ihMT, MLBS and SIMPSON A tale of many acronyms

Rio Weil

USRA project under supervision of Carl Michal and Alex MacKay

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- Conventional MT: Issues of specificity.
- More selective technique: ihMT!
- In this talk: New method of ihMT with pseudo-random noise sequences.

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Quantitatively: Consider four spectra acquired with differnet methods; S₀, S₊, S₋, and S_{dual}.

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Image taken from A.P. Manning et al., Journal of Magnetic Resonance, 274 (2017) 125-136

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• We can then define the ihMT ratio as: $ihMTR = \frac{S_+ + S_- - 2S_{dual}}{2S_0}$

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Nothing to do with inhomogenous broadening... everything to do with dipolar coupling!

$$S_+/S_ S_{dual}$$

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▶ $S_{+/-}$ have high sensitivity to dipolar relaxation time T_{1D}

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 For short T_{1D}, S_{+/−} ≈ S_{dual}, and ihMT is small.

- $S_{+/-}$ have high sensitivity to dipolar relaxation time T_{1D} • For short T_{1D} , $S_{+/-} \approx S_{dual}$, and ihMT is small.
- For long T_{1D} , $S_{+/-} > S_{dual}$ and ihMT can be measured.

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- ▶ For short T_{1D} , $S_{+/-} \approx S_{dual}$, and ihMT is small.
- For long T_{1D} , $S_{+/-} > S_{dual}$ and ihMT can be measured.
- Lipid bilayers have long T1D due to slow spin diffusion along lipid tails; so in brain tissue, only myelin/glial cells should have a non-negligible ihMT signal.

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▶ $2^k - 1$ length binary sequence

> 2^k - 1 length binary sequence > For k shift registers, we can produce the MLBS via: $\begin{cases} s[n] = a_0[n] \\ a_k[n+1] = a_0[n] + a_1[n] \pmod{2} \\ a_{k-1}[n+1] = a_k[n] \\ \vdots \\ a_1[n+1] = a_2[n] \\ a_0[n+1] = a_1[n] \end{cases}$



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- Perfect auto-correlation
- Like white noise, but deterministic!
- Flat power spectrum, distributed over $\frac{1}{T_{MRS}}$
- Idea: MLBS' can be used for in low (power) cost pulse sequences for observing ihMT.

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The plan: Doing in-person experiments on phantom & biological samples with a NMR spectrometer.

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COVID-19: *Exists*

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Backup plan: simulations with SIMPSON (SIMulation Program for SOlid-state NMR)!

Setup + Early tests

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System of interest:



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Problem: Unexpected dependence on the spectra on the delay time between the prepulse and observational pulse

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| Exp.# | Prep. phase | Obs. pulse phase | Receiver phase |
|-------|-------------|------------------|----------------|
| 1 | -x | -X | у |
| 2 | -X | -у | -X |
| 3 | -x | x | -у |
| 4 | -X | у | х |

Setup + Early Tests IV



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From the continuous to the pseudo-random

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▶ Dual prepulse \rightarrow MLBS prepulse

From the continuous to the pseudo-random

- ► Dual prepulse \rightarrow MLBS prepulse
- How do we create S_+/S_- with MLBS'?

Physicists hate him! Three simple steps to create dipolar order with your MLBS



Time

Step I



Fourier Transform of 1023-element MLBS

Frequency

Step II



Frequency

Step III



Time

Full/Half-MLBS spectra



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Selective removal of (center) frequency points



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How does the system respond to T1D relaxation?

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- Relaxing the dipolar part: For all unique spin pairs i, j, we consider:

$$\mathsf{H}_{\mathsf{Dipole}} = \sum_{i,j} \frac{\omega_{D,0}^{ij}(t)}{\sqrt{6}} \left(3\mathit{I}_{iz}\mathit{I}_{jz} - \mathbf{I}_j \cdot \mathbf{I}_i \right)$$

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At each time step, we can calculate the dipolar part of the density matrix:

$$\rho_{\textit{dipole}} = \mathsf{Tr}\left(\rho \cdot \mathsf{H}_{\mathsf{Dipole}}\right) \frac{\mathsf{H}_{\mathsf{Dipole}}}{\mathsf{Tr}\left(\mathsf{H}_{\mathsf{Dipole}}^2\right)}$$

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This part of the density matrix can be relaxed:

$$\rho_{\textit{dipole}} * \exp\left(-\frac{\Delta t}{\tau}\right)$$

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T1D dependence of spectra

Integral difference (between MLBS and no prepulse spectra) vs. log of T1D relaxation time



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Varying the MLBS pulsewidth



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- \blacktriangleright Removing individual coherence orders from the spectrum \rightarrow Learned that spectrum depends solely on order 0.

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1. At each time step, remove all of the *lz* parts of the density matrix; i.e. for each spin *i*:

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3. Add back in the Iz parts, and continue the pulse sequence.

Spectra from new relaxation method - MLBS



Spectra from new relaxation method - CW



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How do we make the system relax?





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- Developing a comparison between the MLBS prepulse and the CW prepulse cases; which is more efficient?
- Possible new directions: Coloured Frank sequences, hyperbolic secant pulses?
- Running experiments remotely?

It's alright to be uncertain...

```
*** would this work??? ***/
for (1=0; 1<NN; 1++)
   is = i % sim->Nfstart:
   id = i % sim->Nfdetect;
   // basis compatibility check
   if (wsp->fdetect[id]->basis != wsp->sigma[is]->basis) {
       mat complx *dum = cm change basis 2(wsp->fdetect[i],wsp->sigma[is]->basis,sim
        if (wsp->fdetect[id] != sim->fdetect[id]) free complx matrix(wsp->fdetect[id]
       wsp->fdetect[id] = dum;
   }
   if (sim->acg adjoint == 0) {
        z = cm trace(wsp->fdetect[id],wsp->sigma[is]);
   } else {
        z = cm_trace_adjoint(wsp->fdetect[id],wsp->sigma[is]);
   3
   ptr = &(wsp->fid[wsp->curr_nsig+i*sim->ntot]);
   if (fabs(phase) > TINY) {
        ptr->re += phfac.re*z.re+phfac.im*z.im;
        ptr->im += -phfac.im*z.re+phfac.re*z.im;
   } else {
        ptr->re += z.re;
        ptr->im += z.im;
   3
}
```