temperatures so long as $k_{1c} >> W_1$. Using the data from the glass, we obtain $k_{2e} = 7.5 \times 10^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$, in reasonable agreement with the least-squares results.

Level Assignments. Both $|1\rangle$ and $|2\rangle$ can confidently be attributed to CT states,⁴ but several possibilities remain for specific assignments. For example, from the viewpoint of one-electron orbital energies different excited states arise depending on which of the (split) metal 3d orbitals is the origin of the promoted electron; i.e., some states can be envisaged as having both CT and d-d excitation. In fact, depending on the d-orbital occupation the geometry may vary,³⁷ and this, among other things, may affect the respective transition moments. Alternatively, different ligand π^* orbitals can serve as the terminus for the transferred electron.³⁸ Still another possibility is that the levels can differ in spin multiplicity.²⁶

Given the fact that intersystem crossing is usually rapid in metal complexes, 29 state $|2\rangle$, the lowest energy excited state, is expected to be a triplet state. In accord with this assignment, the estimated k_{2e} value falls into the "normal" range for triplet states $(1-10^4 \text{ s}^{-1})$.³⁹ Although we have no a priori way of assigning a multiplicity to state $|1\rangle$, the k_{1e} value we obtain seems too large for a triplet state. (Note that the order of magnitude obtained for k_{1e} does not depend on our assumed value of $g_1/g_2 = 1/3$.) Even in the case of osmium(II) complexes where the spin-orbit coupling interaction should be much larger, the radiative rate constant from analogous triplet CT states is only ca. $10^5 \text{ s}^{-1.40}$ On the other hand, the calculated k_{1e} value falls in the range expected for singlet states $(10^6-10^9 \text{ s}^{-1})$,³⁹ in support of assumption 2 above. In the absence of any theoretical results to the contrary, we presume that states $|1\rangle$ and $|2\rangle$ can be associated with the lowest energy CT configuration of the complex.⁴¹

A final point worth noting is that the calculated ΔE is in fair agreement with spectroscopically obtained singlet-triplet splittings that have been reported for related ruthenium(II) and iron(II) complexes exhibiting low-lying metal-to-ligand

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CT excited states.⁴² It should be emphasized that such comparisons can only be made in a qualitative sense because the d- π^* orbital overlap patterns are likely to be very different for these systems. As a consequence the exchange integrals, and hence the ΔE values,⁴³ will differ as well.

Conclusions. The temperature dependence of the solution emission from complexes of the type $Cu(NN)_2^+$ can be understood in terms of two thermally equilibrated excited states separated by ca. 1800 cm⁻¹. The lower of the two is assigned as a triplet state associated with the lowest energy $d^{9}\pi^{*1}$ configuration. The other state has a substantially greater radiative rate constant and is tentatively assigned to the associated singlet charge-transfer state. A similar scheme has been found to adequately describe emission from Cu- $(PPh_3)_2(NN)^+$ systems in the solid state.^{26,27} Thus, a multiple-level scheme of this type may be of general importance in determining the photophysical properties of copper(I) complexes involving heteroaromatic ligands.

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Appendix

The steady state is defined by eq 8 and 9, where I_a is the

$$\eta_1 I_a = W_1[1] + k_{1c}[1] - k_{2c}[2] \tag{8}$$

$$\eta_2 I_a = W_2[2] + k_{2c}[2] - k_{1c}[1] \tag{9}$$

absorption rate and $\eta_1 I_a$ and $\eta_2 I_a$ are the respective pump rates of states $|1\rangle$ and $|2\rangle$, the concentrations of which are expressed as [1] and [2]. Combining these equations and defining β = η_2/η_1 yield eq 10. When $k_{2c} \gg W_2$ and $k_{1c} \gg W_1$, the

$$K = \frac{[1]}{[2]} = \frac{W_2 + (\beta + 1)k_{2c}}{\beta W_1 + (\beta + 1)k_{1c}}$$
(10)

expression for K reduces to k_{2c}/k_{1c} as stated in the text. Equations 3 and 4 in the text assume $\eta_1 = 1$ and $\eta_2 = 0$.

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Nitrogen-15 and Boron-11 Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Studies of Trimethylamine Adducts of the Mixed Trihalides of Boron

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 15 N and 11 B NMR spectra have been measured for the trimethylamine adducts of the mixed trihalides of boron. $J(^{11}B-^{15}N)$, though covering a narrow range, correlates well with $\delta({}^{1}H)$, $\delta({}^{13}C)$, $J({}^{1}H-{}^{11}B)$, and $J({}^{11}B-{}^{19}F)$ and less so with $\Delta\delta({}^{11}B)$ (the complexation shift) parameters, which have been related to the B-N electron density or bond strength. $\delta(^{15}N)$ and $\delta(^{11}B)$ do not show such a correlation but rather correlate with each other, showing primary dependence on halogen-induced effects, those species containing fluorine falling on a separate curve from the other halogens. Pairwise additivity is observed for $\delta(^{11}B)$, $\delta(^{15}N)$, and $J(^{11}B-^{15}N)$, with pairwise parameters showing correlations with the sum of electronegativities or van der Waals radii.

Introduction

The use of nuclear magnetic resonance to study the trimethylamine-boron trihalide adduct system began with our ¹H study¹ nearly 20 years ago, shortly thereafter further extended by the work of Heitsch² and ourselves.³ With our preparation of trimethylamine adducts of the mixed trihalides

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of boron.^{4,5} the number of adducts in the homologous series was extended from 4 to 20, with the preliminary correlations between $\delta({}^{1}\text{H})$ and $J({}^{1}\text{H}-{}^{11}\text{B})$ and the strength of the B-N bond being confirmed as the work was extended from ¹H spectra to ¹⁹F, ¹¹B, and finally ¹³C data.⁴⁻⁹ We showed that the pairwise additivity approach of Vladimiroff and Malinowski¹⁰ was applicable to $\delta(^{11}B)$, $\delta(^{19}F)$, and $J(^{11}B-^{19}F)$ parameters⁶ as well as to $\delta({}^{1}H)$ and $\delta({}^{13}C).^{8}$ The excellent correlations of all these NMR parameters for up to 20 compounds suggest that, for this adduct system, NMR correlations to B-N bond strength are valid, though one must still use them with caution as indicated in our recent review.¹¹ For example, δ ⁽¹¹B) is not a measure of B-N bond strength, but if one uses the complexation shift, $\Delta \delta$, then this parameter shows the same trends as the other chemical shifts.

Nitrogen-15 NMR would appear to be ideal for the study of donor-acceptor interactions of nitrogen ligands, but experimental difficulties, even with enriched samples (where cost may still restrict the quantity of actual sample available), have limited such studies. One of the few studies of this type is that of Martin et al.¹² These authors found that, with Bruker WP-60 and WH-90 spectrometers, saturated solutions of ureas were required in 15-mm tubes to be able to work at natural abundance. Up to 50 000 scans were used for nitrogens without directly bonded hydrogens, Cr(acac)₃ relaxation reagent being required. In an early work,¹³ Clippard and Taylor report briefly on B-N couplings (obtained from ¹¹B data) of three simple boron trihalide adducts, but their work was never followed up, presumably because of the experimental difficulties with CW NMR technology. In our work, the Me₃N·BX_nY_{3-n} adduct (98% ¹⁵N enriched) were available only as dilute solutions in methylene chloride sealed in 5-mm, heavy-walled NMR tubes (3 mm i.d.) and, when our first ¹⁵N experiments were attempted in 1973 on a Varian XL-100, no signals could be observed. Even in 1981, with a Bruker WH-400 spectrometer, excessive consumption of machine time precluded completion of this study. It was only this year, with the installation of a new pulse programmer permitting use of the INEPT pulse sequence for polarization transfer from ¹H to ¹⁵N, that the current study could be completed. We now report on the ¹⁵N chemical shifts of the trimethylamine adducts of the mixed trihalides of boron, the ¹¹B-¹⁵N coupling constants (obtained for both the ¹⁵N and the ¹¹B experiments), and the corresponding ¹¹B chemical shifts.

Experimental Section

Adduct Preparation. Nitrogen-15-enriched trimethylamine (98%, Merck Sharp and Dohme) was used to prepare BF₃, BCl₃, BBr₃, and BI₃ adducts, and the mixed adducts were then formed in situ in the NMR tube by the addition of a heavier boron halide to a methylene chloride solution of the appropriate Me₃N·BX₃ adduct of the lighter halide.5 The NMR tubes were sealed and stored at low temperature until the NMR data could be collected.

NMR Spectra. (a) ¹H NMR. At the time of preparation, the samples were monitored by ¹H NMR with a Varian A-60 with ¹¹B

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Figure 1. (A) ¹H NMR spectra of the Me₃N·BCl₃, Me₃N·BCl₂I, Me₃N·BClI₂, and Me₃N·BI₃ systems. (Low digital resolution spectra are adequate to distinguish the species present.) (B) ¹¹B NMR spectrum of Me₃N·BF₃ showing $J(^{11}B^{-19}F)$ and $J(^{11}B^{-15}N)$. (C) ^{15}N NMR spectra of the Me₁N·BX_nY_{3-n} system (X = Cl, Y = I, n = 0-3).

decoupling as described previously.⁵ At the time the ¹⁵N spectra were obtained, ¹H spectra were obtained on the Bruker WH-400 to double check the sample composition. The greater dispersion of the 400-MHz ¹H spectra precluded the necessity of ¹¹B decoupling. No attempt was made to optimize resolution as $J({}^{1}H^{-11}B)$ data have been extensively reported already.⁵ A sample spectrum is shown in Figure 1A. Shifts were consistent with those obtained at 60 MHz.⁵

(b) ¹¹B NMR. The ¹¹B spectra (¹H decoupled) were obtained initially on a Varian XL-100 at the time of preparation, i.e. 32.1080 MHz, 256 scans, 8-µs pulses with no delay, 3012-Hz sweep width for a 4K data table after transformation. Immediately following the ¹⁵N experiments, the ¹¹B data collections were repeated with a Bruker WP-60. Results were consistent, but a greater digital resolution was used to permit more accurate measurement of $J(^{11}B^{-15}N)$ than were obtained from the XL-100 ¹¹B data and from the WH-400 ¹⁵N data (19.250 MHz, 100-500 scans, sweep widths of 3750 and 750 Hz with 0.9 and 0.18 Hz/point digital resolution after transforming the 8K guad detection FIDs into a 4096-point spectrum); 30° (2.2 µs) pulses were used with no additional delay after data acquisition. Line broadenings of 0.5 and 0.1 Hz were used. Spectra were referenced to external Me₂O·BF₃. Figure 1B shows the BF₃ system.

(c) ¹⁵N NMR. A Bruker WH-400 spectrometer equipped with a software-controlled pulse programmer capable of controlling phases and pulsing both observe and decoupling channels was used to obtain the ¹⁵N data via the INEPT^{14,15} pulse sequence with a delay of 2 $s(^{1}/_{4}J(N-H))$ by using values appropriate to quaternary nitrogenmethyl couplings. Typically, 16-500 scans were adequate for good spectra, compared to 5000 scans with a long waiting period between scans and poorer S/N before INEPT was available. ¹H-decoupled

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Table I. Chemical Shifts and Coupling Constants

	$\delta(^{15}N)^{a} \pm$		$J(^{15}N-^{11}B) \pm$	$\delta(^{11}B)^{c} \pm$	
	0.03		0.1, Hz	0.01	
	obsd	J(B-F),	obsd	obsd	
	(calcd) ^b	Hz	(calcd) ^b	(calcd) ^b	$\Delta \delta^{d}$
Me ₃ N·BF ₃	-342.01	15.3	-18.70	0.64	9.36
-	(-341.9)		(-18.78)	(0.51)	
Me,N·BF,Cl	-338.0		-18.61	5.16	14.64
	(-338.2)		(-18.30)	(4.30)	
Me ₃ N·BF, Br	-340.4	54.2	-18.47	4.39	14.79
	(340.5)		(-18.54)	(5.60)	
Me, N·BF, I	-344.3 ^e				
Me N·BFCl,	-335.9	60.1	-17.52	8.24	24.06
·	(-335.7)		(-17.51)	(7.63)	
Me, N·BFBr,	-339.1	91.9	-17.44	3.67	25.30
	(-339.0)		(-17.37)	(4.34)	
Me ₃ N·BCl ₃	-334.00		-16.50	10.16	36.34
5 5	(-334.2)		(-16.43)	(10.20)	
Me ₃ N·BFI,	-346.5		-14.30	-19.0	
5 1	(-346.5)		(-14.30)	(-18.11)	
Me, N·Cl, Br	-334.6		-16.13	6.71	37.99
· ·	(-334.4)		(-16.10)	(7.38)	
Me ₃ N·BCl ₂ I	-336.0		-15.4	-3.23	39.33
5 1	(-335.9)		(-15.35)	(-2.84)	
Me ₃ N·BClBr ₂	-335.64		-15.72	2.18	40.12
5 1	(-335.5)		(-15.72)	(2.89)	
Me ₂ N·BClBrI	-336.7		-14.66	-9.8	41.4
5	(-337.4)		(-14.82)	(9.0)	
Me ₃ N·BBr ₃	-337.04		-15.23	-3.26	41.96
	(-337.2)		(-15.29)	(-3.27)	
Me,N·BClI,	-340.7		-13.93	-24.75	42.85
v	(340.5)		(-13.91)	(-24.21)	
Me, N·BBr, I	-339.77		-14.30	-16.97	43.27
5 4	(-339.6)		(-14.82)	(-16.85)	
Me ₃ N·BBrI,	-343.38		-13.20	-33.88	44.88
5 2	(-343.2)		(-13.18)	(-33.83)	
Me ₃ N·BI ₃	-347.82		-12.09	-54.21	46.31
• •	(-348.0)		(-12.10)	(-54.21)	

^a With respect to nitromethane. ^b Values calculated by using pairwise parameters from Table II. ^c With respect to $Me_2O\cdot BF_3$. ^d Complexation shifts are the differences between the ¹¹B shift of the free boron trihalide and the adduct in the same solvent system.^{8,11} ^e Very poor signal/noise. Data are questionable.

spectra, referenced to external nitromethane, were obtained with a spectrometer frequency of 40.51 MHz on a 10-kHz sweep width, the 16 K quad data tables being transformed to 8K spectra. A typical spectrum for the Cl/I system is shown in Figure 1C.

Results and Discussion

The nitrogen-15 and boron-11 chemical shifts and the boron-nitrogen coupling constants for the 17 species detected are shown in Table I. However, the data for the two mixed adducts containing both I and F are only tentative as S/N was very bad for these low-abundance species. As noted elsewhere,¹¹ the hard/soft mix of F and I is significantly discriminated against.

The data are in order of increasing donor-acceptor bond strength for these systems as determined previously from NMR data.^{5,8} It is immediately clear that neither the nitrogen nor the boron chemical shifts show a simple correlation with this order though the complexation shifts, $\Delta\delta(^{11}B)$, is reasonably consistent, with complexation shift increasing with increasing bond strength as noted previously.^{8,11} $J(^{11}B-^{15}N)$, the boron-nitrogen coupling constants, form a regular trend in reasonable agreement with the observed order of ¹H shifts. Since the absolute magnitude of J decreases as we descend from fluoride to iodide and since $J({}^{11}B-{}^{15}N)$ should be a measure of the "s" electron density in the B-N bond and should increase on going from Me₃N·BF₃ to Me₃N·BI₃, we suggest that the sign of this coupling constant is negative. Thus, the -12.9-Hz $J(^{11}B-^{15}N)$ for Me₃N·BI₃ is larger than the -18.4-Hz $J(^{11}B-^{15}N)$ for Me₃N·BF₃. When we compare



Figure 2. Plots of $\delta({}^{15}N)$, $\delta({}^{11}B)$, and $\Delta\delta({}^{11}B)$ vs. $J({}^{11}B{-}^{15}N)$: \bullet , $\delta({}^{15}N)$; \odot , $\delta({}^{15}N)$ for F-containing species; \times , $\delta({}^{11}B)$; \odot , $({}^{11}B)$ for F-containing species; \blacksquare , $\Delta\delta({}^{11}B)$; \boxdot , $\Delta\delta({}^{11}B)$ for F-containing species.

our mutally consistent coupling constant data obtained from both ¹⁵N and ¹¹B spectra, the early note of Clippard and Taylor¹³ on $J(^{11}B-^{15}N)$ must be questioned, their values being 14-15, 14, and 13 Hz respectively for the BF₃, BCl₃, and BBr₃ adducts, i.e. lower than our values of 18.70, 16.50, and 15.23 Hz, respectively.

(a) Chemical Shift and Coupling Constant Correlations. In Figure 2, we show plots of both the ¹⁵N and ¹¹B chemical shifts and the ¹¹B complexation shift vs. $J(^{11}B-^{15}N)$. In both chemical shift cases, the curves fall into two parts. The B-N coupling therefore, rather than either the B or N chemical shifts, most closely follows the order of B-N strength. First, there are the compounds that do not contain fluorine, which give points that fall on reasonably straight lines. For both boron and nitrogen shifts, the fluorine-containing species fall on separate curves, the slopes being flatter and opposite in sign and the curves not being linear. For the ¹¹B complexation shift, again there is a change in slope for the fluorine-containing species but no change in sign. This was not apparent from our previous study⁸ based on Fluck's partial ¹¹B data,⁹ though it can be seen in retrospect (Figure 2 in ref 8) that the Me₃N·BBr₃ point has deviated from the straight line through the fluorine-containing species in a correlation of $\Delta\delta(^{11}B)$ with $\delta(^{13}C)$. Thus, neither $\delta(^{11}B)$ nor $\delta(^{15}N)$ is a reliable measure of the donor-acceptor bond strength. Similarly, $\Delta\delta(^{11}B)$ gives a valid order but not the linear correlation to be seen for $\delta({}^{1}H)$, $\delta(^{13}C), \delta(^{19}F), J(^{11}B-^{19}F) \text{ and } J(^{11}H-^{11}B), \text{ or } J(^{11}B-^{15}N) \text{ to be}$ shown below. Both N and B chemical shifts appear to be dominated by halogen effects rather than simple donor-acceptor inductive effects.

In Figure 3, we show plots of $\delta({}^{1}\text{H})$ and $\delta({}^{13}\text{C})$ vs. $J({}^{11}\text{B}-{}^{15}\text{N})$, and here we see the good linear correlations of the type reported previously.⁸ There is no anomalous region for the fluorine-containing species. The $\delta({}^{11}\text{B})$ and $\delta({}^{15}\text{N})$ deviations for fluorine-containing systems thus may well reflect significant residual multiple B-F bonding even in the tetrahedral adducts, which act particularly to perturb the chemical shifts of the donor and acceptor atoms. The B-N coupling therefore, rather than either the B or N chemical shifts, most closely follows the order of B-N strength. This explanation would imply a linear effect in ${}^{19}\text{F}$ measurements, $\delta({}^{19}\text{F})$ and $J({}^{11}\text{B}-{}^{19}\text{F})$, and



Figure 3. Plots of $\delta({}^{13}C)$ and $\delta({}^{1}H)$ vs. $J({}^{11}B{}^{-15}N)$: \bullet , ${}^{1}H$ data; \blacksquare , ${}^{13}C$ data.



Figure 4. Plot of $\delta(^{11}B)$ vs. $\delta(^{15}N)$: •, F-containing species; O, other species.

those for other peripheral nuclei, $^{13}\mathrm{C}$ and $^{1}\mathrm{H},$ but not for central B or N.

When, however, we plot the two sets of the anomalous NMR parameters $\delta(^{11}B)$ and $\delta(^{15}N)$ against one another, we get two good straight-line fits (Figure 4), one for Cl/Br/I species and the other for the F/X species. Then the small changes in $\delta(^{15}N)$ linearly reflect much larger changes in $\delta(^{11}B)$. In both cases the BI₃ adduct has the highest upfield shift, with the BCl₃ adduct appearing at lowest field and all fluorine-containing species being anomalously upfield of the BCl₃ adduct in both the boron and nitrogen spectra. Thus, it is clear that both boron and nitrogen, i.e. the acceptor and donor nuclei, are subject to the same influence on their chemical shifts. Thus, the halogen substituents rather than any simple B-N bond electron density effects dominate the shifts. It is interesting that chemical shifts of more peripheral nuclei (1H, 13C, 19F), as well as the coupling constants involving boron, appear to be the parameters that best measure B-Nstrength.

Table II. Pairwise Additivity Parameters^a

	$\eta_{J}(^{11}B-^{15}N),$ Hz	ηδ(¹⁵ N) ^b	^η δ(¹¹ B) ^c
F-F	-6.26	-114.0	-0.44
Cl-Cl	-5.48	-111.4	1.16
Br-Br	-5.10	-112.4	-4.07
I–I	-4.03	-116.0	-21.41
I–Br	-4.57	-113.6	-11.04
I-Cl	-4.94	-112.3	-5.91
I–F	-5.13	-115.3	-1.69
Br-Cl	-5.31	-111.5	-0.62
Br-F	-6.14	-113.3	0.92
Cl-F	-6.02	-112.1	0.64
Me ₃ N-F			0.61
Me ₃ N-Cl			2.24
Me, N-Br			2.98
Me ₃ N-I			3.34
		-	

^a Calculated by a least-squares routine. ^b Relative to nitromethane. ^c Relative to Me_2OBF_3 .



Figure 5. Plot of $\eta_{J(^{11}B^{-15}N)}$ vs. (O) the pairwise sum of the halogen electronegativities and (\Box) the pairwise sum of the van der Waals radii. The least-squares fit omits the points for the BF₃ adducts, which are anomalous.

(b) Pairwise Additivity. All three sets of NMR data reported in Table I show pairwise additivity. The pairwise additivity parameters $\eta_{X,Y}$ are reported in Table II for J- $(^{11}B-^{15}N)$, $\delta(^{15}N)$, and $\delta(^{11}B)$, with δ and J values calculated by using the pairwise parameters shown in Table I in parentheses.

Neither $\eta_{J(^{11}B^{-15}N)}$ nor $\eta_{\delta(^{15}N)}$ involve donor halogen terms, since both involve observation of a parameter associated with the donor. Only in the case of $\eta_{\delta(^{11}B)}$ are there donor halogen terms. The chemical shifts or coupling constants are related to the pairwise parameters as follows for the Me₃N·BF₂Cl adduct:

$$\delta(^{11}\mathbf{B}) = \eta_{F,F} + 2\eta_{F,Cl} + \eta_{D,Cl} + 2\eta_{D,F}$$

$$\delta(^{15}\mathbf{N}) = \eta'_{F,F} + 2\eta'_{F,Cl}$$

$$J(^{11}\mathbf{B}-^{15}\mathbf{N}) = \eta''_{F,F} + 2\eta''_{F,Cl}$$

where η, η' , and η'' are the $\delta(^{11}B)$, $\delta(^{15}N)$, and $J(^{11}B-^{15}N)$ pairwise parameters, respectively.

As shown previously,⁶ boron shift parameters are less reliable than others for adduct systems and display different behavior for the parameters involving fluorine. It would appear that $\eta_{\delta}(^{15}N)$ parameters display similar problems, though there are no donor halide parameters to consider.

Finally, as was observed for $J({}^{11}\text{B}-{}^{19}\text{F})$ pairwise parameters, $\eta_{J({}^{11}\text{B}-{}^{15}\text{N})}$ parameters, when plotted against either the sum of the electronegativities or the sum of the van der Waals radii of the two interacting nuclei (Figure 5), show an approximately linear relationship. The only significant deviations are observed for $Me_3N \cdot BF_3$. Further work is under way to investigate the significance of the apparent steric effects.

In conclusion, therefore, we can add the measurement of boron-nitrogen couplings to the list of effective measures of the relative bond strength of adducts of the boron trihalides, but the nitrogen-15 chemical shift data do not reflect a measure of a simple electron density picture of the B-N bond. Thus, especially in view of the experimental difficulties of the ¹⁵N NMR experiment, it would appear to be of greater use and interest to measure $J({}^{11}B-{}^{15}N)$ from the ${}^{11}B$ NMR spectra, which are much simpler to obtain.

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Aqueous Shift Reagents for High-Resolution Cationic Nuclear Magnetic Resonance. 2. ²⁵Mg, ³⁹K, and ²³Na Resonances Shifted by Chelidamate Complexes of Dysprosium(III) and Thulium(III)

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The tris complexes of anions of chelidamic acid (H₃CA, 4-hydroxypyridine-2,6-dicarboxylic acid) with dysprosium(III) and thulium(III) have been tested as aqueous shift reagents for the NMR peaks of metal cations. The $Dy(CA)_3^{6-}$ complex was observed to produce significant upfield isotropic hyperfine shifts of the ²⁵Mg²⁺, ³⁹K⁺, and ²³Na⁺ resonances (as well as that of ${}^{87}Rb^+$ and the ${}^{14}N$ resonance of NH₄⁺). The Tm(CA)₃⁶⁻ complex produces a downfield shift of the ${}^{23}Na^+$ peak. The shifts are produced by an interaction between cation and shift reagent anion, which is labile on the chemical shift NMR time scale. The shifts are strongly pH dependent due to protonation of the coordinated ligands.

We have recently reported the development of aqueous shift reagents (SR) for metal cationic NMR^{1,2} and have demonstrated their usefulness in bioinorganic chemistry, particularly in the study of transport of alkali-metal ions (Na⁺ and Li⁺) across model³ and real⁴ biological membranes. Transmembrane transport of the other physiological metal cations, K⁺, Mg²⁺, and Ca²⁺, is of course also important, and we wish to show that NMR can be used to study these processes as well. Here, we report improved SR and their effectiveness with natural-abundance ²⁵Mg and ³⁹K as well as ²³Na NMR. In a separate paper, we report their use in the study of transmembrane transport of Mg²⁺ and K^{+.5}

The usefulness of various paramagnetic lanthanide ions for shifting and/or relaxating nuclear magnetic resonances in aqueous solutions has been known for more than a decade.⁶ Most subsequent studies have employed various lanthanide coordination complexes as aqueous hyperfine shift⁷⁻¹² or relaxation^{7,13-18} reagents and as aqueous susceptibility shift¹⁹ or relaxation²⁰ reagents. Of the resonances of the physiological alkali-metal or alkaline-earth-metal ions, only that of ²³Na has been the subject of specific hyperfine relaxation^{21,22} or shifting^{1,2,12,23,24} and susceptibility shifting¹⁹ experiments and these have employed paramagnetic lanthanide complexes.

Our results^{1,2} and those of others^{23,24} indicated that increased charge on the anionic shift reagent was a major determinant of increased effectiveness: our best early SR were trianions,^{1,2} Elgavish and Elgavish have employed a pentaanion,²⁴ and Gupta and Gupta, a heptaanion.²³ Thus, we have considered

ways of increasing the charge of the complex. Chelidamic acid $(H_3CA, 4-hydroxypyridine-2, 6-dicarboxylic acid)$ has a tridentate coordinating ability almost identical with that of di-

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