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 $(14N, 2H, 10B)$

Odd atomic mass: $I = half$ integer ($'H$, ${}^{13}C$, ${}^{15}N$, ${}^{31}P$)

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

μ=γ x 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

 β $\Delta E=hv_0=h\gamma B_0/2\pi$

V₀ is the Larmor Frequency ω_0 = γ B₀, 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

 $\mathsf{N}_\alpha/\mathsf{N}_\beta=$ 1.000064

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

That renders NMR a rather insensitive technique!

The electromagnetic spectrum

 /Hz

NMR excitation

y

 B_1 is an oscillating magnetic field

Laboratory *vs*. Rotating frame

Effect on an *rf* pulse

Magnetization properties

Magnetization properties

VIH=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

 \bullet For cos(ω t) $\,$

absorptive lines

despersive lines

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

Δ E Δ t ~ h or Δ V Δ t ~l

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

$$
\delta = \frac{(v-v_{ref})}{v_{ref}} 10^6 \approx 10^6 \left(\sigma_{ref} - \sigma\right)
$$

The Chemical Shift

The Chemical Shift

Nuclear Shielding

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

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 B_0 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**

 μ_{par} **<** μ_{per}

Nuclear Shielding - neighboring group

μ**par >** μ**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-19F)

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

Spin-spin (scalar) coupling

Spin-spin (scalar) coupling

 $\textsf{Strong coupling} - \textbf{\{O} \textsf{V} \textsf{<} \textsf{1} \textsf{0} | \textsf{J} \textsf{I} \textsf{0}$

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

$$
H_3C - CH_3 \t 125 Hz
$$

\n
$$
H_2C = CH_2 \t 160 Hz
$$

\n
$$
HC = CH \t 250 Hz
$$

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 **13C**

If θ **=180J** Δ degrees

The J-modulated spin echo **13C**

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

high 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
 $\begin{cases} S/N \propto \gamma^{5/2} \end{cases}$

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

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

$$
\frac{dM_z}{dt} = \frac{(M_0 - M_z)}{T_1}
$$
 M_z=M₀ (1-2e^{-t/T1})

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/T1})

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 90º

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

T1 *vs* T2 Relaxation

$T_1 \ge T_2$

For small molecules, $\mathsf{T}_\mathsf{1} \approx \mathsf{T}_\mathsf{2}$

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

 T_c is the time needed for the rms deflection of the molecules to be \sim 1 radian (60°)

NMR Spectroscopy Spectral density function

Rotational diffusion in solution occurs at a range of frequencies

```
1/T_c \sim rms rotational frequency (radians s<sup>-1</sup>)
```
The probability function of finding motions at a given angular frequency ω can be described by the spectral density function $\mathsf{J}(\omega)$

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

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/T₁= **R**₁ = γ^2 <**B**²> **J**(ω_0)

Knowing the form of $J(\omega)$ we can predict the dependence of the spin-lattice relaxation time (T1=1/ R1) on the correlation time τ_c for a given NMR frequency ω_0

 $\omega_{\text{o}}\tau_{\text{c}}$ =1 ,J (ω_{o}) = τ_{c} = 1/ ω_{o} and T_1 is minimum (R_1 maximum)

 ω_{o} T $_{\text{c}}$ <<1 (small molecules), J(ω_{o}) ~ 2 τ_{c} and T $_{\text{1}}$ decreases (R_1 increases) with increasing τ_c **(e.g.by decreasing the temperature)**

 ω_{o} T $_{\text{c}}$ >>1 (large molecules), J(ω_{o}) ~ 2/ ω_{o} ²T $_{\text{c}}$ and T₁ increases (R₁ decreases) with **increasing** τ **(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

$$
B^X = B_0 \pm B_{\mu Z}^A
$$

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

Thus, the splitting in the spectrum of X is

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

$$
2\pi K_{AX} = \left(\frac{\mu_{0}}{4\pi}\right) \frac{\hbar \gamma_{AYX}}{r_{AX}^{3}}
$$

KAX 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 θ

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 10^{12} 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

$$
R_1 = \frac{1}{T_1} = \left(\frac{\mu_o}{4\pi}\right)^2 \frac{\gamma_I^2 \gamma_S^2 \hbar^2 \tau_c}{r_{IS}^6}
$$

R1 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.

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

NMR Spectroscopy 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 (W1)

W 0 and W 2 are cross-relaxation pathways, responsible for the NOE

NMR Spectroscopy Nuclear Overhauser Effect (NOE) **N+**- **N-**- $\frac{N}{\sqrt{\beta \alpha}}$ $\alpha \beta \frac{N}{\alpha \beta}$ $\alpha\alpha$ $\alpha\beta$ ßβ **S** $S / P^p \setminus I$ **I S I N+**-/2 **N-**-/2 $N-\Delta/2$ $/2$ \searrow **N+** Δ /2 $\alpha\alpha$ $\beta \alpha$ $\alpha \beta$ ββີ **S** S / P \setminus 1 **I S ^I** Δ Δ Δ Δ Δ Λ 0 0 **S** $S / | \setminus |$ **I S I** $>\!\!\Delta$ $\begin{array}{\begin{array}{\small \begin{array}{\small \end{array}}}}\begin{array}{\small \end{array}}$ $>\!\!\Delta$ $W₂$ positive NOE **S** $S \swarrow \quad \setminus \bot$ **I S I** $\langle \Delta$ 0 $<$ \wedge W_0 negative NOE

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

$$
\eta_I\left\{S\right\} = \left[\frac{W_2 - W_0}{W_0 + 2W_1^I + W_2}\right] \equiv \left[\frac{\sigma_{IS}}{\rho_{IS}}\right]
$$

 σ_IS , cross-relaxation rate: <u>dictates the sign of the NOE</u>

P_{IS}, 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 **W₀** at Hz-kHZ ($|W_1-W_5|$)- stimulated by slowly tumbling molecules W₂ at 800 MHz (W₁+W_s)- stimulated by rapidly tumbling molecules

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

Diffusion-ordered spectroscopy

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

2D NOESY

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

Assignment - Triple Resonance Experiments

Protein NMR

Assignment - Triple Resonance Experiments

Protein NMR

Assignment - Triple Resonance Experiments

