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## **PREPARATION, CRYSTAL STRUCTURE, AND PROPERTIES OF DICATIONIC BIS(DIARYLTELLURIUM(IV)) OXIDE**

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The oxygen atom insertion of nitrogen monoxide or O<sub>2</sub> molecule between tellurium atoms by various chemical oxidation methods of diaryl telluride to produce dicationic bis(diaryltellurium(IV)) oxide is described.

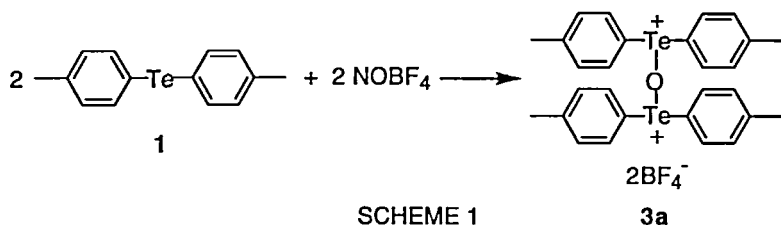
**Keywords:** diaryl telluride; oxidations; nitrogen monoxide; triflic anhydride; insertions

### **INTRODUCTION**

Formation of  $\sigma$ -bonded dichalcogena dications by intermolecular reaction has received much less attention. As part of our aim to achieve the formation of an intermolecular ditellura dication and multitellurane dications, here we report the preparation, crystal structure, and properties of the dicationic bis(diaryltellurium(IV)) oxide **3** that is

apparently produced via the first oxygen atom insertion of nitrogen monoxide or O<sub>2</sub> molecule between tellurium atoms by various chemical oxidation methods of diaryl telluride.<sup>[1]</sup>

### Reaction of Diaryl Telluride with NOBF<sub>4</sub>

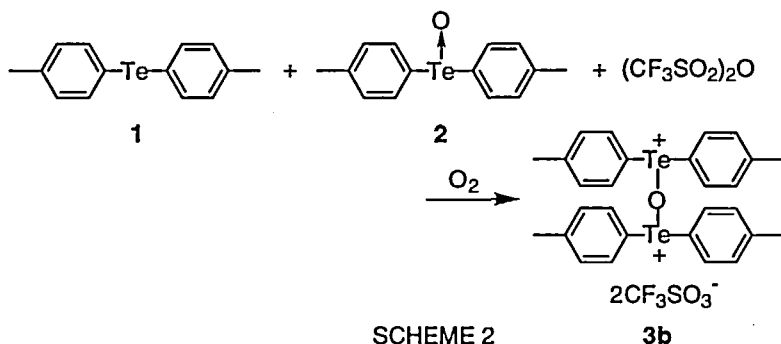


Treatment of bis(4-methylphenyl) telluride (1) with 1 equiv of NOBF<sub>4</sub> in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>CN at -40 °C under an Ar atmosphere for 30 min afforded bis[bis(4-methylphenyl)tellurium(IV)] oxide bis(tetrafluoroborate) (3a) in quantitative yield (Scheme 1). The <sup>125</sup>Te NMR spectrum of 3a in CD<sub>3</sub>CN shows a peak at  $\delta = 1301.3$ , shifted downfield by 646 ppm relative to 1. This remarkable downfield shift is characteristic of a cationic species. The FAB-MS spectrum of 3a exhibits a parent peak at  $m/z = 655 [M^+]$  (where,  $M^+ = (M-2BF_4^-+F^-)^+$ ). The compound 3a reacted with 4 equiv of thiophenol under an Ar atmosphere to give 1 and diphenyl disulfide in quantitative yields, respectively. Treatment of 3a with aqueous NaOH quantitatively afforded bis(4-methylphenyl) telluroxide (2). These results undoubtedly support the formation of 3a having the dicationic Te-O-Te bond, in which the Te atoms are tri-coordinated.

Bis[(halide)diaryltellurium(IV)] oxides having tetra-coordinate Te atoms are generally prepared by the thermal dehydration of

diaryltellurium hydroxy halides and their derivatives. The present reaction is not of this type. It proceeds instantaneously at  $-40\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  under both anhydrous and anaerobic conditions. The reaction in the presence of 2 equiv of  $\text{H}_2^{18}\text{O}$  gave **3a**, the FAB-MS spectrum of which showed no incorporation of  $^{18}\text{O}$  atom into **3a**. These results suggest that nitrogen monoxide (NO) which is generated from the redox reaction of **1** with  $\text{NOBF}_4$  would be a source of the oxygen atom in **3a**. Thus, a radical cation of **1** or the corresponding ditellura dication formed by dimerization would react with NO to give **3a**.

### Reaction of a 1:1 Mixture of Diaryl Telluride and Its Telluroxide with Triflic Anhydride



A similar dicationic bis(diaryltellurium(IV)) oxide ditriflate (**3b**) was quantitatively obtained by the reaction of a 1:1 mixture of **1** and its telluroxide **2** with 1 equiv of triflic anhydride ( $\text{TF}_2\text{O}$ ) in dry  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  at  $-40\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  to room temperature under an  $\text{O}_2$  atmosphere for 1 h (Scheme 2). In solution, the triflate as a counter anion is not expected to be coordinated to the Te atoms, because the chemical shift of **3b** in the

$^{125}\text{Te}$  NMR spectrum (1288.4 ppm) is almost the same as that of **3a**. Under an Ar atmosphere, The reaction shown in Scheme 2 afforded no **3b** and, hence, molecular oxygen is essential for the formation of **3b**.

The following mechanism seems to be plausible. The reaction of **2** with  $\text{TeF}_6$  may lead to a diaryl(triflate)telluronium salt or diaryltellurium ditriflate which reacts with **1** to afford an intermolecular ditellura dication and two molecules of triflate. The insertion of  $\text{O}_2$  into the resulting ditellura dication would produce **3b**.

The crystal structure of **3b** was determined by X-ray diffraction analysis as shown in Figure 1. Molecules of **3b** associate in pairs across a center of symmetry located between the atoms O1 and O1' (where, the primed atoms refer to the respective symmetry related atoms at  $1-x, -y, -z$ ). Each of the four counter anions interacts with the Te atoms of the paired dication via their oxygen atoms in the range 2.64–2.98 Å. These contacts are considerably shorter than the sum of van der Waals radii (3.60 Å) of the two elements. Thus, each Te atom has a pseudo octahedral geometry.

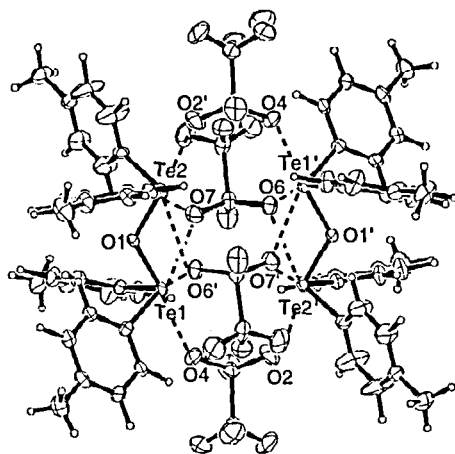


FIGURE 1 X-ray crystal structure of **3b**

## Reference

- [1] K. Kobayashi, N. Deguchi, E. Horn, N. Furukawa, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.* in press.