

TABLE 1.

	2-D-phenol	3-D-phenol	4-D-phenol
Reaction time <i>h</i>	1	2	2
Reaction temp. °C	25	35	35
Estimated purity %	>97	>80	>90
Yield grammes (%)	1.84 (84)	0.86 (39)	0.98 (44)

A detailed analysis of the PMR spectra is planned.

The microwave spectra have been assigned <sup>(3)</sup> for all the monodeuteriated phenols, and have been found to be consistent with the structures assumed for these compounds.

We therefore conclude that the above syntheses are satisfactory with respect to the isotopic purity of the samples.

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## Application of the microwave discharge modification of the Wilzbach technique for the tritium labelling of some organics of biological interest

Received on the 17th February 1969

The modification of the Wilzbach technique using microwave discharge <sup>(1)</sup> has been routinely used in our laboratory for rapid tritium labellings. The applicability of the method and the effects of some of the reaction parameters were studied and published previously <sup>(2)</sup>. The main advantage of the method is its simplicity and rapidity and the low extent of decomposition of the compound to be labelled during the reaction. Specific activities obtained, however, are not high enough for some investigations.

In this paper the labelling of *dihydrostreptomycine*, *tetracycline* and *anti-pyrine* will be described.

The apparatus used was essentially the same as published earlier <sup>(2)</sup>.

#### *Dihydrostreptomycine-<sup>3</sup>H.*

Dihydrostreptomycine trisulfate (102 mg) was placed into the reaction vessel and degassed thoroughly. Tritium gas was then admitted up to a pressure of 3.6 mm Hg, which corresponded to an activity of 380 mCi.

Microwave discharge (180 W) was performed for three minutes. After pumping off the remaining tritium, the product was dissolved in water and precipitated by adding alcohol to the solution. This precipitation was repeated twice more and finally the product was dried in vacuum at room temperature.

Yield : 72 mg (70 %).

Specific activity : 85  $\mu$ Ci/mg (75 mCi/mmole).

Radiochemical yield based on tritium gas : 1.6 %.

The radiochemical purity of the product was checked by paper chromatography on Whatman No. 1 paper. The chromatogram was developed by using the ascendent technique (solvent system : 400 ml *n*-butanol saturated with water, 8 g *p*-toluenesulfonic acid, 10 ml *p*iperidine.)

The dihydrostreptomycine was localized as a pink spot by spraying the chromatogram with a reagent obtained by mixing equal volumes of the following solutions : 0.1 % diacetyl in water, 2.5 %  $\alpha$ -naphthol in alcohol, 20 % w/v KOH in water.

The radiochromatogram of the labelled dihydrostreptomycine (scanned by using a Packard M7200 scanner) showed a well defined single radioactive peak which corresponded to the dihydrostreptomycine spot obtained by the spray reagent.

#### *Tetracycline-<sup>3</sup>H.*

The labelling procedure was essentially the same as described above; 100 mg of tetracycline hydrochloride was labelled at a tritium pressure of 3.2 mm Hg (340 mCi). Labile tritium was removed by dissolving the product three times in methanol followed by evaporation to dryness under reduced pressure. The crude product was precipitated from water solution, the pH of which was adjusted to 4.5 by the dropwise addition of 0.1 N hydrochloric acid, and finally dried in vacuum at 50° C.

Yield : 86.5 mg (86.5 %).

Specific activity : 165  $\mu$ Ci/mg (79 mCi/mmole).

Radiochemical yield based on tritium gas : 4.2 %.

The radiochemical purity of the product was checked by thinlayer chromatography on Eastman-Kodak Silicagel-G TLC sheet using 10 % aqueous citric acid solution saturated with *n*-butanol as developing solvent system.

The tetracycline was localized as a yellow spot by spraying the chromatogram with 1N hydrochloric acid followed by heating at 50° C for a few minutes.

#### *Antipyrine-<sup>3</sup>H.*

150 mg of antipyrine was labelled by the procedure described above at tritium pressure of 3.8 mm Hg (400 mCi). After removing labile tritium by dissolving the product three times in methanol followed by evaporation to dryness under reduced pressure, antipyrine was found to be pure without any further purification.

Yield : 90 mg (60 %).

Melting point : 109-110° C (uncorr.).

Specific activity : 350  $\mu$ Ci/mg (66 mCi/mmole).

Radiochemical yield based on tritium gas : 7.1 %.

Thin-layer chromatography on Eastman-Kodak Silicagel-G sheet, using methanol as developing solvent and Dragendorff sprayreagent to localize antipyrine, showed a single radioactive peak. No decomposition could be observed after keeping the product at room temperature for five months in powder form.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

The author's thanks are due to Mr. H. Tovedahl for the radio-activity measurements.

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## Preparation of <sup>3</sup>H-Acetyltrypsin

Received on the 19th February 1969

In response to a need for labelled trypsin, the pancreatic proteolytic enzyme which catalyzes the hydrolysis of peptide bonds between the carboxy group of arginine or lysine and the amino group of another amino acid, its <sup>3</sup>H-acetyl derivative has been prepared. Acetyltrypsin shows similar substrate