Deprotonation in anodic methoxylation of fluoroethyl phenyl sulfides using site-isolated heterogeneous bases

Toshiki Tajima*^{*a*} and Hitoshi Kurihara^{*b*}

^a Global Edge Institute, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Yokohama 226-8502, Japan and
^b Department of Electronic Chemistry, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Yokohama

226-8502, Japan

E-mail: tajima.t.ac@m.titech.ac.jp

1. General

¹H and ¹⁹F NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL JNM EX-270 (¹H: 270 MHz; ¹⁹F: 254 MHz) spectrometer in CDCl₃. The chemical shifts for ¹H and ¹⁹F NMR spectra were given in δ (ppm) from internal TMS and monofluorobenzene (-36.5 ppm), respectively. EI mass spectra were recorded on a Shimadzu PARVUM2 gas chromatograph-mass spectrometer.

2. Materials

Fluoroethyl phenyl sulfides 1, 3, and 5 were synthesized according to the literature.¹ Anhydrous sodium perchlorate, dehydrated acetonitrile, and dehydrated methanol were purchased from Kanto Chemical and used without further purification. 7-Methyl-1,5,7-triazabicyclo[4.4.0]dec-5-ene (MTBD), silica gel supported 1,5,7-triazabicyclo[4.4.0]dec-5-ene (Si-TBD, particle size: 40-63 µm, loading: 0.91 mmol g^{-1}), silica gel supported pyridine (Si-pyridine, particle size: 40-63 µm, loading: 1.3 mmol g^{-1}), and silica gel supported piperidine (Si-piperidine, particle size: 40-63 μ m, loading: 1.1 mmol g^{-1}) were purchased from Aldrich.

3. Cyclic Voltammetry

Cyclic voltammetry was performed by using a computer-controlled electrochemical analyzer (ALS/CH Instruments 610B). Cyclic voltammetry was carried out with a three-electrode system using a platinum disk ($\phi = 0.8$ mm) working electrode, a platinum wire counter electrode, and a saturated calomel electrode (SCE) as a reference electrode.

4. General procedure for anodic methoxylation of 2,2-difluoroethyl phenyl sulfide

(1)

Anodic methoxylation of **1** (1 mmol) was carried out with platinum plate electrodes (2 x 2 cm²) in 0.1 M NaClO₄/MeOH (10 ml) in the presence of a silica gel supported base using an undivided cell. Constant current electrolysis (5 mA cm⁻²) was conducted with magnetic stirring at room temperature. After the electrolysis, the yield of **2** was calculated by means of ¹⁹F NMR by using a known amount of monofluourobenzene (1 mmol) as an internal standard. The product **2** was identified by comparison with the literature values using ¹H and ¹⁹F NMR and mass spectroscopy.²

References

1. T. Nakai, T. Tanaka, H. Setoi, N. Ishikawa, Bull. Chem. Soc. Jpn. 1977, 50, 3069-3070.

2. T. Fuchigami, K. Yamamoto, A. Konno, Tetrahedron, 1991, 47, 625-634.