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Novel, Water-Based Procedure for the Mono Iodination of Aromatic Amines and Phenols

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Abstract: A mixture of potassium chlorate and potassium iodide was found to be a good iodinating agent for various aromatic amines and phenols with excellent yields in the presence of mineral acid in aqueous medium.

Keywords: Aqueous medium, aromatic iodination, potassium chlorate, potassium iodide

The aromatic iodination reactions are important electrophilic substitution reactions and the resultant iodo products are useful intermediate in organic syntheses as they can be easily involved in the metal-catalyzed cross-coupling reaction.^[1] Because of their potential ability as bioactive materials, most of the iodo derivatives are widely used in the biomedical area.^[2]

Iodination of organic substrates simply by molecular iodine is not possible because of its least reactive nature. Hence, an oxidant is used along with diiodine to get more reactive electrophilic species. Various oxidants such as chromium oxide,^[3] silver sulphate,^[4] sodium iodate,^[5] and HIO₃^[6] have been used along with elemental iodine for the effective iodination process. These iodination reactions are routinely performed in an organic solvent in the presence of a catalytic amount of acid. The other procedures using iodonium ion-donating reagents (iodine mononochloride,^[7] N-iodosuccinimide,^[8] N-iodosuccinimide-trifluoroacetic acid,^[9] NaI-chloramine-T,^[10]

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and NaI/conc. $H_2SO_4^{[11]}$) are also reported. As in the case of aromatic iodination, some procedures have been reported using aqueous media in an environmentally friendly manner.^[12,13] With a view to this concern, we become interested in developing iodination procedures in aqueous media, and herein we report our new, efficient, environmentally friendly procedure for the iodination of aromatic compounds, especially for aromatic amines and phenolic derivatives using the reagent system KClO₃/KI/HCl.

The test reaction was carried out on 2-naphthol (10 mmol) in aqueous medium with potassium chlorate (3.3 mmol) and potassium iodide (10 mmol) in the presence of hydrochloric acid (10 mmol) at 80° C for 2 h and gave 1-iodo 2-naphthol in good yield.

To prove the generality of the method, a variety of commercially available amines and phenols were subjected to this method under similar reaction conditions, and our results are summarized in Table 1. As expected, all the substrates underwent iodination reactions and delivered excellent yields of mono iodo products.

In conclusion, an effective, environmentally friendly, water-solvent method for the iodination of amines and phenols has been reported using potassium chlorate and potassium iodide in the presence of hydrochloric acid.

EXPERIMENTAL

Mass spectra were recorded on a GC-Mass Spec Finnigan Mat 8230MS spectrophotometer. JEOL 270 and 400-MHz spectrophotometer were used for ¹H NMR spectral analysis, and ¹³C NMR spectra were measured with a Varian Gemini 300-MHz spectrophotometer.

Entry	Substrate	Time (h)	Product	Yield $\%^c$
1	Phenol	1	Iodophenol ^a	95
2	4-Chlorophenol	1.5	4-Chloro 2-iodophenol	93
3	2-Nitrophenol	1.5	4-Iodo 2-nitrophenol	88
4	2-Naphthol	2	1-Iodo 2-naphthol	90
5	Aniline	2	Iodoaniline ^b	81
6	4-Nitro aniline	2.5	2-Iodo 4-nitroaniline	86
7	Salicylic acid	2.5	2-Hydroxy-5-iodobenzoic acid	74
8	N-phenylacetamide	2.5	N-(4-Iodophenyl)acetamide	86
9	4-Chloroaniline	2.5	4-Chloro 2-iodoaniline	91
10	2-Aminonaphthalene	2	2-Amino-1-iodonaphthalene	94

Table 1. Iodination of aromatics with KClO₃/KI/HCl in aqueous medium

^aPara: ortho ratio is 95:5 by GC analysis.

^bPara: ortho ratio is 90:10 by GC analysis.

^cAll the compounds showed satisfactory spectroscopic data.

Mono Iodination of Aromatic Amines and Phenols

General Procedure

A solution of 2-naphthol (1.44 g, 10 mmol), potassium chlorate (0.403 g, 3.33 mmol), and potassium iodide (1.66 g, 10 mmol) was prepared in methanol (5 mL) and water (45 mL). To this mixture, hydrochloric acid (10 mmol) was added at 80°C. After completion of the reaction (measured by TLC monitoring), the reaction mixture was extracted with diethyl ether (40 mL). The ether extract was washed with 5% aqueous sodium thiosulphate and water and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. Removal of the solvent gave a residue, which was purified on silica gel using hexane as eluent to afford 1-iodo 2-naphthol (2.43 g, 90%), mp 92°C (lit. 92°C). Mass: m/e = 270. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.98 (d, 1H, J = 9 Hz, 8-H), 7.75 (overlapping doublets, 2H, 4-H and 5-H), 7.58 (t, 1H, J = 8 Hz, 7-H), 7.35 (t, 1 H, J = 8 Hz, 6-H), 7.22 (d, 1 H, J = 8 Hz, 3-H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 154.8, 135.6, 131.8, 130.7, 130.5, 126.95, 126.9, 125.0, 117.2, 86.8.

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