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## Nature of the Bound $\text{O}_2$ in a Series of Cobalt Dioxygen Adducts

Benjamin S. Tovrog, David J. Kitko, and Russell S. Drago\*

*Contribution from the School of Chemical Sciences, William A. Noyes Laboratory, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois 61801. Received October 10, 1974*

**Abstract:** A new series of dioxygen adducts of cobalt(II) complexes is reported whose EPR parameters span a considerably larger range than those reported earlier. The EPR spectra of these and other reported complexes are analyzed in detail, leading to a qualitative molecular orbital description of the adducts. The model shows that the unpaired electron resides on dioxygen regardless of the amount of electron transfer from cobalt(II) to oxygen. It is shown that the only source of electron transfer information lies in the spin polarization of a filled cobalt-oxygen  $\sigma$  bond by the unpaired electron residing in an essentially dioxygen  $\pi^*$  molecular orbital. The interpretation of these results indicates that there is a wide variation in the amount of electron transfer to  $\text{O}_2$  in a series of adducts which depends on the ligands coordinated to the cobalt. Electron transfer into  $\text{O}_2$  ranging from 0.1 to 0.8 of an electron is found in different adducts. The bonding interaction involves essentially a spin pairing of an unpaired electron in an antibonding orbital of  $\text{O}_2$  with an unpaired electron in a  $d_{z^2}$  orbital of cobalt(II). This model is consistent with the observed magnetic properties of reported iron-dioxygen and manganese-dioxygen adducts. A previously unrecognized source of spin polarization is proposed and found to make a significant contribution to the observed coupling constants.

The ability of transition metal ions to reversibly coordinate  $\text{O}_2$  has been known for a long time. Some of the first synthetic systems reported to bind  $\text{O}_2$  were cobalt(II) complexes.<sup>1</sup> However, only recently has it been demonstrated that a wide variety of ligand environments about cobalt(II) result in reversible systems.<sup>2-8</sup> Neutral complexes in which the ligands contain  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$  and  $\text{N}_4$  donor atoms that are bound in a planar array and which also contain a fifth axial donor that is a  $\sigma$  donor,<sup>3</sup>  $\pi$ -acceptor,<sup>7</sup> sterically hindered base, or aromatic solvent molecule<sup>8</sup> have been reported. The complexes  $\text{Co}(\text{CN})_5^{3-}$ ,<sup>9</sup>  $\text{Co}(\text{pfp})_2^{10}$  (pfp = perfluoropinacol), and several derived from pentadentate ligands<sup>11,12</sup> have also been recently described. The reversible coordination of  $\text{O}_2$  to iron(II) has also been an area in which significant recent advances have been made.<sup>13</sup>

Much of the recent activity in this area has been motivated by a desire to elucidate the factors which lead to reversible  $\text{O}_2$  binding, to enhance the kinetic reactivity of  $\text{O}_2$  by coordination, and to understand the transport of  $\text{O}_2$  and oxidations by it in biological systems. Systematic approaches to these problems will require an understanding of the electronic nature of the coordinated  $\text{O}_2$  fragment. The cobalt(II) complexes are particularly well suited for an investigation of the electronic structure because they contain at least one unpaired electron, making them ideal for electron spin resonance studies. Accordingly, we have directed our initial efforts toward a study of these complexes.

An EPR study<sup>2</sup> of  $\text{Co}(\text{acacen})\text{pyO}_2$  and other similar  $\text{O}_2$  adducts has shown greatly reduced anisotropy ( $A_{\parallel} - A_{\text{iso}}$ ) in the cobalt hyperfine coupling constants when compared to the parent five-coordinate cobalt(II) complex. These results along with some structural<sup>14</sup> and infrared data to be discussed shortly led to the formulation of the cobalt- $\text{O}_2$  adducts as  $\text{Co}(\text{III})-\text{O}_2^-$  with "nearly complete electron transfer from cobalt(II) to oxygen". In a subsequent EPR study of an enriched  $^{17}\text{O}_2$  adduct,<sup>14</sup> the isotropic  $^{17}\text{O}$  hyperfine coupling constant was reported and also interpreted in terms of an  $\text{O}_2^-$  formulation.

The EPR spectra of the  $\text{O}_2$  adduct of the pentadentate Schiff base complex  $\text{CoSMDPT}$  (SMDPT = bis(salicylidene- $\gamma$ -iminopropyl)methylamine) and that of an isocyanide adduct have been reported.<sup>11</sup> The existence of this adduct was subsequently confirmed by Hoffman et al., who also agreed that, in both the  $\text{O}_2$  and  $\text{CH}_3\text{NC}$  adducts, the cobalt hyperfine coupling constant in the parallel direction was reduced considerably below that of typical five-coordinate adducts.<sup>15</sup> The small observed proton contact shifts in the NMR of the six-coordinate isocyanide adduct enabled us to conclude that the observed reduction in the hyperfine coupling constant of the adduct occurred without "oxidation of cobalt" and formation of  $\text{Co}(\text{III}) \text{CNCH}_3^-$ . An interpretation of the isotropic  $^{17}\text{O}$  hyperfine coupling constant in terms of a coordinated singlet  $\text{O}_2$  formulation was presented.

The experimental result needed to resolve the question of

the singlet nature of the adducts was the  $^{17}\text{O}$  EPR anisotropic hyperfine coupling constants. Correspondence with Dori et al.<sup>16</sup> revealed that they had obtained but unfortunately had not reported these results for their  $\text{Co-O}_2$  adduct. One could conclude from the anisotropy in the  $^{17}\text{O}$  hyperfine coupling that the unpaired electron resides in a molecular orbital which was mainly composed of oxygen p orbitals. This result conclusively rules out the bound singlet  $\text{O}_2$  formulation as these authors subsequently reported.<sup>16</sup>

Elimination of the singlet  $\text{O}_2$  structure does not establish the electronic nature of the bound  $\text{O}_2$  fragment in the complex as  $\text{O}_2^-$  with "nearly complete electron transfer", i.e.,  $\text{Co(III) O}_2^-$  in the formal sense. Remaining are structures with ranges of electron transfer from zero to one, i.e., from  $\text{Co(II) O}_2$  to  $\text{Co(III) O}_2^-$ . A more complete description of what is meant by bound  $\text{O}_2$  or  $\text{O}_2^-$  is provided in the text. In this section, our main concern is to evaluate the short-comings of data interpretation which led to an  $\text{O}_2^-$  description for all  $\text{Co-O}_2$  adducts.

EPR, x-ray, and infrared results were employed to formulate the adduct as  $\text{Co(III) O}_2^-$ . The inconsistencies in the EPR analysis have been reported<sup>11</sup> and will be discussed in more detail in this article. The single-crystal x-ray diffraction interpretation leading to an  $\text{O}_2^-$  formulation is based upon a comparison<sup>17a,b</sup> of the O-O distance in an  $\text{O}_2$  adduct (1.26 Å) with that in free  $\text{O}_2$  and that in the ionic potassium superoxide salt (1.28 Å). However, the ionic salt sodium superoxide has a reported<sup>17c,d</sup> distance of 1.31 Å while  $\text{O}_2^-$  in the gas phase has a distance<sup>17e</sup> of 1.34 Å. Recently,<sup>17b</sup> an O-O distance of 1.24 Å was reported for  $\text{CoCN}_5\text{O}_2^{3-}$ . Even in the absence of the above mentioned ambiguities inferences of the electronic nature of materials from bond distances are known historically to be extremely risky when good model compounds are not available. For example, the O-O distance to be expected for a coordinated singlet or neutral triplet  $\text{O}_2$  molecule with possible metal to ligand  $\pi$  back-bonding cannot be predicted from the structure of free  $\text{O}_2$ . The O-O  $\sigma$  bond in a complex in which a Co-O bond has formed will have different s and p orbital contributions than that in free  $\text{O}_2$ . With two antibonding electrons, a slight weakening of the  $\sigma$  bond could result in an appreciable increase in the O-O distance upon coordination even if electron transfer did not occur. Similar complications exist in the interpretation of the reported infrared frequency lowerings upon complexation.

In this article, we report new five-coordinate cobalt(II) complexes which bind  $\text{O}_2$ . We offer an alternative interpretation of the cobalt hyperfine coupling which provides a consistent rationalization of all aspects of the results from this experiment. The ligand field strengths of the bound ligands provide a reasonable basis for predicting the variation in the spectra for a series of complexes. The spectral results are interpreted in terms of a qualitative molecular orbital model of the adducts and provide a crude estimate of the extent of electron transfer into the bound  $\text{O}_2$  fragment. Finally, a model for the end on binding of  $\text{O}_2$  is presented in which the interaction is viewed mainly as a spin pairing of one of the unpaired antibonding electrons of  $\text{O}_2$  with an unpaired electron in the  $d_{z^2}$  orbital of cobalt(II). This model is used to rationalize the magnetic and EPR behavior of dioxygen complexes of iron(II) and manganese(II).

## Experimental Section

**General.** Salicylaldehyde, 5-bromosalicylaldehyde, 5-methoxysalicylaldehyde, 3,3'-bis(diaminopropyl)methylamine, bis(2-cyanoethyl) ether, and boron trifluoride etherate were purchased from Aldrich. 5-Nitrosalicylaldehyde and diphenylglyoxime were purchased from Eastman. 3,3'-Diaminopropyl ether was prepared via the catalytic hydrogenation of bis(2-cyanoethyl) ether.<sup>18</sup> The Co complexes used as starting materials for the  $\text{Co(X-salDAPE)}$  series were

prepared by the reaction of an aqueous solution of cobalt(II) acetate tetrahydrate and the appropriate salicylaldehyde in ethanol, washed with ethanol and ether and dried over  $\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$ .

$\text{Co(SMDPT)}$  was prepared as reported.<sup>19</sup>

**Preparation of  $\text{Co(salDAPE)}^{20}$  and Substituted Derivatives.** 3,3'-Diaminopropyl ether (1.32 g) in 10 ml of anhydrous deaerated EtOH was added to a slurry of 3.37 g of  $\text{Co(sal)}_2\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  in 20 ml of anhydrous deaerated EtOH at reflux under  $\text{N}_2$ . The resulting slurry turned a deep reddish brown and the solid dissolved. The reaction was continued at reflux for 1 h and allowed to cool to ambient temperature. The tan solid that formed was collected on a fritted funnel under a stream of  $\text{N}_2$ , washed twice with EtOH and twice with  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  and dried in vacuo over  $\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$ .

The substituted derivatives were prepared in an analogous manner from  $\text{Co(X-sal)}_2\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  ( $\text{X} = 5\text{-Br}, 5\text{-OMe}, 5\text{-NO}_2$ ) in a 3,3'-diaminopropyl ether. The complexes are tan in color, not sensitive to  $\text{O}_2$  in the solid state, but are slowly oxidized in solution. They are only sparingly soluble in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ , and EtOH, and are insoluble in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and hydrocarbons.

Analyses:  **$\text{Co(salDAPE)}$ .**  $\text{CoC}_{20}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$ . Calcd: Co, 14.83; C, 60.45; H, 5.58; N, 7.05. Found: Co, 14.92; C, 60.33; H, 5.57; N, 7.06.  **$\text{Co(5-NO}_2\text{-salDAPE)}$ .**  $\text{CoC}_{20}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_4\text{O}_7$ . Calcd: Co, 12.09; C, 49.29; H, 4.14; N, 11.50. Found: Co, 12.01; C, 49.42; H, 4.18; N, 11.63.  **$\text{Co(5-Br-salDAPE)}$ .**  $\text{CoC}_{20}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{Br}_2$ . Calcd: Co, 10.62; C, 43.27; H, 3.63; N, 5.04. Found: Co, 10.44; C, 43.30; H, 3.49; N, 4.94.  **$\text{Co(5-OMe-salDAPE)}$ .**  $\text{CoC}_{22}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$ . Calcd: Co, 12.88; C, 57.77; H, 5.73; N, 6.12. Found: Co, 12.65; C, 57.64; H, 5.83; N, 6.30.

**Preparation of  $\text{Co(DPGB)}_2\cdot 2\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ .** Bis(diphenylglyoximate)-cobalt(II) [ $\text{Co(DPGH)}_2$ ] was prepared by a reported procedure.<sup>21</sup> The  $\text{BF}_2$  capped species [ $\text{Co(DPGB)}_2$ ] was prepared in a manner similar to that developed by Schrauzer.<sup>22</sup> A suspension of 5.0 g of  $\text{Co(DPGH)}_2$  in 75 ml of  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  was deoxygenated with dry  $\text{N}_2$ . To this was added 10 ml of freshly distilled  $\text{BF}_3\cdot\text{OEt}_2$ , the resulting mixture stirred for 24 h under  $\text{N}_2$ . The ether was evaporated and the residue recrystallized from methanol and isolated as a bismethanol adduct. All manipulations were carried out in Schlenk apparatus under  $\text{N}_2$ .

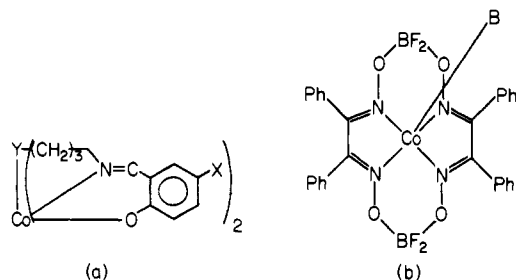
Anal. Calcd for  $\text{CoC}_{30}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_4\text{O}_6\text{B}_2\text{F}_4$ : C, 51.68; H, 4.05; N, 8.04; Co, 8.45. Found: C, 51.54; H, 3.99; N, 7.95; Co, 8.40.

Electron spin resonance spectra were collected on a Varian Model E-9 spectrometer equipped with a Hewlett-Packard frequency counter. Cooling was provided by cold nitrogen gas, the probe temperature was approximately  $-180^\circ\text{C}$  for all samples. The field was calibrated using a Varian weak pitch sample with  $g = 2.0070$ .

## Results and Discussion

**Complexes Formed.** The series of complexes illustrated in Figure 1 has been prepared for this investigation. The EPR spectra at ca.  $-180^\circ\text{C}$  in a  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ /toluene glass of the  $\text{O}_2$  adducts of  $\text{Co(X-salDAPE)}$ ,  $\text{Co(SMDPT)}$ , and  $\text{Co(DPGB)}_2\cdot(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CO}$  are shown in Figure 2. The  $\text{Co(DPGB)}_2$  complex serves as the basis for preparing a large number of new reversible dioxygen adducts. The complex is isolated as the trans dimethanol adduct. Stoichiometric amounts of many different bases, e.g., quinuclidine, piperidine, pyridine, *N*-methylimidazole, triethylamine, trimethylamine, 3,5-dichloropyridine, 4-cyanopyridine, acetonitrile, acetone, tetrahydrofuran, and *N,N*-dimethylacetamide all displace one molecule of methanol forming a mixed base-methanol adduct. The methanol is readily displaced from these complexes by  $\text{O}_2$  forming reversible dioxygen adducts at low temperature. The first eight bases listed form 2:1 adducts when excess base is used, but the others do not. Excesses of these eight bases displace  $\text{O}_2$  from the cobalt, so a greatly reduced tendency for  $\text{O}_2$  coordination occurs in excess base.

The EPR spectra in Figure 2 indicate significant changes in the magnitude and anisotropy of  $A_{\text{Co}}$  in the series of complexes studied. Spin Hamiltonian values from computer simulation of the spectra of the  $\text{O}_2$  adducts are listed in Table I, along with previously reported results for  $\text{O}_2$  adducts formed from five-coordinate, square pyramidal cobalt(II) complexes. The variation in these values suggests differences in the electronic structures of the complexes, and these differences must



**Figure 1.** A series of pentadentate cobalt(II) complexes: (a) when  $Y = \text{NCH}_3$ , the ligand is abbreviated as salMeDPT; when  $Y$  is  $\text{O}$ , as salDAPE; (b) the bis(diphenylglyoximate)cobalt(II) complex is abbreviated as

be understood if we are to understand the electronic structure of bound  $\text{O}_2$ .

**Inconsistencies in a Simplified EPR Interpretation.** Previous workers have analyzed the ESR of  $\text{O}_2$  adducts in terms of the unpaired electron residing primarily on the  $\text{O}_2$  moiety.<sup>2-8,23</sup> The cobalt hyperfine has been interpreted to indicate an almost complete transfer of an electron to  $\text{O}_2$ ,<sup>2,3,8</sup> leading to a formal  $\text{Co(III) O}_2^-$  description of the complex. We now will proceed to demonstrate that this analysis of the EPR spectra is not internally consistent by considering more completely the data in Table I. First, the following equations pertinent to  $d^7$  complexes with a  $(d_{z^2})^1$  ground state in axial symmetry including interactions with excited doublet states<sup>24</sup> are summarized:

$$g_{\parallel} = 2.00 \quad (1)$$

$$g_{\perp} = 2.00 - \frac{6\xi}{\Delta E(xz, yz - z^2)} \quad (2)$$

$$A_{\parallel} = P \left[ -K + \frac{4}{7} - \frac{1}{7}(g_{\perp} - 2.00) \right] \quad (3)$$

$$A_{\perp} = P \left[ -K - \frac{2}{7} + \frac{15}{14}(g_{\perp} - 2.00) \right] \quad (4)$$

$$\langle A \rangle = P \left[ -K + \frac{2}{3}(g_{\perp} - 2.00) \right] \quad (5)$$

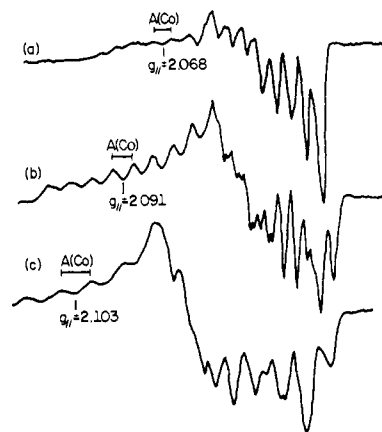
$$P = g_e \beta_e g_N \beta_N \left\langle \frac{1}{r^3} \right\rangle_{3d} \quad (6)$$

where  $K$  is the Fermi contact parameter and  $P$  is proportional to the average value of the inverse of the metal-unpaired electron distance cubed  $\langle 1/r^3 \rangle$ . In complexes,  $P$  is reduced from the free ion value of  $0.0254 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .<sup>25</sup> The Fermi contact parameter,  $K$ , in many cobalt(II) complexes has two main contributions: (1) polarization of filled  $1s$ ,  $2s$ , and  $3s$  orbitals inducing net negative spin at the cobalt nucleus, and (2) admixture of the  $4s$  orbital into the  $(d_{z^2})^1$  ground state<sup>7b,23</sup> ( $4s$  and  $d_{z^2}$  transform with the same irreducible representation in many symmetries) contributing positive spin. An equation describing these two contributions is:

$$-P \cdot K = \rho_{4s}[A(\text{Co}4s)] + \rho_{3d}[A(\text{Co}3d)]$$

where  $\rho_{3d}$ ,  $\rho_{4s}$  are the cobalt  $3d$  and  $4s$  spin densities, respectively,  $A(\text{Co}4s) = 1232 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $A(\text{Co}3d) = -4 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

EPR parameters for low spin five-coordinate cobalt(II) complexes, typified by  $\text{Co}(p\text{-OCH}_3)\text{TPP}\cdot\text{B}$  (see Table I), fall in the range  $g_{\perp} \sim 2.3$ ,  $g_{\parallel} \sim 2.0$ ,  $A_{\parallel} \sim 80 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , and  $A_{\perp} \sim -12 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . This translates into  $P$  values of  $(180-200) \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $-P \cdot K$  of ca.  $-20 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . Anisotropy, given by  $A_{\parallel} - \langle A \rangle$  is typically  $60 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . Six-coordinate low spin cobalt(II) complexes (e.g.,  $\text{Co}(p\text{-OCH}_3)\text{TPP}\cdot\text{B}_2$ ) possess typically  $g_{\perp} \sim 2.2$ ,  $g_{\parallel} \sim 2.0$ ,  $A_{\parallel} \sim 65 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , and  $A_{\perp} \sim 50 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , which translates into



**Figure 2.** ESR of various new dioxygen adducts derived from  $\text{Co}(\text{DPGB})_2$  and five-coordinate cobalt(II) complexes at  $-180^\circ\text{C}$  in a  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ /toluene mixture: spectrum (a) is  $\text{Co}(\text{DPGB})_2\cdot\text{acetone}\cdot\text{O}_2$ , (b) is  $\text{Co}(\text{SMDPT})\cdot\text{O}_2$ , and (c) is  $\text{Co}(\text{salDAPE})\cdot\text{O}_2$ .

$P$  values of  $(180-200) \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $-P \cdot K$  ca.  $-40 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , and  $A_{\parallel} - \langle A \rangle \sim (69-79) \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The solution of eq 3-5 and the requirement that  $P$  be positive make  $A_{\parallel} > 0$ ,  $A_{\perp} < 0$ .

The above equations have been written for a full electron in the  $d_{z^2}$  orbitals. For the  $\text{O}_2$  adducts, a prior analysis<sup>2</sup> corrected for fractional occupation,  $\alpha^2$ , of the  $d$  orbital and derived the following equation from eq 3 and 5:

$$|A_{\parallel}| = |\langle A \rangle| + \frac{4}{7} P \alpha^2$$

When the EPR parameters for  $\text{O}_2$  adducts are substituted, the resulting  $\alpha^2$  values are approximately 0.1. The authors<sup>2</sup> concluded that nearly complete electron transfer from cobalt to oxygen occurred. However, an inconsistency exists in this interpretation of the EPR. The isotropic  $A_{\text{Co}}$  values observed for typical  $\text{O}_2$  adducts (which is largely due to a Fermi contact interaction, see below) are roughly one-half of the isotropic  $A_{\text{Co}}$  values obtained for other six-coordinate cobalt(II) complexes. The values can be calculated from the reported values of  $A_{\parallel}$  and  $A_{\perp}$  in Table II. By no less rigorous a set of approximations than used on the anisotropic hyperfine coupling,<sup>2</sup> this leads to the conclusion that the electron resides in a molecular orbital with about 50% cobalt  $3d$  character. We do not advocate this analysis, but only wish to conclude that the early EPR interpretations are inconsistent on this point and must be incomplete. We shall next develop an alternate interpretation of the EPR which overcomes the above inconsistency and leads to a new model for the electronic structure of these adducts.

**Origin of the Cobalt Hyperfine.** The interpretation of the cobalt hyperfine is complicated by the fact that it could arise from either a direct or indirect mechanism. The anisotropic  $^{17}\text{O}_2$  hyperfine results are very important for this reason. A solution study of  $\text{Co}(\text{bzacen})\cdot\text{py}\cdot\text{O}_2$  showed equivalent oxygens<sup>14</sup> with  $\langle A(^{17}\text{O}) \rangle = 21.6 \text{ G}$ . As we pointed out,<sup>11</sup> this is not unequivocal evidence for substantial unpaired spin on  $\text{O}_2$ , for a very small amount of unpaired electron density delocalized directly into the oxygen  $2s$  orbital could give rise to a value of this magnitude. The critical experiment, determination of the anisotropic components of the  $^{17}\text{O}$  hyperfine tensor, had been carried out but regrettably was not reported until recently.<sup>16</sup> The oxygens are shown to be nonequivalent, possessing 60 and 40% spin densities on the terminal and middle oxygens, respectively. This experiment indicates unequivocally that the unpaired electron in the adduct resides predominantly on the  $\text{O}_2$  fragment. However, as we shall show, contrary to these authors' conclusion, this result gives no indication of the extent of electron transfer to  $\text{O}_2$ .

**Table I.** EPR Parameters for Some O<sub>2</sub> Adducts of Cobalt(II) Complexes

Complex	$g_1$ ±0.003	$g_2$ ±0.01	$g_3$ ±0.01	$-A_1^a$ +0.5	$-A_2^a$ ±1	$-A_3^a$ ±1	$-\langle A \rangle^a$	$\rho_{3d}(\times 10^2)$	$\rho_{4s}(\times 10^2)$	%4s	%4s <sub>corr</sub>	Ref
Co(acacen)py·O <sub>2</sub>	2.082	2.00	2.00	19.1	10	10	13.0	4.3	1.05	20	24	2
Co(acacen)H <sub>2</sub> O·O <sub>2</sub>	2.088	2.00	2.00	28.1	13	13	17.9	7.1	1.5	17	21	2
Co( <i>p</i> -OCH <sub>3</sub> TPP)pyO <sub>2</sub>	2.077	2.00	2.00	16.6	11	11	12.3	2.5	1.0	29	32	3, 6
Co( <i>p</i> -OCH <sub>3</sub> TPP)MeImidO <sub>2</sub>	2.080	2.00	2.00	16.2	10	10	11.6	2.9	0.9	25	28	3, 6
Co(salen)pyO <sub>2</sub>	2.079	2.03	2.00	17.0	13	13	14.4	1.8	1.2	39	42	6
Co(SMDPT)·O <sub>2</sub>	2.092	2.00	2.00	19.3	11	14	14.5	3.4	1.2	26	29	<i>b</i>
Co(DMGH) <sub>2</sub> pyO <sub>2</sub>	2.065	2.00	2.00	15.4	11	13	12.6	2.0	1.0	34	37	<i>b</i>
Co(DPGB) <sub>2</sub> (CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CO·O <sub>2</sub>	2.08	2.02	2.02	18.0	16	16	16.9	0.8	1.4	64	65	<i>b</i>
Co(DPGB) <sub>2</sub> (CH <sub>3</sub> CN)·O <sub>2</sub>	2.068	2.00	2.00	19.3	17	17	17.7	1.1	1.4	56	57	<i>b</i>
Co(DPGB) <sub>2</sub> HMPA·O <sub>2</sub>	—	2.01	2.01	15.4	12	12	13.3	1.3	1.1	45	49	<i>b</i>
Co(X-salDAPE)·O <sub>2</sub>												
X = 5-H	2.103	1.996	1.994	33.0	14.5	22.5	22.3	6.6	1.9	22	26	<i>b</i>
= 5-OMe	2.099	2.000	1.997	28.5	13.0	19.0	20.2	5.7	1.6	22	26	<i>b</i>
= 5-Br	2.097	2.000	1.998	27.5	13.5	19.0	20.0	5.1	1.6	24	28	<i>b</i>
= 5-NO <sub>2</sub>	—	1.993	1.993	—	21.0	21.0	—	—	—	—	—	<i>b</i>

<sup>a</sup> *A* values in 10<sup>-4</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>b</sup> This work.

**Table II.** Spin Hamiltonian Parameters for Some Typical Five- and Six-Coordinate Co(II) Complexes<sup>3</sup>

	$g_{\perp}$	$g_{\parallel}$	$-A_{\perp}^a$	$A_{\parallel}^a$	$P^a$	$PK^a$	%4s
Five-Coordinate, Co( <i>p</i> -OCH <sub>3</sub> )TPP·B							
B = pyridine	2.327	2.025	12	79.8	198.3	24.3	3.3
4-picoline	2.323	2.028	11	78.9	192.2	22.1	3.4
3,5-lutidine	2.316	2.029	11	76.4	183.5	20.2	3.3
piperidine	2.318	2.026	13	77.4	190.8	23.0	3.3
quinuclidine	2.322	2.032	11	81.2	196.6	22.2	3.5
Six-Coordinate Co( <i>p</i> -OCH <sub>3</sub> )TPP·B <sub>2</sub>							
B = pyridine	2.216	2.047	57	60	195.8	45.9	1.5
4-picoline	2.226	2.060	50	61	188.4	40.6	1.8
3,5-lutidine	2.228	2.062	52.1	66	200.8	42.3	2.0
piperidine	2.214	2.054	53.8	61	191.3	42.5	1.7
quinuclidine	2.299	2.027	23	80.5	208.3	29.7	3.2

<sup>a</sup> Values in 10<sup>-4</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>.

In our analysis, the cobalt hyperfine arises mainly from an indirect mechanism as opposed to a direct mixing of the d orbital into the MO containing the unpaired electron. A molecular orbital model can be proposed which accommodates this polarization mechanism. It is similar to that proposed by Wayland et al.<sup>7</sup> to explain observations pertinent to coordination of O<sub>2</sub> and other diatomic molecules, e.g., CO, NO. We will focus on the portion of the model most pertinent to the EPR interpretation (Figure 3). A  $\pi^*$  orbital of O<sub>2</sub> overlaps with metal  $a_1(d_{z^2})$  to form a  $\sigma$  molecular orbital ( $\psi_1$ ) containing two electrons. The second  $\pi^*$  orbital of O<sub>2</sub> is orthogonal to the above  $\sigma$  MO and contains the unpaired electron. Neglecting for convenience overlap with other orbitals,  $\psi_1$  to  $\psi_3$  have the form:

$$\psi_3 = \beta(d_{z^2}) - \alpha(\pi^*)$$

$$\psi_2 = \pi^*$$

$$\psi_1 = \alpha(d_{z^2}) + \beta(\pi^*)$$

where  $\beta = (1 - \alpha^2)^{1/2}$ . In this model, when  $\alpha = 0$ , the complex is Co(III) O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>; when  $\beta = 0$ , Co(I) O<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>; and when  $\alpha = \beta$ , Co(II) O<sub>2</sub>. The fact that the unpaired electron resides mainly on O<sub>2</sub> does not necessitate that an electron has been transferred into O<sub>2</sub> to form O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>. Furthermore, whether the complex consists of O<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>, O<sub>2</sub>, or O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> depends on the coefficients of a molecular orbital which does not contain unpaired electrons. Accordingly, if a direct delocalization interpretation were<sup>2</sup> invoked, to explain the cobalt hyperfine, the molecular orbital

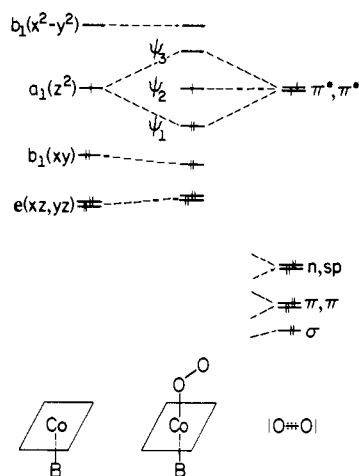
description suggests the *A* values would be insensitive to the nature of the bound O<sub>2</sub> for the different possibilities are not related to the cobalt character in the MO containing the unpaired electron. Our only source of information in the EPR experiment about the nature of the bound O<sub>2</sub> arises from the spin polarization of  $\psi_1$  as manifested in the cobalt hyperfine.

**The Polarization Mechanism.** The predominant metal contribution to  $\psi_1$  is from the 3d<sub>z<sup>2</sup></sub> orbital of cobalt. We know from studies on five- and six-coordinate complexes that 4s is also mixed in to the extent of 2–5%<sup>7</sup> of the d<sub>z<sup>2</sup></sub> contribution. Thus, a more complete description of the  $\psi_1$  molecular orbitals in Figure 3 is given by

$$\psi_1 = \alpha'd_{z^2} + \gamma 4s + \beta\pi^*$$

Since  $\psi_1$  is close in energy to  $\psi_2$ , polarization of  $\psi_1$  by  $\psi_2$  can introduce negative spin density in d<sub>z<sup>2</sup></sub> by virtue of the  $\alpha'd_{z^2}$  component. Thus, one contribution to the nonzero cobalt hyperfine anisotropy could arise from  $\alpha' \neq 0$ . The existence of anisotropic cobalt hyperfine from this effect implies that a limiting O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> description is not accurate in any of the reported complexes for there is cobalt character in  $\psi_1$ .

**Signs of Hyperfine Constants.** The signs of *A*<sub>1</sub>, *A*<sub>2</sub>, and *A*<sub>3</sub> in Table I are all the same, as can be seen by the  $\langle A \rangle$  value observed in fluid solution for Co(acacen)pyO<sub>2</sub> and Co(SMDPT)·O<sub>2</sub>. The similarity in the hyperfine components of the other complexes where  $\langle A \rangle$  has not been observed suggests a similar situation. Further, the expected signs of the



**Figure 3.** Molecular orbital model for the coordination of dioxygen to cobalt(II) complexes.

$A$  values are negative due to the fact that the source of hyperfine is indirect in nature.

Our polarization mechanism would predict  $\beta$  unpaired spin density in  $\psi_1$ . For  $d_{z^2}$  character in  $\psi_1$ , polarization will produce anisotropic hyperfine contributions proportional to

$$A_{\text{Aniso}} \propto P\alpha^2 \begin{vmatrix} z & x & y \\ -\frac{4}{7} & +\frac{2}{7} & +\frac{2}{7} \end{vmatrix} \quad (7)$$

(Note the opposite signs from eq 3 and 4 for  $\alpha$  spin in  $d_{z^2}$ .) As can be seen in Table I, the  $\text{O}_2$  adducts give rise for negative  $\langle A \rangle$  to anisotropic components consistent with this form for:

$$\text{Co(acacen)py}\cdot\text{O}_2 \begin{vmatrix} z & x & y \\ -6.1 & 3.0 & 3.0 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\text{and Co}(p\text{-OCH}_3\text{TPP})\text{py}\text{O}_2 \begin{vmatrix} z & x & y \\ -3.5 & +1.6 & +1.6 \end{vmatrix}$$

In these higher symmetry complexes,  $d_{z^2}$  apparently is making the principal d-orbital contribution to  $\psi_1$ .

**Polarization Analysis.** The only information regarding the electron transfer that is available from this experiment comes from the interpretation of the spin polarization of  $\psi_1$ . A rigorous quantitative analysis cannot be made, but a crude semiquantitative analysis is possible, which provides us with insight about the nature of the bound  $\text{O}_2$ . First, we must critically examine literature procedures for carrying out this analysis, for we have discovered some inconsistencies when reported procedures are employed.

An equation which relates the *isotropic* polarization hyperfine to molecular orbital parameters is that basically of Symons:<sup>27</sup>

$$\frac{\langle A \rangle_{\text{Co}}}{A_{4s}} = U_{\text{O-Co}}\rho_{\text{O}} \quad (8)$$

$\langle A \rangle_{\text{Co}}$  = observed isotropic cobalt hyperfine,  $A_{4s}$  = isotropic hyperfine for one full electron in a cobalt 4s orbital,  $1232 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\rho_{\text{O}}$  = spin density on neighboring oxygen, and  $U_{\text{O-Co}}$  = spin polarization constant representing polarization of cobalt by unpaired spin on neighboring oxygen atom.

This equation has been applied to systems characterized as ligand radicals bound to diamagnetic metals.<sup>28-30</sup> In such systems, the unpaired electron resides in a  $\pi$ -symmetry ligand orbital. Metal hyperfine is proposed to result by spin polarization of the metal-ligand  $\sigma$  bond. In the use of eq 8, polarization of the  $\sigma$  bond by the ligand unpaired electron is assumed the only source for isotropic hyperfine. It is also assumed that

the isotropic hyperfine arises solely from 4s contribution to the  $\sigma$  bond. This crucial assumption will be considered later in more detail.

After obtaining the s character by analyzing the isotropic hyperfine, the d character in the  $\sigma$  bond is determined by analyzing the anisotropic hyperfine which arises from unpaired spin in a d orbital. The "apparent 3d spin density" is arrived at by an equation similar to eq 8:

$$\frac{A_{\text{aniso obsd}}}{A_{\text{aniso}(3d)}} = \rho_{3d} \quad (9)$$

$A_{\text{aniso obsd}}$  = observed anisotropy,  $A_{\parallel} - \langle A \rangle$  and  $A_{\text{aniso}(3d)}$  = anisotropy for one full electron in a 3d orbital,<sup>35</sup>  $\sim 146 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . Values of  $\langle A \rangle$  were obtained from isotropic solution spectra or calculated from  $\frac{1}{3}A_{\parallel} + \frac{2}{3}(A_x + A_y)$ . Knowledge of  $\rho_{3d}$  and  $U_{\text{O-Co}}\rho_{\text{O}}$  which gives the 4s character enables one to calculate the percent 4s character (i.e.,  $[4s/(4s + 3d)] \times 100$ ) which is shown in Table I for  $\text{Co-O}_2$  adducts. Other radical bound species<sup>31-33</sup> are listed in Table III. It is interesting to compare the results for 4s character in the metal-ligand bond deduced in Tables I and III with those found in systems where the unpaired electron is localized on the metal. In cobalt(II) complexes, analyses can be made, utilizing the data by Walker<sup>3</sup> for 1:1 and 2:1 adducts of  $\text{Co}(p\text{-OCH}_3\text{TPP})$ , employing the ligand field analysis outlined in eq 1-6. The results are shown in Table II. Similar results are obtained from consideration of base adducts of  $\text{Co}(\text{salen})\cdot\text{B}$ ,  $\text{Co}(\text{acacen})\cdot\text{B}$ ,  $\text{Co}(\text{dmg})\cdot\text{B}$ , etc.

An obvious disparity exists in comparing the percent 4s results from Table II with I and III. Though one would not expect the 4s character of the species in the tables to be the same, the large differences obtained by these procedures are unexpected. Within the  $\text{Co-O}_2$  series, the uncorrected s character is calculated to vary from 20 to 64%. It is possible in the porphyrin, Schiff base, and DPGb series that the cobalt is pulled out of the ligand plane toward the  $\text{O}_2$ , inducing more s character in the  $\text{Co-O}_2$  bond. However, the crystal structure of  $\text{Co}(\text{bzacen})\text{py}\text{O}_2$  did not indicate a dramatic distortion. Though the electronic structures of all  $\text{O}_2$  adducts in Table I are not expected to be identical, the range in 4s character of 20-64% is also unexpected. Such drastic differences suggest the polarization analysis reported in the literature is incomplete.

The shortcomings of the above approach can be understood by first considering the source of Fermi-contact interaction in paramagnetic complexes where the unpaired electron resides in a d orbital. This unpaired electron in the 3d orbital polarizes filled 1s, 2s, and 3s core orbitals, and usually leads to a negative sign for  $A_{\text{F.C.}}$ . When this mechanism dominates, a negative value for  $A_{\text{F.C.}}$  will result. In certain complexes, direct contributions of 4s into the molecular orbital containing the unpaired electron complicates this analysis, as this contribution adds positive spin to 4s, which tends to cancel in part the polarization contribution.

The observed values of  $A_{\text{F.C.}}$  (i.e.,  $\langle A \rangle$  in Table I) in  $\text{O}_2$  adducts or in radical bound species cannot be accounted for by the core type of polarization mechanism. Spin polarization of  $\psi_1$  puts spin in the opposite direction in the 3d orbital, so the contribution to  $A_{\text{F.C.}}$  from this mechanism is of opposite sign. Considering  $\text{Co}(\text{acacen})\text{py}\cdot\text{O}_2$  (Table I), for example, the apparent 3d spin density of 4.3% from eq 9 suggests the core polarization contribution to  $A_{\text{F.C.}}$  will be  $+3.6 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . As mentioned above, polarization of the 4s contribution to  $\psi_1$  would require unreasonably large s character in this MO.

Previous workers in this area have utilized the 4s explanation. To be accurate, this analysis should be modified to incorporate the secondary core polarization of s orbitals by the unpaired spin density in the 3d orbital. When this is done, the results reported in the column labeled % $4s_{\text{corr}}$  in Table I are

**Table III.** EPR Parameters for Radical Species Bound to Diamagnetic Metal Complexes

	$g_3$	$g_2$	$g_1$	$ A_{2,3}(M) ^a$	$ A_1(M) ^a$	$ \langle A \rangle ^a$	$\rho_{3d}(\times 10^2)$	$\rho_{4s}(\times 10^3)$	% $4s$	% $4s_{\text{corr}}$	Ref
Co(CN) <sub>5</sub> ·RNO											
R = C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	2.002	2.008	2.008	7.7	14.1	9.8	2.96	8.0	21.	25	30
C <sub>6</sub> D <sub>5</sub>	2.008	2.008	2.012	7.9	14.1	10.0	2.83	8.1	22.	26	30
C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>3</sub>	1.999	2.007	2.012	9.3	16.9	11.8	3.49	9.6	21.	26	30
C <sub>6</sub> HCl <sub>4</sub>	1.998	2.007	2.010	8.2	18.8	11.7	4.90	9.5	16.	21	30
L <sub>n</sub> VOO	2.002	2.002	2.033	—	6.2	4.5	1.73 <sup>b</sup>	5.2	23	—	28
L <sub>n</sub> AlOO	2.009	2.002	2.038	—	6.3	5.2	2.73 <sup>c</sup>	5.7	17	—	33
NbO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	2.0061	2.0146	2.0480	—	29.2	28.4	1.01	20	66	—	29
DTBN·AlCl <sub>3</sub> <sup>d</sup>	—	—	—	14.6 <sup>e</sup>	16.2 <sup>e</sup>	15.1 <sup>e</sup>	2.73	15	35	—	32
DTBN·silica <sup>d</sup> alumina	—	—	—	16.6 <sup>e</sup>	17.1 <sup>e</sup>	16.8 <sup>e</sup>	0.74	17	70	—	32
DTBN·SnCl <sub>4</sub>	—	—	—	~165 <sup>f</sup>	~165 <sup>f</sup>	~165 <sup>f</sup>	~0.0	22 <sup>g</sup>	~100	—	31
	$\langle g \rangle = 2.00521$										

<sup>a</sup>  $A$  values in  $10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $M$  refers to particular metal involved. <sup>b</sup> Utilizing  $|A_{\text{aniso}}| = 98.3 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , from ref 35. <sup>c</sup> Utilizing  $|A_{\text{aniso}}| = 40.3 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , from ref 35. <sup>d</sup> DTBN is di-*tert*-butyl nitroxide. <sup>e</sup>  $A(\text{Al})$  in G. <sup>f</sup>  $A(\text{Sn})$  in G. <sup>g</sup> Utilizing  $|A_{\text{iso}}| = 7603 \text{ G}$  from ref 35.

obtained and also show large variations. The disparity between the  $s$  orbital contribution to the MO containing the unpaired electron in the five-coordinate cobalt complexes (Table II) and the O<sub>2</sub> adducts and radical bound species (Tables I and III) is now even greater. An additional contribution is needed to account for the large negative  $A_{\text{F.C.}}$  in the O<sub>2</sub> adducts.

Considering the specific case of Co–O<sub>2</sub> systems, the  $\pi^*$  orbital containing the unpaired electron has a nonzero differential overlap with the filled cobalt  $3s$  orbital. By virtue of this nonzero differential overlap, spin polarization of the cobalt  $3s$  orbital by the ligand orbital containing the unpaired electron is possible. The polarization occurs without direct delocalization of unpaired electron density into  $d$  orbitals. The important point is that this polarization by unpaired spin on the ligand induces negative spin density at the cobalt nucleus *without producing  $d$  spin density*. This enables cobalt  $A_{\text{F.C.}}$  to increase in magnitude without an increase in the anisotropic hyperfine coupling constant. Because this mechanism does not involve  $d$  orbitals, the  $s$  character can appear to increase at the expense of the  $d$  character. Though the differential overlap of the ligand  $\pi^*$  orbital is expected to be small, a significant contribution to  $A_{\text{iso}}$  could result because one unpaired electron in  $3s$  produces a huge hyperfine coupling of 3666 G.<sup>35</sup> Furthermore, the radial character of  $3s$  is actually slightly greater than that of  $3d$  suggesting that this mechanism can be efficient at introducing unpaired spin in cobalt  $s$  orbitals. We suggest this polarization mechanism to be the source of the anomalously large  $s$  characters in other systems listed in Table III.

Since isotropic hyperfine coupling constants have contributions from polarization of  $3s$  by spin density in metal  $d$  orbitals and orthogonal ligand orbitals, as well as  $4s$  admixture to the molecular orbital containing the unpaired electron, we feel more reliable information about the cobalt character in metal–ligand bonds can be gained by examining the anisotropic hyperfine data. This anisotropy arises from the  $d$  orbital contributions to the  $\psi_1$  molecular orbital formed from essentially  $d_{z^2}$  and oxygen  $\pi^*$ .

In the analysis of Co–O<sub>2</sub> systems, we strive to obtain  $\alpha^2$  in  $\psi_1$ , employing an equation of the form:

$$\frac{A_{\text{aniso obsd}}}{A_{\text{aniso}(3d)}} = U_{\text{O-Co}} \rho_{\text{O}} \alpha^2 \quad (10)$$

where  $U_{\text{O-Co}}$  and  $\rho_{\text{O}}$  are as defined in eq 8. In this equation,  $\alpha^2$  and  $U_{\text{O-Co}}$  are unknown. An independent determination of an appropriate  $U_{\text{O-Co}}$  is needed. This requires a system where  $\alpha^2$  is known. The aryl nitroso compounds bound to Co(CN)<sub>5</sub><sup>3-</sup> which are listed in Table III are as good a system as we can find for this purpose. The one unpaired electron resides in a  $\pi^*$  orbital localized on the nitroso moiety, essentially

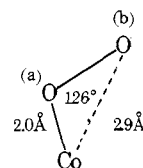
forming a nitroso anion radical. The radicals are bound through the nitrogen, so, for the sake of a qualitative discussion, the complex can be viewed as a Lewis acid–base adduct in which the Co–N  $\sigma$  bond involves the nitrogen lone pair and an essentially Co(III) acceptor. In the nitroso anion radical series, the nitrogen spin density is 0.7 for the R = C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>3</sub> derivative. Assuming<sup>42</sup> that the cobalt character in the metal–nitrogen bond<sup>36,37</sup> of the Co NRO adducts is 10–20%, and that the spin polarization constants of Co–N and Co–O are similar, one is in a position to estimate  $\alpha^2$  in  $\psi_1$ .

**Dipolar Coupling of Oxygen Unpaired Spin and Cobalt Nuclear Spin.** Before the cobalt character in the cobalt–O<sub>2</sub> bond can be estimated, it is necessary to correct for an additional source of cobalt hyperfine. This is dipolar coupling contributions from unpaired spin on O<sub>2</sub> with the cobalt nuclear spin. The equations pertinent for metal–ligand distances of 2 Å or greater are given below:<sup>35</sup>

$$A_{x,y} = \frac{-g\beta_e g_N \beta_N}{r^3}$$

$$A = \frac{2g\beta_e g_N \beta_N}{r^3}$$

Assuming the Co–O<sub>2</sub> geometry shown below,<sup>14</sup> the dipolar contributions are readily calculated.



The dipolar cobalt hyperfine resulting from 0.4 unpaired spin density on the middle oxygen (O<sub>a</sub>) is (in  $10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ )

$$A_{\text{Co-O}_a} = \begin{vmatrix} z & x & y \\ +0.66 & -0.33 & -0.33 \end{vmatrix}$$

Though the  $z$  axis for the dipolar contribution from O<sub>b</sub> is 20° off from that of O<sub>a</sub>, this effect is very minimal on the magnitudes of the dipolar components, since these interactions fall off as  $1/r^3$ . As has been pointed out previously, the  $A$  and cobalt  $g$  tensors are likely not coincident. Since it is not known what directions diagonalize these tensors, the dipolar components will not be corrected for their noncoincidences. The dipolar cobalt hyperfine resulting from 0.6 unpaired spin density on the terminal oxygen is (in  $10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ )

$$A_{\text{Co-O}_b} = \begin{vmatrix} z & x & y \\ +0.33 & -0.16 & -0.16 \end{vmatrix}$$

The total dipolar components are then

$$A_{\text{Co-O}_a} + A_{\text{Co-O}_b} = \begin{vmatrix} z & x & y \\ +1.0 & -0.5 & -0.5 \end{vmatrix}$$

One should also note that the  $[\text{Co}(\text{CN})_5\text{RNO}]^{3-}$  complexes listed in Table III have this dipolar contribution to their cobalt hyperfines. In the  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_2\text{Cl}_3\text{NO}$  derivative, a spin density of 0.7 is reported to reside on the coordinated nitroso nitrogen and 0.3 on the oxygen. Assuming a similar geometrical situation as that utilized above for the dioxygen adducts, one can calculate the following dipolar components (in  $10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ).

$$A_{\text{Co-N}} = \begin{vmatrix} z & x & y \\ +1.16 & -0.58 & -0.58 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$A_{\text{Co-O}} = \begin{vmatrix} z & x & y \\ +0.16 & -0.08 & -0.08 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$A_{\text{Co-N}} + A_{\text{Co-O}} = \begin{vmatrix} z & x & y \\ +1.3 & -0.66 & -0.66 \end{vmatrix}$$

In the following section where the cobalt  $d_{z^2}$  contribution to  $\psi_1$  is calculated, these dipolar couplings will be taken into consideration.

**Cobalt Contribution to the Cobalt–Dioxygen  $\sigma$  Bond.** Utilizing equations of the form of eq 10, both for  $\text{Co-O}_2$  and  $\text{CoRNO}$ , one can derive an equation to calculate  $\alpha'^2$  of the form:

$$\alpha'^2_{\text{Co-O}} = \frac{[A_{\text{aniso}}(\text{Co-O}_2) - A_{\text{dip}}(\text{Co-O}_2)]}{[A_{\text{aniso}}(\text{Co-RNO}) - A_{\text{dip}}(\text{Co-RNO})]} \times \left(\frac{\rho_{\text{N}}}{\rho_{\text{O}}}\right) (\alpha'^2_{\text{Co-N}}) \quad (11)$$

$\alpha'^2_{\text{Co-O}}$  is cobalt 3d character in the  $\text{Co-O}$  bond,  $\alpha'^2_{\text{Co-N}}$  is cobalt 3d character in the  $\text{Co-N}$  bond in  $\text{Co}(\text{CN})_5\text{RNO}$ ,  $A_{\text{aniso}}(\text{Co-O}_2) = A_1 - \langle A \rangle$  observed in the  $\text{Co-O}_2$  complex,  $A_{\text{aniso}}(\text{Co-RNO}) = A_1 - \langle A \rangle$  observed in the  $\text{Co-RNO}$  complex,  $A_{\text{dip}}(\text{Co-O}_2)$  is dipolar coupling in the  $z$  direction in the  $\text{Co-O}_2$  complex,  $+1.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $A_{\text{dip}}(\text{Co-RNO})$  is dipolar coupling in the  $z$  direction in the  $\text{Co-RNO}$  complex  $+1.3 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\rho_{\text{N}}$  is spin density on N in  $\text{CoRNO}$ , 0.7 for the  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_2\text{Cl}_3\text{NO}$  derivative, and  $\rho_{\text{O}}$  is spin density on the middle oxygen in  $\text{Co-O}_2$ , 0.4.

Using the  $\alpha'^2$  values from this analysis, we can calculate the amount of electron density in this molecular orbital which would be assigned to oxygen by a Mulliken population type analysis with zero overlap, i.e., the cobalt density is  $2\alpha'^2$  and the oxygen  $2(1 - \alpha'^2)$  (the two arises from the two electrons in  $\psi_1$ ). The results are indicated in Table IV. It should be realized that if  $2(1 - \alpha'^2)$  equals 1.0, the cobalt would be formally in the two oxidation state and the oxygen neutral. When  $2(1 - \alpha'^2)$  equals 2.0, the oxygen moiety is  $\text{O}_2^-$  and the cobalt formally  $\text{Co(III)}$ . Thus, the amount of electron density transferred, E-T, into the  $\text{O}_2$  fragment upon complexation is given by:  $2(1 - \alpha'^2) - 1$ . Though the  $\alpha'^2$  values are semiquantitative, we should note that, regardless of how much lower or higher the correct  $\alpha'^2$  values are, there is a large range in anisotropy ( $10.2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$  to  $1.1 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$  for  $\text{Co}(\text{acacen})\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot\text{O}_2$  and  $\text{Co}(\text{DPGB})_2\cdot\text{CH}_3\text{CN}\cdot\text{O}_2$ , respectively) implying a wide difference in the  $\alpha'^2$  value in the various complexes. Values of  $\alpha'^2$  range from 0.5 to 0.1, respectively. The trend observed in the  $\alpha'^2$  values spans a range of electron transfer from cobalt(II) to oxygen of 0.1–0.8 electron. This span is reasonable and provides support for the logic of the assumptions employed in our analysis. Some compounds can clearly be assigned as predominantly bound neutral  $\text{O}_2$ , e.g., the  $\text{Co}(\text{X-salDAPE})\text{O}_2$  series and others would be better described as approaching bound  $\text{O}_2^-$ , e.g.,  $\text{Co}(\text{DPGB})_2\cdot\text{B}\cdot\text{O}_2$  series. The  $\text{Co}(\text{acacen})\cdot\text{py}\cdot\text{O}_2$  adduct previously inferred<sup>2</sup> to involve nearly complete electron transfer, i.e.,  $\text{Co(III)}\text{O}_2^-$  is

**Table IV.**  $\alpha'^2$  Values and Electron Transfer in Some  $\text{O}_2$  Adducts of Cobalt(II) Complexes

	$\alpha'^2 b$	$\alpha'^2 c$	$\alpha'^2_{\text{av}}$	E.T. <sup>a</sup> $2(1 - \alpha'^2) - 1$
$\text{Co}(\text{acacen})\cdot\text{py}\cdot\text{O}_2$	0.19	0.39	0.29	0.4
$\text{Co}(\text{acacen})\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot\text{O}_2$	0.31	0.61	0.46	0.1
$\text{Co}(p\text{-OCH}_3\text{TPP})\cdot\text{py}\cdot\text{O}_2$	0.13	0.27	0.20	0.6
$\text{Co}(p\text{-OCH}_3\text{TPP})\cdot\text{Me-Imid}\cdot\text{O}_2$	0.15	0.31	0.23	0.5
$\text{Co}(\text{salen})\cdot\text{py}\cdot\text{O}_2$	0.16	0.32	0.24	0.5
$\text{Co}(\text{SMDPT})\cdot\text{O}_2$	0.16	0.32	0.24	0.5
$\text{Co}(\text{DMGH})\cdot\text{py}\cdot\text{O}_2$	0.11	0.21	0.16	0.7
$\text{Co}(\text{DPGB})_2\cdot\text{CH}_3\text{CN}\cdot\text{O}_2$	0.06	0.12	0.09	0.8
$\text{Co}(\text{DPGB})_2\cdot\text{acetone}\cdot\text{O}_2$	0.07	0.15	0.11	0.8
$\text{Co}(\text{DPGB})_2\cdot\text{HMPA}\cdot\text{O}_2$	0.09	0.17	0.13	0.7
$\text{Co}(\text{X-salDAPE})\text{O}_2$				
X = 5-H	0.28	0.56	0.42	0.2
= 5-OMe	0.24	0.48	0.36	0.3
= 5-Br	0.23	0.46	0.35	0.3

<sup>a</sup>  $2(1 - \alpha'^2) - 1$  is the electron transfer from  $\text{Co(II)}$  to  $\text{O}_2$ . The results are semiquantitative but the trends are accurate. <sup>b</sup> Calculated assuming cobalt character in  $\text{Co-N}$  bond of nitroso anion radicals is a lower limit 10%. <sup>c</sup> Calculated assuming cobalt character in  $\text{Co-N}$  bond of nitroso anion radicals is as an upper limit 20%.

seen to be borderline with only 0.4 of an electron transferred. Although the formal oxidation state of cobalt is III in all these complexes, one certainly would not be justified in writing this formula as  $\text{Co(III)}\text{O}_2^-$  for  $\text{Co}(\text{acacen})\text{py}\cdot\text{O}_2$  any more than one would write  $\text{H(I)}\text{F}^-$  for HF.

Dioxygen adduct formation is best viewed as a spin pairing of an electron in a  $d_{z^2}$  orbital of cobalt with an unpaired electron in a  $\pi^*$  orbital of oxygen. As the ligand field strength around the cobalt increases,  $d_{z^2}$  is raised in energy relative to the  $\pi^*$  of  $\text{O}_2$  and the complex becomes more  $\text{O}_2^-$  in character. A decreasing ligand field lowers the cobalt  $d_{z^2}$  orbital energy and causes it to approach the energy of the oxygen  $\pi^*$  orbital. This lowering results in increased cobalt character in the molecular orbital. Roughly, the  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$  ligand environments generate lower ligand fields than  $\text{N}_3\text{O}_2$  which in turn are lower than  $\text{N}_4\text{O}$  and  $\text{N}_5$ . We find that the amount of electron transfer from these four sets is 0.1–0.3, 0.4–0.6, 0.7–0.8, and 0.5–0.8, respectively. It should be noted at this point that  $\alpha'^2$  in Table IV is the  $d_{z^2}$  component of  $\psi_1$ . In Figure 2, cobalt 4s is also mixed into  $\psi_1$ , though a value for it cannot be calculated due to the many contributions to the isotropic coupling constant. However, in discussing the cobalt contribution to  $\psi_1$ , the 4s contribution should be added to  $\alpha'^2$  in Table IV. The result of this effect is to make the ET values reported here *upper* limits. We have assumed that  $Q$  is the same for an electron on oxygen and nitrogen in writing eq 11. We have also assumed that  $Q$  does not change appreciably with the change in the energy difference of  $\psi_1$  and  $\psi_2$ . These assumptions are drastic enough to make the actual reported values crude estimates of the electron transfer. The net effect of all approximations is expected to cause the reported ET numbers to be high.

With this model we have elucidated those factors which are essential to the binding of  $\text{O}_2$  (matching of the  $d_{z^2}$  and  $\text{O}_2\pi^*$  energies) as well as those factors which perturb the bound oxygen molecule by transferring electron density into it. Next, we examine the role that  $\pi$  back-bonding plays in this chemistry.

The arguments presented so far are based on the assumption that all the observed anisotropy in the cobalt hyperfine is due to spin polarization of the mainly  $d_{z^2} + \text{O}_2\pi^*$  molecular or-

**Table V.** EPR Parameters for O<sub>2</sub> Adducts of Co(TPP)·X<sup>8</sup>

	<i>g</i> <sub>1</sub>	<i>g</i> <sub>2</sub>	<i>g</i> <sub>3</sub>	<i>A</i> <sub>1</sub>   <sup>a</sup>	<i>A</i> <sub>2</sub>   <sup>a</sup>	<i>A</i> <sub>3</sub>   <sup>a</sup>	⟨ <i>A</i> ⟩  <sup>a</sup>
	X = sterically hindered base						
2,4,6-Collidine	2.080	2.002	2.002	20.9	12.7	12.7	15.4
Acridine	2.080	1.997	2.001	22.1	15.4	13.6	17.0
2,4-Lutidine	2.085	2.001	2.001	21.7	13.4	13.4	16.2
	X = solvent						
Toluene	2.083	1.988	1.985	29.2	24.5	28.8	27.50
Pyrene	2.062	1.996	1.997	21.2	18.7	23.2	21.03
1,3-Dinitrobenzene	2.083	1.998	2.006	21.6	17.3	18.7	19.20
Picric acid	—	1.993	1.974	—	24.2	26.1	—
1,3,5-Trinitrobenzene	—	1.986	1.973	—	34.2	34.2	—

<sup>a</sup> *A* values in 10<sup>-4</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>.

bitals and dipolar couplings. This effect gives rise to the following dipolar contributions to the anisotropic cobalt hyperfine coupling:

$$\rho_{\text{O}}U_{\text{O-Co}}\alpha'^2 \begin{vmatrix} z & x & y \\ -\frac{4}{7} & +\frac{2}{7} & +\frac{2}{7} \end{vmatrix} \quad (12)$$

Deviations from this -2,1,1 ratio can arise via several mechanisms. For example, spin polarization of an essentially filled *d*<sub>xz</sub> or *d*<sub>yz</sub> orbital could occur. In a low symmetry complex other *d* orbitals besides *d*<sub>z<sup>2</sup></sub> could be involved in the  $\psi_1$  MO. The dipolar contribution will reflect contributions from all contributing *d* orbitals. This effect probably accounts for the anisotropy observed in Co(H-salDAPE), i.e.,

$$\begin{vmatrix} z & x & y \\ -9.7 & +8.8 & +0.8 \end{vmatrix}$$

A direct mechanism exists for transmitting unpaired spin to cobalt, that is  $\pi$  back-bonding of the metal *d*<sub>xz</sub> (or *d*<sub>yz</sub>) orbital with an oxygen  $\pi^*$  orbital mixing *d*<sub>xz</sub> (or *d*<sub>yz</sub>) into  $\psi_2$ . This direct delocalization will put positive spin in a *d* orbital of cobalt. The addition of this contribution changes the expected anisotropic hyperfine as outlined below.

$\pi$ -Back-bonding of  $\psi_2$  with *d*<sub>xz</sub> ( $\psi_2 = \epsilon\pi^* + \alpha''(d_{xz})$ )

$$P\alpha''^2 \begin{vmatrix} z & x & y \\ +\frac{2}{7} & +\frac{2}{7} & -\frac{4}{7} \end{vmatrix} \quad (13)$$

Defining  $f = \rho_{\text{O}}U_{\text{O-Co}}\alpha'^2$  and  $g = P\alpha''^2$ , the resultant is:

$$A_x - \langle A \rangle = \frac{2}{7}(f + g) \quad (14)$$

$$A_y - \langle A \rangle = \frac{2}{7}(f - 2g) \quad (15)$$

$$A_z - \langle A \rangle = \frac{2}{7}(-2f + g) \quad (16)$$

In eq 13-16,  $P = g\beta g_{\text{N}}\beta_{\text{N}} \langle 1/r^3 \rangle_{d_{xz}}$ ,  $\alpha^2$  is the *d*<sub>z<sup>2</sup></sub> contribution to  $\psi_1$  (see Figure 3). We can see that although the two mechanisms put spin of opposite sign in *d* orbitals, since the *d* orbitals involved are different in this particular case, the anisotropy does not cancel in all directions and is additive in the *x* direction (if *d*<sub>yz</sub> is involved, anisotropy will be additive in the *y* direction). Rapid rotation of the O<sub>2</sub> molecule would average the *xy* anisotropy.

There are a number of reasons we feel the  $\pi$ -back-bonding mechanism is a small contributor for the complexes listed in Table I. First, if we assume no rotation of the O<sub>2</sub> molecule about the cobalt-oxygen bond, the <sup>17</sup>O hyperfine suggests that the *d*<sub>xz</sub> contribution to the orbital containing the unpaired electron can be no greater than 2% or anisotropic component

of at most about (in 10<sup>-4</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>)

$$\begin{vmatrix} z & x & y \\ +0.75 & +0.75 & -1.5 \end{vmatrix}$$

Since it is not known whether or not the O<sub>2</sub> molecule is fixed in our glass at low temperatures, a second argument can be made from a series of Co(TPP)·B·O<sub>2</sub> adducts where B is a phosphorus donor. Phosphorus hyperfine is observed both in the parent compound, where *d*<sub>z<sup>2</sup></sub> is mixed with a phosphorus sp<sup>*n*</sup> hybrid, and in the O<sub>2</sub> adducts, where it is greatly reduced from the deoxy adduct. Wayland<sup>7b</sup> has pointed out that the trends in isotropic <sup>31</sup>P hyperfine in the O<sub>2</sub> adducts parallel the donor orbital *s* character in the Co<sup>II</sup>TPP·PX<sub>3</sub> complexes. Such a trend suggests the primary source of <sup>31</sup>P hyperfine arises from the polarization of the (*Cod*<sub>z<sup>2</sup></sub> + P <sub>$\sigma$</sub> ) orbital.

A series of compounds which exhibits quite different EPR spectra are shown in Table V. These complexes arise when there is a solvent molecule or sterically hindered Lewis base bonded to a cobalt(II) porphyrin trans to the coordinated O<sub>2</sub>. The fact that one obtains a small *g* and *A* anisotropy as well as a large *A*<sub>iso</sub>/*A*<sub>aniso</sub> ratio suggests that the unpaired electron is localized on the O<sub>2</sub>. Considering first the anisotropic *A* values, one observes considerable *x*, *y* anisotropy (i.e., *A*<sub>*x*</sub> ≠ *A*<sub>*y*</sub>). The anisotropic tensor components for the following species have the form:

$$\begin{matrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \text{acridine} & |-5.1 & +1.6 & +3.4|, \end{matrix}$$

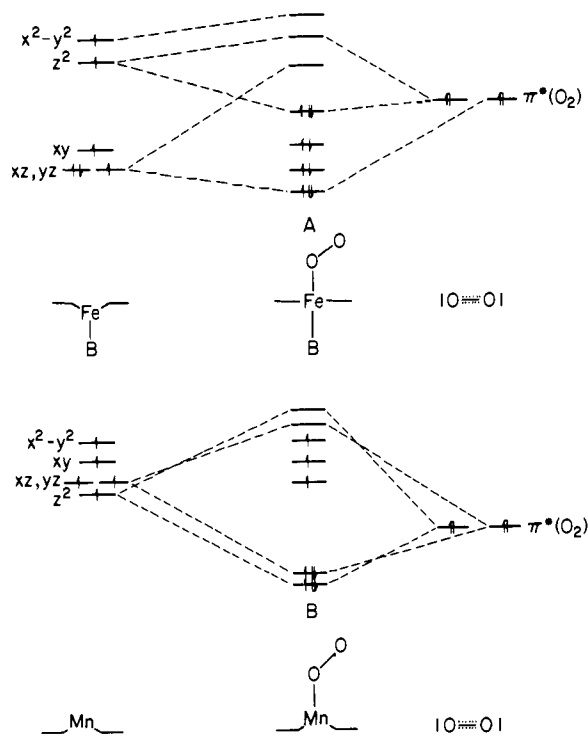
$$\begin{matrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \text{toluene} & |-1.7 & +3.0 & -1.3|, & \text{pyrene} & |-0.2 & +2.3 & -2.2| \end{matrix}$$

These components are obviously far different from those of Table I, the *A*<sub>1</sub> anisotropy is much smaller, and the difference in *A*<sub>2</sub> and *A*<sub>3</sub> very large. It is interesting to speculate and note that these differences are those expected if increased  $\pi$ -back-bonding occurs (eq 14-16) and the metal *d*<sub>xz</sub> or *d*<sub>yz</sub> orbital is mixed into  $\psi_2$  resulting in a direct delocalization of the electron onto cobalt. It would be interesting to know the structures of these adducts.

## Conclusion

Though the interpretation of the EPR spectrum is involved and indirect, it does lead to a relatively simple model for the binding of O<sub>2</sub> in cobalt(II) complexes. This model views the bonding of O<sub>2</sub> as arising from a coupling of the spins of an electron in an antibonding O<sub>2</sub> molecular orbital with an unpaired electron on cobalt. For adducts in which the metal-oxygen-oxygen bond angle is ~120°, the interaction involves an electron in the metal *d*<sub>z<sup>2</sup></sub> orbital. The magnitude of the interaction and the amount of electron transfer into the coordinated O<sub>2</sub> fragment are related to the ligand field strength of





**Figure 4.** A qualitative molecular orbital scheme for the O<sub>2</sub> adducts (A) iron(II) and (B) manganese(II). (Relative energies are indicated.)

the donor atoms around cobalt(II). This is simply a consequence of the influence of the ligands on the initial energies of the orbitals which overlap to form the metal–oxygen bond. Rough estimates ranging from 0.1 to 0.8 of an electron transferred result from an analysis of the anisotropic cobalt hyperfine coupling.

The model presented here is also consistent with the observed diamagnetism of synthetic and natural iron(II) reversible oxygen carriers as well as with the observed paramagnetism of the adduct<sup>38</sup> of *meso*-tetraphenylporphyrinmanganese(II) with O<sub>2</sub>. In using our model, the key feature is that the metal have an unpaired electron in d<sub>z<sup>2</sup></sub> with high enough energy to spin pair with an odd electron in the oxygen antibonding orbital. In cobalt(II), this is the essential interaction binding the oxygen to the complex. In iron(II) complexes and Mn(II) complexes where there are unpaired electrons in metal orbitals with “π-symmetry” which permit interaction with the second unpaired electron in O<sub>2</sub>, spin-pairing of these electrons can also occur. Square planar, four-coordinate iron(II) complexes are generally low or intermediate spin. Coordination of an axial base in the systems which reportedly pick up O<sub>2</sub> reversibly leads to a high spin complex. A low spin O<sub>2</sub> adduct results as shown in Figure 4. The d<sub>x<sup>2</sup>-y<sup>2</sup></sub> orbital in the O<sub>2</sub> adduct would be driven higher in energy via a stronger interaction of in-plane ligands with this orbital. This accounts for the observed diamagnetic O<sub>2</sub> adducts observed in the reversible iron(II) systems reported to date. The model could accommodate a paramagnetic O<sub>2</sub> adduct of iron(II) which would result by fine tuning the ligand field so as to decrease the d<sub>x<sup>2</sup>-y<sup>2</sup></sub> and d<sub>xy</sub> separations in the adduct. A weak interaction of the axial base on d<sub>z<sup>2</sup></sub> could also lower the d<sub>z<sup>2</sup></sub>-O<sub>2</sub> π\* antibonding orbital to a place where it becomes populated. An intermediate initial spin state for a five-coordinate adduct could also lead to a reversible-O<sub>2</sub> system if the energy of d<sub>z<sup>2</sup></sub> were high enough.

Similar considerations apply to the reported Mn(II) complexes. The d-orbital separations are smaller in this complex, and the d<sub>z<sup>2</sup></sub> orbital energy is higher than that in iron(II). Reportedly, axial bases are not required to bind O<sub>2</sub>. This would

be predicted by our model for a higher initial d<sub>z<sup>2</sup></sub> energy. With a small d<sub>x<sup>2</sup>-y<sup>2</sup></sub> separation, a complex with three unpaired electrons would result.<sup>38</sup> (See Figure 4b.) If the ligand field were to raise the energy of d<sub>x<sup>2</sup>-y<sup>2</sup></sub> one unpaired electron residing on Mn(II) could result with the electrons paired in a lower energy orbital. Thus, the basic model we are proposing here can account for the electronic structure of a wide variety of O<sub>2</sub> adducts.

Subsequent to the submission of this article for publication, three independent studies have been reported which provide strong support for our conclusions. Ab initio, generalized valence bond, and configuration interaction calculations<sup>39</sup> corroborate the model offered above and are reported to be consistent with Mossbauer studies and z-polarized charge transfer transitions in the hemoglobin system.

The second report is an ESCA study<sup>40</sup> of O<sub>2</sub> adducts. Although it is not possible to ascertain the extent of electron transfer from ESCA experiments, electron density is reported to be transferred into the O<sub>2</sub> fragment of the adduct upon complex formation in varying amounts in the series of complexes studied.

The third report is a recent<sup>41</sup> INDO-UHF calculation on Co(acacen)NH<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>. Within the calculation, O<sub>2</sub> adduct formation is shown to be consistent with a spin-pairing interaction of one unpaired O<sub>2</sub> electron and one on cobalt, which agrees with our model. The delocalization of unpaired spin over O<sub>2</sub> also agrees well with the <sup>17</sup>O hyperfine results: 0.38 and 0.61 electron on the middle and terminal oxygen π\* orbital. A very interesting feature of this study is the spin densities calculated in cobalt d orbitals: d<sub>z<sup>2</sup></sub> (-0.0816), d<sub>xz</sub> (0.0005), d<sub>yz</sub> (0.0005), d<sub>xy</sub> (-0.0060), d<sub>x<sup>2</sup>-y<sup>2</sup></sub> (-0.0001), s (-0.0028). These spin densities, especially the negative values in d<sub>z<sup>2</sup></sub> and cobalt s, which we predicted on the basis of polarization arguments, are in excellent agreement with our model. The very small densities in d<sub>xz</sub> and d<sub>yz</sub> confirm our claim that little unpaired spin is delocalized from ψ<sub>2</sub> to metal π orbitals. Finally, the amount of electron transfer from cobalt to O<sub>2</sub> is calculated to be 0.3, compared to our upper limit of 0.4 in Co(acacen)py-O<sub>2</sub>.

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## Reversible Oxygen Carriers. The Synthesis and Low Temperature ( $-171^\circ$ ) Structure of an Unstable Monomeric Dioxygen Adduct of $N,N'$ -(1,1,2,2-Tetramethyl)ethylenebis(3-fluorosalicylideniminato)-(1-methylimidazole)cobalt(II), $Co(3-F-Saltmen)(1-Me-Imid)(O_2) \cdot 2(CH_3)_2CO$

Alex Avdeef and William P. Schaefer\*

*Contribution No. 5230 from the Arthur Amos Noyes Laboratory of Chemical Physics, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California 91125.*

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**Abstract:** The structure at  $-171^\circ$  of  $N,N'$ -(1,1,2,2-tetramethyl)ethylenebis(3-fluorosalicylideniminato)-(1-methylimidazole)superoxocobalt(III) diacetone solvate,  $Co(3-F-Saltmen)(1-Me-Imid)(O_2) \cdot 2(CH_3)_2CO$ , has been determined from three-dimensional x-ray data collected by counter methods and has been refined on  $F^2$  using 6078 reflections, including those with negative intensities. The conventional  $R_F$  factor based on the portion of the data with  $F^2$  greater than  $3\sigma(F^2)$  is 6.0%. The monomeric adduct ( $Co:O_2 = 1:1$ ) of cobalt(II) crystallizes in the monoclinic space group  $C_{2h}^2-P2_1/c$  (No. 14), with four formula units in a cell with the low-temperature dimensions  $a = 11.934(6) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $b = 13.864(5) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $c = 18.018(8) \text{ \AA}$ , and  $\beta = 92.35(2)^\circ$ . The superoxide ligand,  $O_2^-$ , is bonded "end-on" to the cobalt atom of the chelate, with a  $Co-O-O$  angle of  $117.4(2)^\circ$  and an  $O-O$  bond length of  $1.302(3) \text{ \AA}$ . The dioxygen group lies nearly in the plane defined by the methylimidazole trans to it. The  $Co-O$  (dioxygen) and  $Co-N$  (imidazole) bond distances are  $1.881(2)$  and  $2.004(3) \text{ \AA}$ , respectively. The other coordination bonds average  $1.893$  ( $Co-N$ ) and  $1.901 \text{ \AA}$  ( $Co-O$ ). The molecular packing in the vicinity of the coordinated dioxygen ligand is similar to that found in the hydrophobic "distal imidazole" pocket of myoglobin. Crystals of the cobalt oxygen adduct are not stable at ambient conditions and evolution of  $O_2$  may be readily observed, as the crystals change from dark burgundy red to golden yellow upon decomposition.

Understanding molecular oxygen transport and storage in living systems has been enhanced by studies of reversibly bound dioxygen adducts of simple transition metal complexes.<sup>1</sup> Much effort has been directed towards the mimicry of myoglobin and hemoglobin, as demonstrated so well by the char-

acterization of the dioxygen adduct of the iron "picket fence porphyrin" complex by Collman and co-workers.<sup>2</sup>

Schiff base complexes of cobalt(II) have been studied as oxygen carriers since 1938.<sup>3</sup> The relevance and importance of such dioxygen-carrying cobalt complexes as models has been