

One might argue that the outstandingly high activity of the pellet form of Ca₆-A could be due to the binder in the pellet, which might have been activated by the ion exchange. However, this may be explained by the fact that the bead-form Ca₆-A, containing the same binder, showed the same activity at 150 °C as that of powder-form Ca₆-A which contained no binder. Thus, it is concluded that the high catalytic activity of Ca₆-A is attributed to Ca²⁺ on the α site.

The powder-, pellet-, and bead-form catalysts exhibited considerably different activities. These may be attributed to their texture or pluggings of the zeolite surfaces, which influence the diffusion of the reactants and products. Hence such results do not affect the above conclusion.

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Studies of Single ¹⁹⁹Hg^{II} Ion Resonances in the Active Site of Human Carbonic Anhydrase B by Fourier Transform Nuclear Magnetic Resonance

Sir:

We wish to report the first direct observation by NMR of ¹⁹⁹Hg^{II} resonances from a Hg^{II}-protein complex in solution. The very strong, specific binding of Hg^{II} and organomercurials to many proteins, especially those having exposed sulfhydryl groups, has long been employed to provide heavy atom labels in protein x-ray crystallography.¹ The powerful enzyme-inhibiting properties of mercury and its compounds accounts for their well-known toxicities to all living organisms.² In the present work we have substituted ¹⁹⁹Hg^{II} for the naturally occurring Zn^{II} in the active site of the zinc metalloenzyme human carbonic anhydrase B (carbonate hydro-lyase EC 4.2.1.1).³

Hg^{II} binds more tightly to HCAB than any other metal ion, but has failed to restore significant activity to carbonic anhydrases under conditions employed to now.⁴ Nevertheless, the spin quantum number, $I = 1/2$ and extremely large chemical shift range of known ¹⁹⁹Hg compounds (>2500 ppm)⁵⁻⁷ makes ¹⁹⁹Hg interesting as a possible spectroscopic probe of the active site. Furthermore, in conjunction with ¹¹³Cd ($I = 1/2$) NMR studies of zinc enzymes,⁸ we may obtain useful extrapolations among the d¹⁰ metal ions to the properties of the zinc enzyme, which has no common Zn isotope with favorable nuclear spin for NMR studies.

Figure 1A shows the ¹⁹⁹Hg NMR spectrum⁹ at 25 °C of ~4 mL of 7 mM aqueous ¹⁹⁹Hg^{II}HCAB¹⁰ in 0.05 M Tris acetate buffer at pH 7.7. A single, broad (~400 Hz) peak centered at -1310 ppm upfield of neat (CH₃)₂Hg is consistently observed under various sweepwidth and spectrometer offset conditions. The peak broadness in ¹⁹⁹Hg^{II}HCAB is analogous to our results for uninhibited ¹¹³Cd^{II}HCAB,^{8b} and suggests that both

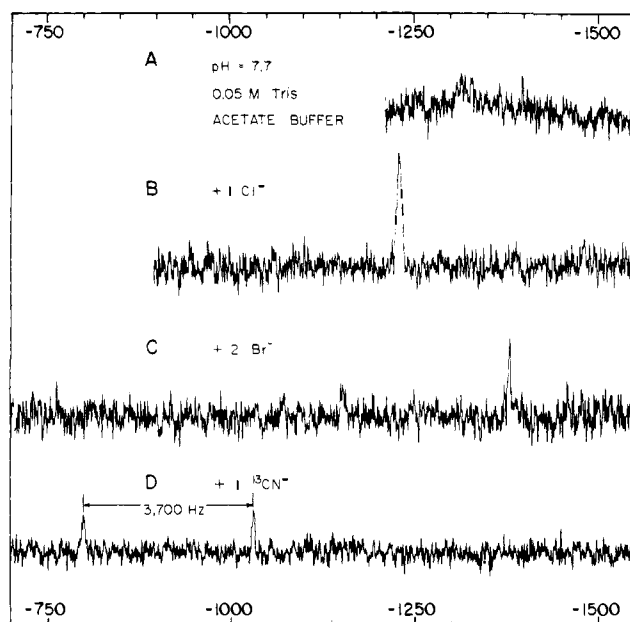


Figure 1. ¹⁹⁹Hg FTNMR proton-coupled spectra at 25 °C of 83.5% isotopically enriched 7 mM ¹⁹⁹Hg^{II}HCAB in 50 mM aqueous Tris acetate, pH 7.7. Chemical shifts (parts per million) are relative to neat (CH₃)₂Hg. Exponential multiplication yielding 10-Hz line broadening was applied to the free-induction decays. All spectra are 12-h accumulations: (A) original sample, (B) sample A plus 1 equiv of NaCl, (C) sample B plus 2 equiv of NaBr, (D) sample B plus 1 equiv of K¹³CN (90% isotopically enriched).

metals undergo ligand-ligand exchange processes at intermediate rates on the NMR time scale. The fact that the Hg^{II} ion occupies the active site of HCAB (rather than the partly accessible sulfhydryl group)^{3b} when equimolar Hg^{II} is added from the failure of Zn^{II} to restore significant activity.¹¹

Figure 1B shows the dramatic change in the ¹⁹⁹Hg spectrum caused by addition of 1 equiv of NaCl, analogous to the changes in ¹¹³Cd NMR spectra of ¹¹³Cd^{II}HCAB.^{8b} The ¹⁹⁹Hg resonance shifts downfield (to -1220 ppm) and sharpens to a line width of ~110 Hz or less (sometimes as sharp as ~60 Hz). Evidently Cl⁻ is strongly bound to or near Hg^{II} in the active site, interrupting the ligand-ligand exchange process. Addition of three equivalents of NaHCO₃ has no effect on the spectrum shown in 1B.

Figure 1C shows the effect of adding 2 equiv of NaBr to the sample giving rise to Figure 1B. Br⁻ appears to displace Cl⁻, as is also the case in the Cd^{II}¹² and native Zn^{II}^{3a} enzymes. The peak at -1380 ppm has a line width of ~50 Hz. In Cd^{II}HCAB containing one Br⁻ we have evidence¹² for two distinct ¹¹³Cd resonances of unequal areas in slow exchange, probably indicating inner sphere and outer sphere binding of Br⁻. It is tempting to draw a similar conclusion for Hg^{II}HCAB from the small peak at ~1150 ppm, but until a better signal-to-noise ratio is obtained we reserve judgement.

Figure 1D results from addition of 1 equiv of K¹³CN (≤90% isotopic enrichment, Merck and Co.). The doublet centered at -910 ppm with a separation of $J_{\text{HgC}} = 3700$ Hz and a line width of ~70 Hz indicates direct Hg-C binding. Addition of an additional 3 equiv of K¹³CN produced no change in the splitting pattern, although J_{HgC} decreased by 40 Hz, presumably through ionic strength or other medium effects. The tendency of Hg^{II} to bind only one CN⁻ under these conditions, like the analogous result in Cd^{II}HCAB, is surprising in view of its larger ionic radius and consequent displacement (~0.6 Å) away from the three histidyl ligands, at least in crystalline HCAC.^{3c}

Preliminary results with ¹⁵N-enriched ethylenediamine (en) dihydrochloride indicate that en cannot displace Cl⁻ from the

active site of $\text{Hg}^{\text{II}}\text{HCAB}$. Therefore the order of ligand binding strengths observed to date is $\text{CN}^- > \text{Br}^- > \text{Cl}^- > \text{en} \approx \text{HCO}_3^- \approx \text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2^-$ in the active site of $\text{Hg}^{\text{II}}\text{HCAB}$.

Longitudinal relaxation times, T_1 , for ^{199}Hg in $^{199}\text{Hg}^{\text{II}}\text{HCAB}$ are ~ 2 s, based on optimization of the flip angle. The use of broad-band proton decoupling, which was impractical with the homemade probe used herein, should lead to line narrowing and, hence, to improve signal-to-noise ratios in future experiments.

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Preparation of Polymer-Bound Bipyridine and Some of Its Transition Metal Complexes

Sir:

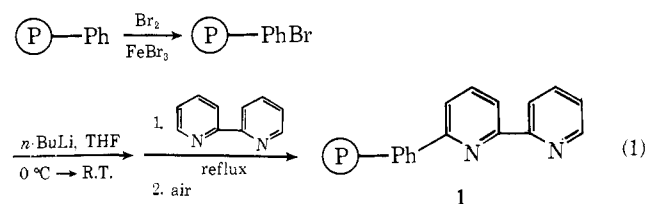
Anchoring reagents to insoluble supports has come to be known as solid-phase synthesis. Based on the pioneering efforts

of Merrifield in polypeptide synthesis,¹ rapid developments now not only make polypeptide synthesis on polymer supports routine, but immobilized enzymes, immobilized photosensitizers, immobilized organic reagents, and immobilized transition metal catalysts are also frequently reported.²

The immobilized transition metal catalyst offers, potentially, a plethora of practical advantages. Significant examples, generally employing phosphine ligands, have been reported by Grubbs,³ Pittman,⁴ Whitehurst,⁵ and others.^{6,7} Unfortunately, polymeric phosphine transition metal complexes are occasionally so labile that heterogeneous catalysis is not observed⁸ or leaching of the metal from the polymer limits catalyst reusability.⁹ In addition, potential applications exist in analysis, in single reactions, in photoprocesses, and in other aspects of synthesis which make these polymer-based reagents of great general potential.

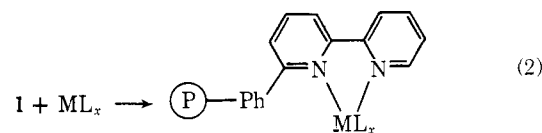
To increase the general availability of immobilized transition metal catalysts, we undertook the synthesis and study of polymer-based chelating ligands.¹⁰ We report herein the facile synthesis of a remarkably general polymer-bound chelating ligand and demonstrate its versatility by the many transition metal complexes prepared from it.

Bipyridine is attached to phenyl residues of polystyrene-2% divinylbenzene copolymer beads through the reaction sequence shown in eq 1. Ring bromination and lithiation are commonly



used in the preparation of polystyrene derivatives.¹⁶ In our system the stoichiometry of the ring bromination is controlled so that $< 25\%$ of the phenyl residues are brominated. Solid bipyridine is added to a tetrahydrofuran suspension of the lithiated polymer and the resulting solution is brought to reflux. After a few hours, the solution is allowed to cool to room temperature and air is bubbled through the solution until a color change from dark purple to yellow-gold is observed. The polymer is separated by filtration and washed with copious amounts of various solvents. The yellow-gold polymer, characterized by its infrared spectral data,¹⁷ swells less than the original copolymer in standard solvents and is stable to large quantities of these solvents. Elemental analysis is quantitatively unreliable¹⁸ but suggests ca. one bipyridine per nine styrene units.

Complexation of metal salts with **1** is strikingly facile. In a typical procedure, **1** is added to an $\sim 10^{-3}$ M tetrahydrofuran solution of ferric chloride, or other metal salt. The resulting



solution is shaken for several minutes and the polymer is filtered off and washed with copious amounts of various solvents. The amount of metal bound to the polymer can be determined from the quantitative analysis of the visible spectra of the metal ion solutions before and after exposure to the polymer. The variety of metal salts and the amount of metal incorporated, as determined by this method, are presented in Table I. These data illustrate the generality of this method with respect to metal, oxidation state, and counterion.

The infrared spectra of the metal complexes are very similar to each other and differ from that of **1** by the addition of a