Communication

o-Aminophenoxytitanium complexes

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In connection with related studies on alkyl alkoxotitanium complexes we tried to obtain chelated phenoxy compounds using o-aminophenol. Many methods have been used for the preparation of similar compounds (1). New [Ti(o-NH₂C₆H₄O)_{4-n}Cl_n](n = 1, 2 and 3) o-aminophenoxytitanium complexes have been isolated by redistribution reactions of different molar ratics of TiCl₄ and [Ti(o-NH₂C₆H₄O)₄] obtained from [Ti(OPr-i)₄] and o-aminophenol. We found that the totally substituted o-aminophenoxytitanium derivative can be readily obtained by alcohol exchange in boiling toluene between stoichiometric amounts of [Ti(OPr-i)₄] and the phenol, as shown in Equation (1).

$$Ti(OPr-i)_4 + o-H_2NC_6H_4OH$$

$$\rightarrow [Ti(o-H_2NC_6H_4O)_4] + 4i-PrOH$$
(1)

 $[Ti(o-H_2NC_6H_4O)_4]$ is an orange microcrystalline solid, partially soluble in toluene, and can be manipulated in air for short periods.

Redistribution reactions between [Ti(o-H₂NC₆H₄O)₄] and different molar ratios of TiCl₄ led to the haloalkoxy complexes mentioned in Scheme 1. The reactions were carried out in boiling toluene or CCl₄ to give microcrystalline orange-brown to red-black almost insoluble solids.

$$[Ti(o-H_2NC_6H_4O)_3Cl] \ (PhMe)$$

$$[Ti(o-H_2NC_6H_4O)_4] + TiCl_4 \xrightarrow{\text{l:1}} [Ti(o-H_2NC_6H_4O)_2Cl_2] \ (PhMe)$$

$$[Ti(o-H_2NC_6H_4O)Cl_3] \ (CCl_4)$$

Scheme 1

The redistribution of π -donor alkoxy groups between the two metal centres is favoured on electronic and steric grounds^(2,3) and almost quantitative yields have been found in most cases.

The o-aminophenoxytitanium complexes, which are soluble in tetrahydrofuran, dimethylsulphoxide and methanol but insoluble in non-polar solvents, were characterized by analysis (see Table 1), i.r. and $^1\mathrm{H}$ n.m.r. spectroscopy. They show $v(\mathrm{N-H})$ i.r. absorptions at $3250-3400\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ (Nujol) and one broad signal due to NH₂ protons at $5.00-5.45\,\mathrm{ppm}$ in DMSO-d₆, in which they must be monomeric. The amino groups are probably not coordinated.

These compounds cannot be obtained by reaction of TiCl₄ with the phenol because the HCl evolved protonates the amino group to give the species shown in Scheme 2.

Table 1. Analytical data obtained for titanium complexes

Compound	Found (Calcd.)%			
	C	Н	N	Ti
[Ti(o-H ₂ NC ₆ H ₄ O) ₄]	59.8(60.0)	5.1(5.0)	11.1(11.6)	9.9(10.0)
[Ti(o-H2NC6H4O)3Cl]	52.2(53.0)	4.2(4.4)	9.5(10.3)	
[Ti(o-H2NC6H4O)2Cl2]	42.3(43.0)	3.7(3.6)	7.7(8.3)	
[Ti(o-H2NC6H4O)Cl3]	28.1(27.6)	2.9(2.3)	5.4(5.3)	
[Ti(o-H ₃ NC ₆ H ₄ O) ₂ Cl ₂]Cl ₂	35.0(35.3)	3.6(3.5)	6.4(6.9)	

$$\begin{split} & \text{TiCl}_4 + 2o \text{-}\text{H}_2\text{NC}_6\text{H}_4\text{OH} \rightarrow & \left[\text{Ti}(o \text{-}\text{H}_3\text{N}^+\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{O})_2\text{Cl}_2\right]\text{Cl}_2 \\ & \left[\text{Ti}(o \text{-}\text{H}_2\text{NC}_6\text{H}_4\text{O})_2\text{Cl}_2\right] \xrightarrow[+2\text{NEI}_3]{} + 2\text{HCI} \end{split}$$

Scheme 2

The cationic complex is a brown solid which can be alternatively obtained by reaction of the diphenoxy-dihalocomplex with HCl. It is thermally stable at 100° C in vacuo but is reversibly transformed into the neutral complex by reaction with a stronger Lewis base such as NEt₃. It is also insoluble in nonpolar solvents and soluble in THF and DMSO. The i.r. spectrum shows v(N-H) i.r. absorptions at 3220, 3280 cm⁻¹ and a broad signal is observed in the 1 H n.m.r. spectrum at 10.20 ppm due to the $-NH_{3}^{+}$ protons.

We have no data to assign the structure and molecularity of these o-aminophenoxyhalotitanium compounds, but with reference to the monomeric nature of [Ti(OPh)₂Cl₂] in benzene and its phenoxy bridged dimeric structure⁽⁴⁾ in the solid, we may suggest that solutions in polar solvents contain monomeric species, whereas di-or polymeric structures must be present in solids.

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