Scheme II



10 Hz) and δ 1.43 (d, J = 10 Hz) were assigned to H-6_{endo} and $H-6_{exo}$, respectively, based on the reported magnetic anisotropy of the puckered cyclobutane ring of the pinene skeleton.⁹ In support of these assignments was the absence of vicinal coupling between H-6_{exo} and either H-1 or H-5, consistent with the 100° dihedral angle between the neighboring protons.¹⁰ The assignments were confirmed unambiguously by the observed NOE enhancement of the δ 2.31 signal (H-6_{endo}) upon irradiation of the H-8 protons of the proximal side chain.

Incubation of $[1,1^{-2}H_2]$ FPP $(1a)^{11}$ with crude bergamotene synthetase at 4 °C for 48 h yielded 110 nmol of β -bergamotene (2a, Scheme II) which, after dilution with 5 mg of (\pm) - β -bergamotene as carrier and purification by column chromatography, was analyzed by 61.4 MHz ²H NMR revealing the expected signals at δ 1.41 and 2.30 (Figure 1A). Incubation of (1S)-[1- ${}^{2}H_{1}$]FPP (1b)¹¹ at 30 °C for 4 h with bergamotene synthetase yielded 92 nmol of β -bergamotene (2b). ²H NMR analysis showed deuterium enrichment only in the H-6_{exo} position at δ 1.41 (Figure 1B). Finally, two incubations of (1R)- $[1-^{2}H_{1}]$ FPP $(1c)^{11}$ yielded 146 nmol of β -bergamotene (2c) which showed deuterium enrichment only in the complimentary H-6_{endo} position at δ 2.30 (Figure 1C).

The above results clearly demonstrate that FPP can be converted into β -bergamotene by a cell-free preparation from *Pseu*deurotium ovalis, mediated by a new sesquiterpene cyclase, bergamotene synthetase. Further, the results show that this cyclization occurs with net retention of configuration of C-1 of FPP.¹² Similar results have also been obtained for the cyclization of FPP to the sequiterpene hydrocarbon trichodiene.¹⁶ Since cyclization of FPP to form 6-membered rings requires initial isomerization to nerolidyl pyrophosphate (NPP, 3) to avoid formation of a ring

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(12) This conclusion is based upon the reasonable assumption that β *trans*-bergamotene has the absolute configuration as illustrated, consistent with the known absolute configurations of fumigillin¹³ (i) and ovalicin¹⁴ (ii), the



demonstrated conversion of β -trans-bergamotene to ovalicin,^{2b} and the expectation that the introduction of oxygen at C-1 of ovalicin proceeds with retention of configuration.¹⁵ The absolute configuration of β -trans-bergamotene is currently under investigation.

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with a trans double bond,¹ present work is directed toward investigating the intermediacy of NPP in the cyclization of FPP to β -trans-bergamotene.

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A Dissociative Pathway for Equilibration of a Hydrido CoL(H)²⁺ Complex with CO₂ and CO: Ligand-Binding Constants in the Macrocyclic [14]Dienecobalt(I) System

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Metal hydride complexes are central to many catalytic processes, and their reactivity is of interest in its own right.¹ Metal carbon dioxide complexes and metallocarboxylates are often intermediates in CO₂ reduction and water-gas shift systems.² Despite the importance of these complexes, few thermodynamic and kinetic data for their formation exist. Here we report the results of pulse-radiolysis experiments yielding equilibrium and kinetic data for the binding of $H^{+,3} CO_2$,^{4,5} and CO to the low-spin d⁸ macrocyclic⁶ cobalt(I) complex⁷ CoL⁺ in aqueous solutions. In the CoL⁺ system (which has found application in both the photoreduction of water⁸ to H₂ and electroreduction⁹ of CO₂ to

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Scheme I



CO), all three adducts $CoL(H)^{2+}$, $CoL(CO_2)^+$, and $CoL(CO)^+$ may be present at equilibrium (on the time scale of seconds), and equilibration is achieved exclusively via dissociation to CoL⁺.

In pulse-radiolysis experiments, reduction of aqueous N-d,l- CoL^{2+} with e_{aq}^{-} yields $CoL^{+.10}$ In aqueous tert-butyl alcohol containing only added proton donor HA, CoL⁺ undergoes protonation by a general acid pathway³ to give $CoL(H)^{2+}$ (species 2, Scheme I). Depending on the nature and concentrations of HA species present, the lifetime of CoL^+ at pH < 12 ranges from ~0.5 ms (HA = H₂O, 10⁻³ M borate buffer, pH 9) to <1 μ s (e.g., 0.02 M pH 6 phosphate buffer); the $CoL(H)^{2+}$ product persists for several minutes. The formation constant K_{12} (Scheme I) for CoL(H)²⁺ was found to be 5 × 10¹¹ M⁻¹ (25 °C, 0.3 M ionic strength) by monitoring the equilibrium CoL⁺ absorption (ϵ_{630} = $1.10 \times 10^4 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$) in phosphate solutions as a function of pH in the range of 9.4-11.3.

In pH 6 solutions containing 10⁻³ M CoL²⁺ and saturated either with 1% CO₂ in N₂ or pure CO, >95% of e_{aq}^{-} reduces CoL²⁺ to CoL⁺ in <1.0 μ s, and >90% of the product CoL⁺ subsequently reacts with CO₂ or CO to form 3 or 4, respectively $(k_{13} = 1.7 \times 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ and } k_{14} = 5.0 \times 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ at } 25 \text{ °C})$. Since equilibration of 3 and 4 with $CoL(H)^{2+}$ occurs on a much longer time scale, reasonably pure preparations of the CO2 and CO adducts could be studied before the equilibration: The spectrum of 4 CoL(CO)⁺ determined by pulse radiolysis ($\epsilon_{860} = 125 \text{ M}^{-1}$ cm⁻¹; sh 400 nm, $\epsilon = 700 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$) is virtually identical with that measured on dissolving N-d,l-[CoL(CO)]ClO₄ in CH₃CN.¹¹ The spectrum determined for the CO_2 adduct 3 in water at 60 °C is similar ($\lambda_{max} = 530 \text{ nm}$, $\epsilon_{eff} = 500 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$) to that found in CH₃CN⁵ at 25 °C. However, as is also found⁵ for CH₃CN solvent, aqueous solutions of 3 are thermochromic: at ~ 0 °C in water, the 530-nm band has little intensity, and a 440-nm ($\epsilon =$ 400 M⁻¹ cm⁻¹) band dominates the visible spectrum. This thermochromism, which is independent of [CO2] and pH, may be due to reversible binding of a solvent molecule as proposed^{12,13} for CoL(CH₃)²⁺ and/or to an $\eta^2 / \eta^1 - CO_2$ isomerism. A third CO₂-containing species 3' (λ_{max} 460 nm, $\epsilon = 210 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$) is formed from the reaction of CoL²⁺ with formate radical^{10b} ·CO₂⁻ $(k = 8.5 \times 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ in CO}_2\text{-saturated } 0.1 \text{ M NaHCO}_2)$. We believe 3 and 3' to be d,l-isomers that differ in the face, 6° primary (3) or secondary (3'), to which CO_2 is bound. Isomer 3' is unstable with respect to 3 ($K_{3'3} \ge 5$).

"Ligand-binding" equilibrations amongst $CoL(H)^{2+}$ and $CoL(CO_2)^+$ or $CoL(CO)^+$ are observed on the 0.1–10 s timescale. The positions of the equilibria between $CoL(CO_2)^+$ and $CoL(H)^{2+}$ (3) \rightarrow 2) and between CoL(CO)⁺ and CoL(H)²⁺ (4 \rightarrow 2) were



Figure 1. The $3 \rightleftharpoons 2$ equilibrium, $CoL(CO_2)^+ + H^+ \rightleftharpoons CoL(H)^{2+} +$ CO_2 , as a function of pH and CO_2 concentration in 0.1 M formate solution, 25 °C. The right axis is the equilibrium 530-nm molar absorptivity; the left axis is the fraction of $CoL(CO_2)^+[3]/([3] + [2])$ at equilibrium. The CO₂ concentrations are, left to right, 3.2×10^{-2} , 3.2×10^{-3} , and 3.2×10^{-4} M; the curves are calculated for $K_{32} = 1.1 \times 10^3$. The $CoL(CO_2)^+$ species 3', formed by the CO_2^- reaction in these solutions converts to 3 in times comparable to that required for the $3 \rightarrow 2$ reaction.

studied between pH 4 and 8 for CO₂ (3×10^{-4} - 3×10^{-2} M) and CO $(10^{-4}-10^{-3} \text{ M})$ solutions, and the CO₂ results are presented in Figure 1. Binding constants for CO₂ and CO, $K_{13} = 4.5 \times$ 10^8 M^{-1} and $K_{14} = 1.6 \times 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1}$, are obtained by combining K_{12} and K_{32} or K_{42} . By contrast, in CH₃CN solvent, ^{5,11} binding of CO is strongly favored over that of CO₂. Protonation of 3 to yield a hydroxycarbonyl complex (metallocarboxylic acid) is not found at pH > 3.5; however, 3' exhibits a pK_a of 3.1, a value similar to that 15,16 of $(en)_2 Co(OH_2)(CO_2H)^{2+}$.

The key feature of the equilibration mechanism is dissociation to CoL^+ . The kinetics of the slow equilibration (studied in 0.5) M tert-butyl alcohol solutions in the absence of formate to eliminate complications from $3' \rightarrow 1$) are consistent within 50% with the rate constants calculated from the mechanism and the values of the independently determined proton-transfer rate constants.^{17,18} Thus for the transformation $2 \rightarrow 3$ no direct insertion of CO₂ into the Co-H bond is found ($k < 3 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$). In contrast to a number of "CO2 complexes" characterized by pulse-radiolytic methods, 19 homolysis of 3 (to $CoL^{2+} + CO_2^{-}$) is negligible (the calculated homolysis rate constant is ca. 10^{-8} s^{-1}). Of great practical importance in these experiments is the general base catalysis of $CoL(H)^{2+}$ deprotonation; by addition of A⁻ (and HA) to the solutions the equilibrations can be conveniently accelerated.

The present dissociative mechanism is reminiscent of behavior found for Co¹(dmgH)₂ substitution reactions.²⁰ The general base catalysis of the $CoL(\tilde{H})^{2+}$ equilibrations with CO_2 and CO, while at present apparently unique to this system, is to be expected when metal protonation occurs by a general acid path.²¹

Acknowledgment. This research was carried out at Brookhaven National Laboratory under contract DE-AC02-76CH00016 with the U.S. Department of Energy and supported by its Division of Chemical Sciences, Office of Basic Energy Sciences. We thank Dr. C. L. Schwarz for invaluable comments.

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⁽¹⁸⁾ The rate expression for equilibration of CO₂⁻ and H⁺ complexes is $k_{obsd} = k_{31}f_{12} + k_{21}(1 - f_{12})$ where $f_{12} = (\sum k_{HA}[HA])/(\sum k_{HA}[HA] + k_{13}-[CO_2])$ and $k_{21} = \sum k_{A}-[A^-]$. The expression for CO and H⁺ complexes is analogous.

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