

University of Oregon CAMCOR NMR Facility
Varian NMR Instrument Guidelines (*VnmrJ 3.2 software*)

NMR tube quality:

- Norell **5-200-7** (economy) *or* Wilmad **528** (premium-high resolution) or better.
Tubes must be **Pyrex**; 7" length recommended for general use.
- discard any defective tube:
 - cracked, chipped, scratched, etched, broken top
 - warped (can result from oven-drying; avoid more than 30 min @ 100 C)

Every Sample:

- carefully **clean outside** of tube with ethanol prior to bringing the sample to the NMR room to prevent contamination of the NMR probe. *This is critical for tubes that have been handled in glove boxes.*
- carefully position **tube depth** in sample holder with depth gauge (center of coil for short samples)
- **maximum liquid volume:** 0.7 ml (5-cm height) routine samples, easy shimming
minimum liquid volume: 0.5 ml (4cm height) limited-mass samples
- no parafilm or tape "flag" labels
- **All samples** to be run **non-spinning** in this facility.
- for **highest resolution:** avoid particulates, excessive concentration, trace paramagnetics

First time *VnmrJ* user:

- enable command line: **View > Command Line** (top menu bar)
- load standard parameters: **Experiments > Proton** (top menu bar)

Every Session (Varian spectrometers):

- Select solvent: **Start > Standard > Solvent**
- **Start > Shim** -> **Read Default shims** (or command line: **rts('std5') su**)
- Check **Start > Lock > Phase** for current value... spectrometer specific!... see white board.
- **Start > Lock > Find z0** (auto-lock)
- **Start > Lock > Gradient Shim** (auto-shim). Use manual shimming for highest resolution.
- Select nucleus/experiment, e.g. **Experiments > Proton** (top menu bar)
- 500 only: **Start > Standard > Tune Probe**
- save spectra in "**vnmrdata**" folder for off-line processing on other NMR facility workstations

When you're done:

- replace CDCl₃ standard
- call the next user in the queue
- **exit** VnmrJ software and **log-out** of desktop; be sure computer has returned to login "Welcome" screen

Notify facility manager immediately in case of problems:

- scored or abraded sample tube
- broken sample tube in magnet. Do **not** attempt to insert another sample!!!
- Please record all broken/spilled samples in the system log book.

Other Facility rules:

- no sample preparation in NMR room
- no lab gloves in NMR room
- clean up after yourself... take your samples when you leave!
- please be considerate of others: limit your session to 10 minutes if there is a queue.

Contact information:

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