

Relaxation Effects of Glassing Matrix Deuteration on ¹³C Dynamic Nuclear Polarization

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Introduction

Glassing solvent deuteration could be beneficial for ¹³C dynamic nuclear polarization (DNP) using large electron spin resonance (ESR) width free radical such as 4-oxo-TEMPO, whereas the opposite DNP effect was seen for small width radical such as trityl OX063 [1,2]. Herein, we have investigated the influence of ¹H replacement with ²H spins in the DNP glassing solvent on the ¹³C nuclear and electron relaxation properties that go along with the effects on ¹³C DNP intensities.

Experimental

This study examined the effect of solvent deuteration upon ¹³C and electronic spin-lattice relaxation times of eight solutions containing 2-3 M [1-¹³C] acetate at 3.35 T and 1.2 K; of these eight, four were doped with the wide linewidth radical 4-oxo-TEMPO while the other four were doped with the narrow linewidth trityl OX063 radical; half of each group of four were dissolved in deuterated or non-deuterated versions of 1:1 v/v glycerol/water while the other half were dissolved in non-deuterated or deuterated variants of 1:1 v/v DMSO/water [1]. The ESR measurements were performed in the W-band at NHMFL on a Bruker E680 ESR spectrometer (Bruker Biospin, Billerica, MA). This spectrometer used a Bruker TE011 cylindrical cavity as well as a CF1200 helium flow cryostat (Oxford Instruments, UK) which was used to control the sample's



Fig.1 Decay of hyperpolarized 13C NMR signals trityl OX063-doped [1-¹³C]acetate in deuterated and non-deuterated glassing solvents at 3.35 T and 1.2 K.



Fig.2 W-band (a) ESR spectra and (b) temperature-dependent electron T_1 relaxation rate of trityl OX063 in deuterated and non-deuterated glassing solvents.

temperature.

Results and Discussion

The main finding of this work was that the ${}^{13}C$ T₁ spin-lattice relaxation time generally increases with glassing matrix deuteration regardless of whether trityl OX063 or 4-oxo-TEMPO was used (see **Fig.1**), which implies a significant contribution of ${}^{2}H{}^{-13}C$ dipolar interaction. Meanwhile, deuteration appears to have negligible effect on electron T₁ relaxation times of both free radicals (see **Fig.2**). However, the electron T₂ spin-spin relaxation times of both free radicals increases upon glassing solvent deuteration.

Conclusions

The overall results indicate that the ¹³C DNP intensities might be decoupled from the nuclear relaxation behavior, instead the relaxation behavior is ascribed to the dipolar interaction between the nuclear spins and electron spins.

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References

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