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Note

Separation of isomeric thiohydantoins by thin-layer chromatography

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During the synthesis of 2-thiohydantoins^{1,2}, 5,5-diaryl-, 3-aryl- and 5,5-diaryl-1,3-diaryl-2-thiohydantoins were obtained from benzils and various monoaryl- and sym.-diarylthioureas, respectively, and it was necessary to study the separation and identification of the final product by thin-layer chromatography (TLC). In recent years, this technique has also been applied successfully to the separation of isomeric compounds using suitable solvent systems³⁻⁶. The present investigation has shown that it is not only possible to separate thiohydantoins from corresponding thioureas but also to separate isomeric thiohydantoins from one another.

EXPERIMENTAL

A slurry was prepared by mixing 25 g of silica gel G (according to Stahl, Type 60; E. Merck, Darmstadt, G.F.R.) in 50 ml of distilled water. Ten well cleaned glass plates (20×10 cm) were coated with the adsorbent to a thickness of 250μ m using an adjustable Desaga Model S II (Stahl-type) applicator. When the layer had almost dried, the coated glass plates were activated by heating them in an air oven at 175° C for 45 min. The spotted plates were developed in air-tight glass chambers ($25 \times 12 \times 25$ cm) that had been previously saturated with the solvent vapour; the developing time was 58–80 min, depending on the solvent used. The operating temperature was $25-30^{\circ}$ C and the relative humidity of the atmosphere was 60-70%. The developed chromatograms, after being dried, were sprayed with sodium azide and iodine-potassium iodide reagent followed by starch solution. The thiohydantoin compounds were detected as colourless spots on a bluish background.

RESULTS

A large number of solvent systems were tried, and those which gave reasonable differences in the R_F values of the isomers are listed in Table I. The separation of the isomeric compounds 5,5-di(*p*-chlorophenyl)-3-o-, *m*-, *p*-chlorophenyl-, 5,5-di(*p*-chlorophenyl)-1,3-di-o-, *m*-, *p*-chlorophenyl-2-thiohydantoins, 5,5-di(*p*-methoxy-phenyl)-3-o-, *m*-, *p*-tolyl-, 5,5-di(*p*-methoxyphenyl)-1,3-di-o-, *m*-, *p*-tolyl-, 5,5-di(*p*-methoxyphenyl)-1,3-di-o-, *m*-, *p*-tolyl-2-thiohydantoins and 5,5-distyril-3-o-, *m*-, *p*-nitrophenyl-, 5,5-distyril-1,3-di-o-, *m*-, *p*-nitrophenyl-2-thiohydantoins were studied.

An equimolar mixture of the isomeric compounds was chromatographed by

TABLE I

R_F VALUES OF ISOMERS IN DIFFERENT SOLVENT SYSTEMS

Solvent systems: 1:1 mixtures of light petroleum (b.p. 60–80°C) with (A) benzene, (B) methanol, (C) ethanol, (D) isopropanol and (E) *n*-butanol.

Compound	R _F value				
	A	В	С	D	E
5,5-Di(<i>p</i> -chlorophenyl)-					
3-o-chlorophenyl-2-thio-					
hydantoin	0.03	0.52	0.58	0.54	0.55
5,5-Di(p-chlorophenyl)-3-m-					
chlorophenyl-2-thiohydantoin	0.15	0.62	0.67	0.63	0.66
5,5-Di(p-chlorophenyl)-3-p-					
chlorophenyl-2-thiohydantoin	0.31	0.83	0.85	0.82	0.84
5,5-Di(p-chlorophenyl)-1,3-di-					
o-chlorophenyl-2-thiohydantoin	0.08	0.58	0.59	0.54	0.53
5,5-Di(p-chlorophenyl)-1,3-di-					
<i>m</i> -chlorophenyl-2-thiohydantoin	0.21	0.67	0.68	0.62	0.61
5,5-Di(p-chlorophenyl)-1,3-di-					
p-chlorophenyl-2-thiohydantoin	0.39	0.78	0.77	0.74	0.73
5,5-Di(p-methoxyphenyl-3-o-tolyl-					
2-thiohydantoin	0.24	0.56	0.58	0.54	0.52
5,5-Di(p-methoxyphenyl)-3-m-tolyl-					
2-thiohydantoin	0.36	0.64	0.60	0.62	0.61
5,5-Di(p-methoxyphenyl)-3-p-tolyl-					
2-thiohydantoin	0.46	0.74	0.70	0.70	0.72
5,5-Di(p-methoxyphenyl)-1,3-di-					
o-tolyl-2-thiohydantoin	0.34	0.32	0.31	0.30	0.83
5,5-Di(p-methoxyphenyl)-1,3-di-					
m-tolyl-2-thiohydantoin	0.39	0.44	0.43	0.42	0.47
5,5-Di(p-methoxyphenyl)-1,3-di-				•••-	
p-tolyl-2-thiohydantoin	0.49	0.51	0.52	0.51	0.56
5,5-Distyril-3-o-nitrophenyl-					
2-thiohydantoin	0.41	0.45	0.43	0.42	0.41
5,5-Distyril-3-m-nitrophenyl-					
2-thiohydantoin	0.58	0.57	0.56	0.53	0.51
5,5-Distyril-3-p-nitrophenyl-					0.01
2-thiohydantoin	0.67	0.64	0.62	0.61	0.60
5,5-Distyril-1,3-di-o-nitro-					0100
phenyl-2-thiohydantoin	0.40	0.41	0.40	0.41	0.39
5,5-Distyril-1,3-di-m-nitro-	0110		00	0.11	0.57
phenyl-2-thiohydantoin	0.51	0.56	0.54	0.54	0.52
5,5-Distvril-1,3-di-p-nitro-		0.00		0.0 .	0.0-
phenyl-2-thiohydantoin	0.62	0.62	0.61	0.62	0.61
Time of development (min)	58	62	80	75	65

ascending one-dimensional TLC. Effective separations of all of the above compounds were possible with 1:1 binary solvent systems of light petroleum (b.p. 60–80°C) with benzene, methanol, ethanol, isopropanol and *n*-butanol, marked differences in the R_F values of the *o*-, *m*- and *p*-isomers being obtained.

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