Experiment Twelve

Hydrolysis of P-nitroacetanilide

Like simple amides, substituted amides undergo hydrolysis, the product are the acid and the amine although one or the other is obtained as its salt, depending upon the acidity or alkalinity of the medium:

To prepare P-nitroaniline we should follow the steps as shown below:

General Equation:

$$\begin{array}{c}
O \\
NH-C-CH_3 \\
\hline
H_2O \\
\hline
H_2SO_4
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
O \\
NH_3 \\
\hline
NO_2
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
O \\
NO_2
\end{array}$$

Mechanism:

$$O_{2}N \longrightarrow \begin{array}{c} H & O \\ \hline \\ N \longrightarrow C - CH_{3} \\ \hline \\ O_{2}N \longrightarrow \begin{array}{c} H & OH \\ \hline \\ N \longrightarrow C - CH_{3} \\ \hline \\ O_{2}N \longrightarrow \begin{array}{c} H & OH \\ \hline \\ N \longrightarrow C - CH_{3} \\ \hline \\ O_{2}N \longrightarrow \begin{array}{c} H & OH \\ \hline \\ N \longrightarrow C - CH_{3} \\ \hline \\ N \longrightarrow C$$

Experimental part:

- **1.** In (100ml) round bottomed flask, a mixture of (0.75 gm.) of p-nitroacetanilide, (3.5 ml) of sulfuric acid (30 %) refluxed with stirring for half hour until the mixture become clear.
- 2. The mixture is poured onto 100 ml ice cooled water and justified with (10 % NaOH) until the precipitate is formed
- **3.** The precipitate is filtered and dried.
- **4.** The product is weighed and the percentage of yield is calculated