



## **Kinetic studies of Rh(III)-catalysed oxidation of pentoxifylline by potassium iodate in alkaline medium**

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**Abstract:** The kinetic and mechanistic investigation of pentoxifylline by potassium iodate in alkaline medium using Rh(III) as homogeneous catalyst has been carried out at 35<sup>o</sup>C. The reaction shows first-order dependence on Rh(III) and pentoxifylline concentration. The order of reaction was found to be fractional positive with respect to [IO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>]. Variation of [OH<sup>-</sup>] and [Cl<sup>-</sup>] showed no effect on the rate of the reaction. The reaction remains unaffected by the change in ionic strength and dielectric constant of the medium. Various activation parameters (E<sub>a</sub>, ΔH<sup>#</sup>, ΔS<sup>#</sup>, ΔG<sup>#</sup>, and A) were calculated with the help of rate constants obtained at four different temperatures. [RhCl<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub>] was postulated as the reactive species of Rh(III) chloride in alkaline medium. 1-(5-carboxy-pentyl)-3,7-dimethyl-3,7-dihydro-purine-2,6-dione and formaldehyde were identified as the main oxidation products. A suitable mechanism consistent with kinetic observations and spectroscopic information has been proposed which is supported by the observed positive entropy of activation.

**Keywords:** Pentoxifylline, Rh(III)-catalysis, Spectroscopic information, Multiple regression analysis, Alkaline medium.

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