Amino Acid Detection Using 1,8-Diazafluoren-9-One and Analogs

Kevin D. Crawford
*Illinois Wesleyan University*

Forrest J. Frank, Faculty Advisor
*Illinois Wesleyan University*

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The newest reagent for the detection of the amino acids present in latent fingerprints is 1,8-diazafluoren-9-one (1). However, the fluorescence observed with this compound is sometimes obscured by the fluorescence of certain papers. Thus, several analogs have been synthesized by other researchers (2-7) in an attempt to find a better reagent. This research investigates the UV-visible and fluorescence properties of the reaction products of these compounds with amino acids both in solution and on paper.