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DNA Cleavage Activity of Diazonium Salts: Chemical Nucleases

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Abstract: 4-Fenoldiazonium tetrafluoroborate and 4-benzoicaciddiazonium tetrafluoroborate was prepared and was shown to be an effective DNA cleavage agent in the presence of the 1-electron donor copper(II) chloride. Its mechanism involves the generation of the aryl radical cleaving DNA by hydrogen atom abstraction from deoxyribose sugar.

Key Words: Aryl radicals, diazonium salts, DNA cleavage

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