

Automation on Hermes: ¹H 1D, ¹³C 1D, DEPT-90 and DEPT-135

In this week's lab you will learn how to use our automated spectrometer, a Varian Mercury 300, named Hermes. Experiment setup on this instrument is simple, as long as you follow the instructions. You will each be given a login name, and temporary password. Please change your password the first time you use Hermes. The TAs will demonstrate how to access your account and how to change your password, as well as how to set up experiments.

You will setup a standard set of ¹H and ¹³C 1D experiments. We will ask you to change the most commonly adjusted parameters, to assist you in becoming familiar with the procedure for changing them. The defaults parameters will often work fine.

In setting up these experiments, refer to the guide located at:

http://www.chem.wisc.edu/~cic/nmr/Guides/VUG/Use_of_Hermes.pdf

Remember while setting up your sample for automation:

- Insert the sample into the spinner and check the depth using the gold depth gage at the top of the automation table; if the solvent height < 4.5cm, center it on the detect region.
- Check the sample height by using the 9" scale on the front of the sample table (the NMR tube should not be longer than 9"; there's no limit on shortness, as long as it fits the spinner).
- Make sure slot 0 is empty, and make sure the slot the robot arm is above is empty.
- Do not use slots 99 or 100.

Acquire data on your unknown (in CDCl₃) for the following 4 experiments. Submit all 4 experiments in a single Study (all in one night, within a single data folder). You don't need to have Hermes plot data (you will work it up yourself in NUTS):

1. Acquire a ¹H 1D spectrum: use 32 transients [nt], and an acquisition time [at] of 3.5 sec. Set the sweep width [sw] to go from 17 ppm to -1 ppm (in pulldown menu or use the provided boxes).

Aside: nt for ¹H spectra only need be increased if the concentration is fairly low (< 10mM).

at is the fundamental limitation on resolution ($\Delta\nu \geq 1/at$), beyond the quality of the shims (which are automatically performed on hermes). Large sw improves baseline (and thus integral) quality of ¹H spectra. sw may also need to be increased to observe protons shifted outside the normal range for organic compounds, e.g., ¹H close to metal nuclei.

A few important parameters used in Varian and Bruker spectrometers are:

Varian	Bruker	description
nt	NS	number of transients or scans
ss	DS	number of steady-state or dummy scans
d1	RD or D1	relaxation or recycle delay
at	AQ	acquisition time
np	TD	number of data points

2. Acquire a standard ^{13}C **1D** spectrum (with normal ^1H decoupling): use 256 transients [**nt**], and a relaxation delay [**d1**] of 2 sec. Set the sweep width [**sw**] to go from 220 ppm to -5 ppm (use provided boxes). Note that the decoupling mode is set to 'Decoupled + NOE'.

Aside: **nt** for ^{13}C spectra will often need to be adjusted to match the concentration of your solution. 200mM is easy (64 scans), 50mM harder (512 scans). ^{13}C data should not be attempted on Hermes for concentrations at or below 20mM. Adjustment of **d1** to larger values (up to 5s) can be more optimal for observing quaternary carbons (varies considerably depending on the chemistry). The standard decoupler mode greatly improves sensitivity (through NOE build-up), and simplifies measurement of ^{13}C chemical shifts (by removing ^1H - ^{13}C couplings). We will learn more about the different decoupling modes later in the semester.

3. Acquire a **Dept-90** spectrum: use 256 transients [**nt**], and a relaxation delay [**d1**] of 2 sec. Set the sweep width [**sw**] to go from 220 ppm to -5 ppm, as in the ^{13}C 1D. For the CH multiplicity selection, leave on "CH only", which ensures the data will be that of a DEPT-90 (CH carbons appear positive while the rest are nulled).
4. Acquire a **Dept-135** spectrum: use 256 transients [**nt**], and a relaxation delay [**d1**] of 2 sec. Set the sweep width [**sw**] to go from 220 ppm to -5 ppm, as in the ^{13}C 1D. For the CH multiplicity selection, leave on "CH, CH₃ Up and CH₂ Down", which ensures the data will be that of a DEPT-135 (CH and CH₃ carbons are positively phased while CH₂ carbons are negatively phased).

***Once you have set up all 4 experiments, click on the "Submit Night Queue" button, as instructed in the 'Use of Hermes' guide. If you have set up all the above experiments correctly the total time (in lower left corner) will be 52 minutes.

Retrieving the data on the routine lab PCs:

Your data will appear under the R:\apollo...\hermes (or use ftp:\apollo...) drive. Your *study* directory will exist in this folder (starting with your operator/login name). When opening the data files in NUTS, go into the *study* folder, then the data folder, then the folder of the specific experiment type, and open the 'fid' file, e.g.,: *studyname* → **data** → **Proton_01.fid** → **fid**

Data workup in NUTS:

PLOT1: Use standard processing for the ^1H 1D spectrum. This includes using a "matched filter" (**LB** = $1/\text{at}$, where $\text{at}=3.5$ sec here), and one full zero fill (**ZF**) to improve the digital resolution. Integrate the peaks (don't forget to use **FB** prior to integrations). Make sure to include the annotation as instructed in HW#1, with the original file name being the name of this data set on Hermes (the experiment name).

PLOT2: Use standard processing for the ^{13}C 1D spectrum, which includes setting **LB** to 2 Hz. Peak pick the spectrum in ppm and include your annotation. Save the worked up spectrum to the S:\temp drive to use in part 3.

