

# Introduction to NMR Spectroscopy

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# Introduction

N.M.R. = Nuclear Magnetic Resonance

Spectroscopic technique, thus relies on the interaction between **material** and **electromagnetic** radiation

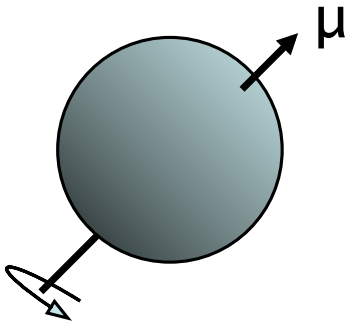
The nuclei of all atoms possess a nuclear quantum number, **I**. ( $I \geq 0$ , always multiples of  $1/2$ .)

Only nuclei with spin number ( $I$ )  $> 0$  can absorb/emit electromagnetic radiation.

Even atomic mass & number:  $I = 0$  ( $^{12}\text{C}$ ,  $^{16}\text{O}$ )

Even atomic mass & odd number:  $I = \text{whole integer}$  ( $^{14}\text{N}$ ,  $^2\text{H}$ ,  $^{10}\text{B}$ )

Odd atomic mass:  $I = \text{half integer}$  ( $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$ ,  $^{15}\text{N}$ ,  $^{31}\text{P}$ )

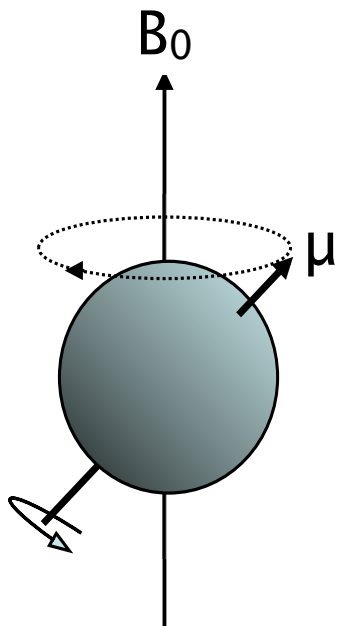


The spinning nuclei possess angular momentum,  $P$ , and charge, and so an associated magnetic moment,  $\mu$ .

$$\mu = \gamma \times P$$

Where  $\gamma$  is the gyromagnetic ratio

# Spin State



The spin states of the nucleus are quantified:

$$I, (I - 1), (I - 2), \dots, -I$$

$$I = \frac{1}{2} \text{ (e.g. } ^1\text{H)}$$

Not all nuclei are suitable for NMR.

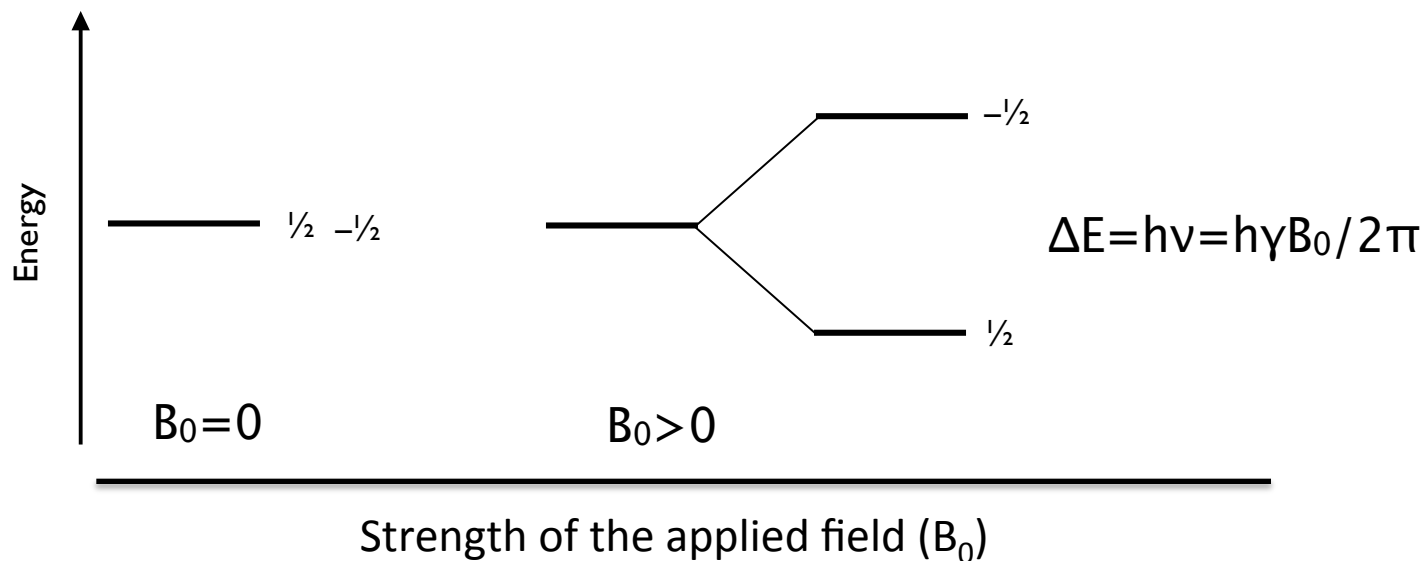
$^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  are the most important NMR active nuclei in organic chemistry

Natural Abundance

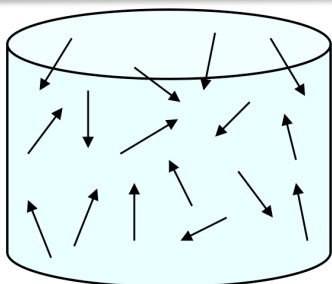
$^1\text{H}$  99.9%

$^{13}\text{C}$  1.1%

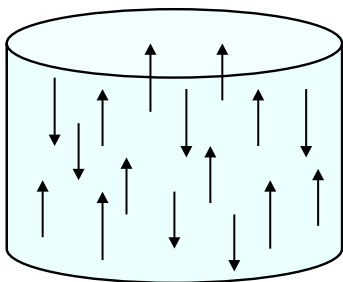
$^{12}\text{C}$  98.9% (not NMR active)



# Boltzmann Distribution

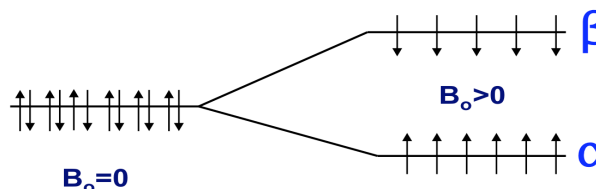


In the ground state all nuclear spins are disordered, and there is no energy difference between them. They are **degenerate**.



$B_0$

Since they have a magnetic moment, when we apply a strong external magnetic field ( $B_0$ ), they orient either against or with it: There is always a small excess of nuclei (**population excess**) aligned with the field than pointing against it.



$$\Delta E = h\nu_0 = h\gamma B_0 / 2\pi$$

$\nu_0$  is the Larmor Frequency  
 $\omega_0 = \gamma B_0$ , angular velocity

Each level has a different **population (N)**, and the difference between the two is related to the energy difference by the **Boltzmann** distribution:

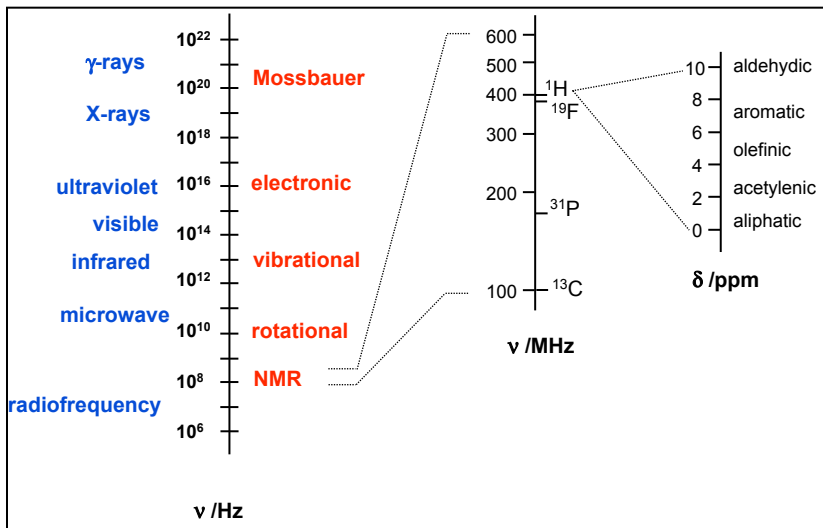
$$N_\alpha / N_\beta = e^{\Delta E / kT}$$

$\Delta E$  for  $^1\text{H}$  at 400 MHz ( $B_0 = 9.5 \text{ T}$ ) is  $3.8 \times 10^{-5} \text{ Kcal/mol}$

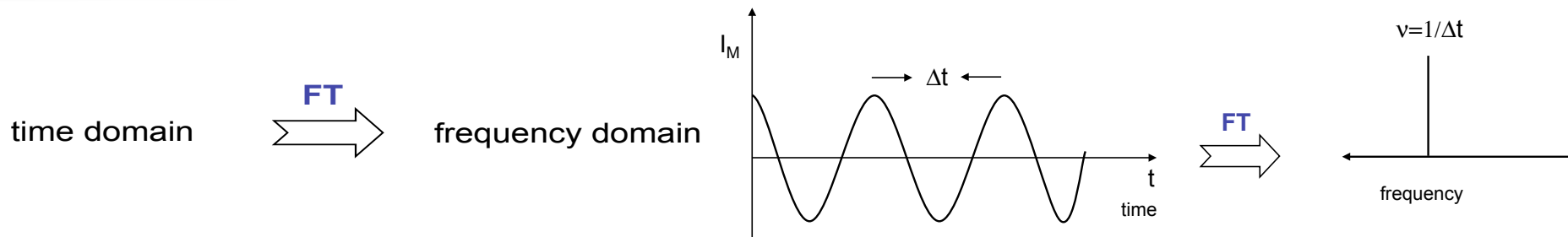
$$N_\alpha / N_\beta = 1.000064$$

The surplus population is small (especially when compared to UV or IR).

That renders NMR a rather insensitive technique!



# Concept of Chemical Shift



## The Chemical Shift

The NMR frequency  $\nu$  of a nucleus in a molecule is mainly determined by its gyromagnetic ratio  $\gamma$  and the strength of the magnetic field  $\mathbf{B}$

$$\nu = \frac{\gamma B}{2\pi}$$

The exact value of  $\nu$  depends, however, on the position of the nucleus in the molecule or more precisely on the local electron distribution

this effect is called the **chemical shift**

Nuclei, however, in molecules are never isolated from other particles that are charged and are in motion (electrons!).

Thus, the field actually felt by a nucleus is slightly different from that of the applied external magnetic field!!

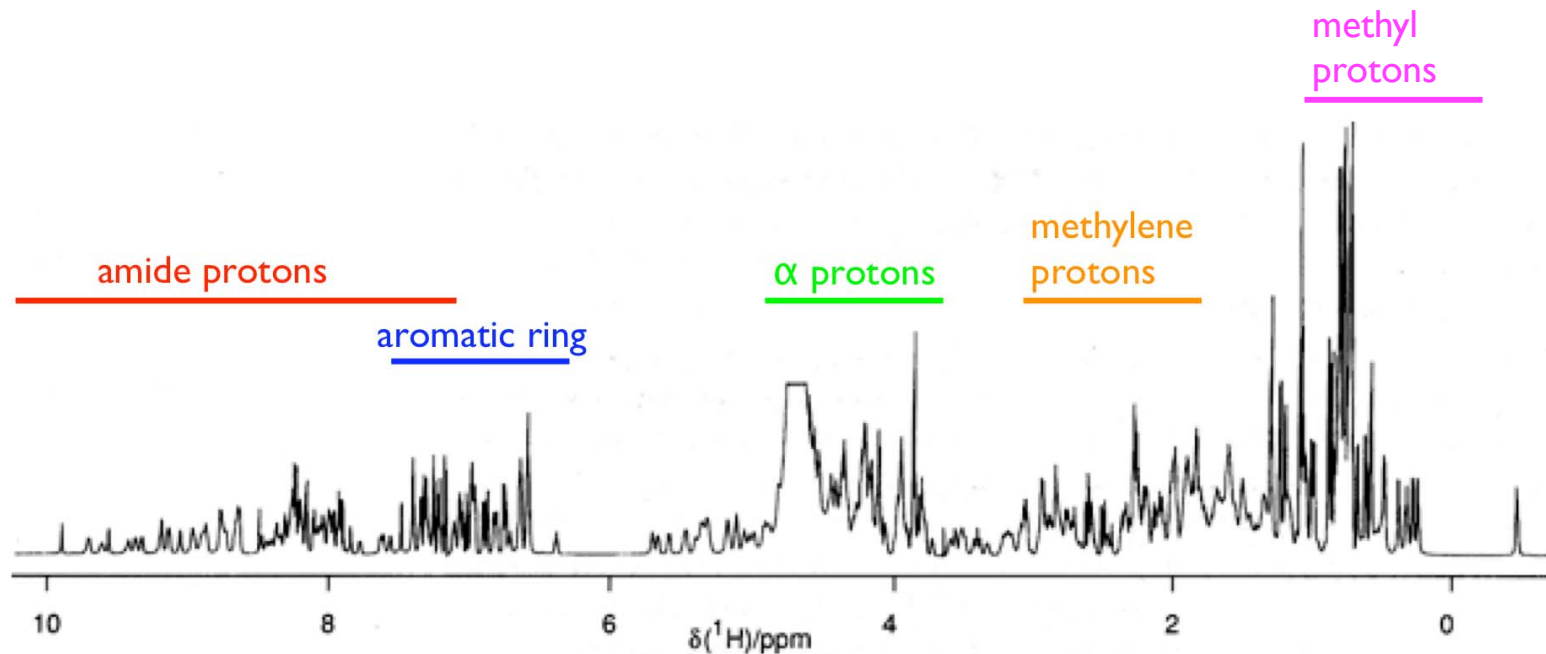
# Concept of Chemical Shift

$$\Delta E = h\nu = h\gamma B_{\text{eff}} / 2\pi \quad B_{\text{eff}}, \text{ is given by } B_0 - B' = B_0 - B_0\sigma = B_0(1 - \sigma)$$

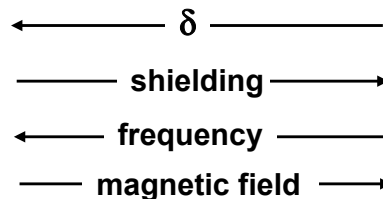
$$\nu = \frac{\gamma B_0(1 - \sigma)}{2\pi}$$

$$\delta = \frac{(\nu - \nu_{\text{ref}})}{\nu_{\text{ref}}} 10^6 \approx 10^6 (\sigma_{\text{ref}} - \sigma) \quad \delta \text{ is the chemical shift}$$

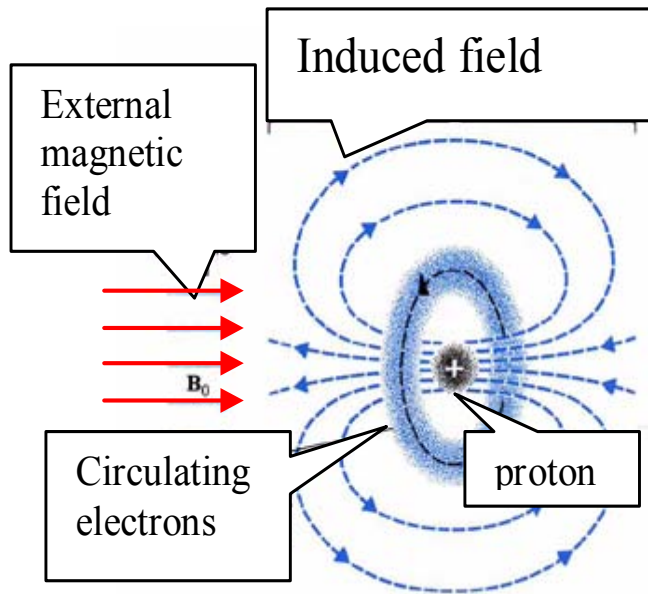
The Chemical Shift



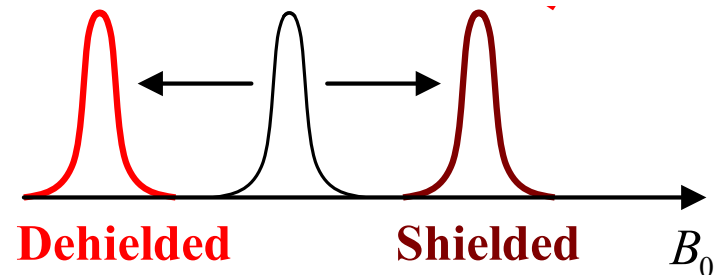
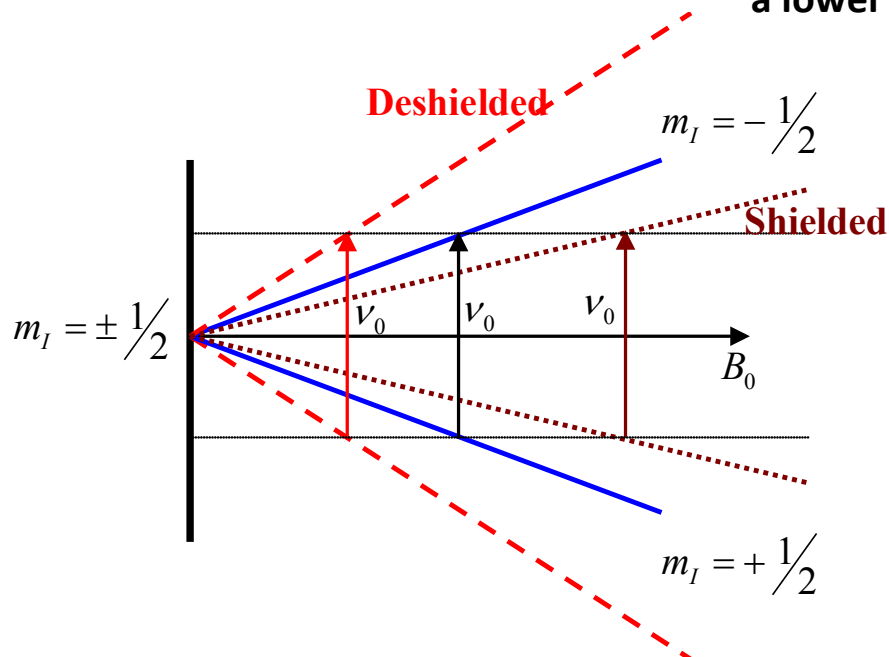
750 MHz <sup>1</sup>H spectrum of a small protein



# Shielding & De-shielding

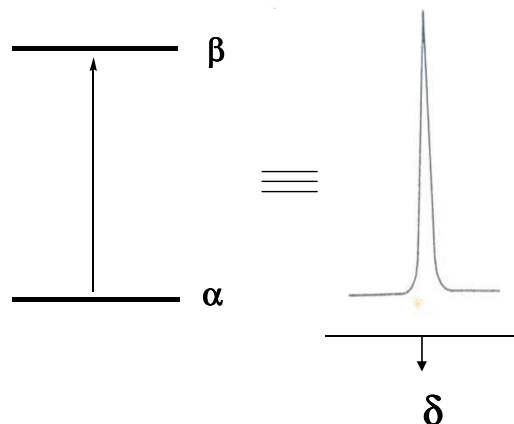


- ✓ When an atom is placed in a magnetic field, its electrons circulate about the direction of the applied magnetic field. This circulation causes a small magnetic field at the nucleus which opposes the externally applied magnetic field
- ✓ This ultimately decreases the effective magnetic field felt by the proton, shifting the signal to the higher magnetic field. This is called local diamagnetic shielding.
- ✓ When H atom is bonded with an electronegative atom, this electronegative atom attracts the electron towards it. Thus the density of the electron cloud decreases and as a result de-shields the nucleus. In this case the resonance occurs at a lower magnetic field.

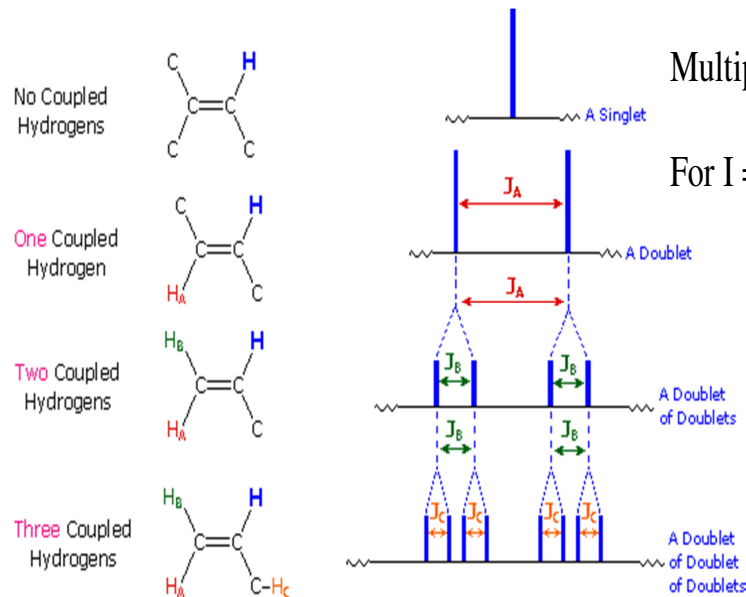
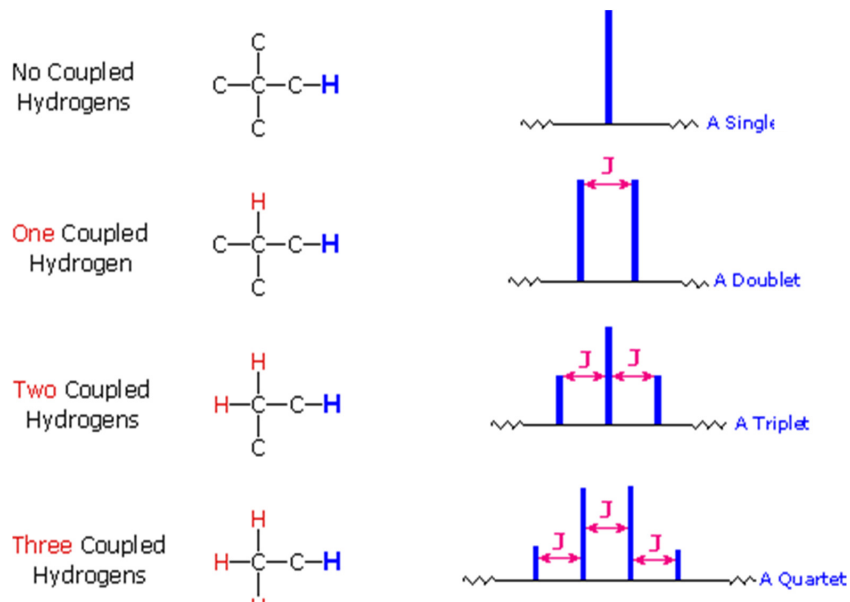
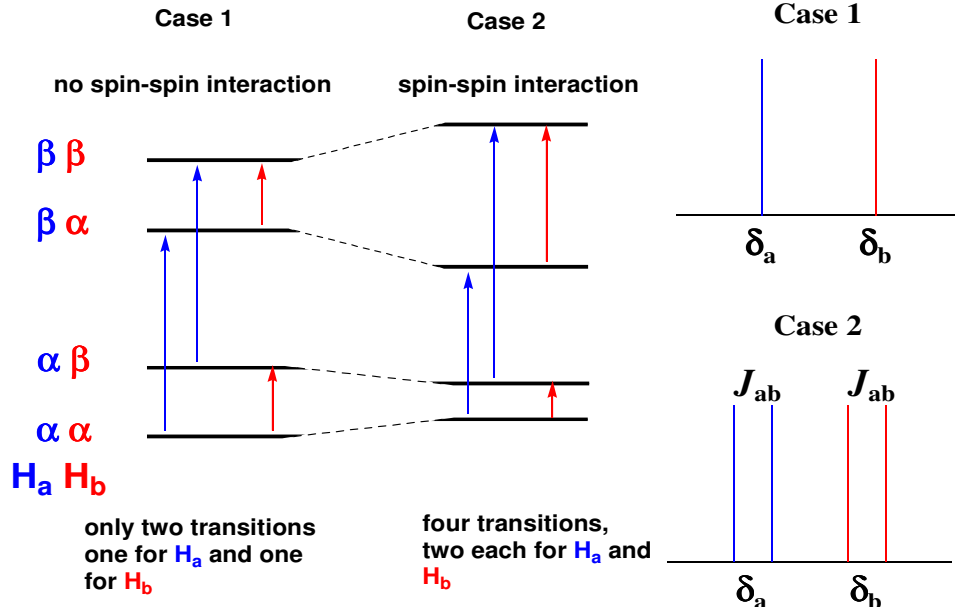


# J-J Coupling

Effect of neighboring protons – spin-spin coupling    Consider two protons  $H_a$  and  $H_b$  - neighbors



**Absence of any interacting protons**  
**No neighboring protons**  
**No spin-spin coupling – only a single peak for each chemically different proton**

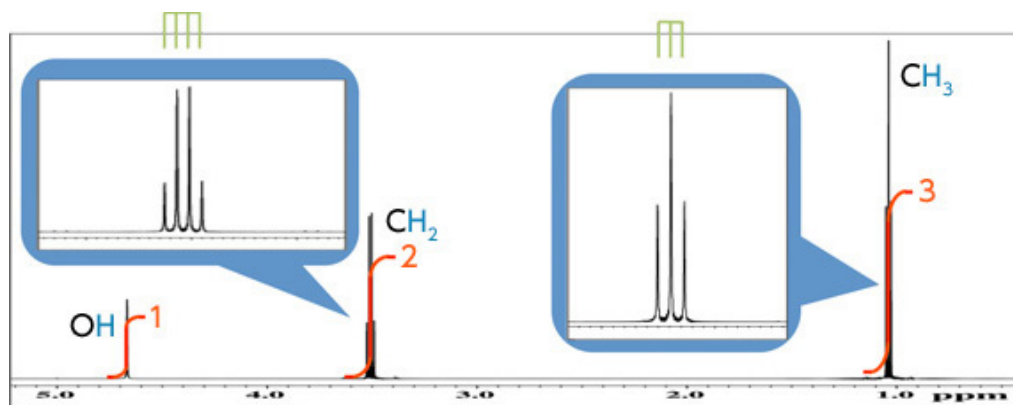
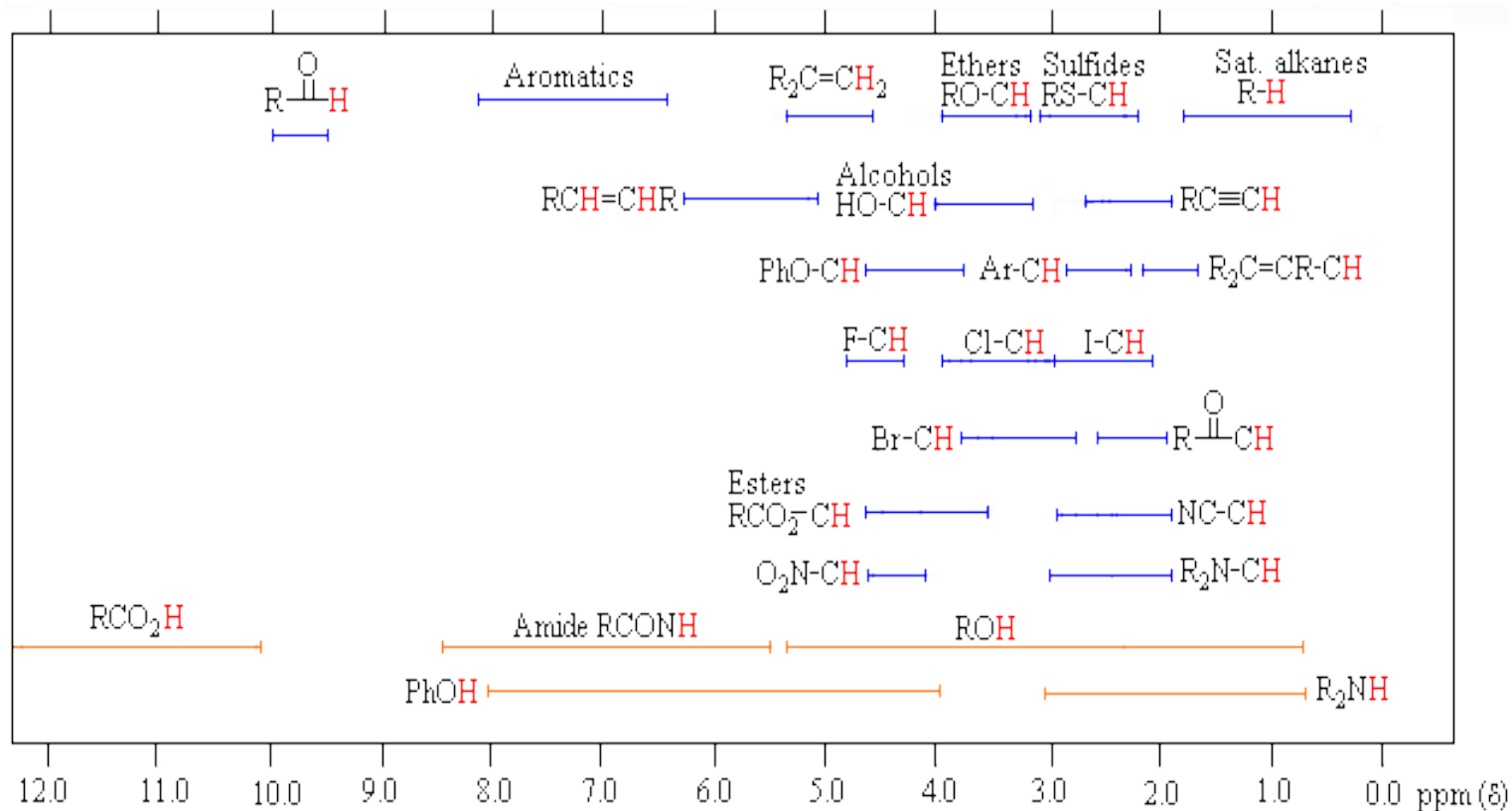


$$\text{Multiplicity} = (2nI + 1)$$

$$\text{For } I = \frac{1}{2}, (n + 1)$$

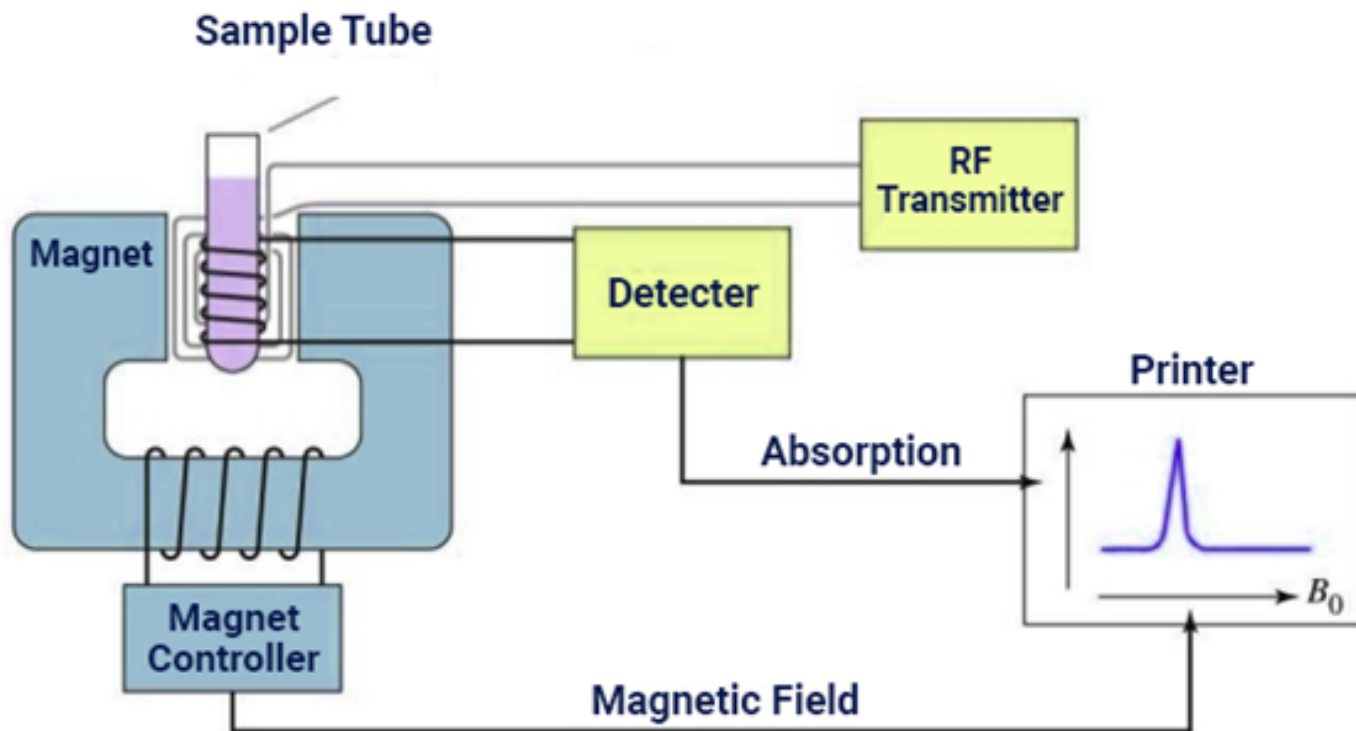


# NMR Characteristics



NMR spectrum of the hydrogen nuclei of ethanol ( $CH_3CH_2OH$ )

# Instrumentation



## Richard Robert Ernst

awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1991 for his contributions towards the development of Fourier transform Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) spectroscopy

2013-During Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting

THANK YOU