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From Aryliodonio-quinoline-8-olates to Arylquinolinium-8olates by a Two Step Aryl Migration

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Abstract: The reaction of 4-nitro-8-hydroxyquinoline with (diacetoxyiodo)benzene affords aryliodonio-quinoline-8-olates. Thermal migration of the aryl group from iodine to oxygen and photochemical migration from oxygen to nitrogen leads to the formation of intesively coloured arylquinolinium-8-olates.

Aryliodonio phenolates 1 belong to the major class of zwitterionic iodonium compounds, the chemistry of which, as well as of other classes of hypervalent iodine compounds, has been reviewed by Varvoglis. The term aryliodonio phenolates refers to 1,4 dipoles with the negative charge on the oxygen atom of a phenolic group. The presence of electron withdrawing groups, mostly nitro groups, is necessary for the stabilization of these compounds.

Aryliodonio phenolates react with nucleophiles and electrophiles² and afford cyclization products with various dipolophiles.³ Recently we reported the formation of aryliodonio phenolates from 1,3-dihydroxy-benzene derivatives.⁴

Continuing the exploration of the chemistry of zwitterionic iodonium compounds,⁵ we considered the possibility of forming aryliodonio phenolates from 8-hydroxy-quinoline (oxine) and its derivatives. Oxine, upon treatment with (diacetoxyiodo)arenes 3, gave complicated mixtures of oxidation products, but its 5-nitro derivative 2 afforded 5-nitro-6-aryliodonio-quinoline-8-olates 4a-c, or their acetoxy salts 5a-c, depending on the nucleophilicity of the solvent used for the reaction (Scheme 1).

Scheme 1

Both 4 and 5 were isolated by filtration. They are fairly stable and elucidation of their structure was based on spectroscopic data and elemental analyses. Quinoline-8-olates 4 are converted to the corresponding iodo ethers 6a-c in refluxing acetonitrile (Scheme 2). This aryl migration has been observed in other aryliodonium phenolates and involves an intermediary spiro-Meisenheimer complex.^{2a,6} Ethers 6 are new compounds and were fully characterized. Substituent R is found at para position, confirming the *ipso* migration of aryl group.

Scheme 2

Solutions of ethers 6 in various solvents have the tendency to obtain a deep purple colour, when they are exposed even to diffused sunlight. Chromatographic separation showed that this intense colour is a result of the formation of aryl-quinolinium-8-olates, 8. Best results (yields of 8 up to 40-60%) are obtained when benzene solutions of ethers 6 are irradiated with a 250-Watt low pressure Hg lamp for 2 hrs or exposed to direct sunlight for 8-10 hrs. The reaction takes place even in the solid state, as it is indicated by the change of colour, when crystals of 6 are exposed to light.

The only known compound analogous to **8** is methyl-quinolinium-8-olate, prepared from the corresponding methyl iodide salt of oxine. 7 Compounds **8** are crystallized in deep purple needles and their spectroscopic data and elemental analyses are consistent with their structure. 8

This photochemical aryl migration is most unusual since Kappe and co-workers⁹ showed that the photochemical reaction in analogous (but without ring nitrogen) iodo-aryl ethers takes a completely different path: Loss of HI gives rise to dibenzofurans.

The migration of aryl group from 6 to 8 takes place again at the carbon *ipso* to oxygen (R is found at the *para* position in the cases of 8b and 8c), indicating the possible intermediacy of a spiro-Meisenheimer complex of type 7. This assumption is strongly strengthened by the fact that alkyl ethers 9, prepared by alkylation of the silver salt of 5-nitro-8-hydroxy-quinoline, remained unchanged under irradiation and no alkyl migration to 10 is observed (Scheme 3).

NO₂

$$\begin{array}{c}
NO_2 \\
NO$$

It must be noted that some attempts to prepare aryl ethers analogous to 9 (with R = Ar) by other arylation methods (Williamson, diaryliodonium salts) have failed. The two step migration of aryl group described provides a facile access to aryl-8-quinolinates, these interesting 1,4 dipoles, the properties of which will be investigated.

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- 8. Selected spectroscopic data for **8c**. UV-Vis (EtOH): λ_{max} (lg ϵ) 313 (3.67), 385 (3.60), 495 (3.32) nm; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 3.88 (s, 3H), 6.95 (d, 2H, J=9 Hz), 7.17 (d, 2H, J=9 Hz), 7.88 (dd, 1H, J=9 Hz, 7 Hz), 8.37 (d, 1H, J=7 Hz), 9.42 (s, 1H), 10.43 (d,1H, J=9 Hz); MS m/z (rel intensity) 422 (M+, 40), 392 (10), 249 (41), 206 (56), 178 (100), 151 (39).
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