

LETTERS  
TO THE EDITOR

## New Method of Synthesis of 2-Naphthylthioacetamides from 4-(2-Naphthyl)-1,2,3-thiadiazole

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Received July 7, 2014

**Keywords:** 1,2,3-thiadiazole, 2-naphthylthioacetamides, [1,3]dithiol, synthesis

**DOI:** 10.1134/S1070363214090382

Piperidylamide [1] and morpholylamide [2] of 2-naphthylthioacetic acid and their derivatives have been well known. Piperidylamide of 2-naphthylthioacetic acid can be obtained by the Willgerodt–Kindler reaction [1] from 2-acetylnaphthalene, sulfur and piperidine or by treating piperidylamide of 2-naphthylacetic acid with Lawesson reagent [3]. Morpholylamide of 2-naphthylthioacetic acid can be obtained only by the Willgerodt–Kindler reaction [2, 4].

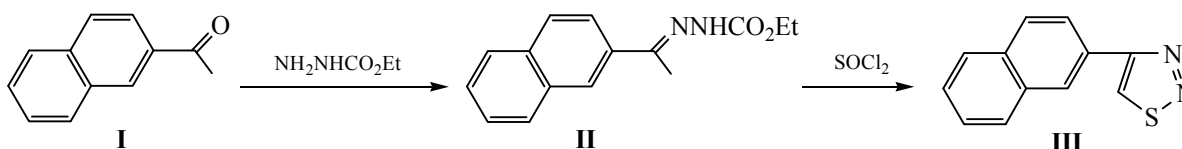
Amides of 2-naphthylthioacetic acids are widely used in the synthesis of naphthalene derivatives. For example, the hydrolysis of 2-morpholylamide of 2-naphthylthioacetic acid resulted in 2-naphthylacetic acid [2]. The hydrogenation of piperidylamide of 2-naphthylthioacetic acid in the presence of Raney nickel provided the corresponding amine [1]. Reaction of morpholylamide of 2-naphthylthioacetic acid with dimethyl sulfoxide and methyl iodide afforded thioesters of 2-naphthylthioacetic acid [5]. Successive action of methyl iodide and potassium *tert*-butoxide on morpholylamide of 2-naphthylthioacetic acid led to the formation of the corresponding ketene-*S,N*-acetals [6]. Copper-catalyzed  $\alpha$ -oxidation of 2-naphthylthioacetamides is an effective approach towards the synthesis

of  $\alpha$ -ketonaphthylthioamides [7]. Thio-Claisen rearrangement of the reaction products obtained from propargyl bromide or  $\omega$ -bromoketones and morpholylamide of 2-naphthylthioacetic acid gave rise to polysubstituted thiophenes [4, 8].

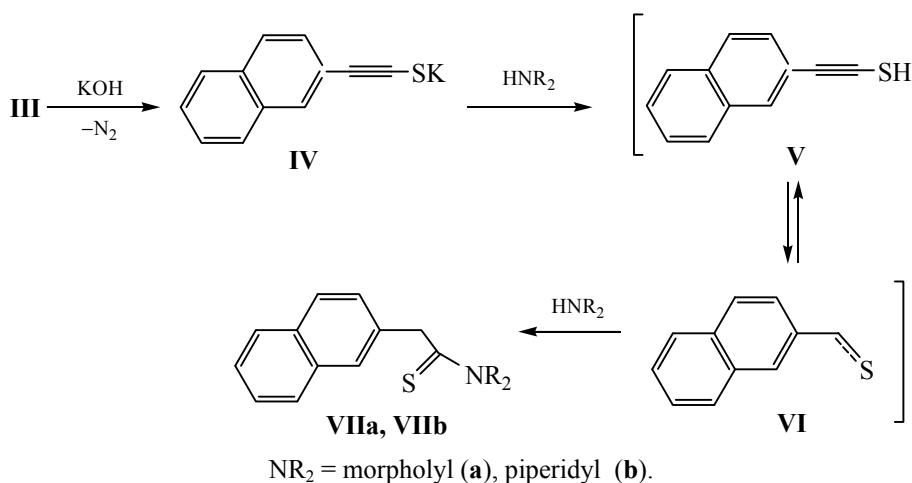
In this work, we developed a new method for the synthesis of dialkylamides of 2-naphthylthioacetic acid starting from readily available 4-(2-naphthyl)-1,2,3-thiadiazole **III**. The latter was prepared by the modified Kirmse procedure [9] by reacting 2-naphthylmethylketone **I** with ethoxycarbonylhydrazine followed by treating the intermediately formed ethoxycarbonylhydrazone **II** with thionyl chloride (Scheme 1).

Under the action of potassium hydroxide in anhydrous dioxane 4-(2-naphthyl)-1,2,3-thiadiazole **III** decomposes readily with the release of nitrogen and the formation of potassium 2-(2-naphthyl)ethynethiolate **IV**. Further treatment of the reaction mixture with an excess of a secondary amine gave rise to the corresponding amides of 2-naphthylthioacetic acid **VIIa** and **VIIb**. The reaction probably proceeded through the intermediate formation of a mixture of tautomers, 2-naphthylethynethiol **V** and 2-naphthylthioketene **VI** (Scheme 2).

Scheme 1.



Scheme 2.

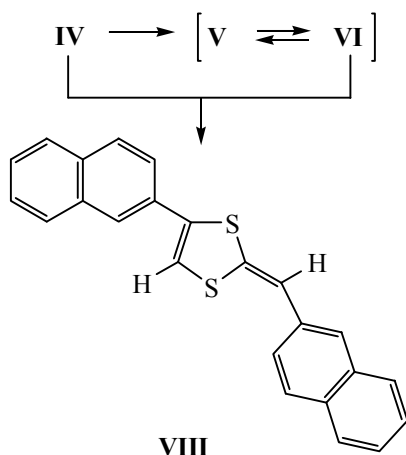


Structures of the resulting thioamides **VIIa** and **VIIb** were confirmed by <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra and by comparison with the published data [1, 2].

According to TLC, the formation of thioamides **VIIa** and **VIIb** was accompanied by generating 2-(2-naphthyl)methylene-4-(2-naphthyl)-2*H*-1,3-dithiol **VIII** as the protonation product of potassium 2-(2-naphthyl)ethynylthiolate **IV**. This dimer **VIII** of thioketene **V** was easily obtained by carrying out the reaction in the absence of amine and in the presence of ethanol (Scheme 3).

Structure of [1,3]dithiol **VIII** was confirmed by NMR spectroscopy and by comparison with the published data [9]. This compound has been first prepared by photolysis of 4-(2-naphthyl)-1,2,3-thiadiazole **III** [9].

Scheme 3.



**Ethoxycarbonylhydrazone of 2-naphthyl methyl ketone (II).** A mixture of 5 g (29.4 mmol) of 2-naphthyl methyl ketone **I** [10], 3.52 g (33.84 mmol) of ethoxycarbonylhydrazine, 20 mL of ethanol, and 4 drops of acetic acid was refluxed for 2 h, and then kept at room temperature. The precipitate was filtered off, washed with 10 mL of ethanol, and dried. Yield 4.9 g (90%), colorless crystals, mp 128°C (mp 129°C [11]), *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.56 (hexane–EtOAc, 7 : 5). <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>), δ, ppm: 1.30 t (3H, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>, *J* 8 Hz), 2.46 s (3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.24 q (2H, CH<sub>2</sub>, *J* 8 Hz), 7.51–7.54 m (2H, Ar), 7.87–7.97 m (3H, Ar), 8.19–8.23 m (2H, Ar), 9.27 br. s (1H, NH). <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>), δ<sub>C</sub>, ppm: 12.27 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 14.11 (OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 60.76 (CH<sub>2</sub>); 123.82, 125.80, 126.52, 127.54, 128.50, 133.66, 136.18 (Ar), 147.58 (C=O), 154.00 (C=N).

**4-(2-Naphthyl)-1,2,3-thiadiazole (III).** A mixture of 5 g (19.5 mmol) of hydrazone **II**, 40 mL of chloroform and 5 mL of freshly distilled thionyl chloride was stirred at 60°C for 1 h. After cooling to 20–25°C chloroform and an excess of thionyl chloride were evaporated. The residue was washed with water, dried, and recrystallized from 20 mL of methanol. Yield 4.25 g (85%), brown crystals, mp 114°C (mp 115°C [9]), *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.57 (EtOAc–hexane, 1 : 4). <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>), δ, ppm: 7.59–7.61 m (2H, Ar), 7.99–8.11 m (3H, Ar), 8.31–8.29 m (1H, Ar), 8.77 m (1H, Ar), 9.53 s (H<sup>5</sup>, thiadiazole). <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (CDCl<sub>3</sub>), δ<sub>C</sub>, ppm: 124.89 (C<sup>5</sup>, thiadiazole); 126.60, 126.79, 126.87, 127.80, 128.47, 128.90, 131.99, 133.60 (Ar), 133.74 (C<sup>4</sup>, thiadiazole).

**Morpholylamide of 2-naphthylthioacetic acid (VIIa).** To a solution of 0.38 g (1.79 mmol) of

thiadiazole **III** in 15 mL of dioxane was added 0.108 g (1.94 mmol) of finely ground KOH. The reaction mixture was stirred for 5 min until gas evolution ceased. Then to the reaction mixture a solution of 1.61 g (18.57 mmol) of morpholine in 7 mL of dioxane was added. The mixture was refluxed for 5 h, washed with water (3 × 30 mL), and evaporated. The residue was washed with water and dried. Yield 0.35 g (78%), yellow crystals, mp 107–108°C (mp 108–109°C [2]),  $R_f$  0.6 (EtOAc–hexane, 1 : 2).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (DMSO- $d_6$ ),  $\delta$ , ppm: 3.44 m and 3.72 m (CSNCH $_2$ CH $_2$ ), 3.81 m and 4.34 m (CSNCH $_2$ ), 4.57 s (CH $_2$ CS), 7.50–7.52 m (2H, Ar), 7.58–7.60 m (1H, Ar), 7.85–7.91 m (4H, Ar).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum (CDCl $_3$ ),  $\delta_c$ , ppm: 49.98, 50.86 (CH $_2$ N), 65.93 (CH $_2$ CS), 66.03 (CH $_2$ O); 125.74, 125.90, 128.41, 127.82, 128.23, 133.69 (Ar), 199.42 (CS).

**Piperidylamide of 2-naphthylthioacetic acid (VIIb)** was obtained similarly from 0.4 g (1.89 mmol) of thiadiazole **III**, 0.11 g (1.94 mmol) of KOH, 3.7 g (43.54 mmol) of piperidine, and 24 mL of dioxane. Yield 0.25 g (48%), yellow crystals, mp 95–96°C (mp 90–92°C [1]),  $R_f$  0.2 (EtOAc–hexane, 1 : 2).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (DMSO- $d_6$ ),  $\delta$ , ppm: 2.90 m (CSNCH $_2$ CH $_2$ CH $_2$ ), 3.87 m and 4.30 m (CSNCH $_2$ ), 4.54 s (CH $_2$ CS), 7.50–7.52 m (2H, Ar), 7.58–7.60 m (1H, Ar), 7.85–7.91 m (4H, Ar).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum (CDCl $_3$ ),  $\delta_c$ , ppm: 23.59, 25.11 (CSNCH $_2$ CH $_2$ CH $_2$ ); 50.51, 50.91 (CH $_2$ N), 59.66 (CH $_2$ CS); 125.64, 126.12, 126.38, 127.56, 128.10, 132.51, 133.72 (Ar); 197.87 (CS).

**2-(2-Naphthyl)-4-(2-naphthyl)methylene[1,3]dithiol (VIII).** To a solution of 0.12 g (2.14 mmol) of KOH in 2 mL of ethanol was added a solution of 0.3 g (1.41 mmol) of thiadiazole **III** in 10 mL of dioxane. The reaction mixture was refluxed for 4 h. After evaporating, the residue was washed subsequently with water and diethyl ether, and dried. Yield 0.09 g (86%), yellow powder, mp 261–262°C (mp 258–260°C [9]),  $R_f$  0.88 (EtOAc–hexane, 1 : 4).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (DMSO- $d_6$ ),  $\delta$ , ppm: 6.94 s (CH=CS $_2$ ), 7.37–7.58 m (7H, Ar), 7.81–8.02 m (7H, Ar), 8.35 s (SCH=CS).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum (CDCl $_3$ ),  $\delta_c$ , ppm: 123.95 (CH=CS $_2$ ), 124.97 (SCH=CS); 127.00, 127.19, 127.46, 127.99,

128.58, 129.06, 129.46, 131.6, 132.91, 133.24 (Ar), 133.72 (SCH=CS), 134.47 (=CS $_2$ ).

Melting points were determined on a Boëtius heating block.  $^1\text{H}$  (400 MHz) and  $^{13}\text{C}$  (100 MHz) NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AMX-400 spectrometer. The reaction progress was monitored by TLC on Silufol UV-254 plates detecting with UV irradiation and iodine vapor.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This work was supported by the Ministry of Education and Science of Russian Federation in the frame of the basic part of the Governmental contract.

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