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5-Arylthianthreniumyl Perchlorates as Synthetic Intermediates

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5-ARYLTHIANTHRENIUMYL PERCHLORATES AS SYNTHETIC INTERMEDIATES

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Although polyarylthioethers have generally been synthesized by the nucleophilic displacement of aryl halides with thiolate in an amide solvent at reflux, the polyarylthioethers consisting of ortho arylthiophenyl moieties can not be prepared by the method foregoing because of the involvement of severe steric hindrance.

In continuation of our studies on the exploration of the synthetic utility of 5-arylthianthreniumyl perchlorates (1),² we have found that treatment of 1 with sodium hydrosulfide (NaSH·xH₂O) in aqueous benzene (1:10, v/v), aqueous THF (1:10, v/v), or CH₃CN at reflux gave symmetrical polyarylthioethers 2 in excellent yields.³ Treatment of 2-mercapto-2'-(arylthio)diphenyl sulfides with NaH in THF, followed by the addition of 1 at room temperature afforded unsymmetrical polyarylthioethers (3) in 37-93 % yields.³ Similar treatment of 5-(2-methoxyaryl)thianthreniumyl perchlorate (1, R^1 = MeO) with various alkoxides in the corresponding alcohols at reflux gave dialkoxy compounds (4), which can be utilized as a synthon for the synthesis of dithiaoxa cyclic compounds (5) after dealkylation of the alkoxy functionalities of 4. The reaction of 5-(2-hydroxyaryl)thianthreniumyl perchlorate (1, R^1 = OH) with NaH (3 equiv) in THF at reflux gave 9-membered dithiaoxa compounds (6) (84-96 %) along with a small amount of thianthrene.

In order to ascertain the possible involvement of a radical mechanism^{4,5} for the conversion of $\mathbf{1}$ (R¹ = OH) to $\mathbf{6}$, $\mathbf{1}$ (R¹ = OH, R² = R³ = H, R⁴ = t-Bu) was added to a mixture of a different ratio of NaH to Bu₃SnH in THF under nitrogen atmosphere. From the reactions were obtained $\mathbf{6}$ (R² = R³ = H, R⁴ = t-Bu), 2-(4-t-butyl-2-hydroxyphenylthio)diphenyl sulfide (7), and thianthrene. The formation of 7 might be rationalized on the basis of a radical mechanism.

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