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# RADIOCHROMATOGRAPHIC, CONDUCTOMETRIC AND HIGH-FREQUENCY TITRATION STUDIES ON THE THIOUREA COMPLEXES OF PALLADIUM(II) AND PLATINUM(II)

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#### SUMMARY

Palladium(II) and platinum(II) complexes of thiourea,  $MTuX_{\alpha}$ ,  $MTu_{\alpha}X_{\alpha}$ ,  $MTu_4X_2$  (X = Cl,Br,I) and  $MTu_4A_2$  (A = ClO<sub>4</sub>,BF<sub>4</sub>,CF<sub>3</sub>COO), were prepared. Palladium(II) iodide gives a  $Pd_aTu_aI_aCl_a$  complex. The complexes  $PdTuX_a$ ,  $PdTu_aX_a$ ,  $PdTu_4X_2$  (X = Cl,Br),  $PdTuA_2$ ,  $PdTu_2A_2$ ,  $PdTu_4A_2$  (A = ClO<sub>4</sub>, BF<sub>4</sub>, CF<sub>3</sub>COO),  $PdTu_{3}(BF_{4})_{2}$  and  $PtTuX_{2}$ ,  $PtTu_{2}X_{2}$ ,  $PtTu_{4}X_{2}$  (X = Cl, Br, I) were identified by highfrequency titration in aqueous solution. Molar conductivities showed that  $MTuX_2$ and  $MTu_2X_2$  are non-electrolytes. In methanol,  $MTu_4A_2$  (A = ClO<sub>4</sub>, BF<sub>4</sub>, CF<sub>3</sub>COO) and  $PfTu<sub>4</sub>X<sub>2</sub>$  (X = Cl,Br,I) complexes behave as uni-bivalent electrolytes, while  $PdTu<sub>a</sub>X<sub>2</sub>$  (X = Cl,Br,I) complexes show a reduced conductivity. The conductivities of the halide and trifluoroacetate complexes are even lower in dimethylformamide and show a partial interaction of the anion with the complex. The elution of the complexes with ketones containing an aqueous solution of the sodium salt and with alcohols containing an aqueous solution of the free acid show that in both cases the only species which migrates in compact spots is the very stable  $(MTu<sub>4</sub>]<sup>2+</sup>$  ion, with very high  $R_F$  values in the ketone mixture and very low values in the alcohol mixtures.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

In previous work, we demonstrated that thiourea complexes of  $Zn(II)$ , Cd(II) and  $Hg(II)^1$  and of Cu(I), Ag(I) and Au(I)<sup>2</sup> can be eluted without decomposition and in compact spots on a chromatographic paper strip by using mixtures of a ketone and the aqueous solution of the sodium salt<sup>1,2</sup> or of an alcohol and the aqueous solution of the free acid<sup>2</sup>. The composition of the migrating complex was determined by radiochemical methods using 35S-labelled thiourea. We have now extended this method of investigation to the thiourea complexes of palladium $(II)$  and platinum $(II)$ in order  $(a)$  to compare the behaviour of the halide complexes of these metals with the complexes of their salts containing less coordinating anions, such as perchlorate, fluoborate and trifluoroacetate,  $(b)$  to complete systematically the preparation of all the solid complexes, (c) to identify the complexes existing in solution by highfrequency titration, and  $(d)$  to study the molar conductivities of the complexes.

### **ESPERIMENTAL**

### *Preparation of the solid complexes*

 $PdTuCl_2$ . A solution of thiourea (2 m*M*) in water (2 ml) was added to a solution of  $PdCl<sub>2</sub>$  (2 m*M*) in 50 ml of aqueous 4 *M* HCl. The product was washed with water, ethanol and diethyl ether.

*PdTuBr<sub>2</sub>*. PdO (2 m*M*) was dissolved in 15 ml of 8 *M* HBr at 70–80° and the solution diluted to 30 ml. When a solution of thiourea **(2 mM)** in water **(2** ml) was added dropwise, the complex immediately precipitated.

 $Pd_3Tu_3I_4Cl_2$ . A solution of  $Na_2PdCl_4$  (I m*M*) in water (I ml) was added to a solution of thiourea **(I mM) in 2** ml of water plus 15 ml of 5 M HI. The solution turned deep red, and the product immediately formed was well crystallized and very uniform under the microscope. It was not possible to prepare  $\text{Na}_2\text{PdI}_4$  as the starting reagent in order to obtain  $PdTul<sub>2</sub>$ , nor was the latter complex obtainable by other methods: (GE) Solid PdI, ( **I mM) does** not dissolve completely in a solution of thiourea (I mM) in methylcellosolve and presumably gives in solution a Tu: Pd ratio greater than **1:1.** (b) Freshly prepared  $Pd(OH)_{2}$  (1 mM) was completely dissolved at room temperature in 10 ml of 7.8 M HI and the solution diluted to 15 ml. When solid thiourea  $(T, mM)$  was dissolved in this solution no precipitate was formed, and subsequent cooling with ice produced only a small quantity of PdI<sub>2</sub>.

 $PdTu_2X_2$  (X = Cl,Br). Solid PdTuX<sub>2</sub> (I mM) was dissolved at 60-70° in a solution of thiourea (1 mM) in methylcellosolve (40 ml). By evaporating the solvent under vacuum, red-brown oils were obtained. From their concentrated aqueous solutions, microcrystalline products were formed.

 $PdTu_2I_2$ . A solution of  $\text{Na}_2\text{PdCl}_4$  (2 m*M*) in water (2 ml) was added at room temperature to a solution of thiourea  $(4 \text{ m})$  in 20 ml of 5 M HI. The product precipitated immediately and was washed with water and ethanol.

PdTu<sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. This was prepared by the method of KURNAKOW<sup>3</sup> and recrystallized from hot water,

*PdTu,Br,. A* concentrated aqueous solution of thiourea (4 **mM) was** added to a solution of  $\text{Na}_2\text{PdBr}_4$  (I m*M*) in 10 ml of water.

 $PdTu<sub>4</sub>I<sub>2</sub>$ . Solid PdI<sub>2</sub> (I m*M*) was dissolved in a solution of thiourea (4 m*M*) in methanol **(20 ml) which was** then **reduced to a small volume and diluted with diethyl ether until precipitation occurred. The product was recrystallized from the**  hot concentrated aqueous solution by cooling in an ice-bath.

 $PdTu<sub>4</sub>A<sub>2</sub>$  ( $A = ClO<sub>4</sub>, BF<sub>4</sub>, CF<sub>3</sub>COO$ ). Freshly prepared  $Pd(OH)<sub>2</sub>$  (1 m*M*) was dissolved at room temperature in a solution of thiourea (4 mM) in **IO-IS** ml of water containing  $2-3$  mM of the corresponding acid. The solution was reduced to a small volume and crystalline products were obtained on cooling. A diflerent method has been described<sup>4</sup> for the preparation of  $PdTu<sub>4</sub>(ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>$ .

 $PtTuCl<sub>2</sub>·0.5 H<sub>2</sub>O.$  A solution of  $K<sub>2</sub>PtCl<sub>4</sub>$  (I m*M*) in 13 ml of 4 *M* HCl was added at room temperature to a solution of thiourea  $(I \text{ ml})$  in water  $(4 \text{ ml})$ .

*PtTuBr<sub>2</sub> and PtTuI<sub>2</sub>*. A solution of  $K_2PtCl_4$  (I m*M*) in 7 ml of an aqueous solution of HBr or HI at concentrations such as to give a  $Cl^-:Br^-$  (or I-) ratio of **I :IO** was warmed until it was dark brown. When a solution of thiourea (I mM) in water (4 ml) was added the products precipitated immediately.

 $PtTu_2Cl_2$  and  $PtTu_4Cl_2$ . These were prepared by the method of KURNAKOW<sup>3</sup> from  $K_2PtCl_4$ .

 $PtTu_2Br_2$  and  $PtTu_2I_2$ . Solid  $PtTuBr_2$  or  $PtTuI_2$  (0.5 m*M*) was suspended in ethanol (12 ml) and solid thiourea (0.5 m*M*) was added with stirring. The clear solutions obtained were then concentrated until a solid product separated out.

 $PtTu_{4}Br_{2}$  and  $PtTu_{4}I_{2}$ . The complex  $PtTu_{4}Cl_{2}$  (0.5 m*M*) was dissolved in **IO** ml of water and 4 ml of 48 % HBr or 57 % HI were added. The complexes were precipitated by cooling at 0'.

 $PtTu_{4}(ClO_{4})_{2}$  and  $PtTu_{4}(BF_{4})_{2}$ . Solid  $PtTu_{4}Cl_{2}$  (0.6 m*M*) was dissolved at 50-60° in 4 ml of water and 4 ml of 70  $\%$  HClO<sub>4</sub> or 31  $\%$  HBF<sub>4</sub> were added. After cooling, the solid products were washed with very little cold water and ethanol.

 $PtTu_{4}(CF_{3}COO)_{2}$ . A solution of  $CF_{3}COOK$  (0.8 m*M*) in 3 ml of ethanol was slowly added to a solution of  $PfTu_{4}(ClO_{4})_{2}$  (0.4 m*M*) in 4 ml of ethanol. The mixture was cooled with ice overnight and KClO<sub>4</sub> was quantitatively precipitated and filtered off. The solution was concentrated under vacuum and the resulting crystallized complex was washed with ethanol. The perchlorates, fluoborates and trifluoroacetates did not give the complexes  $MTuA$ , and  $MTu<sub>0</sub>A<sub>0</sub>$ .

# Analysis

The following methods were used: (*a*) palladium  $-$  by complexometric titration with a standard  $0.01$  N aqueous solution of EDTA; (b) platinum - gravimetrically

# TABLE I

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COLOUR, YIELD AND ANALYTICAL RESULTS FOR COMPLEXES

**Results for analyses are given as values found and values calculated (in parenthesc** 

Compound	Colour	Yield (%)	$M($ %)	$S(9'_0)$	$N($ %)
PdTuCl <sub>2</sub>	Orange-yellow	95	41.72 (41.93)	12.46(12.65)	10.97(11.04)
PdTu <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	Red-brown	72	31.63(32.28)	19.08 (19.45)	16.72(16.99)
PdTu <sub>4</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	Orange-red	S 1	22.04 (22.07)	26.48 (26.60)	23.25(23.24)
PdTuBr <sub>2</sub>	Red-orange	Q <sub>2</sub>	31.10(31.08)	9.25 (9.37)	$8.26$ $(8.18)$
$PdTu_2Br_2$	Red-brown	69	25.56 (25.42)	15.14(15.32)	13.19 (13.38)
PdTu <sub>4</sub> Br <sub>2</sub>	Orange-red	85	18.58 (18.64)	22.35(22.47)	19.60 (19.64)
$Pd_{3}Tu_{3}I_{4}Cl_{2}$	Red-brown	64	28.23(28.34)	8.81 (8.54)	$7.60$ $(7.46)$
$PdTu_2I_2$	Red-brown	96	20,64 (20,76)	12.32 (12.51)	10.71(10.92)
PdTu <sub>4</sub> I <sub>2</sub>	Orange-red	82	15.93 (16.00)	19.15 (19.29)	16.90 (16.86)
$PdTu_4$ (ClO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	Dark yellow	78	17.39 (17.45)	20.84(21.03)	18.60 (18.37)
$PdTu_{4}(\text{BF}_{4})_{2}$	Orange-yellow	65	18.14(18.19)	21.86 (21.93)	19.12 (19.16)
$PdTu_{4}(CF_{3}COO)_{2}$	Orange	83	16.58 (16.70)	19.89 (20.13)	17.47 (17.59)
PtTuCl <sub>2</sub> 0.5 H <sub>2</sub> O	Lemon yellow	95	55.63 (55.57)	9.16(9.13)	
PtTu <sub>2</sub> CI <sub>2</sub>	Pink-yellow	97	46.52 (46.64)	15.27 (15.33)	
PtTu <sub>4</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	Sulphur yellow	01	34.20 (34.19)	22.40 (22.46)	
PtTuBr <sub>2</sub>	Gold-yellow	95	45.27 (45.26)	7.40(7.43)	
PtTu <sub>2</sub> Br <sub>2</sub>	Red-brown	89	38.20 (38.46)	12.44(17.62)	
PtTu <sub>4</sub> Br <sub>2</sub>	Yellow	97	29.56 (29.58)	19.29 (19.44)	
PtTuI <sub>2</sub>	Dark brown	94	37.19(37.15)	6.01 (6.16)	
$PtTu_2I_2$	Orange-yellow	80	32.38(32.45)	10.43 (10.66)	
$PtTu_4I_2$	Orange-yellow	94	25.90 (25.89)	16.94 (17.02)	
$PtTu_4(CIO_4)_2$	Lemon yellow	95	27.63 (27.93)	18.23(18.35)	
$PtTu_4(BF_4)_2$	Sulphur yellow	98	29.39 (29.00)	18.92(19.05)	
$PtTu_4(CF_3COO)_2$	Yellow	97	26,84 (26.88)	17.44(17.66)	

**TABLE II** 

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THIOUREA: METAL RATIOS OBSERVED



a In acidic aqueous solution of  $K_2PdX_4$  ( $X = C1Bt$ ) or  $PdA_2$  ( $A = C1O_4,BF_4$ ,  $CF_4CO0$ ).<br>b In acidic aqueous solution of  $K_3PtX_4$  ( $X = C1, Br$ ).<br>e In DMF solution of  $PdTuX_2$  ( $X = C1Br$ ).<br>d In DMF solution of  $PfTuX_2$  ( $X$ 

e Containing a  $1-5$ M aqueous solution of Na. (ratios 95:5-80:20).<br>1 Containing a  $4-5$ M aqueous solution of HA (ratio 80:20).

s As 2PdTuI<sub>2</sub> PdTuCl<sub>2</sub>.

after combustion of the substance in a quartz vessel; (c) sulplur  $-$  gravimetrically as BaSO<sub>4</sub>; and (d) nitrogen -- by Kjeldhal's method. Analytical results are given in Table I.

# Physical measurements

The high frequency (HF) titrations were carried out with a WTW, HFT  $3C$  type instrument and a HTB 2 cell. In order to avoid hydrolysis, aqueous solutions  $1 \cdot 10^{-3} M$ in  $K_2PdCl_4$ ,  $Na_2PdBr_4$ ,  $Pd(CIO_4)_2$ ,  $Pd(BF_4)_2$  and  $Pd(CF_3COO)_2$  and  $I \cdot I0^{-3}$  *M* in the corresponding acid were titrated with an  $8 \cdot 10^{-2} M$  aqueous solution of thiourea. It was not possible to prepare  $Na<sub>2</sub>PdI<sub>4</sub>$  for these measurements. Aqueous solutions  $2 \cdot 10^{-3} M$  in  $K_2PtCl_4$ ,  $K_2PtBr_4$  and  $K_2PtI_4$  and  $2 \cdot 10^{-3} M$  in the corresponding acid were titrated with an  $8 \cdot 10^{-2} M$  aqueous solution of thiourea. A  $2 \cdot 10^{-3} M$  solution of PdTuCl<sub>2</sub>, PdTuBr<sub>2</sub>, PtTuCl<sub>2</sub>, PtTuBr<sub>2</sub> and PtTuI<sub>2</sub> in dimethylformamide (DMF) was titrated with a  $16 \cdot 10^{-2} M$  solution of thiourea in DMF. In all instances, straight lines were obtained, defining very sharply the thiourea: metal ratios indicated in Table II.

The conductivity measurements were carried out with a WTW, LBR-type conductivity bridge and a cell of  $K = 0.6$ I, on  $1 \cdot 10^{-3} M$  solutions of the complexes in methanol or DMF and on  $I \cdot I0^{-3}$  *M* solutions of the complexes in a 0.3 *M* solution of thiourea in the same solvents (Table III).

# TABLE III

MOLAR CONDUCTIVITY,  $A_M \Omega^{-1}$  cm<sup>2</sup> mole<sup>-1</sup>, of the complexes  $PdTu_AX_2$  and  $PtTu_AX_2$ Concentration =  $1 \cdot 10^{-3} M$ ; temperature =  $25^{\circ}$ .



The chromatography of the complexes was performed with the technique previously described<sup>1</sup>. Equivalent amounts of an aqueous solution of <sup>35</sup>S-labelled thiourea (0.2 M) and of the complex (0.2 M in thiourea) were mixed together. Samples of 10  $\mu$ l of these solutions were transferred on a Whatman No. I paper strip (8  $\times$ 350 mm) and dried at room temperature. The elution was carried out with the singlephase mixtures inclicated in Tables IV and V, which give compact spots **for** both the complex and thiourea.

The quantitative determination of the radioactivity present in the radiochromatograms was performed by scanning the paper strip mounted on a sliding base.

TABLE IV

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**a**  $2PdThX<sub>n</sub> + 2Tn<sup>n</sup> = PdTn. Y<sub>n</sub> + PdX<sub>n</sub>$  which remains in the starting snot

This was moved at regular intervals past the Geiger-tube window to which a central rectangular slit ( $\infty \times 15$  mm) was applied. Standard electronic equipment and a Universal lead castle were used. The usual allowance was made for background (about I0 counts/min).

### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

HF titration shows that in aqueous solution palladium(II) and platinum(II) chlorides and bromides and platinum(II) iodide form complexes with thiourea:metal ratios of  $I:I, 2:I$  and  $4:I$  as in the solid state. HF titration of the complexes  $PtTuX<sub>2</sub>$  $(X = C, Br, I)$  in DMF solution with thiourea identified the complexes with ratios of **2: I** and 4: I while HF titration of  $PdTuX_2$  (X = Cl, Br) in DMF identified the compleses with ratios of **2: I,** 3 : I and 4: I (Table II). Palladium(I1) iodide forms only the  $2: I$  and  $4: I$  complexes in the solid state. All attempts to prepare the solid  $I: I$ comples were unsuccessful. No suitable soluble iodide derivative was obtained for HF titration. The very low conductivity of the **I**: **I** and **2**: **I** complexes of these halides indicate that they behave as non-electrolytes. Their existence in the solid state and in solution is due to the fact that they can establish halogen bridges in the dimer  $[TuMX<sub>2</sub>]$ <sub>2</sub> complexes and have two terminal halogen atoms coordinated to the metal in the  $\text{[Tu}_v\text{MX}_v\text{]}$  complexes. The solid compound with the composition  $\text{Pd}_3\text{Tu}_3\text{Id}_2\text{Cl}_2$ corresponds to a stoichiometry of  $2PdTuI_2 \cdot PdTuCl_2$  and may be a polymer. Its molar conductivity  $(A_M = 20.6)$  in DMF corresponds to that of a non-electrolyte.

Palladium $(II)$  and platinum $(II)$  perchlorates, fluoborates and trifluoroacetates form only the  $MTu<sub>4</sub>A<sub>2</sub>$  complexes in the solid state, owing to the low coordinating power of the anions. The HF titration of the aqueous solutions of the  $Pd(II)$  perchlorate, fluoborate and trifluoroacetate with thiourea shows the formation of  $I:I$ , **2** : **I** and 4: z complexes in solution. The fluoborate gives the 3 : I instead of the 2 : **I**  complex. As palladium(II) salts are easily hydrolyzed, it is likely that in these solutions the I:I and 2:I (or 3:I) thiourea.:metal ratios may be due to a fulfilment of the metal coordination by  $OH^-$  ions rather than by the anions. The platinum(II) perchlorate, fluoborate and trifluoroacetate give in solution the dismutation reaction  $2Pt(II) \rightarrow Pt(0) + Pt(IV)$  and can therefore not be used for HF titration.

The molar conductivities of the complexes  $PdTu_4A_2$  and  $PdTu_4A_2$  (A =  $ClO_4, BF_4, CF_3COO$ ) in methanol and  $PdTu_4(ClO_4)_2$ ,  $PdTu_4(BF_4)_2$  and  $PtTu_4(ClO_4)_2$ in DMF correspond to those of uni--divalent electrolytes<sup>5</sup>. They are practically insensitive to the addition of a large excess of thiourea **(25** times that of the complesed thiourea). These complex ions may therefore be considered as being practically undissociated. The molar conductivities of the complexes  $PdTu<sub>4</sub>X<sub>2</sub>(X = Cl, Br, I)$  in methanol, and still more evidently in DNIF, are lower than the value typical of uni-divalent electrolytes in these solvents<sup>5</sup> and are much more sensitive to the addition of an excess of thiourea. The conductivities of the complexes  $PfTu_4X_2(X =$  $Cl, Br, I$ ) are almost normal in methanol, much lower in DMF and practically insensitive to the excess of thiourea.

It is likely, at least for the Pd(I1) halide complexes, that the following equilibria occur in solutions:

$$
[PdTu4]2+ + 2X- \rightleftharpoons [PdTu3X]+ + X- + Tu
$$
 (1)

**TABLE V** 

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or

$$
[\mathbf{PdTu}_4 \mathbf{X}]^+ + \mathbf{X}^- + \mathbf{Tu} \rightleftharpoons [\mathbf{PdTu}_5]^{2+} + 2\mathbf{X}^-
$$
 (2)

where  $X = Cl$ , Br or I.

The strong tendency to coordinate halide ions in a fifth position by  $[PdL_4]^{2+}$ or  $[PdNAs<sub>2</sub>]^{2+}$  species  $(L = N,N'-diphenylthiourea, NAs = I,8-naplithalene bisdi$ methylarsine) was demonstrated by conductometric titrations of the corresponding palladium(II) perchlorate complexes with Cl<sup>-</sup> ions in non-polar solvents<sup>4,6</sup> and by their electronic spectra<sup>4</sup>.

The low conductivities of  $PdTu_{4}(CF_{3}COO)_{2}$  and  $PtTu_{4}(CF_{3}COO)_{2}$  in DMF are of the same order as the conductivities of the iodide complexes. The trifuoroacetate ion has a coordinating power greater than those of perchlorate and fluoborate ions, as was seen<sup>1</sup> for the thiourea complexes of  $Zn(II)$ , Cd(II) and Hg(II). The conductivity lowering of the trifluoroacetate complexes in DMF may therefore be attributed, as for the halide compleses, to equilibria of the types in eqns. **I** and **2.** 

Thiourea complexes of  $Pd(II)$  and  $Pt(II)$ , as with those of  $Zn(II)$ ,  $Cd(II)$  and  $Hg(II)^1$  and Cu(I), Ag(I) and Au(I)<sup>2</sup>, very rapidly exchange their coordinated thiourea with free <sup>35</sup>S-labelled thiourea in aqueous solution. The kinetics of the exchange could not be studied in this instance either, but the exchange served to identify the composition of the complexes migrating in compact spots on a chromatographic paper strip.

The Pd(II) and Pt(II) complexes, as with those of Cu(I), Ag(I) and Au(I)<sup>2</sup>, can be eluted without decomposition with a mixture of a ketone and an aqueous solution of the sodium salt of the corresponding anion, or with a mixture of an alcohol and an aqueous solution of the corresponding free acid, in the concentrations and ratios indicated in Tables IV and V. The  $Pd(II)$  and  $Pt(II)$  thiourea complexes are much more stable than those of  $Zn(II)$ , Cd(II) and Hg(II), which are completely destroyed by the alcohol-acid mixtures<sup>1</sup>.

Only the complex ions  $[PdTu_4]^{2+}$  and  $[PtTu_4]^{2+}$  can be eluted without decomposition. Those having lower  $Tu:M$  ratios react with free thiourea to give the highest ratio according to the equations:

 $[MTu, X_2] + 2Tu \rightarrow [MTu_4]X_2$ 

without any residue of free thiourea on the paper strip, and

 $[MTuX_2]_2 + 2Tu \rightarrow [MTu_4]X_2 + MX_2$ 

forming free metal halide, which remains uneluted in the starting spot on the paper strip.

The elution of the halide complexes in the alcohol mixtures occurs in a medium that contains a great excess of a strong complexing agent such as hydrogen halides (alcohol:4 M HCl or 4 M HBr ratio = 80:20). In these media, the complex ions  $\left[\text{PdTu}_{4}\right]^{2+}$  and  $\left[\text{PtTu}_{4}\right]^{2+}$  migrate without decomposition and remain separated from the free thiourea for a long time, the  $R_F$  values being 0.06-0.17 for the complexes and about 0.6 for thiourea. In such a drastic condition of non-equilibrium between the complex and the free thiourea, no substitution of the coordinated thiourea with the halide ions occurs in the complex. These facts demonstrate that the  $\lceil \mathbf{PdTu}_4 \rceil^{2+1}$ and  $[PtTu<sub>4</sub>]^{2+}$  ions are very stable and undissociated in these media, and that of the two equilibria previously suggested in eqns. I and 2 to explain the low conductivity of the halide complexes the equilibrium in eqn. 2 agrees better with the chromatographic data.

In all the ketone mixtures, the  $R_F$  values of the complexes are greater than those of thiourea, irrespective of the molarity of the sodium salt: aqueous solution and of the ketone: aqueous solution ratios (Fig. 1). In the alcoholic solutions that contain 4 M or 5 M HA (A = anion of the complex; alcohol: aqueous solution ratio = 80:20),



Fig. 1.  $R_F$  values observed for the PdTu<sub>4</sub>A<sub>2</sub> (A=ClO<sub>4</sub>,CF<sub>3</sub>COO,BF<sub>4</sub>) and PtTu<sub>4</sub>A<sub>2</sub> (A=ClO<sub>4</sub>, CF<sub>3</sub>COO) complexes (upper curve) and for thiourea (lower curve) by elution with mixtures of acetone (Ac) or methyl ethyl ketone (MEK) and an aqueous solution of the corresponding sodium salt NaA. For each metal are shown the  $\vec{R}_F$  variations with increasing molarity of the NaA salt in mixtures of ketone and aqueous solution in the ratio 80:20 (left-hand side) and with increasing percentage of the  $\epsilon$  M NaA aqueous solution in the ketone mixture (right-hand side).

thiourea has  $R_F$  values comparable with those found in the ketone mixtures with the same solvent: aqueous salt solution ratios. In these alcoholic mixtures, complexes have very low  $R_F$  values, mostly lower, in fact, than those of thiourea. As this occurs in systems that contain either free perchloric acid or free hydrogen halides, the lowering of the  $R_F$  values of the complexes cannot be ascribed to the complexing action of the halide ions. It may depend on the acidity of the medium or on the availability of the water content of the system, alcohols being more powerful dehydrating agents than ketones. The availability of the water content of the system seems to account for the higher  $R_F$  values of the complexes, for, in the ketone mixtures, as the proportion of sodium salt aqueous solution increases, so the  $R_F$  values of the complexes<sup>\*\*</sup> increase, while they are almost insensitive to the molarity of the sodium salt in the aqueous solution.

The  $R_F$  values of thiourea depend on the ketone and increase as the proportion of aqueous solution in the mixture increases. The  $R_F$  values of the trifluoroacetate complex in the ketone mixtures in some instances decrease as the molarity of the salt solution increases.

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