

Can we improve solid-state NMR sensitivity without DNP ?

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Photo challenge



Context

Sensitivity problem

“There are three problems in NMR: sensitivity, sensitivity and sensitivity”, 2020

Dr Ulrich Scheler, Institute for Polymer Research, Dresden, Germany



Dynamic nuclear polarization, M€



Magnetic field, M€

$$PSNR_{max} \propto B_0^{1.5}$$



Ultra-fast MAS, 100 k€

Can we improve solid-state NMR sensitivity without DNP ? → **extremely low cost limit** → 7 T, 4-7 mm

Sensitivity definition



Ability to distinguish slight concentration differences

Proportional to Signal-to-Noise Ratio (SNR)

Increases as square root of time

$$SNR = \frac{\sigma_{signal+noise}^2 - \sigma_{noise}^2}{\sigma_{noise}^2} = SNNR - 1$$

electronics

$$PSNR_{rms} = \frac{H_{signal}}{h_{noise_rms}} = \frac{H_{signal}}{\sigma_{noise}}$$

spectroscopies

$$PSNR_{max} = \frac{H_{signal}}{h_{noise_max}} = \frac{H_{signal}}{h_{noise_peak_peak}/2}$$

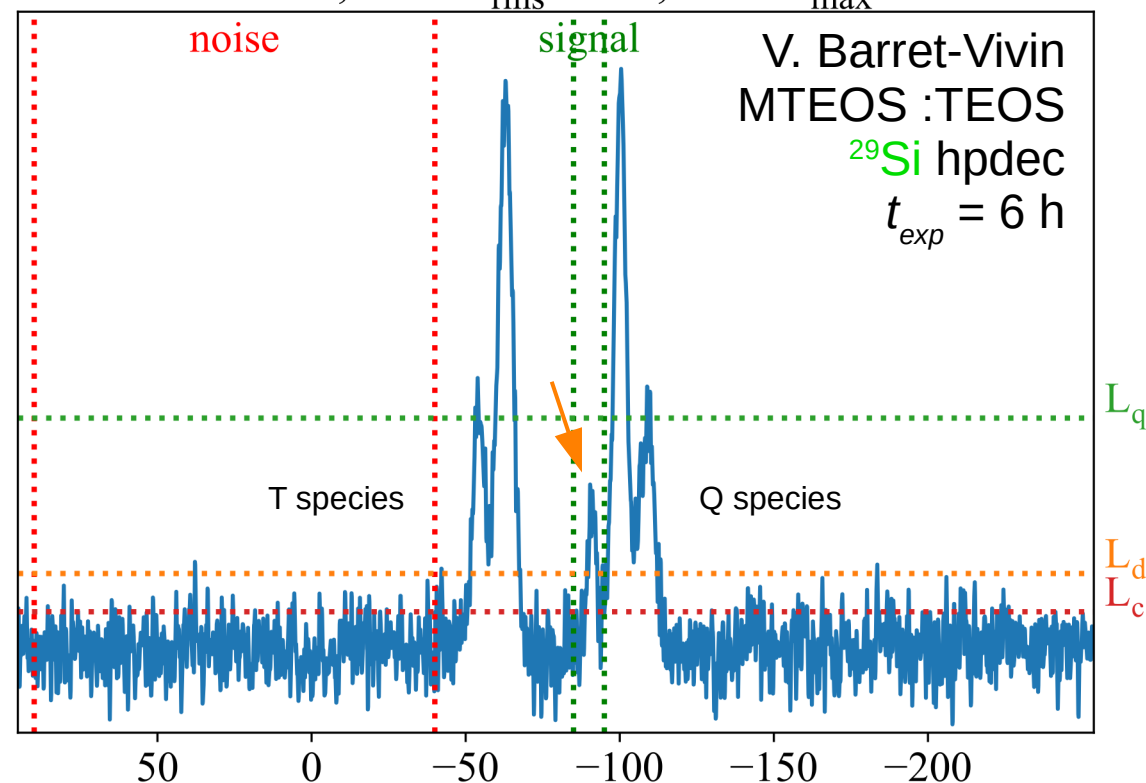
chemistry

Gaussian noise: $PSNR_{max} \approx PSNR_{rms} / 3.3$

"In the NMR literature the RMS noise is usually multiplied by 2 for reasons that can be attributed only to tradition." → $PSNR_{rms}/2$

M. E. Lacey et al., *Chem. Rev.* 99, 3133–3152 (1999).

SNR = 4.1, $PSNR_{rms} = 7.1$, $PSNR_{max} = 2.1$



G. Laurent et al., *Appl. Spectrosc. Rev.* 54, 602–630 (2019).

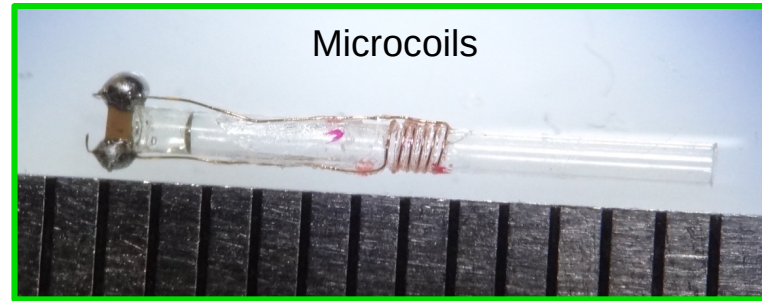
L_q : $PSNR_{max} = 3.0$, quantification level

L_d : $PSNR_{max} = 1.0$, detection level at unexpected position

L_c : $PSNR_{max} = 0.5$, critical level, yes / no at expected position

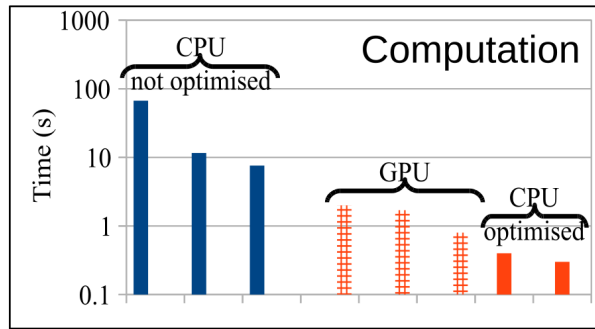
L. A. Currie, *Anal. Chem.* 40, 586–593 (1968).

Outline

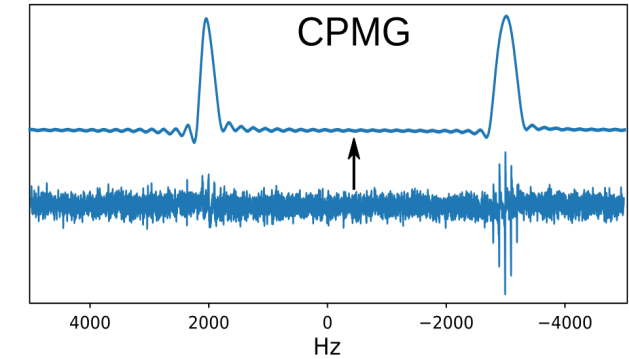


G. Laurent, Instrumenter et innover en chimie physique pour préparer l'avenir, Paris, France (2015).

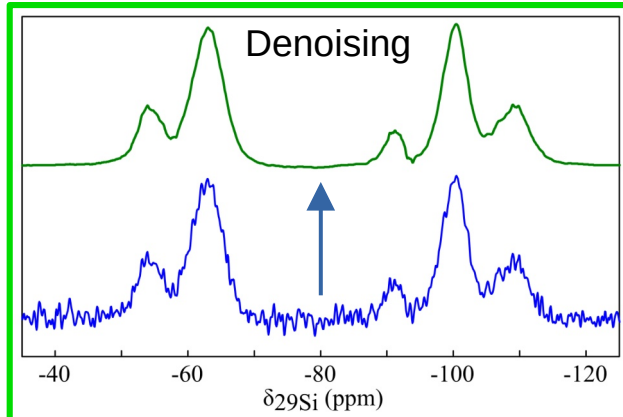
G. Laurent, XXXI^{ème} Congrès du GERM, Saint Pierre d'Oléron, France (2019).



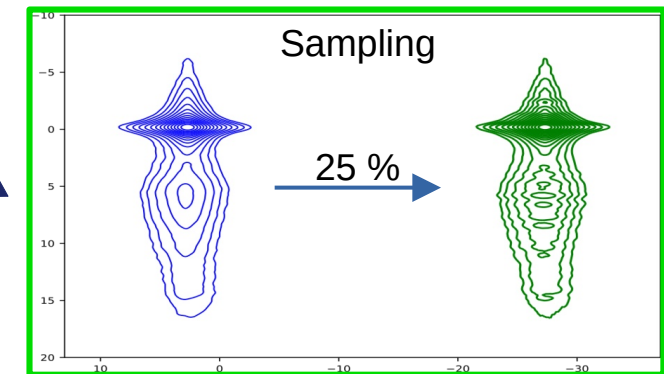
G. Laurent et al., *Appl. Spectrosc. Rev.*, 55, 173-196 (2020).



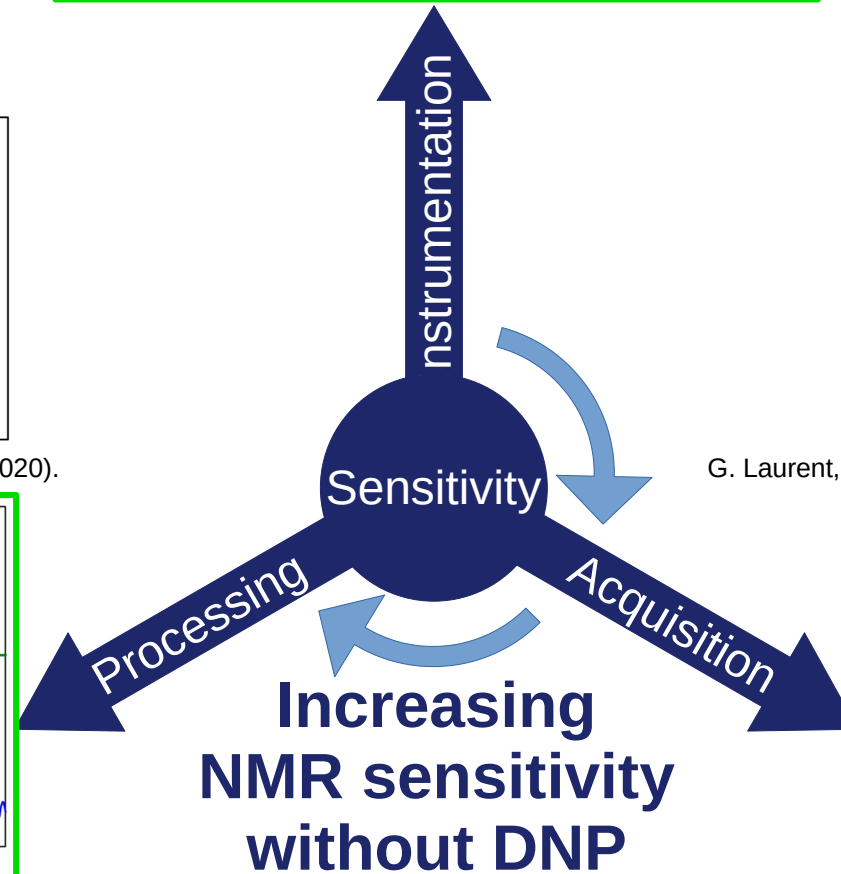
G. Laurent, 5^{èmes} Journées nationales du développement, Rennes, France (2020).



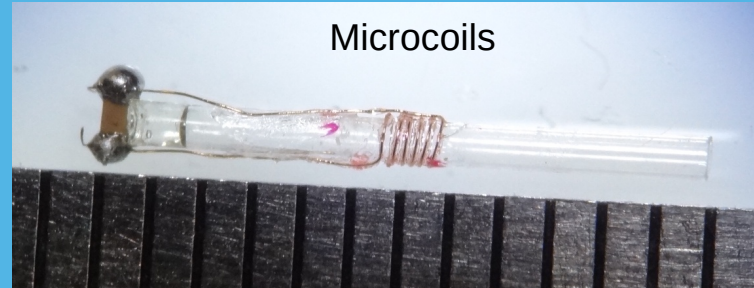
G. Laurent et al., *Appl. Spectrosc. Rev.*, 54, 602-630 (2019).



G. Laurent, RMN structurale dans le bassin parisien, Orléans, France (2018).



Instrumentation

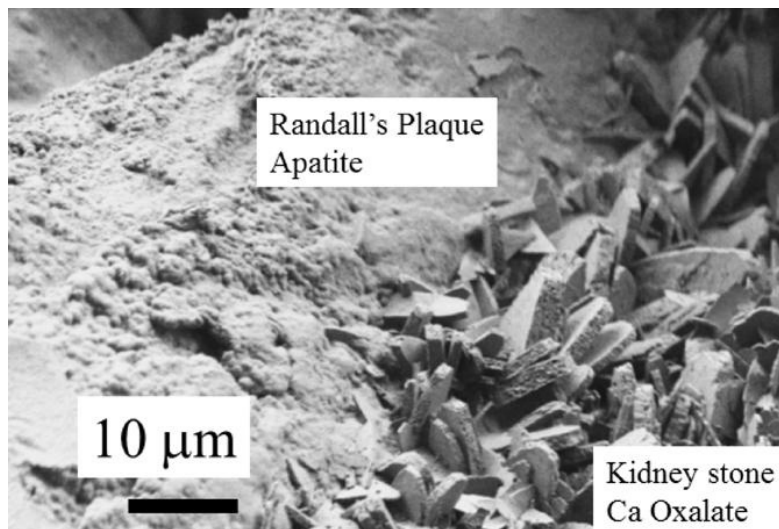


Microquantities



Usually in solid-state NMR,
 $m = 1\text{-}100\text{ mg}$

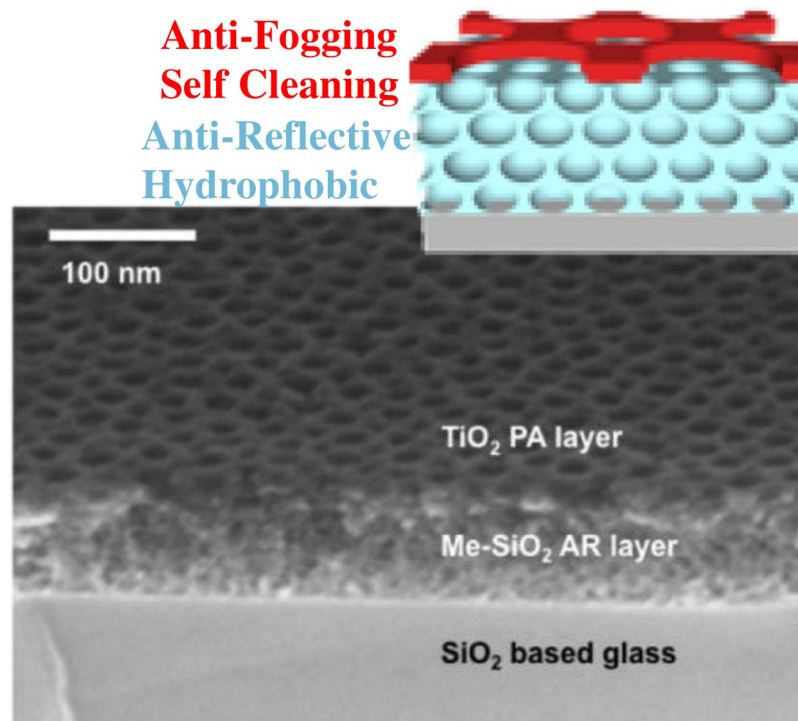
Kidney stone, hydroxyapatite, $m < 100\text{ }\mu\text{g}$
 Collab. with Tenon Hospital



D. Bazin, M. Daudon
J. Phys. D: Appl. Phys., 45, 383001, 1-10 (2012).

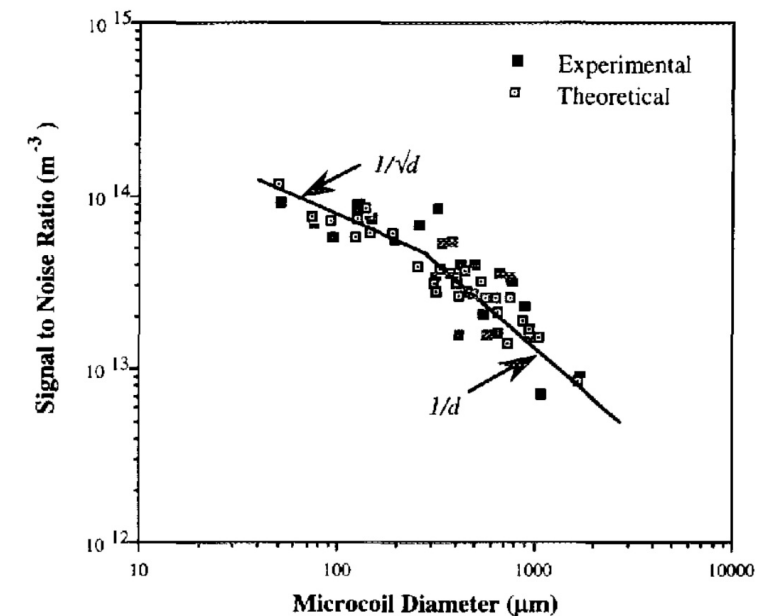
Sol gel film
 $S = 2\text{ cm}^2$, $h = 300\text{ nm}$, $m \sim 100\text{ }\mu\text{g}$

Anti-Fogging
 Self Cleaning
 Anti-Reflective
 Hydrophobic



M. Faustini *et al.*
J Sol-Gel Sci Technol. 70, 216–226 (2014).

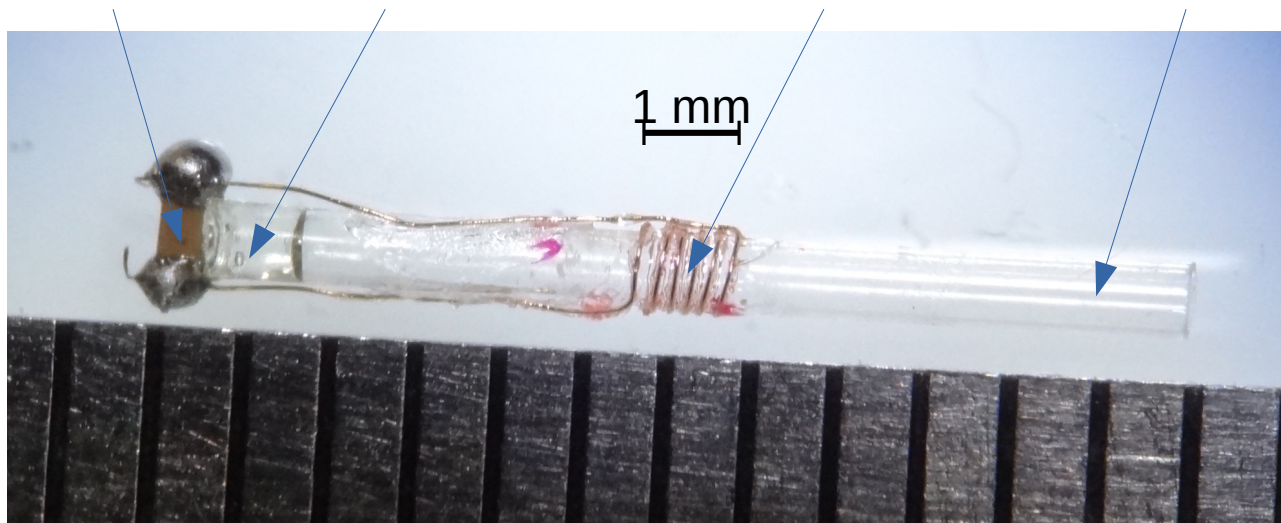
Decrease coil size
 Increase filling factor



T. L. Peck *et al.*
J. Magn. Reson. Ser. B. 108, 114–124 (1995).

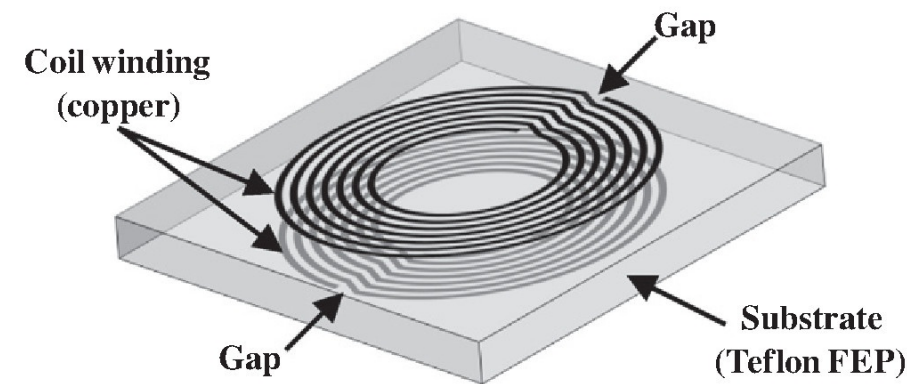
Solenoid and TLR coils

capacitor epoxy resin coil + cyanoacrylate capillary



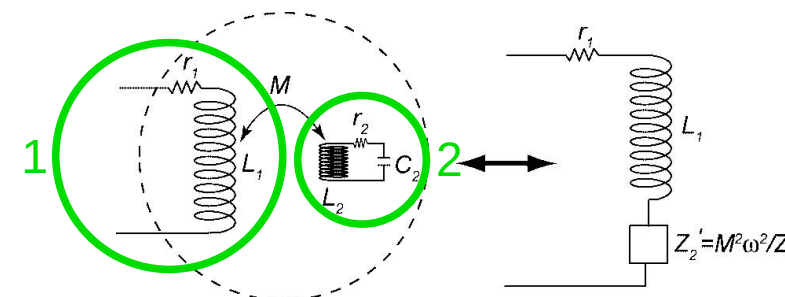
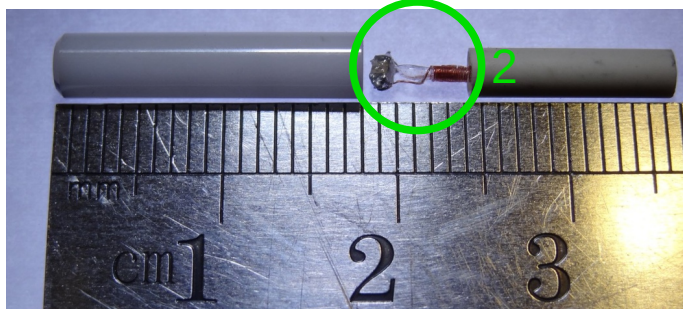
Solenoid

D. Sakellariou,
J. Lehmann-Horn, W.-C. Teh



Transmission Line Resonator (TLR)

J.-C. Ginefri et al., *J. Magn. Reson.* 224, 61–70 (2012).



D. Sakellariou et al., *Nature.* 447, 694–697 (2007).
J.-F. Jacquinot, D. Sakellariou, *Concept. Magn. Reson. A.* 38A, 33–51 (2011).

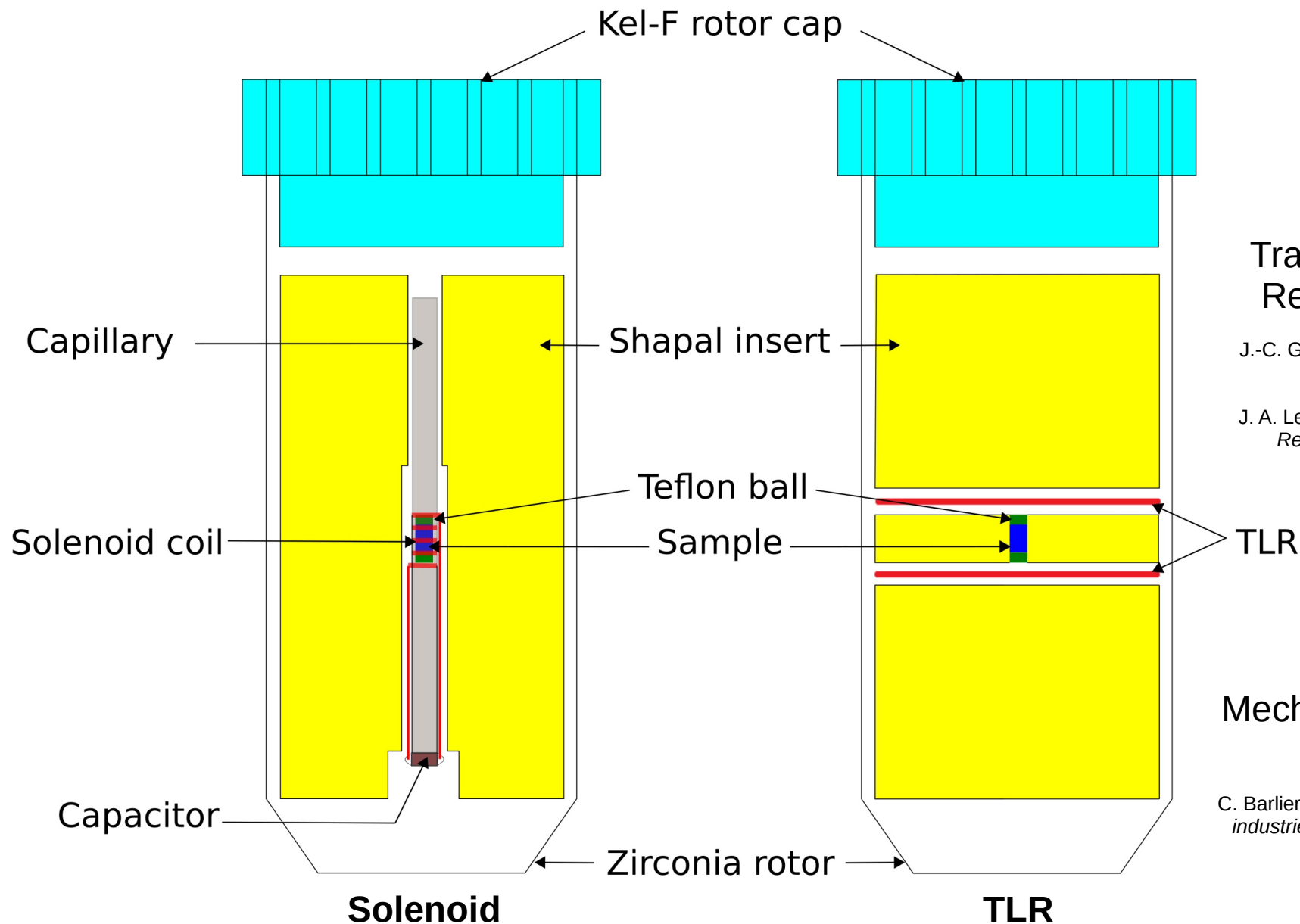
Inserts



Magic Angle Coil Spinning (MACS)

D. Sakellariou, J.-F. Jacquinet.
WO2007020537, A3 (2007).

D. Sakellariou *et al.*, *Nature*. 447,
694–697 (2007).



Transmission Line Resonator (TLR)

J.-C. Ginefri *et al.*, *J. Magn. Reson.*
224, 61–70 (2012).

J. A. Lehmann-Horn *et al.*, *J. Magn. Reson.* 271, 46–51 (2016).

Mechanical tolerance:
~ 20 μm

C. Barlier *et al.*, *Construction mécanique industrielle* (Foucher, 1997), Data Sti.

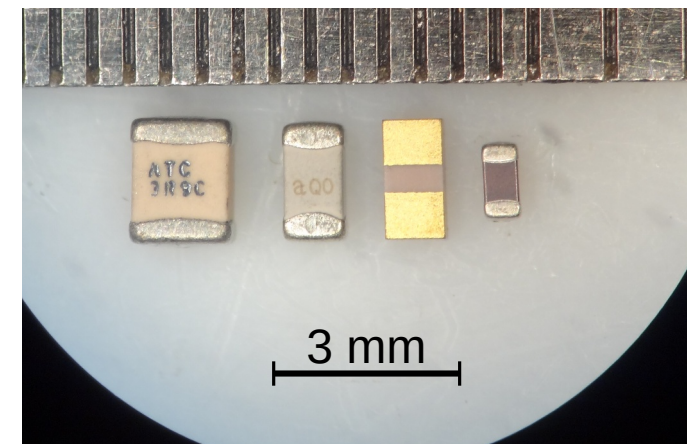
Coil parameters

Serial RLC

$$\nu = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{LC}}$$

Frequency (Hz) \rightarrow Inductance (H) \rightarrow Capacitance (F)

Capacitors



Solenoid

LibreOffice calculation sheet

$$L = \frac{4\pi^2 N_{turns}^2 r_{coil}^2}{l_{coil}} k_L - 0.004\pi r_{coil} N_{turns} (k_S + k_M)$$

Number of turns \rightarrow Coil radius (m) \rightarrow Coil length (m) \rightarrow Nagaoka coefficient = $f(d_{coil}/l_{coil})$ \rightarrow Self inductance = $f(p_{pitch}/r_{wire})$ \rightarrow Mutual inductance = $f(N_{turns})$

TLR
Matlab + Fasthenry software
FEKO electromagnetics
simulations

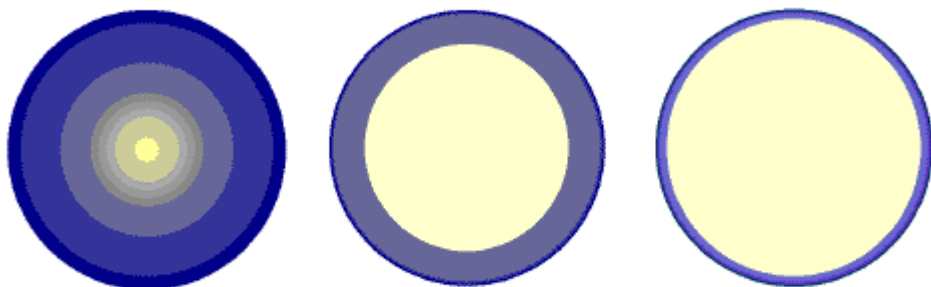
R. Weaver, <http://electronbunker.ca/eb/CalcMethods2a.html> (2016).

H. Nagaoka, *The Journal of the College of Science*, Imperial University of Tokyo, Japan. 27, 1–33 (1909).

E. B. Rosa, F. W. Grover, *Bulletin of the Bureau of Standards*. 8, 1–237 (1916).

Coil wire

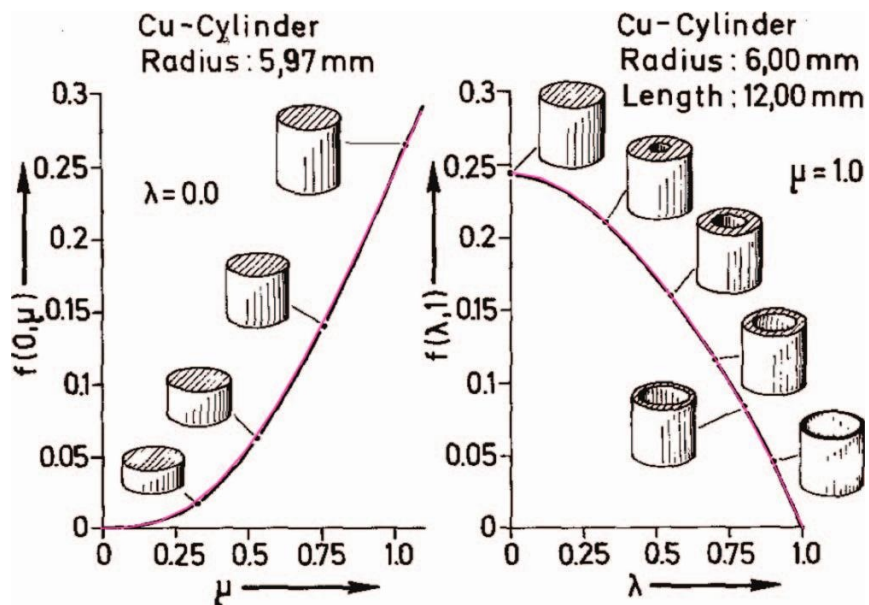
CURRENT PENETRATION DEPTH IN STEEL (CURRENT SHOWN IN BLUE)



60Hz.
6" (150mm)

1000Hz.
0.2" (5mm)

400kHz.
0.030" (0.75mm)

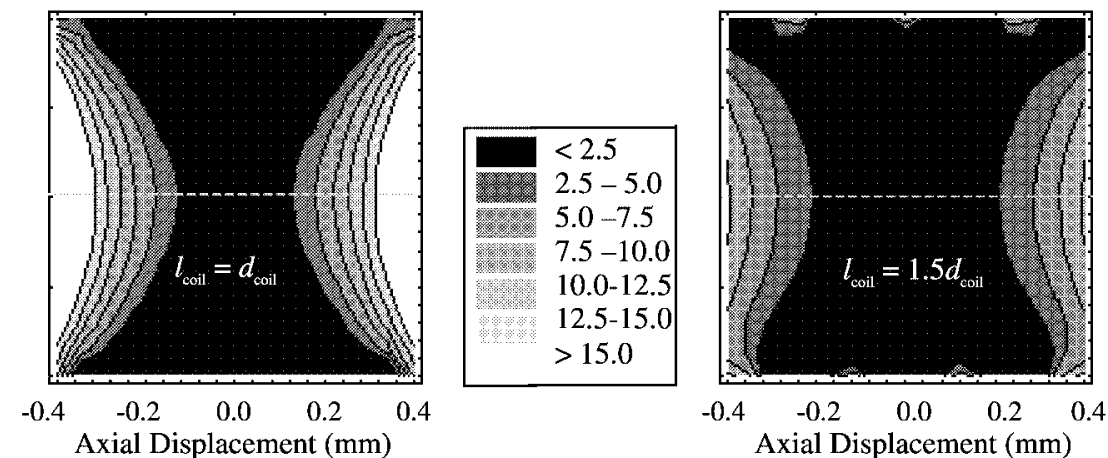


Power = $f(h_{\text{wire}}, w_{\text{wire}})$

$$\delta = \sqrt{\frac{\rho}{\pi \mu_0 \nu}}$$

ρ → Resistivity ($\Omega \cdot \text{m}$)
 ν → RF Frequency (Hz)
 μ_0 → Magnetic Permeability ($\text{H} \cdot \text{m}^{-1}$)

Wire diameter > 5x skin depth



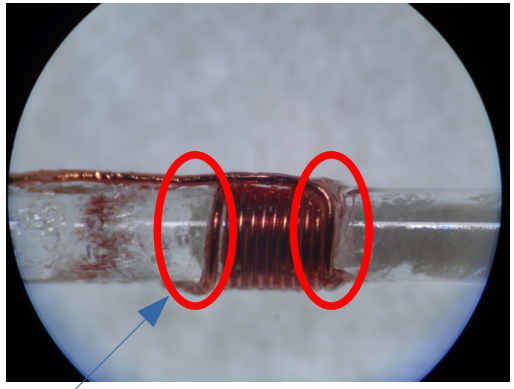
Best RF homogeneity with elongated coil

$$l_{\text{sample}} : d_{\text{coil}} : l_{\text{coil}} = 0.5 : 1 : 1.2$$

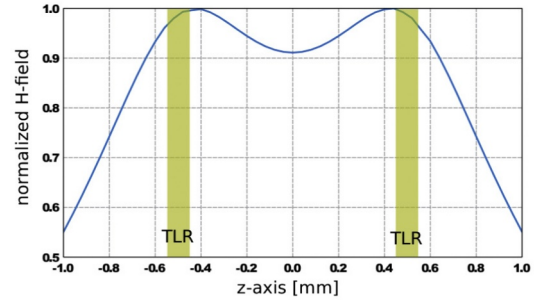
K. R. Minard, R. A. Wind, *Concepts Magnetic Res.* 13, 128–142 (2001).

Compromise between Eddy currents and RF homogeneity

RF homogeneity

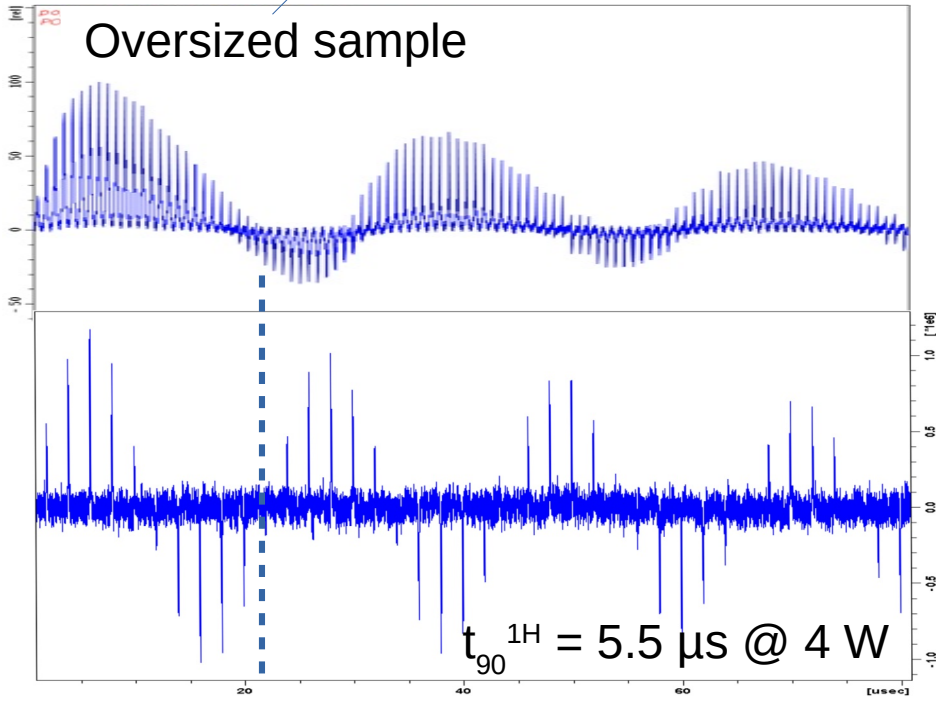


Solenoid



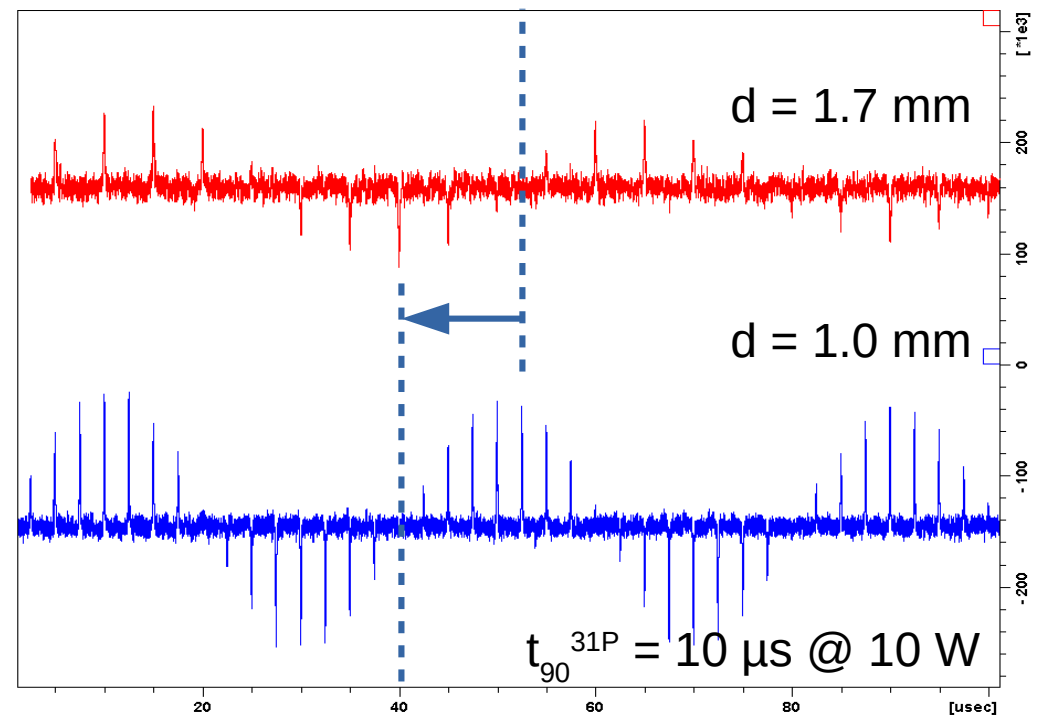
TLR

J. A. Lehmann-Horn et al., *J. Magn. Reson.* 271, 46–51 (2016).



Nutation curve
 $PSNR_{max} \propto B_1 / \sqrt{P}$

Strong influence of sample position

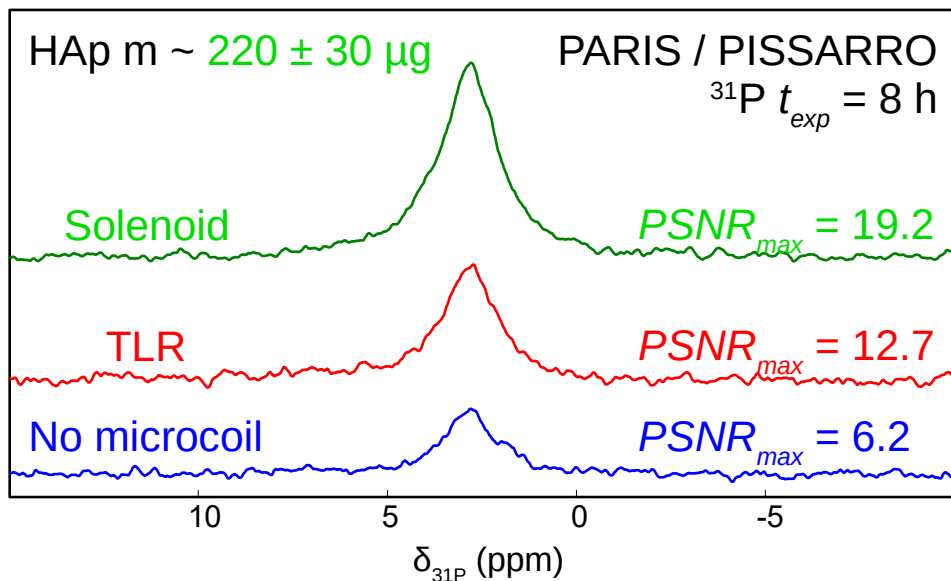
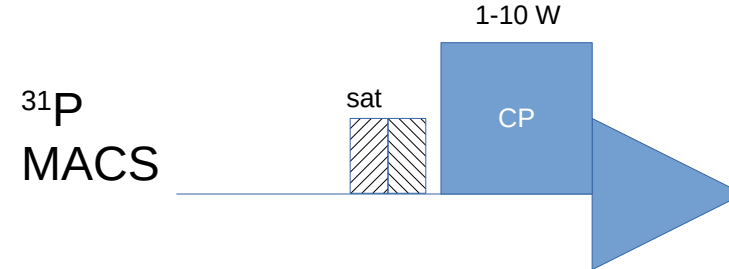
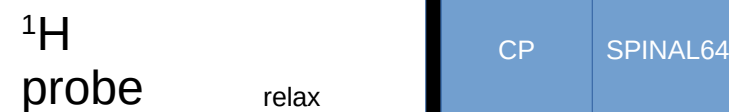
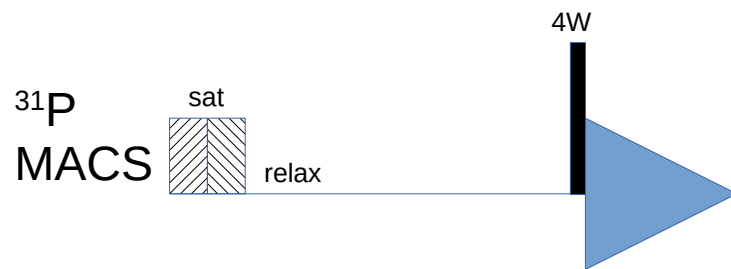
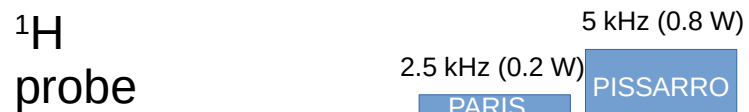


Strong influence of inter-coil distance

RF power

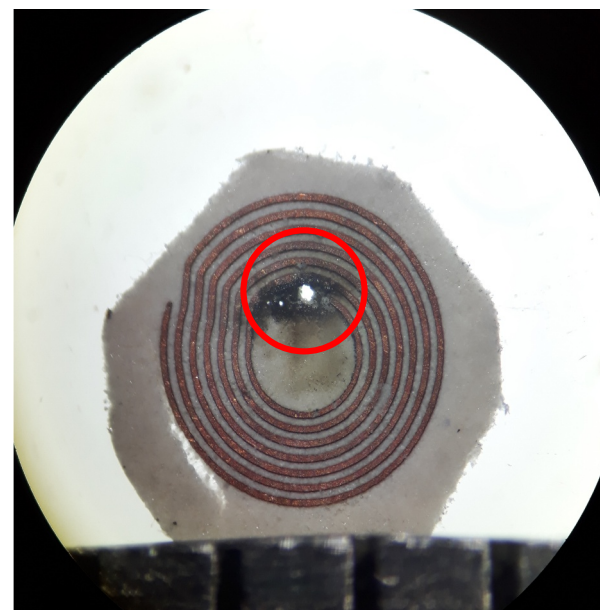
M. Weingarth *et al.*, *Chem. Phys. Lett.* 466, 247–251 (2008).

M. Weingarth *et al.*, *Chem. Phys. Lett.* 488, 10–16 (2010).



$PSNR_{max} / \sqrt{time} \times 2.0$ (TLR) or 3.1 (solenoid)

Time gain = 4.2 (TLR) or 9.6 (solenoid)



Coil burned (^1H electric field)

Max 50 W on both channels

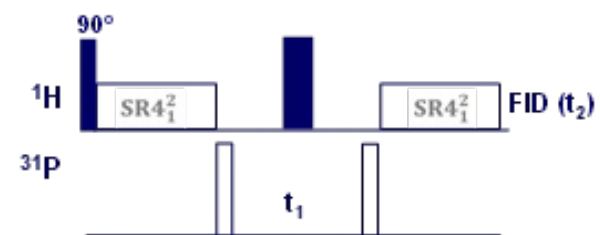
MAS rate 5-15 kHz

MACS summary

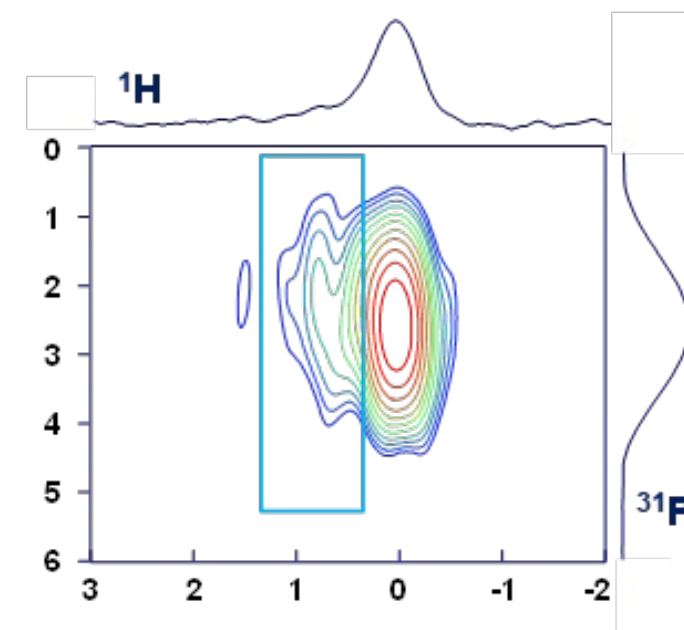
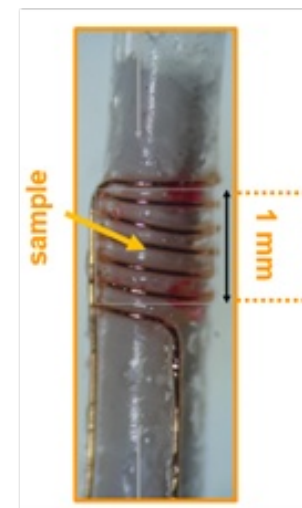
Characteristics	Solenoid coil	TLR coil
Design	😊	😞
Manipulation	😞	😊
Mechanical tolerance	😞	😞
Ease of spin	😞	😊
RF homogeneity	😊	😞
RF power	😊	😞
Leakage point	Wire soldering	Substrate
Time gain	9.6	4.2

MACS outlook

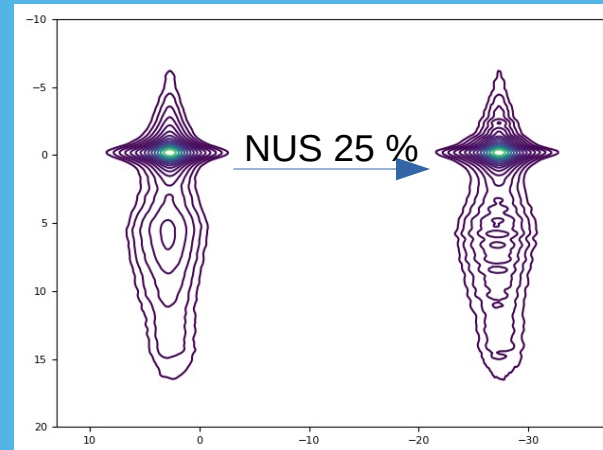
Collab. Marie Poirier-Quinot



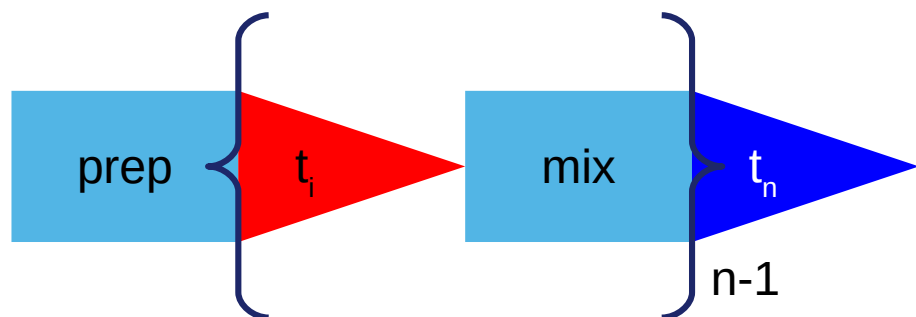
D-HMQC ^1H - ^{31}P
 7 T, 4 mm, $t_{\text{exp}} = 4 \text{ h}$



Fast acquisitions



Multi dimensions



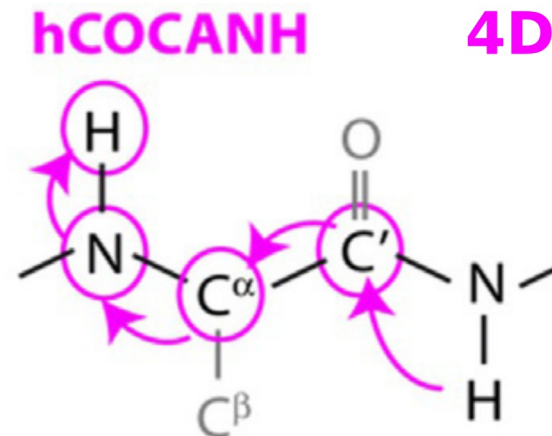
Relaxation
& excitation

Indirect dimensions

- Point by point acquisition
- Sequential real & imaginary
- Apply NUS

Direct dimension

- One-shot acquisition
- Simultaneous real & imaginary
- Will be neglected

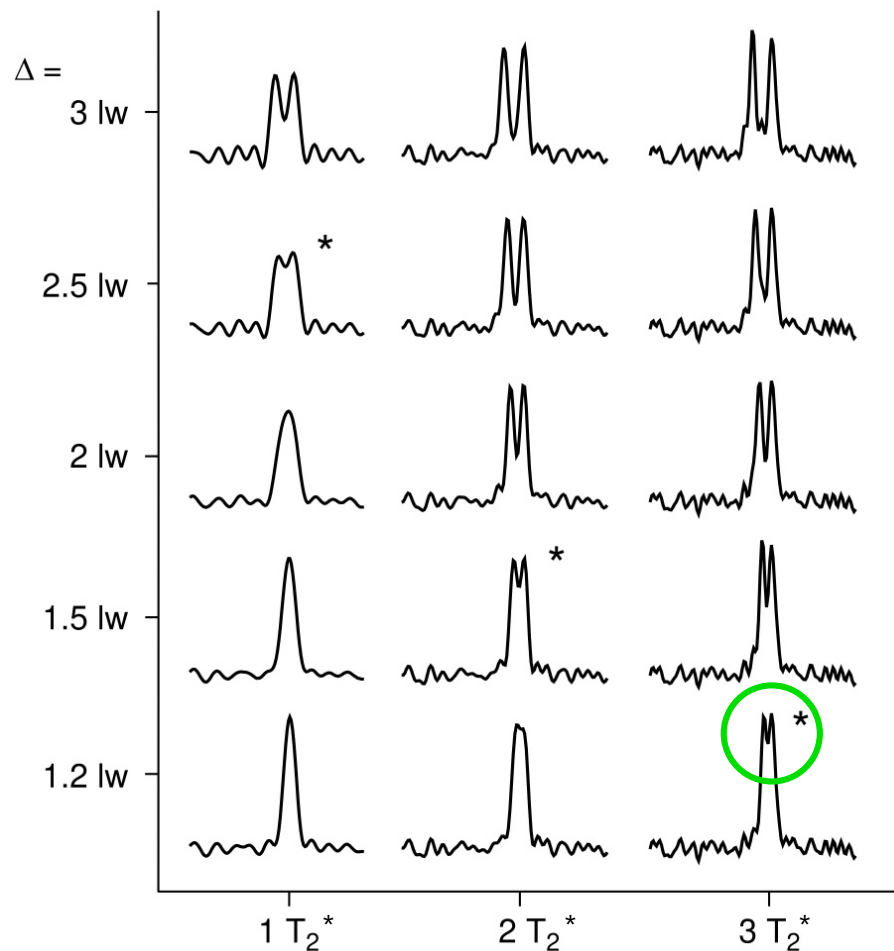


H. Fraga *et al.*, *ChemPhysChem*, 18, 19, 2697–2703 (2017).

How to decrease nD duration ?

Dims	Direct points	Indirect increments			Phase quad	Total FID	Time	Disk space
		#1	#2	#3				
1D	512	-	-	-	2 (sim)	2 (sim)	5 s	4.0 ko
2D	512	128	-	-	4	512	21 min	1.0 Mo
3D	512	128	128	-	8	1.3e5	3,8 d	268 Mo
4D	512	128	128	128	16	3.4e7	2,7 y	69 Go

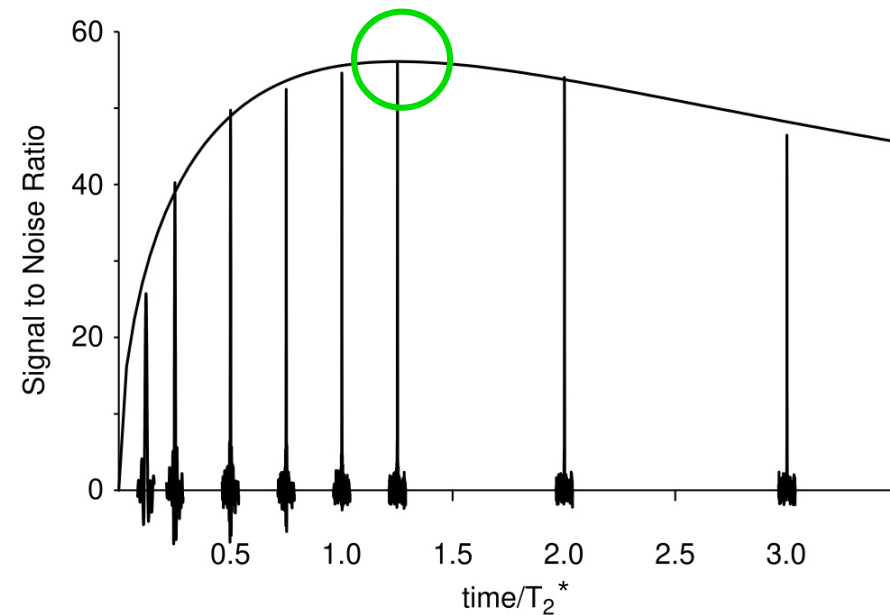
Truncation?



Max resolution at $3 T_2^*$

D. Rovnyak et al., *Magn. Reson. Chem.*, 49, 8, 483–491 (2011).

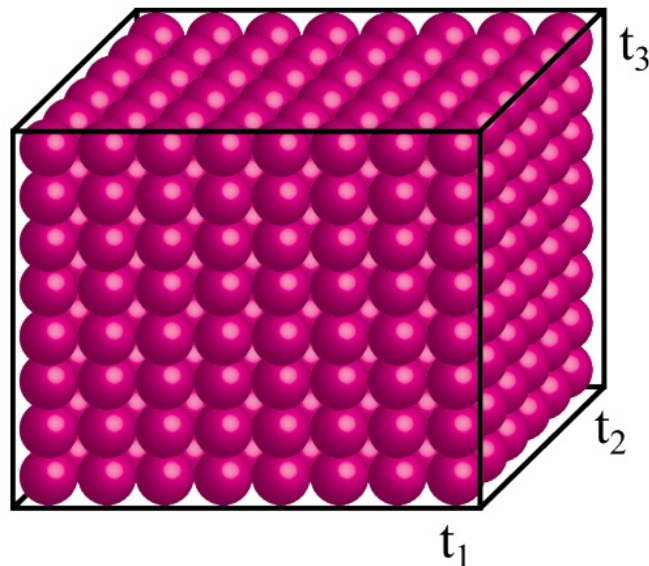
$$SNR(t_{max}) \propto \frac{T_2^* (1 - e^{-\frac{t_{max}}{T_2^*}})}{\sqrt{t_{max}}}$$



Max sensitivity at $1.26 T_2^*$

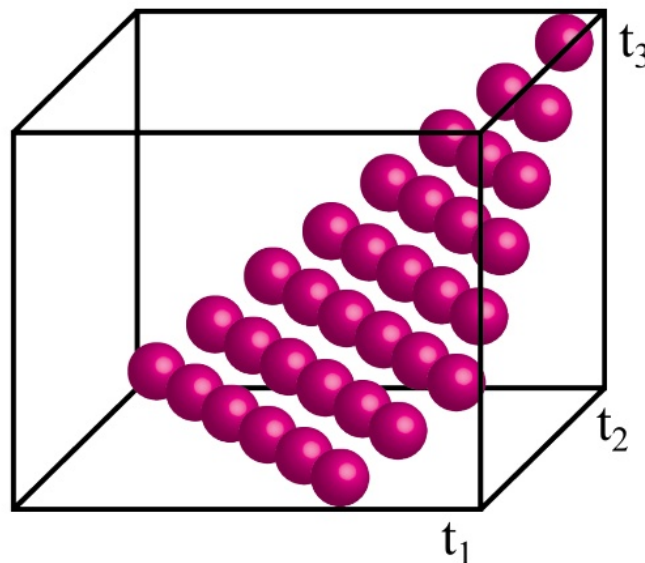
- ☹️ Limited duration decrease
- ☹️ Resolution decrease
- 😊 Sensitivity increase

Radial / Non-Uniform Sampling



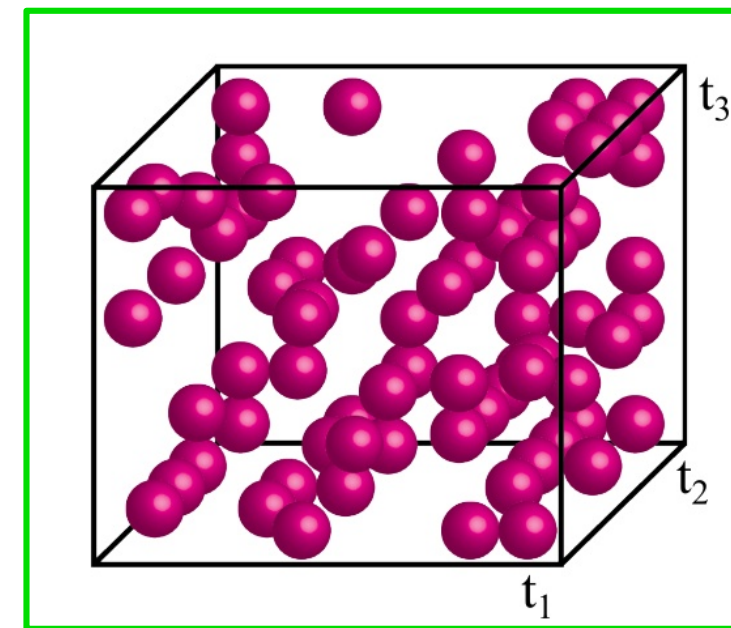
full sampling

V. Orekhov, Biomolecular NMR : modern tools for data processing and interpretation dynamics, Gothenburg, Sweden (2017).



radial sampling

G. Bodenhausen and R. R. Ernst, *J. Magn. Reson.* (1969), 45, 2, 367–373 (1981).

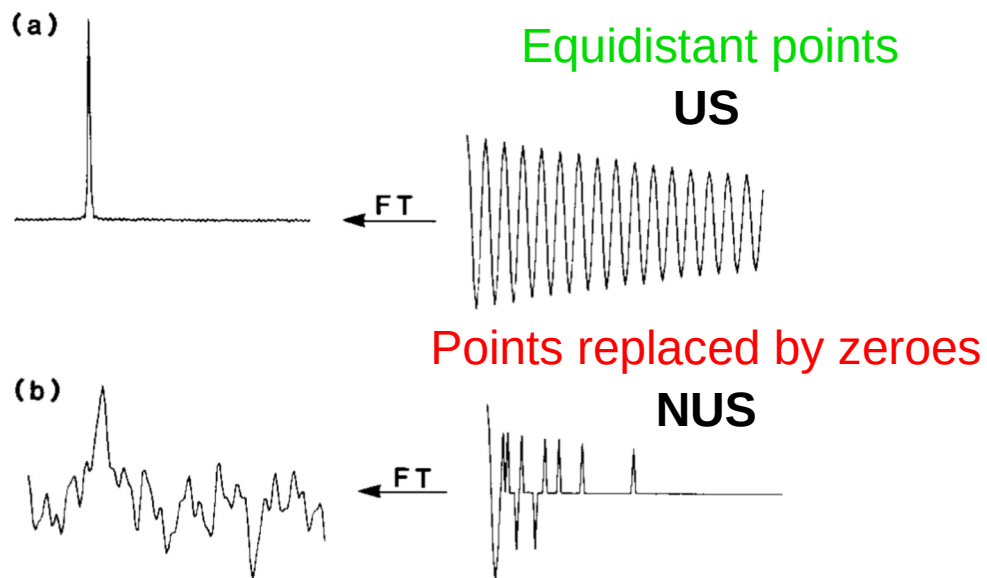


non-uniform sampling

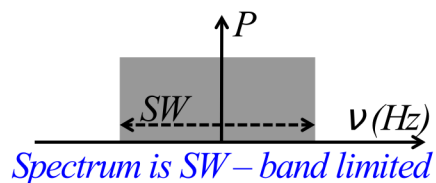
J. C. J. Barna *et al.*, *J. Magn. Reson.* (1969), 73, 1, 69–77 (1987).

- ☺ strong duration decrease
- ☺ full resolution
- ☺ sensitivity increase
- ☹ processing complexity

Non-uniform sampling



J. C. J. Barna et al., *J. Magn. Reson.* (1969), 73, 1, 69–77 (1987).

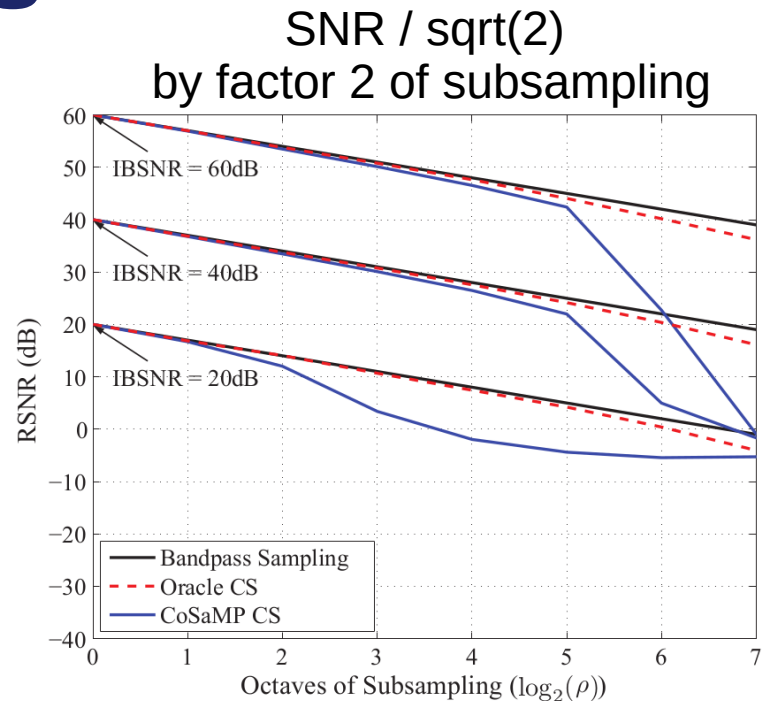


Nyquist/Shannon theorem

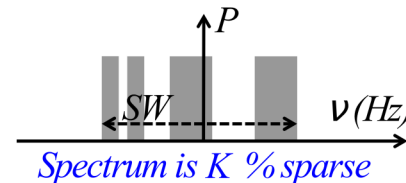
$$N_{NS} = 1 / SW$$

Fourier Transform (FT)

V. Orekhov, Workshop on novel reconstruction strategies in NMR and MRI, Goettingen, Germany (2010).



M. A. Davenport et al., *IEEE T. Signal Proces.*, 60, 9, 4628–4642 (2012).

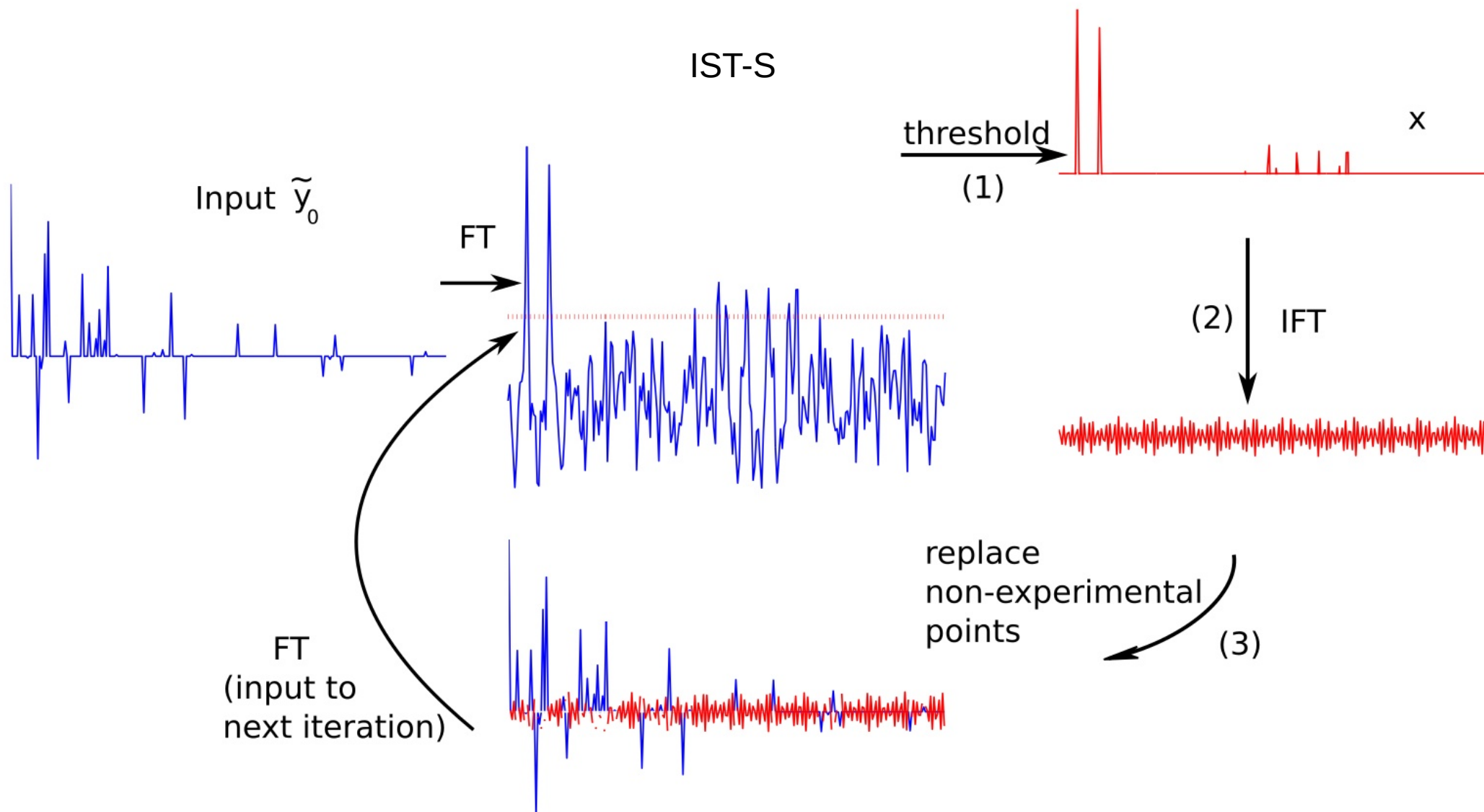


Candes, Romberg & Tao

$$N_{CS} = K \log (N_{NS}/K)$$

Compressed Sensing (CS)

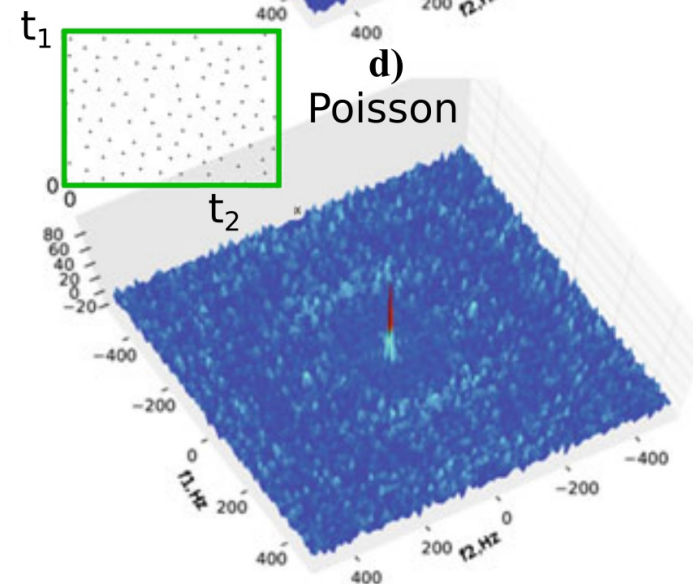
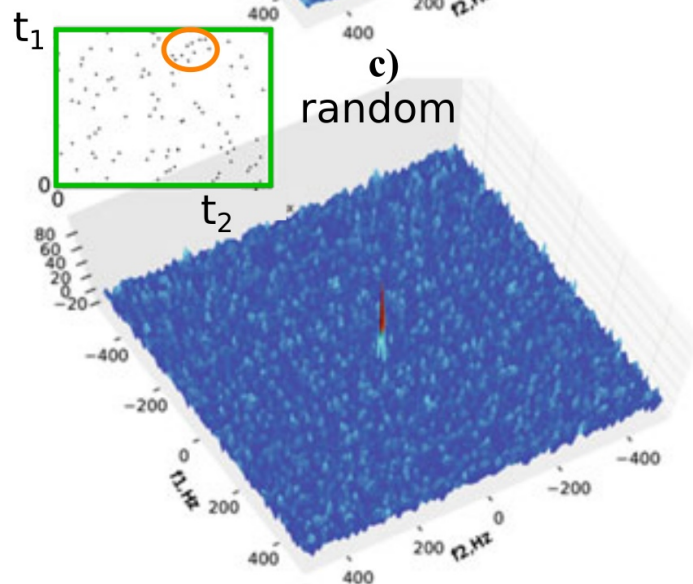
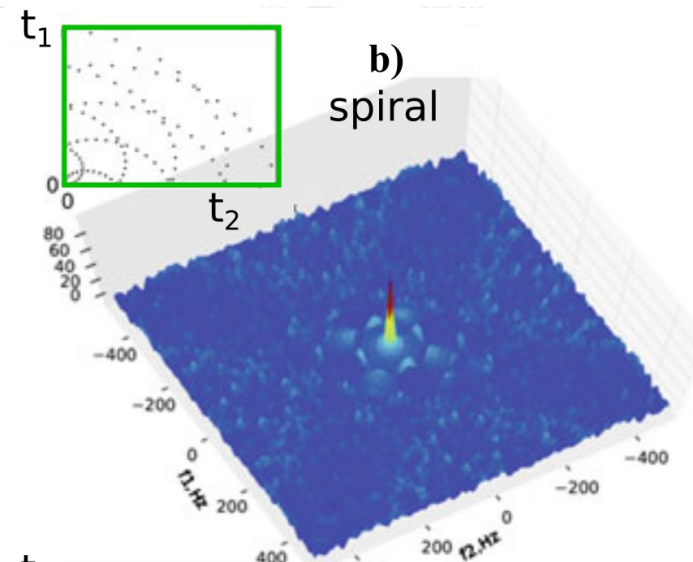
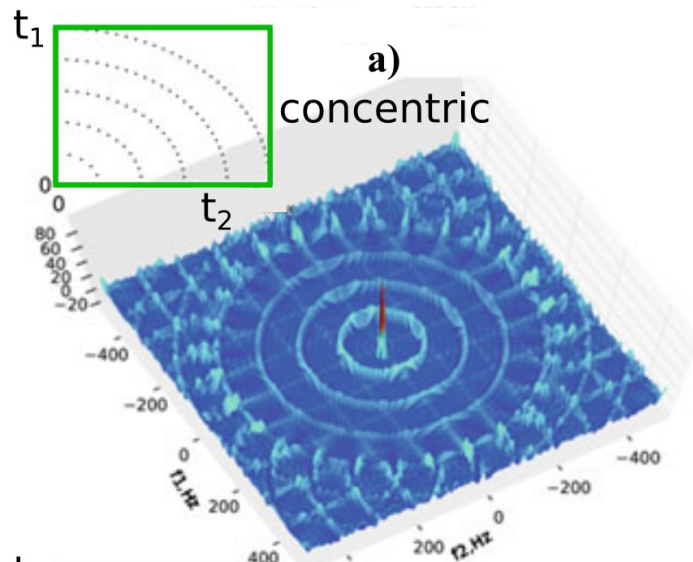
Compressed sensing



2D artifacts

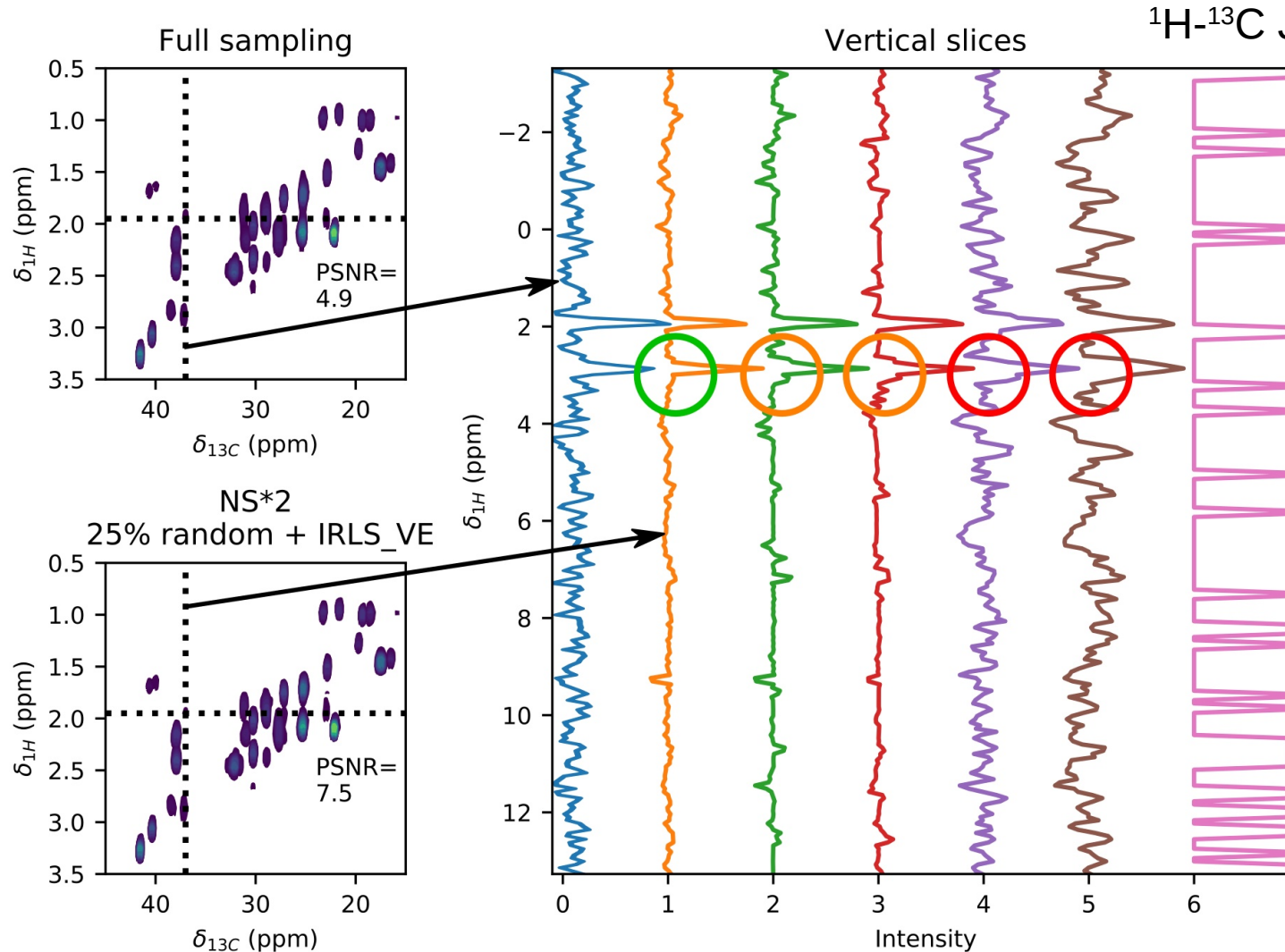


Point Spread Function



Mobile sample

Gelatin: denatured collagen
 Main protein of cornea and bone
 F. Portier



FT: low $PSNR_{max}$ and low resolution
 Best results with IRLS and virtual echo
 K. Kazimierczuk and V. Y. Orekhov, *J. Magn. Reson.*, 223, 1–10 (2012).

$$PSNR_{max} / \sqrt{time} \times 2.2$$

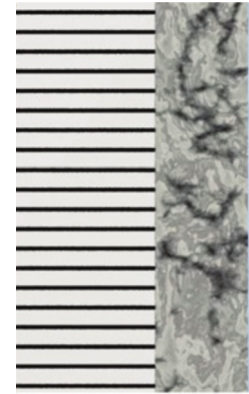
Same spectrum, time gain = 4.7

Topspin default random seed 54321

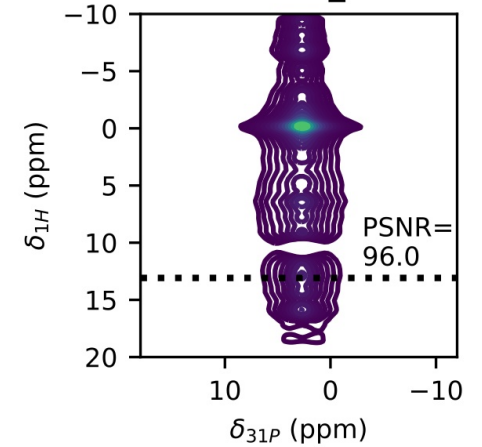
Hybrid sampling

Hydroxyapatite
 S. Von Euw

HETCOR ^1H - ^{31}P

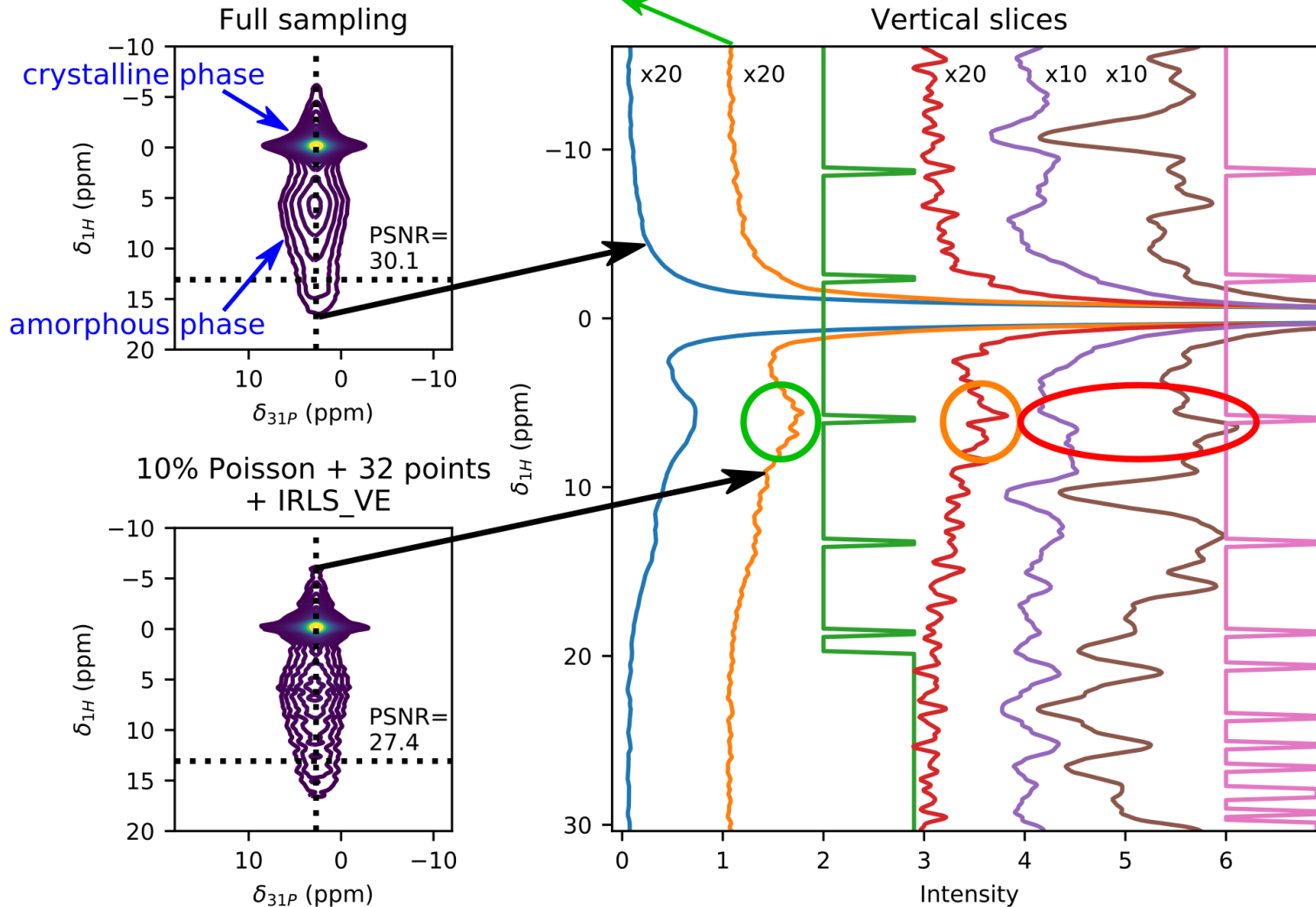


10% Poisson + 0 points + IRLS_VE



broad peak is uniformly digitalised

Vertical slices



Needs a discrete signal

E. J. Candes and M. B. Wakin, *IEEE Signal Proc. Mag.*,
 25, 2, 21-30 (2008).

$$PSNR_{max} / \sqrt{time} \times 1.8$$

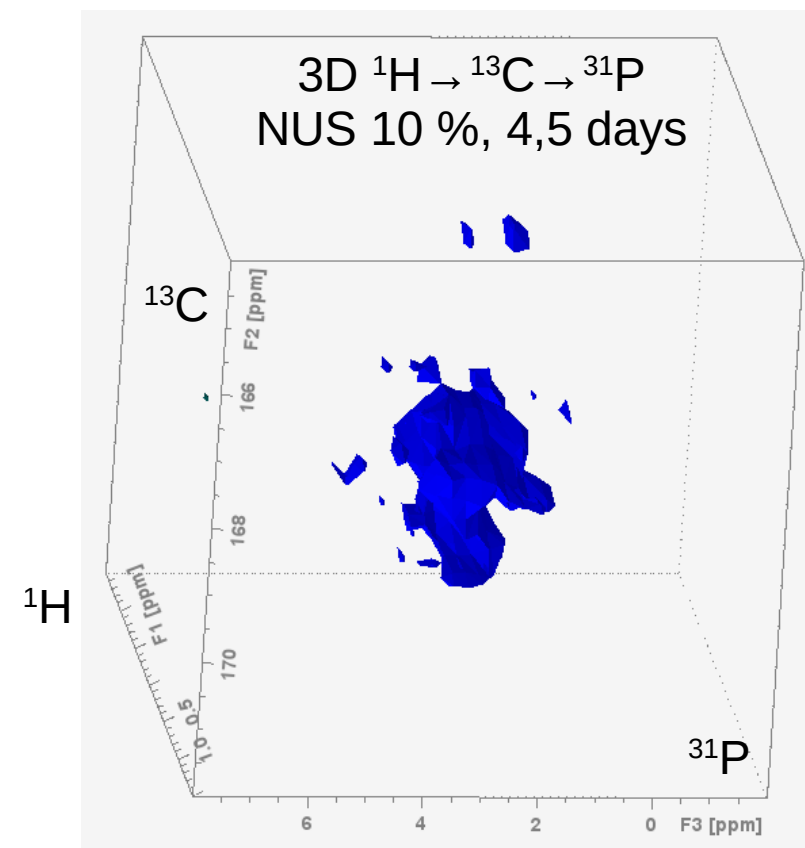
Time gain = 3.1

- 0 full sampling
- 1 10% Poisson + 32 points + IRLS_VE
- 2 10% Poisson + 32 points scheme
- 3 10% Poisson + 16 points + IRLS_VE
- 4 10% Poisson + 8 points + IRLS_VE
- 5 10% Poisson + 0 points + IRLS_VE
- 6 10% Poisson + 0 points scheme

NUS summary

Characteristics	US	NUS
High dimension	☹️	😊
Sensitivity	☹️	😊
Resolution	☹️	😊
Sampling	😊	☹️
Reconstruction	😊	☹️
Topspin	😊	☹️
External	😊	😊
Time gain	NA	~3-5

NUS outlook

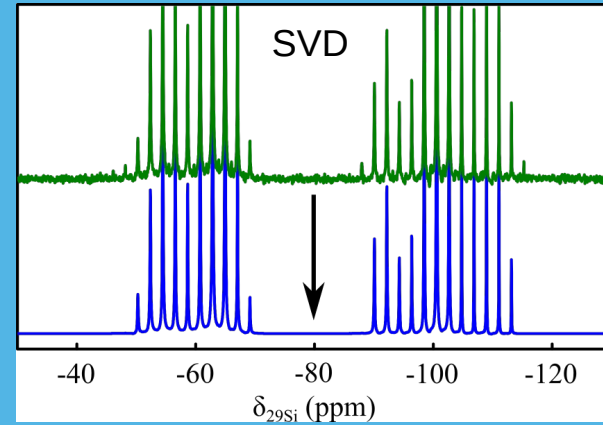


MddNMR

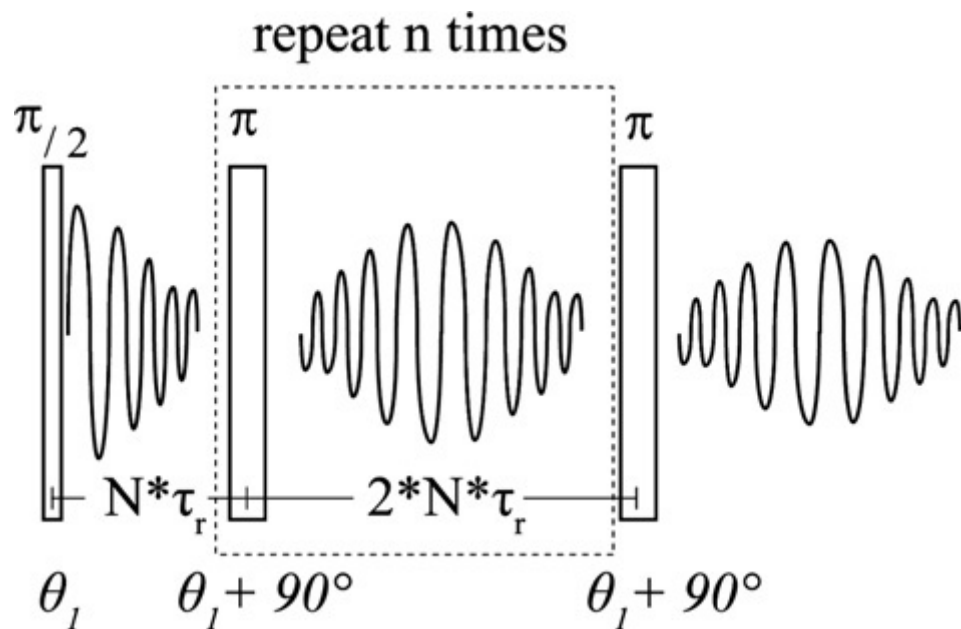
K. Kazimierczuk, V. Y. Orekhov, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 50, 5556–5559 (2011).



Signal processing



CPMG echoes



H. Y. Carr and E. M. Purcell, *Phys. Rev.*, 94, 3, 630–638 (1954).

S. Meiboom and D. Gill, *Rev. Sci. Instrum.*, 29, 8, 688–691 (1958).

W. J. Malfait and W. E. Halter, *J. of Non-Cryst. Solids*, 354, 34, 4107–4114 (2008).

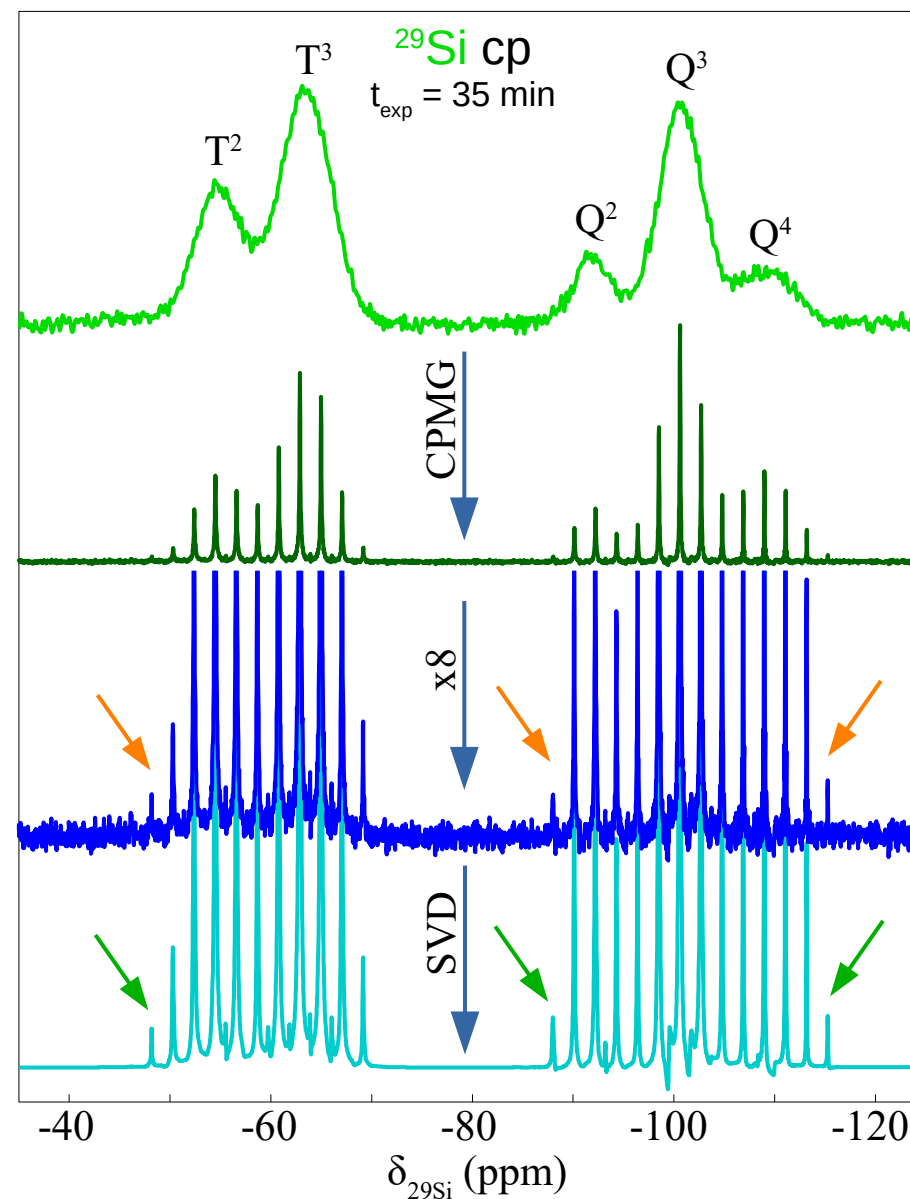
Discretize spectrum

Time gain ~3-100

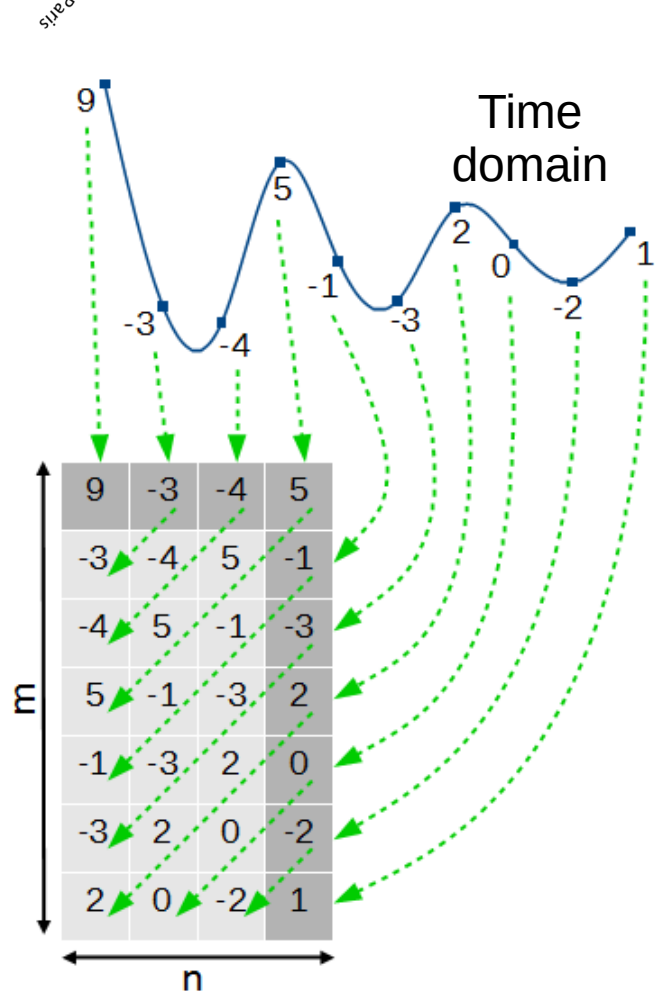
Small spikelets necessary to reconstruct global shape

Limit of denoising ?

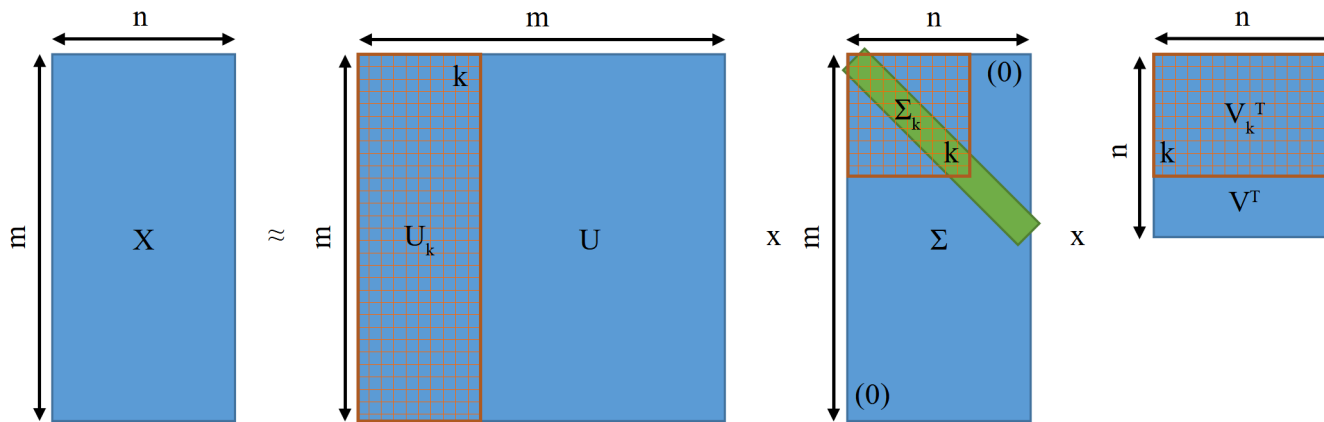
TEOS:MTEOS 1:1
V. Barret-Vivin



Singular Value Decomposition (SVD)



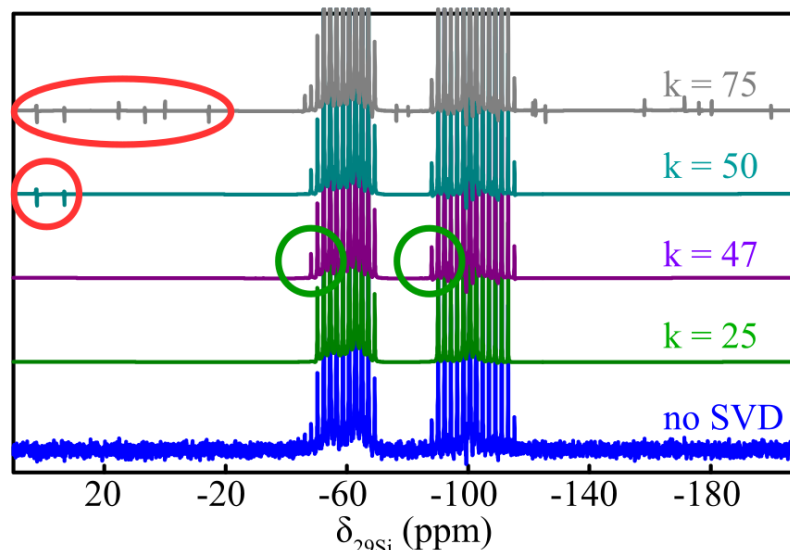
M. A. Arbib and E. G. Manes, *J. Comput. Syst. Sci.*, 20, 3, 330–378 (1980).



Low rank matrix approximation

D. W. Tufts et al, *P. IEEE*, 70, 6, 684–685 (1982).
 J. A. Cadzow, *IEEE T. Acoust. Speech*, 36, 1, 49–62 (1988).

Frequency domain



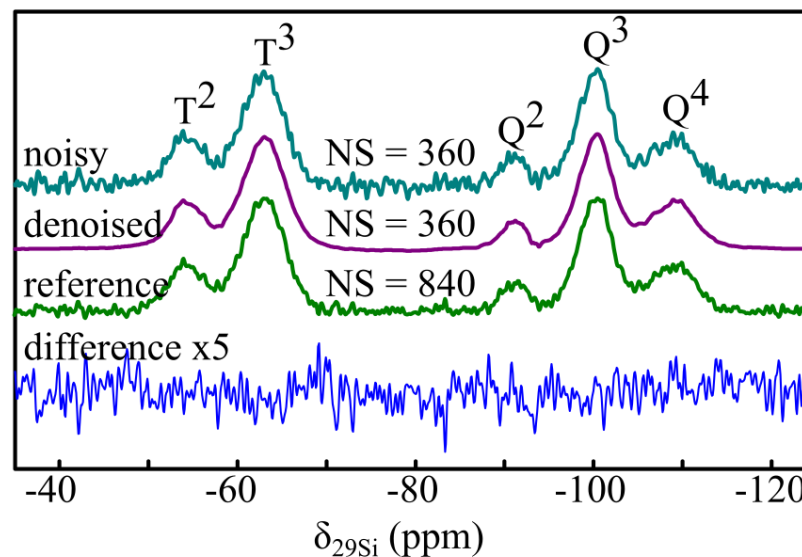
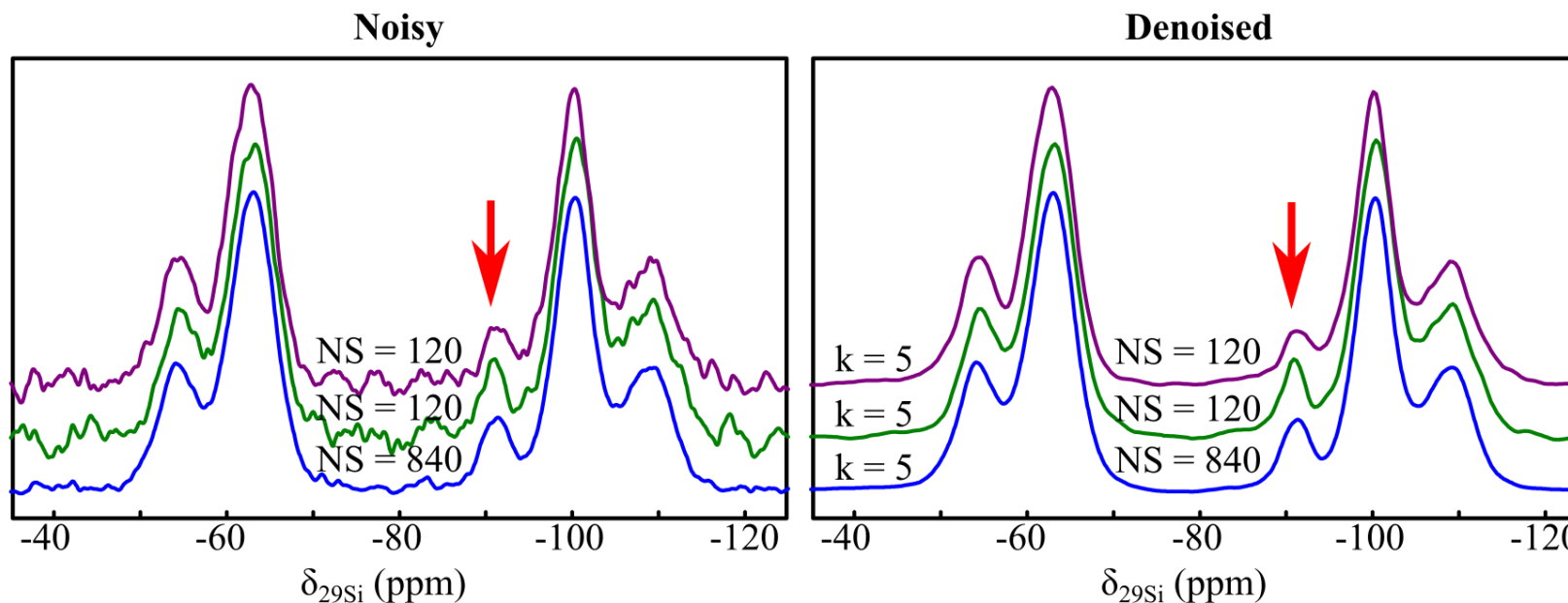
E. R. Malinowski, *Factor analysis in chemistry* (Wiley, 3rd ed., 2002).

G. Laurent et al., *Appl. Spectrosc. Rev.*, 54, 602–630 (2019).

Sensitivity limit



TEOS:MTEOS
 ^{29}Si hpdec
 $t_{\text{exp}} = 2-14\text{h}$



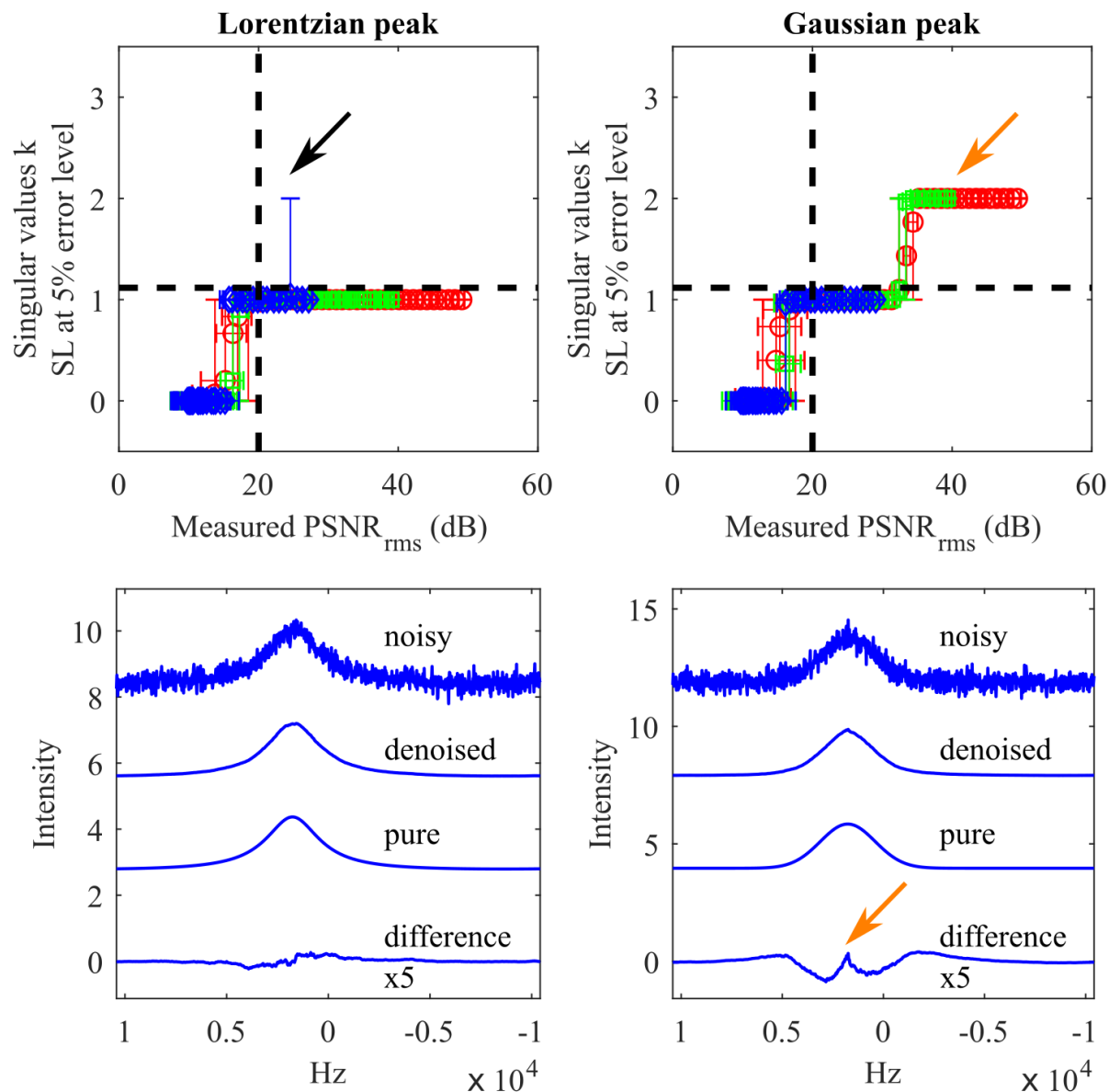
Real error: intensity
corrupted by noise

Manual thresholding
dangerous

$$PSNR_{\text{max}} / \sqrt{\text{time}} \times 1.5$$

Time gain = 2.3

Automatic thresholding



6*7380 simulated spectra

Malinowski's Significance Level (SL) at 5 %

E. R. Malinowski, *Factor analysis in chemistry* (Wiley, 3rd ed., 2002).

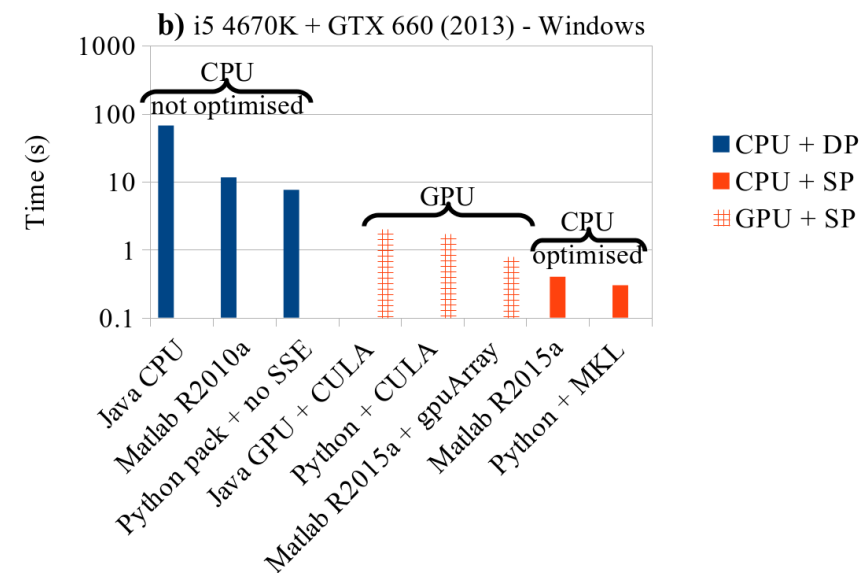
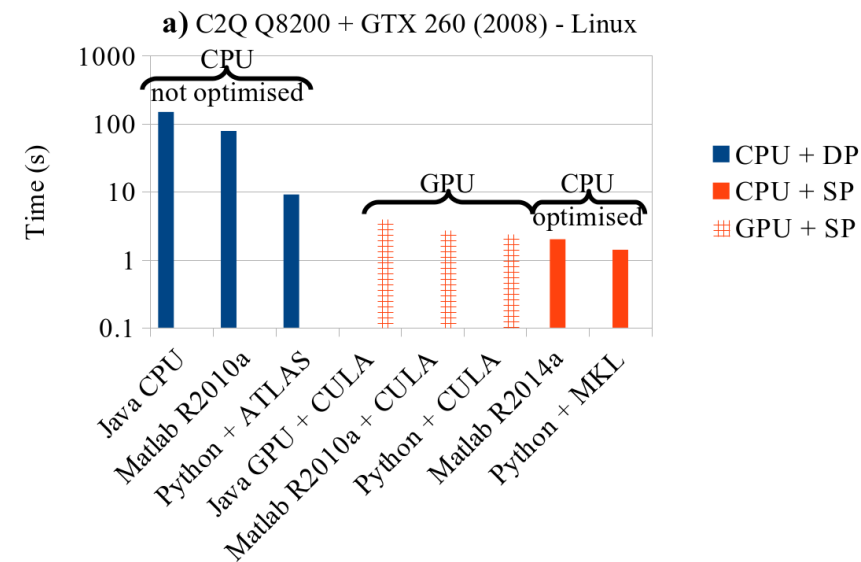
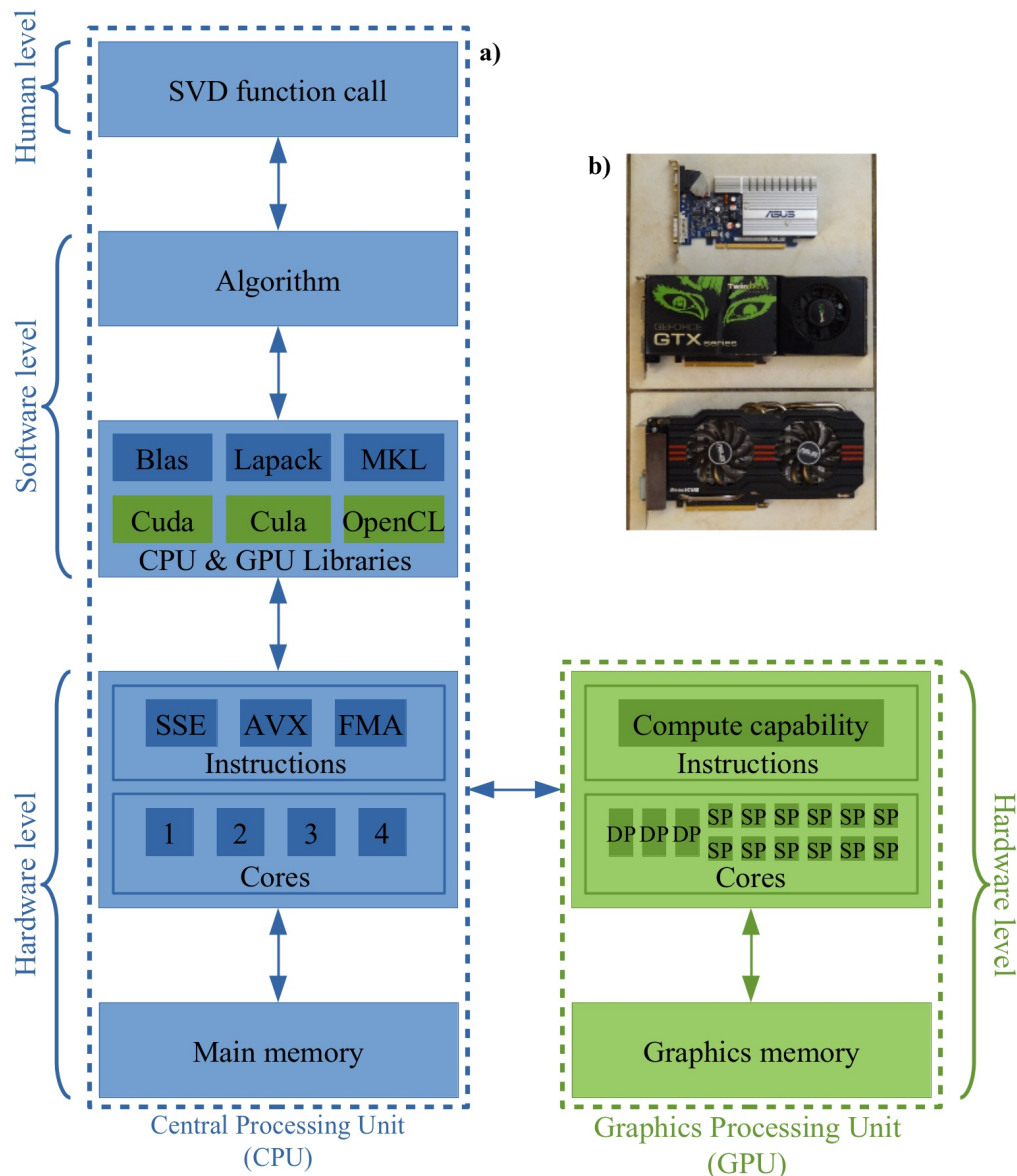
$$PSNR_{max} = 2$$

Gaussian peak:
two components

Extracted error:
overestimation by 20 %

Z. Dong et al., *Am. J. Neuroradiol.* 30, 1096–1101 (2009).

SVD computation time



SVD summary

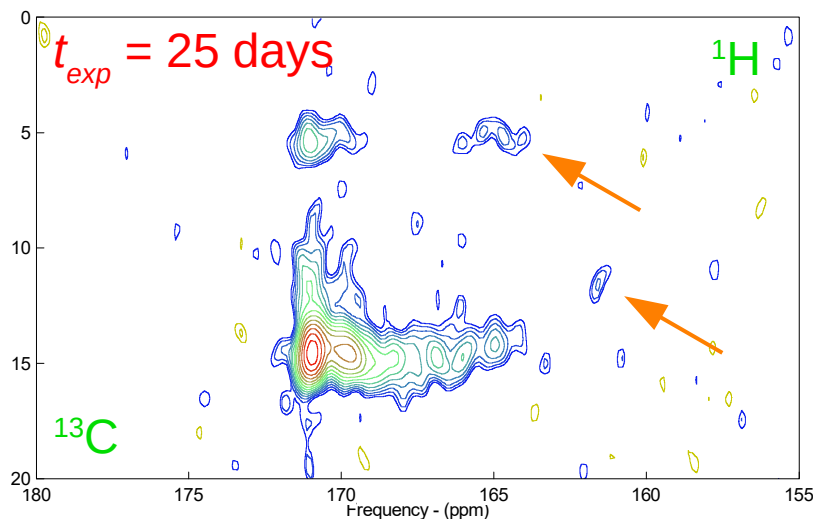
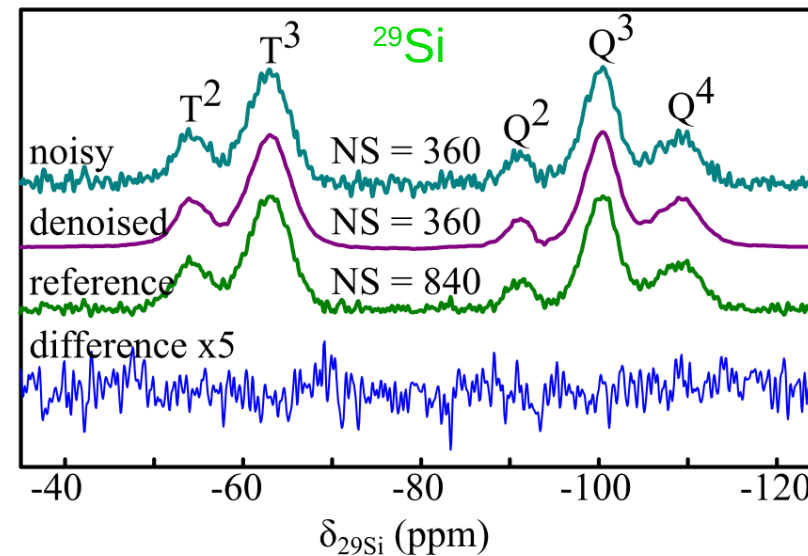
Useful to denoise spectra

$PSNR_{max} \sim 2$

Time gain ~ 2.3

Computation time gain ~ 100

$\sim 20\%$ overestimation of Gaussian peaks



Abalone shell – Biomineralization axis

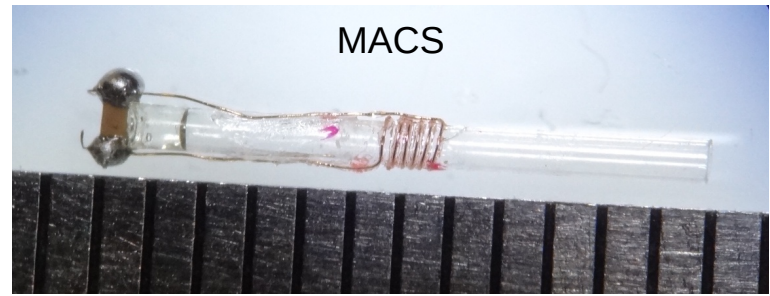
W. Ajili et al., *J. Phys. Chem. C.* 124, 14118–14130 (2020).

SVD outlook

Improve 2D denoising

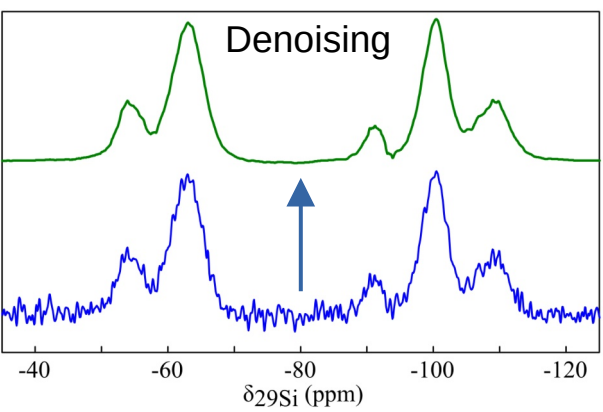
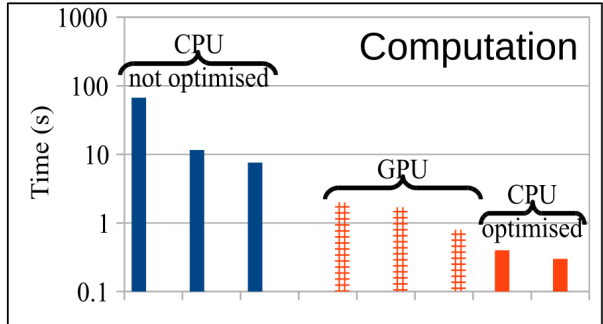
Conclusion

General conclusion



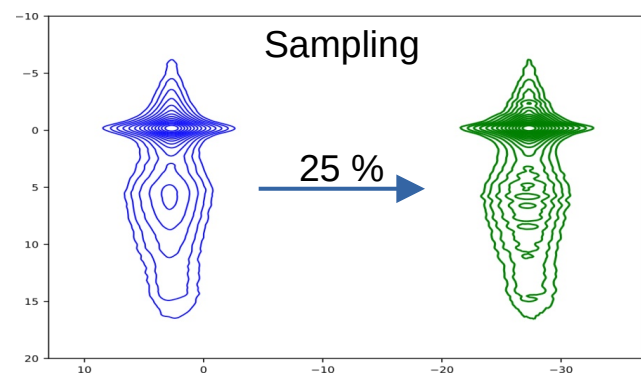
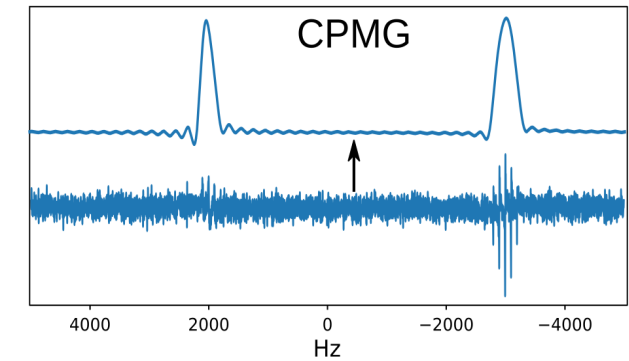
Time gain 4-10

Time gain ~100

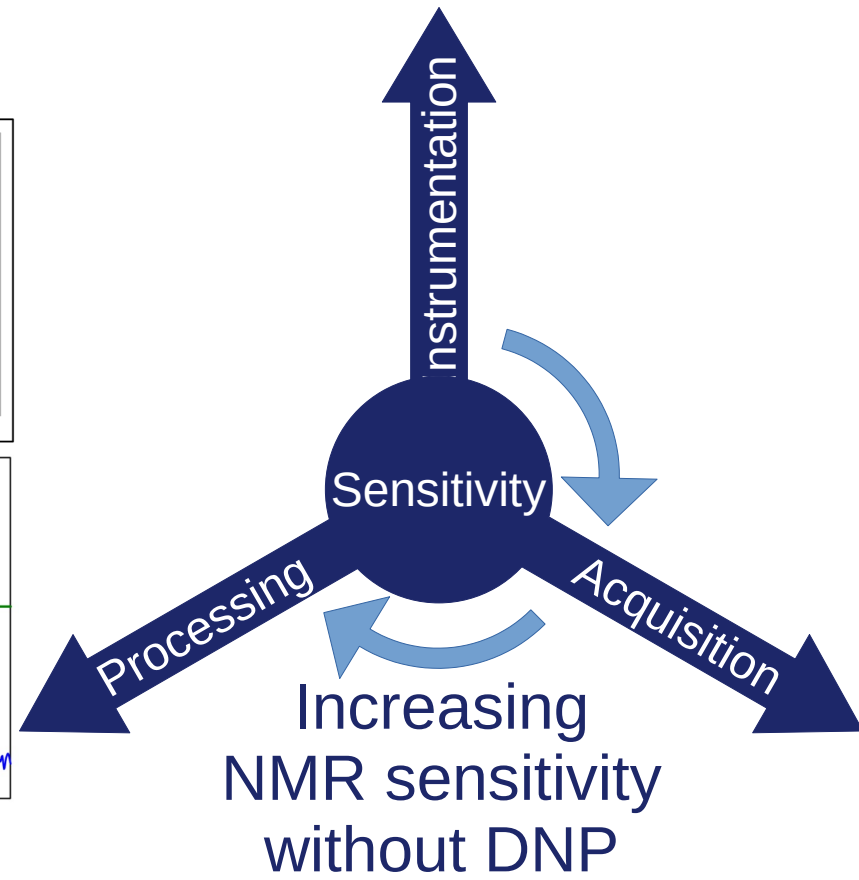


Time gain 2-3

Time gain 3-100



Time gain 3-5



General conclusion

PSNR gain of 2 → time gain of 4

Potential decrease of acquisition time by > 500

More samples or more complex materials

Time consuming developments

Need of programming

General outlook

Combining techniques

Improving MACS dipolar recoupling

Process 3D NUS spectra

Improving SVD on 2D spectra



Trainees, docs & post-docs

- Samy Liso (2015)
- Pierre-Aymeric Gilles (2017)
- Winh-Chhunn Teh (2019-2022)
- Andrew Rankin (2020-2021)



Thank you for your attention

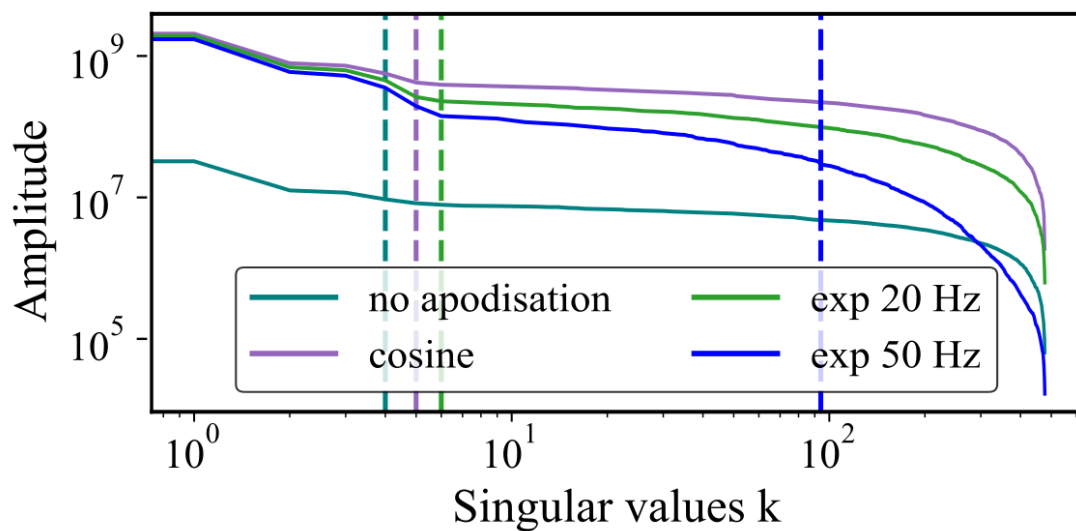
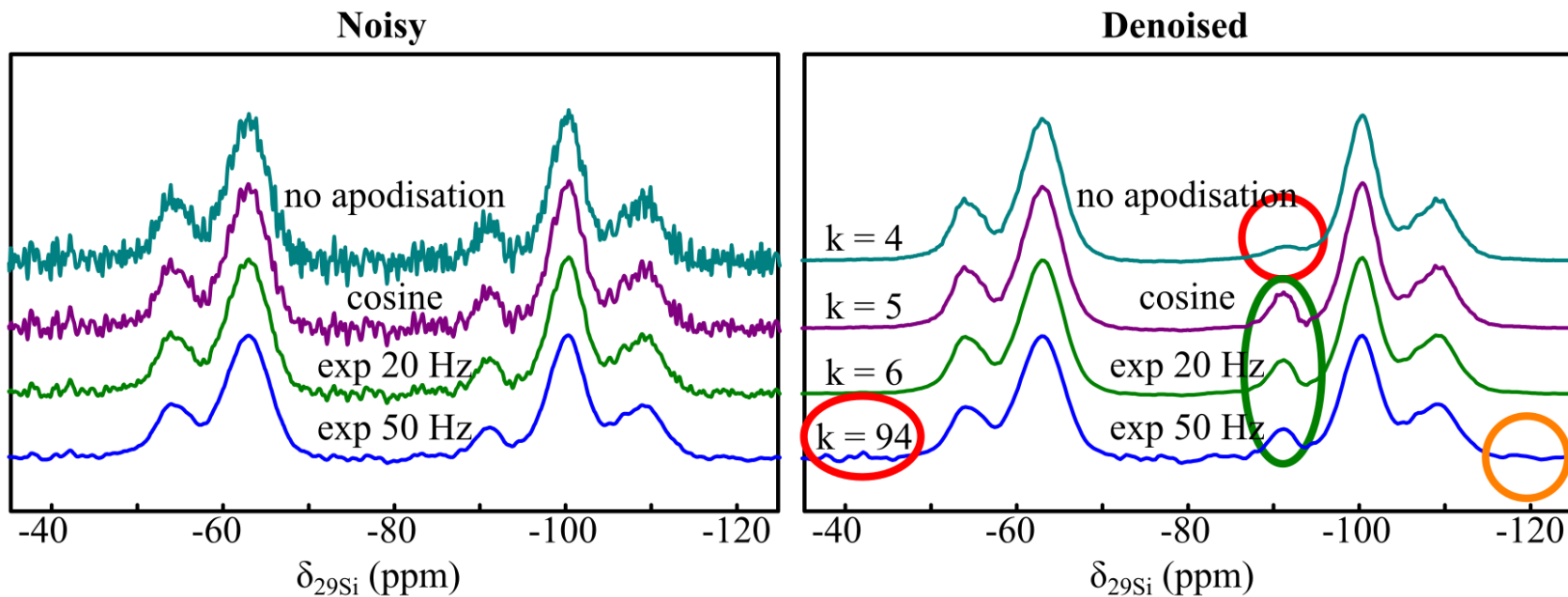


Supplementary materials

Apodisation



TEOS:MTEOS
 ^{29}Si hpdec
 $t_{\text{exp}} = 6\text{h}$



Preprocessing step

Strong apodisation **degrades**
automatic thresholding

Best results with cosine