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NMR spectroscopy: major advances and future developments

Carine van Heijenoort, ICSN, Gif-sur-Yvette carine.van-heijenoort@cnrs.fr

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NMR : A young science





- 1936 : Nuclear spin (Rabi, Physics Nobel 1944)
- 1945 : First NMR signals (Bloch et Purcel, Physics Nobel 1952)
- 1949 : Chemical shift
- 1970 : Fourier transform spectrometers.
- 1972 : supra-conductor coils. 2D-NMR (Jeener)
- 1975: 2D-NMR developments (Ernst, Chemistry Nobel 1991)
- 1983 : First MRI spectrometers

1990 : High resolution NMR, Structural biology (Wüthrich, Chemistry Nobel 2002) 2000 : Cryoprobes 500 et 600 MHz



Mauterbur and Mansfield Medicine Nobel (2003)











Biomolecular NMR : 35 years of methodological developments



NMR: principles of structure determination

NMR sample



NMR data acquisition





Resonance assignment



Structural ensemble



Structure calculation



Structural parameters



Biomolecular NMR : 35 years of methodological developments



NMR: developments and limits



NMR: A limited competitiveness for structures



NMR, some limitations



Resolution and spectral hindrance

- Acquisition time: few seconds
- limited spectral resolution
- No necessary isotope labeling
- Global characterization



- Acquisition time: few minutes
- Increase in the spectral resolution
- Necessary isotope labeling (¹⁵N)
- More detailed information

NMR, a limited competitiveness for structures: a lengthy process

NMR sample



NMR data acquisition





Resonance assignment



Structural ensemble



Structure calculation



Structural parameters



slow overall rotation

Jan 2013



The Quiet Renaissance of Protein Nuclear Magnetic Resonance

Paul J. Barrett,[†] Jiang Chen,[†] Min-Kyu Cho,[†] Ji-Hun Kim,[†] Zhenwei Lu,[†] Sijo Mathew,[†] Dungeng Peng,[†] Yuanli Song,[†] Wade D. Van Horn,^{†,§} Tiandi Zhuang,[‡] Frank D. Sönnichsen,^{||} and Charles R. Sanders^{*,†}

[†]Department of Biochemistry and Center for Structural Biology, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee 37232-8725, United States

[‡]Department of Molecular Physiology and Biological Physics, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia 22908, United States

[§]Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona 85287-1604, United States

^{II}Institute for Organic Chemistry, Christian-Albrechts University of Kiel, D-24118 Kiel, Germany

ABSTRACT: From roughly 1985 through the start of the new millennium, the cutting edge of solution protein nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy was to a significant extent driven by the aspiration to determine structures. Here we survey recent advances in protein NMR that herald a renaissance in which a number of its most important applications reflect the broad problem-solving capability displayed by this method during its classical era during the 1970s and early 1980s.

CONCLUSION: Other emerging methods not covered in this review, such as nonclassical ways of collecting and processing pulsed NMR data can also be expected to further expand the problem-solving capability of solution NMR, particularly if such approaches can be widely implemented in user-friendly form. While soothsaying is perilous, all indicators point to a bright future for NMR as a tool for studying protein structure, folding, dynamics, interactions, and function.



■ THE ABILITY OF NMR TO ACCESS DILUTE SAMPLES HAS BEEN DRAMATICALLY ENHANCED

■ THERE HAS BEEN A RESURGENCE IN THE USE OF SIMPLE ONE-DIMENSIONAL NMR EXPERIMENTS TO TACKLE BIOLOGICAL PROBLEMS, SUCH AS SIGNALING BY GPCRS

- THE USE OF NMR TO MONITOR PROTEIN-LIGAND AND PROTEIN-PROTEIN INTERACTIONS HAS BEEN EXTENDED
- NMR PARAMAGNETIC RELAXATION ENHANCEMENT (PRE) EXTENDS THE CAPABILITIES OF NMR TO PROBE PROTEIN STRUCTURE AND DYNAMICS
- METHYL TROSY NMR ALLOWS NMR TO PROBE STRUCTURAL AND MECHANISTIC QUESTIONS FOR >200 kDa PROTEIN COMPLEXES
- INCREASED USE OF NMR IN DRUG DISCOVERY
- NMR CAN NOW BE USED TO PROBE PROTEIN STRUCTURE AND INTERACTIONS IN LIVING CELLS
- RELAXATION DISPERSION PROVIDES UNPRECEDENTED ACCESS TO CRYPTIC STRUCTURAL AND DYNAMIC STATES
- NMR HAS PROVIDED SEMINAL INSIGHT INTO INTRINSICALLY DISORDERED PROTEINS AND TETHERED MULTIDOMAIN PROTEINS

2005-2017

NMR: a tool for integrative structural biology

- ★ Study of intrinsically disordered proteins
- \star Study of mechanisms of molecular recognition
- ★ Study of proteins and nucleic acid excited states
- \star Study of the dynamics of very large complexes

★ In-cell NMR

Technological innovations and developments



NMR: developments and limits



 Magnets
 500 MHz
 600 MHz
 800 MHz
 900 MHz
 950 MHz
 1.0-1.2 GHz

NMR, some limitations

Sensitivity or signal-to-noise ratio

$$E_{\beta} = \frac{1}{2} \gamma \hbar B_{0}$$
Boltzmann
$$\frac{N_{\alpha}}{N_{\beta}} = e^{\frac{E_{\beta} - E_{\alpha}}{k_{B}T}}$$

$$E_{\beta} = \frac{1}{2} \gamma \hbar B_{0}$$

$$\frac{N_{\alpha}}{N_{\beta}} \approx 1 + \frac{\gamma \hbar B_{0}}{kT}$$

$$\approx 1 + 9,66 \times 10^{-5}$$
Particular case of spin 1/2
$$@B_{0} = 14.09T(600MHz)$$

$$\vec{M} = \sum \vec{\mu} = \sum \gamma \hbar \vec{I}$$
$$\vec{M} = N \frac{\gamma \hbar B_0}{2kT} \gamma \hbar \frac{1}{2} \vec{z} = \frac{N (\gamma \hbar)^2 B_0}{4kT} \vec{z}$$





Magnets become more compact



- Compact size and small stray field improve siting flexibility
- Outstanding stability and high-resolution NMR performance

Data courtesy of Bruker



Proton frequency

Technological innovations and developments



Probes:

- Cryoprobes
- Small volume probes
- Multi-nuclei probes



NMR: developments and limits



Cryoprobes

500, 600 700,800 1000 (Bruker/varian/Geol)

The probe



 $M_0 = \frac{N(\gamma\hbar)^2 B_0}{4kT}$

 $S/N \propto Q\eta M_0$



Q quality factor $(1/\omega_0 RC)$ η filling factor Gain with a cryoprobe

Induced Signal Voltage to Noise Voltage



Q quality factor, η filling factor

Signal-to-noise depends on the magnetic field



Limitations of cryoprobes

Low-Conductivity Buffers for High-Sensitivity NMR Measurements

Alexander E. Kelly,[†] Horng D. Ou,[†] Richard Withers,[‡] and Volker Dötsch^{*,§}



¹H / ppm

JACS, 2002

Limitations of cryoprobes



Gain with a cryoprobe

Quantity of protein detected



Data M.-A. Delsuc, IGBMC

Liquid vs solid-state probe



~ 400 µl of soluble sample

~ 20 µl of hydrated insoluble sample

Solid-state NMR should allows to study large and insoluble proteins or biopolymers by NMR



Pulse sequences:

Multidimensional sequences
 Taking advantage of relaxation properties
 Fast acquisition methods

- Non-linear sampling



Coherence or magnetization transfer experiments



Doubly labeled sample: $^{13}\text{C},\,^{15}\text{N}$

Recombinant protein in *E. coli* ¹⁵NH₄Cl ¹³C-glucose

Recombinant DNA or RNA with labeled NTPs, Enzymatic synthesis

Fluorinated ligands, amino-acids ¹⁹F





Coherence or dipolar transfer experiments in liquids





Dipolar transfer experiments in ssNMR

cross-polarization



NMR, a limited competitiveness for structures: an intrinsic size limitation in solution Liquid-state NMR a serious limit? Linewidth



slow overall rotation

Back to the liquid-state ... Exploitation of the relaxation properties

1. Transverse relaxation:

Exploitation between different relaxation mechanisms (CSA-DD)
 => TROSY



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 Pervushin, K. Riek, R., Wider, G. and Wütrich, K(1997) Attenuated T2 relaxation
 mutual cancellation of diacle diacle coupling and chemical chift ariseterory ind



Pervushin, K. Riek, R., Wider, G. and Wütrich, K(1997) Attenuated T2 relaxation by mutual cancellation of dipole–dipole coupling and chemical shift anisotropy indicates an avenue to NMR structures of very large biological macromolecules in solution. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U. S. A. 94, 12366–12371



2H,15N-labeled 110-kDa octameric protein 7,8-dihydroneopterin aldolase

Data acquisition is full of dead times



Exploitation of the relaxation properties

2. Longitudinal relaxation:

 Accelerate the return to the thermodynamic equilibrium to speedup the acquisition process => SOFAST, BEST, BEST-TROSY



Solyom Z, Schwarten M, Geist L, Konrat R, Willbold D, Brutscher B. J Biomol NMR. 2013 Apr;55(4):311-21.

Alternative sampling methods

- The use of FFT implies a linear sampling
- Alternative methods (NUS) are now proposed



M. Mobli and J.C. Hoch Progress in Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy 83 (2014) 21–41

Alternative sampling methods



Single-scan spectroscopy Lucio Frydman et al. PNAS 2002;99:25:15858-15862



Assessing data on non-detectable states



Assessing data on non-detectable states



Sekhar and Kay, PNAS 2013, 12867-12874



Sample volume changes matches probe design



1.7 mm cryoprobe
 30 μL sample volume
 Liquid-state NMR

111 kHz MAS probe 2 μL sample volume Solid-state NMR

$$M_0 = \frac{N(\gamma\hbar)^2 B_0}{4kT} \quad S/N \propto Q\eta M_0$$



Standard methods: ¹³C,¹⁵N-labeling and 3D triple resonance spectroscopy



Is NMR limited to small molecules?



Figure courtesy of J. Boisbouvier

Can we investigate large functional machineries with NMR?



Me-labeling tool kits for NMR



Monitoring of a molecular machine in action



P. Macek et al. Sci Advances, 2017, e1601601

Monitoring of a molecular machine in action



Monitoring of a molecular machine in action



P. Macek et al. Sci Advances, 2017, e1601601

In-cell NMR: schematic overview of different approaches



E. Luchinat and L. Banci, IUCrJ, 2017, 108-118

Comparison of α-synuclein in different cell lines and *in vitro*



Theillet, Selenko et al.., Nature 2016, 45-50

Comparison of α-synuclein in different cell lines and *in vitro*



Theillet, Selenko et al.., Nature 2016, 45-50

Ascend

500



- Filtering
- Data management and integration
- Structure calculation software



Fully automated structure calculation algorithm (FLYA)



Assignment = Find mapping between expected and observed peaks.

Score for assignment

Presence of expected peaks

Positional alignment of peaks assigned to the same atom

Normality of assigned resonance frequencies

Optimization of assignment

Genetic algorithm combined with local optimization

GARANT

Christian Bartels et al.

- J. Comp. Chem. 18, 139-149 (1997)
- J. Biomol. NMR 7, 207–213 (1996)

Development of structure calculation protocols

Incorporation of ambiguous distance restraints in iterative process protocols => M. Nilges, T. Herrmann



Software ARIA, UNIO

Rieping W., Habeck M., Bardiaux B., Bernard A., Malliavin T.E., Nilges M. (2007) ARIA2: automated NOE assignment and data integration in NMR structure calculation. Bioinformatics 23:381-382.

Volk, J.; Herrmann, T.; Wüthrich, K. J. Biomol.NMR. 2008, 41, 127-138.

Many structural parameters



Use of Ambiguous Interaction Restraints for soft docking



Domingez C, Boelens R, Bonvin A, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 125, 1731-1737 (2003).

Use of Ambiguous Interaction Restraints for soft docking



