

ANALYSIS OF PROHIBITED AMINE IN AZO DYES USED IN TEXTILE AND LEATHER GARMENTS

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The dyes based on specific 20 arylamines have been used on industrial scale due to their desirable colouring properties. These dyes release these amines under different environmental and physiological conditions and have been established to be potentially carcinogenic in nature. Therefore, trace level determination of these prohibited amines is of great practical importance. The present review embodies details of various methods used for their determination. These methods split out procedures and techniques for the quantitative determination of these amines under chromatographic, spectrophotometric, chromatographic method, potentiometric titration and polarographic estimation. Various reagents and colour reactions are described for spot tests and spectrophotometric determinations. The techniques such as column chromatography, thinlayer chromatography, gas chromatography, gas liquid chromatography, high performance liquid chromatography and optical densitometry have also been reported. Various columns and solvent systems are described for the separation of a mixture of amines. The potential and limitations of various methods have been discussed in the light of our practical experience.

Key words: Prohibited arylamine, Diazotization, Coupling and chromatography.

Introduction

The colourants which contain one or more azo groups in their chemical structures are known as azo dyes. As is commonly known almost 65 to 70% of all dyes being used by the textile industry in Pakistan are azo dyes, mainly because of their relative cheapness (as compared to other dyes), general brilliance and fastness in colour. They are used to colour a large number of different substrates, such as synthetic and natural textile fibres, plastic leather, paper, mineral oils, waxes and even foodstuffs and cosmetics.

The intermediate chemicals used in the production of azo dyes consist mainly of unsubstituted and substituted aromatic arylamines. These amines have been in use in emulsion for years together without any restriction on their use for the dye industries. Before 1970 symptoms diagnosed as bladder cancer frequently occurred among workers who handled benzidine in the production of benzidine dyes. It was observed that, under good working conditions no benzidine or its primary metabolites were detectable in the urine of the exposed workers. In contrast, such metabolites were detected in the urine of workers in plants where good industrial hygiene was not maintained. Thus, the major dye producers voluntarily decided to cease the manufacture of benzidine and benzidine-based dyes in the early '90's (Arluke 1977; Boeniger 1980; Meul et al 1981; An ink 1986).

In general, it can be concluded that azo compounds capable of forming a carcinogenic amine on reductive cleavage of the

azo bonds are more likely to be carcinogenic. According to Matsui (1981), 1-acylazo-2-naphthol (i) is considered to undergo photochemical transformation to finally afford a peroxo product (v). The latter decomposes to 1,2-naphtho-quinone (vi) with simultaneous release of peroxoamine (vii) and the diazonium ion (viii) which ultimately gets reduced to an amine (1). This type of photochemical splitting in a different azo dye (2) has also been mentioned by another group of workers (Nofutire and Teijru 1980) in Scheme I (a,b). Thus, after thorough investigation, the German senate commission for testing harmful substances known as MAK (maximum workplace concentration) banned the azo dyes based on the 20 arylamines also listed in Scheme I (a,b).

The commission also recommended that azo dyes should be treated in the same way as the amines on which they are based. The recommendation resulted from the observation that azo dyes can be split under certain physiological conditions to form one of these carcinogenic amine. This aspect was finally considered, on July 1594, in a second amendment to the ordinance on materials and articles prohibiting the use of certain azo dyes in the manufacture of material and articles that are designed for more than temporary contact with the human body. Presently the ban covers these azo colourants that, through the splitting of one or more azo groups, can form one of the 20 carcinogenic amines Scheme I (a,b) (Geisbeiger 1997).

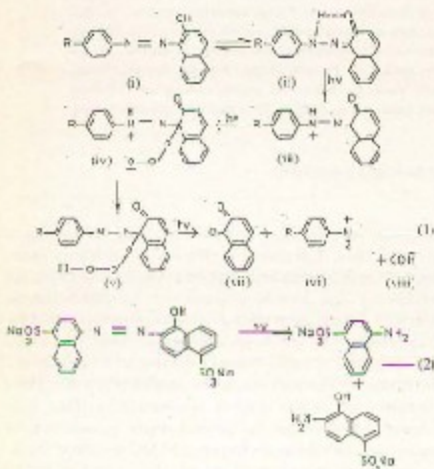
No one in Europe and America would like to import textile and other goods from any country in the developing world including Pakistan, without certification that the material is

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a. List of Banned Azo Arylamines

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 1. p-Aminodiphenyl | 2. Benzidine |
| 3. p-Chloro-p-aminodiphenyl | 4. 2-Naphthylamine |
| 5. 4-Aminodiphenyl ether | 6. p-Amino-p-aminodiphenyl ether |
| 7. p-Chloraniline | 8. p-Cresidine |
| 9. 5,6-Dibromo-1,2-naphthyl | 10. p,p'-Diamino diphenyl methane |
| 11. 5-Toluidine | 12. 3,3'-Dichloro benzidine |
| 13. 2,3-Dimethyl benzidine | 14. 2,2'-Oxydiphenyl |
| 15. 4,5-Dimethoxy benzidine | 16. p,p'-Diamino-3,3'-Dimethyl diphenyl methane |
| 17. 2,4,5-Trimethyl aniline | 18. p,p'-Thiodiphenyl |
| 19. 5,6-Diaminodiphenyl ether | 20. p,p'-Methylene bis-(2-chloroaniline) |

b. Demonstration of splitting of azo dyes to free amine



Scheme 1

question does not contain any of these azo dyes. Our textile sector is one of the major foreign exchange earner, and the ban on the export of undressed textile and other products started adversely affecting our export. The manufacturers of these goods, could ill afford the cost of this type of certification from abroad. They started storming PCSIR Laboratories, Lahore for necessary assistance. Under these compelling circumstances the methods for the qualitative and quantitative determination of benzidine and other forbidden amines have been assessed and reviewed.

Materials and Methods

Chromogenic spot test method. The format of chromatogenic and fluorogenic derivatives of certain aromatic amines as cancer suspect agents has allowed these compounds to be detected at very low levels through chemical spot tests.

The investigations of (Weeks Jr 1976) proceeded along two pathways, namely: (a) Chromogenic spot tests readily recognised by the unaided eye, (b) Formation of fluorescent derivatives made visible by irradiation with an ultraviolet light source. In both the cases, simplicity and sensitivity were prerequisite for the sampling and detector methods. To meet these requirements, various chemical reactions were tested with primary amines using Ehrlich's reagent (Feigl 1966; Yasuda 1975), dimethylaminocinnaraldehyde (Morrison and Boyd 1973), thionil (Feigl 1966), ethchlorvynol (Francis *et al.* 1973), fluorescamine (Udenfriend *et al.* 1972; Bobles *et al.* 1973; Ind *et al.* 1974; Sherna and Marzoni 1974), o-phthalaldehyde (Roh 1971; Troll and Rince 1975), zinc ceric ammonium nitrate (Kamliker and Joglekar 1979). Among these reactions several sensitive detection methods for the carcinogens of interest have been found and the conditions to achieve detection limits previously not accomplished with these compounds, i.e., nanogram quantities have been reported.

Jones (1973) described the behavior of each compound with more useful reagents for detection of amines and the reagents/reactions used were:

i) **Diazotization and coupling.** To elaborate this technique, the amino compound was diazotized with pertyl nitrite in acidic medium. The diazotized amine was then coupled with 2-naphthol in alkaline medium. Most of the diazotizing mixture worked affectively, but the dye formation was not satisfactory for the amines diazotized with high concentrations of acids. The problem was overcome by increasing the pH of the coupling agent. The colours of the dyes formed are given for mono and diamines (Damschroder and Peterson 1940; Sungen *et al.* 1975).

ii) **Vanillin.** Chromatograms run on TLC plates were dried and sprayed with freshly prepared 2% solution of Vanillin in n-propanol and heated at 110 °C for 10 min. The condensation product of amine and vanillin (at the aldehyde group) gave green yellow fluorescence under ultraviolet light. The colours produced by this technique were stable, but somewhat difficult to see when only trace amounts were present (Hais and Macer 1963).

iii) **Carbonate and folin-ciocalteu.** Chromatograms were sprayed with 20% aqueous sodium carbonate, dried, and sprayed with the folin-ciocalteu reagent diluted to one quarter strength with water. The blue coloured product was obtained due to the reduction of folin-ciocalteu reagent. The phosphotungstic/phosphomolybdic acid in the reagent was very unstable and decomposed quickly reacted with amine to bring about the rapid destruction of the reagent (Folin and Ciocalteu 1927).

iv) **Ferric ferricyanide.** Equal volumes of 0.1M aqueous ferric chloride and 0.1M aqueous potassium ferricyanide were mixed just before use and sprayed directly. Ferric ion reacts

blue coloured complex. The use of the reaction for the determination of amines was described (Gillie-Tos *et al* 1964).

v. *Diobromate sulphuric acid*. Compounds on the plates were sprayed with a solution of 5% potassium dichromate in 40% sulphuric acid. The oxidized products in the presence of amines gave different coloured products (Bertelli 1954).

vi) *Phenol hypochlorite*. The compounds on the plates were sprayed with 2% ethanoic phenol, followed by 0.2% sodium hypochlorite in aqueous sodium hydroxide to produce compounds in range to purple colours (Hais and Mack 1958).

vii) *Folin reagent*. The chromatograms were sprayed with freshly prepared solution of 0.02% sodium 1,2-naphthoquinone-4-sulphonate in 5% aqueous sodium carbonate and the chromatograms were heated at 115°C for 5 min. 1,2-naphthoquinone-4-sulphonate reacted in alkaline solution with amines by the removal of hydrogen and a deeply coloured paraquinoid condensation product resulted (Muting 1952; Stahl 1965).

viii) *2,3,5,6-Tetrachloroquinone*. The spray reagent consisted of 0.2% quinone in tetrachlorobenzene. The monosubstituted amino quinone was a blue or purple coloured product (Pires and Rosier 1971).

ix) *Phthalaldehyde*. Plates were sprayed with 1% phthalaldehyde in xylene and sealed at 110°C for 10 min. The amines reacted with *o*-phthalaldehyde as fluorogenic reagent to yield fluorescent products which were made visible by irradiation with an ultraviolet light (Turner and Wigham 1968).

Spectrometric determination. Qualitative and quantitative determinations by spectrophotometry are also included so as to detect and make allowance for the presence of other amines such as homologues or analogues of these amines. Everson *et al.* (1937) also reported the formation of a yellow colour when sodium hypochlorite reacts with amines in acid solution. On the other hand Pope *et al* (1966) used sodium perchlorate and the stable violet colour developed was measured photometrically at 523nm.

Diazotization and coupling method depends on the diazotization of amines and subsequent formation of a chloroform soluble azo dyestuff by coupling with different coupling agents such as *N*-(1-naphthyl) *N,N*-diethylethylenediamine, 2NCl (Saku and Kotaki 1964; Chetti *et al* 1968), *H*-acid (George and Keliher 1984), *J*-acid (Rameshchandra and Gupta 1992) and alpha-naphthol (Maslowka and Swat 1999). The absorption is measured between 570-575nm after 20-45 min for maximum colour development. It was noted that intensity of colour measured was proportional to the amine content in the sample. Chahand *et al* (1977) described a similar method for the determination of aromatic amines down to the ug range by coupling amine with 4-nitrophenyl diazonium ion. The azo dye obtained exhibited characteristic absorption maxima. Beer's law was found to obey up to 100ug

level. Similar method was reported by Bupt and Stafford (1936).

Levin *et al* (1967) described a new method for determining small quantities of some primary amines in which highly coloured intermediates form during the reaction with thiothiazyl chloride. Rapid colour development was achieved at room temperature over a bed of thiothiazyl chloride mixed with dry sand. Similar studies were made by Cohen *et al* (1960) who determined undiluted organic amines with thiothiazyl chloride to give highly coloured products.

Kawal and Singh (1973) devised a sensitive method for the determination of aromatic amines by reacting with acetyl chloride and ferric ion to produce a greenish violet coloured complex which was determined colorimetrically, where as Siegfried *et al* (1990) reacted amines with 1,10-phenanthroline and Fe(II) and the colour developed was measured spectrophotometrically at 515 nm.

Emth and Davis (1984) developed a colour reaction by reacting aromatic amines with chloranil or 2,3,5,6-tetrachlorobenzoquinone in dioxane/propyl alcohol (1:4) to produce a blue to purple colour. The colour reaction product was identified as a monoaminequinone in which the amine displaces one of the chlorine atoms of the chloranil.

Sawicki and Tomson (1966) reported a photometric detection of amines. To the test solution was added 2,5-dimethoxytetrahydrofuran (0.5% in acetic acid) and the colour was developed with dimethylaminobenzaldehyde solution and the absorbance was measured at λ_{max} against the reagent blank. Instead of benzaldehyde, derivative could also be used.

Chromatographic techniques. The mixtures of amines are more difficult to analyse by colour reactions but a semi-quantitative estimate can be made following separation with column chromatography (CC), paper chromatography (PC) and thinlayer chromatography (TLC) by comparing the intensities of individual spots with standards.

Dasenko and Pakkomev (1978) reported a method to determine diphenyl amine in the presence of primary aromatic amines by extraction followed by spectrophotometric analysis. The aqueous sample was placed on a column packed with finely dispersed Ph_2O which acted as a solid adsorbent for Ph_2NH . The column was washed with water and the diphenylamine was eluted with decane. The decane elute was treated with 0.01M $K_2Cr_2O_7$ -25% H_2SO_4 reagent and the diphenyl amine was determined in the aqueous phase by measuring the absorbance at 570nm.

Edward and Katarzyna (1978) investigated a stepwise gradient elution method in tanks for quaternary TLC. The isocratic and stepwise elution development was performed with 5% and 50% solution of methyl ethyl ketone in cyclohexane. The mixture could not be separated by isocratic development

but in stepwise elution the components formed separate spots on the chromatogram.

Nakanishi (1968) reported a method in which the fluorescence of dimethylaminobenzaldehyde and its application to separation and determination of some amines by PC were described, whereas Dixon and Groffman (1975) described the chromatographic properties of this aldehyde and cinnamaldehyde derivatives of some amines by TLC. Comparison of the positions and colours of spots in the sample with standards were tabulated. Confirmation of identity by spectrophotometric analysis was made in the range of 350-600nm. Tadeusz and Teresa (1979) also detected the amines on the chromatoplates by colour reaction with dimethylaminobenzaldehyde. The amines were separated by TLC and high pressure column chromatography (HPLC) by using Al_2O_3 as adsorbent and the solutions of polar solvents in a non polar diluent, as the mobile phase.

Legadi (1966) presented a selective detection of aromatic amines by PC by forming red or orange coloured derivatives of these amines with 2,4-dinitrofluorobenzene. The amines were detectable in lower concentration on filter paper impregnated with the reagent. Similarly Obtenperanskaya and Nagven (1979) used 2,4-dinitrobenzoyl chloride as the reagent for the determination of amines. The sulfenamides formed were determined photometrically at 640-50 nm after separation from other components by chromatography on Silufol plates. The optimum elution mixture consisted of benzene, ethyl alcohol, dimethyl ketone (1.3:7, respectively).

Trielem (1976) reported a sensitive detector of substances capable of coupling aromatic amines on Silical UV 254 films impregnated with 0.02% methanolic solution of 1,1'-diazu-4,4'-disulphobenzene. By UV irradiation the substrate compound was converted into the azo compound which reacted with the sample to give various brown spots. R_f values of amines obtained by using mixture of benzene and dimethyl ketone (80:20) and benzene and acetone (90:10) were reported. The separation of aromatic amines on TLC plates was improved by impregnating silica gel with picric acid (Ajmal *et al* 1990), Triton-X 100 (Fahria 1960), copper sulphate (Ali *et al* 1991), ammonium cerium (IV) nitrate (Sing and Mishra 1992) and asop. *Cepiel et al* (1979). The developing solvents used are cyclohexane-benzene mixtures as eluents (1:5). The method is rapid and useful for separating amines at micrograms as well as milligram levels.

New analytical techniques were reported which were based on the differential migration of coloured derivatives formed by the formed by the reaction of the diazotized amines with different positive components such as J-acid (Kralick and Reifler 1996), diazotized saffranic acid (Thelemann 1978) on silica gel G. Several analytical procedures are detailed where the use of TLC and the AMD (automated multiple development) unit developed by EMFA, St. Gallen, Switzerland etc. is detailed which employs TLC followed by

diazotization of the amines produced and subsequent coupling with N-(1-naphthyl)-ethylene diammonium chloride and the dyes produced are examined by colour tests and colorimetric analysis (Mefford *et al* 1977).

Gas and high performance liquid chromatography. Different gas chromatographic (GC), Gas liquid chromatographic (GLC) and High performance liquid chromatographic (HPLC) and Gas solid chromatography (GSC) techniques have been used to separate and identify carcinogenic amines.

Methods for the identification of carcinogenic amines by GC were reported by Antevens *et al* (1981), where the identification was made by determining the relative partition coefficients in binary systems of immiscible solvents and by Schulz and Palausenek (1988) who determined the substituted aromatic amines by capillary column GC with flame ionization (FI) or mass spectrometry (MS) detector. Or the other hand Eiceman reported the ion exchange packing with high temperature stability for GSC which was prepared with high temperature stable polymer and characterized in Co^{2+} form using aromatic amines. Silica gel glass beads were coated at 2% wt % with poly 2,6-diethyl-p-phenylene oxide which was then sulfonated and exchanged by using Co^{2+} (Eiceman 1982) whereas Jenkins *et al* (1981) separated and identified these amines by GLC respectively.

Pashkevich *et al* (1977) studied the sensitivity of an electron capture detector for the separation of aromatic amides of polyfluorocarboxylic acids by GC at 200°C on a glass column packed with 5% XE-50/Chromat-N-AW whereas Sopkova and Singlar (1984) studied the sorptive abilities of cyanuric complexes for the determination of aromatic amines. The thermal stability and sorption properties of transition metal complexes are reported in the latter work.

Svetlov *et al* (1984) investigated the permissible errors for retention indexes in the GC identification of burned amines. The reproducibility of retention indexes obtained on columns (with Apiezon L, Triton-X-305 and PEG-1000 as stationary phases) was investigated within a retention index range 500-1600. Similar investigations were reported by Rosac and Perina (1986) for standard organic compounds of environmental interest which were determined by GC/mass spectrometry (MS) using a DB-5 fused silica capillary column.

Keller *et al* (1973) reported a procedure utilizing HPLC for the separation and determination of picogram quantities of carcinogenic aromatic amines, whereas Narang *et al* (1982) described a rapid screening of aromatic amines by this technique accomplished on a cytopropyl bonded phase column with UV (254 nm) detection. Similar procedure was followed by Chung and Shung (1993) for trace determination of aromatic amines in dyesuff with online preconcentration and with a precolumn followed by HPLC with UV absorption detection. Many others investigations reported complementary TLC, GC and HPLC methods for the qualitative and quantitative deter-

minations of carcinogen; amines in dyestuffs and dye intermediates. The developing solvent system for the separation of mixture of amines are described. The column and conditions to separate the aromatic amine by GC and HPLC have also been given (Thideanani 1972; Jakovljevic et al 1975; Scruze et al 1975; Tomastil et al 1975).

Kometiani and Tbilisi (1974) presented a modification of the ultraviolet determination of aromatic amines as dansyl derivatives. Two dimensional chromatography in TLC of silica gel was used for microdetermination of dansyl derivatives of amines. The optical density of the spots was measured quantitatively on densitometer.

Potentiometric titrations. Kreshkov et al (1964) described potentiometric titration for the determination of basic amines in methyl cyanide with 0.1N HClO₄ in an organic solvent e.g. methyl ethyl ketone or mixture of chloroform and benzene. Aleran Kafkas (1966) followed a similar procedure with hydrochloric acid in 1, 3 propylene glycol chloroform mixture. Benzidine can also be determined in 1, 3 glacial acetic acid chloroform mixture by titrat or with HClO₄ with methyl violet as indicator.

Alein (1975) described potentiometric titrations where amines were determined by the automatic coupling of their solutions with 0.05 N diazobenzene-4-sulphonic acid followed by measurement of the redox potential at a pH electrode vs glass electrode.

Polarographic estimation. Inyat (1994) carried out studies on aromatic amines by polarography. Diazonium salt which was formed by diazotization of primary aromatic amines showed a sensitive polarographic wave at peak potential of 0.53 V in NH₄H₂C-NH₄Cl solution and the aromatic amines was thus determined. The influence of various substituting groups and substituting position on the sensitivity of the polarographic waves were discussed.

Selection of procedure in our laboratories. Different methods described in the preceding pages for determining banned azo amines in various industrial samples have their own merits and demerits depending upon the nature of samples being analysed, type of dyestuffs used and the extent of laboratory facilities available. We have been analysing the prohibited dyes used in textile and leather industries in our laboratories for the last many years to certify the export oriented products. We used most of the methods described which gave satisfactory results. For qualitative analysis we initially use Chromogenic Spot Test for the evaluation of various amines followed by spectrophotometric/ chromatographic analysis for their quantitative estimation. For spectrophotometric studies we make use of different reagents which provide coloured products and from them we select these reagents which give sharp and reproducible colours. The coloured products are visually assessed before their quantitative determination is made colorimetrically. Depend-

ing upon the nature of the sample, we also resort to different chromatographic techniques for the qualitative as well as quantitative determination of amines.

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