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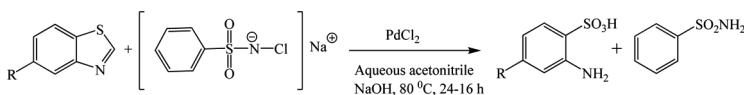
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THE EFFICIENT PALLADIUM-CATALYZED SELECTIVE t SYNTHESIS OF BENZENESULFONIC ACIDS

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GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT



Abstract Palladium-catalyzed synthetic methodology has been developed for the synthesis of 2-aminobenzenesulfonic acids from benzothiazoles in good to excellent yields using chloramine-B in alkaline (pH 12) acetonitrile/water (1:1) at 80 °C.

Keywords 2-Aminobenzenesulfonic acids; benzothiazoles; chloramine-B; palladium catalyst

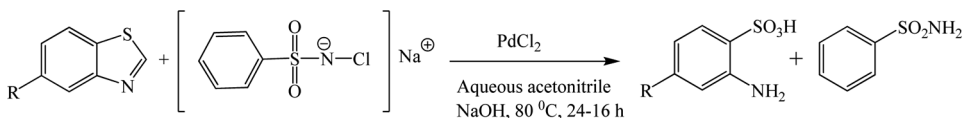
INTRODUCTION

The importance of aminobenzenesulfonic acids resides in their widespread use in the syntheses of various organic dyes^[1] and heterocyclic compounds. The amide derivatives of aminobenzenesulfonic acids and certain related substitutes have significant medicinal importance as sulfa drugs. Because of the versatile properties and pharmaceutical applications of aminobenzenesulfonic acids, synthesis of these compounds using convenient and efficient methodologies is an important task.

In synthetic methodology, as the building block of organic synthesis, researchers continuously seek new reagents, better reaction conditions, and more efficient and selective methods. In this regard, a large group of compounds, sodium N-haloarenesulfonamidates (organic haloamines), are widely used in fine organic synthesis.^[2–4] Sodium N-haloarenesulfonamidates, because of their versatile properties, have proved to be valuable reagents for a variety of functional group transformations.^[2,3] N-Haloamines act as good oxidants and reagents both in alkaline and acidic media and have been widely used for the oxidation and synthesis of a variety

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Scheme 1. Synthesis of 2-aminobenzenesulfonic acids.

of organic and biomolecules.^[3,4] Chloramine-B (C₆H₅SO₂NCINa · 1.5H₂O or PhSO₂NCINa or CAB), the N-chloro derivative of sulfonamide, is gaining importance as oxidant and reagent for the synthesis of a variety of organic molecules. Although the mechanistic aspects of many haloamine reactions have been well documented,^[4-9] similar studies on chloramine-B are sparse. In view of this, there is considerable scope for the study with CAB to get better insight into the speciation of CAB reaction models and to understand its redox chemistry in solutions.

Palladium has been extensively used^[4,8,10-12] as catalyst for a number of reactions. In recent times, the studies on the use of palladium as catalyst in many redox and synthetic reactions have been increasing. In continuation of our studies with palladium catalysts and the synthetic applications of 2-aminobenzenesulfonic acids, we report herein a new and efficient method for the preparation of 2-aminobenzenesulfonic acids from benzothiazole using chloramine-B and palladium chloride as the catalyst (Scheme 1).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Synthesis of 2-aminobenzenesulfonic acid and substituted 2-aminobenzene-sulfonic acids were achieved by using a catalytic amount of palladium chloride in acetonitrile/water (1:1) at 80 °C by chloramine-B with 1:5 substrate/chloramine-B ratio in the presence of alkali. The products and the yields are summarized in Table 1. In general, substrates containing electron-donating moieties were found to be more reactive and required shorter reaction times compared to substrates containing electron-withdrawing groups. The effect of various solvents [acetonitrile, 1,2-dichloromethane, ethanol, and acetonitrile/water (1:1) mixture] was studied using benzothiazole as the model compound. The mixture of acetonitrile/water (1:1) was found to be the best solvent system, perhaps because of the high dielectric constant of water.

The reactions were found to be highly dependent upon the pH of the system. To evaluate the effect of pH, a reaction with benzothiazole was carried out under similar experimental conditions at different pH values. At neutral pH, the synthesis of 2-aminobenzenesulfonic acid from benzothiazole was found to be very slow. Reaction rates increase with increase in pH (addition of NaOH) and reaches a maximum at pH 12. This behavior of the reaction is attributed to the dissociation of chloramine-B in an aqueous medium by furnishing different oxidizing species^[13-15] in which PhSO₂NHCl is the predominant species. In presence of alkali, the free acid, PhSO₂NHCl, undergoes dissociation^[16,17] to furnish the species PhSO₂NCl⁻ as presented in Eq. (1):

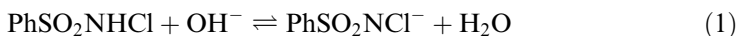


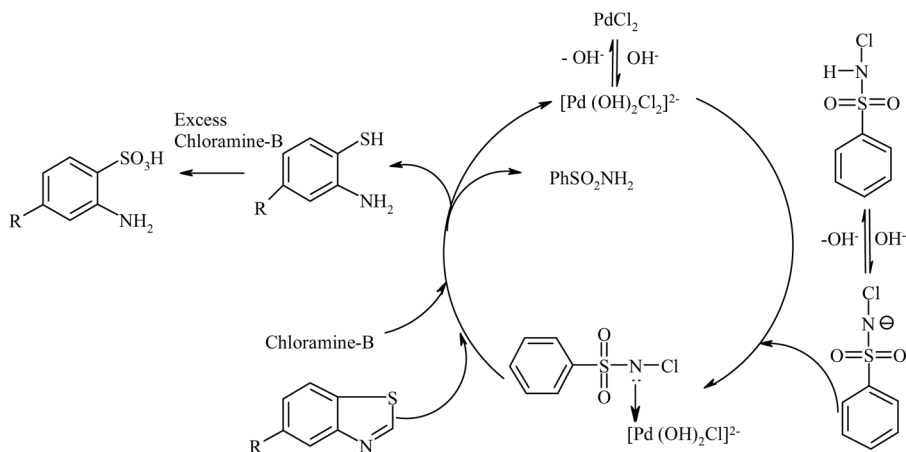
Table 1. Palladium-catalyzed synthesis of aminobenzenesulfonic acids^a

Entry	Substrate	Product	Yield	Mp (°C)
1			85	298 (300) ^b
2			80	345 (340)
3			85	329 (328)
4			86	278 (273)
5			80	201 (197)
6			80	219 (220)
7			86	241 (239)
8			82	198 (197)
9			81	245 (243)

^aSubstrate: 1 mmol, Chloramine-B = 5 mmol, temperature = 80 °C, time = 24–26 h.^bMps given in parentheses refer to authentic samples.

The species $\text{PhSO}_2\text{NCl}^-$ furnished by chloramine-B in the presence of alkali enhances the reaction, and thus the reactions proceed with increasing rates.

Palladium(II) chloride catalysis has been observed during various reactions and exists as different complexes in alkaline solutions,^[18–20] and the possible Pd(II) complex species are $[\text{Pd}(\text{OH})\text{Cl}_3]^{2-}$, $[\text{Pd}(\text{OH})_2\text{Cl}_2]^{2-}$, $[\text{Pd}(\text{OH})_3\text{Cl}]^{2-}$, and $[\text{Pd}(\text{OH})_4]^{2-}$. The species $[\text{Pd}(\text{OH})_3\text{Cl}]^{2-}$ and $[\text{Pd}(\text{OH})_4]^{2-}$ are not commonly found as they are insoluble. Further, the rate increases with increase in $[\text{OH}^-]$, and lack of effect of $[\text{Cl}^-]$ on the rate of reaction clearly rules out $[\text{Pd}(\text{OH})\text{Cl}_3]^{2-}$ as the reactive species. Hence, $[\text{Pd}(\text{OH})_2\text{Cl}_2]^{2-}$ complex ion has been assumed to be the reactive species in the present study.



Scheme 2. Detailed mechanism for the synthesis of 2-aminobenzenesulfonic acids.

The synthesis of 2-aminobenzenesulfonic acid from benzothiazole proceeds with the formation of 2-aminothiophenol as the intermediate. Benzothiazole first utilizes 2 mol of chloramine-B to form 2-aminothiophenol. The formed isatin consumes another 3 mol of chloramine-B to yield the ultimate and desired compound, 2-aminobenzenesulfonic acid. The reaction is shown in Scheme 2.

Ultraviolet–visible (UV-vis) spectroscopic studies indicate that the intermediate complex forms between Pd catalyst and chloramine-B. Absorption maxima in alkaline medium appear at 350 nm for PdCl_2 , 236 nm for chloramine-B, and 340 nm for a mixture of both. A hypsochromic shift of 10 nm from 350 nm to 340 nm of PdCl_2 suggests that the complexation occurs between PdCl_2 and chloramine-B. The detailed reactions for the synthesis of 2-aminobenzenesulfonic acids from benzothiazoles are depicted in Scheme 2.

The synthetic reactions were also performed with other N-haloamines, namely chloramine-T and bromamine-B. Reactions with bromamine-B are faster when compared to both chloramine-T and chloramine-B. This is attributable to the difference in electrophilicities of the halo cations Br^+ and Cl^+ involved in the oxidation process and is also related to the ease with which these species are generated in reactions. In these reactions, the electronegativity values of Br^+ and Cl^+ play a vital role. Bromine has an electronegativity of 2.7, while chlorine has a higher value of 3.0. As the electronegativity increases, the electropositive nature decreases, because the halo cations are the reactive species in these oxidation reactions and the electropositive nature is $\text{Br} > \text{Cl}$. Hence, it can be generalized that bromamines are stronger oxidants compared to chloramines. Oxidizing power of chloramine-B is more than chloramine-T. This is due the participation of $-\text{CH}_3$ group in chloramine-T, which exerts a strong inductive effect in enriching the electron density at the polar N-X ($\text{X} = \text{Cl}$ or Br) bond, thereby reducing the electrophilicity of the X atom. A similar behavior has been reported^[5] in the N-haloamine reactions.

CONCLUSION

Palladium-catalyzed synthesis of 2-aminobenzenesulfonic acids was achieved efficiently using chloramine-B in the presence of alkali. Chloramine-B/palladium chloride system was efficient for the facile conversion of benzothiazoles into 2-aminobenzenesulfonic acids in an alkaline medium in good to excellent yields. The present method developed for the synthesis of 2-aminobenzenesulfonic acids from benzothiazoles offers many advantages including good conversion, short reaction times, and the involvement of nontoxic reagents.

EXPERIMENTAL

Melting points were determined on an X-4 apparatus and are uncorrected. Infrared (IR) spectra were obtained using Shimadzu Fourier transform (FT)–IR-8900 spectrometer. Mass spectral (MS) data were obtained on a 17A Shimadzu gas chromatograph with a QP-5050A Shimadzu mass spectrometer. The mass spectrum was obtained using the electron-impact ionization technique.

Preparation of Chloramine-B

It is prepared by the action of chlorine on benzenesulfonamide in the presence of NaOH. Benzenesulfonamide (1 mol) was added gradually to 4–5 N NaOH solution (2–3 mol) at 298 K with stirring. When the solution became homogeneous, it was filtered, and the filtrate was heated to 338–343 K. Chlorine was bubbled slowly over a period of 1 h. The mass was stirred for 1 h at the same temperature, then heated to 358 K and filtered through a Schott's funnel. A yield of 99% was obtained. The purity of chloramine-B was assayed iodometrically to determine the active halogen content. Chloramine-B was confirmed by IR and MS analysis.

Synthesis of 2-Aminobenzenesulfonic Acids

Catalyst (2 mmol) was added to a stirred solution of benzothiazole (1 mmol) and chloramine-B (5 mmol) in alkaline acetonitrile/water (1:1) mixture (20 mL), and the mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 24–26 h. After completion of the reaction, the reduction product of bromamine-B, benzenesulfonamide (PhSO_2NH_2), was extracted with ethyl acetate, identified by thin-layer chromatography (TLC), and confirmed by MS analysis. The aqueous part of the reaction mixture was neutralized with acid, followed by solvent evaporation under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in dichloromethane, and the dichloromethane layer was washed twice with water and then dried over sodium sulfate. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure, and the residue thus obtained was purified by passing through a short silica-gel column using dichloromethane as eluent. Evaporation of the solvent yields 2-aminobenzenesulfonic acids around 85% yield. The products were identified by TLC and mp by comparison with authentic samples. Further, the compounds were confirmed by IR and MS analysis. The reaction times and yields are given in Table 1. Alternatively, after extracting out benzenesulfonamide, the aqueous layer was neutralized with acid and the 2-aminobenzenesulfonic acids are estimated as their zinc

orthanilates. The procedure for the estimation is as follows:^[21] To the reaction mixture, a calculated volume of 1 mol dm⁻³ HCl was added, followed by 10 mL of pH 5.0 buffer and 10 mL of 1% zinc chloride. The precipitate was filtered, dried at 105–110 °C, and weighed, and the recovery of (C₆H₇SO₃N)₂ Zn was found to be around 85%.

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