

## Exp.09: preparation of Methyl Orange

### Objectives:

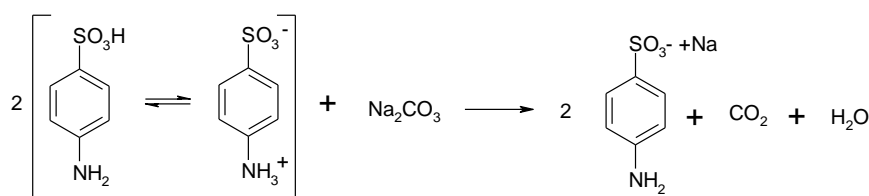
- Preparation of Methyl Orange

### Introduction:

A chromophore is a simple, unsaturated,  $e^-$  withdrawing group attached to an aromatic ring system. The extended conjugation due to the chromophore decreases  $\lambda_{\text{E}}$  (and increases  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ ) of the  $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$  transition, so that the  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  is in the visible range. Examples include nitro ( $-\text{NO}_2$ ), azo ( $-\text{N}=\text{N}-$ ), carbonyl ( $\text{C}=\text{O}$ ), and nitrile ( $-\text{CN}$ ).

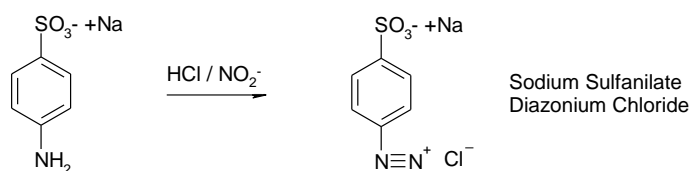
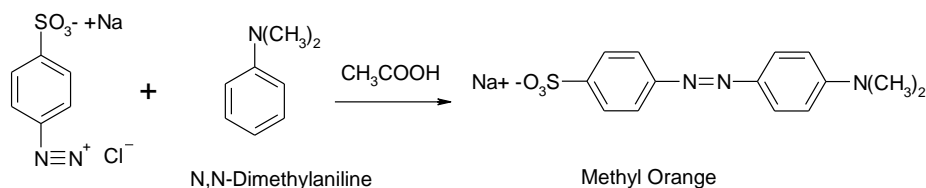
### Preparation:

- The first step is called “diazotization.” Sodium sulfanilate reacts with sodium nitrite in hydrochloric acid (i.e., nitrosocation) to form an unstable “diazonium salt.”
- The second step is the “diazonium coupling reaction.” The diazonium ion is used in situ, and reacts with N,N-dimethylaniline to form the acidic azo dye.
- The crude dye will then be isolated, and used to create dyed nylon fabric.



Sulfanilic Acid (zwitterion)

Sodium Sulfanilate

Sodium Sulfanilate  
Diazonium Chloride

N,N-Dimethylaniline

Methyl Orange

## Reaction Scheme

**Procedure**

## Pretreatment before Diazotization

1. Dissolve 1.2 g anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  with 50 ml DI  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  in a 125-ml Erlenmeyer flask using a stir bar.
2. Add 3.6 g anhydrous sulfanilic acid, and heat solution with a hot water bath until dissolved. (It may still appear cloudy.)
3. Gravity filter if solids are present, then rinse paper with 3-5 ml of hot water. Discard filtered solids, and cool filtrate to room temperature.

## Diazotization Reaction

4. Add 1.5 g  $\text{NaNO}_2$  to filtrate, and stir until dissolved.
5. Add 5 ml conc. HCl to a 400-ml beaker containing 25 ml of (50% / 50%) ice water while stirring. Caution: Conc. acids are corrosive!
6. Pour sulfanilate solution into 400-ml beaker with HCl solution, and place beaker in an ice bath. The diazonium salt will form as a white solid.

## Coupling Reaction

7. Obtain 2.7 g of N,N-dimethylaniline ( $d = 0.96 \text{ g/ml}$ ) in a 10-ml graduated cylinder, and pour directly into the 400-ml beaker. Wash cylinder with 2.0-ml conc. acetic acid, and add contents to 400-ml beaker. Stir for 15-20 min at 20-25°C to ensure complete reaction. Caution: N,N-dimethylaniline is toxic and is readily absorbed through the skin! Handle only with gloves! It is also volatile, and needs to remain completely *in the hood* until transfer is complete!
8. Slowly add 30 ml of 10% NaOH. Check pH of aqueous phase. Add additional NaOH solution, if necessary, until basic.

## Isolation of Crude Dye

9. Heat to boiling with hot plate for 10-15 minutes. When most of dye is dissolved, add 10 g NaCl (salting out), then cool crude reaction mixture in an ice bath.
10. Vacuum filter, and wash dye twice with 10 ml cold, saturated NaCl solution. Discard filtrate in sink (~110 ml aq salt waste).
11. Remove 0.5 g of dye, and dry remainder in oven overnight to obtain yield.

Data To Collect

- Rather than only pasting reactions and mechanisms into the report, describe the mechanisms qualitatively in a paragraph or two.
- Determine theoretical yield % by finding moles of the product and of the two reagents.
- Also, attach a portion of the dyed fabric to your report.

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### Laboratory Report

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Name: -----

Date: -----

Experiment Subject: -----

**- Reaction:**

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**Calculations:**

Compound	Mol. Formula	Mol. Wight	Moles	Wight, mg	Density	Volume	Limiting reagent

**Purification:**

Recrystallization solvent: -----

Purity check by melting range: -----

TLC: -----

**Physical Data (Product):**

State: -----

Melting Point: -----

Color: -----

Solubility: -----

**Yield:**

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**Characterization:**

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