

## Kinetics of the Oxidation of Quinol by Bis(2,2'-bipyridine)manganese(III) Ions in Aqueous Perchlorate Media

MALCOLM P. HEYWARD and CECIL F. WELLS\*

Department of Chemistry, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, P.O. Box 363, Birmingham B15 2TT (U.K.)

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### Abstract

The kinetics of the oxidation of quinol by  $\text{Mn}(\text{bipy})_2^{3+}$  ions have been investigated at 25 °C in aqueous perchlorate media using a high excess of  $\text{H}_2\text{Q}$ . The observed kinetic order in  $[\text{Mn}(\text{bipy})_2^{3+}]$  is unity and the linear plots of the reciprocal of the pseudo first order rate constant against  $[\text{H}_2\text{Q}]^{-1}$  show that intermediate complexes are involved. From the manner in which the slopes of these latter plots vary with acidity, it is suggested that these reactive intermediate complexes are  $\text{Mn}(\text{bipy})_2\text{HQ}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Mn}(\text{bipy})_2(\text{OH})\text{HQ}^+$ . The mechanism of this reaction is compared with those suggested for the oxidation of quinol by aqua cations and by cations without a water molecule present in the inner sphere.

### Introduction

Following our kinetic investigations of the oxidation of hydrogen peroxide [1], hydrazoic acid [2] and bromide ions [3] by bis(2,2'-bipyridine)manganese(III) ions in aqueous perchlorate media, we now report a kinetic investigation of the oxidation of quinol by this complex. Detailed kinetic studies have been made of the oxidation of quinol by aqua cations, such as  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}_{\text{aq}}$  [4],  $\text{Mn}^{\text{III}}_{\text{aq}}$  [5],  $\text{Ce}^{\text{IV}}_{\text{aq}}$  [6],  $\text{V}^{\text{V}}_{\text{aq}}$  [7],  $\text{Co}^{\text{III}}_{\text{aq}}$  [8],  $\text{Tl}^{\text{III}}_{\text{aq}}$  [9],  $\text{Np}^{\text{VI}}_{\text{aq}}$  [10] and  $\text{Pu}^{\text{VI}}_{\text{aq}}$  and  $\text{Pu}^{\text{IV}}_{\text{aq}}$  [11], by cations complexed with other ligands, such as  $\text{Fe}(\text{phen})_3^{3+}$  [12],  $[\text{Ni}^{\text{III}}\text{cyclam}]^{3+}$  [13],  $[\text{Ni}^{\text{III}}\text{bis}(1,4,7\text{-triazacyclonane})]$  [14] and  $[\text{Ni}^{\text{III}}\text{tetraazamacrocycles}]$  [15], and by anionic oxidants, such as  $\text{IrBr}_6^{2-}$ ,  $\text{IrCl}_6^{2-}$  and  $[\text{IrCl}_5\text{H}_2\text{O}]^-$  [16],  $\text{Mo}(\text{CN})_8^{3-}$  and  $\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6^{3-}$  [17] and 12-tungstocobaltate(III) [18]. In addition, the kinetics of the oxidation of quinol by an electrically neutral transition metal complex,  $[\text{IrCl}_4(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]$ , have been investigated [16].

### Experimental

Solutions of bis(2,2'-bipyridine)manganese(III) ions were prepared by the anodic oxidation of tris(2,2'-bipyridine)manganese(II) ions, as described previously [19]. Laboratory grade quinol was purified by sublimation under vacuum; all other materials were as described earlier [1–3].

Rates of decay of bis(2,2'-bipyridine)manganese(III) ions in the presence of quinol were followed at 490 nm using a Durrum-Gibson stopped flow spectrophotometer and reaction traces were photographed from the storage screen of a Telequipment DM 64 oscilloscope. Absorbances were measured using a Unicam SP 500 Series 2 spectrophotometer.

### Results and Discussion

#### Stoichiometry

As quinol reacts with  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  ions [4], concentrations of  $\text{Mn}(\text{bipy})_2^{3+}$  were determined spectrophotometrically [19] at a wavelength where light absorbance from benzoquinone is not involved [4]. The reaction was investigated using an excess of  $\text{Mn}(\text{bipy})_2^{3+}$  over quinol  $\text{H}_2\text{Q}$ , estimating the concentration of the  $\text{Mn}^{\text{III}}$  complex before and after the oxidation using direct spectrophotometry at 490 nm with the extinction coefficient for the complex  $\epsilon = 2.10 \times 10^2 \text{ dm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$  [19]. Ionic strength was adjusted to  $1.00 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  by adding sodium perchlorate. Table 1 shows that the value for the consumption ratio  $|\Delta[\text{Mn}^{\text{III}}]|/|\Delta[\text{H}_2\text{Q}]|$  is invariant with the concentration of perchloric acid, the mean value of this ratio in the range  $0.4\text{--}1.00 \text{ mol dm}^{-3} \text{ HClO}_4$  being  $2.01 \pm 0.04$ . We conclude that the stoichiometry is represented by eqn. (1) in agreement

$$2\text{Mn}^{\text{III}} + \text{H}_2\text{Q} \longrightarrow 2\text{Mn}^{\text{II}} + 2\text{H}^+ + \text{benzoquinone} \quad (1)$$

with the reactions of quinol with other oxidizing cations [5–18].

\*Author to whom correspondence should be addressed.

TABLE 1. Consumption ratio for the oxidation of quinol by  $\text{Mn}(\text{bipy})_2^{3+}$  at 20 °C and an ionic strength = 1.00 mol dm<sup>-3</sup> with varying acidities and a constant total  $[\text{bipy}] = 1.13 \times 10^{-3}$  mol dm<sup>-3</sup>

$[\text{H}^+]$ (mol dm <sup>-3</sup> )	Initial $[\text{Mn}^{\text{III}}]$ (10 <sup>-4</sup> mol dm <sup>-3</sup> )	Initial $[\text{H}_2\text{Q}]$ (10 <sup>-4</sup> mol dm <sup>-3</sup> )	$ \Delta[\text{Mn}^{\text{III}}] $ $ \Delta[\text{H}_2\text{Q}] $
0.40	8.3	2.50	2.07
0.40	8.3	4.00	1.98
0.60	10.1	2.50	2.08
0.60	10.1	5.00	1.97
0.80	8.9	2.50	2.00
0.80	8.9	4.00	1.98
1.00	8.9	2.50	2.02
1.00	8.9	4.00	1.98

### Kinetics at 25.4 °C

Owing to the absorbance of light by benzoquinone at 400 nm, the wavelength used [1–3] in the investigations of the oxidations of other substrates by  $\text{Mn}(\text{bipy})_2^{3+}$ , stopped-flow traces were measured at 490 nm. As the extinction coefficient for  $\text{Mn}(\text{bipy})_2^{3+}$  at 490 nm  $\epsilon_{490} < \epsilon_{400}$ , initial concentrations of  $\text{Mn}(\text{bipy})_2^{3+}$  were higher than those used in the investigations of the kinetics with other substrates. An initial  $[\text{Mn}(\text{bipy})_2^{3+}] \sim 6 \times 10^{-4}$  mol dm<sup>-3</sup> was used and this resulted in the use of a more limited range of  $[\text{HClO}_4]$  than before.

The decay of  $\text{Mn}(\text{bipy})_2^{3+}$  at  $[\text{HClO}_4] = 0.40$  mol dm<sup>-3</sup> with an ionic strength = 1.00 mol dm<sup>-3</sup> adjusted by the addition of sodium perchlorate was first order for  $[\text{H}_2\text{Q}] = 0.01$ – $0.10$  mol dm<sup>-3</sup>. A plot of the pseudo first order rate constant  $k_o$  against  $[\text{H}_2\text{Q}]$  is a curve, but a plot of  $k_o^{-1}$  against  $[\text{H}_2\text{Q}]^{-1}$  is linear with an intercept on the  $k_o^{-1}$  axis (Fig. 1).

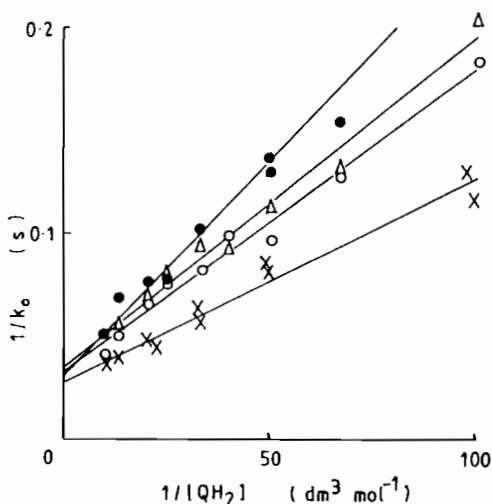


Fig. 1. Plots of  $k_o^{-1}$  against  $[\text{H}_2\text{Q}]^{-1}$  for the oxidation of quinol by  $\text{Mn}(\text{bipy})_2^{3+}$  at an ionic strength = 1.00 mol dm<sup>-3</sup> and at 25.4 °C with  $[\text{HClO}_4]$  (mol dm<sup>-3</sup>) varying as follows: X, 0.40; O, 0.60; Δ, 0.80; ●, 1.00.

The values for  $k_o$  are collected in Table 2 and these show that  $k_o$  is unchanged when the sodium perchlorate used to adjust the ionic strength to 1.00 mol dm<sup>-3</sup> is replaced by lithium perchlorate.

Similar linear plots for  $\log[\text{Mn}(\text{bipy})_2^{3+}]$  against time were obtained at  $[\text{HClO}_4] = 0.60, 0.80$  and  $1.00$  mol dm<sup>-3</sup> and plots of  $k_o^{-1}$  against  $[\text{H}_2\text{Q}]^{-1}$  were linear for constant acidity (Fig. 1). All the values for  $k_o$  are given in Table 2. This Table shows that increasing the added concentration of 2,2'-bipyridine at 1.00 mol dm<sup>-3</sup>  $\text{HClO}_4$  has no effect on the rate constant.

### Mechanism of the Oxidation

The linearity of the plots of  $k_o^{-1}$  against  $[\text{H}_2\text{Q}]^{-1}$  in Fig. 1 shows that intermediate complexes are involved in the oxidation. It is assumed that these involve only a ratio of  $\text{Mn}^{\text{III}}:\text{H}_2\text{Q} = 1.0$  and the various possibilities for the pre-equilibria are given in eqns. (2)–(8).

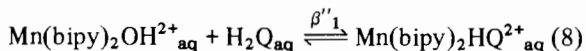
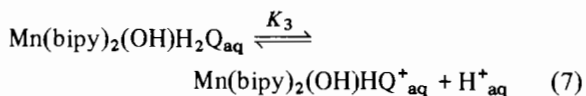
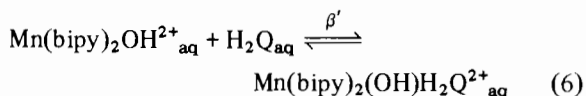
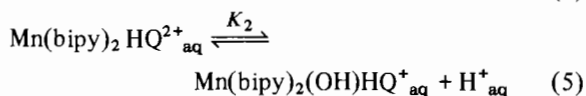
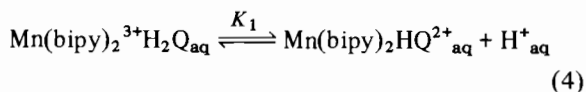
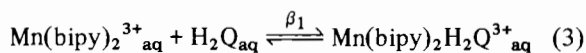
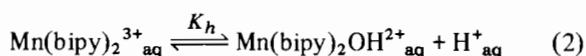
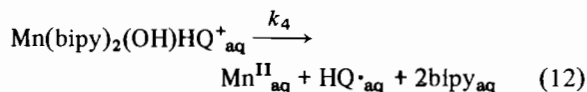
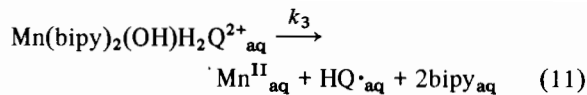
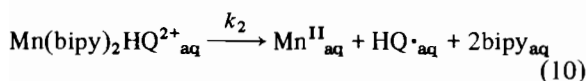
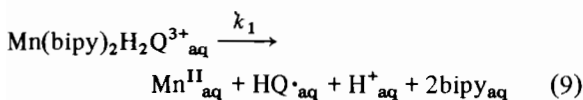


TABLE 2. Pseudo first order rate constants  $k_o$  for the oxidation of quinol by  $\text{Mn}(\text{bipy})_2^{3+}$  with varying  $[\text{HClO}_4]$  at 25.4 °C and an ionic strength = 1.00 mol dm<sup>-3</sup> adjusted with additions of  $\text{NaClO}_4$  and at a constant total  $[\text{bipy}] = 1.13 \times 10^{-3}$  mol dm<sup>-3</sup> for an initial  $[\text{Mn}^{\text{III}}] \sim 6 \times 10^{-4}$  mol dm<sup>-3</sup>

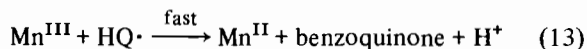
$[\text{H}^+]$ (mol dm <sup>-3</sup> )	$[\text{H}_2\text{Q}]$ (10 <sup>-2</sup> mol dm <sup>-3</sup> )	$k_o$ (s <sup>-1</sup> )
0.40	1.00	8.6
0.40	1.02	7.7 <sup>a</sup>
0.40	2.00	12.4
0.40	2.04	11.6 <sup>a</sup>
0.40	3.00	17.5
0.40	3.06	15.7 <sup>a</sup>
0.40	4.00	22.2
0.40	4.90	20.8
0.40	7.4	25.6
0.40	9.8	27.8
0.40	9.91	28.0 <sup>a</sup>
0.60	0.95	5.5
0.60	1.49	6.7
0.60	1.99	10.3
0.60	2.46	10.1
0.60	2.99	12.2
0.60	3.98	13.3
0.60	4.93	15.2
0.60	7.4	20.0
0.60	9.8	24.4
0.80	0.95	4.9
0.80	1.49	7.6
0.80	1.99	8.9
0.80	2.46	10.9
0.80	3.00	10.8
0.80	4.00	12.4
0.80	4.93	14.5
0.80	7.4	18.1
1.00	0.95	4.1
1.00	1.00	3.9
1.00	1.00	4.2 <sup>b</sup>
1.00	1.49	6.5
1.00	2.00	7.8
1.00	2.00	7.3 <sup>b</sup>
1.00	3.00	9.8
1.00	4.00	13.0
1.00	4.90	13.0 <sup>b</sup>
1.00	7.4	14.5
1.00	9.8	19.6

<sup>a</sup>Ionic strength adjusted to 1.00 mol dm<sup>-3</sup> with the addition of  $\text{LiClO}_4$ . <sup>b</sup>Total added  $[\text{bipy}] = 5.13 \times 10^{-3}$  mol dm<sup>-3</sup>.

Some of these combinations of pre-equilibria are mutually indistinguishable: (3) + (4) and (2) + (8); (3) + (4) + (5), (2) + (6) + (7) and (2) + (8) + (5). Possible rate determining redox steps are (9)–(12)



which, in turn, will be followed by the rapid conversion of the semiquinone  $\text{HQ}\cdot$  to benzoquinone via (13) [4–18]



As  $K_h h^{-1} \gg 1$  ( $h = [\text{H}^+]$ ) [19], the rate of decay of all species of  $\text{Mn}(\text{bipy})_2^{3+}$  will be given by (14)

$$-\left(\frac{d[\text{Mn}^{\text{III}}]_{\text{total}}}{dt}\right) = \{2(k_1\beta_1 + k_2\beta_1K_1h^{-1} + k_4\beta_1K_1K_2h^{-2})[\text{Mn}^{\text{III}}]_{\text{total}}[\text{H}_2\text{Q}]\} / \{K_h h^{-1} + \beta_1(1 + K_1h^{-1} + K_1K_2h^{-2})[\text{H}_2\text{Q}]\} \quad (14)$$

bearing in mind the indistinguishable sets of pre-equilibria and that (11) is also indistinguishable kinetically from (10). The pseudo first order rate constant  $k_o$  is then given by (15) and the slopes  $S$

$$\frac{1}{k_o} = \frac{K_h h}{2\beta_1(k_1h^2 + k_2K_1h + k_4K_1K_2)[\text{H}_2\text{Q}] + \frac{h^2 + K_1h + K_1K_2}{2(k_1h^2 + k_2K_1h + k_4K_1K_2)}} \quad (15)$$

of the linear plots of  $k_o^{-1}$  versus  $[\text{H}_2\text{Q}]^{-1}$  will be given by (16)

$$S^{-1} = \frac{2\beta_1(k_1h + k_2K_1 + k_4K_1K_2h^{-1})}{K_h} \quad (16)$$

Values for the slopes of the lines in Fig. 1 are collected in Table 3 and Fig. 2 shows that  $S^{-1}$  against  $h^{-1}$  gives a linear plot with an intercept on the  $S^{-1}$  axis. For (16) to apply to this plot,  $k_1h \ll (k_2K_1 + k_4K_1K_2h^{-1})$ . This will give values of  $k_2\beta_1K_1K_h^{-1} = 75 \pm 40 \text{ s}^{-1}$  and  $k_4\beta_1K_1K_2K_h^{-1} = 170 \pm 30 \text{ dm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$  at 25.4 °C.

TABLE 3. Values of the slopes  $S$  with standard errors determined by the least-squares procedure of the plots of  $k_o^{-1}$  vs.  $[\text{H}_2\text{Q}]^{-1}$  for the oxidation of quinol by  $\text{Mn}(\text{bipy})_2^{3+}$  at 25.4 °C with ionic strength = 1.00 mol dm<sup>-3</sup>

$[\text{H}^+]$ (mol dm <sup>-3</sup> )	$S$ (10 <sup>-3</sup> dm <sup>-3</sup> mol s)
0.40	1.00 ± 0.06
0.60	1.48 ± 0.07
0.80	1.61 ± 0.10
1.00	2.11 ± 0.08

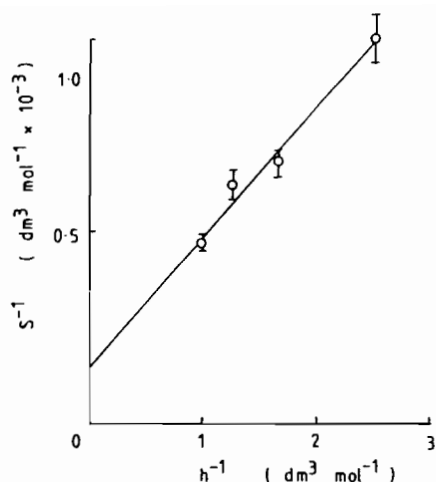
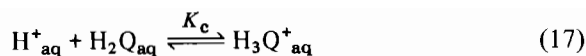


Fig. 2. Plot of the variation of the reciprocal of the slope ( $S$ ) of the plots of  $k_o^{-1}$  against  $[H_2Q]^{-1}$  with the reciprocal of the hydrogen ion concentration ( $h$ ) for an ionic strength =  $1.00 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  and  $25.4 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ .

### Comparison with Other Oxidants

The linearity of the plots of  $k_o^{-1}$  versus  $[H_2Q]^{-1}$  shows that at least one intermediate complex is involved in the oxidation by  $Mn(bipy)_2^{3+}_{aq}$  and  $k_o$  is decreased by increasing acidity. This can be compared with the results for a series of aqua cations. No intermediate complexes were detected for  $Fe^{III}_{aq}$  [4],  $Np^{VI}_{aq}$  [10],  $Pu^{VI}_{aq}$  [11],  $Pu^{IV}_{aq}$  [11],  $[IrCl_5H_2O]^-$  [16] and  $[IrCl_4(H_2O)_2]$  [16]; oscilloscope traces suggest that they may be involved with  $Mn^{III}_{aq}$  [5] and  $Co^{III}_{aq}$  [8] and the kinetics show that they are involved for  $V^{V}_{aq}$  [7],  $Ce^{IV}_{aq}$  [6] and  $Tl^{III}_{aq}$  [9]. Where the effect of changes in the hydrogen ion concentration  $h$  on the rate constant has been investigated, a wide spectrum of effects is observed. The rate constant increases with decreasing  $h$  for  $Fe^{III}_{aq}$  [4],  $Mn^{III}_{aq}$  [5],  $Tl^{III}_{aq}$  [9] and  $Pu^{VI}_{aq}$  [11], increases with increasing  $h$  for  $V^{V}_{aq}$  [7], is independent of  $h$  for  $Ce^{IV}_{aq}$  [6],  $Np^{VI}_{aq}$  [10] and  $Pu^{IV}_{aq}$  [11] and varies differently with  $h$  for  $Co^{III}_{aq}$  according to the conditions [8]. For ions possessing at least one water molecule in the first coordination sphere reacting with acidic substrates, ambiguities of interpretation of variations of rate with  $h$  exist: the  $h$  variation can be ascribed either to the hydrolysis of the metal ion or to the acid dissociation of the substrate, or to a combination of both. However, as the acid dissociation constant for  $H_2Q \rightleftharpoons HQ^- + H^+$  is low ( $K_a = 1.22 \times 10^{-10}$  at  $28.2 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ ) [4], the participation of the species  $HQ^-$  in high acidities has been questioned. Indeed, for the small retardations with increasing  $h$  observed with  $[Ni^{III}(cyclam)]$  [13], [Nitetraazamacrocycles] [15] and  $[Ni^{III}bis(1,4,7\text{-triazacyclononane})]$  [14] as oxidants, the participation of the protonation equilibrium (17) is proposed.



Thus, with aqua cations as oxidants, a combination of equilibrium (17) for the substrate and the hydrolytic equilibrium of the cation would be invoked, similar to the situation found in the oxidation of alcohols by  $Mn^{III}_{aq}$  [20] and  $Co^{III}_{aq}$  [21]. However, against this proposed participation of equilibrium (17) in the oxidation of quinol is the unexpected absence of any variation of rate with  $h$  found with the oxidants  $Fe(phen)_3^{3+}$  [12], 12-tungstocobaltate(III) [18] and  $IrCl_6^{2-}$  [16] and the low value of  $K_c \lesssim 0.01 \text{ dm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$  for quinol deduced [22] by comparison with the equilibrium measurements made on other organic hydroxy compounds: this experimental estimate for  $K_c \lesssim 0.01 \text{ dm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$  has recently been confirmed [23] and contrasts with  $K_c = 0.22\text{--}0.24 \text{ dm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$  calculated [13, 14] from the kinetic variations. However, as found in the present oxidation and in those involving similar acidic substrates, the presence of  $H_2Q$  in either an inner or outer sphere complex can increase  $K_a$  by stabilizing  $HQ^-$  in proximity to the cation, so that this anion can participate in the mechanism. Intermediate complexes were also detected in the oxidations of  $Br^-$  [3],  $H_2O_2$  [1] and  $HN_3$  [2] by  $Mn(bipy)_2^{3+}_{aq}$ , and in the last two cases [1, 2] the acid dissociation of the substrate ligand is facilitated by its juxtaposition with the  $Mn^{3+}$  ion. Moreover, in the oxidation of  $HN_3$  by  $Ni(bipy)_3^{3+}$ , where the intermediate involvement of  $N_3^-$  is shown by the kinetic dependence on  $h$ ,  $K_a$  for  $HN_3$  must be increased by its presence in an outer sphere complex with  $Ni(bipy)_3^{3+}$  [24]; the involvement of outer sphere complexes with  $Ni(bipy)_3^{3+}$  was established kinetically for the oxidation of chloride ions by  $Ni(bipy)_3^{3+}$  [25]. Therefore, in the oxidations of  $H_2Q$  by cations  $M^{n+}$ , discussed above, an increase, a decrease or an independence of rate constant with  $h$  could result from the formation of intermediate complexes, inner or outer sphere, in which  $K_a$  for  $H_2Q$  in the complex is increased, with the individual dependency on  $h$  arising from the particular balance between the kinetic and thermodynamic stabilities of  $M^{n+}H_2Q$  and  $M^{n+}HQ^-$  with that cation  $M^{n+}$ .

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