

## Synthesis and characterization of termini azobenzene dendrimer

Omid Louie\*, Abdoulhossien Massoudi, Azar Agah

Department of Chemistry, Payame Noor University, P.O. BOX 19395-4697, Tehran, Iran

Received: 25 September 2013, Accepted: 12 October 2013, Published: 15 October 2013

### Abstract

Some of the organic molecules can be isomerized upon photoirradiation and when they are accompanied by a change in the visible absorption spectrum, it can be called photochromism. Azobenzenes which are important parts of molecular machines and nanotechnology can be called photoisomerization azobenzene (azo) chromophores, and have been incorporated into a wide variety of materials and molecular architectures, including polymers, dendrimers, and molecular glasses. We synthesized and characterized the AB<sub>2</sub> type polyamidoamine (PAMAM) dendrimers by single active site. PAMAM diazobenzene dendrimer was synthesized and characterized by FTIR and NMR (<sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C) and CHN-O Elementary analysis. A simple method can be used for the synthesis of azobenzene derivative PAMAM dendrimer and other similar compounds.

**Keywords:** Azodibenzoic acid, PAMAM dendrimer, termini group

### Introduction

Some organic molecules isomerize upon photoirradiation. This phenomenon is called photoisomerization, and when accompanied by a change in the visible absorption spectrum, it is called photochromism. Azobenzenes are the important parts of molecular machines and nanotechnology [1,2]. Their former referent can be used as reversible optical information storage media, [3] optical switches,[4] control in LC molecules, etc. [5]. Dendrimer is an internationally accepted term. Dendrimers and dendrons are repeatedly branched and also can be regarded as monodisperse and usually highly symmetric compounds. The first

\*Corresponding author: Omid Louie

Fax number: +98 (511) 8683001, Tel number: +98 (511)8683002

E-mail: o\_louie2001@yahoo.com

dendrimers were synthesised divergently by Vögtle in 1978 [6], Denkwalter and coworkers at Allied Corporation as polylysinedendrimers in 1981[7], Donald Tomalia atDow Chemical in 1983 [8] and in 1985 [9], Newkome in 1985[10]. In 1990, a convergent synthesis was introduced by Fréchet[11]. Azobenzenes were used at the end of a group of PAMAM synthesis by single active site [12,13]. The dendrimers are branched by diazobenzene synthesis and characterization.

## Experimental

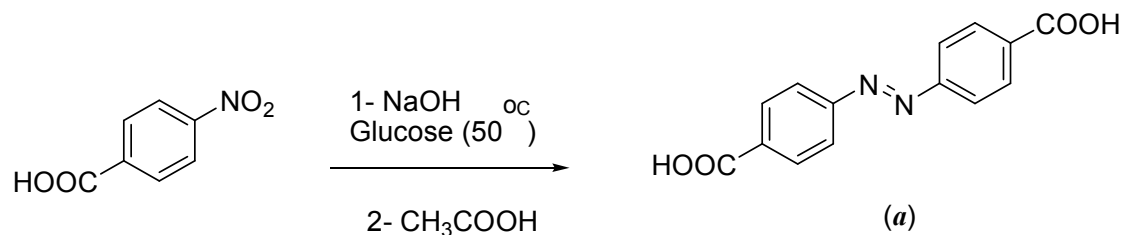
### General

IR spectra of the compounds were obtained on a Shimadzu IR-435 spectrometer using a KBr disk. The  $^1\text{H}$  nuclear magnetic resonance ( $^1\text{H}$  NMR) spectra were recorded on a Bruker AQS 400 Advanced instrument at 400 MHz in dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) using tetramethylsilane as an internal standard. All of the products are known compounds and are characterized by comparing the FTIR,  $^1\text{H}$

NMR, and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectroscopic data and their melting points with the literature values. CHNO Elementary analytical has been obtained by Flash EA 1112 elementary analyzer.

### General procedure preparation 4,4'-azodibenzoic acid

4-Nitrobenzoic acid was heated in sodium hydroxide solution at 50°C. A solution of glucose was added dropwise to this temperature with occasional shaking. The reaction mixture was then cooled to room temperature and then mixed for 8h with vigorous stirring until orange crystals were formed. The mixture was acidified with dilute acetic acid. The liberated diacid was filtered, washed with water and dissolved in hot potassium carbonate solution to obtain an orange colored solution. This solution was concentrated to obtain orange crystals of potassium salt of diacid. On acidifying with dilute acetic acid, rose colored 4,4'-azodibenzoic acid (**a**) was obtained. The results are presented in Scheme 1.

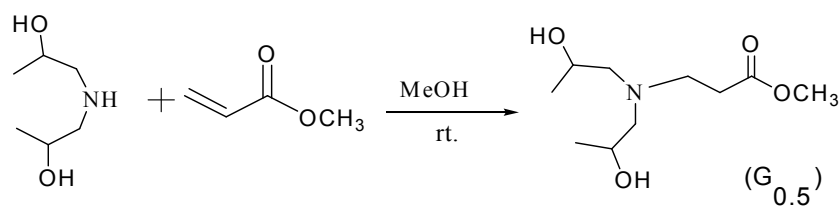


**Scheme1.** Synthesis of 4,4'.azodibenzoic acid

**Preparation of PAMAM dendrimer via excess reagent method preparation of ester terminated group ( $G_{0.5}$ )**

A solution of freshly distilled diisopropanolamine (15 g) in methanol (75 mL) was added dropwise over a period of 1.5h to a stirred solution of methylacrylate (81.2 mL), under nitrogen atmosphere. The

mixture stood still at room temperature for 72 h. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure at 75°C using a rotary evaporator and then the resulting light yellow color oil was dried under vacuum ( $10^{-1}$  mm Hg, 50°C) to give the pure product (17.23 g, 85%). Synthesis of PAMAM dendrimer ester terminated group ( $G_{0.5}$ ) was shown in Scheme 2.

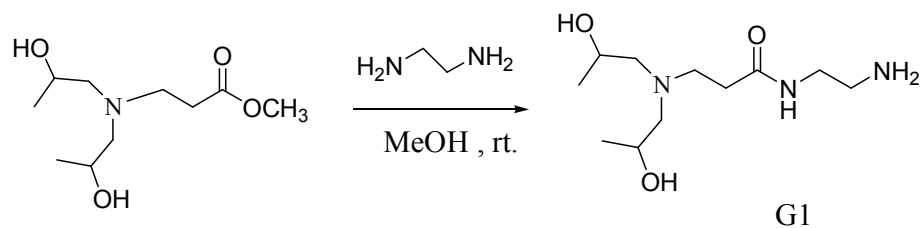


**Scheme 2.** Synthesis of PAMAM dendrimer ester terminated group ( $G_{0.5}$ )

**Preparation of PAMAM dendrimer amine terminated ( $G_1$ )**

The solid of precursor ( $G_{0.5}$ ) (10g) in methanol (50 mL) was carefully added to a vigorously stirred solution of 1,2-diaminoethane (61.1 mL) at room temperature.

Then, the mixture was stirred for 72h at room temperature. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure in 75 °C. PAMAM dendrimer NH<sub>2</sub> end group  $G_1$  precursor is a yellow oil (225.39 g, 88%).  $G_1$  was shown in Scheme 3.



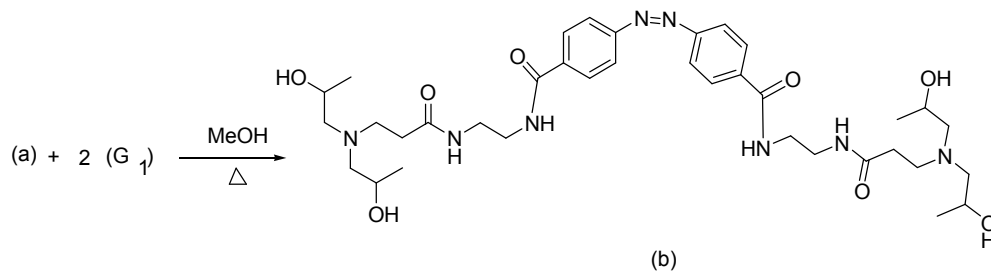
**Scheme 3.** Synthesis of PAMAM dendrimers monoamine terminated group ( $G_1$ )

**Preparation of branched diazobenzene by PAMAM dendrimer ( $G_1$ )**

The solid of 4,4'-azobenzoic acid (5g)(a) in methanol (50 mL) which was carefully

added to a vigorously stirred solution of PAMAM dendrimer (10g) mono-amine terminated group ( $G_1$ ) was solved in methanol (75 mL). The mixture was stirred for 14 days

at 37 °C. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure in 75 °C. The branched diazobenzene by PAMAM dendrimer (b) precursor as a yellow colour soiled (12.39 g, 82%) was shown in Scheme 4.



**Scheme 4.** Synthesis of branched diazobenzene by PAMAM dendrimer

**Selected spectral data 4,4'-Azodibenzoic acid (a):** 22.21, 34.31, 45.11, 52.20, 63.80, 65.92, 173.11.

Rose solid, FT-IR (KBr): 3400cm<sup>-1</sup> (-OH), 1604 cm<sup>-1</sup> (stretching C=O), 1517 cm<sup>-1</sup> (-N=N), 850 cm<sup>-1</sup> (op. Aryl -C=C); <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (FT-400 MHz, DMSO):δ; 11(s, 2H), 8.33(d, 4H), 8.14 (d, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (400 MHz, DMSO): 122.91, 130.61, 133.12, 157.93, 169.40; CHN-O: C (62.2%), N (10.35%), H (3.73%) and O (23.72%).

**PAMAM dendrimer ester terminated group (G<sub>0.5</sub>):**

White yellow solid oil, FT-IR (KBr): 3400cm<sup>-1</sup> (-OH), 1733 cm<sup>-1</sup> (stretching C=O), 1136 cm<sup>-1</sup> (stretching C-O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (FT-400 MHz, DMSO):δ; 2.44(s, 2H), 1.11(d, 6H), 3.32 (m, 2H), 2.63(d, 4H), 2.73(t, 2H), 2.37 (t, 2H), 3.68(s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(400 MHz, DMSO):

**PAMAM dendrimer amine terminated (G<sub>1</sub>):**

Yellow solid oil, FT-IR(KBr): 3300 cm<sup>-1</sup> (-NH), 1643 cm<sup>-1</sup> (stretching C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (FT-400 MHz, DMSO):δ; 2.15(s, 2H), 1.12(d, 6H), 3.63 (m, 2H), 2.53(d, 4H), 2.66(t, 2H), 2.29 (t, 2H), 3.44(t, 2H), 2.98 (t, 2H), 2.62(s, 2H), 8.11(s, H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(400 MHz, DMSO): 22.0, 33.8, 40.5, 42.1, 51.11, 51.8, 63.5, 65.7, 172.20.

**Diazobenzene derivative PAMAM dendrimer G<sub>1</sub> (b):**

Yellow solid, FT-IR (KBr): 3400cm<sup>-1</sup> (-OH), 1604 cm<sup>-1</sup> (stretching C=O), 1517 cm<sup>-1</sup> (-N=N), 850 cm<sup>-1</sup> (op. Aryl-C=C); <sup>1</sup>H-NMR(FT-400 MHz, DMSO):δ; 8.15 (m, 8H), 2.15(s, 4H), 1.21(d, 12H), 2.28 (t, 4H),

2.63(m, 12H), 3.50(m, 8H), 3.62 (m, 4H), 8.10 (s, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO): 22.0, 33.8, 40.5, 42.1, 51.11, 51.8, 63.5, 65.7, 172.20 122.91, 130.61, 133.12, 157.93; CHN-O: C (59.3%), N (15.37%), H (7.74%) and O (17.59%).

## Results and Discussion

Experimental data have been collected according to this fact that the various generations of PAMAM dendrimers and derivative have been synthesized. CHN-O data analysis also showed that the amount of nitrogen has been increased from 10.03% to 15.37% in (a) to (b) respectively. FT-IR analysis of components and two generations of PAMAM indicated the presence of methoxy groups in  $G_{0.5}$  which can be replaced by amino groups in  $G_1$ . Data analysis of FT-IR spectra for  $G_{0.5}$  is as follows: Functional groups ester( C=O ) stretching vibration at  $1733.3\text{ cm}^{-1}$  for  $G_{0.5}$ , have been moved. In this range, C=O amide groups have not been shown. C-O stretching vibration for methoxy in the  $G_{0.5}$ , has been appeared at  $1203.9\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . Data analysis of FT-IR spectra for  $G_1$  demonstrated that C-O stretching vibration for methoxy in  $G_1$  has not been observed. NH at  $1556.4\text{ cm}^{-1}$  for  $G_1$  appeared,  $\text{NH}_2$  can be seen in  $3300\text{-}3500\text{ (m)}\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . C=O stretching group ester would not be presented. Infrared

spectroscopy analysis for PAMAM  $\text{NH}_2$  &  $\text{CO}_2\text{Me}$  end groups has been done. FT-IR spectrum in generation one, has been shown a CO (broad) stretching vibration in acid end group at  $1024\text{ cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR data analysis also confirmed the synthesis of dendrimer and derivative in which hydrogen of methoxy group was appeared at 3.68 ppm in  $G_{0.5}$  while hydrogen of amino groups have been at 2.26 ppm for  $G_1$ . Through comprehensive characterization of the surface functionalized PAMAM dendrimer of  $G_1$ , one can have a general profile of the structural characteristics of lower generation PAMAM upon surface substitution. C=O stretching carboxylic groups have not been showed at (b). The double peak for  $\text{NH}_2$  PAMAM  $G_1$  has been removed at azobenzenederivative PAMAM dendrimer (b).

## Conclusion

4,4'-Azodibenzoic acid (a) has been prepared by many different methods. 4,4'-Azodibenzoic acid was prepared according to a typical procedure that was shown in Scheme 1. So, azobenzenederivative PAMAM dendrimer was prepared according to a typical procedure that was shown in Scheme 4. Moreover, the simplicity of method was also suggested for the synthesis of azobenzenederivative PAMAM dendrimer.

### Acknowledgement

The authors are grateful to Payame Noor University for receiving financial support.

### References

- [1] T. Fujita, N. Iyi, Z. Klapyta, K. Fujii, Y. Kaneko, K. Kitamura, *Materials Research Bulletin.*, **2003**, *38*, 2009–2017.
- [2] J.P. Sauvage, *Acc.Chem. Res.*, **1998**, *31*, 611-619.
- [3] Z.F. Liu, K. Nashimoto, A. Fujishima, *A. Nature (London)*, **1990**, *347*, 658-660.
- [4] T. Shimoboji, E. Larenas, T. Fowler, S. Kulkarni, A.S. Hoffman, P.S. Stayton, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.*, **2002**, *99*, 16592-16596.
- [5] V. Shibaev, A. Bobrovsky, N. Boiko., *Prog. Polym. Sci.*, **2003**, *28*, 729.
- [6] O. Louie, A.H. Massoudi, H. Vahedi, *Clinical Biochemistry Journal*, **2011**, *44*, S281-282.
- [7] G.R. Newkome, C.D. Shreiner, *Polymer*, **2008**, *49*, 1-173.
- [8] D.A. Tomalia, *Prog. Polym. Sci.*, **2005**, *30*, 294–324.
- [9] D.A. Tomalia, H. Baker, J. Dewald, M. Hall, G. Kallos, S. Martin, D.I. Roeck, *Chem. Eur. J.*, **2009**, *15*, 5444–5448.
- [10] G.R. Prosa, B.J. Bauer, E.J. Amis, D.A. Tomalia, R.J. Scherrenberg, *Macromolecules*, **2003**, *36*, 5526–5529.
- [11] C.J. Hawker, J.M.J. Fréchet, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **1990**, *112*, 7638-7647.
- [12] O. Louie, A.H. Massoudi, H. Vahedi, S. Sajjadifar, *Polymer*, **2009**, *50*, 5605-5607.
- [13] A.H. Massoudi, O. Louie, H. Vahedi, S. Sajjadifar, *E-Journal of Chemistry*, **2009**, *6*, 681-684.