CHEMICAL KINETICS AND CATALYSIS

Silver(III) Periodate Complex—An Oxidant for Free Radical Induced Uncatalyzed and Ruthenium(III) Catalyzed Oxidation of Barbituric Acid

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Abstract—The oxidation of a heterocyclic compound—barbituric acid (BBA) by diperiodatoargentate(III) (DPA) was carried out in the absence and presence of ruthenium(III) catalyst in alkaline medium with a constant ionic strength of 0.20 mol dm⁻³ at 298 K. The reaction was monitored spectrophotometrically. The reaction was of first order with respect to [DPA] and was less than unity order with respect to [BBA] in both catalyzed and uncatalyzed cases. Positive and negative fractional order in [OH–] for uncatalyzed and Ru(III) catalyzed reaction respectively was observed, whereas perioadate has retarding effect in both the cases. A unity order with respect to [Ru(III)] was observed. The uncatalyzed reaction in alkaline medium has been shown to proceed via a DPA–BBA complex, which decomposes in a rate determining step to give the free radicals, which is followed by other fast steps to give the products. Whereas in catalyzed reaction, it has been shown to proceed via a Ru(III)–BBA complex, and similar other steps as in uncatalyzed reaction to give the products. The reaction constants involved in the various steps involved in the mechanisms were calculated for both the reactions. The catalytic constant (k_C) was also calculated for catalyzed reaction at four temperatures. The activation parameters with respect to slow step of the mechanism and also the thermodynamic data for all the equilibrium steps were determined and discussed.

Keywords: barbituric acid, diperiodatosilver(III) complex, oxidation, catalyzed oxidation **DOI:** 10.1134/S0036024420100052

INTRODUCTION

Naturally occurring compound uracil is a derivative of pyrimidine [1]. It is one of four nucleobases, and also have other biological functions [2, 3]. Barbituric acid (BBA) or 6-hydroxyuracil, is a crystalline compound, soluble in water [4]. Barbiturate drugs are derivatives of BBA. Even though, barbituric acid shows no pharmacologically activity [5], barbiturates act as allosteric modulator and at higher doses as agonists of GABA receptors [6].

The study of the metals in their highest oxidation state has attracted many researchers in current years. Such oxidation states can be stabilized by chelating with suitable bi- or polydentate ligands. Diperiodatocuprate(III) (DPC) [7], diperiodatoargentate(III) (DPA) [8], and diperiodatonickelate(IV) (DPN) [9] are well known oxidizing agents in a certain buffer medium with a suitable pH value. Diperiodatoargentate(III) (DPA) has the reduction potential 1.74 V and acts as a powerful oxidizing agent in aqueous alkaline medium [10]. Silver(III) is a two electron oxidant. The reactions of silver(III) species have generated further interest mechanistically. The reduction of Ag(III) to Ag(I) may occur either by simultaneous two-electron transfer in one step or in two successive one-electron steps [11]. The structure of this complex is considered as $[Ag^{III}(H_3IO_6)_2]$ [–] which has a square-planar coordination geometry around the metal center and it is fairly stable in alkaline medium and can be readily prepared [12].

Kinetically, catalytic reactions are particular reactions which involve lower activation energy than the corresponding uncatalyzed reactions resulting in a higher reaction rate at the same temperature and for the same reactant concentrations. Ruthenium(III) is a stable and efficient catalyst active in milder reaction conditions and various media. Many pioneering researcher worked, Oi and Inoue [13] initiated in 2001, Ackermann [14] and Bruneau and Dixneuf [15].

As per the literature survey, there were no reports on the oxidation of BBA by any oxidant from kinetic and mechanistic point of view. Such studies are of much importance in understanding the mechanism of oxidation of BBA and also it is helpful in getting the informa-

Fig. 1. Spectroscopic changes occurring in the oxidation of barbituric acid by diperiodatoargentate(III) at 298 K, $|BBA| = 5.0 \times$ 10^{-4} mol dm⁻³, [DPA] = 5.0 × 10⁻⁵ mol dm⁻³, [OH⁻] = 0.10 mol dm⁻³, and [IO₄] = 1.0 × 10⁻⁵ mol dm⁻³ with time interval of 1 min (curves *1–10*).

tion of silver metal ions interaction with the biologically active compounds. Hence, the present investigation is aimed to unveil the Ru(III) catalyzed and uncatalyzed oxidation of BBA by DPA and to arrive at plausible mechanism and to understand the reactive species.

EXPERIMENTAL

Chemicals and Solutions

Barbituric acid was purchased from Sigma Aldrich, India. The analytical grade reagents were used in the experiment and Millipore water was used throughout the work. A stock solution was prepared by dissolving a known amount of the BBA in Millipore water. The required concentration of BBA was obtained from its stock solution. A standard stock solution of Ru(III) was prepared by using $RuCl₃$ (S.D. Fine Chem.) in 0.20 mol dm⁻³ HCl. The concentration was determined [16] by EDTA titration. To maintain ionic strength and alkalinity of the reaction, $KNO₃$ and KOH (BDH) respectively were used. Aqueous solutions of $AgNO₃$ were used to study the product effect, Ag(I). A stock standard solution of $IO₄⁻$ was prepared by dissolving a known weight of $KIO₄$ (Riedel–de Haen) in hot water; the stock solution used after keeping for 24 h and its concentration was deduced iodometrically [17] at neutral pH maintained using a phosphate buffer. The temperature was maintained constant to within ± 0.10 K.

Diperiodatoargentate(III) was prepared by oxidising $Ag(I)$ in presence of $KIO₄$ as described elsewhere [8]. The complex was characterized by its UV–Vis spectrum which exhibited three peaks at 216, 255, and 362 nm [11]. The magnetic moment study revealed that the complex is diamagnetic. The compound pre-

pared was analyzed [18] for silver and periodate by acidifying a solution with HCl, recovering and weighing the AgCl for Ag, and titrating the iodine liberated when excess KI was added to the filtrate for IO_4^- . The stock solution of DPA was used for the required [DPA] in the reaction mixture.

Instrumentation

The kinetic measurements were carried out on Varian CARY 50 Bio UV–Vis spectrophotometer (Varian, Victoria-3170, Australia) with a Peltier accessory for temperature control. For pH measurement an Elico pH meter model LI 120 was used. ESI–MS data were obtained on a 17A Shimadzu gas chromatograph with a QP-5050A Shimadzu mass spectrometer using the EI ionization technique.

Kinetic Measurements

In all the kinetic measurements, a fixed concentration, 1.0×10^{-5} mol dm⁻³ of KIO₄ was used throughout the study unless otherwise stated. Thus, the possibility of oxidation of BBA by periodate was tested. We found that there was no significant interference due to $KIO₄$ under our experimental conditions. Precaution was also taken to avoid the dissolution of O_2 and CO_2 in the solution by maintaining an inert atmosphere with N_2 throughout the study. The kinetics was followed under pseudo-first-order conditions where $[BBA] > [DPA]$ at 298 K, unless specified. The reaction was initiated by mixing the DPA to BBA solution which also contained required concentrations of Ru(III) or KNO_3 , KOH, and KIO₄; the progress of the reaction was monitored spectrophotometrically at 362 nm from the decrease in absorbance due to DPA with the molar absorbency index ε at 13900 \pm 100 dm³ mol⁻¹ cm⁻¹. It was confirmed that there is a negligible effect from other species present in the reaction mixture at this wavelength. The spectral changes during the chemical reaction in the standard conditions at 298 K are shown in Fig. 1 (for uncatalyzed reaction). It is evident from the figure that the concentration of DPA decreases at 362 nm. The pseudo-first order rate constants k_T were determined from the log(absorbance) versus time plots (Fig. 2). The plots were linear up to 85% completion of reaction.

RESULTS

Stoichiometry and Product Analysis

Different sets of reaction mixtures containing varying ratios of DPA to barbituric acid in the presence of constant amounts of KOH and $KNO₃$ in uncatalyzed and constant amount of Ru(III) in catalyzed reaction were kept for 6 h in closed vessels under nitrogen atmosphere. The remaining concentration of DPA was estimated spectrophotometrically at 362 nm. The results indicated 3 : 3 stoichiometry (BBA : DPA) for both the reactions as given in following equations:

The main reaction product for both the uncatalyzed and Ru(III) catalyzed reactions was identified as trimer of barbituric acid which was confirmed by ESI–mass spectral analysis. The mass spectrum

Fig. 2. First order plots for the oxidation of barbituric acid by diperiodatoargentate(III) in aqueous alkaline medium at 298 K, [DPA] \times 10⁻⁵ (mol dm⁻³): (*a*) 1.0, (*b*) 2.0; (*c*) 3.0, (*d*) 4.0, and (*e*) 5.0.

showed a molecular ion peak at 338 amu confirming the presence of cyclic acyl ion which is a fragmented molecular ion of trimer of barbituric acid (Fig. 3). Similar oxidation product of BBA was obtained by Kato et al. [19]. The formation of free $Ag⁺$ in solution was detected by adding KCl solution to the reaction mixture, which produced white turbidity due to the formation of AgCl.

Reaction Orders

As the diperiodatoargentate(III) oxidation of barbituric acid in alkaline medium proceeds with a measurable rate in the absence of ruthenium(III), the catalyzed reaction is understood to occur in parallel paths with contributions from both the catalyzed and uncatalyzed paths.

Thus, the total rate constant (k_T) is equal to the sum of the rate constants of the catalyzed (k_C) and uncatalyzed (k_U) reactions, so $k_C = k_T - k_U$. Hence the reaction orders have been determined from the slopes of $\log k_{\rm C}$ vs. log(concentration) plots by varying the concentrations of barbituric acid, Ru(III) and alkali in turn while keeping the others constant. The uncatalyzed reaction was followed under the conditions $[BBA] = 5.0 \times 10^{-4}$; $[DPA] = 5.0 \times 10^{-5}$; $[OH^-] =$

Fig. 3. ESI-Mass spectrum of trimer of barbituric acid with its molecular ion peak at *m/z* = 338 corresponds to fragmented cyclic acyl ion of trimer.

0.10; $[I] = 0.20$ mol dm⁻³. The rate constant of uncatalyzed reaction (k_{U}) was obtained by the plot of logA (*A* is absorbance) versus time by following the progress of the reaction spectrophotometrically at 362 nm.

Effect of [Diperiodatoargentate(III)]

The DPA concentration was varied in the range of 1.0×10^{-5} to 5.0×10^{-5} mol dm⁻³ for uncatalyzed and Ru(III) catalyzed cases. The linearity of the plots of log absorbance versus time up to 85% completion of the reaction indicates a reaction order of unity in [DPA]. This was also confirmed by varying [DPA], which did not result in any change in the pseudo-firstorder rate constants, k_C (Table 1).

Effect of [Barbituric Acid]

The barbituric acid concentration was varied in the range $1.0 \times 10^{-4} - 1.0 \times 10^{-3}$ mol dm⁻³ at 25^oC while keeping other reactant concentrations and conditions constant in the absence and in the presence of catalyst. The k_U and k_C values were increased with the increase in concentration of barbituric acid, indicating an apparent less than unit order dependence on [BBA]. This was also confirmed by the plots of k_U vs. [BBA]^{0.69} which is linear rather than the direct plot of k_{U} vs. [BBA] (Fig. 4) (*r* = 0.9925, *S* < 0.003 for uncatalyzed, *r* = 0.9809, *S* < 0.062 for catalyzed) (Table 1).

Effect of [Ru(III)]

The ruthenium(III) concentration was varied from 0.2×10^{-6} to 2.0×10^{-6} mol dm⁻³ range, at constant concentrations of diperiodatoargentate(III), barbituric acid, alkali, and at constant ionic strength. The order in [Ru(III)] was found to be unity from the linearity of the plots of k_C vs. [Ru(III)] ($r = 0.9958$, $S \le$ 0.021) (Table 1).

Effect of [Alkali] and [Periodate]

The effect of alkali on the reaction was studied at constant concentrations of barbituric acid and DPA and at a constant ionic strength of 0.2 mol dm⁻³ for both the cases at 298 K. Surprisingly alkali has different effect on the rate of the reaction in absence and presence of catalyst. The rate constant increased and decreased with increase in [alkali] in the absence and presence of catalyst less than unit order dependence on [alkali] as given in Table 1. The effect of $[IO₄]$ was observed by varying the concentration from 0.2×10^{-5} to 2.0×10^{-5} mol dm⁻³ while keeping all other reactants concentrations constant. It was observed that the rate constants decreased by increasing $[IO_4]$ in both the cases (Table 1).

Effect of Dielectric Constant of the Medium (D)

The dielectric constant of the medium, *D*, was varied by varying the *t*-butyl alcohol-water percentage. The dielectric constants of the reaction medium at various composition of *t*-butyl alcohol and water (v/v) were calculated from the equation, $D = V_1 D_1 + V_2 D_2$, where D_1 and D_2 are dielectric constants of pure water and *t*-butyl alcohol, i.e., 78.5 and 10.9 at 25°C, respectively, and, V_1 and V_2 are the volume fractions of the components, water and *t*-butyl alcohol respectively, in the total volume of mixture. It was found that the rate constants increased with decrease in the dielectric constant of the medium for both uncatalyzed and Ru(III) catalyzed reactions. The plots of log k_U vs. $1/D$ and $\log k_C$ vs. $1/D$ were linear with negative slopes

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α aronume aena o β DTA in aqueous antamne medium at 270 K, [1]								
$[DPA] \times 10^5$, $[BBA] \times 10^4$,		$[OH^-]$,		$[IO4] \times 105, [Ru(III)] \times 106,$	$k_T \times 10^2$,	$k_{\rm U} \times 10^3$,	$k_{\rm C} \times 10^2$,	$k_{\rm cal} \times 10^2$,
mol $\rm dm^{-3}$	mol dm ^{-3}	$mol \, \text{dm}^{-3}$	$mol \, \text{dm}^{-3}$	mol dm ^{-3}	s^{-1}	$\rm s^{-1}$	$\rm s^{-1}$	s^{-1}
1.0	5.0	0.10	1.0	1.0	2.08	3.55	1.73	2.07
2.0	5.0	0.10	$1.0\,$	1.0	2.20	3.41	1.85	2.07
3.0	5.0	0.10	1.0	1.0	2.19	3.70	1.86	2.07
4.0	5.0	0.10	1.0	1.0	2.11	3.57	2.03	2.07
5.0	5.0	0.10	$1.0\,$	1.0	2.22	3.66	1.85	2.07
5.0	1.0	0.10	1.0	1.0	0.63	1.07	0.52	0.56
5.0	3.0	0.10	1.0	1.0	1.72	2.46	1.47	1.44
5.0	5.0	0.10	1.0	1.0	2.22	3.66	1.85	2.07
5.0	8.0	0.10	1.0	1.0	2.87	4.40	2.43	2.70
5.0	10.0	0.10	1.0	1.0	3.56	5.44	3.02	3.11
5.0	5.0	0.02	1.0	1.0	3.62	1.26	3.49	3.80
5.0	5.0	0.05	1.0	1.0	3.01	2.02	2.80	2.92
5.0	5.0	0.10	1.0	1.0	2.22	3.66	1.85	2.07
5.0	5.0	0.15	1.0	1.0	2.02	4.22	1.60	1.61
5.0	5.0	0.20	1.0	$1.0\,$	1.85	5.87	1.26	1.31
5.0	5.0	0.10	0.2	1.0	3.36	5.67	2.80	4.03
5.0	5.0	0.10	0.5	1.0	2.62	4.24	2.20	2.97
5.0	5.0	0.10	1.0	$1.0\,$	2.22	3.66	1.85	2.07
5.0	5.0	0.10	1.5	1.0	1.20	2.73	0.93	1.59
5.0	5.0	0.10	2.0	1.0	0.97	2.51	0.75	1.29
5.0	5.0	0.10	1.0	0.2	0.62	3.66	0.25	0.20
5.0	5.0	0.10	1.0	0.5	1.10	3.66	0.73	1.03
5.0	5.0	0.10	1.0	0.8	1.60	3.66	1.23	1.66
5.0	5.0	0.10	$1.0\,$	1.0	2.22	3.66	1.85	2.07
5.0	5.0	0.10	1.0	2.0	4.60	3.66	4.23	4.15

Table 1. Effects of variation of [DPA], [BBA], [OH⁻], [IO₄], and [Ru(III)] on the ruthenium(III) catalyzed oxidation of barbituric acid by DPA in aqueous alkaline medium at 298 K. $[II] = 0.20$ mol dm⁻³

(*r* > 0.9876, *S* ≤ 0.0131; *r* > 0.9679, *S* ≤ 0.0321) as shown in Fig. 5.

Effect of Ionic Strength (I)

The addition of $KNO₃$ at constant [DPA], [Ru(III)], [BBA], [OH⁻], and $[IO₄]$ was found that increasing ionic strength had no significant effect on the rate of the reaction (for both the cases).

Effect of Initially Added Products

In both the cases initially added products, $Ag(I)$ and trimer of barbituric acid did not have any significant effect on the rate of reaction.

Test for Free Radicals

The involvement of free radicals in the reaction was examined as follows. A known quantity of acrylonitrile

monomer was initially added to the reaction mixture and was kept for 2 h in an inert atmosphere. A white precipitate was formed on diluting the reaction mixture with methanol, indicating the involvement of free radicals in the reaction [20]. The blank experiments of either DPA or barbituric acid alone with acrylonitrile did not induce any polymerization under the same conditions.

Effect of Temperature

The influence of temperature on the rate of reaction was studied for both uncatalyzed and catalyzed reaction at four different temperatures (288, 298, 308, and 318 K) under varying concentrations of barbituric acid and alkali keeping other conditions constant. The rate constant increased with increase in temperature. The rate constant (k_1) of the slow step of the uncatalyzed reaction mechanism was obtained from the slopes and intercepts of plots of $1/k_{\text{U}}$ vs. $1/[BBA]$,

Fig. 4. Plots of (a) k_{U} vs. [BBA]^{0.69} and [BBA], (b) k_{C} vs. [BBA]^{0.73} and [BBA] (conditions as in Table 1).

 $1/k_U$ vs. [OH⁻], and $1/k_U$ vs. [IO₄] plots at four different temperatures and were used to calculate the activation parameters. The energy of activation corresponding to these constants was evaluated from the Arrhenius plot of $\log k_1$ vs. $1/T$ ($r = 0.9921$, $S \le 0.014$) and other activation parameters obtained are tabulated in Tables 2, 3.

Similarly the rate constant (k_2) of the slow step of catalyzed reaction mechanism was obtained from the slopes and the intercept of the plots of $[Ru(III)]/k_C$ vs. $1/[\text{BBA}]$, $[\text{Ru(III)]/k_C}$ vs. $[\text{OH}^{-}]$, and $[\text{Ru(III)]/k_C}$ vs. $[IO_4]$ at four different temperatures. The values are given in Tables 4–6. The activation energy for the rate determining step was obtained by the least square method of plot of log k_2 vs. $1/T (r = 0.9956, S \le 0.017)$ and other activation parameters calculated for the reaction are presented in Tables 4–6.

Catalytic Activity

It has been pointed out by Moelwyn–Hughes [21] that, in the presence of the catalyst, the uncatalyzed and catalyzed reactions proceed simultaneously, so that

$$
k_{\rm T} = k_{\rm U} + K_{\rm C} \text{[catalyst]}^{x}.
$$
 (3)

Here k_T is the observed pseudo-first-order rate constant in the presence of Ru(III) catalyst, k_{U} the pseudo-first-order rate constant for the uncatalysed reaction, K_C the catalytic constant, and *x* is the order of the reaction with respect to [Ru(III)]. In the present investigations, *x* values for the standard run were found to be 1.0 for Ru(III). Then the value of K_C can be calculated using the equation:

$$
K_{\rm C} = \frac{k_{\rm T} - k_{\rm U}}{\left[\text{catalyst}\right]^x} = \frac{k_{\rm C}}{\left[\text{catalyst}\right]^x},\tag{4}
$$

where $k_T - k_U = k_C$.

The values of K_C were evaluated for the catalyst at different temperatures and found to vary at different temperatures. The values of K_C and the corresponding activation parameters with respect to Ru(III) catalyst are presented in Table 7.

DISCUSSION

The kinetics of oxidation of various organic and inorganic substrates have been studied by Ag(III) species, this strategy may be due to its strong and versatile nature as a two-electron oxidant. Among the various species of Ag(III), $Ag(OH)₄$, DPA, and ethylenebis(-biguanide) silver(III) (EBS) species are of maximum interest to the researchers due to their relative stability [22]. The stability of Ag $(OH)_4^-$ is very sensitive towards traces of dissolved oxygen and other impurities in the reaction medium; so it had not drawn much attention. However, the other two forms of Ag(III) [23] are quite stable; the DPA is used in highly alkaline medium and EBS is used in highly acidic medium. A literature survey [11] reveals that the water-soluble DPA has a formula $[Ag(IO_6)_2]^{7-}$ with dsp^2 configuration of square planar structure, similar to diperiodatocopper(III) complex with two bidentate ligands, periodate, to form a planar molecule. When the same molecule is present in alkaline medium, it is unlikely to exist as $[Ag(IO₆)₂]⁷$, though a periodate is known to be in various protonated forms [24] depending on pH of the solution as given in the following multiple equilibria:

$$
H5IO6 \rightleftharpoons H4IO6- + H+, \t(5)
$$

$$
H_4IO_6^- \rightleftharpoons H_3IO_6^{2-} + H^+,
$$
 (6)

$$
H_3IO_6^{2-} \rightleftharpoons H_2IO_6^{3-} + H^+. \tag{7}
$$

Periodic acid exists as H_5IO_6 in acid medium and as $H_4IO_6^-$ near pH 7. Hence, under alkaline conditions as

Table 2. Activation parameters with respect to the slow step of Scheme 1 and thermodynamic quantities for the oxidation of barbituric acid by diperiodatoargentate(III) in aqueous alkaline medium; [DPA] = 5.0×10^{-5} mol dm⁻³; $[BBA] = 5.0 \times 10^{-5}$ mol dm⁻³; $[OH^-] = 0.1$ mol dm⁻³

Fig. 5. Effect of dielectric constant on the oxidation of BBA by DPA in aqueous alkaline medium at 298 K for (a) uncatalyzed and (b) Ru(III) catalyzed cases.

employed in this study, the main species are expected

to be $H_3 IO_6^{2-}$ and $H_2 IO_6^{3-}$. At higher concentrations, periodate also tends to dimerize [10]. However, formation of this species is negligible under conditions employed for kinetic study. On contrary, the authors [25] in their recent studies have proposed the DPA species as $[Ag(HL)₂]^{x-}$ in which L is a periodate with uncertain number of protons and HL is a protonated

Table 3. Effect of temperature on K_1 , K_2 , and K_3 for the oxidation of barbituric acid by diperiodatoargentate(III) in alkaline medium and thermodynamic quantities using *K*1, K_2 , and K_3

$ BBA = 5.0 \times 10^{-6}$ moi dm $^{\circ}$; $ OH = 0.1$ moi dm $^{\circ}$; $[IO4] = 1 \times 10^{-5}$ mol dm ⁻³				T K	K_1 dm^3 mol ⁻¹	$K_2 \times 10^4$, mol dm ^{-3}	$K_3 \times 10^{-4}$, $dm3$ mol ⁻¹
$T_{\rm s}$ K	$k_1 \times 10^3$, s ⁻¹	Parameters	Value	288	0.53	0.15	1.6
288	7.5	$E_{\rm a}$, kJ mol ⁻¹	21.06 ± 0.13	298 308	0.64 0.85	0.25 0.31	1.1 0.9
298	8.5	log A	3.13 ± 0.06	318	1.20	0.42	0.6
308	11.5	$\Delta H^{\#}$, kJ mol ⁻¹	18.58 ± 0.18	Quantity	From K_1	From K_2	From K_3
318	16.8	$\Delta S^{\#}$, J K ⁻¹ mol ⁻¹	-48.86 ± 0.24	ΔH , kJ mol ⁻¹	20.77 ± 0.09	25.93 ± 0.12	-21.51 ± 0.10
		$\Delta G_{298}^{\#}$, kJ mol ⁻¹	33.14 ± 0.40	ΔS , J K ⁻¹ mol ⁻¹ ΔG , kJ mol ⁻¹	85.55 ± 0.27		112.9 ± 0.24 -13.64 \pm 0.20 -4.72 ± 0.16 -7.71 ± 0.15 -17.44 ± 0.17

Table 4. Activation parameters with respect to the slow step of Scheme 2 and thermodynamic quantities for the Ru(III) catalyzed oxidation of barbituric acid by diperiodatoargentate(III) in aqueous alkaline medium; [DPA] = $5.0 \times$ 10^{-5} mol dm⁻³; [BBA] = 5.0 × 10⁻⁵ mol dm⁻³; [OH⁻] = 0.1 mol dm⁻³; [IO₄] = 1 × 10⁻⁵ mol dm⁻³

T, K	$k_2 \times 10^{-4}$, dm ³ mol ⁻¹ s ⁻¹	Parameters	Values
288	3.8	$E_{\rm a}$, kJ mol ⁻¹	19.10 ± 0.31
298	6.2	log A	5.6 ± 0.05
308	7.44	$\Delta H^{\text{\tiny\#}},\,\text{kJ} \; \text{mol}^{-1}$	16.61 ± 0.22
318	20.13	$\Delta S^{\text{#}},$ J K^{-1} mol ⁻¹	-144.70 ± 0.18
		$\Delta G_{298}^{\#}$, kJ mol ⁻¹	59.72 ± 0.40

Table 5. Effect of temperature to calculate K_4 , K_5 , and K_6 for the oxidation of barbituric acid by diperiodatoargentate(III) in alkaline medium

T, K	$K_4 \times 10^3$, dm^3 mol ⁻¹	$K_5 \times 10^4$, mol dm^{-3}	$K_6 \times 10^{-3}$, dm^3 mol ⁻¹
288	1.7	0.195	27
298	3.69	0.299	10.5
308	6.4	0.490	8.61
318	9.81	0.665	3.7

Table 6. Thermodynamic quantities using K_4 , K_5 , and K_6

periodate of uncertain number of protons. This can be ruled out by considering the alternative form [24] of

IO₄ at pH >7 which is in the form H_3 IO₆² or H_2 IO₆³ . Hence, DPA could be as $[Ag(H_3]O_6)_2]$ or $[Ag(H_2IO_6)_2]^{3-}$ in alkaline medium. Therefore, under the present condition, diperiodatoargentate(III), may be depicted as $[Ag(H_3IO_6)_2]$. The similar speciation of periodate in alkali was proposed [26] for diperiodatonickelate (IV) . It is known that barbituric acid exists as negative ion (deprotonated form) in aqueous alka-

line medium [27]. In highly acidic medium it exists in the protonated form.

Mechanism for Uncatalyzed Reaction

Since, the effect of $[OH^-]$ was enhanced reaction rate, added periodate has the retarded the rate, the effect of [DPA] and [BBA] showed first and fractional order reaction rate respectively. The [OH–] deprotonates the DPA to give a deprotonated Diperiodatoargentate(III) (DPA) before equilibrium step 1, displacement of a ligand takes place in the second step, periodate dissociates to give free periodate which is evidenced by decrease in the rate with increase in free [periodate] (Table 1). It may be expected that lower Ag(III) periodate species such as monoperiodatoargentate(III) (MPA) is more important in the reaction than the DPA. The inverse fractional order in $[H_3IO_6^{2-}]$ might also be due to this reason. In the prerate-determining stage, this monoperiodatoargentate (MPA), combines with a molecule of the of BBA to give an intermediate complex which decomposes in a slow step to give the intermediate free radical species of barbituric acid, Ag(II) and species by a one equivalent change of Ag(III) in a single step, as intervention of free radical has been observed. This intermediate free radical species reacts with another molecule of free radical to give dimer of barbituric acid. Further, this dimer reacts with one more molecule of MPA species in a fast step to yield carbocation of dimer compound. The active intermediate carbocation dimer combines with another molecule of BBA to form a trimer compound of barbituric acid. Trimer compound gives final product upon reacting with MPA which was confirmed by ESI-mass spectrum. The plot of $1/k_U$ vs. 1/[BBA] proved the complex formation between oxidant and reductant, which explains less than unit order in [BBA].

Spectroscopic evidence for the complex formation between oxidant and substrate was obtained from UV–Vis spectra of BBA (5.0 \times 10⁻⁴), DPA (5.0 \times 10⁻⁵), $[OH^-]$ (0.1 mol dm⁻³), and mixture of both. A bathochromic shift of about 5 nm from 362 to 367 nm in the spectra of DPA was observed. However, the Michaelis–Menten plot proved the complex formation between DPA and BBA, which explains the less than unity order dependence on [BBA]. Such complex between an oxidant and substrate has also been observed in other studies [28]. Scheme 1 leads to the rate law:

Rate
$$
= \frac{-d[DPA]}{dt} = \frac{k_1K_1K_2K_3[OH^-][BBA][DPA]_T}{[H_3IO_6^{-1} + K_1[OH^-][H_3IO_6^{-1} + K_1K_2[OH^-] + K_1K_2K_3[OH^-][BBA]}},
$$
\n(8)
\n
$$
k_U = \frac{\text{Rate}}{[DPA]_T} = \frac{k_1K_1K_2K_3[OH^-][BBA]}{[H_3IO_6^{-1} + K_1[OH^-][H_3IO_6^{-1} + K_1K_2[OH^-] + K_1K_2K_3[OH^-][BBA]}.
$$
\n(9)

Table 7. Values of catalytic constant (K_C) at different temperatures and activation parameters calculated using k_C values; $[DPA] = 5.0 \times 10^{-5}$, $[BBA] = 5.0 \times 10^{-4}$, $[OH^-] =$ 0.10, $[IO_4^-] = 1.0 \times 10^{-5}$, $[Ru(III)] = 1.0 \times 10^{-6}$, $[I] =$ 0.20 mol dm⁻³

T, K	$K_C \times 10^{-3}$	Parameters	Value	
288	12.0	$E_{\rm a}$, kJ mol ⁻¹	38.99 ± 0.17	
298	18.5	log A	$11.11 + 0.08$	
308	24.3	$\Delta H^\#,$ kJ mol ⁻¹	$36.51 + 0.14$	
318	61.1	$\Delta S^{\#}$, J K ⁻¹ mol ⁻¹	3.46 ± 0.24	
		$\Delta G_{298}^{\#}$, kJ mol ⁻¹	35.48 ± 0.34	

This explains all the observed kinetic orders of different species. The rate law (9) can be rearranged in to the following form, which is suitable for verification:

$$
\frac{1}{k_{\text{U}}} = \frac{[\text{H}_{3}\text{IO}_{6}^{2-}]}{k_{1}K_{1}K_{2}K_{3}[\text{OH}^{-}][\text{BBA}]} + \frac{[\text{H}_{3}\text{IO}_{6}^{2-}]}{k_{1}K_{2}K_{3}[\text{BBA}]} + \frac{1}{k_{1}K_{3}[\text{BBA}]} + \frac{1}{k_{1}}.
$$
\n(10)

According to Eq. (10), other conditions being constant, plots of $1/k_U$ vs. $[H_3]O_6^{2-}$ ($r = 0.9827, S \leq$ 0.014), $1/k_U$ vs. $1/[OH^-]$ ($r = 0.9649$, $S \le 0.034$), and $1/k_{\text{U}}$ vs. $1/[\text{BBA}]$ ($r = 0.9982$, $S \le 0.019$) should be linear and are found to be linear (Fig. 6). The slopes and intercepts of such plots lead to the values of K_1, K_2, K_3 , and k_1 as (0.64 \pm 0.009) dm³ mol⁻¹, (0.25 \pm 0.03) \times 10^{-4} mol dm⁻³, $(1.1 \pm 0.10) \times 10^{4}$ dm³ mol⁻¹, and $(8.5 \pm 0.10) \times 10^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$, respectively. The value of K_1 and K_2 is in good agreement with earlier literature [28]. These constants were used to calculate the rate constants and compared with the experimental k_U values and found to be in reasonable agreement with each other, which fortifies Scheme 1. $H_3IO_6^{2-}$

The thermodynamic quantities for the first, second and third equilibrium steps of Scheme 1 can be evaluated as follows. [BBA], [OH⁻], and $[H_3]O_6^{2-}$] (as in Table 1) were varied at four different temperatures. From the slopes and intercepts, the values of K_1 , K_2 , and K_3 were calculated at different temperatures and these values are given in Tables 2, 3. The vant Hoff's plots were made for variation of K_1 , K_2 , and K_3 with temperature (log K_1 vs. $1/T$ ($r = 0.9742, S \le 0.007$), $\log K_2$ vs. $1/T$ ($r = 0.9712$, $S \le 0.01$), and $\log K_2$ vs. $1/T$ $(r = 0.99921, S \le 0.02)$ the values of enthalpy of reaction Δ*H*, entropy of reaction Δ*S*, and free energy of reaction ΔG , were calculated for all the equilibrium steps. These values are given in Tables 2, 3. A comparison of the thermodynamic quantities of first step of $(\Delta H = 20.77 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1})$. Scheme 1 with those obtained for the slow step ($\Delta H^* = 18.58$ kJ mol⁻¹) of the reac- $H_3IO_6^{2-}$

tion shows that these values mainly refer to the rate limiting step, supporting the fact that the reaction before rate determining step is fairly fast and has low activation energy [29]. A negative value of Δ*S*# $(-48.86$ J K⁻¹ mol⁻¹) suggests that intermediate complex is more ordered than the reactants [30]. The observed modest enthalpy of activation and a higher rate constant for the slow step indicates that the oxidation presumably occurs via an inner-sphere mechanism which was supported by earlier works [31].

Mechanism for Ru(III) Catalyzed Reaction

Ruthenium(III) chloride acts as an efficient catalyst in many redox reactions, particularly in an alkaline medium [20]. It is interesting to identify the active ruthenium(III) chloride species in alkaline media. In the present study it is quite probable that the $[Ru(H_2O)_5OH]^2$ ⁺ species might assume the general form $[Ru(III)(OH)_x]^{3-x}$. The *x* value would always be less than six because there are no definite reports of any hexahydroxy ruthenium species. The remainder of the coordination sphere would be filled by water molecules. At higher pH, the electronic spectra studies have confirmed [32] that the ruthenium(III) chloride exists in the hydrated form as $[Ru(H_2O)_6]^{3+}$. Metal ions of the form [Ru(H₂O)₆]^{3+} are also known to exist as $\text{[Ru(H, O), OH]}^{2+}$ in an alkaline medium and are most likely mononuclear species. Hence, under the conditions employed, e.g., $[OH^-] \gg [Ru(III)]$, ruthenium(III) is mostly present as the hydroxylated species, Ru(H, O), OH^{2+} . Similar species have been reported between Ru(III) catalyzed oxidation of several other substrates with various oxidants in alkaline medium [33]. In earlier reports of Ru(III) catalyzed oxidation [34], it has been observed that, if there is a fractional order dependence with respect to [substrate] and [Ru(III)] and unit order with respect to [oxidant], Ru(III) forms a complex with the substrate. It gets oxidized by the oxidant to form Ru(IV)–substrate complex followed by the rapid redox decomposition to regenerate Ru(III). In another case [35], if the process shows a zeroth order dependence with respect to [oxidant], first order with respect to [Ru(III)] and a fractional order with respect to [substrate], there involves the formation of a Ru(III)–substrate complex. It undergoes further cleavage in a concerted manner giving rise to a Ru(I) species, which is rapidly oxidized by the oxidant to regenerate the catalyst. In some other reports [36], it is observed that Ru(III) forms a complex with substrate and is oxidized by the oxidant with the regeneration of the catalyst. Hence, the study of behavior of Ru(III) in catalyzed reaction becomes significant.

Stoichiometry was same as in the case uncatalyzed reaction but the equilibrium steps 1 and 2 were different from uncatalyzed reaction. In the Ru(III) cata-

 $H^+ + OH^ \xrightarrow{\text{Fast}} H_2O$

Scheme 1. Detailed mechanism for uncatalyzed oxidation of BBA by DPA.

lyzed reaction, [DPA] an Ru(III) were first order dependence, an apparent order of less than unit order in [BBA], a negative fractional order dependence on

[alkali] and $[IO₄]$ and order with respect to $Ru(III)$ was found to be unity. No effect of added products was observed. Based on the experimental results, a mechanism is proposed for which all the observed orders in each constituent such as [DPA], [BBA], [Ru(III)], [OH⁻], and $[IO₄]$ may be well accommodated.

It is well known that in both uncatalyzed and catalyzed reactions DPA oxidation reactions the increasing and decreasing effect on the rate of the reactions was observed with respect to $[OH^-]$ and $[IO_4^-]$, respectively. But in the present study different finding was obtained. As usual in the uncatalyzed reaction [OH–] has positive effect. However, a negative fractional order with respect to $[OH^-]$ in case of Ru(III) catalyzed reaction. Also in some earlier works $[37]$ $[1O₄]$ has no influence on the rate of reaction when [OH⁻] has negative effect. Totally dissimilar observation was found in Ru(III) catalyzed oxidation of BBA. The decrease in rate of reaction with increase in alkalinity (Table 1) can be explained in terms of prevailing first equilibrium step of formation of $[Ag(OH),(H_3IO_6)_2]^{3-}$ from $[Ag(OH)_2(H_3IO_6)(H_2IO_6)]^{4-}$ hydrolysis as given in the following equation:

$$
[Ag(OH)2(H3IO6)(H2IO6)]4- + H2O
$$

\n
$$
\xrightarrow{K_4}
$$

$$
[Ag(OH)2(H3IO6)2]3- + [OH-].
$$
 (11)

The protonated form of DPA i.e., $[Ag(OH)₂(H₃IO₆)₂]^{3–}$ can decompose into $[Ag(OH)_{2}(H_{3}IO_{6})]$ [–] and a periodate ion, which reveals the negative effect of $[IO_4]$ as shown in equation:

$$
[Ag(OH)2(H3IO6)2]3-\nK5 [Ag(OH)2(H3IO6)]- + H3IO62-. (12)
$$

In the prior equilibrium steps (1) and (2) in view of the relatively less than unit order in OH– concentration, the main oxidant species is likely to be $[Ag(OH)_{2}(H_{3}IO_{6})]^{-}$, and its formation equilibrium is important in the reaction. The less than unit order in [BBA] presumably results from formation of a complex (C_2) between the Ru(III) species and Barbituric acid. This complex (C_2) reacts with one mole of DPA in a slow step to give the free radical species of BBA as intervention of free radical has been observed and Ag(II) species by a one equivalent change of Ag(III) with the regeneration of catalyst, Ru(III) in a single step. In further fast steps the reaction leads to the final product similar to uncatalyzed reaction. The detailed Ru(III) catalyzed oxidation mechanism was sketched in Scheme 2. The plot of $1/k_C$ vs. $1/[BBA]$ proved the

Fig. 6. Verification of rate law (9) for the oxidation of BBA by diperiodatoargentate(III). Plots of (a) $1/k_{\text{U}}$ vs. $1/[BBA]$, (b) $1/k_U$ vs. $1/[OH^-]$, (c) $1/k_U$ vs. $[H_3IO_6^{2-}]$, at four different temperatures (conditions as in Table 1).

complex formation between oxidant and reductant, which explains less than unit order in [BBA].

A hypsochromic shift of about 6 nm from 276 to 270 nm of Ru(III) to Ru(III)–BBA complex was observed. Attempts to separate and isolate the complex were not successful. The Michaelis–Menten plot proved the complex formation between catalyst and substrate, which explains less than unit order in [BBA]. Such a complex between a catalyst and substrate has also been observed in other studies [37]. The rate law (13) for Scheme 2 could be derived as,

Rate
$$
= \frac{-d[DPA]}{dt} = \frac{k_2 K_4 K_5 K_6 [BBA][Ru(III)][DPA]}{[H_3IO_6^{-1}][OH^-] + K_4 [H_3IO_6^{-1}] + K_4 K_5 + K_4 K_5 K_6 [BBA]},
$$
\n(13)
\nRate
$$
= k_C = k_T - k_U = \frac{k_2 K_4 K_5 K_6 [BBA][Ru(III)]}{[H_3IO_6^{-1}][OH^-] + K_4 [H_3IO_6^{-1}] + K_4 K_5 + K_4 K_5 K_6 [BBA]}.
$$
\n(14)

This explains all the observed kinetic orders of different species. The rate law (14) can be rearranged in to the following form, which is suitable for verification:

$$
\frac{[\text{Ru(III)]}}{k_{\text{C}}} = \frac{[\text{H}_{3}\text{IO}_{6}^{2-}][\text{OH}^{-}]}{k_{2}K_{4}K_{5}K_{6}[\text{BBA}]} + \frac{[\text{H}_{3}\text{IO}_{6}^{2-}]}{k_{2}K_{5}K_{6}[\text{BBA}]} + \frac{1}{k_{2}K_{6}[\text{BBA}]} + \frac{1}{k_{2}}.
$$
\n(15)

Fig. 7. Verification of rate law (14) for the oxidation of BBA by diperiodatoargentate(III); (a) $[Ru(HI)]/k_C$ vs. $1/[\text{BBA}]$, (b) $[\text{Ru(III)}]/k_C$ vs. $[\text{OH}^{-}]$, (c) $[\text{Ru(III)}]/k_C$ vs. $[H_3]O_6^{2-}$, at four different temperatures (conditions as in Table 1).

The thermodynamic quantities for the different equilibrium steps, in Scheme 2 can be evaluated as follows. The Barbituric acid, hydroxide ion and periodate concentrations (Table 1) were varied at different temperatures. The plots of $[Ru(III)]/k_C$ vs. 1/[BBA] $(r = 0.9966, S \le 0.0023),$ [Ru(III)]/ k_C vs. [OH⁻] ($r =$ 0.9931, *S* ≤ 0.0015), and [Ru(III)]/ k_C vs. [H₃IO₆^{2−}] (*r* = 0.9932, $S \le 0.026$) should be linear as shown in Fig. 7. From the intercepts and slopes of such plots, the reaction constants K_4 , K_5 , K_6 , and k_2 were calculated as (3.69 \pm $(0.2) \times 10^{-3}$ mol dm⁻³, $(0.298 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-4}$ dm³ mol⁻¹, $(10.5 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{3}$ dm³ mol⁻¹, $(6.2 \pm 0.3) \times 10^{4}$ s⁻¹, respectively as shown in Tables 4–6. These constants used to calculate the rate constants and compared with the experimental k_C values and found to be in reasonable agreement with each other, which fortifies Scheme 2. A vant Hoff's plot was made for the variation of K_4 , K_5 , K_6 with temperature $[(\log K_4 \text{ vs. } 1/T_4)$ $(r = 0.9891, S \le 0.011)$, $\log K_5$ vs. $1/T$ $(r = 0.9956,$ *S* ≤ 0.09), and log K_6 vs. 1/*T* (*r* = 0.9517, *S* ≤ 0.1)] and the values of the enthalpy of reaction ΔH , entropy of reaction Δ*S* and free energy of reaction Δ*G*, were calculated. These values are also given in Tables 4–6. A comparison of the Δ*H* value of second step $(31.8 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1})$ of Scheme 2 with that of ΔH^* $(16.61 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1})$ obtained for the slow step of the reaction shows that these values mainly refer to the rate limiting step, supporting the fact that the reaction before rate determining step is fairly slow and involves high activation energy. The values of ΔH^* and ΔS^* were both favorable for electron transfer processes. The favorable enthalpy was due to release of energy on solutions changes in the transition state.

The negative value of ΔS^* suggests that the intermediate complex is more ordered than the reactants [30]. The observed modest enthalpy of activation and a higher rate constant for the slow step indicates that the oxidation presumably occurs via an inner-sphere mechanism which was supported by earlier works [31]. The activation parameters evaluated for the catalyzed and uncatalysed reaction explain the catalytic effect on the reaction. The catalyst Ru(III) forms the complex (C_2) with the substrate, which enhances the reducing property of the substrate than that without the Ru(III) catalyst. Further, the Ru(III) catalyst modifies the reaction path by lowering the energy of activation. Further, plots of $\log K_C$ vs. $1/T$ were linear and the values of energy of activation and other activation parameters with reference to catalyst were com-

Scheme 2. Detailed mechanism for Ru(III) catalyzed oxidation of BBA by DPA.

puted. These results are summarized in Table 7. The value of K_C at 298 K is 1.85×10^4 .

The negligible effect of ionic strength on rate of reaction reveals the involvement of neutral species in

reaction as seen in (Schemes 1 and 2). The effect of solvent on the reaction rate is described in detail in the literature [38]. For the limiting case of a zero angle approach between two dipoles or anion dipole system,

Amis [39] has shown that $\log k_{\text{obs}}$ vs. $1/D$ gives a straight line, with a negative slope for a reaction between negative ion and a dipole or between two dipoles, while a positive slope is obtained for positive ion–dipole reactions. In the present investigations, plots of log k_{U} vs. $1/D$ and log k_{C} vs. $1/D$ (Fig. 5) for uncatalyzed and Ru(III) catalyzed reactions were linear with negative slopes, which supports the involvement of negative ions as in Scheme 1.

CONCLUSIONS

The comparative study of uncatalyzed and ruthenium(III) catalyzed oxidation of barbituric acid by diperiodatoargentate(III) was performed. Oxidation products were identified. Among the various species of Ag(III) in alkaline medium, $[Ag(H_2IO_6)(H_2O_2)]$ and $[Ag(OH), (H₃IO₆)]$ [–] were considered as active species for uncatalyzed and Ru(III) catalyzed reactions respectively. Active species of Ru(III) is found to be $[Ru(H₂O)₅OH]^{2+}$. Based on experimental results, the probable mechanisms were proposed for both the reactions. Thermodynamic quantities and activation parameters of individual steps in the mechanisms were evaluated for uncatalyzed and Ru(III) catalyzed reactions at different temperatures, respectively. The catalytic constants and the activation parameters with reference to catalyst were also computed. The descriptions of the mechanisms are consistent with all the experimental evidences including kinetic, spectral and product studies.

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