Lecture #4

Relaxation through Dipolar Coupling

- Topics
 - Solomon equations
 - Calculating transition rates
 - Nuclear Overhauser Effect
- Handouts and Reading assignments
 - Levitt, Chapters 19.1-3, 20.1-3,
 - Kowalewski, Chapter 3.
 - Solomon, I, "Relaxation process in a system of two spins", Physical Review, 99(2):559-565, 1955.

Dipolar Coupling

• The dominant source of random magnetic field variations is due to dipolar coupling and molecular tumbling.



- While $\langle \Delta B(t) \rangle = 0$, the instantaneous effect is *not* negligible.
- We need to take a close look at the properties of $\Delta B(t)$.

Random fields model

• Assume the magnetic field seen by a spin is given by

 $B_{0}\vec{z} + B_{x}(t)\vec{x} + B_{y}(t)\vec{y} + B_{z}(t)\vec{z} \quad \text{where} \quad \left\langle B_{x}^{2} \right\rangle = \left\langle B_{y}^{2} \right\rangle = \left\langle B_{z}^{2} \right\rangle = \left\langle B^{2} \right\rangle$ isotropic tumbling
the relaxation of M_z was given as: $\frac{1}{T_{1}} = \gamma^{2} \left\langle B^{2} \right\rangle J(\omega_{0})$ • Given the field from a dipole falls off as $1/r^{3}$ $\frac{1}{T_{1}} \propto \frac{\gamma^{4}}{r^{6}} J(\omega_{0}). \quad \text{Similarly} \quad \frac{1}{T_{2}} \propto \frac{\gamma^{4}}{2r^{6}} (J(0) + J(\omega_{0})).$

Rapid decrease with distance

Primarily *intra*molecular rotational rather than *inter*molecular translational motion.

• The seminal work of Bloembergen, Purcell, and Pound (BPP), Physical Review, 73(7) 1948, recognized the importance of dipolar coupling to NMR relaxation.

Nobel Prize Physics 1981

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Bloembergen

Complete Dipolar Effect

• A more complete derivation taking into account the correlated perturbations among coupled spins was provided by Solomon Physical Review, 99(1) 1955.



• Let's look at this derivation more closely...

Spin Population Dynamics*

• Consider a general dipolar coupled two-spin system.



Note: J=0, but nuclei I and S are close enough in space that dipolar coupling is significant.

- At a given point in time, the energy levels are occupied by a certain number of spins, given by N_{++}, N_{+-}, N_{-+} , and N_{--} .
- Transition rates:
 - $-W_I$ and W_S = probability/time spin *I* or *S* change energy levels.
 - $-W_0$ and W_2 = probability/time of zero of double quantum transition.

The Solomon Equations

• Given the transition rates and the populations, let's compute the dynamics. Namely...

$$\frac{dN_{++}}{dt} = -(W_{S} + W_{I} + W_{2})N_{++} + W_{S}N_{+-} + W_{I}N_{-+} + W_{2}N_{--}$$

$$\frac{dN_{+-}}{dt} = -(W_{0} + W_{S} + W_{I})N_{+-} + W_{0}N_{-+} + W_{I}N_{--} + W_{S}N_{++}$$

$$\frac{dN_{-+}}{dt} = -(W_{0} + W_{S} + W_{I})N_{-+} + W_{0}N_{+-} + W_{I}N_{++} + W_{S}N_{--}$$

$$\frac{dN_{--}}{dt} = -(W_{S} + W_{I} + W_{2})N_{--} + W_{S}N_{-+} + W_{I}N_{+-} + W_{2}N_{++}$$

 N_{-}

 W_0

 W_2

 W_I

 N_{\perp}

 W_{S}

 W_{I}

Correction for finite temperatures

- Before proceeding further, we need to make a small addition, known as the finite temperature correction.
- The differential equations on the previous slide assumed equality of the transition probabilities, e.g. just looking at the *I* spin...

$$E \bigwedge_{N_{++} \uparrow \uparrow} W_{I} \qquad N_{-+} \rightarrow N_{++} = N_{++} \rightarrow N_{-+} = W_{I}$$

Under this assumption, the system will evolve until the energy states are equally populated, which, using the Boltzmann distribution, corresponds to an infinite temperature!

• To achieve a finite temperature, we can make an ad hoc correction reflecting the slightly increased probability of a transition that decreases the energy of the system.



This Boltzmann factor can be derived explicitly if we treat both the spin system and the lattice as quantum mechanical systems. See Abragam p. 267.

Solomon Equations: M_z

• Let's first look at T_1 relaxation.

$$\overline{\langle \hat{I}_z \rangle} \propto (N_{++} - N_{-+}) + (N_{+-} - N_{--}) \qquad \overline{\langle \hat{S}_z \rangle} \propto (N_{++} - N_{+-}) + (N_{-+} - N_{--})$$

• Substituting yields a set of coupled differential equations indicating longitudinal magnetization recovers via a combination of two exponential terms...

$$\frac{d\overline{\langle \hat{I}_z \rangle}}{dt} = -(W_0 + 2W_I + W_2) \left(\overline{\langle \hat{I}_z \rangle} - I_z^{eq}\right) - (W_2 - W_0) \left(\overline{\langle \hat{S}_z \rangle} - S_z^{eq}\right)$$
$$\frac{d\overline{\langle \hat{S}_z \rangle}}{dt} = -(W_0 + 2W_S + W_2) \left(\overline{\langle \hat{S}_z \rangle} - S_z^{eq}\right) - (W_2 - W_0) \left(\overline{\langle \hat{I}_z \rangle} - I_z^{eq}\right)$$

 W_{I} W_{I} W_{0}

General Solution

• The solution can also be written

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} \overline{\langle \hat{I}_z \rangle} \\ \overline{\langle \hat{S}_z \rangle} \end{bmatrix} = -\begin{bmatrix} \rho_I & \sigma_{IS} \\ \sigma_{IS} & \rho_S \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \overline{\langle \hat{I}_z \rangle} - I_z^{eq} \\ \overline{\langle \hat{S}_z \rangle} - S_z^{eq} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{with} \quad I_z^{eq} = \frac{\gamma_I B_0}{2kT}$$
$$S_z^{eq} = \frac{\gamma_S B_0}{2kT}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}\vec{V} = -\underline{R}\left(\vec{V} - \vec{V}^{eq}\right)$$

where *R* is called the *relaxation matrix* with elements given by:

 $\rho_I = W_0 + 2W_I + W_2$ $\rho_S = W_0 + 2W_S + W_2$ $\sigma_{IS} = W_2 - W_0$

• The general solution is of the form

$$\overline{\langle \hat{I}_z \rangle} = \alpha_{11} e^{-\lambda_1 t} + \alpha_{12} e^{-\lambda_2 t}$$
$$\overline{\langle \hat{S}_z \rangle} = \alpha_{21} e^{-\lambda_1 t} + \alpha_{22} e^{-\lambda_2 t}$$

(not a single exponential)

Identical Spins

• For the case of S and I identical (i.e. $\omega_I = \omega_S$ and $W_I = W_S = W_1$)

$$\frac{d\left(\overline{\langle \hat{I}_z \rangle} + \overline{\langle \hat{S}_z \rangle}\right)}{dt} = -2(W_1 + W_2)\left(\overline{\langle \hat{I}_z \rangle} + \overline{\langle \hat{S}_z \rangle} - I_z^{eq} - S_z^{eq}\right) \quad \text{(pure exponential)}$$
$$\implies \frac{1}{T_1} = 2(W_1 + W_2)$$

• We now need explicit expressions for the transition probabilities W_1 , and W_2 .

Time-dependent Perturbation Theory

• To compute the transition probabilities, we need to use a branch of QM known as time-dependent perturbation theory. Consider the case where:

$$\hat{H}(t) = \hat{H}_0 + \hat{H}_1^{\checkmark}(t) \text{ with } |\hat{H}_1| << |\hat{H}_0|.$$

• Let $|m_j\rangle$, j = 1...N be the eigenkets of the unperturbed Hamiltonian with energies E_j .

$$\hat{H}_0 |m_j\rangle = \frac{1}{\hbar} E_j |m_j\rangle$$
 with $j = 1,...N$

• Assuming the system starts in state $|m_j\rangle$, then, to 1st order, the probability of being in state $|m_k\rangle$ at time *t* is given by

$$\mathcal{P}_{kj} = \frac{1}{\hbar^2} \left| \int_o^t \langle m_k \left| \hat{H}_1(t') \right| m_j \rangle e^{-i\omega_{kj}t'} dt' \right|^2 \qquad \text{(see homework for proof)}$$

where
$$\omega_{kj} = (E_k - E_j)/\hbar$$

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Fermi's Golden Rule

• Consider a sinusoidal perturbation

$$\hat{H}_1(t) = \hat{V}_1 \cos \omega t = \frac{\hat{V}_1}{2} \left(e^{i\omega t} + e^{-i\omega t} \right)$$

• The *transition rate* is then given by

 $| / | \hat{\mathbf{y}} | \dots \rangle |^2$

 $W_{kj} = \lim_{t \to \infty} \frac{\mathcal{P}_{kj}}{t} = \lim_{t \to \infty} \frac{1}{t} \left| \int_{0}^{t} \left\langle m_{k} \left| \hat{H}_{1}(t') \right| m_{j} \right\rangle e^{-i\omega_{kj}t'} dt' \right|^{2}$ Note, we can take the limit of $t \to \infty$ if our measurements are much longer than $1/\omega_{kj}$.

This is actually quite general as we can always analyze the Fourier decomposition of any perturbation.

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a is a famous moult line our

$$W_{kj} = \frac{\left| \left\langle M_{k} | V_{1} | M_{j} \right\rangle \right|}{4} \left(\left(\delta_{E_{k} - E_{j}, -\hbar\omega} + \delta_{E_{k} - E_{j}, +\hbar\omega} \right) \right)$$
Interaction term
Conservation of energy
$$E_{k} = \frac{E_{k}}{V}$$

$$E_{j} = \frac{E_{k}}{V}$$

Example: Rf Excitation

• For a two spin system (rotating frame, on resonance) ...

$$\hat{H} = \underbrace{\Omega_I \hat{I}_z + \Omega_S \hat{S}_z + 2\pi J (\hat{I}_x \hat{S}_x + \hat{I}_y \hat{S}_y + \hat{I}_z \hat{S}_z)}_{\hat{H}_0} + \underbrace{\omega_1^I \hat{I}_x + \omega_1^S \hat{S}_x}_{\hat{H}_1}$$

• The interaction term (matrix form with eigenkets of \hat{H}_0 as the basis) is given by ...

$$\underbrace{H_{1}}_{|++\rangle} \propto \begin{vmatrix} |++\rangle \\ |++\rangle \\ |+-\rangle \\ |+-\rangle \\ |-+\rangle \\ |--\rangle \\ \end{vmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1-i & 1-i & 0 \\ 1+i & 0 & 0 & 1-i \\ 1+i & 0 & 0 & 1-i \\ 0 & 1+i & 1+i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \qquad (\text{Simple case of } \gamma_{\text{I}} = \gamma_{\text{S}})$$

- No excitation if Rf is "off resonance" (conservation of energy)
- No excitation of double or zero quantum coherences (zero interaction)

Dipolar Coupling

• The complete dipolar coupling Hamiltonian is given by

$$\hat{H}_{dipole} = -\frac{\gamma_I \gamma_S \hbar}{r^3} \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \left(\hat{\vec{I}} \cdot \hat{\vec{S}} - \frac{3}{r^2} (\hat{\vec{I}} \cdot \vec{r}) (\hat{\vec{S}} \cdot \vec{r}) \right) \qquad \text{where } \vec{r} \text{ is the vector} \\ \text{from spin } I \text{ to spin } S$$

• Using the raising and lowering operators: $\hat{I}_{+} = \hat{I}_{x} + i\hat{I}_{y}$ and $\hat{I}_{-} = \hat{I}_{x} - i\hat{I}_{y}$ the the Hamiltonian can be written in polar coordinates as:

$$H_{d} = -\frac{\mu_{0}}{4\pi} \frac{\gamma_{I}\gamma_{S}\hbar}{r^{3}} (A + B + C + D + E + F) \text{ where}$$

$$A = \hat{I}_{z}\hat{S}_{z}F_{0} \text{ zero quantum term}$$

$$B = -\frac{1}{4} (\hat{I}_{+}\hat{S}_{-} + \hat{I}_{-}\hat{S}_{+})F_{0} \text{ zero quantum term}$$

$$F_{0}(t) = 1 - 3\cos^{2}\theta$$

$$F_{1}(t) = \frac{3}{2}\sin\theta\cos\theta e^{-i\phi}$$

$$F_{1}(t) = \frac{3}{2}\sin\theta\cos\theta e^{-i\phi}$$

$$F_{2}(t) = \frac{3}{4}\sin^{2}\theta e^{-2i\phi}$$
Note, with molecular tumbling, both θ and ϕ are functions of time.

Example: Calculating W_1

- Assumption: $\langle F(t)F^*(t+\tau)\rangle = \langle |F(0)|^2\rangle e^{-|\tau|/\tau_c}$ \swarrow time average
- For a given pair of like spins:

$$W_{1} = \lim_{\tau \to \infty} \frac{1}{t} \left| \int_{0}^{t} \frac{1}{2} \frac{\gamma^{2} \hbar}{r^{3}} F_{1}(t') e^{-i\omega_{0}t'} dt' \right|^{2} = \left(\frac{\mu_{0}}{4\pi} \right)^{2} \frac{\gamma^{4} \hbar^{2}}{4r^{6}} \int_{0}^{\infty} \left\langle \left| F_{1}(0) \right|^{2} \right\rangle e^{-|\tau|/\tau_{c}} e^{-i\omega_{0}\tau} d\tau$$

• For an ensemble of spins:

Transition Probabilities

• Using similar equations, the full set of transition rates are:

 $W_{I} = \frac{3}{2}qJ(\omega_{I})$ $W_{S} = \frac{3}{2}qJ(\omega_{S})$ $W_{S} = \frac{3}{2}qJ(\omega_{S})$ $W_{2} = 6qJ(\omega_{I} + \omega_{S})$ $\int \text{sum of chemical shifts}} \qquad q = \frac{1}{10} \left(\frac{\mu_{0}}{4\pi}\right)^{2} \frac{\gamma_{I}^{2}\gamma_{S}^{2}\hbar^{2}}{r_{IS}^{6}}$ $W_{0} = qJ(\omega_{I} - \omega_{S})$ $\int \text{difference of}} \qquad q = \frac{1}{10} \left(\frac{\mu_{0}}{4\pi}\right)^{2} \frac{\gamma_{I}^{2}\gamma_{S}^{2}\hbar^{2}}{r_{IS}^{6}}$

chemical shifts

Identical Spins

• For the case of S and I identical (i.e. $\omega_I = \omega_S$ and $W_I = W_S = W_1$)

$$\frac{1}{T_1} = 2(W_I + W_2) = \frac{3}{20} \left(\frac{\mu_0}{4\pi}\right)^2 \frac{\gamma^4 \hbar^2}{r^6} \left(J(\omega_0) + 4J(2\omega_0)\right)$$
$$= \frac{3}{10} \left(\frac{\mu_0}{4\pi}\right)^2 \frac{\gamma^4 \hbar^2}{r^6} \left(\frac{\tau_c}{1 + \omega_0^2 \tau_c^2} + \frac{4\tau_c}{1 + 4\omega_0^2 \tau_c^2}\right) \xrightarrow{\text{Extreme}}_{\text{narrowing}} \left(\frac{\mu_0}{4\pi}\right)^2 \frac{3\gamma^4 \hbar^2 \tau_c}{2r^6}$$

• If we crunch through the numbers...

$$\frac{1}{T_2} = \frac{3}{40} \left(\frac{\mu_0}{4\pi}\right)^2 \frac{\gamma^4 \hbar^2}{r^6} \left(3J(0) + 5J(\omega_0) + 2J(2\omega_0)\right)$$
$$= \frac{3}{20} \left(\frac{\mu_0}{4\pi}\right)^2 \frac{\gamma^4 \hbar^2}{r^6} \left(3\tau_c + \frac{5\tau_c}{1 + \omega_0^2 \tau_c^2} + \frac{2\tau_c}{1 + 4\omega_0^2 \tau_c^2}\right) \xrightarrow{\text{Extreme}}_{\text{narrowing}} \left(\frac{\mu_0}{4\pi}\right)^2 \frac{3\gamma^4 \hbar^2 \tau_c}{2r^6}$$

• Later in the course, we'll develop Redfield theory and not have to "crunch the numbers" every time.

T_1 and T_2 of water

• Some numbers for pure water....

 $\tau_{c} = 5.0 \times 10^{-12}$ $K = \left(\frac{\mu_0}{4\pi}\right)^2 \frac{3}{10} \frac{\gamma^4 \hbar^2}{r^6} = 1.02 \times 10^{10}$ $\frac{1}{T_{1}} = K \left| \frac{\tau_{c}}{1 + \omega_{0}^{2} \tau_{1}^{2}} + \frac{4\tau_{c}}{1 + 4\omega_{0}^{2} \tau^{2}} \right|$ $\frac{1}{T_2} = \frac{K}{2} \left[3\tau_c + \frac{5\tau_c}{1 + \omega_0^2 \tau_c^2} + \frac{2\tau_c}{1 + 4\omega_0^2 \tau_c^2} \right]$



(extreme narrowing condition)

Cross Relaxation

• Let's try to gain some more physical insight/intuition into the phenomenon of cross relaxation.

The Solomon Equations

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} \overline{\langle \hat{I}_z \rangle} \\ \overline{\langle \hat{S}_z \rangle} \end{bmatrix} = -\begin{bmatrix} \rho_I & \sigma_{IS} \\ \sigma_{IS} & \rho_S \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \overline{\langle \hat{I}_z \rangle} - I_z^{eq} \\ \overline{\langle \hat{S}_z \rangle} - S_z^{eq} \end{bmatrix}$$

• We'll start by examining the results of a series of *saturation recovery* experiments in which the z magnetization from the I or S spins (or both) are saturated, and we then watch the recovery of the longitudinal magnetization over time.









Nuclear Overhauser Effect (NOE)

- The NOE is the change in the equilibrium magnetization of one nuclei with the RF irradiation of a nearby nuclei (nearby defined in terms of dipole coupling)
- The change in magnetization can be positive (generally with small rapidly tumbling molecules) or negative (as with slower tumbling molecules)
- The effect was first proposed by Albert Overhauser in 1953.
- We will describe NOE...
 - mathematically
 - graphically (via energy diagrams)
 - with in vivo examples



Albert Overhauser

• Start:
$$\frac{d\langle \hat{I}_z \rangle}{dt} = -(W_0 + 2W_I + W_2) \left(\langle \hat{I}_z \rangle - I_z^{eq} \right) + (W_2 - W_0) \left(\langle \hat{S}_z \rangle - S_0 \right)$$

- Saturate $S_z \Longrightarrow \langle \hat{S}_z \rangle = 0$
- At steady state... $\frac{d\overline{\langle \hat{I}_z \rangle}}{dt} = 0 \implies \frac{\overline{\langle \hat{I}_z \rangle}}{I_z^{eq}} = 1 + \frac{S_0}{I_z^{eq}} \left(\frac{W_2 W_0}{W_0 + 2W_1 + W_2}\right)$
 - Rewriting in a more convenient form and letting I_e be the steady state magnetization...

$$I_e = (1+\eta)I_z^{eq} \quad \text{where} \quad \eta = \frac{\gamma_s}{\gamma_I} \left(\frac{W_2 - W_0}{W_0 + 2W_I + W_2}\right)$$

This is often just expressed as:

NOE =
$$1 + \frac{\gamma_S}{\gamma_I} \left(\frac{W_2 - W_0}{W_0 + 2W_I + W_2} \right) = 1 + \eta$$
 enhancement factor
(can be positive or negative)

Energy Diagram Formulation

• Using an energy diagram notation...



26 P. J. Hore, NMR, Oxford University Press, p 62.



³¹P Muscle NOE Example PCr NTP GPC 31**P** GPE α saturate 90° P. ¹H nuclei RF off-resonance RF PME Gz w/decoupling and NOE signal w/ decoupling Typical in vivo NOE enhancement factors for ³¹P-¹H and ¹³C-¹H interactions are 1.4-1.8 and 1.3-2.9 conventional respectively. -16 -8 8 16 0

PPM

Transverse Cross Relaxation

- NOE based on cross relaxation of longitudinal magnetization, but can cross relaxation of transverse magnetization be observed?
- Answer: usually no, but sometimes yes
- No effects for identical spins. But consider a dipolar-coupled system with the two spins having different chemical shifts.



• Hence, cross relaxation of transverse magnetization is not observed between spins with different chemical shifts.

Spin Locking

• Consider the following pulse sequence: (π)



• Cross relaxation of transverse magnetization can now occur

$$R_{auto}^{T} = \frac{K}{20} \left(5J(0) + 9J(\omega_{0}) + 6J(2\omega_{0}) \right) \qquad R_{cross}^{T} = -\frac{K}{10} \left(2J(0) + 3J(\omega_{0}) \right)$$

• Relaxation during a spin-lock pulse is characterized by a time constant $T_{1\rho}$, (more in upcoming lecture on cartilage).

Spins I.,

Next Lecture: Chemical Exchange