

# Formation and Spectroscopic Characterization of the PeroxoFe<sup>III</sup>-Cu<sup>II</sup> Complex. A Modeling Reaction of the Heme-Cu Site in Cytochrome *c* Oxidase

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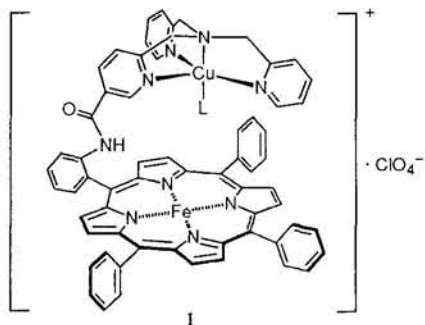
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Formation of a unique peroxo complex Fe<sup>III</sup>TPP(O<sub>2</sub>)-Cu<sup>I</sup>TPA **2** was observed in the oxygenated reaction of Fe<sup>II</sup>TPP-Cu<sup>I</sup>TPA **1** with O<sub>2</sub> at ambient temperature. This complex was characterized by electronic absorption, ESI-MS, resonance Raman, and ESR spectroscopies.

Dioxygen reaction with reduced transition metal complexes is important on the respects of O<sub>2</sub> binding and activation in biological systems.<sup>1</sup> In recent years, a number of studies have appeared on this topic. Among these, the dinuclear metal complexes of Fe and Cu have widely been used in order to determine the structure and reactivity of their intermediates. Beside these homodinuclear metal complexes, a heterodinuclear one is attractive in both its O<sub>2</sub> coordination mode and the relation to the active site of cytochrome *c* oxidase (CcO),<sup>2</sup> where the iron porphyrin (heme a<sub>3</sub>) and one copper ion (Cu<sub>B</sub>) cooperatively reduce O<sub>2</sub> to water under continuous electron/proton flux.<sup>3</sup> In spite of extensive efforts to identify the intermediates during O<sub>2</sub> reduction in CcO, only a part of them could be assigned by time-resolved resonance Raman spectroscopy.<sup>4</sup> The structures of the most interesting precursor to give the Fe<sup>IV</sup>=O species subsequently and the resting state are still the subject under discussion. Several heme Fe(or Co)-Cu systems have been proposed as active site models of CcO<sup>5</sup> and notable characterization of the intermediate O<sub>2</sub> complex has been done. We report herein the novel preparation of a stable Fe<sup>III</sup>(O<sub>2</sub>)-Cu<sup>II</sup> complex at ambient temperature and the spectroscopic characterization of its O<sub>2</sub> binding mode.

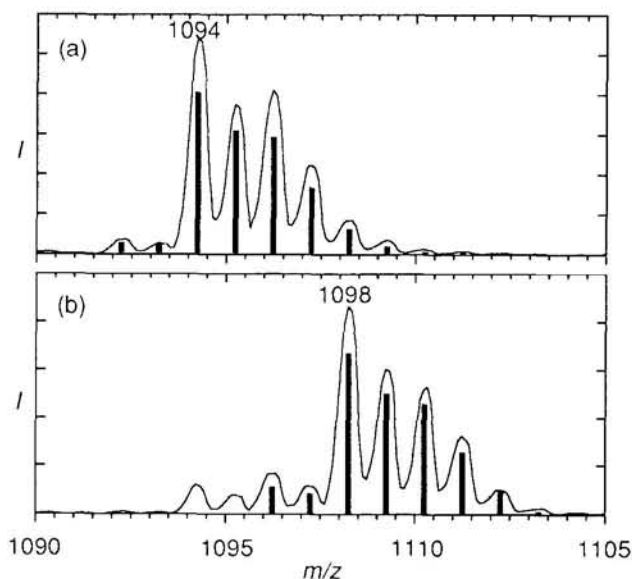
We synthesized the tetraphenylporphyrin (TPP) with tris(2-pyridylmethyl)-amine (TPA)<sup>6</sup> as a model ligand of the reaction center in cytochrome *c* oxidase. The two ligands were connected by an amide linkage to take somewhat restricted conformation. In the stepwise metallation of the free base, this ligand was lead to the reduced complex Fe<sup>II</sup>TPP-Cu<sup>I</sup>TPA (**1**).<sup>7</sup>



The reaction of the reduced form **1** with O<sub>2</sub> was measured by UV-vis spectroscopy in CH<sub>3</sub>CN at 25 °C in the absence of nitrogen base. The spectrum of **1** shows absorptions at λ<sub>max</sub> (ε, M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 428 (Soret, 104000), 535 (6670), 563 (4630), and 609 (1790) nm. When O<sub>2</sub> was added to the solution, a new compound **2** was detected by the UV-vis spectral change to λ<sub>max</sub>

(ε, M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 419 (85400), 560 (7890) nm. This compound shows considerable stability at ambient temperature (t<sub>1/2</sub> ≈ 100 min). The blue shift of the Soret band is characteristic to the formation of heme Fe-O<sub>2</sub> complexes.<sup>8</sup>

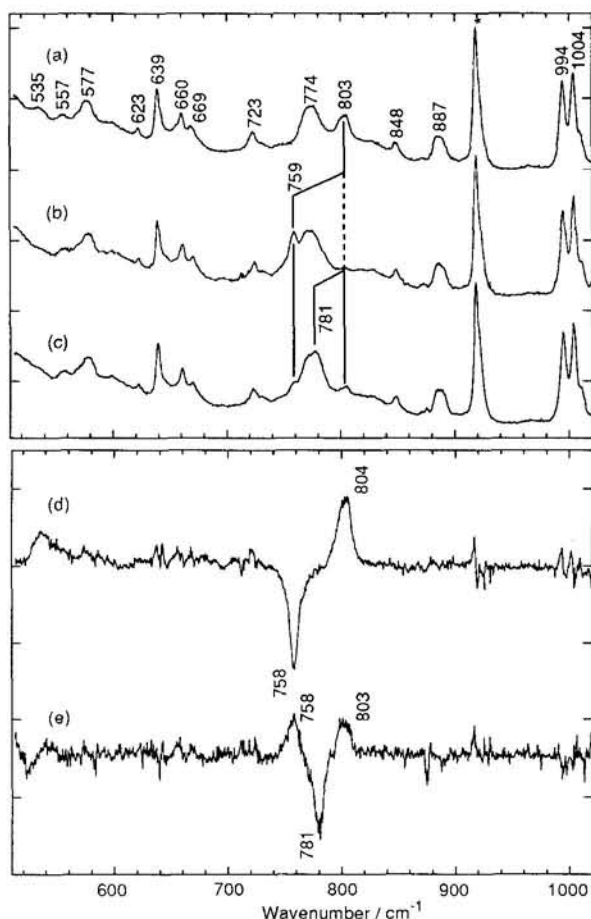
To observe the reaction intermediate directly, this oxygenation reaction was monitored by an electrospray ionization (ESI) mass spectrometer in CH<sub>3</sub>CN at 25 °C (Figure 1).<sup>9</sup> It shows a unique



**Figure 1.** Positive ion ESI-MS spectra of **2**: (a) with <sup>16</sup>O<sub>2</sub> (*m/z* = 1094) and (b) with <sup>18</sup>O<sub>2</sub> (*m/z* = 1098); the simulated peaks are shown by bars; *I* = intensity.

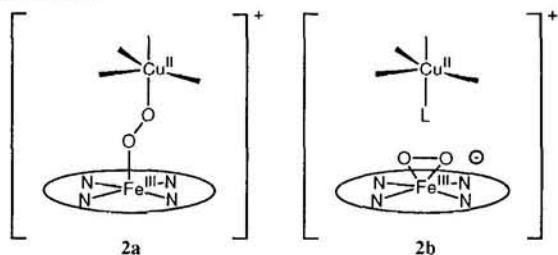
ion cluster at *m/z* = 1094 assignable to a monocation [Fe<sup>III</sup>TPP-Cu<sup>II</sup>TPA(O<sub>2</sub>)]<sup>+</sup> from the mass number and its isotope pattern (Figure 1, a). Upon using <sup>18</sup>O<sub>2</sub>, the spectrum shows an ion cluster at *m/z* = 1098 which is four mass units larger than with <sup>16</sup>O<sub>2</sub> (Figure 1, b). These results clearly indicate that the oxygenation reaction occurs in the ratio Fe<sup>II</sup>-Cu<sup>I</sup>:O<sub>2</sub> = 1:1 and does not give any other oxygenated products in an intermolecular fashion.

Resonance Raman spectra of **2** were observed in CH<sub>3</sub>CN at 25 °C in order to characterize the binding mode of the peroxo dianion (Figure 2).<sup>10</sup> The oxygenation of **1** with <sup>16</sup>O<sub>2</sub> indicated an oxygen-sensitive Raman band at 803 cm<sup>-1</sup> which shifted to 759 cm<sup>-1</sup> with use of <sup>18</sup>O<sub>2</sub> (Δ<sup>16</sup>O<sub>2</sub>/<sup>18</sup>O<sub>2</sub> = 44 cm<sup>-1</sup>). On using <sup>16</sup>O<sup>18</sup>O isotopically mixed gas (<sup>16</sup>O<sub>2</sub>:<sup>16</sup>O<sup>18</sup>O:<sup>18</sup>O<sub>2</sub> = 30.5:39.0:30.5), the appearance of a new band at 781 cm<sup>-1</sup> indicates the presence of a O-O bond and these isotope shifts are in good agreement with the calculated ones. The value of this ν(O-O) band (803 cm<sup>-1</sup>) is in the range of the 2e<sup>-</sup> reduced peroxide level.<sup>3</sup> The Cu<sup>II</sup> and Fe<sup>III</sup> complexes with end-on or side-on peroxide ligands have values in this region, e. g. [[Cu(TMPA)]<sub>2</sub>(O<sub>2</sub>)]<sup>2+</sup> (834 cm<sup>-1</sup>, end-on),<sup>11</sup> and



**Figure 2.** (top) Resonance Raman spectra of **2**, obtained by reaction of **1** with (a)  $^{16}\text{O}_2$ , (b)  $^{18}\text{O}_2$  (>95%) and (c)  $^{16}\text{O}^{18}\text{O}$  isotopically mixed dioxygen in dry  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  at 25 °C. Excitation, 413.1 nm; power, 5 mW. (bottom) Resonance Raman difference spectra of **2**, (d)  $^{16}\text{O}_2$ - $^{18}\text{O}_2$  and (e)  $^{16}\text{O}_2$ + $^{18}\text{O}_2$ /2- $^{16}\text{O}^{18}\text{O}$  mixed gas. Each resonance datum was normalized with the largest peak at 918  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  arising from the solvent (\*).

$[\text{CuHB}(3,5\text{-ipr}_2\text{pz})_3]_2(\text{O}_2)$  (741  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , side-on).<sup>12</sup> The values of  $\nu(\text{O}-\text{O})$  in this region also have been reported in the peroxide anions bind to a single metal,  $[\text{Cu}_2(\text{X}^-\text{L}-\text{O})(\text{O}_2)]^+$  (803  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , end-on)<sup>13</sup> and  $[\text{FeTPP}(\text{O}_2)]$  (804  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , side-on).<sup>14, 15</sup> These results suggest that **2** can take either of the two  $\text{O}_2$  coordination modes between the end-on (**2a**) and the side-on peroxide (**2b**). The degree of the magnetic interaction between the two paramagnetic metals is remarkably different in these two structures.<sup>16</sup> The silent ESR spectrum of **2** in a frozen solution ( $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ , 6K) indicates the presence of the strong magnetic coupling between the two metals.



All these results support that **2** is a peroxide complex (**2a**) with end-on  $\mu$ -1,2 geometry. The heme  $a_3$ -Cu<sub>B</sub> site of cytochrome *c* oxidase at its resting state shows silent ESR spectrum interestingly.<sup>17</sup> The reason of this antiferromagnetic interaction, however, has not been in agreement between the model studies<sup>18</sup> and the X-ray crystal analysis.<sup>19</sup> Therefore, in consideration of the stability of **2a** at ambient temperature, the peroxide bridged structure is one of the most likely candidates of the resting form.

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