

$\times 10^7 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ for **1d**²⁷ but no measurable reaction (rate constant $<10^4 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$) for **1c**.²⁸ A similar dependency of the reactivity of singlet aryl carbenes on para substituents has been described by Moss et al.²⁹

It can be asked whether the carboxylation of carbenes **1** is a concerted reaction or not. For triplet carbenes **1a** and **1b**, there is no experimental evidence for the formation of an intermediate or carbene complex even if the carbene is isolated in pure CO_2 . The small frequency shifts and line broadening of IR bands in CO_2 relative to Ar—which have been observed as well for singlet carbenes **1c** and **1d**—are attributed to unspecific matrix effects rather than to the formation of defined molecular complexes. On the other hand, we cannot exclude intermediates in the carboxylation of **1a** which are short-lived under the conditions of matrix isolation and rapidly rearrange to **2a**. The singlet-triplet gap ΔH_{ST} of **1a** in an unpolar solvent (isooctane) is $4.0 \pm 0.3 \text{ kcal/mol}$ ³⁰ and therefore the thermal population of the excited singlet state is too small to account for the observed reactivity toward CO_2 at temperatures below 50 K. It is therefore reasonable to assume that the carboxylation of **1a** does not proceed via thermally populated singlet **1a**. Crossover to the singlet manifold occurs at an unspecified stage along the reaction coordinate, and short-lived triplet diradicals having high ISC rates are possible intermediates.

The only hint for the formation of an ylide-type intermediate in the reaction of singlet carbenes **1c** and **1d** comes from the observation of a pale blue-green color when the carbenes are produced in the presence of CO_2 . From our experiments there is no indication whether the colored compound is an intermediate on the path to oxiranones **2c** and **2d** or rather a side product. No colored product is observed during the carboxylation of **1a**.

In summary, this study suggests that the reactivity of carbenes **1** toward CO_2 is determined by their philicity rather than by their spin state. The reactivity is decreased by electron-withdrawing substituents, and the only products identified are oxiranones **2**. Short-lived triplet diradicals might be involved in the ISC, although there is no experimental evidence for the formation of these species.

Experimental Section

Diazo compounds **3a**³¹ and **3b**³² and diazirines **3c** and **3d**³³ have been synthesized according to literature procedures. The setup for matrix experiments has been described elsewhere.^{16,34} Carbon dioxide (Messer Griesheim, 99.995%) was deposited at 80 K, yielding sufficiently transparent matrices and still matrix-isolated samples (the degree of matrix isolation was monitored by observing the line width of IR bands as function of the temperature of matrix deposition). The line width of IR bands increased during irradiation or annealing of the CO_2 matrices.

Other gases used were argon (Messer Griesheim, 99.9999%), oxygen (Messer Griesheim, 99.998%), C^{18}O_2 , and $^{13}\text{CO}_2$ (MSD Isotopes 99.75% and 99.3% isotopic purity, respectively). Infrared spectra were recorded on a Bruker IFS 66 FT-IR spectrometer in the range $4000\text{--}450 \text{ cm}^{-1}$; the standard resolution was set to 1 cm^{-1} . Irradiation was performed by using a 500-W high-pressure mercury arc lamp, dichroic mirrors to preselect the range of

irradiation, and appropriate cut-off filters.

Acknowledgment. Financial support was given by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft and the Fonds der Chemischen Industrie.

Registry No. **1a**, 3129-17-7; **1b**, 3225-37-4; **1c**, 19807-41-1; **1d**, 102146-13-4; **2a**, 30436-19-2; **2c**, 138061-24-2; **2d**, 138061-25-3; **3a**, 883-40-9; **3b**, 932-97-8; **3c**, 4460-46-2; **3d**, 39184-67-3.

Regioselective α -Methoxycarbonylsulfonylation of Ketones and Aldehydes: A Versatile Method for Preparation of Thiazolones, Thiadiazinones, and 3-Indolethiols¹

Yuzuru Sanemitsu,* Shinichi Kawamura, and Yoo Tanabe²

Agricultural Science Research Laboratory, Takarazuka Research Center, Sumitomo Chemical Co., Ltd., Takatsukasa, Takarazuka 665, Japan

Received June 4, 1991 (Revised Manuscript Received September 9, 1991)

The characteristic properties of α -sulfonylcarbonyl compounds have led to the development of a number of useful transformations in organic synthesis.³ In the area of heterocyclic chemistry, it is well documented that α -(acylthio)- and α -(cyanatothio)carbonyl compounds can serve as the precursor of 2-substituted thiazole derivatives (i.e., Hantzsch synthesis).⁴ In addition, α -sulfonylcarbonyl compounds play also an important role in the synthesis of indole derivatives.⁵

In general, the most common method for the synthesis of α -sulfonylcarbonyl compounds involves the reaction of lithium enolates or trimethylsilyl enol ethers and organic disulfides,^{5a-d} sulfonyl chlorides,^{5a,e} or *S*-phenylthio-sulfonates.^{5b} Other methods for the synthesis of α -sulfonylcarbonyl compounds involve the reaction of α -halo ketones with thiolate anions or sulfonyl chlorides in the presence of zinc.⁷ Methods for the synthesis of α -sulfonylated ketones include the reaction of 1,3,2-dioxo-phospholes⁸ or α -diazoketones⁹ with sulfonyl chlorides.

In this paper, we report a novel and regioselective α -methoxycarbonylsulfonylation of a variety of ketones and aldehydes employing (methoxycarbonyl)sulfonyl chloride **1**¹⁰ as an electrophilic sulfonylating agent. Furthermore, the cyclization reactions of the resultant α -methoxycarbonylsulfonylated carbonyl compounds **2** with amines

(1) S,N-Heterocycles. 6. For Part 5, see: Tanabe, Y.; Kubota, Y.; Sanemitsu, Y.; Itaya, N.; Suzukamo, G. *Tetrahedron Lett.* 1991, 32, 383.

(2) Present address: Department of Organic Chemistry, Kwansei Gakuin University, Nishinomiya, Hyogo 662, Japan.

(3) (a) Trost, B. M. *Acc. Chem. Res.* 1978, 11, 453. (b) Block, E. Reactions of Organosulfur Compounds; Academic Press: New York, 1978. (c) Trost, B. M.; Saltzman, T. N.; Hiroi, K. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1976, 98, 4887.

(4) Metzger, J. B. In *Comprehensive Heterocyclic Chemistry*; Kartzitzky, A., Ed.; Pergamon Press: Oxford, 1984; Vol. 6, p 235.

(5) Wieland, T.; Ruehl, K. *Chem. Ber.* 1963, 96, 260.

(6) (a) Seebach, P. G.; Teschner, M. *Chem. Ber.* 1976, 109, 1601. (b) Trost, B. M.; Massiot, G. S. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1977, 99, 4405. (c) Gassman, P. G.; Gilbert, D. P.; Cole, S. M. *J. Org. Chem.* 1977, 42, 3233. (d) Kuroki, Y.; Hasegawa, K.; Tsutaumi, S. *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.* 1972, 946. (e) Youn, J. H.; Herrmann, R.; Ugi, I. *Synthesis* 1987, 159.

(7) Lapkin, I. I.; Abashev, G. G.; Saitkulova, F. G. *Zh. Org. Khim.* 1976, 12, 967; *Chem. Abstr.* 1976, 85, 46149.

(8) Harpp, D. N.; Mathiaraman, P. G. *J. Org. Chem.* 1971, 36, 2540.

(9) Wegand, F.; Bestmann, J. Z. *Naturforsch.* 1955, 10, 296.

(10) Commercially available from Fluka Chemical Corp. Alternatively, methoxycarbonylsulfonyl chloride **1** can be easily prepared from chloro-carbonylsulfonyl chloride (commercially available from Aldrich Chemical Co.) and methanol. Zumach, V. G.; Kuhle, E. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl.* 1970, 82, 63. Compound **1** has generally been used as a protecting agent for thiols. Greene, T. W. *Protective Groups in Organic Synthesis*; John Wiley and Sons: New York, 1981; p 214.

(27) Liu, M. T. H.; Bonneau, R.; Jefford, C. W. *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.* 1990, 1482.

(28) Gould, I. R.; Turro, N. J.; Butcher, J. J.; Doubleday, C. J.; Hacker, N. P.; Lehr, G. F.; Moss, R. A.; Cox, D. P.; Guo, W.; Munjal, R. C.; Perez, L. A.; Fedorynski, M. *Tetrahedron* 1985, 41, 1587.

(29) Moss, R. A. *Acc. Chem. Res.* 1989, 22, 15.

(30) Eisenthal, K. B.; Turro, N. J.; Sitzmann, E. V.; Gould, I. R.; Hefferon, G.; Langan, J.; Cha, Y. *Tetrahedron* 1985, 41, 1543.

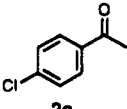
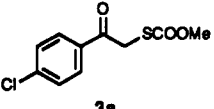
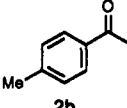
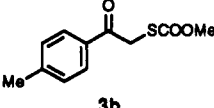
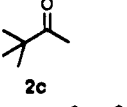
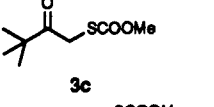
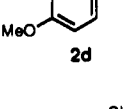
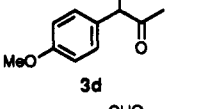
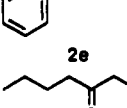
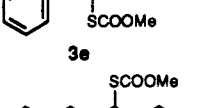
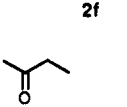
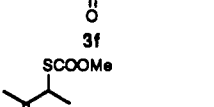
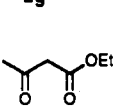
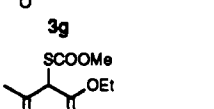
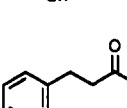
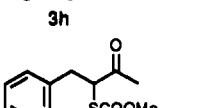
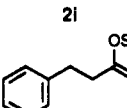
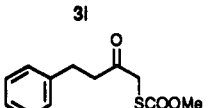
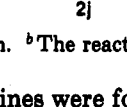
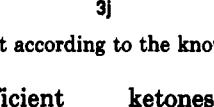
(31) Bamford, W. R.; Stevens, T. S. *J. Chem. Soc.* 1952, 4735.

(32) Puza, M.; Doetschman, D. *Synthesis* 1971, 481.

(33) Graham, W. H. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1965, 87, 4396.

(34) Sander, W. W. *J. Org. Chem.* 1989, 54, 333.

Table I. α -Methoxycarbonylsulfonylation of Carbonyl Compounds 2

entry	substrates	products	yield (%)	bp (mp) (°C)
1			72	(56-57)
2			68	(52-53)
3			65	75-78/12 mmHg
4			68	135-138/0.8 mmHg
5			62	180/0.8 mmHg ^a
6			74	102-104/0.9 mmHg
7			55	90-95/22 mmHg
8			72	92-94/0.8 mmHg
9			68	129-133/0.7 mmHg
10			73	135-138/0.8 mmHg

^aBulb to bulb distillation. ^bThe reaction was carried out according to the known procedure.^{5d}

and substituted hydrazines were found to offer efficient routes to a variety of important heterocyclic ring systems such as 2(3*H*)-thiazolones 4,^{11a} 1,3,4-(3*H*,6*H*)-thiadiazinones 5,^{11b} and 3-indolethiols^{11c} as illustrated in the Scheme I. The α -[(methoxycarbonyl)sulfonyl]carbonyl moiety is incorporated in these compounds as shown by heavy lines.

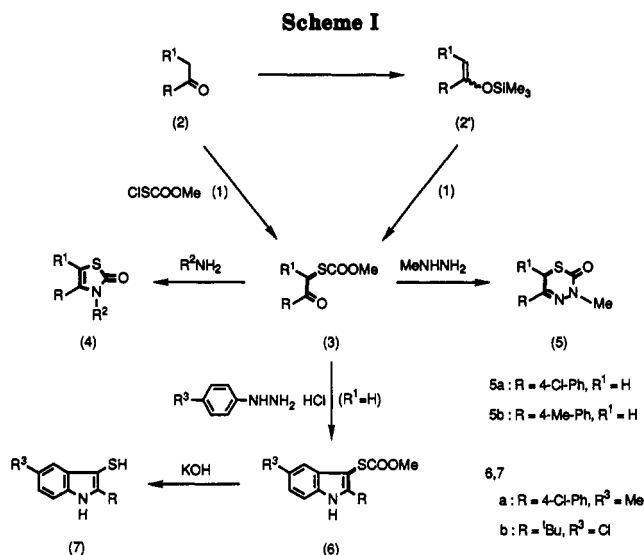
Addition of the corresponding ketones (or aldehydes) 2 to 1 equiv of (methoxycarbonyl)sulfonyl chloride 1 in CHCl_3 at 25-35 °C for 24 h provided α -methoxycarbonylsulfonylated carbonyl compounds 3 in good yields. The structures of compounds 3 were confirmed by ¹H NMR, MS and IR spectral analyses (Experimental Section). The scope of the process is evident from Table I, which lists several examples of α -methoxycarbonylsulfonylated carbonyl compounds prepared by this methodology. In Table I, α -methoxycarbonylsulfonylation of

ketones such as 2d, 2g, and 2i proceeded in a thermodynamically controlled manner, affording the products 3d, 3g, and 3i, respectively (entries 4, 7, and 9). On the other hand, the reaction of trimethylsilyl enol ether 2j, derived from ketones 2i, with 1 afforded 3j in a 73% yield, which was sulfonylated at the terminal methyl group only, suggesting that this sulfonylation proceeds in a kinetically controlled manner (entry 10). Therefore, this sulfonylation occurs with good regioselectivity.

The α -methoxycarbonylsulfonylated carbonyl compounds 3 were used in the synthesis of various heterocyclic compounds. Treatment of 3a with ammonium acetate (5.0 equiv) in AcOH at 80 °C for 3 h afforded product 4a in 65% yield after silica gel chromatography. Compound 4a was identical (mp, IR, and ¹H NMR) with the known 4-(4-chlorophenyl)-2(3*H*)-thiazolone which was prepared by the reaction of 2,4'-dichloroacetophenone and ethyl xanthamide.¹² In a similar fashion, we prepared 4-substi-

(11) Rossel, C. In *Heterocyclic Compounds*; Metzler, J. V., Ed.; John Wiley and Sons: New York, 1979; Vol. 34, p 438. (b) Rochus, J.; Jaime, P.; Michael, K. Eur. Pat. 294647; *Chem. Abstr.* 1989, 110, 192866w. (c) Spande, T. F. In *Heterocyclic Compounds*; Houlihan, W. J., Ed.; John Wiley and Sons: New York, 1979; Vol. 25, Part III, p 218.

(12) Stevens, G.; Halamandaris, A.; Hopkinson, A. F. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1958, 80, 5196.



tuted thiazolones 4b-f via the route shown in Scheme I. Upon treatment with methylhydrazine in AcOH at 80 °C for 2 h, 3a,b gave 1,3,4-(3*H*,6*H*)-thiadiazine-2-ones 5a,b in 38 and 58% yields, respectively. Structural assignments for compounds 5a,b were based on MS, IR, and ¹H NMR spectral data. In compound 5a, the IR spectrum showed the presence of a carbonyl group at 1720 cm⁻¹. The ¹H NMR spectrum of 5a showed a singlet peak (δ 3.90) for the methylene protons at C-6 which were different from that of 3a. Elemental analysis and the mass spectrum (M⁺) of 5a were in agreement with the assigned structure. There has been considerable interest recently in the preparation and biological activity of these types of heterocyclic species.¹⁴ The cyclocondensation of 3a,c with phenylhydrazine hydrochlorides in AcOH for 3 h afforded none of 1,3,4-(3*H*,6*H*)-thiadiazin-2-one but instead gave 3-[(methoxycarbonyl)sulfonyl]indoles 6a,b in 71 and 81% yields, respectively, via a (3,3)-sigmatropic rearrangement.¹⁵ Compounds 6a,b were smoothly converted into the corresponding 2-substituted 3-indolethiols 7a,b in quantitative yield by treatment with KOH (1.0 equiv) in methanol at rt.¹⁵

In summary, it was found that α-methoxycarbonyl-sulfonylated compound 3 can be prepared regioselectively from commercially available (methoxycarbonyl)sulfonyl chloride 1 and ketones (or aldehydes) 2. These versatile intermediates serve as synthons for heterocycles containing thioester functionality, thiazolones, or thiadiazinones and for a facile introduction of a thiol group into the 3-position of the indole nucleus.

Experimental Section

All melting points are uncorrected. ¹H NMR spectra were recorded at 60 MHz. Microanalytical data were provided by Sumika Analysis Center (Osaka).

General Procedure for the Preparation of α-(Methoxycarbonyl)sulfonyl Ketones (or Aldehydes) 3. To a stirred solution of ketones (or aldehydes) 2 (20 mmol) in CHCl₃ (20 mL) was added (methoxycarbonyl)sulfonyl chloride (2.53 g, 20 mmol) at rt, and the reaction mixture was allowed to stand for 24 h at

25–35 °C. The mixture was concentrated in vacuo yielding the crude only product which was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (entries 1 and 2) or by distillation (entries 3–10).

3a: IR (Nujol) 1720, 1700, 1160 cm⁻¹; MS *m/z* 244 (M⁺); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.15–7.90 (m, 4 H), 4.40 (s, 2 H), 3.80 (s, 3 H). Anal. Calcd for C₁₀H₉ClO₃S: C, 49.09; H, 3.71. Found: C, 49.22; H, 3.72.

3b: IR (Nujol) 1720, 1700, 1160 cm⁻¹; MS *m/z* 244 (M⁺); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.00–7.80 (m, 4 H), 4.25 (s, 2 H), 3.80 (s, 3 H), 2.50 (br s, 3 H).

Anal. Calcd for C₁₁H₁₂O₃S: C, 59.71; H, 5.47. Found: C, 59.79; H, 5.50.

3c: IR (neat) 1720, 1150 cm⁻¹; MS *m/z* 190 (M⁺); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 3.90 (s, 2 H), 3.75 (s, 3 H), 1.20 (s, 9 H).

Anal. Calcd for C₉H₁₄O₃S: C, 50.52; H, 7.42. Found: C, 50.77; H, 7.71.

3d: IR (neat) 1720, 1160 cm⁻¹; MS *m/z* 254 (M⁺); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 6.80–7.40 (m, 4 H), 5.30 (s, 1 H), 3.80 (s, 6 H), 2.25 (s, 3 H).

Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₄O₄S: C, 56.67; H, 5.55. Found: C, 56.77; H, 5.71.

3e: IR (neat) 1740, 1720, 1150 cm⁻¹; MS *m/z* 212 (M⁺); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 9.70 (d, *J* = 2 Hz, 1 H), 7.20–7.50 (m, 5 H), 3.80–4.45 (m, 1 H), 3.85 (s, 3 H), 2.80–3.70 (m, 2 H).

Anal. Calcd for C₁₁H₁₂O₃S: C, 58.91; H, 5.39. Found: C, 59.98; H, 5.59.

3f: IR (neat) 1720, 1170 cm⁻¹; MS *m/z* 232 (M⁺); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 4.10 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 1 H), 3.80 (s, 3 H), 2.50–2.80 (m, 2 H), 1.00–2.00 (m, 14 H).

Anal. Calcd for C₁₁H₂₀O₃S: C, 56.87; H, 8.68. Found: C, 56.93; H, 8.70.

3g: IR (neat) 1720, 1170 cm⁻¹; MS *m/z* 162 (M⁺); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 3.80–4.20 (q, *J* = 7 Hz, 1 H), 3.80 (s, 3 H), 2.20 (s, 3 H), 1.45 (d, *J* = 7 Hz, 3 H).

Anal. Calcd for C₈H₁₀O₃S: C, 44.43; H, 6.21. Found: C, 44.67; H, 6.41.

3h: IR (neat) 1740, 1610, 1160 cm⁻¹; MS *m/z* 220 (M⁺); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 13.95 (br s, 0.75 H), 4.95 (s, 0.25 H), 4.25 (q, *J* = 7 Hz, 2 H), 3.82 (s, 0.75 H), 2.35 (s, 0.75 H), 2.35 (s, 2.25 H), 1.30 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 3 H).

Anal. Calcd for C₉H₁₂O₅S: C, 43.63; H, 5.49. Found: C, 43.74; H, 5.70.

3i: IR (neat) 1720, 1160 cm⁻¹; MS *m/z* 238 (M⁺); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.20–7.40 (m, 5 H), 4.40 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 1 H), 3.80 (s, 3 H), 2.94–4.30 (m, 2 H), 2.20 (s, 3 H).

Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₄O₃S: C, 60.48; H, 5.92. Found: C, 60.55; H, 5.98.

3j: IR (neat) 1720, 1160 cm⁻¹; MS *m/z* 238 (M⁺); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.20–7.45 (m, 5 H), 3.85 (s, 2 H), 3.75 (s, 3 H), 2.75–3.00 (m, 4 H).

Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₃O₃S: C, 60.48; H, 5.92. Found: C, 60.55; H, 5.94.

General Procedure for the Preparation of 4-Substituted 2(3*H*)-Thiazolones 4. A mixture of α-(methoxycarbonyl)sulfonyl ketones (or aldehydes) 3 (2 mmol) and ammonium acetate (benzylamine) (10 mmol) in AcOH (4 mL) was heated at 80 °C for 2 h and allowed to cool to rt. The crude reaction mixture was poured into 50 mL of ice-water and extracted with EtOAc. The organic phase was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃, dried over MgSO₄, and evaporated. The residual oil was chromatographed on silica gel using a 20% EtOAc-hexane mixture as eluent to give 4-substituted 2(3*H*)-thiazolones 4. The yields, physical properties, and spectral data of 4 are shown in Table II. All the new products thus obtained gave correct elemental analyses (±0.3% for C, H, and N).

Reaction of 3a,b with Methylhydrazine. A solution containing 3a,b (5 mmol) and methylhydrazine (0.23 g, 6 mmol) in AcOH (5 mL) was stirred at rt for 3 h. The mixture was poured into 50 mL of ice-water and extracted with EtOAc. The EtOAc extract was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃, dried over MgSO₄, and evaporated. The residue was recrystallized from *i*-PrOH-hexane to give 3-methyl-1,3,4-(3*H*,6*H*)-thiadiazinones 5a,b as white crystals. The yields, physical properties, and spectral data of 5a,b are as follows.

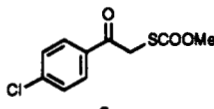
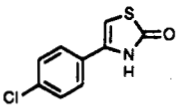
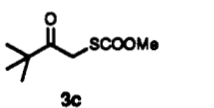
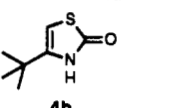
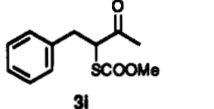
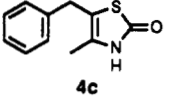
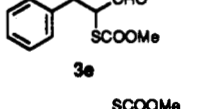
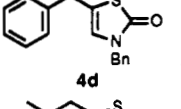
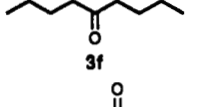
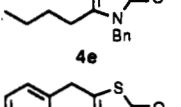
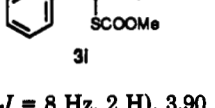
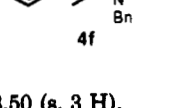
5a: 38% yield; mp 157–159 °C; IR (Nujol) 1720 cm⁻¹; MS *m/z* 240 (M⁺); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.65 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 2 H), 7.35 (d,

(13) See ref 3b, p 294.

(14) March, J. *Advanced Organic Chemistry*, 2nd ed.; McGraw-Hill: New York, 1977; p 1054.

(15) It is known that a thiol group can be introduced at the 3-position of indoles by reacting thiourea and indoline followed by hydrolysis: Marchesa, G. P.; Panzeri, E. *Chim. Ind. (Milan)* 1969, 51, 41; *Chem. Abstr.* 1969, 70, 77694. For a recent review on the synthesis of 3-indolythiols, see: ref 10c, p 215.

Table II. Reaction of α -Methoxycarbonylsulfonylated Compounds **3** with Amines

substrates	amines	products	yield (%)	mp (°C)	MS (<i>m/z</i>)	IR (cm ⁻¹)	¹ H NMR (CDCl ₃ /TMS)
	NH ₃		65	224–226 (224–225) ¹¹	221	1720	6.25 (s, 1 H), 7.10–7.60 (m, 4 H)
	NH ₃		57	117–119	157	1715	1.37 (s, 9 H), 5.60 (s, 1 H)
	NH ₃		69	oil	205	1721	2.00 (s, 3 H), 3.70 (s, 2 H), 7.00–7.40 (m, 5 H)
	BnNH ₂		72	78–79	281	1720	3.70 (d, <i>J</i> = 1 Hz, 2 H), 4.75 (s, 2 H), 6.17 (t, <i>J</i> = 1 Hz, 1 H), 7.00–7.50 (m, 10 H)
	BnNH ₂		70	oil	289	1730	0.90–1.20 (m, 6 H), 1.20–2.90 (m, 6 H), 2.20–2.70 (m, 4 H), 4.90 (s, 2 H), 7.20–7.40 (m, 5 H)
	BnNH ₂		59	oil	295	1720	2.00 (s, 3 H), 3.80 (s, 2 H), 4.95 (s, 2 H), 7.20–7.40 (m, 10 H)

J = 8 Hz, 2 H), 3.90 (s, 2 H), 3.50 (s, 3 H).

Anal. Calcd for C₁₀H₉ClN₂OS: C, 49.90; H, 3.77; N, 11.64. Found: C, 49.73; H, 3.77; N, 11.53.

5b: 58% yield; mp 94–95 °C; IR (Nujol) 1721 cm⁻¹; MS *m/z* 220 (M⁺); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.66 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 2 H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 2 H), 3.90 (s, 2 H), 3.50 (s, 3 H).

Anal. Calcd for C₁₁H₁₂N₂OS: C, 59.98; H, 5.49; N, 12.72. Found: C, 60.06; H, 5.52; N, 12.69.

Reaction of 3a,c with Phenylhydrazines. In a similar fashion in the synthesis of **4**, phenylhydrazines (1.0 equiv) were used in place of ammonium acetate to give 3-[(methoxycarbonylsulfonyl)sulfonyl]indoles **6a,b**. The yields, physical properties, and spectral data of **6a,b** are as follows.

6a: 71% yield; mp 157–159 °C; IR (Nujol) 1720 cm⁻¹; MS *m/z* 331 (M⁺); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 8.60–8.80 (br s, 1 H), 7.05–7.60 (m, 7 H), 3.80 (s, 3 H), 2.40 (s, 3 H).

Anal. Calcd for C₁₇H₁₄ClNO₂S: C, 61.53; H, 4.25; N, 4.21. Found: C, 61.50; H, 4.27; N, 4.35.

6b: 81% yield; mp 115–117 °C; IR (Nujol) 1723 cm⁻¹; MS *m/z* 297 (M⁺); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 8.40–8.60 (br s, 1 H), 7.50–7.80 (br s, 3 H), 3.80 (s, 3 H), 1.45 (s, 9 H).

Anal. Calcd for C₁₄H₁₆ClNO₂S: C, 56.47; H, 5.41; N, 4.70. Found: C, 56.48; N, 4.65.

Demethoxycarbonylation of 6a,b. A solution containing **6** (5 mmol) and potassium hydroxide (0.35 g, 6 mmol) in methanol (50 mL) was stirred at rt for 2 h. After the reaction was complete, the solution was neutralized with acetic acid and concentrated

under reduced pressure. The residue was extracted with EtOAc (50 mL × 2), and the combined extracts were washed with water (30 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and evaporated. The crude product was recrystallized from *i*-PrOH to give 3-indolethiols **7** as white crystals. The yields, physical properties, and spectral data of **7a,b** are as follows.

7a: 98% yield; mp 157–159 °C; MS *m/z* 331 (M⁺); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 8.60–8.80 (br s, 1 H), 7.05–7.60 (m, 7 H), 3.80 (s, 3 H), 2.40 (s, 3 H).

Anal. Calcd for C₁₆H₁₂ClNS: C, 65.80; H, 4.41; N, 5.11. Found: C, 65.94; H, 4.56; N, 5.06.

7b: 99% yield; mp 115–117 °C; MS *m/z* 297 (M⁺); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 8.40–8.60 (br s, 1 H), 7.50–7.80 (br s, 3 H), 3.80 (s, 3 H), 1.45 (s, 9 H).

Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₄ClNS: C, 60.11; H, 5.88; N, 5.83. Found: C, 60.18; H, 5.97; N, 5.99.

Registry No. 1, 26555-40-8; **2a**, 99-91-2; **2b**, 122-00-9; **2c**, 75-97-8; **2d**, 122-84-9; **2e**, 104-53-0; **2f**, 502-56-7; **2g**, 78-93-3; **2h**, 141-97-9; **2i**, 2550-26-7; **2j**, 59417-89-9; **3a**, 65398-74-5; **3b**, 65398-72-3; **3c**, 137363-49-6; **3d**, 137363-50-9; **3e**, 137363-51-0; **3f**, 137363-52-1; **3g**, 137363-53-2; **3h**, 137363-54-3; **3i**, 137363-55-4; **3j**, 137363-56-5; **4a**, 2103-98-2; **4b**, 75820-45-0; **4c**, 137363-57-6; **4d**, 137363-58-7; **4e**, 137363-59-8; **4f**, 137393-31-8; **5a**, 137363-60-1; **5b**, 137363-61-2; **6a**, 137363-62-3; **6b**, 137363-63-4; **7a**, 137363-64-5; **7b**, 137363-65-6; (4-methylphenyl)hydrazine, 539-44-6; (4-chlorophenyl)hydrazine, 1073-69-4; methylhydrazine, 60-34-4.