"Cold" Ion Spectroscopy of Host-Guest Complexes in the Gas Phase

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Host Molecules

hold other ions and molecules inside



Cyclodextrin

Crown Ethers (CEs)

Crown ethers (CEs) show ion selectivity.



Dibenzo-18-crown-6 (DB18C6)

Ion Selectivity of CE

DB18C6 captures K⁺ selectively in water.



Our Final Goal

Our final goal is to reveal the origin of ion selectivity in terms of quantum chemistry.



Dibenzo-18-crown-6 (DB18C6)

$\Delta \boldsymbol{H}$ for Complex Formation

Bare complexes cannot explain the ion selectivity in solution.





Anderson et al., *Int. J. Mass Spectrom.*, **2003**, 227, 63.

Solvated Complexes

Solvated complexes are used to examine the solvent effect at a molecular level.

$$M^{+} \cdot (H_2 O)_m + CE \cdot (H_2 O)_n \stackrel{K}{\longleftrightarrow}$$
$$(M^{+} \cdot CE) \cdot (H_2 O)_k$$

Relation between *K*, ΔG , ΔH , and ΔS

We have to determine the structure and the number of conformers to evaluate the ion selectivity.

$$K = \exp\left(-\frac{\Delta G}{RT}\right)$$

$\Delta G = \Delta H - T \Delta S$

- *H* and *S* depend on the structure.
- The more conformations a complex takes, the more stable it is.

This Study

- M⁺•DB18C6 (M⁺ = Li⁺, Na⁺, K⁺, Rb⁺, Cs⁺)
- M^+ •DB18C6•(H_2O)_n (n = 1–5)



- UV and IR spectroscopy in a cold, 22-pole ion trap
- The number and structure of conformers are determined.

Experimental

UV and IR spectra of ions are measured under cold (~10 K) conditions in the gas phase.



Effect of the Cooling on UV Spectra

Sharp UV bands are observed thanks to the cooling.



IR-UV Double-Resonance

Conformer-specific IR spectra can be measured by IR-UV double-resonance.



UV Spectra of M⁺•DB18C6

All the complexes show sharp UV bands. Conformer-specific IR spectra can be measured.



Inokuchi et al., JACS, 2011, 133, 12256.

IR Spectra of M⁺•DB18C6

Different IR features originate from different conformers.





Inokuchi et al., JACS, 2011, 133, 12256.

Structure of M⁺•DB18C6

The conformer structure is determined with the aid of quantum chemical calculations.



UV Spectra of K⁺•DB18C6•(H_2O)_n

UV spectra also show sharp bands.

Conformer-specific IR spectra can be measured.



Conformers of K⁺•DB18C6•(H_2O)₃



Inokuchi et al., JACS, 2014, 136, 1815.

Conformers of $M^+ \cdot DB18C6 \cdot (H_2O)_3$

One conformer for Rb⁺ and Cs⁺.





Two conformers for *K*⁺.





Inokuchi et al., JACS, 2014, 136, 1815.

The Number of Conformers

If the metal ion is completely surrounded by CE, multiple conformers can exist for solvated complexes.



What's happening in encapsulation?

We have just started understanding the relation between encapsulation and solvation.

$$M^{+} \cdot (H_{2}O)_{m} + CE \cdot (H_{2}O)_{n} \qquad \stackrel{K}{\longleftrightarrow}$$
$$(M^{+} \cdot CE) \cdot (H_{2}O)_{k}$$

We can determine the structure and the number of conformers at the same time.

Summary

We are still on a way to revealing the whole picture of the ion selectivity at a molecular level, but...

M⁺

- M⁺•DB18C6 (M⁺ = Li⁺, Na⁺, K⁺, Rb⁺, Cs⁺)
- M⁺•DB18C6•(H₂O)_n
- UV and IR spectroscopy in a cold, 22-pole ion trap

- The structure and number of conformers are determined.
- Host-guest complexes with an optimum matching in size tend to give multiple conformers with solvent molecules, resulting in entopic advantages.

Acknowledgment

École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL)



Prof. Thomas R. Rizzo



Dr. Oleg V. Boyarkin



LCPM members

Hiroshima University



Prof. Takayuki Ebata

Future Prospects

Quantum chemical approaches in host-guest chemistry

Gas phase



Future Prospects

Quantum chemical approaches in host-guest chemistry On gold surface

SEIRA (Surface-enhanced IR absorption) spectroscopy with ATR configuration



Inokuchi et al., Chem. Phys. Lett., 2014, 592, 90.

Thank You

Thank you for your attention!