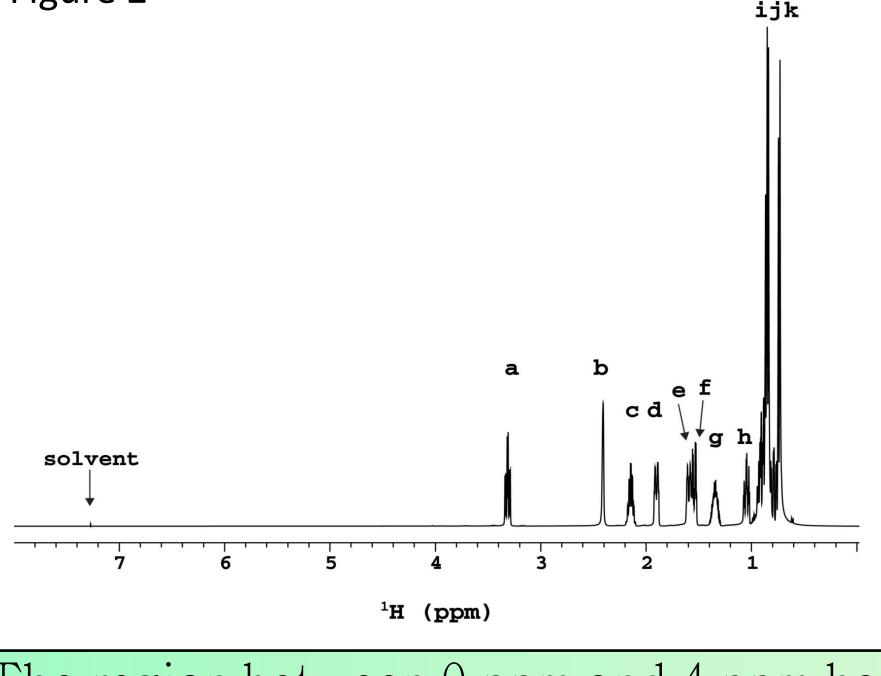


Figure 1 (1R,2S,5R)-2-isopropyl-5methylcyclohexanol commonly known as menthol, is a 9 carbon structure containing a 6 membered ring, an isopropyl group branching from the second carbon, a hydroxyl group bonded to the first carbon and a methyl group bonded to the fifth carbon. The molecular

formula of menthol is $C_{10}H_{20}O$ and the molecular weight is 156.27 g/mol. Menthol can be made synthetically or extracted from cornmint, peppermint, or other mint oils. The structure of menthol is shown in Figure 1.

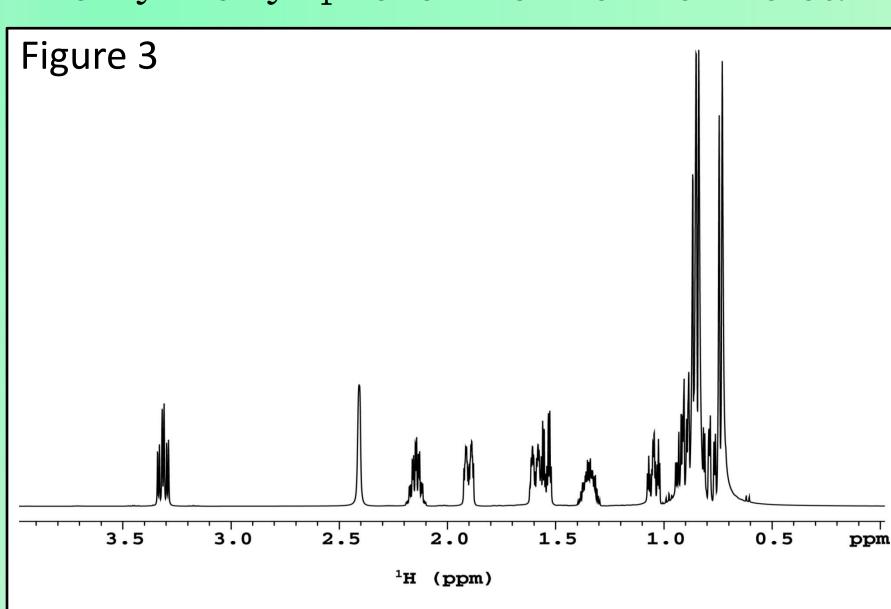
¹H 1D NMR Spectrum The ¹H spectrum of menthol is shown in Figure 2. The spectrum was recorded at 500 MHz (¹H) using a spectral width of 5230.13 Hz and 8192 complex points (acquisition time of 1.5s). Figure 2

Peak	Chemical Shift (ppm)
a	3.31
b	2.41
С	2.15
d	1.89
е	1.61
f	1.53
g	1.34
h	1.04
i	0.85
j	0.84
k	0.72



The region between 0 ppm and 4 ppm has as been expanded in Figure 3, which allows groups and this us to examine the fine structure in detail. correlation allows The solvent resonance (residual CHCl₃) us to confirm they appears at 7.27 ppm. The most downfield are in positions 6

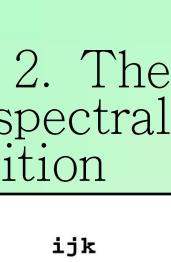
resonance in menthol, a, is at 3.31 ppm, which we can assign to the proton in position 1 because of the proximity to the electronegative oxygen. The resonance at 2.41ppm, b, is a singlet that we can confidently assign to the hydroxyl proton bonded to the carbon in position 1.



examining the fine assign this to the single hydrogen at position 8 because the resonance 1s split by the methine

at position 2 and the 6 equivalent protons in positions 7 and 9, giving rise to the observed complex splitting pattern. The resonances at 1.89 ppm and 1.53 ppm labeled d, e and f are likely the three methylene groups in positions 3, 4 and 6 but we cannot definitively assign them without further experimentation. Resonance g at 1.34 ppm is a complex multiplet (proton is coupled to four nonequivalent protons) which allows us to tentatively assign it to position 5. We can also infer that the most upfield peaks i, j, and k correspond to the methyl groups in positions 7, 9 and 10 but we cannot definitively assign them yet. The remaining peak at 1.04 ppm, labeled h, would correspond to position 2 the process of elimination through but experimentation is need to confirm this assignment.

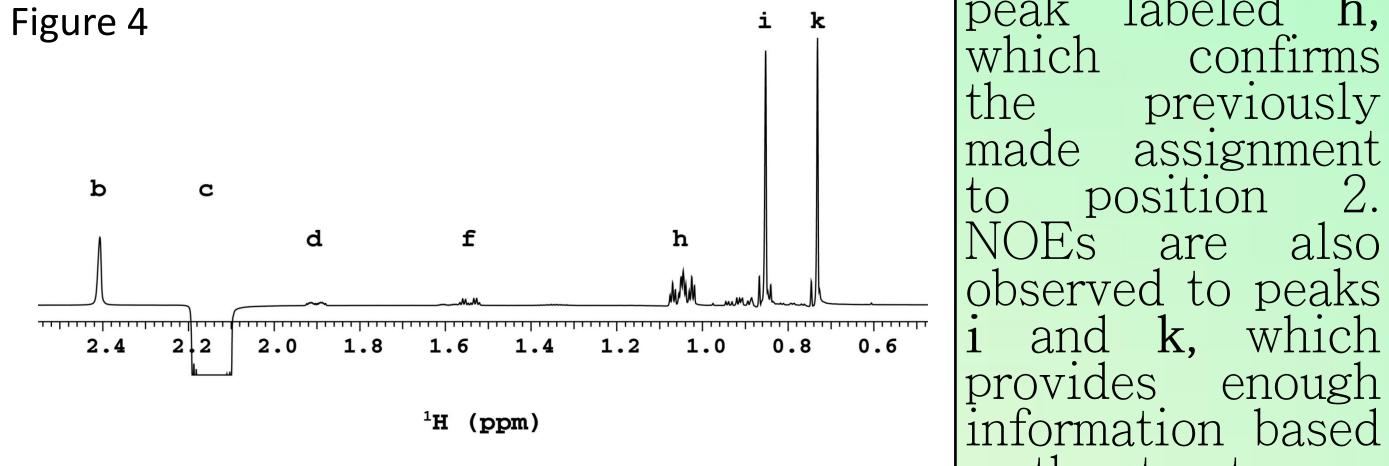
Assignments of ¹H/¹³C NMR Resonances of Menthol Morgan K. Stinson and Peter F. Flynn



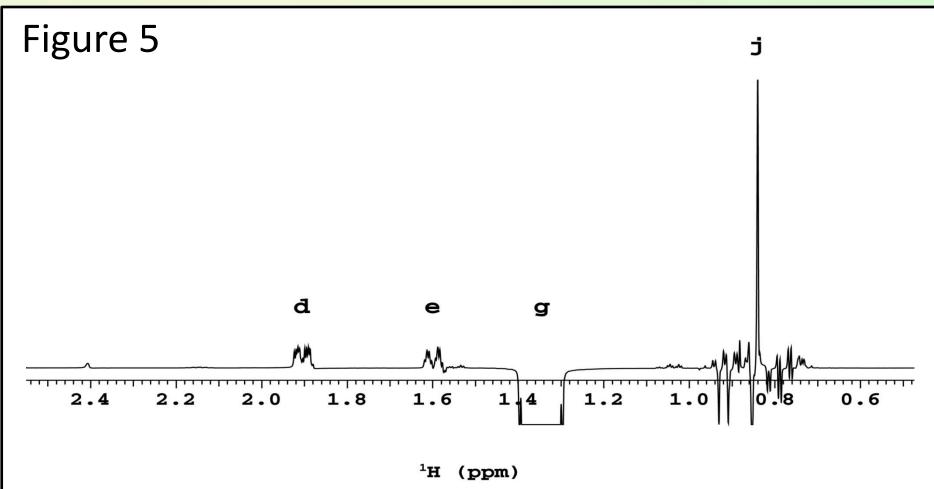
further

NOESY NMR 1-D Spectrum

In order to resolve the aforementioned ambiguities in the spectrum of menthol, it was necessary to analyze data collected from the spectrum of Nuclear Overhauser Effect spectroscopy. The data were recorded using a mixing time of 500 ms and a spectral width of 5230.13 Hz. The spectrum shown in Figure 4 is the result of irradiating the resonance at 2.15 ppm. The irradiated resonance corresponds to the methine at position 8, and is labeled **c**. The resulting NOE peaks corresponds to the hydroxyl peak labeled b and the



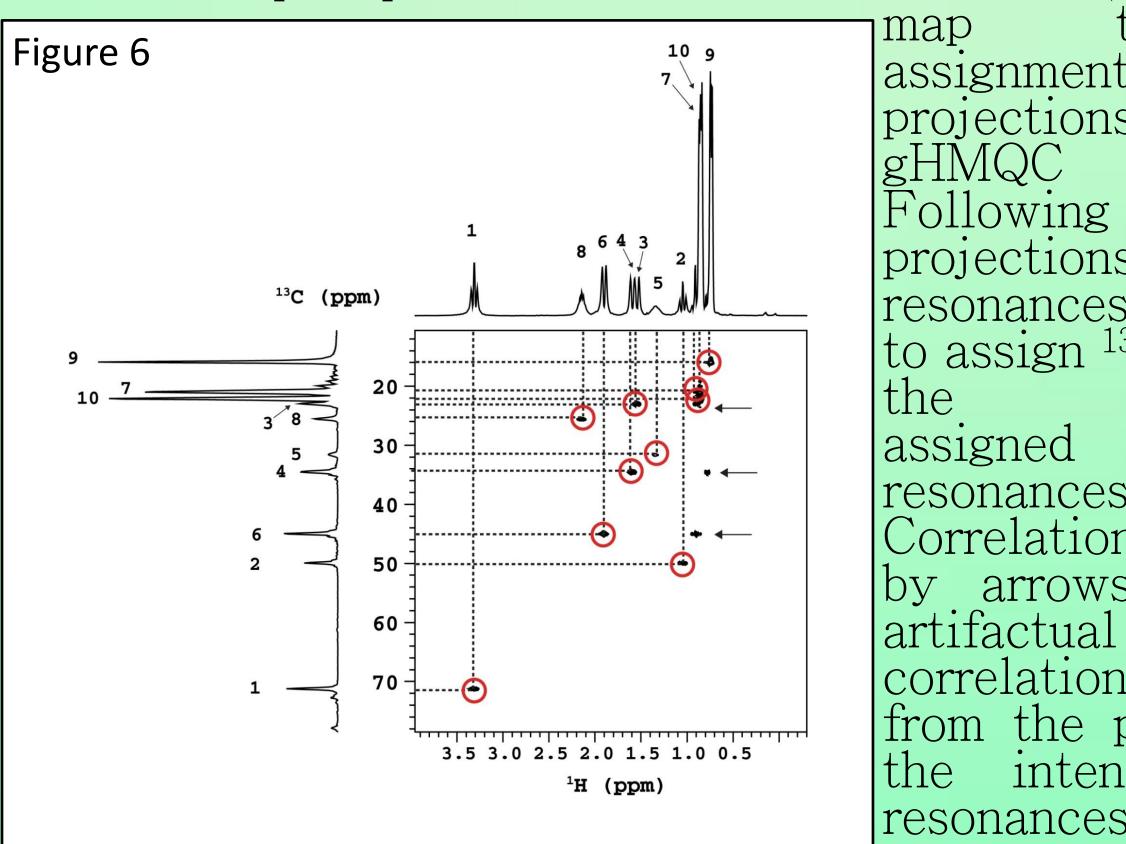
of the molecule to assign peaks i and k to the methyl groups in positions 9 and 7 accordingly. Similarly, in Figure 5 the peak we previously assigned to the methine in position 5 is irradiated. There is a NOE between g and peaks d and e, which are assigned as two of the methylene protons. We also observe a NOE to peak j which further confirms our methyl



group assignments, Figure 5 making this the methyl in position 10. Peaks d and e have been assigned methylene and 4 respectively.

gHMQC 2-D NMR Spectrum

The Gradient-Enhanced Heteronuclear Multiple Quantum carefully Correlation spectrum reveals ¹³C-¹H chemical shift correlations between directly bonded hydrogen and carbon structure of the nuclei. The gHMQC spectrum is shown in Figure 6. The data resonance labeled c, were recorded at 500MHz (1H) using spectral widths of which appears at 5230.13 Hz in the direct (¹H) dimension (F2, horizontal axis) 2.15 ppm, we can and 12626.3 Hz in the indirect (13C) dimension (F1, vertical distinguish a septet axis) with 1024 complex points in the direct dimension (F2) of doublets. We can and 512 complex points in the indirect dimension (F1). We can

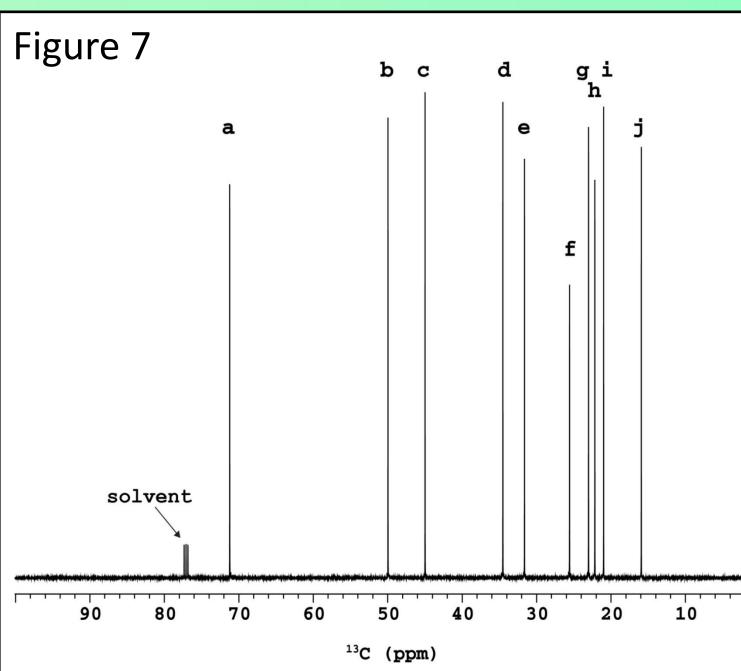


peak labeled h, which confirms the previously made assignment position NOEs are also observed to peaks provides enough information based on the structure

the the assignments to the projections ON gHMQC spectrum. Following the projections to the 2D resonances allows us to assign ¹³C based on previously assigned resonances. Correlations indicated arrows represent

arising correlations from the presence of methyl the intense resonances.

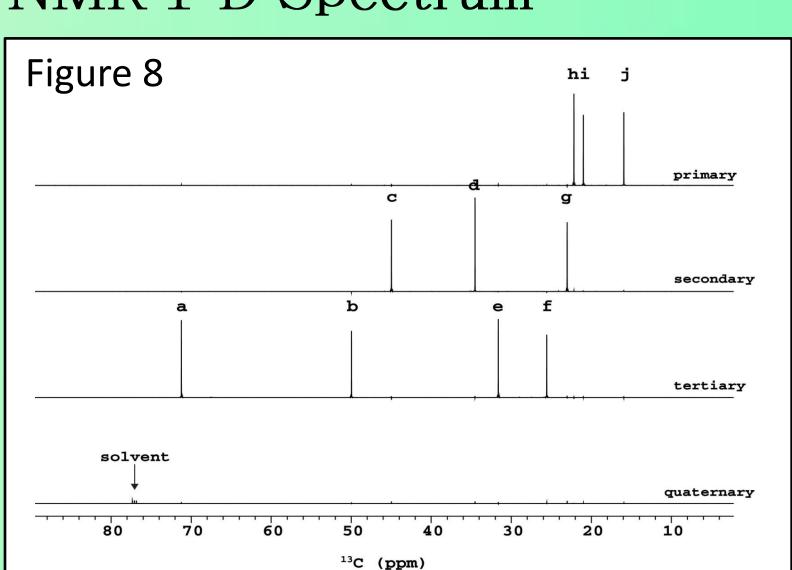
The ¹³C spectrum of menthol is spectrum was recorded at 500 width of 12626.3 Hz and 163 assignments to this spectrum can of the gHMQC spectrum.



Resonance corresponds a position 1, which makes intuitive sense because of the proximity to the hydroxyl group. Peak **b** corresponds to position 2, which likewise makes sense since this resonance is expected to be more downfield than the other two methine carbons due to the proximity to the hydroxyl group. Peaks c and d correspond to the methylene carbons in positions 6 and 4 respectively, and peaks e and f correspond to the two other methine carbons in positions 8 and 5. Peak g corresponds to position 3 and peaks h, i, and j are confirmed as the methyl carbons in positions 7, 10, and 9 respectively.

¹³C DEPT NMR 1-D Spectrum

The ¹³C DEPT spectra | Figure 8 shown are shown in Figure 8. The data were recorded using width spectral 12626.3 Hz and 16399 complex points. Peaks previously labeled h, i and j appear as primary carbons, confirming identity their as methyl groups in the



sample of menthol. Peaks identified as c, d, and g appear as secondary carbons confirming their previous assignments, and peaks a, b, e, and f are tertiary carbons which confirms their prior assignments as well.

Results

Most of the ¹H resonances present in the spectra of menthol could be assigned based on a careful analysis of the chemical shifts and fine structure present in the 1D spectrum. These ¹H assignments were then used to assign the ¹³C index in the 2D HMQC spectrum. The ambiguities that arose in the ¹H spectrum could be definitively assigned by irradiating specific peaks in the NOESY experiment. This allowed for the unique assignment of the three methyl ¹H/¹³C resonances.

References

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¹³C NMR 1-D Spectrum

s shown in Figure 7.	
MHz (1H) using a spec	ctral
99 complex points.	The
be made using the anal	ysis

		Peak	Chemical Shift (ppm)
		a	71.7
		b	50.01
		С	42.53
		d	34.36
		е	31.98
		f	25.92
		g	23.32
		h	22.17
		1	21.03
t	0	j	16.23

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