

Problem Set 3: Rotations and Hamiltonians

Problem 1: Chemical-Shift Anisotropy and the Rotating-Frame Transformation

1. NMR Hamiltonians can be categorized as spin-spin or spin-field interactions. Write down the general expressions for Hamiltonians of such interactions. Which of them is the appropriate one to describe the chemical-shift interaction?
2. Calculate the laboratory-frame Hamiltonian for a single spin assuming that the B_0 -field is aligned in the z -direction of the laboratory system. The chemical-shift tensor in the laboratory frame is defined as

$$\underline{\sigma}^{\text{LAB}} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{xx} & \sigma_{xy} & \sigma_{xz} \\ \sigma_{yx} & \sigma_{yy} & \sigma_{yz} \\ \sigma_{zx} & \sigma_{zy} & \sigma_{zz} \end{pmatrix}.$$

3. The theoretical description of NMR experiments is generally carried out in a coordinate system which is rotating with the Larmor frequency $\omega_0 = -\gamma B_0$ around the direction of the B_0 field (“rotating frame”). A transformation into the corresponding coordinate system can be carried out via a propagator

$$\hat{U} = \exp(-i\omega_0 \hat{I}_z t).$$

Calculate the chemical-shift Hamiltonian in the rotating frame. Explain which terms can be neglected in the secular approximation.

4. The chemical-shift tensor of a carbon spin in its principal-axis system is given by

$$\underline{\sigma}^{\text{PAS}} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_{22} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sigma_{33} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Calculate the chemical shift $(\underline{\sigma}^{\text{LAB}})_{zz}$ of the spin, if the principal-axis system and the laboratory system are related by the Euler angles $\alpha = 0^\circ$, $\beta = 45^\circ$, $\gamma = 45^\circ$.

Problem 2: Dipolar Coupling and the Spherical Tensor Notation

1. The laboratory-frame Hamiltonian can be expressed via the sum of scalar products between a spherical spatial- and a spin-tensor operator as

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}} = \sum_i \sum_l \sum_{m=-l}^l (-1)^m A_{l,m}^{(\text{lab})} \hat{\mathfrak{T}}_{l,-m}$$

Usually, the spatial part of the spherical-tensor is given in the principal axis system (PAS). Starting from the expression for the spatial spherical-tensor components in the PAS ($\rho_{l,m}^{(\text{PAS})}$), calculate the spatial components of the dipolar coupling Hamiltonian in the lab frame ($A_{l,m}^{(\text{lab})}$). A second-rank tensor characterized by the anisotropy δ and the asymmetry η has the following spherical-tensor elements in the PAS: $\rho_{2,0}^{(\text{PAS})} = \sqrt{3/2}\delta$, $\rho_{2,\pm 1}^{(\text{PAS})} = 0$, and $\rho_{2,\pm 2}^{(\text{PAS})} = -0.5\delta\eta$. The transformation of spherical-tensor elements between two coordinate systems is given by

$$A_{l,m}^{(\text{new})} = \sum_{m'=-l}^l \mathfrak{D}_{m'm}^l(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) A_{l,m'}^{(\text{old})}$$

Use the rotation angles (α, β, γ) and the Wigner rotation matrix elements

$$\mathfrak{D}_{m'm}^l(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) = e^{-i\alpha m'} d_{m'm}^l(\beta) e^{-i\gamma m}.$$

Hint: The parameters of the dipolar coupling Hamiltonian in spherical-tensor notations are $\delta = -2 \frac{\mu_0 \gamma_k \gamma_n \hbar}{4\pi r_{kn}^3}$ and $\eta = 0$.

2. Starting from the first expression and the results from the previous problem, calculate the dipolar Hamiltonian. Show that the result is equivalent to the “dipolar alphabet” representation given in expression [3.41] in the lecture notes. Assign to the components $\hat{A}, \hat{B}, \hat{C}, \hat{D}, \hat{E}, \hat{F}$ the corresponding rank and order of the spin and spatial tensor.

Hint: See expressions [3.114] to [3.116] in the lecture notes for spherical spin tensor operators.

3. Taking the transformation behavior of spherical tensors into account, give a reason why all components except \hat{A} and \hat{B} are neglected in the secular approximation.

Problem 3: The Tensor Product

The tensor product of two spherical tensors A_k and $B_{k'}$ of rank k and k' respectively, can be expressed with irreducible tensors \mathfrak{J}_K that follow the relation

$$\begin{aligned}\mathfrak{J}_{KQ}(k, k') &= \sum_{q=-k}^k \sum_{q'=-k'}^{k'} \langle kk'qq'|KQ\rangle A_{kq} B_{k'q'} \\ &= (-1)^{k-k'+Q} \sqrt{2K+1} \sum_{q=-k}^k \sum_{q'=-k'}^{k'} \begin{pmatrix} k & k' & K \\ q & q' & Q \end{pmatrix} A_{kq} B_{k'q'}\end{aligned}\quad (1)$$

with

$$\langle kk'qq'|KQ\rangle A_{kq} B_{k'q'} = (-1)^{k-k'+Q} \sqrt{2K+1} \sum_{q=-k}^k \sum_{q'=-k'}^{k'} \begin{pmatrix} k & k' & K \\ q & q' & Q \end{pmatrix} \quad (2)$$

as the so-called Clebsch-Gordan coefficients and

$$\begin{aligned}(k+k') &\geq K \geq |k-k'| \\ Q &= q+q'\end{aligned}\quad (3)$$

1. Name all components \mathfrak{J}_{KQ} of the product $A_1 \otimes B_1$. How many components would there be for $A_2 \otimes B_2$?
2. Calculate the results for \mathfrak{J}_{00} and \mathfrak{J}_{20} explicitly for a second-rank tensor product as a function of A_1 and B_1 .

Hint: Use the table provided to find the Clebsch-Gordan-coefficients.

