# <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>17</sup>O NMR study of substituent effects in 4-substituted phenylthiol esters

Subbu Perumal,<sup>1</sup>\* Gnanasambandam Vasuki,<sup>1</sup> Veerappan Vijayabaskar,<sup>1</sup> Sangavanaicker Selvaraj<sup>1</sup> and David W. Boykin<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> School of Chemistry, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai 625 021, India

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ABSTRACT: The  $^1H$  and  $^{13}C$  NMR spectra of 4-substituted phenylthiol acetates, benzoates and cinnamates and the  $^{17}O$  NMR spectra of a few thiol acetates were measured. The  $^{13}C$  chemical shifts of C-1 of the thiol esters when correlated with appropriate substituent-induced chemical shifts (SCS) of monosubstituted benzenes reveal an enhancement of substituent effect at C-1. Several good dual substituent parameter (DSP) correlations of  $^{13}C$  chemical shifts with  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_R$  parameters were obtained for the carbons *para* to the substituent and the carbonyl carbons of all the three series of thiol esters display inverse substituent effects, indicating  $\pi$ -polarization of the thiol ester functionality by the dipole of the substituent. © John Wiley & Sons Ltd.

KEYWORDS: NMR;  $^{1}$ H NMR;  $^{13}$ C NMR;  $^{17}$ O NMR; substituent-induced chemical shifts;  $\sigma_{I}/\sigma_{R}$  correlations; phenylthiol esters

#### INTRODUCTION

Thiol esters play a vital role in biological systems as acyl carrier proteins. They are also found to be involved in the functioning of oxido reductases, transferases, hydrolases, ligases, lyases and isomerases and are employed as artificial substrates for esterase determination. In view of their biological significance, a number of studies on the bonding and substituent effects in thiol esters, particularly aromatic thiol esters, have been reported employing different techniques, e.g. dipole moment, IR spectra, UV spectra and MO calculations. The spectra of a limited number of esters of the form  $R_1COXR_2$  (X = O, S, S and S also been obtained.

Our recent <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR study of 4-substituted diphenyl sulphides led to the conclusion that the substituent effects are transmitted from one aryl ring to the other mainly via π-polarization and resonance interactions. <sup>10</sup> Such π-polarization of the carbonyl moiety is possible for thiol esters also, in addition to the classical electronic effects. Prompted by these considerations, we have now studied the <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of 4-substituted phenylthiol acetates (Series 1), benzoates (Series 2) and cinnamates (Series 3). <sup>17</sup>O NMR spectra of a few representative compounds of Series 1 were also measured and the results are presented in this paper.

# **EXPERIMENTAL**

All the thiol esters employed in this study were pre-

pared by the reaction of the appropriate substituted benzenethiol and acid chloride. The thiol esters were purified by crystallization or distillation under reduced pressure. The b.p./m.p. of the thiol esters for known compounds agreed with the literature values and satisfactory elemental analyses were obtained for previously unreported compounds.

The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were measured at 300 MHz (Varian VXR-300) for approximately 0.03 M solutions with TMS as internal reference. Broadband and off-resonance decoupled <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were obtained at 75 MHz using the same instrument for approximately 0.5 M solutions with TMS as internal reference. The spectra of all compounds were measured in CDCl<sub>3</sub>. A pulse angle of 37.5° and a repetition time of 3.7 s were used, collecting 32K data points in the quadrature mode at room temperature (20–21°C). Two-dimensional C/H shift correlated spectra were measured using the standard Varian program HETCOR.

The <sup>17</sup>O NMR spectra were recorded at 54.22 MHz on a Varian VXR-400 spectrometer equipped with a 10 mm broadband probe. All spectra were acquired at natural abundance at 75 °C in acetonitrile (Aldrich, anhydrous gold label under nitrogen) containing butan-2-one (1%) as an internal standard. The concentration of the compounds employed in these experiments was typically 0.5 m. The signals were referenced to external

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Department of Chemistry, Georgia State University, Atlanta, Georgia, USA

<sup>\*</sup> Correspondence to: S. Perumal, School of Chemistry, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai 625 021, India.

deionized water at 75 °C. The butan-2-one resonance (558 ppm in acetonitrile) was used as an internal check on the chemical shift measurements for these compounds. The instrumental settings were spectral width 35 kHz, 2K data points, 90° pulse angle (40 μs pulse width), 200 μs acquisition delay and 29 μs acquisition time. Typically 20 000–50 000 scans were required. The spectra were recorded with sample spinning and without lock. The signal-to-noise ratio was improved by applying a 25 Hz exponential broadening factor to the FID prior to Fourier transformation. The data point resolution was improved to 0.01 ppm by zero filling to 8K data points. The reproducibility of the chemical shift data is estimated to be better than 1.0 ppm.

#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Assignment of the <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C chemical shifts was based on considerations of peak intensity, peak multiplicity under off-resonance <sup>1</sup>H decoupling and with complete <sup>1</sup>H coupling, carbon-fluorine couplings and two-dimensional C-H correlations. The <sup>1</sup>H chemical shifts for Series 1 and 2 are given in Tables 1 and 2, respectively. In Series 3, the <sup>1</sup>H signal assignments were confined to ethylenic protons as the aromatic signals overlap extensively (Table 3). The <sup>13</sup>C chemical shifts of C-2',6' and C-3',5' of Series 3 were not distinguished as they hardly differed. Attached proton test (APT) spectra were used to distinguish the overlapping resonances of proton-bearing and quaternary carbons in some cases. For phenylthiol acetate (1d), the chemical shift value of 129.35 ppm was assigned to C-4 in the present study, which differs from that (127.9 ppm) reported by Llabres

Table 1. <sup>1</sup>H chemical shifts of 4-substituted phenylthiol acetates (Series 1)

	$\delta$ (ppm)						
Substituent	H-2,6	H-3,5	SCOCH <sub>3</sub>	Others			
$N(CH_3)_2$	7.21	6.68	2.35	2.96			
$OCH_3$	7.00	6.63	2.10	3.50			
CH <sub>3</sub>	7.32	7.20	2.40	2.38			
Н	7.41	7.41	2.41	7.41 (H-4)			
F	7.38	7.10	2.40				
C1	7.41	7.31	2.43	_			
Br	7.53	7.26	2.41	_			
NO <sub>2</sub>	7.60	8.25	2.49	_			

et al.<sup>8</sup> The <sup>1</sup>H chemical shifts in Tables 1–3 are considered to be accurate to 0.02 ppm and those for carbon in Tables 4–6 to 0.05 ppm.

## Correlations of <sup>1</sup>H chemical shifts

The <sup>1</sup>H chemical shifts of phenylthiol acetates were correlated with dual substituent parameters,  $\sigma_{\rm I}$  and  $\sigma_{\rm R}^{\circ}$ , derived by Bromilow *et al.*, <sup>11</sup> using Taft's equation. Only the H-3,5 protons of Series 1 afford reasonable correlations with  $\sigma_{\rm I}$  and  $\sigma_{\rm R}^{\circ}$  constants ( $\rho_{\rm I}=0.50, \, \rho_{\rm R}=1.91, \, n=8$ ).

## Lynch correlations of <sup>13</sup>C chemical shifts

The <sup>13</sup>C chemical shifts of carbons of substituentbearing aromatic rings of Series 1–3 were correlated with the substituent chemical shift values (SCS) of

Table 2. <sup>1</sup>H chemical shifts of 4-substituted phenylthiol benzoates (Series 2)<sup>a</sup>

			δ (p	opm)		
Substituent	H-2,6	H-3,5	H-2',6'	H-3′,5′	H-4′	Others
N(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	7.32	6.73	8.02	7.44	7.55	2.97
OCH <sub>3</sub>	7.40	6.96	8.05	7.43	7.58	3.80
CH <sub>3</sub>	7.44	7.23	8.00	7.38	7.55	2.36
F	7.45	7.15	8.00	7.58	7.65	_
C1	7.41	7.41	8.00	7.57	7.59	_
Br	7.62	7.35	8.00	7.63	7.47	_
$NO_2$	7.72	8.30	8.03	7.66	7.58	_

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> The signals of unsubstituted phenylthiol benzoate were not assigned in view of the complexity of the spectrum.

**Table 3.** Chemical shifts of H- $\alpha$  and H- $\beta$  of 4-substituted phenylthiol cinnamates (Series 3)

	$\delta$ (ppm)							
Hydrogen	OCH <sub>3</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub>	Н	F	Cl	Br	NO <sub>2</sub>	
Η-α Η-β	6.79 7.64	6.76 7.65	6.80 7.70	6.75 7.65	6.80 7.70	6.90 7.80	6.80 7.90	

Table 4. <sup>13</sup>C chemical shifts of 4-substituted phenylthiol acetates (Series 1)

		$\delta$ (ppm)								
Substituent	C-1	C-2,6	C-3,5	C-4	CO	SCOCH <sub>3</sub>	Others			
$N(CH_3)_2$	112.77	135.65	112.57	151.03	196.49	29.72	40.14			
$OCH_3$	118.61	135.99	114.78	160.58	195.07	29.85	55.24			
$CH_3$	124.39	134.33	129.95	139.61	194.44	30.00	21.24			
Н	127.87	134.37	129.12	129.35	193.90	30.11	_			
$\mathbf{F}^{\mathbf{a}}$	123.20	136.48	116.43	163.43	193.90	30.01	_			
C1	126.31	135.61	129.41	135.79	193.32	30.15	_			
Br	126.89	135.77	132.30	123.99	193.07	30.13	_			
NO <sub>2</sub>	136.36	134.60	123.90	148.06	191.52	30.52				

 $<sup>^{</sup>a}$   $^{n}J(C,F)$  values:  $^{1}J(C,F) = 250.30$  Hz (C-4);  $^{2}J(C,F) = 22.10$  Hz (C-3,5);  $^{3}J(C,F) = 8.6$  Hz (C-2,6).

monosubstituted benzenes (Lynch correlations<sup>12</sup>) and the results are given in Table 7.

All carbons except C-2,6 afford good correlations. The b values in the range 1.30–1.35 obtained for C-1 of Series 1–3 indicate that the fixed thiol ester function (SCOR wherein  $R = CH_3$ ,  $C_6H_5$  and  $CH = CHC_6H_5$ ) significantly enhances the effect of the 4-substituent on the chemical shift of C-1. Similar amplification of the substituent effect at C-1 evident from the b values for several fixed substituents having —S— as the point of

attachment to the ring in 1,4-disubstituted benzenes has been reported (Table 8). Promilow et al. 15 have discussed the amplification of substituent effect at C-1 in terms of shift charge ratio (SCR) at C-1 where SCR is defined as the ratio of the  $C_p$ -SCS value of the para substituent X to the substituent induced  $\pi$ -charge at that carbon. Bromilow et al. 15 related this to the  $\rho_R$  term of DSP correlation for each Y group. Table 7 also lists b values for other systems depicted below for comparison.

Table 5. <sup>13</sup>C chemical shifts of 4-substituted phenylthiol benzoates (Series 2)

	$\delta$ (ppm)									
Substituent	C-1	C-2,6	C-3,5	C-4	СО	C-1'	C-2',6'	C-3',5'	C-4'	Others
N(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	111.68	136.14	112.74	151.14	191.97	136.86	127.34	128.59	133.29	40.18
OCH <sub>3</sub>	117.83	136.59	114.93	160.75	190.92	136.59	127.40	128.68	133.53	55.30
CH <sub>3</sub>	123.64	134.88	129.96	139.62	190.35	136.54	127.31	128.57	133.43	21.23
Н	127.20	134.97	129.10	129.40	189.92	136.51	127.36	128.63	133.54	_
$\mathbf{F}^{\mathbf{a}}$	122.55	137.05	116.42	163.71	189.93	136.28	127.38	128.78	133.71	_
Cl	125.76	136.22	129.40	135.87	189.48	134.44	127.42	128.73	133.77	_
Br	126.43	136.46	132.38	124.16	189.33	136.27	127.45	128.75	133.80	_
$NO_2$	135.91	135.35	123.88	148.19	187.89	136.10	127.58	128.96	134.29	_

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a n</sup> J(CF) values:  ${}^{1}J(C,F) = 220$  Hz (C-4);  ${}^{2}J(C,F) = 40.1$  Hz (C-3,5);  ${}^{3}J(C,F) = 8.6$  Hz (C-2,6).

Table 6. <sup>13</sup>C chemical shifts of 4-substituted phenylthiol cinnamates (Series 3)

		$\delta$ (ppm)									
Substituent	C-1	C-2,6	C-3,5	C-4	СО	C-α	С-β	C-1'	C-4'	C-2',6' and C-3',5'	Others
OCH <sub>3</sub>	118.20	136.19	114.87	160.67	188.87	124.05	141.25	134.04	130.66	128.95, 128.44	55.32
$CH_3$	124.03	134.52	130.00	137.63	188.33	124.12	141.28	133.98	130.65	128.92, 128.43	21.33
Н	127.52	134.50	129.10 <sup>a</sup>	129.32a	187.78	124.01	141.40	133.86	130.55	128.88, 128.32	_
$\mathbf{F^b}$	122.82	136.47	116.23	163.28	187.41	123.70	141.57	133.71	130.65	128.80, 128.34	_
C1	126.03	135.65	129.27	133.71	187.01	123.73	141.79	133.57	130.77	128.88, 128.42	
Br	126.66	135.86	132.23	123.93	186.86	123.75	141.83	133.71	130.77	128.89, 128.42	_
$NO_2$	136.37	134.62	123.80	148.00	185.40	123.46	142.88	133.62	131.21	128.53, 129.02	_

a May be reversed.

 $<sup>^{</sup>b} {}^{n}J(C,F)$  values:  $^{1}J(C,F) = 250.1$  Hz (C-4);  $^{2}J(C,F) = 22.1$  Hz (C-3,5);  $^{3}J(C,F) = 8.6$  Hz (C-2,6).

Table 7. Lynch correlations	of 13C chemical shifts with	benzene SCS values
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		-		Intercep	t (ppm)		
Series	Atom	Benzene SCS	slope,	Calculated	Observed	r	n
1ª	C-1	$S_p$	1.32	128.52	127.87	0.998	8
	C-2,6	$S_m^{r}$	1.05	134.39	134.37	0.854	8
	C-3,5	$S_o^m$	1.02	129.10	129.12	0.999	8
	C-4	$S_i$	0.97	129.64	129.35	0.999	8
2ª	C-1	$S_p$	1.35	127.94	127.20	0.997	8
	C-2,6	$S_m^r$	1.07	134.97	134.97	0.893	8
	C-3,5	$S_o^m$	1.02	129.11	129.10	0.999	8
	C-4	$S_i$	0.97	129.71	129.40	0.999	8
3ª	C-1	$S_{p}$	1.30	128.28	127.52	0.997	7
	C-2,6	$S_m^{r}$	1.17	134.46	134.50	0.873	7
	C-3,5	$S_o^m$	0.96	129.91	129.10	0.994	7
	C-4	$S_i^{\circ}$	0.98	128.79	129.32	0.998	7
DPS-I <sup>b</sup>	C-1	$S_p$	1.64	137.36	135.72	0.991	9
DPS-II <sup>b</sup>	C-1	$S_p^{r}$	1.52	131.70	130.33	0.994	7
DPS-III <sup>b</sup>	C-1	$S_p^r$	1.04	135.66	135.72	0.996	8
PVS <sup>c</sup>	C-1	$S_p^{r}$	1.54	_	_	_	_
$PMS^d$	C-1	$S_p^{\nu}$	1.14	138.77	138.60	0.992	7

a This work.

The b and  $\rho_{\rm R}$  values in Table 8 and the fair correlation between them (r = 0.961) with a slope of 0.94 support the conclusions of Bromilow et al.16 The values of b obtained for Series 1-3 (Table 8) lie in the order:

DPS-I: Y=H

PMS: Y = Me

DPS-II: Y=NO2

PVS:  $Y = CH = CH_2$ 

DPS-III: Y=X

Table 8. Comparison of Lynch slope (b) and resonance transmission ratios for carbons para to the variable substituent  $[\rho_R(Y)/\rho_R(H)]$ 

Y	b	$\rho_{\rm R}({\rm Y})/\rho_{\rm R}({\rm H})^{\rm a}$
SCOCH <sub>3</sub> b	1.32	1.28
SCOC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> <sup>b</sup>	1.34	1.30
SCOCH=CHC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> <sup>b</sup>	1.28	1.25
SC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> °	1.64	1.68
$SC_6H_4NO_2-4'^{c}$	1.53	1.47
$SC_6H_4X-4'^{\circ}$	1.04	1.03
SCH=CH <sub>2</sub> d	1.54	1.38
SCH <sub>3</sub> <sup>e</sup>	1.14	1.13

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm a}
ho_{\rm R}({
m Y})$  and  $ho_{\rm R}({
m H})$  are the resonance coefficients in DSP correlation  $[\rho_{R}(H) = 21.5]^{1/2}$ b This work.

$$\begin{split} & SC_6H_5 = SCH = CH_2 = SC_6H_4NO_2\text{-}4' > SCOCH_3 = \\ & SCOC_6H_5 = COCH = CHC_6H_5 > SCH_3 = SC_6H_4X\text{-}4'. \end{split}$$
This shows that the amplification of substituent effects by the acylthic functionality lies in the middle of the above series.

The Lynch correlations of <sup>13</sup>C chemical shifts of C-2, 6 for all the series of phenylthio esters with appropriate SCS values  $(S_m)$  give only scattered plots, revealing that the fixed thiol ester function influences the chemical shifts at these positions significantly. The <sup>13</sup>C chemical shifts of C-3,5 and C-4 carbons afford almost unit slopes, suggesting the lack of a significant influence by the acylthio group at these positions.

## Hammett and dual substituent parameter (DSP) correlations

The <sup>13</sup>C chemical shifts of C-1 and carbonyl carbon afford satisfactory correlations with  $\sigma_p^+$  constants

Table 9. Results of Hammett correlations of C-1 and carbonyl carbon chemical shifts using  $\sigma_p^+$  constants

Series	Atom	ρ	Intercept	r	n
1	C-1	9.04	126.66	0.965	8
	CO	-1.94	193.52	0.977	8
2	C-1	9.30	125.99	0.968	8
	CO	-1.57	189.62	0.971	8
3	C-1	11.18	126.13	0.955	7
	CO	-2.31	187.34	0.973	7

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Ref. 10.

c Ref. 13.

d Ref. 14

 $<sup>^{\</sup>circ}$  The  $^{13}$ C SCS values given in Ref. 10 have been correlated using  $\sigma_{\rm I}$ and  $\sigma_R^{\ 0}$  constants.

d From Ref. 13.

e From Ref. 14.

Series	Atom	$ ho_{ m I}$	$ ho_{ exttt{R}}$	R	λ	n	Range of δ (ppm)
1	C-1	7.10	27.48	0.999	3.87	8	23.62
	C-2,6	2.10	-3.15	0.940	-1.53	8	2.15
	CO	-2.81	-4.76	0.993	1.69	8	4.97
	$COCH_3$	0.37	0.85	0.993	2.28	8	0.80
2	C-1	7.52	28.01	0.999	3.72	8	24.23
	C-2,6	2.25	-2.97	0.941	-1.32	8	2.17
	CO	-2.27	-3.94	0.997	1.74	8	4.08
	C-1'	-1.30	-0.51	a	0.39	8	2.42
	C-2',6'	0.40	0.14	0.959	0.36	8	0.24
	C-3',5'	0.24	0.15	0.921	0.63	8	0.39
	C-4'	0.84	0.69	0.986	0.82	8	1.00
3	C-1	7.14	27.03	0.999	3.79	7	18.17
	C-2,6	1.66	-3.87	0.973	-2.33	7	1.97
	CO	-2.97	-3.94	0.989	1.33	7	3.47
	$C-\alpha$	-0.81	-0.44	0.989	0.55	7	0.66

1.90

-0.30

0.62

0.983

7

7

1.63

0.47

0.66

1.26

0.68

1.12

**Table 10.** Results of DSP correlations of chemical shifts of Series 1–3 with  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_8^{\, o}$  constants

C-β

C-1'

1.51

-0.50

0.56

(Table 9). The sign of the  $\rho$  values show 'normal' and 'inverse' substituent effects for C-1 and carbonyl carbons, respectively. DSP correlations of the chemical shifts of Series 1-3 afford several good correlations (Table 10). The magnitude of  $\rho_{\rm I}$  and  $\rho_{\rm R}$  values obtained for C-1 of Series 1-3 are greater than the magnitude of  $\rho_{\rm I}$  and  $\rho_{\rm R}$  values obtained for the monosubstituted benzenes,  $\rho_{\rm I} = 4.6$  and  $\rho_{\rm R} = 21.5$ . This also reveals amplification of substituent effects at C-1 just as concluded from Lynch correlations. The C-2,6 carbons, in a meta relationship to the variable substituent X, correlate reasonably well with  $\sigma_{\rm I}$  and  $\sigma_{\rm R}^{\circ}$ , affording negative  $\rho_{\rm R}$  values (Table 10) and suggesting an inverse resonance effect. Similar negative  $\rho_R$  values for meta carbons have previously been observed for several series of 1,4-disubstituted benzenes.<sup>15</sup> The origin of the negative sign of  $\rho_{\rm R}$  for the *meta* carbons is not clear.

The correlations of carbonyl carbon of Series 1-3 afford negative  $\rho_I$  and  $\rho_R$  values, suggesting inverse substituent effects. This could be taken as an evidence for  $\pi$ -polarization of the thiol ester functionality by the dipole of the substituent (4).

It is pertinent to note that such inverse substituent effects, suggesting  $\pi$ -polarization, have been reported for

$$\delta - X = \sum_{k=0}^{\delta + 1} \sum_{k=0}^{\delta - 1} \sum_{k$$

4

carbons of a few unsaturated side-chains attached to aromatic systems.<sup>16</sup> The data in Table 11 compare the  $\rho_{\rm I}$  and  $\rho_{\rm R}$  values of carbonyl carbons of Series 1-3 with that of carbonyl carbons of 4-substituted phenyl acetates16 4-substituted (Series 4) and arylacetamides 17 (Series 5). That the extent of  $\pi$ polarization of the carbonyl group of all three series of thiol esters remains roughly equal is evident from almost equal  $\rho_{\rm I}$  and  $\rho_{\rm R}$  values (Table 11). The data in Table 11 also reveal an inverse substituent effect for the carbonyl carbon of the OCOCH<sub>3</sub> group but to a lesser extent. In contrast, the NHCOCH<sub>3</sub> group has positive  $\rho_{\rm I}$  and  $\rho_{\rm R}$  values, revealing a normal substituent effect. It appears that the large resonance interaction between the nitrogen and carbonyl in the amide group overshadows the  $\pi$ -polarization interaction, while the ester and also the thiol ester groups, with diminished resonance interaction between 'O'/'S' and carbonyl, display a significant  $\pi$ -polarization interaction. Inspection of

Table 11. Results of DSP analyses of carbonyl carbon chemical shifts

Series	$ ho_{ m I}$	$ ho_{ m R}$	λ	R	n
1ª	-2.81	-4.76	1.69	0.993	8
$2^{a}$	-2.27	-3.94	1.74	0.997	8
3ª	-2.97	-3.94	1.33	0.989	7
4 <sup>b</sup>	-1.21	-1.82	1.50	0.989	13
5 <sup>b</sup>	0.96	2.58	2.68	0.991	11

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> This work.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Poor correlation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> The SCS values of 4-substituted phenyl acetates (Series 4) and 4-substituted *N*-arylacetamides (Series 5) have been taken from Refs 16 and 17, respectively.

the  $\rho_R$  values of unsubstituted phenyl ring of Series 2 (Table 12) reveals that C-1' has a negative  $\rho_R$  value whereas C-2',6'; C-3',5' and C-4' have positive  $\rho_R$  values. This could be ascribed to the involvement of a localized  $\pi$ -polarization mechanism in this system, resulting in separate polarization of the carbonyl group and the unsubstituted phenyl ring in Series 2 by the dipole of the substituent. The low  $\rho_R$  values of C-2',6' and C-3',5' relative to C-4' suggest that  $\pi$ -polarization is effective along the C-1'—C-4' axis.

The negative sign of the  $\rho_R$  values of the carbonyl carbon, C- $\alpha$  and C-1' and the positive sign of  $\rho_R$  values for C- $\beta$  and C-4' observed in Series 3 (Table 12) show that each discrete  $\pi$ -system in this series, viz. carbonvl group, —CH=CH— and the unsubstituted phenyl suffers polarization ring, separate (localized polarization). The data in Table 12 give  $\rho_{\rm I}$  and  $\rho_{\rm R}$  values for systems of the general form 5 in which a localized  $\pi$ -polarization mechanism is known to be involved. Although the extent of  $\pi$ -polarization in different series of the form 5 varies, as is evident from the variation in the  $\rho_R$  values of C-1' and C-4' (inverse effect for C-1' and normal effect for C-4'), the trend of substituent effects is found to be the same.

$$X = \frac{3}{5} \int_{6}^{2} 1 - G = \frac{1}{5} \int_{5}^{2} 1 dx$$

G = -SCO-, SCOCH=CH-, -S-, -CO-, -COCH=CH-

#### 5

# <sup>17</sup>O NMR study of 4-substituted phenylthiol acetates

<sup>17</sup>O NMR spectra of a few 4-substituted phenylthiol acetates as a representative series were measured at 54.22 MHz. The <sup>17</sup>O chemical shifts for four compounds of Series 1 [X=N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, 512.5; OCH<sub>3</sub>, 513.6; H, 513.9; NO<sub>2</sub>, 513.9 ppm] show that even substituents which differ in their electronic character to a large extent such as 4-nitro, 4-methoxy and 4-N,N-dimethylamino fail to influence the chemical shift of the oxygen of the thiol ester group significantly. The variation in these chemical shifts (1.4 ppm) is small, almost of the same order as the accuracy of <sup>17</sup>O chemical shifts (1.0 ppm). This observation suggests that the electron density on the oxygen atom of these thiol acetates remains almost constant, ruling out significant conjugative and  $\pi$ -polarization interactions between the sulphur atom and the carbonyl group. The  $\pi$ -polarization and conjugation are expected to cause 'normal' substituent effects on the <sup>17</sup>O chemical shifts of the carbonyl oxygen. This is in sharp contrast to the inference, from the inverse effect on the carbonyl carbon chemical shifts, that there are significant  $\pi$ -polarization interactions in all the series of thiol esters. The origin of the difference between the substituent effects on the carbonyl carbon and oxygen is unclear.

It is pertinent to note that <sup>17</sup>O chemical shifts of a series of substituted phenyl acetates also show insensitivity to steric effects. <sup>19</sup> This has been ascribed by Boykin *et al.* <sup>19</sup> to (i) the large torsion angles (calculated by MM2) and the relatively small changes in torsion angle predicted with increasing steric hindrance and (ii) the competition between two overlaps, one involving

Table 12. DSP analyses of  $^{13}C$  SCS data for side-chain and unsubstituted phenyl group in  $4-XC_6H_4$ —G— $C_6H_5$ 

G	Atom	$ ho_{ m I}$	$ ho_{ m R}$	Scale	<i>R</i> or ( <i>f</i> )
—SCO— <sup>a</sup>	C-1'	-1.30	-0.51	$\sigma_{R}^{\circ}$ (NMR)	poor
	C-2',6'	0.40	0.14	$\sigma_{R}^{\circ}$ (NMR)	0.959
	C-3',5'	0.24	0.15	$\sigma_{R}^{\circ}$ (NMR)	0.921
	C-4'	0.84	0.69	$\sigma_{R}^{\circ}$ (NMR)	0.986
-SCOCH=CH-a	C-1'	-0.50	-0.34	$\sigma_{R}^{\circ}$ (NMR)	0.840
	C-4'	0.56	0.62	$\sigma_{R}^{\circ}$ (NMR)	0.899
	C-α	-0.81	-0.44	$\sigma_{R}^{\circ}$ (NMR)	0.989
	С-β	1.15	1.90	$\sigma_{R}^{\circ}$ (NMR)	0.983
—S— <sup>b</sup>	C-1'	-4.96	-11.7	$\sigma_{R}^{\circ}$ (NMR)	0.993
	C-4'	2.7	5.4	$\sigma_{R}^{\circ}$ (NMR)	0.997
—CO—c	C-1'	1.6	-1.9	${\sigma_{ m R}}^{\circ}$	(0.10)
	C-4'	1.3	2.0	$\sigma_{ extsf{R}}^{\circ}$	(0.10)
—COCH=CH—c	C-1'	-0.8	-0.4	$\sigma_{\rm R}$ BA	(0.21)
	C-4'	0.3	0.6	$\sigma_{ m R}^{\circ}$	(0.27)
	C-α	-1.1	-0.06	$\sigma_{ m R}^{+}$	(0.31)
	С-β	3.7	3.1	$\sigma_{ m R}^{+}$	(0.08)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> This work.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Ref. 10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup> Ref. 18.

the oxygen lone pair containing orbitals and the orbital of the phenyl ring and the other involving the oxygen lone pair orbital and the orbital of the carbonyl carbon.

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