### Chapter 15 and 16: Spectroscopy. Determining Molecular Structure

[Sections: 15.1-15.11, 15.16, 16.1-16.3, 16.5-16.12]

### Why Should I Care About Molecular Structure?



*Solinospora*, a bacterium found in deep oceanic waters off the coast of the Bahamas and the Red Sea





Salinosporamide A: isolated by William Fenical's group at Scripps Institute and found to inhibit cancer-cell growth

### **Determining Organic Molecular Structure**

Employ a Combination of Commonly-Used Spectroscopic Methods

Infrared Spectroscopy (IR): information on functional groups

Mass Spectrometery (MS): information on molecular weight

**Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy (NMR):** *information on protons and carbons as well as molecular symmetry* 

• in many cases, the combination of all three of these types of spectra provide sufficient information to assign a unique molecular structure to an unknown compound



### <sup>1</sup>H Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy (Proton NMR Spectroscopy)

- Moving charges give rise to magnetic fields.
- Positively charged protons  $({}^{1}H)$  have spin similar to that of electrons.
- The spin gives rise to a tiny magnetic field. So protons act as tiny magnets.
- Normally, the tiny magnetic fields generated by protons are randomly oriented.

• In the presence of a strong (external) magnetic field  $(B_0)$ , the magnetic fields of the individual protons align themselves in the same orientation as the external field, although they may be in the same direction (parallel) or opposite direction (anti-parallel). The parallel spin is of slightly lower energy than the anti-parallel, although both are populated.



• When the protons are irradiated with the proper amount of energy, the proton can flip from one direction (parallel, for example) to the opposite direction (anti-parallel). This is the point of nuclear magnetic resonance!

• *The energy at which this occurs can be measured and plotted. This gives rise to the* <sup>1</sup>*H NMR spectrum* 

• If ALL of the protons in a molecule "flipped" (or, are at resonance) at exactly the same energy, different types of protons could not be differentiated

• Fortunately, however, the energy at which the resonance occurs is dependent upon the "chemical environment" of those particular protons

• The stronger the magnetic field B0, the greater the difference in energies between the parallel and antiparallel energy states. Therefore, stronger magnetic fields lead to better defined NMR spectra

### <sup>1</sup>H Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy (NMR Spectroscopy)

Chemical Environments



methane has four hydrogens but all are considered to be in the same chemical environment (chemically equivalent) since replacing any one of the four hydrogens leads to the same compound
 therefore, methane has ONE chemical environment and will give rise to ONE signal in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum
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ethane has six hydrogens but all are considered to be in the same chemical environment (chemically equivalent) since replacing any one of the four hydrogens leads to the same compound
therefore, ethane has ONE chemical environment and will give rise to ONE signal in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum NOTE: the three hydrogen atoms of a methyl group will always be chemically equivalent

Analyze

 $H_3C - CH_3$ 

Analyze

 $H_3C - CH_2 - CH_3 - \cdots \rightarrow$ 

Number of chemical environments? Number of signals in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum expected?

NOTE: the two hydrogen atoms of a methylene ( $CH_2$ ) group will USUALLY be chemically equivalent Predict the number of chemical environments and expected signals in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum:





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**Basic Analysis of a <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum** 



- NMR scale = ppm = parts per million
- always set relative to a standard; usually tetramethylsilane (TMS) at 0 ppm
- protons in environments of "high" electron density are foundcloser to 0 ppm(said to be "upfield" or "shielded"
- protons in environments of "low" electron density are found closer to 10 ppm (said to be "downfield" or "deshielded"
- in the example above,  $H_A$  must be in a chemical environment in which it experiences higher electron density than does  $H_B$
- the power of <sup>1</sup>H NMR is that certain types of protons consistently appear in the same area of the NMR spectrum, according to their chemical "environment"

## **Predicting Chemical Shifts: Where do the Different Chemical Environments Appear on the Spectrum?**

• use the "Typical Shifts" chart and webpage to predict the approximate range for the type of proton of interest



### Three Rules of <sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectroscopy

chemically **equivalent** protons absorb at the **same** chemical shift chemically **inequivalent** protons absorb at **different** chemical shifts chemically **similar** protons absorb at **similar** chemical shift





#### Integration

• from integration the area under each curve, a value is assigned to each signal that provides information on the relative number of protons in each chemical environment. NOTE: these may NOT be the same as the actual number of protons in that environment!



• <sup>1</sup>*H* NMR spectroscopy provides information on the chemical environment of the protons in the molecule AND the relative numbers of protons in those environments

Predict the number of signals and expected chemical shifts in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 2-butanone:







expected integration?

• protons, like electrons, generate small magnetic fields

• these magnetic fields impact the  $H_{\rm eff}$  of neighboring protons

• the result is that simple "singlet" signals are split into more complicated "multiplets"

• the size of the multiplet can be predicted by counting the number of neighboring **chemically inequivalent** protons

• the multiplet will be equivalent to n+1 where n = number of neighboring chemically inequivalent protons

Multiplets: when does splitting occur? what will the multiplet look like?









vicinal protons that are chemical inequivalent

geminal protons that are chemical inequivalent

NO: too faraway fromeach other

NO: chemically equivalent



n+1?

Predict the number of signals and expected **chemical shifts**, **multiplicities**, and integrations in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum for each of the following. Properly label the NMR spectra.





• *OH* protons have variable chemical shift, dependent upon the concentration of the sample that is made up. Generally, the appear as broad singlets between 2-6 ppm



• additional substituents will exert nearly additive effects on chemical shifts

## **IMPORTANT INFRARED STRETCHES SUMMARY**



### DETERMINING THE PRESENCE OF MAJOR INFRARED STRETCHES BY COMPOUND CLASS

		THE FOLLOWING INFRARED STRETCHES ARE PRESENT:			
COMPOUND CLASS	–OH (~3500 cm−1)	UNSAT C-H (~3010 cm-1)	SAT C-H (~2950 cm-1)	C=O (~1700 cm-1)	C–O (~1000-1250 cm–1)
ALKANE			$\checkmark$		
ALKENE		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		
ALCOHOL	$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$
ESTER			$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
ETHER			$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$
KETONE			$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	
ALKYL AROMATIC		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		
CARBOXYLIC ACID	$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$

general structure	class	example
RR RR RR	alkene	
R-C≡C-R	alkyne	
R-OH	alcohol	OH
R <sup>^O</sup> `R'	ether	~ <sup>0</sup> ~
O R ⊥ R'	ketone	0 IIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIII
R H	aldehyde	о Н
O R'└─O.R	ester	O OCH <sub>3</sub>
	carboxylic acid	ОН
alkyl benzene (aromatic)		

### **Mass Spectrometry**



cation

• many of the resulting ions, because of the large excess of energy from the electron bombardment, undergo "fragmentation" to give two pieces: a positively charged carbocation and a neutral radical



- the cation fragmentstravel down the chamber past a strong magnetic field. The cations are deflected according to their mass
- the mass of the carbocation fragments, and their frequency of formation, are recorded
- the radical fragments are not deflected and are not detected. Only charged species can be detected



• if the initial ion holds together without fragmentation, it gives a peak that has the same mass as the molecular weight of the original compound. This particularion is called the Molecular Ion peak(M+)

a. if present, the M+ peak will be at highest mass since all other fragmentsmust be of lower mass  $h_{1}$  the  $M_{2}$  peak is not ALWAVS support (for our support houses house it will be)

b. the M+ peak is not ALWAYS present (for our purposes, however, it will be)

c. the M+ peakmay or may not be the biggest peak(the biggest peak called the "base peak")
under a given set of conditions, compounds fragmentin a particular and reproducible manner to give a mass spectrum that is a "fingerprint" for that compound



• mass spectrometers are very sensitive to mass and can differentiate even one atomic mass unit. This allows for differentiation of "isotopes". Isotopes are atoms that contain different numbers of neutrons.

<sup>1</sup>H is the most common isotope of hydrogen (99.9%). It contains 1 protons and 0 neutrons <sup>2</sup>H (deuterium) is a less common isotope of hydrogen (0.1%). It contains 1 proton and 1 neutron

 $^{12}$ C is the most common isotope of carbon (98%). It contains 6 protons and 6 neutrons  $^{13}$ C is a less common isotope of carbon (1%). It contains 6 protons and 7 neutrons

• all of the common "heavy atoms" (C, N, O) and hydrogen have a single major isotope however, two of the halogens have two major isotopes

• <sup>79</sup>Br and <sup>81</sup>Br exist in  $a \sim 1:1$  ratio. Thus half of the molecules that contain Br will have the <sup>79</sup>Br isotope, and the other half the <sup>81</sup>Br isotope

• thus, molecules containing Br can be spotted quickly in the MS because there will be a pair of peaks at highest mass in a 1:1 ratio, separated by two mass units



CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Br

•  ${}^{35}Cl$  and  ${}^{37}Cl$  exist in a ~ 3:1 ratio. Thus three quaters of the molecules that contain Cl will have the  ${}^{35}Cl$  isotope, and the other quarter the  ${}^{37}Cl$  isotope

• thus, molecules containing Cl can be spotted quickly in the MS because there will be a pair of peaks at highest mass in a 3:1 ratio, separated by two mass units



Estimating the Number of "Heavy Atoms" from a Molecular Weight

 $\frac{MW - mass of halogen(s)}{14} \cong number of heavy atoms (C, O, N) in the molecule$ 

Examples

 $Octane = C_8 H_{18} MW = 114$ 

Chloroethane =  $C_2H_5Cl$  MW = 64



• the MS provides information on the presence and/or absence of Br and Cl (two of the most commonly encountered halogens)

• by locating the M+ peak, the MS also provides information on the approximate number of heavy atoms present in a molecule Problems: 6

## **Spectroscopy Problem 1**

Compound with molecular formula  $C_5H_{10}O_2$ Possible Structures:



# **Spectroscopy Problem 2**





# **Spectroscopy Problem 5**



### Chapter 15/16 Essential Concepts

- 1. Understand the impact that external magnetic fields  $(B_0)$  have on the nuclear spins of protons, the difference between parallel and antiparallel states, and how nuclear magnetic resonance is established by irradiating with radio frequencies.
- 2. Be able to identify different chemical environments given a structure and assign approximate chemical shifts and multiplicities.
- 3. Understand what integration values mean
- 4. Know the 7 general regions of <sup>1</sup>H NMR chemical shifts!
- 5. Know the 5 general regions of IR spectral stretches!
- 6. Be able to recognize and assign the 9 common classes of organic compounds (and how to derive the class from an IR spectrum).
- 7. Understand how the basic processes behind collecting mass spectra. You should be able to identify the molecular ion peak (M+), the M+2 peak (if present), the base peak and understand their significance.
- 8. Understand the importance of isotopes and be able to determine whether a Cl or Br is present in a molecule given the mass spectrum
- 9. Be able to properly calculate the number of heavy atoms in a molecule given the mass spectrum.
- 10. Be able to assimilate the information provided in NMR, IR and Mass spectra to provide a reasonable organic compound structure.