Structure calculation of large RNAs

RRE is 232 nt (75 kDa)

Current approach based on deuterium labelling

Can assign chemical shifts and NOEs throughout the molecule















Wang & co-workers, Cell (2013)

Can we get useful RDC data for large RNAs?





ND

 ND_2

Can we get useful RDC data for large RNAs?

63 well-dispersed Adenosines

D^{max} approx 2.8 kHz

Low proton density - perhaps 5-10 Hz RDC feasible?





S3E

After Zídek, Wu, Feigon and Sklenár, J Biomol NMR. 2001 Oct;21(2):153-60 with I=H2, S=N1/N3, T=H2, X=U-H3, U-N3, A-N6, A-N9



Rapid ¹⁵N relaxation to blame





Quantitative J correlation



Large dependence on passive spin

Can fit if both signals resolved

Can use selective / semi-selective pulse



Quantitative J correlation







 $\sin^2(\phi) \left\{ \cos(\Omega_S t_1) \sin^2(\pi J_{IS} \tau) \left[\cos^2(\pi J_{IT} \tau) + \sin^2(\pi J_{IT} \tau) \cos^2(\phi) \right] \right\}$

+ $\cos(\Omega_T t_1) \sin^2(\pi J_{IT} \tau) [\cos^2(\pi J_{IS} \tau) + \sin^2(\pi J_{IS} \tau) \cos^2(\phi)]$



 $\sin^2(\phi) \left\{ \cos(\Omega_S t_1) \sin^2(\pi J_{IS} \tau) \left[\cos^2(\pi J_{IT} \tau) + \sin^2(\pi J_{IT} \tau) \cos^2(\phi) \right] \right\}$

+ $\cos(\Omega_T t_1)\sin^2(\pi J_{IT}\tau) [\cos^2(\pi J_{IS}\tau) + \sin^2(\pi J_{IS}\tau)\cos^2(\phi)]$



 $\sin^2(\phi) \left\{ \cos(\Omega_S t_1) \sin^2(\pi J_{IS} \tau) \left[\cos^2(\pi J_{IT} \tau) + \sin^2(\pi J_{IT} \tau) \cos^2(\phi) \right] \right\}$

+ $\cos(\Omega_T t_1) \sin^2(\pi J_{IT} \tau) [\cos^2(\pi J_{IS} \tau) + \sin^2(\pi J_{IS} \tau) \cos^2(\phi)]$



 $\sin^{2}(\phi) \left\{ \cos(\Omega_{S} t_{1}) \sin^{2}(\pi J_{IS} \tau) \left[\cos^{2}(\pi J_{IT} \tau) + \sin^{2}(\pi J_{IT} \tau) \cos^{2}(\phi) \right] \right. \\ \left. + \cos(\Omega_{T} t_{1}) \sin^{2}(\pi J_{IT} \tau) \left[\cos^{2}(\pi J_{IS} \tau) + \sin^{2}(\pi J_{IS} \tau) \cos^{2}(\phi) \right] \right\}$

For $\phi_1 = \pi/4$, $\phi_2 = \pi/2$:

$$J_{3} = \frac{\operatorname{atan}(\operatorname{sqrt}(4Q_{N1}-2))}{\pi\tau} \qquad \qquad J_{1} = \frac{\operatorname{atan}(\operatorname{sqrt}(4Q_{N3}-2))}{\pi\tau}$$







Removed helix:helix NOEs and relaxed geometry



No RDCs



Incorporate ¹³C RDCs only



Incorporate ¹⁵N RDCs only



Application to 232 nt RRE





Described an experiment to determine H2-N1/N3 RDCs with high sensitivity in large RNAs

These RDCs sufficient to define inter-helical orientation in a 36 nt model system



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Ad Bax

hhmi



NIH National Institutes of Health The Center for HIV RNA Studies (CRNA)