## **Graphical TOC**

The base hydrolysis reaction of the chloro pentaammine cobalt(III) ion proceeds via the  $\emph{cis}$  isomer of the conjugate base and three pathways involving (i) a trigonal bipyramidal pentacoordinated intermediate, (ii) a hexacoordinated intermediate with a triplet state, and (iii) an  $I_d$  transition state exhibiting a triplet state.