

# Aerobic and biomimetic activation of C-H bonds of phenols catalyzed by copper-amine complexes

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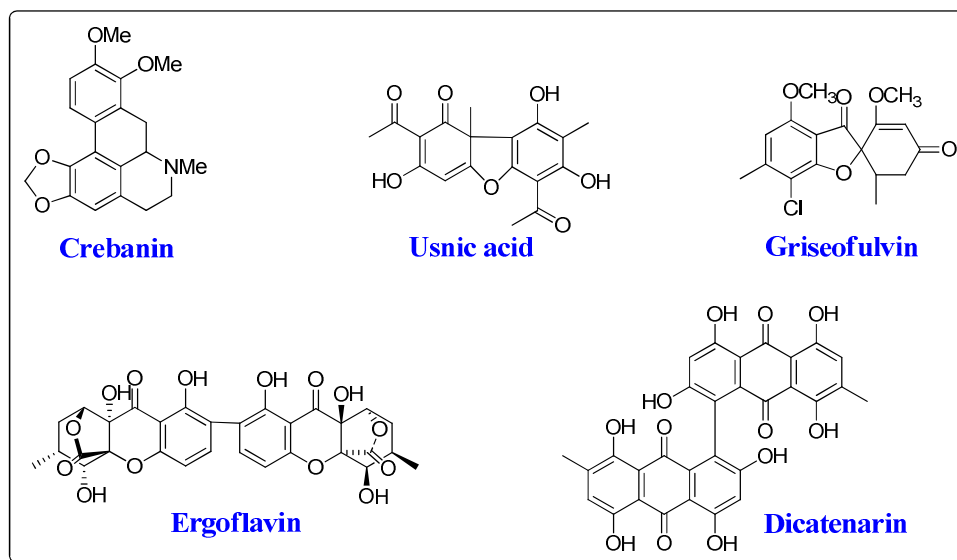
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# Introduction

Some products formed by oxidative coupling of phenols



**Biomimetic phenol couplings studied by D.H.R. Barton and A.R. Battersby since 1950.**

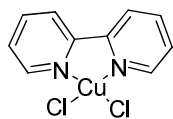
Oxidases  
(Laccase or Tyrosinase) → Copper-amine model catalysts → CuCl(OH) TMEDA

W. I. Taylor, A. R. Battersby, D. H. R. Barton, T. Cohen, *Festschrift Arthur Stoll.*, Birkhauser, Basel **1957**, 117–143.

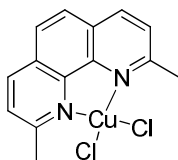
# Preparation of the complexes

## Copper complexes

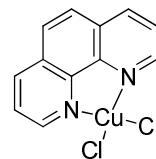
**CuCl<sub>2</sub>**



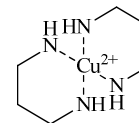
**CuCl(phen)**



**CuCl(neocup)**

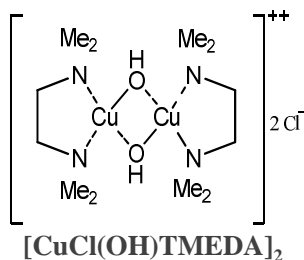


**CuCl(bipy)**

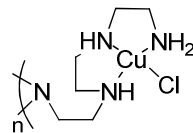


**CuCl<sub>2</sub>- Bis(1,3-propanediamine)**

**CuCl**

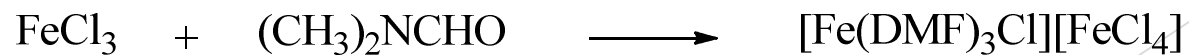


**[CuCl(OH)TMEDA]<sub>2</sub>**



**Cu(I)/PEI**

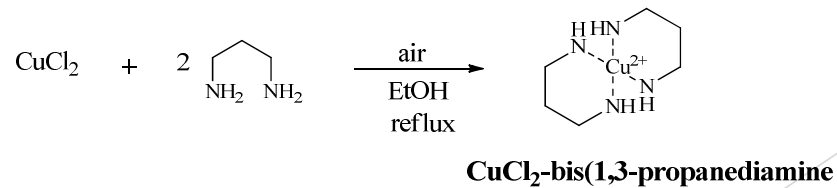
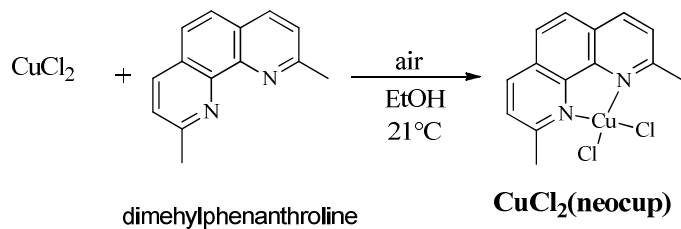
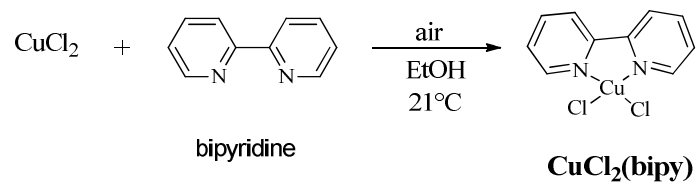
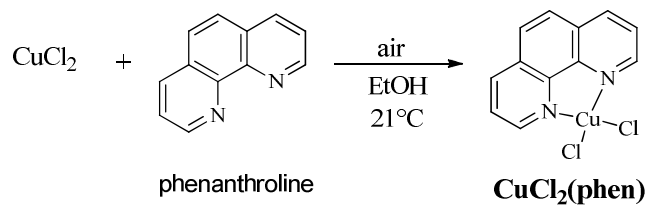
## Iron complex:



# Preparation of the complexes

## Copper complexes

### a) $\text{CuCl}_2$

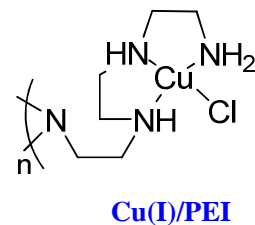
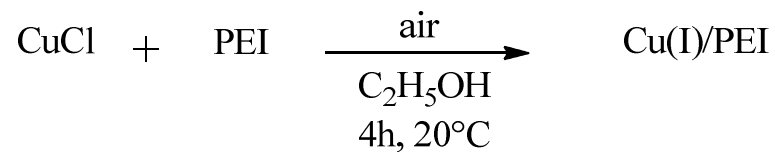
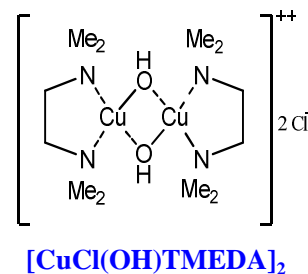
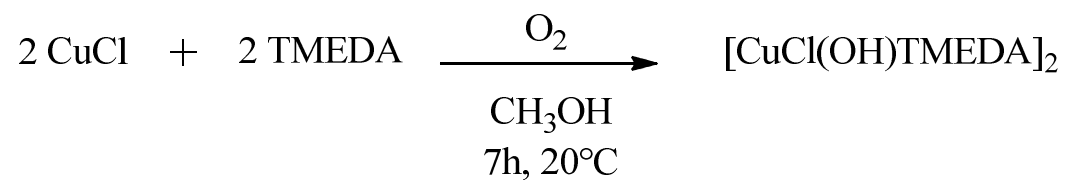




# Preparation of the complexes

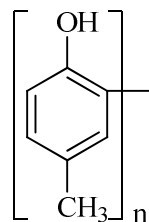
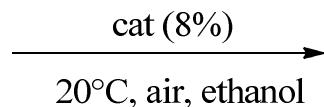
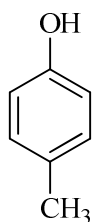
## Copper complexes

### b) CuCl



# Oxidative coupling of the phenol

para-cresol

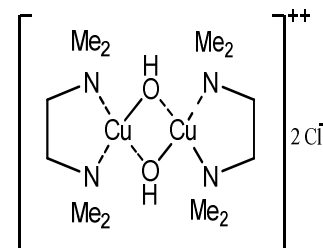


(n=2)  
(n= 3, 4, 5)

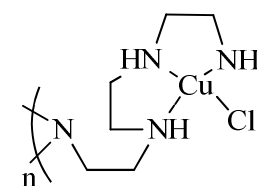
**Oxidation conditions:**

Phenol/Cu (100/8)  
Phenol/Fe (100/8)  
Room temperature(20°C),  
EtOH, 120h.

Complexe	Rdt (%)
<b>CuCl(OH).TMEDA</b>	<b>71</b>
Cu(I)/PEI	31
CuCl(phen)	17
CuCl(neocup)	39
CuCl(bipy)	9
CuCl <sub>2</sub> - Bis(1,3-propanediamine)	41
[Fe(DMF) <sub>3</sub> Cl][FeCl <sub>4</sub> ]	63



**[CuCl(OH)TMEDA]<sub>2</sub>**



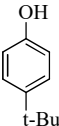
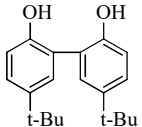
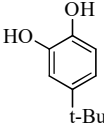
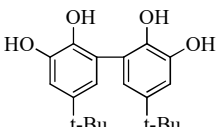
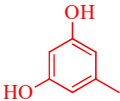
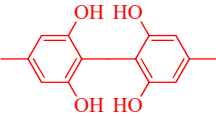
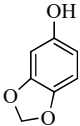
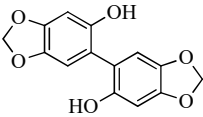
**Cu(I)/PEI**

S. E. Allen, R. R. Walvoord, R. Padilla-Salinas, M. C. Kozlowski, **Aerobic Copper-Catalyzed Organic Reactions**, *Chem. Rev.* **2013**, 113, 6234–6458 ; [doi :10.1021/cr300527g](https://doi.org/10.1021/cr300527g)

# Oxidative coupling of the phenol

## ➤ Oxidation of phenols in the presence of $[\text{CuCl}(\text{OH})(\text{TMEDA})]_2$

### ortho-ortho coupling

Reagent	Product	Yield(%)
		63
		67
		80
		48

Substrate: the para position is blocked or difficult to access

↓  
Couplage ortho-ortho coupling

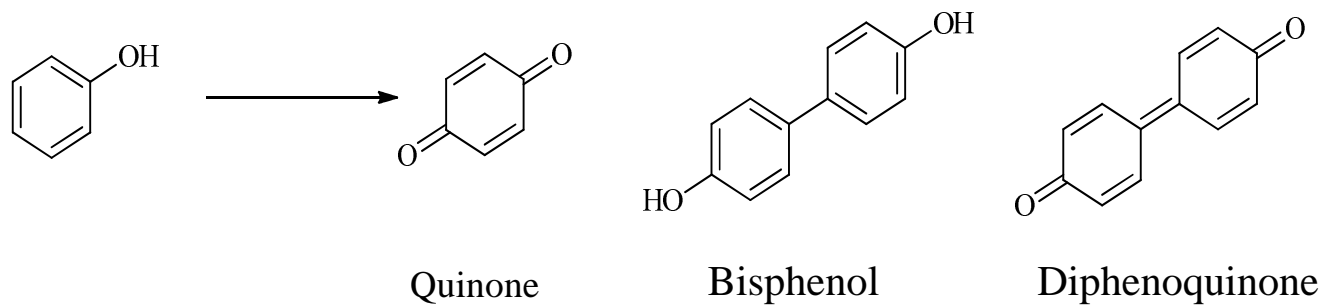
### Oxidation conditions:

- Phenol/Cu (100/8)
- 21 °C
- EtOH
- 96h.

## Oxidative coupling of the phenol

### ➤ Oxidation of the phenols in presence of $[\text{CuCl}(\text{OH})(\text{TMEDA})]_2$

- **Para-para** coupling

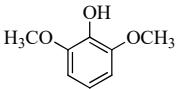
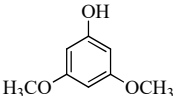


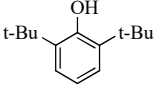
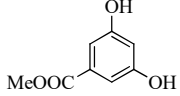
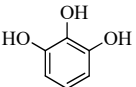




# Oxidative para-para coupling of phenols

## ➤ Oxidation of phenol in the presence of CuCl(OH)(TMEDA)

### para-para coupling

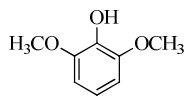
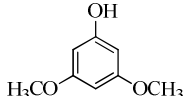


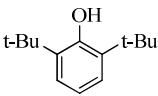
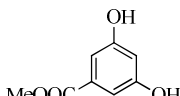
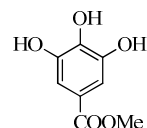
Reagent	Yield(%) Quinone	Yield(%) Bisphenol	Yield(%) Diphenoquinone
	0	0	53
	<b>16</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>0</b>
	0	15	41
	0	0	<b>87</b>
	0	0	<b>99</b>
	0	0	0
	0	0	0

### Oxidation conditions

- Phenol / Cu (100 / 8)
- Room temperature 21°C
- EtOH
- 96 h.

# Oxidative para-para coupling of phenols

## ➤ Oxidation of phenols in the présence of Cu(I)/PEI

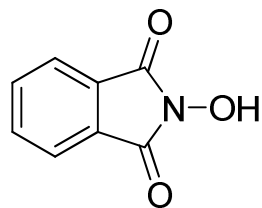
Reagent	Yield (%) Quinone	Yield(%)Bisphenol	Yield (%) Diphenoquinone
	0	0	53
	<b>16</b>	<b>75</b>	0
	0	15	41
	0	0	<b>87</b>
	0	0	<b>99</b>
	0	0	0
	0	0	0

### Oxidation conditions:

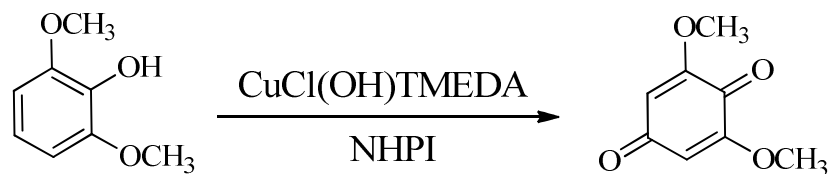
- Phenol / Cu (100 / 3.75) (1.5mL)
- Room temperature
- EtOH
- 120 h.

# Oxidation of phenols

## ➤ Oxidation of phenols in the presence of NHPI: formation of quinone



NHPI = *N*-hydroxyphthalimide



Solvent	Temperature (°C)	Yield (%)
EtOH	21	16
EtOH	70	27
CH <sub>3</sub> CN	21	32
<b>CH<sub>3</sub>CN</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>92</b>

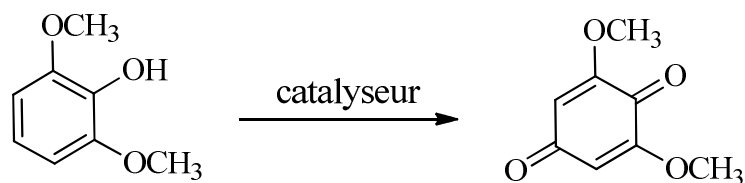
### Oxidation conditions:

- Phenol/Cu/NHPI (100/8/10)
- 96 h.

***Best conditions for formation of *p*-quinone***  
70°C in acetonitrile

# Oxidation of phenols

## ➤ Oxidation of phenols in the presence of NHPI



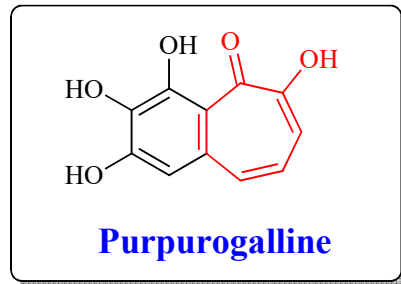
Catalyst	Yield (%)
<b>CuCl(OH)TMEDA</b>	<b>92</b>
Cu(I)/PEI	0
CuCl <sub>2</sub> (neocup)	0
[Fe(DMF) <sub>3</sub> Cl][FeCl <sub>4</sub> ]	0

## Oxidation conditions :

- Phenol/Cu/NHPI (100/8/10)
- Phenol/Fe/NHPI (100/8/10)
- 70°C
- CH<sub>3</sub>CN
- 96 h



# Synthesis of purpurogallin from pyrogallol

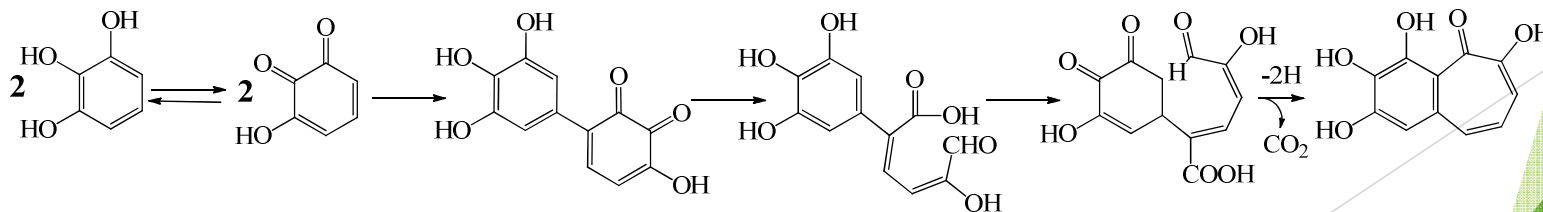


Purpurogallin:  
✓ naturel red dye  
✓ tropolone

## Synthesis of purpurogallin by oxidation :

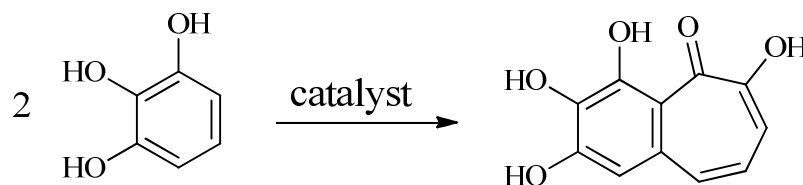
- ✓ Stoichiometric oxidation ( $\text{KIO}_3$ )
- ✓ Oxidases : laccase, tyrosinase, peroxidase

### *Mechanism according to Haworth*



## Synthesis of purpurogallin from pyrogallol

### ■ Synthesis of Purpurogallin by aerobic oxidation like Laccase



Catalyst	Solvent	T (°C)	Yield(%)
CuCl(OH)TMEDA <sup>a</sup>	EtOH	20	43
Cu(I)/PEI <sup>b</sup>	EtOH	20	0
CuCl(OH)TMEDA / NHPI <sup>c</sup>	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	70	0

#### Conditions :

[a] Phenol/Cu (100/8), 20°C, EtOH, 96h

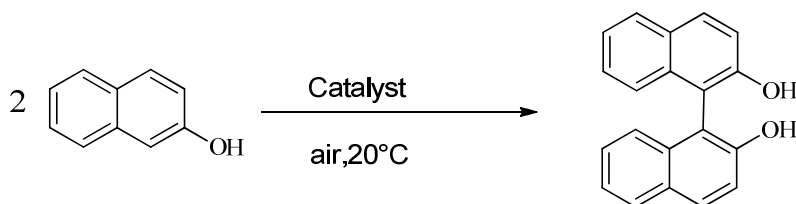
[b] Phenol/Cu(I)/(100/3.75) (1.5 mL), 20°C, EtOH, 96h

[c] Phenol/Cu/NHPI (100/8/10), 70°C, CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 96 h

S. Dib ; D. Villemin; A. Hamhami; B. Mostefa-Kara; N. Bar; M. Dekhici ; N. Cheikh, **On the green catalytic synthesis of Purpurogallin**, *Rev. Roum. Chim.*, 2020, 65(12), 1153-1157, doi: [10.33224/rrch.2020.65.12.1](https://doi.org/10.33224/rrch.2020.65.12.1).

# Oxidation of 2-naphthols and analogues

## ➤ Oxidation of 2-naphthols



Catalyst	Solvent	T (°C)	Yield (%)
<b>CuCl(OH)TMEDA<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>EtOH</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>86</b>
CuCl(OH)TMEDA / NHPI <sup>b</sup>	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	70	43
Cu(I)/PEI <sup>c</sup>	EtOH	21	77
CuCl <sub>2</sub> (phen) <sup>a</sup>	EtOH	21	29
CuCl <sub>2</sub> (neocup) <sup>a</sup>	EtOH	21	31
CuCl <sub>2</sub> (bipy) <sup>a</sup>	EtOH	21	traces
CuCl <sub>2</sub> -Bis(1,3-propanediamine) <sup>a</sup>	EtOH	21	71
[Fe(DMF) <sub>3</sub> Cl][FeCl <sub>4</sub> ] <sup>a</sup>	EtOH	21	55

### Oxidative conditions:

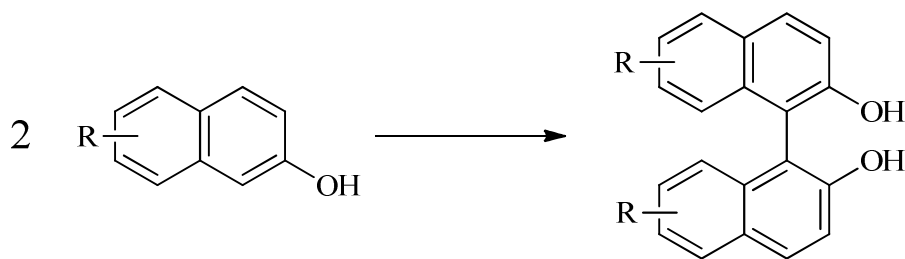
[a] naphthol/catalyst (100/8), 96h.

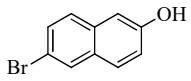
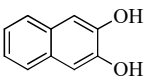
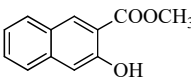
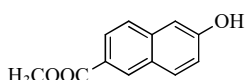
[b] naphthol/catalyst ( /NHPI (100/8/10), 96 h.

[c] naphthol/catalyst ( (100/3.75) (1.5 mL), 96h.

# Oxydation des 2-naphtols et analogues

## ➤ Oxidation of naphthols



Reagent	$[\text{CuCl}(\text{OH})\text{TMEDA}]_2^{\text{a}}$		$[\text{CuCl}(\text{OH})\text{TMEDA}]_2/\text{NHPI}^{\text{b}}$	
	t (h)	Yield (%)	t (h)	Yield (%)
	96	80	96	43
	96	67	96	0
	24	85	96	31
	24	<b>99</b>	96	<b>49</b>

### Conditions :

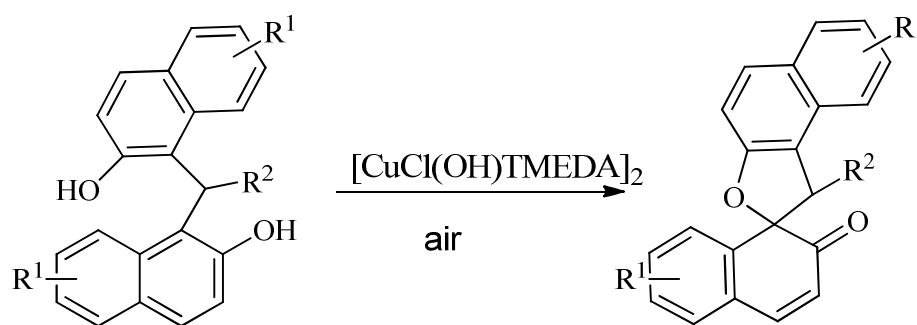
[a] naphthol/Cu (100/8), 21°C, EtOH,

[b] naphthol/Cu/NHPI (100/8/10), 70°C, CH<sub>3</sub>CN,



## Oxidation of methylenebinaphthols and benzylidenebinaphthols

### ➤ Oxidation of methylenebinaphthols and benzylidenebinaphthols



### Oxidative conditions:

- ▶ Phenol/Cu (100/8)
  - ▶ Air
  - ▶ Room temperature (21 °C)
  - ▶ Solvent
  - ▶ Time (48 h)
- Creation of C-O bond
  - Desaromatisation
  - Green conditions

M. Dekhici ; S. Plihon, N. Bar ; D. Villemin ; H. Elsiblani ; N. Cheikh, **Aerobic Copper Catalytic Oxidation of Methylene and Arylidenebinaphthols: A Green and Efficient Synthesis of Spironaphthalenones**, *ChemistrySelect*, 2019, 4, 705 - 708 ; doi: [10.1002/slct.201803153](https://doi.org/10.1002/slct.201803153)