

Cr(III) can be used as an energy-transfer acceptor in proteins. CrATP and related complexes are inert species that bind to proteins.<sup>45</sup> The low-temperature lifetime of CrATP is 50 ns, but the lifetime of Cr(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>ADP is several microseconds. CrATP contains several H<sub>2</sub>O ligands. When one or more Cr-O bonds is involved in a complex, thermal quenching will be significant. If Cr(III)-nucleotide complexes are bound to proteins in proximity to tyrosine and/or tryptophan residues, emission from the latter will be quenched by resonance transfer and the Cr(III) emission will be sensitized as has been observed for bound rare-earth ions.<sup>46</sup> In favorable circumstances, Cr(III)-nucleotide complexes can be used to estimate the distance between the binding site and an aromatic chromophore, but the protein will have to be dissolved in a low-tem-

perature glycerol-H<sub>2</sub>O glass.

### Summary and Conclusions

Although variation in  $k_6^0$  with ligand may be associated with changes in the accepting mode frequency within a group of closely related complexes, the absence of a correlation between  $\Delta E/\nu_M$  and  $k_6^0$  (Table II) indicates that the effect of ligand on the electronic factor cannot be ignored. The change of  $k_6^0$  with ligand in the  $\beta$ -diketonates serves to underscore this conclusion.<sup>32</sup>

Estimation of intramolecular thermal relaxation rates for complexes dissolved in glassy media is risky. It is best to employ a solvent with the highest possible softening temperature. Also, the effective symmetry in a rigid glass is much lower than in a crystalline host. Consequently, symmetry arguments are not useful in discussing  $k_6^0$  for complexes in glassy solvents.

The substitution of NH<sub>3</sub> by H<sub>2</sub>O provides a facile thermal quenching channel, which is probably  ${}^2E \rightsquigarrow {}^4T_2$ .

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## Multiple Infrared Photon Dissociation and Kinetics of CF<sub>3</sub>O Radicals

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The multiple infrared photon dissociation of CF<sub>3</sub>O radicals generated from bis(trifluoromethyl) peroxide has been investigated. Infrared fluorescence from HF<sup>†</sup>, formed by reaction of the liberated F atom with HI, was used to monitor the dissociation over a range of infrared fluences. A simple rate equation model has been used to interpret the multiphoton excitation and dissociation of the CF<sub>3</sub>O species. The kinetics of the recombination reaction, CF<sub>3</sub>O + F → CF<sub>3</sub>OF, have been investigated by scavenging the F atoms with added HI. The rate constant for this reaction at 300 K is determined to be  $(3.5 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{10} \text{ L mol}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ .

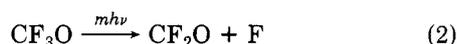
### Introduction

We have recently reported results on the multiple infrared photon dissociation (IRMPD) of bis(trifluoromethyl) peroxide (BTMP) by CO<sub>2</sub> laser radiation.<sup>1</sup> We found that the primary dissociation product is CF<sub>3</sub>O, and that substantial secondary dissociation of these radicals occurred in focussed beams, forming F atoms and CF<sub>2</sub>O. Little is presently known about the pumping and dissociation dynamics of transient species such as CF<sub>3</sub>O. In addition, the potential use of these species in laser-induced etching of silicon surfaces<sup>2</sup> necessitates a knowledge of the relative yields of the different reactive fragments under various excitation conditions.

When BTMP is subjected to infrared radiation in the 9–10- $\mu\text{m}$  region, at fluences above a few mJ/cm<sup>2</sup>, symmetric cleavage occurs at the O–O bond:



The CF<sub>3</sub>O produced may continue to absorb infrared photons and further dissociate:

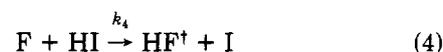


The F atoms then combine with the remaining CF<sub>3</sub>O to give the product, CF<sub>3</sub>OF:



The recombination rate constant  $k_3$  has been estimated at  $3 \times 10^9 \text{ L mol}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$  from analysis of thermal data,<sup>3,4</sup> but a direct measurement of  $k_3$  has not been carried out.

The production of F atoms in reaction 2 may be monitored by scavenging with HI according to the reaction



The HF is produced vibrationally excited, and thus may be monitored by its infrared fluorescence. The room-temperature rate constant  $k_4$  has been measured<sup>5</sup> to be  $2.4 \times 10^{10} \text{ L mol}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . The remaining CF<sub>3</sub>O radicals which do not react via (3) recombine to form BTMP



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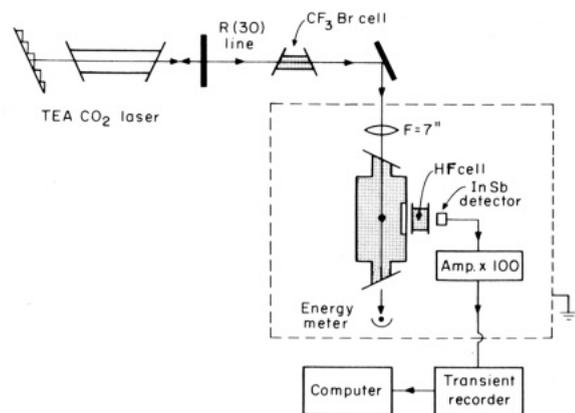
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**Figure 1.** Schematic arrangement of the infrared fluorescence experiment.

The possibility of direct reaction of  $\text{CF}_3\text{O}$  with HI (presumably to form  $\text{CF}_3\text{OH}$ ) was considered and ruled out in ref 1, on the basis of the lack of variation of  $\text{CF}_2\text{O}$  yield with added HI.

The questions which remain to be answered regarding the sequence of reactions 1–3 and 5 are, first, the yield of secondary dissociation (step 2) and the rate of the recombination process 3. Both of these are addressed via the scavenging reaction 4. The production of  $\text{HF}^\dagger$ , as determined by its infrared fluorescence, is used as a measure of the F atoms produced by secondary dissociation. The net yield of  $\text{CF}_3\text{OF}$  is used, in conjunction with a kinetic model, in order to determine  $k_3$ .

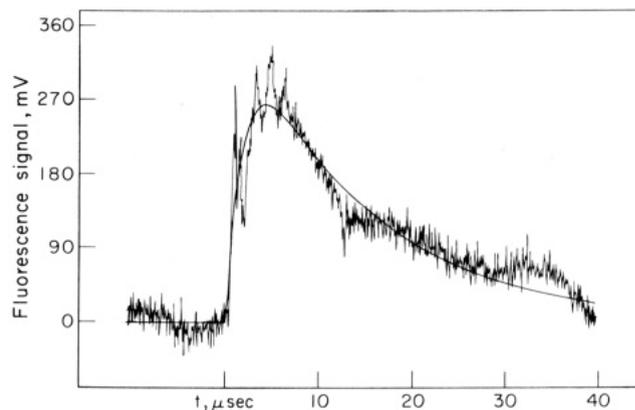
### Experimental Section

The experiments may be divided into two sorts: first, infrared fluorescence measurements and, second, collection and analysis of  $\text{CF}_3\text{OF}$  product following photolysis with 4000  $\text{CO}_2$  laser pulses.

The experimental arrangement is shown schematically in Figure 1. The output of a Tachisto 215G TEA- $\text{CO}_2$  laser was focussed by an AR-coated Ge lens of fl 18 cm into a reaction cell, and the infrared emission from the vibrationally excited HF was observed at right angles to the laser beam. The  $\text{CO}_2$  laser line used in these experiments was  $\text{R}_2(30)$  at  $9.219 \mu\text{m}$ , nearly single mode, with a maximum output energy of 1.1 J/pulse. An attenuation cell containing  $\text{CF}_3\text{Br}$  was inserted between the laser output mirror and the focussing lens, by means of which the laser pulse energy entering the reaction cell could be varied between 0.15 and 1.1 J/pulse.

The stainless steel sample cell was 7.4 cm in diameter by 20.3 cm long, with a total volume of  $930 \text{ cm}^3$ . The end windows were NaCl flats, while the fluorescence was observed through a LiF side window having a long-wave cutoff of  $7 \mu\text{m}$ , which eliminated scattered laser light. The infrared fluorescence was viewed with an InSb photovoltaic detector (Infrared Industries Type 6800) having a peak  $D^* \sim 1 \times 10^{11}$  at  $\lambda = 5 \mu\text{m}$ . Signals from the detector were amplified by a Tektronix 1121 amplifier, recorded on a transient recorder (Biomation 820), and then transmitted to a MINC laboratory computer for averaging and subsequent analysis.<sup>6</sup>

In the fluorescence experiments, the total pressure (BTMP + HI) in the cell was varied between 0.4 and 1.1 torr, maintaining a constant composition of  $[\text{HI}]/[\text{BTMP}] = 15$ . The cell was emptied and refilled after no more than 10–20 laser pulses, so that very little decomposition had a chance to take place. Since  $\text{CF}_2\text{O}$ , which is one of the



**Figure 2.** Infrared fluorescence signal from 0.045 torr of BTMP plus 0.655 torr of HI photolyzed with 0.43 J/pulse at the  $\text{CO}_2$   $\text{R}_2(30)$  laser line. The smooth curve is a fit to eq 6.

products of reaction 2, has a characteristic band near  $2.6 \mu\text{m}$ ,<sup>7</sup> and may be expected to be born "hot" and thus to emit in this region, we carried out several checks on the identity of the fluorescing species. First, in the absence of HI, no fluorescence signal could be observed. Using standard experimental conditions, we inserted a gas filter cell containing HF between the observation window and the InSb detector (see Figure 1). When the cell was filled with 40 torr of HF, essentially 100% of the fluorescence signal was eliminated. We thus conclude that the observed emission is from  $\text{HF}^\dagger$  produced in reaction 4, which is fully relaxed to its  $\nu = 1$  state by rapid V–V relaxation processes occurring under our experimental conditions.

For the  $\text{CF}_3\text{OF}$  yield measurements, a mixture of 2 torr of BTMP with 0–3 torr of added HI was photolyzed with the  $\text{CO}_2$   $\text{R}_2(30)$  line for 4000 pulses. The resulting product mixture was transferred to an infrared analysis cell, and characteristic absorptions of  $\text{CF}_3\text{OF}$ <sup>8</sup> known to be linear in concentration<sup>1</sup> were used to determine the yield of that product.

Gas purity was particularly important in these experiments. The BTMP, obtained from PCR Research Chemicals, contained a small amount of  $\text{CF}_3\text{OF}$  as an impurity.<sup>1</sup> This was removed by immersing the bulb containing BTMP in a  $-94^\circ\text{C}$  (hexane/liquid  $\text{N}_2$ ) bath and pumping. The HI, obtained from the Matheson, is contaminated with  $\text{H}_2$  and  $\text{I}_2$  due to decomposition of HI on the iron wall of the cylinder. The presence of  $\text{H}_2$  would be particularly troublesome, since this could initiate a chain reaction with F atoms; this may have been a source of error in previous measurements of HI inhibition of  $\text{CF}_3\text{OF}$  formation.<sup>1</sup> The  $\text{H}_2$  was removed by several freeze–pump–thaw cycles of the HI, using a liquid  $\text{N}_2$  bath. All the gases, once purified, were stored in glass bulbs at dry-ice temperature.

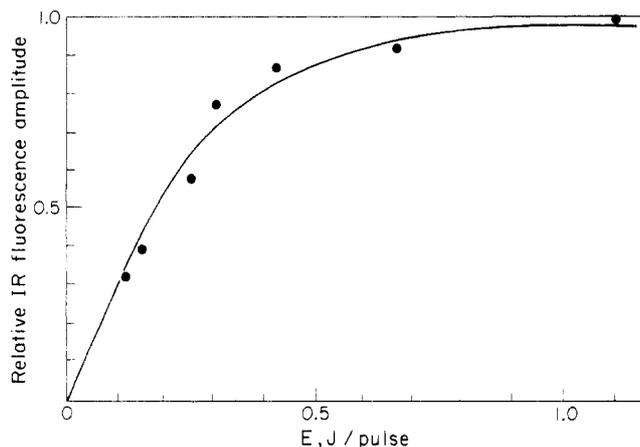
### Results and Discussion

**Secondary Photolysis of  $\text{CF}_3\text{O}$ .** We have investigated directly the IRMPD of  $\text{CF}_3\text{O}$  radicals resulting from BTMP photolysis in the presence of HI by monitoring the spontaneous emission from  $\text{HF}^\dagger$  produced in reaction 4. The HF emission was observed from the focal region of the laser beam, over a range of pulse energies between 0.1 and 1.1 J. No measurable fluorescence was observed with the laser unfocussed, or in the absence of HI. A typical fluorescence signal is shown in Figure 2. In these experiments, the time development of the observed

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(6) C. Reiser, *Rev. Sci. Instrum.*, 51, 1727 (1980).



**Figure 3.** Relative IR fluorescence amplitude vs. CO<sub>2</sub> laser pulse energy. Solid curve is the F atom yield from IRMPD of CF<sub>3</sub>O calculated from the model described in the text and depicted in Figure 4.

fluorescence signals could be fit to a simple three-parameter expression:

$$I_{\text{fl}}(t) = A[\exp(-t/\tau_d) - \exp(-t/\tau_r)] \quad (6)$$

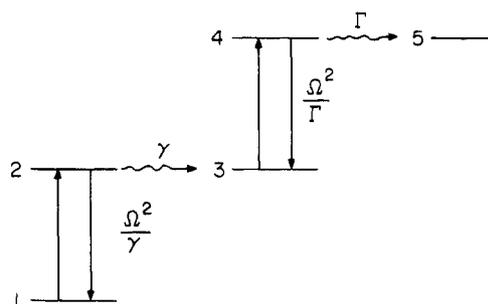
If reaction 4 is the only source of HF<sup>†</sup> and vibrational relaxation is exponential, then the amount of vibrationally excited HF present at a time  $t$  following the CO<sub>2</sub> laser pulse is given by

$$[\text{HF}^{\dagger}]_t = \frac{k_4[\text{HI}]_0[\text{F}]_0}{k_4[\text{HI}]_0 - 1/\tau_d} [\exp(-t/\tau_d) - \exp(-k_4[\text{HI}]_0 t)] \quad (7)$$

where the signal rise time is just  $\tau_r^{-1} = k_4[\text{HI}]_0$  and the decay time,  $\tau_d$ , is the vibrational relaxation time of HF( $\nu=1$ ) in the gas mixture being used. Since the relaxation of the  $\nu = 1 \rightarrow 0$  fluorescence is due to a combination of slow V-T,R relaxation and diffusion out of the observation region, we have  $k_4[\text{HI}]_0 \gg 1/\tau_d$  under our experimental conditions (by at least a factor of ten), so that the maximum value of  $[\text{HF}^{\dagger}]$  is nearly equal to  $[\text{F}]_0$ , the initial concentration of F atoms produced in reaction 2. Thus, the amplitude parameter  $A$  in eq 6 is directly proportional to  $[\text{F}]_0$ , which is the quantity of interest.

The rise time  $\tau_r$  gives us an independent measurement of the rate of reaction 4. This rate constant has been previously determined by Würzberg et al.<sup>5</sup> using SF<sub>6</sub> + HI mixtures as  $(1.34 \pm 0.03) \times 10^6 \text{ torr}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , which is in reasonable agreement with our lower limit of  $9.0 \times 10^5 \text{ torr}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . The peak amplitude of the infrared fluorescence, which is proportional to the yield of F atoms, is shown in Figure 3. The yield rises linearly with pulse energy, as is characteristic of the IRMPD of a molecule already in a quasicontinuum regime,<sup>1</sup> and then appears to saturate at pulse energies  $\geq 1$  J. We do not have an absolute calibration of the infrared fluorescence signal in terms of F atom concentration, and so we normalize this yield curve by assuming that the saturation corresponds to 100% dissociation of the available CF<sub>3</sub>O.

In order to gain some insight into the process whereby CF<sub>3</sub>O is driven to dissociation, following the IRMPD of the parent BTMP molecule, we have used a simple set of rate equations to model the system. From its IRMPD behavior, BTMP itself displays the characteristics of a molecule already in its vibrational "quasi-continuum" at room temperature.<sup>1</sup> Thus, the dynamics of the parent molecule can be adequately represented by a set of rate equations which described the incoherent pumping of BTMP to dissociation. The fragments resulting from IRMPD are also frequently produced with sufficient excess



**Figure 4.** Five-level model for production of F atoms by secondary IRMPD CF<sub>3</sub>O radicals.

vibrational energy to be in the quasicontinuum; this is the case, for example, with SF<sub>5</sub> produced by IRMPD of SF<sub>6</sub>.<sup>9</sup> Accordingly, we assume that CF<sub>3</sub>O is produced in its quasi-continuum, and that its IRMPD dynamics can also be modeled by a set of incoherent rate equations. Since none of the details of the intermediate states of the pumping processes of these species are known, we have modeled the system with the ultrasimplified five-level model depicted in Figure 4, which is based on the more detailed treatments of Galbraith et al.<sup>10</sup> In this picture, we consider pumping from level 1, which represents all of the lower vibrational levels of BTMP, to level 2, which is the activated BTMP<sup>†</sup> molecule, with a rate given by the effective Rabi frequency

$$\Omega^2 = \frac{8\pi I \mu^2}{h^2 c^3} \quad (8)$$

where  $I$  is the laser power density,  $\mu$  is the transition dipole moment matrix element, and  $h$  and  $c$  are Planck's constant and the speed of light, respectively. The unimolecular dissociation of the BTMP<sup>†</sup> is represented by an effective decay rate  $\gamma$  from level 2 to level 3, which is the CF<sub>3</sub>O radical. This species is in turn pumped to level 4 (activated CF<sub>3</sub>O) with the same effective Rabi frequency  $\Omega$ ; this level in turn decays to level 5, which represents CF<sub>2</sub>O + F atom, with a rate  $\Gamma$ . This model leads to a set of equations for the population in each level  $\rho_i$  ( $i = 1-5$ ), viz:

$$\dot{\rho}_1 = -\frac{\Omega^2}{\gamma}(\rho_1 - \rho_2) \quad (9a)$$

$$\dot{\rho}_2 = \frac{\Omega^2}{\gamma}(\rho_1 - \rho_2) - \gamma\rho_2 \quad (9b)$$

$$\dot{\rho}_3 = -\frac{\Omega^2}{\Gamma}(\rho_3 - \rho_4) + \gamma\rho_2 \quad (9c)$$

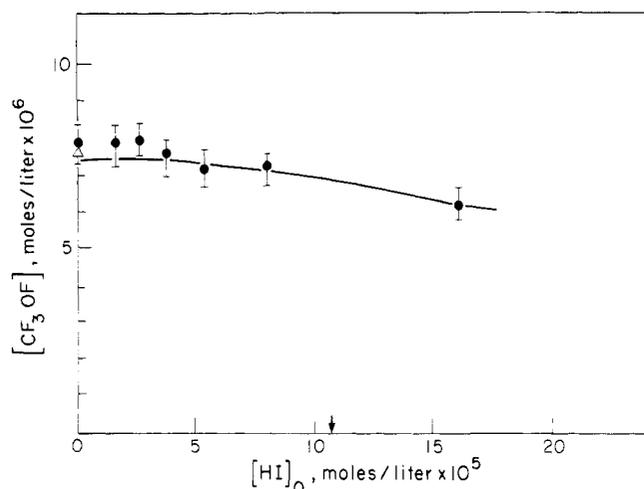
$$\dot{\rho}_4 = \frac{\Omega^2}{\Gamma}(\rho_3 - \rho_4) - \Lambda\rho_4 \quad (9d)$$

$$\dot{\rho}_5 = \Gamma\rho_4 \quad (9e)$$

The value of the transition moment required in eq 8 was estimated from the infrared absorption coefficient of BTMP at the wavelength of the R<sub>2</sub>(30) line. Since no information exists about the spectroscopy of CF<sub>3</sub>O, the same value of  $\Omega$  was used in eq 9a-d. The effective decay rates,  $\gamma$  and  $\Gamma$ , were varied in the calculation; the curve shown in Figure 3 was calculated with the values  $\gamma = 2.1 \times 10^{13} \text{ s}^{-1}$  and  $\Gamma = 1.3 \times 10^7 \text{ s}^{-1}$ . The value for  $\gamma$  is equivalent to a thermal unimolecular decay rate<sup>3</sup> with a

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**Figure 5.** Yield of CF<sub>3</sub>OF from IRMPD of BTMP as a function of added HI concentration. The arrow on the horizontal axis indicates the fixed initial concentration of BTMP. The open triangle is the data point for CF<sub>3</sub>OF yield in the presence of added 2 torr ( $1.0 \times 10^{-4}$  mol L<sup>-1</sup>) of Ar. The solid curve is the calculated yield function on the basis of the kinetic model described in the text, using the rate constants  $k_3 = 3.9 \times 10^{10}$  L mol<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> and  $k_4 = 2.4 \times 10^{10}$  L mol<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>.

mean excitation in the activated BTMP molecule of 9.2 kcal/mol; the much smaller value of  $\Gamma$  probably reflects less efficient pumping of the CF<sub>3</sub>O by the laser line used in the experiment, leading to a lower level of vibrational excitation, and thus a smaller decomposition rate, for that species.

**CF<sub>3</sub>O + F Recombination Reaction.** So that the rate of the recombination of trifluoromethoxy radicals with fluorine atoms could be determined (eq 3), experiments were carried out in which varying amounts of HI were added to a cell containing 2 torr of BTMP, and the mixture was photolyzed at a constant infrared wavelength and fluence. The net amount of CF<sub>3</sub>OF formed, measured as a formation of initial HI concentration, it shown in Figure 5. The effect of the HI is to suppress the formation of CF<sub>3</sub>OF, as a result of the competition for F atoms due to reaction 4.

Once initial amounts of CF<sub>3</sub>O, CF<sub>2</sub>O, and F atoms are generated by primary and secondary IRMPD, the subsequent evolution of the species concentrations is governed by a set of kinetic equations derived from reactions 3-5. These are

$$\dot{X}_1 = -k_3 X_1 X_3 - k_5 X_1^2 \quad (10a)$$

$$\dot{X}_3 = -k_3 X_1 X_3 - k_4 X_3 X_5 \quad (10b)$$

$$\dot{X}_4 = k_3 X_1 X_3 \quad (10c)$$

$$\dot{X}_5 = -k_4 X_3 X_5 \quad (10d)$$

$$\dot{X}_6 = k_4 X_3 X_5 \quad (10e)$$

with  $X_1 = [\text{CF}_3\text{O}]$ ,  $X_2 = [\text{CF}_2\text{O}]$ ,  $X_3 = [\text{F}]$ ,  $X_4 = [\text{CF}_3\text{OF}]$ ,  $X_5 = [\text{HI}]$ , and  $X_6 = [\text{HF}]$ . It is the term which is second-order in  $X_1$ , appearing in eq 10a, resulting from the recombination reaction 5, which makes the derivation of an integrated analytic rate expression exceedingly difficult. The system of equations can be easily integrated numerically, however, with a modified Euler differential analysis method.<sup>11</sup>

It remains only to specify the initial conditions on the concentrations of the radical species,  $X_1$  and  $X_3$ . This can most easily be done in terms of the concept of reaction

volume,<sup>1,12</sup> which is a volume  $U_R$  surrounding the focal region of the laser beam within which all of the parent molecules (BTMP, in this case) are assumed to be dissociated. The amount of starting material dissociated by each laser pulse is then a fraction of the total amount in the cell, given by

$$f = U_R/V_{\text{cell}} \quad (11)$$

so that, after  $K$  laser pulses have been applied to the sample

$$[\text{BTMP}]_K = [\text{BTMP}]_0 e^{-fK} = e^{-fK} X_0 \quad (12)$$

and, since each peroxide molecule dissociates to form two trifluoromethoxy radicals, the initial concentration of these radicals in the volume  $U_R$  is

$$[\text{CF}_3\text{O}]_{K,0} = (X_1)_{K,0} = 2e^{-fK} X_0 \quad (13)$$

If a known fraction  $q$  of the CF<sub>3</sub>O species are further dissociated to form CF<sub>2</sub>O + F, we have

$$[\text{F}]_{K,0} = (X_3)_{K,0} = 2qe^{-fK} X_0 \quad (14)$$

The values given by eq 13 and 14 provide initial values for the integration of eq 10a-e for the  $K$ th laser pulse. The incremental amount of CF<sub>3</sub>OF formed after that pulse,  $\Delta(\text{CF}_3\text{OF})_K$ , is found by integrating eq 10c to a stationary value. The total amount of CF<sub>3</sub>OF formed after  $K$  pulses ( $K = 4000$  in our case) is given by

$$[\text{CF}_3\text{OF}]_{\text{total}} = f \sum_{i=1}^{4000} \Delta(\text{CF}_3\text{OF})_i \quad (15)$$

The value of  $f$  for our experimental conditions, found by applying eq 12 to the total amount of BTMP decomposed, is  $f = 0.74 \times 10^{-4}$ . Since the cell volume is 930 cm<sup>3</sup>, this gives a reaction volume  $U_R = 0.069$  cm<sup>3</sup>. This may be compared with a value of  $U_R \approx 0.2$  cm<sup>3</sup> found for this fluence in our previous work;<sup>1</sup> since a 30-cm focal length lens was used in that work, the  $U_R$  is proportional to the focal length,<sup>12</sup> these two measurements are self-consistent. The foregoing treatment is based, of course, on the assumption of complete mixing of the cell contents between each laser pulse; for a characteristic reaction-zone dimension of 4 mm, and an interval between pulses of  $\sim 1$  s, this is an entirely reasonable assumption.

The F + HI reaction rate constant,  $k_4$ , is known from the work of Würzberg et al.<sup>5</sup> to be  $2.4 \times 10^{10}$  L mol<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> at 300 K. Since the fit shown in Figure 5 is relatively insensitive to the value chosen for the CF<sub>3</sub>O recombination rate constant, we take Kennedy and Levy's<sup>3</sup> estimate for  $k_5 \approx 2.5 \times 10^9$  L mol<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>, and vary  $k_3$  to obtain a fit to the data. A value of  $k_3 = (3.5 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{10}$  L mol<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> gives the yield dependence shown as the solid curve in Figure 5. Using Kennedy and Levy's<sup>3</sup> earlier value of  $k_3 = 3 \times 10^9$  L mol<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> predicts a yield of [CF<sub>3</sub>OF] which is a factor of 2 too low; a significantly larger value of  $k_3$  would not reproduce the falloff with added [HI]. Other data for this system, such as the variation of CF<sub>3</sub>OF yield with initial BTMP pressure, are also consistent with the stated value for  $k_3$ . We are therefore led to infer the value of  $k_3$  stated above, which is comparable to rates known for other similar association reactions.<sup>13</sup>

An estimate of the critical impact parameter for bimolecular association can be made<sup>14</sup> by assuming that there

(12) D. R. Keefer, J. E. Allen, Jr., and W. B. Person, *Chem. Phys. Lett.*, **43**, 394 (1976).

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(14) Reference 13, p 86 ff.

(11) K. L. Nielsen, *Methods in Numerical Analysis*, 2nd ed, Macmillan, New York, 1964.

is no barrier in the entrance channel other than that arising from centrifugal energy, and that the F atom approaches the O atom along a Lennard-Jones potential curve. This gives

$$\left(\frac{r_m}{r_0}\right)^2 \approx \left(\frac{6D_0}{kT}\right)^{1/3} \quad (16)$$

where  $r_m$  is the critical distance between the F and the  $\text{CF}_3\text{O}$  centers of mass,  $r_0$  is the equilibrium F-O bond distance, and  $D_0$  is the F-O bond dissociation energy. We find that the critical distance between the two centers, and hence the effective reactive impact parameter, is 4.0 Å from eq 16. This gives a gas-kinetic collision rate at 300 K which

is the upper limit for the rate of recombination of  $\text{CF}_3\text{O}$  with F, equal to  $1.7 \times 10^{11} \text{ L mol}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . The value found for  $k_3$ , which is 4-5 times smaller than this, suggests that a modest orientational requirement exists for the collision to be reactive, similar to (but less restrictive than) that observed in the recombination of  $\text{CF}_3$  radicals.<sup>15</sup>

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## Deazaflavin Photocatalyzed Methyl Viologen Reduction in Water. A Laser Flash-Photolysis Study

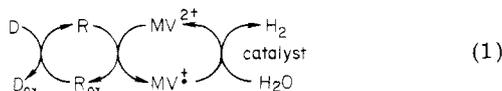
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Photosensitized reduction of methyl viologen,  $\text{MV}^{2+}$ , by  $2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M}$  10-methyl-5-deazaalloxazine-3-propanesulfonic acid, dF, in the presence of  $1 \times 10^{-3}$ – $10 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}$  EDTA has been investigated in aqueous solutions by nanosecond laser flash photolysis. At substoichiometric concentrations of  $\text{MV}^{2+}$ , the reactions  ${}^1\text{dF} \xrightarrow{h\nu} {}^1\text{dF}^* \xrightarrow{\text{MV}^{2+}} {}^3\text{dF}^* \xrightarrow{\text{MV}^{2+}} {}^3\text{dF} + \text{EDTA} \rightarrow {}^2\text{dF} + \text{EDTA}^+$ ;  ${}^2\text{dF} + \text{MV}^{2+} \rightarrow {}^1\text{dF} + \text{MV}^+$  have been discerned; thus dF acts as an electron relay. At higher  $\text{MV}^{2+}$  concentrations additional modes of dF catalyzed  $\text{MV}^+$  formation become available.

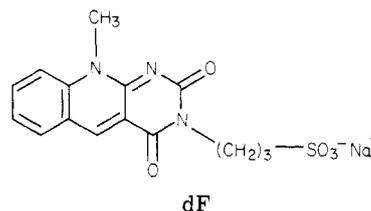
### Introduction

Photochemical solar energy conversion is an important and highly active area of research.<sup>2-14</sup> Much attention has been focussed upon the photosensitized reduction (by an electron relay, R) of methyl viologen,  $\text{MV}^{2+}$ , since the oxidized relay,  $\text{R}_{\text{ox}}$ , can be regenerated by a suitable electron donor, D, and since reduced methyl viologen,  $\text{MV}^+$ , in the presence of a suitable catalyst is reoxidized to  $\text{MV}^{2+}$  with concurrent water splitting



Hydrogen is, therefore, photogenerated from water at the expense of a sacrificial donor (eq 1).

Flavins, particularly proflavin, appear to be attractive relays because they have high quantum yields for  $\text{MV}^{2+}$  reduction.<sup>13-18</sup> Deazaflavins have the additional advantage of being able to be regenerated from their photooxidized form by such a large variety of electron donors as amines and carboxylic and amino acids.<sup>19</sup> They are also powerful photoreductants for many different redox enzymes and proteins.<sup>19</sup> As part of our overall investigations of electron transfer processes we have examined a water-soluble 7,8-unsubstituted 5-deazaflavin, 10-methyl-5-deazaalloxazine-3-propanesulfonic acid (dF) as a potential photocatalytic electron relay. Using nanosecond laser flash



photolysis mechanisms for photosensitized EDTA and  $\text{MV}^{2+}$ , reductions have been elucidated.

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