# Synthesis and Structure of Bis(dialkylamino)carbeniumdithiocarboxylates

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#### ABSTRACT

2-Chloro and 2-phenoxy substituted 1,1-bis(diethylamino)ethylenes (**4a** and **4c**) react with elemental sulfur at room temperature to give the inner salt, bis(diethylamino)carbeniumdithiocarboxylate (**1a**), in excellent yields with extrusion of hydrogen chloride and phenol, respectively, thus providing a new and convenient synthesis of the structurally interesting inner salt. X-ray single crystal structure analysis of **1a** reveals that the N-C-N and S-C-S planes are nearly vertical to each other with a dihedral angle of 82.0° and that the positive and negative charges are delocalized over the N-C-N and S-C-S moieties, respectively. Results of solid-state <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **1a** are also briefly described.

#### *INTRODUCTION*

Bis(dialkylamino)carbeniumdithiocarboxylates such as 1 and 2 are a structurally interesting, unique class of inner salts. Their thermodynamic stability is probably due to delocalization of the positive charge over the N-C-N grouping and that of the negative charge over the S-C-S moiety. The first synthesis of the carbeniumdithiocarboxylates was attained by reaction of peraminoethylenes **3** with carbon disulfide, which produces a series of cyclic derivatives **2** in excellent yield [1]. Nearly contemporaneously with this report, preparation of **1** by reaction of 1,1-bis(dialkylamino)ethylene with elemental sulfur was communicated [2]. The thermolysis of 1,3-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-trichloromethylimidazolidine in the presence of carbon disulfide also produces a cyclic derivative **2** (R = 4-MeOC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>), with elimination of chloroform [3]. We report here a convenient synthesis and the X-ray diffraction analysis of **1** [4]. The new synthesis involves the reaction of 2-chloro or 2-phenoxy substituted 1,1-bis(dialkylamino)ethylenes with elemental sulfur.



#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

#### Preparation of Starting Materials

1,1-Bis(diethylamino)- and 1,1-bis(dipropylamino)-2-chloroethylenes (4a and 4b) are easily obtainable by treatment of trichloroethylene with lithium diethylamide and lithium dipropylamide, respeccompound, tivelv [5]. The known 1.1bis(diethylamino)-2-phenoxyethylene (4c) [6], was prepared in a new way. Thus, treatment of phenyl 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl ether (5) [7] with 3 equivalents of lithium diethylamide affords 1,1bis(diethylamino)-2-phenoxyethylene (4c) in 28% yield. This is in marked contrast with the fact that treatment of the sulfide and selenide analogs of 5 with lithium diethylamide gives 1-diethylamino-2phenylthioacetylene and 1-diethylamino-2-phenvlselenoacetylene, respectively [8,9].

Dedicated to Prof. Shigeru Oae on the occasion of his seventyfifth birthday.

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## Preparation of the Inner Salts 1

A mixture of 4a, elemental sulfur, and triethylamine in benzene was stirred at room temperature. The mixture turned red gradually with deposition of triethylamine hydrochloride. Chromatographic workup of the mixture after stirring for 8 hours gave bis(diethylamino)carbeniumdithiocarboxylate (1a) in 97% yield. Addition of triethylamine is necessary to remove the hydrogen chloride that is liberated along with the progress of the reaction; the reaction carried out in the absence of triethylamine produces 1a in low yield. In a similar way, the enediamine 4b reacted with sulfur to give the carbenium dithiocarboxylate 1b in 73% yield. Treatment of the phenoxy substituted enediamine 4c with sulfur also gave 1a in 70% yield along with phenol (60%), thus suggesting that not only chloride but also phenoxide ion can function as the leaving group. In this case, addition of triethylamine is not required to improve the yield of **1a**.



The initial step of the present reaction probably involves the electrophilic attack of elemental sulfur (cyclooctasulfur) on the strongly nucleophilic carbon of the enediamines 4 to give betaine intermediates 6. Then, compounds 6 extrude  $S_6$ (cyclohexasulfur) with simultaneous carbon-sulfur bond formation leading to the three-membered ring compound 7 with loss of  $X^-$  (X = Cl, OPh). Deprotonation of 7 would give rise to the final products 1 [10].

#### Properties and Structure of 1a and 1b

Both **1a** and **1b** are thermally stable, red crystalline compounds that are soluble in common organic solvents. They quickly react with methyl iodide to give quantitatively the carbenium iodides **8a** and **8b** that carry a dithioester functional group.



SCHEME 1



Compound 1a shows UV-Vis peaks at 270 ( $\epsilon$ 8400), 368 (10,800), and 435 nm (260) in  $CH_2Cl_2$ . In the <sup>13</sup>C NMR solution spectrum (CDCl<sub>3</sub>), the carbenium and dithiocarboxylate carbon signals of **1a** appear at  $\delta$  166.7 and 236.3, respectively. We have also determined the solid-state CPMAS <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 1a, in which the carbenium and dithiocarboxylate carbons appeared at  $\delta$  171.1 and 237.9, respectively (Figure 1). Thus, no dramatic difference of the chemical shift values between a solution in CDCl<sub>3</sub> and in the solid state was observed, although a small lower field shift was brought about in the solid state. Incidentally, separations between carbenium and carbenium carbon signals are 69.3 and 66.8 ppm in  $CDCl_3$  and in the solid state, respectively. At the present stage, it seems difficult to discuss what these observations tell us about the difference of the structure of 1a between solutions and in the solid state. In the IR spectra, strong absorptions are observed at 1563 cm<sup>-1</sup> for **1a** and 1555 cm<sup>-1</sup> for **1b**. These absorptions, which would be ascribable to the C-N stretchings [3], are characteristic of these types of inner salts.

The structure of 1a was also examined by Xray single crystal structure analysis. Figure 2 shows a stereoscopic view of two crystallographically independent molecules of 1a in an asymmetric unit. Bond angles and lengths data are given in Table 1. The most characteristic structural feature of 1a is that the S-C-S and N-C-N planes are nearly vertical to each other with a dihedral angle of  $82.0^{\circ}$ (Figure 3). Thus, contribution of a canonical structure such as 9 is excluded, at least in the crystalline state. The bond lengths between dithiocarboxylate and carbenium carbons, C1A-C2A and C1B-C2B, are 1.47 and 1.51 Å, respectively. A slight shortening of these bonds compared to the common C-C single bond lengths can be attributed to

TABLE 1 Bond Angles and Lengths for 1a



**FIGURE 1** Solid-state CPMAS <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **1a**. Spinning rate: top, 4 KHz; middle, 5 KHz; bottom, 6 KHz. **a**: Methyl  $\delta = 11.1, 13.9, 15.9$ ; **b**: methylene  $\delta = 42.7, 48.9$ ; **c**: carbenium  $\delta = 171.1$ ; **d**: dithiocarboxylate  $\delta = 237.9$ .

Bond	Angles (°)ª	Bond	Length (Å)ª
C2B-N1B-C3B C2B-N1B-C5B C3B-N1B-C5B C2B-N2B-C7B C2B-N2B-C9B C7B-N2B-C9B S1B-C1B-S2B S1B-C1B-C2B S2B-C1B-C2B N1B-C2B-N2B N1B-C2B-C1B N2B-C2B-C1B N1B-C3B-C4B N1B-C3B-C4B N1B-C3B-C4B N1B-C5B-C6B N2B-C7B-C8B N2B-C9B-C10B C2A-N1A-C5A C3A-N1A-C5A C3A-N1A-C5A C3A-N1A-C5A C3A-N2A-C9A S1A-C1A-S2A S1A-C1A-S2A S1A-C1A-C2A S1A-C1A-C2A N1A-C2A-C1A N1A-C2A-C1A N1A-C3A-C4A N1A-C5A-C6A N2A-C7A-C8A N2A-C7A-C8A N2A-C7A-C8A N2A-C7A-C8A	121(1) 120(1) 119(1) 120(1) 121(1) 115(1) 129.2(8) 114.2(9) 116.6(9) 124(1) 118(1) 109(1) 109(1) 114(1) 109(1) 114(1) 123(1) 117(1) 123(1) 117(1) 123(1) 117(1) 129.4(8) 113(1) 117.2(9) 122(1) 118(1) 120(1) 109(1) 114(1) 107(1) 114(2)	S1B-C1B S2B-C1B N1B-C2B N1B-C3B N2B-C2B N2B-C2B N2B-C7B N2B-C9B C1B-C2B C3B-C4B C5B-C6B C7B-C8B C9B-C10B S1A-C1A S2A-C1A N1A-C2A N1A-C2A N1A-C3A N1A-C5A N2A-C2A N2A-C7A N2A-C9A C1A-C2A C3A-C4A C5A-C6A C7A-C8A C9A-C10A	$\begin{array}{c} 1.68(1)\\ 1.67(1)\\ 1.32(2)\\ 1.49(2)\\ 1.50(2)\\ 1.34(2)\\ 1.53(2)\\ 1.53(2)\\ 1.51(2)\\ 1.51(2)\\ 1.53(2)\\ 1.56(2)\\ 1.51(2)\\ 1.53(2)\\ 1.68(1)\\ 1.67(1)\\ 1.37(2)\\ 1.53(2)\\ 1.56(2)\\ 1.34(2)\\ 1.47(2)\\ 1.47(2)\\ 1.48(2)\\ 1.47(2)\\ 1.53(2)\\ 1.47(2)\\ 1.53(2)\\ 1.47(2)\\ 1.53(2)\\ 1.47(2)\\ 1.55(3)\\ 1.35(3)\\ \end{array}$

<sup>a</sup>Values in parentheses are estimated standard deviations in the least significant digits.

the coulombic effects. The carbenium carbon-nitrogen bond lengths, C2A-N1A, C2A-N2A, C2B-N1B, and C2B-N2B, are 1.37, 1.34, 1.34, and 1.32 Å, respectively. These bond lengths are rather closer to those of common C=N double bonds (1.30 Å) rather than to those of C-N single bonds (1.47 Å), which is indicative of the delocalization of the positive charge of **1a** over the N-C-N moiety. The av-



FIGURE 2 Stereoscopic view of two crystallographically independent molecules of 1a in an asymmetric unit.



FIGURE 3

erage bite angle of S–C–S (129°) is larger than that of N–C–N (123°), probably due to the larger size of sulfur compared with nitrogen. The dithiocarboxylate carbon–sulfur bond lengths, C1A-S1A, C1A-S2A, C1B-S1B, and C1B-S2B, are 1.68, 1.67, 1.68, and 1.67 Å, respectively. These values reveal that two C–S bonds of **1a** are equivalent and have nearly equal bond lengths, with delocalization of the negative charge over the S–C–S moiety. These results are in harmony with those obtained with the crystal structure analysis of the cyclic compound **2** (R = Ph) [3]. Thus, it is concluded that the structure of these types of inner salts can best be expressed in the structural formulas such as **1** and **2**.

## EXPERIMENTAL

#### General Procedures

Melting points were determined in open capillary tubes on a Mel-Temp melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL FX-90Q spectrometer (90 MHz) or a Brucker AM-400 spectrometer (400 MHz) with Me₄Si as an internal standard; <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were also taken on the above instruments (22.5 and 100.6 MHz), with reference to the center of  $CDCl_3$  (77.0). The solid-state <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 1a was determined on a Brucker AM-400 spectrometer (100.6 MHz). Infrared spectra were determined on a Hitachi 270-50 infrared spectrophotometer. Mass spectra were obtained at 70 eV on a Shimadzu QP-1000 spectrometer or a JEOL DX-303 spectrometer. UV-Vis spectra were recorded on a Shimadzu UV-160A spectrophotomer. Elemental analyses were performed by the Chemical Analysis Center of Saitama University. Silica gel used for column chromatography was 70-230 mesh ASTM, Merck 7734 Kiesel Gel.

1,1-Bis(diethylamino)-2-phenoxyethylene (4c). To a stirred and cooled  $(-50^{\circ}\text{C})$  solution of 3.99 g (22.7 mmol) of phenyl 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl ether and 5.30 g (72.6 mmol) of diethylamine in 60 mL of ether was added dropwise 43.7 mL (72.6 mmol) of a 1.66 M hexane solution of BuLi under argon. The mixture was warmed to room temperature slowly and stirred for 3 hours. The resulting insoluble material was filtered off and the filtrate was evaporated under reduced pressure. The brown residual oil was distilled to give 1.07 g (28%) of 4c, bp 100°C/0.15 mm Hg; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  0.97 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 6H), 1.04 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 6H), 2.98 (m, 8H), 5.41 (s, 1H), 6.92 (m, 1H), 7.01 (m, 2H), 7.26 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.6 MHz)  $\delta$  11.82 (q), 13.34 (q), 42.37 (t), 43.25 (t), 114.97 (d), 116.00 (d), 120.66 (d), 129.23 (d), 144.00 (s), 159.16 (s); MS, m/z 262  $(M^{+}).$ 

Bis(diethylamino)carbeniumdithiocarboxylate (1a) from 4a and Sulfur. A mixture of 3.09 g (15.0 mmol)

of 4a, 2.09 g (8.2 mmol as  $S_8$ ) of elemental sulfur, and 5.58 g (75.0 mmol) of triethylamine in 200 mL of benzene was stirred at room temperature for 8 hours. The resulting crystalline precipitate of triethylamine hydrochloride (1.93 g, 94%) was removed by filtration and the filtrate was evaporated under reduced pressure. The crystalline residue was chromatographed on a column of silica gel (200 g). The column was first eluted with hexane to remove excess sulfur and then with  $CH_2Cl_2/EtOAc (95/5)$  to give 3.40 g (97%) of 1a, mp 98°C; red needles (from hexane); results by <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $(CDCl_3, 400 \text{ MHz}) \delta 1.32 (t, J = 7.2 \text{ Hz}, 12\text{H}), 3.59$  $(q, J = 7.2 \text{ Hz}, 8\text{H}); \text{ by }^{13}\text{C NMR} (\text{CDCl}_3, 100.6 \text{ MHz})$  $\delta$  12.64 (q), 46.49 (t), 166.65 (s), 236.20 (s); by solid <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100.6 MHz) δ 13.92, 48.9, 171.1, 237.9; by IR (KBr) 1050, 1563 cm<sup>-1</sup>; by UV-Vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\lambda_{\max}$  ( $\epsilon$ ) 270 (8400), 368 (10,800), and 435 nm (260); by MS, m/z 232 (M<sup>+</sup>). Anal. calcd for  $C_{10}H_{20}N_2S_2$ : C, 51.68; H, 8.67; N, 12.05; found: C, 51.67; H, 8.47; N, 12.10.

## The Dithiocarboxylate 1a from 4c and Sulfur.

A mixture of 460 mg (1.76 mmol) of 4c and 240 mg (0.94 mmol as  $S_8$ ) in 25 mL of benzene was stirred at room temperature for 4.5 hours. The mixture was extracted with 5 mL of 1M NaOH. The aqueous layer was acidified with 1M hydrochloric acid, saturated with NaCl, and extracted with 10 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> extract was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to give 102 mg (62%) of phenol. The original organic layer was washed with water, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and evaporated. The crystal-line residue was chromatographed on a column of silica gel to give sulfur and 283 mg (70%) of 1a.

# Bis(dipropylamino)carbeniumdithiocarboxylate (1b) from 4b and Sulfur.

A mixture of 262 mg (1.0 mmol) of **4b**, 141 mg (0.55 mmol as  $S_8$ ) of sulfur, and 527 mg (5.2 mmol) of triethylamine in 15 mL of benzene was stirred at room temperature for 5 hours. The resulting precipitate was collected by filtration to give 85 mg (62%) of triethylamine hydrochloride, and the filtrate was evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was subjected to silica gel column chromatography. Elution with hexane gave excess sulfur and then, with  $CH_2Cl_2/EtOAC$  (95/5), 210 mg (73%) of **1b**, mp 104.5–106°C; red needles (from cyclohexane); results by <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 90 MHz)  $\delta$ 0.97 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 12H), 1.77 (m, 8H), 3.46 (t, J =7.3 Hz, 8H); by  ${}^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 22.5 MHz)  $\delta$  11.01 (q), 20.76 (t), 53.68 (t), 170.14 (s), 236.29 (s); by IR (KBr) 1054, 1556 cm<sup>-1</sup>; by UV-Vis  $\lambda_{max}$  ( $\epsilon$ ) 225 (123,000), 271 (5860), 369 nm (7800); by MS, m/z288 (M<sup>+</sup>). Anal. calcd for  $C_{14}H_{28}N_2S_2$ : C, 58.28; H, 9.78; N. 9.71; found: C, 58.24; H, 9.50; N, 9.63.

Chemical formula	$C_{10}H_{20}N_2S_2$	
Formula weight	232.4	
Crystal habit	red plate	
Crystal size	$0.11 \times 0.25 \times 0.30$ mm	
Crystal system	monoclinic	
Space group	C2/c	
Unit cell dimensions		
a (Å)	26.339(8)	
b (Å)	7.838(6)	
c (Å)	26.397(8)	
B (dea)	90.50	
$V(A^3)$	5449(5)	
Ζ	16	
Density: (calcd) (g cm <sup>-3</sup> )	1.133	
Absolute coefficient: $\mu$ (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	3.6	
Diffractometer used	Rigaku AFC-5	
X-ray source	sealed tube	
Monochrometer	graphite	
Radiation: (Å)	Mo K.; 0.71073	
Temperature: T (K)	298	
Data collection speed (deg/min)	5.0	
Scan type	θ-2θ	
Scan range	$2^{\circ} < 2\theta < 60^{\circ}$	
Standard reflections	3 every 150 reflections	
Reflections collected	4882	
Reflections observed	1543 ( $F > 3.0 \sigma(F)$ )	
Octants	$+h, +k, \pm l$	
Internal consistency: Rint	0.0458 for 103 reflections	
Number of parameters varied	254	
Residuals <sup>a</sup> : R: R.	0.107; 0.114	
Goodness of fit: S <sup>o</sup>	2.591	
$aR = \Sigma  F_0  -  F_0    / \Sigma  F_0 , R_w =  \Sigma w$	$w( F_o  -  F_c )^2 / \Sigma w  F_o ^2]^{1/2}$ , where	

#### TABLE 2 Crystallographic Data for 1a

 ${}^{a}R = \Sigma ||F_{o}| - |F_{c}||/\Sigma|F_{o}|, R_{w} = [\Sigma w(|F_{o}| - |F_{c}|)^{2}/\Sigma w|F_{o}|^{2}]^{1/2}, \text{ where } \\ w = 1/[\sigma(F_{o})^{2} + (0.020F_{o})^{2}]. \\ {}^{b}S = [(\Sigma w(|F_{o}| - |F_{c}|)^{2}/n_{data} - n_{par})]^{1/2}.$ 

# Carbenium Salts 8a and 8b by Methylation of 1a and 1b.

Excess methyl iodide was added to a stirred solution of **1a** or **1b** (1 mmol) in 5 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. After the addition, the mixture was stirred for several minutes and evaporated under reduced pressure. The residual solid was triturated with benzene to give pure **8a** or **8b** nearly quantitatively. **8a**, mp 112.5–114°C; results by <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  1.38 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 12H), 2.96 (s, 3H), 3.75 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 8H); by <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.6 MHz)  $\delta$ 13.54 (q), 20.64 (q), 48.44 (t), 163.84 (s), 215.33 (s); by IR (KBr) 1102, 1456, 1589, 2896, 2976 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>2</sub>IS<sub>2</sub>: C, 35.29; H, 6.19; N, 7.48; found: C, 35.15; H, 6.00; N, 7.35. **8b**, mp 60–62°C; results by <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 90 MHz)  $\delta$  1.01 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 12H), 1.77 (m, 8H), 3.05 (s, 3H), 3.61 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 8H); by <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 22.5 MHz)  $\delta$  10.85 (q), 20.19 (t), 20.93 (q), 54.73 (t), 165.67 (s), 215.40 (s). Anal. calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>31</sub>N<sub>2</sub>IS<sub>2</sub>: C, 41.85; H, 7.26; N, 6.51; found: C, 41.74; H, 7.08; N, 6.43.

X-Ray Diffraction Analysis of 1a. A crystal grown in ether was dried and anchored on a glass fiber with a cyanoacrylate glue, and the X-ray diffraction measurement was carried out in air at  $25^{\circ}$ C. The crystallographic data are given in Table 2.

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