

Second, the sterically hindered catalyst Mn(TMP)Cl exhibits substantial shape selectivity in the catalytic epoxidation of olefins, and this is shown to be directly attributable to the differences in binding energies for formation of the intermediate. Our observations suggest a strategy for the development of other shape-selective, as well as asymmetric, porphyrin catalysts for olefin epoxidation.

These findings in turn argue that the oxo-olefin complex does not contain carbon-based cationic or radicaloid centers. The formation of this complex is rather insensitive to electronic effects of the olefin, but it is markedly influenced by steric interactions when the more sterically demanding catalyst, Mn(TMP)Cl, is used. These conclusions are consistent with our postulate that the intermediate is a metallaoxetane, which we speculate is formed by a concerted antarafacial 2 + 2 cycloaddition.<sup>29</sup> On the basis of the evidence presented here, it appears the normal mode of decomposition of this species is a concerted reductive elimination. Complete substantiation of these postulates awaits direct structural and spectroscopic analysis of the intermediate. Such studies are currently being pursued in our laboratories.

Finally, these studies have shed light on the general reactivity of high-valent manganese oxo porphyrins. At this point, the possible extension of this mechanism to other metals is not proven,

but it seems plausible. In view of the similar reactivities of cytochrome P-450 and other model systems as evidenced by N and O demethylation,<sup>30</sup> the NIH shift,<sup>31</sup> and alkane hydroxylation,<sup>32</sup> it would not be surprising to find other similar stereoselective olefin epoxidations occurring by this general route.

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**Registry No.** Mn(TPP)Cl, 32195-55-4; Mn(TMP)Cl, 85939-49-7; lithium hypochlorite, 13840-33-0; cytochrome P-450, 9035-51-2; mono-oxygenase, 9038-14-6; cyclooctene, 931-88-4; (Z)-2-octene, 13389-42-9; indene, 95-13-6; 1-ethenylbenzene, 100-42-5; 1-methylcyclohex-1-ene, 591-49-1; (E)-1-propenylbenzene, 873-66-5; *trans,trans,cis*-1,5,9-cyclododecatriene, 706-31-0; *cis*-stilbene, 645-49-8; (Z)-1-propenylbenzene, 766-90-5; (E)-2-octene, 7642-04-8; (E)-4-octene, 14850-23-8; 1,3-cyclohexadiene, 592-57-4; 1,3-cycloheptadiene, 4054-38-0; 1,3-cyclooctadiene, 1700-10-3.

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## Homogeneous Catalysis of the Photoreduction of Water. 6. Mediation by Polypyridine Complexes of Ruthenium(II) and Cobalt(II) in Alkaline Media<sup>1</sup>

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**Abstract:** The emission of (polypyridine)ruthenium(II) complexes (S) is quenched by (polypyridine)cobalt(II) (CoL<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup>) complexes via parallel oxidative, reductive, and energy-transfer paths, giving CoL<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> + S<sup>+</sup>, CoL<sub>3</sub><sup>3+</sup> + S<sup>-</sup>, and \*CoL<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup> + S, respectively. The oxidative route provides the basis for a new water photoreduction sequence: in mixed acetonitrile-water solvents relatively high cage-escape yields of Ru(4,7-(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>phen)<sub>3</sub><sup>3+</sup> and Co(bpy)<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> (S = Ru(4,7-(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>phen)<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup>, phen = 1,10-phenanthroline, bpy = 2,2'-bipyridine) are obtained. The Ru(III) complex is reduced by triethanolamine (TEOA), and the Co(bpy)<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> reacts with water and/or TEOAH<sup>+</sup> to give H<sub>2</sub>. The maximum H<sub>2</sub> quantum yield obtained is 0.29 in 50% acetonitrile-water. Unusual features of the system are the fact that, at low TEOA, Co(bpy)<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup> scavenging of Ru(III) reduces the H<sub>2</sub> yield and that the cage-escape and limiting H<sub>2</sub> yields are strongly solvent dependent: for the Ru(4,7-(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>phen)<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup>-Co(bpy)<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup>-TEOA system the H<sub>2</sub> yield increases from ~0.02 in H<sub>2</sub>O to 0.29 in the mixed solvent. Reduction potentials for CoL<sub>3</sub><sup>3+/2+</sup> and CoL<sub>3</sub><sup>2+/+</sup> couples are also reported.

Cobalt-polypyridine complexes are of interest in a number of contexts [L = polypyridine, i.e., 1,10-phenanthroline (phen) or 2,2'-bipyridine (bpy)]: the cobalt(I) complexes reduce water to H<sub>2</sub><sup>2-4</sup> and CO<sub>2</sub> to CO<sup>5</sup> depending upon conditions. Since the

cobalt(I) species may be generated by the reduction of the corresponding cobalt(II) or cobalt(III) species, catalytic systems incorporating this chemistry are possible. When RuL<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup> complexes<sup>6-8</sup> are used as sensitizers, cobalt(I) complexes may be generated either via reductive (eq 2) or oxidative (eq 3) quenching of the excited state in the presence of an electron donor (D).

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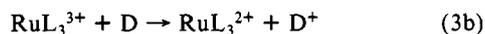
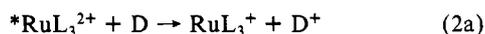
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In each case the net reaction is



In earlier work, we found that a homogeneous system employing cobalt(II)- and ruthenium(II)-polypyridine complexes effected the photoreduction of water to hydrogen at pH 4–5 with visible light.<sup>2,3</sup> Ascorbate ion was the electron donor and reduced  ${}^*\text{RuL}_3^{2+}$  to  $\text{RuL}_3^+$  (eq 2a);  $\text{Co(bpy)}_3^{2+}$  was reduced to  $\text{Co(bpy)}_n^+$  by  $\text{RuL}_3^+$  (eq 2b) and  $\text{Co(I)}$  reacted with water or  $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$  via a cobalt(III)-hydride<sup>9</sup> to give  $\text{H}_2$ . In the present work we have evaluated the rate constants for quenching of different (polypyridine)ruthenium(II) complexes by  $\text{CoL}^{2+}$  and  $\text{CoL}_3^{2+}$  as a function of L and found evidence that, depending on the sensitizer-quencher combination, reductive, oxidative, or energy-transfer quenching may predominate. For the combination  $\text{Ru(4,7-(CH}_3)_2\text{phen)}_3^{2+}$ - $\text{Co(bpy)}_3^{2+}$  a new photoreduction system based on oxidative quenching of the ruthenium(II) excited state has been characterized. In basic 50% aqueous acetonitrile with triethanolamine the electron donor in eq 3b,  $\text{H}_2$  production is limited only by the efficiency of cage escape in the quenching reaction (eq 3a).

### Experimental Section

**Materials.** The (polypyridine)ruthenium(II) complexes were prepared as in an earlier study.<sup>6</sup> All the ligands were from G. F. Smith and Fisher and were used without further purification. Cobalt(II) sulfate was puratronic grade from Johnson Matthey. The solvents were of spectronic grade. The organic electron donors were from Aldrich and were used without further purification. The diquat dibromide and the tetraalkylammonium salts were from earlier studies.<sup>10,11</sup>

**Emission Intensity Measurement.** The emission from the (polypyridine)ruthenium(II) complexes were measured as described previously.<sup>6</sup> Solutions in  $1 \times 1$  cm cells were deaerated for about 20 min with argon and then excited at the absorption maximum of the ruthenium(II) complex around 450 nm. The emission intensities were measured at ~600–630 nm in the energy mode. Neutral density filters were used to reduce the incident light intensity. Stern-Volmer constants ( $K_{SV} = [I_0/I - 1]/[Q]$ ) were obtained from plots of the emission intensity data as a function of the concentration of the quencher, Q. For quenching by the cobalt-bipyridine complexes, the emission intensities at 610 nm were corrected for absorption of the incident excitation light at 450 nm. Quenching rate constants were calculated from  $k_q = K_{SV}/\tau_0$ , where  $\tau_0$  is the excited-state lifetime in the absence of added quencher.<sup>6</sup>

**Cyclic Voltammetry.** A Princeton Applied Research system consisting of a Model 173 potentiostat and a Model 175 universal programmer was employed in these studies. Sweep rates of 20–500  $\text{mV s}^{-1}$  were used and the cyclic voltammograms were recorded on an x-y recorder. Most of the determinations were carried out in acetonitrile in a cell containing a platinum working electrode and a platinum wire auxiliary electrode. A saturated calomel electrode was used as the reference electrode. The solutions were deaerated with argon. For cobalt-bipyridine and related complexes a  $\text{Co(II)}$ :ligand ratio of 1:5 was used. Some measurements on cobalt(III) complexes were also performed. In addition, several of the  $\text{CoL}_3^{2+}$  or  $\text{CoL}_3^{3+}$  complexes were studied in aqueous media. In these experiments a glassy carbon electrode (PAR) was the working electrode and the medium was 0.16 M  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  containing 0.02 M 2-aminoethanol buffer (pH 9.6).

**Continuous Photolysis.** The photolysis system consisted of a 450-W xenon lamp, focusing lenses, UV cutoff filters, and a thermostated bath for the photolysis vessel. In the hydrogen generation studies 25-mL solutions were stirred continuously and irradiated in  $2 \times 2$  cm square cells after deaerating for about 30 min with argon. The volume of gas pro-

duced was measured as a function of time by a volumeter attachment or analyzed on a Varian 1400 gas chromatograph. Light intensities were determined by  $\text{Ru(bpy)}_3^{2+}/\text{Co(NH}_3)_5\text{Cl}^{2+}$  actinometry<sup>3</sup> and were typically  $3 \times 10^{-3}$  einstein  $\text{min}^{-1}$ .

**Flash Photolysis.** The yield of separated electron-transfer products  $Y_{el}$  was determined by using a frequency-doubled Nd laser as excitation source.<sup>6</sup> The absorbance changes occurring during and after the 25-ns 530-nm pulse were monitored at 420–450 nm and compared<sup>12</sup> with those produced in the  $\text{RuL}_3^{2+}$ - $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  system in 0.5 M  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ , which was assumed to produce separated  $\text{RuL}_3^{3+}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  in 100% yield.

Rate constants for  $\text{RuL}_3^{3+}$ - $\text{Co(bpy)}_3^{2+}$  and  $\text{RuL}_3^{3+}$ -TEOA reactions were determined by using a Phase-R Model DL-1100 dye laser as excitation source.<sup>12</sup> For both reactions the quenching of  ${}^*\text{RuL}_3^{2+}$  (0.1 mM) by  $\text{Co(bpy)}_3^{2+}$  (1 mM) was used to generate  $\text{RuL}_3^{3+}$  (and  $\text{Co(bpy)}_3^{2+}$ ). The  $\text{RuL}_3^{3+}$  reduction was studied at 420–450 nm under pseudo-first-order conditions, with sufficient  $\text{Co(bpy)}_3^{2+}$  (0.2–0.6 mM) or TEOA (2–6 mM) being added so that the rate of the "primary"  $\text{RuL}_3^{3+}$ - $\text{Co(bpy)}_3^{2+}$  back-reaction was negligible.

### Results

Reduction potentials determined for  $\text{CoL}_3^{3+/2+}$  couples in either acetonitrile or water are summarized in Table I. Peak separations  $E_{pa} - E_{pc}$  were 70–110 mV, depending upon the sweep rate (20–200  $\text{mV/s}$ ) and the couple. Since all the systems were chemically reversible, the average of  $E_{pc}$  and  $E_{pa}$  is reported as  $E_{1/2}$ . Data for  $\text{CoL}_3^{2+/+}$  couples in the two solvents are also included in the table. These couples were electrochemically well-behaved in acetonitrile, exhibiting equal currents for cathodic and anodic peaks and peak separations of 60–100 mV. In water, however, large anodic spikes 40–130-mV positive of  $E_{pc}$  were observed for all five complexes investigated. In addition, for the phen derivatives, the presence of excess L caused coating of the electrode during the -1 to -1.5-V portion of the sweep. Thus the measurements were performed with 3:1 L:Co(II) ratios or with the  $\text{CoL}_3^{3+}$  complex. Frequent polishing of the carbon working electrode was essential. The numbers reported are obtained from  $E_{pc}$  (at 50  $\text{mV/s}$  scan rate) but are not regarded as true  $E_{1/2}$  values since the couples are not well-behaved in water and since the values (especially for the phen derivatives) do not change sufficiently with L. Thus the acetonitrile data are used in subsequent discussions.

Rate constants for quenching of  ${}^*\text{RuL}_3^{2+}$  emission by  $\text{CoL}^{2+}$  and  $\text{CoL}_3^{2+}$  complexes are presented in Tables II and III, respectively. In Table IV rate constants for the quenching of  ${}^*\text{RuL}_3^{2+}$  and  ${}^*\text{OsL}_3^{2+}$  emission by  $\text{CoL}_3^{2+}$  complexes are summarized. The dependence of  $k_q$  for  $\text{CoL}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{CoL}_3^{2+}$ , and  $\text{CoL}_3^{3+}$  on the nature of supporting electrolyte anion is shown in Table V. Rate constants for quenching  ${}^*\text{Ru(4,4'-(CH}_3)_2\text{bpy)}_3^{2+}$  emission by diquat dibromide as a function of supporting electrolyte cation are listed in the supplementary material, Table I. Triethanolamine does not detectably quench  $\text{Ru(bpy)}_3^{2+}$  or  $\text{Ru(4,7-(CH}_3)_2\text{phen)}_3^{2+}$  emission; i.e., for these sensitizers  $k_q < 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ .

Rate constants for reduction of  $\text{RuL}_3^{3+}$  by  $\text{Co(bpy)}_3^{2+}$  (determined by flash photolysis) are presented in Table VI. The rate constant for reduction of  $\text{Ru(4,7-(CH}_3)_2\text{phen)}_3^{3+}$  by triethanolamine is  $5.2 \times 10^6 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$  at 25 °C in 50% aqueous acetonitrile containing 0.25 M LiCl.

**Water Photoreduction.** In preliminary experiments (supplementary material, Tables II–VIII) it was established that  $\text{H}_2$  is produced from  $\text{RuL}_3^{2+}/\text{CoL}_n^{2+}$  mixtures at pH > 7 only in the presence of rather high concentrations of  $\text{Co(II)}$  ( $> 5 \times 10^{-3}$  M) and reducing agent. Among organic amines investigated as electron donors, triethanolamine (TEOA) was superior. The sensitizer  $\text{Ru(4,7-(CH}_3)_2\text{phen)}_3^{2+}$  was effective in purely aqueous media (and the best in 50% aqueous acetonitrile) and found to be extremely stable under irradiation under both  $\text{H}_2$ -generating and nongenerating conditions. Addition of acetonitrile to mixtures such as those used in the above experiments considerably increased the  $\text{H}_2$  production rates (%  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  by volume, relative  $\text{H}_2$  production rate with  $2.5 \times 10^{-4}$  M  $\text{Ru(4,7-(CH}_3)_2\text{phen)}_3^{2+}$ , 0.01

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**Table I.** Reduction Potentials  $E_{1/2}$ (V) for  $\text{CoL}_3^{3+/2+}$  and  $\text{CoL}_3^{2+/+}$  Couples at  $\sim 22^\circ\text{C}$ 

L	$\text{CoL}_3^{3+/2+}$		$\text{CoL}_3^{2+/+}$	
	$\text{CH}_3\text{CN}^{a,b}$	$\text{H}_2\text{O}^a$	$\text{CH}_3\text{CN}^{a,b}$	$\text{H}_2\text{O}^a$
bpy	0.30	0.30, <sup>c</sup> 0.304, <sup>d</sup> 0.30 <sup>g</sup>	-0.98	-0.89, <sup>f</sup> -0.95 <sup>g</sup>
4,4'-( $\text{CH}_3$ ) <sub>2</sub> bpy	0.18	0.17, <sup>c</sup> 0.16 <sup>g</sup>	-1.10	-1.0, <sup>f</sup> -1.03 <sup>g</sup>
5-Clphen	0.48 <sup>f</sup>	0.50 <sup>g</sup>	-0.86 <sup>f</sup>	-0.82 <sup>g</sup>
phen	0.37	0.36, <sup>c</sup> 0.38, <sup>d</sup> 0.37 <sup>g</sup>	-0.96	$\sim -0.8$ , <sup>d</sup> -0.84 <sup>g</sup>
4,7-( $\text{CH}_3$ ) <sub>2</sub> phen	0.18	0.19, <sup>c</sup> 0.26, <sup>d</sup> 0.17 <sup>g</sup>	-1.10	-0.82 <sup>g</sup>
2,9-( $\text{CH}_3$ ) <sub>2</sub> phen <sup>f</sup>	0.6 <sup>e</sup>	0.6 <sup>c,e</sup>	-1.16	

<sup>a</sup>The average of  $E_{pa}$  and  $E_{pc}$ , determined at 20–200  $\text{mV s}^{-1}$  sweep rates. <sup>b</sup>Measured in acetonitrile containing 0.1 M tetraethylammonium or tetrabutylammonium perchlorate; Pt working electrode, SCE reference electrode. <sup>c</sup>Measured in aqueous 0.166 M  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  (0.01 M  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ ) with a glassy carbon working electrode. Value vs. NHE. <sup>d</sup>For 0.5 M  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ , reported by: Chen, Y. W.; Santhanam, K. S. V.; Bard, A. J. *J. Electrochem. Soc.* **1982**, *129*, 61. <sup>e</sup> $E_{pa}$  for  $\text{CoL}_3^{2+}$ ; irreversible. <sup>f</sup>Reference 3, determined in carbonate buffer, vs. NHE. <sup>g</sup>Measured with a glassy carbon working electrode in 0.16 M  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  containing 0.02 M 2-aminoethanol buffer, pH 9.6; vs. NHE. <sup>h</sup>Large anodic current spikes are observed for all L reported. The number reported is calculated from  $E_{pc}$  measured at 50  $\text{mV s}^{-1}$  by using  $E_{1/2} = E_{pc} + 0.03 + 0.242$  where 0.03 V assumes electrochemical reversibility ( $\Delta E_p = 60$  mV) and 0.242 is the correction for the SCE reference electrode. <sup>i</sup>Mahajan, D.; Zanella, A. W., unpublished observations. <sup>j</sup>For steric reasons, these complexes may have the formula  $\text{CoL}_2^{2+}$  rather than  $\text{CoL}_3^{2+}$ .

**Table II.** Rate Constants  $k_q$  ( $\times 10^8$ ,  $\text{M}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$ ) for the Quenching of (Polypyridine)ruthenium(II) Emission by  $\text{CoL}^{2+}$  at  $25^\circ\text{C}$ , 0.05 M Ionic Strength, and pH 6.0<sup>a</sup>

L	sensitizer			
	$\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$	$\text{Ru}(5\text{-Clphen})_3^{2+}$	$\text{Ru}(\text{phen})_3^{2+}$	$\text{Ru}(4,7\text{-(CH}_3)_2\text{phen})_3^{2+}$
5-Brphen				3.4
5-Clphen	0.23	1.7	1.9	2.8
phen	0.27	0.64	0.9	1.6
5-( $\text{CH}_3$ )phen				2.0
5,6-( $\text{CH}_3$ ) <sub>2</sub> phen				3.0
4,7-( $\text{CH}_3$ ) <sub>2</sub> phen	0.7	2.4	2.7	4.3
2,9-( $\text{CH}_3$ ) <sub>2</sub> phen				5.4
bpy	0.55	0.27	0.34	0.29
4,4'-( $\text{CH}_3$ ) <sub>2</sub> bpy				0.74

<sup>a</sup>Co(II):L is 4.54:1; 0.05 M phosphate buffer.

**Table III.** Rate Constants  $k_q$  ( $\times 10^8$ ,  $\text{M}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$ ) for the Quenching of (Polypyridine)ruthenium(II) Emission by  $\text{CoL}_3^{2+}$  at  $25^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $\sim 0.075$  M Ionic Strength, and pH 8.0<sup>a</sup>

L	sensitizer			
	$\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$	$\text{Ru}(5\text{-Clphen})_3^{2+}$	$\text{Ru}(\text{phen})_3^{2+}$	$\text{Ru}(4,7\text{-(CH}_3)_2\text{phen})_3^{2+}$
bpy	0.28	0.79	0.63	1.00
5-Clphen	0.63	1.25	1.24	1.36
phen	0.30	0.98	0.77	1.14
4,7-( $\text{CH}_3$ ) <sub>2</sub> phen	0.74	1.20	1.05	1.39

<sup>a</sup>Co(II):L is 1:5; 0.05 M phosphate buffer.

**Table IV.**  $^*\text{ML}_3^{2+}$  Redox Potentials and Rate Constants for Quenching of  $\text{ML}_3^{2+}$  Emission by  $\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$  at 0.5 M Ionic Strength and  $25^\circ\text{C}$ <sup>a</sup>

$^*\text{ML}_3^{2+}$	$^*E_{2,1}^{\circ, b}$ V	$^*E_{3,2}^{\circ, b}$ V	$10^{-9}k_q$ , $\text{M}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$
$\text{Ru}(5\text{-Clphen})_3^{2+}$	1.00	-0.77	1.32
$\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$	0.84	-0.84	0.63
$\text{Os}(5\text{-Clphen})_3^{2+}$	0.72	-0.85	0.55
$\text{Ru}(\text{phen})_3^{2+}$	0.79	-0.87	0.97
$\text{Ru}(5\text{-(CH}_3)_2\text{phen})_3^{2+}$	0.89	-0.90	1.15
$\text{Ru}(4,4'\text{-(CH}_3)_2\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$	0.69	-0.94	1.22
$\text{Os}(\text{phen})_3^{2+}$	0.57	-0.96	0.74
$\text{Ru}(4,7\text{-(CH}_3)_2\text{phen})_3^{2+}$	0.67	-1.01	1.63
$\text{Os}(5,6\text{-(CH}_3)_2\text{phen})_3^{2+}$	0.50	-1.03	1.48

<sup>a</sup>Conditions: 0.16 M  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , pH 7.8, phosphate buffer. bpy:  $\text{CoSO}_4$  is 5:1. <sup>b</sup>Data taken from ref 6 and 7.

M  $\text{CoSO}_4$ , 0.02 M bpy, 1.0 M TEOA·HCl, pH 8.1): 0%, 1; 30%, 5.6; 50%, 14. With 70% acetonitrile the mixture separated into two phases. Consequently 50% acetonitrile was used in subsequent experiments. Supplementary material Tables VI–VIII summarize preliminary results bearing on the dependence of  $\text{H}_2$  production rate on TEOA, Co(II), and bpy concentrations and on pH for aqueous and 50% aqueous acetonitrile solutions. In Tables VII and VIII the dependence of the quantum yield for  $\text{H}_2$  production on TEOA and  $\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$  concentration and pH in 50% aqueous acetonitrile are presented. The dependence of the  $\text{H}_2$  quantum yield on the nature of the  $\text{RuL}_3^{2+}$  sensitizer ( $(2\text{--}3) \times 10^{-4}$  M) in the presence of  $5 \times 10^{-3}$  M  $\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$  and 1.0 M tri-

**Table V.** Rate Constants  $k_q$  ( $\times 10^9$ ,  $\text{M}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$ ) for Quenching of  $^*\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$  Emission as a Function of Supporting Electrolyte at  $25^\circ\text{C}$  and 0.5 M Ionic Strength<sup>a</sup>

medium	quencher		
	$\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$	$\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$	$\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{3+}$
NaF	0.043 (0.096 <sup>b</sup> )		
NaCl	0.047 (0.15 <sup>b</sup> )	1.01 <sup>c</sup>	2.95
NaBr	0.052 (0.18 <sup>b</sup> )	1.35	3.64
$\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$	0.042 (0.10 <sup>b</sup> )	0.68	2.08

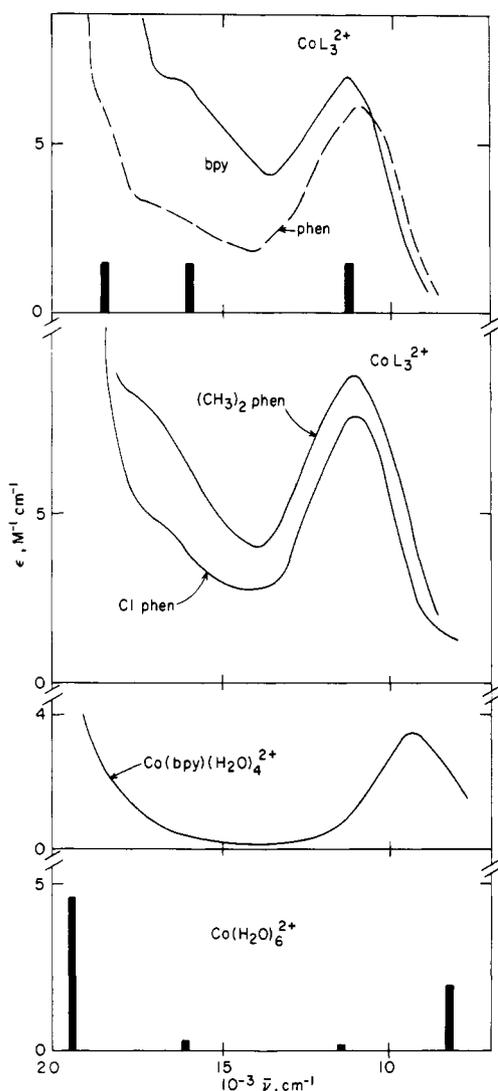
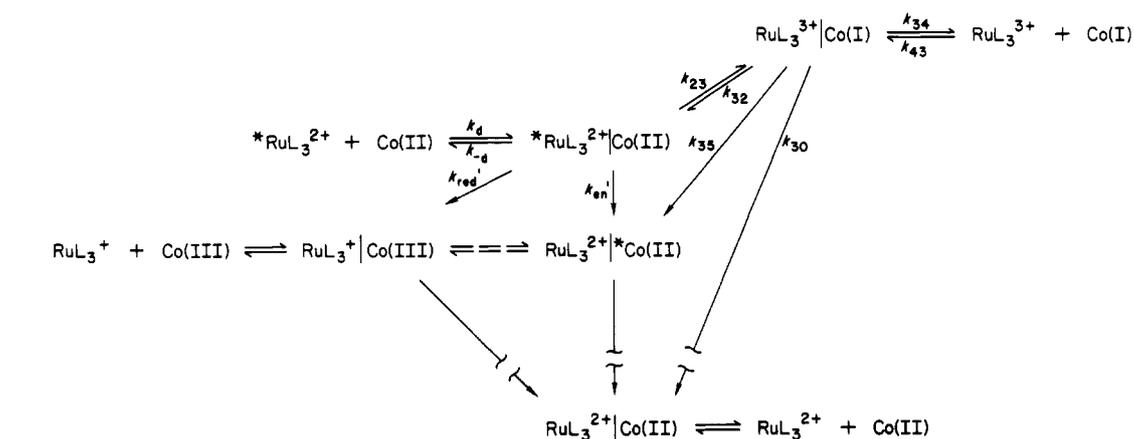
<sup>a</sup>Solutions contained 0.5 M NaX (0.17 M  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ ) and 0.025 M phosphate buffer at pH 6.0 for  $\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$  and pH 8.0 for  $\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$ . <sup>b</sup>Sensitizer is  $\text{Ru}(4,7\text{-(CH}_3)_2\text{phen})_3^{2+}$ . <sup>c</sup>Measurements of the ionic strength dependence of  $k_q$  with NaCl supporting electrolyte yielded the following data [ $\mu$  (M),  $10^{-9}k_q$  ( $\text{M}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$ ): 0.03, 0.28; 0.28, 0.64; 0.78; 1.0; 1.3; 1.5, 1.2.

**Table VI.** Rate Constants  $k$  ( $\times 10^8$ ,  $\text{M}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$ ) for the Reduction of  $\text{RuL}_3^{3+}$  by  $\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$ 

medium	L		
	phen	4,7-( $\text{CH}_3$ ) <sub>2</sub> phen	3,4,7,8-( $\text{CH}_3$ ) <sub>4</sub> phen
50% aq $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ (0.25 M LiCl)	0.48	0.22	0.20
water (0.25 M LiCl)	1.9	3.1	
water (0.166 M $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ )	2.5	5.1	

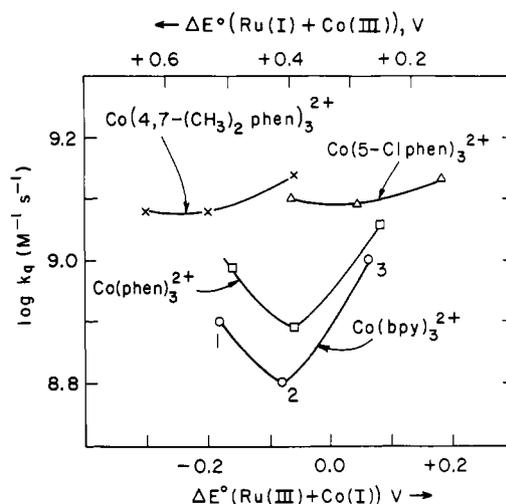


Scheme I



**Figure 2.** Near-IR-vis spectra of cobalt(II) complexes in water at 25 °C determined in this work. Top two frames:  $\text{CoL}_3^{2+}$  with  $L = \text{bpy}$ ,  $\text{phen}$ ,  $4,7\text{-(CH}_3)_2\text{phen}$ , and  $5\text{-Clphen}$ . The bars in the top frame summarize the assignments for  $\text{Co(bpy)}_3^{2+}$  (ground state  $^4\text{T}_{1g}$ ) given by Palmer and Piper:<sup>16a</sup>  $1.13 \mu\text{m}^{-1}$ ,  $^4\text{T}_2(\text{F})$ ;  $1.60 \mu\text{m}^{-1}$ ,  $^2\text{T}_1$ ,  $^2\text{T}_1(\text{G})$ ;  $1.85 \mu\text{m}^{-1}$ ,  $^2\text{T}_1(\text{P,H})$ ; (not shown)  $2.20 \mu\text{m}^{-1}$ ,  $^4\text{T}_1(\text{P})$  (the heights have no significance). In the bottom frame the bars (heights are  $\epsilon_{\text{max}}$ ) are assignments given by Jørgensen<sup>16b</sup> for  $\text{Co(H}_2\text{O)}_6^{2+}$  (ground state  $^4\text{T}_{1g}$ ):  $0.81 \mu\text{m}^{-1}$ ,  $^4\text{T}_{2g}$ ;  $1.13 \mu\text{m}^{-1}$ ,  $^2\text{T}$ ;  $1.60 \mu\text{m}^{-1}$ ,  $^4\text{A}_{2g}$ ;  $1.94 \mu\text{m}^{-1}$ ,  $^4\text{T}_{1g}(\text{P})$ .

quencher pairs, oxidative quenching is favored kinetically (though not thermodynamically) because the intrinsic electron-transfer barrier for the  $\text{CoL}_3^{2+/+}$  couple is so small. In addition, energy-transfer paths cannot be neglected in these systems. The



**Figure 3.** Rate constants (Table III) for the quenching of (polypyridine)ruthenium(II) emission by  $\text{CoL}_3^{2+}$  as a function of (bottom axis) the driving force for oxidative quenching [top axis: driving force for reductive quenching is exact for  $\text{Co(bpy)}_3^{2+}$  but only approximate for the other  $\text{Co(II)}$  complexes].

$\text{RuL}_3^{2+}$  ( $1.5\text{--}1.7 \mu\text{m}^{-1}$ ) and  $\text{OsL}_3^{2+}$  ( $1.3\text{--}1.5 \mu\text{m}^{-1}$ ) emission bands overlap the  $\text{CoL}_3^{2+}$  absorption bands<sup>16</sup> (see Figure 2). Confirmation of the anticipated complexity of the quenching mechanism(s) is presented in Figure 3, where the logarithms of the  $k_q$  values in Table III are plotted as a function of the driving force for oxidative (bottom axis) or reductive (top axis) electron-transfer quenching. The quenchers  $\text{Co(bpy)}_3^{2+}$  and  $\text{Co(phen)}_3^{2+}$  behave similarly, and for them  $k_q$  is a minimum with  $\text{Ru(phen)}_3^{2+}$ . By contrast,  $\text{Co(5-Clphen)}_3^{2+}$  and  $\text{Co(4,7-(CH}_3)_2\text{phen)}_3^{2+}$  quench much more rapidly, with  $k_q$  values that are essentially independent of sensitizer.

Scheme I includes the parallel quenching processes, eq 3, 5, and 6. The vertical ordering of the various species in the scheme illustrates approximately their relative energies in the  $\text{Ru(bpy)}_3^{2+}\text{--Co(bpy)}_3^{2+}$  system. The energy of the excited cobalt(II) species is the least certain and is discussed further below. The following expression for  $k_q$  is derived for Scheme I when the steady-state approximation is applied to the concentrations of the various intermediates:

$$k_q = k_{\text{red}} + k_{\text{ox}} + k_{\text{en}} \quad (7a)$$

where

$$k_{\text{red}} = \frac{k_d k_{\text{red}}' (k_{30}' + k_{32} + k_{34})}{\text{DEN}} \quad (7b)$$

(16) (a) Palmer, R. A.; Piper, T. S. *Inorg. Chem.* **1966**, *5*, 864. (b) Jørgensen, C. K. *Adv. Chem. Phys.* **1963**, *5*, 3. Lever, A. B. P. "Inorganic Electronic Spectroscopy"; Elsevier: New York, 1968; p 317.

$$k_{\text{ox}} = \frac{k_d k_{23} (k_{30}' + k_{34})}{\text{DEN}} \quad (7c)$$

$$k_{\text{en}} = \frac{k_d k_{\text{en}}' (k_{30}' + k_{32} + k_{34})}{\text{DEN}} \quad (7d)$$

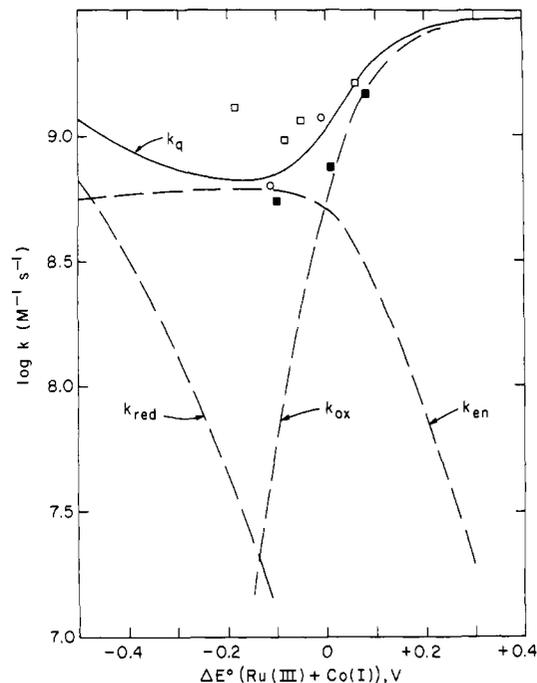
DEN =

$$(k_{-d} + k_{23} + k_{\text{red}}' + k_{\text{en}}') (k_{30}' + k_{34}) + k_{32} (k_{-d} + k_{\text{red}}' + k_{\text{en}}')$$

and  $k_{30}' = k_{30} + k_{35}$ . Note that Scheme I is oversimplified in showing the decay of  $\text{RuL}_3^{2+}|\text{Co}(\text{II})$  producing only  $\text{RuL}_3^{2+}|\text{Co}(\text{II})$ . Of course, if  $^*\text{Co}(\text{II})$  is sufficiently long-lived,  $\text{RuL}_3^{2+}|\text{Co}(\text{II})$  could dissociate prior to the decay of the  $^*\text{Co}(\text{II})$ .

**Quenching by  $\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$ .** The values of  $k_{\text{red}}$ ,  $k_{\text{ox}}$ ,  $k_{\text{en}}$ , and  $k_q$  calculated<sup>17</sup> from the above equations for  $\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$  quenching of  $^*\text{RuL}_3^{2+}$  are plotted vs. the driving force for oxidative quenching in Figure 4. The parameters used in constructing these curves are given in the figure caption and the points are the  $\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$  quenching rate constants (at  $\mu = 0.5$  M) from Table IV. The calculated composite (solid) curve gives a satisfactory fit to the  $^*\text{RuL}_3^{2+}$  data although the observed  $k_q$  values for the phen derivatives are somewhat higher than both the calculated curve and the values for the bpy derivatives. The measured values for the  $^*\text{OsL}_3^{2+}$  quenching reactions fall below the calculated composite curve. A somewhat smaller value for  $k_{\text{en}}'$  ( $1.0 \times 10^9$  s<sup>-1</sup> compared to  $1.2 \times 10^9$  s<sup>-1</sup> used for  $^*\text{RuL}_3^{2+}$ ) appears appropriate. It is evident that  $k_{\text{red}}$  contributes <10% to the net value of  $k_q$  in the  $^*\text{RuL}_3^{2+}$  quenching. Because  $^*\text{OsL}_3^{2+}$  is a poorer oxidant (Table IV) the contribution of  $k_{\text{red}}$  for  $^*\text{OsL}_3^{2+}$  (not shown) is even smaller.

The plots in Figure 4 manifest several interesting features. First, although the intrinsic rate constant for energy transfer from  $^*\text{RuL}_3^{2+}$  ( $k_{\text{en}}$ ) was assumed to be independent of  $\Delta E^\circ$ , the contribution of  $k_{\text{en}}$  to  $k_q$  does depend on  $\Delta E^\circ$  through the driving-force dependence of the competing redox pathways  $k_{23}$  and  $k_{\text{red}}$ , with the oxidative pathway approaching the diffusion-controlled limit ( $k_d$ ) when  $\Delta E$  for the formation of  $\text{RuL}_3^{3+}$  and  $\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^+$  becomes sufficiently large. Second, the absence of (reflection) symmetry between the  $k_{\text{ox}}$  and  $k_{\text{red}}$  curves derives from the different exchange rate constants and nonadiabaticities ( $\kappa$  values) for the two pathways. As noted above, the exchange rate of the  $\text{Co}(\text{III})\text{--Co}(\text{II})$  couple is  $\sim 7$  orders of magnitude smaller than that of the  $\text{Co}(\text{II})\text{--Co}(\text{I})$  couple, and the electron-transfer reactions of the former couple are much less adiabatic than are those of the latter. The small  $\text{Co}(\text{III})\text{--Co}(\text{II})$  exchange rate causes the reductive quenching rates to approach saturation much more slowly than the oxidative quenching rates, while the poor electronic factors for the production of  $\text{CoL}_3^{3+} + \text{RuL}_3^+$  cause the reductive quenching rates to saturate below the diffusion-controlled limit. This will be discussed further in a future publication.<sup>18a</sup> In summary, it is evident from the calculated curve in Figure 4 that eq 3 and 6 are sufficient to account for the trends in the measured  $k_q$  values, with energy-transfer quenching (eq 6) predominating for the majority of the  $\text{RuL}_3^{2+}$  systems but with oxidative quenching the dominant quenching mode for reaction partners such as  $^*\text{Ru}(4,7\text{-(CH}_3)_2\text{phen})_3^{2+}$  and  $\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$ . This is cor-



**Figure 4.** Values of  $k_{\text{red}}$ ,  $k_{\text{ox}}$ ,  $k_{\text{en}}$ , and  $k_q$  for quenching of  $^*\text{RuL}_3^{2+}$  emission by  $\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$  at 0.5 M ionic strength ( $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ ), calculated from eq 7 as a function of the driving force for the oxidative pathway. The curves were calculated by using  $k_d = 3 \times 10^9$  M<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>,  $k_{-d} = 4.5 \times 10^9$  s<sup>-1</sup>,  $k_{30}' + k_{34} = 2.4 \times 10^{10}$  s<sup>-1</sup>,  $k_{\text{en}}' = 1.2 \times 10^9$  s<sup>-1</sup>, and the following literature values of  $k$  (0.1 M ionic strength) and  $\kappa$  for the couples:  $\text{RuL}_3^{3+}/^*\text{RuL}_3^{2+}$ ,  $6 \times 10^8$  M<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>, 1;  $\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}/\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^+$ ,  $6 \times 10^8$  M<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>, 1;  $^*\text{RuL}_3^{2+}/\text{RuL}_3^+$ ,  $1 \times 10^8$  M<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>, 1;  $\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{3+}/\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$ ,  $18$  M<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>,  $10^{-3}$ . The values of  $\kappa$  for the oxidative and reductive quenching paths were 1 and  $10^{-3}$ , respectively, and  $A$  was  $6 \times 10^{12}$  M<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>.<sup>17</sup> The experimental points are from Table IV: (■)  $\text{OsL}_3^{2+}$ ; (□)  $\text{RuL}_3^{2+}$  (phen derivatives); (○)  $\text{RuL}_3^{2+}$  (bpy derivatives).

roborated for the  $\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}\text{--Ru}(4,7\text{-(CH}_3)_2\text{phen})_3^{2+}$  system by the observation that  $\text{Ru}(\text{III})$  and  $\text{Co}(\text{I})$  are produced in flash-photolysis experiments (vide infra). Remarkably  $k_{\text{red}}$  contributes negligibly to  $k_q$  despite the favorable thermodynamics. As mentioned above, the reduction of  $\text{CoL}_3^{2+}$  to  $\text{CoL}_3^+$  is kinetically favored even when the free-energy change is very small because of the high self-exchange rate of the  $\text{Co}(\text{II})\text{--Co}(\text{I})$  couple; by contrast, oxidation of  $\text{CoL}_3^{2+}$  to  $\text{CoL}_3^{3+}$  attains a comparable rate only at a driving force of  $>0.5$  eV because of the much smaller exchange rate of the  $\text{CoL}_3^{3+}/^{2+}$  couple and because of the poor electronic factor for the reaction.

The possibility that the products of the energy-transfer path (electronically excited quencher) can also be produced through the electron-transfer quenching paths (and vice versa) also needs to be considered, and such pathways are included in Scheme I. For concreteness, we consider that the  $^*\text{Co}(\text{II})$  in Scheme I is the  $[(t_{2g})^6(e_g)^1]^2\text{T}$  state of  $\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$  which is formed in the transition at  $1.6 \mu\text{m}^{-1}$  (Figure 2). The thermally equilibrated  $^2\text{T}$  state can be estimated to lie  $\sim 0.5$  eV below the Franck-Condon state,<sup>18b,19a</sup> and the equilibrated  $^2\text{T}$  state therefore lies  $\sim 1.6$  eV above the ground state. Consequently the formation of  $\text{RuL}_3^{2+}|\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$  from  $\text{RuL}_3^{3+}|\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^+$  would be favorable by  $\sim 0.5$  eV, while its formation from  $\text{RuL}_3^+|\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{3+}$  would be favorable by  $\sim 0.1$  eV. Because of its small driving force, the conversion of  $\text{RuL}_3^+|\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{3+}$  to  $\text{RuL}_3^{2+}|\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$  is unlikely to compete with the direct formation of the corresponding ground-state products (unless the latter reaction is in the inverted region). Similarly, the conversion of  $\text{RuL}_3^{2+}|\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$  to  $\text{RuL}_3^+|\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{3+}$  can be neglected because of the short lifetime of  $^*\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$  (probably less than 1 ns), the small driving force for the

(17) Electron-transfer rate constants  $k_{ij}$  were calculated from

$$k_{ij} = \kappa_{ij} (k_{ii} k_{jj} f_{ij} / \kappa_{ii} \kappa_{jj})^{1/2} W_{ij}$$

$$\ln f_{ij} = \frac{[\ln K_{ij} + (w_{ij} - w_{ji}) / RT]^2}{4 \left[ \ln \left( \frac{k_{ii} k_{jj}}{\kappa_{ii} \kappa_{jj} A_{ij} A_{jj}} \right) + \frac{w_{ii} + w_{jj}}{RT} \right]}$$

$$W_{ij} = \exp[-(w_{ij} + w_{ji} - w_{ii} - w_{jj}) / 2RT]$$

where  $k_{ii}$  and  $k_{jj}$  are self-exchange rates for the relevant cobalt and ruthenium couples,  $K_{ij}$  is the equilibrium constant for the electron-transfer process, the  $w$  terms are work corrections, and the  $A$  terms are preexponential factors in the rate constant expressions.

(18) (a) Brunschwig, B. S.; Sutin, N., work in progress. (b) Szalda, D. J.; Macartney, D. H.; Sutin, N. *Inorg. Chem.* **1984**, *23*, 3473. (c) Liu, D. K.; Sutin, N., work in progress.

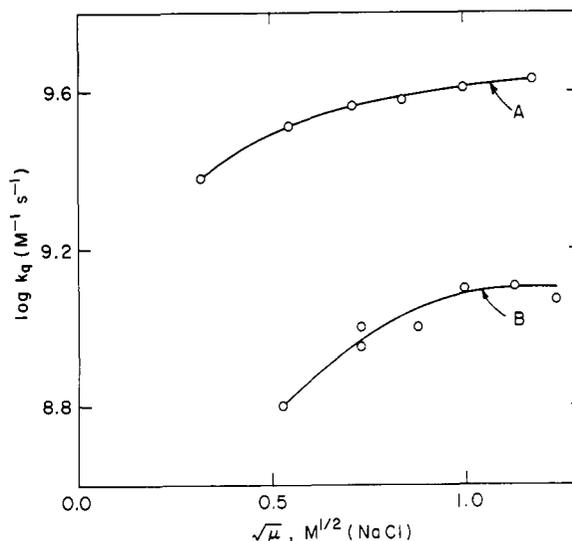
(19) For recent treatments of energy-transfer processes involving metal complexes, see: (a) Creutz, C.; Chou, M.; Netzel, T. L.; Okumura, M.; Sutin, N. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1980**, *102*, 1309. (b) Balzani, V.; Bolletta, F.; Scandola, F. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1980**, *102*, 2152.

electron transfer, and the relatively large intrinsic barrier for the  $^*Co(bpy)_3^{2+}-Co(bpy)_3^{3+}$  exchange. (By analogy with the  $Ni(bpy)_3^{2+}-Ni(bpy)_3^{3+}$  exchange<sup>18a</sup> the rate constants for the  $^*Co(bpy)_3^{2+}-Co(bpy)_3^{3+}$  and  $Co(bpy)_3^{+}-^*Co(bpy)_3^{2+}$  exchanges are expected to be  $\sim 10^3 M^{-1} s^{-1}$  since all three exchanges involve the transfer of an  $e_g$  electron.) By contrast, the formation of  $RuL_3^{2+}+^*Co(bpy)_3^{2+}$  from  $RuL_3^{3+}+Co(bpy)_3^{3+}$  is more exergonic and it is possible that this reaction ( $k_{35}$ ) can compete with the cage escape ( $k_{34}$ ), with the formation of  $^*RuL_3^{2+}+Co(II)$  ( $k_{32}$ ), and also with direct formation of ground-state products  $RuL_3^{2+}+Co(II)$  ( $k_{30}$ ) since the latter reaction lies in the inverted region.<sup>18c</sup> Note that in the analysis of the kinetic data in Figure 4 the value of  $k_{30} + k_{34}$  has been assumed to be equal to  $2.4 \times 10^{10} s^{-1}$ , independent of the driving force. The latter assumption can, of course, be relaxed if warranted. Not considered in Scheme I is the formation of electronically excited redox products ( $^*Co(III)$  or  $^*Co(I)$ , etc.) in the electron-transfer quenching paths; their formation is not thermodynamically favorable in the present system. The formation of excited species as primary products of the redox quenching paths is considered elsewhere.<sup>18a</sup>

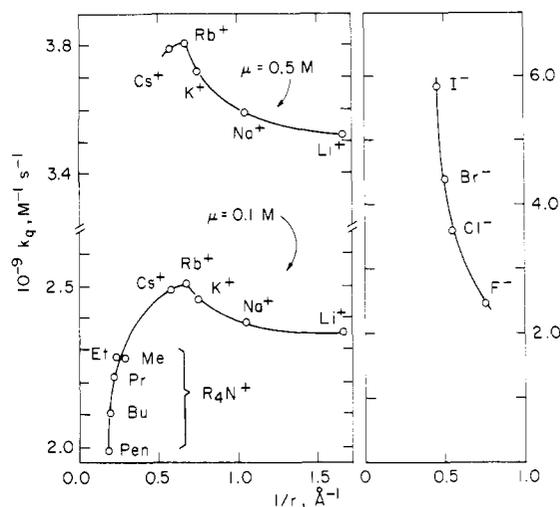
**Quenching by  $CoL_3^{2+}$  Complexes.** Scheme I and eq 7 are also applicable to quenching by other  $CoL_3^{2+}$  complexes (Figure 3 and Table III). However, since the bpy and phen systems are very similar and exchange rate data are not available for the substituted phen  $CoL_3^{3+/2+}$  couples, we confine our modeling to that present in Figure 4. As noted earlier,  $Co(phen)_3^{2+}$  and  $Co(bpy)_3^{2+}$  exhibit very similar sensitizer dependences (Figure 3). Thus the  $Co(phen)_3^{2+}$  quenching appears to proceed by parallel energy transfer ( $k_{en} \approx 0.5 \times 10^9 M^{-1} s^{-1}$  at 0.1 M ionic strength) and oxidative quenching paths as shown for  $Co(bpy)_3^{2+}$  in Figure 4. The larger, sensitizer-independent (when  $\Delta E_{ox}$  is unfavorable)  $k_q$  values for the substituted phen derivatives indicate that energy-transfer paths predominate for these  $CoL_3^{2+}$  quenchers ( $k_{en} \approx 1.3 \times 10^9 M^{-1} s^{-1}$  at 0.1 M ionic strength).

Consider the  $CoL_3^{2+}$  series (Table II)—the  $Co(bpy)_3^{2+/+}$  potential is  $-1.23 V^{9b}$  and the  $Co(bpy)_3^{3+/2+}$  potential is  $+0.84 V$ .<sup>20</sup> The absorption spectrum of  $Co(bpy)_3^{2+}$  (Figure 2) substantially overlaps the emission spectra of the  $RuL_3^{2+}$  complexes. Rate constants for quenching by  $CoL_3^{2+}$  range from  $5.5 \times 10^7 M^{-1} s^{-1}$  with  $^*Ru(bpy)_3$  ( $E_{2,1}^\circ = +0.84 V$ ,  $E_{3,2}^\circ = -0.84 V$ ) to  $\sim 3 \times 10^7 M^{-1} s^{-1}$  for the phen derivatives ( $E_{2,1}^\circ = +0.67$  to  $+1.0 V$ ,  $E_{3,2}^\circ = -0.77$  to  $-1.01 V$ ).<sup>6,7</sup> From these  $E^\circ$  and other data, outer-sphere electron-transfer rate constants for eq 3 and 5 are estimated<sup>17</sup> as  $k_{red} \leq 1 \times 10^5 M^{-1} s^{-1}$  and  $k_{ox} = 1 \times 10^4$  to  $2 \times 10^7 M^{-1} s^{-1}$  (the latter value is for  $^*Ru(4,7-(CH_3)_2phen)_3^{2+}$ ). Thus only for the  $Co(bpy)_3^{2+}$  quenching of  $^*Ru(4,7-(CH_3)_2phen)_3^{2+}$  is the estimated electron-transfer rate sufficiently large to contribute significantly to the observed quenching rate constant. This, taken with the fact that  $k_q$  values for all four sensitizers are extremely similar, suggests that energy transfer is the predominant process in  $Co(bpy)_3^{2+}$  quenching. Since  $E^\circ$  data are not available for the other  $CoL_3^{2+}$  quenchers, electron-transfer rates cannot be estimated for the other entries in Table II. However, in view of the relative insensitivity of  $k_q$  to both quencher and sensitizer it is likely that energy transfer predominates for these as well. The small increase in  $k_q$  from  $Ru(5-Clphen)_3^{2+}$  to  $Ru(4,7-(CH_3)_2phen)_3^{2+}$  for several of the  $CoL_3^{2+}$  quenchers suggests that oxidative quenching, eq 3, may contribute to  $k_q$  with  $Ru(4,7-(CH_3)_2phen)_3^{2+}$ .

**Energy Transfer.** Energy-transfer paths appear quite prevalent with cobalt(II) complexes as quenchers (and Co(III); see ref 12). Because of the wealth of ligand-field transitions between 0.8 and  $1.6 \mu m^{-1}$  in the spectra of Co(II) complexes (Figure 2, ref 16), it is evident that there are low-energy cobalt(II)-acceptor states. Thus energy transfer from the ruthenium(II) and osmium(II) excited states (excitation energies  $E$  typically 1.60 and  $1.40 \mu m^{-1}$ , respectively) to cobalt(II) complexes are generally thermodynamically favorable.<sup>19</sup> In fact, as shown in Figure 2 the Co(II) spectra do not vary greatly from one (six-coordinate) complex to another. The lowest energy band (a quartet-quartet transition) shifts  $0.34 \mu m^{-1}$  (from  $0.79$  to  $1.13 \mu m^{-1}$ ) on going from Co-



**Figure 5.** Quenching rate constants as a function of ionic strength at 25 °C. (A)  $S = Ru(4,4'-(CH_3)_2bpy)_3^{2+}$ ,  $Q =$  diquat. (B)  $S = ^*Ru(bpy)_3^{2+}$ ,  $Q = Co(bpy)_3^{2+}$ .



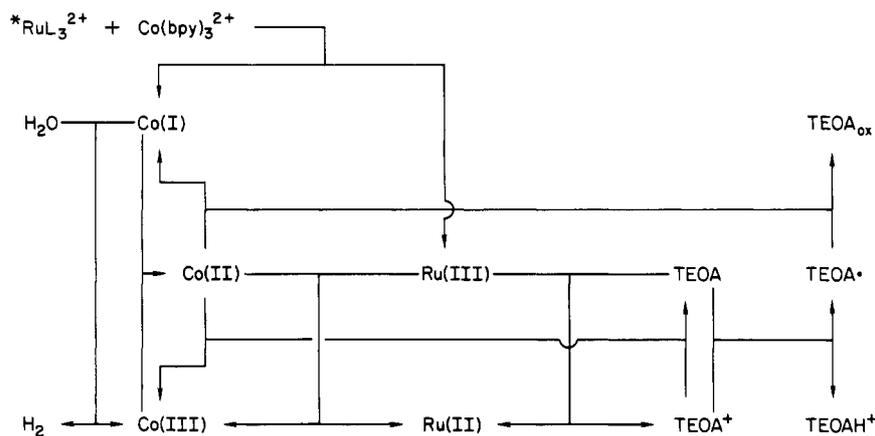
**Figure 6.** Dependence of quenching rate constants on the ionic radius of the supporting electrolyte cation (chloride salt) and anion (sodium salt) at 25 °C and 0.5 M ionic strength ( $S = Ru(bpy)_3^{2+}$ ,  $Q =$  diquat). Abbreviations for the tetraalkylammonium cations: Me =  $CH_3$ , Pr =  $C_3H_7$ , Bu =  $C_4H_9$ , Pen =  $C_5H_{11}$ .

( $H_2O$ )<sub>6</sub><sup>2+</sup> to  $Co(bpy)_3^{2+}$ ; the position of the next lowest band (a quartet-doublet transition) differs by  $0.49 \mu m^{-1}$  ( $1.11 \mu m^{-1}$  vs.  $1.6 \mu m^{-1}$ ) for these two complexes. Interestingly, the rate constants for energy transfer from  $^*Ru(phen)_3^{2+}$  to these two complexes differ by nearly  $10^4$  ( $2 \times 10^5 M^{-1} s^{-1}$  for  $Co(H_2O)_6^{2+}$  vs.  $0.8 \times 10^9 M^{-1} s^{-1}$  for  $Co(bpy)_3^{2+}$ ). The corresponding rate constant with  $Co(bpy)(H_2O)_4^{2+}$  (whose absorption spectrum resembles that of  $Co(H_2O)_6^{2+}$ —but is shifted  $0.1-0.2 \mu m^{-1}$  to higher energy) is intermediate,  $5 \times 10^7 M^{-1} s^{-1}$ . In view of the similarities in the  $^*RuL_3^{2+}-Co(II)$  spectral overlap with these three cobalt(II) complexes, it is tempting to speculate that the observed rate range derives from changing electronic factors for the energy-transfer process, with  $k_{en}$  (the probability of energy transfer) being greatest for  $Co(bpy)_3^{2+}$  ( $\geq 10^{-4}$ ) and smallest for  $Co(H_2O)_6^{2+}$  ( $\geq 10^{-8}$ ). Electronic coupling for the  $^*RuL_3^{2+}-Co(bpy)_3^{2+}$  reactant pair could be favored by several factors—among them, stacked bpy-L interactions coupling the bpy-L (and thereby the Ru and Co) orbitals, as well as the energetic proximity of redox states ( $Co(I)-Ru(III)$  and  $Co(III)-RuL_3^+$ ) which could couple the reactant and product states. It is interesting that the energy-transfer rate constants for  $CoL_3^{2+}$  appear to be a function of L despite the fact

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Scheme II



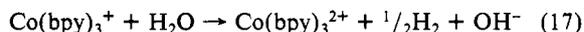
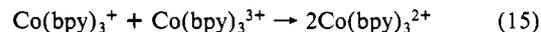
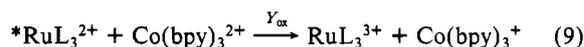
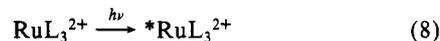
that the absorption spectra change little with L (see Figure 2). This too might result from subtle changes in the electronic factors for the energy-transfer process.

**Medium Effects.** The ionic strength dependences of the  $\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$  and diquat quenching rate constants (data from Table V and ref 22, respectively) are plotted in Figure 5, and the cation dependence of the diquat quenching rate constant is shown in Figure 6. Although the effect of ionic strength on quenching rate constants can be discussed in terms of the Brønsted-Debye equations, the data were not fit to such expressions because the kinetics exhibit specific ion effects. The rate constants do increase with increasing ionic strength as is expected for a process involving the diffusion together of two similarly charged species. The striking specific ion effects in Figure 6 parallel the behavior observed in the enthalpies of transfer of ions from  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  to  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ <sup>23</sup> and also in the variation of Walden products of ions<sup>24</sup> as a function of the reciprocal of the ionic radius. These effects have been attributed to ion-solvent interactions that are unique for water. The structure-promoting cations and anions (whether it is through specific ion-dipole hydration or through hydrophobic interactions) decrease the quenching rate constants, whereas the structure-breaking cations and anions enhance the quenching rate constants. The cation effects observed in this work are similar (but much smaller in magnitude) to those seen in reactions between negatively charged complexes, for example,  $\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6^{4-}$  and  $\text{IrCl}_6^{2-}$ .<sup>25</sup> While these empirical correlations can be identified, it is not feasible to model them in any depth because, in terms of a detailed model such as Scheme I, the specific ion effects may originate from changes in  $k_d$  and  $k_{-d}$  (through the work term<sup>17</sup>), or  $k_{23}$  and  $k_{32}$  (through the driving force for electron transfer, or the electronic factor, or the outer-shell barrier<sup>17</sup>).

**Water Photoreduction.** Water photoreduction systems based on both oxidative<sup>26</sup> and reductive quenching<sup>2,3,27</sup> of the (polypyridine)ruthenium(II) excited states have been developed. In the  $\text{TEOA}-\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_n^{2+}-\text{Ru}(4,7-(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{phen})_3^{2+}$  50% aqueous  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  system, although parallel quenching processes operate (see above), it is the oxidative process that is responsible for  $\text{H}_2$  formation: in flash-photolysis experiments in 50% aqueous  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (0.25 M LiCl, 0.02 M TEOA, pH 8) excited-state quenching ( $k_{\text{obsd}} = 7.5 \times 10^6 \text{ s}^{-1}$  with 0.01 M  $\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$  and 2.9

$\times 10^6 \text{ s}^{-1}$  with 0.003 M  $\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$ ;  $k_q = 0.7 \times 10^9 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) leads to  $\text{Ru}(4,7-(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{phen})_3^{3+}$  (440 nm,  $\Delta\epsilon = 2.3 \times 10^4 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) and  $\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^+$  (605 nm,  $\epsilon = 6.2 \times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) in  $0.27 \pm 0.03$  yield. At such low TEOA concentrations reduction of Ru(III) to Ru(II) occurs with a pseudo-first-order Co(II)-dependent rate constant, and the Co(I) produced decays on a much longer time scale ( $>10 \mu\text{s}$ ) by second-order kinetics. Under optimal  $\text{H}_2$  formation conditions, i.e.,  $[\text{TEOA}] \sim 1 \text{ M}$ , Ru(III) is not detected as an intermediate but Co(I) is found as before.

The above observations suggest the following sequence<sup>28</sup> (L = 4,7-( $\text{CH}_3$ )<sub>2</sub>phen), which is also outlined in Scheme II:



The conventional back-reaction (10), although expected to be rapid ( $k_{10} \geq 10^9 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ), is not observed because of eq 11 for which  $k_{11} = 5.1 \times 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$  in water (0.16 M  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ ,  $\mu = 0.5 \text{ M}$ ) and  $2.2 \times 10^7 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$  in 50% aqueous  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (0.25 M LiCl,  $\mu = 0.25 \text{ M}$ ). The rate of eq 11 is always great because of the high Co(II) levels required for excited-state quenching (eq 9). At sufficiently high  $[\text{TEOA}]/[\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}]$ , reduction of  $\text{RuL}_3^{3+}$  by TEOA (eq 12) becomes competitive.<sup>23</sup> Step 14, TEOA-catalyzed rearrangement of the primary (oxidizing)  $\text{TEOA}^{\cdot+}$  radical to a reducing species  $\text{TEOA}^{\cdot}$ , step 16, reduction of  $\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$  by  $\text{TEOA}^{\cdot}$ , and step 17, reduction of water by  $\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^+$ , are written by analogy with previous results.<sup>3,26a</sup> Step 13, oxidation of  $\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^+$  by  $\text{TEOA}^{\cdot+}$ , is required by the data in Table VI (see below). In the absence of (or at low concentrations of) TEOA,  $\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^+$  is oxidized by  $\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{3+}$  ( $k_{13} \sim 1 \times 10^9 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ), and no  $\text{H}_2$  is produced.

The competition between  $\text{RuL}_3^{3+}$  oxidation of  $\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$  (eq 11) and of TEOA (eq 12) is evident in the data in Table VI and

(28) As noted earlier, even at  $\geq 1 \text{ M}$  TEOA no quenching of  ${}^*\text{RuL}_3^{2+}$  (L = bpy or 4,7-( $\text{CH}_3$ )<sub>2</sub>phen) occurs. The small quenching rate constant implicated,  $<10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , is consistent with other observations: the rate constant for reduction of  $\text{Os}(\text{bpy})_3^{3+}$  (similar  $E_{3,2}^{\circ}$  to  ${}^*\text{RuL}_3^{2+}$ ) is  $3.1 \times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$  in water (0.5 M NaCl) and  $1.8 \times 10^4 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$  in 50% aqueous  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (0.5 M tetrabutylammonium chloride) at 25 °C.

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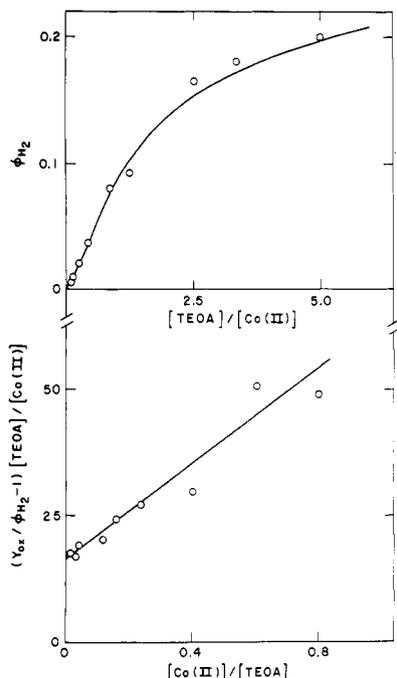
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**Figure 7.** Dependence of quantum yields for  $H_2$  formation on the ratio of triethanolamine and  $Co(bpy)_3^{2+}$  concentrations (25 °C, 50% aqueous acetonitrile, 0.25 M ionic strength,  $S = Ru(4,7-(CH_3)_2phen)_3^{2+}$ ; see Table VII). Bottom plot is suggested by eq 18 (see text).

in the plot at the top of Figure 7. In terms of eq 8–17 the quantum yield of  $H_2$  (after correcting for the fraction of  $*RuL_3^{2+}$  not quenched) is one-half the net  $Co(bpy)_3^{3+}$  yield. Cobalt(I) is produced in eq 9 and 16 but oxidized by  $Co(bpy)_3^{3+}$  in eq 15. Cobalt(III) is produced by both  $Ru(bpy)_3^{3+}$  (eq 11) and  $TEOA^+$  (eq 13) oxidants and the fates of both  $Ru(bpy)_3^{3+}$  and  $TEOA^+$  are  $[TEOA]$  dependent (eq 12 and 14). Provided that eq 15 and 16 are rapid and that eq 10 can be neglected, the  $H_2$  yield is determined by  $Y_{ox}$  and the efficiency of conversion of  $Ru(bpy)_3^{3+}$  to  $TEOA^+$ . Scheme II (eq 8–17) gives the following expression for the  $H_2$  yield when the steady-state approximation is applied to the concentrations of the various intermediates.

$$\phi_{H_2} = Y_{ox} \left\{ \frac{k_{12}[TEOA]}{k_{11}[Co(bpy)_3^{2+}] + k_{12}[TEOA]} \right\} \times \left\{ \frac{k_{14}[TEOA]}{k_{13}[Co(bpy)_3^{2+}] + k_{14}[TEOA]} \right\} \quad (18)$$

Equation 18 suggests the plot of  $[(Y_{ox}/\phi_{H_2}) - 1][TEOA]/[Co(bpy)_3^{2+}]$  vs.  $[Co(bpy)_3^{2+}]/[TEOA]$  shown at the bottom of Figure 7. The value  $Y_{ox} = 0.27$  (from the flash-photolysis measurements) was used in constructing the plot. From the magnitudes of the intercept ( $=k_{11}/k_{12} + k_{13}/k_{14}$ ) and slope ( $=k_{11}k_{13}/k_{12}k_{14}$ ), the rate constant ratios  $k_{11}/k_{12}$  or  $k_{13}/k_{14}$  are  $12.8 \pm 0.5$  and  $3.8 \pm 0.5$ . From flash-photolysis measurements  $k_{11} = 2.2 \times 10^7 M^{-1} s^{-1}$  and  $k_{12} = 5.2 \times 10^6 M^{-1} s^{-1}$  in this medium, giving  $k_{11}/k_{12} = 4.2$ , in reasonable agreement with the ratio  $3.8 \pm 0.5$  obtained from analysis of Figure 7. Thus the value of  $k_{13}/k_{14} = 12.8$  may be deduced.

Figure 7 confirms the validity of Scheme II, particularly the 2-fold  $TEOA$  vs.  $Co(bpy)_3^{2+}$  competition (eq 12 vs. eq 11 and eq 14 vs. eq 13). An unanticipated and interesting result that emerges from this analysis is the rapidity of eq 13, oxidation of  $Co(bpy)_3^{2+}$  by  $TEOA^+$ , the primary radical. As noted above, analysis of the data in Figure 7 gives  $k_{13}/k_{14} = 12.8$ . Neither  $k_{13}$  nor  $k_{14}$  has been measured in the 50% aqueous acetonitrile medium, but it is known that  $k_{14} = (3.3 \pm 0.5) \times 10^6 M^{-1} s^{-1}$  in water ( $\mu = 0.5 M$ ).<sup>26</sup> If this value for  $k_{14}$  is used in the 50% aqueous acetonitrile medium, then  $k_{13}$  is estimated as  $4.2 \times 10^7 M^{-1} s^{-1}$ . The only previously reported rate constant for oxidation by  $TEOA^+$  is that

of  $3 \times 10^9 M^{-1} s^{-1}$  for reaction with the much stronger reductant methylviologen radical ( $E^\circ = -0.45 V$ ). The rapid oxidation of  $Co(bpy)_3^{2+}$  by  $TEOA^+$  indicates that the  $TEOA^+/TEOA$  reduction potential is considerably more positive than +0.30 V (the  $Co(bpy)_3^{3+/2+}$   $E^\circ$ ). The kinetics observed with the  $RuL_3^{3+}$  and  $OsL_3^{3+}$  oxidants are consistent with a value of  $\sim +0.9 V$ , which is similar to that estimated by Lehn and Sauvage.<sup>29</sup>

An additional test of the mechanism in Scheme II is provided by the pH dependence of the hydrogen yields (Table VIII). As long as  $H_2$  formation (eq 17) is sufficiently rapid, the only pH dependence predicted arises through the  $TEOA-TEOAH^+$  equilibrium and the ensuing changes in the  $TEOA$  to  $Co(II)$  ratio. As is shown in Figure 8, such is the case below pH  $\sim 8.4$ ; the experimental points (Table VIII) fall on the curve calculated from eq 18.

For 50% aqueous  $CH_3CN$  the limiting  $H_2$  yield,  $0.29 \pm 0.01$ , and the  $Ru(III)-Co(I)$  yield,  $0.27 \pm 0.02$  from flash photolysis, are identical within experimental error as is required for eq 8–17 if eq 16 is stoichiometric. This system thus appears limited (under optimum conditions) by the magnitude of  $Y_{ox}$ . Preliminary observations (see supplementary material, Tables VI–VIII) indicate the optimum  $H_2$  yield in a purely aqueous medium to be about 10 times smaller. The solvent dependence of  $Y_{ox}$  is of some interest. In terms of Scheme I,  $Y_{ox}$  is given by

$$Y_{ox} = \frac{k_{23}k_{34}}{(k_{23} + k_{red}' + k_{en}')(k_{30}' + k_{34}) + k_{32}(k_{red}' + k_{en}')} \quad (19)$$

Since the cage-escape yield  $\phi_{cage}$  is  $k_{34}/(k_{30}' + k_{34})$ , the yield of separated  $Ru(III)$  and  $Co(I)$  is also given by

$$Y_{ox} = f_{ox}\phi_{cage} \quad (20)$$

where  $f_{ox} = k_{ox}/k_q$  and  $k_{ox}$  and  $k_q$  are given in eq 7. Thus  $Y_{ox}$  reflects the relative values of  $k_{ox}$ ,  $k_{red}'$ , and  $k_{en}'$  and of  $k_{34}$  and  $k_{30}'$ . Since all of the rate constants are expected to be medium dependent, it is not feasible to address the  $Y_{ox}$  differences at a quantitative level at this time. It is worth noting, however, that  $k_{34}$  is expected to be greater in the lower viscosity acetonitrile mixture than in the purely aqueous solution, thereby promoting cage escape over "back-reaction" in the acetonitrile medium. An additional factor favoring cage escape in this system is the fact that the  $Co(I)-Ru(III)$  back-reaction lies in the inverted region. For reactions in the inverted region the solvent dependence of the rate is such that  $k_{30}$  (within the *close contact* successor complex) is smaller in acetonitrile than in water, facilitating cage escape in the mixed solvent.<sup>30</sup>

The sensitizer dependence of the  $H_2$  yields in 50% acetonitrile may also be discussed in terms of Schemes I and II and eq 19 and 20. Provided that  $k_{12}[TEOA] \gg k_{11}[Co(bpy)_3^{2+}]$  (note that  $L$  now varies) and that  $k_{14}[TEOA] \gg k_{13}[Co(bpy)_3^{2+}]$ , the variation of  $\phi_{H_2}$  with sensitizer will reflect variations of  $Y_{ox}$ . With  $[TEOA]/[Co(bpy)_3^{2+}] = 150$  the  $H_2$  quantum yields determined were 0.12, 0.028, 0.23, and 0.23 for  $L = 5-Clphen$ , phen, 4,7- $(CH_3)_2phen$ , and 3,4,7,8- $(CH_3)_4phen$ , respectively. As noted above, for  $L = 4,7-(CH_3)_2phen$ ,  $k_{12}/k_{11} = 0.24$  and  $k_{14}/k_{13} = 0.078$ . Since the latter ratio is independent of  $RuL_3^{2+}$ ,  $TEOA^+$  rearrangement to  $TEOA^+$  (eq 14) is  $>90\%$  efficient for all the sensitizers in the above experiments. In addition, in view of the  $k_{11}$  magnitude (Table VI) and the fact that  $TEOA-ML_3^{3+}$  reduction rate constants ( $k_{12}$ ) exhibit a normal driving-force dependence,<sup>28</sup>  $k_{12}/k_{11}$  should be  $>0.1$  for all the sensitizers used. Thus the  $\phi_{H_2}$  values for the phen and methylated phen derivatives provide a measure of  $Y_{ox}$ . From the calculations presented in Figure 4,  $f_{ox}$  is 0.00, 0.12, 0.78, and 0.92 (same  $RuL_3^{2+}$  order as above), which, with the exception of 5-Clphen, discussed below, reflects remarkably well the relative  $\phi_{H_2}$  values. In fact, the ratio of  $\phi_{H_2}$  (measured) to  $f_{ox}$  (calculated) is  $0.26 \pm 0.03$ , suggesting that  $\phi_{cage}$  is rather similar ( $0.26 \pm 0.03$ ) for all three systems. Thus

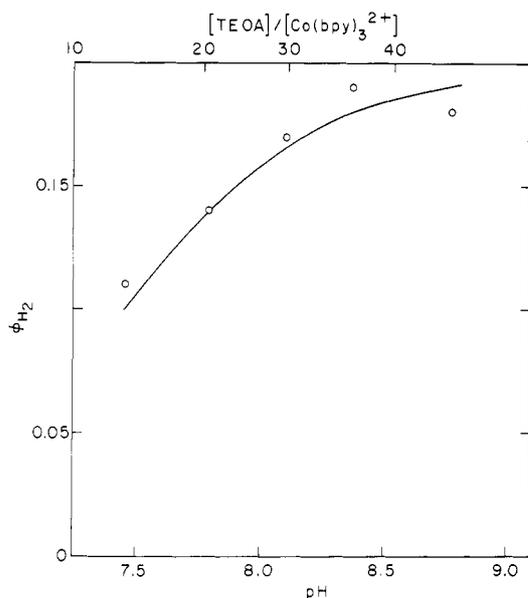
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**Table X.** Comparison of RuL<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup>-Sensitized Water-Photoreduction Systems<sup>a</sup>

added components	pH	primary products (P <sub>el</sub> )	Y <sub>el</sub>	φ <sub>H<sub>2</sub></sub>	nφ <sub>H<sub>2</sub></sub> /Y <sub>el</sub> <sup>b</sup>	ref
(1) MV <sup>2+</sup> , EDTA, Pt	4	RuL <sub>3</sub> <sup>3+</sup> + MV <sup>+</sup>	0.25	0.13 <sup>c</sup>	0.5	26b, c
(2) Co(sep) <sup>3+</sup> , EDTA, Pt	4	RuL <sub>3</sub> <sup>3+</sup> + Co(sep) <sup>2+</sup>	0.51	0.13 <sup>c,d</sup>	0.25	26d
(3) Rh(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>3+</sup> , TEOA, Pt	8	RuL <sub>3</sub> <sup>3+</sup> + RhL <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	0.15	0.11 <sup>c</sup>	0.7	26a
(4) Et <sub>3</sub> N, Pt (25% CH <sub>3</sub> CN)		RuL <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> + Et <sub>3</sub> N <sup>+</sup>	≥0.2	0.44 <sup>c,e</sup>		31
(5) Eu(II), Co <sup>II</sup> (MAC)	5	RuL <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> + Eu(III)	1.0	0.05	0.02	27
(5) HAS <sup>-</sup> , Co <sup>II</sup> (MAC)	5	RuL <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> + HAS <sup>-</sup>	0.5	5 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	0.001	27
(6) HAS <sup>-</sup> , Co(bpy) <sub>n</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	5	RuL <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> + HAS <sup>-</sup>	0.5	0.03	0.12	2, 3
(7) Co(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup> , TEOA (50% CH <sub>3</sub> CN)	8	RuL <sub>3</sub> <sup>3+</sup> + Co(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup>	0.27	0.29	1.0	f

<sup>a</sup>See original reference for RuL<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup> used. <sup>b</sup>The stoichiometric factor *n* is equal to 1 or 2, depending on the nature of the subsequent reactions. <sup>c</sup>Heterogeneous H<sub>2</sub> formation catalyzed by platinum. <sup>d</sup>The value reported in ref 26d has been corrected for the fraction of \*RuL<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup> not quenched. <sup>e</sup>L = 4,4'-dicarboxy-2,2'-bipyridine diisopropyl ester. <sup>f</sup>This work.



**Figure 8.** Variation of quantum yield for H<sub>2</sub> formation with pH at constant total triethanolamine concentration (Table VIII). The curve is calculated from eq 18 by using parameters given in the text.

this analysis strongly suggests that for these three sensitizers (L = phen, 4,7-(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>phen, and 3,4,7,8-(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>phen) the common photoreduction mechanism given in Scheme II is operative. Furthermore, it appears that all three systems are limited by low cage-escape yields (0.2–0.3) and that the variations among them are largely due to the competition between energy-transfer and oxidative electron-transfer quenching paths. The Ru(5-Clphen)<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup> system provides the exception to the above conclusion. From Figure 4 it is evident that for this sensitizer *f*<sub>ox</sub> ≈ 0, yet φ<sub>H<sub>2</sub></sub> ≈ 0.1. This discrepancy leads us to consider alternative mechanisms for Ru(5-Clphen)<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup>. Preliminary work indicates that, in contrast to the phen and (CH<sub>3</sub>)phen sensitizers, \*Ru(5-Clphen)<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup> is quenched by triethanolamine. Thus a reductive quenching pathway (Q = D = TEOA) as found with ascorbate ion (see eq 2a,b) is implicated. Additional mechanistic studies with Ru(5-Clphen)<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup> are in progress.

**Comparisons with Other Photoreduction Systems.** In recent years a number of water photoreduction systems employing RuL<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup> sensitizer have been developed.<sup>2,3,26,27,31</sup> These are summarized in Table X. All require a “sacrificial” electron donor—EDTA, triethylamine, ascorbate, or triethanolamine. As mentioned in the introduction, the photochemical reaction may involve either excited-state oxidation forming RuL<sub>3</sub><sup>3+</sup> or excited-state reduction to give RuL<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>. The primary photoproducts (P<sub>el</sub>) are listed in the third column of the table. The yield of primary electron-transfer products Y<sub>el</sub> (fourth column) imposes an upper limit on the H<sub>2</sub> yield for the system. For example, in the TEOA

((3) and (7)), Et<sub>3</sub>N (4), and probably also the EDTA ((1) and (2))<sup>26b</sup> systems, φ<sub>H<sub>2</sub></sub> ≤ Y<sub>el</sub> because of the production of secondary reducing radicals (see above and eq 14 and 16). Consequently, in these systems 1 mol of H<sub>2</sub> can, in principle, be produced per mol of (separated) primary products. On the other hand, in systems 5 and 6 where ascorbate or Eu<sup>2+</sup> is the electron donor, φ<sub>H<sub>2</sub></sub> ≤ Y<sub>el</sub>/2 because secondary reducing radicals are not produced and 2 mol of primary products is needed to produce 1 mol of hydrogen. Just as Y<sub>el</sub> describes the photochemical efficiency, nφ<sub>H<sub>2</sub></sub>/Y<sub>el</sub> measures the chemical efficiency of the subsequent reactions culminating in H<sub>2</sub> production. It is evident that the chemical efficiencies of the heterogeneous systems ((1)–(4)) can be quite high. Both the MV<sup>2+</sup> (1) and Rh(bpy)<sub>3</sub><sup>3+</sup> (3) systems are essentially limited only by the yields of separated electron-transfer products. Our earlier work with homogeneous systems 5 and 6 showed these to be subject to poor chemical efficiencies. By contrast, the present Co(bpy)<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup> system 7 exhibits practically unit chemical efficiency. Interestingly, both systems 6 and 7 involve the common H<sub>2</sub>-forming intermediate Co(bpy)<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> (and Co(bpy)<sub>2</sub>H<sup>2+</sup>). At pH 8 these react quantitatively to give H<sub>2</sub> and Co(bpy)<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup>. In the pH 5 ascorbate solutions, H<sub>2</sub> yields should also be quite high. However, in photochemical system 6, the relatively long-lived ascorbate radical oxidizes Co(I) competitively with H<sub>2</sub> formation (at pH < 5, bpy rather than H<sub>2</sub>O reduction is favored).<sup>3</sup> Thus the great contrast in the efficiencies of the two Co(bpy)<sub>n</sub><sup>2+</sup>-based systems is actually due to the free-radical chemistry of the sacrificial donors, and the rearrangement of the primary TEOA<sup>+</sup> radical (eq 14) is crucial to the high yield in system 7.

## Conclusion

The reduction potentials of CoL<sub>3</sub><sup>3+/2+</sup> and CoL<sub>3</sub><sup>2+/+</sup> couples lie in the range +0.16 to +0.50 and –0.83 to –1.07 V, respectively. Thus from thermodynamic considerations, CoL<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup> complexes may either reduce or oxidize the RuL<sub>3</sub><sup>3+</sup> excited states. However, analysis of the quenching profile for \*RuL<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup>–Co(bpy)<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup> reactions indicates oxidative quenching of \*RuL<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup> (yielding Ru(III) and Co(I)) to be the only significant electron-transfer process. The reductive process (to yield RuL<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> and Co(III)) is kinetically negligible because of the low CoL<sub>3</sub><sup>2+/3+</sup> electron-exchange rate and because of the poor electronic factor for the reaction. In addition, energy-transfer quenching by Co(bpy)<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup> is significant, reflecting a higher electronic factor for this process than is found for energy transfer from \*RuL<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup> to other cobalt(II) complexes. With L = 4,7-(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>phen, the Co(bpy)<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup>–RuL<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup> excited-state electron transfer to give Co(bpy)<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> and RuL<sub>3</sub><sup>3+</sup> results in the formation of H<sub>2</sub> in relatively high yield. The chemical efficiency of this homogeneous system is low at high [Co(bpy)<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup>]/[TEOA] ratios because of competitive reactions of Co(bpy)<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup> with RuL<sub>3</sub><sup>3+</sup> and with the triethanolamine cation radical; the Co(bpy)<sub>3</sub><sup>3+</sup> produced in these reactions oxidizes the H<sub>2</sub> precursor Co(bpy)<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>. By contrast, at high triethanolamine concentrations the H<sub>2</sub> yield is limited only by the efficiency of primary product separation (cage-escape yield).

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**Supplementary Material Available:** Medium effects on quenching rate constants, and H<sub>2</sub> yields as a function of sensitizer, solvent, donor, etc. (8 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

## Metal Ion Promoted Elimination Reactions. Conversion of $\beta$ -Hydroxy $\alpha$ -Amino Acids to $\alpha$ -Imino Acids

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**Abstract:** Base-catalyzed elimination reactions of *O*-acetyl- and *O*-sulfonylserine coordinated to cobalt(III) give rise to chelated 2-iminopropanoate. The reaction rates are first order in [OH<sup>-</sup>] and independent of buffer base concentration and are equal in magnitude to the methine proton exchange rates. Comparison with the rate of elimination for the free ligand, *O*-sulfonylserine, in base shows that coordination results in ~10<sup>7</sup>-fold increase in reactivity. For N,O-coordinated (*S*)-methylcysteine, elimination of methanethiol is similarly facilitated, though in this complex the rate of methine proton exchange exceeds that of elimination by a factor of ~25. Reaction mechanisms are discussed. The methyl group in chelated 2-iminopropanoate is deprotonated readily in base and the carbanion so generated reacts rapidly with electrophiles such as aldehydes.

Subtle control of the reaction pathways available to an organic substrate is one of the well-known consequences of complex formation with a metal ion. Recognition of the formal charge donation and acceptance involved in complexation leads to the anticipation that ligand nucleophilicity should be reduced while electrophilicity is enhanced<sup>1,2</sup> and, in gross terms, metal ion catalysis can often be assessed in this way. However, detailed investigations of mechanism attest to the superficiality of this view,<sup>3</sup> so that it is necessary in as many instances as possible to probe beyond the mere metal ion dependence of a process. One convenient means of so doing is to examine metal ion promoted reactions (occurring at a substitutionally inert metal ion center) where the ligand remains bound to the metal ion for the lifetime of the organic reaction.

Hydroxy amino acids and their derivatives have numerous biological and synthetic uses.<sup>4-6</sup> Elimination processes are apparently involved in the enzymic conversion of, in particular, serine and its derivatives to other  $\beta$ -functionalized amino acids.<sup>7-9</sup> The immediate product, dehydroalanine, is either captured by a nucleophile to give a new amino acid or it rearranges to the iminopyruvate (2-iminopropanoate), which then decays further to ammonia and pyruvic acid (Scheme I).

Some of these processes involve pyridoxal to trigger the elimination, others do not. One such pyridoxal free system has been described by Tudball et al. for the elimination of sulfate ion from *O*-sulfonylserine to produce iminopyruvate and hence ammonia and pyruvate ion.<sup>9</sup> The question which arises for these latter systems is what triggers the elimination process. This paper examines the possibility of metal ions activating the elimination since it is well-known that the methine proton of  $\alpha$ -amino acids becomes more acidic on chelation of the amine and carboxylate groups to some metal ions.<sup>5</sup> Certainly, simple metal ion pyridoxal catalyzed elimination reactions of serine and threonine (and their derivatives) have been observed, though often only in conditions where the anticipated immediate reaction products were not detected.<sup>10</sup>

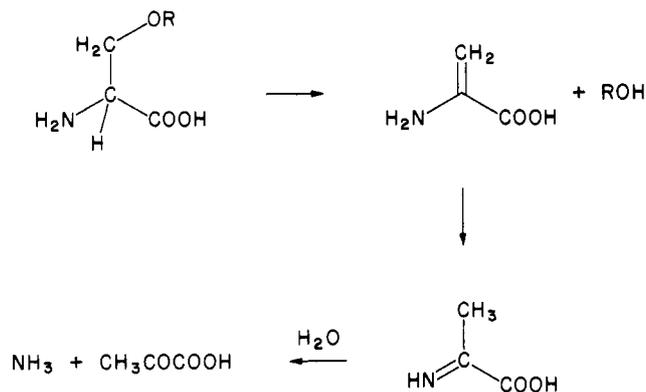
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Scheme I



The facile  $\beta$ -elimination of the nitro group in chelated nitroalanine to give a stable Co(III)-pyruvate-imine chelate<sup>11</sup> implied

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