Kinetics and mechanism of the oxidation of borneol by Tetrakis (Pyridine) silver Dichromate

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Abstract
The kinetics of oxidation of secondary cyclic alcohol like borneol by Tetrakis Pyridine Silver (I) Dichromate (TPSD) as an oxidant in acidic nonaqueous medium leads to the formation of cyclic ketone like camphor. In this oxidation reaction Cr (VI) acts as two electron oxidizing agent. The reaction is found to be first order with respect to each [TPSD], [Borneol] and [TsOH]. The reaction mixture failed to induce the polymerization of added acrylonitrile. The reaction is catalysed by hydrogen ions. The oxidation reaction of borneol was studied in ten different organic solvents. The solvent effect was studied by using Kamlet’s and Swain’s multiparametric equations. Solvent effect shows the importance of the cation-solvating power of the solvent. The reaction has been carried out at four different temperature and the activation parameters were calculated. Negative ΔS# values indicate a structured transition state. A suitable reaction mechanism has been suggested.

Keywords: Kinetics, Mechanism, Oxidation, Borneol, Dichromate.

Introduction
Selective oxidation of various alcohols to their corresponding aldehydes and ketones is an important conversion in organic chemistry which has received the most attention over many years. Chromium (VI) oxidants are the most efficient and versatile for performing these conversions. So number of different chromium (VI) derivatives have been used as an oxidant¹⁻⁵. One of such compounds is Tetrakis Pyridine Silver Dichromate (TPSD) reported by Firouzabadi et al ⁶. The literature survey on the kinetics of oxidation of cyclic alcohols with different oxidant reveals that the reactivity of alcohols varies with the type of oxidant used⁷⁻⁹. As there is no report available on the oxidation of borneol by TPSD. We report here the kinetics of oxidation of borneol by TPSD in dimethylsulphoxide (DMSO) as solvent. A suitable mechanism has also been proposed.

EXPERIMENTAL

Materials:
TPSD was prepared by the reported method⁶ and its purity checked by an iodometric method. Borneol (Otto Chemie Pvt. Ltd.) was used as supplied. Due to non-aqueous nature of the solvent, p-toluene sulphonic acid (TsOH) was used as a source of hydrogen ions. Purification of other solvents was carried out by the usual methods of purification¹⁰.

Product Analysis:
Product analysis was carried out under kinetic conditions. In a typical experiment, Borneol (0.05 mol) and TPSD (0.005 mol) were made up to 50 cm³ in DMSO and kept for 24 h to
ensure completion of the reaction. The oxidation state of chromium in completely reduced reaction mixtures was determined iodometrically and it was found to be +4. After completion of the reaction, ether solvent was added to the reaction mixture; the organic layer was washed with water, dried over anhydrous Na$_2$SO$_4$, and then concentrated. The product was obtained as white crystals (yield: ~80%), having a melting point of 178°C characteristic of camphor. The 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazone (DNP) derivative of camphor was prepared, and recrystallized from ethanol to give orange crystals (M.P. = 175°C). The melting point is found to be identical with literature value.

Kinetic measurements:
The pseudo-first order conditions were attained by maintaining a large excess (×10 or more) of the borneol over TPSD. The solvent used was DMSO, unless specified otherwise. The reactions were followed, at constant temperatures (± 0.1 K), by monitoring the decrease in [TPSD] spectrophotometrically at 370 nm. No other reactant or product has any significant absorption at this wavelength. The pseudo-first order rate constant, $k_{\text{obs}}$, was evaluated from the linear ($r^2 = 0.990 - 0.999$) plots of log [TPSD] against time for up to 80% reaction. Duplicate kinetic runs showed that, the rate constants were reproducible to within ± 3%.
The second order rate constant, $k_2$, was evaluated from the relation shown by given formula like $k_2 = k_{\text{obs}} /[\text{Borneol}]$. Simple and multivariate linear regression analyses were carried out by the least-squares method on a personal computer by using software RegressIt.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION
The kinetics of oxidation of borneol by TPSD was studied at different initial concentrations of borneol in non-aqueous medium and the observed results are discussed below.

Stoichiometry:
The oxidation of borneol by TPSD resulted in the formation of the camphor product. The overall reaction may therefore, be represented as equation (1). The stoichiometry of the reaction was determined by carrying out several sets of experiments with varying amount of [TPSD] over excess [Borneol]. The estimation of unreacted TPSD showed that three moles of alcohol reacts with one mole of TPSD.

\[
\begin{align*}
3\text{C}_9\text{H}_{16}\text{CHOH} + \text{Py4Ag}_2\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_7 &\rightarrow 3\text{C}_9\text{H}_{16}\text{CO} + 2\text{Cr(III)} + 2\text{H}_2\text{O} + 2\text{H}^+ \quad (1)
\end{align*}
\]

Test for free radicals:
The oxidation of borneol by TPSD failed to induce polymerization of acrylonitrile. In blank experiments, in absence substrate, there was no noticeable consumption of TPSD. It shows that, the addition of acrylonitrile has no effect on the reaction mixture indicating the absence of free radical mechanism. This indicates a one electron oxidation giving rise to free radicals is unlikely in the present reaction.

Further confirmation for the absence of free radicals during the course of the reaction was checked by adding 0.05 mol dm$^{-3}$ of 2, 6-di-t-butyl-4-methylphenol (butylated hydroxytoluene or BHT) in reaction mixture. It was found that, BHT was recovered unchanged, almost quantitatively.

Effect of oxidant concentration:
At constant [Borneol] and [TsOH], the increase in [TPSD] did not affect the rate of reaction. The reactions were found to be first order with respect to TPSD. The Figure-1 and Table-1 shows a typical kinetic run. In individual kinetic runs, plots of log [TPSD] versus time were linear ($r^2 > 0.990$). Further, it was found that the observed rate constant, $k_{\text{obs}}$, does not depend on the initial concentration of TPSD.
**Effect of substrate concentration:**

At constant [TPSD] and [TsOH], the reaction rate increases linearly with increase in the [Borneol], indicating first order dependence with substrate. **Figure-2** shows the plot of log $k_{obs}$ versus log [Borneol] gave a straight line with unit slope indicating the first order dependence on substrate. The second order rate constant $k_2$ is constant suggesting the first order dependence on [Borneol]. A double reciprocal plot of $1/k_{obs}$ against $1/[\text{Borneol}]$ is linear and passing through the origin ($r^2 > 0.990$) as shown in **Figure-3**. It shows first order behavior of this oxidation process and further suggested that no stable complex between TPSD and substrate is formed.

**Figure 1:** Oxidation of Borneol by TPSD: A typical Kinetic Run.

**Figure 2:** The plot of log $k_{obs}$ versus log [Borneol]
Table-1: Rate constants for the oxidation of borneol by TPSD at 300K.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$10^3$ [TPSD] (mol dm$^{-3}$)</th>
<th>[Borneol] (mol dm$^{-3}$)</th>
<th>[TsOH] (mol dm$^{-3}$)</th>
<th>$10^4$ $k_{obs}$ s$^{-1}$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>2.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>0.20</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>4.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>0.40</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>9.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>11.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>0.80</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>18.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>21.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>42.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>2.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>2.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>2.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>2.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>2.44*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Contained 0.001 M Acrylonitrile

Figure 3: A double reciprocal plot of $1/k_{obs}$ against $1/[\text{Borneol}]$

**Effect of TsOH concentration:**
The reaction is catalyzed by hydrogen ion; the acid catalysis may well be attributed to the protonated ion of TPSD to give a stronger oxidant and electrophile. The rate of reaction increases with increase in TsOH concentration as shown in Table 2. The plot of log $k_{obs}$ versus log [H$^+$] is also straight line with nearly unit slope, indicating a first order dependence on [H$^+$] is shown in Figure 4.
**Rate Laws:**
Rate = k’ [Oxidant] [Substrate] [H⁺]
Rate = \( k_{\text{obs}} \) [Oxidant]
\( k_{\text{obs}} = \frac{k’}{[\text{Substrate}][\text{H}^+]}. \)

**Effect of Temperature:**
The rate of oxidation of borneol by TPSD was obtained at different temperatures between 300K and 315K. The values of rate constant (\( k_2 \)) are recorded in **Table 3**. The activation parameters for the oxidation of borneol by TPSD were calculated from the values of \( k_2 \) at different temperatures (**Table 3**).

The log \( k_2 \) values at different temperatures is linearly related to the inverse of the absolute temperatures (**Figure 5**). It proves that, the Arrhenius equation is valid for this reaction.

**Figure 4:** The plot of log \( k_{\text{obs}} \) versus log [H⁺]

\( y = 0.9414x + 3.4029 \)
\( R^2 = 0.9919 \)

**Figure 5:** Effect of temperature on rate (Arrhenius plot)

\( R^2 = 0.9942 \)
Solvent plays important role during chemical reactions. The effect of solvent on the rate of any reaction can be described in terms of solvation which is a process of stabilization. The rates of oxidation of borneol were obtained in ten different organic solvents. The selection of solvent was limited due to solubility of TPSD and its reaction with the solvent like alcohols. There was no reaction with the solvents selected for study. Similar type of kinetics is observed in all selected solvents. The values of second order rate constants, $k_2$ are presented in Table 4.

**Table-4:** Effect of solvents on the oxidation of Borneol by TPSD at 310 K.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Solvents</th>
<th>$10^5 k_2$ / (dm$^3$ mol$^{-1}$ s$^{-1}$)</th>
<th>Solvents</th>
<th>$10^5 k_2$ / (dm$^3$ mol$^{-1}$ s$^{-1}$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cyclohexane</td>
<td>0.41</td>
<td>Acetic Acid</td>
<td>2.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benzene</td>
<td>3.39</td>
<td>Dichloromethane</td>
<td>12.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toluene</td>
<td>2.79</td>
<td>Acetophenone</td>
<td>13.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloroform</td>
<td>9.61</td>
<td>Acetone</td>
<td>11.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethyl Acetate</td>
<td>4.53</td>
<td>DMSO</td>
<td>35.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The rate constants, $k_2$, in ten different solvents were correlated in terms of the linear solvation energy relationship (Equation 2) presented by Kamlet et al.$^{11}$

$$\log k_2 = \log A_0 + \pi^* + b\beta + a\alpha$$ ..............................(2)

The solvatochromic parameters in above equation (2) like $\pi^*$, $\beta$ and $\alpha$ are characteristic of different solvents. $\pi^*$ indicates the solvent polarity which is a measure of the ability of solvent to stabilize a dipole or charge due to its dielectric effect. $\beta$ Indicates the hydrogen bond acceptor basicity which is the ability of solvent to donate an electron pair or to accept a proton in a hydrogen bond between solute to solvent. $\alpha$ shows the hydrogen bond donor acidity which is the ability of a solvent to donate a proton, or accept an electron pair in a hydrogen bond between solute to solvent.

$A_0$ is the intercept term. It may be state here that, out of the ten solvents shown in table-4, six solvents has a value of zero for $\alpha$. In our correlation analyses, we have used the coefficient of determination ($R^2$ or $r^2$), Standard deviation (SD) and Exner’s statistical parameter$^{12}$, $\psi$ as the measures of the goodness of fit. We analyses the results of correlation in terms of equation (2), a biparametric equation involving a solvatochromic parameters $\pi^*$ and $\beta$, and separately with $\pi^*$ and $\beta$ are given below by Equations (3) - (6)
\[
\log k_2 = -5.38 + 1.81 (\pm 0.37) \pi^* + 0.08 (\pm 0.41) \beta - 0.19 (\pm 0.26) \alpha \quad \ldots \ldots (3)
\]
\[
R^2 = 0.888; \quad SD = 0.22; \quad n = 10; \quad \psi = 0.33
\]
\[
\log k_2 = -5.39 + 1.68 (\pm 0.32) \pi^* + 0.27 (\pm 0.31) \beta \quad \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots (4)
\]
\[
R^2 = 0.878; \quad SD = 0.21; \quad n = 10; \quad \psi = 0.35
\]
\[
\log k_2 = -5.42 + 1.85 (\pm 0.25) \pi^* \quad \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots (5)
\]
\[
r^2 = 0.864; \quad SD = 0.21; \quad n = 10; \quad \psi = 0.37
\]
\[
\log k_2 = -4.54 + 1.22 (\pm 0.53) \beta \quad \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots (6)
\]
\[
r^2 = 0.397; \quad SD = 0.44; \quad n = 10; \quad \psi = 0.86
\]

Here, \( n \) represents the number of data points considered in analysis. When kinetic data is correlated with solvatochromic parameters \( \pi^* \), \( \beta \), and \( \alpha \) by using Kamlet’s\textsuperscript{11} triparametric equation suggests ca. 89% of the effect of solvent on the oxidation. However, according to Exner's criterion\textsuperscript{12} the correlation is not even satisfactory (cf. equation 3). Only the solvent polarity parameter gives major contribution. It alone contributed for ca. 86% of the data. The solvatochromic parameters like \( \beta \) and \( \alpha \) play relatively minor roles and contributed less.

We also used Swain’s method for the examination of solvent effect. The data on the solvent effect were analysed by using Swain's equation\textsuperscript{13} of cation and anion-solvating concept of the solvents (Equation 7).

\[
\log k_3 = A + B + C \quad \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots (7)
\]

Here in above equation, \( A \) indicates the anion-solvating power of the solvent and \( B \) indicates the cation-solvating power. \( C \) is the intercept term and \( (A+B) \) is used to indicate the solvent polarity. The rates in different solvents were analysed by using equation (7), separately with \( A \) and \( B \) and with \( (A+B) \).

\[
\log k_2 = 0.71 (\pm 0.08) A + 1.71 (\pm 0.06) B - 5.52 \quad \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots (8)
\]
\[
R^2 = 0.991; \quad SD = 0.06; \quad n = 10; \quad \psi = 0.09
\]
\[
\log k_2 = 0.35 (\pm 0.75) A - 4.36 \quad \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots (9)
\]
\[
r^2 = 0.027; \quad SD = 0.56; \quad n = 10; \quad \psi = 1.29
\]
\[
\log k_2 = 1.62 (\pm 0.20) B - 5.25 \quad \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots (10)
\]
\[
r^2 = 0.885; \quad SD = 0.19; \quad n = 10; \quad \psi = 0.34
\]
\[
\log k_2 = 1.35 \pm 0.19 (A + B) - 5.50 \quad \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots (11)
\]
\[
r^2 = 0.854; \quad SD = 0.22; \quad n = 10; \quad \psi = 0.38
\]

Swain's equation (Equation-8) shows an excellent correlation for the rates of oxidation of borneol in different solvents. Only the parameter like cation-solvating power gives major contribution. Cation-solvation alone contributed for ca. 89 % of the data (Equation-10). The parameter like anion-solvating power contributed less.

The solvent polarity parameter is represented by \( (A+B) \), also contributed for ca. 85 % of the data (Equation-11). The rate of reaction was also correlated with the relative permittivity of the solvent. But it was found that, a plot of \( \log k_2 \) against the inverse of the relative permittivity is not linear \( (r^2 = 0.687; SD = 0.32; \psi = 0.58) \). Indicating that the reaction rate depended on more than one solvent property.

**MECHANISM**

As the reaction is showing first order with respect to oxidant, \( H^+ \) ion and substrate. These two species should be involved in the slow step. The large increase in reaction rate with increase in acidity suggests the presence of protonated \( Cr^{6+} \) species in the rate determining step.

Since the protonation of alcohol is less probable, there is possibility that the proton is used by the TPSD. TsOH acts as a proton donor. Solvent dimethyl sulphoxide acts as a weak nucleophile which helps in the dissociation of \( H^+ \) ion from TsOH because DMSO is a powerful hydrogen bond acceptor, earlier suggested by Kingsbury\textsuperscript{14}.

The formation of chromate ester as an intermediate in a pre-equilibrium step has been reported earlier in chromic acid oxidation\textsuperscript{15}, also in the oxidation of alcohols by QFC\textsuperscript{16}.
Bordwell\textsuperscript{20} has suggested convincing proof against the occurrence of concerted one-step biomolecular processes by hydrogen transfer. It is well introduced that intrinsically concerted sigmatropic reactions, depicted by transfer of hydrogen in a cyclic transition state, are the only truly symmetrical processes involving a linear hydrogen transfer\textsuperscript{21}. Littler\textsuperscript{22} has also presented that a cyclic hydride transfer takes place in the oxidation of alcohols by Cr (VI) oxidant which involves six electrons and becomes a Huckel-type of system, is an allowed process. Thus, a transition state having a planar, cyclic and symmetrical structure can be predicted for the decomposition of the ester intermediate.

The protonated TPSD and alcohol combine to give intermediate. The rate determining step is the decomposition of the chromate ester via cyclic transition state and it involves the ruptures of α C-H bond and forming the product\textsuperscript{23, 24}.

The overall mechanism suggests the formation of a chromate ester in a fast pre-equilibrium step and then decomposition of the ester intermediate in a subsequent slow step via formation of cyclic concerted symmetrical transition state giving the product. The observed negative value of entropy of activation also supports a polar transition state. The mechanism proposed is shown as Scheme 1.

![Scheme 1](image-url)
CONCLUSION
The reaction was first order with respect to substrate, oxidizing agent and TsOH concentration. The oxidation of borneol by TPSD failed to induce the polymerization of acrylonitrile, confirms a two-electron transfer reaction. Protonated form of TPSD is the reactive oxidising species. The oxidation of borneol involves the formation of dichromate ester which on decomposition giving the product. A $\alpha$ C-H bond is cleaved in rate-determining step.

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