

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.

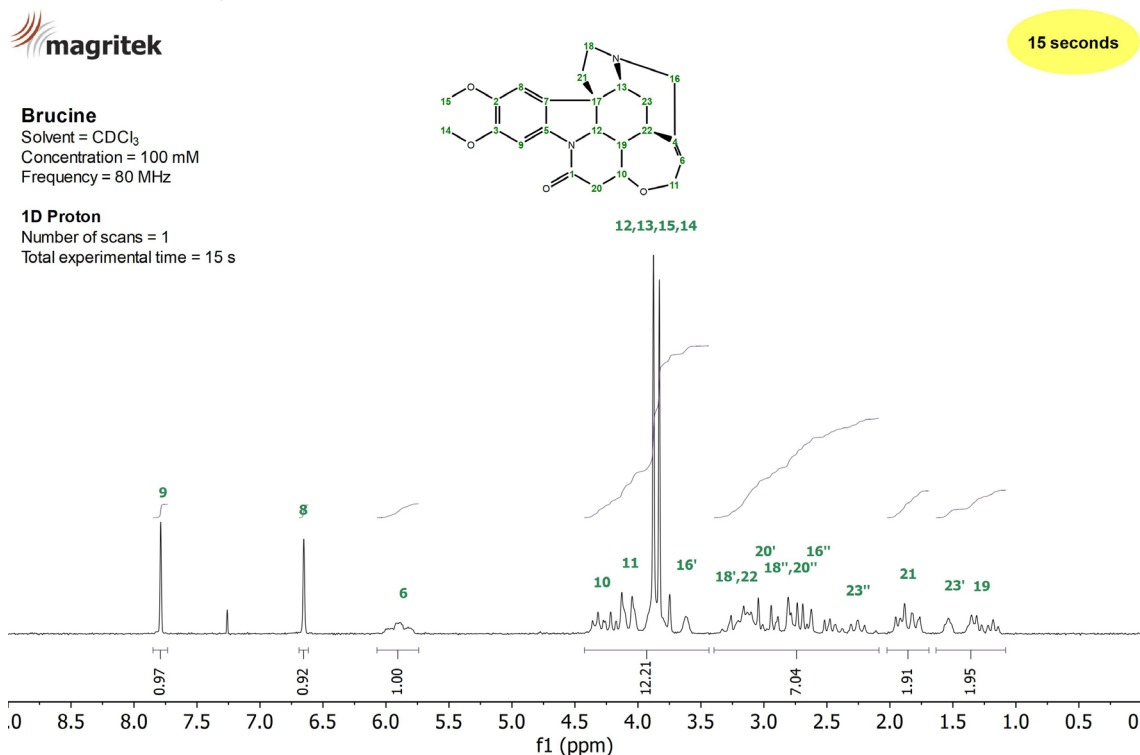


Figure 1: ¹H NMR spectrum of a 100 mM Brucine sample in CDCl₃ measured on a Spinsolve 80 MHz system in a single scan.

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 protons at position 6 and 11 (light green) couple with each other. Furthermore, proton 19 couples with proton 10 (light blue), 12 (orange) and 20 (pink). In addition, the couplings between protons 8 and 9 (dark blue) as well as the couplings of protons 8 and 9 with protons 14 and 15 (dark green) can be nicely observed.

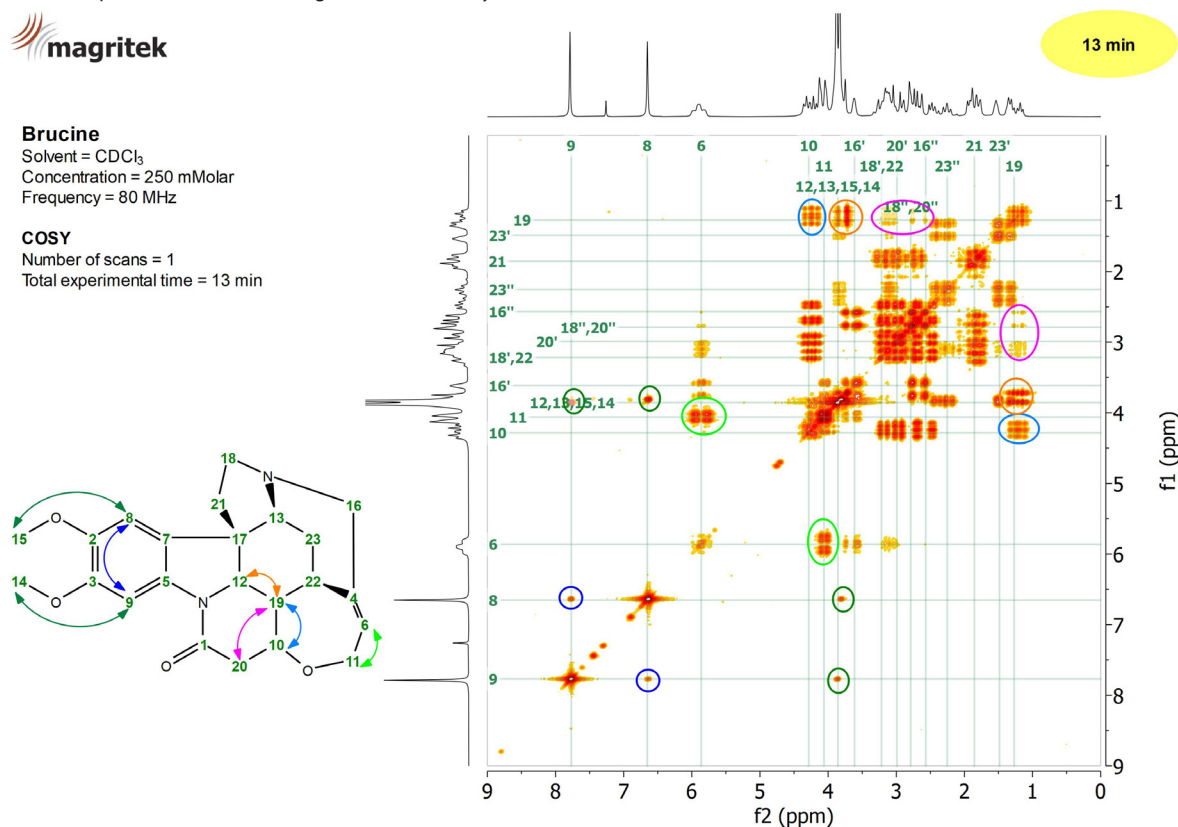


Figure 2: ¹H 2D COSY experiment of a 250 mMolar Brucine sample in CDCl₃ acquired in 13 minutes on a Spinsolve 80 MHz system.

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.

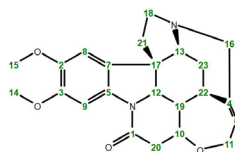


Brucine

Solvent = CDCl₃
Concentration = 1 M
Frequency = 20 MHz

1D Carbon

Number of scans = 256
Repetition time = 3 s
Pulse angle = 45°
Total experimental time = 13 min



13 min

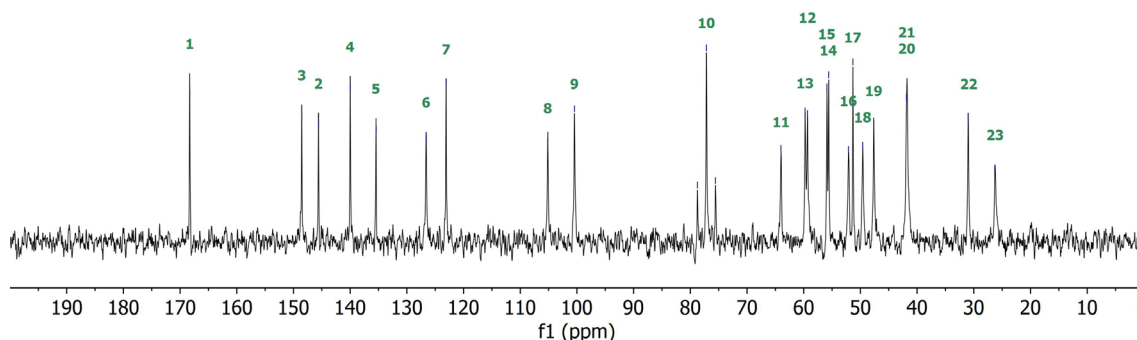


Figure 3: ¹³C NMR spectrum of a 1 M Brucine sample in CDCl₃ measured on a Spinsolve 80 MHz system in 13 minutes. (top).

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 differentiate between the signals of the CH₂ groups (blue) from the CH and CH₃ groups (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 18 minutes and 35 minutes, respectively. 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).

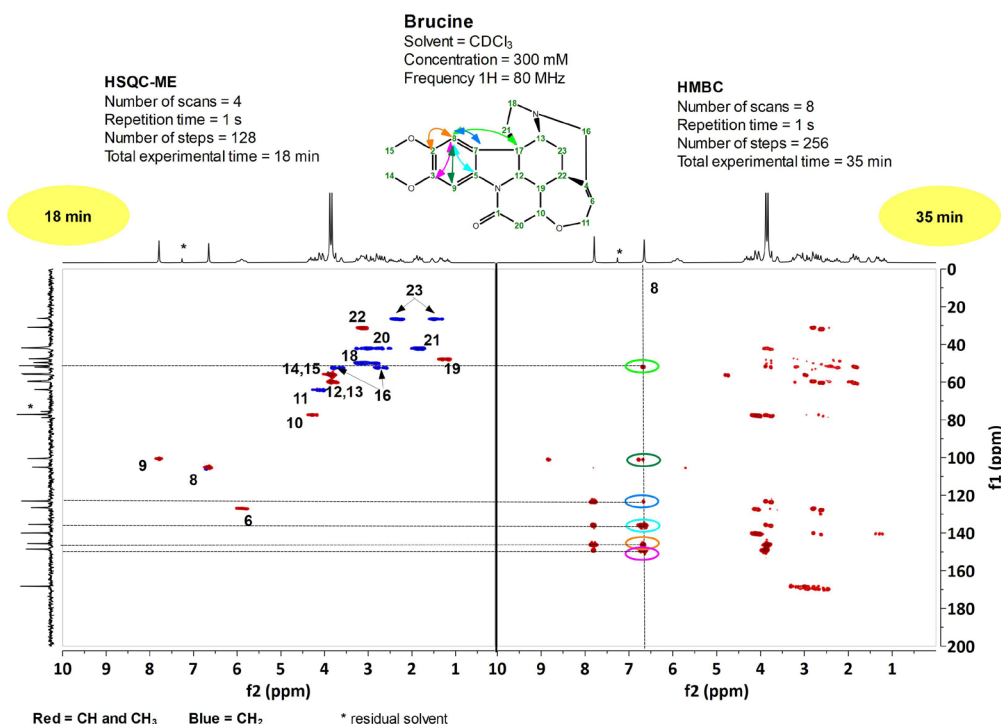


Figure 4: HSQC-ME (left) and HMBC (right) spectra of a 300 mM Brucine sample in CDCl₃ showing the correlation between the ¹H (horizontal) and ¹³C (vertical) signals.