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# THE EFFECTS OF PERIPHERAL SUBSTITUENTS ON THE KINETICS OF ZINC ION INCORPORATION AND ACID CATALYZED REMOVAL FROM WATER SOLUBLE SULFONATED PORPHYRINS

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# THE EFFECTS OF PERIPHERAL SUBSTITUENTS ON THE KINETICS OF ZINC ION INCORPORATION AND ACID CATALYZED REMOVAL FROM WATER SOLUBLE SULFONATED PORPHYRINS

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The kinetics of  $Zn^{2+}$  and  $Zn(OH)^+$  incorporation into and the kinetics of the acid catalyzed removal of Zn(II) from twelve water-soluble, sulfonated derivatives of tetraphenylporphyrin with alkyl or halogen groups in the *para*, *ortho* or di-*ortho* positions were investigated. While the incorporation reactions showed little dependence on porphyrin basicity, the Zn-P (P = porphyrin derivative) acid solvolysis reactions were faster the higher the basicity of the free base (H<sub>2</sub>-P) compound. Equilibrium constants for the formation of cadmium porphyrins decreased with an increase in porphyrin basicity. The predeformed tetrakis(4-sulfonatophenyl)- $\beta$ -octabromo-porphyrin reacted with  $Zn^{2+}$  about 10<sup>3</sup> times faster than porphyrins of similar basicity. These results indicate how substituents on the phenyl and beta-pyrrole rings influence the solution chemistry of water soluble porphyrins.

KEYWORDS: Zinc, water soluble, porphyrins, kinetics

#### INTRODUCTION

Kinetic studies aimed at elucidating the mechanisms of metal incorporation into series of related uncharged free base porphyrins in non-aqueous media are always complicated by uncertainties in the solvation sphere and nature of the metal ion reactant, the levels of protons, water or other Lewis bases present in the solvent, and intermolecular association of such porphyrins themselves.<sup>1–7</sup> In water, however, the various forms that many aquo ions<sup>8</sup> and positive or negatively charged porphyrins can assume as a function of concentration, pH and ionic strength are fairly well understood.<sup>9,10</sup> The tetrapositive porphyrins studied in aqueous solution have included tetrakis(4-N,N,N-trimethylanilinium)porphyrin (H<sub>2</sub>-TAP),<sup>11</sup> the 4 and 3 isomers of the tetrakis(X-quinolyl)porphyrins (H<sub>2</sub>-TQP(X)),<sup>12</sup> the 2, 3 and 4-isomers of tetrakis(N-methyl-X-pyridyl)porphyrin (H<sub>2</sub>-TMPyP(X)),<sup>13,14</sup> and a water soluble picket fence tetra( $\alpha,\alpha,\alpha,\alpha$ - ortho-(N-methyl-isonicotinamidophenyl)-porphyrin (H<sub>2</sub>-PF).<sup>15</sup> Negatively charged species such as a number of carboxy porphyrins,<sup>16,17</sup> the 2,4-disulfonated deuteroporphyrin-IX-dimethylester (H<sub>2</sub>-DPS<sub>2</sub>),<sup>18</sup> and tetrakis(4-

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sulfonatophenyl)porphyrin  $(TPPS_4)^{19}$  have been examined. Kinetic comparisons also have been made between similarly charged porphyrins and chlorins.<sup>20</sup>

We recently investigated<sup>21</sup> the solution properties of twelve water soluble sulfonated porphyrins with alkyl or halogen groups in the *ortho* (2), di-*ortho* (2,6) or *para* (4) phenyl positions and found that their proton basicities varied over a range of 10<sup>5</sup>. We now report the kinetics of  $Zn^{2+}/Zn(OH)^+$  incorporation and the kinetics of the acid catalyzed  $Zn^{2+}$  displacement reactions as well as the equilibrium constants for Cd(II)-porphyrin formation for this series of compounds. For comparison, metallation kinetics of the pre-deformed  $\beta$ -pyrrole substituted tetrakis(4-sulfonatophenyl)- $\beta$ -octabromoporphyrin<sup>22</sup> were examined. The results indicate how substituents on the phenyl rings influence the magnitudes and modes of porphyrin reactivity.

#### EXPERIMENTAL

Equilibrium and kinetics studies on the slower reactions were carried out on a Beckman DU 70 recording spectrophotometer, and faster kinetics were monitored using a Durrum-Gibson stopped-flow system. A Radiometer Copenhagen PHM 64 Research pH meter was used for all pH measurements. The water soluble sulfonated compounds (Table 1) were prepared and purified as described previously.<sup>21</sup> Zinc nitrate hydrate (99.999%) and cadmium nitrate tetrahydrate (99.999%) from Aldrich were analyzed by edta titrations, and lithium nitrate (99.99%), Aldrich) was used as received.

The zinc ion incorporation kinetics were monitored at wavelengths between 413 and 419 nm, at the Soret band of the particular free-base porphyrin substrate,<sup>21</sup> and the zinc-porphyrin demetallation reactions were also monitored in the Soret, at

Porphyrin	$\frac{\text{Basicities}^{a}}{\text{pK}_{3}/\text{pK}_{4}}$	Zn(II) Incorporation		Acid Solvolysis	Cd <sup>2+</sup> Eq
		$\frac{Zn^{2+}/H_2-P}{k_1(M^{-1} s^{-1})}$	$\frac{\text{Zn}(\text{OH})^{+}/\text{H}_2\text{-P}}{\text{k}_2(^{-1}\text{ s}^{-1})}$	$\overline{Zn-P/H^+}_{K_5k_6(M^{-2} s^{-1})}$	рК <sub>Сd</sub>
4-OCH <sub>3</sub>	7.1/6.3	$(8.2 \pm 0.3) \times 10^{b}$	с	$(2.3 \pm 0.1) \times 10^2$	
4-F	6.5/5.3	$3.1 \pm 0.2^{b}$	d	$(3.6 \pm 0.1) \times 10$	
4-CH <sub>3</sub>	4.9/4.9	$1.7 \pm 0.1$	$(3.0 \pm 3.) \times 10$	$(4.0 \pm 0.1) \times 10$	10.3
4-Cl	4.9/4.8	$1.0 \pm 0.1$	$(8.9 \pm 0.5) \times 10$	$9.1 \pm 0.1$	10.1
β-Br <sub>s</sub>	4.8/1.4	$(3.0 \pm 0.1) \times 10^3$	$(1.9 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{5}$		
TPPŠ₄	4.7/4.8	$1.2 \pm 0.1$	$(3.1 \pm 0.3) \times 10$	$(2.2 \pm 0.1) \times 10$	10.3
2-OCH <sub>3</sub>	4.1/3.8	$1.7 \pm 0.2$	$(7.3 \pm 0.7) \times 10$	$1.6 \pm 0.1$	9.8
2-CH <sub>3</sub>	3.4/2.1	$(8.0\pm0.5)\times10^{-1}$	$(1.8 \pm 0.2) \times 10$	$5.3 \pm 0.1$	9.7
2-C1	3.3/2.7	$(6.1 \pm 0.7) \times 10^{-1}$	$(3.3 \pm 0.2) \times 10$	$(7.1 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-1}$	9.1
2-F	3.3/3.1	$(6.4 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{-1}$	$(2.5 \pm 0.1) \times 10$	$(7.0\pm0.1)\times10^{-1}$	9.5
2,6-OCH <sub>3</sub>	3.0/2.6	$(2.0\pm0.1)\times10^{-1}$	$3.5 \pm 0.2$	$(2.2 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-1}$	9.3
2,6-F	2.5/1.8	$(3.1 \pm 0.7) \times 10^{-1}$	$(6.0 \pm 0.3) \times 10$	$(3.5 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-2}$	8.1
2,6-Cl	1.8/1.7	$(4.9\pm0.3)\times10^{-3}$	$3.5 \pm 0.1$	$(3.0\pm0.1)\times10^{-2}$	8.7

**Table 1** Proton equilibria,  $Zn^{2+}/Zn(OH)^+$  incorporation and Zn-P acid solvolysis kinetics and the  $Cd^{2+}/H_2$ -P equilibrium constants for a series of TPPS<sub>4</sub> derivatives.

<sup>a</sup> Data from ref. 21 <sup>b</sup> The "k<sub>1</sub>" is  $[k_1 + (k_4K_h/K_3)]$  for these compounds. <sup>c</sup> The  $[Zn^2 + /H_3 - P^+]$  reaction has  $k_3 = (9.9 \pm 0.5) M^{-1} \sec^{-1}$ . <sup>d</sup>  $k_3 = (1.2 \pm 0.1) M^{-1} \sec^{-1}$ .

either the di-acid (431-445 nm) or the Zn-P peak (417-429 nm). The parameters for all linear relationships were obtained by the least-squares method.

The sodium salt of tetrakis(4-methoxy-3-sulfonatophenyl)porphyrin is abbreviated as 4-OCH<sub>3</sub> and all of the compounds (other than the 4-sulfonated  $H_2$ -TPPS<sub>4</sub> and  $\beta$ -Br<sub>8</sub> species) are sulfonated at one 3-phenyl position. The tetranegative charges due to the  $-SO_3^-$  substituents are neglected for clarity, and  $M(H_2O)_6^{2+}$  is abbreviated  $M^{2+}$  or  $M(H_2O)^{2+}$ .

### RESULTS

#### Zn(II) incorporation kinetics

The kinetics of Zn(II) incorporation into the porphyrins were investigated at 25°C in 0.050 M LiNO<sub>3</sub> from pH 6.2 to 7.2 over a five-fold range in Zn(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>. Such solutions contained 2.0 mM PIPES, [piperazine-N-N'-bis (2-ethanesulfonic acid),  $pK_a = 6.8$ ], as the buffer, and the porphyrin concentrations were  $\sim 10^{-7}$  M. The reactions were first order in porphyrin with an observed rate constant  $k_{obs}$ , and also first order in [Zn(II)]. The reactions considered were

$$Zn^{2+} = Zn(OH)^+ + H^+ \qquad K_h$$
 (1)

$$H_4 - P^{2+} = H_3 - P^+ + H^+ \qquad K_4 \qquad (2)$$

$$H_3 - P^+ = H_2 - P + H^+$$
  $K_3$  (3)

$$H_2-P + Zn^{2+} \rightarrow Zn-P + products \qquad k_1$$
 (4)

$$H_2-P + Zn(OH)^+ \rightarrow Zn-P + products \qquad k_2 \tag{5}$$

$$H_3-P^+ + Zn^{2+} \rightarrow Zn-P + products \qquad k_3 \tag{6}$$

$$H_3-P^+ + Zn(OH)^+ \rightarrow Zn-P + products \qquad k_4$$
 (7)

The dependence of  $k_{obs}$  on (H<sup>+</sup>) and [Zn(II)] is:

$$\{(k_{obs})Z_{Zn}Q_P\}/[Zn(II)] = (k_1 + k_4K_h/K_3) + (k_2K_h)/(H^+) + k_3(H^+)/K_3$$
(8)

In equation (8),  $Q_{Zn} = ((H^+) + K_h)/(H^+)$  where  $(1/Q_{Zn})$  is the fraction of Zn(II) as  $Zn^{2+}$  and  $K_h = 2.92 \times 10^{-9}$  at l = 0.050 M.<sup>8</sup> The fraction of total porphyrin as the H<sub>2</sub>-P is  $Q_p$ , where  $Q_P = (K_3K_4 + K_4(H^+) + (H^+)^2)/K_3K_4$ .

The two most basic porphyrins, 4-OCH<sub>3</sub> and 4-F, have significant amounts of H<sub>2</sub>-P and the monocation H<sub>3</sub>-P<sup>+</sup> present from pH 6.2 to 7.2, and both react with Zn(II). Figure 1 shows the linear relationship found between  $\{(k_{obs})(Q_{Zn})(Q_P)/[Zn(II)]\}$  and (H<sup>+</sup>) for 4-F in accord with equation (9).

$$\{(k_{obs})(Q_{Zn})(Q_P)/[Zn(II)]\} = \{k_1 + (k_4K_h/K_3)\} + (k_3(H^+)/K_3)$$
(9)

The other ten compounds are less basic, and only  $H_2$ -P is in appreciable concentration ( $Q_P \sim 1$ ) between pH 6.2 and 7.2. Figure 1 (insert) shows a linear plot of {( $k_{obs}$ )( $Q_{Zn}$ )/[Zn(II)]} vs. ( $H^+$ )<sup>-1</sup> for the 2-F derivative, in agreement with equation (10):

$$\{(k_{obs})(Q_{Zn})/[Zn(II)]\} = k_1 + (k_2 K_h)/(H^+)$$
(10)

. . .

. ...



Figure 1 Graph of equation 9 for zinc incorporation into the 4-F porphyrin. (Insert). Plot of equation 10 for the reaction of Zn(II) with the 2-F compound.

The  $\beta$ -octabromo derivative also followed equation (10), and the Zn(II) incorporation kinetic results for all compounds are listed in Table 1.

### Acid solvolysis kinetics of Zn-porphyrins

The kinetics of protons replacing  $Zn^{2+}$  in Zn-porphyrins was studied spectrophotometrically in 0.50 M LiCl solutions with HCl at 25°C. The stoichiometry of the reactions are

$$Zn-P + 4 H^+ \rightarrow H_4 - P^{2+} + Zn^{2+}$$
 (11)

The empirical rate law was first order in (Zn-P). For most of the porphyrins, the reactions were second order (Figure 2) in (H<sup>+</sup>). For the 2-Cl and 2,6-Cl derivatives, the kinetics were best described as between first and second order in (H<sup>+</sup>). A mechanism that encompasses both observations is:

$$Zn-P + H^+ \rightarrow (Zn-H-P^+)^* \qquad k_5, k_{-5}, K_5 \qquad (12)$$

$$(Zn-H-P^+)^* + H^+ \rightarrow (Zn = H_2 - P^{2+}) \qquad k_6 \qquad (13)$$

$$(Zn = H_2 \cdot P^{2+}) + 2 H^+ \rightarrow H_4 \cdot P^{2+} + Zn^{2+}$$
 fast (14)



Figure 2 Graph of  $k_{obs}$  vs.  $(H^+)^2$  for the acid solvolysis reaction of Zn(II)-TPPS<sub>4</sub>.

With  $(Zn-H-P^+)^*$  as a steady state intermediate, the dependence of  $k_{obs}$  on  $(H^+)$  is

$$k_{obs} = k_5 (H^+)^2 / [(k_{-5}/k_6) + (H^+)]$$
(15)

If  $(k_{-5}/k_6) \ge (H^+)$ , then, as observed for the majority of the porphyrins,  $k_{obs} = K_5 k_6 (H^+)^2$  and the  $(K_5 k_6)$  values are compiled in Table 1. For 2-Cl,  $k_5 = (3.9 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{-1} \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ sec}^{-1}$  and  $(k_{-5}/k_6) = (0.91 \pm 0.01)$  M while for 2,6-Cl,  $k_5 = (2.7 \pm 0.3) \times 10^{-2}$  and  $(k_{-5}/k_6) = (0.55 \pm 0.01)$ .

### Formation constants for cadmium-porphyrins

Mass law based equilibrium constants ( $K_{Cd}$ ) for the reaction

$$Cd^{2+} + H_2 - P \rightleftharpoons Cd - P + 2 H^+ \qquad (16)$$

were measured as a function of  $(Cd^{2+})$  and pH (~5 to 7.3) at 25°C in 0.20 M NaNO<sub>3</sub> in solutions buffered with 1.0 mM MES (4-morpholine-ethane sulfonic acid,  $pK_a = 6.12$ ) by spectrophotometric titrations.  $Cd(NO_3)_2$  of the highest purity was used to guard against Cd(II)-P catalyzed transmetallation reactions involving trace metallic impurities.<sup>23</sup> The K<sub>Cd</sub> results are listed in Table 1.

#### DISCUSSION

#### Zn(II) incorporation kinetics

This study of twelve water soluble tetrasulfonated porphyrins demonstrates how the nature and position of the substituents placed on the phenyl rings influence porphyrin reactivity. As shown previously,<sup>21</sup> the *para* substituted compounds and H<sub>2</sub>-TPPS<sub>4</sub> exhibit monomer-dimer equilibria ( $K_D \sim 10^4 \text{ M}^{-1}$ ) in solution, while the *ortho* and di-*ortho* derivatives are essentially monomeric, showing no spectrophotometric or temperature-jump relaxation evidence of dimerization ( $K_D < 10^2 \text{ M}^{-1}$ ) at total porphyrin levels below  $10^{-4}$  M and electrolyte concentrations <0.80 M. The Zn(II) incorporation kinetics were run at  $\sim 10^{-7}$  M in total porphyrin, where all of the compounds are >95% in the monomeric form.

Figure 3 is a plot of log  $(k_1)$  vs. pK<sub>3</sub>, and for ten of the compounds, the linear relationship log  $(k_1) = 0.26 \text{ pK}_3 - 1.13$  was found. These  $\text{Zn}^{2+}/\text{H}_2$ -P reactions show a minimal 1.8 fold increase in rate constants with a ten-fold increase in porphyrin basicity. In related work, the kinetics of incorporation of Zn(II) into 4-substituted tetraphenylporphyrins were studied in DMF.<sup>1</sup> For porphyrins with non-resonating substituents, the rate constants were also relatively insensitive to porphyrin basicity.

In the present work, we find that  $Zn(OH)^+$  reacts from 20–90 times faster with  $H_2$ -P than  $Zn^{2+}$ . As noted before, this could be due to the more rapid water exchange rate and differing geometry of the hydrolyzed zinc species.<sup>11,13</sup>



Figure 3 Plot of log  $k_1$  vs.  $pK_3$  for  $Zn^{2+}$  incorporation into the H<sub>2</sub>-P forms of the water soluble porphyrins.

The  $\beta$ -Br<sub>8</sub> porphyrin is predeformed,<sup>22</sup> due to the large bromine atoms replacing the eight  $\beta$ -pyrrole hydrogens, and reacts with Zn<sup>2+</sup> approximately  $1.5 \times 10^3$  times faster than porphyrins in this series having similar basicities. The predeformed dodecaphenyl<sup>24</sup> and octabromo-tetramesityl<sup>1</sup> porphyrins metallate more rapidly than their more planar counterparts in DMF. The predeformed centrally Nalkylated porphyrins are also both more basic and ~10<sup>3</sup> times more reactive with metal ions than their less distorted H<sub>2</sub>-P precursors.<sup>25-27</sup>

In detailed studies on the pH dependence of metal ion incorporation into water solubble porphyrins  $(H_2-TAP)^{11}$   $H_2-TMPy(4)^{13}$   $H_2-TMPy(2)^{14}$   $H_2-TQP(4,3)^{12}$  $H_2$ -DPS<sub>2</sub>,<sup>8</sup> N-Methyl-TPPS<sub>4</sub><sup>26</sup> and Uroporphyrin-l<sup>17</sup>) the  $H_3$ -P<sup>+</sup> and  $H_4$ -P<sup>2+</sup> species have been shown to be unreactive towards cations, and metallation occurred only through the free base H<sub>2</sub>-P form. Our results on the 4-OCH<sub>3</sub> and 4-F derivatives clearly show that  $H_3$ -P<sup>+</sup> reacts with  $Zn^{2+}$ . At this stage, it is not entirely clear why  $H_3$ -P<sup>+</sup> is active with the very basic fluoro and methoxy compounds, and not with the other less basic porphyrins. This unexpected result might be rationalized along the following lines. Reasonable resonance structures can be drawn in which the 4-F and 4-OCH<sub>3</sub>-phenyl groups are in conjugation with the porphyrin *meso* carbon atoms, and such structures, which invoke electron donating resonance effects, can formally add negative charges at the central nitrogen atoms.<sup>28</sup> Such conjugation also deforms the porphyrin nucleus, tilting the negatively charged nitrogen atoms out of the porphyrin cavity towards the solvent, thus breaking up the N-H tautomerism of the two central protons around the four core nitrogens.<sup>10</sup> This resonance and bending explains the increased proton basicity of the 4-F and 4-OCH<sub>3</sub> porphyrins, and might account for the observed reactivity of the H<sub>3</sub>P<sup>+</sup> forms of these compounds towards Zn<sup>2+</sup>. In the porphyrins mentioned above where  $H_3$ -P<sup>+</sup> is non-reactive, such electron donative conjugative effects are absent. It is noted that the 4-NH<sub>2</sub>, 4-OH, 4-N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and 4-OCH<sub>3</sub> phenyl porphyrins containing substituents that lead to phenyl ring conjugation with the porphyrin nucleus, are the most reactive towards porphyrin metallation in DMF.<sup>1,2</sup>

Of all of the compounds in this study, the 2,6-Cl porphyrin has the lowest proton basicity, and reacts most slowly with the two forms of Zn(II). The rigidity imposed on the porphyrin nucleus by the two *ortho* chloro groups inhibits the necessary buckling which precedes metallation, and accompanies  $H_3$ -P<sup>+</sup> and  $H_4$ -P<sup>2+</sup> formation. In line with these notions, pulse radiolysis work indicate that the addition of two electrons to many porphyrins, such as  $H_2$ -TPPS<sub>4</sub>, results in phlorin (*a proton added at the meso carbon atom*) formation, while reduction of the 2,6-Cl derivative produces a chlorin, where protonation is at the less hindered  $\beta$ -pyrrole carbons.<sup>21</sup> The *ortho* chloro groups prevent deformation of the porphyrin into the sp<sup>3</sup> hybridization necessary for protonation at the *meso* positions.

It is becoming apparent that metallation kinetics in non-aqueous solvents  $(DMF,^{1-3} DMSO,^5 DMF/H_2O^{29} HAc^7 \text{ and pyridine}^{20})$  usually give evidence of pre-equilibrium complexation between the metal and the uncharged porphyrin molecule. While such an interaction has never been noted in aqueous solution for metal ion incorporation reactions, it has been demonstrated in water for various electron transfer<sup>30</sup> and chelate demetallation processes.<sup>31</sup>

#### Zn-P acid solvolysis kinetics and Cd-P formation constants

Figure 4 shows a linear free energy relationship between log  $(K_5 k_6)$  for the acid solvolysis reactions of Zn-P and the porphyrin basicity,  $pK_3$ . The zinc complexes of



Figure 4 Graph of log  $(K_5k_6)$  vs.  $pK_3$  for the acid solvolysis reactions of Zn(II)-porphyrins.

the most basic free base porphyrins are solvolyzed by protons most rapidly. Since log ( $K_5 k_6$ ) = 0.99 p $K_3$  – 3.5, a unit increase in p $K_3$  leads to roughly a ten-fold rate enhancement. Figure 5 is a graph of log ( $K_{Cd}$ ) vs. p $K_3$ , where log ( $K_{Cd}$ ) = -0.66 p $K_3$  – 7.1. The directly determined equilibrium constant  $K_{Cd}$  is the ratio of the [Cd<sup>2+</sup> + H<sub>2</sub>-P] formation and the [Cd-P + 2(H<sup>+</sup>)] acid dissociation rate constants. As noted for the zinc porphyrins, while the formation rate constants are fairly insensitive to basicity, the acid catalyzed dissociation rate constants increase with an increase in porphyrin basicity. Thus, at a given pH, the Cd-P complex of the least basic porphyrin is favored. Similar equilibrium constant/basicity trends have been found for positively charged porphyrins with Zn(II), <sup>32</sup> Cd(II), <sup>23</sup> Pb(II)<sup>33</sup> and Hg(II).<sup>34</sup>

#### **SUMMARY**

Metallation reactions of porphyrin molecules are generally viewed from a dissociative interchange framework.<sup>7,9,10,13</sup> The metal and porphyrin first form an outer sphere complex,<sup>35,36</sup> and the porphyrin nucleus deforms to present reactive lone pair nitrogen atoms to the incoming metal ion. The metal dissociates a solvent molecule(s) in a step independent of the nature of the porphyrin substrate. The rate



Figure 5 Graph of log ( $K_{Cd}$ ) vs. p $K_3$  for the equilibrium constants of the Cd<sup>2+</sup>/H<sub>2</sub>-P reactions.

determining reaction involves an activated complex containing the metal ion and  $H_2$ -P form of the molecule. Our present results are in accord with this scheme. The porphyrins examined have the same peripheral tetranegative charge and are expected to have similar outer sphere pre-equilibrium constants. The pre-deformed  $\beta$ -octabromo compound reacts with  $Zn^{2+} ~10^5$  faster than the less deformable 2,6-Cl macrocycle, and  $\sim 10^3$  times faster than porphyrins of the same basicity. Electron donating resonance interactions from the *para* fluoro and methoxy substituents leads to porphyrin core deformation, which activates their protonated  $H_3$ -P<sup>+</sup> species towards metal ion incorporation. The porphyrins without such features which strongly influence ring deformation react at similar rates with a given form of the metal ion, over a wide range of porphyrin basicity. The Zn-P complexes, however, where the metal is coordinated to the porphyrin, are sensitive to porphyrin basicity effects. The rate constants for the acid catalyzed solvolysis reactions are faster the more basic the porphyrin.

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