

Table I. Temperature Dependence of Microscopic Viscosities at 0.02 M Detergent

detergent	microscopic viscosities, cp					
	1 °C	10 °C	20 °C	30 °C	40 °C	50 °C
HDTBr	81	60	39 (30, ^a 151 ^b)	22	14	9
HDTCI	70	49	31	18	13	8
SDS	17	13	9 (16, ^c 193 ^b)	6	6	7

^a Depolarization of fluorescence. (ref 5a at 27 °C). ^b Excimer dynamics (ref 6 at 24 °C). ^c Depolarization of fluorescence (ref 5c at 25 °C).

In the case of intermolecular excimer formation the probe molecules (naphthalene or pyrene⁶) may or may not distribute themselves among the available micelles in a manner that is accurately described by statistical methods.⁴ Whatever the detailed nature of this distribution, a strict correlation between the measured values of I_{ex}/I_m for micellar systems and those for homogeneous solution is not expected. In other words, the statistical methods that are valid for homogeneous solution are unlikely to be appropriate for analyzing data and deriving microviscosity parameters for micellar systems. In the case of DNP, however, excimer formation is possible at low enough concentration to avoid interference from intermolecular excimer formation, and the unimolecular nature of excimer formation avoids the problem of explicitly including the distribution of probe molecules in deriving microviscosities from I_{ex}/I_m ratios. We thus feel that the use of excimer dynamics, per se, is a valid method for determining microviscosities,^{13,14} but that the intermolecular method presents problems because of the difficulties of explicitly including a distribution of probe molecules in the derivation of micelle parameters from experimental parameters.

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Sensitivity Enhancement in Natural Abundance Proton-Coupled ¹⁵N NMR Spectra Using the Selective Population Transfer Method

Sir:

The convenient observation of natural abundance ¹⁵N nuclear magnetic resonance spectra promises to open to the areas of organic chemistry, bioorganic chemistry, and inorganic chemistry a structural tool comparable in significance with those afforded by two other spin 1/2 nuclei, ¹H and ¹³C. Furthermore, the spectra obtained will be of greater value if they yield spin-coupling information rather than merely chemical-shift data.^{1,2}

Most of the spin-coupling values for ¹⁵N currently available have been obtained from ¹⁵N-enriched samples;^{3,4} indeed, many coupling constants to hydrogen have been measured only from the ¹H spectra of enriched molecules.² Low abundance (0.365%), low sensitivity (6.54×10^{-2} relative to ¹³C), long spin-lattice relaxation times (up to 250 s for nitrobenzene and 500 s for benzonitrile),⁵⁻⁷ and the possible partial loss of nuclear Overhauser effect (NOE) because of relaxation mechanisms other than dipolar, a loss especially disastrous for a nucleus with negative magnetogyric ratio, combine to make the observation of natural abundance ¹⁵N spectra tedious and time consuming.

We report here the direct observation of proton-coupled ¹⁵N NMR spectra using the selective population transfer (SPT) π -pulse technique,⁸ which is found to yield dramatic improvements in sensitivity, often as much as a ten- to onehundredfold increase in signal-to-noise ratio with corresponding time saving of between two and four orders of magnitude for repetitive pulse experiments. Indeed, proton-coupled natural abundance ¹⁵N NMR spectra of high concentration samples

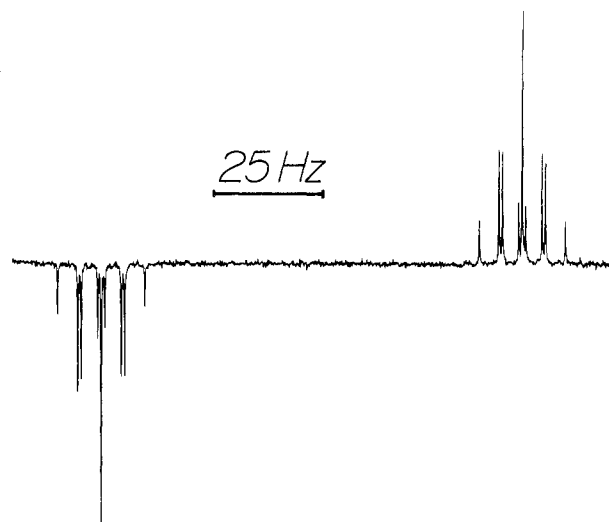


Figure 1. Natural abundance proton coupled ¹⁵N SPT FT NMR spectrum of pyrrole, **1** (85% v/v in benzene-*d*₆; 512 transients. 8-s acquisition time, no line broadening). The ¹H π pulse ($\gamma_{H_2}/2\pi = 8.00$ Hz, $\tau = 0.06$ s) was applied at the center of the high-frequency multiplet (triplet of triplets, $^3J_{H(1)-H(2)} = 2.59$ and $^4J_{H(1)-H(3)} = 2.46$ Hz)¹⁷ for the ¹⁵N satellite in the ¹H(1) spectrum ($^1J_{^{15}N-H(1)} = -96.40$, $^2J_{^{15}N-H(2)} = -5.36$, and $^3J_{^{15}N-H(3)} = -4.55$ Hz).

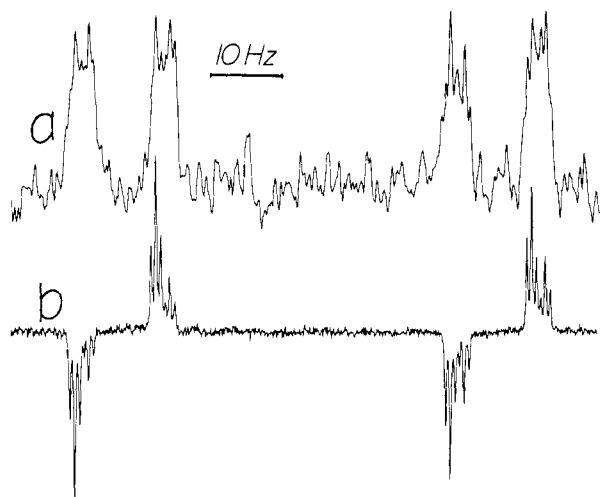
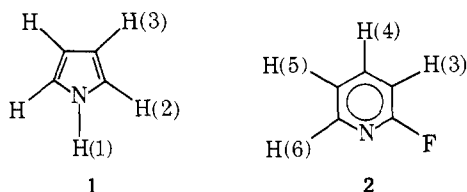


Figure 2. Natural abundance coupled ^{15}N FT NMR spectra of 2-fluoropyridine, **2** (85% v/v in acetone- d_6). (a) Normal coupled spectrum (no gated decoupling, 15 000 transients, 0.35-Hz line broadening). (b) $^{15}\text{N}\{^1\text{H}(6)\}$ SPT spectrum obtained after 2000 transients (no line broadening; $\gamma_{\text{H}_2}/2\pi = 0.5$ Hz and $\tau = 1.0$ s).

can often be observed from a single transient. The SPT π -pulse method is a powerful technique for intensity enhancement, especially with spin systems having degenerate ^1H transitions, as well as for sign determination of coupling constants and for spin-lattice relaxation studies.⁹⁻¹² In $^{15}\text{N}\{^1\text{H}\}$ SPT experiments, the ratio $|\gamma_{^1\text{H}}/\gamma_{^{15}\text{N}}| \approx 10$ is very favorable for intensity enhancements. For example, a ^{15}N nucleus coupled to six equivalent hydrogen nuclei would show a septet containing lines of which six may be enhanced, if the relaxation times and acquisition conditions are favorable,^{8,9,13,14} by ratios of 20 to 40. A great advantage of the SPT method is that, for repetitive experiments, the ^{15}N NMR spectrum may be sampled with a repetition rate determined by the usually much greater relaxation rate of the irradiated protons rather than by the often very slow relaxation of the observed ^{15}N nucleus. In fact, this experiment has several of the advantages of the proton-enhanced nuclear spectroscopy method introduced by Pines et al.¹⁵ to observe rare spins in solids and recently also applied to liquids.¹⁶ Natural abundance ^{15}N spectra for pyrrole (**1**) and 2-fluoropyridine (**2**) in Figures 1 and 2 demonstrate the power of the SPT method.



Spectra were obtained at 10.15 MHz on a Varian XL-100-15 spectrometer equipped with a Varian Gyrocode decoupler (used to generate the SPT π pulses at 100.06 MHz), Nicolet computer system, MONA multinuclear accessory, and 18-mm probe (however, without quadrature detection or single side-band filter). Free induction decays were stored into 16K data points using a spectral width of 1000 Hz and an acquisition time of 8 s. A 90° flip angle (28 μs) was used for $^{15}\text{N}\{^1\text{H}\}$ SPT π -pulse spectra and a 40° flip angle for normal spectra. All sample solutions were 85% v/v solutions in acetone- d_6 or benzene- d_6 .

For the natural abundance ^{15}N NMR spectrum of pyrrole (**1**) in Figure 1, the S/N ratio is ~ 1.5 times that of a published spectrum³ obtained from neat 96% ^{15}N -enriched pyrrole in a 5-mm-o.d. tube using the same number of transients (512) and the same acquisition time (8 s). With different irradiation frequencies and lower power, we have established that

$^2J_{^{15}\text{N}-\text{H}(2)} \times ^3J_{\text{H}(1)-\text{H}(2)} < 0$ and $^3J_{^{15}\text{N}-\text{H}(3)} \times ^4J_{\text{H}(1)-\text{H}(3)} < 0$, thus confirming earlier observations and assumptions.¹⁷ In Figure 2 the usual coupled ^{15}N spectrum of 2-fluoropyridine (**2**) obtained with 15 000 transients in 37 h is compared with an SPT spectrum obtained with 2000 transients in 5 h.

This method of sensitivity enhancement will also be applicable to larger molecules, which have shorter ^1H and ^{15}N T_1 values. The short proton T_1 values may afford an advantage, for their only effect is to permit more rapid pulsing. Results reported for ^{15}N relaxation times in proteins indicate that these are of the order of several tenths of a second or longer, a time sufficient to permit a substantial portion of the SPT gain to be preserved during acquisition. Furthermore, in the range of longer correlation time, it is not possible to increase sensitivity by utilizing the Overhauser effect, for the enhancement factor lies between 0 and -1 , so that the SPT method should be of special advantage.

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A Time-Dependent Cyclodextrin Induced Perturbation of Ionic Equilibria across a Carbohydrate Membrane¹

Sir:

Molecular transgression across heterogeneous boundaries is currently a focal issue in many areas of chemistry.² Explo-