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978-0-521-03172-1 - Nuclear Magnetic Resonance in Solid Polymers

Vincent J. McBrierty and Kenneth J. Packer

Frontmatter

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This book is an authoritative and comprehensive account of the principles and practice of modern NMR spectroscopy of solids as applied to polymeric materials.

NMR spectroscopy has been applied to the characterisation of polymers in the solid state for over 40 years. The past two decades have seen the development of many new NMR capabilities, including high-resolution techniques for solids, multidimensional methods, deuterium NMR and others. All of these developments have contributed to a dramatic increase in the power and applicability of NMR for the characterisation, at a molecular level, of the dynamics and structural organisation of polymeric solids.

This book is intended for polymer physicists, chemists and materials scientists. The emphasis of the applications chapters (5–8) is on polymer types and properties to make it more accessible to this audience. To help those with little knowledge of NMR the authors have included an introduction to the main principles of the technique involved in its application to solid polymers. Those more knowledgeable on the subject will find that rigorous and detailed analytical treatments are also available, often in appendices.

All research workers, whether graduate students beginning their studies or established professionals, with a concern for polymer characterisation and the relationship between structure, dynamics and function for these materials will find this book of value in their work.

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NUCLEAR MAGNETIC RESONANCE IN SOLID  
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# NUCLEAR MAGNETIC RESONANCE IN SOLID POLYMERS

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Vincent J. McBrierty and Kenneth J. Packer

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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Dedicated to Kay and Christine for their  
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978-0-521-03172-1 - Nuclear Magnetic Resonance in Solid Polymers

Vincent J. McBrierty and Kenneth J. Packer

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## Contents

<i>Preface</i>	<i>page</i> xv
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xviii
<i>Glossary of terms</i>	xix
<b>1 The NMR of solid polymers: an overview</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 The nature of polymers	1
1.2 The role of NMR	2
1.3 Structural considerations: a model for the polymer	5
1.4 Molecular motion: an overview	8
1.5 Comparison with other relaxation experiments: transition maps	11
<b>2 Basic concepts in NMR</b>	<b>16</b>
2.1 Nuclear magnetisation	16
2.2 The radiofrequency (rf) field	19
2.3 Rf pulses and nuclear magnetic relaxation	22
2.4 NMR signals: the free induction decay (FID)	23
2.5 Spin temperature	26
2.6 Spin couplings, lineshapes and motional averaging	29
2.6.1 Spin couplings	30
2.6.1.1 Magnetic dipole–dipole coupling	30
2.6.1.2 Magnetic shielding	33
2.6.1.3 Nuclear electric quadrupole coupling	35
2.6.2 Motional averaging	36
2.7 Spin–lattice relaxation and motion	38
2.7.1 Dipolar relaxation between like spins	39
2.7.2 Dipolar relaxation between unlike spins	44
2.7.3 Relaxation due to electric quadrupole interactions	48
2.8 Summary	49
<b>3 Nuclear spin interactions</b>	<b>51</b>
3.1 General considerations	51

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-03172-1 - Nuclear Magnetic Resonance in Solid Polymers

Vincent J. McBrierty and Kenneth J. Packer

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

x	<i>Contents</i>	
3.2	Coordinate systems	52
3.3	General expression for the internal Hamiltonians	54
3.3.1	The chemical shift	54
3.3.2	Nuclear quadrupole interactions	55
3.3.3	Dipolar interactions	56
3.4	Spectral lineshapes	57
3.5	Moments of rigid spectral lineshapes	59
3.5.1	Moments expansion of the FID	62
3.6	Effects of motion on spectra	63
3.6.1	Rotation about an axis and magic-angle spinning	64
3.6.2	Rotational spin echoes in solids	65
3.6.3	Rapid rotation about an arbitrary molecular axis	66
3.6.4	Some idealised motions encountered in polymers	67
3.7	NMR relaxation in solids	69
3.7.1	Dipolar relaxation in solids	69
3.7.2	Distribution of correlation times	71
3.8	Spin diffusion	73
3.8.1	Off-resonance experiments	76
3.8.2	Dilute spin systems	76
3.8.3	Diffusion-limited relaxation	77
3.8.4	Geometrical considerations	78
3.8.5	Relaxation to paramagnetic centres	78
3.9	Overview and summary	81
	<b>4 Experimental methods</b>	82
4.1	Spectrometer characteristics	83
4.2	NMR probes for solids	86
4.3	Sample-spinning devices	88
4.4	Pulse sequences	90
4.4.1	Single-resonance experiments	90
4.4.1.1	Single-pulse determination of spectra	90
4.4.1.2	Spectral moments	93
4.4.1.3	Spin-echo experiments	93
4.4.1.4	Spin–lattice relaxation experiments	95
4.4.2	Double-resonance experiments	102
4.4.2.1	Single-pulse excitation (SPE)	102
4.4.2.2	Cross polarisation (CP)	103
4.4.2.3	Dipolar dephasing/non-quaternary suppression (NQS)	106
4.4.2.4	Delayed contact and related experiments	108
4.4.2.5	Dilute-spin spin–lattice relaxation	109
4.4.2.6	Factors affecting resolution	110



<i>Contents</i>	xi
4.4.2.7 Factors affecting quantitative measurements	115
4.5 Multidimensional NMR in solids	118
4.5.1 Two-dimensional NMR in solids	118
4.5.2 Three-dimensional NMR in solids	122
<b>5 Structure and motion in solid polymers</b>	<b>124</b>
5.1 Introduction	124
5.2 High-resolution $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectroscopy of solid polymers	126
5.2.1 $^{13}\text{C}$ Chemical shifts in solid polymers	127
5.2.1.1 Conformational effects	127
5.2.1.2 Crystallographic effects	131
5.3 NMR structural investigations of solid polymers	133
5.3.1 Cellulose and its derivatives	133
5.3.2 Tacticity of solid poly(vinyl alcohol)	135
5.3.3 The structure of insoluble polymeric resins	137
5.3.4 Structural heterogeneity	145
5.3.5 Specialist methods for structure determination	150
5.4 Molecular motions in solid polymers	153
5.4.1 Poly(ethylene terephthalate) and related polymers	156
5.4.2 Polystyrenes	165
5.4.3 Polycarbonates	174
5.4.4 Polyethylene	179
5.4.5 Poly(vinylidene fluoride)	187
5.4.6 Epoxy polymers	188
<b>6 Structural heterogeneity in polymers</b>	<b>191</b>
6.1 Experimental probes of heterogeneity: an overview	191
6.2 NMR as a structural probe	194
6.2.1 Spin diffusion and structural heterogeneity	195
6.3 Nature of the interface	202
6.4 Heterogeneity in homopolymers	206
6.4.1 Polyethylene	207
6.4.2 Poly(ethylene terephthalate)	211
6.5 Amorphous–amorphous polymer blends	213
6.5.1 Modified polystyrene–methacrylate systems	214
6.5.2 Poly(vinyl chloride)–poly(methyl methacrylate)	216
6.5.3 Polystyrene–poly(vinyl methyl ether)	218
6.5.4 Poly(ethylene terephthalate)–bisphenol A polycarbonate	223
6.6 Amorphous–crystalline polymer blends	223
6.6.1 Poly(vinyl chloride)–poly( $\epsilon$ -caprolactone)	223
6.6.2 Poly(vinylidene fluoride)–poly(methyl methacrylate)	226

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-03172-1 - Nuclear Magnetic Resonance in Solid Polymers

Vincent J. McBrierty and Kenneth J. Packer

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

xii	<i>Contents</i>	
6.7	Crystalline–crystalline polymer blends	227
6.7.1	Polyethylene–polypropene	228
6.8	Block copolymers	228
6.8.1	Polystyrene–polybutadiene–polystyrene	229
6.8.2	Polyurethanes	231
6.9	Polymer–diluent systems	233
6.9.1	Plasticised poly(vinyl chloride)	234
6.9.2	Plasticised $d_g$ -poly(methyl methacrylate)	235
	<b>7 Oriented polymers</b>	238
7.1	Introductory remarks	238
7.2	Nature of the distribution	240
7.2.1	Symmetry considerations	240
7.2.2	Theoretical distribution functions	243
7.3	NMR of oriented polymers	244
7.3.1	Dipolar linewidth studies	245
7.3.2	Chemical shift anisotropy	247
7.3.3	Quadrupole lineshape analysis	249
7.3.4	Analysis of two-dimensional MAS spectra	251
7.4	Orientation in polyethylene	251
7.5	Orientation in polytetrafluoroethylene	258
7.6	Orientation in poly(ethylene terephthalate)	262
7.7	Polymer liquid crystals	265
7.8	Secondary local probes of orientation	267
	<b>8 Selected topics</b>	269
8.1	Network systems	269
8.1.1	Filled elastomers	270
8.1.1.1	Siloxane–silica systems	270
8.1.1.2	Carbon black–elastomer systems	272
8.2	Water in polymers	277
8.3	Ionomers	284
8.4	Electrically active polymers	288
8.4.1	Conducting polymers	288
8.4.1.1	Doped and undoped polyacetylene	290
8.4.2	Piezoelectric polymers	291
8.4.3	Ferroelectric polymers	295
	<i>Appendix 1</i> Data on common polymers	297
	<i>Appendix 2</i> The rotation operator	303
	<i>Appendix 3</i> Rotation of tensors between coordinate frames	307

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-03172-1 - Nuclear Magnetic Resonance in Solid Polymers

Vincent J. McBrierty and Kenneth J. Packer

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

<i>Contents</i>	xiii
<i>Appendix 4</i> Spatial distribution of structural units in a polymer	308
<i>Appendix 5</i> The internal Hamiltonian	309
<i>Appendix 6</i> Spectral lineshapes	312
<i>Appendix 7</i> Analysis of spinning sidebands	314
<i>Bibliography</i>	316
<i>References</i>	320
<i>Author index</i>	337
<i>Subject index</i>	342

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-03172-1 - Nuclear Magnetic Resonance in Solid Polymers

Vincent J. McBrierty and Kenneth J. Packer

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## Preface

Since its inception, nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) has been used with remarkable success to investigate polymeric materials. However, application to solid polymers was for many years largely the province of physicists and physical chemists because of the need for specialised spectrometers to gain access to the broad spectra (usually  $^1\text{H}$ ) typical of solids, and because interpretation of these spectra and associated relaxation times required theoretical models of a strongly physical nature. The chemist, meanwhile, was more than satisfied to exploit the enormous potential provided by the increasing power of liquid-state NMR spectroscopy which had benefited considerably from the introduction of Fourier transform (FT) methods, the availability of higher fields generated by superconducting magnets with concomitant enhanced sensitivity, formidable on-line computing capabilities, and the added flexibility of multidimensional NMR. The rich site-specific information in high-resolution liquid-state NMR remained undetected in early solid-state spectra because of the dominant dipolar contribution. Sustained efforts to achieve comparable results for solids led to procedures to suppress dipolar contributions using high-power decoupling techniques, sample spinning and the application of ingenious pulse sequences. Today the full power of high-resolution one-, two- and three-dimensional NMR is available for solid materials, albeit requiring more sophisticated experimentation and analysis. Specifically, multidimensional NMR permits different spin interactions to be correlated or separated, exchange between different states of a resonant nucleus to be monitored over selected timeframes and the intricacies of complex molecular motions to be elucidated.

These developments initially centred on  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR, having circumvented difficulties of low natural abundance. Refinements in  $^2\text{H}$  NMR have since added rich site-specific detail. The latest generation of spectrometers have

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978-0-521-03172-1 - Nuclear Magnetic Resonance in Solid Polymers

Vincent J. McBrierty and Kenneth J. Packer

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

xvi

*Preface*

access to a wide range of resonant nuclei and experiments on a relatively routine basis. Aside from constraints of time, high-resolution NMR of both liquids and solids may now be carried out on essentially the same spectrometer system.

Our intention is to provide the polymer scientist of whatever discipline with a view of what NMR is about, why and how it can be applied usefully to solid polymers and what practical information may be extracted from NMR experiments. The method has many unique attributes beyond merely complementing and supporting other methods in examining polymer properties such as chain chemistry, conformation, packing, orientation and dynamics; but NMR is a form of coherent spectroscopy and, as such, requires somewhat more investment of effort on the part of the newcomer to appreciate fully its scope and capability. Such effort will reveal a remarkable flexibility of application in diverse areas of science, not least those of polymer physics and chemistry.

The book primarily addresses the needs of the polymer scientist who is not a specialist in NMR and, consequently, the approach is more pedagogical than definitive. It does not focus exclusively on the most informative NMR experiments since they are often the most demanding and sophisticated and so are not readily accessible to the routine user. On the one hand, the various transitions in the polymer may be established using fairly conventional NMR methods to give much useful information of a practical nature. On the other, the maximum available information on the underlying molecular dynamics can require state-of-the-art procedures available only in the most advanced and specialist NMR laboratories.

With this in mind, Chapter 1 presents a broad overview of the versatility of the technique in the context of solid polymers while Chapters 2 and 4 introduce the reader to the prerequisite concepts and experimental procedures. For those who wish to delve more deeply into the fundamentals of NMR, Chapter 3 examines in more detail the key spin interactions used to probe the local structure and dynamics in solid polymers. The approach exploits the elegance of rotation matrices but in a way that does not compromise the needs of those merely interested in practical application. Expressions essential for data interpretation and analysis are cast in Cartesian representation in the main text and may be used directly without recourse to the formal derivations which are treated separately in the appendices. The remaining chapters are organised around polymer properties rather than the isotopes generally used in NMR experiments which often serve to delineate specific competences and interests in the published literature. This approach is more in keeping with the intended

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978-0-521-03172-1 - Nuclear Magnetic Resonance in Solid Polymers

Vincent J. McBrierty and Kenneth J. Packer

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

*Preface*

xvii

spirit of the book. These chapters cover structure and motion (Chapter 5), heterogeneity (Chapter 6), and orientation (Chapter 7). The final chapter 8 selects a number of specialist topics which demonstrate further the diversity of NMR applications. A glossary of NMR terms along with useful information on polymers referred to in the book are included.

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Vincent J. McBrierty and Kenneth J. Packer

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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## Glossary of terms

$90_x, 180_y, \dots$	rf pulses producing rotations of $90^\circ$ , $180^\circ$ etc., about the $x', y'$ ... axes of the rotating reference frame
ADRF	Adiabatic demagnetisation in the rotating frame
ADC	Analogue-to-digital convertor
$\mathbf{B}_0$	Large, static, polarising magnetic field
$\mathbf{B}_{1i'}$	radiofrequency (rf) field along the $i'$ axis of the rotating reference frame
$\mathbf{b}_{z'}$	effective $z'$ magnetic field in the rotating reference frame
$\mathbf{B}_e$	effective rf field in the rotating reference frame
$\mathbf{B}_{loc}$	local magnetic field, for example, dipolar
$\beta_0$	angle between principal symmetry axis of spin coupling tensor and the external field $\mathbf{B}_0$
$B_{1I}$	amplitude of $B_1$ field applied to spins $I$
CP	cross polarisation: double irradiation method for magnetisation transfer between unlike spins
C	Curie constant
CW	Continuous wave: NMR detected by sweeping $B_0/\omega_0$
CPMAS	Cross polarisation/magic-angle spinning experiment for obtaining high-resolution spectra from solids
CORD	Three-dimensional NMR experiment in solids which Correlates ORder and Dynamics
CRAMPS	Combined Rotation and Multiple Pulse experiments to determine (usually) isotropic chemical shift NMR spectra of homonuclear dipolar-coupled spins in solids
CSA	Chemical shift anisotropy
DD	Dipolar decoupling: strong resonant irradiation of one species of spin to remove its dipolar coupling effects from NMR spectra
$D(\Omega)$	Wigner operator
$D_{mn}^{(l)}(\Omega)$	Wigner rotation matrix elements
$D_s$	Spin diffusion coefficient
DRSE	Dipolar rotational spin echo experiment for determining heteronuclear dipolar lineshapes in solids
DSC	Differential scanning calorimetry
$\Delta E$	Activation energy
$eQ$	nuclear electric quadrupole moment



xx	<i>Glossary of terms</i>
$eq$	electric field gradient at nucleus
EFG	electric field gradient
$\eta$	asymmetry parameter of a tensor spin interaction
$\bar{\eta}$	effective asymmetry parameter after averaging over specific motions
FID	free induction decay signal
$F_n(t)$	time dependent function of lattice variables ( $n$ labels the component of the tensor)
FT	Fourier transformation
$\gamma$	nuclear magnetogyric ratio
$G(t)$	FID signal
$G^n(t)$	time correlation function of spin coupling interaction tensor ( $n$ labels the tensor component)
$\mathcal{H}_D$	dipole–dipole spin coupling Hamiltonian
$\mathcal{H}_{CS}$	magnetic shielding (chemical shift) Hamiltonian
$\mathcal{H}_Q$	nuclear electric quadrupole coupling Hamiltonian
$\mathcal{H}_{rf}$	rf field Zeeman coupling Hamiltonian
$\mathcal{H}_J$	indirect (scalar) spin coupling Hamiltonian
$\mathcal{H}_{SR}$	spin–rotation coupling Hamiltonian
$\mathcal{H}_Z$	Zeeman interaction Hamiltonian for $\mathbf{B}_0$
$\mathcal{H}'(t)$	zero-average, time-varying coupling Hamiltonian
$I/I_z$	nuclear spin angular momentum quantum numbers
$\mathbf{I}/\mathbf{I}_z$	nuclear spin angular momentum operators
$I(\omega)$	NMR spectrum
$\mathbf{I}^{+/-}$	raising/lowering spin angular momentum operators
$I_{MN}$	spinning sideband intensities in two-dimensional NMR spectra of solids
$I(\tau_c)$	distribution of correlation times $\tau_c$
$J(\omega)$	power spectrum of a time-dependent spin coupling
$J^n(n\omega_0)$	power spectrum of the $n$ th component of a fluctuating tensor coupling at frequency $n\omega_0$
LFSLR	laboratory frame spin–lattice relaxation
$\bar{M}_n$	number average molecular weight
$\bar{M}_w$	weight average molecular weight
MAS	magic-angle spinning
$\mu$	nuclear magnetic moment
$\mathbf{M}$	nuclear magnetisation vector
$M_0^I$	equilibrium value of nuclear magnetisation of ensemble of $I$ spins
$M_i^{eq}(i = x, y, z)$	laboratory frame components of $\mathbf{M}_0$
$M_i(i = x', y', z')$	components of nuclear magnetisation in the rotating reference frame
$m$	quantum number for the $z$ -component of spin (see $I_z$ )
$M_n(\omega)$	$n$ th moment of a spectrum
$M(t)$	time-dependent nuclear magnetisation
MREV-8	an eight-pulse cycle sequence for obtaining high-resolution spectra from homonuclear dipolar-coupled spin systems in solids
$\nu_c$	correlation frequency of a motion ( $= 2\pi\tau_c$ ) <sup>-1</sup>
NOE (F)	nuclear Overhauser enhancement (factor)
NQS	non-quaternary suppression (dipolar dephasing) experiment for obtaining NMR spectra in solids of dilute spins with weak

## Glossary of terms

xxi

	dipolar couplings to abundant spins (for example, quaternary $^{13}\text{C}$ spins)
$\omega_0^I$	precession frequency of nuclear spin $I$ in field $\mathbf{B}_0$
$\Omega$	apparent precession frequency of spins in the rotating reference frame
$\omega_e$	precession frequency of spins about $\mathbf{B}_e$ in the rotating reference frame
$\omega_q$	quadrupole coupling energy expressed as a frequency
$\Omega_i(\alpha\beta\gamma)$	Euler rotation angles
$\omega_r$	angular frequency of sample rotation
$\omega_1(=\gamma B_1)$	precession frequency of spins about on-resonance $B_1(\omega)$ field in the rotating reference frame
$\omega_{\text{MAS}}$	angular frequency of sample rotation about an axis making an angle $\theta_m$ with respect to $\mathbf{B}_0$
PAS	principal axis system
$P_l(\cos\beta)$	Legendre polynomial of order $l$
$P(\Omega)$	orientation distribution in an oriented polymer
$Q$	quality factor of rf tuned circuit or component
$r_{\text{CH}}$	carbon–hydrogen internuclear distance
$R_1$	spin–lattice relaxation rate in the laboratory frame
$R_{1\rho}$	spin–lattice relaxation rate in the rotating reference frame
$R_2$	transverse spin relaxation rate
$R_1^{II/SS}$	homonuclear relaxation rates arising from dipole–dipole coupling
$R_1^{IS/IS}$	heteronuclear relaxation rates arising from dipole–dipole coupling
RFSLR	rotating frame spin–lattice relaxation (see $T_{1\rho}$ , $R_{1\rho}$ )
RAD	rotational angular distribution function for motions in solids
$\sigma$	magnetic shielding tensor
$\sigma_{ii}(i = 1, 2, 3)$	principal components of $\sigma$
$\sigma_{  \perp}$	principal components of $\sigma$ for axial symmetry
$\bar{\sigma}$	isotropic shielding constant
$\sigma_{zz}$	component of $\sigma$ along the field $\mathbf{B}_0$
$\bar{\sigma}$	shielding tensor in rotor frame
$\sigma^{(R)}$	shielding tensor averaged over fast motions about axis $R$
$S(\omega)$	NMR spectrum
$S(t)$	NMR signal in the time domain: FID (see $G(t)$ )
$S(\Omega_1, \Omega_2)$	Two-dimensional NMR spectrum
$S(t_1, t_2)$	time domain signal which Fourier transforms to $S(\Omega_1, \Omega_2)$
SPE	single-pulse excitation: experiment which relies on dilute spin $T_1$ to produce magnetisation
SLR	spin–lattice relaxation (see $T_1$ , $R_1$ etc.)
SANS	small-angle neutron scattering
SAXS	small-angle X-ray scattering
SSB	spinning sideband
$\tau_c$	correlation time
$T_g$	glass transition temperature
$\theta$	angle of $\mathbf{B}_e$ with respect to $z'$ axis in rotating reference frame
$\theta_p$	rotation produced by an rf pulse
$\theta_m$	magic angle ( $\cos^{-1}(3)^{-1/2}) = 54.7^\circ$
$t_p$	duration of rf pulse
$T_2$	transverse or spin–spin relaxation time

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-03172-1 - Nuclear Magnetic Resonance in Solid Polymers

Vincent J. McBrierty and Kenneth J. Packer

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

xxii

*Glossary of terms*

$T_1$	laboratory frame spin–lattice relaxation time
$T_{1\rho}$	rotating frame spin–lattice relaxation time
$T_L$	lattice temperature
$T_S$	spin temperature
$T_{CR}$	cross-relaxation time
$T_{CH}^{(SL)}$	cross-relaxation time between $^{13}\text{C}$ and $^1\text{H}$ spins under matched Hartmann–Hahn spin-locked cross polarisation
$T_{21t/ht}$	transverse relaxation times at temperatures below/above a linewidth transition
$T_R$	recycle (repetition) time of a pulse sequence
$t_D$	dwelt time: interval between successive digitisation of a time-varying signal
$T_{AQ}$	acquisition time
$\tau$	general time interval in an NMR pulse sequence
$\tau_D$	dipolar dephasing time in an NQS experiment
TOSS	total sideband suppression experiment to eliminate spinning sidebands from MAS spectra
$t_m$	mixing time – often in a multidimensional NMR experiment or in studies of spin diffusion
$\langle T_j^{(13\text{C})} \rangle$	average spin–lattice relaxation time ( $j = 1, 1\rho$ ) for $^{13}\text{C}$ spins
$X, Y, Z$	axis labelling for the laboratory frame of reference
$X_0, Y_0, Z_0$	axis labelling for the sample-fixed coordinate system
$x, y, z$	axis labelling for the molecule-fixed coordinate system