Synthesis of Sulfones and Sulfonamides via Sulfinate Anions: Revisiting the Utility of Thiosulfonates

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S Supporting Information

[AB](#page-5-0)STRACT: [Simple and](#page-5-0) high-yielding strategies for the production of a variety of sulfones and sulfonamides, using thiosulfonates synthesized by copper-catalyzed aerobic dimerization, are reported. Although thiosulfonates are an old class of compound, practical methods for their synthesis and utilization have not been rigorously developed. In this study, we revisit the reactions of easily accessible thiosulfonates to form sulfinate anions. Because of the similar reactivity of thiosulfonates and metal sulfinates derived from toxic $SO₂$, thiosulfinates are proposed to be stable, nontoxic alternatives to metal sulfinate salts.

ENTRODUCTION

Sulfinates are versatile reagents that are used in transition-metalcatalyzed cross-coupling reactions to produce synthetically and pharmaceutically useful sulfones and sulfonamides.^{1,2} Although sulfinates were reported in the early 1900s, their use in chemical reactions has drawn little attention due to [th](#page-6-0)e limited accessibility of sulfinate reagents. Until DABSO (DABCO· $(SO₂)₂$; DABCO = 1,4-diazabicyclo[2.2.2] octane) and potassium metabisulfite $(K_2S_2O_5)$ were introduced in metal-catalyzed coupling reactions, the main sources of sulfinates were commercially available sodium sulfinates and SO_2 gas derived sulfinates. $3-5$ The limited commercial availability of sodium sulfinates and the toxicity of $SO₂$ gas used for the generation of metal sul[fi](#page-6-0)n[a](#page-6-0)tes⁶ has resulted in the slow growth of sulfinate chemistry. Since Willis and Mascitti introduced stable, nontoxic sulfinates, gen[era](#page-6-0)ted from DABSO and $K_2S_2O_5$, a range of sulfinate derivatives and their reactions have been extensively reported.

In their pioneering work, Barton and co-workers studied the preparati[o](#page-6-0)n and synthetic utility of alkyl S-pyridyl thiosulfonates $($ Scheme 1 $).$ ⁸ These intermediates were synthesized from aliphatic esters of N-hydroxy-2-thiopyridone esters and SO_2 gas under [an](#page-6-0)aerobic cryogenic photolytic conditions. The thiosulfonates were then treated with alkyl halides or Nhaloamines (generated in situ from amines) to form sulfones and sulfonamides, respectively. Recently, our research group has reported one-pot, copper-catalyzed aerobic coupling reactions using thiols to prepare synthetically challenging organosulfur compounds.⁹ In particular, it was found that alkyl and aryl thiols undergo copper-catalyzed oxidative dimerization to form thiosulfonat[es](#page-6-0).^{9e} We envisioned that the latter could be cleaved by nucleophiles to generate sulfinate anions, which would then react in one p[ot](#page-6-0) with various electrophiles to afford sulfones or with amines to form sulfonamides. Thus, in this study, we Scheme 1. Synthesis of Sulfones and Sulfonamides via Thiosulfonate Intermediates

Barton's synthesis of aliphatic sulfones and sulfonamides (1988, Ref. 8):

A new strategy for practical synthesis of aliphatic and aromatic sulfonyl products from thiols under environmentally benign conditions:

present a new strategy for the preparation of alkyl and aryl sulfones and sulfonamides based on the use of thiosulfonate intermediates. Compared with Barton's protocol, it avoids using toxic $SO₂$ gas, anaerobic cryogenic photolytic conditions, and the preparation of N-hydroxy-2-thiopyridone esters. In addition,

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it expands the scope of the thiosulfonate-based transformations to the aromatic chemical space.¹⁰ Taking into account their ready accessibility and nonhazardous properties, the proposed use of thiosulfonates provid[es](#page-6-0) a practical platform for convenient synthesis of a variety of sulfones and sulfonamides without isolation of sulfinate salts.

■ RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The reaction of phenyl thiosulfonate 1a and benzyl bromide 1b was investigated in the presence of organic and inorganic bases (Table 1). First, guanidine- and amidine-type bases such as

1,5,7-triazabicyclo[4.4.0]dec-1-ene (TBD), 1,8-diazabicyclo- [5.4.0]undec-7-ene (DBU), 1,1,3,3-tetramethylguanidine (TMG), and 7-methyl-1,5,7-triazabicyclo[4.4.0]dec-5-ene (Me-TBD) were examined. As listed in Table 1, the reaction in the presence of TBD afforded 1c in the highest yield (entries 1−4). Diisopropylethylamine (DIPEA), N,N-dimethylaminopyridine (DMAP), and 1,4-diazabicyclo[2.2.2]octane (DABCO) were also used in the reactions, affording 1c in good yields (entries 5−7). The inorganic bases K_2CO_3 and $Cs₂CO₃$ exerted very different effects, forming 1c in 5% and 97% yields, respectively (entries 8 and 9). We next turned our attention to solvent effects. Using TBD, 1c was formed in yields of 91% in CH₃CN, 99% in THF, and 87% in EtOH (entries 10− 12). Using Cs_2CO_3 , yields of 99% (EtOH) and 91% (THF) were obtained for 1c (entries 13 and 14). As almost complete conversion was observed with 2 equiv of bases, lower amounts of base (TBD and Cs_2CO_3) were also tested. When 1 equiv of $Cs₂CO₃$ was used, the excellent yield of 1c was retained, but 1 equiv of TBD and 0.5 equiv of Cs_2CO_3 gave somewhat reduced yields (entries 15 and 16). The reaction was run at room temperature, showing a slightly decreased yield (88%, entry 17).

Based on the results listed in Table 1, we next turned our attention to explore the substrate scope under two sets of optimum reaction conditions, namely Cs_2CO_3 in EtOH and TBD in THF. A range of electrophiles including benzyl bromide

derivatives, alkyl bromides, allyl bromide, α -bromo ketones and esters, 2-chlorobenzothioazole, and diphenyliodonium salts, were examined for aryl and alkyl sulfone formation, as shown in Figure 1.

a 2 equiv. Cs₂CO₃ in EtOH at 90 °C, b 1 equiv. Cs₂CO₃ in EtOH at 90 °C c 2 equiv. TBD in THF at 65 °C, d 1 equiv. TBD in THF at 65 °C e 1 equiv. Cs₂CO₃ in acetylacetone:EtOH (1:4) at 90 °C

Figure 1. Sulfone substrate scope.

3-Methoxy- and 4-fluorobenzyl bromides reacted with thiosulfonate 1a to afford sulfones 2c and 3c, respectively, in excellent yields under Cs_2CO_3 - and TBD-mediated reaction conditions. Meanwhile, the reactions of 3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)benzyl bromide gave comparatively low yields of 4c. Interestingly, 2-nitrobenzyl bromide afforded the desired sulfone 5c along with the side product 5d, resulting from sulfenylation, in good yields, but in ratios that depended on the reaction conditions. Presumably, the higher acidity of 5c, assisted by the $NO₂$ group, promoted further sulfenylation. In the presence of acetyl acetone, sulfenylation was completely inhibited to afford 5c as a single product in 94% yield. As alkyl derivatives, octyl bromide and methyl bromide were also tested, affording the desired products 6c and 7c, respectively, in excellent yields. When allyl bromide was employed in this transformation, allyl-substituted sulfone 8c was formed, along with vinyl sulfone 8d, when Cs_2CO_3 was used as the base. Presumably, the acidic nature of the α -protons in the allylsulfones induced the formation of the vinyl sulfone. 11 Interestingly, once again, the addition of acetylacetone promoted the formation of 8c only. $β$ -Keto sulfones w[ere](#page-6-0) prepared from thiosulfonates using $α$ -bromo ketones and esters.¹² Similar to the reactions of 2-nitrobenzyl bromides, β keto sulfone 9c and α -sulfenylated 9d were isolated. The forma[tio](#page-6-0)n of 9d is the result of the displacement of the sulfinate moiety at the divalent sulfur atom of the thiosulfonate with a carbon nucleophile of the desired product. Depending on the reaction conditions, 9c or 9d could be formed as the major product. α -Methylated β -keto sulfone 10c and β -ester 11c did not undergo further sulfenylation. Heterocyclic and aromatic sulfones were synthesized using 2-chlorobenzothiazole and diphenyliodonium triflate, respectively. The reaction of thiosulfonate 1a with 2-chlorobenzothiazole afforded the desired heterocyclic sulfone 12c in good yields. The phenyl cation, generated from diphenyliodonium triflate, also participated in these reactions to give the desired diphenyl sulfone 13c in good yields. The reaction of bromobenzene as an example of aromatic halides was tested, resulting in no product formation.

Subsequent to electrophile screening, the nucleophilic reactivities of these diverse thiosulfonates were assessed (Figure 2). Various thiosulfonates were subjected to the base-mediated

 a 1 equiv. Cs₂CO₃ in EtOH at 90 °C, b 2 equiv. TBD in THF at 65 °C

Figure 2. Examples of sulfones synthesized from various thiosulfonates and 1b.

reaction with benzyl bromide 1b. The methoxy-substituted thiosulfonate was converted into 14c in 94% yield using $Cs₂CO₃$, but the TBD-mediated reaction was not as effective. A methyl-substituted thiosulfonate participated in the reaction with 1b to afford 15c in excellent yields for each base. Fluoroand chloro-substituted thiosulfonates reacted to form sulfone 16c and 17c, respectively, in good yields, but slightly lower than those of the methyl-substituted derivative. As an example of an aliphatic system, octyl thiosulfonate was reacted in the presence of Cs_2CO_3 and TBD to afford 18c in 96% and 15% yields, respectively.

Next, the reactions of thiosulfonate 1a and morpholine 1e were attempted in the presence of Cs_2CO_3 (1 equiv) and Nbromosuccinimide (NBS) (Table 2). As shown during the

temperature.

formation of the sulfones (above), Cs_2CO_3 (1 equiv) provided generally good yields under most reaction conditions. Hence, we used Cs_2CO_3 throughout the optimization of the sulfonamide synthesis. To induce halogenation, NBS (2 equiv) was added in various solvents (DMSO, DMF, EtOH, CH3CN, THF, DCE, and toluene; entries 1−7). In EtOH, 1f was obtained in the highest yield (96%, entry 3). When I_2 was used instead of NBS, a comparable yield was obtained (92%, entry 8). The reaction using N-chlorosuccinimide (NCS) also gave the desired product 1f in 66% yield (entry 9). When the amounts of NBS and 1e were reduced to 1 and 1.1 equiv, respectively, the lower yields of 1f were observed, but in the presence of 1.5 equiv of NBS and 1e, the high yield of 1f observed in entry 3 was retained (98%) (entries 10−12). To investigate the effect of temperature, the reaction was run at room temperature, and 1f was formed at 84% yield (entry 13).

Using the optimized reaction conditions listed in Table 2, various amines and thiosulfonates were reacted to form sulfonamides (Figure 3). Cyclic and acyclic sec-amines participated in the reaction to afford the desired sulfonamides 2f, 3f, and 4f in [good yield](#page-3-0)s. The reactions of benzylamine and butyl amine with 1a provided the desired products 5f and 6f in slightly lower yields than was observed for the sec-amines. In the case of aromatic amines, aniline and 2-aminopyridine were examined under the reaction conditions. Both compounds underwent bromination on the aromatic ring, resulting in no S− N bond formation. Various thiosulfonates were also subjected to the indicated oxidative amination with morpholine to afford aromatic sulfonamides 7f−10f in good to excellent yields.

Plausible mechanisms for these transformations are shown in Scheme 2. In the presence of Cs_2CO_3 in EtOH or TBD in THF, nucleophilic bases attack the divalent sulfur atom to release the sulfi[nate a](#page-3-0)nion, which is trapped by a carbon electrophile to afford the corresponding sulfone. δ In the case of sulfonamides, the amines undergo halogenation by NBS or $I₂$, prior to addition

by the sufinate anion, which is supported by control experiments (Scheme 2). 13 When a solution containing a thiosulfonate and NBS was stirred prior to the addition of morpholine, the desired product 1f [w](#page-6-0)as obtained in 7% yield; however, when the reaction of morpholine and NBS was conducted prior to the addition of the thiosulfonate, 1f was isolated in 87% yield. Because halogenation of amines occurs prior to the reaction with sulfinate anions, sulfenamides formed by the addition of amines to divalent sulfur of thiosulfonates were not observed.¹

■ CONCLUSION

We have demonstrated that thiosulfonates participate in reactions with electrophiles and amines to afford a range of sulfones and sulfonamides in good to excellent yields. In the presence of nucleophilic bases, sulfinate anions are expelled during the reaction, which react then with benzyl bromides, alkyl bromides, allyl bromide, phenacyl bromide, and electrondeficient aromatic compounds to afford sulfones, while sulfonamides are formed in the presence of amines and NBS. Compared to metal sulfinates derived from the reaction of organometallic compounds and $SO₂$, thiosulfonates are easily synthesized by catalytic aerobic dimerization and show good

reactivity with various electrophiles and amines. Thiosulfonates are stable, nontoxic alternatives to metal sulfinates.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

General Procedure for the Synthesis of Thiosulfonates. ^{9e} Thiophenol (159 μ L, 1.5 mmol) and benzyl alcohol (52 μ L, 0.50 mmol) were added to a mixture of CuI (4.8 mg, 0.025 mmol) and T[BD](#page-6-0) (7.1 mg, 0.05 mmol) in THF (1 mL). The resulting solution was stirred at 65 °C for 18 h under 1 atm of oxygen. The reaction mixture was cooled, and the solvent was removed. The residue was purified by column chromatography on a silica gel eluting with hexane and ethyl acetate to afford the desired product.

General Procedure for the Synthesis of Sulfones. Method A. Benzyl bromide (60 μ L, 0.50 mmol) was added to a mixture of Sphenyl benzenesulfonothiolate (62.6 mg, 0.25 mmol) and Cs_2CO_3 in a sealed tube. After 0.5 mL of EtOH was added to the reaction, the vessel was closed and the mixture stirred at 90 °C for 16 h. The reaction mixture was cooled, diluted with DCM, and filtered. The filtrate was taken and concentrated through a rotary evaporator. The residue was purified by column chromatography on a silica gel column eluting with 3% ethyl acetate in hexane to afford the desired product. [Depending on the nature of the carbon electrophiles and amines, the amount of $Cs₂CO₃$ used was either 1 or 2 equiv (with respect to the thiosulfonate) to obtain the optimum yield.]

Method B. Benzyl bromide (60 μ L, 0.50 mmol) was added to a mixture of S-phenyl benzenesulfonothiolate (62.6 mg, 0.25 mmol) and TBD in a sealed tube. After addition of 0.5 mL of THF, the reaction vessel was closed and stirred at 65 °C for 16 h. The reaction was cooled and concentrated through a rotary evaporator. The residue was purified by column chromatography on a silica gel column eluting with 3% ethyl acetate in hexane to afford the desired product. [Depending on the nature of the carbon electrophiles and amines, the amount of TBD used was either 1 or 2 equiv (with respect to the thiosulfonate) to obtain the optimum yield.]

(Benzylsulfonyl)benzene (1c).¹⁵ The representative experimental procedures were applied to S-phenyl benzenesulfonothiolate (62.6 mg, 0.25 mmol) with benzyl bromid[e \(6](#page-6-0)0 μ L, 0.50 mmol) to form 1c as a white solid. Mp: 148–150 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): 7.63– 7.56 (3H, m), 7.45−7.41 (2H, m), 7.33−7.22 (3H, m), 7.08 (2H, d, J = 8.0 Hz), 4.30 (2H, s). ¹³C{¹H}NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ : 137.7, 133.6, 130.7, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 128.0, 63.0. HRMS (EI, m/z): calcd for $C_{13}H_{12}O_2S$ [M]⁺ 232.0558, found 232.0555. FTIR (neat): 3030, 2963, 1302, 1152, 1126 cm⁻¹. .

1-Methoxy-3-((phenylsulfonyl)methyl)benzene (2c).¹⁶ The representative experimental procedures were applied to S-phenyl benzenesulfonothiolate (62.6 mg, 0.25 mmol) with 3-methoxy[benz](#page-6-0)yl bromide (71 µL, 0.50 mmol) to form 2c as a white solid. Mp: 112-114 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): 7.66–7.58 (3H, m), 7.47–7.44 (2H, m), 7.15 (1H, t, J = 8.0 Hz), 6.86–6.83 (1H, m), 6.65–6.60 (2H, m), 4.28 $(2H, s)$, 3.71(3H, s). ¹³C{¹H}NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): 159.4, 137.8, 133.6, 129.5, 129.3, 128.8, 128.6, 123.1, 115.9, 114.7, 62.9, 55.3 ppm. HRMS (FAB, m/z): calcd for C₁₄H₁₅O₃S [M + H]⁺ 263.0742, found 263.0741. FTIR (neat): 3061, 2977, 1299, 1132 cm[−]¹ .

1-Fluoro-4-((phenylsulfonyl)methyl)benzene (3c).¹⁷ The representative experimental procedures were applied to S-phenyl benzenesulfonothiolate (62.6 mg, 0.25 mmol) with 4-fluorobenzyl [br](#page-6-0)omide (63 μ L, 0.50 mmol) to form 3c as a white solid. Mp: 167−168 °C. ¹ H NMR (CDCl3, 400 MHz): 7.65−7.59 (3H, m), 7.49−7.45 (2H, m), 7.08− 7.04 (2H, m), 6.97−6.93 (2H, m), 4.28 (2H, s). 13C{1 H}NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): 164.2 (d, J = 246 Hz), 137.7, 133.8, 132.6 (d, J = 9.1 Hz), 129.0, 128.6, 124.0, 115.8 (d, J = 22 Hz), 62.1. HRMS (FAB, m/z): calcd for $C_{13}H_{12}FO_2S$ [M + H]⁺ 251.0542, found 251.0540. FTIR (neat): 3061, 2945, 1303, 1150 cm⁻¹. .

1-((Phenylsulfonyl)methyl)-3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)benzene (4c). The representative experimental procedures were applied to S-phenyl benzenesulfonothiolate (62.6 mg, 0.25 mmol) with 3,5-bis- (trifluoromethyl)benzyl bromide (96 μ L, 0.50 mmol) to form 4c as a white solid. Mp: 147–149 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): 7.84 (1H, s), 7.69−7.64 (3H, m), 7.53−7.49 (4H, m), 4.41 (2H, s). 13C{1 H}-

NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): 137.0, 134.4, 132.0 (q, J = 33.4 Hz), 130.9 $(2C)$, 129.3, 128.5, 122.8 $(q, J = 271 \text{ Hz})$, 122.7 (m) , 62.1. HRMS (FAB, m/z): calcd for $C_{15}H_{11}F_6O_2S$ [M + H]⁺ 369.0384, found 369.0385. FTIR (neat,): 3061, 2932, 1330, 1128 cm⁻¹. .

1-Nitro-2-((phenylsulfonyl)methyl)benzene (5c) and ((2- Nitrophenyl)(phenylsulfonyl)methyl)(phenyl)sulfane (5d). The representative experimental procedures were applied to S-phenyl benzenesulfonothiolate (62.6 mg, 0.25 mmol) with 2-nitrobenzyl bromide (110 mg, 0.50 mmol) to afford the easily separable mixture of 5c and 5d. 1-Nitro-2-((phenylsulfonyl)methyl)benzene $(5c)$.¹⁸ Mp (light yellow solid): 114−116 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): 7.97 (1[H,](#page-6-0) dd, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz), 7.69–7.66 (2H, m), 7.64–7.59 (2H, m), 7.55−7.44 (4H, m), 4.94 (2H, s). 13C{1 H}NMR (CDCl3, 100 MHz) δ: 149.2, 137.8, 134.2, 134.1, 133.3, 130.1, 129.2, 128.3, 125.4, 122.9, 58.7. HRMS (FAB, m/z): calcd for $C_{13}H_{12}NO_4S$ [M + H]⁺ 278.0487, found 278.0485. FTIR (neat): 3068, 2924, 1529, 1352, 1320, 1147 cm[−]¹ . ((2- Nitrophenyl)(phenylsulfonyl)methyl)(phenyl)sulfane (5d). Mp (yellow solid): 116−118 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): 7.96 $(1H, d, J = 8.0 Hz)$, 7.92 $(1H, d, J = 8.4 Hz)$, 7.75–7.68 $(3H, m)$, 7.61– 7.51 (2H, m), 7.43 (2H, t, 7.2 Hz), 7.30−7.19 (5H, m), 6.65 (1H, d, J = 1.6 Hz). ¹³C{¹H}NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): 148.6, 136.8, 134.2, 133.4, 132.5, 132.3, 132.2, 130.1, 129.3 (2C), 128.9, 128.8, 127.0, 124.9, 70.2. HRMS (FAB, m/z): calcd for $C_{19}H_{16}NO_4S_2$ [M + H]⁺ 386.0521, found 386.0518. FTIR (neat): 3065, 2919, 1528, 1348, 1322, 1150 cm⁻¹. .

(Octylsulfonyl)benzene (6c).¹⁹ The representative experimental procedures were applied to S-phenyl benzenesulfonothiolate (62.6 mg, 0.25 mmol) with octyl bromid[e \(8](#page-6-0)8 μ L, 0.50 mmol) to afford 6d as liquid. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): 7.92 (2H, dd, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz), 7.68−7.63 (1H, m), 7.59−7.55 (2H, m), 3.10−3.06 (2H, m), 1.74− 1.67 (2H, m), 1.36−1.23 (10H, m), 0.86 (3H, t, J = 7.2 Hz).
¹³C{¹H}NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): 139.1, 133.5, 129.2, 127.9, 56.4, 31.8, 29.1, 29.0, 28.4, 22.8, 22.7, 14.2. HRMS (FAB, m/z): calcd for $C_{14}H_{23}O_2S$ [M + H]⁺ 255.1419, found 255.1418. FTIR (neat): 3065, 2927, 1306, 1147 cm[−]¹ .

(Methylsulfonyl)benzene $(7c)^{15}$ The representative experimental procedures were applied to S-phenyl benzenesulfonothiolate (62.6 mg, 0.25 mmol) with methyl iodide [\(32](#page-6-0) μ L, 0.50 mmol) to form 7c as a white solid. Mp: 87–89 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): 7.96 (2H, dd, J = 8.4, 0.8 Hz), 7.69–7.64 (1H, m), 7.60–7.56 (2H, m), 3.06 (3H, s). ¹³C{¹H}NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): 140.4, 133.6, 129.3, 127.2, 44.6. HRMS (FAB, m/z): calcd for C₇H₉O₂S [M + H]⁺ 157.0323, found 157.0322. FTIR (neat): 3023, 2927, 1307, 1147 cm⁻¹. .

(Allylsulfonyl)benzene (8c) and (Prop-1-en-1-ylsulfonyl)benzene (8d). The representative experimental procedures were applied to Sphenyl benzenesulfonothiolate (62.6 mg, 0.25 mmol) with allyl bromide (45 μ L, 0.50 mmol) to form the inseparable liquid mixture of 8c and 8d.²⁰ (Allylsulfonyl)benzene (8c). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): 7.89 (2H, dd, J = 8.4, 1.2 Hz), 7.68−7.63 (1H, m), 7.59−7.54 $(2H, m)$, 5.85–5.74 $(1H, m)$, 5.36 $(1H, dd, J = 10.0, 4.8 Hz)$, 5.18– 5.12 (1H, m), 3.83 (2H, dd, J = 7.6, 0.8 Hz). ¹³C{¹H}NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): 138.1, 133.7, 128.9, 128.3, 124.7, 124.5, 60.9. HRMS (FAB, m/z): calcd for C₉H₁₁O₂S [M + H]⁺ 183.0480, found 183.0478. FTIR (neat): 3066, 2920, 1308, 1146 cm⁻¹. .

1-Phenyl-2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethan-1-one (9c) + 1-Phenyl-2-(phenylsulfonyl)-2-(phenylthio)ethan-1-one (9d). The representative experimental procedures were applied to S-phenyl benzenesulfonothiolate (62.6 mg, 0.25 mmol) with 2-bromoacetophenone (102 mg, 0.50 mmol) to form the easily separable mixture of 9c and 9d as a white solid. 1-Phenyl-2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethan-1-one $(9c)$ ²¹ Mp: 95–97 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): 7.95−7.88 (4H, m), 7.68−7.59 (2H, m), 7.56−7.52 (2H, m), 7.50−7.45 (2H, m), 4.74 (2[H,](#page-6-0) s). 13C{1 H}- NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): 187.8, 138.6, 135.6, 134.3, 134.1, 129.2, 129.1, 128.8, 128.4, 63.4. HRMS (FAB, m/z): calcd for C₁₄H₁₃O₃S [M $+ H$ ⁺ 261.0585, found 261.0583. FTIR (neat): 3064, 2947, 1680, 1323, 1154 cm[−]¹ . 1-Phenyl-2-(phenylsulfonyl)-2-(phenylthio)ethan-1-one (9d).²² Mp: 135−136 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): 8.02 (2H, dd, $J = 8.4, 1.2$ Hz), 7.89 (2H, d, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 7.70–7.44 (8H, m), 7.37– 7.28 [\(3](#page-6-0)H, m), 5.79 (1H, s). ¹³C{¹H}NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): 189.0, 136.3, 134.9, 134.4, 134.3, 133.5, 131.9, 130.6, 129.4, 129.3, 129.1,

128.8, 128.6, 75.6. HRMS (FAB, m/z): calcd for $C_{20}H_{17}O_3S_2$ [M + H]⁺ 369.0619, found 369.0618. FTIR (neat): 3062, 1682, 1323, 1151 cm⁻¹. .

1-Phenyl-2-(phenylsulfonyl)propan-1-one (10c).²³ The representative experimental procedures were applied to S-phenyl benzenesulfonothiolate (62.6 mg, 0.25 mmol) with 2-bromopropi[oph](#page-6-0)enone (78 μ L, 0.50 mmol) to form 10c as a white solid. Mp: 78−80 °C. ¹ H NMR $(CDCl_3, 400 MHz)$: 7.98 (2H, dd, J = 7.2, 1.2 Hz), 7.80 (2H, dd, J = 7.2, 1.2 Hz), 7.66−7.58 (2H, m), 7.54−7.45 (4H, m), 5.19 (1H, q, J = 6.8 Hz), 1.58 (3H, d, J = 7.2 Hz). ¹³C{¹H}NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): 192.3, 136.1, 136.0, 134.2, 134.0, 129.7, 129.1, 128.9, 128.7, 65.1, 13.4. HRMS (EI, m/z): calcd for $C_{15}H_{14}O_3S$ [M]⁺ 274.0664, found 274.0667. FTIR (neat): 3064, 2941, 1682, 1309, 1149 cm⁻¹. .

Benzyl 2-(Phenylsulfonyl) acetate (11c). The representative experimental procedures were applied to S-phenyl benzenesulfonothiolate (62.6 mg, 0.25 mmol) with benzyl bromoacetate (81 μ L, 0.50 mmol) to afford 11c as liquid. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): 7.86 (2H, d, J = 8.0) Hz), 7.64 (1H, t, J = 7.6 Hz), 7.51−7.47 (2H, m), 7.36−7.34 (3H, m), 7.27−7.25 (2H, m), 5.11 (2H, s), 4.15 (2H, s). ¹³C{¹H}NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ: 162.1, 138.5, 134.4, 134.2, 129.2, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 68.1, 61.1. HRMS (EI, m/z): calcd for C₁₅H₁₄O₄S [M]⁺ 290.0613, found 290.0610. FTIR (neat): 3065, 2943, 1739, 1327, 1151 cm⁻¹. .

2-(Phenylsulfonyl)benzo[d]thiazole $(12c)$. The representative experimental procedures were applied to S-phenyl benzenesulfonothiolate (62.6 mg, 0.25 mmol) with 2-chlorobenzothiazole (67 μ L, 0.50 mmol) to form 12c as a white solid. Mp: 159–161 °C. ¹H NMR $(CDCl₃$, 400 MHz): 8.17–8.13 (3H, m), 7.96 (1H, dd, J = 7.6, 0.8 Hz), 7.68−7.64 (1H, m), 7.59−7.50 (4H, m). ¹³C{¹H}NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): 167.1, 152.8, 138.4, 137.0, 134.5, 129.5, 128.9, 127.9, 127.5, 125.5, 122.2. HRMS (FAB, m/z): calcd for $C_{13}H_{10}NO_2S_2$ [M + H]⁺ 276.0153, found 276.0151. FTIR (neat): 3092, 3061, 1329, 1316, 1159 cm^{-1} . .

Sulfonyldibenzene (13 c).²⁴ The representative experimental procedures were applied to S-phenyl benzenesulfonothiolate (62.6 mg, 0.25 mmol) with diph[eny](#page-6-0)liodonium trifluoromethanesulfonate (220 mg, 0.50 mmol) to form 13c as a white solid. Mp: 123−125 °C.
¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): 7.96−7.93 (4H, m), 7.58−7.48 (6H, m). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): 7.96–7.93 (4H, m), 7.58–7.48 (6H, m).
¹³C{¹H}NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): 141.5, 133.2, 129.3, 127.6. HRMS (FAB, m/z): calcd for $C_{12}H_{11}O_2S$ [M + H]⁺ 219.0480, found 219.0479. FTIR (neat, cm⁻¹): 3065, 1309, 1154 cm⁻¹ .

1-(Benzylsulfonyl)-4-methoxybenzene $(14c)$.²⁵ The representative experimental procedures were applied to S-4-methoxyphenyl 4 methoxybenzenesulfonothiolate (77.6 mg, 0.2[5 m](#page-6-0)mol) with benzyl bromide (60 μ L, 0.50 mmol) to form 14c as a white solid. Mp: 101– 103 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): 7.53 (2H, dd, J = 6.8, 2.0 Hz), 7.31−7.24 (3H, m), 7.09 (2H, d, J = 6.8 Hz), 6.89 (2H, dd, J = 6.8, 2.0 Hz), 4.28 (2H, s), 3.85 (3H, s). ¹³C{¹H}NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): 163.6, 130.8, 130.7, 129.3, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 114.0, 63.2, 55.8. HRMS (EI, m/z): calcd for $C_{14}H_{14}O_3S$ [M]⁺ 262.0664, found 262.0664. FTIR (neat): 3031, 2975, 1315, 1296, 1153 cm[−]¹ .

1-(Benzylsulfonyl)-4-methylbenzene $(15c)$.²⁶ The representative experimental procedures were applied to S-p-tolyl 4-methylbenzenesulfonothioate (69.6 mg, 0.25 mmol) with ben[zyl b](#page-6-0)romide (60 μ L, 0.50 mmol) to form 15c as a white solid. Mp: 146–148 °C. ¹H NMR $(CDCl_3, 400 MHz)$: 7.50 (2H, d, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.32–7.22 (5H, m), 7.09 $(2H, d, J = 6.8 \text{ Hz})$, 4.28 $(2H, s)$, 2.41 $(3H, s)$. ¹³C{¹H}NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ: 144.6, 134.9, 130.8, 129.4, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.2, 62.9, 21.8. HRMS (EI, m/z): calcd for C₁₄H₁₄O₂S [M]⁺ 246.0715, found 246.0714. FTIR (neat): 3031, 2974, 2924, 1303, 1155 cm⁻¹. .

1-(Benzylsulfonyl)-4-fluorobenzene $(16c)$.¹⁷ The representative experimental procedures were applied to S-4-fluorophenyl 4 fluorobenzenesulfonothioate (71.6 mg, 0.2[5](#page-6-0) mmol) with benzyl bromide (60 μ L, 0.50 mmol) to form 16c as a white solid. Mp: 155−157 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): 7.63−7.59 (2H, m), 7.34− 7.24 (3H, m), 7.13−7.06 (4H, m), 4.31 (2H, s). 13C{1 H}NMR $(CDCl₃, 100 MHz): 166.9 (d, 54 Hz), 133.7 (d, J = 3.1 Hz), 131.5 (d, J)$ $= 9.1$ Hz), 130.7, 128.8, 128.6, 127.9, 116.3 (d, J = 21.9 Hz), 63.1. HRMS (EI, m/z): calcd for $C_{13}H_{11}FO_2S$ [M]⁺ 250.0464, found 250.0463. FTIR (neat): 3057, 2942, 1315, 1149, 1085 cm⁻¹. .

1-(Benzylsulfonyl)-4-chlorobenzene $(17c)^{25}$ The representative experimental procedures were applied to S-4-chlorophenyl 4 chlorobenzenesulfonothioate (79.8 mg, 0.2[5](#page-6-0) mmol) with benzyl bromide (60 μ L, 0.50 mmol) to form 17c as a white solid. Mp: 144−146 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): 7.54 (2H, dd, J = 8.8, 2.0 Hz), 7.41 (2H, dd, J = 8.8, 2.4 Hz), 7.35–7.25 (3H, m), 7.09 (2H, d, J = 7.6 Hz), 4.31 (2H, s). ¹³C{¹H}NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ : 140.4, 136.2, 130.8, 130.1, 129.2, 128.9, 128.7, 127.8, 63.0. HRMS (EI, m/z): calcd for $C_{13}H_{11}ClO_2S$ [M]⁺ 266.0168, found 266.0172. FTIR (neat): 3065, 2943, 1314, 1151 cm[−]¹ .

((Octylsulfonyl)methyl)benzene (18c). The representative experimental procedures were applied to S-octyl octane-1-sulfonothiolate (80.6 mg, 0.25 mmol) with benzyl bromide (60 μ L, 0.50 mmol) to form 18c as a white solid. Mp: 70–72 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): 7.41−7.38 (5H, m), 4.22−4.19 (2H, m), 2.82−2.78 (2H, m), 1.81–1.75 (2H, m), 1.36–1.25 (10H, m), 0.87 (3H, t, J = 5.6 Hz).
¹³C{¹H}NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): 130.5, 129.0, 128.9, 128.1, 59.5, 51.2, 31.9, 29.2, 29.1, 28.6, 22.8, 22.0, 14.3. HRMS (EI, m/z): calcd for $\rm C_{15}H_{24}O_2S$ [M]+ 268.1497, found 268.1500. FTIR (neat): 3025, 2954, 2916, 1317, 1299, 1123 cm⁻¹. .

General Procedure for the Synthesis of Sulfonamides. Morpholine (44 μ L, 0.50 mmol) was added to a mixture of S-phenyl benzenesulfonothiolate (62.6 mg, 0.25 mmol), NBS (90 mg, 0.5 mmol), and Cs_2CO_3 (82.2 mg, 0.25 mmol) in 0.5 mL of EtOH in a sealed tube. The tube was closed and stirred at 80 °C for 16 h. After completion of the reaction, the mixture was was cooled, diluted with DCM, and filtered. The filtrate was concentrated through a rotary evaporator and purified by column chromatography on a silica gel column eluting with 6% ethyl acetate in hexane to afford the desired product.

4-(Phenylsulfonyl)morpholine $(1f).^{27}$ The representative experimental procedure was applied to S-phenyl benzenesulfonothiolate (62.6 mg, 0.25 mmol) with morpholin[e \(4](#page-6-0)4 μ L, 0.50 mmol) to obtain 1f as a white solid in 96% yield. Mp: 119–121 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): 7.77−7.75 (2H, m), 7.65−7.61 (1H, m), 7.58−7.54 (2H, m), 3.74 (4H, t, J = 4.8 Hz), 3.00 (4H, t, J = 4.8 Hz). ¹³C{¹H}NMR (CDCl3, 100 MHz): 135.0, 133.1, 129.1, 127.8, 66.2, 46.2. HRMS (EI, m/z): calcd for C₁₀H₁₃NO₃S [M]⁺ 227.0616, found 227.0617. FTIR (neat): 2921, 2856, 1449, 1350, 1169 cm[−]¹ .

1-(Phenylsulfonyl)piperidine $(2f).^{27}$ The representative experimental procedure was applied to S-phenyl benzenesulfonothiolate (62.6 mg, 0.25 mmol) with piperidine (50 μ L, [0.5](#page-6-0)0 mmol) to obtain 2f as a white solid in 95% yield. Mp: 92–94 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): 7.77−7.74 (2H, m), 7.61−7.57 (1H, m), 7.55−7.51 (2H, m), 2.99 (4H, t, J = 5.2 Hz), 1.67−1.61 (4H, m), 1.45−1.40 (2H, m). 13C{1 H}NMR (CDCl3, 100 MHz): 136.2, 132.5, 128.9, 127.6, 47.1, 25.4, 23.7. HRMS (EI, m/z): calcd for $C_{11}H_{15}NO_2S$ [M]⁺ 225.0824, found 225.0826. FTIR (neat): 2945, 2840, 1445, 1336, 1168 cm^{-1} .

1-(Phenylsulfonyl)pyrrolidine (3f).²⁷ The representative experimental procedure was applied to S-phenyl benzenesulfonothiolate (62.6 mg, 0.25 mmol) with pyrrolidine (42 μ L, [0.5](#page-6-0)0 mmol) to obtain 3f as a white solid in 84% yield. Mp: 52–54 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): 7.86−7.81 (2H, m), 7.62−7.58 (1H, m), 7.57−7.51 (2H, m), 3.28− 3.22 (4H, m), 1.79−1.72 (4H, m). ¹³C{¹H}NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): 136.7, 132.5, 128.9, 127.4, 48.1, 25.4. HRMS (EI, m/z): calcd for $C_{10}H_{13}NO_2S$ [M]⁺ 211.0667, found 211.0664. FTIR (neat): 2980, 2886, 1445, 1337, 1159 cm⁻¹. .

N-Benzyl-N-methylbenzenesulfonamide (4f).²⁷ The representative experimental procedure was applied to S-phenyl benzenesulfonothiolate (62.6 mg, 0.25 mmol) with N-benzylmeth[yla](#page-6-0)mine (65 μ L, 0.50 mmol) to obtain 4f as a white solid in 83% yields. Mp: 91–93 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): 7.85−7.83 (2H, m), 7.63−7.53 (3H, m), 7.35−7.25 (5H, m), 4.14 (2H, s), 2.60 (3H, s). ¹³C{¹H}NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ: 137.2, 135.5, 132.7, 129.1, 128.6, 128.3, 127.9, 127.4, 54.3, 34.5. HRMS (EI, m/z): calcd for $C_{14}H_{15}NO_2S$ [M]⁺ 261.0824, found 261.0822. FTIR (neat): 2968, 2860, 1446, 1341, 1166 cm[−]¹ .

N-Benzylbenzenesulfonamide $(5f)^{28}$ The representative experimental procedure was applied to S-phenyl benzenesulfonothiolate (62.6 mg, 0.25 mmol) with benzylami[ne \(](#page-6-0)55 μ L, 0.50 mmol) to obtain ${\bf 5}$ f as a white solid in 65% yield. Mp: 86–88 °C. $^1{\rm H}$ NMR (CDCl $_3$, 400 MHz): 7.86−7.83 (2H, m), 7.58−7.54 (1H, m), 7.50−7.45 (2H, m), 7.26−7.21 (3H, m), 7.18−7.15 (2H, m), 5.04 (1H, t, J = 6.0 Hz), 4.13 $(2H, d, J = 6.4 \text{ Hz})$. ¹³C{¹H}NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): 139.8, 136.1, 132.6, 129.1, 128.6, 127.9, 127.8, 127.0, 47.4. HRMS (EI, m/z): calcd for $C_{13}H_{13}NO_2S$ [M]⁺ 247.0667, found 247.0669. FTIR (neat): 3284, 3064, 1447, 1326, 1160 cm⁻¹. .

N-Butylbenzenesulfonamide (6f).²⁸ The representative experimental procedures were applied to S-phenyl benzenesulfonothiolate (62.6 mg, 0.25 mmol) with butylamine (50 μ L, 0.50 mmol) to obtain 6f as a colorless liquid in 66% yield. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): 7.92−7.87 (2H, m), 7.60−7.56 (1H, m), 7.54−7.49 (2H, m), 4.74 (1H, bs), 2.97− 2.92 (2H, m), 1.47−1.40 (2H, m), 1.33−1.24 (2H, m), 0.84 (3H, t, J = 7.2 Hz). ¹³C{¹H}NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): 139.8, 132.6, 129.1, 127.0, 43.1, 31.8, 19.9, 13.8. HRMS (EI, m/z): calcd for C₁₀H₁₅NO₂S [M]⁺, , 213.0824, found 213.0821. FTIR (neat): 3284, 2960, 2873, 1447, 1325, 1161 cm⁻¹. .

4-((4-Fluorophenyl)sulfonyl)morpholine (7f).²⁷ The representative experimental procedure was applied to S-4-fluorophenyl 4-fluorobenzenesulfonothioate (71.6 mg, 0.25 mmol) wit[h m](#page-6-0)orpholine (44 μ L, 0.50 mmol) to obtain 7f as a white solid in 89% yield. Mp: 103−¹⁰⁵ °C. ¹ ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): 7.80−7.76 (2H, m), 7.28−7.22 (2H, m), 3.75 (4H, t, J = 4.8 Hz), 3.00 (4H, t, J = 4.8 Hz). ¹³C{¹H}NMR $(CDCl₃, 100 MHz): 166.5 (d, J = 253 Hz), 131.2 (d, J = 3.8 Hz), 130.5$ $(d, J = 9.1 \text{ Hz})$, 116.5 $(d, J = 22 \text{ Hz})$, 66.1, 46.1. HRMS (EI, m/z): calcd for $C_{10}H_{12}FNO_3S$ $[M]^+$ 245.0522, found 245.0523. FTIR (neat): 2962, 2858, 1347, 1158 cm[−]¹ .

4-((4-Chlorophenyl)sulfonyl)morpholine $(8f).^{27}$ The representative experimental procedure was applied to S-4-chlorophenyl 4-chlorobenzenesulfonothioate (79.8 mg, 0.25 mmol) wit[h m](#page-6-0)orpholine (44 μ L, 0.50 mmol) to obtain 8f as a white solid in 86% yield. Mp: 149−¹⁵¹ °C. ¹ ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): 7.71–7.69 (2H, m), 7.55–7.53 (2H, m), 3.74 (4H, t, J = 4.8 Hz), 3.00 (4H, t, J = 4.8 Hz). ¹³C{¹H}NMR (CDCl3, 100 MHz): 139.6, 133.5, 129.4, 129.2, 66.1, 46.1. HRMS (EI, m/z): calcd for $C_{10}H_{12}CINO_3S$ [M]⁺ 261.0226, found 261.0229. FTIR (neat): 2978, 2866, 1453, 1350, 1163 cm[−]¹ .

4-Tosylmorpholine (9f).²⁷ The representative experimental procedure was applied to S-p-tolyl 4-methylbenzenesulfonothioate (69.6 mg, 0.25 mmol) with morpho[line](#page-6-0) (44 μ L, 0.50 mmol) to obtain 9f as a white solid in 91% yield. Mp: 149–151 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): 7.64 (2H, d, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.35 (2H, d, J = 8.0 Hz), 3.73 (4H, t, J = 4.8 Hz), 2.98 (4H, t, J = 4.8 Hz), 2.44 (3H, s). ¹³C{¹H}NMR (CDCl3, 100 MHz) δ: 143.8, 131.8, 129.7, 127.8, 66.1, 46.1, 21.7. HRMS (EI, m/z): calcd for $C_{11}H_{15}NO_3S$ $[M]^+$ 241.0773, found 241.0775. FTIR (neat): 2972, 2851, 1452, 1346, 1165 cm⁻¹. .

4-((4-Methoxyphenyl)sulfonyl)morpholine (10f).²⁷ The representative experimental procedure was applied to S-4-methoxyphenyl 4 methoxybenzenesulfonothiolate (77.6 mg, 0.25 m[mol\)](#page-6-0) with morpholine (44 μ L, 0.50 mmol) to obtain 10f as a white solid in 95% yield. Mp: 112−113 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): 7.70 (2H, d, J = 9.2 Hz), 7.02 (2H, d, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 3.88 (3H, s), 3.73 (4H, t, $J = 4.8$ Hz), 2.97 $(4H, t, J = 4.8 \text{ Hz}).$ $^{13}C(^{1}H)NMR$ (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): 163.0, 129.9, 126.3, 114.2, 66.1, 55.8, 46.1. HRMS (EI, m/z): calcd for C₁₁H₁₅NO₄S [M]⁺ 257.0722, found 257.0719. FTIR (neat): 2974, 2852, 1454, 1347, 1162 cm⁻¹. .

■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

6 Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge on the ACS Publications website at DOI: 10.1021/acs.joc.6b03016.

Spectroscopic data for products (PDF)

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Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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