## Monocyclic Cis 6-Lactams *uia* Penams and Cephams

susceptibility to electrophilic attack of the 5'-free dipyrrylmethanes was already described by  $us^1$  and later confirmed by others.<sup>5</sup> After 72 hr saponification was complete: nmr 2.7 (m, 8,  $CH_2CH_2$ ), 3.5 (br, 4, CH<sub>2</sub>CO), 3.7 (br, 2, pyrr-CH<sub>2</sub>-pyrr), 4.0 (br, 2,  $CH<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>$ ). The substance was rapidly transformed into porphyrins by manipulation. Addition of an acid resin (IRC-H+ or IRA 120- H+) allowed adjustment of the solution to pH *7.* This solution could be kept at  $-10^{\circ}$  during 1 week with no decomposition and was used for chemical or enzymatic studies. Ehrlich's reaction was positive in the cold.

2-Aminomethyl-3,3'-( $\beta$ -carboxyethyl)-4,4'-carboxymethyl**dipyrrylmethane (5)** was obtained as described above for dipyrrylmethane **4.** The dipyrrylmethane **35** (36 mg) was dissolved in 0.4 ml of 2 *N* potassium deuterioxide in 50% perdeuteriomethanol. The saponification was complete after 72 hr. The  $C_{5'}$  H (6.0 ppm, 0.20) was not completely exchanged after that period, nmr ( $\delta$  0 for DSS) 2.7 (m, 8, CHzCHz), 3.5 (br, 4, CHzCO), 3.75 (br, **2,** pyrr- $CH_2$ -pyrr), 3.9 (br, 2,  $CH_2NH_2$ ). After the solution was adjusted to pH 7 with IRA 120-H<sup>+</sup> resin, it could be freeze-dried and kept<br>without decomposition at -15° during 1 week. Ehrlich's reaction was positive in the cold.

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# Studies on  $\beta$ -Lactams. XXXVI. Monocyclic Cis  $\beta$ -Lactams *via* Penams and **Cephamsl**

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A stereospecific synthesis of monocyclic cis  $\beta$ -lactams has been devised which involves Raney nickel hydrogenolysis of readily accessible penams and cephams. The reaction of various acid chlorides and cyclic imines in presence of a base led to the stereospecific synthesis of a number of 6-substituted penams and 7-substituted cephams with *E* configuration with respect to the  $\beta$ -lactam substituents. These bicyclic  $\beta$ -lactams or their sulfoxides could be desulfurized under mild conditions and in good yields to 1,3,4-trisubstituted cis 2-azetidinones. No convincing rationale is obvious for the exclusive formation of bicyclic  $\beta$ -lactams of  $E$  configuration by this method.

The synthesis of bicyclic  $\beta$ -lactams became a desirable goal from the time it was first suspected that penicillin had a fused thiazolidine- $\beta$ -lactam structure.<sup>2</sup> The discovery made the preparation of bicyclic  $\beta$ -lactams even more attractive. Sheehan and coworkers<sup>3</sup> were the first to synthesize penams (for example *1)* by the action of certain acid chlorides on thiazolines in presence of triethylamine. that cephalosporin C is a fused dihydrothiazine  $\beta$ -lactam

We introduced the use of  $\alpha$ -azidoacyl chlorides for the We introduced the use of  $\alpha$ -azidoacyl chlorides for the<br>synthesis of  $\alpha$ -azido- $\beta$ -lactams<sup>4</sup> and several 6-azidopen- 0 ams<sup>5,7</sup> and 7-azidocephams<sup>6</sup> (for example 2 and 3) were 2 **2 2 2 3** synthesized in our laboratory in the course of the total synthesis of a 6-epipenicillin ester.7 Various other penams and cephams have been prepared in different laboratories8 and



cephalosporins<sup>9</sup> and 4-mercapto-2-azetidinones<sup>10,11</sup> have been synthesized using the "acid chloride method."

 $\simeq$  $\Xi$ 



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(d, 1 H, 5-H,  $J = 1.5$  Hz), 5.73<br>
(d, 2 H, OCH<sub>2</sub>,  $J = 7$  Hz), 6.45<br>
(s, 3 H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 6.53 (m, 2 H,<br>
2-2H), 8.7 (t, 3 H, CH<sub>2</sub>,  $J = 7$  Hz)  $\begin{array}{l} 2.48 \text{ (d, 2 H, } j=8 \text{ Hz), } 2.6 \text{ (s, } \\ 5 \text{ H, phenyl), } 4.61 \text{ (m, 2 H, OCH)} \\ 5.83 \text{ (m, 1 H, 3-H), } 6.7 \text{ (s, 3 H, } \\ \end{array}$ H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 8.33 (s,<br>
<sub>3</sub>), 9.02 (s, 3 H, 2-CH<sub>3</sub>)  $(m, 3 H, 3\beta-H$  and Hz),  $4.95$  (m,  $1 \text{ H}, 3 \text{ -H}$ ),  $5.47$ nmr  $\tau$  2.3 (m, 2 H), 2.7-2.75 Ir 1776, 1709 cm<sup>-1</sup> (ester CO);<br>nmr  $\tau$  1.97 (d, 2 H,  $J = 8$  Hz) 13 H, aromatic), 5.22 (s, 6-H), 5.32 (s, 1 H, 3-H), (d, 1 H, 6 H,  $J =$ Ir 1739 (ester CO), 1770 cm<sup>-1</sup>; (ester CO) tr 1770, 1739 cm<sup>-1</sup>  $2 - CH<sub>2</sub>$ ,  $9.02$ All of the solid penams described in this table gave satisfactory (within  $\pm 0.4\%$  of the theoretical value) C, H, and N analyses. In most of the cases they were also analyzed for S.  $OCH<sub>3</sub>$ ),  $6.65$ nmr 74.85  $\overline{\bullet}$  $\mathfrak{s}$  $(m, 13)$  $2-2H$  $1 \t{H}$ ,  $6 \t{H}$ ,  $1 \t{H}$ ,  $1 \t{H}$ ,  $1 \t{H}$  $\mathrm{C}_{28}\mathrm{H}_{27}\mathrm{NO}_{4}\mathrm{S}$  $\mathrm{C_{20}H_{19}NO_6S}$  $\rm C_9H_1_3NO_4S$  $\mathbf{e}$  $\overline{a}$  $\overline{9}$ 114  $110 - 111$  $\ddot{\rm s}$  $113 \overline{5}$  $\mathcal{S}_2$ ø  $\omega$  $_{\rm CO_2CHPh_2}$  $CO<sub>2</sub>Et$  $\Xi$ Me  $\pm$  $\pm$  $C_6H_4CO_2CH_2Ph-p$ £  $\pm$ MeO MeO Šе

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Recently we have discussed some aspects of the mechanism and stereochemistry<sup>12</sup> of the reaction of imines, acid chlorides, and bases to give  $\beta$ -lactams. We report here on some studies where the imine component in this type of reaction was either a thiazoline **(4)** or a dihydrothiazine (5).13 The 6-substituted penams **(6, 7)** and the 7-substitut-



**k**,  $R = MeO$ ;  $R' = C_6H_4CO_2CH_2Ph \cdot p$ ;  $R'' = H$ ;  $X = SO_2$ 

ed cephams **(8)** were obtained by the general reaction shown in eq 1. Some of the penams and cephams were converted to the corresponding sulfoxides and sulfones for characterization purposes because of better crystallinity of these derivatives.



In the synthesis of penams the yield of  $\beta$ -lactams was low when  $X = H$  in the thiazoline (4);<sup>7,14</sup> the yield increased sharply when  $X =$  aryl or ester.<sup>5,15</sup> In general, cephams were formed in higher yield than the corresponding penams.

In the synthesis of monocyclic  $\beta$ -lactams by the "acid chloride method" it is usual to get a mixture of both cis and trans stereomers-often the trans isomer predominates.<sup>12,16</sup> In one case, however, only the cis  $\beta$ -lactam was formed.17

The synthesis of bicyclic  $\beta$ -lactams from thiazolines and



**<sup>a</sup>**The compounds described in this table gave satisfactory (within **\*0.4%** of the theoretical value) C, H, and N analyses.

dihydrothiazines was characterized by stereospecificity-a single stereoisomer was formed in each instance. In the case of the 5-unsubstituted penam **(7a)** the size of the coupling  $(J = 2 \text{ Hz})$  between H-5 and H-6 indicated the trans stereochemistry of the  $\beta$ -lactam, but for the other penams and cephams the stereochemistry was not so obvious. The compounds **(6a, 6e, 6j, 6k, 61, sa),** however, were found to belong to a special category—the signal for the methoxy protons appeared at  $\tau$  6.65-6.94, that is at  $\sim$ 0.45-0.70 ppm higher field than usual. This upfield shift is indicative of the cis relationship between the methoxy group and the aromatic ring and *"E"* stereochemistry as in this configuration the methoxy protons lie in the shielding cone of the phenyl ring. The nmr spectra of the other penams and cephams do not reveal their stereochemistry. Therefore, we took recourse to desulfurization of these compounds with Raney nickel. Reductive desulfurization has been reported to proceed with retention of configuration.18 We reconfirmed this in two different ways. Firstly, we desulfurized the trans  $\beta$ -lactam 9 with deuterated Raney nickel. The product (10) showed  $\sim$ 70% deuterium incorporation by



mass spectroscopy and trans relationship of the protons at C-3 and C-4 was preserved. Secondly, Raney nickel desulfurization of  $8a$  led to the monocyclic  $\beta$ -lactam 11c which was found to be cis by nmr spectroscopy as would be expected on the basis of its  $E$  stereochemistry.



Application of the desulfurization technique to the other penams **(6g)** and cephams **(8b)** or their sulfoxides **(6i,<sup>18</sup> 8c**, 8d) also gave cis  $\beta$ -lactams---thus demonstrating their  $E$ configuration in each case. The currently held views $^{12,19}$  regarding the mechanism of  $\beta$ -lactam formation from acid chlorides and imines do not provide any convincing rationale for the exclusive formation of bicyclic  $\beta$ -lactams of  $E$ configuration from thiazolines and dihydrothiazines. It may be added that monocyclic  $\beta$ -lactams 13 from thioimidates, such as 12, also show the same stereospecificity.



Raney nickel desulfurization to cis @-lactams **14** was observed to form side products **(15)** in some cases.

 $Ph$ **Table 11.** 



Monocyclic cis  $\beta$ -lactams derived from penicillins are currently attracting considerable attention for the partial synthesis of cephalosporins.<sup>20,21</sup> A few monocyclic  $\beta$ -lactams have also been discovered in nature.<sup>22</sup> In view of these developments, our method for preparing variously substituted monocyclic  $cis$ - $\beta$ -lactams by the desulfurization of readily synthesized penams and cephams is of potential value to medicinal chemists. There is an added interest in monocyclic  $\beta$ -lactams since we have recently discovered that some of them show antibiotic activity.<sup>1a</sup>

#### **Experimental Section**

The ir spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer Infracord spectrophotometer calibrated with polystyrene film at  $1603 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The pmr spectra were obtained on a Varian A-60A spectrometer operating at 60 MHz using TMS as an internal standard. The mass spectra were measured on a Hitachi Perkin-Elmer RMU-7 mass spectrometer at 70 eV using an all glass heated inlet system. Thin layer chromatography (tlc) was performed on silica G plates and spots were developed with iodine vapors or aqueous KMnO<sub>4</sub> solution. Elemental analyses were performed by **A.** Bernhardt, Max Planck Institute, Mulheim, W. Germany. Melting points were determined in open capillary tubes and are uncorrected.

**4-Carboxy-2-phenyl-2-thiazoline (4b).** This compound was synthesized by the method of Sheehan and coworkers: $^{23}$  mp 123-124°; nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\tau$  0.44 (s, 1 H), 2.10 (m, 2 H), 2.54 (m, 3 H), 4.58  $(t, 1 H), 6.28$  (d, 2 H).

2-Phenyl-2-thiazoline (4a). **4-Carboxy-2-phenyl-2-thiazoline**  (4b, 32 g, 0.154 mol) was heated under reduced pressure (1.5 mm). When the bath temperature was raised to 180<sup>°</sup>, evolution of carbon dioxide started and the desired product began to distil over which was collected at  $95-100^{\circ}$  (1.5 (1.5 mm) [lit.<sup>24</sup> bp 105-107° (2) H, a), 2.55 (m, 3 H, b), 5.56 (t, 2 H, 4-CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.66 (t, 2 H, 5-CH<sub>2</sub>).



**5,5-Dimethyl-2-plhenyl-2-thiazoline** (4e). 5,5-Dimethyl-2 **phenyl-2-thiazoline-4-carboxylic** acid **(4d,** 46.0 g, 0.195 mol) obtained by the hydrolysis of ethyl **5,5-dimethyl-2-phenyl-2-thiazo**line-4-carboxylate  $(4c)^{25}$  was heated to  $120^{\circ}$  (0.25 mm). Effervescence due to the evolution of carbon dioxide was noticed and 5,5 **dimethyl-2-phenyl-2-thiazoline** (4e) was collected at 120' (0.25 mm) (35.5 g, 76%):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1610 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=N); nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\tau$  2.11 (m, 2 H, c), 2.59 (m, 3 H, d), 5.9 (s, 2 H, 4-CH<sub>2</sub>), 8.51 (s, 6 H, 5-2CH<sub>3</sub>); mass spectrum M+ at *m/e* 191.



Benzyl 4-Cyanobenzoate. 4-Cyanobenzoic acid (34 g, 0.231 mol) was suspended in 200 ml of anhydrous ether in a 1-1. flask equipped with a dropping funnel. A solution (600 ml) of 28.04 g of phenyldiazomethane<sup>26</sup> was added. The yellowish pink color of the phenyldiazomethane solution disappeared immediately on reaction. After the addition of the phenyldiazomethane solution was

completed, the reaction mixture was refluxed for 16 hr. Evaporation of the solvent gave the crude ester (55 g) which was dissolved in 300 ml of methylene chloride. This solution was washed successively with 50 ml of saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and  $2 \times 100$  ml of water, dried  $(MgSO<sub>4</sub>)$ , and stripped of the solvent to give the product (53) g, 96.5%). This material was used for subsequent reactions without further purification: mp 44–46°;  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  2252 (–CN), 1760 cm<sup>-1</sup> (ester carbonyl); nmr (CDC13) *r* 1.93 (d, 2 H, **e),** 2.45 (d, 2H, f), 2.6 (br, 5 H, phenyl), 4.67 (s, 2 H, CH2); mass spectrum M+ at *m/e* 234.



**2-(p-Benzyloxycarbonylphenyl)-2-thiazoline** (4f). In a 500 ml round-bottom flask equipped with a condenser and a drying tube were placed benzyl 4-cyanobenzoate  $(59 \text{ g}, 0.25 \text{ mol})$  and cysteamine (20 g, 0.25 mol). The mixture was heated for 18 hr at 150' without solvent and the melt was cooled and extracted with 300 ml of methylene chloride. Evaporation of the solvent from the extract left a viscous material (78 **g)** which was passed through a column of Florisil (80 g, mesh 60-100) and eluted with benzene-hexane (1:l) mixture. The first 200 ml of the eluant gave the desired compound (59 g, 80%). This material was used without purification for the next operation. **A** portion was purified by distillation under reduced pressure, the fraction distilling at 210' (0.5 mm) which was essentially pure title compound solidified on standing: mp 67–69 $^{\circ}$ ir (Nujol)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1709 (ester carbonyl), 1610 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=N); nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\tau$  1.87 (d, 2 H,  $J_{A_2B_2}$  = 8 Hz, *g*), 2.11 (d, 2 H,  $J_{A_2B_2}$  = 8 Hz, h), 2.61 (s, 5 H, phenyl), 4.63 (s, 3 H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 5.51 (t, 2 H,  $\tilde{J} = 8$  Hz, 4-2H), 6.6 (t, 2 H,  $J = 8$  Hz, 5-2H); mass spectrum M<sup>+</sup> at *m/e* 297.



Benzhydryl **5,5-Dimethyl-2-phenyl-2-thiazoline-4-carbox**ylate (4h). In a 500-ml round-bottom flask equipped with a condenser and a drying tube was taken a solution of 6 g (0.025 mol) of 4d in 200 ml of anhydrous ether. Freshly prepared diphenyldiazomethane<sup>27</sup> (5.95 g, 0.0255 mol) in 200 ml of ether was then added dropwise at room temperature with constant stirring. After the addition of the diphenyldiazomethane, the solution was refluxed for 48 hr and then the solvent was evaporated to give essentially the pure product (10 9). An analytical sample of the thiazoline ester was prepared by crystallization from methylene chloride-petroleum ether: mp 114–116°; ir  $\nu_{\text{max}}$ <sup>Nujol</sup> 1745 (ester C=O), 1605 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=N); nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\tau$  2.13 (m, 2 H, i), 2.65 (br, 13 H, j and two phenyls), 2.97 (s, 1 H, Ph<sub>2</sub>CH), 5.05 (s, 1 H, 4-H), 8.27 (s, 3 H, 5-CH3), 9.73 (s, 3 H, 5-CH3); mass spectrum M+ at *m/e* 401.



Anal. Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 74.81; H, 5.73; N, 3.49; S, 7.98. Found: C, 74.63; H, 5.75; N, 3.67; S, 7.97.

Ethyl 2-Thiazoline-4-carboxylate (4i). Through a solution of L-cysteine ethyl ester hydrochloride (50 *g)* in 500 ml of methanol was passed ammonia gas at room temperature at moderate rate for 15 min. The precipitated ammonium chloride was filtered off. Evaporation of methanol under reduced pressure gave L-cysteine ethyl ester which was dissolved in 200 ml of absolute ethanol containing 50 mg of *p-* toluenesulfonic acid and the solution was refluxed. To this refluxing solution was added 150 ml of triethyl orthoformate dropwise over a period of 0.5 hr. The reaction mixture was refluxed for an additional 3 hr. The solvent was then evaporated under reduced pressure and the viscous residue was dissolved in 200 ml of methylene chloride and washed with **3** X 75 ml of water and dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>). Evaporation of  $CH_2Cl_2$  yielded the N-formylcysteine ethyl ester as a viscous oil (29 g) which was not



purified further:  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  3300 (amide NH), 1739 (ester C=O), 16.75  $cm^{-1}$  (amide C=O).

N-Formylcysteine ethyl ester (34 g) was distilled from 100-ml round-bottom flask at 120' (0.3 mm). The distillate was pure 4i  $(17.5 \text{ g}, 57.4\%)$ :  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1742 cm<sup>-1</sup> (ester C=O); nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\tau$  1.97 (d, 1 H,  $J = 2$  Hz, 2-H), 4.83 (m, 1 H,  $J_{1,4} = 2$  Hz,  $J_{4,5} = 7$  Hz, 4-H), 5.7  $(q, 2 H, J = 7 Hz, OCH<sub>2</sub>$ , 6.38 and 6.53 (2 s, 2 H, 5-2H), 8.67 (t, 3 H,  $J = 7$  Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>).

Preparation of Penams and Cephams. 6-Methoxy-5-phenylpenam (6a). In a 1-l. flask equipped with a condenser, a pressureequalized dropping funnel, and a nitrogen-inlet tube were placed 2-phenyl-2-thiazoline (6.52 **g,** 0.025 mol), methoxyacetyl chloride (4.34 g, 0.025 mol), and 750 ml of methylene chloride. This solution was maintained at reflux while a solution of triethylamine (4.04 g, 0.025 mol) in 125 ml of methylene chloride was slowly added dropwise over a period of 7-9 hr. After the addition was completed the reaction mixture was refluxed for an additional 17 hr. Evaporation of the solvent gave a yellowish solid which was extracted with 2  $\times$ 500 ml of diethyl ether. The ethereal extract was washed with water and dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>). Removal of ether left a light red, viscous oil, 9.3 g (99.3%), which showed a strong band at 1773 cm<sup>-1</sup> ( $\beta$ -lac- $\tan C=O$ ) in the ir spectrum. This crude product was dissolved in methylene chloride and filtered through Florisil (80 g, 60-100 mesh); the first 200 ml of the eluent gave the desired bicyclic  $\beta$ -lactam (8.5 g, 90.7%). Crystallization of the  $\beta$ -lactam from benzenehexane gave pure 6a.

The penams **(6b-g** and 7a,b) were also prepared by this general method using the appropriate acid chloride and the thiazoline.

The reaction of the dihydrothiazine *5* with methoxyacetyl chloride and phenoxyacetyl chloride in the presence of  $NEt_3$  afforded the cephams 8a and **8c,** respectively.

Preparation of Penam and Cepham Sulfoxides. 6-Phenoxy-5-phenylpenam 1-Oxide (6h). A solution of 6b (0.9 g, 0.003 mol) and m-chloroperoxybenzoic acid (0.52 g, 0.003 mol) in 150 ml of anhydrous ether was stirred at room temperature for 15 hr. Ether was evaporated and the product dissolved in 100 ml of methylene chloride. *m-* Chlorobenzoic acid formed during the reaction was neutralized with 20 ml of 10%  $NAHCO<sub>3</sub>$  solution. The organic layer was washed with  $2 \times 50$  ml of water, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered. Evaporation of the solvent gave a white crystalline solid which on recrystallization from methylene chloride-petroleum ether afforded 0.75 g of 6h.

Using the same general procedure the penam sulfoxide **6j** was obtained from the corresponding penam. In a similar manner the cephams 8a and 8b gave the sulfoxides **8c** and 8d, respectively.

Preparation of Penam Sulfones. 5-(p-Carbobenzyloxyphenyl)-6-methoxypenam 1,l-Dioxide **(6k).** A mixture of 6i (0.38 **g,** 0.001 mol) and m-chloroperoxybenzoic acid (0.17 **g,** 0.001 mol) in 100 mol of CH2C12 was stirred at room temperature for 48 hr. The reaction mixture was washed with  $NaHCO<sub>3</sub>$  solution followed by water and dried (MgS04). Removal of the solvent and recrystallization of the residue from methylene chloride-hexane gave  $0.36$  g of 6k.

The penam 6a could be converted directly to the sulfone **6j** by using 2 *M* proportions of m- chloroperoxybenzoic acid.

The spectral data on the penams, their sulfoxides, and sulfones are reported in Table I. The data on cephams are recorded in Table 11.

*trans* -1-(p-Tolyl)-3-benzylthio-4-(p-anisyl)azetidin-2-one **(9).** To a solution of S- benzylthioglycolyl chloride (6.88 g, 0.02 mol) in 300 ml of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> was added under stirring a mixture of *p*anisylidene-p- toluidine (4.50 g, 0.02 mol) and  $\widetilde{\text{Et}_3N}$  (2.50 g, 0.025 mol) in 100 ml of  $CH_2Cl_2$  over a period of 2 hr and contents were further stirred for 10 hr.  $CH_2Cl_2$  solution was washed with NaHC03 solution followed by water and dried (MgS04), and solvent was removed. The residue was crystallized from methylene chloride-hexane to give 4.35 g.

Using similar reaction conditions the Schiff bases 12a-c on treatment with appropriate acid chlorides afforded the  $\beta$ -lactams 13a-f.

## *trans* -1-(p-Tolyl)-3-deuterio-4-(p-anisyl)azetidin-2-one

(10). To a solution of **9,** (1.90 g, 0.005 mol) in 100 ml of MeOD containing 50 ml of  $D_2O$  was added Raney nickel (15 g) previously washed thrice with  $D_2O$ . The reaction mixture was refluxed for 10 hr and worked up as described for **9** to give 0.88 g (65%) of 10: **mp**  70-71'; ir (Nujol) 1742 cm-' (P-lactam CO); nmr (CDC13) *T* 2.70-  $3.26$  (m, 8 H),  $5.12$  (d, 1 H,  $J = 2$  Hz), 6.27 (s, 3 H), 7.15 (d, 1 H, *J* = 2 Hz), 7.79 (s, 3 H); mass spectrum M+ at *mle* 268.

The procedure described below for synthesizing Ila is typical of the desulfurization carried out on other  $\beta$ -lactams.



*CLS* - **l-Ethyl-3-phenoxy-4-(2-furyl)azetidin-2-one** (1 la). To a solution of 6g (1.44 g, 0.005 mol) in 300 ml of acetone was added 30 g of Raney nickel  $(W-7)$  and the contents were refluxed on a steam bath for 10 hr. After filtration, the acetone solution was concentrated under vacuum and the residue obtained was crystallized from methylene chloride-hexane to furnish crude Ila which was further purified by chromatography over a column of Florisil using benzene as eluent to give 60% yield of the pure title compound.

Using the same reaction conditions 8c was converted to llb. Similarly the cis monocyclic  $\beta$ -lactam 11c could be prepared *via* the desulfurization of the cepham 8b or its sulfoxide 8d.

Similarly the desulfurization of 13a, 13b or 13c resulted in the formation of 14a. Also the cis  $\beta$ -lactams 14b, 14c, and 14d were formed by the Raney Ni treatment of the methylthio  $\beta$ -lactams 13d, 13e, and 13f, respectively.

The analytical and spectral data for all the monocyclic  $\beta$ -lactams are given in Table III.

S-Methylthiobenzanilide **(12a)** was prepared by the method of May, 30 mp 63-64°.

S-Benzylthiobenzanilide (12b).<sup>31</sup> To a solution of thiobenzanilide (4.26 g, 0.02 mol) in 50 ml of 10% KOH was added benzyl chloride (2.52 g, 0.02 mol), the contents were stirred at room temperature for 10 hr and extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$ . The  $CH_2Cl_2$  extract was washed with water and dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and the solvent was removed to give an oil: *urnax* 1603 cm-' (C=N); nmr (CDC13) *7* 2.71- 3.32 (m, 15 H, aromatic H), 5.79 (s, **2** H, SCH2); mass spectrum M+ at *rnle* 303.

**S-(p-Nitrobenzy1)thiobenzanilide** (12c). A suspension of thiobenzanilide (8.52 g, 0.04 mol) and *p-* nitrobenzyl bromide (8.64 g, 0.04 mol) in 100 ml of 10% KOH was stirred for 12 hr at  $85^\circ$ . The contents were cooled and extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (3 × 75 ml), washed with water, and dried  $(MgSO<sub>4</sub>)$ , and the solvent was removed under vacuum. Recrystallization of the residue from benzene-hexane gave'12.3 g (88.5%) of 12c: mp 98-99°;  $v_{\text{max}}$  1613 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=N); nmr (CDC13) *7* 1.75-45 (m, 14 H), 5.67 (s, 2 H).

*Anal.* Calcd for  $C_{20}H_{16}N_2O_2S$ : C, 68.96; H, 4.60; N, 8.05. Found: C, 68.71; H, 4.75; N, 8.25.

Registry No.-4a, 2722-34-1; 4b, 19983-15-4; 4d, 51932-22-0; 4e, 37950-61-1; 4f, 51932-23-1; 4g, 14117-27-2; **4h,** 51932-24-2; 4i, 51932-25-3; **5,** 6638-35-3; 6a, 51932-26-4; 6b, 37958-31-9; 6c, 52019-83-7; 6d, 52019-84-8; 6e, 51932-27-5; 6f, 51932-28-6; 6g, 51932-29-7; 6h, 51932-30-0; 6i, 52022-26-1; 6j, 51932-31-1; 6k, 51932-32-2; 7a, 51932-33-3; 7b, 51932-34-4; 8a, 37958-33-1; 8b, 51932-37-7; 11a, 38395-85-6; 11b, 37958-36-4; 11c, 37958-35-3; 12a, 52019-85-9; 12b, 52019-86-0; 12c, 51932-38-8; 13a, 52019-87-1; 13b, 38395-82-3; 13c, 38395-83-4; 13d, 51932-39-9; 13e, 51932-40-2; 13f, 52019-88-2; 14a, 33812-92-9; 14b, 33812-89-4; 14c, 16141-50-7; 14d, 29834-35-3; benzyl 4-cyanobenzoate, 18693-97-5; 4-cyanobenzoic acid, 619-65-8; cysteamine, 60-23-1; diphenyldiazomethane, 883- 40-9; L-cysteine ethyl ester hydrochloride, 868-59-7; *N-* formylcysteine ethyl ester, 52022-27-2; methoxyacetyl chloride, 38870-89-2; *S-* benzylthioglycolyl chloride, 7031-28-9; *p-* anisylidene-p -toluidine, 3246-78-4; thiobenzanilide, 636-04-4; benzyl chloride, 100- 44-7; p-nitrobenzyl bromide, 100-11-8; phenoxyacetyl chloride, 701-99-5; azidoacetyl chloride, 30426-58-5; phenylacetyl chloride, 103-80-0; phthalimidoacetyl chloride, 6780-38-7. 37958-32-0; 8c, 51932-35-5; 8d, 51932-36-6; **9,** 38395-81-2; 10,

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