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Reaction of platinum(II) diamine and triamine complexes with selenomethionine Kevin M. Williams^{*}, Rebekkah P. Dudgeon¹, Stephen C. Chmely², Stephanie R. Robey

Department of Chemistry, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY 42101-1079, USA

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ABSTRACT

We have reacted [Pt(dien)Cl]Cl, [Pt(en)(D₂O)₂]²⁺, and [Pt(Me₄en)(D₂O)₂]²⁺ [Me₄en = *N*,*N*,*N*,*N*'-tetramethylethylenediamine] with selenomethionine (SeMet). When [Pt(dien)Cl]Cl is reacted with SeMet, [Pt(dien)(SeMet-*Se*)]²⁺ is formed; two Se–CH₃ resonances are observed due to the different chiralities at the Se atom upon platination. In a reaction of [Pt(dien)Cl]Cl with an equimolar mixture of SeMet and Met, the SeMet product forms more quickly though a slow equilibrium with approximately equal amounts of both products is reached. [Pt(Me₄en)(D₂O)₂]²⁺ reacts with SeMet to form [Pt(Me₄en)(Se-Met-*Se*)(D₂O)]²⁺ initially but forms [Pt(Me₄en)(SeMet-*Se*,*N*]⁺ ultimately. One stereoisomer of the chelate, assigned to the R chirality at the Se atom, dominates within the first few minutes of reaction. [Pt(en)(D₂O)₂]²⁺ forms a variety of product signal on reaction stoichiometry; when one equivalent or less of SeMet is added, the dominant product is [Pt(en)(SeMet-*Se*,*N*)]⁺. In the presence of excess SeMet, [Pt(en)(SeMet-*Se*,*N*)₂] as the eventual product. Displacement of the en ligand from [Pt(en)(SeMet-*Se*,*N*)]⁺ does not occur. In reactions of K₂PtCl₄ with two equivalents of SeMet, [Pt(SeMet-*Se*,*N*)₂] is formed, and three sets of resonances are observed due to different chiralities at the Se atoms. Only the *cis* geometric isomers are observed by ¹H and ¹⁹⁵Pt NMR spectroscopy.

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1. Introduction

Complexes of the type cis-PtA₂X₂, where A₂ represents two unidentate or one bidentate amine ligand and X₂ represents two monodentate or one bidentate leaving group, have been widely studied in part due to the anticancer activity of cisplatin, cis-Pt(NH₃)₂Cl₂. Cisplatin's anticancer activity has been attributed to the formation of a 1,2-intrastrand crosslink between two adjacent guanine residues in DNA [1]. However, interaction with proteins may be important in transport of platinum complexes into the cell [2–4]. Furthermore, [Pt(dien)Cl]Cl has been shown to react faster with methionine analogs than with 5'-GMP [5,6]. Thus, a better understanding of the interaction of platinum complexes with amino acids is necessary.

Platinum complexes have a high affinity for methionine, a standard amino acid found in proteins. Depending on factors such as pH, stoichiometry, and the bulk of the amine ligands on the platinum, a variety of products result from the reaction of methionine or *N*-acetylmethionine with *cis*-PtA₂X₂ complexes. When methionine is present in excess, complexes of the type *cis*-PtA₂(Met-*S*)₂ may be observed [7]. Chelates in which the sulfur atom and either a carboxyl oxygen or the amine nitrogen are coordinated to the platinum are also known [7–9]. The *trans* effect of the methionine sulfur atom can lead to displacement of the ammine ligands of cisplatin [10,11] and can sometimes lead to displacement of a nitrogen atom from a chelated diamine such as ethylenediamine (en) [8,12].

Selenomethionine (SeMet) is a nonstandard amino acid in which the sulfur atom of methionine is replaced by selenium. Unlike selenocysteine, which is intentionally inserted into proteins such as glutathione peroxidase, selenomethionine may be randomly inserted into proteins in place of methionine [13]. In addition to the presence of nonstandard selenium-containing amino acids, some organoselenium compounds have been in clinical trials as cancer chemopreventative drugs. Selenomethionine was found to have protective effects against cisplatin-induced toxicity in rats and mice [14]. Both 5-methylselenocysteine and selenomethionine greatly increased survival in nude mice that were administered toxic doses of cisplatin and oxaliplatin [15]. Thus, previous studies have focused on the molecular interaction of cisplatin and analogs with selenomethionine [16,17].

Selenium, like sulfur, has a significant *trans* effect that can lead to rapid displacement of an ammine ligand of cisplatin. Mass spec-





Abbreviations: SeMet, selenomethionine; N-AcMet, N-acetylmethionine.

^{*} Corresponding author. Address: Department of Chemistry, Western Kentucky University, 1906 College Heights Blvd #11079, Bowling Green, KY 42101-1079. Tel.: +1 270 745 8899; fax: +1 270 745 5361.

E-mail address: kevin.williams@wku.edu (K.M. Williams).

¹ Present address: Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208, USA.

² Present address: Department of Biochemistry and Center in Molecular Toxicology, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN 37232, USA.

trometry studies of the reaction between cisplatin and selenomethionine found that even at 1:1 SeMet:Pt ratios, displacement of one ammine ligand occurs to a significant amount within 10 min [17]. For both cisplatin and carboplatin, a significant amount of [Pt(SeMet-*Se*,*N*)₂]⁺ was detected by mass spectrometry within 24 h [16,17], indicating that both ammine ligands had been displaced.

In this study, we have utilized platinum complexes that contain chelated diamine and triamine ligands. We wanted to use these platinum complexes to characterize SeMet complexes that would be less prone to amine ligand displacement than the cisplatin analogs used previously [16,17]. We also wanted to determine whether Met or SeMet would react preferentially with platinum complexes.

2. Experimental

 K_2 PtCl₄, diethylenetriamine, Pt(en)Cl₂, selenomethionine, methionine, and silver nitrate were used as received. [Pt(dien)Cl]Cl and Pt(Me₄en)Cl₂ were prepared by methods described previously [9,18].

 $Pt(en)(NO_3)_2$ and $Pt(Me_4en)(NO_3)_2$ were prepared by reacting two equivalents of AgNO₃ with the appropriate platinum(II) dichloride compound in H₂O and stirring in an amber vial overnight. The samples were filtered to remove AgCl precipitate and evaporated to dryness. When added to D₂O, $[Pt(en)(D_2O)_2]^{2+}$ and $[Pt(Me_4en)(D_2O)_2]^{2+}$ would be expected as the dominant species due to the very small association constant reported for NO₃ with platinum complexes [19].

¹H and ¹⁹⁵Pt NMR spectra were acquired on a JEOL Eclipse 500 MHz NMR instrument. The ¹H NMR spectra were referenced to the residual HOD signal relative to TSP, adjusted for temperature. The ¹⁹⁵Pt NMR spectra were referenced relative to K₂PtCl₆. All spectra were collected at room temperature unless otherwise noted.

A Hitachi LaChrom Elite HPLC system with a cation-exchange column was utilized. Buffer A was 20 mM sodium phosphate at pH 6, while buffer B was 20 mM sodium phosphate with 0.5 M NaCl added at pH 6. The gradient was as follows: t = 0, 100% A; t = 2 min, 100% A; t = 20 min, 50% A.

Molecular mechanics calculations were performed according to methods described previously using a modified AMBER force field [9].

3. Results

3.1. Reaction of [Pt(dien)Cl]Cl with SeMet

[Pt(dien)Cl]Cl and SeMet (10 mM each) were combined in D_2O at pH 5. A ¹H NMR spectrum acquired ~45 min later showed new resonances; two singlets at 2.41 and 2.42 ppm were observed;

Table 1				
¹ H and ¹⁹⁵ Pt NMR	chemical	shifts c	of SeMet	complexes



Fig. 1. Partial ¹H NMR spectrum of the reaction of [Pt(dien)Cl]Cl with SeMet at pH \sim 4.5 at room temperature. Initial concentrations of both are 10 mM.

these singlets were ~0.4 ppm downfield of the singlet observed for unreacted SeMet (Fig. 1). A downfield shift of similar magnitude has been previously observed for S-CH₃ resonances of Met upon coordination of the Met to platinum via the sulfur atom [9,20,21], and similar shifts were observed with previous complexes of platinum with selenomethionine [16,17]. Thus, the singlets were assigned to the CH₃ resonance of [Pt(dien)(SeMet-Se)]²⁺. A COSY spectrum was used to assign the additional product resonances (Table 1).

The presence of two CH₃ resonances suggests that relatively slow interconversion of chirality about the Se atom is occurring. Only one CH₃ resonance was observed previously for the analogous $[Pt(dien)(Met-S)]^{2+}$ complex [5]; however, the presence of two sets of resonances has been observed previously for a number of platinum complexes with sulfur-coordinated methionine by ¹H and/or ¹⁹⁵Pt NMR methods [9,22,23] and multiple sets of resonances were observed in a [¹H, ¹⁵N] HSQC NMR spectrum of a product formed between carboplatin and SeMet [16]. Support for the assignment of two interconverting chiralities came from variable temperature experiments that showed the signals broadening by 60 °C and beginning to coalesce by 80 °C. A single peak at -3420 ppm was observed in the ¹⁹⁵Pt NMR spectrum at room temperature.

3.2. Reaction of [Pt(dien)Cl]Cl with SeMet and Met

In order to determine the relative reactivities of SeMet and Met with a selected platinum complex, [Pt(dien)Cl]Cl was added to a mixture of SeMet and Met to give a solution that was 5 mM in all three components. During the first several hours of reaction, the ¹H NMR spectrum showed signals corresponding to [Pt(dien)-(SeMet-*Se*)]²⁺ and [Pt(dien)(Met-*S*)]²⁺; however, the signals of the

	CH ₃	H_{α}	H_{β}	H_{γ}	¹⁹⁵ Pt		
SeMet	2.02	3.84	2.19, 2.24	2.63	N/A		
[Pt(dien)(SeMet-Se)] ²⁺	2.44, 2.43	3.96	2.44	3.09, 2.98	-3420		
[Pt(Me4en)(SeMet-Se,N)]*R	2.49	3.55	2.36, 2.79	2.91	-3190		
[Pt(Me4en)(SeMet-Se,N)]*S	2.47	3.55	2.14, 2.87	3.17	-3260		
[Pt(en)(SeMet-Se,N)] ⁺	2.41, 2.43	3.48	2.32, 2.54	3.05, 2.93	-3381, -3393		
[Pt(en)(SeMet-Se) ₂] ²⁺	2.53, 2.54	3.86	2.25, 2.39	3.07, 3.18	-3910		
cis-[Pt(SeMet-Se,N)2] RR	2.55	3.73	2.36, 2.68	2.97, 3.04	-3882		
cis-[Pt(SeMet-Se,N)2] RS	2.50, 2.46	3.70, 3.76	2.28, 2.52 ^a	a	-3837		
cis-[Pt(SeMet-Se,N) ₂] SS	2.49	3.85	2.20, 2.44	3.09 ^a	-3815		

^a Incomplete assignment due to overlap with other signals.

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