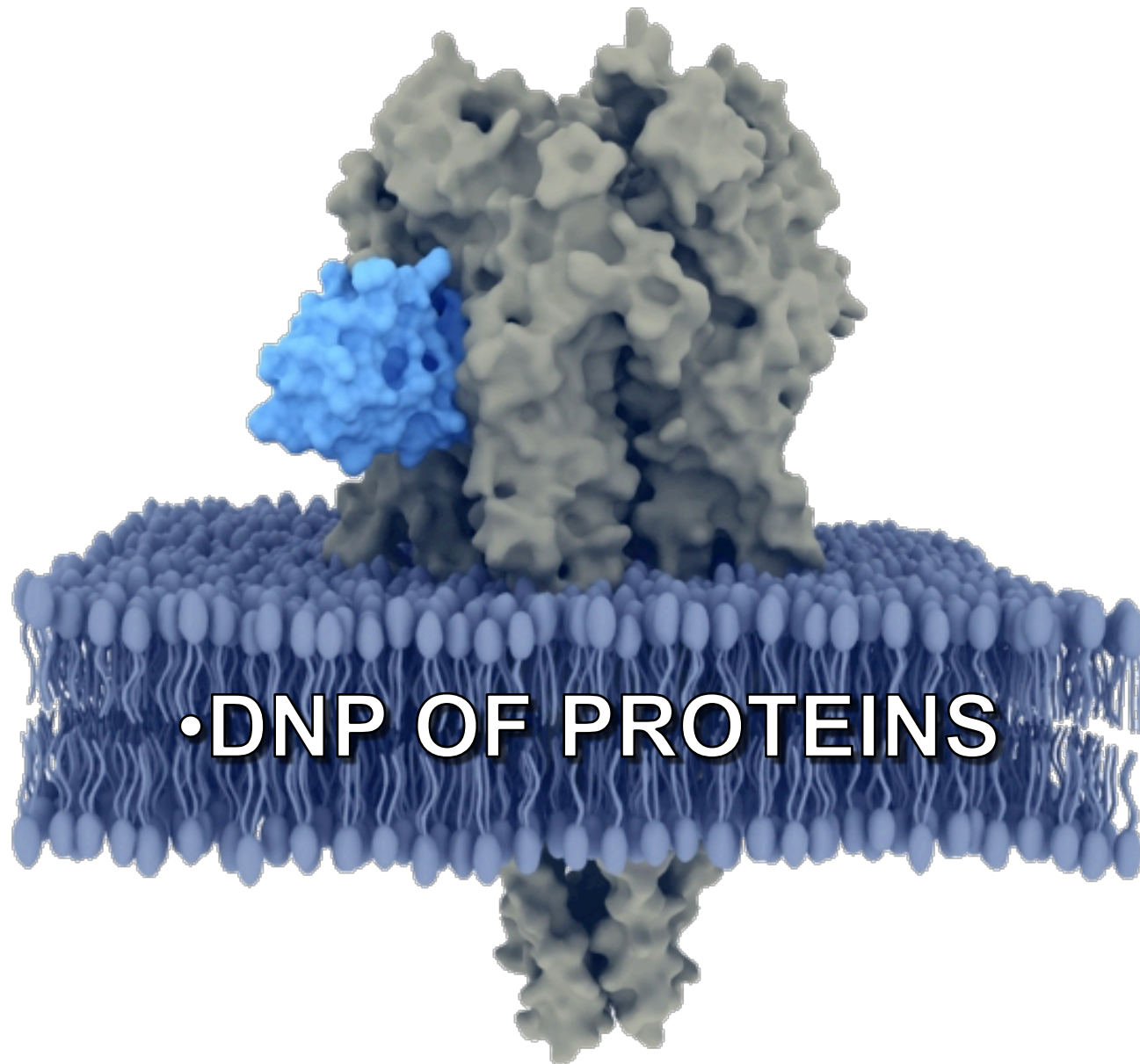


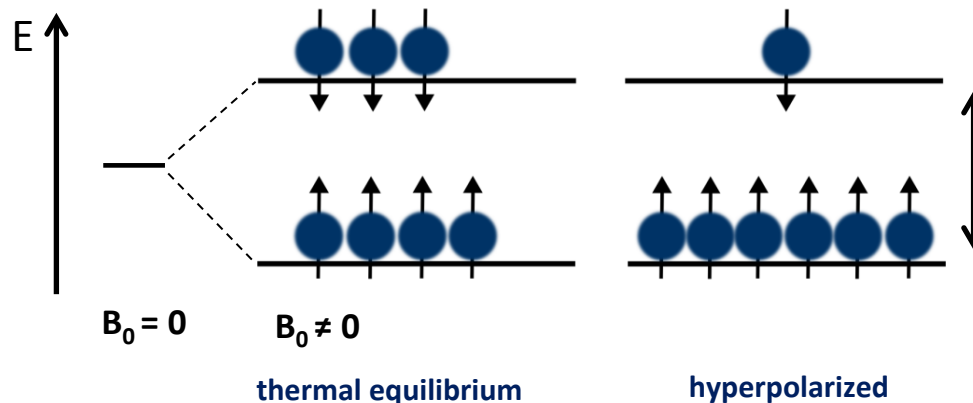
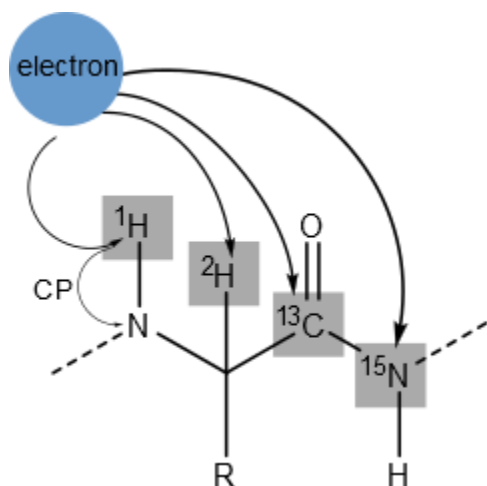
Dynamic Nuclear Polarisation – solid state – NMR



•DNP OF PROTEINS

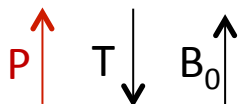
technique – nACh-Receptor

# Dynamic Nuclear Polarization



## Polarization

$$P = \frac{n^+ - n^-}{n^+ + n^-} = \tanh\left(\frac{\gamma \hbar B_0}{2kT}\right)$$

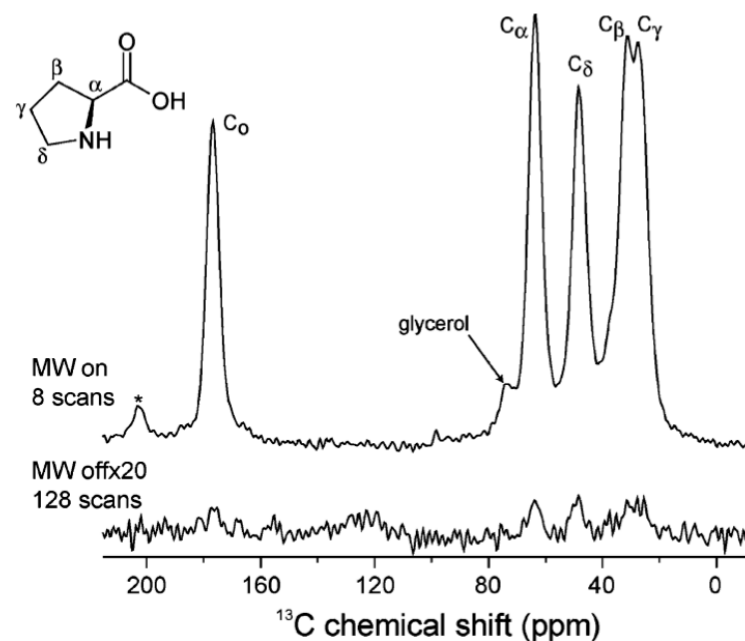


$$\epsilon = 40$$

$$\epsilon^2 = 1600$$

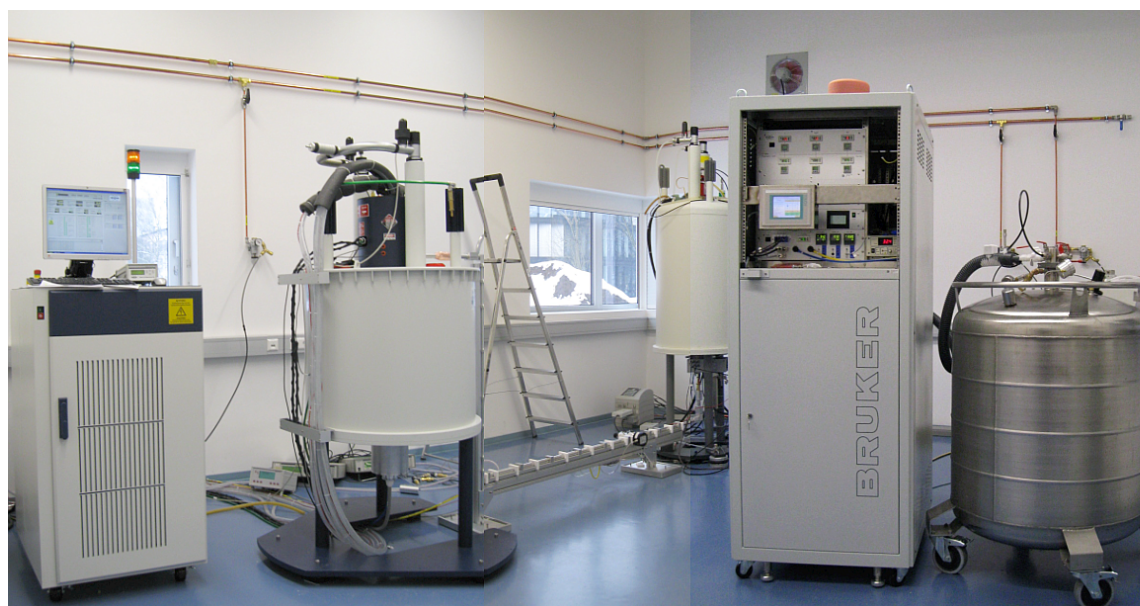
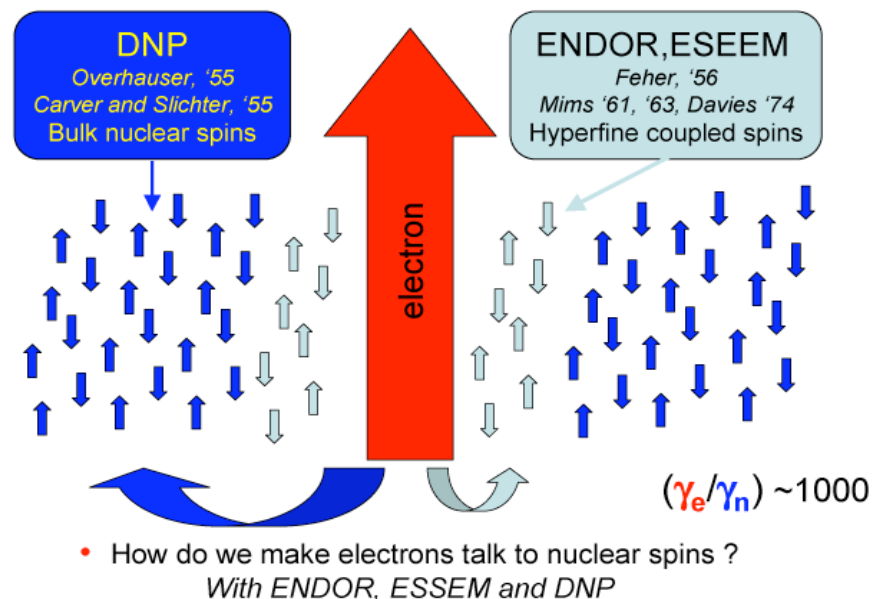
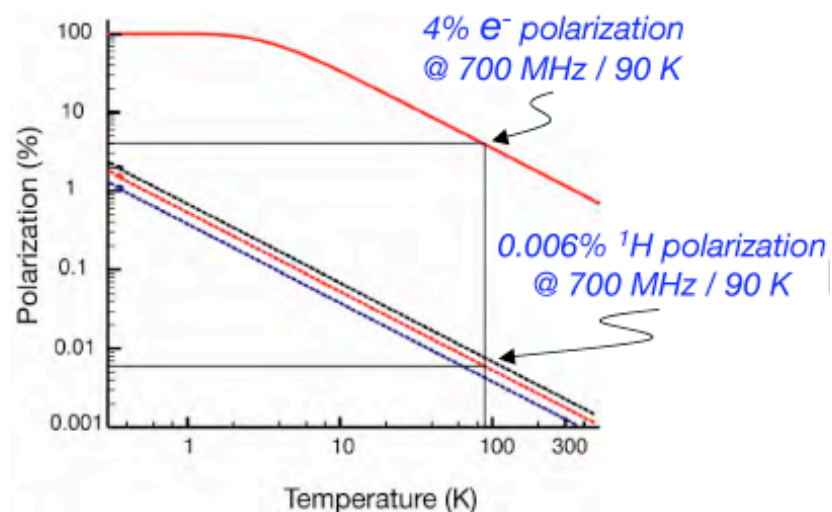
1 h

66 Days



Song *et al.*, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2006**, 128, 11385-11390

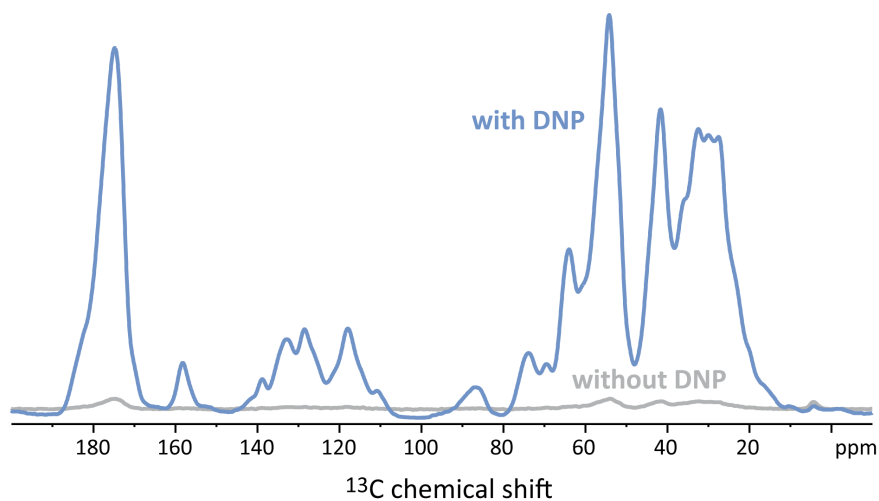
# Dynamic Nuclear Polarisation (DNP): uses electron spin polarisation



→ Structural investigations  
at picomolar concentration

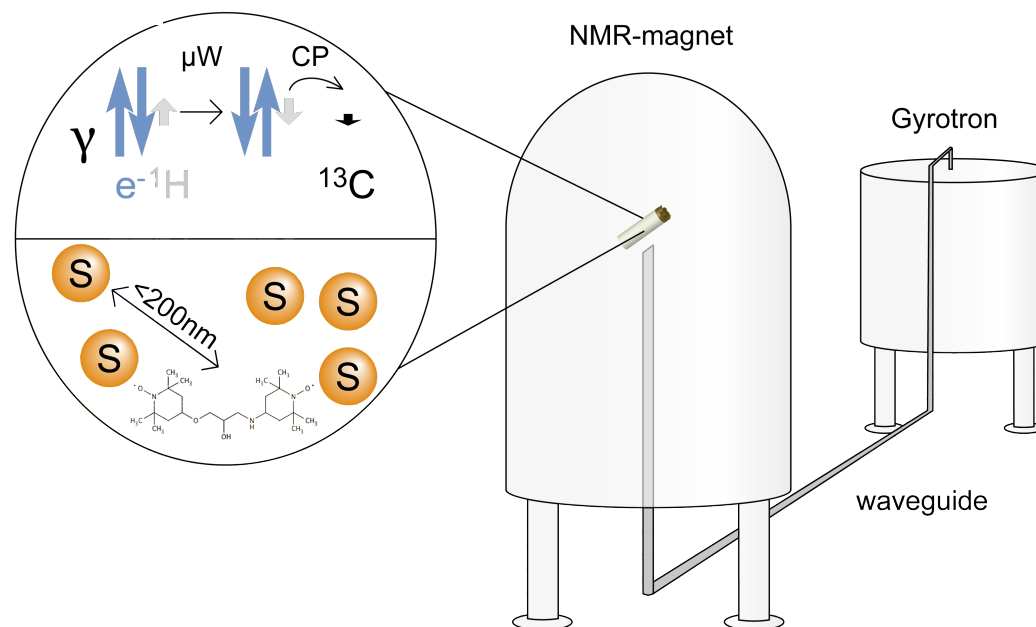
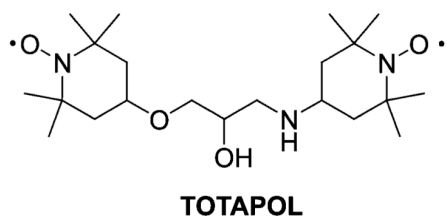
# DNP principle

Polarisation transferred from electron to nuclei of interest



needed:

- biradical (TOTAPOL)
- cryogenic temperature (100K)
- microwave irradiation





## **DNP mechanisms**

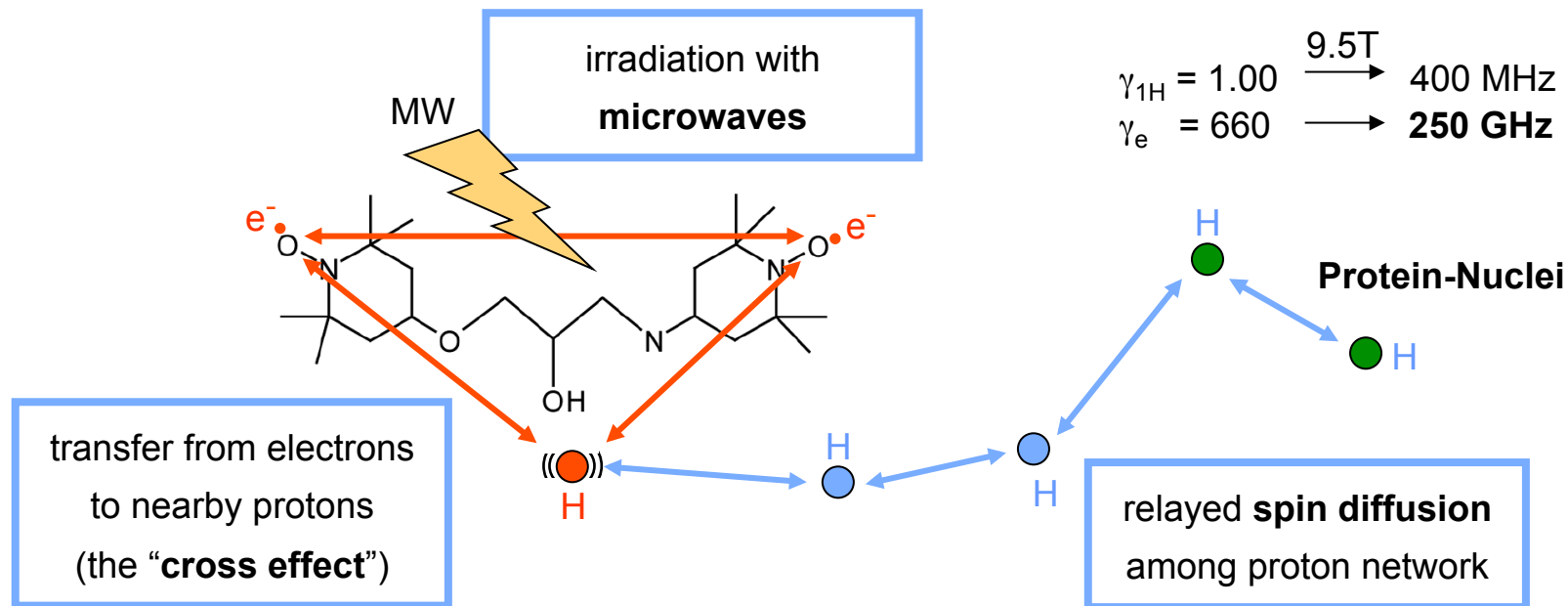
---

...and electron T1

A few comments to the solid and cross effect mechanisms

# DNP principle

Polarisation transferred from electron to nuclei of interest



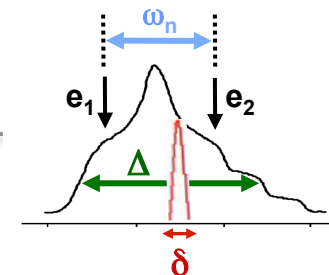
mixture of 60% deuterated glycerol, 30% D<sub>2</sub>O, 10% H<sub>2</sub>O → provides glass forming matrix

non-glass-forming matrix → crystals formed upon freezing  
→ much lower DNP enhancement

(partially) deuterated matrix → more complete polarization of smaller proton reservoir

# DNP mechanisms: solid + cross effects

...abbreviated SE and CE

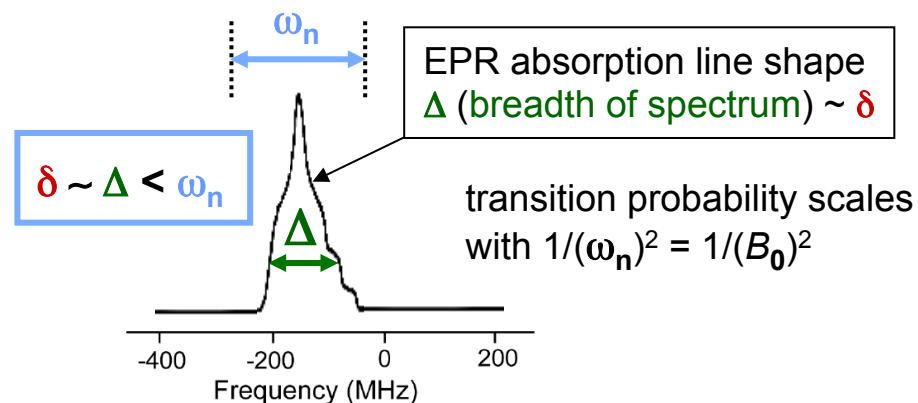


SE: possible when **homogeneous linewidth  $\delta$**   
and **breadth of spectrum  $\Delta$**   $< \omega_n$

$1 e^- \leftrightarrow 1 n$

'forbidden transitions'  
(second-order perturbation theory)

transition probability always low

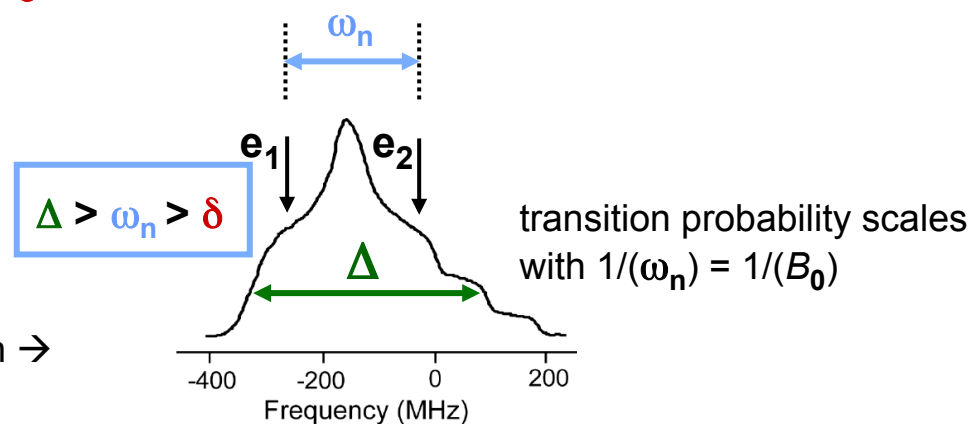


CE: possible when **breadth  $\Delta$**   $> \omega_n > \delta$

$2 e^- \leftrightarrow 1 n$

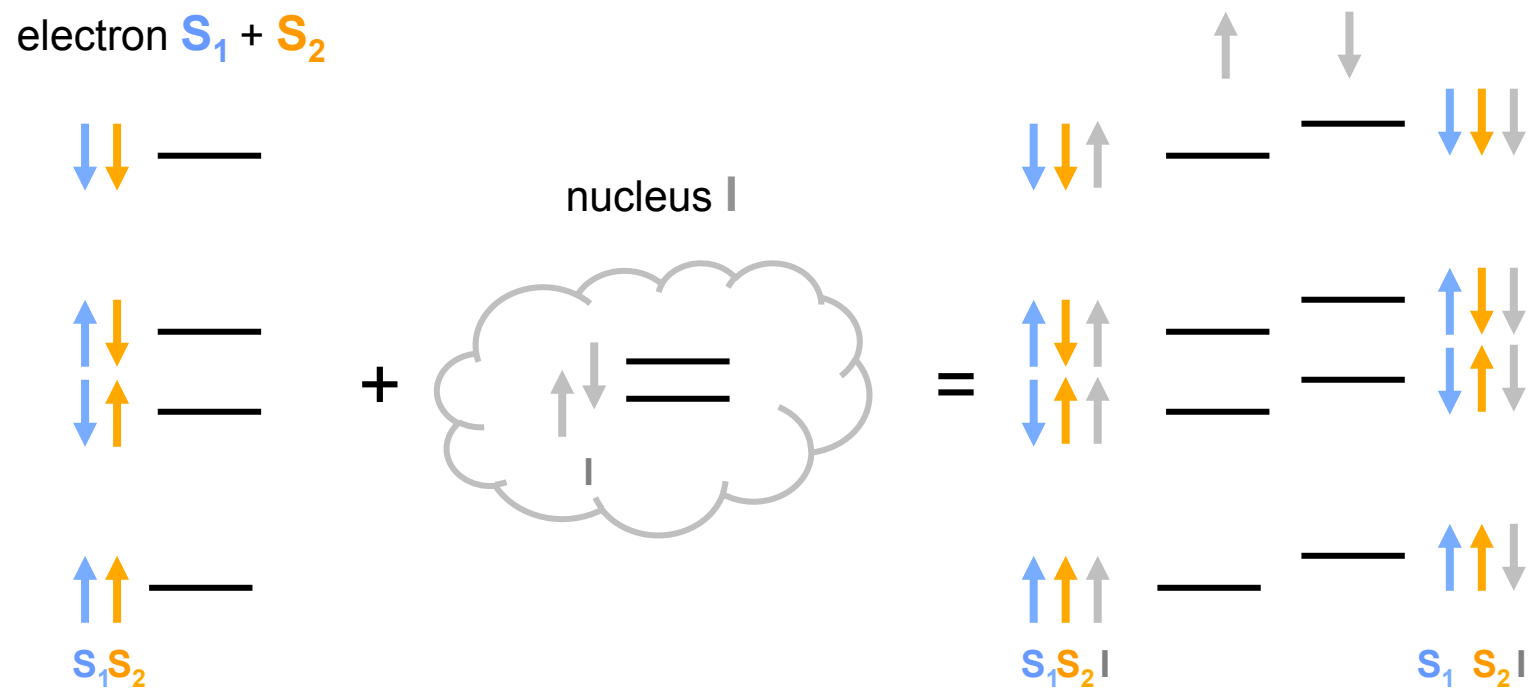
two paired electrons, EPR frequencies  
separated by Larmor frequency

transition probability can be high at match  $\rightarrow$   
energy-conserved flip-flop process



# Cross effect DNP

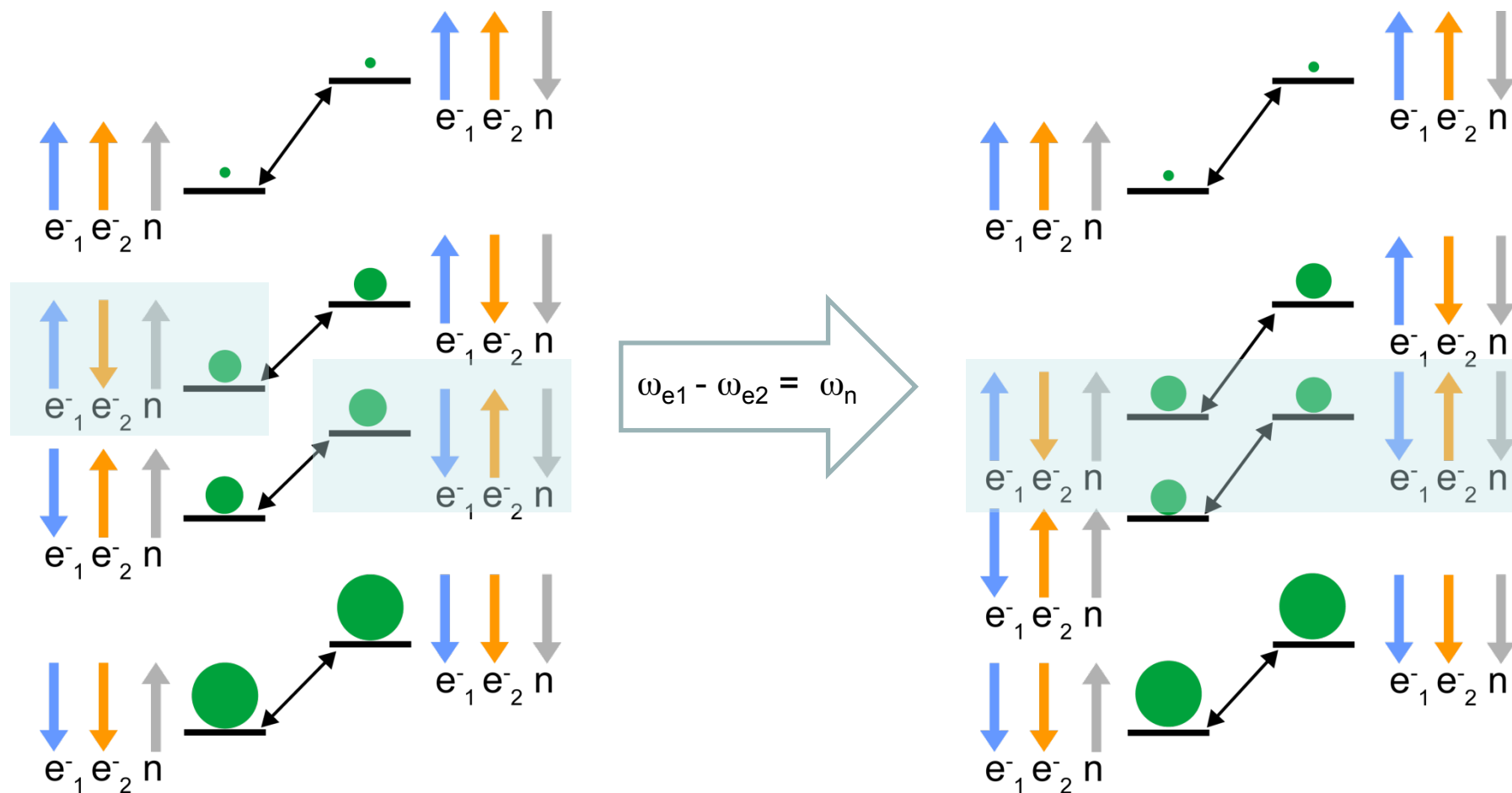
Using a biradical





# Cross effect DNP

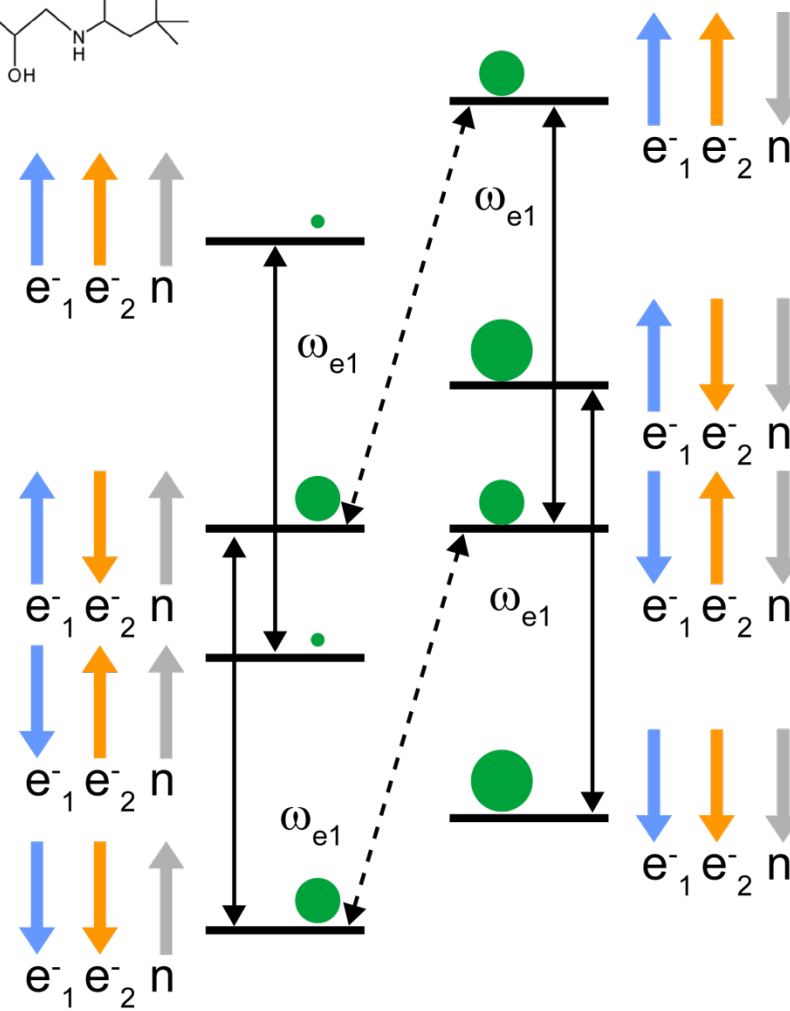
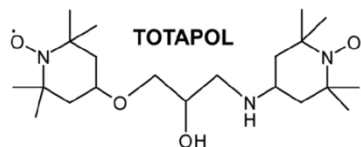
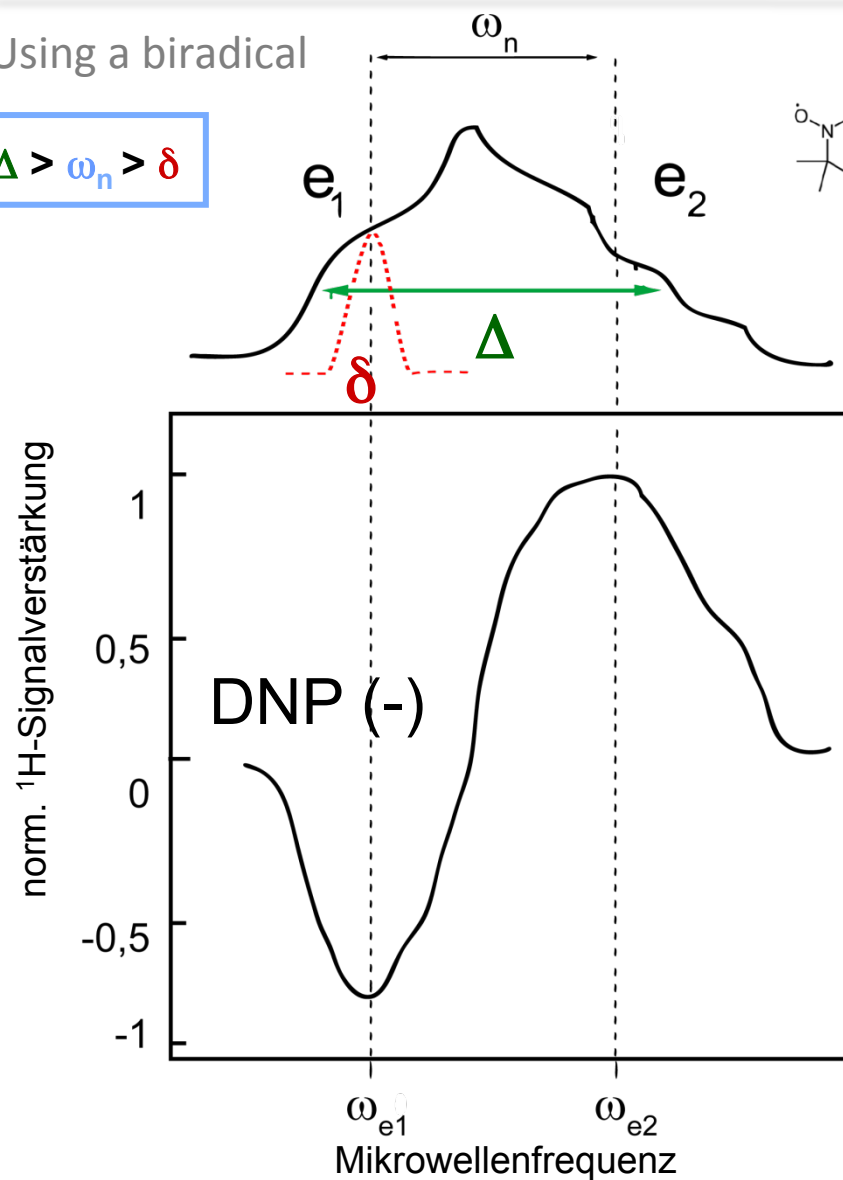
Using a biradical



# Cross effect DNP

Using a biradical

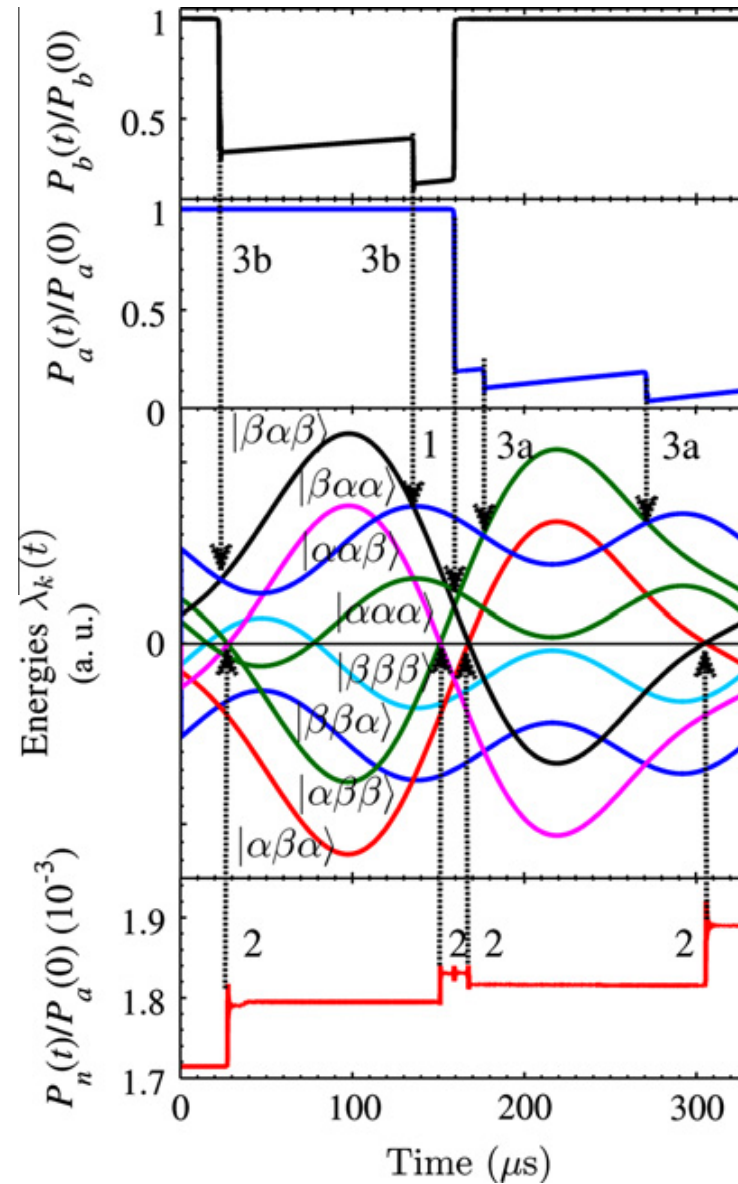
$$\Delta > \omega_n > \delta$$





# Cross effect transfer upon rotation

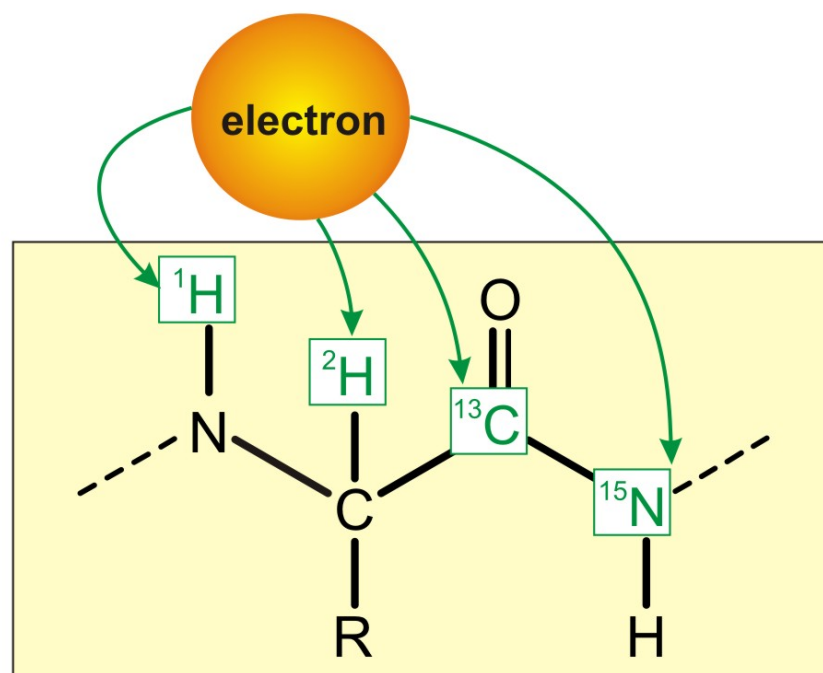
Varying matching conditions



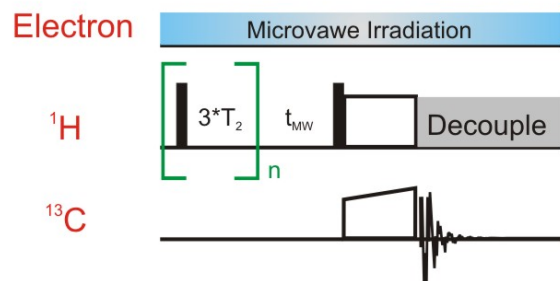


# Which nuclei to excite best?

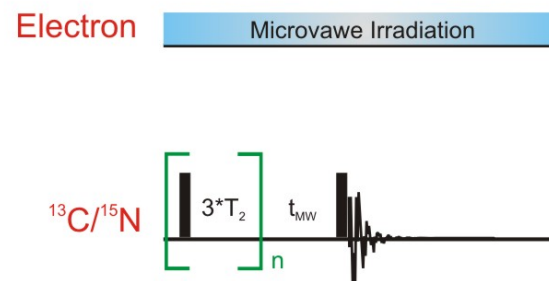
SH3 domain



For Proton:

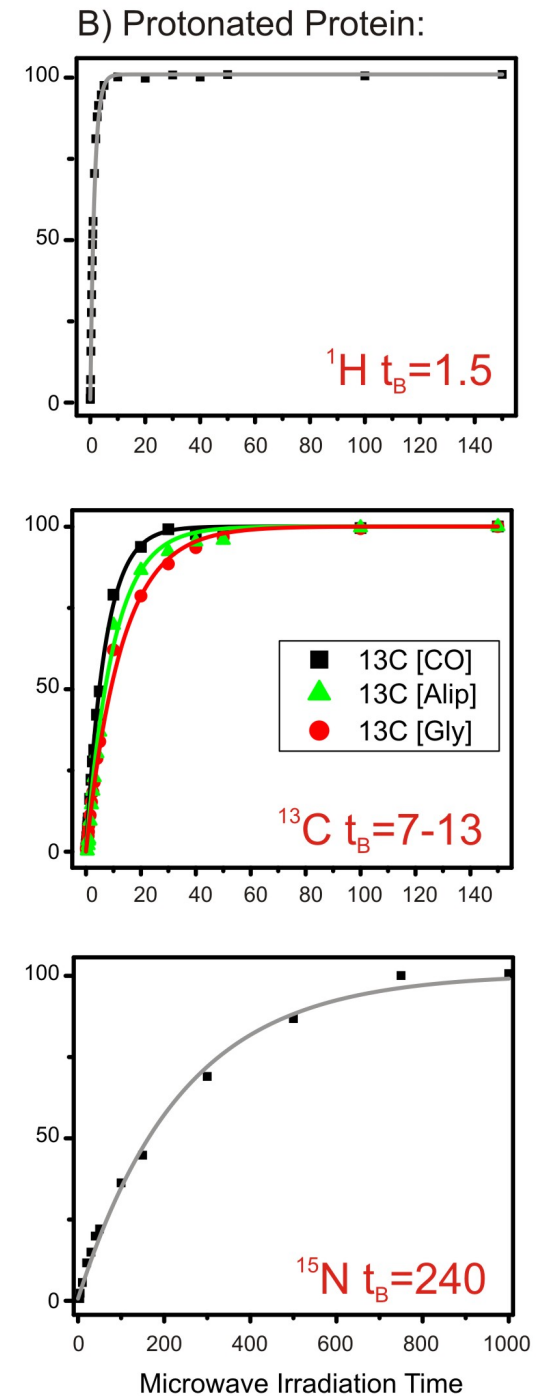
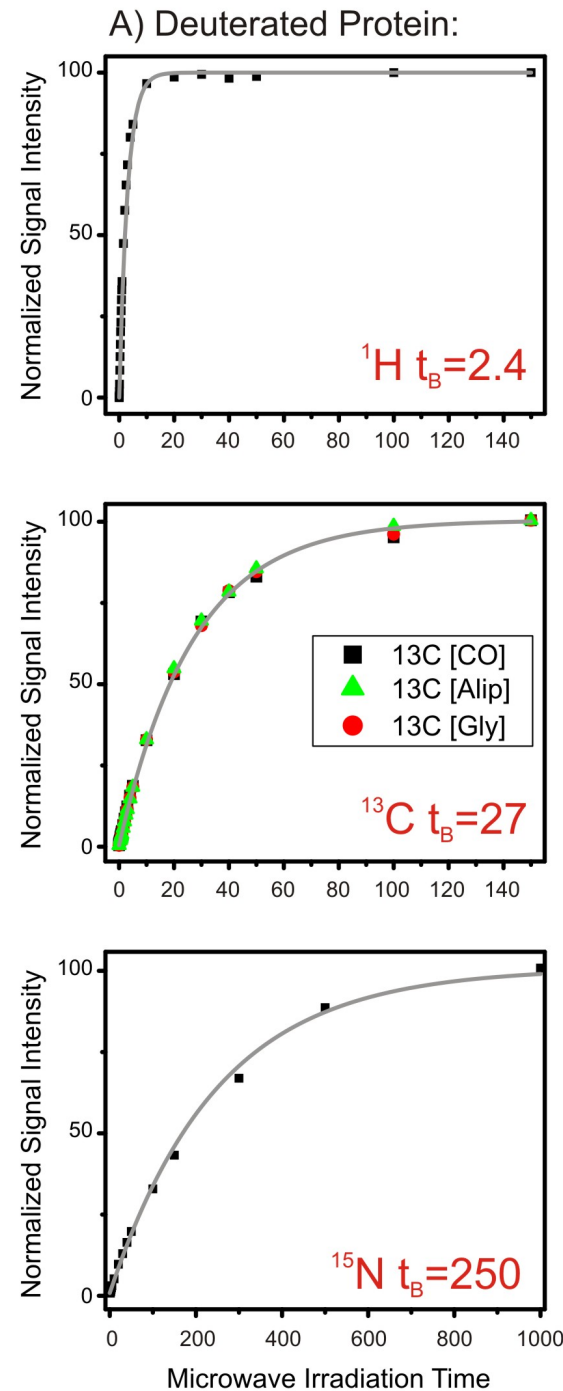


For Heteronuclei:



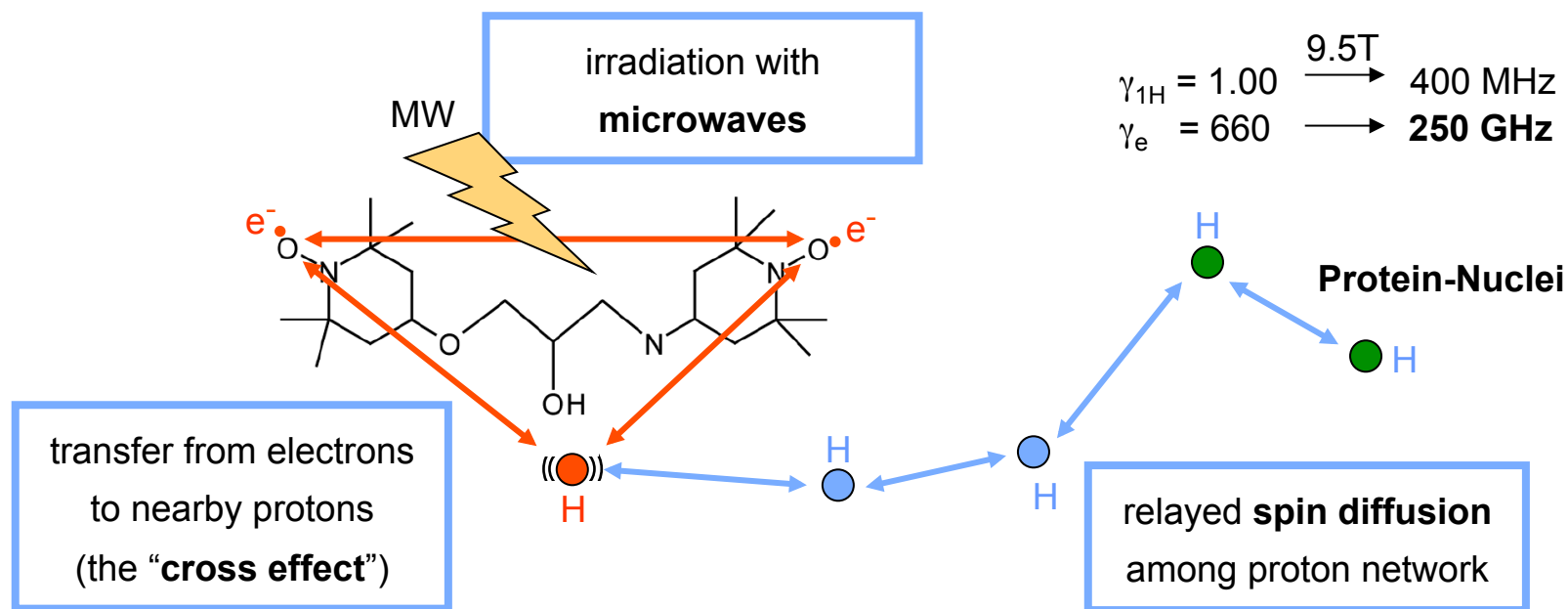
# Polarisation build-up in [s]

- Buildup behavior is different for diff. Nuclei
- $^1\text{H} < ^{13}\text{C} \ll ^{15}\text{N}$
- Deuteration increases the  $\tau_B$  significantly



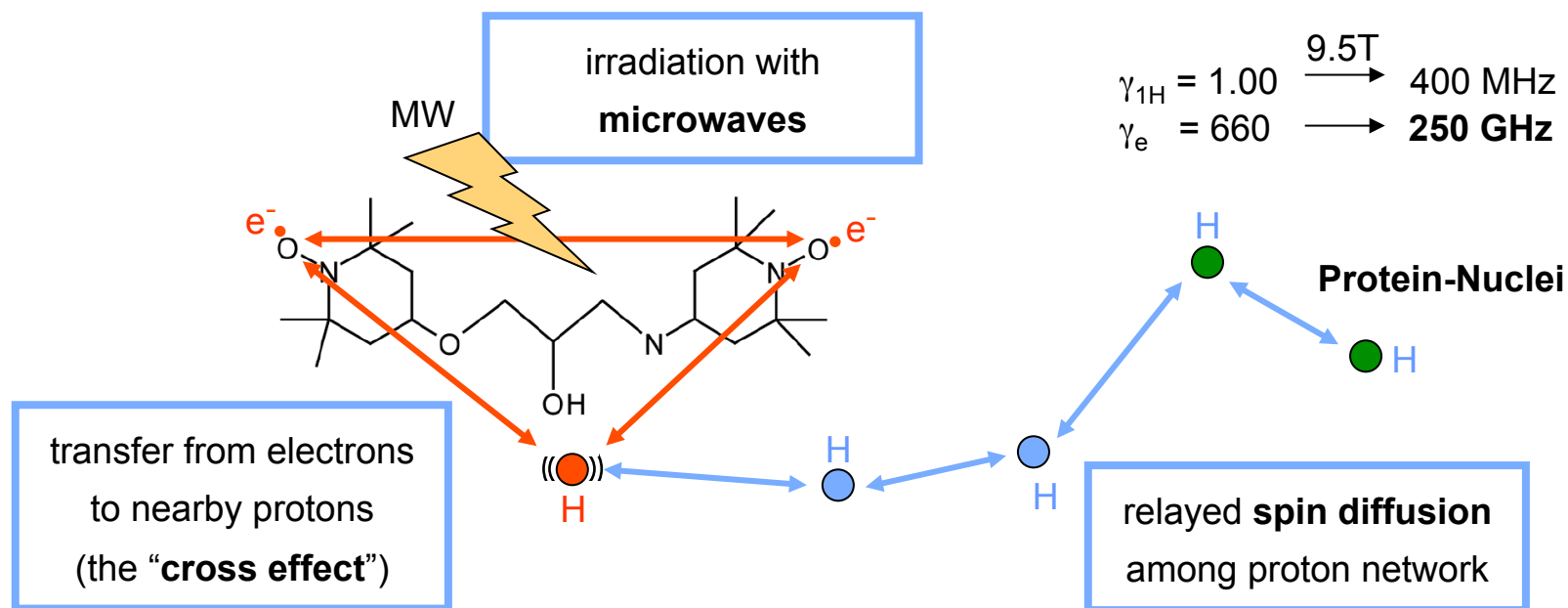
# DNP principle

Polarisation transferred from electron to nuclei of interest



# DNP principle

Polarisation transferred from electron to nuclei of interest



To be optimized:

Microwave strength

Radical type and concentration

Measurement temperature

Proton concentration, degree of deuteration

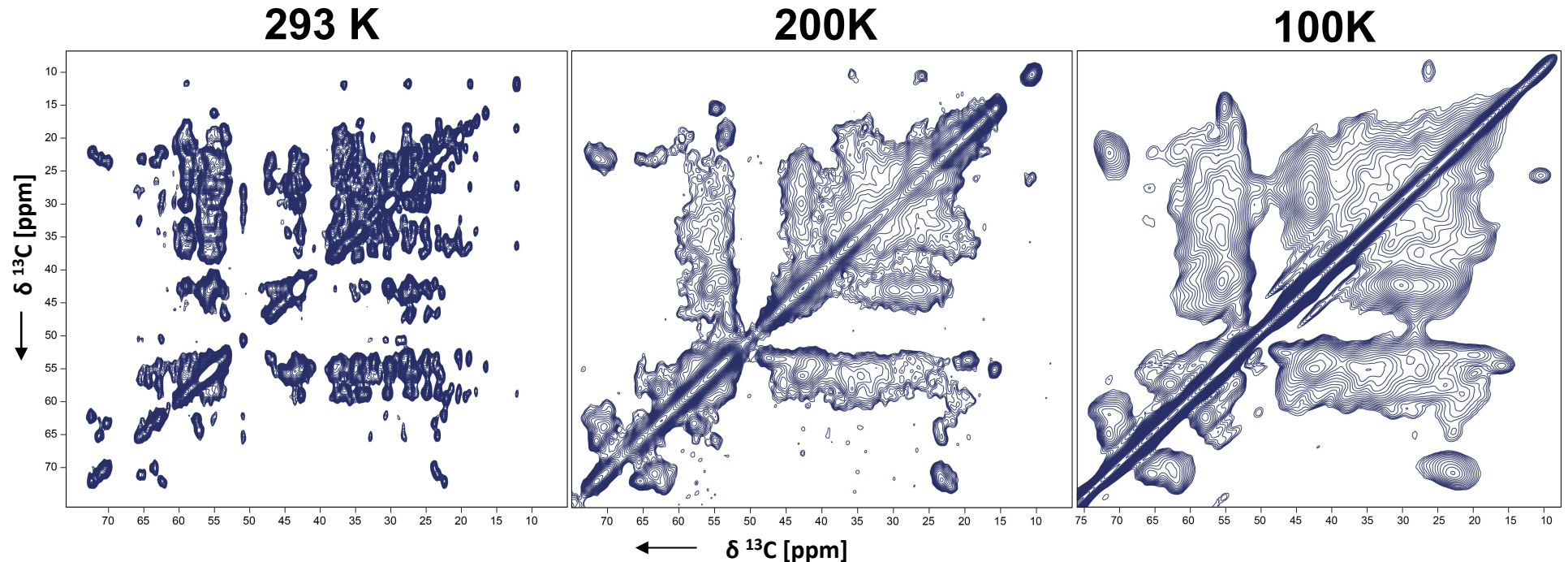
Glass-forming properties of the matrix

MAS rate



# Towards a structure by DNP: better samples and higher temperature

- Hindered rotations of side chains and PRE effects contribute to line broadening



(No radical/no glycerol)

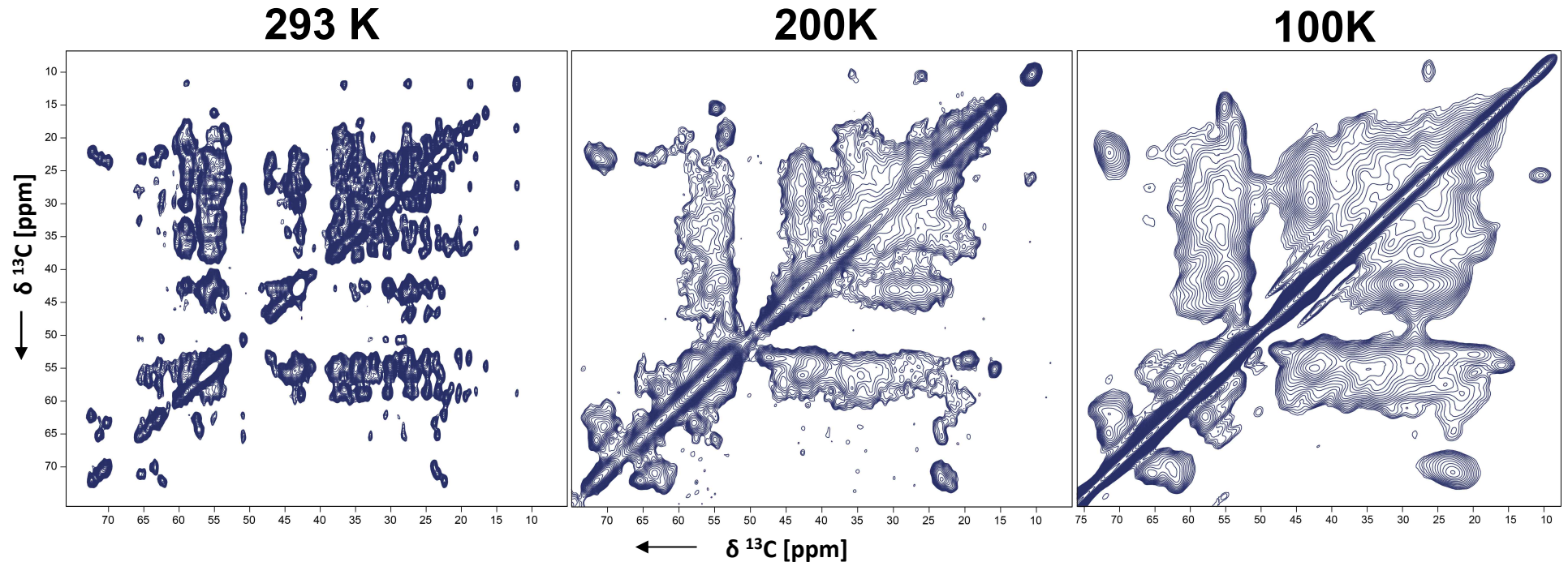
Boltzmann (x2)

Decrease of thermal noise

Enhancement

# Towards a protein structure: better samples and higher temperature

- Hindered rotations of side chains and PRE effects contribute to line broadening



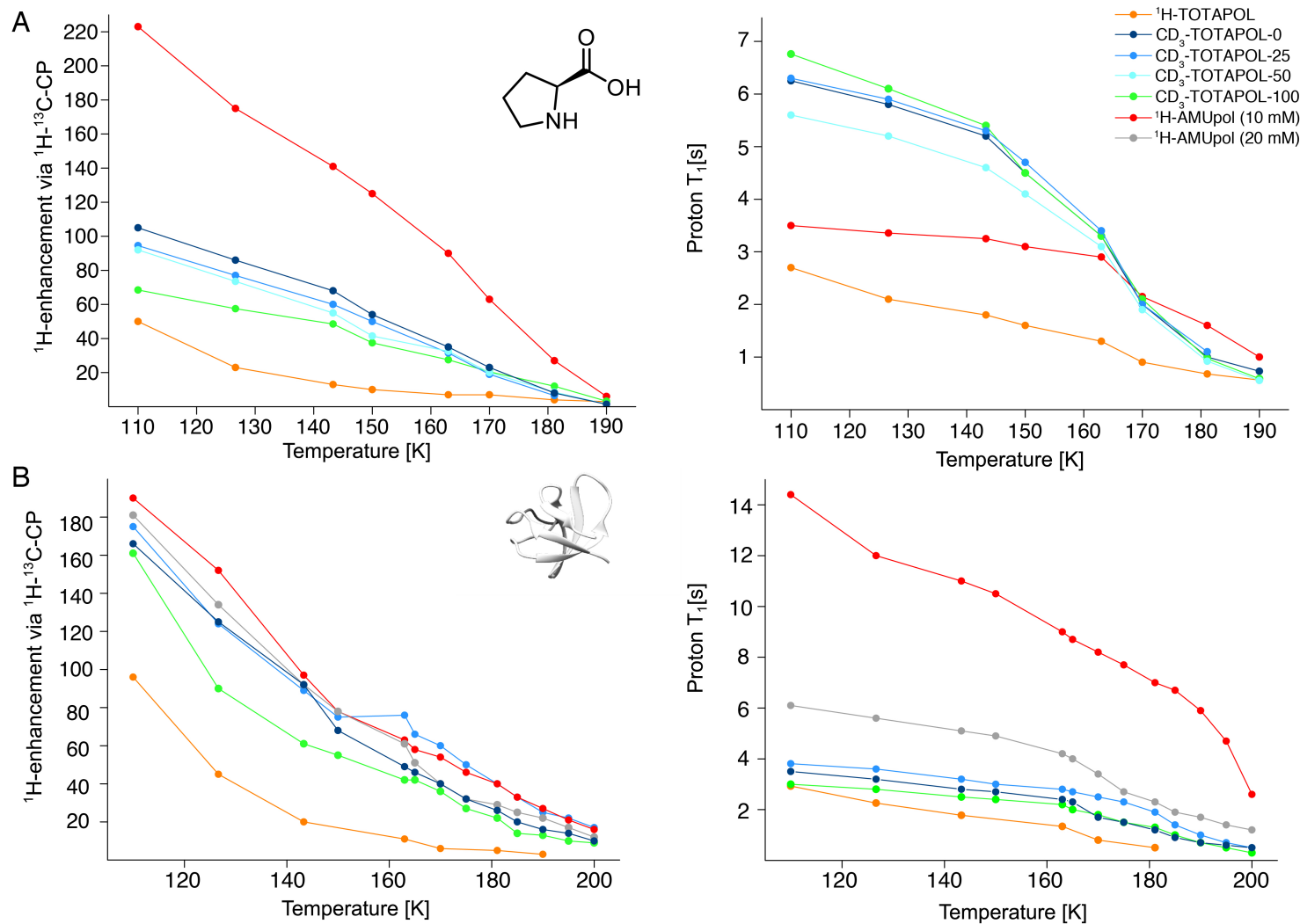
(No radical/no glycerol)

Decrease of line width

Decrease of T1

# Enhancement vs. T curves using proline and SH3 standards

Enhancements up to 45 at 180 K



## **Importance of nuclear $T_1$**

---

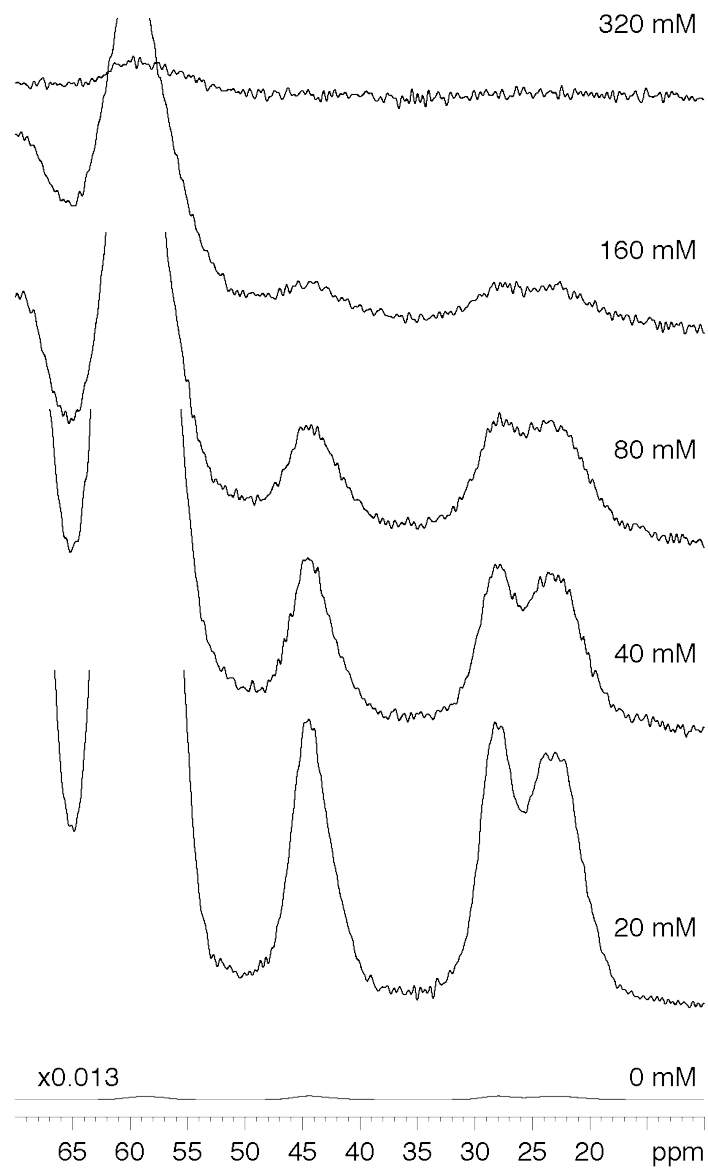
...and nuclear relaxation times

# The influence of radical concentration



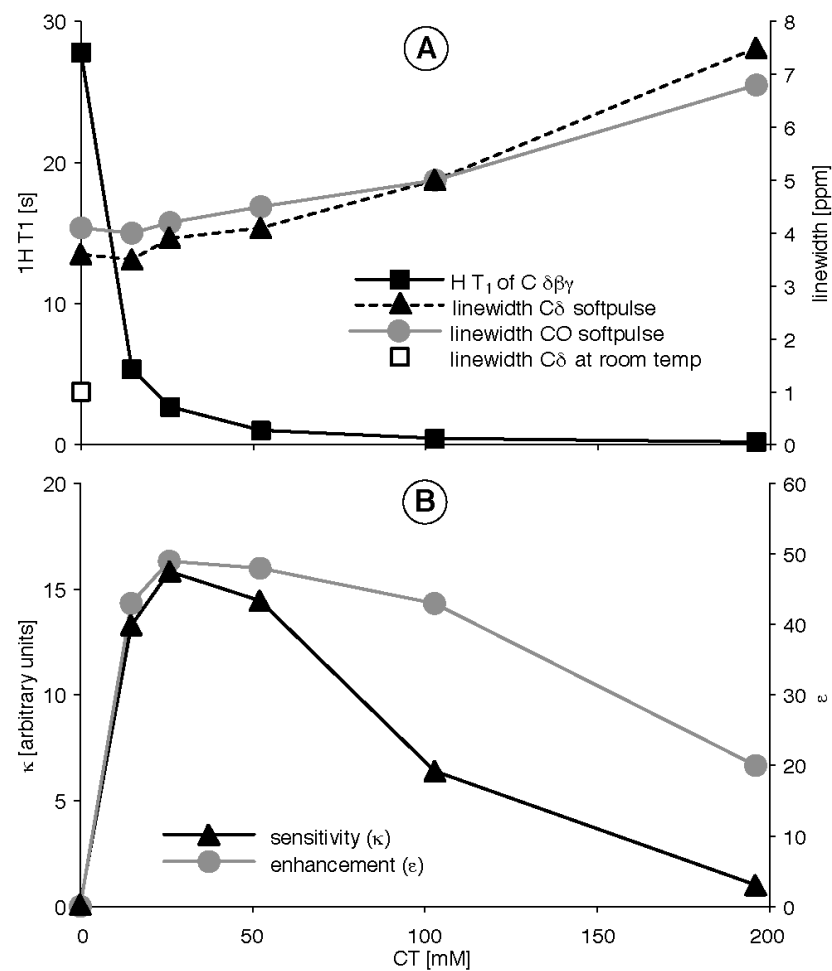
# Effect of the biradical concentration on EFFECTIVE enhancement

SH3 domain carbon spectra, methyl region

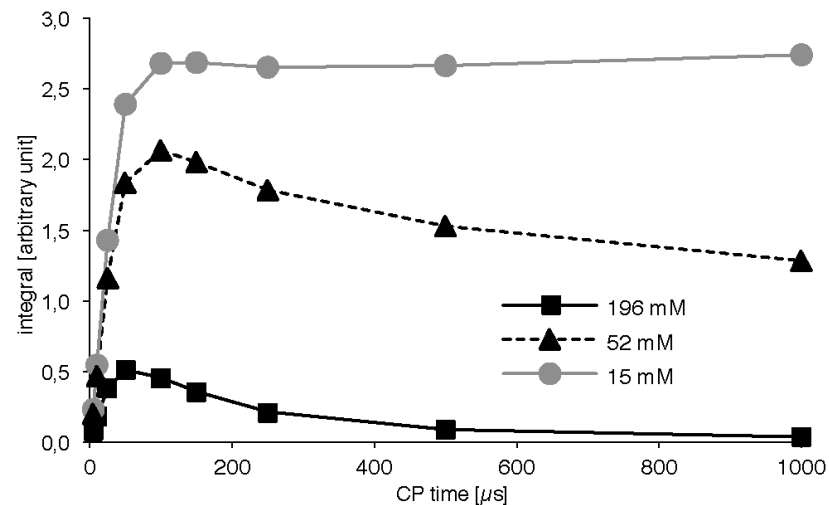


# Effect of the biradical concentration, Proline

$T_1$ , linewidth, sensitivity

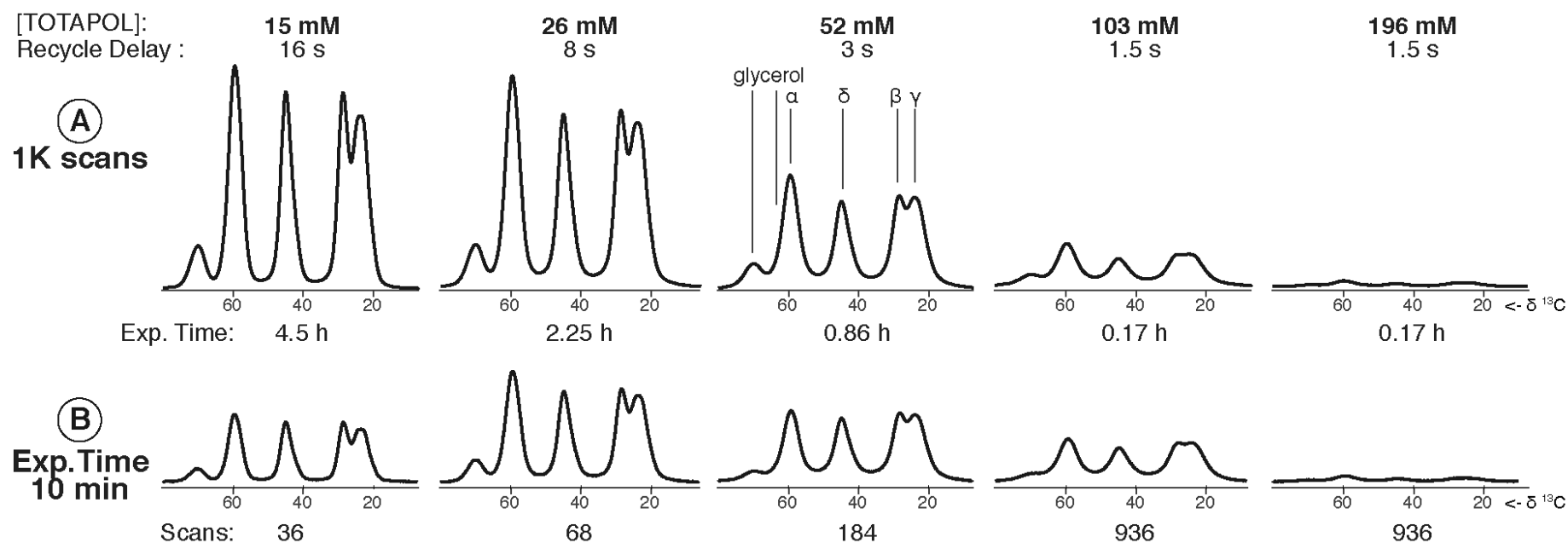


CP efficiency

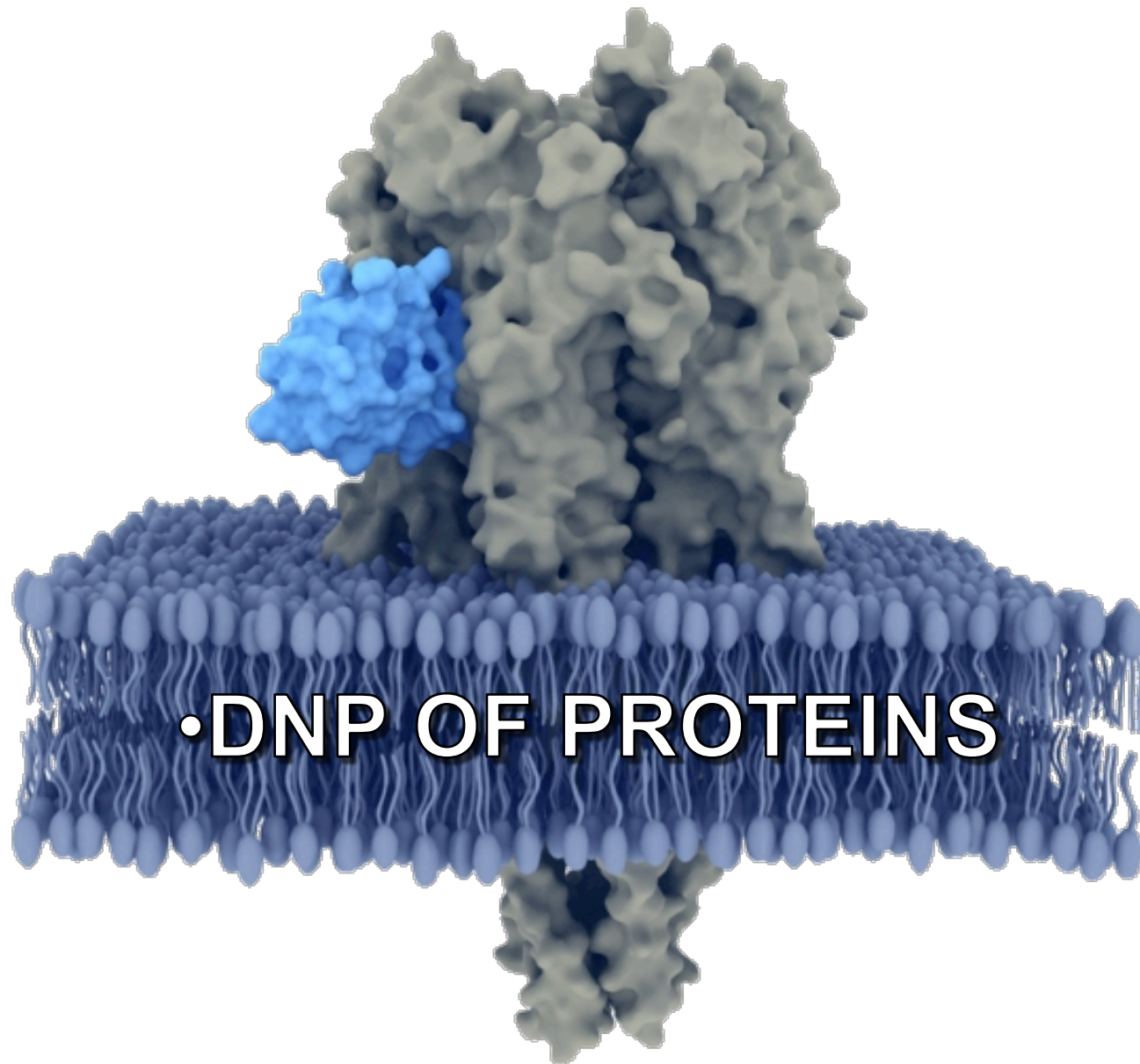


# Effect of the biradical concentration, proline

high concentrations broaden signals and lower their intensities



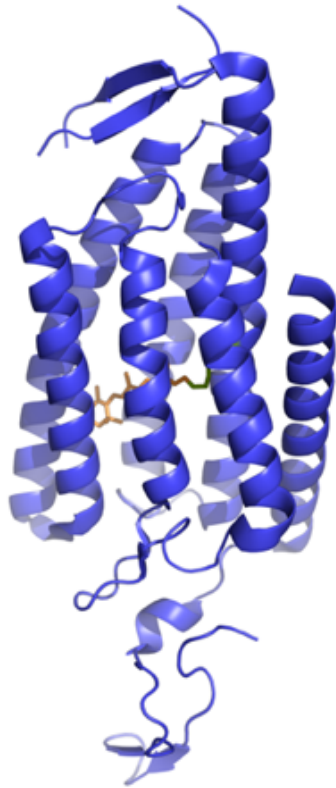
Dynamic Nuclear Polarisation – solid state – NMR



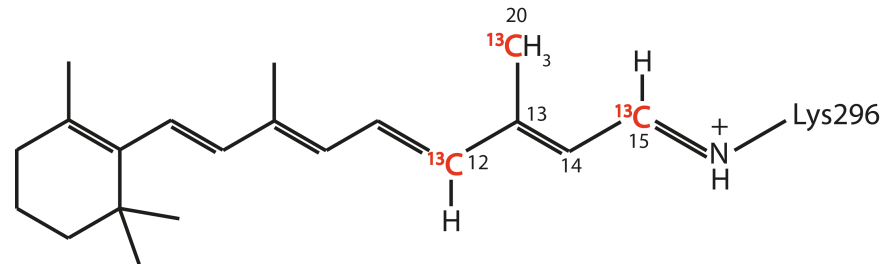
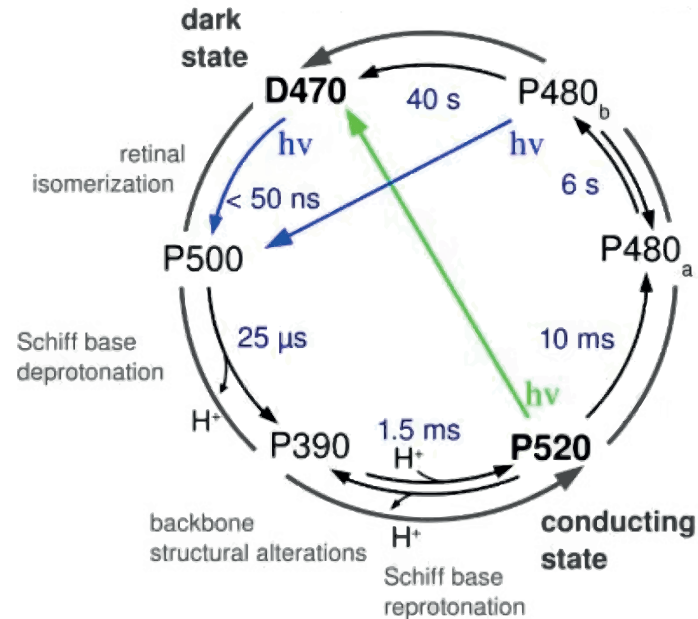
technique – nACh-Receptor

# Channelrhodopsin: chromophor configuration all-trans?

- Mixture of 13cis, 15syn and all-trans expected



Channelrhodopsin (ChR)  
384 aa, (pdb: 3UG9)

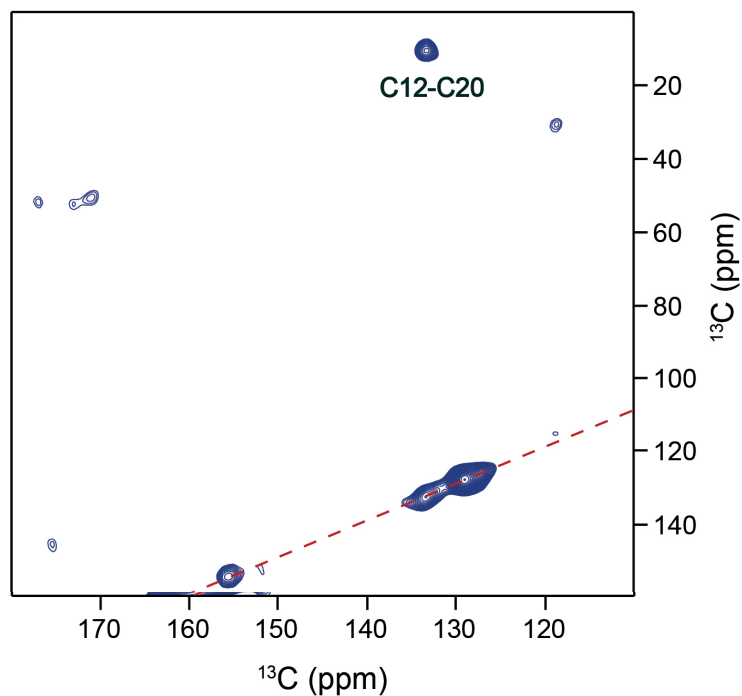


12-15-20-<sup>13</sup>C-retinal  
all trans isomer

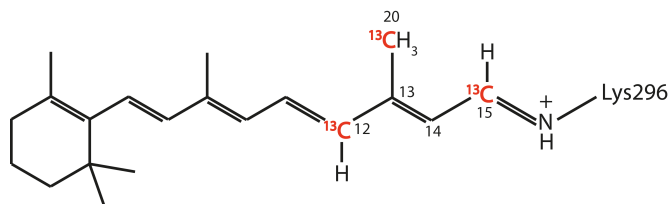
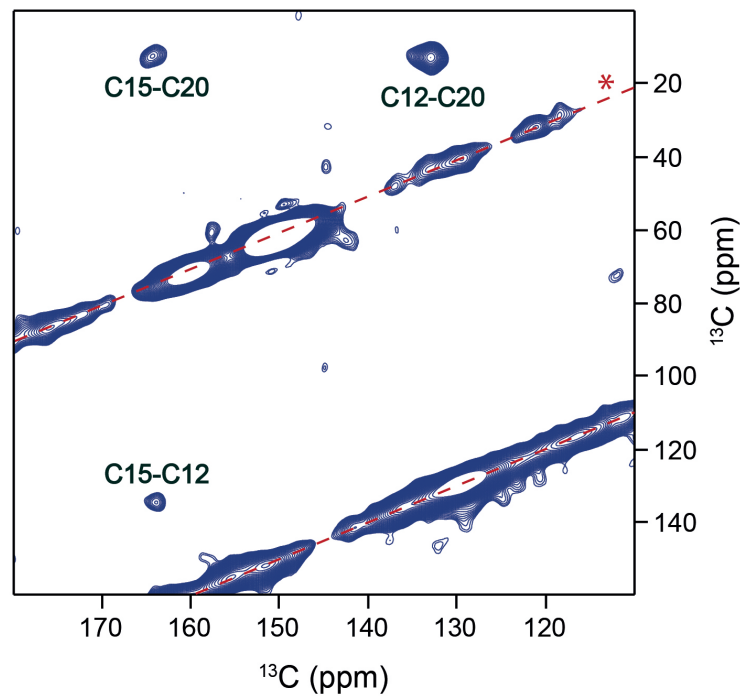
# Solid-state NMR works only with DNP!

- Mixture of 13cis,15syn and all-trans expected

**standard** solid-state MAS NMR  
(DARR, 265 K, ~ 10 days)



**DNP** solid-state MAS NMR  
(DARR, 100 K,  $\epsilon = 9$ , ~ 10 hours)

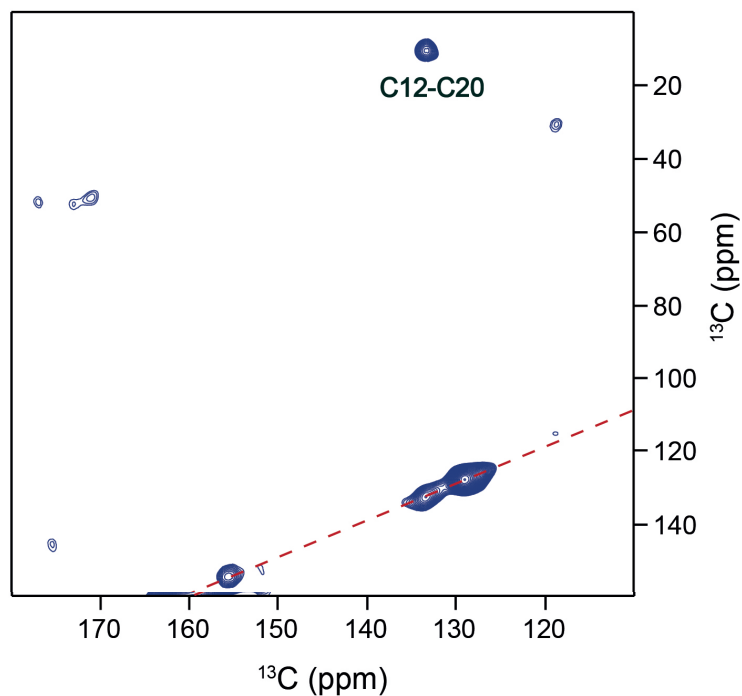


12-15-20- $^{13}\text{C}$ -retinal  
all trans isomer

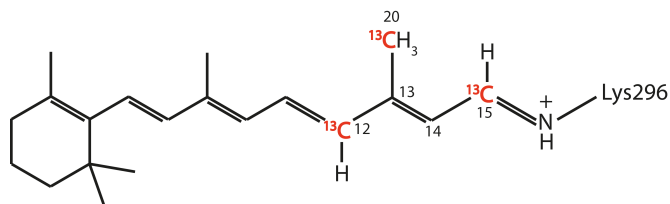
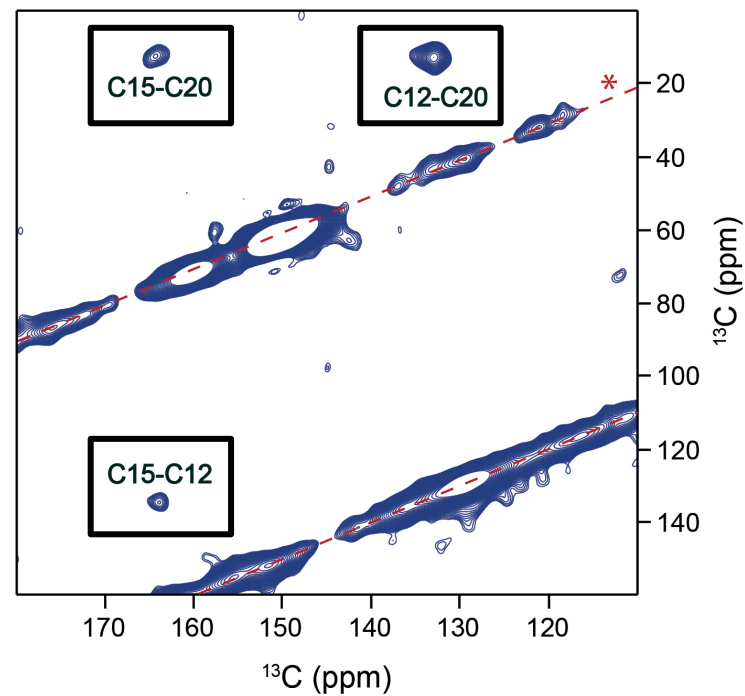
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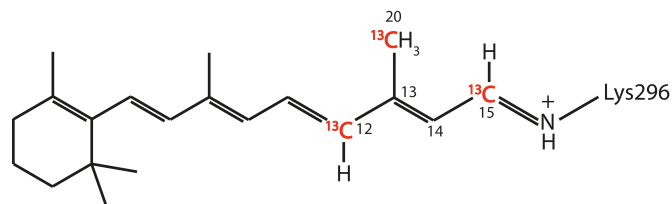
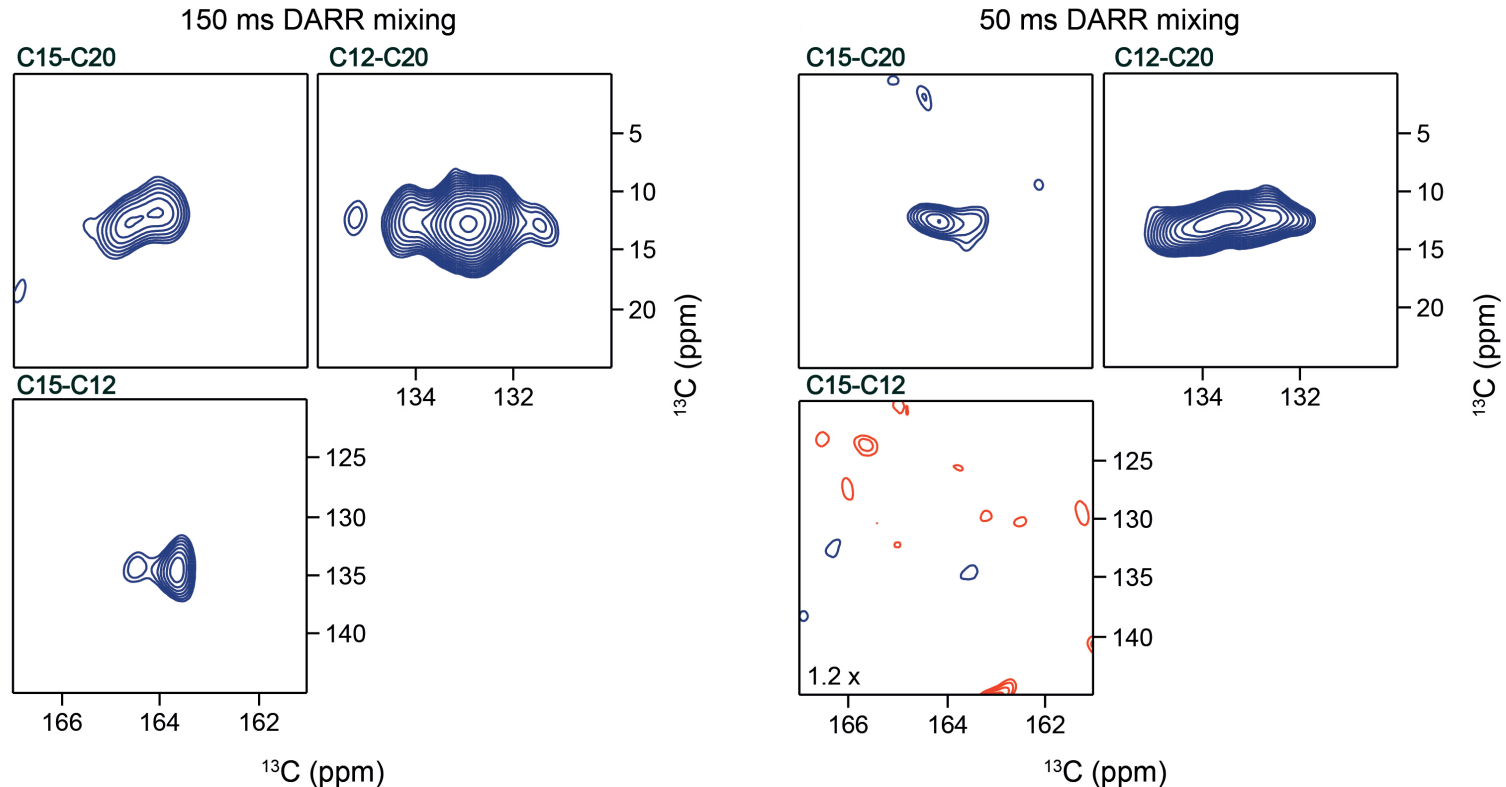
**DNP** solid-state MAS NMR  
(DARR, 100 K,  $\epsilon = 9$ , ~ 10 hours)



12-15-20- $^{13}\text{C}$ -retinal  
all trans isomer

# The fully dark-adapted state of ChR is only all-trans

- Mixture of 13cis,15syn and all-trans expected, however, only all-trans observed



12-15-20- $^{13}\text{C}$ -retinal  
all *trans* isomer



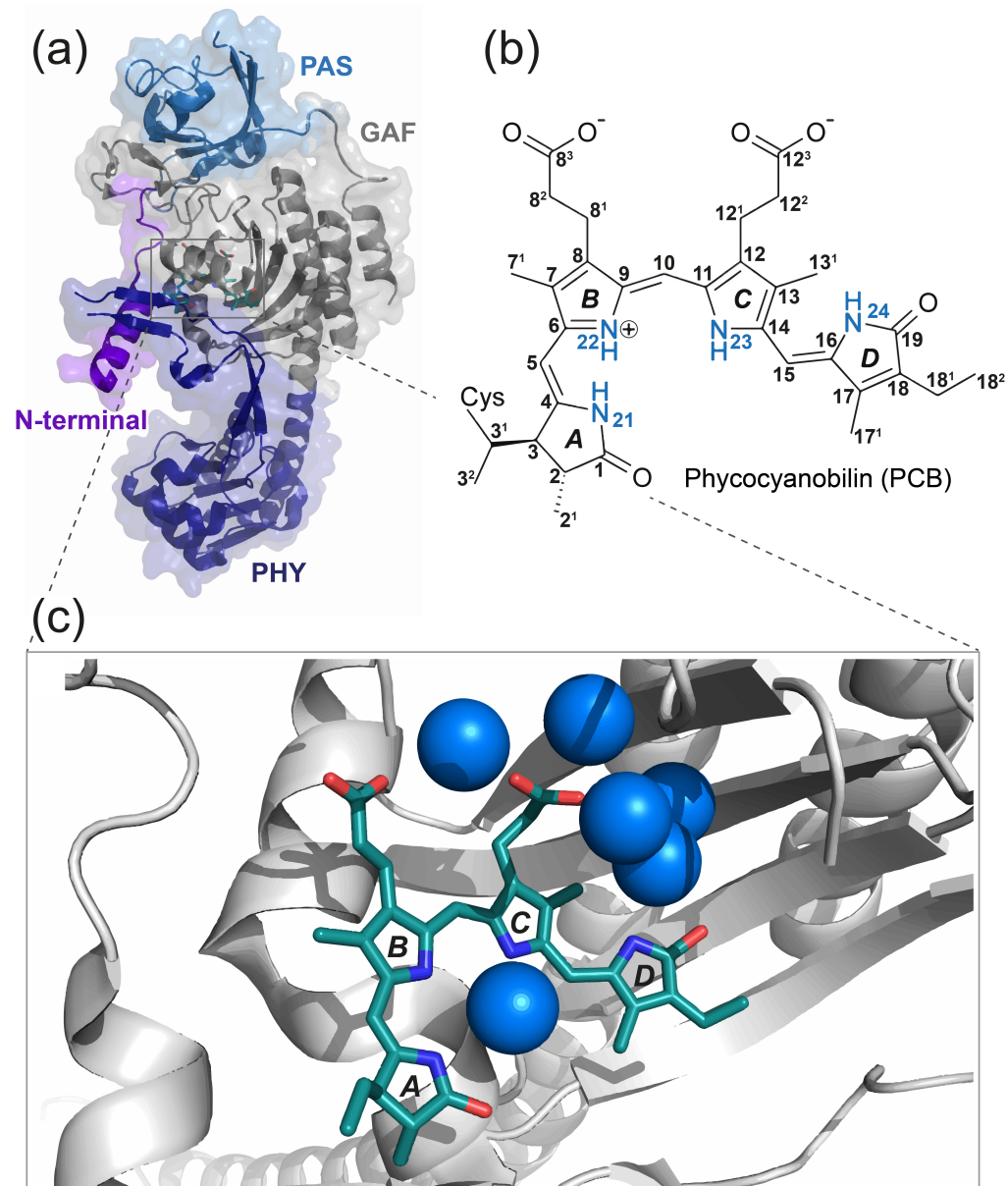
# Phytochrome Cph1: assignment of PCB with the help of DNP

Where is the positive charge?

Phytochromes switch 25 % of all genes (in plants)

Cph1delta2 has 515 aa

A solution of Cph1 was investigated in a mixture of 60% d8-glycerol, 30% D2O, 10 %H2O at 110 K



# Phytochrome Cph1: assignment of PCB with the help of DNP

Where is the positive charge?

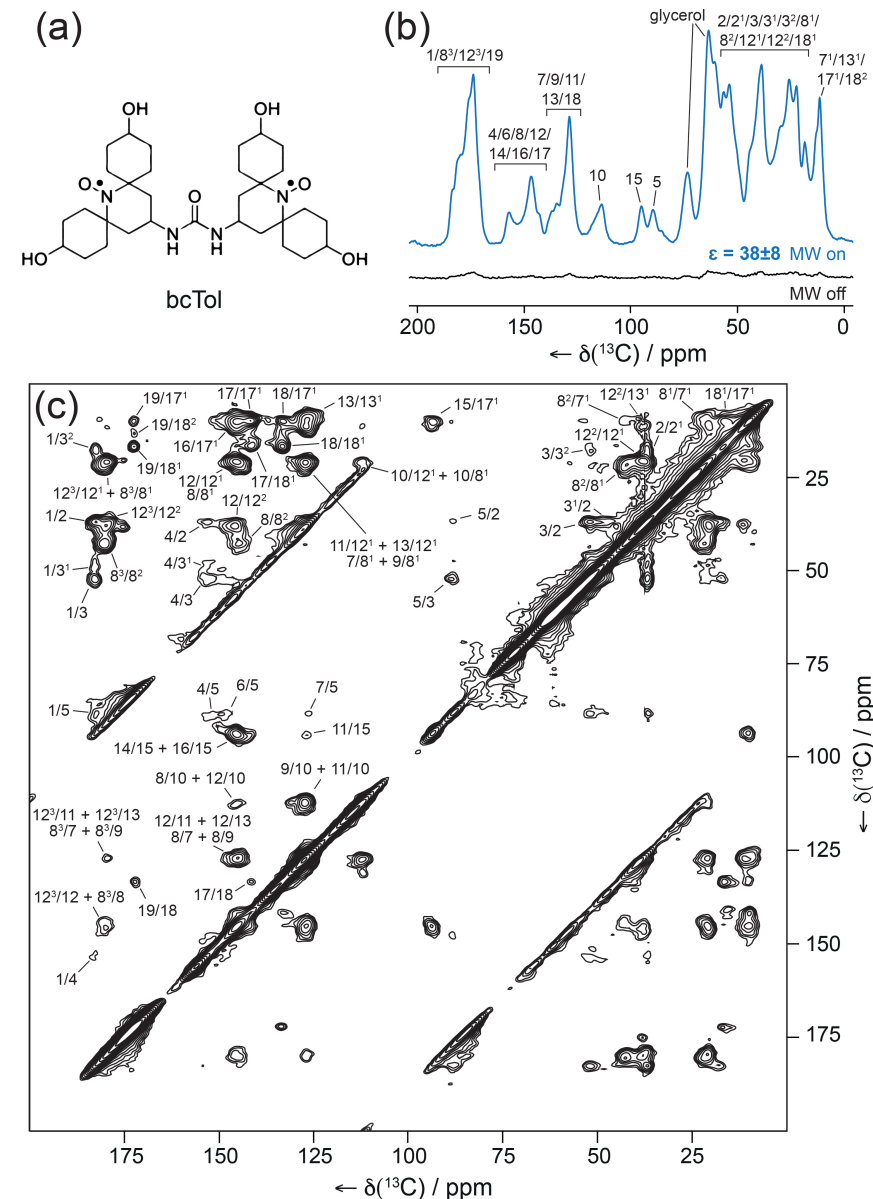
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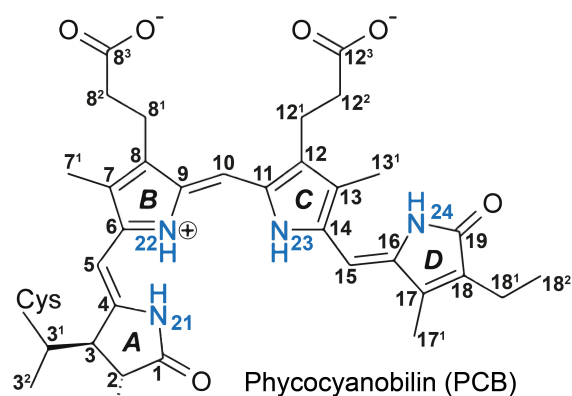
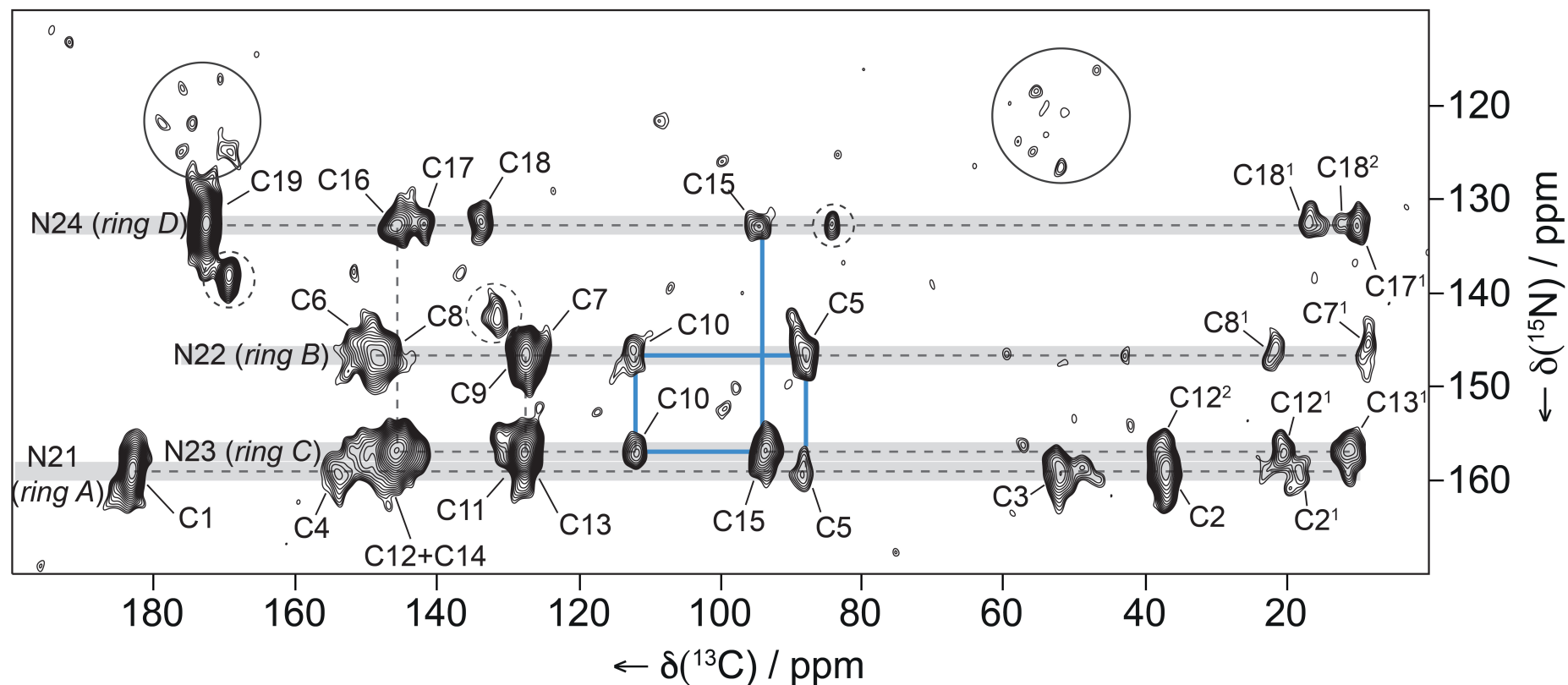
bcTOL was used as a radical

$\epsilon$  was 38

Surprising resolution!



# Phytochrome Cph1: assignment of PCB with the help of DNP



Correlating nitrogens with bridging methine carbons yields the assignment

Chemical shift of the Ring B nitrogen suggests positive charge