

## Supporting Information

### A Method for Estimation of Plasma Protein Binding Using Diffusion Ordered NMR Spectroscopy (DOSY)

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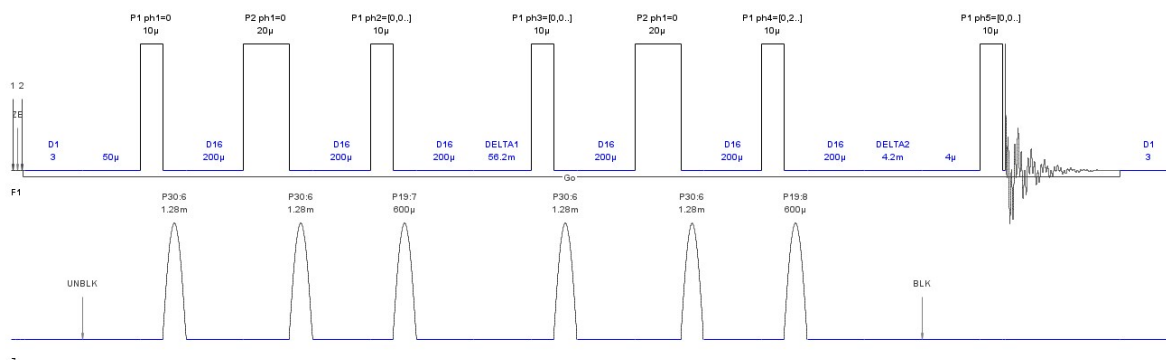
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## Setup of the Dosy Experiment

The DOSY spectra were collected using a Bruker Spectrospin 400 Ultrashield NMR spectrophotometer operating at 400 MHz, with samples maintained at 298.2 K via a condensed gas feed (400 lph).  $^1\text{H}$  DOSY NMR measurements were set up with 16 gradient scans with 16 N repeat samples across each gradient. All measurements were initiated using Bruker TopSpin (version 3.7) with IconNMR automation. The Bruker pulse sequence ledbpgp2s (LED with bipolar gradient pulse pair, 2 spoil gradients) without modification (**Figure S1**) was used to acquire data.

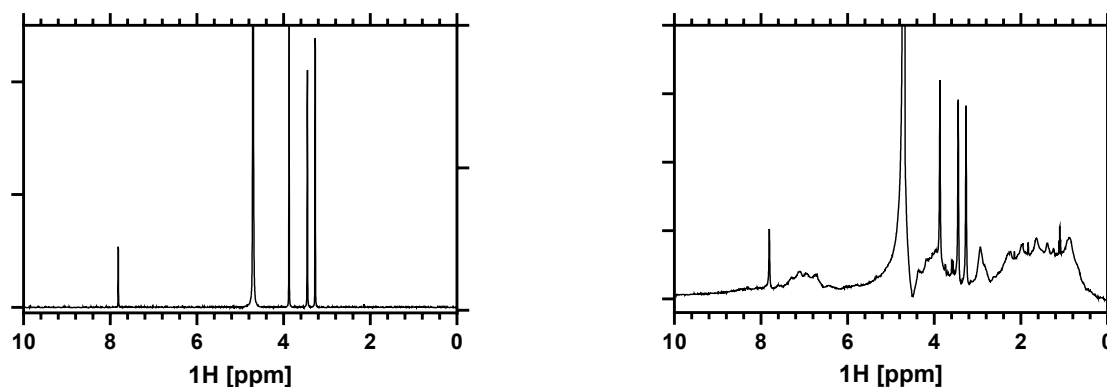


**Figure S1:** Pulse sequence ledbpgp2s used in DOSY experiments

Reference: Wu, D.H.; Chen, A.D.; Johnson, C.S. (1995) "An Improved Diffusion-Ordered Spectroscopy Experiment Incorporating Bipolar-Gradient Pulses" *J. Magn. Reson. Ser. A* 115(2), 260-264.

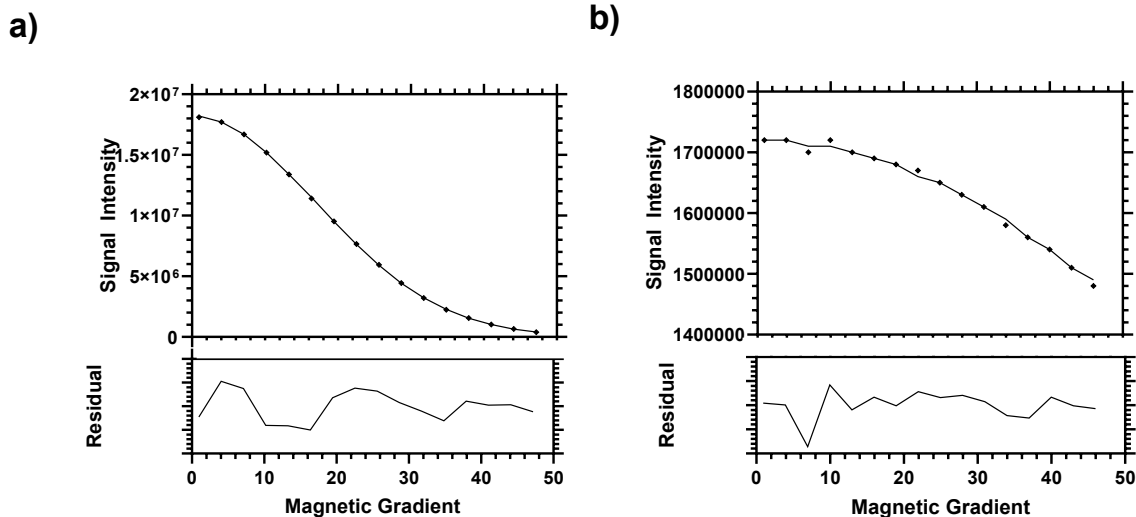
## Full Summary of Diffusion NMR experiments and Exemplar Raw Data

$^1\text{H}$  NMR of Caffeine, BSA and mixtures thereof produces a variety of peaks visible between 1 and 8 ppm which were of relevance to the study as shown in **Figure S2**.

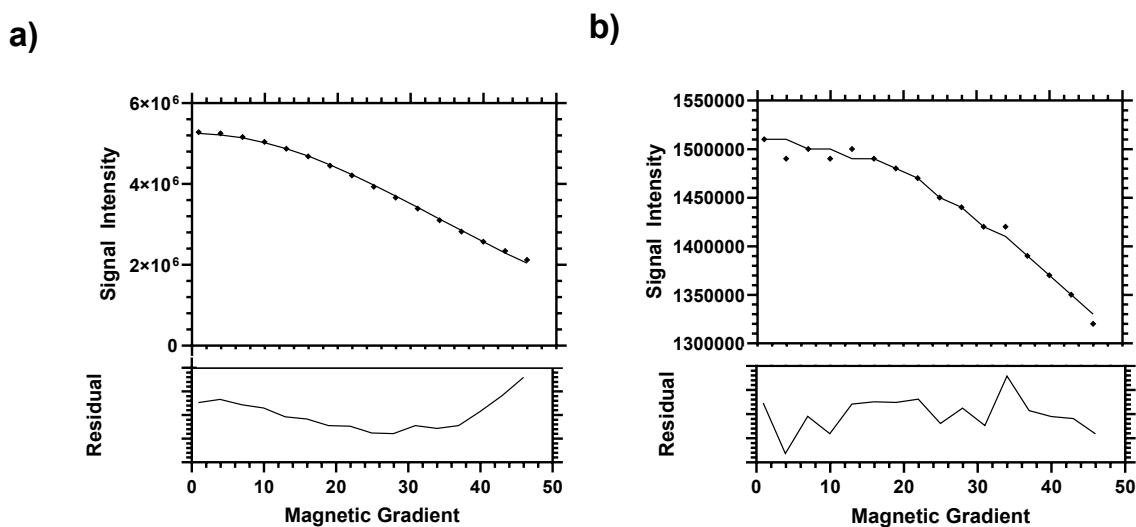


**Figure S2** –  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of pure Caffeine (left) and a Caffeine : BSA 3 :1 ratio (right)

BSA, Caffeine, and mixtures thereof were analysed by DOSY NMR and found to diffuse at a rate of  $6.54 \times 10^{-11} \text{ m}^2 / \text{S}$  and  $6.19 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m}^2 / \text{S}$  respectively (fitting to peaks  $\delta$  1.63 and  $\delta$  3.87 with 16 gradient steps as shown in **Figures S3, S4** and **S5**).

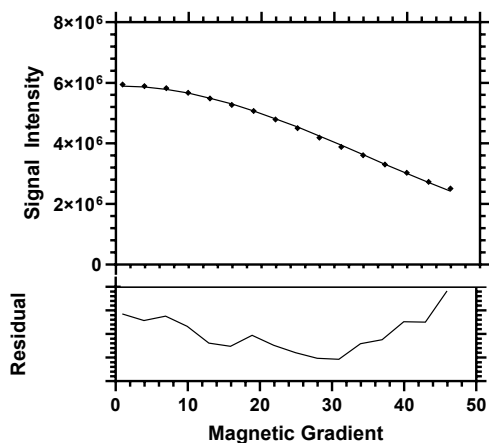


**Figure S3** – Diffusion Decay of Pure Compounds. A) Caffeine: Diffusion decay (peaks = raw data, line = applied fit and std. deviation residuals below) of pure Caffeine in D<sub>2</sub>O  $\delta$  3.87 pm.  $\gamma$  26752 rad/(s\*Gauss),  $\delta$  0.0015800 s and  $\Delta$  0.059900 s. Calculated  $D = 6.19\text{E-}10 \pm 3.010\text{e-}12$  m<sup>2</sup>/s. b) BSA: Diffusion decay (peaks = raw data, line = applied fit and std. deviation residuals below) of pure BSA in D<sub>2</sub>O  $\delta$  1.63 pm.  $\gamma$  26752 rad/(s\*Gauss),  $\delta$  0.0015800 s and  $\Delta$  0.059900 s. Calculated  $D = 6.54\text{E-}11 \pm 2.846\text{e-}12$  m<sup>2</sup>/s

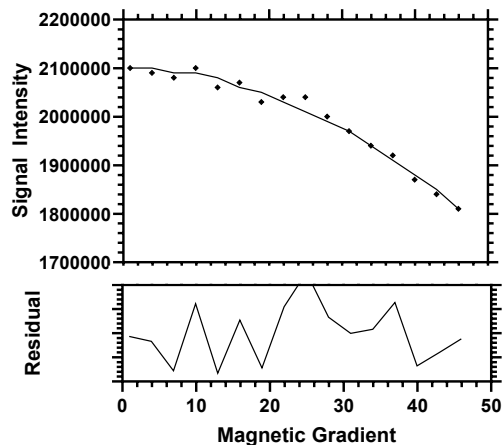


**Figure S4** – Diffusion Decay of Caffeine and BSA in a 3 : 1 Ratio. A) Caffeine: Diffusion decay (peaks = raw data, line = applied fit and std. deviation residuals below) of Caffeine in 3 :1 BSA ratio  $\delta$  3.87 pm.  $\gamma$  26752 rad/(s\*Gauss),  $\delta$  0.0015800 s and  $\Delta$  0.059900 s. Calculated  $D = 5.25\text{E-}10 \pm 8.416\text{e-}12$  m<sup>2</sup>/s. b) BSA: Diffusion decay (peaks = raw data, line = applied fit and std. deviation residuals below) of BSA in 3 :1 mixture  $\delta$  1.64 pm.  $\gamma$  26752 rad/(s\*Gauss),  $\delta$  0.0015800 s and  $\Delta$  0.059900 s. Calculated  $D = 5.62\text{E-}11 \pm 4.114\text{e-}12$  m<sup>2</sup>/s

a)



b)



**Figure S5** – Diffusion Decay of Caffeine and BSA in a 10 : 1 Ratio. A) Caffeine: Diffusion decay (peaks = raw data, line = applied fit and std. deviation residuals below) of Caffeine in 10 :1 BSA ratio  $\delta$  3.87 pm.  $\gamma$  26752 rad/(s\*Gauss),  $\delta$  0.0015800 s and  $\Delta$  0.059900 s. Calculated  $D = 4.08\text{E-}10 \pm 8.865\text{e-}12 \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$ . b) BSA: Diffusion decay (peaks = raw data, line = applied fit and std. deviation residuals below) of BSA in 10 :1 mixture  $\delta$  1.64 pm.  $\gamma$  26752 rad/(s\*Gauss),  $\delta$  0.0015800 s and  $\Delta$  0.059900 s. Calculated  $D = 6.69\text{E-}11 \pm 4.9633\text{e-}12 \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$