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**VARIETY OF PRODUCTS FROM THE REACTION
BETWEEN SELONE DONORS AND
HALOGEN/INTERHALOGEN ACCEPTORS:
THE CASE OF *N*-METHYLTHIAZOLIDINE-2(3H)-
SELONE AND
N-METHYLBENZO-THIAZOLE-2(3H)-SELONE.**

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The great variety of products obtained from the reaction between selone donors and halogens (I₂, Br₂) or interhalogens (IBr, ICl) is reported for the Title compounds as starting molecules. The characterization of these products by either X-ray crystal structure or Raman spectroscopy evidences the latter technique to be not always sufficient in identifying the nature of the products unambiguously.

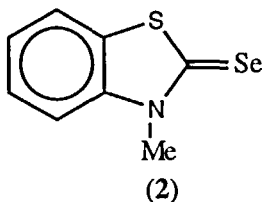
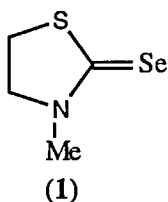
Keywords: donor/acceptor; halogens; interhalogens; selone donors

INTRODUCTION

For some time we have been interested in the donor/acceptor interaction between sulphur- or selenium-containing donors with acceptors

of different strengths, such as I_2 , Br_2 , IBr , and ICl .^[1-6] The characterization of the solid products obtained in this type of reaction both by X-ray structural determination and by Raman spectroscopy is particularly important in the field of conducting materials. In fact, halogens and interhalogens are generally used for the doping of several materials, and often the charge induced on the donor molecules is calculated on the basis of the nature of the halogen in the final product. In the case of non crystalline compounds, in the literature this is done by an extensive use of Raman spectroscopy.^[7,8] However, since a great variety of different compounds can be obtained in these reactions, the correlation between the structural and vibrational features of innumerable different compounds can be very useful in ascertaining whether Raman spectroscopy always gives a clear indication of the products.

For this reason, we have undertaken a systematic characterization study by X-ray and vibrational spectroscopies of a large number of crystalline products, using mainly thionic and selenic compounds as starting materials. In the context of this research, we wish to present the solid products obtained by reacting the Title donors, i.e. *N*-methylthiazolidine-2-selone (1) and *N*-methylbenzothiazole-2-selone (2) with I_2 , Br_2 , IBr and ICl in CH_2Cl_2 solution, in 1:1 and 1:2 donor/acceptor molar ratios



in order to show the great variety of products obtainable in the reaction between selenic substrates and halogens or interhalogens.

Except for the reactions with ICl, in which only the simple adducts are isolated in both ratios for **1** and for **2**,^[9] in all the other cases the reactions generally give different products. In fact, while with diiodine **1** gives the 1:1 adduct in both ratios,^[2] in the 1:1 molar ratio^[1] the benzoderivative **2** gives a complex of I⁺ and surprisingly, in the 1:2 molar ratio,^[2] a simple adduct **2**·2I₂ with the second diiodine molecule interacting with the first. The reactions with dibromine have reserved some surprises. In fact, while the reaction of **2** always gives the expected hypervalent selenium compound, **1** gives this type of compound only in the 1:1 molar ratio.^[10] Unexpectedly, for the 1:2 molar ratio, a ionic compound is formed by breaking of the C=Se bond and oxidation of the selenium atom to hexabromoselenate ion.^[10]

Also the reactions of the two substrates with IBr have reserved some unexpected results.^[2] As with ICl, in the 1:1 molar ratio, simple adducts have been isolated for both donors; however, in the 1:2 molar ratio, in the case of **1**, increasing amount of IBr determines an increasing substitution of the terminal bromine with iodine (crystals corresponding to the formula $1 \cdot I_{1.25}Br_{0.75}$ have been obtained from 1:2 molar ratio);^[2] for **2**, the second IBr molecule interacts so strongly with the first, that the product can be considered an ionic compound formed by a cation having a Se-I terminal bond interacting with an IBr₂⁻. This formulation is suggested not only by the crystal data, but also by the analogy of the FT-Raman peaks of this compound with those reported for other IBr₂⁻ ions.^[2]

Considering only the reaction between several selenic donors with diiodine,^[1,2,4-6,9-10] we have identified the following types of compounds: simple C.T. complexes, C.T. complexes weakly interacting with other diiodine molecules to form networks of diiodine molecules, reduction of diiodine with formation of a great variety of polyiodides, hypervalent compounds, dications and iodonium salts. In our studies, we have shown the importance of the X-ray crystal structure determination for the identification of all these compounds.

The contemporary characterization of all the obtained compounds by X-ray diffraction and by Raman spectroscopy has evidenced that the latter technique is not always able to identify unambiguously the nature of the final products. In fact, in the case of 1,3-dimethyl-4-imidazolin-2-ylum diiodo selenanide,^[4] which is a hypervalent selenium compound, a Raman peak at 106 cm^{-1} is observed; this frequency is very close to that reported as characteristic of triiodides.^[8] On the other hand, in the case of 5,5-dimethyl-2-methylthio-4-oxoimidazolidinium triiodide,^[11] which contains a very asymmetric triiodide, a peak at 167 cm^{-1} is observed, similar to those found for higher polyiodides. Hence, Raman spectroscopy should be used with extreme caution in the identification of the products coming from donor/acceptor interaction.

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