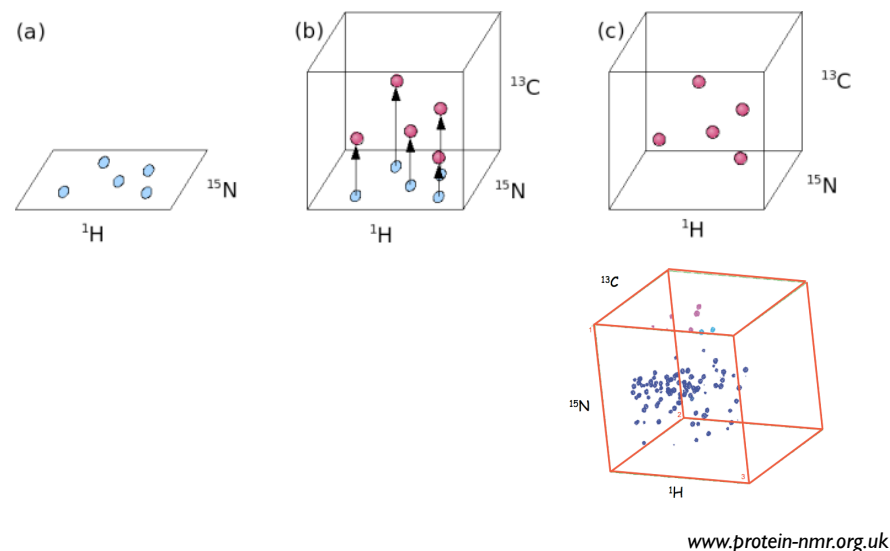


# 3D NMR

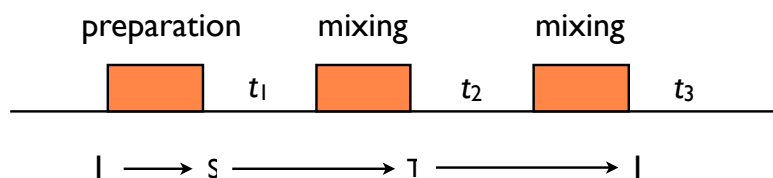
Chris Waudby

[c.waudby@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:c.waudby@ucl.ac.uk)

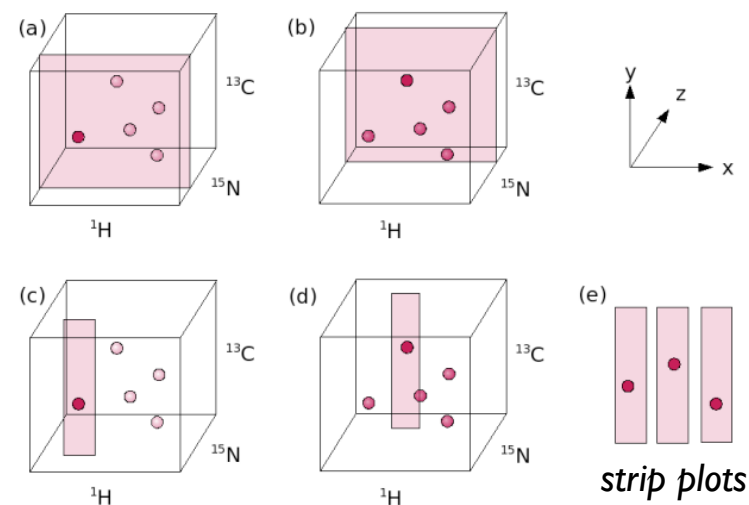
## 3D NMR



## 3D NMR



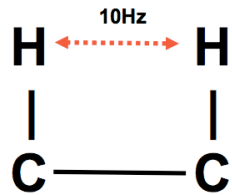
## Visualising 3D NMR spectra



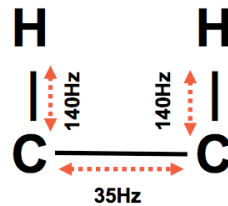
- 2 indirect dimensions, independently incremented evolution times
- Much longer acquisition than 2Ds (hours-days)
- SNR decreases by  $\sqrt{2}$  for each extra dimension (quadrature detection, need to record separate sin and cos components)
- Longer sequences – lower sensitivity

## Effective long-range magnetisation transfer

Homonuclear  
magnetization transfer  
via  $^3J$  coupling



Heteronuclear  
magnetization transfer  
via  $^1J$  couplings



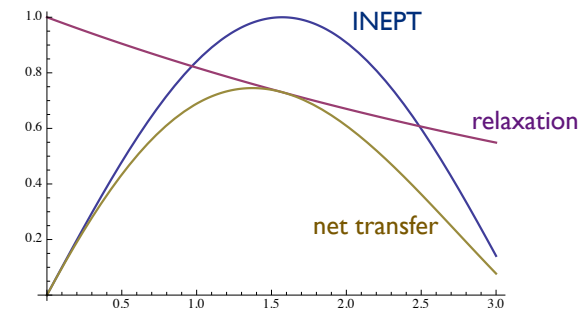
$$T_{\text{INEPT}} \approx 1 / 2J$$

$$\text{SNR} \sim n_s^{1/2} \cdot \text{conc} \cdot B_0^{3/2} \cdot \gamma_{\text{ex}} \cdot \gamma_{\text{obs}}^{3/2}$$

Michael Sattler

## Optimisation of transfer efficiencies

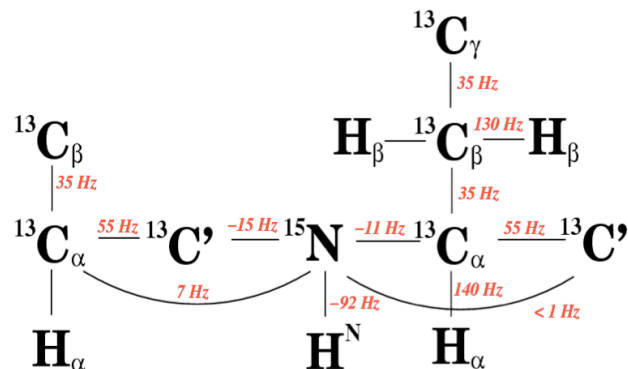
INEPT transfer vs relaxation



$$\text{transferred signal} \propto \sin(\pi J \tau) \exp(-R_2 \tau)$$

↑  
INEPT  
↑  
relaxation

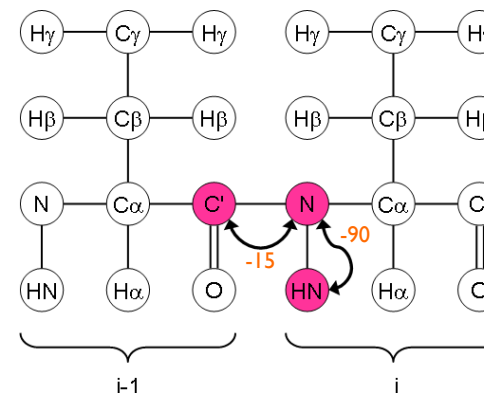
## Backbone $^1J$ and $^2J$ couplings



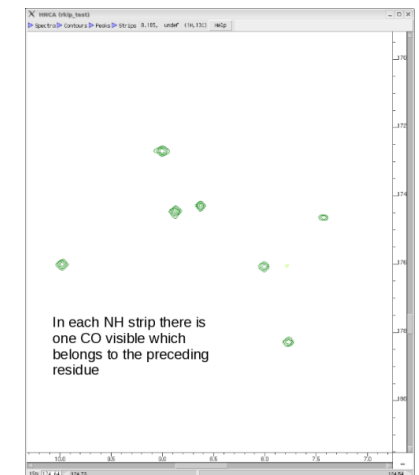
- $J$  couplings proportional to gyromagnetic ratio (N.B. negative couplings involving  $^{15}\text{N}$ )
- $^2J$  couplings very small!

Michael Sattler

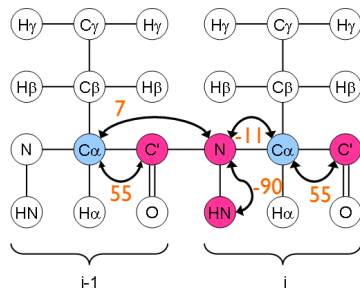
## The HNCO experiment



CO chemical shifts very  
sequence dependent

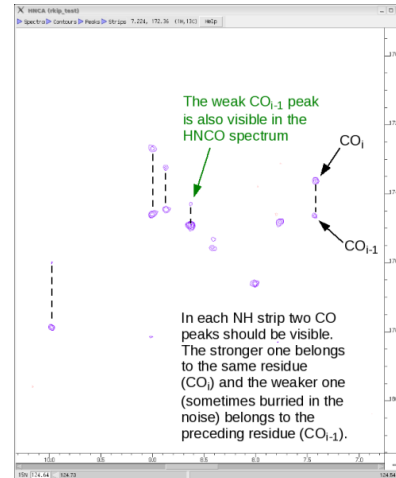


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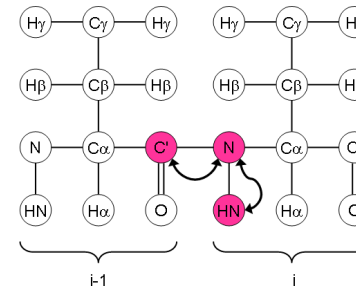
$$\text{HN(CA)CO}$$


HN(CA)CO links  
HN<sub>i</sub> with C'<sub>i-1</sub> and C'<sub>i</sub>

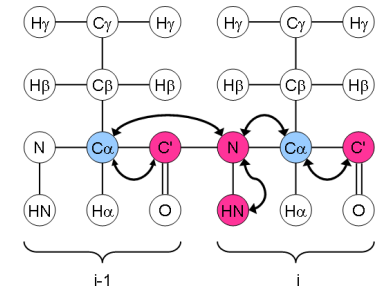
$^2J_{NC'} < 1$  Hz, so transfer  
via CA is required



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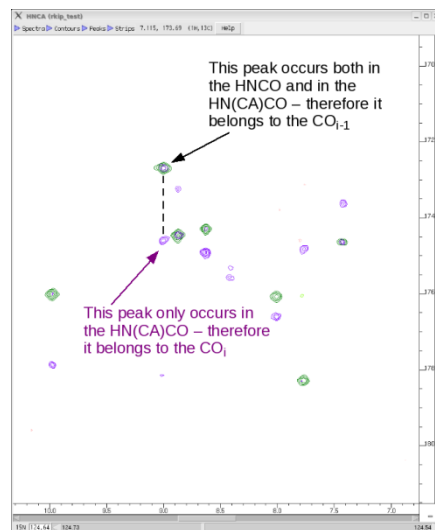
H<sub>2</sub>NCO / HN(CA)CO

HNCO links  
HN<sub>i</sub> with C'<sub>i-1</sub>



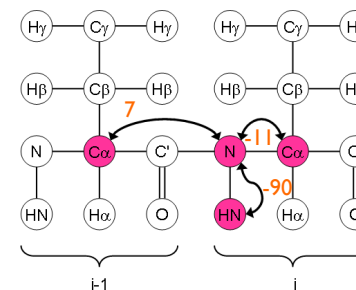
HN(CA)CO links  
HN<sub>i</sub> with C'<sub>i-1</sub> and C'<sub>i</sub>

[www.protein-nmr.org.uk](http://www.protein-nmr.org.uk)

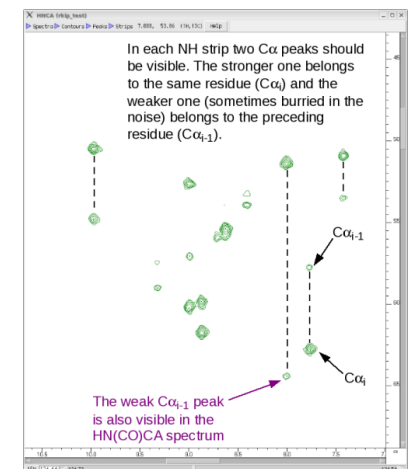
$$\text{HNCO} / \text{HN(CA)CO}$$


[www.protein-nmr.org.uk](http://www.protein-nmr.org.uk)

## HNCA

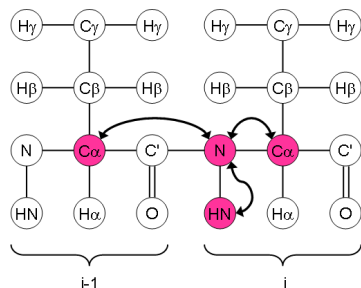


HNCA links  
HN<sub>i</sub> with CA<sub>i-1</sub> (weak)  
and CA<sub>i</sub> (strong)

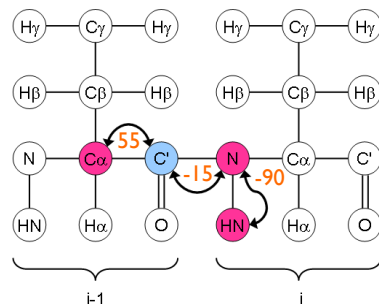


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## HNCA / HN(CO)CA



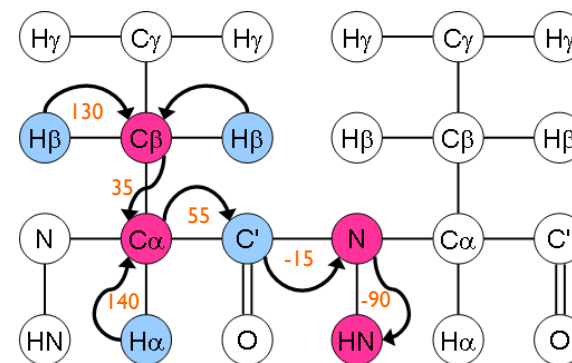
HNCA links  
HN<sub>i</sub> with CA<sub>i-1</sub> (weak)  
and CA<sub>i</sub> (strong)



HN(CO)CA links  
HN<sub>i</sub> with CA<sub>i-1</sub>

[www.protein-nmr.org.uk](http://www.protein-nmr.org.uk)

## CBCA(CO)NH

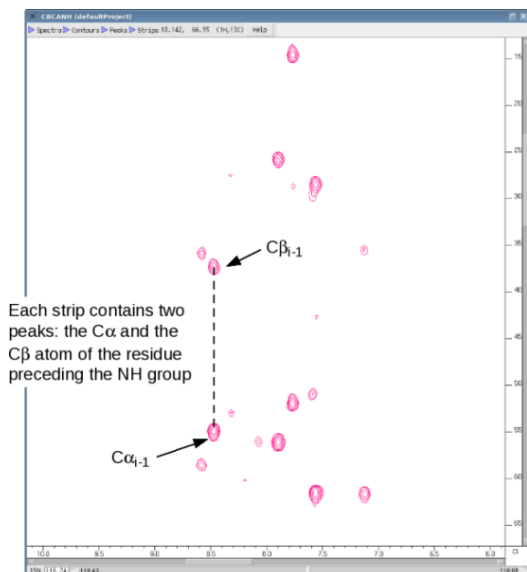


HA/HB polarisation transferred to HN

With deuterated protein, 'out-and-back' HN(CO)CACB  
experiment must be used – longer, less sensitive

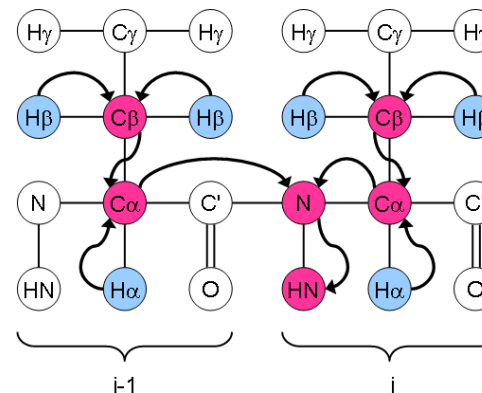
[www.protein-nmr.org.uk](http://www.protein-nmr.org.uk)

## CBCA(CO)NH



[www.protein-nmr.org.uk](http://www.protein-nmr.org.uk)

## CBCANH

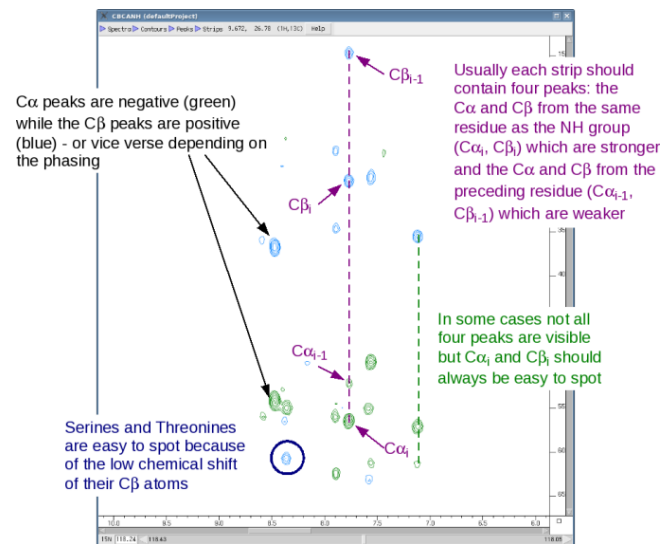


HA/HB polarisation transferred to HN

With deuterated protein, 'out-and-back' HNCACB  
experiment must be used – longer, less sensitive

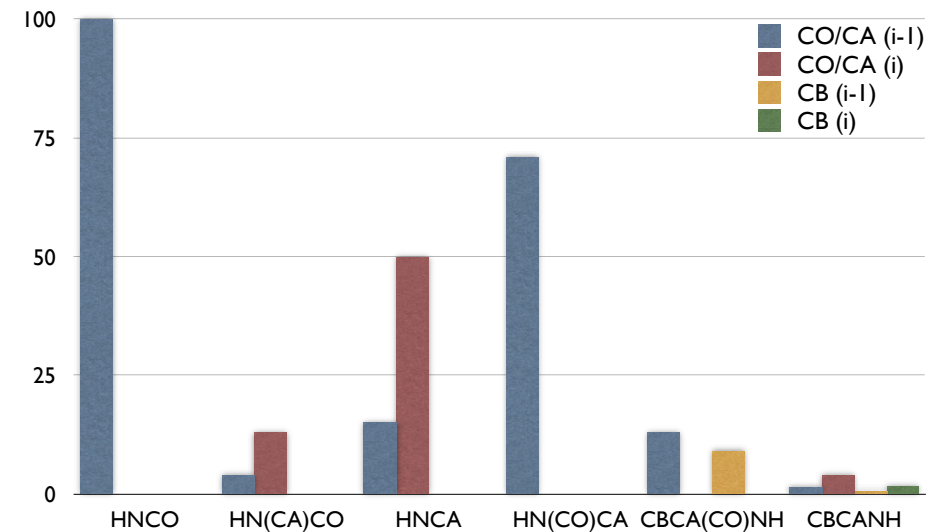
[www.protein-nmr.org.uk](http://www.protein-nmr.org.uk)

## CBCANH

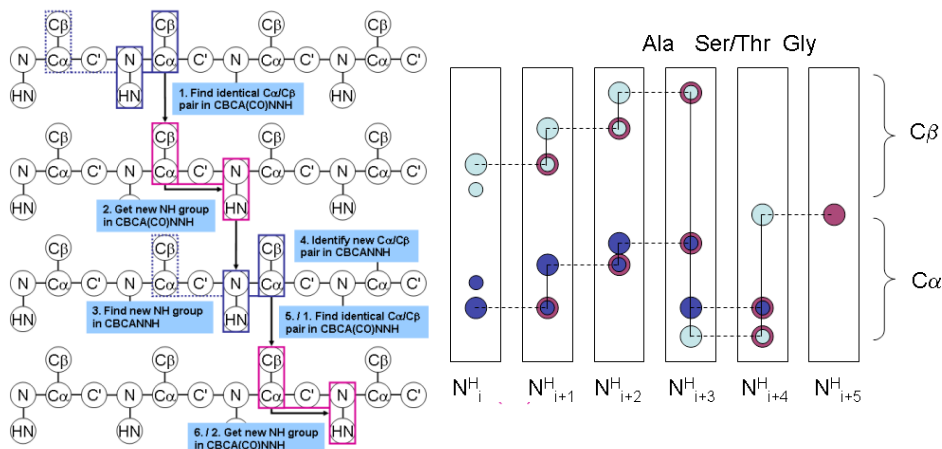


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## Relative sensitivity of 3D experiments

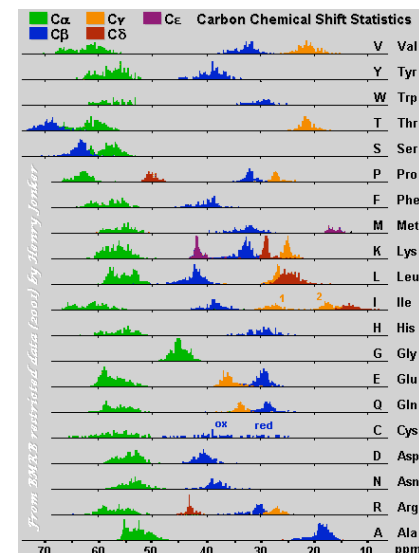


## The assignment process



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## Spin system typing



- CA and CB shifts are extremely useful for determining residue type
- Extent of CA and CB chemical shift dispersion is dependent on secondary structure formation – bad for IDPs!
- Ser/Thr very easy to identify – characteristic CB shifts (bonded to electronegative oxygen)
- Ala – unique CB shift around 17 ppm
- Gly – unique CA shift around 45 ppm – and no CB resonances!
- Others are less clear, but usually can restrict to a few possibilities
- Prolines are only observed in *i*-1 experiments – e.g. CBCA(CO)NH

## Sequence analysis – identifying assignment checkpoints

### alpha-synuclein

```

      10      20      30      40      50      60
MDVFMKGLSK AKEGVVAAAE KTKQGVAAEA GKTKEGVLYV GSKTKEGVVH GVATVAEKT
      70      80      90     100     110     120
EQVTNVGGAV VTGVTAVAQK TVEGAGSIAA ATGFVKKDQL GKNEEGAPQE GILEDMPVDP
      130     140
DNEAYEMPSE EGYQDYEPEA
  
```

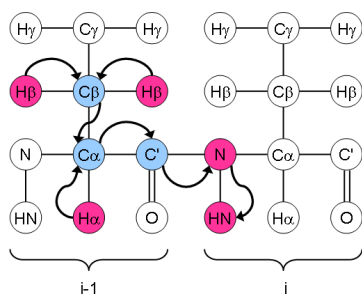
## Sequence analysis – identifying assignment checkpoints

### ddFln5

```

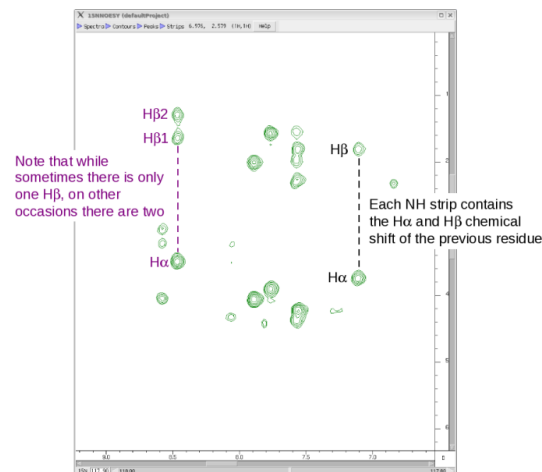
                                     650      660
                                     KPAPS AEHSYAELEG
      670      680      690      700      710      720
LVKVFDNAPA EFTIFAVDTK GVARTDGGDP FEVAINGPDG LVVDAKVTDN NDGTYGVVYD
      730      740      750
APVEGNYNVN VTLRGNPIKN MPIDVKCIEG
  
```

## Sidechain assignment: HBHA(CO)NH



Essentially identical pulse sequence to CBCA(CO)NH – chemical shift encoded on  $^1\text{H}$  rather than  $^{13}\text{C}$

## Sidechain protons and magnetic equivalence



## Sidechain assignment: TOCSY

### TOtal Correlation Spectroscopy

*Extension of HBHA(CO)NH –  
wouldn't it be nice to get cross-peaks  
from ALL the spins in a sidechain?*

### Isotropic mixing

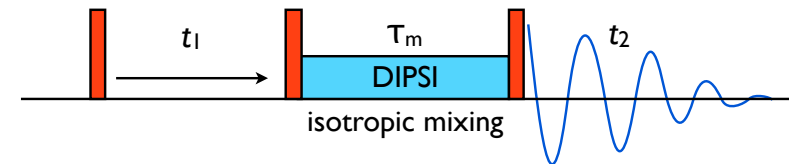
$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{H} &= -\sum_i \omega_i I_{iz} + \sum_{i,j} 2\pi J_{ij} \mathbf{I}_i \cdot \mathbf{I}_j \\ &= -\sum_i \omega_i I_{iz} + \sum_{i,j} 2\pi J_{ij} I_{iz} I_{jz} \quad \text{when } \Delta\omega \gg J \text{ (weak coupling)}\end{aligned}$$

DISPI spin-lock manipulates the effective Hamiltonian to remove chemical shift differences ('isotropic mixing') so:

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{isotropic mixing}} = \sum_{i,j} 2\pi J_{ij} \mathbf{I}_i \cdot \mathbf{I}_j$$

All spins are strongly coupled! Magnetisation will transfer between all spins in the spin system.

## 2D TOCSY experiment



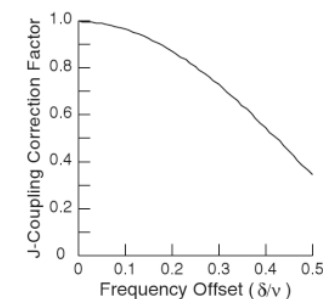
$$I_{1,z} \rightarrow -I_{1,y} \rightarrow -I_{1,y} \cos(\omega_1 t_1) + \text{other terms} \rightarrow I_{1,z} \cos(\omega_1 t_1)$$

*eliminated by  
phase cycling*
*at start of  
mixing period*

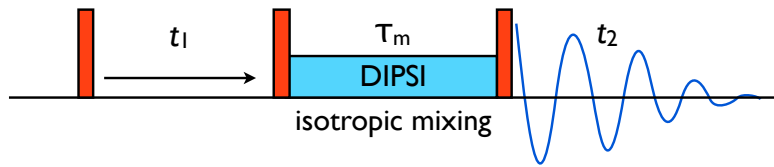
### Isotropic mixing

The spin-lock reduces the effective chemical shift difference between spins, increasing the efficiency of TOCSY transfer.

The magnitude of this effect depends on the strength of the spin-lock relative to the frequency difference:



## 2D TOCSY experiment



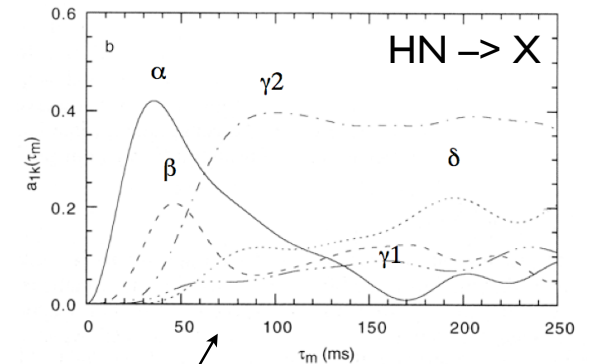
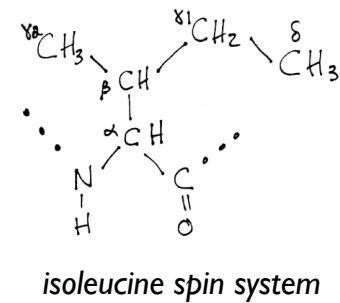
$$I_{1,z} \rightarrow -I_{1,y} \rightarrow -I_{1,y} \cos(\omega_1 t_1) + \text{other terms} \rightarrow I_{1,z} \cos(\omega_1 t_1)$$

eliminated by phase cycling      at start of mixing period

$$\cos(\omega_1 t_1) I_{1,z} \xrightarrow{\text{DIPSI}} \sum_j \frac{\sin^2(\pi J_{\text{eff}} \tau_m)}{\sin^2(\pi J_{\text{eff}} \tau_m)} \cos(\omega_1 t_1) I_{j,z}$$

TOCSY transfer coefficient

## TOCSY transfer efficiency

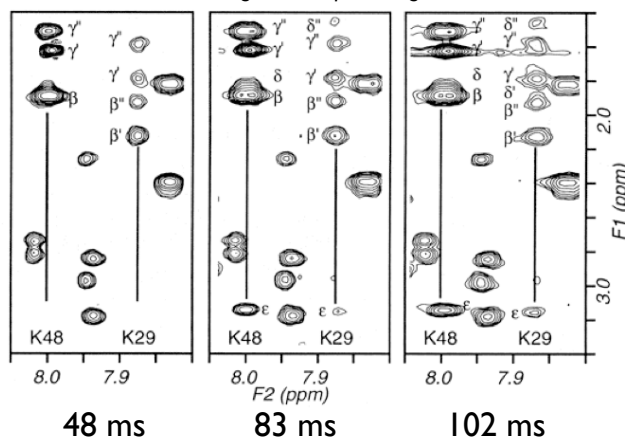
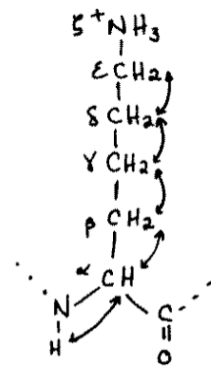


Neglecting  $T_2$  relaxation!

Cavanagh

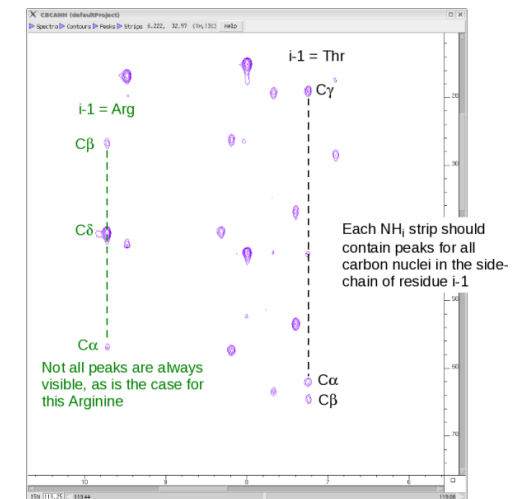
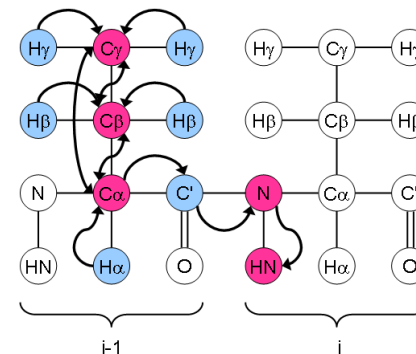
## Optimising TOCSY mixing time

Ubiquitin: 2D  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  TOCSY  
showing amide-aliphatic region



Cavanagh

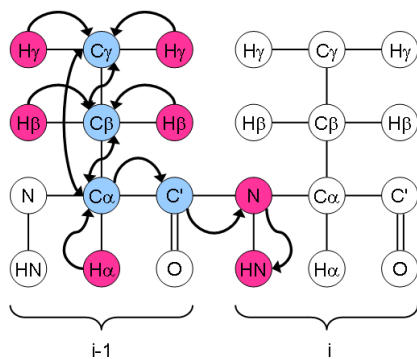
## CC(CO)NH



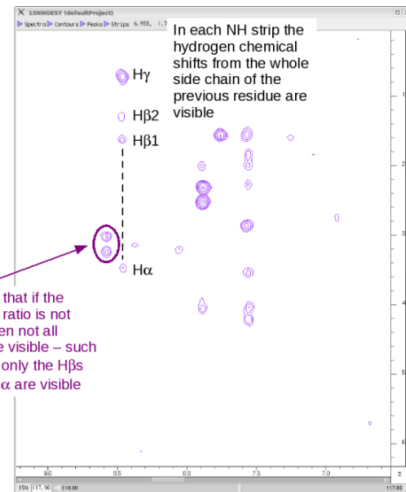
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## H(CCO)NH



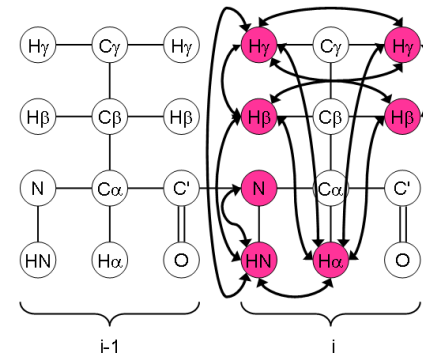
TOCSY transfer  
between aliphatic  
carbons



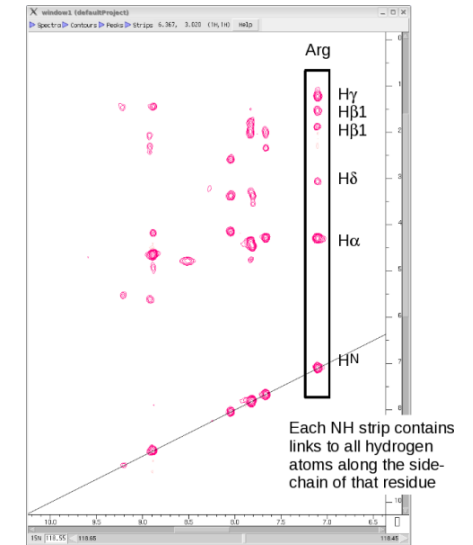
Keep in mind that if the signal / noise ratio is not very good, then not all peaks may be visible – such as here were only the H $\beta$ s and not the H $\alpha$  are visible

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## $^{15}\text{N}$ TOCSY-HSQC

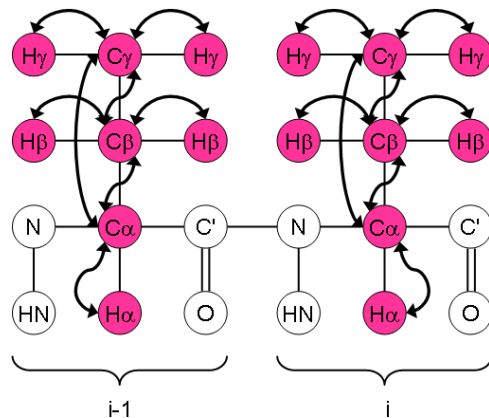


TOCSY transfer  
between protons



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## HCCH TOCSY

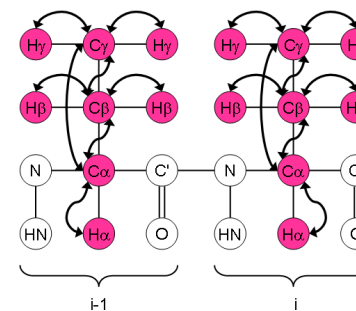


TOCSY transfer between carbons

[www.protein-nmr.org.uk](http://www.protein-nmr.org.uk)

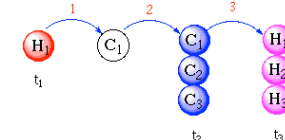
## HCCH TOCSY

Which chemical shifts to encode for 3D experiment?



HcCH

$^1\text{H}$  correlations to CH group

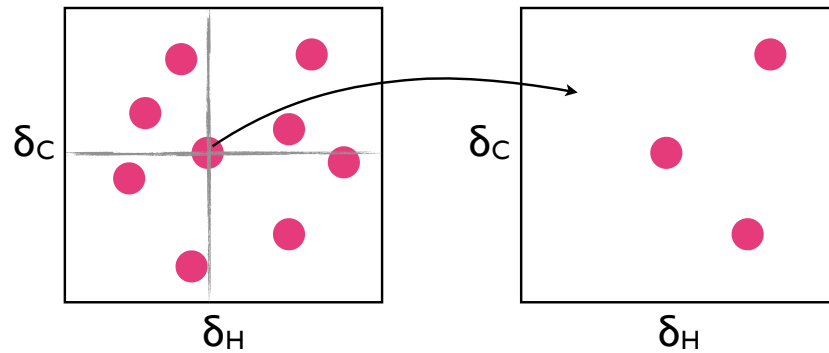


hCCH

$^{13}\text{C}$  correlations to CH group

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## 4D HCCH TOCSY

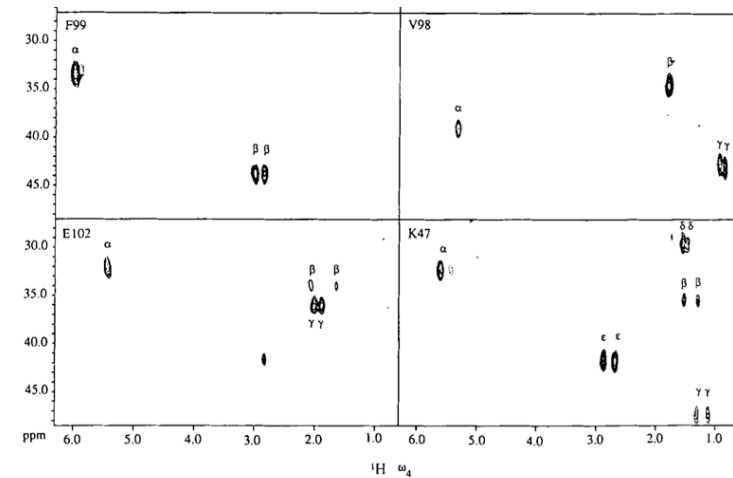


Each point in 2D  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  spectrum is correlated with a second 2D  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  spectrum showing coupled spins

Problem – huge acquisition time!  
(can be addressed using non-uniform sampling...)

Olejniczak et al (1992) J Biomol NMR

## 4D HCCH TOCSY



40 x 9 x 10 x 1024 points – 6.4 days acquisition

Olejniczak et al (1992) J Biomol NMR