Solid-State NMR Studies of Nolecular Dynamics and Protein Hydration

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# Motions are Abundant in Biomolecules

# Histidine ring motion in the influenza M2 proton channel

Protein motions enable:

- Ion conduction
- Substrate transport
- Ligand binding
- Catalysis



# Amantadine motion in the binding pocket of the M2 proton channel



Cady et al, *Nature*, 2010.

# Motional Timescales that are Accessible to NMR







# **Common Protein Motions**

### Internal motions

- Methyl & amine three-site jumps
- Sidechain rotameric jumps (e.g. Leu mt tp)
- *trans-gauche* isomerization (e.g. Lys, Arg)
- Aromatic ring flip
- Torsional fluctuation
- Loop & termini motions

### **Global motions**

- Uniaxial diffusion of membrane proteins in lipid bilayers
- Correlated motions of protein domains

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# Effects of Molecular Motion on NMR Spectra

Molecular motions can:

- average NMR lineshapes;
- enhance or reduce peak intensities;
- speed up relaxation;
- complicate spectral quantification;
- allow spectral editing

### Outline

- Timescales & amplitudes of motion from NMR
- Fast motion: average (sum) tensor
- Experiments for measuring fast motion
- Slow motion: difference tensor
- Experiments for measuring slow motion

# Rates & Amplitudes of Reorientations

- For stochastic motions, correlation function  $C(t) \sim \langle f(0) \cdot f(t) \rangle$  describes how long it takes to randomize the molecular orientation. C(t) decays with a characteristic time  $\tau_c$ ;
- *Rates*: k (s<sup>-1</sup>) is inversely related to correlation time τ<sub>c</sub>.



- **Amplitudes:** describes the reorientational angle  $\beta_R$  & the number of sites  $n_R$ .
- We do not consider translational motion, which can be studied by pulsed-field-gradient NMR.
- Diffusive motion: infinitesimal β<sub>R</sub>, infinite n<sub>R</sub>. e.g. isotropic tumbling, uniaxial diffusion, torsional fluctuations.
- Discrete motion: finite  $\beta_R$ , finite  $n_R$ ;
  - Methyl 3-site jump:  $\beta_R = 109.5^\circ$ ,  $n_R = 3$  for C-H bonds
  - Phenylene ring flip:  $\beta_R = 120^\circ$ ,  $n_R = 2$  for ortho and meta C-H bonds



# **Motional Regimes in NMR**

- **Fast motion:**  $k \gg \Delta \omega$  or  $\delta$ , typically  $\tau_c < 1 \ \mu s$ 
  - Amplitudes: obtained from spectral line narrowing.
    - e.g. <sup>2</sup>H spectra, DIPSHIFT, LG-CP, WISE, CSA narrowing.
  - *Rates*: > 10 x  $\delta$ ; Exact rates measured by relaxation NMR.
- Slow motion: k <<  $\Delta \omega$ , typically  $\tau_c$  > 10 ms
  - *Amplitudes*: from cross peaks in 2D exchange spectra or from Nt<sub>r</sub>-dependent CODEX intensities.
  - *Rates*: decay constant in mixing-time dependent intensities.
  - $n_R$ : from the final value of the CODEX mixing-time curve.
- Intermediate motion:  $k \sim \Delta \omega$ .
  - Causes loss of spectral intensity due to interference with <sup>1</sup>H decoupling & MAS.
  - *Rates*: from  $T_2$  and  $T_{1\rho}$  minima in log $(T_{2,1\rho})$  plots vs 1/T.
  - *Amplitudes*: from asymmetric DIPSHIFT intensity decays

# Effects of Motion on NMR Spectra



**Fast motion**:  $k >> |\omega_A - \omega_B|$ Average frequencies  $\overline{\omega}$ 

Intermediate motion:  $k \approx |\omega_A - \omega_B|$ 

**Slow motion**:  $k \ll |\omega_A - \omega_B|$ Measured during a mixing time.

# Fast Motion: Averaging of NMR Frequencies

For a nuclear spin interaction tensor  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$  :

$$\omega(\theta,\phi) = \frac{1}{2}\delta \left(3\cos^2\theta - 1 - \eta\sin^2\theta\cos 2\phi\right)$$

Reorientation among N sites with probability  $p_j$  yields an average tensor:

$$\overline{\omega} = \sum_{j} p_{j} \omega_{j}$$
 average tensor  $\Sigma = \sum_{j} p_{j} \sigma_{j}$ 

- $\Sigma$  has 3 principal axes ( $\Sigma_1$ ,  $\Sigma_2$ ,  $\Sigma_3$ ).
- $\Sigma$  is characterized by  $\overline{\delta}$ ,  $\overline{\eta}$ , which reflect the geometry of motion.
- The orientation of  $B_0$  in the  $\Sigma$  frame:  $(\theta_a, \phi_a)$ .

$$\overline{\omega}(\theta_a, \phi_a) = \overline{\delta} \frac{1}{2} (3\cos^2 \theta_a - 1 - \overline{\eta}\sin^2 \theta_a \cos 2\phi_a)$$

 $\sum_{\Sigma_{2}}^{B_{0}} Z_{B} \text{ (final)}$   $\sum_{\Sigma_{3}}^{\Sigma_{1}} Z_{A} \text{ (initial)}$ 

Once the average tensor is known, we can predict the motionally averaged spectrum.

- In general,  $\overline{\delta} \neq \delta$ ,  $\overline{\eta} \neq \eta$ .
- For dipolar couplings,  $\overline{\delta}$  can be sign sensitive, and  $\overline{\eta} \neq 0$ .

How do we determine  $\overline{\delta}$  and  $\overline{\eta}$ ?

# Averaged Anisotropy & Asymmetry for Some Motional Geometries

• Isotropic motion 
$$\implies \overline{\delta} = 0$$

• Uniaxial rotation  
• N 
$$\ge$$
 3 C<sub>N</sub> jumps  $\Big\} \Longrightarrow \overline{\eta} = 0$ 

- For uniaxial rotation and N  $\ge$  3 C<sub>N</sub> jumps, the z-axis of the average tensor is the symmetry axis, z<sub>D</sub>.
- The principal values  $\delta_{ii}$  are the frequencies when  $B_0$  is parallel to the principal axes.
- $\overline{\delta}$  is the frequency when B<sub>0</sub> is parallel to the z-axis of the  $\Sigma$  tensor.
- Under this condition, motion does not change the PAS orientation relative to  $B_0$ , so the frequency depends on the fixed angles ( $\theta_{PD}$ ,  $\varphi_{PD}$ ):

$$\overline{\delta} = \omega(\theta_{PD}, \phi_{PD}) = \frac{1}{2}\delta(3\cos^2\theta_{PD} - 1 - \eta\sin^2\theta_{PD}\cos 2\phi_{PD})$$



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# Average Tensor for Two-Site Jumps

2-site jumps averaging a uniaxial ( $\eta = 0$ ) interaction: calculate the frequency when B<sub>0</sub> is parallel to the 3 principal axes of the  $\Sigma$  tensor.

The  $\Sigma$  tensor is invariant under A-B switching:  $\Sigma = (\sigma_A + \sigma_B)/2 = (\sigma_B + \sigma_A)/2$ 

By symmetry, the 3 principal axes should be:

- $\Sigma_1$ : Bisector of the AOB angle
- $\Sigma_2$ : Normal to the bisector in the AOB plane
- $\Sigma_3$ : Normal to the AOB plane

	$\sigma_{A}$	$\sigma_{B}$
$\Sigma_1$ axis:	β/ <b>2</b> ,	β/ <b>2</b>
$\Sigma_2$ axis:	90°+β/2,	90°-β/2
$\Sigma_3$ axis:	90°,	90°



• 1, 2, 3 convention: left to right, i.e.  $\overline{\omega}_1 > \overline{\omega}_2 > \overline{\omega}_3$ 

•  $\beta$  < 90° and  $\beta$  > 90° switch  $\Sigma_1 \& \Sigma_2$  axes.

The principal values of the average tensor:

$$\overline{\omega}_n = \frac{1}{2}\delta(3\cos^2\Theta_n - 1)$$

 $\Theta_n$ : angle between  $z_{PAS}$  and  $\Sigma_n$ 

# Two-Site Jumps: Phenylene Ring Flip

<sup>2</sup>H quadrupolar spectra or C-H dipolar spectra ( $\eta$  = 0): Reorientation angle  $\beta_R$  = 120°.



$$\left(\overline{\omega}_n = \frac{1}{2}\delta\left(3\cos^2\Theta_n - 1\right)\right)$$



mobile

$$\begin{cases} \Theta_1 = 30^{\circ} \\ \Theta_2 = 60^{\circ} \\ \Theta_3 = 90^{\circ} \end{cases} \begin{cases} \overline{\omega}_1 = \frac{5}{8}\delta \\ \overline{\omega}_2 = -\frac{1}{8}\delta \\ \overline{\omega}_3 = -\frac{1}{2}\delta \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \overline{\delta} = \frac{5}{8}\delta \\ \overline{\eta} = 0.6 \end{cases}$$

 $\overline{\eta} \neq 0$  for the average dipolar tensor.

δ

### Two-Site Jumps: trans-gauche Isomerization

$$\overline{\omega}_n = \frac{1}{2}\delta(3\cos^2\Theta_n - 1)$$



### Two-Site Jumps: Histidine Ring Flip



180° jump around the C $\beta$ -C $\gamma$  bond:

For the Cy-N\delta1 bond:  $\beta_R = 2 \cdot 57^\circ = 114^\circ$  $\begin{aligned}
\overline{\omega}_n &= \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( 3\cos^2 \Theta_n - 1 \right) \\
\delta_2 &= 57^\circ \Rightarrow \begin{cases}
\overline{\omega}_1 &= 0.56\delta \\
\overline{\omega}_2 &= -0.06\delta \\
\overline{\omega}_3 &= -0.5\delta
\end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases}
\overline{\delta} &= 0.56\delta \\
\overline{\eta} &= 0.79 \\
\overline{\eta} &= 0.79
\end{aligned}$ 

For the C $\delta$ 2-H $\delta$ 2 bond:  $\beta_R = 156^\circ \Rightarrow \overline{\delta} = 0.94\delta \Rightarrow S_{C\delta 2 - H\delta 2} = 0.94$ 

# Multi-Site Jump: Gaussian Axial Fluctuation

- For motions involving *multiple sites*, the sum tensor is the weighted average of individual tensors:  $\overline{\omega} = \sum_{i} p_{j} \omega_{j} \rightarrow \Sigma = \sum_{i} p_{j} \sigma_{j}$
- The sum tensor can be diagonalized to give  $\bar{\delta}$  and  $\bar{\eta}$  .

#### Example

- Motion of a Trp sidechain in influenza M2.
- The measured order parameters rule out a simple 2-site jump motion around a single axis.
- Use a *Gaussian biaxial fluctuation model* with widths  $\sigma_{\alpha\beta}$  and  $\sigma_{\beta\gamma}$  to calculate the average couplings.



### Motion of Trp41 in the M2 Proton Channel





σ<sub>αβ</sub>≈ 30° σ<sub>βγ</sub>≈ 15°



# Uniaxial Rotation of a Rigid Molecule

3-fold axis



Relative to  $Z_M$ :

Amantadine is rigid, and all bonds lie on a *diamond lattice* with *tetrahedral angles* relative to the molecular axis,  $Z_M$ .

• 12 CD bonds : 
$$\theta_{PM} = 70.5^{\circ}$$
, 109.5°

• 3 CD bonds : 
$$\theta_{PM} = 0^{\circ}$$

 If amantadine rotates only around the molecular axis, then the average <sup>2</sup>H quadrupolar coupling is:

$$\overline{\delta} = \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( 3 \cos^2 \theta_{PM} - 1 \right)$$

- 12 CD bonds:  $0.33 \cdot \delta = 40 \ kHz$
- 3 CD bonds :  $1.0 \cdot \delta = 125 \ kHz$



Cady et al, *Nature*, 2010.

 If amantadine also rotates around an external axis, the bilayer normal Z<sub>D</sub>:

$$\overline{\overline{\delta}} = \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( 3\cos^2 \theta_{PM} - 1 \right) \cdot \frac{1}{2} \left( 3\cos^2 \theta_{MD} - 1 \right)$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( 3\cos^2 \theta_{PM} - 1 \right) \cdot S_{mol}$$

# Amantadine Dynamics in Lipid Bilayers



- 12 CD bonds:  $0.33 \cdot \delta = 40 \ kHz$
- 3 CD bonds :  $1.0 \cdot \delta = 125 \ kHz$

Gel phase: 
$$S_{mol} \approx 1 \implies \theta_{MD} = 0^{\circ}$$

Liquid-crystalline phase:  $S_{mol} = \pm 0.46 \implies \theta_{MD} = 37^{\circ}, 80^{\circ}$ 

In the lipid bilayer

# SSNMR Studies of Molecular Motion

- > Timescales & amplitudes of motion from NMR
- Fast motion: average (sum) tensors
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# The X-<sup>1</sup>H DIPSHIFT Experiment



- Allows higher  $v_r$  to be used to measure small couplings.
- Constant time removes  ${}^{1}HT_{2}$  decay during  $t_{1}$ .

Munowitz et al, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 103, 2529 (1981); Hong et al, **J. Magn. Reson.** 129, 85 (1997).

# Simulated C-H & N-H DIPSHIFT Time Signals

#### FSLG for <sup>1</sup>H homonuclear decoupling (k = 0.577)



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# Python Code for Simulating DIPSHIFT Curves http://meihonglab.com/

### HONG LAB RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS LAB PEOPLE MEIHONG SOFTWARE CONTACT SOFTWARE: FITTING PROGRAMS FOR DIPOLAR-CHEMICAL SHIFT CORRELATION (DIPSHIFT) EXPERIMENT



#### **Install Anaconda Navigator or Jupyter**

# Polysaccharide Dynamics in Plant Cell Walls



# Wild type *Arabidopsis* low-methyl-ester mutant



Homogalacturonan (1-4) α-D-GalA





# Pectin Tethering of Cellulose Slows Cell Wall Loosening

Wild type Arabidopsis



#### Methyl-ester mutant







# 2D Lee-Goldberg CP for Measuring <sup>13</sup>C-<sup>1</sup>H Dipolar Couplings



- $\odot$  Simple: increment CP contact time as t<sub>1</sub>.
- $\odot$  <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H dipolar coupling is removed by LG spin lock.
- ☺ Can be done under fast MAS (10 40 kHz)
- © Frequency-domain dipolar spectrum resolves multiple splittings.
- $\bigcirc$  Scaling factor:  $k = \cos(54.7^{\circ}) = 0.577$ .
- ⊗ CP matching may be unstable under fast MAS.

Van Rossum et al *JACS*, 122, 3465 (2000). Hong et al *JPC*, 106, 7355 (2002).

# **LG-CP** Time Signals



Hartman-Hahn CP does not show distinct dipolar oscillations due to the presence of multi-spin <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H dipolar couplings under slow MAS.

Van Rossum et al *JACS*, 122, 3465 (2000). Hong et al *JPC*, 106, 7355 (2002).

# **Cholesterol Dynamics in Lipid Membranes**



# LG-CP Average Hamiltonian Analysis



Transform into a tilted frame and the interaction frame of the rf pulses, under the sideband matching condition

$$\omega_{eff,H} - \omega_{1S} = \pm \omega_r$$

It can be shown that the average I-S dipolar coupling is the scalar product between a ZQ spin operator and a tilted effective field:  $I_{-}^{(23)}$ 

$$\overline{\tilde{H}_{IS}^{T}}^{(0)} = \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{\delta \sin \theta_m C_1}_{\omega_{IS,LG}} \cdot \underbrace{\left(I_x^{(23)}, I_y^{(23)}, I_z^{(23)}\right)}_{\overline{I^{(23)}}} \underbrace{\left(\cos \gamma \atop \sin \gamma \atop 0\right)}_{B_{IS,LG}} \xrightarrow{\left(\sum \gamma \atop 1, \sum s \atop 1, s$$



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# SSNMR Studies of Molecular Motion

- > Timescales & amplitudes of motion from NMR
- > Fast motion: average tensors
- > Experiments for measuring fast motion
- Slow motion: difference tensors
- > Experiments for measuring slow motion

# Slow Motion: 2D Exchange NMR



Schmidt-Rohr and Spiess, *Multidimensional Solid-State NMR and Polymers*, 1994.

# 1D Stimulated Echo: Time-Domain Exchange



- 1D analog of 2D exchange spectra.
- $\bullet$  Allows rapid measurement of  $\tau_c$  without 2D.

2D time signal:

$$f(t_1,t_2) = \left\langle \left[\cos\omega(\theta_1)t_1 - i\sin\omega(\theta_1)t_1\right] \cdot e^{i\omega(\theta_2)t_2} \right\rangle = \left\langle e^{-i\omega(\theta_1)t_1} \cdot e^{i\omega(\theta_2)t_2} \right\rangle$$

powder averaging

1D time signal:  $t_2 = t_1 = t_e$ .

• Segments without frequency change:  $\omega(\theta_1) = \omega(\theta_2) = \omega(\text{diagonal})$ .

$$M(t_e) = \left\langle e^{-i\omega t_e} \cdot e^{i\omega t_e} \right\rangle = \underbrace{\langle \mathbf{1} \rangle}_{2 \text{ scans}}$$

Segments with frequency change:

$$M(t_e) = \left\langle e^{-i\omega(\theta_1)t_e} \cdot e^{i\omega(\theta_2)t_e} \right\rangle = \left\langle e^{i\omega[(\theta_2)-\omega(\theta_1)]t_e} \right\rangle \underset{\text{long } t_m}{\longrightarrow} 0$$

#### 1D stimulated echo intensity = 2D diagonal intensity

# 1D Stimulated Echo Under MAS: CODEX



- 180° pulse train recouples X-spin CSA.
- 90° storage and read-out pulses are phase-cycled together.
- After the 2<sup>nd</sup> recoupling period, the MAS phase for 2 scans is:

$$\cos \Phi_{1} \cos \Phi_{2} - \sin \Phi_{1} \sin \Phi_{2} = \cos \left( \Phi_{1} + \Phi_{2} \right) = \cos \left( \left| \Phi_{2} \right| - \left| \Phi_{1} \right| \right)$$
  
$$\Phi_{1} = \frac{N}{2} \left( \int_{0}^{t_{r}/2} \omega_{1}(t) dt - \int_{t_{r}/2}^{t_{r}} \omega_{1}(t) dt \right) = N \int_{0}^{t_{r}/2} \omega_{1}(t) dt$$
  
$$\Phi_{2} = \frac{N}{2} \left( -\int_{0}^{t_{r}/2} \omega_{2}(t) dt + \int_{t_{r}/2}^{t_{r}} \omega_{2}(t) dt \right) = -N \int_{0}^{t_{r}/2} \omega_{2}(t) dt$$

- No motion:  $\omega_1 = \omega_2$ ,  $\rightarrow \cos(\Phi_1 + \Phi_2) = 1$ , full echo.
- With motion:  $\omega_1 \neq \omega_2$ ,  $\rightarrow \cos(\Phi_1 + \Phi_2) < 1$ , reduced echo.

deAzevedo...Schmidt-Rohr, J. Chem. Phys., 112, 8988 (2000).

# Exchange NMR Involves Difference Tensor

CODEX signal:

$$\frac{S(t_m, \delta N t_r)}{S_0(t_m, \delta N t_r)} = \cos(|\Phi_2| - |\Phi_1|) = \cos(\Phi^{\Delta}), \text{ where } \Phi^{\Delta} = N \int_2^{t_r/2} \omega^{\Delta}(t) dt$$

Difference tensor:  $\Delta \equiv \sigma_A - \sigma_B$ 

Reflection of the  $Z_A$  and  $Z_B$  axes with the bisector plane gives the opposite of the original difference tensor.

For  $\eta = 0$ , the  $\Delta$  tensor's principal axis directions are:

- $\Delta_2$ : Normal of the AOB plane;
- $\Delta_3$  and  $\Delta_1$ : in the AOB plane, 45° from the bisector.



$$σ_A$$
 $σ_B$  $Δ_1$  axis: $45°-β/2$ , $45°+β/2$  $Δ_2$  axis: $90°$ , $90°$  $Δ_3$  axis: $45°+β/2$ , $45°-β/2$ 

$$\omega_n^{\Delta} = \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( 3\cos^2 \Theta_{A,n} - 1 \right) - \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( 3\cos^2 \Theta_{B,n} - 1 \right)$$

# **CODEX** is Sensitive to Small-Angle Reorientations

For 
$$Z_A$$
:  
 $\omega_{A,2} = \frac{1}{2}\delta(3\cos^2 90^\circ - 1) = -\frac{1}{2}\delta$ 
 $\omega_{B,2} = \frac{1}{2}\delta(3\cos^2 90^\circ - 1) = -\frac{1}{2}\delta$ 
 $\omega_{B,1} = \frac{1}{2}\delta(3\cos^2(45^\circ - \beta/2) - 1)$ 
 $\omega_{B,3} = \frac{1}{2}\delta(3\cos^2(45^\circ - \beta/2) - 1)$ 
 $\omega_{B,3} = \frac{1}{2}\delta(3\cos^2(45^\circ - \beta/2) - 1)$ 



- CODEX signal scales ~  $sin\beta$ , which is ~ $\beta$  for small angles.
- Usual angular dependence is  $(3\cos^2\beta 1)/2$ , which scales  $\sim \beta^2$ .



Schmidt-Rohr et al, *Encyclop NMR*, 9, 633 (2002).

# Summary

#### Motions are ubiquitous in biological molecules.

- Fast motions average the interaction tensors and narrow the spectra.
- The *average tensors* and spectral lineshapes of several common motions can be analytically derived.
- Fast motions can be measured using 2D SLF experiments that resolve dipolar couplings by chemical shifts.
- Order parameters & order tensors give information on rigid-body motions as well as internal motions.
- Slow motions can be measured as 2D exchange cross peaks or 1D CODEX stimulated echo intensities.
- The geometry of slow motion is described by *difference tensors*.

# Hydration of Biomolecular Systems



# Water in Amyloid Fibrils

Wild-type  $A\beta 40$ 

(E22 $\Delta$ ) Osaka A $\beta$ 40

Transthyretin TTR(105-115)







Paravastu et al, **PNAS**, 2008.

Schultz et al, *Angew. Chemie,* 2015.

Fitzpatrick et al, **PNAS**, 2013.

# Water-Edited 2D Solid-State NMR Experiments



#### Water-edited 2D NC $\alpha$



<sup>1</sup>H T<sub>1</sub> Saturation-Recovery 2D hNH



Water-Edited 2D hNH



# Structure and Dynamics of Tau Fibrils







### Water-Edited 2D CC Spectra of Tau



### Water-Edited 2D NC Spectra of Tau

Water-edited 2D NC $\alpha$ 







Dregni, Duan, and Hong, *Biochemistry*, 2020.

# Hydrated versus Dry Residues in Tau Fibrils





Pu Duan

# Hydration of a Membrane Ion Channel



Mandala, McKay, Shcherbakov, Dregni, Kolocouris & Hong, Nat. Struc. Mol. Biol, 2020.



# <sup>1</sup>H-Detected Water-Edited 2D NMR Experiments

Water-Edited 2D hNH



<sup>1</sup>H T<sub>1</sub> Saturation-Recovery 2D hNH



# EmrE: A Proton-Coupled Multidrug-Resistance Transporter



# Hydration of the Substrate Binding Pocket of EmrE



Shcherbakov, Spreacker, Dregni, Henzler-Wildman & Hong, Nature Commun. 2022.

# MD Simulations of Water in Influenza M2 Channels



# Water in BM2 Channels: More Water @ Low pH



# Water in the BM2 Channel is Anisotropic





Most probable water orientations



Rigid-limit water <sup>1</sup>H CSA: 28 ppm

