ANNELATION OF QUINOXALINE BY SULFUR STABILIZED CARBANIONS.

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<u>Abstract</u> - Thieno [3,4-b] quinoxaline derivatives were prepared by nucleophilic addition of carbanions of sulfones, sulfoxides and sulfides on quinoxaline. The use of dissymmetric sulfones or sulfoxides gave diastereoisomers which were isolated and characterized.

Organometallic compounds are of little value in the metalation of alkylquinoxalines. Their tendency is rather to add to the azomethine linkage of quinoxaline, and this addition is often followed by hydride elimination restoring the aromaticity of the nucleus <sup>1</sup>. Such reactions may afford a way of synthesis for substituted quinoxalines. Similar procedures involving intramolecular nucleophilic attack by a deprotonated amino group have been used for the annelation of quinoxaline, by creation of a pyrrole <sup>2</sup> or aziridine <sup>3</sup> heterocycle. We report here a twofold addition of carbanions from sulfones, sulfoxides and sulfides to the azomethine linkage of quinoxaline and the isolation of diastereoisomers with a relative stereoselectivity in the case of dissymmetric sulfones and sulfoxides. Sulfones were studied first. Dimethyl sulfone (1 mol) was metalated by butyllithium or lithium diethylamide (LDA) (1 mol) and carbanion <u>1</u> then reacted with quinoxaline by nucleophilic addition according to Scheme 1. The yield of adduct <u>4</u> was 82 %.





In a complementary experiment, the diamion of dimethyl sulfone, initially prepared by use of a twofold excess of butyllithium, was condensed with quinoxaline. The yield of compound <u>4</u> was not increased (75 %), and, consequently, our standard procedure for metalation was performed with 1/1 quantities of sulfone and butyllithium or LDA. This involves, in adduct <u>2</u>, an internal metalation of the methyl group to give carbanion <u>3</u> which cyclizes by a second nucleophilic attack (Scheme 1).

The structure of <u>4</u> was established by elemental analysis, and by mass, <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C nmr spectrometry. The condensation of dibutyl sulfone with quinoxaline formed two chiral centers, and we could isolate two diastereoisomers, <u>5</u> (46 %) and <u>6</u> (33 %), by column chromatography.



Their structure was elucidated by <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C nmr (Table I). For compound 5, symmetry can be observed in <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C nmr spectra. Coupling constants  $J_{1-9a} = 5$  Hz and  $J_{3a-3} \approx 5$  Hz are in agreement with a <u>cis</u> configuration for  $H_3-H_{3a}$  and  $H_1-H_{9a}$ .

TABLE	I
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<sup>1</sup> Hnmr	н <sub>1</sub>	Н3	<sup>Н</sup> За	<sup>H</sup> 9a	<sup>н</sup> 5	н <sub>8</sub>	H <sub>6</sub>	<sup>н</sup> 7	
4	3.60-2.	.90 (4H)	4.30-4.	.00 (2H)	6.60-6		.40 (4H)		
5	3.15	5 (2H)	3.65	5 (2H)	6.70-6.50			(4H)	
<u>6</u>	3.15 (1H)	3.20 (1H)	3.95 (1H)	3.60 (1H)	6.75-6.55 (4H)			;)	
1	3.25 (1H)	3.15 (1H)	3.68 (1H)	3.62 (1H)	6.75-6.55 (4н)			i)	
<u>8</u>	3.20 (1H)	3.20 (1H)	3.95 (1H)	3.55 (1H)	6.75-6.55 (4н			1)	
2	3.35 (1H)	3.15 (1H)	3.65 (1н)	3.90 (1H)	6.80-6.50 (4H)			()	
<u>10</u>		3.10 (1H)	3.75 (1H)	3.85 (1H)	6	. <b>80-</b> 6,	50 (4H	i)	

	J <sub>1-9a</sub>	<sup>J</sup> 3a-9a	<sup>Ј</sup> 3-3а
5	5 Hz		5 Hz
<u>6</u>	11 Hz	3 Hz	5 Hz
1	6 Hz	4 Hz	3 Hz
<u>8</u>	11 Hz	3 Hz	4 Hz
2	4.5 Hz	3 Hz	11 Hz
<u>10</u>		4 Hz	12 Hz

13 <sub>Cnmr</sub>	°,	с <sub>з</sub>	с <sub>за</sub>	c <sub>ya</sub>	C <sub>4a</sub>	C <sub>8a</sub>	с <sub>5</sub>	с <sub>в</sub>	с <sub>6</sub>	с <sub>7</sub>
4	56.3		49	9.8	130.7		113.9		118.0	
5	5 54		65.3		130.0		11	115.0 119.		9.9
<u>6</u>	50.4	55.4	61.9	66.0	129.1	130.4	115.1	115.6	119.6	120.0
I	54.2	55.5	60.2	65.4	129.9 114.8		114.8		11	9.6
<u>8</u>	5 <b>0.</b> 4	56.5	56.8	65.9	130.3	129.2	115.1	115.5	119.6	120.1
2	51.2	55-4	61.1	61.5	130.4	130.7	114.9	115.5	119.6	120.1
<u>10</u>	71.8	61.4	53.1	61.9	128.0	-131.0	111.6-120.3			

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The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C nmr spectra of isomer <u>6</u> involve molecular dissymmetry (Table I) since chemical shifts for protons and carbons in 1-3 and 3a-9a positions are different. The junction of pyrazine and thiophene rings is <u>cis</u> ( $J_{3a-9a} = 3$  Hz). Protons in 3 and 3a are also <u>cis</u> ( $J_{3a-3a} = 5$  Hz), while protons in 1 and 9a are <u>trans</u> ( $J_{1-9a} = 11$  Hz).

In the preponderant diastereoisomer 5 the propyl substituents are in a pseudoequatorial position. A more complex case was studied when we reacted a dissymmetrical sulfone, ethylbutyl sulfone, with quinoxaline. Four products could be isolated by column chromatography : three isomers 7, 8, 9 and a more complex compound <u>10</u>. In all of these compounds, the pyrazine-thiophene junction is <u>cis</u>  $(J_{3a}-9a = 3-4 \text{ Hz})$ . The structure proposed for 7 is supported by the low values of coupling constants  $(J_{1-9a} = 6 \text{ Hz and } J_{3-3a} = 3 \text{ Hz})$ . In compound 8, the configuration is <u>cis</u> for protons  $H_3$  and  $H_{3a}$   $(J_{3-3a} = 4 \text{ Hz})$  and <u>trans</u> for protons 1 and 9a  $(J_{1-9a} = 11 \text{ Hz})$ , while in compound 9, protons  $H_3$  and  $H_{3a}$  are <u>trans</u>  $(J_{3-3a} = 11 \text{ Hz})$  and  $H_1$  and  $H_9$  are <u>cis</u>  $(J_{1-9a} = 4.5 \text{ Hz})$ .

While  $\underline{7}$ ,  $\underline{8}$  and  $\underline{9}$  are diastereoisomeric molecules, the structure of <u>10</u> is quite different. Elemental analysis and mass spectrometry ( $\mathbb{M}^{+*} = 410$ ) were in agreement with the condensation of 1 mol of compounds  $\underline{7}$ ,  $\underline{8}$ ,  $\underline{9}$  or a fourth isomer with 1 mol of quinoxaline. In the <sup>13</sup>C nmr spectrum, characteristic signals of a singlet for C<sub>1</sub> and a doublet for C<sub>3</sub> suggested that C<sub>4</sub> was a junction center.

Decisive arguments were obtained by <sup>1</sup>H nmr spectroscopy :

-  $H_{\overline{j}a}$  and  $H_{9a}$  are <u>cis</u>  $(J_{\overline{j}a-9a} = 4 \text{ Hz})$ ;

~  $H_{3a}$  and  $H_{3}$  are <u>trans</u>  $(J_{3a-3} = 12 \text{ Hz})$ ;

-  $J_{2'-3'} = 5$  Hz supports a <u>cis</u> junction ;

The irradiation of the methyl group on  $C_1$  gave an NOE effect on  $H_{9a}$  but not on  $H_3$ , ;  $H_{9a}$  and  $CH_3$  are <u>cis</u> while  $H_3$ , and  $CH_3$  are <u>trans</u>.

A 2 D-nmr correlated  ${}^{1}\text{H}-{}^{13}\text{C}$  nmr spectrum allowed a complete assignment and the establishment of its stereochemistry <sup>4</sup>. Compound <u>10</u> was probably formed by the condensation of the fourth diastereoisomer with a second mol of quinoxaline.



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Sulfoxides reacted in the same way as sulfones, but yields were lower (51 % in the case of <u>11</u>).



The condensation of the dissymmetrical sulfoxide  $CH_3$ -SO- $CH_2$ -S- $CH_3$  with quinoxaline led to compounds <u>12</u> and <u>13</u>.



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In the <sup>1</sup>H nmr spectrum of <u>13</u>, coupling constants were in agreement with a <u>cis</u> junction  $(J_{3a-9a} = 4 \text{ Hz})$  and a <u>trans</u> configuration for  $H_{9a}$  and  $H_1$   $(J_{1-9a} = 9 \text{ Hz})$ . In the case of <u>12</u>, it was not possible to differentiate between  $H_1$ ,  $H_{3a}$  and  $H_{9a}$ , because of the proximity of their chemical shifts (see Table II). If we except the stereochemistry of sulfoxide, the formation of only two diastereoisomers is predictable and we can assign to <u>12</u> the configuration where S-CH<sub>3</sub> is  $\otimes$  and  $H_1$ ,  $H_{3a}$ ,  $H_{9a}$  are  $\beta$ .

TABLE II

13 <sub>Cnmr</sub> DMSOd <sub>6</sub>	C <sup>1</sup>	°3	C <sub>3a</sub>	c <sub>9a</sub>	C <sub>4a</sub>	C <sub>Ba</sub>	°5	с <sub>8</sub>	° <sub>6</sub>	°7
<u>12</u>	75-3	55.2	52 <b>.2</b>	56.9	130.7	131.6	113.8	117.5	118.0	114.0
<u>13</u>	68.1	58.5	50.4	58.5	131.5	131.9	113.6	118.6	118.8	114.1

<sup>1</sup> Hnmr DMSOd <sub>6</sub>	<sup>Н</sup> 1	н <sub>з</sub>	<sup>Н</sup> за	H <sub>9a</sub>	<sup>н</sup> 5	<sup>н</sup> е	<sup>н</sup> 6	<sup>н</sup> 7
<u>12</u>	3.8-3.7 (1H)	3.62 (1H) 2.65 (1H)	3.8-3.	6	.60-6.	40 (4H	:)	
<u>13</u>	<b>3.8</b> 5 (1H)	3.60 (1H) 2.80 (1H)	3.90 (1H)	4.12 (1H)	6	.55-6.	35 (4H	:)

Structures and yields of isomers isolated in the condensation of sulfones and sulfoxides with quinoxaline are presented in Table III.

### TABLE III

		° <sub>1</sub>	°3	° <sub>3a</sub>	C <sub>9a</sub>	Yield %
5	ß	Ħ	н	H	H	48 %
<u> </u>	α	Pr	Pr			40.00
6	ß	Pr	H	Н	H	<b>7</b> 7 %
	X	Н	Pr			<b>))</b> //
.7	ß	н	н	Н	н	12 %
<u>ــ</u>	α	Me	Pr			42 70
8	ß	Me	H	Н	н	13,04
-	x	Н	Pr			
9	ß	н	Pr	H	H	12 %
-	X	Me	H			- ,,
10	ß	Me	Pr	H	H	9%
<u></u>	×	-ଜ (*)	Н			2.74
<u>12</u>	ß	H	Ĥ	H	Ħ	12 %
	X	SCH <sub>3</sub>	H			4 <u>6</u> 3
	ß	SCH <sub>3</sub>	н	H	H	10.04
	X	Н	н			12 70

(\*) Q = Quinoxaline

It can be seen that the preponderant isomer is always the one with  $H_1$ ,  $H_3$ ,  $H_{3a}$  and  $H_{9a}\beta$ , other substituents ( $CH_3$ ,  $C_3H_7$ ,  $SCH_3$ ) being  $\propto$  (pseudoequatorial preferential configuration). The reaction of dimethyl sulfide with quinoxaline could be performed according to the described procedure, with the addition of tetramethylethylenediamine (TMEDA) for the metalation step. At -70°C, three compounds were obtained from the reaction mixture : <u>14</u> (1 %), <u>15</u> (30 %), <u>16</u> (10 %). When the reaction was performed at 20°C, the diadduct <u>17</u> (32 %) was also isolated. The compounds <u>15</u> and <u>16</u> were probably formed by an oxydo reduction reaction from the unstable monoadduct (see Scheme 2).



Scheme 2

The annelation product <u>14</u> was formed in very poor yield (1 %). However, monosubstitution (<u>15</u> and <u>16</u>) and even disubstitution (<u>17</u>) were easier than in the analogous reactions of sulfones and sulfoxides. The same difficulties were encountered with methyl cyanomethyl sulfide : only 1 % of the annelation product <u>18</u> could be isolated.



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The following aspects of the reactivity of sulfone <u>4</u> and sulfoxide <u>11</u> were studied : Lead tetracetate oxidation led to aromatization of the tetrahydropyrazinic molety, affording <u>198</u> and <u>19b</u>; compound <u>19b</u> has been described previously <sup>5</sup>;



Reduction of sulfoxide <u>11</u> by NaBH<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub><sup>6</sup> gave the sulfide <u>14</u> (68 % yield).

#### EXPERIMENTAL

Melting points were determined on a Kofler hot stage apparatus and are uncorrected. <sup>1</sup>H Nmr spectra were recorded on VARIAN T 60 and BRUKER AM 250 spectrometers and <sup>13</sup>C nmr on a VARIAN CFT 20 instrument. Chemical shifts are expressed in ppm relative to tetramethylsilane as internal standard. Mass spectra were determined on a VG 70-70F mass spectrometer (SAMM Centre d'Etudes Pharmaceutiques Châtenay-Malabry). Elemental analyses were determined wich a Perkin Elmer 240 model automatic analyser.

## 1,3,3a,4,9,9a-Hexahydrothieno [3,4-b] quinoxaline 2,2-Dioxide (4).

To a stirred solution of 0.02 mol (1.88 g) of dimethyl sulfore in 50 ml of freshly distilled tetrahydrofuran was added 0.02 mol of butyllithium (12.5 ml of 1.6 M butyllithium in hexane), and after 30 min at room temperature 0.02 mol (2.6 g) of quinoxaline. After 4 h, 2 ml of distillated water were added. The reaction mixture was evaporated to dryness, then fractionated by elution from a column of silica gel 60 (MERCK 70-230 mesh ASTM) with  $CH_2Cl_2$ .

Yield : 82 %. mp : 208°C (ethanol). Ma (m/z) : 224 (M<sup>+</sup>). <sup>1</sup>H nmr (DMSOd<sub>6</sub>, 60 MHz) and <sup>13</sup>C nmr (DMSOd<sub>6</sub>) : Table I. Anal. Calcd for  $C_{10}H_{12}N_2O_2S$  : C, 53.55 ; H, 5.39 ; N, 12.49. Found : C, 53.50 ; H, 5.51 ; N, 12.34.

# 1,3-Dipropyl-1,3,3a,4,9,9a-hexahydrothieno [3,4-b] quinoxaline 2,2-Dioxide.

This compound was prepared from dibutyl sulfone (0.02 mol, 3.56 g) as described for compound 4 and fractionated by column chromatography using hexane-ethyl acetate (9/1 then 8/2). Isomer (5) White crystalline powder. Yield : 46 %. mp : 84°C (ethanol). Ms (m/z) : 309 (M+1), 308 (M<sup>+</sup>) <sup>1</sup>H nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 250 MHz) and <sup>13</sup>C nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) : Table I. Anal. Calcd for  $C_{16}H_{24}N_2O_2S$  : C, 62.31 ; H, 7.84 ; N, 9.08. Found : C, 62.52 ; H, 7.87 ; N, 8.89. Isomer (6) White powder. Yield : 33 %. mp : 91°C (ethanol). Ms (m/z) : 309 (M+1), 308 (M<sup>+</sup>). <sup>1</sup>H nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 250 MHz) and <sup>13</sup>C nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) : Table I. Anal. Calcd for  $C_{16}H_{24}N_2O_2S$  : C, 62.31 ; H, 7.84 ; N, 9.08. Found : C, 62.52 ; H, 7.87 ; N, 8.89.

# 1-Methyl-3-propyl-1,3,3a,4,9,9a-hexahydrothieno [3,4-b] quinoxaline 2,2-Dioxide.

This compound was prepared from ethyl butyl sulfone (0.02 mol, 3 g) as described for compound <u>4</u>. The chromatography column was eluted with hexane-ethyl acetate (8/2). <u>Isomer (7)</u> White powder. Yield : 42 %. mp : 134°C (ethanol). <sup>1</sup>H nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 250 MHz) and <sup>13</sup>C nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) : Table I. Anal. Calcd for  $C_{14}H_{20}N_2O_2S$  : C, 59.98 ; H, 7.19 ; N, 9.99. Found : C, 59.77 ; H, 6.98 ; N, 9.81. <u>Isomer (8)</u> White powder. Yield : 13 %. mp : 161°C (ethanol). Ms (m/z) : 280 (M<sup>+</sup>). <sup>1</sup>H nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 250 MHz) and <sup>13</sup>C nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) : Table I. Anal. Calcd for  $C_{14}H_{20}N_2O_2S$  : C, 59.98 ; H, 7.19 ; N, 9.99. Found : C, 59.77 ; H, 7.32 ; N, 9.82. <u>Isomer (9)</u> White powder. Yield : 12 %. mp : 174°C (ethanol). <sup>1</sup>H nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 250 MHz) and <sup>13</sup>C nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) : Table I. Anal. Calcd for  $C_{14}H_{20}N_2O_2S$  : C, 59.98 ; H, 7.19 ; N, 9.99. Found : C, 60.11 ; H, 7.30 ; N, 9.81.

### <u>Isomer (10</u>)

# Pyrrolo([4,5-b]1',2',3',4'-tetrahydroquinoxaline)[1,2,3-lm]-1-methyl-3-propyl-1,3,3a,4,9, 9a-hexahydrothieno[3,4-b]quinoxaline 2,2-Dioxide.

Yellow powder. Yield : 9 %. mp : 255°C (ethanol). Ms (m/z) : 410 (M<sup>+</sup>). <sup>1</sup>H nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 250 MHz) and <sup>13</sup>C nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) : Table I. Anal. Calcd for  $C_{22}H_{26}N_4O_2S$  : C, 64.36 ; H, 6.38 ; N, 13.65. Found : C, 64.24 ; H, 6.61 ; N, 13.29.

# 1,3,3a,4,9,9a-Hexahydrothieno 3,4-b quinoxaline 2-Oxide (11).

This compound was prepared from dimethyl sulfoxide (0.02 mol, 1.46 g) as described for compound <u>4</u>. It was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel, ethyl acetate-methanol (9/1) being used for elution.

White powder. Yield : 51 %. mp : 252°C (ethanol). Ms (m/z) : 208 (M<sup>+</sup>). <sup>1</sup>H nmr (DMSOd<sub>6</sub>, 60 MHz) : 6.60-6.40 (m, 4H) ; 5.70 (m, 2H exchanged by  $D_2O$ ) ; 3.90-3.60 (m, 2H) ; 3.50-3.30 (m, 2H) ; 2.70-2.40 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C nmr (DMSOd<sub>6</sub>) : 52.8 (2d,  $C_{3a}$ ,  $C_{9a}$ ) ; 56.3 (2t,  $C_1$ ,  $C_3$ ) ; 113.8 (2d,  $C_5$ ,  $C_8$ ) ; 117.5 (2d,  $C_6$ ,  $C_7$ ) ; 131.5 (2e,  $C_{4a}$ ,  $C_{8a}$ ). Anal. Calcd for  $C_{10}H_{12}N_2OS$  : C, 57.67 ; H, 5.81 ; N, 13.45. Found : C, 57.73 ; H, 5.93 ; N, 13.32.

# 1-Methylthio-1,3,3a,4,9,9a-hexahydrothieno 3,4-b quinoxaline 2-Oxide.

This compound was prepared from methyl sulfinylmethyl sulfide (0.02 mol, 2.48 g) as described for compound  $\underline{4}$  and chromatographed on silica gel using ethyl acetate then ethyl acetate-methanol (9/1) as eluent.

### <u>Isomer (12</u>)

White powder. Yield : 42 %. mp : 180°C (ethanol). Ms (m/z) : 254 (M<sup>+</sup>). <sup>1</sup>H nmr (DMSOd<sub>6</sub>, 250 MHz) and <sup>13</sup>C nmr (DMSOd<sub>6</sub>) : Table II. Anal. Calcd for  $C_{11}H_{14}N_2OS_2$  : C, 51.94 ; H, 5.55 ; N, 11.01. Found : C, 51.93 ; H, 5.63 ; N, 11.03.

### Isomer (13)

White powder. Yield : 12 %. mp : 231°C (ethanol). Ms (m/z) : 254 (M<sup>+</sup>). <sup>1</sup>H nmr (DMSOd<sub>6</sub>, 250 MHz) and <sup>13</sup>C nmr (DMSOd<sub>6</sub>) : Table II. Anal. Calcd for  $C_{11}H_{14}N_2OS_2$  : C, 51.94 ; H, 5.55 ; N, 11.01. Found : C, 51.76 ; H, 5.54 ; N, 11.04.

### 1,3,3a,4,9,9a-Hexahydrothieno 3,4-b quinoxaline (14).

To a stirred solution of 0.05 mol of butyllithium (31.5 ml, 1.6 M butyllithium in hexane) was added dropwise 0.05 mol (5.8 g) of TMEDA, then at 0°C, 0.05 mol (3.1 g) of dimethyl sulfide. The reaction mixture was stirred for 4 h at room temperature, then cooled to -70°C, and 0.05 mol (6.5 g) of quinoxaline in 30 ml of freshly distilled THF was added.

After 4 h at room temperature, distilled water (2 ml) was added. The reaction mixture was evaporated to dryness and chromatographed on silica gel using  $CH_2Cl_2$  as eluent. This compound was also obtained from product <u>11</u> by reduction : to a stirred solution of 0.015 mol of NaBH<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> in 150 ml of THF [LALANCETTE reactif <sup>6</sup>] was added 0.004 mol of compound <u>11</u>. After 4 h at room temperature the excess of NaBH<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> was neutralized with 5 ml of ethanol. The reaction mixture was evaporated to dryness and chromatographed on silica gel (elution with  $CH_2Cl_2$ ). Yield : 68 %. White crystals. Yield : 1 %. mp : 164°C (ethanol). Ms (m/z) : 192 (M<sup>+</sup>). <sup>1</sup>H nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 60 MHz) : 6.60 (m, 4H) ; 4.00-3.80 (m, 2H) ; 3.80-3.60 (m, 2H exchanged by D<sub>2</sub>O) ; 3.20-2.70 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C nmr (DMSOd<sub>6</sub>) : 33.6 (2t, C<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>3</sub>) ; 55.7 (2d, C<sub>3a</sub>, C<sub>9a</sub>) ; 113.9 (2d, C<sub>5</sub>, C<sub>8</sub>) ; 117.8 (2d, C<sub>6</sub>, C<sub>7</sub>) ; 132.6 (2s, C<sub>4a</sub>, C<sub>8a</sub>). Anal. Calcd for  $C_{10}H_{12}N_2S$  : C, 62.46 ;

#### 2-(Methylthiomethyl)quinoxaline (15).

#### Isolated from the abovementioned reaction mixture.

H, 6.29; N, 14.57. Found : C, 62.48; H, 6.22; N, 14.64.

Unstable white crystals. Yield : 30 %. <sup>1</sup>H nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 60 MHz) : 8.95 (s, 1H) ; 8.20-7.65 (m, 4H) ; 3.95 (s, 2H) ; 2.05 (s, 3H). Anal. Calcd for  $C_{10}H_{10}N_2S$  : C, 63.13 ; H, 5.30 ; N, 14.72. Found : C, 63.65 ; H, 5.62 ; N, 14.67.

#### 2-(Methylthiomethyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoxaline (16).

#### Isolated from the abovementioned reaction mixture.

Unstable white powder. Yield : 10 %. Ms (m/z) : 194 (M<sup>+</sup>). <sup>1</sup>H nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 60 MHz) : 6.70-6.50 (m, 4H) ; 4.10-3.90 (m, 2H exchanged by  $D_2$ 0) ; 3.60-3.20 (m, 3H) ; 2.80-2.50 (m, 2H) ; 2.10 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) : 15.1 (q, CH<sub>3</sub>) ; 37.7 (t, CH<sub>2</sub>) ; 45.2 (t, C<sub>2</sub>) ; 47.7 (d, C<sub>3</sub>) ; 114, 114.2, 118.3, 118.4 (4d, C<sub>5</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>, C<sub>7</sub>, C<sub>8</sub>) ; 132.4, 132.7 (2s, C<sub>4a</sub>, C<sub>8a</sub>). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S : C, 61.82 ; H, 7.26 ; N, 14.42. Found : C, 61.99 ; H, 6.83 ; N, 13.99.

### 2.3-Bis (methylthiomethyl)-1.2.3.4-tetrahydroquinoxaline (17).

This product was obtained using the procedure described for <u>14</u>, except that quinoxaline was added at room temperature.

Crystalline white powder. Yield : 32 %. mp : 72°C (ethanol). <sup>1</sup>H nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 60 MHz) : 6.70-6.50 (m, 4H) ; 4.10-3.90 (m, 2H exchanged by  $D_2$ 0) ; 3.55-3.25 (m, 2H) ; 2.80-2.50 (m, 4H) ; 2.20 (s, 6H). Anal. Calcd for  $C_{12}H_{16}N_2S_2$  : C, 56.66 ; H, 7.13 ; N, 11.01. Found : C, 56.70 ; H, 7.23 ; N, 10.95.

### 1-Cyano-1,3,3a,4,9,9a-hexahydrothieno [3,4-b]quinoxaline (18).

This compound was prepared from cyanomethyl methylsulfide (0.02 mol, 1.75 g) as described for compound  $\underline{14}$ .

White powder. Yield : 1 %. Ms (m/z) : 217  $(M^+)$ . <sup>1</sup>H nmr  $(CDCl_3, 60 \text{ MHz})$  : 8.10-7.80  $(m, 1H \text{ exchanged by } D_20)$  ; 7.00-6.70 (m, 4H) ; 4.30 (m, 2H) ; 3.80  $(m, 1H \text{ exchanged by } D_20)$  ; 2.40 (m, 3H).

## 1,3-Dihydrothieno 3,4-b guinoxaline 2,2-Dioxide (19a).

To a stirred solution of 0.005 mol (1.12 g) of compound  $\underline{4}$  in 50 ml of acetonitrile was added 0.01 mol (4.43 g) of lead tetracetate. After 30 min at room temperature, the mixture was treated with 30 ml of a saturated solution of Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>. Solids were filtered off and washed with acetonitrile and ethyl acetate. The combined filtrate and washing were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated to dryness and the residue was chromatographed on silica gel, elution with dichloromethane-ethyl acetate (9/1). White crystals. Yield : 61 %. mp : 260°C (ethanol). Ms (m/z) : 220 (M<sup>+</sup>). <sup>1</sup>H nmr (DMSOd<sub>6</sub>, 60 MHz) : 8.25-7.80 (m, 4H) ; 5.10-5.00 (m, 4H). Anal. Calcd : C, 54.53 ; H, 3.66 ;

N, 12.72. Found : C, 54.33 ; H, 3.87 ; N, 12.74.

## 1.3-Dihydrothieno 3.4-b quinoxaline 2-Oxide (19b).

This compound was prepared from compound <u>11</u> 0.005 mol (1.04 g) as described for compound <u>19a</u>. It was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel, elution with ethyl acetatemethanol (8/2).

White powder. Yield : 88 %. mp : 158°C [mp : 157-158°C <sup>5</sup>]. <sup>1</sup>H nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 60 MHz) : 8.25-7.60 (m, 4H) ; 4.55-4.35 (m, 4H). Anal. Calcd : C, 58.80 ; H, 3.95 ; N, 13.72. Found : C, 58.42 ; H, 4.09 ; N, 13.66.

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