

# Photochemical bromination of substituted indan-1-one derivatives: synthesis of new polybromoindan-1-one derivatives

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The photobromination of substituted indan derivatives was studied. Four products, 2,3-dibromo-inden-1-one (5), *trans*-2,3-dibromoindan-1-one (6), 2,2-dibromoindan-1,3-dione (7) and 2,2-dibromoindan-1-one (8), were obtained by the bromination of indan-1-one (4). The bromination of 2-methyl indanone (9) and 3methyl-indanone (13) gave the corresponding monobromo, dibromo, and tribromo compounds in high yield. 4-Nitro indan (16) was tribrominated under same condition reaction. The structures of these products were determined from <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, <sup>13</sup>C-NMR, MS, and IR data.

Key Words: Indan-1-one, 2-methyl-1-indanone, 3-methly-1-indanone, 4-nitro indan.

## Introduction

The bromination of hydrocarbons is an important process because it yields useful intermediates for the synthesis of a variety of bromoorganic compounds.<sup>1-10</sup> These compounds have numerous industrial application as pesticides, plastics, fire retardants, and pharmaceutical chemicals.<sup>11</sup>

An indenone motif can be found in some natural products and also in synthetically obtained compounds.<sup>12–15</sup> Several procedures for the synthesis of indenones have been reported in the literature.<sup>16–24</sup> Photochemical bromination of indan **1** gave the bromo indenone,<sup>3</sup> which can serve as the key compound for the construction of a benzo [c] fluorenone skeleton (Scheme 1).<sup>16</sup>

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In this paper, we describe a method for the synthesis of brominated indenone derivatives, which can serve as the key compounds for the preparation of other substituted indenone derivatives. The work presented is a continuation of the current interest in the photochemical bromination reaction of indane derivatives.<sup>16</sup>

### Experimental

All chemical reagents were commercially available. The substrates were purified (distilled or crystallized) before application in the reaction. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker 400-100 MHz spectrometer. Infrared spectra were obtained as films on NaCl plates for liquid and KBr pellets for solids on a Win First®Satellite Model infrared recording spectrophotometer. All column chromatography was performed on silica gel (60-mesh, Merck).

#### General procedure for photobromination

All bromination reactions were carried out in a cylindrical vessel with 2 necks attached to a Dimroth cooler and dropping funnel. In the photobromination reactions, a 150 W projector lamp provided the internal irradiation.

#### Photobromination of 1-indanone (4)

A solution of bromine (14.8 mmol, 2.36 g) in CCl<sub>4</sub> (10 mL) was added dropwise over 30 min to a stirred solution of indan-1-one (4) (500 mg, 3.7 mmol) in CCl<sub>4</sub> (60) in a photochemical reaction apparatus with irradiation by 150 W projector lamp. After completion of the reaction (60 min), the excess of bromine and the solvent were removed at reduced pressure at 35 °C. The dark residue was crystallized from chloroform to give 2,2-dibromo-1-indanone (8). After filtration of 8, the organic solvent was evaporated and oily residue was chromatographed on silica gel (130 g), eluting with hexane/chloroform (1/4). The first fraction consisted of a mixture of 5 and 6. This mixture was submitted to fractional crystallization from chloroform to give 5 and 6. From the second fraction, dibromo indandione 7 was isolated.

2,3-dibromoinden-1-one (5)  $^{16}$ : 400 mg 39%, red crystals, mp 125 °C (Lit. 123 °C)

trans-2,3-dibromoindan-1-one (6) $^{26,27}$ : 100 mg, 10%, red viscous liquid,

2,2-dibromoindan-1,3-dione (7)<sup>28</sup>: 200 mg, 18%, colorless crystals, mp 183-185 °C (Lit. 181-182 °C)

2,2-dibromoindan-1-one (8): 150 mg, 15%, colorless crystals, mp 140-142 °C, (Found: C, 37.25, H, 2.08, C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>6</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>O requires C: 37.28, H: 2.09 MS m/z (M<sup>+</sup>), 292, 290, 288 (M<sup>+</sup>, -Br), 211, 208 (M<sup>+</sup>, -Br), 131, 130, 129, (M<sup>+</sup>, -C=O), 103, 102, 101, IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1716 (-C=O).

#### Photobromination of 2, 3-dibromo-inden-1-one (5)

Fifty milligrams (0.18 mmol) of **6** was dissolved in 15 mL of carbon tetrachloride. The reaction was carried out as described above. The solvent was evaporated and residue crystallized from chloroform to give 50 mg (95%) of dibromo indandione **7**.

#### Photobromination of 2-methyl indanone (9)

A solution of bromine (13 mmol, 2.13 g) in CCl<sub>4</sub> (10 mL) was added dropwise over 30 min to a stirred solution of 2-methyl indanone (**9**) (500 mg, 3.4 mmol) in CCl<sub>4</sub> (60) in a photochemical reaction apparatus with irradiation by 150 W projector lamp. After completion of the reaction (60 min), the excess of bromine and the solvent were removed at reduced pressure at 35 °C. The oily residue was chromatographed on silica gel (130 g), eluting with hexane/chloroform (1/4), and the fractions were crystallized from chloroform.

2,3,3-tribromo-2-methyl-indan-1-one (10) 700 mg, 53%, yellow crystals, mp 115-117 °C, (Found: C 31.34, H 1.95, C<sub>10</sub> H<sub>7</sub> Br<sub>3</sub> O requires C 31.37, H 1.84%), MS m/z 305, 303, 301 (M<sup>+</sup>, -Br), 224, 222, 221 (M<sup>+</sup>, -Br), 144, 143, 142 (M<sup>+</sup>, -Br), 116, 115, 114 (M<sup>+</sup>, -C=O) IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1723 (-C=O).

2,3-dibromo-2-methyl-indan-1-one (11) 155 mg, 20%, pale yellow crystals, mp 110-111 °C, (Found: C 39.49, H 2.63, C<sub>10</sub> H<sub>8</sub> Br<sub>2</sub> O requires C 39.51, H 2.65%), MS m/z 225, 223, 221 (M<sup>+</sup>, -Br), 145, 143, 142 (M<sup>+</sup>, -Br), 116, 115, 114 (M<sup>+</sup>, -CO), IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1806 (-C=O)

2-Bromo-2-methyl-indan-1,3-dione (12) 56 mg, 20%, pale yellow crystals, mp 210 °C, (Found: C 50.25, H 2.90% requires C 50.24, H 2.95%), MS m/z 176 (M<sup>+</sup>, -CO, -CH<sub>3</sub>), 133 (M<sup>+</sup>, -CO), IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1709 (-C=O).

#### Photobromination of 3-methyl indanone (13)

To 500 mg (3.4 mmol) of 3-methyl indanone (13) was added dropwise over 30 min 2.31 g (13 mmol) of bromine while the reaction flask was irradiates with a 150 W projector lamp. After completion of the reaction (130 min), the excess of bromine and the solvent were removed at reduced pressure at 35 °C. The organic solvent was evaporated and the oily residue was chromatographed on silica gel (130 g), eluting with hexane/chloroform (1/4), and the products were crystallized from chloroform. 2,2,3-tribromo-2,3-dihydro-3-methylinden-1-one (14) 395 mg, 30% colorless crystals, mp 150-152 °C, (Found: C 31.39, H 1.85, C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>7</sub>Br<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, requires C 31.37, H 1.84%), MS m/z 292, 290, 288 (M<sup>+</sup>, -Br), 211, 209, 207 (M<sup>+</sup>, -Br), 131,130 (M<sup>+</sup>, -Br), 103, 102, 101 (M<sup>+</sup>, -CO) IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1765 (-C=O)

2-bromo-3-(bromomethyl) 1H-inden-1-one (15) 813 mg, 62% orange crystals, mp 156-158 °C, (Found: C C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>6</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>O requires C 39.77, H 2.00%), MS m/z 303, 301, 299 (M<sup>+</sup>, -Br), 223, 222, 221, 220 (M<sup>+</sup>, -CO), 194,193 (M<sup>+</sup>, -Br), IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1717 (-C=O)

#### Photobromination of 4-nitro indane (16)

A solution of bromine (12.3 mmol, 1.96 g) in  $CCl_4$  (10 mL) was added dropwise over 30 min to a stirred solution of 4-nitroindane (16) (500 mg, 3.06 mmol) in  $CCl_4$  (60) in a photochemical reaction apparatus with irradiation by 150 W projector lamp. After completion of the reaction (60 min), the excess of bromine and the

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solvent were removed at reduced pressure at 35  $^{\circ}$  C. The dark residue was crystallized from chloroform to give 1,1,3-tribromo-4-nitro indane (17).

1,1,3-tribromo-4-nitro-indan (17) 1.1 g, 90% colorless crystals, mp 208-210 °C, (Found: C 27.95, H 1.15  $C_{10}H_7BrO_2$  requires C 27.03, H 1.51, MS m/z, 401 (M<sup>+</sup>, -NO<sub>2</sub>), 355,353, 351 (M<sup>+</sup>, -2 Br), 195, 193 (M<sup>+</sup>, -Br), IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1529 (-NO<sub>2</sub>).

## **Results and discussion**

We focused on the bromination of 1-indanone (4), 2-methyl-1-indanone (9), 3-methyl-1-indanone (13), and 4-nitro indan (16). Benzylic bromination requires either a high temperature<sup>5</sup> or irradiation with uv light,<sup>16</sup> and often gives mixtures of products. In the bromination reactions, bromine (4 equiv.) was added to a solution of 4, 9, 13, 16, or 18, in CCl<sub>4</sub> with internal irradiation (150 W projector lamp) at room temperature.

The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR studies revealed that the reaction mixture was very complex and consisted of 4 products formed after 60 min of irradiation in the photobromination of 1-indanone (4) (Scheme 2). The reaction mixture was crystallized from chloroform and dibromo indanone 8 was isolated in a yield of 15%. The methylene protons (H<sub>3</sub>) and C<sub>3</sub>-carbon in <sup>1</sup>H-NMR and APT spectra confirm the structure of dibromo indanone 8. The rest was subjected to repeated column chromatography and 3 additional products, dibromo indenone 5<sup>16</sup>, transdibromid 6,<sup>26,27</sup> and dibromo indandione 7<sup>28</sup> were isolated, in yields of 39%, 10%, and 18%, respectively. The structures were established easily from <sup>1</sup>H-NMR and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra. The main isolated product, 2,3-dibromo indenone 5<sup>16</sup>, was already characterized.<sup>16</sup> Four aromatic protons in the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum and 9 signals in the <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of dibromo indenone 5 were in complete agreement with the proposed structure. The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of trans-dibromide 6,<sup>26,27</sup> which shows absorption at 4.27 (d, H<sub>2</sub>, J<sub>2,3</sub>= 2.2 Hz) and 5.99 (d, H<sub>3</sub>), is in good agreement with the literature. The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra of dibromo indandion 7 were highly symmetrical owing to the symmetry in the molecule.



We assume that this dibromo indandion  $7^{28}$  is formed after further bromination of initially formed dibromo indenone 5. In order to verify this finding, dibromo indenone 5 was submitted to further photobromination, which resulted exclusively in the formation of dibromo indandione 7 in 95% yield (Scheme 3). We assume that dibromo indandion 7 gave a hydrolysis reaction with the silica gel used in column chromatography.



Scheme 3

After the successful synthesis and isolation of polybrominated indan-1-one and inden-1-one derivatives, we were interested in the photobromination of 2-methyl indanone (9) (Scheme 4). Bromination of 2-methyl indanone with 4 equiv. of bromine afforded 3 products, which were characterized as tribromo indanone 10, dibromo indanone 11, and monobromo indandione 12 in yields of 53%, 20%, and 20%, respectively, and which were easily separated by column chromatography.



Four aromatic signals and 1 methyl signal at 2.33 ppm were observed in the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of tribromo indanone **10**. The proton signals adjacent to the bromine appear as a singlet at 5.95 ppm and methyl protons appear as a singlet at 2.10 ppm in the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of dibromo indanone **11**. The 10 signals in the <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum are also in agreement with the proposed structure. The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of monobromo indandione **12** shows 1 aliphatic signal as a singlet at 1.25 ppm.

The addition of bromine to 3-methyl indanone (13) in carbon tetrachloride was found to give 2 products, 2,2,3-tribromo-2,3-dihydro-3-methylinden-1-one (14) and 2-bromo-3-bromomethyl-1H-inden-1-one (15) (Scheme 5). The reaction was carried out under nitrogen atmosphere and it was seen that dibromo indanone yielded only 1 product, dibromo indenone 15. These results indicate that the air oxygen inserts into the carboncarbon bond in the dibromo indanone 14. The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of 14 shows 1 aliphatic signal as a singlet at 4.27 ppm. Four aromatic signals and 1 methylene signal at 4.39 ppm were observed in the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of dibromo indenone 15. Elemental analysis and <sup>13</sup>C-DEPT spectrum of dibromo indenone 15 are in agreement with the proposed structure.

In addition, we were interested in the photobromination of 2,3-dihydro-4-nitro-1H-indene (16) (Scheme 6). Addition of bromine to 2,3-dihydro-4-nitro-1H-indene (16) gave only 1 product, which was characterized as 1,1,3-tribromo-2,3-dihydro-4-nitro-1H-indene (17) with 90% yield. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR absorptions observed at 8.2-7.6 ppm (3 aromatic signals), 6.1 ppm (dd, H<sub>3</sub>,  $J_{3,2a}$ =5.5,  $J_{3,2b}$ =2.6 Hz), 3.81 ppm (d, H<sub>2a</sub>), and 3.79 ppm (d, H<sub>2b</sub>), as well as the 9 signals in the <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum, are also in agreement with the proposed structure (Table).

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Compound		<sup>1</sup> H-N	MR Reso	Coupling	<sup>13</sup> C ND (D		
	$H_1$	H <sub>2</sub>	H <sub>3</sub>	Subs.	Aromatic	Constant J (Hz)	C-NMR
O Br	-	-	-	-	AB	J <sub>aro.</sub> =7.3	186.8, 146.6,
					d, 7.08, t, 7.23		142,8, 134.6,
					t, 7.33, d, 7.37		130.1, 129.3,
Br							123.2, 122.6,
5							121.3
Br H <sub>2</sub> Br H <sub>3</sub>	-	d	d	-	AB	J <sub>aro.</sub> =7.7	186.5, 142.7,
		4.27	5.99		d, 7.81, t, 7.74,	J <sub>2,3</sub> =2.2	137.3, 131.1,
					d, 7.72, t, 7.52		129.3, 127.3,
							126.3, 58.1,
							52.6
Br	-	-	-	-	AA'BB'		87.4, 138.1,
					8.1-8.01		135.9, 125.9,
							51.5
7					AD	1 77	102.2 147.2
0			S 4 28		AB	$J_{\rm aro.} = 7.7$	192.5, 147.5,
Br			4.28		d, 7.95, t, 7.72		137.1, 137.1,
H <sub>3</sub> Br					t, 7.49, d, 7.4		129.2, 126.8,
8							126.2, 57.1,
					4.0		52.6
<i>p</i>	-	-	-	s	AB	$J_{aro.} = 1.1$	191.5, 155.1,
CH3				2.33	d, 7.88, t, 7.77,		130.2, 131.3,
Br					d, /./5, t, /.54		129.8, 125.8,
10							125.3, 72.5,
					4.D	1 77	64.6, 24.2
Br H <sub>3</sub>	-	-	S	s 5 of	AB	$J_{aro.} = 1.1$	196.4, 150.1,
			2.01	5.95	d, 7.81, t, 7.70,		130.5, 131.8,
					d, 7.62, t, 7.51		130.7, 127.5,
							125.8, 61.5,
							55.2, 26.1
CH <sub>3</sub> Br	-	-	-	S	AA BB		199.9, 139.8,
				1.55	8.05-7.91		136.9, 124.5,
12							29.9, 22.3
		_		\$	AB	I -77	102 0 147 3
Br Br 14	_			4 27	d 7 91 t 7 71	<i>aro.</i> — / . /	137 2 129 2
				-T.2/	t 748 d 740		129.2, 129.2,
					ı, /. <del>4</del> 0, u, /.40		129.2, 120.0,
							526 526
							52.0, 52.0

Table. NMR spectral data of some substituted indan derivatives

Compound		<sup>1</sup> H-N	MR Reso	Coupling	<sup>13</sup> C NMD		
	$H_1$	H <sub>2</sub>	H <sub>3</sub>	Subs.	Aromatic	Constant J (Hz)	C-INIVIK
CH <sub>gBr</sub> 15	-	-	-	s	AB	J <sub>aro.</sub> =7.7	189.2, 153.9,
				4.39	d, 7,51, t, 7.44,		142.6, 134.7,
					d and t, 7.27		129.6, 129.4,
							124.1, 121.1,
							120.3, 21.8
Br H <sub>2b</sub> NO <sub>217</sub> H <sub>2a</sub>	-	d, d	d (H <sub>3a</sub> )	-	d, 8.24, d, 8.09	$J_{3,2a} = 5.5,$	150.4, 143.7,
		3.81,	6.10		t, 7.71	$J_{3,2b}=2.6,$	134.3, 132.2,
		3.79	d(H <sub>3b</sub> )			J <sub>5,6</sub> =J <sub>6,7</sub> =8.1	132.1, 126.9,
			6.08				60.2, 53.4,
							43.8

Table. Continued.



Scheme 5





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