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Light scattering data analysis via set inversion

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Abstract. Set inversion is applied to recent collision-induced scattering data concerning gaseous CF₄. It makes it possible to approximate the set of all vectors of independent components of the CF₄ dipole–quadrupole and dipole–octopole polarizability tensors. Numerical analysis shows that short-range effects must be taken into account in the high-frequency range of each dipole–multipole contribution to the CIS isotropic spectrum of CF₄. It also demonstrates the agreement between experiment and recent *ab initio* calculations.

1. Introduction

In low-density fluids, interactions between molecules are binary. Thus, collision-induced light scattering (CIS) results from collisional polarizabilities of molecular pairs [1]. For optically isotropic molecules such as CF₄, pure collision-induced depolarized and isotropic spectra are observed in the vicinity of the Rayleigh line, where no monomolecular scattering is allowed [2]. These spectra provide information on molecular interactions and may be used to estimate the origin-independent parameters of the dipole–multipole polarizability tensors (e.g. A and E which characterize the dipole–quadrupole and dipole–octopole tensors \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{E} of any tetrahedral molecule). For pairs of molecules that cannot be easily described in terms of quantum mechanics, a semiclassical model may be considered [3]. In this case, the CF₄ spectral intensity I^s can be written as follows [4, 5]:

$$I^s(\omega) = I_{\text{DID}}^s(\omega) + c_{\alpha TA}^s \alpha^2 A^2 I_{\alpha TA}(\omega) + c_{\alpha TE}^s \alpha^2 E^2 I_{\alpha TE}(\omega) + c_{ATA}^s A^4 I_{ATA}(\omega) + c_{ATE}^s A^2 E^2 I_{ATE}(\omega) + c_{ETE}^s E^4 I_{ETE}(\omega) + \dots \quad (1)$$

where ω denotes the frequency shift and α is the main polarizability. The subscript DID refers to the dipole-induced dipole interaction. Subscripts αTA , αTE , ATA , ATE and ETE refer to the successive dipole–multipole light scattering mechanisms [4, 5]. The coefficients c^s depend on the nature s of the spectrum (depolarized or isotropic) and on the dipole–multipole mechanisms [4, 5]. Unfortunately, point estimation of A and E is highly uncertain due to the following four reasons:

(i) Short-range effects such as overlap and exchange effects are not taken into account in the aforementioned semiclassical model. As a result, in the CF₄ case, depolarized and isotropic spectra lead to different conclusions. The isotropic spectrum has been shown to be the more adapted [5].

(ii) Because of the competition between the dipole–multipole mechanisms (such as $\alpha T A$ and $\alpha T E$) several different parameter vectors (A , E) may correspond to similar fits, i.e. the model is said to be almost unidentifiable.

(iii) Errors on measurement of the isotropic spectrum are large [5] and many unsimilar fits can be considered as consistent with all data.

(iv) The model is nonlinear (cf equation (1)) and local minimization procedures may converge to any local minimum.

For all these reasons, a bounded-error estimation approach (see [6, 7] and references therein) is considered in this work. It consists of characterizing the set \mathcal{S} of all values of the vector (A, E) such that the associated model output is consistent with all experimental data, i.e. goes through all error bars. The method to be used is new for most physicists and is based on set inversion [8]. Set inversion, presented in section 2, is particularly suited in our case because of the nonlinearities involved in the semiclassical model; it uses *interval analysis* which is a numerical tool for computing with sets (also presented in section 2). Section 3 gives an approximation of the set \mathcal{S} of all feasible vectors (A, E) and compares it with former estimations. We show that recent *ab initio* computations by Maroulis [9, 10] partly confirm our results. Finally, we conclude on the advantages that set-inversion analysis offers to spectroscopists.

2. Set inversion

Let f be a nonlinear continuous vector function mapping R^n into R^m and let \mathcal{Y} be a subset of R^m . The set-inversion problem is to characterize the set \mathcal{X} defined by

$$\mathcal{X} = \{x | f(x) \subset \mathcal{Y}\} = f^{-1}(\mathcal{Y}).$$

The set function f^{-1} is the *reciprocal function* of f . The set-inversion algorithm to be presented is based on interval arithmetic which is a numerical tool originally developed in order to quantify the effect of finite-precision arithmetic on results obtained by a computer [11]. Interval arithmetic extends classical operators on real numbers to intervals in a natural way. Thus, if $[x] = [x^-, x^+]$ and $[y] = [y^-, y^+]$,

$$[x] + [y] = [x^- + y^-, x^+ + y^+]$$

$$[x] - [y] = [x^- - y^+, x^+ - y^-]$$

$$[x] \cdot [y] = [\min(x^- y^-, x^- y^+, x^+ y^-, x^+ y^+), \max(x^- y^-, x^- y^+, x^+ y^-, x^+ y^+)].$$

For example, we have $([1, 2] + [-3, 4]) \cdot [-1, 5] = [-2, 6] \cdot [-1, 5] = [-10, 30]$. As another example, let us consider the real function $f(x) = x^2 + 2x + 4$. An interval evaluation for f is $[f]([x]) = [x] \cdot [x] + 2[x] + 4$. For $[x] = [-3, 4]$, we have:

$$[f]([-3, 4]) = [-3, 4] \cdot [-3, 4] + 2[-3, 4] + 4 = [-12, 16] + [-6, 8] + 4 = [-14, 28].$$

Note that the actual image by f of the interval $[x]$, $f([-3, 4]) = [3, 28]$ is a subset of the interval evaluation $[f]([-3, 4]) = [-14, 28]$. This illustrates that interval evaluation is usually pessimistic [11].

A *box* or *vector interval* $[x]$ of R^n is defined as the Cartesian product of n intervals.

$$[x] = [x_1^-, x_1^+] \times \cdots \times [x_n^-, x_n^+]. \quad (2)$$

The i th component of the box $[x]$ is an interval denoted by $[x]_i$. It can be proven (see [11]) that the interval evaluation $[f]([x]) = [f]([x]_1, \dots, [x]_n)$ always contains the image interval $f([x])$, i.e.

$$\forall [x], f([x]) \subset [f]([x]). \quad (3)$$

The *width* $w([\mathbf{x}])$ of a box $[\mathbf{x}]$ is the size of its largest side. For instance, the width of the box $[\mathbf{x}] = [1, 2] \times [-1, 3]$ is equal to 4. A *principal plane* of $[\mathbf{x}]$ is a symmetry plane of $[\mathbf{x}]$ normal to a side of maximum length. To *bisect* a box $[\mathbf{x}]$ means to cut it along one of its principal planes. Bisecting $[\mathbf{x}] = [1, 2] \times [-1, 3]$ produces two boxes $[\mathbf{x}](1) = [1, 2] \times [-1, 1]$ and $[\mathbf{x}](2) = [1, 2] \times [1, 3]$.

The algorithm SIVIA (set inverter via interval analysis) partitions some prior box of interest $[\mathbf{x}](0)$ into a set of non-overlapping boxes. For the sake of simplicity, it is assumed that the set \mathcal{Y} to be inverted is a box $[\mathbf{y}]$. SIVIA uses the following two tests to decide whether a given box $[\mathbf{x}]$ is inside or outside the solution set \mathcal{X} :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i)} \quad & \forall i, [f]_i([\mathbf{x}]) \subset [y]_i \Rightarrow [\mathbf{x}] \subset \mathcal{X} \\ \text{(ii)} \quad & \exists i | [f]_i([\mathbf{x}]) \cap [y]_i = \emptyset \Rightarrow [\mathbf{x}] \cap \mathcal{X} = \emptyset. \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

Proofs.

(i) If $\forall i, [f]_i([\mathbf{x}]) \subset [y]_i$, then from (3), $\forall i, f_i([\mathbf{x}]) \subset [y]_i$, i.e. $\mathbf{f}([\mathbf{x}]) \subset [\mathbf{y}]$. Therefore $[\mathbf{x}] \subset \mathcal{X}$.

(ii) If $\exists i | [f]_i([\mathbf{x}]) \cap [y]_i = \emptyset$, then from (3), $\exists i | f_i([\mathbf{x}]) \cap [y]_i = \emptyset$. Therefore $\mathbf{f}([\mathbf{x}]) \cap [\mathbf{y}] = \emptyset$, i.e. $[\mathbf{x}] \cap \mathcal{X} = \emptyset$. \square

SIVIA is a recursive routine that brackets the solution set \mathcal{X} between an inner and outer set of boxes. For the sake of simplicity, it will be presented here in the case of a two-dimensional solution set, but the algorithm readily extends to higher dimensions [8]. Boxes that have been proved to belong to \mathcal{X} via test (i) are drawn in dark grey, those that have been proved to be outside \mathcal{X} via test (ii) are drawn in light grey and those that satisfy neither (i) nor (ii) and are too small to be bisected are drawn in white. The accuracy ε is a small positive real number.

SIVIA($[\mathbf{x}]$)

- Step 1. $\forall i, [f]_i([\mathbf{x}]) \subset [y]_i$, {draw($[\mathbf{x}]$, 'darkgrey'); return};
- Step 2. $\exists i | [f]_i([\mathbf{x}]) \cap [y]_i = \emptyset$, {draw($[\mathbf{x}]$, 'lightgrey'); return};
- Step 3. If $w([\mathbf{x}]) < \varepsilon$, {draw ($[\mathbf{x}]$, 'white'); return};
- Step 4. Bisect $[\mathbf{x}]$ and store the two resulting boxes into $[\mathbf{x}](1)$ and $[\mathbf{x}](2)$;
- Step 5. SIVIA($[\mathbf{x}](1)$); SIVIA($[\mathbf{x}](2)$).

SIVIA is first called for $[\mathbf{x}] = [\mathbf{x}](0)$, where $[\mathbf{x}](0)$ is a box assumed to contain the solution set \mathcal{X} . If we denote by $\Delta\mathcal{X}$ the union of all white boxes and by \mathcal{X}^- the union of all dark grey boxes, then the solution set \mathcal{X} is bracketed by:

$$\mathcal{X}^- \subset \mathcal{X} \subset \mathcal{X}^- \cup \Delta\mathcal{X}. \quad (5)$$

Remark 1. When the box \mathcal{Y} to be inverted is a singleton $\{\mathbf{y}\}$ (for example when dealing with error-free data), the solution set \mathcal{X} is often reduced to a singleton $\{\mathbf{x}\}$ which is easily found by SIVIA or other punctual approaches. When two or more solutions exist, SIVIA detects all of them in a guaranteed way, in contrast to punctual approaches.

Remark 2. Inversion methods generally considered are punctual: they try to find the best fit. In a linear context, numerical instability appears when the matrix to be inverted is almost non-invertible. With a set-inversion approach, the problem of instability does not exist. Even if the model is non-identifiable (which corresponds to a situation where the matrix is non-invertible in a punctual and a linear context), a set with a stretched shape is obtained. All information about uncertainties (numerical, errors on measurements, ...) are given by \mathcal{X} : if \mathcal{X} is big, as in the application treated in the next section, the problem can be considered as 'ill-posed' in a punctual point of view.

Table 1. Experimental intensities of the CF₄ isotropic spectrum versus frequency shifts together with corresponding dipole–dipole and dipole–multipole theoretical contributions.

i	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Units
ω	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120	cm ⁻¹
I_{\min}^{iso}	192	177	116	75	41	22	15	10	10 ⁻⁵⁸ cm ⁶
I_{\max}^{iso}	1732	1003	656	299	165	89	61	41	10 ⁻⁵⁸ cm ⁶
DID	27.78	14.17	7.53	4.18	2.34	1.34	0.78	0.46	10 ⁻⁵⁸ cm ⁶
αTA	133.1	80.57	44.55	22.55	10.47	4.53	1.87	0.77	10 ⁻⁵⁸ cm ⁶ Å ⁻¹⁴
αTE	6.39	4.78	3.39	2.27	1.44	0.87	0.50	0.27	10 ⁻⁵⁸ cm ⁶ Å ⁻¹⁶
ATA	196.1	153.7	114.9	81.9	55.7	36.1	22.4	13.3	10 ⁻⁶⁰ cm ⁶ Å ⁻¹⁶
ATE	20.20	16.94	13.73	10.74	8.12	5.93	4.19	2.86	10 ⁻⁶⁰ cm ⁶ Å ⁻¹⁸
ETE	0.70	0.61	0.52	0.43	0.35	0.27	0.21	0.16	10 ⁻⁶⁰ cm ⁶ Å ⁻²⁰

3. Results and discussion

The experimental CF₄ isotropic spectrum I^{iso} reported in [5] had been recorded for a set of Raman frequency shifts ω_i relative to the green spectral line ($\lambda_L = 514.5$ nm) of an argon laser. Following the bounded-error approach, uncertainties on experimental data are assumed to be bounded, i.e. the i th ideal measurement I_i^{iso} (the measurement that should be obtained if no measurement errors occurred) is assumed to belong to the interval $[I_{\min}^{\text{iso}}(i), I_{\max}^{\text{iso}}(i)]$ provided in [5] and recalled in table 1.

As regards the theoretical spectrum, and according to equation (1), the i th model output is given by

$$I_i^{\text{iso}}(A, E) = \text{DID}_i + \alpha^2 A^2 \alpha TA_i + \alpha^2 E^2 \alpha TE_i + A^4 ATA_i + A^2 E^2 ATE_i + E^4 ETE_i. \quad (6)$$

The dipole–dipole and dipole–multipole components ($\text{DID}_i = I_{\text{DID}}^{\text{iso}}(\omega_i)$, $\alpha TA_i = c_{\alpha TA}^{\text{iso}} I_{\alpha TA}(\omega_i)$, etc) are provided in table 1 (see [5] for the details of their computation). Since the value of the CF₄ polarizability is known ($\alpha = 2.93$ Å³ for $\lambda_L = 514.5$ nm [12]), the unknown parameters are A and E . Prior feasible intervals for A and E are given by

$$A \in [0, 2] \quad \text{and} \quad E \in [0, 4] \quad (7)$$

where A and E are expressed in Å⁴ and Å⁵ units, respectively. Table 2 shows how the problem of estimating A and E can be cast into the framework of set inversion.

In less than 5 s on a Pentium 100 Personal Computer, SIVIA brackets \mathcal{S} as represented in figure 1.

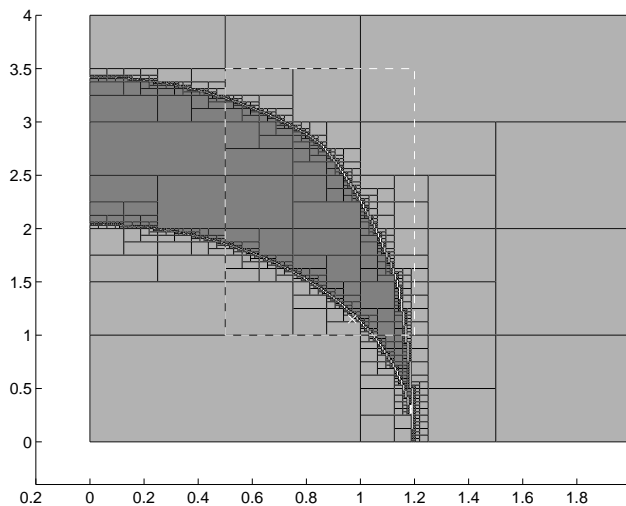
Because of some mechanism not taken into account in our semiclassical model, it may occur that SIVIA eliminates a part of the parameter space that could contain the true values of A and E . To protect against this, one would like to be especially careful about data points that turn out to have a critical influence on the size of \mathcal{S} . For this purpose, we define the *safety* of the i th interval data by

$$\gamma(i) = \frac{\text{Vol}(\mathcal{S})}{\text{Vol}(\mathcal{S}_i)} \quad (8)$$

where Vol corresponds to the volume (an area in our two-dimensional case) and \mathcal{S}_i is the set of all parameters that are consistent with all data but the i th. The smaller the safety is, the

Table 2. Translation table between the set-inversion formalism and the problem of estimating the A and E values of CF_4 .

Set inversion	Estimation of A and E
$[y]_i$	$[I_{\min}^{\text{iso}}(i), I_{\max}^{\text{iso}}(i)]$
$\mathcal{Y} = [y]$	$[I_{\min}^{\text{iso}}(1), I_{\max}^{\text{iso}}(1)] \times \dots \times [I_{\min}^{\text{iso}}(8), I_{\max}^{\text{iso}}(8)]$
\mathbf{x}	$(A, E)^T$
$f_i(\mathbf{x})$	$I_i^m(A, E)$
\mathbf{f}	$(I_1^m(A, E), \dots, I_8^m(A, E))^T$
$\mathcal{X} = \{\mathbf{x} \mathbf{f} \subset \mathcal{Y}\}$	$\mathcal{S} = \{(A, E) \forall i, I_i^m(A, E) \in [I_{\min}^{\text{iso}}(i), I_{\max}^{\text{iso}}(i)]\}$
$[\mathbf{x}](0)$	$[0, 2] \times [0, 4]$

**Figure 1.** Set of A and E that are consistent with all data (dark-grey area) in the (A, E) plane. The units are in \AA^4 for A and in \AA^5 for E . The broken-edged rectangle corresponds to the intervals for A and E provided in [5], the white cross represents the vector (A, E) found by Maroulis [9, 10], and the light-grey area is the set of forbidden parameter vectors.

more careful one must be with the corresponding data point. SIVIA can easily be adapted to compute volumes of sets [8] and therefore the coefficients $\gamma(i)$. We obtain $\gamma(1) = \gamma(3) = \gamma(5) = 1$, which means that any of the associated data points can be removed without changing the feasible domain for (A, E) . Moreover, $\gamma(2) = 0.98$, $\gamma(4) = 0.98$, $\gamma(6) = 0.93$ and $\gamma(8) = 0.74$. The safety of the eighth measurement is the smallest and the reliability of the semiclassical model at the corresponding frequency $\omega_8 = 120 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ can be questioned. After removing the eighth measurement, SIVIA brackets \mathcal{S}_8 as represented in figure 2. Note that the upper boundary of \mathcal{S}_8 is not significantly different from that of \mathcal{S} , but the lower boundary of \mathcal{S}_8 lies much lower.

In [5], an empirical estimation leads to the intervals $[0.5, 1.2] \text{\AA}^4$ and $[1.0, 3.5] \text{\AA}^5$ for A and E , respectively. The corresponding rectangle, drawn with broken lines in figures 1 and 2, contains a large part of the solution sets \mathcal{S} and \mathcal{S}_8 . Moreover, the maximum values of A and E given in [5] are very close to those provided here. The aforementioned rectangle, however, also contains parameter vectors that are not consistent with the data. Finally, note that the vector $(A, E) = (0.97 \text{\AA}^4, 1.15 \text{\AA}^5)$, recently calculated *ab initio* by Maroulis

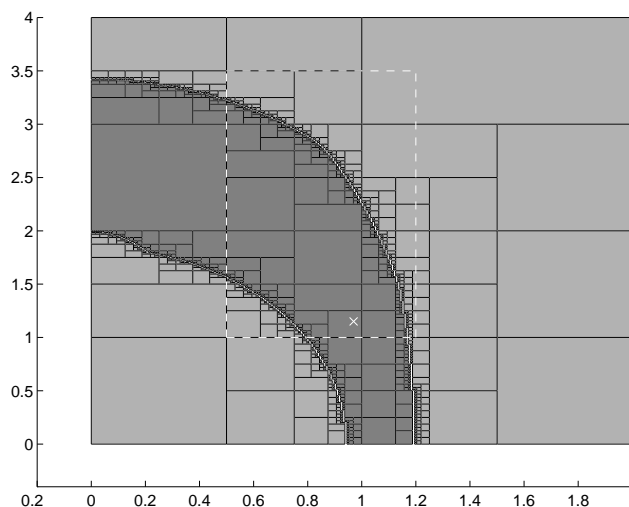


Figure 2. Set of A and E that are consistent with the first seven pieces of data.

[9, 10] and represented by a white cross in figures 1 and 2, is located outside \mathcal{S} and deep inside \mathcal{S}_8 . This corroborates the hypothesis that the eighth piece of data is not consistent with the semiclassical model. The discrepancy may be due to short-range effects that take place for high frequencies of each dipole–multipole contribution. When scattering data for frequency shifts higher than 120 cm^{-1} are considered, similar discrepancies can be observed [5].

In conclusion, the set inversion approach, advocated here, makes it possible to estimate unknown parameters, their uncertainties, as well as their correlations, when bounded-error data and nonlinear models are involved. Such problems often arise in spectroscopy where many efforts are focused on estimating physical coefficients from experimental data (e.g. collision-induced scattering or absorption processes). The example of recent CIS studies on gaseous CF_4 is but one illustration of the advantages of set inversion over more conventional methods.

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