# Preparation and the covalent hydration of a hexafluoro-2,4pentanedionatotetraaminecobalt(III) complex

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#### Abstract

Twelve title complexes are prepared as perchlorate salts. These are Co(hfac)L<sup>2+</sup> with L=(MeNH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, (n-AmNH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, *cis*-(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(en), (*R*-pn)(*S*-pn), cyclen, cyclam, *cis*-(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(bpy), (en)(by), (en)(phen), (1n)(byy), (tn)(phen) and (byy)(phen) where Hhfac = hexafluoro-2,4-pentanedione, MeNH<sub>2</sub> = methylamine, n-AmNH<sub>2</sub> = n-amylamine, en = ethylenediamine, pn = propylenediamine, cyclen = 1,4,7,10-tetraazacyclododecane cyclam = 1,4,8,11-tetraazacyclo-tetradecane, by = 2,2'-dipyridyl, phen = 1,10-phenanthroline and tn = 1,3-propanediamine. The thermodynamic covalent hydration equilibrium constants  $K_{OH}$  in water and  $K_{OMe}$  in methanol are estimated for these complexes and for previously obtained Co(hfac)L<sup>2+</sup> by UV spectrophotometry. The values critically depend on the involvement as L ligand of a bpy or a phen ligand.  $pK_{OH} \approx -6.6$  and  $pK_{OMe} \approx -8.7$  when L involves neither bpy nor phen ligand.  $pK_{OH} \approx -8.7$  and  $pK_{OMe} \approx -11.0$  when L involves either a bpy or a phen ligand.  $pK_{OH} \approx -11.5$  and  $pK_{OMe} \approx -14.6$  when L involves two bpy or phen ligands. The isomeric structure of the complex is also discussed on the basis of the fluorine NMR spectra.

#### Introduction

It has been shown recently that a cobalt(III) or a chromium(III) complex with a bidentate hfac ligand shows a unique hydrolysis phenomenon called covalent hydration in water and in methanol [1]. The lyate anion  $OR^-$  forms rapidly and reversibly a covalent bond to one of the carbonyl carbon atoms of the hfac ligand coordinating to the metal.

$$\begin{array}{c} CF_{3} D^{+} \\ CF_{3} D^{+} \\ CF_{3} \end{array} \xrightarrow{(CF_{3})} CH \\ CF_{3} \end{array} + OR^{-} \xrightarrow{(CF_{3})} CH \\ CF_{3} CH \\ CF_{3} \end{array} \xrightarrow{(CF_{3})} CH$$
(1)

where M = Co(III) or Cr(III) and L is a ligand occupying the residual four coordination sites. We denote the thermodynamic equilibrium constant of eqn. (1) in water (R = H) and in methanol  $(R = CH_3)$  as  $K_{OH}$  and  $K_{OMe}$ , respectively. In a previous report, it has been shown that in the case of a tetraamine L ligand the  $K_{OH}$  is  $2-12 \times 10^6 \text{ M}^{-1}$  for  $Co(hfac)L^{2+}$  and  $1-6 \times 10^{10} \text{ M}^{-1}$ for  $Cr(hfac)L^{2+}$  ( $M = mol \text{ dm}^{-3}$ ) [1]. It was pointed out that the magnitude depended significantly on the kind of metal, whereas it was rather independent of the kind of tetraamine L ligand. Later, we studied by UV spectrophotometry the  $K_{OH}$  for Co(hfac)(bpy)<sub>2</sub><sup>2+</sup> and Co(hfac)(phen)<sub>2</sub><sup>2+</sup> and found that their  $K_{OH}$  are extraordinarily large (3×10<sup>11</sup> M<sup>-1</sup>). This finding has stimulated us to study the magnitude of  $K_{OH}$  and  $K_{OMe}$  for additional Co(hfac)L<sup>2+</sup>.

In the present work, we have prepared twelve such complex perchlorates and estimated the  $pK_{OH}$  and  $pK_{OMe}$  values. We have also estimated  $pK_{OH}$  and  $pK_{OMe}$  for Co(hfac)L<sup>2+</sup> prepared previously [1]. The isomeric structure of the complex is also discussed on the basis of the fluorine NMR spectra.

## Experimental

A Shimadzu UV-2200 UV-Vis spectrophotometer was used. The other experimental procedures were similar to those described in previous reports [1, 2]. In the fluorine NMR measurements, trifluoroacetic acid was used as internal standard ( $\delta = -76.5$  ppm). Caution: Although we have experienced no difficulty with the perchlorate salts of the complex mentioned herein, these compounds should be treated as potentially explosive and should be handled with care.

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#### $K[Co(CO_3)_2(en)]$ (1)

KHCO<sub>3</sub> (10 g) was added to a tricarbonatocobaltate solution prepared from  $CoCl_2 \cdot 6H_2O$  (12 g) [3]. This solution was combined with an aqueous solution (6 ml) of en (3 g) and was stirred for 30 min at 60 °C. The resultant blue solution was treated with KHCO<sub>3</sub> (10 g) and ice-cooled. Inorganic salts were removed. The product (8 g) separated on addition of ethanol to the filtrate. It was twice recrystallized from water by addition of ethanol and was washed with ethanol and ether.

## $K[Co(CO_3)_2(tn)]$ (2)

This substance was prepared analogously to 1 using tn. Yield 50%.

# $K[Co(CO_3)_2(bpy)]$ (3)

Bpy (7.8 g) was added to a tricarbonatocobaltate solution prepared from  $CoCl_2 \cdot 6H_2O$  (12 g) [3]. It was stirred for 2 h at 60 °C and was ice-cooled. The resultant precipitate of  $[Co(CO_3)(bpy)_2]Cl$  was removed by filtration. The violet filtrate was evaporated to near dryness. The residue was extracted with hot methanol (200 ml). After filtration, it was left at room temperature. The product (4 g) separated after a while.

## $[Co(CO_3)(MeNH_2)_4]ClO_4$ (4)

A 40% aqueous solution (40 ml) of MeNH<sub>2</sub> was added to a tricarbonatocobaltate solution freshly prepared from Co(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O (14.6 g). It was stirred for 20 min at room temperature, treated with MeNH<sub>3</sub>Cl (15 g) and was further stirred for 2 h at 50 °C. Salts were removed and the red-violet filtrate was rotoevaporated to 40 ml. Salts were removed again. The filtrate was treated by saturated aqueous NaClO<sub>4</sub> (5 ml) and the resultant precipitates of KClO<sub>4</sub> were removed. The filtrate was rotoevaporated further to 20 ml, treated by saturated aqueous NaClO<sub>4</sub> (11 ml) and was cooled. The resultant red-violet crystals were recrystallized from hot water and washed with methanol. This substance is soluble in water but is insoluble in methanol. Yield 10 g.

# $[Co(CO_3)(n-AmNH_2)_4]ClO_4$ (5)

n-AmNH<sub>2</sub> (40 ml) was added to a tricarbonatocobaltate solution prepared from  $CoCl_2 \cdot 6H_2O$  (12 g). It was stirred for 2 h at 50 °C. The resultant pink-brown crystals were extracted with methanol. The extract was combined with a slight excess of methanolic NaClO<sub>4</sub> and was concentrated. The resultant pink crystals were recrystallized from methanol. This substance is insoluble in water. Yield 15 g.

# $[Co(CO_3)(NH_3)_2(en)]ClO_4$ (6)

1 (3 g) and  $NH_4ClO_4$  (1.2 g) were dissolved in 1 M  $NH_3$  solution (20 ml) [4]. The solution was stirred at

50 °C until the color turned to red-violet.  $KClO_4$  was removed by filtration. The product separated on evaporation of the filtrate.

#### $[Co(CO_3)(R-pn)(S-pn)]ClO_4 (7)$

An aqueous suspension (30 ml) of *trans*- $[CoCl_2(R-pn)(S-pn)]ClO_4$  (7.6 g) and Li<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (2 g) was stirred for 1 h at 60 °C [5]. After filtration, the filtrate was evaporated to half volume. A red-violet product separated on addition of ethanol to the solution.

## $[Co(CO_3)(cyclen)]ClO_4$ (8)

A tricarbonatocobaltate solution was treated with an equivalent amount of cyclen  $\cdot$  4HCl [6]. This solution was concentrated and salts were removed. Red-violet crystals separated from the filtrate on addition of aqueous NaClO<sub>4</sub> and ethanol. Yield 60%.

## $[CoCO_3(cyclam)]ClO_4$ (9)

A tricarbonatocobaltate solution was treated with an equivalent amount of cyclam  $\cdot$  4HCl [7]\*. The resultant red-violet crystals were recrystallized from methanol by addition of aqueous NaClO<sub>4</sub>. Yield 30%.

#### $[CoCO_3(bpy)(phen)]ClO_4$ (10)

A solution of phen  $\cdot$  H<sub>2</sub>O (2 g) in 1 M HClO<sub>4</sub> (20 ml) was added drop by drop to an ice-cooled aqueous solution (10 ml) of 3 (4.1 g). It was stirred for 2 h at 50 °C and the product (3 g) separated.

#### $[Co(hfac)(MeNH_2)_4](ClO_4)_2$

**4** (4 g) was decarbonized in 4 M HClO<sub>4</sub> (5 ml) at 40 °C. To this solution, a mixture of Hhfac (2.1 g) and 4 M NaOH (2.5 ml) was added slowly. It was stirred for 40 min at 50 °C. The resultant red-orange crystals were recrystallized from methanol with a trace of HClO<sub>4</sub> and were washed with ethanol and ether (2:8). They were kept in a refrigerator. Yield 4 g. *Anal.* Found: C, 18.2; H, 3.7; N, 9.5. Calc.: C, 18.4; H, 3.6; N, 9.5%.

#### $[Co(hfac)(n-AmNH_2)_4](ClO_4)_2$

**5** (5.7 g) was decarbonized in 2 M HClO<sub>4</sub> (10 ml) and methanol (20 ml) at 40 °C. To this solution, a mixture of Hhfac (2.1 g) and 4 M NaOH (2.5 ml) was added slowly. It was stirred for 2 h at 50 °C and then evaporated. The resultant red oily product was extracted with a mixture of 6 M HClO<sub>4</sub> (3 ml) and methanol (20 ml). Red crystals separated on evaporation at room temperature and were recrystallized from methanol containing HClO<sub>4</sub>. They were washed with dilute HClO<sub>4</sub>, ethanol and ether (1:19) and kept in a refrigerator.

<sup>\*[</sup>Ni(cyclam)](ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (50 g) was dissolved in 6 M HCl (200 ml) and warmed on a water bath for 5 h. Cyclam 4HCl separated on cooling the solution (yield 90%).

#### $cis-[Co(hfac)(NH_3)_2(en)](ClO_4)_2 \cdot 2H_2O$

**6** (2.5 g) was decarbonized in 1 M HClO<sub>4</sub> (20 ml). The resultant solution was treated with Hhfac (2.1 g) and 1 M NaOH (10 ml) at 50 °C. The resultant orange crystals (4 g) were recrystallized from methanol and washed with ethanol and ether (2:8). *Anal.* Found: C, 13.9; H, 2.8; N, 10.2. Calc.: C, 14.1; H, 3.2; N, 9.4%.

#### $[Co(hfac)(R-pn)(S-pn)](ClO_4)_2$

7 (3.9 g) was decarbonized in 1 M HClO<sub>4</sub> (20 ml). The resultant solution was combined with a mixture of Hhfac (2.1 g) and 1 M NaOH (10 ml) and was stirred for 1 h at 50 °C. Orange crystals separated and were recrystallized from methanol and water (9:1) with a trace of HClO<sub>4</sub>. Yield 3.5 g. *Anal.* Found: C, 21.3; H, 3.4; N, 9.2. Calc.: C, 21.6; H, 3.5; N, 9.1%.

## $[Co(hfac)(cyclen)](ClO_4)_2 \cdot H_2O$

**8** (4.1 g) was decarbonized in 2 M HClO<sub>4</sub> (10 ml) at 40 °C. To this solution, a mixture of Hhfac (2.1 g) and 2 M NaOH (5.0 ml) was added drop by drop. It was stirred for 40 min at 50 °C. The resultant red crystals were recrystallized from dilute aqueous HClO<sub>4</sub> and washed with ethanol and ether (2:8). Yield 5 g. *Anal.* Found: C, 23.8; H, 3.5; N, 8.4. Calc.: C, 23.8; H, 3.5; N, 8.6%.

#### $[Co(hfac)(cyclam)](ClO_4)_2$

**9** (4.2 g) was decarbonized in 2 M HClO<sub>4</sub> (10 ml) at 40 °C. To this solution, a mixture of Hhfac (2.1 g) and 2 M NaOH (5 ml) was added slowly. It was stirred for 40 min at 50 °C. The resultant red-orange crystals were recrystallized from methanol containing HClO<sub>4</sub> and washed with ethanol and ether (2:8). Yield 2.5 g. *Anal.* Found: C, 27.0; H, 3.8; N, 8.5. Calc.: C, 27.1; H, 3.8; N, 8.4%.

#### $cis_{CO}(hfac)(NH_3)_2(bpy)](ClO_4)_2 \cdot 2H_2O$ (11)

cis-K[Co(CO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] (2.7 g) and bpy (1.56 g) were mixed in water (10 ml) and methanol (5 ml) [3]. 4 M HClO<sub>4</sub> (5 ml) was added drop by drop to this suspension, while the latter was ice-cooled and stirred. It was stirred further for 10 h at room temperature. The resultant red solution was decarbonized by 4 M HClO<sub>4</sub> (5 ml) at 40 °C and was combined with a mixture of Hhfac (1.0 g) and 2 M NaOH (3.5 ml). It was stirred for 20 min at 50 °C and was acidified by drops of 6 M HClO<sub>4</sub>. The resultant orange crystals were recrystallized from methanol with a trace of HClO<sub>4</sub> and washed with ethanol and ether (2:8). Yield 1 g. Anal. Found: C, 26.2; H, 2.2; N, 8.2. Calc.: C, 26.1; H, 2.2; N, 8.1%.

# $[Co(hfac)(en)(bpy)](ClO_4)_2 \cdot H_2O (12)$

This substance (1 g) was prepared from 1 (3 g) and bpy (1.56 g) by a treatment similar to that described for 11, while the red solution of  $Co(CO_3)(en)(bpy)^+$ resulted by stirring for 50 min at 40 °C. *Anal*. Found: C, 29.0; H, 2.7; N, 8.0. Calc.: C, 29.2; H, 2.7; N, 8.0%.

## $[Co(hfac)(en)(phen)](ClO_4)_2 \cdot H_2O$

This substance (0.2 g) was prepared analogously to 12 using phen  $\cdot$  H<sub>2</sub>O (2.0 g). *Anal.* Found: C, 31.2; H, 2.4; N, 7.9. Calc.: C, 31.6; H, 2.4; N, 8.0%. [Co(CO<sub>3</sub>)(en)(phen)]ClO<sub>4</sub> (2.3 g) separated during the process.

#### $[Co(hfac)(tn)(bpy)](ClO_4)_2$ (13)

This substance (2.0 g) was prepared from 2 (3.14 g) and bpy (1.56 g) analogously to 12. *Anal.* Found: C, 30.9; H, 2.8; N, 7.9. Calc.: C, 31.1.; H, 2.8; N, 8.1%.

## $[Co(hfac)(tn)(phen)](ClO_4)_2 \cdot 2.5H_2O$

This substance (0.2 g) was prepared analogously to 13 using phen  $H_2O$  (2.0 g). *Anal.* Found: C, 31.5; H, 2.7; N, 7.3. Calc.: C, 31.4; H, 3.2; N, 7.3%.

# $[Co(hfac)(bpy)(phen)](ClO_4)_2 \cdot 1.5H_2O$

10 (3 g) was decarbonized at 50 °C in 2 M HClO<sub>4</sub> (10 ml). It was filtered and the filtrate was neutralized by 2 M NaOH (5 ml). This solution was treated with a solution of Hhfac (1 g) and 2 M NaOH (5 ml) and was stirred for 1 h at 60 °C. The resultant pink precipitate changed to orange on addition of 6 M HClO<sub>4</sub>. The orange precipitate was recrystallized from 2 M HClO<sub>4</sub> and acetone (1:1) and was washed with 0.5 M HClO<sub>4</sub>, ethanol and ether (1:9). Yield 1.5 g. *Anal.* Found: C, 39.1; H, 2.2; N, 6.6. Calc.: C, 39.2; H, 2.4; N, 6.8%.

#### **Results and discussion**

#### Preparations

Our preparative method for 1 and 2 is more convenient than that given in a previous report [3]. Addition of excess KHCO<sub>3</sub> prevents the production of the monocarbonato species as a by-product. The general preparative course for Co(hfac)L<sup>2+</sup> is that the hfac ligand reacts with the corresponding diaqua complex, which is derived from the carbonato complex. An alkaline condition is favoured when L involves by or phen. This is related to the fact that  $K_{OH}$  is large for such products.

### UV-Vis spectra

These complexes are orange colored in an acidic medium and violet colored in a basic medium. The

TABLE	1.	Absorption	maxima	of	Co(hfac)L <sup>2+</sup>
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L	$\lambda$ (nm) ( $\epsilon$ )						
	In acidic water	In basic water					
$(MeNH_2)_4$	508(106), 349(2390)	542(105)					
$(n-AmNH_2)_4$	512(142), 332(2420) <sup>a</sup>	b					
$cis-(NH_3)_2(en)$	488(122), 346(2806)	523(117)					
( <i>R</i> -pn)( <i>S</i> -pn)	485(138), 348(2630)	518(132)					
cyclen	515(387), 355(1910)	551(268)					
cyclam	505(200), 356(1810)	538(198)					
cis-(NH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (bpy)	490(115), 340(3420)sh <sup>c</sup>	534(129					
(en)(bpy)	488(160), 340(3410)sh	519(156)					
(en)(phen)	488(186), 348(3340)sh	521(168)					
(tn)(bpy)	492(116), 342(3320)sh	522(128)					
(tn)(phen)	492(63), 346(2160)sh	531(80)					
(bpy)(phen)	502(147), 347(3840)sh	530(207)					

<sup>a</sup>4% Ethanol. <sup>b</sup>Decomposition. <sup>c</sup>sh = shoulder.

absorption maxima are summarized in Table 1. In acidic water, the first band and the charge transfer band are observed at around 500 and 350 nm, respectively. In basic water the first band shifts by 30 nm to lower energy and the charge transfer band disappears. The spectra in methanol are essentially similar to the corresponding one in water, where the absorption coefficients are more or less the same. They are not shown in this report. These spectral features are quite similar to those already described for analogous  $Co(hfac)L^{2+}$ 

TABLE 2. Fluorine NMR spectra of  $Co(hfac)L^{2+}$  in  $D_2O$ 

with a tetraamine L ligand and can be explained by the shift of eqn. (1) [1, 2].

# Fluorine NMR spectra in D<sub>2</sub>O

The results are summarized in Table 2. One can explain these results by considering the symmetry aspect of the complex [8]. The two CF<sub>3</sub> groups are equivalent in Co(hfac)L<sup>2+</sup> of a  $C_{2\nu}$  or  $C_2$  symmetry. They are inequivalent in  $Co(hfac)L^{2+}$  of other symmetries or in Co(hfacOH)L<sup>+</sup>. When a Co(hfac)L<sup>2+</sup> is of a  $C_2$  or  $C_s$ symmetry, two diastereoisomeric Co(hfacOH)L<sup>+</sup> are possible. When  $Co(hfac)L^{2+}$  is of a  $C_1$  symmetry, four diastereoisomeric Co(hfacOH)L<sup>+</sup> are possible [8]. In the case of  $Co(hfac)(MeNH_2)_4^{2+}$ , one signal is observed in acidic water and one pair of signals in basic water. This is the case when the complex is of a  $C_{2\nu}$  symmetry. In the case of  $Co(hfac)(en)(bpy)^{2+}$ , one pair of signals is observed in acidic water and four pairs of signals in basic water. This is the case when the complex is of a  $C_1$  symmetry. The mole ratio of the four diastereoisomeric Co(hfacOH)(en)(bpy)<sup>+</sup> is estimated as 4:22:29:45. In the case of  $Co(hfac)(NH_3)_2(en)^{2+}$  and  $Co(hfac)(NH_3)_2(bpy)^{2+}$ , the *cis* configuration can be assigned on the basis of the fluorine NMR spectra. Their trans isomers are of a  $C_{2v}$  symmetry. In the case of  $Co(hfac)(R-pn)(S-pn)^{2+}$ , one can deduce from the spectra that four geometric isomers coexist in acidic water. In these isomers, the relative position of the two asymmetric carbon atoms differs. In the case of

L	Point group of	–δ (ppm) (intensity	Isomer ratio	
	Co(hfac)L <sup>2</sup>	1 mM CF <sub>3</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> H	5 mM Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	
(MeNH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>2v</sub>	76.09	73.78, 86.11	<u>.</u>
cis-(NH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (en)	Cı	75.98, 76.07	73.68(29), 73.70(30), 73.76(15) 73.81(26), 85.51(29), 85.73(30) 85.78(26), 86.20(15)	15:26:29:30
( <i>R</i> -pn)( <i>S</i> -pn)	<i>C</i> <sub>1</sub>	76.10, 76.12 76.14, 76.15 76.19, 76.21 76.22, 76.25	many signals	
cyclen	$C_s, C_{2\nu}$	76.15(3) 76.18(97) 76.42(97)	73.79(14), 73.85(30), 74.06(56) 85.39(30), 85.76(14), 85.95(56)	14:30:56
cyclam	$C_2$	76.16	73.60(39), 73.66(61), 85.60(61), 86.62(39)	39:61
cis-(NH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (bpy)	Cı	75.50, 76.10	73.28(18), 73.36(25), 74.16(8) 74.23(49), 85.17(8), 85.28(49) 85.66(25), 85.79(18)	8:18:25:49
(en)(bpy)	С,	75.64, 76.18	73.52(22), 73.56(29), 74.11(4) 74.33(45), 85.27(45), 85.31(22) 85.52(29), 85.78(4)	4:22:29:45

TABLE 3.	Fluorine	NMR	spectra	of	Co(hfac)L	_2+	in	CH <sub>3</sub> OD
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L	Point group of	$-\delta$ (ppm) (intensity)	Isomer ratio	
	Co(hfac)]_	1 mM CF <sub>3</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> H	5 mM NaOCH <sub>3</sub>	
(MeNH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub>	$C_{2v}$	75.95	74.05, 81.28	
(n-AmNH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub>	$C_{2v}$	75.91	74.00, 81.11	
(R-pn)(S-pn)	Cı	75.86, 75.90 75.94, 75.97 76.00, 76.05 76.09		
cyclen	C <sub>3</sub> , C <sub>2v</sub>	76.02(2) 76.04(98) 76.39(98)	73.78(6), 73.89(19), 74.15(75) 83.25(6), 83.31(94)	6:19:75
cyclam	$C_2$	76.15	73.18(7), 73.68(93), 81.56(93), 82.97(7)	7:93
cis-(NH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (bpy)	$C_1$	75.43, 76.27	73.29(23), 73.31(15), 74.71(4), 74.74(58) 79.91(4), 81.91(58), 83.11(15), 83.20(23)	4:15:23:58
(en)(bpy)	<i>C</i> <sub>1</sub>	75.74, 76.28	73.34(32), 74.49(28), 74.68(2), 75.18(38) 80.56(2), 82.68(38), 83.54(28), 83.81(32)	2:28:32:38

Fig. 1. Three possible *cis* coordination modes of cyclen and cyclam ligand.

 $Co(hfac)(cyclen)^{2+}$ , one can deduce that two isomers coexist in acidic water; one of coordination mode III  $(C_s)$  with mole ratio 97 and the other of coordination mode I  $(C_{2\nu})$  or II  $(C_{2\nu})$  with mole ratio 3 (Fig. 1). Correspondingly, three isomers of Co(hfacOH)- $(cyclen)^+$  coexist in basic water with mole ratio 14:30:56; two of coordination mode III and one of coordination mode I or II. On reacidification, the mole ratio of the two isomers was the same as the original 97:3. Thus, one may consider that the configurational change between III and I or II is rapid. This is interesting being in contrast with the slow configurational change between the  $\Delta$ - $\beta$ -SS and  $\Delta$ - $\beta$ -SR isomers in Co(hfac)L<sup>n+</sup> with a linear tetradentate L ligand such as 1,8-diamino-3,6diazaoctane (trien), 1,9-diamino-3,7-diazanonane (2,3,2tet), 4,7-diaza-1,10-decanediamine (3,2,3-tet) or ethylenediamine-N, N'-diacetato [9]. In the case of  $Co(hfac)(cyclam)^{2+}$ , it is deduced from the spectra that

only one coordination mode I  $(C_2)$  or II  $(C_2)$  is favored in acidic and basic water.

#### Fluorine NMR spectra in CH<sub>3</sub>OD

The results are summarized in Table 3. The spectra are essentially similar to the corresponding ones in water and can be analogously interpreted with isomer ratios differing more or less the same.

#### Equilibrium constant

Generally, absorption intensity was measured at 350 nm for four solutions of the complex (<0.1 mM); acidic, basic and two buffer solutions. In some cases, absorption intensity was measured for a simple solution of the complex. The composition of each solution is indicated in the footnote of Table 4. The  $K_{OH}$  was estimated from the absorption intensity and the pH value of the buffer solution [8]. The  $K_{OMe}$  was estimated from the absorption intensity and the  $pK_b$  value of the buffering agent in methanol [2]. The  $pK_b$  value in methanol of triethanolamine and of betaine was estimated as 8.0 and 11.3, respectively, by comparing the absorption intensity of an appropriate  $Co(hfac)L^{n+}$  in different buffers (pK<sub>b</sub>=6.30 for triethylamine) [2]. Activity coefficient  $f_i$  of an ion of charge  $Z_i$  was estimated by

$$\log f_i = \frac{-0.51Z_i^2 \sqrt{\mu}}{1 + \sqrt{\mu}} \quad \text{in water}$$

TABLE 4. Covalent hydration equilibrium constant of  $Co(hfac)L^{2+}$  at c. 25 °C

L	-р <i>К</i> он	$-pK_{OMe}$
(NH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> <sup>a</sup>	6.85	8.59
(MeNH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub>	6.34 <sup>b</sup>	8.78 <sup>f</sup>
(EtNH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub>	6.30 <sup>b</sup>	8.76 <sup>f</sup>
$(n-PrNH_2)_4$	6.74 <sup>b</sup>	8.97 <sup>f</sup>
$(n-BuNH_2)_4$	6.75 <sup>b</sup>	8.93 <sup>f</sup>
$(n-AmNH_2)_4$		8.91 <sup>f</sup>
$cis-(NH_3)_2(en)$	6.63 <sup>b</sup>	8.30 <sup>f</sup>
$(en)_2^a$	6.62	8.57
$(tn)_2$	6.49 <sup>b</sup>	8.90 <sup>f</sup>
(R-pn)(S-pn)	6.43 <sup>b</sup>	8.26 <sup>f</sup>
α-trien <sup>a</sup>	6.81	8.82
β-trien <sup>a</sup>	6.51	9.10
β-2,3,2-tet	6.36 <sup>b</sup>	8.51 <sup>f</sup>
β-3,2,3-tet	6.43 <sup>b</sup>	9.04 <sup>f</sup>
tren	7.10 <sup>b</sup>	9.15 <sup>f</sup>
cyclen	6.71 <sup>b</sup>	9.11 <sup>f</sup>
cyclam	6.51 <sup>b</sup>	9.00 <sup>f</sup>
$cis-(NH_3)_2(bpy)$	8.69°	10.82 <sup>g</sup>
(en)(bpy)	8.76°	$11.08^{g}$
(en)(phen)	8.73°	11.20 <sup>g</sup>
(tn)(bpy)	8.65°	11.08 <sup>g</sup>
(tn)(phen)	8.74°	11.20 <sup>g</sup>
(bpy) <sub>2</sub>	11.48 <sup>d</sup>	14.54 <sup>h</sup>
(phen) <sub>2</sub>	11.51 <sup>d</sup>	14.64 <sup>h</sup>
(bpy)(phen)	11.41°	14.79 <sup>i</sup>

<sup>b</sup>1 mM HClO<sub>4</sub>, tris+HCl buffers (pH=7.4 and 8.1), <sup>a</sup>Ref. 2. 2 mM or 5 mM Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>. <sup>c</sup>3 mM HClO<sub>4</sub>, MES + NaOH buffers (pH=5.5 and 6.2), 3 mM Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>. <sup>d</sup>0.6 M HClO<sub>4</sub>, phthalic acid + KOH buffers (pH=2.7 and 3.0), 0.2 mM NaOH.  $^{\circ}0.3$ M HClO<sub>4</sub>, 1 mM and 3 mM HClO<sub>4</sub>, 3mM Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>. <sup>f</sup>1 mM  $H_2SO_4$  or  $HClO_4$ , triethanolamine + HCl buffers, 5 mM <sup>g</sup>1 mM  $H_2SO_4$ , betaine + HCl buffers, 5 mM NaOCH<sub>3</sub>. <sup>h</sup>0.1 M HClO<sub>4</sub>, simple solutions of the complex (2 NaOCH<sub>2</sub>. mM and 0.4 mM), 5 mM NaOCH<sub>3</sub>. <sup>i</sup>0.3 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, 1 mM and 5 mM p-phenolsulfonic acid, 1 mM NaOCH<sub>3</sub>. EtNH<sub>2</sub>=ethylamine.  $n-PrNH_2 = n-propylamine.$   $n-BuNH_2 = n-butylamine.$ tren = tris(2-aminoethyl)amine.

and by

$$\log f_{\rm i} = \frac{-1.9 Z_{\rm i}^2 \sqrt{\mu}}{1 + 2 \sqrt{\mu}} \quad \text{in methanol}$$

The ionic strength  $\mu$  was below 0.01. The results are summarized in Table 4. When L involves neither bpy nor phen ligands, the pK<sub>OH</sub> and pK<sub>OMe</sub> were  $-6.6\pm0.3$ and  $-8.7\pm0.4$ , respectively. Those for L=tren slightly exceed these values. When L involves either one bpy or one phen ligand, the  $pK_{OH}$  and  $pK_{OMe}$  values are lower:  $-8.7\pm0.1$  and  $-11.0\pm0.2$ , respectively. When L involves two bpy or phen ligands, the  $pK_{OH}$  and  $pK_{OMe}$  values are still low and are approximately -11.5and -14.6. Thus, values of pK<sub>OH</sub> and pK<sub>OMe</sub> critically depend on the involvement as L ligand of a bpy or a phen ligand. One possible explanation for this enhanced covalent hydration may be that the backdonation of the d electrons of the Co(III) center to a bpy or a phen ligand makes the carbonyl carbon atoms of the hfac ligand electron-deficient. This electron-deficiency could be the driving force for the bond formation between one of the carbonyl carbon atoms and the lyate anion.

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