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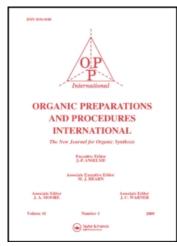
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Organic Preparations and Procedures International

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information: http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title~content=t902189982

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To cite this Article Buurman, Dick J. and van der Plas, Henk C.(1988) 'OXIDATIVE NITROMETHYLENATION (S_NH SUBSTITUTION) IN PYRIDINIUM SALTS', Organic Preparations and Procedures International, 20: 6, 591 - 592

To link to this Article: DOI: 10.1080/00304948809356303 URL: http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00304948809356303

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OPPI BRIEFS

OXIDATIVE NITROMETHYLENATION (SNH SUBSTITUTION) IN PYRIDINIUM SALTS

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In an extension of our work on S_NH substitution reactions, 1,2 it was of interest to determine whether pyridinium salts are also able to undergo oxidative nitromethylenation (Eq. 1). Therefore, we studied the reaction of 1,3-dimethylpyridinium chloride (1a) with nitromethide in the presence of potassium permanganate. It has been reported that nitromethide is readily formed from nitromethane and liquid ammonia at -10° or lower temperatures. We now report that when 1a or 1b was dissolved in liquid ammonia (-40°) containing nitromethane, and the resulting suspension was treated with potassium permanganate, 3a, or 3b was isolated.

It has been established⁴ that nitromethide in liquid ammonia adds easily at position 4 of pyridinium salts and thus it seems reasonable to assume that 2 is the intermediate of the nitromethylenation reaction of <u>1a</u> and <u>1b</u>.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

Mps are uncorrected. Mass spectra were determined on an AEI MS 902 mass spectrometer equipped with a VG ZAB console. The ¹H NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian EM-390 spectrometer. Compounds 1a and 1b were prepared from the corresponding iodides^{5,6} by passage over a Dowex 1-X 2 column.

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General Procedure.- To a suspension of 4 mmol of starting material and 8 mmol of nitromethane in 25-30 ml of liquid ammonia were added 4 mmol of potassium permanganate. After stirring this suspension at -40° to -50° for 4 hrs, ammonia was evaporated and the residue extracted with chloroform. The extract was evaporated in vacuo and the residue obtained was purified by column chromatography, using silica gel and chloroform-methanol (4:1). Crystallization from benzene gave pure products.

1.4-Dihydro-1.3-dimethyl-4-nitromethylenepyridine (3a), mp. 229-230°. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): d 7.17 (d, 2 H), 8.65 (d, 5H), 7.32 (dd, 6H), 3.75 (s, N-CH₃), 2.04 (s, CH₃), 6.87 (s, H-CNO₂), $J_{5.6} = 7.3$ Hz, $J_{2.6} = 1.6$ Hz. MS: Calcd. m/e 166.0742, found: m/e 166.0743.

Anal. Calcd. for C₈H₁₀N₂O₂: C, 57.82; H, 6.07; N, 16.86

Found: C, 57.64; H, 6.06; N, 17.03

1.4-Dihydro-1-methyl-4-nitromethylene-3-phenylpyridine (3b), mp. 207-2080. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): d 7.16 (d, 2H), 8.73 (d, 5H), 7.36 (dd, 6H), 3.80(s, NCH₃), 6.76 (s, $\underline{H}CNO_2$), 7.25 and 7.40 (m, C₆H₅), J_{5,6} = 7.3 Hz, J_{2,6} = 1.8 Hz. MS: Calcd. m/e 228.0899. Found, m/e 228.0899.

Anal. Calcd. for C₁₃H₁₂N₂O₂: C, 68.40; H, 5.29; N, 12.27

Found: C, 68.66; H, 5.28; N, 12.19

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