Kinetics and Mechanism of Elimination of Chloride from *cis*-Chlorobis-(ethylenediamine)(glycinato-N)cobalt(III) Ion: a Study of Copper(II)-ion Catalysis

By Anadi C. Dash and Raleindra K. Nanda,* Department of Chemistry, Utkal University, Bhubaneswar-4, India Sunesh K. Mohapatra, Department of Chemistry, Regional College of Education, Bhubaneswar, India

The rate of elimination of chloride from the *cis*-chlorobis(ethylenediamine) (glycinato-*N*-)cobalt(III) ion has been studied under varying conditions of pH and copper(II) concentration in a medium of constant ionic strength of 0.3M. Copper(II) has been found to catalyse the reaction *via* formation of the binuclear species $[(en)_2CoCl(NH_2CH_2CO_2)Cu]^{3+}$. The product of the reaction in the presence and absence of Cu^{II} has been identified as the *cis*-bis(ethylenediamine) (glycinato-*ON*)cobalt(III) chelate. At 50 °C the rate constant, activation enthalpy, and entropy for loss of chloride ion from $[(en)_2CoCl(NH_2CH_2CO_2)]^+$, $[(en)_2CoCl(NH_2CH_2CO_2)Cu]^{3+}$ species are: $(2.65 \pm 0.03) \times 10^{-6} \text{ s}^{-1}$, $90.4 \pm 1.7 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$, $-54.1 \pm 5.4 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$; $(1.27 \pm 0.01) \times 10^{-6} \text{ s}^{-1}$, $92.5 \pm 1.3 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$, $-53.1 \pm 3.3 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$; and $(2.74 \pm 0.10) \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$, $88.3 \pm 2.9 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$, $-41.0 \pm 9.2 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$, respectively. Co-Cl Bond breaking is tentatively suggested to be rate limiting for the loss of chloride ion from all the three species mentioned above.

SEVERAL metal ions have been found to catalyse aquation penta-amminecarboxylatocobalt(III) complexes derived from oxalic, 1 malonic, 2 and salicylic 3 acids. It was shown that binuclear complexes of the catalysts with these cobalt(III) substrates are involved as reactive intermediates. Catalysis by metal ions has also been observed in the elimination of chloride ion from chloro(ethylenediaminetetra-acetato)cobalt(III).4,5 The metal ions are presumed to associate with [(edta)CoCl]2- through the free carboxylate group and then assist the elimination of chloride ion from the cobalt(III) centre. These results prompted us to extend the study of the metal-ion catalysis to aquation reactions of some suitable aminehalogenocobalt(III) complexes. This paper describes the kinetics of elimination of chloride ion from cischlorobis(ethylenediamine)(glycinato-N)cobalt(III) in the presence and absence of copper(II). The aim of the present work was to (i) examine the complexing ability of [(en)₂CoCl(NH₂CH₂CO₂)]⁺ towards Cu^{II}, (ii) assess and compare the reactivity of the binuclear complex [(en)₂CoCl(NH₂CH₂CO₂)Cu]³⁺ with that of [(en)₂CoCl-(NH,CH,CO,H)]2+ and its deprotonated form, and (iii) elucidate the mechanism of elimination of the chloride ion from the cobalt(III) centre in the presence and absence of CuII. Recently Comley and Higginson 6 studied the reaction under investigation in the presence and absence of PbII at 45 °C and I = 1.0m.* It is of interest to compare their results with ours.

EXPERIMENTAL

The complex cis-[(en)₂CoCl(NH₂CH₂CO₂H)]Cl₂ was prepared by the method of Alexander and Busch.⁷ Repeated crystallization of the chloride salt from sodium nitrate solution yielded the nitrate salt which was washed successively with ice-cold water, ethanol, and diethyl ether and finally stored over fused calcium chloride {Found: Cl, 8·75; Co, 14·4. Calc. for [(en)₂CoCl(NH₂CH₂CO₂H)][NO₃]₂: Cl, 8·60; Co, 14·25%}. Sodium perchlorate (Riedel) and perchloric acid (Baker analysed) were used to adjust the

ionic strength and acidity of the reaction medium respectively. Acetic acid and sodium hydroxide were B.D.H. (AnalaR) quality. Copper(II) perchlorate was prepared from copper(II) carbonate (E. Merck, extra pure). The free acid and copper(II) contents of the stock copper(II) perchlorate solution were estimated by ion-exchange and iodometric methods respectively. Dowex 50W-X8 resin in the acid form was used in all ion-exchange experiments. Optical-density measurements were made with a Beckmann DU 2 spectrophotometer using 10 mm matched silica cells.

Kinetics.—Rate measurements were made under varying conditions of pH, [CuII], and temperature. The ionic strength of the reaction medium was adjusted to 0.3m with sodium perchlorate. Solutions of the desired composition were prepared in 50 cm³ volumetric flasks and thermostatted. After thermal equilibrium had been reached a known weight of cis-[(en)2CoCl(NH2CH2CO2H)][NO3]2 was transferred to the reaction flask. The complex dissolved quickly on rapid shaking and the volume was then made up with distilled water which had been previously equilibrated at the reaction temperature. Aliquot portions (5 cm³) of the reaction mixture were withdrawn at convenient time intervals and run into a beaker containing ice-cold distilled water (5 cm³) and a few grams of Dowex 50W-X8 resin in the acid form. On rapid agitation the coloured ions exchanged into the resin phase. The colourless supernatant solution was filtered through a well packed bed of glass wool. The resin was washed quantitatively with cold distilled water. The chloride-ion content of the combined filtrate and resin washings was estimated potentiometrically using 0.02m-AgNO₃ as titrant. Pseudo-first-order rate constants were obtained from gradients of least-squares plots of $\ln (V_{\infty} V_t$) against time where V_t and V_{∞} are titre values at time t and complete release of chloride respectively.

The rate of formation of the chelated bis(ethylenediamine)-(glycinato-ON)cobalt(III) complex was followed spectro-photometrically. Aliquot portions (5 cm³) of the reaction mixture were withdrawn at convenient time intervals, cooled to room temperature, and the optical density measured immediately at 350 nm. Rate constants were computed from least-squares gradients of $\ln (D_{\infty} - D_t)$ against time plots. All calculations of rate constants were

^{*} $lM = 1 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$.

A. C. Dash and R. K. Nanda, Inorg. Chem., 1974, 13, 655.
 A. C. Dash and R. K. Nanda, J. Inorg. Nuclear Chem., in the press.

A. C. Dash and R. K. Nanda, Inorg. Chem., 1973, 12, 2024.
 R. Dyke and W. C. E. Higginson, J. Chem. Soc., 1963, 2788.

⁵ S. P. Tanner and W. C. E. Higginson, *J. Chem. Soc.* (A), 1969, 1164.

⁶ H. M. Comley and W. C. E. Higginson, J.C.S. Dalton, 1972, 2522.

⁷ M. D. Alexander and D. H. Busch, *Inorg. Chem.*, 1966, 5, 1590.

J.C.S. Dalton

made using a least-squares computer program adapted to an IBM 1130 computer

RESULTS

Effect of pH.—Table 1 presents the observed pseudofirst-order rate constants $(k_{\rm obs.})$ for chloride release in the absence of ${\rm Cu^{II}}$. It is to be noted that $k_{\rm obs.}$ increased with decreasing hydrogen-ion concentration, limiting values being attained above pH 4·7 and below pH 1; $k_{\rm obs.}$ was virtually independent of the concentration of acetate ion in the range studied. The pH-rate profile is in keeping with the rate law (1) where c_t is the total concentration of the chloro-

$$-\mathrm{dln}\ c_t/\mathrm{d}t = k_{\mathrm{obs.}} = \frac{(k_0 K_1/[\mathrm{H}^+]) + k_1}{1 + (K_1/[\mathrm{H}^+])} \tag{1}$$

complex at time t, k_0 and k_1 are rate constants for [(en)₂-CoCl(NH₂CH₂CO₂)]⁺ and its acid form respectively, and K_1 is the dissociation constant of the glycine complex as defined in equation (2). pK For [(en)₂CoCl(NH₂CH₂CO₂H)]²⁺ has

$$[(en)_2 CoCl(NH_2CH_2CO_2H)]^{2+} \xrightarrow{K_1} [(en)_2 CoCl(NH_2CH_2CO_2)]^+ + H^+$$
 (2)

been reported to be 2·1 (25 °C, I = 0M) 7 and 2·5 (45 °C, I = 1.0M). 6 These data predict that more than 99% of the

TABLE 1

Effect of pH on the rate of chloride elimination from cis-[(en)₂CoCl(NH₂CH₂CO₂H)]²⁺ with I=0.3 and [complex] = $(3.9\pm0.3)\times10^{-3}$ M

	$10^5 k_{ m obs}/{ m s}^{-1}$		
[HClO ₄]/M	$\boxed{\textbf{45.0} \pm 0.1}$	50.0 ± 0.1	$60.0 \pm 0.1^{\circ}\text{C}$
0.000	1.29 ± 0.07	2.24 ± 0.09	6.10 ± 0.10
0.005	1.09 ± 0.06	1.86 ± 0.10	$5 \cdot 52 \pm 0 \cdot 21$
0.010	0.98 ± 0.04	1.65 ± 0.08	4.88 ± 0.15
0.020	0.89 ± 0.04	1.56 ± 0.08	4.40 ± 0.09
0.050	0.80 ± 0.04	1.36 ± 0.12	4.00 ± 0.19
0.100	0.77 ± 0.04	1.26 ± 0.05	3.80 ± 0.04
0.200	0.75 ± 0.03	1.25 ± 0.04	3.60 ± 0.08
0.300	0.76 ± 0.03	1.28 ± 0.02	3.70 ± 0.07

Acetate buffer

		-		
[NaO ₂ CMe]	[MeCO ₂ H]		
M	M	_		
0.010	0.010	1.57 ± 0.08		
0.020	0.020	1.47 ± 0.10	$2{\cdot}60\pm0{\cdot}12$	
0.040	0.040		2.53 + 0.16	
0.020	0.040		2.64 + 0.15	
0.010	0.020		2.70 + 0.07	7.32 + 0.19
0.040	0.020		2.83 + 0.21	
0.020	0.010		2.55 + 0.16	7.62 + 0.19
$10^{5}k_{0}/s$	-1	1.53 + 0.05	2.65 + 0.03	7.47 + 0.15
$10^{5}k_{1}/s$		0.76 + 0.01	1.27 + 0.01	3.75 + 0.05
	$\mathbf{mol}\ \mathbf{l^{-1}}$	4.60 ± 0.30	4.90 ± 0.40	4.70 ± 0.40

complex will exist in the deprotonated and protonated forms at pH 4.7 and in 0.3m-HClO₄ respectively. This was in fact found to be true as $k_{\rm obs}$, levelled off under these extreme conditions of pH. Since $k_{\rm obs}$, was insensitive to the variation of acetate-ion concentration in the range studied, k_0 was taken to be the weighted-average value of the observed rate constants measured in acetate buffer. The weighted-average value of k_1 was obtained from values of $k_{\rm obs}$, at $[\text{HClO}_4] = 0.1$, 0.2, and 0.3m; k_0 and k_1 being known, k_1 was calculated by a weighted least-squares procedure from values of $k_{\rm obs}$, at $[\text{H}^+] < 0.1$ m utilizing relation (3) where

$$\begin{split} K_1 &= \{ [\text{HClO}_4] \ + \\ & c(k_{\text{obs.}} - k_1)/(k_0 - k_1) \} (k_{\text{obs.}} - k_1)/(k_0 - k_{\text{obs.}}) \end{split} \tag{3} \end{split}$$

c is the total concentration of the chloro-complex at zero reaction time (the complex was added in the acid form) and all other terms have their usual meaning. Equation (3) is derived from (1) and the mole-balance relation for H⁺ ion at zero time. Values of the parameters k_0 , k_1 , and K_1 at 45, 50, and 60 °C are given in Table 1.

Copper(II) Catalysis.—The effect of Cu^{II} ion on the rate of chloride release was studied as a function of $[Cu^{II}]$ at a fixed hydrogen-ion concentration. Pseudo-first-order rate constants are collected in Table 2. Catalysis by Cu^{II} is evident

TABLE 2

Effect of copper(II) on the rate of chloride elimination from cis-[(en)₂CoCl(NH₂CH₂CO₂H)]²⁺ with I=0.3, [complex] = $(3.7\pm0.2)\times10^{-3}$, and [HClO₄] = 0.02M

$10^{5}k_{\text{obs.}}/\text{s}^{-1}$		
45.0 ± 0.1	50·0 ± 0·1	60·0 ± 0·1 °C
0.89 ± 0.04	1.56 ± 0.08	$\textbf{4.40} \pm \textbf{0.09}$
		$\textbf{4.75} \pm 0.05$
1.03 ± 0.02	1.75 ± 0.05	5.03 ± 0.08
1.12 ± 0.08	1.95 ± 0.07	5.90 ± 0.10
$1\cdot20\pm0\cdot08$	$2 \cdot 25 \pm 0 \cdot 05$	6.30 ± 0.12
1.31 ± 0.06	$2\cdot38\pm0\cdot07$	6.92 ± 0.15
1.41 ± 0.08	$2\cdot78\pm0\cdot10$	$7{\cdot}35 \pm 0{\cdot}15$
	2.99 ± 0.10	8.02 ± 0.18
2.91 ± 0.22	$6{\cdot}32\pm0{\cdot}21$	16.7 ± 0.4
2.31 ± 0.01	2.30 ± 0.01	2.41 ± 0.01
$1\cdot 26\pm 0\cdot 10$	$2\cdot 74\pm 0\cdot 10$	$6{\cdot}93\pm0{\cdot}17$
5.02 ± 0.33	4.70 ± 0.38	5.13 ± 0.32
	$\begin{array}{c} 0.89 \pm 0.04 \\ 1.03 \pm 0.02 \\ 1.12 \pm 0.08 \\ 1.20 \pm 0.08 \\ 1.31 \pm 0.06 \\ 1.41 \pm 0.08 \\ \\ 2.91 \pm 0.22 \\ 2.31 \pm 0.01 \\ 1.26 \pm 0.10 \\ \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 45 \cdot 0 \pm 0 \cdot 1 \\ 0 \cdot 89 \pm 0 \cdot 04 \\ 1 \cdot 56 \pm 0 \cdot 08 \\ \hline \\ 1 \cdot 03 \pm 0 \cdot 02 \\ 1 \cdot 12 \pm 0 \cdot 08 \\ 1 \cdot 95 \pm 0 \cdot 07 \\ 1 \cdot 20 \pm 0 \cdot 08 \\ 2 \cdot 25 \pm 0 \cdot 05 \\ 1 \cdot 31 \pm 0 \cdot 06 \\ 2 \cdot 38 \pm 0 \cdot 07 \\ 1 \cdot 41 \pm 0 \cdot 08 \\ 2 \cdot 99 \pm 0 \cdot 10 \\ 2 \cdot 91 \pm 0 \cdot 22 \\ 2 \cdot 31 \pm 0 \cdot 01 \\ 2 \cdot 31 \pm 0 \cdot 01 \\ 2 \cdot 30 \pm 0 \cdot 10 \\ 2 \cdot 4 \pm 0 \cdot 10$

from such data. Furthermore, values of $(k_{\rm obs.} - k_{\rm obs.}')/[{\rm Cu^{II}}]$ (where $k_{\rm obs.}' = k_{\rm obs.}$ at $[{\rm Cu^{II}}] = 0$) at all three temperatures are not constant and decrease with increasing $[{\rm Cu^{II}}]$. This is in keeping with the fact that copper(II) associates with the substrate and the resulting binuclear complex catalyses the rate of chloride release from the cobalt(III) centre. Consistent with our observations the rate law for chloride elimination in the presence of ${\rm Cu^{II}}$ is given by equation (4) where k_2 is the rate constant for the

$$-\mathrm{d} \ln c_t/\mathrm{d}t = k_{\text{obs.}} = \frac{(k_0 K_1/[\mathrm{H}^+]) + k_1 + (k_2 K_2 K_1[\mathrm{Cu}^{2^+}]/[\mathrm{H}^+])}{1 + (K_1/[\mathrm{H}^+]) + (K_2 K_1[\mathrm{Cu}^{2^+}]/[\mathrm{H}^+])}$$
(4

binuclear complex $[(en)_2 \text{CoCl}(\text{NH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CO}_2)\text{Cu}]^{\$+}$ and K_2 its formation constant as defined by $[(en)_2 \text{CoCl}(\text{NH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CO}_2)]^+$ + Cu^{2+} $\stackrel{K_1}{\longleftarrow}$ $[(en)_2 \text{CoCl}(\text{NH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CO}_2)\text{Cu}]^{\$+}$. With the best values of k_0 , k_1 , and K_1 the observed rate constants were fitted to equation (4) by means of a least-squares computer program which varied the parameters $(k_2K_2K_1)$ and (K_1K_2) and minimized the sum of the weighted residuals $\Sigma[(k_{\text{calc.}} - k_{\text{obs.}})/\sigma(k_{\text{obs.}})]^2$. Calculated values of $(k_2K_2K_1)$, (K_1K_2) , k_2 , and K_2 at different temperatures are in Table 2.

TABLE 3

Rates of formation of [(en)₂Co(NH₂CH₂CO₂)]⁺ at I=0.3M, $45.0\pm0.1\,$ °C, and [complex] = $(5.0\pm0.3)\,\times\,10^{-3}$ M

[HClO ₄]/M	$[Cu^{II}]/M$	$10^5 k_{ m obs.}/{ m s}^{-1}$
0.000		1.30 ± 0.03
0.005		1.11 ± 0.04
0.100		0.99 ± 0.02
0.020	0.010	1.05 ± 0.03
0.020	0.030	1.15 ± 0.02
0.020	0.050	1.32 ± 0.02

Formation of cis-[(en)₂Co(NH₂CH₂CO₂)]⁺.—The product of chloride elimination from cis-[(en)₂CoCl(NH₂CH₂CO₂H)]²⁺,

899 1975

in the presence and absence of CuII, had absorption maxima at 488 and 347 nm with the molar absorption coefficients of 98 + 2 and 105 + 2 l mol⁻¹ cm⁻¹ respectively. These data are in excellent agreement with the wavelength maxima and corresponding absorption coefficients for the chelated glycinato-complex reported by Alexander and Busch ($\epsilon_{\rm max}$, 98 \pm 2 at 487 \pm 2, and 107 \pm 21 mol⁻¹ cm⁻¹ at 346 \pm 2 nm). The chloro-complex was subjected to base hydrolysis and the reaction mixture was then acidified to pH 1. The absorption spectrum of the resulting solution corresponded exactly to that of the [(en),Co(NH,CH,CO,)]+ chelate. The rate of formation of the cis-bis(ethylenediamine)(glycinato-ON)cobalt(III) chelate, followed at 350 nm, was also found to obey first-order kinetics with no induction period under varying conditions of pH and copper(II) concentration. Observed rate constants for the chelation reaction are collected in Table 3. It is interesting to note that $k_{obs.}$ for the chloride elimination is very nearly equal to the rate constant for the chelation process under comparable conditions of acidity and Cu^{II} concentration (see Tables 1-3). These facts suggest that the chloro-complex is transformed to the cis-[(en)₂Co(NH₂CH₂CO₂)]⁺ chelate, both in the presence and absence of CuII, without formation of the corresponding aqua-complex as intermediate.

DISCUSSION

Comley and Higginson ⁶ have reported $k_0=(1.89\pm0.02)\times10^{-5}$ s⁻¹, $k_1=(9.00\pm0.09)\times10^{-6}$ s⁻¹, and $K_{1}=(3.25\pm0.26) imes10^{-3}$ mol l⁻¹ at 45 °C and 1.0m ionic strength. These data compare well with ours at 45 °C and 0.3 m ionic strength. Both sets of data reveal that [(en)₂CoCl(NH₂CH₂CO₂)]⁺ is twice as reactive as its conjugate-acid form. This difference in rate may be due to electrostatic interaction between the free carboxylate group of the glycinato-complex and the positive cobalt-(III) centre as well as the leaving chloride ion. The activation parameters for the k_0 and k_1 paths are collected

TABLE 4 Activation parameters for chloride elimination from cis-[(en)₂CoCl(am)]²⁺ complexes

		Calc. from
$\Delta H^{\ddagger}/\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$	$\Delta S^{\ddagger}/J \text{ K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$	ref.
$90{\cdot}4\pm1{\cdot}7$	-54.1 ± 5.4	This work
92.5 ± 1.3	-53.1 ± 3.3	This work
$88\cdot3\pm2\cdot9$	-41.0 ± 9.2	This work
$81\cdot2\pm2\cdot1$	-77.0 ± 6.3	8
$91 \cdot 6 \pm 0 \cdot 4$	-47.3 + 1.7	9
$93 \cdot 3 \stackrel{-}{\pm} 0 \cdot 4$	-45.2 ± 1.7	9
97.5 ± 0.4	-41.0 ± 1.7	9
	$\begin{array}{c} 90.4 \pm 1.7 \\ 92.5 \pm 1.3 \\ 88.3 \pm 2.9 \\ 81.2 \pm 2.1 \\ 91.6 \pm 0.4 \\ 93.3 \pm 0.4 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

in Table 4 together with those for aquation of some aminechlorobis(ethylenediamine)cobalt(III) complexes. It is to be noted that ΔH^{\ddagger} and ΔS^{\ddagger} for the k_0 path are comparable to those for the k_1 path and for aquation of hydroxyalkylamine and cyclohexylamine complexes. Further, the activation parameters for the k_0 and k_1 paths of the glycine complex as well as those for aquation of several complexes of the type cis-[(en)₂CoCl(NH₂R)]²⁺ $\{R = Me, Et, Pr^i, Pr^n, CH_2: CH \cdot CH_2, CH \cdot C \cdot CH_2,$ $OH[CH_2]_2$, MeCH(OH), $OH[CH_2]_3$, and C_6H_{11} } 8-10 satisfy the isokinetic relation $\Delta H^{\ddagger} = \alpha + \beta \Delta S^{\ddagger}$, with $\alpha = 111 \pm 2$ and $\beta = 0.370 \pm 0.048$. This shows that the mechanism of elimination of chloride ion from the cobalt centre is virtually independent of the nature of the non-labile amine ligand. As Co-Cl bond fission has been invoked to be rate determining in aquation reactions of aminehalogenocobalt(III) complexes, it is justifiable to associate such a mechanism with the k_0 and k_1 paths of the chloroglycine complex under study. The lack of evidence in favour of formation of aqua-complexes as intermediates in the k_0 and k_1 paths may be attributed to intramolecular trapping of the five-co-ordinate intermediates {[(en),Co(NH2CH2CO2)]2+ and its conjugate acid} by the free carboxylate or carboxyl groups (the latter with loss of proton) respectively.

Copper(II) accelerates the rate of elimination of chloride ion from the glycinato-complex via formation of the reactive intermediate [(en)₂CoCl(NH₂CH₂CO₂)Cu]³⁺. The rate and stability constants for formation of this binuclear complex at 45 °C and I = 0.3M are (1.26 + $0.10) \times 10^{-4}$ s⁻¹ and 5.02 ± 0.33 l mol⁻¹ respectively (see Table 2); those for the binuclear complex of PbII reported by Comley and Higginson ⁶ are (2.75 \pm 0.23) imes $10^{-4}~\mathrm{s}^{-1}$ and 14.6 ± 4 l mol⁻¹ at 45 °C and I=1.0M respectively. Lead(II) appears to be a more efficient catalyst than Cu^{II} in the reaction under investigation. The stability constants of monoacetato-complexes of Cu^{II} and Pb^{II} reported by Hutchinson and Higginson ¹¹ are 47.8 ± 2.4 and 152 ± 91 mol⁻¹ at 25 °C and I = 1.0M respectively. Apparently the glycinato-complex acts as a weaker complexing agent towards CuII and PbII as compared to acetate ion. The observed reactivity sequence, $[(en)_2CoCl(NH_2CH_2CO_2)M]^{3+}$ (M = Cu^{II} and Pb^{Π}) > $[(en)_2CoCl(NH_2CH_2CO_2)]^+$ > $[(en)_2CoCl(NH_2-$ CH₂CO₂H)]²⁺, however, can be accounted for if it is assumed that the catalyst metal ions in their binuclear complexes are bonded simultaneously to the carboxylate group and the chloride ion attached to the cobalt(III) centre. This type of double-bridging action of cis-[(en)₂CoCl(NH₂CH₂CO₂)]⁺ towards Pb^{II} and Cu^{II} is reasonable as the observed reactivity of the binuclear complexes of these metal ions parallels the stability constants of their monochloro-complexes (K_{PbOl}^+) $K_{\text{CuCl}+}$). Activation parameters for the Cu^{II}-catalysed path are comparable to those for the k_0 and k_1 paths (see Table 4). This is consistent with rate-limiting Co-Cl bond-heterolysis mechanism for the metal-ion catalysed

We thank the referees for their valuable comments.

[4/1132 Received, 11th June, 1974]

<sup>N. Mullick, R. K. Nanda, and R. N. Nanda, J. Inorg. Nuclear Chem., 1972, 34, 3731.
S. C. Chan and F. Leh, J. Chem. Soc. (A), 1967, 1730.</sup>

S.C. Chan and F. Leh, J. Chem. Soc. (A), 1966, 129, 134, 138.
 M. H. Hutchinson and W. C. E. Higginson, J.C.S. Dalton,