

NMR Spin Relaxation Calculations

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Larkin endowment

Center for Computational Research, SUNY Buffalo

Current & former group members who worked on this project:

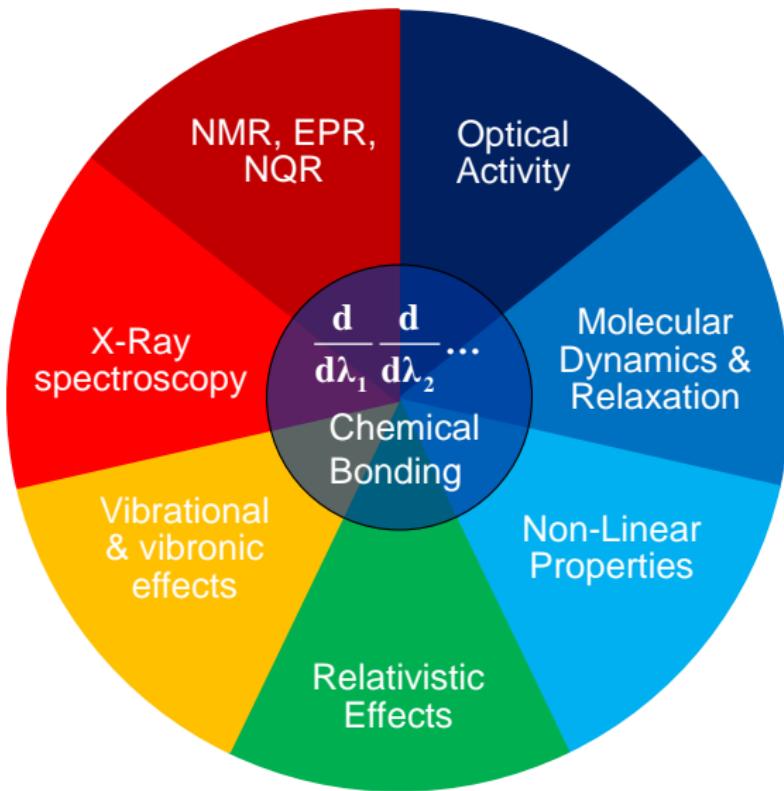
Lionel Truflandier

Shyam Badu

Lucas Ducati

Alexander Marchenko

Adam Philips



... applied to

- organic
- inorganic
- lanthanide
- actinide

systems

Codes used for developments & most applications:



NWChem



ADF Suite



and software hosted at

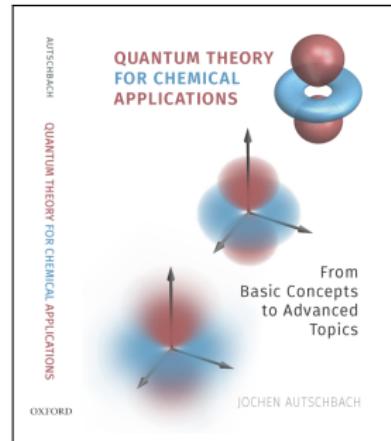
<https://github.com/jautschbach>

<https://github.com/exa-analytics>

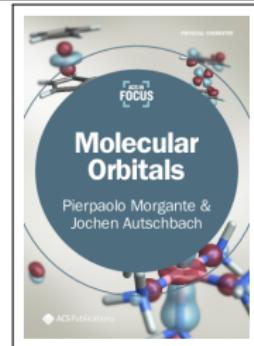
Quantum Theory for Chemical Applications (QTCA)

- MO theory front & center
- Band Structure
- Molecule–Field Interactions
- Response Theory (incl. optical activity)
- Relativistic Effects & Hamiltonians

Oxford University Press (2020). 760 pages.
Free supplementary material available on my web page.



Molecular Orbitals ACS Publications (2023)
In-Focus eBook Series



NMR Spin Relaxation

Applications to date:

Quadrupolar relaxation:

$^{7}\text{Li}^+$, $^{23}\text{Na}^+$, $^{35}\text{Cl}^-$, $^{81}\text{Br}^-$, $^{127}\text{I}^-$
in aqueous solution,^{a,b} liquid $^2\text{H}_2^{17}\text{O}$ ^b,

^{14}N relaxation of azoles in different solvents,^c

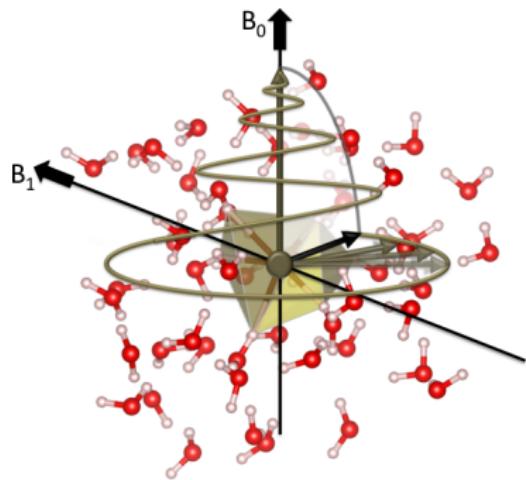
^{17}O relaxation of uranyl carbonates^d

$^{23}\text{Na}^+$ vs. $^{23}\text{Na}^-$ ^e

$^{127}\text{I}^-$, ^{131}Xe , $^{133}\text{Cs}^+$: relativistic effects^f

Dipolar & Spin-rotation relaxation:

^1H in water, methane, & acetonitrile^{g,h}
(varying density, P , T)



^a S. Badu, L. A. Truflandier, JA, JCTC 9 (2013), 4074. ^b A. Philips, A. Marchenko, L. A. Truflandier, JA, JCTC 2017, 13, 4397. ^c A. Philips, A. Marchenko, L. C. Ducati, JA, JCTC 15 (2019), 509-519. ^d A. Marchenko, JA, Inorg. Chem. 56 (2017), 7384. ^e L. Abella, A. Philips, and JA, J. Phys. Chem. Lett. 11 (2020), 843 & PCCP 23 (2021), 339. ^f A. Philips, JA, JCTC 16 (2020), 5835. ^g A. Philips, JA, PCCP 21 (2019), 26621. ^h A. Philips, JA, J. Phys. Chem. B 127 (2023), 1167.

NMR Quadrupolar Relaxation from MD computations

Theory: Bloembergen & Solomon, Redfield, et al. Books: Abragam (1961), Cowan (2005), Kowalewski & Mäler (2006). We used specifically: Spiess, H. W. *Rotation of Molecules and Nuclear Spin Relaxation*. In *NMR Basic Principles and Progress*, Vol. 15; P. Diehl, E. Fluck, R. K., Ed.; Springer: Berlin, 1978 pages 55–214.

Quadrupolar interaction: **spin** vs. **spatial** spherical tensor operator components:

$$H_Q = \sum_{m=-2}^2 \Gamma_{2,m} \quad ; \quad \Gamma_{2,m} = \frac{eQ}{2I(2I-1)} (-1)^m T_{2,m} R_{2,-m}$$

Spin operators

$$T_{2,0} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} [3I_z^2 - I(I+1)]$$

$$T_{2,\pm 1} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} (I_z I_{\pm} + I_{\pm} I_z)$$

$$T_{2,\pm 2} = I_{\pm} I_{\pm}$$

$$I_{\pm} = \mp \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} (I_x \pm iI_y)$$

Spatial components from EFG

$$R_{2,0} = 3\sqrt{\frac{1}{6}} V_{zz}$$

$$R_{2,\pm 1} = \mp V_{xz} - iV_{yz}$$

$$R_{2,\pm 2} = \frac{1}{2} (V_{xx} - V_{yy}) \pm iV_{xy}$$

NMR Quadrupolar Relaxation Protocol

- Perform MD simulation (ab-initio or classical)
- Calculate EFG tensor at nucleus of interest along one or several trajectories
- Calculate **EFG autocorrelation functions** ($I = 2$):

$$f_{I,m}(t) = \langle R_{I,m}(t_0) R_{I,m}^*(t_0 + t) \rangle$$

Numerically, with n MD configs: $f_{I,m}(t) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t_0=1}^{n-t} R_{I,m}(t_0) R_{I,m}^*(t_0 + t)$

- Form spectral densities:

$$g_{I,m}(\omega) = \int_0^\infty f_{I,m}(t) \exp(i\omega t) dt$$

- Relaxation rates from

$$\frac{1}{T_1} = \frac{e^2 Q^2 (2I+3)}{40 I^2 (2I-1) \hbar^2} G_{2,0}^Q \quad ; \quad \frac{1}{T_2} = \frac{e^2 Q^2 (2I+3)}{40 I^2 (2I-1) \hbar^2} G_{2,\pm 1}^Q$$

with

$$G_{2,0}^Q = 4g_{2,2}^Q(2\omega_0) + g_{2,1}^Q(\omega_0) + g_{2,-1}^Q(-\omega_0) + 4g_{2,-2}^Q(-2\omega_0)$$

$$G_{2,\pm 1}^Q = 2g_{2,\pm 2}^Q(\mp 2\omega_0) + 3g_{2,\pm 1}^Q(\mp \omega_0) + 2g_{2,\pm 1}^Q(\pm \omega_0) + 3g_{2,0}^Q(0)$$

NMR Quadrupolar Relaxation Protocol

- Correlation times:

$$\tau_{I,m} = \int_0^\infty \frac{f_{I,m}(t)}{\langle R_{I,m}(t_0)^2 \rangle} dt$$

- ‘Extreme narrowing’/fast motion regime: $\omega\tau \ll 1$
- Rotational isotropy (fast rotation in solution) and $\omega\tau \ll 1$:

$$g_{2,m}(\omega) = g_2(0)$$

$$G_{2,\pm 1}^Q(\omega) = G_{2,0}^Q(\omega) = G_2^Q(0) = 10g_2(0)$$

$$\frac{1}{T_1} = \frac{1}{T_2} := \frac{1}{T} = \frac{e^2 Q^2 (2I + 3)}{40I^2(2I - 1)\hbar^2} G_2^Q(0)$$

- Define $\langle V(0)^2 \rangle = \sum_{m=-2}^{m=2} \langle R_{I,m}(t_0)^2 \rangle$, $\tau = \frac{1}{\langle V(0)^2 \rangle} \sum_{m=-2}^{m=2} g_{2,m}$

Then: $1/T \propto \tau \langle V(0)^2 \rangle Q^2$

Ion Quadrupolar Relaxation (single trajectory data, 2013)

Ion	$\langle V(0)^2 \rangle / \text{au}$	τ / ps	$(1/T) / \text{s}^{-1}$	$(1/T_1) / \text{s}^{-1}$
$^{7}\text{Li}^+$	$4.19 \cdot 10^{-4}$	0.508	$4.97 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$2.70 \cdot 10^{-2}$
$^{23}\text{Na}^+$	$3.11 \cdot 10^{-2}$	0.284	13.9	16.2
$^{35}\text{Cl}^-$	0.313	0.368	112	29.2
$^{81}\text{Br}^-$	0.610	0.397	$2.41 \cdot 10^3$	$1.05 \cdot 10^3$
$^{127}\text{I}^-$	1.70	0.638	$1.83 \cdot 10^4$	$4.60 \cdot 10^3$

^a Weingärtner, H.; Hertz, H. G. *Ber. Bunsenges.* **1977**, *81*, 1204-1221.

aiMD (PBE) simulations at 300 K, PBE calculations of EFG tensors with ion + 20 water molecules + COSMO for bulk solvation. 20 ps trajectories, 4 ps at the end sampled for relaxation rates

S. Badu, L. A. Truflandier, JA, JCTC **9** (2013), 4074. Similar agreement with experiment as in a ^{17}O and ^2H aiMD relaxation study of liquid D_2O by Schmidt, Hutter, Spiess, and Sebastiani, ChemPhysChem **9** (2008), 2313–2316.

Quadrupolar Relaxation Rates of Water and Aqueous Ions

Improved Sampling with Multiple Trajectories

	τ_c (ps)	$\langle V(0)^2 \rangle$	$\frac{1}{T_{iso}}$ (s $^{-1}$)	$\frac{1}{T_1}$, exp (s $^{-1}$)
$^{35}\text{Cl}^-$ (40ps)	0.43	0.19	79	29.2 ^a
$^{35}\text{Cl}^-$ (10 × 4ps)	0.26(6)	0.21(1)	57(16)	
$^{23}\text{Na}^+$ (40ps)	0.42	0.03	19	16.2 ^a
$^{23}\text{Na}^+$ (10 × 4ps)	0.13(3)	0.028(1)	6(1)	
^{17}O (40ps)	1.11	3.54	90	140.8 ^b
^{17}O (10 × 10ps)	1.56(9)	3.39(3)	121(6)	
^2H (40ps)	1.08	0.30	1.4	1.4 ^c
^2H (10 × 10ps)	1.66(9)	0.29()	2.1(1)	

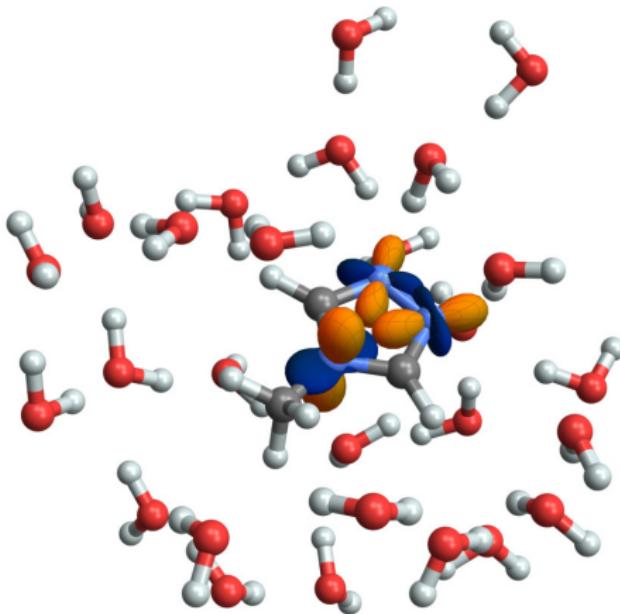
aiMD (PBE + Grimme dispersion) simulations at 350 K, PBE (water) and PBE0(ions) calculations of EFG tensors, ion clusters with 20 water molecules + COSMO for bulk solvation

A. Philips, A. Marchenko, L. A. Truflandier, J. Autschbach, JCTC 2017, 13, 4397–4409

^aH. Weingärtner, et. al, Ber. Bunsen-Ges. Phys. Chem., 1977, 81, 1204–1221.

^bA. Denison, et. al, J. Phys. Chem. 1967, 71, 2606–2611

^cJ. Powles, et. al, Mol. Phys. 1966, 11, 515–523

Quadrupolar ¹⁴N NMR Relaxation from Molecular Dynamics

1-methyl-3,4-triazole in water

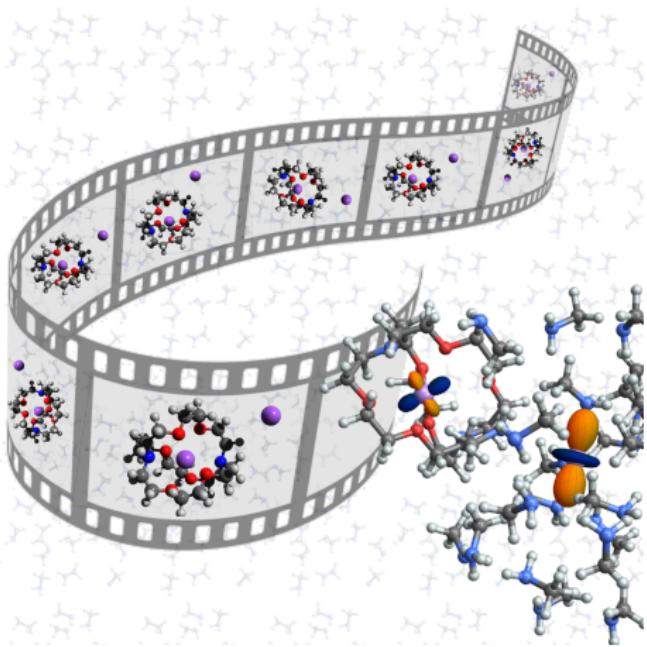
Neat acetonitrile ¹⁴N relaxation

	$\frac{1}{T}$	τ_c	$\langle V(0)^2 \rangle$	$\Delta\nu$	$\Delta\nu_{\text{Expt.}}$
FFMD	230.42	0.93	1.15	73(3)	82(2)
aiMD	157.84	0.58	1.12	50(7)	82(2)

1-methyl-3,4-triazole (FFMD)

solvent	label	$\frac{1}{T}$	τ_c	$\langle V(0)^2 \rangle$	$\Delta\nu_{\text{Calc.}}$	$\Delta\nu_{\text{Expt.}}$	%dev
benzene	N ^A	145.83	2.35	0.27	46 (1.00)	59 (1.00)	-21.3
	N ^B	494.65	1.68	1.33	157 (3.41)	235 (3.98)	-33.0
	N ^{B'}	501.25	1.55	1.32	160 (3.48)		-32.1
water	N ^A	193.87	5.30	0.16	62 (1.00)	69 (1.00)	-10.6
	N ^B	1376.65	5.39	1.07	438 (7.06)	412 (5.97)	6.4
	N ^{B'}	1178.82	4.49	1.08	375 (6.05)		-8.9

A. Philips, A. Marchenko and JA, *J. Chem. Theory Comput.* **2019**, *15*, 509. Line width: $\Delta\nu = 1/(\pi T)$. Prior static calculations and experimental data: Jaszuński, M.; Mikkelsen, K. V.; Rizzo, A.; Witanowski, M. A Study of the Nitrogen NMR Spectra of Azoles and their Solvent Dependence. *J. Phys. Chem. A* 2000, *104*, 1466.



The Curious Case of Sodite (Na^-)

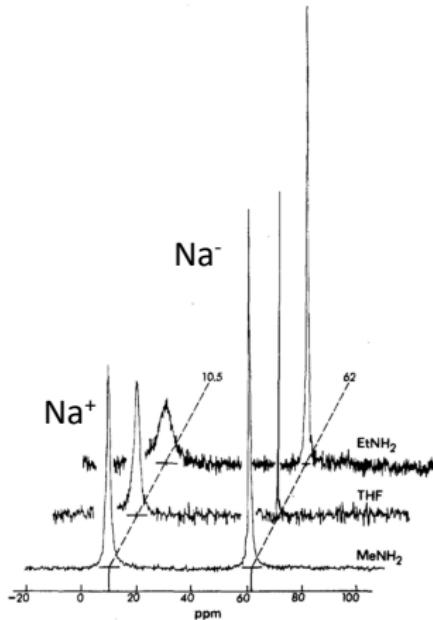
Surprisingly Small Quadrupolar Broadening of

²³Na NMR line widths for the
 (Na⁺ @ [2.2.2]cryptand) Na⁻ system
 solvated in methylamine

	τ_c	$\langle V(0)^2 \rangle$	$\Delta\nu^a$	$\Delta\nu$ (Expt.) ^b
Na ⁻	0.75	0.44	2.8	(11) ^c
Na ⁺	4.49	1.22	31.6	30.8

^a line widths from $1/(\pi T)$

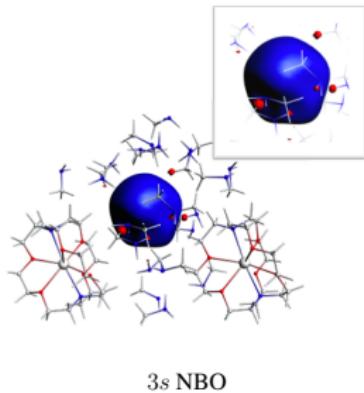
^c true quadrupolar line width is likely smaller^b



- Na⁻: 'genuine spherical anion that interacts very weakly with its surroundings'
- Calculations and experiments are in good agreement in that the Na⁻ quadrupolar line widths are exceptionally small !

^b J. L. Dye et al. *J. Phys. Chem.* **1975**, 79, 3076.

Electric Field Gradient Analysis from Natural Bond Orbitals



Snapshot	1	2	3	...
2p	-0.013	0.000	-0.160	
3s	-0.006	0.003	-0.049	
Σ 2p,3s	-0.019	0.003	-0.209	
Diffuse	-0.003	0.000	-0.072	
Other	0.005	0.000	-0.031	
Σ analysis	-0.017	0.006	-0.312	...
Total calcd.	-0.017	0.006	-0.293	
NBO 3s populations	1.622	1.709	1.369	...
% 3s NBO	81	85	69	...
Natural Population	11.7	11.7	11.4	...

- The **3s shell** acts like a **buffer** between the core and the ion's surrounding
 - The filled 3s shell interacts **weakly** with the ion's own core and nucleus
- ⇒ Na⁻ is strongly perturbed by its environment, but in NMR experiments it looks like a 'genuine spherical ion'

L. Abella, A. Philips, and JA, *J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* **2020**, *11*, 843. Follow-up study of Na chemical shifts: Abella, Philips, JA, *PCCP* **2021**, *23*, 339.

$^{127}\text{I}^-$, ^{131}Xe , $^{133}\text{Cs}^+$ in aq. solution: Relativistic effects:

system	$\langle V(0)^2 \rangle$	τ_c (ps)	$\frac{1}{T_{\text{iso}}}$ (s ⁻¹)	$\frac{1}{T_{1,\text{exp}}}$ (s ⁻¹) ^b
$^{133}\text{Cs}^+$ (nrel)	0.50(1)	0.30(6)	$26(5) \times 10^{-3}$	75×10^{-3}
$^{133}\text{Cs}^+$ (rel)	0.64(1)	0.30(6)	$33(6) \times 10^{-3}$	
^{131}Xe (nrel)	0.19(1)	0.21(4)	74(11)	179
^{131}Xe (rel)	0.24(1)	0.21(4)	96(15)	
$^{127}\text{I}^-$ (nrel)	0.94(3)	0.36(8)	$57(12) \times 10^2$	46×10^2
$^{127}\text{I}^-$ (rel)	1.23(4)	0.36(8)	$76(17) \times 10^2$	

^aRelativistic and nonrelativistic STO/PBE0 EFG calculations. Results are rounded to two significant figures, and standard errors are provided in parentheses. $\langle V(0)^2 \rangle$ in au. ^bFrom refs 47 ($^{133}\text{Cs}^+$ and $^{127}\text{I}^-$) and 48 (^{131}Xe); exptl. results are at $T = 25$ °C.

Improvements in the calculation for $^{127}\text{I}^-$ mainly from a revision[†] of the quadrupole moment (new: -688 mb. old: -750 mb)

Sternheimer factor γ for $^{127}\text{I}^- = -162$. Used in force-field simulations* to scale the external EFG by $(1 + \gamma)$ to account for ion polarization causing intrinsic EFG.

A. Philips, JA, JCTC 16 (2020), 5835. * Roberts, J. E.; Schnitker, J. Ionic quadrupolar relaxation in aqueous solution: dynamics of the hydration sphere. J. Phys. Chem. A. 1993, 97, 5410–5417. † P. Pyykkö, Year-2017 nuclear quadrupole moments, Mol. Phys. 2018, 116, 1328.

Dipolar and Spin-rotation Relaxation

Dipolar Relaxation from MD

$$\frac{1}{T} = \frac{\mu_0^2}{4\pi} \gamma^4 \hbar^2 I(I+1)[g_1(0) + 4g_2(0)]$$

$$g_m(\omega) = 2Re[\int_0^\infty f_m(t)e^{-i\omega t} dt]$$

$$f_m(t) = \langle F_m^{ij}(0) F_m^{ij*}(t) \rangle$$

$$F_m^{ij}(t) = \sqrt{\frac{4\pi}{5}} Y_{2,m}[\Omega_{ij}(t)] r_{ij}^{-3}(t)$$

$Y_{2,m}[\Omega_{ij}(t)]$ = Spherical Harmonics for internuclear vector angles θ, ϕ w.r.t. z-axis

Spin-rotation Relaxation from MD

Spin-rotation Interaction: SR tensor c_{ij} , angular momentum J_j

$$H_{\text{SR}} = \sum_{m=-1}^1 (-1)^m I_m A_{-m}$$

$$A_i = \sum_{j=x,y,z} c_{ij} J_j, \quad i = x, y, z \quad A_{\pm 1} = \mp \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (A_x \pm i A_y), \quad A_0 = A_z$$

Spectral densities:

$$a_m = (-1)^m \int_0^\infty \langle A_m(t) A_{-m}(t+\tau) \rangle e^{im\omega\tau} d\tau$$

$$a_{\pm 1} = \mp \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (a_x \pm ia_y), \quad a_0 = a_z$$

$$\frac{1}{T_1} = \frac{2}{3} \sum_{i,j=x,y,z} c_{ij}^2 a_j (\omega_0 - \omega_J)$$

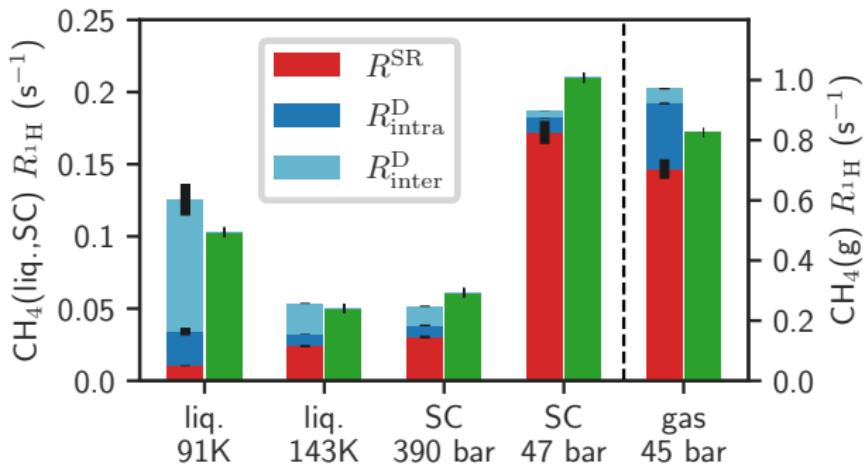
Fast motion limit, assuming rotations about different principal axes are not correlated:

$$\frac{1}{T_1} = \frac{1}{T_2} = \frac{2}{3} \sum_{i,j=x,y,z} c_{ij}^2 \int_0^\infty \langle J_j(t) J_j(t+\tau) \rangle d\tau$$

$$a_0 = a_z = \sum_j c_{zj}^2 \int_0^\infty \langle J_z(t) J_z(t+\tau) \rangle d\tau$$

$$a_{\pm 1} = \frac{1}{2} (a_x + a_y) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_j c_{xj}^2 \int_0^\infty \langle J_x(t) J_x(t+\tau) \rangle d\tau + c_{yj}^2 \int_0^\infty \langle J_y(t) J_y(t+\tau) \rangle d\tau$$

Combining Dipolar and Spin Rotation Relaxation:



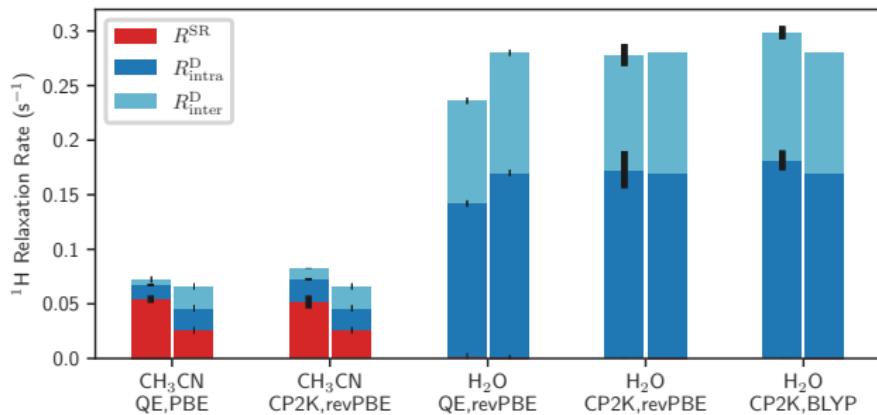
Methane (CH_4) in different regions of the phase diagram

Green bars: experimental data *

Calculations: NVE OPLS force-field simulations with Tinker, 20–50 ps

A. Philips, JA, J. Phys. Chem. B 127 (2023), 1167. * Singer, P. M.; Asthagiri, D.; Chapman, W. G.; Hirasaki, G. J. NMR spin-rotation relaxation and diffusion of methane. J. Chem. Phys. 2018, 148, 204504.

Combining Dipolar and Spin Rotation Relaxation:



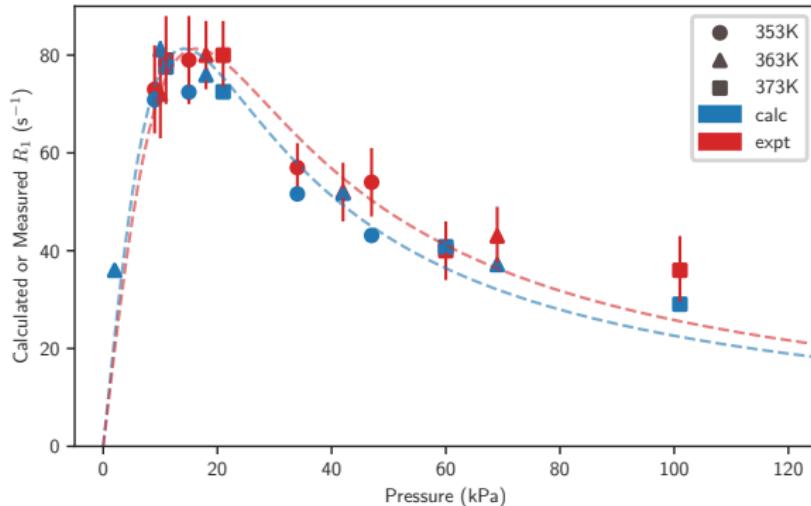
Water & Acetonitrile. Neat liquids at ambient conditions.

¹H relaxation

Right bars: experimental data*

Calculations with DFT-based forces using different codes

A. Philips, JA, J. Phys. Chem. B 127 (2023), 1167. * Woessner, D.E.; Snowden, B.S.; Strom, E. T. A Study of Molecular Re-orientation in Liquid Acetonitrile by Nuclear Spin-lattice Relaxation. Mol. Phys. 1968, 14, 265–273.

Water vapor at different densities: ^1H relaxation

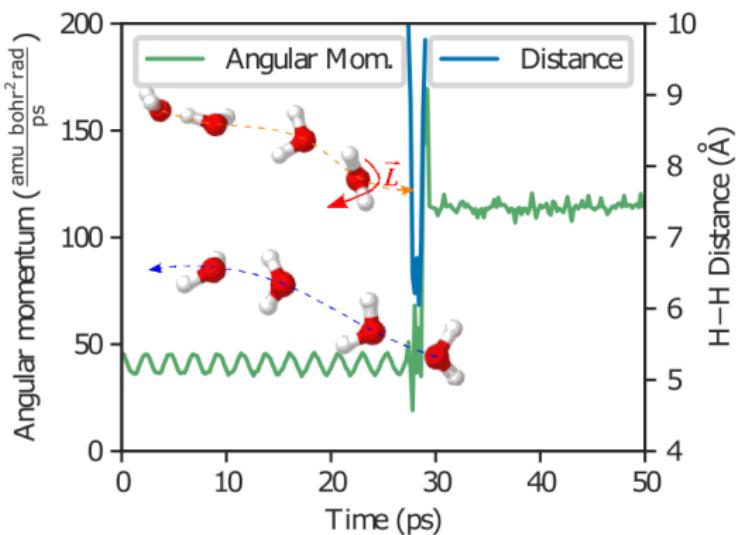
Model*# assuming
mono-exponential
autocorrelation functions:

$$\frac{1}{T_1} = \frac{8\pi^2 I_0 k T}{\hbar^2} C_{\text{eff}}^2 \times \frac{\tau_1}{1 + (\omega_0 - \omega_J)^2 \tau_1^2}$$

In the vapor phase, only the spin-rotation mechanism is relevant. $R_1 = 1/T_1$

Simulations: TIP3P FFMD with Tinker, 20 ns

A. Philips, JA, J. Phys. Chem. B 127 (2023), 1167. * Expt. data: Mammoli, D.; Canet, E.; Buratto, R.; et al. Collisional cross-section of water molecules in vapour studied by means of ^1H relaxation in NMR. Sci. Rep 2016, 6, 38492–38492. # Expt. data for ω_0 , ω_J from Schwenke D. W., J. Phys. Chem. A 105 (2001), 2352–2360. $\tau_1 = p_{\max}/[p(\omega_0 - \omega_J)]$ where p_{\max} is the pressure corresponding to max. R_1 . Details in Mammoli et al.* I_0 = molecular moment of inertia.



Main remaining approximations:

Molecular angular momentum – molecular orientation cross correlation is treated as de-coupled. Impacts relaxation only if SR tensor is strongly anisotropic. This is not the case for H_2O

SR tensor calculated up-front once