

J-PARC Workshop 2022  
Deuterium Science Entering a New Phase

Methods of uniform or site-specific  
deuteration of proteins  
and their applications to NMR analyses

蛋白質の均一重水素化あるいは部位特異的重水素化の方法と  
その NMR への応用

2023 Jan 20th (Fri) 10:40-11:10

Ibaraki Quantum Beam Research Center, Tokai

Takahisa IKEGAMI 池上貴久  
Yokohama city University 横浜市立大学

# NMR (nuclear magnetic resonance) 核磁気共鳴



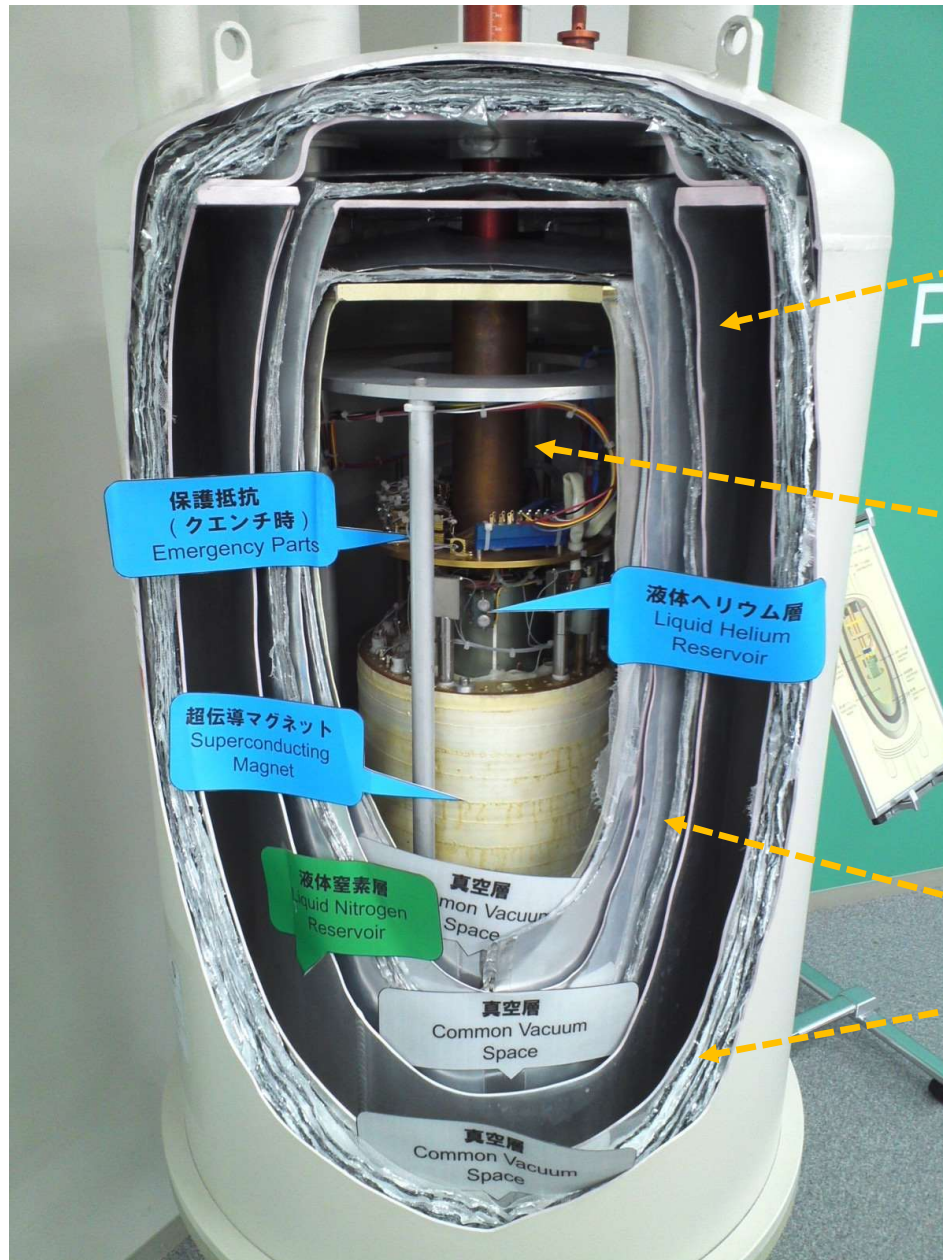
900 MHz NMR magnet



950 MHz NMR magnet



# superconducting magnet 超電導磁石



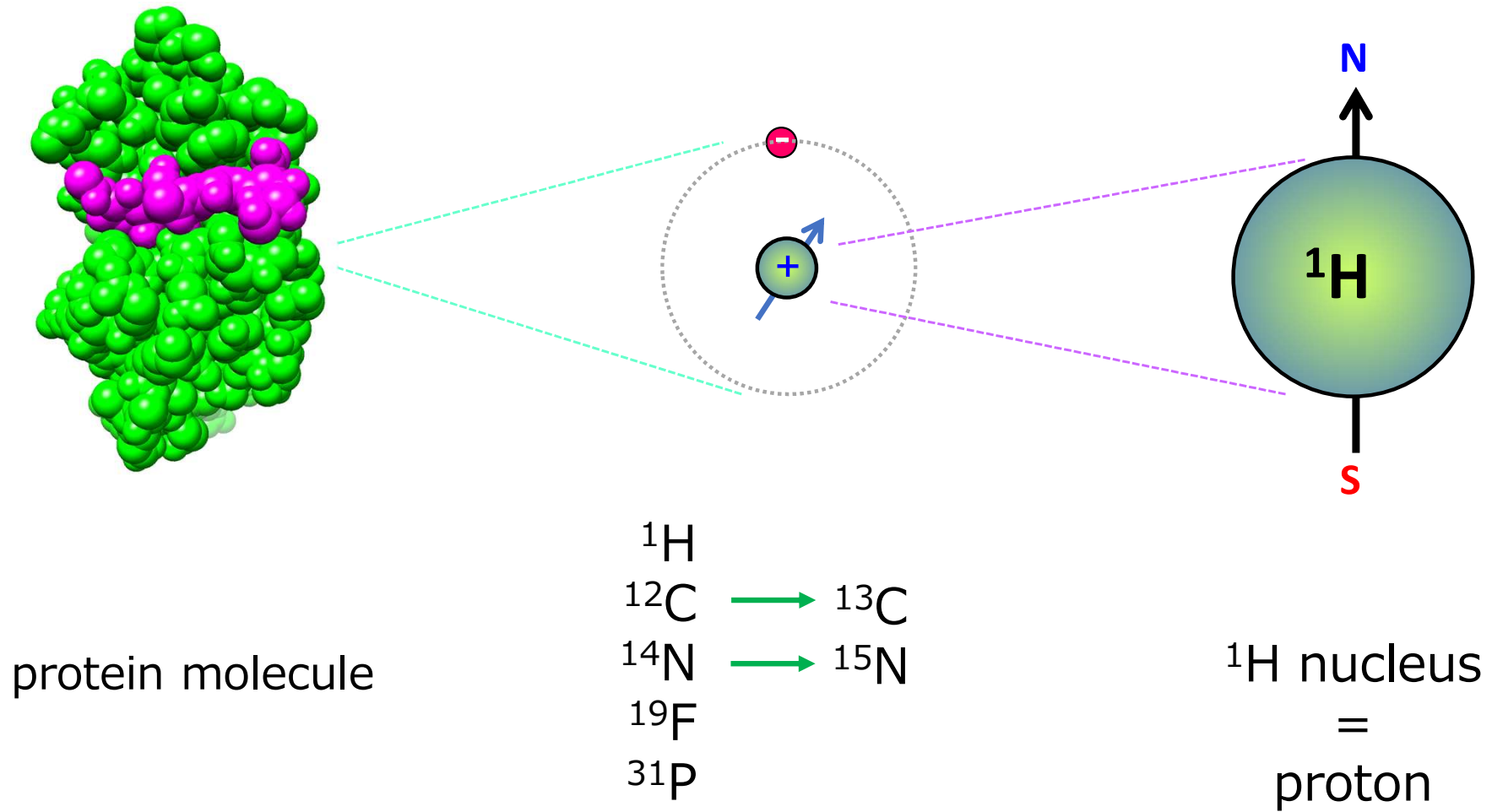
liquid N<sub>2</sub>  
-196°C

liquid He  
-269°C

vacuum

# 1) How can we detect NMR signals?

NMR 信号の検出原理

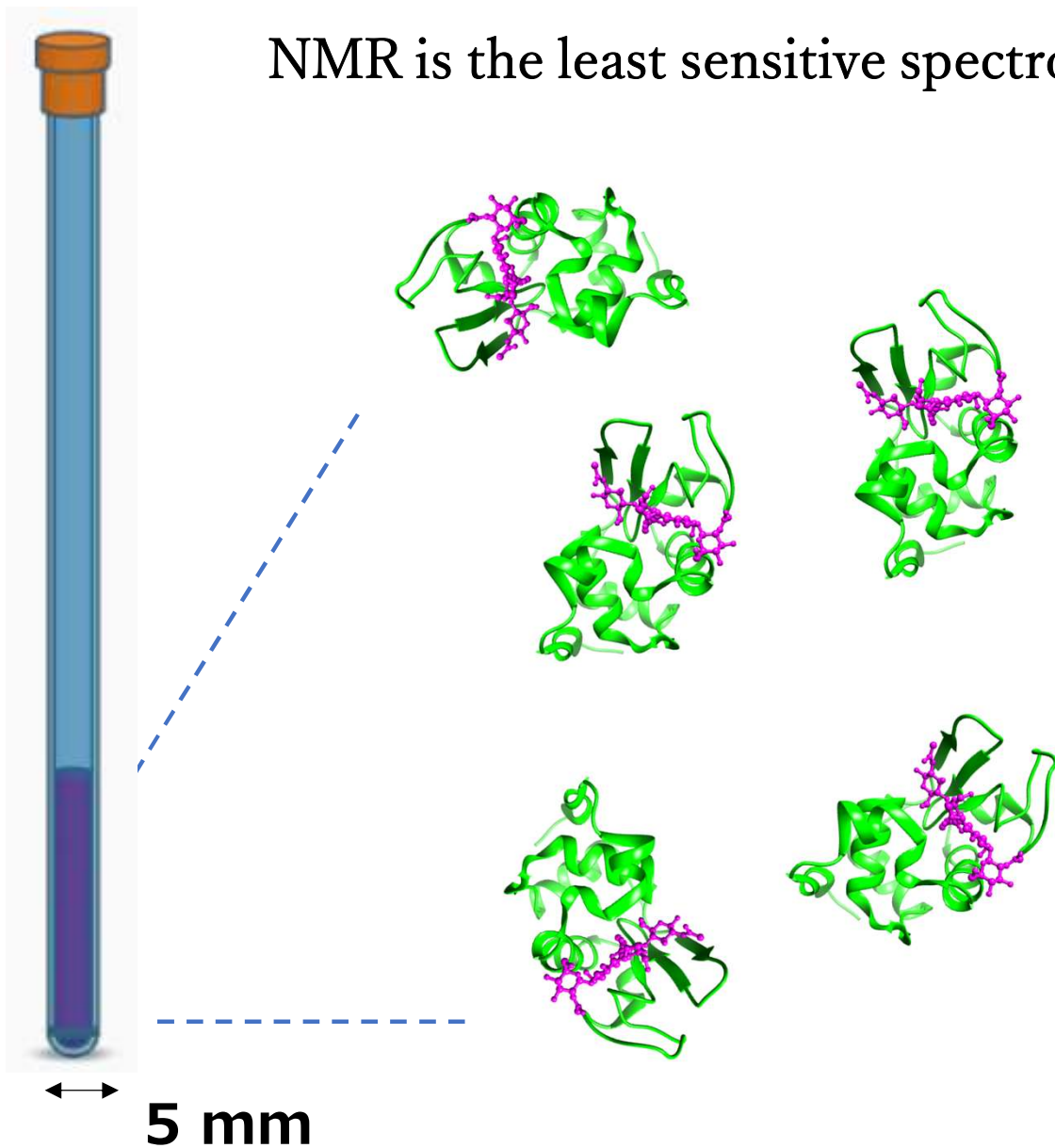


**Safe nuclei that emit no radiation = stable isotopes**

**安定同位体**

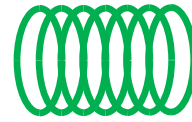
# $10^{17}$ protein molecules /mL solution

NMR is the least sensitive spectroscopy.





20 K to minimize the coil resistance



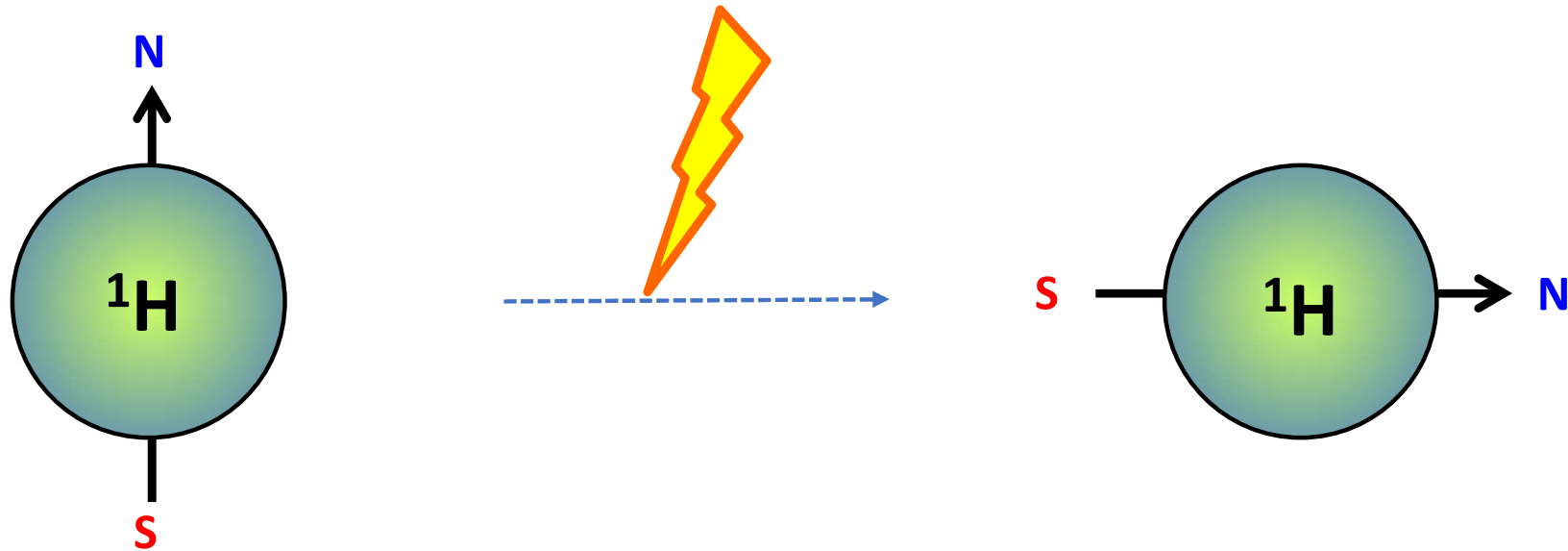
The small coil detects the electromagnetic field induced by the precession of nuclear spins.

核スピンの歳差運動による電磁誘導を検出するためのコイル



an electromagnetic field pulse with the resonance frequency

共鳴周波数をもつ電磁波パルス



in the equilibrium state

熱平衡状態

$|0\rangle$

in the superposition state

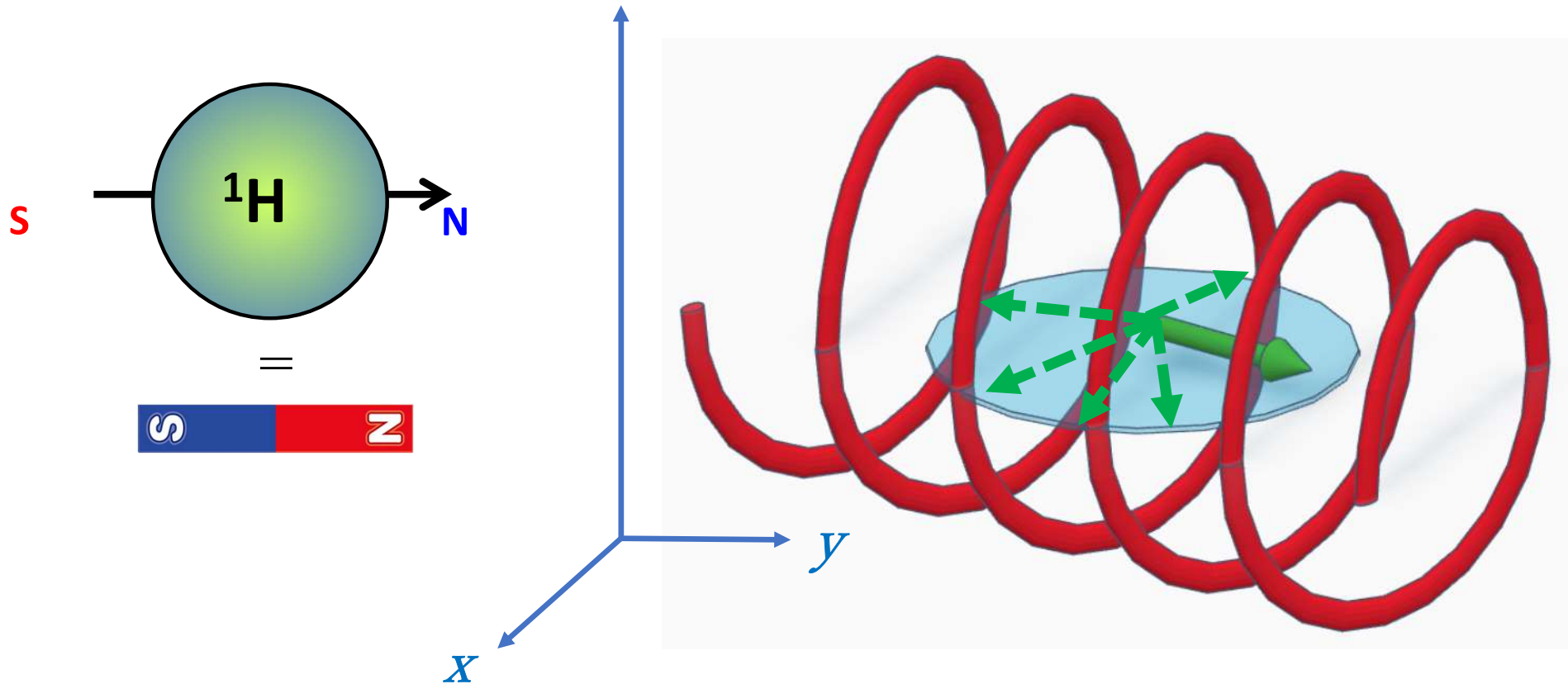
重ね合わせの状態

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle + |1\rangle)$$



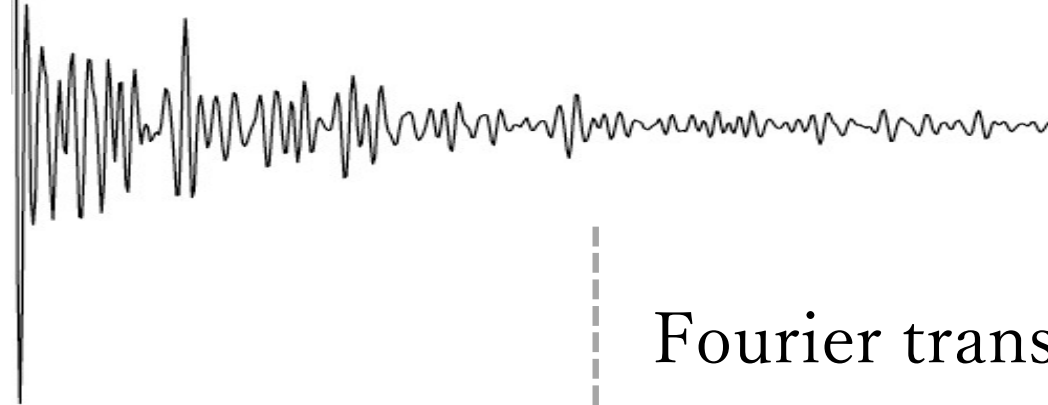
# Faraday's electromagnetic induction, 1831 ファラデーの電磁誘導

NMR's large static magnetic field (z axis)



Nuclear spins precess on the x/y horizontal plane about the z axis.

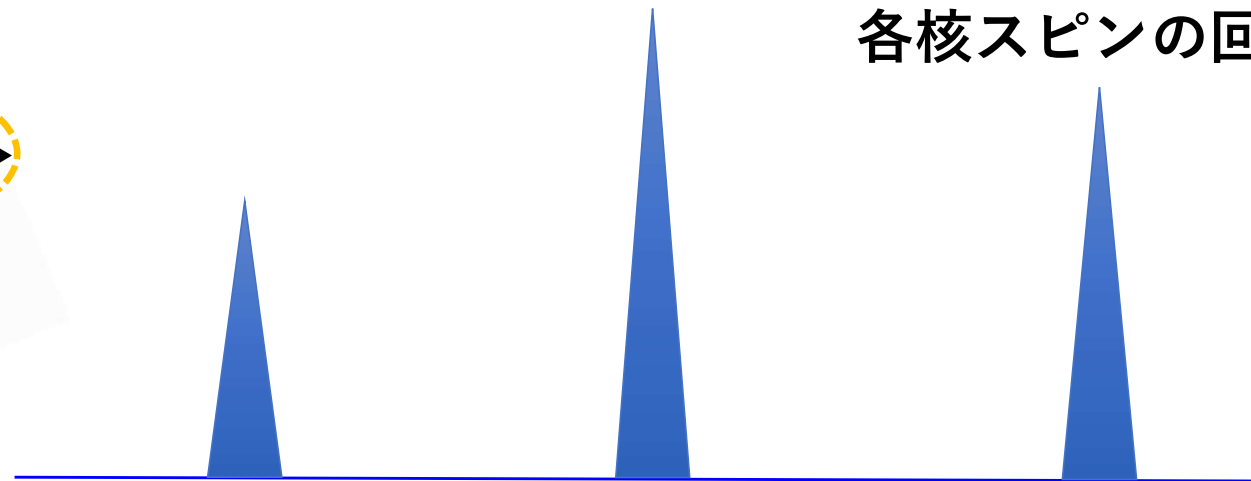
Induced alternating-current (AC) voltage  
電磁誘導された交流電圧



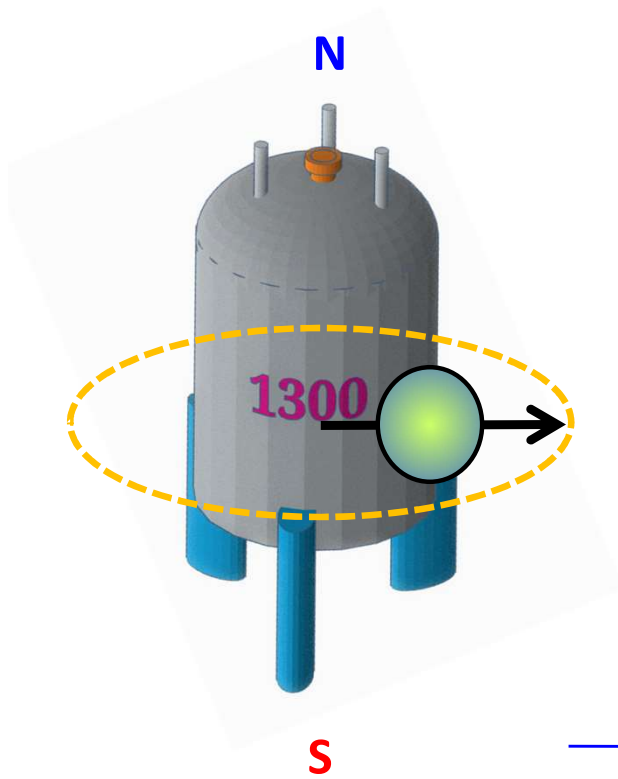
Fourier transform



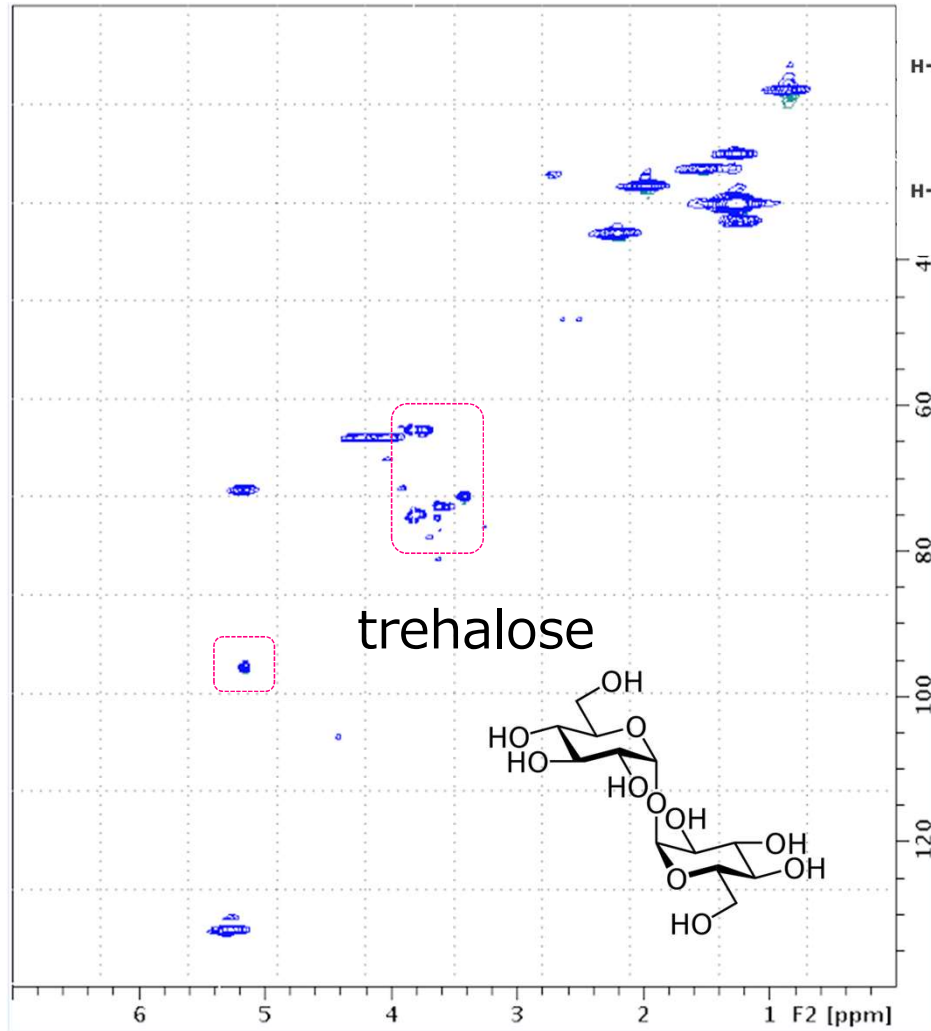
各核スピンの回転速度



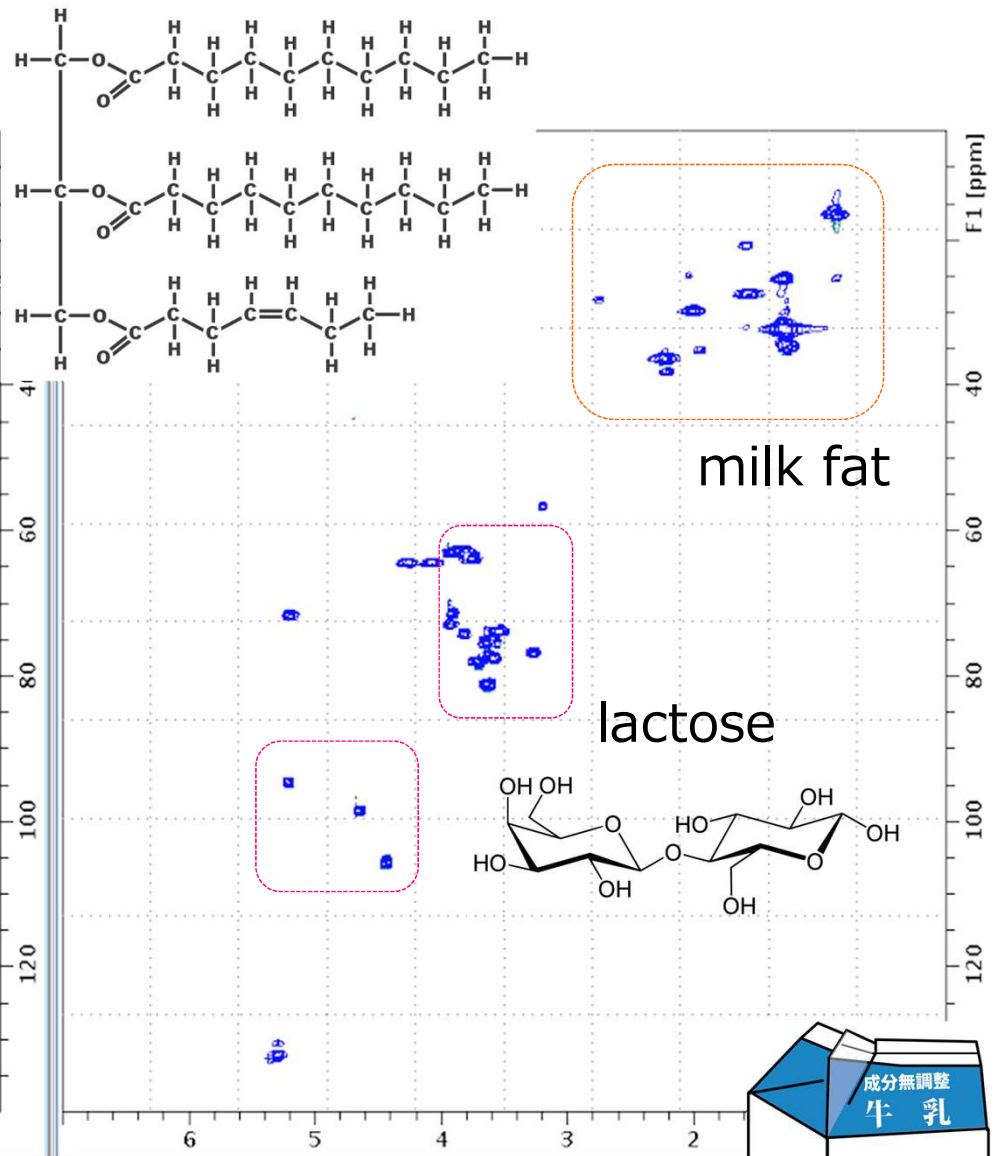
The rotational speed of each spin  
= chemical shift (*ppm*)



# $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectra



coffee fresh (UCC)



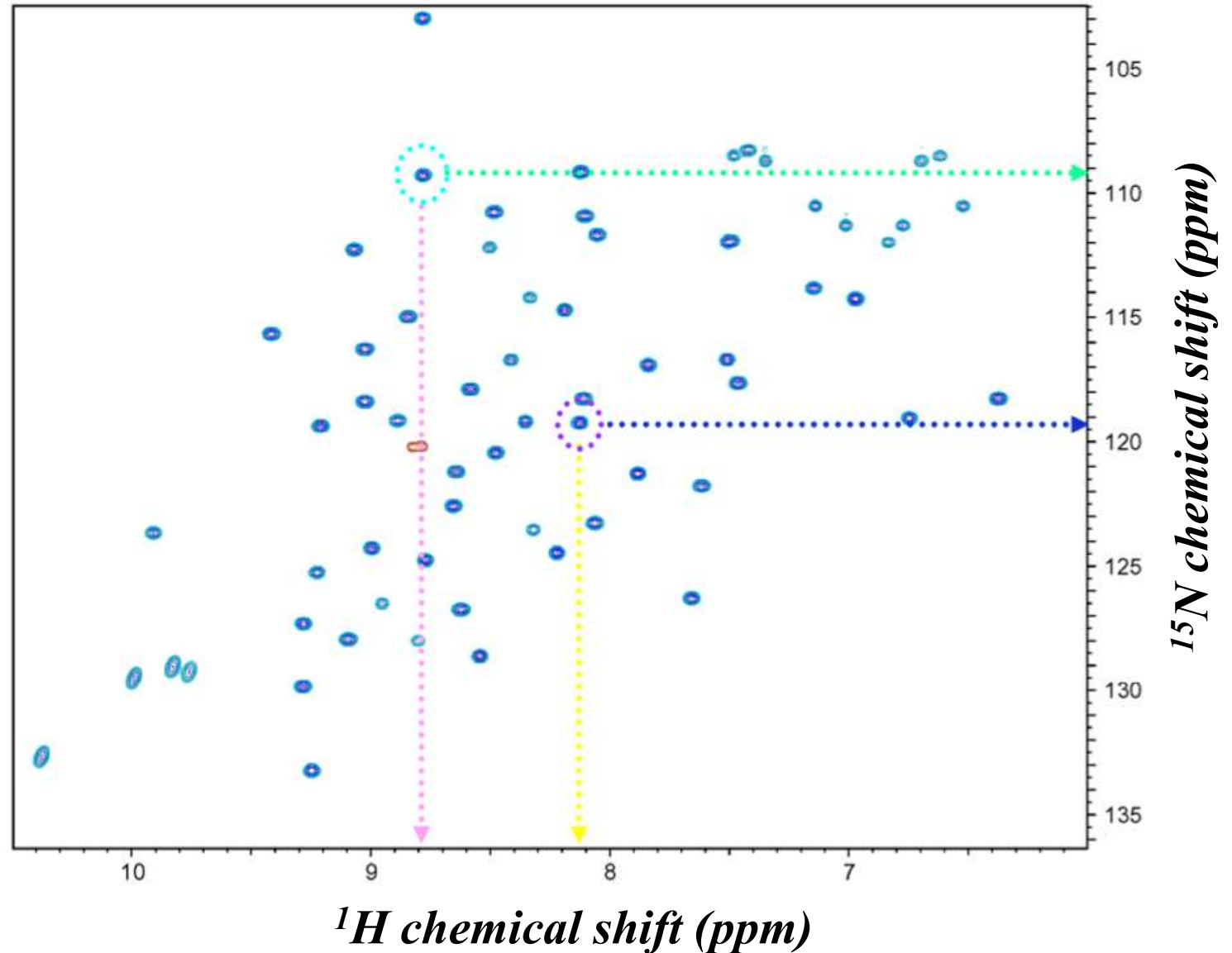
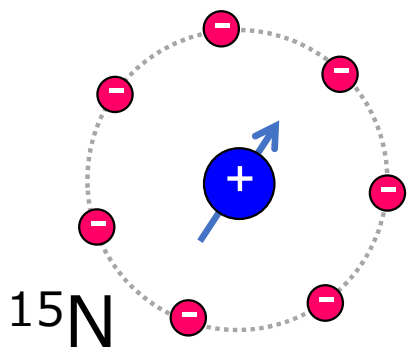
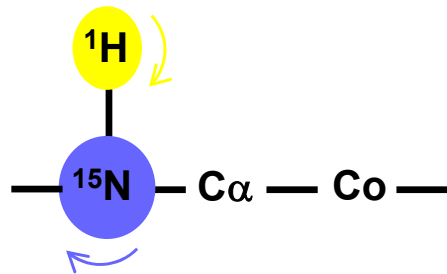
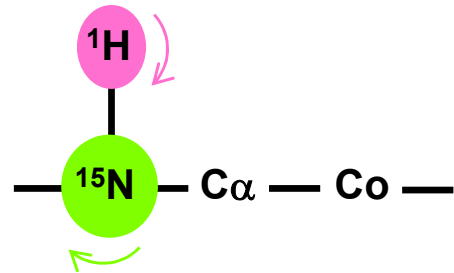
$^1\text{H}$  chemical shift (ppm)

milk



$^{13}\text{C}$  chemical shift (ppm)

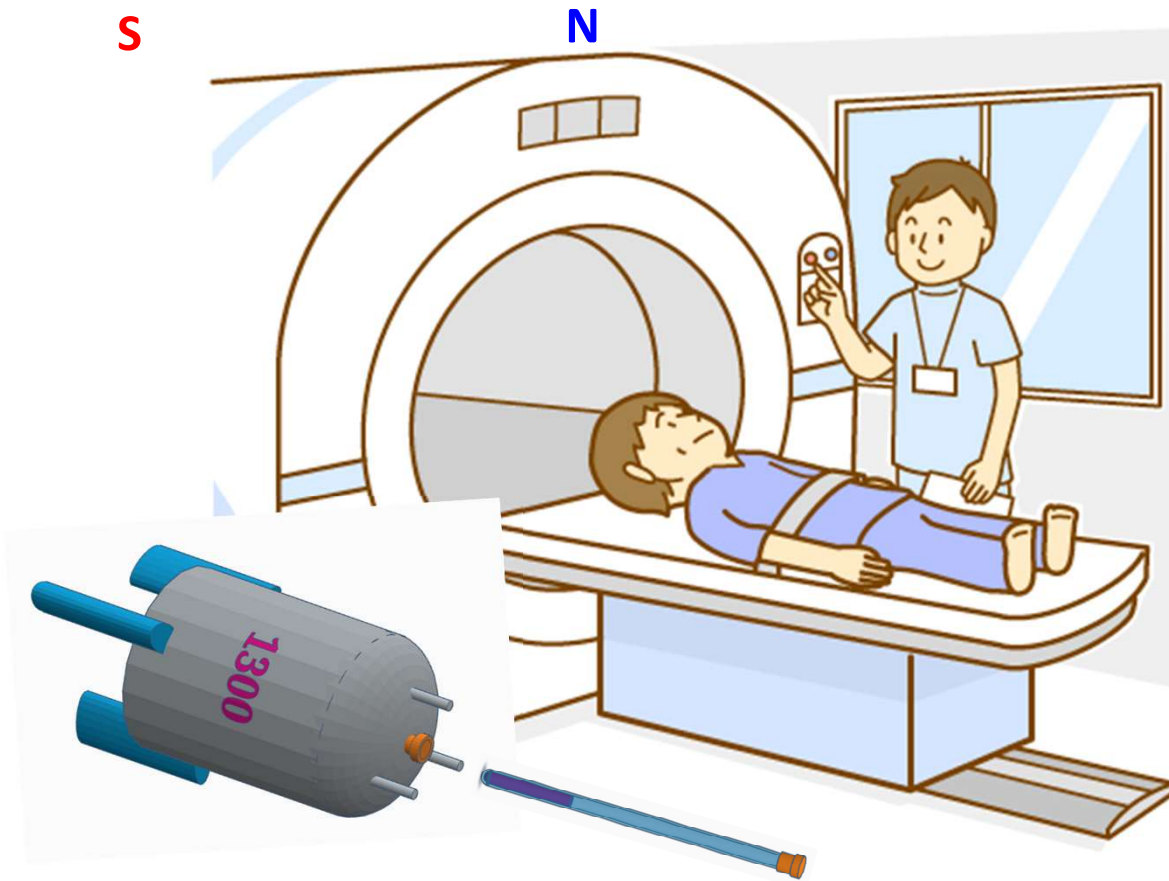
# 2D $^1\text{H}$ - $^{15}\text{N}$ correlation HSQC spectrum 二次元 $^1\text{H}$ - $^{15}\text{N}$ 相関 HSQC スペクトル



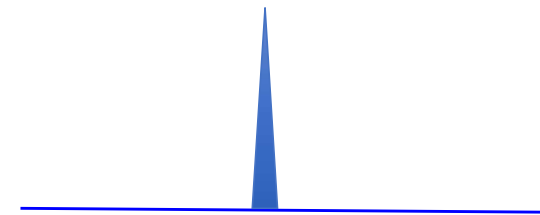
# of peaks  $\approx$  # of amino acids



# MRI detects $^1\text{H}$ spins of $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ in each part of your body.



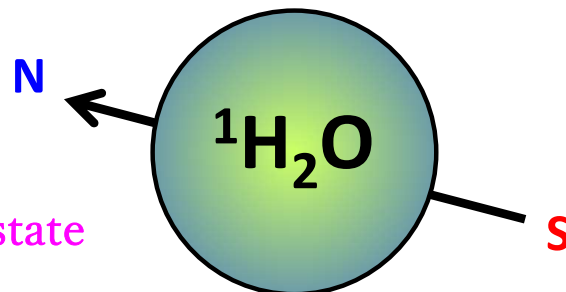
blood = low viscosity



cells = high viscosity



in the equilibrium state  
熱平衡狀態



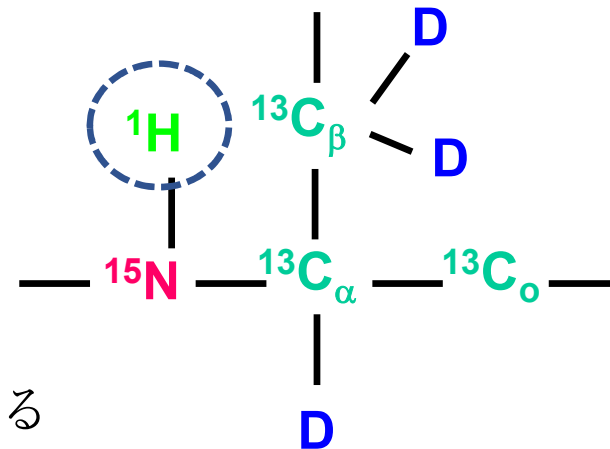
## 2) What can we get from protein deuteration?

蛋白質の重水素化で何が得られるのか？

# NMR-detectable isotopes in proteins

$^2\text{H}^{\text{N}}$  is exchanged with water  $^1\text{H}$  during purification.

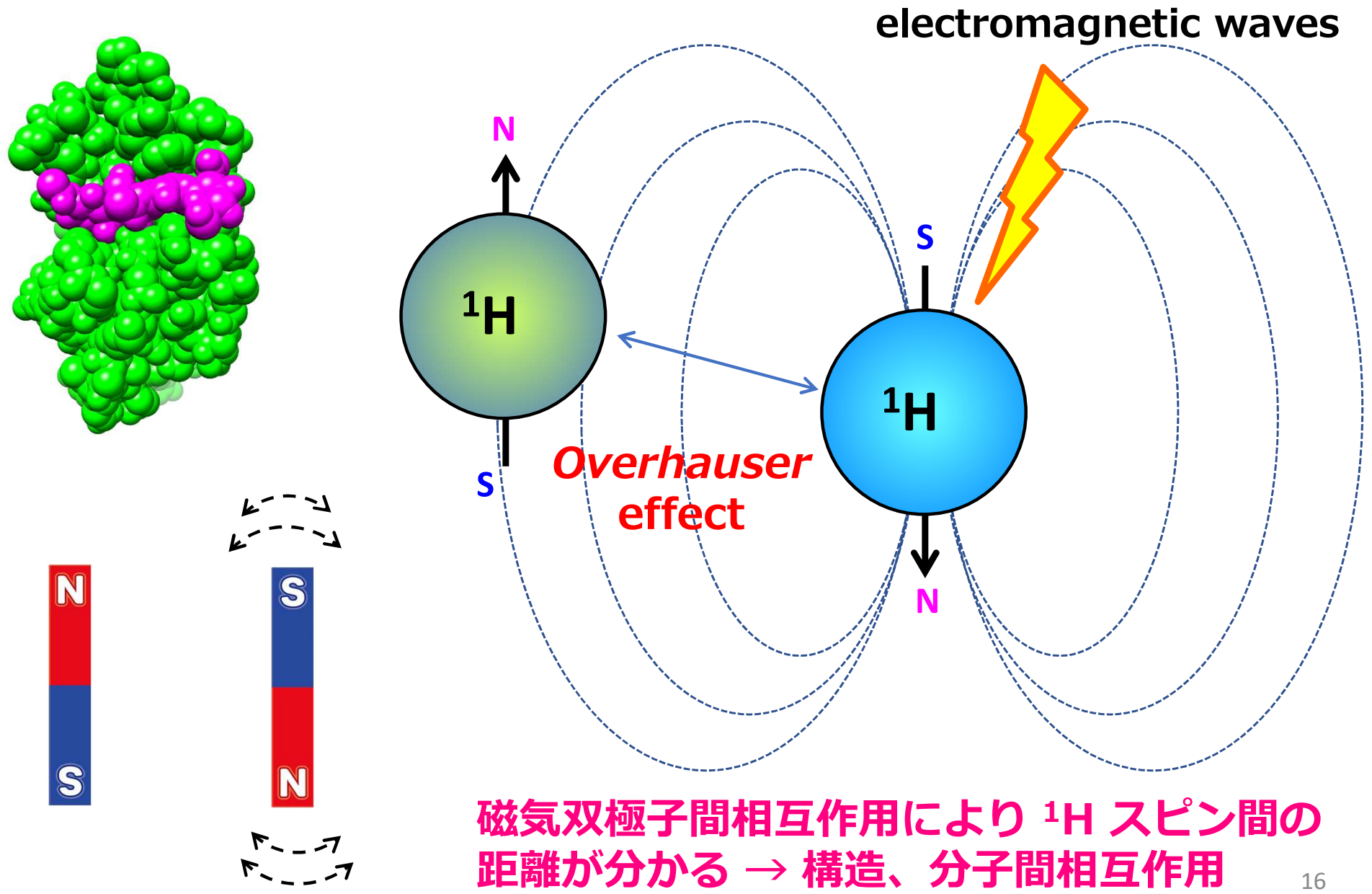
↓  
2D  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{15}\text{N}$  spectra



アミド基  $^2\text{H}^{\text{N}}$  は精製中に溶媒水  $^1\text{H}$  に交換される

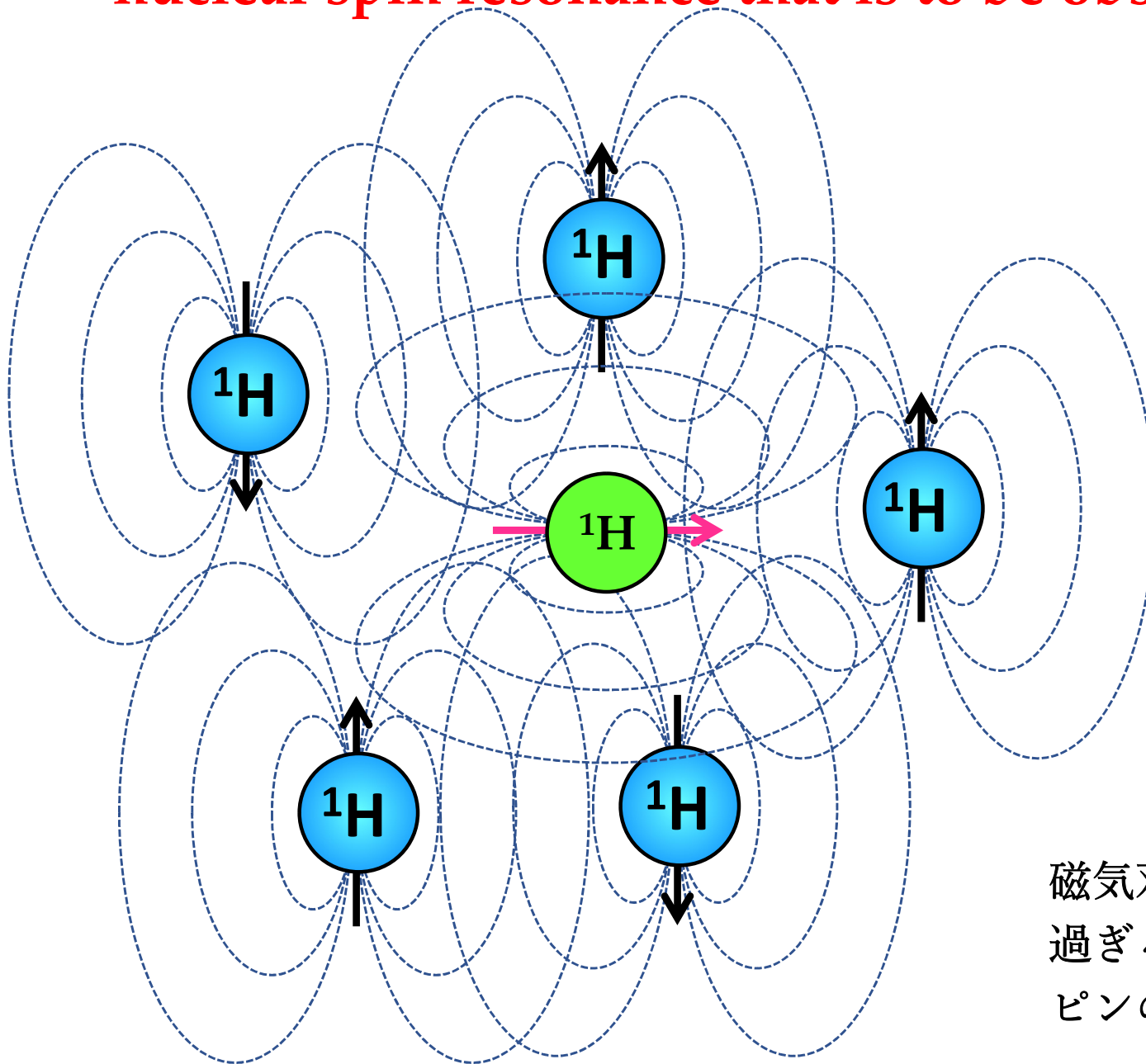
	N. A. (%)	
H-1	99.98	highest sensitivity and strong <i>dd</i> interactions
H-2	0.015	lower sensitivity and <b>weak <i>dd</i> interactions</b> (compared to $^1\text{H}$ )
H-3	0	high sensitivity but radio-active ! not allowed to use
C-13	1.108	$^{13}\text{C}$ -glucose supplied to bacteria, $^{13}\text{CO}_2$ to chlorella
N-15	0.37	$^{15}\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$ supplied to bacteria
F-19	100	often introduced to artificial medicine (synthesized drugs)
P-31	100	DNA, RNA, ATP, NAD ..., phospholipid

# Magnetic dipole-dipole interactions tell us the distances between $^1\text{H}$ spins $\rightarrow$ structures, interactions





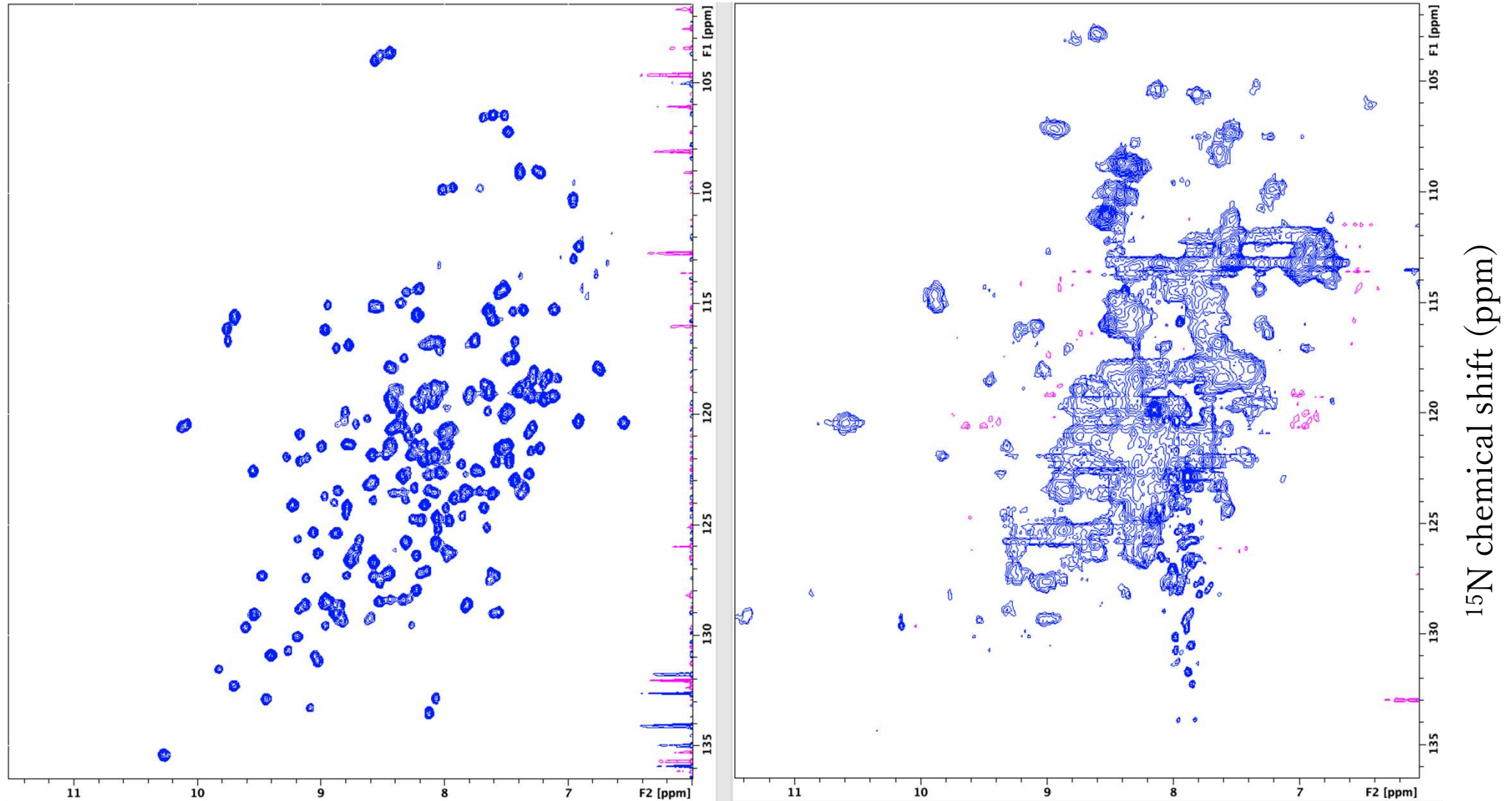
Too many magnetic *dd* interactions disturb the nuclear spin resonance that is to be observed.



磁気双極子間相互作用が多過ぎると、観測したい核スピンの共鳴値が乱れる

# The perturbation by *dd* interactions becomes worse as the molecular weight increases.

高分子量になるほど、双極子間相互作用による攪乱が酷くなる



36 kDa

$^1\text{H}$  chemical shift (ppm)

36 \* 4 = 144 kDa

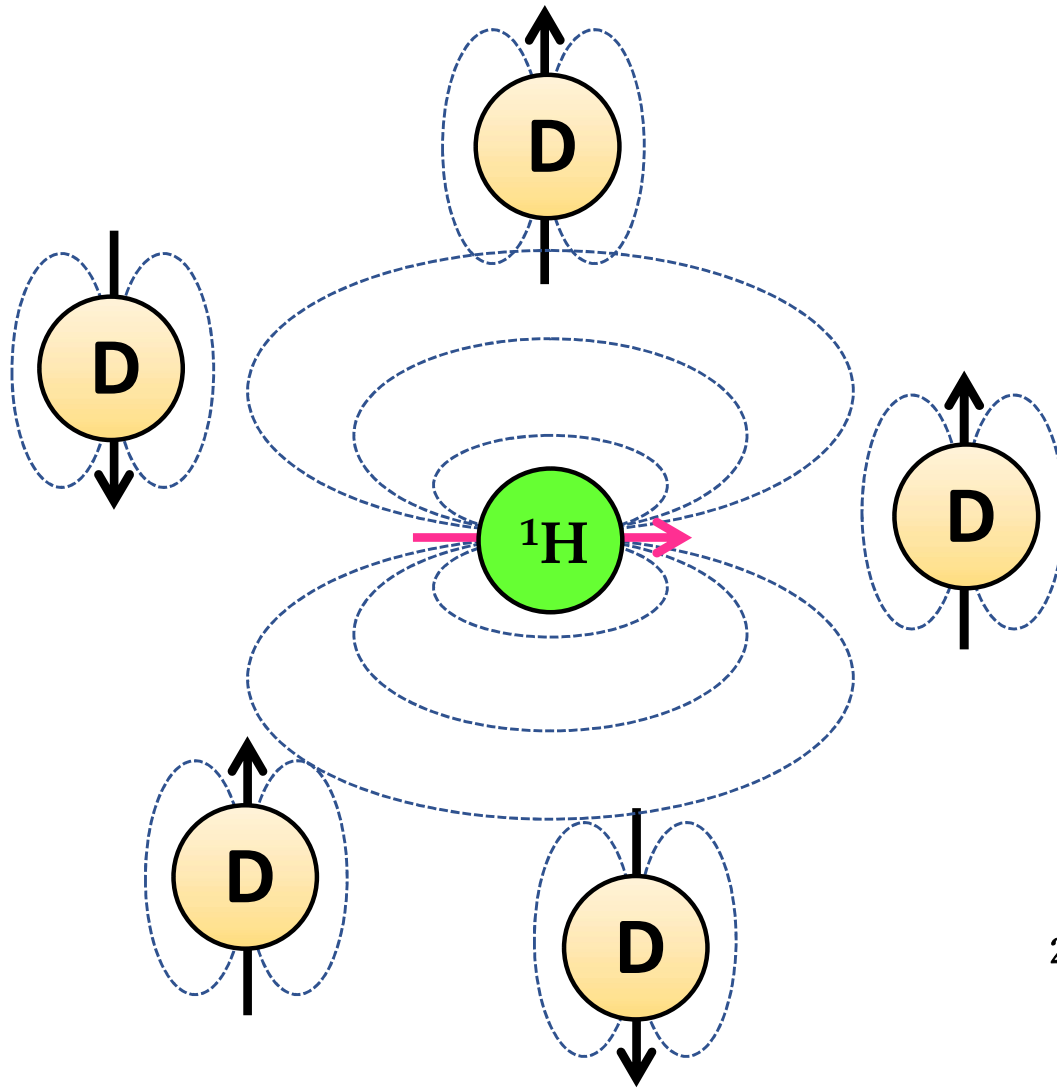
18

$^2\text{H}$  spins have smaller  $dd$  interactions than  $^1\text{H}$  spins.

$$\gamma_{^1\text{H}} = 267 \times 10^6 \text{ rad/s/T}$$

$$\gamma_{^2\text{H}} = 41 \times 10^6 \text{ rad/s/T}$$

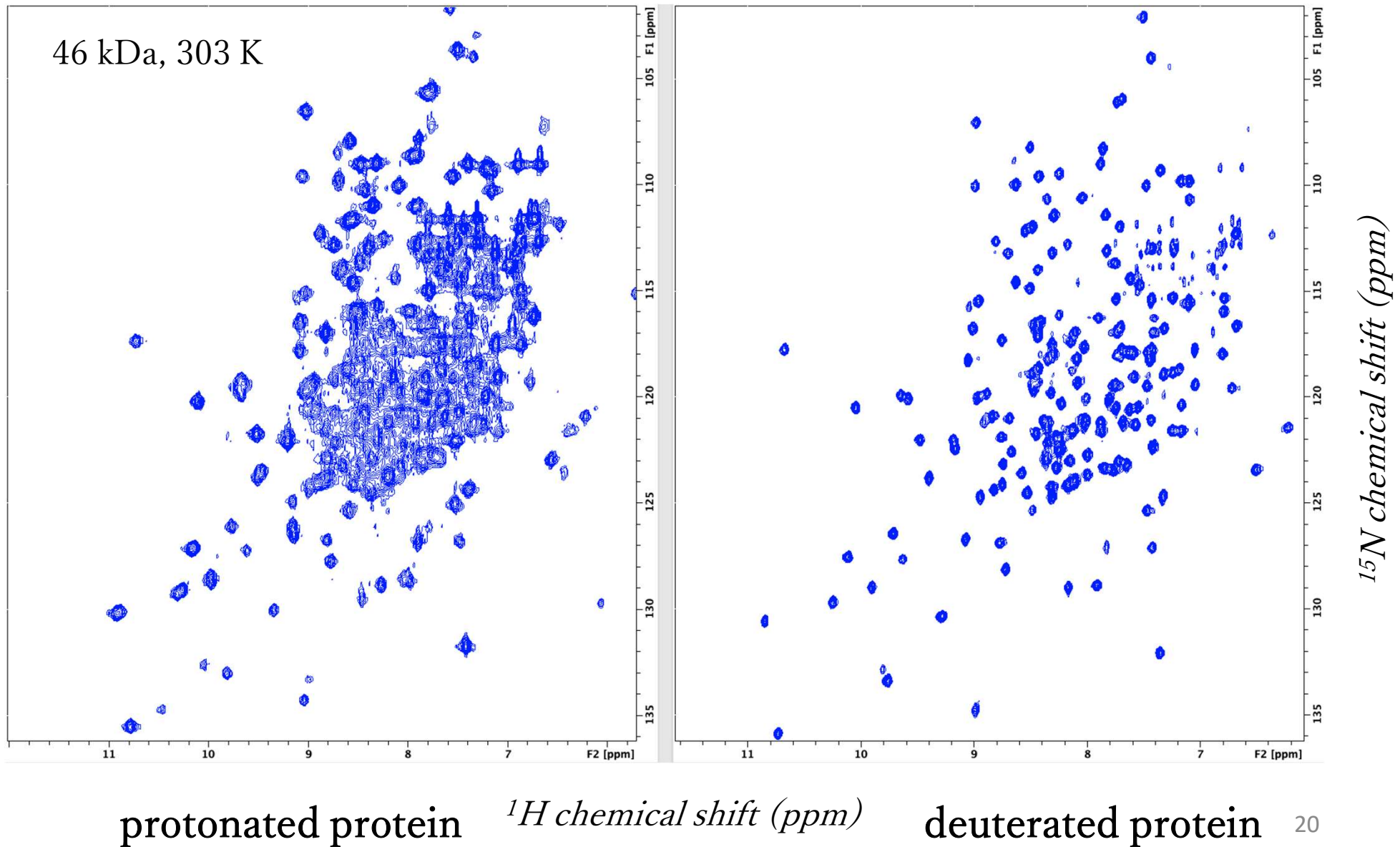
$$\gamma_{^1\text{H}} = 6.5 \gamma_{^2\text{H}}$$



$^2\text{H}$  との磁気双極子間相互作用は小さいので、観測対象の  $^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$  ピークはシャープ

# Deuteration can provide sharp peaks even for high molecular-weight proteins.

高分子量であっても重水素化すれば、シャープなピークが得られる。





### 3) How can we introduce $^2\text{H}$ to proteins?

どのようにして重水素を蛋白質に導入するか？

目的タンパク質をコードする遺伝子をプラスミド DNA に挿入する

Insert the DNA encoding your protein

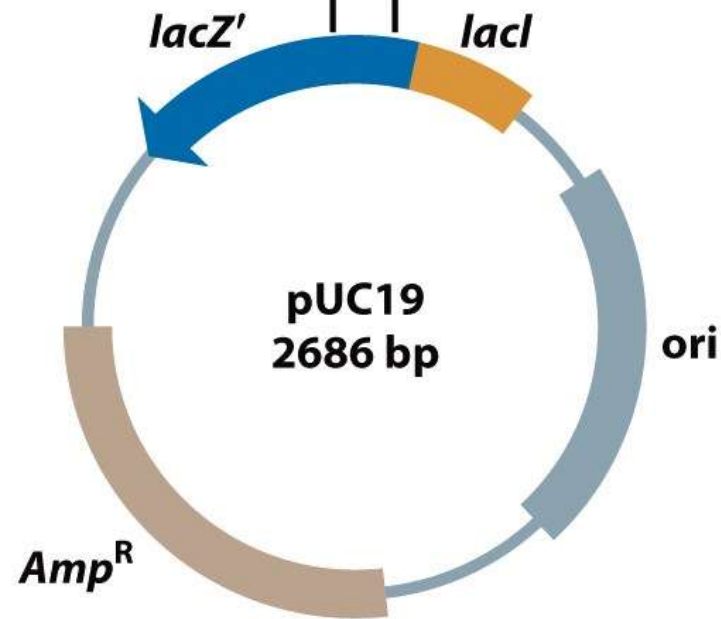
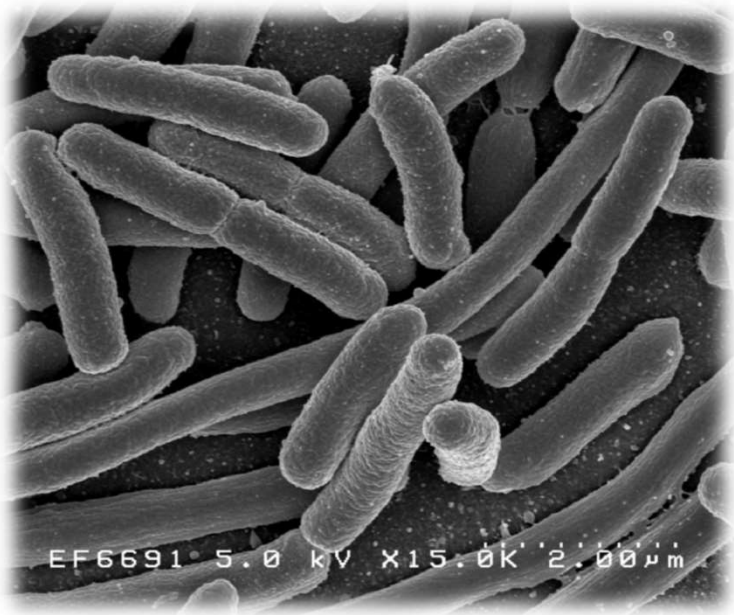


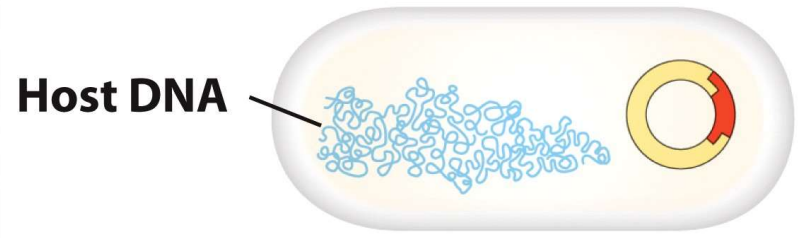
Figure 6.4 Human Molecular Genetics, 4ed. (© Garland Science)

Plasmids replicate to  $> 100$  in bacteria

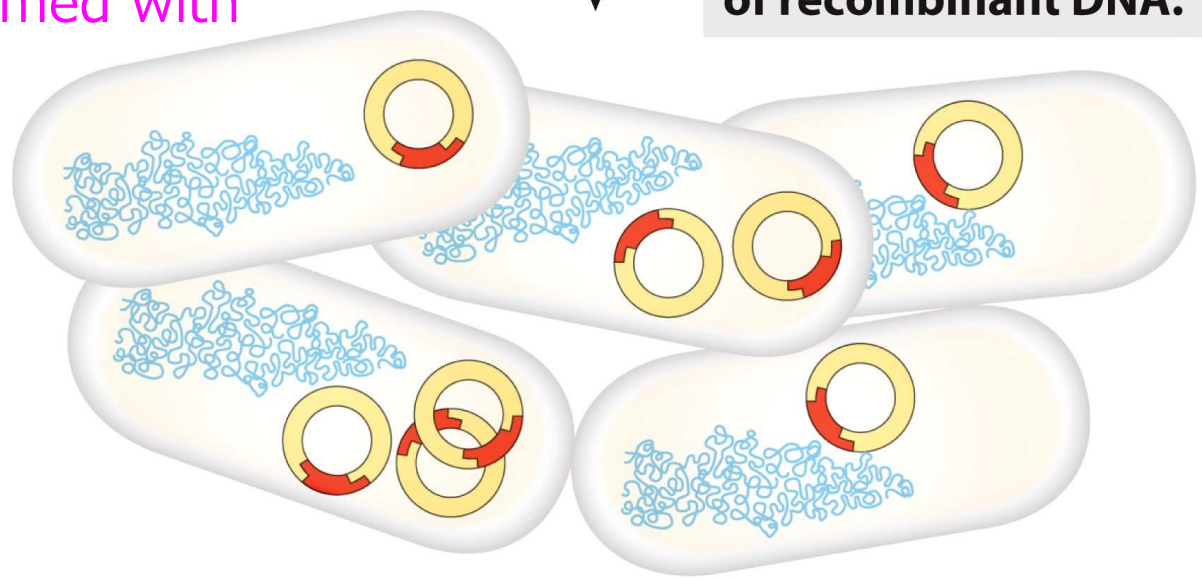


 **Recombinant vector**

**4** DNA is introduced into the host cell.



**5** Propagation (cloning) of transformed cell produces many copies of recombinant DNA.



プラスミドを大腸菌に組み込む

Bacterial cells are transformed with the plasmids.

**Figure 9-1 part 2**  
*Lehninger Principles of Biochemistry, Sixth Edition*  
© 2013 W. H. Freeman and Company

grinded powder of yeast (nutritious)

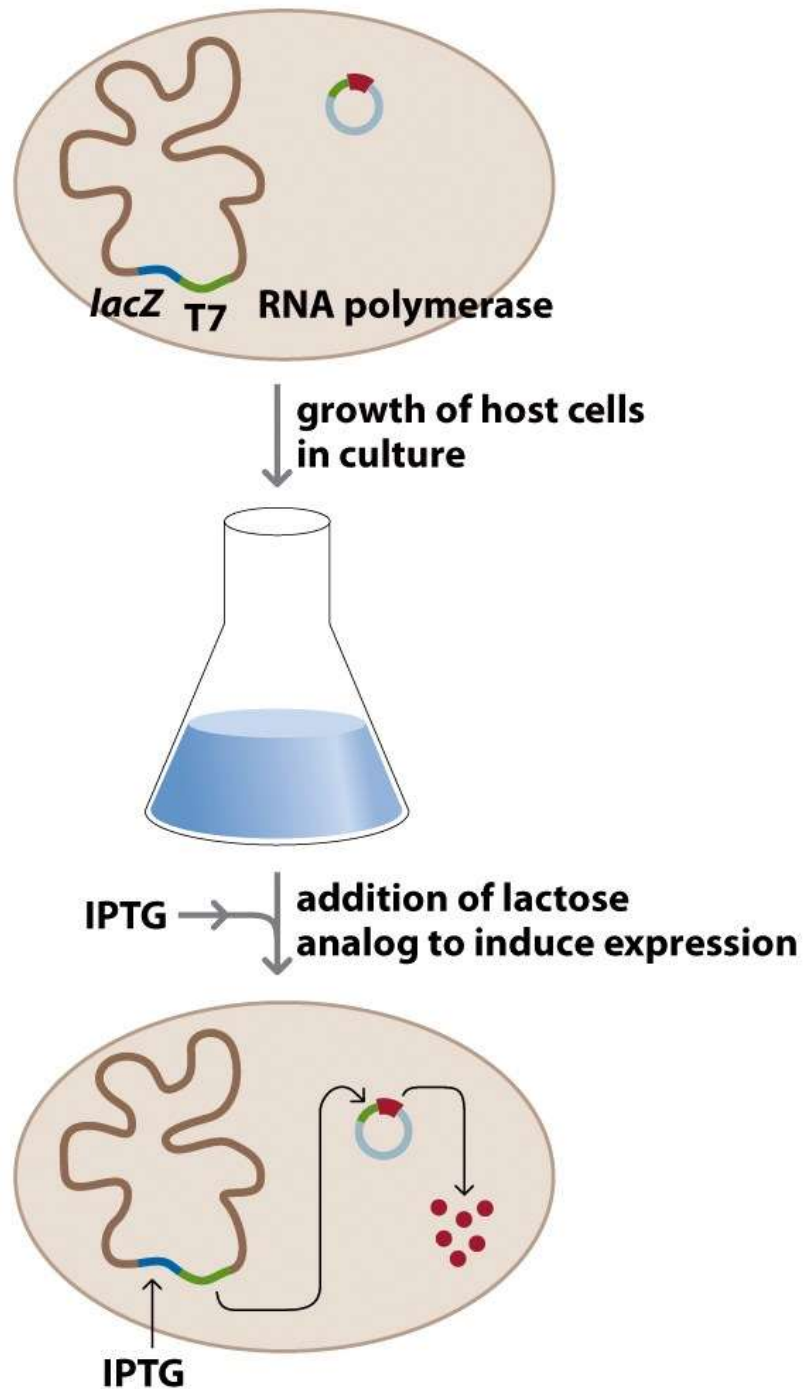
栄養豊富な酵母の粉末



$10^{12}$  *E. coli* bacterial cells /L

8 mL of the culture medium = the population of the earth





形質転換された細菌は、挿入されたプラスミド DNA を設計図として、大量の目的タンパク質を合成する。

Transformed bacteria synthesize large amounts of the desired proteins by translating the inserted plasmid DNAs.

# 1L M9 minimum medium for $^2\text{H}$ , $^{15}\text{N}$ , $^{13}\text{C}$ culture

## (1) 10 x salt

$\text{Na}_2\text{HPO}_4$   
 $\text{KH}_2\text{PO}_4$   
 $\text{NaCl}$

**Do not autoclave!**

7.0 g      **Do not use hydrated ones**  
3.0 g      pH becomes **7.15** automatically  
0.5 g      the total concentration becomes 130 mM

## (2) vitamin & nucleic-acids

thymidine (T)  
adenosine (A)  
guanosine (G)  
cytidine (C)  
thiamine  
biotin  
10 mM  $\text{FeCl}_3$   
1M  $\text{MgSO}_4$   
50 mM  $\text{MnCl}_2$

**Do not autoclave!**

20 mg      nucleosides (need not be nucleotides)  
20 mg  
20 mg  
20 mg  
20 mg      vitamin B<sub>1</sub>  
20 mg      vitamin H (difficult to be dissolved in water)  
1.0 mL  
2.0 mL      not  **$\text{MgCl}_2$** !  
1.0 mL

## (3) stable-isotope

$^{15}\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$   
 **$^2\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$ -glucose**

filter  
2.0 g  
2.0

(4) 50 mM  $\text{CaCl}_2$

2.0 mL

(5) [ $^2\text{H}$ ]-glycerol

1/1000 (=1mL)

only for  $^2\text{H}$ ,  $^{15}\text{N}$ -single-labelling

(6) ampicillin

50-100 ug/mL

(7)  $\text{ZnCl}_2$

20 uM

only for **zinc-finger** proteins

Dissolve (1)-(7) into 1L  **$\text{D}_2\text{O}$**

# Very low calories with only salts, minerals and vitamins

塩、ミネラル、ビタミンのみの超低カロリー食餌

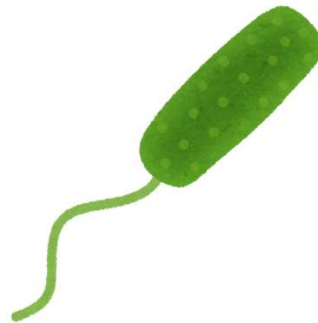
## Supplements

(1) folic acid (folate)	(vitamin M)	1mg
(2) choline chloride	(vitamin B)	1mg
(3) nicotine-amide	(vitamin B)	1mg
(4) D-pantothenic acid	(vitamin B)	1mg
(5) pyridoxal	(vitamin B <sub>6</sub> )	1mg
(6) riboflavin	(vitamin B <sub>2</sub> ,G)	0.1mg
(7) inositol		2mg

drinks of only vitamin and mineral



$^2\text{H}$ ,  $^{15}\text{N}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$



beer yeast powder



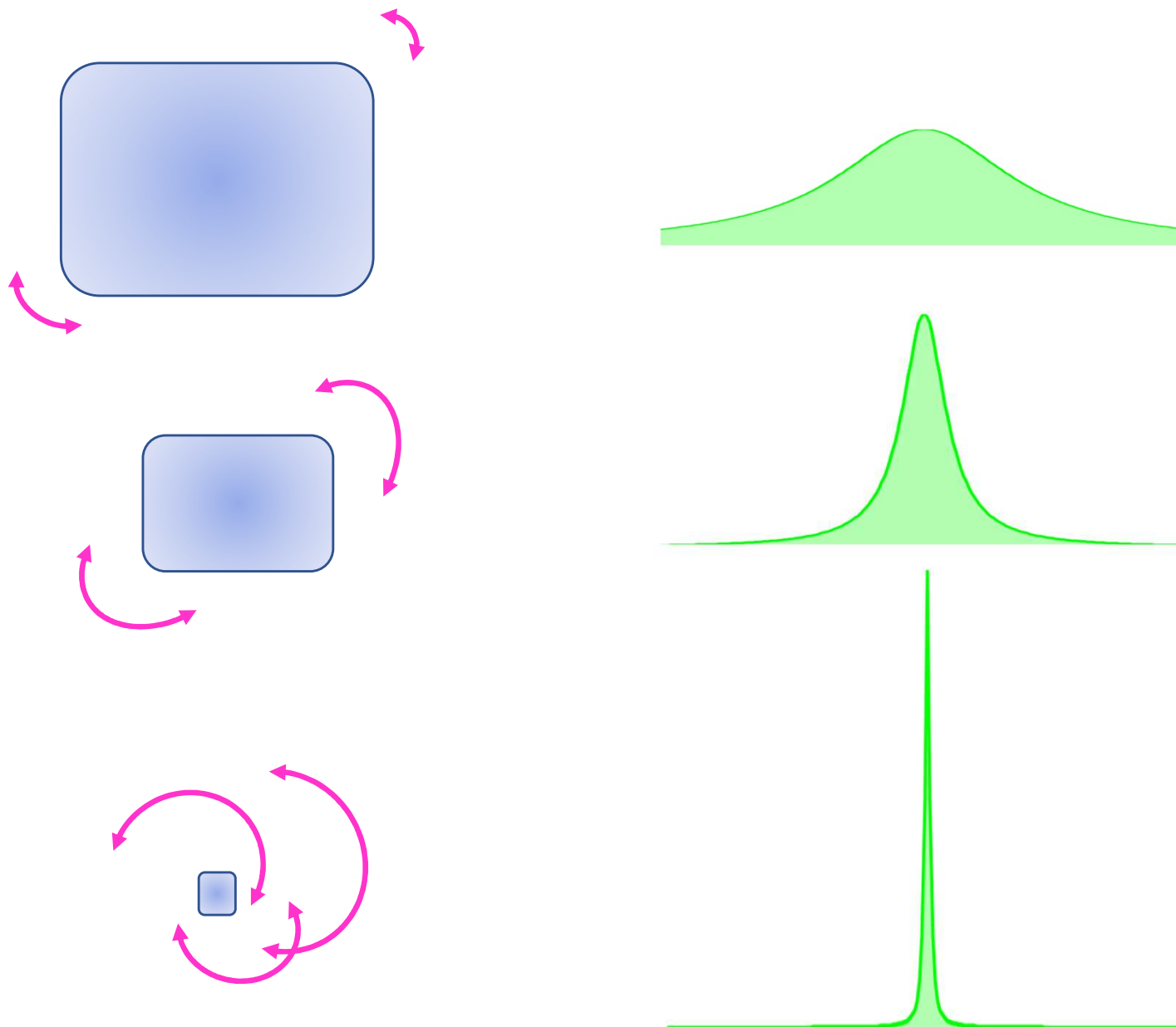
$^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{14}\text{N}$ ,  $^{12}\text{C}$

## 4) How can we observe even larger molecules?

さらに大きな生体分子を観測するには？

The faster the Brownian rotation, the sharper the NMR peaks.

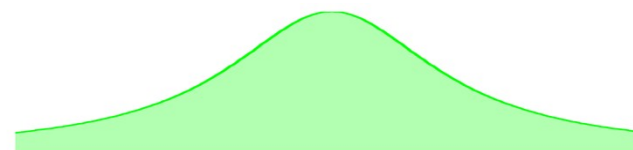
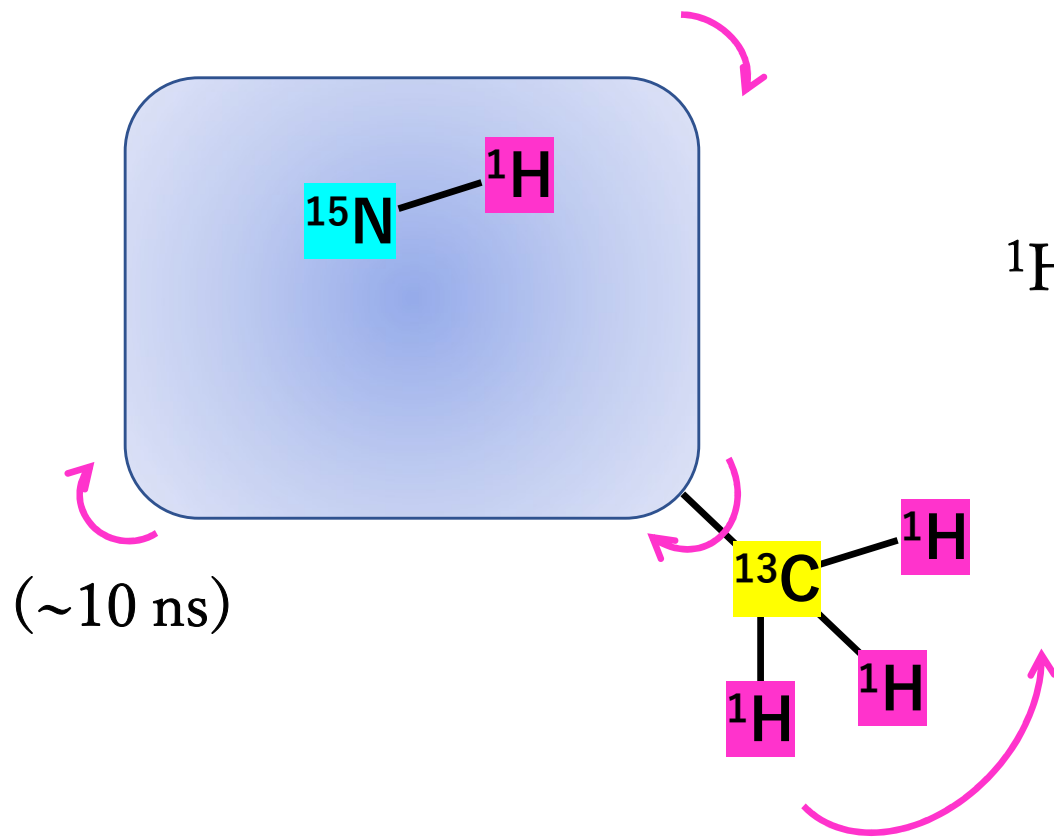
速くブラウン回転するほど、NMR ピークがシャープになる。





# Methyl groups provide sharper and stronger peaks than amide groups.

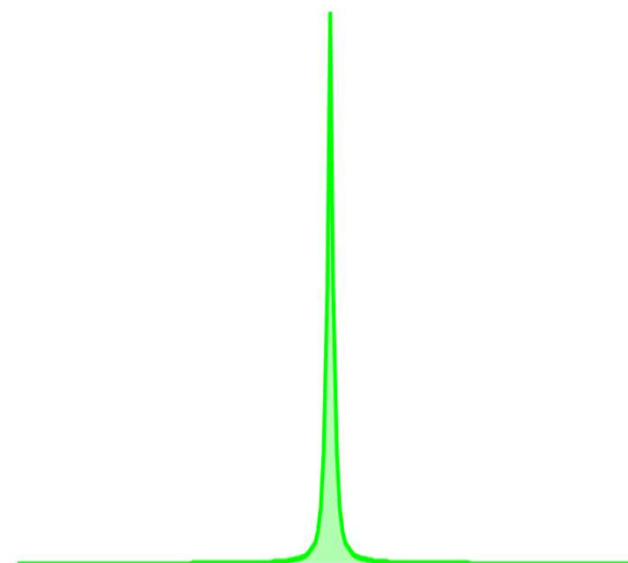
メチル基のピークは、アミド基のピークよりもシャープで強い。

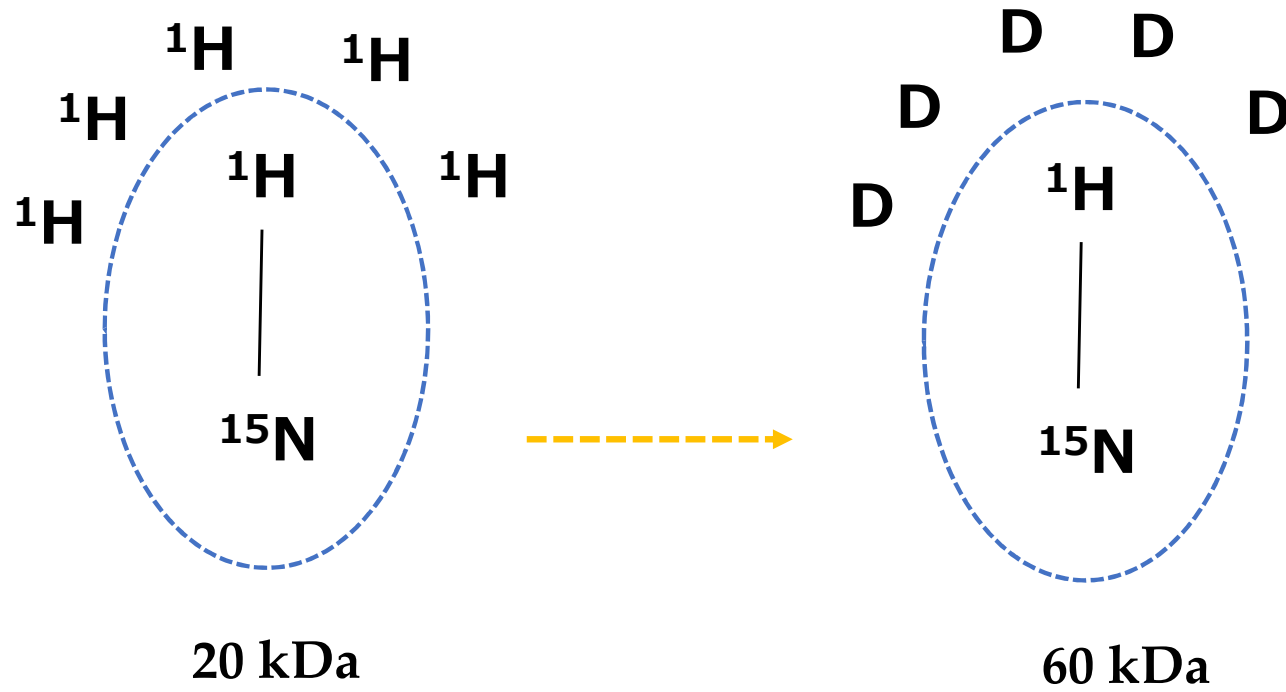


$^1\text{H}-^{15}\text{N}$ : fixed to the main chain

(~10 ns)

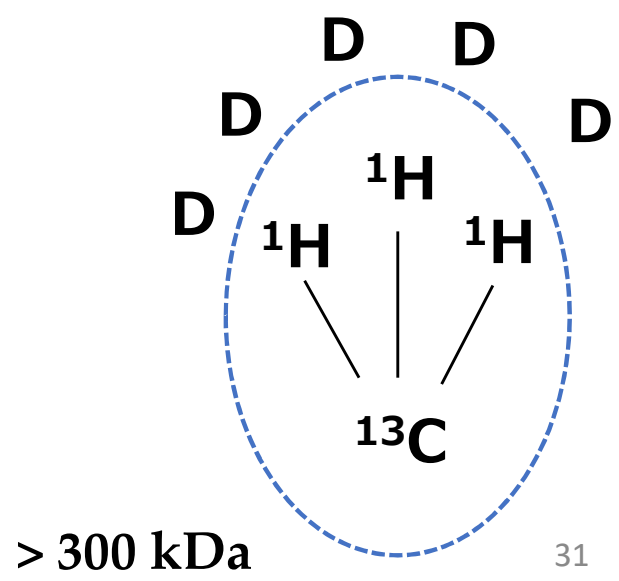
$^{13}\text{C}-^1\text{H}_3$ : rotates around the chemical bond at a high speed (~10 ps)





Deuteration of all but methyl groups allows for observation of even larger proteins.

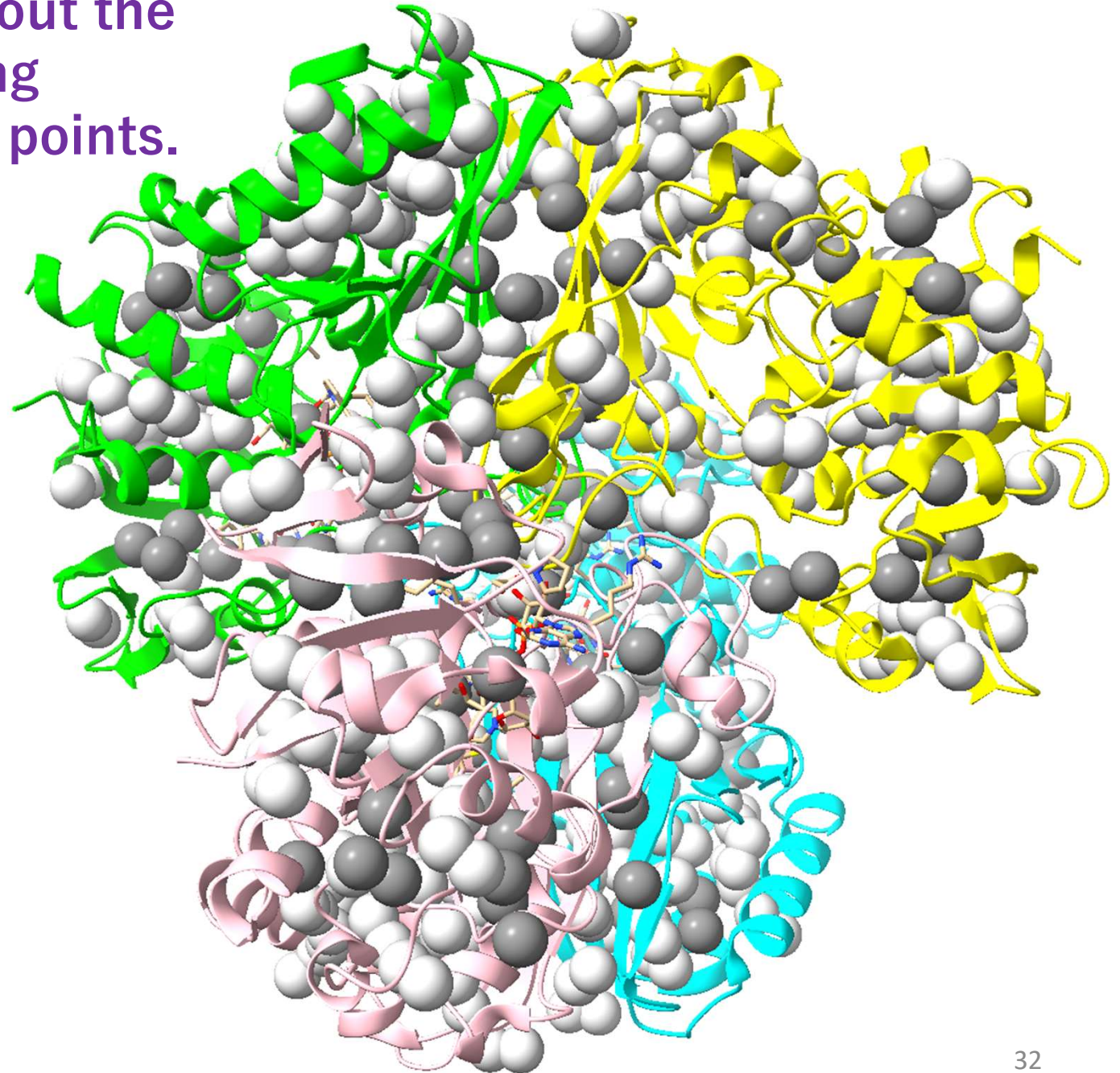
メチル基以外を重水素化すると、より大きなタンパク質を観察できる。



Methyl groups are scattered throughout the structure, providing many observation points.

メチル基は構造全体に散らばり、多くの観測ポイントとしての役割を果たす。

White: Leu, Val  
Grey: Met, Ile



# Proteins are deuterated except for the methyl groups of Ile, Leu, and Val

[<sup>2</sup>H]-glucose, 100% D<sub>2</sub>O



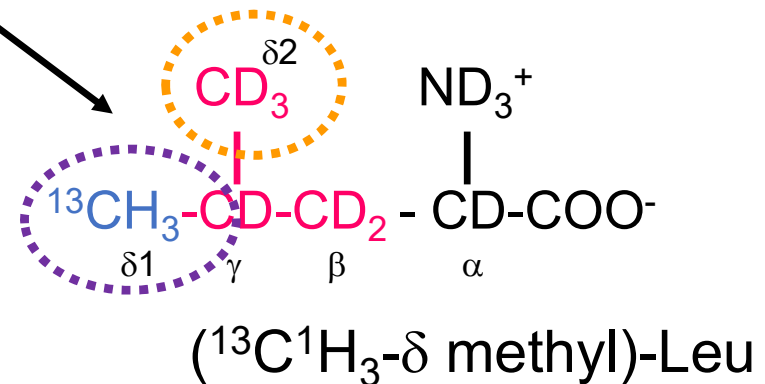
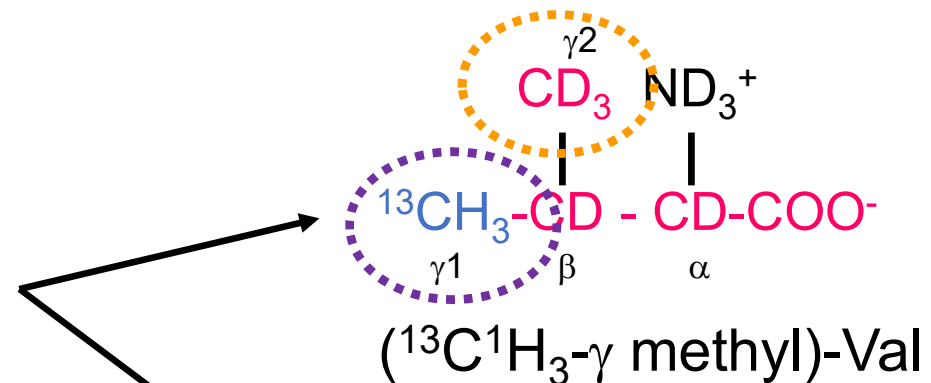
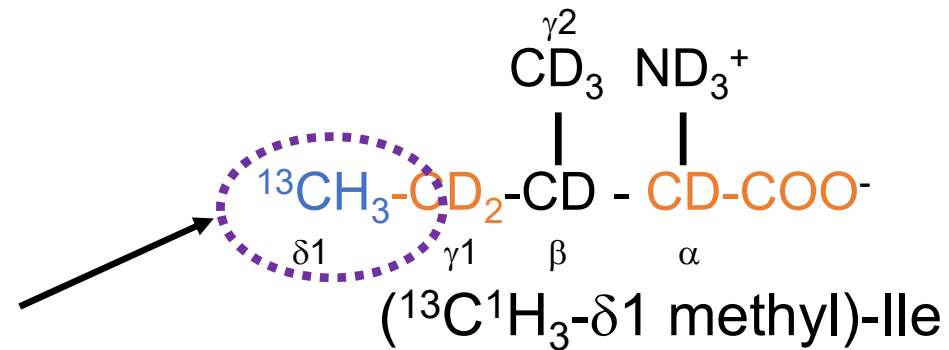
2-keto-3,3-*d*<sub>2</sub>-4-<sup>13</sup>C-butyrate  
α-ketobutyric acid methyl-<sup>13</sup>C 3,3-*d*<sub>2</sub>

## 2-ketobutyrate



2-keto-3-methyl-*d*<sub>3</sub>-3-*d*<sub>1</sub>-4-<sup>13</sup>C-butyrate  
α-ketoisovaleric acid 3-methyl-<sup>13</sup>C 3,4,4,4-*d*<sub>4</sub>

## 2-ketoisovalerate



pyruvate

The bacterial metabolic pathways for biosynthesis of Val, Leu, and Ile

Almost no scrambling to other amino acids

2-ketoisovalerate

Val

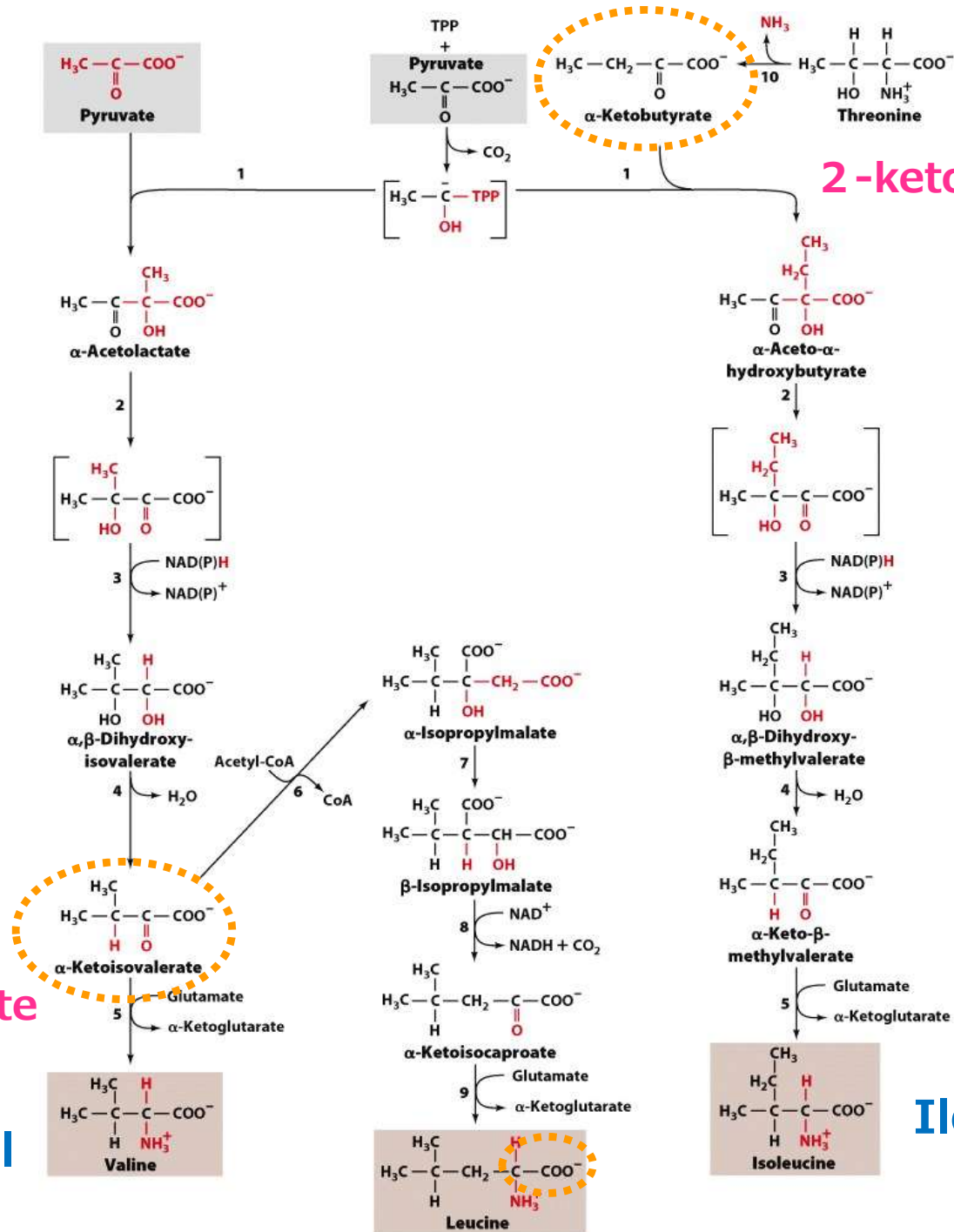


Figure 26-61

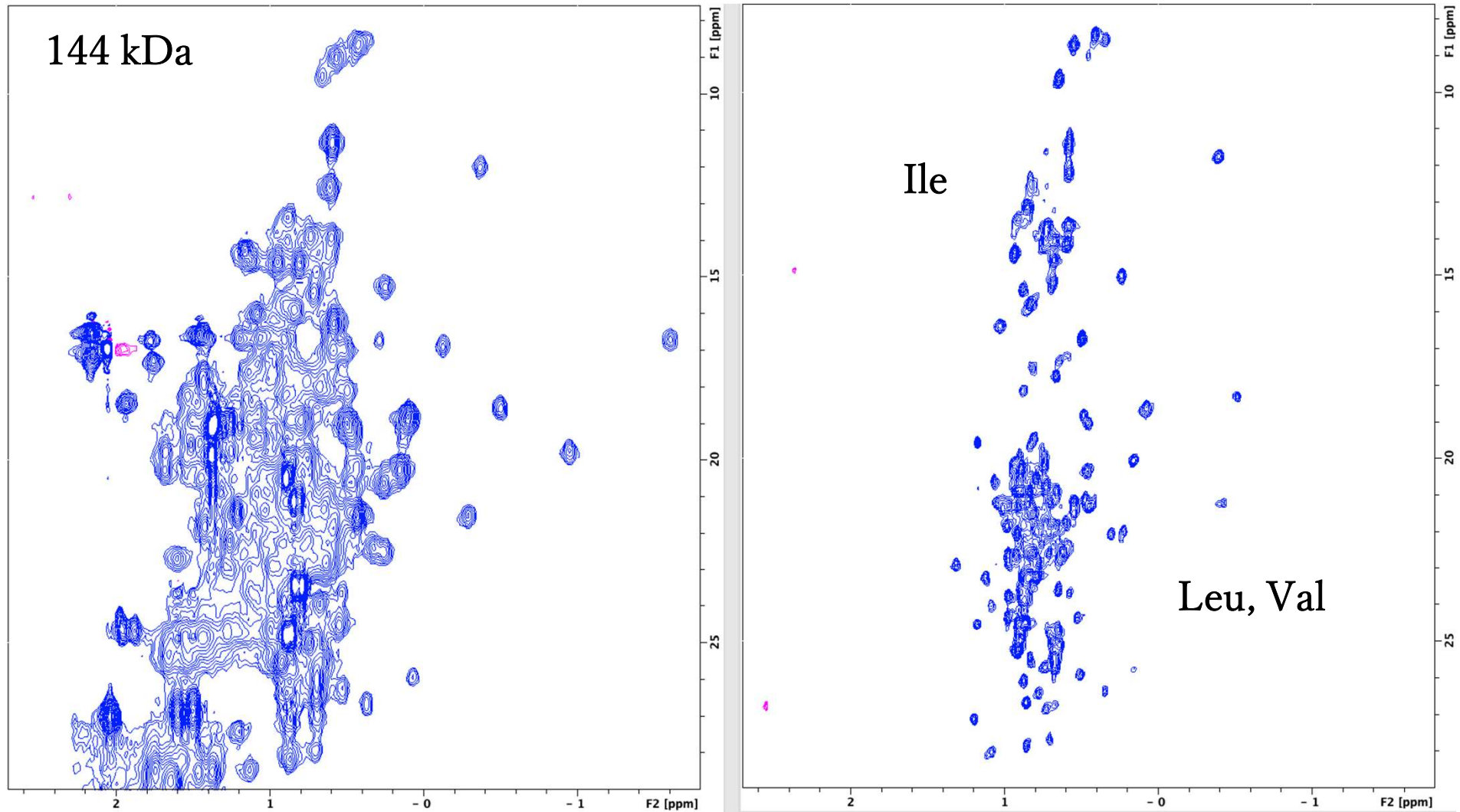
© John Wiley & Sons, Inc. All rights reserved.

Leu



# Methyl-specific labeling will be the cornerstone of future protein NMR.

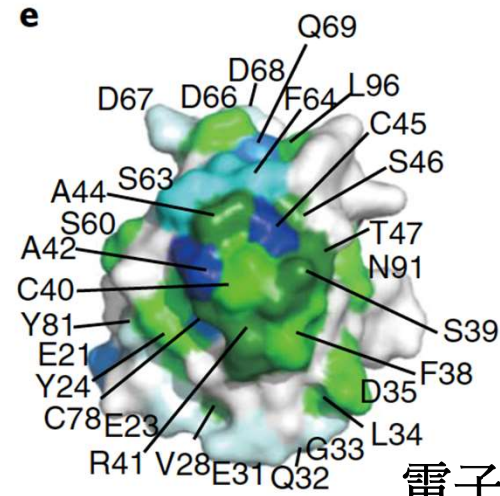
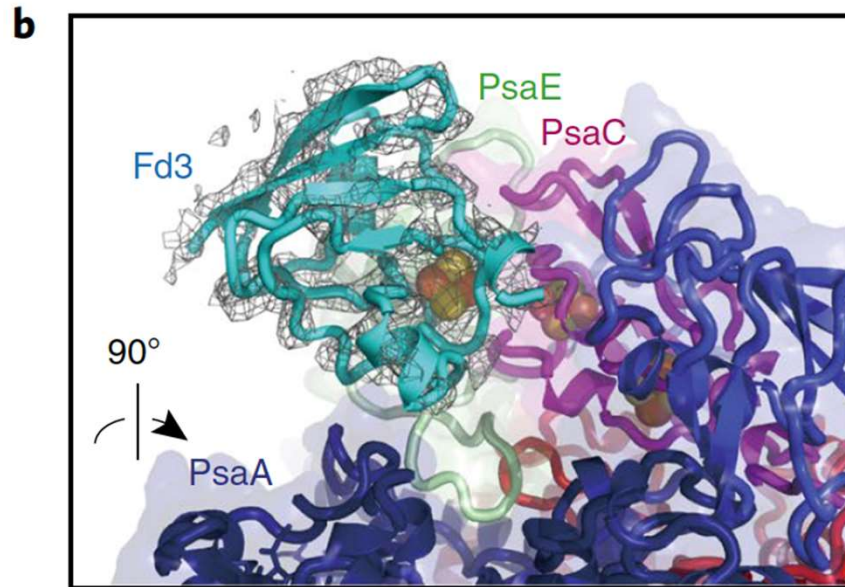
メチル基以外を重水素化することで、より大きなタンパク質を観測できる



Uniformly  $^{13}\text{C}$ ,  $^1\text{H}$  labeled

specifically methyl  $^{13}\text{C}$ - $^1\text{H}_3$ , otherwise  $^2\text{H}$

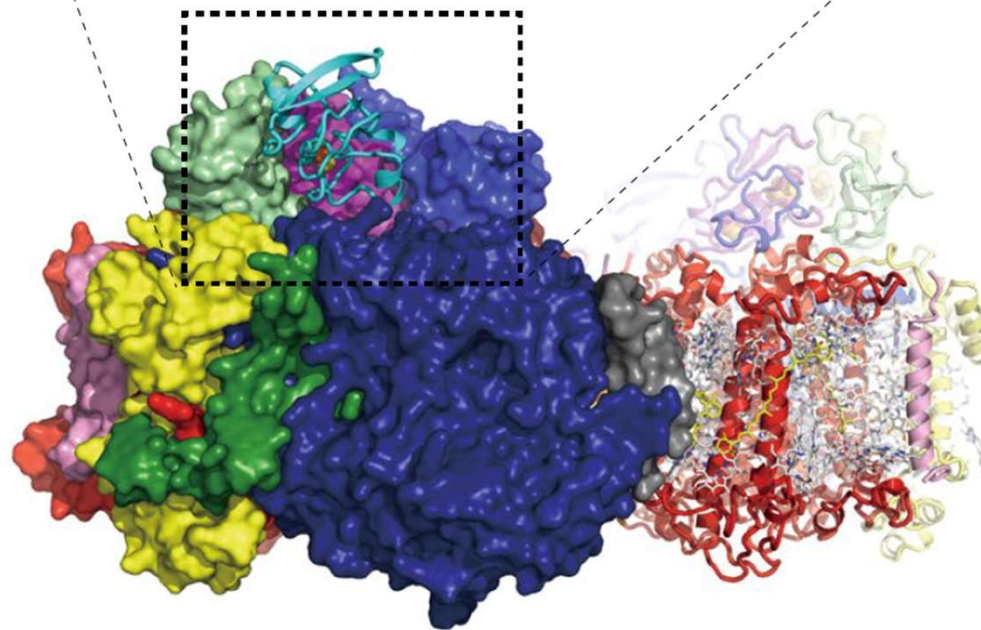
## Interaction analyses



[ $^2\text{H}$ ,  $^{15}\text{N}$ ]-Fd  
receiving e<sup>-</sup>

10 kDa

電子を受け取る  
フェレドキシン ( $^2\text{H}$ ,  $^{15}\text{N}$ )



[non-label]-Photosystem I  
of cyanobacteria

2,200 kDa

シアノバクテリアの光合成に  
関する膜タンパク質 (非標識)

Kubota-Kawai, *et al.* (2018) X-ray structure of an asymmetrical trimeric ferredoxin-photosystem I complex. *Nat. Plants* 4, 218.

## Expression of deuterated proteins using insect and mammalian cells

- Cells do not grow in D<sub>2</sub>O.
  - Deuterated amino acids are added to the medium.
  - However, they are expensive.
  - <sup>1</sup>H contaminates from the solvent water.
- 
- Yeast (*Pichia pastoris*) would be a better choice.
  - Cell-free expression system (*E. coli*) is also preferred.  
D<sub>2</sub>O: 250,000 yen/L (90,000 yen/L in 2021)