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SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

> Dedicated to Full Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences N.S. Zefirov on His 70th Anniversary

## First Example of Synthesis of N,N'-Bis(trichloroethylidene)arenedisulfonamides

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We previously developed methods for the synthesis of N-sulfonyl-substituted polyhalogenated aldehyde imines via reaction of N,N'-dichlorosulfonamides with polyhaloethenes [1, 2]. In the present communication we report for the first time on the application of the same approach to the preparation of N,N'-bis(trichloroethylidene)-p,p'-biphenyl- and p,p'-oxydibenzenedisulfonamides. For this purpose, p,p'-biphenyldisulfonamide and p,p'-oxydibenzenedisulfonamide were chlorinated in the presence of sodium hydroxide to obtain the corresponding N, N, N', N'-tetrachloro derivatives Ia and **Ib**, and the latter were brought into reaction with trichloroethylene. As a result, we obtained in high yields N,N'-bis(trichloroethylidene)-p,p'-biphenyldisulfonamide (IIa) and N,N'-bis(trichloroethylidene)-p,p'oxydibenzenedisulfonamide (IIb). Molecules of IIa and IIb possess highly electrophilic azomethine groups; therefore, these compounds attract interest from the viewpoint of their further transformations.

The high reactivity of bis-imines **IIa** and **IIb** is demonstrated by exothermic addition of oxygen-centered nucleophiles. Compounds **IIa** and **IIb** vigorously react with methanol, and they take up water even upon contact with atmospheric moisture. It seems to be reasonable to use Schiff bases **IIa** and **IIb** without isolation from the reaction mixture to avoid formation of hydroxy derivatives **IIIa** and **IIIb** as impurity.

Halogenated Schiff bases having several CH=N bonds activated by electron-withdrawing substituents may be convenient starting compounds in the synthesis of polyfunctional cyclic or acyclic haloalkylamide ensembles containing pharmacophoric fragments, which are promising as strong NH acids, ligands, and reagents for asymmetric synthesis and supramolecular chemistry.

N,N,N',N'-Tetrachlorodisulfonamides **Ia** and **Ib** were prepared by chlorination of alkaline solutions of the corresponding disulfonamides [3].

*N,N'*-**Bis(2,2,2-trichloroethylidene)**-*p,p'*-**biphenyldisulfonamide (IIa).** A mixture of 4.50 g (0.01 mol) of compound **Ia** and 18 ml (0.20 mol) of trichloroethylene was heated under reflux in a continuous stream of argon until chlorine no longer evolved (10– 12 h). According to the <sup>1</sup>H NMR data, product **IIa** was formed in quantitative yield. IR spectrum, v, cm<sup>-1</sup>:



**I–III**,  $X = p-C_6H_4C_6H_4-p$  (**a**),  $p-C_6H_4OC_6H_4-p$  (**b**); **III**, R = OH; **IV**, R = MeO,  $X = p-C_6H_4OC_6H_4-p$ .

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1150, 1335 (SO<sub>2</sub>); 1635 (C=N). <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (CDCl<sub>3</sub>),  $\delta$ , ppm: 7.98 and 8.22 (8H, *AA'BB'* system, H<sub>arom</sub>), 8.85 s (2H, N=CH).

*N*,*N*'-**Bis**(2,2,2-trichloroethylidene)-*p*,*p*'-oxydibenzenedisulfonamide (IIb) was synthesized in a similar way. IR spectrum, v, cm<sup>-1</sup>: 1145, 1330 (SO<sub>2</sub>); 1630 (C=N). <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (CDCl<sub>3</sub>),  $\delta$ , ppm: 7.24 and 8.02 (8H, *AA'BB'* system, H<sub>arom</sub>), 8.50 s (2H, N=CH). <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (CDCl<sub>3</sub>),  $\delta_{C}$ , ppm: 96.47 (CCl<sub>3</sub>); 119.74, 130.07, 136.61, 160.77 (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>); 159.08 (N=C).

*N,N'*-Bis(2,2,2-trichloro-1-hydroxyethyl)-*p,p'*-biphenyldisulfonamide (IIIa). Water, 1 ml (0.05 mol), was added to the reaction mixture containing Schiff base IIa, and the resulting mixture was shaken for 20– 30 min. The precipitate was filtered off and dried. Yield 90%, mp 176–178°C. IR spectrum, v, cm<sup>-1</sup>: 1140, 1330 (SO<sub>2</sub>); 3250 (NH); 3450 (OH). <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>),  $\delta$ , ppm: 5.24 d (1H, NCH, *J* = 11 Hz), 7.90 and 8.01 (8H, *AA'BB'* system, H<sub>arom</sub>), 9.02 d (1H, NH, *J* = 11 Hz). Found, %: C 31.73; H 2.38; Cl 35.33; N 4.75; S 10.69. C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>14</sub>Cl<sub>6</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub>S<sub>2</sub>. Calculated, %: C 31.65; H 2.32; Cl 35.04; N 4.61; S 10.56.

*N*,*N*'-**Bis**(2,2,2-trichloro-1-hydroxyethyl)-*p*,*p*'oxydibenzenedisulfonamide (IIIb) was synthesized as described above for IIIa. Yield 95%, mp 182– 185°C. IR spectrum, v, cm<sup>-1</sup>: 1145, 1330 (SO<sub>2</sub>); 3230 (NH); 3480 (OH). <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (acetone- $d_6$ ),  $\delta$ , ppm: 5.46 d (1H, NCH, *J* = 11 Hz), 7.24 and 7.99 (8H, *AA'BB'* system, H<sub>arom</sub>), 7.77 d (1H, NH, *J* = 11 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (acetone- $d_6$ ),  $\delta_C$ , ppm: 86.83 (NCH); 102.55 (CCl<sub>3</sub>); 119.80, 130.63, 138.42, 160.43 (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>). Found, %: C 30.95; H 2.31; Cl 34.28; N 4.67; S 10.41. C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>14</sub>Cl<sub>6</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>S<sub>2</sub>. Calculated, %: C 30.84; H 2.26; Cl 34.14; N 4.50; S 10.29.

*N*,*N*'-**Bis**(2,2,2-trichloro-1-methoxyethyl)-*p*,*p*'oxydibenzenedisulfonamide (IV) was synthesized as described above for IIIa using compound IIb and methanol instead of water. Yield 86%, mp 143–146°C. IR spectrum, v, cm<sup>-1</sup>: 1140, 1330 (SO<sub>2</sub>); 3250 (NH). <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (CDC1<sub>3</sub>),  $\delta$ , ppm: 3.60 s (3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.97 d (1H, NCH, *J* = 12 Hz), 5.69 d (1H, NH, *J* = 12 Hz), 7.10 and 7.94 (8H, *AA'BB'* system, H<sub>arom</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (CDC1<sub>3</sub>),  $\delta_{C}$ , ppm: 58.49 (OCH<sub>3</sub>); 92.69 (NCH); 99.03 (CC1<sub>3</sub>); 119.34, 129.94, 136.26, 159.78 (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>). Found, %: C 33.32; H 2.85; Cl 32.92; N 4.43; S 9.97. C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>18</sub>C1<sub>6</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>S<sub>2</sub>. Calculated, %: C 33.20; H 2.79; Cl 32.67; N 4.30; S 9.85.

The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded from 5–10% solutions on a Bruker DPX-400 spectrometer at 400.6 and 100.61 MHz, respectively, using hexamethyldisiloxane as internal reference. The IR spectra were measured in KBr on a Specord 75IR instrument.

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