

parameters of each path; furthermore, the experimental Arrhenius plot for OD + DCOOD can be reproduced by applying kinetic isotope effects of about 2 and 9 at 298 K to the C-H abstraction and addition paths, respectively. These kinetic isotope effects are reasonable, as discussed below.

The positive Arrhenius activation energy and lower values of  $k_M$  (relative to OH + HCOOH) for the OD + DCOOD reaction can be interpreted in terms of the relative difference in isotope effects for the addition path (i.e., the equilibrium constant  $k_{6a}/k_{6-a}$  and the rate constant  $k_{6b}$ ) and the direct abstraction path involving the formyl group. The equilibrium constant for adduct formation,  $k_{6a}/k_{6-a}$ , would be expected to be smaller for the deuterated formic acid by analogy with the equilibrium constants for the dissociation of hydrogen bonded dimers of the acids in Table I. Also, because the acidic O-H bond is broken in the adduct to form H<sub>2</sub>O,  $k_{6b}$  is expected to have a kinetic isotope effect. The multiplicative effect of the two steps would therefore likely result in the addition path having a greater kinetic isotope effect than the C-H abstraction path. As a result, direct abstraction of hydrogen from the formyl group would be relatively more important for the OD + DCOOD reaction than for the OH + HCOOH reaction, thus accounting for the positive activation energy for OD + DCOOD. This mechanism would predict that  $k_D/k_M$  would be greater for DCOOD than for HCOOH. Although our room-temperature results appear consistent with this prediction, the errors in the  $k_D$  values are too large to allow a definite conclusion. Also, tunneling effects could contribute to the observed difference in the temperature dependence of the rate constants for HCOOH and DCOOD if tunneling were more important in reaction 6b than in the abstraction from the formyl group.

In the discussion of isotope effects, we assume that the rate constants for the direct abstraction reactions of OH and OD with formic acid would be essentially the same. This is a reasonable assumption because it has been shown in previous work that OH

and OD radicals do not have a significant isotope effect in the direct abstraction reactions with alkanes.<sup>26</sup> However, an isotope effect for OH and OD radicals would be expected for the proposed reaction path involving a hydrogen-bonded adduct. It will be difficult to determine experimentally such an isotope effect because of the ease of isotopic scrambling between the source of the hydroxyl radical and the acidic hydrogen of formic acid.

Fluorine atoms, which are isoelectronic with OH, also react with HCOOH by two paths. Macdonald and Sloan<sup>31</sup> found that, under their conditions, abstraction by F of the acidic hydrogen is favored by a 2:1 margin over the formyl hydrogen. Furthermore, the distribution of energy in the HF product indicated that the reaction at the acidic site involves a long-lived complex, whereas direct abstraction occurs at the formyl group.

Further experiments with other acids with varying strengths of C-H and O-H bonds may help to clarify the mechanism further. More important however would be theoretical calculations of the structures of the adducts and the potential energies of the reaction channels.

**Acknowledgment.** We thank Dr. J. L. Hencher for providing calculated values of vibrational frequencies and rotational constants for the deuterated formic acids, Dr. S. K. Brownstein for the NMR analyses, and Dr. M. J. Kurylo for a preprint of ref 25.

**Supplementary Material Available:** Table S1 of vibrational frequencies and rotational constants used to calculate the dimerization equilibrium constants of formic acid and its deuterated analogues and Table S2 of measured first-order decay rates at each temperature for the reaction of OH with formic acid and OD with formic-*d*<sub>1</sub> acid-*d*<sub>1</sub> (6 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

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## Divalent Metal Ion Catalysis in the Hydrolysis of Phosphomonoesters. Hydrolysis of 2-(1,10-Phenanthrolyl) Phosphate

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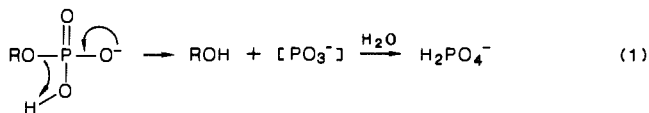
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**Abstract:** Rate constants have been determined for hydrolysis of 2-(1,10-phenanthrolyl) phosphate in water at 85 °C and  $\mu = 0.1$  M with KCl. The plot of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  vs pH is bell-shaped, which shows that the monoanion and the neutral species are the maximally reactive species. Divalent metal ions (Cu<sup>2+</sup>, Ni<sup>2+</sup>, Co<sup>2+</sup>, and Zn<sup>2+</sup>) exert a pronounced catalytic effect on the hydrolysis reaction of the phosphate dianion species (a dianion reaction cannot be observed in the absence of metal ion). The Cu(II) complex of the 2-(1,10-phenanthrolyl) phosphate dianion hydrolyzes at 40 °C more than 10<sup>8</sup>-fold faster than the phenyl phosphate dianion and 60000-fold faster than *p*-nitrophenyl phosphate dianion. Binding of the metal ions produces an absorbance change near 270 nm, as is the case with 1,10-phenanthroline, and the measured rate constants for metal ion binding are also similar to those of 1,10-phenanthroline. Thus, the metal ions are chelating the phenanthroline nitrogens. Binding of the metal ions is very strong; saturation effects occur at low metal ion concentration (<0.005 M). The plots of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  vs pH in the hydrolytic reactions are then pH independent at pH >6. The value of  $\Delta S^*$  for the pH-independent reaction at pH >6 in the presence of a saturating concentration of Cu<sup>2+</sup> is -46.8 eu, but  $\Delta H^*$  is only 8 kcal/mol. The reaction very likely involves nucleophilic attack of H<sub>2</sub>O on phosphorus or a kinetic equivalent. There is an accelerating effect of pyridine and imidazole in the reaction of the Ni(II) complex of the 2-(1,10-phenanthrolyl) phosphate dianion. This reaction is highly dependent on the presence of the metal ion; catalysis could not be detected in the absence of metal ion. A metal ion will not favorably chelate the leaving-group oxygen of 2-(1,10-phenanthrolyl) phosphate in a 1:1 complex because of the steric situation; complexation of the other phosphate oxygens will retard the metaphosphate elimination but will enhance nucleophilic attack at phosphorus. Thus, a strongly bound metal ion will produce large rate enhancements in the hydrolysis reactions of such phosphomonoesters and can lead to catalytic processes that proceed most likely by nucleophilic pathways.

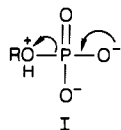
Phosphate esters are among the most important of biologically active compounds.<sup>2</sup> There has been considerable effort made to

understand the chemistry of their hydrolytic reactions.<sup>3</sup> Phosphomonoesters, e.g., methyl phosphate, exhibit bell-shaped plots

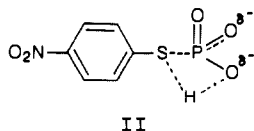
of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  vs pH, which indicate that the monoanionic species is maximally reactive.<sup>4</sup> The most likely mechanism for the monoanion reaction was considered to be a unimolecular decomposition to a hypothetical metaphosphate intermediate<sup>4</sup> (eq 1), which



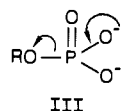
could be assisted by internal proton transfer to the leaving group. Kirby and Varvoglis<sup>5</sup> suggested that phosphomonoester monoanions with aliphatic alcohol leaving groups break down via the kinetically equivalent zwitterion (I). It was further considered



that with very good leaving groups, e.g., dinitrophenol, proton transfer would occur in the transition state. Proton transfer to sulfur in the transition state for decomposition of *S*-phenyl phosphorothioate ester monoanions (II) was indicated by the magnitude of the D<sub>2</sub>O solvent isotope effect.<sup>6</sup> Phosphomonoester



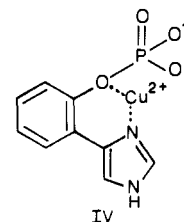
dianions hydrolyze much more slowly than the corresponding monoanions<sup>3-6</sup> (except in cases where the leaving group is very good),<sup>5,6</sup> and the dianion reactions are highly dependent upon the basicity of the leaving group ( $\beta_{\text{lg}} = -1.2$ ).<sup>5</sup> This should be the case if the dianion reactions also involve elimination to metaphosphate (III). However, there is no evidence that free meta-



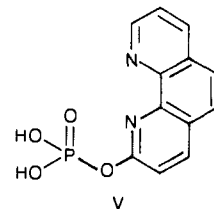
phosphate is formed in aqueous solution.<sup>7-9</sup> Metaphosphate would be expected to be a very unstable species, and therefore, the hydrolysis reaction might be facilitated by attack of H<sub>2</sub>O or other nucleophiles on phosphorus if such attack were catalyzed by general acids or metal ions.

Many of the enzymes that catalyze the hydrolysis of phosphomonoesters or phosphoryl group transfer reactions are metalloenzymes or metal ion activated enzymes.<sup>10-12</sup> For example, alkaline phosphatase requires the presence of a Zn<sup>2+</sup> ion,<sup>11</sup> and

kinase enzymes usually require Mg<sup>2+</sup> or Mn<sup>2+</sup>.<sup>12</sup> The role of the metal ion in these reactions is not well understood, although various suggestions have been put forth.<sup>10-13</sup> There have been surprisingly few studies of divalent metal ion catalysis in the reactions of phosphomonoesters.<sup>14-19</sup> The catalysis by metal ions in these reactions has been ascribed to screening of the negative charges and a template effect<sup>16</sup> or assistance of leaving group departure.<sup>10</sup> In the hydrolysis of salicyl phosphate<sup>14</sup> the presence of the neighboring carboxyl group gives rise to several kinetically equivalent species, but the metal ion should be in an excellent position to bind to the leaving group. Likewise, in the hydrolysis of 8-quinolyl phosphate metal ion coordination of the leaving-group oxygen could be an important factor.<sup>18</sup> Benkovic and Dunikoski<sup>15</sup> have suggested that Cu<sup>2+</sup> catalyzes the hydrolysis of (*o*-imidazol-4-ylphenyl) phosphate dianion (IV) by binding to the leaving-group oxygen, i.e., the metal ion functions in the same manner as a proton in the monoanion reaction. Binding of the



metal ion to the leaving-group oxygen will enhance metaphosphate elimination, whereas coordination of the other phosphate oxygens should inhibit the dissociative process and enhance associative mechanisms, e.g., nucleophilic attack at phosphorus by water or other nucleophiles. However, there have been no previous detailed studies of systems in which metal ion binding is strong due to a chelating functional group in the molecule but where coordination of the leaving-group oxygen would be unfavorable. To gain insight into the chemistry of metal ion catalyzed hydrolysis reactions of phosphomonoesters we have in the present work studied the hydrolysis of 2-(1,10-phenanthrolyl) phosphate (V). With this ester



a metal ion is very strongly chelated to the phenanthroline nitrogens, and binding to the leaving oxygen group in a 1:1 complex is sterically quite difficult because a four-membered chelate ring would be required. We have found that divalent metal ions exert a pronounced catalysis in the hydrolysis of the dianionic species of V, very likely through promotion of a water reaction.

## Experimental Section

**Materials.** 2-(1,10-Phenanthrolyl) phosphate was prepared from 1,10-phenanthroline in a six-step synthesis:

(1) Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Southern California.  
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(1) 1,10-Phenanthroline methiodide was prepared by the method reported by Halcrow and Kermack.<sup>20</sup> The compound was twice recrystallized from ethanol and melted at 212 °C (lit.<sup>20</sup> mp 210–213 °C).

(2) 1-Methyl-2-*o*-phenanthrolone was prepared by a modification of the published method of Halcrow and Kermack.<sup>20</sup> The reaction was carried out at 0–5 °C (in an ice bath). 1,10-Phenanthroline methiodide (7 g) was suspended in a three-necked flask in 100 mL of water and was continuously stirred. Potassium ferricyanide (4.5 g) and 2 g of NaOH were dissolved separately in water and were cooled to 0 °C. Both of the concentrated solutions were added to the methiodide solution slowly so that all of the NaOH solution was introduced before half of the potassium ferricyanide solution was added. The rest of the potassium ferricyanide solution was added very slowly, and the mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature. The water was removed by rotary evaporation at reduced pressure, and the residue was then refluxed in dry benzene. The desired compound was obtained after rotary evaporation of the benzene. The brown solid thus obtained was recrystallized from benzene and then from ethanol/water. The compound had a mp 122 °C (lit.<sup>20</sup> mp 123–124 °C).

(3) 2-Chloro-1,10-phenanthroline was prepared from the 1-methyl-2-*o*-phenanthrolone by the method of Halcrow and Kermack.<sup>20</sup> The product was recrystallized three times from hot water as colorless needles, mp 130 °C (lit.<sup>20</sup> mp 129–130 °C).

(4) A mixture of 2-chloro-1,10-phenanthroline (1.5 g), phenol (2.2 g), and 0.8 g of NaOH was heated at 100 °C for 2 days. (Note: Heating the mixture above 110 °C led to decomposition.) Then 18 mL of 20% NaOH was added, and the solution was again refluxed for at least 2 h. The mixture was cooled to room temperature. The crystallized 2-phenoxy-1,10-phenanthroline was obtained by filtration and was twice recrystallized from ethanol/ether. The compound melted sharply at 160 °C (lit.<sup>21</sup> mp 160–161 °C).

(5) A solution of 1.5 g of 2-phenoxy-1,10-phenanthroline in 30 mL of 50% hydroiodic acid was refluxed overnight. The solution was cooled and then neutralized with 20% NaOH to pH 7. 2-Hydroxy-1,10-phenanthroline precipitated and was recrystallized from benzene/ethanol. The compound melted at 159–160 °C (lit.<sup>22</sup> mp 159–160 °C).

(6) Freshly prepared 2-hydroxy-1,10-phenanthroline (1 g, 0.005 mol) was dissolved in 10 mL of POCl<sub>3</sub> in the presence of 0.5 g of calcium carbonate. The mixture was refluxed for 4 h and was then quickly filtered while hot. The excess POCl<sub>3</sub> was removed by vacuum distillation. The thick brown oil thus obtained was extracted with 100 mL of dry acetone, and 100 mL of benzene was added. The solution was cooled in an ice/salt bath at 0 °C, and 5 mL of water was very slowly added dropwise with stirring over a period of 1 h. The solution was neutralized with NaOH, 100 mL of additional benzene was added, and the solution was allowed to stand overnight at room temperature in the dark. The precipitate thus obtained was dried in vacuo. The material was recrystallized from a solution containing 10 mL of acetone, 1 mL of water, and 50 mL of benzene. Small needles were obtained with mp 166 °C. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>9</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>P: C, 52.19; H, 3.28; N, 10.14. Found: C, 52.43; H, 3.19; N, 10.01.

**Kinetic Methods.** The rates of hydrolysis of 2-(1,10-phenanthrolyl) phosphate were measured spectrophotometrically with a Pye-Unicam SP8-100 recording spectrophotometer by following the absorbance increase at 320 nm due to the appearance of the product (2-hydroxy-1,10-phenanthroline or its metal ion complex). There was a sharp isosbestic point when repetitive scans were taken at various times during the hydrolytic reaction. For example, in the presence of a saturating concentration of Cu<sup>2+</sup> at 30 °C (pH 5.0) there is an isosbestic point at 274 nm. Stock solutions were 4 × 10<sup>-3</sup> M in ethanol. To initiate a kinetic run, 20 μL of the stock solution was injected into 3 mL of the reaction solution maintained at the desired temperature. The reactions followed good pseudo-first-order kinetics for at least 4 half-lives. The values of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$ , the pseudo-first-order rate constant, were calculated with a least-squares computer program. Reaction mixture pH values were measured with a Beckman Model 3500 pH meter.

The ionic strength was 0.1 M, maintained with KCl, and the solutions used for the studies in the absence of metal ion contained 2 × 10<sup>-5</sup> M EDTA as a precaution against trace metal ion in the buffer or salt. No corrections were made for buffer-metal ion complexation. In the pH range 1–3, HCl solutions were employed. The buffers employed in kinetic studies were formate (pH 3.2–4.5), acetate (pH 4.2–5.3), pyridine (pH 4.0–5.5), cacodylate (pH 5.5–6.5), 2,6-lutidine (pH 5.2–6.5), *N*-ethylmorpholine (pH 6.6–8.4), and morpholine (pH 8.0–8.6). The buffer concentration was always 0.02 M. Such low concentrations of buffer do

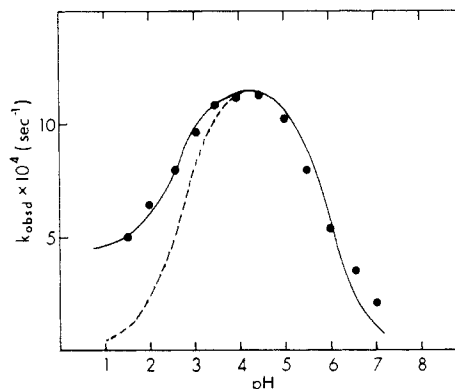


Figure 1. Plot of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  vs pH for hydrolysis of 2-(1,10-phenanthrolyl) phosphate in H<sub>2</sub>O at 85 °C,  $\mu = 0.1$  M with KCl.

not have an experimentally significant catalytic effect on the observed reactions (except with acetate).

Complexation reactions of the metal ions with V were followed with a Durrum D110 stopped-flow spectrophotometer. The absorbance changes at 270 nm after the rapid mixing of the substrate in 0.1 M KCl solution with the buffer ( $\mu = 0.1$  M) containing the appropriate metal ion were recorded on a Hewlett Packard storage oscilloscope (Model 1207B).

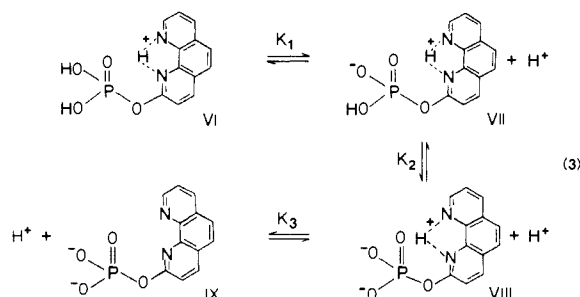
**Titration of 2-(1,10-Phenanthrolyl) Phosphate.** A solution (25 mL) of 3.30 × 10<sup>-3</sup> M 2-(1,10-phenanthrolyl) phosphate was titrated with 3.51 × 10<sup>-2</sup> M NaOH solution at 30 °C. Both of the solutions were 0.1 M in KCl. The solution containing the phosphate ester was first adjusted to pH 2.2 with HCl. A blank titration vs HCl was also carried out. The titrations were conducted with a Beckman 3500 pH meter and a combination glass electrode. Nitrogen was continuously passed through the solution containing the phosphate ester. Two distinct pK<sub>a</sub>'s were found in the pH range 2–11. The value of pK<sub>a,1</sub> is 2.9 while that of pK<sub>a,2</sub> is 6.0. A spectrophotometric titration at 30 °C and 275 nm indicated a pK<sub>a</sub> of 5.9.

## Results

In Figure 1 is shown a plot of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  vs pH for hydrolysis of 2-(1,10-phenanthrolyl) phosphate at 85 °C and  $\mu = 0.1$  M with KCl. The plot is bell-shaped with a maximum at pH ~4.5. The dashed line in Figure 1 shows the pH dependence of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  if only the monoanionic species were reactive ( $k_M = 1.2 \times 10^{-3}$  s<sup>-1</sup>), whereas the solid line is that for reaction of both the monoanion and the neutral species ( $k_N = 4.5 \times 10^{-4}$  s<sup>-1</sup>). The theoretical plot was constructed from eq 2 employing the above rate constants

$$k_{\text{obsd}} = \frac{k_N K_1 a_H^2 + k_M K_1 K_2 a_H}{a_H^3 + K_1 a_H^2 + K_1 K_2 a_H + K_1 K_2 K_3} \quad (2)$$

for the two species and the appropriate pK<sub>a</sub> values. The equilibria involved are shown in eq 3. There are two kinetically equivalent

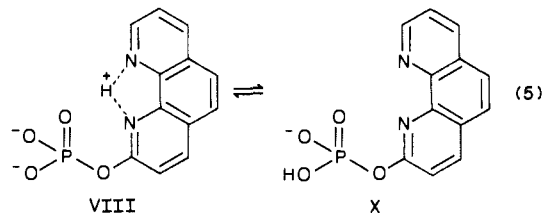
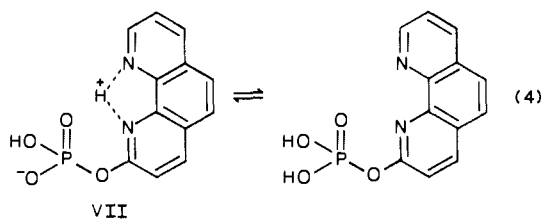


neutral species (presented in eq 4) and also two kinetically equivalent monoanions (VIII and X; eq 5) plus other less stable species in which there is a proton on the leaving-group oxygen. Titration of the ester at 30 °C with NaOH in the pH range 2–11 showed two well-defined pK<sub>a</sub> values of 2.9 and 6.0. These values are very likely the pK<sub>a</sub>'s of the neutral (zwitterionic) and the monoanion species, respectively. The first pK<sub>a</sub> (for the protonated species) must be less than 2. This is reasonable considering that a positive charge in the molecule will have a large acid-strengthening effect. The experimental values of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  give a good

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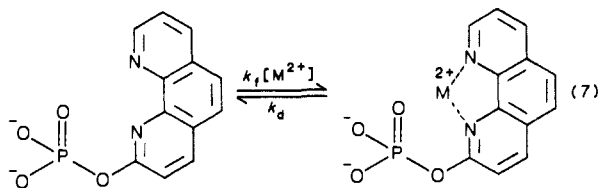
fit to eq 6, which follows from eq 2 assuming that  $K_1 > a_H$ . The

$$k_{\text{obsd}} = \frac{k_N a_H^2 + k_M K_2 a_H}{a_H^2 + K_2 a_H + K_2 K_3} \quad (6)$$

decrease in  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  for the hydrolysis of 2-(1,10-phenanthrolyl) phosphate at pH >6 shows that the dianionic species (IX) is relatively unreactive. In fact, a hydrolytic reaction at pH 8 (85 °C) was too slow to measure accurately.

The divalent metal ions  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Co}^{2+}$ , and  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  exert a significant catalytic effect in the hydrolysis of 2-(1,10-phenanthrolyl) phosphate. The binding of the metal ions is very strong. Plots of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  for hydrolysis of V vs the concentration of  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  at 30 °C showed that  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  is independent of metal ion concentration at concentrations greater than 0.001 M. Thus, saturation is achieved at very low metal ion concentration. From the plot of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  vs  $[\text{Cu}^{2+}]$  at 30 °C and pH 3.02 (HCl solution), the metal ion binding constant  $K_M$  was calculated to be  $3.4 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1}$  at that pH, and  $k_M$ , the limiting rate constant, is  $7 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . The  $K_M$  is the experimental value and is uncorrected for protonation of the phenanthroline nitrogens. Similar plots were obtained at 85 °C with  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Co}^{2+}$ , and  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  at values greater than pH 5.

Binding of the metal ions to V gives rise to an enhancement in absorbance near 270 nm as previously found with 1,10-phenanthroline.<sup>23,24</sup> The UV-vis spectra of V with and without a saturating concentration of  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  are shown in Figure 2. Rate constants for metal ion binding in the process of eq 7 were obtained



with stopped-flow measurements and are given in Table I. These constants are similar to those obtained for binding to 1,10-phenanthroline.<sup>24</sup> Figure 3 is a plot of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  for binding of  $\text{Co}^{2+}$  to V vs the concentration of  $\text{Co}^{2+}$ . The intercept represents the rate constant for dissociation of the metal ion complex  $k_d$ , and from the slope the rate constant for association  $k_f$  can be obtained by means of eq 8, where  $K_N$  is the acid dissociation constant of

$$k_{\text{obsd}} = k_d \left( 1 + \frac{K_N [\text{M}^{2+}]}{K_D [\text{H}^+]} \right) \quad (8)$$

the phenanthroline nitrogen conjugate acid and  $K_D$  is the ratio  $k_d/k_f$ . Note that the ratio  $k_f/k_d$  is the association constant  $K_M$  for the metal ion binding. These values are also given in Table I and are uncorrected for preferential binding to a particular species.

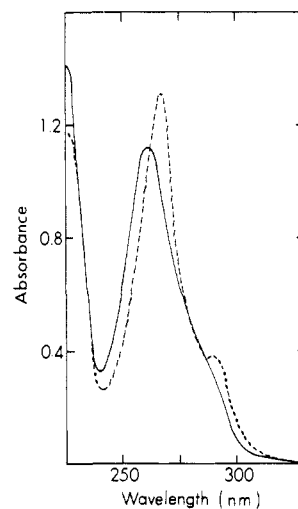


Figure 2. UV spectra of  $5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}$  2-(1,10-phenanthrolyl) phosphate in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  at pH 5.23 and 30 °C (—) and in the presence of  $2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}$   $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  (---) at 30 °C.

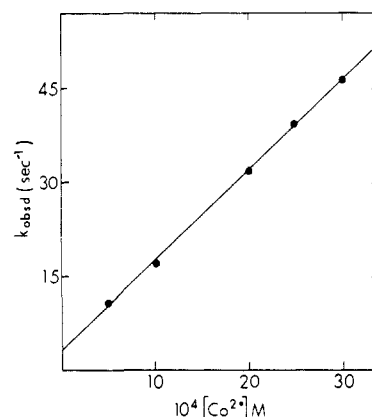


Figure 3. Plot of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  vs  $\text{Co}^{2+}$  concentration for binding of the metal ion to 2-(1,10-phenanthrolyl) phosphate at pH 5.21 and 30 °C,  $\mu = 0.1 \text{ M}$  with KCl.

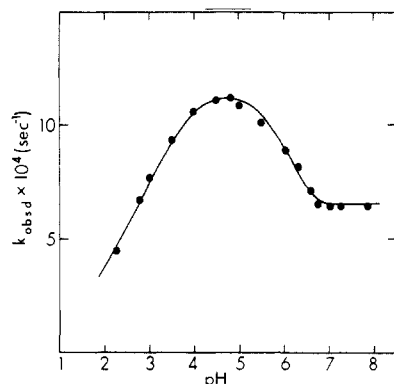
Table I. Rate Constants for Complexation of Metal Ions with 2-(1,10-Phenanthrolyl) Phosphate at 30 °C and  $\mu = 0.1 \text{ M}$  (KCl)

| pH   | metal ion        | $10^4 [\text{M}^{2+}]$ , M | $k_{\text{obsd}}$ , $\text{s}^{-1}$ | $k_f$ , $\text{M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ | $k_d$ , $\text{s}^{-1}$ | $K_M$ , $\text{M}^{-1}$ |
|------|------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 5.21 | $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ | 5                          | 0.27                                | 2500                                   | 0.07                    | $3.5 \times 10^4$       |
|      |                  | 10                         | 0.46                                |  |                         |                         |
|      |                  | 20                         | 0.87                                |  |                         |                         |
|      |                  | 25                         | 1.06                                |  |                         |                         |
|      |                  | 30                         | 1.25                                |  |                         |                         |
| 5.21 | $\text{Co}^{2+}$ | 5                          | 10.88                               | $8.9 \times 10^4$                      | 3.1                     | $2.9 \times 10^4$       |
|      |                  | 10                         | 17.03                               |  |                         |                         |
|      |                  | 20                         | 31.82                               |  |                         |                         |
|      |                  | 25                         | 39.26                               |  |                         |                         |
|      |                  | 30                         | 46.61                               |  |                         |                         |
| 2.72 | $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ | 5                          | 2.42                                | $7.0 \times 10^6$                      | 0.7                     | $1.0 \times 10^7$       |
|      |                  | 10                         | 4.07                                |  |                         |                         |
|      |                  | 15                         | 5.91                                |  |                         |                         |
|      |                  | 20                         | 7.16                                |  |                         |                         |
|      |                  | 30                         | 10.61                               |  |                         |                         |

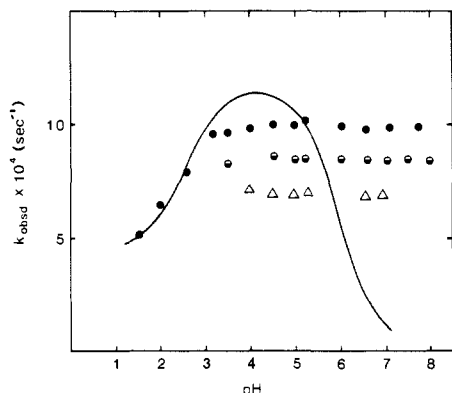
The plot of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  for hydrolysis of V at 30 °C vs pH in the presence of a saturating concentration of  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  ( $2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}$ ) is presented in Figure 4. The plot is again bell-shaped as in the absence of metal ions, but in addition there is a pH-independent region at pH >6.5 with  $k_{\text{Cu}} = 6.5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . Similar pH-independent reactions were observed at pH >4 with  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Co}^{2+}$ , and  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  at 85 °C (Figure 5) with  $k_{\text{Ni}} = 9.8 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ,  $k_{\text{Co}} = 8.5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , and  $k_{\text{Zn}} = 6.8 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . In the plots of Figure 5  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Co}^{2+}$  are at saturating concentration only at values greater than pH 4. Acetate buffer (0.02 M) has a small specific enhancing effect on  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  in comparison with other buffers in reactions of

(23) Bell, R. S.; Sutin, N. *Inorg. Chem.* **1962**, *1*, 359.

(24) Holyer, R. H.; Hubbard, C. D.; Kettle, S. F. A.; Wilkins, R. G. *Inorg. Chem.* **1965**, *4*, 929.



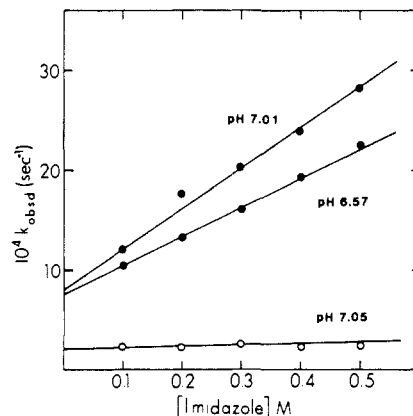
**Figure 4.** Plot of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  vs pH for the hydrolysis of 2-(1,10-phenanthrolyl) phosphate at 30 °C ( $\mu = 0.1$  M with KCl) in the presence of  $2 \times 10^{-3}$  M  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ . The ester concentration was  $2.6 \times 10^{-5}$  M.



**Figure 5.** Plots of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  for the hydrolysis of 2-(1,10-phenanthrolyl) phosphate at 85 °C ( $\mu = 0.1$  M with KCl) in the presence of  $4 \times 10^{-3}$  M  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  (●),  $\text{Co}^{2+}$  (○), and  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  (Δ). The solid line (—) is the plot for hydrolysis in the absence of metal ions. The ester concentration was  $2.6 \times 10^{-5}$  M.

the  $\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}$ ,  $\text{Co}^{\text{II}}$ , and  $\text{Zn}^{\text{II}}$  complexes. For example, at pH 5.0 the value of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  determined in acetate buffer for hydrolysis of the  $\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}$  complex at 85 °C is  $1.26 \times 10^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , whereas that determined by extrapolation to zero pyridine buffer at pH 5.0 is  $1.07 \times 10^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . A similar difference was also found with acetate and 2,6-lutidine buffers. Therefore, points determined in acetate buffer have not been included in Figure 5. In contrast, in the reactions of the  $\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}$  complex at 30 °C the values of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  determined in acetate and pyridine buffer at zero buffer concentration were in excellent agreement. Likewise, rate constants for hydrolysis of the  $\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}$  complex measured in 2,6-lutidine buffer were the same as those measured in cacodylate buffers at the same pH. Rate constants could not be determined at pH > 8 because of precipitation of the metal ion. In the presence of  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  at pH > 7 the solutions remained clear during the time course of the hydrolytic reaction but became cloudy if allowed to stand for longer periods. One cannot normally work at such high pH values with  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  because of precipitation of the metal ion, but in view of the extremely large binding constant of V with  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  it is possible to maintain saturation with little or no excess metal ion in solution, i.e.,  $[\text{Cu}^{2+}]/[\text{ligand}] \cong 1.0$ . In fact, rate constants were the same at pH > 7 when measured under these conditions and with the metal ion in excess. Complete  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  vs pH profiles were also obtained in the presence of a saturating concentration of  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  at 40, 50, and 60 °C. The value of  $\Delta H^{\ddagger}$  in the metal ion catalyzed phosphate dianion reaction is  $7.8 \pm 1 \text{ kcal/mol}$ , and the value of  $\Delta S^{\ddagger}$  at 30 °C is  $-46.8 \pm 3 \text{ eu}$ . Likewise at the top of the bell-shaped curve (pH 5.0)  $\Delta H^{\ddagger}$  is  $8.7 \text{ kcal/mol}$  and  $\Delta S^{\ddagger}$  is  $-43.4 \text{ eu}$ .

There is no significant catalysis by buffer bases in the hydrolysis of V in the absence of metal ions as shown in Figure 6 for an imidazole buffer at pH 7.05. However, the reactions of the metal ion complexes (at saturating metal ion concentration) are markedly promoted by amine buffers. In Figure 6 plots of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  vs total

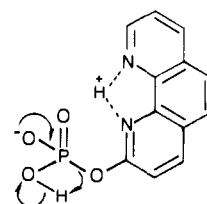


**Figure 6.** Plots of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  for the reaction of 2-(1,10-phenanthrolyl) phosphate vs the total concentration of imidazole buffer ( $\text{Im} + \text{ImH}^+$ ) in the presence of a saturating concentration of  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  (●;  $4 \times 10^{-2}$  M) and in the absence of  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  (○) at 85 °C and  $\mu = 0.5$  M with KCl.

imidazole concentration are shown for the reaction of the  $\text{Ni}(\text{II})$  complex at two constant pH values. The slope increases as the pH is increased, which indicates that it is the base species of the buffer that is kinetically active. The value of  $k_{\text{im}}$ , the second-order rate constant for imidazole reaction, is  $5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$  at 85 °C. Pyridine is also an excellent catalyst at pH 5.0,  $k_{\text{py}} = 5.8 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . The catalysis of the hydrolysis of the  $\text{Cu}(\text{II})$  complex by acetate buffer was not large. For example, a 0.5 M concentration of acetate buffer at pH 5 enhanced the hydrolysis of the  $\text{Cu}(\text{II})$  complex of V (30 °C) by 43% in comparison with 0.02 M buffer ( $k_{\text{AC}} = 1.4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ). Cacodylate buffer in the same concentration range (0.02–0.5 M) at pH 5.54 showed only 10% catalysis. Pyridine, however, is a good catalyst in hydrolysis of the  $\text{Cu}(\text{II})$  complex at 30 °C,  $k_{\text{py}} = 1.12 \times 10^{-2} \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . The concentration of metal ion was sufficiently large in these reactions to maintain saturation at high buffer concentration.

## Discussion

The bell-shaped plot of Figure 1 for the hydrolysis of 2-(1,10-phenanthrolyl) phosphate at 85 °C is similar in shape to profiles for the hydrolysis of phosphomonoesters that have been obtained previously, e.g., methyl phosphate<sup>4</sup> and phenyl phosphate.<sup>5</sup> With these esters the monoanion is the most reactive species, and it is likely that the mechanism involves elimination of metaphosphate as in eq 1.<sup>3–5</sup> Thus, it is important for one of the phosphate oxygens to be ionized to provide driving force for P–O bond breaking, and it is necessary that a proton be available to protonate the leaving group. The same type of mechanism possibly occurs in the hydrolysis of V, but it should be noted that there are now two species with which the above structural requirements are met. In addition to VIII the formally neutral



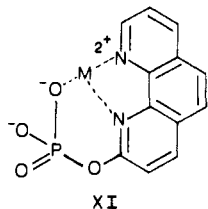
species VII should also be highly reactive since the zwitterion species (protonated phenanthroline nitrogens) would have a leaving group of low  $\text{p}K_{\text{a}}$ . 2-(1,10-Phenanthrolyl) phosphate in fact hydrolyzes considerably faster than phenyl phosphate ( $k_{\text{monoanion}} = 9.55 \times 10^{-8} \text{ s}^{-1}$  at 39 °C).<sup>5</sup> Thus, the 2-(1,10-phenanthrolyl) phosphate monoanion hydrolyzes  $10^4$ -fold faster than the phenyl phosphate monoanion with only a 46 °C difference in temperature. The dianionic species of V appears to be completely unreactive in the absence of metal ions.

The enhanced absorbance at 270 nm due to metal ion binding to 2-(1,10-phenanthrolyl) phosphate and the magnitude of the rate constants for such binding show conclusively that the metal

ions are complexed to the phenanthroline nitrogens.<sup>23,24</sup> The values of  $k_f$  and  $k_d$  for the metal ion binding (eq 7) can be calculated from the plots of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  vs metal ion concentration by employing eq 8.<sup>23</sup> In order to calculate  $k_f$  from eq 8 one must know the acid dissociation constant of the phenanthroline nitrogen conjugate acid. Only the high titrimetrically determined  $\text{p}K_a$  value of V ( $\text{p}K_a = 6$ ) leads to a reasonable value of  $k_f$ . The magnitude of  $k_f$  in formation of the Ni(II) complex ( $2500 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) is then in excellent accord with the literature values for binding of  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  to 1,10-phenanthroline and other ligands; the value of  $k_f$  for binding of  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  to neutral ligands is invariably near  $4 \times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ .<sup>25</sup> On the other hand, if  $\text{p}K_N$  is assumed to be the low  $\text{p}K_a$  (2.9), then  $k_f$  is calculated to be only  $1.9 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , an unreasonably low value. Therefore, the phenanthroline nitrogen conjugate acid must have a  $\text{p}K_a$  of 6, and consequently, the monoanion is VIII. The fast rate of hydrolysis of this species in comparison with the monoanion of phenyl phosphate must be due to the excellent leaving group provided by protonation of the phenanthroline nitrogens. Likewise, the rapidly hydrolyzing neutral species of V must be VII in which one of the phosphate oxygens is in the anionic form. Note that VII is less reactive than VIII. When the leaving group of a phosphate<sup>5</sup> or *S*-phenyl thiolphosphate<sup>6</sup> ester has a sufficiently low  $\text{p}K_a$ , then the dianionic species becomes more reactive than the corresponding monoanion.

The rate-determining step in the formation of the complexes of  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  may be the replacement of water in the aquo complex.<sup>25,26</sup> Therefore, it would be expected that  $k_f$  values would be similar for various ligands. As a consequence, the  $k_f$  determined for binding of  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  to 2-(1,10-phenanthrolyl) phosphate gives no information on whether the phosphate oxygens are chelated in the 1:1 complex in addition to the phenanthroline nitrogens. However, the values of  $k_f$  for the formation of the  $\text{Co}^{\text{II}}$  and  $\text{Zn}^{\text{II}}$  complexes are also similar to those for 1,10-phenanthroline.<sup>24</sup> Thus, if chelation of the phosphate oxygens occurs it must be after the rate-determining step. The  $k_d$  values for  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Co}^{2+}$  are larger than those constants in the chelation of 1,10-phenanthroline. The  $k_d$  for decomposition of the  $\text{Zn}^{\text{II}}$  complex of V is, however, 5-fold less than that for decomposition of the complex of 1,10-phenanthroline. Therefore, the binding of  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Co}^{2+}$  to V is not as favorable as to 1,10-phenanthroline, although binding is somewhat stronger with  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  ( $K_M$  is 20-fold larger for binding to V).

2-(1,10-Phenanthrolyl) phosphate is the first phosphomonoester studied in detail with which a divalent metal ion can chelate strongly to the ester but in which metal ion binding to the leaving-group oxygen would not be favorable in a 1:1 complex (in this case a four-membered ring would be required). The presence



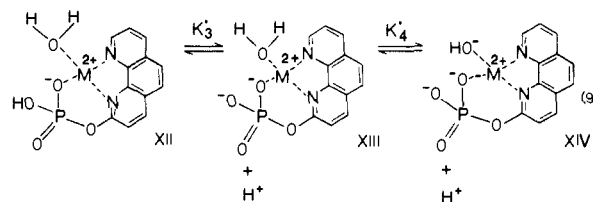
XI

of the chelated metal ion has a large effect on the rate of hydrolysis of the ester. In the presence of a saturating concentration of  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  rate constants for hydrolysis can be easily determined at 30 °C, whereas in the absence of the metal ion the reactions are too slow to allow accurate measurement of the rate constants. Thus,  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  is enhancing the rate of hydrolysis at all pH values studied. The values of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  for the hydrolytic reaction at 30 °C in the presence of  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  are at least 75-fold larger than those in the absence of the metal ion in the pH range 3–5.5. In contrast, the plots of Figure 5 show that even high concentrations of  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Co}^{2+}$ , and

$\text{Zn}^{2+}$  do not appreciably enhance the hydrolysis of V at 85 °C in the pH range 2–5. Increasing the concentration of  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  to 0.1 M in that pH range increased  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  by only ~10%. Therefore, when these metal ions are bound to the phenanthroline nitrogens at 85 °C the catalytic effect is nearly the same as that produced by a proton. The rate enhancements produced by these metal ions at 85 °C are, however, large at pH values greater than 6, where the reactions are pH independent.

Extrapolation to 85 °C of the plots of  $\log k_{\text{obsd}}$  for hydrolysis of the Cu(II) complex of V vs  $1/T$  shows that the value of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  at pH 5 (the pH-rate maximum) is  $1.19 \times 10^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , which is 12-fold greater than in the absence of the metal ion. At higher pH the rate enhancements become very large; at pH 7 and 85 °C the  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ -catalyzed reaction is 30-fold faster than spontaneous hydrolysis. Since the metal ion catalyzed reaction is then pH independent, the rate enhancement increases to a factor of 300 at pH 8 and would increase by a factor of 10 for each increase in pH of 1 unit if such measurements were experimentally possible. The rate enhancements due to  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  are much larger at lower temperature because of the small activation energy for hydrolysis of the Cu<sup>II</sup> complex; the  $\Delta H^\ddagger$  for hydrolysis of phosphomonoester monoanions is normally 24–30 kcal/mol<sup>5</sup> and that for the hydrolysis of the *p*-nitrophenyl phosphate dianion is 30.6 kcal/mol ( $\Delta S^\ddagger = +3.5 \text{ eu}$ ).<sup>27</sup>

The equilibria in the presence of a saturating concentration of  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  are shown in eq 9.<sup>28</sup> A metal ion and a proton complexed



to the phenanthroline nitrogens need not have the same effect on the phosphate group  $\text{p}K_a$  values; the metal ion is divalent and will be bound differently. However, the plot of Figure 4 indicates that the apparent value of  $\text{p}K_3'$  of the Cu(II) complex is 2.8. The profiles of Figures 4 and 5 indicate that XIII and possibly XIV are the major reactive species. The neutral species XIII (metal ion complex of the phosphate dianion) would give a bell-shaped  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  vs pH profile, and the profile of Figure 4 at pH >5 shows a decline in  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  with increasing pH until the reaction becomes pH independent at pH >6.5. At pH >5 the ionization of Cu(II)-complexed water may be influencing  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  (the  $\text{p}K_a$  of the aquo complex of  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  is 6.8).<sup>29</sup> The experimental points in the profile of Figure 4 give a good fit to eq 10 with  $k_1 = 1.2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ,  $k_2$

$$k_{\text{obsd}} = \frac{k_1 K_3' a_{\text{H}^+} + k_2 K_3' K_4'}{a_{\text{H}^+}^2 + K_3' a_{\text{H}^+} + K_3' K_4'} \quad (10)$$

$= 6.5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ,  $\text{p}K_3' = 2.8$ , and  $\text{p}K_4' = 5.9$ . Ionization of metal ion bound water would not be expected to influence the reactions of the  $\text{Co}^{\text{II}}$ ,  $\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}$ , and  $\text{Zn}^{\text{II}}$  complexes because of the probable high  $\text{p}K_a$  values. The  $\text{p}K_a$  values of the aquo complexes are as follows (25 °C):  $\text{Co}^{2+}$ , 8.9;  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ , 8.8;  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ , 10.6.<sup>29</sup> A large heat of ionization<sup>30</sup> would reduce these values at 85 °C, but the reactions are still pH independent at pH ~8.

The metal ion catalysis in the hydrolysis of V cannot be ascribed to an enhancement of metaphosphate elimination, since the leaving-group oxygen cannot be easily bound to the metal ion and since binding to the other phosphate oxygens, which would be

(25) Wilkens, R. G. *Acc. Chem. Res.* 1970, 3, 408.

(26) Replacement of a ligand water molecule in aquo complexes of  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  is characterized by a rate constant of  $2 \times 10^4 \text{ s}^{-1}$ , whereas with  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ , and  $\text{Co}^{2+}$  this rate constant is much larger ( $5 \times 10^8$ ,  $3 \times 10^7$ , and  $4 \times 10^5 \text{ s}^{-1}$ , respectively): Cotton, F. A.; Wilkinson, G. *Advanced Inorganic Chemistry*, 3rd ed.; Wiley-Interscience: New York, 1972; p 656.

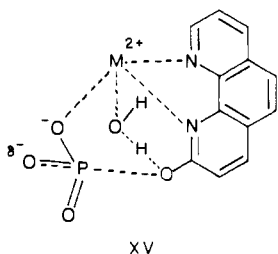
(27) Kirby, A. J.; Jencks, W. P. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1965, 87, 3209.

(28) With 1,10-phenanthroline as the ligand (1:1) the  $\text{Cu}_2(\text{OH})_2\text{L}_2^{2+}$  species is formed in appreciable concentrations in the neutral-pH range: Perrin, D. D.; Sharma, V. S. *J. Inorg. Nucl. Chem.* 1966, 28, 1271. The negatively charged phosphate group in the 2-position of V would, of course, greatly reduce the likelihood of such a dimer complex.

(29) At 25 °C: Basolo, F.; Pearson, R. G. *Mechanisms of Inorganic Reactions*, 2nd ed.; Wiley: New York, 1967; p 32.

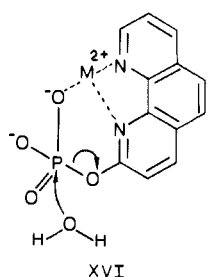
(30) A  $\Delta H_i^\ddagger$  of 6.0–8.3 kcal/mol has been found for ionization of  $\text{Zn}^{\text{II}}$ -bound water in macrocyclic complexes: Woolley, P. *Nature (London)* 1975, 258, 677.

sterically favorable (six-membered ring), would retard the elimination process. The pH-independent reaction at pH >6 of the plot of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  vs pH in the presence of cupric ion is occurring in a pH region in which the phosphate dianion species (XIV) is predominant. The  $\Delta S^*$  for this reaction in the presence of a saturating concentration of  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  is  $-46.8$  eu. A negative  $\Delta S^*$  of that magnitude is clearly not in accord with a unimolecular elimination reaction but must indicate the involvement of water or metal ion bound water in the critical transition state.<sup>31</sup> A water molecule bound to the metal ion could function as a general acid in assisting metaphosphate elimination (XV). The acid strengths

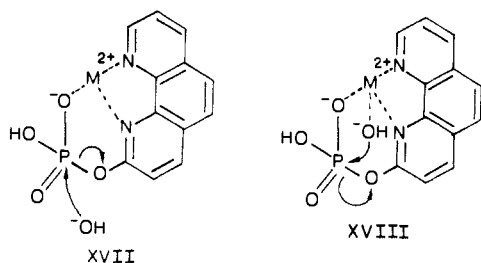


of the metal ion coordinated water will differ considerably depending upon the identity of the metal ion.<sup>29</sup> Thus,  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ -bound water will be the strongest acid in the series, and  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  is the best catalyst. However,  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ -bound water would be expected to be a much poorer general acid than with  $\text{Co}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ , but the three metal ions are of nearly equal effectiveness as catalysts. Furthermore, since water would be coordinated to the metal ion in the reactant it is unlikely that the mechanism XV could account for the highly negative value of  $\Delta S^*$  found in the reactions of the  $\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}$  complex. The value of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  for a reaction proceeding by mechanism XV will, of course, decline with increasing pH at pH values greater than the  $\text{p}K_a$ .

The pH independence of the metal ion catalyzed reactions at pH >6 and the highly negative  $\Delta S^*$  is most simply explained in terms of nucleophilic attack upon phosphorus by an external water molecule (XVI). A kinetic equivalent process would involve attack



of hydroxide ion on a protonated species (XII or a kinetic equivalent) as in XVII. Mechanism XVII would require a



second-order rate constant  $k_{\text{OH}}$  of  $7 \times 10^7 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$  at 30 °C with the  $\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}$  complex. Such a mechanism is unlikely considering that the reactions of other anionic nucleophiles (acetate and cacodylate) with the  $\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}$  complex are not highly favorable. A reaction involving attack of metal ion bound hydroxide ion (XVIII) would be pH independent at pH values below the  $\text{p}K_a$  of the metal ion bound water molecule, but the rate of hydrolysis would decline

with increasing pH at pH values greater than the  $\text{p}K_a$ . With  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  the highest experimental pH values are very likely above the  $\text{p}K_a$ . The values of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  at pH >6.5 are pH independent and show no influence of the ionization state of the metal ion bound water molecule. Therefore, the most likely mechanism is XVI. Proton transfer from water to the leaving-group oxygen could also occur in the transition state to facilitate leaving group departure. Nevertheless, the principal catalytic role of the metal ion must be to enhance the ease of nucleophilic attack at phosphorus and thereby to markedly lower the  $\Delta H^*$  for the hydrolytic reaction. This rate-enhancing effect is then only partially compensated by the negative  $\Delta S^*$  due to restriction of the water molecule in the transition state, and the rate enhancements at low temperatures will be quite large. Bromilow and Kirby<sup>32</sup> have calculated that the rate constant for hydrolysis of the phenyl phosphate dianion at 39 °C is  $4.2 \times 10^{-12} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , whereas that for the  $\text{Cu}(\text{II})$  complex of the 2-(1,10-phenanthrolyl) phosphate dianion (XIV) at 40 °C is  $1.02 \times 10^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , approximately  $2.5 \times 10^8$ -fold larger. The  $\text{Cu}(\text{II})$  complex (XIV) hydrolyzes  $\sim 60000$ -fold faster than the *p*-nitrophenyl phosphate dianion.<sup>27</sup>

The lack of evidence for a nucleophilic reaction of metal ion bound  $\text{OH}^-$  is of considerable interest, since the attack of metal ion bound  $\text{OH}^-$  on phosphorus apparently takes place in reactions of the substitution-inert ethylenediamine- $\text{Co}(\text{III})$  complex of *p*-nitrophenyl phosphate.<sup>33</sup> A similar type of mechanism has been suggested as a possibility in the alkaline phosphatase dephosphorylation step in hydrolysis of phosphomonoesters.<sup>13</sup> Metal ion promoted  $\text{OH}^-$  catalyzed reactions of carboxylate esters,<sup>34-39</sup> amides,<sup>40,41</sup> and anhydrides<sup>42,43</sup> are very favorable and give rise to rate enhancements as large as  $10^9$  (ref 41) in these systems where attack of  $\text{OH}^-$  is at a carbonyl group. The absence of such a reaction in the hydrolysis of V is consistent with the lack of large catalytic effects by anionic nucleophiles, i.e., it is difficult for such nucleophiles to attack the phosphorus of phosphomonoesters.

Amine bases are excellent catalysts for reactions of the  $\text{Ni}(\text{II})$  and  $\text{Cu}(\text{II})$  complexes of the phosphate dianion species of V. This process is almost totally dependent on the presence of the metal ion; as seen in Figure 6, catalysis by imidazole in the absence of metal ion is not significant. It should be noted that the second-order rate constants for imidazole and pyridine are quite similar even though the  $\text{p}K_a$  values differ by nearly 2  $\text{p}K_a$  units. Kirby and Jencks<sup>27,44</sup> found nucleophilic displacements by amines at 39 °C in the reactions of *p*-nitrophenyl phosphate dianion (but not phenyl phosphate),<sup>32</sup> and again the rate constants for a series of amines were similar. If the amines are acting as nucleophiles toward phosphorus, the lack of sensitivity of the rate constants to the  $\text{p}K_a$  of the amine must mean that there is little N-P bond formation in the transition state. The small catalytic effect of the negatively charged bases acetate and cacodylate would be expected if the reactions were nucleophilic. The second-order rate constant for pyridine catalysis of the hydrolysis of the  $\text{Cu}(\text{II})$  complex of V at 30 °C is  $4.5 \times 10^4$ -fold larger than that for hydrolysis of *p*-nitrophenyl phosphate at 39 °C,<sup>27</sup> while the sec-

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ond-order rate constants for pyridine and imidazole promotion of the reactions of the Ni(II) complex of V at 85 °C are 20 000- and 80 000-fold larger than those for reactions of *p*-nitrophenyl phosphate<sup>27</sup> at 39 °C. Therefore, the effect of the metal ion is profound.

High concentrations of Mg<sup>2+</sup> or Ca<sup>2+</sup> (0.33 M) were recently reported<sup>19</sup> to have only a small catalytic effect on the pyridine-catalyzed hydrolysis of *p*-nitrophenyl phosphate. It was concluded that metal ion binding to the phosphate oxygens has little effect on the ability of pyridine to attack phosphorus as a nucleophile. In contrast, pyridine is a good catalyst in the hydrolysis of the Ni<sup>II</sup> complex of V where binding of the metal ion is strong, even though no reaction can be observed in the absence of the metal ion.

**Alkaline Phosphatase.** The mechanisms of metalloenzyme-catalyzed phosphate ester hydrolysis or phosphoryl group transfer are not understood.<sup>45</sup> However, most of the proposals that have been put forth involve the metal ion in some manner. For example, it was suggested that the zinc ion in the active site of alkaline phosphatase coordinates the two negative charges of a phosphomonoester dianion and thereby enhances nucleophilic attack of a serine hydroxyl group.<sup>11,46</sup> A phosphorylated serine is an intermediate in the reaction. Others have pointed out that the Zn<sup>II</sup> may enhance metaphosphate elimination;<sup>10</sup> serine is then phosphorylated by metaphosphate capture. The key question would appear to concern binding of the metal ion to the phosphate ester substrate. If Zn<sup>II</sup> binds to the leaving-group oxygen, then the mechanism probably involves metaphosphate elimination. If, however, the leaving group is not complexed but the other oxygens are chelated, then the mechanism probably involves a direct nu-

cleophilic attack by the serine hydroxyl on phosphorus. This is, of course, based on the consideration that the metal ion is directly complexed to the phosphomonoester substrate.<sup>47-49</sup> If a metal ion bound water molecule is located between the metal ion and the substrate, then the mechanistic considerations will be unchanged, and the water molecule can then act as a general acid to facilitate either nucleophilic attack by serine or metaphosphate elimination.<sup>50</sup> The present work shows that when the leaving-group oxygen of a phosphomonoester is not significantly chelated in a 1:1 complex, a strongly bound metal ion will nevertheless produce large rate enhancements in the hydrolysis reactions and will lead to catalytic processes involving water and amines that proceed most likely by nucleophilic pathways. The conceptually simplest mechanism in the alkaline phosphatase catalyzed hydrolysis of phosphomonoesters would be that in which the neutral serine hydroxyl attacks at phosphorus.

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**Registry No.** KCl, 7447-40-7; Ni<sup>2+</sup>, 14701-22-5; Co<sup>2+</sup>, 22541-53-3; Zn<sup>2+</sup>, 23713-49-7; 1,10-phenanthroline methiodide, 112399-14-1; 1-methyl-2-*o*-phenanthrolone, 1-methyl-2-*o*-phenanthrolone; 2-chloro-1,10-phenanthroline, 7089-68-1; 2-phenoxy-1,10-phenanthroline, 22426-17-1; 2-hydroxy-1,10-phenanthroline, 92695-50-6; 2-(1,10-phenanthrolyl)phosphate, 112399-15-2.

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## Semifluorinated Hydrocarbons: Primitive Surfactant Molecules

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**Abstract:** F(CF<sub>2</sub>)<sub>8</sub>(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>12</sub>H and F(CF<sub>2</sub>)<sub>8</sub>(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>16</sub>H form reversed micelles in perfluorotributylamine and perfluorooctane, respectively. Static and dynamic light scattering, NMR, and fluorescence and absorbance probe solubilization demonstrate the presence of micelles. There is also preliminary evidence of normal micelle formation by F(CF<sub>2</sub>)<sub>8</sub>(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>16</sub>H and F(CF<sub>2</sub>)<sub>10</sub>(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>16</sub>H in toluene. These are the first examples of micelle formation by nonpolar low molecular weight molecules and they demonstrate that semifluorinated hydrocarbons are a new class of surfactant.

Surfactant solutions, particularly those in concentration regimes which result in the formation of association aggregates (micelles, reversed micelles, vesicles, microemulsions), are important in diverse applications. The dispersed pseudophase of complementary "polarity" provided by the aggregates often conveys properties to surfactant solutions that are inaccessible to single or mixed molecular solvent systems. In part, the rational design and selection of surfactants to achieve specified aggregate architectures can be based on simple hard-core geometric-packing arguments.<sup>1,2</sup> However, as with molecular fluids, even though gross structural

issues largely devolve to hard-core packing considerations, the thermodynamic properties of the aggregates critically depend on the intermolecular energetics of the amphiphilic molecule. Yet, in contrast to the situation encountered with pure molecular fluids, little effort has been expended in the development and study of functionally primitive surfactant systems. By functionally primitive we mean aprotic species which possess no (or minimal) permanent molecular dipole. Without such benchmark examples available for study, molecular theories of surfactant aggregation must incorporate rather severe approximations to treat experimental data. In this regard, concordance between theory and experiment must be viewed with caution.

The detailed structural and energetic requirements for a molecule to display surfactant behavior have yet to be satisfactorily elucidated even though the qualitative guidelines of surfactant

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