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### PHOTOCHEMICAL OXIDATIVE DEPROTECTION OF 1,3-DITHIANES TO CARBONYL COMPOUNDS WITH HYDROGEN PEROXIDE (HP)

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## PHOTOCHEMICAL OXIDATIVE DEPROTECTION OF 1,3-DITHIANES TO CARBONYL COMPOUNDS WITH HYDROGEN PEROXIDE (HP)

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*Regeneration of carbonyl compounds from their 1,3-dithianes were achieved using photochemical oxidation with (HP 30%) in relatively high yields. Thus, an efficient, economic and simple photochemical method for this deprotection has been demonstrated.*

**Keywords:** Carbonyl compound; deprotection; dithiane; hydrogen peroxide; photochemical

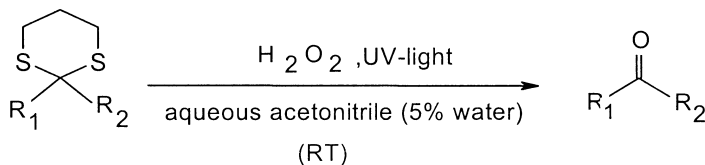
The wide use of 1,3-dithianes as protecting groups for the carbonyl functionality,<sup>1</sup> and as acyl equivalents,<sup>2</sup> has triggered the intense search for flexible deprotection strategies. Oxidative methods are important among the other methods. Some of these methods are oxidation with Cl<sub>2</sub>,<sup>3</sup> Br<sub>2</sub>,<sup>4</sup> I<sub>2</sub>,<sup>5</sup> NCS,<sup>6</sup> NBS,<sup>6</sup> tert-BuOCl, and iron (III) phenanthroline.<sup>7</sup> Variants of oxidative methods that are based on one-electron transfer oxidation, however, have been introduced only recently, on one side with triarylammonium salts as mediators in an electrochemical oxidation,<sup>8</sup> and on the other side using photoinduced electron transfer in the presence of oxygen.<sup>9</sup> Recently a new method for cleavage of the 1,3-dithianes with selecfluorTM,<sup>10</sup> o-iodoxy benzoic acid in DMSO containing traces of water,<sup>11</sup> have been developed. In continuation of our previous photochemical studies<sup>12–14</sup> we employed hydrogen peroxide in aqueous acetonitrile (5% water) under photochemical conditions for deprotection of 1,3-dithianes.

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## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

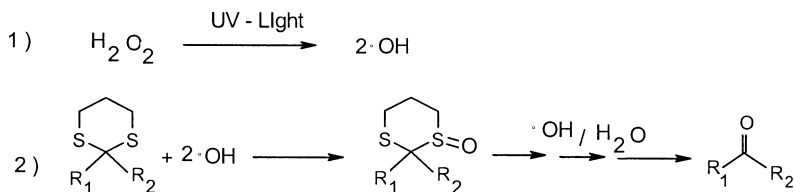
Photochemical deprotection of 1,3-dithianes was recognized by treatment of substrate with HP (30%) in acetonitrile containing 5% water for 2.5–3.5 h under irradiation at room temperature, which afforded the corresponding carbonyl compounds (Scheme 1, Table I).



**SCHEME 1**


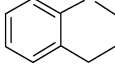
As shown in Table I, different types of dithio compounds are converted to their corresponding carbonyl compounds in acetonitrile solvent in the presence of UV light and in 75–92% yields. Under the same reaction conditions, the dithio compounds bearing nitro group on the aromatic ring were decomposed and unidentified products were produced (run 11,12).

It seems that under these conditions, hydrogen peroxide is cleaved homolytically and produces highly oxidant OH-radical that can oxidize dithio compounds, ultimately to corresponding carbonyl compounds. Therefore with regard to literature,<sup>15,16</sup> we propose a mechanism for this transformation which involves stepwise oxidation of dithio compounds to their disulfoxides and consequent cleavages to their parent carbonyl compounds. On the basis of this mechanism, 3–4 eq. of the reagents is required for the completion of the reaction (Scheme 2). It is noteworthy that in the absence of UV-light, deprotection did not proceed considerably even after prolonged reaction times that can be explained due to stability of these compounds.



**SCHEME 2**

**TABLE I** Photochemical Deprotection of Various 1,3-Dithianes Using HP (30%) in Acetonitrile (5% Water)

Run	R <sup>1</sup>	R <sup>2</sup>	Time (h)	Yield (%) <sup>a</sup>
1	2-MeOC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	H	2.5	80
2	4-BrC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Me	2.5	92
3	Ph	Ph	3	90
4	4-ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	H	2.5	75
5	4-PhC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Me	3	85
6	4-BrC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	CH <sub>2</sub> Br	2.5	83
7	4-ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Ph	3	85
8	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>13</sub>	H	3.5	75
9			3	82
10		—	3.5	80
11	3-O <sub>2</sub> NC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	H	0.5	Decompose
12	2-O <sub>2</sub> NC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	H	0.5	Decompose

<sup>a</sup>Isolated yields.

In summary we have introduced a simple and efficient procedure for photochemical oxidative deprotection of 1,3-dithianes under neutral condition and room temperature in good to excellent yields. This reaction offers an interesting example of photochemical deprotection of dithio compounds that is useful for synthetic organic photochemistry. The advantages of this method are that it provides an economically viable and efficient photochemical methodology using a readily available reagent.

## EXPERIMENTAL

### General

The carbonyl derivative were prepared from corresponding carbonyl compounds and 1,3-propanedithiol according to the reported procedure.<sup>17,18</sup>

### *Conversion of 1,3-Dithianes Compounds to Their Corresponding Carbonyl Compounds; General Procedure*

To a solution of 2,2-diphenyl-1,3-dithane (133 mg, 0.5 mmol) in acetonitrile (20 ml) in a pyrex cell was added hydrogen peroxide (2 mmol). The reaction cell was placed in a pyrex water bath at room temperature.

The mixture was stirred magnetically and irradiated with a 400 W high-pressure Hg lamp for 3 h. After completion (as monitored by TLC), the reaction mixture concentrated by evaporation under reduced pressure and resulting crude material was purified on a silica-gel-plate (eluent: n-hexane/diethyl ether 3:1) affording the pure product (Table I) All of the products were characterized by *elemental analysis (new products)* and comparison of their spectral (IR, H-NMR), chromatographic (TLC) and physical data (melting and boiling points) with those of known samples.<sup>19</sup>

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