

Reversible Binding of Acetylene to Cationic Cobalt(III) Octaethylporphyrin

Jun-ichiro SETSUNE,* Mitsuhiro IKEDA, Yoshihiro ISHIMARU, and Teijiro KITAO
Department of Applied Chemistry, College of Engineering,
University of Osaka Prefecture, Sakai, Osaka 591

Acetylene is reversibly inserted into a Co-N bond of bis(aquo)-octaethylporphyrinatocobalt(III) perchlorate, $(\text{OEP})\text{Co}^{\text{III}}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2\text{ClO}_4$ (1), in CH_2Cl_2 solution, generating a d^6 high spin ($S = 2$) complex. Addition of 2,6-lutidine to a mixture of 1 and acetylene gave a σ -vinylcobalt(III) complex, $(\text{OEP})\text{Co}^{\text{III}}-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-\text{L}^+\text{ClO}_4$ [$\text{L} = 2,6$ -lutidine], whereas pyridine replaced the acetylene ligand to afford $(\text{OEP})\text{Co}^{\text{III}}(\text{py})_2\text{ClO}_4$. These results suggest the intermediacy of a Co^{III} acetylene π -complex.

As far as metalloporphyrins are concerned, alkene and alkyne π -complexes so far characterized are only limited to $(\text{Por})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{H}_2\text{C}=\text{CH}_2)$,¹⁾ $(\text{Por})\text{Os}^{\text{II}}(\text{H}_2\text{C}=\text{CH}_2)$,^{1b)} and $(\text{Por})\text{Mo}^{\text{II}}(\text{PhC}\equiv\text{CPh})$.²⁾ Whereas these π -complexes are all in a low oxidation state as is generally the case with transition metal π -complexes,³⁾ a tri-valent metalloporphyrin π -complex, $(\text{OEP}^4)\text{Rh}^{\text{III}}(\text{H}_2\text{C}=\text{CH}_2)\text{CF}_3\text{CO}_2$, has recently been shown to take place in equilibrium with a σ -complex, $(\text{OEP})\text{Rh}^{\text{III}}-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCOCF}_3$, under acidic conditions⁵⁾ and discussed in relation to the proposed Co^{III} alkene π -complex intermediate in the coenzyme B_{12} dependent rearrangement of ethylene glycol to acetaldehyde catalyzed by dioldehydrase.⁶⁾ This work demonstrates new aspects of the chemistry of metalloporphyrin π -complexes. That is, $(\text{OEP})\text{Co}^{\text{III}}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2\text{ClO}_4$ reversibly binds acetylene in CH_2Cl_2 solution and a Co^{III} alkyne π -complex which has turned out to be too reactive to be observed spectroscopically undergoes intramolecular attack of porphyrin nitrogen on the ligated alkyne to give novel N,Co-bridged Co^{III} porphyrins. On the other hand, the intermolecular attack of 2,6-lutidine afforded various σ -vinylcobalt(III) porphyrins.

Introduction of purified acetylene gas into CH_2Cl_2 solution of $(\text{OEP})\text{Co}^{\text{III}}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2\text{ClO}_4$ (1)⁷⁾ resulted in the immediate color change from reddish brown to green. Addition of n-hexane to this reaction mixture afforded precipitates, the visible spectrum of which showed absorption maxima at 398, 544, and 592 nm, however, reverted rapidly to that of 1 in the absence of acetylene with showing four isosbestic points at 387, 471, 570, and 633 nm as shown in Fig. 1. $^1\text{H-NMR}$ spectrum of the mixture of 1 and excess acetylene in CD_2Cl_2 at 0 °C shows two 2H-signals due to meso protons at 11.6 and -9.0 ppm which are absent in the spectrum of the meso-deuterated analogue, eight 2H-signals due to CH_2 protons at 38.1, 30.9, 30.3, 28.1, 23.0, 20.3 (overlapped), and 19.3 ppm, and four 6H-signals due to CH_3 protons at 10.2, 10.0, 9.5, and 3.9 ppm (see Fig. 2). However, signals derived from acetylene could not be detected over the range of ± 200 ppm. The splitting pattern and

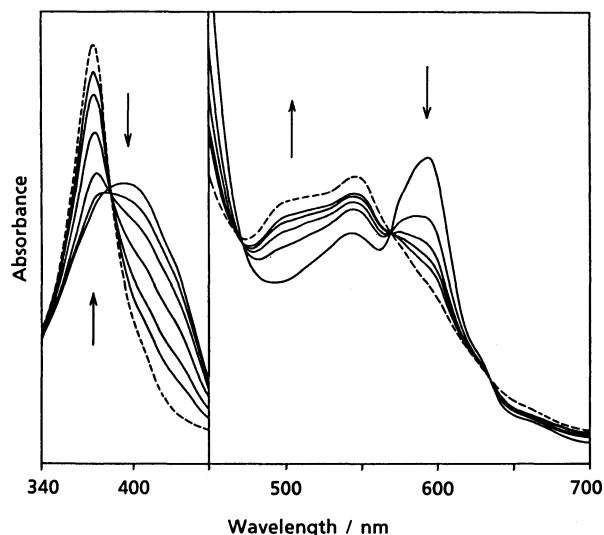


Fig. 1. UV-Vis spectral change recorded at 1 minute's interval after the dissolution of 2 in CH_2Cl_2 (-----: after 30 min).

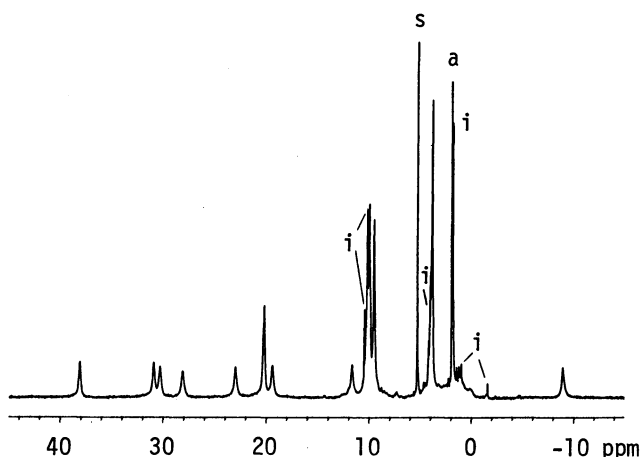


Fig. 2. $^1\text{H-NMR}$ spectrum of a mixture of 1 and acetylene in CD_2Cl_2 at 0°C (a: acetylene, s: solvent, i: diamagnetic impurities).

chemical shift range of this spectrum is quite similar to that of d^6 high spin ($S = 2$) N-methyl(OEP)Fe^{II}Cl.⁸⁾ In fact, the magnetic moment ($\mu_{\text{eff}} = 5.2 \mu_{\text{B}}$) of this acetylene adduct (2) measured by Evans method in CDCl_3 at 0°C is close to the spin only value ($4.9 \mu_{\text{B}}$) for the d^6 high spin state ($S = 2$).

Addition of pyridine and 2,6-lutidine (5 equiv.) to the mixture of 1 and acetylene caused immediate color change from green to pink red, to give (OEP)Co^{III}(py)₂ClO₄ (4)^{7a)} and (OEP)Co^{III}-CH=CH-N⁺(C₇H₉)ClO₄ (6)⁹⁾ in 67% and 64% yield, respectively. Similar reactions occurred in case of triphenylphosphine and tri(o-tolyl)phosphine. The latter attacked the coordinated acetylene to give a σ -vinyl complex, (OEP)Co^{III}-CH=CH-P⁺(C₇H₇)₃ClO₄ (7),¹⁰⁾ in 84% yield while the former brought about axial ligand exchange to give (OEP)Co^{III}(PPh₃)ClO₄ (5)¹¹⁾ in 77% yield.

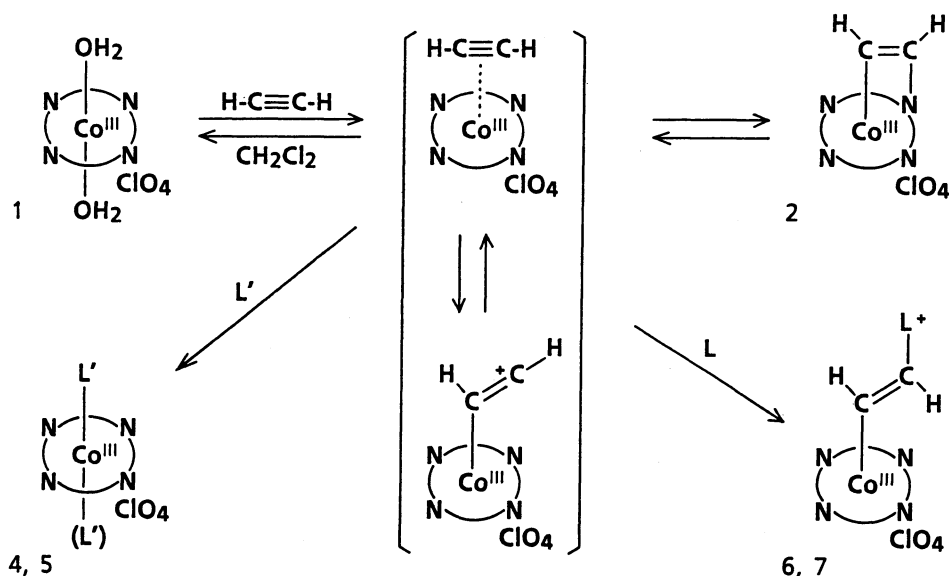
It is true that the observed NMR spectrum of 2 is also like those of N-methyl-(OEP)Co^{II} complexes which are in a d^7 high spin state ($S = 3/2$),¹²⁾ but the fact that all the reaction products (1, 4, 5, 6, 7) derived from 2 are in a tri-valent state is only rationalized by the high spin Co^{III} structure with a Co,N-etheno bridge for 2. We have recently found that methyl propiolate reacts with 1 to give a d^6 low spin ($S = 0$) complex (3) which has the Co,N-etheno bridged structure with a carbomethoxy group on the cobalt side and is stable enough to be isolated.¹³⁾ The propensity to release acetylene and the high spin electronic structure of 2 in contrast to the low spin ($S = 0$) and stable nature of 3 is accounted for by the greater electronic repulsion between the metal d_{yz} orbital (taking a mirror plane as a xz plane) and the π -orbital of the etheno bridge in 2 than in 3.

Addition of methyl propiolate to a mixture of 1 and 2,6-lutidine gave rise to a σ -vinyl complex, (OEP)Co^{III}-C(CO₂CH₃)=CH-N⁺(C₇H₉)ClO₄ (8),¹⁴⁾ in 77% yield. However, the Co,N-bridged complex 3 could not be converted into 8 by the treatment with 2,6-lutidine. Although a similar reaction of 1 with phenyl acetylene in the presence of 2,6-lutidine gave (OEP)Co^{III}-CH=C(C₆H₅)-N⁺(C₇H₉)ClO₄ (9)¹⁵⁾ in 50% yield, the reaction products in the absence of the amine were too unstable to be

characterized. The trans addition of cobalt and 2,6-lutidine to alkynes was verified by the vicinal coupling constant between two vinylic protons ($J = 13$ Hz for 6 and 14 Hz for 7) and the similarity of the ^1H -chemical shifts of the 2,6-lutidine moiety of 6, 8, and 9. The direction of the addition of cobalt and 2,6-lutidine to the mono-substituted alkynes was determined through ^{13}C - ^1H correlation NMR study between the vinylic proton (-1.22 ppm for 8 and -0.51 ppm for 9) and the vinylic β -carbon (115.8 ppm for 8 and 128.5 ppm for 9) which was distinguishable from the α -carbon because Co-bound carbons are generally unobservable in the ^{13}C -NMR.¹³⁾

These results are strongly indicative of intermediacy of a Co^{III} acetylene π -complex which undergoes nucleophilic attack on the coordinated acetylene by nitrogen intramolecularly to give 2 and 3, intermolecularly to give 6, 8, and 9, and axial ligand exchange to give 4 and 5. The observed regioselectivity in case of the mono-substituted alkynes is accounted for by assuming a Co^{III} σ -vinyl carbonium ion intermediate that is electronically equivalent to the π -complex through σ - π conjugation.

Cationic macrocyclic Co^{III} and Rh^{III} complexes have been known to react with alkenes and alkynes to give σ -alkyl and σ -vinyl complexes.^{6b,6c,7a,16)} In these reactions were postulated Co^{III} and Rh^{III} π -complexes which have recently been observed directly by ^1H -NMR spectroscopy as diamagnetic species.^{5,6g)} However, our result points out, for the first time, that a macrocycle nitrogen of a Co^{III} complex takes part in the bonding with acetylene, leading to a novel high spin Co^{III} species which reversibly release acetylene by way of a Co^{III} π -complex.



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- 9) 6: $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 270 MHz) H_{meso} 10.24 (s); $\text{H}_{\text{lut}(\gamma)}$ 7.36 (t); $\text{H}_{\text{lut}(\beta)}$ 6.61 (d); CH_2 4.06 (dq); CH_3 1.87 (t); lutidine $\alpha\text{-CH}_3$ -0.06 (s); $\text{H}_{\text{vinyl}(\alpha)}$ 0.01 (d) ($J = 13$ Hz); $\text{H}_{\text{vinyl}(\beta)}$ -0.87 (d) ppm. $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 67.8 MHz) $\text{C}_{\text{lut}(\alpha)}$ 153.1; $\text{C}_{\text{py}(\beta)}$ 143.9; $\text{C}_{\text{lut}(\gamma)}$ 143.6; $\text{C}_{\text{py}(\alpha)}$ 142.6; $\text{C}_{\text{lut}(\beta)}$ 125.6; C_{vinyl} 118.0; C_{meso} 99.4; CH_2 19.8; lutidine $\alpha\text{-CH}_3$ 19.4; CH_3 18.4 ppm.
- 10) 7: $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 270 MHz) H_{meso} 10.11 (s); H_p 7.25 (t); H_m 6.77 (m); H_o 5.28 (dd) ($J_{p-H} = 15$ Hz); CH_2 4.01 (q); CH_3 1.80 (t); $\text{H}_{\text{vinyl}(\alpha)}$ 1.23 (dd) ($J_{\text{vic}} = 14$ Hz, $J_{p-H} = 21$ Hz); tolyl $o\text{-CH}_3$ 0.17 (s); $\text{H}_{\text{vinyl}(\beta)}$ -0.96 (dd) ($J_{p-H} = 26$ Hz). $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 67.8 MHz) $\text{C}_{\text{py}(\beta)}$ 144.1; $\text{C}_{\text{py}(\alpha)}$ 142.5; C_o 141.8, 126.7 ($J_{C-P} = 9, 13$ Hz); C_p 134.3 ($J_{C-P} = 2$ Hz); C_m 133.3, 132.8 ($J_{C-P} = 11, 12$ Hz); C_{vinyl} 115.4 ($J_{C-P} = 84$ Hz); C_{ipso} 105.5 ($J_{C-P} = 67$ Hz); C_{meso} 99.4; tolyl $o\text{-CH}_3$ 21.0 ($J_{C-P} = 5$ Hz); CH_2 19.9; CH_3 18.5 ppm.
- 11) 5: $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 270 MHz) H_{meso} 10.16 (s); H_p 7.08 (m); H_m 6.56 (m); H_o 3.97 (m); CH_2 3.91 (q); CH_3 1.80 (t) ppm.
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- 14) 8: $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 270 MHz) H_{meso} 10.33 (s); $\text{H}_{\text{lut}(\gamma)}$ 7.32 (t); $\text{H}_{\text{lut}(\beta)}$ 6.54 (d); CH_2 4.08 (dq); CH_3 1.88 (t); OCH_3 1.44 (s); lutidine $\alpha\text{-CH}_3$ 0.09 (s); H_{vinyl} -1.22 (s) ppm. $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 67.8 MHz) CO 162.8; $\text{C}_{\text{lut}(\alpha)}$ 154.2; $\text{C}_{\text{py}(\beta)}$ 144.2; $\text{C}_{\text{lut}(\gamma)}$ 144.0; $\text{C}_{\text{py}(\alpha)}$ 143.2; $\text{C}_{\text{lut}(\beta)}$ 125.0; C_{vinyl} 115.8; C_{meso} 100.4; OCH_3 49.4; CH_2 19.8; lutidine $\alpha\text{-CH}_3$ 18.6; CH_3 18.4 ppm.
- 15) 9: $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 270 MHz) H_{meso} 10.07 (s); $\text{H}_{\text{lut}(\gamma)}$ 7.59 (t); H_p 6.86 (t); $\text{H}_{\text{lut}(\beta)}$ 6.77 (d); H_m 6.55 (t); CH_2 3.99 (q); H_o 3.40 (d); CH_3 1.84 (t); lutidine $\alpha\text{-CH}_3$ 0.20 (s); H_{vinyl} -0.51 (s) ppm. $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 67.8 MHz) $\text{C}_{\text{lut}(\alpha)}$ 152.8; $\text{C}_{\text{lut}(\gamma)}$ 144.4; $\text{C}_{\text{py}(\beta)}$ 144.4; $\text{C}_{\text{py}(\alpha)}$ 142.9; C_{ipso} 133.6; C_{vinyl} 128.5; C_p 127.4; $\text{C}_{o,m}$ 126.9, 126.8; $\text{C}_{\text{lut}(\beta)}$ 126.4; C_{meso} 99.8; lutidine $\alpha\text{-CH}_3$ 20.0; CH_2 19.8; CH_3 18.3 ppm.
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