Contribution from the Department of Physical and Inorganic Chemistry, University of Adelaide, Adelaide, South Australia 5001

A Hydrogen-1 and Nitrogen-14 Magnetic Resonance Study of the Exchange of Acetonitrile on Cobalt(II)

BY ROBERT J. WEST AND STEPHEN F. LINCOLN*

Received July 13, 1971

A ¹H and ¹⁴N magnetic resonance study of acetonitrile exchange between the first coordination sphere of cobalt(II) and bulk solvent is reported. Relaxation of both nuclei occurs via a " Δw "¹ mechanism and in the case of ¹H a significant relaxation contribution also arises from dipolar interactions. The value of $k_1(25^\circ)$ from the rate law $r = 6k_1[\text{Co}(\text{CH}_3\text{CN})_5^{2+}]$ is $(3.2 \pm 0.3) \times 10^5 \text{ sec}^{-1}$, $\Delta H^{\pm} = 11.4 \pm 0.5 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$, $\Delta S^{\pm} = 5.0 \pm 2.0 \text{ eu}$, and $A/h = 8.56 \times 10^6 \text{ Hz from}^{-1}\text{N}$ data. The values obtained from ¹H data are $k_1(25^\circ) = (3.5 \pm 0.5) \times 10^5 \text{ sec}^{-1}$, $\Delta H^{\pm} = 11.4 \pm 0.5 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$, and $\Delta S^{\pm} = 5.2 \pm 2.2 \text{ eu}$.

Cobalt(II) ion in acetonitrile solution induces relaxation of the ¹H and ¹⁴N nuclei of the bulk solvent, and the relative importance of the factors determining the effectiveness of the relaxation differs for the two nuclei as shown by ¹H and ¹⁴N magnetic resonance studies. The determination of the contribution made by such factors to the observed nuclear relaxation is important in the derivation of the kinetic parameters for acetonitrile exchange between the first coordination sphere of cobalt(II) and bulk solvent, from relaxation data. It is anticipated from the data treatment developed by Swift and Connick¹ that such parameters should be independent of the solvent nucleus observed, as is shown to be the case for the cobalt(II)-acetonitrile system in this study.

Experimental Section

Materials.—Redistilled acetonitrile and toluene were dried and stored over Linde 4A Molecular Sieves. Hexakis(acetonitrile)cobalt(II) perchlorate was prepared by a method similar to that of Matwiyoff and Hooker.² Infrared spectra of concentrated Nujol mulls of the complex exhibited no water peak in the 3500cm⁻¹ region.

Reference solutions of pure acetonitrile and zinc(II) perchlorate in acetonitrile and the acetonitrile solutions of hexakis(acetonitrile)cobalt(II) perchlorate were prepared by weight and transferred to nmr tubes under dry nitrogen. The solutions in the nmr tubes were degassed, by freezing and evacuating, prior to sealing under vacuum. For ¹H measurements, solutions containing 2% toluene as internal reference were sealed in standard pmr tubes. For ¹⁴N measurements 10-mm o.d. Pyrex nmr tubes, with a 3-mm o.d. thermocouple well centrally sited, were used.

Nmr Measurements.—All pmr measurements were made in triplicate at least, on Varian A-60 and DP-60 spectrometers equipped with calibrated variable-temperature probes. Line width measurements were reproducible to within $\pm 1\%$, and shift measurements, made from toluene, were reproducible to ± 1 Hz. Nitrogen-14 measurements were made at 3.07 MHz on previously described³ modified Varian equipment. Absorption mode signals were obtained by both side-band⁴ and firstderivative methods, which gave identical results after correction of the first-derivative line widths for modulation broadening,⁵ which never exceeded 5% of the total line width at half signal amplitude. The first-derivative method gave greater signal intensity and consequently line widths >2.5 G were usually determined by this method. Line width and chemical shift measurements³ were made in triplicate at least and were reproducible to within 0.1 and 0.2 G, respectively. The temperature of samples in the variable-temperature probe was measured with a copper-constantan thermocouple. All ¹H and ¹⁴N measurements were made at radiofrequency levels well below saturation. No significant broadening or shift of the ¹H and ¹⁴N bulk resonances was observed in a $0.654 \ m Zn(ClO_4)_2$ acetonitrile solution over the experimental temperature range.

Results and Data Treatment

¹⁴N Relaxation and Shift Data.—The relaxation of the nuclei of acetonitrile solvent, induced by cobalt(II), may be expressed by

$$T_{2p} = (1/T_2 - 1/T_{2A})^{-1}$$
(1)

where T_2 and T_{2A} are the observed transverse relaxation times of bulk acetonitrile in solutions containing cobalt(II), and of acetonitrile alone, respectively. The ¹⁴N T_{2p} data are given in Table I.

When induced relaxation of solvent nuclei occurs in the first coordination sphere of cobalt(II) T_{2p} may be related to the rate of solvent exchange on cobalt(II) in dilute solution by the expression¹

$$T_{2p} = \frac{\tau_{\rm M}}{P_{\rm M}} \left[\frac{(T_{2\rm M}^{-1} + \tau_{\rm M}^{-1})^2 + \Delta w_{\rm M}^2}{T_{2\rm M}^{-2} + (T_{2\rm M}^{-1} + \Delta w_{\rm M}^{-1} + \Delta w_{\rm M}^2} \right]$$
(2)

where $\tau_{\rm M}$ is the mean lifetime of a solvent molecule in the first coordination sphere, $P_{\rm M}$ is the mole fraction of solvent coordinated, $T_{\rm 2M}$ is the transverse relaxation time of the solvent nucleus of interest in the first coordination sphere, and $\Delta w_{\rm M}$ is the difference in resonant frequency of this nucleus in coordinated solvent and the bulk solvent.

The ¹⁴N data are consistent with a " Δw " nuclear relaxation mechanism such that eq 2 reduces to

$$T_{2p} = \tau_{\rm M} P_{\rm M}^{-1} + (P_{\rm M} \tau_{\rm M} \Delta w_{\rm M}^2)^{-1}$$
(3)

which describes the variation of T_{2p} over the experimental temperature range. In Figure 1 the computed best fit of eq 3 to the ¹⁴N data is shown as a solid curve and the two terms of the expression are shown as broken lines. The species $Co(CH_3CN)_6^{2+}$ is assumed to be the kinetically predominant species in solution² such that

$$\tau_{\rm M} = k_1^{-1} = 6[{\rm Co}({\rm CH}_{\rm s}{\rm CN})_{6}^{++}]r^{-1} = (kT/h)\exp(-\Delta H \pm /RT)\exp(\Delta S \pm /R) \quad (4)$$

where r and k_1 are the rate and rate constant, respectively, for the exchange of acetonitrile on cobalt(II) ion, and k is the Boltzmann constant. The kinetic

⁽¹⁾ T. J. Swift and R. E. Connick, J. Chem. Phys., 87, 307 (1962).

⁽²⁾ N. A. Matwiyoff and S. V. Hooker, Inorg. Chem., 6, 1127 (1967).

⁽³⁾ R. J. West and S. F. Lincoln, Aust. J. Chem., 24, 1169 (1971). Equation 2 in this reference should read $T_{2p} = 2(\gamma \Delta)^{-1}$, and in Table I $T_{2p}' = T_{2p}P_{M}$.

⁽⁴⁾ J. V. Acrivos, J. Chem. Phys., 86, 1097 (1962).

⁽⁵⁾ H. J. Wahlquist, ibid., 85, 1708 (1961).

EXCHANGE OF ACETONITRILE ON Co(II)

Temp,

۰c

50.0

43.0

TABLE I ¹⁴N RELAXATION DATA^a Temp, Temp, $10^{6}P_{M}T_{2p}$ °C $10^6 P_{\rm M} T_{2p}$ °C Soln 1-Soln 2 (Contd)-Soln 74.513.615.07.999.14 14.07.7470.0

36.5	5.96	8.0	12.3	65.0	29.8
26.0	5.08	6.5	13.8	60.0	22.0
21.5	5.44			56.0	14.7
14.0	8.43	Solr	ı 3–——	52.0	12.7
7.0	13.7	75.0	55.6	50.0	12.9
		69.5	34.8	47.0	8.90
Soln 2		65.0	27.0	43.0	10.0
52.0	11.8	60.0	21.6	42.0	7.06
50.0	15.3	56.0	16.3	38.0	5.16
44.5	9.09	46.5	9.20	37.0	5.74
42.5	8.87	38.0	5.76	33.0	4.65
36.0	6.46	0.5	19.3	31.5	4.97
36.0	6.29	-1.0	19.8	29.0	4.74
29.0	5.43	-5.0	29.5	23.0	5.18
27.0	5.18	-10.0	44.6	17.0	6.39
23.0	5.77	-15.0	68.7	10.0	9.68
22.0	6.23	-16.0	69.5	6.0	12.7
				0.5	19.8
				-1.0	24.4

 $10^{6} P_{M} T_{2p}$

59.6

38.9

4

^a The Co(II) concentrations were 0.04811, 0.06158, 0.2249, and 0.1096 m in solutions 1, 2, 3, and 4, respectively.



parameters derived from the ¹⁴N data are $k_1(25^\circ) = (3.2 \pm 0.3) \times 10^5 \text{ sec}^{-1}$, $\Delta H^{\pm} = 11.4 \pm 0.5 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$, and $\Delta S^{\pm} = 5.0 \pm 2.0 \text{ eu}$.

The ¹⁴N bulk solvent chemical shift, S, values are listed in Table II and $\ln TSP_{M}^{-1}$ is plotted against

		TABL	εII		
		¹⁴ N Shif	τ Dαταα		
°C	S, ppm	Temp, °C	S, ppm	Temp, °C	<i>S</i> , ррт
70.0	1040	49.0	1030	34.0	830
70.0	1060	49.0	1040	34.0	810
70.0	1040	49.0	1100	34.0	830
62.5	1070	49.0	1040	30.5	670
62.5	1040	39.0	980	30.5	660
62.5	1050	39.0	970	30.5	660
55.0	1040	39.0	990	27.0	580
55.0	1060	38.0	970	27.0	570
55.0	1040	38.0	980	27.0	510
		38 0	030		

^a Concentration of Co(II) was 0.2249 m.



Figure 2.—Variation of $\ln TSP_{\rm M}^{-1}$ with T^{-1} derived from ¹⁴N measurements. The data points are calculated directly from shift measurements, and the solid curve is the variation of $\ln TSP_{\rm M}^{-1}$ predicted from $T_{\rm 2p}$ data.

1/T in Figure 2 in which a limiting TS value is approached at the high-temperature extreme. A ¹⁴N scalar coupling constant, A/h, value of 8.56×10^{6} Hz was calculated using the expression⁶

$$\frac{\Delta w_{\rm M}}{w} = \frac{-A \left[S(S+1) \right]^{1/3}}{h(3kT\gamma)} \mu_{\rm eff}$$
(5)

where S is the electron spin for cobalt(II), γ is the ¹⁴N magnetogyric ratio, and $\mu_{eff} = 5.2$ BM.⁷ A value of $A/h = 8.33 \times 10^6$ Hz was calculated from the T_{2p} data via eq 3. The dependence of $TSP_{\rm M}^{-1}$ on temperature for a ¹⁴N " Δw " relaxation mechanism is given by³

$$TSP_{\rm M}^{-1} = -\Delta w_{\rm M} T (1 + \tau_{\rm M}^2 \Delta w_{\rm M}^2)^{-1}$$
(6)

This function, calculated from A/h and $\tau_{\rm M}$ values obtained from the $T_{\rm 2p}$ data, is plotted as a solid curve in Figure 2. The near coincidence of this curve and the observed $TSP_{\rm M}^{-1}$ values demonstrate the internal consistency of the ¹⁴N S and $T_{\rm 2p}$ data.

(6) N. Bloembergen, J. Chem. Phys., 27, 595 (1957).

(7) B. J. Hathaway, D. G. Holah, and E. A. Underhill, J. Chem. Soc., 2444 (1962). No temperature variation for μ_{eff} is reported in this reference.



TABLE III

¹ H RELAXATION DATA ^a					
Temp,		Temp,		Temp,	
°C	$10^6 P_{\rm M} T_{\rm 2p}$	°C	$10^6 P_{\mathrm{M}} T_{\mathrm{2p}}$	°C	$10^{\circ}P_{\mathrm{M}}T_{\mathrm{2p}}$
——Soln	5	—Soln 6	(Contd)-	—Soln 7	(Contd)-
11.5	6900	34.9	7800	8.5	7400
4.4	439 0	-25.0	625	7.0	6 3 20
-0.6	3210	-35.0	47 2	4.4	5350
-1.5	3010	-45.0	955	-0.6	2540
-1.6	3440	-50.0	1010	-1.6	3280
-11.0	1720	-55.0	1520	-11.0	1570
-17.0	785			-17.0	892
-18.0	1120	——-S	oln 7	-18.0	938
-27.0	541	73.0	9900	-19.0	1090
-33.0	524	65.0	12900	-27.0	515
-40.0	660	54.0	8900	-40.0	74 0
		54.0	6900	-45.0	981
Sol	n 6——	34.9	6600	-50.0	1220
73.0	8900	11.5	5100	-55.0	1290
65.0	8900				

^a The Co(II) concentrations were 0.06158, 0.1597, and 0.3308 m in solutions 5, 6, and 7, respectively.

¹H Relaxation and Shift Data.—In contrast to the ¹⁴N data, dipole-dipole interactions make significant contributions to the ¹H T_{2p} data listed in Table III. Four terms appear as components in the ¹H T_{2p} data over the experimental temperature range. Three terms T_{2M} , $(\tau_M \Delta w_M^2)^{-1}$, and τ_M arise from relaxation processes occurring in the first coordination sphere of $Co(CH_3CN)_{6^{2+}}$, and the fourth term, T_{20} , is attributed to dipole-dipole induced relaxation of ¹H outside the first coordination sphere. The solid curve through the ¹H data in Figure 1 contains the four component terms shown individually as broken lines and represents best visual fit to the data. This curve corresponds to the kinetic parameters $k_1(25^{\circ}) = (3.5 \pm 0.5) \times 10^5$ sec⁻¹, $\Delta H^{\pm} = 11.4 \pm 0.5$ kcal mol⁻¹, and $\Delta S^{\pm} =$ 5.2 ± 2.2 eu. In practice equally good visual data fits were obtained with ΔH^{\pm} values within the range 10.9-11.9 kcal mol⁻¹. The precise magnitude of the T_{20} term is somewhat in doubt as extension of the experimental study to lower temperatures better to establish the contribution of this term to T_{2p} was precluded by the samples' freezing. In consequence of this the T_{2M} and T_{2O} terms were constrained to have identical activation energies, E_{a} , in the data fitting. The adoption of this equality was based on the assumption that the tumbling time, τ_t , and the electron spin relaxation time, τ_s , for $Co(CH_3CN)_6^{2+}$ are expected to be similar to $au_{
m t}~({\sim}2~{\times}~10^{-11}~{
m sec})$ and $au_{
m s}~({\sim}5~{\times}$ 10^{-13} sec) calculated for $Co(CH_3OH)_{6}^{2+}$ by Luz and Meiboom,⁸ and consequently the correlation time, τ_{e} , and E_{a} for the dipolar interaction should be identical with those for τ_{s} . The E_{a} value for the T_{2M} and T_{2O} terms in Figure 1 is -1.7 kcal mol⁻¹. The $\Delta w_{\rm M}$ values used to calculate the $(\tau_{\rm M}\Delta w_{\rm M}{}^2)^{-1}$ contribution to $P_{\rm M}T_{\rm 2p}$ were obtained directly from ¹H S data above 20° or from extrapolation of those data to lower temperatures.9

The ¹H shift data are listed in Table IV and are plotted as $\ln TSP_{M}^{-1}$ against 1/T in Figure 3 in which two major regions of shift temperature dependence are

TABLE IV						
¹ H Shift Data ^a						
Гетр, °С	<i>S</i> , ррт	Temp, °C	<i>S</i> , ррт	Temp, °C	S, ppm	
73 .0	0.216	14.0	0.458	-23.0	0.583	
65.0	0.223	-5.0	$0.498 \\ 0.557$	-20.0 -28.0	$0.277 \\ 0.233$	
$58.0 \\ 54.0$	$0.280 \\ 0.283$	-11.0 -18.0	$0.560 \\ 0.617$	-28.0 -29.0	$0.200 \\ 0.327$	
47.0	0.292	-21.0	0.545	-33.0	0.300	
$37.0 \\ 27.0$	$\begin{array}{c} 0.355 \\ 0.415 \end{array}$	-23.0 -23.0	0.507 0.433	-34.0 -36.0	0.150 0.383	
^{<i>a</i>} Concentration of $Co(II)$ was 0.3309 <i>m</i> .						



Figure 3.—Variation of $\ln TSP_{\rm M}^{-1}$ with T^{-1} derived from ¹H measurements. The data points are calculated directly from shift measurements, and the solid curve is the variation of $\ln TSP_{\rm M}^{-1}$ predicted from $T_{\rm 2p}$ data.

seen. At 1/T < 0.0034, acetonitrile exchange is rapid such that complete environmental averaging of acetonitrile protons occurs and

$$TSP_{M}^{-1} = T\Delta w_{M} \tag{7}$$

Linear extrapolation of $TSP_{\rm M}^{-1}$ to 1/T = 0 yields a $\Delta w_{\rm M}$ value of -725 Hz in contrast to the *positive* $\Delta w_{\rm M}$ values observed within the experimental temperature range. At 1/T > 0.0039, $TSP_{\rm M}^{-1}$ decreases rapidly as predicted¹ for decreasing acetonitrile exchange rates by

$$TSP_{\rm M}^{-1} = -\Delta w_{\rm M} \tau_{\rm M}^{-2} [(1/T_{\rm 2M} + 1/\tau_{\rm M})^2 + \Delta w_{\rm M}^2]^{-1} \quad (8)$$

The solid curve in Figure 3 was calculated from eq 8 using T_{2M} and τ_{M} values derived from the $P_{M}T_{2p}$ data fit, and Δw_{M} values were calculated directly from the shift data at 1/T < 0.0034 or extrapolated from them. The agreement between the TSP_{M}^{-1} data and the calculated curve is reasonable. An A/h value of -3.95×10^{4} Hz was calculated¹⁰ from the shift data at 25° using eq 5.

Discussion

The derivation of kinetic parameters from the ¹⁴N T_{2p} data is considerably simplified by the predominance of the " Δw " relaxation mechanism in determining the temperature dependence of T_{2p} within the experimental

⁽⁸⁾ Z. Luz and S. Meiboom, J. Chem. Phys., 40, 1058, 1066 (1964).

⁽⁹⁾ The shift data reported here are in excellent agreement with that in ref 2. In that study signals arising from bulk and coordinated acetonitrile were simultaneously observed at low temperature at 100 MHz and the observed shifts are coincident with a linear extrapolation of the high-temperature ln $TSPM^{-1}$ data in Figure 3 after allowance for the different operating frequencies. Similarly the T_{2p} data reported here are in good agreement with those reported over a narrower temperature range in ref 2.

⁽¹⁰⁾ An A/h value of -2.28×10^4 Hz is reported in ref 2, but no temperature is quoted, and consequently it is not feasible to compare the two A/h values as the ¹H shift exhibits a non-Curie temperature dependence.

TABLE V				
KINETIC PARAMETERS FOR THE EXCHANGE OF				
ACETONITRILE ON DIVALENT METAL IONS				

	$k_1(25^{\circ}),$	ΔH^{\pm} ,	∆ <i>S</i> ≠,			
\mathbf{M}^{n+}	sec ⁻¹	kcal mol ⁻¹	eu			
Mn^{2+a}	$(1.2 \pm 0.3) imes 10^7$	7.25 ± 0.25	$-1.8 \pm 0.8^{\circ}$			
Fe ^{2+ a}	$(5.5 \pm 0.8) imes 10^5$	9.7 ± 0.7	0.3 ± 2.2^d			
Co ^{2+ a}	$(3.2 \pm 0.3) imes 10^{5}$	11.4 ± 0.5	5.0 ± 2.0^{g}			
Co ^{2+ b}	$(3.5 \pm 0.5) imes 10^{5}$	11.4 ± 0.5	5.2 ± 2.2^{g}			
Co ²⁺ , ^b	$1.4 imes10^{5}$	8.1 ± 0.5	$-7.5 \pm 2^{\circ}$			
Ni ^{2+ a}	$(2.1 \pm 0.3) imes 10^3$	16.4 ± 0.5	12.0 ± 2.0^{d}			
Ni ^{2+ b}	$(2.8 \pm 0.5) imes 10^3$	11.7 ± 0.1	$-3.6\pm1.0'$			

^a Nitrogen-14 data. ^b Hydrogen-1 data. ^o W. L. Purcell and R. S. Marianelli, *Inorg. Chem.*, 9, 1724 (1970). ^d R. J. West and S. F. Lincoln, *Aust. J. Chem.*, 24, 1169 (1971). ^e Reference 2. ^f D. K. Ravage, T. R. Stengle, and C. H. Langford, *Inorg. Chem.*, 6, 1252 (1967). ^g This work.

temperature range. The contributions of the dipolar terms T_{2M} and T_{2O} to the ¹H T_{2p} data are significant, and consequently the ¹⁴N data provide a cross-check on the validity of the ¹H T_{2p} data treatment. The kinetic parameters derived from the ¹⁴N and ¹H T_{2p} data sets are compatible within the limitations of the data treatment, as is the case for ¹H and ¹⁴N studies of ammonia exchange¹¹⁻¹³ on Ni(NH₃)6²⁺.

The ¹H line-broadening study reported by Matwiyoff and Hooker² covered a narrower temperature range than that investigated in this work, and consequently the T_{2M} and T_{2O} contributions to T_{2p} were not observed in the earlier study. As a result the ΔH^{\pm} value derived by Matwiyoff and Hooker is too small, and k_1 and ΔS^{\pm} are proportionately at variance with the kinetic parameters derived from ¹H and ¹⁴N data reported in this study (see Table V).

The positive ¹⁴N A/h value is consistent with paramagnetic spin delocalization onto nitrogen by a σ -bonding interaction between cobalt(II) eg orbitals and the orbital containing the nitrogen lone pair.² The nega-

(11) H. H. Glaeser, G. A. Lo, H. W. Dodgen, and J. P. Hunt, Inorg. Chem., 4, 206 (1965).

(12) W. L. Rice and B. B. Wayland, ibid., 6, 2270 (1967).

(13) A. L. Van Geet, ibid., 7, 2027 (1968).

tive ¹H A/h values observed over the experimental temperature range suggest a negative spin density at the hydrogen atoms, but the non-Curie temperature dependence of the ¹H shift data indicates that both Fermi contact and pseudocontact interactions may contribute to the ¹H shift. Kurland and McGarvey¹⁴ have shown that for complexes with T1 ground states a Zeeman mixing of excited states into the ground state may lead to a non-Curie temperature dependence. There appears to be no deviation from Curie behavior in the 14N shift data, although it should be noted that the limiting shift region conforming to eq 7 is only just entered. This is consistent with the Fermi contact contribution associated with the coordinating ligand atom being significantly larger than the pseudocontact shift contribution to the observed shift.14

The kinetic parameters for the exchange of acetonitrile on divalent metal ions (Table V) exhibit a trend in which $k_1(25^\circ)$ decreases from Mn^{2+} to Ni^{2+} , and the reverse trend for ΔH^{\pm} . These trends are also observed for solvent exchange on these metal ions in ammonia, methanol, and water, which suggests a similarity in mechanism in these four solvents.³ Recent crystal field calculations,¹⁵ based on a square-pyramidal transition state for water exchange, which is consistent with the dissociative ligand substitution mechanism proposed^{16,17} for these metal ions, predict the above trend in ΔH^{\pm} .

Acknowledgments.—It is a pleasure to acknowledge the assistance of Helen Robjohns in obtaining A-60 pmr spectra at The Flinders University of South Australia. We thank the Australian Research Grants Committee for supporting the project of which this work is part.

(14) R. J. Kutland and B. R. McGarvey, J. Magn. Resonance, 2, 286 (1970).

- (15) A. L. Companion, J. Phys. Chem., 73, 739 (1969).
- (16) M. Eigen, Pure Appl. Chem., 6, 97 (1963).
- (17) M. Eigen and R. J. Wilkins, Advan. Chem. Ser., No. 49, 55 (1965)

Contribution from the Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York 11973

Inverse Hydrogen Isotope Effects in Some Metal Hydride Systems

BY R. H. WISWALL, JR.,* AND J. J. REILLY

Received September 29, 1971

Several instances were found of metal hydrides in which replacement of hydrogen by deuterium or tritium resulted in a more stable compound. The experimental evidence consists in measurements of the dissociation pressures of pure isotopic species, and of the equilibrium distribution of hydrogen isotopes between gas and solid phases in systems of mixed isotopic content. Examples are VH₂, NbH₂, (V,Nb)H₂, and LaNi₅H₅. On the other hand, ternary hydrides formed by the intermetallics Mg₂Ni and TiFe exhibit an isotope effect which is in the opposite, and more usual, direction.

Introduction

An investigation of the reversible absorption of hydrogen by metals, mostly alloys, has been conducted at this laboratory over the past several years. It has resulted in the discovery, or improved characterization in terms of pressure-composition-temperature (P-C-T) relationships, of a number of new hydride phases.¹ Some attention has been given to properties other than P-C-T, as for instance magnetic properties;² and recently the effect of replacing normal hydrogen by deuterium was examined in vanadium di-

(1) (a) J. J. Reilly and R. H. Wiswall, Jr., Inorg. Chem., 6, 2220 (1967);
(b) ibid., 7, 2254 (1968); (c) ibid., 9, 1678 (1970).

(2) S. Aronson, J. J. Reilly, and R. H. Wiswall, Jr., J. Less-Common Metals, 21, 439 (1970).