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α-HALOTHIOKETONES

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Thioketones and thioaldehydes having a halogen atom in the α -position with respect to the thiocarbonyl group have not been known before our research.

We have developed a method for the preparation of 1-halo-2-propanethiones, the first representatives of α -halothioketones, by hydrothiolysis of haloacetones with a mixture of hydrogen sulfide and hydrogen chloride at -70° C in the absence of solvent:

$$CH_{3}-C-CH_{2}X + H_{2}S \xrightarrow{HCI, -70^{\circ}C} CH_{3}-C-CH_{2}X + H_{2}O$$

$$X = F, CI, Br$$

An attempt to prepare iodo-thioacetone under analogous conditions turned out to be unsuccessful. Instead of the above compound an unstable 2,5-hexanedithione has been isolated.

This reaction provides a new unexpected pathway to the formation of the C-C bond. We managed to synthesize iodo-propanethione by exchange reaction of bromo-thioacetone with sodium iodide in acetone at -70° C.

$$CH_3-C-CH_2Br + Nal \xrightarrow{-70^0 C} CH_3-C-CH_2l + NaBr$$

The activation parameters and relative stability of halothioacetones were estimated by semiempiric AM1 and PM3 methods in accordance with potential intramolecular 1,3-sigmatropic rearrangements:

The calculated steady-state energies of gas-phase rearrangements allowed the relative stability sequence for certain sigmatropic forms to be drawn up: IV > III > II > I (fluoro-, chloro- and bromo-thioacetones); III > II > IV >I (iodo-thioacetone).

The halothioacetones present convenient synthons for the preparation of derivatives of thiadiazoline (1), thiirane (2), 1,4-dithiane (3), 1-halo-2,2-propanedithiols (4), trithianorbornane (5), tetrahydrothiazinoquinolinium salts (6).

BrCH₂C CH₃
$$X = Br$$
 $X = CH2N2$ $X = CH2$ $X = CH2$

Further investigation of the chemistry of α -halothioketones is in progress.