

Quinone Diazides and Enaminones as a Source of New Azo Compounds with Potential Nonlinear Optical Properties

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Introduction

Quinone diazides are compounds that have intermediate reactivity between diazonium salts and aliphatic diazo ketones.¹ They can react by either loss or retention of molecular nitrogen, depending on reaction conditions. An example of the first case involves the formation of dihydrobenzofurans by a regioselective route in reactions of *o*-quinone diazides with vinyl ethers under thermal conditions.² On the other hand, retention of nitrogen in azo-coupling reactions are often observed.³ This type of reaction is widely used in industry for the synthesis of hydroxyazo dyes.⁴

Our group has been interested in the reactivity of α -diazocarbonyl compounds and enaminones. Thus, diazodiphenylethanone reacts with enaminones via its copper(II)-stabilized carbene to form pyrroles⁵ or via diphenylketene under noncatalytic thermal conditions to form nucleophilic addition products.⁶ 3-Diazo-1,3-dihydro-2*H*-indol-2-one derivatives react with enaminones to form triazoles.⁷ Our continuing interest in the chemistry of enaminones and diazo carbonyls has led us to extend our reactivity studies to include the reactions of *o*-quinone diazides **1** with enaminones **2**. Since quinone diazides, especially nitro-substituted ones, are very sensitive to light we decided to try a one-pot procedure in order to avoid contact of the reacting mixture with light.

Results and Discussion

The quinone diazides **1** are generated in the reaction media by nitrosation of the proper *o*-aminophenol to form the diazonium salt **4** which is then neutralized to form **1**. The quinone diazides formed are reacted with enaminones **2** to produce the novel azo-enaminones **3** as determined by spectroscopic means.

It is essential for the obtention of the azo-enaminones **3** to work with quinone diazides. Tests involving the azo coupling between some corresponding diazonium salts and enaminones led to deaminated azo compounds **5**, as shown in Table 1. It is important to mention that methyl alcohol is used as the organic solvent in the reactions involving diazonium salts **4** in order to solubilize the reactants. No solvolysis product with methanol was

Scheme 1. One-Pot Synthesis of Azo Compounds **3** and **5**

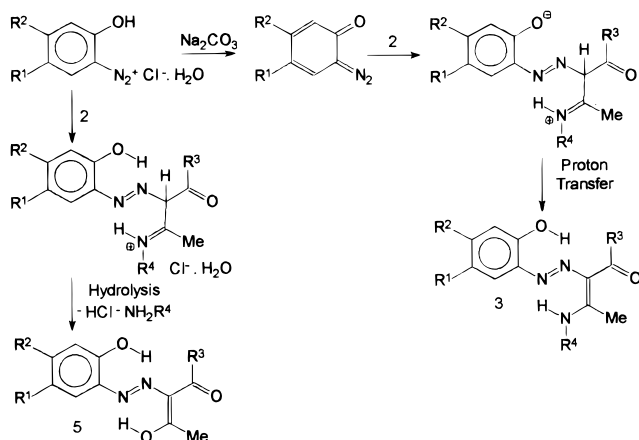
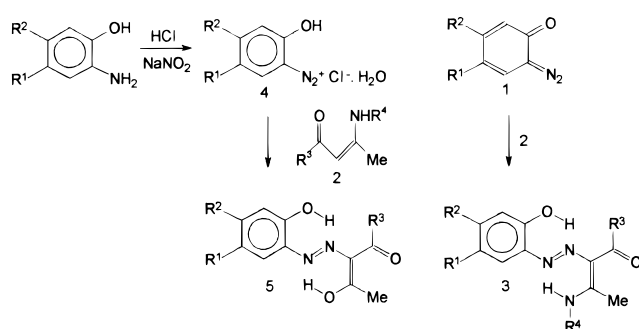


Table 1. Reaction Products of Quinone Diazides **1** and Diazonium Salts **4** with Enaminones **2**



1 or 4	2	3 (% yield)	5 (% yield)
1a (R ¹ = Me, R ² = H)	2a (R ³ = OEt, R ⁴ = Me)	3a (25)	
1b (R ¹ = NO ₂ , R ² = H)	2a (R ³ = Me, R ⁴ = <i>t</i> -Bu)	3b (74)	
1b	2e (R ³ = Me, R ⁴ = H)	3c (70)	
1c (R ¹ = Cl, R ² = NO ₂)	2b (R ³ = OEt, R ⁴ = H)	3d (66)	
1c	2a	3e (67)	
1c	2d (R ³ = R ⁴ = Me)	3f (59)	
1c	2c (R ³ = OEt, R ⁴ = <i>t</i> -Bu)	3g (81)	
1c	2e	3h (70)	
1d (R ¹ = H, R ² = NO ₂)	2a	3i (61)	
1d	2e	3j (58)	
4a (R ¹ = R ² = H)	2a		5a (40)
4b (R ¹ = Cl, R ² = NO ₂)	2a		5b (71)
4b	2d		5c (66)

detected, and when the azo-enaminones **3** are treated with acid no deaminated azo compounds are formed. Since these enaminones do not decompose in the reaction media and thermal analysis of the diazonium salts **4** indicates the presence of water of crystallization, we propose that the azo compounds **5** are formed by hydrolysis of the azo-coupling adduct initially formed, as shown in Scheme 1. When diazonium salts **4** are previously neutralized to form quinone diazides **1** this hydrolysis does not take place.

AM1 geometry optimization indicate a tendency for two intramolecular hydrogen bonds with the azo group. X-ray crystallographic data for **3d**⁸ indicate good agreement between X-ray and AM1 calculated geometries. Based on these data, all azo compounds described here are assumed to have the two hydrogen bonds linked to the azo group, as shown in Table 1.

Table 2 shows the AM1 optimized azo-conjugated skeleton to be almost planar, as expected for a system

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containing push-pull conjugation. In addition, we propose the potential usefulness of the push-pull azo-enaminones **3** in nonlinear optics, as second harmonic generators, based on theoretical finite-field static calculations.

Experimental Section

Melting points are uncorrected. The electron impact mass spectra were obtained at 70 eV. All IR spectra were measured as KBr pellets, and proton chemical shifts were measured relative to internal tetramethylsilane.

The enaminones **2** were prepared according to reported methods.⁵⁻⁷

General Procedure for Reactions of Quinone Diazides 1 with Enaminones 2. To a stirred solution of the proper aminophenol (2 mmol) and 1.2 mL of 6 N HCl in 2.5 mL of water at 0 °C was added, dropwise, NaNO₂ (2.5 mmol) in 3 mL of water. The excess nitrous acid was destroyed with about 5 mg of urea, and the solution was neutralized by addition of solid Na₂CO₃. The organic solvent (CH₂Cl₂, 20 mL) was then added, with vigorous stirring, and finally the desired enaminone (2 mmol) was added. The biphasic reaction mixture was kept in the absence of light for 7 days without stirring at room temperature and afforded the azo-coupling products **3**. All the products obtained were purified by recrystallization.

Ethyl 2-[(E)-5'-Methyl-2'-hydroxyphenyl]diazol-3(E)-(methylamino)-2-butenate (3a). The crude material was submitted to column chromatography (silica gel) using mixtures of hexane and CH₂Cl₂ as eluents. Compound **3a** eluted with hexane/CH₂Cl₂ (1:1) and crystallized as yellow needles, mp 132 °C: IR 3242, 1660, 1528, 1510, 1529, 1463, 1390, 1359 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.38 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 2.29 (s, 3H), 2.54 (s, 3H), 3.1 (d, 3H, *J* = 5.1 Hz), 4.2 (q, 2H, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 6.7 (m, 3H), 12.2 (s, 1H); MS *m/z* (relative intensity) 277(98), 204(100), 157(18), 122(53), 107(8), 98(12), 83(78). Anal. Calcd for C₁₄H₁₉N₃O₃: C, 60.64; H, 6.91; N, 15.15. Found: C, 60.32; H, 6.91; N, 14.85.

Ethyl 2-[(E)-5'-Nitro-2'-hydroxyphenyl]diazol-3(E)-(methylamino)-2-butenate (3b). The reaction mixture afforded crystalline product **3b** (red needles), mp 195 °C: IR 3442, 3077, 2980, 2932, 1703, 1654, 1604, 1583, 1480, 1442, 1399, 1360 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.4 (t, 3H, *J* = 7 Hz), 2.6 (s, 3H), 3.3 (d, 3H, *J* = 5 Hz), 4.3 (q, 2H, *J* = 7 Hz), 7.0 (d, 1H, *J* = 9 Hz), 8.0 (dd, 1H, *J* = 2.8 and 9 Hz), 8.3 (d, 1H, *J* = 2.8 Hz), 13.4 (s, 1H), 13.9 (s, 1H); MS *m/z* (relative intensity) 308(81), 235(99), 170(9), 157(6), 114(17), 98(14), 83(100). Anal. Calcd for C₁₃H₁₆N₄O₅: C, 50.65; H, 5.23; N, 18.17. Found: C, 51.06; H, 5.05; N, 18.42.

3-[(E)-5'-Nitro-2'-hydroxyphenyl]diazol-4(E)-(tert-butylamino)-3-penten-2-one (3c). The reaction mixture afforded crystalline product **3c** (red needles), mp 201–203 °C: IR 3450, 2976, 1655, 1616, 1516, 1480 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.62 (s, 9H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.73 (s, 3H), 7.0 (d, 1H, *J* = 9 Hz), 8.0 (dd, 1H, *J* = 2.8 and 9 Hz), 8.2 (s, 1H), 13.1 (s, 1H), 13.2 (s, 1H); MS *m/z* (relative intensity) 320(7), 277(30), 221(90), 175(20), 167(30), 98(25), 69(40), 57(100). Anal. Calcd for C₁₅H₂₀N₄O₄: C, 56.24; H, 6.29; N, 17.49. Found: C, 56.06; H, 6.04; N, 17.41.

Ethyl 2-[(E)-5'-Chloro-2'-hydroxy-4'-nitrophenyl]diazol-3(E)-amino-2-butenate (3d). The reaction mixture afforded crystalline product **3d** (red needles), mp 183–186 °C: IR 3313, 1662, 1520, 1466, 1327 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.40 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 2.67 (s, 3H), 4.32 (q, 2H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 6.6 (s, 1H), 7.53 (s, 1H), 7.61 (s, 1H), 12.3(s, 1H), 13.0 (s, 1H); MS *m/z* (relative intensity) 329(22), 328(11), 327(78), 256(27), 255(13), 254(100), 156(11), 100(18), 83(19), 69(37), 56(3). Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₃N₄O₃Cl: C, 43.85; H, 3.99; N, 16.83. Found: C, 43.48; H, 3.54; N, 16.67.

Ethyl 2-[(E)-5'-Chloro-2'-hydroxy-4'-nitrophenyl]diazol-3(E)-(methylamino)-2-butenate (3e). The reaction mixture afforded crystalline product **3e** (orange needles), mp 144 °C: IR 3994, 2981, 1688, 1610, 1526, 1473, 1400 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CCl₄-TFA) δ 1.6 (t, 3H, *J* = 6 Hz), 3.1 (s, 3H), 3.7 (d, 3H, *J* = 6 Hz), 4.7 (q, 2H, *J* = 6 Hz), 7.6 (s, 2H); MS *m/z* (relative intensity) 344(8), 342(23), 270(16), 268(47), 223(2), 188(4), 170(7), 157(6), 143(4), 114(12), 98(11), 83(94) 56(100). Anal. Calcd for C₁₃H₁₅N₄O₃Cl: C, 41.73; H, 3.12; N, 15.02. Found: C, 41.76; H, 3.20; N, 15.16.

3-[(E)-5'-Chloro-2'-hydroxy-4'-nitrophenyl]diazol-4(E)-(methylamino)-3-penten-2-one (3f). The reaction mixture afforded crystalline product **3f** (orange solid), mp 210 °C: IR 3485, 3388, 3104, 2938, 2725, 1634, 1576, 1524, 1432, 1356 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CCl₄-TFA) δ 2.6 (s, 3H), 2.8 (s, 3H), 3.6 (s, 3H), 7.6 (m, 2H); MS *m/z* (relative intensity) 314(11), 312(30), 271(34), 269(100), 83(82), 56(70). Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₃N₄O₃Cl: C, 46.09; H, 4.19; N, 17.92. Found: C, 45.62; H, 3.99; N, 17.43.

Ethyl 2-[(E)-5'-Chloro-2'-hydroxy-4'-nitrophenyl]diazol-3(E)-(tert-butylamino)-2-butenate (3g). The reaction mixture afforded crystalline product **3g** (red needles), mp 172 °C: IR 3068, 1671, 1594, 1520, 1411, 1367 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.4 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 1.6 (s, 9H), 2.8 (s, 3H), 4.3 (q, 2H, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 7.3 (s, 1H), 7.5 (s, 1H), 13.0 (s, 1H), 14.1 (s, 1H); MS *m/z* (relative intensity) 386(13), 384(35), 312(11), 310(20), 257(31), 255(50), 156(12), 100(19), 83(15), 69(46), 56(100). Anal. Calcd for C₁₆H₂₁N₄O₃Cl: C, 49.94; H, 5.51; N, 14.94. Found: C, 50.43; H, 5.51; N, 14.89.

3-[(E)-5'-Chloro-2'-hydroxy-4'-nitrophenyl]diazol-4(E)-(tert-butylamino)-3-penten-2-one (3h). The reaction mixture afforded crystalline product **3h** (orange solid), mp 172–173 °C: IR 3433, 2984, 1637, 1584, 1528, 1371 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.61 (s, 9H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.73 (s, 3H), 7.26 (s, 1H), 7.52 (s, 1H), 12.3 (s, 1H), 14.4 (s, 1H); MS *m/z* (relative intensity) 356(5), 354(14), 313(15), 311(41), 256(35), 254(100), 58(49), 57(56). Anal. Calcd for C₁₅H₁₉N₄O₃Cl: C, 50.78; H, 5.40; N, 15.79. Found: C, 50.97; H, 5.61; N, 15.94.

Ethyl 2-[(E)-2'-Hydroxy-4'-nitrophenyl]diazol-3(E)-(methylamino)-2-butenate (3i). The reaction mixture afforded crystalline product **3i** (orange needles), mp 196 °C: IR 3684, 3448, 1695, 1602, 1522, 1472, 1398, 1381 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.38 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 2.68 (s, 3H), 3.23 (d, 3H, *J* = 4.9 Hz), 4.30 (q, 2H, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 7.43 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.7 Hz), 7.74 (dd, 1H, *J* = 2.4 and 8.7 Hz), 7.78 (d, 1H, *J* = 2.4 Hz), 13.1 (s, 1H), 13.8 (s, 1H); MS *m/z* (relative intensity) 308(42), 235(100), 179(4), 167(3), 153(8), 114(12), 98(10), 83(82), 56(68). Anal. Calcd for C₁₃H₁₆N₄O₃: C, 50.65; H, 5.23; N, 18.17. Found: C, 50.90; H, 4.90; N, 17.90.

3-[(E)-2'-Hydroxy-4'-nitrophenyl]diazol-4(E)-(tert-butylamino)-3-penten-2-one (3j). The reaction mixture afforded crystalline product **3j** (orange solid), mp 204–205 °C: IR 3444, 2974, 1667, 1622, 1598, 1519, 1478, 1361 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (acetone-*d*₆) δ 1.6 (s, 9H), 2.4 (s, 3H), 2.9*, 7.65 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.7 Hz), 7.73 (dd, 1H, *J* = 2.4 and 8.7 Hz), 7.80 (d, 1H, *J* = 2.4 Hz); MS *m/z* (relative intensity) 320(7), 277(30), 221(60), 204(10), 154(60), 124(10), 108(10), 83(36), 58(100). Anal. Calcd for C₁₅H₂₀N₄O₄: C, 56.24; H, 6.29; N, 17.49. Found: C, 56.41; H, 6.41; N, 16.98.

General Procedure for Reactions of Diazonium Salts 4 with Enaminones 2. To a stirred solution of the proper aminophenol (2 mmol) and 1.2 mL of 6 N HCl in 2.5 mL of water at 0 °C was added, dropwise, NaNO₂ (2.5 mmol) in 3 mL of water. The excess nitrous acid was destroyed with about 5 mg of urea. The organic solvent (MeOH, 20 mL) was then added with vigorous stirring, and finally the desired enaminone (2 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was kept in the absence of light for seven days without stirring at room temperature and afforded the azo-coupling deaminated products **5**. All the products obtained were purified by recrystallization.

Ethyl 2-[(E)-2'-Hydroxybenzenediazol-3(E)-hydroxy-2-butenate (5a). The crude material was submitted to column chromatography (silica gel) using mixtures of hexane, CH₂Cl₂, and methanol as eluents. Compound **5a** eluted with methanol/CH₂Cl₂ (1:100) and crystallizes as yellow needles, mp 132–135 °C: IR 3426, 2976, 2738, 2677, 1689, 1614, 1576, 1532, 1477, 1400, 1377 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CCl₄-TFA) δ 1.4 (t, 3H, *J* = 7 Hz), 2.4 (s, 3H), 4.2 (q, 2H, *J* = 7 Hz), 6.8 (m, 4H); MS *m/z* (relative intensity) 251(10), 250(80), 177(4), 176(28), 135(6), 134(83), 109(24), 108(100). Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₄N₂O₄: C, 57.54; H, 5.64; N, 11.19. Found: C, 57.46; H, 5.65; N, 11.65.

Ethyl 2-[(E)-5'-Chloro-2'-hydroxy-4'-nitrophenyl]diazol-3(E)-hydroxy-2-butenate (5b). The reaction mixture afforded crystalline product **5b** (yellow needles), mp 243 °C: IR 3122, 2989, 2933, 2756, 1671, 1595, 1520, 1411, 1362 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃-TFA) δ 1.45 (t, 3H, *J* = 7 Hz), 2.6 (s, 3H), 4.4 (q, 2H, *J* = 7 Hz), 7.4 (s, 1H), 7.6 (s, 1H) 7.7 (s, 1H); MS *m/z* (relative intensity) 332(29), 330(72), 286(34), 284(100), 258(8), 256(30), 241(9), 239(27), 213(18), 211(53), 188(27), 186(78), 141(15),

112(12), 78(11). Anal. Calcd for $C_{12}H_{12}N_3O_6Cl$: C, 43.72; H, 3.67; N, 12.75. Found: C, 43.75; H, 3.39; N, 12.53.

3-[(E)-5'-Chloro-2'-hydroxy-4'-nitrophenyl]diazol-4-(E)-hydroxy-3-penten-2-one (5c). The reaction mixture afforded crystalline product **5c** (yellow needles), mp 245 °C: IR 3446, 3071, 1642, 1531, 1509, 1486, 1412, 1366 cm^{-1} ; 1H NMR (acetone- d_6) δ 2.50 (s, 3H), 2.55 (s, 3H), 7.68 (s, 1H), 7.84 (s, 1H), 14.2 (s, <1H); MS m/z (relative intensity) 302(15), 300(52), 258(22), 256(74), 189(18), 187(44), 78(26), 43(100). Anal. Calcd for $C_{11}H_{10}N_3O_5Cl$: C, 44.09; H, 3.63; N, 14.02. Found: C, 44.16; H, 3.16; N, 13.58.

Computational Details. All the calculations reported here have been carried out using the MOPAC6 semiempirical package (version 6.0)⁹ at the Hartree-Fock level. Geometry optimizations were carried out using analytic gradient minimization method¹⁶ (BFGS, precise option) and the molecular polarizabilities using the finite-field formalism.¹⁷

In the finite-field method the α and β components of the molecular polarizability can be calculated analytically via electric field derivatives of the total energy. The following expansion form was used:¹⁸

$$E = E^0 - \mu_i^0 F_i - \frac{1}{2} \alpha_{ij} F_i F_j - \frac{1}{6} \beta_{ijk} F_i F_j F_k - \dots \quad (1)$$

where E^0 is the unperturbed energy, F_i is the component of the

electric field in the i direction, μ^0 is the permanent dipole moment of the molecule, and α and β are the static first- and second-order molecular polarizability tensors, respectively.

The dipole moments are expressed in debyes (D), the average polarizabilities $\langle \alpha \rangle$ in cubic angstroms (\AA^3),

$$\langle \alpha \rangle = \frac{1}{3} (\alpha_{xx} + \alpha_{yy} + \alpha_{zz}) \quad (2)$$

The β hyperpolarizabilities are expressed in electrostatic units (esu) in terms of:

$$\beta_{\text{vec}} = (\beta_x^2 + \beta_y^2 + \beta_z^2) \quad (3)$$

where

$$\beta_i = \beta_{iii} + \frac{1}{3} \sum_{i \neq j} (\beta_{ijj} + 2\beta_{jji}) \quad (4)$$

and $i, j = x, y, z$.

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