### **Electron-Nucleus Magnetic Interaction**

- contact Fermi mechanism
- •dipolar term
- anisotropic (zero trace)
- •pseudo contact term
- interaction between the nuclear spin and the orbital moment
- is a function of g anisotropy g (non zero trace: is observed in solution)

#### **Manifestation of hyperfine couplings in EPR spectra**



- level shift by hyperfine interaction: m<sub>s</sub>m<sub>l</sub>A
- selection rules:  $|\Delta m_s| = 1, \Delta m_i = 0$

#### Field-swept EPR spectrum



- be aware: hyperfine couplings are given in
   field units (G, mT)
  - frequency units (MHz,  $A/2\pi$ )
  - wave numbers (cm<sup>-1</sup>,  $A/2\pi c$ )

 $1 \text{ G} = 0.1 \text{ mT} \approx 2.8 \text{ MHz} \approx 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1} (\text{at } g = g_{e})$ 

# 1) Fermi Contact Term

✓ e.g. H atom

✓ due to a non zero probability to find the e- on the nucleus

vertex exclusively for s e-

✓ in this case it is a scalar. The s orbital is spherically symmetric and therefore it must be isotropic

✓ very important for the determination of the structure of organic radicals

 $\checkmark$  e.g.  $\pi$  radicals (e- in a p orbital) a is proportional to the probability to find e- on the close C

• polarization mechanism for the hyperfine interaction

e.g. for the interaction of the  $\pi$  e- of an aromatic ring with the H nuclei



# 2) Dipolar Term A

- Interaction between the magnetic dipoles of the e- and the nucleus
- described according to classical physics
- Does not occur with e- with pure s character (spherical symmetry)
- anisotropic with zero trace (averaged out in solution)
- written by capital A because it is a tensor

# 3) Pseudocontact Term

- through space
- it is originated by the nuclear spin and the e- orbital moment
- it is function of the anisotropy g

 non zero trace: it is observed in solution and originates the paramagnetic shift in the NMR spectra

## **Interaction of Other Electron Spins**

diradicals

triplet states

depending on the strength of the interaction

in the former case are separated by a molecular segment

- 1) exchange interaction
- 2) dipolar interaction

#### Spettri EPR di molecole con due elettroni spaiati

### •Biradicali







si osserva lo spettro EPR nello stato elettronico fondamentale

### •Tripletti

Per molte molecole organiche lo stato di tripletto è uno stato elettronico eccitato



si può osservare lo spettro EPR

spe

Interazioni tra  $s_1$ ,  $s_2$ , il campo  $B_0$  e gli spin nucleari  $I_i$ 

- Zeeman  $(g_i \beta B_0 s_{zi})$  proporzionale al campo statico  $B_0$ •

- di scambio ( J  $\mathbf{s}_1 \cdot \mathbf{s}_2$ ) dipolare (  $\mathbf{s}_1 \cdot \mathbf{D} \cdot \mathbf{s}_2$ ) iperfine (  $\mathbf{a}_i \mathbf{s}_i \cdot \mathbf{I}_i$ )

sono sempre presenti anche se 
$$B_0 = 0$$

- il fattore g determina la posizione del centro Zeeman dello spettro EPR
- di scambio
- fenomeno quantistico dovuto alla necessità della antisimmetria delle funzioni che descrivono più elettroni
- permette di distinguere tra biradicali e tripletti

# **1) Exchange Interaction**

- when two e- have a certain probability to be in the same orbital
- it is due to the <u>electric</u> (Coulomb) interaction between the two e-, at variance to the dipolar interaction, which is magnetic
- it has a scalar part, J<sub>0</sub>, which at a first approximation corresponds to the exchange integral
- the J<sub>o</sub> sign states if the lower energy is that of the singlet or triplet state
- it contributes with a term of equal energy for all the three triplet states

There are two kinds of exchange interactions:

### 1) Kinetic exchange

- there is the mixing of an ionic state, with one e- in the orbital of the latter, with the fundamental state
- antiferromagnetic coupling ( $\mathbf{\uparrow \Psi}$ )
- J is negative

#### 2) Potential exchange

- Depends on the Coulomb interaction, expressed by the exchange integral
- It destabilizes the singlet states
- ferromagnetic coupling (↑↑)
- J is positive

Spettri EPR di molecole con due elettroni spaiati

Interazione di <u>scambio</u> caratterizzata dalla costante di scambio J H<sub>ex</sub> = J  $s_1 \cdot s_2$ 



### Distinzione tra biradicali e tripletti

se l'energia associata al termine  $H_{ex} = J s_1 \cdot s_2$  è molto maggiore dell'energia associata a tutti gli altri termini di interazione che coinvolgono  $s_1$ ed  $s_2$  allora si ha un tripletto

se invece l'energia di scambio è minore o dello stesso ordine di grandezza di tutte le altre interazioni allora si ha un biradicale



tripletto

biradicale

Zeeman (banda X)  $\approx 0.3 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ J  $\approx 15000 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ D  $\approx 0.1 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ 



Zeeman (banda X)  $\approx 0.3 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ J  $\approx 0.03 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ (D  $\approx 0.03 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ )

### Spettri EPR di biradicali

Interazione <u>Zeeman</u> caratterizzata dai fattori g (numeri)  $H_{Zeeman} = g_1 \beta B_0 s_{z1} + g_2 \beta B_0 s_{z2}$  per radicali organici g  $\approx 2$ 

Interazione di <u>scambio</u> caratterizzata dalla costante J ( un numero)  $H_{ex} = J s_1 \cdot s_2$ 

Interazione <u>dipolare</u> tra i due elettroni spaiati caratterizzata dal tensore **D** (una matrice)  $H_{dip} = s_1 \cdot \mathbf{D} \cdot s_2$ 

Interazione iperfine dei i due elettroni spaiati caratterizzata dalle costanti di accoppiamento iperfini  $a_1 e a_2$  (numeri)  $H_{hvp} = a_1 s_1 \cdot I_1 + a_2 s_2 \cdot I_2$ 

allo stato solido in soluzione

normalmente allo stato solido
in soluzione solo in casi particolari

### singlet transitions



triplet transitions



# 2) Dipole Interaction (solid state)

- Originates the largest splitting of the EPR spectrum, therofore it is called **fine splitting**. It is the magnetic interaction through space between two close electronic magnetic moments
- It can be treated classically

$$\hat{B}_{ij} = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \left( -\frac{\hat{\mu}_j}{r_{ij}^3} + 3\frac{(\hat{\mu}_j \cdot \hat{r}_{ij})\hat{r}_{ij}}{r_{ij}^5} \right)$$

Magnetic field at i due to the magnetic dipole  $\mu_i$ .

in polar coordinate, the component along z:

$$B_{zij} = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \frac{\mu_j (3\cos^2 \theta - 1)}{r^3}$$

• The splitting due to the dipolar interaction is averaged to zero in isotropic solution by of the molecular motion.

• The D matrix of the dipolar coupling has zero trace

• In the case of ESR it is known as Zero Field Splitting matrix, because the energy levels are no longer degenerate in the absence of magnetic field (i.e. at zero magnetic field).

It is indipendent of the static magnetic field

•Not only the through space interaction between the two unpaired e-, but also the spin-orbit interaction originates a term of the same kind For the dipolar interaction tensor the elements on the diagonal of the matrix in the Principal Axes System are expressed by two quantities (D and E) since it has zero trace (at variance with the tensor g where they are 3)

$$D = \frac{3}{2}D_{33} \qquad E = \frac{1}{2}(D_{11} - D_{22})$$

Usually they are reported in cm<sup>-1</sup>.

Since the usual spectrum scale is either G orT, D' are E' the D and E values in T:

$$D' = \frac{D}{g_e \mu_B} \qquad E' = \frac{E}{g_e \mu_B}$$

1 T corresponds to 0.93 cm<sup>-1</sup> (0.011kJ·mol<sup>-1</sup>) for  $g_e \approx 2$ Usually the D values range between 0.001 a 2 cm<sup>-1</sup>, thus D' lies in the range 1 mT - 2 T. The distance r between the two e- in pm, using D' in mT is obtained by the formula.

$$r = \sqrt[3]{\frac{2.78 \cdot 10^9}{|D'|}}$$

Due to the large D value for two e- in a triplet state, the Brownian motion in solution usually does not aucceed in averaging it to zero . The signals are very broad, hampering the obtainment of the spectrum in solution, except for quite far apart e-pairs.

Usually, the spectra are recorded from powders or frozen solutions.

The distribution of orientations must be considered



**FURE 6.5** (a) Theoretical EPR absorption spectrum for a randomly oriented et system (with E = 0) for a given value of D and  $\nu$  (with  $g = g_e$ ). A zero ewidth is assumed. The solid curve B corresponds to the curve of Fig. 4.7*a*; the bed curve A represents a reflection about the central field  $B_o$ . (b) First-derivative re computed from (a) after assuming a nonzero linewidth. Only the field region

1000

• the spectrum depends on the orientation, respect to  $B_0$ , of the vector joining the two magnetic moments

• The splitting between the two triplet transitions,  $\Delta M_{\rm S}{=}\pm1$  , is:

$$\Delta B = \frac{1}{g\mu_B} 3d(3\cos^2\beta - 1)$$

The spectrum affords only the absolute value of the splitting

NB is solutions it is averaged to zero (zero trace) by isotropic molecular motion



The positions of the resonances depends on the orientation respect to  $B_0$  ( $\beta$  angle) of the **r** vector joining the two magnetic dipoles, according to the (3 cos<sup>2</sup> $\beta$ -1) factor



## **Powder Distribution of Orientations**



#### Spectra for triplet species (S = 1)



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