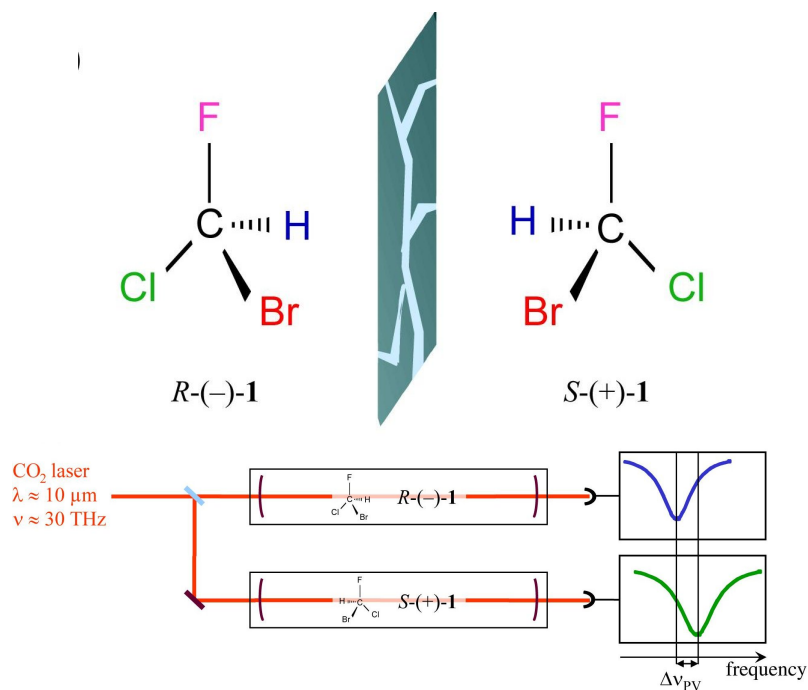
The Hamiltonian of *electroweak* quantum chemistry has a parity-violating (PV) component  $H_{pv}^{PV}$  and thus induces a minute energy difference between left- and right-handed molecules

$$E_{pv;L}^{PV} = \langle \Psi_L | \hat{H}_{pv}^{PV} | \Psi_L \rangle = \langle \hat{P}\Psi_L | \hat{P}\hat{H}_{pv}^{PV}\hat{P}^{-1} | \hat{P}\Psi_L \rangle = - \langle \Psi_R | \hat{H}_{pv}^{PV} | \Psi_R \rangle = -E_{pv;R}^{PV}$$

Could this explain the origin of biochirality ?

# Searching for PV effects in vibrational spectra

V. Lethokov, Phys. Lett. A **53** (1975) 275



- C-F stretch:

$$\begin{aligned} \nu_{CF} &= 1077 \text{ cm}^{-1} \\ &= 3.2 \cdot 10^{13} \text{ Hz} \end{aligned}$$

## Experiment:

M. Ziskind, T. Marrel, C. Daussy, C. Chardonnet, Eur. Phys. J. D **20** (2002) 219

- High-resolution spectroscopy:

$$-4.2 \pm 0.6 \pm 1.6 \text{ Hz}$$

- Relative sensitivity:  $\Delta\nu/\nu = 4 \cdot 10^{-14}$

## Theory:

P. Schwerdtfeger, T. Saue, J. N. P. van Straalen and L. Visscher, Phys. Rev. A **71** (2005) 012103

- PV shift:

$$\Delta\nu_{RS} = \nu_R - \nu_S = -2.4 \text{ mHz (MP2)}$$

- Relative sensitivity required:

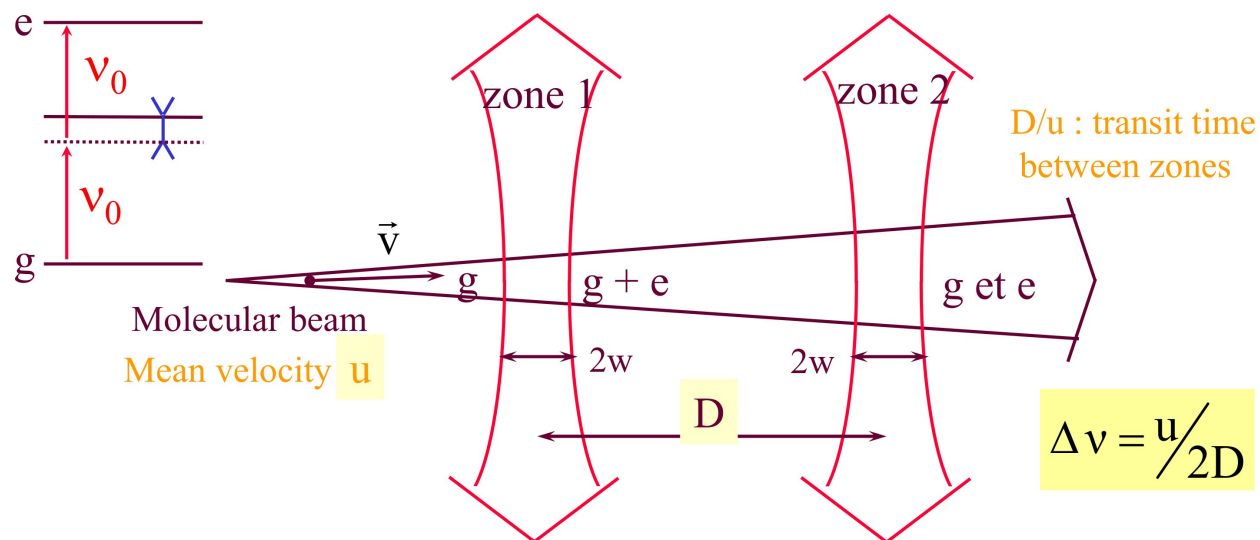
$$\Delta\nu_{RS}/\nu_{CF} = -7.56 \cdot 10^{-17}$$

We need a better experiment and better molecules !

# A new experiment

- molecular beam spectroscopy using a two-photon Ramsey fringes experiment

A. Amy-Klein, L. F. Constantin, R. J. Butcher, G. Charton, and Ch. Chardonnet, Phys. Rev. A 63 (2000) 013404



- Lineshape( $\nu$ ):  $Two\text{-photon absorption } (\nu) \times \left( 1 + C \cos \left[ \frac{2\pi(\nu - \nu_0)}{\Delta \nu} \right] \right)$

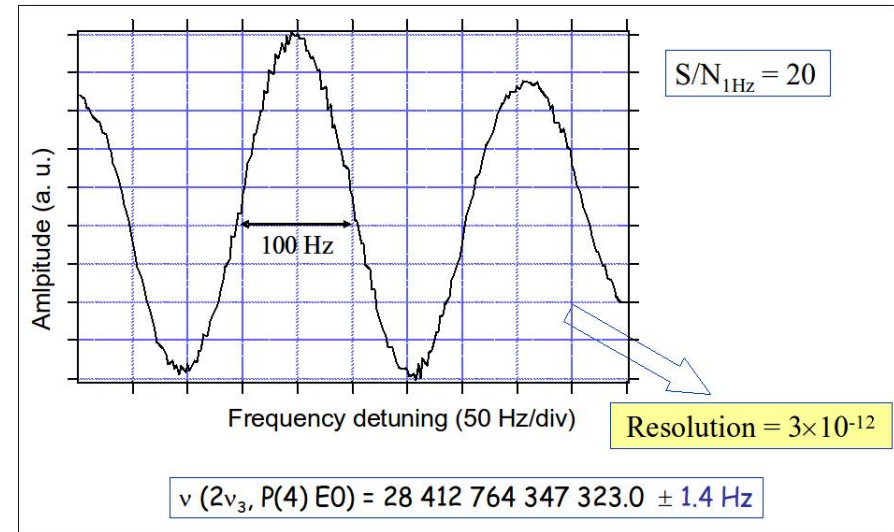
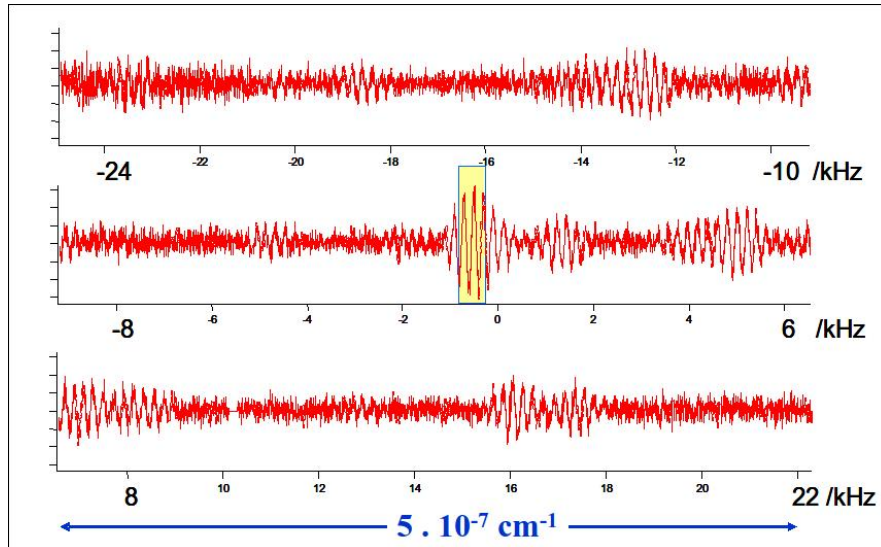


# A two-photon Ramsey fringes experiment on SF<sub>6</sub>

A. Shelkownikov, C. Grain, R. J. Butcher, A. Amy-Klein, A. Goncharov, and Ch. Chardonnet,

IEEE Quant. Electron., **40** (2004) 1023,

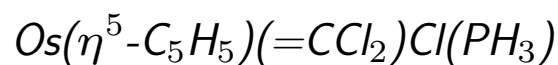
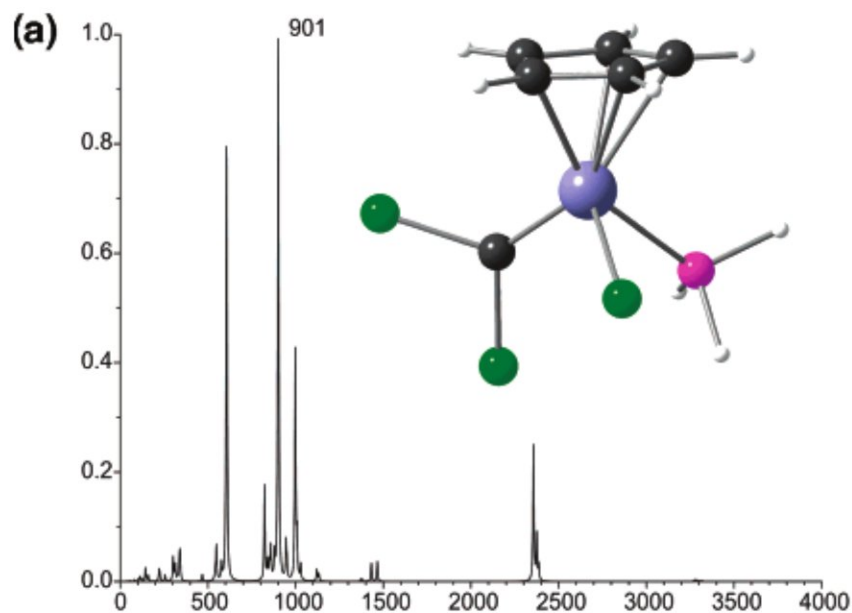
A. Shelkownikov, R. J. Butcher, C. Chardonnet, and A. Amy-Klein. Phys. Rev. Lett., **100** (2008) 150801,



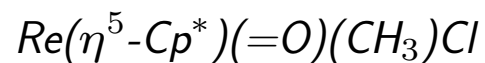
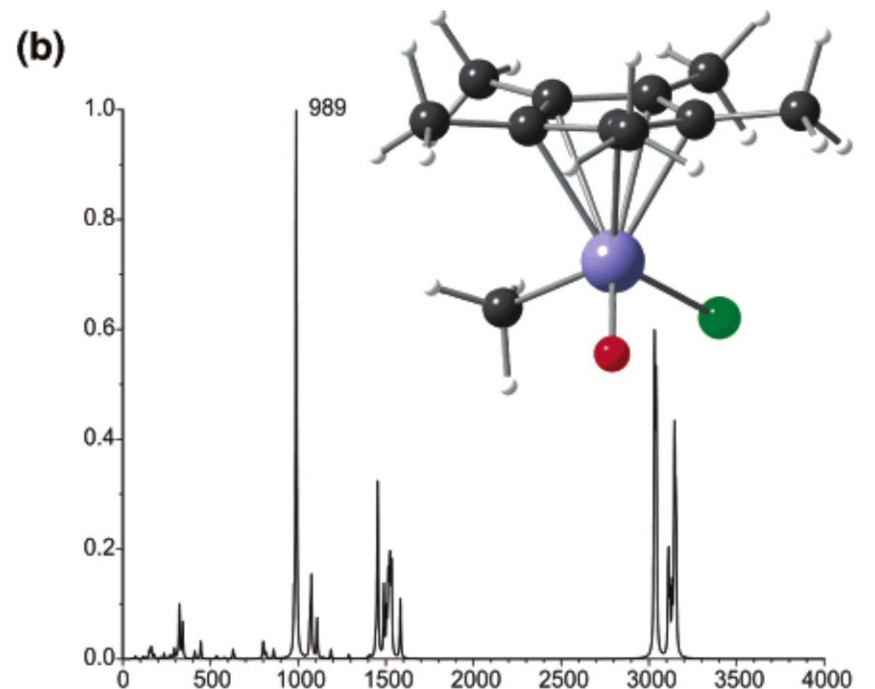
- The LPL team recently developed an experiment of Doppler-free two photon Ramsey fringes on a supersonic beam of SF<sub>6</sub> in which a relative sensitivity below 1 Hz was obtained ( $10^{-14}$  in fractional value)
- Taking advantage of the gain expected for a differential experiment, a sensitivity of 0.01 Hz is expected in a similar experiment on parity violation in vibrational shifts.

# Organometallic compounds

P. Schwerdtfeger and R. Bast, J. Am. Chem. Soc. **126** (2004) 1652



- Os=C stretch:  
 $\nu_{\text{Os}-\text{C}} = 901 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  (B3LYP)
- $\Delta_{RS}(0 \rightarrow 1) = -3.58 \text{ Hz}$  (4c-HF)
- $\Delta\nu_{RS}/\nu_{\text{Os}-\text{C}} = -4.3 \cdot 10^{-14}$



- Re=O stretch:  
 $\nu_{\text{Re}-\text{O}} = 989 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  (B3LYP)
- $\Delta_{RS}(0 \rightarrow 1) = +1.29 \text{ Hz}$  (4c-HF)
- $\Delta\nu_{RS}/\nu_{\text{Re}-\text{O}} = +3.7 \cdot 10^{-14}$

# Electroweak chemistry

$$E_{PV} = \sum_K E_{PV}^K; \quad E_{PV}^K = \frac{G_F}{2\sqrt{2}} Q_W^K \sum_i \langle \psi_i | \gamma_5 \rho_K | \psi_i \rangle$$

✓ Weak charge:  $Q_{W;A} = -N_A + Z_A (1 - 4 \sin^2 \theta_W)$ ;  $\sin^2 \theta_W = 0.2319$

✓ Normalized nucleon density:  $\rho_A$

✓  $\gamma_5 = \begin{bmatrix} 0_2 & I_2 \\ I_2 & 0_2 \end{bmatrix}$

✓ Fermi coupling constant:  $G_F = 2.22255 \cdot 10^{-14}$  a.u. **very weak !**

✓  $E_{PV}^K \propto Z_K^5$

✓  $E_{PV}^K = 0$ , unless spin-orbit coupling is present.

**Look for chiral compounds with heavy elements !**

# The DIRAC code

**P**rogram  
• for  
**A**tomistic  
• and  
**M**olecular  
  
**D**irect  
**I**terative  
**R**elativistic  
**A**ll-electron  
**C**alculations



- Web site: <http://wiki.chem.vu.nl/dirac>
- Wave functions: [HF, MP2, RASCI, MCSCF, CCSD(T), FSCCD] + DFT [LDA, GGAs, hybrids]
- HF/DFT: Electric and magnetic properties: expectation values, linear and quadratic response functions, single excitation energies

# Announcing DIRAC10

Release date: 10/10/10. Check <http://wiki.chem.vu.nl/dirac>

**P**rogram  
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**A**tomic  
• and  
**M**olecular  
  
**D**irect  
**I**terative  
**R**elativistic  
**A**ll-electron  
**C**alculations



- **Hamiltonians:**

- X2C+AMFI for 2-electron spin-orbit corrections (SSO/SOO)

- **Methods:**

- KR-MCSCF
- RELADC for correlated calculations of single/double ionization spectra
- large-scale parallel CI (LUCITA/KRCI)
- intermediate Hamiltonian formalism for Fock-space CCSD
- interface to MRCC (M. Kallay)
- frozen density embedding

- **Properties:**

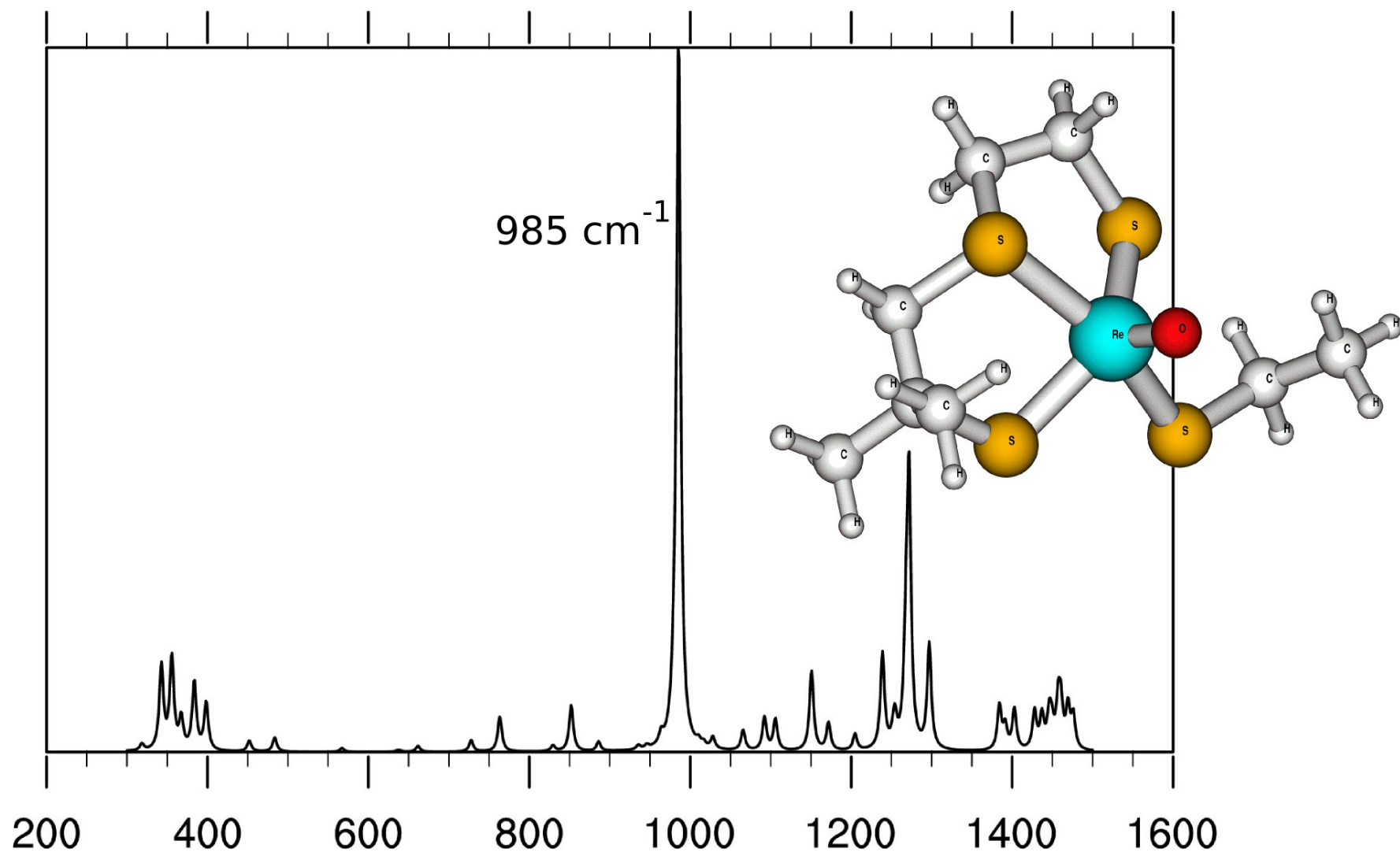
- HF/KS excitation energies
- KS response with noncollinear spin polarization
- more efficient KS DFT code
- London orbitals for HF NMR shieldings

- **Analysis:**

- visualization of unperturbed and perturbed densities
- projection analysis of expectation values
- expectation values/transition moments  
KRCI/GOSCI

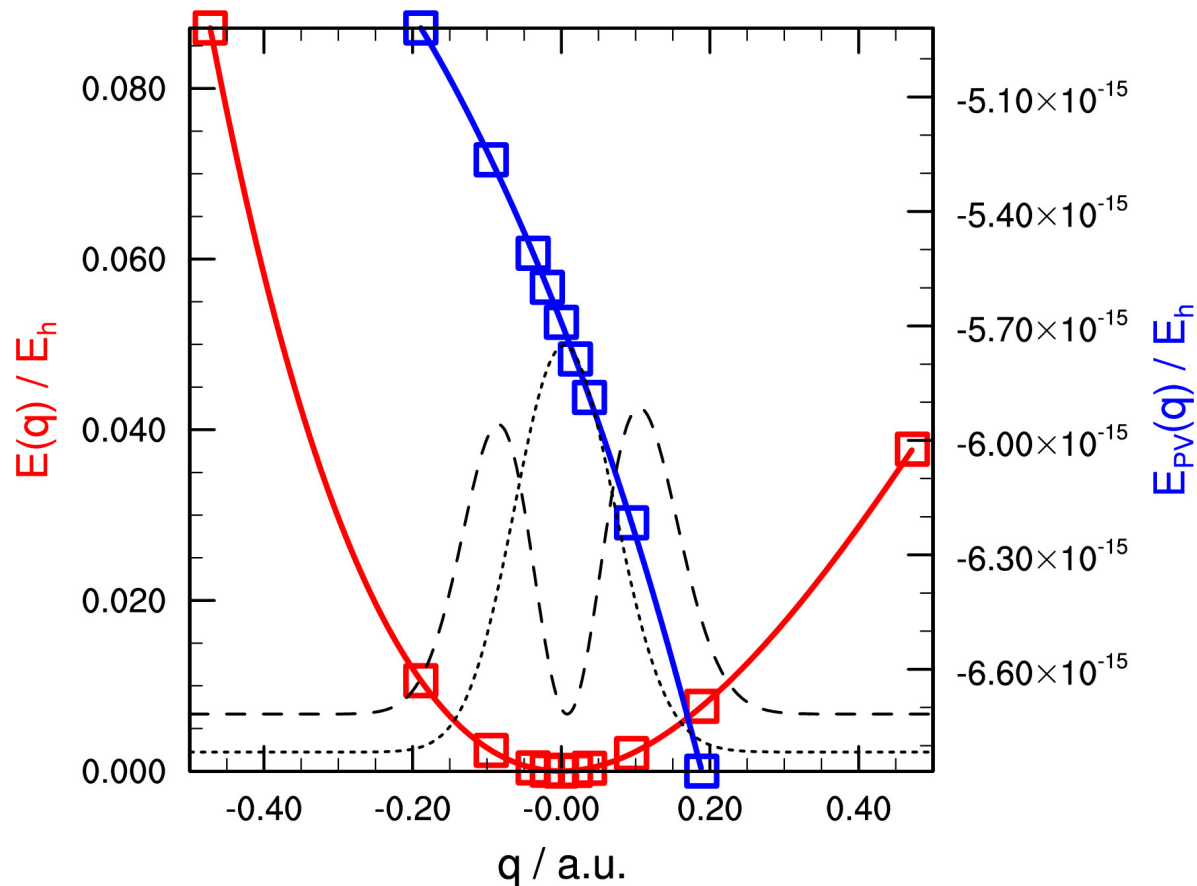
# Computational procedure

1. Geometry optimization + rovibrational analysis (gaussian/B3LYP):  
the infrared spectrum is simulated using calculated frequencies and intensities



# Computational procedure

2. Calculation of energy  $E(q)$  and PV energy contribution  $E_{PV}(q)$  along selected vibrational mode (DIRAC/X2C/B3LYP or HF)
3. Numerical solution of vibrational problem (Numerov-Cooley)  $\rightarrow \psi_\nu^{\text{vib}}$
4. Integration of  $E_{PV}(q)$  with vibrational solutions:  $E_{PV}(\nu) = \langle \psi_\nu^{\text{vib}} | E_{PV}(q) | \psi_\nu^{\text{vib}} \rangle$



# Looking for the best candidate

The ideal candidate chiral molecule for the experiment should:

- be available in large enantiomer excess or, ideally, in enantiopure form;
- show a large PV frequency difference of an intense fundamental transition within the CO<sub>2</sub> laser operating range (850-1120 cm<sup>-1</sup>);
- not be too bulky since the sensitivity of the experiment will be largely determined by the partition function of the molecules in a supersonic beam where the internal degrees of freedom are frozen down to about 1 K;
- avoid nuclei with quadrupolar moments;
- preferably sublime without decomposition for injection into the Fabry-Perot cavity of the experiment, although laser ablation techniques may also be envisaged.



# Chiral “3+1” oxorhenium(V) complexes

Frederic De Montigny, Radovan Bast, Andre Severo Pereira Gomes, Guillaume Pilet, Nicolas Vanthuyne, Christian Roussel,

Laure Guy, Peter Schwerdtfeger, Trond Saue and Jeanne Crassous, Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys. **12** (2010) 8792

- Re=O stretch:

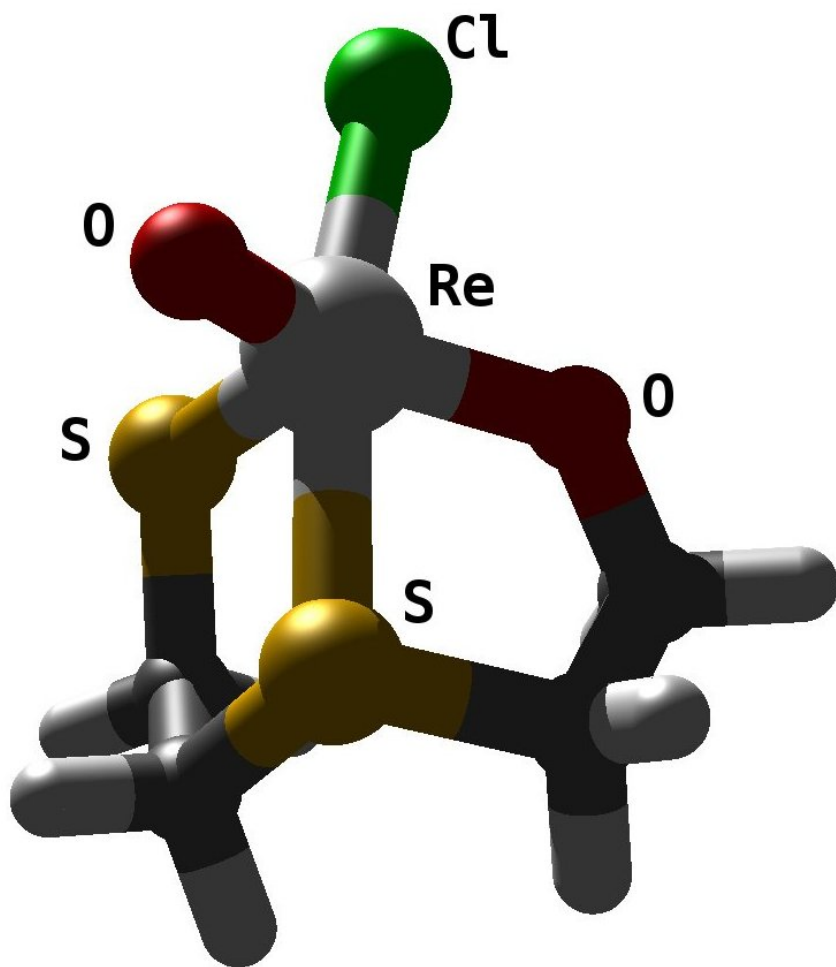
$$\nu_{Re-O} = 1032 \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

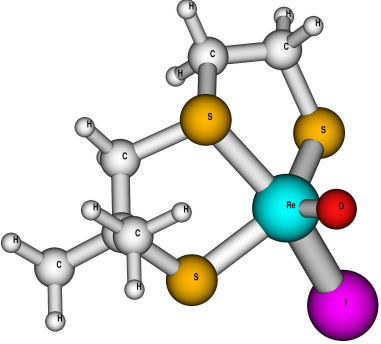
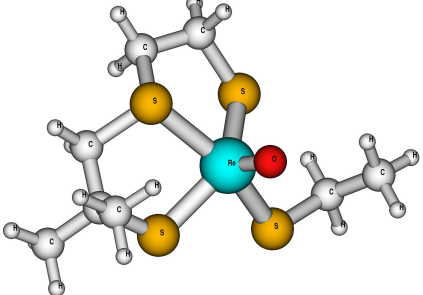
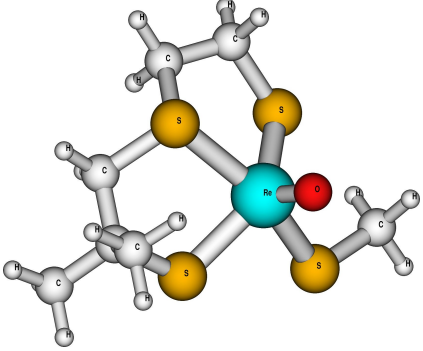
- PV shift (HF):

$$\Delta\nu_{RS} = 2055.7 \text{ mHz}$$

- PV shift (B3LYP):

$$\Delta\nu_{RS} = 206.4 \text{ mHz}$$

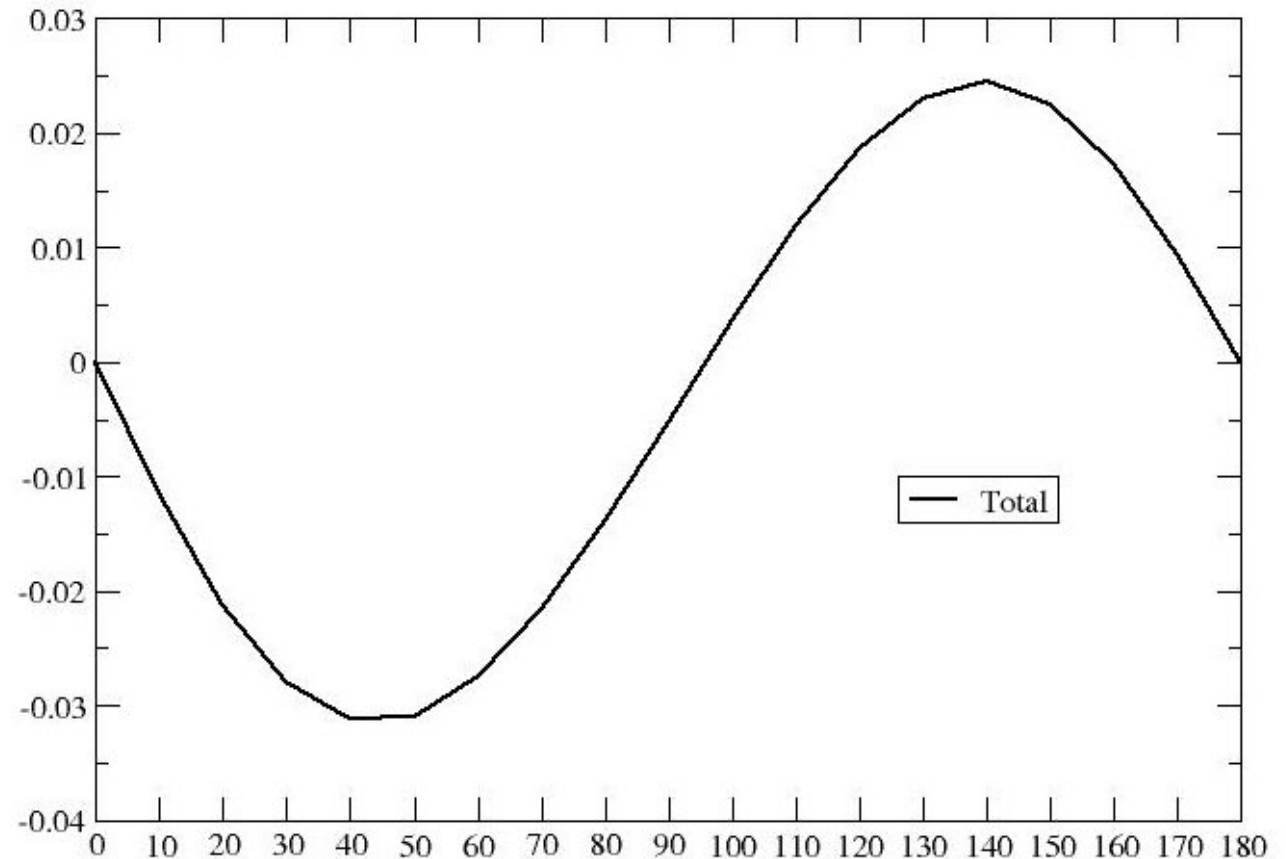
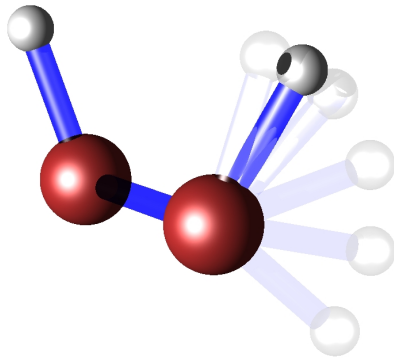


$\nu(\text{Re}=\text{O})$		$\Delta\nu_{RS}(\text{X2C})$		
		HF	B3LYP	
<b>4</b>	$1027 \text{ cm}^{-1}$	156.8 mHz	69.0 mHz	
<b>5</b>	$1012 \text{ cm}^{-1}$	-1584.9 mHz	-102.5 mHz	
<b>5b</b>	$1012 \text{ cm}^{-1}$	-1021.0 mHz	-84.0 mHz	

A significant discrepancy is observed between HF and DFT results and calls upon further analysis.

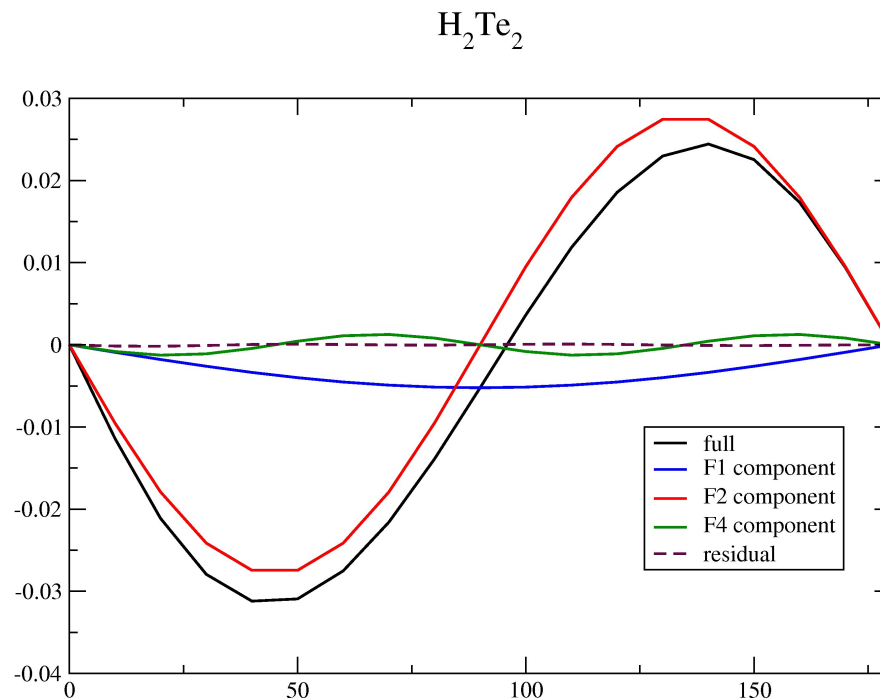
# $H_2X_2$ (X=O, S, Se, Te, Po) — a toy system

S. F. Mason and G. E. Tranter, Mol. Phys. **53** (1984) 1091



We focus on the PV-contribution  $E_{PV}^{Te}$  from one tellurium atom of  $H_2Te_2$  as a function of dihedral angle.

# Fourier decomposition



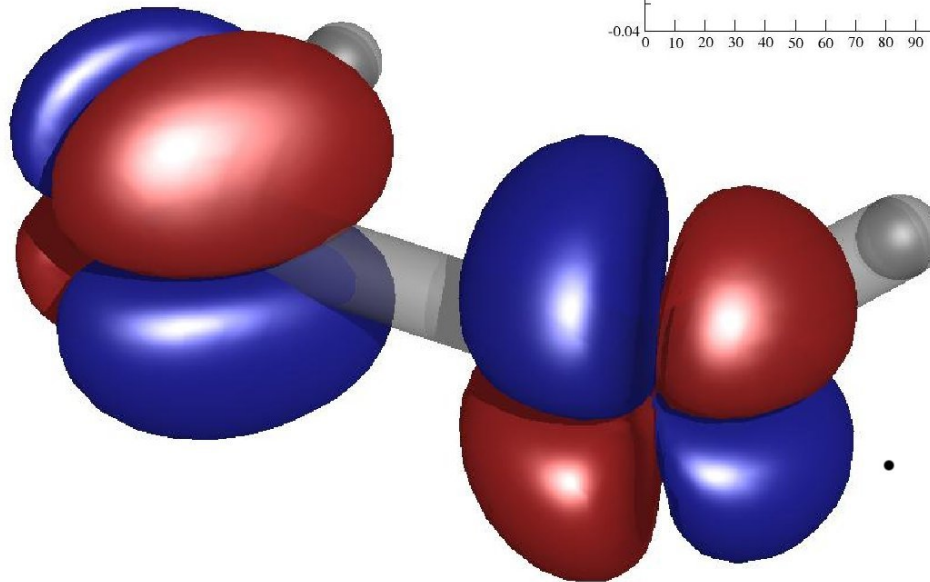
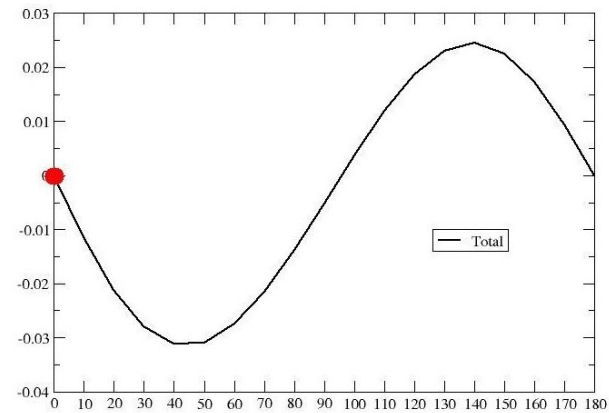
$$K_{PV}^X(\gamma) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} F_n \sin(n\gamma)$$

$F_2$	$\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$	$\text{H}_2\text{S}_2$	$\text{H}_2\text{Se}_2$	$\text{H}_2\text{Te}_2$	$\text{H}_2\text{Po}_2$
HF	-6.492E-06	-7.435E-05	-3.163E-03	-2.787E-02	-7.955E-01
LDA	-7.153E-06	-9.522E-05	-4.335E-03	-3.697E-02	-7.444E-01
BLYP	-6.953E-06	-9.554E-05	-4.204E-03	-3.585E-02	-7.504E-01
B3LYP	-6.889E-06	-9.162E-05	-4.055E-03	-3.488E-02	-7.703E-01

# A real-space approach

$$E_{PV}^A = \frac{G}{2\sqrt{2}} Q_W^A \sum_i \langle \psi_i | \gamma_5 \rho_A | \psi_i \rangle = \frac{G}{2\sqrt{2}} Q_W^A \int \gamma^5(\mathbf{r}) \rho_A(\mathbf{r}) d\tau; \quad \gamma_5 = \begin{bmatrix} 0_2 & I_2 \\ I_2 & 0_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

0



## Digression: Visualization of orbitals

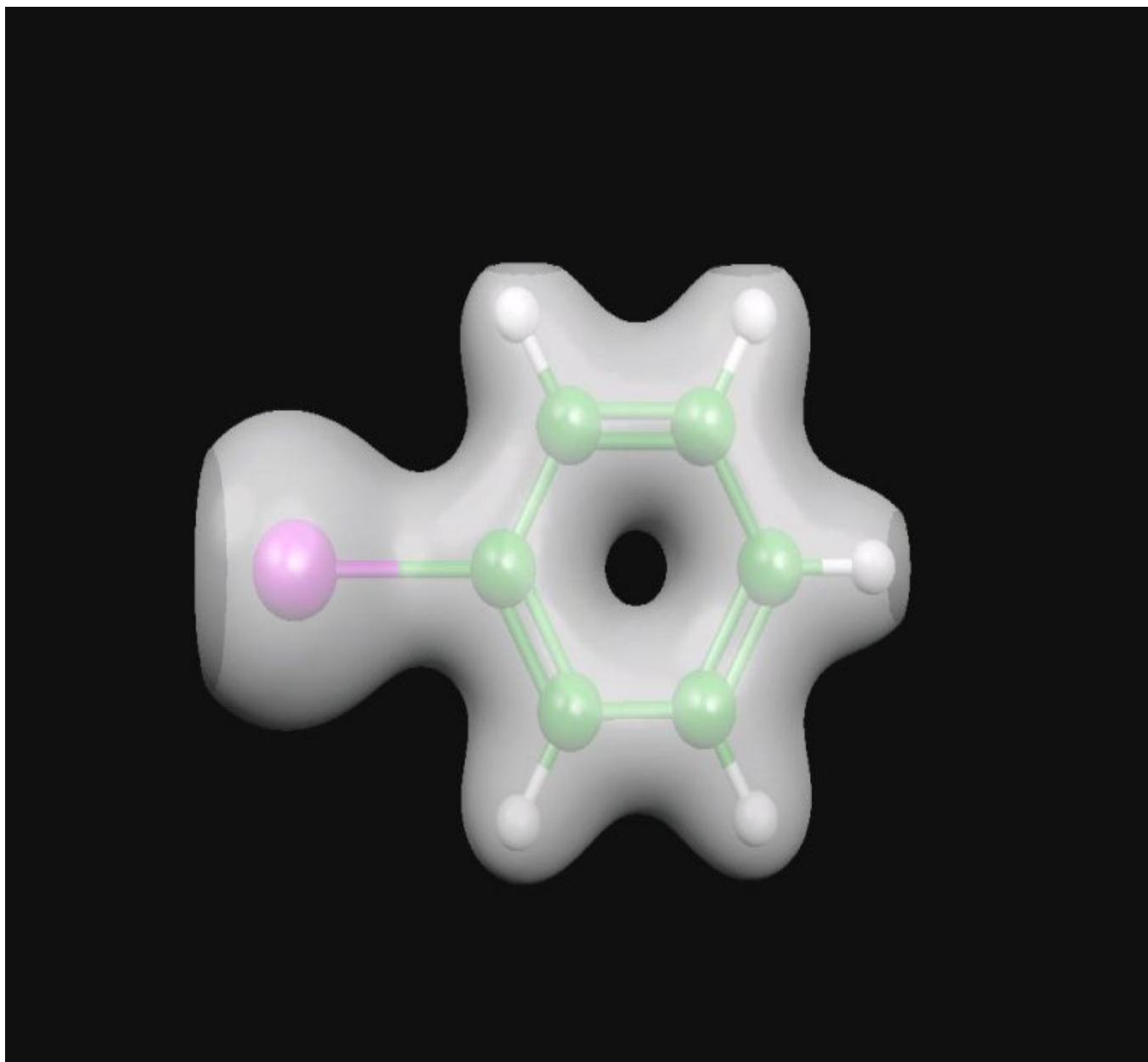
- ✓ Orbitals in Dirac theory are complex vector functions (4-spinors)

$$\psi = \begin{bmatrix} \psi^L \\ \psi^S \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \psi^{L\alpha} \\ \psi^{L\beta} \\ \psi^{S\alpha} \\ \psi^{S\beta} \end{bmatrix}$$

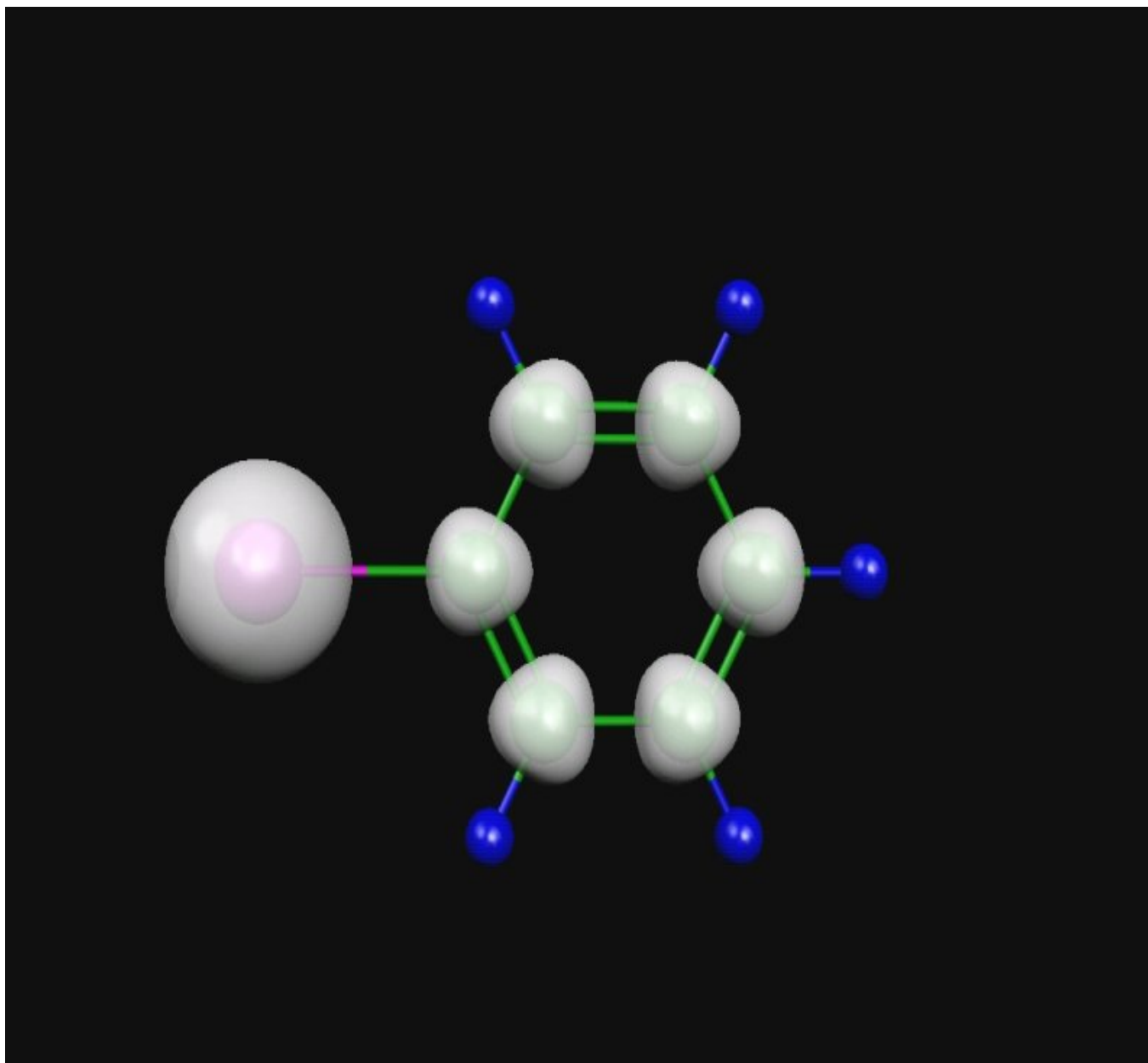
- ✓ The density is a real scalar function

$$\rho(\mathbf{r}) = \rho^L(\mathbf{r}) + \rho^S(\mathbf{r}); \quad \rho^X(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_i^{N_{\text{occ}}} \psi_i^{X\dagger}(\mathbf{r})\psi^X(\mathbf{r}), \quad X = L, S$$

# Large component density of iodobenzene (isosurface=0.01)

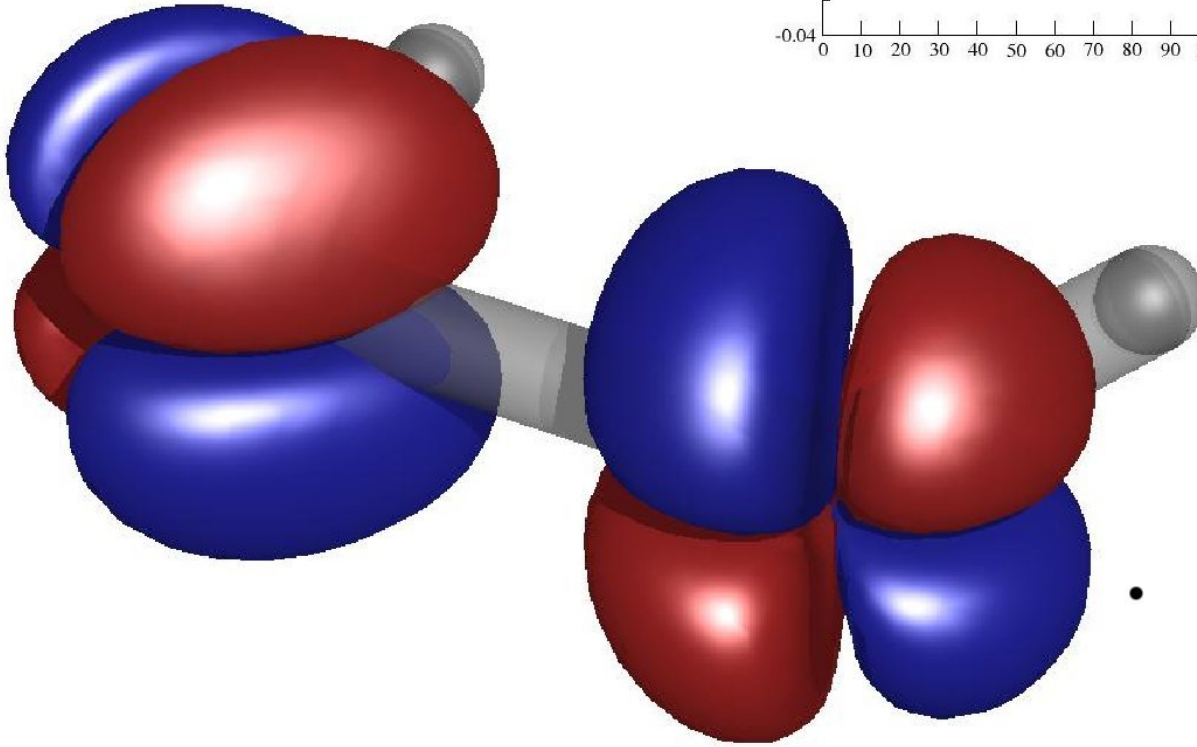
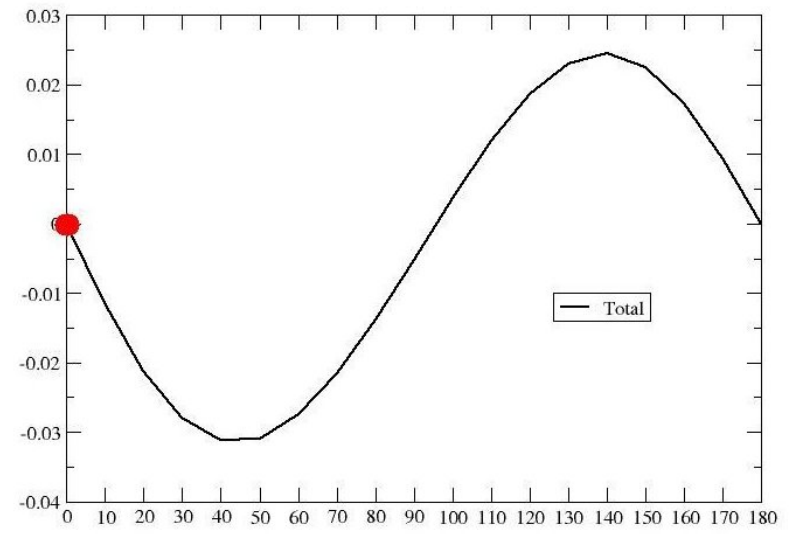


# Small component density of iodobenzene (isosurface=0.0001)

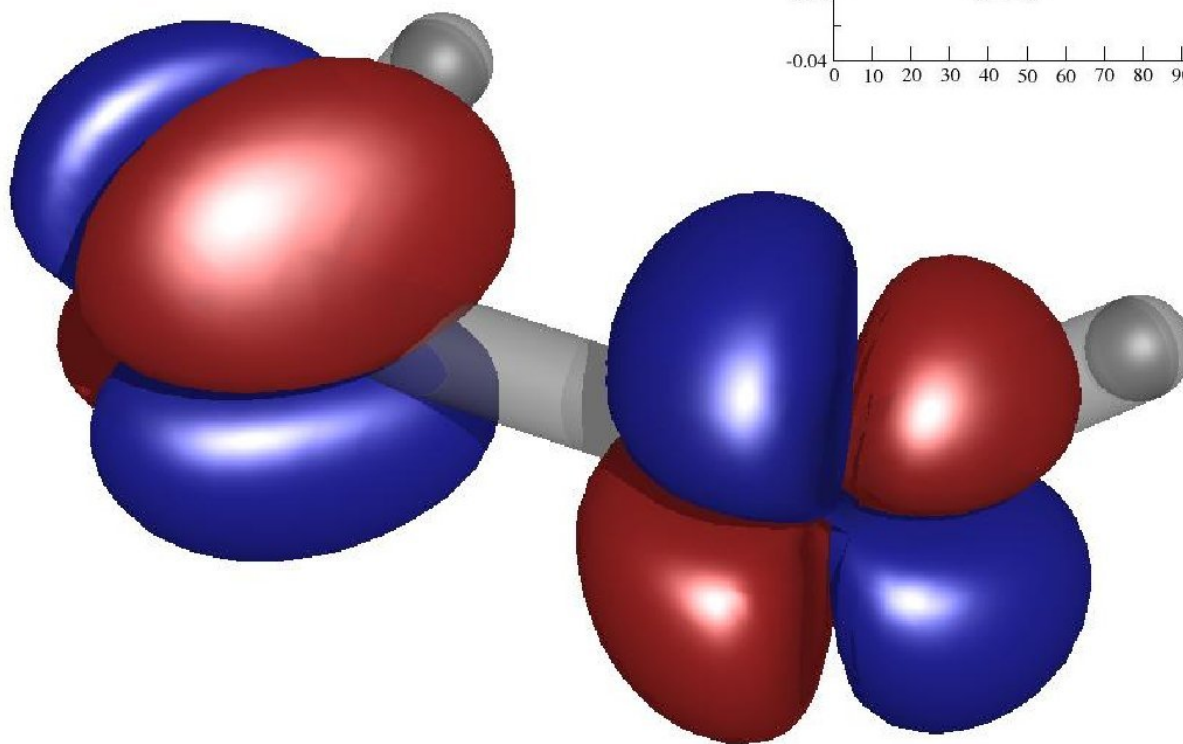
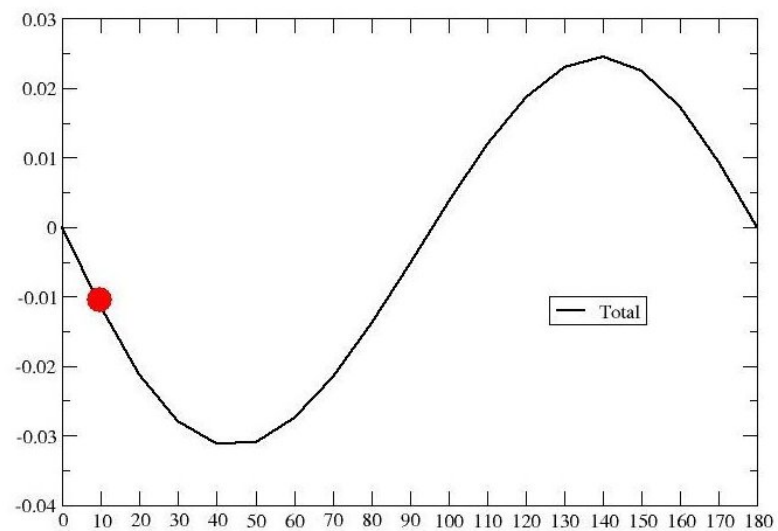


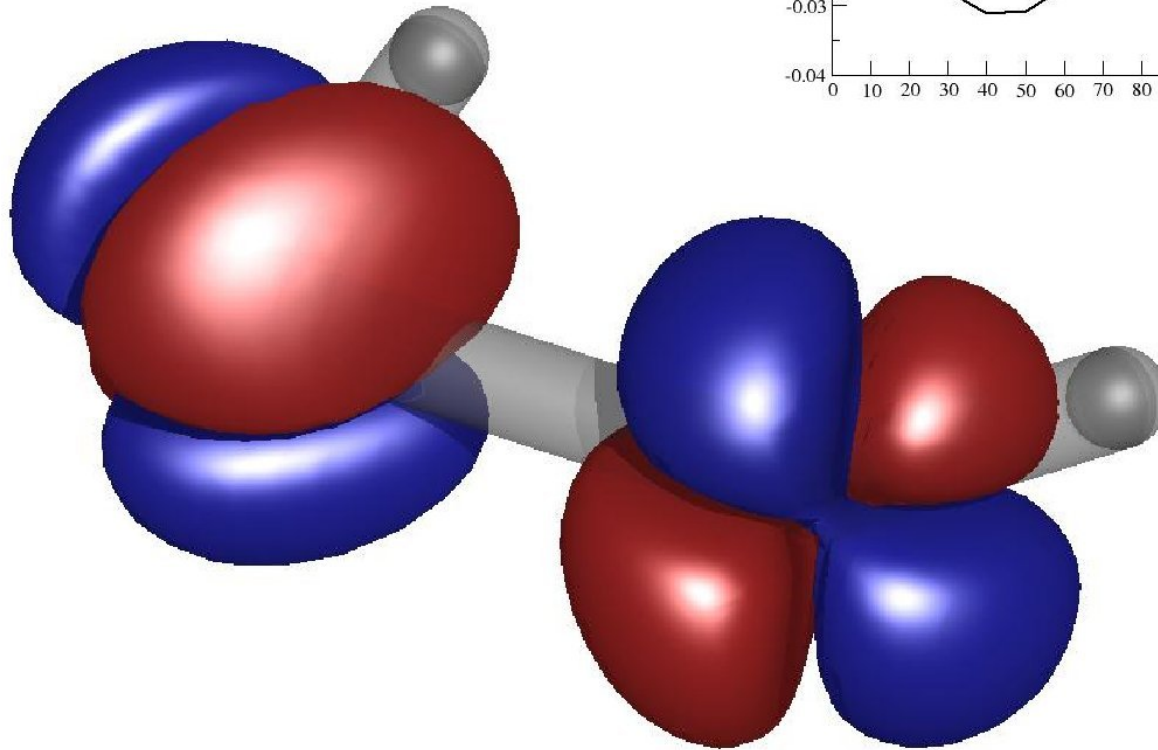
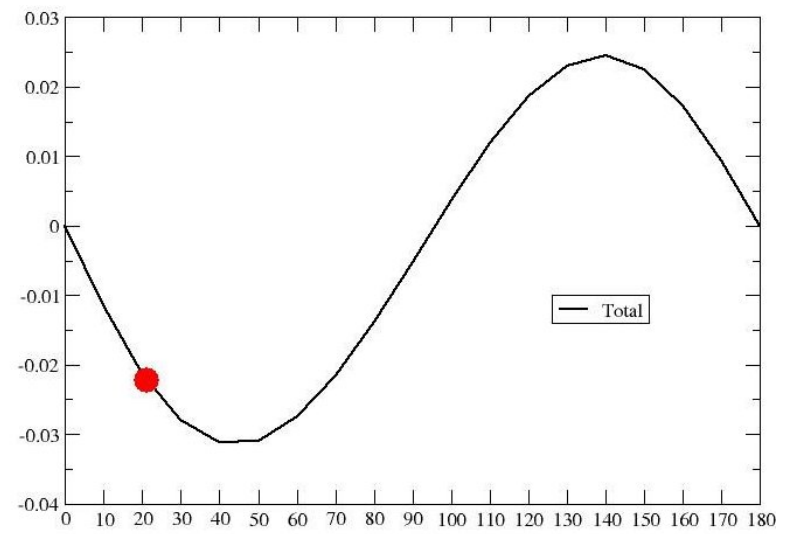


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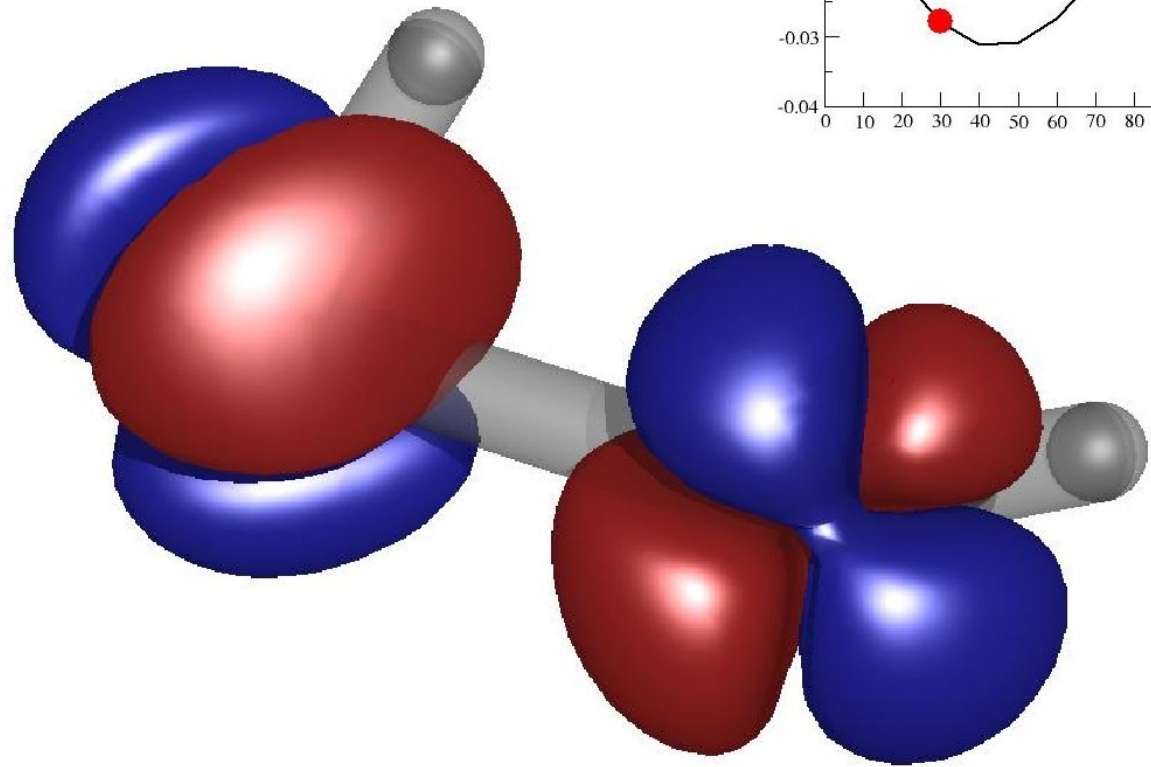
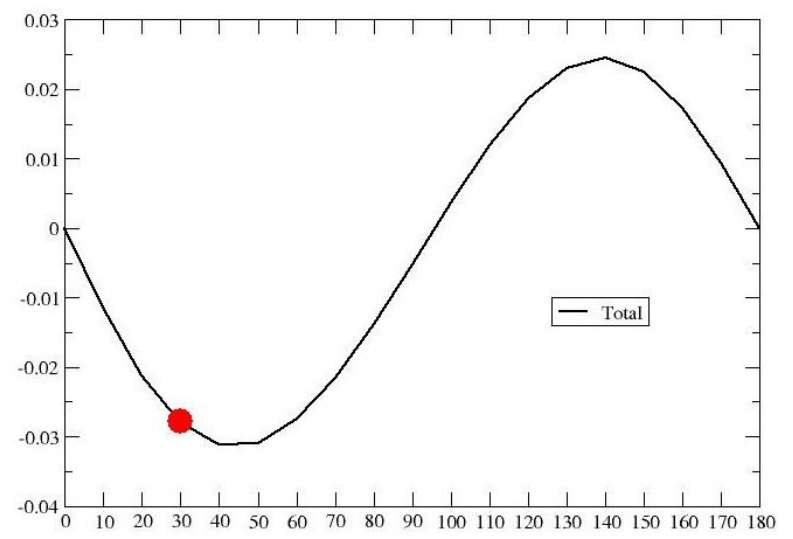


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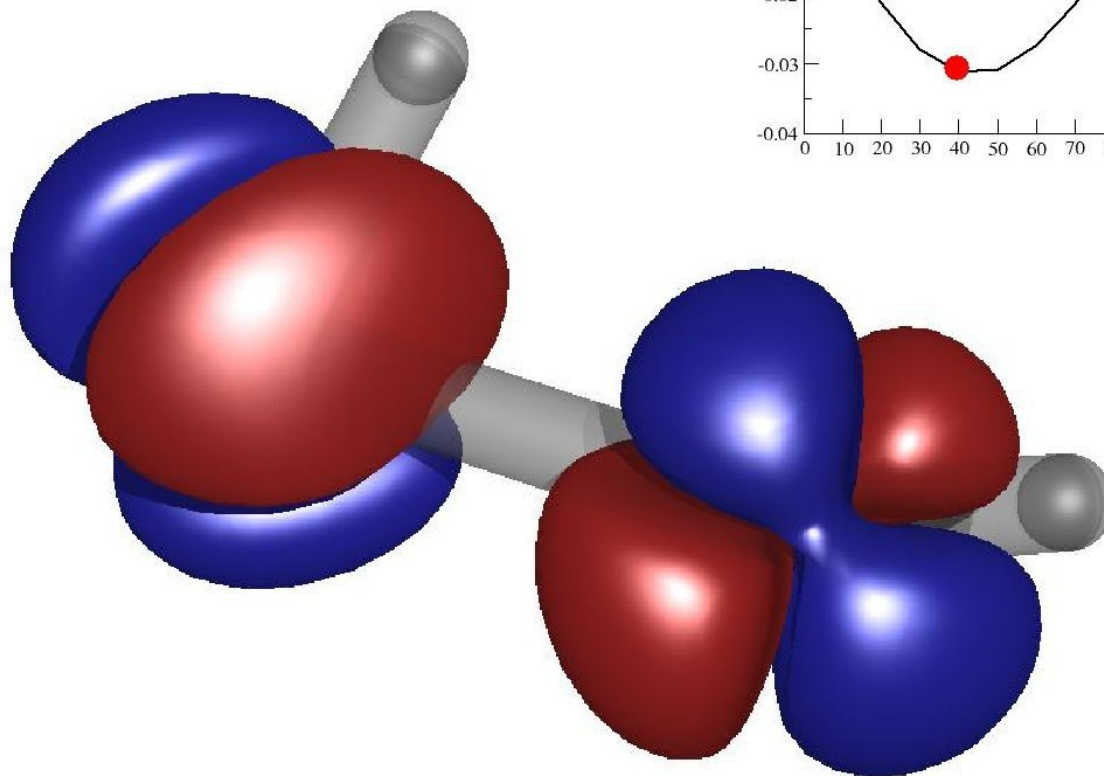
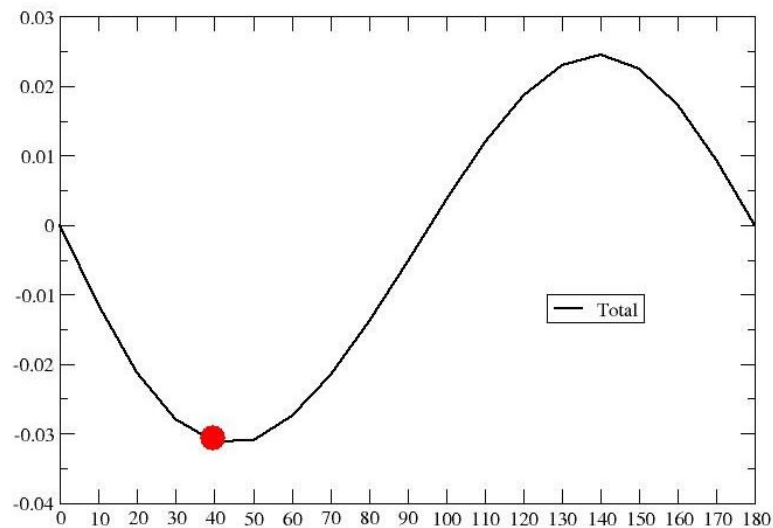




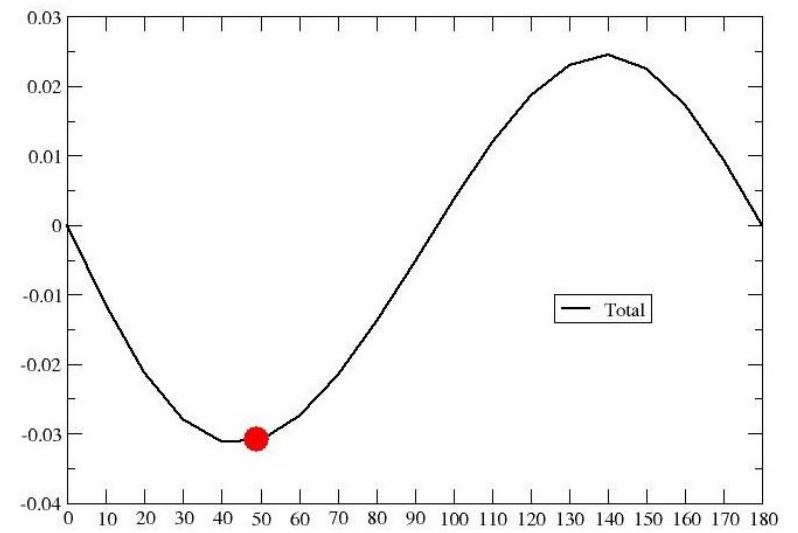
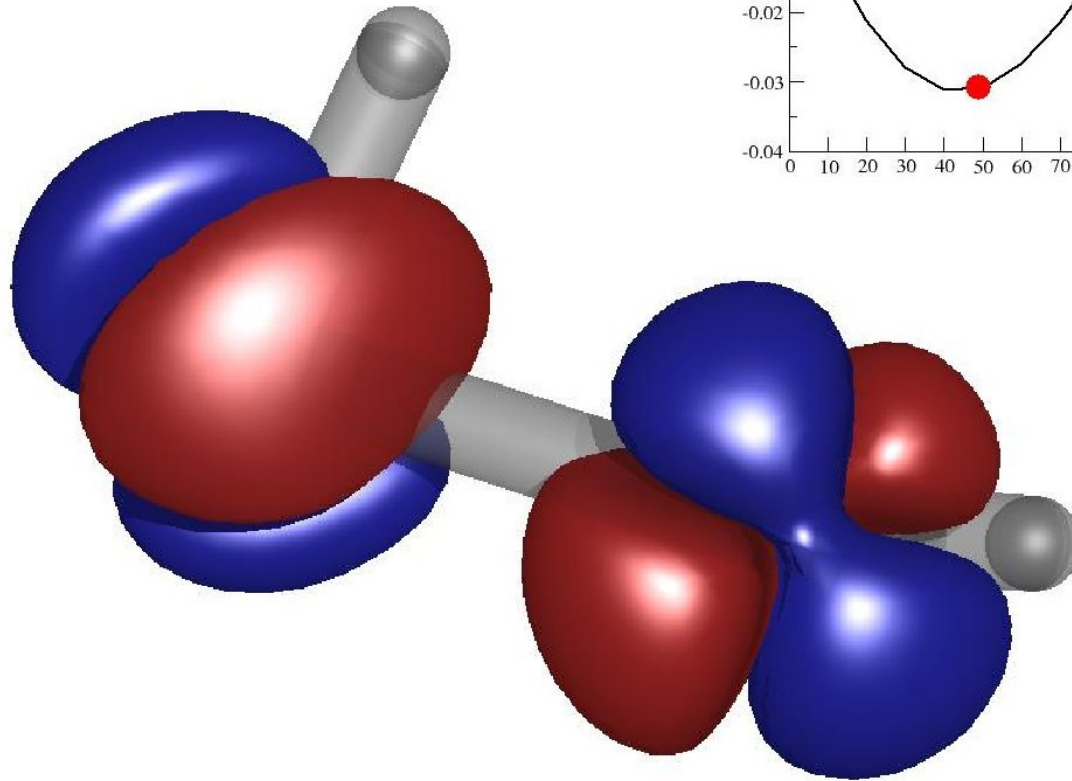
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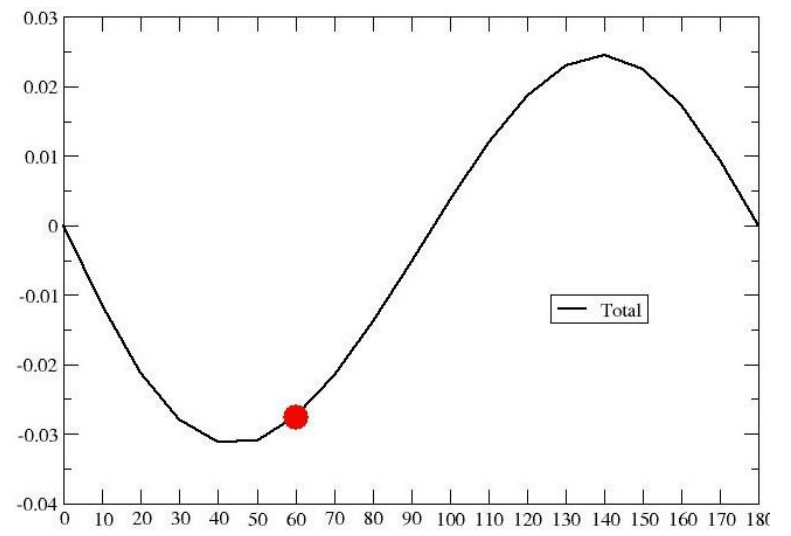
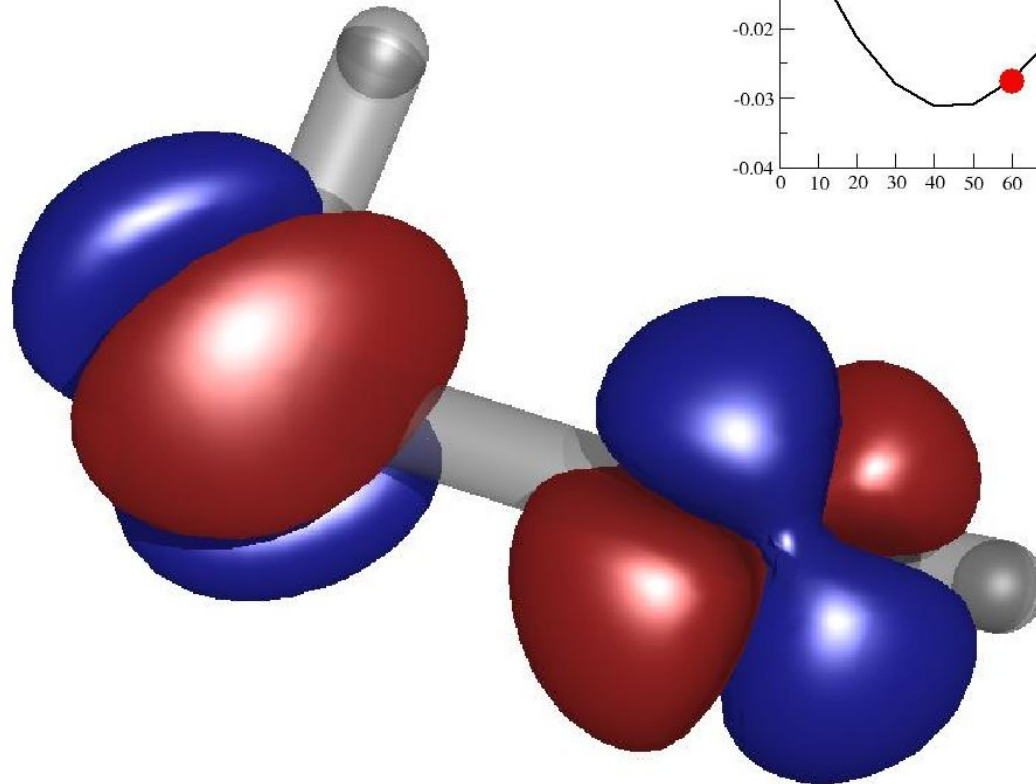
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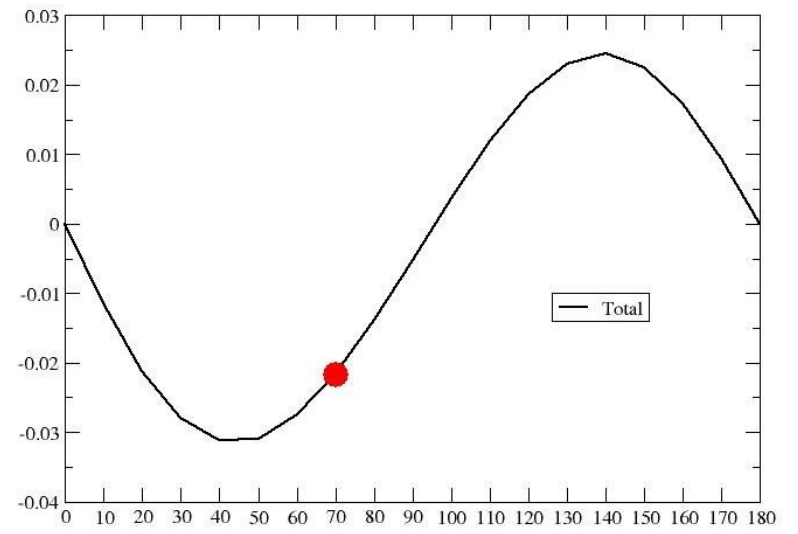
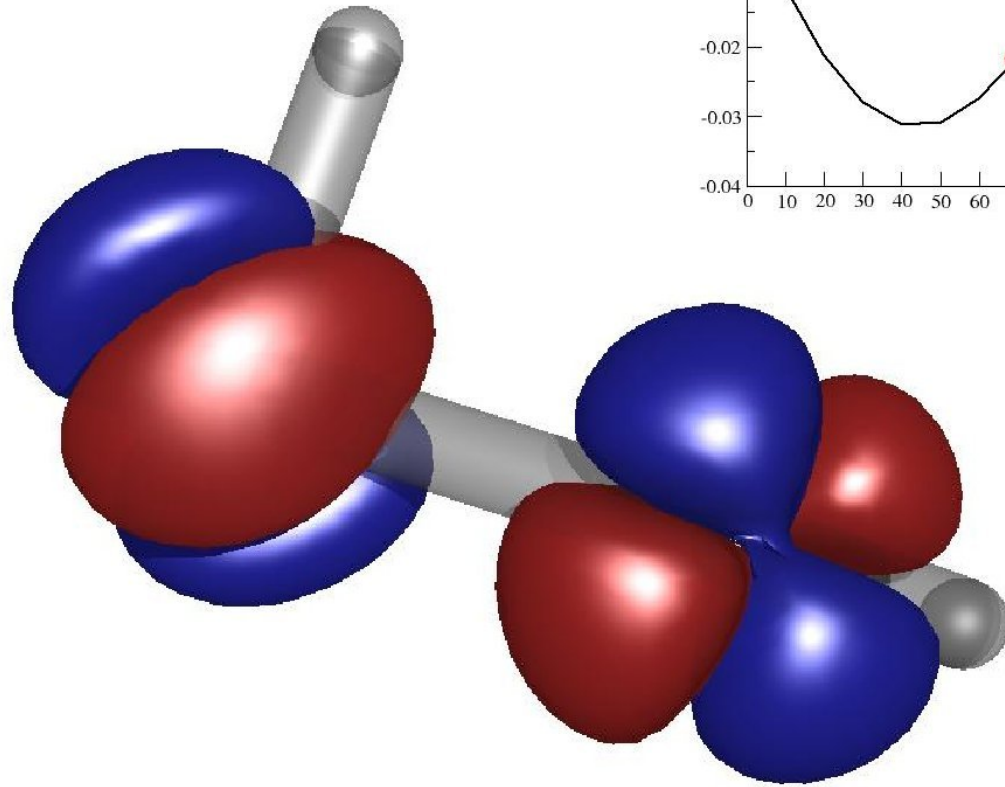
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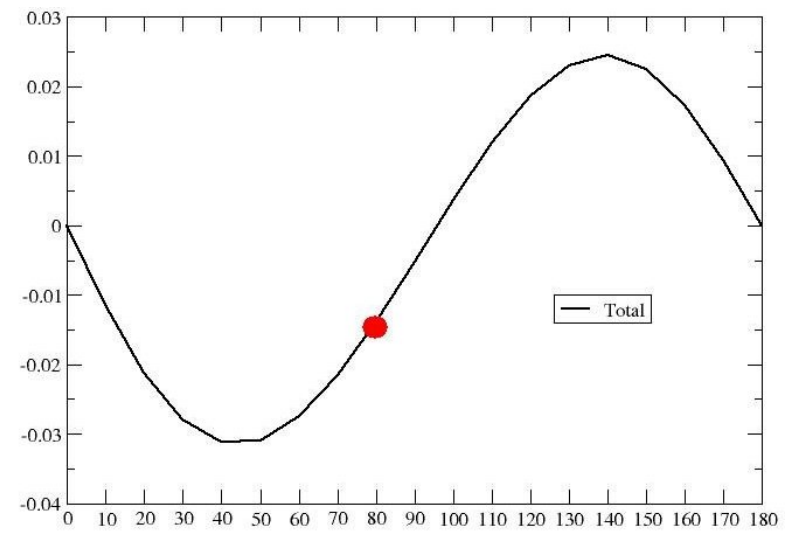
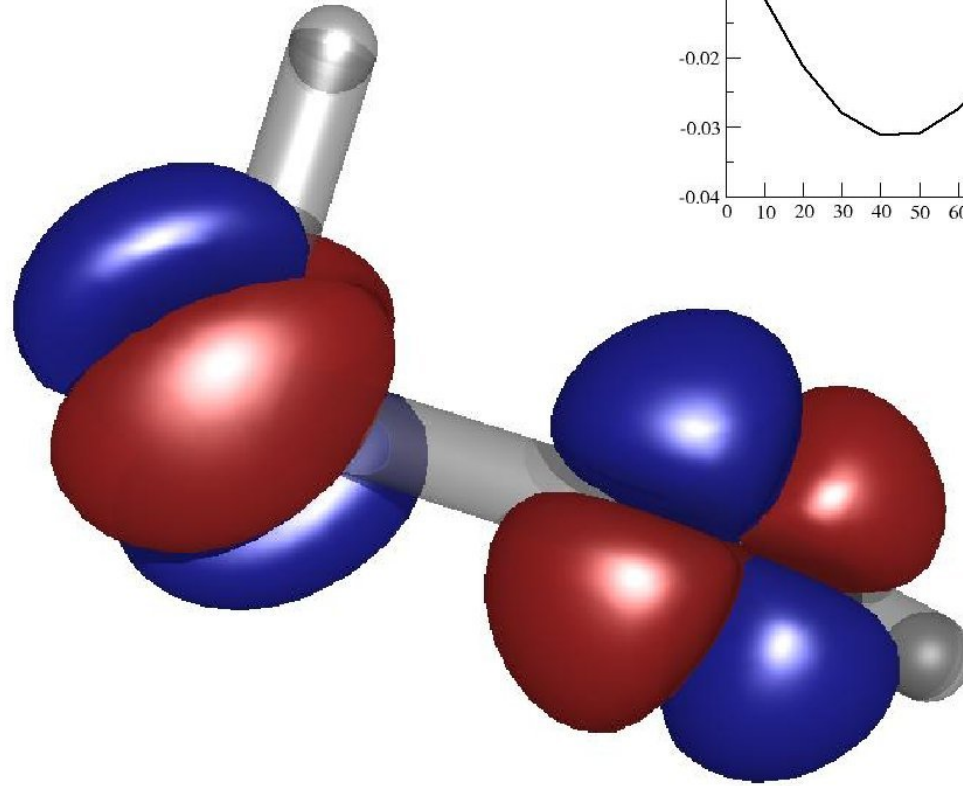
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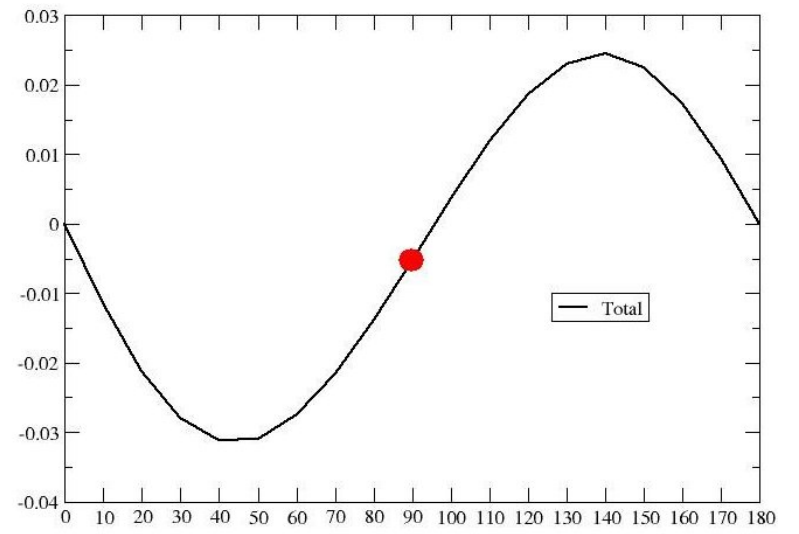
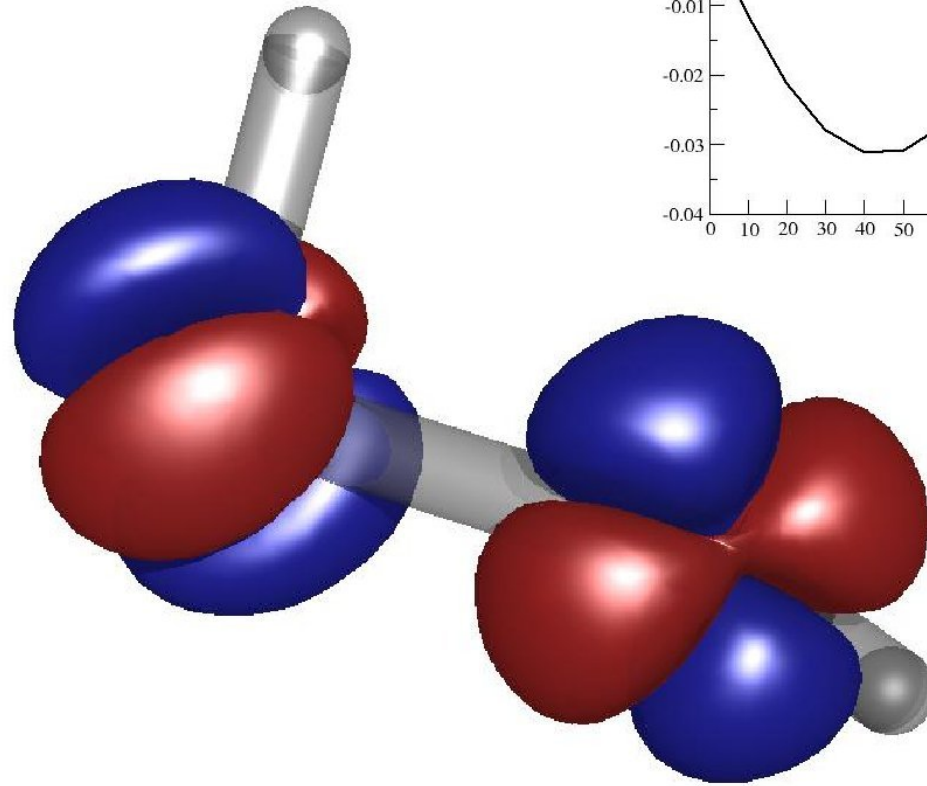
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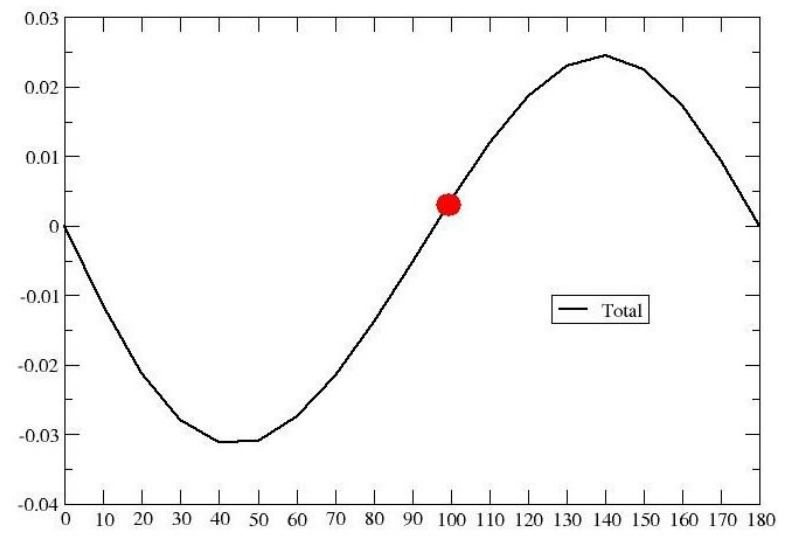
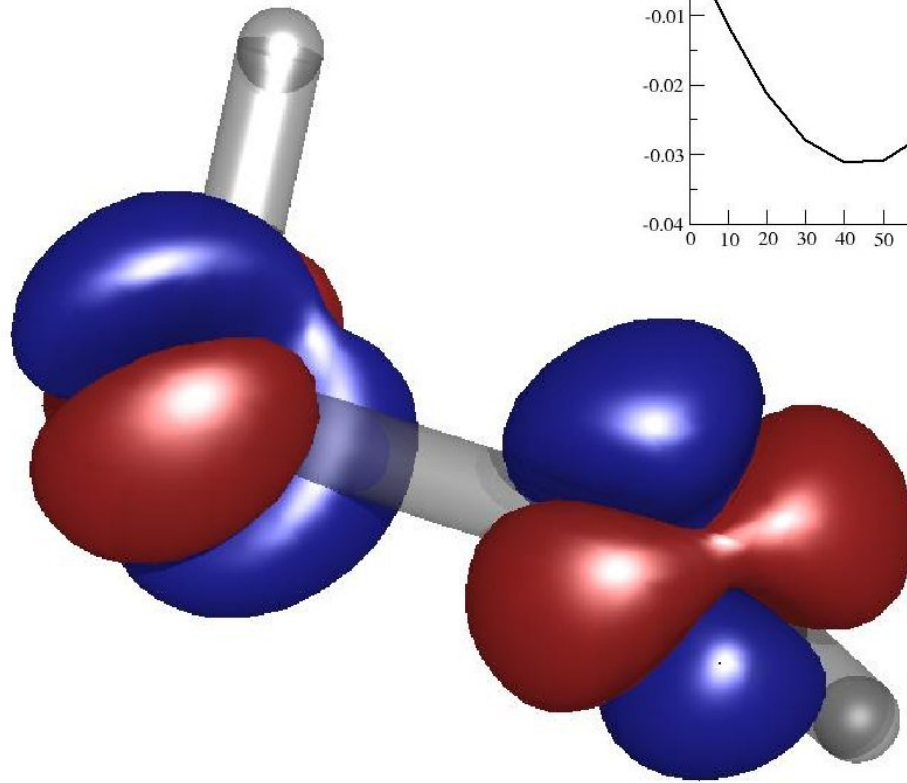




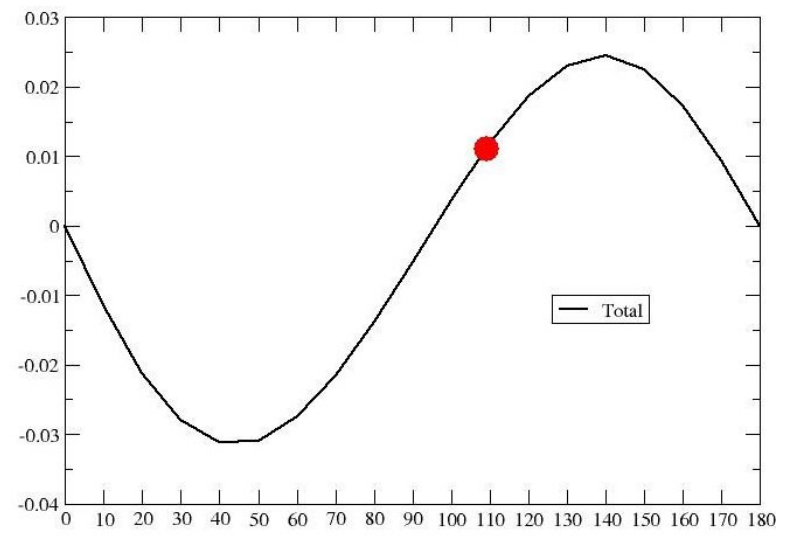
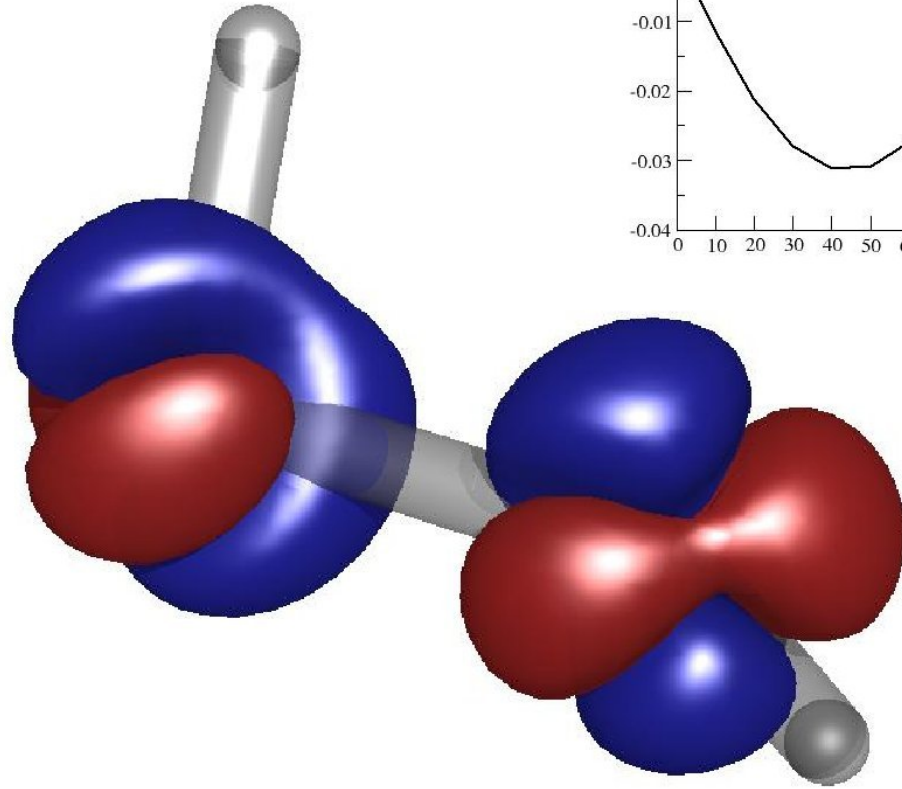
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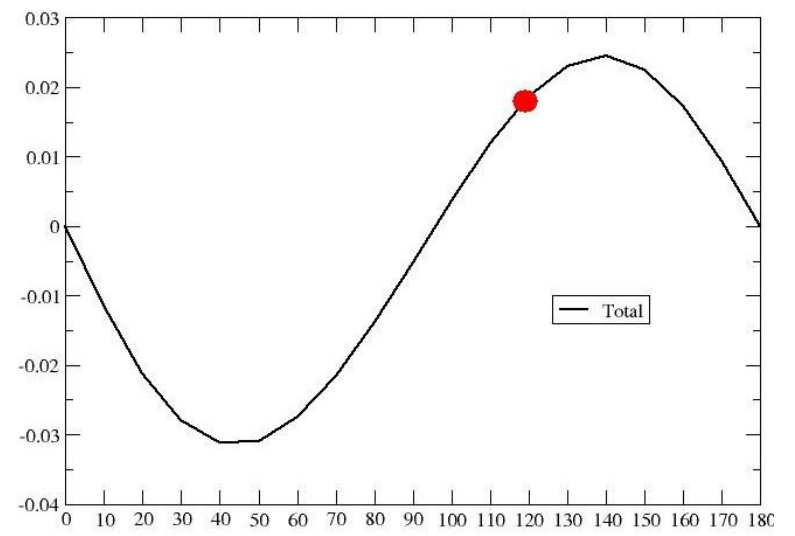
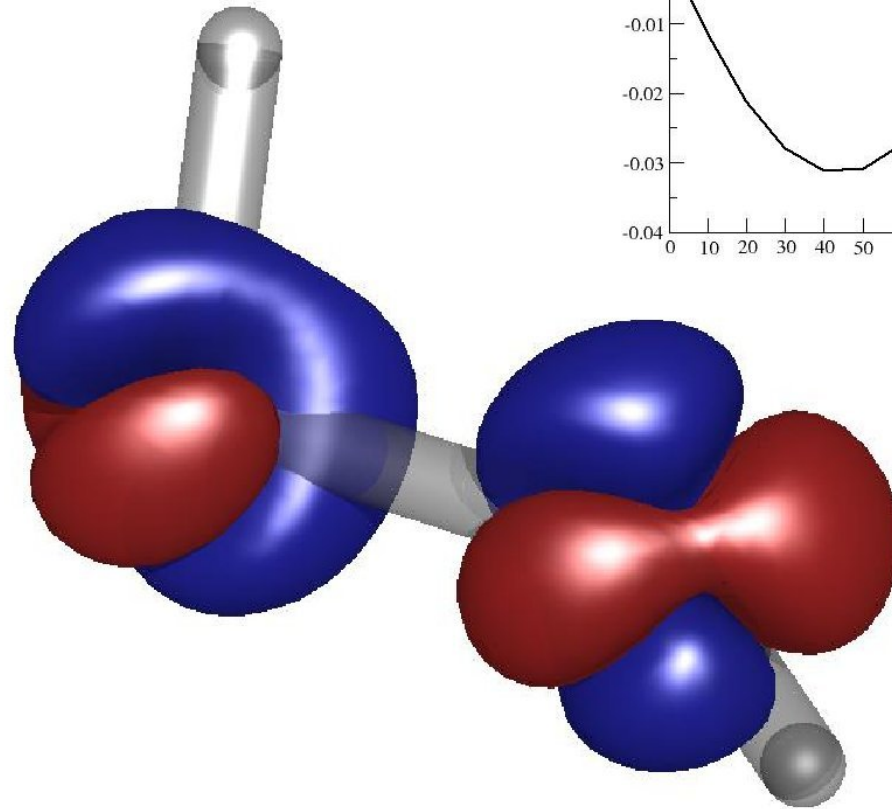
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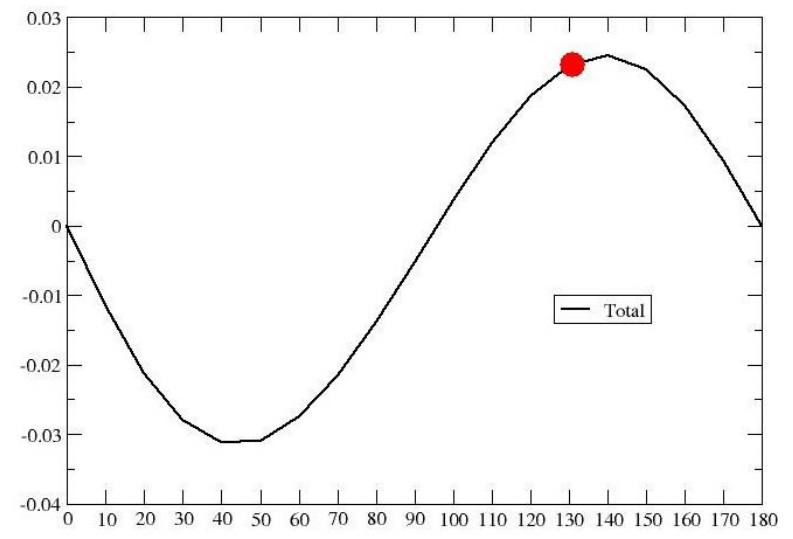
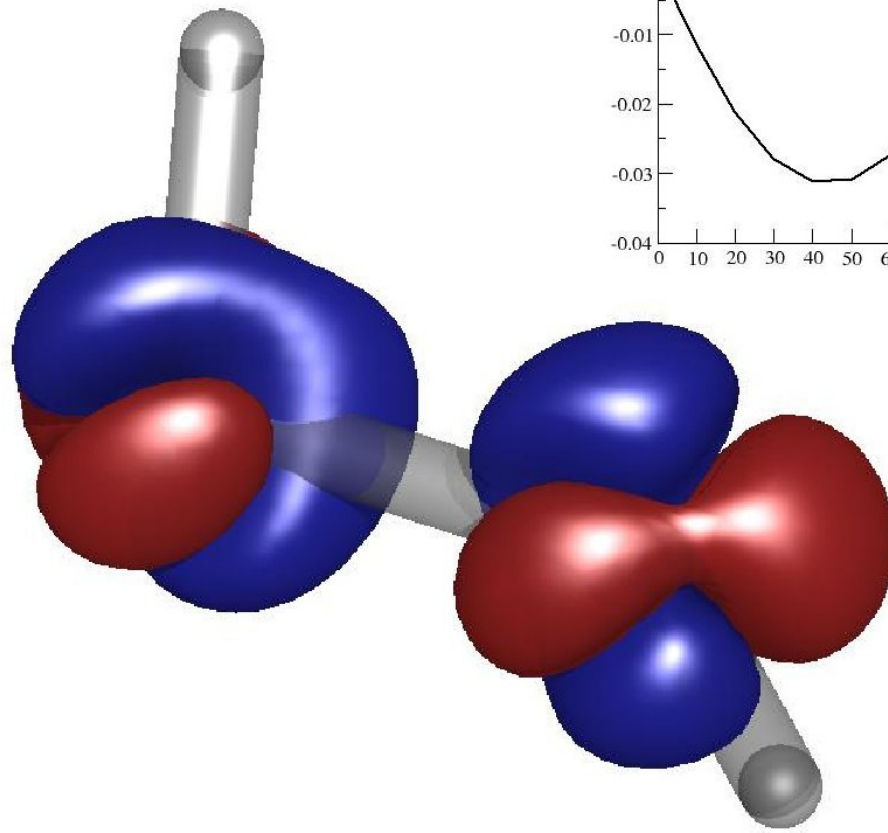
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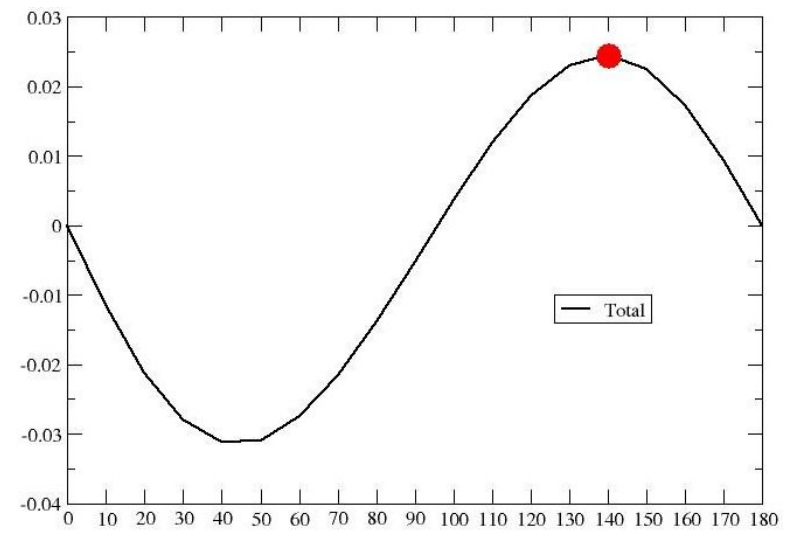
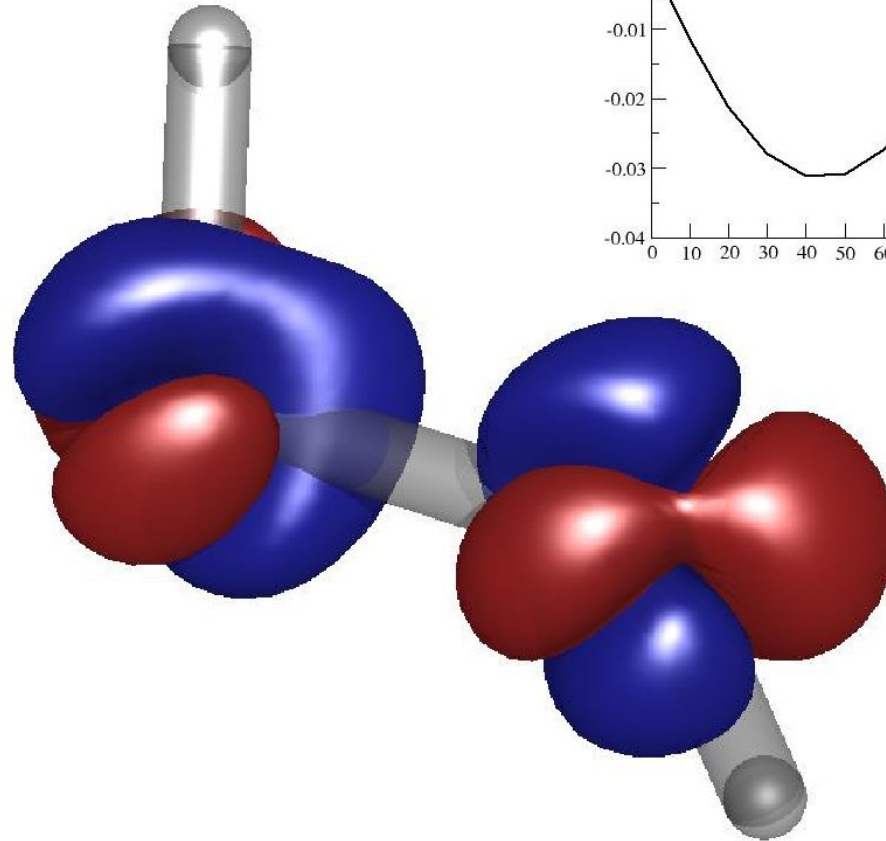
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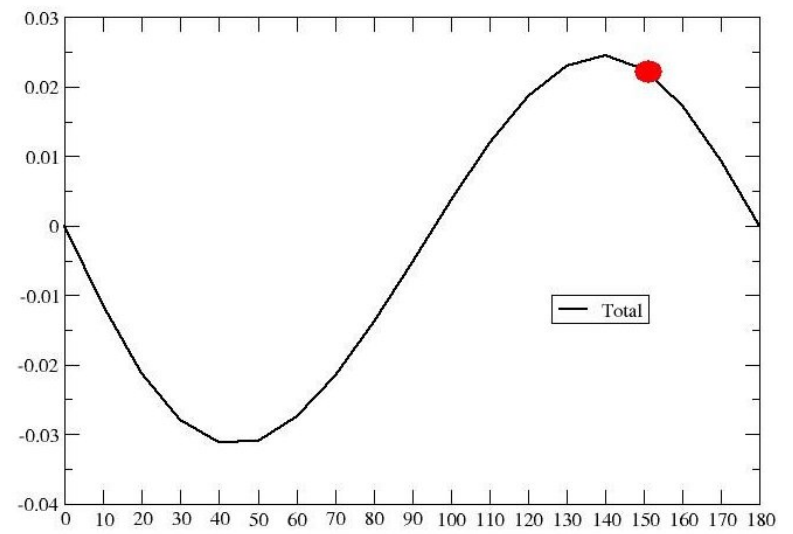
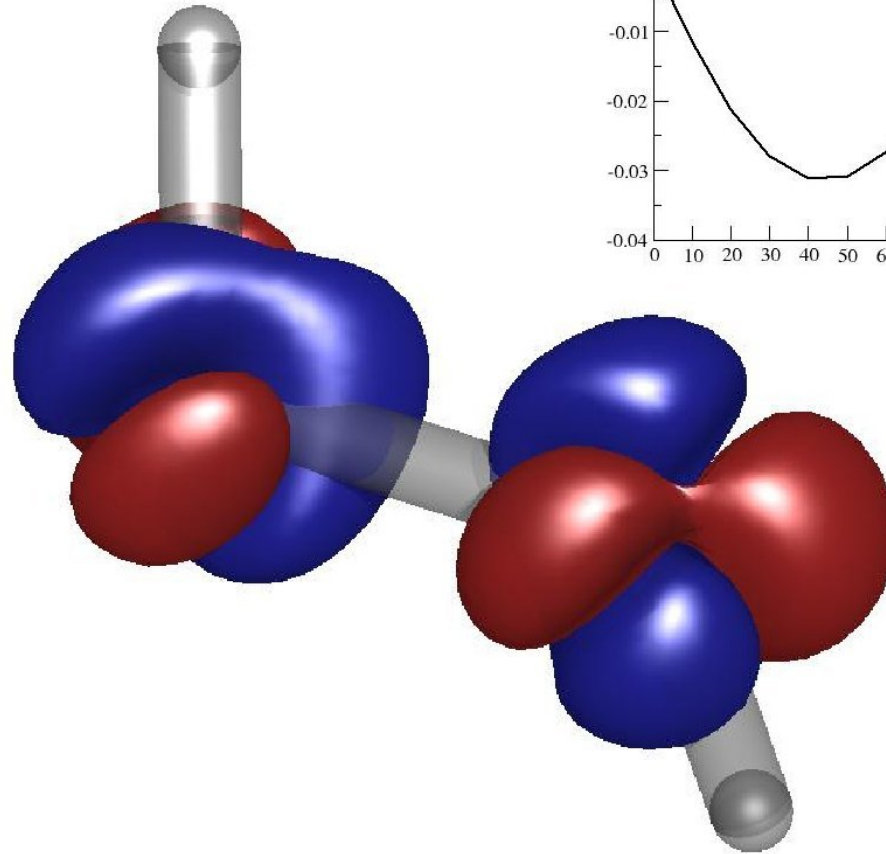
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140

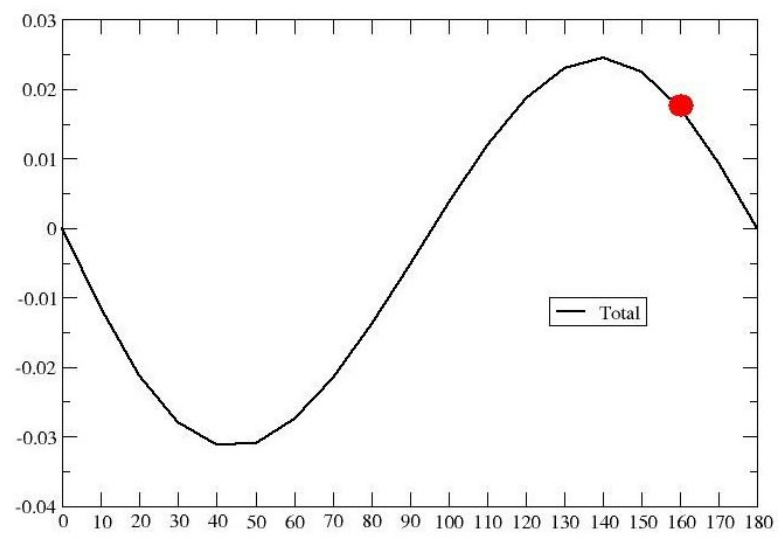
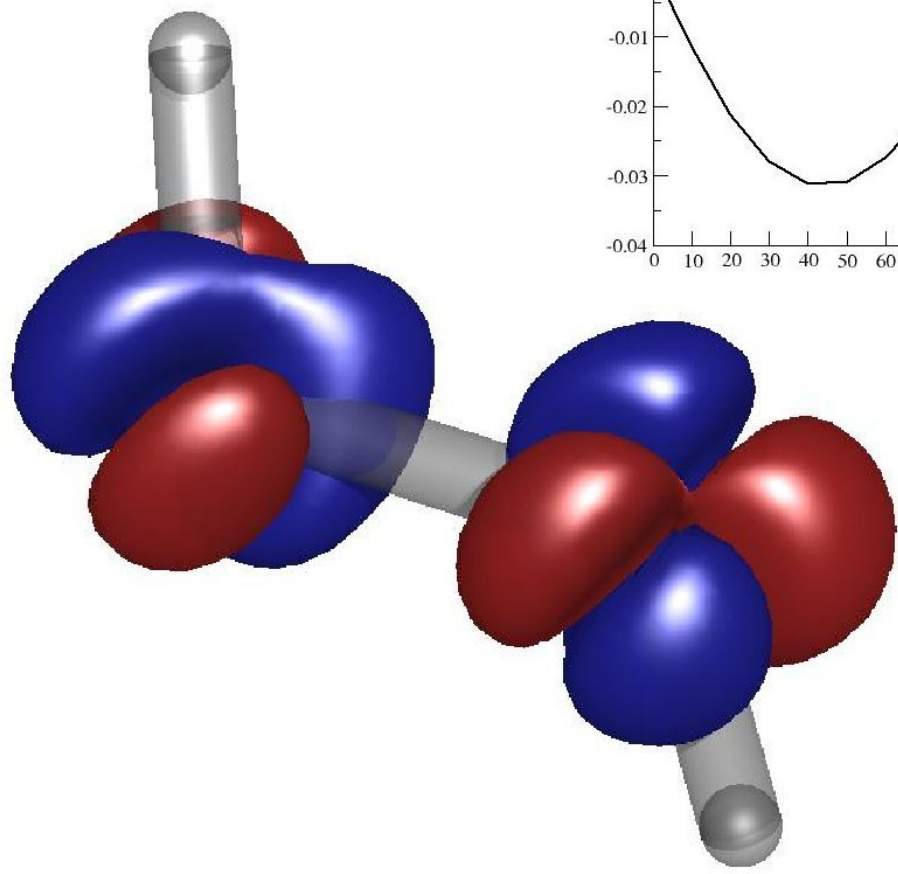


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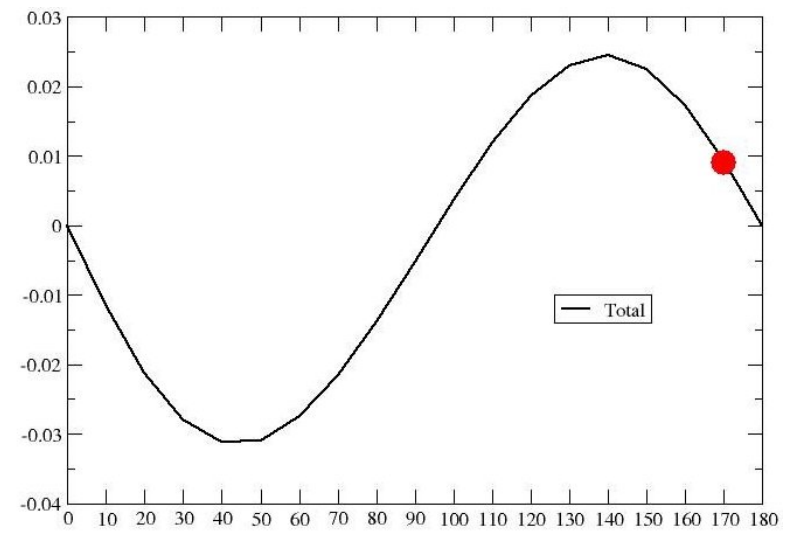
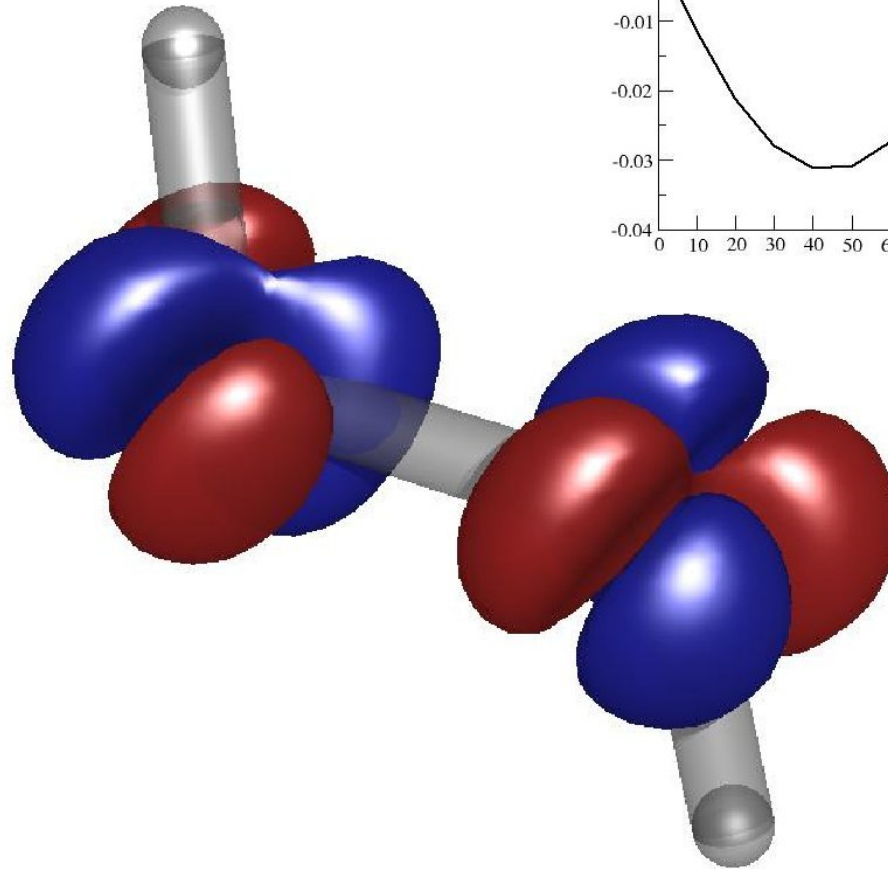




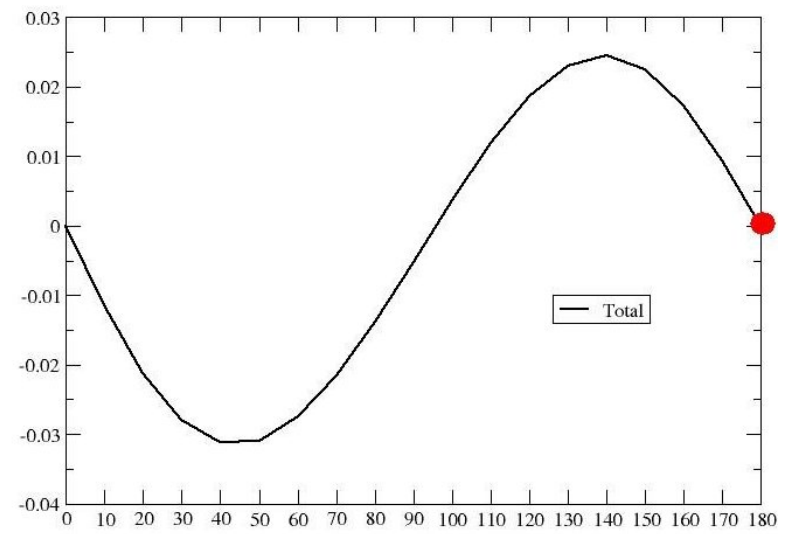
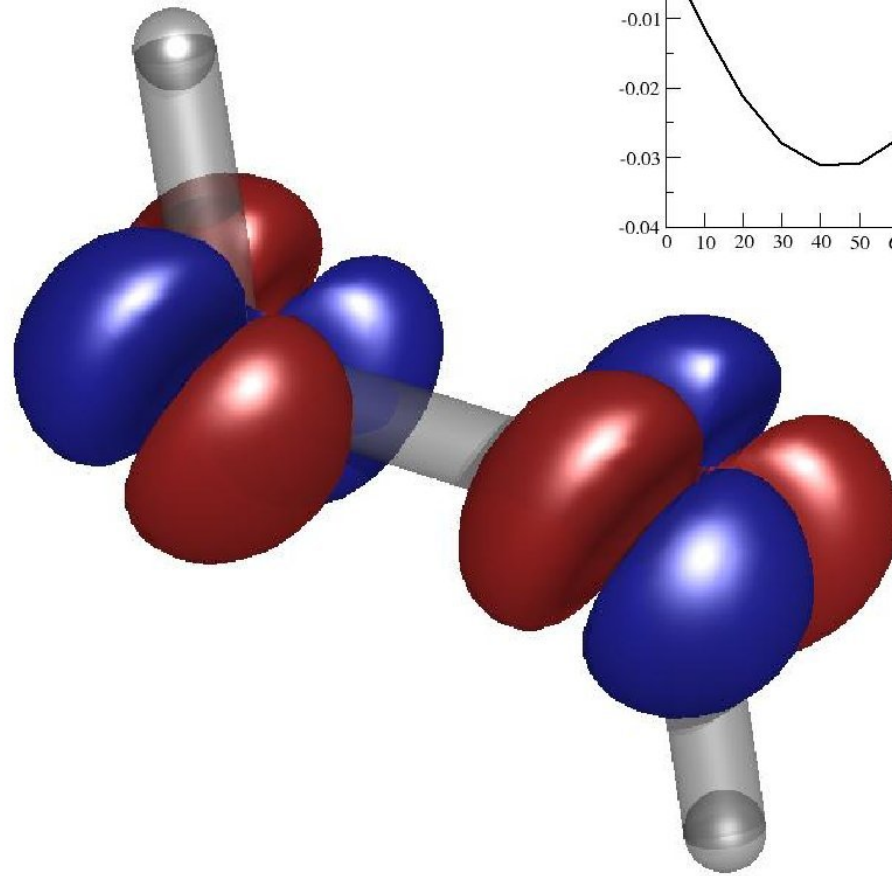
160



170

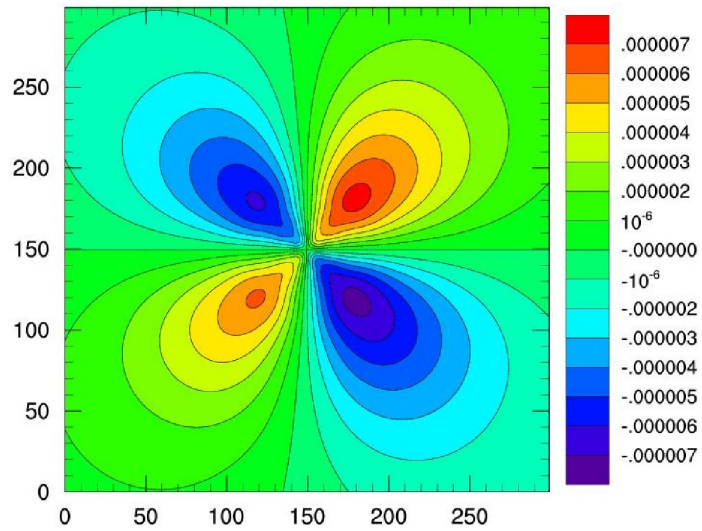


180

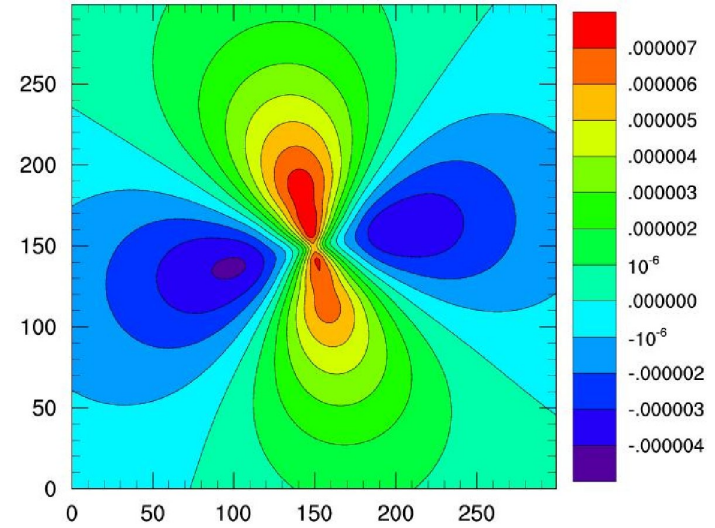


# 2D plots of the $\gamma_5$ density around the Te nucleus

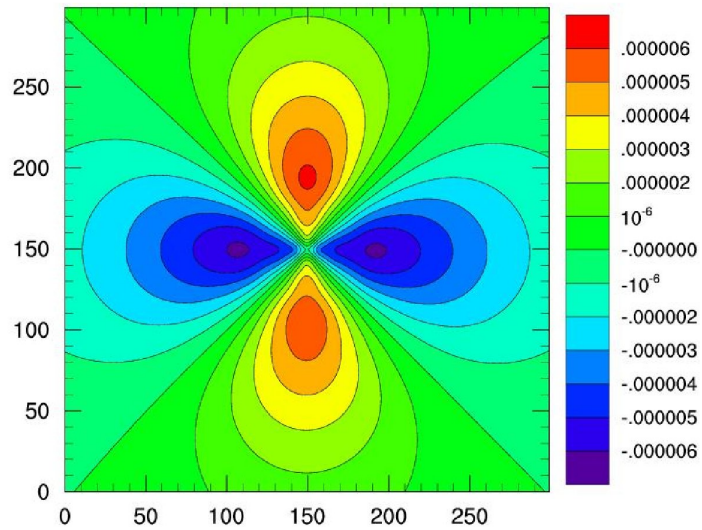
0 xy



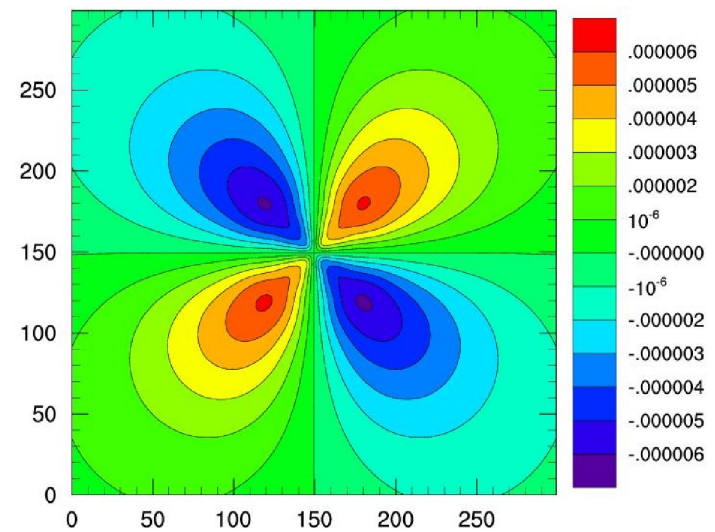
50 xz



90 xz



180 yz



# Projection analysis of expectation values

Radovan Bast, Anton Koers, André Severo Pereira Gomes, Miroslav Iliaš, Lucas Visscher, Peter Schwerdtfeger, and Trond Saue, PCCP (2010)

$$E_{PV} = \sum_K E_{PV}^K; \quad E_{PV}^K = \frac{G}{2\sqrt{2}} Q_W^K \sum_i \langle \psi_i | \gamma_5 \rho_K | \psi_i \rangle$$

✓ Molecular orbitals (MOs) are expanded in atomic orbitals (AOs):

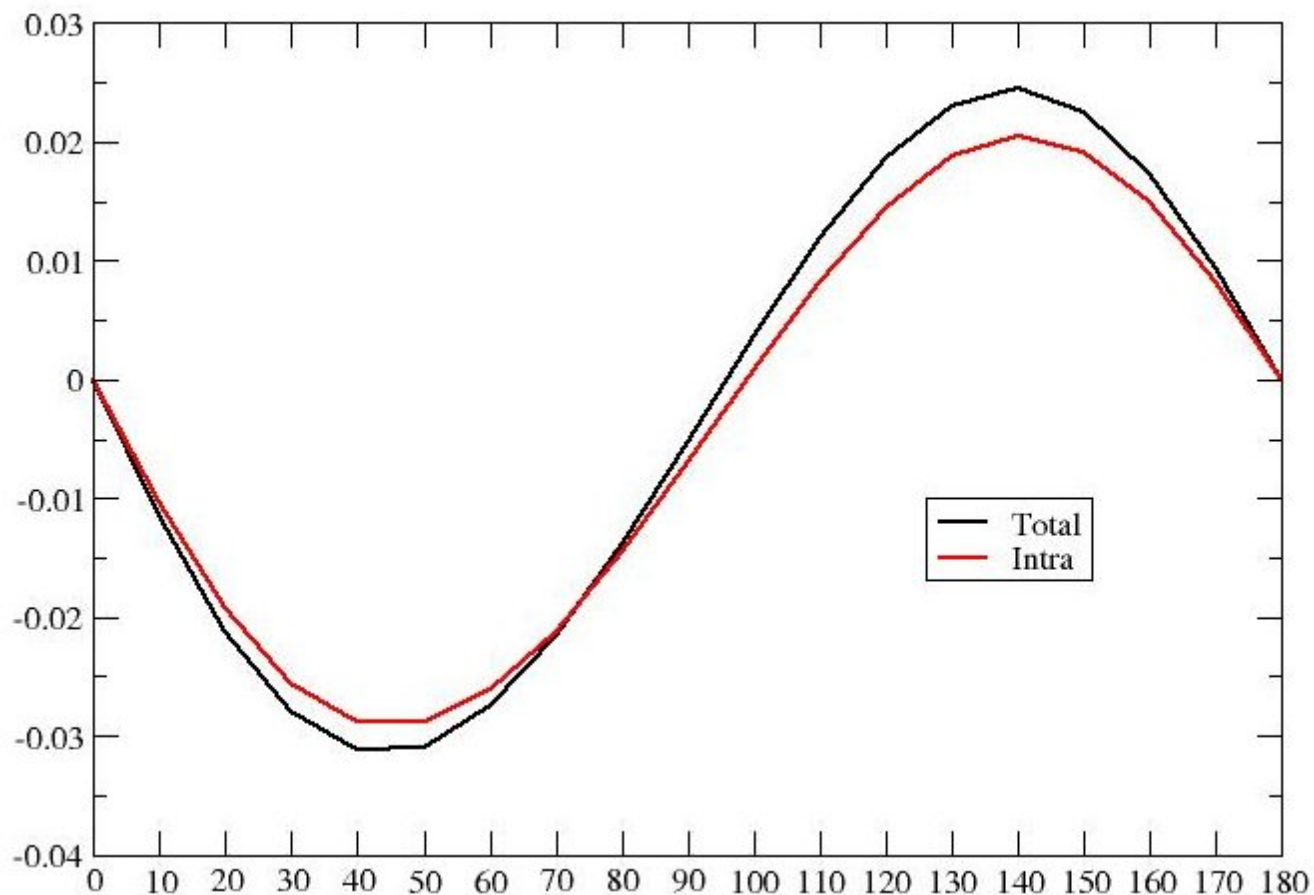
$$|\psi_i\rangle = \sum_{Aj} |\psi_j^A\rangle c_{ji}^A + |\psi_i^{\text{pol}}\rangle$$

giving

$$\langle \Psi | \hat{H}_{PV}^A | \Psi \rangle = \underbrace{\sum_{ijkB} \langle \psi_j^B | \hat{H}_{PV}^A | \psi_k^B \rangle c_{ji}^{B*} c_{ki}^B}_{\text{intra-atomic}} + (\text{inter-atomic: } B \neq C) + (\text{pol})$$

# Projection analysis of $H_2X_2$ compounds

Radovan Bast, Anton Koers, André Severo Pereira Gomes, Miroslav Iliaš, Lucas Visscher, Peter Schwerdtfeger, and Trond Saue, PCCP (2010)

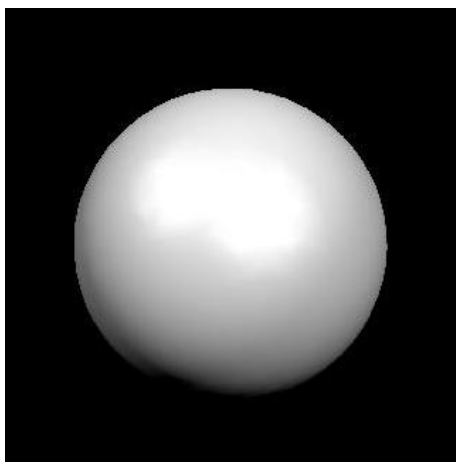


$E_{PV}^{Te}$  is completely dominated by intra-atomic contributions from the same center.

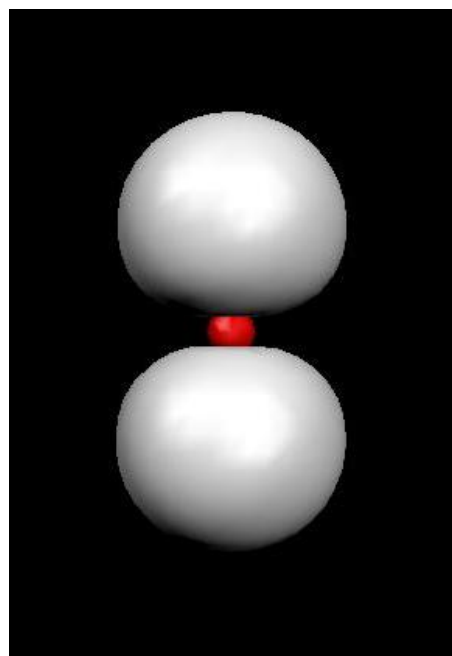
# Relativistic atomic orbitals

$$\psi^{\text{NR}}(r, \theta, \phi) = R(r)Y_{lm}(\theta, \phi) \Rightarrow \psi^{\text{R}}(r, \theta, \phi) = \begin{bmatrix} R^L(r)\chi_{\kappa, m_j}(\theta, \phi) \\ iR^S(r)\chi_{-\kappa, m_j}(\theta, \phi) \end{bmatrix}$$

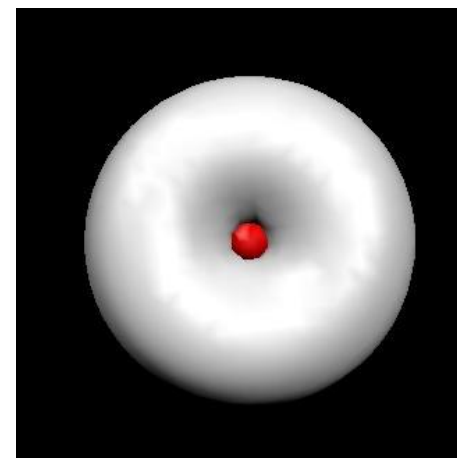
	$s_{1/2}$	$p_{1/2}$	$p_{3/2}$	$d_{3/2}$	$d_{5/2}$
j	1/2	1/2	3/2	3/2	5/2
$\kappa$	-1	+1	-2	+2	-3



$2(s, p)_{1/2, 1/2}$   
(z-axis anywhere)



$2(p, d)_{3/2, 1/2}$   
(z-axis in plane)



$2(p, d)_{3/2, 3/2}$   
(z-axis out of plane)

# Intraatomic contributions

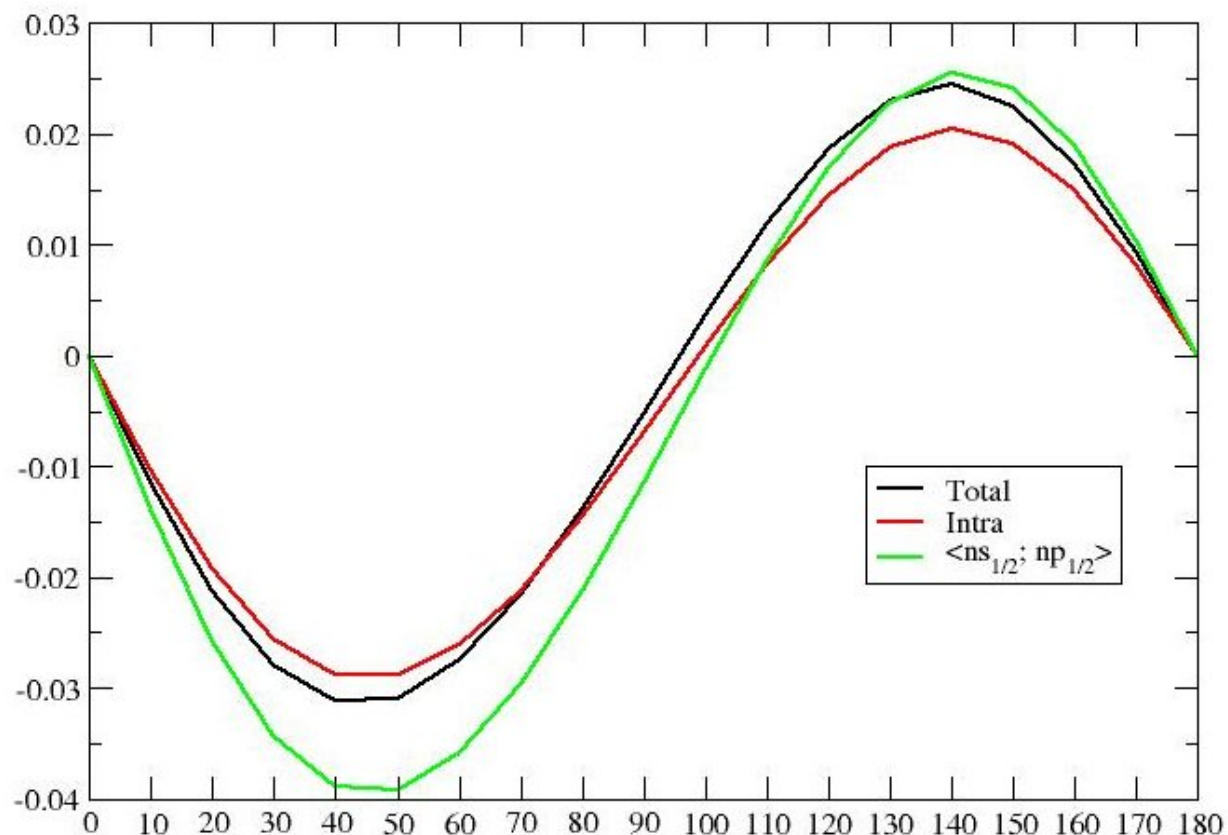
- ✓ Contribution from a pair of atomic orbitals:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \psi_1^A | \hat{H}_{PV}^A | \psi_2^A \rangle &= i \frac{G_F}{2\sqrt{2}} Q_{W;A} \left[ \langle R_1^L | \rho_A | R_2^S \rangle_r \langle \chi_{\kappa_1, m_1} | \chi_{-\kappa_2, -m_2} \rangle_{\theta, \phi} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \langle R_1^S | \rho_A | R_2^L \rangle_r \langle \chi_{-\kappa_1, m_1} | \chi_{\kappa_2, m_2} \rangle_{\theta, \phi} \right] \end{aligned}$$

- ✓ Angular integration gives:  $\kappa_1 = -\kappa_2$ ;  $m_{j_1} = m_{j_2}$ ,  
that is, coupling only occurs through pairs  $(s_{1/2}, p_{1/2})$ ,  $(p_{3/2}, d_{3/2})$ , etc.
- ✓ For point nuclei radial integration shows that  
mixing is only possible between  $s_{1/2}$  and  $p_{1/2}$  orbitals.



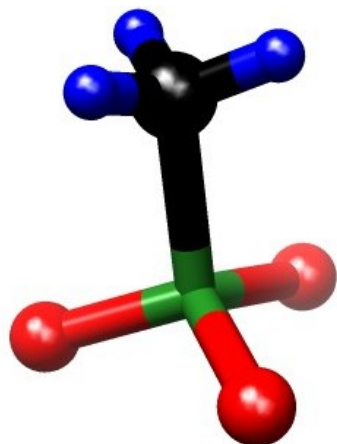
# Dominant intra-atomic contribution



$HF$	$H_2O_2$	$H_2S_2$	$H_2Se_2$	$H_2Te_2$	$H_2Po_2$
Full	-6.729E-06	-7.435E-05	-3.163E-03	-2.787E-02	-7.955E-01
Intra	-5.879E-06	-6.876E-05	-2.717E-03	-2.459E-02	-6.334E-01
$\langle ns_{1/2}   \hat{H}_{pv}^X   np_{1/2} \rangle$	-8.819E-06	-8.548E-05	-3.773E-03	-3.216E-02	-7.728E-01

A non-zero contribution requires an imaginary phase in the mixing coefficient between  $s_{1/2}$  and  $p_{1/2}$ .

## Conclusion and perspectives



- A computational protocol and analysis tools have been developed for the study of parity violation in molecular systems
  - Chirality is induced in the second coordination sphere of the compounds synthesized so far
  - In future work we will concentrate on chiral derivatives of methyltrioxorhenium (MTO)
- 
- PV arises from a specific mixing of valence  $s_{1/2}$  and  $p_{1/2}$  orbitals on a single center induced by a chiral molecular field
  - PV is extremely sensitive to the chemical environment; this is a challenge, *but also means that it is chemically interesting.*
- 

### Thanks to:

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Pierre Asselin (Paris)

Thérèse Huet (Lille)

## Perspective



Buridan's ass

In a conversation between Albert Einstein and the neurobiologist George Wald, Einstein asked:  
*"Why do you think the natural amino acids are all left-handed?"*

Einstein went on to say:

*"I have wondered for years how the electron came out to be negative. Negative and positive are perfectly symmetrical principles in physics, so why is the electron negative? All I could think of was, the negative electron won in the fight."*

Wald reports that he answered:

*"That is exactly what I think of those left-handed amino acids—they won in the fight."*