## A Kinetic Study on the Oxidation of Aquaoxomolybdenum(IV) Trimer by Vanadium(V)

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The structure and <sup>18</sup>O exchange rates of the trimeric aquaoxomolybdenum(IV) ion,  $[Mo_3O_4(H_2O)_9]^{4*}$ , were reported by Murmann and Shelton<sup>1</sup>



Sykes and his coworkers<sup>2</sup> have indicated that the reaction of  $[IrCl_6]^{2^-}$  with Mo<sub>3</sub><sup>*tv*</sup> in large excess can be expressed as Mo<sub>3</sub><sup>*tv*</sup> +  $6Ir^{$ *tv* $} \implies 3Mo^{v_1} + 6Ir^{tt}$ . They reported that the reaction of [Fe (phen)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>3+</sup> with Mo<sub>3</sub><sup>*tv*</sup> occurred exclusively by an outer-sphere mechanism, while  $[IrCl_6]^{2^-}$  reacted via an innersphere mechanism. No oxidations of Mo<sub>3</sub><sup>*tv*</sup> by  $[Co(C_2O_4)_3]^{3-}$  and  $[PtCl_6]^{2^-}$  were observed. We now report here our results of the reaction of [Mo<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>9</sub>]<sup>4+</sup> with VO<sub>2</sub><sup>\*</sup> in perchlorate media.

The stoichiometry of VO<sup>2</sup> oxidation of  $[Mo_3O_4(H_2O)_9]^{4+}$  was determined at 25°C by measuring the absorbance of the  $[Mo_3O_4(H_2O)_9]^{4+}$  at constant acidity. This experiment was done in 0.03M perchloric acid by adding varying amounts of VO<sup>2</sup><sub>2</sub> to  $[Mo_3O_4(H_2O)_9^{4+}] = 3.57 \times 10^{-4}$ M and adjusting to constant volume. Curvature was obtained from plot of the absorbance against the  $[VO^2_2]$  at  $[Mo_3O_4(H_2O)_9^{4+}] = 3.57 \times 10^{-4}$ M. From this result the mole ratio of VO<sup>2</sup><sub>2</sub> to  $[Mo_3O_4(H_2O)_9]^{4+}$  was  $5.9 \pm 0.2$ consistent with the stoichiometry given in

$$Mo_{3}^{\prime\prime} + 6V^{\prime} \rightleftharpoons 3Mo^{\prime\prime} + 6V^{\prime} \tag{1}$$

The kinetics of the reaction were studied under conditions of the presence of excess VO<sup>+</sup><sub>2</sub> in order to maintain the pseudo-first order condition. Rates of oxidation of [Mo<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>9</sub>]<sup>4+</sup> were measured by adding VO<sup>+</sup><sub>2</sub> of a given concentration with lambda pipette to reaction cell at constant temperature. The rate constants were obtained by a linear least-squares analysis of the absorbance against time. The relation between 1n (A<sub>r</sub>-A<sub>w</sub>) versus t was a straight line for at least 3 half-lives. Rate constants for the oxidation of [Mo<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>9</sub>]<sup>4+</sup> by VO<sup>+</sup><sub>2</sub> in perchlorate media were obtained spectrophotometrically at 340nm.

Figure 1 shows the dependence of the observed rate constants( $k_{obsd}$ ) on [VO<sub>3</sub>] at [Mo<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>9</sub><sup>4+</sup>]=3.57×10<sup>-4</sup>M and [HClO<sub>4</sub>]=0.57M. This is a straight line through the origin, denoting a first-order dependence on [VO<sub>3</sub>] as shown in Figure 1.

The effect of hydrogen-ion concentration was studied at



Figure 1. Dependence of  $k_{obsd}$  on [VO<sub>2</sub>] at 25°C. [Mo<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>9</sub><sup>4\*</sup>] =  $3.57 \times 10^{-4}$ M, [HClO<sub>4</sub>] = 0.57M.



**Figure 2.** Hydrogen-ion dependence of  $k_{obsd}$  at 25°C. [VO<sub>6</sub>] =  $3.53 \times 10^{-3}$ M, [Mo<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>5</sub><sup>4+</sup>] =  $2.14 \times 10^{-4}$ M, [CiO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>] = 0.66M.

 $[VO_2^*] = 3.53 \times 10^{-3}$ M,  $[MO_3O_4(H_2O)_9^{4*}] = 2.14 \times 10^{-4}$ M, and  $[CIO_4^-] = 0.66$ M. Figure 2 shows a plot of the pseudo-first order rate constants against [H<sup>+</sup>]. The rate increases with increasing hydrogen-ion concentration. A straight line of Figure 2 shows  $k_{pbd}$  to be a first-order function of [H<sup>+</sup>].

From the results of Figure 1 and 2 an experimental equation was expressed as

where  $k_{obsd} = \{k_o + k_h[H^*]\}$  [VO<sub>2</sub>].  $k_o$  and  $k_h$  obtained from in-

$$- cl \left[ Mo_{3}O_{4}(H_{2}O)_{9}^{4+} \right] / dt = k_{obsd} \left[ Mo_{3}O_{4}(H_{2}O)_{9}^{4+} \right]$$
(2)  
= {k\_o + k\_{A}[H^{+}]} [VO\_{2}^{\*}] [Mo\_{3}O\_{4}(H\_{2}O)\_{9}^{4+}]

tercept and slope of Figure 1 were  $7.5 \times 10^{-3}$ sec<sup>-1</sup> and  $4.82 \times 10^{-3}$ M<sup>-1</sup>sec<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. Rate equation shows two terms involving [H<sup>+</sup>]-dependent and -independent rates. The [H<sup>+</sup>]-independent term indicates substitution of a coordinated water of Mo<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>. This makes bridge bond with OH<sup>-</sup> of VO<sub>2</sub>. The increase in the rate of oxidation with increasing hydrogen-ion concentration implies that the protonation of Mo<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub><sup>++</sup> produces Mo<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub>(OH)<sup>5+</sup> containing the OH<sup>-</sup> group which is more strongly coordinated than water. It is not observed that the molybdenum(IV)-hydroxide species were formed by dissociation of proton from a coordinated water under the condition of this experiment.

Ratios of the rate constants for a series of oxidants reduced by two different reductants are often used as a diagnostic criterion for assigning redox reactions as proceeding by outersphere mechanisms or inner-sphere mechanisms.3 Ratios  $(k_{\rm F}/k_{\rm b})$  of the rate constants for the reactions of Mo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4(aq)</sub><sup>2+</sup> and [Mo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>(edta)]<sup>2+</sup> with [Fe(phen)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>3+</sup> and [IrCl<sub>6</sub>]<sup>2+</sup> are 281,<sup>4</sup> while ratios of  $k_{jk_{1r}}$  for VO<sub>2</sub> oxidation of Mo<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4(aq)</sub><sup>2+</sup> and Mo<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4(aa)</sub><sup>4+</sup> are 6.3 and 3.0, respectively.<sup>5</sup> These ratios are not in agreement with that observed for the outer-sphere reactions of [Fe(phen)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>3+</sup> and [IrCl<sub>6</sub>]<sup>2+</sup> with [Mo<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>9</sub>]<sup>4+</sup>.<sup>2</sup> This fact indicates that the aquaoxomolybdenum(IV) trimer reacts rapidly via an inner-sphere mechanism with VO<sub>2</sub>. This aquaoxomolybdenum(IV) complex allows for complexation by the inner-sphere oxidant. We assume that rate determining step of the reaction(1) is the process which the coordination number of vanadium in aqueous solution is increased from four or five in V(V) to six in V(IV) since redox step accompanying structural change seems energetically prohibitive.\*

The mechanisms for the oxidation of the aquaoxomolybdenum(IV) trimer by VO; may be described by the steps (a) and (b).

From this equations  $k_{obsd} = \{k_1 + K_h k_2 | H^* \}$  [VO<sub>2</sub>],  $k_1 = k_o$ , and  $K_h k_2 = k_h$ . These results are consistent with the empirical

$$\begin{array}{c} \operatorname{Mo_3O_4}_{(aq)}^{4*} + \operatorname{VO_2}_{(aq)}^{*} \underbrace{k_1}_{(I)} O_4 \operatorname{Mo_3}^* OH - \operatorname{VO}(OH)_{(aq)}^{5*} \\ (I) \text{ (I) fast products} \end{array} \right) (a)$$

$$Mo_{3}O_{4(eq)}^{4*} + H \underbrace{k_{h}}_{\swarrow} \dot{M}o_{3}O_{3}(OH)_{(eq)}^{5*}$$

$$Mo_{3}O_{3}(OH)_{(eq)}^{5*} + VO_{2(eq)}^{*} \underbrace{k_{2}}_{\Rightarrow}O_{3}Mo_{3}-OH-VO_{2(eq)}^{6*}$$

$$O_{3}Mo_{3}-OH-VO_{2(eq)}^{6*} \underbrace{fast}_{\Rightarrow} \text{ products}$$

$$(b)$$

From mechanisms (a) and (b) we obtain  

$$-d[Mo_{3}O_{4}(H_{2}O)_{9}^{4*}]/dt = \{k_{1} + K_{k}k_{2}[H^{*}]\}$$
(3)  

$$[VO_{2}^{*}] [Mo_{3}O_{4}(H_{2}O)_{9}^{4*}]$$

rate equation. It is considered that the rate determining step for the reaction is the formation of the bridging complex between two reactants, Mo(IV) and V(V). The bridging ligand of an intermediate is donated by the reducing agent,  $[Mo_3O_4(H_2O)_9]^{4*}$ , as in the reactions of VO; with  $[Fe(CN)_6]^{4*}$ and chromium(VI) with  $[Fe(CN)_6]^{4*}$ ,  $[Fe(bipy)(CN)_4]^{2*}$ , and  $[Fe(bipy)_4(CN)_4]_{6*7}^{6*7}$ 

Detailed mechanisms of the reaction should be the subject of further investigations.

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## The Reductive N–Benzylation of Alkanolamines using Tetracarbonylhydridoferrate, HFe(CO)<sub>4</sub>, as a Selective Reducing Agent

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The combination of two functionalities of alkanolamines having amino and hydroxyl group makes them versatile intermediates for countless industrial applications: they are of particular interest to the textile, pharmaceutical and household products industries'. Secondary alkylalkanolamines are generally prepared by the ring opening of an epoxides with an alkylamines<sup>2</sup>. The addition of imidoosmium reagents to alkenes<sup>3</sup> and methods for the alkylation of primary amines with 2-bromoalcohols<sup>4</sup> are also well established procedures for the preparation of N-alkyl-1. 2-alkanolamines. Cope et al<sup>5</sup> suc-