low-field resonance, δ 97.2, suggestive of equivalent ketal centers in each isomer.¹¹ Acid-catalyzed equilibration (0.1 N p-TSA in THF, room temperature) of talaromycin A (0.5 mg) quantitatively converted the less-stable axial hydroxymethylene isomer into talaromycin B and thus proved the presence of the ketal functionality.¹² The ketal's relative configuration¹³ was established by observing the nuclear Overhauser enhancement of H_{2a} (3.7%)¹⁴ on irradiation of H_{8a} in talaromycin A. Similar irradiation of H_{2a} in 1 gave enhancements of H_{2e} (15%), H_{3e} (6.3%), H_{4a} (2.3%),



and also H_{8a} (4.0%).¹⁵ These enhancements verified the ring conformations shown in 1 and also established the three-dimensional positions of H_{8a} and H_{2a} , two protons that would be proximal only if both oxygens occupied axial positions in the spiro-fused ketal.

The structural characterization of the talaromycins has shown COSY to be a powerful method for resolving isomeric mixtures (Figure 1) and for identifying spin systems isolated by regions devoid of protons (Figures 2 and 3). Even though this experiment gives comparable data to a series of double resonance experiments, the opportunity to obtain all the information in a single experiment, even in highly congested regions where decoupling is difficult, provided an important advantage in the talaromycin assignment. This ability to verify all the proton-coupling connectivities of a molecular structure allows for a formal assignment of all the protons and leads to a nonempirical establishment of structure.

The spiro ketal present in the talaromycins is a structural feature common to many bacterial polyether antibiotics¹⁶ as well as to several insect pheromones.¹⁷ The talaromycins constitute the first example of such functionality being elaborated in fungi through what appears to be a polyketide pathway. The toxicity of the talaromycins is still under investigation, but initial data suggest that they block outward potassium fluxes and thus lead to muscle dysfunction.18

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Transient Raman Scattering Observation of Surface Reactions in Aqueous TiO₂ Colloids

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Absorption of light by semiconductor particles in an aqueous colloid creates mobile electrons (e^{-}) and holes (h^{+}) that may migrate to the particle surface and undergo redox processes with adsorbed chemical species. Both e⁻ and h⁺ come to the surface apparently because the particle dimensions are small with respect to the characteristic band-bending length. The optimization and mechanism of such reactions have been intensively studied in recent years, principally by using transient absorption spectroscopy of the reaction products.¹⁻⁷ We, as well as others, have recently discovered that the kinetics of the reaction precursor species eand h⁺ can be observed via radiative recombination emission.⁸⁻⁹

Transient Raman scattering analysis of chemical reactions provides direct structural information about reactive intermediates. In addition, variations in the local molecular environment of a given species are sometimes observed as small shifts in the spectra, for example, in heme proteins¹⁰ and on the hydrocarbon:water boundary in aqueous micelles.¹¹ We now report application of this technique to semiconductor surface redox processes in aqueous colloids

In our experiment e⁻ and h⁺ are created by absorption of an ultraviolet laser pulse at a frequency above the semiconductor band gap ($\lambda \leq 3800$ Å for TiO₂). After a time delay Δt a Raman spectrum is generated by a second pulse at a frequency below the band gap. The semiconductor is transparent at the Raman probe wavelength, which is chosen to give electronic resonance Raman enhancement for a specific chemical species. In this respect, our experiment differs from recent observations of enhanced Raman scattering by stable, transparent species in absorbing metal col-loids.¹²⁻¹⁴ Our apparatus has been described recently.¹⁵

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⁽¹²⁾ Opening of the ketal results in two equivalent primary alcohols that will close to the thermodynamically most stable isomer. At this point we have no direct data as to whether only one isomer is naturally occurring and the second is a function of our isolation procedure, but we suspect that both isomers occur naturally

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Figure 1. Partial 395-nm resonance Raman spectra of reduced methyl viologen MV+: (a) aqueous (steady state) MV+ made by reduction with $Na_2S_2O_4$ at pH 10; (b) transient spectrum observed at time delay $\Delta t \simeq$ 10 ns following 320-nm excitation of TiO₂ colloidal particles at pH 10.9 (the initial methyl viologen dichloride concentration is 4×10^{-3} M); (c) same as b, except that the 320- and 395-nm pulses ($\simeq 8$ ns fwhm) are overlapping to give an effective Δt on the order of 5 ns. Continuous scattering underlying the MV^+ lines is due to TiO₂ luminescence. Other species present (e.g., MV²⁺) are not observed as they do not exhibit a resonance Raman effect at 395 nm.

We study two TiO₂ surface processes whose kinetics have been observed by Grätzel and co-workers⁷ using transient absorption:

$$SCN^- + h^+ \rightarrow SCN \cdot \xrightarrow{SCN^-} (SCN)_2^-$$
 (1)

$$MV^{2+} + e^{-} \rightarrow MV^{+}$$
 (2)

 $(SCN)_2^-$ is probed by 532-nm Raman scattering, while MV⁺ (reduced methyl viologen) is observed by 395-nm Raman scattering. The second step in reaction 1 occurs at a near-diffusion-controlled rate.

Transparent, colorless TiO_2 colloids (2.56 g of TiO_2/L) were prepared by hydrolysis of titanium isopropoxide.^{7,16} In reaction 1 at acidic pH, this colloid was used directly after removal of isopropanol by evaporation. In the reduction of MV^{2+} , at neutral and basic pH, the colloid was further stabilized with 0.3% polyvinyl alcohol. TiO_2 colloids loaded with surface Pt were prepared by dissolving TiO_2 evaporation residues in Pt colloids.^{7,16} The TiO_2 particles are reported to have hydrodynamic radii of $\simeq 200$ Å.

Figure 1 shows MV⁺ spectra generated following absorption by TiO_2 at 320 nm. The Raman probe wavelength, 395 nm, is near the peak of an intense absorption band of MV^+ , and a strong resonance Raman enhancement occurs.¹⁷ The dependence of the MV^+ signal on pH and Δt qualitatively agrees with previous observations via absorption spectroscopy.7 There is a microsecond time scale rise time that shortens at basic pH.¹⁸ The best MV⁺ spectra at short time delays are observed near pH 11 in Figure 1b and c. Figure 1c, for time superimposed 320- and 395-nm pulses (pulse widths $\simeq 8$ ns), shows weak MV⁺ spectra on top of structureless luminescence from the TiO_2 particles. Figure 1b shows a stronger MV⁺ signal at $\Delta t \simeq 10$ ns.¹⁹ Figure 1a shows



Figure 2. Partial 532-nm resonance Raman spectra of aqueous (SCN)2⁻ radical anion: (a) transient spectrum ($\Delta t = 100 \text{ ns}$) following 355-nm excitation of a neutral pH solution 2×10^{-2} M in both benzoquinone and KSCN. The S=S fundamental at 221 cm⁻¹ and its overtone at 435 cm⁻¹ are on top of continuous H₂O Raman scattering; (b) transient spectrum $(\Delta t = 10 \text{ ns})$ following 355-nm excitation of a concentrated (3×) TiO₂ colloid at pH 1. KSCN concentration is 4×10^{-2} M; (c) H₂O Raman spectrum.

a reference MV⁺ aqueous spectrum made by chemical reduction of MV^{2+} with dithionite. There is no spectral difference between MV⁺ made in the surface reaction and the MV⁺ aqueous species, at our present resolution, for these transitions. Platinum surface-loaded TiO₂ colloids 1% and 2% (by weight) were also studied. In the former case, the small Pt particles are reported to have $\simeq 30$ -Å diameters, while in the latter case, the Pt colloidal preparation yields 15-Å diameter spheres. We did not observe changes in either the rise times or the MV⁺ Raman spectra.

In our study of reaction 1, a concentrated (3 times normal) TiO₂ colloid at pH 1 was excited at 355 nm in the presence of 4×10^{-2} M KSCN. The TiO_2 particles have a net positive charge at this pH, and the SCN⁻ ions are attracted to the surface.^{7,20} The $(SCN)_2^-$ Raman signal in Figure 2b grows approximately as the convolution of the two laser pulses, showing no detectable kinetic rise time, in contrast to the MV⁺ results. This result is in agreement with the transient absorption studies. The observed spectrum²¹ consists of the S=S stretch (221 cm⁻¹) and a weaker, broad overtone (435 cm⁻¹) on top of the continuous H₂O Raman signal, which appears by itself in Figure 2c. An aqueous $(SCN)_2^{-1}$ reference signal in Figure 2a was generated by oxidation of SCNwith triplet benzoquinone.²² As in the case of MV⁺, there is no detectable difference between this aqueous reference spectrum and the spectrum observed in the surface reaction.

These experiments demonstrate that it is possible to obtain transient Raman spectra of semiconductor surface reactions in colloidal solutions. The high surface area and homogeneous optical nature of such solutions are favorable for spectroscopic analysis. The Raman spectra confirm the assignment of the 10^{-8} -s time scale products, MV^+ and $(SCN)_2^-$, previously observed by transient absorption spectroscopy.⁷ The nearby dielectric particle and the ionic strength and static electric field of the surface ionic double layer have no apparent effect on the molecular Raman spectra under our present conditions.

If the products we observe were adsorbed when created and then immediately desorbed, they could diffuse some tens of angstroms away from the surface at $\Delta t = 5$ ns. The unshifted

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lengths. (18) We have not attempted to quantitatively verify the rise time kinetics, which are reported in ref 7 to vary with excitation flux as well as pH. (19) The increase of MV⁺ signal between traces 1c and 1b reflects both

the intrinsic MV⁺ rise time and the finite laser pulse widths.

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spectra observed suggest that $(SCN)_2^-$ and MV^+ are fully solvated by H_2O at this time. Alternately, it could be that SCN and MV⁺ are initially created by electron tunnelling in a fully solvated condition, as has been suggested for reactions on similar semiconductor electrodes.²³ Further experiments at shorter times would be interesting.

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¹H and ²H NMR Studies of the Catechol Dioxygenases

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Catechol 1,2-dioxygenase (CTD) and protocatechuate 3,4dioxygenase (PCD) catalyze the oxidative cleavage of catechols to cis, cis-muconic acids.^{1,2} The active sites of these enzymes consist of mononuclear high-spin ferric centers^{3,4} coordinated to at least two tyrosinates.⁵⁻⁸ Resonance Raman studies show that substrate coordinates to the iron in these enzymes, but the mode of catechol binding, that is, whether it is coordinated in a monodentate or chelated configuration to the iron, is not established.^{6,9-12} We report therein the first NMR studies of CTD and PCD enzyme-substrate complexes that elucidate the coordination mode of the substrate in these enzymes.

CTD from *Pseudomonas arvilla*¹³ has an $\alpha\beta$ Fe³⁺ composition and a molecular weight of 63 000.¹⁴ Figure 1 shows NMR spectra¹⁵ of CTD complexes with catechol and 4-methylcatechol,

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Figure 1. ¹H and ²H NMR spectra of CTD-substrate complexes in 50 mM potassium phosphate pH 7.5 at 30 °C under argon: [CTD], 1.6 mM; [S], 3.1 mM. Downfield shifts are positive.



Figure 2. ¹H and ²H NMR spectra of PCD-substrate complexes in 50 mM potassium phosphate pH 7.5 at 40 °C under argon: [PCD], 0.2 mM; [S], 13 mM.

which are both good substrates for the enzyme. Resonances outside the diamagnetic 0-14 ppm window are observed due to protons on ligands coordinated to the high-spin ferric $(S = \frac{5}{2})$ center. These resonances arise from contact interactions and provide information regarding the coordination environment of the iron.^{16,17}

The focus of this study is on the iron-catecholate interaction. In our study of model ferric catecholate complexes,¹⁸ catecholates coordinated in a monodentate fashion exhibit shifts very similar to those of coordinated phenolates. That is, methyl groups ortho and para to the coordinated oxygen are shifted downfield ca. 100 ppm, while meta-methyl groups are shifted upfield ca. 30 ppm. Chelated catecholate complexes, on the other hand, exhibit different shifts because of the presence of dual pathways for spin delocalization (i.e., through the two oxygens) with methyl groups

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