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Facile Method for the Synthesis of Vicinal Azidoiodides by the Reaction of the NaN₃–I₂ System with Unsaturated Compounds

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Abstract: A facile and efficient method was developed for the synthesis of vicinal azidoiodides in 62-77% yields by the reaction of sodium azide and iodine with unsaturated compounds in methanol, aqueous methanol, or the water-methanol-tetrahydrofuran solvent system. The reaction in Et₂O or CHCl₃ produced only vicinal diiodides.

Keywords: Alkenes, azides, azidoiodination, iodine, sodium azide

INTRODUCTION

The azidoiodination of unsaturated compounds has long attracted attention as an efficient tool for C-N bond formation. Organic azides have found use in the synthesis of vinyl azides,^[1] amines,^[2] aziridines,^[3] and lactams.^[4] In recent years, interest in these compounds has quickened because of the development of a facile method for the synthesis of 1,2,3-triazoles by the reaction of azides with terminal acetylenes catalyzed by copper salts.^[5] Compounds containing the 1,2,3-triazole ring are readily available, which has stimulated extensive research into their practical application. These compounds were found to have a wide spectrum of

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biological activities,^[6] for example, antituberculosis,^[7] antibiotic,^[8] anticancer,^[9] immunostimulating,^[10] and anti-HIV^[11] activities. New types of monomers have been synthesized starting from these compounds.^[12] Triazoles can be used for improvement of the proton transport in fuel cells,^[13] and so on. Because of their high reliability and efficiency of the assembly of the triazole ring by reactions in the presence of copper salts, these heterocycles serve as convenient linkers for joining fragments with different useful properties in a single molecule.^[6a,6b,14]

The first attempt to synthesize azidoiodoalkanes by the reaction of alkenes with IN_3 , which was prepared by the reaction of AgN_3 with I_2 , was made as early as in 1900 by Hantsch.^[15] Since that time, several procedures and techniques have been developed for the synthesis of various representatives of this class of compounds. The practical interest in azidojodoalkanes has stimulated a search for new methods for their synthesis. Azidoiodoalkanes were prepared by the reaction of alkenes with IN₃, which was synthesized in situ from ICl and NaN₃,^[16] and by the reaction of alkenes with I₂ and NaN₃ immobilized on aluminum oxide.^[17] The binary tetramethylene sulfone-chloroform (exemplified by the synthesis of azidoiodocyclohexane)^[18] and CHCl₃-H₂O mixtures in the presence of the phase-transfer catalysts Adogen 464 and 18-Crown-6 were used as solvents.^[19] Azidoiodoalkenes were synthesized with the use of iodosofluorosulfate instead of iodine combined with NaN₃.^[20] In the past decade, extensive research into the azidoiodination reaction was continued. Methods were developed for the synthesis of azidoiodoalkanes based on the reactions of alkenes with the following azidoiodine-containing systems more complex than I₂-NaN₃: NaN₃-NaI-cerium ammonium nitrate,^[21] NaN₃-KI-oxone-wet Al₂O₃^[22], bis(pyridine)iodonium(I) tetrafluoroborate-TMSN₃-BF₃-Et₂O,^[23] and iodide [24rsqb; (diacetoxyiodo)benzene-TMSN₃-tetraethylammonium Polymer-bound iodine azide can serve as the azidoiodination reagent.^[25]

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

When searching for facile and efficient methods for the synthesis of vicinal azidoiodides (2a–1), we found that these compounds can be prepared at room temperature during a rather short period of time (2–4 h) in good yields in the absence of catalysts, expensive solvents, and considerable excess of the reagents by the reactions of alkenes (1a–1) with sodium azide and iodine in methanol, aqueous methanol, or the water–methanol– tetrahydrofuran (THF) system (Scheme 1, Tables 1 and 2).

Under particular conditions, the reactions afford azidoiodides 2 along with the corresponding vicinal diiodides.



Scheme 1. Synthesis of azidoiodides 2a-l from alkenes 1a-l.

The nature of the solvent has a decisive influence on the composition and the yields of the reaction products as exemplified by the azidoiodination of hex-1-ene 1a (Table 1).

Depending on the nature of the solvent, azidoiodide **2a** or diiodide **3a** can be synthesized as the only reaction product. Polar protic solvents (MeOH, MeOH–H₂O, or MeOH–H₂O–THF), in which the diiodide is virtually not formed and the target azidoiodide is produced in 71–73% yield, are most favorable for the azidoiodination. The reactions in MeOH require vigorous stirring to obtain reproducible results. The yield of azidoiodide **2a** in MeOH–H₂O is reproduced better than in MeOH. The addition of water to methanol results in the dissolution of the major portion of sodium azide, which makes the reaction weakly sensitive to the intensity of stirring. The reaction mixture can be easily homogenized with the use of the three-component MeOH–H₂O–THF solvent system, because it dissolves both organic and inorganic components of the mixture, but the presence of the third cosolvent somewhat complicates

Table 1. Yields of the azidoiodination products of hex-1-ene 1a



^{*a*}Reaction conditions: sodium azide (0.618 g, 9.5 mmol, 2 mol/1 mol 1a) was added to a solution of 1a (0.4 g, 4.75 mmol) in the solvent (10 ml), and then I_2 (1.81 g, 7.13 mmol, 1.5 mol/1 mol 1a) was added with stirring at 20–25°C. The reaction mixture was stirred for 1.5 h.

^{*b*}The v/v ratio.

Run	Alkene	Azidoiodoalkane	Reaction time (h)	Yield (%) ^a
1	1a	N ₃	3	74
2	<u>і</u> ь	2b	3	74 ^{<i>b</i>}
3	le	2c N ₃	3	72 ⁶
4	1d	CCCCN ^N ³ 2d' 2d''	3	2d' + 2d", 77
5	le	N ₃ 2e	2	75 ^b

Table 2. Synthesis of azidoiodoalkanes 2a-l

(Continued)

Run	Alkene	Azidoiodoalkane	Reaction time (h)	Yield $(\%)^a$
6	lf	N ₃ 2f	2	76 ^b
7	lg	$\underbrace{(\mathcal{Y})}_{2g}^{N_3} \underbrace{(\mathcal{Y})}_{4g}^{N_3}$	2 48	2 g, 72 2 g, 55; 4 g, 15
8	U O Ih	1 N_3 2h	0.5	71
9	C) Ii	i i 2i	0.5	73
10	O OMe	2j 4j	5 24	63 2j , 35; 4j , 29

т.н.	2	C
I able	z .	Continued

(Continued)

Run	Alkene	Azidoiodoalkane	Reaction time (h)	Yield $(\%)^a$
11	OEt 1k	N ₃ O OEt 2k	5	65
12	OMe 1I	N_3 Me 1 21	5	62

Table 2. Continued

^bExperiments on the synthesis of **2b**, **c**, **e**, and **f** were scaled with an increase in the amounts of the reagents by a factor of 10.

the experimental technique. In aprotic solvents (CHCl₃ or Et_2O), the azidoiodination is almost completely absent; in THF, **2a** and **3a** are produced in approximately equal yields (30%).

Taking into account the results of optimization of the synthesis of 2azido-1-iodohexane (Table 1), we performed the azidoiodination of a series of unsaturated hydrocarbons, ethers, and esters with the NaN_3 -I₂ system in MeOH-H₂O with the aim of preparing the corresponding azidoiodinecontaining compounds required for further investigations (Table 2).

Vicinal azidoiodides are produced in higher yields (71-77%) from alkenes, styrenes, and enol ethers (runs 1–9) and in somewhat lower yields (62–69%) from esters (runs 10–13). A mixture of *cis* and *trans* isomers **2d**' and **2d**'' is formed in a total yield of 77% from cyclooctene **1d** (run 4). In runs 7 and 10, the azidoiodination of indene and methylacrylate over a longer period of time (48 and 24 h) affords vicinal diazides **4g** and **4j**, apparently as a result of the nucleophilic displacement of the iodine atom with the azido group in azidoiodine adducts **2g** and **2j**. Among the unsaturated compounds listed in Table 2, cyclic enol ethers exhibit the highest reactivity in the reaction with NaN₃–I₂ (0.5 h, runs 8 and 9). The reactions with unsaturated compounds conjugated with electron-withdrawing groups proceed more slowly (5 h, runs 10–12).

^aThe yield based on the isolated product.

CONCLUSIONS

A facile and efficient procedure was developed for the synthesis of vicinal azidoiodides in yields up to 77% from linear and cyclic alkenes, styrene, its analogs, cyclic enol ethers, and unsaturated compounds containing an electron-withdrawing group. This method is based on the reaction of sodium azide with iodine (used in a small excess) with an unsaturated compound in methanol, aqueous methanol, or the water–methanol–THF solvent system.

EXPERIMENTAL

NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker AC-200 (200.13 MHz for ¹H and 50.32 MHz for ¹³C) and Bruker Avance 300 (300.13 MHz for ¹H and 75.48 MHz for ¹³C) spectrometers in CDCl₃. Analytical thin-layer chromatography(TLC): Silufol UV-254, Silpearl as the sorbent, starch as the binder. Flash chromatography was performed on silica gel (63–200 mesh, Merk). Alkenes, NaN₃, and Na₂S₂O₅ were purchased from Acros. Methanol, ethanol, THF, hexane, CHCl₃, CH₃CN, Et₂O, and iodine (all of reagent grade) were used without additional purification.

Azidoiodination of Hex-1-ene (1a), Table 1

Hex-1-ene **1a** (0.4 g, 4.75 mmol) was dissolved in 10 ml of the solvent (Et₂O, CHCl₃, CH₃CN, THF, MeOH, MeOH–THF (5 ml + 5 ml), H₂O–MeOH (2 ml + 8 ml), or H₂O–MeOH–THF (2 ml + 3 ml + 5 ml). Sodium azide (0.618 g, 9.5 mmol, 2 mol/1 mol **1a**) was added at 20–25°C, and then I₂ (1.81 g, 7.13 mmol, 1.5 mol/1 mol **1a**) was added with stirring. The reaction mixture was stirred for 90 min, CH₂Cl₂ (50 ml) and H₂O (30 ml) were added, and the CH₂Cl₂ layer was separated, washed with 5% Na₂S₂O₅ until it became colorless (with caution, extensive elimination of N₂) and again with H₂O (2 × 20 ml), and dried over MgSO₄. The product was isolated by column chromatography.

Azidoiodination of Alkenes (1a-g, j-l) (General Procedure), Table 2

Alkene **1a–g, j–l** (0.4 g) was dissolved in a mixture of MeOH (or EtOH in run 11; 15 ml) and H₂O (2 ml; if required, THF was added for homogenization). At 20–25°C, NaN₃ (4 mol/1 mol **1a–g, j–l**) was added. Then I₂ (2 mol/1 mol **1a–g, j–l**) was added with stirring. The reaction mixture was stirred during a period from 2 to 48 h and worked as described for **1a**.

Azidoiodination of Dihydrofuran (1 h) and Dihydropyran (1i), Table 2

Sodium azide (3 mol/mol 1h, i; 1.1 or 0.93 g; 17.1 or 14.3 mmol) and dihydrofuran 1h or dihydropyran 1i (0.4 g; 5.71 or 4.76 mmol) were successively dissolved in methanol (10 ml) and water (4 ml). Then iodine (1 mol/mol 1h, i; 1.45 or 1.21 g; 5.71 or 4.76 mmol) was added with stirring. The reaction mixture was stirred at 20–25°C for 0.5 h and worked up as described for 1a.

Data

2-Azido-1-iodohexane (2a)^[16a]

Pale yellow oil. ¹H NMR (300.13 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 0.90$ (t, 3H, CH₃, J = 6.9 Hz), 1.26–1.82 (m, 6H, CH₂), 3.18–3.30 (m, 2H, CH₂I), 3.32–3.44 (m, 1H, CH). ¹³C NMR (75.48 MHz, CDCl): $\delta = 8.6$ (CH₂I), 13.8 (CH₃CH₂), 22.2, 27.9 (CH₂), 34.1 (CH₂), 62.6 (CN₃).

1-Azido-2-iodocyclopentane (2b)^[26]

Pale yellow oil. ¹H NMR (300.13 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 1.61-2.42$ (m, 6H, CH₂), 4.03–4.27 (m, 2H, CHI, CHN₃). ¹³C NMR (75.48 MHz, CDCl): $\delta = 22.3$, 28.5, 29.1 (CH₂), 36.5 (CHI), 71.5 (CHN₃). Anal. Calcd. for C₅H₈IN₃: C, 25.33; H, 3.40; I, 53.54; N, 17.73. Found: C, 25.15; H, 3.41; I, 53.22; N, 18.01.

1-Azido-2-iodocyclohexane (2c)^[18]

Pale yellow oil. ¹H NMR (300.13 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 1.19-1.63$ (m, 4H, CH₂), 1.75–2.50 (m, 4H, CH₂), 3.42–3.59 (m, 1H, CHN₃), 3.87–4.01 (m, 1H, CHI). ¹³C NMR (75.48 MHz, CDCl): $\delta = 23.7$, 26.9, 31.8, 33.2 (CH₂), 38.3 (CHI), 67.1 (CHN₃). Anal. calcd. for C₆H₁₀IN₃: C, 28.70; H, 4.01; I, 50.55; N, 16.74. Found: C, 29.11; H, 4.06; I, 50.26; N, 17.05.

1-Azido-2-iodocyclooctane (the Mixture of Isomers, Ratio 1/2) (2d' + 2d''):

Pale yellow oil. ¹H NMR (300.13 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 1.28-2.44$ (m, 12H, CH₂), the first isomer 3.38–3.49 (m, 1H, CHN₃), 4.53–4.65 (m, 1H, CHI), the second isomer 3.83–3.95 (m, 1H, CHN₃), 4.18–4.30 (m, 1H, CHI). ¹³C NMR (75.48 MHz, CDCl): $\delta = 24.0-27.2$ (8 CH₂), 31.5, 31.7, 34.2, 36.9 (CH₂), 38.9, 39.4 (CHI), 64.1, 71.1 (CHN₃). Anal. calcd. for C₈H₁₄IN₃:

Synthesis of Vicinal Azidoiodides

C, 34.42; H, 5.06; I, 45.47; N, 15.05. Found: C, 34.37; H, 5.08; I, 45.43; N, 15.21.

2-Iodo-1-phenylethyl Azide (2e)^[17]

Pale yellow oil. ¹H NMR (300.13 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 3.39$ (d, 2H, CH₂, J = 7.3 Hz), 4.72 (t, 1H, CH, J = 7.3 Hz), 7.28–7.47 (m, 5H, Ph). ¹³C NMR (75.48 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 8.1$ (CI), 67.1 (CN₃), 126.6, 129.0 (CH, Ar), 137.8 (C, Ar).

1-(1-Azido-2-iodoethyl)-4-methylbenzene (2f)

Pale yellow oil. ¹H NMR (300.13 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 2.39$ (s, 3H, CH₃), 3.40 (d, 2H, CH₂, J = 7.3 Hz), 4.71 (t, 1H, CH, J = 7.3 Hz), 7.20–7.27 (m, 4H, Ph). ¹³C NMR (75.48 MHz, CDCl): $\delta = 8.1$ (CI), 21.2 (CH₃), 66.9 (CN₃), 126.5, 129.7 (CH, Ar), 134.8, 139.0 (C, Ar). Anal. calcd. for C₉H₁₀IN₃: C, 37.65; H, 3.51; I, 44.20; N, 14.64. Found: C, 37.42; H, 3.39; I, 44.47; N, 14.61.

1-Azido-2-iodo-2,3-dihydro-1H-indene (2g)^[24]

Mp 55–57°C. Mp *cis*-isomer 53°C^[24]. ¹H NMR (300.13 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 3.31-3.42$ (m, 1H, CH₂), 3.59–3.71 (m, 1H, CH₂), 4.34–4.43 (m, 1H, CHN₃), 5.09–5.18 (m, 3H, CHI), 7.27–7.48 (m, 4H, Ph). ¹³C NMR (75.48 MHz, CDCl): $\delta = 25.2$, 43.6 (CI, CH₂), 75.0 (CN₃), 124.5, 124.8, 127.7, 129.5 (CH, Ar), 138.6, 141.3 (C, Ar).

2-Azido-3-iodotetrahydrofuran (2h)

Pale yellow oil. ¹H NMR (300.13 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 2.18-2.28$ (m, 1H, CH₂), 2.47–2.60 (m, 1H, CH₂), 4.08–4.26 (m, 3H, CH₂O, CHI), 5.68–5.71 (m, 1H, CHO). ¹³C NMR (75.48 MHz, CDCl): $\delta = 23.6$, 35.4 (CH₂, CI), 68.5 (CH₂O), 98.8 (CHO). Anal. calcd for C₄H₆IN₃O: C, 20.10; H, 2.53; I, 53.09; N, 17.58. Found: C, 20.01; H, 2.28; I, 53.45; N, 17.51.

2-Azido-3-iodotetrahydro-2H-pyran (2i)

Pale yellow oil. ¹H NMR (300.13 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 1.59-1.72$ (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.90–2.11 (m, 1H, CH₂), 2.25–2.45 (m, 1H, CH₂), 3.57–3.70 (m, 1H), 3.85–3.96 (m, 1H), 4.01–4.14 (m, 1H), 4.85–4.94 (m, 1H, CHO). ¹³C NMR (75.48 MHz, CDCl): $\delta = 26.2$, 27.3, 33.8 (CH₂, CI),

66.0 (CH₂O), 92.2 (CHO). Anal. calcd. for C₅H₈IN₃O: C, 23.73; H, 3.19; I, 50.15; N, 16.61. Found: C, 23.54; H, 3.02; I, 50.46; N, 16.57.

Methyl 3-Azido-2-iodopropanoate (2j)^[16c]

Pale yellow oil. Rf = 0.43 (TLC, hexane/EA = 5/1). ¹H NMR (300.13 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 3.62 (dd, 1H, CH₂, J = 12.5; 5.1 Hz), 3.79 (s, 3H, CH₃), 3.89 (dd, 1H, CH₂, J = 12.5; 9.5 Hz), 4.37 (dd, 1H, CH, J=9.5; 5.1 Hz). ¹³C NMR (75.48 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 14.6 (CI), 53.2, 54.7 (CH₂, CH₃), 170.2 (CO). Anal. calcd. for C₄H₆IN₃O₂: C, 18.84; H, 2.37; I, 49.76; N, 16.48. Found: C, 18.80; H, 2.37; I, 49.38; N, 16.91.

Ethyl 3-Azido-2-iodobutanoate (2k)

Pale yellow oil. ¹H NMR (300.13 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 1.28$ (t, 3H, CH₃, J = 7.2 Hz), 1.50 (d, 3H, CH₃, J = 6.6 Hz), 3.87 (m, 1H, CH), 4.15–4.27 (m, 3H, CH, CH₂). ¹³C NMR (75.48 MHz, CDCl): $\delta = 13.7$, 19.2 (CH₃), 24.6 (CI), 59.3, 62.2 (CH, CH₂), 169.6 (CO). Anal. Calcd. for C₆H₁₀IN₃O₂: C, 25.46; H, 3.56; I, 44.83; N, 14.84. Found: C, 25.31; H, 3.42; I, 45.11; N, 14.74.

Methyl 3-Azido-2-iodo-2-methylpropanoate (21)^[16c]

Pale yellow oil. ¹H NMR (300.13 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 2.07 (s, 3H, CCH₃), 3.65 (d, 1H, CH₂, *J* = 12.5 Hz), 3.79 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 4.10 (d, 1H, CH₂, *J* = 12.5 Hz). ¹³C NMR (75.48 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 28.0 (CH₃), 34.6 (CI), 53.3 (OCH₃), 61.7 (CH₂), 171.8 (CO).

1,2-Diazido-2,3-dihydro-1H-indene (4g)^[27]

Pale yellow oil. ¹H NMR (300.13 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 3.38-3.44$ (m, 3H, CH, CH₂), 4.71–4.81 (m, 1H, CH), 7.31–7.50 (m, 4H, Ph). ¹³C NMR (75.48 MHz, CDCl): $\delta = 36.1$ (CH₂), 67.6, 70.2 (CN₃), 124.5, 125.1, 127.7, 129.4 (CH, Ar), 137.7, 139.0 (C, Ar).

Methyl 2,3-Diazidopropanoate (4j)

Pale yellow oil. Rf = 0.29 (TLC, hexane/EA = 5/1). ¹H NMR (200.13 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 3.61 (d, 2H, CH₂, *J* = 5.3 Hz), 3.82 (s, 3H, CH₃), 4.09 (t, 1H, CH, *J* = 5.3 Hz). ¹³C NMR (50.32 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 51.8 (CH₂), 53.1 (CH), 61.4 (CH₃), 168.2 (CO). Anal. calcd. for

 $C_4H_6N_6O_2\!\!:$ C, 28.24; H, 3.55; N, 49.40. Found: C, 28.63; H, 3.55; N, 49.40.

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