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## SYNTHESIS OF $\alpha$ -BENZOTRIAZOLE SULFIDES PROMOTED BY SAMARIUM DIODIDE

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**Abstract:** 1-(Benzotriazol-1-yl) unsymmetrical diorganyl sulfides were synthesized via replacement of chlorine atom in 1-(benzotriazol-1-yl)-1-chloromethane with thiolate anions promoted by  $\text{SmI}_2$ .

Benzotriazole methodology has already come a long way, but in the last decade benzotriazole was identified as an excellent synthetic auxiliary in many useful synthetic transformations.<sup>1-4</sup>  $\alpha$ -Benzotriazole sulfides are useful synthetic intermediates. For example, tert-alkyl sulfides are conveniently prepared from  $\alpha$ -benzotriazole sulfides by displacement of the benzotriazole group with Grignard reagents.<sup>5</sup> Vinyl sulfides are easily prepared from  $\alpha$ -benzotriazole sulfides.<sup>6</sup> Some methods have been reported for preparation of  $\alpha$ -benzotriazole sulfides. For examples, the reaction of thioles with 1-(chloromethyl) benzotriazole,<sup>7</sup> the

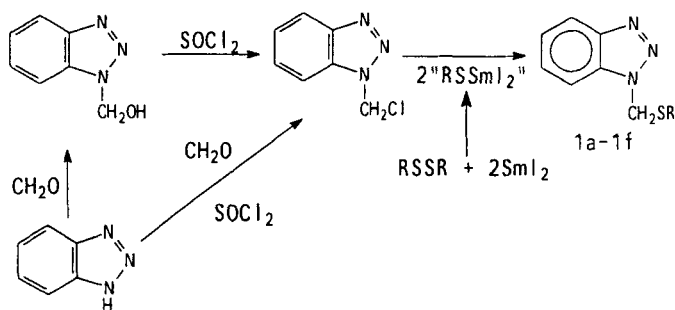
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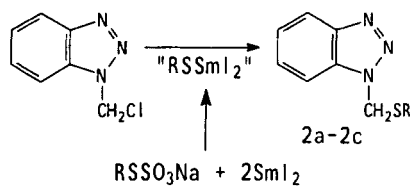
reaction of benzotriazole with aldehydes or ketones and thiols,<sup>5</sup> etc. However, those methods are suffered from using of metallic sodium, alkaline medium, and even low yield.

Samarium diiodide has been extensively applied to organic synthesis.<sup>8-11</sup> It has recently been found that thiolate anions( $\text{RSSmI}_2$ ) obtained from reductive cleavage of diorganyl disulfides or sodium alkylthiolates with samarium diiodide are powerful nucleophilic reagents, and some interesting reactions have taken place with them.<sup>12</sup> Here we wish to report that these alkylthiolate or arylthiolate anion of the samarium salts can easily displace chlorine atom in 1-(benzotriazol-1-yl)-1-chloromethane to form 1-(benzotriazol-1-yl) unsymmetrical diorganyl sulfides.

In view of the easy availability of the starting materials,<sup>13</sup> good yields, simple operation, mild and neutral reaction conditions, we think that the present procedure provides a useful method for preparation of  $\alpha$ -benzotriazole sulfides.



Scheme 1



Scheme 2

Table 1. Reaction Conditions and Yield of Products

Entry	R	Reaction Time(h)	Yield* (%)
1a	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> -	14	84
1b	n-C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>25</sub> -	14	88
1c	n-C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>33</sub> -	14	82
1d	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> -	14	88
1e	p-ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> -	12	88
1f	p-CH <sub>3</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> -	12	92
2a	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> -	16	72
2b	n-C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>33</sub> -	16	76
2c	n-C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>33</sub> -	16	70

\* Yield of isolated Product.

### Experimental Section

Melting points were uncorrected. HMPA was dried by CaH<sub>2</sub> and was then distilled in vacuo. Tetrahydrofuran was distilled from sodium/benzophenone ketyl immediately before use. Elemental analyses were carried out using a Carlo Erba 1106 instrument, IR spectra were recorded on a PE-683 spectrometer, <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were obtained with a Bruker 80 spectrometer in CDCl<sub>3</sub> solution using

TMS as internal standard. The reactions were performed in a Schlenk type glass apparatus under a nitrogen atmosphere.

### General Procedure

1. To a solution of  $\text{SmI}_2$  (2.2mmol, in 22mL THF), 1mL HMPA<sup>14</sup> and 1mmol disulfide are added. After stirring for 1hr at 40°C, 2mmol of 1-(benzotriazol-1-yl) chloromethane is added. After stirring for the given hours at room temperatures ( see table 1 ), the reaction mixture is treated with dilute hydrochloric acid (0.1M, 5mL) and extracted twice with ether. The combined organic layers are washed with saturated sodium thiosulfate solution ( 20 mL ) and brine (20 mL ). After the solution is dried over anhydrous  $\text{MgSO}_4$ , the solvents are removed under reduced pressure. The residue is purified by preparative TLC (silica gel) with cyclohexane and ethyl acetate (8:1) as eluent.

2. Sodium alkyl thiosulfate (1mmol) is added to the deep blue solution of  $\text{SmI}_2$  (2.2mmol) in THF ( 22mL ) at 70°C. The solution turned yellow within 20-30 min, and then was allowed to cool to room temperature. 1mmol of 1-(benzotriazol-1-yl) chloromethane is added and the mixture is stirred for 16 hrs. The reaction mixture is treated twice with ether. The combined organic layers are washed with saturated sodium thiosulfate solution ( 20 mL ) and brine (20 mL ). After the solution is dried over anhydrous  $\text{MgSO}_4$ , the solvents are removed under reduced pressure. The residue is purified by preparative TLC (silica gel) with cyclohexane and ethyl acetate (8:1) as eluent.

**1a(2a)**<sup>7</sup>, m.p. 106-108°C (lit, 108-109°C) ; <sup>1</sup>H NMR, 8.2-8.0 (1H, m) , 7.7-7.2 (8H, m) , 5.65 (2H, s) , 3.70 (2H, s) ppm; IR, 3100, 3080, 3050, 3000, 2950, 1625, 1610, 1500, 1470, 1440, 1423, 1400, 1312, 1300, 1290, 1270, 1250, 1241, 1238, 1163, 1130, 1083, 1070, 1030, 1000, 936, 905, 778, 762 , 743, 709, 696, cm<sup>-1</sup>.

**1b(2b)**, m.p. 60-61°C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR, 8.1-7.9 (1H, m) , 7.6-7.2 (3H, m) , 5.58 (2H, s), 2.60-2.30 (2H, t) , 1.7-0.8 (23H, m) ppm; IR, 3085, 3060, 2998, 2940, 2862, 1626, 1602, 1503, 1475, 1460, 1435, 1380, 1300, 1270, 1225, 1160, 1090, 1078, 1025, 930, 885, 778, 760, 742, 720, 658, 600, cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>3</sub>S: C, 68.41; H, 9.37; N, 12.60; Found: C, 68.35; H, 9.50; N, 12.50.

**1c(2c)**, m.p. 70-72°; <sup>1</sup>H NMR, 8.1-7.8 (1H, m) , 7.6-7.2 (3H, m) , 5.67 (2H,s), 2.54-2.20 (2H, t) , 1.6-0.8 (31H, m) ppm; IR, 3080, 3040, 2995, 2925, 2860, 1620, 1600, 1500, 1490, 1470, 1458, 1430, 1398, 1310, 1299, 1265, 1250, 1220, 1158, 1100, 1080, 1050, 1020, 995, 940, 925, 880, 775, 755, 740, 715, 655, 600, cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>39</sub>N<sub>3</sub>S: C, 70.90; H, 10.09; N, 10.78; Found: C, 70.78; H, 10.23; N, 10.85.

**1d**<sup>7</sup>, m.p. 78-80°C (lit, 80°C) ; <sup>1</sup>H NMR, 8.2-8.0 (1H, m) , 7.6-7.3 (8H, m) , 5.98 (2H, s) ppm; IR, 3115, 3090, 3070, 3050, 3010, 2960, 1625, 1618, 1600, 1590, 1500, 1492, 460, 1448, 1440, 1400, 1318, 1290, 1268, 1240, 1230, 1160, 1132, 1082, 1070, 1025, 1000, 930, 852, 775, 762, 748, 732, 708, 682, 660, 600, cm<sup>-1</sup>.

**1e**, m.p. 104-106°C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR, 8.2-8.0 (1H, m), 7.5-7.0 (7H, m), 5.95 (2H, s) ppm; IR, 3080, 3040, 3015, 2945, 1625, 1600, 1502, 1485, 1460, 1425, 1398, 1392, 1310, 1298, 1285, 1265, 1250, 1240, 1230, 1170, 1138, 1120, 1100, 1070, 1010, 1000, 930, 880, 810, 778, 763, 750, 740,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{10}\text{ClN}_3\text{S}$ : C, 56.62; H, 3.66; N, 15.24; Found: C, 56.47; H, 3.61 N, 15.15.

**1f**, m.p. 102-104°C (lit, 101-103°C);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR, 8.3-8.0 (1H, m), 7.5-7.1 (7H, m), 5.95 (2H, s), 2.35 (3H, s) ppm; IR, 3080, 3060, 3040, 3020, 2950, 2940, 2875, 1625, 1600, 1502, 1460, 1430, 1422, 1400, 1390, 1320, 1310, 1298, 1282, 1265, 1250, 1240, 1230, 1187, 1160, 1140, 1135, 1090, 1075, 1020, 1000, 940, 930, 885, 800, 780, 750, 740, 710, 655, 600,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

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