

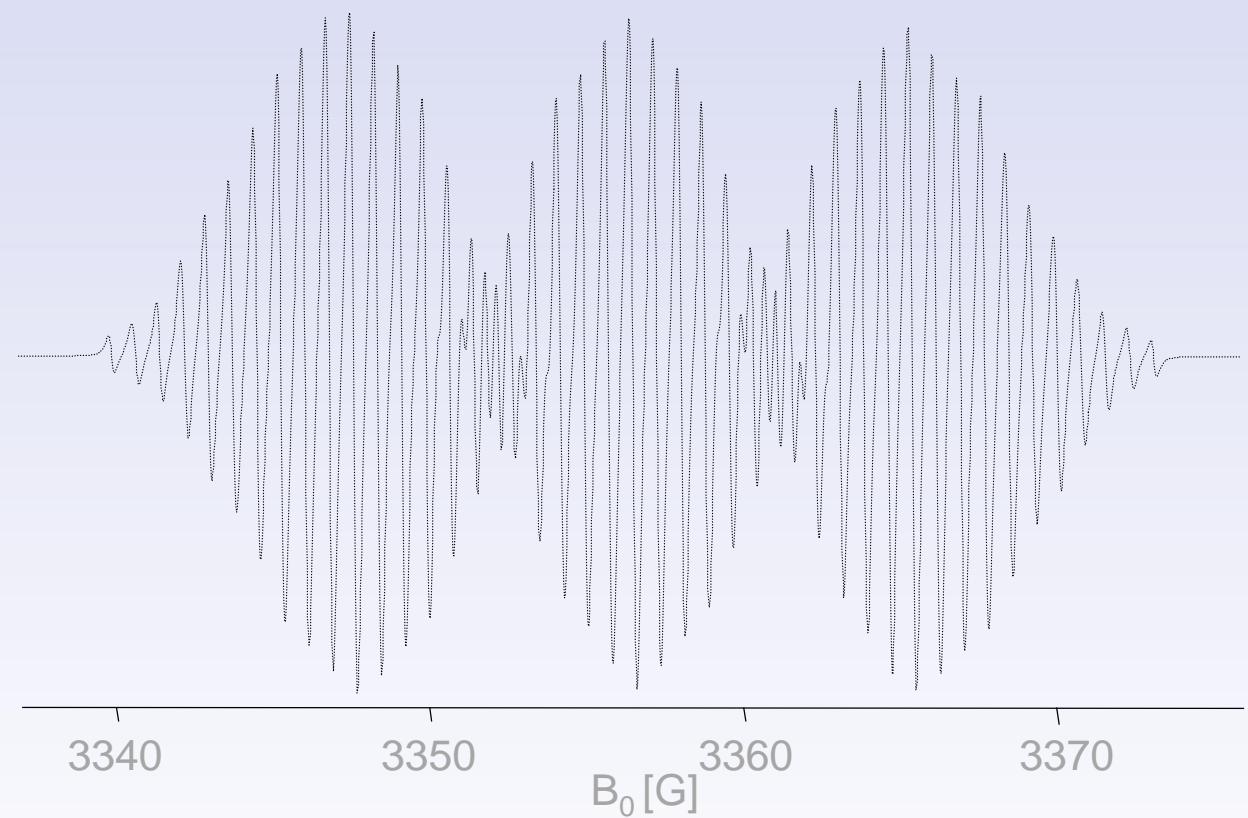
# Basics of EPR spectroscopy

T. F. Prisner

Institute of Physical & Theoretical Chemistry

Center of Biological Magnetic Resonance

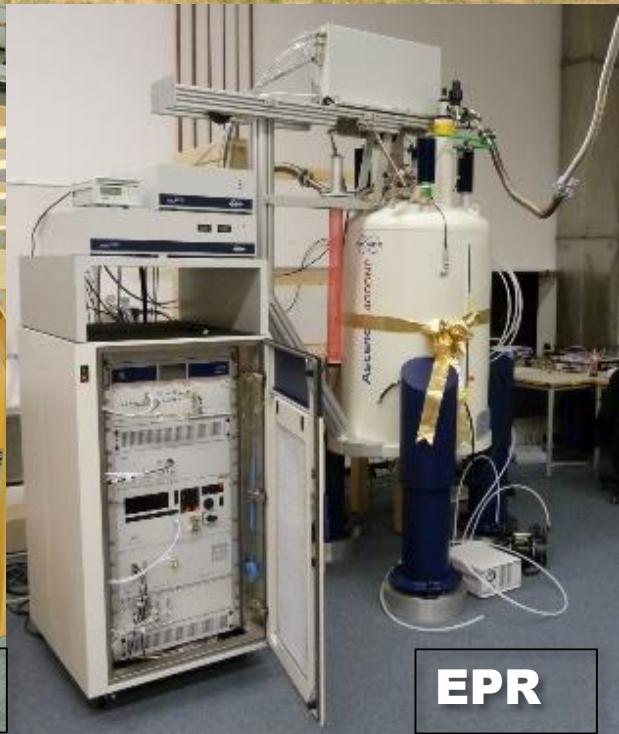
Goethe University Frankfurt





# Biologisches Magnet-Resonanz Zentrum

6 Professor  
4 Ass. Prof.  
20 Postdocs  
90 PhDs



**SS NMR**

**DNP**

**Liquid NMR**

**EPR**

# Translation from NMR to EPR

---

## NMR Language

Chemical Shift

Chemical Shift Anisotropy

J-Coupling

Dipolar Coupling Homonuclear  
Dipolar Coupling Heteronuclear

Quadrupole Coupling

SEDR

Solid Echo

MAS

Decoupling

## EPR Language

*g*-value

anisotropic *g*-Tensor

J-Coupling

Isotropic Hyperfine Coupling

Dipolar Coupling

Anisotropic Hyperfine Coupling

Zero Field Splitting

PELDOR/DEER

SIFTER

-

-

# Typical EPR operation frequencies

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Magnetic field	EPR frequency	Band	Wavelength	NMR $^1\text{H}$ frequency
1000 G	2.8 GHz	S-band	11 cm	4 MHz
3300 G	9.2 GHz	X-band	3 cm	14 MHz
1.2 T	34 GHz	Q-band	9 mm	50 MHz
3.4 T	95 GHz	W-band	3 mm	140 MHz
6.5 T	180 GHz	G-band	1.6 mm	275 MHz
9.2 T	260 GHz	J-band	1.2 mm	400 MHz

Lower magnetic fields but much higher excitation frequencies

# MW Band Nomenclature

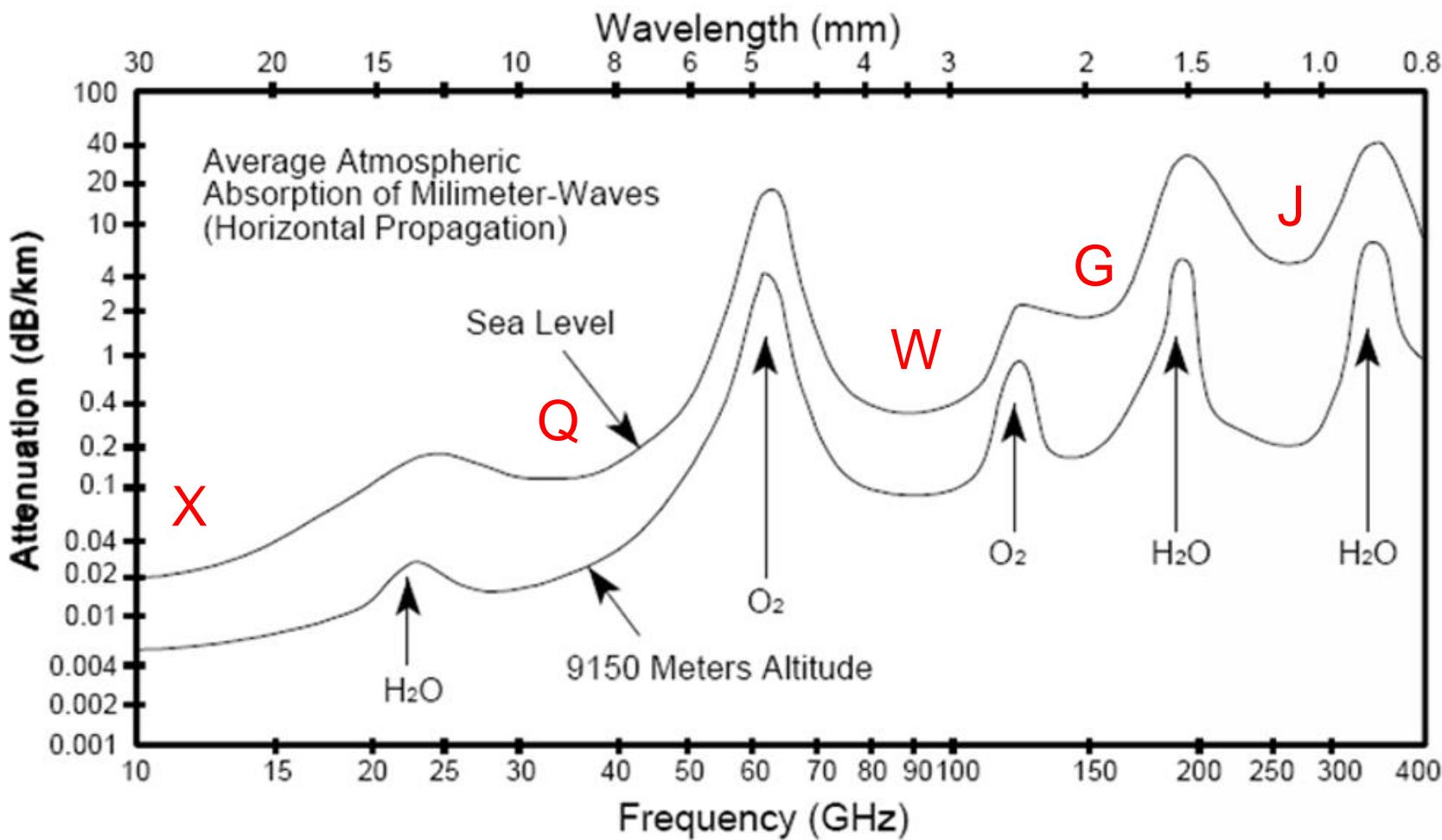


Figure 1. Atmospheric Absorption of Millimeter Waves

# Pulse EPR Spectrometer Setups

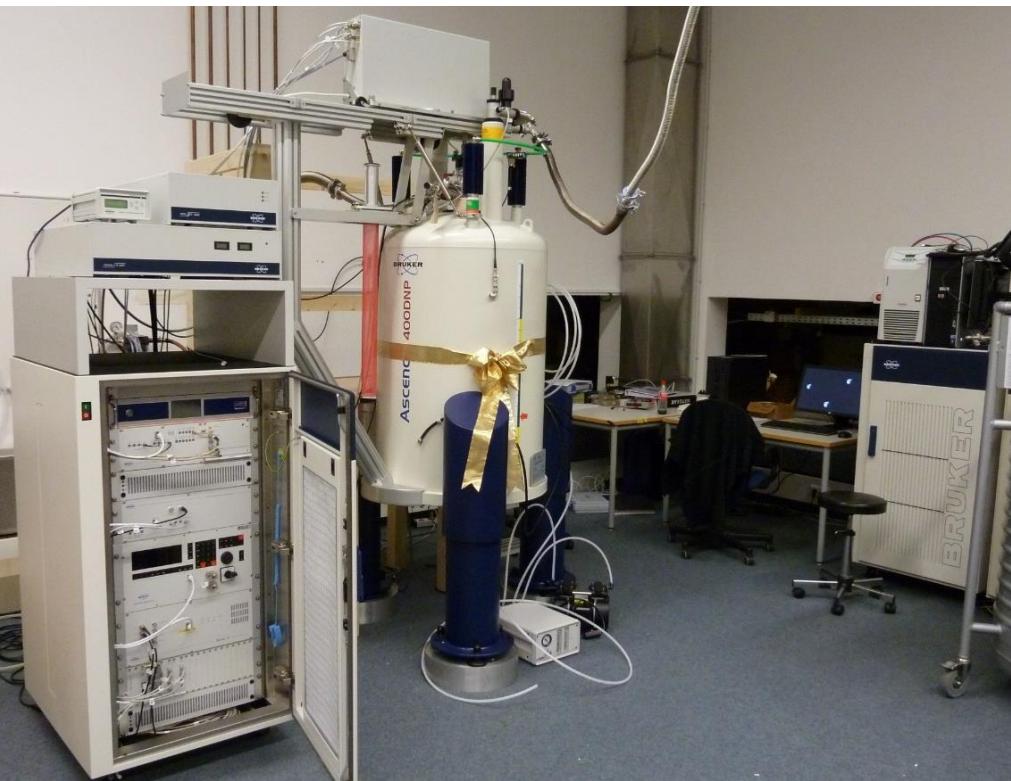


X/Q-band EPP

Electromagnet

MW

Semiconductor Technology  
Waveguide Transmission



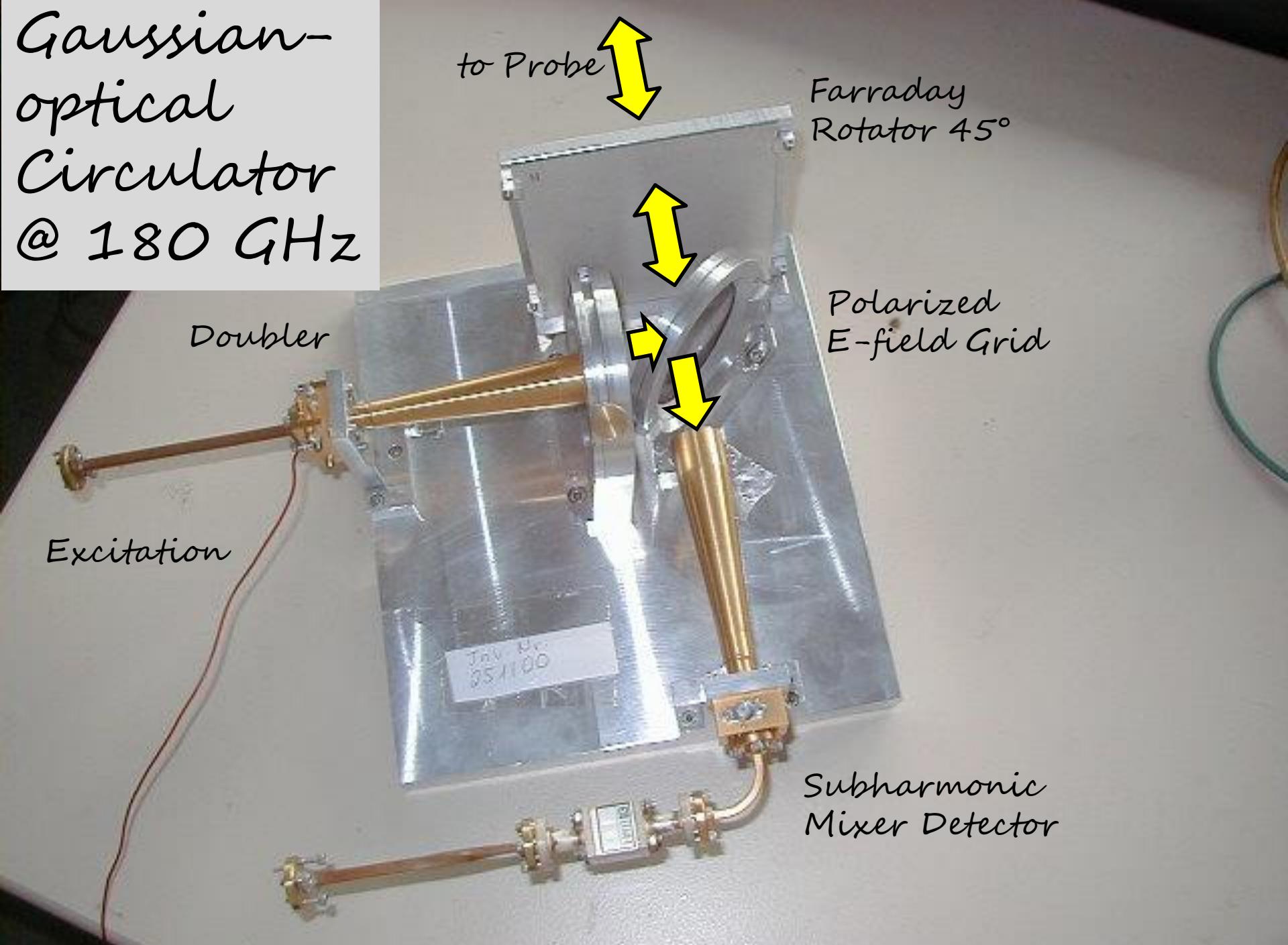
W/G/J-band EPP

Superconducting Magnet

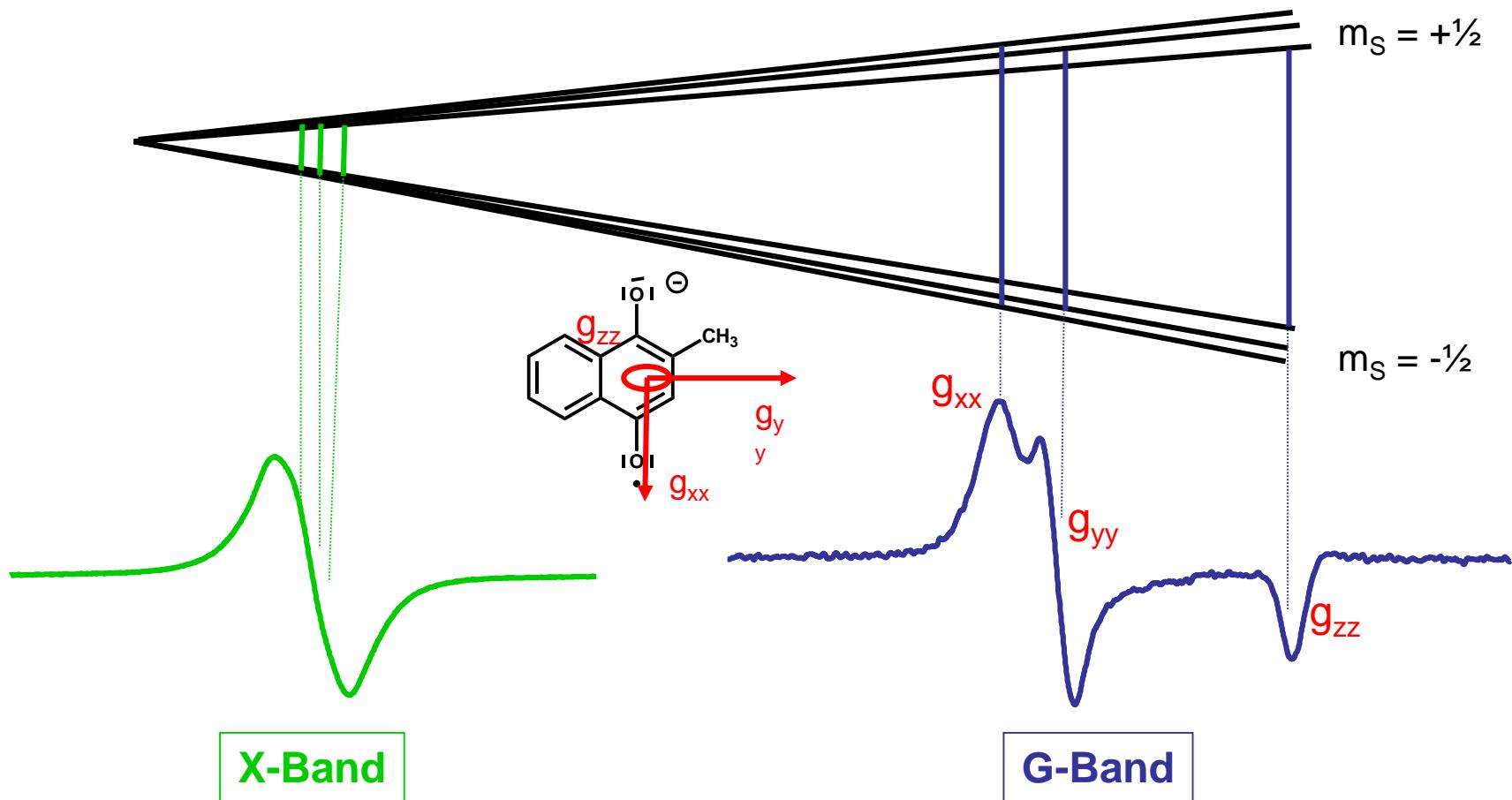
MW (Far-IR, THz)

Free Electron Tube Devices  
or high-harmonic (low power)  
Quasioptical Transmission

# Gaussian-optical Circulator @ 180 GHz



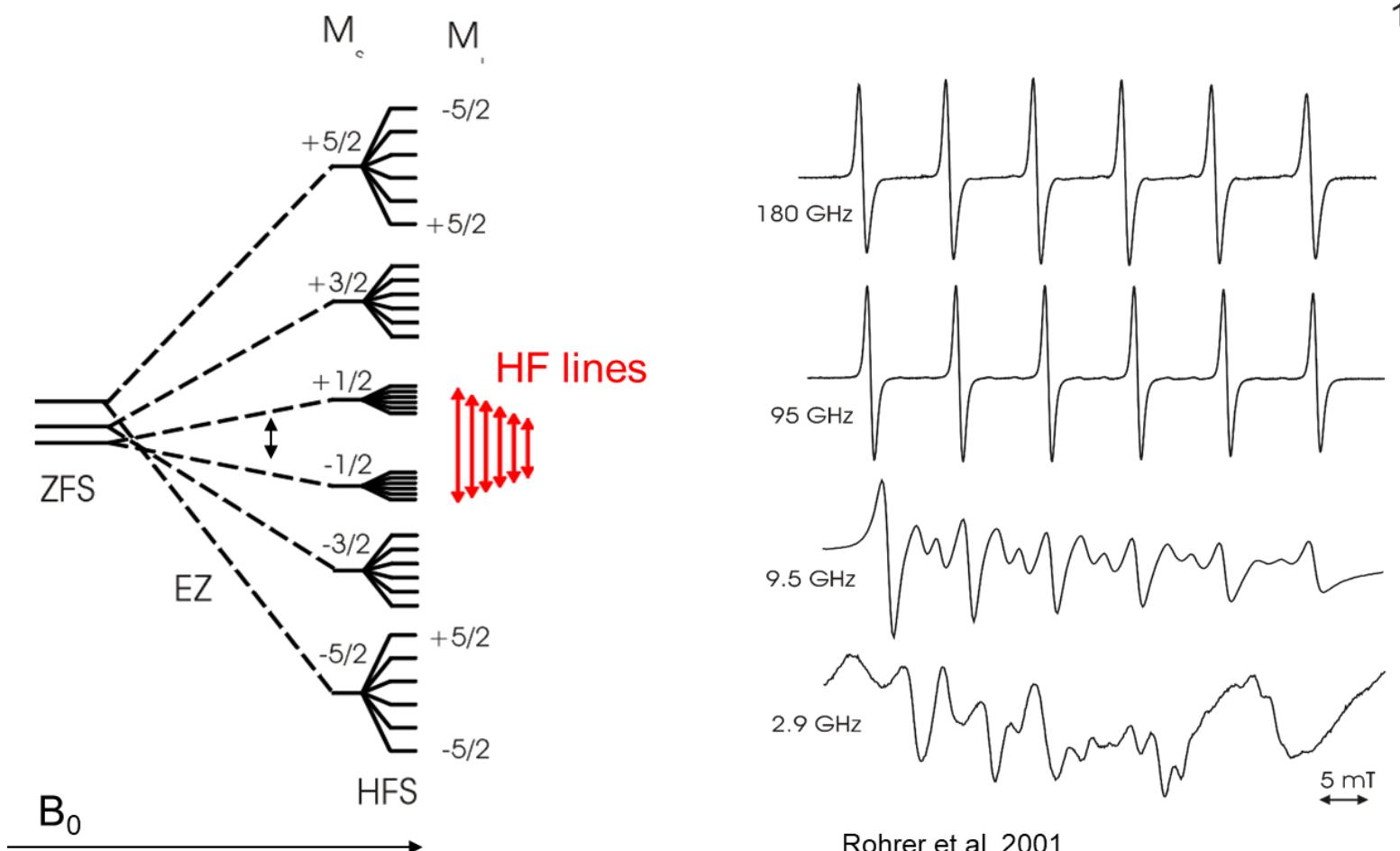
# Anisotropic G-Tensor resolution at High Fields



Different orientations can be distinguished at high fields

# Higher Sensitivity for half-integer high spins

## EPR Spectra of $\text{Mn}^{2+}$ $S = 5/2$

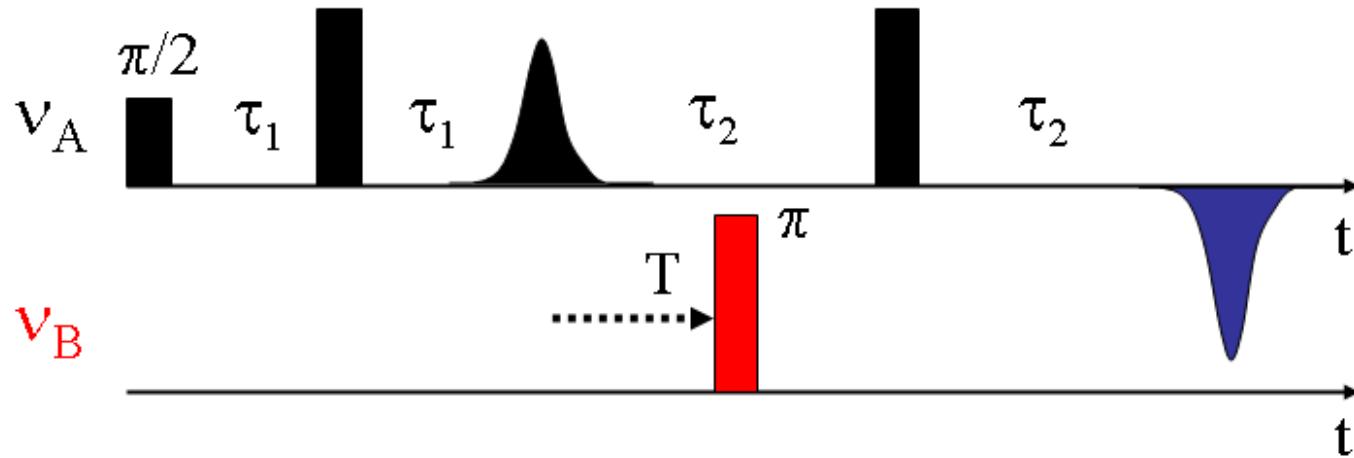


Rohrer et al, 2001

The  $m_s \pm 1/2$  transition is affected by the ZFS only in second order, forbidden transitions are suppressed

# Time Scale of pulsed EPR

---



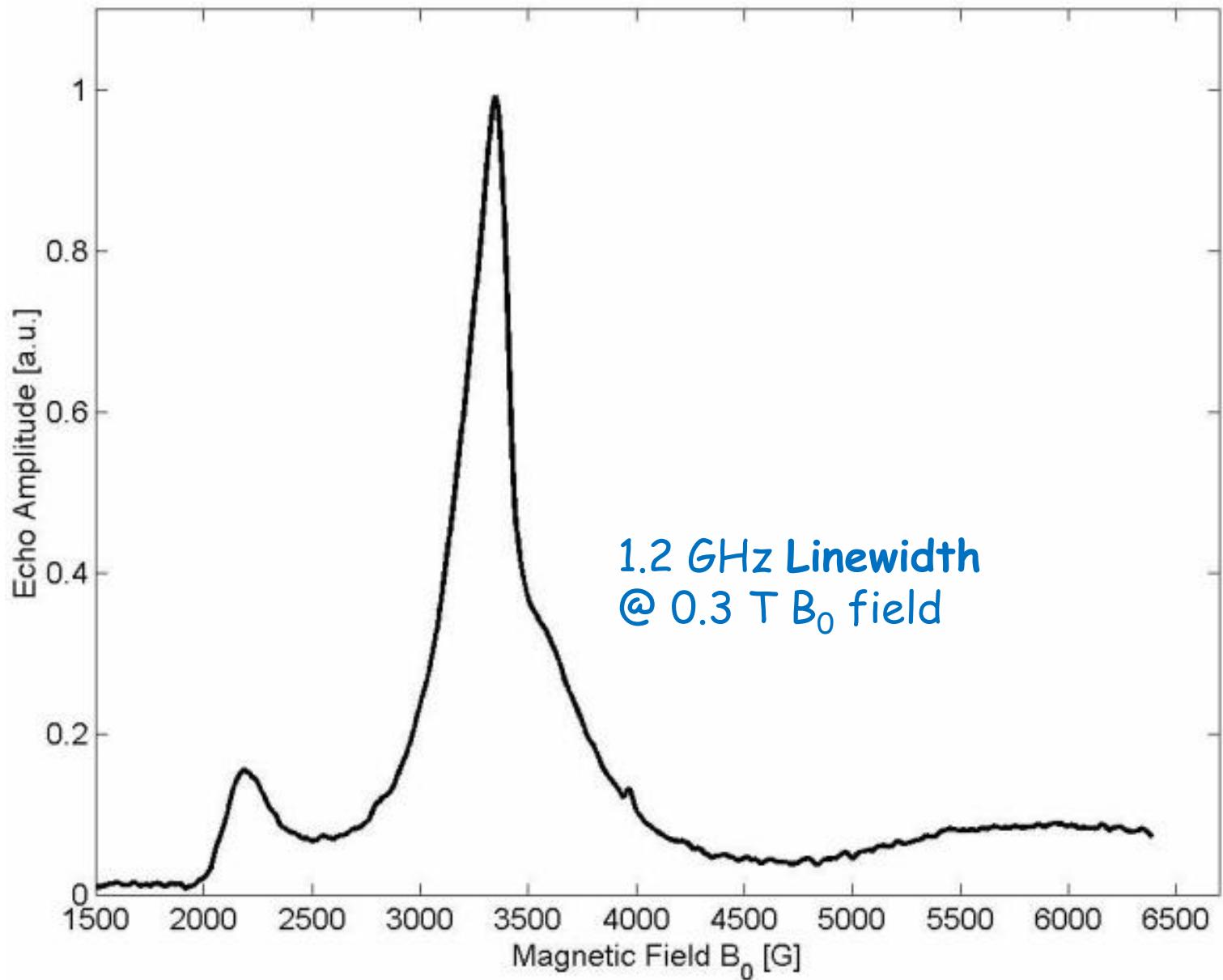
Pulse lengths : 2-20 ns

Deadtime after pulse: 20-50 ns

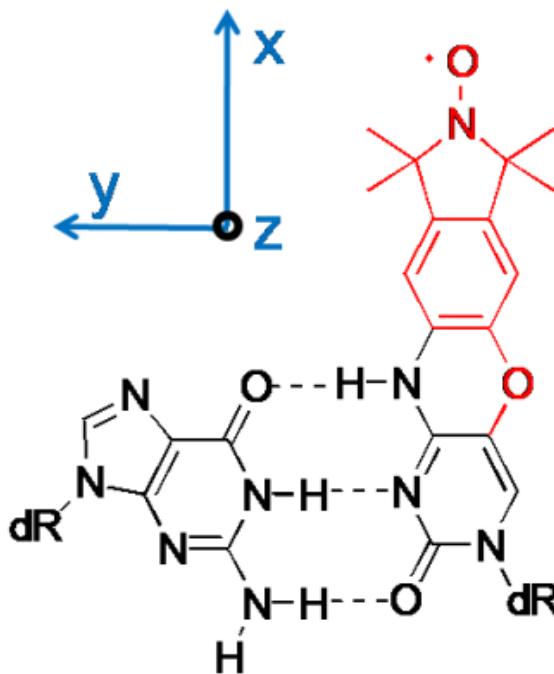
Pulse delays: 50 ns-10  $\mu$ s

Repetition rates: 1-100 KHz

# Linewidth in EPR Spectroscopy



# Coupling strengths in EPR Spectroscopy



Hyperfine Coupling Nitrogen: 90 MHz

Hyperfine Coupling Protons: < 1 MHz

Dipolar Coupling S - S: 0.1-50 MHz

# Comparison nuclear spin I versus electron spin S



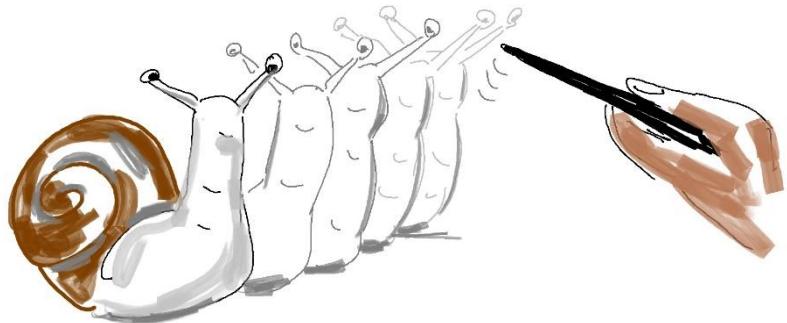
Weight:

30 g

50 kg

Speed:

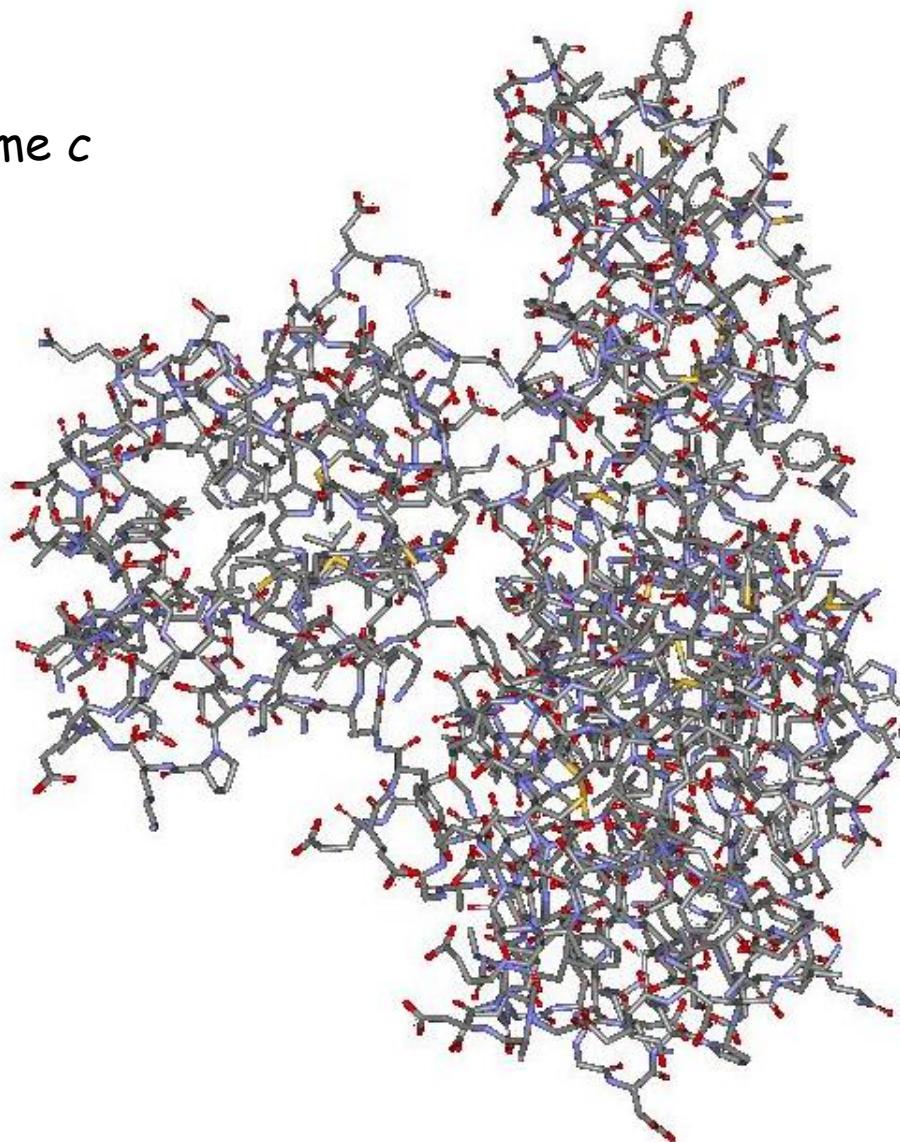
3 m/h



# Biological Applications of EPR

---

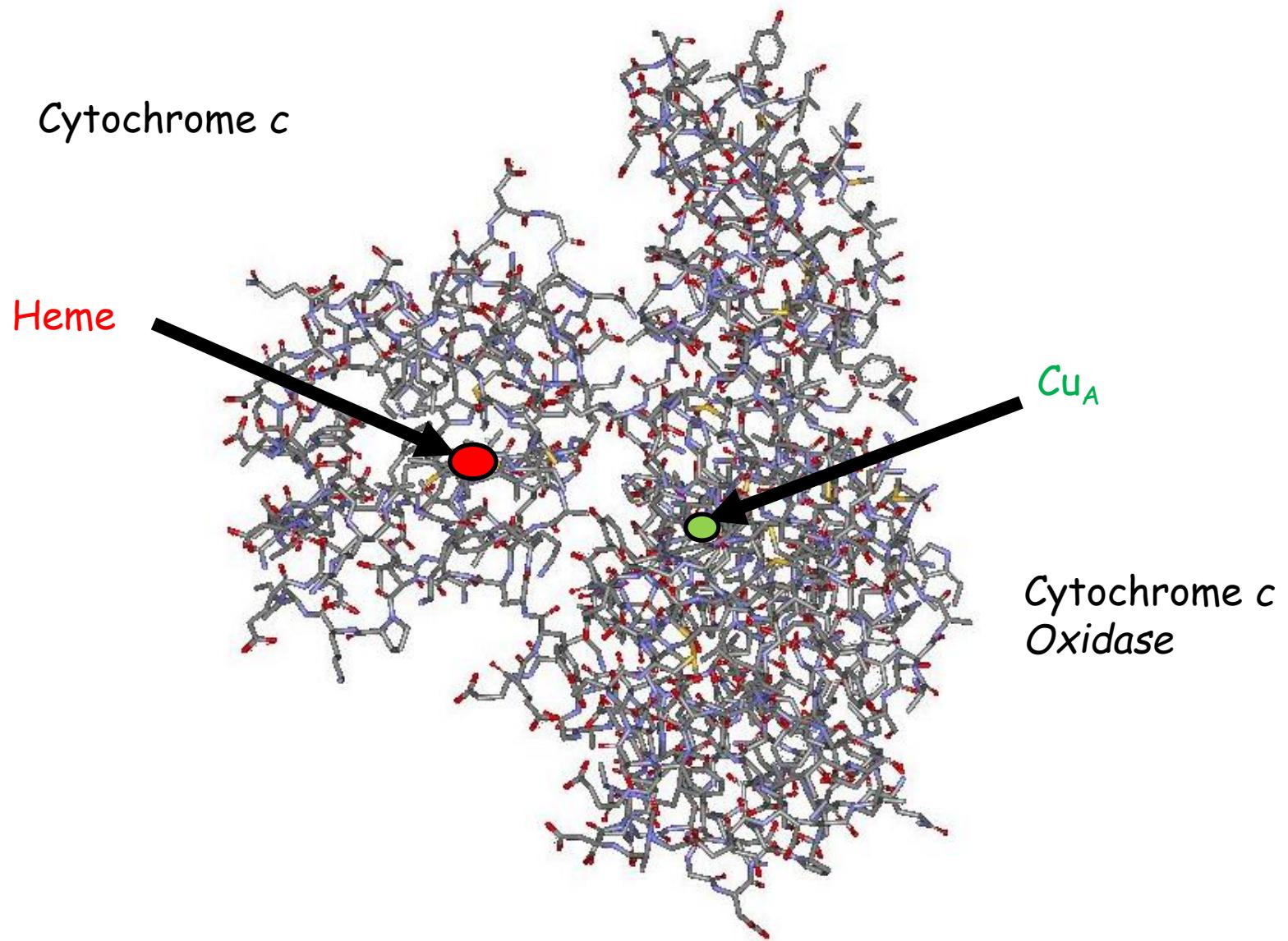
Cytochrome c



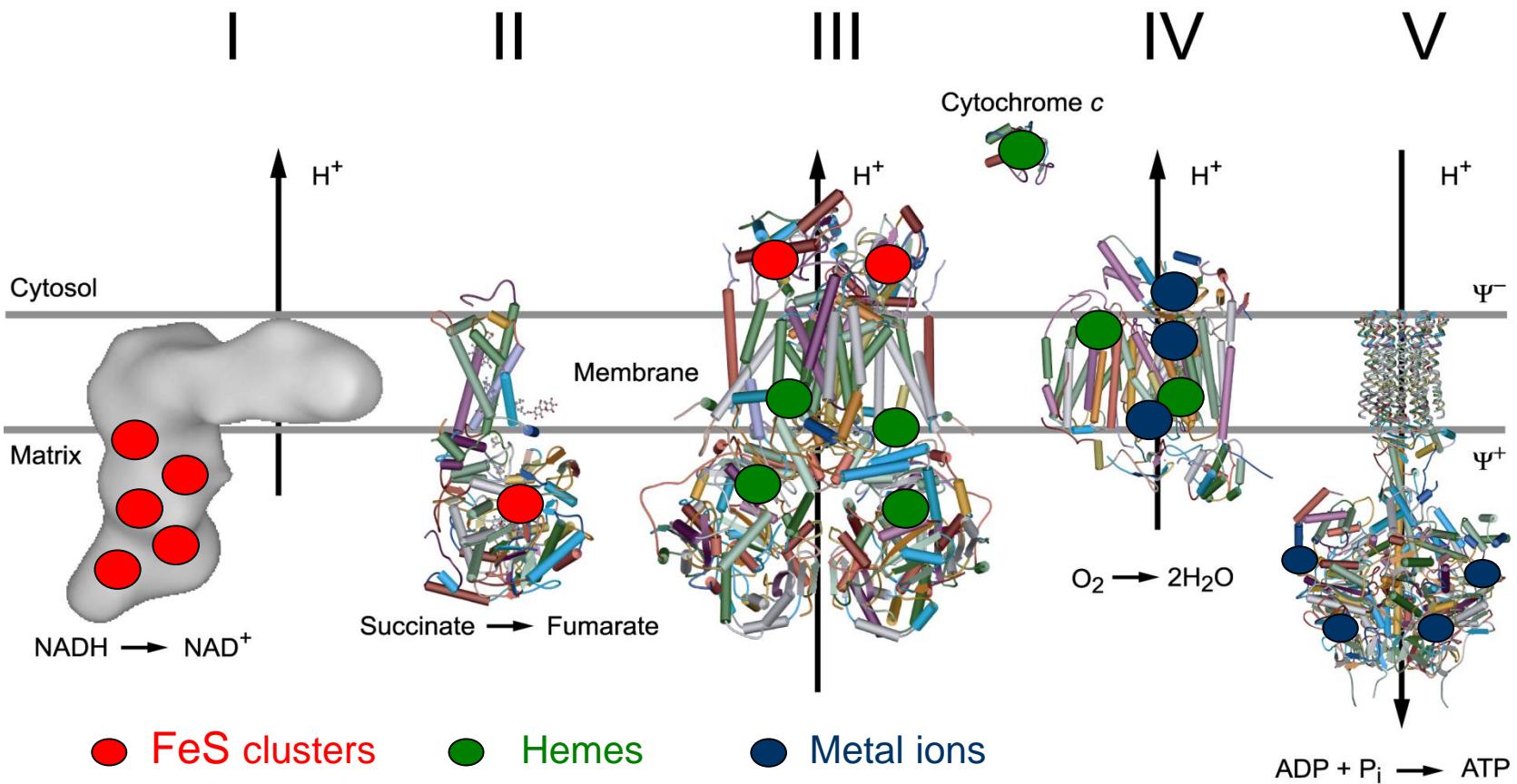
Cytochrome c  
Oxidase

# Biological Applications of EPR

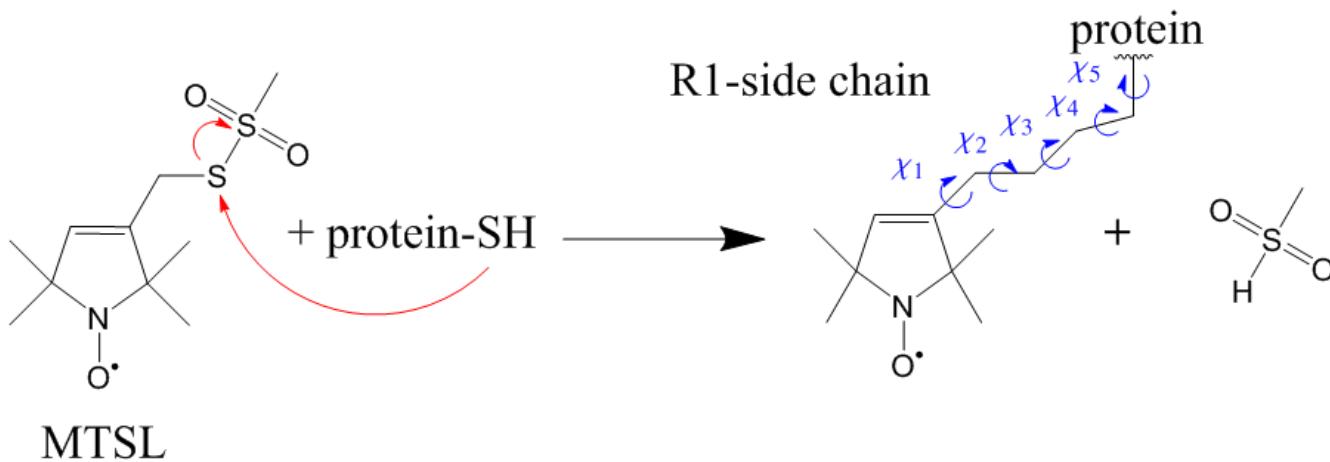
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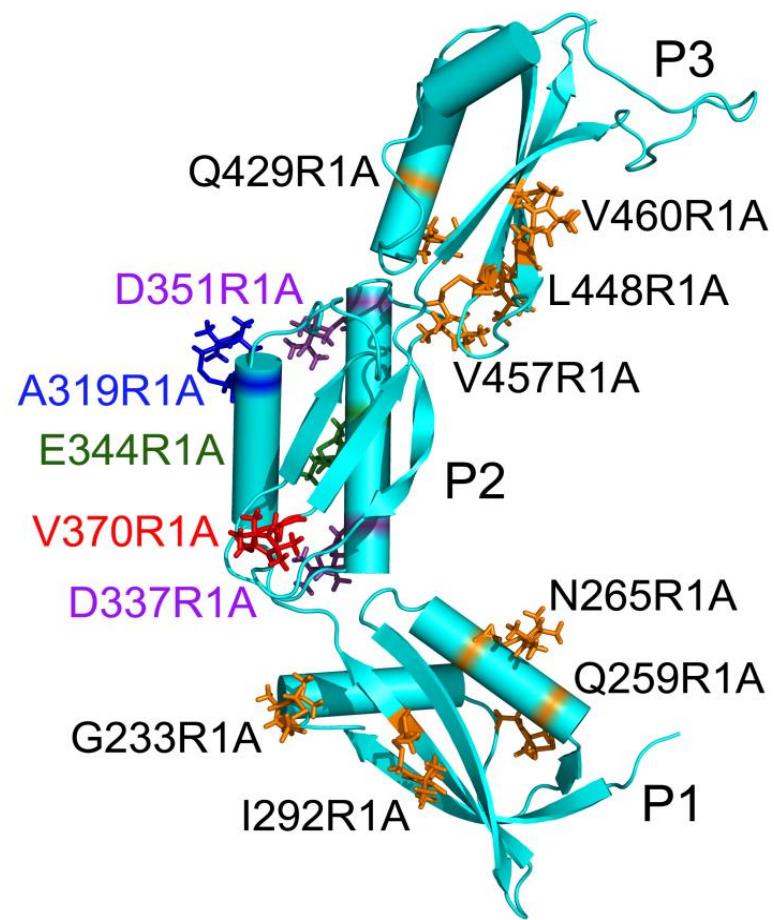
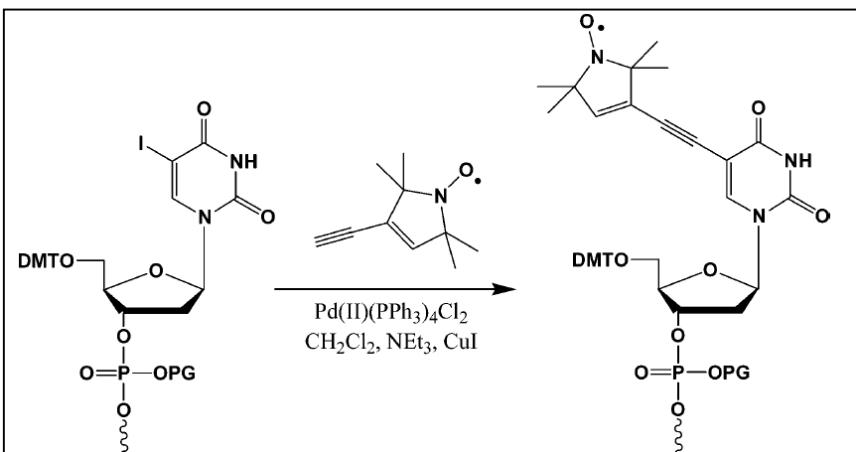
# Intrinsic Paramagnetic Centers



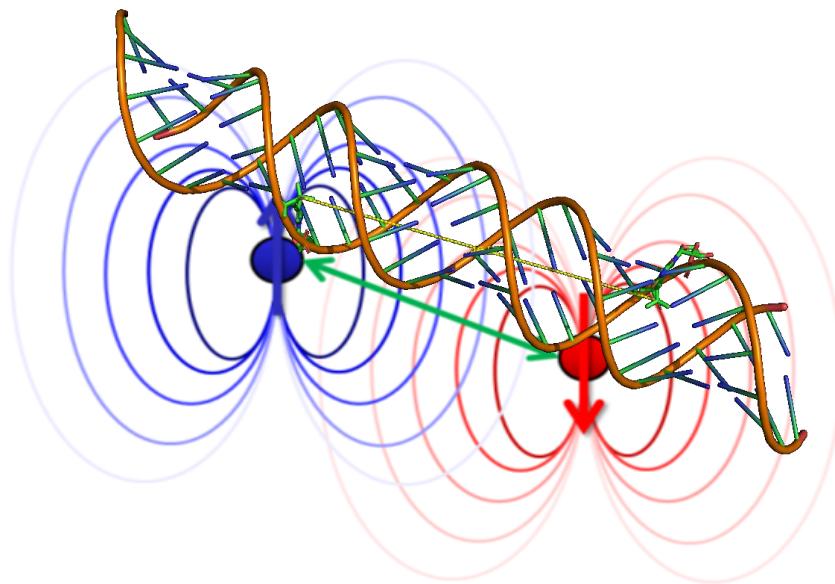
# Spin-labeling of biomolecules



## Nucleic Acids

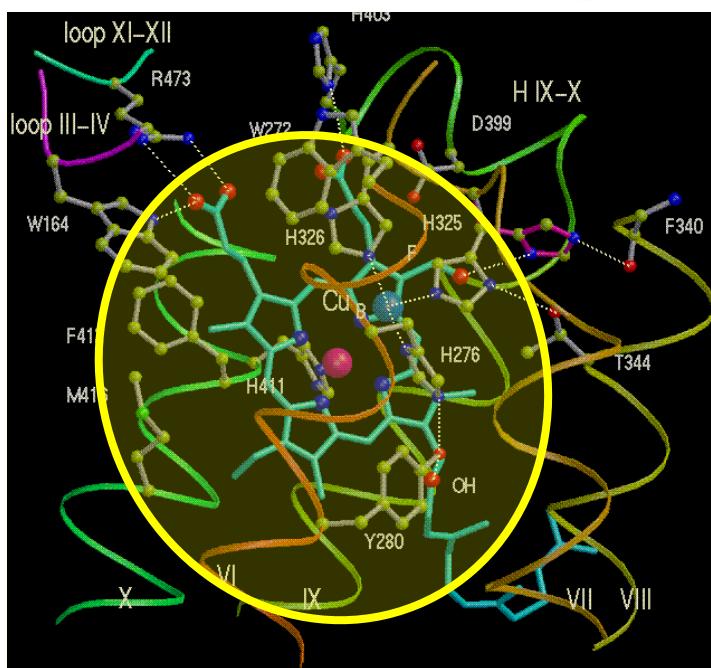


# Applications of pulse EPR in Biology



## Dipolar Spectroscopy

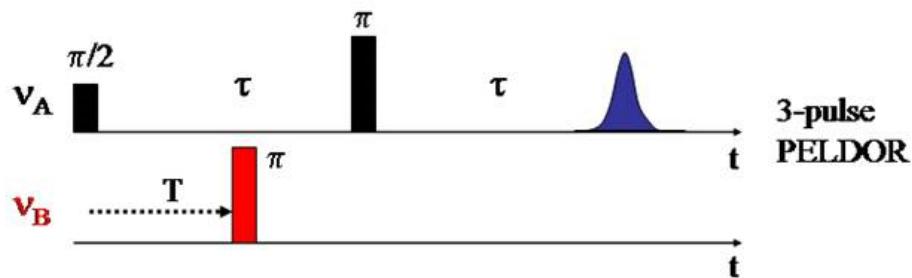
nm Distance determination in Biomolecules



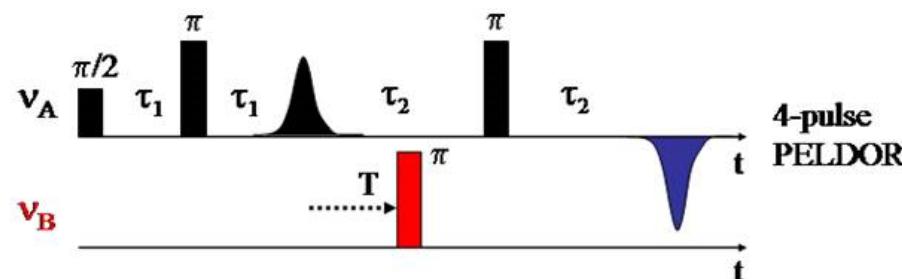
## Hyperfine Spectroscopy

Local nuclear spin surrounding of natural paramagnetic cofactors in Biomolecules

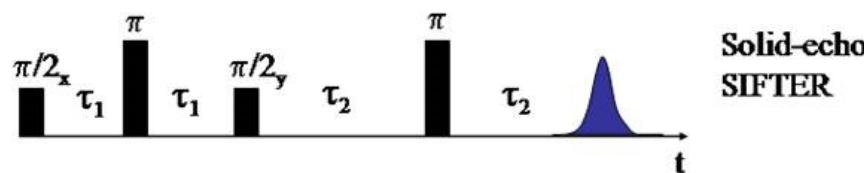
# Dipolar Experiments



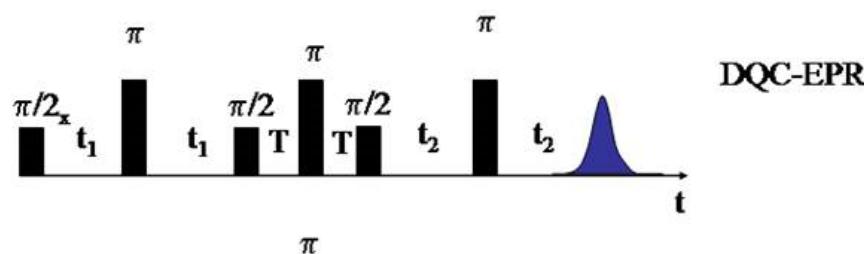
Milov CPL 1984



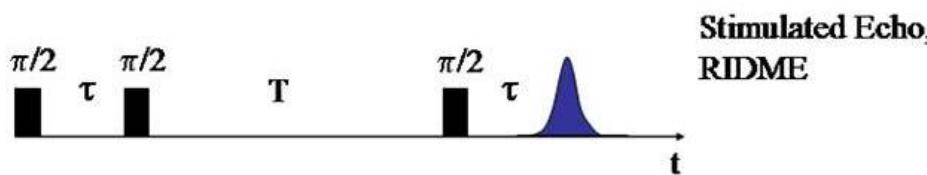
Martin Angewandte 1998



Jeschke CPL 2000

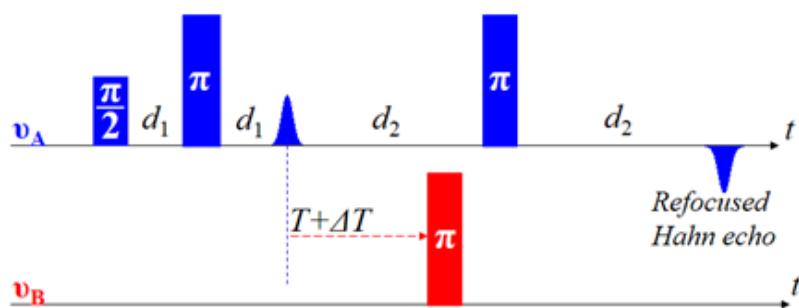


Borbat CPL 1999



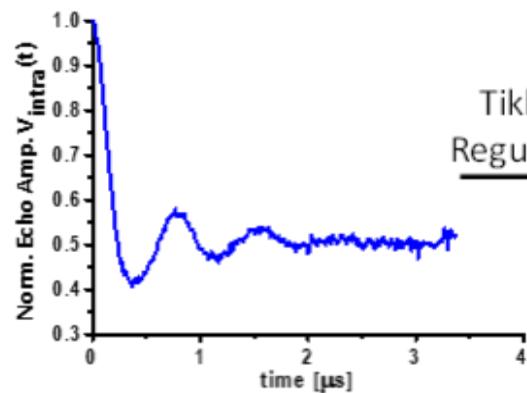
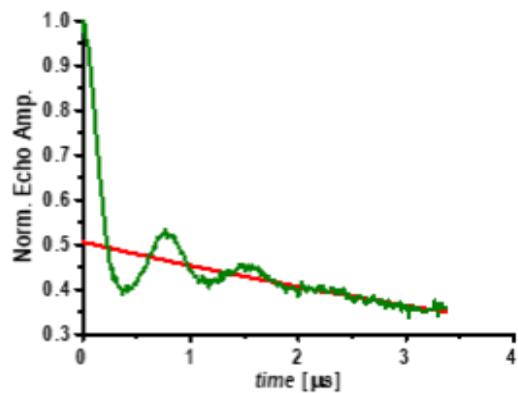
Milikisyants JMR 2008

# PELDOR / DEER

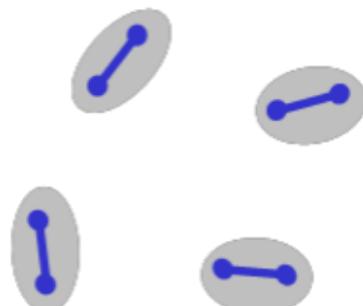
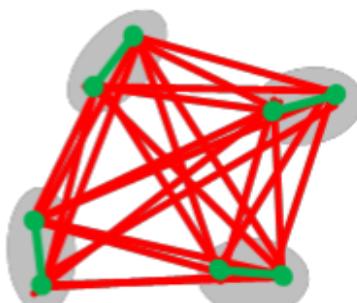
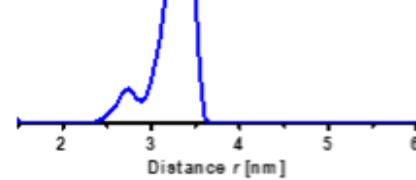


Distance determination between  
two electron spins

R = 1.5-12 nm

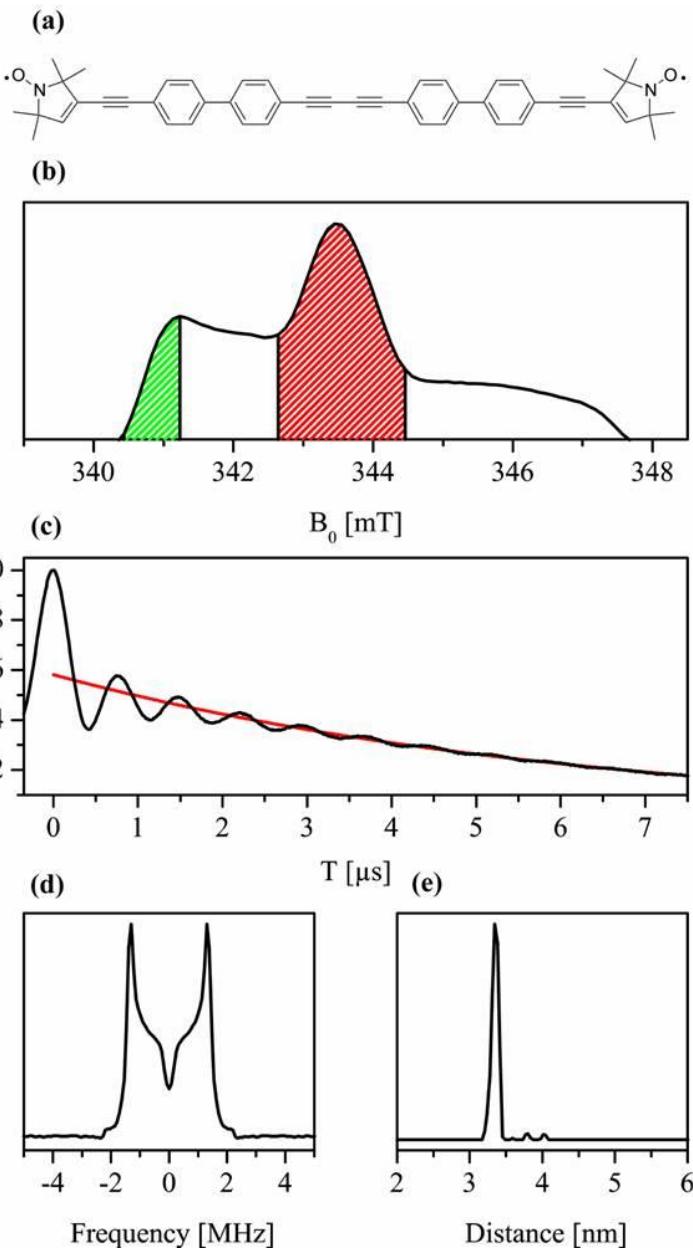


Tikhonov  
Regularizatio  
n



Typically T = 50 K

# Distance accuracy of PELDOR / DEER

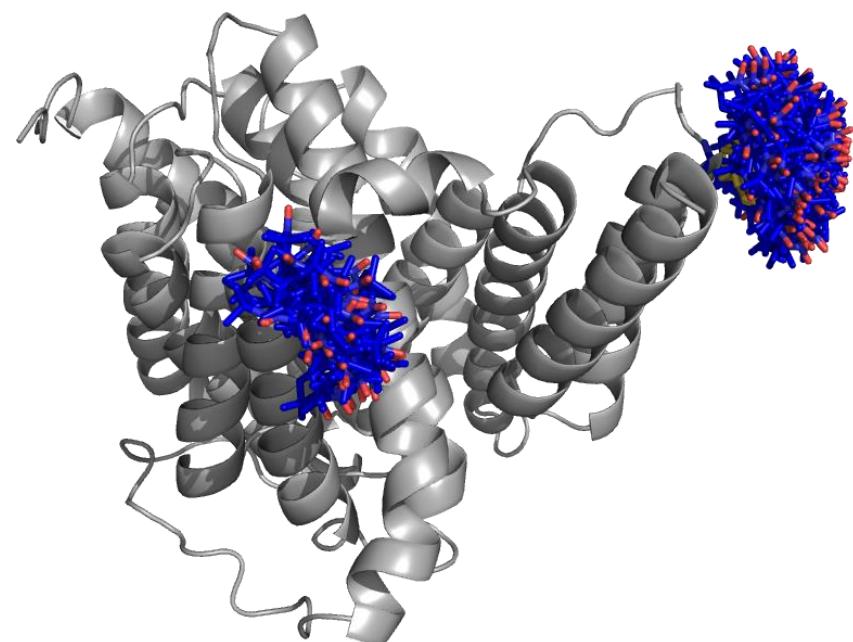


Accuracy intrinsically very high

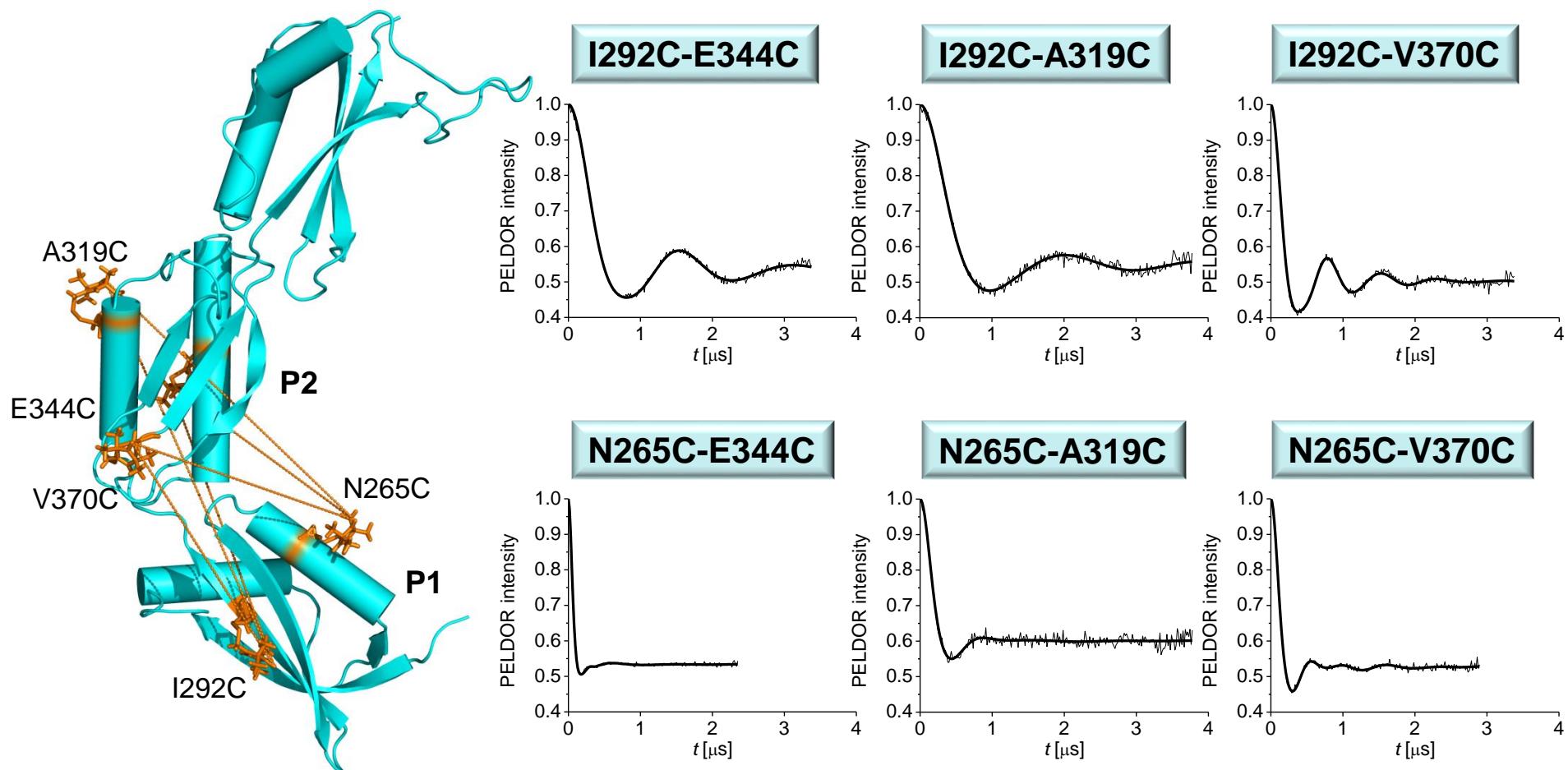
$\ll 1 \text{ \AA}$

In Proteins with MTSSL

$\sim 3 \text{ \AA}$

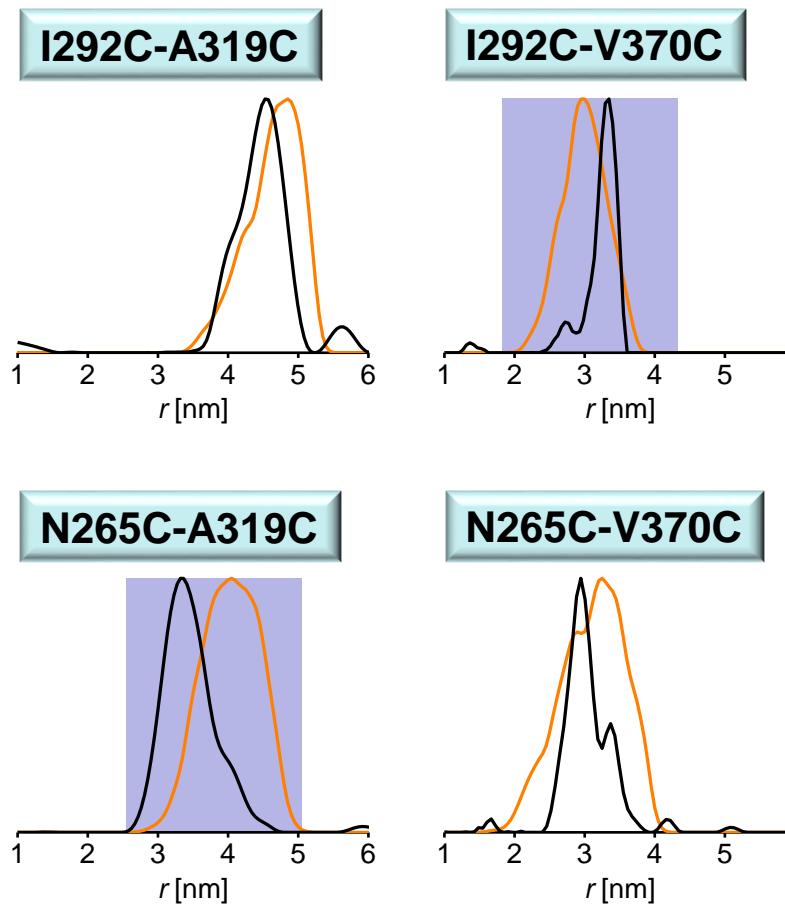
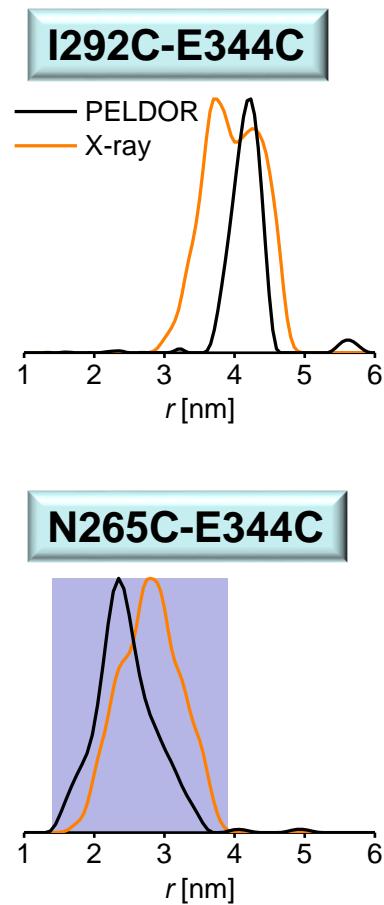
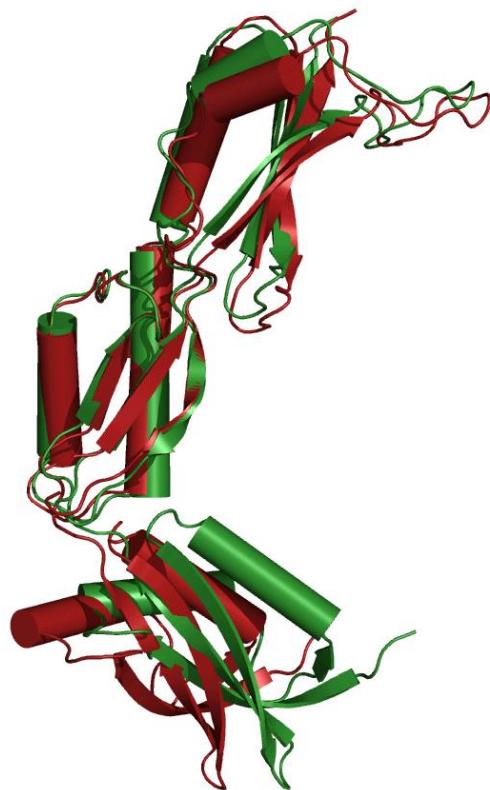


# Translation from NMR to EPR



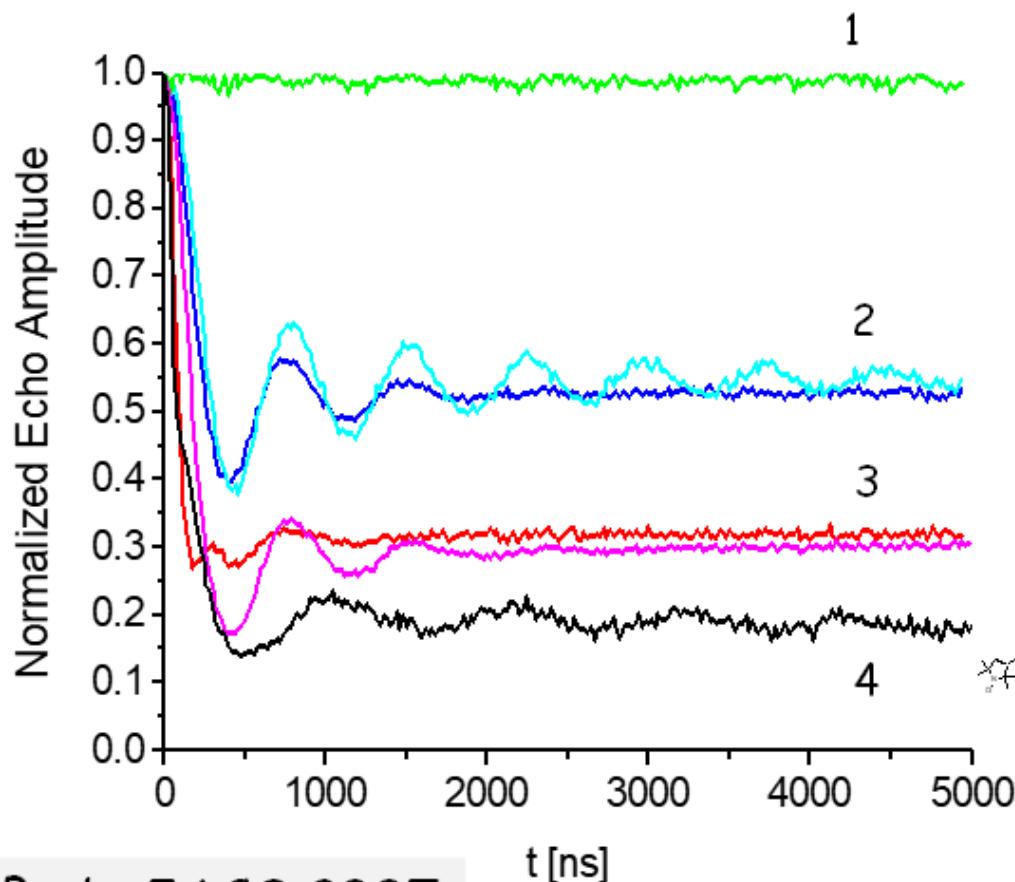
# Translation from NMR to EPR

X-ray  
PELDOR

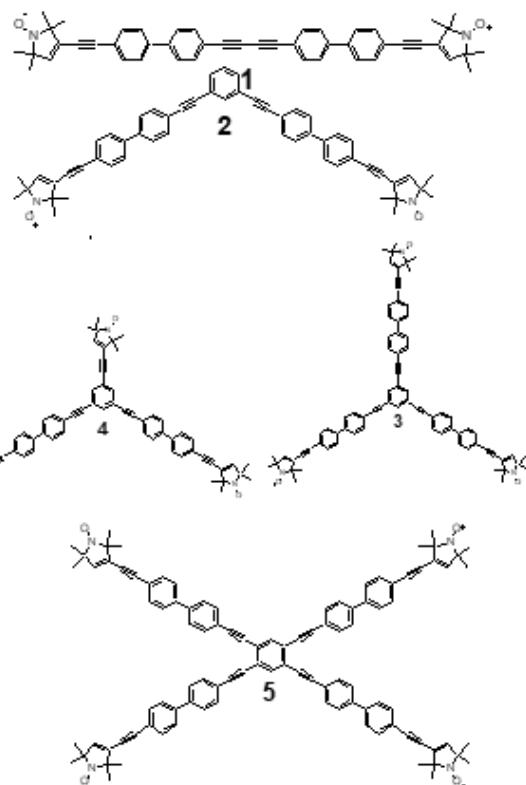


Deviations from X-ray structure observed !

# Determination of the number of coupled spins



Bode JACS 2007



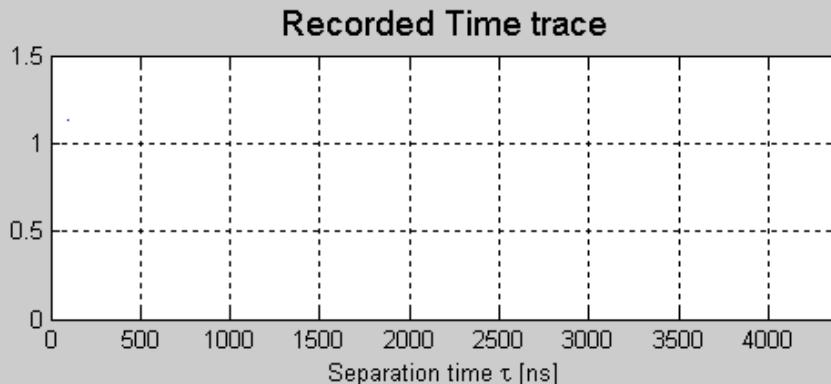
# Hyperfine Spectroscopy 1: ESEEM

The Two Pulse ESEEM Experiment



Modulation of  
Electron Spin Echo Intensity  
by Anisotropic hf Coupling to  
Nuclear Spins ( $R < 1 \text{ nm}$ )

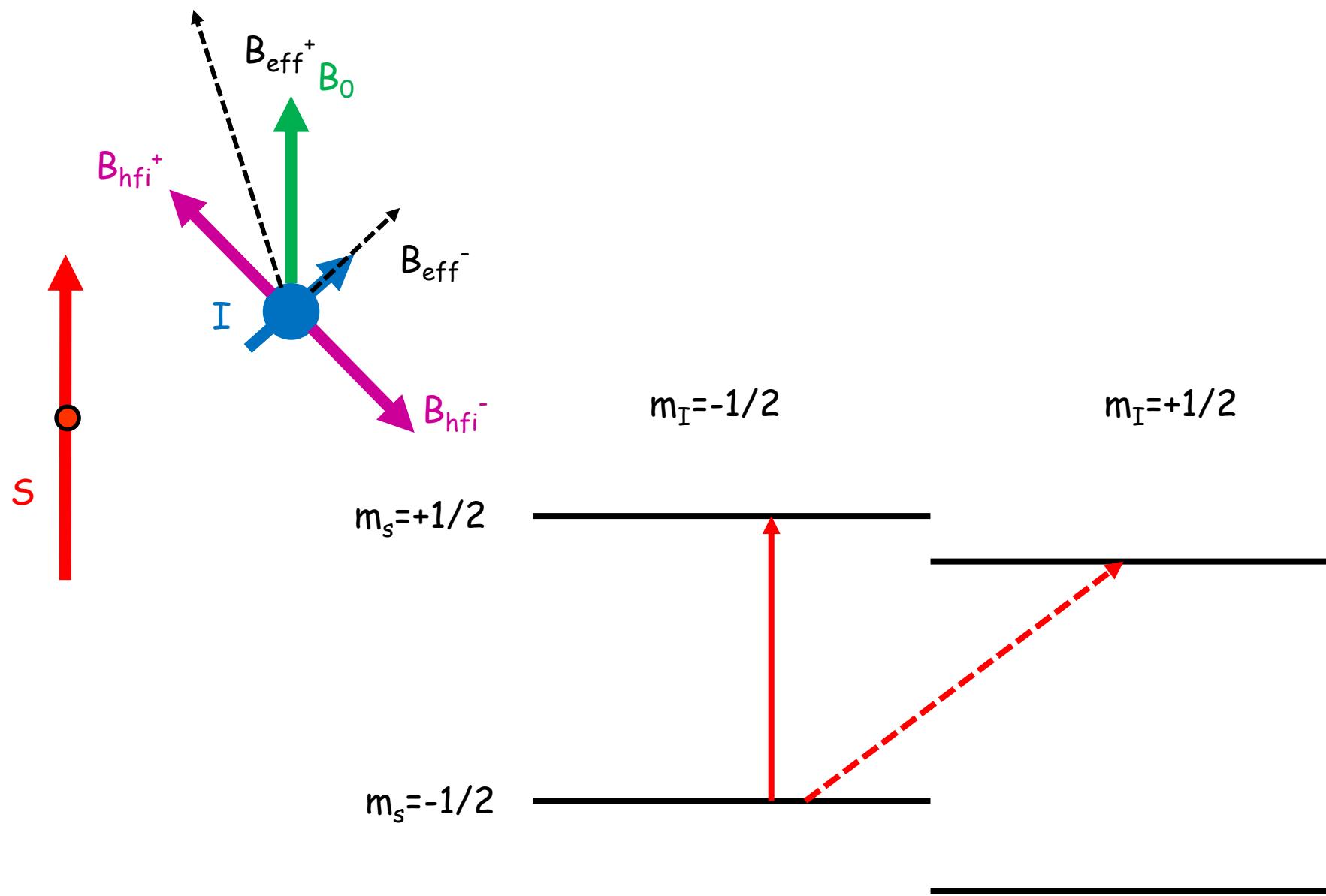
Mims Phys Rev. 1961



Stimulated Echo

Better Resolution

# Mixing of Nuclear Eigenstates by Hyperfine Field



# Interaction between electron and nuclear spins

---

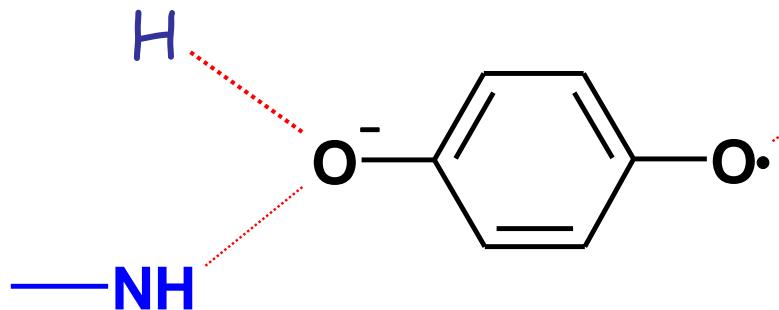
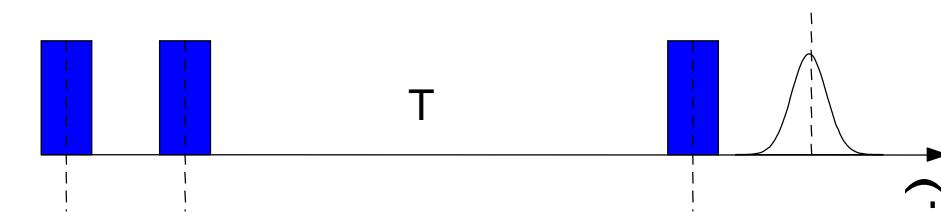


EPR (ENDOR)



Paramagnetic NMR (PRE)

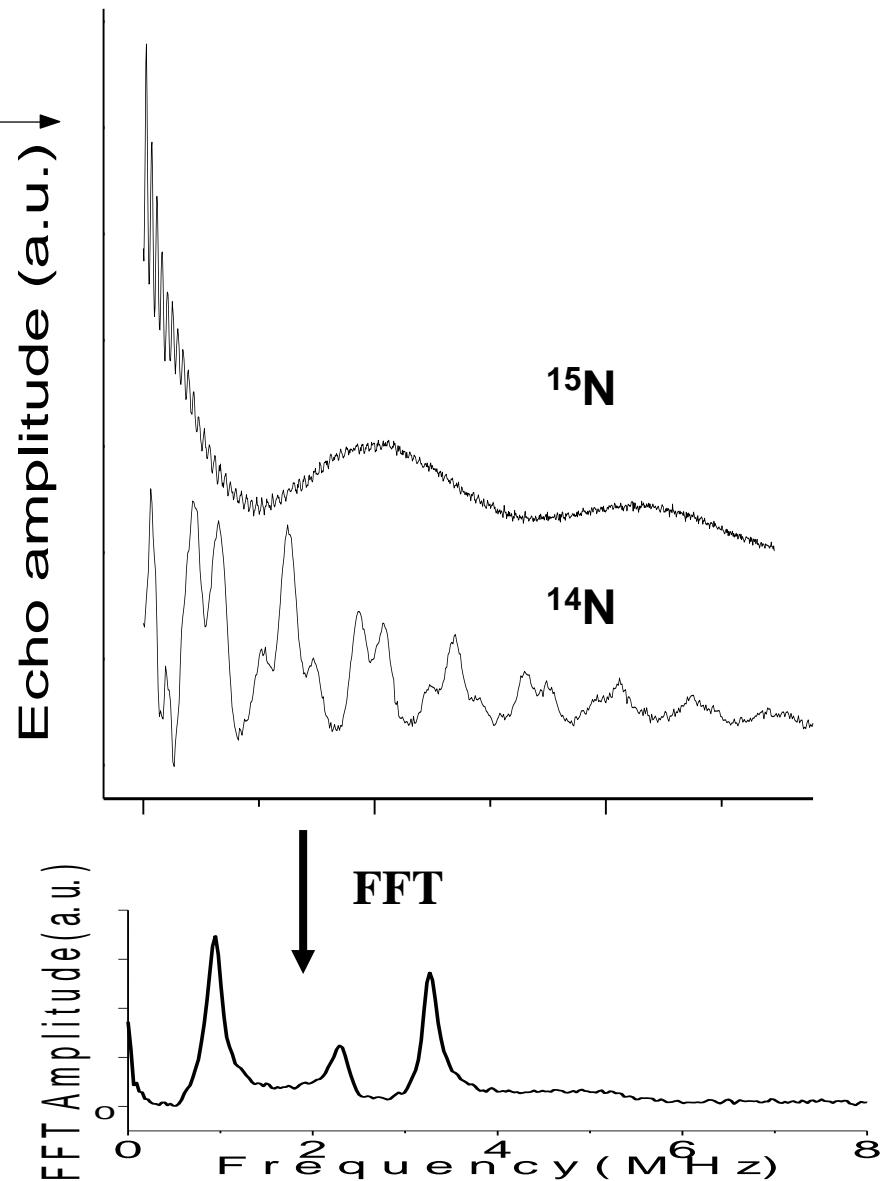
# Hyperfine Spectroscopy 1: ESEEM



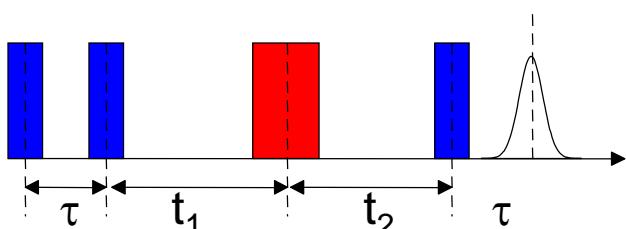
⇒ O—N Distance = 2,5 Å

⇒ O—H Distance = 1,6 Å

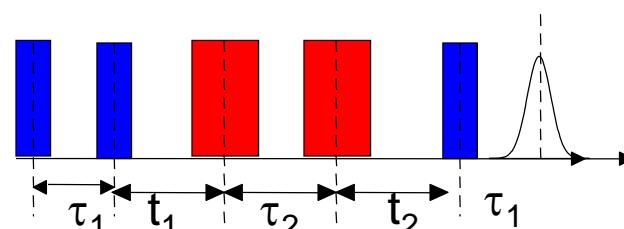
Grimaldi et al. Biochem. 2001



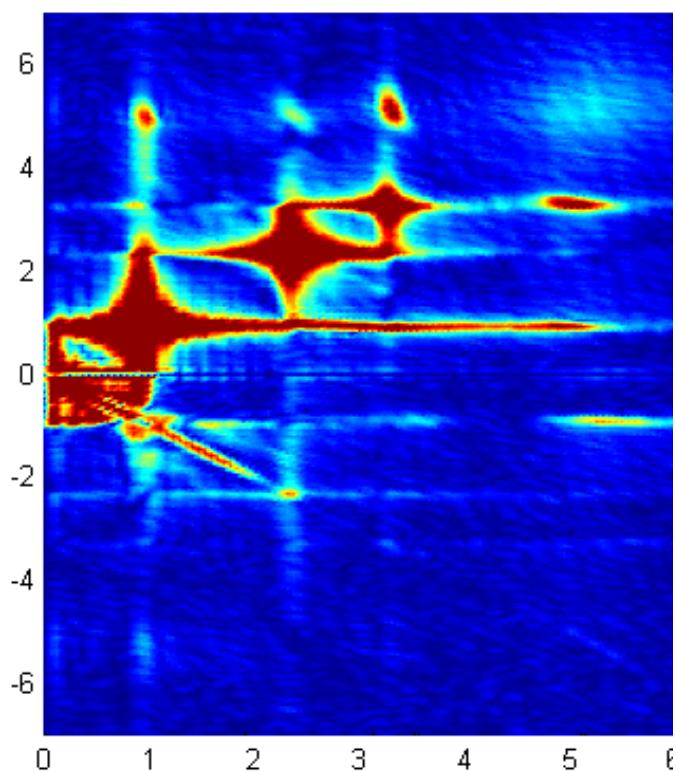
# Hyperfine Spectroscopy 2: HYScore



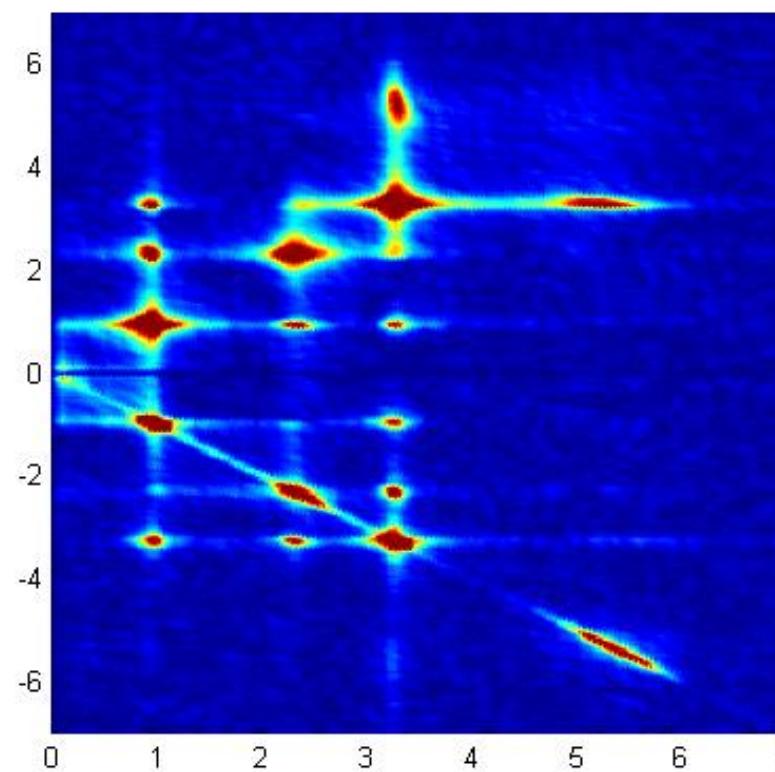
**HYScore**



**DONUT-HYScore**

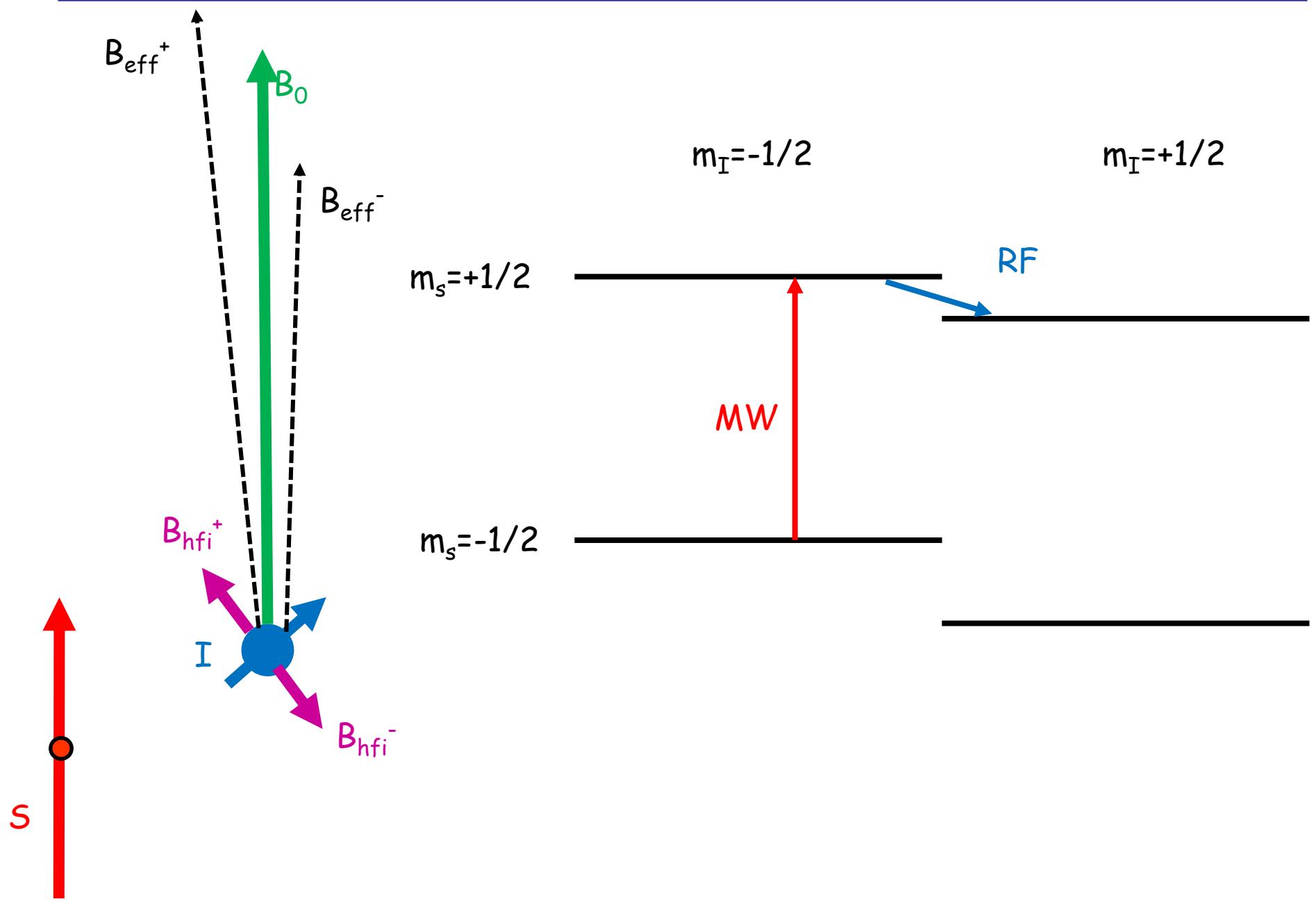


Frequency (MHz)



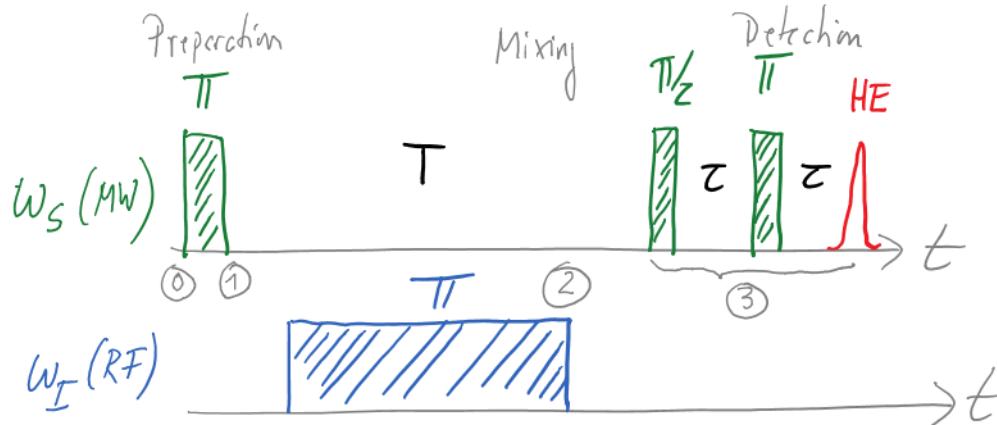
Frequency (MHz)

# High field Condition with hf coupling



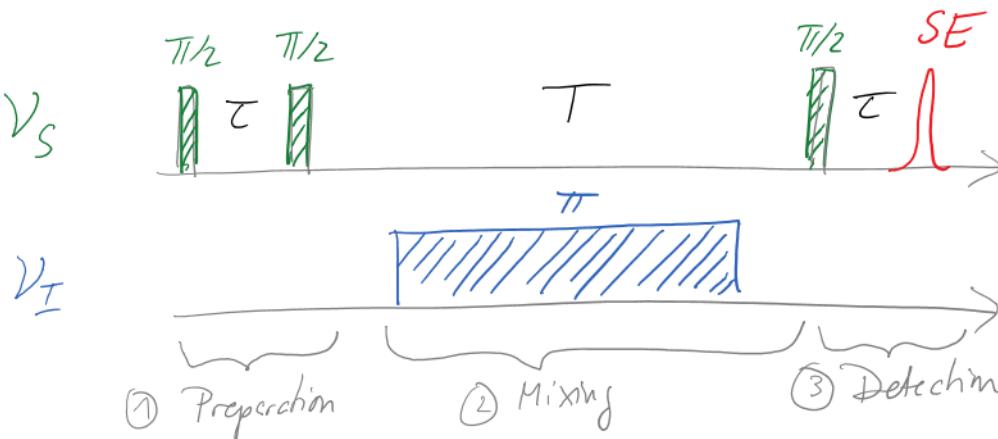
# Hyperfine Spectroscopy 3: ENDOR

## Davies ENDOR



Large Hyperfine Couplings

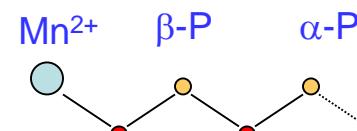
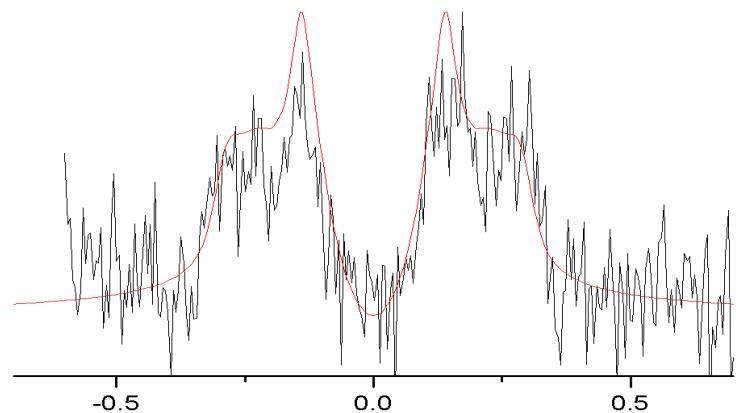
## Mims ENDOR



Small Hyperfine Couplings

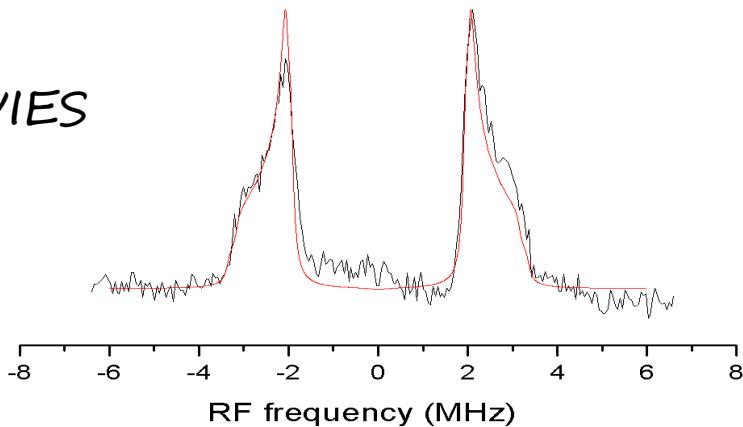
# Hyperfine Spectroscopy 3: ENDOR

MIMS

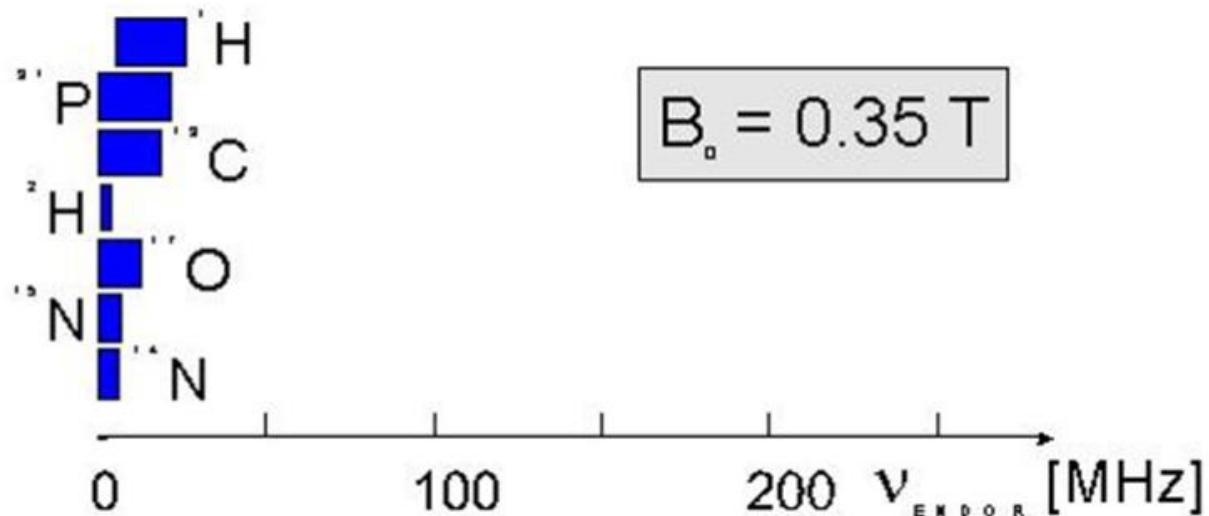


$^{31}\text{P}$  ENDOR  
at W-band

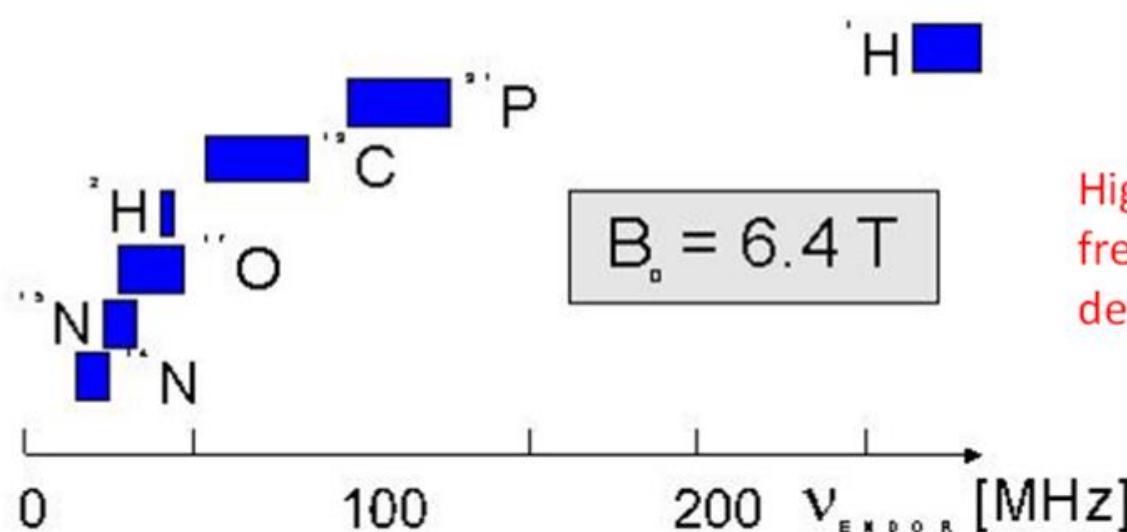
DAVIES



# Hyperfine Frequencies at different BO



Different nuclei can be much better separated at HF

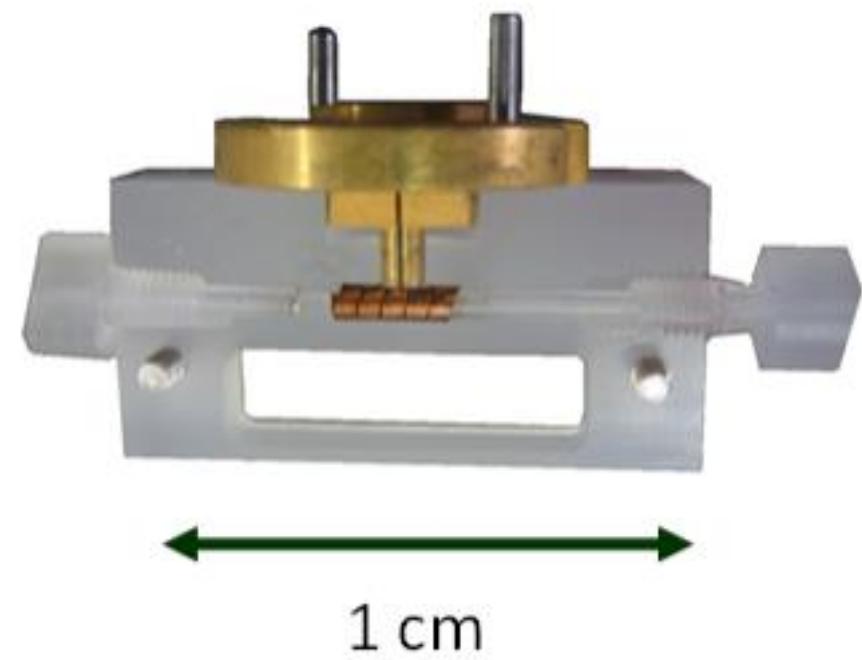
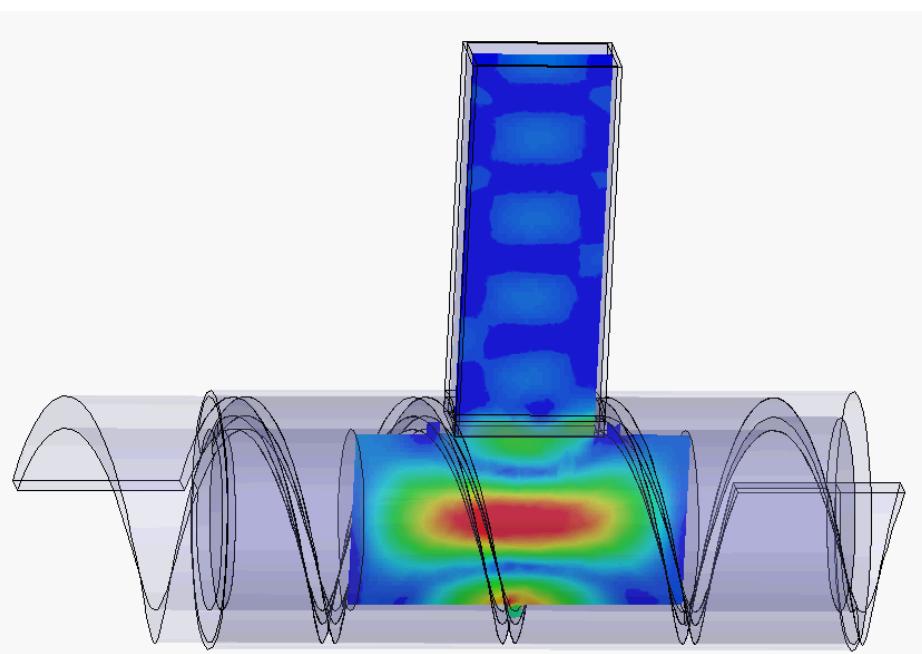


Higher nuclear Zeeman frequencies allow better detection of low  $\gamma$  nuclei

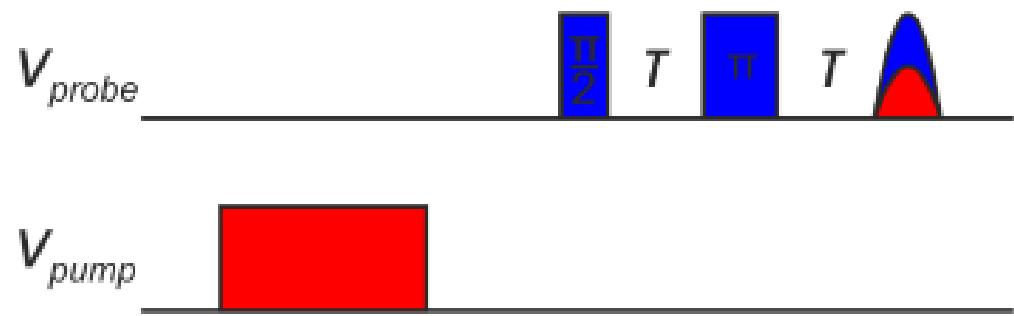
# ENDOR Resonator at high frequencies

MW Resonators at 260 GHz (J-band, corresponding to 9.2 T, 400 MHz proton)

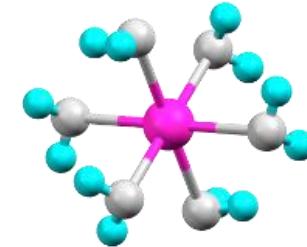
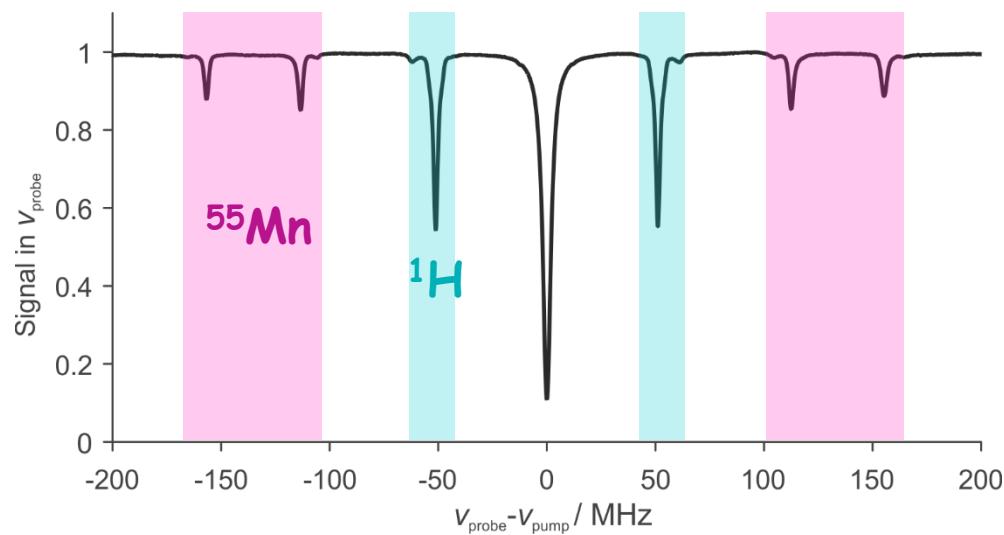
Sample Capillary 0.1 mm diameter  
Sample Volume 10 nl  
Protein : 1 pMol



# Hyperfine Spectroscopy 4: ELDOR detected NMR

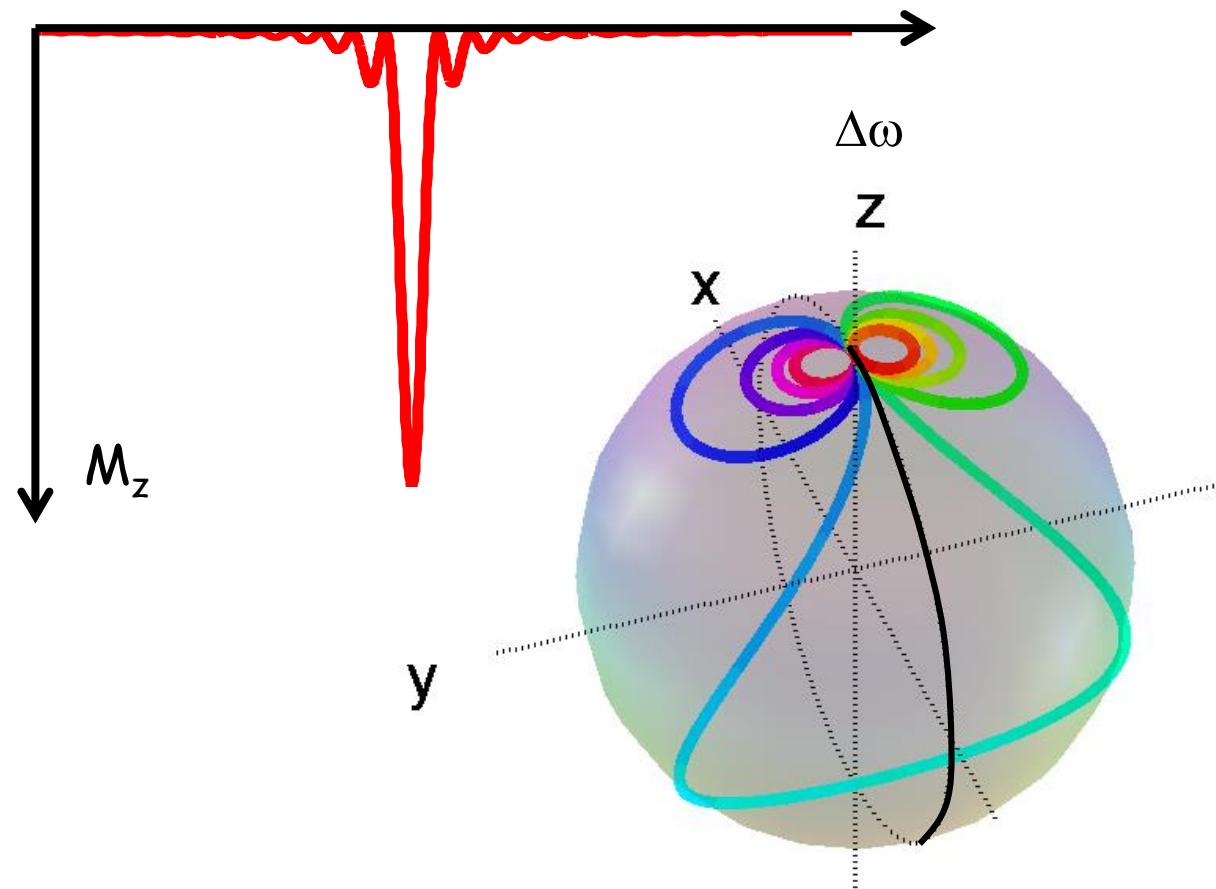


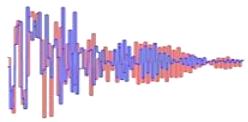
Q-band EDNMR (34 GHz/1.2 T) of  $Mn(H_2O)_6^{2+}$  recorded at 5K





# Rectangular inversion pulse



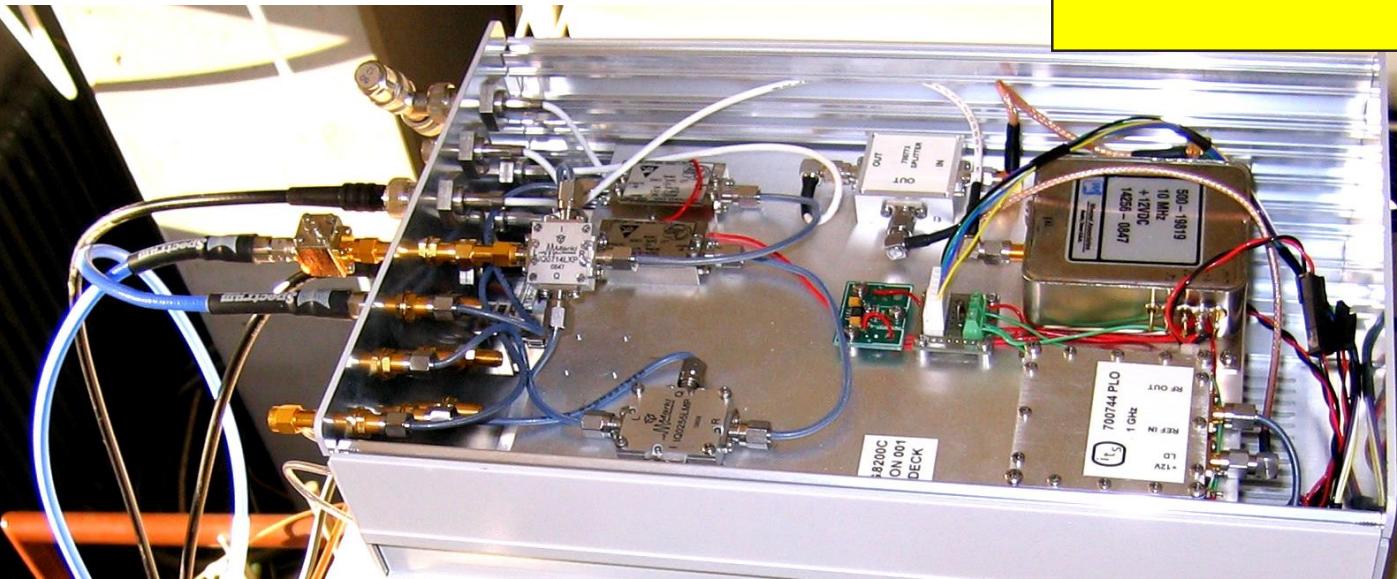
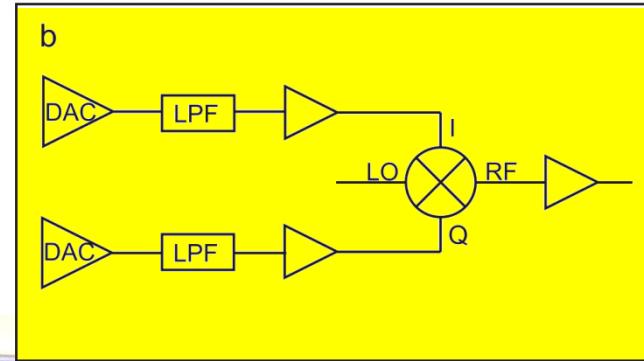
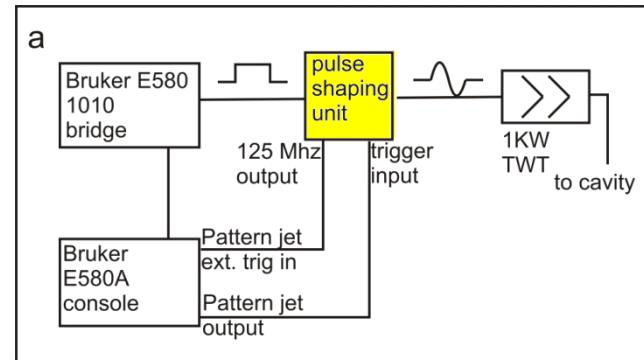


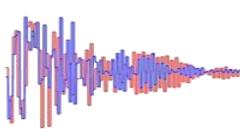
# Arbitrary Waveform Generator

1 ns time resolution

14 bit resolution in amplitude  
and phase

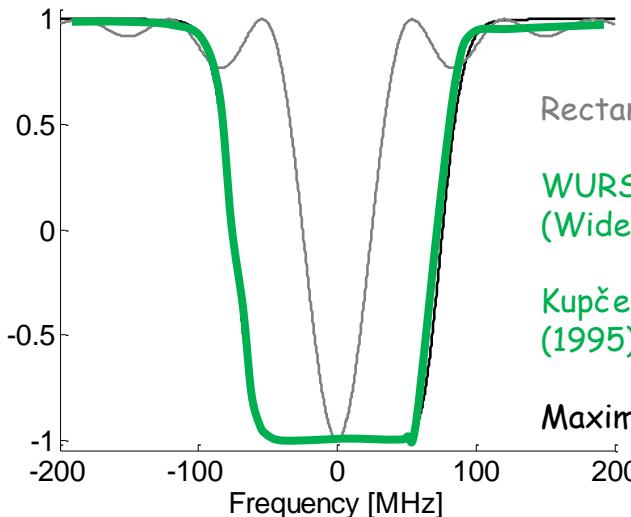
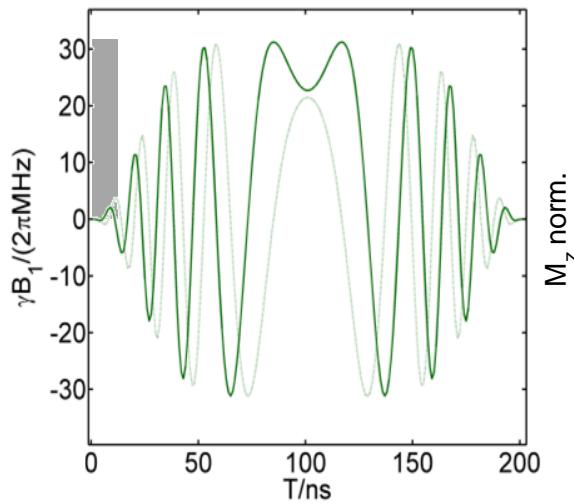
up to 100  $\mu$ s long pulse shapes



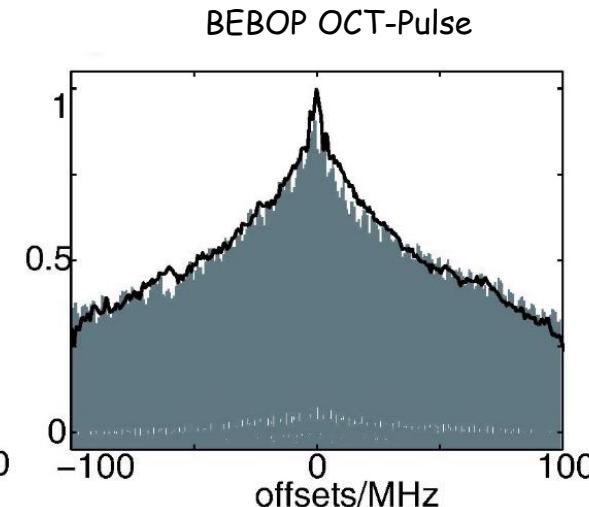
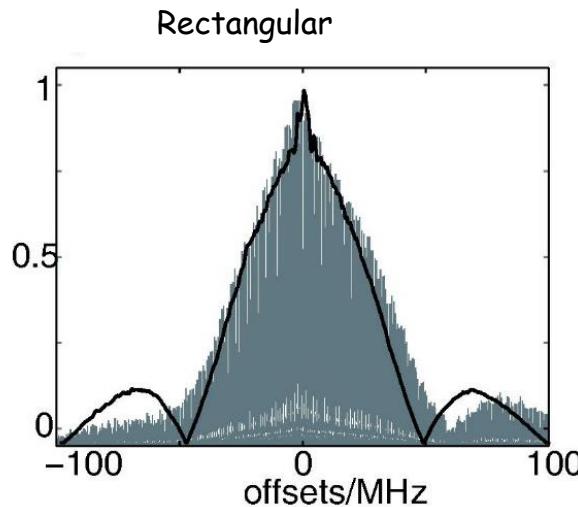
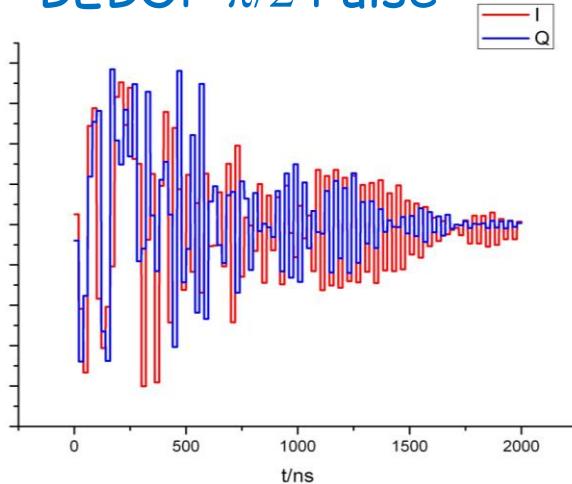


# Amplitude / Phase modulated Pulses

## WURST $\pi$ Pulse



## BEBOP $\pi/2$ Pulse

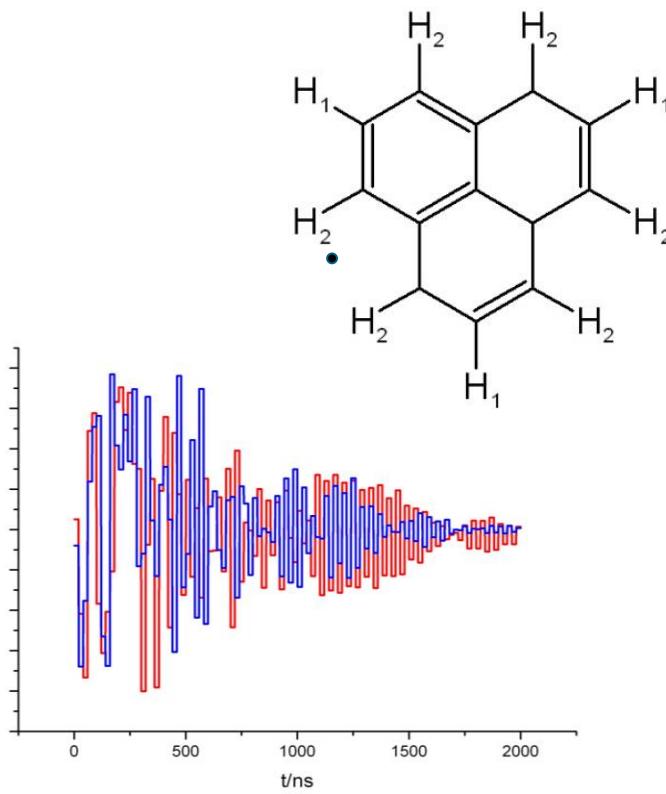


Broadband Excitation By Optimized Pulses  
Skinner, Reiss, Luy, Khaneja, Glaser, *J. Magn. Reson.* **163**, 8 (2003)

Spindler et al JMR (2012)

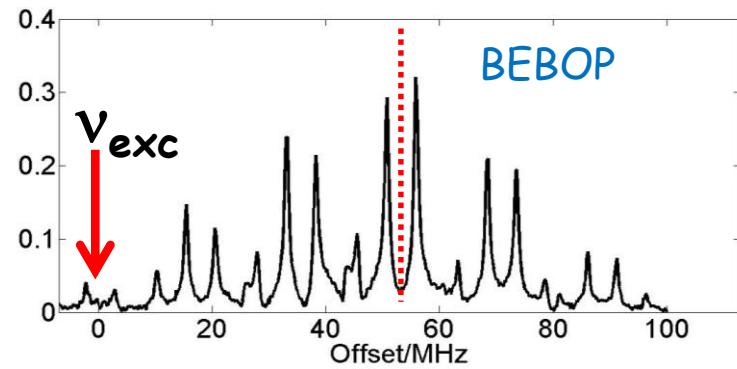
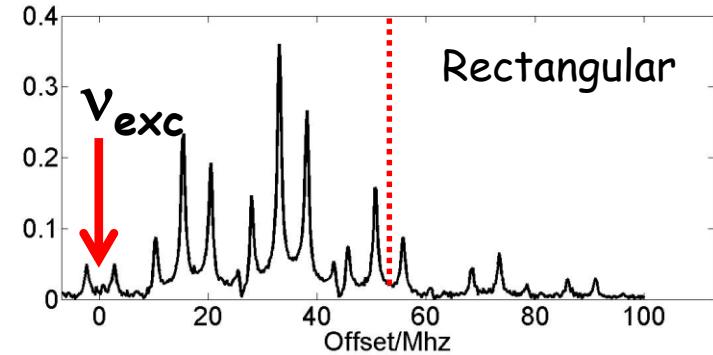
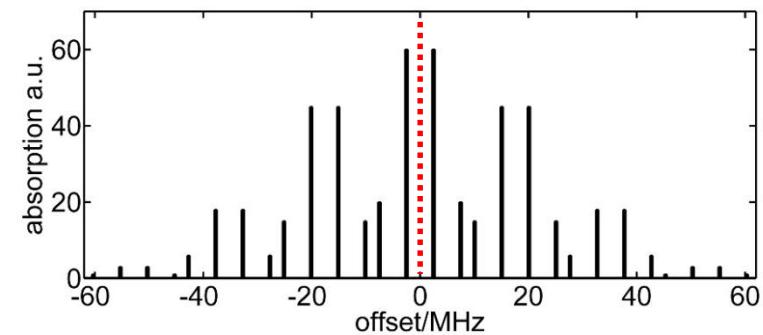


# FT-EPR with BEBOP pulse

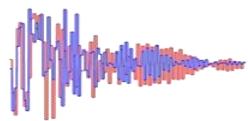


Much better intensity profiles obtained with excitation pulses derived by OC-Theory (BEBOP)

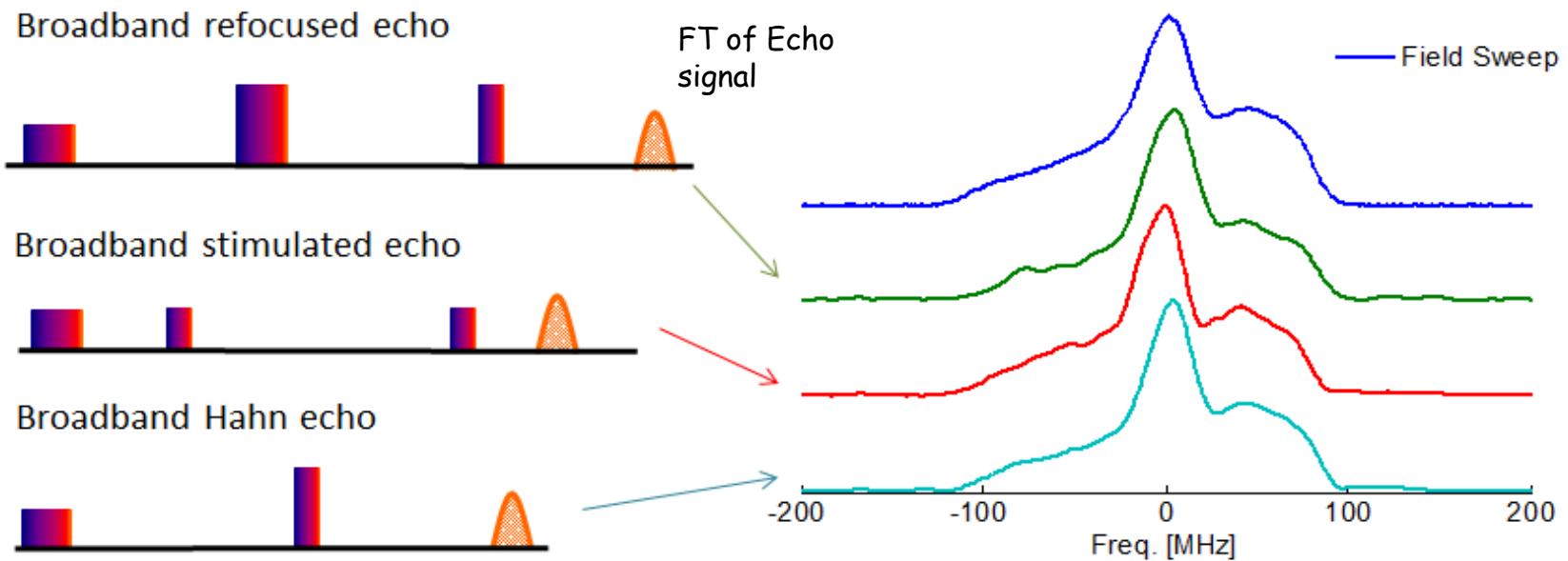
Collaboration with S. Glaser (TU Munich)



Spindler et al JMR (2012)



# Echo sequences with WURST pulses



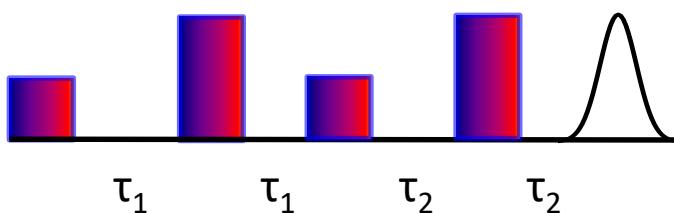
Bohlen, Ray, Bodenhausen JMR (1989)

Schoeps et al JMR (2015)

With broadband pulses  
full nitroxide lineshape  
can be excited!

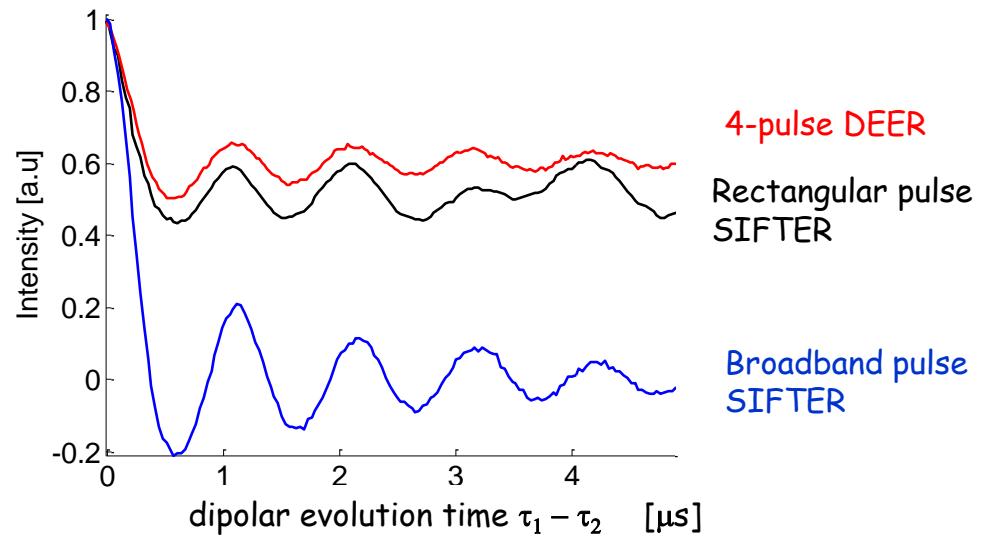


# SIFTER with WURST pulses



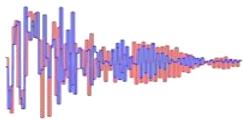
(Single Frequency Technique for  
Refocusing Dipolar Couplings)

Jeschke, Pannier, Godt, Spiess  
Chem. Phys. Lett. 331, 243 (2000)

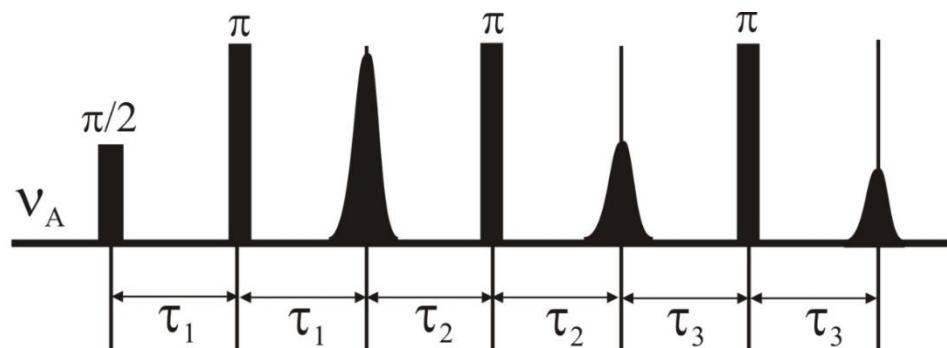
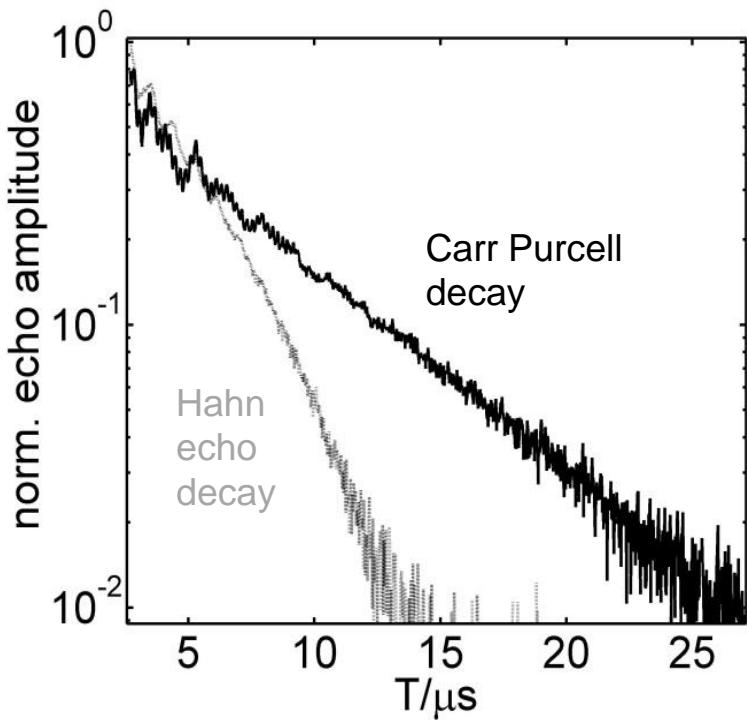


Schoeps et al JMR (2015)

With broadband pulses  
SIFTER without distortions  
with 100% modulation depth

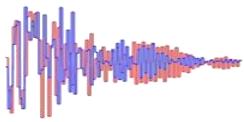


# Carr Purcell pulse sequence



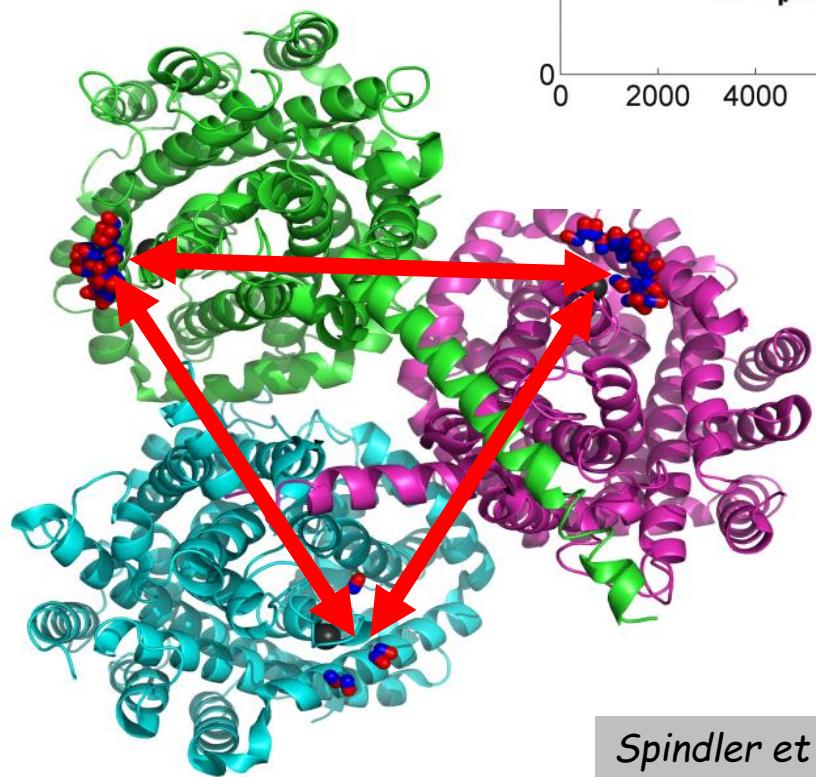
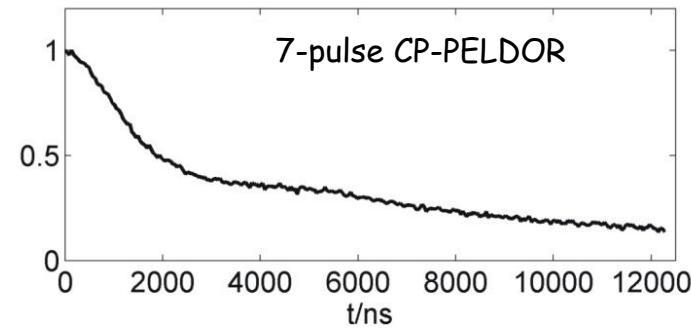
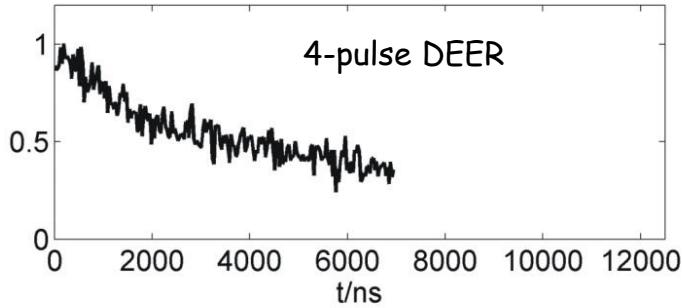
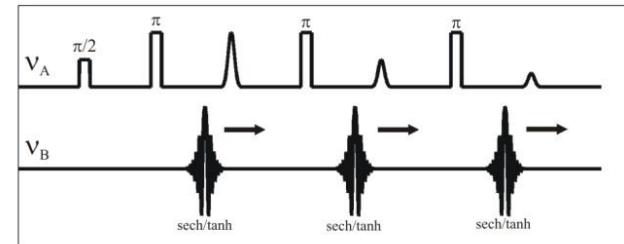
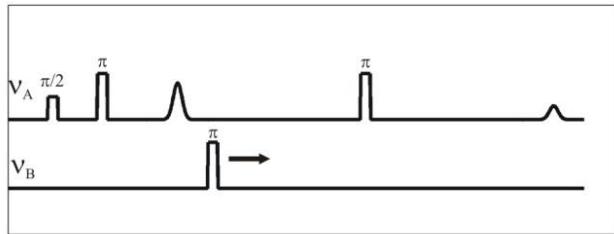
(Borbat, Freed J. Phys. Chem.Lett 4, 170 (2013))

For nitroxide spinlabels  
detection time window  
can be prolonged by a  
Carr-Purcell refocusing

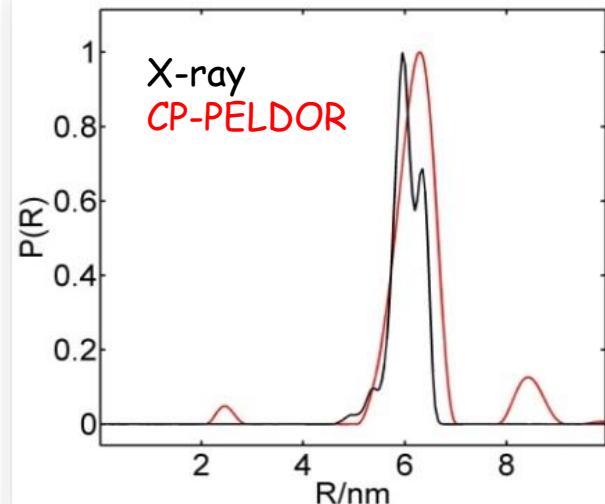


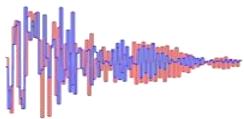
# Carr Purcell PELDOR on BetP

Collaboration with  
C. Ziegler  
(Uni Regensburg)



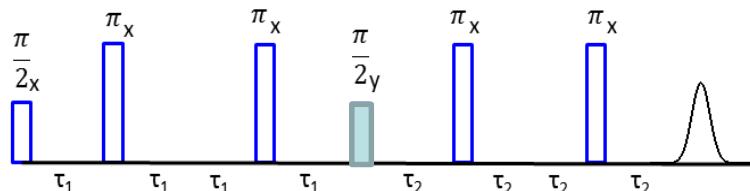
Strongly  
improved  
observation time  
window and S/N





# Carr Purcell SIFTER on BetP

6-pulse CP-SIFTER:



5-pulse CP-sequence:

