

Reaction of 1,2-Dithiete with Alkenes and Alkynes: Experimental and Theoretical Study

Toshio Shimizu, Hideyuki Murakami, and Nobumasa Kamigata*

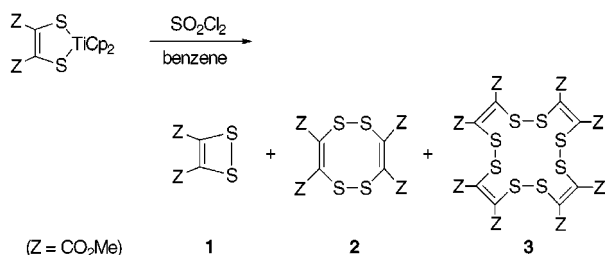
Department of Chemistry, Graduate School of Science, Tokyo Metropolitan University, Minami-ohsawa, Hachioji, Tokyo 192-0397, Japan

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Reactions of 3,4-bis(methoxycarbonyl)-1,2-dithiete (**1**) with various alkenes or alkynes formed 2,3-dihydro-1,4-dithiins or thiophenes, respectively. The reactions with alkenes were stereospecific, which indicates the concerted reaction between 1,2-bis(methoxycarbonyl)ethane-1,2-dithione (**13**), the valence isomer of the 1,2-dithiete, and the dienophiles. Theoretical study confirmed the reactions of **13** with alkenes and alkynes are of reverse electron demand hetero Diels–Alder type. The MO calculations showed the 1,2-dithiete **1** was 5.8 kcal mol⁻¹ more stable than the corresponding ethane-1,2-dithione **13**, and the tautomerization energy between the 1,2-dithiete and the ethane-1,2-dithione was also calculated to be 28.5 kcal mol⁻¹ from the 1,2-dithiete, which suggests the tautomerization from 1,2-dithiete **1** to ethane-1,2-dithione **13** is possible at least at high temperature. Reaction of 3,4,7,8-tetrakis(methoxycarbonyl)-1,2,5,6-tetrathiocin (**2**) or (*Z,Z,Z,Z*)-3,4,7,8,11,12,15,16-octakis(methoxycarbonyl)-1,2,5,6,9,10,13,14-octathiacyclohexadeca-3,7,11,15-tetraene (**3**) with ethyl vinyl ether also formed the 2,3-dihydro-1,4-dithiin derivative, which is the same compound obtained by the reaction of 1,2-dithiete **1** with the ether. 1,2,5,6-Tetrathiocin **2** and 16-membered cyclic compound **3** also reacted with diphenylacetylene to give the thiophene derivative.

Introduction

Among the unsaturated cyclic compounds possessing disulfide linkage, the chemistry of 1,2-dithietes has been extensively studied and many reports have been published.^{1–8} Especially, the relation with their valence isomers, ethane-1,2-dithiones, has been focused on.^{5–8} Previously, we have succeeded in synthesizing 3,4-bis(methoxycarbonyl)-1,2-dithiete (**1**), 1,2,5,6-tetrathiocin **2**, and 16-membered cyclic compound **3** by oxidation of the titanocene dithiolene complex with sulfur chloride, and the crystal structure of 1,2-dithiete **1** could be determined



by X-ray crystallographic analysis.⁹ Some reactions of 1,2-dithietes with alkenes have been examined to give 2,3-dihydro-1,4-dithiin derivatives.^{3,6} However, it has not been clarified whether the alkenes react with 1,2-dithiete or ethane-1,2-dithione, which will be formed from the 1,2-dithiete. Recently, we started to examine the reaction of the 1,2-dithiete with various alkenes and alkynes. In this paper, we report the reactions of 1,2-dithiete **1** with alkenes and alkynes, and it was found that the reaction proceeded between ethane-1,2-dithione and the unsaturated compounds via a concerted path. Theoretical study also supports the reaction of reverse electron demand hetero Diels–Alder type. Activation energy for tautomerization between the 1,2-dithiete and the ethane-1,2-dithione is also discussed on the basis of ab initio MO calculations.

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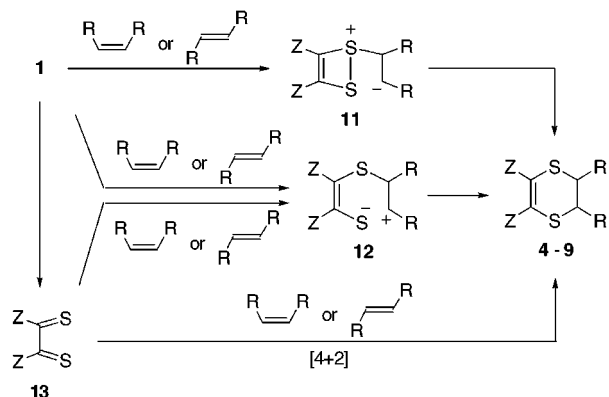
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Results and Discussion

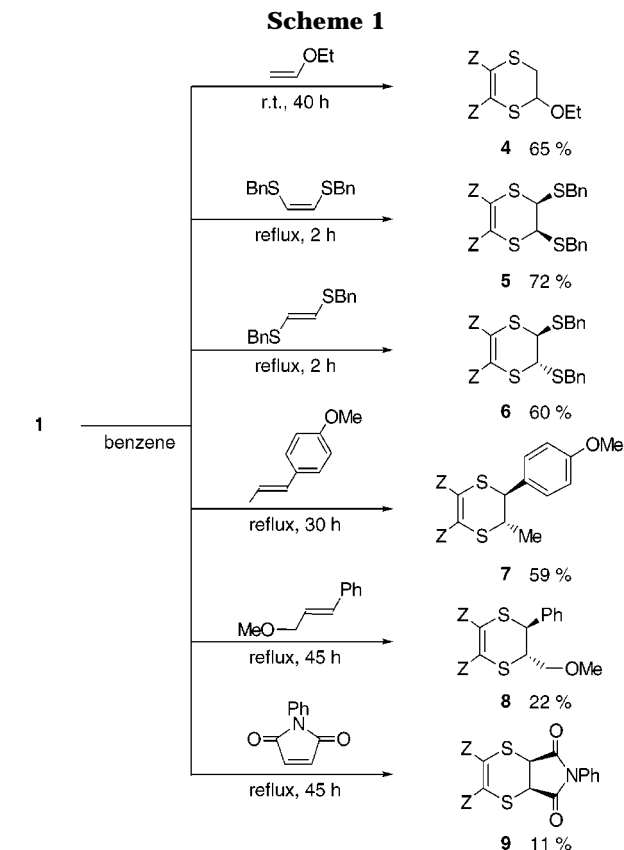
When a benzene solution of 1,2-dithiete **1** and ethyl vinyl ether was stirred at room temperature, 2,3-dihydro-1,4-dithiin **4** was obtained in 65% yield, as shown in Scheme 1. Although the reactions of **1** with (*Z*)- and (*E*)-bis(benzylthio)ethenes were very slow at room temperature, the reactions proceeded smoothly and stereospecifically in refluxing benzene to give *cis*- and *trans*-cycloadducts **5** and **6**, respectively. The *cis*-geometry of **5** was confirmed by X-ray crystallographic analysis. Similarly, reactions of **1** with (*E*)-anethole and (*E*)-cinnamyl methyl ether also afforded only one of the stereoisomers **7** and **8**, respectively, though the reactions were slow even in refluxing benzene. The reaction of **1** with *N*-phenylmaleimide also formed cycloadduct **9** although the yield was low (11%) together with tetrakis(methoxycarbonyl)thiophene (**10**) in 38% yield. However, 1,2-dithiete **1** did not react with maleic anhydride even in refluxing benzene, and thiophene **10** was obtained in 26% yield after refluxing for 24 h.

Some mechanisms are considered for the reactions of 1,2-dithiete **1** with the alkenes. Two mechanisms are via zwitterion intermediates **11** and **12** generated by the



reaction of **1** or ethane-1,2-dithione **13** with the alkenes, and another is a concerted reaction of **13**, the valence isomer of the 1,2-dithiete, with the alkenes. The present reactions are stereospecific, indicating the reactions are proceeding via a concerted path.

To clarify the mechanism, we calculated the FMO energy levels of the ethane-1,2-dithione **13** as a *cisoid*-form and the alkenes used for the reaction. The calculations were performed by the Hartree–Fock method with a 6-31G(d) basis set. The calculated FMO energy levels are summarized in Figure 1. Differences of energy levels between the LUMO of **13** and the HOMO of the alkenes are smaller than those of the π orbital of **13** and the LUMO of the alkenes. This result indicates the reaction is of reverse electron demand hetero Diels–Alder type due to the low energy level of the LUMO (π^*) for ethane-1,2-dithione **13**, and it can also explain the inert reactivity of maleic anhydride toward



the dithione **13**, in which the energy level of the HOMO of maleic anhydride is lower than those of the other alkenes.

Under this situation, the possibility of the formation of ethane-1,2-dithione **13** from 1,2-dithiete **1** arises to be a problem. ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of **1** only showed the 1,2-dithiete structure, and no signal assigned to the ethane-1,2-dithione could be detected even at high temperature (80 °C in toluene-*d*₈). However, it is no wonder because a trace amount of formation of ethane-1,2-dithione in the equilibrium may allow the reaction in the solution. There are some theoretical studies concerning stability of 1,2-dithietes and ethane-1,2-dithiones.^{4,6,8} However, these older studies used low levels of theory, and the many calculations used the simple model molecules substituted by a hydrogen or methyl group. Therefore, we attempted the comparison of the potential energy of 1,2-dithiete **1** and ethane-1,2-dithione **13** with the *cisoid*-form and estimated the activation energy of the interconversion between the isomers. The structural optimization and energy calculation were performed by the second-order Møller–Plesset perturbation method with a 6-31G(d) basis set. The calculation showed 1,2-dithiete **1** is 5.8 kcal mol⁻¹ more stable than ethane-1,2-dithione **13**, and the tautomerization energy was obtained to be 28.5 kcal mol⁻¹ from the 1,2-dithiete **1** (Figure 2). This value of the activation energy supports the possibility of the tautomerization between 1,2-dithiete **1** and ethane-1,2-dithione **13** at least at high temperature.

When a *p*-xylene solution of 1,2-dithiete **1** was refluxed for 8 h, the thiophene **10** was obtained in 31% yield (Scheme 2). Therefore, the formation of thiophene **10** in the reaction of 1,2-dithiete **1** with *N*-phenylmaleimide or maleic anhydride can be explained

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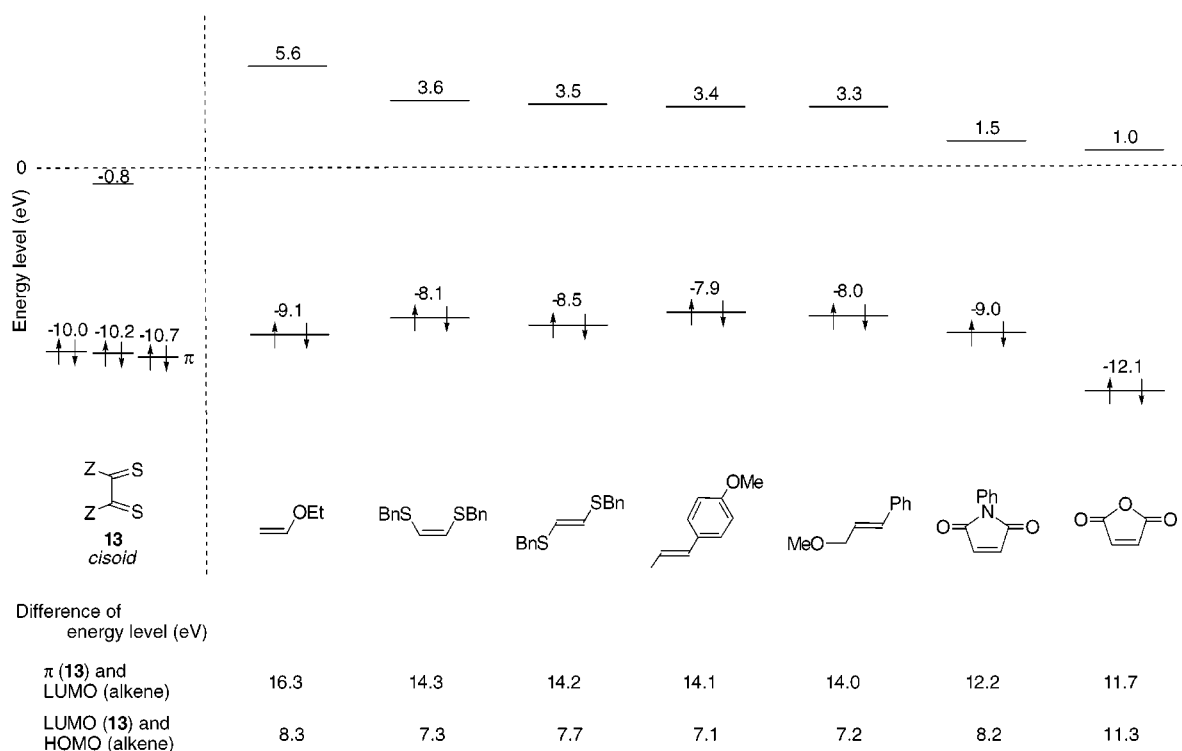
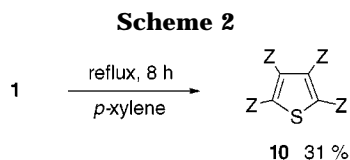
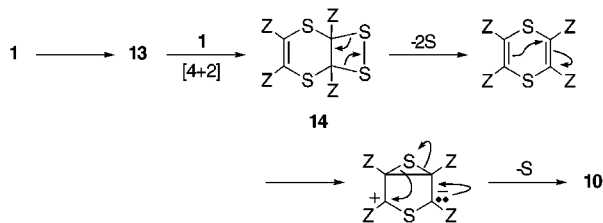


Figure 1. FMO energy levels of ethane-1,2-dithione **13** as a *cisoid*-form and alkenes calculated by the Hartree–Fock method with a 6-31G(d) basis set.



as the result of reaction of 1,2-dithiete **1** with ethane-1,2-dithione **13** because the desulfurization of the cy-



cloadduct **14** probably forms 1,4-dithiin derivative followed by rearrangement and subsequent desulfurization^{7,10} to give thiophene **10**. The calculated energy difference between the LUMO of **13** and the HOMO of **1** is 8.9 eV, and that between the π of **13** and the LUMO of **1** is 12.4 eV. Therefore, the reaction of 1,2-dithiete **1** with ethane-1,2-dithione **13** is also considered to be of reverse electron demand hetero Diels–Alder type. These results also clarified that 1,2-dithiete **1** and *N*-phenylmaleimide compete as the dienophiles toward the ethane-1,2-dithione **13** in the reaction of **1** with *N*-phenylmaleimide.

Reactions of 1,2-dithiete **1** with acetylenes were also examined in refluxing *p*-xylene. The 1,4-dithiin derivative which is expected to be formed from the Diels–Alder

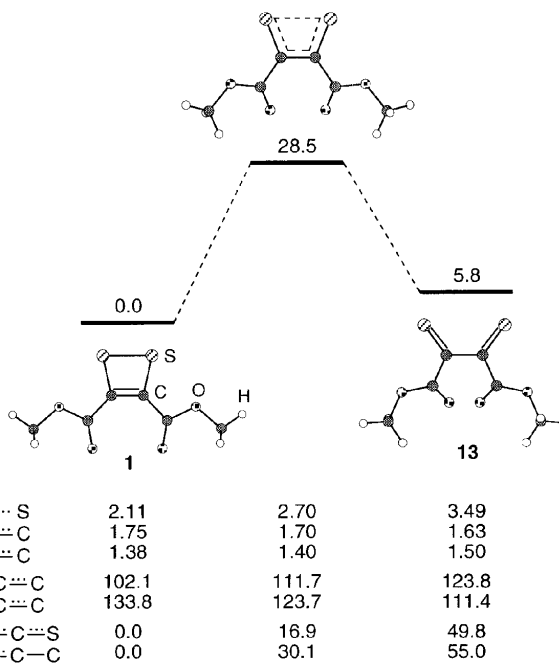


Figure 2. Geometry and energy diagram (kcal mol⁻¹) of tautomerization between 1,2-dithiete **1** and ethane-1,2-dithione **13** calculated by the second-order Møller–Plesset perturbation method with a 6-31G(d) basis set.

reaction of ethane-1,2-dithione **13** with the acetylene was not obtained in either reaction of **1** with dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate or diphenylacetylene, and tetrakis(methoxycarbonyl)thiophene (**10**) (25%) and 2,3-bis(methoxycarbonyl)-4,5-diphenylthiophene (**15**)¹¹ (44%) were yielded after 2 h (Scheme 3). Lack of isolation of

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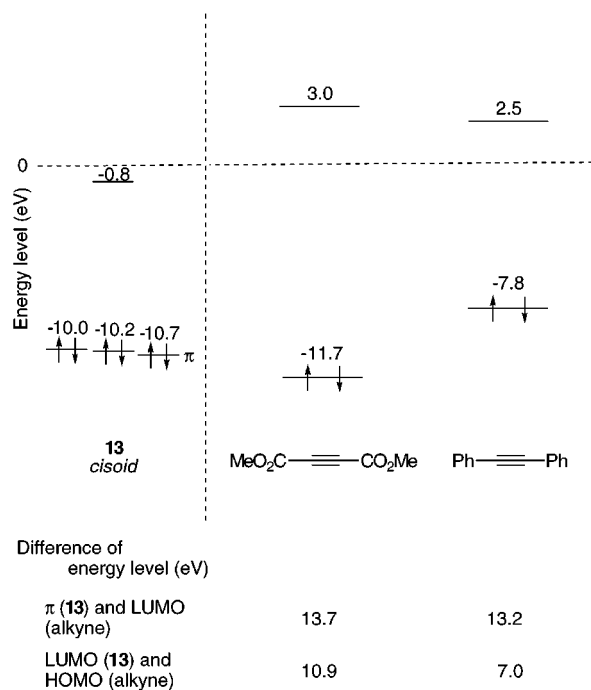
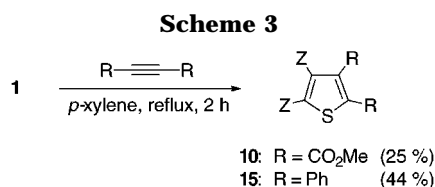
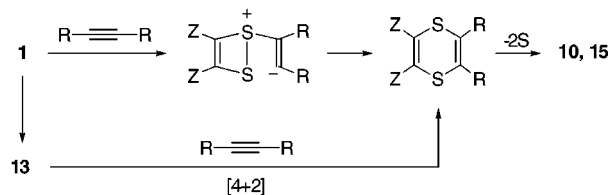


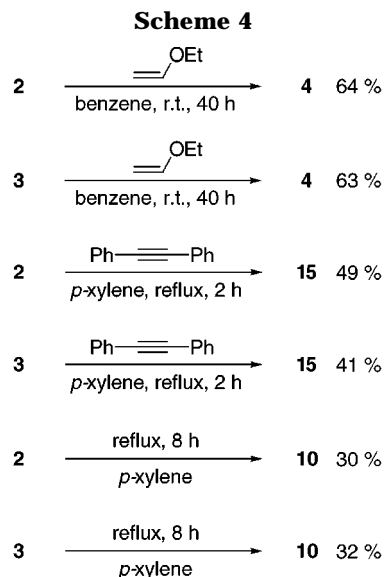
Figure 3. FMO energy levels of ethane-1,2-dithione **13** as a *cisoid*-form and alkynes calculated by the Hartree–Fock method with a 6-31G(d) basis set.



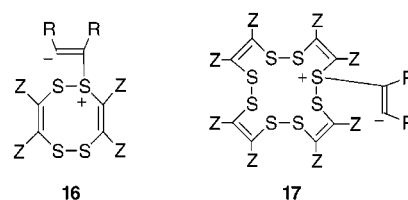
the 1,4-dithiin derivatives is also due to the high reactivity of the 1,4-dithiin derivatives under the conditions.^{7,10} The reaction of 3,4-di-*tert*-butyl-1,2-dithiete with acetylene was reported by Nakayama et al.⁷ to form two types of thiophenes; however, the reaction of **1** with diphenylacetylene yielded only one isomer. In the reactions of 1,2-dithiete **1** with acetylenes, two mechanisms are also considered just like mentioned by Nakayama et al.⁷ If the reaction proceeded via ionic pathway, dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate may be a better reactant than diphenylacetylene. However, the result was the contrary. The FMO calculations of ethane-1,2-dithione **13** and the acetylenes, as shown in Figure 3, also indicate the higher reactivity of diphenylacetylene as the reverse electron demand hetero Diels–Alder reaction.



1,2,5,6-Tetrathiocin **2** and 16-membered cyclic compound **3** also reacted with ethyl vinyl ether at room temperature to give 2,3-dihydro-1,4-dithiin derivative **4** in 64 and 63% yields, respectively, as shown in Scheme 4. In these reactions, 1,2-dithiete **1** is considered to be formed initially by nucleophilic reaction of ethyl vinyl ether to **2** or **3**,⁹ and then the valence isomer **13** reacted



with the ether. The reactions of **2** and **3** with diphenylacetylene in refluxing *p*-xylene also yielded thiophene derivative **15** in 49 and 41% yields, respectively, while the reaction did not proceed at room temperature. In these reactions, 1,2-dithiete **1** is considered to be formed by heating since the compounds **2** and **3** are already known to be stable in nonpolar solvents at room temperature,⁹ although the ionic reaction via betaine intermediates **16** and **17** could not be completely excluded. How-



ever, even if the ionic reaction occurred initially, ethane-1,2-dithione **13** is formed as a side product of the 1,4-dithiin derivative. Thermal reactions of **2** and **3** in refluxing *p*-xylene also yielded thiophene **10** in similar yields with that by the thermal reaction of 1,2-dithiete **1**, indicating the reaction is also proceeding via 1,2-dithiete **1**.

Conclusion

Reactions of 3,4-bis(methoxycarbonyl)-1,2-dithiete (**1**) with various alkenes yielded 2,3-dihydro-1,2-dithiins, stereospecifically. It was clarified the reactions proceed between ethane-1,2-dithione, the valence isomer of the 1,2-dithiete, and alkenes via reverse electron demand hetero Diels–Alder reaction by experimental and theoretical study. The 1,2-dithiete was also found to react with alkynes to give thiophene derivatives. Reactions of 1,2,5,6-tetrathiocin **2** and 16-membered cyclic compound **3** with alkenes and alkynes were found to give the same products as those obtained from the reactions of the 1,2-dithiete with alkenes and alkynes.

Experimental Section

General Methods. Benzene and *p*-xylene were distilled from sodium metal before use. All reactions were performed under nitrogen. Gel permeation chromatography (GPC) was

performed using a JAI LC-08 and a LC-908 liquid chromatograph with two JAIGEL-1H columns (20 mm \times 600 mm), and the products were eluted with chloroform.

General Procedure for Reaction of 1,2-Dithiete 1 with Alkenes. A benzene solution (4 mL) of 1,2-dithiete **1** (41.2 mg, 200 μ mol) and alkene (1.00 mmol) was stirred for desired period at desired temperature. After removal of the solvent in vacuo, products were purified by gel permeation chromatography: **4**, 65%, 35 mg (room temperature, 40 h); **5**, 72%, 64 mg (reflux, 2 h); **6**, 60%, 52 mg (reflux, 2 h); **7**, 59%, 40 mg (reflux, 30 h); **8**, 22%, 15 mg (reflux, 45 h); **9**, 11%, 8.0 mg (reflux, 45 h).

2,3-Bis(methoxycarbonyl)-5-ethoxy-5,6-dihydro-1,4-dithiin (4): pale yellow oil; $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.27 (t, 3H, $J = 7.0$ Hz), 3.16 (dd, 1H, $J = 2.0, 13.3$ Hz), 3.24 (dd, 1H, $J = 5.2, 13.3$ Hz), 3.61 (qd, 1H, $J = 7.0, 9.3$ Hz), 3.806 (s, 3H), 3.812 (s, 3H), 3.98 (qd, 1H, $J = 7.0, 9.3$ Hz), 5.30 (dd, 1H, $J = 2.0, 5.2$ Hz); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.7, 33.0, 53.0, 53.2, 64.9, 77.6, 126.9, 128.6, 164.2, 164.9; IR (neat) ν_{max} 2970, 2900, 1730, 1550, 1430, 1250, 1100, 1030, 990 cm^{-1} ; MS (EI, 70 eV) m/z 278 (M^+), 246, 232, 218, 72; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_5\text{S}_2$ 278.0282, found 278.0270.

cis-2,3-Bis(benzylthio)-5,6-bis(methoxycarbonyl)-2,3-dihydro-1,4-dithiin (5): pale yellow prisms; mp 107.5–108.0 $^\circ\text{C}$ (dichloromethane–hexane); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 3.79 (s, 6H), 3.86 (d, 2H, $J = 13.6$ Hz), 3.94 (d, 2H, $J = 13.6$ Hz), 4.25 (s, 2H), 7.23–7.33 (m, 10H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 36.1, 50.1, 53.2, 127.2, 127.5, 128.7, 129.0, 136.4, 164.0; IR (KBr) ν_{max} 3040, 2950, 1740, 1560, 1500, 1460, 1440, 1420, 1250, 1080, 1020 cm^{-1} ; MS (EI, 70 eV) m/z 478 (M^+), 357, 272, 232, 91. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{22}\text{O}_4\text{S}_4$: C, 55.20; H, 4.63. Found: C, 55.11; H, 4.66.

trans-2,3-Bis(benzylthio)-5,6-bis(methoxycarbonyl)-2,3-dihydro-1,4-dithiin (6): colorless oil; $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 3.79 (d, 2H, $J = 13.6$ Hz), 3.81 (s, 6H), 3.95 (d, 2H, $J = 13.6$ Hz), 4.08 (s, 2H), 7.20–7.31 (m, 10H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 35.0, 48.7, 53.2, 126.0, 127.5, 128.7, 129.0, 136.4, 164.0; IR (neat) ν_{max} 3040, 2950, 1740, 1550, 1490, 1460, 1440, 1430, 1240, 1070, 1010 cm^{-1} ; MS (EI, 70 eV) m/z 478 (M^+), 357, 272, 232, 91; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{22}\text{O}_4\text{S}_4$ 478.0401, found 478.0419.

trans-2,3-Bis(methoxycarbonyl)-5-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-6-methyl-5,6-dihydro-1,4-dithiin (7): pale yellow oil; $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.18 (d, 3H, $J = 6.8$ Hz), 3.54 (qd, 1H, $J = 6.8, 8.7$ Hz), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 4.07 (d, 1H, $J = 8.7$ Hz), 6.89 (d, 2H, $J = 8.7$ Hz), 7.17 (d, 2H, $J = 8.7$ Hz); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 18.7, 41.4, 51.2, 53.0, 53.1, 55.3, 114.5, 126.8, 127.5, 128.8, 129.3, 159.7, 164.3, 164.4; IR (neat) ν_{max} 3060, 2970, 2850, 1730, 1610, 1550, 1510, 1440, 1260, 1080, 1030 cm^{-1} ; MS (EI, 70 eV) m/z 354 (M^+), 323, 263, 233, 148, 117; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_5\text{S}_2$ 354.0596, found 354.0609.

trans-2,3-Bis(methoxycarbonyl)-5-methoxymethyl-6-phenyl-5,6-dihydro-1,4-dithiin (8): pale yellow oil; $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 3.32 (s, 3H), 3.16 (dd, 1H, $J = 6.1, 10.1$ Hz), 3.52 (dd, 1H, $J = 6.1, 10.1$ Hz), 3.59 (td, 1H, $J = 6.1, 6.4$ Hz), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 4.51 (d, 1H, $J = 6.4$ Hz), 7.28–7.39 (m, 5H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 45.7, 46.5, 53.12, 53.16, 59.2, 73.0, 126.5, 127.9, 128.35, 128.39, 128.9, 138.6, 164.36, 164.43; IR (neat) ν_{max} 2970, 1740, 1560, 1440, 1260, 1130, 1100, 1030 cm^{-1} ; MS (EI, 70 eV) m/z 354 (M^+), 309, 245, 147, 115, 91; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_5\text{S}_2$ 354.0596, found 354.0577.

cis-3,4-Bis(methoxycarbonyl)-8-phenyl-8-aza-2,5-dithiabicyclo[4.3.0]non-3-en-7,9-dione (9): pale yellow oil; $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 3.85 (s, 6H), 4.78 (s, 2H), 7.25–7.28 (m, 2H), 7.41–7.50 (m, 3H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 51.9, 53.6, 126.5, 129.36, 129.40, 131.0, 138.8, 163.3, 171.0; IR (neat) ν_{max} 2950, 1780, 1720, 1550, 1490, 1430, 1380, 1260, 1200, 1080, 1010 cm^{-1} ; MS (EI, 70 eV) m/z 379 (M^+), 348, 259, 232, 201, 173; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}_6\text{S}_2$ 379.0184, found 379.0167.

Thermal Reaction of 1,2-Dithiete 1. A *p*-xylene solution (2 mL) of 1,2-dithiete **1** (20.6 mg, 100 μ mol) was refluxed for

8 h. After removal of the solvent in vacuo, thiophene **10**^{7,12} was purified by gel permeation chromatography and obtained in 31% yield (3.8 mg).

Reaction of 1,2-Dithiete 1 with Acetylenes. A *p*-xylene solution (2 mL) of 1,2-dithiete **1** (20.6 mg, 100 μ mol) and dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate (71.2 mg, 500 μ mol) or diphenylacetylene (89.0 mg, 500 μ mol) was refluxed for 2 h. After removal of the solvent in vacuo, purification by gel permeation chromatography gave thiophene **10** (25%, 7.2 mg) or thiophene **15**¹¹ (44%, 14 mg), respectively.

Reaction of Tetrathiocin 2 or 16-Membered Cyclic Compound 3 with Ethyl Vinyl Ether. A benzene solution (1 mL) of tetrathiocin **2** (20.6 mg, 50 μ mol) or 16-membered cyclic compound **3** (20.6 mg, 25 μ mol) and ethyl vinyl ether (0.48 mL, 5.0 mmol) was stirred for 40 h at room temperature. After removal of the solvent in vacuo, purification by gel permeation chromatography gave 2,3-dihydro-1,4-dithiin **4** in 64% (16 mg) yield from **2** or in 63% (15 mg) yield from **3**, respectively.

Reaction of Tetrathiocin 2 or 16-Membered Cyclic Compound 3 with Diphenylacetylene. A *p*-xylene solution (2 mL) of tetrathiocin **2** (20.6 mg, 50 μ mol) or 16-membered cyclic compound **3** (20.6 mg, 25 μ mol) and diphenylacetylene (89.1 mg, 500 μ mol) was refluxed for 2 h. After removal of the solvent in vacuo, purification by gel permeation chromatography gave thiophene **15**¹¹ in 49% (16 mg) yield from **2** or in 41% (13 mg) yield from **3**, respectively.

Thermal Reaction of Tetrathiocin 2 or 16-Membered Cyclic Compound 3. A *p*-xylene solution (2 mL) of tetrathiocin **2** (20.6 mg, 50 μ mol) or 16-membered cyclic compound **3** (20.6 mg, 25 μ mol) was refluxed for 8 h. After removal of the solvent in vacuo, purification by gel permeation chromatography gave thiophene **10** in 30% (4.1 mg) yield from **2** or in 32% (4.3 mg) yield from **3**, respectively.

X-ray Crystallographic Analysis of 5. A crystal was mounted on a glass fiber in a random orientation. Preliminary examination and data collection were performed with Mo $K\alpha$ radiation ($\lambda = 0.71069$ Å) on a Mac Science MXC18 diffractometer equipped with a graphite crystal, incident beam monochromator. Cell constants and an orientation matrix for data collection were obtained from least-squares refinement. The data were collected at a temperature of 23 ± 1 $^\circ\text{C}$ using the ω - 2θ scan technique. The scan rate varied from 0 to 5 $^\circ$ /min (in ω). Lorentz and polarization corrections were applied to the data. No absorption correction was made. An extinction correction was not necessary. Hydrogen atoms were included in the refinement but restrained to ride on the atom to which they are bonded. The structure was refined in full-matrix least-squares where the function minimized was $\sum w(|F_o| - |F_c|)^2$ and the weight w is defined as 1.0 for all observed reflections. A pale yellow prism of $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{22}\text{O}_4\text{S}_4$ having approximate dimensions of $0.30 \times 0.20 \times 0.15$ mm^3 was found to have triclinic space group $P\bar{1}$ with $a = 9.762(5)$ Å, $b = 11.586(5)$ Å, $c = 12.69(1)$ Å, $\alpha = 110.54(5)^\circ$, $\beta = 101.08(5)^\circ$, $\gamma = 110.11(4)^\circ$, $V = 1179.86(1)$ Å³, $Z = 2$, and $\rho(\text{calcd}) = 1.347$ g cm^{-3} . Of the 5008 unique data, the 3827 with $I > 3\sigma(I)$ were used in the least-squares refinement to yield $R = 0.041$ and $R_w = 0.041$.

Theoretical Study. MO calculations of 1,2-dithiete **1**, ethane-1,2-dithione **13**, alkenes, and alkynes were performed by the Hartree–Fock method with a 6-31G(d) basis set. The structural optimization and energy calculation of **1**, **13**, and the transition state for the tautomerization were carried out by the second-order Møller–Plesset perturbation method with a 6-31G(d) basis set. All calculations were performed by using the GAUSSIAN94 program on an IBM RS/6000 computer.

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Supporting Information Available: Detailed information of the X-ray crystallographic analysis of **5**, including structure diagrams, details of data collection and reduction and structure solution and refinement, and tables of positional

and thermal parameters, bond lengths and angles, and torsional angles, Cartesian coordinates of 1,2-dithiete **1**, ethane-1,2-dithione **13**, and the geometry at the transition state for the tautomerization between **1** and **13** calculated by the second-order Møller–Plesset perturbation method with the 6-31G(d) basis set, and NMR spectra. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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