

concentration, nonspecific binding), or assay buffer (control); (b) 50 μL of radioligand in assay buffer with 0.05% CHAPS; (c) 200 μL of assay buffer; (d) 200 μL of membranes in assay buffer. After 30 min of incubation at 37 $^{\circ}\text{C}$, 1 mL of ice-cold buffer was added followed by rapid filtration under reduced pressure over Whatman glass fiber GF/B filters, presoaked with buffer, by means of a Millipore sampling manifold. Filters were washed with 1 mL of buffer used to wash the incubation tubes and three times with 2 mL of ice-cold buffer. Filters were dried at 75 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 45 min. The radioactivity trapped on the filters was counted in 3.5 mL of Packard Emulsifier Safe after at least a 2 h extraction time.

Data Analysis. Specific binding was defined as the difference between total binding and nonspecific binding in presence of 10 μM lorglumide. IC_{50} values were determined from pseudo-Hill plots of the displacement curves. Inhibitor dissociation constants (K_i) were calculated from the Cheng-Prusoff equation: $K_i = \text{IC}_{50}/(1 + [L^*]/K_d)$. L^* denotes the concentration and K_d the equilibrium dissociation constant of the radioligand. A K_d value

of 0.21 nM was determined for $^3\text{H}(\pm)\text{-L364,718}$ binding to rat pancreas membranes.

Acknowledgment. Use of the services of the Dutch CAOS/CAMM Center, under grant numbers SON-11-20-700 and STW-NCH-44.0703, is gratefully acknowledged.

Registry No. 1, 103420-77-5; 2, 118919-27-0; 3, 138354-37-7; 4, 138354-38-8; 5, 138354-39-9; 6, 138354-40-2; 7, 138354-41-3; 8, 138354-42-4; 9, 138354-43-5; 10, 138384-12-0; 11, 138354-44-6; 12, 138354-46-8; 13, 138354-46-8; 14, 138354-47-9; 15, 138354-48-0; 16, 138354-49-1; 17, 138354-50-4; 18, 138354-51-5; 19, 138354-52-6; 20, 138354-53-7; 21, 138354-54-8; 22, 138384-13-1; 23, 138384-14-2; II, 3531-24-6; III, 5666-18-2; IV, 5785-66-0; V, 6078-95-1; VI-HCl, 93007-57-9; VII, 122-39-4; VIII, 42393-65-7; IX, 1140-29-0; ClC-H₂-COOH, 79-11-8; diethyl (cyanomethyl)phosphonate, 2537-48-6; benzophenone, 119-61-9; indole-2-carboxylic acid, 1477-50-5; 4-chlorophenyl isocyanate, 104-12-1; potassium phthalimide, 1074-82-4; 4,4-diphenyl-3-butenyl-1-phthalimide, 95958-02-4.

(H⁺,K⁺)-ATPase Inhibiting 2-[(2-Pyridylmethyl)sulfinyl]benzimidazoles. 4.¹ A Novel Series of Dimethoxypyridyl-Substituted Inhibitors with Enhanced Selectivity. The Selection of Pantoprazole as a Clinical Candidate

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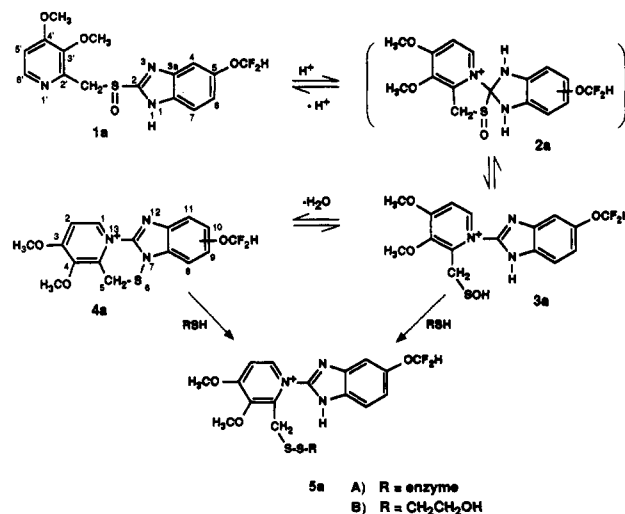
[(Pyridylmethyl)sulfinyl]benzimidazoles 1 (PSBs) are a class of highly potent antisecretory (H⁺,K⁺)-ATPase inhibitors which need to be activated by acid to form their active principle, the cyclic sulfenamide 4. Selective inhibitors of the (H⁺,K⁺)-ATPase in vivo give rise to the nonselective thiophile 4 solely at low pH, thus avoiding interaction with other thiol groups in the body. The propensity to undergo the acid-catalyzed transformation is dependent on the nucleophilic/electrophilic properties of the functional groups involved in the formation of 2 since this step is both rate-determining and pH-dependent. The aim of this study was to identify compounds with high (H⁺,K⁺)-ATPase inhibitory activity in stimulated gastric glands possessing acidic pH, but low reactivity (high chemical stability) at neutral pH as reflected by in vitro (Na⁺,K⁺)-ATPase inhibitory activity. The critical influence of substituents flanking the pyridine 4-methoxy substituent present in all derivatives was carefully studied. The introduction of a 3-methoxy group gave inhibitors possessing a combination of high potency, similar to omeprazole and lansoprazole, but increased stability. As a result of these studies, compound 1a (INN pantoprazole) was selected as a candidate drug and is currently undergoing phase III clinical studies.

Introduction

Control of gastric pH by means of antisecretory drugs has proven to be a valuable principle in the treatment of peptic ulcers.² The identification of the gastric (H⁺,K⁺)-ATPase,^{3,4} located in the apical membrane of parietal cells, as the gastric proton pump has stimulated

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Scheme I



considerable interest in the inhibitors of this enzyme as antiulcer therapeutics. Its unique environment⁵ in the

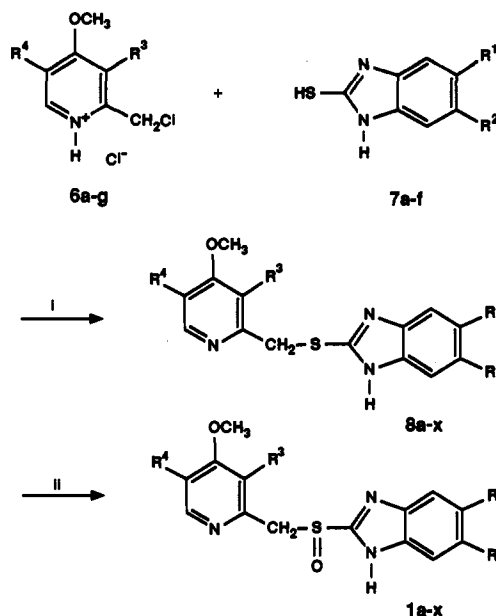
apical membrane separating the neutral cytosol from the acidic lumen is distinct from other H^+ -translocating ATPases. Furthermore, it is structurally and mechanistically quite distinct, providing an excellent conceptual basis for the design of selective drugs.

[(Pyridylmethyl)sulfinyl]benzimidazoles (PSBs) 1 have proved to be highly active inhibitors of the gastric (H^+ , K^+)-ATPase both in vitro and in vivo, with high and long lasting antisecretory activity.^{6,7} In particular, omeprazole has been developed clinically and was successfully introduced to the market in 1989.⁸ The enzyme-blocking and antisecretory activity of the PSBs is believed to be exerted by covalent modification of one or more thiol groups on the acidic luminal side of the enzyme.⁹

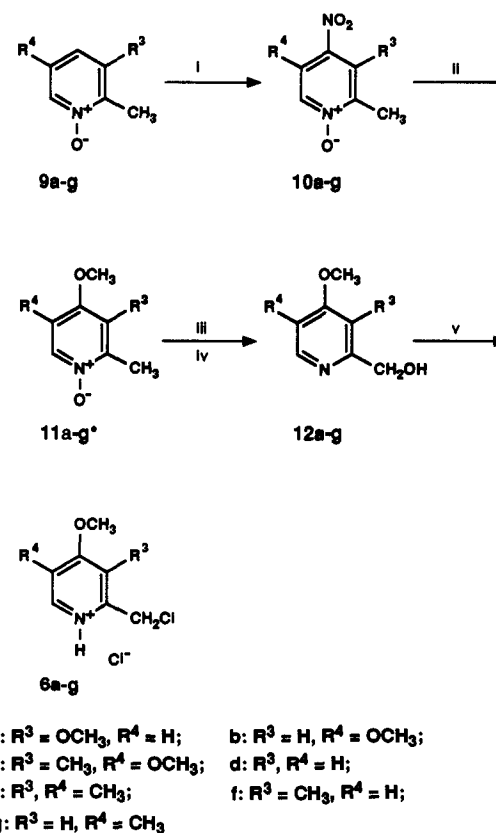
Recently, we¹⁰ and others¹¹ established the chemical transformations that take place under conditions resembling those of the extracytosolic part of the parietal cell (e.g. 0.1 N HCl). These involve unique reactions leading to the highly thiophilic cyclic sulfenamide 4, which is able to react rapidly with thiol groups on the enzyme to form the tightly bound enzyme-inhibitor complex 5 (Scheme I).

Accordingly, the design of selective inhibitors of the (H^+ , K^+)-ATPase in vivo requires PSBs to form the non-

Scheme II. Method A



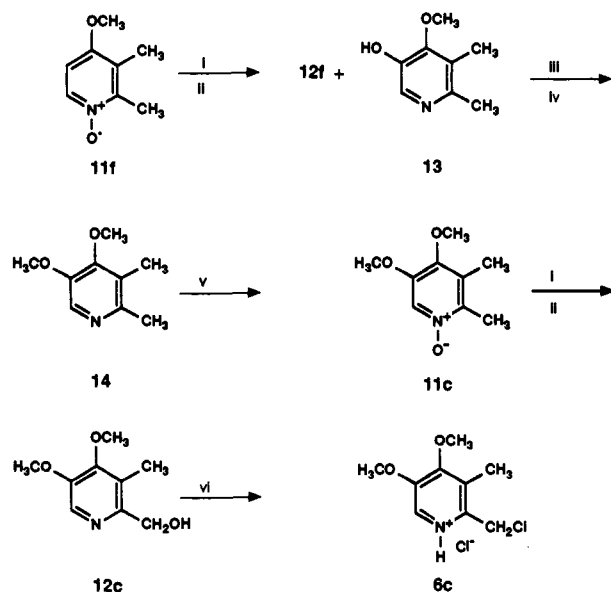
Scheme III. Method B



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selective thiophile 4 solely at low pH, thus avoiding interaction with other thiol groups in the body. This can

Scheme IV. Method C

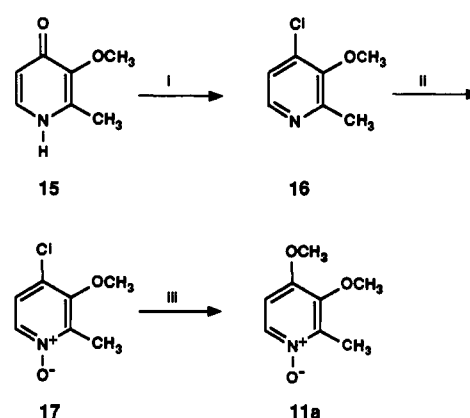


(I) $\text{Ac}_2\text{O}/100^\circ\text{C}$, (II) NaOH , (III) KOH/DMSO , (IV) DMS ,
(v) mCPBA , (vi) $\text{SOCl}_2/\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$

be achieved by fine tuning the nucleophilic/electrophilic properties of the functional groups involved in the formation of 2, since this step is both rate-determining and pH-dependent. The influence of substituents in the aromatic rings of PSBs, in particular the dominating electronic effect in the pyridine ring, has been discussed previously.^{12,13}

We have studied the influence of substituents in both the pyridine and the benzimidazole moiety in a new series of dimethoxypyridyl-substituted PSBs compared with their monomethoxy congeners.¹⁴ The purpose was to identify compounds with high (H^+ , K^+)-ATPase inhibitory activity in stimulated gastric glands possessing acidic pH, but low reactivity (high chemical stability) at neutral pH, reflected by in vitro (Na^+ , K^+)-ATPase inhibitory activity. As a result of these studies, compound 1a (INN pantoprazole)¹⁵ was selected as a clinical candidate, and is currently undergoing phase III clinical studies. The biochemical characteristics¹⁶ and the in vivo activity profile

Scheme V. Method D



(I) POCl_3/Δ , (II) $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2/\text{AcOH}/\Delta$; (III) $\text{NaOCH}_3/\text{CH}_3\text{OH}/\Delta$

have been published elsewhere.¹⁷

Chemistry

All compounds 1a-x in Table I were synthesized according to method A (Scheme II) by condensation of the appropriately substituted 2-(chloromethyl)pyridines 6a-g with the substituted 2-mercaptobenzimidazoles 7a-f, followed by oxidation of the sulfides 8a-x either with *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid at low temperature (method A1) or with sodium hypochlorite in alkaline aqueous solutions (method A2).^{18,19}

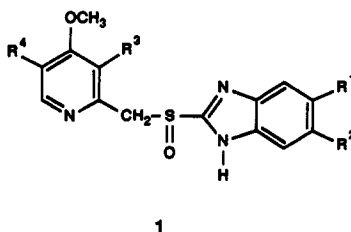
The substituted 2-(chloromethyl)pyridine-HCl 6a-g²⁰ were known or were prepared according to known methods as outlined in Scheme III (method B). Controlled nitration of the pyridine *N*-oxides 9a-g with concentrated nitric acid gave the 4-nitro derivatives 10a-g²⁰ which were converted to the 4-methoxy *N*-oxides 11a-g by treatment with sodium methoxide in refluxing methanol. The rearrangement of 11a-g was performed in acetic anhydride at 100 °C. Hydrolysis with NaOH readily afforded the 2-(hydroxymethyl)pyridines 12a-g which were converted to the corresponding 2-(chloromethyl)pyridine-HCl 6a-g by treatment with thionyl chloride in CH_2Cl_2 .

The pyridine *N*-oxide 11c leading to the 4,5-dimethoxy-3-methyl series of 1 (compounds 1c, h, l, r) was synthesized according to method C (Scheme IV). Isomerization of 11f with acetic anhydride gave, after hydrolysis, 12f and as a side product the 5-hydroxypyridine 13. Methylation of 13 with dimethyl sulfate in the presence of KOH in DMSO afforded the 4,5-dimethoxypyridine 14, which was oxidized with mCPBA to give the *N*-oxide 11c. This was further treated according to method B to give 6c via 12c.

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- (20) Avoid contact with skin; handle under a well ventilated hood.

Table I. Synthesis of 2-[(4-Methoxy-2-pyridyl)methyl]sulfinyl]benzimidazoles



compd ^a	R ¹	R ²	R ³	R ⁴	method of oxidation	yield, ^b %	crystn solvent ^c	mp, °C ^d	formula	MW
1a	OCF ₂ H	H	OCH ₃	H	A1	85	DCM/DIPE	139-40	C ₁₆ H ₁₅ F ₂ N ₃ O ₄ S	383.4
b	OCF ₂ H	H	H	OCH ₃	A2	65	DIPE	159-60	C ₁₆ H ₁₅ F ₂ N ₃ O ₄ S	383.4
c	OCF ₂ H	H	CH ₃	OCH ₃	A1	96	DIPE	133-35	C ₁₇ H ₁₇ F ₂ N ₃ O ₄ S	397.4
d	OCF ₂ H	H	H	H	A1	74	EtOAc	159-61	C ₁₅ H ₁₃ F ₂ N ₃ O ₃ S	353.3
e	OCF ₂ H	H	CH ₃	CH ₃	A1	83	DCM/DIPE	145-46	C ₁₇ H ₁₇ F ₂ N ₃ O ₃ S	381.4
f	OCF ₂ H	H	CH ₃	H	A1	77	EtOAc	166-68	C ₁₆ H ₁₅ F ₂ N ₃ O ₃ S	367.4
g	OCH ₂ CF ₃	H	OCH ₃	H	A1	87	DCM/DIPE	113-15	C ₁₆ H ₁₇ F ₃ N ₃ O ₄ S	415.4
h	OCH ₂ CF ₃	H	CH ₃	OCH ₃	A1	72	DCM/DIPE	154-56	C ₁₆ H ₁₆ F ₃ N ₃ O ₄ S	429.4
i	OCH ₂ CF ₃	H	CH ₃	H	A1	81	CH ₃ CN	172-73	C ₁₇ H ₁₆ F ₃ N ₃ O ₃ S	399.4
j	OCF ₂ CF ₂ H	H	OCH ₃	H	A1	66	DCM/DIPE	117-19	C ₁₇ H ₁₅ F ₄ N ₃ O ₄ S	433.4
k	OCF ₂ CF ₂ H	H	H	OCH ₃	A1	82	DCM/DIPE	161-62	C ₁₇ H ₁₅ F ₄ N ₃ O ₄ S	433.4
l	OCF ₂ CF ₂ H	H	CH ₃	OCH ₃	A1	51	DCM/DIPE	125-26	C ₁₆ H ₁₇ F ₄ N ₃ O ₄ S	447.4
m	OCF ₂ CF ₂ H	H	H	H	A2	94	EtOAc/DIPE	132-34	C ₁₆ H ₁₃ F ₄ N ₃ O ₃ S	403.4
n	OCF ₂ CF ₂ H	H	CH ₃	H	A1	77	DIPE	135-36	C ₁₇ H ₁₅ F ₄ N ₃ O ₃ S	417.4
o	OCF ₂ CF ₂ H	H	H	CH ₃	A1	93	DIPE	163-64	C ₁₇ H ₁₅ F ₄ N ₃ O ₃ S	417.4
p	O-CF ₂ -O		OCH ₃	H	A1	85	DCM/DIPE	177-78	C ₁₆ H ₁₃ F ₂ N ₃ O ₅ S	397.4
q	O-CF ₂ -O		H	OCH ₃	A2	83	EtOAc	211-13	C ₁₆ H ₁₃ F ₂ N ₃ O ₅ S	397.4
r	O-CF ₂ -O		CH ₃	OCH ₃	A1	75	DIPE	189-90	C ₁₇ H ₁₅ F ₂ N ₃ O ₅ S	411.4
s	O-CF ₂ -O		H	H	A2	83	EtOAc	184-85	C ₁₅ H ₁₁ F ₂ N ₃ O ₅ S	367.3
t	O-CF ₂ -O		CH ₃	H	A2	88	EtOAc	201-02	C ₁₆ H ₁₃ F ₂ N ₃ O ₅ S	381.3
u	OCF ₂ H	OCH ₃	OCH ₃	H	A1	83	DCM/DIPE	170-71	C ₁₇ H ₁₇ F ₂ N ₃ O ₄ S	413.4
v	OCF ₂ H	OCH ₃	CH ₃	H	A1	89	EtOAc	169-70	C ₁₇ H ₁₇ F ₂ N ₃ O ₄ S	397.4
w	OCF ₂ H	F	OCH ₃	H	A1	73	DCM/DIPE	155-57	C ₁₆ H ₁₄ F ₃ N ₃ O ₄ S	401.4
x	OCF ₂ H	F	CH ₃	H	A1	96	DIPE	163-64	C ₁₆ H ₁₄ F ₃ N ₃ O ₃ S	385.4

^a All products exhibited IR and ¹H NMR spectra consistent with the assigned structures and gave satisfactory C, H, and N combustion analyses within ±0.4% of calculated values. ^b Yields are given for the oxidation step and have not been optimized. ^c DCM, dichloromethane; DIPE, diisopropyl ether. ^d Compounds decompose on melting; clearly defined melting points are not always obtainable.

An alternative approach for the 3,4-dimethoxypyridine *N*-oxide 11a, a key intermediate for the 3,4-dimethoxy series of 1, (compounds 1a,g,j,p,u,w) is outlined in Scheme V (method D). Chlorination of the methoxypyridone²¹ 15 with POCl₃ afforded the 4-chloropyridine 16, which was oxidized to the corresponding *N*-oxide 17 by treatment with H₂O₂ in hot acetic acid, followed by exchange of the chloro substituent for methoxy by means of sodium methoxide to yield 11a.

The mercaptobenzimidazoles 7 were prepared according to the reported methods.¹⁹

Results and Discussion

Stability Properties. The pH-dependent rate of activation of PSBs is a key parameter for the understanding of their biological effects. The variation of this rate with substituents on the pyridine and the benzimidazole rings is related to changes in the pK_a values (Table II) describing the equilibria for the protonation on the pyridine nitrogen and for the release of a proton from the benzimidazole ring. The activation of PSBs is reflected by their stability in solution (Table II), since the decomposition proceeds exclusively via the activated form represented by the spiro intermediate 2.^{10c}

Biological Effects. In order to study in vitro potency the PSBs were evaluated for their ability to inhibit the (H⁺,K⁺)-ATPase (at pH < 3) in the model of fundic glands isolated from the rabbit stomach. The in vitro inhibitory

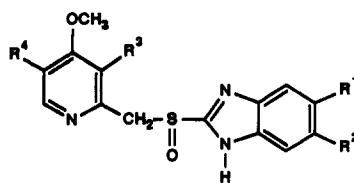
activity on the (Na⁺,K⁺)-ATPase, representative of other SH-containing peptides or proteins, was studied to assess unwanted effects arising from nonselective inhibition at neutral pH. These data are summarized in Table II.

SAR Discussion. Structure-activity relationships of PSBs have previously been reported.^{12,13} For a given substituent on the benzimidazole ring, the rate of activation as well as the antisecretory effect in gastric gland preparations were found to correlate with the pyridine pK_a (py-pK_a). The modulation of this key parameter in a series of PSBs bearing 4-amino substituents on the pyridine ring by variation of 3-halo substituents has been demonstrated, and even lowering of the pyridine pK_a down to values of around 3 was shown to be acceptable.¹³ With regard to the specific accumulation of PSBs from the neutral pH cytosolic part of the parietal cell as an important factor contributing to the activity in vivo, we believed a pyridine pK_a just below 4 to be optimal. The effect of benzimidazole substituents has also been discussed.¹²

The PSBs presented in Table II were studied with the aim of optimizing biological activity and neutral pH stability. A methoxy group in the 4-position of the pyridine ring, which promotes the acid-catalyzed activation, is common to all the derivatives 1a-x. Compounds bearing only this substituent on the pyridine ring (1d,m,s) exhibit a py-pK_a of 4.3. They are potent (H⁺,K⁺)-ATPase inhibitors but they proved to be insufficiently stable at neutral pH and showed considerable activity in the (Na⁺,K⁺)-ATPase test system under these conditions. An additional methyl group in the 5-position of the pyridine ring does not improve the enzyme-inhibiting properties, but reduces the neutral pH stability, probably because of the increased

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Table II. Biological Activity and Stability of 2-[(4-Methoxy-2-pyridyl)methyl]sulfinyl]benzimidazoles



1

compd	R ¹	R ²	R ³	R ⁴	py-pK _a	imidazole pK _a	stability: t _{1/2}			H ⁺ /K ⁺ -ATPase of gastric glands: -log IC ₅₀ ^a mol/L	Na ⁺ /K ⁺ -ATPase: -log IC ₅₀ ^a mol/L
							pH 3, min	pH 5, h	pH 7.4, h		
1a	OCF ₂ H	H	OCH ₃	H	3.92	8.19	9	3.0	130	6.0	3.7
b	OCF ₂ H	H	H	OCH ₃	3.75	8.03	17	2.1	>200	4.5	<3.5
c	OCF ₂ H	H	CH ₃	OCH ₃	3.73	8.35	12	3.7	60	5.6	4.6
d	OCF ₂ H	H	H	H			7	0.8	51	5.8	4.3
e	OCF ₂ H	H	CH ₃	CH ₃	4.16	8.23	12	1.9	15	6.3	4.4
f	OCF ₂ H	H	CH ₃	H			5	0.17	3	6.2	5.2
g	OCH ₂ CF ₃	H	OCH ₃	H	3.90	8.52	11	7.6	>200	6.0	3.5
h	OCH ₂ CF ₃	H	CH ₃	OCH ₃	3.72	8.61	10	3.3	130	5.6	4.3
i	OCH ₂ CF ₃	H	CH ₃	H	4.97	8.51	5	0.15	5	6.1	5.4
j	OCF ₂ CF ₂ H	H	OCH ₃	H	3.86	8.08	18	3.6	160	5.3	3.8
k	OCF ₂ CF ₂ H	H	H	OCH ₃			19	2.9	140	4.7	<3.0
l	OCF ₂ CF ₂ H	H	CH ₃	OCH ₃			20	6.8	43	5.1	4.2
m	OCF ₂ CF ₂ H	H	H	H	4.25	7.91	10	0.8	63	5.9	4.4
n	OCF ₂ CF ₂ H	H	CH ₃	H			5	0.3	insol	6.4	5.5
o	OCF ₂ CF ₂ H	H	H	CH ₃	4.95	8.00	6	0.2	18	5.9	5.5
p	O-CF ₂ -O		OCH ₃	H	3.84	7.97	38	6	>200	5.6	3.6
q	O-CF ₂ -O		H	OCH ₃			insol	insol	insol	4.2	<3.0
r	O-CF ₂ -O		CH ₃	OCH ₃			insol	insol	insol	4.8	<3.0
s	O-CF ₂ -O		H	H	4.29	7.92	20	1.4	insol	5.6	<3.5
t	O-CF ₂ -O		CH ₃	H	4.73	7.93	10	0.5	insol	6.0	4.6
u	OCF ₂ H	OCH ₃	OCH ₃	H			15	2.1	800	5.4	3.6
v	OCF ₂ H	OCH ₃	CH ₃	H	4.96	8.31	6	0.2	11	5.8	5.0
w	OCF ₂ H	F	OCH ₃	H	3.76	7.76	26	8.3	150	5.1	3.4
x	OCF ₂ H	F	CH ₃	H			8	0.5	4	5.5	4.7
omeprazole ^b	OCH ₃	H	CH ₃	CH ₃	4.13	8.98	4	1.0	80	6.3	4.5
lansoprazole ^c	H	H	CH ₃	H	4.01	8.78	4	1.1	40	6.4	4.4

^a n ≥ 3; SD ≤ ±0.2. ^b Omeprazole (Hässle). ^c Lansoprazole (Takeda) (the substituent in 4-position of the pyridine is OCH₂CF₃ instead of OCH₃, as with all other compounds).

py-pK_a (compare 1m and 1o). Although the py-pK_a's of the 3-methyl and the 5-methyl isomers are almost identical, the (H⁺,K⁺)-ATPase inhibitory activity is generally enhanced by the 3-methyl group; up to -log IC₅₀ values of 6.4.

Unfortunately, these highly active 4-methoxy-3-methyl compounds are among the least stable derivatives at neutral pH, and due to their significant (Na⁺,K⁺)-ATPase inhibition (compare pairs 1d/1f, 1m/1n, 1s/1t), they are not of interest. The unfavorable contribution of the 3-methyl substituents has been explained by steric assistance of ring closure generating 2.^{12c} The most striking effect in the series of monomethoxy PSBs was found when two methyl groups were present flanking the 4-methoxy substituent (compound 1e). In this sterically demanding arrangement the electronic effects of the pyridine substituents are not additive,^{11c} and the py-pK_a is in the same range as for the derivatives with only the 4-methoxy group on the pyridine ring. Despite this, neutral stability as well as (Na⁺,K⁺)-ATPase inhibition of 1e was not satisfactory.

Further variation of pyridine substituents was aimed at improving stability at neutral and weakly acidic pH, while simultaneously retaining a high level of (H⁺,K⁺)-ATPase inhibition. By introduction of a second methoxy group in the 3- or 5-position of the 4-methoxypyridine derivatives, py-pK_a values between 3.7 and 4.0 were obtained. Although both the 3,4- and 4,5-dimethoxy isomers display similar py-pK_a's and high stabilities under neutral conditions, as well as low activity in the (Na⁺,K⁺)-ATPase

assay, they are far from equivalent with regard to their (H⁺,K⁺)-ATPase potency (compare pairs 1a/1b, 1j/1k, 1p/1q). An additional methyl group in the 3-position of the pyridine of the 4,5-dimethoxy series leaves the py-pK_a almost unchanged, but enhances the reactivity at neutral pH as well as the inhibitory activity in both enzyme systems and thus does not result in further improvement. Again there seems to be a particular effect of a methyl group in the 3-position adversely affecting the pH-dependent reactivity.

Only in the series of 3,4-dimethoxypyridine substituted derivatives did we observe a high level of (H⁺,K⁺)-ATPase inhibition combined with low activity in the (Na⁺,K⁺)-ATPase assay (-log IC₅₀ < 4). These derivatives not only display good stability at neutral pH but sustain this higher level of stability down to pH 5. This stability profile has the potential advantage of minimizing the risk of activation at low pH values found outside the parietal cell, for example, in lysosomes.²² The activation of these PSBs to the cyclic sulfenamide is therefore optimally restricted to the parietal cell canaliculus. Depending on the benzimidazole substituent, the 3,4-dimethoxypyridine derivatives cover a range of -log IC₅₀ values for the (H⁺,K⁺)-ATPase inhibition from 5.1 to 6.0. Incomplete stability data for the (difluoromethylene)dioxy-substituted deriv-

(22) Silver, M. S.; Haskell, J. H. Acid Sensitive Inhibitors of Protonic Enzymes: Synthesis and Characterization. *J. Med. Chem.* 1989, 32, 1253-1259 and references cited therein.

atives 1p-t is due to their low solubility at pH values near to neutral and excluded compound 1p from further evaluation. The two compounds 1a and 1g both displayed promising characteristics with regard to pH-dependent stability and enzyme inhibition. They act in vitro as (H⁺,K⁺)-ATPase inhibitors with -log IC₅₀ values of 6.0. This is slightly less than that observed for omeprazole and lansoprazole,²³ but the differentiation between (H⁺,K⁺)-ATPase and (Na⁺,K⁺)-ATPase inhibition ($\Delta \log IC_{50} > 2.3$) is more pronounced ($\Delta \log IC_{50}$ omeprazole 1.8, lansoprazole 2.0). Compound 1a was selected for further evaluation over 1g because of its greater water solubility (*c*_s, pH 10, 25 °C: 1a, 1.8×10^{-2} mL⁻¹; 1g, 2.3×10^{-3} mL⁻¹). With a second methoxy substituent in the pyridine ring of 1a, lipophilicity is minimized (log *P* = 2.05, octanol/aqueous buffer pH 7.4), and low global lipophilicity is believed to be of benefit with respect to potential cytochrome P450 system interactions.^{16,17b}

Implications of the Mechanism of Action on Sulfoxide Stereochemistry. In selecting pantoprazole 1a for further evaluation we also studied the chemical transformations leading to its "active principle", the sulfenamide 4a, in more detail (see Scheme I). We were able to prepare analytically pure 4a very easily according to our previously described procedure by treating a methanolic solution of 1a with HPF₆ (see Experimental Section). The achiral regioisomeric 4a which is formed from racemic pantoprazole shows the characteristic long wavelength absorption in its UV spectrum (λ_{max} 334 nm). The rapid reaction of 4a with thiols such as 2-mercaptoethanol was also found to be in line with our previous results, yielding the disulfides 5. In the preceding papers¹⁰ we discussed this reaction with respect to the covalent inhibition of the gastric (H⁺,K⁺)-ATPase. Due to their unique mechanism of action, therefore, the in vitro inhibitory activity of the enantiomers of 1a is anticipated to be identical as has been shown for omeprazole²⁴ and Ro 185364.²⁵

Conclusion

The sulfoxides 1 are potent inhibitors of gastric acid secretion and elicit their activity by reaction of the corresponding sulfenamide 4 ("active principle") with thiol groups on the gastric (H⁺,K⁺)-ATPase in the acidic compartment of the parietal cell. The design of selective inhibitors was guided by modulating the pyridine basicity by substituents in the 3- and 5-positions. The introduction of an additional methoxy group in the 3-position gave compounds with very high (H⁺,K⁺)-ATPase inhibitory activity combined with high stability at neutral pH (1a and 1g). 1a (pantoprazole) was selected for further development over 1g on the basis of its higher solubility. Pantoprazole, as its sodium salt, is currently in phase III clinical trials,²⁶ and data available so far fit the preclinical

profile.¹⁷

Experimental Section

Melting points are uncorrected and were determined with a Büchi 510 apparatus. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded at 200.13 and 50.32 MHz, respectively, on a Bruker AC 200 spectrometer, and chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (δ) downfield from the internal standard Me₄Si. A Kratos MS 25 RFA mass spectrometer was used to obtain electron impact MS spectra. Elemental analyses (C, H, N, S) were performed by Dr. W. Rozdzinski, Institut für Organische Chemie, Biochemie und Isotopenforschung der Universität, Pfaffenwaldring 55, D-7000 Stuttgart 80, West Germany. Analytical figures were all within $\pm 0.4\%$ of theoretical unless otherwise indicated. IR spectra were recorded with a Perkin-Elmer 257 grating spectrometer.

Synthesis of Benzimidazole Sulfoxides.^{18,19} General Procedures. Synthesis of Sulfoxides by Oxidation with *m*-Chloroperbenzoic Acid (Method A1). 5-(Difluoromethoxy)-2-[[[(3,4-dimethoxy-2-pyridinyl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1*H*-benzimidazole (1a) (INN Pantoprazole). A solution of *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid (0.4 M, 20 mL) in dichloromethane was added over 15 min to a stirred solution of 8a (2.92 g, 8.0 mmol) in dichloromethane (40 mL) while maintaining the temperature at -30 °C. After 30 min, 2 mL of triethylamine were added, and the cold reaction mixture was poured into a stirred solution of sodium thiosulfate and sodium carbonate (each 10 mL of 5% solution). The organic layer was separated and two further extractions with dichloromethane were performed. The combined extracts were washed with water, dried (MgSO₄), and evaporated to low volume in vacuo. Addition of diisopropyl ether afforded 1a as an off-white solid (2.61 g, 85%): mp 139–140 °C dec; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 3.82 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 3.84 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 4.82 (2 H, AB, *J* = 13.1 Hz, $\Delta\nu$ = 14.1 Hz, CH₂SO), 6.53 (1 H, t, *J* = 74.2 Hz, OCF₂H), 6.78 (1 H, d, *J*_{6,7} = 5.5 Hz, H-5'), 7.08 (1 H, dd, *J*_{6,7} = 8.8 Hz, *J*_{6,4} = 2.1 Hz, H-6), 7.3 (1 H, br, H-4), 7.6 (1 H, br, H-7), 8.15 (1 H, d, H-6'), 12.71 (1 H, s, NH); EI (70 eV) MS *m/z* (%) 383 (11, M⁺), 335 (11), 152 (53), 138 (14), 122 (23), 92 (100). Anal. (C₁₆H₁₅F₂N₃O₄S) C, H, N, S.

Preparation of the Sodium Salt of 1a. [Sodium 5-(Difluoromethoxy)-2-[[[(3,4-dimethoxy-2-pyridinyl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1*H*-benzimidazole (Pantoprazole Sodium Sesquihydrate)]. NaOH (6 N, 0.43 mL, 2.6 mmol) was added dropwise to a stirred solution of 1a (1.0 g, 2.6 mmol) in a mixture of ethanol (30 mL) and dichloromethane (5 mL) at 20 °C. After 10 min diisopropyl ether (10 mL) was added slowly until the mixture became turbid, and stirring was continued for 2 h. The precipitate formed was collected by filtration, washed with diisopropyl ether, and dried in vacuo at 40 °C to yield the sodium salt of 1a as a white to off-white solid (1.0 g, 89%): decomposition

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above 130 °C; IR (KBr) 1576, 1304, 1166, 1118, 1068, 1035 cm⁻¹; UV (MeOH) λ_{\max} (ϵ) 289 (1.64 × 10⁴); H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆) δ 3.77 (3 H, s, 3'-OCH₃), 3.89 (3 H, s, 4'-OCH₃), 4.50 (2 H, AB, *J* = 13.0 Hz, $\Delta\nu$ = 54 Hz, CH₂SO), 6.74 (1 H, dd, *J*_{6,7} = 8.6 Hz, *J*_{6,4} = 2.4 Hz, H-6), 7.04 (1 H, t, *J*_{H,F} = 75.8 Hz, OCF₂H), 7.09 (1 H, d, *J*_{5,6'} = 5.6 Hz, H-5'), 7.26 (1 H, d, *J*_{4,6} = 2.5 Hz, H-4), 7.46 (1 H, d, H-7), 8.23 (1 H, d, H-6'); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-*d*₆; 100 mg of **1a** per milliliter) δ 56.09 (q, *J* = 146.0 Hz, 4'-OCH₃), 57.11 (t, *J* = 141.9 Hz, CH₂SO), 61.10 (q, *J* = 145.0 Hz, 3'-OCH₃), 107.63 (d, *J* = 163.8 Hz, C-4), 108.09 (d, *J* = 161.7 Hz, C-5'), 111.21 (d, *J* = 158.8 Hz, C-6), 117.69 (d, *J* = 227.8 Hz, t, *J*_{CF} = 255.6 Hz, 5-OCHF₂), 117.69 (d, *J* = 158.6 Hz, C-7), 144.36 (t, ³*J*_{C,F} = 2.9 Hz C-5'), 144.58 (s, C-3'), 144.71 (s, C-7a), 146.02 (d, *J* = 179.2 Hz, C-6'), 146.80 (s, C-3a), 147.13 (s, C-2'), 158.51 (s, C-4'), 164.34 (s, C-2). Anal. C₁₆H₁₄F₂N₃NaO₄S (water content 6.5%) C, H, N, S.

The following examples represent prototype cases of the H-NMR spectra of the title compounds **1** (Table I), prepared in analogy to **1a** (method A1) from appropriately substituted chloromethylpyridine HCl **6** and benzimidazoles **7** via the corresponding sulfides **8**.

5-(Difluoromethoxy)-2-[(4-methoxy-3,5-dimethyl-2-pyridinyl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole (1e): H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.16 (3 H, s, CH₃), 2.22 (3 H, s, CH₃), 3.63 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 4.75 (2 H, AB, *J* = 13.8 Hz, $\Delta\nu$ = 9.2 Hz, CH₂SO), 6.53 (1 H, t, *J* = 74 Hz, OCF₂H), 7.10–7.70 (3 H, m, benzimidazole), 8.19 (1 H, s, H-6').

2-[(4,5-Dimethoxy-3-methyl-2-pyridinyl)methyl]sulfinyl]-5-(2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy)-1H-benzimidazole (1h): H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.23 (3 H, s, CH₃), 3.83 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 3.87 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 4.38 (2 H, q, *J* = 8.1 Hz, OCH₂CF₃), 4.73 (2 H, AB, *J* = 13.9 Hz, $\Delta\nu$ = 6.8 Hz, CH₂SO), 6.90–7.70 (3 H, m, benzimidazole), 8.02 (1 H, s, H-6'), 12.43 (1 H, br s, NH).

2-[(4,5-Dimethoxy-2-pyridinyl)methyl]sulfinyl]-5-(1,1,2,2-tetrafluoroethoxy)-1H-benzimidazole (1k): H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆) δ 3.57 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 3.81 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 4.73 (2 H, AB, *J* = 13.0 Hz, $\Delta\nu$ = 22.8 Hz, CH₂SO), 6.77 (1 H, s, H-3'), 6.84 (1 H, t of t, *J*₁ = 52 Hz, *J*₂ = 3.1 Hz, OCF₂CF₂H), 7.20–7.70 (3 H, m, benzimidazole), 8.08 (1 H, s, H-6').

2-[(4-Methoxy-5-methyl-2-pyridinyl)methyl]sulfinyl]-5-(1,1,2,2-tetrafluoroethoxy)-1H-benzimidazole (1o): H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.06 (3 H, s, CH₃), 3.47 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 4.63 (2 H, AB, *J* = 13.1 Hz, $\Delta\nu$ = 37.5 Hz, CH₂SO), 5.96 (1 H, t of t, *J*₁ = 53 Hz, *J*₂ = 2.8 Hz, OCF₂CF₂H), 6.40 (1 H, s, H-3'), 7.15–7.65 (3 H, m, benzimidazole), 8.08 (1 H, s, H-6').

5-(Difluoromethoxy)-6-methoxy-2-[(4-methoxy-3-methyl-2-pyridinyl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole (1v): H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.12 (3 H, s, CH₃), 3.83 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 3.89 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 4.79 (2 H, AB, *J* = 13.8 Hz, $\Delta\nu$ = 8.0 Hz, CH₂SO), 6.54 (1 H, t, *J* = 75 Hz, OCF₂H), 6.80 (1 H, d, *J*_{5,6'} = 5.7 Hz, H-5'), 7.20 (1 H, s, H-7), 7.48 (1 H, s, H-4), 8.25 (1 H, d, H-6').

5-(Difluoromethoxy)-6-fluoro-2-[(3,4-dimethoxy-2-pyridinyl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole (1w): H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 3.83 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 3.87 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 4.79 (2 H, AB, *J* = 13.1 Hz, $\Delta\nu$ = 23.5 Hz, CH₂SO), 6.58 (1 H, t, *J* = 73.6 Hz, OCF₂H), 6.81 (1 H, d, *J*_{5,6'} = 5.5 Hz, H-5'), 7.20–7.56 (2 H, br, benzimidazole), 8.17 (1 H, d, H-6'), 12.66 (1 H, br s, NH).

Synthesis of Sulfoxides by Oxidation with Aqueous Alkaline Sodium Hypochlorite Solution (Method A2). **2,2-Difluoro-6-[(4-methoxy-2-pyridinyl)methyl]sulfinyl]-5H-[1,3]dioxolo[4,5-*f*]benzimidazole (1s).** A mixture of sodium hypochlorite (10% strength, 0.24 mol) and 6 N NaOH (40 mL) was added to a well-stirred solution of **8s** (80 g, 0.228 mol) in ethyl acetate (800 mL) and 6 N NaOH (45 mL) during 1 h at 0 °C. After 30 min sodium thiosulfate (5 mL, 5% solution) was added. The organic layer was separated, washed with water, treated with active charcoal (2 g), and, after filtration, adjusted to pH 7.2 by addition of sodium dihydrogenphosphate solution to precipitate a solid, which was recrystallized from ethyl acetate to give **1s** (69.5 g, 83%): mp 184–85 °C. H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆) δ 3.75 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 4.68 (2 H, AB, *J* = 12.9 Hz, $\Delta\nu$ = 15.2 Hz, CH₂SO), 6.90 (1 H, s, H-3'), 6.91 (1 H, d, *J* = 4.7 Hz, H-5'), 7.66 (2 H, s, H-4 + H-7), 8.32 (1 H, d, *J* = 4.7 Hz, H-6'). Anal. (C₁₅H₁₁F₂N₃O₄S) C, H, N.

Isomeric Mixture (1:1) of 9(10)-(Difluoromethoxy)-3,4-dimethoxy-5H-pyrido[1',2':4,5][1,2,4]thiadiazino[2,3-*a*]benzimidazol-13-ium Hexafluorophosphate (4a-PF₆⁻). Aqueous hexafluorophosphoric acid (50%, 1.7 mL, 12.9 mmol)

was added in one portion to a stirred suspension of **1a** (3.3 g, 8.6 mmol) in methanol (8 mL) at 0 °C. After 1.5 h at 0–5 °C the precipitated solid was filtered off, washed with little ice-cold methanol and diisopropyl ether, and dried in vacuo at 30 °C to give **4a** as a yellow solid (3.34 g, 76%): mp 146–147 °C dec; H NMR (CD₃OD) [partially separated signals of two isomers A (9-difluoromethoxy isomer) and B (10-difluoromethoxy isomer) with the ratio 1/1] 4.12 (3 H, s, OCH₃ of both isomers), 4.39 (3 H, s, OCH₃ of both isomers), 5.06 (2 H, s, CH₂S of both isomers), 6.88 and 6.93 (0.5 H, t and 0.5 H, t, *J* = 74 Hz, OCF₂H of both isomers), 7.27 (0.5 H, dd, *J* = 9 Hz, *J* = 2 Hz, H-10 of isomer A or H-9 of isomer B), 7.33 (0.5 H, dd, *J* = 9 Hz, *J* = 2 Hz, H-9 of isomer B or H-10 of isomer A), 7.39 (0.5 H, d, *J* = 2 Hz, H-11 of isomer B or H-8 of isomer A), 7.61 (0.5 H, s(br), H-8 of isomer A or H-11 of isomer B), 7.64 (0.5 H, d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, H-8 of isomer B or H-11 of isomer A), 7.84 (0.5 H, d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, H-11 of isomer A or H-8 of isomer B), 7.95 (1 H, d, *J*_{2,1} = 7.5 Hz, H-2 of both isomers), 9.47 and 9.48 (0.5 H, d, and 0.5 H, d, H-1 of both isomers); UV (MeOH containing 0.4 vol% of 1 N HCl) λ_{\max} (ϵ) 334 (1.39 × 10⁴), 258 (7.4 × 10³). Anal. (C₁₆H₁₄F₈N₃O₃PS) C, H, N.

In Situ Preparation of 9(10)-(Difluoromethoxy)-3,4-dimethoxy-5H-pyrido[1',2':4,5][1,2,4]thiadiazino[2,3-*a*]benzimidazol-13-ium Chloride (4a-Cl⁻) from 1a in the NMR Tube. Compound **1a** (10 mg, 3.5 × 10⁻⁵ M) was dissolved in CD₃OD (0.5 mL) and DCl (20% in D₂O, 20 μ L) was added. The sulfenamide **4** salt produced reached a maximum concentration after 10–30 min but was transformed into further products (thiosulfinate and dimeric disulfide) analogous to those described in ref 1. The presence of Cl⁻ causes rapid isomerization of the 9- and 10-difluoromethoxy regioisomers,^{10b} leading to the partial coalescence of the signals separated in the spectrum of the 4-PF₆⁻ salt. **4a-Cl⁻:** H NMR δ 4.13 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 4.41 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 5.11 (2 H, s, SCH₂), 6.92 (1 H, t, *J*_{H,F} = 73.9 Hz), 7.3 (1 H, s(br), H-9 (H-10)), 7.5 and 7.7 (1 H, s(br) and 1 H, d, *J* = 9 Hz, H-8 and H-11), 7.99 (1 H, d, *J*_{2,1} = 7.5 Hz, H-2), 9.48 (1 H, d, H-1).

Formation of 5a (R = CH₂CH₂OH) from 4a-PF₆⁻ and Excess 2-Mercaptoethanol in the NMR Tube. Compound **4a-PF₆⁻** (5 mg, 9.8 × 10⁻⁶ M) was dissolved in CD₃OD (0.5 mL) and DCl (20% in D₂O, 5 μ L), and 2-mercaptoethanol (50 μ L, 7.2 × 10⁻⁴ M) was added. The spectrum indicated a complete reaction immediately after the addition and was found to be unchanged for at least 17 h: H NMR δ 4.15 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 4.38 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 4.60 (2 H, s, 2'-CH₂), 6.90 (1 H, t, *J*_{H,F} = 74.1 Hz, CF₂H), 7.29 (1 H, dd, *J*_{6,7} = 8.9 Hz, *J*_{6,4} = 2.0 Hz, H-6), 7.53 (1 H, s(br), H-4), 7.77 (1 H, d, H-7), 7.91 (1 H, d, *J*_{5,6'} = 7.3 Hz, H-5'), 9.01 (1 H, d, H-6'). The signals of the —SCH₂CH₂O— side chain [triplets at δ 2.6 (SCH₂) and 3.6 (OCH₂)] were superimposed by the signals of 2-mercaptoethanol starting material.

Preparation of 2-(Chloromethyl)pyridine Hydrochlorides (6) (Method B).²⁰ General Procedure. Compounds **6d,e,f,g**^{27,28} were prepared according to the literature methods; **6c** was prepared according to method C.

2-(Chloromethyl)-3,4-dimethoxypyridine Hydrochloride (6a).²⁹ Thionyl chloride (2 mL, 27.5 mmol) in dry dichloromethane (10 mL) was added dropwise to a cooled (0–5 °C) stirred solution of **12a** (3.38 g, 20 mmol) in dichloromethane (30 mL). The mixture was allowed to warm up to 20 °C and, after 2 h, concentrated to low volume in vacuo. Addition of toluene afforded **6a** as a colorless solid (4.2 g, 93%): mp 158–59 °C dec (lit.²⁹ mp 158–59 °C); H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 4.09 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 4.23 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 5.06 (2 H, s, CH₂Cl), 7.56 (1 H, d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, H-5), 8.56 (1 H, d, H-6). Anal. (C₈H₁₀ClNO₂·HCl) C, H, N, Cl.

2-(Chloromethyl)-4,5-dimethoxypyridine hydrochloride (6b): from **12b**;³⁰ yield 81%; mp 160–61 °C dec; H NMR (CDCl₃)

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δ 4.03 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 4.19 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 5.11 (2 H, s, CH₂Cl), 7.42 (1 H, s, H-3), 8.13 (1 H, s, H-6). Anal. (C₉H₁₀ClNO₂·HCl) C, H, N.

2-(Chloromethyl)-4,5-dimethoxy-3-methylpyridine hydrochloride (6c): from 12c; yield 99%; mp 125–6 °C dec; H NMR (CDCl₃ + DMSO-*d*₆) δ 2.37 (3 H, s, CH₃), 4.04 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 4.27 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 5.07 (2 H, s, CH₂Cl), 8.24 (1 H, s, H-6). Anal. (C₉H₁₂ClNO₂·HCl) C, H, N.

Preparation of Sulfides 8. General Procedures. 5-(Difluoromethoxy)-2-[[3-(4-dimethoxy-2-pyridinyl)methyl]thio]-1H-benzimidazole (8a). Compound 6a (2.24 g, 0.01 mol) was added over 10 min with stirring to a heated (50 °C) solution of 5-(difluoromethoxy)-2-mercapto-1H-benzimidazole (7a) (2.16 g, 0.01 mol) in ethanol (20 mL) and 2 N NaOH (11 mL, 0.022 mol). After 2 h at the stated temperature, ethanol was removed on a rotary evaporator and the residual suspension was extracted three times with dichloromethane. The combined organic layers were washed with 0.1 N NaOH, dried (MgSO₄), and evaporated in vacuo to give crude 5-(difluoromethoxy)-2-[[3-(4-dimethoxy-2-pyridinyl)methyl]thio]-1H-benzimidazole (8a) (3.38 g, 92%) as an amorphous residue which was used in the next step without further purification.³¹ Crude 8a can be recrystallized from dichloromethane/diisopropyl ether to give 8a as a white solid: mp 118–9 °C; H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 3.92 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 3.94 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 4.40 (2 H, s, CH₂S), 6.51 (1 H, t, *J* = 74.6 Hz, OCF₂H), 6.86 (1 H, d, *J*_{5,6} = 5.7 Hz, H-5'), 6.98 (1 H, dd, *J*_{6,7} = 2.2 Hz, H-6'), 7.32 (1 H, d, H-4'), 7.63 (1 H, d, H-7'), 8.26 (1 H, d, H-6''), 12.5 (1 H, br, NH). Anal. (C₁₆H₁₅F₂N₃O₃S) C, H, N.

2,2-Difluoro-6-[[4-methoxy-2-pyridinyl)methyl]thio]-5H-[1,3]dioxolo[4,5-*f*]benzimidazole (8s). A solution of 6d (19.4 g, 0.1 mol) in 50 mL of water was added over 15 min to a stirred mixture of 7d (24.4 g, 0.105 mol), 4 N NaOH (55 mL, 0.22 mol), and ethanol (100 mL) at 60 °C. After 4 h, the mixture was diluted with water (100 mL) and allowed to cool to 20 °C. The solid was collected, washed subsequently with NaOH (0.01 N), water, and a 1:1 mixture of ethanol/water and dried to afford a solid which was recrystallized from toluene to give 8s (28.45 g, 81%): mp 150–51 °C. H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 3.89 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 4.29 (2 H, s, CH₂S), 6.82 (1 H, dd, *J*_{5,6} = 5.8 Hz, *J*_{3,5} = 2.4 Hz, H-5'), 6.88 (1 H, d, H-3'), 7.22 (2 H, s, H-4 + H-6), 8.46 (1 H, d, H-6'). Anal. (C₁₅H₁₁F₂N₃O₃S) C, H, N.

3-Methoxy-2-methyl-4-nitropyridine *N*-Oxide (10a).²⁰ Nitric acid (98%, 40 mL) was added to a stirred, heated (80 °C) solution of 3-methoxy-2-methylpyridine *N*-oxide (18.0 g, 0.13 mol) in glacial acetic acid (40 mL) over a period of 6 h. After 18 h a further 40 mL of nitric acid was added over a period of 6 h. After a further 15 h, the mixture was cooled, poured onto ice (50 g), and adjusted to pH 6, with cooling, using 40% sodium hydroxide. The precipitate (3-methoxy-2-methyl-6-nitropyridine, mp 144 °C) was filtered off and the filtrate extracted with dichloromethane (4 × 50 mL). The combined organic layers were dried (MgSO₄), concentrated to low volume, and triturated with petroleum ether (50/70) to give 10a (13.7 g, 58%): mp 103–04 °C. H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.52 (3 H, s, CH₃), 3.99 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 7.77 (1 H, d, *J*_{5,6} = 7.3 Hz, H-5), 8.13 (1 H, d, H-6). Anal. (C₇H₈N₂O₄) C, H, N.

3,4-Dimethoxy-2-methylpyridine *N*-Oxide (11a).³² A mixture of 10a, (4.5 g, 25 mmol) and sodium methoxide (2.7 g, 50 mmol) in dry methanol (75 mL) was stirred at 40 °C for 16 h. After cooling, the solution was adjusted to pH 7 by addition of concentrated sulfuric acid. The mixture was evaporated in vacuo and the residue extracted with toluene (50 mL). After filtration, to remove insoluble inorganic salts, the filtrate was evaporated in vacuo to a yellow oil. Chromatography (silica gel, CH₂Cl₂/MeOH) followed by trituration with petroleum ether (50/70) at 40 °C afforded 11a (5.2 g, 88%): mp 111–13 °C; H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.50 (3 H, s, CH₃), 3.85 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 3.93 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 6.71 (1 H, d, *J*_{5,6} = 7.3 Hz, H-5), 8.10 (1 H, d, H-6). Anal. (C₉H₁₁NO₃) C, H, N.

2-(Hydroxymethyl)-3,4-dimethoxypyridine (12a). A solution of 11a (4.8 g, 28.4 mmol) in acetic anhydride (25 mL) was

heated at 90 °C for 2 h. After evaporation in vacuo, the dark oily residue was agitated with 2 N NaOH (20 mL) for 2 h at 80 °C. After cooling the product was extracted into dichloromethane, dried (K₂CO₃), and concentrated in vacuo to low volume. Addition of petroleum ether (50/70) afforded 12a as a colorless solid (3.60 g, 76%): mp 93–95 °C; H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 3.85 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 3.93 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 4.76 (2 H, s, CH₂O), 6.82 (1 H, d, *J*_{5,6} = 5.6 Hz, H-5), 8.22 (1 H, d, H-6). Anal. (C₈H₁₁NO₃) C, H, N.

Preparation of 12c (Method C). 5-Hydroxy-4-methoxy-2,3-dimethylpyridine (13). Compound 11f¹⁸ (1000 g, 6.53 mol) was added over 7 h in portions with stirring to heated (100 °C) acetic anhydride (3 L). After 3 h, excess acetic anhydride was removed in vacuo and the residue was distilled under reduced pressure. The fraction with a boiling range from 95–145 °C (1 Pa) was collected and added over 30 min to vigorously stirred 2 N NaOH (3.5 L) at 50 °C. The temperature was raised to 80 °C and, after 3 h, the solution was allowed to cool to room temperature and extracted three times with dichloromethane (3 L). The combined organic layers were back-extracted with 1 N NaOH (2 × 0.5 L). The combined aqueous layers were adjusted to pH 7.5 with 2 N HCl under vigorous stirring to precipitate an off-white solid which was rinsed with water and dried to afford 13 (130 g, 13%): mp 274–76 °C; H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆) δ 2.08 (3 H, s, CH₃), 2.28 (3 H, s, CH₃), 3.79 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 7.85 (1 H, s, H-6), 9.44 (1 H, s, OH). Anal. (C₈H₁₁NO₂) C, H, N.

4,5-Dimethoxy-2,3-dimethylpyridine (14). Compound 13 (9.18 g, 60 mmol) was dissolved in a solution of KOH (3.60 g, 64 mmol) in methanol (40 mL) and dimethyl sulfoxide (50 mL). The methanol was removed in vacuo, and methyl iodide (8.95 g, 63 mmol) was added dropwise at 20 °C with rapid stirring. After 15 h, the mixture was subjected to steam distillation. The distillate was adjusted to pH 13 with sodium hydroxide and extracted with dichloromethane in a continuous extractor. The combined extracts were dried (KOH) and evaporated to give 14 as a low melting solid (7.4 g, 74%): mp 36–38 °C; H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.17 (3 H, s, CH₃), 2.42 (3 H, s, CH₃), 3.88 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 3.90 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 7.99 (1 H, s, H-6). Anal. (C₉H₁₃NO₂) C, H, N.

2-(Hydroxymethyl)-4,5-dimethoxy-3-methylpyridine (12c). *m*-Chloroperbenzoic acid (9.7 g, 0.056 mol) in dichloromethane (14 mL) was added over 30 min to a stirred solution of 14 (6.3 g, 0.038 mol) in dichloromethane (50 mL) at 20–30 °C. After 2 h, the solution was heated at reflux for 4 h, cooled, and washed with a mixture of aqueous sodium carbonate and sodium thiosulfate (5% each). The water layer was back-extracted with dichloromethane, and the combined organic extracts were dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated in vacuo. The residual crude 4,5-dimethoxy-2,3-dimethylpyridine *N*-oxide 11c (4.6 g, 66%) was dissolved in acetic anhydride (20 mL), heated at 110 °C for 30 min, and evaporated in vacuo to a dark brown oil. NaOH (3 N, 30 mL) was added and the mixture heated at 80 °C for 2 h. After cooling the product was extracted into dichloromethane, dried (K₂CO₃), and evaporated in vacuo to a solid. Trituration with petroleum ether (50/70) afforded 12c (overall yield 4.0 g, 57%): mp 91–2 °C; H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.10 (3 H, s, CH₃), 3.92 + 3.93 (2 × 3 H, 2 × s, 2 × OCH₃), 4.60 (2 H, s, CH₂O), 4.71 (1 H, brs, OH), 8.06 (1 H, s, H-6). Anal. (C₉H₁₃NO₃) C, H, N.

Alternative Synthesis of 11a from 15 (Method D). 4-Chloro-3-methoxy-2-methylpyridine (16). Phosphorus oxychloride (100 mL) and 3-methoxy-2-methyl-4(1H)-pyridone 15²¹ (13.9 g, 0.1 mol) were stirred at 90 °C for 18 h, concentrated in vacuo, and cooled to 20 °C. The residue was treated with ice-water and adjusted to pH 12 with 40% sodium hydroxide, and the product was extracted into dichloromethane. The residue obtained on evaporation of the combined extracts was distilled at reduced pressure to give 16 (15.1 g, 96%): bp 75 °C (10³Pa); H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.55 (3 H, s, CH₃), 3.86 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 7.18 (1 H, d, *J*_{5,6} = 5.1 Hz, H-5), 8.15 (1 H, d, H-6). Anal. (C₇H₈ClNO) C, H, N.

4-Chloro-3-methoxy-2-methylpyridine *N*-Oxide (17).²⁰ A mixture of hydrogen peroxide (67 mL of 30% solution, 0.68 mol), 16 (27 g, 0.17 mol), and acetic acid (0.5 L) was heated to 90 °C. After 24 h the solution was evaporated in vacuo to an oil. Purification by chromatography (silica gel, CH₂Cl₂/MeOH) gave 17 (26.5 g, 90%): mp 95–96 °C; H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.53 (3 H, s, CH₃), 3.89 (3 H, s, OCH₃), 7.16 (1 H, d, *J*_{5,6} = 7.0 Hz, H-5), 8.08 (1 H, d, H-6). Anal. (C₇H₈ClNO₂) C, H, N.

(31) The sulfides were used in turn without further purification in the following oxidation step.

(32) An alternative synthesis of 11a is described in method D.

3,4-Dimethoxy-2-methylpyridine N-Oxide (11a) from 17. Sodium methoxide (12.4 g, 0.23 mol) and 17 (20 g, 0.115 mol) in methanol (100 mL) were heated at reflux. After 18 h, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo, the residue was extracted with hot toluene (100 mL), and the insolubles were filtered off. Addition of diisopropyl ether to the filtrate afforded 11a as a colorless solid (17.7 g, 91%), mp 111–12 °C.

Stability and pK_a Measurements. Stability at ambient temperature (25 °C) was determined in methanol/phosphate buffer (5:95) which had been adjusted to the appropriate pH. The initial concentration of compounds was between 1×10^{-3} and 3×10^{-4} M, and the decrease in concentration was monitored by HPLC (μ Bondapak C₁₈, CH₃CN/KH₂PO₄, pH 7.4, 20–80% CH₃CN in 25 min, 1 mL min⁻¹, 40 °C, detector UV 280 nm). Half-lives ($t_{1/2}$) were determined from the linear regression of natural log of the concentration vs time (h). The pK_a 's of the PSBs were measured spectrophotometrically at ambient temperature (25 °C).

In Vitro Biological Assays. Acid Secretion in Rabbit Isolated Gastric Glands.³³ Rabbit fundic glands (White New Zealanders, 2–3 kg body weight) were obtained by high-pressure perfusion of the circulation of the stomach and subsequent collagenase treatment of pieces of fundic mucosa. After the glands had been washed several times, they were placed in 20-mL vials with dibutyryl cyclic AMP (1 mmol/L) and the test compound (3×10^{-8} to 10^{-4} mol/L) in the presence of 0.125 μ mol/L [¹⁴C]-aminopyrine (¹⁴C AP) and were incubated at 37 °C. The incubate was agitated (150 oscillations/min) for 30 min and the reaction stopped by centrifugation (10 s at 20000g).

The ability of the glands to maintain a pH gradient to the medium (pH 7.4) on stimulation with dibutyryl cyclic AMP is measured by means of the concentration ratio of [¹⁴C]aminopyrine between glands and medium.³⁴

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(Na⁺,K⁺)-ATPase Activity Test. Dog kidney enzyme (20 μ g, Sigma, München) was incubated in 50 mmol/L HEPES buffer pH 7.4 in presence of (mmol/L) 140 NaCl, 10 KCl, 3 ATP-Mg, 0.5 EDTA, and PSBs in the concentration range 0–300 μ mol/L. At the end of the incubation the inorganic phosphate released from ATP was determined.³⁵

Registry No. 1a, 102625-70-7; 1a-Na, 138786-67-1; 1b, 102625-55-8; 1c, 102625-68-3; 1d, 97964-04-0; 1e, 138786-68-2; 1f, 97964-05-1; 1g, 138786-69-3; 1h, 138786-70-6; 1i, 97964-02-8; 1j, 102625-69-4; 1k, 102625-57-0; 1l, 102625-61-6; 1m, 97963-96-7; 1n, 97963-97-8; 1o, 97963-98-9; 1p, 102625-81-0; 1q, 102625-80-9; 1r, 102625-72-9; 1s, 97966-85-3; 1t, 97966-86-4; 1u, 138786-71-7; 1v, 97964-10-8; 1w, 138786-72-8; 1x, 138786-73-9; 4a-PF₆⁻ (isomer 1), 138786-75-1; 4a-PF₆⁻ (isomer 2), 138786-76-2; 4a-Cl⁻ (isomer 1), 138786-77-3; 4a-Cl⁻ (isomer 2), 138786-78-4; 5a (R = CH₂CH₂OH), 138786-80-8; 6a, 72830-09-2; 6b, 102625-83-2; 6c, 102625-85-4; 6d, 62734-08-1; 6e, 86604-75-3; 6f, 86604-74-2; 6o, 94452-59-2; 7a, 97963-62-7; 7g, 102625-84-3; 7j, 97963-60-5; 7p, 97967-01-6; 7u, 97963-65-0; 7w, 97963-64-9; 8a, 102625-64-9; 8b, 102625-52-5; 8c, 102625-62-7; 8d, 97964-23-3; 8e, 138786-81-9; 8f, 97964-24-4; 8g, 138786-82-0; 8h, 138786-83-1; 8i, 97964-21-1; 8j, 102625-63-8; 8k, 102625-56-9; 8l, 102625-60-5; 8m, 97964-15-3; 8n, 97964-16-4; 8o, 97964-17-5; 8p, 102625-75-2; 8q, 102625-79-6; 8r, 102625-71-8; 8s, 97966-99-9; 8t, 97967-00-5; 8u, 102625-65-0; 8v, 97963-58-1; 8w, 138786-84-2; 8x, 138786-85-3; 10a, 15931-25-6; 11a, 72830-07-0; 11c, 102625-93-4; 11f, 102625-96-7; 12a, 72830-08-1; 12b, 62885-49-8; 12c, 102625-92-3; 13, 102625-95-6; 14, 102625-94-5; 15, 76015-11-7; 16, 107512-34-5; 17, 122307-41-9; 3-methoxy-2-methylpyridine N-oxide, 35392-65-5; ATPase, 9000-83-3.

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