

[JOINT CONTRIBUTION FROM THE MERCK SHARP AND DOHME RESEARCH LABORATORIES, DIVISION OF MERCK AND CO., INC., AND THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY, MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY]

Totally Synthetic Penicillins

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Nine new penicillin analogs have been synthesized totally in multigram quantities from *t*-butyl 4-carbobenzyloxy-5,5-dimethyl- α -amino-2-thiazolidineacetate hydrochloride (I). Reaction of this amine with various chloroformates, sulfonyl chlorides, isocyanates, a carbamyl chloride, a sulfamyl chloride and dinitrofluorobenzene produced the corresponding substitution products. Most of these products then satisfactorily underwent successive hydrohalogenolysis of the *t*-butyl ester, β -lactam cyclization with thionyl chloride and catalytic hydrogenolysis of the benzyl ester to yield the new penicillin analogs which were isolated as crystalline *N*-ethylpiperidine salts. All of these analogs (prepared in the DL-form) represent types of substitution on 6-aminopenicillanic acid unobtainable directly by fermentation. Specifically, the following substituents occupy the position normally occupied by the phenylacetyl group in benzylpenicillin (penicillin G): methylsulfonyl, benzenesulfonyl, *p*-aminobenzenesulfonyl, *p*-chlorobenzenesulfonyl, methoxycarbonyl, phenoxycarbonyl, *p*-chlorophenoxycarbonyl, *N,N*-pentamethylenesulfamyl and 2,4-diaminophenyl. A study of the stability of several of the analogs in acid solution revealed that they were very much more resistant to acid inactivation than benzylpenicillin.

The discovery and proof of structure of a new therapeutically useful antibiotic is usually succeeded by investigations directed toward the preparation of structural modifications of the active compound. This is a natural sequence of events since even slight structural changes may exert profound effects on the antibacterial and physiological actions of an antibiotic. Structural modifications assume chemotherapeutic value when useful and desirable actions are enhanced, when undesirable actions are suppressed, or, when new qualities of activity are introduced.

Since their discovery, it has been apparent that the naturally produced penicillins are not beyond improvement and possess a number of major as well as minor shortcomings. Most serious are their rapid rate of excretion, their relatively low stability, their limited coverage of the bacterial spectrum and, of increasing clinical concern, their sensitivity to *Staphylococcal penicillinase*.

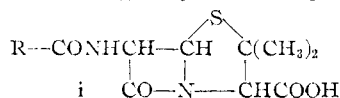
The methods available for producing structural variations in the penicillin molecule are: (1) By alteration of the naturally produced antibiotic or intermediate by chemical methods. (2) By incorporation of specific structural features present in partially or wholly utilized precursors added to the fermentation medium. (3) By total synthesis of the desired structure. Until very recently² it had not been possible to prepare by these methods "penicillins"³ in which the entire acyl group had been replaced by substituents other than certain limited monosubstituted acetic acids. Total syn-

thesis offered a solution to the problem and the development of the synthesis of 6-benzylsulfonamidopenicillanic acid by Sheehan, Cruikshank and Hoff^{4,5} opened a way by which certain analogs could be synthesized. The present report describes work, completed in 1957, on the application of this synthesis to a number of new penicillin analogs (in the DL-form) in which the side chains are sulfonyl, sulfamyl, urethan and aryl hydrocarbon derivatives.

The α -isomer of *t*-butyl DL-4-benzyloxycarbonyl-5,5-dimethyl- α -amino-2-thiazolidineacetate hydrochloride (I) served as the common intermediate for the preparation of all the analogs. Acylation of this amine was performed in methylene chloride essentially by the procedure described by Sheehan and Hoff.⁵ A few acid chlorides which did not react under these conditions were treated with the amine in dioxane at room temperature or above. The dioxane method was also used in the condensation of phenyl and ethyl isocyanates with the amine. Reaction of 2,4-dinitrofluorobenzene with the amine was carried out in aqueous alcohol in the presence of sodium bicarbonate.

The *t*-butyl esters II were cleaved with anhydrous hydrogen chloride in benzene. Acid hydrochlorides III which separated in crystalline form were collected by filtration while those products which did not crystallize or which separated in a gelatinous condition were isolated by concentrating the reaction mixture *in vacuo*. Every product isolated by the latter method was a dry white powder. For characterization purposes, a few of the non-crystalline hydrochlorides were dissociated with water to obtain the crystalline bases.

The β -lactam cyclization was effected with thionyl chloride in methylene chloride solution. Yields and other pertinent data are summarized in Table III. Because of low yields or dominant side reactions, three of the acids failed to give crystalline β -lactam products. Cyclization attempts on 4-carbobenzyloxy-5,5-dimethyl- α -piperidinecarbonamido-2-thiazolidineacetic acid hydrochloride (III, R = C₅H₁₀NCO-) yielded a lyophilized product in which the presence of benzyl 6-piperidinecarbonamidopenicillanate (IV) was



side chain (R-CO) has been replaced by a group lacking the carbonyl function can no longer be named by the usual penicillin nomenclature. A number of the analogs described in the present paper fall into this category. Therefore, the suggested penicillanic acid nomenclature [J. C. Sheehan, K. R. Henery-Logan and D. A. Johnson, *THIS JOURNAL*, **76**, 3292 (1953)] has been used throughout the paper for the synthetic analogs. Note however, that some of the analogs such as 6-ethoxycarbonamidopenicillanic acid (R = C₂H₅O) can be named correctly by the penicillin nomenclature, *e.g.*, ethoxypenicillin.

(1) (a) Merck Sharp and Dohme Research Laboratories; (b) Department of Chemistry, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

(2) F. R. Batchelor, F. P. Doyle, J. H. C. Nayler and G. N. Rolinson, *Nature*, **183**, 257 (1959); J. C. Sheehan and K. R. Henery-Logan, *THIS JOURNAL*, **81**, 5838 (1959).

(3) The term penicillin refers to those compounds possessing the following general structure (i). A penicillin analog in which the entire

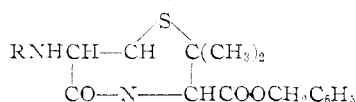
(4) J. C. Sheehan and P. A. Cruikshank, *THIS JOURNAL*, **78**, 3683 (1956).

(5) J. C. Sheehan and D. R. Hoff, *ibid.*, **79**, 237 (1957).

TABLE I

$ \begin{array}{c} \text{S} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \text{RNHCH}-\text{CH} \quad \text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_2 \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ (\text{CH}_3)_2\text{COCO} \quad \text{NH}-\text{CHCOOCH}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_5 \end{array} $												
R	Acylating agent	Method	Solvent for crystallization	Yield, %	M.p., °C.	Formula	Carbon, % Calcd. Found	Hydrogen, % Calcd. Found	Nitrogen, % Calcd. Found			
CH ₃ SO ₂ -	CH ₃ SO ₂ Cl	A	Methylene chloride	42	130-131	C ₂₂ H ₃₂ N ₂ O ₆ S ₂	52.38 52.70	6.59 6.52	6.11 6.10			
C ₂ H ₅ SO ₂ -	C ₂ H ₅ SO ₂ Cl	A	Ethyl alcohol	37	141-143	C ₂₄ H ₃₂ N ₂ O ₆ S ₂	57.67 57.78	6.20 6.16	5.38 5.37			
p-O ₂ NC ₆ H ₄ SO ₂ -	p-O ₂ NC ₆ H ₄ SO ₂ Cl	A	Methyl alcohol	41	175-177	C ₂₈ H ₃₁ N ₂ O ₈ S ₂	53.08 53.23	5.52 5.73	7.43 7.31			
p-ClC ₆ H ₄ CH ₂ SO ₂ -	p-ClC ₆ H ₄ CH ₂ SO ₂ Cl ^b	A	Methyl alcohol	68	146-147	C ₂₆ H ₃₀ ClN ₂ O ₆ S ₂	54.87 54.92	5.84 5.75	4.92 4.91			
CH ₃ OCO-	CH ₃ COCl	A	Benzene-petr. ether	43	97-98	C ₂₁ H ₃₂ N ₂ O ₅ S	57.52 57.76	6.90 7.10	6.39 6.38			
C ₆ H ₅ OCO-	C ₆ H ₅ COCl ^c	A	Methyl alcohol	67	78-82	C ₂₆ H ₃₂ N ₂ O ₅ S	62.38 61.85	6.44 6.73	5.60 5.40			
p-ClC ₆ H ₄ OCO-	p-ClC ₆ H ₄ COCl ^d	A	Methyl alcohol	38	115-116	C ₂₆ H ₃₁ ClN ₂ O ₅ S	58.36 58.33	5.84 5.88	5.24 5.13			
C ₆ H ₁₃ NSO ₂ - ^a	C ₆ H ₁₃ NSO ₂ Cl ^e	B	Ethyl alcohol	13	140-142	C ₂₄ H ₃₇ N ₂ O ₅ S ₂	54.64 54.90	7.07 6.91	7.97 7.89			
C ₆ H ₁₃ NCO ₂ - ^a	C ₆ H ₁₃ NCOCl ^f	B	Isopropyl ether	57	117-119	C ₂₅ H ₃₇ N ₂ O ₅ S	61.08 60.99	7.59 7.56	8.55 8.56			
C ₆ H ₅ NHCO-	C ₆ H ₅ NCO	C	Isopropyl alcohol	65	165-168	C ₂₆ H ₃₂ N ₂ O ₅ S	62.50 62.47	6.66 6.76	8.41 8.49			
C ₆ H ₅ NHCO-	C ₆ H ₅ NCO	C	Isopropyl alcohol	42	144-146	C ₂₂ H ₃₂ N ₂ O ₅ S	58.51 58.46	7.37 7.18	9.52 9.24			
2,4-(NO ₂) ₂ C ₆ H ₃ -	2,4-(NO ₂) ₂ C ₆ H ₃ F	D	Isopropyl alcohol	79	161-162	C ₂₄ H ₃₀ N ₂ O ₅ S	54.94 55.18	5.53 5.40	10.25 10.38			

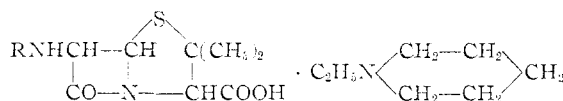
TABLE III



R	Reflux time, min.	Crystallization solvent ^a	Recrystallization solvent ^b	Yield, %	M.p., °C.	Formula	Carbon, % Calcd.	Carbon, % Found	Hydrogen, % Calcd.	Hydrogen, % Found	Nitrogen, % Calcd.	Nitrogen, % Found
CH ₃ SO ₂ -	45	Benzene-isopropyl ether	Benzene-isopropyl ether	35	110-112	C ₁₆ H ₂₃ N ₃ O ₅ S ₂	49.98	50.17	5.24	5.03	7.29	7.21
C ₆ H ₅ SO ₂ -	30	^d	Benzene-hexane	40	125-126	C ₂₁ H ₂₂ N ₃ O ₅ S ₂	56.49	56.65	4.97	4.99	6.28	6.24
<i>p</i> -NO ₂ C ₆ H ₄ SO ₂ -	45	^d	Benzene	65	159-161	C ₂₁ H ₂₁ N ₃ O ₅ S ₂	51.31	51.61	4.31	4.40	8.55	8.45
<i>p</i> -ClC ₆ H ₄ CH ₂ SO ₂ -	30	Ethyl ether	Ethyl alcohol	45	123-125	C ₂₂ H ₂₃ ClN ₃ O ₅ S ₂	53.38	53.37	4.68	4.82	5.66	5.70
CH ₃ OCO-	20	Isopropyl alcohol	Isopropyl alcohol	40	89-91	C ₁₇ H ₂₀ N ₃ O ₅ S	56.04	56.36	5.53	5.58	7.69	7.69
C ₆ H ₅ OCO-	60	Ethyl ether	Isopropyl alcohol	45	103-104	C ₂₂ H ₂₁ N ₃ O ₅ S	61.95	62.09	5.21	5.28	6.57	6.77
<i>p</i> -ClC ₆ H ₄ OCO-	30	^d	Benzene	45	157-158	C ₂₂ H ₂₁ ClN ₃ O ₅ S	57.32	57.47	4.58	4.48	6.09	6.24
C ₆ H ₁₀ NSO ₂ - ^e	30	CCl ₄	Isopropyl alcohol	20	92-93	C ₂₀ H ₂₇ N ₃ O ₅ S ₂	52.97	52.86	6.00	5.99	9.27	9.30
C ₆ H ₁₁ NCO- ^e	45	^f	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
C ₆ H ₅ NHCO-	30	^g	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
C ₆ H ₅ NHCO-	30	^h	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
2,4-(NO ₂) ₂ C ₆ H ₃	30	^{d,i}	Ethyl acetate	35	167-169	C ₂₁ H ₂₀ N ₃ O ₅ S	53.39	53.40	4.27	4.29	11.86	12.00

^a For preparation of crystalline material from lyophilized products. ^b For preparation of samples for analysis. ^c The yields quoted represent an average of two or more successful cyclizations. ^d Product crystallized from benzene during reaction workup; no lyophilization necessary. ^e C₆H₁₀N = 1-piperidyl. ^f Crystalline product not obtained. ^g No β -lactam was present in the reaction mixture. ^h No β -lactam was present in the reaction mixture. A crystalline product was isolated from benzene in 25% yield which appeared to be the isomeric hydantoin VI, m.p. 151-152°. *Anal.* Calcd. for C₁₈H₂₃N₃O₅S: C, 57.28; H, 6.14; N, 11.13. Found: C, 57.22; H, 6.07; N, 11.22. ⁱ The crystalline products from benzene solution contain benzene of crystallization. This product rapidly dissolved in a small amount of cold ethyl acetate from which a solvent-free product immediately crystallized.

TABLE IV



R	Crystallization solvent ^c	M.p., °C.	Yield, %	Half-life in 0.3 N acid, min.	Formula	Carbon, % Calcd.	Carbon, % Found	Hydrogen, % Calcd.	Hydrogen, % Found	Nitrogen, % Calcd.	Nitrogen, % Found
CH ₃ SO ₂ -	Methyl alcohol (1)-ethyl ether (5)	174-175	88	150	C ₁₆ H ₂₃ N ₃ O ₅ S ₂	47.15	47.46	7.17	7.39	10.31	10.13
C ₆ H ₅ SO ₂ -	Ethyl alcohol (2.5)-isopropyl alcohol (7.5)	153-155	61	..	C ₂₁ H ₂₃ N ₃ O ₅ S ^e	53.71	54.02	6.66	6.72	8.95	8.78
C ₆ H ₅ CH ₂ SO ₂ - ^a	Methyl alcohol (1)-ethyl ether (6)	152-153	86	190	C ₂₂ H ₂₃ N ₃ O ₅ S ₂	54.64	54.69	6.89	6.92	8.69	8.58
<i>p</i> -H ₂ NC ₆ H ₄ SO ₂ -	Methyl alcohol (1)-ethyl ether (3)	205-207	76	..	C ₂₁ H ₂₃ N ₃ O ₅ S ^e	52.04	51.73	6.66	6.73	11.56	11.38
<i>p</i> -ClC ₆ H ₄ CH ₂ SO ₂ -	Methyl alcohol (2)-ethyl ether (1) ^f	135-140	64	..	C ₂₂ H ₂₃ ClN ₃ O ₅ S ^g	51.00	50.82	6.23	6.31	8.11	8.23
CH ₃ OCO-	Acetone	131-133	79	110	C ₁₇ H ₂₀ N ₃ O ₅ S	52.69	52.70	7.54	7.55	10.84	10.78
C ₆ H ₅ OCO-	Acetone	140-142	76	175	C ₂₂ H ₂₃ N ₃ O ₅ S	58.78	58.86	6.95	7.08	9.35	9.24
<i>p</i> -ClC ₆ H ₄ OCO-	Methyl alcohol (1)-ethyl ether (8)	141-143	50	..	C ₂₂ H ₂₃ ClN ₃ O ₅ S ^e ·(C ₂ H ₅) ₂ O ^h	55.95	55.96	7.22	7.02	7.53	7.38
<i>p</i> -ClC ₆ H ₄ OCO-	.....	.....	.....	.....	C ₂₂ H ₂₃ ClN ₃ O ₅ S ^{i,j}	54.60	54.54	6.25	6.47	8.68	8.55
C ₆ H ₁₀ NSO ₂ - ^b	Isopropyl alcohol	150-152	47 ^k	..	C ₂₀ H ₂₆ N ₃ O ₅ S ^e ·(CH ₃) ₂ CHOH	51.46	51.06	8.26	8.03	10.44	10.33
2,4-(NH ₂) ₂ C ₆ H ₃ -	Non-crystalline ^l	.....	95	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

^a J. C. Sheehan and D. R. Hoff⁵ reported the N-(3,3-diphenylpropyl)-piperidine salt of this analog. ^b C₆H₁₀N = 1-piperidyl. ^c For preparation of sample for analysis (figures in parentheses for mixtures show parts by volume). ^d Unless otherwise noted, yields are those obtained directly from dioxane after concentration to a small volume. ^e Sample for analysis dried at 80°. ^f Before recrystallization from this mixture, the product was washed with methylene chloride in which it is insoluble. The unhalogenated analog is soluble in methylene chloride. ^g Calcd.: Cl, 6.84. Found: Cl, 6.50. ^h This crystalline etherate was stable *in vacuo* at room temperature. ⁱ Etherate dried at 76° *in vacuo* for 2 hours. ^j Calcd.: Cl, 7.33. Found: Cl, 7.00. ^k After the dioxane was removed from the reduction filtrate, a sirup remained which was crystallized from a mixture of one volume of ethyl alcohol and fifteen volumes of ether. ^l This product was not isolated as the N-ethylpiperidine salt. A solid but non-crystalline free acid was obtained from the hydrogenolysis reaction by lyophilization of the dioxane. Due to retention of a small amount of this solvent the product was not analytically pure. However, its infrared spectrum indicated a high degree of purity.

deposit crystalline material. After 3 hours at 25°, the product was collected, washed with 100 ml. of 75% methyl alcohol, 500 ml. of water and then again with 100 ml. of 75% methyl alcohol. See Table I for yield and analyses.

Hydrohalogenolysis of the *t*-Butyl Esters.—The *t*-butyl esters (II) were cleaved with anhydrous hydrogen chloride in benzene under the conditions reported by Sheehan and Hoff.⁵ Products which separated from the reaction in a crystalline state were obtained in better than 90% yield and were analyzed without further purification. These are reported in Table II as hydrochlorides.

When the products remained in solution or separated as an oil or a gel the entire reaction mixture was vacuum concen-

trated at a temperature below 35°. The products (in the form of hydrochlorides) were then obtained in essentially quantitative yield as dry, nonsticky powders. These were not analyzed.

For characterization purposes, some of these powders were converted to the crystalline, hydrogen chloride-free compounds by treatment with water. The powders became gummy when added to water, but with vigorous rubbing and repeated changes of the wash water, crystalline products resulted which were recrystallized from organic solvents. These compounds are included in Table II and attention is directed to them by footnotes.

β -Lactam Formation.—The β -lactam cyclization was carried out by the procedure of Sheehan and Hoff⁸ using thionyl chloride in methylene chloride as the cyclizing agent. The thiazolidineacetates (III) were used for cyclization in the condition in which they were isolated from the hydrohalogenolysis reaction. Non-crystalline hydrochlorides cyclized just as well as their crystalline counterparts. The optimum reaction time at reflux temperature as set forth in Table III was determined from the yields of β -lactam after individual cyclization reactions had proceeded for varying periods of time. After working up the reactions by the Sheehan and Hoff⁸ procedure, the products were obtained in benzene solution. This solution was shell-frozen and lyophilized to remove the solvent. A few products crystallized directly from the benzene and lyophilization was unnecessary. Such cases are noted by footnotes to Table III. All lyophilized products were obtained as fluffy yellow powders. The β -lactam content of these powders was always assessed by infrared analysis and the products showing little or no absorption at 5.5–5.6 μ were discarded. Chromatographic adsorption on alumina as described by Sheehan and Hoff was not necessary for preparative work. However, it was convenient to use chromatography to achieve the initial purification necessary to obtain seed crystals of new β -lactam preparations. Yield, crystallization solvents and analyses are reported in Table III.

Catalytic Hydrogenolysis of the Benzyl Esters and Formation of N-Ethylpiperidine Salts of the Penicillanic Acids (V). A suspension of 2 g. of 10% palladium-on-carbon (Norite) catalyst in 100 ml. of purified dioxane was saturated with hydrogen at atmospheric pressure and 25°. To this suspension was then added 0.0025 mole of the benzyl ester IV and the hydrogenation was continued under the same conditions. The theoretical quantity of hydrogen was absorbed in about 2 hours and the reduction ceased. After removal of the catalyst by filtration, 0.283 g. (0.0025 mole) of N-ethylpiperidine was added to the filtrate. Concentration of the solution was carried out under vacuum with a bath temperature not exceeding 25°. Crystallization commenced when the volume was reduced to 5–10 ml. The products were collected and washed with cold dioxane.

For the diamino-phenyl analog (V, R = 2,4-(H₂N)₂C₆H₃) the hydrogenolysis and reduction of the nitro groups were carried out using the same conditions and relative quantities of reagents as described in the preceding paragraph. However, after removal of the catalyst, no N-ethylpiperidine was added. The dioxane solution was shell-frozen and lyophilized and the product was obtained as a yellow, neutral powder. Yields and analyses are shown in Table IV.

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Ozonolysis of Polycyclic Aromatics. VII.¹ Dibenz[a,h]anthracene^{2,3}

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Corrected oxidation-reduction potentials for dibenz[a,h]anthracene-7,14-dione and dibenz[a,h]anthracene-5,6-dione are, respectively, 0.418 v. and 0.381 v. As previously suggested by us, ozone should therefore predominantly attack the 5,6-bond in dibenz[a,h]anthracene (I). Compound I, on absorption of one and two molar equivalents of ozone, yields, respectively, unstable, probably monomeric 5,6-ozonide Ia and stable, dimeric 5,6,12,13-diozonide Ib in inert solvents, and, respectively, monomeric, dimethoxy peroxide II and probably polymeric, tetramethoxy peroxide VIII in methanol solvent. Oxidation of Ia and II, and Ib and VIII gave, respectively, 2-(*o*-carboxyphenyl)-3-phenanthrene carboxylic acid (IV) and *p*-terphenyl-2,2',5',2''-tetracarboxylic acid (X). Reduction of Ia and II, and VIII, gave, respectively, 2-(*o*-formylphenyl)-3-phenanthrenecarboxaldehyde, and *p*-terphenyl-2,2',5',2''-tetracarboxaldehyde. The dimethyl ester V of IV was converted to X via 2-(*o*-carboxymethoxyphenyl)-3-carboxymethoxy-9,10-phenanthrenequinone (VII).

In several recent publications,^{1,4a,4b} we have noted that the positions of *predominant* ozone attack on polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons correspond to those of the *o*- or *p*-quinone with the lowest corrected quinone-hydroquinone oxidation-reduction potential (*i.e.*, those positions yielding the most stable of all possible dihydro structures).⁵ Thus,

(1) Part VI, E. J. Moriconi, W. F. O'Connor and F. T. Wallenberger, *THIS JOURNAL*, **81**, 6466 (1959).

(2) For a preliminary report on part of this work see E. J. Moriconi, G. W. Cogswell, W. J. Schmitt and W. F. O'Connor, *Chemistry & Industry*, 1591 (1958).

(3) Presented in part at The Meeting-in-Miniature of The Metropolitan Long Island Subsection, American Chemical Society, New York Section, March, 1959, and at The Symposium on Ozone Chemistry, 136th National Meeting of The American Chemical Society, Atlantic City, N. J., Sept., 1959.

(4) (a) E. J. Moriconi, W. F. O'Connor and L. B. Taranko, *Arch. Biochem. and Biophys.*, **83**, 283 (1959); (b) E. J. Moriconi, W. F. O'Connor and F. T. Wallenberger, *Chemistry & Industry*, 22 (1959).

(5) This correlation is especially pertinent to those polycyclics whose most reactive positions are not the termini of the most reactive bond. The most reactive carbon atoms theoretically have the lowest carbon localization energy⁶ and, experimentally, are the positions at which electrophilic, nucleophilic and radical substitution occurs; the most reactive bond has the lowest bond localization energy^{6a,7} and is the site of attack by bond reagents, osmium tetroxide and diazoacetic ester.⁸ Relevant polycyclic aromatics which have been ozonized include anthracene, naphthalene, benz[a]anthracene, pyrene and dibenz[a,h]anthracene.

for example, corrected oxidation-reduction potentials for benz[a]anthracene-7,12- and -5,6-dione are, respectively, 0.353 and 0.380 v. Reaction of benz[a]anthracene with one molar equivalent of ozone in methylene chloride, carbon tetrachloride and methylene chloride-methanol afforded a 64% yield of the 7,12-dione based on the amount of benz[a]anthracene utilized.^{1,4b} Thus *predominant* ozone attack on benz[a]anthracene occurred at those positions (7,12-) whose corresponding quinone had the lowest oxidation-reduction potential.

In dibenz[a,h]anthracene (DBA = I), molecular orbital calculations predict the 7- and 14-carbon atoms to have the lowest carbon localization energies^{6a,9} (reactivity numbers),^{6b} the 7,14-positions to have the lowest *p*-localization energy,^{7,10} and the 5,6-bond to have the lowest bond localization energy⁷ (*o*-localization energy).^{6a} Chemical

(6) (a) M. J. S. Dewar, *THIS JOURNAL*, **74**, 3357 (1952); (b) M. J. S. Dewar, *Record Chem. Progr. Kresge-Hooker Sci. Lib.*, **19**, 1 (1958).

(7) R. D. Brown, *J. Chem. Soc.*, 691, 3249 (1950); *Quart. Revs.*, **6**, 63 (1952).

(8) G. M. Badger, *ibid.*, **5**, 147 (1951).

(9) G. W. Wheland, *THIS JOURNAL*, **64**, 900 (1942).

(10) E. C. Kooyman and J. A. A. Ketelaar, *Rec. trav. chim.*, **65**, 859 (1946).