

HOW TO GET WATER DIFFUSION COEFFICIENT FOR HYDRATED PECTIN - INSIGHT FROM NMR RELAXOMETRY

Hatice Gul Solmaz^a, Maciej Osuch^b, Aylin Ozgur^a, Mecit Oztoc, Danuta Kruk^b

^aKayseri Seker A. S., Seker Mahallesi Osman Kavuncu Bulvari NO: 314, Kocasinan/KAYSERI, Turkey, hatice.solmaz@kayseriseker.com.tr, aylin.ozgur@kayseriseker.com.tr

^bFaculty of Mathematics and Computer Science, University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, Sloneczna 54, 10-710 Olsztyn, Poland, maciej.osuch@uwm.edu.pl, danuta.kruk@uwm.edu.pl

^cDepartment of Food Engineering, Middle East Technical University, Ankara 06800, Turkey, mecit@metu.edu.tr

1. Introduction

Pectin is used in food industry as gelling agent, thickener, and stabilizer in jams, jelly, fruit juices, bakery, milk and confectionary product. Commercial pectin sample are extracted from citrus peel and apple pomace in most instances, and pectin is also obtained from sugar beet pulp.

Aim : obtaining water diffusion coefficient for hydrated pectin with NMR Relaxometry and to define the amount of water confined within gel structure.

2. Material and Methods

The pectin sample used in the study contains 30% maltodextrin and was produced in the Kayseri Seker Factory, Kayseri, TURKEY. Two different sample concentrations were used, 10 % and 20 %.

¹H spin-lattice relaxation experiments have been performed in the frequency range from 10 kHz to 100 MHz at 25 °C, 35 °C and 45 °C.

3. Results

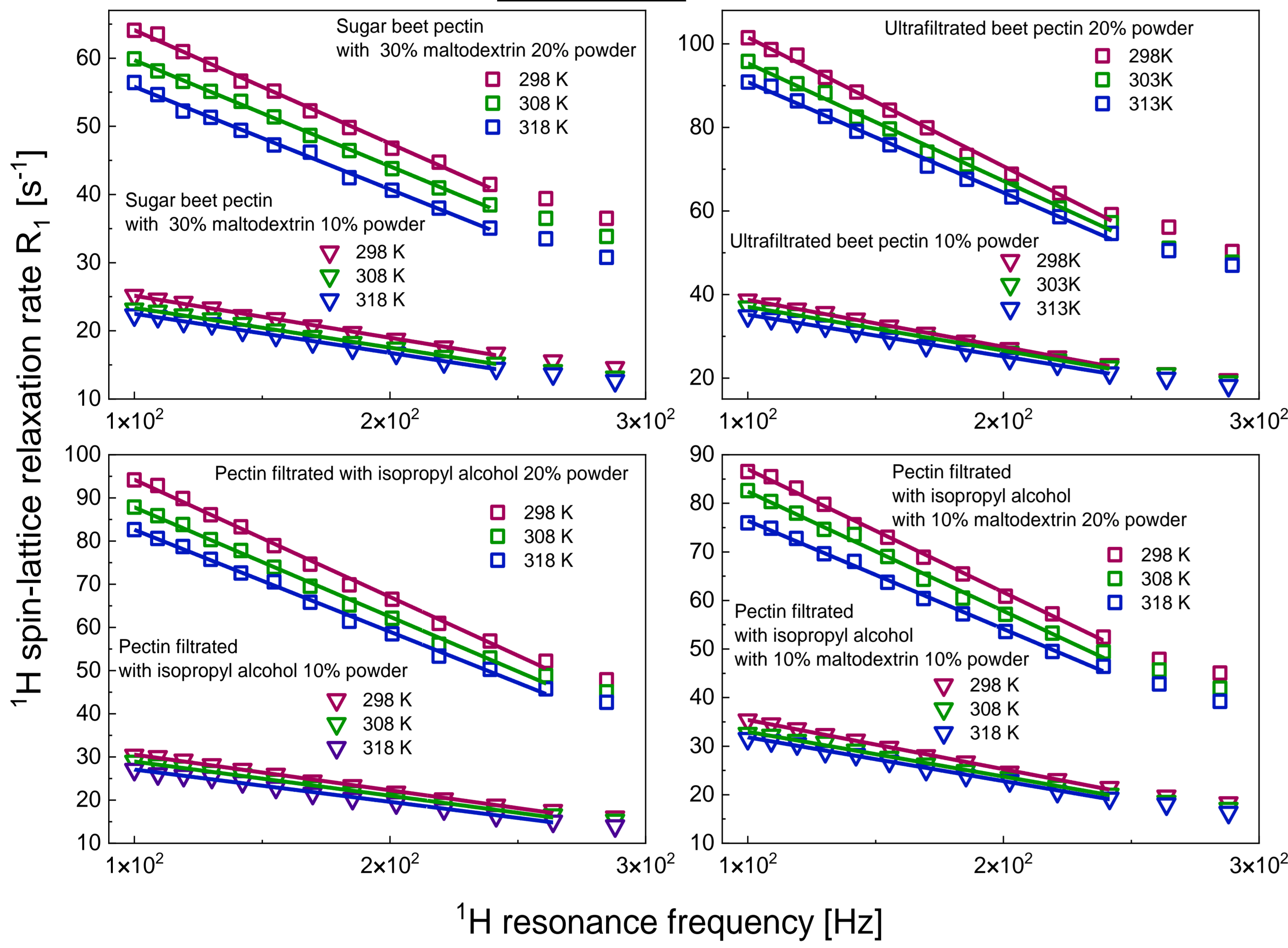


Fig 1. ¹H NMR relaxometry data for hydrated pectin versus square root of the resonance frequency.

5. Model of Water Dynamics

Magnetic dipole-dipole interactions that can be of intramolecular or intermolecular origin cause ¹H relaxation processes. The intramolecular and intermolecular relaxation contributions, denoted as R_1^{intra} and R_1^{inter} constitute the overall relaxation rate R_1 .

$$R_1(\omega_H) = R_1^{intra}(\omega_H) + R_1^{inter}(\omega_H)$$

$$R_1^{inter}(\omega_H) = \frac{108}{5} \left(\frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \gamma_H^2 \right)^2 \frac{N_H}{d^3} \int_0^\infty \frac{u^4}{81 + 9u^2 - 2u^4 + u^6} \left[\frac{\tau_{trans}}{u^4 + (\omega\tau_{trans})^2} + \frac{4\tau_{trans}}{u^4 + (2\omega\tau_{trans})^2} \right] du$$

$$R_1^{intra}(\omega_H) = C^{DD} \left[\frac{\tau_{rot}}{1 + (\omega\tau_{rot})^2} + \frac{4\tau_{rot}}{1 + (2\omega\tau_{rot})^2} \right]$$

C^{DD} - dipolar relaxation constant

τ_{rot} - rotational correlation time

$$\tau_{trans} = \frac{d_{cc}^2}{D_{trans}^{cc}}$$

d_{cc} - cation-cation distance of closest

D_{trans}^{cc} - relative, cation-cation translation diffusion coefficient

N_H - numbers of ¹H nuclei per unit volume

ω_H - resonance frequency

6. Conclusions

Translational diffusion coefficients of water confined in pectin matrices ranges from $1.92 \cdot 10^{-13}$ at 298K to $2.03 \cdot 10^{-13}$ at 318K.

The number of water protons per unit volume obtained from the analysis is of the order of $5.54 \cdot 10^{27}$. This implies that the fraction of confined water molecules is of the order of $\chi = 5.54 \cdot 10^{27} / 6.7 \cdot 10^{28} = 0.092$ ($6.7 \cdot 10^{28}$ – number of hydrogen atoms per m³ in bulk water)

6. References

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4. Analysis

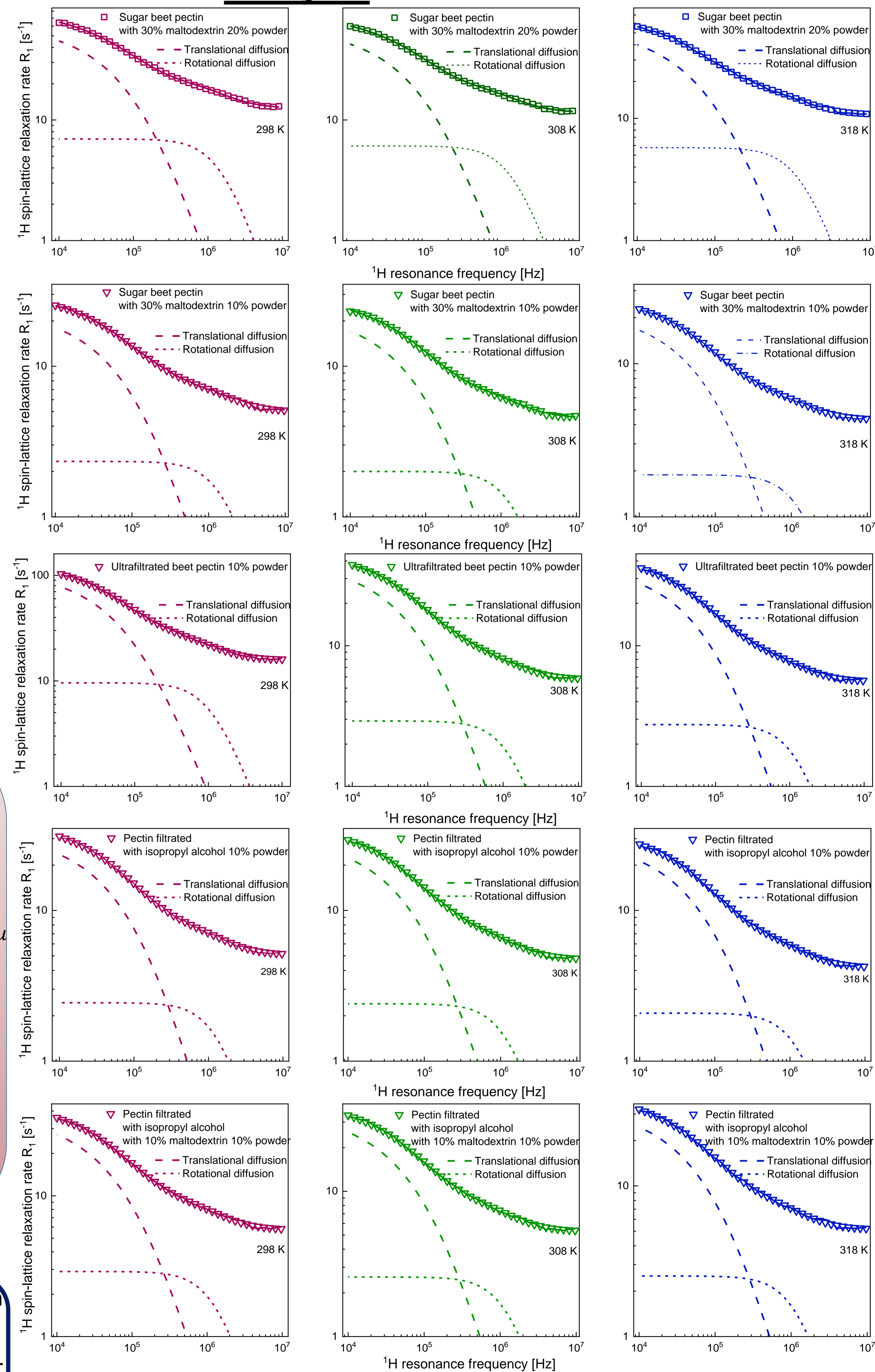


Fig 2. Decomposition of ¹H spin lattice relaxation data into relaxation contributions associated with translational and rotational diffusion of water- dashed and dotted lines, respectively.

7. Acknowledgements

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101008228 (project SuChAQuality).

