

Brucine (2,3-Dimethoxystrychnidin-10-one)

Brucine (2,3-Dimethoxystrychnidin-10-one) is an alkaloid, structurally related to strychnine, but less toxic. Figure 1 shows the ¹H NMR spectrum of a 100 mM Brucine sample in CDCl₃ measured in a single scan taking 15 seconds to acquire.

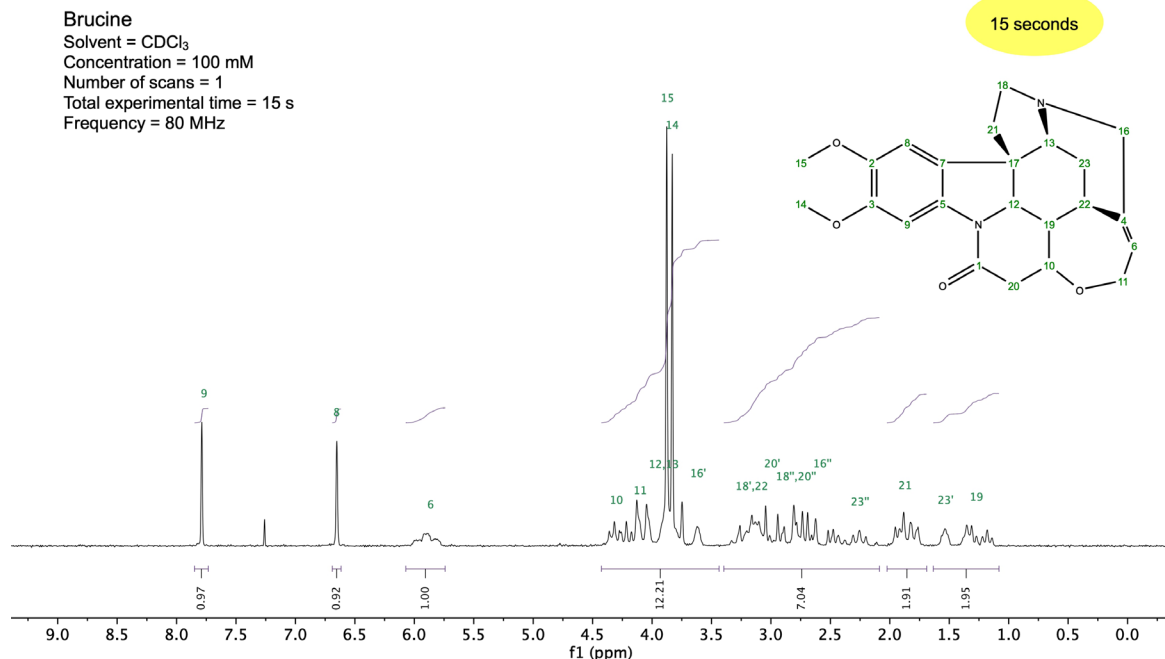


Figure 1: ¹H NMR spectrum of a 100 mM Brucine sample in CDCl₃ measured on a Spinsolve 80 MHz system in a single scan.

2D COSY

The 2D COSY experiment allows one to identify coupled ¹H nuclei as they generate cross peaks out of the diagonal of the 2D data set. In Figure 2 a large number of cross peaks can be nicely observed. For example, the proton 19 couples to proton 10 (light blue), 12 (orange), and 22 (pink) In addition, the couplings between protons 8 and 9 (dark blue), 8 and 15, 9 and 14 (dark green), 6 and 11 (light green) are marked on the spectrum.

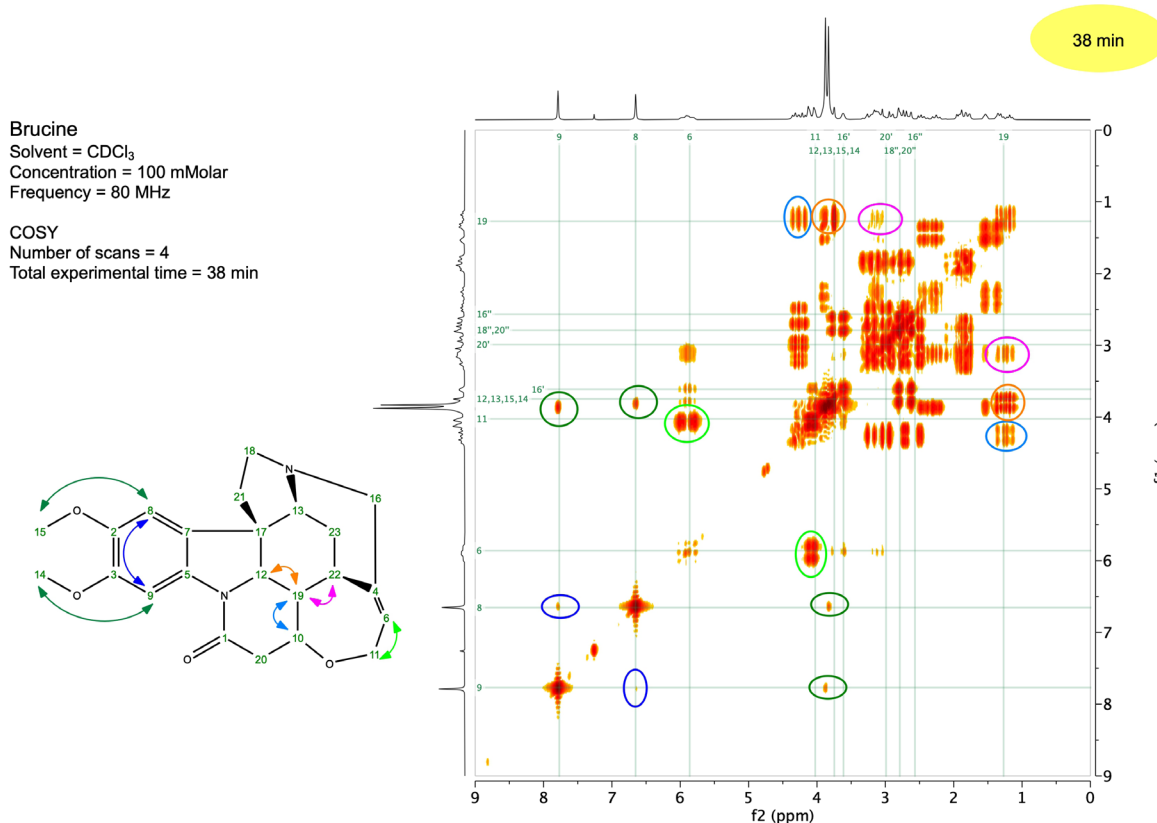


Figure 2: ¹H 2D COSY experiment of a 100 mMolar Brucine sample in CDCl₃ acquired in 38 minutes on a Spinsolve 80 MHz system.

¹³C Spectrum

Figure 3 shows the ¹³C NMR spectrum of 1 M Brucine in CDCl₃ acquired using NOE polarization transfer from ¹H to ¹³C and ¹H decoupling. The 1D Carbon experiment using NOE is sensitive to all ¹³C nuclei in the sample. It clearly resolves all the expected resonances.

Brucine
 Solvent = CDCl₃
 Concentration = 1 Molar
 Frequency ¹³C = 20 MHz
 Number of scans = 256
 Repetition time = 3 s
 Pulse angle = 45°
 Total experimental time = 13 min

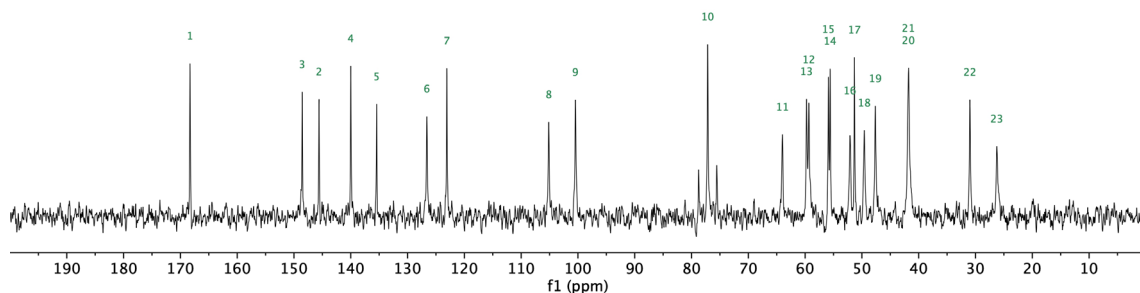
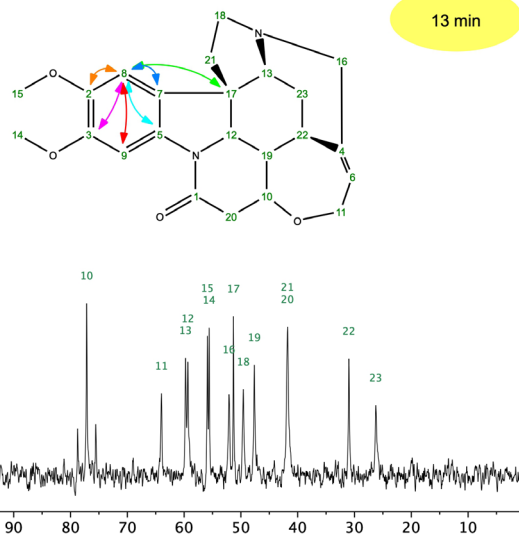


Figure 3: ¹³C NMR spectrum of a 1 M Brucine sample in CDCl₃ measured on a Spinsolve 80 MHz system in 13 minutes. (top).

2D HSQC-ME and 2D HMBC

The HSQC and HMBC are powerful sequences widely used to correlate the one-bond coupled ¹H-¹³C nuclei and long range ¹H-¹³C, respectively. The Spinsolve is equipped with a multiplicity edited version (HSQC-ME) of this method. It provides the editing power of the DEPT-135 sequence, which is useful to distinguish the signal of the CH₂ groups (blue) from the CH and CH₃ (red). Thanks to the higher sensitivity of these sequences, compared to direct detected ¹³C experiments, samples with lower concentrations can be measured in relatively short times. Figure 4 shows the HSQC-ME (left) and HMBC (right) spectra of a 300 mM Brucine sample in CDCl₃ acquired in 34 minutes per experiment. The HSQC spectrum resolves all coupled ¹³C and allows one to resolve the ¹H signals that overlap in the 1D proton spectrum. On the other hand, the HMBC shows the long-range correlations that are useful to identify and assign the different peaks in the spectrum. As an example, we marked on the HMBC spectrum the cross peaks of proton 8 with carbons 2, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 17 (the sequence shows the correlation with quaternary carbons, too).

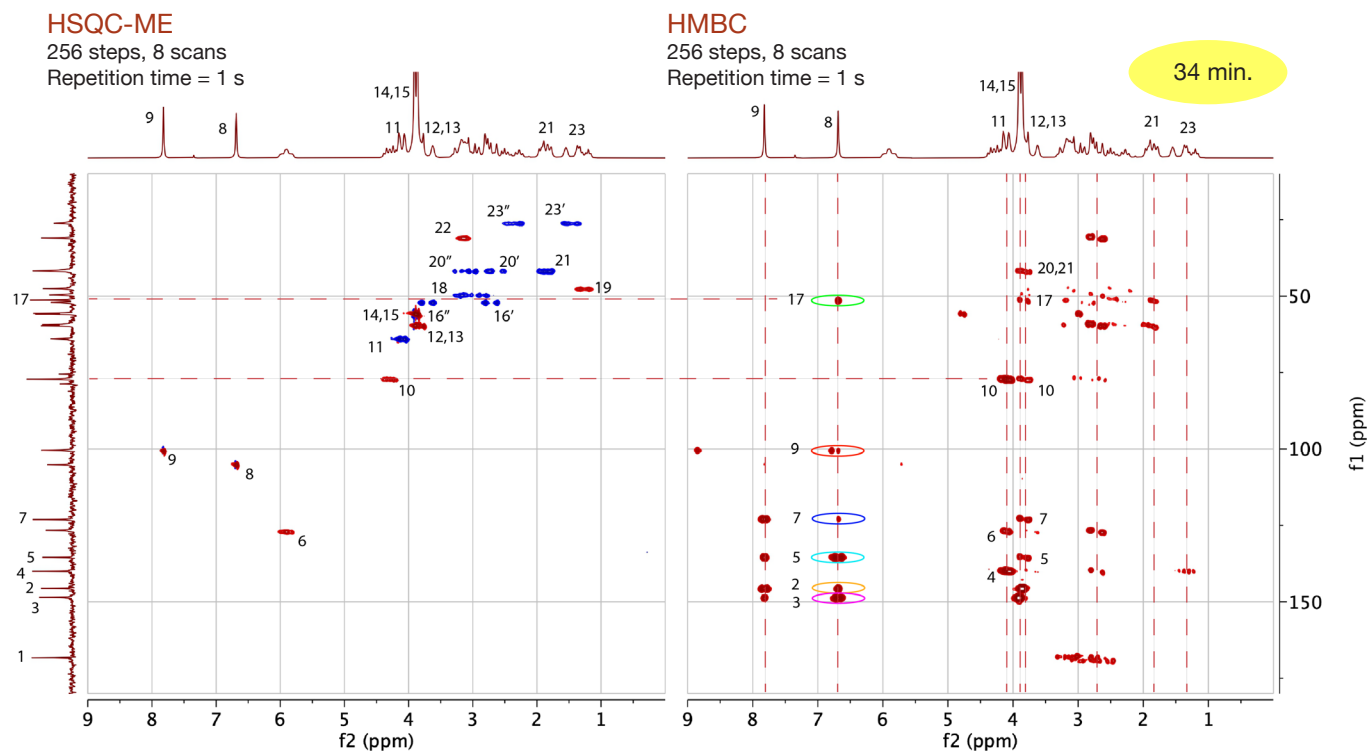


Figure 4: HSQC-ME (left) and HMBC (right) spectra of a 300 mM Brucine sample in CDCl₃ showing the correlation between the ¹H (horizontal) and ¹³C (vertical) signals.