

Convenient Synthesis of Bis-1,3-dithiolium Salts by One-electron Oxidation of Tetrathiafulvalene
with Oxoamminium Salts

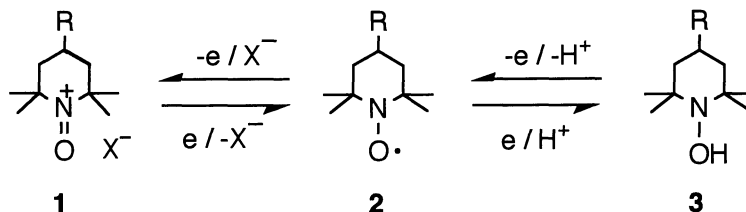
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Several bis-1,3-dithiolium salts, radical cation salts of tetrathiafulvalene were synthesized in quantitative yields by oxidation of tetrathiafulvalene with oxoamminium salts for 1min at room temperature.

Oxoamminium salt (**1**) forms the following reversible redox system together with the corresponding nitroxyl radical (**2**) and hydroxyl amine (**3**), and serves as a mild and selective oxidant for a few organic substances such as alcohols.¹⁻³⁾ The oxidations are usually performed by one or two electron transfer to **1** from substrates,⁴⁾ depending on the structure of the substrates.

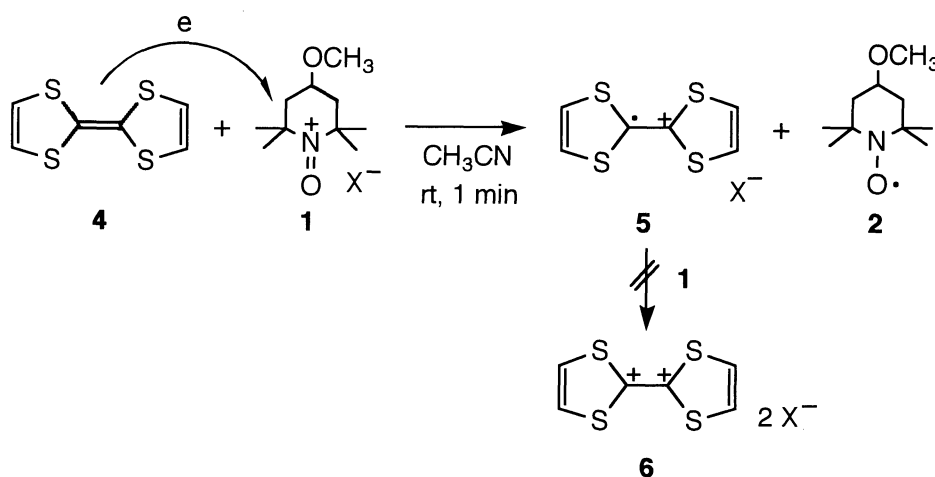


Several amines including phenothiazines are quantitatively oxidized by **1** to the corresponding radical cations via one-electron transfer process.⁵⁾ Similarly, carbon-oxygen bond cleavage of benzyl ethers with **1** selectively undergoes via initial one-electron oxidation with **1**.⁶⁾ Meanwhile, selective and efficient synthesis of bis-1,3-dithiolium salt (**5**) is a recent topic in the field of organic solid conductors, because bis-1,3-dithiolium chloride (**5**, X = Cl) is known as an excellent organic semiconductor.⁷⁾ Synthesis of **5** by oxidation of TTF with chlorine has been reported by Wudl *et al.*,⁸⁾ but overoxidation to dication (**6**) has remained as problem. In this paper, convenient and selective synthesis of **5** by the oxidation of bis-1,3-dithiol (**4**) with **1** is disclosed.

The oxidation of **4** with 1 equiv. of **1a** (X = SbF₆) was carried out in acetonitrile at room temperature for 1min. Bis-1,3-dithiolium hexafluoroantimonate (**5a**, X = SbF₆) was isolated in 94% yield, mp 216.5 °C (decomp); IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 3237, 3105, 1506, 1476, 1351, 1263, 1236, 1073, 919, 831, 824, 707, 672; UV

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(H₂O, λ_{max} , nm) 197.2, 215.6 (sh), 338.4, 405.2 (sh), 434.0, 580.0; ESR (EtOH, -50 °C) $H = 1.24 \pm 0.02$ G, $g = 2.0075$]. These physical and spectral data well agreed with those of Wudl's previously reported.⁸⁾ Since the yield of **5a** was quantitative and **2** was obtained in 93% yield in the oxidation, it is obvious that this oxidation involves a complete one-electron transfer from **4** to **1a**. When **4** was oxidized with 2 equiv. of **1a** under the same conditions, the product obtained was identified as **5a** but not the corresponding dication (**6a**), suggesting that no overoxidation from **5a** to **6a** with **1a** occurred in the oxidation. Furthermore, both **4** and **5a** did not react with **2** at all. Therefore, the oxidation-reduction potentials of these compounds are suggested to follow the order; $2/3 < 5/4 < 1/2 < 6/5$, in accordance with the reported potentials.⁹⁻¹¹⁾ The oxidations of **4** with **1b-1e** having counter anions ClO₄⁻ (**b**), BF₄⁻ (**c**), NO₃⁻ (**d**), or Cl⁻ (**e**) also afforded the corresponding **5b-5e** in high yields; **5b**; 92%, mp 210.3-210.5 °C (decomp), **5c**; 95%, mp 211.5-211.8 °C (decomp), **5d**; 93%, mp 150.0-150.3 °C (decomp.), **5e**; 89%, mp 173.4-174.3 °C (decomp). All these compounds showed UV and ESR spectra ($g = 2.0073-2.0095$ and $a_H = 1.24 \pm 0.2$ G) similar to those of **5a**. **5d** and **5e** were insoluble in acetonitrile, whereas **5a-5c** were readily soluble in acetonitrile.



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(Received June 27, 1994)