Abstract Submitted for the DAMOP12 Meeting of The American Physical Society

High Resolution Rotational Spectroscopy of Zeeman & Hyperfine Effects in PbF & YbF¹ RICHARD MAWHORTER, ALEX BAUM, BEN-JAMIN MURPHY, Pomona College, TREVOR SEARS, Brookhaven National Laboratory, N.E. SHAFER-RAY, University of Oklahoma, LUKAS ALPHEI, JENS-UWE GRABOW, Leibnitz-Universitaet — Motivated by the ongoing search for the CP-violating electron electric dipole moment (e-EDM), rotational spectra of the radicals²⁰⁷Pb¹⁹F and ²⁰⁸Pb¹⁹F were measured using a supersonic jet Fourier transform microwave spectrometer. Zeeman splitting was examined for $10^{-207} \mathrm{PbF}$ and 9 $^{208} \mathrm{PbF}~\mathrm{J} = 1/\!\!/_2$ and J = $^3/_2$ transitions using Helmholtz coils and magnetic fields up to ~ 4 Gauss. Transitions were observed with 0.5 kHz accuracy and 6 kHz pair resolution over a range of 2 - 26.5 GHz. The observation of these field dependent spectra allowed for the determination of the two body fixed g-factors, G_{\parallel} and G_{\perp} , of the electronic wave function. This is an important step in a possible future e-EDM experiment using either the ²⁰⁷PbF or ²⁰⁸PbF molecule, and our results compare reasonably well with recently calculated values. Observing the nuclear quadrupole hyperfine structure can also help characterize the critical electric field at the heavy atom nucleus in unstable but long-lived ²⁰⁵PbF as well as ¹⁷³YbF. Energy level predictions based on our detailed studies of the 4 stable PbF isotopologues as well as previous optical and microwave spectra of YbF will facilitate upcoming experimental studies and may also uncover nearby states of opposite parity which could also greatly benefit the eEDM search.

¹TJS acknowledges support from DOE DE-AC02-98CH10886, NES from NSF-0855431, and JUG and LDA from DFG and Land Niedersachsen.

Richard Mawhorter Pomona College

Date submitted: 31 Jan 2012 Electronic form version 1.4