value of 54.1° found in TiS<sub>2</sub>. Comparison of curves a and b shows that electron filling of the  $t_{2g}$  subbands decreases the  $\theta$  value slightly, which is a reflection of the fact that the bottom portion of the  $t_{2g}$  subbands is low in energy for small  $\theta$  (see Figures 1 and 2). Consequently, electron filling of the  $t_{2g}$  subbands itself cannot be responsible for the Ib  $\rightarrow$  Ia phase transition, so that the cause for this transition must be associated with ionic interactions of  $Na^+$  cations with sulfur layers of  $TiS_2$  slabs. It is worth noting that no phase transition such as  $Ib \rightarrow Ia$  is present in intercalation of TiS<sub>2</sub> with alkali metal atoms other than sodium.<sup>1,2b,10</sup>

## **Concluding Remarks**

It is often assumed that intercalation of a layer compound does not modify slabs of the host. That this is not necessarily the case was strongly suggested by the work of Molinie et al.<sup>2h</sup> on Na<sub>x</sub>TiS<sub>2</sub>. The present study shows that the abrupt change in the <sup>23</sup>Na Knight shifts at the boundary of phases Ib and Ia is due primarily to the

Chem. Phys. 1962, 36, 1057.

flattening of a TiS<sub>2</sub> slab beyond the critical  $a_{cr}$  value of 3.50 Å. (Note that the larger the *a* value, the more flattened is a  $TiS_2$ slab.) This structural change brings about an abrupt increase not only in  $n(e_f)$  but also in the anisotropy of electron distribution around Ti<sup>4+</sup>. Can we expect such a drastic change in electronic structure for other alkali-metal intercalations in TiS<sub>2</sub>? In the first-stage compound of various  $A_x TiS_2$  (A = Li, K, Rb, Cs), the a value is found to increase gradually with x.<sup>10</sup> However, in none of those systems, does the maximum a value exceed the critical value  $a_{cr} = 3.50$  Å. Therefore an abrupt change in band electronic structure such as the one observed for the Ib  $\rightarrow$  Ia phase transition in  $Na_{x}TiS_{2}$  is not expected for other alkali-metal intercalations in TiS<sub>2</sub>.

In the present study we have considered only ideal stoichiometric TiS<sub>2</sub>, but nonstoichiometric situations arise in the form of  $Ti_{1+\nu}S_2$ (usually  $y \simeq 0.005$ ). This nonstoichiometry would lead to slightly populated d-block bands in the absence of sodium intercalation, which might slightly change the phase boundaries of  $Na_xTiS_2$  but not the conclusions of the present study.

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Registry No. TiS<sub>2</sub>, 12039-13-3; sodium titanium sulfide, 12624-30-5.

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# Reaction of Triethylenetetramine with Nickel(II) N, N'-Diglycylethylenediamine

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# Received June 30, 1983

 $The reaction of triethylenetetramine with nickel (II) \textit{N,N'-diglycylethylenediamine, NiH_2DGEN, proceeds through trien_t-dependent trie$ and -independent pathways. The rate constants for the trien species cannot be resolved, but their ratios are  $k_{\rm HT}/k_{\rm T} = 0.63$  and  $k_{\rm H,T}/k_{\rm T} = 0.046$ . The rate constant for the dissociation of a terminal amine group from nickel(II) is 0.08 s<sup>-1</sup>. The reaction is specific hydrogen ion dependent with a rate constant  $k_{H_{10}} = 8.5 \times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ .

Complexation of short-chain polypeptides by nickel(II) enhances the acidity of the amide protons, and as a consequence many nickel(II) complexes have been prepared in water solution that are of square-planar configuration with coordinated imide groups.<sup>1-6</sup> N,N'-Diglycylethylenediamine (DGEN) forms a complex of this configuration provided the pH of the solution is 8 or greater.<sup>6</sup> Coordination of DGEN to nickel is through the two terminal amine groups and through the two deprotonated amide nitrogens

The transfer of Ni(II) and Cu(II) from short-chain polypeptide complexes to other multidentate ligands such as ethylenediaminetetraacetate may proceed through a variety of pathways.7-9 These routes include solvent assisted, direct replacement, and proton-transfer limited that may or may not be general-acid catalyzed. The variation in reactivity patterns is dependent upon steric interactions within the substrate complex and the replacing

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ligand in addition to the relative lability of the leaving groups.<sup>10,11</sup>

This study involves the transfer of Ni(II) from N,N'-diglycylethylenediamine to triethylenetetramine (trien). The reaction proceeds through trien, dependent and -independent pathways. The trien, dependence is not the same as that observed in other systems.

#### Experimental Section

Diglycylethylenediamine was synthesized by the method of Gill and Cottrell;<sup>12</sup> the melting point of the dihydrochloride salt was 246 °C. A stock nickel solution, 0.0991 M, was prepared from twice-recrystallized Ni(ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and standardized by EDTA titration. Ionic strength was maintained at 0.10 M with NaClO<sub>4</sub>. Sodium borate was used to maintain constant pH, and the pH values were converted to hydrogen ion concentration with the extended Debye-Hückel relationship.

Solutions of NiH\_2DGEN were prepared by dissolving an analytically weighed portion of DGEN in water followed by addition of an aliquot of Ni(II) stock solution. The solution was bubbled with nitrogen to remove dissolved oxygen before the pH was slowly adjusted to a value greater than 9. The solutions were always prepared fresh and kept under nitrogen. A 50% excess of DGEN was maintained.

Triethylenetetramine solutions were prepared from the recrystallized disulfate salt. Standardization was achieved spectrophotometrically, using Cu(II) at pH 4.8 (acetate buffer). These solutions were also kept

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**Table I.** Concentrations and  $k_{obsd}$  for the Reaction of trien<sub>t</sub> with NiH<sub>2</sub>DGEN

10 <sup>4</sup> ×		10 <sup>3</sup> ×		
[NiH <sub>-2</sub> DGEN] <sub>0</sub> ,		[trien] <sub>t</sub> ,	$10^3 k_{\rm obsd}$ ,	$10^3 k_{\text{obsd}}(\text{calcd}),$ s <sup>-1</sup>
M	pН	M	s <sup>-1</sup>	s <sup>-1</sup>
6.00	3.45	15.2	$4200 \pm 410$	3630
6.00	3.72	15.2	$1810 \pm 240$	1960
6.00	4.07	15.2	886 ± 53	876
6.00	4.52	15.2	$272 \pm 27$	310
6.00	4.95	15.2	$92.5 \pm 9.5$	115
6.00	5.53	15.2	$29.8 \pm 2.6$	31.3
5.71	5.80	14.4	16.7 + 0.8	16.5
5.71	6.04	14.4	11.3 + 0.8	16.5
5.71	6.04	14.4	11.3 + 0.6	9.82
5.71	6.32	14.4	6.45 + 0.20	. 5.47
6.61	6.57	8.98	$3.39 \pm 0.03$	3.29
6.20	6.62	11.8	$3.43 \pm 0.10$	3.10
5.66	6.67	15.4	$3.48 \pm 0.11$	2.96
4.96	6.70	20.2	$3.48 \pm 0.07$	2.98
6.34	7.85	8.86	$1.07 \pm 0.03$	1.06
5.87		11.5	$1.32 \pm 0.05$	1.29
5.29		14.8	$1.53 \pm 0.07$	1.57
4.53		19.0	$1.88 \pm 0.05$	1.92
6.90	8.45	5.78	$1.41 \pm 0.03$	1.34
6.34		8.86	$1.79 \pm 0.07$	1.88
5.87		11.5	$2.32 \pm 0.07$	2.35
4.76		17.7	$3.31 \pm 0.08$	3.43
7.21	8.94	4.03	$2.10 \pm 0.05$	1.78
6.61		7.38	$3.35 \pm 0.07$	2.99
6.10		10.2	$3.98 \pm 0.15$	4.00
3.66		12.7	$4.72 \pm 0.09$	4.88
6.61		3.88	$1.68 \pm 0.08$	1.73
6.10		5.37	$2.27 \pm 0.15$	2.27
5.66		6.64	$2.73 \pm 0.10$	2.73
5.29		7.75	$3.02 \pm 0.04$	3.13
6.90	9.35	6.07	$4.20 \pm 0.13$	3.99
6.34		9.30	$5.92 \pm 0.41$	5.89
5.87		12.1	$7.17 \pm 0.35$	7.49
5.29		15.5	$8.48 \pm 0.48$	9.40
5.15		8.86	5.15	5.63
25.0		100	$47.6 \pm 3.6$	45.1
25.0		150	$58.8 \pm 2.4$	59.3
25.0		200	$65.9 \pm 8.1$	70.3
25.0	0.00	250	$79.7 \pm 3.5$	79.2
5.29	9.89	14.8	$12.3 \pm 1.1$	13.3
5.87		11.5	$10.6 \pm 0.6$	10.5
5.34		8.86	$8.43 \pm 0.14$	8.31
6.90		5,78	$5.47 \pm 0.14$	5.62

"Single run.

under nitrogen. The trien  $pK_a$  values used to resolve the rate constant ratios are  $pK_{a(HT)} = 9.74$ ,  $pK_{a(H_2T)} = 9.08$ , and  $pK_{a(H_3T)} = 6.56$ .<sup>13</sup> The reaction of NiH<sub>-2</sub>DGEN with trien, was monitored at 410 nm ( $\epsilon$ 

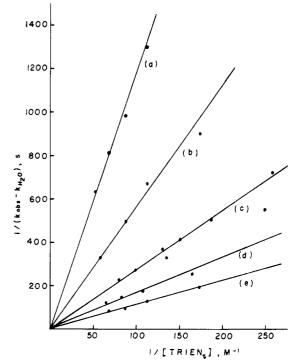
The reaction of NiH<sub>-2</sub>DGEN with trien, was monitored at 410 nm ( $\epsilon = 220 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), using 5-cm cells and a Varian 634 spectrophotometer. A Durham stopped-flow spectrophotometer was used for the low-pH (<5.8) and high-trien, conditions. Temperature was maintained at 25.0 °C. Pseudo-first-order kinetics were observed when the trien, concentration was a factor of 10 greater than the Ni(II) concentration. The reported rate constants were obtained from least-squares fit to plots of  $-\ln (A - A_{\infty})$  vs. time and are the averages of at least three runs. Extrapolation of absorbance readings to zero time agreed with the expected values, and the reaction was not influenced by the addition of excess DGEN. The resolved rate constants were obtained by using nonlinear least-squares fitting.<sup>14</sup>

#### Results

The reaction of NiH<sub>-2</sub>DGEN with trien, was studied over the pH range of 3.45-9.89. When the trien, concentration is significantly greater than the NiH<sub>-2</sub>DGEN concentration, pseudo-first-order kinetics are observed in agreement with eq 1. As long

$$rate = -d[NiH_{-2}DGEN]/dt = k_{obsd}[NiH_{-2}DGEN] \quad (1)$$

as the pH is greater than approximately 7.7 an increase in the



**Figure 1.** Verification of the relationship between the observed rate constant and the trien, concentration (eq 6): (a) pH 7.85; (b) pH 8.45; (c) pH 8.94; (d) pH 9.35; (e) pH 9.89.

trien<sub>t</sub> concentration results in an increase in  $k_{obsd}$ . The increase is not linear however, with the dependence decreasing as the concentration increases. The data were summarized in Table I. A reaction sequence consistent with this observation is shown in eq 2 and 3. Application of the steady-state approximation to

$$NiH_{-2}DGEN \xrightarrow{\kappa_{H_{2}O}} products \qquad (2)$$

NiH<sub>-2</sub>DGEN 
$$\stackrel{k_1}{\underset{k_{-1}}{\leftarrow}}$$
 (NiH<sub>-2</sub>DGEN)\*  $\stackrel{k_2}{\underset{\text{trien}}{\leftarrow}}$  products (3)

(NiH<sub>-2</sub>DGEN)\* provides the rate equation (4). The observed -d[NiH<sub>-2</sub>DGEN]

rate =

$$\begin{cases} dt & - \\ k_{H_{2}O} + \frac{k_{1}k_{2}[trien_{t}]}{k_{-1} + k_{2}[trien_{t}]} \end{cases} [NiH_{-2}DGEN] (4)$$

rate constant under pseudo-first-order conditions is equal to (5)

$$k_{\rm obsd} = k_{\rm H_2O} + \frac{k_1 k_2[\rm trien_t]}{k_{-1} + k_2[\rm trien_t]}$$
(5)

and rearrangement provides eq 6. A value of  $k_{\rm H,O} = 2.1 \times 10^{-4}$ 

$$\frac{1}{(k_{\rm obsd} - k_{\rm H_2O})} = \frac{k_{-1}}{k_1 k_2 [\rm trien_t]} + \frac{1}{k_1}$$
(6)

s<sup>-1</sup> has been reported in a separate study.<sup>6</sup> This value was obtained from extrapolation, and for these studies a value of  $3 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$  provides better agreement between the data and eq 6. A plot of  $1/(k_{osbd} - k_{H_2O})$  vs.  $1/[\text{trien}_t]$  is shown in Figure 1.

The intercept from Figure 1 is equal to 6.22 s, and thus  $k_1 = 0.16 \text{ s}^{-1}$ . As is evident by the data listed in Table I the reaction rate increases as the pH is increased from 7.7 to 9.8 and also increases as the pH decreases from 7.7 to 3.45. The increase in rate at the higher pH values indicates that the least protonated trient species are the most reactive. The trient dependent rate constant  $k_2$  cannot be resolved into the contributions from the three trient species present in this pH range since the slopes from Figure 1 provide  $k_{-1}/k_2$ . The relative values for trien, Htrien<sup>+</sup> and H<sub>2</sub>trien<sup>2+</sup> have been obtained from the ratios of the slopes in Figure 1; they are  $k_{HT}/k_T = 0.63$  and  $k_{H_2T}/k_T = 0.046$ . These values

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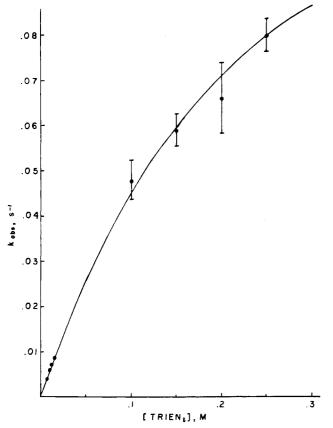


Figure 2.  $k_{obsd}$  vs. [trient] (pH 9.35). The solid line is predicted from the rate constants listed in Table II.

**Table II.** Rate Constants for the Reaction of trien, with  $NiH_{-2}DGEN$ 

const	value
$\frac{k_1}{k_1}$	$0.16 \pm 0.02 \text{ s}^{-1}$
$k_{-NH_2R}$	$0.08 \pm 0.01 \text{ s}^{-1}$
k <sub>H<sub>1</sub>O</sub>	$(8.5 \pm 1.5) \times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$
$k_{\rm H_2O}$	$(3.0 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{-4}  \mathrm{s}^{-1}$
$k_{-1}/k_{\mathrm{T}}$	$0.129 \pm 0.003 \text{ M}$
$k_{-1}/k_{\rm HT}$	$0.206 \pm 0.004 \text{ M}$
$k_{-1}/k_{\mathrm{H_2T}}$	$2.80 \pm 0.08 \text{ M}$
$k_{\rm HT}/k_{\rm T}$	$0.63 \pm 0.03$
$k_{\rm H_2T}/k_{\rm T}$	$0.046 \pm 0.002$
$k_{\rm HT}/k_{\rm H_2T}$	$13.7 \pm 1.3$

were calculated by using the respective  $\alpha$  values and all possible linear combinations. Comparison of observed and predicted rate constants at pH 9.35 is shown in Figure 2.

As the pH decreases from 7.7, the trien, dependence is lost. The observed rate constant increases, exhibiting a linear dependence upon hydrogen ion concentration. This is consistent with the reaction given in eq 7. Graphical evaluation provides  $k_{\rm H,O} = 8.5$ 

NiH<sub>-2</sub>DGEN + H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> 
$$\xrightarrow{k_{H_{2}O}}$$
 products (7)

 $\times$  10<sup>3</sup> M<sup>-1</sup>. The agreement between the observed rate constants and the predicted values is shown in Figure 3. The rate constants are summarized in Table II.

#### Discussion

trien Reactivity. The reaction of NiH<sub>-2</sub>DGEN with trien<sub>t</sub> does not follow the general reactivity pattern that has been observed for other complexes such as NiH<sub>-2</sub>GGG<sup>-,9</sup> CuH<sub>-2</sub>GGG<sup>-,10</sup> and NiH<sub>-2</sub>GGhis<sup>-,15</sup> For the triglycine complexes the nucleophilic pathway is subject to steric interactions but in general maintains an integral order over the range of trien<sub>t</sub> concentrations studied.

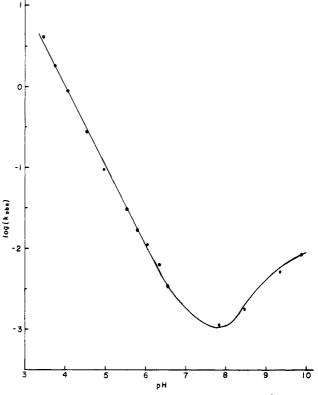


Figure 3. Dependence of  $k_{obsd}$  on pH ([trient] =  $8.86 \times 10^{-3}$  M). The solid line is calculated by 5 and 7 and the constants listed in Table II.

The kinetic lability of the NiH<sub>-2</sub>GGhis<sup>-</sup> complex is much smaller by comparison, and correspondingly the rate constant is reduced.<sup>15</sup> This complex is also subject to proton-assisted decomposition.

The loss of integral dependence upon trient concentration in the transfer of Ni(II) from DGEN to trien, is due to the protective action exerted by the two terminal amine groups and the rigidity of the terminal chelate rings. In the reaction with  $NiH_2GGG^$ the carboxylate donor is sufficiently labile to provide an equatorial position for coordination to an amine donor of trien. For the NiH<sub>-2</sub>DGEN complex the amine donors are not as labile, and in addition,  $k_{-1}$ , the rate constant for the closing of the chelate ring, is comparable to  $k_2$ [trient] (see eq 2 and 3). This balance accounts for the variable trien, dependence. The rate constant  $k_1$ , as designated in eq 3, is equal to twice the value for the breakage of the bond between nickel and the terminal amine groups,  $k_1/2$ =  $k_{-\rm NH_2R}$ . This results from two equivalent pathways to form the steady-state species. The extrapolated value of  $k_1$  equals 0.16 s<sup>-1</sup>. This value is much smaller than the values observed for the dissociation of nonchelated amines from high-spin nickel(II). For example<sup>16</sup> the constant for NH<sub>3</sub> dissociation is 7.1 s<sup>-1</sup> and for  $EtNH_2$  is 13.3 s<sup>-1</sup>. This difference could be due in part to the spin states, with the low-spin Ni(II) being less labile. The constants for the opening of Ni-en chelate rings are comparable<sup>17,18</sup>  $(0.11-0.13 \text{ s}^{-1})$ , and thus the spin states may not play a critical role.

The rate constant value for trien reacting with  $(NiH_2DGEN)^*$ can be approximated from data obtained in other studies. The rate constant for the reaction of trien with nickel triglycine<sup>9</sup>  $(NiH_2GGG^-)$  is  $1.7 \times 10^4 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . The reactive intermediate,  $(NiH_2DGEN)^*$ , is believed to have one of the terminal amine groups dissociated from nickel, and thus it is similar to the diglycylamide complex  $(NiH_2GGa)$ . The value of  $k_2$  (eq 3) for trien should be larger for  $(NiH_2DGEN)^*$  than it is for the triglycine complex by an amount equal to the stability imparted to

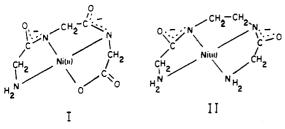
<sup>(16)</sup> Rorabacher, D. B.; Melendez-Cepeda, C. A. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1971, 93, 6071.

<sup>17)</sup> Read, R. A.; Margerum, D. W. Inorg. Chem. 1981, 20, 3143.

<sup>(18)</sup> Read, R. A.; Margerum, D. W. Inorg. Chem. 1983, 22, 3447.

NiH<sub>-2</sub>GGG<sup>-</sup> through coordination of the carboxylate group. Comparison of the thermodynamic stability<sup>19</sup> of NiH<sub>-2</sub>GGG<sup>-</sup> and NiH<sub>-2</sub>GGa indicates this factor should be 10<sup>1.5</sup>, and thus the predicted value of  $k_{\rm T}$  for (NiH<sub>-2</sub>DGEN)\* is 5 × 10<sup>5</sup> M<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>. The ratio of  $k_{-1}/k_{T}$  is 0.129 M, which provides an estimated value of  $6 \times 10^4 \text{ s}^{-1}$  for  $k_{-1}$ . Coupling this value with  $k_{-\text{NH}_2\text{R}}$ ,  $(k_{-1}/k_{-\text{NH}_2\text{R}})$  yields an estimated chelate stability constant of 10°. This value is significantly greater than the value of 10<sup>5</sup> obtained by comparison of the stabilities<sup>13</sup> of Ni(OH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>5</sub>NH<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup> and Ni- $(OH_2)_4 en^{2+}$  but is comparable to the value obtained upon comparison to Ni(OH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>5</sub>EtNH<sub>2</sub>; the enhanced stability may be due primarily to the small value of  $k_{-NH_2R}$ . The structures of NiH<sub>-2</sub>GGG<sup>-</sup> and NiH<sub>-2</sub>DGEN are depicted

by I and II. At this time there is no evidence for polypeptides



unwrapping from the amine terminal position in any of the nucleophilic replacement reactions.<sup>9,10,15</sup> The presence of the deprotonated linkage in the chelate ring that is being broken adds sizable kinetic stability to the system.

In NiH<sub>-2</sub>DGEN this grouping is present on both sides of the complex, and correspondingly a change in trien, reactivity pattern is observed. When the planar NCO unit is part of the chelate ring that must be disrupted and twisted out of the way to permit coordination to the incoming group, there is one less bond for free rotation. This reduces the rate of the process. For the triglycine and glycylglycylhistidine complexes, the deprotonated groupings are not part of the most labile chelate ring and the complexes exhibit first-order trien, dependence. Shifting the deprotonated group to the terminal chelate ring in NiH\_2DGEN complex adds rigidity to the chelate ring and reduces the rate of amine nitrogen dissociation by a factor of approximately 100.

The relative ratios of the trien species rate constants  $k_{\rm T}/$  $k_{\rm HT}/k_{\rm H_2T}$  of 1.0/0.63/0.046 are typical of the values observed when these ligands react through nucleophilic displacement processes. This also indicates that  $H_2$ trien<sup>2+</sup> is not acting as a general acid.

Proton Transfer. The rate constants for reaction of NiH\_DGEN and other square-planar polypeptide complexes with  $H_3O^+$  are summarized in Table III. The largest  $k_{H_3O}$  value is

Table III. Dissociation and Protonation Rate Constants for Similar Nickel(II) Complexes

complex	$k_{\rm H_2O},  {\rm s}^{-1}$	$k_{\rm H_{3}O}, \rm M^{-1} \rm s^{-1}$	ref
NiH_2DGEN	3 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	$8.5 \times 10^{3}$	this work
NiH_2GGG <sup>-</sup>	$5 \times 10^{-2}$	$2 \times 10^{5}$	5
NiH_2GGH <sup>-</sup>	$8 \times 10^{-5}$	$3 \times 10^{4}$	15
NiH_3GGGG <sup>2-</sup>	$1.6 \times 10^{-5}$	$7.1 \times 10^{4}$	8
NiH_3GGGa <sup>2-</sup>		$3.3 \times 10^{4}$	8
NiH_2GGG(CN)2-	$2.7 \times 10^{-3}$	$6.9 \times 10^{3}$	20
NiH_2GGa(CN) <sup>-</sup>	$8 \times 10^{-5}$	$4.3 \times 10^{3}$	20
NiH_3GGGGa		$2.5 \times 10^{2}$	21

exhibited by the nickel-triglycine complex, and this complex is believed to be the only one proceeding through an "inside" protonation mechanism. Inside protonation refers to addition of a proton to an imide nitrogen during the rate-determining step as opposed to "outside" protonation where the proton attaches to a carbonyl oxygen. The reactions of four of these complexes with  $H_3O^+$  involve transfer of a proton to a terminal imide group. The relative rates are sensitive to ligand field stabilization, with the strongest field complex reacting slowest. It is not surprising that the tetraglycine and triglycineamide complexes react more rapidly than NiH<sub>-2</sub>DGEN since the terminal amine groups in DGEN provide protection. As with the trien, reactions, the presence of the imide linkages in the terminal chelate rings imparts kinetic stability and reduces the rate constant.

The protonation rate constant,  $k_{\rm H_3O} = 10^{3.9} \,\mathrm{M^{-1} \, s^{-1}}$ , is less than that observed for other analogous complexes (see Table III). In  $NiH_{-3}G_4^{2-}$  and  $NiH_{-3}G_4a^{-,19}$  the proton is going to terminal coordination sites and correspondingly the rate should be greater than that observed for the complexes where a terminal protective group is present. In the NiH\_2GGa<sup>-</sup> complex the carbonyl oxygen that is protonated is not a part of the chelate ring that is breaking. The increased kinetic stability of NiH<sub>-2</sub>DGEN toward reaction with  $H_3O^+$  parallels that observed in the trien reaction where the planar NCO group in the breaking chelate plays a large role. Substitution of CN<sup>-</sup> for the fourth coordination site increases the ligand field stabilization and markedly reduces the rate constant for the reaction with  $H_3O^+$ .

The solvent-assisted pathway, eq 2, is believed to involve transfer of a proton from coordinated water.<sup>15</sup> A stronger ligand field presumably reduces the out-of-plane interaction and correspondingly the values of  $k_{H_2O}$ . This may be evident, but other parameters such as ring strain, trans effect, and the charge of the complex play a role; thus, changes in  $k_{H_{10}}$  and  $k_{H_{20}}$  are not parallel.

In summary, the presence of the imide linkage in the chelate ring that is breaking during the reaction with trien, may impart sufficient stability to alter the reactivity pattern. This configuration also favors the outside protonation mechanism.

Registry No. trien, 112-24-3.

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