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Commentary

Applications of Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy in Protein Complex

Gabriel Travis*

Department of Biomolecule, University of Strasbourg, Strasbourg, France

DESCRIPTION

Biomolecular NMR is now frequently used in the synthesis of new chemical entities, even before clinical trials. NMR's versatility has prepared the path for a wide range of applications in academia and the pharmaceutical industry from detection of ligand binding over a wide range of affinities and a wide range of drug targets with its wealth of molecular information to metabolomics profiling. NMR screens identify lead compounds capable of blocking protein and protein interactions. Access to the microgram domain of phytochemistry has been made possible because to advances in NMR technology, which should lead to the discovery of new bioactive natural chemicals. Providing precise information about protein, ligand interactions to medicinal chemists during the lead optimization process has resulted in impressive success in the development of new therapeutics. Metabolomics, or the study of biofluid composition gives information on pharmacokinetics and aids toxicological safety evaluation in animal model systems. Magnetic resonance spectroscopy *in vivo* probes metabolite distributions in living cells and tissues with increasing precision which has a major impact on the development of anticancer and neurological problem therapies.

NMR is concerned with the quantum-mechanical features of the atom's central core ("nucleus"). These qualities are affected by the immediate molecular environment and measuring them provides the information how the atoms are chemically bonded, how close they are in space, and how quickly they move with each other. These properties are fundamentally the same as those used in more familiar Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI). Proteomics and structural genomics initiatives often implement strategies for high-throughput cloning, expression, purification and structure determination to feed the demand for three-dimensional structures of gene products. X-ray crystallography and NMR spectroscopy provide the only sources of experimental data at high, often atomic, resolution. Protein samples whose HSQC spectra qualified them as poor or unfolded, crystallized with good diffraction properties. This procedure provides more quantitative data and may allow detection of equilibrium between folded and unfolded states or some partially folded character in the solution state. The crystallization trials may drive some samples into the folded conformation by mass action effects. For target selection, the therapeutically relevant targets should be both 'disease-modifying' and 'druggable'. A simple model was obtained by a statistical regression analysis of successful and NMR screening approaches. The linear combination of the mentioned properties is used to predict the 'drug ability' of new target proteins. To delimitate the costs of expensive High-Throughput Screening (HTS) approaches the authors put forward the use of NMR-based pre-screening with a diverse fragment library to experimentally and validate the general drug ability of the protein target. Several NMR techniques have been offered to the first screening trials. By enhancing paramagnetic relaxation spin-labeled adenine analogues can be utilized to detect allosteric ligands at ATP-binding pharmacological sites. NMR spectroscopy provides an elegant way to evaluate antagonist effects on protein to protein interactions. Liquid Chromatography and NMR (LC/NMR) can now be combined because to improved NMR magnet shielding technologies. The complicated NMR data produced from HTS extracts from a broad variety of plants and marine species is also subjected to multivariate pattern recognition for the same reason. Different samples with the same bioactive chemicals can be recognized or grouped together. Recently, a new step toward automated screening spectra analysis was presented. Prior to standard data reduction and clustering procedures, a step can be applied to 1D/2D screening data which facilitates the separation of outliers.

Correspondence to: Gabriel Travis, Department of Biomolecule, University of Strasbourg, Strasbourg, France, E-mail: travis@gmail.com

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