

Progressive Saturation T1 Measurements

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Surface area measurements from NMR can be accomplished using either T_1 or T_2 measurements. In some cases, for example with very highly concentrated suspensions, T_2 relaxation times are so short it can be difficult to determine surface area precisely. In those situations, measurements of T_1 relaxation times are more appropriate.

 T_1 measurements can be performed in a variety of ways. Perhaps the most efficient approach is to use the **Progressive Saturation** method. Measurement times approach that of T_2 CPMG methods. Using **Progressive Saturation**, T_1 measurements can be acquired in a timescale approximately 50% less than the same experiment performed using the **Inversion Recovery** pulse sequence.

The figure below illustrates progressive saturation method to measure the relaxation time of Glycerol:



T₁ = 68.0 ms M_z^{∞} = 233 C = 0.063 Using the equation $M_z = M_z^{\infty}(1 - \exp(-\frac{\tau}{\tau_1}) + C)$ Glycerol 4 scans, τ_o = 3ms, 40µs acquisition window and using multiples of τ_o : 100, 64 48, 32, 24, 16, 12, 8. 6, 4, 3, 2, 1