

## The Direct Synthesis of Alkali-metal Pentafluoromanganates(III)

By **Manabendra N. Bhattacharjee**, **Mihir K. Chaudhuri**,\* and **Himadri S. Dasgupta**, Department of Chemistry, North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong-793003, India  
**Darlando T. Khathing**, Department of Physics, North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong-793003, India

The reduction of potassium permanganate with acetylacetone in the presence of an excess of alkali-metal difluoride  $AHF_2$  ( $A = NH_4, Na, K, \text{ or } Cs$ ) readily gives pentafluoromanganates(III),  $A_2[MnF_5]$  ( $A = NH_4 \text{ or } Na$ ) or  $A_2[MnF_5] \cdot H_2O$  ( $A = K \text{ or } Cs$ ) in almost quantitative yield. Characterisation of the compounds was made from the results of i.r. spectral studies, chemical analyses, magnetic susceptibility measurements, and chemical determination of oxidation states of manganese in the various compounds.

ALTHOUGH alkali-metal pentafluoromanganates(III) have been known for some time, there has been no easy and simple synthetic method available to date. The reaction between  $MnF_3$  in hydrofluoric acid and alkali-metal fluoride  $AF^1$  has been generally used for the synthesis of alkali-metal pentafluoromanganates(III). The present paper reports a general synthesis of the title compounds that does not require  $MnF_3$ .

### EXPERIMENTAL

Potassium permanganate and acetylacetone were reagent-grade products. The difluorides  $AHF_2$  were synthesised by the method developed in this laboratory.<sup>2</sup> Infrared spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer model 125 spectrophotometer. Magnetic susceptibility measurements were made by the Gouy method using  $Hg[Co(CNS)_4]$  as calibrant. The oxidation state of manganese in each of the pentafluoromanganates(III) was determined chemically by the reduction of a known amount of the compounds with aqueous acidic iron(II) solution followed by estimation of the excess of unoxidised  $Fe^{II}$  in the solution.

*Synthesis of Alkali-metal Pentafluoromanganates(III)  $A_2[MnF_5]$  ( $A = NH_4 \text{ or } Na$ ) and Pentafluoromanganate(III) Monohydrates  $A_2[MnF_5] \cdot H_2O$  ( $A = K \text{ or } Cs$ ).*—Since the methods of syntheses of the pentafluoromanganates(III) are similar, only a representative method is given.

An excess of difluoride  $AHF_2$  was intimately mixed with solid  $K[MnO_4]$  by powdering together in an agate mortar. The finely mixed powder was dissolved in a minimum volume of water and filtered. The filtrate was collected in a Polythene beaker and an excess of acetylacetone was added with constant stirring. An exothermic reaction set in and readily gave a rose-pink coloured microcrystalline product in almost quantitative yield with the mother-liquor becoming colourless. The compound was separated by centrifugation and purified by washing with heptane and finally dried *in vacuo*. In the case of the sodium salt, the powdered mixture  $K[MnO_4] \cdot NaHF_2$  was dissolved in water by slightly warming over a boiling water bath in order to avoid using a large volume of water, otherwise necessary, owing to the lower solubility of  $NaHF_2$ . If properly planned, the whole process takes no more than 30–40 min. The specific amounts (g) of the reagents used and the yields of the compounds are given in the Table 1; however, the method can be scaled up to higher quantities as well.

Analytical data, room-temperature magnetic-moment values, structurally important i.r. bands, and chemically

TABLE I  
Amounts of reagents used and yields of alkali-metal pentafluoromanganates(III)

Compound	Yield/g (%)	Amount of $KMnO_4$ /g (mmol)	Amount of $AHF_2$ /g (mmol)	Amount of acetylacetone/g (mmol)
$[NH_4]_2[MnF_5]$	0.34 (97.1)	0.3 (1.9)	1.0 (17.5)	3.0 (30)
$Na_2[MnF_5]$	0.32 (86.5)	0.3 (1.9)	1.1 (17.7)	4.0 (40)
$K_2[MnF_5] \cdot H_2O$	0.44 (93.6)	0.3 (1.9)	1.0 (12.8)	3.0 (30)
$Cs_2[MnF_5] \cdot H_2O$	0.78 (95.1)	0.3 (1.9)	2.3 (13.4)	3.0 (30)

estimated oxidation states of manganese are given in Table 2.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

*Direct Synthesis.*—The methods described lead to the synthesis of pentafluoromanganates(III) of alkali metals, sufficient in number to leave little doubt that reductions with acetylacetone could be developed for the synthesis of compounds of other transition metals. The yields are almost quantitative and gram quantities of pentafluoromanganates(III) can be synthesised directly from  $K[MnO_4]$  in about 30–40 min with very simple apparatus and without the use of hydrogen fluoride or even hydrofluoric acid. The difluorides  $AHF_2$  here act as fluorinating agents. In previous papers<sup>2,3</sup> we have emphasised the potential of alkali-metal difluorides as fluorinating agents. The strategy for the present synthesis was that the reduction of  $Mn^{VII}$  by a relatively mild reducing agent like acetylacetone in the presence of  $F^-$  (stabilising species for  $Mn^{3+}$ ) should enable the synthesis of pentafluoromanganates(III). In fact it appears that the success of the method largely depends on the presence of both  $H^+$  and stabilising  $F^-$  ligands in the solution phase arising from  $AHF_2$ .

*Characterisation.*—The pentafluoromanganates(III) are all rose-pink coloured crystalline products, unstable in water, and they attack glass in the presence of moist air.

The chemically estimated oxidation states of manganese lie between 2.9 and 3.1 (Table 2), lending strong credence to the contention that manganese in each of these compounds has an oxidation number of +3. It is interesting to note that the  $NH_4^+$  and  $Na^+$  salts are anhydrous, of the type  $A_2[MnF_5]$ , whilst the  $K^+$  and

TABLE 2

Analytical data, magnetic moments, estimated oxidation states, and structurally significant i.r. bands of  $A_2[MnF_5]$  ( $A = NH_4$  or Na) and  $A_2[MnF_5] \cdot H_2O$  ( $A = K$  or Cs)

Compound	$\mu_{eff.}^a/B.M.$	Estimated ox. state of Mn	Analysis $b/\%$			I.r. ( $cm^{-1}$ )	Assignments
			A	Mn	F		
$[NH_4]_2[MnF_5]$	3.19	3.0	15.15 $^c$ (15.05) $^c$	29.65 (29.55)	51.1 (51.05)	614m 564s 3 040s 3 157m 1 400s	$\nu(Mn-F)$ $\nu_3$ $\nu(Mn-F)$ $\nu_4$ $\nu(N-H)$ $\nu_1$ $\nu(N-H)$ $\nu_3$ $\nu(N-H)$ $\nu_4$
$Na_2[MnF_5]$	3.21	2.9	23.5 (23.5)	28.25 (28.05)	48.45 (48.5)	615m 565s	$\nu(Mn-F)$ $\nu_3$ $\nu(Mn-F)$ $\nu_4$
$K_2[MnF_5] \cdot H_2O$	3.30	3.0	31.8 (31.75)	22.4 (22.3)	38.7 (38.6)	616m 565s 3 460s 1 635m	$\nu(Mn-F)$ $\nu_3$ $\nu(Mn-F)$ $\nu_4$ $\nu(O-H)$ $\delta(H-O-H)$
$Cs_2[MnF_5] \cdot H_2O$	3.20	3.1	61.3 (61.3)	12.7 (12.65)	21.85 (21.9)	614m 564s 3 458s 1 640m	$\nu(Mn-F)$ $\nu_3$ $\nu(Mn-F)$ $\nu_4$ $\nu(O-H)$ $\delta(H-O-H)$

$^a$  Measured at 302 K.  $^b$  Calculated values in parentheses.  $^c$  Analysis for N.

$Cs^+$  salts are monohydrates,  $A_2[MnF_5] \cdot H_2O$ , even though their methods of synthesis are the same. The i.r. spectra of the series of four salts, now obtained through a unique method, resemble each other very closely. The occurrence of two vibrations at relatively low wave-number in the i.r. spectra implies the presence of octahedral or distorted octahedral  $MF_6^{n-}$ , and in keeping with this there are two readily identifiable  $\nu(Mn-F)$  bands at *ca.* 615 and *ca.* 565  $cm^{-1}$  [*cf.* the analysis of  $\nu(M-F)$  in  $MF_6^{n-}$  complexes].<sup>4,5</sup> This is in conformity with the crystal structure of  $K_2[MnF_5] \cdot H_2O$  as reported by Edwards.<sup>6</sup> The  $K^+$  and  $Cs^+$  salts show two extra vibrational bands at *ca.* 1 640 and 3 460  $cm^{-1}$ , typical for  $\delta(H-O-H)$  and  $\nu(O-H)$  owing to the presence of one molecule of unco-ordinated water in each compound. The absorptions at 3 157m, 3 040s, and 1 400s  $cm^{-1}$  in the spectrum of  $[NH_4]_2[MnF_5]$  correlate very well with those observed recently for  $[NH_4]_2[MnCl_5]$ <sup>7</sup> and have been assigned as  $\nu_3$ ,  $\nu_1$ , and  $\nu_4$  of  $NH_4^+$ . The room-temperature magnetic moments of the  $NH_4^+$ ,  $Na^+$ , and  $K^+$  salts and the hitherto unreported magnetic moment of the  $Cs^+$  salt have been found to occur between 3.19 and 3.30

\* Throughout this paper: 1 B.M.  $\approx 0.927 \times 10^{-23}$  A m<sup>2</sup>.

B.M.\* and agree very well with those reported previously.<sup>8-10</sup> Considerably lower moments presumably owe their origin to antiferromagnetic exchange interaction between contiguous manganese(II) ions through a  $-Mn-F-Mn-$  chain in keeping with the reported structure of  $K_2[MnF_5] \cdot H_2O$ .<sup>6</sup>

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