Osmium Tetraoxide Cis Hydroxylation of Unsaturated Substrates

MARTIN SCHRÖDER

Department of Chemistry, Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, England

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I. Introduction

Osmium tetraoxide (OsO₄) is the most reliable reagent available for the cis hydroxylation of alkenes to give the corresponding *cis*-diols¹ and is also widely used in electron microscopy as a staining and fixative agent for biological tissues.² These two properties are linked since general staining of biological membranes with osmium tetraoxide is thought to proceed via attack of unsaturated entities present in the tissues.³⁻⁵

The reduction of osmium tetraoxide by unsaturated species has long been known, and it was Hofmann who first showed that osmium tetraoxide could be used catalytically in the presence of sodium or potassium chlorate for the hydroxylation of alkenes. This work was later extended by Milas, who reported the osmium tetraoxide catalyzed oxidation of alkenes by hydrogen peroxide. Other secondary oxidizing agents that have been used in conjunction with osmium tetraoxide for the catalytic oxidation of alkenes include tert-butyl hydroperoxide, N-methylmorpholine N-oxide, oxygen, sodium periodate, and sodium hypochlorite (see section III).

Criegee, 11,12 however, showed that osmium tetraoxide could also be used as an effective cis-hydroxylating agent when used stoichiometrically in the absence of secondary oxidants. He suggested that the reaction occurs via the formation of an intermediate osmium(VI) ester complex which could be hydrolyzed reductively to give insoluble osmium salts or oxidatively to regenerate osmium tetraoxide, in both cases the corresponding vicinal cis-diol being formed selectively in good yield. Addition of pyridine to hydroxylation reactions led to a marked increase in the rate of formation of intermediate ester complexes. Although the oxo(amine)osmium(VI) complexes thus formed tend to be more difficult to hydrolyze than the corresponding non-amine products, the stoichiometric use of osmium tetraoxide with pyridine followed by reductive cleavage with bisulfite, alkaline mannitol, hydrogen sulfide, or lithium aluminum hydride remains the most effective method of cis-hydroxylating alkenes. Reactions with imines and nitriles are not generally observed under normal conditions, while the oxidation of alcohols

Martin Schröder was born in 1954 He carried out his undergraduate studies at Sheffield, England, and obtained his Ph.D. at Imperial College, London. Having completed one-year's postdoctoral research at the E.T.H., Zürich, he is now a research assistant at the University of Cambridge, Cambridge, England.

by osmium tetraoxide is appreciably slower than that of alkenes.

A few, short review articles concerned with certain aspects of osmium tetraoxide oxidation reactions have been published; ^{13–17} the present review deals primarily with its use as a catalytic and noncatalytic cis-hydroxylating reagent for unsaturated substrates, namely, alkenes, dienes, and alkynes, with particular reference to the more recent work on the formation, structure, and hydrolysis of the intermediate osmium(VI) ester complexes. The literature coverage extends to mid-1979.

II. Noncatalytic Cis Hydroxylation of Alkenes

A. Oxoosmium(VI) Ester Complexes

1. Formation and Structure

a. In the Absence of Tertiary Amines

The cis hydroxylation of alkenes by osmium tetraoxide is well established to take place via the formation of an osmium(VI) intermediate which on reductive or oxidative hydrolysis yields the corresponding *cis-*diol. The intermediate osmium(VI) complex is usually written as a tetrahedral species (1).1.18,19

Structure 1, however, although it may exist as a transient species in solution, would be unlikely to exist in the solid state since this would be an example of a tetrahedral d² complex; no examples of tetrahedral d² stereochemistry exist for third-row transition metals. In addition, the O(ester)-Os-O(ester) angle for complex 1 would be expected to be highly strained in a tetrahedral configuration. Criegee 11,20-22 has reported the reaction of osmium tetraoxide with alkenes (R) in nonreducing solvents such as diethyl ether or benzene to yield dark green to black products of stoichiometry OsO4•R and OsO5•R2; structures for these complexes were tentatively proposed on the basis of osmium analyses and hydrolysis of the complexes with sodium sulfite to give the corresponding cis-diols and the osmium sulfite complex Na₄[Os(SO₃)₃]·6H₂O (2).¹¹ The nature of these osmium(VI) intermediates has been recently reinvestigated, and they have been formulated as dimeric monoester complexes syn^{-23} and $anti-[Os_2O_4(O_4R)_2]^{24}$ (3 and 4) and monomeric diester complexes $[OsO(O_2R)_2]$ (5),²⁴ respectively. These diamagnetic products have been shown by X-ray crystallographic studies, in the cases of $anti-[Os_2O_4(O_2C_2Me_4)_2]^{25,26}$ and $[OsO(O_2C_2H_4)_2]$, 27,28 to contain five-coordinate square-based pyramidal osmium(VI) with cyclic ester rings.

The infrared spectra of these complexes show bands near 980 cm⁻¹ assigned to the Os=O (terminal) stretching vibration,

^{*} Address correspondence to Department of Chemistry, University of Cambridge, Lensfield Road, Cambridge, England.

 ν (Os=O).²⁴ Bands assigned to the Os-O (ester) stretching vibration, ν (Os-O), occur near 580 cm⁻¹, while bands near 630 cm⁻¹ for the dimeric monoester complexes are assigned to the stretching vibration, ν (Os₂O₂), of the oxygen bridge system.²⁴ These latter bridge bands are not observed for the monomeric diester complexes.²⁴

The formation of dimeric monoester complexes is generally preferred for reactive alkenes such as cyclohexene, ethylene, and oleic acid, while for less reactive alkenes (i.e., tetrasubstituted alkenes or those incorporating sterically large or electron-withdrawing groups) diester complexes are formed. This may be partially explained by considering the intermediate tetrahedral species 1. If this species is formed in low concentrations as in the case of less reactive alkenes, the formation of dimeric monoester complexes will be discouraged and the formation of diester complexes preferred. The conversion of monoester to diester products can be achieved by reaction with ethanolic hydrochloric acid or with aqueous alcoholic potassium hydroxide. 11 It seems likely that this reaction occurs via hydrolysis of the monoester to the cis-diol followed by subsequent reaction of the diol with another molecule of monoester to yield the corresponding diester species; the reaction of monoesters with cis-diols to give diester complexes has been reported. 11,23 It has been noted that the conversion of monoester to diester products occurs also when the former is left to stand in solution, the diester being isolated together with a black, highly insoluble product tentatively formulated as a trimer of stoichiometry Os₃O₁₁R₂ (6).²⁹

An alternative method of preparing osmium(VI) monoester and diester complexes is by reaction of anionic osmium(VI) species such as potassium osmate, trans- $K_2[OsO_2(OH)_4]$ (7), with cis-diols. The resulting osmium(VI) ester salts (8) are converted to the neutral complex by acid treatment.¹¹

b. In the Presence of Tertiary Amines

It was noted by Criegee¹² that the rate of formation of osmium(VI) ester complexes could be dramatically increased by the addition of an excess of tertiary amine, such as pyridine, to solutions of osmium tetraoxide and alkenes. Brown dia-

magnetic products were isolated, and these have been recently characterized as diolatodioxobis(amine)osmium(VI) ester complexes, [OsO₂(O₂R)L₂] (9) (R = alkene, L = pyridine, $^{12,21,24,30-38}$ isoquinoline, 24 quinoline, 12 1 /₂bipyridyl, $^{31-34,37}$ 3-picoline, $^{34-36}$ 4-picoline, 34 (3-pyridyl)mercuric acetate, 35,36 and 3-chloropyridine $^{34-36}$).

The infrared spectra of the complexes 9 show bands near 840 cm⁻¹ assigned to the asymmetric stretching vibration, ν^{as}(OsO₂), of the trans O=Os=O moiety.^{24,30} Raman bands near 880 cm⁻¹, polarized in solution, are assigned to the symmetric stretching mode, $v^s(OsO_2)$. 24,30 X-ray structural analyses have been reported for the bis(pyridine) ester complexes of thymine, 39 1-methylthymine, 40 9-methylbenzanthracene, 41 and adenosine, 42 the thymine and adenosine complexes being models for the binding of osmium tetraoxide to nucleic acid components in biological tissues. The reaction of osmium tetraoxide with nucleic acid components such as thymine, 35,36,43 thymidine, 31-33,35,36 ribothymidine, 32,33 disodium thymidine 5-phosphate, 35,36 uridine, 32,33,44 cytidine, 32,33,44 adenosine, 32,33 guanosine, 32,33 and uracil 35,36,44 in the presence of tertiary amines has been observed to give bis(amine)osmium(VI) complexes analogous to 9. It is of importance to note that exclusive attack of C=C bonds occurred in these reactions, with C=N and C=O functions being unreactive. Similarly, oxidation of RNA by osmium tetraoxide has been shown to occur via attack of C(5) and C(6) of pyrimidinones to give 5,6-dihydro-5,6-diol species,45 while oxidation of 1-methyluracil yields 5,6-dihydro-4,5,6-trihydroxy-1-methyl-2(1H)-pyrimidinone.44 The preparation of anionic osmium(VI) ester complexes from 3,5-diacetylthymidine, cyclohexene, and 3-butenoic acid has been reported with CN⁻ and SCN⁻ ligands. 46 Similar products have been observed for the reaction of osmium tetraoxide with DNA.46 The osmium(VI) ester complexes 9 can also be prepared by reaction of the monoester or diester complexes 3, 4, or 5 with an excess of tertiary amine. 11,12,21 Alternatively, osmium tetraoxide can be reduced with ethanoi⁴⁷ in the presence of excess of tertiary amine (L) to give the dimeric (amine)osmium(VI) complexes $[Os_2O_6L_4]$ (10) (L = pyridine, ^{30,48} 3-picoline, ⁴⁸ 3-chloropyridine, ⁴⁸ ¹/₂bipyridyl, ⁴⁹ imidazole, ⁵⁰ ¹/₂N,N,N',N'-tetramethylethylenediamine,⁵¹ or¹/₂phenanthroline⁵¹).

These products contain the trans dioxo "osmyi" mojety and a symmetric Os₂O₂ bridging system similar to that found for the dimeric monoester complexes 3 and 425 and for K4[Os2O6(N-O₂)₄].^{52,53} The complexes 10, like potassium osmate (7), although unreactive toward alkenes,54 readily react with cis-diols, R(OH)2, to give the corresponding bis(amine) ester complexes [OsO₂(O₂R)L₂] (9). 12,48 Whereas osmium tetraoxide reacts readily with alkenes but relatively slowly with cis-diols (reaction with an excess of ethane-1,2-diol yields the diester [OsO(O2- $C_2H_4)_2$ (5) after about 10 days²⁸), the reverse is true for osmium(VI) complexes 7 and 10 which cannot be used directly as cis-hydroxylating agents, although they may be used as a source of osmium tetraoxide when treated with hydrogen peroxide or potassium chlorate.54 The relative reactivities of osmium(VIII) vs. osmium(VI) have been illustrated by reactions with isopentenyladenine and -adenosine (11).31 Similar reactivity

dentate tertiary amines in nonreducing conditions to give the adducts OsO₄·L (L = pyridine, $^{12.55}$ isoquinoline, $^{56.57}$ phthalazine, $^{56.57}$ quinuclidine, $^{56.57}$ pyridazine, $^{56.57}$ or ammonia $^{58.59}$) and (OsO₄)₂·L (L = pyrazine, $^{56.57}$ hexamethylenetetramine, $^{56.57,60.61}$

comparisons have been made involving uridine analogues. 32,33

Osmium tetraoxide itself reacts with polydentate and mono-

triethylenediamine, 56,57 and 5-methylpyrimidine 56,57). These adducts retain the integrity of the Os(VIII)O4 entity and in the case of the hexamethylenetetramine complex can be used as a stabilized, nonvolatile form of osmium tetraoxide, 61-63 the high volatility and toxicity of osmium tetraoxide being considered a great hazard.64 X-ray structural analyses have been reported on the adducts derived from quinuclidine and hexamethylenetetramine.65 Picoline and quinoline have also been used as tertiary amine bases for osmium tetraoxide, but no complexes

were fully characterized. 60

The adducts OsO₄·L (L = pyridine, isoquinoline, or quinuclidine) react with alkenes (R) to give products of stoichiometry OsO₄·R·L. 56,57 An X-ray structural analysis 66 on the complex 14, derived from cyclohexene and quinuclidine, shows it to be a dimeric osmium(VI) ester complex, involving an asymmetric Os₂O₂ bridge system with the O=Os·O (bridge) angle deviating appreciably from linearity. The infrared and Raman spectra

of these complexes in the solid state show bands near 890 cm⁻¹ assigned to the Os=O stretching vibration, ν (Os=O);⁶⁷ these are at higher frequencies than the Os=O stretching vibration found for the bis(amine) complexes 9. Products analogous to

14

14 have been isolated from the reaction of osmium tetraoxide with brucine and strychnine.⁶⁷ These complexes are thought to be models for the types of compounds formed when osmium tetraoxide interacts with alkaloids containing tertiary amine functions during fixation procedures for electron microscopy studies.67

In solution, the complexes 14 dissociate to give monomeric five-coordinate species formulated as dioxo trigonal-bipyramidal complexes 15, with the oxo ligands occupying equatorial pos-

The infrared and Raman spectra of the monomeric species 15 in solution each show two bands at 870 and 910 cm⁻¹ assigned to the asymmetric and symmetric O=Os=O stretching vibrations $\nu^{as}(OsO_2)$ and $\nu^{s}(OsO_2)$, respectively.⁶⁷ Addition of 1 equiv of tertiary amine L' to the complexes 15 yields the corresponding bis(amine) products [OsO₂(O₂R)LL'] (9).67

The cis hydroxylation of dienes using osmium tetraoxide has been shown to give either unsaturated cis-diols68-70 or tetrols. 10,68,71 depending upon the relative stoichiometries of osmium tetraoxide/diene used. Thus reaction of dienes R with a twofold excess of osmium tetraoxide in diethyl ether in the presence of excess tertiary amine L (L = pyridine or isoquinoline) yields brown diamagnetic osmium(VI) ester complexes [Os₂O₄(O₄R)L₄] 16. with both double bonds of the starting diene having react-Alternatively, reaction of osmium tetraoxide with a

16, R = cycloocta-1,5-diene

fivefold excess of diene R in the presence of excess tertiary amine L (L = pyridine or isoquinoline) leads to the formation of the complexes $[OsO_2(O_2R)L_2]$ 17, with only one of the double bonds of the starting diene having reacted. 72,73

17, R = cycloocta-1,5-diene

The ¹H NMR spectra⁷² of the complexes **16** show protons adjacent to the ester oxygen atoms near δ 4.7, while for the complexes 17,72 alkene protons are observed near δ 5.6 in addition to protons adjacent to the ester oxygen atoms again near δ 4.7. The infrared and Raman spectra⁷² of the complexes 16 and 17 show bands characteristic of the trans-dioxo "osmyl" moiety. An X-ray structural analysis confirms the anti configuration of the ester rings for the complex 16 derived from cycloocta-1,5-diene and pyridine.74

Reaction of the adduct OsO₄·L (L = quinuclidine) in diethyl ether with dienes R in a 2:1 molar ratio leads to the formation, in solution, of the analogous five-coordinate ester complexes [Os₂O₄(O₄R)L₂] (18) with equatorial oxo ligands.⁶⁷ Similarly,

18, R = cycloocta-1,5-diene

reaction of the adduct OsO_4 -L (L = quinuclidine) with an excess of diene R leads to the formation, in solution, of the ester complexes $[OsO_2(O_2R)L]$ (19), with only one of the double bonds having reacted.⁶⁷

19, R = cycloocta-1,5-diene

The complexes **18** and **19** are thought to be polymeric and dimeric in the solid state, respectively.⁶⁷

2. Hydrolysis of Ester Complexes

Osmium(VI) ester complexes can be hydrolyzed either reductively or oxidatively. Reductive hydrolysis is generally carried out by using sodium or potassium sulfite or bisulfite, 11,12 lithium aluminum hydride, 75,76 or hydrogen sulfide 77 to yield the corresponding cis-diols together with lower forms of osmium which are removed by filtration. Hydrolysis using catechol²³ or alkaline mannitol 11,12 displaces the diol function of the ester complex to yield catechol- or mannitol-based ester products. The reaction of osmium(VI) complexes or osmium tetraoxide with catechols (o-hydroxyphenols) has been reported to yield either tris(catechol)osmium(VI) complexes or polymeric osmium(IV) species. 78-80 The reduction and possible hydrolysis of osmium ester complexes by ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid have been recently reported.81 Tables I and II give data on the noncatalytic cis hydroxylation of alkenes by osmium tetraoxide in the absence and presence of pyridine, respectively.

As well as oxidizing alkenes to the corresponding *cis*-diols, ¹²⁸⁻¹³⁰ osmium tetraoxide also reacts with aromatic hydrocarbons, with attack occurring at the sites of greatest electron density. ⁹⁵ Thus anthracene (**20**) is oxidized at the 1,2 positions (**21**) and then at the 3,4 positions (**22**), the meso positions remaining unreactive. ⁹⁵

The preparation of dioxyporphyrin species has also been reported from the oxidation of porphyrins by osmium tetra-oxide. ¹³¹ It is of interest to note that oxidations of α,β -unsaturated nitriles by osmium tetraoxide do not yield *cis*-diols, but the corresponding hydroxy aldehydes or ketones ¹¹⁹⁻¹²¹ via elimination of cyanide ion, 23 \rightarrow 24.

Oxidative hydrolysis of osmium(VI) ester complexes is generally carried out by using metal chlorates, *N*-methylmorpholine *N*-oxide, hydrogen peroxide, or *tert*-butyl hydroperoxide. The *cis*-diol is formed together with osmium tetraoxide which can react further with alkene, thus rendering the process catalytic.

The catalytic cis hydroxylation of alkenes is discussed in section

B. Mechanism of Cis Hydroxylation

The oxidation of alkenes by osmium tetraoxide and other oxo metal complexes such as chromyl chloride, potassium permanganate, and selenium dioxide has been thought, in general, to proceed via direct oxygen attack at the unsaturated center (25). The six-electron transition state (26) thus formed will lead

to the cis addition of osmium tetraoxide to the alkene, as is observed in practice. Cyclic transition states such as **26** have been proposed as intermediates in the one-step cis addition of osmium tetraoxide to double bonds. ¹³²⁻¹³⁴ More recently, however, Sharpless and co-workers ¹³⁵ have suggested the possibility of indirect attack of alkenes by osmium tetraoxide. Their proposal is based on the observation that nucleophilic attack of the carbonyl (C=O) function occurs exclusively at the carbon center and not at oxygen. Similarly, a C=C bond, although only a weak nucleophile, would be expected to attack not at oxygen but at the more electropositive osmium center of the Os=O bond, thus forming initially an organometallic intermediate (**28**).

An intermediate involving Os–C bonding has been previously proposed by Zelikoff and Taylor. ¹³⁶ Their proposals were based on the differing reactivity of osmium tetraoxide toward alkenes as compared with permanganate ion. The intermediate **28** would be considered to rearrange in a rate-determining step to a five-membered cyclic ester complex, with subsequent hydrolysis occurring relatively quickly. ¹³⁶ It has been observed that electron-withdrawing groups on the alkene retard its reactivity toward osmium tetraoxide, ^{91,96,137} presumably due to the lowering of nucleophilicity of the C—C bond. Thus the relative rates of reaction of **29** with osmium tetraoxide decrease from 1 to 0.35

to 0.28 when $X = CH_2$, O, and $C(OCH_3)_2$, respectively. 91 An opposite effect is noted for permanganate oxidations.91 Similarly, aromatic hydrocarbons are oxidized by osmium tetraoxide at the sites of greatest electron density.95 Although no direct experimental evidence is available for the existence of an organometallic intermediate such as 28, the hypothesis is reasonable on the basis that the Os=O bond would be expected to react with a nucleophile initially at the metal center and not at oxygen. The reaction of osmium tetraoxide with certain primary amines leads to the formation of alkylimidoosmium(VIII) complexes, 139-143 paralleling the reaction of organic carbonyls with primary amines. In addition, the intermediate 28 may be useful in explaining the dramatic increase in the rate of formation of osmium(VI) ester complexes on addition of tertiary amines such as pyridine. 12 Electron donation from the tertiary amine to the osmium atom may induce osmium-carbon bond cleavage

with a corresponding rate increase in the rate-determining step leading to the formation of complexes [OsO2(OR)L] (15) and finally [OsO₂(O₂R)L₂] (9). 135

A kinetic study on the oxidation of mandelic acid by osmium tetraoxide has been reported. 144 It was found that the disappearance of osmium tetraoxide is proportional to the concentration of mandelate ion and proportional to the concentration of osmium(VIII). At low and high hydroxyl concentrations the rate showed second-order and zero-order dependence on hydroxyl concentration, respectively. The authors disregarded a radical process for the oxidation of alkenes by osmium tetraoxide on the basis that the oxidation involves a two-electron process, no induction period was noted, and the rate of reaction was unaffected by the addition of acrylonitrile. The relative reactivities of cyclopentene to cyclohexene and norbornene to cyclohexene with osmium tetraoxide have been reported to be 21.9 and 72.3, respectively, 145 and a five-membered transition state was thought to be in agreement with these data. Beer and co-workers 146 have shown that osmium tetraoxide reacts with the thymine base of denatured DNA but not with natural DNA. It was noted that the rate of reaction decreased in the order thymidine > thymine > uracil > adenosine > guanosine. Similar rate effects have been found by Burton and Riley¹⁴⁷ for the reaction of osmium tetraoxide with a series of nucleotides in the presence of ammonia, the relative rates of reaction of thymidine:5-methyldeoxycytidine:uridine:deoxyuridine:cytidine:deoxycytidine being 43:13:4.5:2.8:1.8:1, respectively.

The important observation initially made by Criegee 11,12 that the rate of formation of osmium(VI) ester complexes is greatly increased in the presence of tertiary amines has led to several kinetic studies on the role of amines in this system. The rate of reaction of osmium tetraoxide with thymine in the presence of pyridine has been found^{35,36} to be several orders of magnitude greater than the rate observed by Beer¹⁴⁶ with osmium tetraoxide alone. The oxidation of alkenes in the presence of amines (L) has been shown to have a second-order dependence on the amine concentration (L = ammonia, 44 pyridine 35,36,148). Deviation from this second-order dependence occurs at high pyridine concentrations. 148 Behrman and co-workers 34-36 have reported kinetic studies on the formation of osmium(VI) ester complexes in water and organic solvents; eq 1-5 were proposed for the reaction of osmium tetraoxide with substrate (S) in the presence of pyridine (py).35,36

$$OsO_4 + py \rightleftharpoons OsO_4 \cdot py$$
 (1)

$$OsO_4 \cdot py + py \rightleftharpoons OsO_4 \cdot py_2$$
 (2)

$$OsO_4 \cdot py + S \rightleftharpoons OsO_4 \cdot py \cdot S$$
 (3)

$$OsO_4 \cdot py \cdot S \rightarrow OsO_4 \cdot py_2 \cdot S \tag{4}$$

$$OsO_4 + py_2 + S \rightarrow OsO_4 \cdot py_2 \cdot S$$
 (5)

The kinetic data led to the rate law³⁴⁻³⁶ shown in eq 6. This rate = $k_0[OsO_4][S] + k_1\beta_1[OsO_4][S][L] +$

$$k_2\beta_2[OsO_4][S][L]^2$$
 (6)

rate law, however, considered only the concentrations of the reactants and was therefore later modified to take activity factors into consideration 148 (eq 7). The new rate law (eq 7) replaces

rate =
$$k_0[OsO_4][S] + k_2'[OsO_4][S]a^2(py)$$
 (7)

the second-order dependence on pyridine with a term for an

activated complex (30) containing two pyridine ligands. The

possible pathways leading to the formation of the activated species 30 are shown in eq 8-10.148 However, it has been

$$\begin{array}{c}
\operatorname{OsO}_{4} + \operatorname{S} \rightleftharpoons \operatorname{OsO}_{4} \cdot \operatorname{S} & (8) \\
\operatorname{OsO}_{4} \cdot \operatorname{py} \rightleftharpoons \operatorname{OsO}_{4} \cdot \operatorname{S} \cdot \operatorname{py} & 30 & (9) \\
\operatorname{OsO}_{4} \cdot \operatorname{2py} + \operatorname{S} & (10)
\end{array}$$

$$OsO_4 \cdot 2py + S$$
 (10)

noted in these studies and in other cases that osmium tetraoxide generally reacts more readily with tertiary amines than with alkenes, suggesting that the formation of an osmium(VIII) adduct. OsO₄·L, would be the preferred first product. In addition, no clear experimental evidence has been put forward for adducts of the type OsO4*py2. Raman studies on solutions of osmium tetraoxide in pyridine only show bands for OsO₄, OsO₄·py, and pyridine, ³⁰ although the tetraoxide has been reported to take up 2 equiv of water 149 or pyridine. 11,12 A pathway involving initial formation of the adduct OsO4 py followed by reaction with alkene and addition of a second pyridine moiety seems therefore the likeliest route to the formation of osmium(VI) ester complexes (9). This would be in agreement with Burton's 44 data on osmium tetraoxide oxidations of alkenes in the presence of ammonia. It is important to note that ammonium hydroxide solution deactivates osmium tetraoxide; 150 this is due to the formation of the osmiamate ion, [OsO₃N]⁻ (31),⁶⁴ which has been shown to be inactive as a cis-hydroxylating agent. 57,151 Behrman and Clarke have recently reported 152 that sodium phosphate produces moderate rate increases for the cis hydroxylation of alkenes by osmium tetraoxide. This is thought to be an effect due to ionic strength rather than due to the formation of a complex. 152

The hydrolysis of osmium(VI) ester complexes has been shown to occur with exclusive Os-O(ester) bond cleavage; hydrolysis in H₂¹⁸O showed no ¹⁸O incorporation into the diol. ³⁴ Hydrolysis is also found to be catalyzed by acidic or alkaline media. At high pH (10 M KOH), osmium(VI) ester complexes are hydrolyzed to give potassium osmate, while at lower pH's and in acidic conditions, the disproportionation to osmium(VII) and osmium(V) occurs, 34 with the corresponding formation of osmium(VIII) and osmium(IV) species. The hydrolysis eq 11–14 are shown below. $^{34,153-155}$

$$6Os(VI) \rightarrow 3Os(VII) + 3Os(V)$$
 (11)

$$3Os(VII) \rightarrow 2Os(VIII) + Os(V)$$
 (12)

$$4Os(V) + 2Os(VIII) + 6H2O \rightarrow 6Os(IV) + 12H+ + 3O2$$
 (13)

$$4Os(V) + 2H_2O \rightarrow 4Os(IV) + 4H^+ + O_2$$
 (14)

The disproportionation of osmium(VI) is analogous to the disproportionation of ruthenium(VI) under acid conditions. 156 At pH 9.5 (carbonate buffer) the hydrolysis of osmium(VI) ester complexes occurs less readily under a nitrogen atmosphere as compared with hydrolyses carried out under air.34 This suggests that the presence of oxygen may assist the hydrolysis process; the catalytic oxidation of alkenes by osmium tetraoxide in the presence of oxygen is discussed in section III.F.

In general, the hydrolysis of osmium(VI) ester complexes is carried out reductively with lithium aluminum hydride, potassium sulfite, or hydrogen sulfide (see Tables I and II) to give reduced forms of osmium which can be removed by filtration. Ester complexes 3, 4, and 5 and amine ester complexes 9 and 14-19 can all be successfully hydrolyzed by using these methods, the

TABLE I. Noncatalytic Cis Hydroxylation of Alkenes in the Absence of Pyridine

substrate	solvent, time ^a	hydrolysis method	product	yield, %	ref
	diethyl ether, 24 h diethyl ether, 24 h	Na ₂ SO ₃ Na ₂ SO ₃	но он	70 ^b 84 ^b (98) ^c	11 11
	diethyl ether, 24 h	Na ₂ SO ₃	H0 OH	66 ^b (99) ^c	
	diethyl ether, 24 h	Na ₂ SO ₃	ОН ОН	78 ^b (89) ^c	11
	diethyl ether, 24 h	Na ₂ SO ₃	OH OH	81 ^b (96) ^c	11
	diethyl ether	H ₂ S	ОН	21	69
			ОНОН	89 60	70 70
C JOH OH			но но	•	
	diethyl ether, 24 h	LiAlH ₄	OH OH		75
isocolumbin	dioxane, 48 h	H_2S	isocolumbindiol	90	77
AcO OAc	tetrahydrofuran, 2 days		AcO OH OH	73	82
Aco	dioxane, 10 days	H₂S	.ОН .ОН	89	83
	dioxane, 10 days	H ₂ S	ОН	76	83
	diethyl ether, 90 h	NaHSO ₃	-0 OH		84
Aco	diethyl ether, 3.5 days	кон	Aco OH		85
HO Br Br	diethyl ether, 90 h	Na ₂ SO ₃	HO OH	69 ^d	86
но Но	diethyl ether, 96 h	Na ₂ SO ₃	OH OH		86

TABLE I (Continued)

substrate	solvent, time ^a	hydrolysis method	product	yield, %	rei
ОН	diethyl ether, 96 h	Na ₂ SO ₃	OH OH	60	86 87
Acc	diethyl ether, 50 h	Na ₂ SO ₃	OAC OH OH		87
	diethyl ether, 72 h	Na ₂ SO ₃	COH OH		88
440	diethyl ether, 48 h	Na ₂ SO ₃	HO HO HO	60 (90) ^c	89
40	chloroform	н	ОН		90
NO ₂	dioxane, 5 days, 20 °C	NaHSO₃ º₂	2N OH NO2	32	91
	cyclopentane, 4 days, 20 °C	NaHSO ₃	он он	48 ^e	91
OMe	dioxane, 5 days, 20 °C	NaHSO ₃	OH OH OMe	37	91

^a Solvent and time used for the preparation of osmium(VI) ester complexes. ^b Yield of cis-diol from the corresponding osmium(VI) complex. c Yield of osmium(VI) ester complex in parentheses. d Debromination carried out using zinc metal. e 90% yield of cis-diol obtained when reaction is carried out in the presence of pyridine.

amine complexes being more resistant to hydrolysis. The oxidative hydrolysis of ester complexes renders the cishydroxylation process catalytic and is discussed in the next section.

III. Catalytic Cis Hydroxylation of Alkenes

Although stoichiometric oxidations of alkenes by osmium tetraoxide usually give better yields of diol products and are particularly applicable for the small-scale oxidation of precious materials, it is more usual, for reasons of cost and convenience. to use osmium tetraoxide catalytically. This can be achieved by using osmium tetraoxide in the presence of a secondary oxidant which hydrolyzes the intermediate osmium(VI) ester complex oxidatively to regenerate the tetraoxide which can undergo further reduction by the substrate. The reaction is complete on consumption of the secondary oxidant. A variety of oxidants have been used in conjunction with osmium tetraoxide, the most popular being hydrogen peroxide, metal chlorates, tert-butyl hydroperoxide, N-methylmorpholine N-oxide, oxygen, sodium periodate, and sodium hypochlorite. These catalytic reagents, however, particularly oxygen and sodium periodate, have the disadvantage that appreciable overoxidation can occur, leading to the formation of keto or acid products.

This can be minimized by the use of tert-butyl hydroperoxide or N-methylmorpholine N-oxide. It has also been noted that the oxidative hydrolysis of osmium(VI) esters derived from tetraand trisubstituted alkenes tends to be rather slow, 157,158 particularly in the presence of pyridine; this is thought to be due to internal steric considerations. In these cases, it is more usual to use osmium tetraoxide stoichiometrically and reduce the ester reductively with sulfite or hydrogen sulfide. The catalytic use of osmium tetraoxide, however, is generally highly successful and is applicable to many facets of organic synthesis.

A. With Hydrogen Peroxide

A catalytic amount of osmium tetraoxide in the presence of an excess of hydrogen peroxide (Milas' reagent) readily oxidizes alkenes to give the corresponding cis-diols as the major product. 9,10,68 The catalytic reagent is prepared in tert-butyl alcohol, to which it is inert, and can be used under anhydrous conditions or with 8% water. Benzene, diethyl ether, and acetone have also been used as solvents; however, benzene is slowly oxidized over prolonged periods of time (a few days) to give initially phenol and then acidic products, 159 thus limiting its use as a solvent.

Although hydrogen peroxide has been shown to act as a hydroxylating agent when irradiated with ultraviolet radiation, 160

TABLE II. Noncatalytic Cis Hydroxylation of Alkenes in the Presence of Pyridine

substrate	solvent, time ^a	hydrolysis method	ртoduct	yield, %	ref
	diethyl ether, 20 min	K₂CO₃/KOH	ОН	(99) ^b	12
	diethyl ether, 30 min	K₂CO₃/KOH	ОН	(100) ⁶	12
	diethyl ether, 30 min, 0 °C	mannitol/KOH	HO	(99) ^b	12
	benzene, 2 days	mannitol/KOH	HOOH	64 ^c	12 92 95
HO	diethyl ether	Na ₂ SO ₃	HO HO	40 (90) ^b	12
	diethyl ether	mannitol/KOH	но, он	94 ^c	12
	diethyl ether diethyl ether	H ₂ S Na ₂ SO ₃	ОН	14 76	93 72
Meo	tetrahydrofuran, 48 h	H₂S	HO	90	94
	benzene, 1 week	mannitol/KOH	OH OH		95
	benzene, 2 days	mannitol/KOH	HO HO		95
	benzene, 2 days	mannitol/KOH	OH OH		96 95
	benzene, 2 days	mannitol/KOH	ОН		95
	benzene, 1 week	mannitol/KOH	ОН		95
	benzene, 2 days	mannitol/KOH	ОН		95

TABLE II (Continued)

substrate	solvent, time ^a	hydrolysis method	product	yield, %	ref
	benzene, 2 days	mannitol/KOH			96
	benzene, 1 month	mannitol/KOH	HO HO	d 42 ^d	97 98
	pyridine pyridine, 8 days	NaHSO, NaHSO,	HO OH	52	99 100
	benzene, 7 days	Na ₂ SO ₃	HO OH	79 (100) ^b	101
	benzene, 1 week	Na ₂ SO ₃	HOJOH	94 (100) ^b	101
	diethyl ether, 1.5 h, 0 °C	КОН	ОН	41 (100) ^b	101
	diethyl ether	Na ₂ SO ₃	OH OH		101
SMe CN OMe	pyridine, 21 h	NaHSO ₃	HO S SMe CN CM OMe	65	102
S SMe	pyridine, 18 h	NaHSO ₃	HO S SMe	71	102
MeO ₂ c CO ₂ Me	pyridine, 71 h	NaHSO ₃	O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O		103
	benzene, 3 days	mannitol/KOH Na ₂ SO ₃		77 ^c	104 104
CO ₂ Me	diethyl ether, 15 h		HÓ ÓH OH CO ₂ Me	62	105
\	diethyl ether, 3 weeks	mannitol/KOH	HOOH	9	106
OBz OBz	benzene, 1 week	H ₂ S	BzO OBz HO OH	31	107

TABLE II (Continued)

substrate		nydrolysis method	product	yield, %	ref
BzO OBz	benzene, 3 days	H ₂ S	BzO OBz	65	107
AcO,OBz	benzene, 24 h	H ₂ S	HO'OH OBZ AcO OBZ	49	107
но	benzene, 3 days	H ₂ S	но он	35	107
			но он	17	
\Rightarrow	pyridine		но		108
	diethyl ether, 24 h	Na ₂ SO ₃	ОН	38 (93) ^b	109
	diethyl ether, 24 h	Na ₂ SO ₃	ОН	36 (93) ^b 64	109 110
1	pyridine	NaHSO ₃	ОН		111
	diethyl ether	mannitol/KOH	OH OH	30	112
	diethyl ether, 5 days, room temp	mannitol/KOH	3-tert-butyl-3-hydroxyoxindol		113
Fe(CO)3	pyridine, 23 h	Na ₂ SO ₃	Fe(CO) ₃ OH	10	114
	dioxane, 24 h pyridine, 15 h	H ₂ S NaHSO ₃	OH OH	87 9 6	115 115
	pyridine, 15 h	NaHSO ₃	OH OH	92	115
OMe H	pyridine, 20 h	NaHSO ₃	OME H OH OH	93	116
MeO — H		NaHSO ₃	MeO OH OH	73	116
H NC OAc		Na ₂ SO ₃	OAC OH		117 118
OMe	pyridine	NaHSO ₃	OMe	54	119

substrate	solvent, time ^a	hydrolysis method	product	yield, %	ref
CN	pyridine	NaHSO ₃		43	119
r-BuO CN	pyridine	NaHSO ₃	он	67	119
MeO CN	pyridine	NaHSO₃	7-Bu0 OH	69	119
NC NC	pyridine	NaHSO ₃	, oh	34	119
MeC	pyridine	NaHSO ₃	THO H	69	119
MeO CN	pyridine	NaHSO ₃	MeO OH	66	119
7-Bu0	pyridine	NaHSO ₃	7-Bu0	10	119
Aco	pyridine	NaHSO ₃	Aco	52	119
Aco H CN	pyridine	NaHSO ₃	Aco H O O	19	119
Aco	pyridine	NaHSO ₃	Aco OH	19	119
CN CN	pyridine	NaHSO₃	аво С ,	26	119
CN	pyridine	NaHSO ₃	ОН	2	119

TABLE II (Continued)

substrate	solvent, time ^a	hydrolysis method	product	yield, %	ref
NC CH ₂ OAc		Na ₂ SO ₃	0 OAc	46 ^e	120
° CN	benzene, 12 h	Na ₂ SO ₃	о о о о о о о о о о о о о о о о о о о	53	121
Aco. CN	benzene, 12 h	Na ₂ SO ₃	но он	83	121
OAc	benzene, 12 h	Na ₂ SO ₃	ОАС О О О О О О О О О О О О О О О О О О О	45	121
Aco. OAc	benzene, 12 h	Na ₂ SO ₃	AcO OAc	60	121
	pyridine, 5 days	H ₂ S	HOLING	70	122
но	diethyl ether, 24 h	mannitol/KOH	он он	59	123
	dioxane, 18 h	NaHSO ₃	HO OH OH	67	124
	pyridine	H₂S	HO OH	31	125
OAC O OH	pyridine	H ₂ S	OAC OHOOHOOH	23	125
	pyridine	H ₂ S	HO HO O	55	125
HO	pyridine	H ₂ S	O HO OH	23	125

TABLE II (Continued)					
substrate	solvent, time ^a	hydrolysis method	product	yield, %	ref
			o HO OH	2	
			HO.	1	
Aco	pyridine, 3 days	H ₂ S	AcO. OH OH	35	125
			Aco.	5	
OH OH	pyridine, 5 days	H₂S	OH OH	36	125
OH	pyridine, 3 days	H ₂ S	OH OH	25	125
HO	pyridine, 2 h	NaHSO ₃	HO HO OH	86	126
о	pyridine, 20 h	NaHSO ₃	HO OH	72	126
AcO OAC OH OH OH	pyridine, 1 day	NaHSO ₃	AcO OAC HO OH	81	126
OAC	benzene		OAC OH OAC OH OH		127
	cyclopentane	NaHSO₃	HO OH	90	91

^a Solvent and time used for the preparation of osmium(VI) ester complexes. ^b Yield of osmium(VI) ester complex in parentheses. ^c Yield of cis-diol from the corresponding osmium(VI) complex. ^d Originally formulated as trans-diol product. ^e Additional oxidation by chromium trioxide.

TABLE III. Catalytic Cis Hydroxylation of Alkenes with Osmium Tetraoxide and Hydrogen Peroxide

substrate	solvent, time	product	yield, %	ref
соон	<i>t</i> -BuOH, 12 h, 0 °C	Р	56	9
соон	<i>t</i> -BuOH, 12 h, 0 °C	но он	54	9
ноос соон	t-BuOH, 12 h, RT ^a	но он	30	9
соон	t-BuOH, 2 days, 0 °C	но он	48	9
ноос́ =	t-BuOH, 2 days, RT	но рн но рн	88, 93, 97	10
/	<i>t</i> -BuOH, 9 h, RT	но он	68	10
CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₁₃	t-BuOH, 1 h, RT	НООН	77, 82	10
Ph	t-BuOH, 2 days, 0 °C	iCH ₂) _{tS} CH ₃ Ph	50	10
	t-BuOH, 3 days, 0 °C	но он	26, 29, 30	10
\Rightarrow	<i>t</i> -BuOH, 12 h, 0 °C		38	9, 10
	t-BuOH, 24 h, RT	но он	38	9
/ - \	t-BuOH, 2 days, 0 °C	но он	40 36	10 10
/ 🗸 🗸		но он		
	<i>t</i> -BuOH, 12 h, 0 °C	ОН	58	10
	<i>t</i> -BuOH, 12 h, 0 °C	OH OH	45	10
	t-BuOH, 12 h, 10-15 °C	OH OH	35	10
\checkmark	t-BuOH, 3 days, 0 °C	OH OH	45,51	10
OE†	t-BuOH, 3 days, 0 °C	HO OF	56	68
E100CC00E1	t-BuOH, 4 days, 0 °C, then 2 days, RT	E+00C COOE+	41	68
E1000	t-BuOH, 4 days, 0 °C, then 1 day, RT	HÓ OH E100C COOE1	58	68
COOE+	t-BuOH, 2 days, 0 °C	HO OH	23	68
	t-BuOH, 5 days, 0 °C	ho h	60	68
=^=	t-BuOH	Å	96	68
Br	t-BuOH, 24 days, 5-10 °C	HO H	13	68
CH3(CH2)7 (CH2)7COOH	<i>t</i> -BuOH, 12 h, 0 °C	СН ₃ (СН ₂) ₇ (СН ₂) ₇ СООН НО ОН	60	68

substrate	solvent, time	product	yield, %	ref
CH ² OH	t-BuOH, 4 days, 0 °C	Ph CH₂OH	13	68
Ph	t-BuOH, 3 days, 0 °C	но он	31, 21 26	71 168
	t-BuOH, 3 days, 0 °C	но	61	71
	t-BuOH, 9 days, RT	HO OH	35	124
OH OH	t-BuOH, 6 days, RT		44	124
ососн ₃	acetone/t-BuOH, several days, RT	OH OCCH3	23	159 10
	several days	OH OH COOH		
	9 months	он он		
	acetone/t-BuOH, 18 days	H6 DH		159
	acetone/t-BuOH, 26 days		2	159
		ОН	1	
	acetone/t-BuOH, 3 weeks			159
	acetone/t-BuOH, 4 months		58	159
	acetone/t-BuOH			159
	acetone/t-BuOH, 3–4 days	OH OH	14	159

TABLE III (Continued)

substrate	solvent, time	product	yield, %	ref
			21	
	acetone/t-BuOH, 3-4 days, 70 °C		29	159
	acetone/t-BuOH, 1 year			159
	acetone/t-BuOH, 5 days, RT		7	169
	t-BuOH/water/acetone	HO CO ₂ H		170
$R = H$ $R = CH_3$ $R = Br$ $R = CH_3CO$	24 h, 30 °C, then 4 h, 0 °C 24 h, 30 °C 24 h, 30 °C, then 48 h, RT 24 h, 30 °C		50 31 67 54	
	<i>t</i> -BuOH, 42 h, 0–5 °C	ОН	11	171
	t-BuOH, 2 days, 0 °C	ноос	4 39	172
CO ₂ Me	diethyl ether/benzene, 37 h, RT	HO	48	173
$R = C_8 H_{17}$ $R = CH_3 CO$ $R = OCOCH_3$	t-BuOH, 24 h, RT diethyl ether, 15 h, 20 °C diethyl ether, 24 h, RT diethyl ether, 24 h, RT t-BuOH, 24 h, RT diethyl ether, 24 h, RT	OAC OAC OAC	64 60 51 30 70 77	124 174 175 174 124 174
OAC OAC	t-BuOH, 72 h, RT	OAC OOH	48	177
o H	t-BuOH, 146 h, RT	Br OH		177

TABLE III (Continued)

substrate	solvent, time	product	yield, %	ref
	diethyl ether, 12 h, RT	0 HO		174
HO OMe OH	t-BuOH	HO OH OME		178
	water/dioxane, 4 h, 25 °C	0H OH	66	179
ОН	water, 1.5 h t-BuOH, 3 h t-BuOH, 2 days, RT; 1 h, RT; 2 h, 70 °C	но он	67 60 68, 100, 56	54 9 180
	water, 50 °C	но он	100	181

a RT = room temperature.

under normal conditions negligible oxidation of alkenes occurs. On the addition of osmium tetraoxide, however, vigorous reaction takes place with reduction and subsequent reoxidation of osmium until all the peroxide is consumed. Milas and others have studied the mechanism of the catalytic process. On addition of osmium tetraoxide to hydrogen peroxide, the formation of a complex, 161,162 formulated as peroxyosmic acid, H₂OsO₆ (32), 163-166 takes place; this rapidly reacts with alkenes to form ester species. Hydrolysis is thought to occur via cleavage of the osmium(VIII) ester complex 34 to give osmium tetraoxide and the corresponding cis-diol. 166

$$\| + \bigcup_{OH}^{OH} \bigcup_{OH}^{OS} - \bigcup_{OH}^{OH} \bigcup_{OH}^{OS} - \bigcup_{OH}^{OH} \bigcup_{OH}^{OH}$$

The main disadvantage of this catalytic method is that overoxidation to give carbonyl products often occurs, thus lowering the final yield of cis-diol. Although cis-diols are slowly cleaved by hydrogen peroxide, the formation of carbonyl compounds occurs at too fast a rate for diols to be considered as intermediates in the formation of aldehydes and ketones. Milas and co-workers 166 have proposed that hydrogen peroxide attack of the osmium(VIII) ester complex 34 occurs, leading to carboncarbon cleavage of the ester species 35.

The incorporation of two alkene moieties per osmium atom has also been noted during the catalytic process, and this can be directly explained by the formation of analogous diester complexes 5 as discussed in section II. Potassium osmate (7)54 and osmium trichloride 167 have been also used with hydrogen peroxide as cis-hydroxylating agents. These reagents behave as nonvolatile sources of osmium tetraoxide, the tetraoxide being generated in situ by hydrogen peroxide oxidation. Table III gives data on substrates oxidized catalytically by osmium tetraoxide and hydrogen peroxide.

B. With Metal Chlorates

Hofmann⁷ showed in 1912 that osmium dioxide could be readily oxidized to osmium tetraoxide by treatment with aqueous sodium or potassium chlorate. It was later observed that potassium chlorate in the presence of a catalytic amount of tetraoxide could oxidize a series of alkenes, ethylene, propylene, amylene, indene, pinene, and dichloroethylene, to give the corresponding *cis*-diols. ^{7,8,182} These oxidations presumably occurred via the formation of an osmium(VI) ester complex which could be hydrolyzed by chlorate ion to regenerate osmium tetraoxide, analogous to that found for Milas' reagent. It has been noted, however, that the oxidation potential of potassium chlorate is raised by the addition of a trace of osmium tetraoxide, and the formation of an addition product has been proposed. Alternatively, the formation of free hypochlorous acid which could act as a source of hydroxyl radicals has also been thought to occur. 183 This would explain the appreciable amounts of chloro hydroxy products formed when osmium tetraoxide is used in conjunction with sodium or potassium chlorate. Thus crotonic acid can be oxidized to chlorohydroxycrotonic acid by using osmium tetraoxide catalytically in the presence of barium

TABLE IV. Catalytic Cis Hydroxylation of Alkenes with Osmium Tetraoxide and Metal Chlorates

substrate	conditions	product	yield, %	ref
ОН	NaClO ₃ , water, 50 °C	он но. I он	74	8
соон	NaClO ₃ , water, 6-10 h, 40 °C NaClO ₃ /KClO ₃ , water, 10-14 h, 40-50 °C	ноос соон	41 90 - 100	8 196
соон	NaClO ₃ , water NaClO ₃ , water, 7-10 h, 40-50 °C	HOOC COOH	98	8 196 136
о оснз	KClO ₃ , THF/water, 18 h, 45-50 °C	HO OH	100	210
	NaClO ₃ , acetic acid, water, t-BuOH, dioxane, 72 h, 80 °C	о он	30	171
OAc	KClO ₃ , diethyl ether, 7 days	OAc OAc OH	14ª	177
	NaClO ₃ , water, 11 h, 50-55 °C KClO ₃ , water, 9 h, 50 °C NaClO ₃ , water, 9 h, 50 °C		76 46	54 182 197
СООН	AgClO ₃ , water, 2 weeks, 0 °C-RT ^e AgClO ₃ , water, 3 weeks, RT	ОН	38, ⁶ 83 66, 70	184 198
_соон	KClO ₃ , water, 8 h, 50 °C AgClO ₃ , water, 4 weeks, 0 °C	о н	17 83	198, 199, 211 184
	Agolog, water, 4 weeks, 0°C	СООН	63	104
СООН	AgClO ₃ , water, 0 °C	ОН	80	185
соон	AgClO ₃ , water, 0 °C	он он соон	86	185
CO2Me	NaClO ₃ , water, RT	OH CO ₂ Me	84-88	186
	AgClO3, several days, water	Aro ₂ c OH OH OH OH OH	14	190¢
он он н		H		
OHH H	AgClO ₃ , water	н н н он он он		190 191
он н онон	AgClO ₃ , water	H H OH H H H OH OH OH OH OH OH OH H H OH OH	8	190
1		H H OH OH H H OH OH OH OH OH H H	11	
OAc OAc	AgClO ₃ , water	AcO OH		190
ÓAc OH	AgClO ₃ , water, 2-3 days	ÓAc OH OH	70	200

TABLE IV (Continued)

substrate	conditions	product	yield, %	ref
h ococh3	Ba(ClO ₃) ₂ , water, 5h	HO. H OCOCH3		
		no.		
H COOCH3		O R COOCH ₃		
$= CH_3$ = CH_2CH_3		COOCH3	93 93	201 201
$= OCH_3$			65	201
осн3	NaClO ₄ , 22 h, tetrahydrofuran,	óн óн │ och³	88	195
	water	Ц		
) 	NaClO ₃ , 54 h, RT, aqueous	0	50	203
\searrow	1 N HCl	ОН		
		ОН		
)	NaClO ₃ , 60 h, RT, aqueous	о он	10	204
	2 N HCl	OH O	10	204
_		он он		
V	NaClO ₃ , 110 h, 50 °C, aqueous 1 N HCl	но он	49	205
		ноос соон		
romucic acid	NaClO ₃ , water, 60 h, 50 °C	но он		205
		-000 Ca2+ COO-		
		coo- ca ²⁺		205
,соон	Ba(ClO ₃) ₂ , water, 32 h	соо- он	78	206
	Ba(ClO ₃) ₂ , water	СООН	75	207
		 ОН		
СООН	Ba(ClO ₃) ₂ , water, 24 h	OH Br√	70	208a
-		ОН		
,COOCH3	KClO ₃ , water	<000CH ₃	35	209
A ,		но Соон		
соон		но		
V	KClO ₃ , 63 h, 30 °C,	но он	10	210
0 0 0 CH₃	tetrahydrofuran, water			
2001		CH3O TOCH3		
СООН	NaClO ₃ , water, 10 h, 80 °C	рь соон	50	211
		он		
(CH ₂) ₇ (CH ₂) ₇ COOH	NaClO ₃ , water, 66 h, 100 °C	но он	31	211
		СH ₃ (СH ₂) ₇ (СH ₂) ₇ СООН		
(CH ₂) ₇ COOH	NaClO ₃ , water, 100 h, 100 °C	но он		211
(CH ₂) ₇		CH3(CH2)7 (CH2)7COOH		
DCH3	NaClO3, water, tetrahydrofuran	ocH₃ I o	97 ^d	212
OCH ₂ Ph		OCH ₂ Ph OCH ₃		
DC H	NaClO ₃ , water, 20 h	н ононн	38	213
н		нооссоон		
н соон		онн н он		

TABLE IV (Continued)

substrate	conditions	product	yield, %	ref
<u> </u>	NaClO ₃ , tetrahydrofuran, water	OH OH	75	214
	KClO ₃ , tetrahydrofuran, water, 5 h, 50 °C	л пон он о	69	215
Aco	KClO ₃ , diethyl ether, 3 days	AcO OH OH	а	216
СООН	Ba(ClO_3) ₂ , water, 3 days, <35 °C	HO	35	207
	NaClO ₃ , 4 h, diethyl ether/dioxane/water	OH	50	2086
	Ba(ClO ₃) ₂ , tetrahydrofuran/ water 10 °C	X° L	65	187

^a Intermediate osmium(VI) ester complex oxidatively hydrolyzed with potassium chlorate. ^b Catalytically oxidized with barium chlorate. ^c See ref 191-193. ^d cis-Diol product oxidized with sodium periodate. ^e RT = room temperature.

chlorate. ¹⁸⁴ As a result, Braun ^{184,185} suggested the use of silver chlorate as an alternative source of chlorate ion. In this case, any hypochlorous acid formed is removed from solution in the form of the insoluble silver salt. In general, silver (and barium) chlorate gives better yields of *cis*-diol products and are more easily removed from solution than the corresponding sodium or potassium salts.

Some mechanistic studies have been carried out on the oxidation of fumaric and maleic acids. The reactions were found to be first order with respect to acid concentration and zero order with respect to water and chlorate ion concentrations, the chlorate being reduced to chloride. The rate-determining step was thought to be that of ester formation, in agreement with Behrman's studies 4-36 on noncatalytic cis hydroxylation of alkenes. The rates of oxidation of fumaric and maleic acids were also found to be pH dependent. Thus, the free carboxylic acids were more efficiently oxidized than the corresponding carboxylates, suggesting some form of acid catalysis. 136

The osmium tetraoxide/sodium chlorate catalytic reagent (Hofmann's reagent) is widely used as a cis-hydroxylating agent in spite of the disadvantage of formation of chloro hydroxy products. Trost and co-workers¹⁸⁶ have used the reagent in an enantioconvergent synthesis of prostanoids. This involves oxidation of **36** from the less hindered side to give **37** in 84–88% yield.

More recently Grieco and co-workers¹⁸⁷ in théir total synthesis of the Prelog-Djerassi lactone used osmium tetraoxide in con-

junction with barium chlorate to oxidize **38** to the corresponding *cis*-diol, isolated as its protected cyclic diether **39** in 65% yield.

The epoxidation of propylene to propylene oxide using Hofmann's reagent has been reported; the epoxide oxygen has been shown to originate from the chlorate. ¹⁸⁸ The oxidation of (β -oxoalkylene)phosphoranes (40) with osmium tetraoxide and

$$Ph_{3}P \xrightarrow{R'} Ph_{3}P \xrightarrow{R^{1}} O^{-} \rightarrow R^{1}COCOR^{2}$$

$$40 \qquad O \xrightarrow{O} O = O$$

$$41$$

barium chlorate yields the corresponding α -diketones. ¹⁸⁹ This reaction is thought to proceed via formation of an osmium(VI) ester complex (41) which on hydrolysis yields the corresponding dione together with triphenylphosphine which is oxidized to the oxide by osmium tetraoxide. ¹⁸⁹

The use of Hofmann's reagent in the synthesis of polyalcohols, particularly in carbohydrate chemistry, has been of great success. 190-194 Sodium perchlorate has also been used as a secondary oxidant with osmlum tetraoxide. 195 The catalytic oxidation of alkenes by osmium tetraoxide with hypochlorite is

TABLE V. Catalytic Cis Hydroxylation of Alkenes with Osmium Tetraoxide and tert-Butyl Hydroperoxide

substrate	conditions	product	yield, %	ref
\\\\	t-BuOH/Et ₄ NOH	ОН	73	157
\\\\	t-BuOH/Et ₄ NOH	OH	73	157
	acetone/Et ₄ NOAc	OH	81, 78, 74	158
~~~	t-BuOH/Et₄NOH	он он	61	157
CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₇ (CH ₂) ₇ COOH	t-BuOH/Et ₄ NOH	о́н но он сн ₃ (сн ₂) ₇ соон	70	157
СН ₃ (СН ₂) ₇ (СН ₂) ₇ СН ₂ ОН	<i>t</i> -BuOH/Et₄NOH	но он	51	157
\bigcirc	t-BuOH/Et ₄ NOH acetone/Et ₄ NOH	сн ₃ (сн ₂) ₇ (сн ₂) ₇ сн ₂ он Он	62 52, 45, 51	157 158
<u> </u>	t-BuOH/Et ₄ NOH	Рһ	71	157
\/	t-BuOH/Et₄NOH	он	63	157
>	t-BuOH/Et ₄ NOH	óн он но	67	157
<u></u>	t-BuOH/Et₄NOH	HO	72	157
	t-BuOH/Et ₄ NOH acetone/Et ₄ NOAc	но	69 0	157 158
COOE+	acetone/Et ₄ NOAc	HO COOEt	71, 72, 58	158
CH ₂ OAc	acetone/Et ₄ NOAc	HO COULY CH2OAc	83	158
***		он		217
		formaldehyde		
		\		
ОН		но он		219
		но Д		219

discussed in section III.G. Table IV gives data on oxidations using metal chlorates and osmium tetraoxide.

C. With tert-Butyl Hydroperoxide

Although the catalytic use of osmium tetraoxide with metal chlorates or hydrogen peroxide is generally successful, these methods have the disadvantages that overoxidation may occur, leading to high yields of ketols and other aldehydic products. In addition, tri- and tetrasubstituted alkenes are often difficult to oxidize since their corresponding osmium(VI) ester complexes are inert toward oxidative hydrolysis. ^{157,158} This has led to the search for more efficient catalytic cis-hydroxylating methods; the development of *tert*-butyl hydroperoxide and *N*-methylmorpholine *N*-oxide (see section III.D) as secondary oxidants

for osmium tetraoxide oxidation have been the most successful in this respect.

Byers and Hickinbottom²¹⁷ were the first to use osmium tetraoxide catalytically in the presence of *tert*-butyl hydroper-oxide; oxidation of 2,4,4-trimethylpent-1-ene yielded 2,4,4-trimethylpentane-1,2-diol together with formaldehyde and 2,2-dimethylpentan-4-one. No yields were reported. Later, McCasland and co-workers²¹⁸ reported the cis hydroxylation of alkenes using *tert*-butyl hydroperoxide and osmium tetraoxide; however, these latter workers actually used hydrogen peroxide in *tert*-butyl alcohol (i.e., Milas' reagent) for their oxidations. Sharpless and co-workers have developed a catalytic reagent involving osmium tetraoxide and *tert*-butyl hydroperoxide in the presence of tetraethylammonium hydroxide¹⁵⁷ or tetraethylammonium acetate¹⁵⁸ in *tert*-butyl alcohol or acetone, re-

TABLE VI. Catalytic Cis Hydroxylation of Alkenes with Osmium Tetraoxide and N-Methylmorpholine N-Oxide

substrate	conditions	product	yield, %	ref
	aqueous acetone/t-BuOH	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	95	214
Ph	aqueous acetone/t-BuOH	O OH Ph	95	214
	aqueous acetone/t-BuOH	ОН	91	214
	aqueous acetone/t-BuOH	ОН	79	214
	aqueous acetone/t-BuOH	ОН	31	214
МеО ₂ С	aqueous acetone/t-BuOH	Me C ₂ C HO HO COOH	55	214
	aqueous acetone/t-BuOH	ОН	25	214
HO	10:3:1 t-BuOH/ tetrahydrofuran/water	0Ac	78	214
1 HPO 0	1:2.5 water/ acetone, 80 h, 23 °C	HO HO THPO	89	222
MeO ₂ C		MeO ₂ C OH		223

spectively. The reactions were suppressed by the addition of excess sodium bisulfite to precipitate lower forms of osmium. A recent patent also reports the use of osmium tetraoxide with tert-butyl hydroperoxide.²¹⁹ The results obtained with this catalytic reagent are listed in Table V.

In general, the use of tetraethylammonium acetate in acetone was found to give better results than tetraethylammonium hydroxide in tert-butyl alcohol, particularly for the oxidation of base-sensitive alkenes. 158 In both cases, however, better yields of cis-diol products were obtained than with Milas' or Hofmann's reagent, the yield of aldehydic products being much reduced. However, the problem of hydroxylation of tri- and particularly tetrasubstituted alkenes still remains. Addition of hindered alkenes such as cholesterol to hydroxylation reaction mixtures inhibited further oxidation, presumably by trapping the osmium as a nonhydrolyzable osmium(VI) ester. The catalytic cis hydroxylation of 2,3-dimethyl-2-octene with tert-butyl hydroperoxide gave no cis-diol product. 158 The problem of hindered and tetrasubstituted alkenes notwithstanding, the use of tert-butyl hydroperoxide is probably the most efficient catalytic procedure available.

D. With N-Methylmorpholine N-Oxide

The use of amine N-oxides such as N-methylmorpholine N-oxide as secondary oxidants for the catalytic cis hydroxylation of alkenes has, like *tert*-butyl hydroperoxide catalyst, the ad-

vantage that yields of *cis-*diols are substantially higher than those obtained with hydrogen peroxide or metal chlorate reagents.²¹⁴

Triethylamine *N*-oxide has been used in conjunction with osmium tetraoxide for the oxidation of pregnadiene steroids. ²²⁰ More recently, the use of *N*-methylmorpholine *N*-oxide has been reported ^{214,221} as an efficient secondary oxidant for cishydroxylation reactions. The catalytic reagent is prepared in a water-acetone-*tert*-butyl alcohol solvent system, the *N*-oxide being readily prepared by treatment of *N*-methylmorpholine with hydrogen peroxide. ²¹⁴ Workup involves reduction by sodium bisulfite and extraction with ethyl acetate. ²¹⁴ Good yields of the corresponding *cis*-diols are obtained. Table VI gives data on the oxidation of substrates by osmium tetraoxide and *N*-methylmorpholine *N*-oxide.

Corey and co-workers²²² have used osmium tetraoxide catalytically with *N*-methylmorpholine *N*-oxide in their synthesis of gibberillic acid, **42** being successfully oxidized to **43** in 89% yield. Likewise, Danishefsky and co-workers²²³ in their synthesis

of di-pentalenolacetone oxidized 44 to 45. Attack in both cases

substrate	conditions	product	yield, %	ref
			10, 23	169
			13, 24	
OCH3	tetrahydrofuran/water	OCH ₃	97ª	212
OCH ₂ Ph	3:1 tetrahydrofuran/water, 2 h, 0-23 °C	OCH ₂ Ph	74	222
OCH ₃	dioxane/water	OMem OCH ₃	86	224
**************************************	dioxane/water		00	224
CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₇	dioxane/water, 25 °C	O СН ₃ (СН ₂) ₇	68	227
Ph Ph	dioxane/water	Ph O	85	227
	diethyl ether/water	0////0	77	227
$\tilde{\bigcirc}$	diethyl ether/water	0///	76	227
	acetone/water	Aco	86	228
AcO Ph	dioxane/water, 25 °C	, —°		229

^a Initial oxidation with osmium tetraoxide/potassium chlorate.

occurred predominantly from the less-hindered side of the substrate.

The catalytic reagent, however, like *tert*-butyl hydroperoxide, is not very efficient for the cis hydroxylation of tetrasubstituted alkenes. Sharpless¹⁵⁸ has reported that the *N*-methylmorpholine *N*-oxide reagent failed to oxidize 2,3-dimethyl-2-octene. In addition, the greater cost of *N*-methylmorpholine *N*-oxide as compared with *tert*-butyl hydroperoxide makes the latter more economical, particularly with respect to large-scale oxidations. The most efficient method of cis hydroxylating a hindered or tetrasubstituted alkene is therefore Criegee's using osmium

tetraoxide quantitatively with pyridine followed by reductive hydrolysis.

E. With Sodium Periodate

The oxidation of vicinal *cis*-diols by sodium periodate is well-known to give dialdehydic products. As a result, the catalytic oxidation of alkenes by osmium tetraoxide in the presence of sodium periodate gives exclusively aldehydes or ketones as the major products in direct contrast to the reagents discussed previously. The oxidations can be carried out in a variety of solvent systems although water is required to obtain solubility of sodium periodate. The *cis*-diol products formed initially by osmium tetraoxide oxidation are effectively cleaved to higher oxidation products. Thus oxidation of **46** gives **47** in 97% yield. The osmium tetraoxide/periodate reagent has also recently been used in McMurry's synthesis of aphidicolin, ²²⁴ synthetically replacing an alkene moiety in **48** with a ketone in **49** in a reported 86% yield.

An important side reaction that can occur with this catalytic reagent is the oxidation of alcohols. Thus aromatic alcohols such as phenol can be oxidized to aldehydic and acidic products. ^{225,226} This means that oxidations of alkenes using this method have to be carried out with protected alcohol functions. Table VII gives data on oxidations of alkenes by osmium tetraoxide and sodium periodate.

F. With Oxygen

Willstätter and Sonnenfeld²³⁰ have shown that metallic osmium can act as an oxidizing agent for alkenes in the presence of oxygen. The facile oxidation of osmium (0) to osmium(VIII) is well-known,⁶⁴ and it is reasonable to assume that the formation of osmium tetraoxide from osmium metal and oxygen occurred in the above experiments. Périchon and co-workers²³¹ have reported that air oxidation of osmium(VI) to osmium(VIII) in aqueous solution is possible. They found that the oxidation was highly pH dependent, being rapid at pH 11 but appreciably lower at pH's above 12.5 and below 8, disproportionation occurring below pH 8.

These observations led Cairns and Roberts¹⁵¹ to investigate the oxidation of alkenes in buffered (trisodium phosphate and disodium hydrogen phosphate) alkaline solution at 80 °C with osmium tetraoxide and oxygen. Their results are listed in Table VIII. The rate of oxidation was slow at 25 °C but increased to a maximum at 80 °C. Under these conditions, however, oxidation of *cis*-diols also occurred; thus oxalic acid was obtained as the major product in many of the oxidations, together with carbon dioxide. At pH 8.5–9.5 at 50 °C, ethylene can be oxidized to ethylene glycol; however, under the same conditions oct-1-ene yields formic and heptanoic acids.²³² If the pH is increased above 9.5, the yield of diol decreases.²³² The catalytic use of osmium tetraoxide in the presence of oxygen, therefore, is highly pH and temperature dependent, yields of *cis*-diols often being low or nonexistent.

G. With Sodium Hypochlorite

The use of sodium hypochlorite as a secondary oxidant for osmium tetraoxide cis hydroxylations is a more recent development and is presumably linked to the observation that hypochlorous acid is formed in the reaction between osmium tetraoxide and metal chlorates. In the latter reactions the formation of hypochlorous acid from chlorate ion led to the formation of appreciable amounts of chlorinated products. A recent patent, however, describes the successful cis hydroxylation of allyl alcohol to glycerol in 98% yield, using osmium tetraoxide in the presence of sodium hypochlorite. Propene, 1-octene, cyclohexene, cyclooctene, 1-decene, 3-chloroprene, acrylamide, acrylic acid, and methyl acrylate were also successfully oxidized. The oxidations of potassium oleate and

TABLE VIII. Catalytic Oxidation of Substrates with Osmium Tetraoxide and Oxygen

• • •				
substrate	pН	temp, °C	product	ref
— ОН	12.3	80	oxalic acid	151
OH OH	12.3	80	oxalic acid	151
\он				
	12.3	80	oxalic acid + CO ₂	151
но он	12.3	80	oxalic acid + CO ₂	151
	12.3	80	oxalic acid + CO ₂	151
	12.3	80	oxalic acid + CO ₂	151
Ph	12.3	80	benzoic acid	151
<u></u>	12.3	80	oxalic acid + CO ₂	151
	12.3	80	oxalic acid + CO ₂	151
	12.3	80	oxalic acid	151
formic acid acetic acid sucrose glucose	12.3 12.3 12.3 12.3	80 80 80 80	CO ₂ no reaction oxalic acid oxalic acid + CO ₂	151 151 151 151

sodium 10-undecenoate to give *erythro*-9,10-dihydroxystearic acid and 10,11-dihydroxyundecanoic acid in 95% and 50-60% yields, respectively,²³⁴ have been described. Terminal alkenes, however, were found to be overoxidized by the catalytic reagent, leading to C-C bond cleavage.²³⁴

Osmium tetraoxide can be used catalytically with aqueous nitric acid, ²³⁵ alkenes being oxidized to the corresponding acid derivatives; thus cyclohexene yields adipic acid in 88 % yield. In addition, the oxidations of *cis*-diols, ²³⁶-238 phosphites, ²³⁹ and amino acids^{240,241} by osmium tetraoxide and alkaline hexacyanoferrate(III) have been reported. Dimethyl sulfoxide²⁴² and benzaldehyde²⁴³ can be oxidized by osmium tetraoxide in the presence of chloramine-T; the formation of an osmium tetraoxide/chloramine-T complex was proposed in the latter work.

IV. Hydroxylation of Alkynes

Although the cis hydroxylation of alkenes by osmium tetraoxide is well-established, relatively little work has been carried out on the interaction of osmium tetraoxide with alkynes. The reduction of osmium tetraoxide by acetylene gas has been used for the quantitative determination of osmium metal;6 Criegee reported the oxidation of acetylene to give glyoxalic acid. 11 More recent studies72 have reported the isolation of osmium(VI) ester complexes [Os2O4(O4C2RR')L4] derived from alkyne R'C2R and tertiary amine L (L ≈ isoquinoline or pyridine). These products were prepared in diethyl ether by reaction of the alkyne with osmium tetraoxide in the presence of excess tertiary amine or by reaction with the osmium(VIII) adducts OsO₄·L.⁷² The infrared spectra of the complexes show bands near 840 cm⁻¹ which were assigned to the asymmetric stretching vibration of the trans-dioxo moiety, $v^{as}(OsO_2)$; bands in the Raman spectrum near 880 cm⁻¹ were assigned to the symmetric stretching vibration, $v^s(OsO_2)$. On this basis, the complexes were formulated as tetrolatoosmyl ester complexes 50.72

50

TABLE IV Ovidation of Alkynes with Osmium Tetraovide

TABLE IX.		Alkynes with Osmium				
	substrate	hydrolysis method	solvent ^a	product	yield, %	ref
	H 	KClO ₃ ^b	water/diethyl ether	ОН	48	244
	Et———OMe	KClO ₃ ^b	water/diethyl ether	Et OMe	69	244
	√-Pr OMe	KClO ₃ ^b	water/diethyl ether	/-Pr OMe	80	244
	он	KClO ₃ ^b	water/diethyl ether	O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	85	244
	Ph———Ph	$Na_2SO_3^c$	water/diethyl ether		65	72
		KClO ₃ ^b	water/acetone/t-BuOH	Ph	79	245,72
		$NMO^{b,d}$	water/acetone/t-BuOH		74	245
		TBHP ^{b,e}	water/acetone/t-BuOH		78	245
	Ph-==-H	$Na_2SO_3^c$	water/diethyl ether		57	72
		$KClO_3^b$	water/acetone/t-BuOH	PhOH	72	245
		$NMO^{b,d}$	water/acetone/t-BuOH		82	245
		$TBHP^{b,e}$	water/acetone/t-BuOH		71	245
	Ph-Me	$Na_2SO_3^c$	water/diethyl ether	O L Me	54	72
		KClO ₃ ^b	water/acetone/t-BuOH	Ph	59	245
		$TBHP^{b,e}$	water/acetone/t-BuOH		62	245

^a Solvent in which hydrolysis is carried out. ^b Catalytic oxidation. ^c Stoichiometric oxidation. ^d N-Methylmorpholine N-oxide. ^e tert-Butyl hydroperoxide.

The corresponding ester complexes, [OsO₂(O₂C₂RR')L₂] (51), involving one osmium per alkyne moiety have not been isolated in the solid state, although such species have been proposed to exist in solution.244

The adduct OsO₄·L (L = quinuclidine) reacts with alkynes to give, in solution, the corresponding five-coordinate osmium(VI) complexes, [Os₂O₄(O₄C₂RR')L₂] 52.67 These complexes are

polymeric in the solid state, involving asymmetric oxo bridges as described for the complexes 14.67 The vibrational spectra of these complexes are also analogous. 67 Hydrolysis of the complexes 50 with sodium sulfite yields the corresponding α ,- β -diketones from nonterminal alkynes and the corresponding carboxylic acids from terminal alkynes.72 Similar products are obtained from the catalytic oxidation of alkynes by osmium tetraoxide in the presence of potassium chlorate, ^{244,245} *tert*-butyl hydroperoxide, ²⁴⁵ *N*-methylmorpholine *N*-oxide, ²⁴⁵ or hydrogen peroxide²⁴⁶ (see Table IX). These oxidations were carried out

by using methods analogous to those described for the cis hydroxylation of alkenes.

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