After acidolysis ${ }^{9}$ of the Boc group, mixed anhydride coupling ${ }^{7}$ of Ac-Gly and the resulting pentapeptide dimer ( $2: 1$ molar ratio, THF/DMF) gave the acetylated hexapeptide 6a, Ac replacing Z , in $76 \%$ yield. The latter was reduced, activated, and cyclized to thiolactone $1 e$ in $55-60 \%$ yield as described ${ }^{11,18}$ for the conversion of 6 a into $\mathbf{1 c}$.

The protected thiolactones 1a, 1c, and $1 \mathbf{e}$ were deprotected ( $9: 1$ (v/v) HF/anisole, $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 15 \mathrm{~min}$ ) and purified by reverse-phase liquid chromatography to furnish $10-\mathrm{mg}$ quantities of the desired ${ }^{19}$ macrocyclic thiolactones 1b, 1d, and 1f. The yields over four steps were $16 \%$ from thiolester 4 a to $\mathbf{1 b}$ by the first strategy and both $24 \%$ from dimeric hexapeptide $\mathbf{6 a}$ to $\mathbf{1 d}$ and $22 \%$ from $\mathbf{6 a}$, Ac replacing Z , to 1 lf by the second strategy. In order to study the binding of thiolactone $\mathbf{1 f}$ to biological particles, ${ }^{21}$ tritiated $\mathbf{1 f}, \mathbf{R}$ $=\left[{ }^{3} \mathrm{H}\right] \mathrm{Ac}$-Gly ( $2960 \mathrm{cpm} / \mathrm{nmol}$ ), was prepared from $\left[{ }^{3} \mathrm{H}\right] \mathrm{Ac}$-Gly and the pentapeptide dimer as described above.

These results (1) constitute the first chemical synthesis of the 1-thia-5,8,11-triazacyclopentadecane ring system, (2) present the first examples of reduction of a peptide disulfide with a trialkylphosphine, ${ }^{11}$ and (3) introduce the formation of peptide thiolesters ${ }^{15}$ and thiolactones ${ }^{18}$ by coupling of cysteine thiol groups with 1 -benzotriazolo esters.

The $300-\mathrm{MHz}$ NMR spectrum ${ }^{22,23}$ of macrocyclic thiolactone If revealed that the chemical shifts of the $\beta$-methylene protons of Cys differ by 0.58 ppm and those of the $\gamma$-methylene protons of the second Glu differ by 0.20 ppm . In addition, the coupling constant between one of the Cys $\beta$-methylene protons and the $\alpha$ proton is only 2 Hz . A plausible explanation for these large chemical shift differences and the small coupling constant is that the 15 -membered thiolactone ring exists in a single, relatively rigid conformation.

Thiolactones 1d and if undergo hydrolytic ring opening about 2000 times faster than the acyclic model thiolester $N, S$-diacetylcysteine methylamide. ${ }^{24}$ Macrocyclic thiolactone $1 f$ (half-life ${ }^{24} 0.20 \mathrm{~h}$ ) hydrolyzes about $10^{3}$ times faster than the latent binding site of C3 (half-life ${ }^{24} 186 \mathrm{~h}$ ) but about $10^{7}$ times slower than the metastable binding site of nascent C 3 b (estimated half-life ${ }^{5} 30 \mu \mathrm{~s}$ ). The 15 -membered thiolactone ring 1 is evidently necessary but not sufficient to explain the pronounced biological reactivity of the metastable binding site of human C 3 b .

Acknowledgment. We thank Professors Brian T. Chait and Frank H. Field for the mass spectra, Professor David Cowburn
(19) The following thiolactones were homogeneous by thin-layer chromatography and reverse-phase liquid chromatography and gave acceptable mass spectral molecular weights, amino acid molar ratios, and elemental analyses. Thin-layer systems: A, 4:1:1 (v/v/v) 1-butanol/acetic acid/water; B, 23:10:3 (v/v/v) ethanol/acetic acid/water; C, 3:1:1:1 (v/v/v/v) 1-butanol/ethyl acetate/acetic acid/water. Reverse-phase conditions: $30-\mathrm{cm} \mu$ Bondapak $\mathrm{C}_{18}$ column was eluted isocratically with $2 \% \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ in water; $k^{\prime}=\left(t_{\text {compd }} / t_{\text {solvent }}\right)$ -1 , where $t=$ retention time. Molecular ions were observed as $(M+\mathrm{Na})^{+}$ in the positive-ion portion of the ${ }^{252} \mathrm{Cf}$ fission fragment-induced mass spectrum. ${ }^{20}$ Molar ratios for Cys are uncorrected for losses due to oxidation during acid hydrolysis ( $6 \mathrm{~N} \mathrm{HCl}, 110^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 24 \mathrm{~h}$ ). The counterion for the protonated amines 1 b and 1 d is assumed to be fluoride because the only acid present during purification was HF. (a) Pentapeptide 1b: $R_{f}$ (A) 0.73 , (B) 0.17 , (C) $0.21 ; k^{\prime}=2.27 ; m / e\left(\mathrm{C}_{19} \mathrm{H}_{29} \mathrm{~N}_{7} \mathrm{O}_{9} \mathrm{SNa}\right)$ calcd 554.16, found 554.22; Asp $_{1.07} \mathrm{Glu}_{1.97} \mathrm{Gly}_{1.00} \mathrm{Cys}_{0.27}$; Anal. ( $\mathrm{C}_{19} \mathrm{H}_{29} \mathrm{~N}_{7} \mathrm{O}_{9} \mathrm{~S} \cdot \mathrm{HF} \cdot 0.5 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ) C, H, N. (b) Hexapeptide 1d: $R_{f}$ (A) 0.69 , (B) 0.13 , (C) $0.14 ; k^{\prime}=2.10 ; m / e\left(\mathrm{C}_{21} \mathrm{H}_{32^{-}}\right.$ $\mathrm{N}_{8} \mathrm{O}_{10} \mathrm{SNa}$ ) calcd 611.19, found 611.23; Asp $1.05 \mathrm{Glu}_{2.10} \mathrm{Gly}_{2.00} \mathrm{Cys}_{0.74}$; Anal. $\left(\mathrm{C}_{21} \mathrm{H}_{32} \mathrm{~N}_{8} \mathrm{O}_{10} \mathrm{~S} \cdot \mathrm{HF}\right) \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}$. (c) Acetylated hexapeptide 1f: $R_{f}(\mathrm{~A}) 0.85$, (B) 0.42 , (C) $0.24 ; k^{\prime} 3.64 ; m / e\left(\mathrm{C}_{23} \mathrm{H}_{34} \mathrm{H}_{8} \mathrm{O}_{11} \mathrm{SNa}\right)$ calcd 653.20 , found 653.27; Asp $1.07 \mathrm{Glu}_{2.05} \mathrm{Gly}_{2.00} \mathrm{Cys}_{0.47}$; Anal. $\left(\mathrm{C}_{23} \mathrm{H}_{34} \mathrm{~N}_{8} \mathrm{O}_{11} \mathrm{~S} \cdot 1.5 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right) \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{N}$, caled 17.04, found 16.58. Thiolactones 1 d and 1 f contained $<2 \%$ free thiol as measured with $5,5^{\prime}$-dithiobis(2-nitrobenzoic acid) (Ellman's reagent).
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(22) ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{CF}_{3} \mathrm{CO}_{2} \mathrm{D}\right)$ 2.2-2.6 ( $4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}$, Glu $\beta$ ), $2.40(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{Ac})$, $2.78(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t} 7$, Glu $\gamma$ ), 2.93 ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}$, Glu $\gamma 1$ ), $3.13(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}$, Glu $\gamma 2), 3.23$ ( $2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d} 5$, Asn $\beta$ ), 3.38 ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d} 15 \mathrm{~d} 6$, Cys $\beta 1$ ), 3.96 ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d} 15 \mathrm{~d} 2$, Cys $\beta 2$ ), 4.24 and 4.31 ( 2 H, ABq17.5, Gly $\alpha$ ), 4.38 and 4.42 ( $2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{ABq} 17.5$, Gly $\alpha$ ), 4.98 ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d} 9 \mathrm{~d} 5$, Glu $\alpha$ ), 5.03 ( $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d} 9 \mathrm{~d} 3$, Glu $\alpha$ ), and $5.17-5.28 \mathrm{ppm}$ (2 $\mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{Cys} \alpha$ and Asn $\alpha$ ).
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## Encircling of Water by Crown Compounds

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Despite the fact that various authors have stressed the importance of water complexation by crown ethers ${ }^{1}$ and although several stoichiometric water complexes of crown-type ligands have been reported, ${ }^{2}$ in no previous case has water been found to be encircled by an uncharged ${ }^{3}$ host molecule. We report here on the first proven "neutral-component complexes" of crown hosts ${ }^{4}$ (1 and 2) which contain water bound exclusively in the center of the cavity by hydrogen bonding with several crown ether oxygen atoms.

Polar guest compounds have recently been found to be bound by crowns. ${ }^{1,12}$ Water has been proven to interact strongly with
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(3) The definitions for complex, adduct, addition compound, molecular compound, molecular complex associates, inclusion compound, clathrate, host-guest complex, key-lock complex, etc. seem not to be used consistently in the literature. ${ }^{2}$ We propose that the above overall "neutral complexes" can be further subdivided into two classes: (a) those which are composed of two or more neutral (or uncharged) components, to be considered "neutral-component complexes"; and (b) those which are formed from one or more charged components, resulting in the formation of "charged-component complexes".
(4) Previously described water complexes of uncharged crown ethers possess either phenolic (acidic) $\mathrm{OH}^{5}$ or pyridine N -oxide ${ }^{6}$ groups to which the hydrogen bond(s) form; the remainder of the reports are actually of aza crown cations as hosts ${ }^{7}$ or hydronium ion complexes. Older claims of water-containing macrocyclic polyamines ${ }^{8}$ or diketones, ${ }^{9}$ based mainly on IR data, have never been proven by X-ray analysis to bind the water molecules inside the cavity. A triple crown ether has been analyzed as a dihydrate, but X-ray a nalysis has not been conducted. ${ }^{10}$
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Table I. Critical Torsion Angles (Deg) and Distances ( $\AA$ ) ${ }^{a}$





|  | 1 | 2 | $\mathrm{NH}_{4} \mathrm{SCN}$ complex | free ligand | 3 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| O3-05 | 5.010 | 5.022 | 4.84 | 4.534 | 4.258 |
| O3-04 | 2.886 | 2.881 | 2.83 | 3.047 | 2.840 |
| O4-05 | 2.849 | 2.889 | 2.82 | 2.830 | 2.835 |
| $\theta_{1}$ | 155.5 | -166.6 | -175.7 | 175.5 | 172.7 |
| $\theta_{2}$ | -68.9 | -62.6 | -66.2 | -67.6 | -69.7 |
| $\theta_{3}$ | -169.4 | -179.9 | -173.9 | 165.8 | 151.5 |
| $\theta_{4}$ | -174.5 | 177.3 | -177.3 | -155.2 | -168.8 |
| $\theta_{5}$ | 73.9 | 65.9 | 68.1 | 75.4 | 63.7 |
| $\theta_{6}$ | -174.1 | 174.0 | -176.9 | 79.7 | 87.8 |


crowns in solution ${ }^{1}$ but to date has not been observed to form a crystalline complex with 18 -crown-6 or related uncharged crown compounds. ${ }^{13}$ A question arises as to what prerequisites must be fulfilled to allow the encircling of water by 1 and 2, but not by 3 and 4 (Table I), as we have observed.

Complex $\mathbf{1 . 2 H} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ (lit. ${ }^{14} \mathrm{mp} 65-66^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ) exists in an approximately planar conformation with six potential donor atoms lying in a plane to within $0.26 \AA$. The ether-coordinated water molecule lies below this plane, $1.49 \AA$ from its center, to optimize the hydrogen bond with $\mathrm{O} 4(\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{O}=2.92 \AA)$ and to minimize heteroatom repulsion. The second water molecule is hydrogen bonded to the first ( $3.01 \AA$ ); both water oxygen atoms are located in well-defined positions and the hydrogen atoms appear as peaks of electron density $0.26-0.51 \mathrm{e} \AA^{-3}$.

Ketone macrocycle 2, an oil prepared by standard methods, ${ }^{15}$ was shown to be anhydrous, ${ }^{16}$ but upon treatment with isopropyl alcohol-water was transformed to the crystalline monohydrate. ${ }^{16,17}$ Complex 2. $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ exists in the crystal in a conformation which approximates $C_{2}$ symmetry (Figure 1). The pyridine rings are twisted out of the carbonyl plane by an average of $34.6^{\circ}$, and the five oxygen atoms $\mathrm{O} 2-\mathrm{O} 6$ lie in a plane to within $0.6 \AA$. The water O9 lies $1.34 \AA$ out of this plane, making its closest contact with the central bridge oxygen atom $\mathrm{O} 4(\mathrm{O4} \ldots \mathrm{O} 9=3.00 \AA)$. Contacts with O5, O6, O7, and O8 range from 3.19 to $3.61 \AA$, generally too long for strong hydrogen bonding. This water molecule is also located in a well-defined position with reasonable thermal parameters, and the residual electron density ( $0.12-0.20$ e $\AA^{-3}$ ) around O 9 is indicative of disorder of the hydrogen atoms.

[^0]

Figure 1. Crystal structure of the water complex of the hexaethylene glycol bis(2-pyridyl) ketone macrocycle.


Figure 2. Crystal structure of the tetraethylene glycol bis(2-pyridyl) ketone macrocycle.

Ketone $3^{18}$ crystallized easily from a mixture of chloroform and aqueous ethanol to afford large, colorless crystals that display no evidence ${ }^{16}$ of complexed water. Macrocycle 3 exists in the crystal in a conformation of ca. $C_{2}$ symmetry (Figure 2). The pyridine rings twist out of the carbonyl plane by an average of $30.1^{\circ}$, and the linkage of polyether to pyridine is cis to N (average $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{C}$ torsion angle $=5.0^{\circ}$ ) in both cases. The nitrogen and five oxygen atoms are within $0.23 \AA$ of the defined plane.

Comparison of the X-ray crystal structures of the water complexes 1 and 2 with those of similar macrocycles which do not possess water ( $\mathbf{3}$ and $\mathbf{4 b}$ ) and with that of a benzylammonium cation complex of 18 -crown-6 (4a) ${ }^{19}$ suggests a structural parameter that enables these ethereal compounds to encircle a water

[^1]molecule. Compounds $4 \mathbf{a}$ and $\mathbf{4 b}$ illustrate the differences in conformation of the complexed and free forms of a single ligand.

With respect to the section of polyether from O 3 to 05 , the conformation of $\mathbf{3}$ corresponds to that of $\mathbf{4 b}$, as would be expected for optimum electrostatic interactions. Alleviation of disadvantageous electrostatic interactions by the presence of a hydrogen bond allows the polyether chains of 1 and 2 to assume the conformation found in $\mathbf{4 a}$. In each example, the distance from O 4 to the adjacent oxygen atoms ( O 3 and O 5 ) is quite similar, on the order of $2.8 \AA$. The O 3 to O 5 separations, however, vary significantly ( $1,5.010 \AA$; $2,5.022 \AA ; 4 \mathrm{a}, 4.84 \AA$ vs. $3,4.258 \AA$; 4b, $4.534 \AA$ ), as do the torsion angles $\theta_{4}$ and especially $\theta_{6}$ (vide Table I).

The ability of these ethereal compounds to encircle a water molecule depends on both the conformation of the polyether chain and on the inherent structural spacing produced by the heteroaromatic moiety in the macrocycle. This combination of conformation and spacing in $\mathbf{1}$ and $\mathbf{2}$ creates a distinct cavity in the central portion of the host and apparently provides sufficient space in the extreme ether portion so that the water molecule can hydrogen bond well.

Monte Carlo calculations ${ }^{20}$ based on the available structural parameters are in progress to determine an energy profile for the complexation of water by these crown compounds. na

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## Experimental Evidence for the Absence of Bonding Electron Density between Inverted Carbon Atoms

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The nature of the bonding at inverted ${ }^{1,2}$ carbon atoms is problematical. ${ }^{3}$ Reported distances between such atoms lie in the range $1.55-1.64 \AA ;{ }^{4-9}$ most are only slightly ( $0.01-0.03 \AA$ ) longer than the normal $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}$ single-bond distance of about $1.541 \AA$ and are thus similar to bond distances between quaternary carbon
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Figure 1. Atom numbering and bond distances. Standard deviations estimated by inversion of the least-squares normal equation matrix are in the range $0.001-0.002 \AA$.
atoms in less highly strained systems. On the other hand, it is obviously difficult to describe the bond between a pair of inverted carbon atoms in traditional terms. This is a problem where experimental information on the electron-density distribution ${ }^{10}$ in the crystalline compound would be helpful. Here we provide such evidence from electron-density difference maps obtained by a low-temperature ( 95 K ) X-ray analysis ${ }^{11-14}$ of a crystalline [3.1.1]propellane derivative, 11-aza-9,10-benzo-1,8,11-trimethylpentacyclo[6.2.1.0 $\left.0^{2,6} \cdot 0^{2,7} \cdot 0^{3,7}\right]$ undec-9-ene (1). ${ }^{15}$


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Bond distances (Figure 1) from our analysis are quite normal for this type of molecule; in particular, the distance of 1.574 (1) $\AA$ between the inverted carbon atoms $\mathrm{C}(1)$ and $\mathrm{C}(6)$ corresponds to a slightly stretched single bond and is by no means extraor-
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(15) To a stirred solution of 52.4 mmol of lithium $2,2,6,6$-tetramethylpiperidide and $10.0 \mathrm{~g}(62.8 \mathrm{mmol})$ of $1,2,3$-trimethylisoindole ${ }^{16}$ in 30 mL of THF at $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ a solution of $4.00 \mathrm{~g}(34.9 \mathrm{mmol})$ of 1-chlorotricyclo[3.1.0.0 $0^{2,6}$ ]hexane ${ }^{9}$ in 20 mL of THF was added dropwise. After stirring the mixture for 1 h at $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and after workup with ether and water, the oily residue of the organic layer was purified by a short-path distillation affording $4.30 \mathrm{~g}(52 \%)$ of $1, \mathrm{bp} 100-120^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (bath) ( 0.001 torr), mp $89^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, after recrystallization from $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CN}$ and ether. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.00-1.60(\mathrm{~m}$, $\left.4 \mathrm{H}, 3-\mathrm{H}_{2}, 4-\mathrm{H}_{2}\right), 1.55\left(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}-\mathrm{C}\right), 1.58\left(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}-\mathrm{N}\right), 1.72(\mathrm{dt}, J$ $=5 \mathrm{~Hz}$ and $J=1 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, 5-\mathrm{H}), 3.99(\mathrm{dt}, J=5 \mathrm{~Hz}$ and $J=1 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}$, 2-H), and $7.10(\mathrm{~s}, 4 \mathrm{H}$, aromatic H$) ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $\left.\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}\right) \delta 16.5\left(\mathrm{q}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}-\mathrm{C}\right)$, 2.6 (t, C-4), 26.9 (t, C-3), 30.7 (q, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}-\mathrm{N}$ ), 34.7 ( s, C-1, C-6), 58.2 (d, C-5), 64.1 (d, C-2), 71.6 (s, C-7, C-10), 121.4 (d), 126.3 (d), and 147.2 (s); MS $(70 \mathrm{eV}), m / e$ (relative intensity) $237\left(\mathrm{M}^{+}, 36 \%\right), 222(40 \%), 56$ ( $100 \%$ ).
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    (17) Crystal data: $\mathrm{C}_{23} \mathrm{H}_{30} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{8} \cdot \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$, triclinic space group $P \overline{1}, a=10.265$ (1) $\AA, b=10.925$ (1) $\AA, c=11.633$ (2) $\AA, \alpha=106.41$ (1) ${ }^{\circ}, \beta=96.02$ (1) ${ }^{\circ}$, $\gamma=97.14(1)^{\circ}, Z=2, d_{\text {calcd }}=1.299 \mathrm{~g} \mathrm{~cm}^{-3}, R=0.060$ for 2330 observed data.

[^1]:    (18) Crystal Data: $\mathrm{C}_{19} \mathrm{H}_{22} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{6}$, monoclinic space group $P 2_{1} / c$, $a=$ 10.238 (2) $\AA, b=13.140$ (2) $\AA, c=14.540$ (3) $\AA, \beta=109.35(2)^{\circ}, Z=4$, $d_{\text {calcd }}=1.347 \mathrm{~g} \mathrm{~cm}^{-3}, R=0.044$ for 1775 observed data.
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