

## Supplementary material

Table S1: Spectroscopic constants of 4-nitroanisole determined experimentally and via quantum-chemical calculations. The value in square brackets was taken directly from calculations.

Parameter	Experiment	B3LYP/ aug-cc-pVTZ	B3LYP/ aug-cc-pVTZ (GD3BJ)	B3LYP/ def2-TZVP (GD3BJ)	MP2/ 6-311++G(d,p)
A (MHz)	3533.8097(5)	3565.90	3563.30	3565.43	3514.65
B (MHz)	587.03009(5)	586.25	588.15	588.07	584.66
C (MHz)	505.37812(5)	505.09	506.45	506.44	502.89
$D_K$ (kHz)	0.33(8)	—	—	—	—
$D_{JK}$ (kHz)	-0.031(5)	—	—	—	—
$D_J$ (kHz)	0.006(1)	—	—	—	—
$\chi_{aa}$ (MHz)	-1.164(2)	-1.2409	-1.2494	-1.2813	-0.5915
$\chi_{bb-cc}$ (MHz)	-0.569(3)	-1.0179	-1.0172	-1.0495	1.3711
$\chi_{ab}$ (MHz)	[-0.1145]	-0.1145	-0.1168	-0.1200	-0.1336
$\mu_a$ (D)	—	6.15	6.14	6.09	5.45
$\mu_b$ (D)	—	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.92
$\mu_c$ (D)	—	0	0	0	0
$N_{lines}$	169	—	—	—	—
$\sigma$ (kHz)	4.9	—	—	—	—

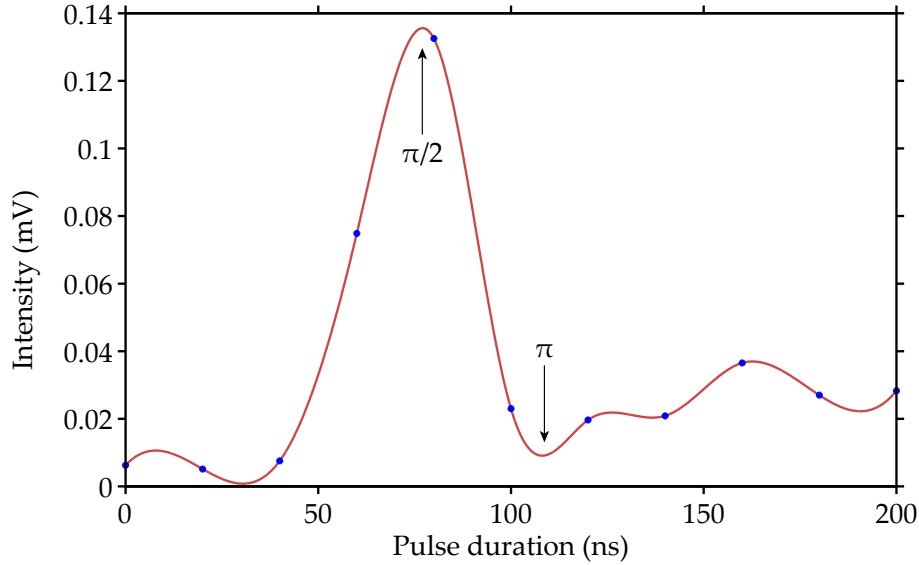


Figure S1: Nutation curve of the  $2_{02} \leftarrow 1_{01}$  transition at 2183.17 MHz with a step-width of 20 ns. All pulses were amplified with the TWT amplifier at 100% gain. Both the  $\pi$  and  $\pi/2$  pulse durations are also indicated in the plot.

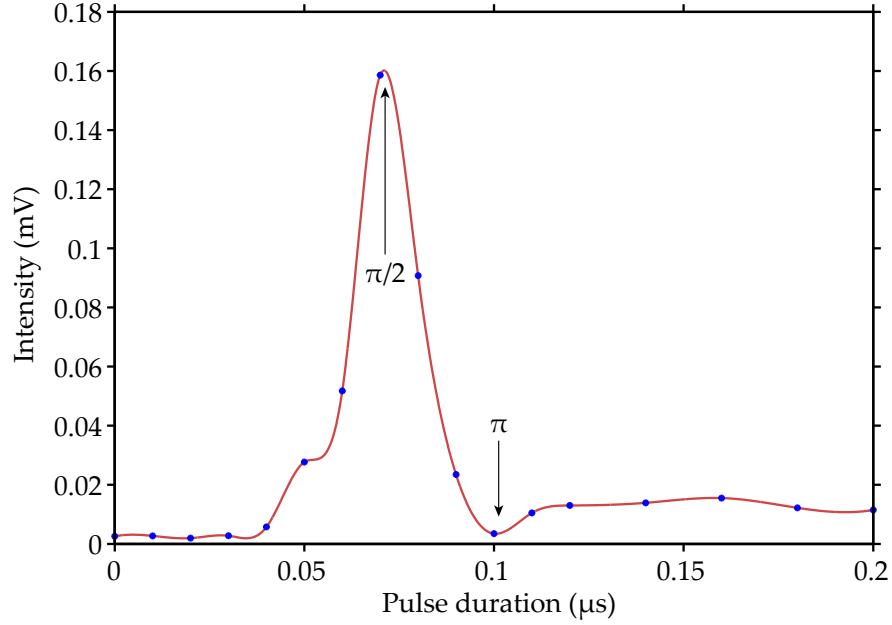


Figure S2: Nutation curve of the  $2_{02} \leftarrow 1_{01}$  transition at 2183.17 MHz with a step-width of 10 ns until a pulse duration of 120 ns, then a 20 ns step-width thereafter. All pulses were amplified with the TWT amplifier at 100% gain. Both the  $\pi$  and  $\pi/2$  pulse durations are also indicated in the plot.

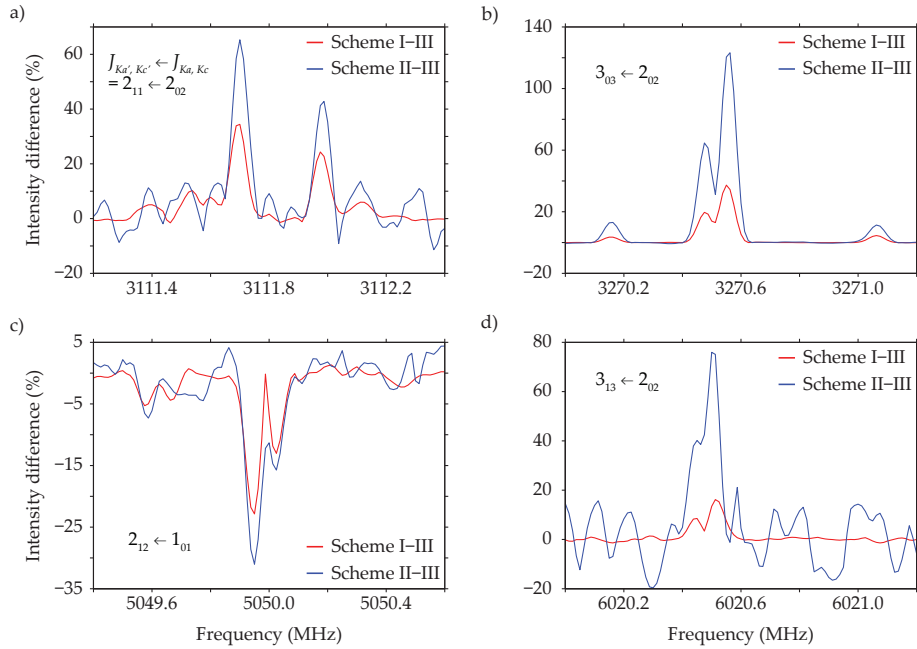


Figure S3: Percentage difference for each signal transition and the two different pulse schemes. Percentages determined by calculating intensity differences relative to the maximum intensity recorded using Scheme III alone.