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# Mechanistic aspects for the oxidation of sunset yellow dye by chloramine-T in presence of perchloric acid and in sodium hydroxide medium catalyzed by Os(VIII): A spectrophotometric kinetic approach

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## ABSTRACT

The kinetics of oxidation of sunset yellow (SY) by sodium-*N*-chloro-*p*-toluenesulfonamide or chloramine-T (CAT) was studied spectrophotometrically in HClO<sub>4</sub> and NaOH media with Os(VIII) as a catalyst in the latter medium at 298 K and 303 K, respectively. In acid medium, the experimental rate law is  $-d[\text{CAT}]/dt = k[\text{CAT}]_0[\text{SY}]_0[\text{HClO}_4]^{-0.46}$ . Alkali accelerates the rate of reaction and the rate law takes the form  $-d[\text{CAT}]/dt = k[\text{CAT}]_0[\text{SY}]_0[\text{NaOH}]^{0.23}[\text{OsO}_4]^{0.84}$ . The solvent isotope effect was studied using D<sub>2</sub>O. Benzenesulfonic acid and 1,2-naphthoquinone-6-sulfonic acid were characterized as the oxidation products of SY. Under identical set of experimental conditions in alkaline medium, Os(VIII) catalyzed reaction is about seven-fold faster than the uncatalyzed reaction. Activation parameters for the overall reaction and also with respect to catalyst have been evaluated. The observed results have been explained by plausible mechanisms and the related rate laws have been deduced.

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## 1. Introduction

Sodium-*N*-chloro-4-methyl benzenesulfonamide, *p*-CH<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>NCINa · 3H<sub>2</sub>O, generally known as chloramine-T (CAT) is a very important member of organic *N*-halogenoamines [1–2]. Although the mechanistic aspects of many of its reactions have been well documented [2–8], a very little information is available in the literature on the oxidation kinetics of organic dyes with this reagent [9–10]. Sunset yellow, a pyrazolone dye (SY, disodium-2-hydroxy-1(4-sulfonatophenylazo) naphthalene-6-sulfonate), is largely used in coloring food, cosmetics and medications [11]. Recently, the kinetics and mechanism of oxidative decolourisation of SY by peroxydisulphate has been reported by Gemeay et al. [12]. There seems to be no other reports in the literature on the oxidation of SY from the view point of its kinetic and mechanistic aspects.

The mechanism of catalysis is quite complex due to the formation of different complex intermediates, free radicals and differing oxidation states [13–16] of Os(VIII). Although many complexes of Os(VIII) with various organic and inorganic substances have been reported, the literature survey reveals that only sporadic references are available on the kinetic and mechanistic aspects of oxidation of organic dyes in general and azo dyes in particular involving Os(VIII) catalysis.

Our preliminary kinetic experiments revealed that the oxidation of SY by CAT in acid medium is facile but in alkaline medium the reaction is very sluggish to be measured. However, the use of micro quantity of Os(VIII) catalyst in alkaline medium brings about rapid oxidation. Hence, Os(VIII) was chosen as a catalyst for the oxidation of SY by CAT in alkaline medium for the detailed kinetic investigations. In view of this, we have taken up a systematic kinetic study of the oxidation of SY by CAT in presence of HClO<sub>4</sub> as well as in NaOH medium with Os(VIII) as a catalyst in order to understand the mechanistic aspects of these redox systems.

## 2. Experimental

### 2.1. Materials

Chloramine-T (E-Merck) was purified by the method of Morris et al. [17]. An aqueous solution of the compound was standardized by the iodometric procedure and preserved in brown bottles to prevent its photochemical deterioration. Sunset yellow (Merck) was used without further purification. Aqueous solutions of desired strength were freshly prepared prior to use. A solution of Os(VIII), prepared in 0.5 mol dm<sup>-3</sup> NaOH, was used as the catalyst. Allowance was made for the amount of alkali present in the catalyst solution, while preparing reaction mixtures for kinetic runs in alkaline medium. The rate of reaction was not affected when the reaction was studied at 0.20 mol dm<sup>-3</sup> NaClO<sub>4</sub> solution. Hence, no attempt was made to keep the ionic strength of the system

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constant for kinetic runs. Solvent isotope studies were made with D<sub>2</sub>O (99.2%) supplied by the Bhabha Atomic Research Center, Mumbai, India. All other compounds employed were of accepted grades of purity. Double distilled water was used through out these kinetic reactions.

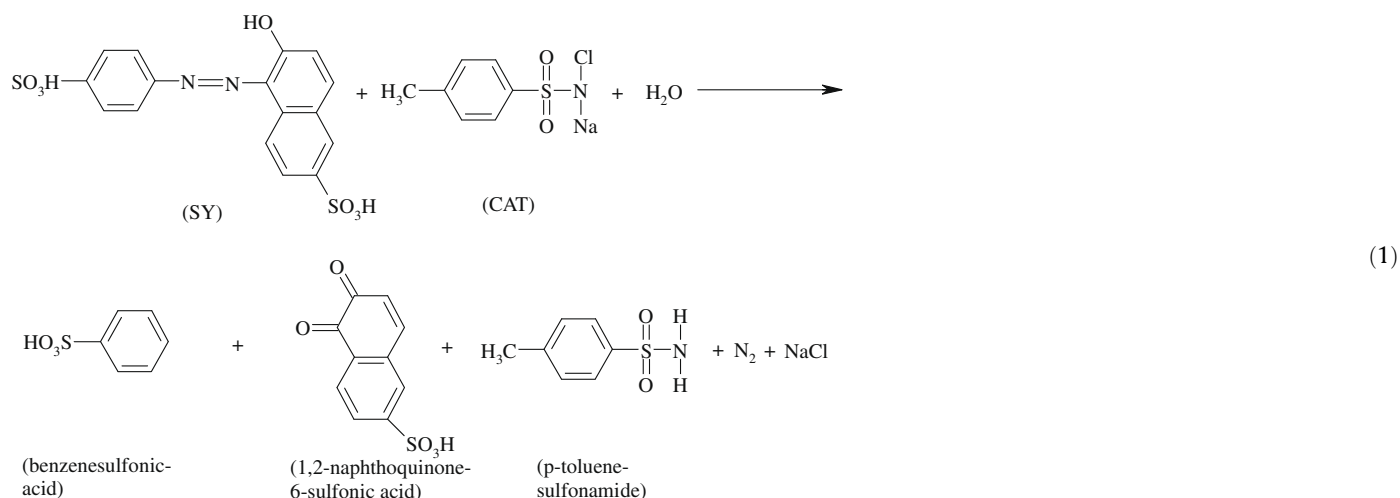
## 2.2. Kinetic measurements

Detailed kinetic runs were performed under pseudo-first-order conditions of [oxidant]<sub>0</sub> ≫ [substrate]<sub>0</sub> at 298 K in presence of acid medium and 303 K in alkaline medium. The kinetic procedure followed is similar to that reported earlier [10]. Absorbance measurements were made at 483 nm ( $\lambda_{\max}$  of the dye) for more than two half-lives. The absorbance readings at  $t = 0$  and  $t = t$  are  $D_0$  and  $D_t$ . Plots of  $\log D_0/D_t$  versus time were made to evaluate the pseudo-first-order rate constants ( $k'$  s<sup>-1</sup>), which were found to be reproducible to an accuracy of ±4%. Regression coefficient ( $r$ ) of the experimental data was carried out on an  $f_x - 100$  W scientific calculator.

## 3. Results and discussion

### 3.1. Stoichiometry and product analysis

Reaction mixtures containing varying ratios of CAT to SY in presence of  $1.0 \times 10^{-4}$  mol dm<sup>-3</sup> HClO<sub>4</sub> or  $1.0 \times 10^{-3}$  mol dm<sup>-3</sup> NaOH (and  $2.0 \times 10^{-5}$  mol dm<sup>-3</sup> Os(VIII) in alkaline medium) were equilibrated at 298 K in acidic and 303 K in alkaline media, respectively for 24 h. Determination of unreacted CAT by iodometry showed that one mole of SY consumed one mole of CAT in both the media. The observed stoichiometry can be represented by Eq. (1).



The reaction mixture in the stoichiometric ratio, under stirred condition, was allowed to progress in acid and alkaline media separately for 24 h at room temperature. After completion of the reaction, products were neutralized with NaOH/HCl and extracted with ether. The organic products were subjected to spot tests and chromatographic analysis (TLC technique), which revealed the formation of oxidation products, namely benzenesulfonic acid and 1,2-naphthoquinone-6-sulfonic acid. These products were separated by column chromatography and were confirmed by GC–MS analysis. The mass spectra showed a molecular ion peak at 158 amu and 238 amu clearly confirming benzenesulfonic acid and 1,2-naphthoquinone-6-sulfonic acid, respectively.

*p*-Toluenesulfonamide in the reaction mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate and was detected by paper chromatography [9] using benzyl alcohol saturated with water as solvent, with 0.5% vanillin in 1% HCl solution in ethanol as the spray reagent ( $R_f = 0.905$ ). Molecular ion peak at 171 amu confirms *p*-toluenesulfonamide. All other peaks observed in GC–MS can be interpreted in accordance with the observed structure. It was also noticed that there was no further oxidation of these products under the present set of experimental conditions. Nitrogen was identified by the conventional test. The oxidation reaction fails to induce the polymerization of added acrylonitrile, indicating the absence of free radicals in the reaction.

The kinetics of oxidation of SY by CAT was investigated at several initial concentrations of the reactants in presence of HClO<sub>4</sub> and in NaOH medium catalyzed by Os(VIII) at 298 K and 303 K, respectively. The stoichiometry and oxidation products are same in both the media, but their kinetic characteristics were found to be different. This suggests that the mechanism of oxidation of SY by CAT in acid and alkaline media also to be different. All the kinetic runs were carried out spectrophotometrically at  $\lambda_{\max}$  483 nm under pseudo-first-order conditions, wherein [CAT]<sub>0</sub> ≫ [SY]<sub>0</sub>.

### 3.2. Kinetics of oxidation of SY by CAT in HClO<sub>4</sub> medium

With the oxidant concentration in excess, at constant [substrate]<sub>0</sub>, [HClO<sub>4</sub>] and temperature, plots of  $\log$  (absorbance) versus time were linear ( $r > 0.9938$ ), indicating a first-order dependence of rate on [SY]<sub>0</sub>. The pseudo-first-order rate constants ( $k'$  s<sup>-1</sup>) are unaffected with variation of [SY]<sub>0</sub>, confirming a first-order dependence of rate on [SY]<sub>0</sub> (Table 1). Values of  $k'$  increases with increase in [CAT]<sub>0</sub> (Table 1) and a plot of  $\log k'$  versus  $\log$  [CAT] was linear ( $r = 0.9905$ ) with a slope of unity, indicating a first-order depen-

dence of rate on [CAT]<sub>0</sub>. Further, a plot of  $k'$  versus [CAT]<sub>0</sub> was linear ( $r = 0.9921$ ) passing through the origin, establishing a first-order dependence on [CAT]<sub>0</sub> and also the intermediates formed are of transient existence. There was a decrease in rate with an increase in [HClO<sub>4</sub>] (Table 1) and a plot of  $\log k'$  versus  $\log$  [HClO<sub>4</sub>] was linear ( $r = 0.9889$ ) with a negative slope of 0.46, indicating an inverse-fractional-order dependence of rate on [HClO<sub>4</sub>].

Addition of *p*-toluenesulfonamide or TsNH<sub>2</sub> ( $1.0 \times 10^{-3}$ – $8.0 \times 10^{-3}$  mol dm<sup>-3</sup>) to the reaction mixture did not affect the rate significantly. Similarly, Cl<sup>-</sup> or Br<sup>-</sup> ions in the form of NaCl or NaBr ( $4.0 \times 10^{-3}$ – $12.0 \times 10^{-3}$  mol dm<sup>-3</sup>) had no pronounced effect on the rate. The reaction was studied at different temperatures

**Table 1**  
Effect of varying concentrations of CAT, SY and HClO<sub>4</sub> on the reaction rate at 298 K

[CAT] <sub>0</sub> × 10 <sup>3</sup> (mol dm <sup>-3</sup> )	[SY] <sub>0</sub> × 10 <sup>4</sup> (mol dm <sup>-3</sup> )	[HClO <sub>4</sub> ] <sub>0</sub> × 10 <sup>4</sup> (mol dm <sup>-3</sup> )	k' × 10 <sup>4</sup> (s <sup>-1</sup> )
0.2	1.0	1.0	1.64
0.5	1.0	1.0	3.59
1.0	1.0	1.0	8.31
2.0	1.0	1.0	14.3
4.0	1.0	1.0	28.5
1.0	0.2	1.0	8.44
1.0	0.4	1.0	8.39
1.0	1.0	1.0	8.31
1.0	2.0	1.0	7.92
1.0	4.0	1.0	8.66
1.0	1.0	0.2	17.3
1.0	1.0	0.5	12.5
1.0	1.0	1.0	8.31
1.0	1.0	2.0	4.26
1.0	1.0	4.0	2.12

**Table 2**  
Temperature dependence and activation parameters for the oxidation of SY by CAT in HClO<sub>4</sub> medium and in NaOH medium with and without Os(VIII) catalyst<sup>a</sup>

Temperature (K)	k' × 10 <sup>4</sup> (s <sup>-1</sup> )			K <sub>C</sub>
	Acid medium	Alkaline medium		
		Os(VIII) catalyzed	Uncatalyzed	
288	4.41			
293	6.24	3.67	0.38	1.34
298	8.31	4.82	0.52	2.93
303	12.0	6.39	0.95	4.81
308	16.0	9.17	1.91	11.2
313		13.7	2.52	19.8
E <sub>a</sub> (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )	43.5	50.3	80.5	100
ΔH <sup>‡</sup> (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )	41.0 ± 0.01	47.8 ± 0.01	78.0 ± 0.13	97.5 ± 0.01
ΔS <sup>‡</sup> (J K <sup>-1</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup> )	-165 ± 0.20	-147 ± 0.11	-63.5 ± 0.23	-90.0 ± 0.13
ΔG <sup>‡</sup> (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )	90.3 ± 0.13	92.5 ± 0.25	98.3 ± 0.14	124 ± 0.12
log A	4.55 ± 0.15	7.78 ± 0.09	9.95 ± 0.21	8.84 ± 0.02

Also values of catalytic constant (K<sub>C</sub>) at different temperature and activation parameters calculated using K<sub>C</sub> values.

<sup>a</sup> [CAT]<sub>0</sub> = 1.0 × 10<sup>-3</sup> mol dm<sup>-3</sup>; [SY]<sub>0</sub> = 1.0 × 10<sup>-4</sup> mol dm<sup>-3</sup>; [HClO<sub>4</sub>]<sub>0</sub> = 1.0 × 10<sup>-4</sup> mol dm<sup>-3</sup>; [NaOH] = 1.0 × 10<sup>-3</sup> mol dm<sup>-3</sup>; [Os(VIII)] = 2.0 × 10<sup>-5</sup> mol dm<sup>-3</sup>.

(288–308 K) and from the linear plot of log k' versus 1/T (r = 0.9923), the values of activation parameters (E<sub>a</sub>, ΔH<sup>‡</sup>, ΔS<sup>‡</sup>, ΔG<sup>‡</sup> and log A) for the overall reaction were computed (Table 2). The solvent isotope effect was studied using D<sub>2</sub>O and the reaction rate was further decreased with k' = 6.55 × 10<sup>-4</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> in D<sub>2</sub>O medium and 8.31 × 10<sup>-4</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> in H<sub>2</sub>O, leading to a solvent isotope effect of k'(H<sub>2</sub>O)/k'(D<sub>2</sub>O) = 1.27.

### 3.3. Kinetics of oxidation of SY by CAT in NaOH medium

The reactant concentrations were varied under pseudo-first-order conditions: [CAT]<sub>0</sub> ≫ [SY]<sub>0</sub> at constant [NaOH], [Os(VIII)] and temperature. Plots of log [SY]<sub>0</sub> versus time were linear (r > 0.9986), indicating a first-order dependence of rate on [SY]<sub>0</sub>. The values of k' were unaffected by the variation of [SY]<sub>0</sub>, confirming the first-order dependence of rate on [SY]<sub>0</sub> (Table 3). The rate increases with increase in [CAT]<sub>0</sub> (Table 3) and a first-order dependence on [CAT]<sub>0</sub> is noted, as the plot of log k' versus log [CAT]<sub>0</sub> is linear (r = 0.9899) with a unit slope. Further, a plot of k' versus [CAT]<sub>0</sub> was linear (r = 0.9951) passed through the origin, confirming

**Table 3**  
Effect of varying concentrations of CAT, SY, NaOH and Os(VIII) on the reaction rate at 303 K

[CAT] <sub>0</sub> × 10 <sup>3</sup> (mol dm <sup>-3</sup> )	[SY] <sub>0</sub> × 10 <sup>4</sup> (mol dm <sup>-3</sup> )	[Os(VIII)] × 10 <sup>5</sup> (mol dm <sup>-3</sup> )	[NaOH] × 10 <sup>3</sup> (mol dm <sup>-3</sup> )	k' × 10 <sup>4</sup> (s <sup>-1</sup> )
0.2	1.0	2.0	1.0	1.51
0.5	1.0	2.0	1.0	3.39
1.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	6.39
2.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	13.1
4.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	25.0
1.0	0.2	2.0	1.0	6.55
1.0	0.4	2.0	1.0	6.37
1.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	6.39
1.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	6.58
1.0	4.0	2.0	1.0	6.67
1.0	1.0	0.5	1.0	1.90
1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	3.83
1.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	6.39
1.0	1.0	5.0	1.0	14.6
1.0	1.0	10.0	1.0	24.9
1.0	1.0	2.0	0.1	3.83
1.0	1.0	2.0	0.5	5.17
1.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	6.39
1.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	7.67
1.0	1.0	2.0	5.0	9.17

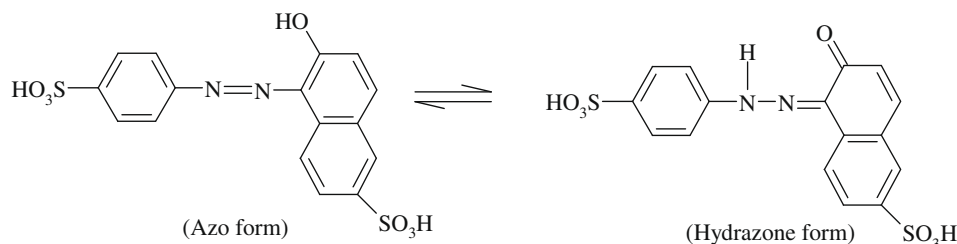
the first-order dependence on [CAT]<sub>0</sub> and the intermediates formed are of transient existence. The rate increased with increase in [NaOH] (Table 3) and a plot of log k' versus log [NaOH] was linear (r = 0.9899) with a slope of 0.23, indicating the fractional-order dependence of rate on [NaOH]. Similarly, the reaction rate increased with increase in [Os(VIII)] (Table 3) and the plot of log k' versus log [Os(VIII)] gave a straight line (r = 0.9972) with a slope less than unity (0.84), indicating a fractional-order dependence on [Os(VIII)].

Addition of *p*-toluenesulfonamide (1.0 × 10<sup>-3</sup>–8.0 × 10<sup>-3</sup> mol dm<sup>-3</sup>) and NaCl or NaBr (4.0 × 10<sup>-3</sup>–12.0 × 10<sup>-3</sup> mol dm<sup>-3</sup>) had no significant effect on the rate. The reaction rate was further increased in D<sub>2</sub>O with k' = 8.74 × 10<sup>-4</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> and 6.39 × 10<sup>-4</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> in H<sub>2</sub>O leading to a solvent isotope effect, k'(H<sub>2</sub>O)/k'(D<sub>2</sub>O) = 0.73. The reaction was found to obey Arrhenius temperature dependence (293–313 K) and from the linear plot of log k' versus 1/T (r = 0.9899), activation parameters were evaluated (Table 2).

### 3.4. Reactive species of CAT and SY

Chloramine-T acts as an oxidizing agent in both acidic and alkaline media [17–22]. The redox potential of chloramine-T/sulfonamide system [23] is pH dependent (1.139, 0.778 and 0.614 V at pH 0.65, 7.0 and 9.7, respectively) and decreasing with increase in pH of the medium. The existence of similar equilibria in acid and alkaline solutions of CAT has been reported by Morris et al. [17], Ruff and Kucsman [18], Bishop and Jennings [19], Hardy and Johnston [20], Pryde and Soper [21] and Higuchi et al. [22]. Aqueous solution of chloramine-T (TsNCINa) behaves as a strong electrolyte [19] and depending on the pH, it furnishes different types of reactive species. The possible oxidizing species in acidified CAT solutions are the conjugate free acid (TsNHCl), dichloramine-T (TsNCl<sub>2</sub>), hypochlorous acid (HOCl) and possibly H<sub>2</sub>OCl<sup>+</sup>, and in alkaline solutions TsNHCl, HOCl, TsNCl<sup>-</sup> and OCl<sup>-</sup>.

Dyes, such as sunset yellow, containing hydroxy groups conjugated to azo group exhibit azo-hydrazone tautomerism as shown below. For dyes where the hydroxyl group is ortho to the azo link, the aqueous solution favors hydrazone form [24]. In the present case, hydrazone form of sunset yellow is involved in the reaction.



### 3.5. Reaction mechanism and rate law in acid medium

The probable oxidizing species in acidified CAT solutions are  $\text{TsNHCl}$ ,  $\text{TsNCl}_2$ ,  $\text{HOCl}$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{OCl}^+$ . If  $\text{TsNCl}_2$  and  $\text{HOCl}$  were to behave as reactive species, then the rate law would have followed a second-order dependence on  $[\text{CAT}]_0$  and a first-order retardation by the added  $[\text{TsNH}_2]$ . However, experimental observations are quite contrary to these expectations. Similarly, if  $\text{H}_2\text{OCl}^+$  were to be the reactive species, there would have been a positive effect of  $[\text{H}^+]$  on the rate, which did not occur. Therefore  $\text{TsNHCl}$  can be assumed as the reactive oxidizing species for the oxidation of SY by CAT in acid medium.

Formation of species of the type  $\text{TsNH}_2\text{Cl}^+$  has been reported [25–26] with CAT and the protonation constant for the reaction,



is found to be  $1.02 \times 10^2$  at 298 K. In the present case, an inverse-fractional-order in  $[\text{H}^+]$  suggests that the deprotonation of  $\text{TsNH}_2\text{Cl}^+$  results in the regeneration of  $\text{TsNHCl}$ , which is the most likely active oxidant species involved in the mechanism of SY oxidation. In view of these facts, a general mechanism (Scheme 1) was proposed to substantiate the observed kinetics during the oxidation of SY by CAT in acid medium.

The structure of the complex intermediate species (X) is shown in Scheme 2, where a detailed mechanistic picture of CAT-SY reaction in acid medium is illustrated.

According to Scheme 1, the total effective concentration of CAT is

$$[\text{CAT}]_t = [\text{TsNH}_2\text{Cl}^+] + [\text{TsNHCl}] \quad (3)$$

From step (i) of Scheme 1, one can obtain the value of  $[\text{TsNHCl}]$  as

$$[\text{TsNHCl}] = \frac{K_1[\text{CAT}]_t}{K_1 + [\text{H}^+]}$$

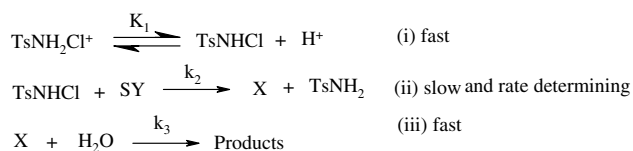
From the slow step (ii) of Scheme 1,

$$\text{rate} = k_2[\text{TsNHCl}][\text{SY}] \quad (4)$$

Upon substituting for  $[\text{TsNHCl}]$ , Eq. (4) yields the following rate law,

$$\text{rate} = \frac{K_1 k_2 [\text{CAT}]_t [\text{SY}]}{K_1 + [\text{H}^+]} \quad (5)$$

Rate law (5) is in accordance with the observed experimental results.



**Scheme 1.** A general scheme for the oxidation of SY by CAT in acid medium.

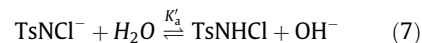
Since  $\text{rate} = k' [\text{CAT}]_t$ , Eq. (5) can be transformed as,

$$\frac{1}{k'} = \frac{1}{k_2[\text{SY}]} + \frac{[\text{H}^+]}{K_1 k_2 [\text{SY}]} \quad (6)$$

From the linear double reciprocal plot of  $1/k'$  versus  $[\text{H}^+]$  ( $r = 0.9930$ ), values of deprotonation constant  $K_1$  and decomposition constant  $k_2$  could be calculated and are found to be  $5.38 \times 10^3 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  and  $9.29 \times 10^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , respectively.

### 3.6. Reaction mechanism and rate law in alkaline medium

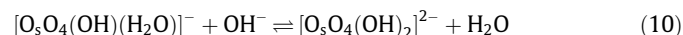
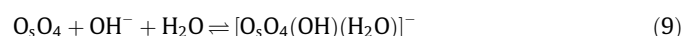
In alkaline solutions of CAT,  $\text{TsNCl}_2$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{OCl}^+$  does not exist and the possible species are  $\text{TsNHCl}$ ,  $\text{HOCl}$  and  $\text{TsNCl}^-$ . Hardy and Johnston [20] have also reported the existence of the following equilibria in alkaline solutions of CAT



$$K'_h = 4.21 \times 10^{-3} \text{ at } 298 \text{ K}$$

As Eq. (8) indicates a slow hydrolysis, if  $\text{HOCl}$  were the primary oxidizing species, a first-order retardation of the rate by the added *p*-toluenesulfonamide would be expected. However, no such effect was noticed. In the present investigations, a fractional-order dependence on  $[\text{OH}^-]$  indicates that the anion species  $\text{TsNCl}^-$ , formed from  $\text{TsNHCl}$ , is responsible for the oxidation of SY by CAT in alkaline medium.

It has been shown that osmium is stable in its +8 oxidation state [27–29] and in alkaline solutions the following equilibria exist



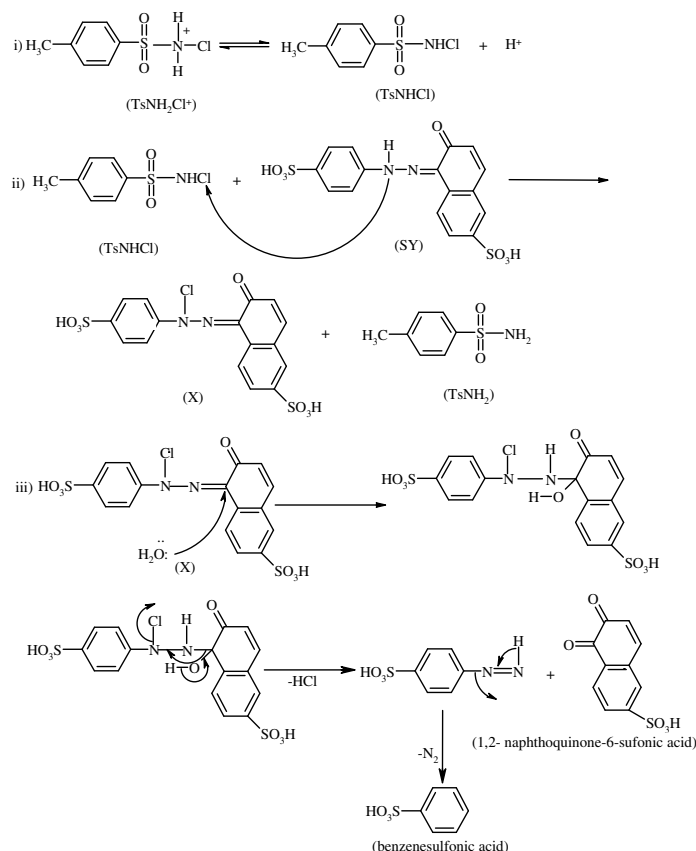
Both  $[\text{OsO}_4(\text{OH})(\text{H}_2\text{O})]^-$  and  $[\text{OsO}_4(\text{OH})_2]^{2-}$  possess octahedral geometry and they may not be able to form effective complexes with an oxidant. It is more realistic to postulate that  $\text{OsO}_4$ , which possesses tetrahedral geometry, as the active catalyst species that can effectively form a complex with the oxidant species. Further, the first-order-dependence of the rate on  $[\text{CAT}]_0$  and  $[\text{SY}]_0$ , a fractional-order dependence each on  $[\text{OsO}_4]$  and  $[\text{OH}^-]$ , indicates that the intermediate complex formed from  $\text{OsO}_4$  and CAT interacts with the substrate in the slow step.

The existence of a complex between catalyst and oxidant was evidenced from the UV–Visible spectra of  $\text{Os(VIII)}$  and  $\text{Os(VIII)}$ –CAT mixture, in which a shift of  $\text{Os(VIII)}$  from 320 to 314 nm was observed (Fig. 1), indicating the formation of a complex between  $\text{Os(VIII)}$ –CAT. Such type of complex formation has also been observed elsewhere [30–31].

Further, for a general equilibrium (11)



between two metal species M and  $(\text{MOX}_n)$  having different extinction coefficients, Ardon [32] has derived the following Eq. (12)

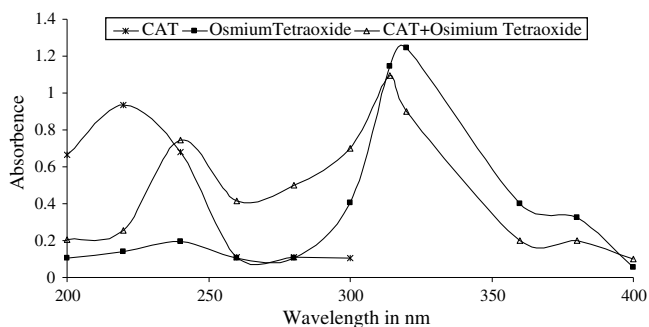


**Scheme 2.** A detailed mechanistic interpretation for the oxidation of SY by CAT in acid medium.

$$1/\Delta A = 1/[\text{OX}]^n \{1/\Delta E[\text{M}_{\text{total}}]K\} + 1/\Delta E[\text{M}_{\text{total}}] \quad (12)$$

where  $K$  is the formation constant of the complex, OX is the oxidant,  $\Delta E$  is the difference in extinction coefficient between two metal species,  $[\text{M}_{\text{total}}]$  the total concentration of metal species and  $\Delta A$  is the absorbance difference of solution in absence of OX and one that contains a certain concentration of OX represented by  $[\text{OX}]$ . Eq. (12) is valid provided that  $[\text{OX}]$  is so much greater than  $[\text{M}_{\text{total}}]$  that the amount of OX bound in the complex is negligible or it is subtracted from the initial concentration of OX. According to Eq. (12), a plot of  $1/\Delta A$  versus  $1/[\text{OX}]$  or  $1/[\text{OX}]^2$  should be linear with an intercept in case of 1:1 or 1:2 type of complex formation between M and OX. The ratio of intercept to slope of this linear plot gives the value of  $K$ .

Chloramine-T in NaOH medium containing Os(VIII) showed an absorption peak at 314 nm ( $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  of the complex) and the complex formation studies were made at this  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ . In a set of experiments, the solutions were prepared by taking different amounts of CAT



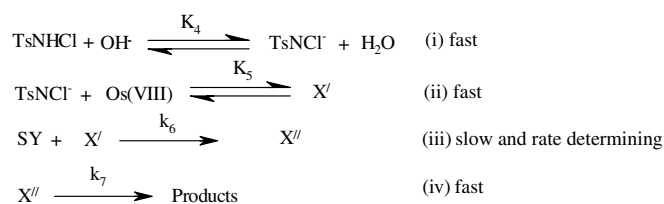
**Fig. 1.** UV-Visible spectra of CAT, Os(VIII) and CAT-Os(VIII) complex.

( $0.5 \times 10^{-3}$ – $4.0 \times 10^{-3}$  mol dm<sup>-3</sup>) at constant amounts of Os(VIII) ( $2.0 \times 10^{-5}$  mol dm<sup>-3</sup>) and NaOH ( $1.0 \times 10^{-3}$  mol dm<sup>-3</sup>) at 303 K. The absorbance of these solutions were measured at 314 nm. The absorbance of the solution in the absence of CAT was also measured at the same wavelength. The difference of these absorbance values (with and without CAT) gives the differential absorbance,  $\Delta A$ . A plot of  $1/\Delta A$  versus  $1/[\text{CAT}]$  was linear ( $r = 0.9955$ ) with an intercept suggesting the formation of 1:1 complex between CAT and catalyst. From the slope and intercept of the plot  $1/\Delta A$  versus  $1/[\text{CAT}]$ , the formation constant,  $K$ , of the complex was evaluated and was found to be  $1.23 \times 10^3$ .

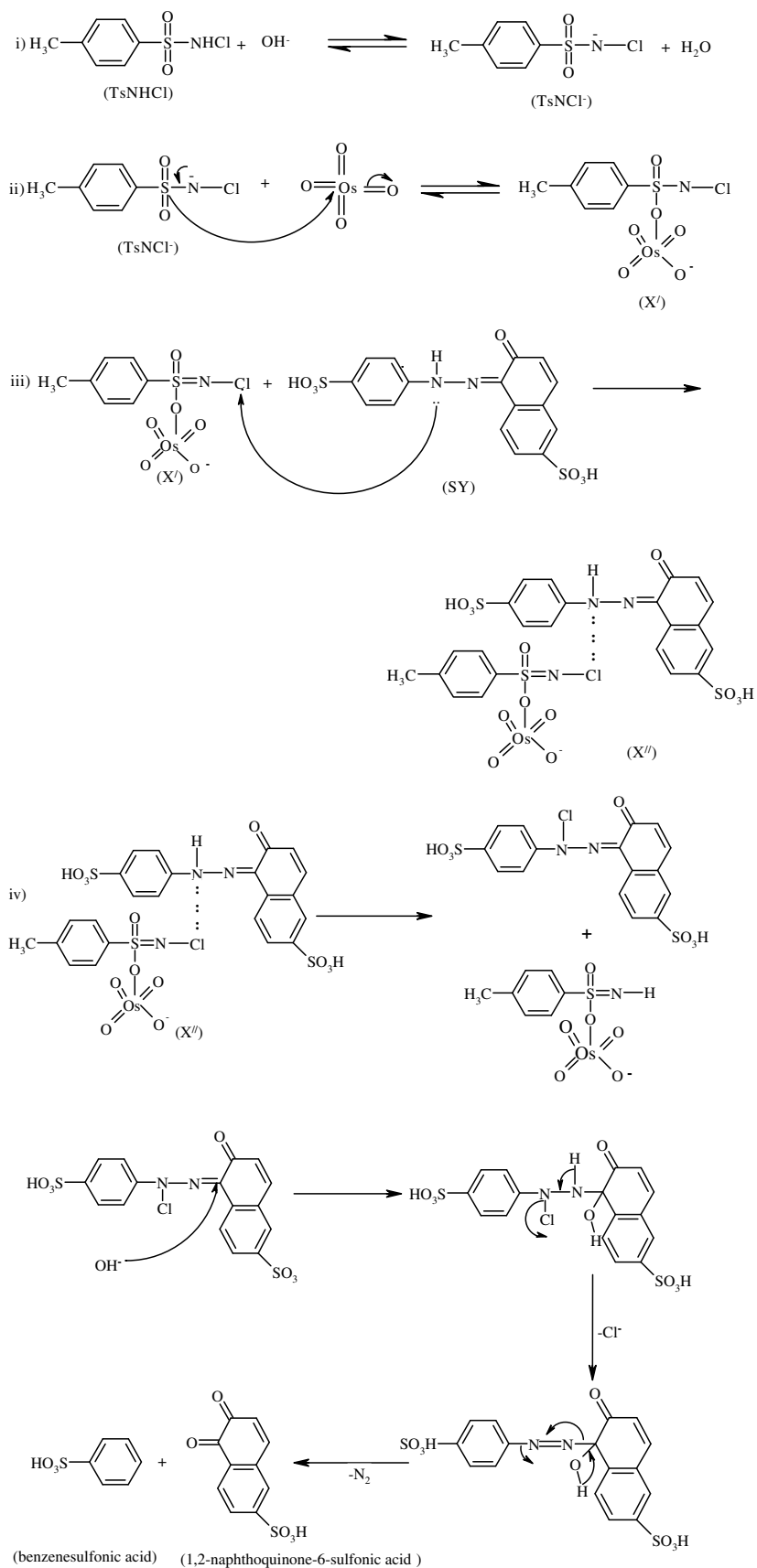
In the light of these considerations, the mechanism for the Os(VIII) catalyzed oxidation of SY by CAT in NaOH medium is formulated (Scheme 3). In Scheme 3, X' and X'' represent the complex intermediate species whose structures are shown in Scheme 4, where a detailed mechanistic mode of Os(VIII) catalyzed SY oxidation by CAT in alkaline medium is depicted.

The total effective concentration of CAT is

$$[\text{CAT}]_t = [\text{TsNHCl}] + [\text{TsNCl}^-] + [\text{X}'] \quad (13)$$



**Scheme 3.** A general scheme for the Os(VIII) catalyzed oxidation of SY by CAT in alkaline medium.

**Scheme 4.** A detailed mechanistic interpretation for the Os(VIII) catalyzed oxidation of SY by CAT in alkaline medium.

From steps (i) and (ii) of Scheme 3, solving for  $[X']$ . One obtains,

$$[X'] = \frac{K_4 K_5 [\text{CAT}]_t [\text{OH}^-] [\text{Os}(\text{VIII})]}{[\text{H}_2\text{O}] + K_4 [\text{OH}^-] + K_4 K_5 [\text{OH}^-] [\text{Os}(\text{VIII})]} \quad (14)$$

From the slow step (iii) of Scheme 3,

$$\text{rate} = k_6 [X'] [\text{SY}] \quad (15)$$

By substituting  $[X']$  from Eq. (14) in Eq. (15), the following rate law (16) is obtained,

$$\text{rate} = \frac{K_4 K_5 k_6 [\text{CAT}]_t [\text{SY}] [\text{OH}^-] [\text{Os}(\text{VIII})]}{[\text{H}_2\text{O}] + K_4 [\text{OH}^-] + K_4 K_5 [\text{OH}^-] [\text{Os}(\text{VIII})]} \quad (16)$$

Rate expression (16) fits well to the experimental data. The proposed reaction mechanisms and the derived rate laws in both the media are also substantiated by the following observed experimental facts:

The observed solvent isotope effects in acid and alkaline media support the proposed mechanisms and the derived rate expressions. For a reaction involving a fast equilibrium  $\text{H}^+$  or  $\text{OH}^-$  ion transfer, the rate increases in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  since  $\text{D}_3\text{O}^+$  and  $\text{OD}^-$  are stronger acid and stronger base ( $\sim 2$ – $3$  times greater), respectively, than  $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$  and  $\text{OH}^-$  ions [33–34]. The reverse holds good for reactions involving retardation by  $\text{H}^+$  or  $\text{OH}^-$  ions. In the present investigations, the observed solvent isotope effects of  $k'(\text{H}_2\text{O})/k'(\text{D}_2\text{O}) > 1$  and  $k'(\text{H}_2\text{O})/k'(\text{D}_2\text{O}) < 1$  in acid and alkaline media, respectively, conform to the above theory.

It was felt indispensable to compare the reactivity of SY by CAT in alkaline medium with and without Os(VIII) catalyst under identical experimental conditions (Table 2). The reaction was carried out at different temperatures (293–313 K) without Os(VIII) catalyst and from the linear plot of  $\log k'$  versus  $1/T$  ( $r = 0.9956$ ), activation parameters for the uncatalyzed reactions were computed (Table 2). It was found that Os(VIII) catalyzed reaction is about seven-fold faster than the uncatalyzed reaction and was also confirmed by the values of activation parameters. Hence, the observed reaction rate in presence of Os(VIII) catalyst justifies the facile oxidation of SY by CAT in alkaline medium. Consequently, it can be concluded that Os(VIII) is an efficient catalyst for the facile oxidation of SY by CAT in alkaline medium.

Further, it has been pointed out by Moelwyn-Hughes [35] that even in presence of the catalyst, the uncatalyzed and catalyzed reactions proceed simultaneously, so that

$$k_1 = k_0 + K_C [\text{catalyst}]^x \quad (17)$$

Here  $k_1$  and  $k_0$  are the specific rate constants in presence and absence of Os(VIII) catalyst, respectively,  $K_C$  is the catalytic constant and  $x$  is the order of the reaction with respect to Os(VIII) and is found to be 0.84 in the present study. The value of  $K_C$  was calculated at different temperatures using Eq. (18)

$$K_C = (k_1 - k_0) / [\text{Os}(\text{VIII})]^{0.84} \quad (18)$$

The values of  $K_C$  were found to vary with temperature. A plot of  $\log K_C$  versus  $1/T$  was linear ( $r = 0.9935$ ) and the values of activation parameters with respect to the catalyst were computed. All these results are summarized in Table 2.

Furthermore, a plot of rate constant for the catalyzed reaction  $k'$  versus  $[\text{Os}(\text{VIII})]$  at 303 K (Table 3) was found to be linear ( $r = 0.9873$ ) with an intercept. The ordinate intercept is the rate constant for the uncatalyzed reaction ( $k_0$ ) through the relationship  $k_0 = \text{Intercept} + k' [\text{Os}(\text{VIII})]$  and it signifies that both catalyzed and uncatalyzed pathways proceed simultaneously. The value of  $k_0$  was found to be  $1.04 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , which is in good agreement with that obtained in the absence of Os(VIII) catalyst ( $k_0 = 0.95 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) (Table 2) at 303 K. This clearly establishes the above relationship.

The proposed mechanisms are also substantiated by the calculated values of energy of activation and other thermodynamic parameters (Table 2). The fairly high positive values of Gibb's free energy of activation and enthalpy of activation indicate that the transition state is highly solvated, while the negative entropy of activation accounts for the formation of a compact activated complex with a fewer degrees of freedom. Addition of *p*-toluenesulfonamide has no effect on the rate, indicating that it was not involved in pre-equilibrium with the oxidant. The rate was unchanged by the addition of halide ions to the reaction mixture, showing that free chlorine is not involved in the oxidation process. All these observations are also in conformity with the proposed mechanisms in both the media.

#### 4. Conclusions

The kinetics of oxidation of SY by CAT have been studied in  $\text{HClO}_4$  and  $\text{NaOH}$  media with Os(VIII) as a catalyst in the latter medium. In acid medium, the rate being:  $-\text{d}[\text{CAT}]/\text{dt} = k[\text{CAT}]_0 [\text{SY}]_0 [\text{HClO}_4]^{-0.46}$ , which changes to  $-\text{d}[\text{CAT}]/\text{dt} = k[\text{CAT}]_0 [\text{SY}]_0 [\text{NaOH}]^{0.23} [\text{OsO}_4]^{0.84}$  in presence of alkali. Activation parameters for the overall reaction and also with respect to catalyst have been computed. In alkaline medium, it was found that Os(VIII) catalyzed reaction is about seven-fold faster than the uncatalyzed reaction and hence it can be concluded that Os(VIII) is an efficient catalyst in the facile oxidation of SY by CAT in alkaline medium. Suitable mechanisms and appropriate rate laws have been worked out to account for the observed kinetics.

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