Formation and Isolation of the Dithioether Dications of Cyclic Dithioethers in the Reactions of the Corresponding S-Oxides and S-Imine in **Concentrated Sulfuric Acid**

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The dithioether dication of 1,5-dithiacyclooctane (1,5-DTCO) is formed in the reaction of the corresponding S-oxide and S-imine with concentrated H_2SO_4 ; it can be isolated in crystalline form. In the cyclic six-, nine-, and ten-membered ring and acyclic dithioethers, the reaction of the corresponding S-oxides with concentrated H_2SO_4 similarly affords the dithioether dications. All were characterized by ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectroscopy. Furthermore, the cyclic dithioether dication bearing benzylic carbon (a dibenzodithiocin derivative) can be generated in the reaction of the corresponding S-oxide with concentrated H_2SO_4 .

Electron transfer from sulfides to generate the corresponding cation radicals is an important phenomenon in chemical and biological redox reactions, and the intermediacy of cation radicals and dications of thioethers has been extensively studied.¹⁻⁸ We have previously reported the isolation of the crystalline dithioether dication of 1,5-dithiacyclooctane (1,5-DTCO) from the reaction of 1,5-DTCO 1-oxide or 1-imine with concentrated H₂SO₄.⁹ We have also reported formation of the dication of the dibenzodithiocin by the same reaction.¹⁰ We have also found that the Pummerer reaction of 1,5-DTCO 1-oxide with acetic anhydride takes place via the dithioether dication.¹¹ These results indicate that when a positive charge develops on one sulfur atom in appropriate cyclic dithioethers, transannular interaction occurs with the second sulfur atom.

This paper describes ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectroscopic evidence for formation of dications in the reaction of several cyclic and acyclic dithioether mono-S-oxides or S-imine and their deuteriated derivatives with concentrated H₂SO₄.

When 1,5-DTCO 1-oxide (1) was dissolved in 98% D_2SO_4 , the solution became pale yellow, and ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of the solution were recorded immediately. The signals of 1 previously observed in CDCl₃ disappeared, and two sets of new peaks appeared at δ 4.32–3.40 and 3.32-2.10 in a 2:1 ratio (Figure 1). Musker et al.¹ reported that the dication (BF_4) salt has broad ¹H NMR signals at δ 4–2 in CD₃CN, while his $^{13}\!\mathrm{C}$ NMR spectra agreed roughly with ours. These spectra of 1,5-DTCO in D_2SO_4 did not change after standing for 24 h at room temperature (Table I). Treatment of the D_2SO_4 solution of 1 with water and workup led to the starting S-oxide 1 in 72% yield. Similar treatment of 2,2,8,8-tetradeuterio-1,5-dithiacyclooctane 1-oxide (1a) in D_2SO_4 showed similar chemical shifts in the ¹H NMR spectra, but the peak ratio was 1:1 (Figure

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Table I. NMR Spectral Data for Compounds 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 8c, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17^a

- 1 ¹H: 3.23-3.04 [m, 4 H. S(O)CH₂], 2.76-2.54 (m, 4 H, SCH₂), 2.43-2.18 (m, 4 H, CH₂) ¹³C: 56.6, 30.2, 23.7
- 2 ¹H: 7.81 (d, 2 H, J 6.6 Hz, ArH), 7.23 (d, 2 H, J = 6.6 Hz, ArH), 3.41–3.22 [m, 4 H, $S(NTs)CH_2$], 2.78–2.54 (m, 4 H, SCH₂), 2.39 (s, 3 H, Me), 2.39–2.17 (m, 4 H, CH₂) ¹³C: 50.8, 30.4, 25.3 for ring carbon
- 3 ¹H: 4.32-3.40 (br m, 8 H, S⁺CH₂), 3.32-2.10 (br m, 4 H, CH_{2}
- ¹³C: 56.3, 38.6
- 7 ¹H: 3.53-2.86 [m, 4 H, S(O)CH₂], 2.86-2.51 (m, 4 H, SCH₂), 2.51-1.51 (m, 6 H, CH₂)
- ¹³C: 47.5, 46.1, 31.9, 29.2, 26.2, 19.1, 17.4
- 8 ¹H: 3.72-2.90 [m, 4 H, S(O)CH₂], 2.90-2.62 (m, 4 H, SCH₂), 2.29-1.57 (m, 8 H, CH₂) ¹³C: 49.9, 31.8, 25.7, 19.6
- 8c ¹H: 4.14-3.29 (br m, 8 H, S⁺CH₂), 2.31-1.25 (br m, 8 H, CH_2)
- ¹H: 3.02-2.53 (m, 4 H, CH₂), 2.59 [s, 3 H, S(O)Me], 2.37-1.90 (m, 2 H, CH₂), 2.12 (s, 3 H, SMe)
- 10 ¹H: 3.77-3.43 (m, 2 H, SCH₂-a), 3.22-2.91 [m, 4 H, $S(O)CH_2$], 2.70–2.40 (m, 2⁻H, SCH_2-e) ¹³C: 46.9, 18.8
- 13 ¹H: 7.64–6.77 (m, 8 H, Ph), 5.11, 4.08 [AB q, J = 14 Hz, $S(O)CH_2$], 4.15, 3.96 (AB q, J = 14 Hz, SCH_2)
- ¹³C: 61.3, 35.6 for methylene carbon 14 ¹H: 7.82–6.96 (m, 8 H, Ph), 5.61, 5.17 (AB q, J = 15.6 Hz, S^+CH_2)
 - ¹³C: 63.6 for methylene carbon
- 15 ¹H: 8.30-8.01 (m, 2 H, Ph), 7.69-7.01 (m, 6 H, Ph), 4.56, 3.87 (AB q, J = 15 Hz, SCH₂)
- ¹H: 7.92–6.98 (m, 8 H, Ph), 5.57, 5.20 (AB q, J = 15 Hz, 16 S^+CH_2)
- 17 ¹H: 7.96–7.15 (m, 8 H, Ph), 5.64, 4.18 [AB q, J = 12 Hz, $S(O)CH_2$, 4.06, 3.82 [AB q, J = 13 Hz, $S(O)CH_2$]

 $^{a\,1}H$ and ^{13}C data (d) for the sulfoxides in $\mathrm{CDCl}_3,$ relative to Me₄Si; data for dications in D₂SO₄ relative to sodium 4,4-dimethyl-4-silapentanesulfonate (DSS).



2). Treatment of the D_2SO_4 solution of deuteriated sulfoxide 1a with water led to 76% recovery of the S-oxide. The ¹H NMR spectrum of the recovered sulfoxide indi-

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Figure 1. ¹H NMR spectra.



Figure 2. ¹H NMR spectra.

cated that it was a 1:1 mixture of 1a and the 4,4,6,6tetradeuteriated sulfoxide (1b) and also that no H-D exchange with H_2SO_4 took place during the reaction. These results indicate that sulfoxides 1 and 1a are converted into the symmetrical intermediate dications 3 and 3- d_4 . Hydrolysis of dication 3 should give a 1:1 mixture of 1a and 1b if water attacks equally the two sulfur atoms of the dication 3- d_4 .

Although the results seem to indicate the formation of the dithioether dication from 1 in H_2SO_4 , they could also be explained by formation of the symmetrical oxydisulfonium salt 5 (Scheme I). To explore this alternative, ¹⁸O-labeled dithioether 1-oxide (1c, ¹⁸O content 42.1 excess atom %) was synthesized and dissolved in concentrated H_2SO_4 . If the oxydisulfonium salt 5 was formed as an intermediate, the ¹⁸O label should remain more or less on the recovered sulfoxide after treatment of the H_2SO_4 solution with water. However, upon treatment of the H_2SO_4 solution of 1c with cold anhydrous diethyl ether and subsequently with ice-water, no ¹⁸O was incorporated into the recovered sulfoxide as shown by mass spectrometry. This result seems to rule out the formation of 5 and is consistent with conversion of 1c into the dication 3.

The dithioether dication 3 of 1,5-DTCO was isolated by pouring its H_2SO_4 solution into ice-cooled anhydrous diethyl ether, whereupon colorless crystals of 3 precipitated. The crystalline salt was very hygroscopic, becoming liquid on exposure to air; it was identified as the bis(hydrogen sulfate) salt 4 of the dication of 1,5-DTCO. Hydrolysis of salt 4 gave the starting S-oxide 1.

The ESR spectrum of the H_2SO_4 solution of 1 showed signals due to the cation radical 6 of 1,5-DTCO and was



consistent with that reported by Musker.¹² On the other hand, the UV spectra of H_2SO_4 solutions of 1 showed absorption maxima of the dication at 230 nm (lit.¹ 233 and 212 nm) but no absorption due to a radical cation at 420 nm. We assume that the intermediate in this reaction is mainly the dithioether dication 3 in equilibrium with a low concentration of the cation radical 6. Glass and Wilson¹³ suggested from electrochemical studies that it is easier to remove an electron from 1,5-DTCO cation radical than from 1,5-DTCO itself, hence the cation radical 6 should be oxidized easily to the dication 3.

Similarly, 1,5-DTCO N-tosylimine (2) was dissolved in 98% D_2SO_4 and the ¹H NMR spectrum of this solution was taken immediately. The chemical shifts observed agreed well with those expected for a 1:1 mixture of dication 3 and *p*-toluenesulfonamide (Table I), although in general Ntosylimines undergo cleavage of the N-S bond to afford the corresponding S-imines on treatment with concentrated H₂SO₄.¹⁴ Hydrolysis of the D₂SO₄ solution of S-

$$R^1R^2S \Longrightarrow NTs \xrightarrow{H_2SO_4} R^1R^2S = NH$$

imine 2 gave the S-oxide 1 in 81% yield. These results suggest that S-imine 2 is converted directly into the dithioether dication 3 by transannular S-S interaction instead of by cleavage of the N-S bond, since 2 has a conformationally feasible structure for this interaction. X-ray crystallographic analysis of 2 indicates that the ring has a boat-chair conformation with a short transannular S-S contact of 3.143 Å, which is considerably shorter than the sum of the S-S van der Waals radii (3.70 Å).¹⁵ Other relatively strong transannular S-S interactions in 1,5-DTCO derivatives have been reported.^{22,23}

2,2,8,8-Tetradeuterio-1,5-dithiacyclooctane N-tosylimine (2a) was dissolved in 98% D_2SO_4 , and treatment of the solution with water and workup led to quantitative recovery of a 1:1 mixture of 1a and 1b (Scheme II).

The cyclic dithioether S-oxides 1,5-dithiacyclononane 1-oxide (7) and 1,6-dithiacyclodecane 1-oxide (8) and their tetradeuterio derivatives 7a and 8a were treated with 98% H_2SO_4 and D_2SO_4 in the same manner as 1. The ¹H NMR spectra of the H_2SO_4 solution of 8 and 8a could be explained by the formation of dication 8c of 1,6-dithiacyclodecane, but the ¹H NMR spectra of H_2SO_4 solutions of 7 and 7a were complex (Table I). Hydrolysis of the D_2SO_4 solutions of 7a and 8a gave 1:1 mixtures of deuteriated S-oxides analogous to 1a and 1b. These results indicate

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that dications can be formed in nine- and ten-membered ring dithioethers.

Similar results were obtained when the acyclic compound 1,1,1,3,3-pentadeuterio-2,6-dithiaheptane 2-oxide (9a) was dissolved in D_2SO_4 ; sulfoxides analogous to 1a and 1b were obtained on hydrolysis of the D_2SO_4 solution.

In 1,4-dithiacyclohexane 1-oxide (10), transannular interaction of the two sulfur atoms at 1,4 positions should be minimal. Compound 10 was dissolved in 98% D_2SO_4 , and the ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were taken immediately. These spectra showed complex multiplets, and their signals could not be assigned. Nevertheless, when the D_2SO_4 solution was treated with water, only the starting sulfoxide 10 was obtained. 2,2,6,6-Tetradeuterio-1,4-dithiacyclohexane 1-oxide (10a) was synthesized and dissolved in concentrated D₂SO₄. The ¹H NMR spectrum similarly showed unassignable multiplets. However, surprisingly a 1:1 mixture of sulfoxides 10a and 3,3,5,5-tetradeuterio-1.4-dithiacyclohexane 1-oxide (10b) was obtained by hydrolysis of the D₂SO₄ solution (Scheme III). The ¹H NMR spectrum of the mixture of 10a and 10b is consistent with that of the mixture of sulfoxides obtained by oxidation of 2,2,6,6-tetradeuterio-1,4-dithiacyclohexane. Furthermore, 10a was treated with D_2SO_4 in the presence of an equimolar amount of 1,4-dithiacyclohexane (1,4-DTCH). The ¹H NMR spectrum was so complex that it could not be analyzed. When this D_2SO_4 solution was treated with water, a 1:1 mixture of 10a and undeuteriated 1,4-dithiacyclohexane S-oxide was obtained. The ratio was determined by mass spectrometry. However, no sulfoxide 10 was obtained by hydrolysis of a solution of 1,4-DTCH in concentrated H₂SO₄; 1,4-DTCH was recovered quantitatively. These results suggest that the reaction of 10 in H_2SO_4 leads to both intramolecular (11) and intermolecular (12) S-S bonded intermediates (Scheme III). Asmus et al.¹⁶ reported the formation of 1,4-DTCH cation radical with an intramolecular S-S bond when 1,4-DTCH was oxidized with hydroxyl radical generated by pulse radiolysis at low concentration of sulfide.

When 6H,12H-dibenzo[b,f]-1,5-dithiocin S-oxide (13) was dissolved in 98% D_2SO_4 the solution became yellow, and the reaction was followed immediately by ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectroscopy. In the ¹H NMR spectrum, two methylene signals adjacent to the sulfenyl and sulfinyl groups for 13 in CDCl₃ disappeared and new AB quartets appeared which must be the benzylic methylene of 14. In



the ¹³C NMR spectrum, two signals due to the corresponding methylene carbon atoms in 13 in $CDCl_3$ coalesced into one singlet in D_2SO_4 (Table I). Treatment of the D_2SO_4 solution of 13 with ice-water and workup afforded only the original mono-S-oxide 13 in 82% isolated yield. Similar treatment of the deuteriated S-oxide 13a in D_2SO_4 led to similar changes in the ¹H NMR spectrum, and hydrolysis led to 80% recovery of the S-oxide. The ¹H NMR spectrum indicated a 1:1 mixture of the 6,6- and 12,12-dideuteriated S-oxides analogous to 1a and 1b. No H-D exchange of 13a with H₂SO₄ was observed. These results demonstrate clearly that 13 and 13a are converted into symmetrical intermediate dications.

In a similar way, the reaction of 5H,7H-dibenzo[b,g]-1,5-dithiocin 12-oxide (15) with concentrated D_2SO_4 was followed by ¹H NMR spectroscopy, and the spectra suggest the formation of a symmetrical dication 16 analogous to 3. Treatment of this solution with water afforded the oxygen-migrated S-oxide 5H,7H-dibenzo[b,g]-1,5-dithiocin 6-oxide (17) in good yield, and no 15 could be detected.

Experimental Section

Physical Measurements. Electronic absorption spectra were recorded on a Hitachi Model 200-20 spectrophotometer. ¹H NMR spectra were measured on a Hitachi R-600 FT NMR spectrometer. ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on JEOL-FX100 spectrometer. The IR spectra were obtained on a JASCO A-3 spectrometer. ESR spectra were determined on a JEOL-ME spectrometer. Mass spectra were taken with a Hitachi RMU-6MG mass spectrometer. Elemental analyses were carried out by the Chemical Analysis Center at this University.

Materials. All reagents were obtained from Wako Pure Chemical Industries, Ltd., Tokyo Kasei Co. Ltd., or Aldrich Chemical Co. The reagents used as reaction solvents were further purified by general methods.

Preparation of Mesocyclic or Acyclic Dithioethers. 1,5-**Dithiacyclooctane** was synthesized by a modification of the method of Meadow and Reid:¹⁷ yield 29%; bp 97–100 °C/3 mmHg [lit.¹⁷ bp 245–246 °C].

1,5-Dithiacyclononane was synthesized by a modification of the method of Musker et al:¹ yield 6%; mp 58.5-60.0 °C (lit.¹ mp 58.5-60.0 °C).

1,6-Dithiacyclodecane was synthesized by a modification of the procedure of Ochrymowycz et al;¹⁸ yield 3%; mp 92.0-93.5 °C.

2,6-Dithiaheptane was synthesized by a modification of the procedure of Protina et al.¹⁹ yield 45%; bp 64.0 °C/5 mmHg [lit.¹⁹

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bp 92 °C/15 mmHg].

6H,1**2H**-**Dibenzo**[**b**,**f**][1,**5**]**dithiocin** was synthesized by a modification of the method of Ollis et al:²⁰ yield 31%; mp 174–175 °C [lit.²⁰ mp 170–173 °C].

5H,7**H**-**Dibenzo**[**b**,**g**][1,5]**dithiocin** was prepared by a modification of the method of Ollis et al:²¹ yield 55%; mp 129–130 °C [lit.²¹ mp 128–130 °C].

Dithioether mono-*S***-oxides** were obtained by oxidation using $NaIO_4$ or *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid (*m*-CPBA). The ¹H and ¹³C NMR data are described in Table I. The melting points and spectroscopic data for the sulfoxides are listed below:

1,5-Dithiacyclooctane 1-oxide (1): yield 96%; mp 27-29 °C; IR (neat) 1010 cm⁻¹ (S=O).

1,5-Dithiacyclononane 1-oxide (7): yield 71%; mp 75.0-76.5 °C; IR (KBr) 1010 cm⁻¹ (S=O).

1,6-Dithiacyclodecane 1-oxide (8): yield 57%; mp 68.5-70.0 °C; IR (KBr) 1030 cm⁻¹ (S=O).

2,6-Dithiaheptane 2-oxide (9): yield 65%; IR (KBr) 1040 cm⁻¹ (S=O).

1,4-Dithiacyclohexane 1-oxide (10): yield 36%; mp 125.5-127.0 °C; IR (KBr) 1020 cm⁻¹ (S=O).

6H,12H-Dibenzo[*b*,*f*][1,5]dithiocin 1-oxide (13): yield 72%; mp 119 °C; IR (KBr) 1038 cm⁻¹ (S=O). Anal. calcd for $C_{14}H_{12}OS_2$: C, 64.58; H, 4.64. Found C, 64.44; H, 4.62.

5H,7H-Dibenzo[b,g][1,5]dithiocin 6-oxide (17): yield 83%; mp 178-180 °C; IR (KBr) 1075, 1040 cm⁻¹. Anal. Calcd for C₁₄H₁₂OS₂: C, 64.58; H, 4.64. Found: C, 64.51; H, 4.65.

5H,7H-Dibenzo[b,g][1,5]dithiocin 12-oxide (15) was prepared by cyclization of the corresponding bis(o-(bromomethyl)phenyl) sulfoxide with sodium sulfide hydrate in ethanol: yield 78%; mp 195–196 °C; IR (KBr) 1078, 1040 cm⁻¹ (S=O). Anal. Calcd for $C_{14}H_{12}OS_2$: C, 64.58; H, 4.64. Found: C, 64.50; H, 4.61.

Preparation of 1,5-Dithiacyclooctane N-Tosylimine (2). To a stirred solution of 1,5-dithiacyclooctane (0.74 g, 5 mmol) in 10 mL of ethanol was added dropwise a solution of N-chloro-4methylbenzenesulfonamide sodium salt (Chloramine-T) (1.55 g, 5.5 mmol) in 10 mL of ethanol. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 5 h. After the mixture was filtered and concentrated, the residue was recrystallized from ethanol to give 1.30 g of compound 2: yield 82%; mp 175–178 °C; IR (KBr) 1270, 1140 (S=O), 1000 cm⁻¹ (S=N). Anal. Calcd for C₁₃H₁₉O₂NS₃: C, 49.18; H, 6.01; N, 4.41. Found: C, 49.11; H, 6.02; N, 4.38. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra are described in Table I.

Preparation of Deuteriated Dithioether Mono-S-oxide. A typical procedure is as follows: To a ca. 40% solution of sodium deuterium oxide in 3 mL of deuterium oxide (D content 99.8%) was added a solution of 1 (199 mg, 1.21 mmol) in 1 mL of deuterium oxide. After the mixture was stirred under a N_2 atmo-

(23) Musker, W. K.; Olmstead, M. M.; Goodrow, M. H. Acta Crystallogr., Sect. C 1983, C39, 887. sphere at 100 °C for 24 h, the solvent was concentrated under reduced pressure. The mixture was extracted with chloroform. The combined organic phase was dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. After removing the solvent, the residue was separated with alumina column chromatography using chloroform affording 200 mg of 2,2,8,8-tetradeuterio-1,5-dithiacyclooctane 1-oxide (1a). The content of deuterium was >95% as determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy.

Preparation of Deuteriated Compounds 2a and 13a. The deuteriation was accomplished by heating 13 with NaOD-D₂O-tetrahydrofuran in a sealed tube at 85 °C for 7 h; deuterium content of 13a was >95 atom %. The compound 2a was prepared in a similar way: deuterium content 81 atom %.

Preparation of ¹⁸O-Labeled 1,5-Dithiacyclooctane 1-Oxide (1c). To a solution of 1,5-dithiacyclooctane (32.8 mg, 0.22 mmol) in 0.1 mL of acetic acid were added 0.1 mL of H_2 ¹⁸O (¹⁸O content = 98 atom %) and the bromine complex of 1,4-diazabicyclo-[2.2.2]octane (48.0 mg, 0.11 mmol). The heterogeneous mixture was stirred under a N₂ atmosphere at room temperature for 0.5 h. After removing the solvent, the residue was separated with alumina column chromatography using chloroform as eluent affording the crude product. The crude product was further purified with preparative liquid chromatography to give 21.8 mg of ¹⁸O-labeled 1,5-dithiacyclooctane 1-oxide (1c). ¹⁸O content was 42.1 excess atom % by mass spectroscopy.

Oxidation of 2,2,6,6-Tetradeuterio-1,4-dithiacyclohexane (18). The oxidation of compound 18 was carried out with NaIO₄ in MeOH-H₂O. The S-oxides 10a and 10b were obtained in a 1:1 ratio by ¹H NMR spectroscopy. The sulfide 18 was prepared by the reduction of 10a using lithium aluminum deuteride in tetrahydrofuran: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 3.01-2.82 (br s, 4 H, SCH₂).

Isolation of Dithioether Dication 4 of 1,5-DTCO. Compound 1 was dissolved in concentrated H_2SO_4 ; then the solution was poured into ice-cooled anhydrous diethyl ether and colorless crystals formed. The crystals were collected, washed with anhydrous diethyl ether, and dried under reduced pressure. The colorless crystals were very hygroscopic and were identified as the salt of dithioether dication 4 of 1,5-DTCO. 4: mp 66–69 °C. Anal. Calcd for $C_6H_{18}O_{10}S_4$: C, 19.04; H, 4.26. Found: C, 18.93; H, 4.22.



Observation of Cation Radical of 1,5-DTCO. In a degassed and sealed ESR tube, compound 1 was dissolved in concentrated H_2SO_4 . The ESR spectrum was obtained by using a JEOL-ME spectrometer. Temperature, room temperature; field; 3268 + 50G; gain, 5×100 ; response, 1 s; mod. width, 2.0×1 G; power, 1.4 mW; sweep time, 10 min.