Formation and Redox Reactivity of Osmium(II) Thionitrosyl Complexes

El-Sayed El-Samanody,^{†,‡} Konstantinos D. Demadis,[§] Laurie A. Gallagher,[†] Thomas J. Meyer,^{*,†} and Peter S. White[†]

Department of Chemistry, Venable and Kenan Laboratories, CB 3290, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27599-3290, and Nalco Chemical Company, Global Water Research, One Nalco Center, Naperville, Illinois 60563-1198

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Reaction between $[Os^{VI}(tpm)(Cl)_2(N)](PF_6)$ (tpm = tris(1-pyrazolyl)methane) (1) or $Os^{VI}(Tp)(Cl)_2(N)$ (Tp = hydrotris(1-pyrazolyl)borate anion) (2) and $CS_2 + N_3^-$ in acetone gives the corresponding thionitrosyl complexes, ⁻SCN, and N₂. There is an extensive reactivity chemistry of the thionitrosyl group in $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NS)](PF_6)$ (3b). Reaction between 3b and PPh₃ occurs with S-atom transfer to give $[Os^{IV}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NPPh_3)]^+$ and S=PPh₃. 3b undergoes chemical or electrochemical reduction to give the corresponding Os^{II} ammine complex and H_2S . O-atom transfer from O=NMe₃ to 3b occurs to give $Os^{III}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NSO)$. Competitive NO⁺/NS⁺ exchange and S²⁻ transfer occur in the reaction between $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NS)](BF_4)$ (3c) and NO⁺ to give a mixture of $[Os^{VI}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NO)]^+$.

Introduction

There is an extensive transition metal nitrosyl chemistry with many examples and a variety of reactions based on the coordinated ligand.¹ There is also a related thionitrosyl chemistry. Although less well developed, it is extensive with well-defined examples for Cr,^{2a,b} Mo,^{2c} W,^{2c} Mn,^{2b} Re,^{3a–d} Tc,^{3e–j} Ru,^{4a–c} and Os.^{4d–h} The synthetic aspects of thionitrosyl chemistry have been described in various reviews.⁵ Recently,

* Corresponding author. E-mail: tjmeyer@email.unc.edu.

we reported a new procedure for the preparation of Os^{II} thionitrosyl complexes based on a reaction between Os^{VI} nitrido complex and CS_2 in the presence of $N_3^{-.6}$

We report here an extension of the thionitrosyl synthetic chemistry to the preparation of $Os^{II}(Tp)(Cl)_2(NS)$ (Tp is hydrotris(1-pyrazolyl)borate anion) and the existence of an extensive redox chemistry based on the NS ligand in $[Os^{II}(tpm)-(Cl)_2(NS)]^+$ (tpm is tris(1-pyrazolyl)methane). Ligand structures are illustrated in Figure 1.

A theme of interest was a comparison between the reactivities of the nitrosyl and thionitrosyl ligands. In relatively high oxidation state $d\pi^6 \text{ Ru}^{II}$ and Os^{II} nitrosyl complexes the electronic distribution at NO leaves the nitrogen atom relatively electron deficient.^{7a–e} Reactivity at the ligand is dominated by nucleophilic addition at the nitrogen atom of the nitrosyl. Reduction occurs at a level largely $\pi^*(\text{NO})$ in character.^{7g–i}

In the electronic distribution in related thionitrosyls the sulfur atom is electron deficient relative to nitrogen, potentially changing the site for nucleophilic attack.^{5a,e,7} The sulfur atom is also more amenable to redox change with the possibility existing for net reduction based on S-atom transfer and oxidation by sulfoxide formation.

[†] University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

[‡] On leave from the Department of Ĉhemistry, Menoufia University, Egypt.

[§] Nalco Chemical Company

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Figure 1. Ligand structures: tpm = tris(1-pyrazolyl) methane; Tp = hydrotris(1-pyrazolyl)borate anion.

Experimental Section

The following compounds and salts appear in this study: $[Os^{VI}(tpm)-(Cl)_2(N)](PF_6)$ (1), $[Os^{VI}(tpm)(Cl)_2(^{15}N)](PF_6)$ (1*), $Os^{VI}(Tp)(Cl)_2(N)$ (2), $Os^{VI}(Tp)(Cl)_2(^{15}N)$ (2*), $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NS)](SCN)$ (3a), $[Os^{II}(tpm)-(Cl)_2(^{15}NS)](SCN)$ (3a*), $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NS)](PF_6)$ (3b), $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NS)](PF_6)$ (3b*), $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NS)](PF_6)$ (3b*), $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NS)](BF_4)$ (3c), $Os^{II}(Tp)(Cl)_2(NS)$ (4), $Os^{II}(Tp)(Cl)_2(^{15}NS)$ (4*), $[Os^{IIV}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NPPh_3)]PF_6$ (5), $[Os^{III}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NSO)\cdot 2H_2O$ (7), $Os^{III}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NO)]BF_4$ (8).

Abbreviations used in the text include the following: tpm, tris(1-pyrazolyl)-methane; Tp, hydrotris(1-pyrazolyl)borate anion; PPN⁺, bis-(triphenylphosphoaranylidene) ammonium cation; TBAH, tetra-*n*-butylammonium hexafluorophosphate.

Materials. Osmium tetroxide (>99%) and potassium hydrotris(1pyrazolyl)borate were purchased from Alfa-AESAR. Deuterated solvents and isotopically labeled reagents were purchased from Cambridge Isotope Laboratories. TBAH ([N(n-Bu)_4](PF₆)), was recrystallized three times from boiling ethanol and dried under vacuum at 120 °C for 2 days. All other chemicals were of reagent grade and used without further purification.

Measurements. Electronic absorption spectra were acquired by using a Hewlett-Packard model 8452A diode array spectrophotometer. FT-IR spectra were recorded on a Mattson Galaxy Series 5000 instrument at 4 cm⁻¹ resolution. Proton NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker AC200 (200 MHz) spectrometer. Elemental analyses were performed by Oneida Research Services, Inc. (Whitesboro, NY). Electrochemical measurements and electrolyses were conducted by using a PAR model 273 potentiostat and a three-compartment cell. For aqueous voltammetry, a 2.0 mm diameter glassy carbon disk working electrode (Bioanalytical Systems, West Lafayette, IN) was used. For nonaqueous measurements, the working electrode was a 1.0 mm platinum disk. The surface of the glassy carbon electrode was polished with diamond paste before use. All potentials are referenced to the saturated sodium chloride calomel electrode (SSCE, 0.24 V vs NHE) unless otherwise noted at room temperature and are uncorrected for junction potentials. In all cases, the auxiliary electrode was a coil of platinum wire. The solution in the working compartment was deoxygenated by nitrogen bubbling.

UV-visible measurements, with photodiode array detection for rapid kinetic experiments, were carried out on a Hi-Tech SF-61DX2 doublemixing, stopped-flow apparatus with fiber optic coupling to a Hamamatsu L2194-02 75 W xenon arc lamp. The system was interfaced with a personal computer by use of the KinetAsyst 2.0 software program. The temperature of solutions during kinetic studies was maintained by use of a Neslab RTE-110 circulating water bath.

The kinetics of the reaction between $[Os^{II}(tpm)(NS)(Cl)_2](PF_6)$ and triphenylphosphine were studied by adding equal volumes of 5.22×10^{-3} M $[Os^{II}(tpm)(NS)(Cl)_2](PF_6)$ and 0.050, 0.100, 0.150, 0.200, and 0.250 M PPh₃. Absorbance changes were monitored at $\lambda_{max} = 636$ nm for $[Os^{II}(tpm)(NS)(Cl)_2](PF_6)$. Under pseudo-first-order conditions with $[PPh_3] \gg [Os^{II}(NS)^+]$, the reaction was first order in $[Os^{II}(NS)^+]$. The pseudo first-order rate constant, k_{obs} , was determined by fitting the data to eq 1,

$$\ln\left[\frac{A_{\infty} - A_t}{A_0 - A_{\infty}}\right] = -k_{obs}t \tag{1}$$

with $k_{obs} = k[PPh_3]$. In eq 1, A_0 , A_t , and A_{∞} are the absorbances at time

0, *t*, and ∞ , respectively. A plot of k_{obs} vs [PPh₃] was linear from 0.050 to 0.250 M. From the slope, $k(25 \text{ °C}, \text{CH}_3\text{CN}) = 40 \pm 1 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$.

Synthesis and Characterization. The following salts and compounds were prepared by literature procedures: $[Os^{VI}(tpm)(Cl)_2(N)]$ - (PF_6) (1),⁸ $[Os^{VI}(tpm)(Cl)_2(^{15}N)](PF_6)$ (1*),⁸ $Os^{VI}(Tp)(Cl)_2(N)$ (2),⁹ $Os^{VI}(Tp)(Cl)_2(^{15}N)$ (2*),⁹ tris(1-pyrazolyl)methane (tpm),¹⁰ and bis-(triphenylphosphoranylidene)ammonium azide (PPN)N₃.^{6b}

[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)₂(NS)](SCN) (3a). A quantity of $[Os^{VI}(tpm)(Cl)_2(N)]$ -(PF₆) (1; 200 mg, 0.31 mmol) was dissolved in 10 mL of acetone. To this solution was added 20 mL of CS₂, followed by a solution of (PPN)-N₃ (190 mg, 0.32 mmol) in 20 mL of acetone dropwise with stirring at room temperature over a 2 h period. A green solid formed as the reaction proceeded. It was filtered off, washed with acetone and Et₂O, and air-dried. Yield: 120 mg (65%). Anal. Calcd for C₁₁H₁₀Cl₂N₈OsS₂ (MW 579.94): C, 22.76; H, 1.74; N, 19.32. Found: C, 22.29; H, 1.95; N, 18.86. Infrared (cm⁻¹, KBr disk): ν (¹⁴N=S) 1320 (vs); ν (tpm) 1508, 1445, 1409, and 1289; ν (C=N) 2035.

 $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(^{15}NS)](SCN)$ (3a*). This salt was prepared by the same method by using $[Os^{VI}(tpm)(Cl)_2(^{15}N)](PF_6)$ (1*) as the starting material. Infrared (cm⁻¹, KBr disk): $\nu(^{15}N\equiv S)$ 1284.

[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)₂(NS)](PF₆) (3b). This salt was readily obtained from $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NS)](SCN)$ (**3a**) by anion metathesis in water. For example, 50 mg (0.086 mmol) of **3a** was dissolved in 10 mL of H₂O containing excess NH₄PF₆. The resulting reaction mixture was stirred for 5 h, during which time an olive green precipitate formed. It was filtered off, washed with H₂O, and recrystallized from CH₃CN/Et₂O. Yield: 40 mg (70%). Anal. Calcd for C₁₀H₁₀Cl₂N₇SOsPF₆ (MW 666.93): C, 18.02; H, 1.51; N, 14.71. Found: C, 17.93; H, 1.65; N, 14.35. UV-vis (CH₃CN) λ_{max} , nm (ϵ , M⁻¹ cm⁻¹): 636 (160), 434 (210), 300 (1.61 × 10⁴), 274 (1.95 × 10⁴), 220 (3.10 × 10⁴). Infrared (cm⁻¹, KBr disk): ν (¹⁴N≡S) 1317 (vs); ν (tpm) 1508, 1444, 1409, and 1284; ν (P–F) 831.

 $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(^{15}NS)](PF_6)$ (3b*). This salt was prepared by the same method as for 3b except that $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(^{15}NS)](SCN)$ (3a*) was used as the stating material. Infrared (cm⁻¹, KBr disk): $\nu(^{15}N\equiv S)$ 1284 (vs).

[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)₂(NS)](BF₄) (3c). This salt was prepared by the same method as for $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NS)](PF_6)$ (**3b**) except that the reaction was carried out in CH₃OH with addition of KBF₄. Yield (65%). Infrared (cm⁻¹, KBr disk): ν (¹⁴N≡S) 1316 (vs); ν (tpm) 1508, 1445, 1410, and 1285; ν (B−F) 1060 (vs). ¹H NMR (200 MHz, CD₃CN): δ /ppm 6.51 (t, 1H), 6.82 (t, 2H), 7.88 (d, 1H), 8.09 (d, 1H), 8.26 (d, 2H), 8.45 (d, 2H), 9.21 (s, 1H)

Os^{II}(Tp)(Cl)₂(NS) (4). A quantity of Os^{VI}(Tp)(Cl)₂(N) (2) (200 mg, 0.40 mmol) was dissolved in 10 mL of acetone. To this solution was added 20 mL of CS₂, followed by a solution of (PPN)N₃ (240 mg, 0.41 mmol) in 20 mL acetone which was added dropwise while stirring at room temperature for 3 h. During the addition of the azide, the color of the reaction mixture changed from orange to dark green, and a green solid was formed. This solid was filtered off, washed with acetone and then Et₂O, and air-dried. Yield: 140 mg (65%). Anal. Calcd for C₉H₁₀-Cl₂N₇OsBS (MW 520.98): C, 20.73; H, 1.93; N, 18.81. Found: C, 19.64; H, 1.72; N, 17.28. UV−vis (CH₃CN) λ_{max} , nm (ϵ , M⁻¹ cm⁻¹): 646 (120), 436 (150), 288 (2.15 × 10⁴), 252 (1.53 × 10⁴), 222 (3.00 × 10⁴). Infrared (cm⁻¹, KBr disks): ν (¹⁴N≡S) 1284 (vs); ν (B−H) 2528 (vs); ν (Tp) 1502, 1407, and 1320.

Os^{II}(Tp)(Cl)₂(¹⁵NS) (4*). This compound was prepared by the same method by using Os^{VI}(Tp)(Cl)₂(¹⁵N) (2*) as the starting material. Infrared (cm⁻¹, KBr disks): ν (¹⁵N≡S) 1247 (vs).

 $[Os^{VI}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NPPh_3)](PF_6)$ (5). A quantity of $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2-(NS)](PF_6)$ (1b) (120 mg, 0.18 mmol) was dissolved in 20 mL of CH₃-CN. PPh₃ (95 mg, 0.36 mmol) was added as a solid in one portion

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while stirring, causing an immediate change in color from green to brown. The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min. Addition of 150 mL of anhydrous Et₂O caused precipitation of a brown precipitate, which was filtered off, washed with Et₂O, and air-dried. Yield: 135 mg (83%). Anal. Calcd for C₂₈H₂₅Cl₂N₇OsP₂F₆ (MW 897.05): C, 37.51; H, 2.81; N, 10.94. Found: C, 37.73, H, 2.82, N, 11.22. UV–vis (CH₃-CN) λ_{max} , nm (ϵ , M⁻¹ cm⁻¹): 516 (115), 390 (4.43 × 10³), 302 (7.83 × 10³), 228 (1.63 × 10⁴), 216 (1.86 × 10⁴). Infrared (cm⁻¹, KBr disks): ν (tpm) 1436, 1405, and 1276; ν (N=P) 1108 (vs); ν (P–F) 833 (vs). The elemental analyses and spectroscopic properties of this material compare well with an authentic sample of [Os^{IV}(tpm)(Cl)₂-(NPPh₃)](PF₆) prepared by an alternate synthetic route.¹¹

[Os^{III}(tpm)(Cl)₂(NH₃)](PF₆) (6). A quantity of $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)₂(NS)]-(PF₆) ($ **3b** $) (200 mg, 0.3 mmol) was dissolved in 50 mL of 3 M HCl. Several pieces of amalgamated zinc were added, and the mixture was stirred vigorously for 30 min. The color of the reaction mixture turned from dark green to pale yellow with the smell of H₂S gas. Excess zinc was removed by filtration, and solid NH₄PF₆ in excess was added to the filtrate. Evaporation of the mixture to 10 mL by rotary evaporation and cooling at 5 °C for 1 h caused precipitation of a tan compound. It was filtered off and recrystallized from CH₃CN/Et₂O. Yield: 115 mg (60%). UV–vis (CH₃CN): <math>\lambda_{max}$, nm (ϵ , M⁻¹ cm⁻¹) 320 (6.60 × 10³), 290 (9.10 × 10³), 204 (1.26 × 10⁴). Infrared (cm⁻¹, KBr disks): ν -(N–H) 3338, 3256; ν (tpm) 1512, 1445, 1409, 1279; ν (P–F) 850. The spectroscopic and electrochemical properties of this material compare well with an authentic sample of [Os^{III}(tpm)(Cl)₂(NH₃)](PF₆) prepared by an alternate synthetic route.¹²

Os^{III}(tpm)(Cl)₂(NSO)·2H₂O (7). A quantity of $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NS)]$ -(PF₆) (**3b**; 180 mg, 0.27 mmol) was dissolved in 100 mL of CH₃CN. To that solution was added a 10-fold excess of trimethylamine *N*-oxide dihydrate as solid. The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min. During this time, the color of the reaction mixture turned from green to brown with formation of a fine gray precipitate. It was isolated by filtration and thoroughly washed with CH₃CN and Et₂O. Yield: 130 mg (84%). Anal. Calcd for C₁₀H₁₀Cl₂N₇OsSO·2H₂O (MW 573.98): C, 20.91; H, 2.46; N, 17.08. Found: C, 20.79; H, 2.30; N, 16.84. UV–vis (DMSO) λ_{max} , nm (ϵ , M⁻¹ cm⁻¹): 556 (35), 468 (130), 350 (3.10 × 10³), 290 (7.54 × 10³). Infrared (cm⁻¹, KBr disk): ν_{as} (NSO) 1197 (vs), ν_s (NSO) 1024 (vs), δ (NSO) 538 (w); ν (tpm) 1508 (vs), 1438 (vs), 1408 (vs), 1270 (vs).

Os^{III}(tpm)(Cl)₂(¹⁵NSO)·2H₂O (7*). This compound was prepared by the same method by using [Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)₂(¹⁵NS)]PF₆ as the starting material. Infrared (cm⁻¹, KBr disk): ν_{as} (¹⁵NSO) 1182 (vs), ν_{s} (¹⁵NSO) 1010 (vs), δ(¹⁵NSO) 524 (w).

Reaction of [Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)₂(NS)](BF₄) (3c) with NOBF₄. A quantity of [Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)₂(NS)](BF₄) (150 mg, 0.24 mmol) was dissolved in 10 mL of CH₃CN. NOBF₄ (170 mg, 1.45 mmol) was added as a solid while stirring. The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min during which time the color turned from green to dark orange. The reaction mixture was taken to dryness by rotary evaporation to give a dark orange oily material. It was treated with 60 mL of CH2Cl2 and filtered, leaving an unidentified orange oily material on the frit. The solution was reduced in volume to 5 mL by rotary evaporation. Addition of 100 mL of anhydrous ether caused precipitation of an orange product. It was collected by filtration, washed with Et₂O, and air-dried. The product was shown to be a mixture of [Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)₂(NO)](BF₄) and $[Os^{VI}(tpm)(Cl)_2(N)](BF_4)$ in ~1:4 ratio as shown by electrochemical measurements (see blow). Anal. Calcd for C10H10Cl2N7O0.2OsBF4 (MW 580.20) (for a 1:4 mixture): C, 20.73 H, 1.74; N, 16.97. Found: C, 20.40; H, 1.68; N, 17.06. Infrared (cm⁻¹, KBr disk): ν (NO) 1870 (vs); v(tpm) 1513 (vs), 1446 (vs), 1408 (vs), 1288 (vs), 1261 (vs); v(B-F) 1056 (vs).

When this reaction was repeated with Os¹⁵NS as starting material, the same product mixture was obtained. Infrared (cm⁻¹, KBr disk): ν (NO) 1872 (vs).

X-ray Structural Determinations. Data Collection, Solution, and Refinement of the Structures. Single crystals of [Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)₂(NS)]-

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Table 1. Summary of Crystal Data, Intensity Collection andStructure Refinements Parameters for $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NS)](BF_4)$ (3c), and $Os^{II}(Tp)(Cl)_2(NS)$ (4)

	3c	4
empirical formula	C10H10Cl2N7OsSBF4	C9H10Cl2.11N6.89OsS0.89B
mol wt	608.20	518.99
a (Å)	10.4435(15)	7.7429(5)
b (Å)	11.9036(17)	12.8192(9)
c (Å)	14.1321(20)	8.4385(6)
α (deg)	90	90
β (deg)	90	114.416(1)
γ (deg)	90	90
$V(Å^3)$	1756.8(4)	762.68(9)
Ζ	4	2
cryst syst	orthorhmbic	monoclinic
space group	Pmnb	P21
cryst size (mm)	$0.30 \times 0.15 \times 0.10$	$0.30 \times 0.10 \times 0.05$
d_{calcd} (g/cm ³)	2.299	2.260
diffractometer	Siemens CCD Smart	Siemens CCD Smart
radiation	Mo K α ($\lambda = 0.710~73$ Å)	Mo K α ($\lambda = 0.710~73$ Å)
collection temp	−100 °C	-100 °C
abs coefficient	7.73	8.85
μ , cm ⁻¹		
F(000)	1142.95	485.97
$2\theta_{\rm max}$ (dge)	50	60
no. of total reflections	15 707	9405
no. of unique reflections	1649	4172
no. of refined reflections	1028	1852
merging R value	0.112	0.027
no. of parameters	136	193
$R(\%)^{a}$	3.2	3.2
$R_{\rm w}$ (%) ^b	3.8	3.3
goodness of fit ^c	0.61	1.81
deepest hole $(e/Å^3)$	-0.970	-1.910
highest peak (e/Å ³)	2.040	3.8

 ${}^{a}R = \sum (|F_{o} - F_{c}|) / \sum |F_{o}|. {}^{b}R_{w} = [\sum (w|F_{o} - F_{c}|)^{2} / \sum w(F_{o})^{2}]^{1/2}. {}^{c} \text{ GoF}$ = $[\sum w(F_{o} - F_{c})^{2} / (\text{no. of reflections} - \text{no. of parameters})]^{1/2}.$

(BF₄) (3c) were obtained by layering a CH₂Cl₂ solution with Et₂O. Single crystals of Os^{II}(Tp)(Cl)₂(NS) (4) were obtained by slow diffusion of Et₂O into a DMF solution. Crystal data, intensity collection information, and structure refinement parameters for the structures are provided in Table 1. The structures were solved by direct methods. The remaining non-hydrogen atoms were located in subsequent difference Fourier maps. Empirical absorption corrections were applied with SADABS. The ORTEP plotting program was used to computer generate the structures shown in Figures 2 and 3.13 Hydrogen atoms were included in calculated positions with thermal parameters derived from the atom to which they were bonded. All computations were performed by using the NRCVAX suite of programs.14 Atomic scattering factors were taken from a standard source15 and corrected for anomalous dispersion. The final positional parameters along with their standard deviations as estimates from the inverse matrix, tables of hydrogen atom parameters, anisotropic thermal parameters, and observed/calculated structure amplitudes for 3c and 4 are available as Supporting Information. Selected bond lengths and angles of 3c and 4 are given in Tables 2 and 3.

Results

Synthesis and Characterization. The preparation and probable mechanism of formation of the thionitrosyls based on the reaction between an adduct between CS_2 and N_3^- with the OS^{VI}

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Figure 2. ORTEP digram (30% probability ellipsoids) for the $[Os^{II}-(tpm)(Cl)_2(NS)]^+$ cation in **3c**.



Figure 3. ORTEP digram (30% probability ellipsoids) for $Os^{II}(Tp)-(CI)_2(NS)$ (**4**) as a cocrystal with 11% $Os^{IV}(Tp)(CI)_3$.

nitrido complexes was discussed earlier.⁶ The net reaction for the tpm complex is

$$[Os^{VI}(tpm)(Cl)_{2}(N)]^{+} + CS_{2} + N_{3}^{-} \rightarrow$$
$$[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_{2}(NS)]^{+} + SCN + N_{2} (2)$$

Molecular Structures. ORTEP diagrams with labeling schemes for the cation in $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NS)](BF_4)$ (**3c**) and $Os^{II}(Tp)(Cl)_2(NS)$ (**4**) are shown in Figures **2** and **3** respectively. The crystal of **3c** has well-separated $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NS)]^+$ cations and BF_4^- anions. **3c** resides on a crystallographically imposed mirror plane that includes one pyrazolate ring (trans to the NS⁺), the Os center, and the NS⁺ ligand. The Os–N(S) and N–S bond lengths are 1.780(14) Å and 1.489(15) Å, respectively. $\angle Os-N-S$ is virtually linear at 179.3(9)°. The Os–Cl bond length is 2.355(3) Å, and Os–N(ring) bond lengths range from 2.083(8) to 2.086(13) Å. Bond lengths in the pyrazolate rings are unremarkable and are consistent with those found in several literature structures.^{11,12,16}

Table 2. Selected Bond Distances (Å) and Bond Angles (deg) for $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NS)](BF_4)$ (**3c**); Labeling as in Figure 2^a

c (1) () () 3 (, , , , ,	0 0				
Bond Distances						
Os(1) - Cl(1) 2	2.355(3)	Os(1)-N(11)a 2	.083(8)			
Os(1)-Cl(1)a 2	2.355(3)	Os(1)-N(21) 2	.086(13)			
Os(1)-N(1) 1	.780(14)	S(1)-N(1) 1	.489(15)			
Os(1)-N(11) 2	2.083(8)					
Bond Angles						
Cl(1) - Os(1) - Cl(1)a	89.57(10)	Cl(1)a-Os(1)-N(21)	87.7(3)			
Cl(1) - Os(1) - N(1)	95.5(3)	N(1) - Os(1) - N(11)	93.3(4)			
Cl(1) - Os(1) - N(11)	91.92(24)	N(1) - Os(1) - N(11)a	93.3(4)			
Cl(1) - Os(1) - N(11)a	170.92(25)	N(1) - Os(1) - N(21)	175.5(5)			
Cl(1) - Os(1) - N(21)	87.7(3)	N(11)-Os(1)-N(11)a	a 85.2(3)			
Cl(1)a-Os(1)-N(1)	95.5(3)	N(11) - Os(1) - N(21)	83.4(4)			
Cl(1)a - Os(1) - N(11)	170.92(25)	N(11)a-Os(1)-N(21)	83.4(4)			
Cl(1)a - Os(1) - N(11)a	91.92(24)	Os(1) - N(1) - S(1)	179.3(9)			

^{*a*} The bond distances and angles labeled a arise from the existence of a mirror plane between the two chlorides and two pyrazolyl rings.

Table 3. Selected Bond Distances (Å) and Bond Angles (deg) for $Os^{II}(Tp)(Cl)_2(NS)$ (4); Labeling as in Figure 3

-	-	-			
Bond Distances					
Os(1)-Cl(1)	2.325(18)	Os(1) - N(11)	2.086(5)		
Os(1)-Cl(2)	2.3541(16)	Os(1) - N(21)	2.125(5)		
Os(1)-Cl(3)	2.3457(18)	Os(1) - N(31)	2.066(6)		
Os(1) - N(1)	1.800(8)	S(1) - N(1)	1.493(8)		
Pond Angles					
$C_{1}(1) = O_{2}(1) = C_{1}(2)$	05 6(4)	$\frac{Cl(2)}{Oc} = Oc(1) - N(21)$	174 69(16)		
CI(1) = Os(1) = CI(2)	95.0(4)	CI(3) = Os(1) = N(31)	1/4.06(10)		
CI(1) - Os(1) - CI(3)	89.3(4)	N(1) = Os(1) = N(11)	89.2(3)		
Cl(1) - Os(1) - N(1)	6.5(5)	N(1) - Os(1) - N(21)	170.6(3)		
Cl(1) - Os(1) - N(11)	91.1(4)	N(1) - Os(1) - N(31)	89.7(3)		
Cl(1) - Os(1) - N(21)	175.0(4)	N(11) - Os(1) - N(21)	83.87(20)		
Cl(1) - Os(1) - N(31)	96.0(5)	N(11) - Os(1) - N(31)	88.85(20)		
Cl(2) - Os(1) - Cl(3)	89.44(6)	N(21) - Os(1) - N(31)	83.76(21)		
Cl(2) - Os(1) - N(1)	97.53(23)	Os(1) - Cl(1) - S(1)	142.3(13)		
Cl(2) - Os(1) - N(11)	173.23(15)	Os(1) - Cl(1) - N(1)	20.8(16)		
Cl(2) - Os(1) - N(21)	89.35(14)	S(1) - Cl(1) - N(1)	122.1(25)		
Cl(2) - Os(1) - N(31)	90.34(15)	Cl(1) - S(1) - N(1)	19.0(9)		
Cl(3) - Os(1) - N(1)	95.55(25)	Os(1) - N(1) - Cl(1)	152.7(20)		
Cl(3) - Os(1) - N(11)	90.75(15)	Os(1) - N(1) - S(1)	166.9(5)		
Cl(3) - Os(1) - N(21)	90.93(15)	Cl(1) - N(1) - S(1)	38.9(18)		

The crystal of neutral 4 includes two molecules: Os^{II}(tpm)- $(Cl)_2(NS)$ (89%) and $Os^{IV}(Tp)(Cl)_3$ (11%). In the initial stages of refinement, ∠Os−N−S appeared to be abnornally acute. This angle and the large thermal ellipsoid of the thionitrosyl N indicated cocrystallization with another very similar molecule. It was brought to our attention¹⁷ that in the synthesis of Os^{VI}- $(Tp)(Cl)_2(N)$ (2), $Os^{IV}(Tp)(Cl)_3$ often appears as a contaminant. Reevaluation of the collected data and re-refinement of the structure with the aforementioned composition yielded satisfactory and reliable metric features. ∠Os-N-S is slightly bent at $166.9(5)^{\circ}$. The Os-N(S) and N-S bond lengths are 1.800(8)and 1.493(8) Å, respectively. The Os-Cl bond lengths are 2.3541(16) and 2.3457(18) Å, and Os-N(ring) bond lengths range from 2.066(6) to 2.125(5) Å. Note that the longest Os-N(ring) bond length is found trans to the thionitrosyl ligand. The discrepancy in Os-N(ring) bond lengths in 4 is in contrast to the analogous bond lengths in 3c, which are virtually identical. Bond lengths in the pyrazolate rings are unremarkable and are consistent with those found in several Tp literature examples.^{9,18}

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Figure 4. UV-visible spectra of $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NS)](PF_6)$ (**3b**) (A) and $Os^{II}(Tp)(Cl)_2(NS)$ (**4**) (B) in CH₃CN. Expanded views of the spectra from 360 to 760 nm are shown as inserts.

Spectroscopy. UV-vis data for the new products are summarized in the Experimental Section, and spectra of **3b** and **4** are shown in Figure 4. Bands of low absorptivity appear in the visible region at 636 and 432 nm ($\epsilon = 160$ and 210 M⁻¹ cm⁻¹, respectively) for **3b** and at 646 and 434 nm ($\epsilon = 160$ and 210 M⁻¹ cm⁻¹) for **4**, as well as typical $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$ (tpm or Tp) bands in the UV.⁸

In the IR spectra of the Os¹⁴NS and Os¹⁵NS forms of $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NS)](PF_6)$ (**3b**) and Os^{II}(Tp)(Cl)_2(NS) (**4**) in the region 1350–1200 cm⁻¹ (Figure 1 in the Supporting Information). $\nu(N\equiv S)$ appears as a sharp band at 1317 cm⁻¹ for **3b**. It is shifted to 1287 in the ¹⁵N-labeled analogue. For **4**, $\nu(N\equiv S)$ appears as a split band at 1288 and 1284 cm⁻¹ and is shifted to 1253 and 1249 cm⁻¹ in **4***. The value for **4** compares well with the value for Os^{II}(Tp)(Cl)₂(NS) prepared by another synthetic route.^{9c}

Low-intensity bands also appear in the region $540-420 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ (Figure 2 in the Supporting Information), which are shifted by $\sim 15 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ in ¹⁵N-labeled complexes. More specifically, for **3b** bands appear at 495 and 482 cm⁻¹, which are shifted to 482 and 468 cm⁻¹ in **3b***. For **4**, these bands appear at 512, 484, and 451 cm⁻¹ and are shifted to 499, 470, and 433 cm⁻¹ in **4***.

A characteristic band appears at 2035 cm⁻¹ for the SCN⁻ counterion in **3a**, at 2050 cm⁻¹ in (PPN)(SCN), obtained as a

byproduct of the reaction between **2** and CS₂ with added (PPN)-N₃. ν (B-H) in **4** appears at 2505 cm⁻¹.

Transition metal complexes containing the thiazato ligand (NSO⁻) have characteristic NSO bands in the regions 1260–1118, 1090–1010, and 630–515 cm⁻¹, which are assigned to $\nu_{\rm as}$ (NSO), $\nu_{\rm s}$ (NSO), and δ (NSO), respectively.^{6e,19} In the IR spectrum of Os^{III}(tpm)(Cl)₂(NSO) (7), these bands appear at 1197, 1024, and 534 cm⁻¹ and are shifted in ¹⁵N-labeled 7* to 1182, 1010, and 524 cm⁻¹.

The Os^{II}NS complexes are diamagnetic. From the ¹H NMR spectrum of **3c** in CD₃CN, a series of resonances appears characteristic of the tpm ligand.^{16,20}

Reactivity. A series of NS-based reactions were investigated for $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NS)]^+$.

Reaction with PPh₃. A rapid reaction occurs upon mixing excess PPh₃ and **1b** in CH₃CN. The products of the reaction were $[Os^{VI}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NPPh_3)](PF_6)$ and S=PPh₃.

$$[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_{2}(NS)]^{+} + 2PPh_{3} \rightarrow [Os^{IV}(tpm)(Cl)_{2}(NPPh_{3})]^{+} + S = PPh_{3} (3)$$

Triphenylphosphine sulfide (S=PPh₃) was extracted with Et₂O, and after evaporation of the solvent, was isolated as a powder. An IR spectrum of this material in KBr showed characteristic bands for S=PPh₃ at 1306, 1101, 714, and 517 cm⁻¹, which match to those of an authentic sample (Aldrich). $[Os^{IV}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NPPh_3)](PF_6)$ was identified by elemental analysis and by its UV-visible spectrum with $\lambda_{max} = 390$ nm ($\epsilon = 4400 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$). With one equivalent of PPh₃, the reaction products were 0.5 S=PPh₃, $[Os^{IV}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NPPh_3)]^+$, and unreacted thionitrosyl as shown by UV-visible measurements. Formation of $[Os^{IV}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NPPh_3)]^+$ as the final product is expected if the nitrido complex $[Os^{VI}(tpm)(Cl)_2(N)]^+$ is an intermediate. The reaction between Os^{VI} nitrido and PPh₃ is known to be rapid.²¹

$$[Os^{VI}(tpy)(Cl)_2(N)]^+ + PPh_3 \rightarrow [Os^{IV}(tpy)(Cl)_2(NPPh_3)]^+$$

k (25°, CH₃CN) = (1.4 ± 0.8) × 10⁴ M⁻¹ s⁻¹ (4)

Based on the results of the kinetics study, with PPh_3 in excess, the rate law is

$$\frac{-\mathrm{d}[\mathrm{Os(NS)}^+]}{\mathrm{d}t} = k[\mathrm{Os(NS)}^+][\mathrm{PPh}_3] = k_{\mathrm{obs}}[\mathrm{Os(NS)}^+] \quad (5)$$

From the slope of a plot of k_{obs} vs [PPh₃], $k(25 \text{ °C}, \text{CH}_3\text{CN}) = 40 \pm 1 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$.

Reduction by Amalgamated Zn. In 3 M HCl, over Zn(Hg), in the presence of air, **1b** undergoes a reaction over a period of $\sim 1/2$ h. The product was identified as $[Os^{III}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NH_3)]$ -(PF₆) by the appearance of its characteristic Os^{III}/Os^{II} and Os^{IV}/Os^{III} couples at $E_{1/2} = -0.36$ and + 0.95 V vs SSCE in 3 M HCl as measured by cyclic voltammetry.¹² In the net reaction, $Os^{II}-NS^+$ is reduced to $Os^{II}-NH_3$ and H_2S .

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$$[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NS)]^+ + 5H^+ + 3Zn(Hg) \rightarrow Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NH_3) + H_2S + 3Zn^{2+} (6)$$

and H_2S detected by its characteristic odor. In the presence of air, the ammine complex undergoes O_2 oxidation to $Os^{III}-NH_3^+$.

$$Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_{2}(NH_{3}) + H^{+} + 1/2O_{2} \rightarrow [Os^{III}(tpm)(Cl)_{2}(NH_{3})]^{+} + 1/2H_{2}O (7)$$

Reaction with O=NMe₃. Reaction occurs between $[Os^{II}-(tpm)(Cl)_2(NS)](PF_6)$ (**1b**) and trimethylamine *N*-oxide in CH₃-CN upon mixing, with precipitation of a gray solid from the solution. The solid was characterized as $Os^{III}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NSO)$ by elemental analyses and IR (Experimental).

Reaction with NO⁺. When **1c** was allowed to react with excess NOBF₄ in CH₃CN, a color change occurs from green to deep orange over a period of 5 min. The products were identified as a mixture of $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NO)](BF_4)$ and $[Os^{VI}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NO)](BF_4)$ as follows.

(1) In the IR spectrum, an intense band for ν (NO) appears at 1870 cm⁻¹. For comparison, ν (NO) in *trans*-[Os^{II}(tpy)(Cl)₂-(NO)]⁺ appears at 1868 cm⁻¹.²² When the reaction was repeated with Os-¹⁵NS⁺, there was no IR shift in ν (NO) in the [Os-NO]⁺ product.

(2) In cyclic voltammograms of the product mixture in CH₃-CN in 0.1 M TABH (Figure 3 in the Supporting Information), characteristic waves for the Os^{III}(N₂)Os^{III}(N₂)Os^{II}(N₂)Os^{II} and Os^{III}-(N₂)Os^{II}/Os^{II}(N₂)Os^{II} couples of (tpm)(Cl)₂Os^{II}(N₂)Os^{II}(Cl)₂(tpm) appear at $E_{1/2} = +0.77$ and +0.12 V. The μ -N₂ complex is known to be formed by electrochemical reduction of [Os^{VI}(tpm)-(Cl)₂(N)]⁺ at $E_{pc} = -0.47$ V in CH₃CN.^{6,8}

$$[Os^{VI}(tpm)(Cl)_{2}(N)]^{+} + e^{-} \rightarrow \\ 1/2(tpm)(Cl)_{2}Os^{II}(N_{2})Os^{II}(Cl)_{2}(tpm) (8)$$

(3) A new wave also appears at $E_{1/2} = -0.10$ V, which based on related nitrosyl complexes, can be assigned as an NO-based reduction,²³

$$[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NO)]^+ + e^- \rightarrow Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(^{\bullet}NO) \quad (9)$$

From the relative peak currents, the relative amounts of $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NO)]^+$ and $(tpm)(Cl)_2Os^{II}(N_2)Os^{II}(Cl)_2(tpm)$ are ~ 1 : 2, and the initial $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NO)]^+$ to $[Os^{VI}(tpm)(Cl)_2(N)]^+$ ratio is ~ 1 :4.

Electrochemistry. There is no evidence for oxidation of **3b** or **4** to the solvent limit of ~2 V. Reductions of $[Os^{II}(tpm)-(Cl)_2(NS)]^+$ (**3b**) and $Os^{II}(Tp)(Cl)_2(NS)$ (**4**) in CH₃CN are chemically irreversible and occur at $E_{pc} = -0.41$ V for **3b** and $E_{pc} = -0.77$ V for **4**. On a reverse, oxidative scan, there is evidence for reoxidation at $E_{pa} = -0.20$ V for **3b** and at $E_{pa} = -0.68$ V for **4**. There is no sign of additional product waves in the voltammograms after reduction. A reduction wave for *trans*- $[Os^{II}(tpy)(Cl)_2(NS)]^+$ at $E_{1/2} = -0.30$ V has been reported under the same experimental conditions.⁶ The reduction waves appear to be thionitrosyl ligand-based reductions. Analogous waves have been reported for Os^{II} -NO complexes.²³



Figure 5. Cyclic voltammograms of $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NH_3)](PF_6)$ (6) and $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2-(NS)](PF_6)$ (3b) in 3 M HCl. Glassy carbon disk working electrode at 200 mV/s vs SSCE.

Cyclic voltamograms of $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NS)]^+$ (**3b**) and $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NH_3)]^+$ (**6**) in 3 M HCl are shown in Figure 5. For **6**, reversible waves for the Os^{III}/Os^{II} and Os^{IV}/Os^{II} couples appear at $E_{1/2} = -0.36$ and + 0.95 V vs SSCE, respectively as reported earlier for $[Os^{III}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NH_3)]^+$ prepared by another route.¹² In a solution containing **3b**, an initial reductive scan reveals a multielectron wave at $E_{pc} = -0.47$ V. Upon scan reversal, waves for the Os^{III}/Os^{II} and Os^{IV}/Os^{III} couples of $Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NH_3)$ are observed. On the basis of these results, electrochemical reduction of **3b** occurs by

$$[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_{2}(NS)]^{+} + 6e^{-} + 5H^{+} \rightarrow Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_{2}(NH_{3}) + H_{2}S (10)$$

In voltammograms of DMSO solutions containing Os^{III}(tpm)-(Cl)₂(NSO) (7), a reversible Os^{III}/Os^{II} couple appears at $E_{1/2} = -0.40$ V vs SSCE. On the oxidative side, an irreversible Os^{III} \rightarrow Os^{IV} wave appears at $E_{pa} = +0.90$ V.

Discussion

The synthetic procedure for preparation of Os^{II} thionitrosyl complexes is based on the formation of the unstable 5-thio-1,2,3,4-thiatriazolate ring anion, $CS_2N_3^-$, which is known to decompose to give ${}^{-}SCN$, N_2 , and $S^{0,24}$ In the presence of nitridos 1 or 2, nucleophilic attack on $Os^{VI} \equiv N$ by the thiolato portion of the ring takes place with sulfur atom transfer. This

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Scheme 1



is accompanied by reduction of Os^{VI} to Os^{II} and formation of the corresponding thionitrosyl complexes **3** or **4**.⁷

Several Os^{II} thionitrosyl complexes have been characterized by infrared measurements.⁵ The usual range for $\nu(N\equiv S)$ is 1400–1150 cm⁻¹, and $\nu(N\equiv S)$ for **3b** and **4** at 1317 and 1288 cm⁻¹ fall into this range. For comparison, $\nu(N\equiv S)$ appears at 1310, 1295, and 1270 cm⁻¹ in Os(NS)(Cl)₃(PPh₃)₂,^{5a} trans-[Os-(NS)(Cl)₂(tpy)]⁺,⁶ and Os(NS)(Cl)(OEP²⁵ (OEP = 2,3,7,8,12,-13,17,18-octaethylporphyrinato anion).

Low-intensity bands for **3b** and **4** appear in the region 540– 420 cm⁻¹ which shift ~15 cm⁻¹ in ¹⁵N-labeled complexes. A related series of bands appear at 495, 454, and 221 cm⁻¹ for $[Os(NS)(NSCl)(Cl)_4]^-$ which have been assigned to the normal modes $\nu_s(Os-N)$, $\nu_{as}(Os-N)$, and $\delta(Os-NS)$.²⁶

As shown in Figure 4, two bands of low absorptivity appear in the visible for both **3b** and **4**. In a molecular orbital scheme, with the Os–NS bond axis defined as *z*, $d\pi - \pi^*$ (NS) mixing is dominated by d_{xz} and d_{yz} with the d_{xy} (in-plane) orbital orthogonal to the dominant interaction. Based on this orbital scheme, the visible bands can be assigned to the transitions $d_{xy} \rightarrow \pi_1^*$ and $d_{xy} \rightarrow \pi_2^*$. The splitting between these bands of 7400 cm⁻¹ is a consequence of low symmetry and spin–orbit coupling at Os. Related low-intensity bands have been reported for *cis*- and *trans*-[Os^{II}(tpy)(Cl)₂(NO)]⁺ at 480 nm ($\epsilon = 120$ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹) and 575 nm ($\epsilon = 250$ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹).²²

The Os–N(thionitrosyl) bond lengths are 1.780(14) Å for **3c** and 1.800(8) Å for **4**. They fall in the range 1.731(4)-1.834-(7) Å for Os^{II} thionitrosyl complexes,^{5e} consistent with sp hybrdization with the NS ligand is treated as a 3-electron donor. The multiple bond character of the Os–N bond is in agreement with the short Os–N bond distances. The N–S bond lengths of 1.489(15) and 1.493(8) Å for **3c** and **4** and are comparable to bond distances in other thionitrosyl complexes.^{5e,7,26} The N–S bond lengths are also consistent with largely NS⁺ character by comparison with the NS⁺ cation in which the N–S bond length

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is 1.495 Å.²⁷ The Os–N–S bond angle is almost linear at 179.3-(9)° in $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NS)]^+$ and at 166.9(9)° in $Os^{II}(Tp)(Cl)_2$ -(NS). The Os–N(Tp) bond lengths cis to NS are 2.086(5)° and 2.066(6)°, while the trans bond length is 2.125(5)° consistent with a trans effect exerted by the thionitrosyl ligand. In $[Os^{II}-(tpy)(Cl)_2(NS)]^+$,⁷ the Os–N(tpy) bond distance trans to NS is 2.032(7) Å. It is 2.079(7) Å for cis. This difference is a characteristic feature of the structural chemistry of metal– terpyridine complexes and the strained metal–terpyridine coordination.^{6,8,22}

Reactivity. A summary of the thionitrosyl reactions documented here is given in Scheme 1. These results reveal a versatile and extensive redox chemistry of the thionitrosyl group in $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NS)]^+$.

The reaction between $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)(NS)]^+$ (**3b**) and PPh₃ (eq 3) reveals the ability of the NS group to transfer a S atom to PPh₃. There is a well-precedented reactivity, examples being

$$Ru(NS)(Cl)_{3}(PEt_{2}Ph)_{2} + PEt_{2}Ph \rightarrow$$

$$Ru(N)(Cl)_{3}(PEt_{2}Ph) + S = PEt_{2}Ph^{28} (11)$$

$$Mo(NS)(S_2CNMe_2)_3 + PBu_3 \rightarrow Mo(N)(S_2CNMe_3)_3 + S = PBu_3^{28} (12)$$

$$Os(Tp)(Cl)_{2}(NS) + 2PPh_{3} \rightarrow Os^{IV}(Tp)(Cl)_{2}(NPPh_{3}) + S = PPh_{3}^{9c} (13)$$

The results of the kinetic study reveal that S-atom transfer is facile. The mechanism presumably involves initial S-atom transfer,

$$[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_{2}(NS)]^{+} + PPh_{3} \rightarrow [Os^{VI}(tpm)(Cl)_{2}(N)]^{+} + S = PPh_{3} (14)$$

followed by attack of a second PPh₃ on the intermediate nitrido complex. This reaction is known to be rapid.

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⁽²⁷⁾ Barrow, R. F.; Warm, R. J.; Fitzerald, A. G.; Fyoffe, B. D. *Trans. Faraday Soc.* **1964**, *60*, 294.

$$[Os^{VI}(tpm)(Cl)_2(N)]^+ + PPh_3 \rightarrow$$
$$[Os^{IV}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NPPh_3)]^+ (15)$$

When discussed in this way, the reaction with PPh₃ infers a S-atom reactivity for bound NS consistent with the expected $N^{\delta-}\equiv S^{\delta+}$ electronic distribution in bound NS⁺. An alternate mechanism, which we cannot rule out, would involve rate-limiting attack on N, followed by S-atom transfer.

$$Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_{2}(NS)]^{+} \xrightarrow{PPh_{3}} \begin{bmatrix} (tpm)(Cl)_{2}Os - N = S \\ PPh_{3} \end{bmatrix}^{+} (16)$$

$$\xrightarrow{PPh_{3}} [Os^{IV}(tpm)(Cl)_{2}(NPPh_{3})]^{+} + S = PPh_{3}$$

With added amalgamated zinc as reductant in 3 M HCl, the sulfur atom undergoes a net reduction according to eq 6 to give $Os^{II}-NH_3$ followed by O_2 oxidation to $Os^{II}-NH_3^+$. This reaction is analogous to the known reduction of nitrosyl to ammine under reducing conditions in polypyridyl complexes of ruthenium and osmium in which nitrosyl-ammine interconversion is reversible.²³

$$[M(tpy)(bpy)(NO)]^{3+} \underbrace{\frac{+6e^{-}, +5H^{+}, -H_{2}O}{-6e^{-}, -5H^{+}, +H_{2}O}}_{(M = Ru \text{ or } Os)} [M(tpy)(bpy)(NH_{3})]^{2+} (17)$$

Reduction of the nitrosyl ligand in these complexes has been proposed to occur by a series of stepwise intermediates, $[Os-(tpy)(bpy)(NHO)]^{2+}$, $[Os(tpy)(bpy)(NH_2O)]^{2+}$, $[Os(tpy)(bpy)-(NH_2OH)]^{2+}$, and reduction of thionitrosyl may follow an analogous course.

The reaction between $[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NS)]^+$ (**3b**) and trimethylamine *N*-oxide reveals that the S atom can also be oxidized by O-atom transfer from *N*-oxides with formation of Os^{III}NSO. There are several metal-thiazato complexes in the literature. Examples in Os chemistry include formation of Os-(NSO)(X)₂(PPh₃)₂ (X = Cl, Br) by reaction of sulfur with Os-(NO)(X)₃(PPh₃)₂ in benzene.^{6e} There are also examples of metal-thiazato formation by oxidation of metal-thionitrosyl complexes by dioxygen.^{19d} The example found here appears to be the first which utilizes an *N*-oxide reagent. The initial step presumably involves O-atom transfer and formation of Os^{IV} as an intermediate.

$$[Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NS)]^+ + O = NMe_3 \rightarrow [Os^{IV}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NSO)]^+ + NMe_3 (18)$$

On the basis of the electrochemical measurements, Os^{IV} is a powerful oxidant in this coordination environment and once formed, is presumably reduced to Os^{III} by released NMe₃.

$$[Os^{IV}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NSO)]^+ + NMe_3 \rightarrow Os^{III}(tpm)(Cl)_2(NSO) + NMe_3^+ (19)$$

The last reaction investigated was between $[Os^{II}(tpm)(CI)_2(NS)]^+$ (**3c**) and NO⁺ in CH₃CN. In this case, there are two products, the nitrido complex, $[Os^{VI}(tpm)(CI)_2(N)]^+$, and the nitrosyl complex, $[Os^{II}(tpm)(CI)_2(NO)]^+$, in a ratio of ~4:1. Based on the products, there appears to be a competition between NO⁺/NS⁺ exchange and NO⁺ attack on the S atom of the thionitrosyl ligand although we have no evidence for [NOS]⁺ or the products of its further reactions.

$$Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_{2}(NS)]^{+} \xrightarrow{+NO^{+}} [Os^{VI}(tpm)(Cl)_{2}(N)]^{+} + [NOS]$$

$$= [Os^{II}(tpm)(Cl)_{2}(NO)]^{+}$$
(20)

On the basis of the labeling study, which utilized $[Os^{II}(tpm)-(Cl)_2(^{15}NS)]^+$, the N atom of the nitrosyl originates in NO⁺. The suggestion of competitive attack on sulfur is based on the appearance of the Os^{VI} nitrido complex as a product. This is an interesting reaction in that extraction of S occurs to give back the starting nitrido complex.

NO⁺/NS⁺ exchange in transition metal thionitrosyls is also known in the literature. Examples include

$$CpCr(Co)_2(NS) + ONCl \rightarrow CpCr(NO)_2Cl^{29}$$
 (21)

$$Os(NS)(Cl)_3(PPh_3)_2 + NO^+ \rightarrow Os(NO)(Cl)_3(PPh_3)^{5e}$$
 (22)

Conclusions

The results of the reactivity studies provide an interesting comparison with related nitrosyls. The redox chemistry of the nitrosyl group in the relatively electron deficient coordination environment of polypyridyl complexes is dominated by nucleophilic attack at the coordinated N atom. In the case of the thionitrosyl ligand there is a different internal electronic distribution in which the S atom is relatively electron deficient. Reaction with PPh₃ or NO⁺ results in S-atom transfer and reformation of the starting nitrido complex. The thionitrosyl ligand can also be oxidized further as shown by the reaction with trimethylamine *N*-oxide. Finally, both the coordinated nitrosyl and thionitrosyl ligands share the ability to undergo reduction under acidic conditions to give coordinated ammonia.

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Supporting Information Available: Portions of infrared spectra with isotopic shifts for **3b**, **4**, **3b***, and **4** in the regions 1350–1200 and 540–420 cm⁻¹; cyclic voltammogram of the product of the reaction between **3c** and NO⁺, additional details of the crystallographic analysis of the compounds **3c** and **4**, fully labeled ORTEP diagrams; and tables of atomic coordinates, isotropic thermal parameters and bond distances and angles. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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