

## Orientation-Dependent $^1\text{H}$ and $^{13}\text{C}$ Isotropic Shifts of Low-Spin Tetracyano(1,2-diamine)ferrates(III)

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Paramagnetic  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR signals of low-spin tetracyanodiamineferrates(III),  $[\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}(\text{CN})_4(\text{diamine})]^-$ , containing ethylenediamine, (*R*)-1,2-propanediamine, (1*R*,2*R*)-*trans*-cyclohexanediamine, and *N,N'*-dimethylethylenediamine, were assigned by the use of rapid electron exchange between the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complex and the diamagnetic  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  complex with an identical set of ligands. The C–H on the five-membered chelate ring showed isotropic shifts with different signs depending on their orientations: 14–18 ppm downfield and ca. 16–23 ppm upfield for axial and equatorial protons respectively. The isotropic shifts for the  $^{13}\text{C}$  nuclei were attenuated, their signs alternating with each separation by one carbon–carbon bond from the metal ion. The isotropic shift is compared with that of the  $\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}$  complex qualitatively in terms of the dipolar and Fermi contact shifts.

The paramagnetic NMR spectra of  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complexes are widely used to assign their spin states and stereochemistry for rather complex molecules, such as those with porphyrins<sup>1)</sup> and heme proteins.<sup>2–4)</sup> There have, however, been few studies on the paramagnetic NMR spectroscopy for the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complexes with simple structures. The analysis of the simple  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complexes will provide some insights into the mechanism of the paramagnetic shift.

The  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complexes, tetracyano(diamine)ferrates(III)  $[\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}(\text{CN})_4(\text{diamine})]^-$ ,<sup>5–8)</sup> are low spin,<sup>7,8)</sup> and their structures are so simple that all the paramagnetic signals can be identified.

The stereochemistry of the five-membered chelate rings formed with various diamines has been investigated by means of a wide range of experimental methods.<sup>9)</sup> The present  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complexes offer a good opportunity to study their NMR spectra because: 1) They are kinetically inert, and so there is no need to consider complex formation equilibrium; 2) the corresponding  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  complexes, tetracyano(diamine)ferrates(II) are diamagnetic, and their NMR spectra have been analyzed by conventional methods; 3) the rapid electron exchange between low-spin  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complexes affords the time-averaged spectra of each complex, depending on the compositions for mixtures of them, and 4) the stereochemistry of the five-membered chelate rings formed with 1,2-diamines has been extensively studied, and so the existing information about them can be utilized for reference.

Reports on the paramagnetic NMR spectra of transition metal complexes with saturated ligands such as 1,2-diamines are relatively few in number.  $\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}$  complexes with diamines have been reported by Reilley and his colleagues,<sup>10,11)</sup> while  $\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}$  and  $\text{Co}^{\text{II}}$  complexes with monoamines have been reported by Morishima et al.<sup>12)</sup> The former studies have revealed the usefulness of paramagnetic NMR for the analysis of the structures of metal complexes in solution and their dynamics. The latter treated the origin of the paramagnetic shift and the orientation-dependence of

spin propagation by considering spin-polarization and direct-spin-delocalization mechanisms. However, the NMR signals of the  $\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}$  complexes are relatively broad, and there is a problem that the chemical species responsible for NMR is really a mixture formed by an equilibrium among several species.

We have now investigated the paramagnetic NMR of these  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complexes in order to elucidate the mechanism of the paramagnetic shift. In this paper, the assignments of all the C–H of some 1,2-diamines coordinated to the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  center and a qualitative conclusion about the use of the isotropic shift for the analysis of the stereochemistry of chelate rings will be described.

### Experimental

**Materials.** Sodium tetracyano(diamine)ferrates(III), and their corresponding  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  complexes were isolated according to the methods reported previously, using ethylenediamine(en),<sup>5,13)</sup> (*R*)-1,2-propanediamine(*R*-pn),<sup>6,7)</sup> (1*R*,2*R*)-*trans*-cyclohexanediamine(*R*-chxn),<sup>6,7)</sup> and *N,N'*-dimethylethylenediamine(s-Me<sub>2</sub>en)<sup>5,13)</sup> as diamines.

**$^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR Measurements.** A weighed sample (40–50 mg) in a sample tube 5 mm in diameter was dissolved in pD 2.0 DCl–D<sub>2</sub>O (0.3 cm<sup>3</sup>) to prevent a disproportionation reaction with concomitant diamine dehydrogenation<sup>14)</sup> in a neutral or basic aqueous solution, from occurring. Sodium 3-trimethylsilylpropionate-2,2,3,3-*d*<sub>4</sub> (TSP; 0.00 ppm) and 1,4-dioxane (67.44 ppm) were used as the internal standards for the  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR measurements respectively. The chemical shift,  $\delta$ , is positive for a downfield shift from the standards. The spectra were recorded with JEOL MH-100 and FX-100 spectrometers.

The  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  complexes were measured in a manner similar to that described above except that D<sub>2</sub>O was used as the solvent.

**Changes in Chemical Shift by the Variation in the Mixing Ratio of the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  and the Corresponding  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  Complexes (Variation Experiment).** In a 5 cm<sup>3</sup> flask, ca. 300 mg (10<sup>–3</sup> mol) of the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  complex was dissolved in pD 2.0 DCl–D<sub>2</sub>O containing 0.4% sodium 2,2-dimethyl-2-silapentane-5-sulfonate (DSS; 0.00 ppm) and 1,4-dioxane. Weighed amounts of the corresponding  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complex were mixed

with this solution ( $0.5\text{ cm}^3$ ) to make mixtures in various compositions. The  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were measured at 300 K with JEOL MH-100 and FX-100 spectrometers.

**Direct Preparation of the Sample Solution of the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  s-Me<sub>2</sub>en Complex.** The isolated  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  s-Me<sub>2</sub>en complex (50.2 mg) was dissolved in  $0.5\text{ cm}^3$  of  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ . After standing at room temperature for more than 5 min, the solution was acidified by the addition of 45.1 mg of 37%  $\text{DCl}$ ;  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$  (104.0 mg) was then added at  $0^\circ\text{C}$ . The mixture was allowed to stand at  $0^\circ\text{C}$  for 2 h, and the resulting solution was used for the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR measurement.

## Results and Discussion

**$^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR Spectra of  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  Complexes and Assignments of Their Signals.** Tetracyano(1,2-diamine)ferrate(III) and tetracyano(1,2-diamine)ferrate(II) complexes are both low-spin;<sup>7,8)</sup> their electronic configurations are  $(t_{2g})^5$  and  $(t_{2g})^6$ . The large variation in the chemical shifts and the diminution of the  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  couplings precludes the assignments of the paramagnetic NMR signals by conventional methods. Since no previous examples of this class of  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complex are known, we could not use any previously reported information about the chemical shift. The signals have been assigned by the use of the rapid electron exchange between the pair of low-spin  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complexes (variation experiment). At first, the signals of the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  complexes were assigned by conventional methods. Then the signals of the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$

complexes were correlated with those of the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  complexes on the basis of the spectral changes induced by the variation in the ratio of the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complexes to the corresponding  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  complexes.

The values of the chemical shifts,  $\delta$ , for the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  complexes described below are summarized in Table 1. The numbering of the nuclei for each complex is denoted in Fig. 1 and is used throughout this paper.

**(R)-1,2-Propanediamine Complex.** The R-pn chelates are well known to have  $\lambda$  *gauche* conformations in the solid state,<sup>15-18)</sup> in which the methyl groups are equatorial to the chelate ring. The conformations in solution have been investigated by means of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectroscopy.<sup>19-22)</sup> For example, the R-pn chelate ring of  $[\text{Co}^{\text{III}}(\text{CN})_4(\text{R-pn})]^-$  is predominantly in a  $\lambda$  *gauche* form in solution.<sup>20,21)</sup> The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of  $[\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}(\text{CN})_4(\text{R-pn})]^{2-}$ , has been shown to be similar to that of this  $\text{Co}^{\text{III}}$  complex.<sup>6)</sup>

Figure 2 shows the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of  $[\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}(\text{CN})_4(\text{R-pn})]^-$ . Three signals were observed — at 17.40, 9.31, and  $-20.05$  ppm — with an area ratio of 2:3:1. The signal at 9.31 ppm was assigned to the methyl protons because of its area ratio. Because of an unpaired electron, the signals are distributed over the wide range of ca. 37 ppm.

Figure 3 shows the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of the mixtures of  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complexes obtained by varying the mole fraction of the latter,  $f$ , at 300 K. The spectrum

Table 1.  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR Chemical Shifts<sup>a)</sup> of  $[\text{Fe}^{\text{II,III}}(\text{CN})_4(\text{diamine})]^{2-,-}$

Diamine	Nucleus	Chemical shift/ppm $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$ $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$		Isotropic shift/ppm	Contact shift of $\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}$ /ppm <sup>b)</sup>
en	H	2.50	$-0.91$	$-3.41$	93.8
	C	45.2	251.6	206.4	$-328$
R-pn	H <sup>1a</sup>	2.74	17.40	14.66	21.0
	H <sup>2a</sup>	2.16	17.40	15.24	21.0
	H <sup>2e</sup>	2.61	$-20.05$	$-22.66$	148.3
	H <sup>3</sup>	1.22	9.31	8.09	18.0
	C <sup>1</sup>	52.7	241.5	188.8	$-330$
	C <sup>2</sup>	50.9	248.0	197.1	$-282$
	C <sup>3</sup>	19.6	$-49.2$	$-68.8$	471
R-chxn	H <sup>1a</sup>	2.04	15.98	13.94	
	H <sup>2a</sup>	1.16	10.86	9.70	
	H <sup>2e</sup>	2.04	10.86	8.82	
	H <sup>3a</sup>	1.16	6.61	5.45	
	H <sup>3e</sup>	1.65	1.49	$-0.16$	
	C <sup>1</sup>	60.6	258.3	197.7	
	C <sup>2</sup>	35.6	$-18.9$	$-54.5$	
	C <sup>3</sup>	25.3	30.0	4.7	
s-Me <sub>2</sub> en	H <sup>a</sup>	2.12	19.84	17.72	40.0 <sup>c)</sup>
	H <sup>e</sup>	2.78	$-12.84$	$-15.62$	156.3 <sup>c)</sup>
	H <sup>2</sup>	2.52	$-17.59$	$-20.11$	133.8 <sup>c)</sup>
	C <sup>1</sup>	54.2	301.1	246.9	
	C <sup>2</sup>	41.8	156.1	114.3	

a) The positive values indicate downfield shifts. b) Refs. 19 and 28. c) Racemic form.

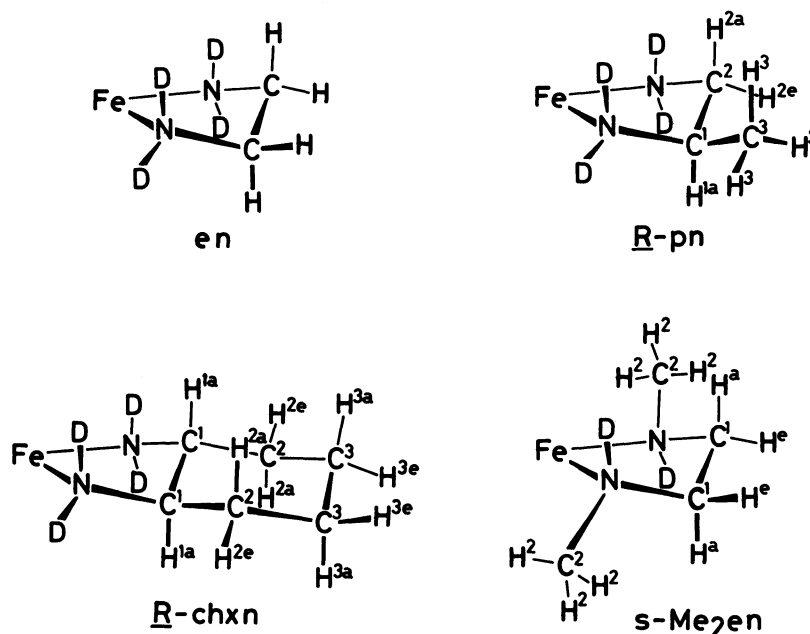


Fig. 1. Schematic structures of the chelates and the numbering of protons and carbons.  $\text{Fe}=\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_4$

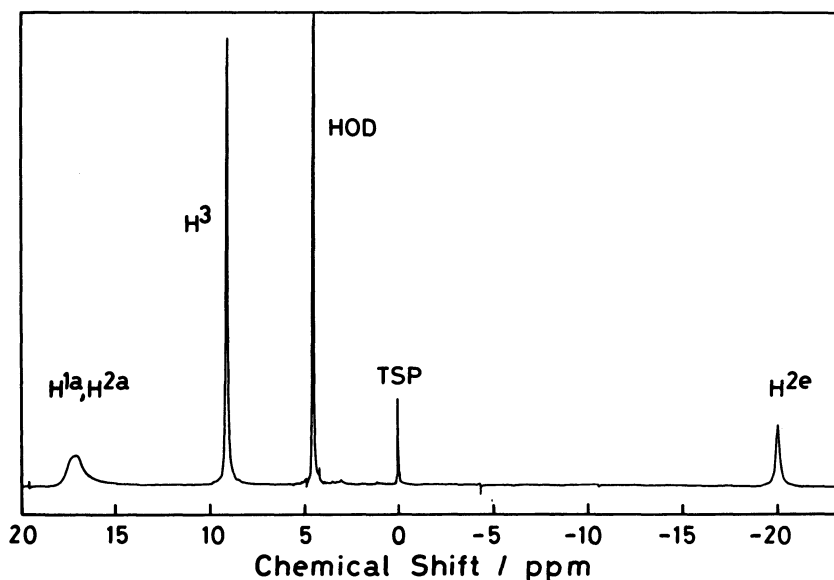


Fig. 2.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of  $[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_4(\text{R-pn})]^-$  in  $10^{-2} \text{ mol dm}^{-3} \text{ DCl}$ .

shown at the top is that of  $[\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}(\text{CN})_4(\text{R-pn})]^{2-}$ ; the signals at 2.74, 2.61, 2.16, and 1.22 ppm have been assigned to  $\text{H}^{1a}$ ,  $\text{H}^{2e}$ ,  $\text{H}^{2a}$ , and  $\text{H}^3$  respectively.<sup>6)</sup> When small amounts of the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complex were added to the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  complex, the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra changed in shape depending on  $f$ : The signal of  $\text{H}^{2e}$  shifted to an upper field, but the other proton signals shifted downfield. The  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  couplings ( $^3J_{\text{HCCH}}$ ) could be observed in the region of small  $f$  values: the apparent doublet and triplet of  $\text{H}^{2e}$  and  $\text{H}^{2a}$  were observed clearly until  $f$  reached 0.055.

The  $\delta$  values vary in proportion to  $f$ , as is shown in

Fig. 4. This linear relationship shows that the signals for the mixtures are averaged by the rapid electron exchange between the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complexes.<sup>23-25)</sup> The rate is in the region of fast-limit on the NMR time scale. By the extrapolation of  $f$  to 1.0, the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complex signals are assigned as listed in Table 1.

The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of both  $[\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}(\text{CN})_4(\text{R-pn})]^{2-}$  and  $[\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}(\text{CN})_4(\text{R-pn})]^-$  showed three signals coupled with adjacent protons in off-resonance measurements. The signals at 241.5, 248.0, and  $-49.2$  ppm for the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complex and those at 52.7, 50.9, and 19.6 ppm for the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  complex are assigned to  $\text{C}^1$ ,  $\text{C}^2$ , and  $\text{C}^3$

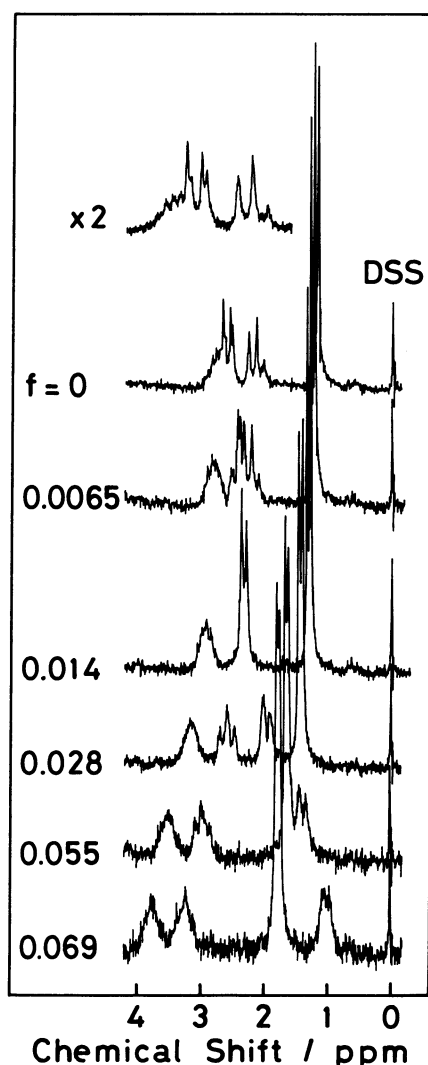


Fig. 3.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectral changes of  $[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_4(\text{R-pn})]^{2-}$  on addition of  $[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_4(\text{R-pn})]^-$  in  $10^{-2}$  mol  $\text{dm}^{-3}$  DCl.  $f$ : Mole fraction of the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  chelate.

respectively.

**Ethylenediamine Complex.** As is shown in Table 1, only one signal is observed for each of the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  complexes. The methylene proton signals appeared at 2.50 and  $-0.91$  ppm for the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complexes respectively. Each value is in good agreement with the mean of the  $\delta$ 's for  $\text{H}^{2a}$  and  $\text{H}^{2c}$  of the  $\text{R-pn}$  chelate: 2.39 and  $-1.33$  ppm for the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complexes respectively. This agreement indicates that the axial and equatorial methylene protons are averaged by the rapid interconversion of the chelate ring between  $\delta$  and  $\lambda$  conformations.<sup>11,19)</sup>

**(1*R*,2*R*)-trans-Cyclohexanediamine Complex.** The  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  complex,  $[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_4(\text{R-chxn})]^{2-}$ , shows three  $^{13}\text{C}$  signals in the usual region:  $\text{C}^1$ , 60.6;  $\text{C}^2$ , 35.6;  $\text{C}^3$ , 25.3 ppm. This assignment is based on the multiplicity in the off-resonance experiment (a doublet, a triplet, and a triplet) and the electron withdrawing effect of the amino groups.

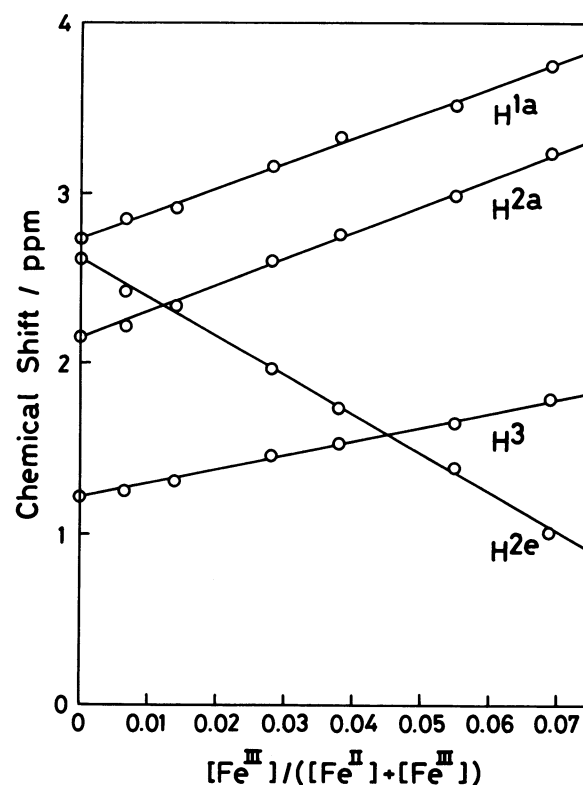


Fig. 4. Plots of chemical shifts of  $^1\text{H}$  resonances of the mixture of  $[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_4(\text{R-pn})]^{2-}$  and  $[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_4(\text{R-pn})]^-$  vs. mole fractions of the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  chelate.

The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of the corresponding  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complex, shown in Fig. 5A, exhibited three signals — at 258.3,  $-18.9$ , and 30.0 ppm. These signals were correlated to those of the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  complex as follows by means of the variation experiments: 258.3  $\rightarrow$  60.6;  $-18.9 \rightarrow$  35.6; 30.0  $\rightarrow$  25.3 ppm. They were thus assigned to  $\text{C}^1$ ,  $\text{C}^2$ , and  $\text{C}^3$  respectively.

The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  complex, shown at the top of Fig. 6, exhibited only three peaks — at 2.04, 1.65, and 1.16 ppm, with an area ratio of 2:1:2. These peaks have previously been assigned to a composite of  $\text{H}^{1a}$  and  $\text{H}^{2c}$ ,  $\text{H}^{3c}$ , and a composite of  $\text{H}^{2a}$  and  $\text{H}^{3a}$  respectively.<sup>6)</sup>

The  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complex showed four  $^1\text{H}$  NMR signals, with an area ratio of 1:2:1:1, at 15.98, 10.86, 6.61, and 1.49 ppm. These signals were correlated to those of the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  complex by means of the variation experiments (Fig. 6). The results of the signal correlation are shown in Fig. 7.

The  $^1\text{H}$  signals of the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complex were assigned in the following way. The signal at 1.49 ppm was correlated to the signal at 1.65 ppm attributable to  $\text{H}^{3c}$  for the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  complex, and so it was assigned to  $\text{H}^{3c}$ . The  $^1\text{H}$  selective irradiation at 6.61 or 1.49 ppm changed the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$   $\text{C}^3$  signal from a double-doublet (Fig. 5B) to a doublet, as is shown in Figs. 5C and D. Thus, the signal at 6.61 ppm was assigned to  $\text{H}^{3a}$ . Since the  $\text{H}^{1a}$  and  $\text{H}^{2a}$  in the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$   $\text{R-pn}$  complex

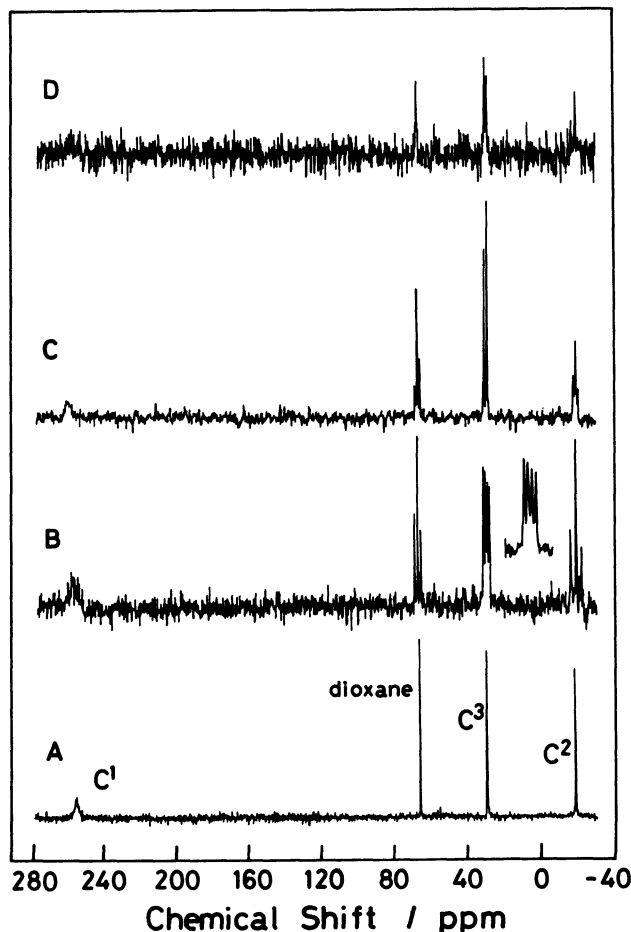


Fig. 5.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of  $[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_4(\text{R-chxn})]^-$ . A. complete decoupling for  $^1\text{H}$ ; B. off-resonance for  $^1\text{H}$ ; C and D. selective irradiation at  $\text{H}^{3a}$  and  $\text{H}^{3e}$ .

resonated at the most downfield position, the signal at 15.98 ppm was assigned to  $\text{H}^{1a}$ . The remaining peak at 10.86 ppm corresponds to the two peaks at 1.16 and 2.04 ppm for the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  complex and consists of  $\text{H}^{2a}$  and  $\text{H}^{2e}$  signals, with, incidentally, the same chemical shift.

***N,N'*-Dimethylethylenediamine Complex.** The *s*- $\text{Me}_2\text{en}$  complex is able to adopt two kinds of geometrical isomers on coordination to a metal ion. A pair of the racemic form with two pseudoequatorial methyl groups is known to be more stable than the meso form with a pseudoaxial and a pseudoequatorial methyl group.<sup>11,19</sup>

The isolated  $[\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}(\text{CN})_4(\text{s-Me}_2\text{en})]^-$  showed three  $^1\text{H}$  NMR signals — at 19.84, -12.84, and -17.59 ppm with an area ratio of 1:1:3. The last signal was assigned to the methyl protons,  $\text{H}^2$ , on the basis of the area ratio. Since the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  *R*-pn complex showed  $\text{H}^{2a}$  and  $\text{H}^{2e}$  signals at 17.40 and -20.05 ppm, the former two signals of the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  *s*- $\text{Me}_2\text{en}$  complex were assigned to  $\text{H}^a$  and  $\text{H}^e$  respectively. The separation of the  $\text{H}^a$  and  $\text{H}^e$  shifts by ca. 33 ppm shows that the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complex is the racemic form. The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum

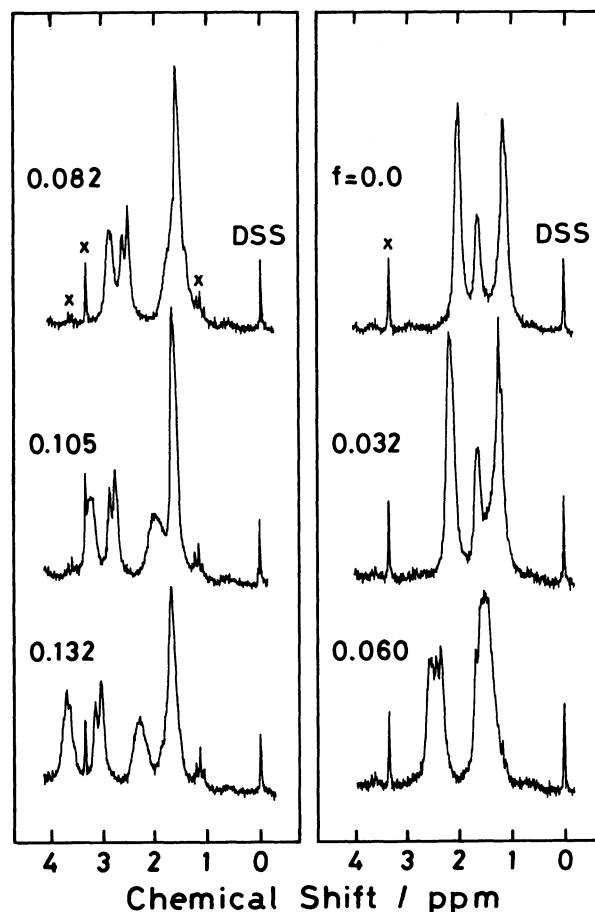


Fig. 6.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectral changes of  $[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_4(\text{R-chxn})]^{2-}$  on addition of  $[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_4(\text{R-chxn})]^-$  in  $10^{-2}$  mol  $\text{dm}^{-3}$  DCl. *f*: Mole fraction of the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  chelate. X indicates signals due to methyl and ethyl alcohols.

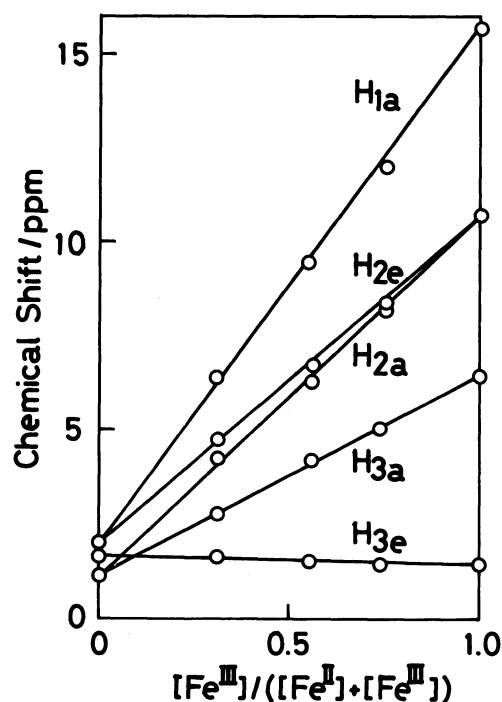


Fig. 7. Plots of chemical shifts of the mixture of  $[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_4(\text{R-chxn})]^{2-}$  and  $[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_4(\text{R-chxn})]^-$  vs. mole fraction of the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  chelate.

of the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complex showed the methyl( $\text{C}^2$ ) and methylene( $\text{C}^1$ ) carbon signals at 156.1 and 301.1 ppm respectively.

The isolated  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  *s*-Me<sub>2</sub>en complex showed the methyl signal at 2.52 ppm as a singlet and the methylene signals as an  $\text{A}_2\text{B}_2$  multiplet, the apparent doublets of which at 2.12 and 2.78 ppm were assigned to  $\text{H}^{\text{a}}$  and  $\text{H}^{\text{e}}$  respectively, according to the results of Tiethof and Cooke.<sup>26)</sup> However, the  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of the isolated  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  complex exhibited two signals for the methylene carbon — at 54.2 and 52.8 ppm, with an intensity ratio of ca. 2:1, along with a single methyl signal at 41.8 ppm.<sup>13)</sup> The cobalt complex isostructural to the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  complex,  $[\text{Co}^{\text{III}}(\text{CN})_4(\text{s-Me}_2\text{en})]^-$ , also exhibited two methylene-carbon signals in a ratio of ca. 2:1.<sup>27)</sup>

The results presented above suggest that the isolated  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  complex contained the racemic and meso isomers, while the isolated  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complex consisted of only the racemic isomer. Since the meso isomer of the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complex was expected to have been eliminated during the procedures for isolation, the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  complex was oxidized under acidic conditions and the resulting mixture was employed for NMR measurement without undertaking any procedure for separation. The two methylene and one methyl  $^1\text{H}$  signals expected for the meso  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complex were found at 6.40, 0.36, and  $-16.75$  ppm, with an intensity ratio of 1:1:3, in addition to those for the racemic form. The chemical-shift difference of ca. 6 ppm between the two methylene singals is quite small compared with that of ca. 33 ppm for the racemic form. The *s*-Me<sub>2</sub>en chelate in the meso isomer exists as an equilibrium mixture of the  $\delta$  and  $\lambda$  forms shown in Fig. 8. Although the four methylene protons in each form are in a different magnetic environment because of the two unsymmetrical methyl groups, the conformational interconversion of the chelate ring between the two forms magnetically replace  $\text{H}^{1\text{a}}$  and  $\text{H}^{1\text{e}}$  with  $\text{H}^{2\text{e}}$  and  $\text{H}^{2\text{a}}$  respectively. Since the interconversion is very rapid in the NMR time scale at room temperature, each couple of the protons shows a mean signal. However, the difference in the chemical shift between the two mean signals can be expected to be much smaller than that for the racemic isomer, firstly because each mean signal is the average of an axial

and an equatorial proton signal, and secondly because the difference in chemical shift between them arises only from the difference in position relative to the two methyl groups. Thus, the observation of the two mean signals of the methylene protons with a small separation from each other confirms the assignment of these signals to the meso isomer. The population of these isomers was obtained as racemic:meso=1.7:1 based on the signal intensities. Since the intensity ratio observed for the  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of the isolated  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  complex is almost the same as this population, the signals at 54.2 and 52.8 ppm were assigned to the methylene carbon of the racemic and meso isomers respectively.

The variation experiment using the isolated  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complexes showed the two sets of methylene and methyl signals. The intensity ratio between them was ca. 2:1. However, the changes in chemical shift observed in the variation experiment were not proportional to the mole fraction of the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complex, for there are electron exchange reactions among the racemic  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$ , meso  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$ , racemic  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$ , and meso  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complexes. The major and minor sets of signals, however, were correlated to the signals of the racemic and meso  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complexes respectively. The analysis of this system will be described elsewhere.

The following arguments will be restricted to the racemic form.

**Isotropic Shifts of the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  Complexes and Comparison with Those of  $\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}$  Complexes.** Isotropic shift for the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complex,  $\delta_{\text{iso}}$ , is defined as the difference in chemical shift between the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  and the corresponding  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$  complexes:  $\delta_{\text{iso}} = \delta_{\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}} - \delta_{\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}}$ . The isotropic shifts are summarized in the third column of Table 1. The isotropic shifts of several  $[\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{6-2x}(\text{diamine})_x]^{2+}$ ,<sup>19,28)</sup> defined as  $\delta_{\text{iso}} = \delta_{\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}} - \delta_{\text{free amine}}$ , are also incorporated in Table 1 for the sake of comparison.

The isotropic shift is the sum of two contributions: the Fermi contact shift ( $\delta_{\text{con}}$ ) and the dipolar shift ( $\delta_{\text{dip}}$ ). Since the distribution of the two unpaired spins in the  $t_{2g}^6e_g^2$  configuration is spherical,  $\delta_{\text{dip}}$  has been regarded as near zero for  $\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}$  complexes. Thus, the  $\delta_{\text{iso}}$ 's for  $\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}$  complexes have been regarded as  $\delta_{\text{con}}$ 's.<sup>29)</sup>

A low-spin  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complex has, on the other hand, a large magnetic anisotropy, and both terms contribute

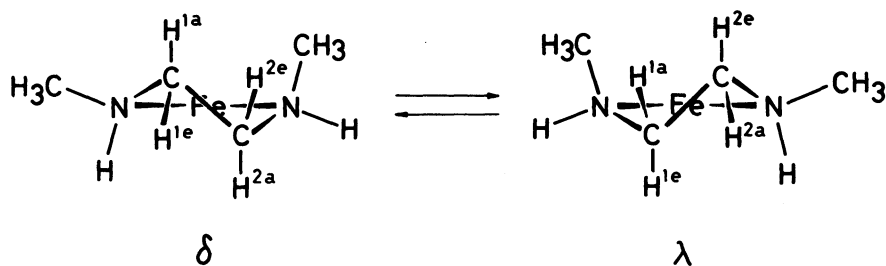


Fig. 8. Schematic structures of the meso *s*-Me<sub>2</sub>en chelate.  $\text{Fe} = \text{Fe}(\text{CN})_4$

to  $\delta^{\text{iso}}$ . If the  $\delta^{\text{iso}}$  for the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complex arises from the Fermi contact interaction, the difference in spin transfer mechanism between low-spin  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  ( $L \rightarrow$  vacant  $e_g$ ) and  $\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}$  ( $L \rightarrow$  singly occupied  $e_g$ ) predicts that the sign of  $\delta^{\text{iso}}$  for  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  is the opposite of that of  $\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}$ .<sup>30</sup> The observed sign of  $\delta^{\text{iso}}$  is not, however, always opposite to that of the  $\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}$  complex, as represented by protons axial to the chelate ring. This confirms that both contributions operate in the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complexes. Qualitatively, however, the  $\delta^{\text{con}}$  for  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complex can reasonably be assumed to have the sign opposite to that of the  $\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}$  complex, but the magnitude is not necessarily the same.

**Location Dependence of  $^{13}\text{C}$  Isotropic Shifts.** Carbon atoms bonded to the nitrogen have large positive  $\delta^{\text{iso}}$ 's: 190–250 ppm for members of the chelate ring and 114 ppm for *N*-methyl carbon. The carbon atoms separated by one C–C bond from them, such as  $\text{C}^2$  in *R*-chxn and  $\text{C}^3$  in *R*-pn, have the smaller negative  $\delta^{\text{iso}}$ 's of –54.5 and –68.8 ppm. The third carbon atom in *R*-chxn,  $\text{C}^3$ , has, in turn, the small positive  $\delta^{\text{iso}}$  value of 4.7 ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$   $\delta^{\text{iso}}$  thus alternates in sign with each separation by one C–C bond and attenuates rapidly as the number of bonds between the carbon and the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  ion increases. This characteristic of  $^{13}\text{C}$   $\delta^{\text{iso}}$  suggests that the Fermi contact shift,  $\delta^{\text{con}}$ , predominates in  $^{13}\text{C}$   $\delta^{\text{iso}}$  for the present  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complexes; i.e., the unpaired electron spin is propagated through N–C and/or C–C bonds, mainly by the spin polarization effect.<sup>31–33</sup>

The  $\delta^{\text{iso}}$  of the *N*-methyl carbon of the *s*-Me<sub>2</sub>en complex is about half the  $\delta^{\text{iso}}$  of the methylene carbon. However, the small difference in  $\delta^{\text{iso}}$  between the methyl  $\text{C}^3$  of *R*-pn and the methylene  $\text{C}^2$  of *R*-chxn indicates that the spin is propagated more easily to the chelate ring than to the *N*-alkyl groups in the present  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complexes.

The isotropic shifts of the relevant  $\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}$  complexes have been reported only for en and pn complexes.<sup>28</sup> The ratios of  $\delta^{\text{iso}}$  for the  $\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}$  complexes to  $\delta^{\text{iso}}$  for the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complexes are between –1.4 and –1.8 for the carbons on the chelate rings. This invariance of the ratio shows that Fermi-contact interaction makes the main contribution to the  $^{13}\text{C}$  paramagnetic shifts of the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complexes as well as those of the  $\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}$  complexes.

#### Orientation Dependence of $^1\text{H}$ Isotropic Shifts.

The axial protons on the five-membered chelate ring have shown positive  $\delta^{\text{iso}}$ 's: 14.66 and 15.24, 13.94, and 17.72 ppm for the *R*-pn, *R*-chxn, and *s*-Me<sub>2</sub>en complexes respectively. On the other hand, the equatorial protons have shown negative  $\delta^{\text{iso}}$ 's: –22.66 and –15.62 ppm for the *R*-pn and *s*-Me<sub>2</sub>en complexes. The results show that the axial and equatorial protons on the five-membered chelate ring show  $\delta^{\text{iso}}$  values opposite in sign, whereas significant  $\delta^{\text{iso}}$  values have been observed in  $\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}$  complexes only for equatorial protons.<sup>11,19</sup>

In the *R*-chxn complex, both protons bound to the carbon atom next to the chelate ring have positive  $\delta^{\text{iso}}$ 's:  $\text{H}^{2a}$ , 9.70;  $\text{H}^{2e}$ , 8.82 ppm, but the  $\delta^{\text{iso}}$ 's for protons bonded to the third carbon atom are different in sign and magnitude from each other:  $\text{H}^{3a}$ , 5.45;  $\text{H}^{3e}$ , –0.16 ppm. Thus  $^1\text{H}$   $\delta^{\text{iso}}$  depends strongly upon the location and orientation of each nucleus within the molecule.

All axial protons have positive  $\delta^{\text{iso}}$  values, which attenuate monotonously with the distance between the axial proton and the paramagnetic center, the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  ion. However, the  $\delta^{\text{iso}}$  value for the equatorial proton varies its sign with each separation by one C–C bond and attenuates more rapidly than that for the axial proton. Furthermore, the sign of  $\delta^{\text{iso}}$  for each equatorial proton is opposite to that for the carbon atom to which the proton is bonded. These observations form a striking contrast to the results for the axial protons, which always show positive  $\delta^{\text{iso}}$  values, and suggest the predominance of  $\delta^{\text{con}}$  in  $\delta^{\text{iso}}$  for the equatorial protons, i.e., the predominance of the spin-polarization effect in contributing to the spin propagation from the carbon atom to the equatorial proton. The monotonous behavior of  $\delta^{\text{iso}}$  for the axial protons, on the other hand, seems to be attributable to the dominance of the dipolar shift,  $\delta^{\text{dip}}$ . Thus, the  $\delta^{\text{iso}}$ 's for the axial and equatorial protons are different in magnitude and sign from each other, though they are bonded to the same carbon atom in the present  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  complexes.

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