Applications



Drug design



MRI



Food quality



Metabonomics



Structural biology

Basic Principles

N.M.R. = Nuclear Magnetic Resonance

Spectroscopic technique, thus relies on the interaction between material and electromagnetic radiation

The nuclei of all atoms possess a nuclear quantum number, I. ($I \ge 0$, always multiples of $\frac{1}{2}$.)

Only nuclei with spin number (I) >0 can absorb/emit electromagnetic radiation.

Even atomic mass & number: I = 0 (¹²C, ¹⁶O)

Even atomic mass & odd number: I = whole integer (${}^{14}N, {}^{2}H, {}^{10}B$)

Odd atomic mass: $I = half integer ({}^{1}H, {}^{1}S, {}^{1}N, {}^{3}P)$



The spinning nuclei possess angular momentum, P, and charge, and so an associated magnetic moment, μ .

 $\mu = \gamma \times P$

Where γ is the gyromagnetic ratio

Basic Principles



Basic Principles



In the ground state all nuclear spins are disordered, and there is no energy difference between them. They are degenerate.



Since they have a magnetic moment, when we apply a strong external magnetic field (Bo), they orient either against or with it:



There is always a small excess of nuclei (population excess) aligned with the field than pointing against it.

Basic Principles



 $\Delta E = hv_0 = h\gamma B_0/2\pi$

 v_0 is the Larmor Frequency $w_0 = \gamma B_0$, angular velocity



Basic Principles

Each level has a different population (N), and the difference between the two is related to the energy difference by the Boltzmman distribution:

$$N_{\alpha}/N_{\beta} = e^{\Delta E/kT}$$

 ΔE for ¹H at 400 MHz (B₀ = 9.5 T) is 3.8 x 10⁻⁵ Kcal/mol

 $N_{\alpha}/N_{\beta} = 1.000064$

The surplus population is small (especially when compared to UV or IR).

That renders NMR a rather insensitive technique!

The electromagnetic spectrum







NMR excitation

У

-ω₀







 B_1 is an oscillating magnetic field

Laboratory vs. Rotating frame



Effect on an **rf** pulse



Magnetization properties





Magnetization properties

vi_H=400,000,000 Hz v_A=400,000,005 Hz







The Fourier Transform



The Fourier Transform



Continuous wave vs. pulsed NMR





Continuous wave vs. pulsed NMR

Fourier Transform of simple waves

For cos(ωt)





Continuous wave vs. pulsed NMR

A monochromatic radiofrequency pulse is a combination of a wave (cosine) of frequency ω_0 and a step function



Continuous wave vs. pulsed NMR

$\Delta E \Delta t \sim h \text{ or } \Delta v \Delta t \sim I$



Single-channel signal detection



Quadrature detection



Quadrature detection



The Chemical Shift

The NMR frequency v of a nucleus in a molecule is mainly determined by its gyromagnetic ratio γ and the strength of the magnetic field **B**

$$v = \frac{\gamma B}{2\pi}$$

The exact value of v depends, however, on the position of the nucleus in the molecule or more precisely on the local electron distribution

this effect is called the chemical shift

The Chemical Shift



Nuclei, however, in molecules are never isolated from other particles that are charged and are in motion (electrons!).

Thus, the field actually felt by a nucleus is slightly different from that of the applied external magnetic field!!

The Chemical Shift



and δ is the chemical shift

δ=
$$\frac{(v-v_{ref})}{v_{ref}}$$
10⁶≈10⁶ (σ_{ref}-σ)



The Chemical Shift



The Chemical Shift



Nuclear Shielding

$\sigma = \sigma_{dia} + \sigma_{para} + \sigma_{nb} + \sigma_{rc} + \sigma_{ef} + \sigma_{solv}$

diamagnetic contribution

paramagnetic contribution

neighbor anisotropy effect

ring-current effect

electric field effect

solvent effect

Nuclear Shielding - diamagnetic contribution

The external field B_0 causes the electrons to circulate within their orbitals



The higher is the electron density close to the nucleus, the larger the protection is!

Nuclear Shielding - diamagnetic contribution

Depends on the electronegativity



Nuclear Shielding - paramagnetic contribution

The external field B₀ mixes the wavefunction of the ground state with that of the excited state

The induced current generates a magnetic field that enhances the external field and deshields the nucleus



Chemical shift range

¹H; ~10 ppm

¹³C; ~200 ppm

¹⁹F; ~300 ppm

³¹P; ~500 ppm

Local diamagnetic and paramagnetic currents make only modest contributions to ¹H shielding!

Chemical Shift Anisotropy

Nuclear shielding, σ , is a tensor.

The distribution of the electrons about the nucleus is non-sperical- thus, the magnitude of the shielding depends on the relative orientation of the nucleus with respect to the static field.



Nuclear Shielding - neighboring group



 μ_{par} > μ_{per}

 $\mu_{par} < \mu_{per}$




Nuclear Shielding - neighboring group



 $\mu_{par} > \mu_{per}$







Nuclear Shielding - ring-current effect

More pronounced in aromatic rings due to the π electron clouds



Nuclear Shielding - hydrogen bonding

Hydrogen bonding causes deshielding due to electron density decrease at the proton site



Spin-spin (scalar) coupling

HF (¹H-¹⁹**F**)



Spin-spin (scalar) coupling

HF (¹H-¹⁹**F**)





where m is the magnetic quantum number J_{AX} is the spin-spin coupling constant

Spin-spin (scalar) coupling



Spin-spin (scalar) coupling





Strong coupling – $\delta v < |0||$

Spin-spin (scalar) coupling

The principal source of scalar coupling is an indirect interaction mediated by electrons involved in chemical bonding

The **magnitude** of interaction is proportional to the **probability** of finding the electron at the nucleus (R=0)

Magnitude in Hz- independent of the external magnetic field

$$H_{3}C - CH_{3}$$
 125 Hz
 $H_{2}C = CH_{2}$ 160 Hz
 $HC = CH$ 250 Hz

Spin-spin (scalar) coupling

Three-bond coupling most useful since it carries information on dihedral angles

Empirical relationship: the Karplus relation

 3 J = A + B cos θ + C cos² θ



Chemical shifts on the rotating frame



Spin couplings on the rotating frame



The basic spin-echo pulse sequence









Water suppression by the Jump and Return method



Water suppression



Spin decoupling





The J-modulated spin echo





The J-modulated spin echo



If $\theta = 180 J \Delta$ degrees



The J-modulated spin echo







Sensitivity enhancement

NMR has poor sensitivity compared to other analytical techniques

The intrinsic sensitivity depends upon the gyromagnetic ratio, γ

A greater γ contributes to:

a high resonant frequency- large transition energy difference- greater Boltzmann population difference

high magnetic moment and hence a stronger signal

bigh rate of precession which induces a greater signal in the detection coil

So, the strength of NMR signal is proportional to γ^3 Noise increases a square-root of observed frequency $\gamma^{5/2}$

$$\frac{S}{N} \propto T^{-1} B_0^{3/2} \gamma_{exc} \gamma_{obs}^{3/2} T_2^* (NS)^{1/2}$$

Sensitivity enhancement by polarization transfer

Signal sensitivity enhancement by transferring the greater population differences of high- γ spins onto their spin-coupled low- γ partners.



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NMR Spectroscopy Relaxation

When perturbed, the nuclear spins need to relax to return to their equilibrium distribution

E.g. when the sample is put into a magnet, the Boltzmann distribution of spins among the energy levels changes due to a change in the energy of the various levels

E.g. after applying electromagnetic radiation, which induces transitions between energy levels, the system returns to its equilibrium

This process is called relaxation

Longitudinal Relaxation: Establishing Equilibrium







Longitudinal Relaxation: Establishing Equilibrium

Recovery of the z-magnetization follows exponential behavior

$$\frac{dM_z}{dt} = \frac{(M_0 - M_z)}{T_1} \qquad M_z = M_0 (1 - 2e^{-t/T_1})$$

where T_1 is the longitudinal relaxation time



Longitudinal Relaxation: Measurement





Longitudinal Relaxation: Measurement



Longitudinal Relaxation: Exponential growth

 $M_z = M_0 (1 - 2e^{-t/T_1})$



By the end of $5T_1$ sec, the magnetization has recovered by 99.33%

Longitudinal Relaxation: optimizing sensitivity



Longitudinal Relaxation: optimizing sensitivity



Longitudinal Relaxation: optimizing sensitivity

optimum pulse repetition time when using 90°



Quantitative measurements and integration

Transverse Relaxation: magnetization loss in the x-y plane


Transverse Relaxation: magnetization loss in the x-y plane



$$\Delta v = \frac{1}{\pi T_2^*}$$

Transverse Relaxation: Measurement



Transverse Relaxation: Measurement



TI vs T2 Relaxation

$T_1 \ge T_2$

For small molecules, $T_1 \approx T_2$

For large molecules, $T_1 >> T_2$

Longitudinal relaxation causes loss of energy from the spins (enthalpic)

Transverse relaxation occurs by mutual swapping of energy between spins (entropic)

Relaxation mechanisms

Nuclear spin relaxation is not a spontaneous process; it requires stimulation by suitable **fluctuating fields** to induce the necessary spin transitions

Two main mechanisms

Dipole-dipole

Chemical shift anisotropy

NMR Spectroscopy Relaxation mechanisms

Longitudinal relaxation requires a time-dependent magnetic field fluctuating at the Larmor frequency

The time-dependence originates in the motions of the molecule (vibration, rotation, diffusion etc)

Molecules in solution "tumble". This "tumbling" can be characterized by a rotational correlation time T_c

 τ_c is the time needed for the rms deflection of the molecules to be ~ 1 radian (60°)



NMR Spectroscopy Spectral density function

Rotational diffusion in solution occurs at a range of frequencies

 $I/\tau_c \sim rms$ rotational frequency (radians s⁻¹)

The probability function of finding motions at a given angular frequency ω can be described by the spectral density function $J(\omega)$

$$J(\omega) = \frac{2\tau_c}{1 + (\omega\tau_c)^2}$$

NMR Spectroscopy Spectral density function



Frequency distribution of the fluctuating magnetic fields

Spectral density function: Longitudinal relaxation

Spins are relaxed by local fields fluctuating at the Larmor frequency ω_0

So, the relaxation rate (RI) will be proportional to the $J(\omega_0)$

 $1/\mathsf{T}_1 = \mathsf{R}_1 = \gamma^2 < \mathsf{B}^2 > \mathsf{J}(\omega_0)$

Knowing the form of $J(\omega)$ we can predict the dependence of the spin-lattice relaxation time (TI=I/RI) on the correlation time τ_c for a given NMR frequency ω_0

 $\omega_0 \tau_c = 1$, $J(\omega_0) = \tau_c = 1/\omega_0$ and T_1 is minimum (R_1 maximum)

 $\omega_0 \tau_c <<1$ (small molecules), $J(\omega_0) \sim 2\tau_c$ and T_1 decreases (R_1 increases) with increasing τ_c (e.g.by decreasing the temperature)

 $\omega_0 \tau_c >> 1$ (large molecules), $J(\omega_0) \sim 2/\omega_0^2 \tau_c$ and T_1 increases (R_1 decreases) with increasing τ_c (e.g. by decreasing the temperature)



Relaxation mechanisms: Dipole-dipole

Nuclei with non-zero quantum numbers have magnetic dipoles

They behave like small magnets and induce small magnetic fields that affect neighboring nuclei

Magnetic field, \mathbf{B}_{μ} , generated by a magnetic dipole μ

$$B_{\mu x} = \left(\frac{\mu_0}{4\pi}\right) \left(\frac{\mu}{r^3}\right) (3\sin\theta\cos\theta)$$
$$B_{\mu y} = 0$$
$$B_{\mu z} = \left(\frac{\mu_0}{4\pi}\right) \left(\frac{\mu}{r^3}\right) (3\cos^2\theta - 1)$$



Relaxation mechanisms: Dipole-dipole

Representation of the dipolar magnetic field B_{μ} , generated by a magnetic dipole μ



$B_{\mu z}$ is zero for $\theta = \pm 54.7^{\circ}$ (magic angle)

Relaxation mechanisms: Dipole-dipole

The z component of their dipole magnetic field will affect the field experienced by the other nucleus and cause splitting



$$B^{\chi} = B_{\mathcal{O}} \pm B_{\mu Z}^{\mathcal{A}}$$

 \pm sign refers to the quantum number of A $(\pm \frac{1}{2})$

Thus, the splitting in the spectrum of X is

$$J_{dipolar}^{heteronuclear} = K_{AX}(3\cos^2\theta - 1)$$

$$2\pi K_{AX} = \left(\frac{\mu_0}{4\pi}\right) \frac{\hbar \gamma_A \gamma_X}{r_{AX}^3}$$

K_{AX} vary with the distance

e.g. K_{CH} is 9000 Hz at 1.5 Å and 30 Hz at 10 Å

Relaxation mechanisms: Dipole-dipole

Splitting of the AX spectrum depends on ${f heta}$



In a crystal with fixed distances and angles the dipolar splitting vary with the crystal orientation with respect to the external magnetic field

Relaxation mechanisms: Dipole-dipole

Molecules in liquids rotate, "tumble" rapidly with typical frequencies between 10¹² to 10⁸ Hz for small molecules and proteins, respectively.

Those frequencies are much larger than typical dipolar couplings (10⁵ Hz)

The angular part of the dipolar splitting is averaged over all possible orientation to 0

Although they are not directly observed in solution, dipolar couplings play an important role in spin relaxation



The local field experienced at one nucleus as a result of its neighbor will fluctuate as the molecule tumbles

Relaxation mechanisms: Dipole-dipole

$$R_{1} = \frac{1}{T_{1}} = \left(\frac{\mu_{o}}{4\pi}\right)^{2} \frac{\gamma_{I}^{2} \gamma_{S}^{2} \hbar^{2} \tau_{c}}{r_{IS}^{6}}$$

RI depend of the gyromagnetic ratio of the nuclei (e.g. H-H relaxation more efficient than C-H)

Relaxation mechanisms: Chemical shift anisotropy

The distribution of the electrons about the nucleus is non-sperical- thus, the magnitude of the shielding depends on the relative orientation of the nucleus with respect to the static field.



As the molecule tumbles, it creates a fluctuating magnetic

Nuclear Overhauser Effect (NOE)

NOE: change in intensity of one resonance when the spin transitions of another are perturbed from their equilibrium populations

perturbation: saturation or inversion

The two spins should "communicate" through dipole-dipole interaction

$$\eta_I \{S\} = \frac{I - I_o}{I_0} \times 100 ~(\%)$$

NOE is observed for spin I when spin S is perturbed

Nuclear Overhauser Effect (NOE)

Origin of the NOE







NMR Spectroscopy Nuclear Overhauser Effect (NOE)

Six possible transitions in a two-spin system



Only single transitions can by observed by NMR (WI)

 W_0 and W_2 are cross-relaxation pathways, responsible for the NOE

NMR Spectroscopy Nuclear Overhauser Effect (NOE) **N-**Δ/2 $N-\Delta$ ßß ßß S S Λ **Ν-**Δ/2 **N+**Δ/2 Ν Ν αβ βα βα αβ S S αα αα $N+\Delta/2$ $N+\Delta$ S S S S $>\Delta$ < /W₀ W_2 $<\Delta$ $>\Delta$ S S negative NOE positive NOE S S

NMR Spectroscopy Nuclear Overhauser Effect (NOE)

W₁ tends to reduce the magnitude of the NOE

Saturating for a period of time that is long relative to the relaxation times allows a new **steady-state of populations** to arise

$$\eta_{I}\{S\} = \left[\frac{W_{2} - W_{0}}{W_{0} + 2W_{1}^{I} + W_{2}}\right] \equiv \left[\frac{\sigma_{IS}}{\rho_{IS}}\right]$$

σ_{IS}, cross-relaxation rate: dictates the sign of the NOE

pls, dipolar longitudinal relaxation rate of spin I: it serves to reduce the magnitude

Thus, NOE is related to molecular motion!

Nuclear Overhauser Effect (NOE)



¹H at 400 MHz

W₁ at 400 MHz
W₂ at 800 MHz (W₁+W_s)- <u>stimulated by rapidly tumbling molecules</u>
W₀ at Hz-kHZ (|W₁-W_s|)- <u>stimulated by slowly tumbling molecules</u>

Small molecules exhibit positive NOEs

Large molecules exhibit negative NOEs

NMR Spectroscopy Nuclear Overhauser Effect (NOE)



Variation in NOE as a function of molecular tumbling rates

Field gradient



Variation of magnetic field strength along the z axis







NMR Spectroscopy Diffusion-ordered spectroscopy B_g Х Х $\bigwedge I = I_0 \exp\left(\frac{-2\tau}{T_2} - (\gamma \delta G)^2 D\left(\Delta - \frac{\delta}{3}\right)\right)$ D G gradient strength

D diffusion coefficient

Diffusion-ordered spectroscopy







Multi-dimensional NMR

To generate a spectrum with two frequency domains, f_1 and f_2 , it is necessary to sample data as a function of two separate time variables, t_1 and t_2 .

General scheme for 2D NMR experiment









TOCSY (Total COrrelated SpectroscopY)

Correlation through bonds (J-coupling)








NMR Spectroscopy General schemes for 2D NMR

$$\frac{S}{N} \propto T^{-1} B_0^{3/2} \gamma_{exc} \gamma_{obs}^{3/2} T_2^* (NS)^{1/2}$$









Heteronuclear Single Quantum Coherence (HSQC)







Protein NMR

Isotopically labeled proteins





Protein NMR

Signal overlap problem alleviated by 3D & 4D NMR











Protein NMR

Signal overlap problem alleviated by 3D & 4D NMR



Protein NMR

Signal overlap problem alleviated by 3D & 4D NMR



Protein NMR

Assignment - Triple Resonance Experiments



3D HNCA

Protein NMR

Assignment - Triple Resonance Experiments



Protein NMR







Protein NMR

Assignment - Triple Resonance Experiments



Protein NMR

Assignment - Triple Resonance Experiments

