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### METHYLTRIPHENYLPHOSPHONIUM PEROXYDISULFATE AND IODINE AS MILD REAGENTS FOR THE IODINATION OF ACTIVATED AROMATIC COMPOUNDS

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**METHYLTRIPHENYLPHOSPHONIUM PEROXYDISULFATE  
AND IODINE AS MILD REAGENTS FOR THE IODINATION  
OF ACTIVATED AROMATIC COMPOUNDS**

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Aromatic iodides have been widely used in radiolabeling studies, and as synthetic intermediates in the formation of new carbon-carbon or carbon-heteroatom bonds *via* replacement of their iodine atoms with electrophiles.<sup>1</sup> Despite the importance of iodoarenes, there are few good methods in the literature for the iodination of aromatic compounds. Conventional methods for aromatic iodination involve the use of molecular iodine together with highly toxic heavy metal compounds, or mineral acids which are undesirable from the environmental point of view.<sup>2</sup> Other methods for iodination of aromatic compounds<sup>3-12</sup> involve environmental hazards such as handling and storage of molecular iodine, strongly acidic conditions, expensive and complex catalysts, toxic metallic compounds and the use of oxidizing reagents that are difficult to prepare.

In connection with our ongoing program to develop new reagents for iodination of aromatic compounds,<sup>13</sup> we herein report an efficient method for the iodination of activated



compounds with this reagent occurred rapidly under refluxing conditions, without the use of base or toxic heavy metal. The procedure was successfully scaled-up to afford multigram quantities of 4-iodoanisole, and 3-(3-iodo-4-aminophenyl)propionic acid.

In summary, methyltriphenylphosphonium peroxydisulfate (MTPPS, **1**) is a mild and inexpensive oxidation reagent which can be used for the efficient iodination of activated aromatic compounds with molecular iodine.

## EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

Mps were determined on a Gallenkamp melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. Products were characterized by comparison with authentic samples (IR and  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra, TLC, melting and boiling points).<sup>15</sup> All  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra were recorded at 300 MHz in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  and  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  relative to TMS. The IR spectra were obtained as KBr pellets on a Shimadzu 435 IR spectrophotometer.

**Preparation of Methyltriphenylphosphonium Peroxydisulfate.**- A solution of sodium persulfate (11.9 g, 50 mmol) in 100 mL of water was added to a solution of methyltriphenylphosphonium bromide (35.6, 100 mmol) and stirred for 30 min at room temperature. The resulting white precipitate was collected and washed with cold distilled water (2 x 50 mL) and dried in a desiccator under vacuum over calcium chloride to afford a white powder (35.1, 94% yield), which decomposed at 210-212°C to a dark-brown material. IR (KBr): 3100, 2980, 1600, 1495, 1480, 1260, 1190, 1050, 860, 750, 690  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ ):  $\delta$  7.9-7.7 (m, 15 H), 3.19 (d,  $J = 14.6$ , P- $\text{CH}_3$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR:  $\delta$  134.5, 134.4, 132.5, 132.3, 129.7, 129.3, 116.4.

*Anal.* Calcd for  $\text{C}_{38}\text{H}_{36}\text{O}_8\text{P}_2\text{S}_2$ : C: 61.13; H: 4.83; S: 8.58. Found C: 61.20; H, 4.90. S, 8.40

**Iodination of Aromatic Compounds (2) to the Corresponding Iodoaromatic Derivatives (3). General Procedure.**- In a round-bottomed flask containing the aromatic compounds **2** (5.0 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (25 mL) were added reagent **1** (3.73 g, 5.0 mmol) and iodine (1.27 g, 5 mmol). The reaction mixture was heated at reflux for the time specified in *Table 1*. When TLC (hexane/EtOAc, 80:20) showed complete disappearance of the starting aromatic compounds **2**, the solvent was evaporated to give a brown residue. It was dissolved in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (30 mL) and washed with 5% aqueous sodium bisulfate (2 x 10 mL) and the organic layer was dried with  $\text{MgSO}_4$  and evaporation of the solvent gave the corresponding iodoaromatic derivatives (**3**). The product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel using a mixture of hexane/EtOAc (80:20).

**Iodination of Anisole:** Colorless solid, mp 50-53°C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR:  $\delta$  7.35 (d, 2H), 6.45 (d, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR:  $\delta$  142.81, 136.25, 129.36, 126.65, 112.86, 68.70. MS:  $m/z$ , 234.22 (100%,  $\text{M}^+$ ), 108 (100%), 77 (8%), 65 (65%).

*Anal.* Calcd for  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_7\text{IO}$ : C, 35.90; H, 2.99. Found: C, 35.70; H, 3.20

**3-(3-Iodo-4-aminophenyl)propionic Acid:** Colorless solid, mp 242-243°C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR:  $\delta$  10.2 (s, 1H), 6.7-7.3 (m, 3H), 3.18 (s, 2H), 2.98 (t, 2H), 2.58 (t, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR:  $\delta$  179.61, 146.51,

140.19, 128.59, 126.41, 119.48, 33.68, 30.59. MS:  $m/z$ , 301.52 (100%,  $M^+$ ), 289 (100%), 150 (90%), 104 (80%), 93 (100%), 77 (65%), 66 (30%), 51 (25%), 39 (15%).

*Anal.* Calcd for  $C_9H_{10}INO_2$ : C, 35.88; H, 3.32; N, 4.65. Found: C, 35.69; H, 3.44; N, 4.58

**4-Amino-3-iodo-benzoylcgonine Methyl Ester:** yellow solid, mp 195-198°C.  $^1H$  NMR:  $\delta$  8.32 (d,  $J = 1.8$ , 1 H), 7.80 (dd,  $J = 1.8$ , 8.4 1 H), 6.69 (d,  $J = 8.4$ , 1 H), 5.25 (m, 1 H), 4.50 (br, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 3.74 (s, 3 H, OMe), 3.60 (m, 1 H), 3.32 (m, 1 H), 3.07 (m, 1 H), 2.24 (s, 3 H, NMe), 2.46-1.2 (m, 7 H).  $^{13}C$  NMR:  $\delta$  175, 170, 150, 135, 132, 128, 126.3, 126.0, 68.4, 66.23, 61.78, 50.92, 50.22, 41.31, 35.68, 25.79, 25.50. MS:  $m/z$ , 445 (100%,  $M^+ + 1$ ), 182 (92%), 96 (95%), 94 (75%), 82 (80%), 77 (65%), 66 (30%), 51 (25%), 39 (15%).

*Anal.* Calcd. for  $C_{17}H_{21}IN_2O_4$ : C, 45.95; H, 4.73; N, 6.31. Found: C, 45.862; H, 4.85; N, 6.24

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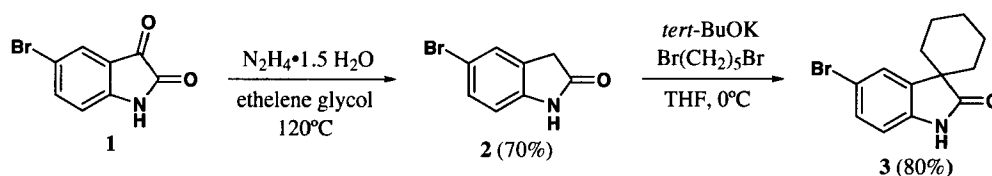
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**A PRACTICAL LARGE-SCALE PREPARATION OF  
5'-BROMOSPIRO(CYCLOHEXANE-1,3'-[3H]INDOL)-2'(1'H)-ONE**

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We were interested in a large-scale preparation of 5'-bromospiro(cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol)-2'(1'H)-one (**3**), an intermediate in the synthesis of progesterone receptor modulators.<sup>1</sup> Initially, the compound was prepared from oxindole using the Kende procedure<sup>2a</sup> by alkylation followed by bromination with bromine in acetic acid/chloroform.<sup>3</sup> Unfortunately, this sequence gave multiple impurities in the alkylation product.<sup>1a,4</sup> On large scale, this was a serious problem and we had to resort to chromatography and recrystallization.<sup>5</sup> The subsequent bromination had to be carefully controlled to avoid over-bromination. In addition, brominated impurities were formed from the side-products generated in the alkylation step.



The regioselectivity and purity problems were overcome by simply changing the order of transformations, *i. e.* introduction of bromine in the oxindole core followed by alkylation of 5-bromooxindole (**2**),<sup>3,6</sup> which was prepared from inexpensive, technical grade 5-bromoisoatin (**1**).<sup>7</sup> It was found that *n*-butyllithium could be replaced with potassium *tert*-butoxide and 1,5-diiodopentane with the more stable 1,5-dibromopentane at  $0^\circ C$  in tetrahydrofuran (THF) in the alkylation step.<sup>8</sup> In comparison to the initial sequence, the reaction was clean and the product crystallized out upon replacement of THF with acetonitrile.<sup>9</sup>