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**Performance of modern density functional theory for the prediction of hyperfine structure: meta-GGA and double hybrid functionals**

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# Performance of modern density functional theory for the prediction of hyperfine structure: meta-GGA and double hybrid functionals

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## Abstract

The performance of modern density functionals for the prediction of molecular hyperfine couplings is investigated for a series of small radicals and transition metal complexes. Besides the established BP86 (GGA) and B3LYP (hybrid) functionals we have tested two prototypical members of emerging classes of density functionals, namely the TPSS meta-GGA functional (together with its hybrid version TPSSh) and the B2PLYP double-hybrid functional. The latter is the first member of a 'fifth-rung' density functional that incorporates a fraction of orbital dependent nonlocal correlation energy estimated at the level of second order many-body perturbation theory. Since this approach is non-variational, it becomes necessary to derive and implement the so-called 'relaxed' densities in order to properly predict hyperfine couplings. The necessary formalism is described in some detail and the new method has been implemented into the ORCA electronic structure program. The results of extended test calculations reveal that TPSS is superior to BP86. The hybrid variant TPSSh is at least as accurate or better than the B3LYP functional and significantly superior to the non-hybrid TPSS variant. The B2PLYP functional also leads to accurate predictions and is a clear improvement for the difficult metal nucleus HFCs. However, it also showed a few significant outliers in the test set which points to a somewhat reduced stability in the method. The latter effect is largely attributed to the elevated fraction Hartree-Fock exchange (53%) and to some extent also to the perturbative correction.

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# 1 Introduction

Electron paramagnetic resonance (EPR) is presently a flourishing field of investigation. Owing to the enormous progress that has been made in the experimental techniques, it is now possible to determine spin-Hamiltonian (SH) parameters of molecules with unprecedented precision. [1] Concomitant with the progress in the experimental technology it is necessary to develop new theoretical techniques that allow for a precise prediction of SH parameters. To an increasing extent, this becomes a necessary complement to the experimental investigations in order to allow for a detailed interpretation of the experimental data. In particular, theoretical calculations may yield excellent starting values for simulations, provide good estimates of tensor orientations (cf [2]) and reveal the molecular geometric and electronic structure origin of the observed spectral features. A recent book broadly covers [3] this field and an up to date presentation of the underlying theory may be found in refs [4, 5].

Perhaps the most accessible SH parameter and the one that carries the largest amount of geometric information is the hyperfine coupling (HFC). Since the early days of EPR spectroscopy, it has been a point of focal interest to interpret the HFCs of organic radicals [6–12] and transition metal complexes. [13, 14] For quantum chemistry, the HFC is a difficult property. It is well known that the HFC contains three contributions: (a) the isotropic Fermi contact term, (b) the spin-dipolar contribution and (c) a spin-orbit coupling (SOC) correction. For radicals made of light elements and also for light nuclei, the SOC contribution is very small and may be disregarded. [15] For rapidly tumbling radicals in fluid solution, the spin-dipolar part averages to zero. [16] This means that under these conditions the EPR spectra are dominated by the isotropic Fermi contact term. This is a highly singular property that depends on the spin-density of the nucleus in question [17] (for alternative approaches and discussions see [18–21]). Thus, the precise prediction of hyperfine couplings requires a high accuracy wavefunction in the vicinity of the nucleus in question. From a technical point of view, this requires very flexible basis sets in the core region and an accurate description of core level spin-polarization. Since the Hartree-Fock method disastrously overshoots this core level spin-polarization [22, 23], elaborate ab initio treatments are required to reach high precision in the Fermi contact term. Experience suggests that at the level

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6 of the quadratic configuration interaction or coupled cluster theory with single and double  
7 excitations (QCISD and CCSD) excellent predictions are obtained. [24–29] However, the  
8 computational complexity of these methods scales as the sixth power of the molecular size  
9 and presently, they can not be applied to many molecules of chemical interest. Thus, it may  
10 be considered as fortunate that density functional theory (DFT) has been shown to yield  
11 fairly reasonable values for isotropic hyperfine couplings. Since the first reports [30–32] there  
12 has been much activity in testing new density functionals in their application to radical EPR  
13 spectra. [33–39] There appears to be consensus that overall, hybrid density functionals yield  
14 the best predictions. Since the B3LYP functional [40–42] is already the "workhorse" of quan-  
15 tum chemistry, it is perhaps the most well established choice and its predictions for HFCs  
16 are often very good. [26] The dipolar hyperfine tensors of radicals appear to be less problem-  
17 atic and are usually well predicted by many theoretical approaches including DFT. Hyperfine  
18 calculations on organic radicals have recently been reviewed by Improta and Barone [26] and  
19 impressive combinations of EPR calculations with molecular dynamics have been developed  
20 and highlighted by Polimeno and Barone. [43] Asher and Kaupp have recently investigated  
21 the influence of the solvation shell on the HFCs of the benzosemiquinone radical anion em-  
22 ploying Car–Parrinello molecular dynamics in combination with EPR calculations. [44]

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The success of DFT based methods for HFC predictions decreases somewhat upon going to  
transition metal complexes. In this area, all theoretical methods have difficulties to arrive  
at precise values. Ab initio methods have a very restricted range of applicability in this  
field. [35,45] DFT methods, although reasonable, have problems to generate accurate values.  
First of all, the SOC contributions to the HFC are often large [3,46,47], the spin-polarization  
of the metal-core is usually underestimated [36,47] and the exagerrated metal-ligand covalency  
leads to an underestimation of the spin-dipolar parts. [47,48] The SOC contribution to the  
HFC is a response property [47] that is closely related to the theory of the g-tensor, as is well  
known from ligand-field theory. [13,14] Since g-shifts tend to be underestimated by present  
day density functionals the same has to be expected for the SOC contribution to the metal  
nucleus HFC. The results obtained so far are consistent with these expectations. [46,47,49]

From the preceding discussion it becomes evident that it is an important issue to test the

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6 newly emerging functionals in their capability to predict accurate HFCs for radicals and  
7 transition metal complexes. Applications of DFT to chemistry started with the local density  
8 approximation (LDA) that provided reasonable results but was quickly realized to be too  
9 inaccurate for general chemistry purposes. This changed dramatically upon the introduction  
10 of the generalized gradient (GGA) functionals that also contain the first derivatives of the  
11 electron density in their definition. GGA functionals such as the BLYP, [40,42], BP86 [40,  
12 50] and PBE [51] functionals have opened the door for extremely successful modeling of a  
13 wide range of chemical problems at low computational cost. A substantial, though largely  
14 semi-empirical, improvement to GGA functionals was made by Becke who introduced the  
15 concept of hybrid functionals that contain a fraction of the exact, nonlocal and orbital  
16 dependent exchange term in their definition. [41, 52] Indeed, since the introduction of the  
17 B3LYP functional [40–42], which contains three empirical parameters, it has emerged as the  
18 most widely used method for general chemistry that, on average, yields the most accurate  
19 predictions for a wide range of molecular properties and energetics. However, even the  
20 B3LYP functional has its limitations and consequently, new functionals are being developed  
21 at rapid pace. A development beyond the reparameterization of existing GGA or hybrid-  
22 GGA functionals are the introduction of meta-GGAs [53] which contain the kinetic energy  
23 density and perhaps the second derivatives of the electron density in their definition. The  
24 most widely recognized functional of this type is the TPSS functional that has already  
25 seen significant chemical applications. [54] Secondly, Grimme has recently suggested a novel  
26 class of 'double-hybrid' (DHDF) functionals which contain a fraction of nonlocal, orbital  
27 dependent correlation estimated at the level of second-order many body perturbation theory  
28 (MBPT). [55] The new DHDFs have given impressive results in benchmark calculations:  
29 energetic quantities are predicted with an average error of less than 2 kcal/mol which is the  
30 lowest ever achieved error for any density functional. Following the development of analytic  
31 gradients for this method [56] it was determined that the results obtained for molecular  
32 structures are also very accurate. The prototypical member of the DHDFs is the B2PLYP  
33 functional which contains two empirical parameters that control the amount of HF exchange  
34 and MBPT correlation. Their values are close to 50 percent HF exchange and 25 percent  
35 MBPT correlation.

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6 In the present work, we test the ability of the TPSS and B2PLYP functionals in comparison  
7 to the well established BP86 and B3LYP functionals for their ability to accurately predict  
8 hyperfine couplings of small radicals and transition metal complexes. Meta-GGAs have  
9 been previously studied by Arbuznikov et al. who have found that the then available meta-  
10 GGAs are not competitive with the well known B3LYP functional. [33] To the best of our  
11 knowledge only a single report exists concerning the application of the TPSS functionals to  
12 radical hyperfine structure which, furthermore, is confined to the isotropic HFC. [34] The  
13 DHDFs have never before been tested for their ability to predict HFCs. In fact, owing to  
14 their non-variational nature, the theory of the HFC becomes more elaborate and requires  
15 the calculation of so-called 'relaxed densities' [56] as will be described in detail below. The  
16 main result of the present work is that the TPSS hybrid functional (TPSSh) is competitive  
17 with B3LYP. B2PLYP offers clear advantages for transition metal complexes while being  
18 about as good as B3LYP for small radicals.  
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## 33 2 Theory

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37 In the language of analytic derivative theory, the HFC is defined as the second mixed deriva-  
38 tive of the total ground state energy with respect to the electron spin  $\hat{S}$  as well as to the  
39 nuclear spin  $\hat{I}$ , eq. (1)  
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$$45 A_{\mu\nu} = \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial \hat{S}_\mu \partial \hat{I}_\nu^{(A)}}. \quad (1)$$

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48 The hyperfine coupling tensor for the nucleus 'A' consists of three contributions, which are  
49 the isotropic Fermi contact (FC) and the anisotropic spin-dipolar contributions (SD) (both  
50 to first order in perturbation theory) and SOC contribution (to second order in perturbation  
51 theory):  
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$$59 A_{\mu\nu}^A = A_{\mu\nu}^{(A;c)} + A_{\mu\nu}^{(A;d)} + A_{\mu\nu}^{(A;SO)}. \quad (2)$$

The expressions for the three parts of the HFC are explicitly given by,

$$A_{kl}^{(A;c)} = \delta_{kl} \frac{8\pi}{3} \frac{1}{2S} g_e g_N \beta_e \beta_N \rho^{\alpha-\beta}(\vec{R}_A) \quad (3)$$

$$A_{kl}^{(A;d)} = \frac{1}{2S} \sum_{\mu\nu} P_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha-\beta} \langle \varphi_k | r_A^{-5} (r_A^2 \delta_{\mu\nu} - 3\vec{r}_{A;\mu} \vec{r}_{A;\nu}) | \varphi_\tau \rangle \quad (4)$$

$$A_{kl}^{(A;SO)} = -\frac{1}{S} g_e g_N \beta_e \beta_N \sum_{\mu\nu} \frac{\partial P_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha-\beta}}{\partial \hat{I}_k^{(A)}} \langle \varphi_\mu | \hat{z}_l^{SOMF} | \varphi_\nu \rangle. \quad (5)$$

$g_e$  is the free-electron g-value,  $g_N$  the nuclear g-value of the nucleus in question.  $\beta_e$  and  $\beta_N$  are the Bohr and the nuclear magneton, respectively.  $\rho^{\alpha-\beta}(\vec{R}_A)$  and  $P_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha-\beta}$  indicate the spin density on the position of nucleus  $A$  and the spin density matrix  $P_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha-\beta} = P_{\mu\nu}^\alpha - P_{\mu\nu}^\beta$ . The indices  $\mu, \nu, \kappa, \tau$  refer to basis functions. The SOC operator is taken in the mean-field approximation (SOMF). [57] The SOMF operator is an effective one-electron spin-orbit operator, which includes both the direct and the exchange interactions between the outer valence and the core electrons, but handles the screening of the one-electron terms by the two-electron contributions by means of an average over the electrons. [57] The matrix elements of the  $l$ 'th component of the SOMF operator, are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \varphi_\mu | \hat{z}_l^{SOMF} | \varphi_\nu \rangle &= \langle \varphi_\mu | \hat{z}_l^{1el-SO} | \varphi_\nu \rangle + \sum_{\kappa\tau} \left[ (\varphi_\mu \varphi_\nu | \hat{g}_l^{SO} | \varphi_\kappa \varphi_\tau) - \frac{3}{2} (\varphi_\mu \varphi_\kappa | \hat{g}_l^{SO} | \varphi_\tau \varphi_\nu) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{3}{2} (\varphi_\tau \varphi_\nu | \hat{g}_l^{SO} | \varphi_\mu \varphi_\kappa) \right] \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

with

$$\hat{z}_l^{1el-SO}(\vec{r}_i) = \frac{\alpha^2}{2} \sum_i \sum_A Z_A \vec{r}_{iA}^{-3} \hat{l}_{iA;l} \quad (7)$$

$$\hat{g}_l^{SO}(\vec{r}_i, \vec{r}_j) = -\frac{\alpha^2}{2} \hat{l}_{ij;l} \vec{r}_{ij}^{-3}. \quad (8)$$

$P_{\kappa\tau}$  is the density matrix  $P_{\kappa\tau} = P_{\kappa\tau}^\alpha + P_{\kappa\tau}^\beta$ ,  $Z_A$  the nuclear charge of atom  $A$ ,  $\vec{r}_{iA}$  the position of electron  $i$  relative to nucleus  $A$  and  $\hat{l}_{iA;l}$  is the  $l$ 'th component of the angular momentum of the  $i$ 'th electron relative to atom  $A$ . Analogously,  $\vec{r}_{ij}$  is the distance between electron



$i$  and  $j$  and  $\hat{l}_{iA;l}$  is the  $l$ 'th component of the angular momentum of electron  $i$  relative to electron  $j$ .

In the case of the DHDFs the theory of the hyperfine coupling is more complicated due to the presence of the scaled second order MBPT contribution to the energy. In these methods the exchange-correlation energy is given by eqn (9).

$$E_{xc} = (1 - a_x)E_x^{B88} + a_x E_x^{HF} + bE_c^{LYP} + cE_c^{MP2} \quad (9)$$

The form of the second-order MBPT (MP2) energy is conventional but is calculated from the Kohn–Sham orbitals and eigenvalues. The semi-empirical coefficients are given as  $a_x = 0.53$ ,  $b = 0.73$  and  $c = 0.27$ . The derivation and implementation of the analytic gradients of double hybrid functionals was previously reported in ref. [56]. This derivation and the associated implementation in the ORCA program enables us to treat hyperfine couplings on the basis of the new double-hybrid functionals for the first time here.

The ESR parameters presented in this paper are consistently calculated with relaxed densities, following the logics of analytic derivative theory for correlated wave functions. [58–60] The relaxed difference densities for double hybrid functionals differ from those employed for the parent MP2 method. First, the unrelaxed PT2 difference densities are defined in the MO basis, eq. (11, 12), whereas the SCF density is given in the AO basis, eq. (10).

$$\rho_{\mathbf{D}'}^{\sigma}(\vec{r}) = \sum_{\mu\nu} D'_{\mu\nu}{}^{\sigma} \varphi_{\mu}(\vec{r}) \varphi_{\nu}(\vec{r}) \quad (10)$$

$$\text{with } D'_{ij}{}^{\sigma} = -\sum_{k_{\sigma}} \langle \mathbf{t}^{i_{\sigma}k_{\sigma}} \mathbf{t}^{k_{\sigma}j_{\sigma}} \rangle - \sum_{k_{\sigma'}} \langle \mathbf{t}^{i_{\sigma}k_{\sigma'}} \mathbf{t}^{k_{\sigma'}j_{\sigma}} \rangle \quad (11)$$

$$\text{and } D'_{ab}{}^{\sigma} = \sum_{i_{\sigma} < j_{\sigma}} \mathbf{t}^{i_{\sigma}j_{\sigma}} \mathbf{t}^{i_{\sigma}j_{\sigma}+} + \sum_{i_{\sigma'} j_{\sigma}} \mathbf{t}^{i_{\sigma'}j_{\sigma}+} \mathbf{t}^{i_{\sigma'}j_{\sigma}} \quad (12)$$

The indices  $i, j, k, \dots$  refer to occupied Kohn–Sham orbitals, whereas  $a, b, c, \dots$  denote virtual orbitals. The superscript  $\sigma$  denotes the different spins  $\sigma = \alpha, \beta$ . The PT2 amplitudes are collected in matrices  $\mathbf{t}^{i_{\sigma}j_{\sigma'}}$  with the elements,

$$t_{a_\sigma b_{\sigma'}}^{i_\sigma j_{\sigma'}} = \overline{K}_{a_\sigma b_{\sigma'}}^{i_\sigma j_{\sigma'}} (\epsilon_i^\sigma + \epsilon_j^{\sigma'} - \epsilon_a^\sigma - \epsilon_b^{\sigma'})^{-1} \quad (13)$$

where the orbitals are assumed to be canonical with orbital energies  $\epsilon_p^\sigma$ . The exchange operator matrices  $K_{a_\sigma b_{\sigma'}}^{i_\sigma j_{\sigma'}}$  and the antisymmetrized exchange integrals  $\overline{K}_{a_\sigma b_{\sigma'}}^{i_\sigma j_{\sigma'}}$  are defined as,

$$K_{a_\sigma b_{\sigma'}}^{i_\sigma j_{\sigma'}} = (i_\sigma a_\sigma | j_{\sigma'} b_{\sigma'}) \quad (14)$$

$$\overline{K}_{a_\sigma b_{\sigma'}}^{i_\sigma j_{\sigma'}} = (i_\sigma a_\sigma | j_{\sigma'} b_{\sigma'}) - \delta_{\sigma\sigma'} (i_\sigma b_\sigma | j_\sigma a_\sigma). \quad (15)$$

In order to obtain the occupied-virtual block of the relaxed difference density, a single set of CP-SCF equations ( $\mathbf{Z}$ -vector equations) [61] needs to be solved (for a detailed description, see ref. [56] and references therein). In order to obtain the relaxed density we first define the Lagrangian:

$$\begin{aligned} L_{ai}^\sigma = & R^\sigma(\mathbf{D}')_{ai} + 2 \sum_{j_\sigma b_\sigma c_\sigma} (a_\sigma c_\sigma | j_\sigma b_\sigma) t_{c_\sigma b_\sigma}^{i_\sigma j_\sigma} - 2 \sum_{j_\sigma k_\sigma b_\sigma} (k_\sigma i_\sigma | j_\sigma b_\sigma) t_{a_\sigma b_\sigma}^{k_\sigma j_\sigma} \\ & + 2 \sum_{j_{\sigma'} b_{\sigma'} c_\sigma} (a_\sigma c_\sigma | j_{\sigma'} b_{\sigma'}) t_{b_{\sigma'} c_\sigma}^{j_{\sigma'} i_\sigma} - 2 \sum_{j_{\sigma'} k_\sigma b_{\sigma'}} (k_\sigma i_\sigma | j_{\sigma'} b_{\sigma'}) t_{b_{\sigma'} a_\sigma}^{j_{\sigma'} k_\sigma}. \end{aligned}$$

The matrix elements of the response operator  $R^\sigma(\mathbf{D}')$  in the atomic orbital (AO) basis are given by

$$\begin{aligned} R^\sigma(\mathbf{D}')_{\mu\nu} = & \sum_{\kappa\tau} 2D'_{\kappa\tau}(\mu\nu|\kappa\tau) - D'_{\kappa\tau} [(\mu\kappa|\nu\tau) + (\nu\kappa|\mu\tau)] \\ & - \sum_{\zeta} \int \left[ \frac{\delta^2 f}{\delta\rho_\sigma \delta\zeta} \zeta(\mathbf{D}')(\varphi_\mu\varphi_\nu) \right. \\ & + \left( 2 \frac{\delta^2 f}{\delta\gamma_{\sigma\sigma} \delta\zeta} \vec{\nabla} \rho_{\mathbf{P}}^\sigma + \frac{\delta^2 f}{\delta\gamma_{\sigma\sigma'} \delta\zeta} \vec{\nabla} \rho_{\mathbf{P}}^{\sigma'} \right) \zeta(\mathbf{D}') \vec{\nabla}(\varphi_\mu\varphi_\nu) \\ & \left. + \left( 2 \frac{\delta f}{\delta\gamma_{\sigma\sigma}} \vec{\nabla} \rho_{\mathbf{D}'}^\sigma + \frac{\delta f}{\delta\gamma_{\sigma\sigma'}} \vec{\nabla} \rho_{\mathbf{D}'}^{\sigma'} \right) \vec{\nabla}(\varphi_\mu\varphi_\nu) \right] d\vec{r} \end{aligned}$$

with

$$\zeta(\mathbf{D}') = \rho_{\mathbf{D}'}^\alpha, \rho_{\mathbf{D}'}^\beta, \gamma_{\alpha\alpha}(\mathbf{D}'), \gamma_{\beta\beta}(\mathbf{D}'), \gamma_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{D}'). \quad (16)$$

The  $\zeta$ -gradient parameters are evaluated as a mixture of PT2 difference densities and SCF densities. For example,

$$\gamma_{\alpha\alpha}(\mathbf{D}') = 2\vec{\nabla}\rho_{\mathbf{D}'}^{\alpha}\rho_{\mathbf{P}}^{\alpha}, \quad (17)$$

with

$$\rho_{\mathbf{D}'}^{\alpha}(\vec{r}) = \sum_{\mu\nu} D'_{\mu\nu}{}^{\alpha} \varphi_{\mu}(\vec{r}) \varphi_{\nu}(\vec{r}) \quad (18)$$

$$\rho_{\mathbf{P}}^{\alpha}(\vec{r}) = \sum_{\mu\nu} P_{\mu\nu}{}^{\alpha} \varphi_{\mu}(\vec{r}) \varphi_{\nu}(\vec{r}). \quad (19)$$

The CP-SCF equations need now to be solved for the elements of the  $\mathbf{Z}$ -vector,

$$(\epsilon_a^{\sigma} - \epsilon_i^{\sigma})Z_{ai}^{\sigma} + R^{\sigma}(\mathbf{Z})_{ai} = -L_{ai}^{\sigma}. \quad (20)$$

The solution then defines the occupied-virtual block of the relaxed difference density, which is given by,

$$\mathbf{D}^{\sigma} = \mathbf{D}'^{\sigma} + \mathbf{Z}^{\sigma}. \quad (21)$$

This final density is used in the HFC calculations.

## 3 Results and Analysis

### 3.1 Computational Details

In order to test the performance of the new methods, the hyperfine coupling constants for a series of small radicals and transition metal complexes were computed and compared to experimental data. The ligand structures of the transition metal complexes together with the abbreviations used, are shown in Figure (1). All calculations were carried out using the

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6 ORCA program package. [62] The geometries of the transition metal complexes studied in  
7 this work were optimized at the meta-GGA level of DFT, employing the TPSS [54] functional  
8 in combination with a basis set of polarized triple- $\zeta$  quality for all atoms (TZVP [63]). The  
9 smaller systems were optimized on the coupled cluster level including single and double  
10 excitations with a perturbative estimate of triple excitations (CCSD(T)). [64] Dunning's  
11 cc-pVTZ basis set was chosen for these purposes. [65] In the case of the OH, NO and NH<sub>2</sub>  
12 radicals experimental structures were used. Furthermore, for a subset of the test set we  
13 optimized structures with the same functional with which the HFCs are computed. In  
14 this case, the TZVP basis was chosen again and the resolution of the identity technique  
15 was employed only for the optimizations. [66] We have chosen tight SCF and geometry  
16 convergence criteria for these purposes.  
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27 For the study of the hyperfine coupling constants single point calculations were performed  
28 on the optimized structures employing five different density functionals: (a) BP86 [40, 50],  
29 (b) B3LYP [40–42], (c) TPSS [54], (d) TPSSh [67] and (e) B2PLYP [55]. The functionals  
30 BP86 and B3LYP were chosen as reference in order to benchmark the results provided by  
31 the meta-GGA and double hybrid functionals.  
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37 Barone's triple- $\zeta$  EPR-III [68] basis set was employed for the calculation of the hyperfine  
38 coupling constants with the exception of the elements Al, S, Cl and Si for which Kutzelnigg's  
39 IGLO-III [69] basis set was used. An accurate triply polarized basis set, CP(PPP), was  
40 applied for the transition metal atoms. [70] For the perturbation theory based functional  
41 B2PLYP relaxed densities have been utilized throughout but no approximation such like  
42 density fitting has been employed.  
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49 The convergence criteria for the energy change was chosen to be  $10^{-8} E_h$  throughout.  
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51 In the case of transition metal complexes, for which relativistic effects are not negligible,  
52 the spin-orbit contributions to the hyperfine coupling constant are computed via the spin-  
53 orbit mean field (SOMF) approach. [57] In the implementation of ref [71] which is equivalent  
54 to the earlier formulation of Berning et al. [72] the isotropic and dipolar hyperfine coupling  
55 contributions are corrected utilizing the zero order regular approximation (ZORA), [46, 73, 74]  
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6 which is implemented in ORCA according to van Wüllen. [75] The values for  $A_{\text{iso}}$  and  $A_{\text{dip}}$   
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8 calculated with the double hybrid functional B2PLYP are corrected at the SCF level, because  
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10 the scaled ZORA densities can not yet be calculated for MP2 relaxed or unrelaxed densities.  
11

$$\Delta A_{SCF}^{(A;c)} = A_{ZORA}^{(A;c)} - A_{SCF}^{(A;c)} \quad (22)$$

$$A_{B2PLYP}^{(A;c)} = A_{rel}^{(A;c)} + \Delta A_{SCF}^{(A;c)} \quad (23)$$

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21 The ZORA correction at the SCF level is added to the hyperfine coupling constants calculated  
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23 with relaxed densities, eq. (23). The correction of the dipolar hyperfine coupling constant  
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25 is straightforward.  
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28 [Figure 1 about here.]  
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32 In order to avoid any possible ambiguity Table 1 lists the isotopes, nuclear spins and scaled  
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34 nuclear g-values used in the calculations.  
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38 [Table 1 about here.]  
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## 40 41 42 **3.2 Numerical results**

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45 In this section the different DFT functionals are applied to a test set of few well-studied first  
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47 row transition metal complexes and to a collection of small radicals.  
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### 50 51 52 **3.2.1 Radicals**

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55 [Table 2 about here.]  
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59 [Table 3 about here.]  
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[Table 4 about here.]

[Table 5 about here.]

[Table 6 about here.]

In Table 2 the results of the calculation of the hyperfine coupling constants for a series of  $S=1/2$  diatomics are given. The BP86 GGA performs best for the  $^{14}\text{N}$  nucleus in the CN molecule and for the  $^{27}\text{Al}$  HFC in AlO that is, however, still predicted far off the experimental value. The B3LYP hybrid functional provides the best results for the  $^{13}\text{C}$  nucleus in CN and  $\text{CO}^+$  as well as for the  $^{25}\text{Mg}$  HFC in MgF. However, neither the HFCs for  $^{11}\text{B}$  in BO nor the ones for  $^{27}\text{Al}$  in AlO are sufficiently accurately described. Nevertheless, on average B3LYP is the most accurate of the well established functionals for the calculation of the HFCs of the diatomics in the test set.

The TPSS meta-GGA can not reproduce the HFCs for MgF, but is otherwise in good agreement with the results provided by the reference functionals with a slight tendency for underestimation of the HFCs. This points to a still underestimated spin-polarization with this functional. A clear improvement over TPSS is offered by its hybrid variant TPSSh. There are some notable exceptions to this general trend which include the  $^{14}\text{N}$  HFC in CN and the  $^{17}\text{O}$  HFC in  $\text{CO}^+$ .

The double hybrid functional B2PLYP fails badly for the CN molecule (a case with strong spin contamination caused by the large fraction of HF exchange), but outperforms the reference functionals for  $^{13}\text{C}$  in  $\text{CO}^+$  and for  $^{17}\text{F}$  in MgF. With the exception of  $^{25}\text{Mg}$  in MgF B2PLYP tends to slightly exaggerate the magnitude of  $A_{dip}$ .

Table 3 represents the results of HFC calculations for  $S \geq 1/2$  systems. It is evident that the BP86 GGA is not a good choice for these systems. The magnitude of  $A_{iso}$  is significantly underestimated in most cases. The B3LYP functional performs usually well for this test set, but is in some cases outperformed by TPSSh and B2PLYP. The TPSS shows a major improvement over the BP86 functional, but can not reach the accuracy of the B3LYP hybrid

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6 functional. The B2PLYP DHDF is certainly a competitive alternative to B3LYP within this  
7 test set. An exception is the orbitally degenerate NO molecule for which the perturbative  
8 correction is not appropriate. For less pathological cases B2PLYP performs as least as well  
9 as B3LYP and surpasses its accuracy in the cases of OH, NH and O<sub>2</sub>.  
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14 In Tables 4, 5 and 6 the calculated HFCs for a variety of small polyatomic systems are listed.  
15 The HFCs of SiH<sub>3</sub> and NF<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> can not be predicted by any of the employed functionals. Besides  
16 these disturbing cases, the TPSS functional seems to be a good choice for the evaluation  
17 of hyperfine couplings in the given series. The results provided by TPSS are in general  
18 inferior to those provided by its hybrid derivative, but regarding the cost to accuracy ratio,  
19 TPSS still presents a good alternative to the hybrid functionals. The results obtained with  
20 B2PLYP are in excellent agreement with those provided by the reference functionals.  
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28 The analysis of the average errors in Table 6 shows that B2PLYP has an excellent mean  
29 error of close to zero but the mean absolute error is slightly worse than B3LYP and TPSSh.  
30 In general, all employed functionals except BP86 perform in the same range. The mean  
31 absolute errors of B3LYP and TPSSh are very similar and no functional shows a signifi-  
32 cant improvement over B3LYP. If computational cost is an issue, the TPSS functional is a  
33 reasonable choice since it is clearly superior to BP86 but can be evaluated at only slightly  
34 higher computational cost than standard GGAs and significantly faster than hybrid or double  
35 hybrid functionals.  
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43 We conclude that for the HFCs of the small molecules studied here, DFT offers generally  
44 excellent performance. The results could probably be further improved by vibrational aver-  
45 aging but this has not been attempted in the present study.  
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### 3.2.2 Transition metal complexes

[Table 7 about here.]

[Table 8 about here.]

The calculated HFCs for a series of transition metal ions in different ligand environments are listed in Tables 7, 8. Here the situation is quite different from the case of small main group radicals since B2PLYP clearly outperforms all reference functionals. The only unexpected failure provided by the B2PLYP functional occurs for the HFC of  $[\text{Mn}(\text{CO})_5]$  where it fails badly. Neglecting this outlier together with  $\text{MnO}_3$  within the error statistics of B2PLYP yields a mean absolute error for  $A_{iso}$  of 22.3 MHz which is almost 1.5 times as good as the next best functional TPSSh.

The hybrid meta-GGA functional TPSSh presents a clear improvement over B3LYP in most cases and this is reflected in the statistics as well. TPSSh can predict the HFCs of  $\text{MnO}_3$  satisfactorily, whereas B3LYP fails badly in this case. In the remaining cases both functionals show similar performance. As found for main group radicals, TPSS outperforms BP86, but does not reach the accuracy of its hybrid derivative. On the positive side, TPSS does not provide any disastrous failures and reproduces the experimental data fairly well.

We were curious whether the inclusion of scalar relativistic effects would further improve the B2PLYP values. We have consequently redone the B2PLYP calculations in the framework of the zero'th order regular approximation (ZORA) in its one-component form. The ZORA formalism is an approximation to the relativistic Dirac equation which transforms the original four-component Hamiltonian into a two-component form. [73] Density functional calculations within the ZORA formalism show only differences in the kinetic energy part of the SCF equations compared to usual Kohn–Sham theory. The ZORA kinetic energy operator depends implicitly on the Kohn–Sham orbitals through the Coulomb and exchange–correlation potentials. [75] In the ZORA formalism, the calculation of magnetic properties is particularly straightforward as was first shown by van Lenthe et al. [46] In the present case, it was only possible to compute the scalar relativistic corrections to all parts of the HFC at



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6 the SCF level (e.g. without the perturbative correction) since the correct formalism for the  
7 scaled spin densities [46] at any correlated level has not yet been worked out. As one can  
8 see from the results in Tables 7, 8, the ZORA correction together with the B2PLYP double  
9 hybrid functional does not systematically improve the results. This may be due to the use of  
10 the SCF densities in place of the relaxed densities as will be analyzed in more detail below.  
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### 15 16 17 **3.2.3 Ligand Superhyperfine structure**

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20 [Table 9 about here.]  
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24 Table 9 presents the results of the calculated HFCs for selected ligand nuclei for which exper-  
25 imental data exist. The TPSSh hybrid functional performs generally best for all predicted  
26 HFCs. The results provided by the BP86 GGA are also in good agreement with the experi-  
27 mental references. The TPSS meta-GGA outperforms B3LYP as well except in the case of  
28  $^{33}\text{S}$  in  $[\text{Ni}(\text{mnt})_2]^-$ . B2PLYP apparently gives an erroneous electronic structure description  
29 for  $[\text{Ni}(\text{CO})_3\text{H}]$  and consequently fails to provide a reasonable estimate of the  $^1\text{H}$  HFC. The  
30 analysis of average errors in in Table 9 demonstrates a systematic underestimation of the  
31 ligand HFCs for both hybrid functionals. In this comparison B2PLYP yields the lowest  
32 average error in the total as well as in the isotropic HFCCS and the systematic bias is very  
33 small. The excellent results obtained with the BP86 functional are probably influenced to a  
34 certain extent by error cancellation as has been analyzed previously. [15]  
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45 It is instructive to analyze the B2PLYP densities somewhat further. As described above,  
46 in this method, there are three types of densities available: (a) the SCF densities, (b)  
47 the unrelaxed densities and (c) the relaxed densities. The relaxed densities are the most  
48 consistent ones since they accurately describe the linear response of the B2PLYP total energy  
49 with respect to the hyperfine perturbation. It is well-known of course, and has been analyzed  
50 many times that GGA functionals tend to exaggerate covalent bonding and transfer too much  
51 spin to the ligand while Hartree-Fock is on the opposite extreme and predicts metal-ligand  
52 bonds that are far too ionic. [47, 48, 108]  
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6 Solomon and co-workers have suggested to use an elevated amount of 38% exact exchange  
7 to be mixed into the BP86 functional in order to obtain better metal-ligand bonding de-  
8 scriptions. [48] Hence, the 53% present in B2PLYP should lead to exaggerated metal spin  
9 populations at the SCF level. Indeed, this is found. For the the example of  $\text{Cu}(\text{NH}_3)_4^{2+}$   
10 the SCF spin-population at the central copper is 76% which is certainly too high since the  
11 analysis of EPR experiments indicates that values around 65% are more reasonable. Indeed,  
12 the correlation contribution to the relaxed densities leads to a fairly substantial change in  
13 the predicted spin populations since the relaxed density displays a Mulliken spin population  
14 of 63%. This shows that the new double hybrid functionals actually incorporate correct and  
15 important physics in their design. This is, of course, also reflected in the calculated metal-  
16 and ligand hyperfine couplings. Thus, the isotropic  $^{14}\text{N}$ -HFC is predicted to be 28.5 MHz  
17 with the unrelaxed densities and 37.2 MHz with the relaxed densities the latter of which is in  
18 excellent agreement with the experimental estimates (a rigorous comparison is of course not  
19 possible since spin populations are not quantum mechanical observables). The fact that the  
20 high accuracy does not always hold for B2PLYP will be discussed in the concluding section.  
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35 [Figure 2 about here.]  
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### 42 3.2.4 Geometry dependence of the predicted hyperfine couplings

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45 Based on the comments of a referee we have repeated some of the calculations in a way where  
46 the same functional was used for the geometry optimization and the property prediction.  
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48 The results of these calculations are collected below in Table 10.  
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52 [Table 10 about here.]  
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57 As becomes evident from table 10, the magnitude of the HFCs is increased if the structure  
58 optimization and the HFC calculation are performed with the same functional. However, this  
59 does not consistently yield improved predictions. For example, in the case of  $[\text{Cu}(\text{NH}_3)_4]^{2+}$   
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6 the overestimation of the magnitude of the total HFCs is not corrected if other functionals  
7 than TPSS are used for the geometry optimization. This would also not be expected since  
8 all of these functionals (BP86, B3LYP) significantly overestimate the copper-nitrogen dis-  
9 tances. [15] Overall, it is perhaps not surprising that the trends observed in the calculations of  
10 this subsection are analogous to the trends found in the predicted HFCs for the TPSS struc-  
11 tures. A slight exception are the B2PLYP results that obviously benefit from the excellent  
12 structural predictions obtained with this functional. [56] In general, it is our opinion, that  
13 performing structure optimizations and property predictions using two different functionals  
14 is well justified. In particular, the latest benchmarks have revealed that the computationally  
15 much cheaper GGA functionals often outperform hybrid functionals concerning the accuracy  
16 of structural predictions [15,109] On the other hand, hybrid (and double hybrid) functionals  
17 clearly yield more accurate properties, at least on average and this is also visible in the  
18 present results. Thus, one might well invest the computational time saved in the structure  
19 prediction with GGA functionals into a better basis set or a more realistic chemical model  
20 of the system under investigation.  
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## 34 4 Concluding Remarks

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40 In this work hyperfine couplings for a series of small radicals and for a variety of transition  
41 metal complexes were studied computationally using different modern density functionals.  
42 The trends observed for the TPSS meta-GGA agree well with the results in ref. [34]. TPSS  
43 represents major improvements over BP86 but can not reach the accuracy of the hybrid  
44 functionals for the prediction of HFCs. Compared to the meta-GGAs tested previously by  
45 Arbuznikov et al., [33] TPSS is to be preferred. The hybrid variant, TPSSh, is a clear  
46 improvement over TPSS and represents an attractive alternative to the widely used B3LYP  
47 hybrid functional for HFC calculations. Particularly, in the prediction of transition metal  
48 HFC TPSSh offers advantages over B3LYP.  
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57 The B2PLYP double hybrid functional represents a special case. For many systems, the  
58 additional physics incorporated into the double hybrid functionals leads to improvements  
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6 in the results. This is particularly true for the transition metal HFCs. Here, the elevated  
7 fraction of HF exchange leads to an increase in spin-polarization that in turn leads to larger  
8 HFCs. However, increasing the fraction of HF exchange to about 50% alone would lead to  
9 an overshooting that is, however, partially damped by the additional corrections provided  
10 by the perturbative correlation correction that is quite important for obtaining accurate  
11 results. Thus, it is an important issue to correlate the core level electrons in HFC calcu-  
12 lations with double hybrid functionals and a more detailed study of this issue seems to be  
13 warranted. However, the improvements offered by double hybrid functionals come at the  
14 price of a somewhat reduced stability. In all likelihood this stems from the second-order  
15 perturbation approach in combination with the elevated fraction of HF exchange present in  
16 these functionals. Since both, UHF as well as UMP2 are very inaccurate and partially erratic  
17 for HFC calculations this result had probably to be expected. One case, where the elevated  
18 fraction of HF exchange leads to disastrous results is  $\text{MnO}_3$ , as has been analyzed in some  
19 detail in the context of hybrid density functional theory by Munzarova and Kaupp. [35].  
20 Nevertheless, B2PLYP is certainly much more stable than either UHF or UMP2 (even in  
21 the presence of significant spin contamination) and, except for electronically very difficult  
22 situations, provides excellent predictions for HFCs.  
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38 In future work the consistent incorporation of scalar relativistic effects and the implementa-  
39 tion of response properties on the basis of double hybrid functionals should be pursued.  
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42 Unfortunately, the present work does still not offer a general answer to the question of which  
43 density functional should generally be used for HFC calculations since the "best" functional  
44 appears to be system dependent. The well established B3LYP functional is, on average, still  
45 an excellent choice which is, however, rivaled by the TPSSh hybrid functional. B2PLYP is  
46 a much more stable method than either UHF or UMP2 and except for electronically very  
47 difficult systems it provides HFC predictions of excellent quality. If computational cost is a  
48 serious issue the use of the TPSS meta-GGA is clearly to be preferred over BP86.  
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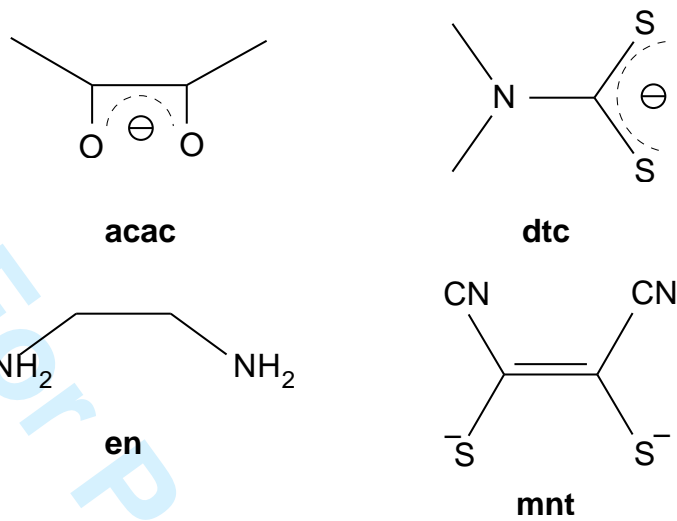


Figure 1: Structures of the ligands used in this study.

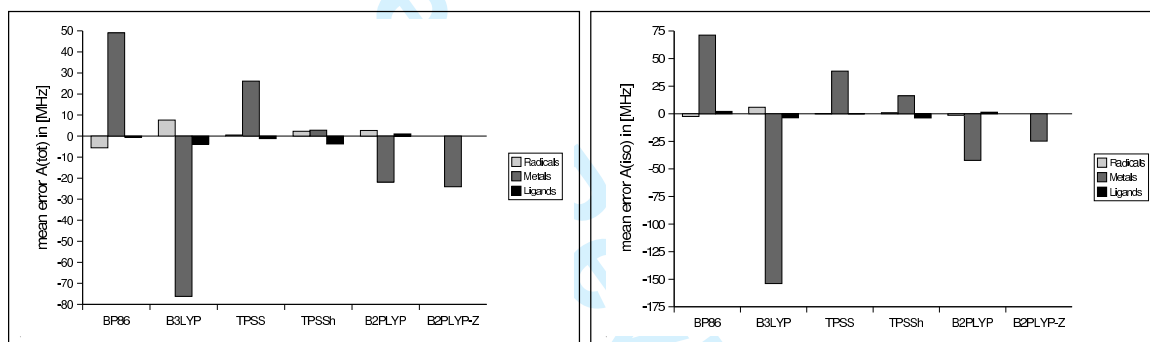


Figure 2: Graphical representation of the mean error for the calculation of hyperfine coupling constants depending on the functional and the system.

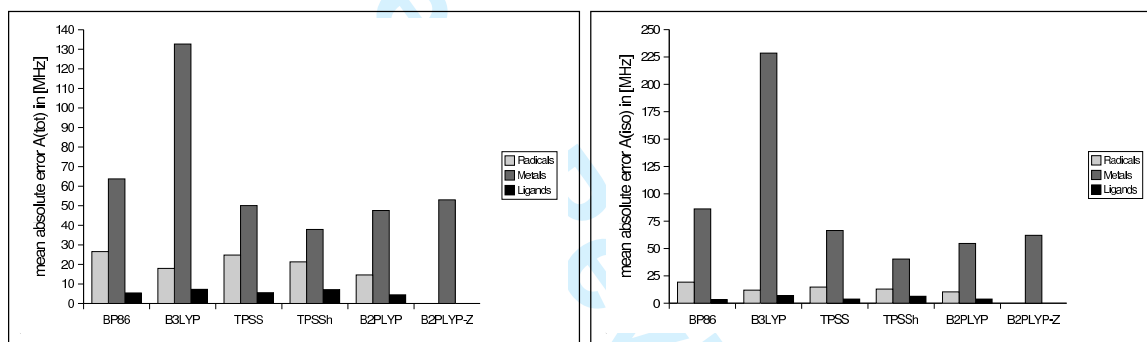


Figure 3: Graphical representation of the mean absolute error for the calculation of hyperfine coupling constants depending on the functional and the system.

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Table 1: Isotopes, nuclear spins  $I$  and scaled nuclear  $g$ -values ( $P=g_e g_N \beta_e \beta_N$  in MHz/au<sup>3</sup>) used in the calculations.

Metal nucleus	$I$	$P$
<sup>45</sup> Sc	7/2	129.8189
<sup>47</sup> Ti	5/2	-30.1264
<sup>51</sup> V	7/2	140.2594
<sup>53</sup> Cr	3/2	-30.0605
<sup>55</sup> Mn	5/2	132.0006
<sup>57</sup> Fe	1/2	17.2511
<sup>61</sup> Ni	3/2	-47.7615
<sup>63</sup> Cu	3/2	141.7533

Table 2: Hyperfine coupling constants in MHz for a variety of small  $S=1/2$  systems.

			$A_{11}^{(A)}$	$A_{22}^{(A)}$	$A_{33}^{(A)}$	$A^{(A;c)}$	$A_{11}^{(A;d)}$	$A_{22}^{(A;d)}$	$A_{33}^{(A;d)}$
CN	BP	<sup>13</sup> C	437.8	437.8	615.8	497.1	-59.4	-59.4	118.7
	B3LYP	<sup>13</sup> C	512.9	512.9	692.7	572.8	-59.9	-59.9	119.9
	TPSS	<sup>13</sup> C	459.4	459.4	637.1	518.6	-59.3	-59.3	118.5
	TPSSh	<sup>13</sup> C	497.1	497.1	672.4	555.5	-58.4	-58.4	116.8
	B2PLYP	<sup>13</sup> C	343.1	343.1	555.3	413.8	-70.7	-70.7	141.5
	Expt [76]		543	543	678	588	-45	-45	90
	BP	<sup>14</sup> N	-35.5	-35.5	29.3	-13.9	-21.6	-21.6	43.2
	B3LYP	<sup>14</sup> N	-40.5	-40.5	24.4	-18.9	-21.7	-21.7	43.3
	TPSS	<sup>14</sup> N	-39.2	-39.2	26.8	-17.2	-22.0	-22.0	44.0
	TPSSh	<sup>14</sup> N	-44.2	-44.2	21.9	-22.2	-22.0	-22.0	44.0
	B2PLYP	<sup>14</sup> N	-44.1	-44.1	14.0	-24.7	-19.3	-19.3	38.7
	Expt [76]		-28	-28	27	-13	-15	-15	30
CO <sup>+</sup>	BP	<sup>13</sup> C	1428.2	1428.2	1582.1	1479.5	-51.3	-51.3	102.6
	B3LYP	<sup>13</sup> C	1540.7	1540.7	1694.5	1591.9	-51.3	-51.3	102.6
	TPSS	<sup>13</sup> C	1444.4	1444.4	1596.0	1494.9	-50.6	-50.6	101.1
	TPSSh	<sup>13</sup> C	1481.0	1481.0	1628.5	1530.2	-49.2	-49.2	98.3
	B2PLYP	<sup>13</sup> C	1497.1	1497.1	1662.3	1552.2	-55.1	-55.1	110.2
	Expt [77]		1524	1524	1671	1573	-49	-49	98
	BP	<sup>17</sup> O	-50.6	70.7	70.7	30.3	-80.9	40.4	40.4
	B3LYP	<sup>17</sup> O	-50.4	68.0	68.0	28.5	-78.9	39.5	39.5
	TPSS	<sup>17</sup> O	-53.0	75.0	75.0	32.3	-85.3	42.7	42.7
	TPSSh	<sup>17</sup> O	-53.8	75.3	75.3	32.2	-86.0	43.0	43.0
	B2PLYP	<sup>17</sup> O	-45.9	56.3	56.3	22.2	-68.1	34.1	34.1
	Expt [77]		-47	52	52	19	-66	33	33
BO	BP	<sup>11</sup> B	964.2	964.2	1044.4	990.9	-26.7	-26.7	53.5
	B3LYP	<sup>11</sup> B	1048.1	1048.1	1131.2	1075.8	-27.7	-27.7	55.4
	TPSS	<sup>11</sup> B	964.7	964.7	1046.1	991.8	-27.2	-27.2	54.3
	TPSSh	<sup>11</sup> B	980.8	980.8	1061.0	1007.6	-26.7	-26.7	53.5
	B2PLYP	<sup>11</sup> B	1033.4	1033.4	1116.7	1061.2	-27.8	-27.8	55.5
	Expt [78]		998	998	1079	1025	-27	-27	54
	BP	<sup>17</sup> O	-54.4	15.6	15.6	-7.7	-46.7	23.3	23.3
	B3LYP	<sup>17</sup> O	-54.2	10.4	10.4	-11.1	-43.1	21.5	21.5
	TPSS	<sup>17</sup> O	-55.4	19.6	19.6	-5.4	-50.0	25.0	25.0
	TPSSh	<sup>17</sup> O	-56.3	18.2	18.2	-6.7	-49.6	24.8	24.8
	B2PLYP	<sup>17</sup> O	-55.7	5.5	5.5	-14.9	-40.8	20.4	20.4
AlO	BP	<sup>27</sup> Al	598.3	598.3	769.1	655.2	-56.9	-56.9	113.9
	B3LYP	<sup>27</sup> Al	451.5	451.5	631.7	511.6	-60.1	-60.1	120.2
	TPSS	<sup>27</sup> Al	593.8	593.8	762.9	650.2	-56.4	-56.4	112.7
	TPSSh	<sup>27</sup> Al	534.4	534.4	706.0	591.6	-57.2	-57.2	114.4
	B2PLYP	<sup>27</sup> Al	922.5	922.5	1095.1	980.0	-57.5	-57.5	115.0
	Expt [79]		713	713	872	766	-53	-53	106
	BP	<sup>17</sup> O	-104.4	73.8	73.8	14.4	-118.9	59.4	59.4
	B3LYP	<sup>17</sup> O	-124.1	74.5	74.5	8.3	-132.4	66.2	66.2
	TPSS	<sup>17</sup> O	-108.5	70.2	70.2	10.7	-119.2	59.6	59.6
	TPSSh	<sup>17</sup> O	-109.1	74.7	74.7	13.4	-122.5	61.3	61.3
	B2PLYP	<sup>17</sup> O	-66.7	63.1	63.1	19.9	-86.6	43.3	43.3
MgF	BP	<sup>25</sup> Mg	-313.2	-300.8	-300.8	-304.9	-8.3	4.1	4.1
	B3LYP	<sup>25</sup> Mg	-330.7	-318.4	-318.4	-322.5	-8.2	4.1	4.1
	TPSS	<sup>25</sup> Mg	-291.9	-278.9	-278.9	-283.2	-8.6	4.3	4.3
	TPSSh	<sup>25</sup> Mg	-294.6	-281.8	-281.8	-286.1	-8.5	4.3	4.3
	B2PLYP	<sup>25</sup> Mg	-324.7	-312.7	-312.7	-316.7	-8.0	4.0	4.0
	Expt [80]		-349	-331	-331	-337	-12	6	6
	BP	<sup>19</sup> F	81.6	81.6	373.9	179.0	-97.4	-97.4	194.9
	B3LYP	<sup>19</sup> F	116.7	116.7	387.5	207.0	-90.3	-90.3	180.6
	TPSS	<sup>19</sup> F	68.1	68.1	378.7	171.7	-103.5	-103.5	207.0
	TPSSh	<sup>19</sup> F	81.0	81.0	367.6	176.5	-95.5	-95.5	191.0
	B2PLYP	<sup>19</sup> F	128.1	128.1	364.8	207.0	-78.9	-78.9	157.8
	Expt [81]		143	143	332	206	-63	-63	126
BS	BP	<sup>11</sup> B	753.5	753.5	842.9	783.3	-29.8	-29.8	59.6
	B3LYP	<sup>11</sup> B	794.6	794.6	889.8	826.3	-31.7	-31.7	63.5
	TPSS	<sup>11</sup> B	757.0	757.0	848.1	787.3	-30.4	-30.4	60.7
	TPSSh	<sup>11</sup> B	762.9	762.9	853.4	793.1	-30.2	-30.2	60.4
	B2PLYP	<sup>11</sup> B	790.7	790.7	885.1	822.2	-31.5	-31.5	63.0
	Expt [82]					796			
	BP	<sup>33</sup> S	-20.1	-20.1	49.4	3.1	-23.1	-23.1	46.3
	B3LYP	<sup>33</sup> S	-20.5	-20.5	46.8	1.9	-22.5	-22.5	44.9
	TPSS	<sup>33</sup> S	-21.5	-21.5	49.3	2.1	-23.6	-23.6	47.2
	TPSSh	<sup>33</sup> S	-22.1	-22.1	49.2	1.7	-23.7	-23.7	47.5
	B2PLYP	<sup>33</sup> S	-15.9	-15.9	47.6	5.3	-21.2	-21.2	42.4

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Table 4: Hyperfine coupling constants in MHz for a variety of small  $S=1/2$  radicals.

			$A_{11}^{(A)}$	$A_{22}^{(A)}$	$A_{33}^{(A)}$	$A^{(A;c)}$	$A_{11}^{(A;d)}$	$A_{22}^{(A;d)}$	$A_{33}^{(A;d)}$	
$C_3H_5$	BP	$^{13}C$	-49.8	-31.7	-20.0	-33.8	-16.0	2.2	13.9	
		B3LYP	-22.0	-33.9	-58.2	-38.0	-20.1	4.1	16.0	
		TPSS	-31.0	-42.2	-65.3	-46.2	-19.1	3.9	15.2	
	TPSSh	$^{13}C$	-32.5	-44.0	-71.4	-49.3	-22.1	5.3	16.8	
		B2PLYP	-61.9	-36.9	-25.2	-41.3	-20.5	4.4	16.1	
		Expt [85]				-48				
	BP	$^{13}C$	-23.8	-22.7	120.3	24.6	-48.4	-47.3	95.7	
		B3LYP	-11.2	-9.8	136.4	38.5	-49.7	-48.3	98.0	
		TPSS	-5.6	-4.1	141.7	44.0	-49.6	-48.1	97.7	
	TPSSh	$^{13}C$	-2.0	-0.2	146.9	48.2	-50.2	-48.5	98.7	
		B2PLYP	-8.8	-7.3	136.6	40.2	-49.0	-47.4	96.4	
		Expt [85]				61				
	BP	$^1H$	2.0	11.3	12.0	8.4	-6.4	2.9	3.5	
		B3LYP	4.1	12.9	15.2	10.7	-6.6	2.1	4.5	
		TPSS	3.2	11.9	14.1	9.7	-6.5	2.2	4.4	
	TPSSh	$^1H$	5.4	13.5	17.2	12.0	-6.6	1.5	5.2	
		B2PLYP	2.9	11.6	14.2	9.6	-6.6	2.0	4.6	
		Expt [85]				12				
	BP	$^1H$	-65.7	-40.7	-18.9	-41.8	-23.9	1.1	22.9	
		B3LYP	-67.0	-41.9	-18.5	-42.5	-24.5	0.6	24.0	
		TPSS	-68.3	-43.0	-19.0	-43.4	-24.9	0.4	24.5	
	TPSSh	$^1H$	-72.0	-46.2	-21.7	-46.6	-25.3	0.4	24.9	
		B2PLYP	-68.8	-43.5	-20.3	-44.2	-24.6	0.8	23.9	
		Expt [85]				-41				
	BP	$^1H$	-57.8	-38.2	-15.8	-37.3	-20.6	-0.9	21.4	
		B3LYP	-58.9	-39.2	-15.5	-37.9	-21.0	-1.4	22.4	
		TPSS	-60.1	-40.2	-15.9	-38.7	-21.3	-1.5	22.8	
TPSSh	$^1H$	-63.3	-43.0	-18.3	-41.5	-21.7	-1.5	23.3		
	B2PLYP	-60.2	-40.3	-16.8	-39.1	-21.1	-1.2	22.3		
	Expt [85]				-39					
$CH_3$	BP	$^{13}C$	-20.7	-20.7	220.0	59.5	-80.2	-80.2	160.5	
		B3LYP	0.4	0.4	241.5	80.8	-80.4	-80.4	160.7	
		TPSS	18.9	18.9	261.3	99.7	-80.8	-80.8	161.6	
	TPSSh	$^{13}C$	24.1	24.1	265.0	104.4	-80.3	-80.3	160.6	
		B2PLYP	5.0	5.0	241.5	83.8	-78.8	-78.8	157.7	
		Expt [86, 87]	13	13	198	75	~ -62	~ -62	~ 123	
	BP	$^1H$	-106.4	-64.6	-29.1	-66.7	-39.7	2.1	37.6	
		B3LYP	-105.0	-63.8	-26.5	-65.1	-39.9	1.3	38.6	
		TPSS	-111.1	-69.4	-30.4	-70.3	-40.8	0.9	39.9	
	TPSSh	$^1H$	-114.9	-73.0	-33.6	-73.8	-41.0	0.8	40.2	
		B2PLYP	-109.5	-67.9	-30.9	-69.5	-40.1	1.5	38.5	
		Expt [86, 87]	-105	-69	-35	-70	-35	1	35	
	$HCO$	BP	$^{17}O$	-130.1	28.3	36.2	-21.9	-108.3	50.2	58.1
			B3LYP	-146.5	17.3	24.3	-35.0	-111.5	52.3	59.2
			TPSS	-144.0	15.0	25.0	-34.7	-109.3	49.6	59.7
TPSSh		$^{17}O$	-147.3	12.3	22.9	-37.3	-109.9	49.7	60.2	
		B2PLYP	-147.6	9.9	17.5	-40.1	-107.5	49.9	57.6	
		BP	$^{13}C$	320.3	325.2	453.2	366.2	-46.0	-41.0	87.0
B3LYP		$^{13}C$	340.9	346.3	480.3	389.1	-48.3	-42.8	91.1	
		TPSS	319.9	330.5	460.2	370.2	-50.3	-39.7	90.0	
		TPSSh	322.5	333.9	465.3	373.9	-51.4	-40.0	91.4	
B2PLYP		$^{13}C$	338.4	345.1	475.9	386.5	-48.1	-41.4	89.5	
		Expt [46]	~337	~353	~437	365 - 377	-39 - -48	-12 - -24	50 - 72	
		BP	$^1H$	346.1	354.3	384.6	361.7	-15.6	-7.4	23.0
B3LYP		$^1H$	364.2	372.3	403.5	380.0	-15.8	-7.7	23.5	
		TPSS	388.9	396.0	424.3	403.1	-14.2	-7.0	21.2	
		TPSSh	388.6	395.7	424.3	402.9	-14.2	-7.2	21.4	
B2PLYP	$^1H$	366.3	374.4	404.8	381.8	-15.5	-7.5	23.0		
	Expt [46]	~(-)377	~(-)377	~(-)343	(-)354 - (-)381	-9	-9	25		

Table 5: Hyperfine coupling constants in MHz for a variety of small  $S=1/2$  radicals.

			$A_{11}^{(A)}$	$A_{22}^{(A)}$	$A_{33}^{(A)}$	$A^{(A;c)}$	$A_{11}^{(A;d)}$	$A_{22}^{(A;d)}$	$A_{33}^{(A;d)}$	
$H_2CO^+$	BP	$^{13}C$	-97.7	-69.4	-56.3	-74.5	-23.3	5.1	18.2	
	B3LYP	$^{13}C$	-107.3	-76.6	-71.0	-85.0	-22.4	8.4	14.0	
	TPSS	$^{13}C$	-121.9	-93.6	-86.8	-100.8	-21.1	7.2	14.0	
	TPSSh	$^{13}C$	-125.3	-95.3	-92.1	-104.2	-21.1	8.9	12.1	
	B2FLYP	$^{13}C$	-117.9	-89.0	-85.6	-97.5	-20.4	8.5	11.9	
	Expt [30]		-124	-105	-99	-109	-15	4	10	
	BP	$^{17}O$	-262.5	94.0	115.2	-17.8	-244.7	111.7	133.0	
	B3LYP	$^{17}O$	-303.3	70.0	96.4	-45.7	-257.7	115.6	142.0	
	TPSS	$^{17}O$	-297.1	69.8	93.4	-44.6	-252.5	114.5	138.1	
	TPSSh	$^{17}O$	-308.1	64.2	91.0	-51.0	-257.1	115.1	142.0	
	B2FLYP	$^{17}O$	-316.0	61.4	84.6	-56.7	-259.4	118.0	141.3	
	BP	$^1H$	328.4	330.9	360.1	339.8	-11.4	-8.9	20.3	
	B3LYP	$^1H$	313.3	316.2	342.1	323.9	-10.5	-7.7	18.2	
	TPSS	$^1H$	336.4	338.4	363.5	346.1	-9.7	-7.7	17.4	
TPSSh	$^1H$	324.5	326.7	350.0	333.7	-9.2	-7.1	16.3		
B2FLYP	$^1H$	313.8	316.3	341.5	323.9	-10.1	-7.5	17.6		
Expt [30]		363	376	377	372	-9	4	5		
$CO_2^-$	BP	$^{13}C$	244.9	249.2	334.6	276.2	-31.3	-27.0	58.4	
	B3LYP	$^{13}C$	290.8	296.5	399.8	329.1	-38.2	-32.5	70.8	
	TPSS	$^{13}C$	270.6	277.4	372.3	306.8	-36.2	-29.4	65.6	
	TPSSh	$^{13}C$	280.8	288.7	389.8	319.8	-38.9	-31.1	70.0	
	B2FLYP	$^{13}C$	297.2	303.3	403.5	334.7	-37.5	-31.3	68.8	
	BP	$^{17}O$	-139.8	-54.1	-48.5	-80.8	-59.0	26.7	32.3	
	B3LYP	$^{17}O$	-153.8	-59.5	-54.0	-89.1	-64.7	29.6	35.1	
	TPSS	$^{17}O$	-149.3	-56.4	-50.5	-85.4	-63.9	29.0	34.9	
	TPSSh	$^{17}O$	-151.0	-55.8	-49.5	-85.5	-65.6	29.6	36.0	
	B2FLYP	$^{17}O$	-157.3	-67.1	-60.5	-95.0	-62.3	27.9	34.4	
	BP	$^{17}O$	-344.3	118.8	123.1	-34.1	-310.2	153.0	157.2	
	B3LYP	$^{17}O$	-373.3	88.3	92.9	-64.1	-309.3	152.3	156.9	
	TPSS	$^{17}O$	-382.9	80.5	86.9	-71.8	-311.1	152.3	158.8	
	TPSSh	$^{17}O$	-387.1	74.1	80.8	-77.4	-309.7	151.5	158.2	
B2FLYP	$^{17}O$	-382.4	73.1	78.1	-77.1	-305.4	150.2	155.1		
Expt [31]					-83					
BP	$^1H$	-122.4	-93.3	1.9	-71.2	-51.2	-22.0	73.2		
B3LYP	$^1H$	-128.9	-100.0	-2.6	-77.2	-51.7	-22.8	74.6		
TPSS	$^1H$	-123.6	-94.5	0.9	-72.4	-51.2	-22.1	73.3		
TPSSh	$^1H$	-127.5	-98.4	-2.2	-76.0	-51.5	-22.4	73.8		
B2FLYP	$^1H$	-131.6	-102.4	-4.8	-79.6	-52.0	-22.8	74.8		
Expt [31]					-73					
$O_2H$	BP	$^{17}O$	-252.5	95.0	95.7	-20.6	-231.8	115.6	116.3	
	B3LYP	$^{17}O$	-293.4	72.4	74.4	-48.8	-244.5	121.3	123.2	
	TPSS	$^{17}O$	-281.1	72.9	76.4	-43.9	-237.1	116.8	120.3	
	TPSSh	$^{17}O$	-293.5	69.1	72.1	-50.8	-242.7	119.8	122.9	
	B2FLYP	$^{17}O$	-301.3	59.6	63.3	-59.5	-241.8	119.1	122.8	
	BP	$^{17}O$	-128.4	41.1	45.4	-14.0	-114.4	55.0	59.4	
	B3LYP	$^{17}O$	-138.8	23.8	29.2	-28.6	-110.2	52.4	57.8	
	TPSS	$^{17}O$	-144.3	22.8	27.5	-31.3	-113.0	54.1	58.9	
	TPSSh	$^{17}O$	-144.3	17.5	22.9	-34.6	-109.6	52.1	57.5	
	B2FLYP	$^{17}O$	-147.4	15.8	20.9	-36.9	-110.5	52.7	57.8	
	BP	$^1H$	-46.7	-36.1	11.1	-23.9	-22.8	-12.2	35.0	
	B3LYP	$^1H$	-47.6	-38.9	8.8	-25.9	-21.7	-13.0	34.6	
	TPSS	$^1H$	-41.2	-31.2	14.4	-19.4	-21.9	-11.8	33.7	
	TPSSh	$^1H$	-41.9	-32.7	12.6	-20.6	-21.2	-12.0	33.3	
	B2FLYP	$^1H$	-51.3	-41.9	6.5	-28.9	-22.4	-13.1	35.4	
	Expt [83]						-11	-8	20	
	$O_3^-$	BP	$^{17}O$	-174.7	44.6	47.6	-27.5	-147.2	72.1	75.1
		B3LYP	$^{17}O$	-211.7	26.2	29.4	-52.0	-159.6	78.2	81.4
TPSS		$^{17}O$	-200.6	22.7	27.8	-50.0	-150.6	72.8	77.8	
TPSSh		$^{17}O$	-214.2	17.1	22.4	-58.2	-156.0	75.3	80.6	
B2FLYP		$^{17}O$	-204.7	20.7	24.4	-53.2	-151.5	74.0	77.6	
BP		$^{17}O$	-114.3	41.5	42.9	-10.0	-104.3	51.5	52.8	
B3LYP		$^{17}O$	-134.7	26.8	30.8	-25.7	-109.0	52.5	56.5	
TPSS		$^{17}O$	-128.5	29.9	32.0	-22.2	-106.4	52.1	54.2	
TPSSh		$^{17}O$	-134.4	26.7	28.0	-26.6	-107.9	53.3	54.6	
B2FLYP		$^{17}O$	-131.4	27.5	29.8	-24.7	-106.7	52.2	54.5	

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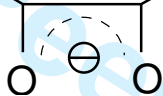
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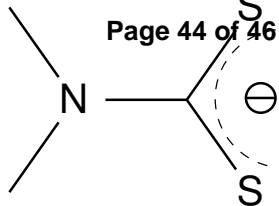




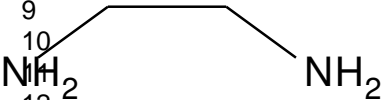




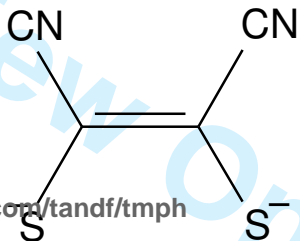
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