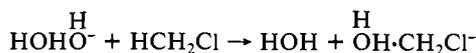


because it would be weakly held, the chlorine withdrawing the negative charge from the site of the proton transfer.



In conclusion, the reactivity of a Lewis base, in its competing roles of Brønsted base and nucleophile, has been explored as a function of translational energy. The rule at thermal energies that proton transfer prevails where it is spontaneous³ is here extended to suprathermal energies, where proton transfer *within the intermediate* must be spontaneous for the reactants. Adding a single solvate molecule is again shown to change a reaction mechanism²²—here, apparently, by perturbing differentially the energies of the participating species.

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Registry No. CH₃Cl, 74-87-3; OH⁻, 14280-30-9.

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Mechanism of Adenylate Kinase. 1. Use of ¹⁷O NMR To Study the Binding Properties of Substrates¹

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Despite the ubiquity of oxygen-containing functional groups (e.g., phosphoryl, carboxyl, and hydroxyl groups) in biological systems,¹⁷O NMR has not been used to study the binding and motional properties of enzyme-substrate complexes. On the other hand, binding of small ligands to proteins has been investigated by the NMR properties of other quadrupolar nuclei such as ⁴³Ca,² ⁷⁹Br, ⁸¹Br,³ ³⁵Cl,⁴ ²H,⁵ etc.

Adenylate kinase (AK) provides a good system to test the applicability of ¹⁷O NMR in enzyme-substrate interactions. The enzyme is small (*M_r* ≈ 21 000), yet consists of two distinct sites: the MgATP site binds ADP, ATP, MgADP, and MgATP, whereas the AMP site binds AMP and ADP.⁶ The dissociation constants are in the order of 10⁻⁴–10⁻⁵ M.^{6b,c}

The ¹⁷O line width (ΔO) in the extreme narrowing limit ($\omega^2\tau_c^2 \ll 1$) can be expressed by⁷

$$\Delta O = \frac{1}{\pi T_2} = \frac{1}{\pi T_1} = \frac{12\pi}{125} \left(1 + \frac{\eta^2}{3} \right) \left(\frac{e^2qQ}{h} \right)^2 \tau_c \quad (1)$$

(1) This work was supported by research Grant GM 29041 from NIH. M.-D.T. is an Alfred P. Sloan Fellow, 1983–1985. Abbreviations: ADP, adenosine 5'-diphosphate; AK, adenylate kinase; AMP, adenosine 5'-monophosphate; ATP, adenosine 5'-triphosphate; EDTA, ethylenediaminetetraacetate; GTP, guanosine 5'-triphosphate; Hepes, *N*-(2-hydroxyethyl)piperazine-*N*-2-ethanesulfonic acid; PPP, triphosphate; *T*₁, spin-lattice relaxation time; *T*₂, spin-spin relaxation time.

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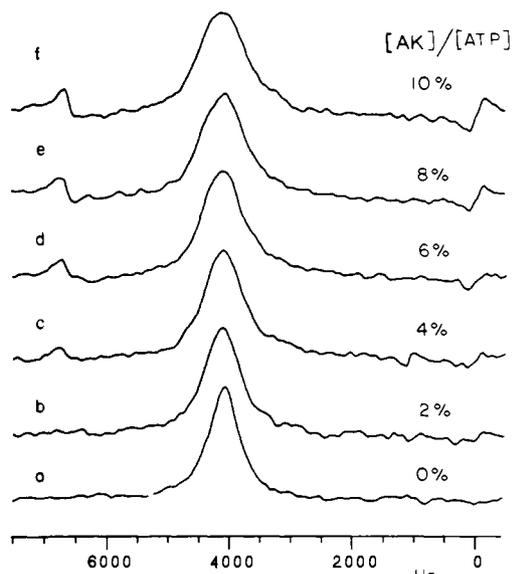


Figure 1. ¹⁷O NMR spectra (40.7 MHz) of [β -¹⁷O₂]ATP in the presence of various concentrations of AK. Sample conditions: (a) 7.0 μ mol of [β -¹⁷O₂]ATP in 0.20 mL of 100 mM Hepes buffer, pH 7.9, containing 14 μ mol of EDTA; (b–f) addition of 2.94 mg of AK (0.14 μ mol) in 0.132 mL of 100 mM Hepes buffer (pH 7.9). ¹⁷O-depleted water (10% ¹⁷O relative to natural abundance) was used in all cases. Spectral parameters: spectral width 25 000 Hz, acquisition time 41 ms, acquisition delay 20 ms, receiver gate 40 μ s. The *T*₁ inversion-recovery program was used to suppress the solvent signal (180° = 51 μ s, 90° = 25.5 μ s, recovery time 4.5 ms). Temperature was 20 °C, line broadening 100 Hz, no. of transients 12 000–25 000. The instrument and probe have been described elsewhere.¹⁹

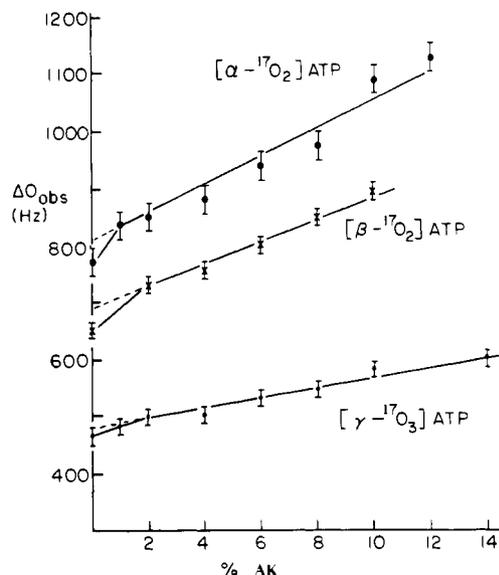


Figure 2. Dependence of ¹⁷O NMR line widths, ΔO , on the ratio $P = [\text{AK}]/[\text{nucleotide}]$. The conditions and spectral parameters are similar to Figure 1. The ¹⁷O-labeled nucleotides were available from our previous work,¹⁹ with all ¹⁷O label at nonbridging positions of the phosphate groups. The ΔO values have not been corrected for exponential multiplication (100 Hz) and field inhomogeneity (20 Hz).

where ω is the angular frequency of ¹⁷O, τ_c is the rotational correlation time, and η and e^2qQ/h are the asymmetry parameter and the quadrupolar coupling constant, respectively, of the ¹⁷O nucleus. When a small percentage (P) of an ¹⁷O-labeled nucleotide is bound to an enzyme, the observed line width is given by^{8–10}

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