Heteronuclear Spin Decoupling in Magic-Angle-Spinning Solid-State NMR

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- **I** RF irradiation of the I spins leads to a collapse of the J-split multiplet on the S spins.
- Decoupling strategies:
 - continuous-wave (cw) irradiation
 - noise decoupling
 - multiple-pulse sequences (MLEV, WALTZ, GARP, DIPSI, FLOPSY, ...)
 - adiabatic inversions (WURST, ...)





- Residual splitting is reduced to $J_{IS}v_I/v_1$ for offresonance cw irradiation.
- Scaling corresponds to a projection of the heteronuclear J coupling onto the effective rffield direction.
- J Typical magnitudes of such terms: $J_{IS} =$ 150 Hz, $v_I < 5$ kHz, $v_1 ≈ 10$ kHz.









- Better inversion over a larger range of chemical-shift offsets.
- But now compensation of rf-field inhomogeneities or errors in the pulse length are necessary.



FIG. 5. Magnetization trajectories calculated for the spin inversion sequence $R = 1\overline{23}$. (a) For small offsets from resonance (near $\Delta B = 0.25 B_2$) the compensation is only moderate. (b) For offsets $\Delta B/B_2$ between 0.75 and 0.88, the first two pulses achieve the spin inversion and the last pulse merely rotates the magnetization through 360° about the tilted effective field.

A.J. Shaka, J. Keeler, and R. Freeman, "Evaluation of a New Broadband Decoupling Sequence: WALTZ-16" J. Magn. Reson. 53, 313-340 (1983).





- Adiabatic inversion pulses give very good inversion over a large range of chemical shifts.
- RF-field amplitude is not a critical parameter in adiabatic pulses.



Detour: Representation of Hamiltonians

Cartesian notation of Hamiltonians:

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}}^{(k,n)} = \hat{\hat{I}}_{k} \cdot A^{(k,n)} \cdot \hat{\hat{I}}_{n} = \left(\hat{I}_{kx} \hat{I}_{ky} \hat{I}_{kz} \right) \cdot$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{xx} & a_{xy} & a_{xz} \\ a_{yx} & a_{yy} & a_{yz} \\ a_{zx} & a_{zy} & a_{zz} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \hat{I}_{nx} \\ \hat{I}_{ny} \\ \hat{I}_{nz} \end{pmatrix} = \vec{A}^{(k,n)} \cdot \vec{I}^{(k,n)}$$

- Scalar-product formulation of the Hamiltonian in a Cartesian basis.
- Basis transformation leads to spherical-tensor representation:

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}}^{(k,n)} = \sum_{\ell=0}^{2} \vec{A}_{\ell}^{(k,n)} \cdot \hat{\vec{\mathcal{I}}}_{\ell}^{(k,n)}$$

In spherical-tensor notation, rotations of the Hamiltonian are simpler due to the block structure of the rotation matrix.



Detour: Origin Of Time-Dependent Hamiltonians

System Hamiltonian in the laboratory frame is static if the molecule is static.



We need methods to deal with time-dependent Hamiltonians.

Detour: Average Hamiltonian Theory

- Time-dependent Hamiltonians $\mathcal{H}(t)$ are generated by
 - interaction-frame transformations
 - sample rotation, e.g. magic-angle spinning (MAS).
- For a single time dependence with a cycle time τ_m we can write the Hamiltonian as a Fourier series:



$$\begin{aligned} &\mathcal{H}(t) = \sum_{n} \mathcal{H}^{(n)} e^{in\omega_{m}t} \\ & \mathsf{Average Hamiltonian theory (AHT)} \\ & \overline{\mathcal{H}} = \mathcal{H}^{(0)} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n \neq 0} \frac{[\mathcal{H}^{(n)}, \mathcal{H}^{(-n)}]}{n\omega_{m}} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n \neq 0} \frac{[[\mathcal{H}^{(n)}, \mathcal{H}^{(0)}], \mathcal{H}^{(-n)}]}{(n\omega_{m})^{2}} + \frac{1}{3} \sum_{k, n \neq 0} \frac{[\mathcal{H}^{(n)}, [\mathcal{H}^{(k)}, \mathcal{H}^{(-n-k)}]]}{kn\omega_{m}^{2}} + \cdots \\ & \overline{\mathcal{H}}^{(0)} \qquad \overline{\mathcal{H}}^{(1)} \qquad \overline{\mathcal{H}}^{(2)} \end{aligned}$$

Different orders of the AHT approximate the effective Hamiltonian with increasing accuracy.

"Symmetric" sequences ($\Re(t) = \Re(\tau_c - t)$) eliminate the odd orders of the AHT expansion: $\overline{\Re}^{(2)}$ is the leading term for the residual line width in all liquid-state decoupling sequences.

Theoretical Description of Decoupling in Liquids

- □ Spin-system Hamiltonian in the rotating frame is static.
 - Interaction-frame transformation with the rf-field leads to a time-dependent Hamiltonian.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H} &= \mathcal{H}_{I} + \mathcal{H}_{S} + \mathcal{H}_{II} + \mathcal{H}_{SS} + \mathcal{H}_{IS} \\ & \text{interaction-frame transformation: } U(t) = \hat{T} \exp \begin{pmatrix} t \\ -i \int_{0}^{t} \mathcal{H}_{rf}(t_{1}) dt_{1} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ & \tilde{\mathcal{H}}(t) &= \tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{I}(t) + \tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{S} + \tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{II} + \tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{SS} + \tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{IS}(t) = \sum_{k} \mathcal{H}^{(k)} e^{ik\omega_{m}t} \\ & \text{rotating frame} \end{aligned}$$

- Only the chemical shifts of the I spins and the heteronuclear J couplings become time dependent in the rf-interaction frame.
- Single time dependence allows the use of average Hamiltonian theory (AHT).
- Only cross terms between the chemical shift and the heteronuclear coupling can appear in $\overline{\mathcal{R}}^{(1)}$ while $\overline{\mathcal{R}}^{(2)}$ can contain cross terms between all parts of the Hamiltonian.



Decoupling in liquid-state NMR is mostly a question of perfectly inverting the spins over a large range of chemical shifts with minimum rf power.



- Decoupling sidebands can be observed at multiples of the inverse cycle time.
- Symmetric sequences ($\Re(t) = \Re(\tau_c t)$) eliminate the first-order of the AHT. Residual splitting is determined by the second-order (double commutator) contributions.
- Homonuclear scalar couplings become important only in second-order AHT. DIPSI: Decoupling in the presence of scalar couplings.

Heteronuclear Decoupling in Static Solids





- Spin-spin couplings in solids (dipolar couplings) are roughly by a factor of 100-1000 larger than in liquids (J couplings) for rigid bio-organic substances.
 - Higher rf-field amplitudes and better broadband inversion schemes are required.
 - Typical rf-field amplitudes: $v_1 = 50-200 \text{ kHz}$
 - Dipolar couplings are anisotropic and, therefore, orientation dependent.

Heteronuclear Decoupling in Static Solids





- Spin part of the homonuclear dipolar coupling $(3I_{1z}I_{2z} \vec{I_1} \cdot \vec{I_2})$ is a second-rank tensor and not a scalar $(\vec{I_1} \cdot \vec{I_2})$ like in the J coupling.
 - Homonuclear dipolar couplings become time dependent in the rf-interaction frame.
 - There can now be first-order cross terms in the AHT expansion between the homonuclear and the heteronuclear dipolar coupling that lead to residual line broadening.
 - Special decoupling sequences optimized for homonuclear dipolar-coupled systems: COMARO (composite magic-angle rotation)

Heteronuclear Decoupling in Static Solids





Dense dipolar-coupling network on the I spins leads to spin diffusion among the I spins. "Self decoupling" can result in line narrowing due to an exchange-type process between the powder line shapes of the multiplet lines.



Theoretical Description of Decoupling in Static Solids



Spin-system Hamiltonian in the rotating frame is static.

Interaction-frame transformation with the rf-field leads to a time-dependent Hamiltonian. $\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{H} &= \mathcal{H}_{I} + \mathcal{H}_{S} + \mathcal{H}_{II} + \mathcal{H}_{SS} + \mathcal{H}_{IS} \\
& \text{interaction-frame transformation: } U(t) = \hat{T} \exp\left(-i\int_{0}^{t} \mathcal{H}_{rf}(t_{1})dt_{1}\right) \\
& \tilde{\mathcal{H}}(t) &= \tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{I}(t) + \tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{S} + \tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{II}(t) + \tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{SS} + \tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{IS}(t) = \sum_{k} \mathcal{H}^{(k)} e^{ik\omega_{m}t} \\
& \text{interaction frame transformation: } \int_{0}^{t} \mathcal{H}_{rotating frame} \int_{0}^{t} \mathcal{H}_{rota$

- Only the chemical shifts of the I spins, the heteronuclear J couplings, and the homonuclear dipolar couplings become time dependent in the rf-interaction frame.
- Single time dependence allows the use of average Hamiltonian theory (AHT).
- Cross terms between the heteronuclear coupling and the chemical shift or the homonuclear dipolar coupling can appear in $\overline{\mathcal{R}}^{(1)}$ while $\overline{\mathcal{R}}^{(2)}$ can contain cross terms between all parts of the Hamiltonian.
- "Symmetric" sequences ($\Re(t) = \Re(\tau_c t)$) eliminate the first-order of the AHT. Residual splitting is determined by the second-order contributions.

Development of Decoupling Techniques



liquid-state NMR cw decoupling 1950 cw decoupling 1966 noise decoupling 1981 multiple-pulse decoupling 0. 1981 MLEV **1982 WALTZ** -0. 1985 GARP **1988 DIPSI** multiple pulse 1995 adiabatic decoupling **1995 WURST 1997 SWIRL** 0.

1950 cw decoupling 1995 multiple-pulse decoupling 1995 **TPPM 2000 SPINAL** 2001 XiX 2003 low-power decoupling

solid-state NMR under MAS

Why was the development of decoupling techniques much slower in solid-state NMR under MAS conditions than in liquid-state NMR?

Heteronuclear Decoupling in Rotating Solids





Spin-system Hamiltonian in the rotating frame is time dependent due to magic-angle spinning (MAS).

$$\mathcal{H}(t) = \mathcal{H}_{I}(t) + \mathcal{H}_{S}(t) + \mathcal{H}_{II}(t) + \mathcal{H}_{SS}(t) + \mathcal{H}_{IS}(t) = \sum_{n = -2}^{L} \mathcal{H}^{(n)} e^{in\omega_{r}t}$$

I This additional time dependence is the source of the difficulties in decoupling under sample rotation.

Why Do We Need Decoupling Under Fast MAS?



MAS will average in zeroth-order approximation all anisotropic interactions.



- Higher-orders will lead to a residual line width due to cross terms between heteronuclear and homonuclear dipolar couplings: $\Delta v_{1/2} \propto 1/\omega_r$.
- Faster MAS (~ 250 kHz) will lead to a liquid-like NMR spectrum.
- ☐ Isotropic J couplings are not averaged.
 - I I-spin spin diffusion will lead to a line broadening of the J multiplet lines.

Theoretical Description of Decoupling in Rotating Solids

Spin-system Hamiltonian in the rotating frame is time dependent due to magic-angle spinning (MAS).

2

$$\mathcal{H}(t) = \mathcal{H}_{I}(t) + \mathcal{H}_{S}(t) + \mathcal{H}_{II}(t) + \mathcal{H}_{SS}(t) + \mathcal{H}_{IS}(t) = \sum_{n = -2}^{L} \mathcal{H}^{(n)} e^{in\omega_{r}t}$$

$$\lim_{n = -2} \operatorname{interaction-frame transformation:} U(t) = \hat{T} \exp\left(-i\int_{0}^{t} \mathcal{H}_{rf}(t_{1}) dt_{1}\right)$$

$$\underbrace{\tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{I}(t)}_{\mathcal{H}} = \tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{I}(t) + \tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{S}(t) + \tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{II}(t) + \tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{SS}(t) + \tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{IS}(t) = \sum_{n = -2}^{2} \sum_{k} \tilde{\mathcal{H}}^{(n, k)} e^{ik\omega_{m}t} e^{in\omega_{r}t}$$

- Interaction-frame transformation with the rf-field introduces a second time-dependence in the Hamiltonian. There are now two frequencies: ω_r and ω_m .
- Average Hamiltonian theory requires that
 - the two frequencies are commensurate, i.e., $n\omega_m = k\omega_r$ (simultaneous averaging) or
 - a separation of time scales, i.e., $\omega_m \gg \omega_r$ or $\omega_m \ll \omega_r$ (sequential averaging).

Detour: Origin Of Time-Dependent Hamiltonians



System Hamiltonian in the laboratory frame is static if the molecule is static.



- Spatial and Spin part of the Hamiltonian are modulated with different frequencies.
- → We need methods to deal with Hamiltonians with multiple time dependencies.
- If multiples of the two frequencies are matched, we obtain again time-independent parts in the Hamiltonian.

Multiple Time Dependencies: Floquet Theory





Multiple Time Dependencies: Floquet Theory





Effective Hamiltonians from Floquet Theory

Single frequency ω_m



Effective Hamiltonians from Floquet Theory



Effective Hamiltonians from Floquet Theory

- We can calculate effective Hamiltonians for Hamiltonians with multiple time dependencies in a way very similar to AHT.
- What is different when going from a single modulation frequency to two (or more) modulation frequencies?
 - one modulation frequency $\overline{\mathcal{H}} = \mathcal{H}^{(0)} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n \neq 0} \frac{[\mathcal{H}^{(-n)}, \mathcal{H}^{(n)}]}{n\omega_{m}} + \dots \qquad \overline{\mathcal{H}} = \sum_{\substack{n_{0}, k_{0} \\ n_{0}, k_{0}}} \mathcal{H}^{(n_{0}, k_{0})} - \sum_{\substack{n_{0}, k_{0} \\ n_{0}, k_{0}}} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\nu, \kappa} \frac{[\mathcal{H}^{(n_{0}-\nu, k_{0}-\kappa)}, \mathcal{H}^{(\nu, \kappa)}]}{\nu\omega_{r} + \kappa\omega_{m}} + \dots$ resonance conditions: $n_{0}\omega_{r} + k_{0}\omega_{m} = 0$
- → With multiple modulation frequencies, resonance conditions at $n_0\omega_r + k_0\omega_m = 0$ appear. They lead to time-independent terms in first-order or second-order perturbation theory.
- At these resonance conditions we do not average out certain components \(\mathcal{K}^{(n_0, k_0)}\) of the Hamiltonian.
- There are first-order $\mathcal{H}^{(n_0, k_0)}$ and second-order $\mathcal{H}^{(n_0, k_0)}_{(2)}$ resonance conditions.

Theoretical Description of Decoupling in Rotating Solids





Factors determining the observable line width in solid-state NMR decoupling:

- Residual coupling $(\tilde{\mathscr{H}}_{(2)}^{(0,0)})$ is given by the commutator term because the interaction-frame Hamiltonian is not "symmetric" due to the MAS rotation.
- Resonance conditions $(\tilde{\mathcal{H}}^{(n_0, k_0)} \text{ and } \tilde{\mathcal{H}}^{(n_0, k_0)}_{(2)})$ between the two modulation frequencies can lead to large terms which can be beneficial or detrimental to the decoupling process.
- I-spin spin diffusion leads to an additional averaging of the residual couplings.





Theory Of CW Decoupling Under MAS

Interaction-frame transformation with RF:

$$J(t) = \exp\left(-i\omega_{1}\sum_{m=1}^{N}I_{mz}\right)$$

$$I_{mx} \rightarrow I_{mx} \cos(\omega_1 t) + I_{my} \sin(\omega_1 t)$$
$$I_{my} \rightarrow I_{my} \cos(\omega_1 t) - I_{mx} \sin(\omega_1 t)$$



I Only the first side-diagonal in the rf-modulation space $(k = \pm 1)$ is occupied.



Residual coupling is given by a cross term between the I-spin CSA and the heteronuclear dipolar couplings.

$$\overline{\mathcal{H}} \approx \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}_{(2)}^{(0,0)} = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{\nu,\kappa} \sum_{\ell} \kappa \left(\frac{\omega_{I_{\ell}}^{(\nu)} \omega_{SI_{\ell}}^{(-\nu)} + \omega_{SI_{\ell}}^{(\nu)} \omega_{I_{\ell}}^{(-\nu)}}{\nu \omega_{r} + \kappa \omega_{1}} \right) 2S_{z} I_{\ell z}$$

Resonance conditions:

first-order resonance conditions with $\overline{\mathcal{H}} \approx \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}^{(n_0, k_0)} + \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}^{(-n_0, -k_0)}$ and second-order resonance conditions with $\overline{\mathcal{H}} \approx \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}^{(n_0, k_0)}_{(2)} + \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}^{(-n_0, -k_0)}_{(2)}$.

- **HORROR condition at** $\omega_1 = \omega_r/2$:
 - Recouples I-spin homonuclear dipolar couplings.
 - Line intensity is increased due to Ispin spin diffusion (self decoupling).





Residual coupling is given by a cross term between the I-spin CSA and the heteronuclear dipolar couplings.

$$\overline{\mathcal{H}} \approx \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}_{(2)}^{(0,0)} = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{\nu,\kappa} \sum_{\ell} \kappa \left(\frac{\omega_{I_{\ell}}^{(\nu)} \omega_{SI_{\ell}}^{(-\nu)} + \omega_{SI_{\ell}}^{(\nu)} \omega_{I_{\ell}}^{(-\nu)}}{\nu \omega_{r} + \kappa \omega_{1}} \right) 2S_{z} I_{\ell z}$$

Resonance conditions:

first-order resonance conditions with $\overline{\mathcal{H}} \approx \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}^{(n_0, k_0)} + \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}^{(-n_0, -k_0)}$ and second-order resonance conditions

with $\overline{\mathcal{H}} \approx \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}_{(2)}^{(n_0, k_0)} + \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}_{(2)}^{(-n_0, -k_0)}$.

- First-order rotary-resonance condition at $\omega_1 = 1\omega_r$ and $\omega_1 = 2\omega_r$.
 - Recouples heteronuclear dipolar couplings.
 - Lines are broadened and intensity is reduced.





Residual coupling is given by a cross term between the I-spin CSA and the heteronuclear dipolar couplings.

$$\overline{\mathcal{H}} \approx \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}_{(2)}^{(0,0)} = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{\nu,\kappa} \sum_{\ell} \kappa \left(\frac{\omega_{I_{\ell}}^{(\nu)} \omega_{SI_{\ell}}^{(-\nu)} + \omega_{SI_{\ell}}^{(\nu)} \omega_{I_{\ell}}^{(-\nu)}}{\nu \omega_{r} + \kappa \omega_{1}} \right) 2S_{z} I_{\ell z}$$

Resonance conditions:

first-order resonance conditions with $\overline{\mathcal{H}} \approx \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}^{(n_0, k_0)} + \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}^{(-n_0, -k_0)}$ and second-order resonance conditions

with $\overline{\mathcal{H}} \approx \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}_{(2)}^{(n_0, k_0)} + \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}_{(2)}^{(-n_0, -k_0)}$.

- Second-order rotary-resonance condition at $\omega_1 = 3\omega_r$ and $\omega_1 = 4\omega_r$.
 - Recouples heteronuclear dipolar couplings.
 - Lines are broadened and intensity is reduced.





Residual coupling is given by a cross term between the I-spin CSA and the heteronuclear dipolar couplings.

$$\overline{\mathcal{H}} \approx \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}_{(2)}^{(0,0)} = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{\nu,\kappa} \sum_{\ell} \kappa \left(\frac{\omega_{I_{\ell}}^{(\nu)} \omega_{SI_{\ell}}^{(-\nu)} + \omega_{SI_{\ell}}^{(\nu)} \omega_{I_{\ell}}^{(-\nu)}}{\nu \omega_{r} + \kappa \omega_{1}} \right) 2S_{z} I_{\ell z}$$

Resonance conditions:

first-order resonance conditions with $\overline{\mathcal{H}} \approx \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}^{(n_0, k_0)} + \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}^{(-n_0, -k_0)}$ and second-order resonance conditions

with $\overline{\mathcal{H}} \approx \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}_{(2)}^{(n_0, k_0)} + \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}_{(2)}^{(-n_0, -k_0)}$.

- HORROR condition at $\omega_1 = \omega_r/2$.
- first-order rotary-resonance condition at $\omega_1 = 1\omega_r$ and $\omega_1 = 2\omega_r$.
- second-order rotary-resonance condition at $\omega_1 = 3\omega_r$ and $\omega_1 = 4\omega_r$.
- I l-spin spin diffusion is active everywhere and scales with $1/\omega_r$.





- Continuous-wave decoupling is a terrible decoupling sequence with a large residual coupling.
- Residual coupling increases with increasing B₀ field strength (CSA!).
- Rotary-resonance conditions have to be avoided:
 - High-power decoupling: $\omega_1 > 3\omega_r$
 - Low-power decoupling: $\omega_1 \leq \omega_r/2$ for high MAS frequencies.
- I-spin spin diffusion averages the residual coupling:
 - Observable line width increases with increasing spinning frequency: spin diffusion is slowed down.
 - Low-power decoupling at the HORROR condition leads to a narrower line width.
- High-power decoupling: $\Delta v_{1/2}$ decreases with v_1 .
 - Low-power decoupling: $\Delta v_{1/2}$ decreases with v_r .



Rotor-Synchronized Sequences



- Rotor-synchronized R and C sequences allow us to select certain components of spin interactions.
- Analysis is based on a symmetry-driven version of average Hamiltonian theory.
- ❑ Very powerful tool for tailoring the effective Hamiltonian under MAS.
- Malcolm H. Levitt "Symmetry-Based Pulse Sequences in Magic-Angle Spinning Solid-State NMR", Encyclopedia of Nuclear Magnetic Resonance, Volume 9, 165-196 (2002).

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Decoupling Using Rotor-Synchronized Sequences





Ideal case of eliminating all interactions (time suspension) does not exist.

Decoupling Using Rotor-Synchronized Sequences





- ☐ Ideal case of eliminating all interactions (time suspension) does not exist.
- ☐ Isotropic homonuclear J_{II} coupling cannot be eliminated unless selective pulses are used.

Decoupling Using Rotor-Synchronized Sequences





- ☐ Ideal case of eliminating all interactions (time suspension) does not exist.
- □ Isotropic homonuclear J_{II} coupling cannot be eliminated unless selective pulses are used.
- Recoupling the homonuclear dipolar coupling can have advantages for heteronuclear decoupling.

Rotor-Synchronized Decoupling: C12⁻



- C12⁻¹₂ performs quite well and gives comparable line widths to other decoupling sequences.
- **I** RF-field requirement $\omega_1 = 6\omega_r$ dictates B_1 -field strength for given MAS frequency.
- Synchronization is not a "strict" requirement: in the range of 120-145 kHz one obtains 90% of the maximum intensity.
- **\square** Effective flip angle of 2π is very critical.



- Experimental line height of CH₂ group in sodium propionate.
- $\Box \quad \omega_r / (2\pi) = 22 \text{ kHz}, \ \omega_1 / (2\pi) = 132 \text{ kHz},$ $\tau_p = 7.57 \text{ } \mu \text{s.} \ \text{C} = (2\pi)_{\phi}, \ \Delta \phi = -30^{\circ}, \\ \text{B}_0 = 9.4 \text{ T.}$

Non Rotor-Synchronized Decoupling Sequences



Rotor synchronization of the pulse sequence is not always desirable.



ω_r, ω_1

 $\omega_{r}, \omega_{m}, \omega_{\alpha}$

 ω_r, ω_m

- There are many modifications of the TPPM sequence:
 - frequency-modulated and phase-modulated (FMPM)
 - small phase angle rapid cycling (SPARC); small phase incremental alternation (SPINAL)
 - CPM m-n; amplitude-modulated TPPM (AM-TPPM); GT-n
 - continuous modulation (CM) TPPM
 - swept-frequency TPPM (SW_f-TPPM)

0°

τp

180°



- Two pulses with 180° phase shift.
- Pulse duration is important not flip angle.
- Insensitive to rf-field inhomogeneities.
- □ Optimum performance around $\tau_p \approx 2.85 \tau_r$ and $\tau_p \approx 1.85 \tau_r$.
- Performance minima at $\tau_p = n\tau_r/4$ (C2⁰_n recoupling sequence).
- □ Sample: [d9]-trimethyl-¹⁵Nammonium chloride, $ω_r/(2π) = 30$ kHz, $ω_1/(2π) = 100$ kHz (black), $ω_1/(2π) = 150$ kHz (blue).





 v_1

Theory of XiX Decoupling Under MAS





We will find resonances between $\omega_m = \pi / \tau_p$ and ω_r .

Residual coupling is given by a cross term between the homonuclear and the heteronuclear dipolar couplings.

$$\overline{\mathcal{H}} \approx \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}_{(2)}^{(0,0)} \approx -\frac{3}{8} \sum_{\nu,\kappa} \sum_{\ell \neq m} i \frac{\omega_{SI_{\ell}}^{(\nu)} \omega_{I_{\ell}I_{m}}^{(-\nu)} - \omega_{SI_{\ell}}^{(-\nu)} \omega_{I_{\ell}I_{m}}^{(\nu)}}{\nu \omega_{r} + \kappa \omega_{m}} (a_{\kappa,x} b_{\kappa,x} + a_{\kappa,y} b_{\kappa,y}) 4S_{z} I_{\ell z} I_{my}$$

Resonance conditions: first-order resonance conditions at $n_0 = \pm 1$, ± 2 .

- $\tau_p / \tau_r = -k_0 / 2$ (half rotor cycle) and $\tau_p / \tau_r = -k_0 / 4$ (quarter rotor cycle)
- ➡ First-order resonance conditions are very strong and rf-field and spinning frequency independent.
- Recouples heteronuclear dipolar couplings. Strength of recoupling depends on the Fourier coefficients



a_k.

Residual coupling is given by a cross term between the homonuclear and the heteronuclear dipolar couplings.

$$\overline{\mathcal{H}} \approx \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}_{(2)}^{(0,0)} \approx -\frac{3}{8} \sum_{\nu,\kappa} \sum_{\ell \neq m} i \frac{\omega_{SI_{\ell}}^{(\nu)} \omega_{I_{\ell}I_{m}}^{(-\nu)} - \omega_{SI_{\ell}}^{(-\nu)} \omega_{I_{\ell}I_{m}}^{(\nu)}}{\nu \omega_{r} + \kappa \omega_{m}} (a_{\kappa,x} b_{\kappa,x} + a_{\kappa,y} b_{\kappa,y}) 4S_{z} I_{\ell z} I_{my}$$

Resonance conditions: second-order resonance conditions at $n_0 = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 4$.

1 $\tau_p / \tau_r = -k_0 / 6$ (one sixth rotor cycle) and $\tau_p / \tau_r = -k_0 / 8$ (one eights rotor cycle)

- Second-order resonance conditions decrease with increasing MAS frequency and increasing rf-field amplitude.
- Cross terms between I-spin CSA ≈ 2∑ℓ Im(ω) tensors and heteronuclear dipolar couplings leads to a second-order coupling term.

$$\tau_{\rm p}/\tau_{\rm r} = -k_0/(2 n_0)$$





Residual coupling is given by a cross term between the homonuclear and the heteronuclear dipolar couplings.

$$\overline{\mathcal{H}} \approx \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}_{(2)}^{(0,0)} \approx -\frac{3}{8} \sum_{v,\kappa} \sum_{\ell \neq m} i \frac{\omega_{SI_{\ell}}^{(v)} \omega_{I_{\ell}I_{m}}^{(-v)} - \omega_{SI_{\ell}}^{(-v)} \omega_{I_{\ell}I_{m}}^{(v)}}{v\omega_{r} + \kappa\omega_{m}} (a_{\kappa,x}b_{\kappa,x} + a_{\kappa,y}b_{\kappa,y}) 4S_{z}I_{\ell z}I_{my}$$

Resonance conditions: first-order ($n_0 = \pm 1, \pm 2$) and second-order resonances at $n_0 = \pm 3, \pm 4$.

- First-order resonance conditions are very strong and rf-field and spinning frequency independent.
- Second-order resonance conditions decrease with increasing MAS frequency and increasing rf-field amplitude.
- I-spin spin diffusion is present everywhere as a second-order contribution and scales with $1/\omega_r$.

$$\tau_{\rm p}/\tau_{\rm r} = -k_0/(2 n_0)$$





- XiX decoupling is a sequence that gives a very small residual couplings for fast MAS and high rf-field amplitudes: CH₂ group $\tau_p/\tau_r = 2.85$, $\omega_r/(2\pi) = 30$ kHz, $\omega_1/(2\pi) = 150$.
- □ Resonance conditions at $\tau_p / \tau_r = -k_0 / z$ with z = 2, 4, 6, and 8 have to be avoided. The proximity to resonance conditions and the strength of these resonance conditions limits the achievable line width in XiX decoupling.
 - I-spin spin diffusion is present but does not play a major role due to the small magnitude of the residual couplings.
 - XiX decoupling works best for high MAS frequencies $(\omega_r/(2\pi) > 25 \text{ kHz})$ and large ratios of ω_1/ω_r . A good starting point for the local optimization is $\tau_p/\tau_r = 2.85$.











ETH Zürich



- **TPPM** consists of two pulses with a phase shift of 2ϕ .
- TPPM decoupling works well over a large range of spinning frequencies and rf-field amplitudes.

$\frac{v_1}{kHz}$	$\frac{v_r}{kHz}$	τ ^(max) μS	$\frac{\phi^{(max)}}{\circ}$	$\frac{\tau_p^{(max)}}{\tau_\pi}$	$\frac{I(\tau_p^{(max)},\phi^{(max)})}{I(cw)}$
100	12	5.2	7.0	1.03	1.4
150	25	3.6	10.5	1.08	2.4
150	35	3.4	16.4	1.02	2.6
190	48	3.0	16.5	1.14	2.6



- Optimum phase angle changes significantly with experimental parameters.
- \Box Optimum pulse length is always close to a 180° pulse.
- Improvement over cw decoupling increases with increasing spinning frequency.

Theory of TPPM Decoupling Under MAS

There is no analytical interaction-frame transformation with the RF.

) One finds two frequencies $\omega_m = \pi/\tau_p$ and $\omega_\alpha = \frac{\alpha}{\pi}\omega_m$ with $\alpha = a\cos(\cos\beta\cos^2\phi_0 + \sin^2\phi_0)$. Fourier coefficients can only be calculated numerically.

Interaction-frame Hamiltonian has now three time dependencies
2

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{H}}(t) = \sum_{n = -2} \sum_{k, \ell} \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}^{(n, k, \ell)} e^{ik\omega_m t} e^{in\omega_r t} e^{i\ell\omega_\alpha t}$$

$$\lim_{n = -2} \sum_{k, \ell} \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}^{(n, k, \ell)} e^{ik\omega_m t} e^{i\omega_\alpha t}$$

$$\lim_{n = -2} \sum_{k, \ell} \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}^{(n, k, \ell)} - \sum_{n_0, k_0} \sum_{v, \kappa} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{v, \kappa} \frac{\widetilde{\mathcal{H}}^{(n_0 - v, k_0 - \kappa, \ell_0 - \lambda)}, \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}^{(v, \kappa, \lambda)}}{v\omega_r + \kappa\omega_m + \lambda\omega_\alpha} + \dots$$

I Triple-mode Floquet description is required.

Residual coupling is given by a cross term between the I-spin CSA tensor and the heteronuclear dipolar couplings.

ETH Zürich

$$\overline{\mathcal{H}} \approx \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}_{(2)}^{(0,0)} \approx i \sum_{p} \sum_{v=-2}^{-} (\omega_{l_p S}^{(-v)} \omega_{l_p}^{(v)} + \omega_{l_p S}^{(v)} \omega_{l_p}^{(-v)}) (q_{xx}^{(v)} l_{px} S_z + q_{xy}^{(v)} l_{py} S_z + q_{xz}^{(v)} l_{pz} S_z)$$

- Residual coupling has four parts which cannot be zeroed all simultaneously. The q⁽ⁿ⁾_{xy} component is always zero.
- The magnitude of the residual coupling depends on the relative orientation of the two tensors.
- The smallest residual couplings are found near a pulse length of a π pulse and for a phase angle between 5° and 20°.



Matthias Ernst

Residual coupling is given by a cross term between the I-spin CSA tensor and the heteronuclear dipolar couplings.

ETH Zürich

$$\overline{\mathcal{H}} \approx \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}_{(2)}^{(0,0)} \approx i \sum_{p} \sum_{v=-2}^{2} (\omega_{l_{p}S}^{(-v)} \omega_{l_{p}}^{(v)} + \omega_{l_{p}S}^{(v)} \omega_{l_{p}}^{(-v)}) (q_{xx}^{(v)} l_{px} S_{z} + q_{xy}^{(v)} l_{py} S_{z} + q_{xz}^{(v)} l_{pz} S_{z})$$

Resonance conditions:

- $n_0 \omega_r = \omega_m$ (straight lines in a)
- $n_0 \omega_r = \omega_\alpha$ (curved lines in a)
- The heteronuclear dipolar coupling is recoupled in first order ($n_0 = 1,2$) or second order ($n_0 = 3,4$).
- These resonance conditions lead to a broadening of the lines and are detrimental to the decoupling.



Residual coupling is given by a cross term between the I-spin CSA tensor and the heteronuclear dipolar couplings.

$$\overline{\mathcal{H}} \approx \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}_{(2)}^{(0,0)} \approx i \sum_{p} \sum_{v = -2}^{L} (\omega_{l_p S}^{(-v)} \omega_{l_p}^{(v)} + \omega_{l_p S}^{(v)} \omega_{l_p}^{(-v)}) (q_{xx}^{(v)} l_{px} S_z + q_{xy}^{(v)} l_{py} S_z + q_{xz}^{(v)} l_{pz} S_z)$$

Resonance conditions:

- $n_0\omega_r = \pm \omega_m \mp \omega_\alpha$ (b).
- This is a purely homonuclear recoupling condition because the a^(±1, ∓1)_{xµ} Fourier coefficients are always zero.
- The magnitude of the homonuclear terms determines the observed line width in connection with the residual coupling.



Residual coupling is given by a cross term between the I-spin CSA tensor and the heteronuclear dipolar couplings.

$$\overline{\mathcal{H}} \approx \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}_{(2)}^{(0,0)} \approx i \sum_{p} \sum_{v=-2}^{L} (\omega_{l_{p}S}^{(-v)} \omega_{l_{p}}^{(v)} + \omega_{l_{p}S}^{(v)} \omega_{l_{p}}^{(-v)}) (q_{xx}^{(v)} l_{px} S_{z} + q_{xy}^{(v)} l_{py} S_{z} + q_{xz}^{(v)} l_{pz} S_{z})$$

Resonance conditions:

- $n_0 \omega_r = \pm \omega_m \pm \omega_\alpha$ (c)
- $n_0 \omega_r = \pm \omega_m \mp 2 \omega_\alpha$ (d)
- The heteronuclear dipolar coupling is recoupled in second order (n₀ = 1,2,3,4).
- These recoupling conditions are weaker than the first-order ones.







- I TPPM decoupling is a sequence that has small residual couplings that come from cross term between I-spin CSA and dipolar-coupling tensors. Cross terms between the heteronuclear and the homonuclear dipolar couplings are only important for $\phi = 90^{\circ}$.
- Some resonance conditions reintroduce the heteronuclear dipolar coupling $(n_0 \omega_r = \omega_\alpha)$ and have to be avoided. Others reintroduce the homonuclear dipolar couplings of the I spins $(n_0 \omega_r = \pm \omega_m \mp \omega_\alpha)$ and are beneficial for the decoupling process.
- I-spin spin diffusion is present everywhere but is emphasized on the homonuclear resonance conditions.



Conclusions

- Resonance conditions between sample spinning and spin rotations makes decoupling in solid-state NMR under sample rotation more complicated.
- Observable line width in rotating solids is determined by
 - the residual coupling terms $\tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{(2)}^{(0,0)}$.
 - the influence of nearby resonance conditions $\tilde{\mathcal{H}}^{(n_0,\,k_0)}$ and $\tilde{\mathcal{H}}^{(n_0,\,k_0)}_{(2)}$
 - the I-spin spin diffusion induced "self decoupling".
 - Leading term for the residual coupling in solids is the commutator term while in static samples the double commutator determines the line width.
- The residual coupling in TPPM and cw decoupling is dominated by the I-spin CSA cross term with the heteronuclear dipolar coupling. In XiX decoupling, the cross term between homonuclear and a heteronuclear dipolar couplings is the most important term.
- Resonance conditions can be bad, e.g., heteronuclear couplings leading to additional line broadening or good, e.g., homonuclear couplings leading to "self decoupling".
- Self decoupling due to I-spin spin diffusion leads to additional narrowing of the residual couplings.

Practical Considerations



- CW decoupling should not be used in rotating solids.
- TPPM decoupling and XiX decoupling give both better performance (smaller residual couplings).
- TPPM decoupling can be used over a large range of spinning frequencies and rf-field amplitudes. Optimization of TPPM is critical: two-parameter optimization of pulse length τ_p and phase angle ϕ !
- □ Modified TPPM sequences like SPINAL or SW_f-TPPM are more stable under certain experimental conditions. There are no experimental studies that compare the performance of these sequences over a large range of experimental parameters (B_0 , v_r , and v_1)
 - A XiX decoupling works best for high MAS frequencies ($v_r > 20$ kHz) and high rf-field amplitudes ($v_1 > 5v_r$). Optimization of XiX decoupling is a local one parameter optimization around $\tau_p = 2.85 \tau_r$.

Other Contributions To Experimental Line Width



VT ai Heating by MAS drive ai lyophilized 1 Minh ecrystallized







Technical problems:

- Temperature gradients
- B₀-field homogeneity (shim)
- Setting of magic angle
- Sample preparation
 - Sample heterogeneity
 - Susceptibility effects
- Spin-dynamics
 - Decoupling efficiency
 - S-spin homonuclear couplings (rotational-resonance effects)
 - Relaxation effects

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