

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Unusual Molecular Structure of *N*-(2,2-Dichloro-1-hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)-4-chlorobenzenesulfonamide

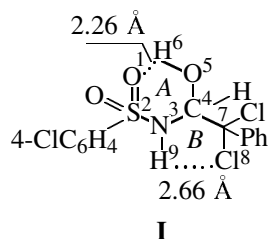
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Earlier we synthesized a series of derivatives of highly electrophilic *N*-(2,2-dichloro-2-phenylethyl)arenesulfonamides [1]. The available and important synthon of this series, *N*-(2,2-dichloro-1-hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)-4-chlorobenzenesulfonamide (**I**), exhibits IR characteristics different from those of isostructural analogs and model *N*-methylmethanesulfonamide (**II**) [$\nu(\text{NH})$ 3409, $\nu_{\text{as}}(\text{SO}_2)$ 1340 cm^{-1}] [2]: very low values of $\nu(\text{NH})$ (3350 cm^{-1}), $\nu_{\text{as}}(\text{SO}_2)$ (1315 cm^{-1}) and $\nu(\text{OH})$ (3570 cm^{-1}) in CHCl_3 .

The characteristic reorganization of the $\nu(\text{SO}_2)$, $\nu(\text{NH})$, $\nu(\text{OH})$, and $\delta(\text{C}-\text{Cl})$ bands in the IR spectra of compound **I** in 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane over a wide temperature range (20–120°C) suggests formation and subsequent cleavage of intramolecular hydrogen bonds involving the corresponding fragments. Therewith, the $\nu(\text{OH})$ and $\nu(\text{NH})$ bands are observed at 3610 and 3420 cm^{-1} , respectively, and the $\nu_{\text{as}}(\text{SO}_2)$ band, at 1358 cm^{-1} .



Interactions of amide **I** with pyridine, DMSO, and THF, too, involve cleavage of intramolecular hydrogen bonds, but simultaneously new intermolecular hydrogen-bonded complexes involving OH (3200 cm^{-1}) and NH (3150 cm^{-1}) groups are formed. The AM1 calculations [3] of compounds **I** and **II** revealed two shortened intramolecular contacts in the former: between sulfone O^1 and H^6 , as well as between H^9 and Cl^8 , much shorter than the sums of van der Waals radii. The $\text{O}^1 \cdots \text{O}^5$ distance is 2.7 Å. The $\text{S}^2\text{N}^3\text{C}^4\text{O}^5$ and $\text{O}^1\text{S}^2\text{N}^3\text{C}^4$ torsion angles are -58.5 and

1.03° , respectively. The $\text{H}^9\text{N}^3\text{C}^4\text{C}^7$ and $\text{N}^3\text{C}^4\text{C}^7\text{Cl}^8$ torsion angles are -5.63 and -64.4° , respectively. The endocyclic bond angles in pseudocycles **A** and **B** in amide **I** are much decreased compared with «ideal» [4] and those in model compound **II**: $\text{S}^2\text{N}^3\text{C}^4$ 122° , $\text{C}^4\text{O}^5\text{H}^6$ 107.3° , and $\text{C}^4\text{C}^7\text{Cl}^8$ 112.2° , which favors mutual stabilization of intramolecular hydrogen bonds. The intramolecular hydrogen-bonded pseudocycles have a common central bond $\text{C}-\text{N}$ incorporated in an almost planar $\text{O}^1\text{S}^2\text{N}^3\text{C}^4\text{C}^7$ pentad, and also stabilize each other.

Comparative analysis of the orders, and especially π -orders (P_π) of bonds in model compound **II** and two structures of compound **I**, with two intramolecular hydrogen bonds and without them, points to a considerable electron delocalization in the hydrogen-bonded form of compound **I**. Thus, the P_π values for the hydrogen-bonded form in the bond series S^2-N^3 , N^3-S^4 , S^4-O^5 , $\text{S}^2=\text{O}^1$ form the series 0.083, 0.047, 0.066, 0.346, and the respective values for the hydrogen-nonbonded form are 0.077, 0.059, 0.084, 0.336. Moreover, lengthening of the $\text{S}=\text{O}$ bond from 1.407 to 1.416 Å is observed and alternation of other bond lengths, specifically, $\text{C}-\text{H}$ from 1.438 to 1.446 Å and $\text{O}-\text{H}$ from 0.967 to 0.972 Å.

According to calculations, the hydrogen-bonded structure of compound **I** is preferred over hydrogen-nonbonded by 33.06 kJ/mol. The energies of noncomplementary hydrogen bonds ΔH (kJ/mol), experimentally estimated by us from the temperature dependences of the optical densities of the $\nu(\text{NH})$ and $\nu(\text{OH})$ bands for free and bonded groups in $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2\text{Cl}_4$, are 17.55 for pseudocycle **A** and 9.19 for pseudocycle **B**.

The spectral data and calculations are consistent with the stereochemical features of compound **I**, which show up in the slightly increased π -order of the $\text{N}-\text{S}$ bond compared with those in usual sulfonamides,

where conjugation in the SO_2N group is weak. The resulting data provide convincing evidence for the concept of synergism of hydrogen bonding and delocalization of electron density [5, 6].

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