

addition of water to the two oxocarbenium ions, **4** and the protonated aldehyde, represents a lower limit for stabilization of the protonated intermediate by a strong hydrogen bond to solvent water. This will increase the O-H distance and decrease the positive charge on the carbonyl oxygen.

We conclude that the hydrolysis of acetal derivatives does not proceed via diffusional equilibrated oxocarbenium ions. At this point, however, it is not possible to rule out an intermediate with a lifetime of less than ca. 10^{-11} s⁻¹ or the possibility that the reaction with solvent is concerted with no oxocarbenium ion intermediate.²⁴

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The First Fluorinated Cyclams

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Received January 28, 1988

Cyclam (1,4,8,11-tetraazacyclotetradecane) (**10**) has long been the most useful and versatile prototype in macrocyclic ligands for fundamental as well as applied coordination chemistry.¹ Recently, functionalization of its basic structure by incorporation of carbonyl group(s) adjacent to its amines, e.g., dioxocyclam (5,7-dioxo-1,4,8,11-tetraazacyclotetradecane) (**6**),² or by attachment of pendant donors such as phenol,^{3,4} catechol,⁵ pyridine,⁶ and imidazole⁷ to its carbon skeleton have added new dimensions to cyclam chemistry.

Now, for the first time, we report fluorine-containing cyclams **11-13** and dioxocyclams **7-9**. Their easy synthesis and novel properties indeed indicate the fluorination to be a new strategy for further extension of macrocyclic polyamines.

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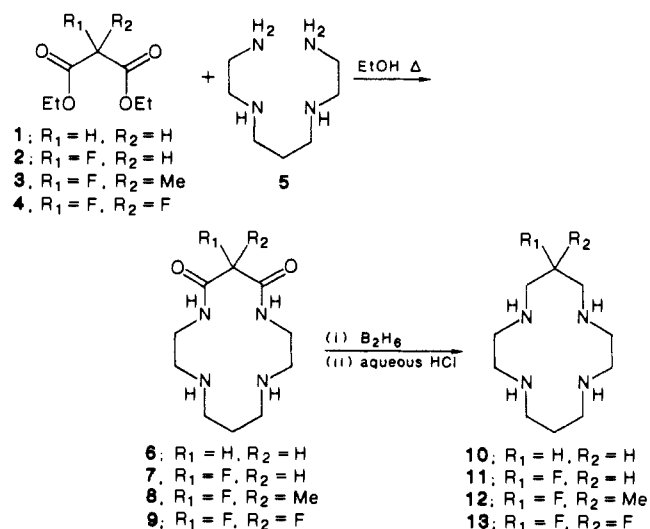
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Table I. pK_a Values at I = 0.1 M (NaClO₄) and 25 °C and Infrared Spectra Data of Free Ligands

ligand	pK ₁	pK ₂	pK ₃	pK ₄	$\nu_{C=O}$ ^a cm ⁻¹
6	9.63	5.85			1660
7	9.37	5.65			1685
8	9.56	5.53			1680
9	9.22	5.18			1710
10	11.78	10.55	<2	<1	
11	10.96	9.41	<2	<1	
12	11.34	9.69	<2	<1	
13	10.78	7.52	<2	<1	

^a Nujol.

6-Fluoro-(**7**), 6-fluoro-6-methyl-(**8**), and 6,6-difluoro-5,7-dioxo-1,4,8,11-tetraazacyclotetradecane (**9**) were synthesized by condensation of **5** with each corresponding fluorine-substituted malonic ester⁸ (**2**,⁹ **3**, and **4**) in refluxing ethanol. The cyclization becomes faster as more F is substituted, completing within 30 min with difluorinated **4** as compared to 3 days with nonfluorinated **1**,¹⁰ with yields of 39% (for **7**), 54% (**8**), and 33% (**9**).¹¹ The dioxocyclams **7**, **8**, and **9** were reduced with diborane in tetrahydrofuran to the corresponding cyclams, 6-fluoro-(**11**), 6-fluoro-6-methyl-(**12**), and 6,6-difluoro-1,4,8,11-tetraazacyclotetradecane (**13**) in yield of 45%, 34%, and 54%, respectively.¹²



The protonation constants pK_a (Table I) for these new macrocycles (**7-9** and **11-13**) were determined by pH-metric titrations, to prove weakened amine basicities upon F substitution. The diminution in the amine basicities is most dramatic at the second stage of protonation (pK₂), in particular for cyclams series **10-13**. In the light of the remote location of the basic nitrogens from fluorines in dioxocyclams, the observed basicity-weakening effect by the F atoms may indirectly occur through the strengthened hydrogen bondings between the acidified (due to the electron-withdrawing effect of F) proximal amide hydrogens¹³ and the distal

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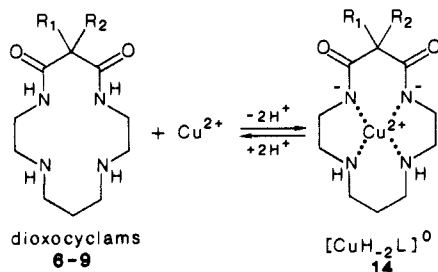
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(11) **7:** mp 194.0-194.5 °C (from CH₃CN); ¹H NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.5-1.9 (m, 2 H), 1.90 (br, 2 H), 2.4-3.0 (m, 8 H), 3.2-3.8 (m, 4 H), 5.23 (d, J = 48 Hz, 1 H), 7.45 (br, 2 H, amide NH). **8:** mp 179.5-180.0 °C (from CH₃CN); ¹H NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.4-1.8 (m, 2 H), 1.77 (d, J = 24 Hz, 3 H), 2.4-3.0 (m, 10 H), 3.0-3.4 (m, 2 H), 3.4-3.8 (m, 2 H), 7.35 (br, 2 H, amide NH). **9:** dec 194-196 °C (from CH₃CN); ¹H NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃-CD₃OD) δ 1.5-1.9 (m, 2 H), 2.5-2.9 (m, 4 H), 3.0-3.6 (m, 8 H).

(12) **11:** mp 170.0-172.0 °C (from CH₃CN); ¹H NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.5-1.9 (m, 2 H), 2.1 (br, 4 H), 2.6-2.9 (m, 12 H), 2.9-3.2 (m, 4 H), 4.70 (d, m, J = 45 Hz, 1 H). **12:** mp 112.0-113.0 °C (from CH₃CN); ¹H NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃-CD₃OD) δ 1.44 (d, J = 22 Hz, 3 H), 1.8-2.1 (m, 2 H), 2.8-3.8 (m, 16 H). **13:** mp 148.5-149.0 °C (from CH₃CN); ¹H NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.6-1.8 (m, 2 H), 2.0 (br, 4 H), 2.5-2.9 (m, 12 H), 2.8-3.3 (m, 4 H).

N lone pairs. A similar spacious effect argument may apply to explain the reduced pK_1 and pK_2 of the distal nitrogens in the fluorinated cyclams. The strong electron-withdrawing of F from the proximal nitrogens is reflected in the higher amide carbonyl stretching frequencies $\nu_{C=O}$, see Table I.¹⁴ The fluorination to reduce amine basicities (or to increase NH^+ acidities) may become very useful for macrocyclic polyamines that form anion complexes with polyoxyanions¹⁵ (e.g., polycarboxylates,¹⁶ phosphates,¹⁷ catechols¹⁸).

Potentiometric titration of 7-9 in the presence of equimolar Cu^{2+} ion showed the complexation with concomitant dissociation of the two amide protons to $[CuH_2L]^0$ (see 14) as in the case



of 6.¹⁹ The complexation of 9 started to occur at lower pH ~ 3 than that of 6 (pH $> \sim 4$),^{2a} with stability constant $\log K_{CuH_2L}$ ($= [CuH_2L][H^+]^2/[Cu][L]$) being 2.5 ± 0.2 for 9 (at $I = 0.1$ M ($NaClO_4$) and $25^\circ C$), as compared with 1.0 for 6 (at $I = 0.2$ M ($NaClO_4$) and $25^\circ C$).^{2a} The apparently greater complex stability with 9 over 6 was supported by the ligand displacement of CuH_2L ($L = 6$) with $L = 9$ (equimolar, at pH 5, $50^\circ C$ over a few days), which was monitored by each distinct $Cu^{III/II}$ potential (see the following). At present, we cannot rationalize why it is 9 with weaker bases and not 6 with stronger bases that affords a more stable CuH_2L complex.²⁰ The violet crystalline $[CuH_2L]^0$ 14 was isolated, which shows $\nu_{C=O}$ at 1580, 1575, 1605, and 1620 cm^{-1} with 6, 7, 8, and 9, respectively. Electron paramagnetic resonance spectra of those complexes at 77 K (in H_2O) are similar with $g_{\perp} = 2.06$, $g_{\parallel} = 2.17$, $A_{\parallel} = 215\text{ G}$ ($G = 10^{-4}\text{ T}$) for 6 and $g_{\perp} = 2.06$, $g_{\parallel} = 2.18$, $A_{\parallel} = 217\text{ G}$ for 7-9. Their d-d absorptions spectra [λ_{max} nm (ϵ)] occur at 505 nm (100) with 6, 518 nm (140) with 7, 512 nm (70) with 8, and 515 nm (110) with 9, which seems to imply a little weakening of ligand fields by the fluorination.

Nickel (II)-cyclam (10-13) complexes were all isolated as $[NiL](ClO_4)_2$.²¹ Their d-d absorptions in aqueous solution occur at 450 nm with 10, 453 nm with 11, 451 nm with 12, and 492 nm with 13, implying the dramatic LF reduction with the difluorination. Ni^{II} ions in these complexes remain mostly low-spin in aqueous solution with μ_{eff} values ranging 2.3-2.5 μ_B with 10-13 (by Evans method²² at $35^\circ C$ and $I = 0.1\text{ M}$).

The effect of the F substitution is most evident in electrochemical properties of Cu and Ni complexes (Table II). The fluorinated CuH_2L complexes 14 showed all quasi-reversible cyclic

Table II. Half-Wave Potentials (V versus SCE)^a for $Cu^{III/II}$ (Doubly Deprotonated 6-9) and $Ni^{III/II}$ and $Ni^{II/I}$ (10-13) Complexes

complex	$E_{1/2}$ (V versus SCE)		
	for $Cu^{III/II}$ ^b	for $Ni^{III/II}$ ^c	for $Ni^{II/I}$ ^d
$[CuH_2L]^0$, L =			
6	+0.64		
7	+0.69		
8	+0.71		
9	+0.83		
$[NiL]^{2+}$, L =			
10		+0.50	-1.56
11		+0.52	-1.52
12		+0.53	-1.53
13		+0.63	-1.46

^a All solutions were deaerated by purified Ar, and a Pt wire was used as auxiliary electrode. ^b 0.5 M (Na_2SO_4), $25^\circ C$, pH = 7.0. Working electrode (W.E.); glassy carbon. ^c 0.5 M (Na_2SO_4), $25^\circ C$, pH = 6-7. W.E.; glassy carbon. ^d 0.1 M ($NaClO_4$), $25^\circ C$, pH = 7.0. W.E.; Hanging mercury drop electrode.

voltammograms for $Cu^{III/II}$, as did nonfluorinated CuH_2L .²³ The fluorinated $[NiL]^{2+}$ gave quasi-reversible voltammograms for $Ni^{III/II}$ and $Ni^{II/I}$, as did the nonfluorinated 10 complex.²⁴ In either system, upon fluorination, the higher oxidation states Cu^{III} and Ni^{III} become successively destabilized with respect to Cu^{II} and Ni^{II} , while the lower oxidation state Ni^I becomes successively stabilized with respect to Ni^{II} .

Fluorinated macrocyclic ligands with easy access will find great potentials in basic as well as applied studies.

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Oxygen Atom Transfer from an Iridium Dioxigen Complex: Oxidation of Carbon Monoxide to Carbonate

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Received January 25, 1988

There has been a great deal of interest in transition-metal dioxigen complexes either as mimics of biological systems¹ or for oxidation of organic substrates.² A number of questions remain to be answered concerning the factors that promote reactivity and/or selectivity in oxidations by transition-metal dioxigen complexes. An understanding of the intimate mechanism of oxygen atom transfer reactions and the electronic and steric effects on reactivity is required. In this communication we present our observations concerning the oxidation of carbon monoxide by $(CH_3)_3Ir(P(p\text{-tolyl})_3)_2(CO)(O_2)$. The data support a rapid reversible cleavage of one iridium-oxygen bond followed by attack on free CO.

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