

***Double-Quantum NMR Spectroscopy:  
Investigating Structure and Dynamics  
of Abundant Spin Systems.***

***Robert Graf***

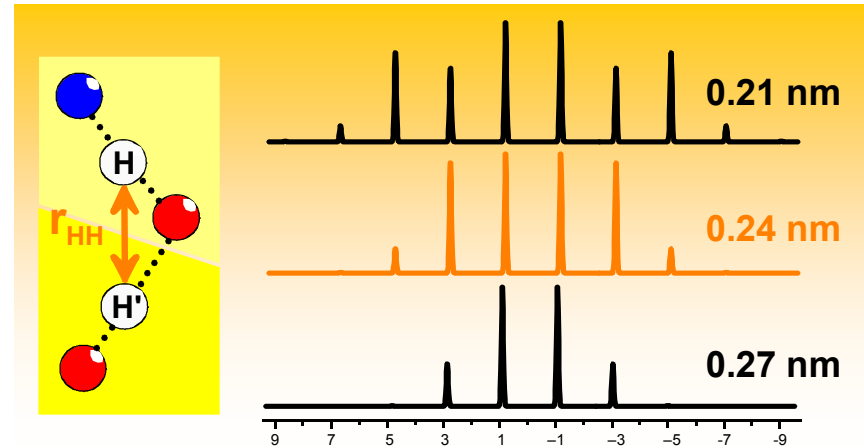
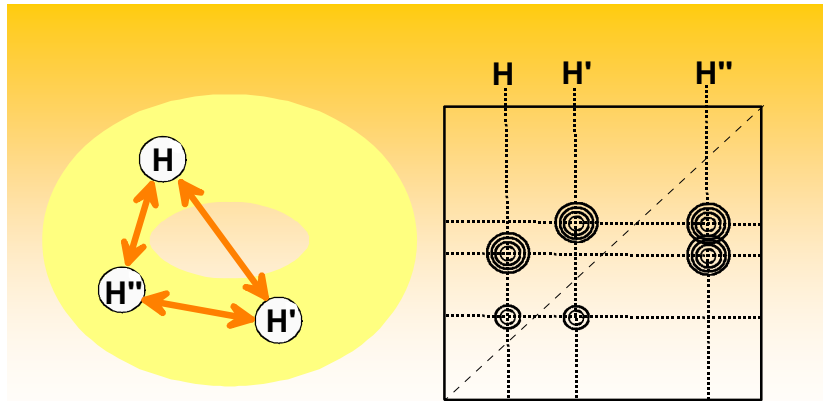
***Max-Planck Institute for Polymer Research***

# Double-quantum NMR methods: investigating (supra) molecular structure

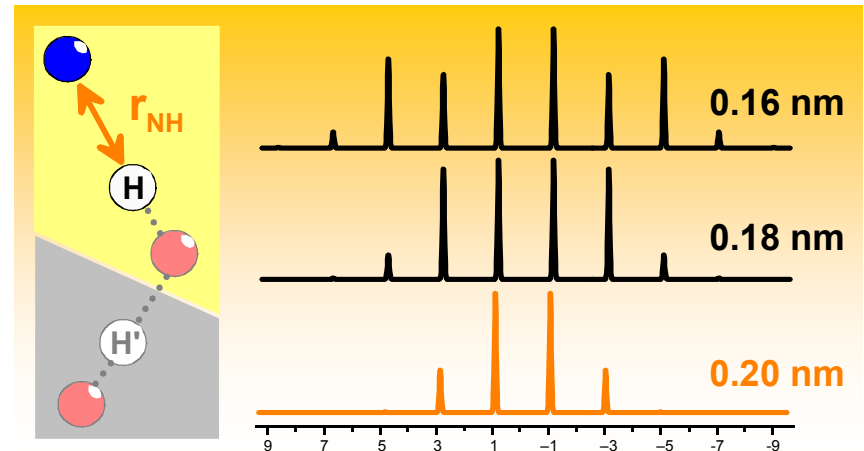
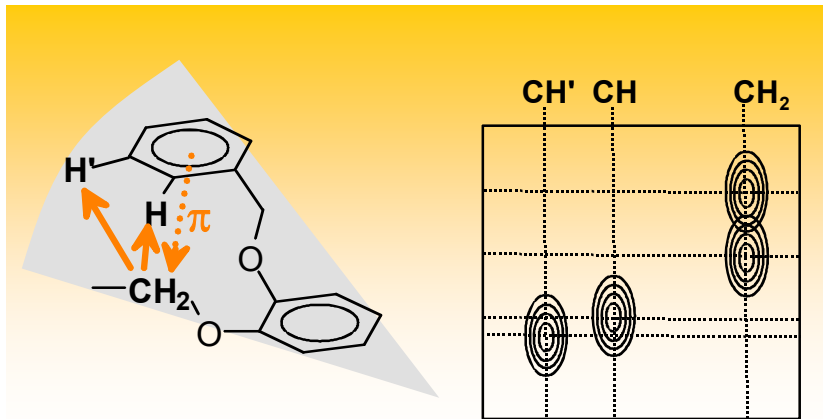
internuclear proximities,  
chemical shifts and  $\pi$ -shifts

measurement of  
internuclear distances

$^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  homonuclear

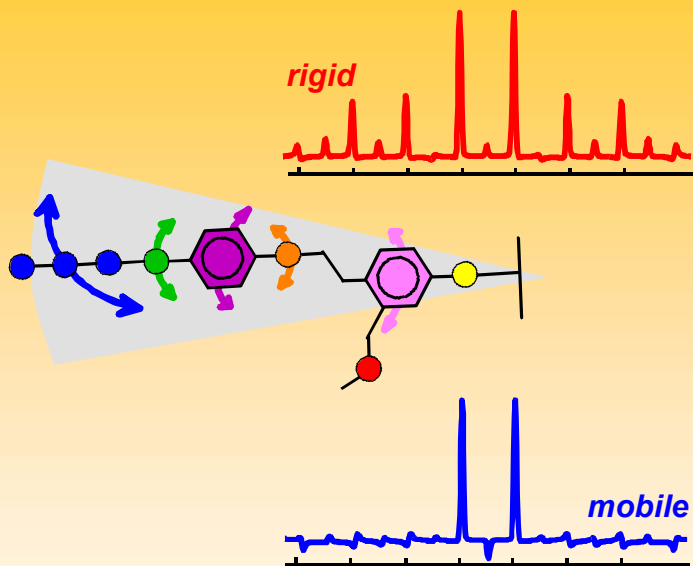


$^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}/^{15}\text{N}$  heteronuclear



# NMR methods: investigating molecular dynamics

## fast local dynamics

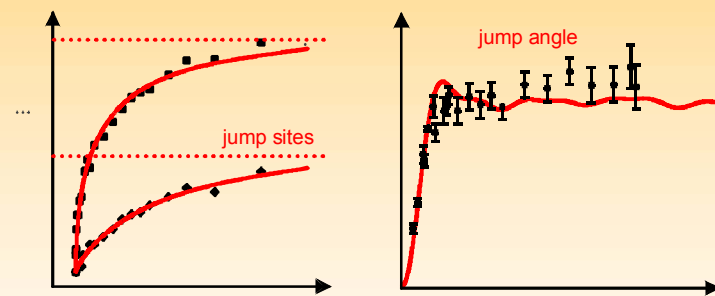
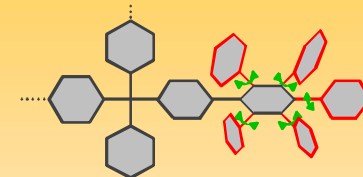
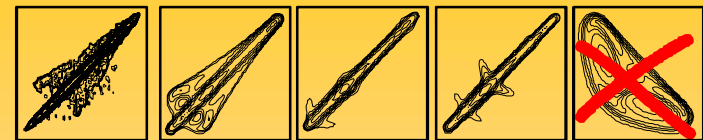


Averaging  
of dipolar  
couplings

loss of NMR signal

exchange NMR experiments

## slow reorientations



fast

intermediate

slow

static

$10^{-7}$   $10^{-6}$   $10^{-5}$   $10^{-4}$   $10^{-3}$   $10^{-2}$   $10^{-1}$   $10^0$   $10^1$   $10^2$

motional correlation time [seconds]

# Merging solid-state and solution-state NMR methods

Techniques

Solution State

Pulsed Field Gradients



Inverse Detection ( $^1\text{H}$ )

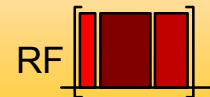


Solid State

Fast Magic-Angle Spinning



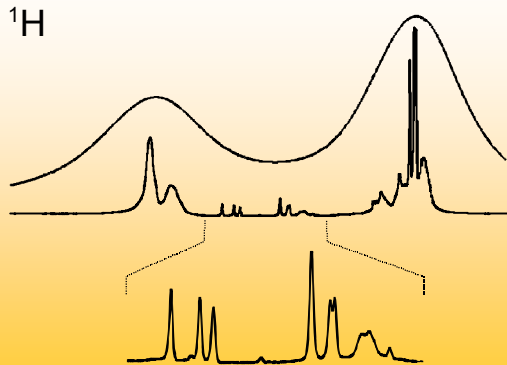
Dipolar Decoupling and Recoupling



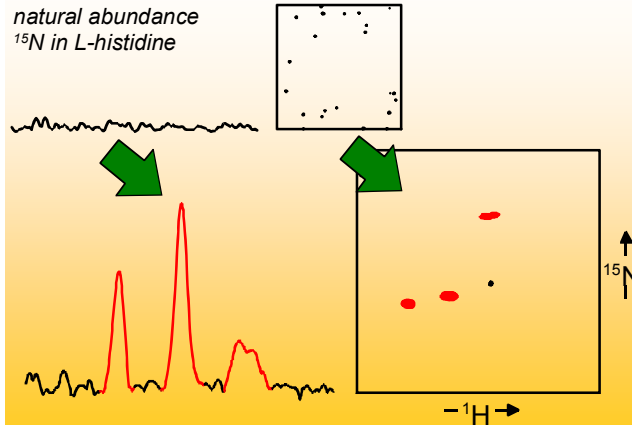
Solids and Materials at the Solid/Liquid Borderline

Goals

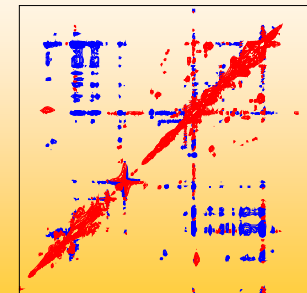
Resolution Enhancement



Sensitivity Enhancement



Measuring  
**Molecular Structure**  
and **Conformation/Packing**



# Outline of the Talk

- ✔ Homonuclear DQ NMR spectroscopy under fast MAS
- ✔ Residual dipolar couplings and order parameters in nematic LC
- ✔ Multi-Spin Effects in abundant spin systems
  - ✔ two spin approximation and its limits
  - ✔ double-quantum relay in dipolar systems
  - ✔ multi-spin coherences involving more than 2 spins
- ✔ Conclusions for homonuclear DQ NMR in dense spin systems
  
- ✔ Heteronuclear MQ NMR spectroscopy and REDOR
- ✔ Shape persistent polymers with dendritic sidegroups
- ✔ Inverse detection of  $^{15}\text{N}$  in natural abundance
- ✔ Conclusions

# High Resolution Double-Quantum NMR in Solids

properties of double-quantum coherences :

●  $\omega_{DQ} = \sum_i \omega_{SQ,i}$

●  $I_{DQ,ij} = f(D_{ij} \cdot t)$

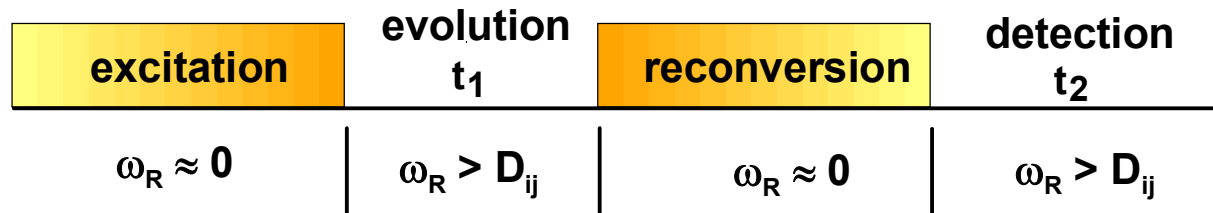
●  $\frac{dM}{dt} \approx 0$

high resolution solid-state NMR spectroscopy:  average out dipolar coupling via

● Multi pulse sequence (WAHUHA, MREV-8)

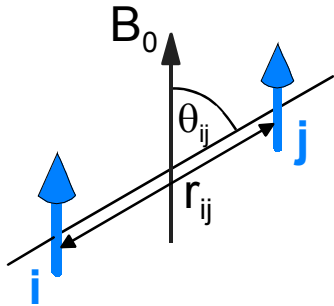
● Magic Angle Spining (MAS)

Problem: Coupling between the spins is needed for double-quantum excitation !



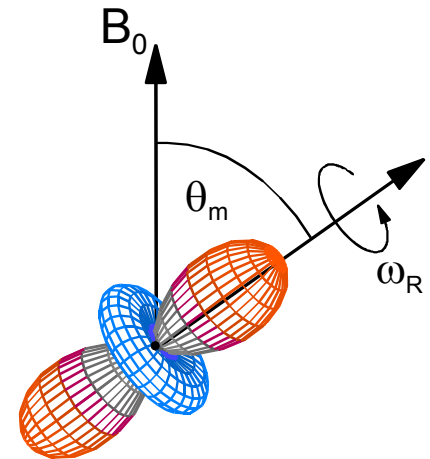
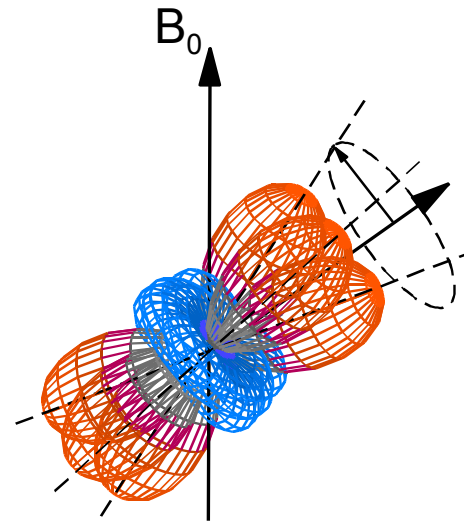
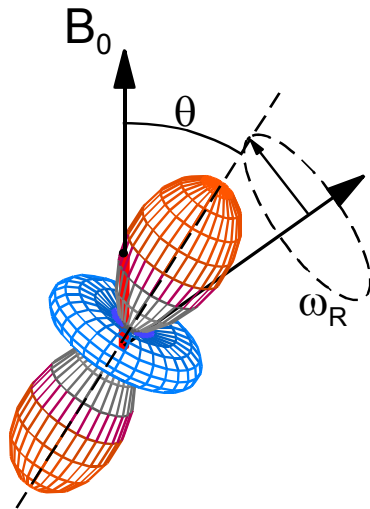
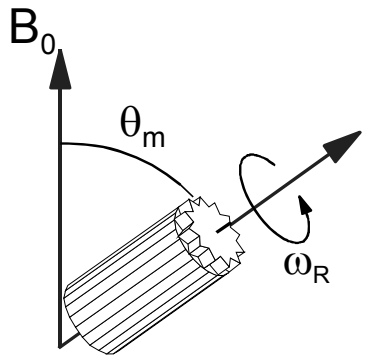
# Dipolar Couplings and Sample Rotation at the Magic Angle

Dipole Dipole Coupling:



spatial part	spin part
$\hat{H} \propto \frac{1}{r_{ij}^3} \cdot \frac{1}{2} (3\cos^2 \theta_{ij} - 1)$	$\gamma_i \gamma_j (2\hat{I}_{Z,i} \hat{I}_{Z,j} + \hat{I}_{+,i} \hat{I}_{-,j} + \hat{I}_{-,i} \hat{I}_{+,j})$
→ 0	unchanged

Magic Angle Spinning:



# Excitation of Double-Quantum Coherences under MAS

## Direct Excitation

$$D_{ij} > \omega_R$$



$$\tau < 0.5 \cdot \tau_R$$

no synchronization

● 3 Pulse Sequence  
(+ z-filter)

## Recoupling

$$D_{ij} < \omega_R$$



$$\tau = n \cdot \tau_R$$

rotor synchronization

- DRAMA
- BABA
- C7

In the regime of fast MAS only recoupling techniques are applicable.



# Recoupling Pulse Sequences

Average Hamiltonian of Pulse Sequences :

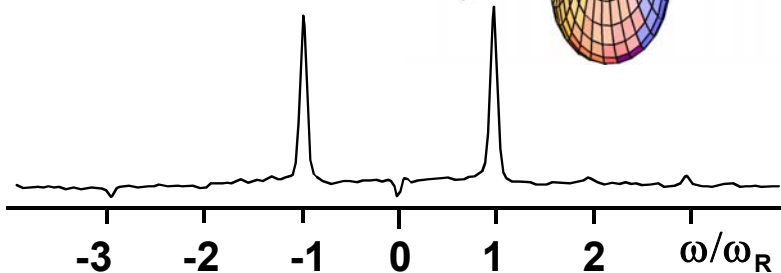
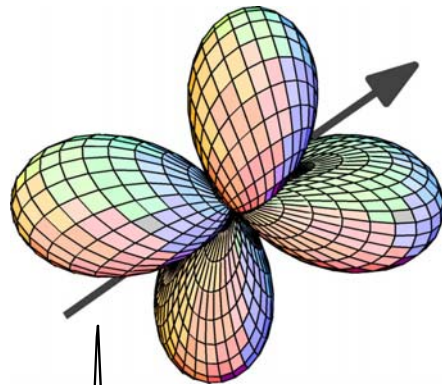
$$H_{av}^0 = \sum_{i < j} \omega_{PF} I_i^+ I_j^+ + \omega_{PF}^* I_i^- I_j^-$$

Laboratory-System Pulse Sequences

examples: DRAMA, Back-to-Back, REDOR...

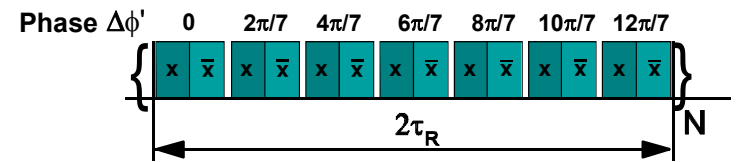


orientation dependence  
of DQ excitation  
efficiency

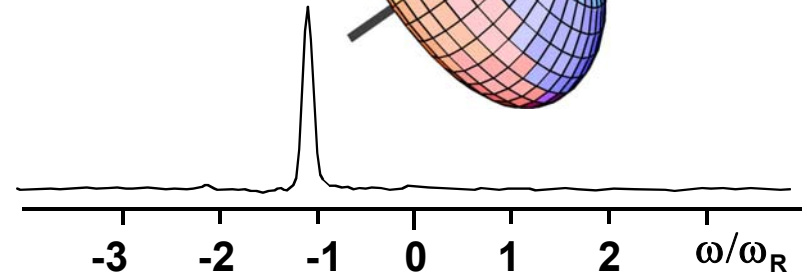
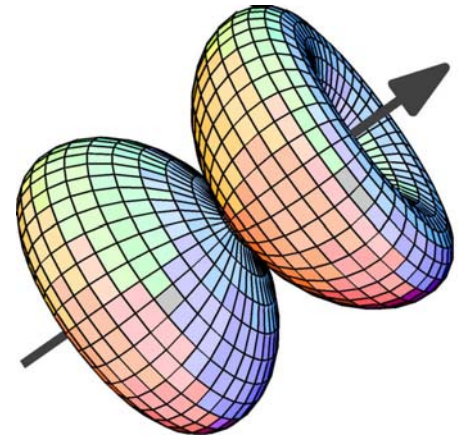


Rotor-System Pulse Sequences

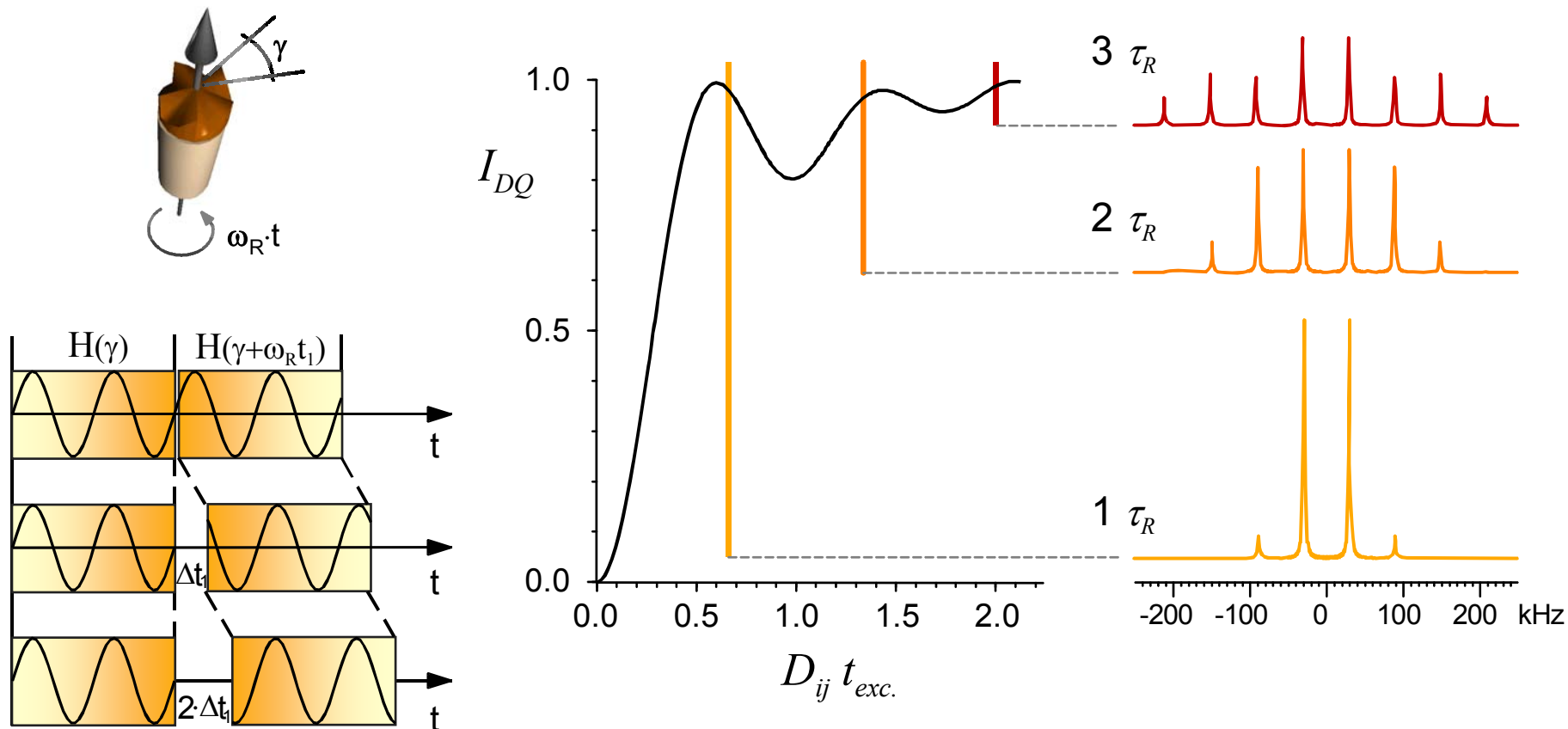
examples: C<sub>7</sub>, POST C<sub>7</sub>, MELODRAMA ...



orientation dependence  
of DQ excitation  
efficiency

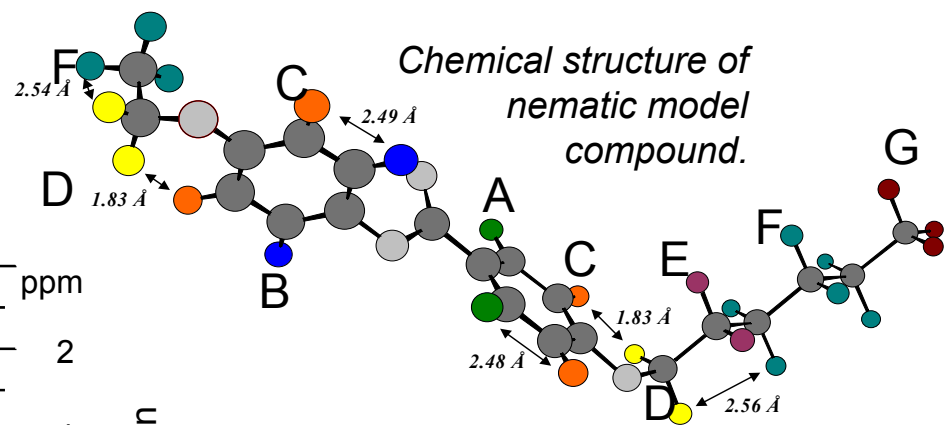
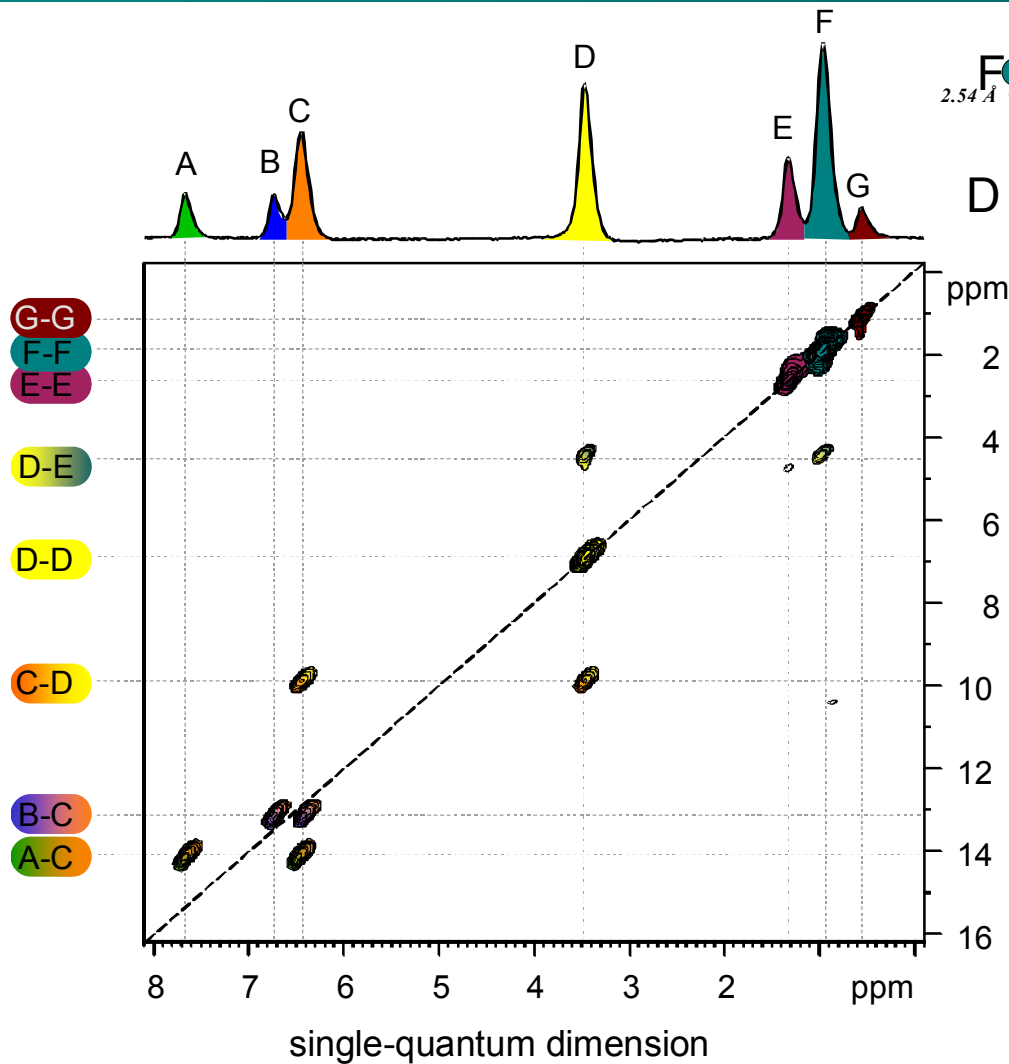


# Double Quantum Spectroscopy under fast MAS

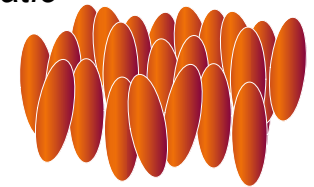


The rotor modulation of the recoupled dipolar Hamiltonian due to  $t_1$ -increments  $\Delta t_1 \neq \tau_R$  leads to MAS sideband pattern in the  $t_1$  dimension, which depend on the recoupling time and the dipolar coupling only.

# Local Order in Nematic Liquid Crystals

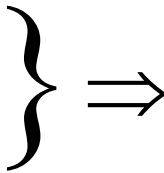


Structure of a nematic liquid crystal



DQ build-up behaviour

DQ sideband pattern

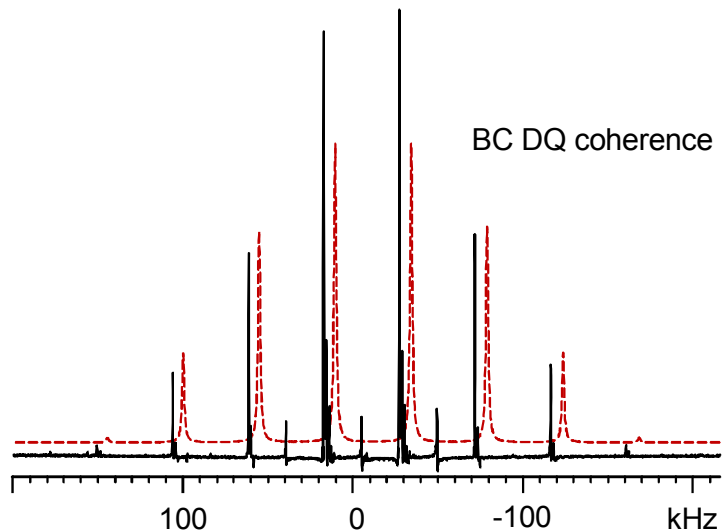


local order parameter

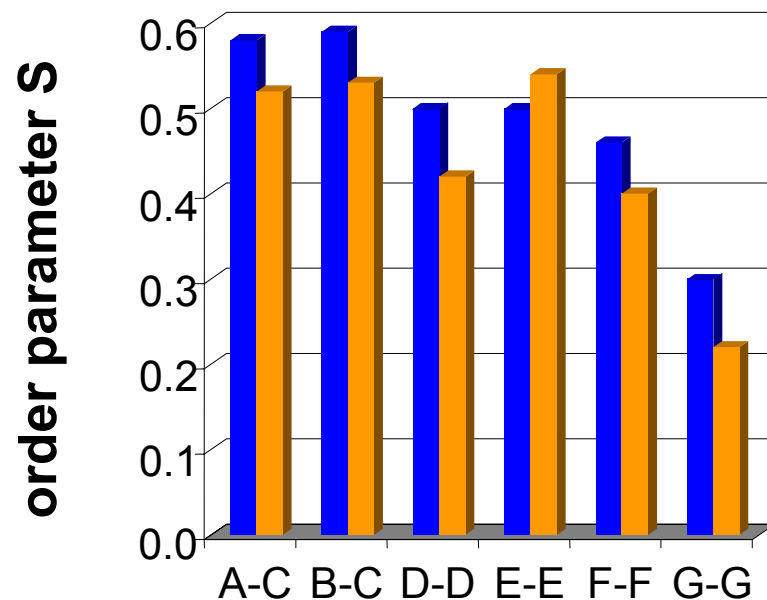
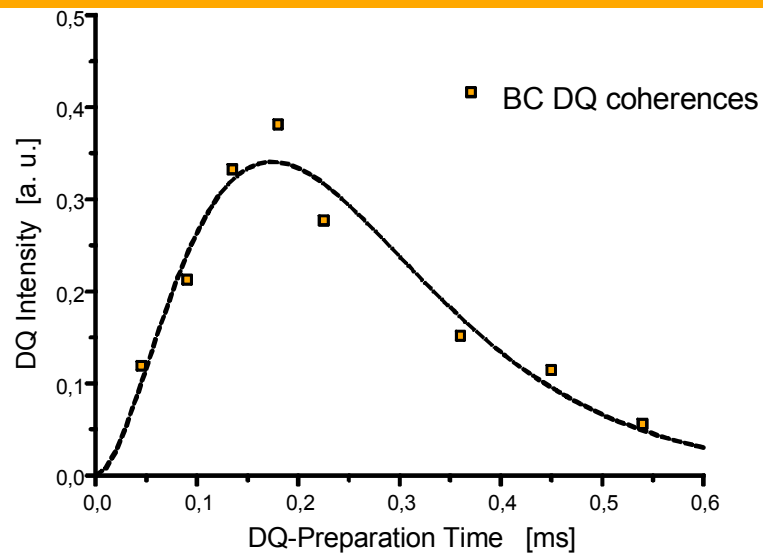
$$S = \left\langle \frac{1}{2}(3\cos^2\theta - 1) \right\rangle = 0.6$$

Double-quantum measurements are in good agreement with  $^2\text{H}$  experiments

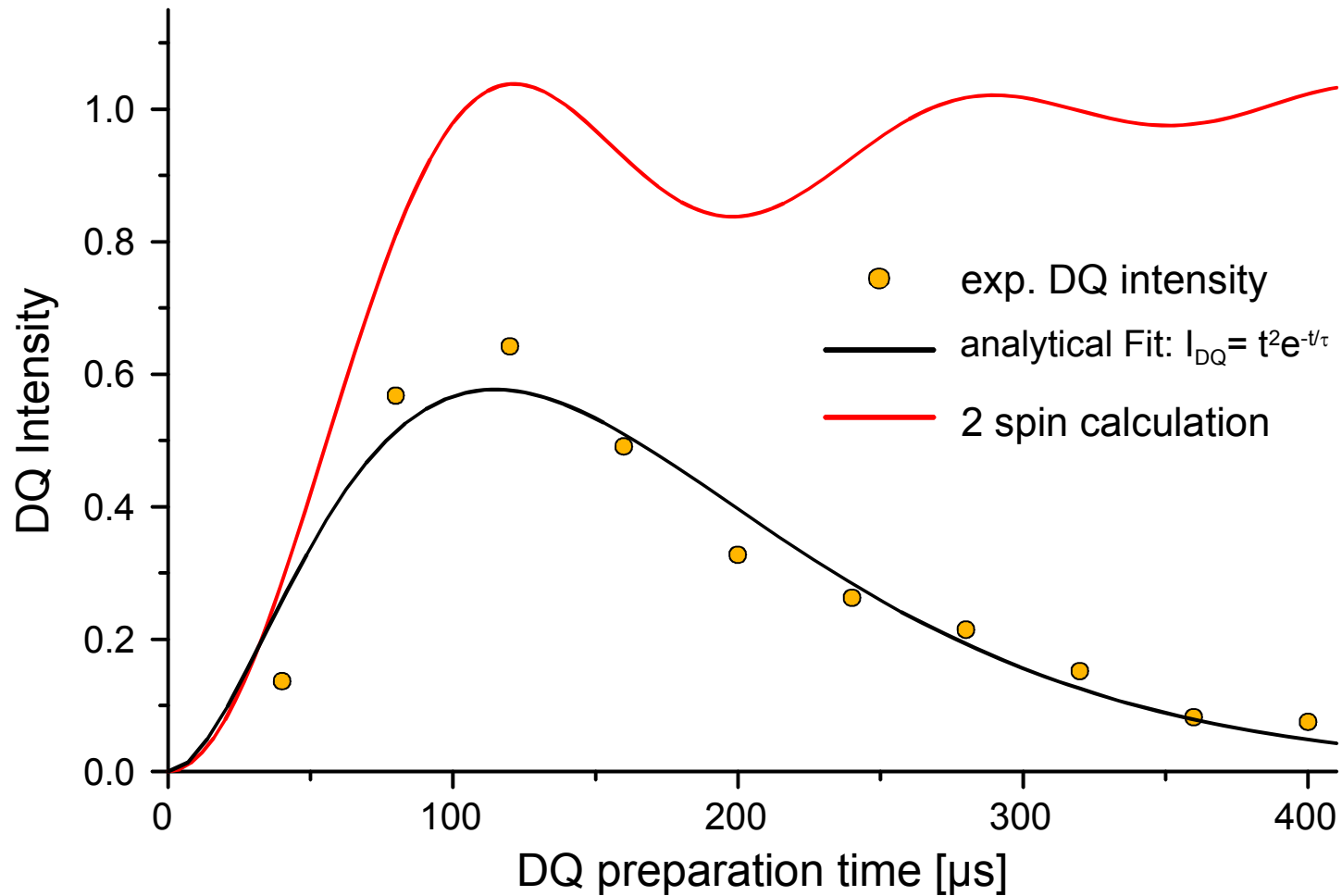
# Dipolar Coupling and Order Parameters



DQ coherence	A-C	B-C	D-D	E-E	F-F	G-G
$D_{ij,eff}$ <u>SBP</u>	4.8	4.9	5.2	5.2	4.8	3.1
[kHz] <u>Build-up</u>	4.4	4.3	4.5	5.6	4.3	2.4
$S_{ij}$ <u>SBP</u>	0.58	0.59	0.50	0.50	0.46	0.30
<u>Build-up</u>	0.52	0.53	0.42	0.54	0.40	0.22

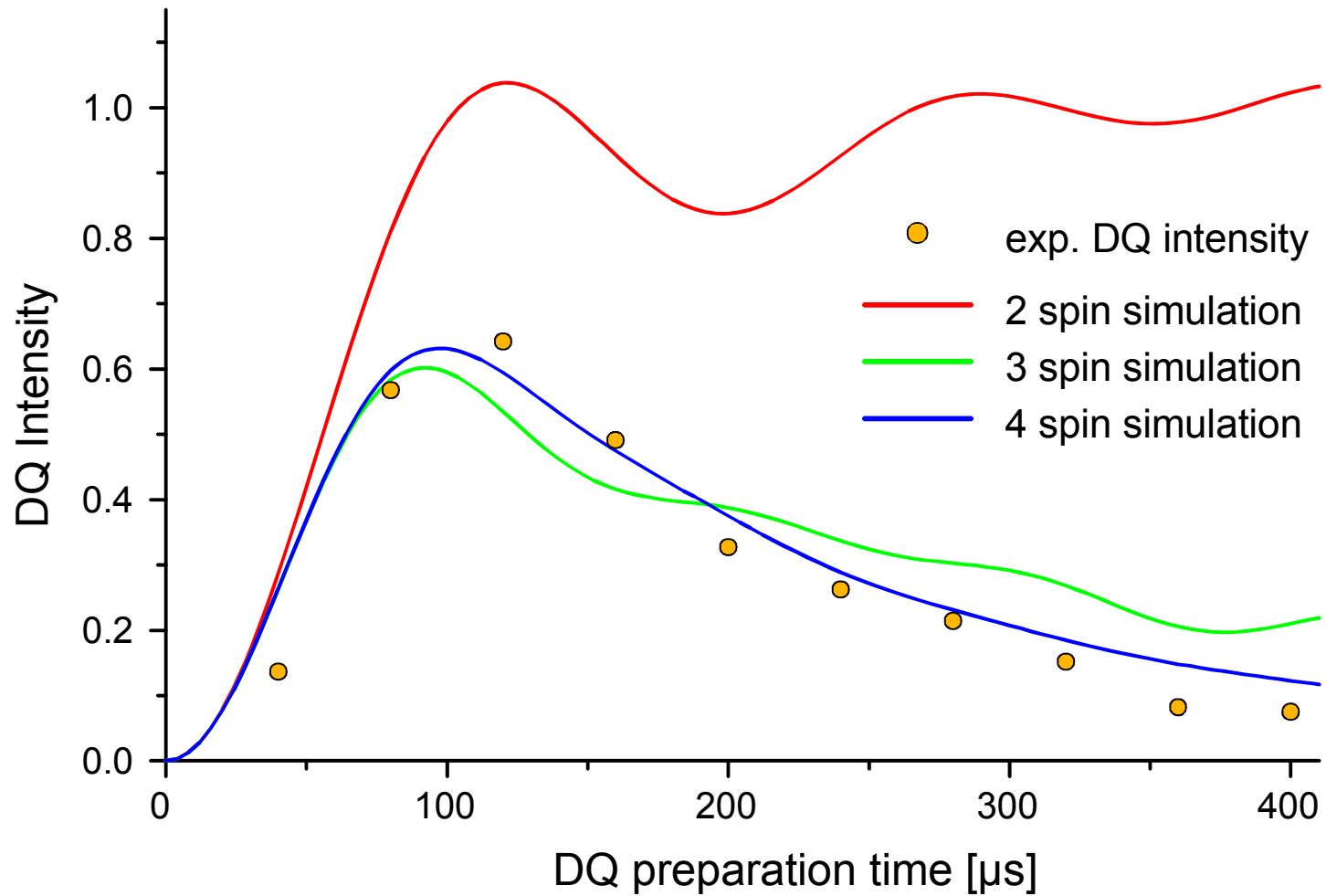


# Multi-Spin Effects in Double-Quantum Build-Up



2-spin approximation describes only the initial behavior.

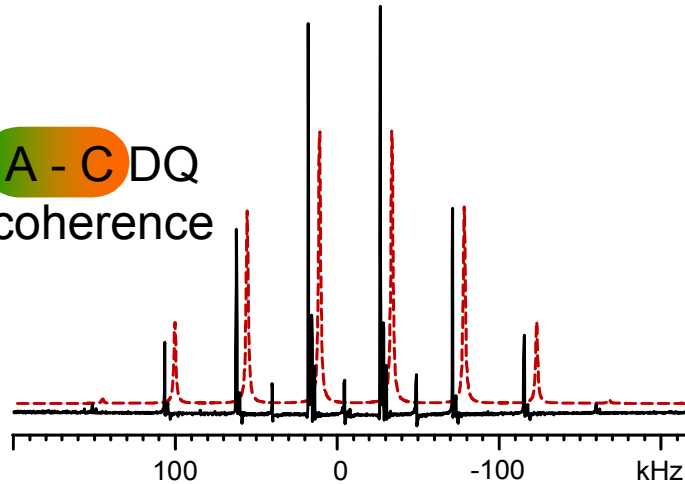
# Multi-Spin Effects in Double-Quantum Build-Up



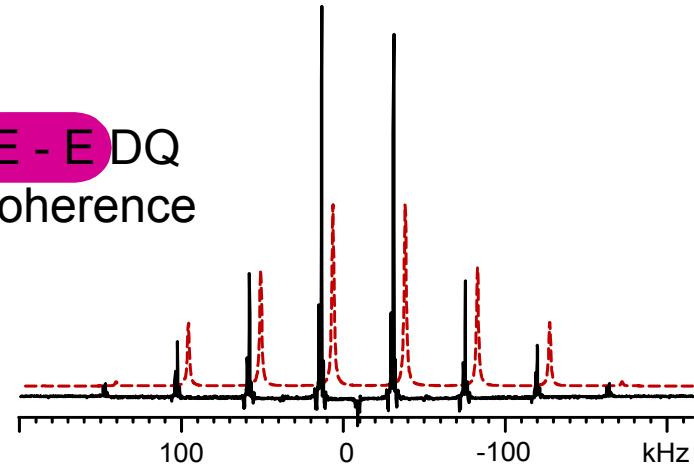
Multi-spin effects lead to exponential decay of the DQ intensities

# Multi-Spin Effects in DQ Sideband Pattern

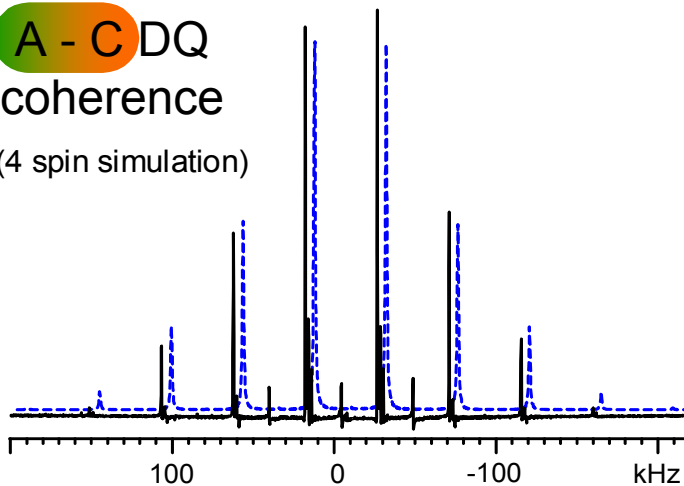
A - C DQ coherence



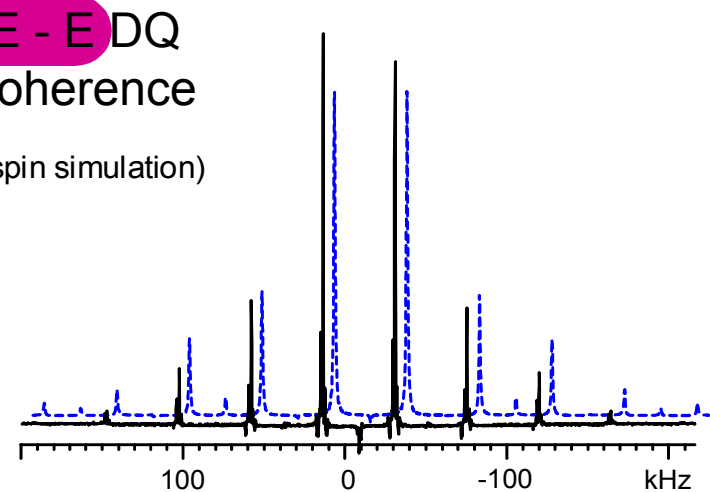
E - E DQ coherence



A - C DQ coherence  
(4 spin simulation)



E - E DQ coherence  
(4 spin simulation)



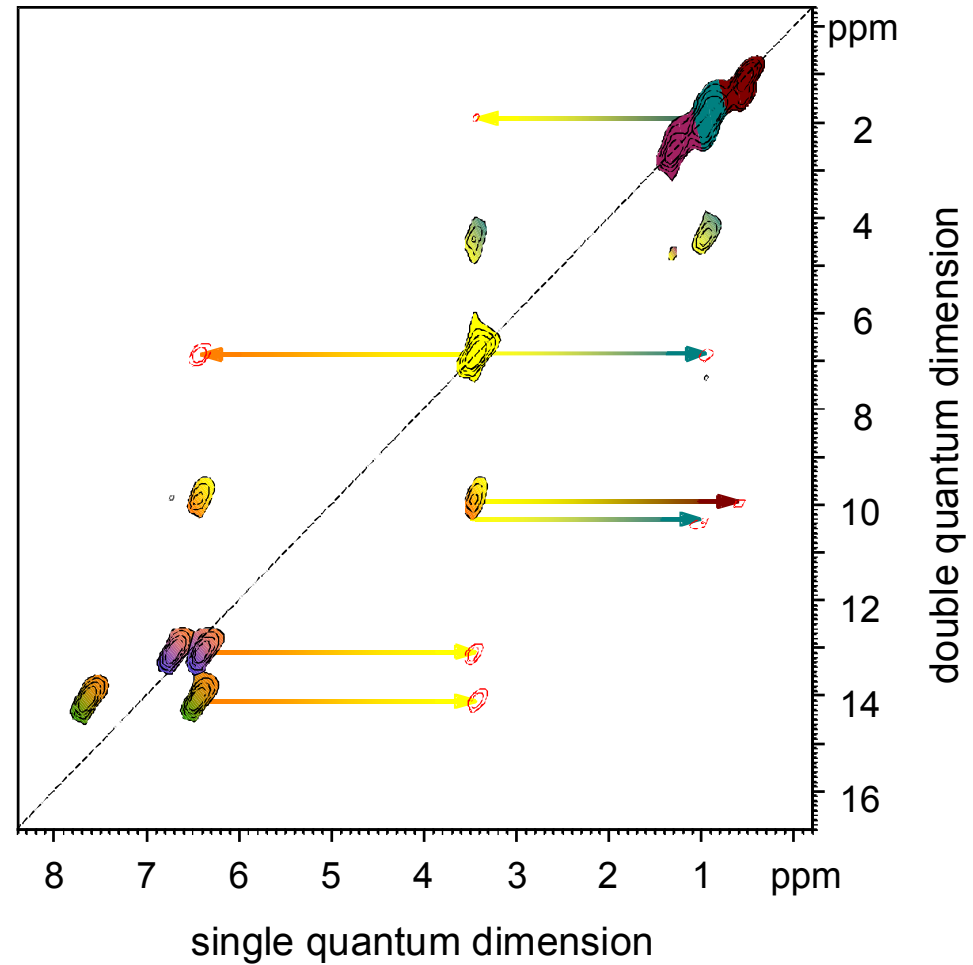
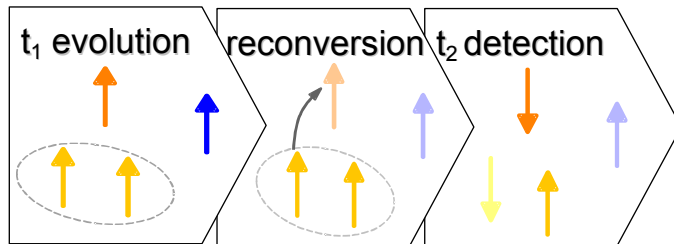
1<sup>st</sup> order sidebands are under estimated by 2-spin approximation

# DQ Polarisation Transfer: 1. Order Relay

double-quantum experiment :



1. Order DQ relay



Double-quantum polarisation transfer leads to negative signal intensities

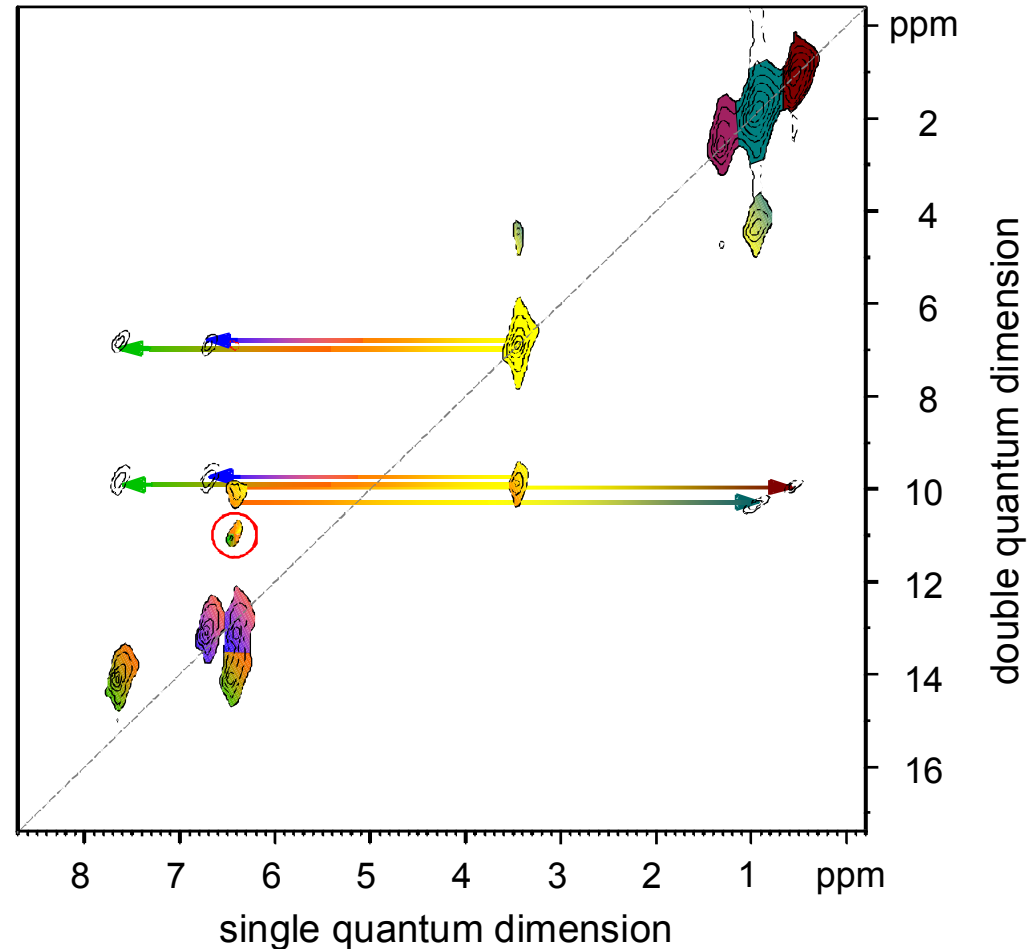
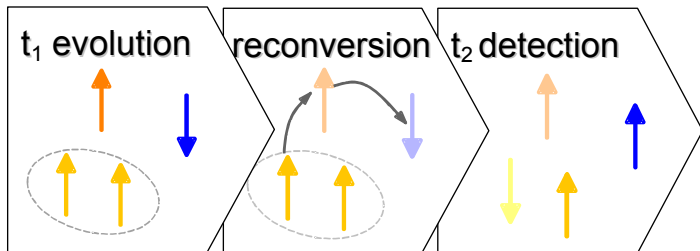


# DQ Polarisation Transfer: 2. Order Relay

double-quantum experiment :

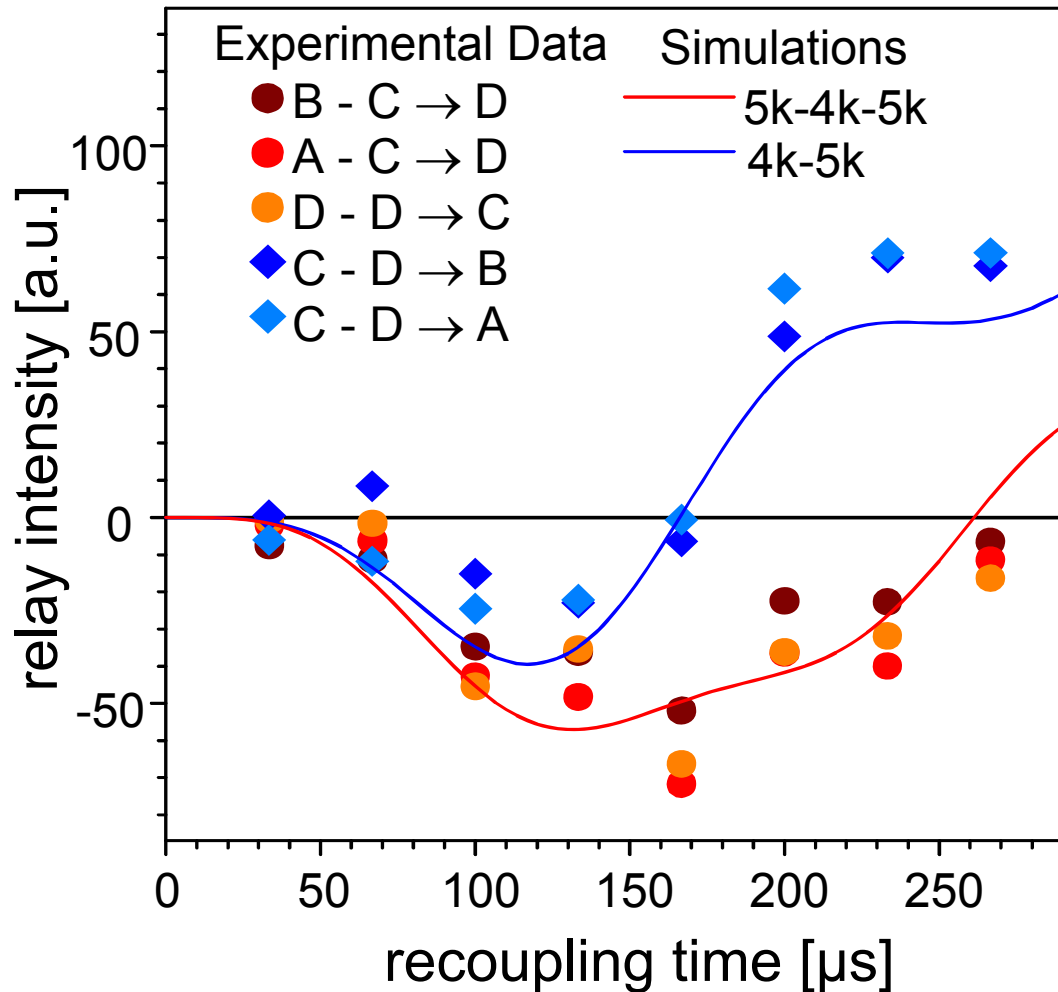


2. order double-quantum relay



For longer double-quantum recoupling times coherences get delocalised and can obscure the double-quantum spectrum

# Time Dependence of Dipolar DQ Relay Intensities



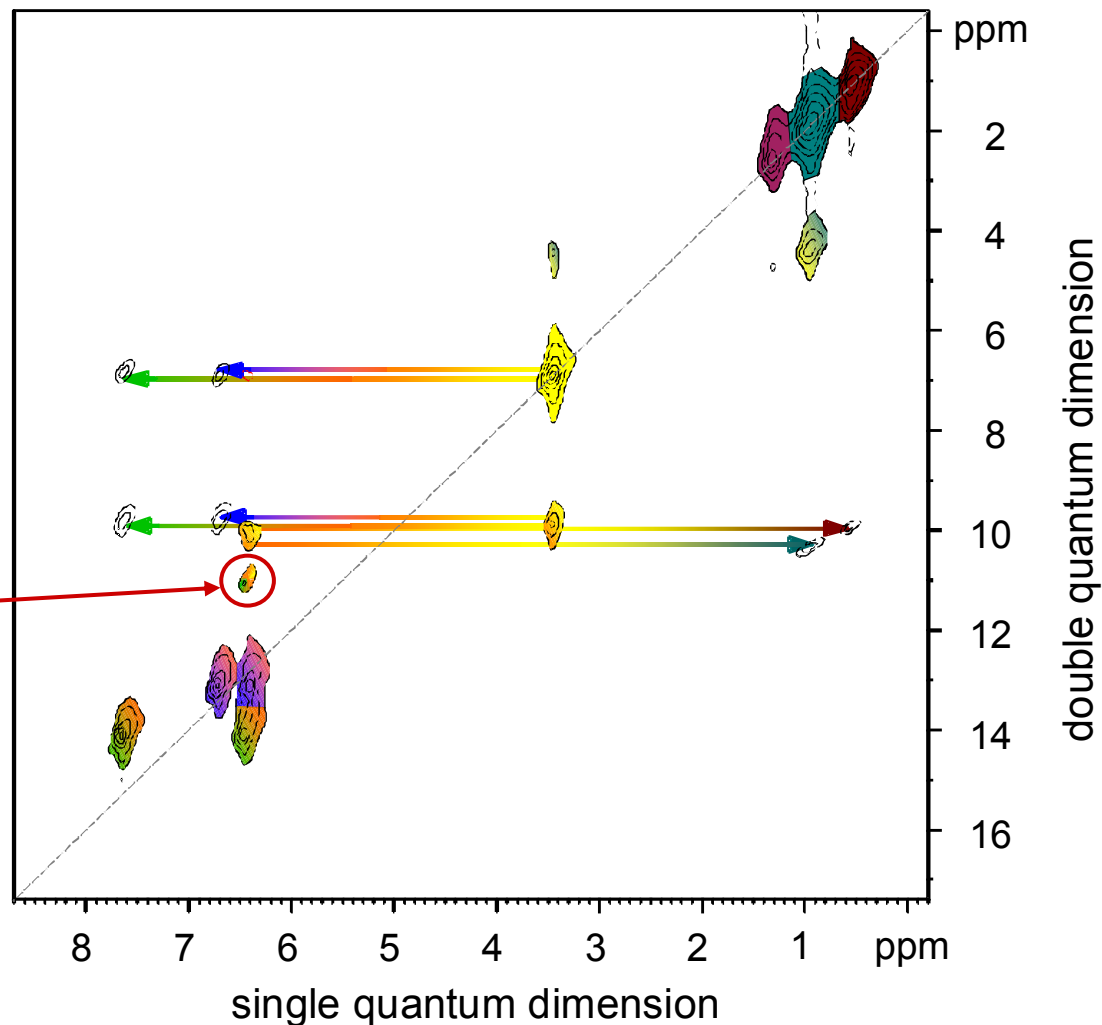
Dipolar couplings lead to more complicated relay behavior than J-coupling

# Multi-Spin Coherences: 4 Spin 2 Quantum

4 spin 2 quantum coherences

$$H_{4S2Q} = a_{ijkl} I_i^+ I_j^+ I_k^+ I_l^- + a_{ijkl}^* I_i^- I_j^- I_k^- I_l^+$$

$(I_A^+ I_C^- I_C^+ I_D^+ + I_A^- I_C^- I_C^- I_D^-)$  – coherence



Multi-spin DQ coherences can be observed, but are hard to analyse.

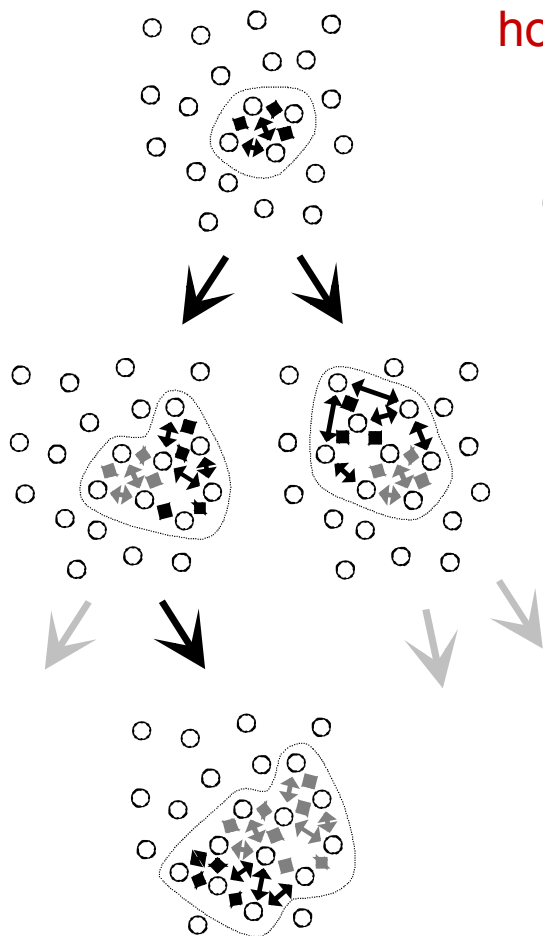
# Conclusions for $^1\text{H}$ DQ NMR Spectroscopy

- High resolution DQ spectra under fast MAS can be obtained using appropriate recoupling sequences.
- DQ build-up behavior and DQ spinning sideband pattern provide quantitative information about dipolar couplings.
- Even though, multi-spin effects are observed, a careful 2-spin analysis provides reasonable dipolar coupling values.
- In favorable cases, multi-spin effects can be analyzed and additional information can be obtained.
- DQ relay intensities due to dipolar couplings are harder to analyze than those due to J-couplings.

# How dipolar interactions “explore” space

homonuclear case:

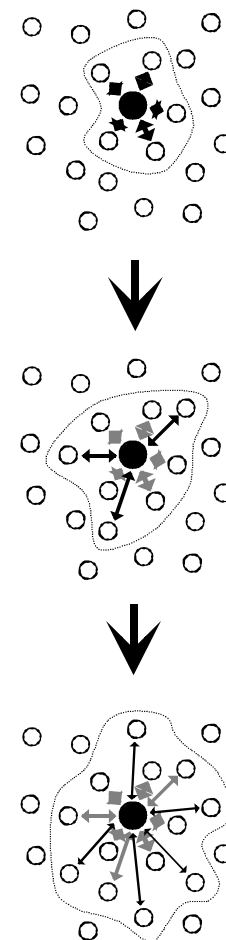
random walk  
characteristics,  
delocalized



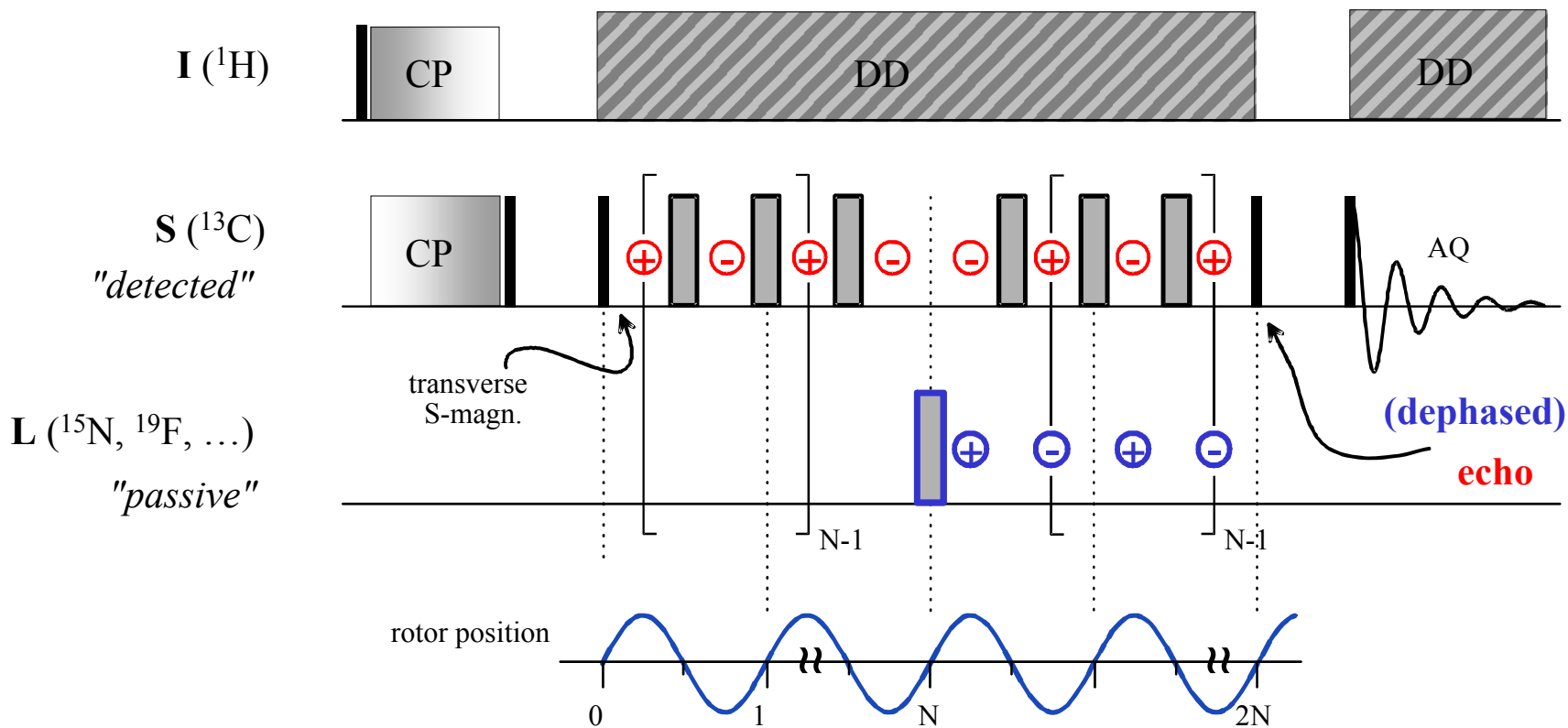
approaching incoherent  
diffusive processes

heteronuclear case:

well-localized probing  
of the  $^{13}\text{C}$  environment

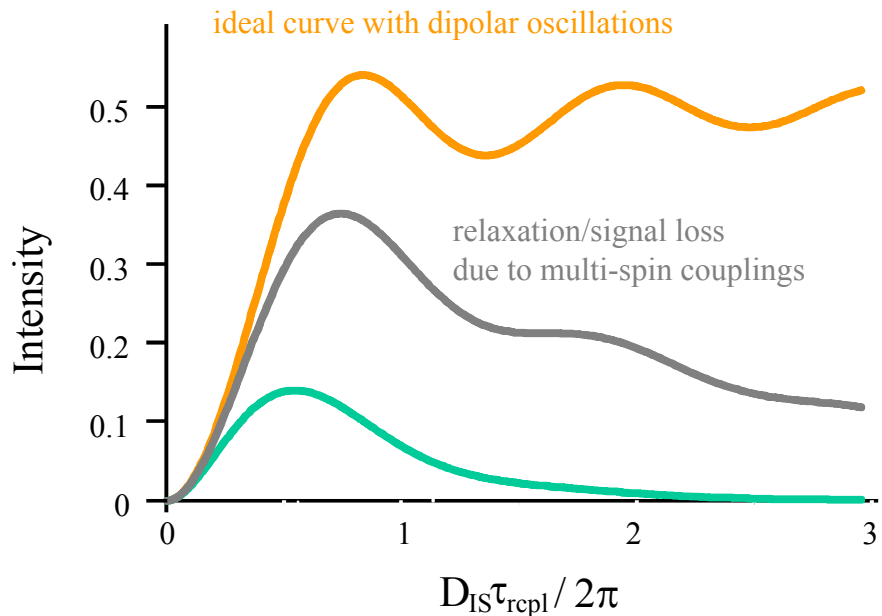


# Rotational Echo Double Resonance (REDOR)



$$\mathbf{S}_Y \xrightarrow{1^{\text{st}} \text{ half: } 2N\tau_R \cdot \mathbf{S}_Z \mathbf{L}_Z} \begin{cases} \mathbf{S}_Y \cos(N\Phi) \\ -2\mathbf{S}_X \mathbf{L}_Z \sin(N\Phi) \end{cases} \xrightarrow{2^{\text{nd}} \text{ half: } 2N\tau_R \cdot \mathbf{S}_Z \mathbf{L}_Z} \mathbf{S}_Y \left[ \cos^2(N\Phi) \pm \sin^2(N\Phi) \right] = \begin{cases} \mathbf{S}_Y \\ \mathbf{S}_Y \cos(2N\Phi) \end{cases}$$

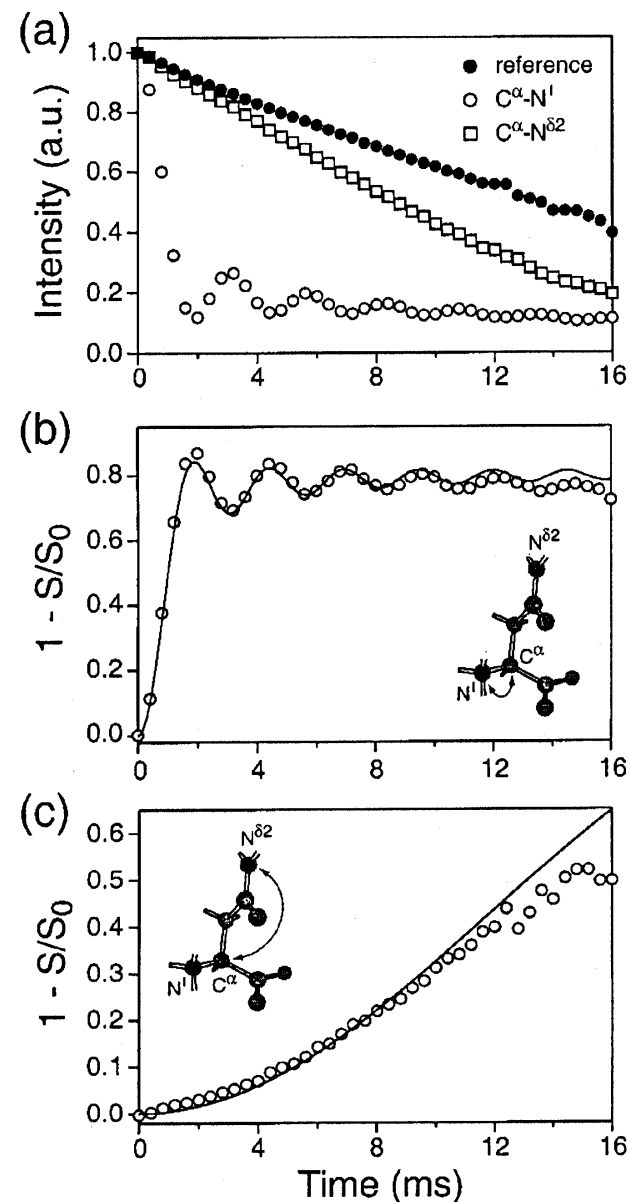
# Internuclear distances from REDOR curves



Experiments in Asparagine

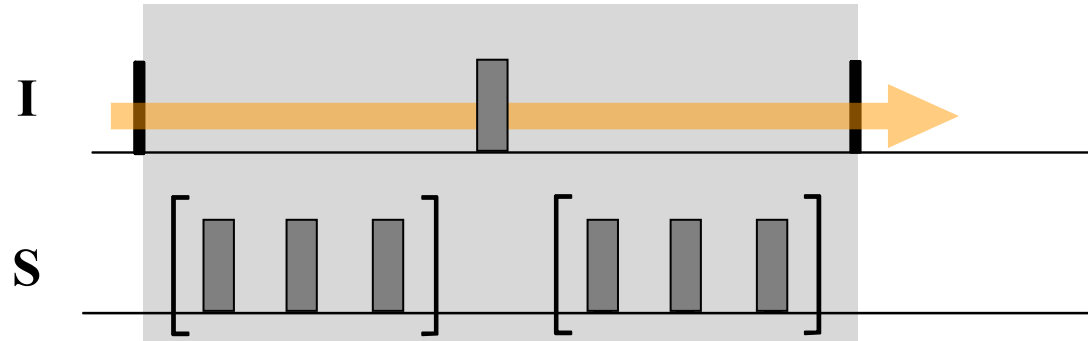
**Table 1.** Internuclear Distances in [U- $^{13}\text{C}$ , $^{15}\text{N}$ ]Asparagine

atoms <sup>a</sup>		$r_{\text{C-N}} (\text{\AA})$	
		NMR <sup>b</sup>	neutron <sup>c</sup>
N'	C $^{\alpha}$	$1.50 \pm 0.02$	1.49
	C $^{\beta}$	$2.49 \pm 0.02$	2.48
N $^{\delta 2}$	C $^{\alpha}$	$3.58 \pm 0.20$	3.75
	C $^{\beta}$	$2.44 \pm 0.02$	2.42

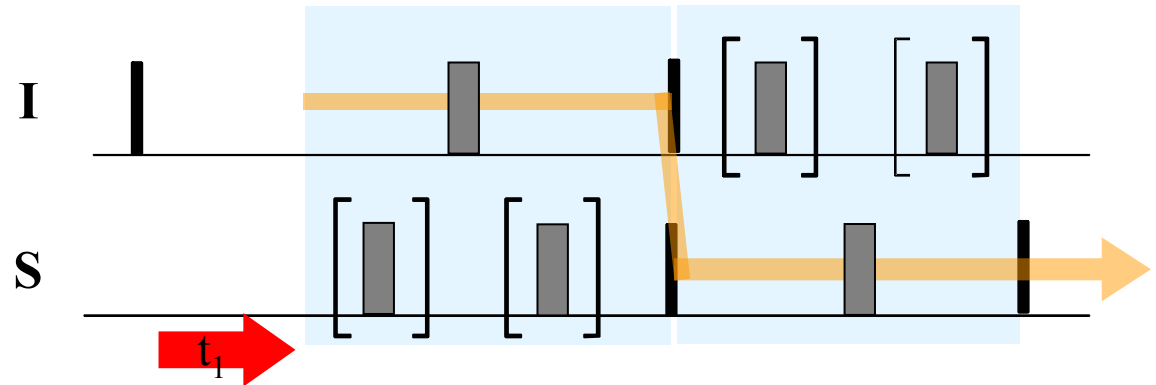


# Coherent polarisation transfer

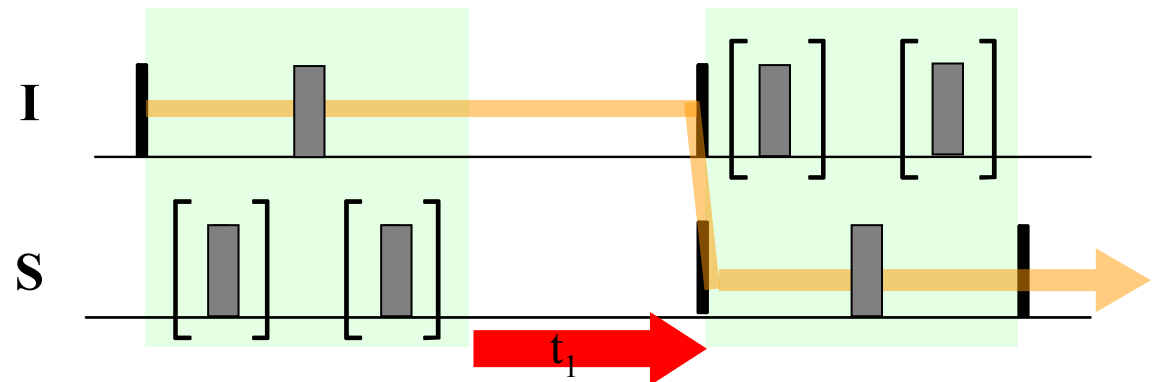
REDOR  
scheme



Heteronuclear correlation  
(SQ-SQ) via transferred  
echo double resonance  
(TEDOR)

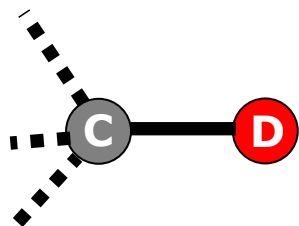


Heteronuclear single-  
quantum correlation  
(HSQC) via recoupled  
polarisation transfer  
(REPT)

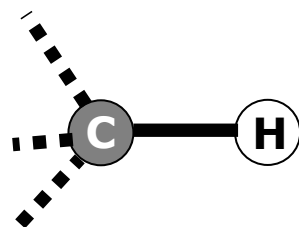




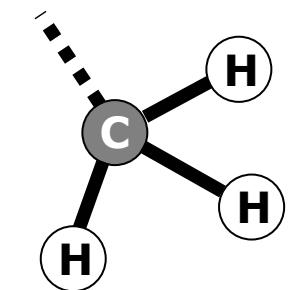
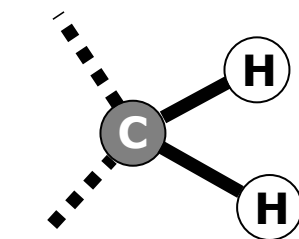
# From deuterons to $\text{CH}_n$ groups



Selectively placed **deuterons**  
as probes for molecular dynamics  
(quadrupole coupling of spin-1 nucleus)



Regular  **$\text{CH}_n$**  groups

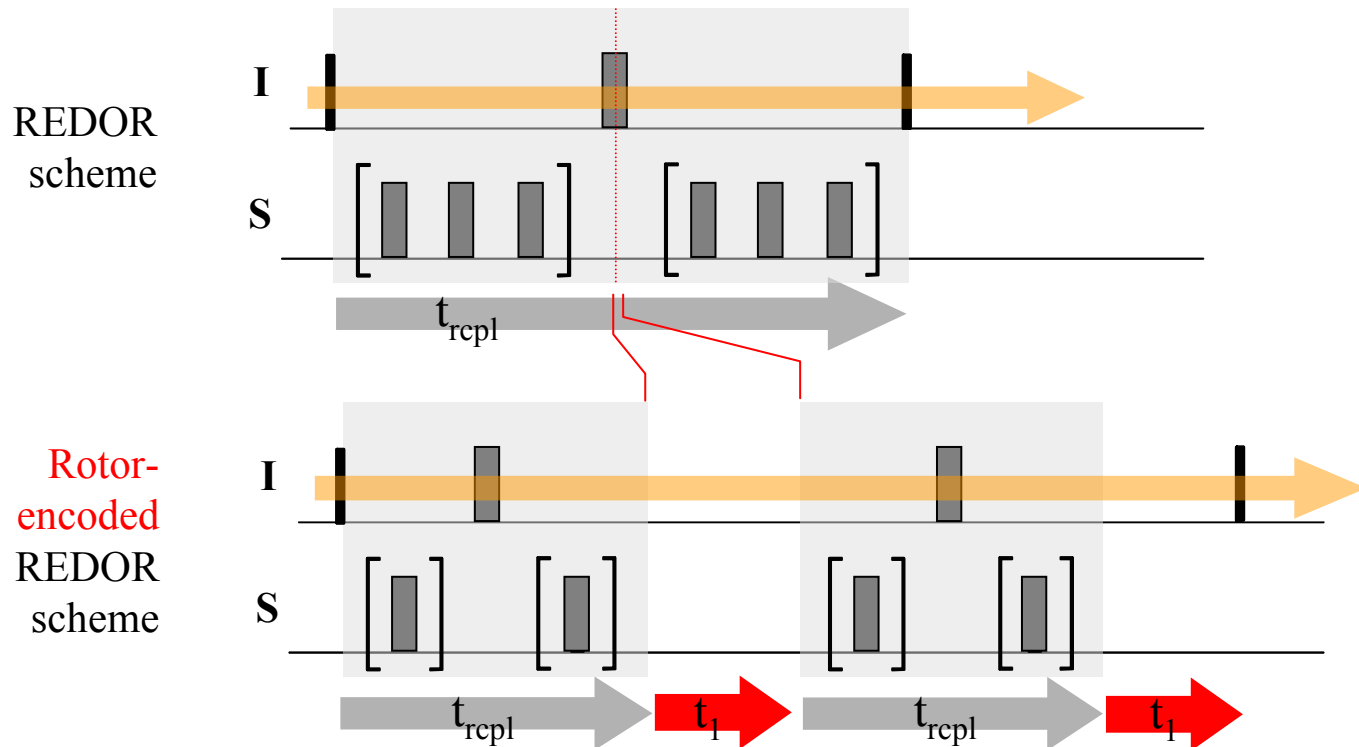


- use of dipole-dipole coupling between C and H
- no additional synthetic effort
  - ▶ no selective placement of probing nucleus
  - ▶ no isotopic enrichment
- assignment of dynamics by  $^{13}\text{C}$  chemical shifts
- handling of  $\text{CH}$ ,  $\text{CH}_2$  and  $\text{CH}_3$  groups
- interferences of multiple C-H couplings
- decoupling from surrounding  $^1\text{H}$

# Signal build-up versus rotor-encoding

Two alternative concepts for measuring recoupled interactions:

- following the signal intensity as a function of the recoupling time (resulting in build-up or dephasing curves)
- recording rotor-encoded signal (resulting in MAS sideband patterns)



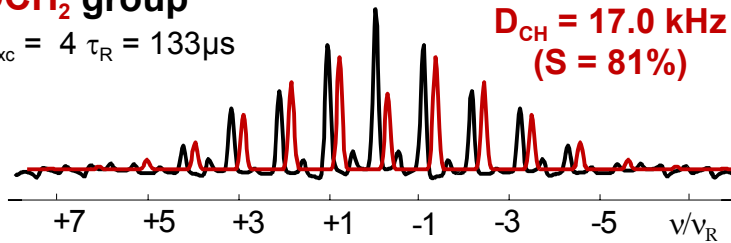
# Cylindrical self-assembly of dendritic sidegroups (I)

## REREDOR

### OCH<sub>2</sub> group

$$\tau_{\text{exc}} = 4 \tau_R = 133 \mu\text{s}$$

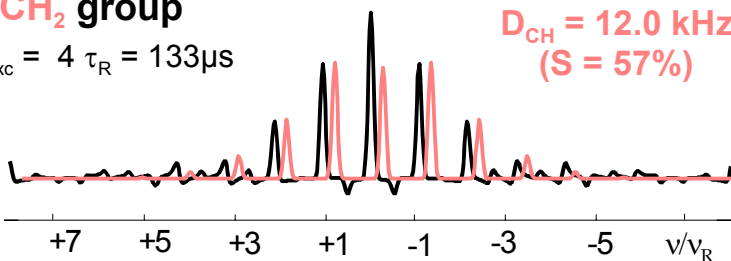
$$D_{\text{CH}} = 17.0 \text{ kHz} \quad (S = 81\%)$$



### OCH<sub>2</sub> group

$$\tau_{\text{exc}} = 4 \tau_R = 133 \mu\text{s}$$

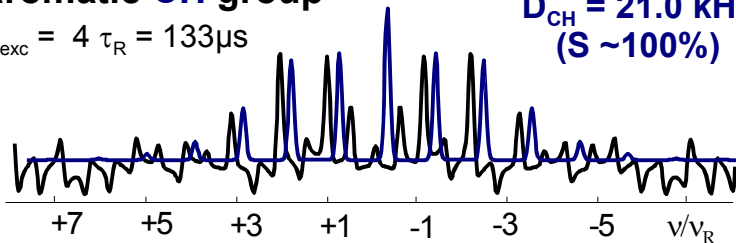
$$D_{\text{CH}} = 12.0 \text{ kHz} \quad (S = 57\%)$$



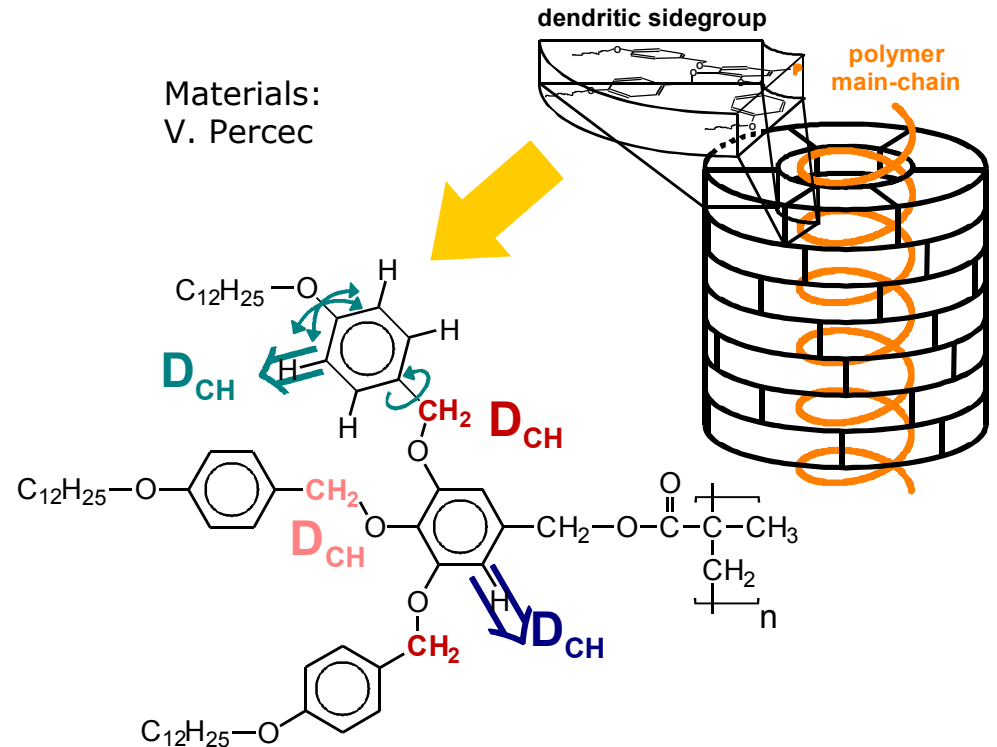
### aromatic CH group

$$\tau_{\text{exc}} = 4 \tau_R = 133 \mu\text{s}$$

$$D_{\text{CH}} = 21.0 \text{ kHz} \quad (S \sim 100\%)$$



Materials:  
V. Percec

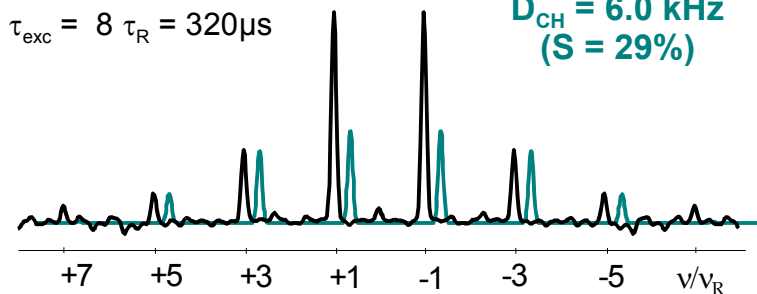


## REPT-HDOR

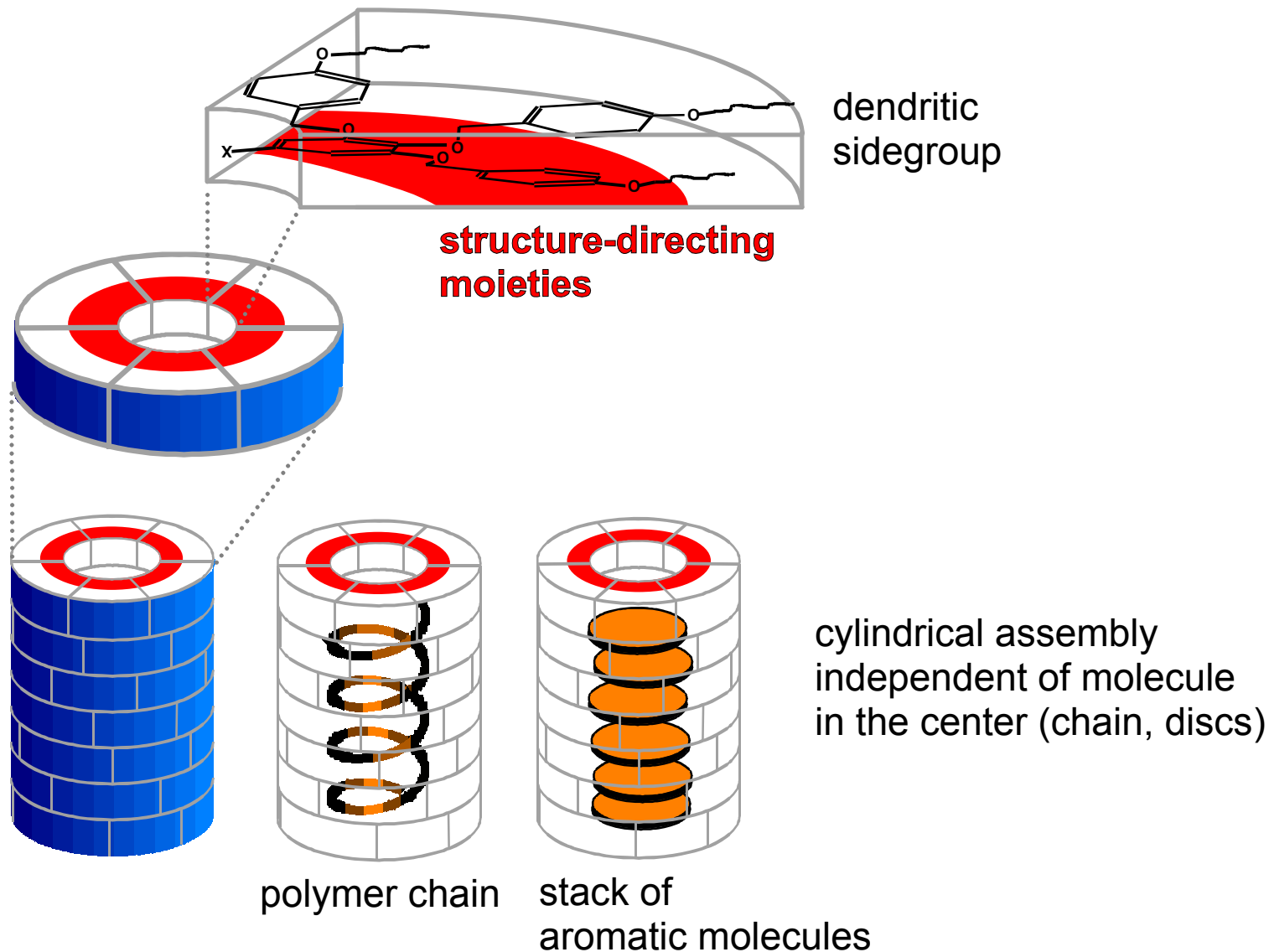
### aromatic CH group

$$\tau_{\text{exc}} = 8 \tau_R = 320 \mu\text{s}$$

$$D_{\text{CH}} = 6.0 \text{ kHz} \quad (S = 29\%)$$

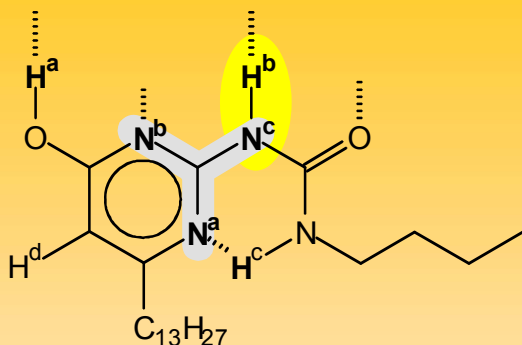


# Cylindrical self-assembly of dendritic sidegroups (II)

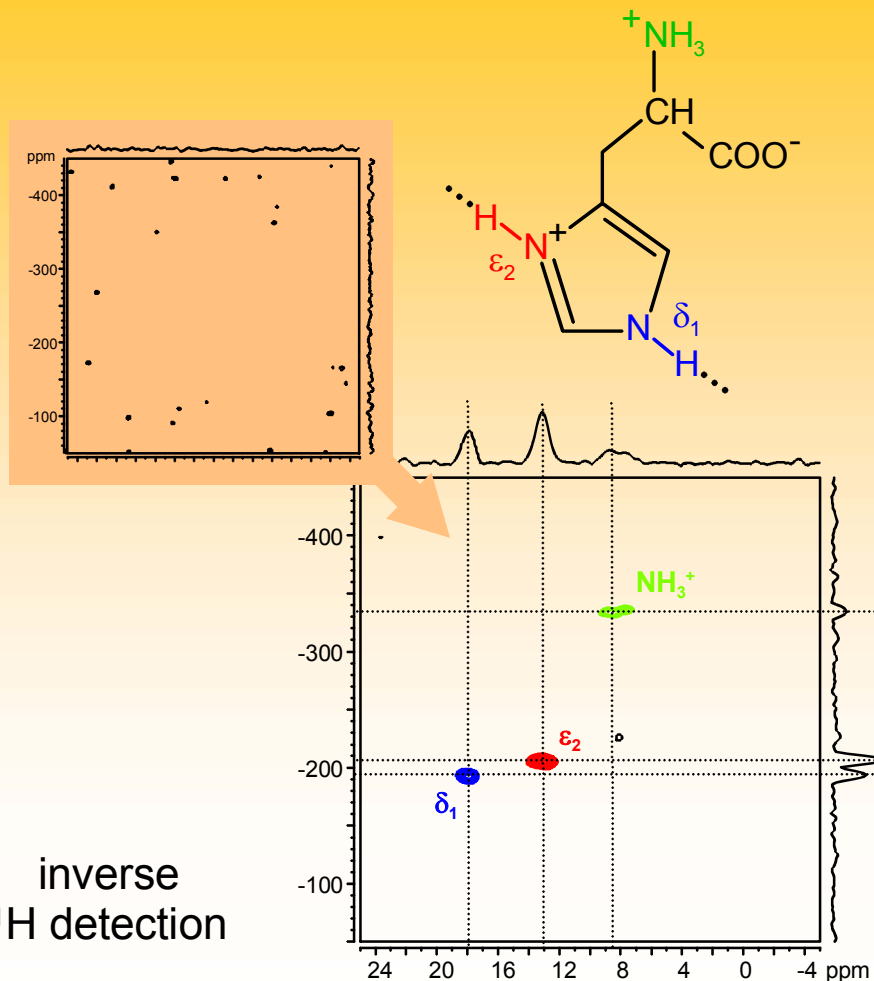


# Sensitivity enhancement by inverse ( $^1\text{H}$ ) detection

33%  $^{15}\text{N}$ -enriched



0.35%  $^{15}\text{N}$  (natural abundance)



conventional  $^{15}\text{N}$  detection

S/N = 8

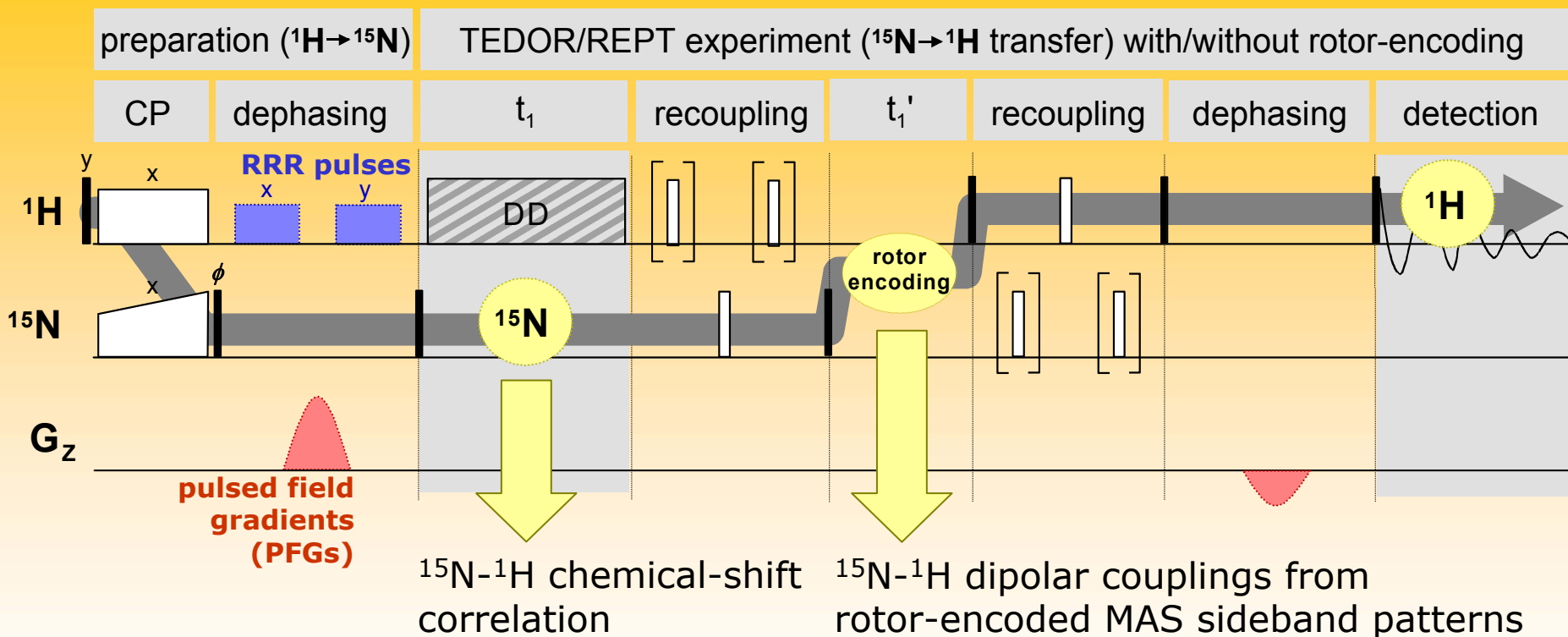
-160 -180 -200 -220 -240 -260 -280 ppm

x 10

S/N = 80

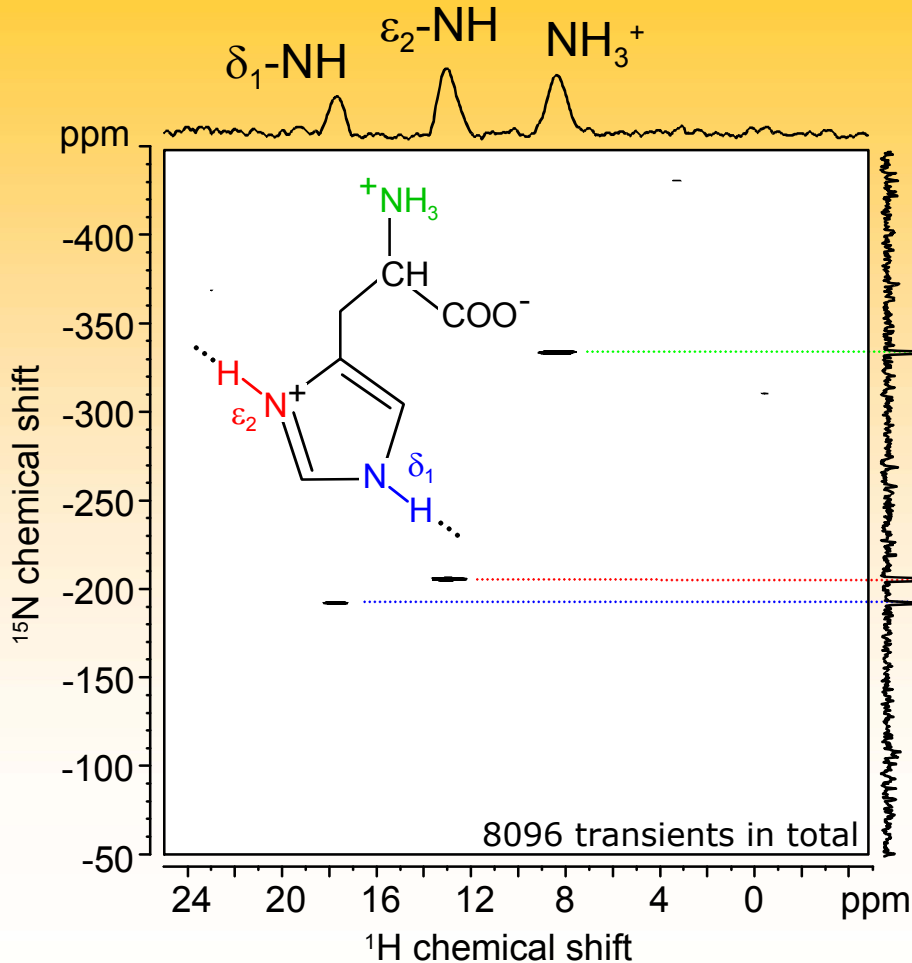
-160 -180 -200 -220 -240 -260 -280 ppm

# Natural-abundance $^{15}\text{N}$ - $^1\text{H}$ correlation NMR

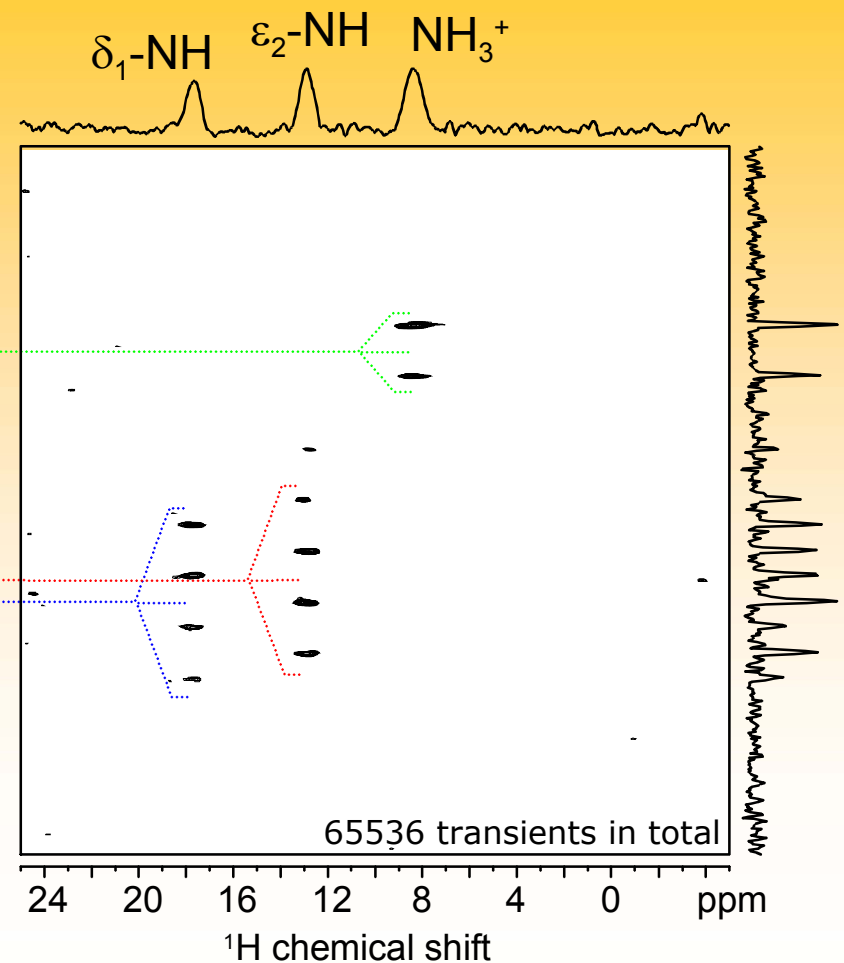


# NH...O hydrogen bonds in L-histidine

2D chemical shift correlation:



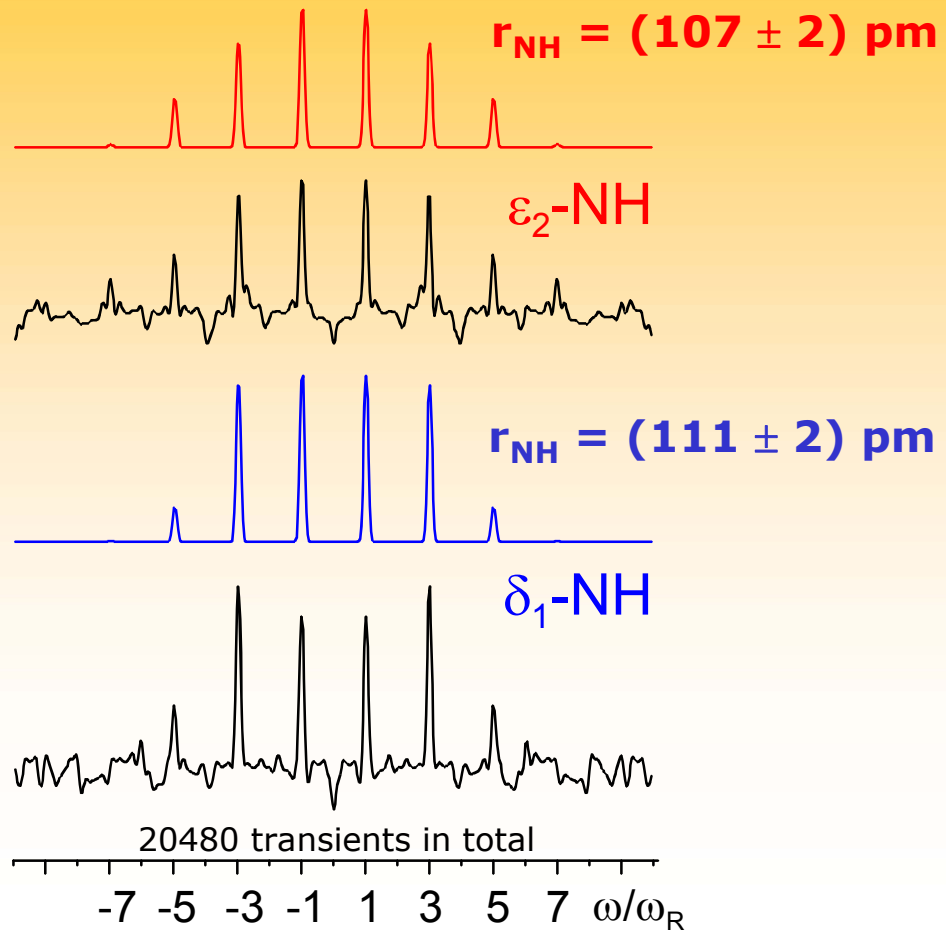
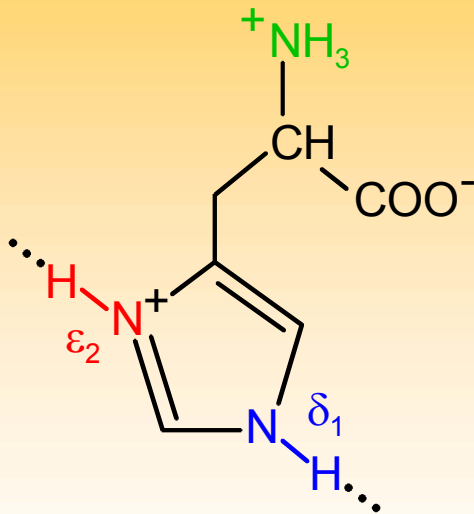
2D chemical shift correlation plus NH coupling information:



700 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  frequency, 30 kHz MAS, ~ 15 mg sample.

# N-H bond stretching due to hydrogen bonding

NH dipolar coupling from rotor-encoded spinning sideband pattern:





# Conclusions for heteronuclear methods

- Similarities of homo- and heteronuclear are sufficient to pursue the strategies known from  $^1\text{H}$  DQ NMR.
- Rotor encoding can be used to measure heteronuclear dipolar couplings with REDOR based techniques.
- The larger spread of chemical shifts of rare low  $\gamma$  nuclei provides site selective information about molecular dynamics.
- $^1\text{H}$  detection of low  $\gamma$  nuclei can increase the sensitivity and NMR measurements in natural abundance become feasible.

# ***NMR on supramolecular systems***

## **Homonuclear double-quantum measurements**

- ✔ Dipolar couplings and order parameters in LC system *Michael Neidhöfer*
- ✔ Analysis of  $^1\text{H}$  DQ relay *Robert Graf*

## **Heteronuclear method development in solid-state NMR**

- ✔  $^{13}\text{C}$  site-resolved dynamics of  $\text{CH}_n$  groups *Kay Saalwächter*
- ✔ natural abundance  $^{15}\text{N}$ - $^1\text{H}$  correlation spectroscopy *Ingo Schnell*
- ✔ N-H distance measurements

## **Investigations of complex systems**

- ✔ Dynamics and self-assembly of dendritic sidegroups *Almut Rapp*