

Ru(III) CATALYZED OXIDATION OF PARACETAMOL BY CHLORAMINE-T IN AQUEOUS ALKALINE MEDIUM- A KINETIC AND MECHANISTIC STUDY

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ABSTRACT

The oxidation kinetics of paracetamol by chloramine-T in NaOH medium has been studied at 313K. The reaction had shown first order dependence on CAT and Ru(III). First order dependence on Paracetamol at its low concentrations but tending towards zero order at its higher concentrations. The reaction showed negative fractional order w.r.t $[\text{OH}^-]$. The rate of reaction decreased with decreasing dielectric constant of the medium which was done by adding CH_3COOH . Variation of chloride ion, mercuric acetate and ionic strength did not bring any significant change on the rate. The oxidation product had been identified by FTIR spectroscopic techniques.

Thermodynamic parameters were computed by performing the kinetic runs at various temperatures. A mechanism consistent with observed parameters is proposed and rate law is derived.

KEYWORDS: *Paracetamol, Ru(III)Chloride, Chloramine-T, Kinetics, Oxidation.*

1. INTRODUCTION

In recent times a great attention has been paid to assay the compounds which are of biological, medicinal and pharmaceutical importance. Paracetamol (4-hydroxyacetanilide or acetaminophen) is a versatile analgesic and antipyretic medicine which finds extensive applications pharmaceutically. This drug is an effective analgesic and has very few side effects when used in the prescribed dose. Ingestion of an overdose is potentially fatal and may lead to liver failure, severe hepatotoxicity and nephrotoxicity.^[1-3] It is also used as an intermediate in pharmaceuticals (as precursor of Penicillin), photographic chemical, H_2O_2 stabiliser and azo dye.^[4-6] The development of a simple, economical and accurate analytical

method for the determination of active ingredients of paracetamol would be useful for many commercial applications and also in investigating the stability of paracetamol in pharmaceutical preparations for quality control.^[7,8]

Aromatic N-halosulfonamides act as mild oxidants in both acid and alkaline solutions due to the presence of strongly polarized N-linked halogen in +1 state. Many organic substrates were oxidized by these sulfonamides and the kinetic and mechanistic aspects of these reactions are well documented.^[9-11] A prominent member of this group Chloramine-T (CAT) is used as halogenating and oxidizing agent in acidic and basic media.^[12-16] It is a versatile oxidizing agent and has shown a variety of kinetic results due to formation of various oxidizing species depending upon pH of the medium.

Recently, use of transition metals as catalyst in various redox processes has attracted considerable interest.^[17] Ru (III) Chloride is known as a nontoxic and homogenous catalyst^[18] but a little attention is paid to explore role of Ru(III) as catalyst in alkaline media. In the present communication we are reporting kinetic, mechanistic and thermodynamic aspects of oxidation of acetaminophen by chloramine-T in alkaline medium at 313 K.

2. EXPERIMENTAL

2.1 MATERIALS AND METHODS

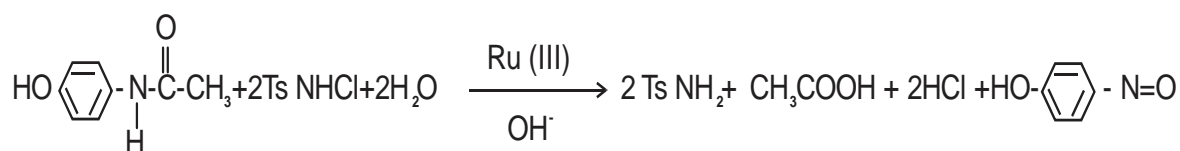
All the chemicals were A.R. grade and double distilled water was used throughout the investigations. A solution of paracetamol (CDH Ltd, New Delhi) of required strength was freshly prepared every time. The Stock solution of CAT (Chloramine-T) was prepared in double distilled water and its concentration was checked iodometrically. The stock solution of Ruthenium Chloride was prepared by dissolving the known amount in HCl of known strength in a black coated flask to avoid photochemical effects. KCl, NaOH, Hg(OAc)₂ of known strength are also used without further purification. All other reaction vessels were also coated black from outside to avoid any photochemical degradation.

A thermostatic water bath was used to maintain the desired temperature. Aliquots of the reaction mixture were placed in the thermostat-controlled water bath, which was per-equilibrated at 313 K. Requisite volume of paracetamol solution, also thermo stated at the same temperature was rapidly pipette out and poured into the reaction vessel. The total volume of the reaction mixture was 50 ml each time. 5 ml aliquots of the reaction mixture was pipetted out at different intervals of time and quenched with 4% acidified KI solution.

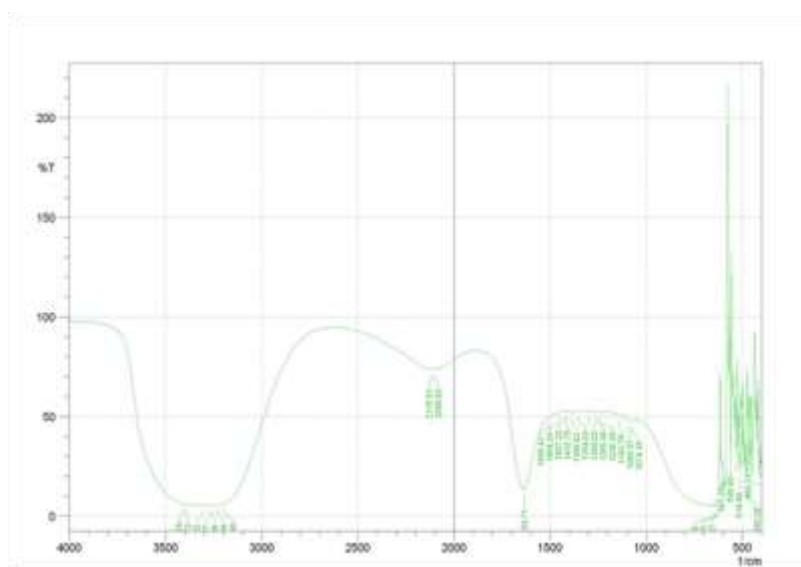
The progress of the reaction was monitored by iodometric estimation of unreacted oxidant in measured aliquots of the reaction mixture withdrawn at regular intervals of time. The kinetic runs were carried out at 313 K.

2.2 Stoichiometry and product analysis

Different sets of the reaction mixture with excess of CAT were kept for 48 hrs at room temperature. Determination of unconsumed CAT in each set confirmed 1:2 stoichiometry between paracetamol and CAT.



The reaction products were extracted with ether. From the ether layer the oxidation product was identified as quinone oxime. The nature of quinone oxime was confirmed by FTIR (1652 cm^{-1} due to C=O stretching, 1615 cm^{-1} due to C=N stretching of oxime, 3332 cm^{-1} due to OH stretching). Acetic acid was confirmed by spot test.^[19]



FTIR spectra of the reaction product extracted in ether

3. KINETIC RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

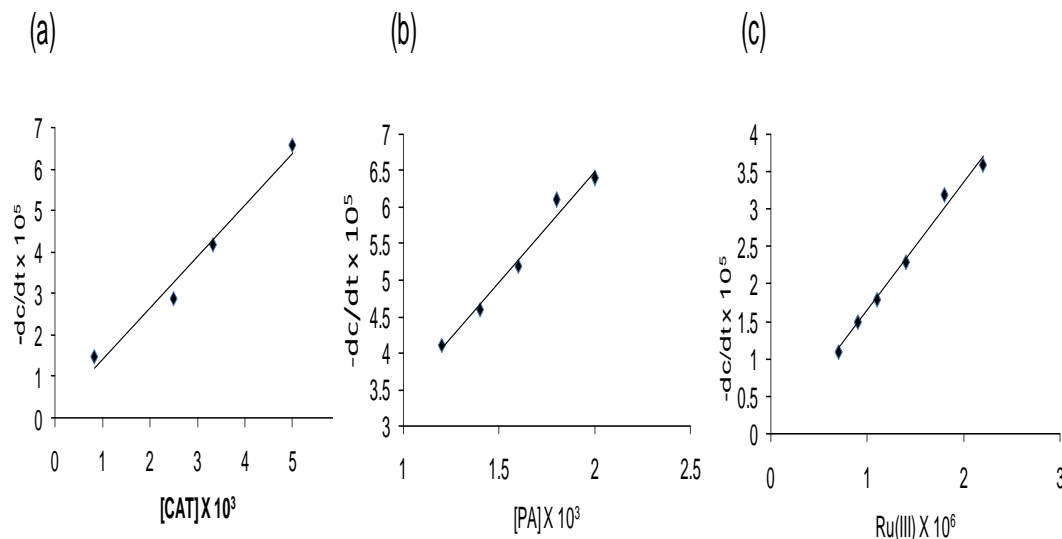
Effect of reactants concentration on the rate: The kinetics measurements were performed by varying the concentration of any one reactant and keeping the concentrations of all other reactants constant. The values of K_1 remain unaltered with the variation of [CAT]. The same was also confirmed by the plot of [CAT] versus $(-dc/dt)$ was linear passing through the origin

(graph-a), indicated a first order dependence of the rate of reaction on [CAT]. The constant K on varying the concentration confirmed the first-order dependence on Ru(III) also. The plot of rate of reaction ($-dc/dt$) versus [Ru] indicated first order with respect to catalyst. Reactions were studied under similar experimental conditions by varying the concentration of [PA]. First order dependence on paracetamol at its low concentrations and tends to zero order at its higher concentrations as seen from the (table-1).

Table-1: Effect of variation of substrate, oxidant, catalyst & medium at 313K

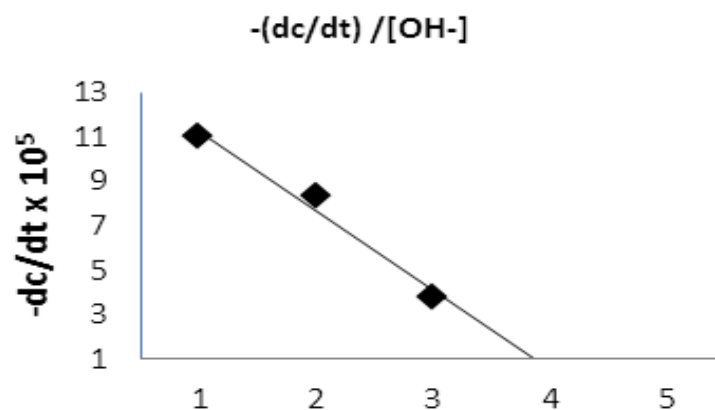
[PA] X 10 ³	[CAT] X 10 ³	Ru(III) X 10 ⁶	[OH ⁻] X 10 ³	-dc/dt x 10 ⁵	K ₁ x 10 ⁴
1.2	1.0	2.0	1.0	4.10	.034
1.4	1.0	2.0	1.0	4.60	.033
1.6	1.0	2.0	1.0	5.20	.033
1.8	1.0	2.0	1.0	6.10	.034
2.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	6.40	.032
2.2	1.0	2.0	1.0	6.60	.030
2.5	1.0	2.0	1.0	6.70	-
5.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	6.80	-
1.0	0.83	2.0	1.0	1.50	1.3
1.0	1.25	2.0	1.0	2.70	1.4
1.0	2.50	2.0	1.0	2.90	1.3
1.0	3.33	2.0	1.0	4.20	1.4
1.0	5.0	2.0	1.0	6.60	1.4
1.0	1.0	0.7	1.0	1.10	.016
1.0	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.50	.016
1.0	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.80	.016
1.0	1.0	1.4	1.0	2.30	.016
1.0	1.0	1.8	1.0	3.20	.017
1.0	1.0	2.2	1.0	3.60	.016
1.0	1.0	2.0	0.66	13.6	.206
1.0	1.0	2.0	0.83	11.0	.312
1.0	1.0	2.0	1.25	8.30	.060
1.0	1.0	2.0	2.5	3.80	.015
1.0	1.0	2.0	3.33	0.58	.002

[Hg(OAc)₂] = 1.00 x 10⁻³ M, [NaOH] = 1.00 x 10⁻³ M, [KCl] = 1.00 x 10⁻³ M



Plot between (a) $[CAT] \times 10^{-3}$ (b) $[PA] \times 10^{-3}$ and (c) $Ru(III) \times 10^6$ M vs. $[-dc/dt] \times 10^5 \text{ ML}^{-1}\text{S}^{-1}$

Effect of $[OH^-]$ on the rate: Increase in $[OH^-]$ by adding NaOH brought the decrease in the rate of reaction (table-1). The plot of $\log k$ versus $[OH^-]$ shows its negative effect on the rate of reaction.



(d) Plot between $[OH^-] \times 10^{-3}$ vs. $(-dc/dt) \times 10^5 \text{ ML}^{-1}\text{S}^{-1}$ – showing negative effect of basic medium on the rate).

Effect of ionic strength on the rate: Effect of ionic strength was studied by adding NaClO_4 . The rate of reaction did not show any significant change confirming the involvement of non ionic species in the rate determining step.

Effect of temperature on the rate: The effect of temperature was studied by carrying out the reaction at different temperatures (303, 308, 313, 318) but keeping other experimental

conditions constant (table-3). The activation parameters were computed from the Arrhenius plot of $\log k$ versus $1/T$ (figure-).

Effect of dielectric constant on the rate: The rate of reaction decreased by decreasing dielectric constant of the medium. This was checked by adding and varying CH_3COOH to the reaction mixture.

Table-2: Effect of variation of KCl, NaClO_4 and $\text{Hg}(\text{OAc})_2$ at 313K

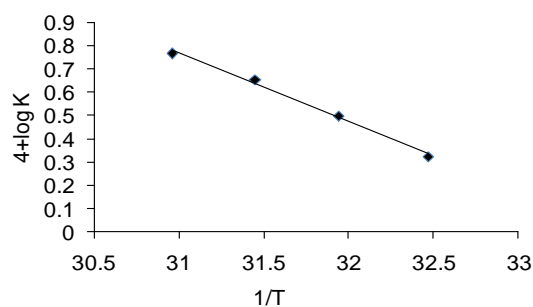
$[\text{KCl}] \times 10^3$ M	$[\text{Hg}(\text{OAc})_2] \times$ 10^3 M	$[\text{NaClO}_4] \times$ 10^3 M	$(-\text{dc}/\text{dt}) \times 10^5$
1.00	1.00	-	2.22
1.40	1.00	-	2.18
2.00	1.00	-	2.22
2.41	1.00	-	2.18
1.00	1.20	-	1.50
1.00	1.66	-	1.61
1.00	2.50	-	1.51
1.00	3.33	-	1.70
1.00	1.00	1.1	.27
1.00	1.00	1.5	.26
1.00	1.00	2.0	.27

Solution conditions: $[\text{CAT}] = 1 \times 10^{-3}$ M, $[\text{PA}] = 1 \times 10^{-3}$ M, $[\text{Ru}(\text{III})] = 2 \times 10^{-6}$ M, $[\text{OH}^-] = 1 \times 10^{-3}$ M

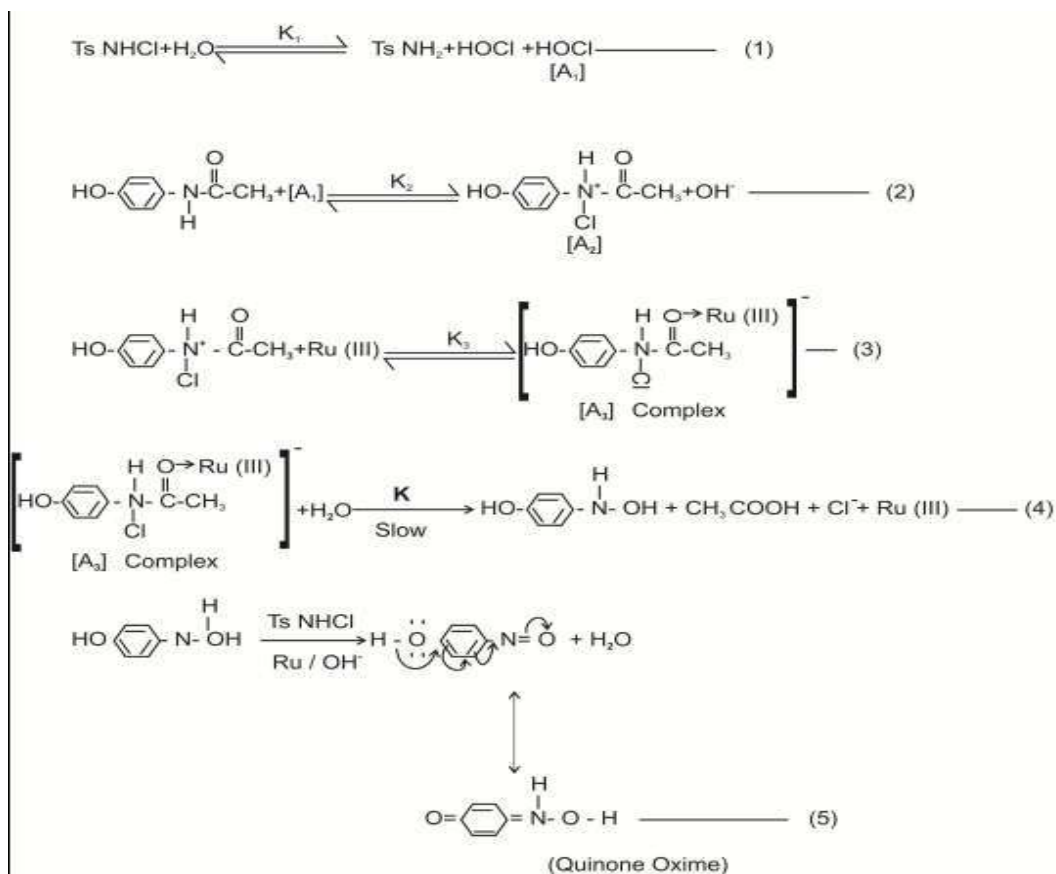
Table-3: Effect of temperature and activation parameters on the rate

Temperature (K)	$K_1 \times 10^5 (\text{S}^{-1})$	Activation parameter
313	2.11	-
318	3.16	-
323	4.52	-
328	5.83	-
E_a (kJ mol^{-1})	-	45.9
ΔS^\ddagger (J $\text{K}^{-1} \text{mol}^{-1}$)	-	-92.87
ΔG^\ddagger (kJ $\text{K}^{-1} \text{mol}^{-1}$)	-	74.96
$\log A$	-	8.15

Solution conditions : $[\text{CAT}] = 1 \times 10^{-3}$ M, $[\text{PA}] = 1 \times 10^{-3}$ M, $[\text{Ru}(\text{III})] = 2 \times 10^{-6}$ M, $[\text{OH}^-] = 1 \times 10^{-3}$ M, $[\text{KCl}] = 1.00 \times 10^{-3}$ M

Plot of $1/T$ vs. $\log K$ 

4. Reaction mechanism and rate law



On the basis of above discussion and mechanism the rate of reaction and rate law may be derived as-

$$\text{Rate} = -\frac{d[\text{CAT}]}{dt} = 2K[\text{complex}]$$

the concentration of complex (A_3) can be obtained by applying steady state approximation –

$$\frac{d[\text{complex}]}{dt} = K_3[A_2][\text{Ru(III)}] - K[A_3] - [A_3] = 0$$

$$\text{Therefore, } K_3[A_2][\text{Ru(III)}] = K[A_3] + [A_3]$$

$$[A_3] = \frac{K_3[A_2][\text{Ru(III)}]}{[K+1]} \quad \text{-----(6)}$$

Now $[A_2]$ can be obtained as:

$$-d \frac{[A_2]}{dt} = K_2 [A_1] [PA] - [A_2] [OH^-] \quad \text{-----(7)}$$

$$[A_2] = \frac{K_2 [A_1] [PA]}{[OH^-]}$$

Now $[A_1]$ can be obtained as:

$$-d \frac{[A_1]}{dt} = K_1 [CAT] - [TsNH_2] [A_1] \quad \text{-----(8)}$$

$$[A_1] = \frac{K_1 [CAT]}{[TsNH_2]}$$

On putting the values of A_2 and A_1 in equation (6)

$$A_3 = \frac{K_2 [Ru] K_2 [A_1] [PA]}{[K+1][OH^-]}$$

$$A_3 = \frac{K_2 K_2 K_1 [Ru] [PA] [CAT]}{[TsNH_2][OH^-]} \quad (\text{on neglecting the term } [K+1])$$

The rate of reaction can be written as-

$$\text{Rate} = \frac{2 K_2 K_2 K_1 [Ru] [PA] [CAT]}{[TsNH_2][OH^-]} \quad \text{-----(9)}$$

Now, the total concentration of $[CAT]$ can be written as-

$$[CAT]_T = [CAT] + [A_1] + [A_2] + [A_3] \quad \text{-----(10)}$$

On substituting the values of $[A_1]$, $[A_2]$, $[A_3]$ in equation (10) the following equation results-

$$[CAT] = \frac{[CAT]_T [OH^-] [TsNH_2]}{[OH^-] [TsNH_2] + K_1 [OH^-] + K_1 K_2 [PA] + K_1 K_2 K_3 [Ru] [PA]} \quad \text{-----(11)}$$

Since conc of Ru(III) is too low to be included so it can be taken as unity.

$$\text{Rate} = \frac{2 K_1 K_2 K_2 [Ru] [PA] [CAT]_T}{[TsNH_2][OH^-] + K_1 [OH^-] + K_1 K_2 [PA]}$$

The above equation is based on the observed kinetic orders with respect to each reactant of the reaction and is in conformity with the derived rate law.

CONCLUSION

The reaction between CAT- PA has been carried out NaOH medium. The reaction stoichiometry of 1:2 (PA:CAT) involving the oxidation of PA by CAT has been observed. Quinone oxime has been identified as the reaction product. The effect of dielectric constant and halide ion on the reaction was studied. HOCl was found as the reactive species of Chloramine-T in basic medium. From the Arrhenius plots the thermodynamic parameters have been computed and a mechanism has been proposed which was in conformity with the observed rate law.

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