After acidolysis⁹ of the Boc group, mixed anhydride coupling⁷ 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 1e in 55-60% yield as described^{11,18} for the conversion of **6a** into **1c**.

The protected thiolactones 1a, 1c, and 1e were deprotected (9:1 (v/v) HF/anisole, 0 °C, 15 min) and purified by reverse-phase liquid chromatography to furnish 10-mg quantities of the desired¹⁹ macrocyclic thiolactones 1b, 1d, and 1f. The yields over four steps were 16% from thiolester 4a to 1b by the first strategy and both 24% from dimeric hexapeptide 6a to 1d and 22% from 6a, Ac replacing Z, to 1f by the second strategy. In order to study the binding of thiolactone 1f to biological particles,²¹ tritiated 1f, R = [³H]Ac-Gly (2960 cpm/nmol), was prepared from [³H]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 thiolesters¹⁵ and thiolactones¹⁸ by coupling of cysteine thiol groups with 1-benzotriazolo esters.

The 300-MHz NMR spectrum^{22,23} of macrocyclic thiolactone If revealed that the chemical shifts of the β -methylene protons of Cys differ by 0.58 ppm and those of the γ -methylene protons of the second Glu differ by 0.20 ppm. In addition, the coupling constant between one of the Cys β -methylene protons and the α 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 1f undergo hydrolytic ring opening about 2000 times faster than the acyclic model thiolester N,S-di-acetylcysteine methylamide.²⁴ Macrocyclic thiolactone 1f Macrocyclic thiolactone 1f (half-life²⁴ 0.20 h) hydrolyzes about 10³ times faster than the latent binding site of C3 (half-life²⁴ 186 h) but about 10⁷ times slower than the metastable binding site of nascent C3b (estimated half-life⁵ 30 μ 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 C3b.

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W., unpublished results.

(22) ¹H NMR (CF₃CO₂D) 2.2–2.6 (4 H, m, Glu β), 2.40 (3 H, s, Ac), 2.78 (2 H, t7, Glu γ), 2.93 (1 H, m, Glu γ 1), 3.13 (1 H, m, Glu γ 2), 3.23 (2 H, d5, Asn β), 3.38 (1 H, d15 d6, Cys β 1), 3.96 (1 H, d15 d2, Cys β 2), 4.24 and 4.31 (2 H, ABq17.5, Gly α), 4.38 and 4.42 (2 H, ABq17.5, Gly α), 4.98 (1 H, d9 d5, Glu α), 5.03 (1 H, d9 d3, Glu α), and 5.17-5.28 ppm (2 H, m, Cys α and Asn α).

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 (24) Khan, S. A.; Erickson, B. W.; Müller-Eberhard, H. J.; Pangburn, M. K. In "Peptides: Synthesis, Structure, Function"; Rich, D. H.; Gross, E., Eds.; Pierce Chemical Co.: Rockford, IL, in press. for the NMR spectra, and Patricia M. Bihn for valuable editorial assistance. The National Institutes of Health (AI 15301 and CA 24435) provided financial support, the National Science Foundation (PCM 79-12083) and the Dreyfus Foundation supported the 7 T Nicolet NMR spectrometer, and the NIH (RR 00862) supported the Mass Spectrometric Biotechnology Research Resource.

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 ethers¹ 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 uncharged³ host molecule. We report here on the first proven "neutral-component complexes" of crown hosts⁴ (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.^{11,12} Water has been proven to interact strongly with

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 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 ossess either phenolic (acidic) OH⁵ or pyridine *N*-oxide⁶ groups to which the hydrogen bond(s) form; the remainder of the reports are actually of aza crown cations as hosts⁷ or hydronium ion complexes. Older claims of water-con-taining macrocyclic polyamines⁸ 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 analysis has not been conducted. $^{10}\,$

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⁽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-cm µBondapak C18 column was eluted isocratically with 2% CH₃CN in water; $k' = (t_{compd}/t_{solven})$ - 1, where t = retention time. Molecular ions were observed as $(M + Na)^+$ in the positive-ion portion of the ²⁵²Cf fission fragment-induced mass spec-trum.²⁰ Molar ratios for Cys are uncorrected for losses due to oxidation during trum.²⁰ Molar ratios for Cys are uncorrected for losses due to oxidation during acid hydrolysis (6 N HCl, 110 $^{\circ}$ C, 24 h). The counterion for the protonated amines **1b** and **1d** is assumed to be fluoride because the only acid present amines **Ib** and **Id** is assumed to be fluoride because the only acid present during purification was HF. (a) Pentapeptide **Ib**: $R_f(A) 0.73$, (B) 0.17, (C) 0.21; k' = 2.27; m/e ($C_{19}H_{29}N_7O_9SNa$) calcd 554.16, found 554.22; $Asp_{1.07}Glu_{1.97}Gly_{1.00}Cys_{0.27}$; Anal. ($C_{19}H_{29}N_7O_9S$ -HF-0.5 H₂O) C, H, N. (b) Hexapeptide **1d**: $R_f(A) 0.69$, (B) 0.13, (C) 0.14; k' = 2.10; m/e ($C_{21}H_{32}$ - $N_8O_{10}SNa$) calcd 611.19, found 611.23; $Asp_{1.05}Glu_{2.10}Gly_{2.00}Cys_{0.74}$; Anal. ($C_{21}H_{32}N_8O_{10}S$ -HF) C, H, N. (c) Accetylated hexapeptide **1f**: $R_f(A) 0.85$, (B) 0.42 (C) 0.24; k' 3.64; m/e (C_{11} H $_{20}$ SNa) calcd 653.20 (found (B) 0.42, (C) 0.24; k' 3.64; m/e (C₂₃H₃₄H₈O₁₁SNa) calcd 653.20, found 653.27; $Asp_{107}Glu_{205}Gly_{200}Cys_{0,47}$; Anal. (C₂₃H₃₄N₈O₁₁S-1.5H₂O) C, H; N, calcd 17.04, found 16.58. Thiolactones **1d** and **1f** contained <2% free thiol as measured with 5,5'-dithiobis(2-nitrobenzoic acid) (Ellman's reagent).

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2 4a.t 3 1 NH₄SCN free 1 2 complex ligand 3 03-05 5.010 4.258 5.022 4.534 4.84 03-04 2.886 3.047 2.840 2.881 2.83 04-05 2.849 2.889 2.835 2.82 2.830 θ_1 155.5 -166.6 -175.7175.5 172.7 θ_2 -68.9 -62.6 -66.2 -67.6 -69.7 θ, -169.4 -179.9 -173.9165.8 151.5 θ_4 -174.5177.3 -177.3-155.2 -168.8 73.9 65.9 75.4 θ, 68.1 63.7 θ_{6} -174.1174.0 -176.979.7 878 a distinct cavity (void area)

Table I. Critical Torsion Angles (Deg) and Distances $(A)^{a}$

crowns in solution¹ 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.

θ5 θ4 θ3 θ2

Complex 1.2H₂O (lit.¹⁴ mp 65-66 °C) exists in an approximately planar conformation with six potential donor atoms lying in a plane to within 0.26 Å. The ether-coordinated water molecule lies below this plane, 1.49 Å from its center, to optimize the hydrogen bond with O4 (O-O = 2.92 Å) and to minimize heteroatom repulsion. The second water molecule is hydrogen bonded to the first (3.01 Å); both water oxygen atoms are located in well-defined positions and the hydrogen atoms appear as peaks of electron density 0.26-0.51 e Å⁻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 $2 \cdot H_2 O$ 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°, and the five oxygen atoms O2–O6 lie in a plane to within 0.6 Å. The water O9 lies 1.34 Å out of this plane, making its closest contact with the central bridge oxygen atom O4 (O4...O9 = 3.00 Å). Contacts with O5, O6, O7, and O8 range from 3.19 to 3.61 Å, 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 $(0.12-0.20 \text{ e} \text{ Å}^{-3})$ around O9 is indicative of disorder of the hydrogen atoms.



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 318 crystallized easily from a mixture of chloroform and aqueous ethanol to afford large, colorless crystals that display no evidence¹⁶ 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°, and the linkage of polyether to pyridine is cis to N (average N-C-O-C torsion angle = 5.0°) in both cases. The nitrogen and five oxygen atoms are within 0.23 Å 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 (3 and 4b) 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

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⁽¹⁷⁾ Crystal data: $C_{23}H_{30}N_2O_8H_2O$, triclinic space group $P\overline{1}$, a = 10.265(1) Å, b = 10.925 (1) Å, c = 11.633 (2) Å, $\alpha = 106.41$ (1)°, $\beta = 96.02$ (1)°, $\gamma = 97.14$ (1)°, Z = 2, $d_{calcd} = 1.299$ g cm⁻³, R = 0.060 for 2330 observed data.

⁽¹⁸⁾ Crystal Data: $C_{19}H_{22}N_2O_6$, monoclinic space group $P2_1/c$, a = 10.238 (2) Å, b = 13.140 (2) Å, c = 14.540 (3) Å, $\beta = 109.35$ (2)°, Z = 4, $d_{calcd} = 1.347$ g cm⁻³, R = 0.044 for 1775 observed data. (19) Bovill, M. J.; Chadwick, D. J.; Sutherland, I. O. J. Chem. Soc., Perkin

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molecule. Compounds 4a and 4b illustrate the differences in conformation of the complexed and free forms of a single ligand.

With respect to the section of polyether from O3 to O5, the conformation of 3 corresponds to that of 4b, 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 4a. In each example, the distance from O4 to the adjacent oxygen atoms (O3 and O5) is quite similar, on the order of 2.8 Å. The O3 to O5 separations, however, vary significantly (1, 5.010 Å; 2, 5.022 Å; 4a, 4.84 Å vs. 3, 4.258 Å; **4b**, 4.534 Å), as do the torsion angles θ_4 and especially θ_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 1 and 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 calculations²⁰ 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 Å;4-9 most are only slightly (0.01-0.03 Å) longer than the normal C-C single-bond distance of about 1.541 Å 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 Å.

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 distribution¹⁰ 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 analysis¹¹⁻¹⁴ of a crystalline [3.1.1]propellane derivative, 11-aza-9,10-benzo-1,8,11-tri-methylpentacyclo[6.2.1.0^{2,6}.0^{2,7}.0^{3,7}]undec-9-ene (1).¹⁵



Bond distances (Figure 1) from our analysis are quite normal for this type of molecule; in particular, the distance of 1.574(1)Å between the inverted carbon atoms C(1) and C(6) corresponds to a slightly stretched single bond and is by no means extraor-

Computer Science Center, University of Maryland: College Park, MD.

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 (15) To a stirred solution of 52.4 mmol of lithium 2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidide and 10.0 g (62.8 mmol) of 1,2,3-trimethylisoindole¹⁶ in 30 mL of THF at -30 °C a solution of 4.00 g (34.9 mmol) of 1-chlorotricyclo-[3.1.0.0^{2,6}]hexane⁹ in 20 mL of THF was added dropwise. After stirring the [3.1.0.0-" Jnexane" in 20 mL of 1HF was added dropwise. After stirring the mixture for 1 h at -30 °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 g (52%) of 1, bp 100-120 °C (bath) (0.001 torr), mp 89 °C, after recrystallization from CH₃CN and ether. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.00-1.60 (m, 4 H, 3-H₂, 4-H₂), 1.55 (s, 6 H, CH₃-C), 1.58 (s, 3 H, CH₃-N), 1.72 (dt, J = 5 Hz and J = 1 Hz, 1 H, 5-H), 3.99 (dt, J = 5 Hz and J = 1 Hz, 1 H, 2-H), and 7.10 (s, 4 H, aromatic H); ¹³C NMR (C₆Cl₆) δ 16.5 (q, CH₃-C), 2.6 (c, Cl₃) 2.6 (c, 2.6 (t, C-4), 26.9 (t, C-3), 30.7 (q, CH₂-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

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⁽¹¹⁾ Colorless crystals of $C_{17}H_{19}N$ are triclinic space group $P\overline{1}$, cell dimensions a = 8.405 Å, b = 8.550, c = 10.332 Å, $\alpha = 80.19^{\circ}$, $\beta = 84.67^{\circ}$, and $\gamma = 62.87^{\circ}$ at 95 K, Z = 2. Intensity measurements were made with a Enraf-Nonius CAD-4 diffractometer equipped with graphite monochromator (Mo Ka radiation) and cooling device for 8474 reflections [6394 with $F > 10\sigma(F)$ out to (sin θ)/ $\lambda = 0.994$ Å⁻¹]. Structure determined by direct methods (MULTAN¹²) and refined by full-matrix least-squares analysis using XRAY system.¹³ Final R = 0.032 with exponentially modified weighting system (r = 1.5 Å^2)¹⁴ and including extinction correction. The difference maps shown in Figure 2 are based on 4875 $(F_o - F_c)$ coefficients with $(\sin \theta)/\lambda < 0.857$ Å⁻¹ and $F_o \ge 10\sigma(F_o)$. A table of atomic coordinates and vibrational parameters is provided as supplementary material. Full details will be reported later

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