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Syntheses and Configurations of Some Thiomorpholide S-Oxides, Trithiozine Metabolites

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Two metabolites of trithiozine, namely 4-(3,5-dimethoxy-4-hydroxythiobenzoyl)morpholine S-oxide (2a) and 4-(3,4,5-trimethoxythiobenzoyl)morpholine S-oxide (2b), were synthesized by oxidation of the thioamides 1a, b or, in the case of 2b, by reaction of E- and Z-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)(methyl-thio)sulfine (4) with morpholine. Both procedures afford the compounds 2a, b as single isomers having the same configuration at the sulfine group. The NMR behaviour of the aromatic ortho protons of 2b, when compared to that of other aromatic sulfines with known structures in the presence of lanthanide shift reagents, supports the Z-configuration.

Synthese und Konfiguration von einigen Thiomorpholid- S-Oxiden, Stoffwechselprodukten des Trithiozins

Zwei Stoffwechselprodukte des Trithiozins, nämlich 4-(3,5-Dimethoxy-4-hydroxy-thiobenzoyl)morpholin-S-oxid (2a) und 4-(3,4,5-Trimethoxythiobenzoyl)morpholin-S-oxid (2b) wurden durch

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Oxidation der entsprechenden Thioamide **1a**, **b** oder, im Fall des **2b**, durch Reaktion von E- und Z-3,4,5-Trimethoxyphenyl-methylthiosulfin (4) mit Morpholin synthetisiert. Die beiden synthetischen Verfahren ergeben die Verbindungen **2a**, **b** als Isomere mit der gleichen Konfiguration der Sulfin Gruppe.

Das NMR Verhalten der ortho aromatischen Protonen von **2b** im Vergleich zu denjenigen anderer aromatischer Sulfine bekannter Struktur in Gegenwart von Lanthaniden Shift-Reagenzien ergibt die Z-Konfiguration.

Previous metabolic studies^{1a,b)} on trithiozine (1b), a new antisecretory and antiulcer drug^{1c)}, showed, among others metabolites, the formation of 4-(3,5-dimethoxy-4-hydroxythiobenzoyl)morpholine S-oxide (2a) and <math>4-(3,4,5-trimethoxythiobenzoyl)morpholine S-oxide (2b) (Scheme 1).



Scheme 1: Synthesis of thiomorpholide S-oxides 2a, b.

These compounds may be regarded as aminosulfines, whose bent heterocumulenic system may assume the E and Z configurations. Both isomers were already isolated for chlorosulfines²¹, alkylthiosulfines³¹ and aromatic sulfines⁴¹.

Oxidation of N-unsubstituted and N-monosubstituted thioamides affords the corresponding S-oxides in the Z configuration, owing to hydrogen bonding stabilization between the sulfine oxygen and the amide hydrogen⁵. The spatial configuration of N,N-disubstituted thioamide S-oxides, so far prepared^{6.7}, has not been reported.

The present work deals with the synthesis and the configuration assignment of metabolites **2a**, **b** by means of lanthanide NMR shift reagents.

Oxidation of thioamides $1a^{8}$ and 1b with monoperphthalic acid in dichloromethane (method A) or with hydrogen peroxide in acetic acid (method B) afforded the corresponding S-oxides 2a, b. The analogues 6 and 8 were also synthesized (Table 1) as reference standards from thiobenzoylpiperidine $(5)^{9}$ and thiobenzoylmorpholine $(7)^{10}$ according to method B. The formation of only one of the two possible isomers was established by chromatography and NMR spectroscopy. Since mild methylation of 2a with diazomethane afforded 2b, the oxidation of 1a and 1b seems to proceed with the same stereochemistry.

To obtain both E and Z isomers of **2b**, an alternative synthesis was undertaken. Methyl 3,4,5-trimethoxydithiobenzoate (3)* was oxidized with 3-chloroperbenzoic acid (m-CPBA) and a mixture of E- and Z-3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl methylthio sulfines (4) was obtained. The stereoisomers were then separated by silica gel chromatography. However, reaction of sulfines 4-E and 4-Z with morpholine, afforded only the same isomer **2b**. Since this condensation is slow (especially in the case of 4-Z) and the resulting thioamide S-oxide is instable^{1a,6)} in the reaction medium, **2b** is obtained in poor yield along with its decomposition products: thioamide **1b** and 4-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzoyl)morpholine. Thioamide S-oxides **2a**, **b** as well as dithioester S-oxides **4** can be stored without appreciable degradation only at low temperature. For this reason, compounds **2** and **4** were purified by column chromatography and thermal procedures were avoided. Purity was checked by TLC and, in the case of **2b**, also by HPLC¹¹.

The configuration of compound **2b** has been defined on the basis of the changes in the NMR chemical shifts of phenyl and morpholine protons induced by tris (dipivalomethanato)europium [Eu(DPM)₃]. It is known that for aromatic sulfines Eu(DPM)₃ complexation takes place at the oxygen atom of the CSO bent system and this induces a larger shift for protons in the *syn* position than for those in the *anti* position¹².

For compound **2b**, morpholine and methoxy oxygens must also be considered as other possible coordination centers. In order to verify that $Eu(DPM)_3$ actually complexes at sulfine moiety, the LIS values of **1b**, **5** and **7** were compared to those of **2b**, **6** and **8** (Table 1).

As compound 5 does not contain oxygen atoms, it cannot bind $Eu(DPM)_3$. The comparison among the LIS values of the methylenes α and β to nitrogen in 6, 7 and 8 shows that the complexation at the sulfine oxygen is preferred with respect to that at morpholine oxygen. The LIS values of the protons β to nitrogen for compounds 1b and 7 indicate that the morpholine oxygen binds $Eu(DPM)_3$ more than methoxy groups. Finally, the low LIS values of the methylenes β to nitrogen in 2b (2.0 ppm compared with 15–20 ppm for 1b and 7) and the 0.8 ppm LIS value of methoxy groups for 2b with respect to 5.3 and 2.1 ppm for 1b demonstrate that the complexation of $Eu(DPM)_3$ takes place preferentially at the CSO moiety.

It is also apparent that for thioamide S-oxides **2b**, 6 and 8 the aromatic protons undergo a LIS of similar magnitude (2.4-3.5 ppm); the same is true for the protons α (5.3-6.3 ppm) and β (1.9-2.0 ppm) to nitrogen. This suggests that such compounds have the same stereochemistry.

The E-Z geometry of **2b**, **6**, **8** was determined by comparing $\Delta \delta$ values ($\Delta \delta = \delta$ [CDCl₃ + 0.3 eq Eu(DPM)₃]- δ [CDCl₃]) of ortho aromatic protons to that of sulfines with known configuration (Table 2). Compounds **2b**, **6** and **8** have $\Delta \delta$ values in the range 0.8 – 1.1 ppm which are consistent with the shifts of ortho protons *anti* to CSO observed in 4-Z and reported¹² for diphenyl sulfine and Z-phenyl phenylthio sulfine. From these data it can be argued that all examined thioamide S-oxides exist in the Z-configuration.

[•] obtained by reaction of 1b with methyliodide and hydrogen sulfide⁸⁾





Comp. n°	R	R'	x	Y	Yield % (Method)	М.р.°	Formula ^{a)} (M.W.)	LIS (ppm)			
								Ortho aromatic H	a to N CH ₂	β to N CH ₂	R and R'
12	СН₃О	но	s	0	(b)	172-174	C ₁₃ H ₁₇ NO ₄ S (283.3)	-(f)	_	-	_
16	СН3О	CH₃O	S	0	(c)	139-141	C ₁₄ H ₁₉ NO ₄ S (297.4)	4.8	7.1 and 7.5	15.5	5.3 and 2.1
2a	СН₃О	но	SO	0	46(B)	148–151d.	C ₁₃ H ₁₇ NO ₅ S (299.3)	-(f)	-	-	-
2Ъ	СН₃О	CH3O	so	0	57(A)	124–125d.	C ₁₄ H ₁₉ NO ₅ S (313.4)	3.5	6.3	2.0	0.8
5	н	H	S	CH ₂	(d)	63- 64	C ₁₂ H ₁₅ NS (205.3)	0	0	0	0
6	н	н	\$O	CH2	51(B)	52- 55	C ₁₂ H ₁₅ NOS (221.3)	2.4	5.3	1.9	0.9
7	н	н	S	0	(e)	137-139	C ₁₁ H ₁₃ NOS (207.3)	2.7	8.6	20.2	1.1
8	н	н	so	0	47(B)	104-106 d.	C ₁₁ H ₁₃ NO ₂ S (223.3)	2.8	6.4	2.0	1.0

a) Mass spectra of all new compounds showed M^+ corresponding to their molecular weight. b) see ref.⁽⁶⁾ c) see ref.^(c), d) see ref.⁽¹⁰⁾, e) see ref.⁽¹¹⁾, f) The acidity of the phenolic group causes the decomposition of Eu(DPM)₃.

Δδ	a)
Z	E
1.0	2.8
1.1	2.9
1.4	2.1
1.1	
0.8	
0.9	
	Δδ Z 1.0 1.1 1.4 1.1 0.8 0.9

Table 2: $\triangle \delta$ values of ortho aromatic protons of sulfines

a) $\triangle \delta = \delta[\text{CDCl}_3 + 0.3 \text{ eq Eu}(\text{DPM})_3] - \delta[\text{CDCl}_3]; b)$ see ref.¹².

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Experimental

MP: Büchi capillary apparatus, uncorr. *IR spectra*: as oil mull, Perkin-Elmer 177. *Mass spectra*: by direct introduction, Varian MAT 112 (electron energy 70 eV, emission 1.5 mA). *UV spectra*: Beckman DB-GT (MeOH). ¹*H-NMR spectra*: Perkin-Elmer R 12B 60 MHz. The LSR used was $Eu(DPM)_3$, Solvent CDCl₃, TMS int. ref. The runs were performed using the "incremental dilution" technique¹³. The LIS values (ppm) were obtained plotting δ versus $Eu(DPM)_3$ /substrate ratio and determining the slope of the straight line obtained.

Thioamide S-oxides by Oxidation of Thioamides

Method A

4-(3,4,5-Trimethoxythiobenzoyl)morpholine S-oxide (2b)

To a cold (-50°) solution of 3g (10 mmol) **1b** in 15 ml dichloromethane were added 18 ml (10 mmol) of a0.56 M solution of monoperphthalic acid in diethylether. The reaction temp. was then brought to 0° and the precipitate was filtered. The filtrate was evaporated i. vac. and the residue was chromatographed over Florisil (50 g, dichloromethane/methanol 98 : 2) to afford 1.8 g (57%) of **2b**, m.p. 124–125° dec. $C_{14}H_{19}NO_5S$ (313.4). MS: m/e = 313 (M⁺); IR: 1580, 1510 (sh), 1493, 1420, 1335, 1200, 1130, 1110, 1000, 980 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR: δ (ppm) = 6.60 (s, 2H, ArH), 3.83 (s, 17H, OCH₃ and morpholine); UV λ max: 329, 288 (sh), 277 and 240 (sh) nm. The purity was checked by HPLC¹¹ which showed 86% of **2b**, 4% of **1b** and 10% of 4-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzoyl)morpholine.

Method B

4-(3,5-Dimethoxy-4-hydroxythiobenzoyl)morpholine S-oxide (2a)

A suspension of 5 g (17.6 mmol) $1a^{80}$ and 5 g sodium acetate in 50 ml acetic acid was heated at 50° until solution, then 1.4 ml (24 mmol) 50 % hydrogen peroxide was added. After 5 min the solution was poured into 1.51 6.9 % sodium hydrogen carbonate and extracted with chloroform. The organic phase was thoroughly washed with water, dried and evaporated i. vac. The residue was chromatographed over Florisil (80 g, dichloromethane/methanol 97 : 3) to afford 2.4 g (46 %) of **2a**, m.p. 148–151° dec. C₁₃H₁₇NO₅S (299.3). MS: m/e = 299 (M⁺); IR: 3200, 1590, 1520 (sh), 1500, 1110, 965 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR: δ (ppm) = 6.62 (s, 2H, ArH), 3.91 (s, 14H, OCH₃ and morpholine); UV λ max: 322, 244 (sh) nm.

4-(3,4,5-Trimethoxythiobenzoyl)morpholine S-oxide (2b) from (2a)

A solution of 600 mg (2 mmol) 2a in 20 ml dichloromethane was treated at 0° with an excess of diazomethane (from 1 g of N-nitrosomethylurea). The solution was stirred for 30 min at room temp., then the excess of diazomethane and the solvent were removed i. vac. The residue was chromatographed over Florisil (20 g, dichloromethane/methanol 98 : 2) yielding 250 mg (40 %) of **2b**, m.p. 122-124° dec., identical with the sample obtained by method A.

Thiomorpholide S-oxide 2b through Methylthio Sulfines 4

E- and Z-3,4,5-Trimethoxyphenyl methylthio sulfines (4)

To a stirred solution of 2 g (7.7 mmol) 3^{81} in 30 ml dichloromethane, 1.6 g (7.7 mmol) 85 % m-CPBA was added and stirring was continued for 20 min at room temp. The yellow solution was washed with 1N-NaOH and water, dried and evaporated i. vac. The residue was chromatographed over silica gel

(30 g, ethyl ether/hexane 4 : 1). The first eluates (Rf = 0.43, same eluent) afforded 600 mg (28 %) of 4-*E*, m.p. 87–89°; C₁₁H₁₄O₄S₂ (274.4); MS: m/e = 274 (M⁺); IR: 1575, 1500, 1330, 1240, 1125, 1100, 1060, 990, 850 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR: δ (ppm) = 7.62 (s, 2H, ArH), 3.94 (s, 3H, 4-OCH₃), 3.92 (s, 6H, 3,5-OCH₃), 2.32 (s, 3H, SCH₃); UV λ max: 356, 273 and 244 nm. The second fraction (Rf = 0.24, same eluent) yielded 300 mg (14 %) of 4-*Z*, m.p. 123–125°, C₁₁H₁₄O₄S₂ (274.4). MS: m/e = 274 (M⁺); IR: 1585, 1500, 1340, 1240, 1135, 1125, 1110, 1010, 995, 835, 820 and 805 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR: δ (ppm) = 6.63 (s, 2H, ArH), 3.90 (s, 9H, OCH₃), 2.56 (s, 3H, SCH₃).

4-(3,4,5-Trimethoxythiobenzoyl)morpholine S-oxide (2b)

A solution of 270 mg (1 mmol) 4-*E* and 0.3 ml (3.5 mmol) morpholine in dichloromethane was stirred at room temp. for 2 d. The solvent was evaporated and the residue* was chromatographed over Florisil (15 g, dichloromethane). The fractions containing crude 2b were evaporated and rechromatographed over Florisil (10 g, dichloromethane/methanol 98 : 2), yielding 30 mg (9.6 %) of pure 2b, m.p. 124–125° dec., identical with the sample from 1b.

The isomer 4-Z was reacted in the same way to give only traces of 2b together with starting 4-Z and decomposition products. The TLC spot* corresponding to 2b (Rf = 0.19 chloroform/methanol 95 : 5) was scraped off, eluted with methanol and analyzed by NMR, UV and Mass spectrometry.

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^{*} Thioamide S-oxides may be visualized on TLC by spraying silica plates with an aqueous solution of FeCl₃⁶⁾. In any case only one spot was revealed by this reagent.