

In the 19th century ...

... F. F. Runge synthesized a black material through the oxidation of aniline. This substance was named "aniline black" by W. H. Perkin, and is now a well-known black dye. In their Communication on page 10333 ff., H. Shinokubo et al. discuss a novel aspect of this reaction of aromatic amines, namely the selective formation of diazaacenes and azahelicenes from aminoanthracene derivatives. The product distribution can be effectively controlled by the reaction conditions.

