

APPENDIX L: MAGNETIC EQUIVALENCE, THE MULTIPLIET FORMALISM

While the PO formalism is basically a shorthand notation for density matrix calculations, we introduce here an even more compact notation (we call it the the multiplet formalism) to simplify the PO treatment of CH_n systems. In such a system n nuclei out of $n+1$ are magnetically equivalent.

The density matrix at thermal equilibrium for a CH_3 system is:

$$D(0) = -p'[z111] - q'([1z11] + [11z1] + [111z]) \quad (\text{L1})$$

We introduce the notation $\{1z\}$ for the sum in parentheses and write $D(0)$ as:

$$D(0) = -p'[z111] - q'\{1z\} \quad (\text{L2})$$

The notation $\{1z\}$ is not only shorter but it allows us to write the last sum without specifying the number of protons in the system CH_n . We make the convention that:

$$\begin{aligned} \{1z\} &= [1z11] + [11z1] + [111z] && \text{for } \text{CH}_3 \\ \{1z\} &= [1z1] + [11z] && \text{for } \text{CH}_2 \\ \{1z\} &= [1z] && \text{for } \text{CH} \end{aligned}$$

Other examples of the $\{ \}$ notation:

$$\begin{aligned} \{1x\} &= [1x1] + [11x] && \text{for } \text{CH}_2 \\ \{zy\} &= [zy11] + [z1y1] + [z11y] && \text{for } \text{CH}_3 \end{aligned}$$

The sum $\{ \}$ has always n terms where n is the number of magnetically equivalent nuclei. In order to be consistent we have to write $\{z1\}$ as:

$$\begin{aligned} \{z1\} &= [z111] + [z111] + [z111] = 3[z111] && \text{for } \text{CH}_3 \\ \{z1\} &= 2[z11] && \text{for } \text{CH}_2 \\ \{z1\} &= [z1] && \text{for } \text{CH} \end{aligned}$$

With this convention we can rewrite (L2) as:

$$D(0) = -(p'/n)\{z1\} - q'\{1z\} \quad (\text{L3})$$

an expression valid for any n .

Let us apply a $90_x X$ pulse to $D(0)$.

$$D(0) \xrightarrow{90_x X} -(p'/n)\{z1\} + q'\{1y\} \quad (\text{L4})$$

The expression above is easily obtained through the conventional PO rules applied to the expression (L1) or its equivalents for CH_2 or CH .

The above example may inspire us to hope that any sequence involving a CH_2 or CH_3 system may be treated as a CH , just by replacing [] with { }. Unfortunately this is not always true. It is important for the user of this formalism to be aware of how far the { } notations can be used and when we have to give up and go back to the explicit [] notation.

Rule #1

Not all the POs in the basis set can be included in { } sums. For instance $[1xz]$ is not a legitimate term of such a sum. No more than one of the protons may come in the PO with x , y or z , the others must participate with a 1.

Rule #2

Rotations due to r.f. pulses do not break the { } formalism and can be treated according to the vectorial model. We have done this in (L4).

Rule #3

Likewise, *noncoupled* evolutions (which are merely z -rotations) can be treated according to the vectorial representation. Example:

$$\{zx\} \xrightarrow{\text{shift } X} \{zx\} \cos \Omega_x t + \{zy\} \sin \Omega_x t$$

We can satisfy ourselves that this is true in the case of CH_2 :

$$\begin{aligned} \{zx\} &= [zx1] + [z1x] \\ \xrightarrow{\text{shift } X} & [zx1] \cos \Omega_x t + [zy1] \sin \Omega_x t + [z1x] \cos \Omega_x t + [z1y] \sin \Omega_x t \\ &= \{zx\} \cos \Omega_x t + \{zy\} \sin \Omega_x t \end{aligned}$$

Rule #4

A coupled evolution usually breaks the $\{ \}$ formalism, since it generates PO's that cannot be included in $\{ \}$ sums. A fortunate exception we can take advantage of is presented by the sums: $\{1x\}$, $\{1y\}$, $\{zx\}$, $\{zy\}$. The coupled evolution of any of these sums does not break the $\{ \}$ formalism and can be treated according to Section II.7.

Rule #5

If the density matrix contains sums as $\{x1\}$, $\{yz\}$ or $\{xy\}$ and a coupled evolution follows, we have to give up the $\{ \}$ shorthand and go back to the regular PO formalism ($[]$ notation).

Even here there is an exception and it is worth talking about because it may save a lot of term writing. The exception works when the coupled evolution we are talking about is the last act of the sequence or is just followed by a decoupled evolution. In this case we are interested in the observable terms only (see Appendix K) and the coupled evolution yields unexpectedly simple results (we observe nucleus A):

$$\begin{aligned} \{x1\} &\longrightarrow cC^n\{x1\} + sC^n\{y1\} + \text{NOT} \\ \{y1\} &\longrightarrow -sC^n\{x1\} + cC^n\{y1\} + \text{NOT} \\ \{xz\} &\longrightarrow -sSC^{n-1}\{x1\} + cSC^{n-1}\{y1\} + \text{NOT} \\ \{yz\} &\longrightarrow -cSC^{n-1}\{x1\} - cSC^{n-1}\{y1\} + \text{NOT} \\ \{xx\} &\longrightarrow \text{NOT} \\ \{yx\} &\longrightarrow \text{NOT} \\ \{xy\} &\longrightarrow \text{NOT} \\ \{yy\} &\longrightarrow \text{NOT} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} c &= \cos \Omega_c t & ; & & C &= \cos \pi J t & ; & & n &= \text{number of protons} \\ s &= \sin \Omega_c t & ; & & S &= \sin \pi J t & ; & & \text{NOT} &= \text{nonobservable terms} \end{aligned}$$

The above evolution rules can be verified by writing the product operators in the conventional way and calculating the evolution of the CH_n system for $n=1, 2$, and 3 , separately.

Rule #6

The procedure for retrieving the magnetization components in the { } formalism differs only slightly from that stated in Appendix J.

$$\begin{aligned}M_{x_C} &= -(nM_{o_C} / p') \times (\text{coefficient of } \{x1\}) \\M_{x_H} &= -(M_{o_H} / q') \times (\text{coefficient of } \{1x\})\end{aligned}\tag{L5}$$

with similar expressions for M_y and M_z . M_{o_H} is the equilibrium magnetization due to all n magnetically equivalent protons.