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SYNTHESES OF 1,4-BUTANEDIAMINE-1,1,4,4-d_4, 1,4-BUTANEDIAMINE-2,2,3,3-d_4, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE BIS(AMMONIUM NITRATE) SALTS

Alan P. Marchand* and N. Satyanarayana
Department of Chemistry, North Texas State University
NT Station, Box 5068, Denton, TX 76203-5068

Robert L. McKenney, Jr.* and Stephen R. Struck
Air Force Armament Laboratory, AFATL/MNE
Eglin Air Force Base, FL 32542-5434

SUMMARY

Syntheses of the title compounds from diethyl succinate and from dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate in 16% and 18% overall yield, respectively, are described; a procedure for converting these specifically deuterated diamines into the corresponding bis(ammonium nitrate) salts in 62% and 60% yield, respectively, is presented.

Key words: Synthesis, Site-specific ^{2}H-Labelled Putrescines and Putrescinium Dinitrates

INTRODUCTION

There is considerable current interest in the study of kinetic isotope effects in thermal decompositions of explosives.[1-3] As part of a study of deuterium isotope effects on the decomposition of 1,4-butanediammonium dinitrate (BDD), it was necessary to synthesize 1,4-butanediamine-1,1,4,4-d_4 (putrescine-1,1,4,4-d_4, **1a**), the corresponding 2,2,3,3-d_4 isomer (putrescine-2,2,3,3-d_4, **1b**), and the bis(ammonium nitrate) salts of **1a** and **1b** (i.e., **1c** and **1d**, respectively). The synthesis of the bis(ammonium acetate) salt of **1a** via lithium aluminum deuteride reduction of succinonitrile has been reported by Mayerl and Hesse;[4] however, their reported yield was only ca. 1.4%. Our own experience with this reaction similarly produced **1a** in disappointingly low yield. In contrast to this result, deuterogenation succinonitrile over platinum oxide catalyst in aqueous ethanolic (C_2H_5OD) hydrochloric acid (DCl) solution has been reported to afford 1,4-butanediamine-1,1,4,4-d_4 dihydrochloride in 40% yield.[5]

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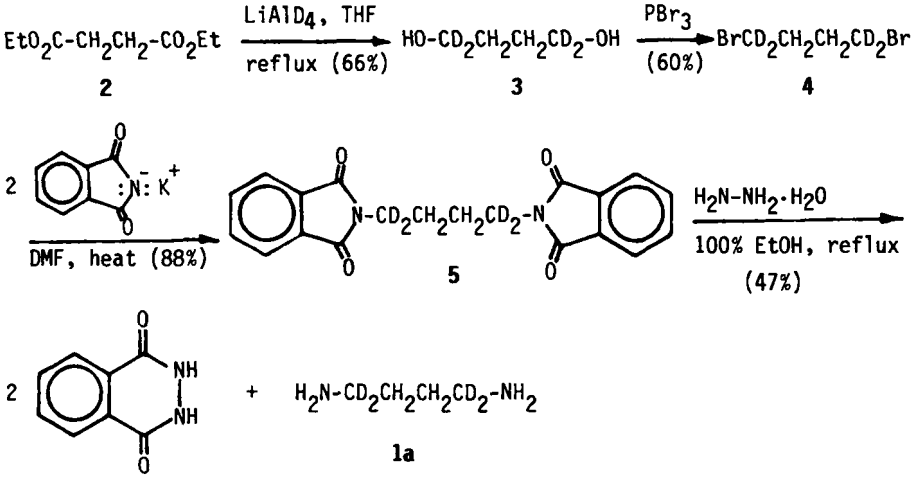
It is most advantageous to prepare BDD directly via reaction of putrescine with nitric acid. It is not convenient to liberate the free amine from one of its free bases directly.

DISCUSSION

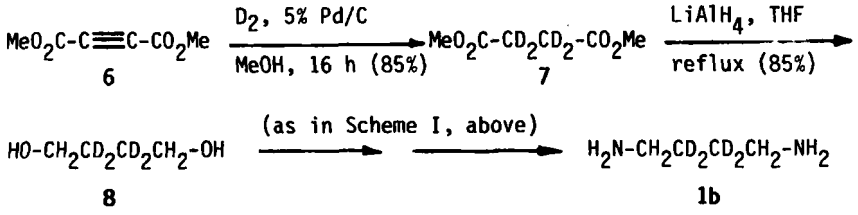
To synthesize **1a**, we employed a Gabriel synthesis[6] as outlined in Scheme I. Lithium aluminum deuteride reduction of diethyl succinate (**2**) afforded 1,4-butanediol-1,1,4,4-d_4 in 66% yield. Reaction of **3** with phosphorus tribromide afforded the corresponding dibromide (**4**, 60%). Subsequent reaction of **4** with two equivalents of potassium phthalimide afforded the corresponding diphthalimido derivative (**5**, 88%). Finally, pure **1a** was produced in 47% yield (16% overall from diethyl succinate) by refluxing a solution of **5** in absolute ethanol with excess hydrazine hydrate.

Our corresponding synthesis of **1b** is summarized in Scheme II:

Scheme I



Scheme II



Dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate (**6**) was deuterogenated with deuterium gas over

5% palladized charcoal catalyst in methanol, thereby affording dimethyl succinate-2,2,3,3-d_4 (**7**, 85%). Lithium aluminum hydride reduction of **7** afforded 1,4-butanediol-2,2,3,3-d_4 (**8**, 85%). Thereafter, conversion of **8** to **1b** followed the steps outlined in Scheme I for the conversion of **3** to **1a**. Application of this reaction sequence afforded **1b** in 18% overall yield.

The conversion of **1a** and **1b** into their respective bis(ammonium nitrate) salts (**1c** and **1d**, respectively) was effected in 62% and 60% yield, respectively, via reaction of each diamine with concentrated nitric acid.[7] Mass spectra of **1c** and **1d** were obtained by using the direct inlet solids probe technique at a temperature slightly above their respective melting points. Analysis of the fragmentation patterns thereby obtained suggests that in each case the salt undergoes initial decomposition into the free diamine and nitric acid.

EXPERIMENTAL METHODS

Melting points and boiling points are uncorrected. Proton NMR spectra of **1a** and **1b** were obtained on a Hitachi-Perkin Elmer Model R-243 NMR spectrometer (60 MHz) and by using a JEOL FX-90Q FT-NMR spectrometer (90 MHz). Proton NMR spectra of **1c** and **1d** were obtained on a Varian EM-390 NMR spectrometer (90 MHz). Signals are reported in ppm (δ) downfield from internal tetramethylsilane for **1a** and **1b** and downfield from internal sodium 3-(trimethylsilyl)propionate-2,2,3,3-d_4 for **1c** and **1d**. Infrared spectra of **1a** and **1b** were obtained on a Perkin Elmer Model 1330 IR spectrophotometer. Infrared spectra of **1c** and **1d** were obtained on a Mattson Cygnus 25 FTIR spectrometer. Mass spectra of **1a** and **1b** were obtained by using a Hewlett-Packard Model 5970A GC/MS system operating at 70 eV. Mass spectra of **1c** and **1d** were obtained on a Finnigan MAT Model 5100 GC/MS system operating at 70 eV.

1,4-Butanediol-1,1,4,4-d_4 (3). A solution of **2** (13.92 g, 80 mmol) in dry tetrahydrofuran (THF, 100 mL) was added dropwise to a stirred slurry of lithium aluminum deuteride (10.08 g, 240 mmol) in dry THF (100 mL). The reaction mixture was refluxed for 4 h, at which time the reaction mixture was cooled and then quenched via successive addition of water (10 mL), 10% aqueous sodium hydroxide solution (10 mL), and water (30 mL). The resulting mixture was then filtered to remove precipitated aluminum salts. The filtrate was dried (anhydrous magnesium sulfate) and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo to afford crude **3** (5.1 g). The crude product was purified via column chromatography (silica gel adsorbent, ethyl acetate eluent). The material thereby obtained was distilled in vacuo to afford pure **3** (5.0 g, 66%): bp 80 °C (0.5 mm). Upon cooling, the distillate solidified to afford colorless needles: mp 15 °C, (lit[8]

bp 127 °C (20 mm), mp 16 °C). IR (neat) 3300 (vs), 2095 (s), 2005 (s), 950 cm^{-1} (s); ^1H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ 1.65 (br s, 4 H), 3.68 (br s, 2 H); mass spectrum (70 eV), m/e (relative intensity) (no molecular ion), 76 (1.7), 75 (15.4), 58 (14.1), 46 (15.8), 45 (73.0), 44 (100.0), 43 (35.7), 42 (13.6), 33 (98.3), 32 (23.7), 31 (13.6).

1,4-Dibromobutane-1,1,4,4-d_4 (4). Phosphorous tribromide (14.14 g, 52 mmol) was added dropwise to cooled **3** (4.9 g, 52 mmol); the reaction mixture was cooled via application of an external ice bath. After the addition of PBr_3 had been completed, the ice bath was removed, and the reaction mixture was stirred at ambient temperature for 18 h. The reaction mixture was then poured into water and extracted with chloroform. The organic layer was washed successively with water, aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution, and brine. The organic layer was then dried (anhydrous magnesium sulfate) and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. The residue was distilled in vacuo to afford **4** as a colorless oil (7.0 g, 60%): bp 115 °C (290 mm), [lit.[9] bp 197 °C (1 atm)]; IR (neat) 2155 (s), 660 cm^{-1} (s); ^1H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ 2.04 (s); mass spectrum (70 eV), m/e (relative intensity) 220 (molecular ion, 0.6), 141 (64.7), 139 (67.5), 109 (14.1), 81 (18.4), 79 (16.7), 59 (100.0), 43 (25.6), 41 (27.1), 40 (27.1), 32 (26.2), 31 (29.6).

1,4,-Diphthalimidobutane-1,1,4,4-d_4 (5). A mixture of **4** (4.95 g, 20 mmol), potassium phthalimide (13.35 g, 72 mmol) and dimethylformamide (DMF, 60 mL) was heated on a steam bath for 4 h. The reaction mixture was then concentrated in vacuo, and the residue was poured over crushed ice. The crude product was collected via suction filtration; the residue was washed with water and then air-dried. The crude product was extracted with boiling carbon disulfide to remove N-(4-bromobutyl)phthalimide. Pure **5** (6.9 g, 88%) was thereby obtained as a colorless microcrystalline solid: mp 226 °C, (lit[6] mp 230 °C); IR (KBr) 3065 (m), 3025 (m), 2175 (m), 2125 (m), 1700 (br, vs), 1600 (s), 900 (s), 800 cm^{-1} (s); ^1H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ 1.70 (s, 4 H), 7.61-7.86 (m, 8 H); mass spectrum (70 eV), m/e (relative intensity) 352 (molecular ion, 6.8), 205 (14.1), 204 (18.3), 190 (25.7), 163 (18.3), 162 (100.0), 134 (15.7), 130 (15.7), 106 (14.7), 104 (14.1), 78 (18.3), 76 (17.8).

1,4-Butanediamine-1,1,4,4-d_4 (1a). A mixture of **5** (6.5 g, 18.5 mmol), hydrazine hydrate (2.22 g, 44.4 mmol), and absolute ethanol (120 mL) was refluxed for 4 h under nitrogen. The reaction mixture was cooled and then filtered to remove phthalhydrazide. The filtrate was dried (anhydrous magnesium sulfate) and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. The residue was distilled in vacuo to afford **1a** (0.8 g, 47%) as a colorless oil: bp 85 °C (290 mm); IR (neat) 3300 (br, s), 2195 (s), 2095 (s), 1570 cm^{-1} (br, s); ^1H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ 1.38 (s, 4 H), 1.52 (s, 4 H); mass spectrum (70 eV), m/e (relative intensity) 92 (molecular ion, 0.1), 75 (0.4), 58 (0.6), 44 (17.0), 32 (100).

Dimethyl Succinate-2,2,3,3-d_4 (7). A stirred mixture of acetylenedicarboxylate (**6**, 10.0 g, 70.4 mmol) and 5% palladized charcoal (1.0 g) in methanol (400 mL) was purged with nitrogen gas. A balloon containing excess deuterium gas was connected to the reaction flask, and the reaction mixture was deuterogenated with stirring for 16 h at room temperature. The resulting mixture was filtered to remove catalyst, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. The residue was distilled under reduced pressure, thereby affording pure **7** (9.0 g, 85%): bp 95 °C (1 mm); IR (neat) 2245 (w), 2155 (w), 2135 (w), 2095 (w), 1735 (vs), 1445 (s), 1045 cm^{-1} (s); ^1H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ 3.66 (s); mass spectrum (70 eV), m/e (relative intensity) (no molecular ion), 119 (100.0), 118 (42.2), 117 (24.0), 91 (18.8), 59 (72.9), 58 (54.5), 57 (19.3), 32 (32.2), 21 (17.1).

1,4-Butanediammonium-1,1,4,4-d_4 Dinitrate (1c). A solution of **1a** (426 mg, 4.63 mmol) in 95% aqueous ethanol (4 mL) was cooled to 0 °C by application of an external ice bath. To this cold solution was added concentrated nitric acid (0.6 mL, 9.5 mmol) dropwise with vigorous stirring. The temperature of the reaction mixture was not permitted to exceed 0 °C during the period of addition of nitric acid. After all of the nitric acid had been added, the ice bath was removed and the reaction mixture was perimitted to warm to ambient temperature. After stirring for 10 minutes at room temperature, the reaction mixture was then filtered. The residue was washed with ice cold 95% aqueous ethanol solution and suction-dried. The resulting material was recrystallized from ethanol-water mixed solvent, thereby affording pure **1c** (625 mg, 62%) as a colorless microcrystalline solid: mp 140 °C, (lit.[7] mp 139 °C for non-deuterium labelled

1c); IR (KBr) 3048 (br, vs), 2400 (m), 1995 (m), 1759 (w), 1628 (m), 1520 (vw), 1354 (br, vs), 1078 (w), 1026 (m), 825 (m), 710 cm^{-1} (m); ^1H NMR (DMSO-d_6) δ 1.6 (s, 4 H), 5.2 (s, 6 H); mass spectrum (70 eV), m/e (relative intensity) (no molecular ion), 74 (2.4), 73 (3.3), 62 (3.0), 61 (4.5), 57 (2.3), 46 (41.0), 44 (18.0), 32 (100.0), 30 (18.0).

1,4-Butanediammonium-2,2,3,3-d_4 Dinitrate (1d). The procedure described above for the preparation of **1c** was employed for the synthesis of **1d**. Pure **1d** was thereby obtained in 60% yield as an off-white microcrystalline solid: mp 139 ^oC; IR (melt) 2350 (br, m), 1616 (w), 1517 (w), 1311 (br, vs), 1161 (vw), 1040 (vw), 826 (w), 722 cm^{-1} (vw); ^1H NMR (DMSO-d_6) δ 2.8 (s, 4 H), 7.9 (s, 6 H); mass spectrum (70 eV), m/e (relative intensity) (no molecular ion), 75 (3.0), 74 (2.6), 73 (2.8), 63 (6.5), 62 (3.9), 47 (7.8), 46 (66.7), 45 (28.8), 44 (17.3), 43 (9.0), 31 (15.0), 30 (100.0).

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