Synthetic Methodology Based upon N-Sulfinyl Dienophile [4 + 2]-Cycloaddition Reactions

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In the early 1950s Wichterle and Rocek¹ discovered that N-sulfinvlaniline (1, X = Ph) reacts with conjugated 1.3-dienes in Diels-Alder fashion to give 3.6-dihydrothiazine 1-oxides 2 (Scheme I). Subsequent studies, notably by the groups of Kresze and Levchenko, demonstrated that this cycloaddition is quite general provided that the N-sulfinyl compound 1 bears an electron-withdrawing group.² These substituents, some of which are listed in Scheme I, impart sufficient reactivity to the dienophile that the cycloadditions usually occur at or below room temperature. Alkyl N-sulfinyl compounds, on the other hand, are reportedly unreactive as dienophiles. However, we have recently found that simple N-alkyl-N-sulfinylamines react at low temperatures with some dienes to give dihydrothiazine oxides if a Lewis acid catalyst or high pressure is employed.³ A related type of N-sulfinyl dienophile is exemplified by bisimides 3. In these cases, the products of [4 + 2] cycloaddition are 3,6-dihydrothiazin-1-imines $4.^{2}$

Both reactions in Scheme I show excellent regiochemical control with many unsymmetrical dienes. However, a few of the early studies confused the issue of adduct regiochemistry, since it was not initially appreciated that in certain cases these cycloadditions are readily reversible.⁴ Disparate mechanistic proposals have appeared for this reaction. Mock and Nugent have advocated a nonconcerted, stepwise mechanism.⁵ More recently, Hanson and Stockburn proposed that these cycloadditions are concerted processes in line with FMO theory.⁶ In fact, the regioselectivity of the kinetically formed cycloadducts can in principle be rationalized by either mechanism.

These N-sulfinyl Diels-Alder reactions are also highly stereoselective, giving products of syn addition to the 1,3-diene. However, very little data are available with regard to the stereochemical outcome at sulfur in adducts such as 2 and 4. This paucity of information may be due in large part to the difficulty in establishing configuration by simple spectral methods. The nature of the N-sulfinyl dienophiles complicates interpretation of the sparse stereochemical data that are available. For example, although N-sulfinyl compounds such as 1 are known to exist in their ground states as the Z isomers, it has not been possible to determine unambiguously whether this geometry or a transient E form is the reactive species in the cycloaddition. Likewise, bisimides 3 usually exist in the E,Z geometry, but once again the



X= Ar, COR, CO₂R, SO₂R, SMe₂, CN, (RO)₂PO, NMe₂



reactive configuration is indeterminate and furthermore it is not known which S=N bond reacts with the diene. Moreover, the reversibility factor must also be considered, since one may not always be observing the kinetic cycloaddition product. Since chirality at sulfur plays a role in some of our synthetic methodology (vide infra), we hope that its genesis can eventually be clarified.

At the time we began work in this area only a few simple transformations of adducts 2 and 4 had been described. Interestingly, virtually all of the known reactions were reported over 3 decades ago in the original publications of Wichterle and Rocek.¹ One particularly intriguing transformation is the hydrolysis of these Diels-Alder adducts to afford homoallylic amines 6 (Scheme II). Our interest in this potentially useful process was stimulated by a paper of Mock and Nugent⁷

(1) Wichterle, O.; Rocek, J. Chem. Listy 1953, 47, 1768. Wichterle, O.; Rocek, J. Collect. Czech. Chem. Commun. 1954, 19, 282.

(2) For comprehensive reviews of this cycloaddition, see: (a) Kresze, G. In 1,4-Cycloaddition Reactions, The Diels-Alder Reaction in Heterocyclic Syntheses; Hamer, J., Ed.; Academic: New York, 1967; p 453. (b) Boger, D. L.; Weinreb, S. M. Hetero Diels-Alder Methodology in Organic Synthesis; Academic: San Diego, 1987; p 1. (c) Zibarev, A. V.; Yakobson, G. G. Russ. Chem. Rev. (Engl. Transl.) 1985, 54, 1706. (d) Bussas, R.; Kresze, G.; Munsterer, H.; Schwobel, A. Sulfur Rep. 1983, 2, 215.

106. (5) Mock, W. L.; Nugent, R. M. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1975, 97, 6521,

(6) Hanson, P.; Stockburn, W. A. J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 2 1985, 589.

(7) Mock, W. L.; Nugent, R. M. J. Org. Chem. 1978, 43, 3433.

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 ⁽³⁾ Bell, S. I.; Weinreb, S. M. Tetrahedron Lett., in press.
 (4) Kresze, G.; Wagner, U. Justus Liebigs Ann. Chem. 1972, 762, 93,



in which they proposed that the allylic sulfinic acid 5, formed by initial hydrolytic opening of the dihydrothiazine ring, undergoes retro-ene loss of sulfur dioxide (or its monoimine) via a chairlike transition state. In this conformation, group Y on the sulfur-bearing carbon (C-6) assumes a quasi-equatorial position, leading to the E-olefin configuration in 6. This postulate was based upon deuterium labeling experiments, which, although strongly suggestive, were neither quantitative nor totally definitive.

On the basis of these preliminary results and in view of our longstanding interest in hetero Diels-Alder methodlogy as a synthetic tool,^{1b,8} we considered dihydrothiazines such as 2 and 4 as potentially valuable synthetic intermediates and consequently undertook the research discussed below.

Homoallylic Amines

The basic strategy that we initially set out to test was the possibility of intimately coupling the syn selectivity of the [4 + 2]-cycloaddition step with a ring fragmentation process via a rigid chairlike transition-state conformation such as 5 to construct acyclic systems with multiple chiral centers in a stereorational manner. Toward this end, we first had to establish whether the Mock/Nugent retro-ene mechanism is correct.9,10 Therefore, N-sulfinyltoluenesulfonamide was combined with (E,E)-tetramethylbutadiene to give adduct 7 in high yield (Scheme III). Hydrolysis of 7 afforded exclusively the E-homoallylic amine derivative 9 with the configuration shown. Similarly, (E,Z)-tetramethylbutadiene produced 3,6-dihydrothiazine oxide 10, which was hydrolyzed to give E-homoallylic sulfonamide 12. These results can in fact be nicely rationalized by the retro-ene transition-state conformers 8 and 11 (Scheme III), which lead to 9 and 12, respectively. This chairlike conformation, which possesses a quasi-equatorial methyl group on the C-6 sulfur-bearing carbon, directs intramolecular protonation to one of the diastereotopic faces of the double bond. The alternative chairlike conformation is destabilized by an $A^{1,3}$ type interaction between a quasi-axial methyl group and the sulfonamide functionality. Thus chirality transfer from a 1,4to a 1,2-sense is predictably controlled. Moreover, this same conformation explains the selective generation of the E-trisubstituted double bond in both 9 and 12. This sequence also provides an efficient, stereoselective route





to homoallylic amines from achiral 1,3-dienes, as well as providing strong support for the Mock/Nugent mechanism.

Vicinal Amino Alcohols

Development of Methodology. The stereochemical reasoning implicit in the Mock/Nugent retro-ene postulate was extended to other transformations, leading to a method for diastereoselective synthesis of unsaturated vicinal amino alcohol derivatives. Scheme IV shows some of the exploratory studies that were carried out.¹¹ Diels-Alder cycloaddition of (E,E)-hexadiene with benzyl N-sulfinylcarbamate gave a 15:1 mixture of epimeric adducts 13 and 14, whose structures were established by X-ray crystallography. Treatment of either pure 13 or 14, or the mixture of adducts, with phenylmagnesium bromide, followed by trimethyl phosphite, yielded a single unsaturated hydroxy carbamate shown to be the *E*-three isomer 15. Similarly, (E,Z)-hexadiene underwent the N-sulfinvl Diels-Alder reaction to give 16 (sulfur stereochemistry unknown), which could be cleanly transformed to E-erythro hydroxy carbamate 17 in an analogous series of reactions.

We believe that the conversion of the dihydrothiazine oxides to the acyclic amino alcohols proceeds via the sequence of steps shown in Scheme V.¹¹ Opening of 13 or 14 with the Grignard reagent initially affords an allylic sulfoxide 18.¹² ¹H NMR studies showed that this sulfoxide rearranges to a new sulfoxide 21, presumably via a [2,3]-sigmatropic rearrangement to a transient sulfenate ester 19 and its conformer 20.13 Treatment

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(9) Garigipati, R. S.; Morton, J. A.; Weinreb, S. M. Tetrahedron Lett. 1983, 24, 987

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⁽¹¹⁾ Garigipati, R. S.; Weinreb, S. M. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1983, 105, 4499. Garigipati, R. S.; Freyer, A. J.; Whittle, R. R.; Weinreb, S. M. Ibid. 1984, 106, 7861

^{(12) 3,6-}Dihydrothiazine 1-oxides had previously been opened with "hetero" nucleophiles, but not with carbon nucleophiles: Wucherpfennig, W. Justus Liebigs Ann. Chem. 1971, 761, 16.

⁽¹³⁾ For reviews of the allylic sulfoxide/sulfenate ester [2,3]-sigma-tropic rearrangement, see: Evans, D. A.; Andrews, G. C. Acc. Chem. Res. 1974, 7, 147. Hoffmann, R. W. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl. 1979, 18, 563.



of either 18 or 21 with trimethyl phosphite produces E-threo unsaturated alcohol carbamate 15. The transfer of stereochemical information from 13/14 to 15 is best rationalized by invoking envelope-like transition states for the [2,3]-sigmatropic rearrangements of 18 and 21 in which the methyl substituent at C-6 is quasi-equatorial. The erythro compound 17 is produced from Diels-Alder adduct 16 via an identical pathway involving intermediates epimeric at C-3. The net transformation accomplished in this synthetic method is the regioselective syn addition of N and O across one of the double bonds of a 1,3-diene.

Applications Using Intramolecular N-Sulfinyl Cycloadditions. The methodology described above seemed ideally suited to synthesis of a number of natural products containing vicinal amino alcohol functionality. In particular, the sphingosine bases 24 and 27 were appealing targets. However, it was clear that in order to accomplish these syntheses it would be necessary to first effect regioselective Diels-Alder reactions with unsymmetrical 1,3-dienes bearing electronically similar substituents at the 1- and 4-positions. The obvious solution to this problem was to effect the Diels-Alder steps intramolecularly, although no examples of intramolecular N-sulfinyl [4 + 2] cycloadditions had been reported. In fact, such a strategy worked beautifully.¹¹ Treatment of E, E-diene carbamate 22 (Scheme VI) with thionyl chloride gave an intermediate N-sulfinyl carbamate that rapidly cyclized to dihydrothiazine oxide 23. The compound was opened with a Grignard reagent to the allylic sulfoxide, which upon rearrangement and saponification yielded threosphingosine (24). Likewise, E,Z-diene carbamate cyclized to 26, which could be transformed to erythrosphingosine (27).

We have also utilized this methodology in the synthesis of some amino sugars.^{14,15} In one study, diene carbamate 28 was converted to the corresponding *N*sulfinyl carbamate, which cyclized intramolecularly to afford bicyclic dihydrothiazine oxide 31 as an inseparable 15:1 mixture of sulfur epimers (Scheme VII).¹⁵ None of the adduct 32, epimeric at the stereogenic center in the connecting chain, was detected. Assuming [4 + 2] cycloaddition occurs via a transition state having the carbamate carbonyl group endo the diene,⁶ it appears from inspection of models that the chairlike conformer 30, leading to adduct 32, is destabilized relative to the boatlike conformation 29, primarily due



an eclipsing of H_1/H_2 in 30. Molecular mechanics calculations indicated that conformer 29 has about 2.5 kcal/mol less strain energy than does conformer 30. Diels-Alder adduct 31 was subsequently used to synthesize amino sugar 35, a component of some aminoglycoside antibiotics. This adduct was opened to the allylic sulfoxide and rearranged, yielding unsaturated hydroxy carbamate 33 (Scheme VIII). The carbamate carbonyl group of 33 was reduced to produce an *N*methylamine, and the *O*-benzyl protecting group was reductively removed, affording amino triol 34. Oxidative cleavage of the olefinic double bond of 34 proved exceptionally difficult, but could eventually be effected by ozonolysis on silica gel, leading to pyranose 35 as a mixture of methyl anomers.

Vicinal Diamines

A variation of the above methodology that we have investigated in some detail involves the use of dihydrothiazinimines 4 (Scheme I) to stereoselectively synthesize unsaturated vicinal diamine derivatives. Some exploratory reactions were conducted with the adducts from (E,E)-hexadiene and bissulfonimide **36** (Scheme IX).¹⁶ This cycloaddition afforded a separable 1.1:1 mixture of dihydrothiazinimines **37** and **38**. It should be noted that, as in the cases of cycloadditions with mono-*N*-sulfinyl compounds 1, sulfur epimer ratios were dependent upon the particular diene and bisimide used and varied widely. Whereas the chemistry of dihydrothiazine oxides was generally independent of

⁽¹⁴⁾ Remiszewski, S. W.; Whittle, R. R.; Weinreb, S. M. J. Org. Chem. 1984, 49, 3243.

⁽¹⁵⁾ Remiszewski, S. M.; Stouch, T. R.; Weinreb, S. M. Tetrahedron 1985, 41, 1173.

⁽¹⁶⁾ Natsugari, H.; Whittle, R. R.; Weinreb, S. M. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1984, 106, 7867.



sulfur configuration, we found some dramatic effects of sulfur stereochemistry in the transformations of the corresponding dihydrothiazinimines (vide infra).

Treatment of adduct 37 with phenylmagnesium bromide, followed by trimethyl phosphite, as expected afforded the E-three vicinal sulfonamide 41. This



transformation was investigated in more detail, and an important difference from the vicinal amino alcohol synthesis via dihydrothiazine oxides was noted. If the Grignard product of 37 was isolated before desulfurization with phosphite, the expected allylic sulfilimine 39 was not observed, but rather the rearranged sulfenamide 40 was the only detectable product. Although the [2,3]-sigmatropic rearrangement of allylic sulfilimines predates the allylic sulfoxide rearrangement,¹⁷ it has not been nearly as thoroughly investigated. It is therefore not widely appreciated that the equilibrium of the allylic sulfoxide/sulfenate ester system (cf. Scheme V) is totally reversed in the case of the nitrogen analogues.^{18,19} In fact, we believe that the rearrangement of an allylic sulfilimine to the sulfenamide may be irreversible.¹⁹

We attempted to perform the identical chemistry on sulfur epimer 38, but were very surprised to find that under the conditions used for the Grignard opening of 37, 38 did not react. Under more forcing conditions, only a poor yield of E-threo product 41 could be isolated. This result was in sharp contrast to our observations in the dihydrothiazine oxide cases (vide supra) where sulfur stereochemistry played no role.

In order to help explain the difference in reactivity between epimers 37 and 38, we established the configuration and conformation of these adducts by a combination of X-ray crystallography and LIS-NMR methods. Adduct 37 was found to have the structure shown in 37A, and 38 as in 38A. In both cases, the dihydrothiazine ring exists in a half-chair with the S-N



bond quasi-axial, perhaps due to an anomeric effect. Assuming that the ring opening by the Grignard reagent occurs via an S_N2 process, it appears that the C-6 methyl substituent in 38A interferes with the incoming nucleophile, whereas no such problem exists in 37A. Indeed, in adducts with no C-6 substituent addition of phenylmagnesium bromide proceeds smoothly with both sulfur epimers (vide infra). Similar conformations were found for the dihydrothiazine oxides 13 and 14, but these systems appear to be inherently more reactive, probably for reason of electronegativity, and therefore both epimers were opened rapidly by Grignard reagents.

Fortunately, we have been able to devise an alternative method for converting the "unreactive" isomer 38



to a vicinal diamino compound. Simply heating 38 in benzene resulted in a quantitative conversion to thiadiazolidine 42 via a novel type of [2,3]-sigmatropic rearrangement. Reduction of 42 gave an excellent yield of bissulfonamide.

There are apparently two reasons why this sigmatropic rearrangement is so facile. One reason is the fact that adduct 38 prefers a conformation in which the S-N bond is quasi-axial and therefore is proximate to the C-4,5 double bond. The other is that the dihydrothiazinimine is structurally similar to an allylic sulfilimine (cf. 39) and its rearrangement product 42 is analogous to the preferred allylic sulfenamide (cf. 40). It should be emphasized here that in conversion of 37 to 40, C-6 chirality is transferred to C-4, where in rearrangement of 38 to thiadiazoline 42, it is actually the sulfur chirality that is relayed to C-4. In both sequences, the same E-three vicinal bissulfonamide 41 happens to be the final product.

This strategy for synthesis of vicinal diamines could also be applied to (E,Z)-hexadiene (Scheme X).¹⁶ Reaction of this diene with bisimide 43 gave a 1:2.4 mixture of adducts 44 and 45. The minor adduct 44 underwent the Grignard addition/rearrangement sequence to provide *E*-erythro biscarbamate 46. Epimeric adduct 45, on the other hand, did not react with phenylmagnesium bromide, but did rearrange thermally to a thiadiazolidine, which could be converted to 46. We believe that 44 and 45 exist in conformations similar to those of 37 and 38 (Scheme IX). The lack of reactivity of 45 vs 44 to Grignard reagents can be ascribed to the same type of steric factors mentioned above.

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⁽¹⁸⁾ Sharpless, K. B.; Hori. T. J. Org. Chem. 1976, 41, 176. Atkinson,

R. S.; Awad, S. B. J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun. 1975, 651. (19) Natsugari, H.; Turos, E.; Weinreb, S. M.; Cvetovich, R. J. Heterocycles 1987, 25, 19



The important observation that sulfur chirality in 38 and 45 could be efficiently transferred to carbon led us to explore some transformations of dihydrothiazinimines derived from *monosubstituted* 1,3-dienes. The C-3 monosubstituted adducts 48 and 49 were easily prepared from diene 47 and bisimide 43, which afforded a 10:1 mixture of epimers.¹⁹ As anticipated, no other regioisomeric products were formed.²



We have been able to rationally convert *both* adducts 48 and 49 to *either* threo-vicinal biscarbamate 52 or the erythro isomer 54 (Scheme XI) with a high degree of diastereoselectivity.^{19,20} For example, thermal [2,3]-sigmatropic rearrangement of *trans*-dihydrothiazinimine 48 (which undoubtedly exists as conformer 48A) stereoselectively produced thiadiazolidine 53, which was reduced to erythro biscarbamate 54.

An even more interesting transformation of 48 involved its treatment with phenylmagnesium bromide, leading cleanly to three sulfenamide 51, which was then converted to three biscarbamate 52. We believe that this reaction sequence proceeds via Grignard opening of 48 (cf. 48A, Scheme XI) with inversion at sulfur to give allylic sulfilimine 50. This intermediate rearranges through an envelope-like conformation having the Sphenyl group quasi-equatorial, which gives the three sulfenamide 51. Thus, the rigid conformation of 50 and the irreversibility of its [2,3]-sigmatropic rearrangement to 51 combine to permit selective chirality transfer from sulfur to C-4. It should be pointed out that the 3,6dihydrothiazine oxide corresponding to 48 (i.e., unsubstituted at C-6) reacts with phenylmagnesium bromide, followed by trimethyl phosphite, to give a 1:1 mixture of three and erythre vicinal amine alcohol derivatives.¹⁹ This lack of stereoselectivity results because sulfur chirality is transferred very inefficiently in [2,3]-sigmatropic rearrangements of allylic sulfoxides (cf. Scheme V) due to the rapid reversibility of that process.13



The inverse sequence of reactions could be effected with the minor Diels-Alder adduct 49. Thus, heating 49 gave a thiadiazolidine that upon NaBH₄ reduction afforded threo biscarbamate 52. Alternatively, treatment of 49 with phenylmagnesium bromide, followed by trimethyl phosphite, yielded the erythro compound 54.

A key feature of the approach to vicinal diamines from dihydrothiazinimines is that, depending upon the substitution pattern, one can utilize *either* C-6 or sulfur chirality to establish relative configuration in the final product.

Other Fragmentation/Rearrangement Sequences

3,6-Dihydrothiazine oxides are also versatile intermediates for other transformations that involve initial ring opening by a carbon nucleophile, followed by a sigmatropic rearrangement to transpose 1,4- to 1,2chirality and simultaneously create a new carbon-carbon bond. For instance, dihydrothiazine oxides 13/14can be converted stereoselectively to alcohol carbamate **60** as shown in Scheme XII.²¹ Treatment of **54** with Grignard reagent **55** gave silyl sulfoxide **56**, which was further elaborated into sulfonium salt **57** in two straightforward operations. Exposure of **57** to potassium *tert*-butoxide gave a *single* silyl sulfide **59**. This reaction probably takes place via ylide **58**, which undergoes a [2,3]-sigmatropic rearrangement to **59** via a conformation having the trimethylsilyl and C-6 methyl

(21) Garigipati, R. S.; Cordova, R.; Parvez, M.; Weinreb, S. M. Tetrahedron 1986, 42, 2979.

⁽²⁰⁾ Turos, E.; Parvez, M.; Garigipati, R. S.; Weinreb, S. M. J. Org. Chem. 1988, 53, 1116.





groups quasi-equatorial. It was possible to further elaborate 59 to the hydroxymethyl compound 60 using chemistry described by Ager.²²

Another variation of this general theme involves the addition of vinylmagnesium bromide to dihydrothiazine oxide 54 (Scheme XIII).²¹ Interestingly, the expected allyl vinyl sulfoxide 61 was not observed, but rather the sulfine 62 could be isolated in good yield. The sulfoxide 61 is undoubtedly the initial Grignard reaction product, but this compound undergoes a [3,3]-sigmatropic rearrangement at low temperature, probably via a chairlike conformation 61A, to provide 62 as the stereoisomer shown. The ease with which this rearrangement occurs suggests that it may actually be an alkoxide-accelerated process. A similar observation has been made independently by Block and Ahmad.²³

Enantioselective [4 + 2] Cycloadditions

In order to enhance the scope and synthetic utility of the above methodology, we have explored the possibility of effecting enantioselective N-sulfinyl dienophile cycloadditions.²⁴ Similar investigations have been carried out by Whitesell et al.²⁵

Both we and Whitesell have prepared the N-sulfinyl carbamate 63 derived from 8-phenylmenthol.^{24,25} The Whitesell group found that 63 reacts with (E,E)-hexadiene at room temperature to give four diastereomeric Diels-Alder adducts. However, if the cycloaddition was run at 0 °C in the presence of SnCl₄ only adduct 64 was produced. The best (but not only) rationale for for-



mation of 64 is that the diene attacks a (Z)-N-sulfinyl

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(23) Block, E.; Ahmad, S. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1985, 107, 6731. See also:
 Hwu, J. R.; Anderson, D. A. Tetrahedron Lett. 1986, 27, 4965.

(24) Remiszewski, S. W.; Yang, J.; Weinreb, S. M. Tetrahedron Lett. 1986, 27, 1853.

(25) Whitesell, J. K.; James, D.; Carpenter, J. F. J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun. 1985, 1449.

carbamate in an endo mode from the least congested face. The role of the Lewis acid in this process is not at all clear. We have similarly been able to add 1,3-cyclohexadiene to 63 using TiCl₄ as catalyst to produce a single enantiomeric product (77%).²⁴

Chiral N-sulfinyl dienophile 65, derived from (+)camphor,²⁶ has also proven to be effective in enantioselective cycloadditions.²⁴ Reaction of 65 with cyclohexadiene catalyzed by TiCl₄ gave adduct 66 as a single isomer (sulfur stereochemistry unknown). Once again, a reasonable explanation for formation of 66 is that endo attack by the diene occurs from the least hindered face of the dienophile.



Concluding Remarks

During the past several years there has been an increasing awareness of the potential of hetero Diels-Alder reactions in synthesis.^{2b,27} The methodology described in this Account allows one to efficiently and stereospecifically prepare a variety of unsaturated, nitrogen-containing molecules. In particular, acyclic amine derivatives possessing multiple chiral centers are readily accessible by this chemistry. The research described here generally involves using a [4 + 2] cycloaddition to set up relative stereochemistry in a 3.6-dihydrothiazine, followed by a stereoselective ring fragmentation/rearrangement process to rationally manipulate stereochemistry and functionality. Other applications of N-sulfinyl dienophile cycloadducts have been explored,²⁸ but space limitations preclude discussion of this work. Suffice it to say that this once obscure Diels-Alder reaction provides useful, highly functionalized synthetic intermediates.

I wish to thank my talented colleagues Ravi Garigipati, Judith Morton, Stacy Remiszewski, Ed Turos, and Hideaki Natsugari for their invaluable contributions to this research program. The important services of M. Parvez (X-ray crystallography), Alan Freyer (NMR spectroscopy), and Robert Minard (mass spectrometry) are also warmly acknowledged. This research was generously supported by the National Science Foundation.

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