# <sup>1</sup>H Pure Shift DOSY: a Handy Tool to Evaluate the Aggregation and Solvation of Organolithium Derivatives

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## **Experimental Section**

#### **Preparation of the sample**

All syntheses and sample preparations of air-sensitive compounds were performed in an argon atmosphere. All solvents were dried over sodium, and degassed in a vacuum system before being used.

#### Preparation of *n*-Butyllithium Solution in Tetrahydrofuran-*d*<sub>8</sub>

A solution of commercial *n*-butyllithium in pentane (1 mL) was syringed in a tube fitted with a septum and flushed under dry argon. The tube was then placed under vacuum (20 mmHg) for 2 h to remove the main part of the pentane. Freshly distilled tetrahydrofuran- $d_8$  was then added (1 mL) at -78 °C to the resulting concentrated solution, and the resulting solution was titrated<sup>1</sup>.

#### Preparation of LDA/*n*-BuLi/*n*-BuOLi with internal references:

Freshly distilled di*iso*propylamine (0.14 mL) dissolved in THF (0.3 mL) was introduced into an NMR tube placed under argon. The solution (0.34M) was treated first with an equimolar amount of *n*-BuLi (c = 1M) in THF at 185K. The quantitative formation of the amide was controlled by 1D <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>6</sup>Li NMR experiments. Then, two equivalents of *n*-BuLi were added into the solution. A second step consisted of the progressive addition of *n*-BuOH into the LDA/*n*-BuLi mixture until a (1: 2: 0.9) ratio was reached. Then 0.15 mL from a mixture containing SQA (0.1 mL), CDDE (0.1 mL) and TPB (30 mg) preliminarily diluted in THF-*d*<sub>8</sub> (5 mL) was added to the above sample as internal references for the DOSY experiments.

### Preparation of *n*-BuLi/*n*-BuOLi with internal references:

Controlled aliquots of *n*-BuOH were added to the solution of pure *n*-BuLi (c = 1 M) until a (1:0.66) ratio was reached. Then 0.15 mL from a mixture containing SQA (0.1 mL), CDDE (0.1 mL) and TPB (30 mg) preliminarily diluted in THF- $d_8$  (5 mL) was added to the above sample as internal references for the DOSY experiments.

#### NMR parameters and conditions

NMR spectra were recorded at 185K on a Bruker AVIII 500 spectrometer operating at 500.13 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H, 194.40 MHz for <sup>7</sup>Li, 125.13 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C and 73.60 MHz for <sup>6</sup>Li. Experiments were run under TopSpin (version 2.1, Bruker Biospin, Karlsruhe) with a BBFO {<sup>1</sup>H,X} probe and a z gradient coil giving a maximum gradient of 50 G.cm<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>**H DOSY** experiments was acquired with the standard Bruker ledbpgp2s program<sup>2</sup> using 16  $t_1$  increments of 32 transients. The acquisition time was 1 s and the relaxation delay was 2.5 s (D1). Diffusion time was between 0,5 and 0.6 s (D20) and rectangular gradient pulse duration was between 1.5 and 2 ms (P30). Gradient recovery delays of 150 µs followed the application of each gradient pulse. Data was accumulated by linearly varying the diffusion encoding gradients over a range from 2 to 95 % for 16 gradient increment values.

<sup>7</sup>Li DOSY experiment was acquired with the standard Bruker dstebpgp3s program<sup>3</sup> using double stimulated echo, LED, with bipolar gradient pulses and 3 spoil gradients for 16  $t_1$  increments of 32 transients. The acquisition time was 2.5 s, and the relaxation delay (D1) was 5 s. Diffusion time was 0.9 s (D20) and rectangular gradient pulse duration was 4 ms (P30). Gradient recovery delays of 150 µs followed the application of each gradient pulse. Data was accumulated by linearly varying the diffusion encoding gradients over a range from 2 to 95 % for 16 gradient increment values.

<sup>1</sup>**H PS-DOSY**<sup>4</sup> experiments were acquired with the sequence of Figure 1 with one stimulated echo using a 20 ms Rsnob selective pulse with 100 Hz bandwidth, with Gz2=1.8 G.cm<sup>-1</sup>; 16 t<sub>1</sub> increments of 32 transients were acquired with 1/SW = 20 ms in a total time of 5 h. Coherence transfer selection gradient pulses were rectangular with a width of 1 ms and the amplitudes Gz1<sub>a</sub>, G z1<sub>b</sub>, and G z1<sub>c</sub> of 25, -25, and -50 G.cm<sup>-1</sup>. The delays  $\tau_a$  and  $\tau_b$  were 0.0038 s and 0.0029 ms, respectively. Individual rows of the pseudo-2-D diffusion databases for PS-DOSY were phased and baseline corrected. Diffusion time was between 0.25 - 0.4 s and rectangular gradient pulse duration was between 2 - 2.5 ms. Gradient recovery delays were 150 µs followed the application of each gradient pulse. Data was accumulated by linearly varying the diffusion encoding gradients over a range from 2 to 95 % for 16 gradient increment values.

#### **DOSY processing**

<sup>1</sup>H DOSY experiments were processed using DOSYm® software which is based on Gifa MaxEnt algorithm proposed by Marc-Andre Delsuc<sup>5</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H PS-DOSY experiments were processed using dynamic center software (Bruker software). This program allows the use of the pure exponential equation for relevant processing methods:

$$S(g) = I_0 * e^{(-\gamma^2 * g^2 * \delta^2 * (\Delta - \delta/3) * D}$$

The diffusion coefficient was determined by fitting the peak areas to the Stejskal-Tanner equation from  $T_1/T_2$  analysis.



Figure S1. <sup>1</sup>H Pure Shift DOSY sequence



Figure S2. <sup>6</sup>Li (left) and 'H (right) spectra of LDA/*n*-BuLi mixtures in THF-*d*<sub>8</sub> at 185K: (a) pure LDA (0.34M), b) LDA/*n*-BuLi (1 : 0.66) ; (c) LDA/*n*-BuLi/ (1 : 1.33) d) LDA/*n*-BuLi/ (1 : 2)



Figure S3. 2D <sup>6</sup>Li-<sup>1</sup>H HOESY spectrum (mixing times  $\tau_m$ =860 ms) for LDA/*n*-BuLi (1 : 2) in THF-*d*<sub>8</sub> at 185K



Figure S4. <sup>6</sup>Li (left) and 'H (right) spectra of LDA/*n*-BuLi/*n*-BuOH mixtures in THF-*d*<sub>8</sub> at 185K: (a) pure LDA (0.34M), b) LDA/*n*-BuLi (1 : 2) ; (c) LDA/*n*-BuLi/*n*-BuOH (1 : 2 : 0.9)



Figure S5. (a) <sup>1</sup>H DOSY spectrum for LDA/*n*-BuLi/*n*-BuOH (1 : 2 : 0.9) in THF-*d*<sub>8</sub> at 185K with internal references (Butane, Cyclododecene (CDDE), Squalene (SQA), 1,3,5-Triphenylbenzene (TPB). (b) Zoom of alpha methylene region



Figure S6. Log(D)-Log(FW) analysis of <sup>1</sup>H DOSY spectrum for LDA/*n*-BuLi/*n*-BuOH (1 : 2 : 0.9)



Figure S7. Log(D)-Log(FW) analysis of <sup>1</sup>H PS-DOSY spectrum for LDA/*n*-BuLi/*n*-BuOH (1 : 2 : 0.9)



Figure S8. <sup>6</sup>Li (left) and <sup>1</sup>H (right) spectra of *n*-BuLi/*n*-BuOLi mixtures in THF-*d*<sub>8</sub> at 185K: (a) pure *n*-BuLi; (b) *n*-BuLi/*n*-BuOLi (1 : 0.25) ; (c) *n*-BuLi /*n*-BuOLi (1 : 0.66)



Figure S9. <sup>6</sup>Li (a) and <sup>7</sup>Li (b) spectra of *n*-BuLi/*n*-BuOLi mixture (1 : 0.66) in THF-*d*<sub>8</sub> at 185K



Figure S10. <sup>7</sup>Li DOSY spectrum for *n*-BuLi/*n*-BuOLi (1 : 0.66) in THF-*d*<sub>8</sub> at 185K



Figure S11. <sup>1</sup>H DOSY spectrum for *n*-BuLi/*n*-BuOLi (1 : 0.66) in THF-*d*<sub>8</sub> at 185K with internal references (Butane, Cyclododecene (CDDE), Squalene (SQA), 1,3,5-Triphenylbenzene (TPB)). (b) Zoom for alpha methylene region



Figure S12. Log(D)-Log(FW) analysis of <sup>1</sup>H DOSY spectrum for *n*-BuLi/*n*-BuOLi (1 : 0.66)



Figure S13. <sup>1</sup>H (a) and <sup>1</sup>H PS (b) spectra of *n*-BuLi/*n*-BuOLi mixture (1 : 0.66) in THF- $d_8$  at 185K



Figure S14. (a) <sup>1</sup>H PS-DOSY spectrum for *n*-BuLi /*n*-BuOLi (1 : 0.66) in THF-*d*<sub>8</sub> with internal references (CDDE, SQA, TPB). (b) Zoom for alpha methylene region



Figure 15. Log(D)-Log(FW) analysis of <sup>1</sup>H PS-DOSY spectrum for *n*-BuLi/*n*-BuOLi (1 : 0.66)



Figure S16. Signal attenuation curves from <sup>1</sup>H PS-DOSY of (a) THF, (b) CDDE, (c) TPB (d) SQA



Figure S17. Signal attenuation curves from <sup>1</sup>H PS-DOSY of (a) (*n*-BuLi)<sub>4</sub>, (b) (*n*-BuLi)<sub>3</sub>(*n*-BuOLi)<sub>1</sub>, (c) (*n*-BuLi)<sub>2</sub>, (d) (*n*-BuLi)<sub>2</sub>(*n*-BuOLi)<sub>2</sub>

	<sup>1</sup> H DOSY				
Compounds	FW (gmol <sup>-1</sup> )	Log(D) m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>	N*THF	FW* (gmol <sup>-1</sup> )	Error %
ТНЕ	64	3 5330		72	
Squalene (SOA)	411	3.4959		411	
Triphenylbenzene (TPB)	306	3.5011		306	
Cyclododecene (CDDE)	166	3.5140		166	
$(n-\mathrm{BuLi})_4 \bullet (\mathrm{THF})_4$	477.4	3.4925	~ 4	544	6,5%
$(n-BuLi)_3/(n-BuOLi)_1 \bullet (THF)_4$	440.1	3.4941	~ 3	560	12%
( <i>n</i> -BuLi) <sub>2</sub> /( <i>n</i> -BuOLi)2 •(THF) <sub>4</sub>	425.9	3.4948	~ 2	576	15%

Table S1. Analysis of <sup>1</sup> H DOSY results for <i>n</i> -BuLi / <i>n</i> -BuOLi (1 : 0.66) in THF- <i>d</i> <sub>8</sub> (FW <sup>*</sup>
Theoretical mass of solvated specie)

<sup>1</sup> H DOSY					
Compounds	FW (g.mol <sup>-1</sup> )	$Log(D) m^2.s^{-1}$	N*THF	FW* (g.mol-1)	Error %
Butane		3.3910			
THF	72	3.3706		72	
Cyclododecene (CDDE)	166	3.3331		411	
Triphenylbenzene (TPB)	306	3.3003		306	
Squalene (SQA)	411	3.2930		166	
$(LDA)_2 \bullet (THF)_2$	304	3.3040	2	358	4.5%
(LDA)( <i>n</i> -BuLi)●(THF) <sub>2</sub>	309	3.3031	2	315	1%
( <i>n</i> -BuLi)₄●(THF)₄	507	3.2780	4	544	3.5%

 Table S2. Analysis of <sup>1</sup>H DOSY results for LDA/n-BuLi/n-BuOH (1 : 2 : 0.9) (FW\*: Theoretical mass of solvated specie

	-DOSY				
Compounds	FW (gmol <sup>-1</sup> )	Log(D) m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>	N*THF	FW* (gmol <sup>-1</sup> )	Error %
Squalene (SOA)	411	-11 16		411	
Triphenylbenzene (TPB)	306	-11.09		306	
Cyclododecene (CDDE)	166	-11.00		166	
THF	72	-10.76			
( <i>n</i> -BuLi)₄ ●(THF)₄	566	-11.24	~4	544	2%
$(n-BuLi)_3/(n-BuOLi)_1 \bullet (THF)_4$	579	-11.25	~4	560	1.7%
$(n-BuLi)_2 \bullet (THF)_4$	490	-11.21	~4	416	8.2%
( <i>n</i> -BuLi) <sub>2</sub> /( <i>n</i> -BuOLi) <sub>2</sub> ●(THF) <sub>4</sub>	612	-11.26	~	576	3%

Table S3. Analysis of <sup>1</sup>H PS-DOSY results for *n*-BuLi /*n*-BuOLi (1 : 0.66) in THF-*d*<sub>8</sub> (FW\*Theoretical mass of solvated specie)

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