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Note

Transmetallation of nickel(II) ion in a nickel(II) azamacrocyclic complex with gold(III) ion

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Abstract

The Ni(II) macrocyclic complex $[Ni(L)]^{2+}$ (L = 1,8-dimethyl-1,3,6,8,10,13-hexaazacyclotetradecane) reacts with AuCl₄⁻ in MeCN, and the Ni(II) ion in the macrocyclic complex is exchanged with Au(III) ion. The kinetic study on the transmetallation reaction shows that the rate is inhibited by acid and Cl⁻, which is explained in mechanistic terms. © 2000 Elsevier Science S.A. All rights reserved.

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1. Introduction

The complexes of polyazamacrocyclic ligands with central metal ions with d^8 electronic configuration, such as Ni(II), have been actively studied [1–8]. However, Au(III) macrocyclic complexes have been rarely reported since the first Au(III)–cyclam complexes were reported by Kimura's group [9]. The Au(III) ion has been seldom used as a metal template for the synthesis of macrocyclic complexes [10,11]. Recently, we have synthesized Au(III) complexes of the hexaazamacrocyclic ligand, 1,8-bis(hydroxyethyl)-1,3,6,8,10,13-hexaazacyclotetradecane, by the one-pot metal template synthesis [12].

We have been interested in the possibility of metal exchange reaction for some Ni(II) macrocyclic complexes with Au(III) ion. We have discovered that the Au(III) ion can substitute the Ni(II) ion in the Ni(II) macrocyclic complex, while other metal ions cannot. In search of factors that facilitate the transmetallation reaction as well as mechanistic information, we carried out a kinetic study for the substitution reaction of Ni(II) with Au(III) in the Ni(II) complex of 1,8-dimethyl-1,3,6,8,10,13-hexaazacyclotetradecane (L) in MeCN.



2. Experimental

2.1. Materials

MeCN was purified according to the literature [13]. NaClO₄·H₂O and HAuCl₄·3H₂O were recrystallized from EtOH and MeCN, respectively, to remove the

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lattice water. $[Ni^{II}(L)](ClO_4)_2$ (1) was prepared by the metal-template Schiff-base condensation as reported previously [2b].

2.2. Synthesis of $[Au^{III}(L^{-})]Cl_{2}$ (2)

[Ni^{II}(L)](ClO₄)₂ (1) (50 mg, 1.02×10^{-4} mol) was dissolved in MeCN (5 ml), and then HAuCl₄ (80 mg, 2.03×10^{-4} mol) in MeCN (3 ml) was added. After the color of the mixture changed to dark brown, the solution was slowly evaporated at room temperature to induce the precipitation. The brown precipitate formed was filtered, washed with MeOH, and dried in vacuo. Yield: 80%. *Anal.* Calc. for AuC₁₀H₂₅N₆Cl₂: C, 24.16; H, 5.06; N, 16.90. Found: C, 24.58; H, 5.96; N, 16.51%. $\Lambda_{\rm M}$ (in MeCN): 218 Ω^{-1} cm⁻¹ M⁻¹.

2.3. Kinetic measurements

Reaction rates were measured at 25°C with a Shimadzu UV-260 spectrophotometer by following the absorbance change at 318 nm, which corresponds to the maximum absorption of the product $[Au^{III}(L^-)]Cl_2(2)$ formed from the reaction of HAuCl₄ and $[Ni^{III}(L)](ClO_4)_2(1)$. Reaction mixtures were made in MeCN with the total ionic strength being maintained at 0.023 M with NaClO₄. Water associated with concentrated HClO₄ or the hydrated form of NaClO₄·H₂O was introduced to the reaction mixture, but its total content was negligible. The initial concentration of HAuCl₄ ([HAuCl₄]_o) was 2.7 × 10⁻⁵ M, whereas that of 1 ([1]_o) was (0.6 ~ 8.0) × 10⁻³ M. Under these conditions, pseudo-first-order kinetic behavior was observed for the formation of **2**.

Caution! Perchlorate salts of metal complexes with organic ligands and perchloric acid are potentially explosive. Handle in only small amounts and with great care.

3. Results and discussion

3.1. Properties of $[Au^{III}(L^{-})]Cl_{2}$ (2)

Complex 2 was prepared by substituting the Ni(II) ion in $[Ni^{II}(L)]^{2+}$ with the Au(III) ion as in Eq. (1):

$$[Ni^{II}(L)](ClO_4)_2 (1) + HAu^{III}Cl_4$$

$$\rightarrow [Au^{III}(L^{-})]Cl_2 (2) + Ni^{II} + 2H^{+} + 2Cl^{-} + 2ClO_4^{-}$$
(1)

The resulting dark brown precipitate was stable in the air. It is insoluble in water, but slightly soluble in EtOH and CH₃CN. The infrared spectrum of complex **2** showed $v_{\rm NH}$ of the secondary amines of the macrocyclic ligand L at 3150 and 3200 cm⁻¹ (split), while the reactant (complex **1**) showed $v_{\rm NH}$ at 3200 cm⁻¹. The peak at 1200 ~ 1100 cm⁻¹, which is a characteristic peak for the anion ClO₄⁻¹

of $[Ni^{II}(L)](ClO_4)_2$ (1), disappeared for the product. This indicates that the counter anion of the product was replaced with Cl⁻. The electronic absorption spectrum of the brown product measured in MeCN showed a maximum absorption at 318 nm ($\varepsilon = 12~000$ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹). The peaks for the product in the visible range were not observed because of their overlapping with an intense absorption at 318 nm. In the case of complex 1, the absorption maximum for the d-d transition appeared at 449 nm ($\varepsilon = 56$ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹) [2b]. The large ε value at $\lambda = 318$ nm for the product must be attributed to the charge transfer from L^- to Au(III). This result is comparable with Kimura's Au(III) macrocyclic complex [9]. A deprotonated form of the compound was characterized by elemental analysis and the molar conductance value corresponded to a 1:2 electrolyte.

3.2. Kinetic study for transmetallation

Kinetic data were obtained in MeCN at 25°C by following absorbance increases at 318 nm. At this wavelength, the molar extinction coefficient of the product was 12 000 M⁻¹ cm⁻¹. The ionic strength was maintained at 0.023 M. The data were measured with $(2.10 \pm 0.07) \times 10^{-2}$ M NaClO₄ and $(0.28 \sim 6.48) \times 10^{-4}$ M HClO₄.

Under the conditions of $[1]_o \gg [HAuCl_4]_o$, pseudo-firstorder kinetic behavior was observed for the formation of **2**. The pseudo-first-order rate constants (k_o) measured at various concentrations of $[1]_o$ in the presence of 1.55×10^{-4} M HClO₄ are illustrated in Fig. 1. The values of k_o were proportional to $[1]_o$ with proportionality constant $k_{\rm bi}$. The rate was first-order with respect to both $[\text{HAuCl}_4]_o$ and $[1]_o$. The overall rate law can be expressed as Eq. (2):

rate =
$$\frac{d[2]}{dt} = k_o[HAuCl_4]_o = k_{bi}[1]_o[HAuCl_4]_o$$
 (2)

We examined the effects of the H⁺ and Cl⁻ ion on the reaction rate, by using HClO₄ and tetrabutylammonium chloride (TBAC). Addition of HClO₄ inhibited the reaction (Fig. 2). Addition of low concentrations of TBAC reduced the rate in comparison with the reaction carried out in the absence of TBAC. When [TBAC]_o was greater than 3×10^{-4} M, however, the reaction became considerably faster than when carried out in the absence of TBAC (Fig. 3).

3.2.1. Effect of HClO₄

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As the rate data measured in MeCN, $HClO_4$ and $NaClO_4$ may be regarded as a weak acid and its conjugate base, respectively, which act as a buffer system. In this buffer solution, $HAuCl_4$ may be partially neutralized according to Eqs. (3) and (4):

$$HAuCl_4 + ClO_4^- \rightleftharpoons AuCl_4^- + HClO_4$$
(3)

$$K = \frac{[\operatorname{AuCl}_4^-][\operatorname{HClO}_4]}{[\operatorname{HAuCl}_4][\operatorname{ClO}_4^-]}$$
(4)



Fig. 1. The plot of k_0 against [1]₀ for the reaction of 1 with AuCl₄⁻ in the presence of 1.55×10^{-4} M HClO₄ in MeCN at 25°C. The slope of the solid line is $k_{\rm bi}$.



Fig. 2. Plot of k_{bi} against [HClO₄]_o for the reaction of **1** with AuCl₄⁻ in MeCN at 25°C. The solid line was drawn to fit the curve with Eq. (7).



Fig. 3. Values of k_{o} measured in the absence (\diamondsuit) or presence (\bigcirc) of TBAC for the reaction of 1 with AuCl₄⁻ in the presence of 1.0 × 10⁻⁴ HClO₄ and 2.9 × 10⁻⁵ M HAuCl₄ in MeCN at 25°C.

Kinetic data were obtained with 2.75×10^{-5} M of [HAuCl₄]_o, which is considerably smaller than [NaClO₄]_o (the initially added concentration of NaClO₄; 2.17×10^{-3} M) or [HClO₄]_o (the initially added concentration of HClO₄; $2.76 \times 10^{-4} \sim 6.38 \times 10^{-4}$ M). Under these conditions, [AuCl₄] can be approximated as Eq. (5), which can be derived from Eq. (4) and the mass balance of gold element, [HAuCl₄]_o = [HAuCl₄] + [AuCl₄⁻]. The ratio [HClO₄]/[ClO₄⁻] corresponds to [H⁺]/K_a, where K_a stands for the ionization constant of HClO₄ in MeCN. Since [HAuCl₄]_o \ll [NaClO₄]_o or [HClO₄]_o and [NaClO₄]_o, respectively.

$$[\operatorname{AuCl}_{4}^{-}] = \frac{[\operatorname{HAuCl}_{4}]_{\circ}}{1 + \frac{[\operatorname{HClO}_{4}]}{K[\operatorname{ClO}_{4}^{-}]}}$$
(5)

If we consider the case in the absence of HClO_4 as the limiting case, the following relationship (Eq. (6)) could be established, where $k_{\text{bi}}^{\text{lim}}$ is the k_{bi} value measured in the absence of added HClO_4 .

$$k_{\rm bi}^{\rm lim} \left[{\rm AuCl}_4^- \right] = k_{\rm bi} \left[{\rm HAuCl}_4 \right]_0 \tag{6}$$

From Eqs. (5) and (6), we can deduce the relationship between $k_{\rm bi}$ and $[\rm HClO_4]_o$ as Eq. (7). If $\rm AuCl_4^-$, instead of $\rm HAuCl_4$, is the reactive species, the inhibitory action of $\rm HClO_4$ can be explained with Eq. (7). Here, the K^o , which is same as the $K[\rm ClO_4^-]$ term of Eq. (5), is the value of $[\rm HClO_4]_o$ at which $k_{\rm bi}$ is half of $k_{\rm bin}^{\rm lim}$.

$$k_{\rm bi} = \frac{k_{\rm bi}^{\rm lim}}{1 + \frac{[\rm HClO_4]_o}{K^o}}$$
(7)

The $k_{\rm bi}$ values were measured at several [HClO₄]_o concentrations. The dependence of $k_{\rm bi}$ on [HClO₄]_o is illustrated in Fig. 2. The curve indicated in Fig. 2 was obtained by fitting the experimental data to Eq. (7). The values of $k_{\rm bi}^{\rm lim}$ and $K^{\rm o}$ used for the construction of the curve are 3.37 M⁻¹ s⁻¹ and 5.38 × 10⁻⁴ M, respectively. From $K^{\rm o}$, K is calculated as 19.6, indicating that HAuCl₄ is slightly more acidic than HClO₄ in MeCN.

The inhibitory action of $HClO_4$ suggests that $HClO_4$ masks the reactive species involved in the formation of **2**. A likely reactant to be masked is $AuCl_4^-$. $HClO_4$ may protonate $AuCl_4^-$ to form $HAuCl_4$ as indicated in Eq. (3). It is also possible that $HAuCl_4$ may form an adduct with ClO_4^- in MeCN. $HAuCl_4$ may be much less reactive than $AuCl_4^-$ toward **1**, presumably due to reduced electrostatic affinity toward cationic complex **1**.



Scheme 1.

3.2.2. Effect of TBAC

The kinetic data were also measured in the presence of TBAC $(3 \times 10^{-5} \sim 6 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M})$. Here, [1]_o, [HClO₄]_o and [HAuCl₄]_o were 1.00×10^{-3} , 1.55×10^{-4} , and 2.90×10^{-5} M, respectively. The values of k_o measured at various [TBAC]_o are illustrated in Fig. 3. As revealed by Fig. 3, addition of 0.30×10^{-4} M TBAC reduced k_o from $2.01 \times 10^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$ to $0.449 \times 10^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$. When TBAC was added further, however, k_o was proportional to [TBAC]_o. The line of Fig. 3 is drawn with the proportionality constant of $10.3 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$.

Both the inhibitory and the accelerating effects of TBAC are consistent with the mechanism described in Scheme 1. The rate expression for Scheme 1 is derived as Eq. (8) under the condition of $[1]_0 \gg [HClO_4]_0$.

$$k_{\rm bi} = \frac{k_{\rm bi}^{\rm lim} + k^+ K_{\rm f}^+ [\rm TBAC]^2}{1 + K_{\rm f}^{\rm Cl} [\rm TBAC] + K_{\rm f}^+ [\rm TBAC]^2}$$
(8)

If the Ni(II) complex of **L** exists primarily as the monochloro species ($[Ni^{II}(L)]^{2+} \cdot Cl^{-}$), then K_f^{Cl} [TBAC] $\gg 1 + K_f^+$ [TBAC]² and Eq. (8) becomes Eq. (9). The decrease in k_o at low [TBAC] and the linear dependence of k_{bi}^{lim} on [TBAC] illustrated in Fig. 3 is predicted by Eq. (9). If $k_{bi}^{lim} \gg k^+ K_f^+$ [TBAC]² at low concentrations ($< 3 \times 10^{-5}$ M) of TBAC, Eq. (9) predicts that k_{bi} is suppressed in the presence of TBAC. When $k_{bi}^{lim} \ll k^+ K_f^+$ [TBAC]², Eq. (9) predicts k_{bi} is proportional to [TBAC].

$$k_{\rm bi} = \frac{k_{\rm bi}^{\rm lim}}{K_{\rm f}^{\rm Cl}[{\rm TBAC}]} + \frac{k^+ K_{\rm f}^+[{\rm TBAC}]}{K_{\rm f}^{\rm Cl}}$$
(9)

3.3. Proposed mechanism

As described in Scheme 1, four- and six-coordinate Ni(II) species, $[Ni^{II}(L)]^{2+}$ and $[Ni^{II}(L)Cl_2]$, are able to react with AuCl₄⁻, but five-coordinate Ni(II) species $[Ni^{II}(L)Cl]^+$ do not react with AuCl₄⁻. Although the detailed process from $[Ni^{II}(L)]^{2+}$ or $[Ni^{II}(L)Cl_2]$ to $[Au^{III}(L^-)]^+$ in Scheme 1 cannot be proposed by the rate law, a plausible mechanism is suggested in Scheme 2. Since $[Ni^{II}(L)]^{2+}$ and $[Ni^{II}(L)Cl_2]$ species have a *trans*-III structure, where two hydrogen atoms in secondary amines orient to a side opposite to that of the other two, which is the most stable form thermodynamically [14], the approach of $AuCl_4^-$ to the Ni(II) complex is easy as described in Scheme 2. However, the five-coordinate $[Ni^{II}(L)Cl]^+$ has a *trans*-I structure



Scheme 2.

where all four hydrogen atoms of secondary amines orient toward the same direction and the Ni(II) ion is located out of square-coordination plane toward the same direction of the protons. The access of $AuCl_4^-$ to the deprotonated secondary amine may be difficult because of the steric hindrances.



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