POLAROGRAPHIC REDUCTION OF *p*-SUBSTITUTED 1-PHENYL-3--AMINOCARBONYLPYRIDINIUM SALTS

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Received May 29th, 1986

The substitution effect of different groups (H, NO₂, COOH, Br, Cl, NHCOCH₃, CH₃, OCH₃, OH, and $N(C_2H_5)_2$) on the polarographic behaviour of p-substituted 1-phenyl-3-aminocarbonylpyridinium cations has been investigated, in particular on their half-wave potentials in aqueous phosphate buffers pH 6.65 (10% DMF) and in anhydrous solutions of dimethylformamide with $0.05 \text{ mol } l^{-1}$ (n-C₄H₀)₄N⁺BF₄ as supporting electrolyte. The half-wave potentials of the reduction wave which corresponds to the uptake of a single electron (wave B) and to the formation of the primary radical, obey a Hammett correlation in a similar way as it is in the case of 1-benzyl-3-aminocarbonylpyridinium cations. The slope $\varrho_{\pi,\mathbf{R}}$ in the Hammett plot equals 0.093 V for 10% DMF and 0.179 V for anhydrous DMF and compares thus with this slope obtained with the 1-benzyl derivatives where 0.095 V was found for water and 0.127 V for anhydrous acetonitrile. The transfer of the substitution effect from the substituent in the para position on the benzene nucleus to the heterocyclic ring is thus equally active in both substances and depends more strongly on the solvent than on the structure of cations of both types. The low sensitivity in both series towards a change in the substituent is explained by the fact that during the uptake of the electron the benzene and the pyridine nucleus are not even approximately coplanar. This is why the π -overlap between the two nuclei is considerably restricted The analysis of sampled dc-polarographic waves has confirmed that the one-electron uptake is followed by a chemical reaction, most probably a dimer formation or a reaction of the primary product with the starting substance.

1,3-Disubstituted quaternary pyridinium salts are interesting as simple bioorganic models of NAD(P) coenzymes. The electrochemical reduction of the corresponding cations can inform us about the ability of these models to accept electrons from the immobilized substrate which in the first approximation can be represented by a dropping mercury electrode. A useful approach to the investigation of such an electron transfer mechanism proved to be a quantitative research of the substitution effect¹⁻³. An application of the Hammett correlation⁴ (A) to the half-wave potentials in case of *p*-substituted 1-benzyl-3-aminocarbonylpyridinium chlorides Ia,c,d,f,g,i-l pointed² to the relatively low sensitivity of the followed potentials toward a change in the substituent $X(\varrho_{\pi,R} = 0.061$ to 0.127 V) and to a strongly different behaviour of

depolarizers Ii, j, l with π -acceptor groups such as $X = NO_2$, CN, and COOCH₃ in aqueous media:

$$\Delta E_{1/2}(\text{solvent}) = \rho_{\pi,\mathbf{R}} \cdot \sigma_{\mathbf{X}} . \tag{A}$$

The last effect was interpreted² by a preceding deprotonation of the cation of Ii, j, l salts on the methylenic group. Our aim was to verify this assumption and to obtain depolarizers with a higher sensitivity toward the variation in the substituent X; this was why we decided to investigate the polarographic reduction of a similar series of 1-phenyl-3-aminocarbonylpyridinium salts IIa-j and IIIa-j. The results of these experiments, giving a partial answer on these unsolved problems, are the object of this communication.



EXPERIMENTAL

The temperature data have not been corrected The spectral characteristics were measured with the following instruments: Varian XL100 (NMR), solutions $(C^2H_3)_2SO$ in dimethylsulfoxide at 31°C; Perkin-Elmer 325 (IR), potassium bromide technique. Elemental analyses were performed in Central Laboratories of the Prague Institute of Chemical Technology, Prague (Head: Dr L. Helešic).

4'-X-Phenyl-3-aminocarbonylpyridinium Chlorides (IIa-j)

The 4'-nonsubstituted quaternary salt IIf was prepared according to a procedure described in the literature⁵. The other 4'-substituted chlorides were obtained in a similar way. To this purpose a mixture of 9.8 g nicotinamide and 16.2 g 2,4-dinitrochlorobenzene was heated in absence of a solvent to 100° C for two hours. The cool melt was mixed with 0.08 mol of 4'-X-benzeneamine

in 40 ml methanol and the resulting mixture was heated at a temperature corresponding to the boiling point. Then the solvent was removed *in vacuo*, the residue stirred with 40 ml of water and the insoluble part filtered off. The filtrate was repeatedly extracted with chloroform and the aqueous phase evaporated to dryness *in vacuo*. The residue was recrystallized from a minimum quantity of methanol, the obtained crystals of the product were washed with ether and repeatedly recrystallized from methanol. The yields of salts IIa-j obtained in this way and their melting points are given in Table I.

4'-X-Phenyl-3-aminocarbonylpyridinium Perchlorates (IIIa-j)

6 mmol of the corresponding chloride II were dissolved in a minimum volume of warm water and to the solution thus formed an excess of diluted perchloric acid was added. If colourless crystals were precipitated they were redissolved by repeatedly heating the solution. After cooling down the solution the crystals of the corresponding perchlorate III were sucked off and recrystallized from water. Because of difficulties connected with refining it was impossible to obtain the derivatives IIIe, *i* in pure state. The yields and physical constants of salts IIIa-d, f-h, jobtained in this way are summarized in Table II.

Electrochemical Experiments

Polarographic measurements were effectuated with a three-electrode circuit. A dropping mercury electrode with an outflow velocity equal to 2.62 mg s^{-1} was applied as a working electrode, a platinum foil served as a counter-electrode and an Ag/AgCl electrode was the reference electrode. These electrodes jointly with the polarographic cell were components of the electrode stand of the static electrode SMDE 1 but the working electrode was adapted for a free mercury outflow from the capillary at a controlled drop-time.

The measurements were carried out on the polarographic analyzer PA 4 with the XY recorder 4105 in the sampled polarography mode (*i.e.* tast polarography), the scan rate being 2 mV s⁻¹ in the direction from 0.0 V to more negative potentials and the sensitivity 250 nA/cm for aqueous media and 500 nA/cm for measurements in non-aqueous media. The drop-times (2 s aqueous and 1 s in non-aqueous media) were controlled by a time-beater in the stand of the static electrode SMDE 1.

Polarographic data were measured with solutions of the studied salts II and III in 10% aqueous and in non-aqueous dimethylformamide. The supporting electrolyte in the aqueous solvent was a 0.07 mol 1^{-1} phosphate buffer according to Michaelis (pH = 6.65) and for measurements in the non-aqueous media the quarternary salt 0.05 mol 1^{-1} (n-C₄H₉)⁴₄BF⁻₄ was made use of. The concentrations of the depolarizer in aqueous DMF were from 2.10⁻⁴ to 1.10⁻³ mol 1^{-1} , in anhydrous DMF then 5.10⁻⁴ to 1.5.10⁻³ mol 1^{-1} . Before recording the *i*-E curve the investigated solutions were first deaerated by a stream of nitrogen or, more often, of argon; during recording the curve the inert gas was led above the solution.

The half-wave potentials $E_{1/2}$ were obtained either by directly evaluating the *i-E* curves and, for substances IIIa-d, f-h (anhydrous dimethylformamide) also from the logarithmic plots $(\log i/(i_d-i) vs E)$ of these curves. The comparison of values of $E_{1/2}$ obtained by this procedure is visible for substances IIIa-d, f-h, IIe, i in Table III. The same table also includes the values of the slopes $RT/\alpha nF$ bearing relation to the reversibility of the electrode processes followed in this paper. The correlations (A) making use of the substitution constants⁶ of substituents X were evaluated by regression analysis with the help of a program built-in in the pocket calculator Sharp E 512, cf. Figs 1 and 2.

Substance	Substituent	Summary formula M	Melting point	Yield		Elements calculato	al analysis ed/found	
		g mol ⁻¹	°C	•	%C	Н%	N %	% CI
IIa	(C ₂ H ₅) ₂ N	C ₁₆ H ₂₀ N ₃ OCI 305-8	143—146	12	62-84 62-72	6·60 6·81	13•74 13•79	11-59 11-30
<i>411</i>	НО	C ₁₂ H ₁₁ N ₂ O ₂ Cl 250-7	237-239	35	57-50 57-47	4·42 4·41	11·18 11·26	14·14 14·20
IIc	0CH ₃	C ₁₃ H ₁₃ N ₂ O ₂ Cl 264·7	235—237	40	58-99 58-85	4-95 4-98	10-58 10-75	13-39 13-42
PII	CH ₃	C ₁₃ H ₁₃ N ₂ OCl 248·7	209-212	39	62-78 62-46	5·27 5·48	11·26 11·52	14-26 14-58
IIe	NHCOCH ₃	C ₁₄ H ₁₄ N ₃ O ₂ Cl 291·7	abowe 350	42	57·64 57·56	4·84 5·01	14·40 14·13	12·15 12·00
Шf	Н	C ₁₂ H ₁₁ N ₂ OCI 234·7	242—243	43	61·42 61·13	4·72 4·83	11-94 11-62	15·10 15·35
IIg	G	C ₁₂ H ₁₀ N ₂ OCl ₂ 269·1	287—289	43	53-55 53-92	3•75 3•96	10-41 10-67	26·35 26·13
IIha	Br	C ₁₂ H ₁₀ N ₂ OBrCl 313·6	abowe 350	6	45-96 45-81	3·22 3·48	8-93 9-16	11-31 11-77
IIi	СООН	C ₁₃ H ₁₁ N ₂ O ₃ Cl 278·7	abowe 300	24	56-03 56-02	3-98 4-01	10-05 10-03	12·72 12·80
ΙΙ	NO ₂	C ₁₂ H ₁₀ N ₃ O ₃ Cl 279·7	162—164	10	51·53 51·18	3·60 3·71	15-03 15-51	12·68 12·47

Substance	Substituent	Summary formula M	Meltin	g point, °C	Yield		Elements calculate	al analysis ed/found	
		g mol ⁻¹	found	literature ⁶	~	% C	Н%	N %	% CI
IIIa ^a	(C ₂ H ₅) ₂ N	C ₁₆ H ₂₁ N ₃ O ₉ Cl ₂ 470·3	227—229	1	43	40-87 41-07	4·50 4·61	8-94 9-17	15-08 14-08
ad III	НО	C ₁₂ H ₁₁ N ₂ O ₆ Cl 314·7	203-204	I	64	45·80 45·82	3·52 3·61	8-90 8-73	11·27 11·34
IIIc	0CH ₃	C ₁₃ H ₁₃ N ₂ O ₆ Cl 328·7	231-232	232-233	77	47·50 47·41	3-99 4 -01	8·52 8·60	10-79 10-77
IIId	СН3	C ₁₃ H ₁₃ N ₂ O ₅ Cl 312·7	228230	232-233	77	49-93 49-65	4·19 4·09	8-97 8-97	11·34 11·42
IIIf	Н	C ₁₂ H ₁₁ N ₂ O ₅ Cl 298·7	190193	190-192	79	48·26 48·29	3·71 3·90	9-38 9-47	11-87 11-71
lllg	CI	C ₁₂ H ₁₀ N ₂ O ₅ Cl ₂ 333·1	259-261	1	81	43·27 43·53	3-03 3-23	8-41 8-53	21·28 21·04
ЧШ	Br	C ₁₂ H ₁₀ N ₂ O ₅ ClBr 377·6	265-267	263-265	58	38·17 38·26	2·67 2·81	7-42 7-44	9-39 9-50
IIIj	NO2	C ₁₂ H ₁₀ N ₃ O ₇ Cl 343·7	144 146	1	38	41-94 41-89	2·93 2·91	12·23 12·62	32·29 32 · 04

 TABLE II

 Physical characteristics of 4'-X-phenyl-3-aminocarbonylpyridinium perchlorates IIIa-d,

Polarographic Reduction of Pyridinium Salts

TABLE III

Half-wave potentials and slopes of polarographic waves (from the log plot) of IIIa-d, f-h, IIe, i in anhydrous DMF for 1.5. 10^{-3} mol 1^{-1} depolarizer, $0.025M-(n-C_4H_9)_4N^+BF_4^-$

Substance	Substituent	$-E_{1/2}^{a}$, V	$-E_{1/2}^{b}$, V	<i>RT/anF^c</i> mV
IIIa ^d	$(C_2H_5)_2N$	0.965	0.955	110
IIIb	OH	0.910	0.908	38
IIIc	OCH ₃	0.905	0.902	42
IIId	CH ₃	0.890	0.887	44
IIe	NHCOCH ₃	0.890	0.890	45
IIIf	н	0.865	0.868	42
IIIg	Cl	0.820	0.816	53
IIIh	Br	0.802	0.808	52
Ili	СООН	0.760	0.756	46

^{*a*} $E_{1/2}$ read from the dc-polarographic curve; ^{*b*} $E_{1/2}$ calculated from the log plot; ^{*c*} the values of slopes calculated from the log plot; ^{*d*} 1-(4'-diethylammoniumphenyl)-3-carbamoylpyridinium diperchlorate.



Correlation of $E_{1/2}$ for the reduction of IIa-j in 10% DMF with σ_p substituent constants of X

Correlation of $E_{1/2}$ for the reduction of IIIa-d, f-h, IIe, i in anhydrous DMF with σ_p substituent constants of X

RESULTS

Polarographic measurements were performed with solutions of chlorides IIa-j in aqueous 10% DMF and with perchlorates IIIa-d, f-h, j in anhydrous DMF. Since the attempts to prepare the pure perchlorate IIIa only led to the corresponding bis-perchlorate IV



the measurements in DMF were made with this sample. Fortunately, it was found that in this case the basicity of the solvent enables the following deprotonation:

$$IV + DMF \rightleftharpoons IIIa + DMFH^+ + ClO_4^-$$
;

consequently - owing to a large excess of DMF - the actually at the electrode reacting particle was prevalently a monocation of the perchlorate IIIa.

For comparison the polarographic properties of the formerly investigated² 4'-X--benzyl derivatives Ic, d, f, g were also measured (cf. Table IV).

All depolarizers described in this paper exhibit an analogous polarographic behaviour: adsorption prewaves A in the more positive region and diffusion-controlled one-electron waves B over the more negative potential region. A further, still more negative wave C which had been in some cases² observed with aqueous and water--ethanolic solutions of chlorides I, could not be interpreted because of interference caused by reduction of the components of the base solution.

Solutions of IIa-j Salts in Aqueous Dimethylformamide (cf. Table IV)

It was found that for aqueous solutions the $E_{1/2}$ values are virtually pH-independent within the pH region from 4.6 to 9.2. By adding DMF to the solutions of IIa-j in buffers pH 6.65 the $E_{1/2}$ -values are shifted to somewhat more positive values. The height and the position of the more positive wave A did not vary with increasing the depolarizer concentration. On the other hand, the main one-electron waves B are unambiguously diffusion-controlled, their height increases as a linear function with the concentration of the compound to be investigated and is a linear function of the square root of the height of the mercury head. With increasing concentration, both waves, A and B, are slightly shifted to more negative potentials. In case of the 4'diethylamino derivative IIa one may observe in addition to A and B a further low diffusion-controlled wave A' of unknown origin; its $E_{1/2}$ is -0.405 V. The 4'-nitro derivative IIj exhibits further two waves of fourfold height besides A and B, due to the electrochemical reduction⁷ of the substituent X.

Solutions of salts IIIa-d, f-h, j, IIe, i in anhydrous DMF

Because of their poor solubility and difficulties connected with their refining the polarographic curves of perchlorates IIIe,i could not be recorded and this is why they are replaced in the studied series by the corresponding chlorides IIe,i. The sampled dc-polarograms of all studied depolarizers exhibited exclusively a one-electron diffusion-controlled wave B except for IIe,i in which, starting from +0.4 V anodic waves of chlorides can be observed. In case of the 4'-nitroderivative IIIj wave B coincides with the waves corresponding to the reduction of the substituent $X(NO_2)$ so that the dc-polarographic characteristics could be only estimated and are therefore not included in Table V.

TABLE IV

Polarographic reduction of IIa-j and Ic, d, f, g in 10% aqueous DMF. Depolarizer concentration 5.10⁻⁴ mol 1⁻¹ in 0.07M-phosphate buffer according to Michaelis (pH = 6.65)

0 1 .		<i>i</i> ₁ . 1	0 ⁶ , A	$-E_{j}$	1/2, V
Substance	Substituent	А	A + B	Α	A + B
IIa	$(C_{2}H_{5})_{2}N$	_	0.625 ^a	_	0.875
IIb	OH	0.163	1.650	0.690	0.840
IIc	OCH ₃	0.175	1.694	0.648	0.820
Ic	5	0.188	1.513	0.768	0-917
IId	CH ₃	0.163	1.475	0.635	0.820
Id	5	0.120	1.413	0.765	0.935
IIe	NHCOCH ₃	0.100	1.400	0.595	0.802
IIf	н	0.175	1.063	0.650	0.802
If		0.200	1.513	0.790	0.930
IIg	Cl	0.163	1.375	0.550	0.780
Ig		0.213	1.738	0.720	0.900
IIh	Br	0.120	0.910	0.535	0.775
Ili	COOH	0.120	1.375	0.673	0.780
IIj	NO ₂	0.350	5.000 ^b	0-350	0-845

^a Two small prewaves appear on the polarograms. ^b The value of the diffusion current of an independent wave which is preceded by one more wave of approximately equal height at $E_{1/2} = -0.500$ V and with $i_1 = 4.6 \cdot 10^{-6}$ A.

Solutions of Salts Ic, d, f, g in Anhydrous DMF

The experimental polarographic data are compared in Table VI. It is obvious that these compounds behave in an analogous manner as the corresponding phenyl derivatives *III*.

TABLE V

Polarographic reduction of IIIa-d, f-h, IIe,i in anhydrous DMF. Depolarizer concentration 10^{-3} mol 1^{-1} , supporting electrolyte $0.025 \text{M} \cdot (\text{C}_4\text{H}_9)_4 \text{N}^+\text{BF}_4^-$

Substance	Substituent	Wave B $i_1 . 10^6$, A	$-E_{1/2}, V$	<i>RT/anF^a</i> mV
IIIa ^b	$(C_{2}H_{5})_{2}N$	6.100	0.980	110
IIIb	он	2.700	0.930	38
IIIc	OCH ₃	3.950	0.892	42
IIId	CH ₃	2.675	0.890	44
IIe	NHCOOCH ₃	2.150	0.895	45
IIIf	н	3.450	0.870	42
IIIg	Cl	3.300	0.830	53
IIIh	Br	3.500	0.815	52
IIi	соон	2.900	0.765	46

^a Slopes calculated from logarithmic plots; ^b 1-(4'-diethylammoniumphenyl)-3-carbamoyl diperchlorate.

TABLE VI

Comparison of polarographic characteristics of IIIc,d,f,g and Ic,d,f,g for the reduction in anhydrous DMF at 10^{-3} mol l⁻¹ depolarizer concentration; supporting electrolyte 0.025m--(n-C₄H₉)₄N⁺BF₄⁻

 Substance	Substituent	<i>i</i> ₁ . 10 ⁶ , A	$-E_{1/2}, V$	
Ис	OCH ₃	3.950	0-895	
Ic	•	3.075	1.055	
IId	CH ₃	2.675	0.890	
Id	Ũ	0·925 ^a	1.070	
IIf	Н	3.450	0.870	
If		3.350	1.030	
İIg	Cl	3.300	0.830	
Ig		3.610	1.015	

^a Considerably decreased solubility of depolarizer in DMF.

Cyclic Voltammetry of Compounds IIIa-d, f-h, j

The measurements were carried out with a hanging mercury electrode at a scan rate $\leq 50 \text{ V s}^{-1}$. Under these conditions, we did not succeed in detecting an anodic peak corresponding to the oxidation of the primary product which resulted in the reduction of the compound in wave B.

DISCUSSION

It follows from the above findings that under given conditions the quarternary cations of salts *II* and *III* undergo the following one-electron reductions at a dropping mercury electrode:

$$II + e \rightleftharpoons V + Cl^{-},$$

$$III + e \rightleftharpoons V + ClO_{4}^{-};$$

this occurs at the potential of wave B and the polarographic data do not yield direct information about the fate of the primarily formed radicals I, since because of the solubility of the studied compounds and because of the technical properties of the modified static mercury drop electrode it was not possible to investigate the dependence of the polarographic one-electron waves on the concentration of the studied compound c and on the drop-time t_1 . The one-electron character of the process follows unambiguously from a comparison of the wave-heights B in the phenyl derivative II and III with those of the corresponding benzyl derivatives I for which the one-electron reduction has been earlier confirmed². The fact that cyclic voltammetry has not given any information about the oxidation of the particles V can be explained by their very fast follow-up reaction, most probably leading to the electrochemically inactive dimers⁸⁻¹². This also strongly disturbs the reversibility in the formation of the



particles V in agreement with the results of log plots of dc-polarographic curves in log $i/(i_1 - i) - E$ coordinates. As follows from Table III their slope $RT/\alpha nF$ is as a rule somewhat lower than would correspond to the assumed value 59 mV for a single-electron process (with the exception of the 4'-diethylamino derivative IIIa).

It follows from Figs 1 and 2 that the half-wave potentials $E_{1/2}$ for wave B in compounds IIa-i and IIIa-d.f.h exhibit a rather good Hammett correlation (A) with

substitution parameters⁶ σ_p (r = 0.974 or 0.975 for 10 or 9 values, respectively). The values of $\rho_{\pi,R}$ 0.093 V (with 10% DMF) or 0.179 V (with anhydrous DMF) are rather low, however, and comparable with the analogous slopes² obtained with the benzyl derivatives *I*, 0.095 V (water) and 0.127 V (anhydrous acetonitrile). This points to the fact that the transfer of the substitution effect from the group X to the heterocyclic nucleus is approximately equally efficient in the series of salts *I*-*III* and its magnitude depends more on the solvent than on the difference in the structure of the cations in the salts *II*, *III*, and *I*. The relatively low sensitivity in the series *II* and *III* toward a variation in the substituent X can be explained by the situation that during the measurement the pyridine and benzene rings in the double layer are not even approximately coplanar and the π -overlap between the two cyclic systems is to a considerable degree eliminated.

An incertainty in the correlations represented in Figs 1 and 2 is evoked by inserting the points for 4'-nitroderivatives IIj and IIIj, where in the polarographic measurements a reduction of the nitro group⁷ occurs according to the equation $Ar-NO_2 + 4e + 4H^+ \rightarrow Ar-NHOH + H_2O$. When using the value $\sigma_p + 0.81$ for the nitro group, this point is located outside the correlation straight lines in the direction toward the negative values of $E_{1/2}$. This behaviour, however, is not unusual.

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Translated by the author (J.V.).