

1) Here you'll show that the transverse relaxation rate R_2 imposes a limit on the sensitivity and resolution in NMR. After a 90 degree pulse, the NMR signal is a damped oscillation, with the amount of damping depending on the size of R_2 . The detected NMR signal takes

the form: $S(t) = e^{-R_2 t} e^{i\Delta\omega t}$ with $e^{i\omega t} = \cos\omega t + i\sin\omega t$, $\Delta\omega$ is the resonance offset in the rotating frame due to the chemical shift interaction and R_2 is transverse relaxation rate.

(Bonus) Calculate $S(\omega) = \text{FT}[S(t)] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt S(t) \exp(-i\omega t)$.

It will be useful to write out your answer with a real denominator. Use the identity $(1/z) \times (z^*/z^*) = z^*/(a^2 + b^2)$ where $z = a + ib$ and $z^* = a - ib$. Note that the NMR signal $S(t)$ is zero for all times less than zero.

Using the result of this calculation, $S(\omega) = \frac{1}{R_2} \frac{1}{1 + \left(\frac{\Delta\omega - \omega}{R_2}\right)^2}$

- Sketch the real part of $S(\omega)$. This is an NMR spectrum.
- Show that the intensity of the spectrum is proportional to $1/R_2$.
- Show that the full width at half the maximal value (FWHM) of $\text{Re } S(\omega)$ is proportional to R_2 .
- Plot an NMR spectrum for $\Delta\omega = 2\pi \times 500$ rad/sec and $R_2 = 5\text{s}^{-1}, 50\text{s}^{-1}$ and 5000s^{-1} to show how sensitivity and resolution depend on R_2 .

2) Provide an explanation for why resonances disappear when stoichiometric ligand is added to protein at NMR concentrations of several hundred μM when the K_d is roughly $3\mu\text{M}$. You may assume a typical chemical shift change of 50Hz (0.1 ppm for ^1H at 500 MHz) between free and bound forms of protein and an on rate of $10^8 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ S}^{-1}$. At approximately what K_d would binding be in fast exchange? Slow exchange? Hint : recall that resonance broaden when $\Delta\omega = k_{\text{ex}}$, with $\Delta\omega$ the shift change in rad/s and k_{ex} in s^{-1} . Take fast and slow exchange regimes to be an order of magnitude faster or slower than intermediate.