



Title	Development of Multi-Frequency-Excitation Dynamic Nuclear Polarization (DNP)-NMR Methods: Improving DNP Efficiency and Spatial Selectivity
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論文内容の要旨

氏名	(ZHONGLIANG ZHANG)
論文題名	Development of Multi-Frequency-Excitation Dynamic Nuclear Polarization (DNP)-NMR Methods: Improving DNP Efficiency and Spatial Selectivity (周波数複合励起・動的核偏極(DNP)-NMR法の開発：DNP効率と空間選択性の向上)
論文内容の要旨	
<p>This dissertation focuses on utilizing multi-frequency-excitation microwave (MW) to enhance Dynamic Nuclear Polarization (DNP) efficiency and spatial selectivity. The unique advantage of NMR spectroscopy is its capacity to elucidate the structure and function of target molecules within complex mixtures, without the need for isolation or purification processes. However, this application of NMR spectroscopy is not without challenges, particularly concerning signal overlap and sensitivity issues. To mitigate these challenges, DNP, a technique commonly employed to amplify NMR signals, can be utilized. Despite its ability, DNP only partially addresses these issues. Considering the availability of advanced frequency-agile MW sources in our laboratory, the utilization multi-frequency-excitation MW presents a viable direction for the exploration.</p> <p>Although DNP can selectively enhance the NMR signals of target molecules by specifically binding the polarizing agent to them, the presence of background molecules in mixed samples can still produce substantial background signals, potentially interfering with the analysis of target signals. To address this, a novel method for background signal suppression is introduced to enhance the selectivity of DNP- NMR spectroscopy in the investigation of target molecules within complex mixtures. This approach uses the subtraction of positively and negatively enhanced DNP spectra, resulting in a significant improvement in the contrast factor, defined as the ratio between the intensities of the target and background signals. The efficacy of this method was experimentally validated using a reverse-micelle system that encapsulates the target molecules alongside the polarizing agent, OX063 trityl. A great increase in the contrast factor was observed with careful selection of the DNP build-up time. A subsequent simulation study, based on the experimental outcomes, offers valuable insights into the methodology for selecting the optimal DNP build-up time and the method's corresponding selectivity. Further exploration of this technique revealed its wide-ranging applicability, extending to the study of large biomolecules and surface-modified polymers, with its effectiveness varying according to the nuclear spin diffusion rate across different gyromagnetic ratios. This broad applicability underscores the potential of this method to advance the field of DNP-NMR spectroscopy to study targets in complex mixtures.</p> <p>To detect target molecules within mixtures, the sensitivity of the target can still be an issue even under DNP enhancement, as the quantity of target molecules can be too low among the large number of molecules in the mixture. This necessitates a further improvement in the DNP efficiency. I employed spin dynamic simulations to explore the potential application of multi-frequency excitation MW to amplify DNP enhancement. The study simulates DNP enhancement frequency profiles across a variety of scenarios. This includes a demonstration of the ineffectiveness of using frequency sweep MW to augment solid effect DNP enhancement under Magic Angle Spinning (MAS), and a further investigation of the underlying reasons for the ineffectiveness. And subsequent simulations revealed that in more complex scenarios involving polarizing agents, the use of multi-frequency-excitation MW can indeed enhance DNP efficiency. For instance, scenario where the mixture contains two types of polarizing agents with different g tensors, multi-frequency-excitation MW, serving as a complement to MAS, can improve the enhancement of solid effect DNP. And another example, when employing Mn(II) as the polarizing agent, the solid effect DNP matching conditions, which are split due to isotropic hyperfine interaction, do not shift with MAS. Consequently, the irradiation of these multiple matching conditions with multi-frequency-excitation MW can greatly increase DNP enhancement, providing the MW power is high enough.</p> <p>Overall, the research demonstrated the potential of multi-frequency-excitation DNP for both higher DNP efficiency and spatial selectivity.</p>	

論文審査の結果の要旨及び担当者

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論文審査の結果の要旨

固体核磁気共鳴(NMR)法は不溶性、非晶性の大分子系たとえば膜蛋白質受容体やアミロイド線維の原子分解能の構造解析に有効であるが、低いスペクトル検出感度が課題であった。一方近年、電子の高いスピニ分極を THz 波照射によって核スピンに移動して固体 NMR の感度を向上する、高磁場での動的核偏極(DNP)法の装置や方法論が発達してきた。またこの DNP で得られる感度利得に基づき、蛋白質立体構造解析を細胞内で直接行う進歩的な手法も現実の可能性として視野に入ってきた。

このような状況を踏まえ、本研究では DNP 固体 NMR 法に基づく次の 2 つの新手法を開発している。まず、細胞内の直接解析のように標的分子以外に多くの夾雜分子が混在する試料中で、標的分子の信号を優先的に増強し、かつ背景分子の信号を抑制する新技術を開発している。またモデル試料を使った実験とスピニ動力学に関する数値シミュレーションで、その有効性と適用範囲を検証している。励起 THz 波周波数を適切に選び、逆極性の核スピン超偏極を分極剤周辺に発生したのち、データの差分を取る手法で、分極剤からの超偏極を受け取らない背景分子の信号は打ち消すことができる。原理的には背景分子の多寡によらない信号消去が可能であり、夾雜系において少数の標的分子を選択的かつ高感度に解析する一般法として有望である。

第二に、DNP を誘起する複数の THz 波周波数条件を、電子スピニ緩和よりも高速に交互に照射した場合に得られる信号増強度の向上について数値シミュレーションで詳細に解析し、提案している。この手法では例えば Mn(II) イオンの超微細分裂線に対応する複数の DNP 照射条件を交互照射し、信号増強度を従来の約 1.7 倍に向上できることを明らかにした。また細胞内の強い還元環境でも失活しない Mn(II) 錯体などを分極剤とする DNP-NMR 法の効率を向上する技術として有望であり、今後の細胞内構造生物学の発展に寄与するものと考えられる。上記二つの手法は共に、所属研究室で独自に開発された周波数可変 THz 波光源の強みを生かした新規性の高いものである。

以上のように、本研究は先端的な THz 波光源の機能を、細胞内分子構造解析という進歩的な応用に向けて近づける重要な貢献をしており、本論文は博士(理学)の学位論文として十分価値あるものと認める。