



P-ISSN: 2349-8528

E-ISSN: 2321-4902

[www.chemijournal.com](http://www.chemijournal.com)

IJCS 2020; 8(3): 33-39

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Received: 18-03-2020

Accepted: 20-04-2020

**Olayinka A Oyetunji**Department of Chemistry,  
University of Botswana, Private  
Bag UB, Gaborone, Botswana**Ruth Gontse**Department of Physical and  
Chemical Sciences, Botswana  
University of Agriculture and  
Natural Resources, Private Bag,  
Gaborone, Botswana**Florence M Nareetsile**Department of Chemistry,  
University of Botswana, Private  
Bag UB, Gaborone, Botswana**Corresponding Author:****Olayinka A Oyetunji**Department of Chemistry,  
University of Botswana, Private  
Bag UB, Gaborone, Botswana

## Substitution kinetics of platinum N,N,N',N'-Tetrakis (2-pyridyl methyl) octane diamine aqua complex with thiourea, glutathione and L-cysteine nucleophiles

Olayinka A Oyetunji, Ruth Gontse and Florence M Nareetsile

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.22271/chemi.2020.v8.i3a.9460>

### Abstract

The ligand substitution kinetics of the platinum(II) complex,  $[Pt_2(L)(OH)_2](ClO_4)_4$  (L = N, N,N',N'-tetrakis (2-pyridylmethyl) octane diamine) by a series of nucleophiles, viz. thiourea (TU), L-cystein (L-CYST), and glutathione (GLT) were investigated in 0.2 M NaClO<sub>4</sub> ionic strength. The reactions were studied under pseudo-first order conditions at different temperatures and nucleophile concentrations. Reactions involving glutathione and L-cysteine were investigated using UV-Vis spectrophotometer while the faster reactions of thiourea were monitored on the stopped-flow spectrofluorimeter. Second order rate constants ( $M^{-1}s^{-1}$ ) at 298 K are 0.194, 0.567, and 1.505 for GLT, L-CYST, and TU, respectively. The activation parameters obtained for the three nucleophiles in the same order of GLT, L-CYST, and TU, are  $\Delta H^\ddagger$  (kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>): 58.0, 13.0, 41.6 and  $\Delta S^\ddagger$  (J K<sup>-1</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup>): -63.6, -206.1 and -101.8, respectively.

**Keywords:** 2-pyridylmethyl, platinum, substitution, kinetics, activation parameters

### Introduction

Studies on the coordination chemistry of nitrogen based ligands and their corresponding transition metal complexes, has led to discovering their potentials of being used in various applications in medicine, agriculture, and catalysis among others [1-7]. The Rosenberg's discovery of the anti-tumour properties of cisplatin (*cis*-[PtCl<sub>2</sub>(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] in 1969 [5], encouraged further studies into the syntheses of several other platinum compounds with nitrogen based ligands which have been tested as potential anti-tumour drugs [8]. As efforts continued to find better alternatives to overcome the resistance developed to cisplatin and also its side effects, dinuclear and trinuclear platinum (II) complexes were synthesized. These complexes have the advantage of forming DNA adducts unlike their mononuclear [8-11] counterparts. Ivanov and co-workers [12] reported that while the dinuclear *cis*-triamine complexes of Pt (II) were cytostatically active to the growth of maize roots, their corresponding *trans*- complexes did not exhibit cytostatic effect.

It was recently shown that novel dinuclear Pt (II) complexes with a tetradentate ligand showed significant anti-tumour activities against some cell lines with one of the complexes actually showing better activity than carboplatin [13]. Some  $\alpha$ -diimine nickel and palladium complexes have been shown to be highly active catalysts for olefin oligomerisation and polymerisation reactions. Their activities have been attributed to the unique donor ability of the  $\alpha$ -diimine ligands in the complexes [3].

Metal ions like Pt(II), Pd(II), Ni(II), and Au(II) have a d<sup>8</sup> configuration and mostly form square planar compounds [14]. Complexes of platinum have in particular attracted extensive research because they form more stable planar complexes. For decades more effort has been directed to investigations on the kinetics and mechanisms of their reactions [15-18], with most studies focused on ligand substitution at square-planar centres of d<sup>8</sup> transition metal ions such as platinum(II) and palladium(II) [19]. These studies are largely connected to understanding the mechanisms of their activities as homogeneous catalysts and anti-tumour drugs [20-22]. Desigan and Jaganyi [23] studied the substitution of the chloride and the aqua ligands from mononuclear platinum (II) amine complexes, [Pt(dien)Cl]Cl, [Pt(en)NH<sub>3</sub>Cl]Cl,

[Pt(dien)(OH<sub>2</sub>)](ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, and [Pt(en)(NH<sub>3</sub>)(OH<sub>2</sub>)](ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> with a series of nucleophiles including TU, DMTU, TMTU, I<sup>-</sup>, and SCN<sup>-</sup>. While the rate of substitution decreased with increased steric bulk of the nucleophiles, it increased with increased chelation in the complexes.

The reactivity and thermodynamic stability of dinuclear complex  $[\{\text{trans-PtCl}(\text{NH}_3)_2\}(\mu\text{-NH}_2(\text{CH}_2)_6\text{NH}_2)]^{2+}$  was shown to be independent of the state of one Pt(II) centre and that of the other [24]. Hoffmann and van Eldik [8] investigated the influence of the bridging ligand in the substitution reactions of a series of dinuclear complexes of the type  $[\text{Pt}_2(\text{N}, \text{N}, \text{N}', \text{N}'\text{-tetrakis (2-pyridylmethyl)diamine})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]^{4+}$ . Their results however showed that the reactivity of one Pt (II) centre is dependent on the nature of the other Pt(II) centre and also dependent on the Pt-Pt distance, a reflection of the bridging ligand chain length. Jaganyi and co-workers similarly investigated the influence of the bridging diamine ligands on the reactivities of Pt(II) complexes of the types  $[\{\text{trans-Pt}(\text{H}_2\text{O})(\text{NH}_3)_2\}_2\text{NH}_2(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{H}_2\text{N}]^{4+}$ , [25],  $[\{\text{Pt}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2\}_2(\text{N}, \text{N}, \text{N}', \text{N}'\text{-tetrakis(2-pyridylmethyl)-N}(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{N})]^{4+}$ , [26], and  $[\{\text{Pt}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2\}_2(\text{N}, \text{N}, \text{N}', \text{N}'\text{-tetrakis(2-pyridylmethyl)-trans-1,4-cyclohexyldiamine})]^{4+}$ , [27]. Their results showed that the reactivities of the Pt(II) complexes decrease with increase diamine chain length.

The effect of cyclometallation on the rates of reactions of Pt(II) complexes have also been variously demonstrated in different studies [28-33]. Acceleration of the reaction rates was explained in terms of  $\sigma$ -donor,  $\pi$ -acceptor, and trans effects of the Pt-C bonded ligands. This study reports further investigations on the effect of the nature of different nucleophiles as entering ligands on substitution reactions of  $[\text{Pt}_2(\text{N}, \text{N}, \text{N}', \text{N}'\text{-tetrakis (2pyridylmethyl) octanediamine})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2] (\text{ClO}_4)_4$ .

## Experimental

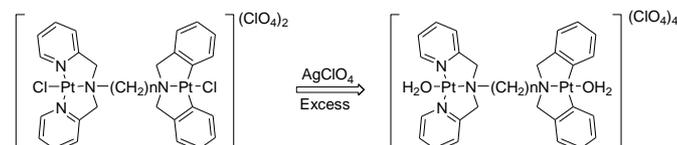
### Chemicals

Sodium hydroxide, perchloric acid and sodium perchlorate were supplied by Rochelle Chemicals. Silver perchlorate, L-cysteine (L-Cyst), thiourea(TU) and glutathione(GLUT) were all purchased from Fluka and used without further

purification. N,N,N',N'-Tetrakis 2-pyridylmethyl) octanediamine as well as its chloro- and aqua-palladium(II) complexes were synthesised and characterised as reported in the literature [20, 34].

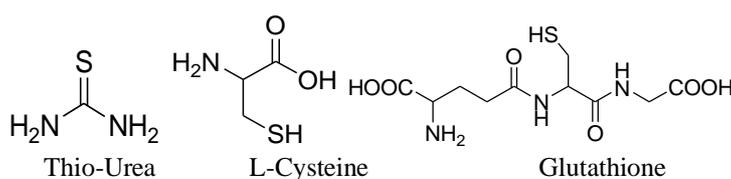
### Preparation of the aqua- metal complexes for kinetic studies

The solution of the aqua complex (scheme 1) was prepared by dissolving a known amount of the chloro platinum complex,  $[\text{Pt}_2(\text{L})\text{Cl}_2](\text{ClO}_4)_2$  in 0.001M perchloric acid and then adding stoichiometric excess (with respect to the chloride) of  $\text{AgClO}_4$  (150-200%). The mixture was stirred overnight at 40-50 °C. Precipitated silver chloride was removed by filtration through a 0.45  $\mu\text{m}$  nylon membrane filter using a Millipore filtration apparatus. The pH of the solution was adjusted to pH 10-11 via careful addition of 0.1M NaOH. This resulted in the precipitation of a gelatinous solid,  $\text{Ag}_2\text{O}$  which was then filtered off through the 0.45 $\mu\text{m}$  nylon membrane. The process was repeated to make sure the  $\text{Ag}_2\text{O}$  was completely removed. The pH of the resulting solution was adjusted to 2.0 by careful addition of perchloric acid (10.6 M). The colourless solution obtained was diluted with 0.01 M  $\text{HClO}_4$  to afford the desired complex concentrations for the aqua analogue of the initial chloro complex.



**Scheme 1:** Preparation of the aqua complex of N

This aquation of the chloro platinum complex  $[\text{Pt}_2(\text{L})\text{Cl}_2] (\text{ClO}_4)_2$ , was performed in order to replace the coordinated chlorides in the complex by water molecules. The substitution of these water molecules by the three nucleophiles, thiourea, glutathione and L-cysteine (structures shown in Figure 1) was then kinetically investigated.



**Fig 1:** Structures of the nucleophiles used for the substitution reactions

### Preparation of nucleophile solutions for kinetic studies

The stock solutions of the three nucleophiles, thiourea (TU), glutathione (GLT) and L-cystine (L-CYST) were prepared by dissolving required amount of each nucleophile in a minimum amount of 0.2 M  $\text{NaClO}_4$  and then made up to the 100 ml mark in a standard volumetric flask. Each stock solution has a concentration that is approximately 100 times greater than that of the Platinum complex. The stock solution of the nucleophile was diluted to give the desired concentrations for kinetic studies.

### Kinetic studies

All the kinetic studies were done using the Shimadzu UV-2501-PC UV-VIS spectrophotometer for the relatively slow reactions and the HITECH- Scientific SF-61DX2 Single Mixing Stopped Flow spectrofluorimeter for the fast

reactions. All substitution reactions were carried out under pseudo-first order conditions (nucleophile concentrations at least 10 times higher than that of the platinum(II) complex), and at ionic strength of 0.2 M  $\text{HClO}_4/\text{NaClO}_4$ . Constant temperature was maintained with a Peltier 240A temperature regulator attached to the UV-Vis spectrophotometer and by circulating water at the desired temperature from a Churchill thermocirculator around the sample holder of the stopped-flow equipment.

In order to determine the appropriate wavelengths for the kinetic studies, spectral scans of solutions of each of the Pt(II) complex and the nucleophile were recorded between 200 and 1100 nm on the UV-Vis spectrophotometer. Repeated scans of a mixture of solutions of both were then recorded at 5 minutes interval until no further changes could be observed in the absorption spectra indicating that the reaction has reached

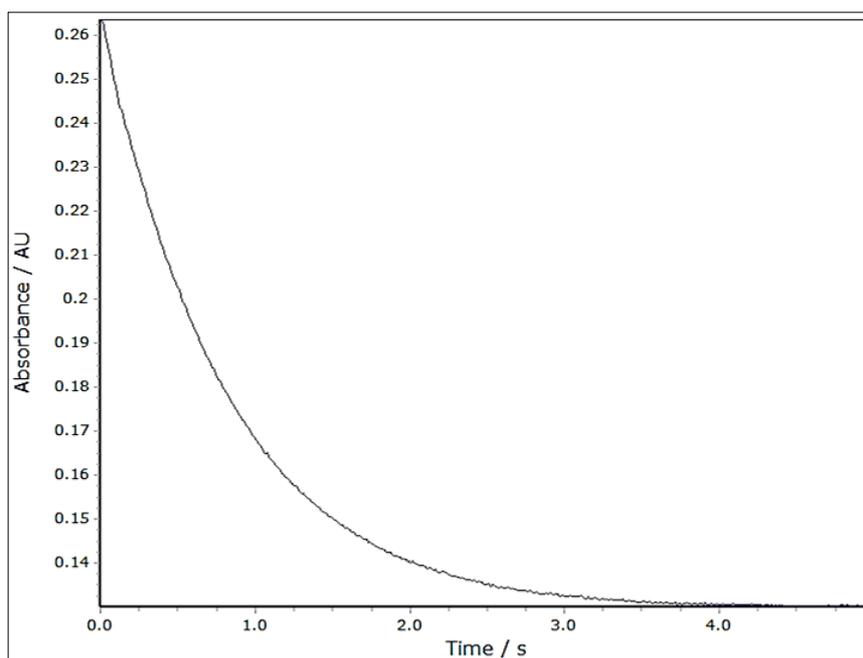
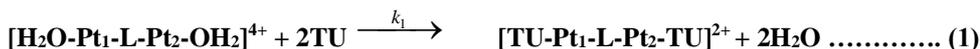
completion. The kinetics of reactions that reached completion within seconds or very few minutes were monitored on the stopped-flow spectrofluorimeter while those requiring longer times were performed using the Shimadzu UV-Vis spectrophotometer. Individual solutions of the Pt(II) complex and the nucleophiles were allowed to equilibrate at the desired temperatures before being mixed together to initiate the reactions.

The concentrations used for each nucleophile was between 20 and 100 times greater than that of the platinum complex while temperatures were varied between 25 and 35 °C. Kinetic studies involving thiourea were performed on the stopped flow instrument and at a fixed wavelength of 267 nm. Those involving L-Cysteine and glutathione were performed using

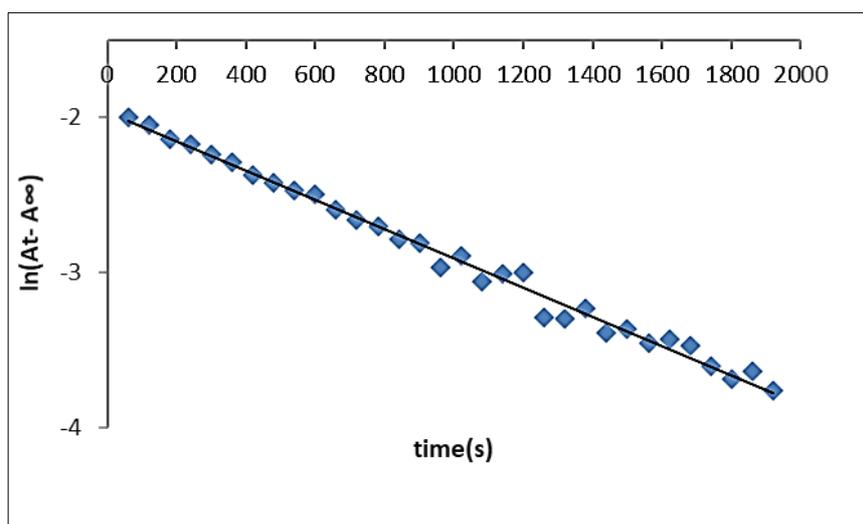
the UV-Visible spectrophotometer and at single wavelengths of 270 nm and 267 nm respectively.

### Results and discussion

The substitution of the aqua moieties from the aquated dinuclear platinum-octane complex, (Dipt.1, 8) by neutral nucleophiles, thiourea (TU), glutathione (GLT) and L-cysteine (CYST), followed single exponential decay curves. Figure 2(a) shows a typical stopped-flow single exponential fit for the TU reaction while Figure 2(b) shows a typical first-order linear regression plot for the reaction of GLT. The observed pseudo-first order rate constants,  $k_{\text{obs}}$ , for the TU reaction, were then obtained from the single exponential fits using the kinetic software of the stopped-flow equipment. The reaction can be represented by equation (1) below:



(a)



(b)

**Fig 2:** (a) Single exponential fit for the reaction of DiPt 1,8-aqua with thiourea; [DiPt 1, 8] =  $1.0 \times 10^{-4}$  M, [TU] =  $8.0 \times 10^{-3}$  M, I = 0.2 M NaClO<sub>4</sub>, T = 308 K (b) Linear Regression plot for the reaction between Dipt.1, 8-aqua complex and Glutathione; [DiPt 1, 8] =  $1.0 \times 10^{-4}$  M, [GLT] =  $4.0 \times 10^{-3}$  M, I = 0.2 M NaClO<sub>4</sub>, T = 298 K.

Conversely,  $k_{obs}$  for reactions of GLT and L-CYST were obtained from slopes of the linear regression plots, a typical example of which is seen in Figure 2(b). These  $k_{obs}$  values represent averages of three to four runs at each nucleophile concentration.

The calculated pseudo first order rate constants,  $k_{obs}$ , were plotted against the concentration of the incoming nucleophiles and the second order rate constants,  $k_2$ , were determined from the slopes of such plots.

Table 1 (a, b, and c) shows the values of  $k_{obs}$  and  $k_2$  for the three nucleophiles and a typical plot of  $k_{obs}$  vs [Nu] is shown

in Figure 3. Plots of  $k_{obs}$  vs [Nu] for all the three nucleophiles were linear with positive slopes as illustrated in Figure 4. Since there was no significant intercept on the Y axis, it was concluded that the reverse reaction involving substitution of the nucleophile by water was either too slow to make a significant contribution on the  $k_{obs}$  value or it was completely absent. Therefore,  $k_{obs}$  can be represented by the rate law given by

$$k_{obs} = k_2 [\text{Nu}] \quad \text{where Nu} = \text{GLT, L-CYST}$$

**Table 1:** Pseudo first order,  $k_{obs}$  and second- order rate constants,  $k_2$ , for the reactions of the DiPt-1, 8 complex with the three nucleophiles (a) TU, (b) GLT, and (c) L-CYST

**a) TU**

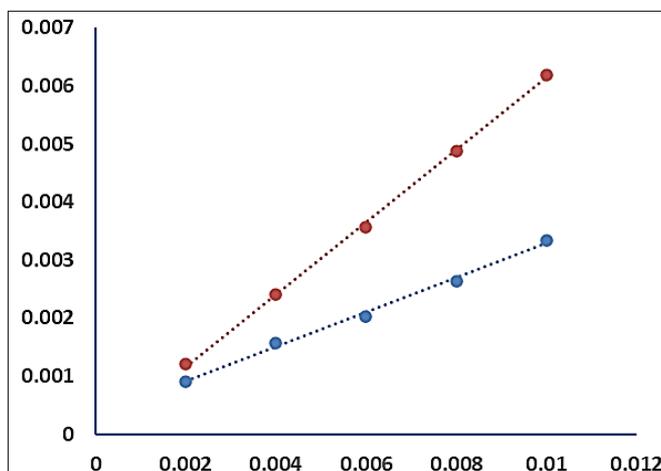
[TU] x 10 <sup>-2</sup> , M	$k_{obs}, s^{-1}$				
	298K	300K	303K	305K	308K
0.20	0.097	0.101	0.109	0.113	0.120
0.40	0.101	0.105	0.113	0.118	0.126
0.60	0.103	0.109	0.116	0.124	0.132
0.80	0.106	0.112	0.121	0.128	0.136
1.00	0.109	0.115	0.125	0.131	0.143
$k_2, M^{-1} s^{-1}$	1.51	1.81	2.00	2.32	2.76

**b) GLT**

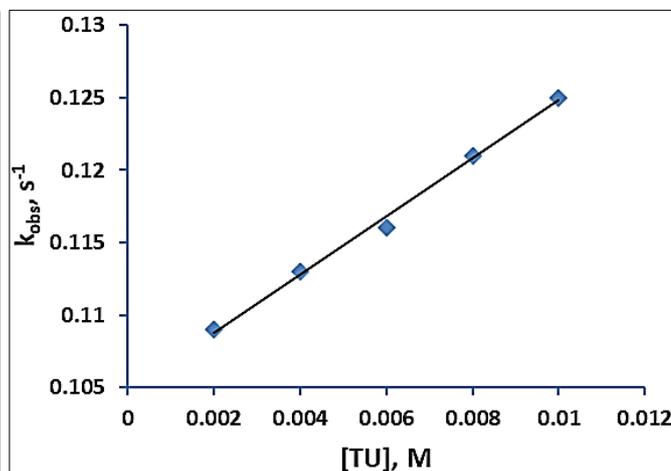
[GLT] x 10 <sup>-2</sup> , M	$k_{obs} \times 10^{-3}, s^{-1}$				
	298K	300K	303K	305K	308K
0.20	0.70	0.80	0.90	1.31	1.22
0.40	1.19	1.30	1.57	1.86	1.98
0.60	1.53	1.81	2.02	2.72	2.91
0.80	1.89	2.30	2.64	3.43	3.75
1.00	2.29	2.79	3.34	4.11	4.72
$k_2, M^{-1} s^{-1}$	0.194	0.249	0.297	0.359	0.439

**c) L-Cyst**

[L-CYST] x 10 <sup>-2</sup> , M	$k_{obs} \times 10^{-3}, s^{-1}$				
	298K	300K	303K	305K	308K
0.20	1.11	1.20	1.21	1.41	1.36
0.40	2.28	2.31	2.41	2.61	2.75
0.60	3.35	3.52	3.57	4.13	4.01
0.80	4.62	4.79	4.88	5.29	5.58
1.00	5.61	5.82	6.19	6.61	6.86
$k_2, M^{-1} s^{-1}$	0.567	0.586	0.621	0.654	0.692



(a)



(b)

**Fig 4:** Plots of  $k_{obs}$  vs [Nu] for the substitution reaction between DiPt-1,8 and (a) GLT & L-CYST and (b) TU at 303 K

Substitution reactions with TU, GLT, and L-CYST were performed at pH 2 where the complexes exist in their diaqua form, and protonation of the TU can be ruled out as reported by Elding *et al.* [30]. The substitution reaction with TU is considerably faster than with GLT and L-CYST, and this is due to the fact that TU is a stronger nucleophile than GLT and L-CYST [8, 23, 33]. Also the order of reactivity of the nucleophiles (TU > L-CYST > GLT) can be linked with their bulkiness, i.e. steric hindrance as seen in Figure 1. This supports associative substitution mechanism typical of square planar complexes.

However for the reaction of TU, the intercept, even though low, was noticeable and cannot be neglected. For this type of substitution reaction where there is an intercept,  $k_{obs}$  can be represented by:  $k_{obs} = k_1 + k_2 [TU]$

where  $k_1$  is given by the intercept of the plot of  $k_{obs}$  vs  $[TU]$ .

Jaganyi and Reddy [23] reported  $k_2$  values of  $28.31 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$  and  $8.02 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$  for the substitution of the aqua ligand by TU in mononuclear complexes  $[\text{Pt}(\text{dien})(\text{OH}_2)](\text{ClO}_4)_2$  and  $[\text{Pt}(\text{en})(\text{NH}_3)(\text{OH}_2)](\text{ClO}_4)_2$ , respectively, in 0.2 M  $\text{NaClO}_4$ . In their studies, plots of  $k_{obs}$  vs  $[TU]$  were linear without intercepts. In another study, van Eldik *et al.* [26] reported similar observation but with  $k_2$  value of  $572 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$  in 0.02 M  $\text{LiSO}_3\text{CF}_3$  for the simultaneous substitution of the two aqua ligands in  $[\text{Pt}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2(\text{N},\text{N},\text{N}',\text{N}')$ -tetrakis (2-pyridylmethyl) octanediamine]  $(\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_3)_4$  by TU. Our Pt (II) complex is

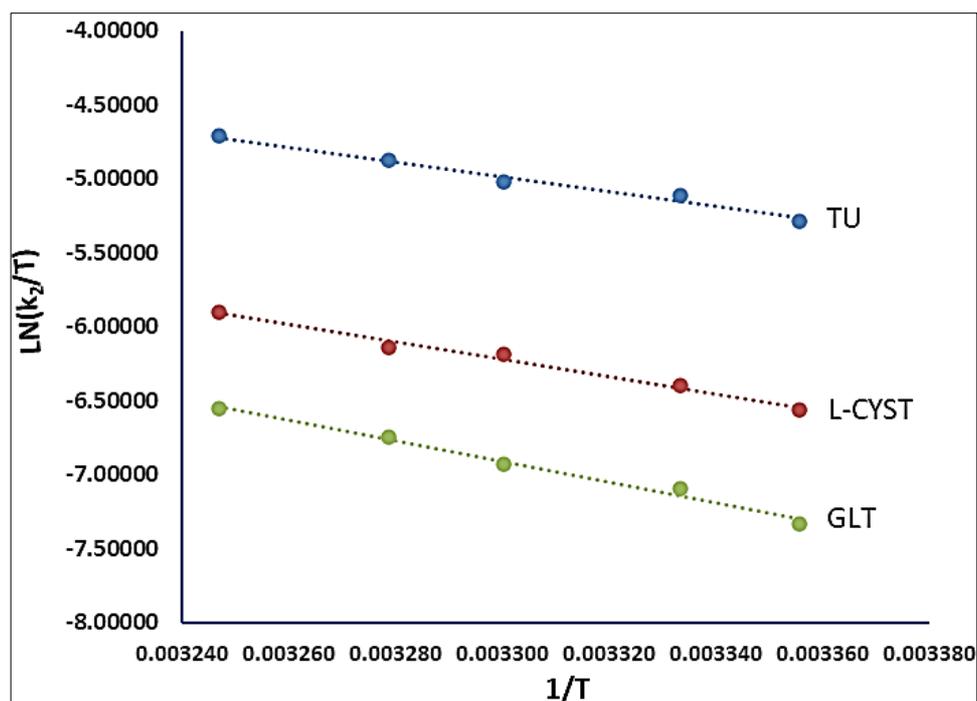
similar to the one investigated by van Eldik *et al.* [26] except for different counter ions and the media for kinetic studies which differ. In the earlier studies [26], linear plots of  $k_{obs}$  against nucleophile concentration were without intercepts while in our case, similar linear plots gave intercepts. We can attribute the intercepts to medium effect, i.e. a medium-assisted ligand exchange process earlier reported [35]. The intercept could also be as a result of possible reverse reaction in which the displaced water molecule substitutes the TU again with a reaction rate constant given by  $k_1$ .

The temperature dependence of the substitution reactions was studied over a temperature range of 298 to 308 K. Application of the transition state theory and some thermodynamic relationship to Arrhenius equation leads to the Eyring equation given by

$$\ln(k_2/T) = -(\Delta H^\ddagger/RT) + [\ln(k_b/h) + \Delta S^\ddagger/R]$$

$$\ln(k_2/T) = -(\Delta H^\ddagger/RT) + (23.76 + \Delta S^\ddagger/R) \dots \dots \dots (2)$$

From equation (2), a plot  $\ln(k_2/T)$  against  $1/T$  is expected to be linear with a negative slope. The activation parameters,  $\Delta H^\ddagger$  (enthalpy of activation) and  $\Delta S^\ddagger$  (entropy of activation), can then be calculated from the slope and intercept, respectively. Such plots for the three nucleophiles are shown in Figure 5 and the corresponding activation parameters in Table 2.



**Fig 5:** Plot of  $\ln(k_2/T)$  vs  $1/T$  for the reaction of the aquated complex DiPt.1,8 with the three nucleophiles viz. TU, L-CYST and GLT

**Table 3:** Summary of activation parameters obtained for the displacement of the coordinated water molecules by TU, L-CYST AND GLT: I = 0.2 M ( $\text{NaClO}_4$ ).

Nucleophile	$\Delta H^\ddagger$ (KJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )	$\Delta S^\ddagger$ (J K <sup>-1</sup> Mol <sup>-1</sup> )
TU	41.57	-101.81
L-CYST	12.98	-206.12
GLT	58.02	-63.55

Since  $\Delta H^\ddagger$  is a measure of the standard enthalpy difference between the transition state and the ground state of the reactants it is therefore expected that the higher the activation enthalpy value, the lower the rate of the reaction. This expectation must however be applied with caution as  $\Delta H^\ddagger$  is

not always directly related to the rate of reactions. The negative values of the activation entropies show that the transition state is relatively stable and of increased coordination number [31]. This observation further supports an associative substitution mechanism. Generally substitution reactions of square planar Pt(II) complexes proceed according to an associative mechanism and therefore should have a negative intrinsic  $\Delta S^\ddagger$  values as a result of bond formation at the transition state.

## Conclusions

The different rate constants obtained for the substitution of the aqua ligand in DiPt.1,8 in this study has demonstrated

how the nature of the entering ligand influence substitution in square planar complexes. The effect of steric hindrance has also been shown clearly as the rate of the reaction is lowered with increasing size of the nucleophile. These results as well as the negative entropies of activation obtained, are as expected in associative substitution reactions. When compared to earlier reports<sup>[8, 26]</sup>, this study has in addition shown the medium effect as we noticed different reaction rates of the same complex in its reactions with TU in different media.

### Acknowledgement

The authors gratefully acknowledge University of Botswana Research Committee for financial assistance.

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