DNA Topology on an Increase in Positive Writhing Number of DNA:
Conformation Changes in the Time Course of 
cis-Diamminedichloroplatinum(II)–DNA Adducts

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Received December 13, 2000; accepted May 11, 2001

We show that the topological significance of the gel mobility of cis-diamminedichloroplatinum(II) (DDP)–closed circular DNA (ccDNA) adducts decreases with reaction time, until a point at which it joins relaxed DNA, and that the mobility of the adducts increases again. There is no relationship between the relative length of the adducts and the gel mobility. Although the significance of the decrease of gel mobility is due to the unwinding of cis-DDP–DNA (or trans-DDP–DNA) adducts, the conformational significance of the subsequent increase in mobility is unclear. To elucidate the conformational significance for unwinding of the adducts, we measured the writhing number (Wk) of the adducts using electron microscopy and analyzed the topological states of cis-DDP (or trans-DDP) adducts based on the White rule, Lk=Wk+Tk. Where, Lk and Tk represent the linking and twisting number in the ring, respectively. From the data, we found that the Wk of cis-DDP–ccDNA adducts in comparison with trans-DDP–ccDNA adducts increases from a negative to a positive number with time. This suggests that cis-DDP plays a role in the change of the topological state of ccDNA. In the abstraction of platinum from the adducts with CN− ion, the differences in both topological states may explain why Pt in trans-DDP is abstracted more easily than in cis-DDP. To explain the abstraction of Pt ion, we also discuss the findings based on the thermodynamic cycle in a intermolecular crosslink model Pt(NH3)2(guanine)2→Pt(CN)4 using the Pt parameterized PM3 method.

Key words cis-diamminedichloroplatinum(II); anticancer therapy; DNA topology; writhing number; White rule; gel electrophoresis

Much attention has been paid by chemists, pharmacologists, and clinicians to the inorganic anticancer drug, cis-diamminedichloroplatinum(II) (cis-Pt(NH3)2Cl2, cis-DDP) (1) and other related platinum complex derivatives which are most effective drugs for cancer chemotherapy. Although cis-DDP is widely used as a chemotherapeutic agent, the stereoisomer trans-diamminedichloroplatinum(II) (trans-DDP) (2) is inactive.1) The working mechanism of cis-DDP is generally believed to be binding of cis-DDP to cellular DNA, and three binding modes have been reported using binding models; i) intermolecular crosslink, ii) intramolecular cross-link, and iii) monofunctional links.2) Recently, Lippard and his co-workers. reported the structure of synthesized cis-DDP–12mer oligo DNA adducts by X ray-crystallography and the DNA is bent, leading to major groove damage to the Watson–Crick hydrogen bonding.25) In spite of numerous studies of the structure of cis- and trans-DDP–DNA adducts, the tertiary structural differences are still unknown. The clarification of the tertiary structure of the adducts is essential for considering drug design and the working mechanism of platinum-anticancer drugs.

In the previous paper, we reported that the formation of mainly three unique topologically distinct invariant DNAs, such as dimeric catenane, singly-linked catenane, and trefoil knot, etc. is caused by reaction of DNA topoisomerase I with cis-DDP–DNA adducts.4) We pointed out the importance of formation of intra-twisting looped DNAs, and that cis-DDP is a factor that changes the topological invariants of circular closed DNA (ccDNA). To elucidate the binding pathway of cis-DDP and trans-DDP with closed circular pBR322 DNA, we investigated the topological differences in the time course of the formation of Pt4+–DNA adducts. Although the time course of binding of cis-DDP to DNA decreases the electrophoretic mobility of cis-DDP–DNA adducts in agarose gel electrophoresis, the mobility increases again with time. Cohen et al. previously reported the shortening of closed circular pSM1 DNA.25) We confirmed that the electrophoretic mobility of linear pBR322 prepared by cutting pBR322 DNA by HindIII also changes by cis-DDP binding. This indicates that cis-DDP changes also the topological properties of linear DNA.

The increase and decrease of the gel electrophoretic mobilities of the cis-DDP–ccDNA adducts are repeated in the time course in the gel. To demonstrate the reasons, electron microscopy and White rule6) were used. The change from decrease to increase is caused by alternation from negative (−) to positive (+) writhing numbers (Wk) for the adducts, and we showed that cis-DDP increases the positive writhing number more than trans-DDP. These results provide a new key to explain the significant differences in the antitumor activity of cis-DDP and trans-DDP.

Experimental

Materials The platinum complexes, cis-Pt(NH3)2Cl2 and trans-Pt(NH3)2Cl2, were purchased from Aldrich Co. (U.S.A.). Closed circular supercoiled pBR322 plasmid DNA was isolated by chloramphenicol amplification of E. coli cultures.

Preparation of cis-DDP– and trans-DDP–pBR322 DNA Adducts Stock solutions of cis-DDP and trans-DDP (5.0×10−7 M) were prepared by dissolving the complex in 0.01 M Tris–HCl buffer (1×TH; pH=7.5). The
cis-DDP– and trans-DDP–DNA adducts were prepared by incubation with 0.08 μg of pBR322 DNA for 72, 48, 30, 24, 12, 8, 6, 3, 2, 1, 0.5, 0.25, and 0.0 h at a final concentration of 1.0×10⁻⁴ M of cis-DDP and trans-DDP, respectively, in a solution (final volume 10 μl) of 0.01 M TH buffer (pH = 7.5) at 37 °C and stored at 4 °C for 3 d in the dark.

Abstraction of Platinum Ion from Pt–DNA Adducts by Cyanide Ion Potassium cyanide (27.4 mg) was dissolved in 0.1 M TH buffer (559 μl, pH = 7.5), and a final concentration of 0.65 M was prepared by readjustment to pH 8.5 with 300 μl of 0.1 M TH buffer (pH = 3.0). Abstraction of platinum from Pt–DNA adducts was performed by addition 2 μl of 0.1 M TH buffer (pH = 7.5) and 3 μl of 650 mM cyanide stock solution and by incubation at 37 °C for 4 h.

**Electrophoresis** The platinum–DNA adducts were loaded on an 0.8% agarose gel electrophoresis in TBE (0.09 M Tris–borate, 0.002 M EDTA, pH = 8.1) buffer at 15 V (1.5 V/cm) constant power for 16 h. The gels were stained with ethidium bromide (0.5 mg/ml) for 1 h in TBE buffer, and photographed under UV with a Polaroid camera using Polapan 665 (or 667) films. The mobility and concentration of DNA on the gel were measured by a Pharmacia Image Analyzer (ImageMaster).

**Electron Microscopy** The treatment of samples used for electron microscopy was essentially the same as that described by Yamagishi. The grids were inserted into a JEOL JEM-SCAN100CX II electron microscope, so that the shadowed surface, followed by rotary-shadowcasting with tungsten, of the grid faced toward the emulsion side of the sheet film. The contour lengths of platinum–DNA adducts were determined by tracing from the graphics calculator, Numonics Corp., P A, U.S.A.).

**Simple DNA Topology** Linking number (Lk) of closed circular DNA expresses a topological distinct number. According to White rule, Lk is the sum of Wk and twisting number (Tk).

\[ \text{Lk} = \text{Wk} + \text{Tk} \] (1)

When the ribbon is untwisted; Lk value is 0, and the ribbon is in relaxed form and Tk value is equal to Wk and the value is 0. When the relaxed ribbon is writhed to the right, the right-handed interwound supercoiled ribbon is formed, and Tk = 3, Wk = −3, and Lk = 0. When the relaxed ribbon is writhed to the right, the left-handed interwound supercoiled ribbon is formed. The ribbons of the right-handed and left-handed supercoil are a negative and a positive sign, respectively. However, native duplex DNA strands have hydrogen bonding between base pairs of both strands; and Lk is ≠ 0. For instance, the mean Lk of closed circular pBR322 plasmid DNA (4361 bp) is 415 where the helical repeat is 10.5 bp/turn, and the DNA underwinds the mean Lk (~415). Thus, closed circular pBR322 DNA is termed negatively supercoiled. For instance, Tk of the twisted ribbon of Lk = 10 is +10, and the Wk value is ≠ 0. The ribbon of −3 of Wk has a negative sign, and Tk is +13. However, the ribbon of +3 of Wk has a negative sign, and Tk is 7.

We show the definition of the topological state between intermolecular and intramolecular crosslinks in the cis-DDP–ccpBR322 DNA adducts. When the duplexes of n = 2 and 3 (Lk = 2, 3) are cut lengthwise along the hydrogen bondings between the 5’-to-3’ and 3’-to-5’ direction, the catenane and trofile are produced, respectively. Similarly, the adduct of n = 4 (Lk = 4) produce two forms of 41 catenanes, with a Tk of 13. By cutting lengthwise, the two adducts show a large difference topologically. This is because, one (not 41) joins as a bifunctional-bridge with Pt and the other (41) does not.

**Relative Free Energy Difference** Optimization of the geometries of platinum complexes, Pt(NH3)2Cl2, Pt(CN)2Cl2, and Pt(NH3)2(guanine)2+ (10) were performed using molecular orbital (MO) methods such as Pt parameterized PM3 Hamiltonians and density functional BLYP/LACVP** implemented in the TITAN software (Wavefunction, U.S.A.). The resultant structures are shown in Fig. 6. The PM3 optimized bond lengths and angles typically differ from literature crystal structures for cis-DDP and trans-DDP by about 0.017—0.036 Å, 9.70—11.23° and 0.03—0.052 Å and 1.5°, respectively. However, no electronic structure and geometry for the most important chelation of the two guanine residues, Pt(NH3)2(guanine)2+, within DNA adducts d(G/G) by cis-DDP have been reported.

The relative free energy difference between cis-Pt(NH3)2(guanine)2+ (3) and trans-Pt(NH3)2(guanine)2+ (4) was calculated using the thermodynamic cycle, as shown in Chart 1. The relative free energy of association (ΔG = ΔGtrans − ΔGcis) was obtained by calculation of ΔG = ΔGcis − ΔGtrans, ΔG = ΔGcis − ΔGtrans, ΔG = ΔGcis − ΔGtrans (because ΔGcis = ΔGtrans = ΔGtrans = 0). The free energy AG values are given by H–TAS (H = enthalpy, T = absolute temperature (K), and S = entropy), and these H and AG values were obtained from the calculated thermodynamic properties of the target compounds.

**Results**

**Electrophoretic Mobilities of cis-DDP– and trans-DDP–Close Circular pBR322 DNA Adducts and cis-DDP–Supercoiled DNA Adducts** cis-DDP– and trans-DDP–DNA adducts were prepared by incubation with DNA (0.08 μg) in the presence of freshly prepared cis-DDP and trans-DDP (1×10⁻⁴ M) in 0.01 M, TH buffer (pH = 7.5) solution at 37 °C, respectively, and the reactions were stopped by addition of 2 μl of 1.0 M NaCl solution. The results of agarose gel electrophoretic analysis with pBR322 DNA and platinum complexes are summarized in Fig. 1. The electrophoretic mobilities of supercoiled DNA decrease with reaction time (t1). After 1 h of reaction time, a drastic change in mobility was observed, and the band overlapped with the relaxed form of DNA. The increase and decrease of the mobilities were repeated in time course in the gel.

Figure 1 shows the electrophoretic mobilities as a function of incubation time of pBR322 DNA with cis-DDP (log 1/M) (or trans-DDP). These graphics show the difference of interaction with DNA between cis-DDP and trans-DDP. The electrophoretic mobilities of cis-DDP–DNA adducts decrease as

![Chart 1](image-url)
incubation time increases and overlap with relaxed form DNA after about 1 h. Later, the mobilities increase again. Furthermore, the mobilities of cis-DDP–relaxed form DNA adducts increase as incubation time increases and reach a maximum after 6 h (lane 7 in Fig. 1a). The mobilities repeat the decrease, and overlap with relaxed form DNA. However, the bands of trans-DDP–DNA adducts overlap with relaxed form DNA adducts after about 12 h and the mobilities increase later. Interestingly, the mobilities of cis-DDP–DNA adducts show almost no changes, but the mobilities of trans-DDP–DNA adducts repeat the change in the gel. Moreover, the binding of cis-DDP to DNA reduces the ability to visualize DNA stained with ethidium bromide in the gel.

Electrophoretic Mobilities of Abstraction of Platinum Ion from cis-DDP–DNA Adducts by Cyanide Ion

Figure 2 shows the electrophoretic mobilities of the products incubated with cis-DDP–DNA (or trans-DDP) adducts of 0.2 M KCN at 37 °C for 4 h in 0.01 M TH buffer (pH=7.5). After incubation, the mobilities of trans-DDP–DNA adducts (lanes 6—10 in Fig. 2) were consistent with the mobility of the control supercoiled DNA. Although the mobilities of both cis-DDP–DNA adducts and control ccDNA are consistent within 0.25 h incubation time, a later times the mobilities did not agree (lanes 1—3). The mobility of cis-DDP–DNA adducts by incubation of DNA with cis-DDP for 8 h decreases after 3 h, as shown in Fig. 2 (lanes 1, 2). This finding shows that the conformational structure of cis-DDP–DNA adducts changes by cleavage of the N–Pt bond, and it is possible that DNA cisplatination is consistent with transformation from negative supercoiled DNA to positive supercoiled DNA. Moreover, the Pt2+–N bond of trans-DDP–DNA is a weaker bond than that of cis-DDP–DNA adducts. Although the weak platinum binding is a coordination link, trans-DDP is easily removed from DNA by abstraction of Pt2+ ion with CN− ions.

Length Measurement of cis-DDP– and trans-DDP–Closed Circular pBR322 DNA Adducts

It is believed that the increase and decrease of mobilities of the adducts is related to partially collapsed DNA. We found that the changes are related to changes in the writhing number (Wk) of DNA by electron photographs of cis-DDP– and trans-DDP–pBR322 DNA adducts. Figures 3 and 4 show distribution histograms of the lengths of the cis-DDP–DNA and trans-DDP–DNA adducts. The mean length of pBR322 DNA was 1.370 μm (n=200), and the mean length of cis-DDP–DNA adducts was 1.036 μm (n=252) at 0.25 h incubation, and the mean lengths were 0.939 μm (n=267) and 0.998 μm (n=319) length after 2 and 12 h incubation, respectively. As a result, it is clear that DNA length shortened by binding with cis-DDP. At 72 h incubation, however, the mean length of the cis-DDP–DNA adducts increased to 1.043 μm (n=292), and the increased gel mobilities were decreased. The increase or decrease in mobility indicates the periodical difference in the structure of cis-DDP–DNA adducts.

On the other hand, the mean lengths of trans-DDP–DNA adducts were 1.084 μm (n=245), 1.110 μm (n=269), 1.124 μm (n=274), and 1.102 μm (n=279) at 0.5, 3, 24, and 72 h.
Fig. 3. Distribution of Contour Lengths of cis-DDP–DNA Adducts Produced by Reaction of cis-DDP with pBR322 DNA

Figure presents contour lengths of cis-DDP–DNA adducts after the reaction times 0.25, 2, 12, and 72 h. Length (μm) is indicated on the abscissa and the number (n) of DNA molecules is the ordinate. The mean length is indicated with an arrow on the graph; 0.25 h, 1.036 μm (n=252 molecules measured); 2 h, 0.939 μm (n=267); 12 h, 0.998 μm (n=319); 72 h, 1.043 μm (n=292), respectively. CDDP: cis-DDP.

Fig. 4. Distribution of Contour Lengths of trans-DDP–DNA Adducts Produced by Reaction of trans-DDP with pBR322 DNA

Figure presents contour lengths of trans-DDP–DNA adducts as a function of reaction time; 0.5, 3, 24, and 72 h. Length (μm) is indicated by the abscissa and the number (n) of DNA molecules is indicated by the ordinate. The mean length is indicated with an arrow on the graph; 0.5 h, 1.084 μm (n=245 molecules measured); 3 h, 1.124 μm (n=274); 24 h, 1.102 μm (n=279), respectively. TDDP: trans-DDP.
incubation, respectively. Accordingly, the trans-DDP–DNA adducts are about 1.08—1.12 μm length, and it is seen that the mean lengths do not show large differences in the time course. The mean lengths are longer than the length of the cis-DDP–DNA adducts. Obviously, there is a relationship between the mean length and gel mobility of the adducts, since the gel mobility of cis-DDP–DNA adducts (after reaction of 0.25 h) is equal to that of the adducts (after reaction of 72 h).

**Measurement of Writhing Number of cis-DDP– and trans-DDP–DNA Adducts by Electron Photography**

To elucidate the cause of the reversible increase in electrophoretic mobility, we applied a simple topological method to cis-DDP– and trans-DDP–DNA adducts, since the cause may be related to the geometric conformation of binding of cis-DDP or trans-DDP to DNA, leading to changes in local linking number (ΔLk) and supercoiling of closed circular DNA.

Figure 5 shows typical electron micrographs defined with writhing number, of cis-DDP adducts produced by incubation at 37°C for 72 h. Although pBR322 DNA is negative supercoiled DNA, the positive unwind (b) and intra-twisted looped forms (c) increase by binding of cis-DDP. The sign convention for circular closed supercoiled DNA crossings is illustrated in Fig. 5d.12) Accordingly, the Wk of the adducts ((a), (b), and (c) in Fig. 5) were assigned to −1, +1, and −1, respectively, for curve crossings.

The measurements of Wk were performed using electron microscopy, and the results are summarized in Tables 1 and 2. The gel band of cis-DDP–DNA adducts after a reaction time of 72 h are shown in lane 1 in Fig. 1a. The mean writhing number of the adducts was +0.75. After a reaction time of 0.5h, the mean writhing number of the cis-DDP–DNA adducts was −1.03. The mean writhing number

![Electron Micrographs of cis-DDP–pBR322 DNA Adducts and Writhing Numbers](image)

**Table 1. Determination of Writhing Number in Time Course for cis-DDP–pBR322 DNA Adducts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compounds (cis-DDP)</th>
<th>Reaction time (h)</th>
<th>Wk (writhing number)</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-4</td>
<td>+3</td>
<td>+2</td>
<td>+1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cisplatin (cis-DDP)</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Positive 1 supercoil</td>
<td>Negative  supercoil</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>134</td>
<td>55</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17</td>
<td>52</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* a) \((P/P+N)\times100=(134/134+55)\times100=71%\).

**Table 2. Determination of Writhing Number in Time Course for trans-DDP–pBR322 DNA Adducts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compounds (trans-DDP)</th>
<th>Reaction time (h)</th>
<th>Wk (writhing number)</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-4</td>
<td>+3</td>
<td>+2</td>
<td>+1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transplatin (trans-DDP)</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Positive 1 supercoil</td>
<td>Negative  supercoil</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>38</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25</td>
<td>40</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* a) \((P/P+N)\times100=(38/38+31)\times100=55%\).
of the Pt–DNA adducts is dependent not only on the reaction time but also cis- (or trans)-DDP. The mean writhing number of trans-DDP–DNA adducts was +0.10 after a reaction time of 72 h. It was found that the transformation from negative DNA to positive DNA by trans-DDP is weak. As a result, the unwinding of DNA by cis-DDP originates from an increase in positive writhing number.

**Thermodynamics of cis/trans Pt(guanine)$_2$(NH$_3$)$_2$$^{2+}$→ Pt(CN)$_2$$^{2-}$ Pathway** The Pt parametrized PM3 and BLYP/LACVP** optimized geometry of cis-DDP and trans-DDP were fitted to the experimental data. From the gel electrophoresis data (Fig. 2), it is clear that the cis-DDP in cis-DDP–DNA adducts is bound more strongly than trans-DDP. To elucidate these findings, we calculated the free energy differences of the cis/trans Pt(guanine)$_2$(NH$_3$)$_2$$^{2+}$→ Pt(CN)$_2$$^{2-}$ system, as presented in the thermodynamic cycle (Chart 1) and the interaction energies for cis/trans Pt(guanine)$_2$(NH$_3$)$_2$$^{2+}$→Pt(CN)$_2$$^{2-}$ transformation using the PM3 hamiltonian. The calculated geometry for the most important chelation of the two guanine residue models, cis/trans-Pt(NH$_3$)$_2$(guanine)$_2$$^{2+}$, is presented in Fig. 6. The relative free energy of association ($\Delta \Delta G = \Delta G_{\text{trans}} - \Delta G_{\text{cis}}$) was obtained as $\Delta G$, and the calculated $\Delta G_{\text{cis}}$ and $\Delta G_{\text{trans}}$ values were $-61.507$ and $-60.616$ kcal/mol, and was determined to be $\Delta G$. A positive sign means that the trans-Pt(NH$_3$)$_2$$^{2+}$ ion in the trans-Pt(NH$_3$)$_2$(guanine)$_2$$^{2+}$ complex is more easily released from DNA than the cis-Pt(NH$_3$)$_2$$^{2+}$ ion. Similarly, the substitution energies (ASE) for guanine→CN$^{-}$ substitution between Pt(CN)$_2$$^{2-}$ and cis/trans Pt(guanine)$_2$(NH$_3$)$_2$$^{2+}$ obtained by calculation of the difference $\Delta E_{\text{Pt(CN})_4}^c$-$\Delta E_{\text{trans/Pt(guanine)}}_{\text{Pt(NH}_3)_2}$ were $-323.0$ and $-313.4$ kcal/mol, respectively. This also means that trans-Pt(NH$_3$)$_2$$^{2+}$ ion is more easily abstracted from bound DNA bases than cis-Pt(NH$_3$)$_2$$^{2+}$ ion by the addition of CN$^{-}$ ion.

**Discussion**

We discovered a reason for the observation of an increase and decrease in gel mobility of cis-DDP–DNA adducts over time. We demonstrated using electron micrographs and the White rule that the positive (+) writhing number of the adducts increases. That is, the mobility of cis-DDP–DNA adducts decreases with time until the point at which it joins relaxed DNA (lanes 10—13, Fig. 1a), and the mobility of the band then increases again (lanes 1—9, Fig. 1a). What is the chemical significance of the observation that the gel mobility of cis-DDP (or trans-DDP)–DNA adducts is equal? To understand the significance of the same mobility of the two bands (lanes 8 and 11, Fig. 1a), we measured the topological invariant of a curve, the writhing number, of the Pt$^{II}$–DNA adducts using electron microscopy. Although the mobility decreases in proportion to the reaction time until the point at which it joins relaxed DNA, and then increases again, the relative length of the adducts shortens in the time course and then lengthens again. For example, we found out that cis-DDP–DNA adducts increase from 0.939 $\mu$m to 1.043 $\mu$m mean length at 2 and 72 h incubation (cis-DDP–2 and -72 h in Fig. 3). Interestingly, the mobility of the bands in lanes 1 and 11 (or lanes 8 and 11—12, etc.) is the same value (Fig. 1a) and we found a difference in topology between the adducts in lanes 1 and 11 in terms of $+W$k and $-W$k number. cis-DDP causes unwinding and winding of supercoils in the time course and plays an important role in the change of DNA writhing number in comparison with trans-DDP.

Although the twisting number cannot be observed, the writhing number is possibly observed as described in the section “simple DNA topology.” On the changing of the writhing number of Pt$^{II}$–DNA adducts formed by binding of platinum with pBR322DNA, we found an increase in positive writhing number of platinum–DNA adducts, as listed in Table 1. When pBR322 DNA was incubated for 0.5 h in the presence of cis-DDP (1.0×10$^{-2}$M), the ratio of positive writhing number was 24.6%, and increased to 71% after 72 h incubation. The unwinding of negative supercoiled DNA is caused by cis-DDP binding to DNA, and positive supercoiled DNA is produced by excess cis-DDP binding, as shown in Fig. 1. The results show that the positive writhing number increases by binding of cis-DDP with DNA (see Table 1), hence cis-DDP induces an increase of positive writhing number of DNA.

From Eq. 1, the $T_k'$ of cis-DDP–ccDNA adducts is defined by
\[ \Delta T_k = \Delta G + RT \ln \frac{n}{L_k} \]

here, by \( L_k' = W_k + \Delta T_k \), appearance \( L_k' \) is written as

\[ L_k' = W_k + \Delta T_k = W_k + n(\Delta T_k) \]

Although \( L_k = L_k' \), the mean length of cis-DDP–ccDNA adducts is shortened from 1.036 to 0.998 μm in the time course study (see Fig. 3).

Then

\[ W_k - W_k = -\Delta T_k \geq 0 \]

The closed circle \( \{ \} \) and broken lines \( \{ \} \) show closed circular DNA and partial structures of cis-DDP binding with DNA, respectively, and \( \{ \} \) expresses DNA topology of the cis-DDP–ccDNA adducts. The action of cis-DDP changes the sign of the writhing number from negative to positive. The action of cis-DDP resulted in a decrease in the twisting number in comparison with that of trans-DDP. That is, the negative sign of \( \Delta T_k \) changes to a positive sign. In fact, the relationship of \( W_k(cis\text{-DDP}) > W_k(trans\text{-DDP}) \) was deduced from the experimental results.

We reported the reaction of DNA topoisomerase I with cis-DDP–intra-twisted looped DNA adducts.\(^9\) The writhing number of intra-twisted looped DNA transformed from ccDNA by treatment with cis-DDP is discussed. The \( T_k \) of cis-DDP–intra-twisted looped DNA adducts is also similarly defined by

\[ T_k = \frac{E}{R} + \frac{n(\Delta T_k)}{L_k} \]

When \( W_k \) is equal to 2, we obtain Eq. 5. Here, by \( L_k' = W_k + \Delta T_k \), the appearance \( L_k' \) is written as

\[ L_k' = W_k' - 2 + \Delta T_k = W_k' - 2 + n(\Delta T_k) \]

As \( L_k = L_k' \) generally,

\[ n(\Delta T_k) = -m \]

Then, as the \( T_k \) number of cis-DDP DNA adducts is of positive sign, from the experimental data, Eq. 8 is obtained.

\[ n(\Delta T_k) = -m \]

If the sign of \( m \) is positive, DNAs bound with cis-DDP are positive superhelical braids. Accordingly, the intra-twisted looped DNA also has a positive sign by binding of cis-DDP.

Platinum anticancer drugs which increase the writhing numbers to more positive values may be meaningful drugs as chemotherapeutic agents, while chemotherapeutically inactive trans-DDP may have a more readily abstracted Pt than in the case of cis-DDP (Fig. 2), and we showed by agarose gel electrophoretic mobility of DNA bands that trans-DDP was abstracted more easily than cis-DDP from Pt–DNA adducts in the presence of CN⁻ ion. The chemical nature of the complexes such as cis-Pt(NH₃)₂⁺, trans-Pt(NH₃)₂⁺, cis-Pt(guanine)₂(NH₃)₂⁺ 3, and trans-Pt(guanine)₂(NH₃)₂⁺ 4 is poorly understood yet. To elucidate the differences between cis-DDP and trans-DDP from the view point of chemistry, we calculated the thermodynamic energy and interaction energy for the reaction of the optimized species, since these species are active intermediates for binding with DNA bases.

In the thermodynamic cycle in Chart 1, the free energy differences (\( \Delta G \)) for i) cis-Pt(guanine)₂(NH₃)₂Pt(CN)₂⁻ and ii) trans-Pt(guanine)₂(NH₃)₂Pt(CN)₂⁻ complexes by PM3 level calculation were ca. −323.0 and −313.4 kcal/mol, respectively. The relative free energy of association ca. 1.0 kcal/mol (\( \Delta \Delta G = \Delta G_{trans} - \Delta G_{cis} \)) was obtained, since the sign of \( \Delta G_{cis} \) is positive in reaction ii. Moreover, the interaction energies of cis-Pt(NH₃)₂Cl₂−cis-Pt(guanine)₂(NH₃)₂ and trans-Pt(NH₃)₂Cl₂−trans-Pt(guanine)₂(NH₃)₂ were also calculated, and were −268.8 and −275.6 kcal/mol, respectively. The results suggest that cis-Pt(NH₃)₂Cl₂ strongly binds with guanine and that the coordinated guanine of trans-Pt(guanine)₂(NH₃)₂ is more easily replaced by CN⁻ ion than cis-Pt(guanine)₂(NH₃)₂. Therefore, Pt–guanine bound in cis-Pt(guanine)₂(NH₃)₂ is bound stronger than that in trans-Pt(guanine)₂(NH₃)₂, and this can explained the results of the agarose gel experiments. Figure 7 shows the pathway of the topological transformation of cis-DDP adducts of superhelical duplex, as suggested from the experimental results. For instance, the negative duplex 5 (for example; \( L_k = 415 \), \( T_k = 415 \), and \( W_k = 419 \)) is unwound by reaction withcis-DDP, and transforms to the positive duplex 8 (\( T_k = 412 \) and \( W_k = 419 \)) corresponding to the binding amount of cis-DDP. After reaction with CN⁻ ion, Pt is easily abstracted from the adducts, and the conformation reverses to the starting structure 5. As a result, the \( W_k \) number also reverses to the original number in the cis-DDP binding cycle.

Conclusion

We found herein an increase of the writhing numbers of cis-DDP–ccDNA adducts in a time course study. Although it is known that the binding of cis-DDP shortens the length of DNA, the nature of the Pt⁺⁺–DNA adducts was unknown. By binding of cis-DDP with DNA, the writhing number of cis-DDP–DNA adducts alters from negative to positive. That is, the exact significance of cis-DDP-mediated unwinding means that the positive writhing number of negative ccDNAs (pBR322 DNA, etc.) increases. This means that cis-DDP can change the topological variables, \( L_k \) and \( W_k \), of DNA by binding with DNA. The topological states of cis-DDP–DNA.
adducts differ from the adducts of trans-DDP in terms of writhing number and abstraction of Pt ion, and the topological state is related to the degree of abstraction of Pt ion from the cis- or trans-DDP-adducts. From the thermodynamic cycle of the cross-link models, cis-Pt(guanine)₂(NH₃)₂→Pt(CN)₄²⁻ and trans-Pt(guanine)₂(NH₃)₂→Pt(CN)₄²⁻, it is clear that trans-DDP is more easily abstracted than cis-DDP. The topological proofs of the cis-DDP–DNA adducts shown in this paper may be meaningful for the design of very useful platinum complexes as anti-cancer drugs. Further investigations on the topology of cis-DDP– and trans-DDP–DNA adducts should continue to provide insight at the cell level.

References and Notes

2) Kelman A. D., Buchbinder M., Biochimie, 60, 893—899 (1978).
8) The number expresses a Rolfsen notation. Rolfsen D., “Knots and Links,” Publish or Perish Inc., Wilmington, DE, 1976. A Rolfsen notation of closed circular DNA in the text is derived from the theory of the Knot and Link in the representation of the curve. For example, in Rolfsen notation, 2₁, the first number 2 is the number of nodes and the superscript is the number of catenated rings, and the script number 1 distinguishes curves with the same number of nodes. Accordingly, the curve of 2₁ represents a catenane. When 3 is used without superscript, its curve represents only a knot.