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A DIRECT SYNTHESIS OF 2- AND 4-HYDROXYDIARYL SULFOXIDES

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A number of 2-hydroxydiaryl sulfoxides, as well as a few 4-hydroxy analogs, have been prepared in fair to good yields by the direct arylsulfinylation of substituted phenols in the presence of anhydrous aluminum chloride.

INTRODUCTION

The 2-hydroxydiaryl sulfoxides (e.g., 1) are an interesting class of compounds, particularly from the aspect that intramolecular hydrogen bonding between the hydroxyl and sulfinyl moieties is possible.¹ However, not many of these unsymmetric compounds have been reported, possibly due to the unavailability of a convenient synthesis. Bourgeois and Huber² have reported the synthesis of 2hydroxydiphenyl sulfide (2), which can then be oxidized to the sulfoxide 13 (Scheme 1). Alternatively, Hilbert and Johnson⁴ prepared 2 by the method outlined in Scheme 2. Meyers⁵ prepared the p'-NO₂ derivative of 1 from p-chloronitrobenzene and o-methoxythiophenol using steps similar to the first in Scheme 1 and the last in Scheme 2 followed by a subsequent oxidation with H₂O₂. However, if a variety of substituted 2-hydroxydiphenyl sulfoxides is desired, these methods will not suffice, as starting materials are not readily available, overall yields are low due to the lengthy synthesis and a final oxidation to sulfoxide is still necessary.

There have been several sporadic reports of Friedel-Crafts arylsulfinylation of simple and substituted aromatic hydrocarbons to form unsymmetric sulfoxides directly. Douglas⁶ has reported that methylsulfinylation of benzene in the presence of anhydrous aluminum chloride forms methyl phenyl sulfoxide. It was reported that ptoluenesulfinyl chloride reacts with benzene/AlCl₃⁷ and that benzenesulfinyl chloride reacts with azulene⁸ to form unsymmetric sulfoxides, both in poor yields. Olah⁹ reported the selectivity of the aluminum chloride-catalyzed p-toluenesulfinylation of benzene and polymethylbenzene with parasubstituted benzenesulfinyl chlorides in nitromethane.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

We found it necessary to prepare a number of unsymmetric 2-hydroxydiaryl sulfoxides. The direct

SCHEME 1

SCHEME 2

TABLE I 2-Hydroxydiaryl sulfoxides, along with pertinent data, formed by the following reaction:

$$R_{1} \longrightarrow S \longrightarrow Cl + R_{5} \longrightarrow R_{4} \xrightarrow{AlCl_{3}} R_{1} \longrightarrow R_{5} \longrightarrow R_{4}$$

Entry	у		Comp	ound		Yield %	mp(°C) (solvent) ^a	Analysis for	% Calculated % Found		
#	R_1	R_2	R_3	R_4	R ₅				С	Н	S
1	Н	Н	Н	CH ₃	Н	64	135-137(EA)	C ₁₃ H ₁₂ O ₂ S	67.21	5.21	13.80
2	Н	н	Н	C ₂ H ₅	н	33	141-143(EA)	$C_{14}H_{14}O_{2}S$	67.71 68.26	5.22 5.73	13.57 13.02
2	11	11	11	C ₂ 11 ₅	11	33	141-143(LA)	C ₁₄ 11 ₁₄ O ₂ 5	68.02	5.69	13.02
3	Н	Н	Н	i-C ₃ H ₇	H	55	130-131.5(EA)	$C_{15}H_{16}O_2S$	69.20	6.19	12.32
-				3,			()	- 1516- 2-	68.87	6.18	12.45
4	H	Н	H	t - C_4H_9	Н	23	182-184(EA)	$C_{16}H_{18}O_{2}S$	70.04	6.61	11.68
									70.91	6.83	11.43
5	H	H	H	t-C5H11	H	43	104-120(EA)	$C_{17}H_{20}O_2S$	70.80	6.99	11.12
									70.38	6.62	11.59
6	H	H	H	$t - C_8 H_{17}$	H	20	168.5-170.5(EA)	$C_{20}H_{26}O_{2}S$	72.69	7.93	9.70
_		~ ~		a	**		100 100 0(TA)	0.77.00	72.51	7.87	9.90
7	H	Н	Н	C_6H_5	Н	31	155-156.5(EA)	$C_{18}H_{14}O_2S$	73.44	4.79	10.89
8	Н	CH	Н	CH	Н	58	07 00(EA)	CHOS	72.84 68.26	4.86 5.73	10.70 13.02
ō	п	CH_3	п	CH_3	п	20	97–99(EA)	$C_{14}H_{14}O_2S$	68.22	5.73 5.72	12.85
9	Н	CH ₃	Н	t-C ₄ H ₉	Н	69	115-116.5(A)	$C_{17}H_{20}O_2S$	70.80	6.99	11.12
		O113	**	1 04119	**	0)	115 110.5(11)	0171120020	71.00	7.30	10.91
10	Н	t-C ₄ H ₉	Н	CH,	Н	75	66-72(EA)	$C_{17}H_{20}O_2A$	70.80	6.99	11.12
		· - 4y		,			()	- 1720 - 2	70.64	6.87	11.11
11	H	t-C ₄ H ₉	Н	$t-C_4H_9$	H	28	90-95(E)	$C_{20}H_{26}O_{2}S$	72.69	7.93	9.70
		• •							72.83	7.94	9.47
12	H	H	CH_3	CH_3	H	5	212-213(A)	$C_{14}H_{14}O_2S$	68.26	5.73	13.02
									68.20	5.93	12.50
13	H	H	CH_3	Н	CH_3	50 ^b	oil(EA) ^c	$C_{14}H_{14}O_2S$	68.26	5.73	13.02
	CII	7.7	**	CIT	**	40	100 102/E)	0.11.00	68.40	5.73	12.75
14	CH_3	Н	Н	CH_3	H	45	180–183(E)	$C_{14}H_{14}O_2S$	68.26	5.73	13.02
							·		67.89	5.84	12.61

TABLE I-continued

Entry		C	Compou	ınd	··	Yield %	mp(°C) (solvent) ^a	Analysis for	% Calculated % Found		
#	R ₁	R ₂	R_3	R ₄	R ₅				C	Н	s
15	СН,	Н	Н	C ₂ H ₅	Н	68	120-122(EA)	C ₁₅ H ₁₆ O ₂ S	69.20	6.19	12.32
									68.87	6.18	12.45
16	CH_3	H	H	i - C_3H_7	H	60	122.5-124.5(EA)	$C_{16}H_{18}O_2S$	70.04	6.61	11.68
		••	••				150 157(1)		70.42	6.66	11.92
17	CH_3	Н	H	t-C ₄ H ₉	H	69	162–165(A)	$C_{17}H_{20}O_2S$	70.80	6.99	11.12
18	CII	Н	Н	40 11	н	34	122 124(4)	C II O C	70.67	6.87	11.21
18	CH ₃	н	н	t-C ₅ H ₁₁	н	34	132–134(A)	$C_{18}H_{22}O_2S$	71.49 71.36	7.33 7.45	10.60 10.78
19	CH,	Н	Н	t-C ₈ H ₁₇	H	47	155-157(A)	$C_{21}H_{28}O_2S$	73.21	8.19	9.31
17	C113		11	1 C81117	11	77	133–137(A)	$C_{21} C_{28} C_{25}$	72.92	8.26	9.45
20	CH ₃	H	Н	C_6H_5	Н	66	175-182(M)	$C_{19}H_{16}O_2S$	74.00	5.23	10.40
	,			- 63			110 -02(11-)	- 1916 - 2-	73.71	5.14	10.37
21	CH,	CH,	H	t - C_4H_9	H	78	127-129(A)	$C_{18}H_{22}O_2S$	71.49	7.33	10.60
	,	3		• •			` '	10 22 2	71.38	7.13	10.73
22	CH ₃	t-C ₄ H ₉	H	CH_3	H	73	129-130(H)	$C_{18}H_{22}O_2S$	71.49	7.33	10.60
									71.39	7.25	10.92
23	CH_3	t - C_4H_9	H	t - C_4H_9	Н	66	113–115(M)	$C_{21}H_{28}O_2S$	73.21	8.19	9.31
				~					73.08	8.12	9.51
24	t - C_4H_9	Н	H	CH_3	H	32	184.5-192(E)	$C_{17}H_{20}O_2S$	70.80	6.99	11.12
25		**	**	CH	TT	60	161 162(E)	0.11.00	71.32	7.22	11.37
25	t-C ₄ H ₉	H	Н	C_6H_5	Н	60	161–163(E)	$C_{22}H_{22}O_2S$	75.39 75.33	6.33 6.20	9.15 9.46
26	t-C ₄ H ₉	CH	Н	t-C ₄ H ₉	Н	78	146-148(M)	$C_{21}H_{28}O_2S$	73.33	8.19	9.40
20	1-04119	C11 ₃	11	1-04119	11	76	170-170(W1)	C ₂₁ 11 ₂₈ C ₂ S	73.21	8.27	9.37
27	C1	Н	Н	CH_3	Н	53	182-185(EA)	$C_{13}H_{11}ClO_2S^d$	58.54	4.16	12.02
	~ 1				**		100(211)	-131111010 ₂ 0	58.69	4.16	12.00

^a This is the solvent used to wash or recrystallize the crude product: EA = ethyl acetate, E = ethanol, A = acetone, M = methanol, H = hexane.

sulfinylation of phenols appeared to be the most direct route, particularly since substituted phenols are readily available commercially. The reaction of equivalent amounts of unsubstituted or para-substituted benzenesulfinyl chlorides, substituted phenols, and anhydrous aluminum chloride in methylene chloride near 0° for several hours, followed by a simple work-up and purification, led to fair to good yields of hydroxydiaryl sulfoxides (see Table I and II). In most examples, the crude product could be purified with a cold solvent wash, the major impurities being diaryl disulfides and residual phenols. No attempt was made to maximize the yields. All compounds exhibited infrared and nmr spectra consistent with the assigned structures (see Tables III and IV).

Sulfinylation should occur most readily at the ortho and para positions of phenols, since these positions are activated toward electrophilic sub-

stitution by the resonance effect of the hydroxyl group. However, when the para position is blocked, substitution will occur only at the ortho position. The nmr spectral data in Table III reflect this pattern of substitution. All compounds substituted only in the 5 position exhibit in the nmr a doublet (J= 8-9.5 Hz) upfield (6.72-6.98) from the remaining aromatic protons, indicative of the proton at position 3 coupled to the proton at position 4 and shielded by the adjacent hydroxyl group. Entry 4 in Table III also reflects a para coupling (J = 1) of the proton at 3 with that at 6. Entries 14, 20, and 27 also exhibit meta coupling (J = 2-2.5) between the 4 and 6 protons. To truly show that this meta coupling results from the 4 and 6 proton coupling in the assigned isomer shown and not from meta coupling in the alternate isomer, entries 9, 10, 11, 21, 22, and 23 (Table III), which possess alkyl substituents in both the 3 and 5 positions, exhibit meta

^b The isomer resulting from para attack is reported in Table II.

^c This compound was soluble in cold ethyl acetate and its isomer (Table II) was not.

^d Calculated for chlorine, 13.29%; found, 13.18%.

TABLE II 4-Hydroxydiaryl sulfoxides, along with pertinent data, formed by the following reaction:

Entry #	y		Compo	ound		Yield (%)	mp(°C) (solvent) ^a	Analysis for	% Calculated % Found		
	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	R,				C	Н	<u>s</u>
1	Н	Н	Н	CH ₃	CH ₃	46 ^b	138-139(EA) ^c	C ₁₄ H ₁₄ O ₂ S	68.26 68.16	5.73 5.68	13.02 13.08
2	H H	H t-C.H.	H t-C ₄ H ₉	H H	H H	82 48	144-145.5(EA) ^d 133-135(EA) ^e		00.10	2,00	10.00
4	t-C ₄ H ₉		H ,	Н	H	62	146-148(EA)	$C_{16}H_{18}O_2S$	70.04 69.98	6.61 6.59	11.68 11.92
5	Cl	Н	H	Н	Н	42	166–167.5(EA)	$C_{12}H_9ClO_2S^f$	57.03 56.43	3.59 3.52	12.69 13.02

^a This is the solvent used to wash the crude product: EA = ethyl acetate, E = ethanol.

^b The isomer resulting from ortho attack is reported in Table I.

d Lit. mp 143-144 (see Reference 3).

f Calculated for chlorine, 14.03%; found, 13.89%.

coupling between the protons at 4 and 6. The alternative isomer here would not possess *meta* protons.

Whenever both the *ortho* and *para* positions are available to arylsulfinylation as in phenol, only the para isomer is formed (entries 2, 4, and 5, Table IV). However, arylsulfinylation of 3,5-dimethylphenol occurs at both the ortho and para positions (Table III, entry 13 and Table IV, entry 1). This suggests that a steric effect must be operative in the latter example. Meyers¹⁰ has pointed out and corrected the confusion concerning the regioselectivity of the electrophilic attack of thionyl chloride and sulfur dichloride on 3,5-dimethylphenol, the former affording ortho and the latter para products. Our results substantiate that, a priori, it is not possible to generalize from one electrophile to another as to their regioselectivities with 3,5-dimethylphenol.

We found that the reaction of benzenesulfinyl chloride with an equivalent amount of p-methylphenol in the absence of or in the presence of a one-third equivalent of anhydrous aluminum chloride did not afford any product. Thus, an equivalent amount of aluminum chloride was used in all reactions.

Benzenesulfinyl chloride was found to be unreactive with *p*-chloro- or *p*-cyanophenol. The reaction of arenesulfinyl chlorides with alkoxy substituted phenols afforded isomers which are less easily assigned definitive structures based on the type of data obtained herein. These products will require further examination before complete structure analyses can be reported.

Since sulfoxides are easily oxidized to sulfones¹¹ and reduced to sulfides,¹² these classes of compounds would be readily accessible through the preparation of the sulfoxides described here.

A detailed discussion of the ir and nmr spectra with respect to intramolecular H-bonding will be submitted for publication in the future.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

The aromatic thiols and disulfides used in the preparation of the arenesulfinyl chlorides are available through Eastman Organic Chemicals or Aldrich Chemical Co., Inc. The arenesulfinyl chlorides were prepared according to the procedure of Douglass and Norton¹³ using identical conditions for either the disulfide or thiol as the starting material but varying the amount of acetic anhydride to accommodate the stoichiometry. Melting points were taken on a Mel-Temp apparatus and are uncorrected.

^c This compound was insoluble in cold ethyl acetate and its isomer (Table I) was soluble.

e Lit. mp 131-134 (E. Mueller, H. B. Stegmann and K. Scheffler, Ann. 645, 79 (1961)).

TABLE III Ir and nmr spectroscopic data for substituted 2-hydroxydiaryl sulfoxides

Entry	Ir (cm ⁻¹) ^a			Nmr chemical shift ^{b, c} in ppm (coupling constants in Hz in parentheses) of observed groups ^d								
#	ОН	S = O	ОН	3	4	5	6	2'	3'	4'		
1 2	3060 3055	1017 1008		6.77(9) 6.80(9.2)		$CH_3 = 2.25$ $CH_2 = 2.57(7.5)$						
3	3150	1013	9.82	6.79(9.0)		$CH_3 = 1.17(7.5)$ CH = 2.84(7.0) $(CH_1) = 1.17(7.0)$						
4	3170	1020	9.32 (6.80(8.0, 1.0)		$(CH_3)_2 = 1.17(7.0)$ $(CH_3)_3 = 1.27$						
5	3050	995		6.83(9.5)		$(CH_3)_3 = 1.22$ $CH_2 = 1.56(7.0)$ $CH_3 = 0.62(7.0)$						
6	3060	1010 995	9.47	6.82(9)		$(CH_3)_2 = 1.32$ $CH_2 = 1.67$ $(CH_3)_3 = 0.65)$						
7	3210	1010	с	6.96(9.0)		$C_6H_5 =$						
8	3120	1005 995	9.89	$CH_3 = 2.14$	6.90	$CH_3 = 2.22$	6.98					
9	3060	1010 998	9.5	$CH_3 = 2.18$	7.09(3)	$(CH_3)_3 = 1.27$	7.24(3)					
10	c	990	9.85	$(CH_3)_3 = 1.33$	6.88(2)	$CH_3 = 2.25$	7.15(2)					
11	3050	985	10.42	$(CH_3)_3 = 1.37$	7.09(2.3)	$(CH_3)_3 = 1.28$						
12e	3050	1020 1005 995	10.1	6.67	$CH_3 = 2.14$	$CH_3 = 2.14$						
13 ^f	c		10.83	6.51	$CH_3 = 2.23$	6.56	$CH_3 = 2.29$					
14 ^e	3110	992		6.77(8.5)	7.12(8.5, 2.5)	$CH_3 = 2.24$	7.47(2.5)	7.60(8.5)	7.27(8.5)	$CH_3 = 2.30$		
15	3030	990	9.85	6.78(9)		$CH_2 = 2.55(7.5)$ $CH_3 = 1.15(7.5)$		7.57(8.5)	, ,	$CH_3 = 2.32$		
16	3040	1000	9.66	6.79(9)		CH = 2.82(6.5) $(CH_3)_2 = 1.17(6.5)$				$CH_3 = 2.32$		
17	3010	990	9.59	6.80(9.5)		$(CH_3)_3 = 1.25$		7.59(8.3)		$CH_3 = 2.34$		
18	3060	996	9.63	6.72(9)		$(CH_3)_2 = 1.22$ $CH_2 = 1.57(7.5)$ $CH_3 = 0.64(7.5)$		7.55(8)		$CH_3 = 2.34$		
19	3010	985	9.57	6.80(8)		$(CH_3)_2 = 1.31$ $CH_2 = 1.67$ $(CH_3)_3 = 0.64$		7.56(8.5)	7.24(8.5)	$CH_3 = 2.34$		
20e	3140	1005	с	6.98(8.5)		$C_6H_5=$	7.97(2.5)			$CH_3 = 2.30$		
21	3170	1021 1010		$CH_3 = 2.18$	7.05(2.2)	$(\mathring{CH}_3)_3 = 1.25$	7.23(2.2)	7.56(8.5)	7.24(8.5)	$CH_3 = 2.32$		
22	3020		10.5	$(CH_3)_3 = 1.34$	6.85(2)	$CH_3 = 2.24$	7.11(2)	7.59(8.5)	7.24(8.5)	$CH_3 = 2.33$		
23	c	992		$(CH_3)_3 = 1.37$	7.05(2.5)	$(CH_3)_3 = 1.27$	7.35(2.5)	7.55(8)	7.23(8)	$CH_3 = 2.34$		
24	3110	1025 1010	10.07	6.78(9)		$CH_3 = 2.23$		7.65(9)	7.44(9)	$(CH_3)_3 = 1.28$		
25	3030	1003	9.67	6.95(9)		$C_6H_5 =$				$(CH_3)_3 = 1.27$		
26	3200– 2950	991	10.27	$CH_3 = 2.18$		$(CH_3)_3 = 1.27$				$(CH_3)_3 = 1.28$		
27e	3080	1020	10.38	6.92(8)	7.15(8.2)	$CH_3 = 2.28$	7.49(2)	7.55(9)	7.78(9)	C1		

^a The infrared spectra were obtained as KBr pellets, unless otherwise indicated.
^b The nmr spectra were obtained on deuteriochloroform solutions unless otherwise indicated. Chemical shifts are reported downfield from internal TMS.

^c Where no value is reported, either no value could be assigned or none was observed.

^d Where the identification of the group is not indicated in the nmr data, the group is a proton.

^e The nmr spectrum was obtained on DMSO-d₆ solutions. ^f The ir spectrum was obtained on a neat film of the material.

TABLE IV Ir and nmr spectroscopic data for substituted 4-hydroxydiaryl sulfoxides

Entry	Ira (c	m ⁻¹)	Nmr chemical shift ^b in ppm (coupling constants in Hz in parentheses) of observed groups ^c							
#	ОН	S = O	ОН	2,6	3,5	2',6',3',5'	4′			
1 ^d	3125	997 986	10.07	$CH_3 = 2.35$	6.59					
2 ^d	3050	1005 993	10.2	7.54(9)	6.92(9)					
3e	3460	1015	5.67	7.43	$(CH_3)_3 = 1.38$					
4e	3070	1003	9.42	7.43(9)	6.92(9)	7.47 (singlet)	$(CH_3)_3 = 1.28$			
5 ^d	3080	1001	10.26	7.58(9)	6.96(9)	7.75, 7.72 (singlets)	Čl ""			

- ^a The infrared spectra were obtained as KBr pellets.
- ^b Chemical shifts are reported downfield from internal TMS.
- ^c Where the identification of the group is not indicated in the nmr data, the group is a proton.
- d The solvent for the nmr solutions was DMSO-d6.
- ^e The solvent for the nmr solutions was deuteriochloroform.

Elemental analyses were performed at the B. F. Goodrich Avon Lake Technical Center or Research and Development Center at Brecksville and at Huffman Laboratories, Inc., Wheatridge, Colorado.

GENERAL PROCEDURE FOR THE PREPARATION OF HYDROXYDIARYL SULFOXIDES

The arenesulfinyl chloride (one equivalent) in methylene chloride is added dropwise to a well-stirred suspension or solution of the phenol (one equivalent) and anhydrous aluminum chloride (one equivalent) in methylene chloride at 0–5°C under a nitrogen atmosphere. This mixture is stirred at 0–5°C for about 3 hours. Water is added slowly until all the resulting solid is dissolved. The organic layer is separated, dried (anhydrous MgSO₄), filtered, and evaporated to afford a solid or dark oil, which slowly (or partially) solidifies. This material can be purified by washing with cold solvent or by recrystallization.

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