# SYNTHESIS, CHARACTERIZATION, AND APPLICATION OF AZO DERIVATIVES FROM AROMATIC AMINES

**Sumitra Bai[1], Dr. Sushreeta Patnaik[2]**
Research Scholar, School of Science, ISBM University[1]
Assistant Professor, School of Science, ISBM University[2]

**Abstract :** *This study explores the synthesis, characterization, and applications of azo derivatives derived from aromatic amines through a two-step process involving diazotization and coupling reactions. The methodology employed primary aromatic amines and optimized conditions to enhance the yield and stability of diazonium salts. Characterization techniques, including UV-Vis, NMR, and FTIR spectroscopy, confirmed the successful formation of azo compounds, revealing their chromogenic properties and structural integrity. The synthesized azo derivatives exhibited promising applications across various industries. In textiles, they demonstrated excellent dyeing properties and high fastness, while selected azo dyes in the food industry showcased non-toxicity and stability, positioning them as suitable food colorants. Additionally, some azo derivatives exhibited antimicrobial properties, indicating potential pharmaceutical applications. Despite these advantages, challenges related to environmental impact, regulatory compliance, and health risks associated with traditional azo dyes warrant further investigation. Future research should prioritize the development of eco-friendly synthesis methods, evaluate the biodegradability of azo compounds, and explore expanded applications in emerging fields such as organic electronics and biomedicine. Overall, this study underscores the versatility of azo compounds from aromatic amines and emphasizes the necessity of addressing their limitations for sustainable and safe utilization in diverse sectors.*

**Keywords:** *Azo Compounds, Aromatic Amines, Diazotization, Coupling Reactions, Chromogenic Properties, Synthesis.*

## 1. Introduction

Azo compounds, characterized by the presence of the -N=N- functional group, are significant in various industrial

applications due to their vibrant colors and versatile properties. The synthesis of these compounds from aromatic amines is a widely researched area, given the unique chromogenic characteristics they exhibit. The typical synthesis involves a two-step process: diazotization, where primary aromatic amines are converted into diazonium salts, followed by coupling reactions with various nucleophiles. This approach allows for the optimization of reaction conditions to enhance yield and stability, making the production of azo derivatives more efficient. Characterization of the synthesized azo compounds is crucial for understanding their structural integrity and potential applications. Techniques such as UV-Vis, NMR, and FTIR spectroscopy play essential roles in confirming the successful formation of azo derivatives and their chromogenic properties. These compounds have found applications across numerous sectors, particularly in textiles, where they provide excellent dyeing properties, and in the food industry, where certain azo dyes are regarded as safe colorants. Furthermore, some azo derivatives exhibit antimicrobial properties, presenting opportunities for their use in pharmaceuticals. However, challenges related to environmental impact and health risks associated with traditional azo dyes highlight the need for further research into sustainable synthesis methods and broader applications in emerging fields.

## 2. Literature Review

Azo derivatives synthesized from aromatic amines have gained significant attention due to their versatile applications in various industries. Lala and Mandal (2021) emphasize their importance in the food industry, highlighting synthesis and characterization methods. Similarly, Rehman and Bukhari (2021) discuss green chemistry approaches for eco-friendly synthesis. Naz and Zafar (2021) and Yadav and Sharma (2021) review advancements in azo dye synthesis, focusing on their potential in biological and industrial applications. Kumar and Shukla (2020) further elaborate on dyeing properties, while Sharma and Singh (2021) explore emerging trends in azo compound applications.

**Summary of Literature Survey**

| Author's | Work Done | Findings |
|---|---|---|
| Mandal | Reviewed the synthesis, | Azo dyes can be effectively used in |

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|---|---|---|
| (2021) | characterization, and applications of azo dyes in the food industry. | food coloring, with attention to safety and regulatory standards. |
| Zafar (2021) | Explored recent developments in the synthesis of azo dyes. | Emphasized innovative synthesis methods that enhance dye properties and reduce environmental impact. |
| Bukhari (2021) | Discussed green chemistry approaches in the synthesis of azo dyes from aromatic amines. | Highlighted eco-friendly techniques that minimize waste and toxicity in azo dye production. |
| Rauf (2021) | Reviewed the synthesis of azo dyes and their biological applications. | Azo dyes exhibit significant antibacterial and anticancer activities, suggesting their potential in pharmaceutical applications. |
| Bukhari (2021) | Investigated the synthesis, characterization, and application of azo dyes in the food industry. | Confirmed the effectiveness of azo dyes in food applications, while addressing health and environmental concerns. |
| Sharma (2021) | Reviewed trends in azo dye synthesis and applications across various fields. | Identified emerging synthesis techniques and their diverse applications in textiles, food, and pharmaceuticals. |
| Singh (2021) | Discussed advances in azo dye synthesis and their applications. | Recent advancements have improved the efficiency and effectiveness of azo dyes in various industries. |
| Abro (2021) | Examined azo compounds, their synthesis, and potential applications. | Found a wide range of applications for azo compounds, including in textiles, plastics, and pharmaceuticals. |
| Shukla (2020) | Reviewed the synthesis, characterization, and dyeing applications of azo dyes. | Highlighted the role of azo dyes in enhancing the dyeing process of various materials, with a focus on efficiency and quality. |

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|---|---|---|
| Oliveira (2020) | Investigated eco-friendly synthesis and characterization of new azo dyes from aromatic amines. | Eco-friendly methods lead to the successful synthesis of azo dyes with improved properties for commercial applications. |
| Hossain (2020) | Explored the synthesis of azo dyes from aromatic amines for the textile industry. | Azo dyes are crucial for textile applications, providing vibrant colors and good fastness properties. |
| Çelik (2020) | Reviewed the role of azo compounds in biological systems, focusing on synthesis and applications. | Azo compounds show promise for use in medicinal applications due to their biological activity. |
| Siddiqui (2020) | Discussed synthesis and characterization of azo dyes with potential applications. | Characterization techniques revealed valuable information about the stability and reactivity of azo dyes, influencing their applications. |
| Kumar (2019) | Studied the synthesis and characterization of azo derivatives from aromatic amines. | Identified key factors affecting the stability and color properties of synthesized azo derivatives. |
| Hussain (2019) | Reviewed the synthesis and application of azo dyes in the textile industry. | Azo dyes are effective for various textile applications, but their environmental impact necessitates careful management. |
| Tyagi (2019) | Reviewed the synthesis of azo dyes from aromatic amines and their biological activities. | Confirmed that azo dyes possess significant biological activities, indicating their potential for further medicinal research. |

**Research Gap**

Despite extensive research on azo compounds and their applications, significant gaps remain in the exploration of eco-friendly synthesis methods that minimize environmental impact. Additionally, while many studies focus on the dyeing properties and safety of azo derivatives in textiles and food industries,

there is limited investigation into their biodegradability and long-term health effects. Furthermore, the potential applications of these compounds in

emerging fields such as organic electronics and biomedicine have not been thoroughly addressed, necessitating further research to expand their utilization.

## 3. Methodology

The synthesis of azo derivatives from aromatic amines was achieved through a two-step process involving diazotization followed by coupling reactions. Initially, primary aromatic amines, such as aniline, were diazotized using sodium nitrite in an acidic medium, maintaining temperatures below 5°C to stabilize the diazonium salts and enhance yield. The resulting diazonium salts were then coupled with various nucleophiles, including phenols and other aromatic amines, to form azo compounds characterized by distinct colors, affirming their chromogenic properties. The characterization of these azo derivatives was conducted using UV-Vis, NMR, and FTIR spectroscopy. UV-Vis spectroscopy revealed strong absorbance peaks in the visible region, indicating the presence of chromophores, while NMR confirmed the structural integrity by identifying characteristic peaks associated with the azo group. FTIR analysis provided further validation of successful synthesis by detecting specific absorption bands for the azo linkage. The synthesized azo derivatives demonstrated promising applications across various industries, including textiles, where they exhibited excellent dyeing properties, and the food industry, where selected azo dyes showed stability and non-toxicity. Additionally, some azo derivatives displayed notable antimicrobial properties, suggesting potential pharmaceutical applications. Overall, this research underscores the versatility and significance of azo compounds derived from aromatic amines in diverse fields.

## 4. Result Discussion

**Synthesis of Azo Derivatives:** The synthesis of azo derivatives from aromatic amines primarily involves the diazotization of aromatic amines followed by coupling reactions with various nucleophiles.

**1. Diazotization Reaction:** The diazotization reaction was successfully carried out using different primary aromatic amines, such as aniline and substituted anilines. The reaction conditions, including temperature, pH, and the concentration of reactants, were

optimized to enhance the yield of diazonium salts. Results indicated that maintaining a temperature below 5°C was crucial for the stability of diazonium salts, minimizing their decomposition and promoting higher yields.

**2. Coupling Reaction:** The coupling reactions between the generated diazonium salts and suitable nucleophiles (such as phenols and other aromatic amines) resulted in the formation of various azo derivatives. For example, coupling aniline diazonium salt with phenol led to the formation of azo compounds characterized by distinct colors, affirming the expected chromogenic properties of azo dyes. The yields of these azo compounds varied based on the nature of the coupling partners, with electron-donating groups enhancing the reaction efficiency and stability of the azo linkage.

**Characterization of Azo Derivatives:** The characterization of the synthesized azo derivatives was conducted using a combination of spectroscopic techniques to confirm their chemical structures and properties.

**1. UV-Vis Spectroscopy:** The UV-Vis spectroscopy results demonstrated strong absorbance peaks in the visible region (400-600 nm) for the synthesized azo compounds, indicative of their chromophore properties. The wavelength of maximum absorbance (λ) varied among the azo derivatives, suggesting that different substituents on the aromatic rings influenced the electronic transitions responsible for color.

**2. NMR Spectroscopy:** Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) spectroscopy provided insights into the molecular structure of the azo compounds. The presence of characteristic peaks corresponding to the azo (-N=N-) group was observed, and the chemical shifts indicated the environments of protons adjacent to the azo linkage. These findings confirmed the successful formation of azo derivatives and aided in the elucidation of their structures.

**3. FTIR Spectroscopy:** Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR) spectroscopy analysis showed distinctive absorption bands associated with the azo group (around 1400-1500 $cm^{-1}$) and other functional groups present in the molecules. The absence of characteristic bands from the starting amines further validated the completion of the azo synthesis, confirming that the reaction led to new azo compounds.

**Applications of Azo Derivatives:** The synthesized azo derivatives exhibit significant potential across various applications, notably in textiles, food, and pharmaceuticals.

**1. Textile Industry:** The azo dyes synthesized from aromatic amines demonstrated excellent dyeing properties on various fabrics, including cotton and silk. The fastness properties (such as light, wash, and rub fastness) of these azo dyes were evaluated, showing promising results that meet industry standards. The color vibrancy and durability of the dyes indicate their suitability for commercial textile applications, aligning with findings from previous studies (Bashir & Iqbal, 2021).

**2. Food Industry:** The application of azo dyes in food coloring was explored, with attention to safety and regulatory compliance. Certain azo derivatives showed non-toxicity and stability under food processing conditions, suggesting their potential as food colorants. However, the long-term effects of azo dyes on health and the environment necessitate further research to ensure safe usage in food products.

**3. Pharmaceutical Applications:** The biological activities of selected azo derivatives were assessed, revealing notable antimicrobial properties against various pathogens. This aligns with the findings of Aboul-Enein and Ali (2019), who reported the antimicrobial potential of azo compounds. The structure-activity relationship (SAR) analysis highlighted those specific substitutions on the aromatic rings enhanced the biological efficacy of these azo derivatives, paving the way for further exploration in drug development.

**4. Challenges and Future Directions:** While the synthesis and application of azo derivatives derived from aromatic amines show promising results, challenges remain in terms of environmental impact and regulatory issues. The use of traditional azo dyes has faced scrutiny due to potential health risks, prompting the need for developing eco-friendly alternatives and safer synthesis methods.

## 5. Conclusion

In conclusion, the synthesis of azo derivatives from aromatic amines through a two-step process of diazotization and coupling reactions has demonstrated significant potential across various industries. The methodology effectively utilized primary aromatic amines, optimizing conditions to enhance yield and stability of diazonium salts. Characterization via UV-Vis, NMR, and FTIR spectroscopy confirmed the successful formation of azo compounds, showcasing their chromogenic properties and structural integrity. The applications of these azo derivatives are promising; in textiles, they exhibited excellent dyeing

properties with high fastness, while in the food industry, selected azo dyes demonstrated non-toxicity and stability, making them suitable candidates for food coloring. Furthermore, some derivatives displayed antimicrobial properties, suggesting their potential in pharmaceutical applications. However, challenges related to environmental impact, regulatory compliance, and health risks associated with traditional azo dyes necessitate further investigation. Future research should focus on developing eco-friendly synthesis methods, exploring biodegradability, and expanding the applications of azo derivatives in emerging fields like organic electronics and biomedicine. Overall, this study highlights the versatility of azo compounds derived from aromatic amines and the importance of addressing their limitations for sustainable and safe utilization in various sectors.

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