lucular ions measured experimentally were M (43), M +2 (6), and M + 4 (51). Considering that a portion of the 11-hydroxy group is derived from dioxygen, this result clearly indicates that the transfer of the hydroperoxy oxygen to carbon 11 of II is intramolecular.

These findings indicate that hematin catalyzes the cyclization of the internal peroxide oxygen to the 11,12-double bond and the transfer of the terminal peroxide oxygen to carbons 9 or 11. A mechanistic hypothesis consistent with the experimental observations is outlined in Scheme I. Hematin reduces the hydroperoxide by one electron generating a fatty acid alkoxyl radical and a ferryl-hydroxo complex. The alkoxyl radical cyclizes to an epoxide-containing allylic radical. The epoxide allylic radical can couple at either of the allylic termini with the hydroxyl radical coordinated to hematin or to dioxygen following diffusion from the solvent cage. The reciprocal relationship between the incorporation of hydroperoxide or molecular oxygen at carbons 9 or 11 suggests that the ferryl-hydroxo complex and dioxygen compete for the trapping of the same intermediate, the epoxy allylic radical. The higher percentage of peroxide oxygen trapping at carbon 11 is most likely due to the proximity of this allylic terminus to the ferryl-hydroxo complex.

Oxygen rebounds have been observed in the peroxide-dependent and iodosylbenzene-dependent hydroxylations of alkanes catalyzed by ferrous ion and metalloporphyrins, respectively. In both cases, the metal center reduces the oxidizing agent by two electrons and forms an oxo complex that transfers oxygen to the alkane. Oxygen rebounds have not been observed in peroxide-dependent oxidations catalyzed by iron porphyrins presumably because of the propensity of the catalyst to reduce peroxide by one electron in the initial step of oxidation. Our finding that hematin catalyzes the rearrangement of I to epoxy alcohols via an oxygen rebound derives from the fact that the initial peroxide reduction product, an alkoxyl radical, can cyclize to generate a carbon-centered radical capable of coupling to the hydroxyl radical coordinated to iron. The 11,12-double bond of I thus serves as an intramolecular trap that transforms the initial peroxide reduction product into a derivative capable of participating in an oxygen rebound. The coupling reaction may be aided by the fact that the radical pair is generated in a solvent cage provided by detergent micelles. Recent work has shown that micelles limit the diffusion of geminate radicals to an extent that suggests the microenvironment of a radical pair in a micelle acts as a "supercage" relative to that in homogeneous solution. This can result in the prolongation of the lifetime of the solvent cage by factors of up to 104. This would not only enhance the probability that the epoxy allylic radical would couple to the hydroxyl group but also increase the cyclization of the initial alkoxyl radical to the epoxy allylic radical prior to diffusive separation of the initial radical pair.

This report demonstrates that simple heme complexes, in the absence of protein, can catalyze the rearrangement of unsaturated fatty acid hydroperoxides to epoxy alcohols in a reaction that appears mechanistically related to that observed in mammalian tissues. Since the activity in rat lung cytosol that catalyzes this reaction is not abolished by heating and does not chromatograph in a discrete zone, it has been suggested that it is not due to an enzyme. Our results suggest that free heme present in lung extracts may play a role in epoxy alcohol formation in such in vitro experiments.

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Integrated Chemical Systems: Photocatalysis at Semiconductors Incorporated into Polymer (Nafion)/Mediator Systems

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The utilization of semiconductors for photoelectrochemical and photocatalytic processes in which light is used to drive chemical reactions often requires the construction of integrated chemical systems. These are designed heterogeneous systems consisting of several components acting in a synergistic way to carry out a particular process. For example, for the photogeneration of hydrogen on p-type semiconductor electrodes (e.g., GaAs and Si) is enhanced by the addition to its surface of a viologen-bearing polymer layer containing platinum. A number of studies on the utilization of semiconductor particles (e.g., TiO2, CdS), frequently treated with appropriate catalysts to carry out photocatalytic and photosynthetic processes, have been described. In these systems irradiation of suspensions or colloidal dispersions of the semiconductors in solutions of suitable redox couples (relays) and other reagents produces electron/hole pairs which drive oxidations and reductions


(12) (a) Groves, J. T. In "Metal Ion Activation of Dioxygen"; Spiro, T. G., Ed.; Wiley-Interscience: New York, 1980; p 125-162. (b) Oxygen rebond has been reported in the enzymatic decarboxylation of peroxynitrite by cytochrome P-450. White, R. E.; Sibug, S. G.; Coon, M. J. J. Biol. Chem. 1980, 255, 11108-11111. One-electron reduction of the peroxide was proposed as the first step in the reaction.

(13) The reaction undoubtedly occurs in detergent micelles. Hematin exists in buffered aqueous solution as a dimer that possesses very low peroxidase activity: (a) Brown, S. B.; Dean, T. C.; Jones, P. Biochem. J. 1976, 150, 715-739. (b) Jones, P.; Robson, T.; Brown, S. Ibid. 1973, 135, 353-359. Addition of Tween 20 at the concentrations indicated induces a dramatic bathochromic shift of the Soret band from the broad, poorly defined structural absorption of the dimer to the sharp more intense absorption of the monomer dissolved in an organic solvent. The system can, therefore, be considered to contain hematin in equilibrium between aqueous and micellar compartments. Only hematin dissolved in the micellar compartment is catalytically active.

that system, monograin CdS particles on the order of 40-μm diameter were physically embedded in a thin, nonconducting polyurethane membrane and various photoprocesses examined. The technique we describe offers better control of the particle size and distribution and the advantage of an ion-conductive membrane.

Consider the incorporation of CdS into Nafion. A Nafion membrane (type 125, 1100 equiv wt; thickness ~0.13 mm) was pretreated by boiling in concentrated HNO₃ and was subsequently immersed in a 1.0 M solution of Cd²⁺ (pH 1) to incorporate Cd²⁺ in the membrane by ion exchange. Exposure of this membrane to H₂S produces CdS and the clear membrane becomes bright yellow and opaque. Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) of membranes formed in this way show CdS deposits on or near the surface of the membrane leaving the bulk of the membrane void of deposits. Alternatively, the Nafion can be positioned as a separator between solutions of Cd²⁺ and H₂S for production of CdS within the membrane. Figure 1B is a SEM photograph showing a cross-sectional view of CdS deposits, which are formed well inside the Nafion membrane; a naked Nafion membrane for comparison is given in Figure 1A. The CdS precipitates as spherical particles of a diameter 1 μm or smaller, which can then agglomerate into larger deposits (Figure 1C). After CdS is produced, the cation exchange sites in the polymer are again available, and a cationic relay, such as methylviologen (4,4'-dimethylbipyridinium or MV²⁺), can be incorporated into the membrane. If this membrane is now immersed in a 1.0 M NaOH solution containing 0.1 M tartaric acid (as a sacrificial donor⁶) and irradiated with a 1600-W xenon lamp with appropriate filters, the membrane quickly turns violet; photogenerated electrons cause reduction of MV²⁺ to MV⁺ and the holes oxidize tartaric acid. When 1.0 mM MV²⁺ is added to the solution, electron transfer from the membrane MV⁺ and/or the irradiated CdS also causes MV⁺ formation in the solution. The rate of MV⁺ formation in solution can be compared with that of an irradiated colloidal dispersion under similar conditions by continuous Coulometric oxidation of the MV⁺ produced at a large-area Pt electrode.⁶ In this case the Nafion/CdS/MV⁺ system produces a current of 0.1 mA compared to 4.0 mA produced by a colloidal CdS dispersion.⁷

We have also found that platinum can be incorporated into this CdS/MV⁺ membrane system. By analogous techniques, incorporation of other semiconductors, such as TiO₂ and ZnS, also appears possible. Details of these results will be given in future publications.

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(7) The currents were obtained with 1-cm² geometrical area of Nafion/CdS, which was typically loaded with 3 mg/cm² of CdS. This is compared to currents obtained from 10 mg of dispersed CdS powder (Aldrich 99.99%). The solution volume in each case was 40 mL.