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$\text{In-111}(T_{1/2} = 2.83 \text{ d})$  is a very important isotope in the field of nuclear medicine and various labeled complexes have been prepared.<sup>1)</sup> In the present paper, the complex formation mechanism of carrier-free  $^{111}\text{In}$  with ethylenediaminetetraacetate(EDTA) will be examined by means of cation-exchange method.

Experimental

a) Production of  $^{111}\text{In}$  and preparation of carrier-free  $^{111}\text{In}$  in 0.1 N hydrochloric acid solution

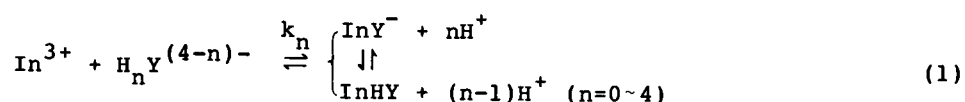
$\text{In-111}$  was produced by the  $^{109}\text{Ag}(\alpha, 2n)$   $^{111}\text{In}$  using an AVF cyclotron of Tohoku University. After short lived radioisotopes had decayed out, the silver foil was dissolved with concentrated nitric acid. The  $^{111}\text{In}$  was separated from silver matrix by means of the solvent extraction using a 0.5 M acetylacetone benzene solution. The carrier-free  $^{111}\text{In}$  was then prepared by the back extraction from the organic phase with a 0.1 N hydrochloric acid solution.

b) Determination of formation rate constants

To an aqueous solution containing a desired concentration of EDTA, the carrier-free  $^{111}\text{In}$  solution was added to initiate the reaction. An aliquot was taken out from the reaction mixture at suitable time intervals and passed through a Dowex 50W-X8 column (50~100 mesh, 8 mm $\phi$   $\times$  40 mm). Thus, the  $^{111}\text{In(III)-EDTA}$  complex can be found in the eluate, while the free  $^{111}\text{In(III)}$  is adsorbed on the column. The rate of formation of  $\text{In(III)-EDTA}$  was determined by measuring the radioactivity of the eluate.

Results and Discussion

The formation mechanism of  $\text{In(III)-EDTA}$  complex will in general be expressed as follows:



in which contribution of  $\text{InOH}^{2+}$  is ignored. Since the concentration of EDTA is in large excess over the carrier-free  $^{111}\text{In}$ , the following equation can be derived from Eq. (1).

$$\ln\left\{\frac{[\text{InY}^-]_e - [\text{InY}^-]}{[\text{InY}^-]_e}\right\} = \ln(1-f) = k_{\text{obs}} \cdot t \quad (2)$$

in which  $[\text{InY}^-]_e$  means the concentration of  $\text{In(III)-EDTA}$  complex in equilibrium.

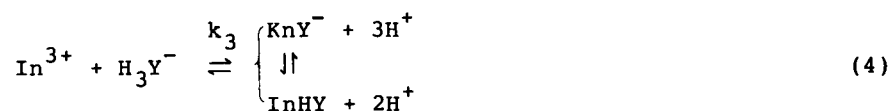
An example of the results is shown in Fig. 1. The apparent rate constant  $k_{\text{Obs}}$  can be obtained as functions of EDTA and hydrogen ion concentrations. From Eq. (1) the rate constant  $k_{\text{Obs}}$  is also expressed as

$$k_{\text{Obs}} = [Y^{4-}] \{k_0 + \sum (k_n [H^+]^n / K_n)\}, \quad (3)$$

in which

$$K_n = [H^+]^n [Y^{4-}] / [H_n Y^{(4-n)-}].$$

Since  $[Y^{4-}]$  is determined on the basis of total EDTA concentration and dissociation constants  $K_n$ , dependence of the hydrogen ion concentration on the rate constant is observed by a plot of  $\log \{k_{\text{Obs}}/[Y^{4-}]\}$  against pH. As is seen in Fig. 2, a straight line of the slope  $-2.83$  was obtained. This means that the principal reaction of  $\text{In}^{3+}$  with EDTA is considered to be



The rate constant can be determined. Thus,

$$k_3 = (1.3 \pm 0.1) \times 10^5 \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1} \quad (25^\circ\text{C})$$

The present information is very important on the syntheses of carrier-free  $^{111}\text{In}$  complexes. In addition, rate constant will be determined using carrier-free metal ion and chelating agent in low concentration, even in the system that formation rate is very rapid.

We wish to express our thanks to Prof. M. Fujioka and the cyclotron crew for their kind arrangement for bombardment.

#### Reference

- 1) Thakur, M. L., *Int. J. Appl. Radiat. Isotopes*, **28** (1977) 183.

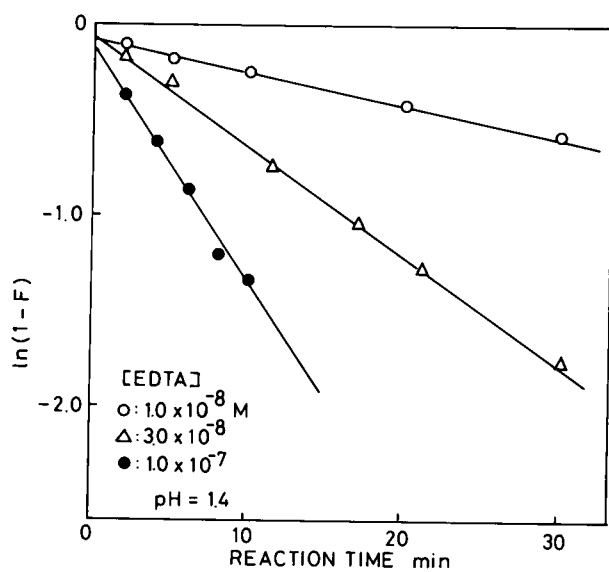


Fig. 1.  $\ln(1-F)$  vs. reaction time.

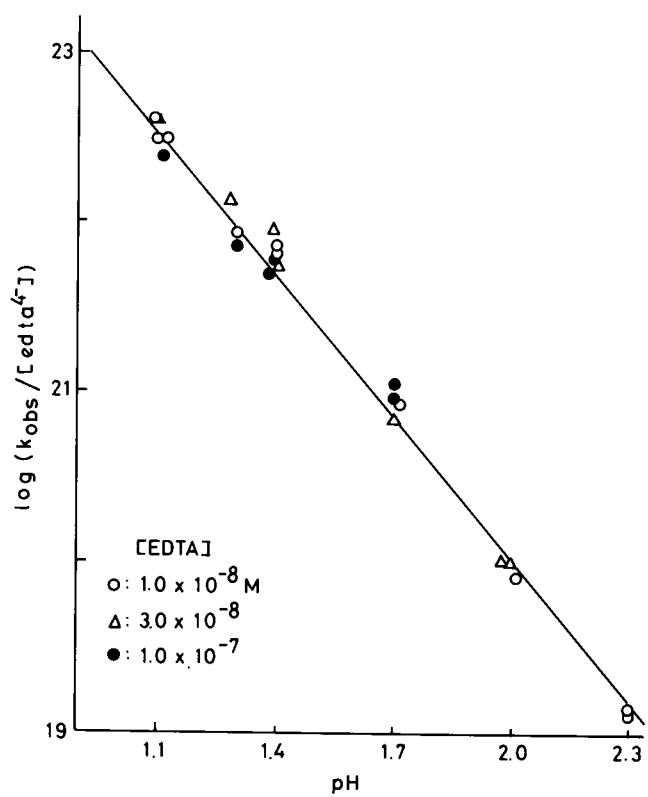


Fig. 2. Dependence of  $\log(k_{\text{obs}}/[\text{edta}^{4-}])$  on pH at 25°C.