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Kinetics and Mechanistic Study of Oxidation of 1-Phenylethanols by N-Bromophthalimide in Aqueous Acetic acid

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ABSTRACT

Kinetic investigations of oxidation of 1-Phenylethanol and substituted 1-Phenylethanols by Nbromophthalimide (NBP) in aqueous acetic acid medium in presence of mercuric (II) acetate as a scavenger have been studied spectrophotometrically. Oxidation kinetics of 1-Phenylethanols by NBP shows a first order dependence on NBP and fractional order on 1-Phenylethanol. The variation of ionic strength, $Hg(OAC)_2$, H^+ and phthalimide (reaction product) have insignificant effect on reaction rate. Activation parameters for the reaction have been evaluated from Arrhenius plot by studying the reaction at different temperatures. A mechanism involving transfer of hydride ion in rate determining step is suggested.

Keywords: Kinetics, Oxidation, 1-Phenylethanol, N-bromophthalimide.